

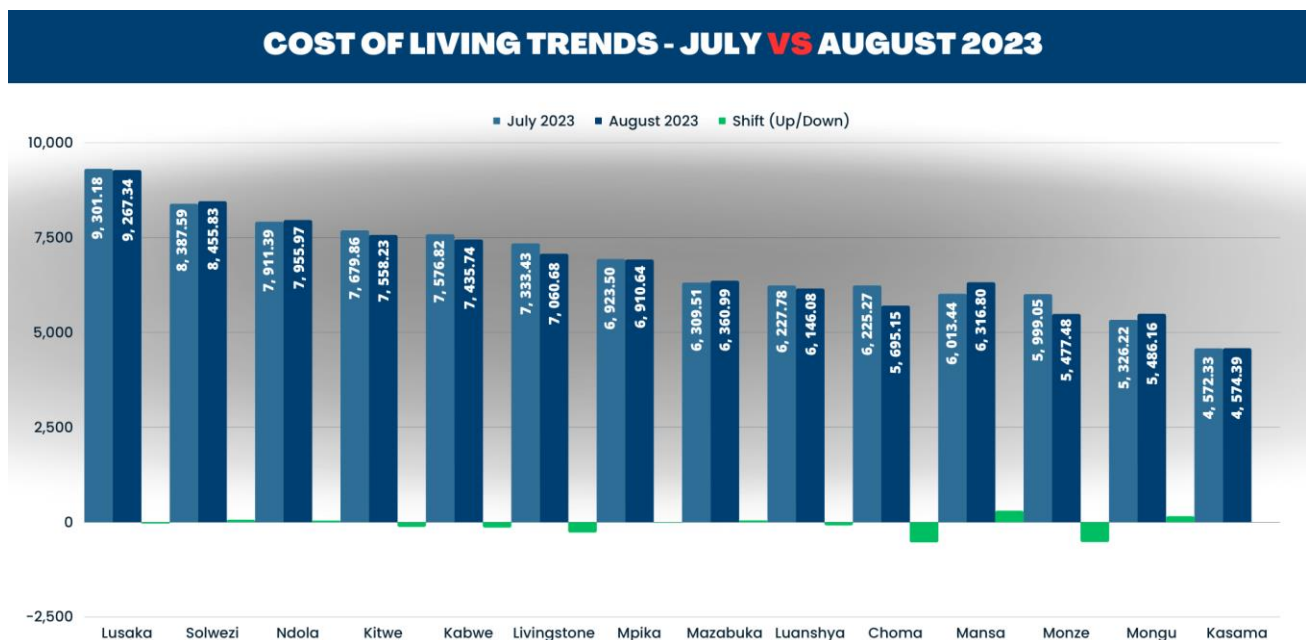
BNNB analysis-all towns

6th October, 2023

A Brief Analysis of the Cost of Living in Lusaka and Other Towns.

The average cost of living as measured by the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR) in August 2023 increased to K6, 621.34 from the K6, 469.76 recorded in July - each account way above Zambia's national average income of K4, 215.

Lusaka remains the town with the highest cost of living, clinching K9, 267.34 from the K9, 301.18 recorded in July (thus indicative of a meagre K33.84 drop). Second in line was Solwezi at K8, 455.83 rising by K68.24 from the K8, 387.59 in July. The cost of living in other towns such as Livingstone (K7, 060.68), Kitwe (K7, 435.74), Kabwe (K7, 435.74) Ndola (K7, 955.97) Mpika (K6, 910.64), Mazabuka (K6, 360.99), Luanshya (K6, 146.08), Choma (K5, 695.15), Mansa (K6, 316.80) Monze (K5, 477.48) and Mongu (K5, 486.16) also remained high and above the average national income. On the other hand, Kasama clinched a basket worth K4, 574.39, indicating only a K2.06 difference from the K4, 572.33 recorded in July – thus leaving the town on a continued streak for the lowest cost of living.



The Jesuit Center for Theological Reflection observes that the cost of living in the country remains high, and the government has yet to give a clear road map for addressing this challenge. The Centre remains concerned about the lack of more stringent measures to improve the cost of living. As we approach the year's end, the cost of living has remained consistently above the K9, 000 mark in Lusaka,

with the national average cost exceeding K6, 000. As a point of reflection for the two years in government marked this August 2023, JCTR, like the rest of the citizenry, is still looking forward to the fulfilment of government's commitment to "Restore Economic Growth and Safeguard Livelihoods" and particularly in relation to addressing the cost of living "*we must sustain livelihoods ensure affordable cost of living as well as food and nutrition security for our people*"¹.

For further clarifications contact the Social and Economic Development (SED) Programme at the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR) on 0955295881 and 0954755319. Email: manager.sed@jctr.org.zm and admin@jctr.org.zm. Martin Mwamba Road, Plot 3813 Martin Mwamba Road, Olympia Park – Lusaka. P. O. Box 37774 Lusaka – Zambia

¹ [Speech by His Excellency](#)

Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR)

JCTR Repository

<https://repository.jctr.org.zm>

Reports

Advocacy on Socio-Economic Development

2023-10-06

August 2023 Basic Needs and Nutrition Basket Reports Analysis

Mwaba, Bernard

Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection

<https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.14274/1811>

Downloaded from JCTR Repository, Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR)