



# Weekly Economic Highlights

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Week Ending  
26<sup>th</sup> June 2015

## 1. INTEREST RATES

### Deposit Rates

During the week ending 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015, average deposit rates remained unchanged for all classes of deposits. Average deposit rates for savings deposits were quoted at 3.43%, while those for fixed deposits of 1 month and 3 months tenors stood at 8.31% and 10.03%, respectively.

**Table 1: Average Deposit Rates**

2015	Savings Deposits (%)	1-Month Deposits (%)	3-Months Deposits (%)
<b>29-May</b>	3.43	8.58	10.31
<b>05-June</b>	3.43	8.31	10.03
<b>12-June</b>	3.43	8.31	10.03
<b>19-June</b>	3.43	8.31	10.03
<b>26-June</b>	3.43	8.31	10.03

Source: Banking Institutions, 2015

### Lending Rates

Weighted lending rates at commercial banks for individuals and corporate clients declined, to close the week under review at 11.94 % and 8.42%, respectively.

**Table 2: Lending Rates**

2015	Lending Rates (%)	
	Commercial Banks (weighted)	
	Individuals	Corporate clients
<b>29-May</b>	12.74	8.79
<b>05-June</b>	12.07	8.74
<b>12-June</b>	12.07	8.73
<b>19-June</b>	12.04	8.73
<b>26-June</b>	11.94	8.42

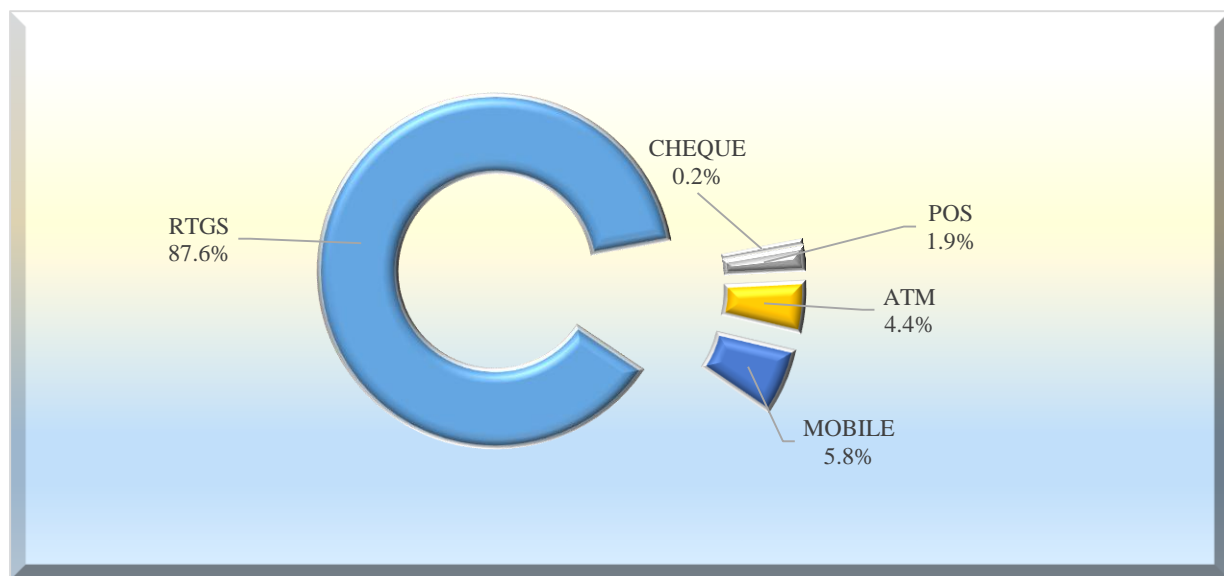
Source: Banking Institutions, 2015

## 2. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

The value of transactions processed through the National Payment Systems (NPS) increased to US\$1 231.44 million, from US\$925 million in the previous week. The increase was partially attributed to a rise in the value of transactions processed through the Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) system, which increased from US\$738.06 million in the previous week to US\$1 079.30 million during the week under review.

The distribution of the payments, in value terms, was as follows: RTGS payments accounted, 87.65%; Mobile, 5.77%; ATMs, 4.44%; POS, 1.95% and cheque, 0.20%.

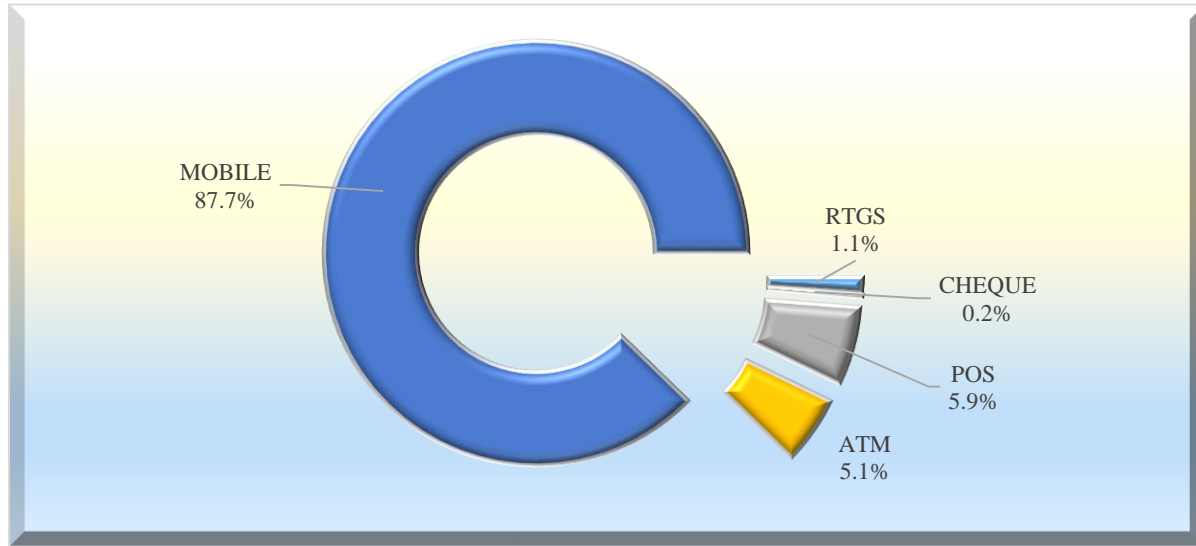
**Figure 1: Proportions of NPS Transactions in Value Terms**



*Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe*

In terms of volume, Mobile-based transactions accounted for 87.73% of total NPS transactions, followed by POS, 5.90%; ATM's, 5.13%; RTGS, 1.09%; and cheque transactions, 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 12 JUNE 2015	WEEK ENDING 19 JUNE 2015	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	PROPORTION
<b>VALUES IN USD (millions)</b>				
<b>RTGS</b>	738.06	1079.30	46%	
<b>CHEQUE</b>	2.82	2.45	-13%	0.20%
<b>POS</b>	30.06	23.99	-20%	1.95%
<b>ATMS</b>	60.64	54.67	-10%	4.44%
<b>MOBILE</b>	93.61	71.03	-24%	5.77%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>925.19</b>	<b>1231.44</b>		<b>100%</b>
<b>VOLUMES</b>				
<b>RTGS</b>	41,866	45,709	9%	1.09%
<b>CHEQUE</b>	7,503	6,324	-16%	0.15%
<b>POS</b>	306,960	247,498	-19%	5.90%
<b>ATMs</b>	261,447	214,979	-18%	5.13%
<b>MOBILE</b>	4,859,982	3,677,411	-24%	87.73%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,477,758</b>	<b>4,191,921</b>		<b>100%</b>

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe

### 3. TOBACCO SALES

A cumulative total of 173 829 332 kilograms of tobacco had been sold as at 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015 (day 79 of the 2015 tobacco selling season), reflecting a 9.44% decline from the 191 954 881 kilograms sold during the same period in 2014. The average selling price for the golden leaf was 7.07% lower at US\$2.96 per kg, compared to US\$3.18 per kg fetched during the same period in 2014.

In value terms, total sales amounted to US\$513.80 million, 16% lower than the US\$610.54 million realised during the corresponding period in 2014.

**Table 4: Cumulative Tobacco Sales: Day 79 (26/06/15)**

	2014	2015	Variance (%)
<b>Cumulative Quantity Sold (kgs)</b>	191,954,881	173,829,332	-9.44%
<b>Cumulative Average Price(US\$/kg)</b>	3.18	2.96	-7.07%
<b>Cumulative Value (US\$)</b>	610,541,051	513,802,110	-16%

Source: Tobacco Industry and Marketing Board (TIMB), 2015

## 4. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS

International commodity prices for gold, platinum, copper, nickel and crude oil retreated during the week ending 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015, as depicted in Table 5 below.

**Table 5: Metals and Crude Oil Prices**

Period	Gold	Platinum	Copper	Nickel	Crude Oil
<b>2015</b>	US\$/ounce	US\$/ounce	US\$/tonne	US\$/tonne	US\$/barrel
<b>Weekly Average (19 June)</b>	<b>1,187.79</b>	<b>1,083.20</b>	<b>5,734.20</b>	<b>12,745.00</b>	<b>63.69</b>
<b>22-Jun</b>	1,189.60	1,070.00	5,646.00	12,590.00	62.82
<b>23-Jun</b>	1,180.68	1,067.00	5,725.00	12,660.00	63.04
<b>24-Jun</b>	1,174.75	1,068.50	5,765.00	12,780.00	64.52
<b>25-Jun</b>	1,173.63	1,075.00	5,715.00	12,590.00	63.20
<b>26-Jun</b>	1,172.45	1,075.50	5,730.00	12,490.00	62.58
<b>Weekly Average (26 June)</b>	<b>1,178.22</b>	<b>1,071.20</b>	<b>5,716.20</b>	<b>12,622.00</b>	<b>63.23</b>
<b>Weekly Change (%)</b>	<i>(0.8)</i>	<i>(1.1)</i>	<i>(0.3)</i>	<i>(1.0)</i>	<i>(0.7)</i>

*Source: BBC, KITCO, Reuters and Bloomberg*

### Gold

During the week under review, gold prices retreated by 0.8% to a weekly average of US\$1 178.22/oz. Prices declined amid signs of improving US economic growth, which reignited concerns that the US Federal Reserve Bank was likely to hike interest rates in the immediate future.

### Platinum

Platinum prices declined by 1.1%, from US\$1 083.20/oz in the previous week, to US\$1 071.20/oz during the week under analysis.

## **Copper**

Copper prices averaged US\$5 716.20/tonne during the week under review, representing a 0.3% decline from a weekly average of US\$5 734.20/tonne in the previous week. Prices declined on account of accumulated inventories and sluggish demand for the base metal as economic activity in China remained subdued.

## **Nickel**

Nickel prices at US\$12 622/tonne, during the week under analysis, were 1.0% lower than the US\$12 745.00/tonne registered in the previous week. An increase in nickel stockpiles in China, the world's largest consumer, weighed down nickel prices during the week under review.

## **Crude Oil**

Crude oil prices retreated by 0.7%, to US\$63.23/barrel during the period under analysis. Persistent concerns surrounding increased oil supply by the Organization for Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) continued to exert downward pressure on crude oil prices.

## 5. EQUITY MARKETS

During the week ending 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015, trading on the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) was negative. The industrial index closed the week at 148.79 points, a 2.69% decline from 152.90 points in the previous week. Similarly, the mining index retreated by 0.22%, from 40.28 points in the previous week, to 40.19 points during the week under review.

The mainstream index was weighed down by significant losses in share prices of some mid-cap and heavyweight counters such as Unifreight (50%), Masimba Holdings (20%), N.T.S (20%), CFI (19.68%), First Mutual (13.04%) and OK Zimbabwe (11.11%).

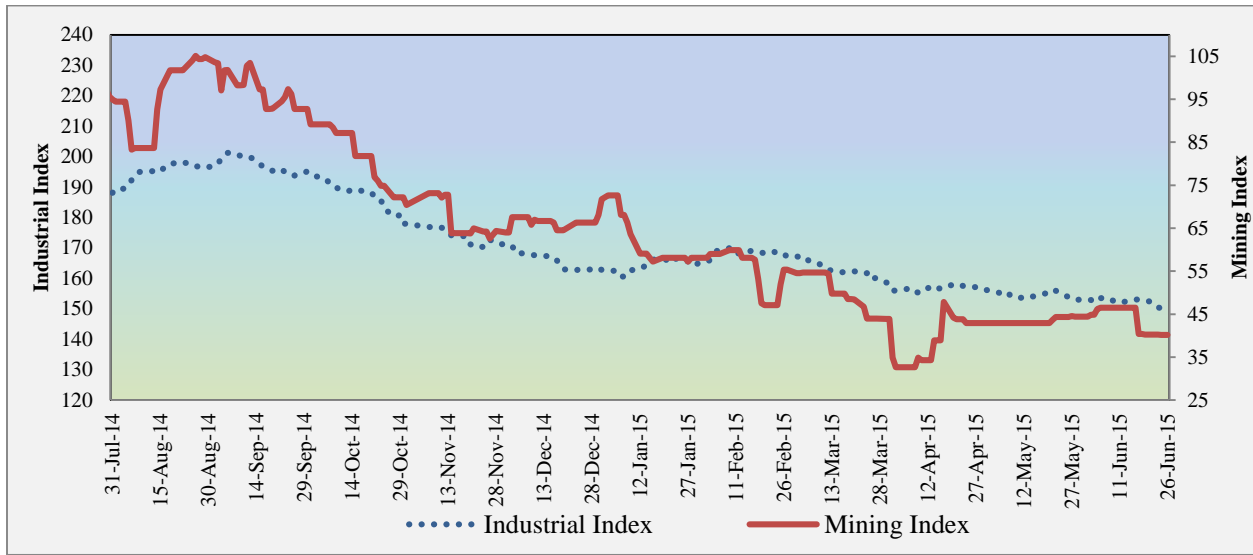
**Table 6: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) Statistics**

Period	Industrial Index (points)	Mining Index (points)	Grand Market Capitalization (US\$)	Market Turnover (US\$)	Volume of Shares
29-May-15	152.96	44.45	3,978,062,358	3,921,841	14,124,142
05-June-15	153.49	46.54	3,994,531,531	3,380,325	8,907,374
12-June-15	152.20	46.54	3,968,883,265	3,492,167	28,242,831
19-June-15	152.90	40.28	3,978,036,078	5,202,854	24,644,727
26-June-15	148.79	40.19	3,869,035,933	1,906,697	12,368,517

Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE), 2015



**Figure 3 : Zimbabwe Stock Exchange Indices**

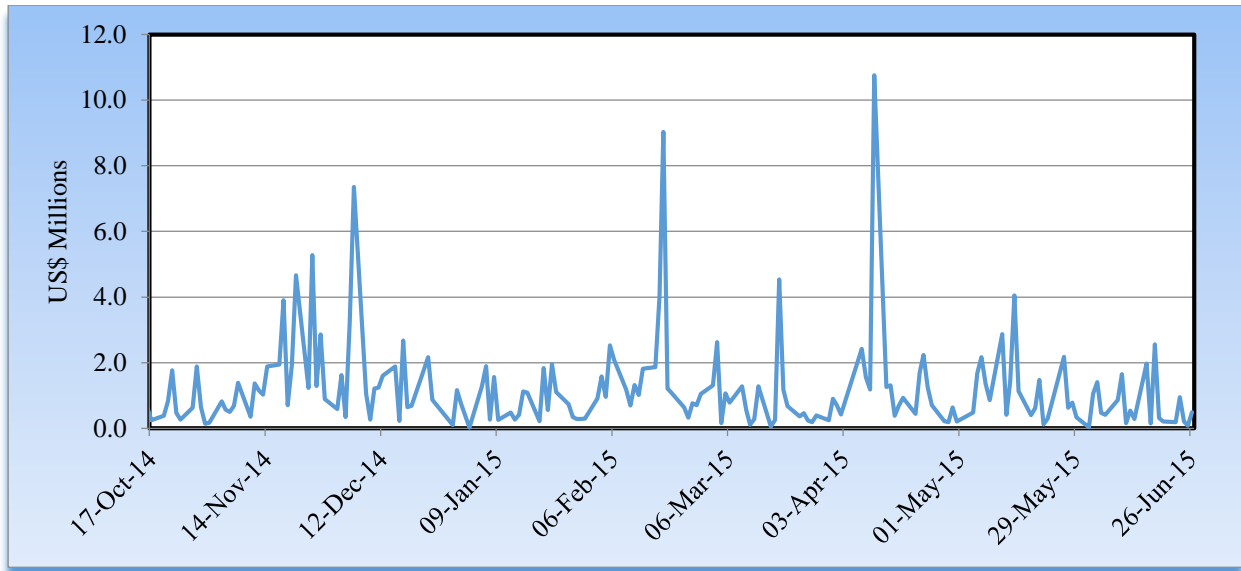


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2015

### Market Turnover and Volume

Market turnover declined by 63.35% to US\$1.91 million during the week under review. Despite a special bargain, which saw 475 004 Seed Co shares exchanging hands at 95.5 cents, the volume of shares traded declined by 49.81% to 12 368 517 during the week under review.

**Figure 4: Daily Market Turnover**

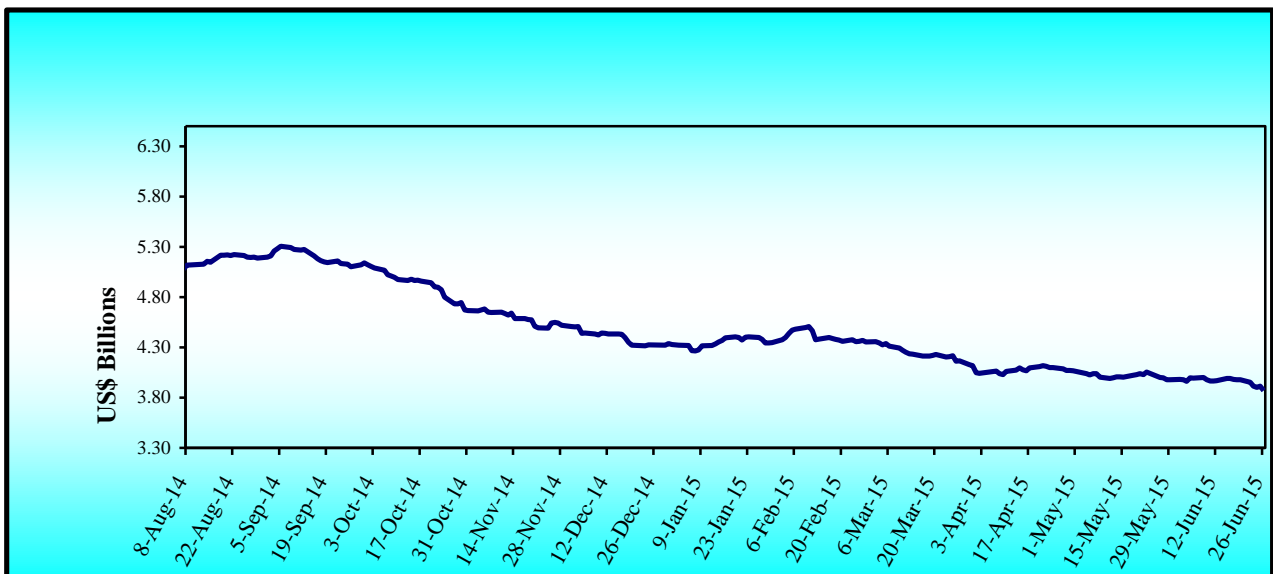


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2015

### Market Capitalisation

Market capitalisation stood at US\$3.87 billion, down from US\$3.98 billion in the previous week, owing to subdued trading.

**Figure 5 : Market Capitalization**



Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2015

## Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Developments

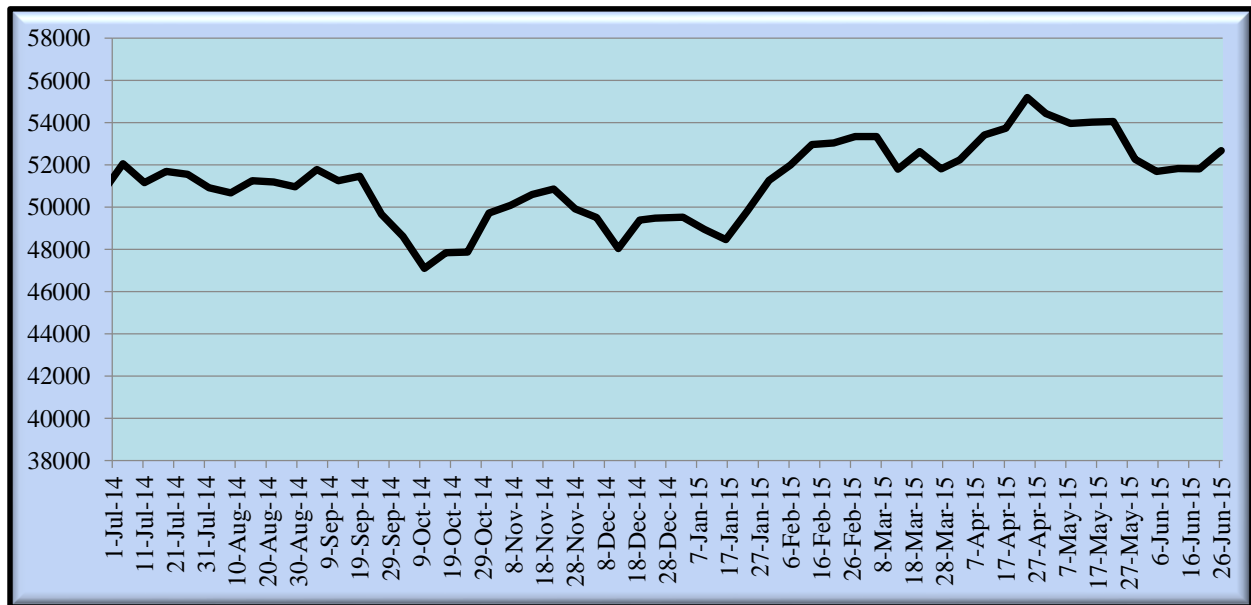
During the week under review the JSE All Share index closed the week at 52 669.75 points, up from 51 806.71 points in the previous week. Market capitalisation increased to R12.17 trillion during the week under analysis.

**Table 7: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Statistics**

Period- 2015	All Share Index (points)	Market Capitalization (R trillion)
29-May	52,270.86	12,09
05-June	51,694.25	11,96
12-June	51,828.76	12,00
19-June	51,806.71	12,00
26 June	52,669.75	12,17

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

3<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2015