



## **News Release**

**21 December 2007**

### **Update: Bank of Jamaica Currency Issue**

For the period 14 to 20 December 2007, Bank of Jamaica recorded net currency issue of \$5.3 billion to the banking system, building societies and cambios. This contributed to a net increase of \$9.6 billion or 25.1 per cent in currency issue for the month to date. The growth for the month to date is in line with the expansion of 25.2 per cent for the similar period of 2006. The stock of currency was \$48.1 billion on 20 December, representing an increase of 15.6 per cent relative to 20 December 2006. This growth is slower than the annual growth of 24.4 per cent in 2006.

Currency issue is expected to increase by approximately \$1.4 billion on 24 December which would put the stock in excess of \$49.0 billion. In keeping with the trend over the past three years currency is expected to peak around 27 December as banks restock their ATM machines for the New Year.

**Bank of Jamaica**