



Weekly Economic Highlights

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Week Ending
30th April 2020

1. INTEREST RATES

Deposit Rates

Minimum deposit rates for savings deposits and deposits of 1-month and 3-month tenors remained unchanged at 2.36%, 3.46% and 3.95%, respectively, during the week ending 30th April 2020. Similarly, maximum deposits rates for savings deposits and deposits of 1-month and 3-month tenors stood at 4.74%, 5.84% and 6.39%, respectively, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Average Deposit Rates (per annum)

Date	Savings deposits (%)		1- Month deposit rates (%)		3- Month deposit rates (%)	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
3-April-20	2.36	4.74	3.12	6.12	3.82	6.16
9-April-20	2.36	4.74	3.12	6.12	3.79	6.16
17-April-20	2.36	4.74	3.12	6.12	3.79	6.16
24-April-20	2.36	4.74	3.46	5.84	3.95	6.39
30-April-20	2.36	4.74	3.46	5.84	3.95	6.39

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2020

Lending Rates

Minimum commercial bank lending rates for individual and corporate clients remained unchanged at 19.61% and 16.39%, respectively. Commercial bank maximum lending rates for individual and corporate clients were also remained unchanged at 34.43% and 38.62%, respectively, during the same week, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Lending Rates (per annum)

Date	Individual Clients		Corporate Clients	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
3-Apr-20	19.65	34.29	17.21	37.08
9-Apr-20	19.00	33.12	16.86	37.19
17-Apr-20	19.00	33.12	16.86	37.19
24-Apr-20	19.61	34.43	16.39	38.62
30-Apr-20	19.61	34.43	16.39	38.62

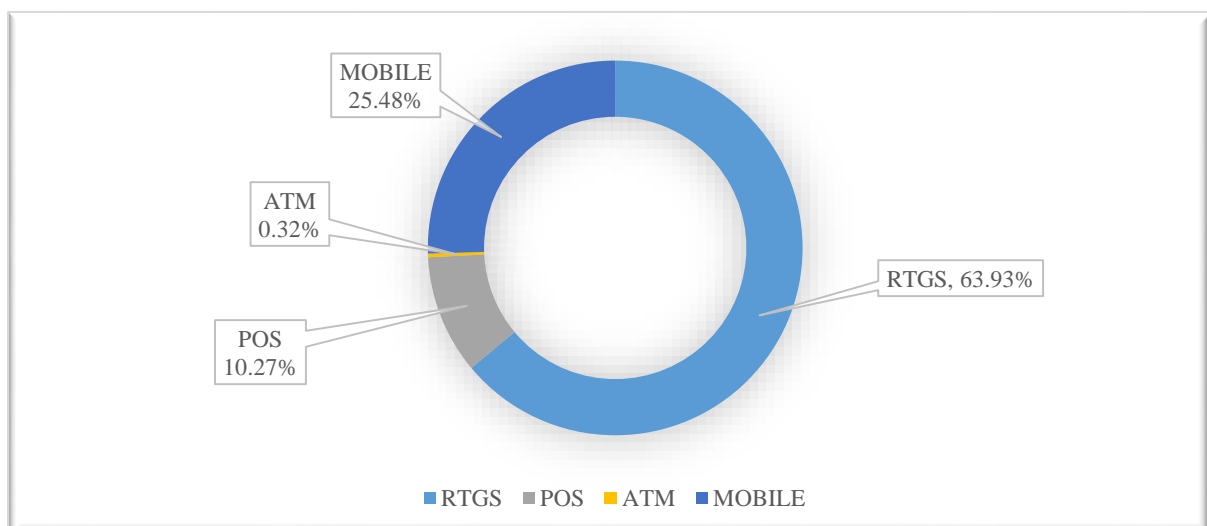
Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2020

2. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

Transactions processed through the National Payment Systems (NPS) decreased from \$16.63 billion recorded in the previous week, to \$15.19 billion in the week under review. RTGS transactions decreased by 15.85% to close at \$9.71 billion, during the same period.

In value terms, the composition of NPS transactions was as follows: RTGS, 63.93%; Mobile, 25.48%; Point of Sale (POS), 10.27%; and Automated Teller Machine (ATM), 0.32%, as shown in Figure 1.

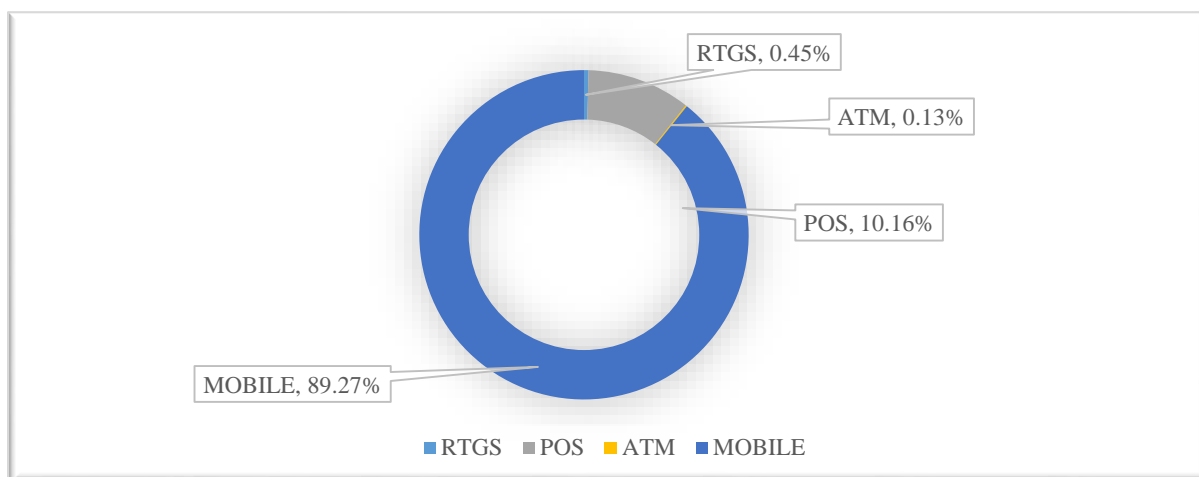
Figure 1: Composition of NPS Transactions in Value Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2020

NPS transaction volumes rose by 7.56% to close at 31.25 million, during the week under review. The NPS transaction volumes were distributed as follows: Mobile, 89.27%, POS, 10.16%; RTGS 0.45%; and ATM, 0.13%, as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Composition of NPS Transactions in Volume Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2020

Table 3: National Payment Systems Activity

PAYMENT STREAM	WEEK ENDING	WEEK ENDING	% CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
	24-Apr-20	30-Apr-20		
	VALUES IN \$ (millions)			
RTGS	11,539.06	9,709.80	-15.85%	63.93%
POS	1,408.33	1,559.64	10.74%	10.27%
ATM	19.37	48.83	152.12%	0.32%
MOBILE	3,662.49	3,869.68	5.66%	25.48%
TOTAL	16,629.25	15,187.950	-8.67%	100%
	VOLUMES			
RTGS	140,265	139,979	-0.20%	0.45%
POS	3,002,376	3,174,098	5.72%	10.16%
ATM	16,581	39,568	138.63%	0.13%
MOBILE	25,890,231	27,891,767	7.73%	89.27%
TOTAL	29,049,453	31,245,412	7.56%	100%

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2020

3. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS

The weekly average prices of platinum, copper and Brent crude oil recorded gains, during the week under analysis. Gold prices, however, declined during the same period, as shown in Table 4.

Table 4: International Commodity Prices

	Gold	Platinum	Copper	Nickel	Crude Oil
2020	US\$/ounce	US\$/ounce	US\$/tonne	US\$/tonne	US\$/barrel
weekly average (20-24Apr)	1,705.20	761.50	5,082.80	12,091.60	20.80
27-Apr	1,716.10	764.50	5,165.50	12,256.00	19.01
28-Apr	1,701.33	775.00	5,169.00	12,251.00	21.00
29-Apr	1,707.18	780.00	5,184.00	12,135.00	24.69
30-Apr	1,679.65	762.50	5,061.00	11,853.00	26.44
weekly average (27-30Apr)	1,701.06	770.50	5,144.88	12,123.75	22.79
Weekly Change (%)	-0.2	1.2	1.2	0.3	9.5

Source: BBC, KITCO and Bloomberg 2020

Gold

Gold prices declined by 0.2%, from US\$1,705.20 per ounce in the previous week to US\$1,701.06 per ounce¹ during the week under review. The decline was partly attributable to weak demand, particularly in India where an annual gold buying festival was restricted due to the on-going global health emergency. In addition, profit taking as investors shifted to riskier assets, also weighed down the prices.

Platinum

Platinum prices recorded a 1.2% increase from a weekly average price of US\$761.50 per ounce in the previous week to US\$770.50 per ounce, during the week under review. The increase was underpinned by improved recovery in industrial demand, following the on-going partial relaxation of coronavirus lockdowns by various countries.

¹ 1 troy ounce (oz) of gold is equivalent to 31.103 grams

Copper

Weekly average prices of copper increased by 1.2%, from US\$5,082.80 tonne in the preceding week to close at US\$5,144.88 per tonne, during the week ending 30th April 2020. This was partly on account of output cuts announced in Chile, the world's top copper producer, on the back of higher demand prospects in China.

Nickel

Nickel prices rose by 0.3% to US\$12,237.75 per tonne, during the week under review, from US\$12 091.60 per tonne registered in the previous week. Prices were supported by higher demand for the base metal by large consumers such as China, on the back of constrained supply in top producing countries such as the Philippines.

Crude Oil

Brent crude prices oil firmed by 9.5%, from US\$20.80 per barrel² in the previous week to US\$22.79 per barrel, during the week ending 30th April 2020. The gains were attributable to record output cuts implemented by OPEC and other major oil producing countries as part of measures to tackle a supply glut induced by the coronavirus crisis. In addition, the less than expected growth in U.S. crude stockpiles signaled a recovery in demand.

EXCHANGE RATES

During the week ending 30th April 2020, the Zimbabwe dollar (ZWL) depreciated against major regional and international currencies. This was partly on account of a weaker US dollar. Table 5 shows the weekly exchange rate developments.

² A barrel of oil is equivalent to 157.987 litres

Table 5. International Exchange Rates³

2020	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EUR
Weekly Average (20-24Apr)	25.0000	1.3575	31.3306	2.0705	27.2805
27-Apr	25.0000	1.3281	31.1300	2.0275	27.1375
28-Apr	25.0000	1.3293	31.0538	2.0413	27.0600
29-Apr	25.0000	1.3490	31.1888	2.0525	27.1238
30-Apr	25.0000	1.3785	31.1913	2.0700	27.1550
Weekly Average (27-30Apr)	25.0000	1.3459	31.1408	2.0477	27.1190
Appr(-)/Depr(+) (%) of the ZWL	0.0	-0.85	-0.6	-1.1	-0.6

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2020

4. EQUITY MARKETS

During the week under review, trading on the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) continued to be characterised by bullish sentiments. Resultantly, Small Cap, Medium Cap, All Share, Top 15 and Top 10 indices gained 13.92%; 4.61%; 2.53%; 0.90% and 0.85% to close at 1 579.97; 707.58; 488.60; 397.18; and 410.96 points, respectively.

The mainstream index gained 2.42% to close at 1 617.24 points, during the same week. This was partly underpinned by increases in share prices of Turnall Holdings Limited (68%), Powerspeed Electrical Limited (43.75%), Masimba Holdings Limited (20.00%), TSL Limited, (15.58%), Ariston Holdings Limited (11.11%), OK Zimbabwe Limited (8.55%), Econet Wireless Zimbabwe Limited (6.44%), FBC Holdings Limited, (4.38%), CBZ Holdings Limited (2.37%) and Cassava Smartech Zimbabwe Limited, (0.79%). The gains were, however, weighed down by share price losses registered in Old Mutual Zimbabwe (2.33%), Delta Corporation Limited (2.07%), British American Tobacco Zimbabwe (1.23%), Starafrika Corporation Limited (0.25%), PPC Limited (0.07%), and Seed Co International Limited (0.01%)

The mining index rose by 7.61% to close at 826.24 points, from 768.18 points recorded in the previous week. This was on account of share prices gains of 10.90% and 5.40% for Bindura Nickel Corporation Limited (BNC) and Riozim Limited, respectively.

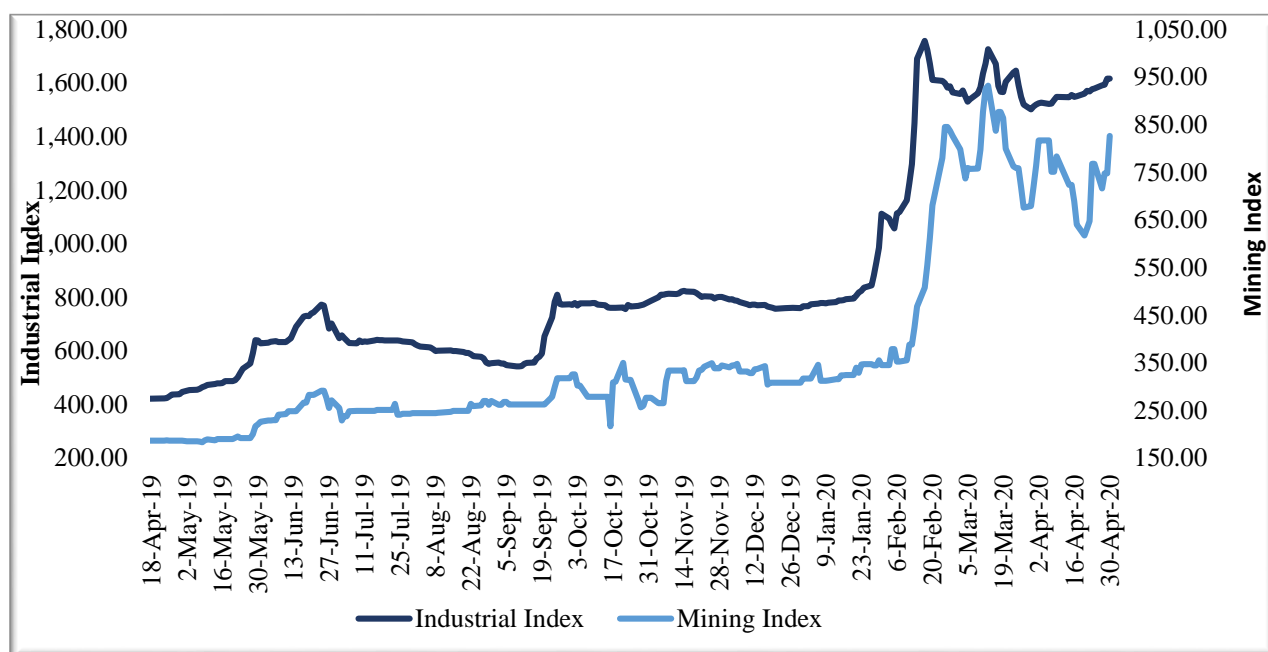
³ Direct quote – the amount of domestic currency needed to exchange for 1 unit of foreign currency

Table 6: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange Statistics⁴

	All Share Index points	Top 10 index (points)	Top 15 Index ³ points	Medium Cap ³ (points)	Small Cap ³ (points)	Industrial Index (points)	Mining Index (points)	Grand Market Capitalization (ZWL billion)	Market Turnover (ZWL million)	Volume of Shares (million)
27-Mar-20	457.88	372.07	387.32	1351.15	668.62	1520.01	676.25	58.82	118.78	40.33
3-Apr-20	461.73	377.52	395.89	1224.00	672.25	1526.90	817.15	59.36	28.42	7.69
10-Apr-20	467.82	387.37	402.00	664.79	1262.80	1548.94	783.61	60.53	62.98	35.36
17-Apr-20	469.02	393.14	404.85	650.11	1296.05	1560.16	617.15	60.70	46.10	16.30
24-Apr-20	476.56	393.62	407.49	676.39	1386.92	1579.09	768.18	61.71	89.85	31.12
30-Apr-20	488.60	397.18	410.96	707.58	1,579.97	1,617.24	826.64	63.39	53.64	19.68
Weekly Change (%)	2.53%	0.90%	0.85%	4.61%	13.92%	2.42%	7.61%	2.72%	-40.30%	-36.76%

Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE), 2020

Figure 3: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange Indices



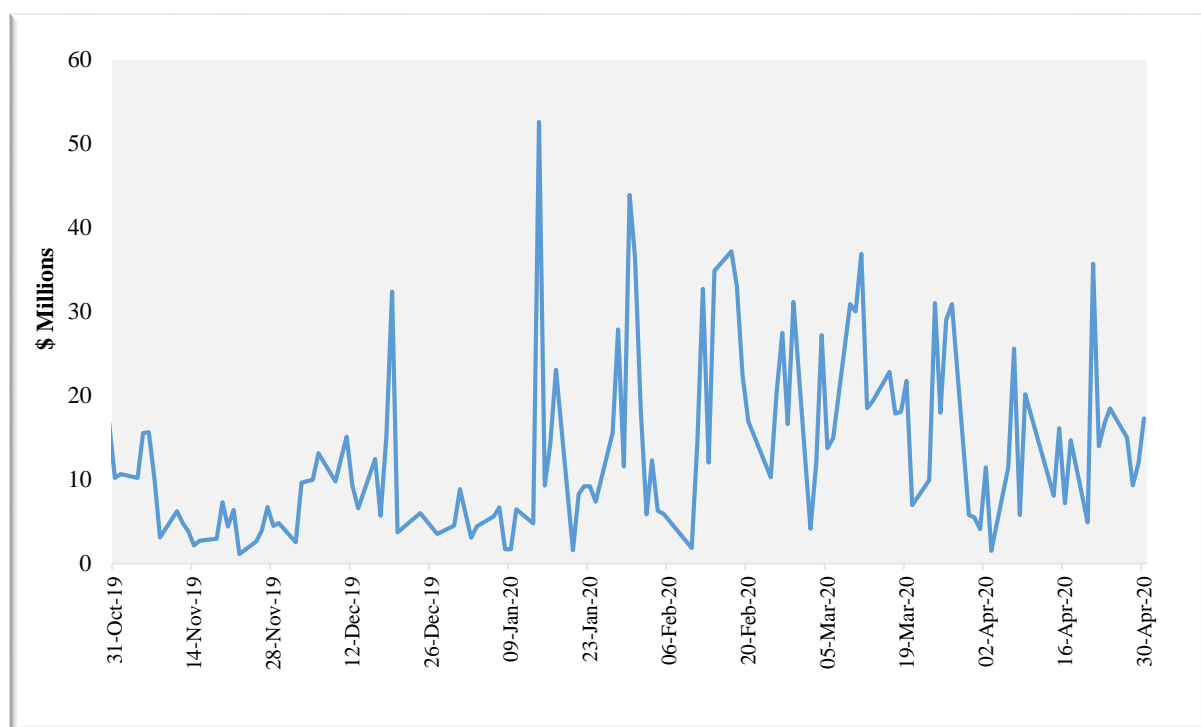
Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2020

⁴ The Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) adopted the Global Industry Classification Standards, effective from 1 January 2020. The ZSE indices constitute the following categories; Top 10 Index; Top 15; Top 25; Medium cap and Small cap Indices.

Market Turnover and Volume

During the week under analysis, the cumulative volume of shares on the ZSE traded slumped by 36.76% to close at 19.68 million, from 31.12 million shares traded in the previous week. ZSE market turnover stood at \$53.64 million, a 40.30% decline from \$46.10 million registered in the previous week.

Figure 4: Daily Market Turnover



Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2020

Market Capitalization

ZSE market capitalisation increased by 2.72% to close at \$63.39 billion, during the week under review, from \$61.71 billion realised in the previous week. This largely reflected gains in both the resources and mainstream indices.

Figure 5: Daily Market Capitalization



Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2020

Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Developments

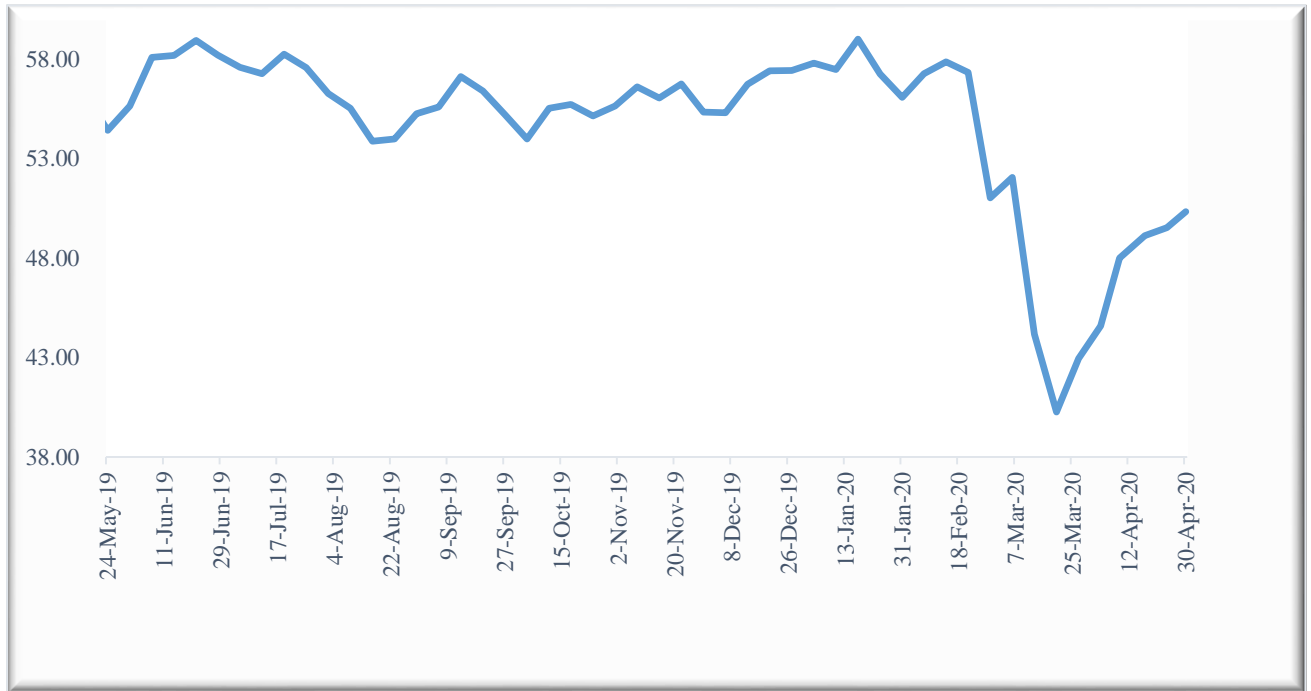
The JSE All Share Index rose by 1.63% to close at 50,336.72 points, during the week under review. In tandem, JSE market capitalization registered a marginal increase of 1.58% to close at R16.10 billion, from R15.85 billion in the previous week.

Table 7: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Statistics

Period	All Share Index (points)	Market Capitalization (ZAR billions)
27-Mar-20	42,946.83	13.95
3-Apr-20	44,598.70	14.66
9-Apr-20	48,011.56	15.41
17-Apr-20	49,134.65	15.82
24-Apr-20	49,527.23	15.85
30-Apr-20	50,336.72	16.10
% Change	1.63	1.58

Source: <https://www.jse.co.za/services/market-data/market-statistics>

Figure 6: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) All Share Index



Source: <https://www.jse.co.za/services/market-data/market-statistics,2020>

RESERVE BANK OF ZIMBABWE

8th MAY 2020