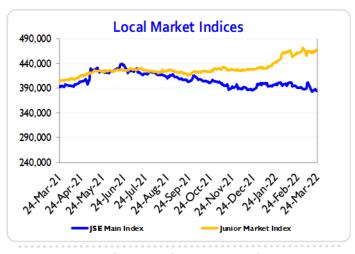


# US Business Activity Expands to an 8-month High in March 2022

According to S&P Global, the United States (US) Flash PMI Composite Output Index, which measures services and manufacturing activity, expanded to eighth month-high to 58.5 for its preliminary estimate in March 2022. This reading was above February's final reading of 55.9 and was above the 50-mark threshold which implies an increase in private-sector output. The increase in output growth was broad-based, as both manufacturing and the service sector firms expanded at a higher pace, supported by pent-up demand and easing of COVID-19 restrictions. Additionally, production was higher as there were less severe supply disruptions and increase in job creation. Despite this, backlogs and price pressures were higher during the month. Price pressures remained a significant theme during March as costs increased to one of the fastest rates on record. The increase in costs for raw material, fuel and energy led to higher inflation. The war in Ukraine and China's lockdown also exacerbated supply chain bottlenecks. Although private sector businesses remained broadly upbeat about the outlook for the coming year, the degree of optimism declined to a five-month low amid concerns regarding soaring input costs and the war in Ukraine.

Although the easing of COVID-19 cases is likely to alleviate some of the pressures on the US economy, rising inflation is likely to continue to be a significant theme in the coming months. The Ukraine-Russia conflict along with COVID-19 uncertainty are likely to exacerbate supply chains and lead to higher costs for raw materials, fuel, and energy over the ensuing period. Considering this, we anticipate that this could limit the expansion of US business activity over the short term.



# Foreign Exchange Market

Currency	24-Mar	23-Mar	DoD % $\Delta$	YTD% $\Delta$
USD:JMD	154.21	153.98	0.15%	-0.57%
GBP:JMD	205.11	203.69	0.70%	-2.4%
CAD:JMD	123.38	122.96	0.34%	0.5%

#### Caribbean & Latam

 Latin American stocks and currencies gained for a seventh straight day on Thursday as an ongoing rally in commodity prices offset jitters about the fallout of the Ukraine war, including fresh sanctions on Russia.

#### **USA & Canada**

 U.S. stocks fell sharply on Wednesday as Moscow planned to switch its natural gas sales to some countries to roubles and oil prices jumped, while shares of Adobe fell following a disappointing outlook.

#### **Europe**

 European economies face the risk of a shortage of diesel, the preferred fuel for heavy industry, as sanctions on Russian energy threaten to disrupt imports while supply from elsewhere remains limited.

#### Asia

 Investors stayed bearish on most emerging Asian currencies and turned short on Thailand's baht for the first time in three months, as uncertainty from Russia's invasion of Ukraine and inflationary risks remained, a Reuters poll found on Thursday.

# **Local Equity Market**

Stock Index	Today's close	DoD $\Delta$	$\mathbf{DoD\%}\ \Delta$	YTD % ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ
JSE Combined Index	396,135.14	-1,212.53	-0.31%	-1.25%	0.69%
JSE Index	384,196.74	-1,679.51	-0.44%	-3.02%	-2.16%
All Jamaican Composite Index	432,586.16	-2,001.01	-0.46%	-1.31%	0.43%
JSE Select Index	9,830.99	-74.94	-0.76%	-0.53%	0.50%
Junior Market Index	4,104.06	40.52	1.00%	19.71%	37.42%

BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS						
	ADVANCERS			DECLINERS		
PBS	14.63%		MTL	-13.51%		
SRFUSD	14.57%		SSLVC	-10.00%		
SIL	13.50%		WIG	-9.86%	-	

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference and deferred shares) resulted in trading of **96** stocks, of which **54** advanced, **29** declined and **13** traded firm.

### **International Markets**

International Equity Markets						
Index	24-Mar	DoD % $\Delta$	YTD% ∆	<b>YoY</b> % ∆		
S&P 500	4,520.16	1.43%	-5.16%	16.23%		
Dow Jones	34,707.94	1.02%	-4.49%	7.06%		
FTSE All Share	4,155.88	-0.02%	-1.24%	8.61%		
Euro Stoxx 50	3,863.39	-0.15%	-10.12%	0.80%		
Nikkei 225	28,110.39	0.25%	2.43%	-1.04%		
MSCI World Index	708.82	0.81%	-6.10%	6.94%		

MSCI World Index 7	708.82	0.81%	-6.10%	6.94%			
Global Interest Rates							
Rates	24-Mar	DoD ∆bps	YTD ∆bps	YoY ∆bps			
10 -Year US Treasury Bond	d 2.37%	7.46	85.62	75.79			
10-Year UK Gilt	1.65%	1.90	67.50	88.88			
GOI 2025 Global Bond	5.25%	-3.10	179.90	174.60			

Int	ternatior	nal Currenc	y Market	
Currency	24-Mar	DoD % $\Delta$	YTD% ∆	<b>YoY</b> % ∆
EUR: USD	1.0997	-0.06%	-3.28%	-6.91%
GBP: USD	1.32	-0.14%	-2.56%	-3.65%
USD: CAD	1.25	-0.26%	-0.85%	-0.40%
USD: JPY	122.38	1.02%	6.34%	12.55%

Commodities						
Commodity	24-Mar	$\mathbf{DoD}\ \%\ \Delta$	$\mathbf{YTD\%}\ \Delta$	$\mathbf{YoY}\%\ \Delta$		
Crude Oil	111.4	-3.07%	48.12%	82.09%		
Gold	1,959.82	0.82%	7.14%	12.98%		
Silver	25.56	1.79%	9.66%	1.85%		
Aluminium	3,623.50	-0.81%	29.07%	60.47%		

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



# **JN MUTUAL FUNDS**



March 23, 2022

JN Muti	ual Funds	NAV Pri	ce	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield Estimated Yearly Income)
Global	Diversified Incom	e J\$14.03	55	0.69%	-0.79%	1.30%
Global	Equity	J\$15.25	65	0.89%	-2.89%	0.00%
Global	Fixed Income	J\$13.35	49	4.12%	0.66%	3.75%
Global	Money Market (U	<b>S\$)</b> US\$11.0	199	3.07%	0.29%	2.62%
Global Fixed Income (US\$)		\$) US\$11.29	940	3.75%	-0.42%	2.25%
Local Money Market		J\$11.59	93	3.93%	0.13%	4.49%
	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	return incon throu (i) A	chieve an attractive total in through capital injection and ne growth. This is offered igh two separate Funds: Jamaican dollar (J\$) and US 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	west 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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