## July 29, 2020

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# **US Federal Reserve Holds Policy Rate**

The United States (US) Federal Reserve's (the Fed) Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) voted to leave the target range for short-term interest rates (the policy rate) between 0% and 0.25%. The FOMC is responsible for reviewing the economic and financial conditions of the US, determine the appropriate stance of monetary policy to be taken and assess the risks to its long-run goals of price stability and sustainable economic growth. In today's policy meeting, the committee reiterated that it expects to maintain its target range until it is confident that the US economy has weathered recent events and is on track to achieve its maximum employment and price stability goals. This also depends on the duration of the pandemic. The FOMC also indicated that they will continue to buy at least \$120 billion in US. treasuries and mortgage-backed securities each month to stabilize the financial markets. The Committee highlighted that while weaker demand and lower oil prices have suppressed inflation, overall financial conditions have improved in recent months. This improvement, in part, reflects the accommodative policy measures being utilized by the Fed to support the economy and the flow of credit to US households and businesses. Notwithstanding, this improvement remains below pre-pandemic levels.

Since the Fed's last policy meeting in June 2020, the number of confirmed coronavirus cases has intensified in the US. The resurgence in new COVID-19 cases could lead to further increases in unemployment numbers and weaken consumer demand and confidence. In line with this theory, the FOMC expects that the global health crisis will weigh heavily on US economic activity, employment and inflation in the short term. The FOMC projects that the health crisis will also pose considerable risks to the US's economic outlook over the medium term.



**Foreign Exchange Market** Currency 29-Jul 28-Jul **DoD** %  $\Delta$ **YTD%**  $\Delta$ USD:JMD 147.72 148.18 -0.31% 11.43% **GBP:JMD** 190.91 190.75 0.08% 11.2% CAD: JMD 111.82 111.52 0.27% 11.7%

#### Caribbean & Latam

 Most Latin American currencies edged higher on Wednesday against the dollar which fell to a two-year low on growing expectations of a dovish policy stance from the U.S. Federal Reserve.

#### USA & Canada

 U.S. stocks rose on Wednesday as a slew of positive earnings updates and hopes for assurances of continued support from the Federal Reserve overshadowed concerns about next steps for the government's coronavirus support plan.

#### **Europe**

 European shares rose on Wednesday, but a resurgence of COVID-19 cases kept investors cautious as they awaited news from the U.S. Federal Reserve's latest policy meeting.

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

 Asia's cash premiums for 10 ppm gasoil on Wednesday plunged to their lowest in more than seven weeks, as concern mounted over a surge in near term supplies and resurgent coronavirus cases are expected to cut industrial demand. barrel a day earlier.

5 <sup>2</sup>		Local I	Equity M	arket			
Stock I	ndex	Today's close	<b>DoD</b> $\Delta$	<b>DoD%</b> $\Delta$	<b>YTD %</b> $\Delta$	ΥοΥ% Δ	
JSE Combined Index		366,118.83	1,285.31	0.35%	-27.54%	-27.79%	
JSE Index		367,932.73	367,932.73 <b>I,024.69</b>		-27.84%	-28.06%	
All Jamaican Composite Index		403,259.52	1,220.61	0.30%	- <b>27.97</b> %	-28.21%	
JSE Select Index		9,129.33	42.64	0.47%	-30.12%	-30.54%	
Junior Market Index	:	2,564.93	31.93	1.26%	-23.41%	-24.21%	
		BEST AND W	ORST PERF	ORMERS			
	ADVAN	CERS		DECLINERS			
tTech	9.74%		JE	TCON	-10.78%		
CBNY	9.09%			ECL	-10.00%		
ELITE	7.78%		SELECTMD		<b>-8.64</b> %		

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference shares) resulted in trading of **74** stocks, of which **35** advanced, **32** declined and **7** traded firm.

### **International Markets**

Int	ternatio	nal Equity	y Marl	kets		Int	ernationa	al Currency	Market	
Index	29-Jul	DoD	%	YTD% 🛆	<b>ΥοΥ%</b> Δ	Currency	29-Jul	<b>DoD % A</b>	<b>YTD%</b> ∆	<b>ΥοΥ</b> %
S&P 500	3,258.58	B 1.25	%	0.86%	7.87%		, <b>,</b>			Δ
Dow Jones	26,539.5	7 0.61	%	-7.00%	-2.50%	EUR: USD	1.1786	0.60%	5.11%	5.75%
FTSE All Share	3,397.36	- <b>0.02</b>	2%	-19.04%	-18.84%	GBP: USD	1.2989	0.44%	-2.02%	6.30%
Euro Stoxx 50	3,300.16	- <b>0.10</b>	)%	-11.88%	-6.34%					
Vikkei 225 22,39		7.11 - <b>1.15%</b>		-5.32%	3.61%	USD: CAD	1.3340	-0.30%	2.69%	1.34%
MSCI World Index	551.03	-0.34	%	-2.51%	3.94%	USD: JPY	105.02	-0.07%	-3.31%	-3.46%
	Globa	l Interest	Rates	5			Co	mmodities	;	
Rates	29	9-Jul Dol	D ∆bps		S YoY ∆bps	Commodity	29-Jul	<b>DoD % A</b>	<b>YTD% A</b>	<b>ΥοΥ</b> %
10 -Year US Treasury B	Bond 0.	57% -	1.00	-135.00	-150.00	Crude Oil	41.3	0.63%	-32.36%	-27.38
10-Year UK Gilt	0.	12%	I.00	-70.00	-53.00	Gold	1,969.08	0.54%	29.78%	38.01%
GOJ 2025 Global Bond		46% -	3.00	61.00	10.00	Silver	24.21	<b>-0.78</b> %	35.62%	47.10%
-						Aluminium	1,724.00	0.94%	-4.75%	-4.80%

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



# **JN MUTUAL FUNDS**

July 28, 2020

Fund Managers Ltd.

JN Mutual Funds		NAV Pr	rice	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield (Estimated Yearly Income)	
Global Diversified Income		e J\$13.54	125	-4.27%	-7.25%	2.28%	
Global Equity		J\$13.82	244	-19.36%	-23.54%	0.00%	
Global Fixed Income		J\$12.47	759	5.61%	4.11%	4.61%	
Global Money Market (US\$)		<b>5\$)</b> US\$10.4	613	2.91%	I.92%	3.69%	
Global Fixed Income (US\$)		<b>\$)</b> US\$10.4	743	2.23%	1.34%	5.15%	
Local Money Market		J\$10.88	344	3.48%	2.31%	4.01%	
	Global Money Market Local Money Market Globa		al 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	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	debt securities, local and		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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