



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Türkiye Country Brief January 2025



In Numbers

36,041 people received cash assistance in January 2025.

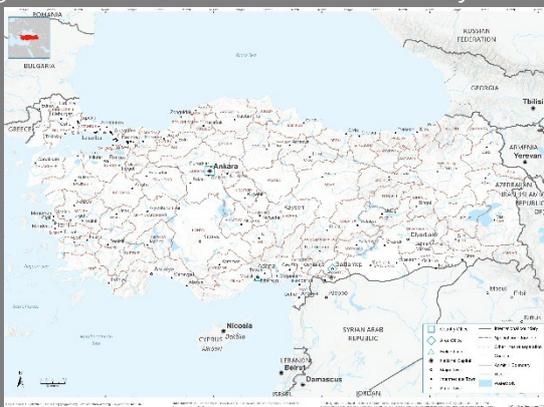
USD 0.56 million distributed through e-voucher, cash and capacity strengthening transfer modalities in January 2025.

USD 0.01 M six-month net funding requirements (February – July 2025)

Operational Context

The Republic of Türkiye has experienced steady economic growth over the past two decades. Investments in infrastructure, education, healthcare and social assistance have led to significant progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Türkiye hosts one of the largest global refugee populations, currently estimated at 3.4 million people. Around 55,000 of the most vulnerable live in seven camps in the southeast, while the majority live in cities and villages throughout the country. Despite progress, recent economic downturn and inflation require greater efforts to reduce poverty among vulnerable host communities and refugees, half of whom are children.

In line with changing government priorities, [WFP Türkiye's Country Strategic Plan \(CSP 2023-2025\)](#) seeks to continue assisting refugees in camps to meet their basic needs, and provide services to humanitarian and development partners. WFP is also implementing sustainable livelihood programming to build the self-reliance of vulnerable populations and extend recovery support to restore and revitalise the food value chain in the area affected by the February 2023 earthquakes with a focus on ensuring the short- to medium-term recovery of the most vulnerable refugees and members of the host community.



Population: 85.6 million

Poverty Rate: 23.9 percent living below the national poverty line (Turkstat)

Income Level: Upper middle

Human Development Index 2023-2024: 45 out of 193

Operational Updates

- Following the recent developments in Syria, the increase in voluntary returns among Syrian refugees continues. As of 29 January, [official figures](#) shared by the Minister of Interior indicated that 81,576 Syrian individuals have voluntarily returned from Türkiye to Syria since 9 December 2024. To support Syrians queuing at the borders to meet their immediate food needs, WFP and the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) launched a joint food assistance program on 15 January, to support 80,000 Syria returnees with cooked meals and ready-to-eat food rations.
- In January, WFP and TRC continued [in-camp e-voucher distribution](#), **reaching 32,518 individuals in six refugee camps** in the southeast of the country. WFP provides e-vouchers of Turkish lira (TRY) 425 (USD 12) per person per month to meet their food needs, redeemable at camp markets.
 - WFP and the Presidency of Migration Management (PMM) agreed that, starting in 2025, the e-voucher transfer value will increase to be set at 15 percent lower than the Social Safety Net (SSN) assistance to help beneficiaries meet their food needs amid ongoing inflation. This adjustment of WFP's e-voucher assistance reflects the fact that the SSN transfer value provided to refugees residing in urban areas is intended to meet their needs, while the rent and utility costs for in-camp refugees are covered by camp management.
- WFP, in partnership with the Association for Social Development and Aid Mobilization (ASAM), continues the [cash programme](#) to support earthquake-affected refugees in Hilalkent Container City in Hatay. In January, **3,066 refugees received monthly cash assistance of TRY 500 (USD 14) per person to cover their basic food needs.**
- Under the [voluntary transition pilot programme](#) launched jointly by WFP, UNHCR, and PMM, **an**

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Photo Caption: Syrian refugees waiting at the border gates to return to Syria receive food assistance provided by WFP and the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC). ©WFP/WFP Türkiye

Country Strategic Plan (January 2023- December 2025)

Total Requirements (USD)	Total Received (USD)
187 m	123 m
2025 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (February – July 2025)
37.1 m	0.01 m

Strategic Outcome 2: People have better nutrition, health and education outcomes

Country Strategic Plan Outcome 1: Refugees and other crisis-affected populations can meet their basic needs, including nutritious food, all year round.

- **Activity 1:** Provide food and non-food assistance to refugees living in camps.
- **Activity 5:** Provide emergency food assistance through food or cash-based transfers to crisis-affected populations.
- **Activity 8:** Provide transfers, assets and/or technical support to food value chain actors in crisis-affected areas.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Strategic Outcome 3: People have improved and sustainable livelihoods

Country Strategic Plan Outcome 2: Refugees and vulnerable populations have access to labour market opportunities to meet their basic needs, all year round

- **Activity 2:** Provide innovative livelihood trainings, private sector internships, grants and other opportunities to stimulate the local economy and enable vulnerable refugees and host community members to improve their access to the labour market.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Strategic Outcome 4: National programmes and systems are strengthened

Country Strategic Plan Outcome 3: Vulnerable groups, including schoolchildren, benefit from enhanced national capacities on social protection including school feeding by 2025.

- **Activity 3:** Provide technical assistance and support to the Government to enhance the national school meals programme and other programmes, policies and systems as needed.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Strategic Outcome 5: Humanitarian and development actors are more efficient and effective

Country Strategic Plan Outcome 4: Vulnerable populations in Türkiye benefit from improved humanitarian and development assistance all year round

- **Activity 4:** Provide on-demand common services to partners, including United Nations agencies.
- **Activity 6:** Provide coordination, information management and logistic services in support to the Government of Türkiye and humanitarian actors to strengthen their capacity to support crisis-affected populations.
- **Activity 7:** Provide emergency telecommunication services to the humanitarian community to enhance their support to crisis-affected populations.

Focus area: Crisis Response

additional 337 individuals have left Adana camp in January 2025, bringing the cumulative number of beneficiaries up to 932. **The programme supports refugees to voluntarily leave camps to settle in urban areas with a one-off cash payment of TRY 12,000 (USD 339) per person covering their relocation fees.**

- In January, **WFP continued to support food-related businesses owners impacted by the earthquake** as part of the recovery efforts in earthquake-affected provinces.
 - In Hatay, WFP's partner World Vision completed the three-month mentorship trainings on good agricultural practices to 100 smallholder farmers. In Adiyaman, Ipekyolu Development Agency, set up milk storage tanks at dairy farmers' associations, enabling 112 dairy farmers so far to extend storage time to sell their milk at more profitable prices. Finally, in Kahramanmaras, FAO's Farmer Field School continued to train 25 dairy farmers on ration and silage preparation to increase milk yield.

Partnerships

- WFP's Deputy Executive Director (DED) visited Ankara, Türkiye on 27-28 January 2025 to discuss and acknowledge the crucial support of the Government of Türkiye in addressing several global emergencies where WFP operates, including Ethiopia, Palestine, Lebanon, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Yemen. DED Skau met with several government officials to explore the potential of collaboration with the Government of Türkiye to establish strategic food stocks in Türkiye, which will support timely and effective delivery of humanitarian aid.

Market Monitoring

- According to the Q4 2024 Market Bulletin, the unemployment rate was stable throughout Q4 2024, reaching 8.5 percent in December 2024, with youth unemployment slightly increasing to 16.3 percent. Disinflation continued, dropping to 44.3 percent in December 2024, down from 64.8 percent in December 2023.
- Meanwhile, the global food price index showed an increase of 6.7 percent compared to last year. Consequently, the cost of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) rose to TRY 3,478 (USD 98) per person per month in December 2024, indicating a 59 percent increase from December 2023. For in-camp refugees, whose MEB excludes shelter and utilities, costs reached TRY 1,844 (USD 52.7) as of December 2024, with food expenses constituting 70 percent. Currently, the cash assistance covers 39 percent of the beneficiaries food needs, and the e-voucher assistance only 33 percent, even with the recent transfer value increase.