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# **US Consumer Sentiment Declines Amid Resurgence of COVID-19**

The preliminary reading from the University of Michigan's Surveys of Consumers shows that the Index of Consumer Sentiment, measuring personal consumer confidence in the United States (US), declined to 73.2 in July 2020, below the 78.1 recorded in June 2020. July's preliminary reading was also below market expectations for a reading of 79. The deterioration in consumer sentiments is largely a result of the recent resurgence in coronavirus cases in some states.

The gains realized in June are likely be reversed in July and a rebound in the short run is unlikely if the resurgence in coronavirus cases lead to another widespread lockdown and round of layoffs, which would add more strain to consumers spending power in the US. Consumer sentiment may continue to trend lower in the short-term as consumers reassess the likely economic impact of the coronavirus on their personal finances and the overall economy and an improvement is highly dependent on the duration of the virus. July's final report on consumers' sentiments will be released by the University of Michigan on July 31, 2020.

Currency Markets										
	International Currency Market									
Currency	17-Jul	10-Jul	<b>D</b> o <b>D</b> % ∆	<b>WoW</b> % ∆	<b>ΥΤΟ</b> % Δ	<b>ΥοΥ</b> % Δ				
EUR: USD	1.143	1.130	0.39%	1.13%	1.92%	1.82%				
GBP: USD	1.257	1.260	0.12%	-0.43%	-5.20%	1.09%				
USD: CAD	1.358	1.360	0.04%	-0.09%	4.54%	4.03%				
USD: JPY	107.020	106.930	-0.23%	0.08%	-1.46%	-0.86%				

Local Foreign Currency Market									
Currency	17-Jul	16-Jul	10-Jul	<b>DoD</b> % Δ	WoW % $\Delta$	<b>YTD</b> % ∆			
USD:JMD	146.70	146.42	144.05	0.19%	1.84%	10.66%			
GBP:JMD	181.73	183.84	183.66	-1.15%	-1.05%	5.9%			
CAD:JMD	107.58	107.82	107.77	-0.22%	-0.17%	7.4%			

	Interest	D - 4
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Rates	17-Jul	10-Jul	DoD Δ bps	WoW ∆ bps	YTD Δ bps	YoY ∆ bps
10 Year US Treasury Bond	0.63%	0.64%	1.00	-1.00	-129.00	-142.00
10 Year UK Gilt	0.16%	0.16%	2.00	0.00	-66.00	-60.00
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	4.67%	4.58%	-1.00	9.00	82.00	24.00
5 Year US Treas- ury Bond	0.28%	0.31%	0.00	-3.00	-141.00	-153.00
5 Year UK Gilt	-0.07%	-0.07%	1.00	0.00	-67.00	-61.00

# Week in Review: July 13 – July 17, 2020 Local Equity Market BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS ADVANCERS KREMI 21.43% AMG 17.27% DCOVE 16.11% KPREIT -18.53%

JSE Main Market activity (excluding preference shares) resulted from trading in 44 stocks of which 21 advanced, 19 declined and 4 traded firm. Market volume (excluding preference shares) amounted to 59,067,278 units valued at over \$684,533,047. JSE Junior Market activity (excluding preference shares) resulted from trading in 39 stocks of which 15 advanced, 22 declined and 2 traded firm. Market volume (excluding preference shares) amounted to 24,871,461 units valued at over \$88,670,094.

	Global Equity Indices							
Index	31-Dec	10-Jul	I7-Jul	WoW %	YTD% $\Delta$	<b>ΥοΥ</b> % Δ		
S&P 500	3,230.65	3,185.04	3,224.73	1.25%	-0.18%	8.05%		
Euro Stoxx 50	3,745.15	3,296.22	3,365.60	2.10%	-10.13%	-3.88%		
MXWD Index	565.24	541.77	546.40	0.85%	-3.33%	3.56%		
JSE Main Market Index	509,916.44	367,397.15	375,955.23	2.33%	-26.27%	-24.46%		
JSE Junior Market Index	3,348.97	2,532.08	2,529.34	-0.11%	-24.47%	-18.61%		
JSE Combined Index	505.253.98	365.273.89	373.121.12	2.15%	-26.15%	-24.06%		

	Upcoming Week: J	uly 20 – Ju	ly 24, 2020	
Country	Report	Period	Forecast	Prior
US	Initial Jobless Claims	l 8-Jul	1,280,000	1,300,000
US	MBA Mortgage Applications	17-Jul-20	-	5.10%
US	New Home Sales	Jun	700,000	676,000
UK	Markit UK PMI Manufacturing SA	Jul P	52.00	50.10
EC	Markit Eurozone Manufacturing PMI	Jul P	49.80	47.40
CA	CPI YoY	Jun	0.20%	-0.40%
CA	CPI NSA MoM	Jun	0.30%	0.30%

### LOCAL STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS

COMPANY NAME	PRICE J\$ MOVEMENTS	STATISTICS	COMPANY VITALS	INDUSTRY VITALS	RATIONALE
July 17, 2020					
JMMB Group Ltd (JMMBGL) BUY	Current Price \$31.44 52 Week High \$55.00 53 Week Low \$30.01 WoW % 2.36% YTD % -3246%	EPS \$3.61 BVPS \$21.06 T12M Div. \$0.49 Div. Yield % 1.56%	ROE 17.16%  P/E 8.70  P/B 1.49	P/E 13.92 P/B 1.49	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 Sagicor Financial Corporation allows JMMBGL to achieve further diversification and increased profitability.
Access Financial Services Ltd (AFS) SELL	Current Price \$23.50 52 Week High \$47.95 53 Week Low \$17.65 WoW % 1.15% YTD % -31.83% 60 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40	EPS \$1.20 BVPS \$7.91 T12M Div. \$0.49 Div. Yield % 2.09%	ROE 15.19%  P/E 19.56  P/B 2.97	P/E 57.50 P/B 2.63	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.
Caribbean Producers Jamaica Ltd (CPJ) SELL	Current Price \$2.41 52 Week High \$5.30 53 Week Low \$2.00 WoW % -1.86% YTD % -53.67%	EPS (\$0.02) BVPS \$2.72 T12M Div. \$0.00 Div. Yield % 0.00%	ROE -0.77%  P/E -114.79  P/B 0.88	P/E 23.79 P/B 2.72	CPJ is a leading foodservice supplier to the hospitality sector in Jamaica, with over 25 years of experience. Over the years, the Company has focused on generating operational efficiencies in order to remain competitive in a fast-changing industry and where the cost structure of the business is such that its gross and profit margins are extremely low. The knock-on effect of the low margins is that the Company does not have the flexibility to absorb cost shocks before generating losses. Over the years, CPJ has tried to diversify it business to serve clients in the wider hospitality and retail sectors, however, its revenues are still dominated by its transactions within the tourism industry. As a result, with the current virtual shuttering of hotels and the limit placed on others in the hospitality sector, such as bars and restaurants, and supermarkets, our projection is that over the short to medium term CPJ's profitability is likely to be significantly impaired.
Wigton Windfarm Ltd(WIG) HOLD	Current Price \$0.78 52 Week High \$1.15 53 Week Low \$0.50 WoW % -0.42% YTD % -19.87%	EPS \$0.06 BVPS \$0.31 T12M Div. \$0.00 Div. Yield % 0.00%	ROE 19.17%  P/E 12.94  P/B 2.48	P/E 21.46 P/B 1.58	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.

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### LOCAL STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS

COMPANY NAME	PRICE J\$ MOVEMENTS	STATISTICS	COMPANY VITALS	INDUSTRY VITALS	RATIONALE
July 17, 2020					
Jamaica Broilers Group Ltd (JBG) BUY	Current Price \$26.62 52 Week High \$43.63 53 Week Low \$21.00 WoW \$2.93% YTD \$-34.92%	EPS \$1.13 BVPS \$13.25 T12M Div. \$0.57 Div. Yield % 2.14%	P/E 23.47 P/B 2.01	P/E 27.98 P/B 3.41	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 Hi-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.
Wisynco Ltd (WISYNCO)	Current Price \$17.51 52 Week High \$30.00 53 Week Low \$11.50 WoW % -0.14% YTD % -24.89%	EPS \$0.81 BVPS \$3.41 T12M Div. \$0.19 Div. Yield % 1.09%	ROE 23.69%  P/E 21.67  P/B 5.13	P/E 27.98 P/B 3.41	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 acknowledged, 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.
Seprod Ltd (SEP)  HOLD	Current Price \$52.07 52 Week High \$70.00 53 Week Low \$30.00 WoW % 0.96% YTD % 2.14%	EPS \$1.84 BVPS \$21.30 T12M Div. \$1.00 Div. Yield % 1.92%	P/E 28.34 P/B 2.44	P/E 27.98 P/B 3.41	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.

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## **JN MUTUAL FUNDS**



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July 16, 2020

JN Mutu	ual Funds	NAV Pı	rice	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield (Estimated Yearly Income)	
Global Diversified Income		J\$13.61	27	-2.02%	-6.77%	2.30%	
Global I	Equity	J\$14.16	520	-12.92%	-21.67%	0.00%	
Global I	Fixed Income	J\$12.43	885	5.64%	3.80%	4.65%	
Global I	Money Market (US	<b>S\$)</b> US\$10.4	1490	2.86%	1.80%	3.69%	
Global Fixed Income (US\$)		S\$10.3	897	1.44%	0.52%	5.16%	
Local Money Market		J\$10.85	3.37%		2.06%	3.86%	
	Global Money Market Fund	Local Money Market Fund	Glob	al 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	can Dollar return through capital inject		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 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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