



Weekly Economic Highlights

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Week Ending
16th October 2015

1. INTEREST RATES

Deposit Rates

During the week ending 16th October 2015, the average deposit rates for savings and deposits of 1 month and 3 month tenors remained unchanged at 3.00%, 8.14%, and 9.14%, respectively.

Table 1: Average Deposit Rates

2015	Savings Deposits (%)	1-Month Deposits (%)	3-Months Deposits (%)
18-Sep	3.00	8.14	9.14
25-Sep	3.00	8.14	9.14
02-Oct	3.00	8.14	9.14
09-Oct	3.00	8.14	9.14
16-Oct	3.00	8.14	9.14

Source: Banking Institutions, 2015

Lending Rates

Weighted commercial bank lending rates for individuals and corporate clients closed the week under review at 11.04% and 7.26%, respectively.

Table 2: Lending Rates

2015	Lending Rates (%)	
	Commercial Banks (weighted)	
	Individuals	Corporate clients
18-Sep	11.77	8.44
25-Sep	11.81	8.47
02-Oct	11.56	8.39
09-Oct	10.97	7.73
16-Oct	11.04	7.26

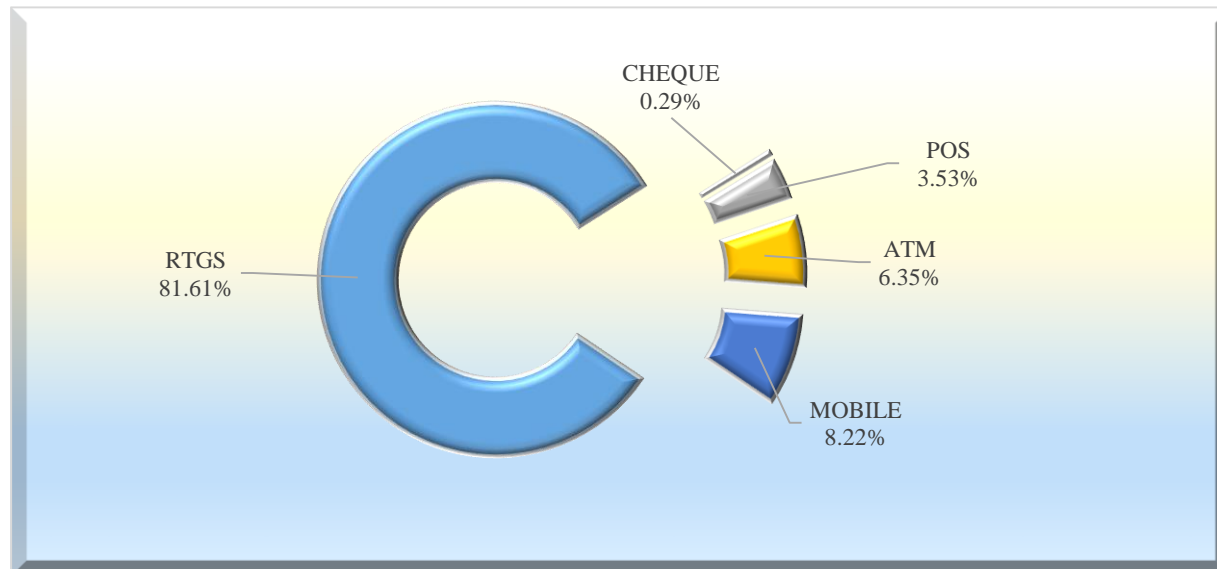
Source: Banking Institutions, 2015

2. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

During the week ending 16th October 2015, transactions processed through the National Payment Systems (NPS), declined by 12.58% to close the week at US\$1 030.19 million. In value terms, RTGS transactions amounted to US\$840.68 million during the week under analysis, down from US\$889.23 million in the previous week.

RTGS, Mobile, ATM, POS and Cheque transactions accounted for 81.61%; 8.22%; 6.35%; 3.53%; and 0.29%, respectively, of the total value of transactions during the week under analysis.

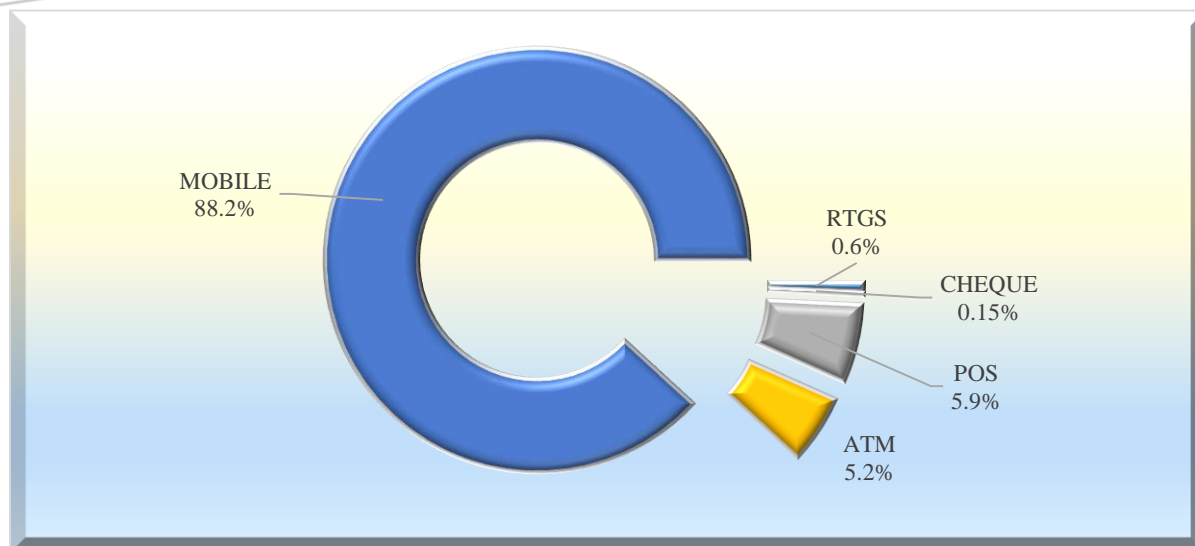
Figure 1: Proportions of NPS Transactions in Value Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe

Mobile-Based transactions accounted for 88.17% of total transactions in volume terms, followed by Point of sale (POS), 5.87%; Automated Teller Machines (ATM), 5.19%; Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS), 0.62% and Cheque, 0.15%.

Figure 2: Proportions of NPS Transactions in Volume Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe.

Table 3: National Payment Systems Activity

PAYMENT STREAM	WEEK ENDING 9 Oct 2015	WEEK ENDING 16 Oct 2015	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	PROPORTION
VALUES IN USD (millions)				
RTGS	889.23	840.68	-5%	81.61%
CHEQUE	2.70	3.03	12%	0.29%
POS	60.48	36.32	-40%	3.53%
ATMS	122.72	65.44	-47%	6.35%
MOBILE	103.36	84.71	-18%	8.22%
TOTAL	1,178.48	1,030.19		100%
VOLUMES				
RTGS	35,125	33,032	-6%	0.62%
CHEQUE	6,760	7,878	17%	0.15%
POS	414,304	310,506	-25%	5.87%
ATMs	347,519	274,380	-21%	5.19%
MOBILE	5,037,314	4,664,813	-7%	88.17%
TOTAL	5,841,022	5,290,609		100%

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe

3. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS

The weekly average international commodity prices of gold, platinum, copper and nickel firmed, while crude oil prices retreated during the week ending 16th October 2015.

Table 4: Metals and Crude Oil Prices

Period	Gold	Platinum	Copper	Nickel	Crude Oil
2015	US\$/ounce	US\$/ounce	US\$/tonne	US\$/tonne	US\$/barrel
Weekly Average (9 Oct)	1,143.74	938.90	5,178.80	10,112.00	51.55
12-Oct	1164.55	989.50	5340.00	10805.00	51.84
13-Oct	1159.80	982.50	5340.00	10405.00	50.06
14-Oct	1173.80	991.00	5278.00	10375.00	49.23
15-Oct	1177.80	995.00	5270.00	10405.00	50.00
16-Oct	1178.59	1002.00	5,278.00	10,455.00	50.02
Weekly Average (16 Oct)	1,170.91	992.00	5,301.20	10,489.00	50.23
Weekly Change (%)	2.4	5.7	2.4	3.7	(2.6)

Source: BBC, KITCO, Reuters and Bloomberg

Gold

Gold prices rose by 2.4%, from a weekly average of US\$1 143.74/oz in the previous week, to US\$1 170.91/oz, during the week under review. The prices gained on account of weakening global economic growth.

Platinum

Platinum prices stood at a weekly average of US\$992.00/oz, a 5.7% increase from US\$938.9/oz registered in the previous week. This was partly on account of persistent platinum production constraints in Zimbabwe.

Copper

Copper prices maintained an upward trend, rising by 2.4% from US\$5 178.80/ton in the previous week, to close the week under analysis at US\$5 301.20/ton. The surge in copper prices was supported by speculation about possible output cuts by major mining groups, on account of slowing demand in China.

Nickel

Nickel prices registered a 3.7% increase, to close the week ending 16th October 2015 at a weekly average of US\$10 489.00/ton. This was against a background of rising demand, following reports of dwindling nickel stockpiles in China, the world's largest nickel consumer.

Crude Oil

Crude oil prices declined by 2.6%, from a weekly average of US\$51.55/barrel recorded in the previous week, to US\$50.23/barrel during the week under review. Prices slumped amid speculation that global oil surplus will persist in the foreseeable future.

4. EQUITY MARKETS

During the week ending 16th of October 2015, the mainstream index lost 0.37 points to close the week at 131.08 points. Losses realized in RTG (20%), Padenga Holdings (15.56%), NTS (15%), Nicoz Diamond (12.28%), CBZ Holdings (10%), Old Mutual (8.05%), PPC Limited (5%), Masimba Holdings (1%) and Mashonaland Holdings (0.50%), weighed down the mainstream index.

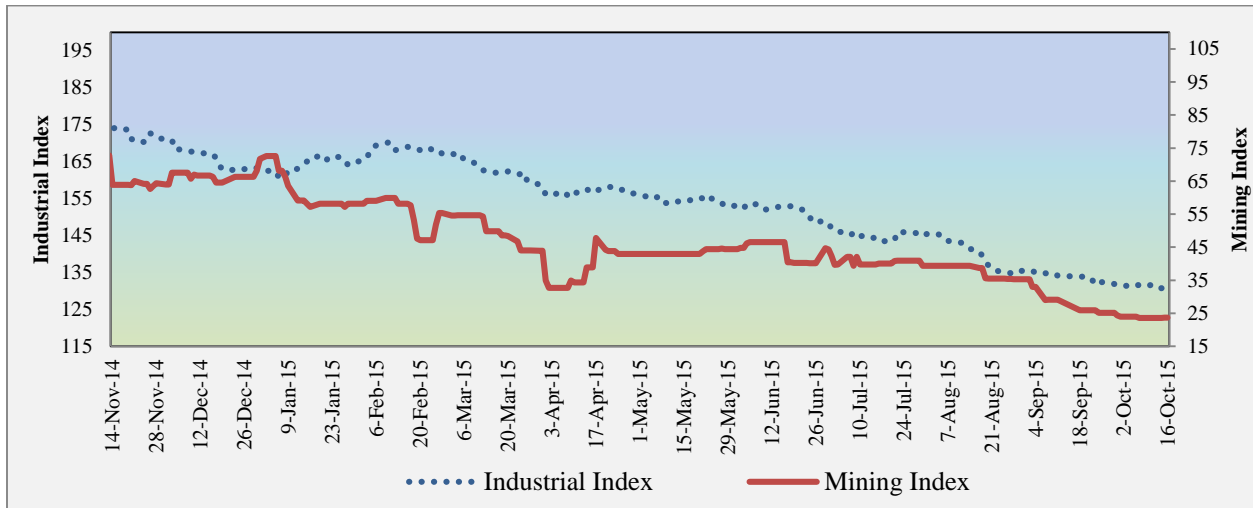
The mining index, however, gained 0.11 points from 23.57 points in the previous week to 23.68 points during the week under review. This was largely on account of a 2.4% increase in Hwange Colliery Company (HCC).

Table 5: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) Statistics

Period	Industrial Index (points)	Mining Index (points)	Grand Market Capitalization (US\$)	Market Turnover (US\$)	Volume of Shares
18-Sep-15	133.83	25.94	3,496,042,127	5,230,473	29,987,310
25-Sep-15	132.43	25.15	3,458,710,131	3,121,322	17,744,200
02-Oct-15	131.45	23.97	3,431,677,735	2,006,444	23,490,669
09-Oct-15	131.45	23.57	3,431,931,253	4,782,272	22,376,346
16-Oct-15	131.08	23.68	3,422,760,886	789,703	6,781,535
Weekly Change (%)	(0.28)	0.47	(0.27)	(83.49)	(69.69)

Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE), 2015

Figure 3 : Zimbabwe Stock Exchange Indices

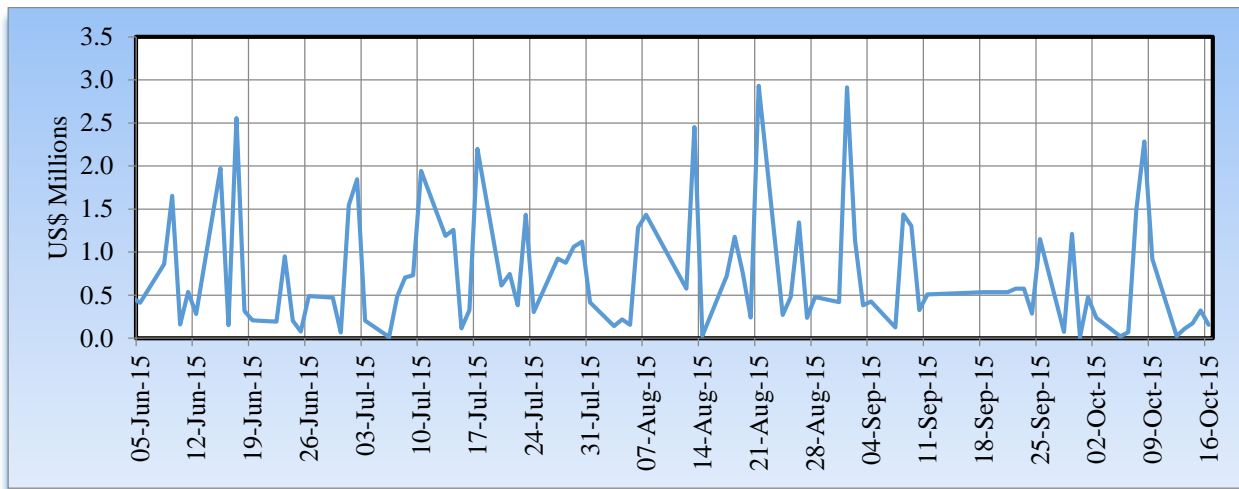


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2015

Market Turnover and Volume

A total of 6 781 535 shares were traded during the week under review, compared to 22 376 346 shares traded in the previous week. Market turnover declined by 83.49%, to close the week at US\$0.79 million, from US\$4.78 million in the previous week. Activity remained very low as investors continued to shy away from the market. This downward trend is likely to continue in the short to medium term.

Figure 4: Daily Market Turnover

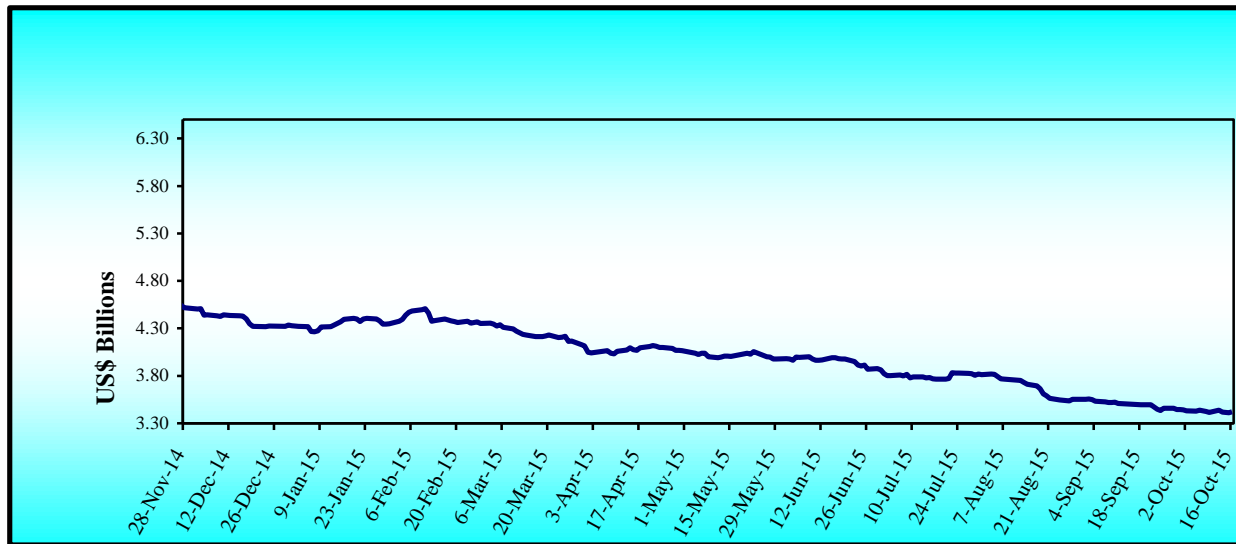


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2015

Market Capitalisation

As a consequence of negative trading on the local bourse, market capitalization declined by 0.27%, from US\$3 431 931 253 in the previous week, to US\$3 422 760 886, during the period under review.

Figure 5 : Market Capitalisation



Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2015

Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Developments

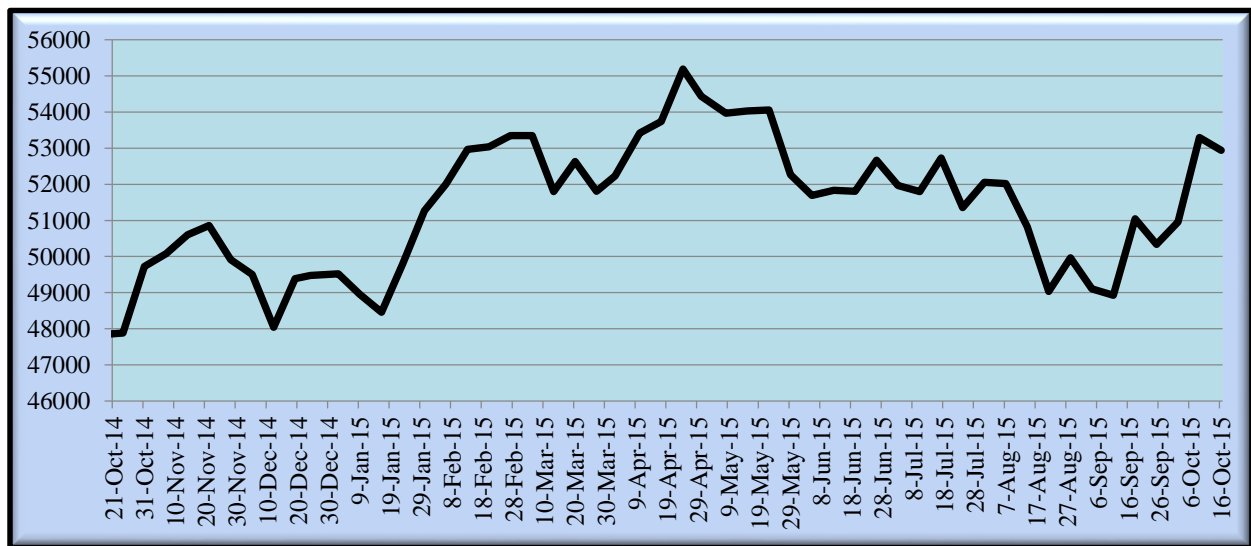
The JSE All Share index and market capitalization declined by 0.66% and 0.41%, to close the week under review at 52 945.11 points and R12.07 trillion, respectively.

Table 6: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Statistics

Period- 2015	All Share Index (points)	Market Capitalisation (R trillion)
18-Sep	51,044.58	11.64
25-Sep	50,331.12	11.50
02-Oct	50,955.89	11.60
09-Oct	53,295.65	12.12
16-Oct	52,945.11	12.07

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

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



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

RESERVE BANK OF ZIMBABWE

22ND OCTOBER 2015