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US Retail Sales below Market Expectations in December 2021

The United States (US) Census Bureau monthly retail sales report showed that retail sales fell by 1.9% in December, following November's uptick of 0.2% and well below market expectations for a decline of 0.1%. The results from the various sectors came in mixed, with gasoline stations (down 0.7%), electronics and appliance stores (down 2.9%), general merchandise stores (down 1.5%), motor vehicle and parts dealers (down 0.4%), food and beverage stores (down 0.5%), sporting goods, hobby, musical instruments, and bookstores (down 4.3%), food services and drinking places (down 0.8%) contributing mostly to the fall. However, the overall decrease in the categories of retail sales was tempered by increases in health and personal care stores (up 0.5%), and miscellaneous store retailers (up 1.8%).

December's preliminary retail sales growth was the weakest in the past 10 months, indicating that consumers are limiting their spending as inflation surged to its almost 40-year peak. Additionally, the weaker-than-expected data for December suggests that Christmas shopping may have started earlier than usual due to anticipations of supply-chain disruptions ruining the season of giving and as a result limited purchases were done in the month. Undoubtedly, the emergence of the highly contagious Omicron variant of COVID-19, which is rapidly spreading across the states, would have meant that shoppers were more cautious as they approached their seasonal shopping in December. As retail sales account for approximately 70.0% of US Gross Domestic Product (GDP), we take note of December's marginal decline and look forward to the number in the ensuing periods. A prolonged period of rising COVID-19 cases in the US, could see the US GDP growth being muted to start 2022, as further restrictions to curb the outbreak across America could continue to see shoppers remaining cautious and business and consumer confidence low.

Currency Markets International Currency Market										
Currency 14-Jan 7-Jan DoD % \(\Delta \) WoW % \(\Delta \) YTD% \(\Delta \) YoY% \(\Delta \)										
EUR: USD	1.141	1.136	-0.36%	0.48%	0.39%	-6.10%				
GBP: USD	1.368	1.359	-0.20%	0.67%	1.09%	-0.07%				
USD: CAD	1.255	1.264	0.26%	-0.71%	-0.66%	-0.69%				
USD: JPY	114.230	115.560	0.03%	-1.15%	-0.74%	10.05%				

Local Foreign Currency Market							
Currency	I4-Jan	13-Jan	7-Jan	DoD % Δ	WoW % Δ	YTD% ∆	
USD:JMD	155.85	155.82	155.70	0.02%	0.09%	0.49%	
GBP:JMD	212.11	214.16	209.87	-0.96%	1.07%	0.9%	
CAD:JMD	124.87	124.75	118.83	0.09%	5.08%	1.7%	
Global Interest Rates							

Rates	I 4-Jan	7-Jan	DoD ∆ bps	WoW ∆ bps	YTD Δ bps	YoY Δ bps
10 Year US Treasury Bond	1.79%	1.76%	8.18	2.39	27.58	65.67
10 Year UK Gilt	1.15%	1.18%	4.50	-2.80	17.90	85.90
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	4.09%	4.09%	1.60	0.50	63.90	25.30
5 Year US Treas- ury Bond	1.55%	1.50%	8.16	5.57	29.14	107.08
5 Year UK Gilt	0.97%	1.00%	3.40	-2.60	15.00	99.60

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Week in Review: Jan 10 - Jan 14, 2022								
Local Equity Market								
BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS								
ADVAI	ADVANCERS DECLINERS							
AMG 36.75% KLE -14.14%								
SPURTREE	SPURTREE 32.00% MPCCEL -13.04%							
DCOVE	21.40%	tTech	-10.04%					

JSE Main Market activity (excluding preference shares) resulted from trading in 48 stocks of which 20 advanced, 26 declined and 2 traded firm. Market volume (excluding preference shares) amounted to 44,049,224 units valued at over \$273,571,762. JSE Junior Market activity (excluding preference shares) resulted from trading in 42 stocks of which 23 advanced, 17 declined and 2 traded firm. Market volume (excluding preference shares) amounted to 43,080,169 units valued at over \$214,659,715.

	Global Equity Indices							
Index	31-Dec	7-Jan	I 4-Jan	WoW % ∆	YTD% Δ	ΥοΥ % Δ		
S&P 500	4,766.18	4,677.03	4,662.85	-0.30%	-2.17%	22.85%		
Euro Stoxx 50	4,298.41	4,305.83	4,272.19	-0.78%	-0.61%	17.32%		
MXWD Index	754.83	743.18	743.99	0.11%	-1.44%	12.46%		
JSE Main Market Index	396,155.61	398,168.83	392,790.90	-1.35%	-0.85%	1.04%		
JSE Junior Market Index	3,428.30	3,411.84	3,470.17	1.71%	1.22%	29.47%		
JSE Combined Index	401,130.23	402,834.92	398,423.12	-1.10%	-0.67%	3.08%		

	Upcoming Week: Jan 17 - Jan 21, 2022						
Country	Report	Period	Forecast	Prior			
US	Initial Jobless Claims	I5-Jan	220,000	230,000			
US	MBA Mortgage Applications	l 4-Jan		1.40%			
UK	CPI YoY	Dec	0.052	0.051			
UK	CPI MoM	Dec	0.30%	0.70%			
UK	Jobless Claims Change	Dec		-49,800			
EC	CPI YoY	Dec F	0.05	0.049			
JN	Natl CPI YoY	Dec	0.90%	0.60%			
CA	CPI YoY	Dec	4.80%	4.70%			

LOCAL STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS **INDUSTRY PRICE COMPANY VITALS RATIONALE COMPANY NAME STATISTICS** J\$ VITALS MOVEMENTS January 14, 2022 Guardian is one of the region's leading financial institutions with a long history of Current Price \$515.98 EPS (\$0.01)**ROE 112.72% ROE 14.45%** delivering strong revenue growth and profitability. The company operates in most of 52 Week High \$1,134.90 **BVPS** \$7.37 the countries in the Caribbean and is rated among the top five in the major markets Guardian Holdings in which it operates. Like most companies regionally, the Guardian Group was 53 Week Low \$500.01 T12M Div. \$0.03 P/E 70.00 P/E 14.70 severely challenged in 2020. However, in 2020, the Group delivered operational and 1.19% Ltd. (GHL) WoW % Div. Yield % 403.70% financial results which were creditable along several metrics and especially when YTD % -0.52% P/B 457.75 P/B 1.89 taken in the context of the pandemic. While we are very aware that the COVID-19 0.80 pandemic is not over, it is very likely that the worst is behind us. With vaccination 0.70 programme being rolled out regionally and as respective governments continue to 0.60 0.50 ease out of the pandemic the companies within the region continue to gradually BUY recover from the crisis. This recovery is also evident for Guardian Group which 0.30 posted revenues and profits in Q1 2021 which are significantly above its previous 0.20 year's. 0.00 **Current Price** \$2.23 **EPS** (\$0.03)**ROE 187.87% ROE 16.48%** Derrimon is vertically integrated whereby it manufactures and distributes through 52 Week High \$2.79 **BVPS** \$22.51 its own channels such as Sampars and its Select grocers retail outlets. Over the last Derrimon Trading five years the company has gone through a tremendous transformation driven by its 53 Week Low T12M Div. P/F 0.10 P/E 19.12 \$2.00 \$0.00 organic growth in its primary distribution segment and through acquisitions. Co Ltd (DTL) WoW % -0.34% Div. Yield % 0.00% Consequently, it has delivered expansion which has seen its revenue more than P/B 1.19 YTD % -3.17% P/B 2.89 double in five years and profits more than tripled. Although the coronavirus pandemic has slowed business activity in Jamaica generally, and has slowed 2.6 20.00 Derrimon's revenue growth by approximately 1.0% up to September 2020, DTL has 2.5 remained very profitable. Over the period, the Group delivered profit growth of 2.4 BUY 2,3 27.0% which is a signal of its strength and resiliency given the context of the COVID-2.2 19 pandemic. With the onset of COVID-19, restaurants, supermarkets, bakeries and corner shops in communities have been forced to operate within restricted parameters or have **ROE 255.68% Current Price** \$63.20 **EPS** (\$0.02)**ROE 14.78%** completely shuttered. Although the COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on Seprod's operations, the Group's diversified portfolio has proven to be resilient \$85.00 **BVPS** \$22.17 52 Week High thus far. Looking ahead, there are still risks that could negatively impact global 53 Week Low \$53.79 T12M Div. \$0.15 P/E 2.85 P/E 27.33 supply chains and ultimately affect raw material prices, consumer income and Seprod Ltd (SEP) WoW % 0.15% Div. Yield % 130.00% economic growth. Notwithstanding, given our estimate that the worst part of the P/B 3.66 YTD % -2.41% P/B 24.72 covid-19 restrictions may be behind us, we are expecting that the companies good performance could likely continue into at least the short term. Over the last five 0.70 years, the group has invested significantly in strengthening its operations and its 0,60 resiliency. The investments include consolidating aspects of its business where costs were being duplicated, which is a move to position itself for continued resilience and HOLD 50 competitiveness in face of the uncertainty which lies ahead. Over the medium-term, 0.30 0.20 the group has further investments plans to improve its distribution, warehousing and 0.10 logistics efforts that are expected to augment the Groups' profitability over time. **ROE 155.67% ROE 11.53% Current Price** \$22.38 **EPS** \$0.01 Undoubtedly, COVID-19 has had a negative impact on aspects of the business and is \$31.00 BVPS \$19.96 52 Week High likely to continue to weigh on those segments for the remainder of this year, even as Jamaica Producers 53 Week Low \$19.60 T12M Div. \$0.07 P/E 1.12 P/E 14.03 the company adjusts its operations to deal with the pandemic. Some segments have Group (JP) WoW % -0.54% Div. Yield % 20.00% remained strong; however, the pandemic has created opportunities for new retail YTD % 1.21% P/B 14.38 P/B 1.54 channels to offset the downturn seen in some segments. Importantly, JP is further seeking to strengthen its business over the medium term to improve its capacity, to 0.90 drive long term growth at the same time it continues to invest in strong food and logistics businesses. Despite COVID-19, JP remains strong with several key financial metrics, including its large and growing cash and securities balance, providing the HOLD 0.50 group with the flexibility to manage and execute on strategies of acquiring undervalued assets. 0.30 0, 20 0.10

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LOCAL STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS **INDUSTRY** PRICE COMPANY VITALS **COMPANY NAME** J\$ **STATISTICS RATIONALE MOVEMENTS VITALS** January 14, 2022 Wisynco's customers typically include restaurants, supermarkets retail and \$17.85 **Current Price FPS** \$0.07 **ROE 417.67% ROE 14.78%** whole sale outlets, schools and other food service outlets. As a result of the social 52 Week High \$19.00 RVPS \$21.00 distancing orders being enforced by the Government to curb the spread of the virus, Wisynco Ltd 53 Week Low \$14.02 TI2M Div. \$0.15 P/E 0.85 P/E 27.33 the operations of the Company's customers base have been severely disrupted. We (WISYNCO) WoW % 3.47% Div. Yield % 30.00% admowledged, however, that the Company's strong brand presence in the food manufacturing and distribution sector, strong balance sheet and distribution network 6 92% P/B 4 27 P/B 3 66 YTD % 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 2,50 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 BUY profitability will be challenged as over 95% of the Company's revenues are generated 1.50 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. In the most recently concluded 9-month period, up to June 30, 2021, Barita **ROE 317.16% ROE 14.45%** Current Price \$94.20 **EPS** (\$0.04)continued to deliver recordbreaking growth and profitability for its shareholders. \$109.50 **BVPS** \$28.33 Undoubtedly, the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted financial markets locally and 52 Week High **Barita Investments** globally and is likely to pose significant challenges for businesses going forward. So P/E 3.33 P/E 14.70 53 Week Low \$75.00 TI2M Div. \$0.03 far, however, BIL has responded well to the pandemic from a social and operational Ltd (BIL) WoW % -2.30% Div. Yield % 377.50% perspective. Over the period, the Group posted net profits, which was 83% above -3.99% P/B 29.70 YTD % P/B 1.89 the amount generated over a similar period in the previous year and already ~22% above the amount generated in the entire 12 months in FY 2020. Following its 120 succesful APO in September 2020, BIL bolstered its investment banking underwriting capabilities, upgraded its technology - including the implementation of its BOSS BUY platform, seeded alternative investment strategies, widened its footprint and expanded its trading operations. So far, the early indications are that the company has seen further operational improvement and is experiencing accelerated revenue and profit growth. Going forward, we expect the GK's strong resiliency to continue despite COVID 19, even as the company make significant changes to ensure its products and **ROE 150.42% ROE 11.53%** EPS Current Price \$98.36 (\$0.02) services are delivered to its customers across the various channels. These \$105.99 BVPS \$13.10 52 Week High include ensuring its international supply chains remain strong, active, and Grace Kennedy Ltd 53 Week Low \$64.00 TI2M Div. \$0.06 P/E 7.51 P/E 14.03 efficient. Its recent agreement with Nestle is one such initiative that GK has (GK) WoW % -1.43% Div. Yield % 193.00% implemented to improve its distribution as the Group moves closer to P/B 65.39 P/B 1.54 YTD % -1.66% achieving its goal of creating a wider wingspan in the global arena. We believe that GK is poised for further sustainable growth given its well diversified 12.00 businesses across its two segments which will likely be boosted by inorganic growth from acquisitions. GraceKennedy Limited has initiated its multi-year transformational strategy in which it seeks to achieve (i) sustainable efficiency, (ii) greater agility and (iii) revenue growth. To achieve these goals, the Group BUY has made changes to its organisational and cost structure as well as its business processes which have so far resulted in an upswing in its margins and profitability, and which augurs well for the Group's future. With growth in all segments, the Group outperformed its prior year results, posting arguably its strongest financial results since inception. GK is well positioned financially and has displayed the ability to continue growing despite the economic downturn caused by the effects of COVID-19. Sygnus Real Estate Finance Limited is a speciality real estate investment **ROE** 89.97% Current Price \$17.27 EPS \$0.05 **ROE 14.82%** company, dedicated to providing flexible financing to unlock value in real estate Sygnus Real Estate 52 Week High \$22.20 **BVPS** \$2.41 assets across the Caribbean region. SRF is an alternative investment firm that is Finance Limited solely dedicated to the real estate asset class, by providing customized financing 53 Week Low \$14.05 TI2M Div. \$1.00 P/E 7.18 P/F 9.01 solutions in various forms across the credit and equity spectrum. Through the (SRFJMD) WoW % 10.26% Div. Yield % 0.00% application of flexible financing, and with careful screening, managing and YTD % 4.92% P/B 19.19 P/B 0.75 assessment of its highly experienced Real Estate Investment Advisory Committee, SRF will seek to earn attractive risk-adjusted returns with 25 0.030 downside protection. We believe that Sygnus Real Estate Finance's offer is a 0.025 good investment opportunity given the business model of active management, 0.020 track record of the Investment Manager, robust governance structure and the 0.015 BUY pipeline of opportunities on the table. Given the present economic 0.010 environment and market dynamics characterised by low-interest rates and high liquidity, we anticipate that real estate could continue to perform well as a leading growth sector. Additionally, the low-interest rate may enable the use of financial leverage to enhance returns which could further enhance the value proposition of SRF.

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JN MUTUAL FUNDS

Fund Managers Ltd.

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January 13, 2022

JN Mutual Funds		NAV Pri	ice	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield Estimated Yearly Income)	
Global Diversified Income		e J\$14.14	47	3.05%	-0.02%	2.18%	
Global I	Equity	J\$15.35	67	4.26%	-2.25%	0.00%	
Global I	Fixed Income	J\$13.25	68	4.36%	-0.08%	4.82%	
Global I	Money Market (U	S\$) US\$11.00	012	3.50%	0.12%	2.43%	
Global Fixed Income (US\$)		\$) US\$11.3!	599	3.50%	0.16%	3.14%	
Local Money Market		J\$11.610	J\$11.6163 4.99		0.28%	4.24%	
	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	chieve an attractive total rn through capital injection and me growth. This is offered ugh two separate Funds: Jamaican dollar (J\$) and A US dollar (U\$\$) 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	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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