



BNNB analysis-all towns

12<sup>th</sup> December, 2022

### **A Brief Analysis of the Cost of Living in Lusaka and Other Towns.**

The average cost of living in November 2022 stood at K6, 089.86 reflecting a K35.13 reduction compared to October 2022. Remaining K1, 698.86 above the national average income of K4, 391<sup>1</sup>.

The capital city, Lusaka still remains the most expensive city to live in. The city has not registered significant change from September 2022 and registered a drop of only K29.42 as it stood at K8, 567.20 for November 2022. Solwezi was the second most expensive town to live in after Lusaka with its basket recorded at K8, 129.49 largely attributed to the higher cost of housing in district.

On the other end, Mansa continued to be the cheapest town to live in November 2022. It recorded a drop of K47.94 from October 2022 as it stood at K4, 402.59 for November 2022. Kasama was right behind Mansa having recorded a sharp drop of K368.50 from October 2022 as it stood at K4, 404.1 for November 2022. In the same vein, Livingstone saw a sharp drop of K621.70. On the other hand, towns like Solwezi showed a sharp increase up to K318.67. This was attributed to increases in food items such as cassava flour and kapenta especially as the national moves into the fish ban season.

50% of the towns under review did register drops in their food baskets. This was attributed to a drop the other fruits section of the basket. The Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection notes that seasonality continues to be an influence of price movements. The availability of mangoes during this period of reflection for example has driven the drop in prices in the section of other fruits.

The towns below recorded a reduction in the basket;

Chinsali dropped to K4, 964 from K5, 098.48, Chipata to K5, 283.36 from K5, 376.21, Kabwe to K6, 875.24 from K6, 884.91, Kasama to K4, 404.1 from K4, 772.6, Livingstone to K6, 366.17 from K6, 987.87, Mpika from K5, 935.08 to K6, 007.25 and Ndola from K7, 275.24 to K7, 416.64.

The towns below recorded an increase in the basket:

Choma increased to K6, 048.3 from K6, 044, Lusaka to K8567.2 from K8, 537.78, Mazabuka to K6, 059.26 from K5, 911.49, Mongu to K4, 952.2 from K4, 797.78, Monze K5, 603.29 from K5, 496.65 and Solwezi K8, 129.49 from K7, 810.82.

**For further clarifications contact the Social and Economic Development (SED) Programme at the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR) on 0955295881 and 0954755319. Email: [manager.sed@jctr.org.zm](mailto:manager.sed@jctr.org.zm) and [admin@jctr.org.zm](mailto:admin@jctr.org.zm). Martin Mwamba Road, Plot 3813 Martin Mwamba Road, Olympia Park – Lusaka. P. O. Box 37774 Lusaka – Zambia**

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<sup>1</sup> 2020 Labor Force survey data