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US housing starts rise moderately; tight supply supporting new construction

U.S. single-family homebuilding increased marginally in October and activity could remain moderate in the near term amid higher mortgage rates, which sent homebuilder confidence tumbling to an 11-month low in November. Nevertheless, new construction remains supported by an acute shortage of houses on the market, with the report from the Commerce Department on Friday showing permits for future single-family homebuilding rising to the highest level in nearly 1-1/2 years last month. Residential investment rebounded in the third quarter, ending nine straight quarters of decline.

Single-family housing starts, which account for the bulk of homebuilding, rose 0.2% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 970,000 units last month, the Commerce Department's Census Bureau said. Data for September was revised up to show starts rising to a rate of 968,000 units instead of 963,000 units as previously reported. Single-family homebuilding peaked in May. Starts surged 12.0% in the Northeast and increased 12.3% in the West, but dropped 4.9% in the densely populated South and fell 0.9% in the Midwest, which is generally considered the most affordable housing region.

A survey showed confidence among home builders slumped this month. The National Association of Home Builders noted that builders anticipated lower sales over the next six months, with mortgage rates stuck above 7% since mid-August. The rate on the popular 30-year fixed mortgage averaged 7.79% in late October, the highest since November 2000, according to data from mortgage finance agency, Freddie Mac. It has since retreated following data this month showing the labour market cooling, and averaged, a still-high 7.44% this week. Mortgage rates could grind lower in the weeks ahead as the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note has declined in the wake of inflation-friendly economic data that have left financial markets anticipating an interest rate cut from the Federal Reserve next spring.

10.53%

7.64%

ICREATE

ELITE



Foreign Exchange Market

Currency	20-Nov	17-Nov	DoD % Δ	YTD% Δ
USD:JMD	156.22	156.43	-0.13%	2.74%
GBP:JMD	193.31	194.95	-0.84%	6.16%
CAD:JMD	113.97	116.53	-2.20%	5.05%

Caribbean & Latam

Latin American markets rose on Monday with Argentine offshore stocks and bonds surging after far-right libertarian Javier Milei's presidential election victory, while Chile's peso strengthened as latest data spurred hopes of economic recovery.

USA & Canada

Wall Street's three major U.S. stock averages closed higher on Monday with Nasdaq leading gains as heavyweight Microsoft (NASDAQ:MSFT) rallied after it hired prominent artificial intelligence executives, while lower Treasury yields also provided support.

Europe

European shares edged higher on Monday after a strong week driven by aggressive bets on interest rate cuts, while drugs-topesticides group Bayer posted its worst day ever weighing on the healthcare sector and Germany's benchmark index.

<u>Asia</u>

 Asian shares got off to a slow start on Monday in what will be a holiday-shortened week and with market valuations looking a little stretched given they have already priced in aggressive global policy easing for next year.

	Local	Equity M	arket		
Stock Index	Today's close	DoD Δ	DoD% Δ	YTD % Δ	ΥοΥ% Δ
JSE Combined Index	325,890.06	-2,256.97	-0.69%	-11.59%	-6.99 %
JSE Index	312,449.18	-2,209.15	-0.70%	-12.21%	-7.54%
All Jamaican Composite Index	346,257.04	-1,911.15	-0.55%	-14.10%	-8.72%
JSE Select Index	7,922.59	77.86	0.99%	-10.95%	-6.53%
Junior Market Index	3,752.02	-21.15	-0.56%	-5.88%	-2.05%
	BEST AND WO	ORST PERF	ORMERS		
ADVAN	CERS		DE	CLINERS	
KLE 20.33	%	ť	Tech	-16.96%	

Today's combined market activity (excluding preference and deferred shares) resulted in trading of **95** stocks, of which **28** advanced, **52** declined and **15** traded firm.

International Markets

AMG

SRFIMD

-16.67%

-15.03%

International Equity Markets					International Currency Market				
Index	20-Nov	DoD % Δ	YTD% Δ	ΥοΥ% Δ	Currency	20-Nov	DoD % Δ	YTD% Δ	ΥοΥ% Δ
S&P 500	4,547.38	0.74%	18.44%	15.13%	EUR: USD	1.0943	0.26%	2.22%	6.84%
Dow Jones	35,151.04	0.58%	6.05%	4.30%	GBP: USD	1.25	0.35%	3.50%	5.78%
FTSE All Share	4,085.46	-0.06 %	0.25%	0.70%	GBF: USD	1.25	0.35%	3.30%	3./8%
Euro Stoxx 50	4,342.41	0.04%	14.47%	11.08%	USD: CAD	1.37	0.02%	1.27%	2.07%
Nikkei 225	33,388.03	- 0.59 %	15.96%	19.48%	USD: JPY	148.36	-0.85%	13.15%	4.38%
MSCI World Index	690.41	0.69%	14.05%	12.93%					

Global Interest Rates					Commodities				
Rates	20-Nov	DoD Abps	YTD ∆bps	YoY ∆bps	Commodity	20-Nov	DoD % A	YTD% Δ	ΥοΥ% Δ
10 -Year US Treasury Bond	4.42%	-2.00	55.00	59.00	Crude Oil	77.6	2.25%	-3.31%	-2.67 %
	4.13%	3.00	46.00	94.00	Gold	1,977.22	-0.18%	8.40%	13.76%
10-Year UK Gilt			Silver	23.42	-1.28%	-2.25%	12.30%		
GOJ 2025 Global Bond	6.66%	-4.00	262.00	22.00	Aluminium	2,245.50	1.74%	-5.57%	- 5.6 1%

Sources: Bloomberg, Reuters, Jamaica Stock Exchange, Bank of Jamaica, Jamaica Observer, Jamaica Gleaner, Nasdaq, Investing.com

Mutual Funds

JN MUTUAL FUNDS

November 17, 2023

JN Mutual Funds	NAV Price	12 Months Growth Rate	YTD Growth Rate	Yield (Estimated Yearly Income)
Global Diversified Income	J\$13.2096	3.54%	2.02%	3.17%
Global Equity	J\$14.0831	-0.87%	-3.42%	0.00%
Global Fixed Income	J\$14.8564	8.13%	7.78%	7.24%
Global Money Market (US\$)	US\$11.4408	0.84%	0.40%	3.98%
Global Fixed Income (US\$)	US\$11.2880	-0.74%	-1.34%	5.18%
Local Money Market	J\$12.9368	7.63%	7.15%	7.56%

	Global Money Market Fund	Local Money Market Fund	Global Fixed Income Funds	Global Diversified Income Fund	Global Equity Fund
Objective	To preserve capital whilst	To preserve capital whilst	To achieve an attractive total	To provide long-term	To provide long-term capital
	providing US dollar (US\$)	providing Jamaican Dollar	return through capital injection and	investment growth through	growth and risk
	money market returns	(J\$) money market returns	income growth. This is offered	exposure to a diversified	diversification.
			through two separate Funds:	range of asset classes.	
			(i) A Jamaican dollar (J\$) and		
			(ii) A US dollar (US\$) fund.		
Strategy	To invest in local and global	To invest in local and global	To invest in regional, sovereign	To invest in fixed income,	To invest in the shares of
	money market instruments	money market instruments	debt securities, local and	high dividend yielding stocks,	local and international
	for safety, liquidity and	for safety and liquidity and	international corporate bonds.	REITs and structured products	companies which offer
	yield.	yield			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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