



Weekly Economic Highlights

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Week Ending
13th January 2023

1. INTEREST RATES

Deposit Rates

Average minimum deposit rates for savings deposits and deposits of 3-month tenor increased, during the week ending 13th January 2023. However, minimum deposit rates on deposits of 1-month tenor remained unchanged. Maximum deposit rates across all classes of deposits registered increases during the same week, 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 (%)
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
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

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Lending Rates

The week ending 13th January 2023, saw a decline in commercial bank minimum lending rates for individual clients, while those for corporate clients increased. Maximum lending rates for individual clients at commercial banks were higher compared to the previous week levels, while those for corporate clients marginally softened during the week under review, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Lending Rates (per annum)

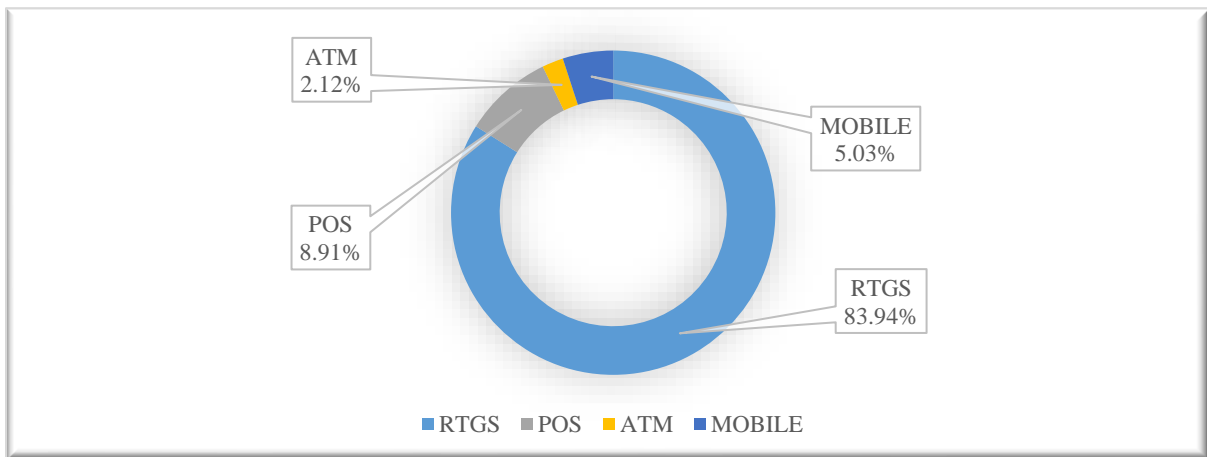
Date	Individual Clients		Corporate Clients	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
16-Dec-22	99.15	126.28	112.01	243.43
23-Dec-22	99.15	126.28	112.01	243.43
30-Dec-22	99.02	125.64	110.83	242.53
6-Jan-23	99.02	125.64	110.83	242.53
13-Jan-23	92.41	130.35	112.77	242.11

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

2. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

During the week ending 13th January 2023, the aggregate value of transactions processed through the National Payment Systems (NPS) increased by 21.59% to ZW\$670.76 billion, from ZW\$550.01 billion recorded in the previous week. Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) transactions increased by 22.96% to ZW\$563.05 billion, from ZW\$457.91 billion recorded during the week ending 6th January 2023. The NPS transactions values were distributed as follows: RTGS, 83.94%, POS, 8.91%; Mobile, 5.03%; and ATM, 2.12%.

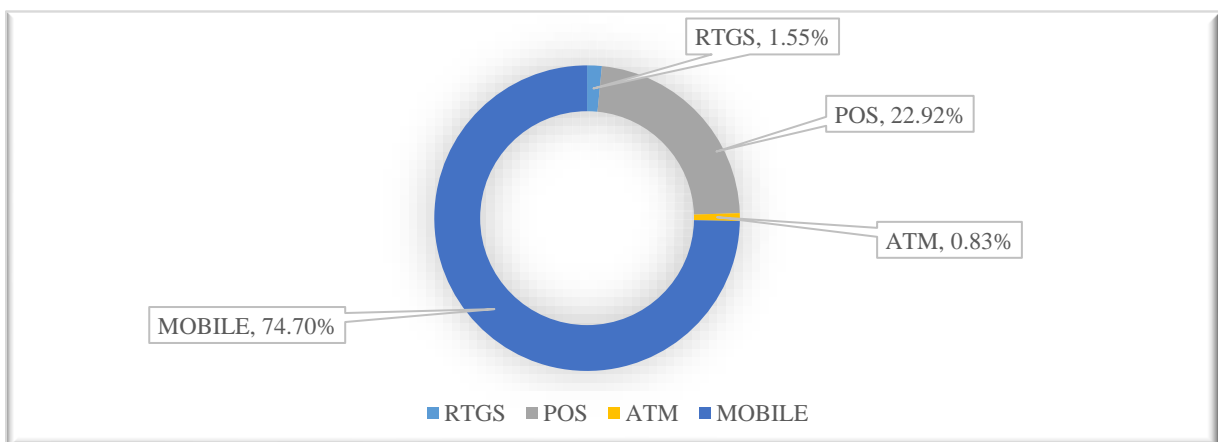
Figure 1: Composition of NPS Transactions in Value Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

The volume of NPS transactions decreased by 10.20% to 12.00 million, during the week under review, from 13.36 million recorded in the preceding week. Mobile based transactions dominated NPS transaction volumes at 74.70% of the total, followed by POS, 22.92%; RTGS, 1.55%; and ATM, 0.83%, as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Composition of NPS Transactions in Volume Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Table 3: National Payment Systems Activity

PAYMENT STREAM	WEEK ENDING 6 th January 2023	WEEK ENDING 13 th January 2023	% CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	PROPORTION %
Values in ZW\$ Millions				
RTGS	457,912.24	563,051.30	22.96%	83.94%
POS	51,177.94	59,771.50	16.79%	8.91%
ATM	12,172.60	14,195.08	16.62%	2.12%
MOBILE	28,751.19	33,739.50	17.35%	5.03%
TOTAL	550,013.98	670,757.38	21.95%	100%
Volumes				
RTGS	164,375	185,626	12.93%	1.55%
POS	2,816,453	2,749,179	-2.39%	22.92%
ATM	115,402	99,860	-13.47%	0.83%
MOBILE	10,261,895	8,961,199	-12.68%	74.70%
TOTAL	13,358,125	11,995,864	-10.20%	100%

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

3. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS

During the week ending 13th January 2023, average prices for gold, platinum, palladium, copper, and crude oil firmed, while nickel prices declined. Most commodity prices were generally bullish as the US dollar retreated after U.S. economic data cemented expectations of a less-hawkish monetary policy stance from the US Federal Reserve Bank. Table 4 shows the commodity price developments during the week under analysis.

Table 4: Metal and Crude Oil Prices for the week ending 13th January 2023

	Gold	Platinum	Palladium	Copper	Nickel	Crude Oil
2023	US\$/ounce	US\$/ounce	US\$/ounce	US\$/tonne	US\$/tonne	US\$/barrel
Weekly Average (3-6 Jan 23)	1,845.51	1,075.75	1,771.63	8,353.88	29,015.25	79.75
9-Jan-23	1,872.00	1,082.00	1,781.00	8,859.50	27,434.00	79.41
10-Jan-23	1,876.93	1,084.00	1,792.50	8,912.50	27,466.00	81.54
11-Jan-23	1,878.30	1,096.00	1,795.00	9,124.50	27,039.00	84.34
12-Jan-23	1,882.83	1,078.00	1,776.00	9,187.00	27,013.00	83.82
13-Jan-23	1,921.10	1,068.00	1,788.00	9,148.50	26,795.00	84.64
Weekly Average (9-13 Jan 23)	1,886.23	1,081.60	1,786.50	9,046.40	27,149.40	82.75
Weekly Change (%)	2.2	0.5	0.8	8.3	-6.4	3.8

Source: BBC, KITCO and Bloomberg, 2023

Gold

Gold prices rose by 2.2%, from US\$1,845.51 per ounce in the previous week to US\$1,886.23 per ounce, during the week ending 13th January 2023. Prices rose as expectations of slower U.S. interest rate hikes depressed Treasury yields, prompting investors to shift to the non-interest yielding bullion.

Platinum

During the week ending 13th January 2023, platinum prices increased by 0.5%, from US\$1,075.75 per ounce in the prior week to US\$1,081.60 per ounce. The increase was mainly on account of prospects of a rise in investment demand, coupled with increasing industrial demand in China.

Palladium

Palladium prices also rose by 0.8%, from US\$1,771.63 per ounce in the previous week to US\$1,786.50 per ounce, during the week ending 13th January 2023. The increase was underpinned by a weaker US dollar, which made dollar denominated commodities less expensive and appealing to holders of other currencies.

Copper

Copper prices rose to a record high, last witnessed in June 2022, driven by a weaker US dollar and optimism that the reopening of China would spur the demand for the base metal. Reflecting these developments, copper prices increased by 8.3% from US\$8,353.88 per tonne in the previous week to US\$9,046.40 per tonne, during the week under review.

Nickel

Nickel prices declined by 6.4% to US\$27,149.40 per tonne during the week ending 13th January 2023, from US\$29,015.25 per tonne in the previous week. This was, in large part, due to expectations of easing supply tightness, following increased supplies of nickel plates from Tsingshan Holding Group, a Chinese nickel giant

Brent Crude Oil

Brent crude oil prices rose by 3.8%, from US\$79.75 per barrel in the previous week to US\$82.75 per barrel, during the week under review. The demand outlook for Brent crude oil was boosted by the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions in China. In addition, expectations of supply shortages owing to the impact of sanctions on Russian crude oil also boosted prices.

4. EXCHANGE RATE DEVELOPMENTS

Foreign Exchange Auction

On the foreign exchange auction, the Zimbabwe dollar (ZW\$) depreciated by 4.0% against the US dollar, from an average of ZW\$671.4466 per USD\$1 in the previous week to ZW\$698.5237 per US\$1, during the week ending 13th January 2023. The developments in selected exchange rates are shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Foreign Exchange Auction Exchange Rates¹

	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
2023					
Weekly Average (3-6 Jan 23)	671.4466	39.4895	805.5355	52.5181	710.8367
9-Jan-23	671.4466	39.4477	815.4388	51.9730	716.9386
10-Jan-23	704.9228	41.6667	858.1411	55.3431	757.1620
11-Jan-23	705.4164	41.5800	858.4223	55.3784	758.4658
12-Jan-23	705.4164	41.7537	858.2812	55.4489	759.8767
13-Jan-23	705.4164	42.1941	859.2340	55.7311	764.2502
Weekly Average (9-13 Jan 23)	698.5237	41.3284	849.9034	54.7749	751.3386
Appr(-)/Depr(+) (%) of the ZWL	4.0	4.7	5.5	4.3	5.7

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Interbank Market

On the Interbank market, the Zimbabwe dollar (ZW\$) depreciated by 2.0% against the US dollar, from ZW\$692.8914 per US\$1 in the previous week to ZW\$707.0124 per US\$1, during the reporting week as shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Interbank Market Exchange Rates²

	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
2023					
Weekly Average (3-6 Jan 23)	692.8914	40.7544	831.3883	54.1982	733.6686
9-Jan-23	704.1765	41.4079	855.6833	54.5097	752.0648
10-Jan-23	704.9228	41.6667	858.1411	55.3431	757.1620
11-Jan-23	705.4164	41.4938	858.6381	55.3831	758.6100
12-Jan-23	708.6502	41.9287	862.1463	55.7072	763.3628
13-Jan-23	711.8963	42.4628	866.9519	56.2466	771.2730
Weekly Average (9-13 Jan 23)	707.0124	41.7920	860.3121	55.4379	760.4945
Appr(-)/Depr(+) (%) of the ZWL	2.0	2.5	3.5	2.3	3.7

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

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

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

5. EQUITY MARKETS

Zimbabwe Stock Exchange

The Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) traded positively for the second consecutive week. In line with these developments, the ZSE All Share index added 3.18% to close at 21 981.41 points. All the major indices registered increases, with the Top 10, Top 15, Medium and Small Cap indices adding 1.77%, 2.77%, 7.40%, and 0.65% to close at 13 860.17 points, 15 293.15 points, 41 929.97 points and 457 148.25 points, respectively.

The increase in the mainstream index emanated from share price gains for Willdale Limited (45.86%), Hippo Valley Estates Limited (33.66%), Dairibord Holdings Limited (25.00%), OK Zimbabwe Limited (24.72%) and Ariston Holdings Limited (23.79%). Partially offsetting the share price gains were decreases in share prices for Truworths Limited (12.21%), Axia Corporation Limited (9.18%), First Capital Bank Limited, (8.90%), Star Africa Corporation Limited (4.40%) and FBC Holdings Limited (2.25%). The resources index³ gained by 0.12% to close at 25 496.86 points, during the week under review.

Table 7: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange Statistics⁴

	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)
9-Dec-22	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
16-Dec-22	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
23-Dec-22	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
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
% Change	3.18	1.77	2.77	7.40	0.65	0.12	4.70	3.45	-4.38

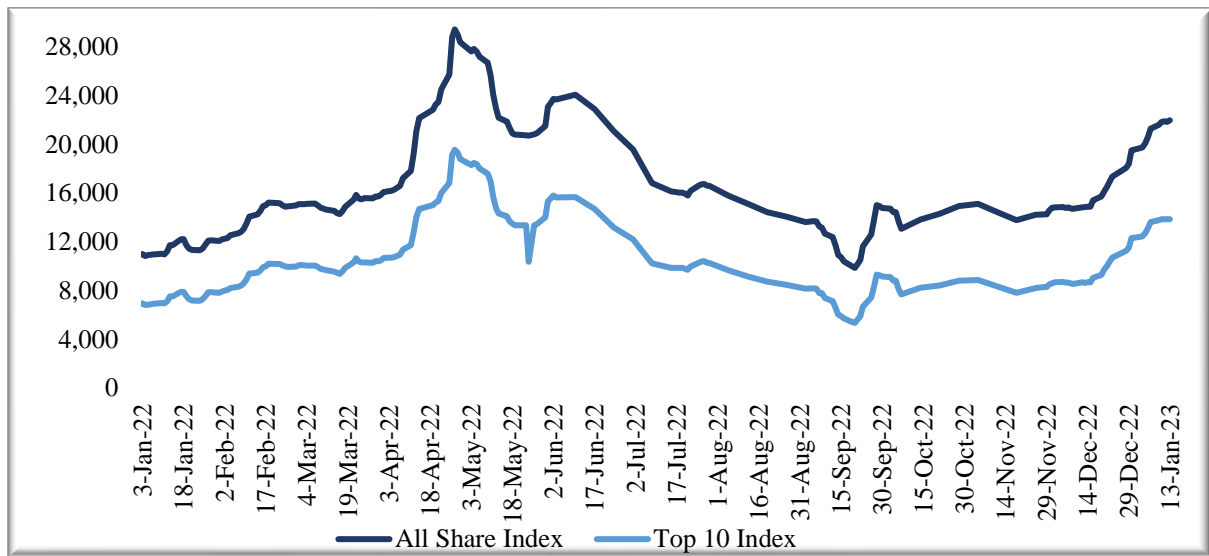
Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE), 2023

³ Resource Index – Comprise RioZim Limited Share Price

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.

Figure 3 shows daily market turnover trend for the period from 3rd January 2022 to 13th January 2023.

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

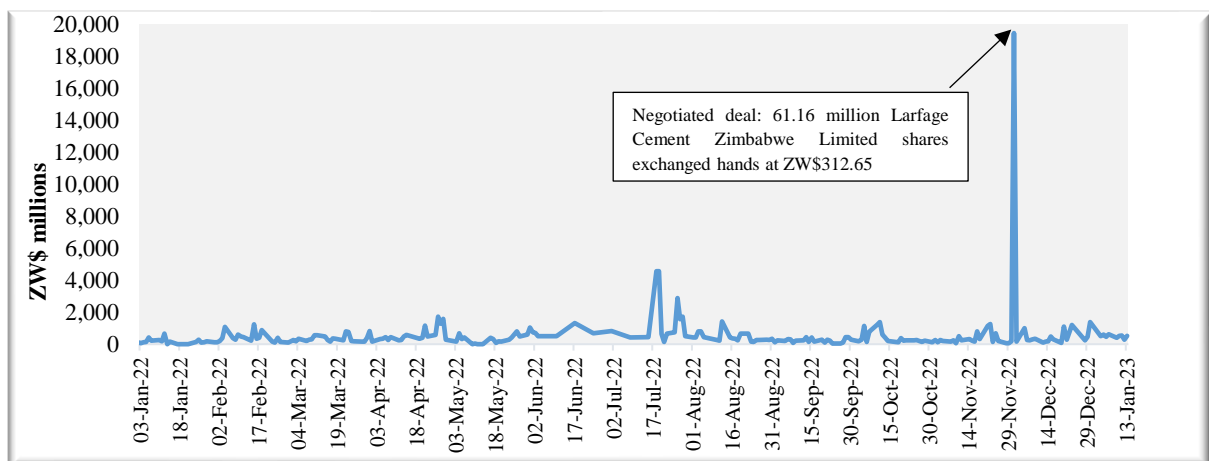


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2023

Market Turnover and Volume

During the week under analysis, the cumulative value of shares traded on the ZSE increased by 3.45%, from ZW\$2.19 billion in the previous week to ZW\$2.27 billion. The cumulative volume of shares traded declined by 4.38% to 24.44 million, during the week under review, from 25.55 million reported in the preceding week. Figure 4 shows daily market turnover trend for the period from 3rd January 2022 to 13th January 2023.

Figure 4: Daily Market Turnover



Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2023

Market Capitalization

Reflecting the positive momentum on the ZSE during the week ending 13th January 2023, the market added ZW\$105.90 billion, or 4.70% worth of capitalisation, to close at ZW\$2,356.79 billion. Figure 5 shows the evolution of ZSE market capitalization for the period from 3rd January 2022 to 13th January 2023.

Figure 5: Daily Market Capitalization in ZW\$ billions

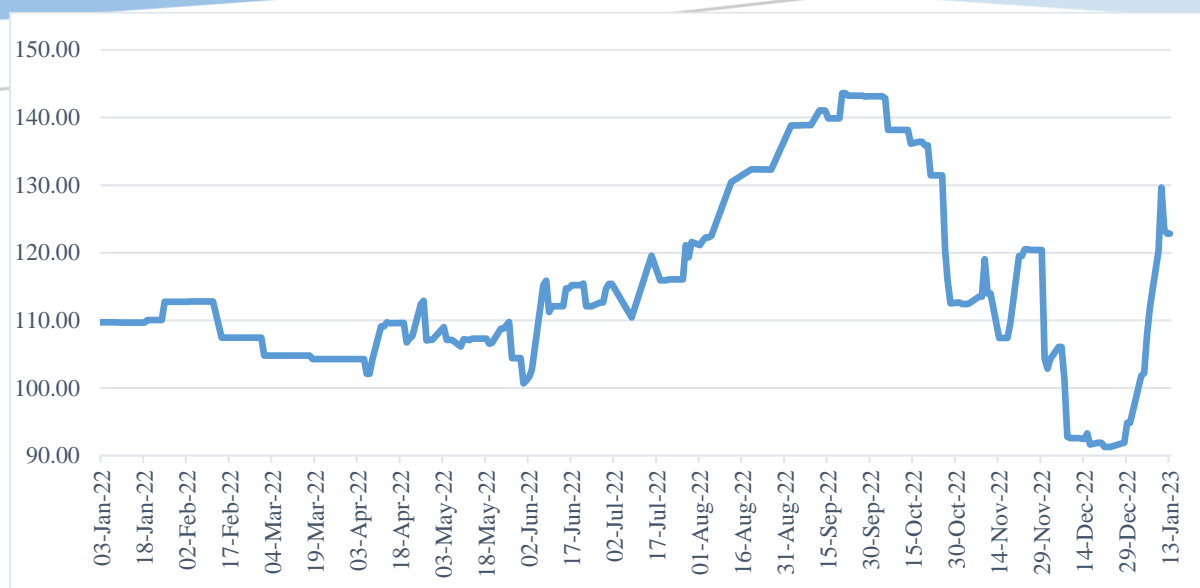


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2023

Victoria Falls Stock Exchange

The Victoria Falls Stock Exchange (VFEX) was also characterised by positive trading, during the week ending 13th January 2023. As a result, the VFEX All Share index increased by 9.72% to close at 122.85 points. Cumulatively, the volume of shares traded on the VFEX declined by 19.38% to 0.65 million, during the week under review. In concomitance, the value of shares traded declined by 14.58% to USD0.22 million in the same week. VFEX market capitalization stood at US\$0.70 billion, an increase of 9.72% or US\$0.06 billion, from US\$0.64 billion recorded in the previous week. Figure 6 shows the trend of the VFEX All Share Index (ASI) for the period from 3rd January 2022 to 13th January 2023.

Figure 6: Victoria Falls Stock Exchange All Share Index



Source: Victoria Falls Stock Exchange, 2023

Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Developments

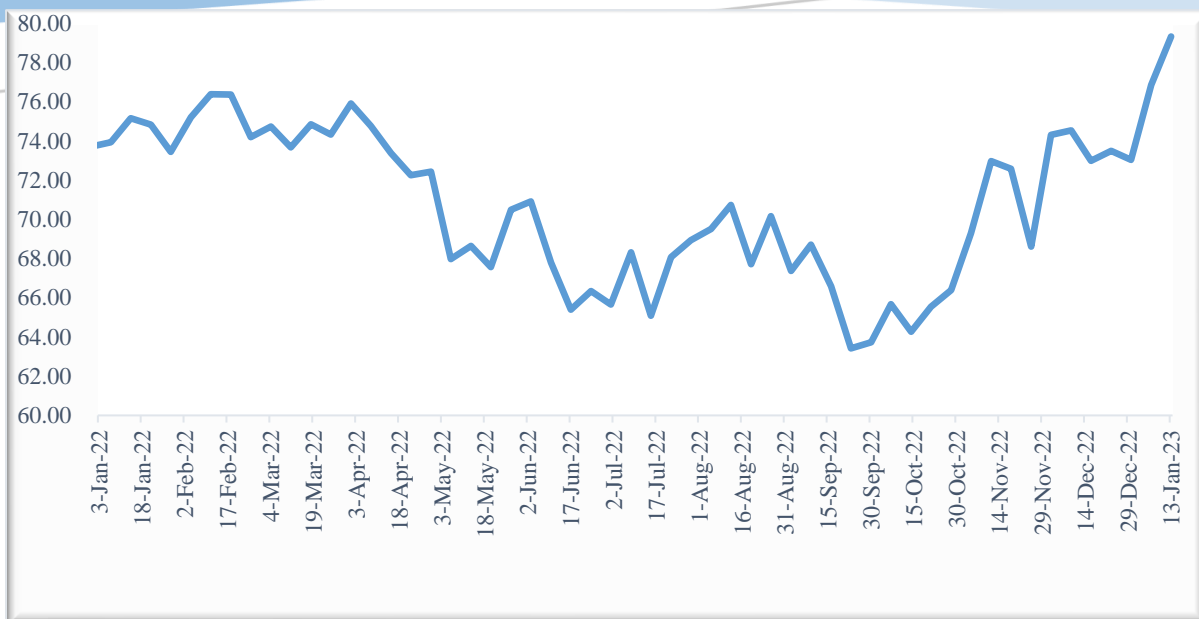
The Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) All Share Index increased from 76,858.94 points in the previous week to close at 79,333.72 points, during the week ending 13th January 2023. JSE market capitalization also rose by 2.60% to ZAR22.88 trillion, during the same week.

Table 8: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Statistics

Period	All Share Index (points)	Market Capitalization (ZAR trillions)
9-Dec-22	74,548.14	21.95
16-Dec-22	72,989.34	21.60
23-Dec-22	73,493.47	21.45
30-Dec-22	73,048.57	21.34
6-Jan-23	76,858.94	22.30
13-Jan-23	79,333.72	22.88
% Change	3.22	2.60

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 MAINFX⁵ AND SMEFX⁶

	MAINFX				SMEFX			
	2-Dec-22	9-Dec-22	16-Dec-22	13-Jan-23	2-Dec-22	9-Dec-22	16-Dec-22	13-Jan23
Total Bids (US\$ dollars)	14,927,728.26	11,611,744.04	14,788,371.00	13,142,117.05	1,502,476.81	1,314,538.84	1,643,791.52	1,001,434.07
Amount Allotted (US\$ dollars)	13,914,092.56	10,266,799.53	14,031,231.84	10,019,285.89	1,401,209.57	1,284,863.86	1,451,144.38	786,897.36
Highest Rate	678.55	678	690	740	677	675	690	740
Lowest Bid Rate	645	655	665	690	645	655	665	690
Lowest Bid Rate Allotted	645	655	665	690	645	655	665	690
Weighted Average Rate	654.8651	661.5605	671.4466	705.4164	654.8651	661.5605	671.4466	705.4164
Number of Bids Received	104	90	116	84	155	132	161	94
Number of Bids Rejected	2	3	5	1	4	4	4	9

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

*The first foreign currency auction for 2023 commenced on the 10th of January 2023. The last foreign currency auction for 2022 was on the 13th of December 2022.

⁵ Main Foreign Currency Auction

⁶ Small and Medium Enterprises Foreign Currency Auction

APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF FOREIGN CURRENCY AUCTION ALLOTMENTS BY PURPOSE

Purpose	MAINFX				SMEFX			
	2-Dec-22	9-Dec-22	16-Dec-22	13-Jan-23	2-Dec-22	9-Dec-22	16-Dec-22	13-Jan-23
Raw Materials	8,010,859.24	5,632,710.55	7,415,722.05	6,210,826.16	503,463.63	495,619.80	440,768.32	275,169.00
Machinery and Equipment	1,832,584.25	1,178,715.22	1,939,871.65	1,016,411.13	414,098.19	388,883.96	474,206.09	213,566.73
Consumables (Incl. Spares, Tyres, Packaging)	628,158.09	897,668.55	1,153,586.05	758,083.32	121,555.19	123,572.10	151,600.13	111,608.86
Pharmaceuticals and Chemicals	675,184.11	400,182.54	408,105.38	268,376.78	64,239.77	36,526.82	88,011.65	53,011.46
Services (Loans, Dividends and Disinvestments)	1,576,236.16	1,629,195.33	1,845,029.69	777,633.67	120,709.41	101,699.68	162,305.52	37,202.81
Retail and Distribution	961,561.26	113,162.79	622,726.66	680,217.56	121,047.25	422,273.40	103,189.74	42,686.30
Fuel, Electricity and Gas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper and Packaging	229,509.45	106,053.94	646,190.36	307,737.27	56,095.78	25,398.71	31,062.93	53,652.20
TOTAL	13,914,092.56	10,266,799.53	14,031,231.84	10,019,285.89	1,401,209.57	1,284,863.86	1,451,144.38	786,897.36

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

* The first foreign currency auction for 2023 commenced on the 10th of January 2023. The last foreign currency auction for 2022 was on the 13th of December 2022.