

JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

July 2011

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie Meal (breakfast)	45,800	3 x 25 Kg bags	137,400
Beans	13,800	2 Kgs	27,600
Kapenta (Siavonga)	69,200	2 Kgs	138,400
Dry Fish	55,000	1 Kg	55,000
Meat (mixed cut)	23,800	4 Kgs	95,200
Eggs	7,900	2 Units	15,800
Vegetables (greens)	3,200	7.5 Kgs	24,000
Tomato	4,600	4 Kgs	18,400
Onion	9,600	4 Kgs	38,400
Milk (fresh)	14,500	1 x 2 litres	14,500
Cooking oil	24,900	2 x 2 litres	49,800
Bread	4,300	1 loaf/day	129,000
Sugar	6,900	8 Kgs	55,200
Salt	3,600	1 Kg	3,600
Tea (leaves)	3,800	1 x 500 g	3,800
Sub-total			K806, 100

(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Charcoal	113,800	2 x 90 Kg bags	227,600
Soap (Lifebuoy)	2,400	10 tablets	24,000
Wash soap (Boom)	4,000	4 x 400 g	16,000
Jelly	9,100	1 x 500 ml	9,100
Electricity (medium - fixed)	130,000		130,000
Water & Sanitation (med - fixed)	210,000		210,000
Housing (3 bedroom)	1,500,000		1,500,000
Sub-total			K2, 116,700
Total for Basic Needs Basket			K2, 922,800

*Note that the cost of housing has not been adjusted because research and consultations are still ongoing

Totals from previous months	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10	Oct 10	Nov 10	Dec 10	Jan 11	Feb 11	Mar 11	Apr 11	May 11	Jun 11
Amount	2,809,480	2,828,780	2,850,680	2,877,830	2,861,480	2,879,430	3,019,100	2,982,350	3,008,800	3,003,550	2,917,350	2,928,750

(C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS

Item	Kwacha	Item	Kwacha
Education		Transport (bus fare round trip):	
Grades 8-9 (User+PTA/year)	K350, 000 – K470, 000	Chilenje-Town	K7, 800
Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year)	K600, 000 – K900, 000	Chelston-Town	K8, 000
School Uniform (grades 8-12)	K90, 000 – K200, 000	Matero-Town	K7, 600
Health (clinic)		Fuel (cost at the pump)	
3 Month Scheme (per person)	K5, 000	Petrol (per litre)	K8, 647
No Scheme Emergency Fee	K5, 500	Diesel (per litre)	K7, 958
Mosquito Net (private)	K30, 000 – K120, 000	Paraffin (per litre)	K5, 641

(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	Pieceworker on a Farm
Pay Slip	K1,300,300 to K2,200,600	K1,300,000 to K3,450,000	K250,000 to K850,000	K1,390,500 to K1,900,000	645,326 (between October 2004 and January 2005)	K5,000 to K15,000 per day

This survey was conducted on **26 July 2011** 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 (Kafue Road), and City Market, Chawama, Chanda, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The July Basic Needs Basket is approximately **US\$608** based upon an average middle exchange rate of 4804 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of July.