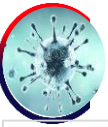




...Government of Zimbabwe "GoZ" purchases additional 600k doses of Sinopharm Vaccines ...

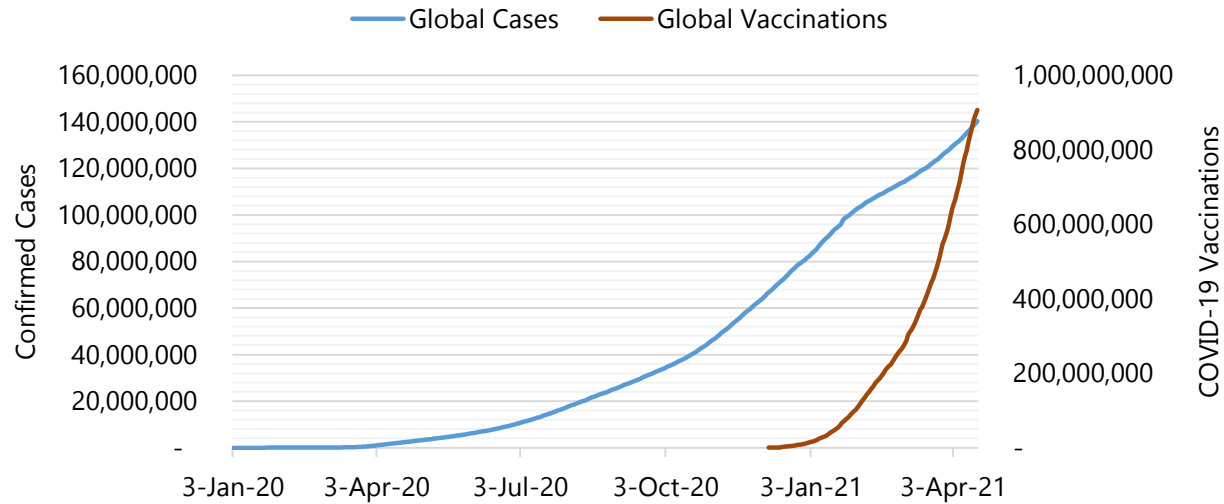
THE CBZ ECONOMIC BRIEF

Week Ending 16 April 2021

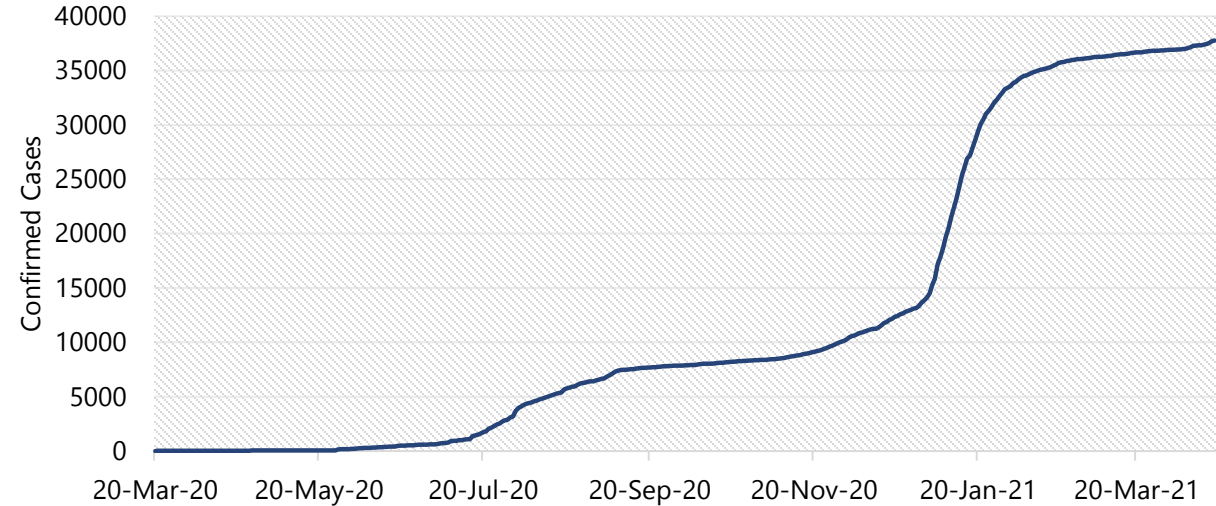


COVID-19 | Global Status as at 18 April 2021

Graph 1: Global Cumulative COVID-19 Cases and Vaccination Trends



Graph 2: Zimbabwe Cumulative COVID-19 Cases as at 18 April 2021



Sources: World Health Organisation & Ministry of Health & Child Care (Zimbabwe)

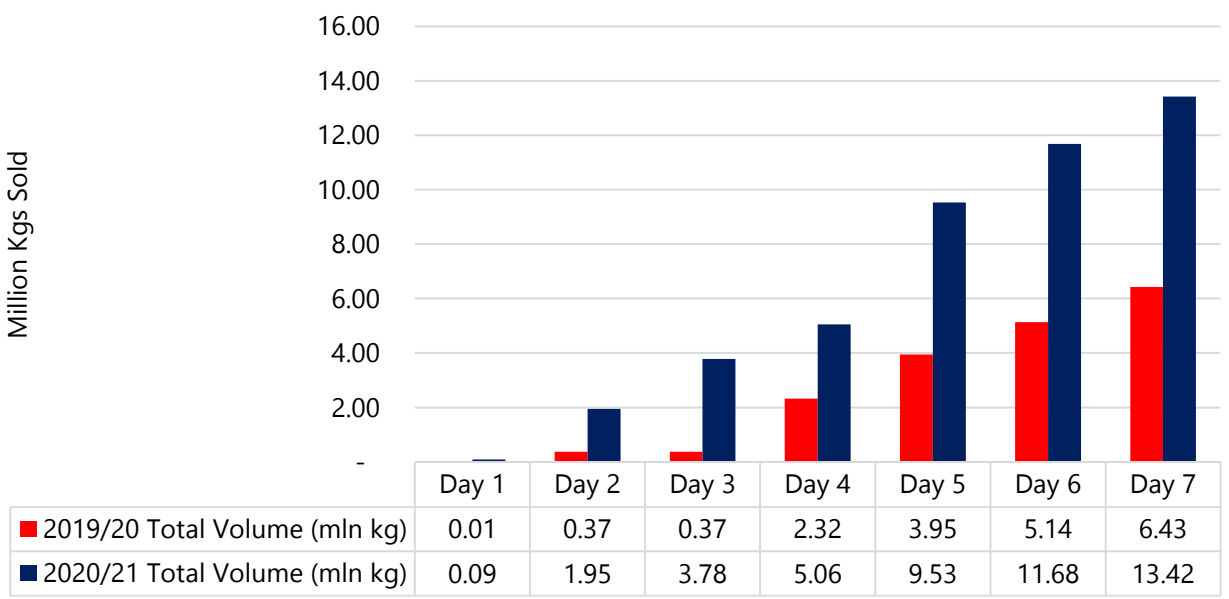
Notable Trends in Cases for the Week

- A total of 5.2m new coronavirus cases were recorded during the week to 18 April 2021, bringing the global cumulative cases to 140m. During the same period, cumulative COVID-19 vaccinations administered globally rose by 12.6% to 906m— **Graph 1**. Meanwhile, the U.S, South Africa and European Union temporarily stopped the rollout of the Johnson and Johnson “J&J” COVID-19 vaccine after reports of rare blood clots by the U.S Federal and Drug Administration “FDA”.
- In Africa, cumulative cases increased by 1.4% to 3.23m. South Africa remained the most infected country in the continent with 1.6m cases, followed by Morocco (505k), Tunisia (285k), Ethiopia (242k) and Egypt (216k). Meanwhile Malawi announced that it will destroy 16.4k doses of COVID-19 vaccines received under the African Union’s COVAX programme after they reached their expiration date before being used.
- In Zimbabwe, confirmed cases rose to 37,751 after an additional 463 new cases were recorded during the week - **Graph 2**. Resultantly, the national recovery rate declined to 92.9% as at 18 April 2021, from 93.5% recorded at end of the previous period reflecting increase in new cases. Meanwhile, the government announced that the country purchased an additional 600k doses of Sinopharm vaccines, while authority to buy 5m more doses of COVID-19 vaccines was approved.
- Meanwhile, according to the National Bureau of Statistics “NBS”, China’s economy grew by 18.3% in Q1 2021 compared to the same period last year where the economy recorded a contraction of 6.8% during the height of domestic outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Compared to the previous quarter (Q4 2020), the economy grew by 0.6% in Q1 2021. In the U.K, the economy is estimated to have grown by 0.4% in February 2021, 7.8% below the February 2020 levels. The modest growth reflected the impact of COVID-19 induced restrictions on the economic activity.
- According to the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries “OPEC”, the world oil demand is estimated to have contracted by 9.5 million barrel per day “mb/d” in 2020 as the COVID-19 lockdown measures disproportionately affected mobility and thereby oil demand. In the outlook, the organisation projects the demand to grow by around 6 mb/d in 2021.

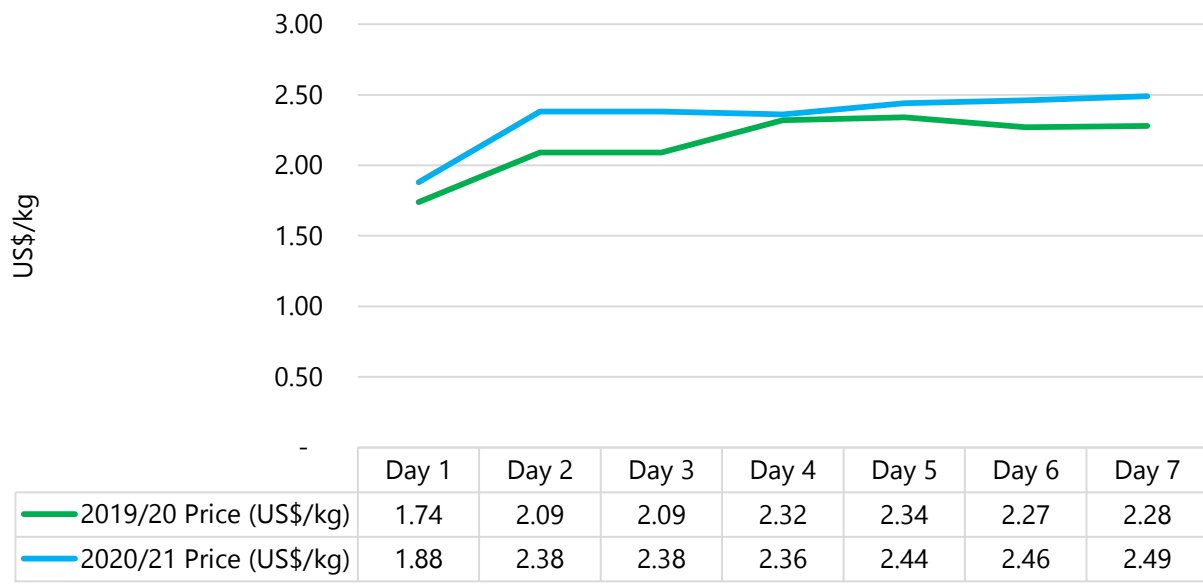


ZIMBABWE | THE 2020/21 TOBACCO MARKETING SEASON

Graph 3: Daily Tobacco Sales Statistics



Graph 4: Comparative Prices- 2019 vs 2020



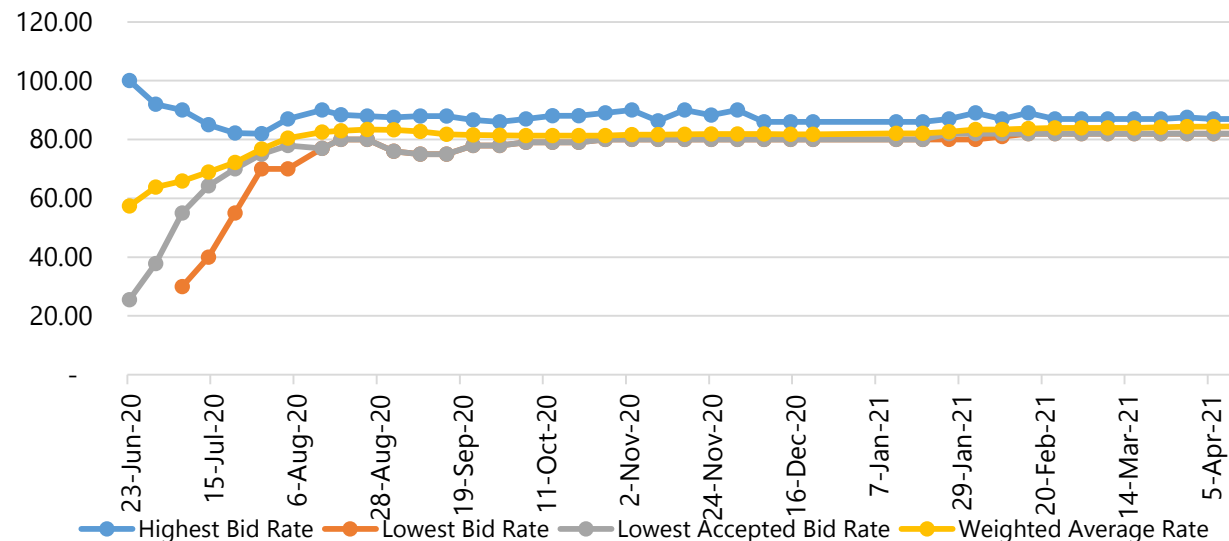
- According to the Tobacco Industry and Marketing Board "TIMB", the total volume of tobacco sold increased by 109% to 13.4m kgs as at Day 7 compared to 6.4m kgs recorded during the same period last year- **Graph 3**. Total value of sales increased by 128% to US\$33.4m as at Day 7, from US\$14.7m recorded during the same period last year.
- The average price rose by 9% to US\$2.49/kg, compared to the last year's average price of US\$2.26/kg- **Graph 4**.



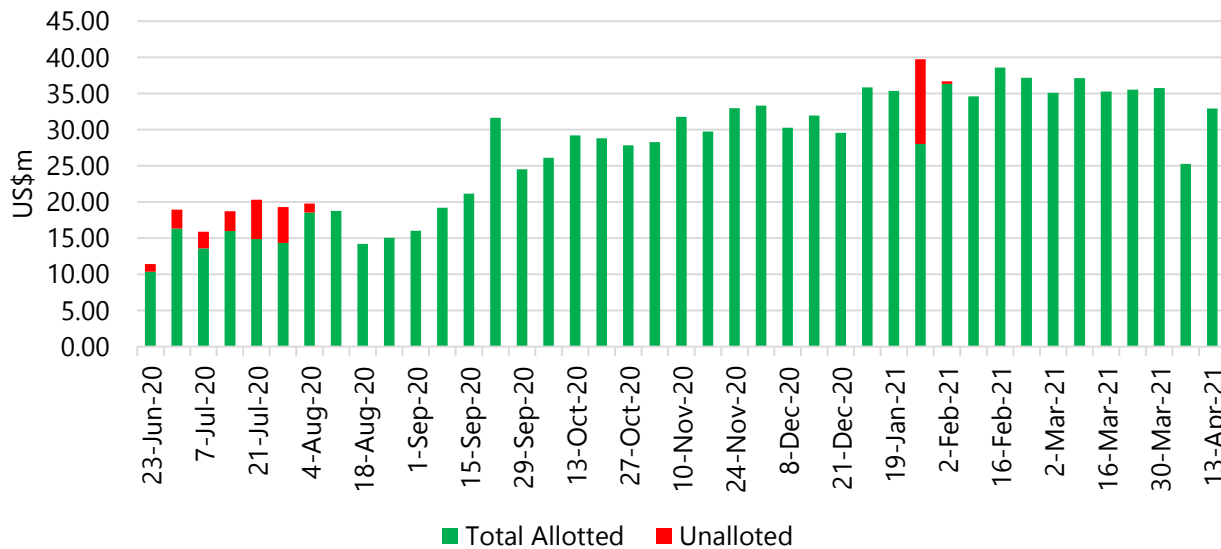
Foreign Currency Market Developments

- The ZW\$ declined by 0.1% against the U.S dollar to trade at ZWL\$84.48/USD during the last auction held by the RBZ on Tuesday, 13 April 2021-**Graph 5**.
- The lowest and highest bid rates were unchanged at 87.0 and 82.0, on the main auction respectively.
- The total number of allotted bids increased from 334 to 524. Resultantly, total allotment for the week decreased by 29% to US\$32.9m, from US\$25.3m that was allotted during the previous week – **Graph 6a**. The largest weekly allotments were for raw materials (US\$14.7m), machinery & equipment (US\$6.3m), services (US\$2.7m), pharmaceuticals (US\$2.6m), consumables (US\$2.2m) and fuel, electricity & gas (US\$2.1m)- **Graph 8b**.

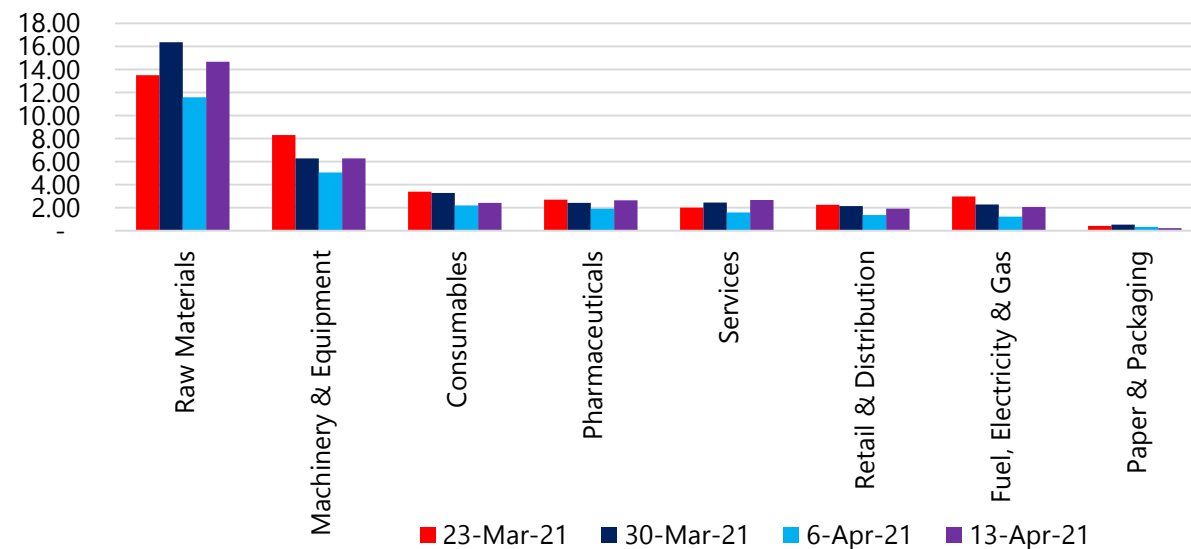
Graph 5: FX Auction Market Bid Rates Trend



Graph 6a: Foreign Currency Auction Allotments



Graph 6b: FX Allotments Per Sector





Graph 7: ZSE Indices

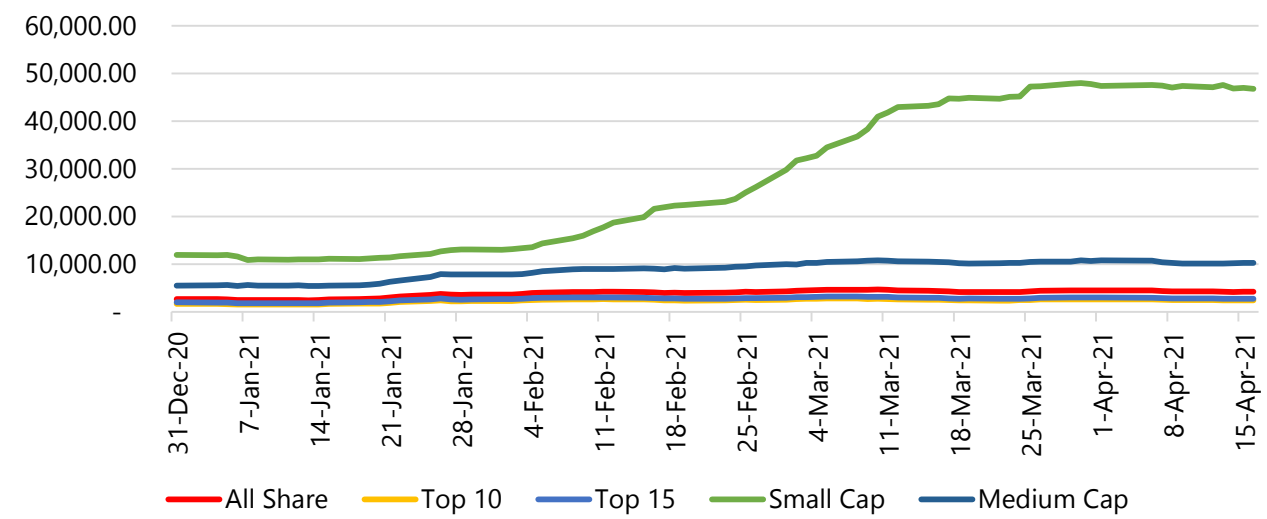
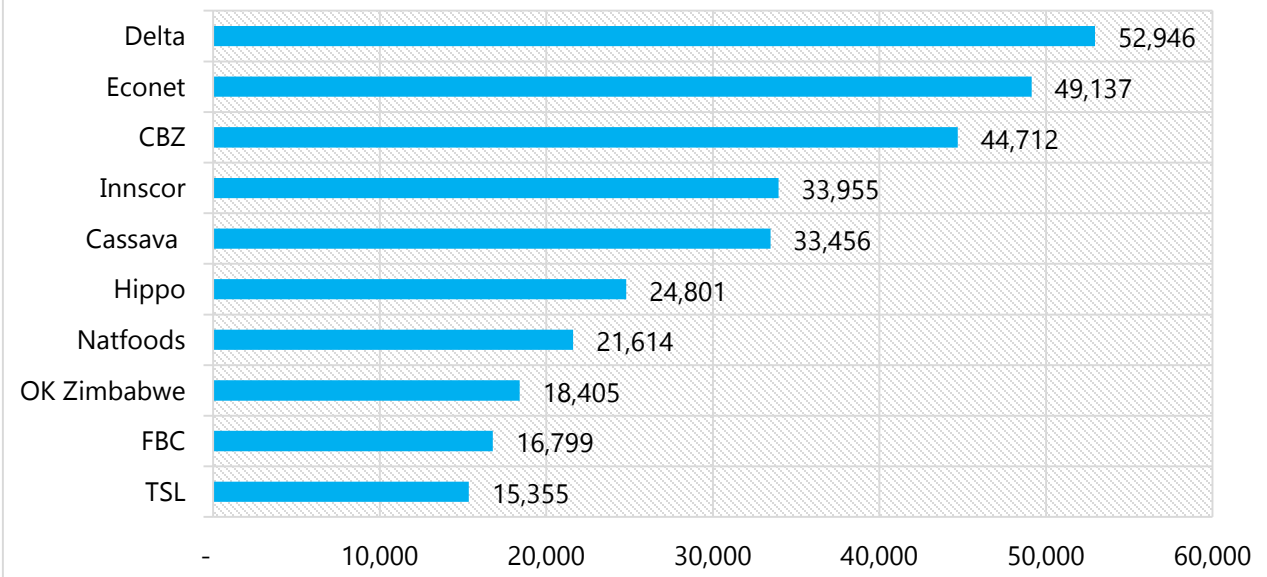


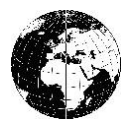
Table 1: ZSE Movers and Shakers

Movers	9-Apr-21	16-Apr-21	Weekly Change (%)
Nampak	851.04	1,058.33	24.4%
FML	1,610.00	1,950.00	21.1%
CBZ	7,461.04	8,554.75	14.7%
Star Africa	52.33	58.19	11.2%
Meikles	4,380.00	4,800.06	9.6%
Shakers	9-Apr-21	16-Apr-21	Weekly Change (%)
MedTech	11.60	10.13	-12.7%
Hippo	14,700.00	12,848.92	-12.6%
Axia	1,708.05	1,500.24	-12.2%
BAT	79,900.00	71,500.00	-10.5%
African Sun	239.12	217.63	-9.0%

Graph 8: ZSE Top 10 Counters By Market Capitalisation-ZWL\$m



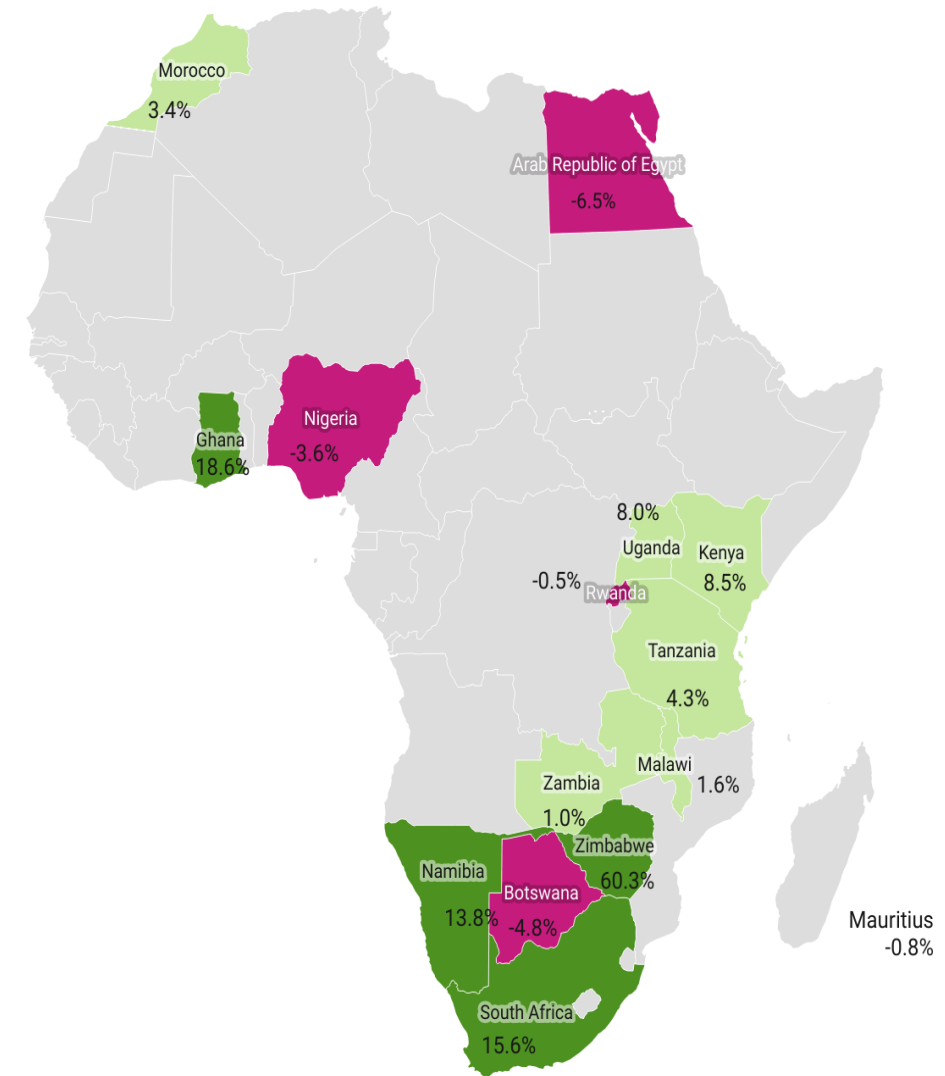
- On the ZSE, with the exception of the Medium Cap Index, most indices recorded weekly declines led by the Top 10 Index (-2.3%). The benchmark All Share Index declined by 1.0% to close the week at 4,226.47 points –**Graph 7**.
- Packaging manufacturer, Nampak, led the market movers with a weekly gain of 24.4%, followed by financial services conglomerates FML (+21.1%), CBZ (+14.7%) and sugar refinery Star Africa (+11.2%). However, market gains were offset by losses in MedTech (-12.7%), Hippo (-12.6%), Axia (-12.2%), BAT (-10.5%) and African Sun (-9.0%)–**Table 1**.
- Delta remained the largest counter on the ZSE with a market capitalisation to ZWL\$52.9b, followed by Econet (ZWL\$49.1b), CBZ (ZWL\$44.7b), Innscor (ZWL\$34.0b) and Cassava (ZWL\$33.5b) –**Graph 8**.
- Meanwhile, NMBZ Holdings Limited is seeking shareholder approval to delist from the London Stock Exchange “LSE” as trade volumes of its stock on the bourse remain depressed. The financial institution further noted that the cancellation will not adversely affect its shareholders, since the company’s common shares will continue to be listed on the ZSE and will continue to be tradeable.



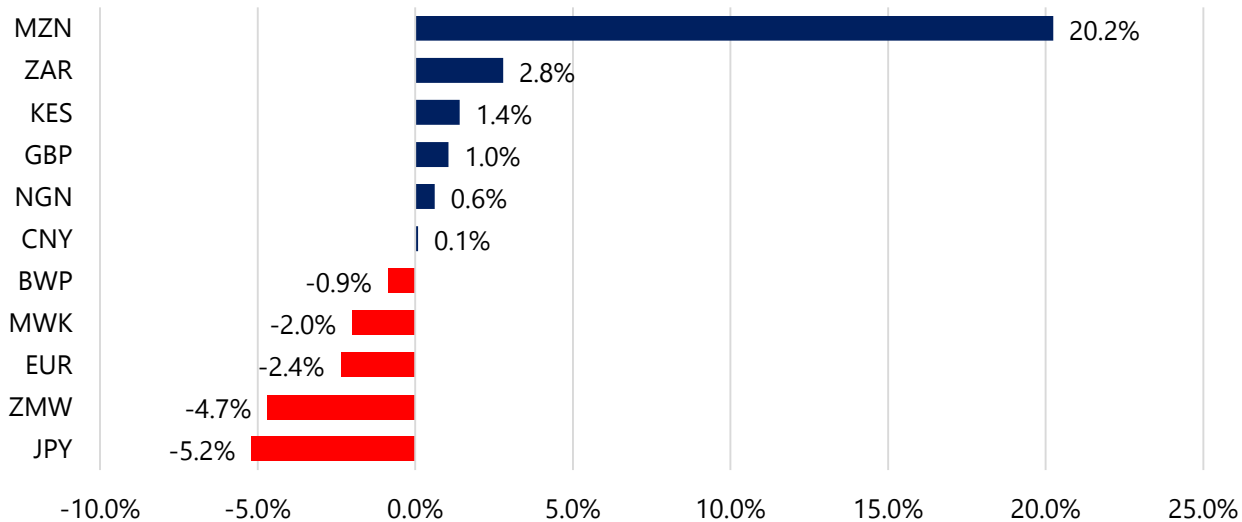
REGIONAL & GLOBAL FINANCIAL MARKETS

- On the global markets, mixed performances were recorded for the week, with the major benchmarks in Asia recording the second successive weeks of losses despite seemingly strong China GDP data for the first quarter of 2021.
- The Japanese Nikkei 225 Stock Average lost 0.7% while China’s Shanghai Composite Index shed 0.3%. In Europe and the U.S, FTSE 100 and DJIA recorded weekly gains of 1.5% and 1.2%, respectively.
- In African, most stock markets under our watch recorded weekly gains, led by Kenya which recorded a gain of 4.1%. On a year-to-date “YTD” basis, Zimbabwe recorded remained the best performer with a gain of 62.0%. It was followed by Ghana (+18.6%) and South Africa (+15.6%)- **Chart 1**.
- Meanwhile, the central banks of Namibia “BoN” and Uganda “BoU” maintained their policy rates unchanged at 3.75% and 7.00% respectively, citing the need to support their domestic economic activities amid the negative impact of COVID-19 outbreak.
- On the currencies market, the U.S dollar index lost 0.7% for the week to 91.56. Graph **11** below depicts YTD performances of major currencies against the U.S dollar.

Chart 1: Selected African Equities Markets- YTD Performances



Graph 10: Major Currencies vs the USD-YTD Movements-16 April 2021



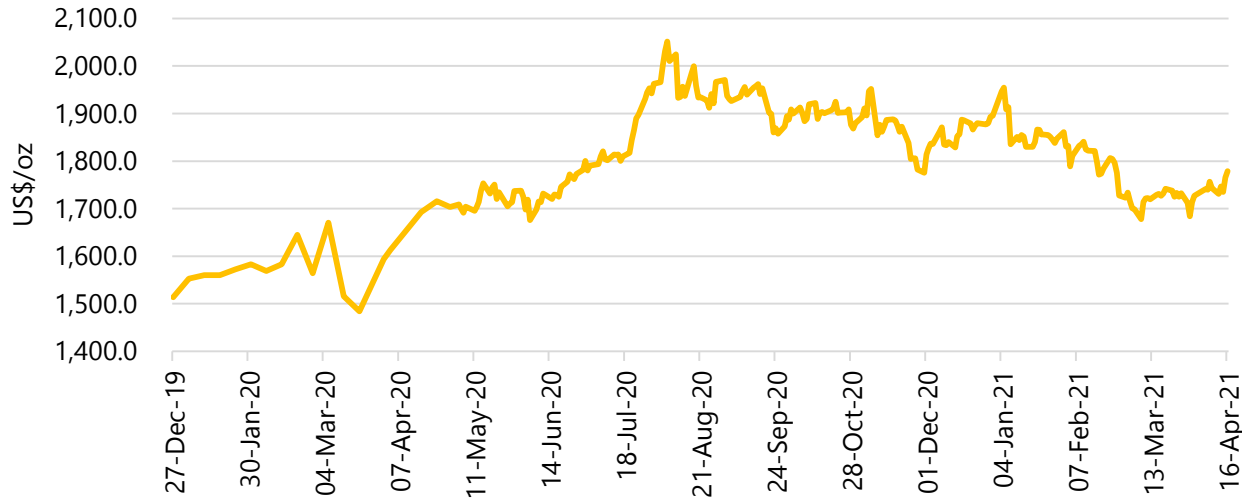


GLOBAL COMMODITY PRICE MOVEMENTS

MINERALS



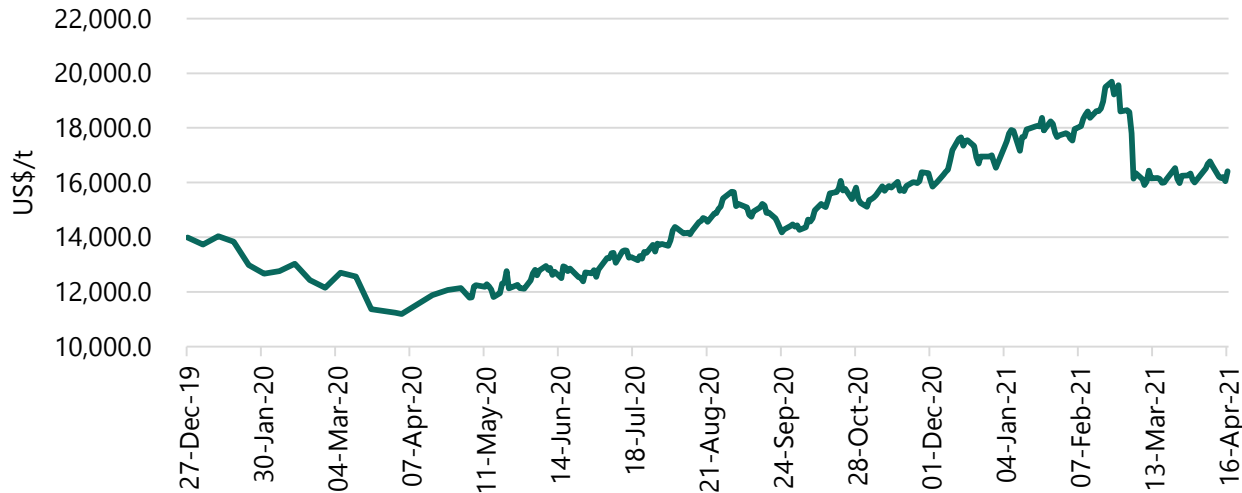
Gold prices - US\$/oz



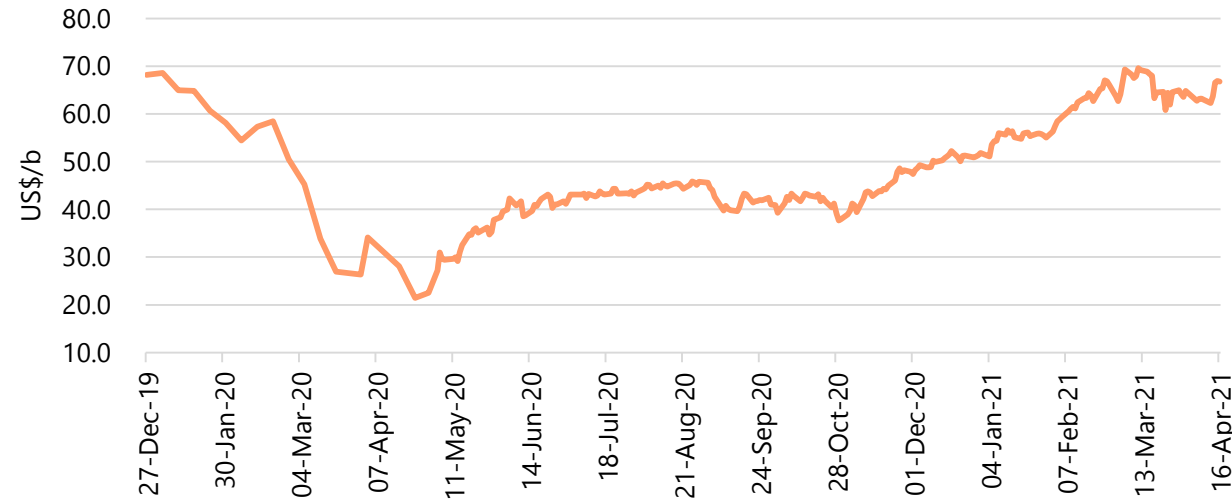
Platinum price - US\$/oz



Nickel price - US\$/t



Oil prices - US\$/b



Source: Quandl

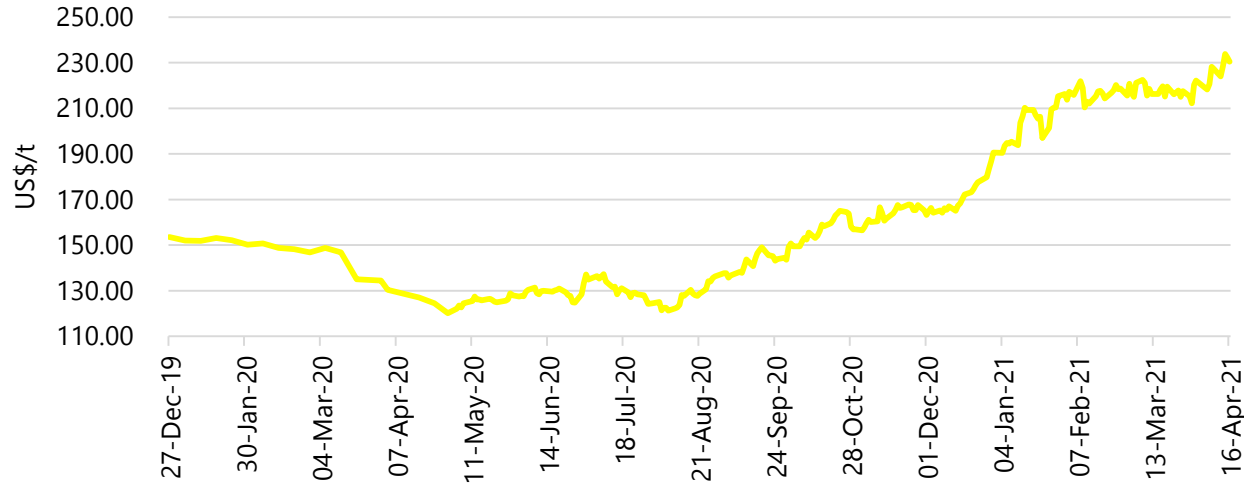


GLOBAL COMMODITY PRICE MOVEMENTS

AGRIC COMMODITIES



Corn - US\$/t



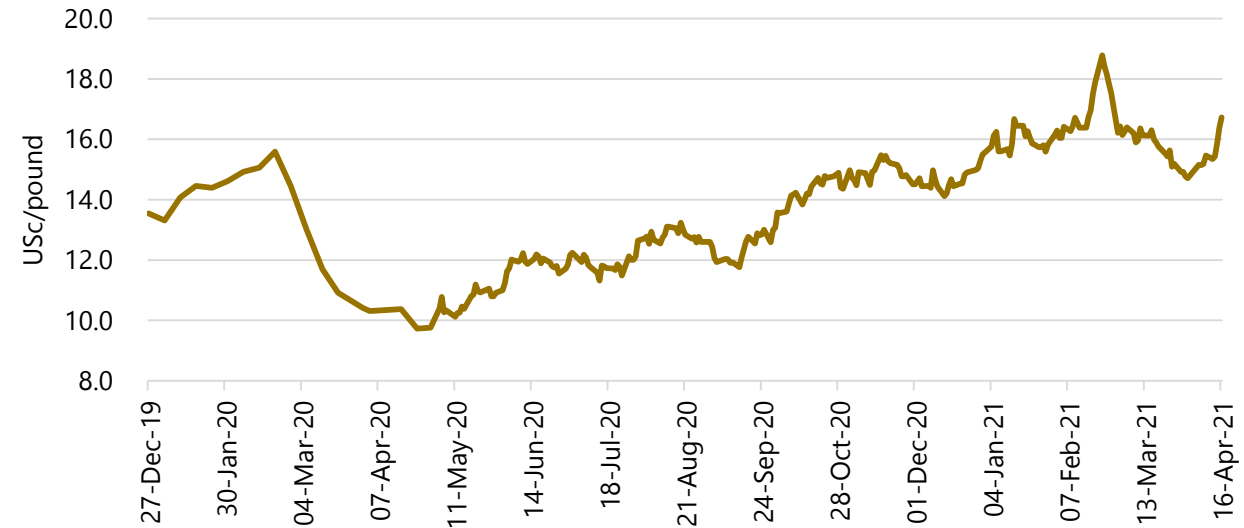
Cotton - USc/pound



Wheat - US\$/t



Sugar - USc/pound



Source: Quandl

Date	Event	Period	Forecast	Previous
Local				
20 April 2021	RBZ Foreign Exchange Auction Market	21-27 April 2021		84.4827
Regional & International				
19 April 2021	People's Bank of China "PBoC" Interest Rate Decision	April 2021		3.85%
20 April 2021	U.K Unemployment Rate	February 2021	5.1%	5.0%
21 April 2021	U.K CPI m/m (y/y)	March 2021	0.3% (0.7%)	0.1% (0.4%)
21 April 2021	South Africa CPI m/m (y/y)	March 2021	0.9% (3.1%)	0.7% (2.9%)
21 April 2021	U.S Crude Oil Inventories			-5.889m
22 April 2021	European Central Bank "ECB" Monetary Policy Statement			
22 April 2021	ECB Interest Rate Decision	April 2021	0.00%	0.00%
23 April 2021	U.K Manufacturing PMI	April 2021		58.9
23 April 2021	Euro Zone Manufacturing PMI	April 2021	62.0	62.5
23 April 2021	U.S Manufacturing PMI	April 2021	60.5	59.1

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