



CFSC BASIC NEEDS BASKET BASKET: LILONGWE, ZOMBA, BLANTYRE, MZUZU, MANGOCHI AND KARONGA – SEPTEMBER 2022

(A) COST OF BASIC FOOD ITEMS FOR A HOUSEHOLD SIZE OF SIX PEOPLE IN												
ITEM	Lilongwe	Zomba	Blantyre	Mzuzu	Karonga	Mangochi						
Maize	15,857	31,714	18,400	36,800	18,667	37,334	17,000	34,000	17,500	35,000	17,000	34,000
Milling (Including Grinding)	1,071	14,994	583	8,162	300	4,200	583	8,162	700	9,800	700	9,800
Beans (0.8kg/day) 8 Days	1,438	9,203	1,800	11,520	1,743	11,155	2,050	13,120	700	4,480	1,400	8,960
Dry Usipa (250g/day) 4 days	7,238	7,238	6,000	6,000	11,143	11,143	4,500	4,500	5,000	5,000	6,667	6,667
Dry Utaka/Mcheni (200g/day) 4 days	8,500	6,800	6,429	5,143	10,343	8,274	6,917	5,534	3,000	2,400	9,333	7,466
Kapenta (200g/day) 4 days	0	0	6,343	5,074	17,714	14,171	3,667	2,934	5,000	4,000	11,833	9,466
Beef(1 kg/day) 4 days	4,063	16,252	3,714	14,856	3,643	14,572	4,167	16,668	3,500	14,000	4,000	16,000
Eggs (12/day) 4 days	146	7,008	150	7,200	200	9,600	148	7,104	150	7,200	150	7,200
Rape (750g/day) for 30 days	353	7,943	586	13,185	543	12,218	580	13,050	685	15,413	500	11,250
Tomato (0.5 Kg/day) 30 days	850	12,750	886	13,290	1,329	19,935	1,262	18,930	673	10,095	1,183	17,745
Onion (116g/day) 30 days	850	2,975	850	2,975	850	2,975	1,328	4,648	925	3,238	1,700	5,950
Fresh Milk (250ml/day) 30 days	494	7,410	486	7,290	436	6,540	683	10,245	298	4,470	500	7,500
Kazinga Cooking oil (100mls/day)30 days	3,600	10,800	4,286	12,858	3,800	11,400	3,825	11,475	3,380	10,140	4,000	12,000
Bread (5 bnfsts / wk) 20 days	1,138	22,760	1,100	22,000	1,100	22,000	1,067	21,340	1,100	22,000	1,167	23,340
Sugar (2 Kgs /Week)	1,244	9,952	1,207	9,656	1,200	9,600	1,275	10,200	1,180	9,440	1,300	10,400
Kitchen Salt	544	544	521	521	557	557	963	963	390	390	567	567
Tea leaves (Chisangalalo)	203	8,120	143	5,720	50	2,000	180	7,200	100	4,000	202	8,080
Cassava /potatoes (2KgX2Bkfst/)	438	7,008	301	4,816	386	6,176	241	3,856	573	9,168	333	5,328
Sub-total		183,471		187,067		203,850		193,928		170,233		201,720
(B) COST OF ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS												
Charcoal (50 kgs)	19,638	39,276	15,863	31,726	21,429	42,858	20,000	40,000	7,500	15,000	16,417	32,834
Protex	825	8,250	862	8,620	721	7,210	917	9,170	700	7,000	1,000	10,000
Boom	850	6,800	828	6,624	807	6,456	658	5,264	650	5,200	850	6,800
Clerc Body Lotion	513	1,026	470	940	482	964	383	766	625	1,250	600	1,200
Vaseline Blue Seal	1,781	3,562	1,786	3,572	1,307	2,614	1,938	1,066	1,475	2,950	800	1,600
Electricity	12,339	12,339	10,580	10,580	15,789	15,789	7,016	7,016	5,599	5,599	5,681	5,681
Running Water (meter)	11,052	11,052	11,194	11,194	15,227	15,227	6,820	6,820	9,490	9,490	8,761	8,761
Housing (3 bedroom)	73,443	73,443	47,679	47,679	58,719	58,719	34,736	34,736	22,225	22,225	36,991	36,991
Sub-total		155,748		120,935		353,687		104,838		68,714		103,867
Total Basic Needs		339,219		308,002		353,687		298,766		238,947		305,587
(C) SOME OTHER ADDITIONAL COSTS												
	Lilongwe	Zomba	Blantyre	Mzuzu	Karonga	Mangochi						
Education												
Secondary (fees) per year	38,250	30,284	22,924	46,500	32,054		30,000					
Primary (GPF) per year	2,100	4,973	3,846	1,289	6,175		3,037					
Uniform/shoes (Primary) per year	28,125	34,979	53,055	47,011	41,924		43,367					
Uniform/shoes (Secondary) per year	54,000	33,308	40,989	69,610	55,721		46,400					
Other (pens, books, etc.) per term	22,016	9,709	17,363	10,422	18,740		23,925					
Minibus fare to town and back LL: MK1400; BT: MK700; ZA: MK500 – MK600; MZ: MK550 – MK600												
Monthly Average	Sept,2021	Oct, 2021	Dec,2021	Jan,2022	Feb,2022	March,2022	April 2022	May,2022	June,2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sep 2022
Amount (MK)	208,427	206,772	229,587	235,584	242,394	245,799	250,243	257,028	270,799	288,180	307,724	307,368

Fuel (cost at the pump)	
Diesel (per litre)	K1920
Petrol (per litre)	K1746
Paraffin (per litre)	K833

NB: 1 USA dollar (\$) = K1,034.67 Malawian Kwacha (MK). Source National Bank of Malawi: The Social Conditions Research Programm of the Centre for Social Concern Conducted these surveys from 23rd and 24th September, 2022 in the cities of Blantyre, Zomba, Lilongwe, Mzuzu, Karonga and Mangochi

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NOTE: The data on electricity, housing, water and other additional costs is collected and analysed on quarterly basis