

JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

September 2006

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	34,400	3 x 25 Kg bags	103,200
Beans	7,300	2 Kgs	14,600
Kapenta (Siavonga)	36,000	2 Kgs	72,000
Dry Fish	46,700	1 Kg	46,700
Meat (mixed cut)	13,600	4 Kgs	54,400
Eggs	5,000	2 Units	10,000
Vegetables (greens)	1,900	7.5 Kgs	14,250
Tomato	2,300	4 Kgs	9,200
Onion	2,900	4 Kgs	11,600
Milk (fresh)	7,000	1 x 2 litres	7,000
Cooking oil	13,700	2 x 2 litres	27,400
Bread	2,400	1 loaf/day	72,000
Sugar	4,500	8 Kgs	36,000
Salt	1,800	1 Kg	1,800
Tea (leaves)	8,700	1 x 500 g	8,700
Sub-total			K488,850

(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Charcoal	41,800	2 x 90 Kg bags	83,600
Soap (Lifebuoy)	1,100	10 tablets	11,000
Wash soap (Boom)	2,500	4 x 400 g	10,000
Jelly (e.g., Vaseline)	5,300	1 x 500 ml	5,300
Electricity (medium density)	113,000		113,000
Water (medium density)	88,500		88,500
Housing (medium density)	650,000		650,000
Sub-total			K961,400

Total for Basic Needs Basket

K1,450,250

Totals from previous months	Sept 05	Oct 05	Nov 05	Dec 05	Jan 06	Feb 06	Mar 06	Apr 06	May 06	June 06	July 06	Aug 06
Amount	1,353,790	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

(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)	K5,840
Chelston-Town	K4,400	Diesel (per litre)	K4,765
Matero-Town	K3,600	Paraffin (per litre)	K3,832

“Zambia ili namabvuto yambiri yamene yafunika mutsogoleri amene angakhoze kuyasiliza. Zintu zamene atsogoleri bazipani zandale batipasa munga vitenje, mabulangeti, vakudya, njinga sivingakhoze kusiliza mabvuto yatu mu Zambia, ndipo noti vikatisokoneze po vota.” – Woman in Kalikiliki

(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 September 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, Materso and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The September Basic Needs Basket is approximately **US\$366** based upon an average middle exchange rate of 3965 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of September.

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