

JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

July 2007

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	32,400	3 x 25 Kg bags	97,200
Beans	7,000	2 Kgs	14,000
Kapenta (Siavonga)	44,300	2 Kgs	88,600
Dry Fish	27,600	1 Kg	27,600
Meat (mixed cut)	16,500	4 Kgs	66,000
Eggs	5,200	2 Units	10,400
Vegetables (greens)	2,200	7.5 Kgs	16,500
Tomato	2,200	4 Kgs	8,800
Onion	2,100	4 Kgs	8,400
Milk (fresh)	8,000	1 x 2 litres	8,000
Cooking oil	15,600	2 x 2 litres	31,200
Bread	2,400	1 loaf/day	72,000
Sugar	4,500	8 Kgs	36,000
Salt	1,900	1 Kg	1,900
Tea (leaves)	9,500	1 x 500 g	9,500
Sub-total			K496,100

(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Charcoal	46,300	2 x 90 Kg bags	92,600
Soap (Lifebuoy)	1,300	10 tablets	13,000
Wash soap (Boom)	2,600	4 x 400 g	10,400
Jelly (e.g., Vaseline)	6,100	1 x 500 ml	6,100
Electricity (medium density)	113,000		113,000
Water & Sanitation (med - fixed)	88,500		88,500
Housing (medium density)	700,000		700,000
Sub-total			K1,023,600
Total for Basic Needs Basket			K1,519,700

Totals from previous months	July 06	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	June 07
Amount	1,376,300	1,421,650	1,450,250	1,422,950	1,436,400	1,442,350	1,541,050	1,543,650	1,560,050	1,550,700	1,545,450	1,517,100

(C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS

Item	Kwacha	Item	Kwacha
Education		Transport (bus fare round trip):	
Grades 8-9 (User+PTA/year)	K250,000 – K270,000	Chilenje-Town	K4,800
Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year)	K300,000 – K410,000	Chelston-Town	K5,400
School Uniform (grades 8-12)	K70,000 – K180,000	Matero-Town	K4,200
Health (clinic)		Fuel (cost at the pump)	
3 Month Scheme (per person)	K5,000	Petrol (per litre)	K6,742
No Scheme Emergency Fee	K5,500	Diesel (per litre)	K5,513
Mosquito Net (private)	K15,000 – K20,000	Paraffin (per litre)	K4,319

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(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	K841,000 to K1,485,000	K936,000 to K2,624,000	K250,000 to K750,000	K817,000 to K1,480,000	645,326 (between October 2004 and January 2005)	K3,000 to K15,000 per day

This survey was conducted on 26th and 27th July 2007 by the Social Conditions Research Project of the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection. Average prices were calculated on the basis of prices gathered from retail outlets at Northmead, Town Centre (Shoprite), City Market, Chawama, Chainta, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The July Basic Needs Basket is approximately **US\$388** based upon an average middle exchange rate of 3920 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of July.

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