



Weekly Economic Highlights

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Week Ending
27th January 2023

1. INTEREST RATES

Local Currency (ZWL) Deposit Rates

Average minimum and maximum deposits rates across all classes of deposits registered increases, during the week ending 27th January 2023, 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 (%)
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
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

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Local Currency (ZWL) Lending Rates

The week ending 27th January 2023 saw a decrease in commercial bank minimum and maximum lending rates for individual clients. Minimum lending rates for corporate clients increased, while maximum lending rates declined, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Lending Rates (per annum)

Date	Individual Clients		Corporate Clients	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
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
20-Jan-23	92.41	130.35	112.77	242.11
27-Jan-23	90.05	128.63	116.03	205.86

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Foreign Currency (USD) Deposit Rates

During the week ending 27th January 2023, average minimum and maximum interest rates on savings deposits, deposits of 1-month and 3-months tenor were 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

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Foreign Currency (USD) Lending Rates

Commercial bank minimum lending rates for individual and corporate clients stood at 11.35% and 6.60%, respectively, during the reporting week. During the same week, maximum lending rates for individual clients were 12.86%, while those for corporate clients were higher at 13.52%, as shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Lending Rates (per annum)

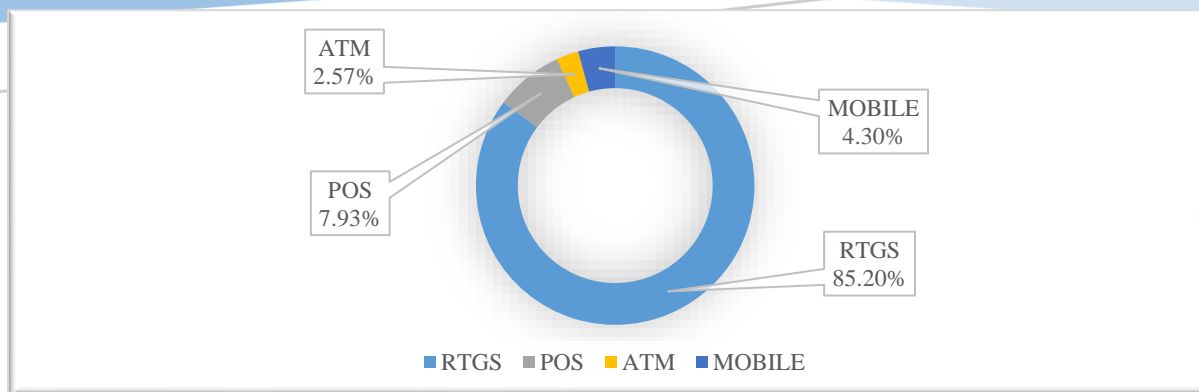
Date	Individual Clients		Corporate Clients	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
27-Jan-23	11.35	12.86	6.60	13.52

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

2. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

The aggregate value of transactions processed through the National Payment Systems (NPS) increased by 11.46% to ZW\$705.88 billion, from ZW\$633.30 billion recorded in the previous week. Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) transactions increased by 15.98% to ZW\$601.38 billion, from ZW\$518.51 billion recorded in the preceding week. The NPS transactions values were distributed as follows: RTGS, 85.20%, POS, 7.93%; Mobile, 4.30%; and ATM, 2.57%.

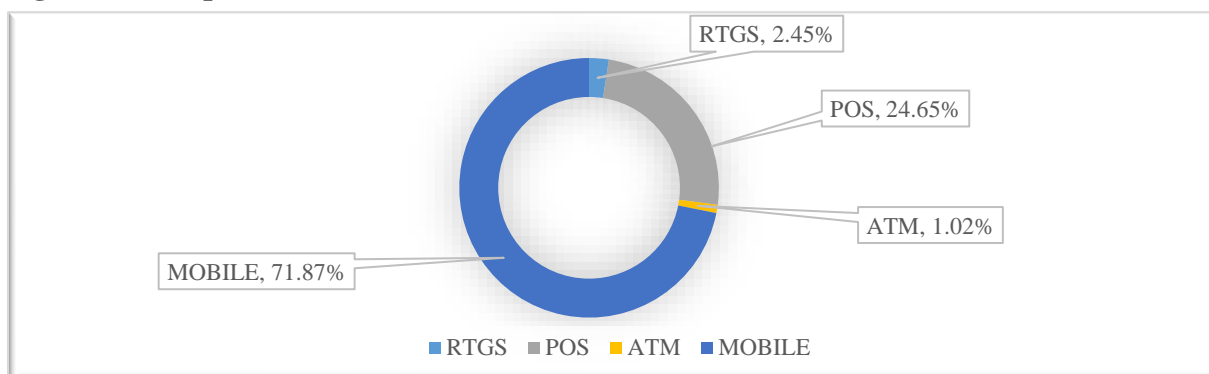
Figure 1: Composition of NPS Transactions in Value Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

The volume of NPS transactions decreased by 3.72% to 11.77 million, during the week under review, from 12.23 million recorded in the preceding week. Mobile based transactions continued to dominate NPS transactions volumes at 71.87% of the total, followed by POS, 24.65%; RTGS, 2.45%; and ATM, 1.02%, 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 20 th January 2023	WEEK ENDING 27 th January 2023	% CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	PROPORTION %
Values in ZW\$ Millions				
RTGS	518,513.08	601,382.04	15.98%	85.20%
POS	66,382.15	55,994.89	-15.65%	7.93%
ATM	16,513.60	18,162.50	9.99%	2.57%
MOBILE	31,893.26	30,344.90	-4.85%	4.30%
TOTAL	633,302.10	705,884.29	11.46%	100%
Volumes				
RTGS	162,254	288,826	78.01%	2.45%
POS	3,409,285	2,902,265	-14.87%	24.65%
ATM	133,352	120,369	-9.74%	1.02%
MOBILE	8,524,436	8,462,362	-0.73%	71.87%
TOTAL	12,229,327	11,773,822	-3.72%	100%

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

3. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS

During the week ending 27th January 2023, commodity prices for gold, nickel, copper and crude oil increased. However, platinum and palladium prices declined. The commodity prices developments during the week under review are shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Metal and Crude Oil Prices for the week ending 27th January 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)	1,915.60	1,045.80	1,729.60	9,307.37	27,565.60	84.90
23-Jan-23	1,921.03	1,041.00	1,719.00	9,379.50	28,500.00	87.98
24-Jan-23	1,928.63	1,049.00	1,710.50	9,341.00	28,765.00	86.34
25-Jan-23	1,928.33	1,044.00	1,730.50	9,326.00	29,095.00	86.05
26-Jan-23	1,934.45	1,031.50	1,689.50	9,317.50	29,490.00	87.84
27-Jan-23	1,925.65	1,011.50	1,655.00	9,203.50	29,010.00	86.26
Weekly Average (23-27 Jan 23)	1,927.62	1,035.40	1,700.90	9,313.50	28,972.00	86.89
Weekly Change (%)	0.6	-0.1	-1.7	0.1	5.1	2.4

Source: BBC, KITCO and Bloomberg, 2023

Gold

In the week under review, gold prices rose by 0.6% to US\$1,927.62 per ounce, from US\$1,915.60 per ounce reported in the previous week. The increase was, however, moderated as the US dollar firmed against other currencies.

Platinum

Platinum prices marginally declined by 0.1%, from US\$1,045.80 per ounce in the prior week to US\$1,035.40 per ounce in the reporting week. The demand for the precious metal remained suppressed, amid low production in the automotive industry.

Palladium

During the week ending 27th January 2023, prices of palladium were dampened by slackening industrial demand, as disruptions to the global semi-conductor industry caused supply chain shortages in the automotive industry. Prices declined by 1.7%, from US\$1,729.60 per ounce in the week ending 20th January 2023 to US\$1,700.90 per ounce, during the week under review.

Copper

Copper prices remained firm as weak demand offset speculative bets that the end of China's Zero-Covid-19 policy would reignite growth. Prices slightly rose by 0.1%, from US\$9,307.37 per tonne in the previous week to US\$9,313.50 per tonne, during the week ending 27th January 2023.

Nickel

Nickel prices increased by 5.1% to US\$28,972.00 per tonne during the week under review, from US\$27,565.60 per tonne in the previous week. The demand outlook for the base metal was boosted by the relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions in China.

Brent Crude Oil

Brent Crude oil prices extended previous week gains by 2.4%, from US\$84.90 per barrel recorded in the previous week to US\$86.89 per barrel, during the week ending 27th January 2023. Prices rose amid expectations that global demand would strengthen, as top oil importer, China, reopened its economy. Positive U.S. economic data also boosted Brent Crude oil prices.

4. EXCHANGE RATE DEVELOPMENTS

Foreign Exchange Auction

On the foreign exchange auction, the Zimbabwe dollar (ZWL) depreciated by 5.4% against the US dollar, from an average of ZWL721.3687 per USD\$1 in the previous week to ZWL760.3875 per US\$1, during the week ending 27th January 2023. The developments in selected exchange rates are as shown in Table 7.

Table 7: Foreign Exchange Auction Exchange Rates¹

	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
2023					
Weekly Average (16-20 Jan 23)	721.3687	42.3620	886.3459	56.7223	780.2135
23-Jan-23	732.0036	42.9185	909.3331	57.3192	797.7026
24-Jan-23	732.0036	42.6439	907.0639	57.3192	796.3849
25-Jan-23	779.3101	45.3515	960.3461	60.9455	849.2944
26-Jan-23	779.3101	45.6621	965.8001	61.0607	850.3075
27-Jan-23	779.3101	45.3515	964.7103	61.1793	847.1903
Weekly Average (23-27 Jan 23)	760.3875	44.3855	941.4507	59.5648	828.1759
Appr(-)/Depr(+) (%) of the ZWL	5.4	4.8	6.2	5.0	6.1

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

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

Interbank Market

On the Interbank market, the Zimbabwe dollar (ZWL) depreciated by 5.7% against the US dollar, from ZWL730.7558 per US\$1 in the previous week to ZWL772.5784 per US\$1, during the week ending 27th January 2023, as shown in Table 8.

Table 8: Interbank Market Exchange Rates²

	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
2023					
Weekly Average (16-20 Jan 23)	730.7558	42.8471	897.8653	57.4643	790.3747
23-Jan-23	755.0467	44.1501	938.1483	59.1286	822.7800
24-Jan-23	764.5470	44.5434	947.3134	59.8727	831.8329
25-Jan-23	779.3101	45.3515	960.2282	60.9498	849.2973
26-Jan-23	780.7950	45.7666	967.8005	61.1792	852.0867
27-Jan-23	783.1934	45.5581	969.7121	61.4882	851.4146
Weekly Average (23-27 Jan 23)	772.5784	45.0739	956.6405	60.5237	841.4823
Appr(-)/Depr(+) (%) of the ZWL	5.7	5.2	6.5	5.3	6.5

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

5. EQUITY MARKETS

Zimbabwe Stock Exchange

The Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) was characterised by bullish sentiments. As a result, the ZSE All Share index added 2.20% to close at 22 142.52 points. The Top 10, Top 15, Small and Medium indices added 1.97%, 2.13%, 1.14% and 3.52% to close at 13 612.50 points, 15 166.91 points, 474 766.97 points and 45 157.58 points, respectively.

The increase in the mainstream index was a result of share price gains for Seed Co Limited (39.33%), Proplastics Limited (28.57%), Tanganda Tea Company Limited (21.02%), Cafca Limited (14.99%) and First Mutual Properties Limited (11.63%). Partially offsetting the share price gains were decreases in share prices for Willdale Limited (16.22%), First Mutual Holdings Limited (14.85%), Star Africa Corporation Limited, (10.68%), Nampak Zimbabwe Limited (9.02%) and Getbucks Microfinance Limited (8.26%). The resources index³ remained unchanged at 25 496.86 points, during the week under review.

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

³ Resource Index – Comprised of RioZim Limited Share Price

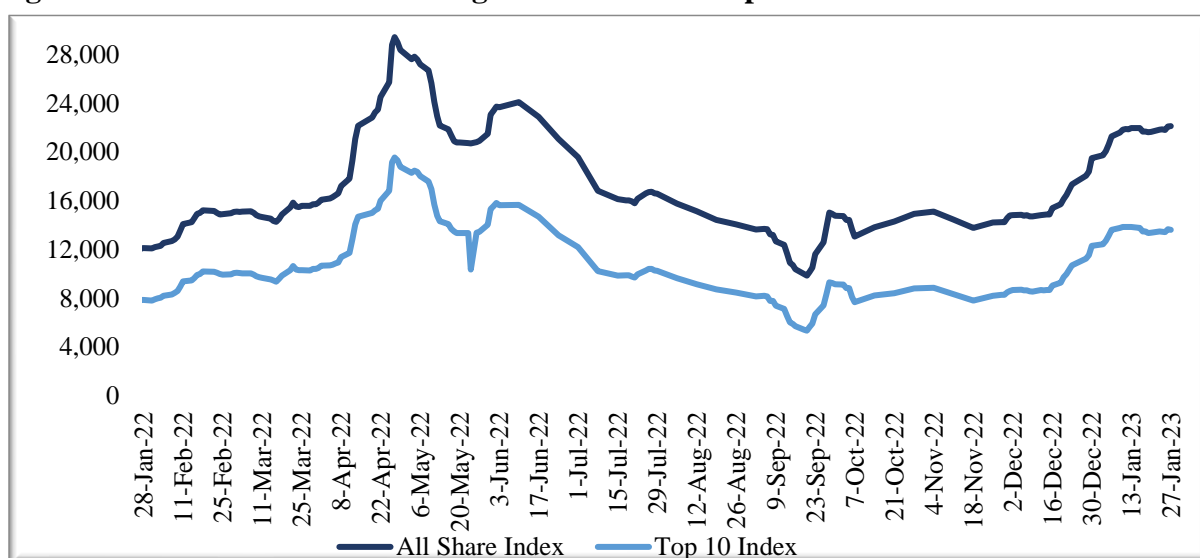
Table 9: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange Statistics⁴

	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)
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
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
% Change	2.20	1.97	2.13	3.52	1.14	0.00	2.15	7.12	29.08

Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE), 2023

Figure 3 shows the trend in daily market turnover for the period from 28th January 2022 to 27th January 2023.

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



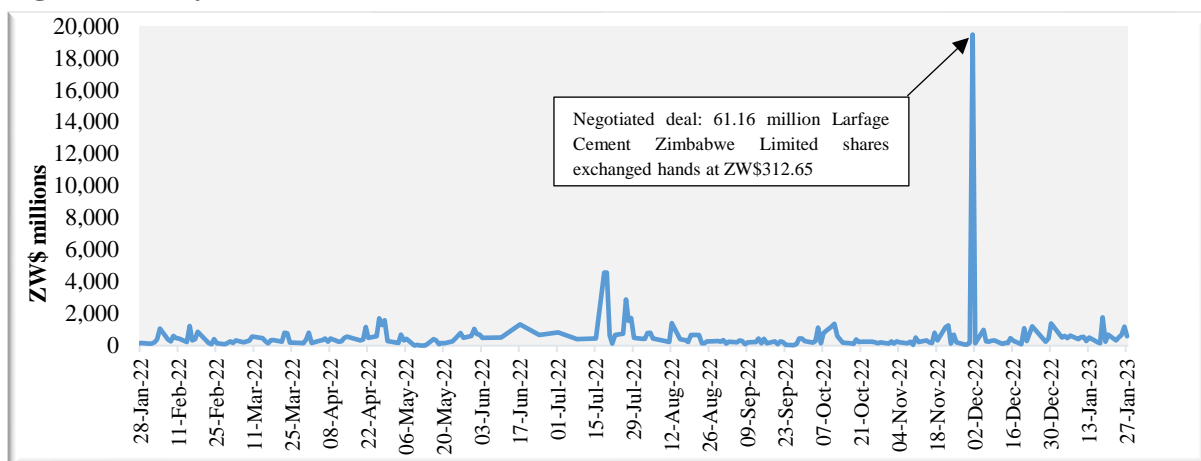
Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2023

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 value of shares traded on the ZSE increased by 7.12%, from ZW3.09 billion in the previous week to ZW3.31 billion. The cumulative volume of shares traded also increased by 29.08% to 24.51 million during the week ending 27th January 2023, from 18.99 million reported in the preceding week. Figure 4 shows the trend in daily market turnover for the period from 28th January 2022 to 27th January 2023.

Figure 4: Daily Market Turnover

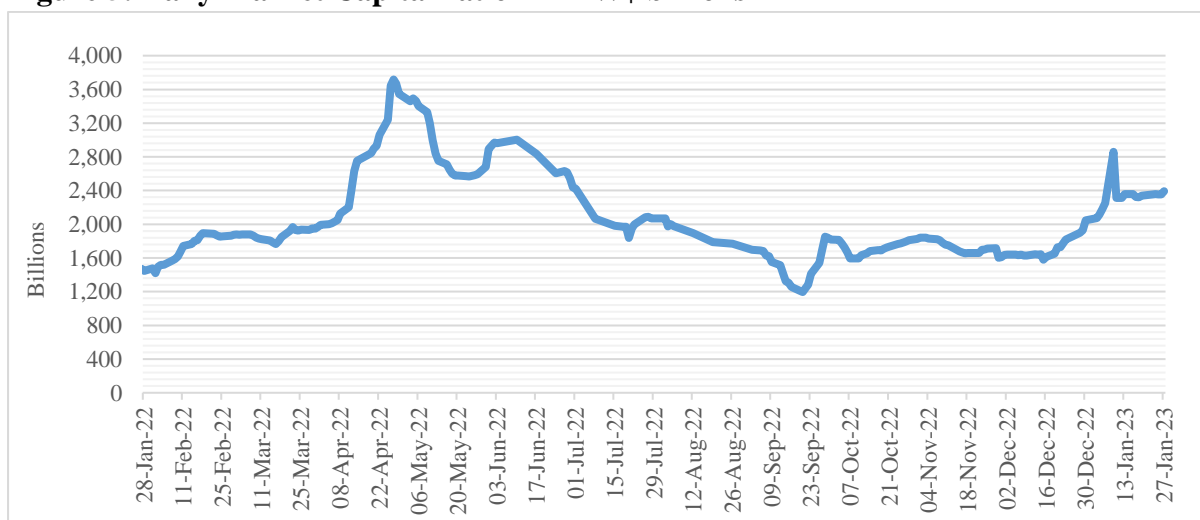


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2023

Market Capitalization

The local bourse added ZW\$50.30 billion, or 2.15% worth of capitalisation to close at ZW2,392.19 billion. Figure 5 shows the evolution of ZSE market capitalization for the period from 28th January 2022 to 27th January 2023.

Figure 5: Daily Market Capitalization in ZW\$ billions

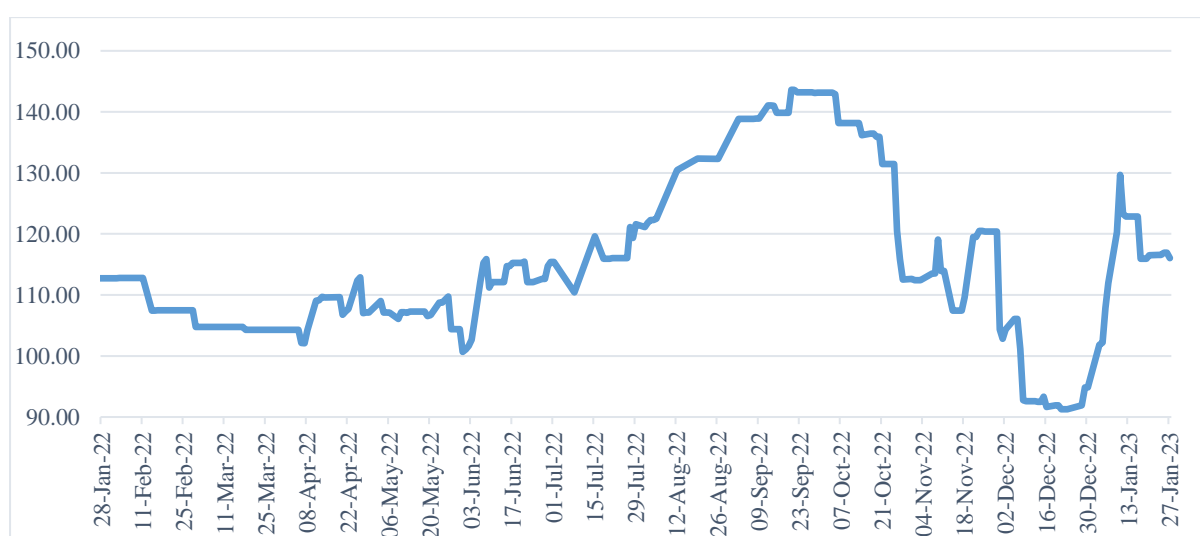


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2023

Victoria Falls Stock Exchange

The Victoria Falls Stock Exchange (VFEX) was characterised by negative trading during the week ending 27th January 2023. Consequently, the VFEX All Share index shed 0.41% to close at 116.05 points. The cumulative volume of shares traded on the VFEX declined by 92.25% to 0.02 million, during the week under review. In concomitance, the value of shares traded declined by 92.34% to US\$0.01 million, during the same week. VFEX market capitalization stood at US\$0.66 billion, a decline of 0.41% or US\$0.04 billion, from US\$0.66 billion recorded in the previous week. Figure 6 shows the trend of the VFEX All Share Index (ASI) for the period from 28th January 2022 to 27th January 2023.

Figure 6: Victoria Falls Stock Exchange All Share Index



Source: Victoria Falls Stock Exchange, 2023

Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Developments

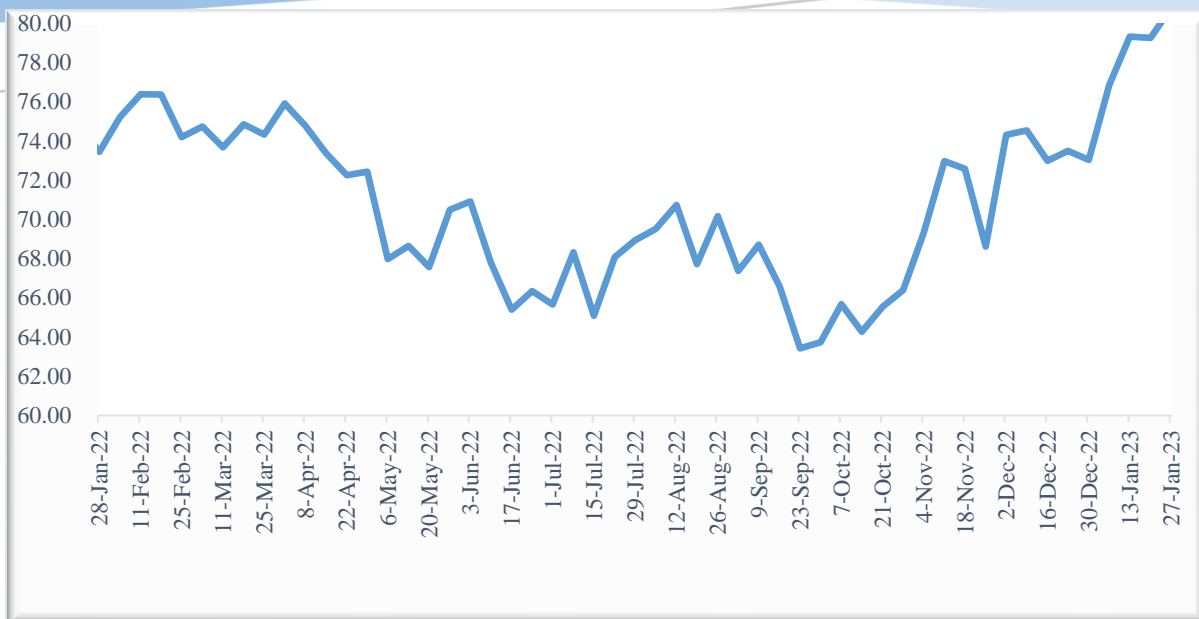
The Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) All Share Index rose from 79,269.77 points in the previous week to close at 80,791.36 points, during the week ending 27th January 2023. JSE market capitalization also increased by 1.13% to ZAR23.28 trillion, during the same week.

Table 10: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Statistics

Period	All Share Index (points)	Market Capitalization (ZAR trillions)
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
20-Jan-23	79,269.77	23.02
27-Jan-23	80,791.36	23.28
% Change	1.92	1.13

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			
	16-Dec-22	13-Jan-23	20-Jan-23	27-Jan-23	16-Dec-22	13-Jan-23	20-Jan-23	27-Jan-23
Total Bids (US\$ dollars)	14,788,371.00	13,142,117.05	14,856,242.12	21,082,463.27	1,643,791.52	1,001,434.07	2,316,967.40	2,846,970.79
Amount Allotted (US\$ dollars)	14,031,231.84	10,019,285.89	12,722,908.28	12,348,070.16	1,451,144.38	786,897.36	1,748,201.30	1,515,043.86
Highest Rate	690	740	765	825	690	740	790	790
Lowest Bid Rate	665	690	711	750	665	690	711	750
Lowest Bid Rate Allotted	665	690	711	750	665	690	711	750
Weighted Average Rate	671.4466	705.4164	732.0036	779.3101	671.4466	705.4164	732.0036	779.3101
Number of Bids Received	116	84	144	190	161	94	219	267
Number of Bids Rejected	5	1	5	8	4	9	3	4

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			
	16-Dec-22	13-Jan-23	20-Jan-23	27-Jan-23	16-Dec-22	13-Jan-23	20-Jan-23	27-Jan-23
Raw Materials	7,415,722.05	6,210,826.16	7,938,975.10	6,885,424.64	440,768.32	275,169.00	564,441.68	502,062.29
Machinery and Equipment	1,939,871.65	1,016,411.13	942,396.26	1,181,848.16	474,206.09	213,566.73	492,153.71	318,370.58
Consumables (Incl. Spares, Tyres, Packaging)	1,153,586.05	758,083.32	1,067,946.54	627,949.67	151,600.13	111,608.86	201,458.74	196,015.31
Pharmaceuticals and Chemicals	408,105.38	268,376.78	245,892.58	458,282.76	88,011.65	53,011.46	60,389.18	94,549.87
Services (Loans, Dividends and Disinvestments)	1,845,029.69	777,633.67	1,076,085.87	1,435,533.87	162,305.52	37,202.81	217,663.38	223,614.09
Retail and Distribution	622,726.66	680,217.56	1,019,584.66	1,182,651.25	103,189.74	42,686.30	155,338.54	126,391.73
Fuel, Electricity and Gas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper and Packaging	646,190.36	307,737.27	432,027.27	576,379.81	31,062.93	53,652.20	56,756.07	54,039.99
TOTAL	14,031,231.84	10,019,285.89	12,722,908.28	12,348,070.16	1,451,144.38	786,897.36	1,748,201.30	1,515,043.86

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.