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## US Consumer Sentiment Increases Slightly in August

The University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index rose slightly to 74.1 in August 2020 compared to the 72.5 recorded in July, but remains well below the pre-pandemic reading of 101.0, in February. Notwithstanding, this was above market expectations for a reading of 72.8. The slight improvement in the overall index was primarily due to an increase of 2.6 points in the expectations index in August 2020.

This increase resulted from reduced concerns surrounding the short-term outlook for the economy and expectations for higher household income. Meanwhile, the current conditions index rose by 0.1 points to 82.9. Consumers' assessments of their current finances remain depressed as the proportion of consumers who recorded an improvement in finances remained within the range of 38% to 39% for the past five months, which was well below the all-time peak of 58% in February.

Although consumers anticipate that the economy will continue to improve, these gains may slow in the ensuing months without a second stimulus plan in place to support unemployed workers and small businesses. Considering this, coupled with the uncertainty of the duration and the resurgence of the coronavirus, we anticipate that consumer sentiment may slow further over the short-term.

### Currency Markets

#### International Currency Market

Currency	28-Aug	21-Aug	DoD % Δ	WoW % Δ	YTD % Δ	YoY % Δ
EUR: USD	1.190	1.180	0.68%	0.89%	6.14%	7.44%
GBP: USD	1.335	1.310	1.11%	1.97%	0.69%	9.30%
USD: CAD	1.309	1.320	-0.26%	-0.63%	0.80%	-1.59%
USD: JPY	105.360	105.800	-1.14%	-0.42%	-2.99%	-0.72%

#### Local Foreign Currency Market

Currency	28-Aug	27-Aug	21-Aug	DoD % Δ	WoW % Δ	YTD % Δ
USD:JMD	149.59	150.05	151.18	-0.30%	-1.05%	12.84%
GBP:JMD	196.91	199.40	198.76	-1.25%	-0.93%	14.7%
CAD:JMD	115.25	114.94	114.94	0.27%	0.27%	15.1%

### Global Interest Rates

Rates	28-Aug	21-Aug	DoD Δ bps	WoW Δ bps	YTD Δ bps	YoY Δ bps
10 Year US Treasury Bond	0.72%	0.63%	-3.00	9.00	-120.00	-76.00
10 Year UK Gilt	0.31%	0.21%	-3.00	10.00	-51.00	-13.00
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	4.30%	4.45%	0.00	-15.00	45.00	1.00
5 Year US Treasury Bond	0.27%	0.26%	-4.00	1.00	-142.00	-111.00
5 Year UK Gilt	-0.01%	-0.05%	-4.00	4.00	-61.00	-30.00

### Week in Review: Aug 24 - Aug 28, 2020

#### Local Equity Market

##### BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS

ADVANCERS		DECLINERS	
CFF	57.78%	CBNY	-15.38%
EPLY	25.00%	MEEG	-14.36%
ECL	19.70%	I38SL	-11.50%

JSE Main Market activity (excluding preference shares) resulted from trading in **44** stocks of which **14** advanced, **28** declined and **2** traded firm. Market volume (excluding preference shares) amounted to **120,689,706** units valued at over **\$1,003,500,110**. JSE Junior Market activity (excluding preference shares) resulted from trading in **37** stocks of which **12** advanced, **21** declined and **4** traded firm. Market volume (excluding preference shares) amounted to **11,609,218** units valued at over **\$48,270,529**.

#### Global Equity Indices

Index	31-Dec	21-Aug	28-Aug	WoW % Δ	YTD % Δ	YoY % Δ
S&P 500	3,230.65	3,397.16	3,508.01	3.26%	8.59%	21.47%
Euro Stoxx 50	3,745.15	3,259.75	3,315.54	1.71%	-11.47%	-1.48%
MXWD Index	565.24	570.97	583.21	2.14%	3.18%	15.69%
JSE Main Market Index	509,916.44	368,099.13	366,050.38	-0.56%	-28.21%	-29.40%
JSE Junior Market Index	3,348.97	2,507.17	2,531.26	0.96%	-24.42%	-29.23%
JSE Combined Index	505,253.98	365,653.00	364,025.60	-0.45%	-27.95%	-29.40%

### Upcoming Week: Aug 31 - Sept 4, 2020

Country	Report	Period	Forecast	Prior
US	Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	Aug	1,460,000	1,760,000
US	Initial Jobless Claims	29-Aug-20	950,000	1,010,000
US	ISM Manufacturing	Aug	54.50	54.20
US	Durable Goods Orders	Jul F	11.20%	11.20%
JN	Jobless Rate	Jul	3.00%	2.80%
CA	Unemployment Rate	Aug	--	10.90%
UK	Markit UK PMI Manufacturing SA	Aug F	55.30	55.30

# LOCAL STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS

COMPANY NAME	PRICE MOVEMENTS	Js	STATISTICS	COMPANY VITALS	INDUSTRY VITALS	RATIONALE
August 28, 2020						
JMMB Group Ltd (JMMBGL)	<p>Current Price <b>\$30.02</b></p> <p>52 Week High <b>\$53.00</b></p> <p>53 Week Low <b>\$29.53</b></p> <p>WoW % <b>-3.38%</b></p> <p>YTD % <b>-35.51%</b></p>	<p>EPS <b>\$3.44</b></p> <p>BVPS <b>\$24.01</b></p> <p>T12M Div. <b>\$0.49</b></p> <p>Div. Yield % <b>1.63%</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>14.33%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>8.72</b></p> <p>P/B <b>1.25</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>16.58%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>14.87</b></p> <p>P/B <b>1.45</b></p>	<p>JMMBGL is one of Jamaica's largest financial services corporations, entering the market in 1992 as the first Money Market Brokerage firm. The holding company, JMMB Group Limited, was formed as a parent to house the group of companies. To date, the JMMB Group Ltd. has extended its reach across the Caribbean, including the Dominican Republic and Trinidad and Tobago. The Group has over 316,000 clients and continues to grow steadily. We believe that in addition to its core businesses, key strategic partnerships such as the 22.2% stake in Sagcor Financial Corporation allows JMMBGL to achieve further diversification and increase profitability.</p>	
	<b>BUY</b>					
Access Financial Services Ltd (AFS)	<p>Current Price <b>\$23.38</b></p> <p>52 Week High <b>\$45.00</b></p> <p>53 Week Low <b>\$17.65</b></p> <p>WoW % <b>4.37%</b></p> <p>YTD % <b>-32.19%</b></p>	<p>EPS <b>\$0.72</b></p> <p>BVPS <b>\$8.16</b></p> <p>T12M Div. <b>\$0.49</b></p> <p>Div. Yield % <b>2.10%</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>8.83%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>32.45</b></p> <p>P/B <b>2.86</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>21.46%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>47.50</b></p> <p>P/B <b>2.42</b></p>	<p>AFS has experienced fluctuating results over the last four years, which has translated into less than steady growth in net profits. Due to the microfinance industry's importance in meeting the needs of the "unbanked", the industry has been in the focus of the government in recent times and is expected to face new regulations in the near term. Among others, the Microcredit Act tabled in parliament in 2019, is expected to curb the "excessive interest rates" being charged by microlenders. However, this and other regulations could likely make the industry less attractive and may ultimately lead to a slowing of funding flows to the vital MSMEs. The current coronavirus pandemic is another major downside risk that is already leading to a curtailment of economic activity in Jamaica. As AFS' loan portfolio is heavily skewed towards personal loans, we project that the company will struggle to grow its loan portfolio over the short to medium term due to the expected decline in loan demand and that its provision for credit losses will increase as its borrowers' creditworthiness becomes impaired.</p>	
	<b>SELL</b>					
Barita Investments Ltd (BIL)	<p>Current Price <b>\$53.20</b></p> <p>52 Week High <b>\$90.00</b></p> <p>53 Week Low <b>\$45.00</b></p> <p>WoW % <b>-6.01%</b></p> <p>YTD % <b>-26.48%</b></p>	<p>EPS <b>\$2.77</b></p> <p>BVPS <b>\$18.47</b></p> <p>T12M Div. <b>\$1.27</b></p> <p>Div. Yield % <b>2.38%</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>15.02%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>19.18</b></p> <p>P/B <b>2.88</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>16.58%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>14.87</b></p> <p>P/B <b>1.45</b></p>	<p>Undoubtedly, the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted financial markets locally and globally and is likely to pose significant challenges for businesses going forward. So far, however, Barita has responded well to the pandemic from a social and operational perspective. For the 9 months ended June 30, 2020 the Company posted record net profits of \$2.0B, an amount which has so far surpassed the net profits posted for the entire FY 2019. For the quarter ended June 30, 2020, set on the backdrop of COVID-19 pandemic, the company recorded its highest quarterly net profit ever.</p> <p>To boost its growth prospects, the Company intends to use the funds being raised through this APO to expand its reach locally and regionally, upgrade its IT infrastructure, add further financial support to its investment banking business and fund other new products. Therefore, Barita provides investors with a growth opportunity within the financial services sector and as a result, we value the Company with this in mind.</p>	
	<b>BUY</b>					
Wigton Windfarm Ltd (WIG)	<p>Current Price <b>\$0.79</b></p> <p>52 Week High <b>\$1.15</b></p> <p>53 Week Low <b>\$0.50</b></p> <p>WoW % <b>-1.02%</b></p> <p>YTD % <b>-18.84%</b></p>	<p>EPS <b>\$0.05</b></p> <p>BVPS <b>\$0.34</b></p> <p>T12M Div. <b>\$0.00</b></p> <p>Div. Yield % <b>0.00%</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>15.89%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>14.55</b></p> <p>P/B <b>2.31</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>6.04%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>27.63</b></p> <p>P/B <b>1.19</b></p>	<p>We believe that Wigton Windfarm provides an advantage for investors in three main ways. The first is diversification, as it is an alternative energy investment which becomes more crucial in the midst of global warming. The second is an increase in medium to long term value driven by profitability. The third is liquidity as the availability of shares is wide and allows a tidy entry into or exit out of the investment. Wigton Windfarm has potential competition from MPC Caribbean and New Fortress Energy but they together form an ecosystem which is needed to move the Caribbean away from its reliance on Fossil Fuels, the 2nd most expensive item on Jamaica's import bill.</p>	
	<b>HOLD</b>					

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# LOCAL STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS

COMPANY NAME	PRICE MOVEMENTS	STATISTICS	COMPANY VITALS	INDUSTRY VITALS	RATIONALE
August 28, 2020					
Jamaica Broilers Group Ltd (JBG)	<p>Current Price <b>\$24.09</b></p> <p>52 Week High <b>\$41.00</b></p> <p>53 Week Low <b>\$21.00</b></p> <p>WoW % <b>-0.47%</b></p> <p>YTD % <b>-41.12%</b></p>	<p>EPS <b>\$1.15</b></p> <p>BVPS <b>\$13.83</b></p> <p>T12M Div. <b>\$0.57</b></p> <p>Div. Yield % <b>2.37%</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>8.33%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>20.91</b></p> <p>P/B <b>1.74</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>12.74%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>28.17</b></p> <p>P/B <b>3.08</b></p>	<p>Having been in operation for over sixty years, JBG has grown into an iconic brand in Jamaica and now has an increasing presence in the region. The Company's Jamaican operations continue to have a significant impact in the local marketplace through its Best Dressed Chicken and H-Pro divisions. However, the local market is mature with growth expected to be low in the medium term. With operations already firmly set in Haiti, JBG moved further to cement a stronghold and presence along the supply chain in the US with its recent acquisitions. In our view, these acquisitions and other inorganic initiatives are expected to be the catalyst for JBG's growth going forward.</p>
<b>BUY</b>					
Wisynco Ltd (WISYNCO)	<p>Current Price <b>\$16.33</b></p> <p>52 Week High <b>\$26.00</b></p> <p>53 Week Low <b>\$11.50</b></p> <p>WoW % <b>-5.22%</b></p> <p>YTD % <b>-29.95%</b></p>	<p>EPS <b>\$0.81</b></p> <p>BVPS <b>\$3.41</b></p> <p>T12M Div. <b>\$0.19</b></p> <p>Div. Yield % <b>1.16%</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>23.69%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>20.21</b></p> <p>P/B <b>4.79</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>12.74%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>28.17</b></p> <p>P/B <b>3.08</b></p>	<p>Wisynco's customers typically include restaurants, supermarkets retail and whole-sale outlets, schools and other food service outlets. As a result of the social distancing orders being enforced by the Government to curb the spread of the virus, the operations of the Company's customers base have been severely disrupted. We acknowledge, however, that the Company's strong brand presence in the food manufacturing and distribution sector, strong balance sheet and distribution network will go a far way to ensure that Wisynco remain resilient over the long-term. We believe that the Management's experience in distribution and the Company's investment in innovation will be huge drivers of equity return over time. Notwithstanding, over the short to medium term (up to three years) Wisynco's profitability will be challenged as over 95% of the Company's revenues are generated locally and local consumer demand has declined and likely to remain subdued over the short to medium term. In our scenario, the Company is projected to return to pre-COVID state in the FY 2024/FY 2025.</p>
<b>HOLD</b>					
Seprod Ltd (SEP)	<p>Current Price <b>\$54.77</b></p> <p>52 Week High <b>\$60.00</b></p> <p>53 Week Low <b>\$30.00</b></p> <p>WoW % <b>1.43%</b></p> <p>YTD % <b>7.43%</b></p>	<p>EPS <b>\$2.21</b></p> <p>BVPS <b>\$22.18</b></p> <p>T12M Div. <b>\$1.00</b></p> <p>Div. Yield % <b>1.83%</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>9.96%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>24.78</b></p> <p>P/B <b>2.47</b></p>	<p>ROE <b>12.74%</b></p> <p>P/E <b>28.17</b></p> <p>P/B <b>3.08</b></p>	<p>With the onset of COVID-19, restaurants, supermarkets, bakeries and corner shops in communities have been forced to operate within restricted parameters or have completely shuttered. The restrictions being placed on some of Seprod's key customer groups are likely to lead to a depression in the consumption of the company's products, notwithstanding, that most of what Seprod manufactures and distributes are 'necessity items. Our estimate is that Seprod's revenues will contract by ~14% in FY 2020. As thousands of Jamaicans have lost their jobs, unemployment will likely increase in the short to medium term. Even in cases where jobs are retained, some employers have looked to salary cuts in keeping employees. With the expected reduction in income it is likely that the support for the company's "normal goods" will be low.</p>
<b>HOLD</b>					

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# Mutual Funds

## JN MUTUAL FUNDS

August 27, 2020



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JN Mutual Funds	NAV Price	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield (Estimated Yearly Income)
<b>Global Diversified Income</b>	J\$13.5422	-4.80%	-7.25%	2.70%
<b>Global Equity</b>	J\$14.0008	-20.93%	-22.56%	0.00%
<b>Global Fixed Income</b>	J\$12.5500	6.06%	4.73%	4.59%
<b>Global Money Market (US\$)</b>	US\$10.4901	3.01%	2.20%	3.69%
<b>Global Fixed Income (US\$)</b>	US\$10.5171	2.39%	1.75%	5.07%
<b>Local Money Market</b>	J\$10.9299	3.73%	2.74%	4.60%

	Global Money Market Fund	Local Money Market Fund	Global Fixed Income Funds	Global Diversified Income Fund	Global Equity Fund
<b>Objective</b>	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.
<b>Strategy</b>	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.

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