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US Homebuilder Sentiment Extends Record Decline to 12 Months

US homebuilder sentiment fell every month in 2022, sinking in December to a level not seen in over a decade, outside of the pandemic, amid elevated mortgage rates and high construction costs. Figures on Monday showed that the National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo gauge dropped two points this month to 31, the lowest level since June 2012, excluding the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The uninterrupted slide this entire year represents the longest stretch on record.

The rapid climb in mortgage rates this year, a result of the Federal Reserve's aggressive inflation-fighting campaign crushed buyer demand for homes. At the same time, higher costs for materials and labour have made it more expensive to build. The combination has weighed on builder sentiment and new construction. The latest survey shows 62% of builders are using incentives like mortgage rate buy-downs and paying points for buyers to try to boost sales, but demand remains subdued. The group's measure of present sales decreased, matching the lowest level since mid-2012, while a gauge of prospective buyer traffic remained weak. The outlook looks somewhat less bleak as sales expectations for the next six months rose for the first time since April. Nonetheless, the gauge remains extremely depressed, matching the second-lowest reading in a decade.



Foreig	in Exc	hange	Mar	ket

Currency	19-Dec	l6-Dec	DoD % Δ	YTD% Δ
USD:JMD	153.70	153.83	-0.08%	- 0.89 %
GBP:JMD	186.89	188.28	-0.74%	-11.1%
CAD:JMD	112.46	112.66	-0.17%	-8.4%

Caribbean & Latam

 Latin American currencies inched higher on Monday, with the Peruvian sol leading gains against a weaker dollar, while South Africa's rand rallied on President Cyril Ramaphosa's re-election as leader of the ruling African National Congress (ANC).

USA & Canada

 Wall Street equities were in the red on Monday with Nasdaq leading declines as investors worried the Federal Reserve's monetary policy tightening campaign could push the U.S. economy into a recession.

Europe

• European stocks closed higher on Monday, due largely to bargain hunting at several counters after last week's selloff.

<u>Asia</u>

Asian stock markets are trading mostly lower on Monday, following the broadly negative cues from global markets on Friday, as ongoing concerns about rising interest rates and fears of a global economic recession continued to weigh on sentiment.

					Source: Bloombe
******	Local	Equity M	arket		
Stock Index	Today's close	DoD Δ	DoD% Δ	YTD % Δ	ΥοΥ% Δ
JSE Combined Index	351,321.54	-444.12	-0.13%	-12.42%	-10.53%
JSE Index	338,666.44	-107.55	-0.03%	-14.51%	-12.60%
All Jamaican Composite Ind	ex 379,557.67	-725.84	-0.19 %	-13.41%	-11.42%
SE Select Index	8,383.25	-51.19	-0.61%	-15.17%	-13.19%
unior Market Index	3,856.03	-37.46	-0.96%	12.48%	13.90%
	BEST AND W	ORST PERFO	ORMERS		
ADV	ANCERS		DE	CLINERS	
ROC I	1.11%	S	ML	-1 4.66 %	
KEX	0.70%	1	1DS	-13.83%	
QWI	.52%	CARB	ROKERS	-13.36%	

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference and deferred shares) resulted in trading of **93** stocks, of which **30** advanced, **53** declined and **10** traded firm.

International Markets

International Equity Markets					In	ternational Currency Market			
Index	l9-Dec	DoD % Δ	YTD% Δ	ΥοΥ% Δ	Currency	19-Dec	DoD % Δ	YTD% Δ	ΥοΥ% Δ
S&P 500	3,817.47	- 0.9 1%	-19.91%	-16.43%	EUR: USD	1.0604	0.17%	-6.74%	-5.98%
Dow Jones	32,757.54	- 0.49 %	-9.85 %	-6.23 %	GBP: USD	1.21 -0.04%	-10.26%	-8.06%	
FTSE All Share	4,025.87	0.38%	-4.33%	-1.56%			-0.04%	-10.20%	-0.00%
Euro Stoxx 50	3,811.24	0.19%	-11.33%	-7.20%	USD: CAD	1.37	-0.33%	8.05%	5.52%
Nikkei 225	27,237.64	-1.05%	-5.40%	-2.51%	USD: IPY	137.01	0.30%	19.06%	20.60%
MSCI World Index	601.78	-0.72%	-20.28%	-16.96%					

Global Interest Rates					Commodities				
Rates	19-Dec	DoD Abps	YTD ∆bps	YoY ∆bps	Commodity	19-Dec	DoD % A	YTD% A	ΥοΥ% Δ
10 -Year US Treasury Bond	3.59%	11.00	208.00	217.00	Crude Oil	75.63	I.80%	0.56%	10.85%
	3.50%	17.00	253.00 273.00	Gold	1,786.97	-0.34%	-2.31%	-0.22%	
10-Year UK Gilt					Silver	22.96	-1.15%	-1.50%	3.08%
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	6.40%	7.00	236.00	231.00	Aluminium	2,361.00	-0.59%	-15.90%	-11.61%

Sources: Bloomberg, Reuters, Jamaica Stock Exchange, Bank of Jamaica, Jamaica Observer, Jamaica Gleaner, Nasdaq, Investing.com



JN MUTUAL FUNDS

December 16, 2022

JN Mutual Funds	NAV Price	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield (Estimated Yearly Income)
Global Diversified Income	J\$12.7781	-8.21%	-9.68%	2.46%
Global Equity	J\$14.1901	-6.78%	-9.67%	0.00%
Global Fixed Income	J\$13.8067	4.07%	4.06%	5.27%
Global Money Market (US\$)	US\$11.3804	3.72%	3.57%	4.12%
Global Fixed Income (US\$)	US\$11.4427	0.90%	0.89%	3.94%
Local Money Market	J\$12.0896	4.45%	4.36%	6.81%

	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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