

JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

October 2009

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

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total
Mealie meal (breakfast)	60,000	3 x 25 Kg bags	180,400
Beans	12,100	2 Kgs	24,200
Kapenta (Siavonga)	48,600	2 Kgs	97,200
Dry Fish	47,500	1 Kg	47,500
Meat (mixed cut)	19,700	4 Kgs	78,800
Eggs	7,700	2 Units	15,400
Vegetables (greens)	3,200	7.5 Kgs	24,000
Tomato	5,900	4 Kgs	23,600
Onion	4,600	4Kgs	18,400
Milk (fresh)	12,100	1 x 2 litres	12,100
Cooking oil	27,800	2 x 2 litres	55,600
Bread	3,700	1 loaf/day	111,000
Sugar	5,900	8 Kgs	47,200
Salt	3,400	1 Kg	3,400
Tea (leaves)	10,400	1 x 500 g	10,400
Sub-total			K748, 800

(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Charcoal	56,400	2 x 90 Kg bags	112, 800
Soap (lifebuoy)	3000	10 tablets	30,000
Wash soap (Boom)	4,100	4 x 400 g	16,400
Jelly (e.g., Vaseline)	8,100	1 x 500 ml	8,100
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, 451,830

Total for Basic Needs Basket K2, 200,630

Totals from previous months	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	Jun 09	Jul 09	Aug 09	Oct 09
Amount	1,854,850	1,914,450	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

(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 27th and 28th October 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, Chainta, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The October Basic Needs Basket is approximately **US\$476** based upon an average middle exchange rate of 4620 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of October.