



Weekly Economic Highlights

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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

Week Ending
6th January 2023

1. INTEREST RATES

Deposit Rates

During the week ending 6th January 2023, average minimum and maximum deposits rates for savings deposits, deposits of 1-month and 3-month tenor remained unchanged, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Average Deposit Rates (per annum)

Date	Savings deposits (%)		1- Month deposit's rates (%)		3- Month deposit rates (%)	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
9-Dec-22	18.03	18.03	55.15	59.67	51.29	61.00
16-Dec-22	18.03	18.03	55.15	59.67	51.29	56.28
23-Dec-22	18.03	18.03	55.15	59.67	51.29	56.28
30-Dec-22	18.03	18.03	55.15	59.33	51.29	55.94
6-Jan-23	18.03	18.03	55.15	59.33	51.29	55.94

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Lending Rates

Commercial bank minimum and maximum lending rates for both individual and corporate clients remained unchanged during the week ending 6th January 2023, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Lending Rates (per annum)

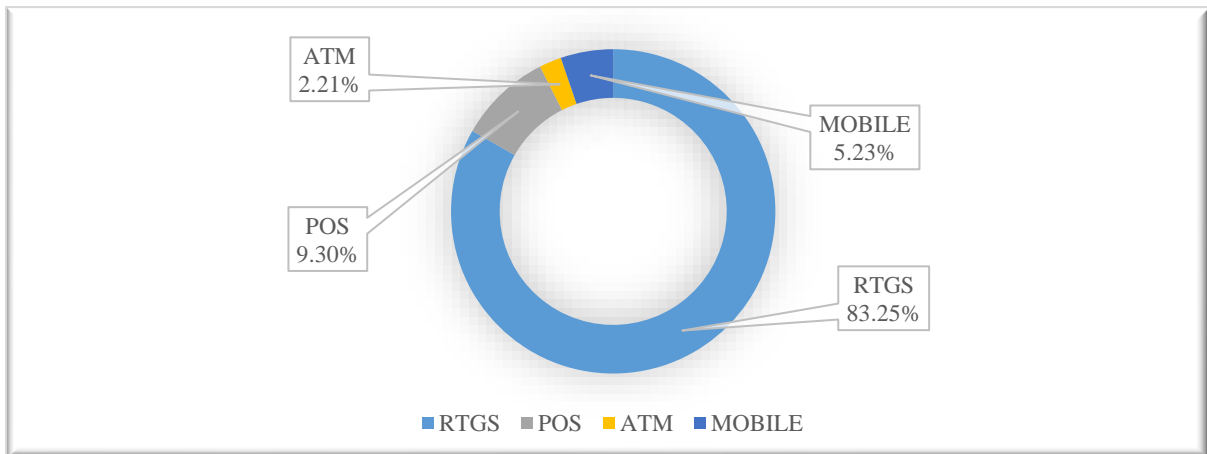
Date	Individual Clients		Corporate Clients	
	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)	Minimum (%)	Maximum (%)
9-Dec-22	99.03	126.54	110.97	243.40
16-Dec-22	99.15	126.28	112.01	243.43
23-Dec-22	99.15	126.28	112.01	243.43
30-Dec-22	99.02	125.64	110.83	242.53
6-Jan-23	99.02	125.64	110.83	242.53

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

2. CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

The value of transactions processed through the National Payment Systems (NPS) decreased by 12.30% to ZW\$550.01 billion during the week ending 6th January 2023, from ZW\$627.16 billion recorded in the previous week. Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) transactions declined by 7.24% to ZW\$457.91 billion in the reporting week, from ZW\$493.67 billion recorded during the week ending 30th December 2022. The NPS transaction values were distributed as follows: RTGS, 83.25%, POS, 9.30%; Mobile, 5.23%; and ATM, 2.21%.

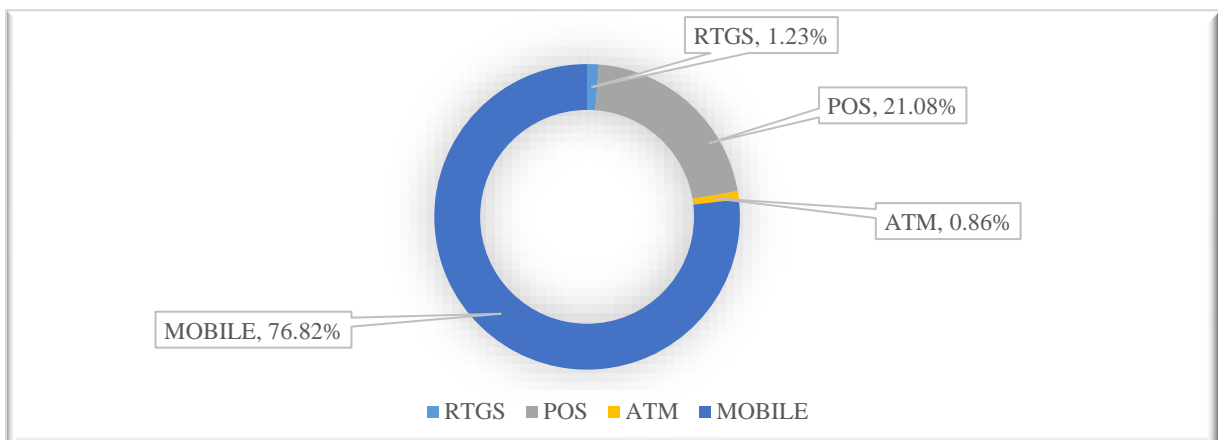
Figure 1: Composition of NPS Transactions in Value Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

During the reporting week, NPS transaction volumes decreased by 11.62% to 13.36 million, from 15.11 million recorded in the preceding week. Mobile based transactions dominated NPS transaction volumes at 76.82% of the total, followed by POS, 21.08%; RTGS, 1.23%; and ATM, 0.86%, as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Composition of NPS Transactions in Volume Terms



Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Table 3: National Payment Systems Activity

PAYMENT STREAM	WEEK ENDING 30 th December 2022	WEEK ENDING 6 th January 2023	% CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	PROPORTION %
Values in ZW\$ millions				
RTGS	493,673.36	457,912.24	-7.24%	83.25%
POS	62,495.94	51,177.94	-18.11%	9.30%
ATM	27,213.09	12,172.60	-55.27%	2.21%
MOBILE	43,773.2	28,751.19	-34.32%	5.23%
TOTAL	627,155.67	550,013.98	-12.30%	100%
Volumes				
RTGS	137,401	164,375	19.63%	1.23%
POS	3,345,824	2,816,453	-15.82%	21.08%
ATM	308,668	115,402	-62.61%	0.86%
MOBILE	11,322,825	10,261,895	-9.37%	76.82%
TOTAL	15,114,718	13,358,125	-11.62%	100%

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

3. INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS

The weekly average prices for palladium, copper, nickel, and crude oil declined during the week ending 6th January 2023. Gold and platinum prices, however registered increases, during the same week. The commodity price developments during the week under analysis are shown in Table 5.

Table 4: Metal and Crude Oil Prices for the week ending 6th January 2023

	Gold	Platinum	Palladium	Copper	Nickel	Crude Oil
2022	US\$/ounce	US\$/ounce	US\$/ounce	US\$/tonne	US\$/tonne	US\$/barrel
Weekly Average (28-30 Dec 22)	1,808.29	1,035.33	1,784.17	8,415.33	30,289.67	84.19
3-Jan-23	1839.15	1084.00	1799.50	8321.50	31118.00	81.93
4-Jan-23	1857.43	1086.50	1729.00	8280.00	29200.00	78.65
5-Jan-23	1842.13	1072.00	1794.00	8439.50	27995.00	79.80
6-Jan-23	1843.35	1060.50	1764.00	8374.50	27748.00	78.60
Weekly Average (3-6 Jan 23)	1,845.51	1,075.75	1,771.63	8,353.88	29,015.25	79.75
Weekly Change (%)	2.06	3.90	-0.70	-0.73	-4.21	-5.28

Source: BBC, KITCO and Bloomberg, 2023

Gold

During the week ending 6th January 2023, yellow metal prices extended their gains to 6-month highs, amid a decline in benchmark U.S. Treasury yields. Investor expectations for further interest rate hikes by the Federal Reserve also supported the increase in prices for the precious metal. Prices rose by 2.06%, from US\$1,808.29 per ounce in the previous week to US\$1,845.51 per ounce during the week under review.

Platinum

Platinum prices increased by 3.90%, from US\$1,035.33 per ounce in the prior week to US\$1,075.75 per ounce during the week under review. The 2023 first quarter report released by the World Platinum Investment Council (WPIC) indicated that the global platinum market was expected to be in deficit. In addition, reports of weakening global mining activity and decreasing supply surpluses also negatively impacted the price of the precious mineral.

Palladium

Palladium prices declined by 0.70%, from US\$1,784.17 per ounce in the prior week to US\$1,771.63 per ounce during the week under analysis. This was on fears of low demand, induced by the global economic recession.

Copper

During the reporting week, copper prices declined by 0.73%, from US\$8,415.33 per tonne in the previous week to US\$8,353.88 per tonne. Prices fell due to a stronger US dollar and deteriorating demand prospects, attributable to weaker growth in China.

Nickel

The week ending 6th January 2023, saw nickel prices decline by 4.21%, from US\$30,289.67 per tonne in the previous week to US\$29,015.25 per tonne. China's manufacturing sector activity contracted at a sharper pace in December 2022, as surging Covid-19 infections disrupted production, negatively impacting the demand for the base metal.

Brent Crude Oil

Crude oil prices declined by 5.28%, from an average of US\$84.19 per barrel recorded in the previous week to US\$79.75 per barrel, during the week ending 6th January 2023. Prices declined amid demand concerns, on the backdrop of surging Covid-19 cases across China, the world's second-largest oil consumer after the United States.

4. EXCHANGE RATE DEVELOPMENTS

Foreign Exchange Auction

On the foreign exchange auction, the ZW\$/US\$ exchange rate remained unchanged at the previous week level of ZW\$671.4466 per US\$1, during the week ending 6th January 2023. This followed the suspension of trading on the foreign exchange auction market during the festive season. The developments in selected exchange rates are as shown in table 6.

Table 5: Foreign Exchange Auction Exchange Rates¹

	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
2022					
Weekly Average (28-30 Dec 22)	671.4466	37.3596	816.9198	52.3703	714.5570
3-Jan-23	671.4466	39.6825	810.3699	52.5101	715.9976
4-Jan-23	671.4466	39.6825	804.5955	52.6765	709.5868
5-Jan-23	671.4466	39.6825	807.9858	52.7787	711.9358
6-Jan-23	671.4466	38.9105	799.1909	52.1073	705.8267
Weekly Average (3-6 Jan 23)	671.4466	39.4895	805.5355	52.5181	710.8367
Appr(-)/Depr(+) (%) of the ZWL	671.4466	39.6825	810.3699	52.5101	715.9976

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

Interbank Market

The Zimbabwe dollar depreciated by 1.6% against the US dollar, from ZW\$681.9636 per US\$1 in the previous week to ZW\$692.8914 per US\$1, as is shown in Table 7.

Table 6: Interbank Market Exchange Rates²

	USD	ZAR	GBP	BWP	EURO
2022					
Weekly Average (28-30 Dec 22)	681.9636	39.8444	820.9868	53.2786	725.7391
3-Jan-23	687.2836	40.6504	829.5538	53.7530	732.9929
4-Jan-23	690.2349	40.7332	827.1443	54.1529	729.4429
5-Jan-23	694.1992	40.9836	835.4353	54.5717	736.1339
6-Jan-23	699.8479	40.6504	833.4200	54.3155	736.1049
Weekly Average (3 - 6 Jan 23)	692.8914	40.7544	831.3883	54.1982	733.6686
Appr(-)/Depr(+) (%) of the ZWL	1.6	2.3	1.3	1.7	1.1

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2023

¹ Direct quote – the amount of domestic currency needed to exchange for 1 unit of foreign currency

² Direct quote – the amount of domestic currency needed to exchange for 1 unit of foreign currency

5. EQUITY MARKETS

Zimbabwe Stock Exchange

During the week ending 6th January 2023, the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) was characterised by bullish sentiment. As a result, the ZSE All Share index added 9.28% to close at 21 303.44 points. All the major indices registered gains, with the Top 10, Top 15, Medium and Small Cap indices adding 10.62%, 10.75%, 6.55%, and 0.47% to close at 13 619.02 points, 14 880.87 points, 39 041.60 points and 454 198.51 points, respectively.

The increase in the mainstream index was on the back of share price gains for Zimre Holdings Limited (49.26%), Ecocash Holdings Zimbabwe Limited (37.53%), Willdale Limited (33.47%), Econet Wireless Zimbabwe Limited (26.63%) and Zimplow Holdings Limited (16.68%). Partially offsetting the share price gains were declines in share prices for Mashonaland Holdings Limited (13.49%), First Mutual Holdings Limited (6.31%), FBC Holdings Limited (3.23%), Innscor Africa Limited (1.96%) and Ariston Holdings Limited (1.33%). The resources index³, however, shed 0.08% to close at 25 466.86 points during the week under analysis.

Table 7: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange Statistics⁴

	All Share Index Points	Top 10 index ³ (points)	Top 15 Index ³ points	Medium Cap ³ (points)	Small Cap ³ (points)	Mining Index (points)	Grand Market Capitalization (ZWL billion)	Market Turnover (ZWL million)	Volume of Shares (million)
2-Dec-22	14,834.46	8,672.55	9,651.03	33,287.86	472,431.36	25,478.67	1,639.41	19,945.42	74.38
9-Dec-22	14,725.07	8,554.60	9,555.30	33,247.33	454,952.47	25,478.67	1,627.74	2,153.16	66.71
16-Dec-22	15,395.20	9,047.37	9,724.88	33,726.07	440,757.50	25,487.77	1,611.60	1,223.94	12.88
23-Dec-22	17,350.85	10,704.59	11,831.11	34,786.56	450,615.30	25,487.77	1,817.21	2,672.76	143.71
30-Dec-22	19,493.85	12,311.13	13,436.28	36,642.44	452,056.95	25,487.77	2,044.87	2,086.30	182.46
6-Jan-23	21,303.44	13,619.02	14,880.57	39,041.60	454,198.51	25,466.86	2,250.89	2,194.26	25.55
% Change	9.28	10.62	10.75	6.55	0.47	-0.08	10.07	5.17	-85.99

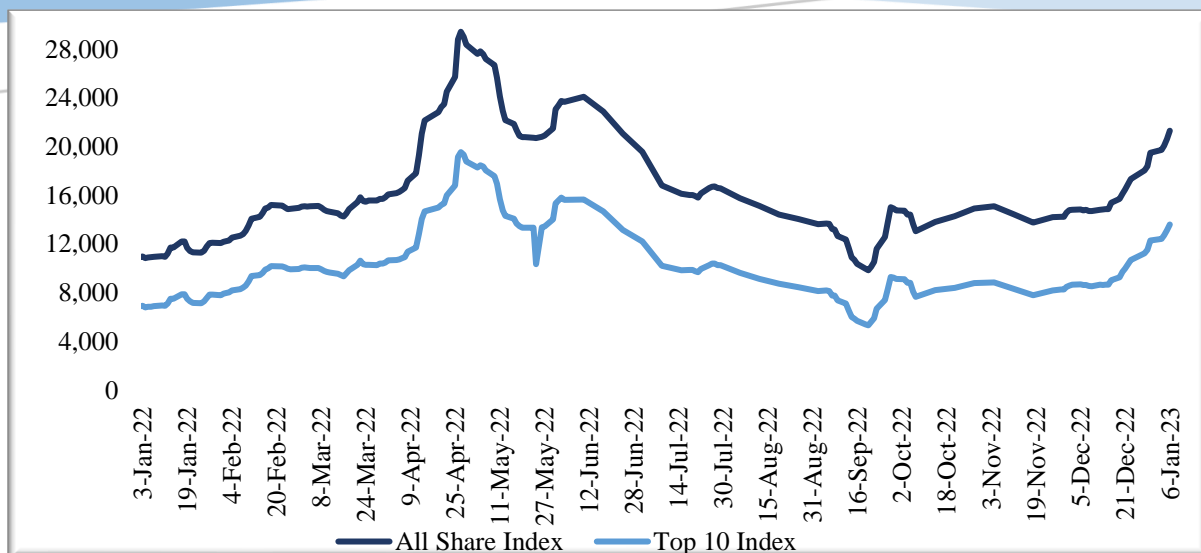
Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE), 2023

Figure 3 shows the trend in daily market turnover for the period from 3rd January 2022 to 6th January 2023.

³ Resource Index – Comprise RioZim Limited Share Price

⁴ The Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) adopted the Global Industry Classification Standards, effective from 1 January 2020. The ZSE indices constitute the following categories; Top 10 Index; Top 15; Top 25; Medium cap and Small cap Indices.

Figure 3: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange All Share and Top 10 Indices

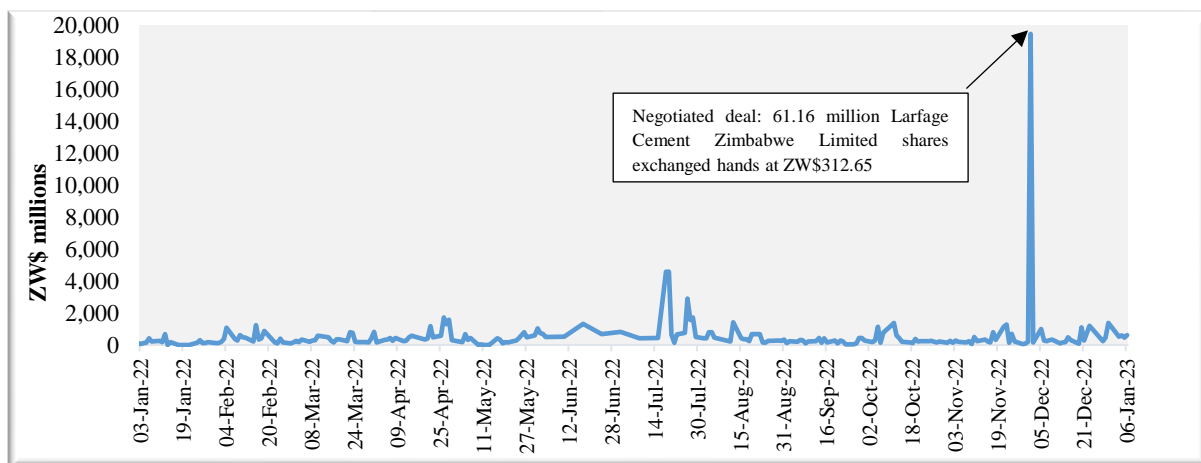


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2023

Market Turnover and Volume

Trading activity on the ZSE was concentrated in some selected high value counters. This was reflected by the 5.17% increase in the cumulative value of shares traded on the local bourse, from ZW\$2.09 billion in the previous week to ZW\$2.19 billion, during the week ending 6th January 2023, despite that the cumulative volumes traded were lower than in the previous week. The cumulative volume of shares traded declined by 85.99% to 25.55 million shares during the week under review, from 182.46 million reported in the preceding week. Figure 4 shows the trend in daily market turnover for the period from 3rd January 2022 to 6th January 2023.

Figure 4: Daily Market Turnover

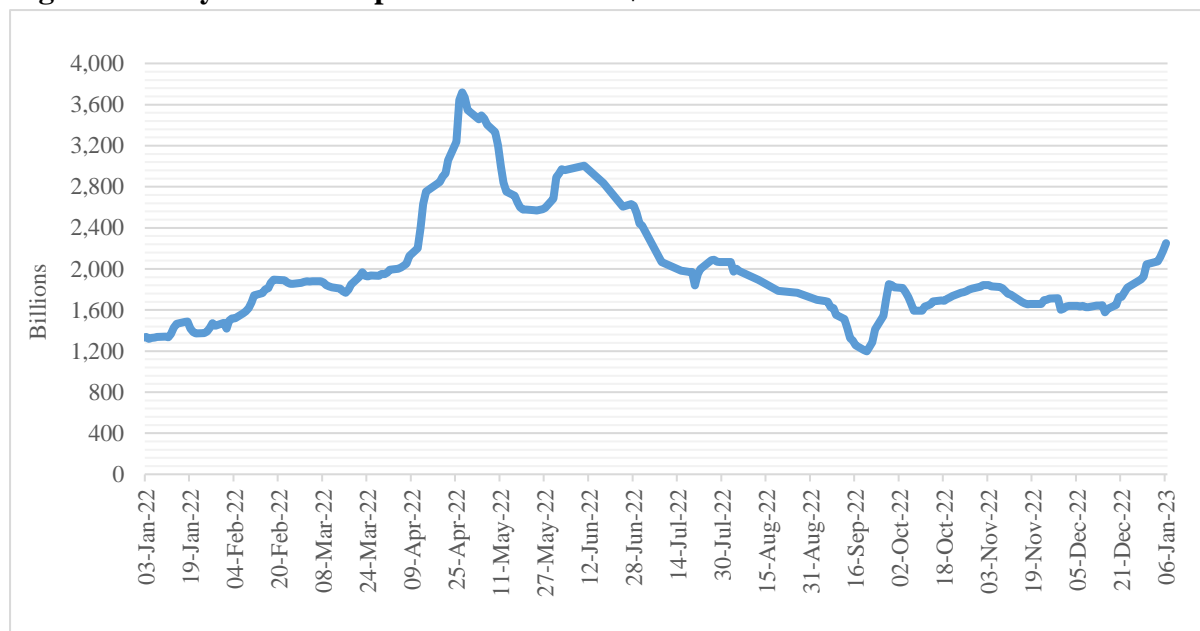


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2023

Market Capitalization

The local bourse added ZW\$206.02 billion or 10.07% worth of capitalisation to close at ZW\$2,250.89 billion, during the reporting week. Figure 5 shows the evolution of the ZSE market capitalization for the period from 3rd January 2022 to 6th January 2023.

Figure 5: Daily Market Capitalization in ZW\$ billions

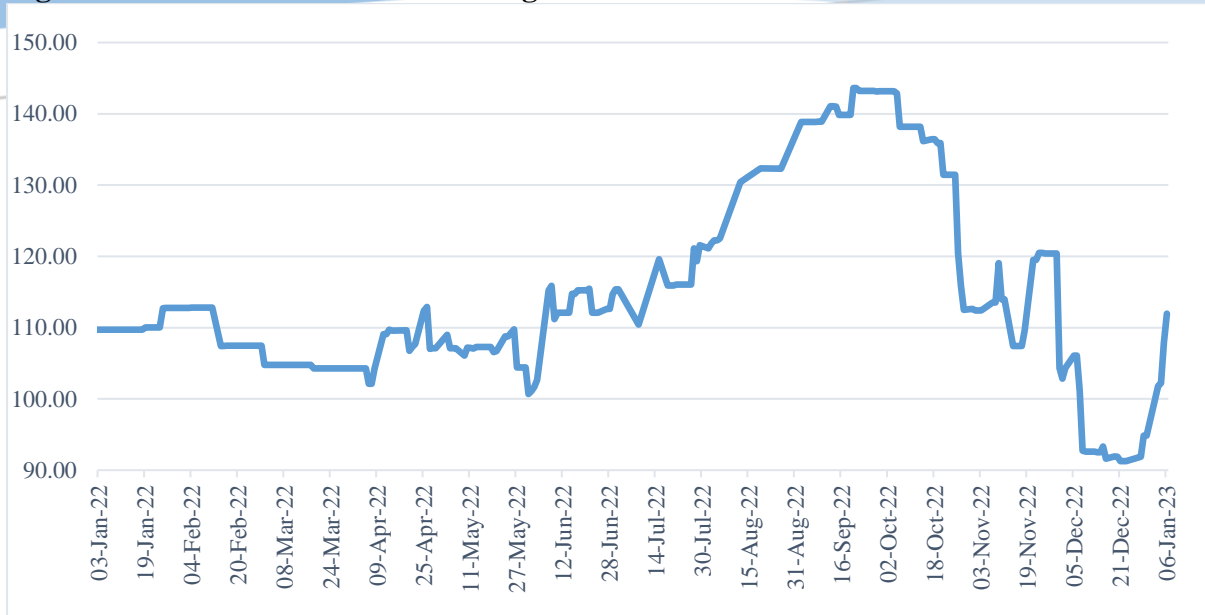


Source: Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, 2023

Victoria Falls Stock Exchange

The Victoria Falls Stock Exchange (VFEX) was also characterised by bullish sentiment, during the week ending 6th January 2023. This resulted in an 18.07% increase in the VFEX All Share index to 111.96 points. Cumulatively, the volume of shares traded on the VFEX increased by 820.49% to 0.80 million shares, during the week under review. In concomitance, the value of shares traded increased by 1 134% to US\$0.261 million, during the same week. VFEX market capitalization stood at US\$0.64 billion, an increase of 49.78% or US\$0.22 billion from US\$0.42 billion recorded in the previous week. Figure 6 shows the trend in the VFEX All Share Index (ASI) for the period from 3rd January 2022 to 6th January 2023.

Figure 6: Victoria Falls Stock Exchange All Share Index



Source: Victoria Falls Stock Exchange, 2023

Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Developments

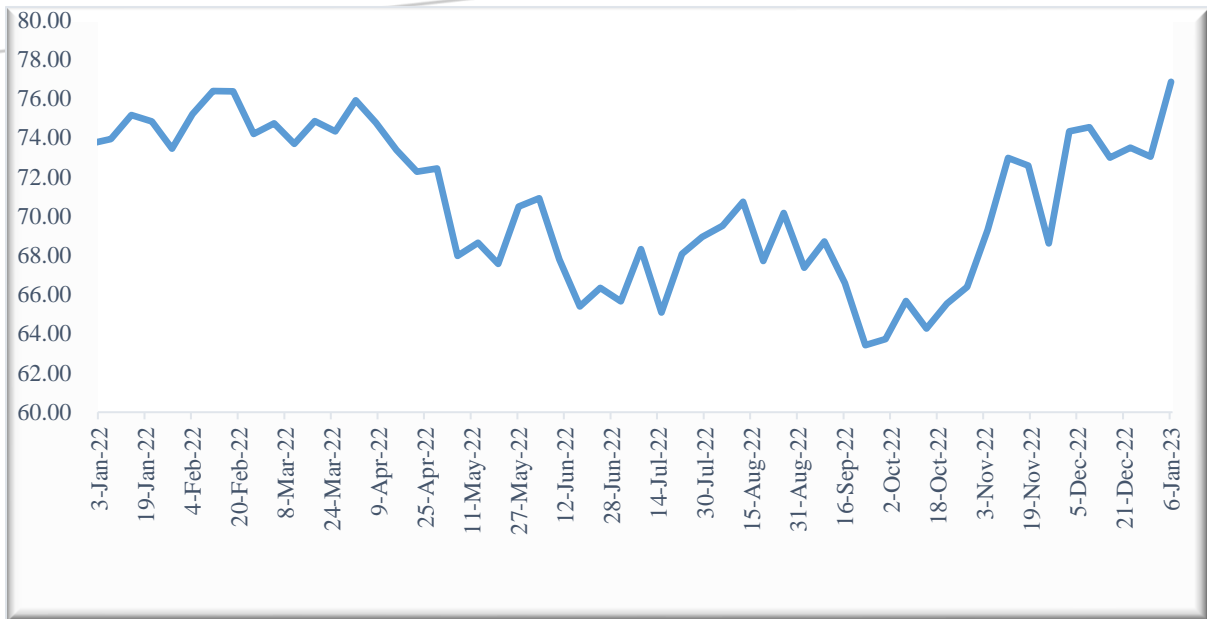
The Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) All Share Index increased from 73,048.57 points in the previous week to close at 76,858.94 points, during the week ending 6th January 2023. JSE market capitalization also rose by 4.50% to ZAR22.30 trillion, during the same week.

Table 8: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Statistics

Period	All Share Index (points)	Market Capitalization (ZAR trillions)
2-Dec-22	74,322.91	21.87
9-Dec-22	74,548.14	21.95
16-Dec-22	72,989.34	21.60
23-Dec-22	73,493.47	21.45
30-Dec-22	73,048.57	21.34
6-Jan-23	76,858.94	22.30
% Change	5.22	4.50

Source: <https://www.jse.co.za/services/market-data/market-statistics>, 2023

Figure 7: Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) All Share Index



Source: <https://www.jse.co.za/services/market-data/market-statistics,2023>

RESERVE BANK OF ZIMBABWE

APPENDIX 1: FOREIGN EXCHANGE AUCTION RESULTS FOR MAINFX⁵ AND SMEFX⁶

	MAINFX				SMEFX			
	25-Nov-22	2-Dec-22	9-Dec-22	16-Dec-22	25-Nov-22	2-Dec-22	9-Dec-22	16-Dec-22
Total Bids (US\$ dollars)	13,364,555.93	14,927,728.26	11,611,744.04	14,788,371.00	1,360,318.99	1,502,476.81	1,314,538.84	1,643,791.52
Amount Allotted (US\$ dollars)	9,963,555.58	13,914,092.56	10,266,799.53	14,031,231.84	1,198,534.51	1,401,209.57	1,284,863.86	1,451,144.38
Highest Rate	671	678.55	678	690	673	677	675	690
Lowest Bid Rate	671	678.55	678	690	635	677	675	690
Lowest Bid Rate Allotted	635	645	655	665	635	645	655	665
Weighted Average Rate	646.2415	654.8651	661.5605	671.4466	646.2415	654.8651	661.5605	671.4466
Number of Bids Received	91	104	90	116	131	155	132	161
Number of Bids Rejected	2	2	3	5	7	4	4	4

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

*The last foreign currency auction for 2022 was on the 13th of December 2022 and the first foreign currency auction for 2023 will be on the 10th of January 2023

⁵ Main Foreign Currency Auction

⁶ Small and Medium Enterprises Foreign Currency Auction

APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF FOREIGN CURRENCY AUCTION ALLOTMENTS BY PURPOSE

Purpose	MAINFX				SMEFX			
	25-Nov-22	2-Dec-22	9-Dec-22	16-Dec-22	25-Nov-22	2-Dec-22	9-Dec-22	16-Dec-22
Raw Materials	3,604,555.93	8,010,859.24	5,632,710.55	7,415,722.05	402,137.60	503,463.63	495,619.80	440,768.32
Machinery and Equipment	2,380,110.56	1,832,584.25	1,178,715.22	1,939,871.65	372,503.96	414,098.19	388,883.96	474,206.09
Consumables (Incl. Spares, Tyres, Packaging)	887,266.17	628,158.09	897,668.55	1,153,586.05	158,705.29	121,555.19	123,572.10	151,600.13
Pharmaceuticals and Chemicals	498,493.23	675,184.11	400,182.54	408,105.38	26,037.83	64,239.77	36,526.82	88,011.65
Services (Loans, Dividends and Disinvestments)	1,414,437.87	1,576,236.16	1,629,195.33	1,845,029.69	72,326.33	120,709.41	101,699.68	162,305.52
Retail and Distribution	456,596.30	961,561.26	113,162.79	622,726.66	130,237.34	121,047.25	422,273.40	103,189.74
Fuel, Electricity and Gas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper and Packaging	722,095.52	229,509.45	106,053.94	646,190.36	36,586.16	56,095.78	25,398.71	31,062.93
TOTAL	9,963,555.58	13,914,092.56	10,266,799.53	14,031,231.84	1,198,534.51	1,401,209.57	1,284,863.86	1,451,144.38

Source: Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, 2022

*The last foreign currency auction for 2022 was on the 13th of December 2022 and the first foreign currency auction for 2023 will be on the 10th of January 2023