


Balance of Payments Update

December 2025



- The current account of the balance of payments for the December 2025 quarter recorded a marginal deficit of US\$2.99 million, a deterioration of US\$261.3 million relative to the surplus recorded in the December 2024 quarter. This means that for the review period, foreign currency outflows from the country exceeded inflows to the country in the context of developments related to the passage of Hurricane Melissa on 28 October 2025. The deterioration in the current account balance primarily reflected weaker performances in the Goods and Services sub-account, partly offset by improvements in the Primary Income & Secondary Income sub-accounts relative to the December 2024 quarter.
- The deficit on the Goods sub-account widened by US\$188.6 million, which reflected a decline of US\$169.3 million in exports and an increase in imports of US\$19.3 million (see Table 1). The decline in exports was mainly driven by a decrease in crude material exports of US\$151.7 million. The increase in imports was largely driven by higher imports of Machinery & Transportation Equipment (US\$59.2 million) while there was a decline in mineral fuel imports (US\$16.6 million) and Misc. Manufactured Goods (US\$10.7 million).
- The Services sub-account deteriorated by US\$334.1 million when compared to the previous corresponding period. This was primarily driven by lower travel inflows associated with the passage of the hurricane and increased payments for transportation services. The reduction in travel inflows was primarily due to personal travel, with the travel services sub-account deteriorating by US\$373.75 million, reflecting a decline in both the number of cruise passengers and foreign national stopovers visiting the country. The increased payments for transportation services was as a result of an increase in freight payments associated with the higher imports.
- The improvement in the Primary Income sub-account relative to the December 2024 quarter was driven by lower investment income outflows. The decline in investment income outflows reflected losses recorded in the mining sector compared to the surplus recorded in the corresponding period of the previous year.
- The improvement in the surplus in the Secondary Income sub-account largely reflected an increase of US\$55.07 million in personal transfer inflows (primarily remittance inflows). There was also a notable increase in donations in kind following the passage of Hurricane Melissa, in comparison to the previous corresponding period in 2024.
- There was significant year-over-year improvement of US\$239.8 million in the Capital Account which was largely attributable to inflows to the General Government to facilitate recovery and reconstruction in the wake of the hurricane. These inflows reflected proceeds received from the World Bank's Catastrophe Bond and the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF) during the quarter.
- The Financial Account reflected net outflows of US\$242.17 million for the December 2025 quarter relative to net inflows of US\$37.6 million in the December 2024 quarter.
- The net outflows for the review quarter were primarily reflected by net outflows via Portfolio Investments of US\$214.8 million and a build-up of US\$85.1 million in Reserve Assets held by Bank of Jamaica. This was partly offset by net inflows via Other Investments (US\$20.1 million) and (US\$37.6 million) via Direct Investments. The Net Portfolio Investment outflows were driven by pay-outs to non-residents which reduced liabilities, particularly long-term debt securities issued by DTIs. The impact of these outflows was moderated by inflows to DTIs and other sectors which reduced asset holdings, mainly of long-term and short-term foreign debt securities. The Net Other Investments inflows were primarily related to a buildup in short-term loan liabilities by DTIs and a buildup in liabilities, particularly re-insurance cash calls, by other sectors, partly offset by a build-up in short-term currency and deposit assets abroad by non-financial corporations. Net Direct Investment inflows decreased by US\$29.0 million relative to the corresponding period in 2024, reflecting lower investments in the hospitality sector.


- For the Fiscal Year to Date (FYTD) 2025/26, the current account balance recorded a surplus of US\$106.5 million (0.5% of GDP), compared to US\$407.5 million (1.9% of GDP) in the previous corresponding fiscal period. The lower surplus was primarily driven by a deterioration in the goods and the services sub-account, reflecting increased imports as well as reduced exports and higher payments for transportation services. However, the deterioration was partially offset by improvements registered on the Secondary and Primary Income sub-accounts. The Financial Account for the FYTD 2025 reflected a Net Lending position, recording net outflows of US\$261.9 million, when compared to the net outflow of US\$365.1 million in the previous fiscal period.



Background

The Balance of Payments (BOP) is compiled using the 6th edition of the BOP Manual. It comprises the Current Account, Capital Account, and Financial Account. The Current Account includes net trade in goods and services, net earnings on cross border investments (Primary Income) as well as net transfer payments (Secondary Income). The Financial Account records changes in Jamaica's external assets and liabilities. These assets and liabilities include foreign Direct Investments, Portfolio Investments such as stocks and bonds, Financial Derivatives, Other Investments, and Reserve Assets. Net changes in assets or liabilities arise when gross increases in assets or liabilities differ from gross reductions in assets or liabilities and vice versa.

Table 1: Jamaica's Balance of Payments (US\$MN)

 Expanded Dataset

| | OCT-DEC | | |
|---|---------|---------|--------|
| | 2024 | 2025 | Change |
| CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE | 258.3 | -3.0 | -261.3 |
| CAB/GDP (%)* | 1.2 | 0.0 | -1.2 |
| GOODS | -953.0 | -1141.6 | -188.6 |
| EXPORTS | 508.0 | 338.7 | -169.3 |
| IMPORTS | 1460.9 | 1480.3 | 19.3 |
| SERVICES | 450.7 | 116.6 | -334.1 |
| CREDITS | 1353.5 | 986.6 | -367.0 |
| DEBITS | 902.8 | 870.0 | -32.9 |
| PRIMARY INCOME | -91.3 | -13.8 | 77.5 |
| CREDITS | 172.7 | 176.5 | 3.8 |
| DEBITS | 264.0 | 190.3 | -73.7 |
| SECONDARY INCOME | 851.9 | 1035.9 | 184.0 |
| CREDITS | 915.1 | 1101.1 | 186.1 |
| DEBITS | 63.2 | 65.3 | 2.1 |
| CAPITAL ACCOUNT | -6.6 | 233.2 | 239.8 |
| CREDITS | 5.7 | 245.6 | 239.8 |
| DEBITS | 12.3 | 12.3 | 0.0 |
| NET LENDING (+)/NET BORROWING (-) (BALANCE FROM CURRENT AND CAPITAL ACCOUNT) | 251.8 | 230.3 | -21.5 |
| FINANCIAL ACCOUNT | | | |
| NET LENDING (+)/NET BORROWING (-) (BALANCE FROM FINANCIAL ACCOUNT) | -37.6 | 242.2 | 279.8 |
| DIRECT INVESTMENT | -66.6 | -37.6 | 29.0 |
| NET ACQUISITION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS | 1.1 | 0.0 | -1.1 |
| NET INCURRENCE OF LIABILITIES | 67.7 | 37.6 | -30.1 |
| PORTFOLIO INVESTMENTS | -16.5 | 214.8 | 231.3 |
| NET ACQUISITION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS | -68.7 | -167.9 | -99.2 |
| NET INCURRENCE OF LIABILITIES | -52.3 | -382.7 | -330.4 |
| FINANCIAL DERIVATIVES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| NET ACQUISITION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| NET INCURRENCE OF LIABILITIES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| OTHER INVESTMENTS | -317.8 | -20.1 | 297.6 |
| NET ACQUISITION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS | 29.0 | 375.9 | 346.9 |
| NET INCURRENCE OF LIABILITIES | 346.8 | 396.0 | 49.3 |
| RESERVES ASSETS | 363.2 | 85.1 | -278.1 |
| NET ERRORS AND OMISSIONS | -289.4 | 11.9 | 301.3 |



BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

December 2025 Quarter

KEY

↑ Improved by

↓ Deteriorated by

