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## **Bank of Jamaica Revises its Inflation Projection Downward**

The Bank of Jamaica (BOJ) in its February 2021 Quarterly Monetary Policy Report (QMPR) revised downward its inflation projection for the next eight guarters (March 2021 to December 2022) to an average of 5% from the 5.3% projected in November 2020. The bank's projected inflation, at 5%, remains within the target range of 4.0% to 6.0%. The downward revision was driven primarily by a lower trajectory for inflation in agricultural food prices and was partially offset by a higher trajectory for processed foods, energy and transport. For the March 2021 quarter, the BOJ projects inflation will accelerate but stay within the bank's target range. The projected increase for the quarter largely reflects increases in the cost of processed food, energy and domestic and household services.

Core inflation, which measures the change in prices excluding agricultural food and fuel prices, is projected to gradually increase over the next fiscal year. The bank notes that their higher core inflation is due to the impact of accommodative monetary and fiscal policies as well as improvement in external demand conditions. This upward trend in core inflation, however, is likely to be offset by relatively weak conditions in domestic demand resulting from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and related steps to control the virus.

10 -Year US Treasury Bond

10-Year UK Gilt

GOJ 2025 Global Bond

1.37%

0.68%

3.56%

3.23

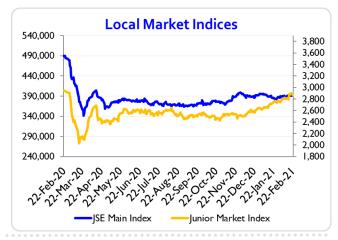
-1.90

1.70

-54.88

-14.30

-29.90



### Foreign Exchange Market

Currency	22-Feb	19-Feb	<b>DoD %</b> $\Delta$	<b>YTD%</b> $\Delta$
USD:JMD	152.14	152.06	0.05%	14.76%
GBP:JMD	213.10	213.53	-0.20%	10.0%
CAD:JMD	121.23	121.48	-0.20%	21.0%

#### **Caribbean & Latam**

Brazil's benchmark Bovespa index tanked on Monday as oil major Petrobras plummeted 21% following the ouster of its investor-backed chief executive, while Latin American stocks and currencies fell as higher inflation expectations hurt sentiment.

#### USA & Canada

U.S. stock indexes were on track to open lower on Monday as climbing Treasury yields and prospects of rising inflation triggered valuation concerns, hitting shares of technology-related companies.

#### **Europe**

European shares trimmed early losses on Monday as comments from the region's central bank brought down treasury yields, though inflation expectations and profit-taking in technology stocks dragged the benchmark index lower.

#### <u>Asia</u>

Asian shares turned mixed on Monday as expectations for faster economic growth and inflation globally battered bonds and boosted commodities, while rising real yields made equity valuations look more stretched in comparison.

Local Equity Market								
Stock Index	Today's close	DoD $\Delta$	<b>DoD%</b> $\Delta$	YTD % $\Delta$	<b>ΥοΥ%</b> Δ			
SE Combined Index	392,175.75	1,040.63	0.27%	-0.07%	-18.73%			
JSE Index	392,702.80	1,458.81	0.37%	-0.74%	-19.86%			
All Jamaican Composite Index	430,576.51	1,612.03	0.38%	-0.68%	-20.01%			
JSE Select Index	9,744.15	76.56	0.79%	0.01%	-22.26%			
Junior Market Index	2,871.89	-27.24	-0.94%	8.64%	<b>-2.56</b> %			
	BEST AND W	ORST PERF	ORMERS					
ADVA	NCERS		DE	CLINERS				
CAC 14.7	4%		PTL	-12.75%				
tTech I4.3	6%	I	38SL	-12.50%				
CBNY II.2	G	WEST	-11.11%					

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference and deferred shares) resulted in trading of 84 stocks, of which 32 advanced, 43 declined and 9 traded firm.

## **International Markets**

International Equity Markets				International Currency Market						
Index	22-F	eb [	<b>DoD %</b> ∆	YTD% 🛆	<b>ΥοΥ%</b> Δ	Currency	22-Feb	<b>DoD % A</b>	<b>ΥΤD%</b> Δ	<b>XoX%</b> A
S&P 500	3,876.	.50	-0.77%	19.99%	16.14%	Currency	22-1 60			
Dow Jones	31,521	.69	0.09%	10.45%	8.72%	EUR: USD	1.2152	0.27%	8.37%	12.03%
FTSE All Share	3,762.	.96	-0.19%	-10.33%	-8.95%	GBP: USD	1.41	0.32%	6.06%	<b>8.46</b> %
Euro Stoxx 50	3,699.	.85	-0.37%	-1.21%	<b>-2.65</b> %	USD: CAD	1.26	0.03%	-2.86%	-4.58%
Nikkei 225	30,156	.03	0.46%	27.47%	<b>28.94</b> %					
MSCI World Index	673.7	77	-0.88%	19.20%	17.65%	USD: JPY	105.07	-0.36%	<b>-3.26</b> %	-5.86%
Global Interest Rates					Co	ommodities	;			
Rates	2	22-Feb	DoD Abps	s YTD ∆bp	s YoY ∆bps	Commodity	/ 22-Feb	<b>DoD % A</b>	<b>YTD%</b> ∆	<b>ΥοΥ%</b> Δ
10 -Year US Treasury	Bond	1 37%	3.23	-54.88	-10.26	Crude Oil	61.49	3.80%	0.70%	15.19%

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

-10.26

10.60

-27.00

Gold

Silver

Aluminium

1.807.90

28.15

2,166.50

1.33%

3.16%

1.64%

19.15%

57.70%

19.70%

10.01%

52.27%

26.44%

# Mutual Funds

# **JN MUTUAL FUNDS**

Fund Managers Ltd.

February 19, 2021

JN Mutual Funds		NAV Pri	ce	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield (Estimated Yearly Income)	
Global Diversified Income		e J\$13.880	01	-2.38%	0.28%	2.08%	
Global Equity		J\$15.07	51	-12.02%	0.13%	0.00%	
Global Fixed Income		J\$12.83	57	5.33%	1.41%	5.58%	
Global Money Market (US\$)		<b>S\$)</b> US\$10.66	613	3.52%	0.41%	3.54%	
Global Fixed Income (US\$)		<b>\$)</b> US\$10.97	789	5.89%	-0.31%	4.66%	
Local Money Market		J\$11.169	99	4.49%	1.26%	4.29%	
	Global Money Market Fund	Local Money Market Fund	Glob	oal Fixed Income Funds	Global Diversified Income Fund	Global Equity Fund	
Objective	To preserve capital whilst providing US dollar (US\$) money market returns	To preserve capital whilst providing Jamaican Dollar (J\$) money market returns	retur incon throu (i) A	chieve an attractive total n through capital injection and ne growth. This is offered 1gh two separate Funds: Jamaican dollar (J\$) and US dollar (US\$) fund.	To provide long-term investment growth through exposure to a diversified range of asset classes.	To provide long-term capital growth and risk diversification.	
Strategy	To invest in local and global money market instruments for safety, liquidity and yield.	To invest in local and global money market instruments for safety and liquidity and yield	debt	west in regional, sovereign securities, local and national corporate bonds.	To invest in fixed income, high dividend yielding stock REITs and structured produ		

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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