

JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

April 2011

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie Meal (breakfast)	49,600	3 x 25 Kg bags	148,800
Beans	11,300	2 Kgs	22,600
Kapenta (Siavonga)	88,000	2 Kgs	176,000
Dry Fish	114,200	1 Kg	114,200
Meat (mixed cut)	27,700	4 Kgs	110,800
Eggs	8,300	2 Units	16,600
Vegetables (greens)	4,700	7.5 Kgs	35,250
Tomato	5,600	4 Kgs	22,400
Onion	7,300	4 Kgs	29,200
Milk (fresh)	14,100	1 x 2 litres	14,100
Cooking oil	29,100	2 x 2 litres	58,200
Bread	4,800	1 loaf/day	144,000
Sugar	6,500	8 Kgs	52,000
Salt	2,900	1 Kg	2,900
Tea (leaves)	10,500	1 x 500 g	10,500
Sub-total			K957,550

(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Charcoal	76,000	2 x 90 Kg bags	152,000
Soap (Lifebuoy)	2,700	10 tablets	27,000
Wash soap (Boom)	4,200	4 x 400 g	16,800
Jelly	10,200	1 x 500 ml	10,200
Electricity	130,000		130,000
Water & Sanitation (med-fixed)	210,000		210,000
Housing (3 bedroom)	1, 500,000		1,500,000
Sub-total			K2, 046,000

Total for Basic Needs Basket **K3, 003,550**

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

Totals from previous months	Apr 10	May 10	Jun10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sept 10	Oct 09	Nov 10	Dec 10	Jan 11	Feb 11	Mar 11
Amount	2,778,680	2,798,580	2,799,280	2,809,480	2,828,780	2,850,680	2,877,830	2,861,480	2,879,430	3,019,100	2,982,350	

(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	K6, 000
Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year)	K600, 000 – K900, 000	Chelston-Town	K7, 000
School Uniform (grades 8-12)	K90, 000 – K200, 000	Matero-Town	K5, 400
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	K1,145,325 to K1,631,600	K1,121,000 to 2,105,000	K250,000 to K850,000	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 26 & 27 April 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, Chainta, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The April Basic Needs Basket is approximately US\$640 based upon an average middle exchange rate of 4690 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of April.