

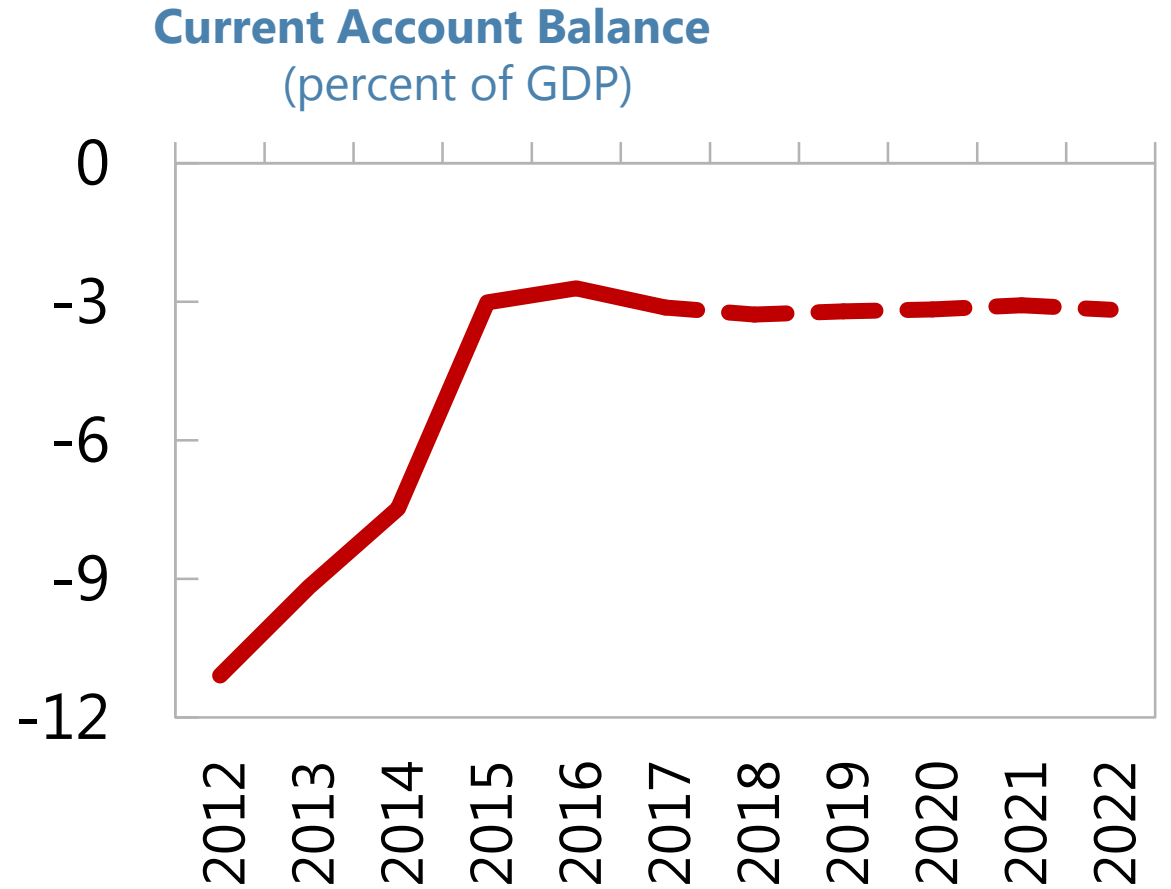
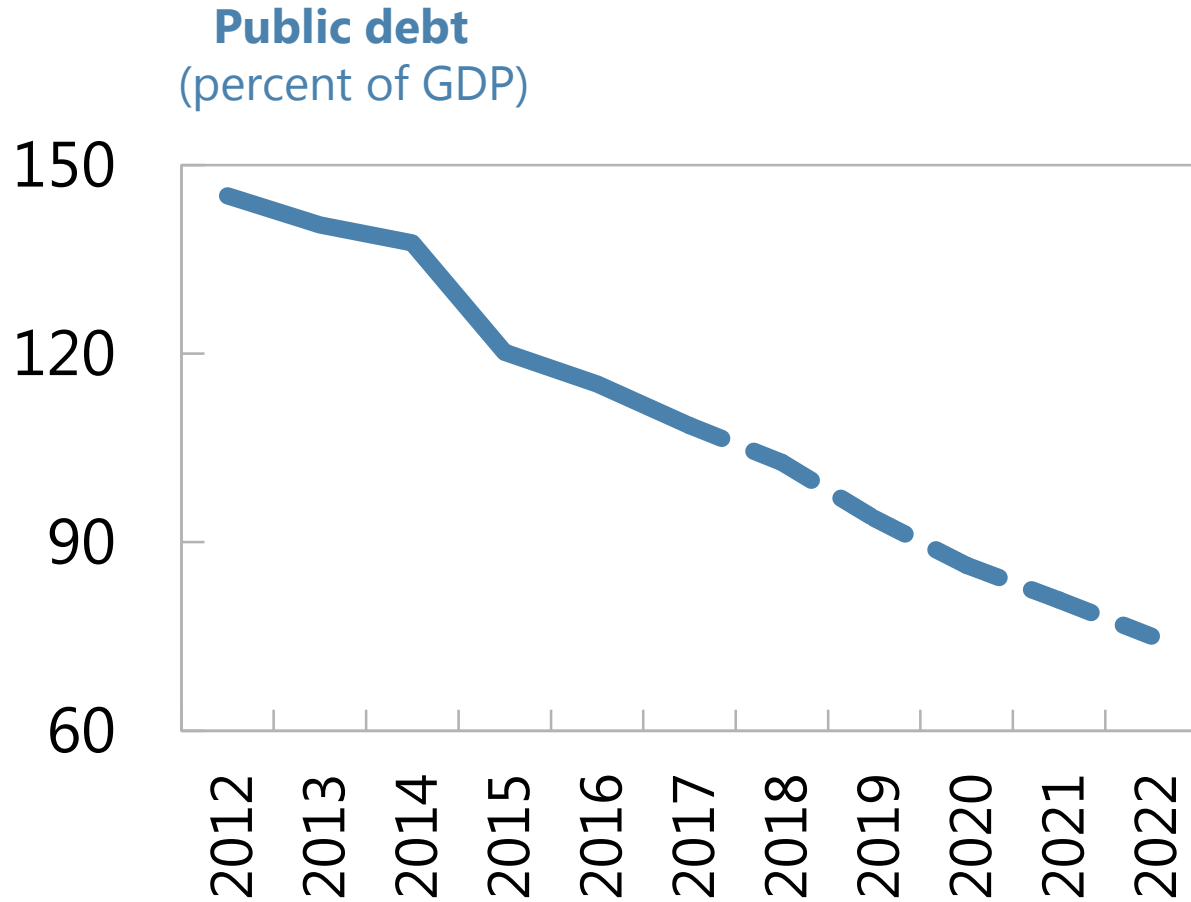
# An Enabling Macroeconomic Environment



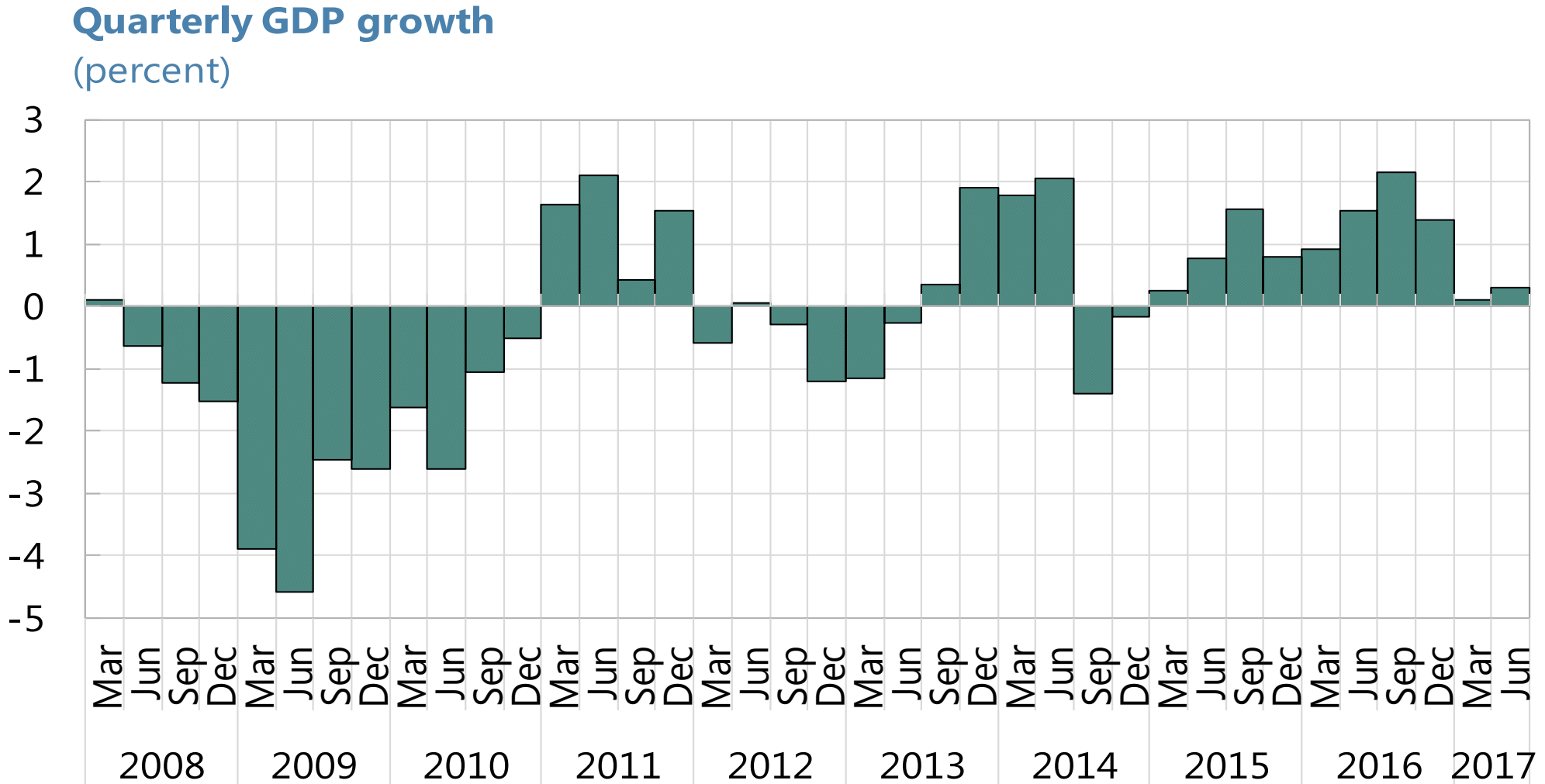
**Constant Lonkeng Ngouana**  
(IMF Resident Representative for Jamaica)

University of the Commonwealth Caribbean—Annual Conference  
Kingston, September 28, 2017

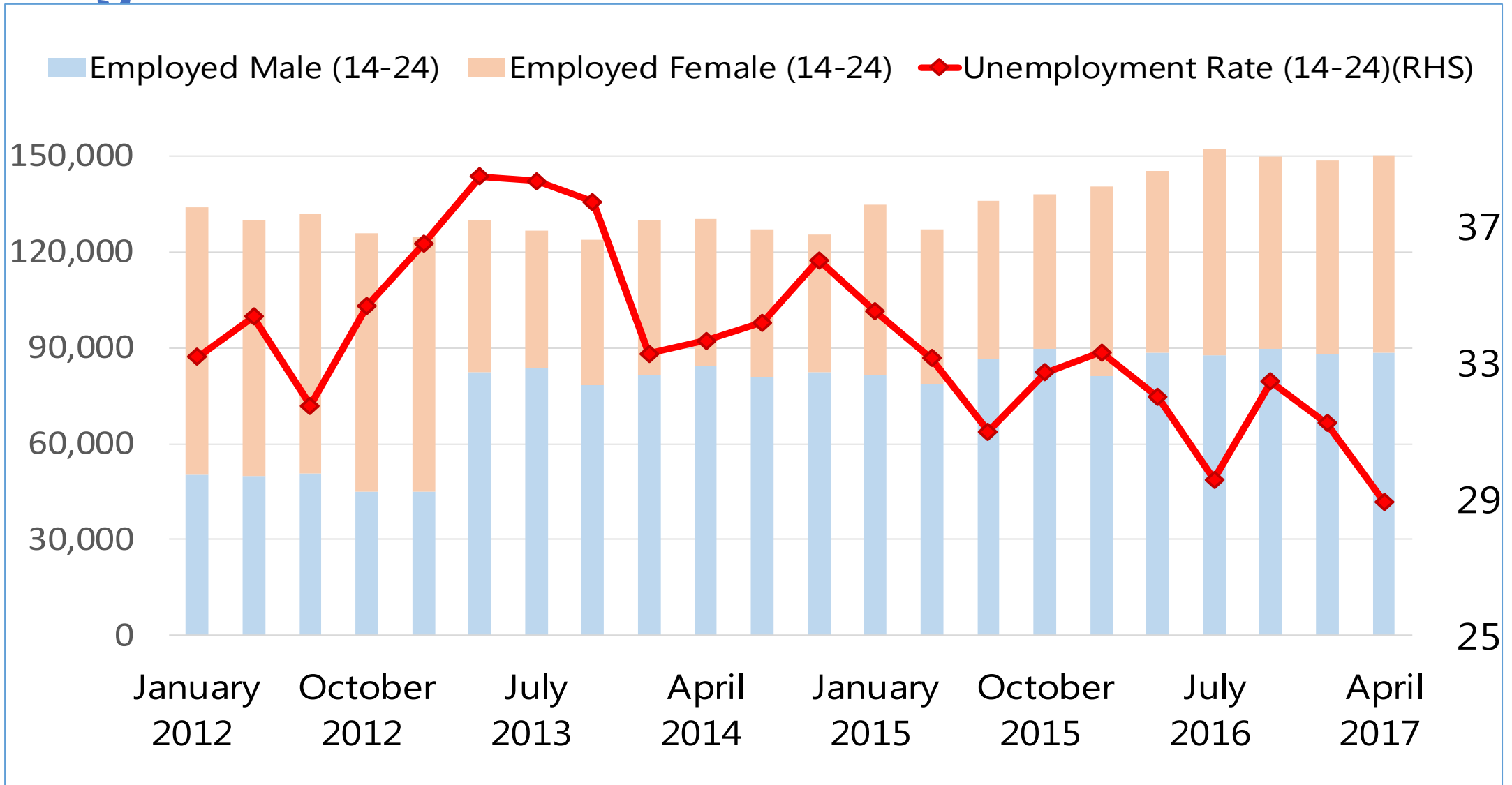
# Fiscal house getting in order and strengthening external position...



# ...leading to some green shoots: 9 consecutive quarters of positive growth

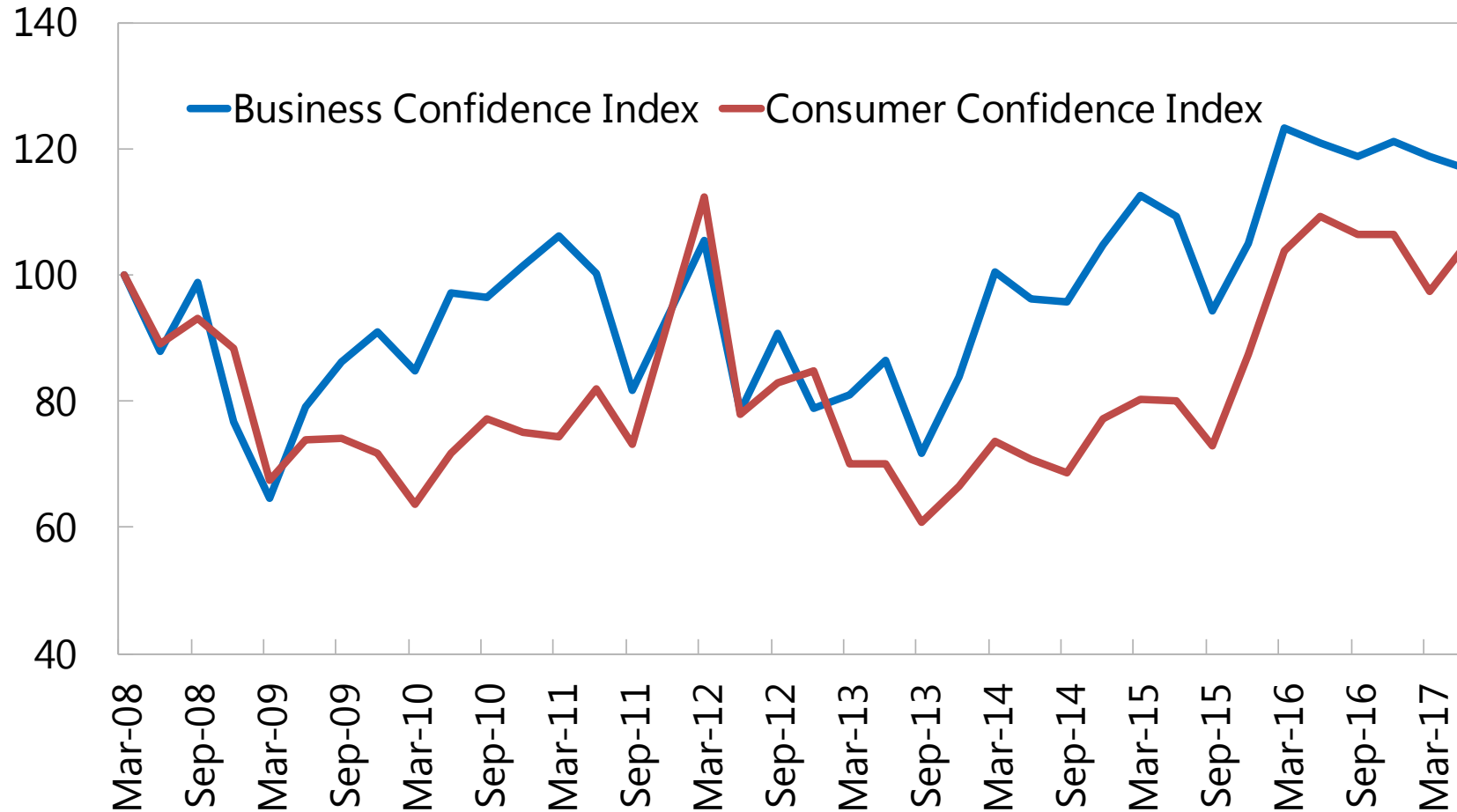


# ...along with increasing job creation, especially among the Youth



# Investor and consumer confidence at record high levels should support the ongoing economic expansion...

Business and Consumer Confidence Indexes (March 2008 = 100)

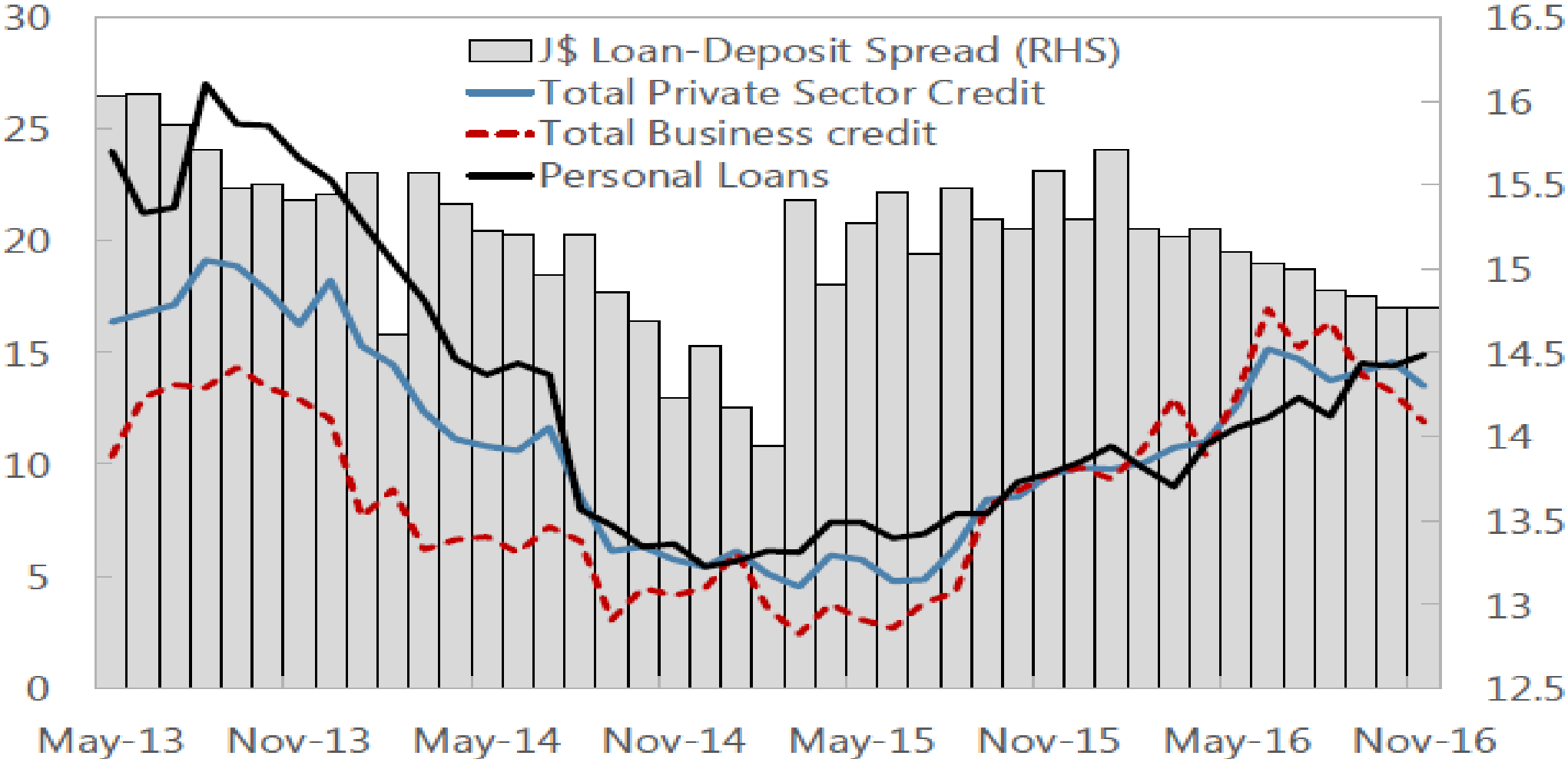


Sources: JCC

# ...As Jamaica moves from GOJ crowding-out to crowding-in

## Credit to the Private Sector

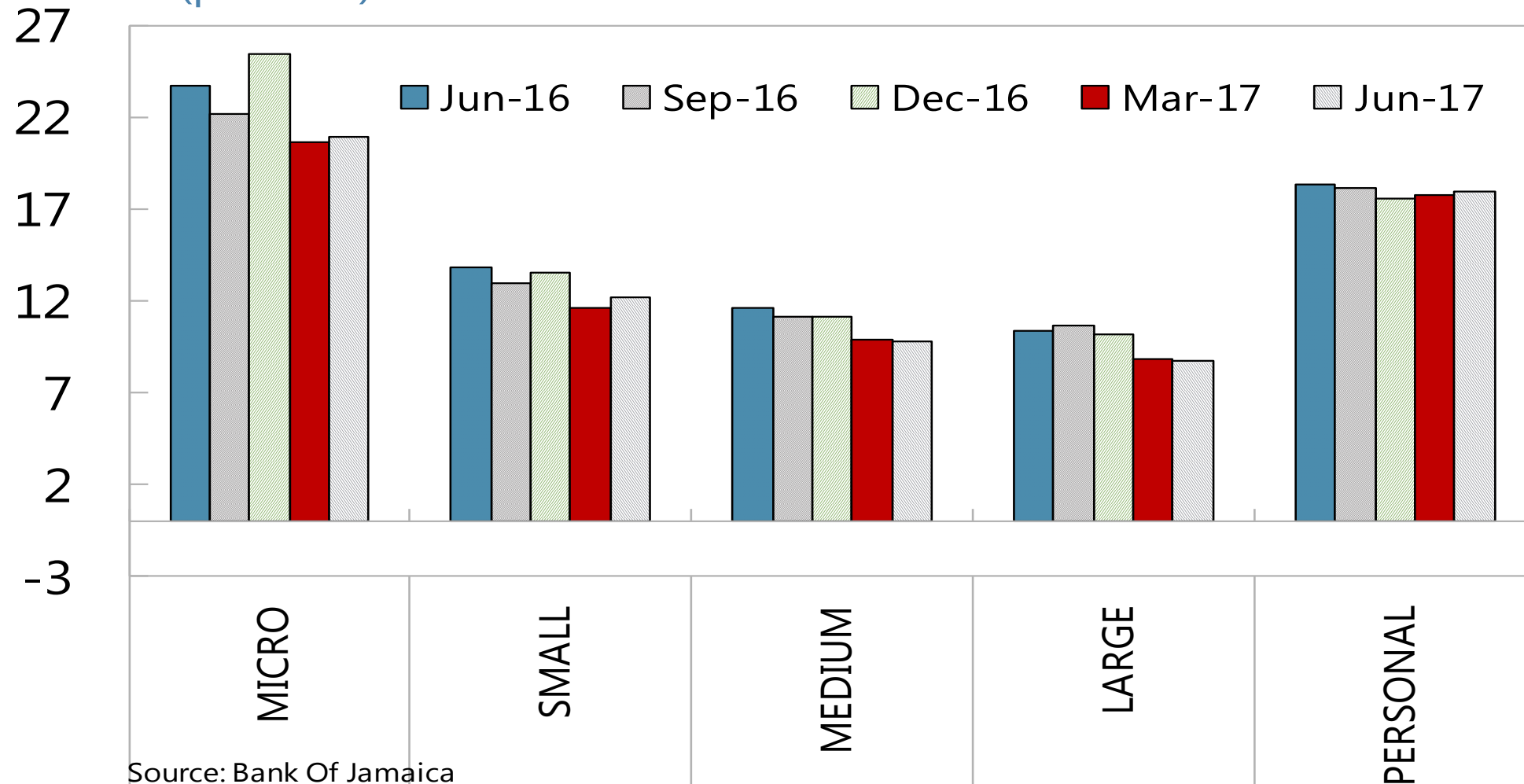
(In percent, unless otherwise noted)



# ...With interest rates on SME lending coming down

## Weighted Average Interest Rates on New Loans

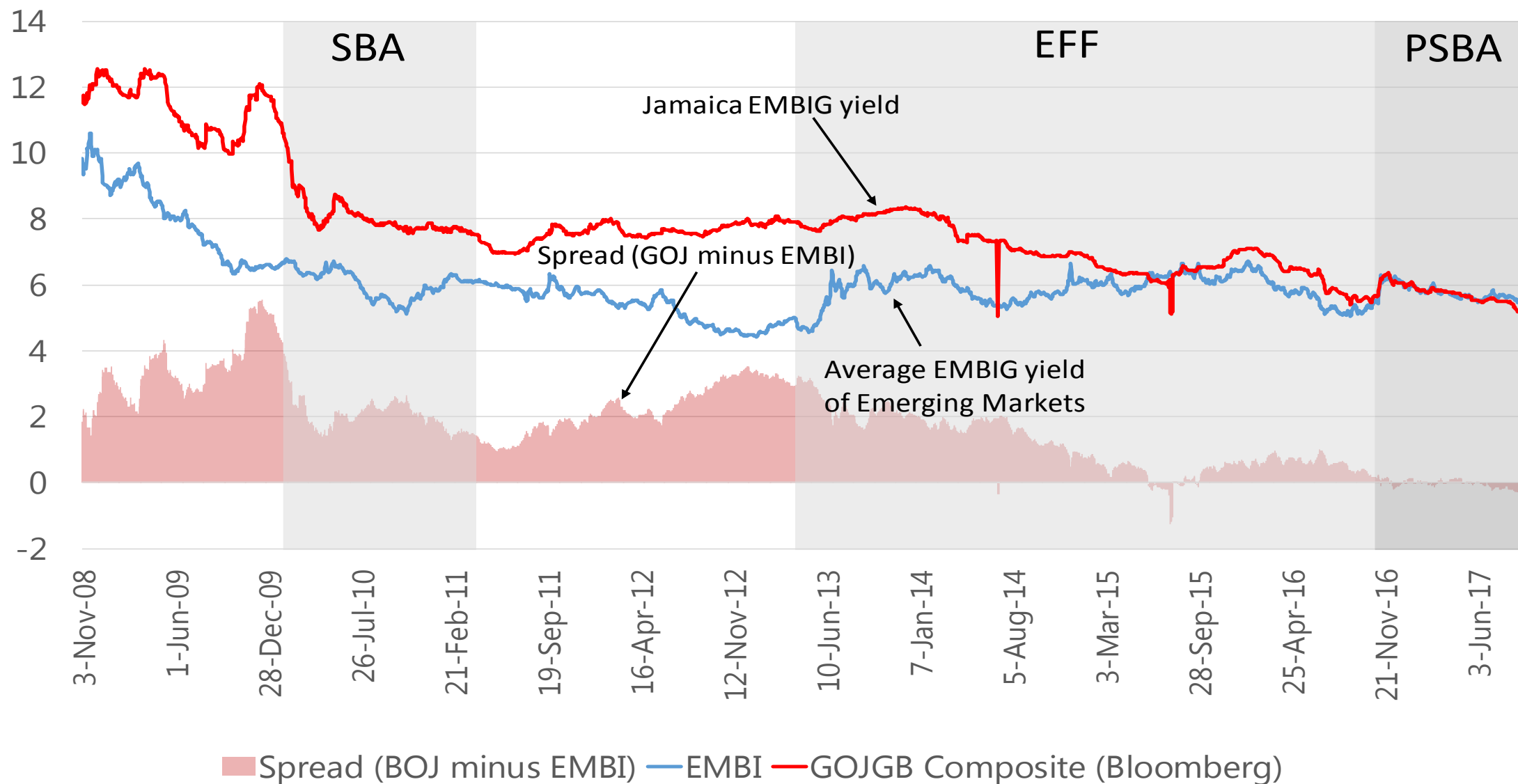
(percent)



Source: Bank Of Jamaica

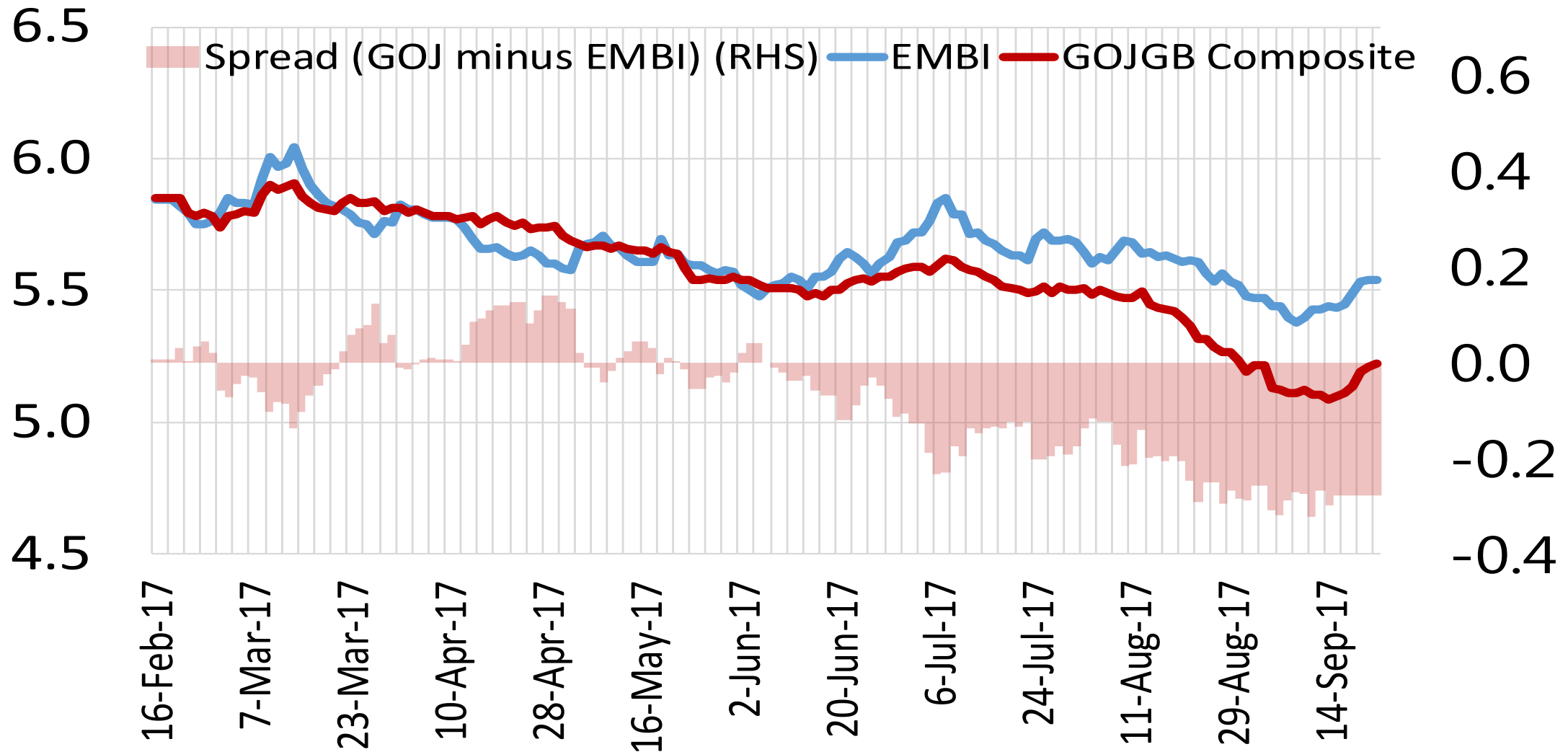
# ...and investors increasingly buying into the Jamaican story

Jamaica Bond Spreads (percent)

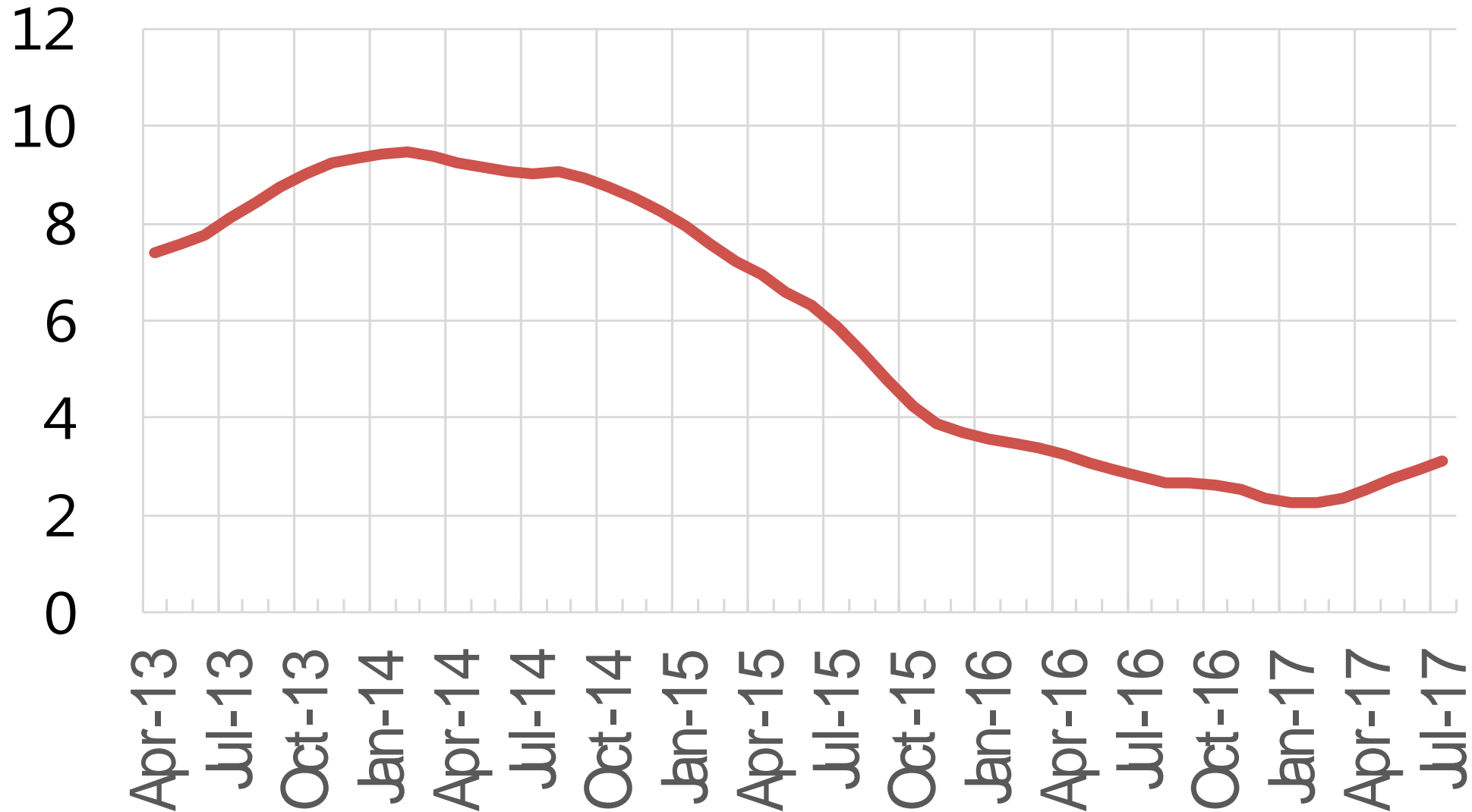




# ...with GOJ bond spreads staying in negative territory over the past few months



# Lower and stable inflation should facilitate business planning...



**...to be entrenched with the BOJ's intended move to inflation targeting, under a flexible exchange rate regime**



**All this on the back of strong domestic ownership**

