

FEAD & the right to adequate food

FACTS AND FIGURES

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The European Pillar of Social Rights

Equal opportunities and access to the labour market

- Education, training and life-long learning
- Gender equality
- Equal opportunities
- Active support to employment
- Secure and adaptable employment

Fair working conditions

- Wages
- Information about employment conditions and protection in case of dismissals
- Social dialogue and involvement of workers
- Work-life balance
- Healthy, safe and well-adapted work environment

Social protection & Inclusion

- Childcare and support to children
- Social Protection
- Unemployment benefits
- **Minimum income**
- **Old age income** and pensions
- Health care
- Inclusion of people with disabilities
- Long-term care
- Housing and assistance for the homeless
- Access to essential services

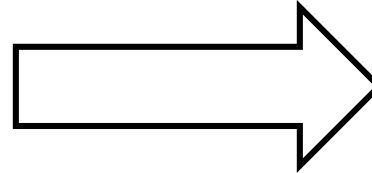
Principle 14: Everyone lacking sufficient resources has the **right to adequate minimum income benefits** ensuring a life in dignity at all stages of life, and effective access to enabling goods and services. For those who can work, minimum income benefits should be combined with incentives to (re)integrate into the labour market

The right to **adequate** minimum benefits

Principle 14: The EP highlights the importance of adequate minimum income schemes for maintaining human dignity ..., The EP invites the Commission and Member States to **assess** minimum income schemes in the European Union, including **whether the schemes enable households to meet their needs**;

...
EP A8-0391/2016

Principle 6: Adequate minimum wages shall be ensured, in a way that **provide for the satisfaction of the needs of the worker and his / her family** in the light of national economic and social conditions, whilst safeguarding access to employment and incentives to seek work. In-work poverty shall be prevented.



Social Scoreboard indicators:

- SMD, LWI
 - No income based benchmark
- AROP
 - Threshold not related to needs
 - Threshold don't give information on the living standard of people below
 - Outcome indicator, not responsive to policy measures

Reference budgets

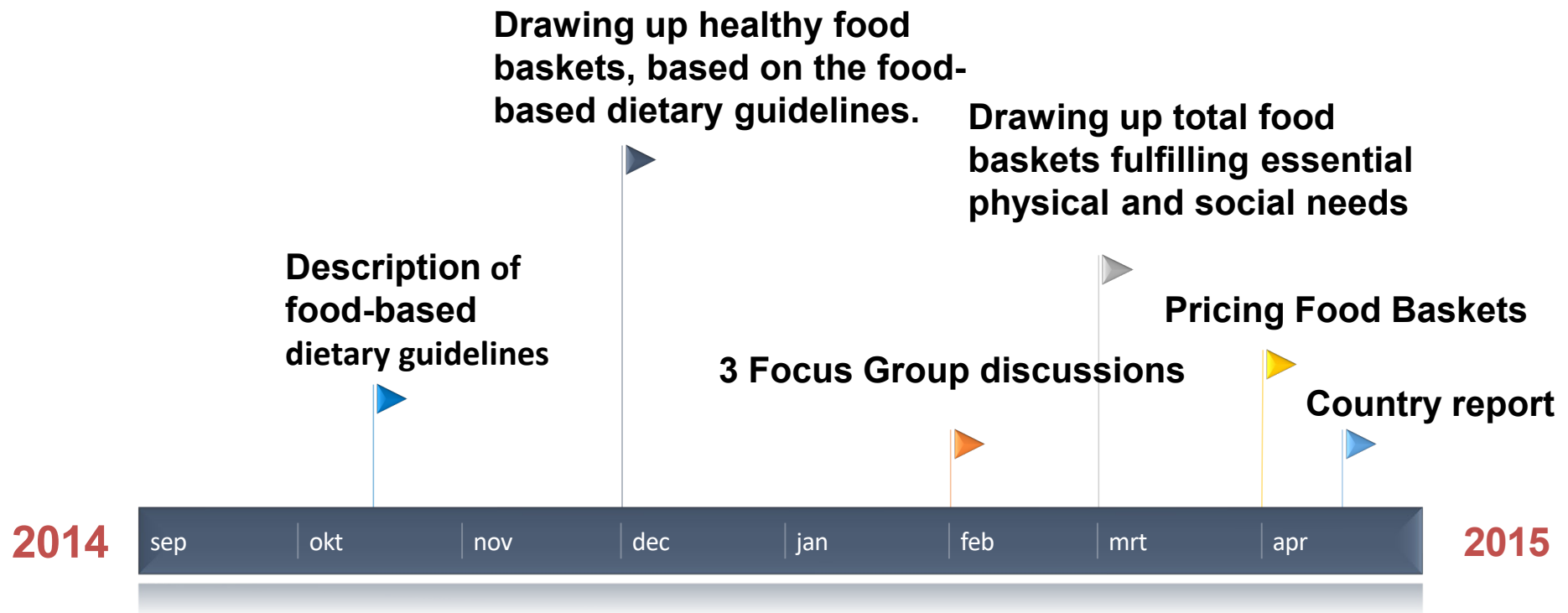
→ *Minimum resources* illustrating what people need to *adequately participate* in society

- To participate adequately = being able to adequately play the various social roles one should be able to play as a member of a particular society
- *Minimum resources* = minimum out of pocket costs illustrating adequate baskets of goods and services (e.g. adequate food, clothing, housing, leisure, mobility, ...)

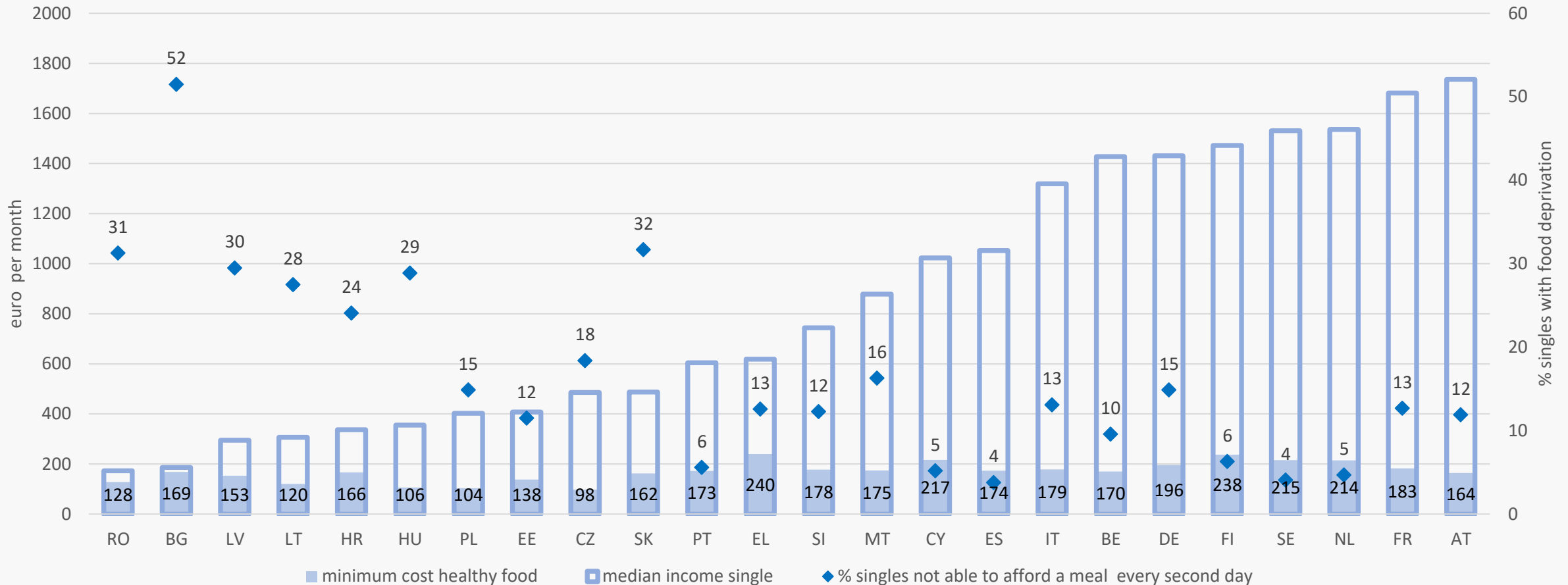
Core elements of the right to adequate food (CESCR, General Comment 12)

- The **availability** of food in a quantity and quality sufficient to *satisfy the dietary needs* of individuals, free from adverse substances, and **acceptable within a given culture**;
- The **accessibility** of such food encompasses both economic and physical accessibility:
 - **Economic accessibility** implies that the financial costs associated with the acquisition of food for an adequate diet should be at a level such that the attainment and satisfaction of other basic needs are not threatened or compromised
 - **Physical accessibility** implies that adequate food must be accessible to everyone, including physically vulnerable individuals, such as young children, elderly people, the physically disabled, the terminally ill and persons with persistent medical problems, including the mentally ill.

Cross-national comparable reference budgets, the development of comparable food baskets for healthy people, living in Eu capital cities, 2015

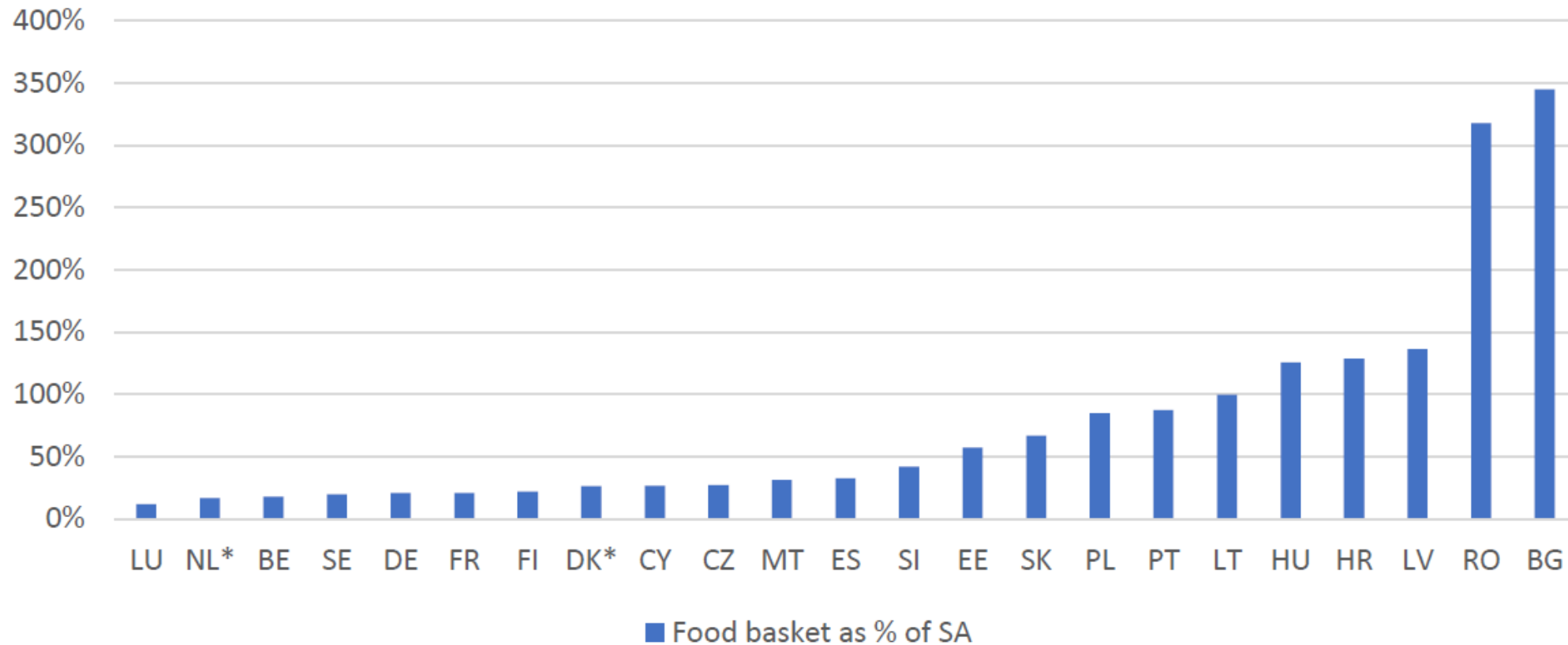


% singles who cannot afford a healthy meal with meat, chicken, fish (or vegetarian equivalent) every second day in relation to the monthly minimum cost of a healthy food basket (for singles, living in EU- capital cities) and the median incomes of single

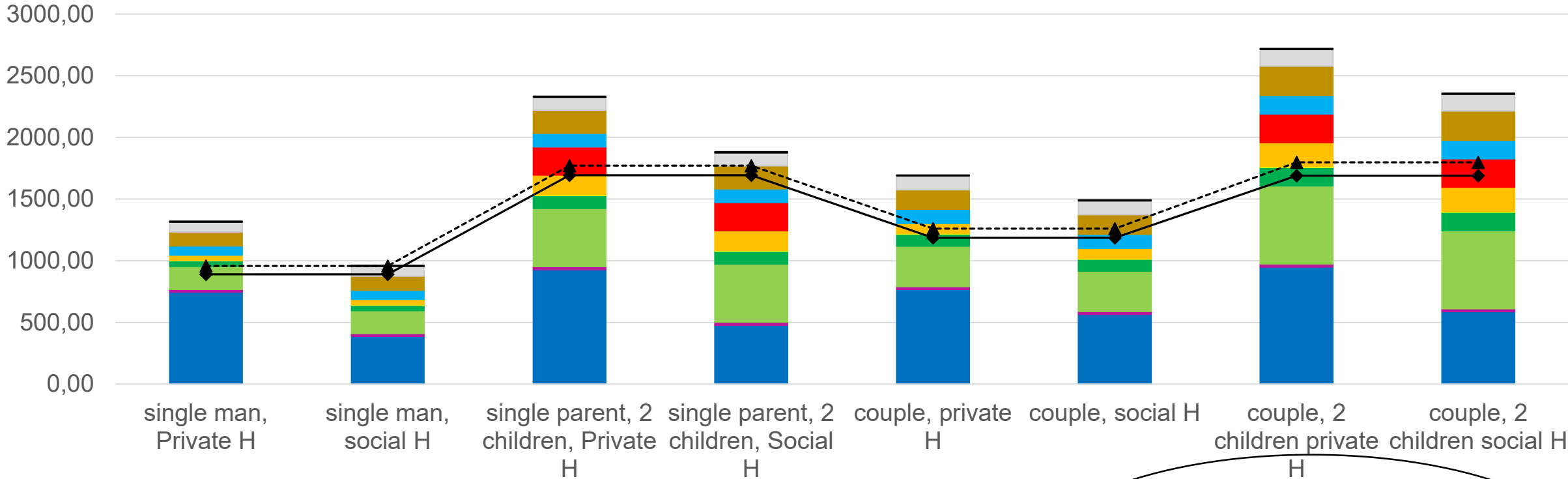


Based on: Goedemé et al. (2015), ilc_mdcs03 & ilc_di04

Total food baskets for a single woman as a % of their net social assistance income



Policy practices on adequate food: the impact of food packages on food adequacy for households with social assistance in Belgium, 2018



- Housing (incl. water & energy)
- Food
- Rest
- Safe childhood
- Social Relations
- Unexpected costs
- Security
- Health
- clothing
- Mobility
- Leisure
- ◆ Social Assistance
- ▲-- Social Assistance + monetary value Food package

✗ do not interfere with the enjoyment of other human rights
✗ Sufficient to satisfy the dietary needs
✗ Long term available ?

Based on: Hermans, 2019