

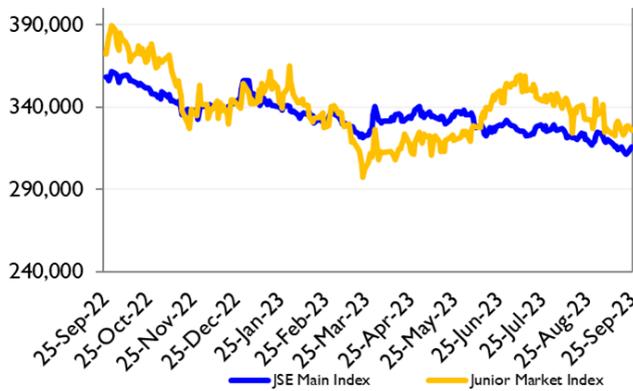
ECB Maintains High Interest Rates to Combat Inflation Amid Economic Slowdown

The European Central Bank (ECB) is determined to keep interest rates high enough to restrict business activity "as long as necessary" to counter inflation, according to the bank's president, Christine Lagarde. Speaking on Monday, she noted that the upward pressure on prices remains robust in the eurozone due to factors such as strong spending on holidays and travel and increasing wages. Annual inflation in the eurozone decreased slightly from 5.2% in July to 5.3% in August. Despite this slight drop, Lagarde emphasized that inflation is still expected to remain too high for too long. She reiterated the ECB's commitment to bringing inflation back to its 2% medium-term target promptly.

In response to the persistent inflation, the ECB recently increased its benchmark deposit rate to an all-time high of 4%, up from -0.5% in July 2022. This move came despite signs of increasing weakness in the European economy. Other central banks, including the Bank of England and the U.S. Federal Reserve, refrained from rate hikes last week as they approach the end of their rapid rate-increase campaigns. Inflation surged as the global economy recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to supply chain disruptions. The situation was exacerbated when Russia invaded Ukraine, causing energy and food prices to skyrocket.

Lagarde believes that interest rates are now at a level where they can make a substantial contribution to reducing inflation if maintained for a sufficiently long duration. The ECB projects inflation will decline to an average of 2.1% in 2025 after peaking at a record-high 10.6% in October. The ECB's higher rates have led to a significant slowdown in real estate transactions and construction, sectors highly sensitive to credit costs, effectively ending a prolonged rally in eurozone home prices. The European economy broadly stagnated in the first half of this year, with incoming data indicating further weakness in the July-to-September quarter. However, Lagarde cited ECB forecasts anticipating an economic recovery as inflation decreases, which would provide consumers with more purchasing power.

Local Market Indices



Foreign Exchange Market

Currency	25-Sep	22-Sep	DoD % Δ	YTD % Δ
USD:JMD	155.46	155.42	0.03%	2.24%
GBP:JMD	192.26	190.43	0.96%	5.58%
CAD:JMD	116.05	116.00	0.05%	6.98%

Caribbean & Latam

- Most Latin American currencies fell on Monday, starting the last week of the quarter on a weaker footing as worries about China's ailing property sector took the shine off metal prices and as investors braced for higher-for-longer U.S. interest rates.

USA & Canada

- Wall Street's main indexes posted gains on Monday, with increases in Amazon.com shares and the energy sector, as Treasury yields rose further and investors looked to economic data and Federal Reserve policymakers' remarks later in the week for clarity on the path for interest rates.

Europe

- European shares fell at the start of the quarter's last week in volatile trading as worries about interest rates staying higher for longer and weakness in China-exposed shares weighed on the index.

Asia

- China Evergrande Group's latest trouble in firming up a long-pending debt restructuring plan led to a sell-off in its and peers' shares on Monday, as worries resurfaced about the crisis-hit property sector after a brief respite.

Local Equity Market

Stock Index	Today's close	DoD Δ	DoD% Δ	YTD % Δ	YoY% Δ
JSE Combined Index	329,355.29	3,102.28	0.95%	-10.65%	-11.47%
JSE Index	315,805.28	3,527.99	1.13%	-11.26%	-11.88%
All Jamaican Composite Index	344,391.47	755.20	0.22%	-14.56%	-16.14%
JSE Select Index	7,609.22	11.77	0.15%	-14.47%	-16.92%
Junior Market Index	3,789.41	-20.18	-0.53%	-4.94%	-7.75%

BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS

ADVANCERS		DECLINERS	
FIRSTROCKUSD	17.42%	LASF	-14.81%
AMG	9.21%	SALF	-6.04%
ELITE	8.64%	MDS	-5.95%

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference and deferred shares) resulted in trading of **95** stocks, of which **37** advanced, **39** declined and **19** traded firm.

International Markets

International Equity Markets					International Currency Market				
Index	25-Sep	DoD % Δ	YTD % Δ	YoY % Δ	Currency	25-Sep	DoD % Δ	YTD % Δ	YoY % Δ
S&P 500	4,337.44	0.40%	12.97%	18.67%	EUR: USD	1.0593	-0.56%	-1.05%	10.24%
Dow Jones	34,006.88	0.13%	2.59%	16.22%	GBP: USD	1.22	-0.23%	1.08%	14.26%
FTSE All Share	4,139.09	-0.80%	1.57%	7.75%	USD: CAD	1.35	-0.19%	-0.71%	-2.02%
Euro Stoxx 50	4,167.37	-0.95%	9.85%	24.68%	USD: JPY	148.85	0.32%	13.52%	2.83%
Nikkei 225	32,678.62	0.85%	13.50%	23.63%					
MSCI World Index	662.77	-0.06%	9.48%	18.26%					

Global Interest Rates					Commodities				
Rates	25-Sep	DoD Δbps	YTD Δbps	YoY Δbps	Commodity	25-Sep	DoD % Δ	YTD % Δ	YoY % Δ
10 -Year US Treasury Bond	4.54%	11.00	67.00	62.00	Crude Oil	89.98	-0.06%	12.11%	17.30%
10-Year UK Gilt	4.32%	7.00	65.00	8.00	Gold	1,915.81	-0.49%	5.03%	18.09%
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	6.84%	2.00	280.00	44.00	Silver	23.13	-1.85%	-3.46%	26.02%
					Aluminium	2,233.50	-0.31%	-6.08%	4.39%



Mutual Funds

Fund Managers Ltd.

A member of the Group

JN MUTUAL FUNDS

September 22, 2023

JN Mutual Funds	NAV Price	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield (Estimated Yearly Income)
Global Diversified Income	J\$13.1781	2.32%	1.78%	3.25%
Global Equity	J\$13.7298	-5.79%	-5.84%	0.00%
Global Fixed Income	J\$14.7450	9.06%	6.98%	7.12%
Global Money Market (US\$)	US\$11.6883	3.60%	2.57%	4.22%
Global Fixed Income (US\$)	US\$11.7004	3.12%	2.26%	5.22%
Local Money Market	J\$13.0889	10.47%	8.41%	7.59%

	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 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	To invest in regional, sovereign debt securities, local and international corporate bonds.	To invest in fixed income, high dividend yielding stocks, REITs and structured products	To invest in the shares of local and international companies which offer strong growth possibilities and consistent income

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.

Contact us

Kingston & St. Andrew

Jason Adams - 876-550-9504 JYadams@jngroup.com

Kimberly Savage – 876-307-9461 ksavage@jngroup.com

Tamara Honeyghan - 876-557-0082 tamarah@jngroup.com

Gayon Knight - 876-564-9563 gknight@jngroup.com

Mandeville

Horace Walters – 876-487-9267 waltersh@jngroup.com

St. Catherine

Nickesha Mullings-Gilling - 876-891-4736 nmullings@jngroup.com

Montego Bay

Anna-kaye Lynfatt - 876-564-8276 alynfatt@jngroup.com

Marissa Williams - 876-465-3726 mwilliams1@jngroup.com

Disclaimer: All information contained herein is obtained by JN Fund Managers Limited's Global Investment Research Unit from sources believed to be accurate and reliable. All opinions expressed are based on the Research Analyst's judgment as of the date of the report. As such, no warranty is made, expressed or implied by JN Fund Managers Limited in any form whatsoever as to the accuracy, timeliness or completeness of information contained in this report. JN Fund Managers Limited is therefore not liable for any actions taken in reliance on information contained herein.

JN Fund Managers Limited's Global Investment Research Unit does not provide investment advice that considers the circumstances and objectives of the parties who receive this report. It is therefore recommended that before making any investment decision, investors seek the advice of a JN Fund Managers Limited Investment Advisor.

This report does not represent an offer to buy or sell, or solicitation of an offer to buy or sell the securities mentioned. Past performance is not necessarily an indication of future performance. Estimates of future performance are based on assumptions that may not be realized. Additional information not available in this research report may be available upon request.

JN Fund Managers Limited is a multifaceted organization with, investment banking, investment management, fund administration and brokerage business lines. JN Fund Managers Limited may therefore conduct investment banking or other business activities with some of the companies and countries covered by the Company's Global Investment Research Unit.

JN Fund Managers Limited may invest in and trade the securities covered in this report for its own proprietary account and/or on behalf of its clients. JN Fund Managers Limited's trading activity in these securities may be contrary to the recommendation(s) indicated in this report .