



# Weekly Economic Highlights

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Week Ending  
5<sup>th</sup> April 2024

## 1. OVERVIEW

### SUMMARY OF THE MONETARY POLICY STATEMENT PRESENTED ON 5 APRIL 2024

The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe announced its first Monetary Policy Statement (MPS) for the year 2024 on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024. The new monetary policy measures that were announced are intended to achieve a solid and stable national currency, a stable and sustainable exchange rate, robust policy credibility and restoration of market confidence and a stable and sustainable macroeconomy, as enshrined in Vision 2030 and the National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1).

As enunciated in the MPS, the Bank introduced a structured currency, the Zimbabwe Gold (ZiG). The structured currency is backed by a composite basket of foreign currency and precious metals (mainly gold) held as reserves by the Bank. In this regard, the Bank will issue domestic notes and coins that are fully backed by foreign currency and precious metals, which implies that the currency will be fully convertible on demand.

Banks were instructed to convert the Zimbabwe dollar (ZW\$) balances into ZiG guided by the closing interbank exchange rate and the price of gold as at 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Economic agents holding ZW\$ notes and coins would deposit the notes and coins into their bank accounts which would be credited into their ZiG accounts, using the ZiG: ZW\$ conversion factor of 2498.7242. The Bank made special arrangements for individuals without bank accounts to swap their ZW\$ notes and coins at the POSB and AFC Commercial Bank up to 30 April 2024.

ZiG notes and coins shall be issued in denominations made up of 1ZiG, 2ZiG, 5ZiG, 10ZiG, 20 ZiG, 50ZiG, 100ZiG and 200 ZiG, to be distributed through normal banking channels. The notes and coins will start circulating in the economy on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024, to allow the Bank to undertake intensive educational and awareness campaign on the security features of the ZiG notes and coins.

Accordingly, the Bank recalibrated the Bank policy rate from 130% per annum to 20% per annum consistent with the new monetary policy framework. The overnight accommodation was set at 25% and the Bank deposit facility interest rate at 12.5%. Minimum savings and time deposits interest rates on ZiG were set at 3.5% and 5%, respectively. Minimum interest rates on FCA deposits remain unchanged at 1% and 2.5% for savings and time deposits, respectively.

The structured currency and the accompanying policy measures are anticipated to restore confidence in the local currency and safeguard the multi-currency system, which to date, has served the country well. This will go a long way in fostering simplicity, credibility, certainty, predictability in monetary and financial affairs and will bring price and exchange rate stability in the economy.

The rest of the weekly report summarizes the developments on the key money, capital, foreign currency, and commodity developments during the week ending 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

## 2. INTEREST RATES

### Policy rates (Local currency (ZW\$))

Policy Rate (%)	15 March 2024	22 March 2024	28 March 2024	5 April 2024
RBZ Policy Rate	130	130	130	130
MBA Window	75	75	75	75

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2024

### Average commercial bank deposit rates (Local Currency (ZW\$))

ZWL Deposit rates (%)	15 March 2024	22 March 2024	28 March 2024	5 April 2024
<b>Savings</b>				
Minimum	33.75	33.75	33.75	33.75
Maximum	37.13	37.13	37.13	37.13
<b>1-month deposit</b>				
Minimum	54.28	54.28	54.28	54.28
Maximum	67.72	67.72	67.72	67.72
<b>3-month deposit</b>				
Minimum	56.28	56.28	56.28	56.28
Maximum	64.78	64.78	64.78	64.78
<b>6-month deposit</b>				
Minimum	54.03	54.03	54.03	54.03
Maximum	65.43	65.43	65.43	65.43
<b>12-Month deposits</b>				
Minimum	54.20	54.20	54.20	54.20
Maximum	65.57	65.57	65.57	65.57
<b>Over 1 year</b>				
Minimum	54.47	54.47	54.47	54.47
Maximum	66.07	66.07	66.07	66.07

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2024

### Average commercial bank deposit rates (Foreign Currency (US\$))

US\$ Deposit rates (%)	15 March 2024	15 March 2024	22 March 2024	5 April 2024
<b>Savings</b>				
Minimum	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32
Maximum	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.82
<b>1-month deposits</b>				
Minimum	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15
Maximum	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.96
<b>3-month deposits</b>				
Minimum	3.53	3.53	3.53	3.53
Maximum	5.35	5.35	5.35	5.35
<b>6-month deposits</b>				
Minimum	3.69	3.69	3.69	3.69
Maximum	5.66	5.66	5.66	5.66
<b>12-Month deposits</b>				
Minimum	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93
Maximum	5.95	5.95	5.95	5.95
<b>Over 1 year</b>				
Minimum	4.09	4.09	4.09	4.09
Maximum	5.95	5.95	5.95	5.95

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2024

### Commercial bank weighted lending rates (Local Currency (ZWL))

ZWL Lending rates (%)	15 March 2024	22 March 2024	28 March 2024	5 April 2024
<b>Individuals</b>				
Minimum	72.68	72.71	73.43	74.41
Maximum	98.73	98.48	98.46	98.92
<b>Corporates</b>				
Minimum	92.00	91.50	91.40	92.58
Maximum	167.88	166.55	165.42	164.81

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2024

### Commercial bank weighted lending rates (Foreign Currency (US\$))

US\$ Lending rates (%)	15 March 2024	22 March 2024	28 March 2024	5 April 2024
<b>Individuals</b>				
Minimum	10.32	10.33	10.32	10.36
Maximum	13.71	13.72	13.73	13.72
<b>Corporates</b>				
Minimum	8.29	8.25	8.32	8.38
Maximum	14.14	14.17	14.10	14.13

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2024

### Commercial banks and Building societies mortgage lending rates

Mortgage Lending rates	15 March 2024	22 March 2024	28 March 2024	5 April 2024
<b>ZWL Lending rates (%)</b>				
Minimum	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
Maximum	105.00	105.00	105.00	105.00
<b>US\$ Lending rates (%)</b>				
Minimum	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Maximum	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2024

## 3. EQUITY MARKETS

### ZSE Indicators

	All Share Index (points)	Top 10 index (points)	Top 15 Index (points)	Medium Cap (points)	Small Cap (points)	Mining Index (points)	Grand Market Cap (ZWL billion)	Market Turnover (ZWL million)	Volume of Shares (million)
<b>15-Mar-24</b>	621,650.75	283,384.71	373,291.78	2,367,077.53	12,702,579.67	216,488.94	46,032.92	48,464.35	20.99
<b>22-Mar-24</b>	754,320.09	342,964.47	451,650.24	2,888,383.08	12,735,217.66	216,488.94	60,498.10	36,559.87	11.28
<b>28-Mar-24</b>	873,263.38	398,030.12	524,826.30	3,176,588.02	12,735,217.66	218,308.09	70,645.46	16,176.72	6.58
<b>5-April-24</b>	915,936.81	409,465.16	540,484.20	3,409,471.43	12,626,424.35	251,052.71	73,517.83	36,026.88	8.67
<b>Weekly Change (%)</b>	<b>4.89</b>	<b>2.87</b>	<b>2.98</b>	<b>7.33</b>	<b>-0.85</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>4.07</b>	<b>122.71</b>	<b>31.76</b>

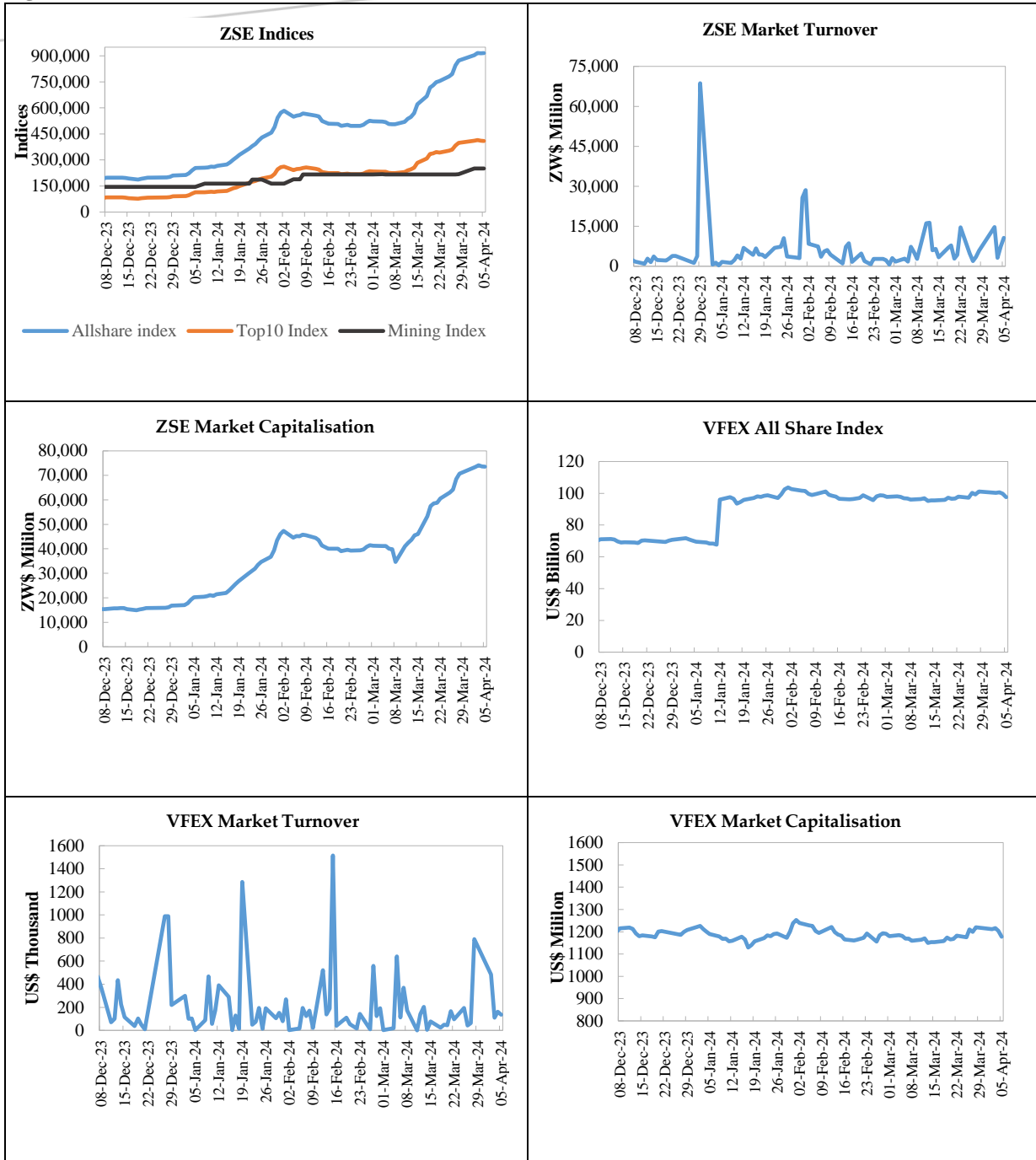
Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2024

### VFEX Indicators

Date	All Share Index Points	Grand Market Capitalisation (US\$ billion)	Market Turnover (US\$ million)	Volume of Shares (million)
<b>15-March-24</b>	95.51	1.15	0.45	1.74
<b>22-March-24</b>	97.88	1.18	0.55	2.31
<b>28-March-24</b>	101.06	1.22	1.38	3.96
<b>5-April-24</b>	97.54	1.18	0.46	1.35
<b>Weekly Change (%)</b>	<b>-3.48</b>	<b>-3.28</b>	<b>-66.67</b>	<b>-65.91</b>

Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2024

**Figure 1: ZSE and VFEX Indicators**



Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2024

#### 4. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

PAYMENT STREAM	WEEK ENDING 28 MARCH 2024	WEEK ENDING 5 April 2024	WEEKLY CHANGE (%)
<b>VALUES IN ZW\$</b>			
<b>RTGS</b>	18,997,514,138,620.20	16,848,136,909,353.40	-11.31%
<i>Of which ZW\$</i>	6,470,184,730,258.40	5,500,194,420,908.59	
<i>Of which US\$</i>	582,244,612.36	445,898,965.57	
<b>POS</b>	1,156,772,099,969.19	1,314,647,019,870.50	13.65%
<b>ATM</b>	1,312,059,356,084.96	1,778,653,128,854.45	35.56%
<b>MOBILE</b>	1,276,276,344,513.13	2,046,923,148,469.10	60.38%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,742,621,939,187.50</b>	<b>21,988,360,206,547.40</b>	-3.32%
<b>VOLUMES</b>			
<b>RTGS</b>	324,534	190,469	-41.31%
<i>Of which ZW\$</i>	164,313	87,244	
<i>Of which US\$</i>	160,221	103,225	
<b>POS</b>	1,815,041	1,924,924	6.05%
<b>ATM</b>	233,515	270,858	15.99%
<b>MOBILE</b>	13,046,978	13,564,167	3.96%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,420,068</b>	<b>15,950,418</b>	3.44%

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2024

#### 5. PRICES

##### Domestic Energy Prices

Energy prices	15 Mar 2024	22 Mar 2024	28 March 2024	5 April 2024
	<b>US\$</b>	<b>US\$</b>	<b>US\$</b>	<b>US\$</b>
<b>Diesel 50/ litre</b>	1.69	1.69	1.69	1.69
<b>Petrol Blend E20/ litre</b>	1.68	1.68	1.68	1.68
<b>LP Gas / kg</b>	1.87	1.87	1.87	1.87

Source: Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority, 2024

##### International Energy Prices (Weekly average)

Energy prices	15 Mar 2024	22 Mar 2024	28 Mar 2024	5 April 2024
	<b>US\$/barrel</b>	<b>US\$/barrel</b>	<b>US\$/barrel</b>	<b>US\$/barrel</b>
<b>Crude Oil Prices</b>	84.02	86.31	86.16	89.83

Source: BBC, 2024

#### 6. MOSI-OA-TUNYA GOLD COINS AND GOLD BACKED DIGITAL TOKENS (GBDT)

##### Previous day Gold PM Fix

Gold prices	15 Mar 2024	22 Mar 2024	28 March 2024	5 April 2024
	<b>US\$/oz</b>	<b>US\$/oz</b>	<b>US\$/oz</b>	<b>US\$/oz</b>
<b>Gold PM Fix</b>	2,160.80	2,170.50	2,192.70	2,293.50

Source: London Bullion Market Association, 2024

##### Gold Backed Digital Token Price Per Milligram

Week Ending	ZW\$ Price per Mg		US\$ Price per Mg	
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
<b>15-March-24</b>	1,321.41	1,460.51	0.0660	0.0729
<b>22-March-24</b>	1,486.86	1,643.37	0.0663	0.0733
<b>28-March-24</b>	1,624.81	1,795.84	0.0670	0.0740
<b>5 April -24</b>	2,363.64	2,612.44	0.0701	0.0774

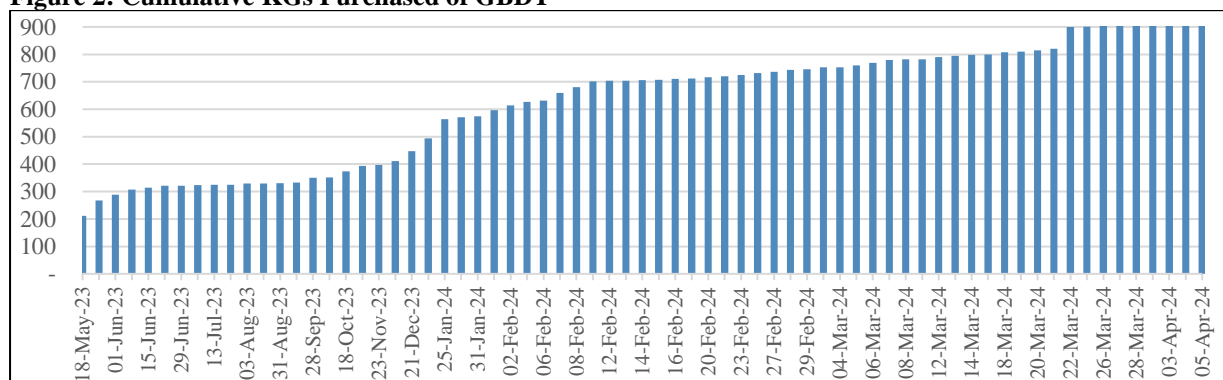
Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2024

## RBZ Gold-Backed Digital Tokens Issuances (ZW\$)

2024	Number of Bids	Value of Bids (ZW\$ millions)	Amount Allotted (ZW\$ millions)	Kilograms of Gold Purchased
<b>Cumulative up to week ending 28-March</b>	<b>1,138</b>	<b>462,338.61</b>	<b>462,338.61</b>	<b>917.278972</b>
<b>GBDT Issue No.45 2024 2-April</b>	5	19,429.99	19,429.99	10.526542
<b>GBDT Issue No.46 2024 3-April</b>	14	8,606.48	8,606.48	4.466746
<b>GBDT Issue No.47 2024 4-April</b>	18	18,304.26	18,304.26	8.063967
<b>GBDT Issue No.48 2024 5-April</b>	5	6,408.99	6,408.99	2.453259
<b>Cumulative up to week ending 5-April</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>515,088.33</b>	<b>515,088.33</b>	<b>942.789486</b>
<b>Weekly Change (%)</b>	<b>3.69</b>	<b>11.41</b>	<b>11.41</b>	<b>2.78</b>

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2024

Figure 2: Cumulative KGs Purchased of GBDT



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2024

## Mosi-oa-Tunya Gold Coin Prices

Gold Coin Price	15 Mar 2024	22 Mar 2024	28 Mar 2024	5 April 2024
<b>1.00Oz</b>				
US\$	2,268.84	2,279.03	2,302.34	2,408.18
ZW\$	45,426,972.33	51,114,728.01	55,856,998.20	81,256,044.68
<b>0.50Oz</b>				
US\$	1,134.42	1,139.51	1,151.17	1,204.09
ZW\$	22,713,486.17	25,557,364.01	27,928,499.10	40,628,022.34
<b>0.25Oz</b>				
US\$	567.21	569.76	575.58	602.04
ZW\$	11,356,743.08	12,778,682.00	13,964,249.55	20,314,011.17
<b>0.10Oz</b>				
US\$	226.88	227.90	230.23	240.82
ZW\$	4,542,697.23	5,111,472.80	5,585,699.82	8,125,604.47

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2024

## 7. EXTERNAL SECTOR

### Exchange Rate Developments (ZW\$ per Unit of foreign currency)

	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
<b>Weekly Average (25 Mar - 28 Mar)</b>	<b>21,507.94</b>	<b>1,111.11</b>	<b>27,156.37</b>	<b>1,572.07</b>	<b>23,288.77</b>
<b>2-April</b>	22,447.53	1,111.11	28,164.22	1,632.30	24,090.93
<b>3-April</b>	22,913.44	1,250.00	28,824.37	1,671.71	24,694.05
<b>4-April</b>	26,412.72	1,428.57	33,435.01	1,929.65	28,645.98
<b>5-April</b>	30,674.32	1,666.67	38,723.65	2,251.69	33,211.48
<b>Weekly Average (2 April – 5 April)</b>	<b>25,612.00</b>	<b>1,364.09</b>	<b>32,286.81</b>	<b>1,871.34</b>	<b>27,660.61</b>
<b>Appr (-)/Depr (+) (%) of the ZWL</b>	<b>19.08</b>	<b>22.77</b>	<b>18.89</b>	<b>19.04</b>	<b>18.77</b>

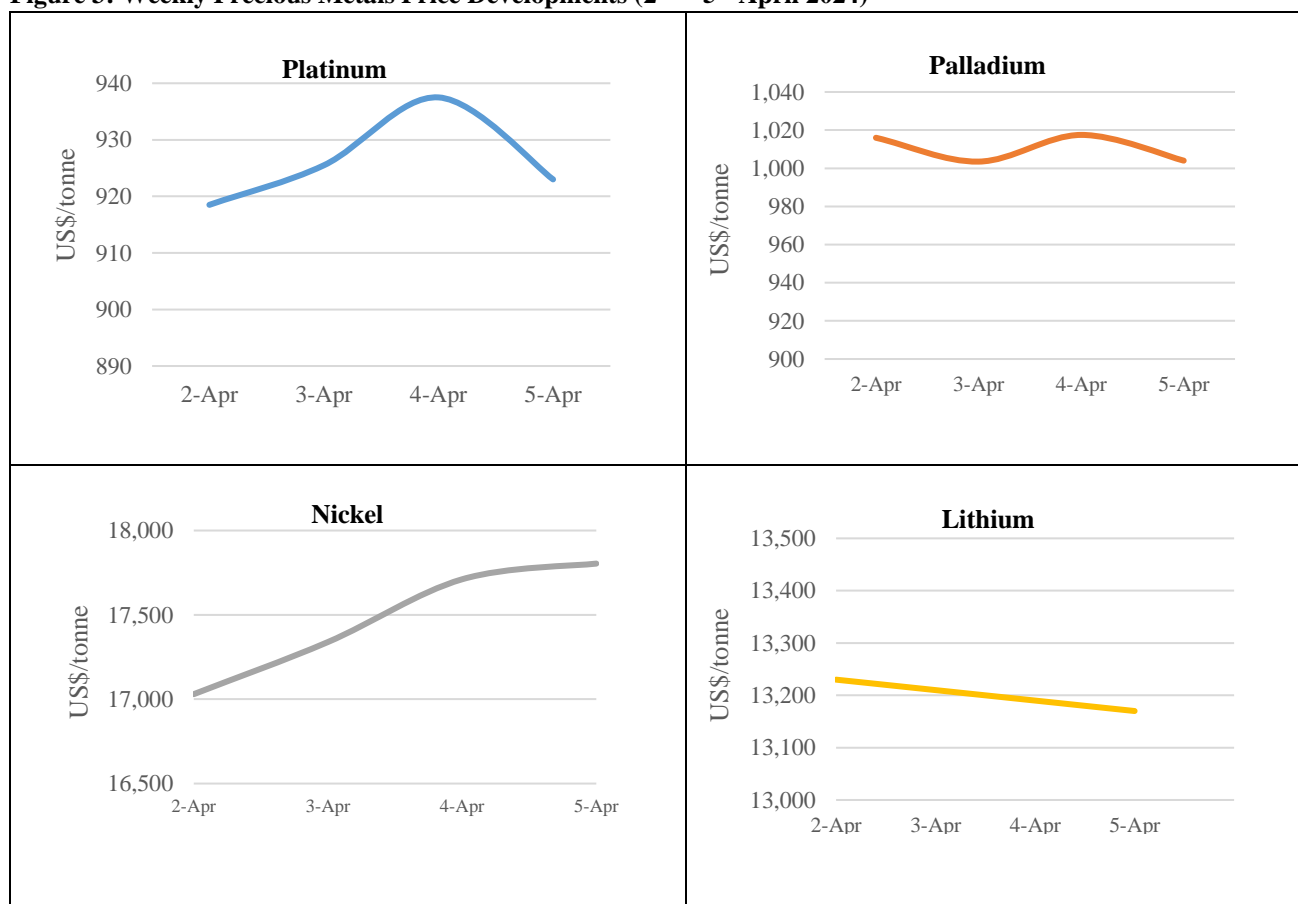
Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2024

## International Commodity Price Developments

	Platinum	Palladium	Nickel	Lithium
2024	US\$/ounce	US\$/ounce	US\$/tonne	US\$/tonne
<b>Weekly Average (25 March -28 March)</b>	<b>905.38</b>	<b>1,008.50</b>	<b>16,680.88</b>	<b>13,269.00</b>
<b>2-April</b>	918.50	1,016.00	17,030.00	13,230.00
<b>3-April</b>	925.50	1,003.50	17,339.00	13,210.00
<b>4-April</b>	937.50	1,017.50	17,711.00	13,190.00
<b>5-April</b>	923.00	1,004.00	17,804.00	13,170.00
<b>Weekly Average (2 April -5 April)</b>	<b>926.13</b>	<b>1,010.25</b>	<b>17,471.00</b>	<b>13,200.00</b>

Source: BBC, KITCO and Bloomberg, 2024

Figure 3: Weekly Precious Metals Price Developments (2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024)



Source: BBC, KITCO and Bloomberg, 2024

## 8. TOBACCO SALES

### Weekly Cumulative Tobacco Sales (5<sup>th</sup> April 2024)

	2023	2024	Variance (%)
<b>Cumulative Quantity Sold (million kgs)</b>	28,942,449	38,360,074	32.54
<b>Average Price (US\$/kg)</b>	3.00	3.48	16.26
<b>Cumulative value (US\$ million)</b>	86,757,592	133,681,211	54.09

Source: Tobacco Industry and Marketing Board (TIMB), 2024