



Weekly Economic Highlights

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Week Ending
29nd April 2016

1. INTEREST RATES

Deposit Rates

The average deposit rates on deposits of 1 month tenor and savings deposits remained unchanged at 6.57% and 3.03%, respectively, during the week ending 29th April 2016. Average deposits rates on deposits of 3 month tenor, however, increased from 6.99% to close the week under review at 7.01%.

Table 1: Average Deposit Rates

| Date | Savings Deposits (%) | 1-Month Deposits (%) | 3-Months Deposits (%) |
|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 01-Apr-16 | 3.03 | 6.57 | 6.93 |
| 08-Apr-16 | 3.03 | 6.57 | 7.00 |
| 15-Apr-16 | 3.03 | 6.57 | 7.00 |
| 22-Apr-16 | 3.03 | 6.57 | 6.99 |
| 29-Apr-16 | 3.03 | 6.57 | 7.01 |

Source: Banking Institutions, 2016

Lending Rates

Weighted lending rates for individuals at commercial banks stood at 11.50% during the week under review, up from 11.49% recorded in the previous week. During the same period, the weighted commercial bank lending rates for corporate clients marginally declined from 7.21%, to 7.20% during the week under review.

Table 2: Lending Rates

| Date | Lending Rates (%) | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| | Commercial Banks (weighted) | |
| | Individuals | Corporate clients |
| 01-Apr-16 | 11.41 | 7.29 |
| 08-Apr-16 | 11.41 | 7.29 |
| 15-Apr-16 | 11.41 | 7.28 |
| 22-Apr-16 | 11.49 | 7.21 |
| 29-Apr-16 | 11.50 | 7.20 |

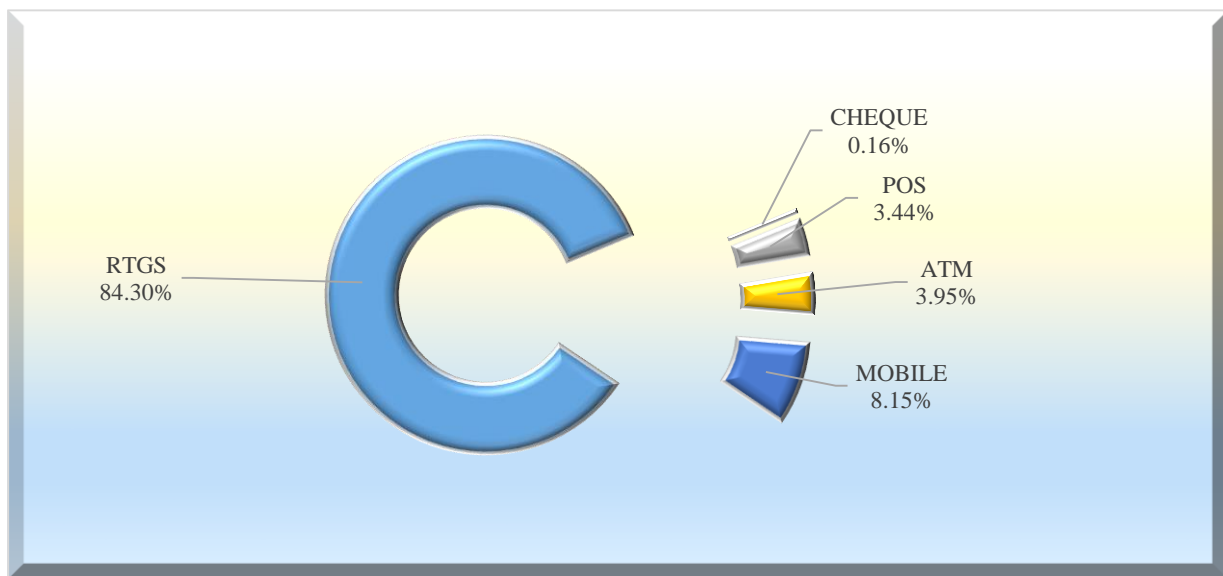
Source: Banking Institutions, 2016

2. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

Transactions processed through the National Payment System (NPS) registered a 56% increase, from US\$862.13 million in the previous week, to US\$1 345.42 million during the week ending 29th April 2016. Concurrently, the value of transactions processed through the Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) also increased by 65%, to close the week under review at US\$1 134.16 million.

The RTGS payments accounted for 84.30% of the total value of transactions processed through the NPS; Mobile, 8.15%; Automated Teller Machines (ATM's), 3.95%; Point of Sale (POS), 3.44%; and cheque transactions, 0.16%.

Figure 1: Proportions of NPS Transactions in Value Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe

Mobile transactions contributed 87.70% of the total volume of NPS transactions; POS, 7.85%; ATM, 3.50%; RTGS, 0.85%; and Cheque transactions, 0.10%, as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Proportions of NPS Transactions in Volume Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe.

Table 3: National Payment Systems Activity

| PAYMENT STREAM | WEEK ENDING 22 April 2016 | WEEK ENDING 29 April 2016 | CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK | PROPORTION |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| VALUES IN USD (millions) | | | | |
| RTGS | 686.97 | 1,134.16 | 65% | 84.30% |
| CHEQUE | 1.87 | 2.22 | 18% | 0.16% |
| POS | 44.89 | 46.23 | 3% | 3.44% |
| ATMS | 44.61 | 53.20 | 19% | 3.95% |
| MOBILE | 83.79 | 109.60 | 31% | 8.15% |
| TOTAL | 862.13 | 1,345.42 | 56% | 100% |
| VOLUMES | | | | |
| RTGS | 30,442 | 47,638 | 56% | 0.85% |
| CHEQUE | 5,120 | 5,758 | 12% | 0.10% |
| POS | 479,395 | 440,354 | -8% | 7.85% |
| ATMs | 172,102 | 196,612 | 14% | 3.50% |
| MOBILE | 4,449,067 | 4,919,802 | 11% | 87.69% |
| TOTAL | 5,136,126 | 5,610,164 | 9% | 100% |

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe

3. TOBACCO SALES

As at 29th April 2016 or day 22 of the 2016 tobacco selling season, a cumulative total of 35 517 203 kilograms of tobacco worth US\$96.29 million had been sold at an average price of US\$2.71/kg. The sales were 68.42% higher than the cumulative total of 21 088 378 kilograms of tobacco, worth US\$53.74 million, that was sold at an average price of US\$2.55/kg during the same period in 2015.

Table 4: Cumulative Tobacco Sales: Day 22 (29/04/16)

| | 2015 | 2016 | Variance (%) |
|--|------------|------------|--------------|
| Cumulative Quantity Sold (kgs) | 21,088,378 | 35,517,203 | 68.42 |
| Cumulative Average Price(US\$/kg) | 2.55 | 2.71 | 6.39 |
| Cumulative Value (US\$) | 53,738,555 | 96,288,123 | 79.00 |

Source: Tobacco Industry and Marketing Board

4. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS

The international commodity prices of platinum, copper, nickel and crude oil firmed during the week under review as shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Metals and Crude Oil Prices

| Period | Gold | Platinum | Copper | Nickel | Crude Oil |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 2016 | US\$/ounce | US\$/ounce | US\$/tonne | US\$/tonne | US\$/barrel |
| Weekly Average (11-15 April) | 1,244.93 | 1,011.50 | 4,922.50 | 9,141.00 | 44.45 |
| 25-Apr | 1,234.88 | 1011.50 | 5,000.00 | 9,070.00 | 44.85 |
| 26-Apr | 1,238.10 | 1008.00 | 4,935.50 | 9,055.00 | 45.79 |
| 27-Apr | 1,246.08 | 1006.77 | 4,935.50 | 9,055.00 | 46.44 |
| 28-Apr | 1,256.30 | 1056.50 | 4,912.00 | 9,145.00 | 47.74 |
| 29-Apr | 1,266.58 | 1062.50 | 5,045.00 | 9,455.00 | 47.96 |
| Weekly Average (18-22 April) | 1,248.39 | 1,029.05 | 4,965.60 | 9,156.00 | 46.56 |
| Weekly Change (%) | 0.28 | 1.73 | 0.87 | 0.16 | 4.75 |

Source: BBC, KITCO, Reuters and Bloomberg

Gold

Gold prices recorded a 0.28% increase, from a weekly average of US\$1 244.93/oz in the previous week to US\$1 248.39/oz during the week under review. The increase in price was supported by a weaker US dollar and the poor performance of international stock markets. Gold is considered to be a safe haven investment when stock markets are volatile.

Platinum

Platinum prices firmed for the third consecutive week, gaining 1.73% from a weekly average of US\$1 011.50/oz in the previous week, to close the period under review at US\$1 029.05/oz. The increase in platinum prices was also spurred by a weaker US dollar.

Copper

Copper prices gained by 0.87%, from a weekly average of US\$4 922.50/ton to close the week under analysis at an average of US\$4 965.60/ton. The higher prices were on account of continued positive sentiment on improved demand for the metal in China, the largest consumer of the metal.

Nickel

Nickel prices increased by 1.16% to a weekly average of US\$9 156.00, from an average of US\$9 141.00/ton recorded in the previous week. This was on the back of signs pointing to improved demand for the metal in China.

Brent crude oil

Brent crude oil prices recorded a 4.75% increase from a weekly average of US\$44.45/barrel during the week ending 22nd April, to US\$46.56/barrel during the week under analysis. The increase was largely on account of a surge in fuel demand in the USA.

5. EQUITY MARKETS

The industrial index increased by 6.51 points, from 99.28 points in the previous week to 105.79 points during the week ending 29th April 2016 . The mining index, however, remained unchanged at 20.16 points, as a result of inactive resource counters during the period under review.

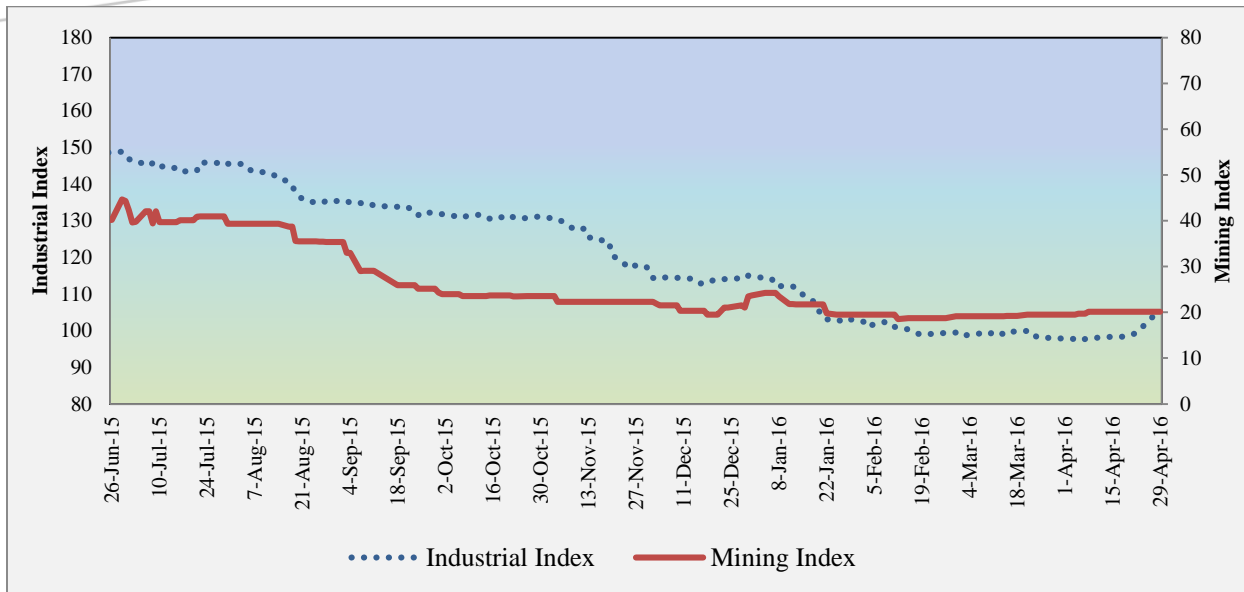
Contributing to the increase in the industrial index were gains recorded in Delta (17.79%), Proplastics Limited (17.02%), Amalgamated Regional Trading (16.67%), B.A.T (8.82%) and Edgars Stores Limited (6%)

Table 5: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) Statistics

| Period | Industrial Index (points) | Mining Index (points) | Grand Market Capitalization (US\$) | Market Turnover (US\$) | Volume of Shares |
|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 01-Apr | 97.80 | 19.53 | 2,650,162,418 | 2,407,184 | 24,537,860 |
| 08-Apr | 97.92 | 20.16 | 2,654,448,635 | 3,167,025 | 57,414,464 |
| 15-Apr | 98.35 | 20.16 | 2,665,735,056 | 2,952,091 | 31,970,003 |
| 22-Apr | 99.28 | 20.16 | 2,690,677,176 | 1,550,958 | 23,085,202 |
| 29-Apr | 105.79 | 20.16 | 2,862 611,862 | 5,839,001 | 70,743,382 |
| Weekly Change (%) | 6.56 | 0.00 | 6.39 | 276.48 | 206.44 |

Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE), 2016

Figure 3 : Zimbabwe Stock Exchange Indices

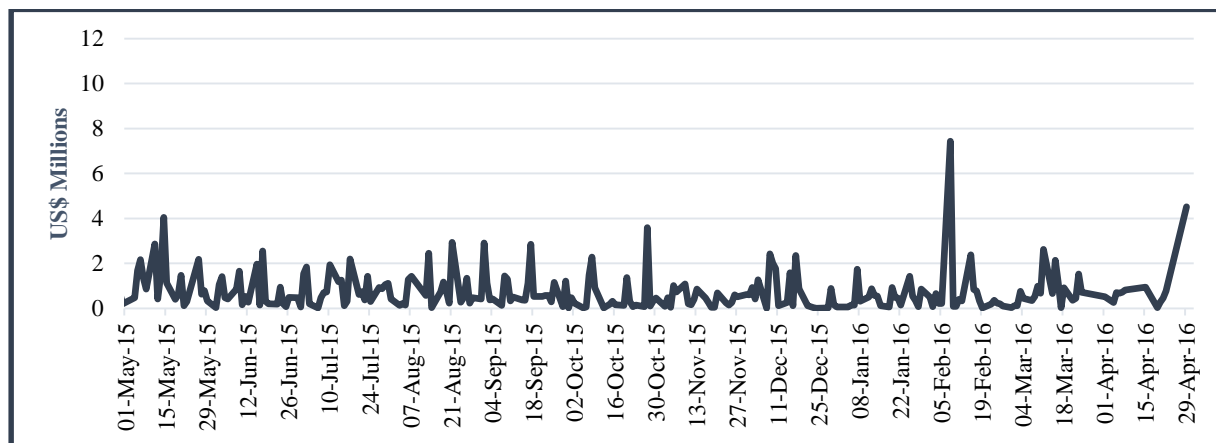


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2016

Market Turnover and Volume

The ZSE market turnover registered a 276.48% increase, from US\$1.55 million in the previous week to close the week under review at US\$5.84 million. This followed positive trading in mid-cap and heavyweight counters during the week under review. Concomitantly, the volume of shares traded increased to 70 743 382 shares, from 23 085 202 shares in the previous week.

Figure 4: Daily Market Turnover

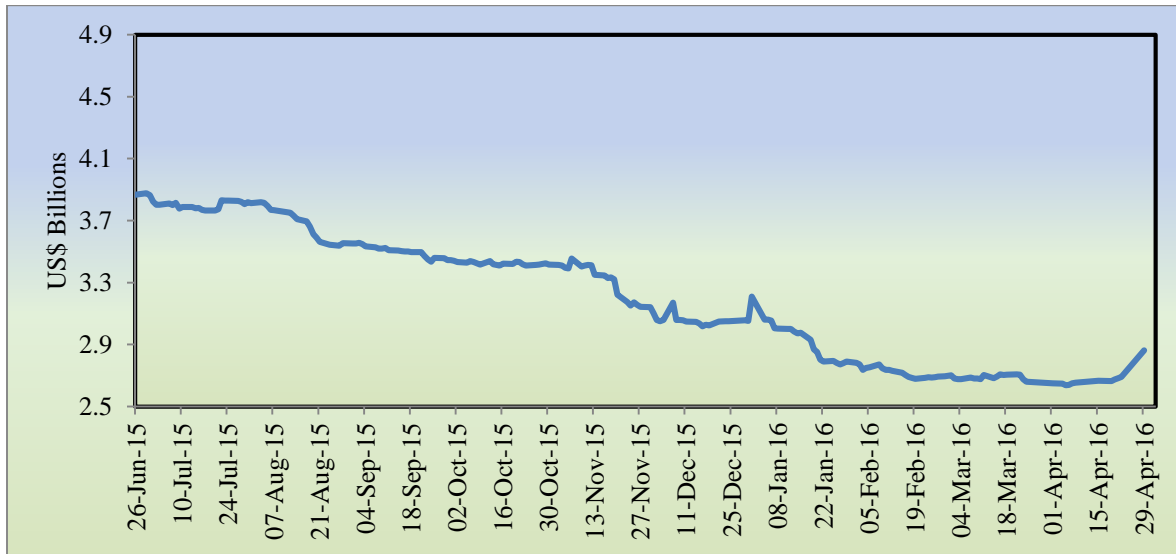


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2016

Market Capitalisation

The ZSE market capitalisation increased by 6.39%, to close the week under review at US\$2 862.61 million.

Figure 5 : Market Capitalisation



Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2016

Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Developments

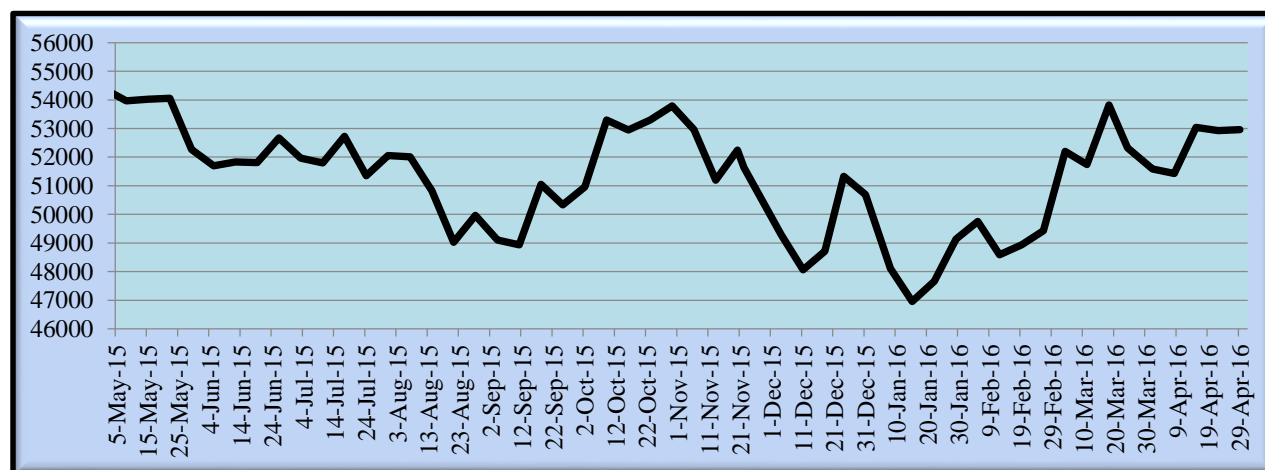
The JSE All Share Index recorded a 0.06% increase, from 52 925.75 points in the previous week, to close the week ending 29th April 2016 at 52 957.32 points. Market capitalisation stood at R15.25 trillion, down from R15.36 trillion recorded in the previous week.

Table 6: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Statistics

| Period | All Share Index (points) | Market Capitalisation (R trillion) |
|------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 01-Apr-16 | 51,584.13 | 15.09 |
| 08-Apr-16 | 51,424.48 | 15.04 |
| 15-Apr-16 | 53,038.91 | 15.41 |
| 22-Apr-16 | 52,925.75 | 15.36 |
| 29-Apr-16 | 52,957.32 | 15.25 |

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

06TH MAY 2016