



TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION
OF PRODUCTIVE FORCES (COSYFOP)

Purchasing power and the real cost of living in Algeria, 2026

Study on wages, prices
and family budgets



FOR STRONGER WORKERS
FOR A FAIRER ALGERIA

September 2026

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1. Executive summary

Since 1 January 2026, Algeria's National Guaranteed Minimum Wage (SNMG) has been set at 24,000 Algerian dinars (DA) gross per month¹, equivalent to 21,840 DA net after the 9% employee social-security contribution², with no income tax due on taxable monthly wages of up to 30,000 DA³. With consumer prices rising by about 35.1% between 2021 and 2025, preserving the 2020 purchasing-power level would have required an SNMG of approximately 27,011 DA.

The study is based on an exploratory survey conducted by COSYFOP on 14 September 2026 in markets across the wilayas of Algiers, Tizi-Ouzou, Sétif, Guelma, Oran and Ouargla. It is not statistically representative of Algeria as a whole. Of the 18 products comparable in both product category and unit with an administrative benchmark, 17 were recorded above the administrative average and one below it; the median gap was 15.2%.

The food basket constructed from these observations represents a simple and adequately varied family diet for a couple with children aged 5 and 10. At the prices observed on 14 September 2026, its theoretical monthly cost is 34,150 DA, equivalent to 156% of the net minimum wage. It includes 43 kilograms of fruit and vegetables per month, close to the nutritional benchmark used in the study.

The study does not adopt a single national estimate of family living costs. The reference household budget is 74,669 DA for a homeowner with no monthly housing payment, 82,544 DA under an AADL rent-to-own scheme, 106,169 DA for private rental outside Algiers and 118,055 DA for private rental in Algiers. The corresponding reference income, including a 5% precautionary-savings margin, ranges from 79,000 DA to 124,000 DA net depending on the housing situation.

The net minimum wage covers 18% to 29% of the reference household budget and 63% of the budget of a worker living alone with no monthly housing payment. Raising the minimum wage to 35,000 DA gross, or 30,948 DA net, would cover 90% of that individual budget but would still fall short. Two wages at that level, totalling 61,896 DA net, would also remain below the reference household income in all four housing situations.

Three key benchmarks

About 28,000 DA gross. A rounded technical benchmark for restoring the 2020 purchasing-power level; the precise calculation is 27,011 DA. This is not a union demand.

At least 35,000 DA gross. COSYFOP's proposed minimum-wage level as the first step in a broader adjustment path, equivalent to 30,948 DA net.

Household reference income. Estimated resources required by the reference household, depending on housing: 79,000 DA to 124,000 DA net. This is distinct from an individual minimum wage.

¹Presidential Decree No. 26-01 of 7 January 2026 setting the national guaranteed minimum wage, Official Journal No. 1 of 8 January 2026, effective 1 January 2026 (hourly rate of 138.46 DA, repealing Presidential Decree No. 21-137 of 7 April 2021). See APS, <https://www.aps.dz/fr/algerie/actualite-nationale/mke9sghf-le-decret-presidentiel-fixant-le-snmg-publie-dans-le-journal-officiel>

²CNAS, employer section, total social security contribution rate of 34.5%, of which 25% payable by the employer, 9% by the employee and 0.5% for social works, <https://cnas.dz/fr/employeur/>

³Directorate General of Taxes, income tax on wages and salaries (Articles 5, 68 and 104 of the Direct Taxes Code), exemption of taxable wages not exceeding 30,000 DA per month, progressive scale, 40% allowance capped between 1,000 and 1,500 DA and a second allowance between 30,001 and 35,000 DA, scale unchanged in 2026, <https://www.mfdgi.gov.dz/fr/particuliers/irg-traitements-et-salaires>

2. Purpose and objective of the study

A price index measures average changes over time in the prices of a national basket; it does not show whether a worker's wage is sufficient to cover food, housing and healthcare for a household. This study therefore estimates reference budgets from observed prices and official tariffs and compares them with wages actually paid.

Central question

To what extent do wages paid in Algeria in 2026 cover the expenses of a worker and household at the prices observed during the survey, and what reference income can be estimated under different housing situations?

The analysis is technical and neutral, the conclusions are set out in accessible terms and the trade union recommendations appear in a separate part.

3. Methodology and sources

3.1. Status of the field survey

COSYFOP's field observations form an exploratory survey conducted across several Algerian markets. All observations were made on 14 September 2026 in the wilayas of Algiers, Tizi-Ouzou, Sétif, Guelma, Oran and Ouargla, with nearly half of them originating from Tizi-Ouzou. COSYFOP is not able to attribute every photograph to its wilaya with certainty. In addition, in order to protect the persons who participated in data collection, the study does not systematically publish the link between an individual observation and a specific market or wilaya, even where that location is known. Observations whose individual location is not published are described as "COSYFOP observation of 14 September 2026, Algerian market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey". Some locations are nevertheless published, notably banana observations in Algiers and Oran and rents observed in Algiers. This non-publication of geographic information does not affect the recorded price and is distinct from cases where the location could not be established with certainty.

3.2. Origin and robustness of the data

Category	Definition
A. Official source or regulated price	Regulation, official tariff or publication of a public institution
B. Price directly observed by COSYFOP	Displayed price recorded in a market on 14 September 2026
C. Data provided by COSYFOP	Bill, rent or instalment transmitted without a photographic record
D. Documented estimate	Estimate based on identified sources, without representative statistics
E. Residual assumption	Value used in the absence of data, always presented within a range

Table 1. Robustness categories used in the study

The administrative price benchmarks, transmitted by COSYFOP from records of the Directorates of Commerce, are not linked to a specific wilaya or date, except for chicken, whose reference comes from Tizi-Ouzou. This limitation is flagged in the tables and recalled in the conclusions.

3.3. Three levels of comparability

Level	Definition	Scope
A. Strong comparability	Same product and variety, comparable territory and close date	No product of the survey meets this condition
B. Comparability of the product	Comparable product and unit, individual location of the observation not published or not established with certainty.	18 products, the basis of the results presented
C. Indicative comparison	Different variety, species or territory	3 products, gaps quoted for information only

Table 2. Levels of comparability between observed prices and administrative price benchmarks

No comparison in the survey reaches Level A because the individual location of the observations is not available on a consistent product-by-product basis. The differences are therefore presented as gaps between prices observed in the markets covered by the survey and the available administrative benchmarks. The analysis remains descriptive and product-specific before any aggregate indicator is considered.

3.4. Household profiles

The reference household is a couple with a child aged 5 and a child aged 10. Three complementary profiles are calculated, namely a worker living alone, used mainly to assess the consistency of the individual minimum wage,

a couple without children and a couple with three children, the latter serving only as a sensitivity analysis. These three profiles do not carry the same analytical weight as the reference household.

The study uses the modified OECD equivalence scale to transpose variable items between household profiles: 1 for the first adult, 0.5 for the second adult and 0.3 for each child under 14. Items that do not vary with household size, such as telecommunications, and items linked to the number of children, such as schooling, are calculated separately. Its use here is a conservative analytical convention rather than a claim that it is the only valid international standard.

3.5. Calculation principles

All amounts are expressed in Algerian dinars per month, with no intermediate rounding. Wages are compared with expenditure on a net basis and then converted to gross equivalents using the tax schedule of the Directorate General of Taxes. The budget includes a 5% allowance for irregular expenditures—unexpected costs that are actually incurred—while the reference income adds a further 5% precautionary-savings margin for unexpected life events. The two items serve different purposes and are not double-counted.

3.6. Limitations

The observations cover a single day and a limited number of markets. The most recent ONS data whose detail could be consulted relate to April 2026 and the latest available wage survey to May 2022, which excludes agriculture, public administration and the informal sector⁴. The reference budget could be further strengthened by applying the methodology published by the ILO in 2025, based on household income and expenditure surveys⁵.

⁴Econostrum, noting that the ONS survey does not cover the informal sector, <https://econostrum.info/algerie/salaire-moyen-algeriens-ons/>

⁵ILO, A methodology to estimate the needs of workers and their families for the purpose of wage setting, including living wages, April 2025, based on household income and expenditure surveys and on the cost of adequate food, housing, healthcare and education, <https://www.ilo.org/fr/publications/methodologie-pour-estimer-les-besoins-des-travailleurs-et-de-leur-famille>

4. Economic situation and purchasing power

4.1. Inflation since 2020

Average annual inflation, which compares the average of the twelve months of a year with that of the previous year, reached 7.2% in 2021, 9.3% in 2022 and 2023, then 4.0% in 2024⁶ and about 1.4% in 2025⁷. The cumulative effect of these rates places the 2025 general price level about 35.1 % above that of 2020.

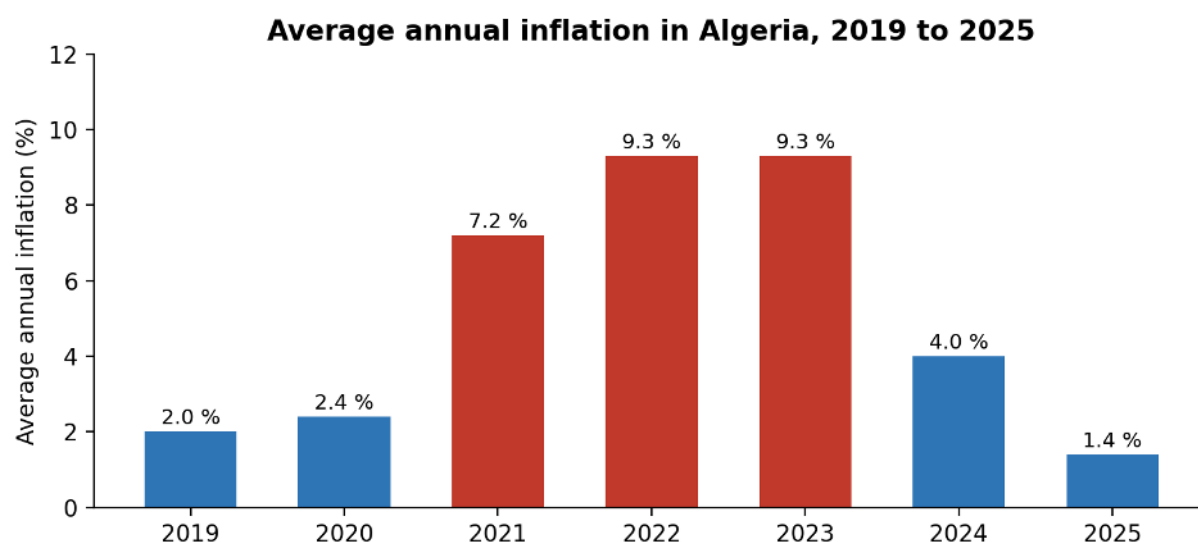


Figure 1. Average annual inflation, 2019 to 2025

4.2. Price developments in 2026

Four measures must be distinguished: the monthly change; the year-on-year change, which compares a month with the same month a year earlier; average annual inflation; and the 12-month moving average rate. Food-price inflation is also considered separately. At the end of February 2026, the Ministry of Finance reported an average inflation rate of 2.79%, compared with 4.17% a year earlier, a year-on-year change of 2.86% and a rise of 9.02% in manufactured goods⁸. In March 2026, during Ramadan, the ONS recorded a monthly change of 3.4% and a year-on-year change of 4%⁹, with vegetable prices rising by 36.8% during the month¹⁰. In April 2026, the most recent month for which detailed results could be consulted, the monthly change was -0.3%, the year-on-year change 5.2% and the annual rate 1.2%¹¹, with vegetables at +32.1% and fruit at +29.6% year on year¹².

4.3. What the price index does not measure

⁶Series reported by the World Bank (7.2% in 2021, 9.3% in 2022 and 2023, 4.0% in 2024) and by the IMF for 2023 and 2024, quoted by L'Algérie Aujourd'hui, 18 January 2026, <https://lalgerieaujourd'hui.dz/la-spectaculaire-decroissance-de-linflation/>

⁷Average annual rate of 1.4% for 2025 according to the consumer price series compiled from IMF and World Bank data, to be confirmed by the ONS annual report, <https://www.donneesmondiales.com/afrique/algerie/inflation.php>

⁸Ministry of Finance, DGPP, inflation note (average change of 2.79% at end-February 2026 against 4.17% a year earlier, year-on-year change of 2.86%, manufactured goods at +9.02%), <https://dgpp.mf.gov.dz/inflation-4/>

⁹ONS, consumer price index, March 2026 (monthly increase of 3.4%, food products at +4.5%, year-on-year change of +4%, manufactured goods at +11.1%), https://www.ons.dz/IMG/pdf/i.IPC_Mars2026.pdf

¹⁰El Watan, 21 May 2026, reporting the ONS note for March 2026 (monthly increases of 36.8% for vegetables, 12.1% for fruit and 10.5% for chicken meat), <https://elwatan.dz/selon-la-derniere-note-de-lons-les-prix-des-biens-alimentaires-en-hausse/>

¹¹El Watan, 13 June 2026, reporting the ONS note for April 2026 (monthly fall of 0.3%, year-on-year change of 5.2%, annual rate of 1.2%), <https://elwatan.dz/derniere-note-de-loffice-national-des-statistiques-lindice-des-prix-a-la-consommation-a-baisse-de-03-en-avril/>

¹²ONS, consumer price index, April 2026 (food products at +1.7% year-on-year, vegetables at +32.1%, fruit at +29.6%, manufactured goods at +11.1%), https://www.ons.dz/IMG/pdf/IPC_Avril2026.pdf

The ONS states that the consumer price index is not designed to measure changes in the cost of living¹³. The index measures a change over time, whereas the budgets of this study measure a level of expenditure at a given date. The two approaches are complementary and must not be confused.

4.4. Energy market conditions and fiscal context

The Ministry of Finance's explanatory report on the 2026 Finance Bill assumes a fiscal reference oil price of US\$60 per barrel, a market price of US\$70 and a 2% decline in hydrocarbon export volumes in 2026¹⁴, with budget revenue set at 8,009 billion DA, hydrocarbon tax revenue at 2,697.9 billion DA and the overall Treasury deficit at 12.4% of GDP¹⁵. Observed oil prices were substantially above these assumptions, with Sahara Blend averaging US\$96.04 in the first half of 2026¹⁶, US\$94.32 in August and about US\$94.18 on average since January, according to the OPEC monthly report; these figures are quoted from the specialised press because the report itself could not be accessed directly¹⁷, while Brent settled at US\$105.68 on 14 September 2026¹⁸¹⁹. Algerian crude output stood at 982,000 barrels per day in April 2026²⁰.

Price compared	Level	Gap with the 70 \$ market price	Gap with the 60 \$ fiscal reference
Sahara Blend, average January to August 2026	94.18 \$	+24.18 \$ (+34.5%)	+34.18 \$ (+57.0%)
Sahara Blend, August 2026	94.32 \$	+24.32 \$ (+34.7%)	+34.32 \$ (+57.2%)
Brent, settlement of 14 September 2026	105.68 \$	+35.68 \$ (+51.0%)	+45.68 \$ (+76.1%)

Table 3. Observed oil prices and assumptions used in the 2026 budget framework

¹³ONS, methodological note on the consumer price index, which states that this indicator is not designed to measure changes in the cost of living, <https://www.ons.dz/IMG/pdf/ipc06-15.pdf>

¹⁴Ministry of Finance, Directorate General of Forecasting and Policies, presentation report of the 2026 Budget Bill, October 2025, macroeconomic and budgetary framework 2026-2028 (fiscal reference price of 60 dollars per barrel, market price of 70 dollars, 2% fall in hydrocarbon export volumes in 2026), https://dgpp.mf.gov.dz/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/RPLF-2026-APN_FR.pdf

¹⁵Same report, table D and budgetary framework (budget revenue of 8,009 billion DA in 2026, hydrocarbon taxation of 2,697.9 billion DA, overall Treasury balance of -12.4% of GDP), https://dgpp.mf.gov.dz/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/RPLF-2026-APN_FR.pdf

¹⁶ObservAlgérie, 16 July 2026, reporting the OPEC monthly report, not consulted directly (Sahara Blend averaging 96.04 dollars in the first half of 2026 against 72.13 dollars a year earlier), <https://observalgerie.com/2026/07/16/economie/sahara-blend-le-petrole-algerien-parmi-les-plus-chers-de-lopep>

¹⁷El Khabar, reporting the OPEC monthly report of September 2026, not consulted directly (Sahara Blend at 94.32 dollars in August and about 94.18 dollars on average since January 2026), <https://www.elkhabar.com/fr/economie/le-prix-du-petrole-algerien-poursuit-sa-hausse-264842>

¹⁸CNBC, trading session of 14 September 2026, Brent settling at 105.68 dollars per barrel after approaching 110 dollars, <https://www.cnbcm.com/2026/09/13/oil-price-iran-war-strait-hormuz-saudi-pipeline.html>

¹⁹DTN, 14 September 2026, ICE Brent November contract settling up 1.07 dollars at 105.68 dollars,

<https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/news/world-policy/article/2026/09/14/oil-resumes-100-bbl-rally-saudi-oil>

²⁰ObservAlgérie, 14 May 2026, reporting the OPEC monthly report (Algerian output of 982,000 barrels per day in April 2026), <https://observalgerie.com/2026/05/14/economie/prix-du-petrole-le-sahara-blend-algerien-en-tete-du-classement-opec>

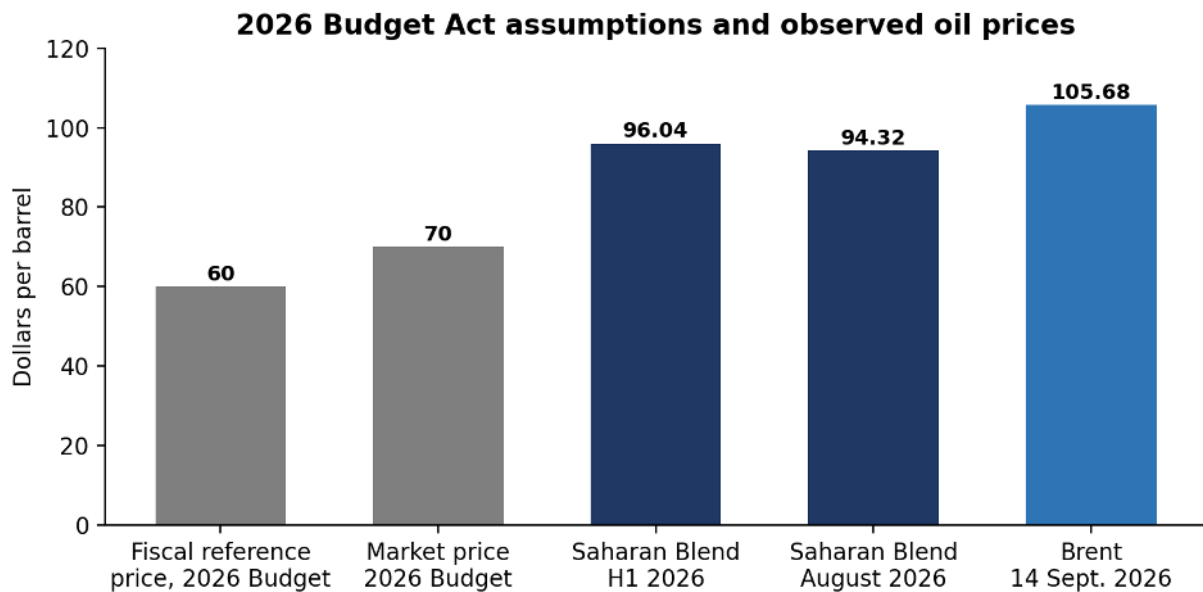


Figure 2. Budget assumptions and observed oil prices

An oil price roughly one third above the budgetary market assumption does not imply a proportionate increase in revenue. Revenue also depends on production and export volumes, OPEC+ quotas, the share of gas, long-term contracts whose prices adjust with a lag, applicable taxation and costs. The duration of the price increase also remains uncertain.

In the gas market, Russia's share of EU pipeline-gas imports fell from about 40% in 2021 to about 6% in 2025, according to the Council of the European Union, which adopted a ban on Russian gas imports in January 2026 with transitional periods²¹. According to Eurostat, whose figures are value-based and therefore not directly comparable with volume shares, Algeria was the EU's second-largest supplier of gaseous natural gas in 2025, accounting for 18.5% of imports, behind Norway (54.4%) and ahead of Russia (9.8%). The United States supplied 57.4% of EU LNG imports in the first quarter of 2026²², while Algeria accounted for 7.7% of EU LNG imports in the third quarter of 2025²³. Algeria therefore has a strengthened strategic role in the European pipeline-gas market, but it is neither a dominant nor a sole supplier and has not replaced all Russian volumes.

²¹Council of the European Union, where does the EU's gas come from, Russia's share of pipeline gas imports down from about 40% in 2021 to about 6% in 2025 and import ban adopted in January 2026, <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/infographics/where-does-the-eu-s-gas-come-from/>

²²Eurostat, EU imports of energy products, latest developments (2025 value shares for gas in gaseous state and first quarter of 2026 for LNG), https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=EU_imports_of_energy_products_-_latest_developments

²³Eurostat, drop in petroleum imports in 2025, Algeria accounting for 7.7% of EU LNG imports in the third quarter of 2025, <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-eurostat-news/w/ddn-20251219-2>

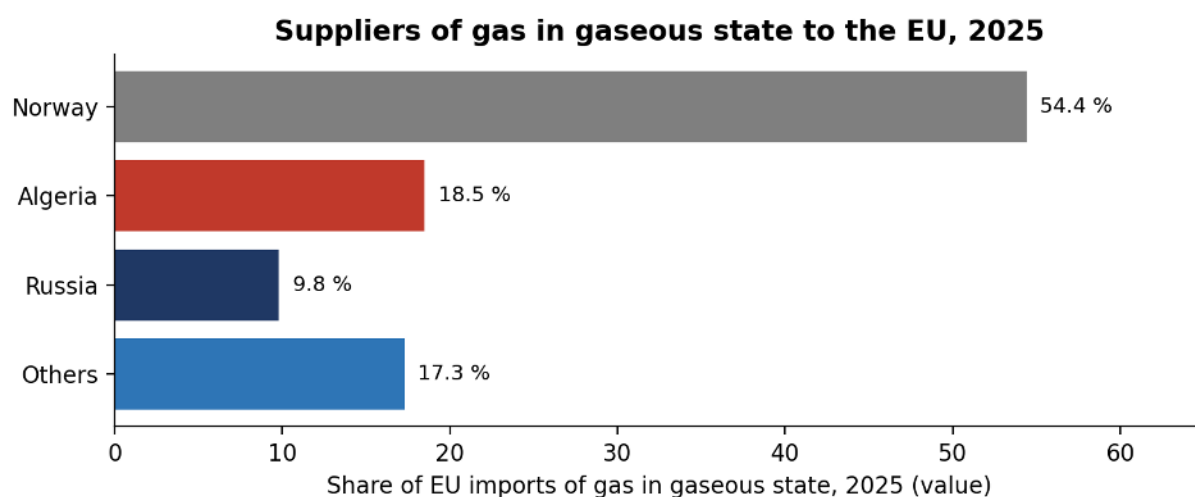


Figure 3. Suppliers of gas in gaseous state to the European Union in 2025, shares by value

In July 2026, the IMF noted that higher hydrocarbon prices were boosting export and budget revenues while fiscal buffers had eroded. It indicates that the budget deficit narrowed to 10.5% of GDP in 2025 while remaining very high, that public debt reached 52.1% of GDP, that the current account deteriorated markedly and that international reserves fell sharply, and it recommends fiscal consolidation²⁴. Foreign-exchange reserves excluding gold stood at US\$40.3 billion at the end of March 2026, according to IMF data reported by the press²⁵.

Conclusion of the section

The improvement in energy conditions is a relevant economic factor for wage bargaining.

²⁴IMF, press release No. 26/236 of 6 July 2026 following the 2026 Article IV mission, <https://www.imf.org/en/news/articles/2026/07/06/pr26236-algeria-imf-staff-completes-2026-article-iv-mission>

²⁵Maghreb Émergent, 21 May 2026, reporting IMF data (foreign exchange reserves excluding gold at 40.3 billion dollars at end-March 2026), <https://maghrebemergent.news/fr/algerie-les-reserves-de-change-reculent-en-mars-en-attendant-les-retombees-de-la-flambee-petroliere/>

5. Wages in Algeria

5.1. The minimum wage

Presidential Decree No. 26-01 of 7 January 2026 sets the minimum wage at 24,000 DA gross per month for 173.33 hours, that is an hourly rate of 138.46 DA²⁶, following the decision of the Council of Ministers of 30 November 2025²⁷. The corresponding net wage is 21,840 DA.

5.2. The civil service

The value of the index point is set at 45 DA by Article 8 of Presidential Decree No. 07-304 of 29 September 2007²⁸. The index grid was subsequently amended by Presidential Decree No. 22-138 of 31 March 2022, and the indices were then increased with effect from 1 January 2023 and again from 1 January 2024 by Presidential Decree No. 23-54²⁹. The grid applicable to contractual staff was also amended by Presidential Decree No. 23-56³⁰. Bonuses and allowances vary by corps and by sector.

Situation (grid at 1 January 2024)	Minimum index	Index-based salary	Comment
Contractual staff, category 1	400	18,000 DA	Below the minimum wage and therefore topped up
Civil servant, category 11	698	31,410 DA	Against 623 points at 1 January 2023
Off-scale (hors catégorie), subdivision 1	1,130	50,850 DA	First off-scale level
Off-scale (hors catégorie), subdivision 7	1,680	75,600 DA	Last off-scale level

Table 4. Benchmarks of the civil service index grid³¹

5.3. Enterprises

The ONS survey of May 2022, which covers enterprises and not public administration, puts the average net wage at 43,500 DA, of which 61,300 DA in national public enterprises and 35,200 DA in national private enterprises³². By skill level, a manager received 83,800 DA, supervisory staff 51,200 DA and operational staff 31,200 DA³³, against 92,300 DA, 67,600 DA and 42,300 DA in public enterprises³⁴.

²⁶Presidential Decree No. 26-01 of 7 January 2026 setting the national guaranteed minimum wage, Official Journal No. 1 of 8 January 2026, effective 1 January 2026 (hourly rate of 138.46 DA). See APS, <https://www.aps.dz/fr/algerie/actualite-nationale/mke9sgfh-le-decret-presidentiel-fixant-le-snmg-publie-dans-le-journal-officiel>

²⁷Algérie Eco, 14 January 2026, entry into force of the new minimum wage of 24,000 DA, <https://algerie-eco.com/2026/01/14/algerie-entree-en-vigueur-du-nouveau-salaire-minimum-fixe-a-24-000-da/>

²⁸Presidential Decree No. 07-304 of 29 September 2007, in particular Article 8 setting the value of the index point at 45 DA (Official Journal No. 61 of 30 September 2007). This decree was subsequently amended, notably by Presidential Decree No. 22-138 of 31 March 2022. See Official Journal, <https://www.joradp.dz/FTP/jo-francais/2007/F2007061.pdf>

²⁹Presidential Decree No. 23-54 of 16 January 2023 amending Presidential Decree No. 07-304, with grids applicable from 1 January 2023 and 1 January 2024 (minimum index for category 11 increased from 623 to 698 points). See APS, <https://www.aps.dz/algerie/150793-fonction-publique-la-nouvelle-grille-des-remunerations-publiee-au-jo>

³⁰Presidential Decree No. 23-56 amending Presidential Decree No. 07-308, with the index for category 1 contractual staff increased to 325 points in 2023 and 400 points in 2024. See La Sentinelle, 25 January 2023, <https://lasentinelle.dz/index.php/2023/01/25/les-grilles-indiciaires-2023-et-2024-publiees-salaires-ce-qu'il-faut-savoir/>

³¹Text of Presidential Decree No. 23-54 (Official Journal No. 3 of 2023, page 5), minimum indices of the out-of-category subdivisions from 1 January 2024 ranging from 1,130 to 1,680 points, <https://publications.news80.org/fr/23-54.html>

³²ONS, Statistical Data No. 1053, results of the annual wage survey of enterprises, May 2022 (684 enterprises, including 457 public and 227 national private enterprises, excluding agriculture and public administration), https://www.ons.dz/IMG/pdf/Salaire_Mai2022.pdf

³³Algérie360, 28 April 2025, reporting the ONS average net wages by skill level (managers 83,800 DA, supervisory staff 51,200 DA, operational staff 31,200 DA), <https://www.algerie360.com/salaires-en-algerie-voici-les-metiers-les-mieux-payes-selon-lons/>

³⁴Algérie Eco, 23 April 2025, reporting average net wages in national public enterprises (managers 92,300 DA, supervisory staff 67,600 DA, operational staff 42,300 DA), <https://algerie-eco.com/2025/04/23/salaires-en-algerie-ce-que-dit-lenquete-de-lons/>

Category (net monthly)	Amount	Ratio to the net minimum wage	Days of the reference household budget covered*
Net minimum wage 2026	21,840 DA	1.00	6.2
Operational staff (ONS 2022)	31,200 DA	1.43	8.8
National private enterprises (ONS 2022)	35,200 DA	1.61	9.9
All enterprises, average (ONS 2022)	43,500 DA	1.99	12.3
Supervisory staff (ONS 2022)	51,200 DA	2.34	14.5
National public enterprises (ONS 2022)	61,300 DA	2.81	17.3
Managers (ONS 2022)	83,800 DA	3.84	23.7

Table 5. Net wages and number of days of the reference household budget for private rental outside Algiers (106,169 DA) that they finance. *On a 30-day basis.

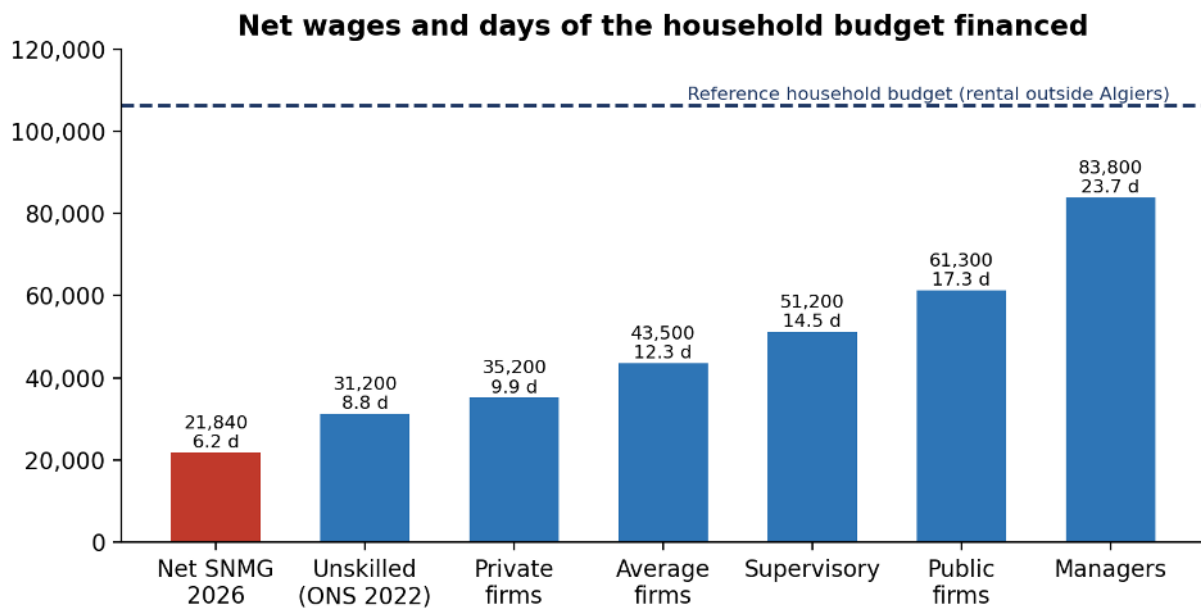


Figure 4. Net wages compared with the reference household budget

6. Prices observed during the survey

The prices below were recorded on 14 September 2026 in the markets covered by the survey. Unless otherwise stated, the individual location of each observation is either not published or could not be established with certainty, in accordance with the methodology set out in Section 3.1.

6.1. Products compared with an administrative price benchmark

Product (DA/kg)	Observed price	Admin. average	Admin. min. and max.	Central gap (range)	Position relative to the reference range	Level
Potato	120	95	80 to 110	+26.3 %	10 DA above the maximum	B
Fresh tomato	120	115	100 to 130	+4.3 %	Between the minimum and the maximum	B
Red onion *	200	62.5	55 to 70	+220.0 %	130 DA above the maximum	C
Lettuce	250	185	170 to 200	+35.1 %	50 DA above the maximum	B
Courgette	170 to 200	152.5	145 to 160	+21.3 % (11.5 to 31.1)	At 170 DA, 10 DA above the maximum; at 200 DA, 40 DA above the maximum	B
Carrot	150	127.5	105 to 150	+17.6 %	Equal to the maximum	B
Sweet pepper	150	135	120 to 150	+11.1 %	Equal to the maximum	B
Chilli pepper	150	135	120 to 150	+11.1 %	Equal to the maximum	B
Beetroot	140 to 150	125	100 to 150	+16.0 % (12.0 to 20.0)	At 140 DA, between the minimum and the maximum; at 150 DA, equal to the maximum	B
Fennel	200	130	100 to 160	+53.8 %	40 DA above the maximum	B
Aubergine	120	97.5	75 to 120	+23.1 %	Equal to the maximum	B
Cucumber	120 to 190	107.5	85 to 130	+44.2 % (11.6 to 76.7)	At 120 DA, between the minimum and the maximum; at 190 DA, 60 DA above the maximum	B
Turnip	200	175	150 to 200	+14.3 %	Equal to the maximum	B
Watermelon	60 to 110	75	65 to 85	+13.3 % (-20.0 to 46.7)	At 60 DA, 5 DA below the minimum; at 110 DA, 25 DA above the maximum	B
Melon	90	85	70 to 100	+5.9 %	Between the minimum and the maximum	B
Peach	350 to 400	327.5	255 to 400	+14.5 % (6.9 to 22.1)	At 350 DA, between the minimum and the maximum; at 400 DA, equal to the maximum	B
Grapes	250	260	220 to 300	-3.8 %	Between the minimum and the maximum	B
Pear	500	385	320 to 450	+29.9 %	50 DA above the maximum	B
Fresh chicken *	590	350	350 to 350	+68.6 %	240 DA above the maximum	C
Eggs (per unit)	23.20	21	20 to 22	+10.5 %	1.20 DA above the maximum	B
Red meat (lamb) *	2,300	1,950	1,850 to 2,050	+17.9 %	250 DA above the maximum	C

Table 6. Observed prices and administrative price benchmarks (eggs in DA per unit, that is 580 DA for 25 units). The administrative price benchmarks come from records of the Directorates of Commerce transmitted by COSYFOP, for which the source wilaya and date are not documented, except for the chicken reference (Tizi-Ouzou).

Three comparisons fall under level C. Red onion is compared with a reference relating to dry onion. The COSYFOP observation for fresh chicken is not publicly linked to a given wilaya, whereas the administrative price benchmark comes from Tizi-Ouzou, so that the gap is classified as an indicative comparison and does not constitute a

homogeneous local comparison. Lamb is compared with a reference for local beef. For products observed as a range, the position of each bound is indicated separately, watermelon cutting across the administrative range since 60 DA falls below the observed minimum and 110 DA exceeds it by 25 DA.

6.2. Other prices observed

Product	Observed price	Unit or packaging	Comparison available
Cooking oil	650 DA	5-litre can, that is 130 DA per litre	Identical to the regulated price
Rice and pasta	230 DA	Kilogram	No homogeneous reference
Chickpeas	540 DA	Kilogram	No homogeneous reference
Lentils	220 DA	Kilogram	No homogeneous reference
Coffee	1,600 DA	Kilogram	No homogeneous reference
Tea	1,600 DA	Kilogram	No homogeneous reference
Sardines	600 DA	Kilogram	No homogeneous reference
Yoghurt	150 DA	Pack of 6 pots	No homogeneous reference
Processed cheese	200 DA	Box of 16 portions	No homogeneous reference
Spices	70 DA	50 g sachet	No homogeneous reference
Tinned tomato or purée	350 DA	Packaging not specified	Product not included in the basket
Hygiene and cleaning products	120 to 230 DA	Depending on the product, including 130 DA for about 300 g	No homogeneous reference

Table 7. Prices observed without a homogeneous administrative price benchmark

The case of bananas

On 14 September 2026 bananas were recorded at 1,600 DA per kilogram in Algiers and up to 2,300 DA per kilogram in Oran. The only available reference is the price of about 420 DA recorded at the end of August 2026 after measures taken by the Ministry of Foreign Trade³⁵, following retail prices of 700 to 750 DA in June³⁶. As this reference does not come from a homogeneous administrative record, no gap is calculated and bananas are not included in the basket.

³⁵Maghreb Émergent, reporting a price back to about 420 DA per kilogram at the end of August 2026 following measures by the Ministry of Foreign Trade, <https://maghrebemergent.news/fr/prix-de-la-banane-en-algerie-des-mois-de-flambee-avant-une-intervention-du-ministere/>

³⁶Maghreb Émergent, 25 June 2026, reporting retail prices of 700 to 750 DA per kilogram, with prices exceeding 1,000 DA in some localities, <https://maghrebemergent.news/fr/bananes-les-prix-flambent-en-algerie-et-atteignent-jusqua-750-dinars-le-kilo/>

7. Price gaps between observed prices and administrative benchmarks

The gap is expressed as a percentage of the administrative average. It measures the distance between a price observed during the survey and a published reference, without constituting a measure of inflation, proof of an offence or a finding of administrative failure.

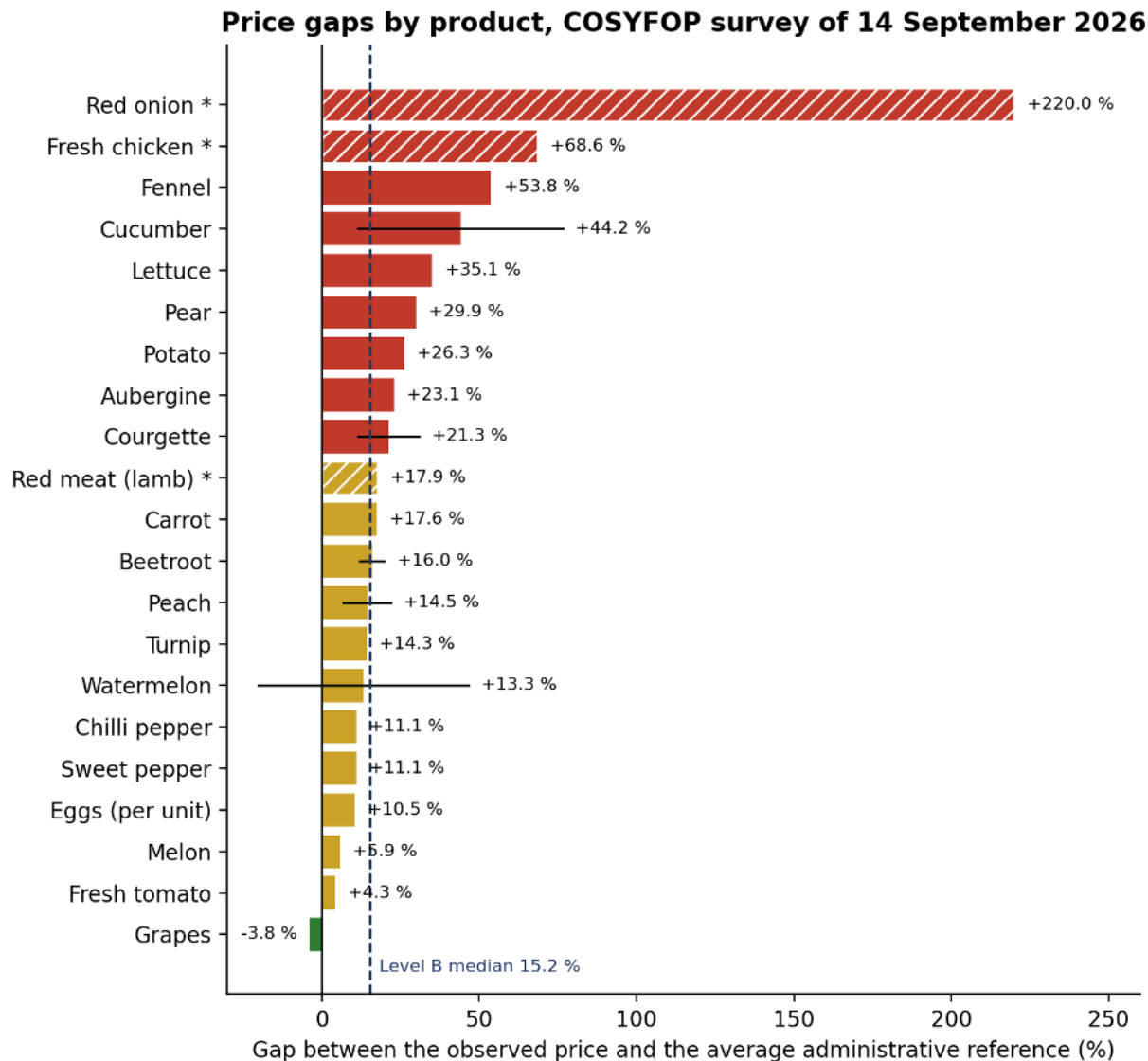


Figure 5. Gaps by product, distinguishing level C comparisons

Indicator	Level B (18 products)	Level C (3 products)
Products above the administrative average	17	3
Products below the administrative average	1	0
Products whose central price exceeds the observed maximum	7	3
Products remaining within the administrative range	10	0
Median gap	15.2 %	68.6 %
Unweighted average gap	19.4 %	102.2 %

Table 8. Descriptive summary of the gaps

In the absence of a documented date and location for most of the administrative price benchmarks used, the aggregate gap indicators must be read as descriptive and not as a strictly homogeneous territorial comparison.

At Level B, 17 of the 18 products were recorded above the administrative average, grapes being the only product recorded below it, and 10 products remained within the administrative range. The median gap is 15.2 % and the average gap 19.4 %. These indicators describe the markets visited on 14 September 2026 and cannot be generalised to Algeria as a whole, particularly because the individual location of the observations is not available on a consistent product-by-product basis. The three level C comparisons, whose gaps range from +17.9% to +220%, are mentioned for information only and support no conclusion.

8. The family food basket

8.1. Nature and function of the basket

The basket represents a simple and adequately varied family diet, with no luxury products, for a couple with children aged 5 and 10. Because prices were collected across several markets and wilayas, it is a synthetic field basket based on COSYFOP's multi-market observations. It provides an order of magnitude rather than the exact cost faced by a family in any specific wilaya. The amount is a theoretical monthly cost at the prices observed on 14 September 2026, not an average price for the month.

Fruit and vegetables, excluding starchy foods, total 43 kilograms per month, or about 1,433 grams per day for the household. This is close to the WHO benchmark, which recommends at least 400 grams a day above the age of 10, 350 grams between 6 and 9 and 250 grams between 2 and 5³⁷, equivalent to 1,450 grams per day for this household. Animal-protein foods include 8 kilograms of chicken, 2 kilograms of lamb, 4 kilograms of sardines and 90 eggs per month; dairy products include 45 litres of milk, 36 pots of yoghurt and 48 portions of processed cheese.

8.2. Composition and cost

Product	Quantity / month	Unit price (DA)	Origin	Cost (DA)	Sensitivity (DA)
Improved bread (250 g baguette)	150 units	8.50	Regulated price	1,275	
Ordinary semolina	12 kg	36	Regulated price	432	
Ordinary flour	5 kg	21.80	Regulated price	109	
Rice and pasta	8 kg	230	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	1,840	
Chickpeas	2 kg	540	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	1,080	
Lentils	2 kg	220	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	440	
Potatoes	14 kg	120	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	1,680	
Fresh tomatoes	9 kg	120	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	1,080	
Red onions	5 kg	200	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	1,000	
Carrots	3 kg	150	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	450	
Courgettes	3 kg	185	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	555	510 to 600
Peppers, chilli, aubergine, beetroot	5 kg	141.25	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	706	700 to 712
Lettuce	2 kg	250	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	500	
Cucumbers	2 kg	155	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	310	240 to 380
Watermelon	7 kg	85	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	595	420 to 770
Melon	2 kg	90	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	180	

³⁷WHO, healthy diet fact sheet, recommending at least 400 g of fruit and vegetables a day above the age of 10, 350 g between 6 and 9 and 250 g between 2 and 5, potatoes excluded, <https://www.who.int/fr/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/healthy-diet>

Product	Quantity / month	Unit price (DA)	Origin	Cost (DA)	Sensitivity (DA)
Peach, grapes, pear (one third each)	5 kg	375	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	1,875	1,833 to 1,917
Fresh chicken	8 kg	590	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	4,720	
Lamb	2 kg	2,300	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	4,600	
Sardines	4 kg	600	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	2,400	
Eggs	90 units	23.20	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	2,088	
Pasteurised bagged milk	45 litres	25	Regulated price	1,125	
Yoghurt (packs of 6 pots)	6 packs	150	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	900	
Processed cheese (boxes of 16 portions)	3 boxes	200	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	600	
Cooking oil (5-litre can at 650 DA)	5 litres	130	Regulated price	650	
Packaged white sugar	4 kg	95	Regulated price	380	
Coffee	1 kg	1,600	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	1,600	
Tea	0.25 kg	1,600	COSYFOP survey, 14 September 2026	400	
Spices (50 g sachets)	4 sachets	70	COSYFOP survey, estimated quantity	280	
Salt, vinegar and other condiments	1 lump sum	300	Residual assumption	300	
Total				34,150	33,812 to 34,488

Table 9. Monthly food basket of the reference household, priced at the observations of 14 September 2026

Origin of the prices	Amount	Share
Prices observed by COSYFOP	29,879 DA	87.5 %
Regulated prices	3,971 DA	11.6 %
Residual assumption	300 DA	0.9 %
Total	34,150 DA	100.0%

Table 10. Origin of the basket prices, the cost of which represents 156% of the net minimum wage

9. Non-food items

The hygiene and household-cleaning estimate is based on a monthly basket of twelve items for four people, comprising laundry detergent, washing-up liquid, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, bleach, a cleaning product, toilet paper and bin bags, priced between 120 and 230 DA per article according to the observations, with an additional 500 DA for menstrual-hygiene products and other items not directly observed. The health estimate represents the household's out-of-pocket costs; CNAS reimburses 80% of medical care and pharmaceuticals at the reference tariff³⁸, the balance and non-reimbursable products remaining payable by the insured. This is a documented estimate and not a statistical record.

Schooling costs are based on prices observed at the start of the 2026 school year. A report from the wilaya of Tizi-Ouzou described a back-to-school bill of up to 14,000 DA for one child³⁹, with locally made school bags from 1,200 DA, exercise books at 90 to 150 DA and school smocks from 600 DA recorded during the same period⁴⁰. The study uses 9,000 to 14,000 DA per child per year, with a central value of 12,000 DA spread over twelve months. Clothing is counted separately. Telecommunications include Algérie Télécom's entry-level offer at 1,600 DA⁴¹ and two mobile subscriptions estimated at 1,000 DA each. Transport outside Algiers is estimated using the urban public-transport fare schedule, which caps a journey at 20 DA up to 10 km, 30 DA up to 20 km and 35 DA up to 30 km⁴², while the Algiers estimate uses the integrated monthly pass at 2,500 DA⁴³ and on two school passes at 500 DA⁴⁴.

Energy costs are based on an electricity and gas bill of 7,500 DA every two months reported to COSYFOP, equivalent to 3,750 DA per month; a 10,000 DA bill is used as the upper bound. These amounts imply relatively high consumption under CREG's progressive tariff⁴⁵. Water is billed quarterly, Executive Decree No. 05-13 setting consumption brackets on a quarterly basis⁴⁶ and the SEAAL bill stating the quarter⁴⁷. The roughly 1,000 DA water bill is therefore spread over three months. The leisure item covers only occasional low-cost outings, family activities and modest leisure spending for children, excluding holidays, travel and regular restaurant meals. The seasonal item covers additional food and social spending during Ramadan and religious festivals, without double-counting clothing or school supplies included elsewhere.

Item (reference household, rental outside Algiers)	Low	Central	High
Food	33,812	34,150	34,488
Housing	20,000	30,000	45,000

³⁸Centre of European and International Liaisons for Social Security, Algerian social security scheme for employees, reimbursement of medical care and pharmaceuticals at 80%, https://www.cleiss.fr/docs/regimes/regime_algerie_salaries.html

³⁹Maghreb Émergent, 16 September 2026, report from Fréha (Tizi-Ouzou) describing a back-to-school bill reaching 14,000 DA for a single child, <https://maghrebemergent.news/fr/reportage-rentree-scolaire-a-tizi-ouzou-les-prix-baissent-mais-le-total-reste-eleve/>

⁴⁰Le Jeune Indépendant, 9 September 2026 (locally made school bags from 1,200 DA, 120-page exercise books at 90 to 150 DA, primary school smocks from 600 DA, small school supplies from 120 to 350 DA), <https://www.jeune-independant.net/fournitures-scolaires-les-parents-traquent-les-petits-prix/>

⁴¹Algérie Télécom, entry-level Idoom ADSL offer at 1,600 DA per month, <https://www.algerietelecom.dz/fr/espace-presse/algerie-telecom-tient-ses-engagements-art1181>

⁴²Algérie Focus, 7 March 2021, Ministry of Transport schedule capping urban collective transport at 20 DA for 10 km, 30 DA for 20 km and 35 DA for 30 km, <https://www.algerie-focus.com/algerie-une-nouvelle-grille-des-tarifs-plafonne-les-prix-du-transport-collectif-urbain-de-voyageurs/>

⁴³Single monthly pass for metro, tramway, ETUSA buses and cable car at 2,500 DA, see Auto Utilitaire, 4 December 2024, <https://www.auto-utilitaire.com/metro-dalger-un-abonnement-unique-pour-quatre-moyens-de-transport/>

⁴⁴Algiers Metro Company, tariff schedule (monthly school pass for metro and tramway at 500 DA), <https://metro-eldjazair.dz/tarifications/>

⁴⁵CREG, how to read your bill, progressive tariff brackets for households (electricity from 1.7787 to 5.4796 DA per kWh, gas from 0.1682 to 0.4599 DA per therm), <https://creg.gov.dz/fr/consommateurs/comment-lire-votre-facture/>

⁴⁶Executive Decree No. 05-13 of 9 January 2005 setting the tariff rules for public water and sanitation services, Article 9 of which sets consumption brackets on a quarterly basis (Official Journal No. 5 of 2005), <https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/alg49964.pdf>

⁴⁷SEAAL, presentation of the bill, which states the quarter billed and the tariffs applied to households, <https://www.seaal.dz/espace-client/fatourati/>

Item (reference household, rental outside Algiers)	Low	Central	High
Energy (electricity and gas)	3,750	3,750	5,000
Water	333	333	667
Transport	1,920	3,680	5,440
Hygiene and cleaning	1,940	2,600	3,260
Clothing and footwear	5,833	7,500	9,167
Health (out-of-pocket share)	2,000	3,000	5,000
Schooling	1,500	2,000	2,333
Telecoms and internet	3,600	3,600	3,600
Household equipment, upkeep and minor repairs	1,800	2,500	3,500
Seasonal spending (Ramadan, Eid)	3,000	4,000	8,000
Modest leisure	2,500	4,000	6,000
Irregular spending (5%)	4,099	5,056	6,573
Monthly total	86,087	106,169	138,028

Table 11. Detailed monthly budget of the reference household, private rental outside Algiers (DA)

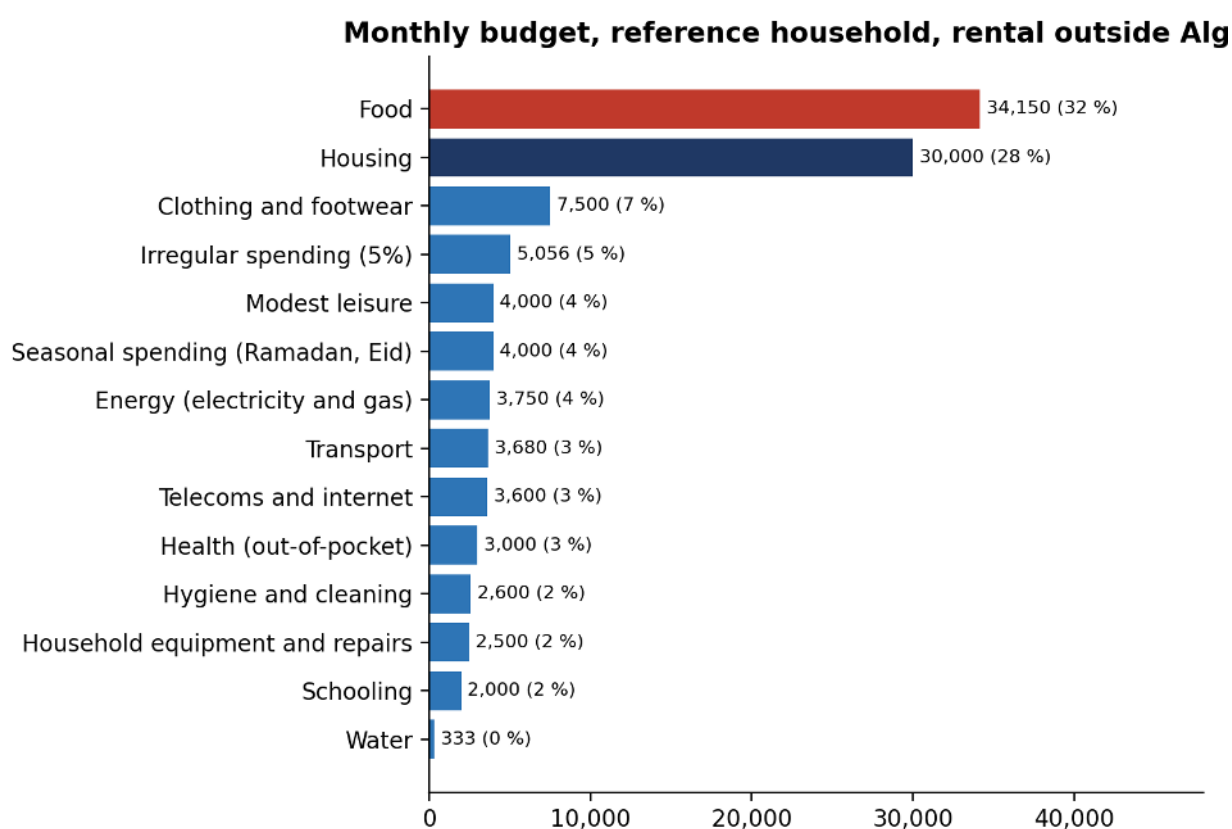


Figure 6. Structure of the reference household's monthly budget

10. Housing

Housing is analysed by situation rather than through a single national average rent. The homeowner scenario assumes no monthly housing payment; upkeep and minor repairs are grouped into one item to avoid double counting. The AADL rent-to-own instalment used is 7,500 DA, an amount actually paid by a household according to COSYFOP, bounded by about 6,500 DA for an F3 unit under the 2013 programme⁴⁸ and by the 8,000 to 9,000 DA announced for F3 and F4 units under the AADL 3 programme⁴⁹. This amount is not a single national tariff, and the scenario measures the current instalment alone, without reconstructing the initial down payment, condominium charges or other specific costs.

In Algiers, rents are based on a field survey conducted by COSYFOP using information collected by its members. The survey indicates monthly rents of between 25,000 and 50,000 DA in the outskirts, rarely below 40,000 DA in the city centre, while the rent for an F4 apartment is around 50,000 DA or more. Outside Algiers, COSYFOP does not have sufficient field observations; the levels presented below therefore come from property platforms and advertisements that do not publish a methodology. They are accordingly presented as indicative regional examples rather than as a statistically homogeneous category.^{50 51 52 53}

City	Monthly rent for an F3 apartment (DA)	Origin
Algiers, outskirts	25,000 to 50,000	COSYFOP field survey
Algiers, centre	From 40,000, often more	COSYFOP field survey
Oran	20,000 to 80,000 depending on the source	Property platforms
Constantine	18,000 to 40,000	Property platforms
Sétif and Annaba	20,000 to 40,000	Property platforms
Tizi-Ouzou	About 25,000 for an F3; 26,000 to 33,000 for an F4	Rental advertisements
Béjaïa	40,000 to 80,000 outside the city centre	Property platforms

Table 12. Documented rent examples, without a national average

Housing situation	Low	Central	High	Robustness
A. Homeowner, no monthly housing payment	0	0	0	Scenario assumption
B. AADL rent-to-own instalment	6,500	7,500	9,000	C, data provided, documented bounds
C. Private rental outside Algiers	20,000	30,000	45,000	D, documented estimate, the most fragile assumption
D. Private rental in Algiers	25,000	40,000	50,000	C, COSYFOP field survey

Table 13. Amounts used for housing (DA per month)

⁴⁸Lkeria, breakdown of the rent-to-own housing price under the interministerial order of 19 June 2017 (Official Journal No. 55 of 2017), monthly instalment of about 6,537 DA for an F3 and 8,225 DA for an F4 under the 2013 programme, <https://www.lkeria.com/actualites/aadl/le-prix-du-logement-destine-a-la-location-vente-en-detail/>

⁴⁹TSA, 22 May 2025, statement by the Minister of Housing announcing monthly instalments of 8,000 to 9,000 DA for the three- and four-room units of the AADL 3 programme, <https://www.tsa-algerie.com/aadl-3-pres-dun-million-de-logements-bientot-lances-en-algerie/>

⁵⁰Zoom Algérie, property prices in Algeria in 2026 city by city (three-room flats at 25,000 to 50,000 DA in Oran and 20,000 to 40,000 DA in Sétif, Constantine and Annaba), estimate without published methodology, <https://zoomalgerie.com/prix-immobilier-algerie-2026-ville-par-ville/>

⁵¹Zoom Algérie, renting a flat in Algeria, May 2026 (three-room flats from 40,000 DA in the outskirts of Algiers to more than 200,000 DA in the most expensive districts, 20,000 to 80,000 DA in Oran, 18,000 to 40,000 DA in Constantine), estimate without published methodology, <https://zoomalgerie.com/louer-appartement-algerie/>

⁵²Zoom Algérie, Béjaïa market in 2026 (three-room flats outside the city centre at 40,000 to 80,000 DA per month), estimate without published methodology, <https://zoomalgerie.com/prix-appartement-bejaia-euros/>

⁵³Rental advertisements published in Tizi-Ouzou (three-room flat at 25,000 DA, four-room flats at 26,000 to 33,000 DA), https://www.algeriahome.com/maison-appartement-a-louer_tizi-ouzou-r782628

11. Monthly budgets by household profile

The budgets below result from the food basket, the non-food items and the housing situation. The reference household is the main analytical case; the other three profiles are included for comparison.

Profile (low / central / high)	A. Owner	B. AADL	C. Rental outside Algiers	D. Rental in Algiers
Worker living alone	30,984 / 34,470 / 41,539	37,809 / 42,345 / 50,989	51,984 / 65,970 / 88,789	58,473 / 77,709 / 95,572
Couple without children	46,140 / 51,952 / 62,677	52,965 / 59,827 / 72,127	67,140 / 83,452 / 109,927	73,944 / 95,275 / 116,668
Couple with two children (aged 5 and 10)	65,087 / 74,669 / 90,778	71,912 / 82,544 / 100,228	86,087 / 106,169 / 138,028	92,996 / 118,055 / 144,916
Couple with three children	74,380 / 86,276 / 104,636	81,205 / 94,151 / 114,086	95,380 / 117,776 / 151,886	102,814 / 129,263 / 158,375

Table 14. Estimated monthly budgets by profile and housing situation (DA)

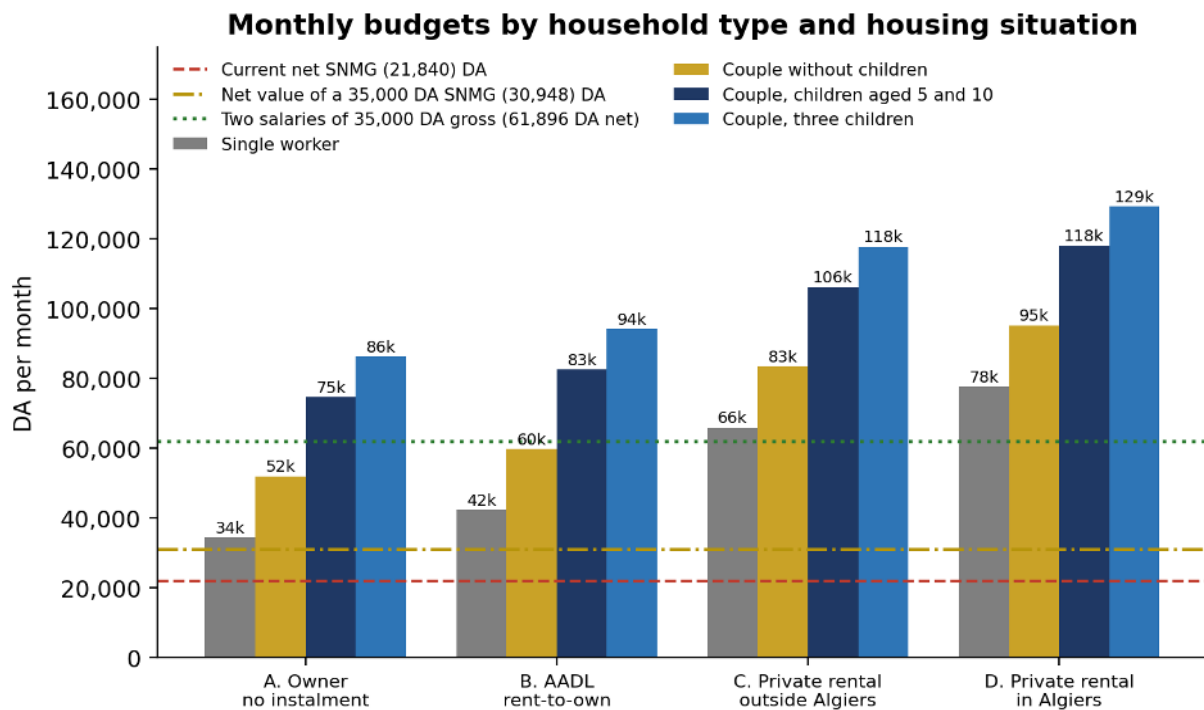


Figure 7. Estimated monthly budgets compared with the net minimum wage and with the net value of a 35,000 DA minimum wage

12. Data robustness and sensitivity analysis

Group of items	Amount (scenario C)	Share of the budget
Observed and regulated prices (food)	34,150 DA	32.2 %
Official tariffs and estimates (transport, telecommunications)	7,280 DA	6.9 %
Data provided by COSYFOP (energy)	3,750 DA	3.5 %
Data provided and official tariff (water)	333 DA	0.3 %
Documented estimates (housing, hygiene, clothing, health, schooling)	45,100 DA	42.5 %
Residual assumptions (equipment, seasonal, leisure, irregular spending)	15,556 DA	14.7 %

Table 15. Degree of robustness of the components of the reference household budget

Observed and regulated prices account for 32% of the budget, official tariffs and reported data for about 11%, documented estimates for 42%, and residual assumptions for 15%. In the Algiers rental scenario, housing is based on a COSYFOP field survey, which improves overall robustness.

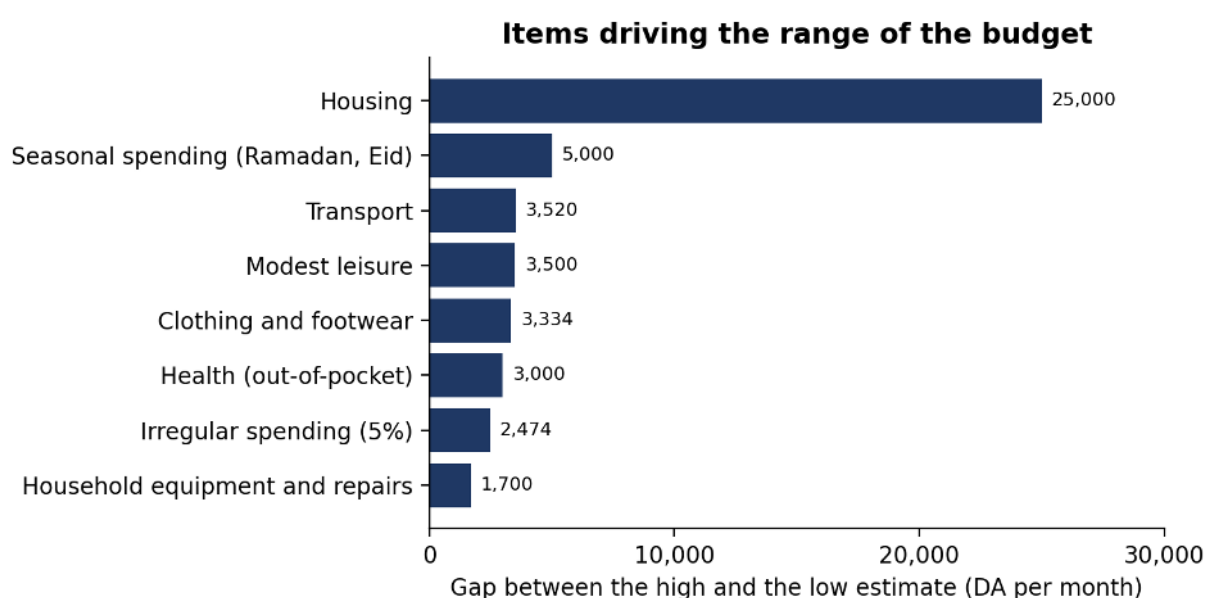


Figure 8. Items driving the range of the budget between the low and the high estimate

Item	Range (high minus low)	Central value
Housing	25,000 DA	30,000 DA
Seasonal spending (Ramadan, Eid)	5,000 DA	4,000 DA
Transport	3,520 DA	3,680 DA
Modest leisure	3,500 DA	4,000 DA
Clothing and footwear	3,334 DA	7,500 DA
Health (out-of-pocket share)	3,000 DA	3,000 DA

Table 16. Items with the greatest influence on the range of the budget

The width of the budget range is driven mainly by housing, which accounts for most of the difference between the low and high estimates, followed by seasonal spending, transport, leisure and clothing. Food contributes relatively little to this uncertainty because it is largely priced from direct observations.

13. Household reference income

Scope of the indicator

Household reference income measures the resources required by a household; it is not a proposal for an individual minimum wage.

The reference income adds a 5% precautionary-savings margin to the budget and is then rounded up to the next thousand dinars. It may be met by one salary, two salaries or other household income sources. No single national benchmark is adopted; results are presented separately for each housing situation.

Housing situation	Low budget	Low reference	Central reference	High reference	Gross equivalent, one earner	Per earner, two-earner household (net / gross)
A. Homeowner, no monthly housing payment	65,087	69,000	79,000	96,000	108,200	40,000 / 48,600
B. AADL rent-to-own instalment	71,912	76,000	87,000	106,000	120,700	44,000 / 54,600
C. Private rental outside Algiers	86,087	91,000	112,000	145,000	160,000	56,000 / 72,700
D. Private rental in Algiers	92,996	98,000	124,000	153,000	178,900	62,000 / 81,700

Table 17. Reference income of the reference household, in DA net per month

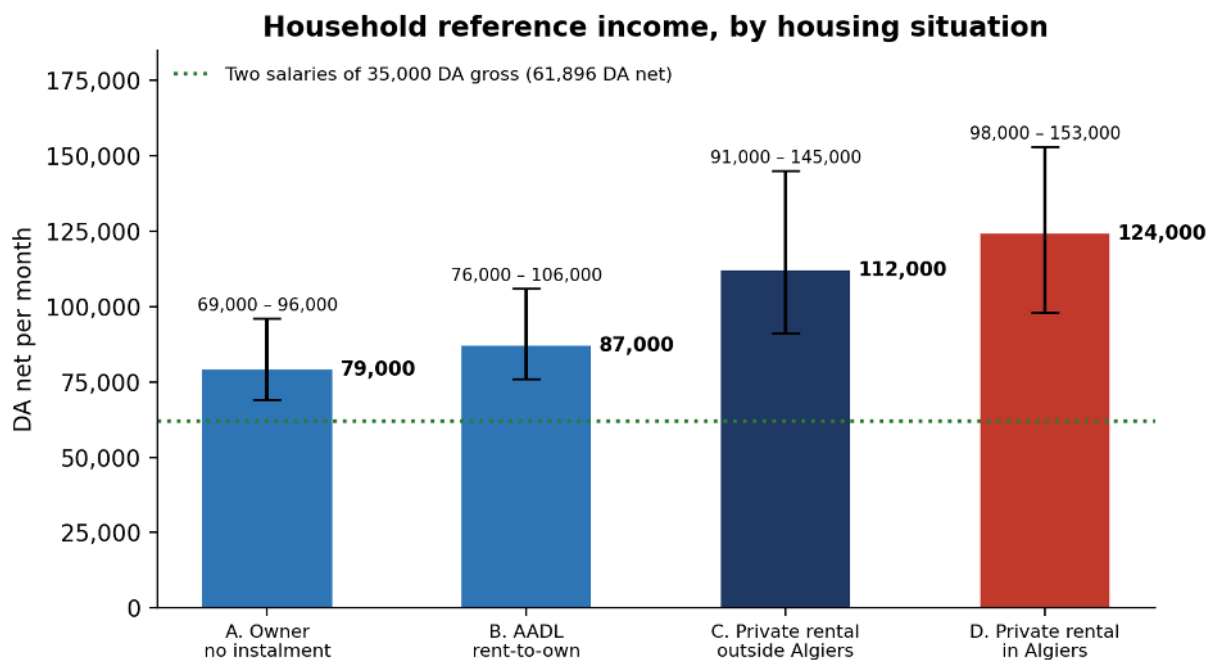


Figure 9. Reference income of the reference household, with its bounds

Complementary profile (net low / central / high)	A. Owner	B. AADL	C. Rental outside Algiers	D. Rental in Algiers
Worker living alone	33,000 / 37,000 / 44,000	40,000 / 45,000 / 54,000	55,000 / 70,000 / 94,000	62,000 / 82,000 / 101,000
Couple without children	49,000 / 55,000 / 66,000	56,000 / 63,000 / 76,000	71,000 / 88,000 / 116,000	78,000 / 101,000 / 123,000

Complementary profile (net low / central / high)	A. Owner	B. AADL	C. Rental outside Algiers	D. Rental in Algiers
Couple with three children	79,000 / 91,000 / 110,000	86,000 / 99,000 / 120,000	101,000 / 124,000 / 160,000	108,000 / 136,000 / 167,000

Table 18. Reference income of the complementary profiles (DA net per month)

The private-rental scenario outside Algiers is the least robust assumption in the study because its rent estimates come from property platforms that do not publish a methodology. The owner, AADL rent-to-own and Algiers rental scenarios rest on more solid data. For the reference household, the central reference income therefore ranges from 79,000 DA to 124,000 DA net.

14. Minimum wage versus estimated needs

14.1. Loss of purchasing power since 2020

Year	Average annual inflation	Price index (2020 = 100)	Value of 20,000 DA of 2020
2020	2.4%	100.0	20,000 DA
2021	7.2 %	107.2	18,657 DA
2022	9.3 %	117.2	17,069 DA
2023	9.3 %	128.1	15,617 DA
2024	4.0 %	133.2	15,016 DA
2025	1.4 %	135.1	14,809 DA

Table 19. Erosion of the real value of 20,000 DA between 2020 and 2025

A simple catch-up to the 2020 purchasing-power level yields approximately 27,011 DA. COSYFOP uses 28,000 DA as a rounded comparison benchmark, equivalent to 25,480 DA net. This is a technical benchmark, not a trade union demand. The estimate is based on the cumulative effect of the average annual inflation rates used⁵⁴.

14.2. The level of 35,000 DA gross

A minimum wage of 35,000 DA gross gives a taxable wage of 31,850 DA, a tax of 902 DA after the two allowances applicable between 30,001 and 35,000 DA⁵⁵, and a net wage of 30,948 DA.

Benchmark	Gross	Net	Scope
Current minimum wage	24,000 DA	21,840 DA	Covers 63% of the budget of a worker living alone with no housing instalment
Catch-up benchmark	28,000 DA	25,480 DA	Technical benchmark, not a demand
COSYFOP minimum-wage demand	35,000 DA	30,948 DA	Covers 90% of that same budget, leaving a shortfall of 3,522 DA
Budget, worker living alone with no housing payment	Not applicable	34,470 DA	Most favourable scenario for a worker living alone
Budget, worker living alone under AADL rent-to-own	Not applicable	42,345 DA	Covered to 73% by a 35,000 DA minimum wage
Two salaries of 35,000 DA	70,000 DA	61,896 DA	Below the reference income of the reference household in all four situations (79,000 DA at the lowest)

Table 20. The minimum wage against the estimated budgets

⁵⁴World Bank, Inflation, consumer prices (annual %), Algeria, <https://donnees.banquemondiale.org/indicateur/FP.CPI.TOTL.ZG?locations=DZ>

⁵⁵Directorate General of Taxes, income tax on wages and salaries (Articles 5, 68 and 104 of the Direct Taxes Code), exemption of taxable wages not exceeding 30,000 DA per month, progressive scale, 40% allowance capped between 1,000 and 1,500 DA and a second allowance between 30,001 and 35,000 DA, scale unchanged in 2026, <https://www.mfdgi.gov.dz/fr/particuliers/irg-traitements-et-salaires>

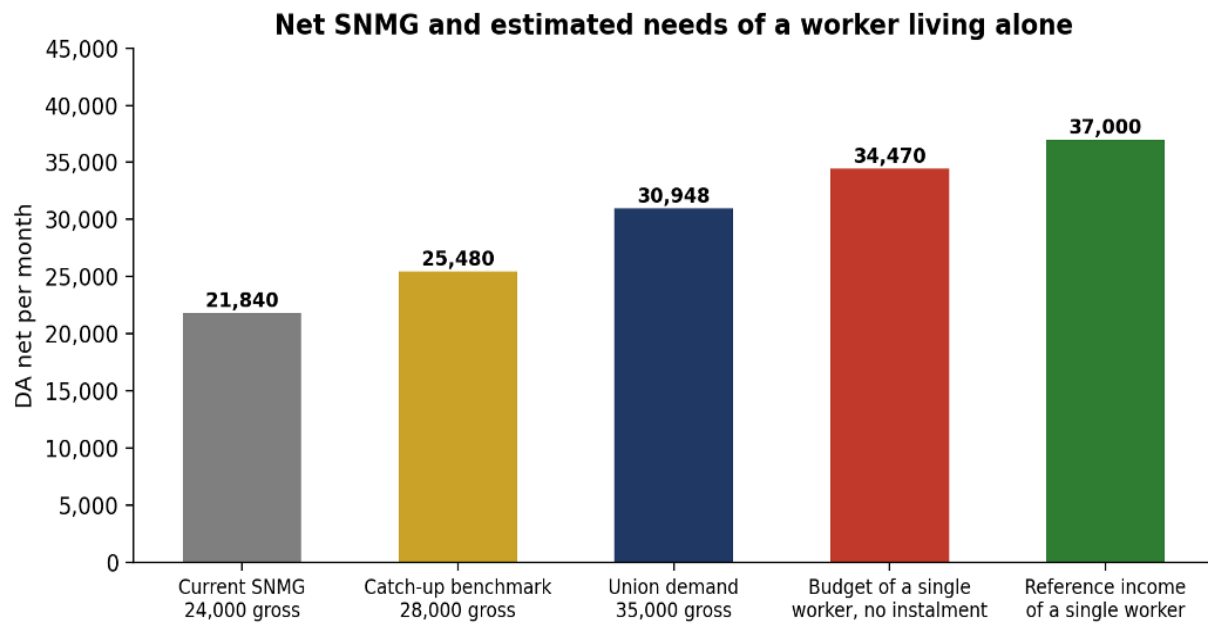


Figure 10. Net minimum wage and estimated needs of a worker living alone

For a worker living alone with no significant housing payment, a minimum wage of 35,000 DA gross would be an initial adjustment level that substantially narrows the gap with the individual needs estimated by the study: coverage rises from 63% to 90%, but remains incomplete. The amount is clearly insufficient once the worker pays an AADL instalment or private rent, and it is not sufficient to support a family even when two such wages are combined in the same household.

15. Conclusions

15.1. The level of expenditure

At the prices observed on 14 September 2026, the estimated monthly budget of the reference household is 74,669 DA with no housing instalment, 82,544 DA under AADL rent-to-own, 106,169 DA for private rental outside Algiers and 118,055 DA for private rental in Algiers. Food accounts for 34,150 DA, with quantities close to the nutritional benchmarks used in the study.

15.2. The gap between budgets and wages

The net minimum wage of 21,840 DA covers 18% to 29% of the reference household budget and has lost about 11% of its real value since 2020. The average net wage in enterprises measured by the ONS in 2022 covers about 41% of the reference household budget for private rental outside Algiers.

15.3. Required income levels

Main results

Reference household. Reference income of 79,000 DA net with no housing instalment, 87,000 DA under AADL rent-to-own, 112,000 DA for private rental outside Algiers and 124,000 DA in Algiers (Table 17).

Worker living alone. Reference income of 37,000 DA net with no instalment and 82,000 DA net for rental in Algiers (Table 18).

Minimum wage. The current minimum wage covers 63% of the budget of a worker living alone in the most favourable situation, and a minimum wage of 35,000 DA gross would cover 90% of it.

15.4. What the study demonstrates and what it does not

The study demonstrates	The study does not demonstrate
The insufficiency of the minimum wage relative to the reference budgets in all scenarios examined	A single national cost of living
The existence of gaps between the prices observed during the survey and the administrative price benchmarks available	A national average price for each product
Housing as the main driver of variation across the budget range	A systematic underestimation of prices by all administrations
The strong sensitivity of required income to household composition	That higher hydrocarbon revenue automatically finances a given increase in the minimum wage
The erosion of the real value of the minimum wage since 2020	That the survey results can be generalised to Algeria as a whole

Table 21. Scope and limits of the results

16. Recommendations of COSYFOP

The following recommendations are COSYFOP's trade union policy positions. They are based on, but distinct from, the descriptive findings set out above.

- **Raise the minimum wage immediately to at least 35,000 DA gross.** This increase is a first step, and not a level sufficient to support a family, since it still covers only the greater part of the budget of a worker living alone without a housing charge.
- **Open tripartite negotiations without delay on a wage-adjustment path.** That path should progressively bring earnings from work closer to the reference budgets established by the study.
- **Establish a regular mechanism for reviewing the minimum wage.** The review must take account of inflation, food prices, the needs of workers and their families and the relevant economic factors, including the actual evolution of hydrocarbon revenues, productivity, employment and fiscal balances.
- **Increase the civil-service index point and revise the pay scale.** The value of the index point, unchanged since 2007, must be raised so that the base pay of the lower categories reaches the minimum wage without depending on allowances.
- **Publish price observations by wilaya and by market.** The Directorates of Commerce should publish dated, geographically identified and comparable price observations, allowing rigorous comparison between administrative benchmarks and displayed market prices.
- **Publish updated wage statistics regularly.** The ONS wage survey must be annual and extended to public administration, agriculture and small enterprises.
- **Establish regional monitoring of housing costs.** The gaps observed between Algiers, other cities and rent-to-own schemes warrant further analysis and negotiation of regional compensatory mechanisms based on public rent data.
- **Create a permanent mechanism for measuring the cost of living.** An observatory bringing together trade union organisations, including COSYFOP, consumer associations and the ONS must regularly publish the cost of reference family baskets, following the ILO methodology as far as possible.

COSYFOP recalls that the family reference income measures the needs of a household and should not be mechanically equated with an individual minimum-wage demand.

17. Annexes

Annex A. Register of the survey data

Product or expenditure	Observed or reported value	Origin or location
Potato	120 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Fresh tomato	120 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Red onion	200 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Lettuce	250 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Courgette	170 to 200 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Carrot	150 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Sweet pepper	150 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Chilli pepper	150 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Beetroot	140 to 150 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Fennel	200 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Aubergine	120 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Cucumber	120 to 190 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Turnip	200 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Watermelon	60 to 110 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Melon	90 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Peach	350 to 400 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Grapes	250 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Pear	500 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Fresh chicken	590 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Eggs (per unit)	23.20 DA per unit (580 DA for 25 units)	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Red meat (lamb)	2,300 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Bananas	1,600 DA/kg	Algiers
Bananas	Up to 2,300 DA/kg	Oran
Rice and pasta	230 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Cooking oil	650 DA for a 5-litre can	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey

Product or expenditure	Observed or reported value	Origin or location
Tinned tomato or purée	350 DA, packaging not specified	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Chickpeas	540 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Lentils	220 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Coffee	1,600 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Tea	1,600 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Sardines	600 DA/kg	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Yoghurt	150 DA for a pack of 6 pots	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Processed cheese	200 DA for a box of 16 portions	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Spices	70 DA for a 50 g sachet	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Hygiene and cleaning products	120 to 230 DA per article, including 130 DA for about 300 g	Market in one of the wilayas covered by the survey
Observed rents	Outskirts 25,000 to 50,000 DA, centre from 40,000 DA, four rooms about 50,000 DA	Algiers
AADL rent-to-own instalment	7,500 DA per month actually paid	Household that provided the data to COSYFOP
Electricity and gas	7,500 DA and 10,000 DA per two-monthly bill	Data provided to COSYFOP
Water	About 1,000 DA per quarterly bill	Data provided to COSYFOP

Table A. Register of the observations of 14 September 2026 and of the data provided

Annex B. Conversion of gross to net wages

The net wage is obtained by deducting from the gross wage the 9% employee contribution and then income tax calculated on the taxable wage, rounded down to the nearest ten, using the monthly scale of 0% up to 20,000 DA, 23% from 20,001 to 40,000 DA, 27% from 40,001 to 80,000 DA, 30% from 80,001 to 160,000 DA, 33% from 160,001 to 320,000 DA and 35% beyond, after a 40% allowance capped between 1,000 and 1,500 DA, taxable wages not exceeding 30,000 DA being exempt⁵⁶. Between 30,001 and 35,000 DA a second allowance applies under the formula $\text{tax} \times 137/51 - 27,925/8$. For 35,000 DA gross, the taxable wage is 31,850 DA and the tax 2,725.50 DA, reduced to 1,635.30 DA and then to 902.24 DA, giving a net wage of 30,947.76 DA.

Gross wage	9% contribution	Income tax	Net wage
24,000 DA	2,160 DA	0 DA	21,840 DA
28,000 DA	2,520 DA	0 DA	25,480 DA
35,000 DA	3,150 DA	902 DA	30,948 DA
40,000 DA	3,600 DA	2,272 DA	34,128 DA
60,000 DA	5,400 DA	7,042 DA	47,558 DA
80,000 DA	7,200 DA	11,956 DA	60,844 DA
100,000 DA	9,000 DA	17,200 DA	73,800 DA
130,000 DA	11,700 DA	25,390 DA	92,910 DA

⁵⁶Directorate General of Taxes, income tax on wages and salaries (Articles 5, 68 and 104 of the Direct Taxes Code), exemption of taxable wages not exceeding 30,000 DA per month, progressive scale, 40% allowance capped between 1,000 and 1,500 DA and a second allowance between 30,001 and 35,000 DA, scale unchanged in 2026, <https://www.mfdgi.gov.dz/fr/particuliers/irg-traitements-et-salaires>

Table B. Examples of conversion from gross to net

Annex C. Photographs of the survey

A small number of representative photographs from the 14 September 2026 observations illustrate the method. All original photographs are retained in COSYFOP's evidence file and may be made available to competent oversight bodies. Only images with a legible price and an identifiable product are published; no image is included if doing so would unnecessarily reveal an identifiable person.

Annex D. Reference texts and sources

- Presidential Decree No. 26-01 of 7 January 2026 setting the national guaranteed minimum wage (Official Journal No. 1 of 8 January 2026).
- Presidential Decree No. 07-304 of 29 September 2007, amended by Presidential Decrees No. 22-138 of 31 March 2022 and No. 23-54 of 16 January 2023, and Presidential Decree No. 07-308 amended by Presidential Decree No. 23-56.
- Executive Decree No. 11-108 of 6 March 2011, amended by Executive Decree No. 21-383 of 5 October 2021, on cooking oil and white sugar.
- Executive Decrees No. 96-132 and No. 07-402, amended by Executive Decrees No. 20-241 and No. 20-242 of 31 August 2020, on flour, bread and semolina.
- Executive Decree No. 01-50 of 12 February 2001, amended by Executive Decree No. 16-65, on pasteurised bagged milk.
- Executive Decree No. 05-13 of 9 January 2005 setting the tariff rules for public water and sanitation services.
- Direct Taxes Code, Articles 5, 68 and 104.
- 2026 Finance Act and the Ministry of Finance explanatory report.
- ILO, methodology to estimate the needs of workers and their families for the purpose of wage setting, 2025.