



US' Unemployment Rate Unchanged at 6.7% in December 2020

According to the United States' (US) Bureau of Labour Statistics (BLS), US' non-farm payroll declined by 140,000 jobs in December, following November's increase of 336,000 jobs and was well below market expectations for an increase of 50,000 jobs. Job losses were predominately in leisure and hospitality (down 498,000) and private education (down 63,000) but were partly offset by gains in professional and business services (up 161,000), retail trade (up 121,000), and construction (up 51,000). The unemployment rate which was unchanged at 6.7% in December was slightly better than market expectations for an outturn of 6.8%. The labour force participation rate and the employment to population ratio were both unchanged month over month at 61.5% and 57.4%, respectively. Average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 23 cents to \$29.81 in December.

The decline in payroll employment reflects the recent increase in coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and efforts to contain the pandemic and is another sign that the US economy weakened towards the end of the year. However, considering that the vaccination programme is underway in the US, it is anticipated that in the near term there could be some level of virus control and that the economy could benefit from pent-up consumer demand and increased business activity. Additionally, now that the Democrats control the US House and Senate it is likely that further stimulus could be provided and will be necessary considering that the vaccination programme is behind planned. Based on the above, we believe that the US unemployment rate is likely to trend downwards over the medium term, however, the pace of the decline depends on the effectiveness of the vaccination programmes being implemented in the US and its main trading partner countries.



Foreign Exchange Market

Currency	I I-Jan	8-Jan	DoD % Δ	YTD% Δ
USD:JMD	143.87	143.55	0.23%	8.53%
GBP:JMD	195.85	195.36	0.25%	1.1%
CAD:JMD	112.78	112.92	-0.12%	12.6%

Caribbean & Latam

 Mexico's peso slipped along with most other currencies in Latin America on Monday as the country confirmed it had detected the new variant of the coronavirus first seen in Britain, while the dollar touched its highest in over two weeks.

USA & Canada

 Wall Street's main indexes slipped from record levels on Monday as investors locked in gains after a stellar vaccine and stimulus-fueled rally, while Twitter shares slumped following the permanent suspension of President Donald Trump's account.

Europe

 European stocks fell on Monday after a strong rally last week took them to the highest level in more than 10 months, retreating as surging coronavirus cases across the continent and mainland China looked likely to dent a global economic recovery.

<u>Asia</u>

Asia's emerging currencies eased against the dollar, underpinned by a rise in U.S. Treasury yields, while Malaysian shares underperformed other regional stock markets ahead of new COVID-19 curbs to be announced this week.

Local Equity Market

Stock Index	Today's close	DoD Δ	DoD% ∆	YTD % ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ
JSE Combined Index	390,594.68	-451.19	-0.12%	-22.60%	-22.05%
JSE Index	393,361.05	-720.19	-0.18%	-22.72%	-22.31%
All Jamaican Composite Index	431,249.12	-798.73	-0.18%	-22.83%	-22.43%
JSE Select Index	9,637.12	-29.33	-0.30%	-26.01%	-25.78%
Junior Market Index	2,665.33	19.88	0.75%	-21.01%	-18.36%

BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS						
ADVANCERS DECLINERS						
SSLVC	18.00%		KLE	-15.33%		
DCOVE	15.85%		PURITY	-10.45%		
BPOW	13.49%		PTL	-7.41%		

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference and deferred shares) resulted in trading of **80** stocks, of which **30** advanced, **39** declined and **11** traded firm.

International Markets

International Equity Markets						
Index	I I - Jan	DoD % Δ	YTD% ∆	YoY% ∆		
S&P 500	3,802.57	-0.58%	1.24%	16.45%		
Dow Jones	31,008.69	-0.29%	1.31%	7.58%		
FTSE All Share	3,837.35	-1.11%	4.46%	-8.78%		
Euro Stoxx 50	3,620.62	-0.67%	1.91%	-4.46%		
Nikkei 225	28,139.03	0.00%	2.53%	17.98%		
MSCI World Index	658.78	-0.72%	1.94%	15.48%		

Inc	international Currency Market							
Currency	II-Jan	DoD % A	YTD% ∆	YoY % ∆				
EUR: USD	1.2155	-0.52%	-0.50%	9.30%				
GBP: USD	1.3518	-0.37%	-1.11%	3.48%				
USD: CAD	1.2778	0.60%	0.42%	-2.08%				
USD: JPY	104.17	0.22%	0.89%	-4.82%				

Global Interest Rates							
Rates	l I-Jan	DoD ∆bps	YTD ∆bps	YoY ∆bps			
10 -Year US Treasury Bond	1.14%	2.00	23.00	-68.00			
10-Year UK Gilt	0.31%	2.00	11.00	-46.00			
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	3.14%	-6.00	-11.00	-59.00			

Commodities						
Commodity	I I-Jan	DoD % Δ	YTD% Δ	YoY % ∆		
Crude Oil	52.09	-0.29%	7.36%	-11.77%		
Gold	1,844.39	-0.25%	-2.84%	18.05%		
Silver	24.97	-1.77%	-5.41%	37.86%		
Aluminium	2,009.50	-0.59%	1.52%	11.27%		

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



JN MUTUAL FUNDS



January 8, 2021

JN Mutu	ual Funds	NAV Pr	ice	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield Estimated Yearly Income)
Global	Diversified Incom	e J\$13.85	84	-4.09%	0.12%	2.25%
Global	Equity	J\$14.93	80	-15.50%	-0.78%	0.00%
Global	Fixed Income	J\$12.68	92	5.56%	0.26%	4.90%
Global	Money Market (U	S\$) US\$10.6	255	3.46%	0.07%	3.73%
Global	Fixed Income (US	\$) US\$11.0	099	6.48%	-0.03%	4.76%
Local Money Market		J\$11.05	41	3.82%	0.21%	4.36%
	Global Money Market Fund	Local Money Market Fund	Glol	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 incor throu (i) A	chieve an attractive total on through capital injection and me growth. This is offered ugh two separate Funds: Jamaican dollar (J\$) and outlier (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	nvest in regional, sovereign securities, local and national corporate bonds.	To invest in fixed income, high dividend yielding stocks REITs and structured produc	

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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