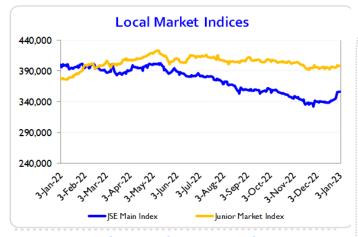


# **U.S.** Construction Spending Rebounds in November

U.S. construction spending unexpectedly rebounded in November, lifted by gains in nonresidential structures, but single-family homebuilding continued to be hammered by higher mortgage rates. The Commerce Department said on Tuesday that construction spending climbed 0.2% in November, after falling 0.2% in October. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast construction spending would decrease 0.4%. Construction spending increased by 8.5% on a year-on-year basis in November. Spending on private construction projects advanced 0.3% after declining by 0.7% in October. Investment in private non-residential structures like gas and oil well drilling jumped by 1.7%, but outlays on residential construction fell 0.5%, with spending on single-family housing projects plunging 2.9%. Meanwhile, outlays on multi-family housing projects increased by 2.4%, benefitting from strong demand for rental housing.

The Federal Reserve's battle to tame inflation with the fastest interest rate-hiking cycle since the 1980s is strangling the housing market, with homebuilding and sales collapsing. The average 30-year fixed mortgage rate, which breached 7.0% in October for the first time since 2002, has resumed its upward trend after briefly pulling back in late 2022, data from mortgage finance agency Freddie Mac (OTC:FMCC) showed. The rate averaged 6.42% last week, up from 6.27% in the prior week and averaged 3.11% during the same period in 2021. Residential investment has contracted for six straight quarters, the longest period of decline since the housing market collapsed in 2006. Similarly, spending on public construction projects dipped 0.1% in November, after increasing 1.6% in October. Investment in state and local government construction projects declined 0.7%, while federal government construction spending surged 7.2%.



# Foreign Exchange Market

Currency	3-Jan	30-Dec	DoD % ∆	YTD% Δ
USD:JMD	152.60	152.05	0.36%	0.36%
GBP:JMD	181.73	182.09	-0.20%	-0.2%
CAD:JMD	110.90	108.49	2.23%	2.2%

### Caribbean & Latam

 Brazil's real slid on Tuesday as investors worried about leftist President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's spending plans, and the main equities benchmark sank to a two-week low.

### **USA & Canada**

 Wall Street's main indexes dropped on the first trading day of 2023 with big drags from Tesla (NASDAQ:TSLA) and Apple, while investors worried about the Federal Reserve's interestrate hiking path as they awaited minutes from its December meeting.

### **Europe**

 European stocks rose sharply on Tuesday to extend gains from the previous session, as investors awaited German consumer price data expected to confirm the gradual easing that started last month.

### **Asia**

 Most currencies in Asian emerging markets began the new year on the front foot, helped by a subdued U.S. dollar, with Thailand's baht gaining the most on Tuesday, though sentiments were guarded ahead of minutes of Federal Reserve's policy meeting and surging COVID-19 infections in China.

## **Local Equity Market**

Stock Index	Today's close	DoD $\Delta$	$\mathbf{DoD\%}\ \Delta$	YTD % ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ
JSE Combined Index	368,560.59	-31.39	-0.01%	-8.11%	-9.04%
JSE Index	356,238.98	342.34	0.10%	-10.16%	-11.10%
All Jamaican Composite Index	404,349.42	1,269.06	0.31%	-8.04%	-9.10%
JSE Select Index	8,950.85	54.37	0.61%	-9.98%	-10.43%
Junior Market Index	3,948.25	-38.19	-0.96%	16.28%	15.42%

BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS							
ADVANCERS DECLINERS							
SIL	20.22%		SML	-21.79%			
GENAC	14.97%		AFS	-13.39%			
MDS	11.11%		WIG	-12.68%	<b>~</b>		

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference and deferred shares) resulted in trading of **98** stocks, of which **38** advanced, **49** declined and **11** traded firm.

### **International Markets**

International Equity Markets					In	ternatio	nal Currenc	y Market	
Index	3-Jan	DoD % $\Delta$	YTD% ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ	Currency	3-Jan	DoD % $\Delta$	YTD% ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ
S&P 500	3,823.94	-0.41%	-19.77%	-20.28%	EUR: USD	1.0554	-1.41%	-7.18%	-6.58%
Dow Jones	33,136.37	-0.03%	-8.81%	-9.43%	GBP: USD	1.20	-0.93%	-11.54%	-11.19%
FTSE All Share	4,131.41	1.38%	-1.82%	-1.82%	GBF: USD	1.20	-0.73%	-11.34%	-11.17/0
Euro Stoxx 50	3,882.29	2.34%	-9.68%	-10.38%	USD: CAD	1.37	0.88%	8.20%	7.28%
Nikkei 225	26,094.50	0.00%	-9.37%	-9.37%	USD: IPY	130.92	-0.15%	13.76%	13.53%
MSCI World Index	610.14	0.79%	-19.17%	-19.39%					

Global Interest Rates					Cor	nmodities			
Rates	3-Jan	DoD ∆bps	YTD ∆bps	YoY ∆bps	Commodity	3-Jan	DoD % $\Delta$	YTD% ∆	<b>ΥοΥ</b> % Δ
10 -Year US Treasury Bond	3.76%	-11.00	225.00	213.00	Crude Oil	77.14	-3.89%	2.57%	1.39%
	3.65%	-2.00	268.00	268.00	Gold	1,839.18	0.83%	0.55%	2.09%
10-Year UK Gilt					Silver	23.99	0.16%	2.93%	4.77%
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	6.41%	1.00	237.00	237.00	Aluminium	2,311.00	-2.82%	-17.68%	-17.68%

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





## **JN MUTUAL FUNDS**

December 30, 2022

JN Mutual Funds	NAV Price	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield (Estimated Yearly Income)
Global Diversified Income	J\$12.9482	-7.80%	-8.48%	2.90%
Global Equity	J\$14.5817	-5.65%	-7.18%	0.00%
Global Fixed Income	J\$13.7834	3.86%	3.89%	5.96%
Global Money Market (US\$)	US\$11.3957	3.72%	3.71%	4.25%
Global Fixed Income (US\$)	US\$11.4415	0.94%	0.88%	4.16%
Local Money Market	J\$12.0736	4.19%	4.22%	7.23%

	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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