



# Weekly Economic Highlights

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Week Ending  
16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## 1. INTEREST RATES

### Deposit Rates

During the week ending 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022, minimum and maximum deposits rates for savings deposits and deposits of 1-month tenor were unchanged from previous week levels. Minimum deposits rates for deposits of 3-month tenor also remained unchanged, while maximum deposits rates for deposits of the same tenor declined, as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: Average Deposit Rates (per annum)**

Date	Savings deposit rates		1- Month deposit rates (%)		3- Month deposit rates (%)	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
18-Nov-22	20.38	20.53	55.15	59.67	57.44	62.00
25-Nov-22	20.38	20.53	55.15	59.67	57.44	62.00
2-Dec-22	18.03	18.03	55.15	59.67	51.29	61.00
9-Dec-22	18.03	18.03	55.15	59.67	51.29	61.00
16-Dec-22	18.03	18.03	55.15	59.67	51.29	56.28

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

### Lending Rates

The week ending 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022, saw a marginal increase in commercial bank minimum lending rates for individual clients, while maximum lending rates declined. In the same week, commercial bank minimum and maximum lending rates for corporate clients marginally increased, as shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: Lending Rates (per annum)**

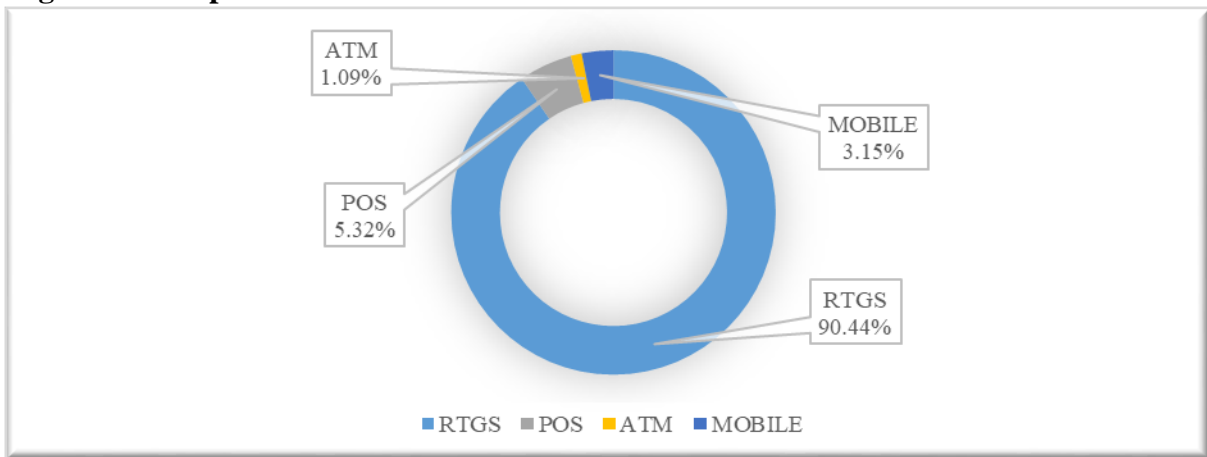
Date	Individual Clients		Corporate Clients	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
18-Nov-22	98.89	127.58	135.60	223.48
25-Nov-22	98.89	127.58	135.60	223.48
2-Dec-22	99.03	126.54	110.97	243.40
9-Dec-22	99.03	126.54	110.97	243.40
16-Dec-22	99.15	126.28	112.01	243.43

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

## 2. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

The value of transactions processed through the National Payment Systems (NPS) increased by 24.35% to ZW\$1.02 trillion, during the week ending 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022, from ZW\$821.81 billion recorded in the previous week. Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) transactions rose by 30.51%, from ZW\$708.20 billion in the previous week to ZW\$924.24 billion during the week under analysis. The NPS transaction values were distributed as follows: RTGS, 90.44%, POS, 5.32%; Mobile, 3.15%; and ATM, 1.09%.

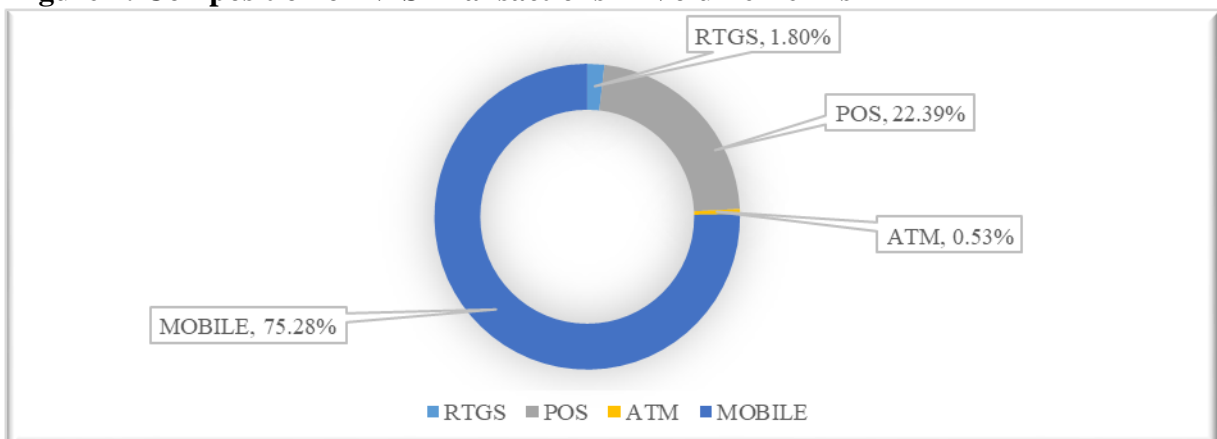
**Figure 1: Composition of NPS Transactions in Value Terms**



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

The volume of NPS transactions stood at 13.89 million, during the week under review, representing an 8.69% decline from 15.21 million recorded in the preceding week. Mobile based transactions dominated NPS transaction volumes at 75.28% of the total; followed by POS, 22.39%; RTGS, 1.80%; and ATM 0.53%, as shown in Figure 2.

**Figure 2: Composition of NPS Transactions in Volume Terms**



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

**Table 3: National Payment Systems Activity**

PAYMENT STREAM	WEEK ENDING 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	WEEK ENDING 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	% CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	PROPORTION %
<b>Values in ZW\$ Millions</b>				
RTGS	708,195.75	924,240.57	30.51%	90.44%
POS	58,339.98	54,335.34	-6.86%	5.32%
ATM	17,110.93	11,155.81	-34.80%	1.09%
MOBILE	38,160.10	32,151.70	-15.75%	3.15%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>821,806.76</b>	<b>1,021,883.43</b>	<b>24.35%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Volumes</b>				
RTGS	214,391	250,431	16.81%	1.80%
POS	3,270,408	3,108,508	-4.95%	22.39%
ATM	279,666	73,500	-73.72%	0.53%
MOBILE	11,442,973	10,454,026	-8.64%	75.28%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,207,438</b>	<b>13,886,465</b>	<b>-8.69%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

### 3. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS

International commodity prices for gold and platinum increased, in large part, due to the depreciation of the US dollar. However, palladium, copper, nickel, and crude oil prices declined in the same week. The developments in selected commodity prices are shown in Table 4.

**Table 4: Metal and Crude Oil Prices for the week ending 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022**

	Gold	Platinum	Palladium	Copper	Nickel	Crude Oil
2022	US\$/ounce	US\$/ounce	US\$/ounce	US\$/tonne	US\$/tonne	US\$/barrel
<b>Weekly Average (5 - 9 Dec 22)</b>	<b>1,783.71</b>	<b>1,002.40</b>	<b>1,881.90</b>	<b>8,479.90</b>	<b>29,366.20</b>	<b>78.80</b>
<b>12-Dec-22</b>	1,788.60	1,013.00	1,895.00	8,369.00	29,375.00	78.89
<b>13-Dec-22</b>	1,804.35	1,020.50	1,923.00	8,497.00	28,287.00	80.38
<b>14-Dec-22</b>	1,808.13	1,031.50	1,924.00	8,302.00	28,350.00	81.97
<b>15-Dec-22</b>	1,779.75	1,012.00	1,884.00	8,343.00	28,255.00	81.57
<b>16-Dec-22</b>	1,786.35	994.50	1,764.00	8,303.00	28,265.00	79.26
<b>Weekly Average (12-16 Dec 22)</b>	<b>1,793.44</b>	<b>1,014.30</b>	<b>1,878.00</b>	<b>8,362.80</b>	<b>28,506.40</b>	<b>80.41</b>
<b>Weekly Change (%)</b>	0.55	1.19	-0.21	-1.38	-2.93	2.05

Source: BBC, KITCO and Bloomberg, 2022

#### Gold

The price of the yellow metal maintained a positive trajectory during the week ending 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022, as the US dollar continued to depreciate. On a weekly basis, the price for the precious metal increased by 0.55%, from US\$1,783.71 per ounce in the previous week to US\$1,793.44 per ounce, during the week under review.

## **Platinum**

Platinum prices increased by 1.19%, from US\$1,002.40 per ounce in the prior week to US\$1,014.30 per ounce, during the reporting week. A weaker dollar supported platinum prices, during the week under review.

## **Palladium**

Palladium prices declined by 0.21%, from US\$1,881.90 per ounce in the prior week to US\$1,878.00 per ounce, during the week ending 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Prices declined due to weak demand from the automobile industry, amid fears of increased cases of Covid-19.

## **Copper**

Copper prices fell by 1.28%, from US\$8,479.90 per tonne in the previous week to US\$8,362.80 per tonne, during the week under review. The decline resulted from a weak demand outlook, reflecting the adverse impact of the newly imposed Covid-19 restrictions in China.

## **Nickel**

Nickel prices retreated by 2.93% to close the week under review at an average of US\$28,506.40 per tonne, from US\$29,366.20 per tonne in the previous week. This was largely due to the weak demand outlook for the base metal.

## **Brent Crude Oil**

Brent crude oil prices increased by 2.05%, from an average of US\$78.80 per barrel recorded in the previous week to US\$80.41 per barrel, during the reporting week. The increase followed the supply cut by OPEC member countries, to curb a crude oil glut in the market.

## **4. EXCHANGE RATE DEVELOPMENTS**

### **Foreign Exchange Auction**

The Zimbabwe dollar (ZW\$) depreciated by 1.3% against the US dollar on the foreign exchange auction market, during the week ending 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The local unit moved from an average of ZW\$658.8823 per US\$1 in the previous week to ZW\$667.4922 per US\$1 in the reporting week.

**Table 5: Foreign Exchange Auction Exchange Rates<sup>1</sup>**

	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
<b>2022</b>					
<b>Weekly Average (5 - 9 Dec 22)</b>	<b>658.8823</b>	<b>38.2308</b>	<b>805.3077</b>	<b>51.0989</b>	<b>693.3594</b>
<b>12-Dec-22</b>	661.5605	38.0228	808.9256	51.3401	695.4344
<b>13-Dec-22</b>	661.5605	37.5940	811.6034	51.2078	697.1544
<b>14-Dec-22</b>	671.4466	38.9105	829.7406	51.5030	713.6154
<b>15-Dec-22</b>	671.4466	39.0625	831.7229	52.1744	715.1598
<b>16-Dec-22</b>	671.4466	38.4615	819.6368	51.9730	714.6547
<b>Weekly Average (12-16 Dec 22)</b>	<b>667.4922</b>	<b>38.4103</b>	<b>820.3259</b>	<b>51.6396</b>	<b>707.2037</b>
<b>Appr(-)/Depr(+) (%) of the ZWL</b>	1.3	0.5	1.9	1.1	2.0

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

### Interbank Market

On the interbank market, the Zimbabwe dollar (ZWL) depreciated by 1.5% against the US dollar, from ZWL660.3997 per US\$1 in the previous week to ZWL670.0614 per US\$1, during the week ending 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022, as shown in Table 6.

**Table 6: Interbank Market Exchange Rates<sup>2</sup>**

	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
<b>2022</b>					
<b>Weekly Average (5 - 9 Dec 22)</b>	<b>660.3997</b>	<b>38.2296</b>	<b>807.2240</b>	<b>51.2209</b>	<b>694.9985</b>
<b>12-Dec-22</b>	664.6924	38.1679	812.8574	51.5877	698.9291
<b>13-Dec-22</b>	668.9843	38.0228	820.8863	51.7872	705.1815
<b>14-Dec-22</b>	671.7242	38.9105	830.0844	51.5284	713.8461
<b>15-Dec-22</b>	672.2049	38.9864	832.6351	52.2376	715.9702
<b>16-Dec-22</b>	672.7011	38.3877	821.1038	52.0744	715.9607
<b>Weekly Average (12-16 Dec)</b>	<b>670.0614</b>	<b>38.4951</b>	<b>823.5134</b>	<b>51.8430</b>	<b>709.9775</b>
<b>Appr (-)/ Depr (+) (%) of the ZWL</b>	1.5	0.7	2.0	1.2	2.2

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

## 5. EQUITY MARKETS

### Zimbabwe Stock Exchange

During the week ending 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022, the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) was characterised by bullish sentiments. As a result, the ZSE All Share index added 4.55% to close at 15 395.20 points. All indices registered gains, with the Top 10, Top 15 and Medium Cap indices increasing by 5.76%, 1.77% and 1.44% to close at 9 047.37 points, 9 724.88 points and 33 726.07 points, respectively.

<sup>1</sup> Direct quote – the amount of domestic currency needed to exchange for 1 unit of foreign currency

<sup>2</sup> Direct quote – the amount of domestic currency needed to exchange for 1 unit of foreign currency

The increase in the mainstream index was a result of share price gains for Axia Corporation Limited (48.50%), First Mutual Properties Limited (15.00%), OK Zimbabwe Limited (14.03%), Ariston Holdings Limited (11.88%) and NMBZ Holdings Limited (11.24%). Partially offsetting the gains were losses in share prices for Amalgamated Regional Trading (ART) (20.19%), Dairibord Holdings Limited (15.00%), Willdale Limited (14.98%), Zimre Holdings Limited (10.11%) and Zimplot Holdings Limited (5.33%). The resources index<sup>3</sup> recorded a marginal gain of 0.04% to close at 25 478.77 points, during the week under analysis.

**Table 7: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange Statistics<sup>4</sup>**

	All Share Index Points	Top 10 index <sup>3</sup> (points)	Top 15 Index <sup>3</sup> points	Medium Cap <sup>3</sup> (points)	Small Cap <sup>3</sup> (points)	Mining Index (points)	Grand Market Capitalization (ZWL billion)	Market Turnover (ZWL million)	Volume of Shares (million)
<b>11-Nov-22</b>	14,446.17	8,324.46	9,379.44	33,528.58	518,661.02	25,478.67	1,749.78	1,196.55	16.06
<b>18-Nov-22</b>	13,771.09	7,813.39	8,816.25	32,801.57	510,153.10	25,478.67	1,658.75	1,835.27	22.63
<b>25-Nov-22</b>	14,222.37	8,205.14	9,190.48	32,843.41	485,137.43	25,478.67	1,711.14	3,451.36	38.07
<b>2-Dec-22</b>	14,834.46	8,672.55	9,651.03	33,287.86	472,431.36	25,478.67	1,639.41	19,945.42	74.38
<b>9-Dec-22</b>	14,725.07	8,554.60	9,555.30	33,247.33	454,952.47	25,478.67	1,627.74	2,153.16	66.71
<b>16-Dec-22</b>	15,395.20	9,047.37	9,724.88	33,726.07	440,757.50	25,487.77	1,611.60	1,223.94	12.88
<b>% Change</b>	<b>4.55</b>	<b>5.76</b>	<b>1.77</b>	<b>1.44</b>	<b>-3.12</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>-0.99</b>	<b>-43.16</b>	<b>-80.69</b>

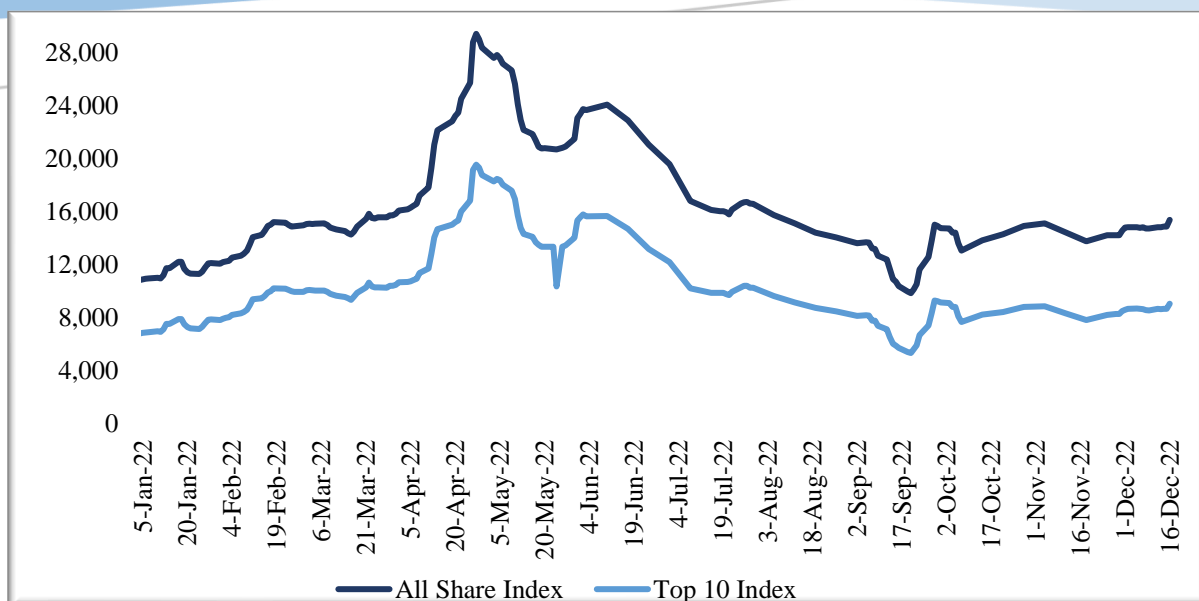
Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE), 2022

Figure 3 shows the trend in daily market turnover for the period from 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

<sup>3</sup> Resource Index – Comprised RioZim Limited Share Price

<sup>4</sup> 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.

**Figure 3: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange All Share and Top 10 Indices**

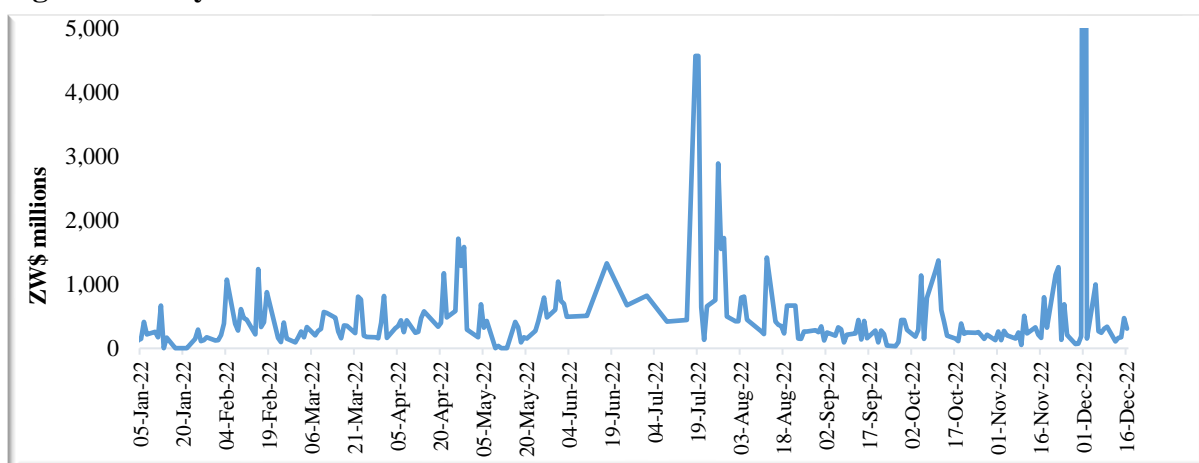


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2022

### Market Turnover and Volume

During the week ending 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022, the cumulative volume of shares traded on the ZSE declined by 80.69% to 12.88 million. Concomitantly, the value of shares traded fell by 43.16% to ZW\$1.22 billion in the same week. Figure 4 shows the trend in daily market turnover for the period from 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

**Figure 4: Daily Market Turnover**



Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2022

### Market Capitalization

The local bourse lost ZW\$16.14 billion, or 0.99% worth of capitalization to close at ZW\$1,611.60 billion. Figure 5 shows the evolution of ZSE market capitalization for the period from 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022.



**Figure 5: Daily Market Capitalization in ZW\$ billions**

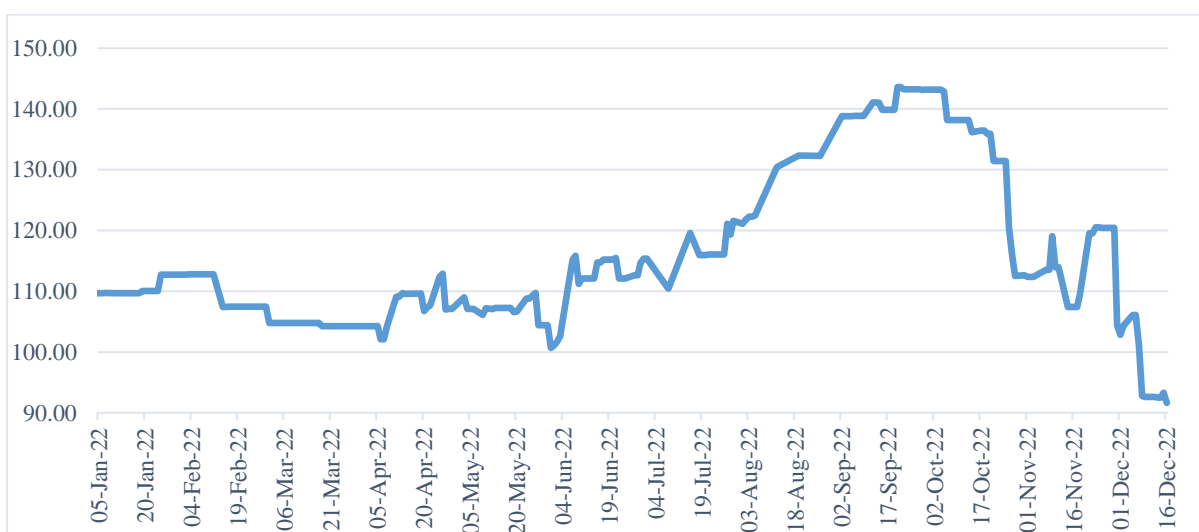


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2022

### Victoria Falls Stock Exchange

The Victoria Falls Stock Exchange (VFEX) was bearish during the week under analysis. Consequently, the VFEX All Share index shed 1.05% to close at 91.63 points. The cumulative volume and value of shares traded increased by 27.02% and 50.06% to 0.49 billion shares and US\$0.09 million, compared to 0.38 billion shares and US\$0.18 million, respectively, recorded in the previous week. VFEX market capitalization stood at US\$0.418 billion, a decline of 1.50% or US\$0.01 billion, from US\$0.424 billion recorded in the preceding week. Figure 6 shows the trend in the VFEX All Share Index (ASI) for the period from 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

**Figure 6: Victoria Falls Stock Exchange All Share Index**



Source: Victoria Falls Stock Exchange, 2022

## Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Developments

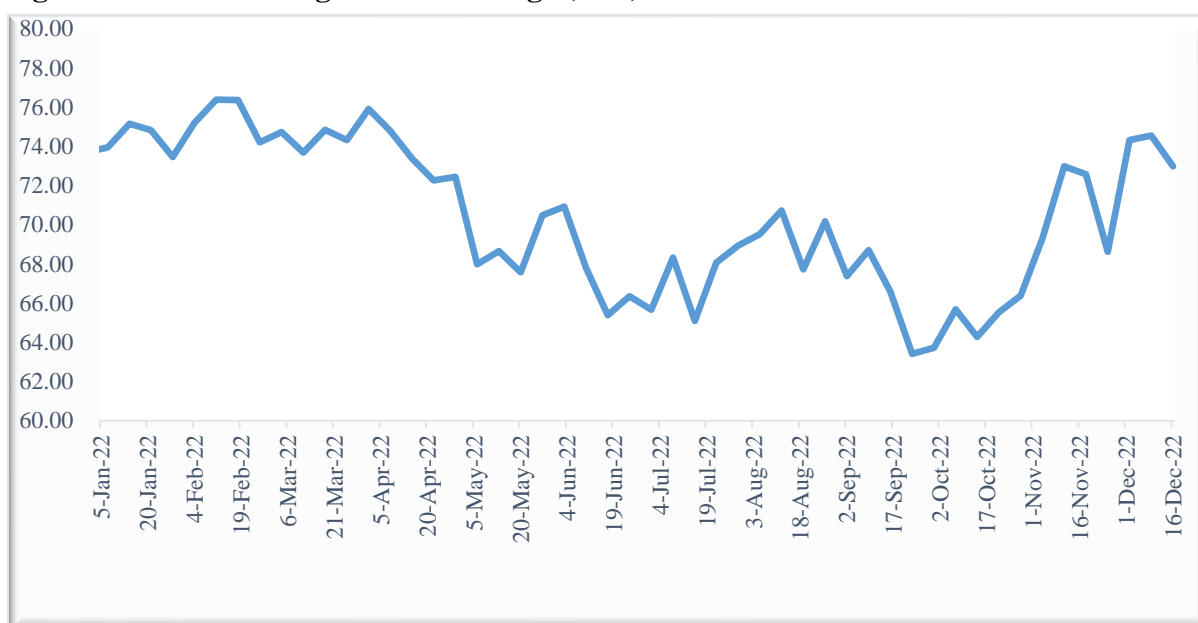
The Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) All Share Index stood at 72,989.34 points in the week ending 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022, down by 2.09% from 74,548.14 points recorded in the previous week. JSE market capitalization retreated by 1.59% to ZAR21.60 trillion, during the same week.

**Table 8: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Statistics**

Period	All Share Index (points)	Market Capitalization (ZAR trillions)
<b>11-Nov-22</b>	72,982.80	20.62
<b>18-Nov-22</b>	72,576.86	20.86
<b>25-Nov-22</b>	68,614.98	20.98
<b>2-Dec-22</b>	74,322.91	21.87
<b>9-Dec-22</b>	74,548.14	21.95
<b>16-Dec-22</b>	72,989.34	21.60
<b>% Change</b>	<b>-2.09</b>	<b>-1.59</b>

Source: <https://www.jse.co.za/services/market-data/market-statistics>, 2022

**Figure 7: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) All Share Index**



Source: <https://www.jse.co.za/services/market-data/market-statistics>, 2022

**RESERVE BANK OF ZIMBABWE**

## APPENDIX 1: FOREIGN EXCHANGE AUCTION RESULTS FOR MAINFX<sup>5</sup> AND SMEFX<sup>6</sup>

	MAINFX				SMEFX			
	25-Nov-22	2-Dec-22	9-Dec-22	16-Dec-22	25-Nov-22	2-Dec-22	9-Dec-22	16-Dec-22
<b>Total Bids (US\$ dollars)</b>	13,364,555.93	14,927,728.26	11,611,744.04	14,788,371.00	1,360,318.99	1,502,476.81	1,314,538.84	1,643,791.52
<b>Amount Allotted (US\$ dollars)</b>	9,963,555.58	13,914,092.56	10,266,799.53	14,031,231.84	1,198,534.51	1,401,209.57	1,284,863.86	1,451,144.38
<b>Highest Rate</b>	671	678.55	678	690	673	677	675	690
<b>Lowest Bid Rate</b>	671	678.55	678	690	635	677	675	690
<b>Lowest Bid Rate Allotted</b>	635	645	655	665	635	645	655	665
<b>Weighted Average Rate</b>	646.2415	654.8651	661.5605	671.4466	646.2415	654.8651	661.5605	671.4466
<b>Number of Bids Received</b>	91	104	90	116	131	155	132	161
<b>Number of Bids Rejected</b>	2	2	3	5	7	4	4	4

*Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022*

<sup>5</sup> Main Foreign Currency Auction

<sup>6</sup> Small and Medium Enterprises Foreign Currency Auction

## APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF FOREIGN CURRENCY AUCTION ALLOTMENTS BY PURPOSE

Purpose	MAINFX				SMEFX			
	25-Nov-22	2-Dec-22	9-Dec-22	16-Dec-22	25-Nov-22	2-Dec-22	9-Dec-22	16-Dec-22
<b>Raw Materials</b>	3,604,555.93	8,010,859.24	5,632,710.55	7,415,722.05	402,137.60	503,463.63	495,619.80	440,768.32
<b>Machinery and Equipment</b>	2,380,110.56	1,832,584.25	1,178,715.22	1,939,871.65	372,503.96	414,098.19	388,883.96	474,206.09
<b>Consumables (Incl. Spares, Tyres, Packaging)</b>	887,266.17	628,158.09	897,668.55	1,153,586.05	158,705.29	121,555.19	123,572.10	151,600.13
<b>Pharmaceuticals and Chemicals</b>	498,493.23	675,184.11	400,182.54	408,105.38	26,037.83	64,239.77	36,526.82	88,011.65
<b>Services (Loans, Dividends and Disinvestments)</b>	1,414,437.87	1,576,236.16	1,629,195.33	1,845,029.69	72,326.33	120,709.41	101,699.68	162,305.52
<b>Retail and Distribution</b>	456,596.30	961,561.26	113,162.79	622,726.66	130,237.34	121,047.25	422,273.40	103,189.74
<b>Fuel, Electricity and Gas</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Paper and Packaging</b>	722,095.52	229,509.45	106,053.94	646,190.36	36,586.16	56,095.78	25,398.71	31,062.93
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,963,555.58</b>	<b>13,914,092.56</b>	<b>10,266,799.53</b>	<b>14,031,231.84</b>	<b>1,198,534.51</b>	<b>1,401,209.57</b>	<b>1,284,863.86</b>	<b>1,451,144.38</b>

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022