



Weekly Economic Highlights

Table of Contents

1. INTEREST RATES	1
2. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY.....	2
3. TOBACCO SALES	4
4. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS.....	5
5. EXCHANGE RATES.....	6
6. EQUITY MARKETS.....	7

Week Ending
06th April 2018

1. INTEREST RATES

Deposit Rates

Average deposit rates for all classes of deposits remained unchanged during the week ending 6th April 2018.

Table 1: Average Deposit Rates (per annum)

Date	Savings Deposits (%)	1-Month Deposits (%)	3-Months Deposits (%)
09-March-18	3.97	3.34	3.63
16-March-18	4.35	3.81	4.09
23-March-18	4.22	3.43	3.74
29-March-18	4.22	3.43	3.74
06-April-18	4.22	3.43	3.74

Source: Banking Institutions, 2018

Lending Rates

Commercial bank weighted lending rates for individual clients declined from 9.37% in the previous week, to 9.36% during the week under review. Weighted lending rates for corporate clients, more so, decreased by 0.01 percentage points to 7.04%, during the same week.

Table 2: Lending Rates

Date	Lending Rates ¹ (%)	
	Commercial Banks (weighted)	
	Individuals	Corporate clients
09-March-18	9.57	6.94
16-March-18	9.35	6.98
23-March-18	9.64	6.98
29-March-18	9.37	7.05
06 April-18	9.36	7.04

Source: Banking Institutions, 2018

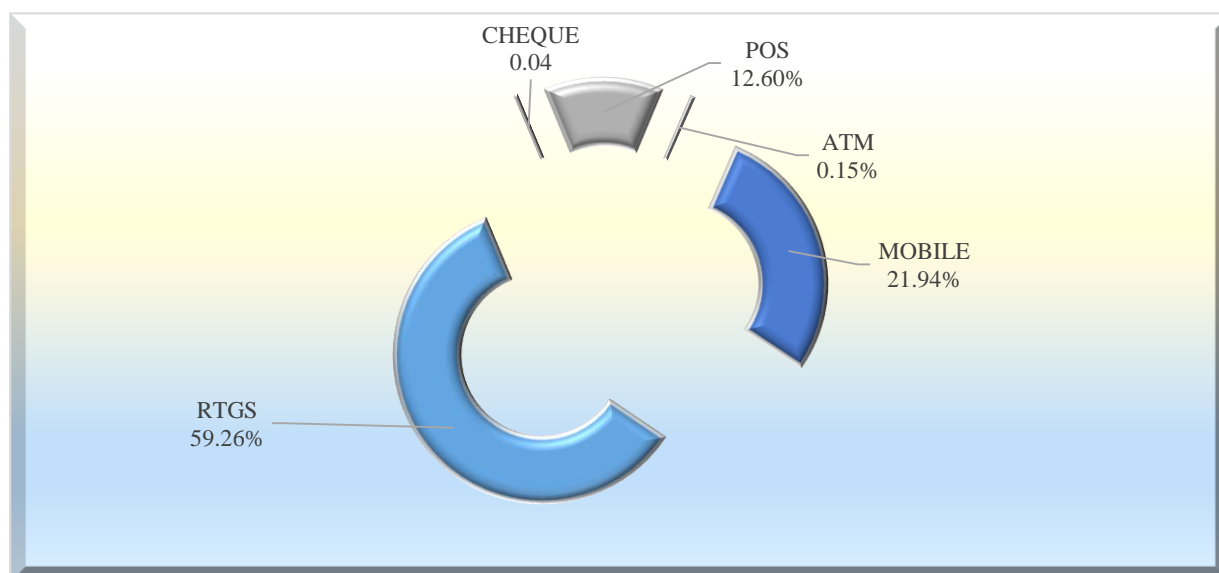
¹ Minimum weighted lending rates offered by commercial banks.

2. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

During the week under review, the total value of transactions processed through the National Payment Systems (NPS) stood at US\$1,777.92 million, up from US\$2,137.56 million in the previous week. Transactions processed through the Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) system declined by 30.8% to US\$1,053.66 million.

RTGS payments accounted for 59.26% of the total value of transactions processed through the NPS followed by Mobile, 21.94%; Point of Sale (POS), 12.60%; Automated Teller Machines (ATMs), 0.15% and cheque transactions, 0.04%.

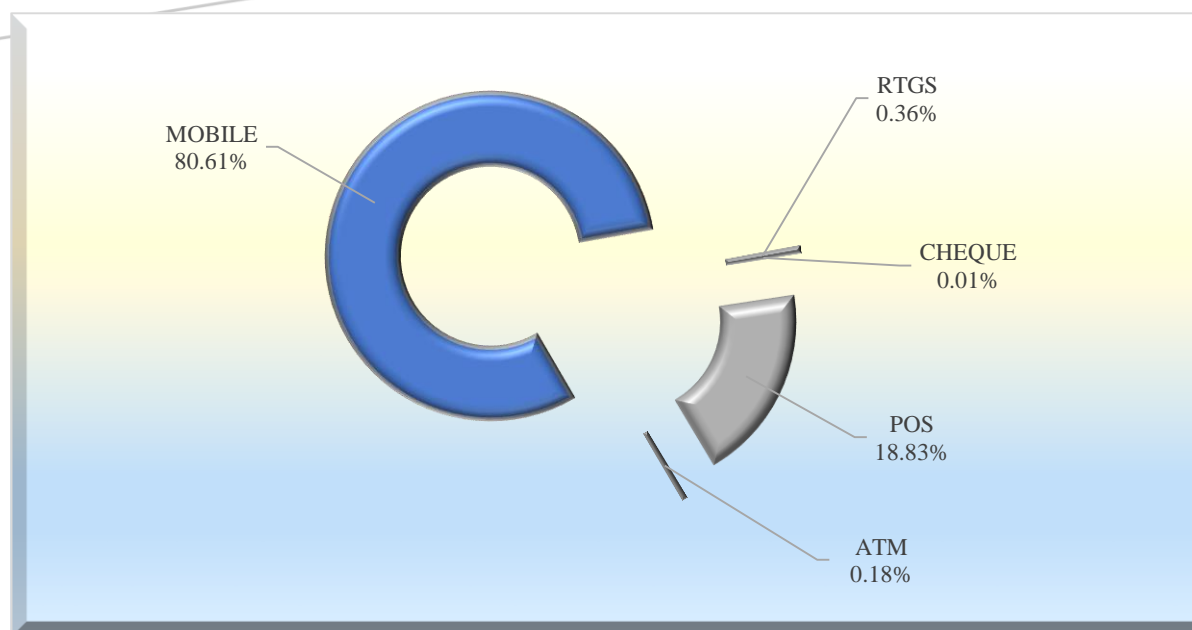
Figure 1: Composition of NPS Transactions in Value Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2018

The total volume of NPS transactions registered a 1.0% decrease to close the week under analysis at 31,534,870 transactions. Mobile-Based transactions accounted for 80.61% of total transactions, followed by Point of Sale (POS), 18.83%; Automated Teller Machines (ATMs), 0.18%; RTGS, 0.36% and Cheque, 0.01%. Figure 2 shows the composition of NPS transactions in volume terms.

Figure 2: Composition of NPS Transactions in Volume Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2018

Table 3: National Payment Systems Activity

PAYMENT STREAM	WEEK ENDING 29 rd March 2018	WEEK ENDING 06 th April 2018	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	PROPORTION
VALUES IN US\$ (millions)				
RTGS	1,522.84	1,053.66	-30.8%	59.26%
CHEQUE	0.78	0.77	-0.6%	0.04%
POS	204.42	224.05	9.6%	12.60%
ATM	3.08	2.62	-14.9%	0.15%
MOBILE	518.00	496.82	-4.1%	27.94%
TOTAL	2,137.56	1,777.92	-21.0%	100%
VOLUMES				
RTGS	126,514	114,044	-9.9%	0.36%
CHEQUE	4,201	4,148	-1.3%	0.01%
POS	5,761,398	5,938,937	3.1%	18.83%
ATMs	70,070	57,044	-18.6%	0.18%
MOBILE	25,887,673	25,420,697	-1.8%	80.61%
TOTAL	27,932,678	31,534,870	-1.0%	100%

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2018

3. TOBACCO SALES

As at 4th April 2018 or day 12 of the 2018 tobacco selling season, a cumulative total of 12,222,221 kilograms of tobacco had been sold. The quantity sold was 22.87% lower than the cumulative total of 15,846,061 kilograms sold during the same period in 2017.

The cumulative sales value amounted to US\$33.75 million, compared to US\$41.48 million realized during the corresponding period in 2017. The golden leaf, however, fetched a higher average price of US\$2.76/kg, compared to the US\$2.62/kg realized during the same period in 2017.

Table 4: Cumulative Tobacco Sales: Day 12 (04th April 2018)

	2017	2018	Variance (%)
Cumulative Quantity Sold (kgs)	15,846,061	12,222,221	(22.87)
Cumulative Average Price(US\$/kg)	2.62	2.76	5.48
Cumulative Value (US\$ million)	41,482,800	33,749,427	(18.64)

Source: Tobacco Industry and Marketing Board (TIMB), 2018

4. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS

The International commodity prices of gold, platinum and crude oil declined during the week ending 6th April 2018. Copper and nickel prices, however, increased as shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Metal and Crude Oil Prices

	Gold	Platinum	Copper	Nickel	Crude Oil
Weekly Average (26 - 29 Mar)	1,340.34	944.88	6,654.38	13,012.50	69.07
03-Apr	1,323.88	930.50	6,824.00	13,575.00	68.16
04-Apr	1,330.23	921.50	6,814.00	13,520.00	68.24
05-Apr	1,325.45	910.50	6,747.00	13,280.00	68.12
06-Apr	1,325.45	911.00	6,754.00	13,185.00	66.99
Weekly Average (3 - 6 April)	1,326.25	918.38	6,784.75	13,390.00	67.88
<i>Weekly Change (%)</i>	<i>(1.1)</i>	<i>(2.8)</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>(1.7)</i>

Source: BBC, KITCO and Bloomberg 2018

Gold

Gold prices declined by 1.1%, from US\$1,340.34/oz. in the previous week to US\$1,326.25/oz., during the week under analysis. This was on the back of a lower demand outlook for the precious metal.

Platinum

Platinum prices continued on a downward trend, registering a 2.8% decline to close the week under review at US\$918.38/oz. This was occasioned by weak investment demand prospects for the precious metal.

Copper

During the week under review copper prices rose by 2.0%, to close the week at US\$6,784.75/ton. The increase prices was underpinned by positive performance in the Chinese manufacturing sector, which boosted demand prospects for the metal.

Nickel

Nickel prices increased by 2.9% to close the week under review at US\$13,390/ton. Prices rebounded on investor expectations that negotiation talks between the U.S. and China might avert a trade war that had been weighing down base metal prices.

Crude Oil

Crude oil prices declined by 1.7%, from US\$69.07/barrel in the previous week to US\$67.88/barrel, during the week under analysis. This followed the increase in output, coupled with a built-up of crude oil inventories in the US.

4. EXCHANGE RATES

During the week ending 6th April 2018, the US dollar appreciated against the pound Sterling, euro, pula and rand. This was on account of high returns on US Treasury bonds which increased the safe heaven asset demand for the greenback.

Table 5: International Exchange Rates per US\$

	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
2018				
Weekly Average (26 - 29 Mar)	11.6818	0.7059	9.4911	0.8071
03-Apr	11.8342	0.7110	9.5648	0.8121
04-Apr	11.8229	0.7103	9.5694	0.8147
05-Apr	11.8840	0.7106	9.6200	0.8145
06-Apr	12.0012	0.7145	9.6293	0.8170
Weekly Average (3 - 6 April)	11.8856	0.7116	9.5959	0.8146
<i>Appr(+)/Depr(-) (%) of the USD</i>	1.7	0.8	1.1	0.9

Source: Reuters, 2018

5. EQUITY MARKETS

The ZSE continued registering gains, with the All Share Index increasing by 0.26% to close the week under review at 87.21 points. The industrial index closed at 291.78 points, 0.39% up from 291.00 points in the previous week. Increases in share prices for Willdale Limited (20.00%), Ariston Holdings (5.26%), Dairibord Holdings (4.35%), Powerspeed Electrical Limited (2.04%) and Delta Corporation (1.15%) accounted for the increase in the industrial index.

The mining index remained largely unchanged, to close the week ending 6th April 2018 at 125.09 points, after the only active counter, Rio Zim, traded at the previous week price. The other three mining counters namely, Bindura Nickel Corporation (BNC), Hwange Colliery Company (HCC) and Falgold remained inactive, during the week under review.

Table 6: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) Statistics

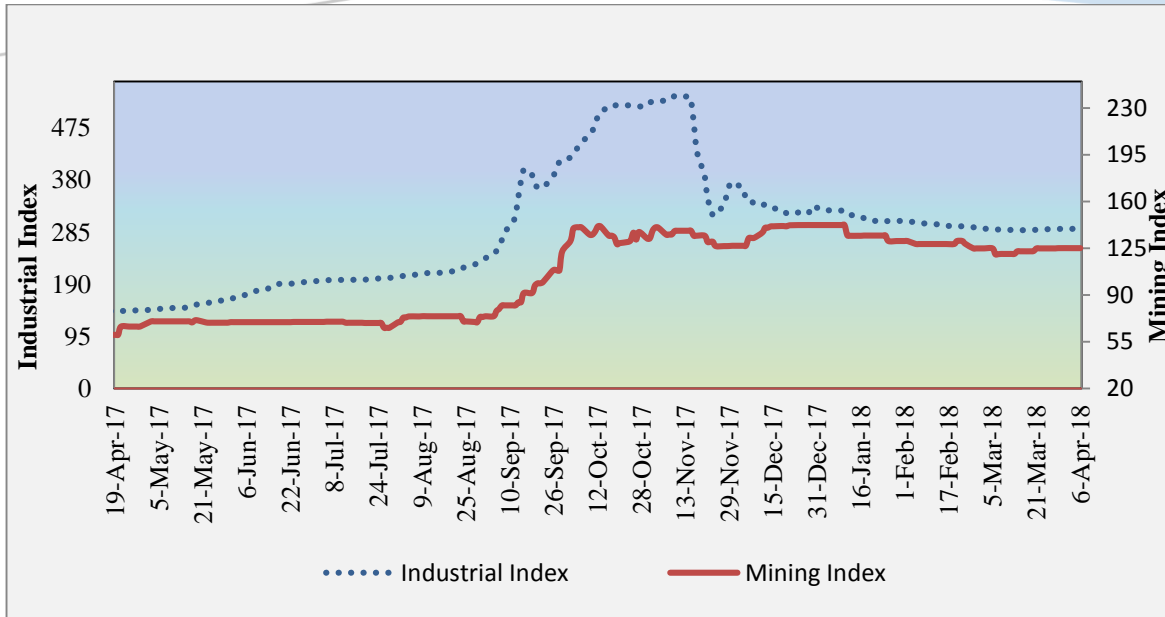
	All Share Index ² (points)	Top 10 index ³ (Points)	Industrial Index (points)	Mining Index (points)	Grand Market Capitalization (US\$)	Market Turnover (US\$)	Volume of Shares
09-March-18	86.25	84.96	288.77	120.76	8,220,533,455	12,241,097	54 871 045
16-March-18	86.20	84.73	288.48	122.73	8,215,505,712	4,694,497	18 625 829
23-March-18	86.87	85.21	290.62	124.91	8,279,282,091	7,338,638	8,193,604
29-March-18	86.98	85.71	291.00	125.09	8,290,413,094	11,457,783	16,603,363
06-April-18	87.21	86.04	291.78	125.09	8,312,174,764	18,954,972	139,484,511
Weekly Change (%)	0.26	0.39	0.27	0.00	0.26	65.43	740.10

Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE), 2018

² The All share Index shows the changing average value of shares of all companies on the market.

³ The Index is calculated using the market capitalisation method.

Figure 3: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange Indices

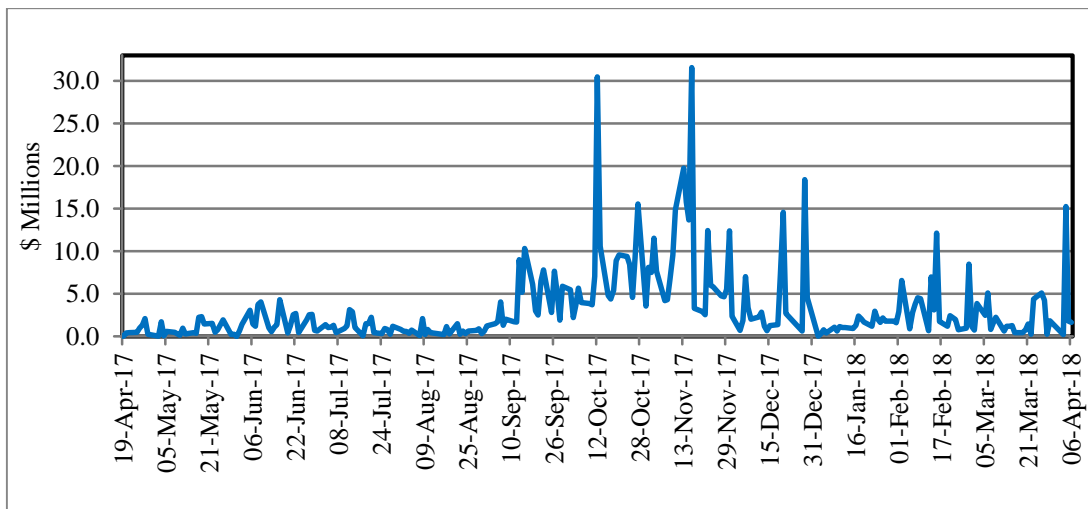


Source: Zimbabwe Stock exchange, 2018

Market Turnover and Volume

The volume of shares traded on the ZSE registered a 740.10% increase to close the week under analysis at 139.48 million shares. Consequently, the ZSE turnover increased by 65.43%, from US\$ 11.46 million recorded in the previous week to US\$18.95 million. This was largely attributed to a block trade in Nampak shares. Old Mutual Asset Management acquired a 16% stake in Nampak, an equivalent of 124 905 870 shares, from TSL at 12 cents per share, for a consideration of \$14.99 million.

Figure 4: Daily Market turnover

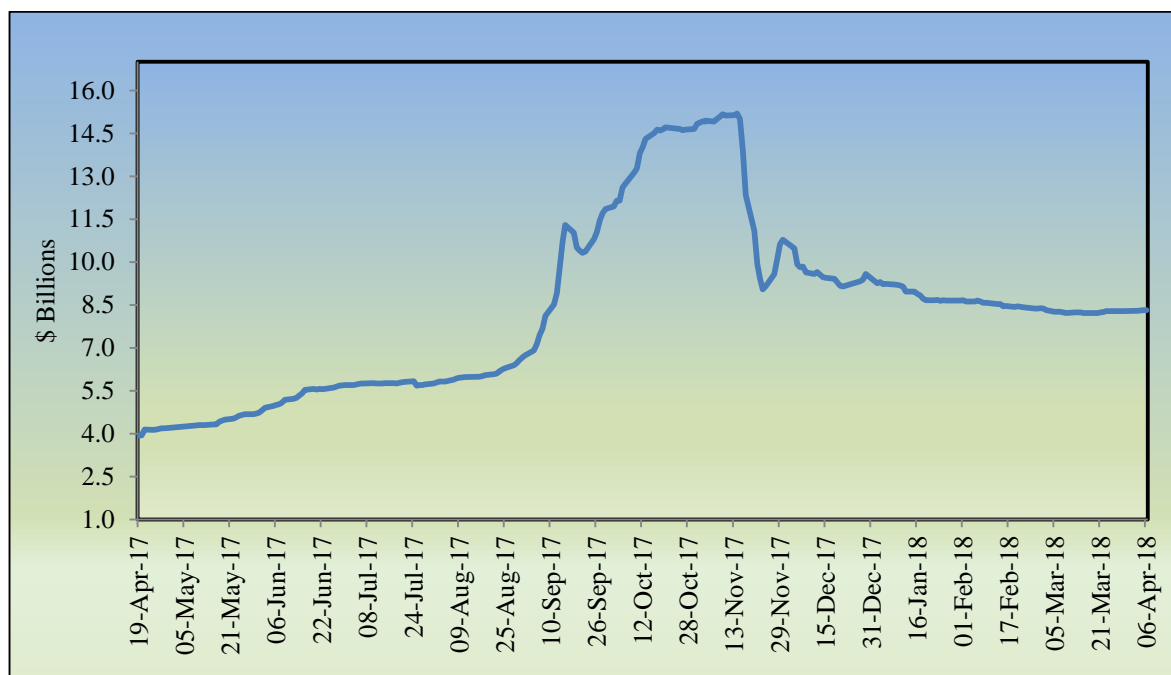


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2018

Market Capitalization

The ZSE market capitalization registered a 0.26% increase, from US\$8.29 billion in the previous week to close the week under review at US\$8.31 billion. This was largely on account of gains in the industrial counters.

Figure 5: Market Capitalization



Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2018

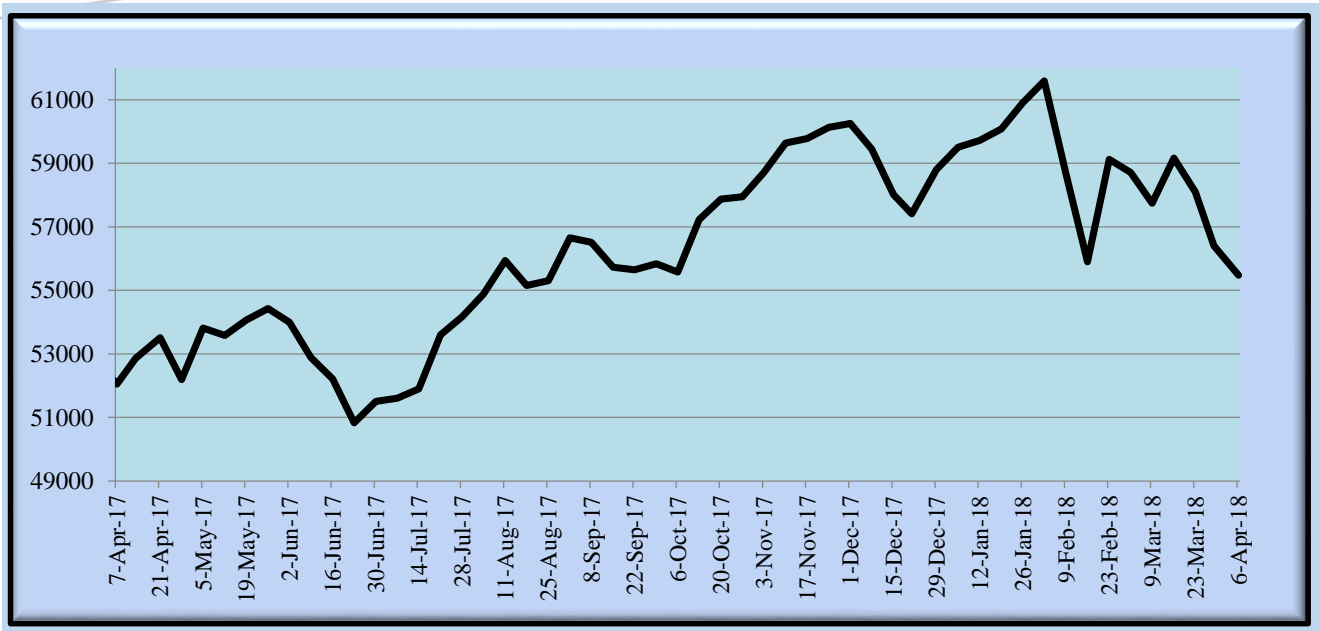
Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Developments

The JSE All Share index increased by 1.73%, from 55 474.52 points recorded in the previous week to 55 878.81 points, during the week ending 6th April 2018. Similarly, the JSE market capitalization increased by 1.19%, from R14.29 trillion recorded in the previous week to R14.46 trillion, during the week under review.

Period	All Share Index (points)	Market Capitalization (ZAR trillion)
09-March-18	59 169.23	15.01
16-March-18	58 101.02	14.90
23-March-18	56 405.64	14.31
29-March-18	55 474.52	14.29
6-April-18	55 878.81	14,46
% Change	1.73	1.19

Source: <https://www.jse.co.za/services/market-data/market-statistics>, 2018

Figure 6: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) All Share Index



Source: <https://www.jse.co.za/services/market-data/market-statistics,2018>

RESERVE BANK OF ZIMBABWE

17TH APRIL 2018