

JCTR BASIC NEEDS BASKET: CHOMA

September 2014

(A) COST OF BASIC FOOD ITEMS FOR A FAMILY OF FIVE IN CHOMA

Commodity	Kwacha	Quantity	Total	Kwacha
Mealie meal (breakfast)	67.75	2 x 25Kgs	135.50	
Beans	13.88	3 Kgs	41.64	
Kapenta (dry)	75.75	2 Kgs	151.50	
Bream, smoked	62.50	1Kgs	62.50	
Beef, mixed cut	25.25	4Kgs	101.00	
Dark green vegetable	2.30	4 Kgs	9.20	
Tomatoes	4.88	4 Kgs	19.52	
Onion, large	14.13	2 Kgs	28.26	
Cooking oil (2.5 Ltrs)	38.45	3 Ltrs	46.14	
Bread wheat, refined flour, baked	5.68	1loaf/day	170.40	
Sugar	17.95	6 Kgs	53.85	
Milk long life (500ml)	6.08	500 mL	24.32	
Tea, powder	20.45	1 Kgs	20.45	
Eggs	9.58	2units	19.16	
Salt	4.43	1 Kgs	4.43	
Sub total				887.87

(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Charcoal	144.00	2x 90Kg bags	288.00	
Soap (Lifebuoy)	3.43	10 Tablets	34.30	
Wash soap (Boom)	5.80	4x400g	23.20	
Jelly (e.g. Vaseline)	13.45	1x500ml	13.45	
Electricity (medium density - fixed)	301.37		301.37	
Water & Sanitation (medium cost - fixed)	95.00		95.00	
Housing (medium density - 3 bedroom)	1,200.00		1,200.00	
Sub total				1,955.32

Total for basic needs basket

2,843.19

Totals from previous months	Aug 13	Sep 13	Oct 13	Nov 13	Dec 13	Jan 14	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	Jun 14	Jul 14	Aug 14
Amount (K)	2,102.06	2,246.42	2,241.39	2,245.34	2,283.31	2,316.05	2,311.62	2,318.77	2,315.93	2,295.36	2,775.50	2,709.80	2,837.23

(C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COST

Item	K	Item	K
Education		Health	
Grades 1-7 (PTA+Project/year)	K180.00	Consultation Fee	Free
Grades 8-9 (User+PTA/year)	K750.00	Mosquito Net	K25.00
Grades 10-12 (User+PTA/year)	K1, 350.00	Malaria Tests (private)	K50.00
School Uniform	K320.00 – K450.00	CD4 count (private)	K50.00
Transport (bus fare round trip):		Fuel (cost at the pump)	
Shampande -Town	K8.00	Petrol (per litre)	K10.63
Macha Road-Town	K7.00	Diesel (per litre)	K10.01
Show grounds	K30.00	Paraffin (per litre)	K6.15

(D) A COMPARISON OF COSTS (in Kwacha) OF BASIC NEEDS ACROSS ZAMBIA IN SEPTEMBER

Lusaka	Kasama	Mansa	Mongu	Ndola	Solwezi	Monze	Chipata	Mpika	Luanshya	Kitwe	Kabwe	Livingstone	Choma	Chinsali
3,703.02	2,594.33	2,099.43	1,952.50	3,153.69	3,304.94	2,281.83	2,276.99	2,034.08	2,901.91	2,607.66	3,007.93	2,818.49	2,843.19	1,926.52

This survey was conducted on 29th and 30th September, 2014 by the Social and Economic Development Programme of the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection. Average prices were calculated on the basis of surveys conducted at Macha road market, Makalanguzu market, Kalukungu market and Spar. Additional information was obtained from ZESCO, the Southern Province Water and Sewerage Company and schools, clinics and houses around Choma. The September Basic Needs Basket is approximately US\$455 based upon the exchange rate of K 6.2500 per US\$ prevailing on the days of data collection. Please note that other monthly costs would include personal care, clothing, recreation, etc.

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Choma September 2014 Basic Needs and Nutrition Basket Report

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