

JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

August 2009

(A) COST OF BASIC FOOD ITEMS FOR A FAMILY OF SIX IN LUSAKA

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	62,200	3 x 25 Kg bags	186,600
Beans	12,400	2 Kgs	24,800
Kapenta (Siavonga)	52,500	2 Kgs	105,000
Dry Fish	55,000	1 Kg	55,000
Meat (mixed cut)	18,900	4 Kgs	75,600
Eggs	8,100	2 Units	16,200
Vegetables (greens)	4,000	7.5 Kgs	30,000
Tomato	6,700	4 Kgs	26,800
Onion	7,300	4Kgs	29,200
Milk (fresh)	11,000	1 x 2 litres	11,000
Cooking oil	28,300	2 x 2 litres	56,600
Bread	3,800	1 loaf/day	114,000
Sugar	5,400	8 Kgs	43,200
Salt	3,000	1 Kg	3,000
Tea (leaves)	10,300	1 x 500 g	10,300
Sub-total			K787, 300

(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Charcoal	56,700	2 x 90 Kg bags	113,400
Soap (Lifebuoy)	2,600	10 tablets	26,000
Wash soap (Boom)	4,200	4 x 400 g	16,800
Jelly (e.g., Vaseline)	7,700	1 x 500 ml	7,700
Electricity (medium density)	70,000	300 units	70,000
Water & Sanitation (med - fixed)	114,530		114,530
Housing (medium density)	1,100,000		1,100,000
Sub-total			K1, 448,430

Total for Basic Needs Basket

K2, 235,730

Totals from previous months	Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	Jun 09	Jul 09
Amount	1,834,100	1,828,100	1,854,850	1,914,450	1,934,950	2,186,980	2,199,880	2,213,930	2,219,230	2,240,280	2,168,730	2,226,930

(C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS

Item	Kwacha	Item	Kwacha
Education		Transport (bus fare round trip):	
Grades 8-9 (User+PTA/year)	K300,000 – K420,000	Chilenje-Town	K5,600
Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year)	K500,000 – K720,000	Chelston-Town	K6,800
School Uniform (grades 8-12)	K90,000 – K180,000	Matero-Town	K5,000
Health (clinic)		Fuel (cost at the pump)	
3 Month Scheme (per person)	K5, 000	Petrol (per litre)	K5, 818
No Scheme Emergency Fee	K5, 500	Diesel (per litre)	K5, 417
Mosquito Net (private)	K15, 000 – K20, 000	Paraffin (per litre)	

(D) SOME COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF WAGES--"TAKE HOME PAY"

	Teacher	Nurse	Guard with Security Firm	Secretary in Civil Service	Average Monthly Income in Urban Low-Cost Area - CSO	Piecoworker on a Farm
Pay Slip	K1,145,300 to K1,631,600	K1,121,000 to K2,624,000	K300,000 to K750,000	K915,000 to K1,480,000	645,326 (between October 2004 and January 2005)	K3,000 to K15,000 per day

This survey was conducted on 27th & 28 August 2009 by the Social Conditions Programme of the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection. Average prices were calculated on the basis of prices gathered from retail outlets at Northmead, Shoprite (Katue Road), and City Market, Chawama, Chanda, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The August Basic Needs Basket is approximately US\$468 based upon an average middle exchange rate of 4774 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of August