



# Canadian Employment Falls to the Lowest Level Since August 2020

According to Statistics Canada, the Canadian economy lost 213,000 jobs in January, which was more than four times market expectation for a loss of 47,500 jobs. This also marked the largest monthly decline since the height of the first wave of infections in April 2020. The report indicated that the slowdown in the jobs market was primarily in the services-producing industries, which were most directly affected by the public health restrictions. Employment fell the steepest in 'accommodation and food services' which declined by 8.2%, 'retail trade' which fell by 7.4%, and 'information culture and recreation' down 2.4%. Conversely, employment increased by 19,000 in 'health care and social assistance', taking employment in the sector back to its pre-COVID-19 level. Of note, the goods-producing sector saw employment increasing by 39,000 in January. The number of Canadians working from home rose by almost 700,000 to 5.4 million in January, surpassing the previous record of 5.1 million during the first phase of the pandemic in April. The unemployment rate rose for the second consecutive month in January to 9.4%, the highest level on record since August and missed market expectations of 8.9%.

January's sharp decline in jobs has reversed five months of employment growth for the Canadian economy. The decrease in jobs was concentrated in part-time employment and in sectors that are expected to recover once the virus is somewhat controlled. The increase in unemployment in Canada reflects the increasing COVID-19 cases and subsequent lockdowns implemented in the more populous cities in Canada. With the global vaccination programmes being rolled out, we anticipate that the Canadian labour market could strengthen as the year progresses and the cities and sectors are reopened. However, this scenario is highly dependent on the curtailment of the current spike in infections and the implementation of a successful vaccination programme across Canada and in its main trading partner countries.



# Foreign Exchange Market

Currency	8-Feb	5-Feb	DoD % $\Delta$	YTD% $\Delta$
USD:JMD	149.48	148.88	0.40%	12.76%
GBP:JMD	207.37	205.17	1.08%	7.1%
CAD:JMD	118.24	118.47	-0.20%	18.1%

### Caribbean & Latam

 Latin American and Caribbean economic activity will not return to pre-pandemic levels of output until 2023 and GDP per capita will catch up only in 2025, later than other parts of the world, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said on Monday.

### **USA & Canada**

U.S. stock index futures hit a record high on Monday as investors were optimistic that a massive fiscal relief package and a rapid vaccination rollout would drive a speedy economic recovery from the pandemic-driven recession.

### **Europe**

 Europe's economy is likely to rally in the second quarter as an acceleration in COVID-19 vaccine roll-out allows governments to gradually lift lockdown restrictions, the European Commission's vice president for the economy Valdis Dombrovskis said Monday.

### <u>Asia</u>

 Most emerging Asian currencies strengthened against the dollar on Monday as the greenback nursed losses following disappointing U.S. jobs data, while stocks climbed in subdued trade ahead of the Lunar New Year holiday.

## **Local Equity Market**

Stock Index	Today's close	DoD $\Delta$	DoD% ∆	YTD % ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ
JSE Combined Index	390,075.20	732.73	0.19%	-0.79%	-18.74%
JSE Index	391,067.59	590.88	0.15%	-1.30%	-19.61%
All Jamaican Composite Index	428,644.20	399.84	0.09%	-1.22%	-19.71%
JSE Select Index	9,673.10	6.85	0.07%	-0.79%	-22.28%
Junior Market Index	2,814.70	17.73	0.63%	5.81%	-6.68%

BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS						
ADVANCERS DECLINERS						
PAL	15.32%	<b>4</b>	CBNY	-14.29%		
CPFV	14.83%		CAC	-10.00%		
BPOW	10.00%		LASD	-5.64%		

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference and deferred shares) resulted in trading of 82 stocks, of which 44 advanced, 27 declined and 11 traded firm.

### **International Markets**

International Equity Markets						
Index	8-Feb	DoD % $\Delta$	YTD% ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ		
S&P 500	3,915.58	0.74%	4.25%	17.67%		
Dow Jones	31,385.76	0.76%	2.55%	7.85%		
FTSE All Share	3,726.03	0.43%	1.43%	-10.24%		
Euro Stoxx 50	3,665.51	0.27%	3.18%	-3.50%		
Nikkei 225	29,388.50	2.12%	7.08%	23.34%		
MSCI World Index	674.64	0.61%	4.39%	17.63%		

International Currency Market							
Currency	8-Feb	DoD % A	YTD% ∆	<b>YoY%</b> ∆			
EUR: USD	1.205	0.03%	-1.36%	10.09%			
GBP: USD	1.3739	0.03%	0.50%	6.57%			
USD: CAD	1.2747	-0.07%	0.17%	-4.22%			
USD: JPY	105.24	-0.14%	1.93%	-4.11%			

Global Interest Rates						
Rates	8-Feb	DoD ∆bps	YTD ∆bps	YoY ∆bps		
10 -Year US Treasury Bond	1.17%	1.00	26.00	-41.00		
10-Year UK Gilt	0.48%	0.00	28.00	-9.00		
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	3.50%	1.00	5.00	-38.00		

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Commodity	8-Feb	DoD % $\Delta$	YTD% ∆	<b>ΥοΥ</b> % Δ
Crude Oil	58.06	2.13%	19.66%	15.38%
Gold	1,829.98	0.87%	-3.60%	16.53%
Silver	27.32	1.50%	3.49%	54.37%
Aluminium	2,028.00	0.62%	2.45%	17.50%

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



# **JN MUTUAL FUNDS**



February 5, 2021

JN Mutual Funds		NAV Pri	ce	.2 Months rowth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield Estimated Yearly Income)
Global Diversified Income		e J\$13.79	77	-3.89%	-0.31%	2.11%
Global	Equity	J\$15.042	27	-12.49%	-0.09%	0.00%
Global	Fixed Income	J\$12.784	48	5.19%	1.01%	5.77%
Global	Money Market (U	<b>S\$)</b> US\$10.64	493	3.49%	0.29%	3.53%
Global	Fixed Income (US	<b>\$)</b> US\$10.99	963	6.13%	-0.16%	4.69%
Local Money Market		J\$11.130	03	4.23%	0.90%	4.41%
	Global Money Market Local Money Market Fund Fund		Global Fix	ked 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	To achieve an attractive total return through capital injection and income growth. This is offered through two separate Funds:  (i) A Jamaican dollar (J\$) and  (ii) A 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	To invest in regional, sovereign debt securities, local and international 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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