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Contents of Petition: 5th March 2025 @ 14:30

Electoral Reforms are the basis for Democracy in Zimbabwe	2
In respect to the "Second Republic:.....	2
Replacement of ZEC	2
Radical Electoral Reforms: Key Components and Success Factors.....	3
Diaspora Voting Rights	3
Independent Electoral Oversight	3
Media and Campaign Equity	3
Role of Blockchain Systems	4
Practical Steps and Challenges for Blockchain	5
Broader Context and Feasibility	5
What we are Seeking from HM Government.....	5
But NOW	6
We seek your 'support' to enact this proposal and the requisite ability to fund such a proposition via a multitude of pro-democratic institutions.....	6
Petition Organisers, Petitioners and Contributors	7
https://zexit.org/zexit/electoral-reforms-member-views	7
Appendices: Appendix 1: Diaspora Concerns also on.....	8
https://zexit.org/zexit/electoral-reforms-member-views	8
Appendix 2: Zimbabwe Blog Posts Weaponised Judiciary	10
Appendix 3: Twitter @Steve_Hanke Economist 4 th March 2025	11
https://x.com/steve_hanke/status/1896878291988230269	11
Appendix 4: The Size of the Diaspora – GROK3 Estimation Considerations	11
Why the Discrepancy?	12
Conclusion: Accuracy Assessment	12

Please note that the Founders of ZHRO {Zimbabwe Human Rights Organisation} are the website administrators for the following platforms

- <https://zhro.org.uk>
- <https://zexit.org>
- <https://take2zimbabwe.com> and <https://take2zimbabwe.org>
- <https://zimvigil.org> and <https://zimvigil.com>
- <https://z-dc.com>
- <https://ccc-diaspora.com>
- <https://zapu.org> and <https://zapu.info>
- <https://gukurahundi.info>
- Twitter/X @ZHRO_Zimbabwe
- Various on Facebook

Organised by ZAPU UK & Zimbabwe, ROHR, CCC UK and ZHRO (Zimbabwe Human Rights Organisation}
c/o **Return Address:** 4 Horton Place, Angmering, LITTLEHAMPTON, UK. BN16 4GL



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Zimbabwe's 'government' {regime of occupation} - corruption & looting stem from entrenched systemic issues, including the domination of Electoral oversight, the Judiciary, Police and Military. Furthermore, the Parliament is simply a masquerade with the real power exercised by an unelected POLITBURO.

Electoral Reforms are the basis for Democracy in Zimbabwe

"With the ruling ZANU PF party embroiled in internal factional battles, the political scene in Zimbabwe is approaching interesting times. Unfortunately, the opposition is focused on the fallout within ZANU PF while the most urgent issue—electoral reform—is being side-lined. Without fundamental changes to the electoral system, the next election is likely to be another manipulated process that keeps ZANU PF in power against the will of the people, whether it's Mnangagwa or Chiwenga at the helm." Charles Kanyimo ZHRO -- 20th Feb 2025

<https://zhro.org.uk/human-rights-uk/zim-updates/169-electoral-reforms-a-vital-condition>

In respect to the "Second Republic:

"The so called Second Republic is nothing but a crime scene. An arrogant extractive sobriquet that has no limits, no elasticity and no shame."

Made 3rd March 2025 - @BitiTendai

<https://x.com/BitiTendai/status/1896443415774236807>

""After the dramatic coup that ended Robert Mugabe's autocratic rule in November 2017, the so-called new dispensation that emerged, pinned every form of repression on the despotism of Robert Mugabe's First Republic. Claiming to be as soft as wool, the recycled leadership of the Second Republic made lofty promises of a new dawn of freedom in Zimbabwe. The lie barely lasted a year before default settings kicked back in.""

Made 2nd March 2025 – Richard Gandari, ZAPU National Spokesperson

<https://zapu.org/join-hands-to-unite-zimbabwe>

Replacement of ZEC

<https://x.com/i/grok/share/J4KqCxmV6pgDcFS59gd5hz32V> **An Idea Worth Discussion**

Zimbabwe's 45 years of independence, marked by political dominance of the ZANU-PF party, economic instability, and recurring electoral controversies, call for bold solutions to restore democratic integrity and national progress. Radical electoral reforms, including enabling the diaspora vote and leveraging blockchain systems, could address entrenched issues like voter suppression, fraud, and lack of trust in the electoral process. Below, I outline how these reforms could succeed and the role blockchain technology could play, while critically examining challenges and practicalities.

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Radical Electoral Reforms: Key Components and Success Factors

Diaspora Voting Rights

Why It Matters: Over 900,000¹ {or as many as 2-5 million!} Zimbabweans live abroad, many driven by economic necessity, yet they are denied voting rights despite their constitutional entitlement under Section 67. Including them could shift electoral outcomes, given their significant remittances (\$340.5 million surplus in 2022) and potential opposition leanings.

How It Could Succeed:

- **Legal Framework:** Amend the Electoral Act to explicitly grant diaspora voting rights, aligning with regional trends (e.g., South Africa, Botswana, Namibia). President Mnangagwa's unfulfilled 2018 promise provides a political starting point.
- **Implementation:** Establish voting mechanisms like postal voting, embassy polling stations, or secure online platforms. Countries like Senegal (42% diaspora turnout in 2024) demonstrate feasibility.
- **Mobilization:** Engage diaspora networks (e.g., Zimbabwe Diaspora Vote Initiative) to ensure registration and participation, countering logistical apathy.
- **Challenges:** ZANU-PF resistance is likely, fearing loss of control, as diaspora voters may favor opposition parties. Funding and infrastructure for overseas voting also require international support, which could be politicized.

Independent Electoral Oversight

Why It Matters: The Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC) lacks credibility due to perceived partisanship, military influence (15% of 2018 ZEC members were ex-military), and opaque vote counting (e.g., 2023 election irregularities).

How It Could Succeed:

- **Restructure ZEC:** Appoint politically neutral commissioners via a transparent, multi-stakeholder process, reducing executive interference.
- **Judicial Independence:** Strengthen courts to adjudicate electoral disputes impartially, addressing past failures (e.g., uncompensated 2018 violence victims).
- **International Monitoring:** Invite robust SADC, AU, and UN observation, with binding recommendations, unlike the ignored 2023 SADC critiques.
- **Challenges:** ZANU-PF's grip on state institutions and security sectors (e.g., military cabinet appointments) could obstruct reforms unless external pressure or internal dissent forces change.

Media and Campaign Equity

Why It Matters: State-controlled media (e.g., ZBC) and restrictive laws (e.g., Patriotic Bill 2023) stifle opposition voices, skewing the electoral playing field.

¹ See Appendix 4 concludes realistic numbers 2-5 million

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How It Could Succeed:

- **Media Reform:** Enforce equal airtime for all parties, breaking ZBC's monopoly, and license independent broadcasters.
- **Legislative Overhaul:** Repeal repressive laws (e.g., Criminal Law Codification Act) that criminalize dissent, ensuring free expression.
- **Challenges:** Entrenched ruling party interests and limited civil society capacity to push back against censorship pose risks.

Role of Blockchain Systems

Blockchain technology, a decentralized digital ledger, could revolutionize Zimbabwe's electoral system by enhancing transparency, security, and trust. Here's how:

Secure Voter Registration

Application: Use blockchain to create a tamper-proof voter registry, linking biometric data (already piloted by ZEC) to unique digital identities.

Benefit: Prevents ghost voters and duplicates (e.g., 2018 claims of 141-year-old voters), ensuring only eligible citizens, including diaspora, are registered.

Example: Estonia's e-governance uses blockchain-like systems for secure identity management.

Transparent Vote Casting and Counting

Application: Enable online voting (especially for diaspora) via blockchain, where each vote is encrypted, timestamped, and immutably recorded.

Benefit: Eliminates manual rigging (e.g., 2008 delayed results) and allows real-time public verification, countering ZEC's lack of transparency (e.g., 2023 vote count disputes).

Example: Switzerland tested blockchain voting in 2018, achieving high security and auditability.

Diaspora Inclusion

Application: A blockchain-based platform could allow diaspora voters to cast ballots remotely without physical polling stations, reducing costs and logistical barriers.

Benefit: Overcomes current disenfranchisement, aligning with constitutional rights and regional norms (e.g., DRC's 2023 diaspora vote).

Auditability and Trust

Application: Publicly accessible blockchain records let citizens and observers verify results independently, bypassing ZEC's contested announcements.

Benefit: Restores legitimacy, critical after decades of fraud allegations (e.g., 2008 runoff violence).

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Practical Steps and Challenges for Blockchain

- **Infrastructure:** Zimbabwe's internet penetration (34% in 2022) and electricity issues (e.g., 2024 drought-induced shortages) require investment in digital access, possibly via mobile networks (84% coverage).
- **Pilot Testing:** Start with by-elections to build capacity and public trust, scaling up for 2028 general elections. *Alternatively, an independent Diaspora Vote in the UK*
- **Resistance:** ZANU-PF may oppose transparency that threatens its dominance, while technical literacy gaps could limit adoption.
- **Cost:** Initial setup is expensive, but long-term savings from reduced fraud and disputes justify it. International donors (e.g., World Bank's ZIMREF) could fund this.

Broader Context and Feasibility

Zimbabwe's independence has been marred by ZANU-PF's refusal to cede power, using elections as a tool to legitimize authoritarianism (e.g., 2013 "chicanery"). Radical reforms succeed only with:

- **Civil Society Pressure:** Groups like Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights must amplify demands, leveraging the 2013 Constitution.
- **Regional Leverage:** SADC could enforce its electoral guidelines, though its hesitancy (e.g., 2018 endorsements) suggests limited appetite.
- **Economic Incentive:** Debt relief (\$14 billion in 2022) tied to democratic progress could sway Mnangagwa's administration.

Blockchain's promise hinges on political will, which ZANU-PF historically lacks. Without dismantling the party-state nexus (e.g., security sector interference), technical fixes alone won't suffice. Yet, the diaspora's economic clout and global democratic norms offer a window—if seized decisively.

In sum, radical electoral reforms with diaspora voting and blockchain could succeed by breaking systemic opacity and exclusion, but they demand a rare convergence of domestic activism, technological investment, and external coercion. Zimbabwe's next 45 years hinge on such audacity.

What we are Seeking from HM Government

We as a group {ZHRO, ROHR, CCC and ZAPU in the UK} have been protesting and petitioning the United Kingdom Governments since 2016 about all the shortcomings of the Zimbabwe strangle-hold upon the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Key to these protests is the indisputable fact that the ***occupying regime***; Zanu PF has, for decades, **concealed/obfuscated/destroyed** the voting results/intentions of the Zimbabwean citizenry. ***Nor has a vast number of Zimbabwean (in the several millions²) who have fled the oppressive and violent, regime, had the ability to vote at all.***

² See Appendix 4 for a discussion by AI as to the estimated size of the diaspora



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Indeed, should HM Government help to install a system of legitimate voting for the citizens and the diaspora – that a great many Zimbabweans would voluntarily return to their HOME!

We have published various items about a referendum and are seeking support to enact a CREDIBLE VOTING SYSTEM in and beyond Zimbabwe. We have looked at the Blockchain to bypass some of the more obvious vote rigging tactics used in the past.

We have proposed a referendum a few years ago <https://zexit.org/referendum>

But NOW

We seek your 'support' to enact this proposal and the requisite ability to fund such a proposition via a multitude of pro-democratic institutions.

We await your reactions

In the case of Zimbabwe, there has never, in practice, been a legitimate Election. ZEC is completely "captured" by the ruling regime – Zanu PF.

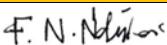
Mugabe's communist inspired "One Party State" Strategy has never been democratically challenged in any legitimate sense for **Nearly 45 years**

						
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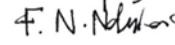
Petition Organisers, Petitioners and Contributors

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- **Richard Gandari** {e-mail: r.gandari@zapu.org },
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- **Milton Bingwa** -Contributor: Blockchain Voting Systems Section

Name	Organization	Signature
<u>Chief Felix Ndiweni</u> <i>See Wiki Link</i>	MyRight2Vote Chair and Traditional Ndebele Traditional Leader { <i>In Exile</i> due to threats}	
Richard Gandari	ZAPU Secretary for Information, Publicity, and Marketing Harare, Zimbabwe	
John C Burke	ZHRO: Zimbabwe Human Rights Organisation: FOUNDER	
Josephine Sipiwe Jenje-Mudimbu	ZHRO Leeds – <u>Attendance Promotion</u>	

Other contributors include: Dickson Chikwizo, Charles Kanyimo, Peter Sidindi, and many others in support

Signatures Signed by: Petitioners

Name	Organization	Signature
John C Burke (ORGANISER ONLY)	ZHRO Founder	
<u>Chief Felix Ndiweni</u> <i>See Wiki Link</i>	MyRight2Vote Chair and Traditional Ndebele Traditional Leader { <i>In Exile</i> due to threats}	
Shamiso MOYO	CCC, ZHRO	
Charles Kanyimo	ZHRO, CCC	
Milton Bingwa	ZHRO, CCC	
Michelle Mpofu	ROHR, ZHRO	
Phylis Magejo	ZHRO	

Note:

- *Chief Ndiweni now has a further conflicting NHS minor procedure on the 3rd March so will unfortunately not be present*
- *Shamiso Moyo {64th birthday on 20th June 2025} has been placed into detention at Yarlsworth pending removal {?} since we applied for her to deliver the Petition in both 20th February and this one on 5th March.*

<https://zexit.org/zexit/electoral-reforms-member-views>

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Appendices: Appendix 1: Diaspora Concerns also on

<https://zexit.org/zexit/electoral-reforms-member-views>

From: Shamiso Moyo	Date: 1 st February 2025	Group: ZHRO/ROHR/CCC
Nepotism is the order of the day; Human rights have been abandoned; The police, the army and the judiciary have become partisan; Recruitment for these arms of government have all become partisan; Freedom of speech has been removed; Opposition is not allowed to gather; Abductions and murder of those speaking truth to power have increased; Zimbabwe under Mnangagwa is a banana republic; Zimbabwe is now a Mnangagwa dynasty!		
<p>The 2030 agenda has to be resisted with every force. Zanupf must go in total.</p> <p>Written by Shamiso Moyo <u>{Now in Detention – Yarleswood}</u></p>		
From: Milton Bingwa	Date: 4 th March 2025	Group: ZHRO, CCC
<p>A History of Electoral Fraud – taken from his article located:</p> <p>https://zhro.org.uk/human-rights-uk/zim-updates/174-blockchain-voting-app</p> <p>“Zimbabwe’s political landscape has been dominated by Zanu PF for over four decades, with recent elections under President Emmerson Mnangagwa doing little to convince critics that real democracy has taken place. Allegations of ballot stuffing, voter roll tampering, voter intimidation have become almost synonymous with Zimbabwean elections. The ZEC, meant to be an independent electoral body, is often seen as little more than a tool for maintaining Zanu PF’s iron grip on power led by Emerson Mnangagwa.”</p>		
From: Charles Kanyimo	Date: 20 th February 2025	Group: ZHRO, CCC
<p>Electoral Reforms a Vital Condition an extract from his article:</p> <p>https://zexit.org/zexit/electoral-reforms-a-vital-condition</p> <p>“The 2023 elections once again exposed how the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC) operate as an extension of ZANU PF rather than an independent election body. The opposition lost largely because of a compromised voters’ roll, which was never properly audited, making it easy for ghost voters and irregular registrations to benefit the ruling party. Gerrymandering also played a role, with constituency boundaries altered to favour ZANU PF.”</p>		
From: Dickson Chikwizo	Date: 2 nd March 2025	Group: ZHRO, CCC
<p>Electoral Reforms: - an extract from his article</p> <p>https://zexit.org/zexit/electoral-reforms-member-views</p> <p>“The involvement of FAZ (Forever Associates Zimbabwe) setting up illegal tables to intimidate voters especially in rural areas throughout Zimbabwe as well as unleashing violence, intimidation and propaganda flyers, on the voting day, and sponsoring of double candidates was clear attempt to discourage/disrupt voting process.”</p>		



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From: Michelle Mpofu	Date: 2 nd March 2025	Group: ROHR, CCC and ZHRO
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Vision 2030: Mnangagwa's Grand Lie to Keep Zimbabwe in Chains: an extract

<https://zexit.org/zexit/electoral-reforms-member-views>

Under Mnangagwa's rule, Zimbabwe has become a lawless state where power, not justice, determines who is free and who is jailed.

- Opposition figures are beaten, arrested, or even disappeared for speaking out.
- Elections are rigged through intimidation, vote-buying, and suppression of independent observers.
- The courts serve ZANU-PF, not the people, ensuring that Mnangagwa and his allies never face accountability.
- Journalists and activists who expose corruption are harassed, jailed, or forced into exile.

From: Chipo Komboni	Date: 2 nd March 2025	Group: ZHRO
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Zimbabwe Burning Whilst Zanu PF Fiddles {the books}: an extract

<https://zexit.org/zexit/electoral-reforms-member-views>

his petition, submitted to the British government and key international stakeholders, highlights deep concerns over the erosion of democracy, rampant corruption, nepotism, gross human rights violations, and the Zimbabwe Burning whilst Zanu Fiddles, collapse of Zimbabwe's healthcare system. Zimbabweans abroad, many of whom have fled economic hardship and political persecution, strongly oppose any moves to manipulate the constitution for personal political gain

From: Josephine Jenje-Mudimbu	Date: 4 th March 2025	Group: ZHRO, ROHR & CCC
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What are Electoral Reforms?

Electoral reforms are changes in Electoral Systems which alters how public desires are expressed by virtue of the election results. In Zimbabwe the electoral system has been in a *terrible mess* for too long and needs a serious revamp in order to have free, fair, transparency, credible and inclusive elections in the future. The last election in 2023 has been marked as the worst since Zimbabwe gained its Independence in 1980. The elections were marred with a lot of deficiency prior, during and after. All Zimbabwe's elections have never been free and fair.

A lot of irregularities revealed the lack of unpreparedness of the Zimbabwe Election Commission. The majority of irregularities noted were the shambolic voters registration as some voters names did not appear, causing much confusion - voters were turned away on the voting day.

Prior to the voting day, in most elections the campaigns are not balanced and violence is experienced with the opposition parties getting a raw deal.

Without electoral reforms, Zimbabwe will continue experiencing rigged elections. A credible election must be democratic, with a free judiciary system and an independent electoral commission. The voters should be able to associate freely with their chosen candidates at the



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same time expressing themselves freely without fear. There is always serious democratic decline in past elections because of decline of peaceful transition of power and the violation of individual rights to freedom of expression.

From: Cannicious Nkala | **Date: 4th March 2025** | **Group: ZAPU**

The Suspicion around Elections: an extract from;
<https://zexit.org/zexit/electoral-reforms-member-views>

Zimbabwe Election's are tinged with a lot suspicion, as they are far from being fair. The most (suspicion) is the system of governance used, where mostly the ruling party controls everything together with the military.

As we focus on Electoral Reforms one is made to look into the 'harmonised elections' first, why are the elections harmonised because somehow there was need to control numbers as elections are a numbers game and to keep the hierarchy structure. ZEC will never be independent as long as the system is centralised - so full Devolution important.

As we focus on the petition, democracy must be measurable but also free from manipulation parliament can help nominate or appointment of all positions that form the essential part of elections and lives of Zimbabweans

From: Phylis Magejo | **Date: 4th March 2025** | **Group: ZHRO, CCC**

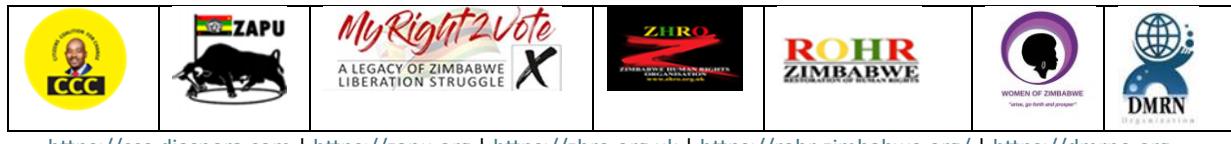
As citizens of Zimbabwe, we are calling for an urgent electoral reform. It is necessary to have a body that is independent, to assume the responsibility of ensuring a fair and free election. There has been manipulation violation of electoral rights by Zanu PF under Zec's nose. ZEC has failed and needs to be replaced by a just organisation.

Appendix 2: Zimbabwe Blog Posts Weaponised Judiciary

<https://mbofanatendairuben.news.blog/2025/03/04/the-perils-of-zimbabwes-weaponized-judiciary-and-the-need-for-compensation-for-wrongful-imprisonment/>

In Zimbabwe, magistrates are appointed through an opaque system controlled by the Judicial Service Commission, without public scrutiny or competitive selection. In contrast, High Court judges undergo public interviews, which at least provide a layer of accountability.

Because magistrates are selected without a transparent process, political considerations can often take precedence over legal competence. This allows for the appointment of individuals who may lack the necessary skills to interpret the law independently or who are more willing to serve political interests over justice.



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Appendix 3: Twitter @Steve_Hanke Economist 4th March 2025

https://x.com/steve_hanke/status/1896878291988230269

Zimbabwe plans to phase out the US Dollar by 2030. We've heard this official story before. Zimbabweans will continue to favour the greenback no matter what the gov't does. today, I measure ZIM's inflation at 268%/yr—the SECOND HIGHEST in the world.

Appendix 4: The Size of the Diaspora – GROK3 Estimation Considerations

<https://x.com/i/grok/share/SzQ6DdnMDDlYjkxQNFaf0uWoQ>

Estimating the size of Zimbabwe's diaspora, particularly the figure of 900,000 often cited from the 2022 Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZimStat) census, is fraught with challenges due to inconsistent data, the prevalence of informal migration, and the significant role of South Africa's informal economy. Let's break this down to assess the accuracy of this estimate and why South Africa's informal sector alone might suggest a higher number.

ZimStat's Estimate: 900,000

The ZimStat figure of 908,913 Zimbabweans living abroad, derived from the 2022 census, is based on household reports of relatives living outside the country. Of this, 773,246 were reported in South Africa, with smaller numbers in the UK (23,166), Botswana (40,000), and other nations. This data collection method—relying on family members' responses—introduces potential undercounting, as it misses undocumented migrants, those who severed ties with home, or whose families underreported for various reasons (e.g., fear of scrutiny). The census provides a structured snapshot but struggles to capture the fluidity and opacity of migration patterns, especially in informal contexts.

South Africa's Informal Economy and Migration

South Africa hosts the largest share of Zimbabwe's diaspora due to proximity, historical labor ties, and economic disparities. The informal economy—estimated at 24.9% of South Africa's GDP, or roughly \$240 billion in PPP terms—employs millions, including many undocumented migrants. Zimbabweans, fleeing economic collapse (e.g., 80%+ currency depreciation in 2023) and unemployment (officially 9.3%, likely higher in reality), are drawn to this sector for jobs like street vending, construction, and domestic work, which evade formal registration.

Official South African data from the 2011 census recorded 672,308 Zimbabweans, a number experts consider outdated and conservative given subsequent migration waves, especially post-2017 after Mugabe's ousting. Estimates from other sources vary wildly:

- The International Organization for Migration (IOM) suggests up to 3 million Zimbabweans in South Africa alone, factoring in undocumented flows.
- Academic and civil society estimates often place the figure between 1-1.5 million, with some outlier claims as high as 15 million (likely exaggerated).
- Posts on X and media anecdotes (e.g., Helen Zille's 2019 claim of 2 million) reflect public sentiment of a larger presence, though these lack rigorous backing.



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The informal economy's scale—absorbing workers without legal documentation—means many Zimbabweans bypass official counts. For instance, the 2009-2012 Documentation of Zimbabweans Project regularized 245,000, yet many remained outside this framework due to distrust or ineligibility. With South Africa's total immigrant population estimated at 2.9 million (2020 UN data), of which Zimbabweans are a plurality (24% per 2011 census), a figure exceeding 1 million in South Africa alone aligns with informal sector dynamics.

Comparing the Numbers

If South Africa's Zimbabwean population is conservatively 1 million—supported by IOM and migration scholars—then ZimStat's total diaspora estimate of 900,000 is implausible, as it implies negligible numbers elsewhere (e.g., UK, US, Australia), which contradicts other data:

- The UK's 2021 census recorded 122,000 Zimbabweans, far above ZimStat's 23,166.
- Australia's 2016 census noted 34,787, against ZimStat's 6,473.
- The US has estimates ranging from 30,000 (2017 ACS) to 100,000 (RAND, 2000), dwarfing ZimStat's minimal figures.

Adding these documented populations (e.g., 1 million in South Africa, 122,000 in the UK, 34,000 in Australia, 30,000+ in the US) already exceeds 1.2 million, without counting Botswana (40,000+), Canada, or smaller communities. Historical diaspora estimates range from 4-7 million (Wikipedia, citing varied sources), with 5 million commonly accepted—far beyond 900,000.

Why the Discrepancy?

Undocumented Migration: South Africa's porous borders and informal economy hide many Zimbabweans from official tallies. Pre-2000 labor migration to mines and farms set a precedent, amplified by post-2000 crises.

Methodological Limits: ZimStat's reliance on household surveys misses those who don't report or maintain contact, a flaw acknowledged by critics like Moses Mhukahuru.

Political Sensitivity: Underreporting may serve political narratives, minimizing the diaspora's scale to downplay emigration's economic drivers under ZANU-PF governance.

Informal Economy's Scale: South Africa's shadow economy sustains more migrants than formal records capture, a pattern seen across SADC (e.g., Botswana's 40,000+ Zimbabweans).

Conclusion: Accuracy Assessment

The 900,000 estimate is likely a significant undercount. South Africa's informal economy alone—given its capacity to absorb 1-1.5 million Zimbabweans—suggests the diaspora exceeds this figure before accounting for other countries.

A more realistic range, triangulating census data, IOM estimates, and economic realities, **is 2-5 million, with South Africa as the linchpin.** The 900,000 figure reflects a methodological floor, not the full scope of a diaspora shaped by decades of crisis and informal survival. Without comprehensive border data or diaspora self-reporting, precision remains elusive, but the informal economy's weight tilts the balance far above ZimStat's claim.