

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



October 21st, 2025

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Investment Playbook

EQUITIES

Stock Ticker	Stock Information (as at October 17th, 2025)	Comments
WISYNCO Wisynco Group Limited	P/E: 17.57x P/B: 2.8x Price: \$20.56 Div Yield 2.24%	OVERWEIGHT Throughout the pandemic, Wisynco has managed to improve its operational efficiency but given the effects of COVID-19 on industries such as tourism and education, the Company was unable to deliver significant revenue growth. Now, with tourism rebounding and schools operating at a greater level, Wisynco has married its improved operational efficiency with stronger revenue growth, allowing for significant net profit growth. As tourism is expected to continue growing towards its pre-pandemic level of output, we expect Wisynco to continue to perform well. Wisynco Equity Report
SGJ Scotia Group Jamaica Limited	P/E: 8.24x P/B: 1.17x Price: \$55.4 Div Yield 3.25%	OVERWEIGHT The greatest driver of profitability in FY2021 was the reduction of Expected Credit Losses (ECL) relative to the previous year as the economic backdrop improved. Scotia is not likely to have this benefit recur to the magnitude it did in FY2021. The group has made an accelerated effort to digitize its business in line with its digital strategy to drive efficiency and better service customer needs. SGJ is looking to further consolidate its operations and funnel investments in core operations through technology and talent, while also looking to enter new markets and launch new products. Scotia has two major positives. The first is that the current rising interest rate environment supports the Group's bank model, more so than other listed financial institutions. The second is that SGJ is a consistent source of relatively attractive dividends which makes the Company a good asset for investors with a clear preference for income. Scotia Group Equity Report
MASSY Massy Holdings Limited	P/E: 9.14x P/B: 0.82x Price: \$77.37 Div Yield 4.71%	OVERWEIGHT Massy Holdings Limited. (MHL, Massy), through its portfolio companies, engages in trading, manufacturing, distribution, and service industry businesses throughout the Caribbean region. The company operates through three portfolios: Integrated Retail, Gas Products, Motors, and Machine and two business lines: Financial Services, and Strategic and Other Investments. In financial year 2020, Massy transitioned from a Conglomerate to an Investment Holding Company. By so doing, Massy's strategy has changed, with the Group focusing mainly on its core portfolios. These core areas of the business represent Massy's competitive advantages, are well-positioned to scale, and are therefore expected to drive strategic growth going forward. Massy Equity Report

Ratings Definitions

OVERWEIGHT/BUY

Exposure to this asset should be between 5% and 10% of your total portfolio

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LASD Lasco Distributors	P/E: 10.12x P/B: 1.22x Price: \$3.74 Div Yield 2.95%	OVERWEIGHT Lasco Distributors has continued its growth trajectory, displaying resilience throughout the pandemic, and we expect this to continue post-pandemic supported by the improving economic backdrop of the global economy. As continued domestic demand for goods and services remain strong, the company is also looking to strengthen its exports as well as continue to launch new product lines. However, this isn't without challenges as global supply shocks has affected LASD's gross margins. In response, management has prudently managed operational costs such that higher imported inflationary costs has not completely eroded the bottom line, resulting in continued growth. Lasco Distributors Equity Report
SCIJMD/SCIUSD Sygnus Credit Investments	P/E: 11.26x / 10.66x P/B: 0.66x / 0.63x Price: \$13.24 / \$0.08 Div Yield: 7.08% / 7.48%	OVERWEIGHT Sygnus' business model is built on providing capital and direction to the underbanked, targeting the middle market. To accomplish this, the Company has executed several capital raises involving equity, preference shares and debt raise. Sygnus has demonstrated their commitment to growth and being the market leader in the regional private credit space with their acquisition of a Puerto Rico-based, private credit firm, Acrecent Financial in Q3 of their financial year. This acquisition has significantly added to the group's income and overall profitability. The stock trades at significant discount relative to peers both from a P/E perspective and a P/B perspective. At present, given Sygnus' strong current and expected future growth, the market is pricing Sygnus at a steep discount to its book value per share. Sygnus Credit Investments Equity Report
LASM Lasco Manufacturing	P/E: 10.85x P/B: 1.73x Price: \$6.52 Div Yield 2.3%	OVERWEIGHT We expect that the Company's growth trajectory will be sustained, however, in the short term, the financial results have seen an impact from the overall macroeconomic conditions since the pandemic. Margins across the board have been compressed despite record profitability in 2022. Despite continued record tourism arrivals and growth in key sectors such as entertainment, steps need to be taken to restore margin progression. Against this backdrop it is notable that inflationary pressures and supply issues that plagued the company from 2022 to the first quarter of this year will likely begin to ease in the spring of 2023, suggesting a rebound in net profit growth for the company moving forward beyond FY 2023. Plans to further expand its geographical footprint by driving the contribution of export to its revenue will be value-added to the long-term sustainability of the Company's operations Lasco Manufacturing Equity Report

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LUMBER Lumber Depot Limited	P/E: 14.67x P/B: 2.15x Price: \$2.64 Div Yield 2.18%	OVERWEIGHT Lumber represents an option to gain exposure to the construction sector which has been a relatively resilient and fast-growing sector. With this sector tailwind, lumber has shown strong revenue growth since its 2019 listing and the financial year 2022 revenue and net profit are 10.1% and 26.8% higher than financial year 2021 revenue and earnings, respectively. We are still monitoring how the company progresses given the loosening of restrictions and continued growth in the construction sector. We also note that despite the growth it has shown over the last 2 years, the stock still trades at an attractive PE compared to Junior market peers. Lumber Depot Equity Report
TJH TransJamaican Highway Limited	P/E: 10x P/B: 5.05x Price: \$4.19 Div Yield 4.61%	OVERWEIGHT The Group continues to experience stronger-than-projected traffic growth, as evidenced by the performance during the third quarter of the 2023 financial year, and this trend is expected to persist at least in the short term. Additionally, the JIO acquisition has improved operating efficiency, and it is expected that as the group continues to reduce debt, profitability and cash flow generation will continue to improve. TJH Equity Report
CCC Caribbean Cement Company Limited	P/E: 18.22x P/B: 2.48x Price: \$90 Div Yield 2.18%	OVERWEIGHT Caribbean Cement Company Limited presents a compelling investment opportunity, characterized by financial resilience, dominant market positioning, and exposure to an attractive growth vehicle. The Company's robust liquidity and capital base provide a solid foundation for sustained expansion and consistent dividends to shareholders, while its alignment with the Caribbean's long-term infrastructure and housing priorities supports resilient demand for its products. CCC Equity Report

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GK GraceKennedy Limited	P/E: 8.5x P/B: 0.73x Price: \$70.01 Div Yield 3.38%	MARKETWEIGHT For the year ended December 31, 2022, GK reported significant top-line growth, however, margin deterioration contributed to a decline in the bottom line. Revenues increased by 10.5% while profits saw a 15.1% decline of flat as operating expenses grew at a faster rate than revenues. The company cited challenges presented by high inflation globally, sustained supply chain issues, increasing interest rates, and foreign currency volatility as issues that have affected profit margins. GK continues to advance its merger & acquisition (M&A) strategy, after it increased its stake in Catherine's Peak Bottling Company Limited in the first quarter of 2023 to move its ownership stake from 35% to 70%, thus granting them a stronger position in the spring water market. The company continues to seek M&A transactions locally and internationally. These acquisitions stand to add more diversity and growth to the company's earnings. GraceKennedy Group Equity Report
MAILPAC Mailpac Group Limited	P/E: 18.46x P/B: 7.37x Price: \$2.4 Div Yield -0.03%	MARKETWEIGHT During the peak periods of the pandemic, MAILPAC benefited immensely as online shopping became a larger share of shoppers' wallets. In large part, this period of heavy demand driven by pandemic restrictions has passed and while we anticipate online shopping will remain integral for the everyday consumer, the outsized growth we witnessed in FY2020 and FY2021 will not be repeated. Admittedly, the Company has a robust balance sheet with more cash than total liabilities which we believe places MAILPAC in a position to make growth-inducing investments. However, the current slowdown in demand and consequently revenue and profit growth underscores our MARKETWEIGHT recommendation Mailpac Group Equity Report
FTNA Fontana Limited	P/E: 18.91x P/B: 3.87x Price: \$8.89 Div Yield 5.62%	MARKETWEIGHT Fontana has been growing and expanding since listing on the junior exchange in 2019. The Company has plans to expand, which include a new outlet to bring its footprint to a total of seven locations. In its most recent quarter, Net Profit saw a 32.7% increase over the same quarter in the prior financial year. Further, the cost of sales has been impacted given the current inflationary environment and is likely to continue being affected in the near to medium term. However, the company continues to grow organically and is financially positioned to do so. Due to the current environment and increased finance costs, profitability could dampen in the near term but in the long term, the addition of its new outlet could support growth. On balance, the Company has both significant risks and the potential for upside, which underscores our recommendation. Fontana Equity Report

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SVL Supreme Ventures Limited	P/E: 26.87x P/B: 7.96x Price: \$18.01 Div Yield 3.61%	MARKETWEIGHT Supreme Ventures is the market leader in the lottery and gaming industry. The company has also in recent years embarked on an aggressive growth strategy through several acquisitions (Champion Gaming and Post To Post Betting). The company would have been impacted by the pandemic as the lockdown measures impacted its operations at Caymanas Park. With the easing of restrictions, the Company should benefit from an easing of lock down restrictions and a normalization of business. Despite this, in the medium term we note that the company now has competition in the lottery segment of the market which may negatively impact margins. The degree to which this might impede the pace of revenue growth will however depend on the take up of new games such as Scratchaz which, at present, seems popular amongst younger consumers as it is a new addition to the Company's product offerings. Supreme Ventures Equity Report
ECL Express Catering Limited	P/E: 6.85x P/B: 2.49x Price: \$2.87 Div Yield 1.72%	MARKETWEIGHT ECL has seen improved performance as the tourism industry rebound, following the pandemic, has been robust. However, the Company is not currently operating at pre-covid efficiency levels, as price increases due to the current global supply chain challenges have driven higher costs across all product categories. While we do expect the tourism industry to continue to recover, driving ECL's revenues to grow and likely surpass pre-covid levels by FY2023/FY2024, the inflationary pressures can not be ignored. Longer-term we do expect the company to reap the benefits of their expanded footprint within the Sangsters International Airport as well as the return to trend growth in stopover arrivals. ECL Equity Report

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SOS Stationery & Office Supplies Limited	P/E: 22.38x P/B: 2.45x Price: \$1.79 Div Yield 0%	Stationery and Office Supplies presents investors with another option to benefit from the reopening of the domestic economy. A core segment of their business would have suffered from the lockdown measures and work from home, namely the sale of furniture and its SEEK line of books. However, during that period stationary sales have done well to fill that revenue gap. With the resumption of economic activity, the return to office and the expansion in the BPO sector, SOS might be a large beneficiary in 2022.
SJ Sagikor Group Jamaica Limited	P/E: 11.2x P/B: 1.4x Price: \$40.2 Div Yield 2.94%	Sagikor Group Jamaica Limited would have been adversely impacted by the pandemic even more so than the typical financial sector company due to their exposure to the tourism sector. This would have therefore led to sizeable impairment losses on their investment in associated companies (i.e., Playa Hotel and Resorts). For 2022 we therefore expect to see some amount of recovery as the group has disposed of their investments in Playa which will stem impairment losses while simultaneously still having direct exposure to travel through their US resort (The Hilton DoubleTree) while their banking services should benefit from a pickup in economic activity.
JBG Jamaica Broilers Group Limited	P/E: 7.4x P/B: 0.94x Price: \$24.63 Div Yield 3.02%	JBG's financial performance has rebounded nicely from the lows seen in FY2020, driven by the recovery in the Jamaican economy and tourist arrivals, coupled with JBG's growing presence in the US market and the increasing production of the Best Dressed Chicken line of products. The loss making Haiti operation has been discontinued which should contribute to improved margins in the coming quarters. Positive results from expansion into the United States and recovery in Jamaican operations, along with stringent cost control have contributed to the surge in profitability in the first half of the 2023 financial year.
JMMBGL JMMB Group Limited	P/E: 8.19x P/B: 0.59x Price: \$18.02 Div Yield 1.3%	Given its relatively low P/E ratio and considering the Group's consistently strong performance throughout the pandemic, the market has been underpricing JMMBGL significantly relative to its local counterparts. JMMBGL's price has declined by 5.8% YTD which provides investors with an opportunity to acquire JMMBGL shares at a more attractive price. The long-term outlook for the company and the stock remains favorable, buoyed by an expanding regional footprint. In July JMMBGL closed on its acquisition of a commercial bank in the Dominican Republic (DR) which now enables the company to offer a full range of financial services in the market. The DR operations currently contributes 17% of net operating revenue and we will be keen to watch the effect of the expansion to JMMBGL's performance over the next few quarters.
SEP Seprod Limited	P/E: 26.71x P/B: 1.23x Price: \$79.59 Div Yield 2.96%	Seprod saw its financial performance surge for the 2022 financial year, owing to the strategic acquisition of AS Bryden, with revenues and net profit growing by 82% and 93% respectively. Going into the 2023 financial year, we expect easing of supply chain pressures, stability in commodity prices, and further consolidation of profits from AS Bryden to further lift net profits. Along with new products, Seprod also plans to aggressively target growth in export markets and is currently in the process of making necessary investments to increase capacity of its margarine plant.

***The "Monitoring List" represents stocks that are on our radar as our initial expectation for these companies is positive. However, no official recommendation is presented as these stocks are still being evaluated.*

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Fixed Income

Bond & Issuer	Bond Information (as at October 17th, 2025)	Comments
HLT 3.75% 2029 Hilton Domestic Operating	Price (Bid/Ask): \$96.47/ \$96.62 Yield to Maturity (Bid/Ask): 4.85%/4.80% Maturity: May 1st, 2029 Modified Duration: 3.21 Credit Rating: BB+ (S&P)	The Hilton Hotels gives investors access to several global brands in the hospitality and travel sector. As of 2022, Hilton managed, franchised, or owned 7,165 hotels and resorts, totaling 1.1 million rooms in 123 countries. The industry also continues to represent a potential travel recovery play as the demand for business transient (short stay business travel) and group travel continues to gain momentum with trends through 2Q23 continuing to look strong.
SFCCN 5.3% 2028 Sagcor Financial Corporation	Price (Bid/Ask): \$99.79/\$100.06 Yield to Maturity (Bid/Ask): 5.39%/5.27% Maturity: May 13th, 2028 Modified Duration: 0.55 Credit Rating: BBB (S&P) / BB+ (Fitch)	OVERWEIGHT SFCCN 5.3% 2028 gives investors exposure a global life insurer with a growing footprint in the North American Market. While the credit has seen some spread compression, we believe that there might be more to come. This comes as it trades slightly cheap relative to peers with the major concern as it relates to macroeconomic exposure to Caribbean government debt is likely to be improved with the Ivori transaction. In this regard, the successful closure of the acquisition means that there is potential for more spread compression. In addition to this, approaching closer to the end of the Fed hiking cycle might also limit the potential downside tailwinds on price from even more restrictive monetary policy. <u>SFCCN Fixed Income Report</u>
MAT 3.75% 2029 Mattel Inc	Price (Bid/Ask): \$97.27/\$97.42 Yield to Maturity (Bid/Ask): 4.62%/4.57% Maturity: April 1st, 2029 Modified Duration: 3.20 Credit Rating: BBB (S&P) / BBB-(Fitch) / Baa3 (Moody's)	Mattel markets toy products that are sold to its wholesale customers and direct to retail consumers. The Company offers products for children and families, including toys for infants and preschoolers, girls and boys. A rebound in dolls, especially Barbie and Frozen, is the key to Mattel outperforming projections for 2023.

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Unit Trust

Unit Trust Fund	16/10/2025	09/10/2025	Week/Week Return	Year-to-Date Return	1 Year Return	Yield
Capital Growth	75.079	75.276	-0.26%	-8.06%	-1.56%	-
Money Market	17.987	18.002	-0.09%	5.02%	6.36%	5.00%
Income Portfolio	100.000	100.000	-	-	-	4.76%
FX Bond Portfolio (US\$)	1.626	1.625	0.08%	9.51%	10.54%	4.14%
Real Estate Portfolio	18,954.258	18,963.074	-0.05%	9.00%	6.74%	-
FX Growth Portfolio	1.381	1.390	-0.65%	13.46%	14.19%	-
FX Income Accumulator Portfolio	1.045	1.045	0.00%	1.30%	1.80%	3.21%

“Someone's sitting in the shade today
because someone planted a tree a
long time ago.”

Warren Buffett

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LOCAL EQUITY MARKET

For the week ending October 17, 2025, the local stock market, measured by the Combined Index, improved by 0.07%. The Main Market Index improved by 0.06%, the Junior Market Index improved by 0.18%, and the JSE USD Equities Index improved by 0.41%. During the week JFP Limited was the largest gainer, rising by approximately 18.33% to close at \$0.71. Kintyre Holdings (JA) Limited was the biggest decliner, which fell by 14.29% to close at \$0.30.

Large-cap stocks, reflecting those listed on the Main Market Index are outperforming on a YTD basis, declining by 3.97%, relative to its Junior Market counterpart which has declined by 10.01%.

For the week ending October 17, 2025, overall market activity resulted from 127 stocks of which 53 advanced, 56 declined and 18 traded firm. Market volume amounted to 90,008,359 units valued at over \$401,175,016.64. Key contributors to trading volume are One on One Educational Services Limited with 10,292,240 (11.26%), followed by Wigton Energy Limited with 9,813,387 units (10.74%) and TransJamaican Highway Limited with 9,649,733 units (10.56%).

Revisiting relevant news during the week:

CariCRIS reaffirms DBJ credit rating

The Caribbean Information and Credit Rating Services (CariCRIS) has reaffirmed its credit rating for the Development Bank of Jamaica Limited (DBJ) which is pushing digitisation to improve its service offerings to customers.

CariCRIS reaffirms DBJ credit rating.

Dolla launches \$1-billion bond offering

Dolla Financial Services Limited has launched a \$1-billion secured bond offering, with an option to upsize the offer to \$1.5 billion, as it plans on expanding its growing loan portfolio.

Dolla launches \$1-billion bond offering.

Costs melt profits

Unless the holiday quarter delivers a strong rebound, Caribbean Cream Limited, the manufacturer of Kremi ice cream, could find itself in a loss-making position at the end of its 2025/26 financial year.

Costs melt profits

JMMB real estate arm turns profit

JMMB Real Estate Holdings Limited, the property development arm of the JMMB Group, is moving ahead with two major commercial developments in Kingston as it deepens its push into the non-financial sector.

JMMB real estate arm turns profit

Margaritaville Caribbean’s IPO plans remain distant prospect

Margaritaville Caribbean Group has signalled that plans for an initial public offering (IPO) of its Jamaica business remain a distant prospect, with Chairman Ian Dear declining to provide a timeline for a listing that was first mooted in 2023.

Margaritaville Caribbean’s IPO plans remain distant prospect

VMIL aims AI at cost and service goals in digital overhaul

VM Investments Limited (VMIL), is increasing its use of digital technologies and artificial intelligence (AI) through a partnership with overseas firm Abacus, as part of a strategy to boost operational efficiency and expand regionally, company executives said.

VMIL aims AI at cost and service goals in digital overhaul

Index	17/10/2025	10/10/2025	31/12/2024	Week/Week	Year-to-Date
JSE Main Market	322,479.50	322,286.12	335,794.94	0.06%	-3.97%
JSE Junior Market	3,361.20	3,355.01	3,735.05	0.18%	-10.01%
JSE Combined Market	332,455.78	332,226.74	347,896.22	0.07%	-4.44%
JSE USD Equities Market	194.37	193.57	251.88	0.41%	-22.83%
JSE Financial Index	66.63	67.03	68.41	-0.60%	-2.60%
JSE M&D Index	107.59	106.61	110.44	0.92%	-2.58%

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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

U.S.

U.S. stocks end volatile week higher

U.S. stocks advanced for the week, rebounding from a sharp sell-off on the prior Friday that saw the S&P 500 Index register its worst day since April. It was a volatile week for equity markets that started on a positive note after representatives from the U.S. and China appeared to walk back some of the prior week's escalation of trade tensions. Some dovish comments from Federal Reserve officials and several deal announcements in the artificial intelligence (AI) space also appeared to support stock indexes early in the week.

Earnings season also began in earnest on Tuesday, with several big banks reporting third-quarter results. JPMorgan Chase, Citigroup, and Wells Fargo all reported better-than-expected results for the quarter. In total, about 12% of S&P 500 companies had reported as of Friday morning. Of those, 86% announced earnings that beat consensus estimates, according to data from FactSet, which seemed to help buoy investor sentiment during the week.

Thursday saw stocks give back some gains after a pair of regional banks disclosed problems with loans involving allegations of fraud. This, following the recent bankruptcies of a subprime auto lender and an auto parts company, appeared to fuel emerging investor concerns about rising risks in the credit market and the broader health of the regional banking industry. It also helped push the CBOE Volatility Index—which measures expected stock market volatility over the next 30 days—to the highest level since April on Thursday.

Powell signals more rate cuts amid weakening labor market

Elsewhere, Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell seemed to indicate that the central bank remains on track to cut short-term interest rates again this year. Speaking at an event Tuesday, Powell echoed comments he made following the Fed's mid-September meeting, noting that the "downside risks to employment" have shifted the balance of risks in the economy, leading investors to believe that the central bank is likely to remain on the path to easing borrowing costs at its next meeting, despite inflation remaining above target.

Europe

In local currency terms, the pan-European STOXX Europe 600 Index ended 0.37% higher on dovish comments from U.S. Fed Chair Jerome Powell and some signs of de-escalation in U.S.-China trade tensions. Major stock indexes were mixed. France's CAC 40 Index rallied 3.24%, Germany's DAX fell 1.69%, and Italy's FTSE MIB lost 0.69%. The UK's FTSE 100 Index declined 0.77%.

UK economy flatlines; labor market appears to cool

Gross domestic product (GDP) grew 0.1% in August, after contracting 0.1% in July. For the three months to August, the UK economy expanded by 0.3% sequentially. Separate data showed that seasonally adjusted industrial and manufacturing production rebounded in August after declining in July.

The labor market appeared to loosen somewhat, with the unemployment rate rising to 4.8% from 4.7%. The statistics office also indicated that the decline in hiring may be leveling off. The number of payrolled employees rose 10,000 between July and August before falling by the same number in September, according to preliminary tax data. Meanwhile, wage growth excluding bonuses eased slightly between June and August to 4.7% year over year from the 4.8% recorded over the preceding three-month period.

Japan

Japan's stock markets declined over the week, with the Nikkei 225 Index falling 1.05% and the broader TOPIX down 0.85%. Yen strength posed a headwind for Japanese exporters, while domestic political uncertainty and U.S.-China trade tensions weighed on investor risk appetite. The yen appreciated to the high end of the JPY 149 range against the U.S. dollar, from about JPY 151 at the end of the prior week, benefiting from investors seeking out perceived safe-haven assets.

Political uncertainty remains as parties work to form coalition

Japan's political backdrop remained uncertain following the exit of the Komeito Party from its coalition with the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). In the latest developments, investors awaited the outcome of talks between the LDP and Nippon Ishin no Kai (also known as the Japan Innovation Party, or JIP).

T. Rowe Price

Index	17/10/2025	10/10/2025	31/12/2024	Week/Week	Year-to-Date
Dow Jones	46,190.61	45,479.60	42,544.22	1.56%	8.57%
S&P 500	6,664.01	6,552.51	5,881.63	1.70%	13.30%
NASDAQ 100	24,817.95	24,221.75	21,012.17	2.46%	18.11%
FTSE 100	9,354.57	9,427.47	8,173.02	-0.77%	14.46%
Euro Stoxx 50	5,607.39	5,531.32	4,869.28	1.38%	15.16%

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- Fixed Income Trading
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- Wealth Planning
- Market Research

BUTM currently offers seven (7) unit trust products spanning fixed income, equities and real estate and is recognised as a strong player in the middle market retail segment and a leader in unit trust performance.

Barita serves its clients island-wide through its Head Office in Kingston and branches in Mandeville and Montego Bay with a team of 163 members across its operations island-wide.

Contact us

Tel: (876) 926-2681 or (888) 429-5333

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