

ANKER REFERENCE VALUE ANNUAL UPDATE 2023¹

URBAN TÜRKIYE²

LIVING WAGE
TRY 13,087 (USD 581)

This report updates the Anker Living Wage Reference Value for urban Türkiye to June 2023. The living wage reference value was originally estimated at TRY 4,954 in 2021³. The updated value takes into account the inflation accumulated in the country from June 2021 to June 2023 (146.87%)⁴. The value updated to 2023 is TRY 13,087, and comprises a net living wage of TRY 9,332 and the social security, unemployment insurance and income tax payments mandatory for 2023, which amount to TRY 3,755.⁵ Without accounting for inflation, the living wage estimated in 2021 would not be sufficient for workers and their families to have a basic but decent standard of living in 2023, because the purchasing power of the living income would have decreased.

Table 1. Anker Living Wage Reference Value for urban Türkiye, 2021 and 2023 (TRY and USD)

	Original study 2021		June 2023	
	TRY	USD	TRY	USD
Anker Net Living Wage Reference Value (1)	3,780	N/A	9,332	414
Social Security Contributions, Unemployment Insurance and Income Tax (2)	1,174	N/A	3,755	167
Anker Gross Living Wage (3) = (1) + (2)	4,954	N/A	13,087	581
Exchange Rate	N/A		22.52 ^a	
Inflation from mid-2021 to mid-2023	146.87%			

Notes: Values in USD are only indicative, as the exchange rate has been volatile during 2023. N/A indicates that the figure is not available in the original report.

^a Average exchange rate from January 2 to October 20 2023.

¹ Anker Research Institute engages in and disseminates high-quality research, analysis, and training related to living wage and living income (based on the Anker methodology) to inform and influence companies, empower working people, and shape public policy, thereby helping to enhance quality of life and sustainable livelihoods for working people and their families everywhere. Social Accountability International (SAI) is the institutional host. Report prepared by Marcelo Delajara and Rocío Espinosa Montiel.

² We follow the international consensus and use here the new name in English of the country Turkey: Türkiye.

³ Khan, Prates, Anker and Anker (2020). Anker Living Wage Reference Value – Urban Türkiye, <https://www.globallivingwage.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Anker-Reference-Value-for-Urban-Turkey-2021-Dec-9.pdf>

⁴ Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye (<https://evds2.tcmb.gov.tr/index.php>) and IMF (<https://data.imf.org/>)

⁵ Workers pay on their gross wage social security contributions (5%), health insurance (9%), unemployment insurance (1%), and a stamp duty (0.759%), all of which can be deducted to calculate taxable income. Education and health expenses can be deducted as well (10%). Workers earning the equivalent of the living wage thus pay income taxes that amount to TRY 10,500 plus 20% of the difference between the gross wage and TRY 70,000.