

JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

September 2009

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	62,800	3 x 25 Kg bags	188,400
Beans	12,400	2 Kgs	24,800
Kapenta (Siavonga)	51,700	2 Kgs	103,400
Dry Fish	56,300	1 Kg	56,300
Meat (mixed cut)	19,400	4 Kgs	77,600
Eggs	8,300	2 Units	16,600
Vegetables (greens)	4,500	7.5 Kgs	33,750
Tomato	7,500	4 Kgs	30,000
Onion	7,500	4Kgs	30,000
Milk (fresh)	11,800	1 x 2 litres	11,800
Cooking oil	28,900	2 x 2 litres	57,800
Bread	3,800	1 loaf/day	114,000
Sugar	5,500	8 Kgs	44,000
Salt	3,100	1 Kg	3,100
Tea (leaves)	10,300	1 x 500 g	10,300
Sub-total			K801, 850

(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Charcoal	61,700	2 x 90 Kg bags	123,400
Soap (Lifebuoy)	2,600	10 tablets	26,000
Wash soap (Boom)	4,300	4 x 400 g	17,200
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, 458,830

Total for Basic Needs Basket

K2, 260,680

Totals from previous months	Sep 08	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	Jun 09	Jul 09	Aug 09
Amount	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	2,235,730

(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	K250,000 to K750,000	K653,000 to K1,320,127	645,326 (between October 2004 and January 2005)	K5,000 to K15,000 per day

This survey was conducted on 26th and 27th September 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 (Kafue Road), and City Market, Chawama, Chainda, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The September Basic Needs Basket is approximately **US\$482 based** upon an average middle exchange rate of 4643 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of September