



# **US Weekly Jobless Claims Edged Lower but Still Elevated**

According to the United States (US) Department of Labor, initial claims for state unemployment benefits totalled 751,000 for the week ended October 31, 2020, above market expectations for 732,000 claims but was lower than the revised estimate of 758,000 claims recorded in the week prior. This also marked the third consecutive week that jobless claims have been below 800,000. Unlike state unemployment claims that edged lower in the week ended October 31, 2020, initial claims under the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, for persons who were not eligible under the regular unemployment assistance programme, increased by 3,839 claims to total 362,883.

Although unemployment claims have lost some steam since the peak in the second quarter, the levels remain elevated and still above the 2007-09 Great Recession's peak of 665,000. The continued uncertainty surrounding the second coronavirus relief package from the government and the absence of a vaccine amid rising COVID-19 cases is likely to negatively weigh on employment levels in the near to short term and impact consumers propensity to spend. On Friday, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics will release its non-farm payroll data which will provide further insights into the United States' unemployment levels and the health of the US economy.



# Foreign Exchange Market

Currency	5-Nov	4-Nov	DoD % $\Delta$	YTD% Δ
USD:JMD	146.83	148.44	-1.09%	10.76%
GBP:JMD	192.90	192.82	0.04%	12.4%
CAD:JMD	113.96	110.17	3.45%	13.8%

#### Caribbean & Latam

 Mexico's peso touched its highest level in nearly eight months against a weakening dollar on Thursday, while emerging market stocks hit multi-year highs as Democratic candidate Joe Biden maintained a narrow lead in U.S. election vote counting.

### **USA & Canada**

 Wall Street's main indexes jumped on Thursday as investors bet on a Republican-held Senate that would block any moves by a Joe Biden administration to tighten regulation and raise taxes on corporate America, even as the presidential election remained too close to call.

#### **Europe**

 European stocks hit a more than two-week high on Thursday, as strong quarterly earnings, fresh stimulus for Britain's coronavirus-hit economy and a post-election gains for Wall Street lifted investor spirits.

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

 Stocks and currencies in Asia's emerging markets rose on Thursday as Democrat Joe Biden pulled ahead of Republican rival Donald Trump and was within striking distance of clinching a nail-biting U.S. presidential election.

## Local Equity Market

Stock Index	Today's close	DoD $\Delta$	$\mathbf{DoD\%}\ \Delta$	YTD % ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ
JSE Combined Index	368,090.62	-1,999.77	-0.54%	-26.75%	-25.53%
JSE Index	370,727.04	-1,996.58	-0.54%	-26.90%	-25.00%
All Jamaican Composite Index	406,293.90	-2,323.05	-0.57%	-27.01%	-25.11%
JSE Select Index	8,977.88	-121.26	-1.33%	-30.35%	-29.43%
Junior Market Index	2,509.28	-15.15	-0.60%	-24.62%	-26.06%

BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS						
ADVANCERS DECLINERS						
MIL	9.53%	•	PAL	-16.71%		
PROVEN	9.03%		SSLVC	-11.94%		
138 <b>S</b> L	8.67%		PROVENJA	-10.41%		

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference and deferred shares) resulted in trading of **74** stocks, of which **35** advanced, **25** declined and **14** traded firm.

### International Markets

International Equity Markets						
Index	5-Nov	DoD % $\Delta$	YTD% ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ		
S&P 500	3,504.33	1.77%	8.47%	13.98%		
Dow Jones	28,390.51	1.95%	-0.52%	3.27%		
FTSE All Share	3,324.36	0.46%	-20.78%	-18.23%		
Euro Stoxx 50	3,215.56	1.72%	-14.14%	-12.54%		
Nikkei 225	24,105.28	1.73%	1.90%	3.67%		
MSCI World Index	590.95	2.08%	4.55%	9.11%		

International Currency Market						
Currency	5-Nov	DoD % ∆	YTD% ∆	YoY% Δ		
EUR: USD	1.1827	0.86%	5.48%	6.79%		
GBP: USD	1.3148	1.23%	-0.82%	2.05%		
USD: CAD	1.3047	-0.68%	0.44%	-0.84%		
USD: JPY	103.53	-0.95%	-4.68%	-5.16%		

Global Interest Rates						
Rates	5-Nov	DoD ∆bps	YTD ∆bps	YoY ∆bps		
10 -Year US Treasury Bond	0.77%	1.00	-115.00	-109.00		
10-Year UK Gilt	0.23%	2.00	-59.00	-55.00		
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	4.11%	0.00	26.00	11.00		

	Con	nmodities		
Commodity	5-Nov	DoD % $\Delta$	YTD% ∆	<b>ΥοΥ</b> % Δ
Crude Oil	38.5	-1.66%	-36.95%	-32.73%
Gold	1,950.62	2.51%	28.56%	31.48%
Silver	25.42	6.36%	42.40%	44.61%
Aluminium	1,897.50	-0.58%	4.83%	4.78%

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



# **JN MUTUAL FUNDS**



November 4, 2020

JN Mutual Funds		NAV Pri	12 Months NAV Price Growth Rat		YTD Growth Rate	Yield Estimated Yearly Income)	
Global Diversified Income		e J\$13.44	17 -6	5.32%	-7.94%	2.13%	
Global	Equity	J\$14.04	04 -1	7.77%	-22.35%	0.00%	
Global	Fixed Income	J\$12.69	49 5	.82%	5.94%	4.65%	
Global	Money Market (U	S\$) US\$10.55	540 3	.19%	2.83%	3.77%	
Global Fixed Income (US\$)		\$) US\$10.66	614 3	.48%	3.15%	4.94%	
Local Money Market		J\$11.024	48 4	.01%	3.63%	4.26%	
	Global Money Market Fund	Local Money Market Fund	Global 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 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	To invest in regional, sovereign debt securities, local and international 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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