

US Federal Reserve Raises Interest Rate for the First time Since 2018

At the conclusion of its two-day meeting ending March 16, 2022, the United States (US) Federal Reserve (Fed) raised its policy rate to a target range of 0.25 per cent to 0.50 per cent and indicated its anticipation of that ongoing increases in the target range will be appropriate. At an upcoming meeting, the Committee also expects to begin reducing its holdings of Treasury securities and agency debt and agency mortgage-backed securities. The Fed's action is against the backdrop of improving economic activity and employment, and elevated inflation. The Committee indicated that inflation remained elevated reflecting supply and demand imbalances related to the pandemic, higher energy prices and broader price pressures.

Although the implications for the US' economy are highly uncertain, in the near term it is anticipated that the Russian invasion of Ukraine and related events are likely to create additional upward pressure on inflation and weigh on economic activity. The PCE (Personal Consumption Expenditure Price) Inflation is projected to close 2022 at 4.3% which is higher than December projections of 2.6%. The Committee seeks to achieve maximum employment and inflation at the rate of 2 per cent over the longer run. In light of this, the Fed projects that the US Federal Fund rate could increase to 1.9 per cent by the end of 2022 which is higher than the December 2021's projection for the rate to increase to 0.9 per cent. Meanwhile, the US economy is expected to expand by 2.8% which is well below the 4.0% projected back in December.



Foreign Exchange Market

Currency	17-Mar	16-Mar	DoD % Δ	YTD% Δ
USD:JMD	153.47	153.63	-0.11%	-1.05%
GBP:JMD	201.71	200.95	0.38%	-4.0%
CAD:JMD	121.63	120.28	1.12%	-0.9%

Caribbean & Latam

Latin American stocks edged higher on Thursday as risk appetite ticked up on easing fears around China's spluttering economy, while Brazil's real extended gains a day after the country's central bank hiked interest rates.

USA & Canada

 All three of Wall Street's major indexes advanced more than 1% on Thursday as investors considered the Federal Reserve's path for interest rate hikes and worries eased about the prospects of a Russian default after creditors received payments.

Europe

 European bourses are expected to open on a restrained note on Thursday in the backdrop of the Fed's first rate hike since 2018. While global markets have reacted positively after the hike

<u>Asia</u>

 Stock markets in Asia rallied on Thursday, amidst relief that the Fed did not increase interest rates more than the expected level of quarter percent.

Local Equity Market

Stock Index	Today's close	DoD Δ	DoD% Δ	YTD % ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ
JSE Combined Index	393,622.93	-2,719.24	-0.69%	-1.87%	-0.37%
JSE Index	382,730.79	-2,641.22	-0.69%	-3.39%	-3.23%
All Jamaican Composite Index	427,939.81	-4,466.69	-1.03%	-2.37%	-1.35%
JSE Select Index	9,716.21	-136.14	-1.38%	-1.69%	-1.07%
Junior Market Index	3,975.71	-27.76	-0.69%	15.97%	36.88%

BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS						
ADVANCERS DECLINERS						
LEARN	32.57%		FIRSTROCKUSD	-11.66%		
CHL	11.22%		1834	-11.49%		
MPCCEL	10.00%		MIL	-10.42%		

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference and deferred shares) resulted in trading of 91 stocks, of which 34 advanced, 50 declined and 7 traded firm.

International Markets

International Equity Markets							
Index	17-Mar	DoD % Δ	YTD% ∆	ΥοΥ % Δ			
S&P 500	4,411.67	1.23%	-7.44%	11.01%			
Dow Jones	34,480.76	1.23%	-5.11%	4.44%			
FTSE All Share	4,120.17	1.13%	-2.09%	6.90%			
Euro Stoxx 50	3,885.32	-0.11%	-9.61%	0.92%			
Nikkei 225	26,652.89	3.46%	-2.88%	-10.90%			
MSCI World Index	695.25	1.77%	-7.89 %	2.52%			

MSCI vvorid index 69:	5.25	1.//%	-7.89%	2.52%				
Global Interest Rates								
Rates	17-Mar	DoD ∆bps	YTD ∆bps	YoY ∆bps	•			
10 -Year US Treasury Bond	2.17%	-1.43	66.05	52.79				
10-Year UK Gilt	1.57%	-6.50	59.40	73.50	-			
GOI 2025 Global Bond	5.21%	1.70	175.40	153.20	-			

International Currency Market					
Currency	17-Mar	DoD % Δ	YTD% ∆	YoY % ∆	
EUR: USD	1.1091	0.51%	-2.45%	-7.41%	
GBP: USD	1.31	0.00%	-2.83%	-5.85%	
USD: CAD	1.26	-0.39%	-0.07%	1.80%	
USD: JPY	118.60	-0.11%	3.06%	8.97%	

Commodities							
Commodity	17-Mar	DoD % Δ	YTD % Δ	YoY% Δ			
Crude Oil	102.98	8.35%	36.92%	59.41%			
Gold	1,942.89	0.81%	6.22%	11.32%			
Silver	25.38	1.15%	8.88%	-3.56%			
Aluminium	3,384.50	3.87%	20.55%	51.94%			

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



JN MUTUAL FUNDS



March 16, 2022

JN Muti	ual Funds	NAV Pri	ce	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield Estimated Yearly Income)
Global	Diversified Incom	e J\$14.02	67	0.55%	-0.86%	1.24%
Global	Equity	J\$15.20	61	0.30%	-3.21%	0.00%
Global	Fixed Income	J\$13.21	12	3.03%	-0.43%	3.96%
Global	Money Market (U	S\$) US\$11.0	164	3.11%	0.26%	2.58%
Global Fixed Income (US\$)		\$) US\$11.28	319	3.77%	-0.53%	2.30%
Local M	loney Market	J\$11.54	04	3.41%	-0.38%	4.39%
	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 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 tus dollar (US\$) fund.	To provide long-term investment growth through exposure to a diversified range of asset classes.	To provide long-term capita 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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