

GUIDANCE NOTE

MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET 2019

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i. Purpose

The Minimum Expenditure Basket is a way of establishing poverty lines for refugee populations. It is emerging as the primary tool to develop a cost and market-based expression of minimum needs of refugees in any given country. It broadly follows the notion of a “cost of basic needs approach” as outlined in the World Bank Poverty Manual from 2005. Poverty is defined as a “deprivation in well-being”.

ii. Scope

In Jordan, it was agreed to develop two poverty lines (the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) and the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB)) in order to:

- a) Mirror the way the Government of Jordan calculates poverty lines relating to abject and absolute poverty;
- b) Support the vulnerability calculations under the Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF).

The MEB is the expression of the monthly cost per capita that allows a Syrian refugee to live a dignified life outside the camps in Jordan. This implies the full access to rights and represents the minimum needed to live in dignity. It is more or less aligned with the definition of absolute poverty.

The SMEB is the expression of the minimum monthly cost per capita that is needed for physical survival and implies the deprivation of a series of rights. It is more or less aligned with the definition of abject poverty.

The poverty line approach and appeal have limitations. The approach is often contrasted with the multi-dimensional poverty index approach, which add a qualitative element to poverty calculations. The utility of a poverty line in the Jordanian refugee response context outweighs a more complex approach.

iii. Summary

Table 1: The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)

Family size	JOD per capita, Per month based on family size						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2019 Total MEB	143	246	323	393	462	527	596
2019 per capita	143	123	108	98	92	88	85
2018 Total MEB	140	232	317	387	457	526	593
2018 per capita	140	116	106	97	91	88	85
Percentage diff.	2.14%	6.03%	1.89%	1.55%	1.09%	0.19%	0.51%

Table 1: The Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB)

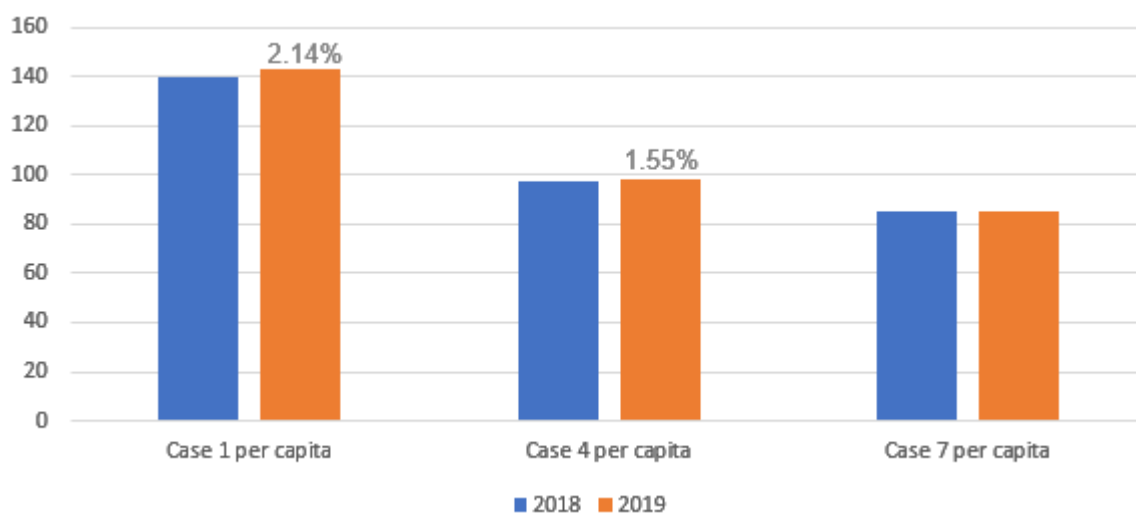
	JOD per capita, Per month based on family size						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2019 Total SMEB	113	162	197	227	254	278	304
2019 per capita	113	81	66	57	51	46	43
2018 Total SMEB	107	154	192	221	251	274	301
2018 per capita	107	77	64	55	50	46	43
Percentage diff.	5.61%	5.19%	2.60%	2.71%	1.20%	1.46%	1.00%

2018 – 2019 comparison

The overall MEB has not changed significantly

- There are several ways to review the MEB. On a per capita basis for a case size of one, four and seven, to demonstrate economies of scale:
 - For a case size of one the per capita MEB increased by 3 JOD, or 2.14%.
 - For a case size of four the per capita MEB increased by 1 JOD, or 1.55%.
 - For a case size of seven the per capita MEB did not change.

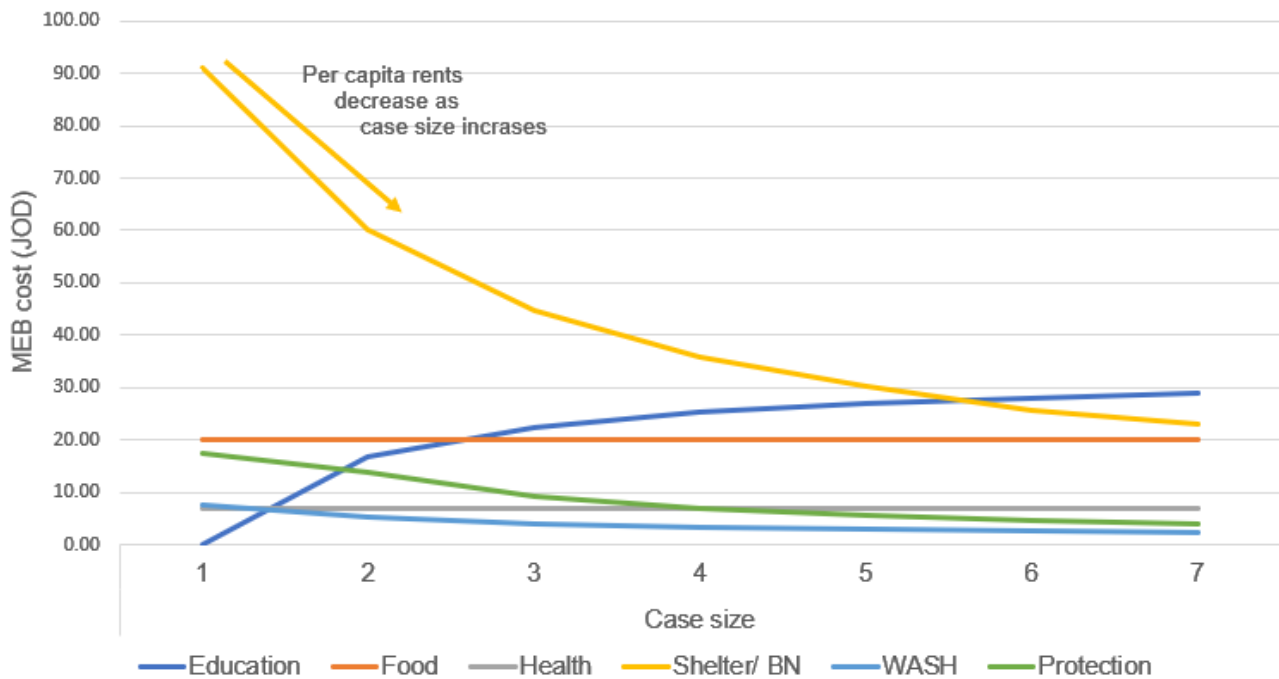
Figure 1: Percentage change in MEB from 2018 to 2019



Rent is the greatest cause for per capita decreases based on family size

- Depending on the size of a case there is a per capita variance of 58 JOD, from 143 JOD for a case size of one to 85 JOD for a case size of seven or above. The variance is mostly due to rental costs. For example, if a single person lived in a flat with a monthly rent of 100 JOD the per capita rent is 100 JOD. If two people shared the apartment, the per capita rent is half at 50 JOD.

Figure 2: Changes in per capita costs relative to case size



Positive and negative changes in sectoral values more or less balance

- Figure 3 shows the positive and negative changes in per capita costs for each of the items in the MEB for a case size of one including Education.

Figure 3: Changes in cost from 2018 to 2019





























Sector MEB Items		Price Change (JOD)	
Education	Access to Education (Transport)		2.80
	Uniforms		0.65
	Supplementary school supply		0.00
	Daily allowance		2.20
	EDUCATION TOTAL		5.65
Food	Bulgur		-0.21
	Cheese		0.54
	Green Vegetables		0.02
	Eggs		-0.08
	Lentils		-0.17
	Pasta		0.00
	Rice		0.26
	Salt		0.00
	Sugar		-0.02
	Vegetable oil		-0.14
	Poultry		-0.04
	FOOD TOTAL		0.16
Health	Primary, secondary OPD and dental care		-2.78
	Hospitalisations		-0.07
	Catastrophic expenditure		-1.25
	Delivery		-0.47
	Baby Kit		0.01
	HEALTH TOTAL		-4.56
Shelter/ BN	Rent		-2.13
	Utilities		8.07
	Basic HH items		-2.64
	SHELTER/ BN TOTAL		3.30
WASH	Water (network, tanker, dislodging, bottled etc.)		0.38
	Hygiene items		-3.87
	WATER TOTAL		-3.49
Protection	Transportation		3.24
	Communication		4.53
	Birth certificates		0.08
	PROTECTION TOTAL		7.85

Table 2: The Minimum Expenditure Basket

Jordan: December 2019

MONTHLY MEB (in JOD) - ABSOLUTE POVERTY LINE

Sector	Items	Item in survival	Family Size							Data Type	Data Source	2019 Action
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
Education	Access to Education (Transport)	N	-	17.80	35.60	53.40	71.20	89.00	106.80	Calculation by Sector	Information collected through counselling and community meetings	Updated
	Uniforms	N	-	1.73	3.46	5.19	6.92	8.65	10.38	Calculation by Sector	Information collected through counselling and community meetings	Updated
	Supplementary school supply	N	-	6.00	12.00	18.00	24.00	30.00	36.00	Calculation by Sector	Information collected through counselling and community meetings	Updated
	Daily allowance	N	-	8.20	16.40	24.60	32.80	41.00	49.20	Calculation by Sector	Information collected through counselling and community meetings	Updated
	Total		0.00	33.73	67.46	101.19	134.92	168.65	202.38			
Food	Bulgur	Y	5.19	10.38	15.58	20.77	25.96	31.15	36.34	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Cheese	Y	1.55	3.11	4.66	6.22	7.77	9.33	10.88	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Green Vegetables	Y	0.37	0.73	1.10	1.46	1.83	2.20	2.56	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Eggs	Y	0.56	1.12	1.68	2.24	2.80	3.37	3.93	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Lentils	Y	1.37	2.73	4.10	5.46	6.83	8.19	9.56	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Pasta	Y	1.79	3.58	5.36	7.15	8.94	10.73	12.51	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Rice	Y	5.71	11.41	17.12	22.82	28.53	34.24	39.94	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Salt	Y	0.06	0.11	0.17	0.22	0.28	0.33	0.39	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Sugar	Y	0.68	1.36	2.04	2.72	3.40	4.08	4.75	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Vegetable oil	Y	0.89	1.77	2.66	3.54	4.43	5.32	6.20	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Poultry	Y	1.93	3.85	5.78	7.70	9.63	11.55	13.48	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Total		20.08	40.16	60.24	80.32	100.40	120.47	140.55			
Health	Primary, secondary OPD and dental care	N	4.19	8.38	12.57	16.76	20.95	25.14	29.33	Calculation by Sector	Health Access and Utilization Survey & Health Information System & MOH costings	Updated
	Hospitalisations	N	0.88	1.76	2.64	3.52	4.40	5.28	6.16	Calculation by Sector	Health Access and Utilization Survey & Health Information System & MOH costings	Updated
	Catastrophic expenditure	N	1.25	2.50	3.75	5.00	6.25	7.50	8.75	Calculation by Sector	Health Access and Utilization Survey & Health Information System & MOH costings	Updated
	Delivery	N	0.42	0.84	1.26	1.68	2.10	2.52	2.94	Calculation by Sector	Health Access and Utilization Survey & Health Information System & MOH costings	Updated
	Baby Kit	N	0.06	0.12	0.18	0.24	0.30	0.36	0.42	Calculation by Sector	Health Access and Utilization Survey & Health Information System & MOH costings	Updated
	Total		6.80	13.60	20.40	27.20	34.00	40.80	47.60			
Shelter/ BN	Rent	Y	73.51	96.36	107.37	114.48	120.53	122.11	126.17	Calculation by Sector	VAF Home Visits conducted between March 2018 and March 2019	Updated
	Utilities	Y	14.92	19.04	21.62	23.23	23.98	25.19	26.69	Calculation by Sector	VAF Home Visits conducted between March 2018 and March 2020	Updated
	Basic HH Items	N	2.59	4.98	5.40	5.74	5.93	6.30	7.59	Calculation by Sector	VAF Home Visits conducted between March 2018 and March 2021	Updated
	Total		91.02	120.38	134.39	143.45	150.50	153.60	160.45			
WASH	Water (network, tanker, dislodging, bottled etc.)	Y	4.49	6.19	7.72	8.53	9.16	10.06	10.99	Calculation by Sector	VAF Home Visits conducted between March 2018 and March 2021	Updated
	Hygiene items	N	3.25	4.11	4.54	4.87	5.08	5.41	6.16	Calculation by Sector	VAF Home Visits conducted between March 2018 and March 2021	Updated
	Total		7.74	10.30	12.26	13.40	14.23	15.46	17.15			
Protection	Transportation	N	10.60	21.20	21.20	21.20	21.20	21.20	21.20	Calculation by Sector	Assessments conducted by the cash for protection task force	Updated
	Communication	N	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	Calculation by Sector	Assessments conducted by the cash for protection task force	Updated
	Birth certificates	N	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	Calculation by Sector	Analysis performed by the Protection Working Group	New
	Total		17.31	27.91	27.91	27.91	27.91	27.91	27.91			
	Total		143	246	323	393	462	527	596			
	per capita		143	123	108	98	92	88	85			

Table 3: The Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket

Jordan: December 2019

MONTHLY SMEB (in JOD) - ABJECT POVERTY LINE

Sector	Items	Item in survival	Family Size							Data Type	Data Source	2019 Action
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
Food	Bulgur	Y	5.19	10.38	15.58	20.77	25.96	31.15	36.34	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Cheese	Y	1.55	3.11	4.66	6.22	7.77	9.33	10.88	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Green Vegetables	Y	0.37	0.73	1.10	1.46	1.83	2.20	2.56	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Eggs	Y	0.56	1.12	1.68	2.24	2.80	3.37	3.93	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Lentils	Y	1.37	2.73	4.10	5.46	6.83	8.19	9.56	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Pasta	Y	1.79	3.58	5.36	7.15	8.94	10.73	12.51	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Rice	Y	5.71	11.41	17.12	22.82	28.53	34.24	39.94	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Salt	Y	0.06	0.11	0.17	0.22	0.28	0.33	0.39	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Sugar	Y	0.68	1.36	2.04	2.72	3.40	4.08	4.75	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
	Vegetable oil	Y	0.89	1.77	2.66	3.54	4.43	5.32	6.20	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated
Poultry	Y	1.93	3.85	5.78	7.70	9.63	11.55	13.48	Calculation by Sector	Department of Statistics	Updated	
	Total		20.08	40.16	60.24	80.32	100.40	120.47	140.55			
Shelter/BN	Rent	Y	73.51	96.36	107.37	114.48	120.59	122.11	126.17	Calculation by Sector	VAF Home Visits conducted between March 2018 and March 2019	Updated
	Utilities	Y	14.92	19.04	21.62	23.23	23.98	25.19	26.69	Calculation by Sector	VAF Home Visits conducted between March 2018 and March 2020	Updated
	Total		88.43	115.40	128.99	137.71	144.57	147.30	152.86			
WASH	Water (network, tanker, dislodging, bottled etc.)	Y	4.49	6.19	7.72	8.53	9.16	10.06	10.99	Calculation by Sector	VAF Home Visits conducted between March 2018 and March 2021	Updated
	Total		4.49	6.19	7.72	8.53	9.16	10.06	10.99			
	Total		113	162	197	227	254	278	304			
	per capita		113	81	66	57	51	46	43			

iv. Using the MEB

The MEB has been used since July 2015 in two ways: 1) to determine levels of assistance, and 2) to provide price lines for modelling within programme budget.

- Using the line items and case sizes in the MEB, sectors are able to determine assistance packages. For example, cash-for-rent activities in the shelter group can now revisit the sizing scale based on the row of the MEB related to rent. Similarly, cash-for-water activities can now be costed based on the MEB. This is a straight forward exercise for conditional cash grants.
- It is possible to develop an assistance scale by household size rather than applying a flat-rate or a categorical package. Moreover, it will be possible to track this reliably at sector-level.
- The per capita value of the family size of 5 is used, which is the standard category for the appeals, for all calculations at sector level when it comes to appeals and call for proposals. This means that absolute and abject poverty lines would be 92 JOD and 51 JOD respectively.

v. Recommendations

Application of the MEB

Sectors, particularly those who consider monetizing assistance in part or in full, should use the MEB as a way to formulate sizing recommendations for their sector. This means they should engage in a process which meets sector standards to determine assistance package amounts as a percentage against the MEB. In particular cases, for example Basic Needs and Shelter, it is recommended that some of these consultations are done in close coordination with the Basic Needs working group, as it is this working group that coordinates unconditional (i.e. multi-purpose) cash grants in the refugee response in Jordan. This should be done either through coordination among sector co-chairs or – in particularly complex situations – through setting up a joint technical task force.

Keeping the MEB up to date

It is recommended that all sector standards are revisited and costed on a regular basis (currently annual) and that should there be any contextual or environmental changes then they are updated in-between the annual revision cycle. Their use and applicability need to be validated against current market assessment standards.

GUIDANCE NOTES

Basic Needs

Background

The Basic Needs MEB covers utilities and essential household items such as fuel for cooking, heating and electricity as well as other household costs including maintenance, home appliances and home utensils. The average expenditures are calculated after removing outliers from the data that skew the results (see methodology and Annex 01 for details). The following tables show the final MEB values for basic needs.

Table 4: Average cost of basic needs items by family size

Items	SMEB	1	2	3	4	5	6	6+
Basic HH items	FALSE	2.59	4.98	5.40	5.74	5.93	6.30	7.59
Utilities	TRUE	14.92	19.04	21.62	23.23	23.98	25.19	26.69
TOTAL		17.51	24.03	27.02	28.96	29.91	31.49	34.28

Table 5: Per capita cost of basic needs items by family size

Items	SMEB	1	2	3	4	5	6	6+
Basic HH items	FALSE	2.59	2.49	1.80	1.43	1.19	1.05	1.08
Utilities	TRUE	14.92	9.52	7.21	5.81	4.80	4.20	3.81
TOTAL		17.51	12.01	9.01	7.24	5.98	5.25	4.90

Trends

The overall Basic Needs MEB has decreased by 14% (4.92 JOD) since 2018, which is a similar level to 2016. Over time there has been both small positive and negative fluctuations with both utilities and basic household items with no discernable or consistent trend (see figure 1).

Figure 1: Total Basic needs MEB over time

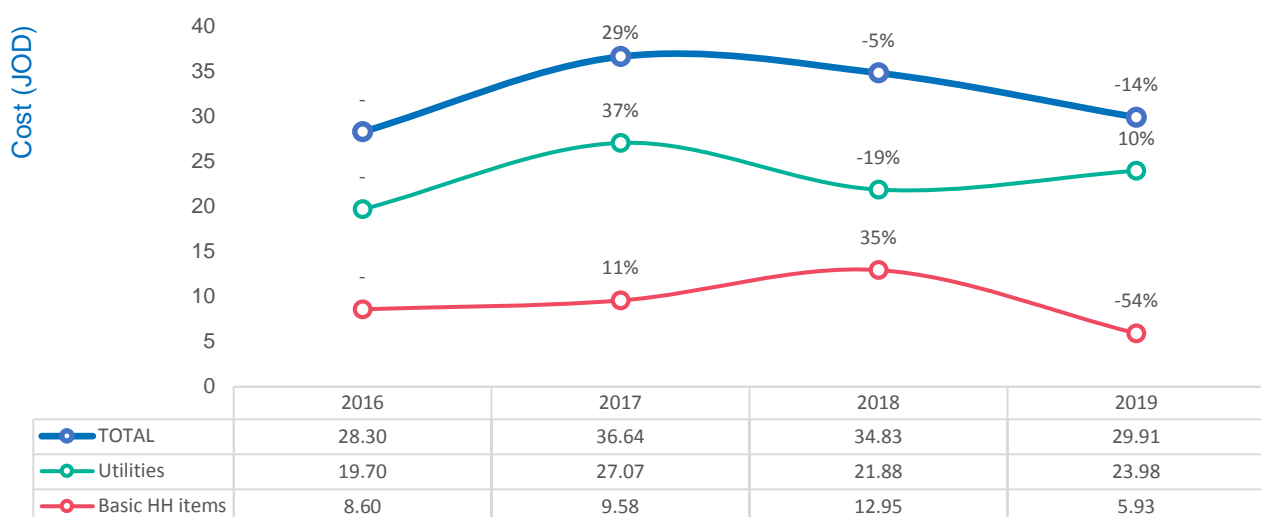


Figure 2 shows the year on year expenditures on basic needs items by case size as totals. The yellow line depicts the current year, with previous years in shades of blue with the darkest being the most recent. While the per capita costs for larger case sizes is lower in 2019 than previous years, the relatively low costs of basic household items mean that the overall MEB total for basic needs is not a significant outlier from previous years.

Figure 2: Year on year total Basic needs expenditures (JOD)

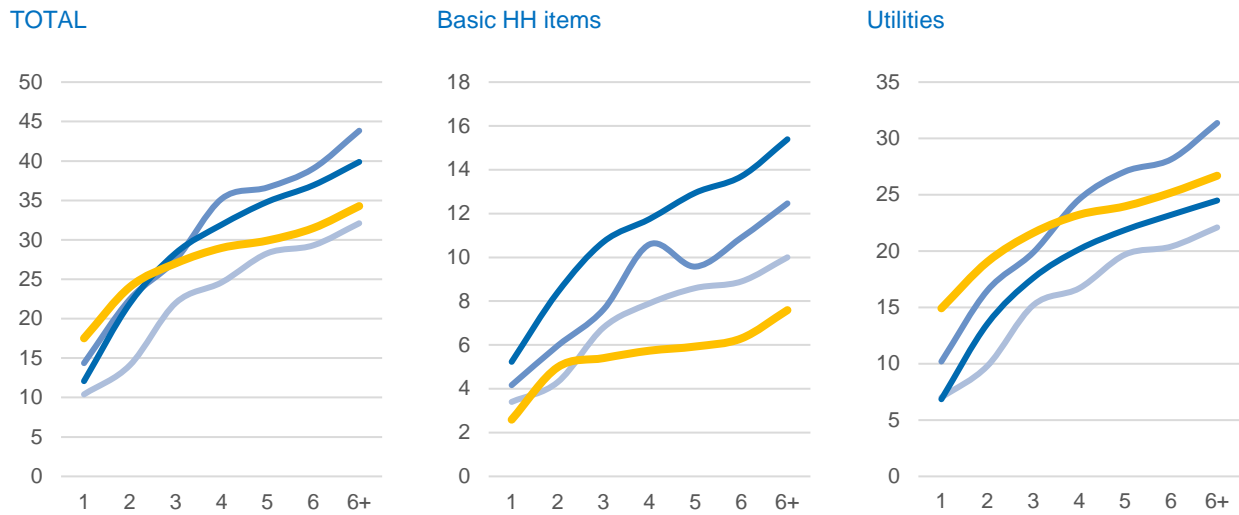
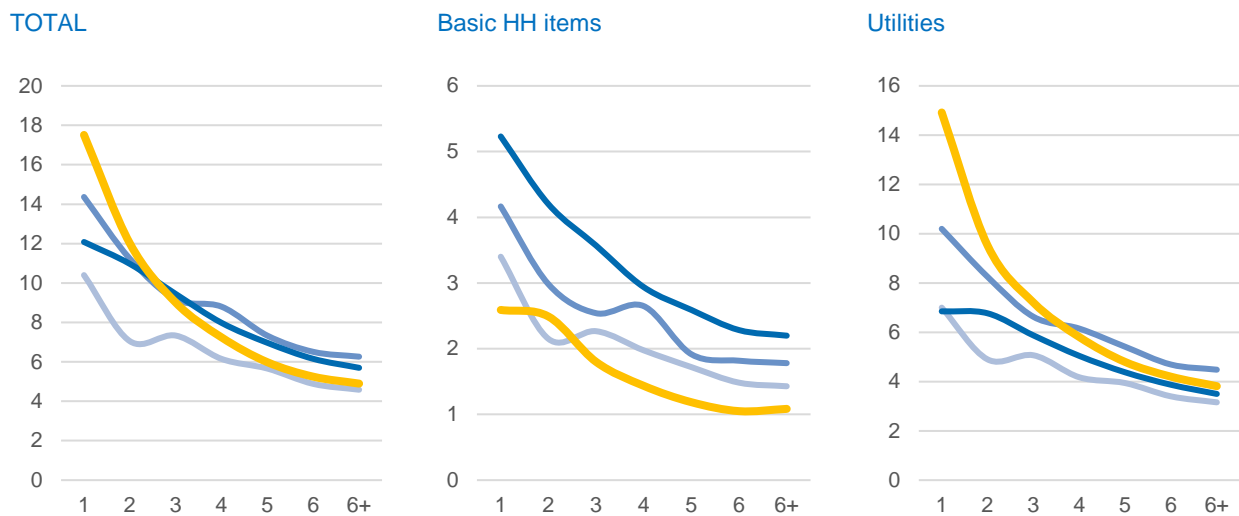


Figure 3 shows the year on year expenditures on basic needs items by case size as per capita values. As above, these do not reveal any signs of severe outliers that would impact the overall basic needs MEB. It is worth highlighting that utilities for small cases appear as more of a burden than in previous years, almost double that of 2018 for case size 1.

Figure 3: Year on year per capita Basic needs expenditures (JOD)



Methodology

Changes from 2018

There was no change from the 2018 calculation methodology.

Source data

VAF Home Visits covering the twelve month period March 2018 to March 2019.

Expenditure items selected

a) Utilities

b) Basic HH

Expenditure items not selected

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| a) Rent | g) Infant Needs |
| b) Food | h) Basic Hygiene |
| c) Water | i) Debt repayment |
| d) Treatment | j) Telecoms |
| e) Education | k) Other |
| f) Transport | |

Data cleaning

Outlier values were removed from the data that were 1.5 standard deviations from the mean.

Table 6: Observations remaining after data cleaning for Basic needs

Case size	Utilities	Basic HH
1	6,258	6,029
2	5,221	5,380
3	6,407	6,539
4	7,762	8,024
5	7,304	7,549
6	6,500	6,383
6+	8,118	8,192

Calculations

Mean and median values calculated for each family size. The mean and median were close enough to warrant using the mean. The following charts show the average expenditures as well as box plots that describe the distribution of the expenditures as observed in the source data.

Figure 4: Expenditure on utilities by household size

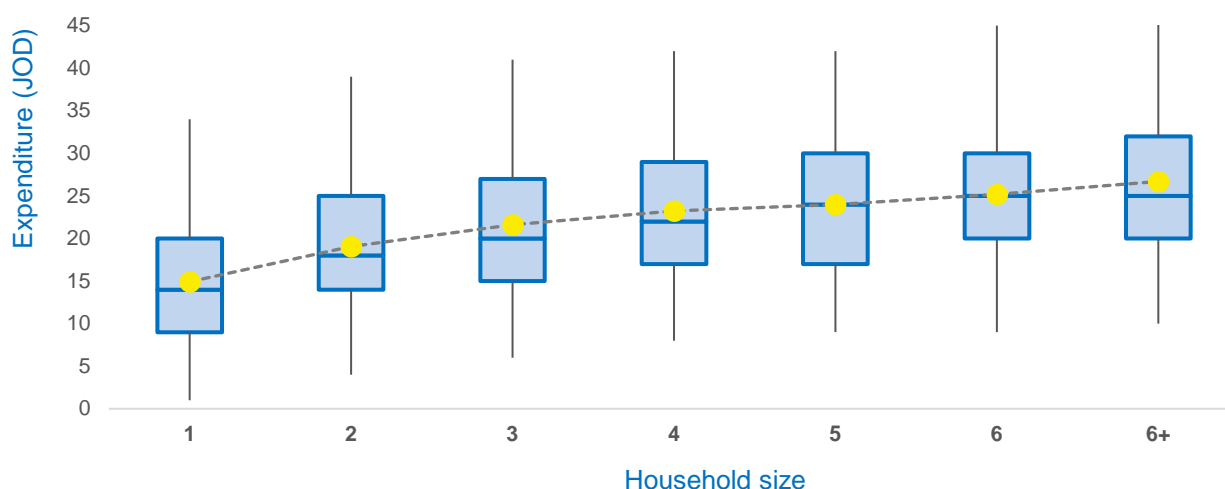
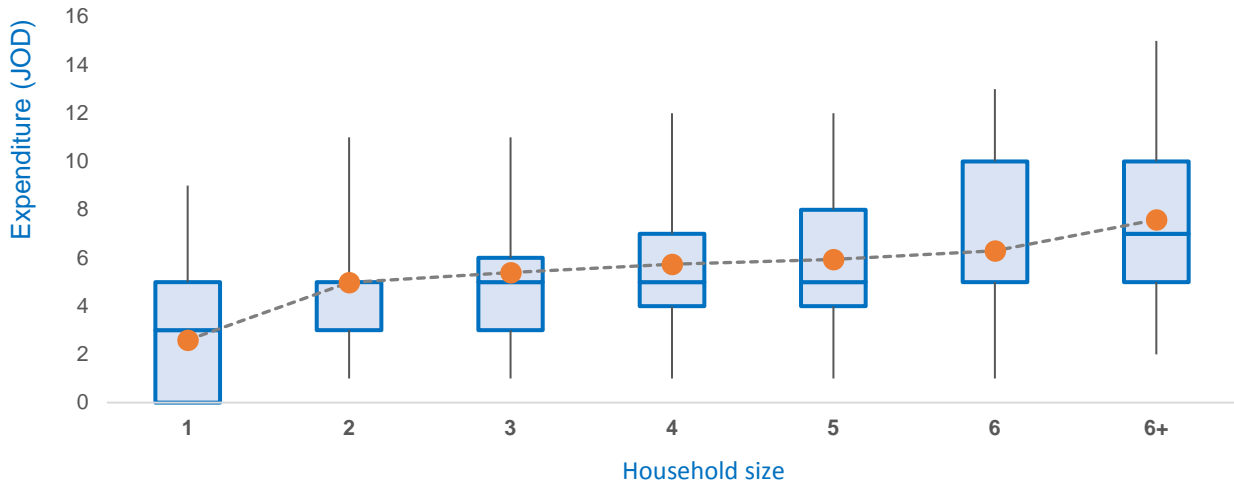


Figure 5: Expenditure on basic household items but household size



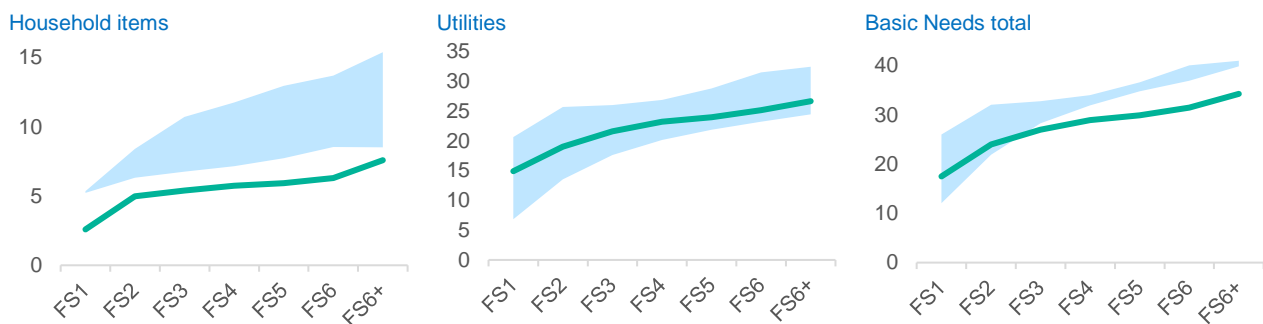
Triangulation

Comparison to 2018 MEB and 2018-19 VAF population report for triangulation.

- a) Last year's MEB data for triangulation (VAF Home Visits conducted between June 2017 and June 2018).
- b) 2018-19 VAF population survey data for triangulation.

Figure 6 shows that the 2019 Household items costs are quite a lot lower than the 2018 MEB but only a little bit less than the 2019 population study results. For Utilities the 2019 MEB is in between the reference data sets. The overall impact of the differences is that the 2019 MEB is about 5 JOD lower than the minimum reference points for the larger family sizes.

Figure 6: Triangulation of 2019 Basic needs MEB against 2018 MEB and the VAF 2019 population study



Education

Background

- Education expenditure data is calculated for school aged children between the ages of 6 – 15.
- As public education is free to Syrian refugees, the Education expenditure is comprised of the cost of uniforms, transport to school, supplementary school supply costs, and a daily allowance.
- A family size of one usually indicates that no school age children are present in the family. Exceptions can occur in the case of unaccompanied minors.

Summary of monthly costs

- Overall, the average Education expenditure **increased by nearly 5.67 JOD** per capita.
- The average cost of Transport **increased by 2.8 JOD** per capita, from 15 JOD to 17.8 JOD.
- The average cost of Uniforms **increased by 0.65 JOD** per capita, from 1.08 JOD to 1.73 JOD (see *below for a methodology note*).
- The average cost of School Supplies **remained unchanged**, to 6 JOD.
- The average Daily Allowance **increased by 2.2 JOD** per capita, from 6 JOD to 8.2 JOD.

Figure 7: Changes in cost from 2018 to 2019

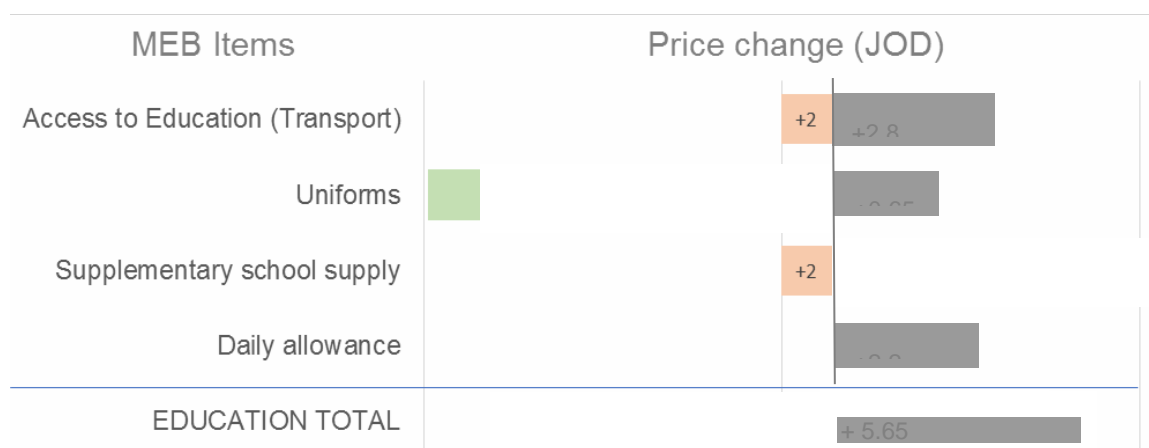


Table 4: 2019 Education MEB

	Cost (JOD)	Per	Family Size						
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Number of school aged children (6-15)			-	1	2	3	4	5	6
Access to Education (Transport)	17.8	Month	-	17.8	35.6	53.4	71.2	89.0	106.8
Uniforms	1.73	Month	-	1.73	3.46	5.19	6.92	8.65	10.38
Supplementary school supply	6.0	Month	-	6.0	12.0	18.0	24.0	30.0	36.0
Daily allowance for child	8.2	Month	-	8.2	16.4	24.6	32.8	41.0	49.2
Total Per Capita	33.73	Month	-	33.73	67.46	101.19	134.92	168.65	202.38

Methodology

- A consolidated effort of the ESWG MEB Task Force comprising and led by experienced and acting organisations in the sector covering 11 governorates in Jordan (all except for Ajlun) amounting to 235 surveyed families. This task force was guided and facilitated by ESWG leads.
- The methodology of the research focusses on collecting data from parents of children attending formal schools, taking out extreme/overrated values as well as surge costs in order to arrive at a valid average of daily and monthly costs for the Minimum Expenditure Basket of the Education Sector.
- Major variables affected the increase in three pillars' findings due to a general increase in the costs of living in Jordan including goods prices.

The data collected from the surveyed families showed the following:

- Transportation (Access to Schools) was found to have increased by 2.8 JOD amounting to a monthly cost of 17.8 JOD. The average annual amount was divided by 12 months to arrive at the monthly cost per child. This is based on refugee families using transportation in its variation and availability in different geographical areas, given the significant increases in oil prices affecting bus fuel and the increase of public transportation fees (*according to Land Transport Regulatory Commission in May 2018*).
- In 2018 an annual cost of 13 JOD was listed for uniforms; this was not based on direct data collection from families during that year rather a broad market survey. For 2019, the rationale included variances between the boys' and girls' uniform costs, excluding the required sportswear by some schools, especially for boys.
- The costs of the supplementary school supplies remained unchanged with a minimum monthly cost of 6 JOD.
- The Daily School Allowance increased by 2.2 JOD a month, with a minimum allowance of 0.40 JOD per school day .

Source data

- Information was collected through consultative interviews and phone calls with 235 key informants, namely 235 parents/care givers of school-aged children. Reference was also made to some acting ESWG organizations working in Jordan with relevant field experience, considering the variable changes in geographical reach within the Kingdom.

Food Security

Background

- The food basket is based on the nutritional value that key commodities provide for a daily diet of 2100 kcal (11.6 grams of protein and 19.2 grams of fat).
- The prices of these commodities are monitored on a monthly basis to inform the value of the transfer.
- The amount of food assistance is intended to provide only the essential 11 commodities in the food basket, not refugee households' entire food expenditures.

Food Security Expenditures

Summary

- Overall, the food security expenditure per person is 20 JOD per month which is 0.80% higher than 2018, but still considered consistent.
- The overall basket value has remained largely constant since 2018, however individual item values have fluctuated by varying degrees.

Table 5: 2019 Food security MEB

Section	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
Basket value	20.08	40.16	60.24	80.32	100.40	120.48	140.56

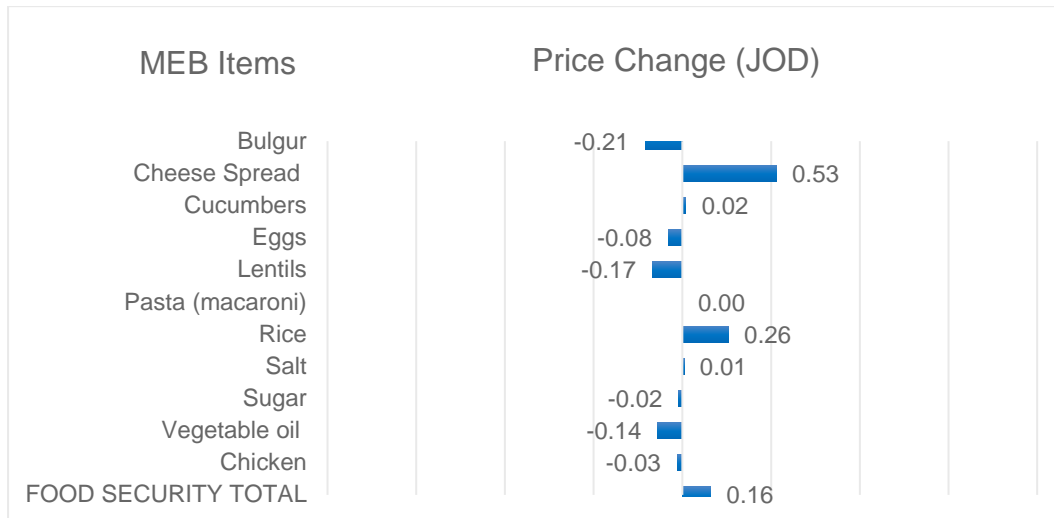
Table 6: Components of the food security basket and difference in cost from 2018

Food basket commodities	Ration (grams/person/per day)	Price per KG (JOD)	Cost per day (JOD)	Transfer Value* 2019	2018 value	Difference
Bulgur	200	0.87	0.1731	5.19	5.40	-3.89%
Cheese Spread	8	6.48	0.0518	1.55	1.02	51.96%
Cucumbers	20	0.61	0.0122	0.37	0.35	5.71%
Eggs	19	0.98	0.0187	0.56	0.64	-12.50%
Lentils	40	1.14	0.0455	1.37	1.54	-11.04%
Pasta (macaroni)	50	1.19	0.0596	1.79	1.79	0%
Rice	150	1.27	0.1902	5.71	5.45	4.77%
Salt	5	0.37	0.0018	0.06	0.05	20.00%
Sugar	33	0.69	0.0226	0.68	0.70	-2.86%
Vegetable oil	33	0.89	0.0295	0.89	1.03	-13.59%
Whole Chicken	30	2.14	0.0642	1.93	1.96	-1.53%
Total			0.6692	20.08	19.92	0.80%

*Transfer value 30 days per month

* Regarding the vegetable oil, a standard of 0.93 KG/L is used to identify the price per KG.

Figure 8: changes in cost from 2018 to 2019



Methodology

- No notable change in methodology from 2018.
- On a monthly basis WFP triangulates Department of Statistics nation-wide market price data, retailer data received from WFP contracted shops, and price data collected by WFP field monitors.
- Table 2 reflects the average cost of the 11 commodities based on the price per kilogram.
- The transfer value is calculated on the estimated grams needed per day for each commodity to reach the adequate nutritional intake of 2,100 kilocalories.

Source data

- Department of Statistics monthly market price data collected across all 12 governorates
- Retailer data received from approximately 200 contracted retailers on a monthly basis
- Price data collected from WFP contracted shops by WFP field monitors

KEY CONTACTS

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This MEB has been endorsed by



Health

Background

- All provided prices are derived from Jordan Ministry of Health (MoH) prices at the non-insured Jordanian rate.
- The non-insured Jordanian rate is the rate that average Jordanians without civil insurance pay when they access MoH services at all levels.
- As of March 2019, Government of Jordan allowed all Syrians with valid documents to access MOH services at the non-insured Jordanian rate.

Average health costs per person per month

- The average overall Healthcare expenditure has marginally **decreased by 4.31 JOD** per capita from 2018.
- The average cost of Primary healthcare **decreased by 2.51 JOD** per capita, from 6.7 JOD to 4.19 JOD.
- The average cost of Secondary healthcare **decreased by 0.07 JOD** per capita, from 0.95 JOD to 0.88 JOD.
- The average cost of Tertiary healthcare **remained the same** since 2018.
- The average cost of Deliveries **decreased by 0.47 JOD** per capita, from 0.89 JOD to 0.42 JOD.
- The average cost of Baby kits **remained the same** since 2018.

Summary

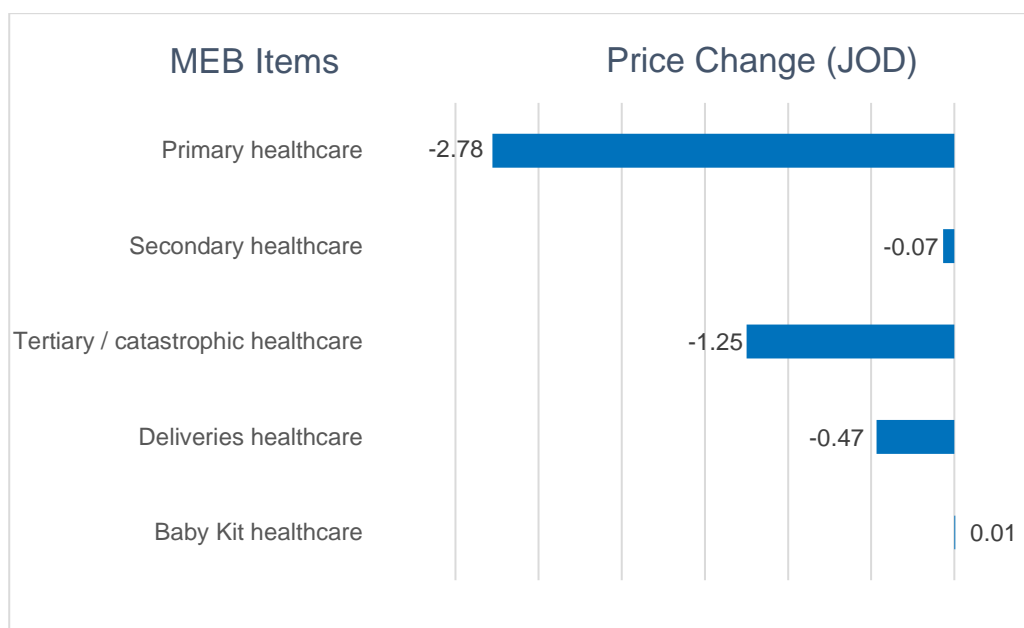
Table 7: 2017 Health MEB

Family size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
Average cost	6.78	13.56	20.34	27.12	33.9	40.68	47.46

Table 8: Average costs by healthcare type

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
Primary	4.19	8.38	12.57	16.76	20.95	25.14	29.33
Secondary	0.88	1.76	2.64	3.52	4.4	5.28	6.16
Tertiary / catastrophic	1.25	2.5	3.75	5	6.25	7.5	8.75
Deliveries	0.42	0.84	1.26	1.68	2.1	2.52	2.94
Baby Kit	0.06	0.12	0.18	0.24	0.3	0.36	0.42
Total	6.8	13.58	20.36	27.14	33.92	40.7	47.48

Figure 9: Changes in cost from 2018 to 2019



Costs associated with accessing health care

1. Primary health care and secondary consultations

- 1.1. Expected number of primary health care and secondary consultations per refugee per year
- 1.2. Average costs per primary and secondary consultation
 - Including medications, doctors' fees, and radiology and laboratory investigations

2. Tertiary care and catastrophic

- 2.1. Expected number of hospitalizations
 - Excluding deliveries
- 2.2. Average costs per hospitalization for uninsured Jordanians
 - Including medications, doctors' fees, theatre costs, overnight stay, radiology and laboratory investigations

3. Deliveries

- 3.1. Expected number of deliveries for out-of-camp refugees
- 3.2. Average costs per delivery
 - Including medications, doctors' fees, theatre costs, overnight stay, radiology and laboratory investigations

Methodology

- The 2019Health MEB methodology has remained the same as 2018.
- Estimate the average number of health events per household at different levels.
- Estimate the average cost of each event (based on consultation fee, medications, laboratory tests and radiology etc.) and then the likelihood of high cost expenditure.
- Costs are based only on the Ministry of Health reported costs.
- Challenges include estimating the costs of a critical event and the average costs per household.

Calculations

Primary health care consultations

Table 9: Calculation of cost per primary consultation per person per month in JOD

Avg. consultations PPPY ¹	7.5
Total consultations	5,032,500
Cost per consultation	6.7
Total cost	33,717,570
Cost PPPY	50.25
Cost PPM	4.19

Table 10: Breakdown of average cost per primary consultation in JOD²

Type	Cost *	Meds **	Lab ***	Radiology ***	Total cost	% of type	Avg.	Total cost
GP	0.4	1.82	1.05	1.26	4.53	50%	3.75	16.9875
Specialist	1.65	2	1.05	1.26	5.96	40%	3	17.88
Dentist	1.1	1.82		1.26	4.18	10%	0.75	3.135
Total					14.67		6.7	38.0025

* **Cost of consultations:** GP = 0.40 JOD, Specialist = 1.65 JOD, Dentist = 1.10 JOD + 2.20 JODs for an average dental procedure

** **Medication:** Cost of medication is 19.52 JOD for one month for most common medications. The average number of drugs per prescription is 1.68 drugs/ prescription. (UNHCR Rational Drug Use Assessment). 1.82 JOD on average (including 20% for health centres) while hospitals to add 10% = 2 JOD.

*** **Laboratory tests:** (3 tests) associated with 20% of consultations (average for one test is 1.75 JODS but three tests required is 5.25 JOD).

**** **Radiology:** Assumes 5% of consultations = 25.16 JOD is average cost.

Secondary care

¹ Zaatari data 2018

² Non Insured Jordanian rate, health insurance department

² Drug price list 2018, Joint Procurement department (JPD)

Table 11: Calculation of cost per secondary consultation per person per month in JOD

	Surgery	Medical care	Total
Percentage of population requiring surgery ³	3.3%	3.3%	6.6%
Total secondary care	22,143	22,143	44,286
Cost per care type	158.46	158.46	316.92
Total cost	7,017,560	7,017,560	14,035,119
Cost PPPY	5.23	5.23	10.46
Cost PPM	0.44	0.44	0.88

Table 12: Breakdown of average cost per secondary consultation in JOD

Type	Cost	Meds (avg 10)	Hospital (5 day stay)	Lab (avg 10 tests)	Radiology (avg 1 test)	Total per event per year	Total per capita per year
Surgery	90.00	10.8	15.00	17.50	25.16	158.46	4.02
Medical	90.00	10.8	15.00	17.50	25.16	158.46	4.02

Tertiary / catastrophic care

Table 13: Calculation of cost per tertiary consultation per person per month in JOD

Percentage of population requiring care	1%
Total tertiary / catastrophic care	6,710
Cost per care	1,500
Total cost	10,065,000
Cost PPPY	15.00
Cost PPM	1.25

Table 14: Breakdown of average cost per tertiary / catastrophic consultation in JOD

Type	Cost
-------------	-------------

³ Assume 3.3% will require surgery (Based on Zaatari hospitalisation rate)

Assume 3.3% will require medical admission (based on Zaatari hospitalisation rate)

Tertiary / Catastrophic	1,500
Total	1,500

Deliveries

Table 15: Calculation of cost per delivery per person per month in JOD

	Delivery	Baby kit
Percent of population delivering ⁴	4.1%	4.1%
Total deliveries per year	27,511	27,511
Cost per delivery	121.46	16.50
Total cost	3,341,502	453,931.5
Cost PPPY	4.98	0.68
Cost PPM	0.42	0.06

Table 16: Breakdown of average cost per delivery in JOD

Type	Cost by type	Cost of baby kit	Total cost	% of delivery type	Number of deliveries	Total cost
C-section	240	16.50	256.50	29%	9,978	2,559,357
Normal	54	16.50	70.50	71%	17,533	1,236,077
Total					27,511	3,795,434

Table 17: Breakdown of average cost per baby kit in JOD

Description	Unit	Qty	Cost (JOD)
Baby blanket, 300 gsm, 75 x 50 cm (wool)	Pce	1	5.00
Baby swaddle	Pce	1	3.00
Baby vest, cotton	Pce	2	1.50
Hat, wool, extra small	Pce	1	0.50
Safety pins, small size, nickel free, for nappies	Pce	10	1.00
Socks, cotton, extra small	Pair	2	0.50
Washable baby diaper, 100% cotton, 30x15 cm (non-disposable)	Pce	12	2.00
Disposable baby diaper small size	Box of 20	4	3.00
Total			16.50

Protection

⁴ Zaatari birth rate 2018

Background

The protection working group conducted a complete revision of the MEB for 2020 to enhance accuracy.

- The protection expenditure is comprised of contributions to cost of transportation, communications, and specific legal document.
- For transportation costs, it covers costs ensuring meaningful access to services (except for education which is already covered under education MEB). This includes mostly access to protection services but also other services such as health.
- For communication, the MEB contributes to cover costs to maintain family links and improve overall well-being of refugees.
- For legal documentation, the MEB covers partially costs associated with birth registration in order to reduce statelessness.

Protection Expenditures

Summary

Activities to be covered by protection MEB are as follow:

- Costs of transportation for 2 visits (per month) to protection and other services (excluding education): average of 10.60 JoD per person (covering max 2 persons).
- Contribution to costs of communication for a monthly subscription/credit recharge per month: 6.63 JoD per household.
- Fees for issuance of birth certificates: Civil Status Department: 1 JoD (one-off per household, cost divided by 12 months).

Table 18: 2020 Protection MEB

Section	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
Transport	10.60	21.20	21.20	21.20	21.20	21.20	21.20
Communications	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.63
Birth certificates	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08
Total	17.31	27.91	27.91	27.91	27.91	27.91	27.91

Methodology

- The Protection Working Group identified essential activities to be covered under the MEB. All members were asked to contribute to the discussion and provide inputs.
- The cash for protection task force conducted a costing of transportation and communication. Members of the TF (DRC, INTERSOS and Medair) conducted the costing in various locations and provided an estimate cost at national level. Costing was done with a sample of approximately 40-50 individuals.
- For legal documentation, it was agreed to use the cost of birth certificates based on NRC estimation. The amount retained is the amount linked to birth registration in Jordan if birth is less than one year (within 30 days of birth). It covers only the issuance of certificate by civil status department (and does not cover ratification fees by MOFA and Syrian embassy). Although costs linked to birth registration are not necessarily paid on a yearly basis, the protection working group estimated that the amount is relatively low and preferred adopting a flexible approach.

Shelter

Background

The Shelter MEB is based upon the self-reported average rent for Syrian refugees across Jordan. Although there is variance across governorates the overall average rent for Jordan is used. The average rents are calculated after removing extreme outliers from the data that skew the results (see methodology and Annex 01 for details). The following tables show the final MEB values for Shelter.

Table 19: Average cost of rent by family size

	SMEB	1	2	3	4	5	6	6+
Total	TRUE	73	96	107	114	120	122	126
Per capita	TRUE	73	48	35	28	24	20	18

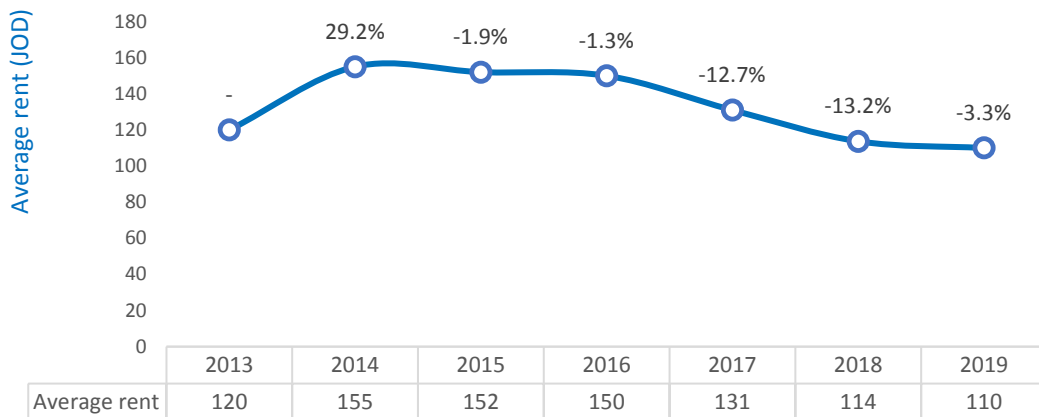
Table 20: Average cost of rent by governorate

Governorate	Average	1	2	3	4	5	6	6+
Amman	118	75	109	119	126	132	134	140
Madaba	116	84	105	103	120	124	124	127
Aqaba	115	61	127	111	121	137	113	120
Balqa	113	79	98	110	115	119	120	126
Irbid	108	70	88	101	112	119	121	123
Karak	105	74	87	100	106	110	110	112
Zarqa	105	73	85	102	106	112	114	120
Mafraq	104	70	84	94	101	109	113	119
Maan	103	60	86	103	105	108	111	112
Jerash	99	70	84	94	100	105	103	112
Tafileh	95	62	814	82	92	103	101	107
Ajloun	95	74	78	88	96	99	102	107

Trends

In recent years there has been an annual reduction in average reported rents, although from 2018 to 2019 the rents appear to be levelling out.

Figure 10: Shelter MEB over time



Methodology

Changes from 2018

Some data cleaning filters were removed or adapted due to changes in the underlying data. The overcrowding filter from 2018 was changed as the square meter calculation is no longer available. Overpricing outliers are removed by filtering values 1.5 above and below the standard deviation. Filtering based on overcrowding based on households per room was removed.

Source data

VAF Home Visits covering the twelve month period March 2018 to March 2019.

Expenditure items selected - Rent

Data cleaning

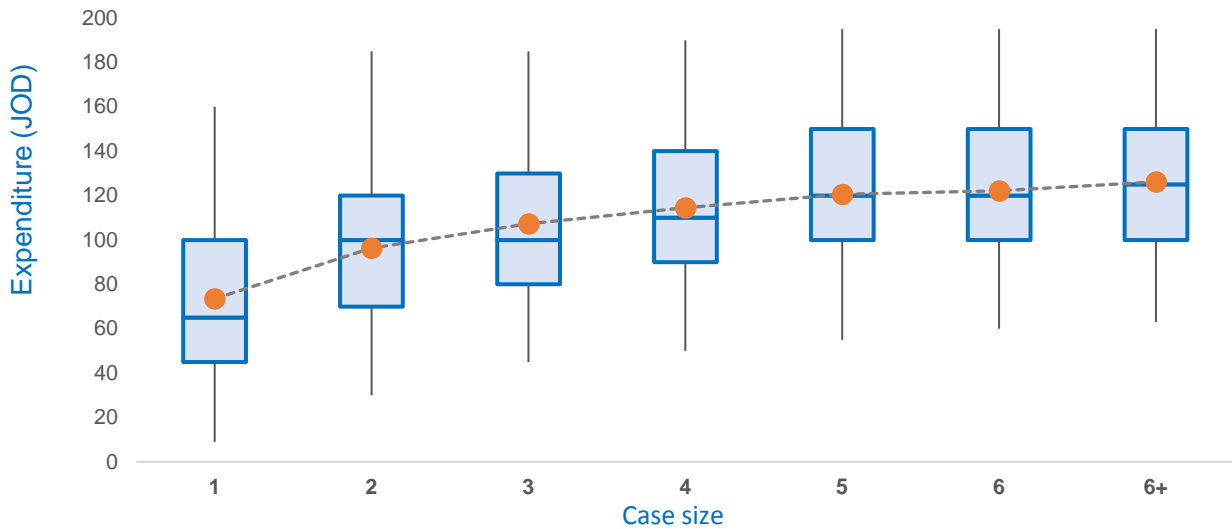
The following filters are applied to the data to reflect the 'general' population by removing the effects of outliers.

- Overcrowding filter:** Removes overcrowded properties. This filter ensures the rent is not deflated by considering the minimum standard and the family size. Properties with more than 4 individuals per room are filtered.
- Room per person:** Removes properties with more than one room per person. This filter ensures that the rent is not inflated for smaller families.
- Type of housing:** Removes temporary and transitional types of shelter.
- Remaining outlier values:** Outlier values were removed from the data that were 1.5 standard deviations from the mean.

Calculations

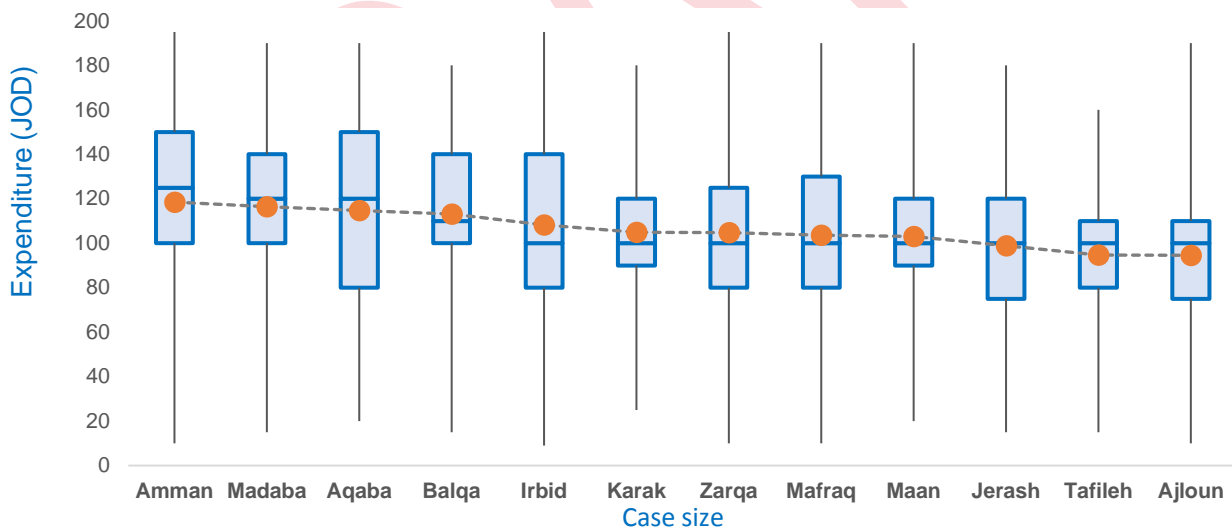
Mean and median values calculated for each family size (see figure 11). The mean and median were close enough to warrant using the mean.

Figure 11: Average expenditure on rent by family size



The average rents were also calculated by governorate to check to see how large the variance is (see figure 12). Historically it has always been decided to use the country average for rent calculations in order to not create any unintended incentives for refugees to change locations in order to access higher transfer values. There is 23JOD difference in average total rents between Ajloun and Amman. Aqaba and Irbid have the largest variations in rent.

Figure 12: Average expenditure on rent by governorate



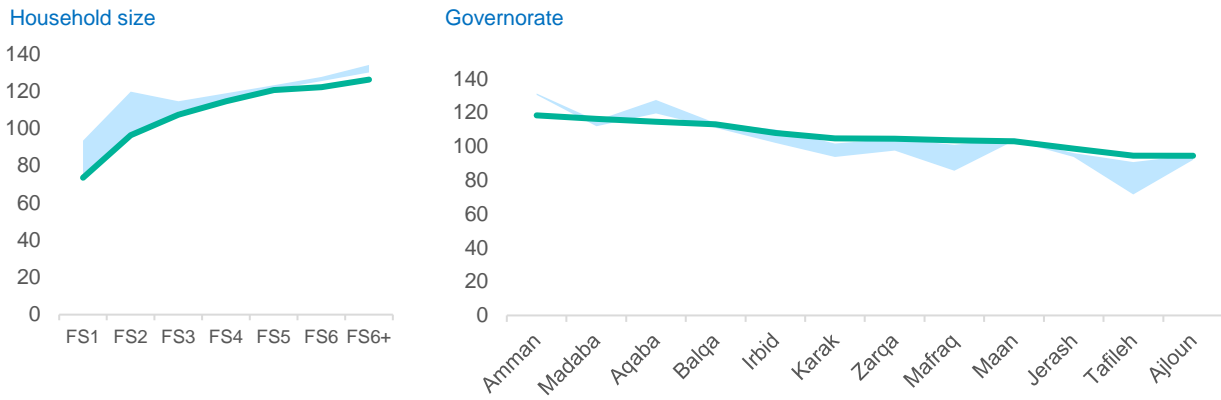
Triangulation

Comparison to 2018 MEB and 2018-19 VAF population report for triangulation.

- Last year's MEB data (VAF Home Visits conducted between June 2017 and June 2018).
- 2018-19 VAF population survey data for triangulation.

Figure 13 shows that there is very little variance in the rental values reported in the comparison data sets; the 2018 MEB, the VAF 2018-2019 Population study and the 2019 MEB

Figure 13: Triangulation of the 2019 Shelter MEB against the 2018 MEB and the VAF 2019 population study



DRAFT

WASH

Background

The WASH MEB is based upon the self-reported average expenditures for water and hygiene items for Syrian refugees across Jordan. According to research on WASH standards, an average of 4-5% of total reported expenditure should be spent on WASH items. Exceptions: In the Jordan context, exceptional circumstances highlight additional vulnerabilities; for example cases living in informal tent settlements (ITS), and/or families that are not connected to municipal piping tend to incur higher costs for trucked water delivery compared to cases that are connected to the municipal network. The average expenditures are calculated after removing extreme outliers from the data that skew the results (see methodology and Annex 01 for details). The following tables show the final MEB values.

Table 21: Average cost of WASH items by family size

Items	SMEB	1	2	3	4	5	6	6+
Water	TRUE	4.49	6.19	7.72	8.53	9.16	10.06	10.99
Hygiene items	FALSE	3.25	4.11	4.54	4.87	5.08	5.41	6.16
TOTAL		7.74	10.30	12.26	13.40	14.23	15.46	17.15

Table 22: Per capita cost of WASH items by family size

Items	SMEB	1	2	3	4	5	6	6+
Water	TRUE	4.49	3.10	2.57	2.13	1.83	1.68	1.57
Hygiene items	FALSE	3.25	2.05	1.51	1.22	1.02	0.90	0.88
TOTAL		7.74	5.15	4.09	3.35	2.85	2.58	2.45

Trends

The overall WASH MEB has decreased by 15% (2.42 JOD) since 2018, which is a very similar level to 2017. Over time there has been both small positive and negative fluctuations with both water and hygiene items with no discernable or consistent trend (see figure 14) and leading to a relatively flat total WASH MEB.

Figure 14: Total WASH MEB over time

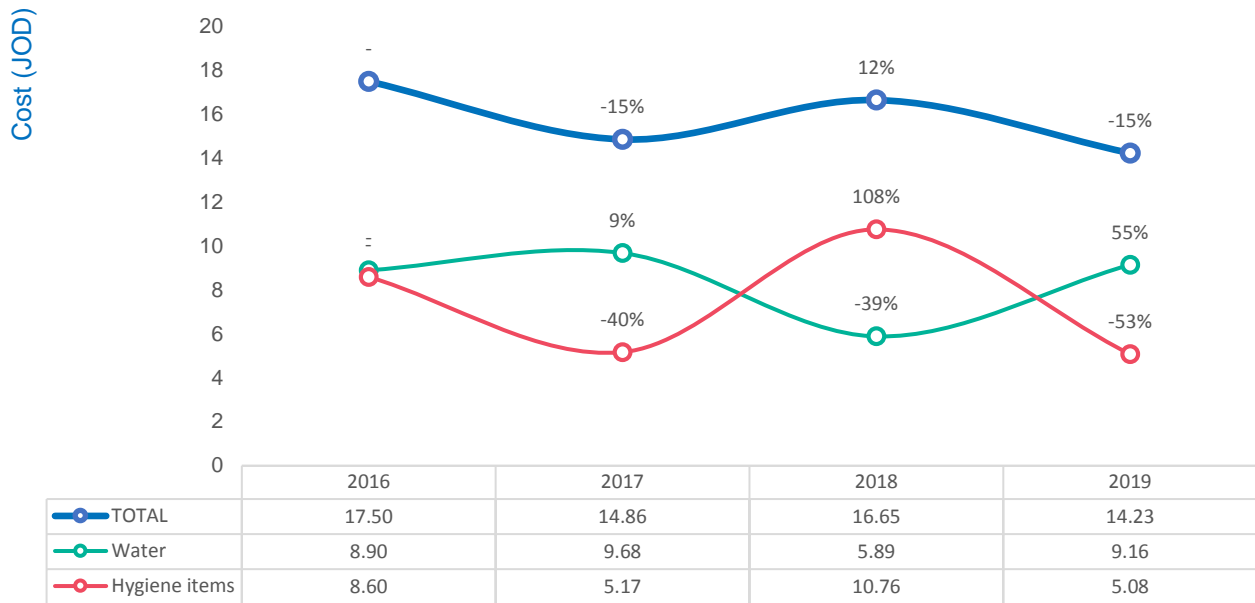


Figure 15 shows the year on year expenditures on WASH items by case size as totals. The yellow line depicts the current year, with previous years in shades of blue with the darkest being the most recent. In general the 2019 MEB is marginally lower than previous years, but it also has a smoother trend line. The costs for Hygiene items is very similar to 2017. Finally the comparison for the water costs reveals 2019 being well in line with previous ranges.

Figure 15: Year on year total WASH expenditures (JOD)

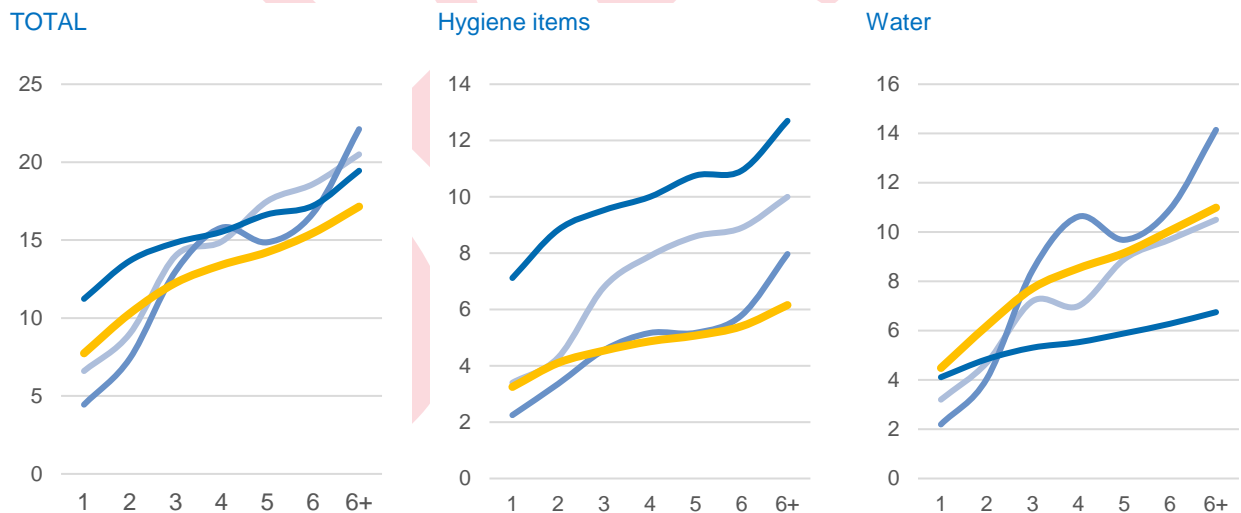
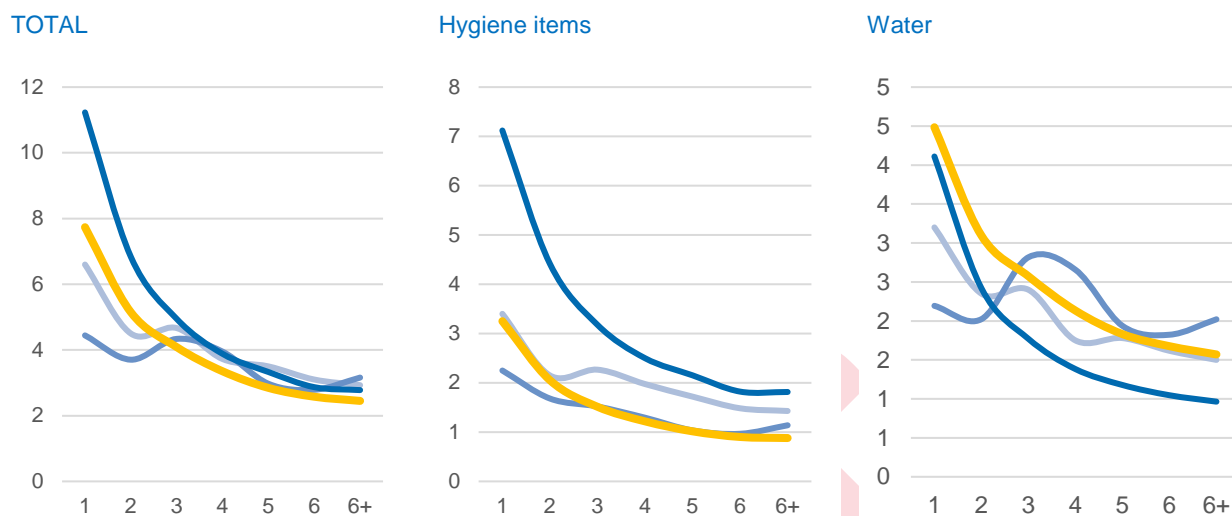


Figure 16 shows the year on year expenditures on WASH items by case size as per capita values. As above, these do not reveal any signs of severe outliers that would impact the overall WASH MEB.

Figure 16: Year on year per capita WASH expenditures (JOD)



Methodology

Changes from 2018

There was no change from the 2018 calculation methodology.

Source data

VAF Home Visits covering the twelve month period March 2018 to March 2019.

Expenditure items selected

c) Water

d) Basic Hygiene

Expenditure items not selected

e) Utilities

k) Transport

f) Basic HH

l) Infant Needs

g) Rent

m) Debt repayment

h) Food

n) Telecoms

i) Treatment

o) Other

j) Education

Data cleaning

Outlier values were removed from the data that were 1.5 standard deviations from the mean.

Table 23: Observations remaining after data cleaning for WASH

Case size	Water	Basic Hygiene
1	5,898	7,048
2	4,879	5,567
3	6,325	6,675
4	7,830	8,106
5	7,374	7,662
6	6,459	6,507
6+	7,818	7,804

Calculations

Mean and median values calculated for each family size. The mean and median were close enough to warrant using the mean. The following charts show the average expenditures as well as box plots that describe the distribution of the expenditures as observed in the source data.

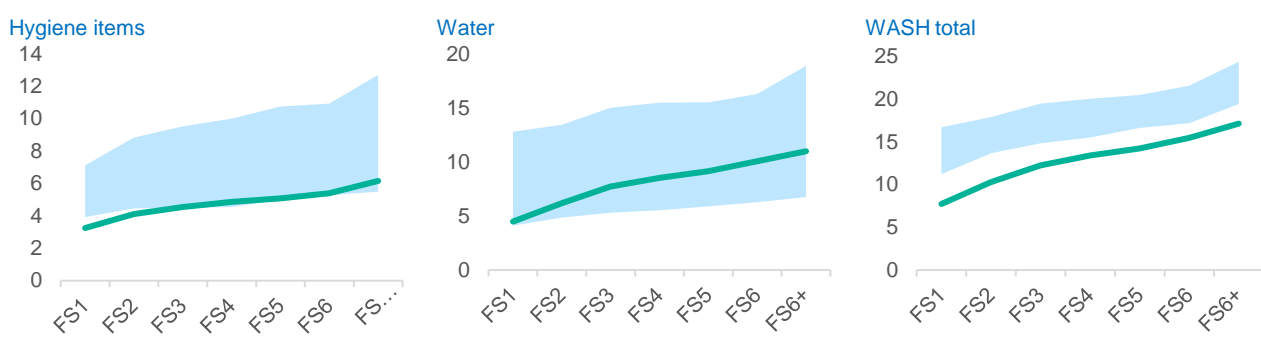
Triangulation

Comparison to 2018 MEB and 2018-19 VAF population report for triangulation.

- p) Last year's MEB data for triangulation (VAF Home Visits conducted between June 2017 and June 2018).
- q) 2018-19 VAF population survey data for triangulation.

Figure 17 shows that the 2019 hygiene items costing very similar to the reported values in the VAF 2019 population study, but quite a lot lower than the 2018 MEB in percentage terms. The 2019 water costs are inline the comparison data sets. The Total WASH MEB for 2019 is a few JOD lower than the comparison datasets but are within a similar range to not warrant a revisit of the methodology.

Figure 17: Triangulation of 2019 WASH MEB against 2018 MEB and the VAF 2019 population study



ANNEX 01 – Home visit data cleaning

The following transformations were made to the Home Visit data in order to remove outliers that would skew results when determining the averages. Transformations and calculations were performed in Microsoft Excel.

- | | | | |
|---|--|----------------------------|--|
| 1 | Add column | Year | =YEAR([@submissionDate]) |
| 2 | Add column | Month | =MONTH([@submissionDate]) |
| 3 | Add column | Case size segments for MEB | =IF([@CaseSize]>=7,"6+",[@CaseSize]) |
| 4 | Add column | Total Expenditure | =SUM(Table17[@[exp_rent]:[exp_other]]) |
| 5 | Add column | PeoplePerRoom | =[@NumOfIndividuals]/[@NumOfRooms] |
| 6 | Delete rows | Where case size = NULL | |
| 7 | Calculate quartile ranges for each expenditure item | | |
| 8 | Calculate AVG and STD DRV for all expenditure types to identify outliers | | |
| 9 | Remove outliers | | |

Example:

```
=IF([@Size]=1,IF(ABS([@[exp_rent]]-$AS$6)>1.5*$AT$6,"",[@[exp_rent]]),
IF([@Size]=2,IF(ABS([@[exp_rent]]-$AS$7)>1.5*$AT$7,"",[@[exp_rent]]),
IF([@Size]=3,IF(ABS([@[exp_rent]]-$AS$8)>1.5*$AT$8,"",[@[exp_rent]]),
IF([@Size]=4,IF(ABS([@[exp_rent]]-$AS$9)>1.5*$AT$9,"",[@[exp_rent]]),
IF([@Size]=5,IF(ABS([@[exp_rent]]-$AS$10)>1.5*$AT$10,"",[@[exp_rent]]),
IF([@Size]=6,IF(ABS([@[exp_rent]]-$AS$11)>1.5*$AT$11,"",[@[exp_rent]]),
IF([@Size]="6+",IF(ABS([@[exp_rent]]-$AS$12)>1.5*$AT$12,"",[@[exp_rent]])))))))))
```

- | | | | |
|----|-------------|-----------------------|--|
| 10 | Delete rows | Where expenditure = 0 | |
|----|-------------|-----------------------|--|

MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET 2019

Guidance note



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Please send your comments, questions and suggestions for future revisions to Susanne Butscher <butscher@unhcr.org>

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