

US' Unemployment Rate Declines to 6.9% in October 2020

According to the United States' (US) Bureau of Labour Statistics (BLS), US' non-farm payroll rose by 638,000 jobs in October, above market expectations for an increase of 600,000 jobs but lower than the 672,000 jobs added in September. Notable job gains occurred in the leisure and hospitality sector which added 271,000 jobs during the month. Gains were also seen in 'professional and business services', 'retail trade', and 'construction'. However, these gains were tempered by reductions in government employment, partly influenced by the continued decline in temporary workers employed to carry out the 2020 Census. In tandem with the job gains during the month, the unemployment rate moved from 7.9% to 6.9%, which was slightly better than market expectations for an outturn of 7.7%. The labour force participation rate also increased month over month by 0.3 percentage points, from 61.4% to 61.7%.

While the unemployment rate has improved since hitting its peak of 14.7% in April at the height of the lockdown, it remains elevated and above pre-pandemic levels. Despite October's non-farm payroll rising above market expectation, the number falling below September's outturn signals that there may be a slowing in job's growth. Additionally, the worsening health situation and the uncertainty surrounding a second stimulus plan continue to skew risks to the downside and likely to heavily weigh on short term job growth in the US.

Currency Markets

International Currency Market

Currency	6-Nov	30-Oct	DoD % Δ	WoW % Δ	YTD % Δ	YoY % Δ
EUR: USD	1.188	1.165	0.41%	1.96%	5.90%	7.31%
GBP: USD	1.315	1.290	-0.02%	1.54%	-0.84%	2.26%
USD: CAD	1.306	1.330	0.11%	-1.97%	0.53%	-0.93%
USD: JPY	103.330	104.660	-0.15%	-1.27%	-4.86%	-5.18%

Local Foreign Currency Market

Currency	6-Nov	5-Nov	30-Oct	DoD % Δ	WoW % Δ	YTD % Δ
USD:JMD	148.46	146.83	145.20	1.11%	2.25%	11.99%
GBP:JMD	195.22	192.90	191.07	1.20%	2.17%	13.7%
CAD:JMD	114.42	113.96	110.93	0.40%	3.14%	14.2%

Global Interest Rates

Rates	6-Nov	30-Oct	DoD Δ bps	WoW Δ bps	YTD Δ bps	YoY Δ bps
10 Year US Treasury Bond	0.82%	0.87%	6.00	-5.00	-110.00	-101.00
10 Year UK Gilt	0.27%	0.26%	4.00	1.00	-55.00	-45.00
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	4.09%	4.20%	-2.00	-11.00	24.00	10.00
5 Year US Treasury Bond	0.36%	0.38%	3.00	-2.00	-133.00	-127.00
5 Year UK Gilt	-0.03%	-0.04%	2.00	1.00	-63.00	-53.00

Week in Review: Nov 2 - Nov 6, 2020

Local Equity Market

BEST AND WORST PERFORMERS

ADVANCERS		DECLINERS	
tTech	34.00%	PAL	-27.11%
KLE	31.82%	MTL	-13.33%
LASF	28.64%	PTL	-13.02%

JSE Main Market activity (excluding preference shares) resulted from trading in 45 stocks of which 20 advanced, 21 declined and 4 traded firm. Market volume (excluding preference shares) amounted to 40,022,242 units valued at over \$684,978,935. JSE Junior Market activity (excluding preference shares) resulted from trading in 40 stocks of which 19 advanced, 17 declined and 4 traded firm. Market volume (excluding preference shares) amounted to 22,554,359 units valued at over \$48,878,517.

Global Equity Indices

Index	31-Dec	30-Oct	6-Nov	WoW % Δ	YTD % Δ	YoY % Δ
S&P 500	3,230.65	3,269.96	3,509.44	7.32%	8.63%	14.06%
Euro Stoxx 50	3,745.15	2,958.21	3,204.05	8.31%	-14.45%	-13.14%
MXWD Index	565.24	551.00	592.84	7.59%	4.88%	9.40%
JSE Main Market Index	509,916.44	375,386.40	368,737.93	-1.77%	-27.69%	-25.48%
JSE Junior Market Index	3,348.97	2,470.24	2,539.03	2.78%	-24.18%	-24.85%
JSE Combined Index	505,253.98	371,964.70	366,576.16	-1.45%	-27.45%	-25.44%

Upcoming Week: Nov 2 - Nov 6, 2020

Country	Report	Period	Forecast	Prior
US	Initial Jobless	7-Nov	730,000	751,000
US	CPI MoM	Oct	0.20%	0.20%
US	U. of Mich.	Nov P	82.00	81.80
UK	GDP QoQ	3Q P	15.80%	-19.80%
UK	GDP YoY	3Q P	-9.50%	-21.50%
JN	Account Balance	Sep	2.02T	2.10T
JN	Core Machine	Sep	-1.10%	0.20%

LOCAL STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS

COMPANY NAME	PRICE MOVEMENTS J\$	STATISTICS	COMPANY VITALS	INDUSTRY VITALS	RATIONALE
November 6, 2020					
JMMB Group Ltd (JMMBGL)	<p>Current Price \$30.75</p> <p>52 Week High \$48.50</p> <p>53 Week Low \$28.00</p> <p>WoW % 3.27%</p> <p>YTD % -33.93%</p> 	<p>EPS \$3.44</p> <p>BVPS \$24.01</p> <p>T12M Div. \$0.49</p> <p>Div. Yield % 1.59%</p>	<p>ROE 14.33%</p> <p>P/E 8.94</p> <p>P/B 1.28</p>	<p>ROE 16.49%</p> <p>P/E 16.61</p> <p>P/B 2.25</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 increased profitability.</p>
BUY					
Access Financial Services Ltd (AFS)	<p>Current Price \$21.04</p> <p>52 Week High \$37.00</p> <p>53 Week Low \$17.65</p> <p>WoW % -4.44%</p> <p>YTD % -38.96%</p> 	<p>EPS \$0.41</p> <p>BVPS \$8.28</p> <p>T12M Div. \$0.49</p> <p>Div. Yield % 2.33%</p>	<p>ROE 4.91%</p> <p>P/E 51.73</p> <p>P/B 2.54</p>	<p>ROE 16.16%</p> <p>P/E 73.98</p> <p>P/B 2.92</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>
SELL					
Seprod Ltd (SEP)	<p>Current Price \$61.00</p> <p>52 Week High \$70.00</p> <p>53 Week Low \$30.00</p> <p>WoW % -0.22%</p> <p>YTD % 19.66%</p> 	<p>EPS \$3.19</p> <p>BVPS \$22.55</p> <p>T12M Div. \$1.00</p> <p>Div. Yield % 1.64%</p>	<p>ROE 14.14%</p> <p>P/E 19.13</p> <p>P/B 2.71</p>	<p>ROE 14.94%</p> <p>P/E 25.58</p> <p>P/B 3.15</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>
HOLD					
Wigton Windfarm Ltd(WIG)	<p>Current Price \$0.77</p> <p>52 Week High \$1.15</p> <p>53 Week Low \$0.50</p> <p>WoW % -0.99%</p> <p>YTD % -20.67%</p> 	<p>EPS \$0.05</p> <p>BVPS \$0.34</p> <p>T12M Div. \$0.00</p> <p>Div. Yield % 0.00%</p>	<p>ROE 15.89%</p> <p>P/E 14.22</p> <p>P/B 2.26</p>	<p>ROE 6.04%</p> <p>P/E 29.16</p> <p>P/B 1.18</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>
HOLD					

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LOCAL STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS

COMPANY NAME	PRICE MOVEMENTS J\$	STATISTICS	COMPANY VITALS	INDUSTRY VITALS	RATIONALE		
November 6, 2020							
Jamaica Broilers Group Ltd (JBG)	Current Price	\$27.72	EPS	\$1.15	ROE 8.33%	<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 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.</p>	
	52 Week High	\$41.00	BVPS	\$13.83	ROE 14.94%		
	53 Week Low	\$21.00	T12M Div.	\$0.57	P/E 24.06		P/E 25.58
	WoW %	3.01%	Div. Yield %	2.06%	P/B 2.00		P/B 3.15
	YTD %	-32.23%					
BUY							
Wisynco Ltd (WISYNCO)	Current Price	\$14.94	EPS	\$0.73	ROE 21.42%	<p>Wisynco's customers typically include restaurants, supermarkets retail and wholesale 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.</p>	
	52 Week High	\$26.00	BVPS	\$3.43	ROE 14.94%		
	53 Week Low	\$11.50	T12M Div.	\$0.19	P/E 20.35		P/E 25.58
	WoW %	-4.13%	Div. Yield %	1.27%	P/B 4.36		P/B 3.15
	YTD %	-35.92%					
HOLD							

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Mutual Funds

JN MUTUAL FUNDS

November 5, 2020



A member of the Group

JN Mutual Funds	NAV Price	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield (Estimated Yearly Income)
Global Diversified Income	J\$13.4345	-5.94%	-7.99%	2.13%
Global Equity	J\$13.9877	-17.19%	-22.64%	0.00%
Global Fixed Income	J\$12.6732	5.57%	5.76%	4.65%
Global Money Market (US\$)	US\$10.5556	3.20%	2.84%	3.77%
Global Fixed Income (US\$)	US\$10.6891	3.77%	3.42%	4.94%
Local Money Market	J\$11.0181	3.93%	3.57%	4.26%

	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.

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