

Featured Stock



NCBFG

NCB Financial Group Limited (NCBFG);

Opening price — \$71.34;

Price to book — 0.86 times;

P/E — 10.57 times

Week to Date: 4.40%

Month to Date: 1.95%

Quarter to Date: 1.95%

Year to Date: 83.54%

Our weekly pick features a stock currently held in the Mayberry Managed Equity Portfolio (MMEP). For more information on the MMEP, please contact your investment advisor today.

NCB Financial Group Limited (NCBFG) is one of Jamaica's largest and most diversified financial services groups, with operations spanning commercial banking, payments, wealth and asset management, investment banking, insurance, and pension fund management. The Group's diversified earnings base, regional footprint, and strong capital position continue to provide resilience across changing market conditions.

For the nine months ended 30 June 2026, NCB Financial Group Limited (NCBFG) delivered resilient underlying performance despite continued market volatility and the absence of a significant one-off gain recorded in the prior year. Net operating income totalled J\$96.2 billion, down 13% from J\$110.2 billion, largely reflecting the non-recurrence of the J\$15.1 billion gain from the disposal of the Group's Netherlands insurance brokerage business and weaker foreign currency and investment-related gains. Excluding the prior-year disposal gain, management indicated that net profit would have increased by 21%, while net profit attributable to stockholders would have improved by 38%, highlighting continued strength in the Group's core operations.

Core banking performance remained positive, with net interest income increasing by 6% to J\$62.5 billion, supported by lower funding costs and higher income from investment securities. Customer deposits increased by 8% to J\$874.0 billion, strengthening the Group's liquidity and funding base. Credit impairment losses also declined by 36% to J\$4.37 billion, reflecting lower classified exposures, improved collections and recoveries, and continued progress in portfolio quality.

The insurance segment continued to provide meaningful earnings diversification. Insurance service results increased by 30% to J\$19.9 billion, supported by growth across the Group's insurance operations and reinsurance recoveries associated with Hurricane Melissa. Net insurance finance expenses declined by 40% to J\$10.57 billion. Although insurance service expenses increased due to higher property and casualty claims, the impact was substantially mitigated by reinsurance recoveries, reinforcing the resilience of the Group's insurance platform.

Cost discipline remained a key feature of the period, with operating expenses declining by 5% to J\$70.8 billion. Operating profit amounted to J\$25.4 billion, while profit before taxation totalled J\$26.1 billion. Net profit was J\$18.6 billion, compared with J\$30.5 billion in the prior year, while net profit attributable to stockholders totalled J\$13.3 billion and earnings per stock unit stood at J\$5.46. The weaker headline result reflects the prior-year disposal gain rather than deterioration in the Group's underlying earnings capacity.

Importantly, earnings momentum improved during the third quarter, with consolidated net profit increasing by 57% quarter-on-quarter to J\$8.2 billion, while attributable profit rose by 30% to J\$6.1 billion. This improvement was supported by a reversal from unrealised equity losses in the previous quarter to unrealised gains in the June quarter, particularly within the insurance segment.

Strategically, NCBFG continues to prioritise asset quality, liquidity optimisation, cost efficiency and disciplined capital management. Loans and advances declined by 3% to J\$605.6 billion as scheduled repayments exceeded new originations, consistent with management's deliberate focus on strengthening portfolio quality.

NCBFG (as at Friday October 2nd, 2026) was trading at 0.86 times its book value with a P/E of 10.57 times.

