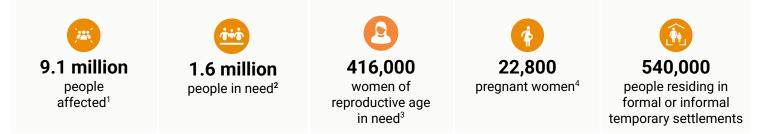


Türkiye Earthquakes - 2 years on

Country:	Türkiye
Emergency type:	Earthquake
Start Date of Crisis:	6 February 2023
Date Issued:	6 February 2025
Covering Period:	6 February 2023 to 06 February 2025
Contact Persons:	Zeynep Atılgan Özgenç, atilganozgenc@unfpa.org (Communications Analyst, UNFPA Türkiye)

Key Figures



Highlights

- The massive earthquakes that struck southern Türkiye on 6 February 2023 affected around 9.1 million people across 11 provinces, leaving over 3.6 million individuals without safe homes.
- Two years later, in the most affected provinces (Adiyaman, Kahramanmaras, Malatya, Hatay, and three districts in Gaziantep and Osmaniye) it is estimated that 1.6 million people are still in need.

⁴ Based on <u>Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) Calculator</u>. The crude birth rate (per 1,000 population) / country data is taken as 19. The Affected Population is taken as 1,600,000

¹ Flash Appeal: Turkiye Earthquake (February-May 2023), OCHA

² IOM, DTM Solutions and Mobility Index, Informal Sites Assessment, October 2024

³ Based on Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) Calculator, Inter-Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crisis



- Among them 416,000 are estimated to be women and girls of reproductive age, including 22,800 pregnant women. More than half a million people reside in formal and informal sites⁵.
- **Container settlements pose multiple challenges** for residents especially in the long term. Limited privacy negatively affects family relationships, personal healthcare including menstrual hygiene, and mental health. Insufficient security measures and inadequate lighting create security risks.
- Infrastructure repairs are still ongoing, and staff shortages and transportation issues continue. Access to safe motherhood and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services remains a critical issue, especially for women and adolescents. Refugees and people with disabilities are among those facing most challenges in accessing basic services.
- Growing economic hardships have led to increased gender-based violence (GBV) risks, while service interruptions and limited access to shelters and legal assistance further hinder protection efforts. Deepening poverty, societal norms, and displacement have led to girls dropping out of education, which poses an increased risk for early and forced marriages.
- Youths in the earthquake region face loneliness, stress, and depression and show increased tendencies of risky behaviours due to disruptions in education and weak social support networks. The lack of private spaces, study areas, psychological support, and youth-friendly spaces and services intensifies these issues.
- It is important to invest in buildings and services to be more accessible, increase the availability of psychosocial support, and retain and expand initiatives that facilitate participation in education and employment.
- UNFPA has been on the ground with its partners since day one, without a pause, providing life-saving safe motherhood and sexual and reproductive health services to more than 128,000 individuals, and gender-based violence prevention and response services to almost 160,000 individuals.
- For 2025, UNFPA appeals for 24.2 million USD within the framework of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP), which also includes responses in the regions affected by the earthquakes.
 85% of this appeal is unfunded, as of February 2025.

Situation Overview

- While over 7 million people have benefited from multi-sectoral assistance and partners continue to support infrastructure and maintenance efforts, the complexity of needs persists, due to camp closures, relocation challenges and a lack of sustainability of livelihoods.⁶
- Access to SRH services remains a critical issue, especially for women, girls, and adolescents, and particularly among those living in container settlements and rural areas. The limited transportation opportunities and shortage of fully operating hospitals increase challenges. The limited availability of SRH commodities further exacerbates the situation, creating an additional barrier to women's access to essential healthcare services⁷.
- In container settlements, especially where refugees are living, insufficient security measures create security risks. Lighting is generally inadequate, including around children's areas and access routes to toilets. Moreover, the placement of container homes along main roads makes women feel constantly watched, threatening both their physical and psychological security.⁸

⁵ IOM, DTM Solutions and Mobility Index, Informal Sites Assessment, October 2024

⁶ Joint İnter-Sectoral Winterisation Plan Türkiye Earthquake Response Türkiye, 2024-2025

⁷ Turkish Medical Association, <u>Earthquake 18 Month Report</u> 2024, Turkish Medical Association Publications

⁸ Site Visits Report, UNFPA, 2024. Life in Container Cities and the Struggles: The Fight of Women with Children



- Decreased funding, and consequently a reduction in the number of organizations working on GBV, have resulted in severe disruptions in prevention and response. Economic barriers have heightened challenges for women and girls, including refugees, which leads to increased GBV risks, while limited access to women's shelters and legal assistance further hinder protection efforts⁹. Women's shelters and GBV service delivery mechanisms continue to face significant challenges, including infrastructure damage, staff shortages and service disruptions, while the needs continue. UNFPA has made every effort for service delivery to continue despite the multiple challenges.
- Women and young girls, particularly in the temporary settlements, face multiple difficulties in accessing menstrual hygiene products. Inadequate infrastructure, economic barriers to accessing hygiene materials, and limited privacy hinder self-care, negatively affecting both physical and mental health¹⁰.
- Youths in the earthquake region face loneliness, stress, depression, and increased risks of addiction due to disruptions in education and weak social support networks. The lack of private spaces, study areas, psychological support, and youth-friendly spaces and services intensifies these issues.
- Economic difficulties, deepening poverty, societal norms, and displacement have led to girls dropping out of education, which leads to increased health risks, restrictions on their roles in society, and increased risk of child, early, and forced marriages.
- People with disabilities impacted by the earthquakes are experiencing ongoing difficulties in accessing basic services. Efforts to make public buildings and services more accessible, increase the availability of psychosocial support, and develop initiatives that facilitate participation in education and employment are among the most critical needs¹¹.

UNFPA Response

UNFPA has been on the ground with its partners from the public sector and civil society since day one, providing life-saving safe motherhood, SRH, and GBV prevention and response services. Following the devastating earthquakes, 25 static and mobile service units (women and girls safe spaces, youth centers, maternal and child health service units, people with disabilities service units) in the earthquake affected provinces were supported by UNFPA.

The units reached more than 128,000 individuals, particularly from the most vulnerable groups, with SRH services and almost 160,000 individuals with GBV services. By the end of 2024, UNFPA directly supported almost 30,000 women and girls to prevent unintended pregnancies through providing contraceptives. Additionally, 6,300 people with disabilities and their caregivers were directly supported. Moreover, UNFPA supported 49,000 young people (aged 10-24) affected by the earthquake in fulfilling their potential through providing them with SRH and GBV information, counseling and services.

⁹ Southeastern Türkiye Protection Sector Planning Workshop: Thematic Discussion Session - GBV SS, 2024

¹⁰ We Need to Talk Association, <u>Post-Disaster Menstrual Hygiene Guide</u>, November 2024

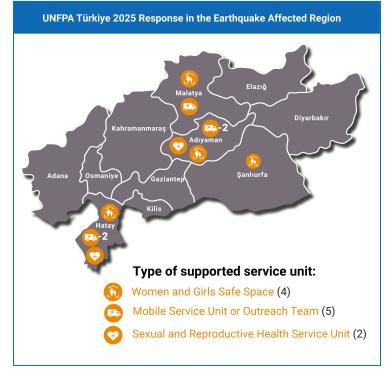
¹¹ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Recovery and Reconstruction after the 2023 Earthquakes in Türkiye, 28 August 2024



Almost 35,000 women and girls were supported with dignity kits which respond to the essential protection and basic needs of a woman for a one month period, and more than 11,000 women were reached with maternity kits, which meet the most essential needs of a mother in the postpartum period and her newborn baby. UNFPA also scaled up <u>cash and voucher assistance</u> in GBV case management; SRH and menstrual hygiene management; and responding to the urgent health and protection needs of more than 1,700 individuals.

UNFPA has strengthened systems of public institutions to contribute to the emergency and recovery response. Since February 2023, 11 primary health care facilities and 2 Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centers have been established and/or supported with medical equipment and personnel, respectively, to ensure uninterrupted SRH and GBV service provision. More than 500 service providers have gained necessary knowledge and skills on reproductive health and GBV in emergencies through UNFPA supported in-service training.

In 2025, UNFPA will continue to support the Government of Türkiye in the recovery efforts through 11 static and mobile service units in Adıyaman, Hatay, Malatya and Şanlıurfa, providing SRH and GBV information and services, cash and voucher assistance, in-kind support and capacity building.



Results Snapshots (February 2023-December 2024)



128,000 people reached with **SRH services** 96% Female 4% Male



160,000

people reached with **GBV prevention**, mitigation and response activities 96% Female 4% Male



57 health facilities supported

17 Safe Spaces for women and girls supported





NFI	46,000	non-food items (such as dignity and maternity kits) distributed to individuals
	552 (39 metric tons)	reproductive health kits provided to 20 service delivery points in 10 provinces to respond to the urgent needs of up to 1 million people including supplies that enable safe complicated deliveries for 2100 women; preventing unintended pregnancy for 45,000 women; and preventing sexually transmitted infections including HIV in 19,000 people
Â	2	youth spaces supported by UNFPA
	1,700	people reached with Humanitarian Cash & Voucher Assistance for GBV and SRH (93% female, 7% male)

Coordination Mechanisms

🗘 Gender-Based Violence:

- As the designated Inter-Agency Standing Committee lead for GBV coordination at global level, **UNFPA co-leads the GBV Sub-Sector**, which brings together 53 member organizations, mostly ca NGOs, INGOs and UN agencies in the earthquake-affected region, together with KAMER Foundatic a women-led NGO, and UNHCR.
- Thanks to provincial coordination mechanisms, "GBV prevention and response" interventions gained progress. In Hatay, the capacities of law enforcement personnel were strengthened and a GBV services mapping for local institutions was developed. The Malatya Provincial Action Plan for Combating Violence Against Women was the first step taken for the collaboration of public institutions with NGOs; it therefore laid the ground for further policies regarding GBV.

Empowering Young People: Youth Task Team

- UNFPA, together with UNICEF and UNHCR as co-chairs, established the Youth Task Team in 2024 to coordinate initiatives in the earthquake-affected region through multi-stakeholder collaboration. Collaborating with public institutions, NGOs, and international stakeholders, the Task Team seeks to promote the implementation of specialized, inclusive, and youth-friendly service models bringing together over 80 members across the region.
- Throughout 2024, the Youth Task Team increased the capacities of its member organizations in five key areas: SRH, youth wellbeing, participation, skill development, and climate change and disaster risk reduction. Additionally, 55 youth workers in the region enhanced their understanding of core humanitarian principles and how to effectively work with youths during conflict situations through a workshop on the IASC Guidelines on Working with and for Young People in Humanitarian and Protracted Crises.



Funding Status for 2025

UNFPA appreciates the generous contribution of its donors to its earthquake response since February 2023. UNFPA is the largest international organization in Türkiye providing services and strengthening national systems on safe motherhood, GBV prevention and response, and resilience of the most vulnerable groups (refugee and host populations), particularly in the earthquake affected region. For 2025, UNFPA appeals for 24.2 million USD within the framework of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP), which also includes responses in the earthquake affected region. 85% of this appeal is unfunded, as of February 2025.

The global funding cuts, such as recent stop-work orders for US funds, are having, and will have, immediate and widespread effects on UNFPA's humanitarian operations in Türkiye. If this trend continues, UNFPA may need to scale back its humanitarian operations in Türkiye by 60%. This would impair the ability to meet humanitarian needs and support recovery and resilience for vulnerable people, including access to essential health and protection services for refugee women, girls, and young people.

As a leading UN agency for safe motherhood and SRH and GBV services in humanitarian situations, UNFPA is determined to support safety and dignity, progress and hope for every woman and girl in Türkiye. UNFPA will continue to work tirelessly with its partners and the international community to deliver on the collective promise of ensuring the rights and choices of women and girls.

