

Shelter and Basic Needs Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) Calculation Guidance Note 2016

Members of the Shelter working group recommended that the Shelter MEB and Rental Estimates be revised. According to sector partners the 2015 MEB failed to take in to account that smaller family sizes (family size 1 and 2) were increasingly vulnerable due to a lack of economies of scale that exist with larger families.

For family size 1, 143 JD is the average rental expenditure according to the Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF) which shows a heightening line with smaller family size and decreasing slope with a larger family size. The 2015 Shelter calculation was compiled from the extraction of VAF data, average rent by family size and geographic area (governorate) to determine the rental amounts. In comparison to the 2015 Shelter MEB, the Shelter Sector identified a need for additional analysis on additional variables within the VAF, not just the VAF baseline. Additional variables included: cost sharing with additional individuals or family members inside or outside of the case, and number of persons per room (adequate space).

Statistical analysis was undertaken for the 2016 Shelter MEB guidance note based on a full VAF data extraction of 80,572 cases across multiple governorates, varying in family size (case size), number of rooms (excluding kitchen and WASH facilities), number of family members in the house (same file number or on another file) and rental amount. The rent analysis excluded the following criteria prior to calculating averages:

- 1- Rent below 50 and above 500
- 2- Number of rooms above 9
- 3- Number of people/number of rooms >4

Examples of cases below emphasize the correlation between additional family members in the house and shared rental expenditure and number of rooms' representing overcrowding.

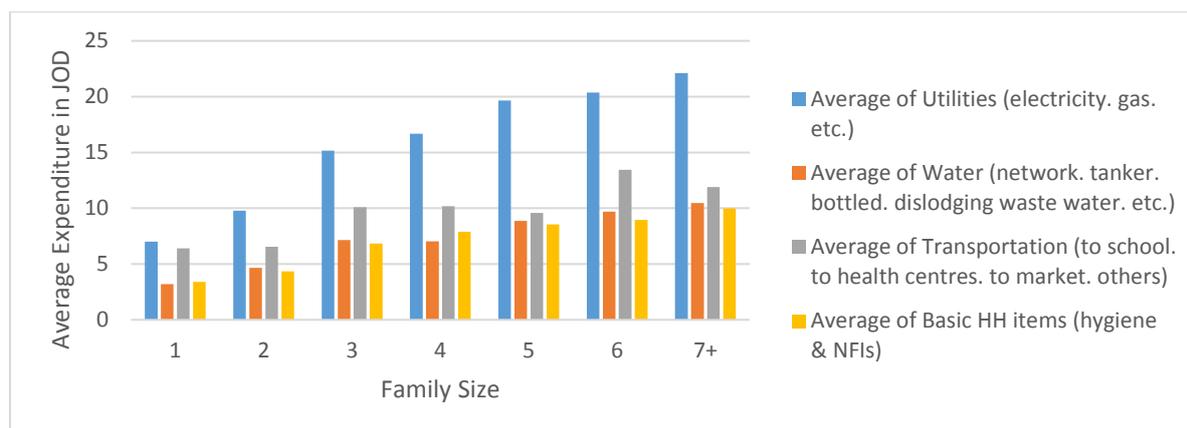
Family Size (Case)	Governorate	#f rooms excluding kitchen & WASH facilities	# family members in the house (same case or multiple cases)	Rent
5	Irbid	4	30	250
7+	Mafraq	2	17	230
4	Ma'an	3	9	150
1	Amman	4	7	300

MEB 2016 informed by VAF Shelter data analysis results:

Average of Rent	Family Size							Grand Total
Governorate	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+	
Ajloun	92	88	95	94	105	102	123	108
Amman	124	148	156	168	170	173	197	173
Aqaba	101	137	130	144	148	145	172	148
Balqa	85	102	115	125	126	127	151	131
Irbid	93	115	122	133	139	144	168	148
Jarash	96	102	103	112	116	120	140	124
Karak	84	89	101	110	108	111	116	109
Maan	83	102	103	108	110	113	121	111
Madaba	86	109	117	127	131	131	144	131
Mafraq	87	110	119	131	135	141	158	139
Tafileh	78	83	95	91	100	91	102	94
Zarqa	86	104	109	115	118	121	139	123
Grand Total	108	127	133	143	145	148	169	150

MEB calculations for Basic Needs include: utilities, WASH components and Protection components (transportation. These are combined with Shelter data points.

Utilities, WASH and Transportation data is drawn from the VAF October Baseline Assessment 2015 (ref), taking the average reported expenditure figure by family size).



Family Size	Average of Utilities (electricity, gas, etc.)	Average of Water (network, tanker, bottled, dislodging waste water, etc.)	Average of Transportation (to school, to health centres, to market, others)	Average of Basic HH items (hygiene & NFIs)
1	7.00	3.19	6.42	3.40
2	9.78	4.66	6.54	4.34
3	15.17	7.16	10.09	6.82
4	16.67	7.05	10.18	7.89
5	19.66	8.86	9.59	8.55
6	20.35	9.69	13.43	8.95
7+	22.10	10.48	11.90	9.99
Grand Total	15.82	7.30	9.73	7.14

For more information please contact Olivia Cribb cribb@unhcr.org