Source: Reuters

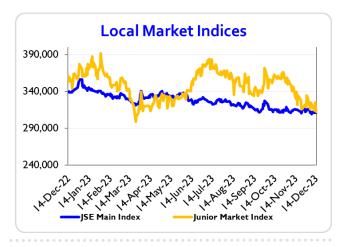




US retail sales unexpectedly rebound in November

The United States (US) retail sales unexpectedly rose in November as the holiday shopping season got off to a brisk start, which should keep the economy on a moderate growth path this quarter. Retail sales rebounded 0.3% last month, the Commerce Department's Census Bureau said on Thursday. Data for October was revised lower to show sales falling 0.2% instead of dipping 0.1% as previously reported. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast retail sales edging down 0.1%. Retail sales are mostly goods and are not adjusted for inflation. Spending has cooled from a robust pace earlier this year amid higher borrowing costs. The Federal Reserve held interest rates steady on Wednesday and signalled in new economic projections that the historic tightening of monetary policy engineered over the last two years is at an end and lower borrowing costs are coming in 2024.

Excluding automobiles, gasoline, building materials and food services, retail sales increased 0.4% last month. Data for October was revised lower to show these core retail sales gaining unchanged instead of the previously reported 0.2% gain. Core retail sales correspond most closely with the consumer spending component of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Economists expect inflation-adjusted consumer spending to grow at about a 2% annualized rate this quarter, slower than the 3.6% pace notched in the third quarter. The Atlanta Fed is forecasting GDP to rise at a 1.2% rate in the fourth quarter, below what Fed officials regard as the non-inflationary growth rate of around 1.8%. October to December growth is also seen restrained by a wider trade deficit and slower inventory accumulation. The economy accelerated at a 5.2% rate in the July to September quarter. Though growth is cooling, most economists do not expect a recession, with the labour market continuing to churn out jobs at a healthy clip.



Foreign Exchange Market

Currency	I4-Dec	I3-Dec	DoD % Δ	YTD% Δ
USD:JMD	156.35	156.47	-0.07%	2.83%
GBP:JMD	197.69	198.74	-0.53%	8.57%
CAD:JMD	116.61	115.69	0.79%	7.48%

Caribbean & Latam

 Brazilian stocks rose to a record high on Thursday, as the U.S. Federal Reserve signaled toward lower interest rates in 2024, while the local central bank cut benchmark rates by 50 basis points, indicating it will keep reducing at that pace past its next meeting in January.

USA & Canada

 The S&P 500 closed higher on Thursday on optimism that borrowing rates will decrease next year following a dovish pivot by the Federal Reserve.

Europe

European shares largely held their ground on Thursday as investors shrugged off the European Central Bank pushing back against market bets of interest rate cuts and cheered the U.S. Federal Reserve's dovish shift a day earlier.

Asia

 Asian stocks broadly rallied on Thursday, after the U.S. Federal Reserve flagged the end of its tightening cycle and struck a dovish tone for the year ahead.

Local Equity Market

Stock Index	Today's close	DoD Δ	DoD% ∆	YTD % ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ
JSE Combined Index	324,399.50	524.07	0.16%	-11.99%	-7.85%
JSE Index	311,709.42	755.51	0.24%	-12.42%	-8.04%
All Jamaican Composite Index	346,487.62	5.10	0.00%	-14.04%	-9.08%
JSE Select Index	7,808.09	27.10	0.35%	-12.23%	-7.86%
Junior Market Index	3,661.32	-21.06	-0.57%	-8.16%	-6.21%

BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS							
	ADVANCERS			DECLINERS			
MGL	28.57%		CHL	-23.95%			
KEY	24.62%		CFF	-16.67%			
ICREATE	10.13%		tTech	-14.93%			

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference and deferred shares) resulted in trading of **79** stocks, of which **33** advanced, **38** declined and **8** traded firm.

International Markets

International Equity Markets					In	ternatior	nal Currenc	y Market	
Index	I4-Dec	DoD % Δ	YTD% ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ	Currency	I4-Dec	DoD % ∆	YTD% ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ
S&P 500	4,719.56	0.26%	22.92%	18.13%	EUR: USD	1.0989	1.06%	2.65%	2.87%
Dow Jones	37,248.35	0.43%	12.37%	9.66%	- GBP: USD	1.28	1.15%	5.63%	2.71%
FTSE All Share	4,176.90	1.57%	2.50%	1.87%	GBF: U3D	1.28	1.15%	5.03%	2.71%
Euro Stoxx 50	4,539.16	0.20%	19.65%	14.19%	USD: CAD	1.34	-0.81%	-1.08%	-1.03%
Nikkei 225	32,686.25	-0.73%	13.53%	16.09%	USD: IPY	141.91	-0.69%	8.23%	4.75%
MSCI World Index	715.85	0.93%	18.25%	14.03%					

Global Interest Rates						Cor	nmodities		
Rates	I4-Dec	DoD ∆bps	YTD ∆bps	YoY ∆bps	Commodity	I4-Dec	DoD % Δ	YTD% ∆	YoY % ∆
10 -Year US Treasury Bond	3.92%	-10.00	5.00	44.00	Crude Oil	71.73	3.25%	-10.63%	-7.18%
	3.79%	-4.00	12.00	47.00	Gold	2,035.97	0.41%	11.62%	12.65%
10-Year UK Gilt					Silver	24.17	1.49%	0.90%	0.94%
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	6.31%	-4.00	227.00	-2.00	Aluminium	2,210.00	3.27%	-7.06%	-9.57%





JN MUTUAL FUNDS

December 13, 2023

JN Mutual Funds	NAV Price	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield (Estimated Yearly Income)
Global Diversified Income	J\$13.1819	2.82%	1.80%	3.24%
Global Equity	J\$13.9893	-1.97%	-4.06%	0.00%
Global Fixed Income	J\$14.9138	8.07%	8.20%	7.24%
Global Money Market (US\$)	US\$11.5186	1.23%	1.08%	3.17%
Global Fixed Income (US\$)	US\$11.4222	-0.20%	-0.17%	3.60%
Local Money Market	J\$13.0019	7.60%	7.69%	7.35%

	•	•			
	Global Money Market Fund	Local Money Market Fund	Global Fixed Income Funds	Global Diversified Income Fund	Global Equity Fund
Objective	To preserve capital whilst	To preserve capital whilst	To achieve an attractive total	To provide long-term	To provide long-term capital
	providing US dollar (US\$)	providing Jamaican Dollar	return through capital injection and	investment growth through	growth and risk
	money market returns	(J\$) money market returns	income growth. This is offered	exposure to a diversified	diversification.
			through two separate Funds:	range of asset classes.	
			(i) A Jamaican dollar (J\$) and		
			(ii) A US dollar (US\$) fund.		
Strategy	To invest in local and global	To invest in local and global	To invest in regional, sovereign	To invest in fixed income,	To invest in the shares of
	money market instruments	money market instruments	debt securities, local and	high dividend yielding stocks,	local and international
	for safety, liquidity and	for safety and liquidity and	international corporate bonds.	REITs and structured products	companies which offer
	yield.	yield			strong growth possibilities
					and consistent income

With a suite of six investment portfolios, each with a distinct financial profile, JN Mutual Funds offers a premium opportunity for investors to align their personal financial strategy with their goals, time horizons and risk profile.

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