



HARARE BASIC NEEDS BASKET

March 2011

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March 2011 BNB

Findings of the BNB survey conducted during the third week of March 2011 suggest that the cost of basic goods and services for an average family of five in Harare has slightly decreased. The BNB has shed \$6.74, from \$514.32 in January to US\$507.58 in March and major drops were realised in the price of essential food items including beef, cooking oil, fish and vegetables. The average cost of Essential no-n food items increased by \$2.36 (from \$25.43 in January to \$27.79 in March) ¹. Monthly rates including electricity bills and water and sanitation have not been reviewed since the last quarter of 2010. Detailed cost of the BNB is presented in **Table 1. Figures 1 and 2** compare the cost of BNB for November 2010, January 2011 and March 2011.

Table 1: Basic Needs Basket for Harare (March 2011)

Item	Preferred brand	Unit available	Quantity	Harare Average (US\$)
A. Essential Food Items:				
Mealie Meal	Red Seal (Roller meal)	20kg	2	18.84
Cooking oil	D'lite	2Ltrs	2	8.04
Beef	Mixed	1kg	5	25.68
Chicken	Suncrest cuts	2kg	1	7.38
Beans	Sugar beans	500g	4	3.82
Fish	fresh	1kg	2	6.40
Kapenta	dried	500g	2	8.07
Salt	Pro-brands	2kg	1	0.86
Bread	Bakers Inn	1loaf	30	30.00
Eggs	Standard	1 crates	2	9.96
Sugar	Gold star (white)	2kg	4	7.78
Tea (leaves)	Stella	250g	4	7.25
Milk	Steri	500ml	12	10.97
Margarine	Buttercup	2kg	1	10.67
Onions		1kg	10	17.78
Tomatoes		1kg	10	10.10
Vegetables (greens)	rape	1kg	22.5	26.73
Sub-total				210.31
B. Essential Non-food items				
Washing soap	Green bar	1kg	5	8.25
Bathing soap	Geisha tablets	250g	5	4.05
Toothpaste	Colgate	100ml	2	2.64
Toilet paper	Softex	4 rolls/pack	6	7.96
Jelly	Vaseline	250g	2	4.90
Sub-total				27.79
C. Rates and other services				
Water & Sanitation	Water	fixed		10.00
	Average usage/month	m ³	40	19.20
	Sanitation (Sewage)	fixed		11.50
Monthly rent (4 roomed house)	Basic accommodation	Rooms	4	200.00
Electricity	Fixed			6.08
	Average usage/month	KW	420	22.70
Sub-total				269.48
Total BNB for Harare				507.58
D. Other Costs				
Telephone/Communication		1\$/day	\$30/month	
School Fees:				

¹ The following are the shops and markets where PRFT collected data on prices of basic commodities for the March 2011 BNB: City Center (TM Robson Manyika, OK Robson Manyika and Prime Meats); Epworth (Domboramwari shopping centre); Hatcliffe (Kudenga Spar and surrounding market stalls); Mbare (OK and Mbare and musika market stalls); Mabvuku (Mabvuku Shopping Centre); Waterfalls (Zindoga shopping centre); Mabelreign (OK and Spar); Belvedere (OK and surrounding market stalls); Newlands (TM); Helensvale (Helensvale Spar)

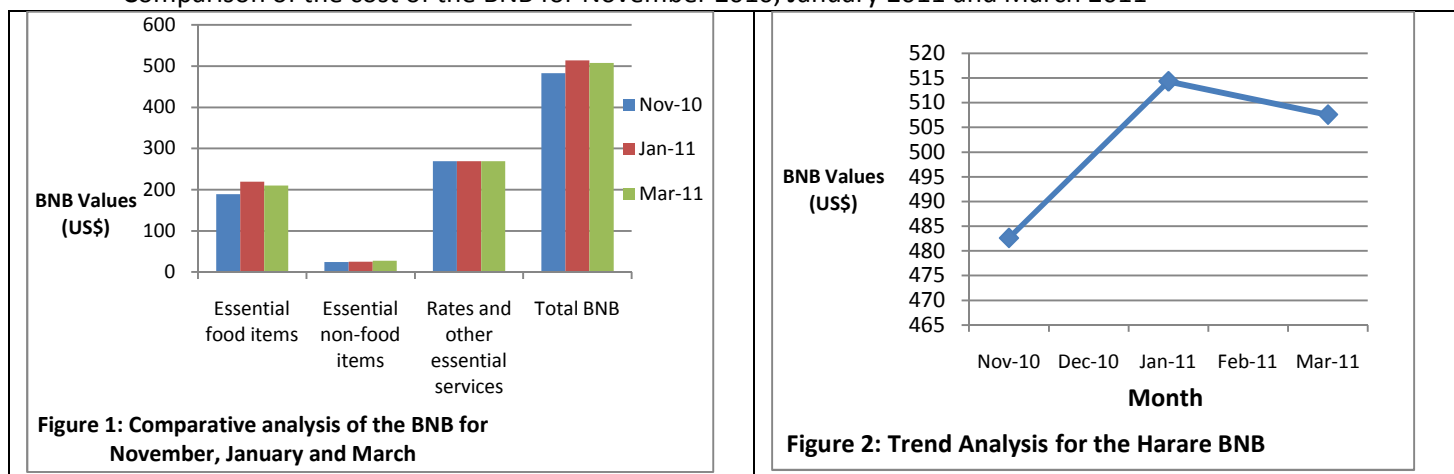
Tertiary	University (UZ)		\$420/Semester
	Technical/Colleges (Harare Polytechnic)	National certificate level	\$175/term
		National Diploma level	\$225/term
	Secondary		\$80/term
	Primary		\$40/term
	Creche		\$30/term
School Uniforms	Girls		\$45 (complete uniform)
	Boys		\$50 (complete uniform)
Health care	CIMAS Basicare Package	\$8/person	\$40/month
Fuel & Lighting	Paraffin (Pump price)		\$1.20/Litre
	Diesel (Pump price)		\$1.35/Litre
	Petrol (Pump price)		\$1.41/Litre
	matches		\$1.00/pack of 12
	Candles		\$1.50/pack of 6

NB: The BNB is by NO means a measure of the Poverty Datum line (PDL), but is just a reflection of the monthly income that an average family of five requires to enjoy an acceptably decent lifestyle.

Table 2: Comparison of the cost of BNB for all the 10 sites of Harare

Site	Cost Category			Average cost of BNB (\$)
	Essential food Items	Essential non food items	Rates and other services ²	
City Centre	209.84	29.20	269.48	508.52
Belvedere	230.70	27.13	269.48	527.31
Epworth	204.90	26.50	269.48	500.88
Hatchliffe	201.80	31.60	269.48	502.88
Helensvale	215.51	26.80	269.48	511.79
Mbare	199.85	27.38	269.48	496.71
Mabvuku	198.70	26.05	269.48	494.23
Waterfalls	218.45	27.38	269.48	515.31
Malbereign	222.48	27.00	269.48	518.96
Newlands	200.89	28.88	269.48	499.25
Average for the 10 sites	210.31	27.79	269.48	507.58

Comparison of the cost of the BNB for November 2010, January 2011 and March 2011



² For the purpose of the BNB survey, we assume that the cost of 'Rates and other services' for an average family of five to live an acceptably descent life is uniform across all the suburbs of Harare