

JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

December 2009

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	62,300	3 x 25 Kg bags	186,900
Beans	12,700	2 Kgs	25,400
Kapenta (Siavonga)	68,600	2 Kgs	137,200
Dry Fish	60,400	1 Kg	60,400
Meat (mixed cut)	21,200	4 Kgs	84,800
Eggs	7,600	2 Units	15,200
Vegetables (greens)	3,800	7.5 Kgs	28,500
Tomato	4,500	4 Kgs	18,000
Onion	5,000	4Kgs	20,000
Milk (fresh)	12,000	1 x 2 litres	12,000
Cooking oil	28,400	2 x 2 litres	56,800
Bread	3,800	1 loaf/day	114,000
Sugar	6,100	8 Kgs	48,800
Salt	3,100	1 Kg	3,100
Tea (leaves)	11,000	1 x 500 g	11,000
Sub-total			K822, 100

(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Charcoal	61,000	2 x 90 Kg bags	122, 000
Soap (lifebuoy)	2,500	10 tablets	25,000
Wash soap (Boom)	4,100	4 x 400 g	16,400
Jelly (e.g., Vaseline)	6,700	1 x 500 ml	6,700
Electricity (medium density)	70,000	300 units	70,000
Water & Sanitation (med - fixed)	114,530		114,530
Housing (medium density)	1,100,000		1,100,000
Sub-total			K1, 454,630

Total for Basic Needs Basket K2, 276,730

Totals from previous months	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	Jun 09	Jul 09	Aug 09	Sep 09	Oct 09	Nov 09
Amount	1,934,950	2,186,980	2,199,880	2,213,930	2,219,230	2,240,280	2,168,730	2,226,930	2,235,730	2,260,680	2,200,630	2,254,630

(C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS

Item	Kwacha	Item	Kwacha
Education		Transport (bus fare round trip):	
Grades 8-9 (User+PTA/year)	K300, 000 – K420, 000	Chilenje-Town	K5, 600
Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year)	K500, 000 – K720, 000	Chelston-Town	K6, 800
School Uniform (grades 8-12)	K90, 000 – K180, 000	Matero-Town	K5, 000
Health (clinic)		Fuel (cost at the pump)	
3 Month Scheme (per person)	K5, 000	Petrol (per litre)	K5, 818
No Scheme Emergency Fee	K5, 500	Diesel (per litre)	K5, 417
Mosquito Net (private)	K15, 000 – K20, 000	Paraffin (per litre)	

(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	K1,145,300 to K1,631,600	K1,121,000 to K2,624,000	K250,000 to K750,000	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 31st December 2009 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, Chainda, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The December Basic Needs Basket is approximately **US\$4593** based upon an average middle exchange rate of 4960 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of December.