



Jamaica's Unemployment Rate Falls to 8.5% in July 2021

According to the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN), Jamaica's unemployment rate was 8.5% in July 2021, 4.1 percentage points below the 12.6% recorded in July 2020 but still 1.2 percentage points higher than the pre-pandemic record of 7.3% in January 2020. The total number of persons employed increased by 8.3% year- over-year to 1,215,000 in July 2021, up from 1,121,600 in July 2020. Males saw the largest increase of 55,700 workers, or 9.0%, while females saw a 7.5% increase in jobs, or 37,700. In terms of employment categories, the groups: 'Elementary Occupations' and 'Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Workers' added 52.9% more jobs than the previous year, contributing 25,200 and 24,200 jobs, respectively. 'Construction' and 'Real Estate and Other Business Services' accounted for a little more than half (51.0%) of the increase in the employed labour force. 'Construction' added 26,100 jobs, while 'Real Estate and Other Business Services jobs increased by 21,500. The labour force participation rate, which compares the labour force by the total working-age population, was 63.4% in July 2021, up from 61.3% in July 2020.

In light of the tourism sector's ongoing recovery, government vaccination efforts, and the continued reopening of the economies of Jamaica's main trading partners, we anticipate that the country's unemployment level will continue to improve over the short to medium term. However, this is highly dependent on the path of COVID-19 and its variants, which could negatively impact demand and business activity and lead to lower employment.

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Foreign Exchange Market

Currency	21-Oct	20-Oct	DoD % Δ	YTD% Δ
USD:JMD	153.96	153.18	0.51%	7.93%
GBP:JMD	212.47	210.86	0.76%	9.7%
CAD:JMD	126.99	125.06	1.54%	14.0%

Caribbean & Latam

 Brazil's real tumbled to a six-month low on Thursday as concerns over fiscal spending were compounded by weak sentiment, with most other Latin American currencies falling as inflation fears prompted investors to avoid risk-driven assets

USA & Canada

 U.S. Treasury yields rose on Thursday as a quickly recovering economy renewed questions about when the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates after it has finished tapering its massive bond buying program.

Europe

 European stocks closed weak on Thursday with investors largely making cautious moves, digesting mixed earnings updates and reacting to news about the collapse of a \$2.6 billion asset sale at heavily indebted developer China Evergrande Group.

Asia

 Asian stock markets are trading mixed on Thursday, following the mostly positive cues overnight from Wall Street, as traders reacted positively to another batch of largely upbeat corporate earnings news and rising crude oil prices.

Local Equity Market

Stock Index	Today's close	DoD Δ	DoD% ∆	YTD % ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ
JSE Combined Index	406,266.01	808.93	0.20%	3.52%	8.47%
JSE Index	403,206.07	802.24	0.20%	1.92%	6.53%
All Jamaican Composite Index	443,700.01	-62.66	-0.01%	2.35%	6.94%
JSE Select Index	9,731.04	34.30	0.35%	-0.12%	6.23%
Junior Market Index	3,285.94	6.60	0.20%	24.31%	34.45%

BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS					
ADVANCERS DECLINERS					
GWEST	14.46%		CHL	-12.50%	
CBNY	11.65%		PURITY	-8.93%	
138 S L	9.89%		MEEG	-8.27%	-

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference and deferred shares) resulted in trading of 83 stocks, of which 34 advanced, 35 declined and 14 traded firm.

International Markets

International Equity Markets						
Index	21-Oct	DoD % Δ	YTD% ∆	ΥοΥ% Δ		
S&P 500	4,549.05	0.28%	21.11%	32.41%		
Dow Jones	35,603.08	-0.02%	16.33%	26.20%		
FTSE All Share	4,102.33	-0.40%	11.67%	25.80%		
Euro Stoxx 50	4,155.73	-0.39%	16.98%	30.65%		
Nikkei 225	28,708.58	-1.87%	4.61%	21.44%		
MSCI World Index	742.08	0.00%	14.83%	28.09%		

International Currency Market							
Currency	21-Oct	DoD % A	YTD% ∆	ΥοΥ % Δ			
EUR: USD	1.1622	-0.25%	-4.86%	-2.02%			
GBP: USD	1.38	-0.25%	0.88%	4.87%			
USD: CAD	1.24	0.43%	-2.76%	-5.87%			
USD: JPY	114.04	-0.24%	10.45%	9.04%			

Global Interest Rates							
Rates	21-Oct	DoD ∆bps	YTD ∆bps	YoY ∆bps			
10 -Year US Treasury Bond	1.68%	2.00	77.00	86.00			
10-Year UK Gilt	1.20%	5.00	100.00	96.00			
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	3.59%	-3.00	14.00	-58.00			

Commodities Commodity 21-Oct DoD % \(\Delta \) YTD% \(\Delta \) YoY% \(\Delta \)					
	Commodity	21-Oct	DoD % Δ	YTD% Δ	YoY% ∆
	Crude Oil	82.65	-1.45%	70.34%	106.47%
	Gold	1,783.58	0.08%	-6.05%	-7.31%
_	Silver	24.15	-0.57%	-8.51%	-3.56%
	Aluminium	2,910.50	-5.18%	47.03%	57.88 %

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



JN MUTUAL FUNDS



October 20, 2021

JN Mutu	ual Funds	NAV Pri	ce	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield (Estimated Yearly Income)
Global Diversified Income		e J\$14.23	18	5.07%	2.82%	2.18%
Global	Equity	J\$15.65°	99	11.16%	4.01%	0.00%
Global	Fixed Income	J\$13.15	06	3.98%	3.90%	4.66%
Global	Money Market (U	S\$) US\$10.9	157	3.54%	2.80%	2.42%
Global	Fixed Income (US	\$) US\$11.23	717	6.20%	2.35%	3.15%
Local M	loney Market	J\$11.45	75	4.18%	3.87%	4.13%
	Global Money Market Fund	Local Money Market Fund	Glol	bal 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	retui incoi throi (i) A	ichieve an attractive total rn through capital injection and me growth. This is offered ugh two separate Funds: Jamaican dollar (J\$) and 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	debt	nvest in regional, sovereign securities, local and mational corporate bonds.	To invest in fixed income, high dividend yielding stock REITs and structured produ	

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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