



# Weekly Economic Highlights

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Week Ending  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

## 1. INTEREST RATES

### Deposit Rates

Minimum deposit rates for savings deposits, deposits of 1-month and 3-months tenor remained unchanged, during the week ending 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022. While maximum deposit rates for savings deposits were also unchanged, those for deposits of 1-month and 3-months tenor marginally decreased during the same week, 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 (%)
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
23-Dec-22	18.03	18.03	55.15	59.67	51.29	56.28
30-Dec-22	18.03	18.03	55.15	59.33	51.29	55.94

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

### Lending Rates

Minimum and maximum lending rates for both individual and corporate clients decreased during the week under analysis, as shown in Table 2.

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

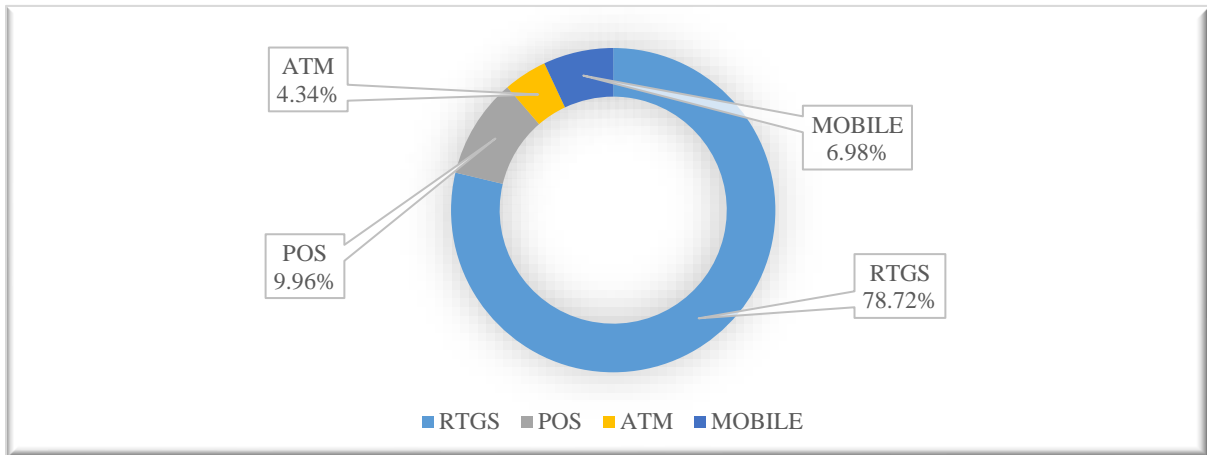
Date	Individual Clients		Corporate Clients	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
2-Dec-22	99.03	126.54	110.97	243.40
9-Dec-22	99.03	126.54	110.97	243.40
16-Dec-22	99.15	126.28	112.01	243.43
23-Dec-22	99.15	126.28	112.01	243.43
30-Dec-22	99.02	125.64	110.83	242.53

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

## 2. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

The aggregate value of transactions processed through the National Payment Systems (NPS) decreased by 36.98% to ZW\$627.16 billion, from ZW\$995.22 billion recorded in the previous week. Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) transactions declined by 43.32% to ZW\$493.67 billion, from ZW\$870.92 billion recorded in the preceding week. The NPS transaction values were distributed as follows: RTGS, 78.27%, POS, 9.96%; Mobile, 6.98%; and ATM, 4.34%.

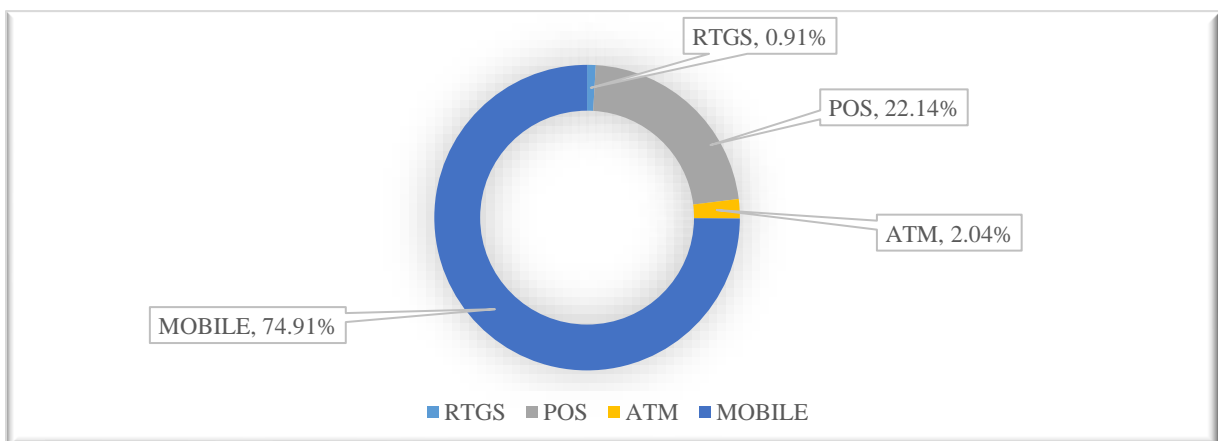
**Figure 1: Composition of NPS Transactions in Value Terms**



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

The volume of NPS transactions increased by 0.93% to 15.11 million, during the week under review, from 14.98 million recorded in the preceding week. Mobile-based transactions dominated NPS transactions volumes at 74.91% of the total, followed by POS, 22.14%; RTGS, 0.91%; and ATM, 2.04%, 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 23 <sup>rd</sup> December 2022	WEEK ENDING 30 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	% CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	PROPORTION %
<b>Values in ZW\$ Millions</b>				
RTGS	870,920.47	493,673.36	-43.32%	78.72%
POS	68,344.09	62,495.94	-8.56%	9.96%
ATM	21,856.52	27,213.09	24.51%	4.34%
MOBILE	34,099.45	43,773.2	28.37%	6.98%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>995,220.53</b>	<b>627,155.67</b>	<b>-36.98%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Volumes</b>				
RTGS	307,916	137,401	-55.38%	0.91%
POS	3,799,597	3,345,824	-11.94%	22.14%
ATM	155,321	308,668	98.73%	2.04%
MOBILE	10,712,791	11,322,825	5.69%	74.91%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,975,625</b>	<b>15,114,718</b>	<b>0.93%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

### 3. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS

During the week ending 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022, average prices for gold, platinum, palladium, nickel, and crude oil increased, while copper prices declined. The commodity price developments during the week under analysis are shown in Table 4.

**Table 4: Metal and Crude Oil Prices for the week ending 30<sup>th</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 (19-23 Dec 22)</b>	<b>1,804.93</b>	<b>995.70</b>	<b>1,695.70</b>	<b>8,450.50</b>	<b>27,589.00</b>	<b>81.69</b>
<b>28-Dec-22</b>	1803.00	1018.50	1789.50	8431.00	30390.00	83.52
<b>29-Dec-22</b>	1809.58	1022.50	1775.00	8443.00	30431.00	83.54
<b>30-Dec-22</b>	1812.30	1065.00	1788.00	8372.00	30048.00	85.52
<b>Weekly Average (29 - 30 Dec 22)</b>	<b>1,808.29</b>	<b>1,035.33</b>	<b>1,784.17</b>	<b>8,415.33</b>	<b>30,289.67</b>	<b>84.19</b>
<b>Weekly Change (%)</b>	0.19	3.98	5.22	-0.42	9.79	3.06

Source: BBC, KITCO and Bloomberg, 2022

#### Gold

Gold prices declined by 0.19%, from a weekly average of US\$1,804.93 per ounce in the previous week to US\$1,808.29 per ounce during the reporting week. This was, in large part, due to the depreciation of the US dollar.

#### Platinum

During the week ending 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022, platinum prices rose amid reports by the World Platinum Investment Council, that China had imported huge stocks of platinum since 2019. This report gave the impression that limited above-ground platinum reserves were now available for

the rest of the world. Prices rose by 3.98%, from US\$995.7 per ounce in the prior week to US\$1,035.33 per ounce, during the week ending 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

### **Palladium**

Palladium prices rose by 5.22%, from US\$1,695.70 per ounce in the prior week to US\$1,784.17 per ounce during the week under analysis. This followed the depreciation of the greenback.

### **Copper**

In the week under review, copper prices declined by 0.42%, from US\$8,450.50 per tonne in the previous week to US\$8,415.33 per tonne. Prices fell amid demand concerns on the backdrop of surging Covid-19 cases across China.

### **Nickel**

Nickel prices increased by 9.79% to close the week under analysis at US\$30,289.67 per tonne, from US\$27,589.00 per tonne in the previous week. This was due to the relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions in China, coupled with the weakening of the U.S dollar.

### **Brent Crude Oil**

During the week ending 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022, Brent crude oil prices increased by 3.06%, from US\$81.69 per barrel recorded in the previous week to US\$84.19 per barrel. The increase was underpinned by the depreciation the U.S dollar, during the week under review.

## **4. EXCHANGE RATE DEVELOPMENTS**

### **Foreign Exchange Auction**

The ZW\$/US\$ exchange rate remained unchanged at the previous week level of ZW\$671.4466 per US\$1, during the week ending 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022. This followed the suspension of trading on the foreign exchange auction market during the festive season. The developments in selected exchange rates are as shown in table 5.

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

	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
<b>2022</b>					
<b>Weekly Average (19-23 Dec 22)</b>	<b>671.4466</b>	<b>37.3596</b>	<b>816.9198</b>	<b>52.3703</b>	<b>714.5570</b>
<b>28-Dec-22</b>	671.4466	38.9105	807.5157	52.3748	714.8240
<b>29-Dec-22</b>	671.4466	39.2927	807.9527	52.3408	713.2126
<b>30-Dec-22</b>	671.4466	39.6825	809.2625	52.6444	715.4955
<b>Weekly Average (28 - 30 Dec 22)</b>	<b>671.4466</b>	<b>39.2953</b>	<b>808.2436</b>	<b>52.4533</b>	<b>714.5107</b>
<b>Appr(-)/Depr(+) (%) of the ZWL</b>	0.0	5.2	-1.1	0.2	0.0

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

## Interbank Market

During the week ending 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022, the Zimbabwe dollar depreciated by 0.9% against the US dollar, from ZW\$675.6352 per US\$1 in the previous week to ZW\$681.9636 per US\$1, as is shown in Table 6.

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

	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
<b>2022</b>					
<b>Weekly Average (19-23 Dec 22)</b>	<b>675.6352</b>	<b>38.8976</b>	<b>818.9440</b>	<b>52.4533</b>	<b>716.3817</b>
<b>28-Dec-22</b>	679.8721	39.3701	817.6848	53.0352	723.8271
<b>29-Dec-22</b>	681.6849	39.8406	820.4787	53.1415	724.2275
<b>30-Dec-22</b>	684.3339	40.3226	824.7971	53.6592	729.1627
<b>Weekly Average (28 - 30 Dec 22 )</b>	<b>681.9636</b>	<b>39.8444</b>	<b>820.9868</b>	<b>53.2786</b>	<b>725.7391</b>
<b>Appr(-)/Depr(+) (%) of the ZWL</b>	0.9	2.4	0.2	1.6	1.3

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

## 5. EQUITY MARKETS

### Zimbabwe Stock Exchange

During the week under review, the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) exhibited bullish sentiments for the third consecutive week. As a result, the ZSE All Share index added 12.35% to close at 19 493.85 points. All the major indices registered gains, with the Top 10, Top 15, Medium and Small Cap indices adding 15.01%, 13.57%, 5.34%, and 0.32% to close at 12 311.13 points, 13 436.28 points, 36 642.44 points and 452 056.95 points, respectively.

The growth in the mainstream index was on the back 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

<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 share price gains were declines in share prices of 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> remained unchanged at 25 478.77 points, during the week under analysis.

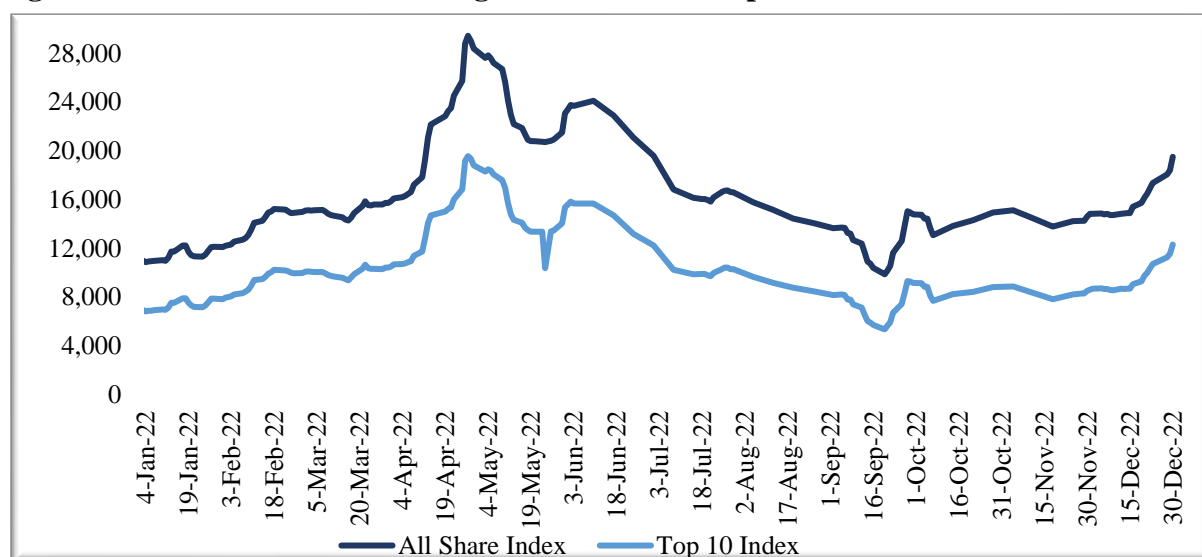
**Table 7: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange Statistics<sup>4</sup>**

	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>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>23-Dec-22</b>	17,350.85	10,704.59	11,831.11	34,786.56	450,615.30	25,487.77	1,817.21	2,672.76	143.71
<b>30-Dec-22</b>	19,493.85	12,311.13	13,436.28	36,642.44	452,056.95	25,487.77	2,044.87	2,086.30	182.46
<b>% Change</b>	<b>12.35</b>	<b>15.01</b>	<b>15.01</b>	<b>5.34</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12.53</b>	<b>-12.94</b>	<b>26.96</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 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

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



Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2022

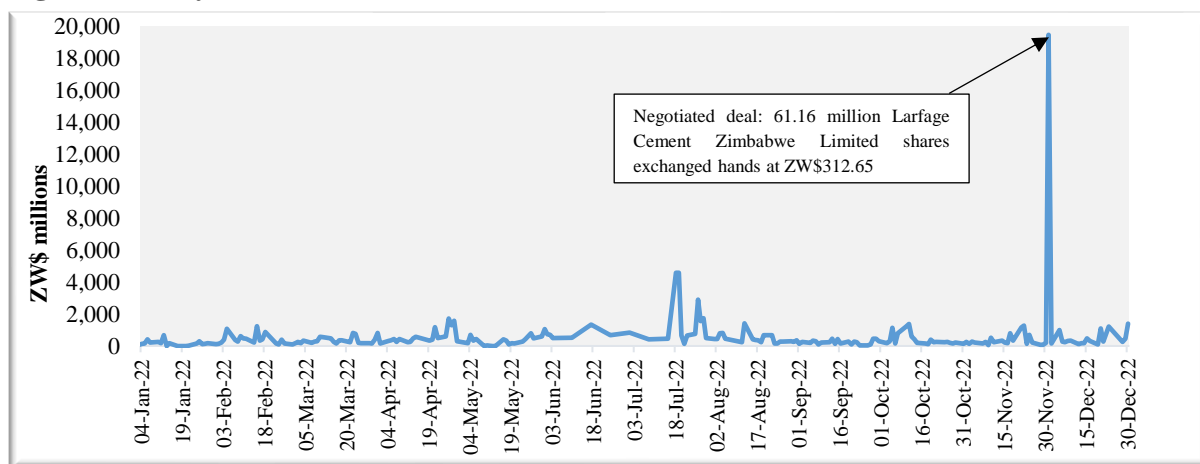
<sup>3</sup> Resource Index – Comprised RioZim Limited Share Price

<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.

## Market Turnover and Volume

The cumulative value of shares traded on the ZSE declined by 21.94%, from ZW\$2.67 billion in the previous week to ZW\$2.09 billion, during the week ending 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Cumulatively, the volume of shares traded increased by 26.96% to 182.46 million shares during the same week, from 143.71 million reported in the preceding week. Figure 4 shows the trend in daily market turnover for the period from 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

**Figure 4: Daily Market Turnover**

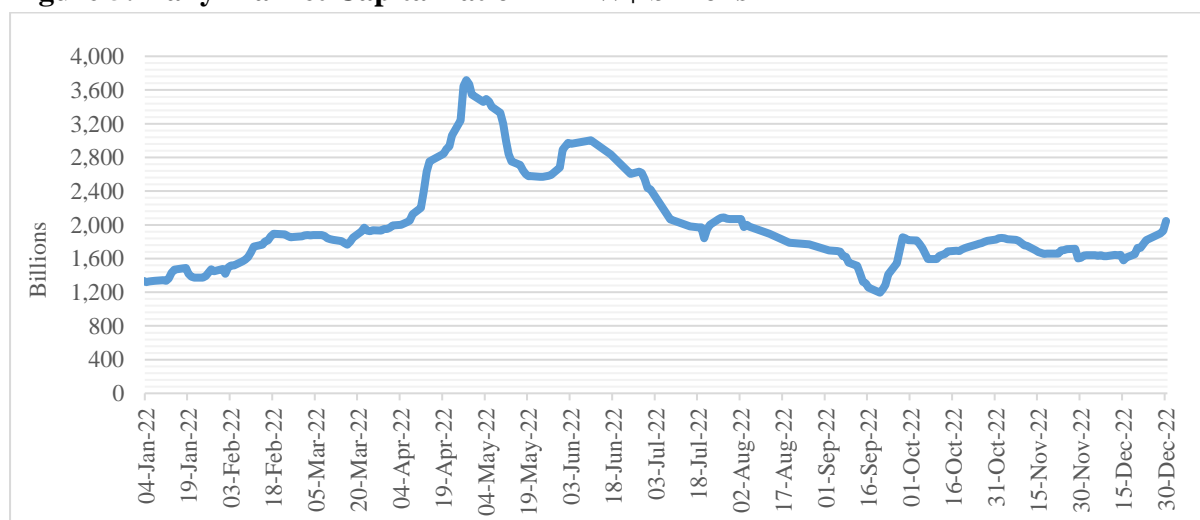


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2022

## Market Capitalization

Reflecting positive trading on the ZSE during the week under review, the market added ZW\$227.66 billion, or 12.53% worth of capitalization to close at ZW\$2,044.87 billion. Figure 5 shows the evolution of the ZSE market capitalization for the period from 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

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



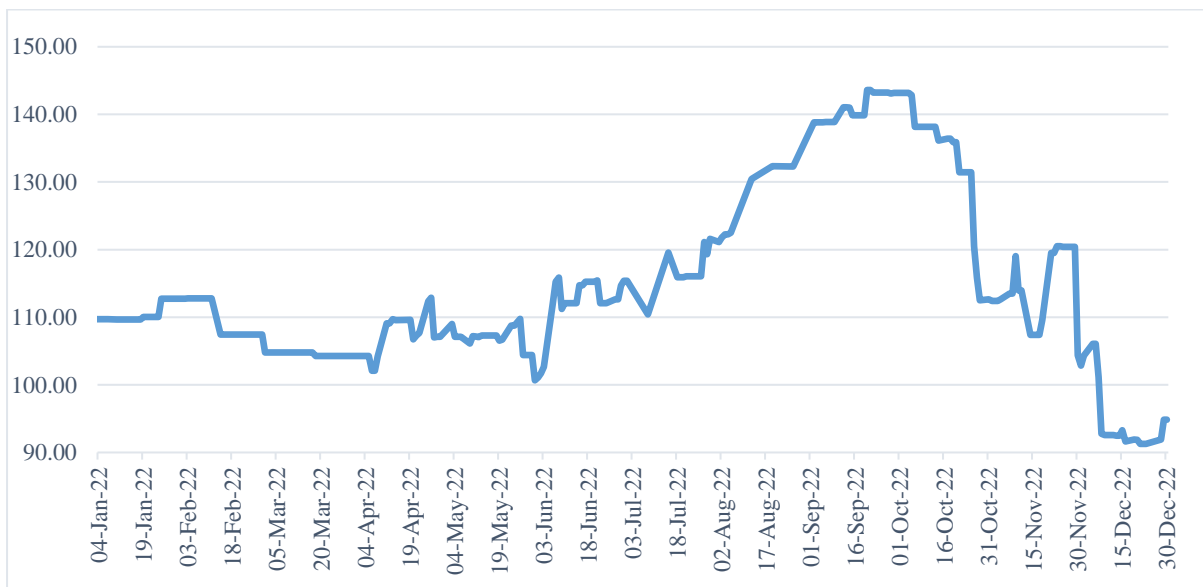
Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2022



## Victoria Falls Stock Exchange

The cumulative volume of shares traded on the Victoria Falls Stock Exchange (VFEX) decreased by 87.70% to 0.087 million shares, during the week ending 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022. In concomitance, the value of shares traded declined by 88.15% to US\$0.021 million, during the same week. This notwithstanding, the VFEX All Share index added 3.90% to close at 94.83 points, a recovery from losses posted in the previous week. VFEX market capitalization stood at US\$0.42 billion, an increase of 3.20% or US\$0.01 billion, from US\$0.412 billion recorded in the previous week. Figure 6 shows the trend in the VFEX All Share Index (ASI) for the period from 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 to 30<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 declined from 73,493.47 points in the previous week to close at 73,048.57 points, during the week ending 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022. However, JSE market capitalization declined by 0.51% to ZAR21.34 trillion, during the same week.

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

Period	All Share Index (points)	Market Capitalization (ZAR trillions)
<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>23-Dec-22</b>	73,493.47	21.45
<b>30-Dec-22</b>	73,048.57	21.34
<b>% Change</b>	<b>-0.61</b>	<b>-0.51</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*

\*The last foreign currency auction for 2022 was on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2022 and the first foreign currency auction for 2023 will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2023

<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*

\*The last foreign currency auction for 2022 was on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2022 and the first foreign currency auction for 2023 will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2023