



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

For the period 21 to 27 December 2007, Bank of Jamaica recorded net currency issue of \$1.7 billion to the banking system, building societies and cambios. This contributed to a net increase of \$11.4 billion or 29.5 per cent in currency issue for the period 01 to 27 December 2007. At 27 December the stock of currency issue was \$49.8 billion.

The growth in currency issue for the month to date compares to an expansion of 32.5 per cent for the period 01 to 27 December 2006. Also, relative to 27 December 2006, the stock of currency issue increased by \$5.8 billion or 13.1 per cent, which is slower than the annual growth in 2006 of \$8.5 billion or 24.1 per cent.

Net currency issue is expected to decline for the remaining two business days in the year resulting in a stock of approximately \$49.0 billion by year end. This is based on the expectation of net currency redemptions, which marks the end of the Christmas holiday period. Currency issue is therefore expected to increase by approximately 15.0 per cent for the year relative to an increase of 18.7 per cent for 2006.

Bank of Jamaica