

JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: LUSAKA

May 2008

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

| Commodity | Kwacha | Quantity | Total |
|-------------------------|--------|----------------|-----------------|
| Mealie meal (breakfast) | 44,900 | 3 x 25 Kg bags | 134,700 |
| Beans | 12,500 | 2 Kgs | 25,000 |
| Kapenta (Siavonga) | 66,700 | 2 Kgs | 133,400 |
| Dry Fish | 53,400 | 1 Kg | 53,400 |
| Meat (mixed cut) | 17,900 | 4 Kgs | 71,600 |
| Eggs | 5,600 | 2 Units | 11,200 |
| Vegetables (greens) | 3,500 | 7.5 Kgs | 26,250 |
| Tomato | 4,400 | 4 Kgs | 17,600 |
| Onion | 5,200 | 4 Kgs | 20,800 |
| Milk (fresh) | 10,100 | 1 x 2 litres | 10,100 |
| Cooking oil | 25,800 | 2 x 2 litres | 51,600 |
| Bread | 3,500 | 1 loaf/day | 105,000 |
| Sugar | 8,300 | 8 Kgs | 66,400 |
| Salt | 1,900 | 1 Kg | 1,900 |
| Tea (leaves) | 10,500 | 1 x 500 g | 10,500 |
| Sub-total | | | K739,450 |

(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|----------------|-------------------|
| Charcoal | 66,300 | 2 x 90 Kg bags | 132,600 |
| Soap (Lifebuoy) | 1,600 | 10 tablets | 16,000 |
| Wash soap (Boom) | 3,000 | 4 x 400 g | 12,000 |
| Jelly (e.g., Vaseline) | 6,900 | 1 x 500 ml | 6,900 |
| Electricity (medium density) | 125,000 | | 125,000 |
| Water & Sanitation (med - fixed) | 99,400 | | 99,400 |
| Housing (medium density) | 800,000 | | 800,000 |
| Sub-total | | | K1,191,900 |

Total for Basic Needs Basket **K1,931,350**

| Totals from previous months | May 07 | June 07 | July 07 | Aug 07 | Sep 07 | Oct 07 | Nov 07 | Dec 07 | Jan 08 | Feb 08 | Mar 08 | Apr 08 |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Amount | 1,545,450 | 1,517,100 | 1,519,700 | 1,530,950 | 1,534,550 | 1,582,750 | 1,598,450 | 1,636,900 | 1,835,300 | 1,870,650 | 1,880,300 | 1,939,800 |

(C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS

| Item | Kwacha | Item | Kwacha |
|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| Education | | Transport (bus fare round trip): | |
| Grades 8-9 (User+PTA/year) | K252,000 – K380,000 | Chilenje-Town | K5,200 |
| Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year) | K465,000 – K600,000 | Chelston-Town | K5,800 |
| School Uniform (grades 8-12) | K75,000 – K180,000 | Matero-Town | K4,600 |
| Health (clinic) | | Fuel (cost at the pump) | |
| 3 Month Scheme (per person) | K5,000 | Petrol (per litre) | K7,725 |
| No Scheme Emergency Fee | K5,500 | Diesel (per litre) | K6,453 |
| Mosquito Net (private) | K15,000 – K20,000 | Paraffin (per litre) | K4,714 |

(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 |

Please note that the above comparative figures of wages will be updated in light of the revised Pay As You Earn (PAYE).

This survey was conducted on 29th and 30th May 2008 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), City Market, Chawama, Chinda, Kabwata, Matero and schools, clinics/hospitals around Lusaka. The May Basic Needs Basket is approximately US\$570 based upon an average middle exchange rate of 3390 Kwacha per US\$ at the end of May.

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2008-05-30

Lusaka May 2008 Basic Needs and Nutrition Basket Report

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