



Weekly Economic Highlights

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Week Ending
3rd February 2023

1. INTEREST RATES

Local Currency (ZWL) Deposit Rates

During the week ending 3rd February 2023, minimum and maximum deposits rates for savings deposits and deposits of 1-month and 3-months tenor were unchanged at previous week levels, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Average Deposit Rates (per annum)

Date	Savings deposits (%)		1- Month deposit's rates (%)		3- Month deposit rates (%)	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
6-Jan-23	18.03	18.03	55.15	59.33	51.29	55.94
13-Jan-23	20.35	19.78	55.15	59.61	56.00	60.94
20-Jan-23	20.35	19.78	55.15	59.61	56.00	60.94
27-Jan-23	31.30	32.09	75.88	82.06	78.47	85.03
3-Feb-23	31.30	32.09	75.88	82.06	78.47	85.03

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Local Currency (ZWL) Lending Rates

Commercial bank minimum and maximum lending rates for individual and corporate clients remained unchanged during the week under review, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Lending Rates (per annum)

Date	Individual Clients		Corporate Clients	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
6-Jan-23	99.02	125.64	110.83	242.53
13-Jan-23	92.41	130.35	112.77	242.11
20-Jan-23	92.41	130.35	112.77	242.11
27-Jan-23	90.05	128.63	116.03	205.86
3-Feb-23	90.05	128.63	116.03	205.86

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Foreign Currency (USD) Deposit Rates

Average minimum and maximum interest rates across all classes of deposits were unchanged at previous week levels, during the reporting week as shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Average Deposit Rates (per annum)

Date	Savings deposits (%)		1- Month deposit's rates (%)		3- Month deposit rates (%)	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
27-Jan-23	5.44	8.48	2.68	4.28	2.88	4.33
3-Feb-23	5.44	8.48	2.68	4.28	2.88	4.33

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Foreign Currency (USD) Lending Rates

Commercial bank minimum and maximum lending rates for both individual and corporate clients also remained unchanged during the week ending 3rd February 2023, as shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Lending Rates (per annum)

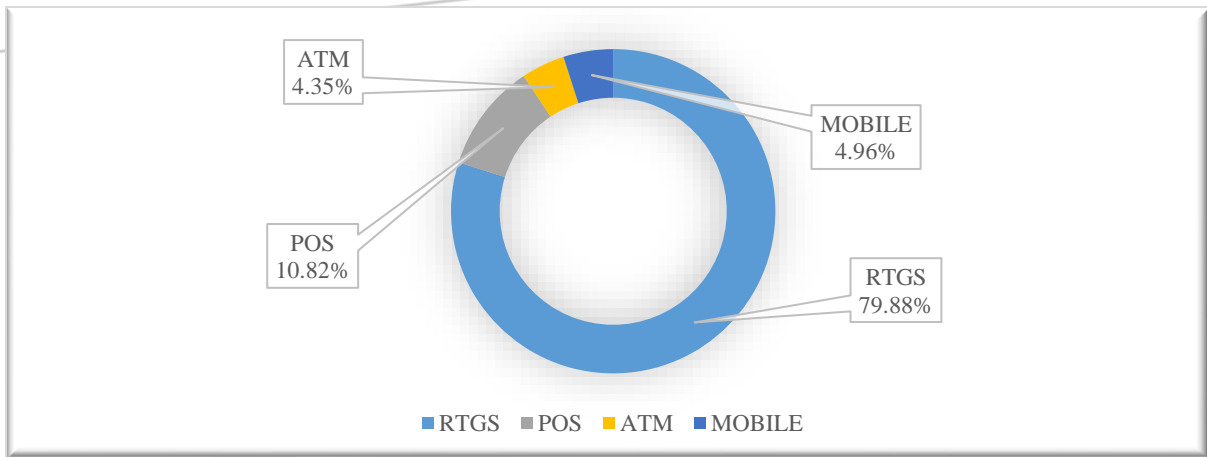
Date	Individual Clients		Corporate Clients	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
27-Jan-23	11.35	12.86	6.60	13.52
3-Feb-23	11.35	12.86	6.60	13.52

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

2. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

The National Payment System (NPS) processed transactions valued at ZW\$611.45 billion, during the week ending 3rd February 2023. This represented a decrease of 13.38%, compared to ZW\$705.88 billion reported in the previous week. Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) transactions decreased by 18.79% to ZW\$488.40 billion, from ZW\$601.38 billion recorded in the preceding week. In proportions, the NPS transaction values were distributed as follows: RTGS, 79.88%, POS, 10.82%; Mobile, 4.96%; and ATM, 4.35%.

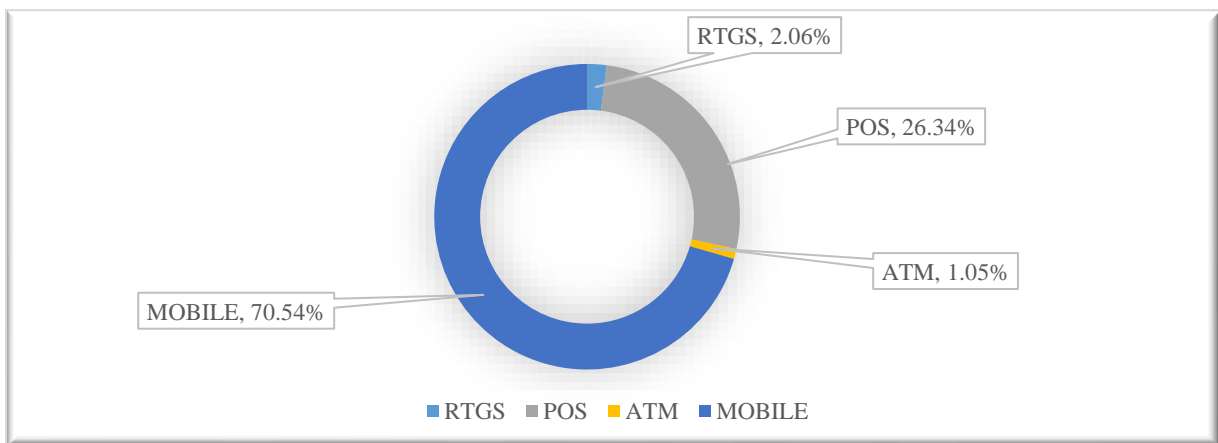
Figure 1: Composition of NPS Transactions in Value Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

The volume of NPS transactions increased by 3.39%, from 11.77 million recorded in the preceding week to 12.17 million, during the week under review. Mobile based transactions dominated NPS transaction volumes at 70.54% of the total, while POS, RTGS, and ATM platforms accounted for 26.34%; 2.06%; and 1.05%, respectively, as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Composition of NPS Transactions in Volume Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Table 5: National Payment Systems Activity

PAYMENT STREAM	WEEK ENDING 27 th January 2023	WEEK ENDING 3 rd February 2023	% CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	PROPORTION %
Values in ZW\$ Millions				
RTGS	601,382.04	488,399.56	-18.79%	79.88%
POS	55,994.89	66,130.27	18.10%	10.82%
ATM	18,162.50	26,574.05	46.31%	4.35%
MOBILE	30,344.90	30,344.90	0.00%	4.96%
TOTAL	705,884.29	611,448.77	-13.38%	100%
Volumes				
RTGS	288,826	251,237	-13.01%	2.06%
POS	2,902,265	3,206,525	10.48%	26.34%
ATM	120,369	128,050	6.38%	1.05%
MOBILE	8,462,362	8,587,541	1.48%	70.54%
TOTAL	11,773,822	12,173,353	3.39%	100%

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

3. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS

During the week ending 3rd February 2023, global commodity prices were largely depressed due to a stronger US dollar. Prices for gold, platinum, palladium, copper, and crude oil retreated, while those for nickel increased. The commodity price developments during the week under review are shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Metal and Crude Oil Prices for the week ending 3rd February 2023

	Gold	Platinum	Palladium	Copper	Nickel	Crude Oil
2023	US\$/ounce	US\$/ounce	US\$/ounce	US\$/tonne	US\$/tonne	US\$/barrel
Weekly Average (16-20 Jan 23)	1,927.62	1,035.40	1,700.90	9,313.50	28,972.00	86.89
30-Jan-23	1,924.10	1,018.50	1,640.00	9,226.00	29,535.00	86.11
31-Jan-23	1,928.60	1,016.00	1,655.00	9,074.50	29,350.00	85.73
1-Feb-23	1,937.75	1,005.00	1,673.00	9,170.00	30,060.00	83.28
2-Feb-23	1,925.90	1,005.00	1,673.00	9,114.00	28,730.00	79.65
3-Feb-23	1,889.30	997.50	1,652.00	9,060.00	29,110.00	80.53
Weekly Average (30 Jan – 3 Feb 23)	1,921.13	1,008.40	1,658.60	9,128.90	29,357.00	83.06
Weekly Change (%)	-0.3	-2.6	-2.5	-2.0	1.3	-4.4

Source: BBC, KITCO and Bloomberg, 2023

Gold

Gold prices fell by 0.3% to US\$1,921.13 per ounce during the week ending 3rd February 2023, from US\$1,927.62 per ounce reported in the previous week. The price of the yellow metal retreated, as the U.S. dollar firmed after robust employment statistics reduced concerns about the continuous hiking of interest rates by the Federal Reserve.

Platinum

During the week ending 3rd February 2023, platinum prices declined by 2.6% to US\$1,008.40 per ounce, from US\$1,035.40 per ounce recorded in the preceding week. Prices slowed down on account of weak industrial demand, coupled with gloomy investment prospects as investors rekindled appetite for riskier assets.

Palladium

Palladium prices declined by 2.5%, from US\$1,700.90 per ounce in the week ending 27th January 2023 to US\$1,658.60 per ounce, during the week under review. Weak demand from the auto industries and a stronger US dollar exerted downward pressure on prices, during the reporting week.

Copper

Copper prices fell by 2.0%, from US\$9,313.50 per tonne in the previous week to US\$9,128.90 per tonne, during the week ending 3rd February 2023. This was, in large part, due to uncertainty over China's pace of recovery after the country removed its strict Covid-19 restrictions. China is the world's top consumer of industrial metals.

Nickel

Nickel prices increased by 1.3% to US\$29,357.00 per tonne during the week ending 3rd February 2023, from US\$28,972.00 per tonne recorded in the previous week. Prices benefited from dwindling global stockpiles owing to reduced supplies from Indonesia. This followed a ban on unprocessed or by the Indonesian government, aimed at supporting the country's mineral refining and processing industry.

Brent Crude Oil

Brent Crude oil prices fell by 4.4%, from US\$86.89 per barrel recorded in the previous week to US\$83.06 per barrel during the week under review. The decline was underpinned by a stronger U.S. dollar as well as fears of subdued demand in China, the world's largest oil importer.

4. EXCHANGE RATE DEVELOPMENTS

Interbank Market

On the interbank market, the Zimbabwe dollar (ZWS) depreciated by 3.4% against the US dollar, from ZW\$772.5784 per US\$1 in the previous week to ZW\$798.7011 per US\$1 during the week under review, as shown in Table 7.

Table 7: Interbank Market Exchange Rates¹

	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
2023					
Weekly Average (23-27 Jan 23)	772.5784	45.0739	956.6405	60.5237	841.4823
30-Jan-23	785.5844	45.7666	974.0509	61.4756	854.0921
31-Jan-23	796.5215	45.7666	983.1955	61.8976	863.6735
1-Feb-23	801.6023	46.0829	987.1345	61.8203	871.2228
2-Feb-23	803.9186	47.1698	996.3023	62.8753	886.0047
3-Feb-23	805.8788	47.2813	984.6283	63.3060	878.1689
Weekly Average (30 Jan-3 Feb 23)	798.7011	46.4135	985.0623	62.2749	870.6324
Appr (-)/Depr (+) (%) of the ZWL	3.4	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.5

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

5. EQUITY MARKETS

Zimbabwe Stock Exchange

The Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) traded on a positive trajectory for the second consecutive week. As a result, the ZSE All Share index added 11.92% to close at 24 782.89 points. The Top 10, Top 15, Small and Medium indices gained 11.83%, 12.17%, 6.36% and 12.29% to close at 15 222.34 points, 17 012.45 points, 504 953.31 points and 50 707.50 points, respectively.

The gain in the mainstream index was a result of share price increases for Dairibord Holdings Limited (51.97%), Proplastics Limited (39.11%), Hippo Valley Estates Limited (38.50%), SeedCo Limited (32.09%) and Africa Sun Limited (19.64%). Partially offsetting the gains were losses in share prices for General Beltings Holdings Limited (5.34%), Ariston Holdings Limited (4.88%), Star Africa Corporation Limited, (1.79%), Willdale Limited (1.61%) and CBZ Holdings Limited (1.46%). The resources index² added 0.04% to close at 25 505.96 points, during the week under review.

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

² Resource Index – Comprised RioZim Limited Share Price

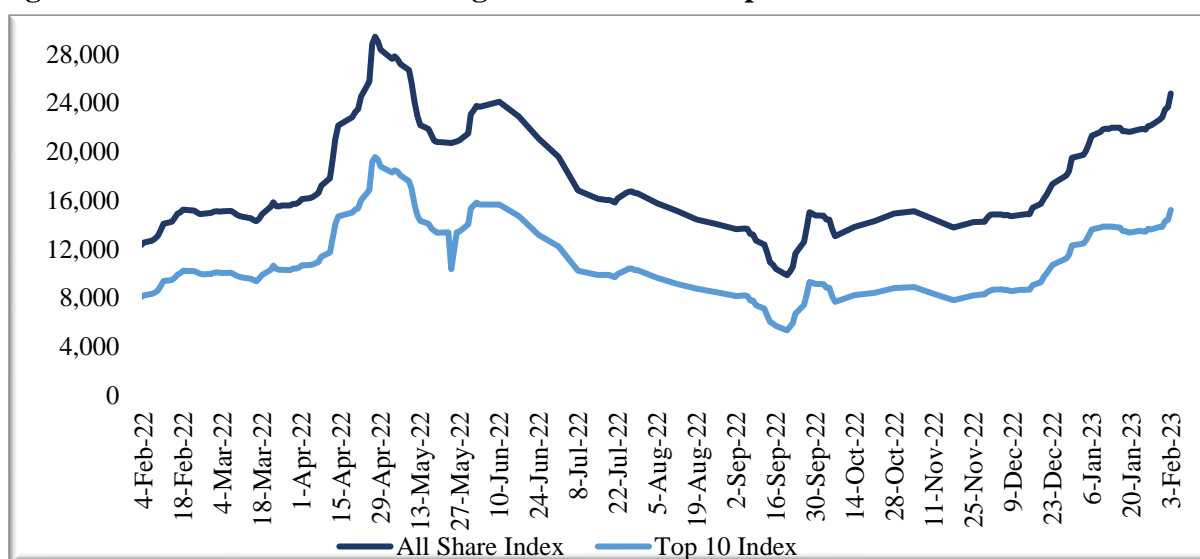
Table 8: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange Statistics³

	All Share Index Points	Top 10 index ³ (points)	Top 15 Index ³ points	Medium Cap ³ (points)	Small Cap ³ (points)	Mining Index (points)	Grand Market Capitalization (ZWL billion)	Market Turnover (ZWL million)	Volume of Shares (million)
30-Dec-22	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
6-Jan-23	21,303.44	13,619.02	14,880.57	39,041.60	454,198.51	25,466.86	2,250.89	2,194.26	25.55
13-Jan-23	21,981.41	13,860.17	15,293.15	41,929.97	457,148.25	25,496.86	2,356.79	2,269.90	24.44
20-Jan-23	21,665.00	13,349.26	14,851.04	43,623.29	469,419.34	25,496.86	2,341.88	3,088.23	18.99
27-Jan-23	22,142.52	13,612.50	15,166.91	45,157.58	474,766.97	25,496.86	2,392.19	3,308.22	24.51
3-Feb-23	24,782.89	15,222.34	17,012.45	50,707.50	504,953.31	25,505.95	2,673.14	5,166.00	69.29
% Change	11.92	11.83	12.17	12.29	6.36	0.04	11.74	56.16	182.70

Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE), 2023

Figure 3 shows the trend in daily market turnover for the period from 4th February 2022 to 3rd February 2023.

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



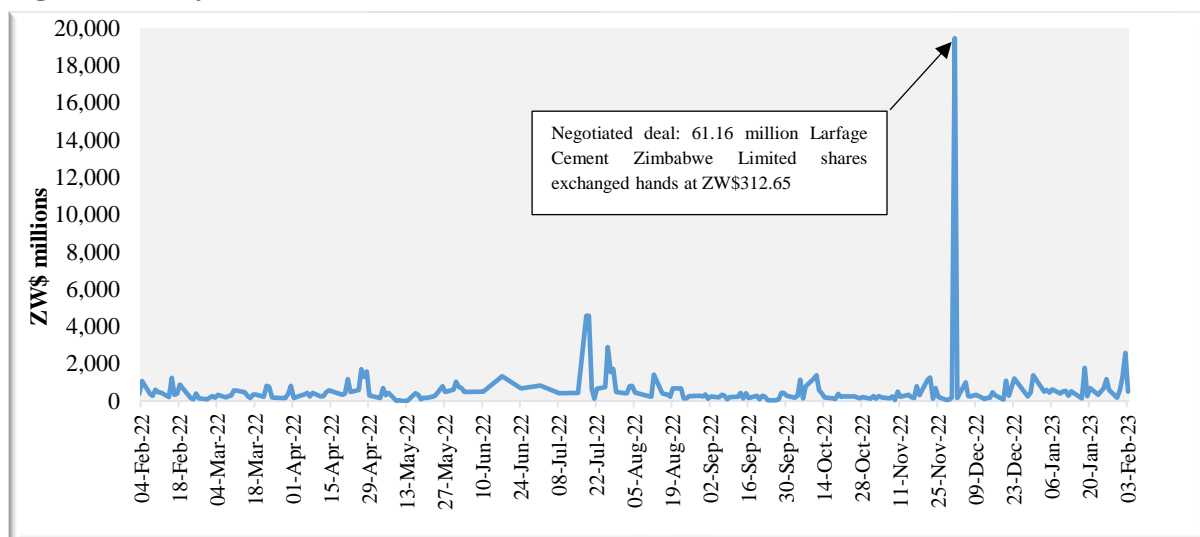
Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2023

³ 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 review, the volume of shares traded on the ZSE increased by 182.70% to 69.29 million, from 24.51 million reported in the preceding week. In concomitance, the cumulative value of shares traded increased by 56.16%, from ZW3.31 billion in the previous week to ZW5.16 billion, during the week ending 3rd February 2023. Figure 4 shows the trend in daily market turnover for the period from 4th February 2022 to 3rd February 2023.

Figure 4: Daily Market Turnover



Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2023

Market Capitalization

The local bourse added ZW\$280.96 billion, or 11.74% worth of capitalization to close at ZW\$2,673.14 billion, during the week under review. Figure 5 shows the evolution of ZSE market capitalization for the period from 4th February 2022 to 3rd February 2023.

Figure 5: Daily Market Capitalization in ZW\$ billions



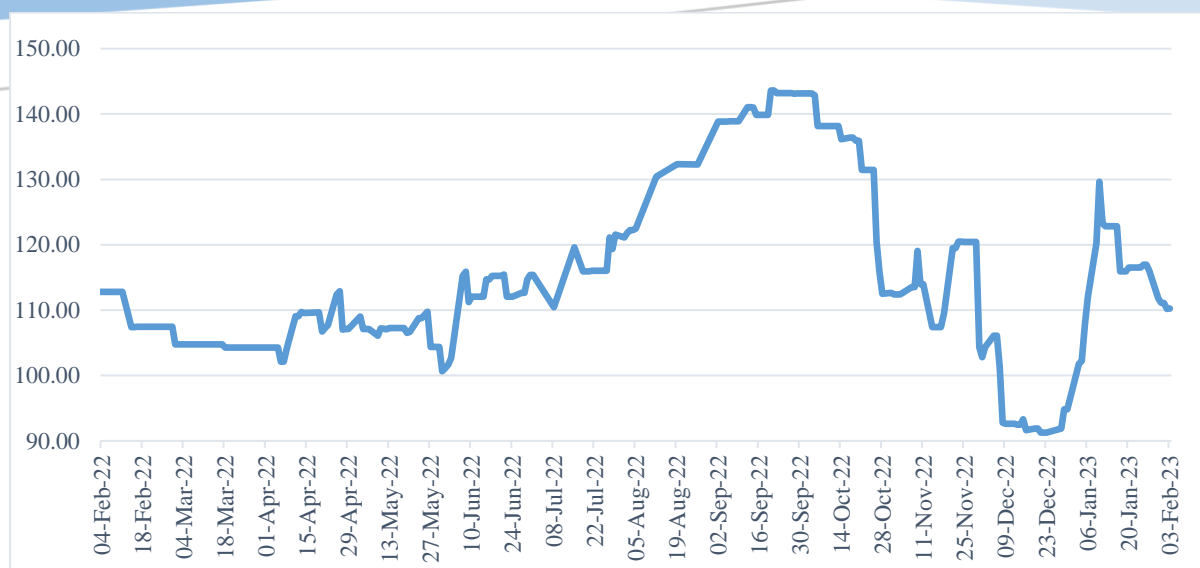
Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2023

Victoria Falls Stock Exchange

The Victoria Falls Stock Exchange (VFEX) was bearish during the week ending 3rd February 2023. Resultantly, the VFEX All Share index shed 5.01% to close at 110.24 points. However, the cumulative volume of shares traded on the VFEX increased by 562.27% to 0.16 million, during the week under review, while the value of shares traded rose by 319.92% to USD0.05 million. The week under review saw significant trades in shares for Padenga Holdings Limited and SeedCo International.

VFEX market capitalization stood at US\$0.63 billion, during the reporting week, a decline of 5.01% or US\$0.03 billion from US\$0.66 billion recorded in the previous week. Figure 6 shows the trend in the VFEX All Share Index (ASI) for the period from 4th February 2022 to 3rd February 2023.

Figure 6: Victoria Falls Stock Exchange All Share Index



Source: Victoria Falls Stock Exchange, 2023

Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Developments

The Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) All Share Index rose from 80,791.36 points in the previous week to close at 80,240.92 points, during the week ending 3rd February 2023. JSE market capitalization also decreased by 0.86% to ZAR23.28 trillion, during the same week.

Table 9: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Statistics

Period	All Share Index (points)	Market Capitalization (ZAR trillions)
30-Dec-22	73,048.57	21.34
6-Jan-23	76,858.94	22.30
13-Jan-23	79,333.72	22.88
20-Jan-23	79,269.77	23.02
27-Jan-23	80,791.36	23.28
3-Feb-23	80,240.92	23.08
% Change	-0.68	-0.86

Source: <https://www.jse.co.za/services/market-data/market-statistics>, 2023

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



Source: <https://www.jse.co.za/services/market-data/market-statistics,2023>

RESERVE BANK OF ZIMBABWE

APPENDIX 1: FOREIGN EXCHANGE AUCTION RESULTS FOR MAINFX⁴ AND SMEFX⁵

	MAINFX				SMEFX			
	13-Jan-23	20-Jan-23	27-Jan-23	3-Feb-23	13-Jan-23	20-Jan-23	27-Jan-23	3-Feb-23
Total Bids (US\$ dollars)	13,142,117.05	14,856,242.12	21,082,463.27	23,950,602.74	1,001,434.07	2,316,967.40	2,846,970.79	2,898,898.05
Amount Allotted (US\$ dollars)	10,019,285.89	12,722,908.28	12,348,070.16	16,458,668.21	786,897.36	1,748,201.30	1,515,043.86	1,837,006.31
Highest Rate	740	765	825	860	740	790	790	860
Lowest Bid Rate	690	711	750	800	690	711	750	800
Lowest Bid Rate Allotted	690	711	750	800	690	711	750	800
Weighted Average Rate	705.4164	732.0036	779.3101	801.6023	705.4164	732.0036	779.3101	801.6023
Number of Bids Received	84	144	190	215	94	219	267	289
Number of Bids Rejected	1	5	8	4	9	3	4	7

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

⁴ Main Foreign Currency Auction

⁵ Small and Medium Enterprises Foreign Currency Auction

APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF FOREIGN CURRENCY AUCTION ALLOTMENTS BY PURPOSE

Purpose	MAINFX				SMEFX			
	13-Jan-23	20-Jan-23	27-Jan-23	3-Feb-23	13-Jan-23	20-Jan-23	27-Jan-23	3-Feb-23
Raw Materials	6,210,826.16	7,938,975.10	6,885,424.64	9,031,988.33	275,169.00	564,441.68	502,062.29	539,931.64
Machinery and Equipment	1,016,411.13	942,396.26	1,181,848.16	2,249,805.58	213,566.73	492,153.71	318,370.58	531,593.60
Consumables (Incl. Spares, Tyres, Packaging)	758,083.32	1,067,946.54	627,949.67	814,010.56	111,608.86	201,458.74	196,015.31	280,482.82
Pharmaceuticals and Chemicals	268,376.78	245,892.58	458,282.76	508,381.27	53,011.46	60,389.18	94,549.87	32,926.65
Services (Loans, Dividends and Disinvestments)	777,633.67	1,076,085.87	1,435,533.87	1,431,344.34	37,202.81	217,663.38	223,614.09	200,888.67
Retail and Distribution	680,217.56	1,019,584.66	1,182,651.25	1,626,672.39	42,686.30	155,338.54	126,391.73	159,891.49
Fuel, Electricity and Gas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper and Packaging	307,737.27	432,027.27	576,379.81	796,465.74	53,652.20	56,756.07	54,039.99	91,291.44
TOTAL	10,019,285.89	12,722,908.28	12,348,070.16	16,458,668.21	786,897.36	1,748,201.30	1,515,043.86	1,837,006.31

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023