

JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

October 2006

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	32,500	3 x 25 Kg bags	97,500
Beans	6,000	2 Kgs	12,000
Kapenta (Siavonga)	32,000	2 Kgs	64,000
Dry Fish	39,500	1 Kg	39,500
Meat (mixed cut)	13,800	4 Kgs	55,200
Eggs	4,900	2 Units	9,800
Vegetables (greens)	1,700	7.5 Kgs	12,750
Tomato	2,200	4 Kgs	8,800
Onion	2,300	4 Kgs	9,200
Milk (fresh)	8,200	1 x 2 litres	8,200
Cooking oil	13,400	2 x 2 litres	26,800
Bread	2,400	1 loaf/day	72,000
Sugar	4,500	8 Kgs	36,000
Salt	2,100	1 Kg	2,100
Tea (leaves)	9,600	1 x 500 g	9,600
Sub-total			K463,450

(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Charcoal	40,000	2 x 90 Kg bags	80,000
Soap (Lifebuoy)	1,200	10 tablets	12,000
Wash soap (Boom)	2,600	4 x 400 g	10,400
Jelly (e.g., Vaseline)	5,600	1 x 500 ml	5,600
Electricity (medium density)	113,000		113,000
Water (medium density)	88,500		88,500
Housing (medium density)	650,000		650,000
Sub-total			K959,500

Total for Basic Needs Basket **K1,422,950**

Totals from previous months	Oct 05	Nov 05	Dec 05	Jan 06	Feb 06	Mar 06	Apr 06	May 06	June 06	July 06	Aug 06	Sep 06
Amount	1,348,860	1,345,550	1,368,700	1,415,650	1,413,150	1,408,050	1,408,700	1,421,850	1,379,650	1,376,300	1,421,650	1,450,250

(C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS

Item	Kwacha	Item	Kwacha
Education (PTA/user fee per year)		Health (clinic / hospital fee)	
Upper Basic (grades 8-9)	K220,000-K350,000	Monthly Scheme (per person)	K1,500
Secondary (grades 10-12)	K220,000-K380,000	No Scheme Emergency Fee	K8,000
Transport (bus fare round trip):		Fuel (cost at the pump)	
Chilenje-Town	K3,800	Petrol (per litre)	K5,798
Chelston-Town	K4,400	Diesel (per litre)	K4,855
Matero-Town	K3,600	Paraffin (per litre)	K3,891

“Bananiyuza nchito yasila koma chifukwa camene bananicotsela nchito sibananiuze, na malipilo ya zaka ziwiri sibananipatse.” – Maid in Mandevu

(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	K672,000 to K1,193,000	K748,000 to K2,105,000	K250,000 to K750,000	K653,000 to K1,190,000	645,326 (between October 2004 and January 2005)	K3,000 to K15,000 per day

This survey was conducted on 26th to 27th October 2006 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 October Basic Needs Basket is approximately US\$373 based upon an average middle exchange rate of 3813 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of October.

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