



Parish Courts of Jamaica The Chief Justice's Second Quarter Statistics Report 2018

Prepared by: The Court Statistics Unit with the support of the
IT unit, Parish Courts of Jamaica Jamaica
Kings Street, Kingston



TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| Executive Summary | 3 |
| Methodology and report structure | 8 |
| Chapter 1.0: Criminal Case Activity Statistics | 10 |
| Chapter 2.0: Criminal Case Demographics..... | 29 |
| Special feature on the Corporate Area Traffic Court..... | 66 |
| Chapter 3.0: Conclusion and Recommendations..... | 67 |
| Glossary of Terms | 73 |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This statistical report on criminal matters in the Parish Courts of Jamaica is for the second quarter ended June 30, 2018. It represents a continuation of the enhanced efforts to measure court productivity and to provide a concrete basis for placing the analyses of the judicial system into perspective and for informing the policymaking and operational planning apparatus of the leadership of the courts. As with previous reports, this report interrogates a number of vital measures, which provides insights into the operations of the parish courts on both an individual and an aggregated basis. It forms an important basis for understanding criminal case activity and delay factors in the parish courts as well as important characteristics of criminal cases. The report also provides an avenue through which important performance metrics can be consistently monitored in relation to the International standards across all parish courts. It further creates an opportunity to monitor the progress made towards the attainment of important targets set by the Chief Justice for the Jamaican court system. Among these targets are the attainment of a minimum of 95% trial and hearing date certainty over the next six years and a clearance rate of between 130% and 140% over the same period. Both of these targets are seen as crucial in enhancing efficiency throughout the court system and reducing the case backlog across the courts to a manageable level and eventual elimination.

The aggregate new case count in the parish courts for the quarter was 7,354 cases, down by 1.55% when compared to the 7,470 new cases recorded in the first quarter of 2018. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Court with 1525 or 20.74% of the total, followed by the St. Catherine and St. James Parish Courts with 1,073 or 14.59% and 707 or 9.61% respectively, account for the three largest proportions of the new cases filed in the first quarter. These three courts also ranked first to third in terms of share of aggregate new cases filed in the first quarter of 2018. The parish courts of Hanover, St. Mary and St.

Thomas accounted for the lowest shares of the aggregate new cases filed, each with under 4.5% of the total caseload in the quarter. The average monthly number of new criminal cases filed across all parish courts in the quarter was 2,451 cases, down from 2,490 in the first quarter of 2018, representing a marginal decline of 1.59%. The overall average disposal rate for cases originating in the quarter was 46.41%, which is a slight decrease of 0.72 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2018. Throughout 2017 and the first half of 2018, the parish courts of Westmoreland, St. James, St. Catherine and the Corporate Area- Criminal Division had the highest criminal case disposal rates among the parish courts. The Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division and the Westmoreland Parish Court had disposal rates of 63.54% and 62.28% respectively while the St. James Parish Court with a disposal rate of 60.96% ranks next. Since the disposal rate measures the proportion of new cases disposed in the quarter, these are quite commendable rates. The Manchester, St. Ann and St. Mary Parish Courts continue to be ranked among in the lowest quintile on this measure, with disposal rates of under 40%. The Clarendon Parish Court was the biggest mover on this measure for the quarter, gaining roughly nine (9) percentage points and ranking in the top half among the parish courts. The disposal rates are computed using cases originating in the quarter and should be interpreted within the context that many cases, which were disposed of in the courts, would have originated in prior periods. Nevertheless, as with previous reports, these results provide important insights into the movement of cases and thus into the potential build-up of a criminal case backlog in the respective courts. The steady progress made with the case disposal rate continues to be an indication of the potential of the courts to make meaningful in-roads into reducing the pre-existing case backlog and preventing newer matters from falling into this classification.

A measure which is closely related to the case disposal rate, is the case clearance rate, which provides a measure of the number of cases disposed of for every new case filed in a particular period. This is simply a productivity index as the disposed cases, which are included in its computation, could have originated

before the period of focus. This output suggests that for every 100 new cases that were filed in the parish courts, roughly 98 were disposed (including cases originating prior to the quarter). This represents an increase of nine (9) percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2018. Impressively, eleven of the thirteen parish courts had case clearance rates above 90%, exceeding the International benchmark. The parish courts of Westmoreland, St. Thomas and St. Catherine have the best cumulative clearance rates so far in 2018, with clearance rates of over 100% in the first two quarters of 2018. The most improved parish court on this measure in the second quarter were the Clarendon and Hanover Parish Courts, improving by 54.39 and 26.79 percentage points respectively. Sustaining a case clearance rate of between 90% and 110%, based on International best practices is seen as critical to militating against the build-up of case backlog.

One highly important measure, which is of keen interest to the leadership of the courts and the policy makers is the case congestion rate. This is a measure of how well a court is doing in managing its pending caseload, relative to its rate of disposition and implied state of resources. The higher the case congestion rate of a court, the more burdensome the caseload, again within the context of the existing rates of disposition and the implied state of resources. Due to the notable increases in the overall case clearance rate across the parish courts, nine (9) of the thirteen parish courts experienced a decline in their case congestion rates, with the biggest improvement coming from the Clarendon Parish Court which more than halved its rate. A statistically significant increase in the case disposal and case clearance rates will significantly reduce the case congestion rate and vice-versa.

On the matter of caseload distribution in the individual parishes, the data shows that in many cases the outstation courts in the respective parishes are carrying a notable share of the caseloads. The overall average number of new cases heard in outstations in the second quarter of 2018 is 31%, while 69% were

heard at the main parish court locations. The variance is however quite wide among the parish courts as while it seen that in parishes like Hanover, St. Catherine, Mandeville, St. Elizabeth and St. Ann the use of outstation courts is 30% or over, in parishes like St. James and the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division, under 5% of new cases were heard in such courts. There again appears to be the potential in many parishes for outstations to be utilized to a greater degree to ease the caseload carriage in the main courts, thus potentially enhancing productivity and efficiency across the courts.

As with the first quarter, the largest proportion of cases disposed of in the year was by way of guilty pleas, accounting for 58.91% of the cases disposed, a decline of 3.29 percentage points when compared to the first quarter. This was followed by cases dismissed, which was responsible for 16.32% of the cases disposed. It is of note that guilty verdicts accounted for 4.39% of the matters disposed. Taken together, the data therefore reveals a conviction rate of 63.31% for the second quarter of 2018, a decline of 2 percentage points when compare to the first quarter. Further analysis of the data suggests that for the cases originating over the past 18 months which were disposed in the first quarter of 2018, roughly 74% were disposed of within 90 days, down by 2 percentage points when compared to the first quarter. This is another positive result that is consistent with the generally improved clearance rates seen across the parish courts.

In terms of the distribution of case types, the report highlights that the largest proportion of the criminal cases filed in the courts were Indictments with approximately 38.06% of all charges. This is followed by Summary Matters with a roughly 33.05% and Petty Sessions with approximately 16.49% of the total. The proportional distributions for these leading case types were similar to that of the first quarter of 2018. It is of note that committal proceedings accounted for 8.99% of all criminal matters filed in the parish courts during the quarter.

An important delay factor, which affects the efficiency with which cases move towards disposition, is the incidence of adjournments in the parish courts. The report suggests that the dominant reasons for adjournments for the quarter were incomplete files with an estimated 11.75% of all adjournments, and reissued applications with roughly 9.24%. Ranking next are adjournments for disclosure with approximately 8.04% and the unavailability of medical reports with an estimated 5.49% of the total incidence of adjournments, which numbered in excess of 4000 across the courts during the quarter. This was a decline in incidence of 21.54% when compared to the first quarter.

The trial and hearing date certainty rate is a vital measure of the efficiency with which matters are being scheduled for court. In particular it measures the likelihood that a date set for a hearing or trial will proceed as scheduled. The trial date certainty across the parish courts for the second quarter was 77%, a decline of 2 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2018. In both quarters, four of the parish courts had trial date certainty rates exceeding 100%, which meets the international annualized standard of between 92% and 100%. High and consistent trial and hearing dates are the foundation of an efficient court system as it positively correlates with clearance and disposal rates.

The three most frequent criminal charges filed in the parish courts in the quarter were assault occasioning bodily harm with 11.75%, unlawful wounding with 8.79% and threats with 5.39% of the total number of charges. The vast majority of offences were committed by males, accounting for roughly 82% of all charges filed during the quarter. The dominant age group of offenders were again the 20 - 26 and 27 – 36 age groups accounting for roughly 26.99% and 29.34% respectively of all offences filed in the parish courts in the second quarter. The most up to date estimated backlog of criminal cases in the parish courts is 30,127 cases, which is close to the combined annual criminal caseload. A criminal case is considered to be in backlog if it has been in the court system for more than two years without disposal.

METHODOLOGY

Guaranteeing the reliability and validity of the data used to produce the periodic statistical reports for the Jamaican Courts is of utmost importance as we seek to produce a data driven enterprise for policy making and operational decisions. As a result, a robust and verifiable system of data production has been created in both the parish courts and the Supreme Court. At the parish courts, a data capture system for criminal matters, called the CISS (Case Information Statistical System) has been operational in all courts for the past two years. This system captures a wide range of data on the progression of criminal cases from initiation to disposition and is manned by at least one dedicated Data Entry Officer in each court. The Data Entry Officers update the system on a daily basis so that the data produced is as close as possible to real time. The electronic data sheets for each parish court are then validated and backed-up to the network at the end of each month and the data submitted to a centralized, secure medium for processing by the Statistical Unit of the Supreme Court. A robust data validation mechanism is in place to periodically sample criminal case files in all parish courts on a quarterly basis. A representative sample of case files are taken in each case and cross-checked against the electronic data to detect and eliminate errors of omission and commission.

A monthly statistical report is produced using the data submissions, culminating in Quarterly Reports and eventually an Annual Report. All Quarterly and Annual Parish Court reports are published on the website of the Supreme Court; however, interim data required by stakeholders may be requested through the Office of the Chief Justice.

Structure of report

The report is divided into two main sections. Chapter 1.0 explores case activity statistics by examining the caseload carried by each parish court in aggregate and by quarter as well the associated disposal rates, clearance rates and case congestion rates as appropriate. This section also examines the distribution of the different types of cases filed in the respective courts as well as the most commonly occurring charges and the trial certainty ratios. The common reasons for adjournment and the distribution of the methods of case disposition are also examined in this section along with the overall conviction rate.

Chapter 2.0 examines case demographics including age and gender distribution of offenders as well as a sample estimate of the geographical distribution of charges based the police station where matters are reported. This section also examines the distribution of new cases heard in the quarter by the respective outstations in each parish.

Chapter 1.0: Criminal Case Activity Statistics in the Parish Courts from April- June 2018

This chapter provides an assessment of criminal case activity in the parish courts for the second quarter ended June 30, 2018. This includes analysis of the criminal caseload, rates of case disposal, clearance and congestion as well as cases statuses in the various courts over the period as well as assessments of trial credibility ratios, common methods of disposition and reasons for adjournment.

Table 1.0: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018

| Parish Court | Number of new cases filed | Number of inactive cases | Number of disposed cases | Pending case load | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Corporate Area Criminal | 1525 | 332 | 637 | 556 | 63.54 |
| Westmoreland | 570 | 52 | 303 | 215 | 62.28 |
| St. James | 707 | 89 | 342 | 276 | 60.96 |
| St. Catherine | 1073 | 86 | 474 | 513 | 52.19 |
| Trelawny | 283 | 3 | 127 | 153 | 45.94 |
| Clarendon | 509 | 27 | 200 | 282 | 44.60 |
| Hanover | 218 | 0 | 97 | 121 | 44.50 |
| Portland | 388 | 34 | 131 | 223 | 42.53 |
| St. Thomas | 259 | 10 | 93 | 156 | 39.77 |
| St. Elizabeth | 362 | 25 | 118 | 220 | 39.50 |
| Manchester | 563 | 38 | 182 | 343 | 39.08 |
| St. Mary | 310 | 32 | 86 | 192 | 38.06 |
| St. Ann | 587 | 67 | 111 | 409 | 30.32 |
| Total | 7354 | 765 | 2901 | 3659 | - |
| Average | 565.69 | 61.15 | 223.15 | 281.46 | 46.41 |
| Standard deviation | 369.08 | 86.22 | 170.77 | 137.44 | 10.36 |
| Skewness | 1.75 | 2.95 | 1.54 | 0.98 | 0.58 |

The table above shows the aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018. A total of 7,354 new criminal cases were filed across the parish courts, while 3,696 cases were either disposed or became inactive, resulting in a gross disposal rate of 46.41%. In the previous quarter 7,470 cases were filed, while 3,656 cases were either disposed or inactive which

resulted in a disposal rate of 48.94%. This comparison reveals that over the corresponding quarter, there was a decrease of 116 or 1.55% in the number of new cases filed and an increase of 40 or 1.08% in the number of cases disposed.

The best performing courts in relation to case disposal rates for the second quarter of 2018 were the Corporate Area Court - Criminal Division with 63.54%, the Westmoreland Parish Court (62.28%) and the St. James Parish Court with 60.96%. The bottom three courts on this measure were the Parish Courts of Manchester (39.08%), St. Mary (38.06%) and St. Ann (30.32%). The three courts with the highest disposal rates in the second quarter were also the leaders on this measure in the first quarter, while the three bottom courts were also among the courts with the weakest output in the previous quarter.

The skewness of the number of new cases filed, the number of cases disposed and the active pending caseload are all moderately positive, which is an indication that the majority of the courts fell below the average count in each case. The skewness of the case disposal rates is however close to a symmetrical distribution, which indicates that the average differences between the individual disposal rates of the courts and the overall average rate are not significant. This is affirmed by the relatively low standard deviation for the distribution of the disposal rates.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S SECOND QUARTER STATISTICAL REPORT ON CRIMINAL MATTERS - PARISH COURTS OF JAMAICA

Table 2.0: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court as at June 30, 2018

| Parish Court | Number of new cases filed in the APR.-JUN quarter | Disposed in APR.-JUN quarter | Inactive in APR.-JUN quarter | Grand total number of inactive cases | Grand total number of disposed cases | Grand active pending case load as at March 2018 | Case clearance rate (%) | Case congestion rate (%) |
|-------------------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Westmoreland | 570 | 518 | 86 | 509 | 2525 | 238 | 105.96 | 133.77 |
| St. Catherine | 1073 | 875 | 202 | 1056 | 5520 | 781 | 100.37 | 172.14 |
| Corporate Area Criminal | 1525 | 1283 | 489 | 2321 | 5899 | 1755 | 116.20 | 185.10 |
| St. James | 707 | 591 | 133 | 1247 | 3909 | 708 | 102.40 | 195.44 |
| Portland | 388 | 253 | 100 | 439 | 1480 | 372 | 90.98 | 215.30 |
| St. Thomas | 259 | 244 | 38 | 208 | 1733 | 322 | 108.88 | 206.03 |
| Hanover | 218 | 236 | - | 2 | 1347 | 103 | 108.26 | 136.02 |
| St. Mary | 310 | 252 | 49 | 346 | 1453 | 171 | 97.10 | 159.80 |
| Trelawny | 283 | 238 | 13 | 112 | 1367 | 157 | 88.69 | 175.30 |
| St. Elizabeth | 362 | 321 | 18 | 281 | 1328 | 145 | 93.65 | 149.56 |
| Manchester | 563 | 451 | 139 | 954 | 1871 | 897 | 104.80 | 247.46 |
| St. Ann | 587 | 367 | 35 | 694 | 1032 | 574 | 68.48 | 288.81 |
| Clarendon | 509 | 424 | 43 | 241 | 1652 | 2471 | 91.75 | 638.12 |
| Total | 7354 | 6053 | 1345 | 8410 | 31116 | 8694 | | |
| Average | 565.69 | 465.62 | 103.46 | 646.92 | 2393.54 | 668.77 | 98.27 | 223.30 |
| Std. | 369.08 | 307.03 | 129.93 | 630.65 | 1645.54 | 707.17 | 12.09 | 132.15 |
| Skewness | 1.75 | 1.90 | 2.46 | 1.71 | 1.52 | 1.79 | -1.08 | 2.96 |

Note: *The figures are computed for the period since the use of the CISS system commenced in August 2016. Not all courts commenced at the same time so the exact times vary but are long enough to make statistically significant inferences.

The table above is an extension of table 1.0. Among the data reported on in this table is the case congestion rate across the parish courts. This provides a measure of manageability of a courts' existing caseload. In particular, it provides an indication of the caseload burden relative to existing resources and the pace of case disposal. The Clarendon Parish Court has by far the largest case congestion rate over the period measured, largely because of its recent history of persistently weak case disposal and case clearance rates. However, this court experienced a significant improvement in this measure in the

second quarter due to a pronounced increase in its case clearance rate. The parish courts of Manchester and St. Ann are the next two courts with the highest case congestion rates; both also demonstrate modest disposal and clearance rates. High case congestion rates can be a product of resource deficiencies and slow case clearance and case disposal rates along with a rapidly rising number of new cases. Quite unsurprisingly, the parish courts of Westmoreland, the Corporate Area, St. Catherine and St. James performed best on this measure as they consistently demonstrated the highest case disposal and clearance rates throughout 2017 and in the first half of 2018. As with previous reports, caseload and resources does not appear to be a major factor explaining the differences in performance here as the courts ranking on either ends of the scale are the larger courts in the island and resource endowment do not vary in a statistically significant way among the courts. The results on the case clearance rates are also quite interesting. The Clarendon Parish Court improved significantly by 54.39 percentage points moving from a clearance rate of 37.36% in the first quarter to 91.75% in the second quarter. Other notable improvements were seen in the Hanover and Manchester Parish Courts, surging above a 100% clearance rate for the quarter. When compared to case clearance rate for the first quarter, the Hanover Parish Court improved by roughly 33 percentage points while the Manchester Parish Court improved by approximately 51 percentage points. The parish courts of Westmoreland, St. Catherine, St. James and the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division continue to meet the International standard on this measure, with clearance rates of over 90%, while the parish courts of St. Elizabeth and Hanover joined the courts exceeding the 90% clearance rate mark. The St. Ann Parish Court with a clearance rate of 68.48% was the only parish court falling below 70% on this measure in the second quarter. Overall, the parish courts moved from an average clearance rate of roughly 89% in quarter one to roughly 98% in the second quarter of 2018, with an impressive eleven courts meeting the International standard. Among these courts, the parish courts of Corporate Area Criminal, Manchester,

Westmoreland, St. James, Hanover, St. Thomas and St. Catherine stand out with clearance rates of over 100%. The large number of courts with improved or sustained high clearance rates have resulted in a slight negative skewness in the distribution of these rates. This affirms that there were slightly more courts with higher than average clearance rates. The clearance and congestion rates over the course of the coming two quarters should be highly interesting and instructive. There is a generally linear empirical association between the case clearance and the case congestion rates such that an increase in the case clearance rate should, *ceteris paribus* result in a reduction in the case clearance rate. Based on the way in which the congestion rate is mathematically computed it is however theoretically possible that a modest increase in the clearance rate could coincide with a similarly modest increase in the case congestion rate. A significant decrease in the case clearance rate for any court will however result in a statistically significant increase in the corresponding case clearance rate and a significant increase in the case clearance rate will precipitate a statistically significant fall in the case clearance rate.

Table 2.1: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the period Jan.-Jun 2018

| Parish Court | Case Disposal Rate (%) Q2 | Case Disposal Rate (%) Q1 | Case Clearance Rate (%) Q2 | Case Clearance Rate (%) Q1 | Case Congestion Rate (%) Q2 | Case Congestion Rate (%) Q1 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Corporate Area Criminal | 63.54 | 59.55 | 116.20 | 96.06 | 185.1 | 171.37 |
| Westmoreland | 62.28 | 60.27 | 105.96 | 108.26 | 133.77 | 137.11 |
| St. James | 60.96 | 57.88 | 102.40 | 96.61 | 195.44 | 185.06 |
| St. Catherine | 52.19 | 55.99 | 100.37 | 105.59 | 172.14 | 160.93 |
| Trelawny | 45.94 | 42.68 | 88.69 | 92.99 | 175.3 | 252.13 |
| Clarendon | 44.60 | 35.41 | 91.75 | 37.36 | 638.12 | 1371.43 |

THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S SECOND QUARTER STATISTICAL REPORT ON CRIMINAL MATTERS - PARISH COURTS OF JAMAICA

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Hanover | 44.50 | 40.15 | 108.26 | 81.47 | 136.02 | 222.27 |
| Portland | 42.53 | 40.91 | 90.98 | 126.92 | 215.3 | 188.71 |
| St. Thomas | 39.77 | 46.83 | 108.88 | 101.97 | 206.03 | 200.32 |
| St. Elizabeth | 39.50 | 39.35 | 93.65 | 69.67 | 149.56 | 253.6 |
| Manchester | 39.08 | 34.62 | 104.80 | 69.4 | 247.46 | 324.28 |
| St. Mary | 38.06 | 42.36 | 97.10 | 93.4 | 159.8 | 230.86 |
| St. Ann | 30.32 | 38.37 | 68.48 | 72.92 | 288.81 | 334.52 |
| Average | 46.41 | 45.72 | 98.27 | 88.66 | 223.3 | 310.2 |
| Standard Deviation | 10.36 | 9.38 | 12.09 | 22.61 | 132.15 | 324.24 |
| Skewness | 0.58 | 0.61 | -1.08 | -0.69 | 2.96 | 3.40 |

*Q2- Refers to quarter two (April-June 2018) and *Q1- Refers to quarter one (January to March 2018)

The above chart provides a detailed comparison of the case clearance, case congestion and case disposal rates over the first two quarters of 2018 for each parish court.

Table 3.0: Trial Certainty Ratio for the Parish Courts for quarter ended June 30, 2018

| Parish Court | Trial dates set | Trial dates adjourned | Trial credibility % |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Westmoreland | 69 | 0 | 100% |
| Clarendon | 9 | 0 | 100% |
| St. Ann | 53 | 0 | 100% |
| Portland | 29 | 0 | 100% |
| St. James | 87 | 5 | 94% |
| Manchester | 90 | 14 | 84% |
| St. Elizabeth | 38 | 6 | 84% |
| St. Catherine | 219 | 41 | 81% |
| Trelawny | 15 | 3 | 80% |
| St. Mary | 44 | 11 | 75% |
| St. Thomas | 24 | 9 | 63% |
| Corporate Area Criminal | 194 | 91 | 53% |
| Hanover | 38 | 26 | 32% |
| Total/Average | 909 | 206 | 77% |

The trial date certainty provides a measure of the extent to which trial dates, which are set, are adhered. A result of 1 or 100% indicates that all trial dates which are set are completely adhered to and thus the closer the result is to 1, the better it is. There were 909 trial dates set for the April to June quarter, an increase of approximately 8% over the last quarter, 77% of which proceeded without adjournment. The parish courts with the best trial certainty rates were Clarendon (100%),

Portland (100%), Westmoreland (100%) and St. Ann (100%). Conversely, the parish courts with the lowest trial certainty rates in the period were St. Thomas (63%), the Corporate Area Court - Criminal Division (53%) and Hanover (32%). Though quite insightful, this type of data will become more meaningful over a longer period as the year progresses.

Table 3.0A: Comparison of the trial certainty ratio for the Jan-Mar. and Apr.-Jun. 2018 quarters.

| Parish Court | Trial Credibility Ratio (%) Q2 | Trial Credibility Ratio (%) Q1 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Westmoreland | 100% | 100% |
| Clarendon | 100% | 100% |
| St. Ann | 100% | 98% |
| Portland | 100% | 100% |
| St. James | 94% | 98% |
| Manchester | 84% | 72% |
| St. Elizabeth | 84% | 50% |
| St. Catherine | 81% | 74% |
| Trelawny | 80% | 100% |
| St. Mary | 75% | 63% |
| St. Thomas | 63% | 75% |
| Corporate Area Criminal | 53% | 80% |
| Hanover | 32% | 18% |
| Total/Average | 77% | 79% |

**Q2 represents current quarter i.e. April-June 2018*

**Q1 represents previous quarter i.e. January- March 2018*

The above table shows that the Parish Courts of Westmoreland, Clarendon and Portland with a 100% trial certainty ratio in both quarters are the best performing courts on this measure. There were noticeable reductions in the trial certainty ratio for the Parish Courts of Trelawny, St. Thomas, and the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division, with declines of 20 and 12 percentage points for the former two courts and 27 percentage points for the latter. The Hanover Parish Court had the lowest trial certainty rates over both quarters with 18% and 32% for the first and second quarters respectively. There was a 2 percentage points overall decline in the trial certainty ratio, which moved from 0.79 or 79% in quarter one to 0.77 or 77% in, quarter two.

Table 4.0: Types of charges for each Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018

| Parish Court | Indictment | Summary Matters | Petty Sessions | Committal Proceedings | Tax | Miscellaneous | LRF | Traffic | NS | Total |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|------|---------------|------|---------|------|--------|
| Corporate Area Criminal | 1090 | 912 | 329 | 173 | | - | - | 23 | 3 | 2530 |
| St. Catherine | 569 | 661 | 295 | 204 | 87 | - | 11 | - | - | 1827 |
| St. James | 337 | 483 | 231 | 71 | | 50 | - | - | - | 1172 |
| St. Ann | 410 | 232 | 187 | 79 | 12 | - | - | - | - | 922 |
| Manchester | 313 | 175 | 291 | 61 | 45 | - | 15 | - | - | 900 |
| Westmoreland | 224 | 375 | 114 | 123 | 39 | - | - | - | - | 875 |
| Clarendon | 301 | 223 | 119 | 73 | | - | - | - | 2 | 718 |
| St. Elizabeth | 228 | 169 | 69 | 67 | 75 | - | 1 | - | - | 609 |
| Portland | 258 | 219 | 96 | 32 | | - | - | - | - | 605 |
| St. Mary | 226 | 138 | 70 | 61 | 17 | - | - | - | - | 512 |
| St. Thomas | 205 | 119 | 31 | 66 | 8 | - | - | - | - | 429 |
| Trelawny | 146 | 128 | 67 | 18 | - | - | 11 | - | - | 370 |
| Hanover | 184 | 66 | 47 | 33 | - | - | - | - | - | 330 |
| Total | 4491 | 3900 | 1946 | 1061 | 283 | 50 | 38 | 23 | 5 | 11799 |
| Percentage | 38.06 | 33.05 | 16.49 | 8.99 | 2.40 | 0.42 | 0.32 | 0.19 | 0.04 | 100.00 |

*Total number of charges in the sample = 11,799. **LRF means Law Reform Fraudulent Transaction, ***NS means not stated

The above table provides a breakdown of the different types of new charges filed in each parish court for the April-June quarter of 2018. For the quarter, 11,799 charges were filed across the parish courts, a decline of approximately 2% when compared to previous quarter. The majority of these charges were filed in the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division (2,530), the St. Catherine Parish Court (1,827), St. James Parish Court with (1,172) and the St. Ann Parish Court with 922 charges. The majority of the charges were Indictments (38.06%); followed by Summary Matters (33.05%), Petty Sessions (16.49%) and Committal Proceedings with 8.99% of the total. The Corporate Area Court-Criminal Division accounted for the largest proportion of both Summary

Matters and Indictments. This was followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. James and St. Ann. The largest proportion of Petty Sessions was filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine and Manchester. The St. Catherine Parish Court followed by the Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Division and the Westmoreland Parish Court, accounted for the largest individual shares of Committal Proceedings. As for criminal matters, which are traffic related, the only incidences of these in the quarter were in the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division.

Offence Types

Table 5.0: Most frequently occurring charges across the parish courts for the quarter ended June 30, 2018

| Parish Court | Assault occasioning bodily harm | Unlawful wounding | Possession of offensive weapon | Threat | Malicious destruction of property | Exposing goods for sale |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Manchester | 82 | 78 | 27 | 54 | 38 | 101 |
| Clarendon | 119 | 89 | 94 | 45 | 45 | 30 |
| St. Catherine | 181 | 127 | 95 | 62 | 76 | 110 |
| St. Thomas | 54 | 53 | 27 | 12 | 26 | 4 |
| Portland | 95 | 73 | - | 67 | 32 | 14 |
| St. Mary | 57 | 72 | 8 | 35 | 40 | - |
| St. James | 92 | 77 | 59 | 63 | 48 | 56 |
| Corporate Area Criminal | 282 | 175 | - | 36 | 100 | 149 |
| Westmoreland | 55 | 69 | - | 39 | 36 | 15 |
| Hanover | 49 | 40 | - | 23 | 22 | - |
| St. Elizabeth | 57 | 78 | 33 | 44 | 31 | 1 |
| St. Ann | 95 | 91 | 11 | 113 | 51 | - |
| Trelawny | 61 | 33 | 47 | 28 | 24 | 1 |
| Total | 1279 | 1055 | 401 | 621 | 569 | 481 |
| Percentage of total | 10.84 | 8.94 | 3.40 | 5.26 | 4.82 | 4.08 |

***Total number of charges = 11,799

The above table shows the distribution of the six most commonly occurring types of charges across all parish courts for the April-June quarter of the 2018. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 1279 or 10.84% of the total number of charges is the most frequently occurring. This

was followed by unlawful wounding with 1055 or 8.94% and threat with 621 or 5.26%. The top six is rounded off by malicious destruction of property with 569 or 4.82%, exposing goods for sale with 481 or 4.08% and possession of offensive weapon with 401 or 3.40% of the total count of charges filed in the parish courts during the quarter. These six most frequently occurring types of charges account for approximately 37% of the total incidence of charges in quarter. In the previous quarter, these same charges accounted for approximately 39% of the total number of incidence of charges in the quarter. Compared to the first quarter there was a decrease of approximately 2% in the total incidence of charges in this second quarter.

Table 6.0: Average age of active charges for each parish court for charges filed in the quarter ended June 30, 2018

| Parish Court | Average Age of Active charges (days) |
|---------------------------|---|
| Westmoreland | 34 |
| St. Catherine | 35 |
| Manchester | 35 |
| St. Elizabeth | 36 |
| Clarendon | 38 |
| St. James | 38 |
| Trelawny | 39 |
| St. Ann | 39 |
| Portland | 40 |
| St. Thomas | 42 |
| St. Mary | 43 |
| Corporate Area Criminal | 44 |
| Hanover | 48 |
| Overall Average | 39 |
| Standard Deviation | 4 |
| Skewness | 1 |

The above table shows the average age of active charges originating in the April-June quarter of 2018, for charges originating in said quarter. The average age of active matters originating in the quarter was approximately 39 days (1.3 months) which is identical to that of the previous quarter. The parish courts of Westmoreland, St. Catherine, Manchester and St. Elizabeth have the lowest averages on the list. On the contrary, the highest averages were observed for in the parish courts of Hanover, Corporate Area

Criminal, St. Mary and St. Thomas. There is an intuitive correlation between clearance rates and the average age of cases in the long run but it does not necessarily manifest empirically in the short-run. This means that in the end, courts with higher clearance rates will in general have a lower backlog and a lower average age of active cases. Courts, which manage to maintain a clearance rate of between 90% and 110% long enough will eventually eliminate case backlog, a feat that is quite conceivable with improved case progression management in the respective courts. In such cases, the average time taken to dispose of cases will experience a natural decline, tapering off at a modest, tolerable rate and improving the efficiency of the courts and the enhancing the timely delivery of justice. The standard deviation of the scores was low (4 days), an indication that the individual values for the parish courts were on average close to the overall mean. The modest positive skewness shown further indicates that a slightly larger proportion of the scores fell below the overall average score.

Table 7.0: Average age of charges disposed for matters originating in the quarter ended June 30, 2018

| Parish Court | Average age of disposed charges (days) |
|---------------------------|--|
| St. Catherine | 5 |
| Manchester | 6 |
| Corporate Area Criminal | 7 |
| Portland | 8 |
| Trelawny | 8 |
| Westmoreland | 8 |
| St. Ann | 9 |
| St. Elizabeth | 9 |
| St. Mary | 10 |
| St. Thomas | 11 |
| Clarendon | 12 |
| St. James | 12 |
| Hanover | 16 |
| Overall Average | 9 |
| Standard Deviation | 3 |
| Skewness | 1 |

The above table shows that the average time taken to dispose of criminal matters in the second quarter, which were filed in the parish courts during said quarter, is 9 days or just over 1.3 weeks. In the previous quarter the average time taken was approximately 17 days or just over 2 week, hence there was an 89% reduction in the time taken to dispose of charges over the two quarters. The standard deviation of roughly 3 days is an indication that there were little variations in the distribution of the scores, which ranged from a low of roughly 5 days in the St. Catherine Parish Court to a high of 16 days for the Hanover Parish Court. It is of note that the average age of cases disposed was also under 10 days for the parish courts of Manchester, Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division, Portland, Trelawny, Westmoreland, St. Ann and St. Elizabeth. The moderate positive skewness of 1.08 is an indication that slightly more of the scores were lower than the average time to disposition. Though insightful, this data will become more meaningful as the time series for the year expands.

Table 8.0: Breakdown of time to disposition as at June 30, 2018

| Parishes | Time intervals in days | | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | 0-89 days | 90-179 days | 180-269 days | 270-364 days | 365 days and over | Frequency |
| Corporate Area Criminal | 10307 (78.0%) | 1686 (12.8%) | 694 (5.3%) | 344 (2.6%) | 181 (1.4%) | 13212 (100%) |
| St. Catherine | 7783 (77.0%) | 1255 (12.4%) | 569 (5.6%) | 287 (2.8%) | 216 (2.1%) | 10110 (100%) |
| St. James | 5113 (78.1%) | 702 (10.7%) | 298 (4.6%) | 177 (2.7%) | 259 (4.0%) | 6549 (100%) |
| Westmoreland | 3375 (77.4%) | 583 (13.4%) | 211 (4.8%) | 112 (2.6%) | 77 (1.8%) | 4358 (100%) |
| Manchester | 2626 (61.0%) | 743 (17.2%) | 482 (11.2%) | 270 (6.3%) | 187 (4.3%) | 4308 (100%) |
| St. Ann | 1994 (62.2%) | 576 (18.0%) | 225 (7.0%) | 177 (5.5%) | 235 (7.3%) | 3207 (100%) |
| St. Thomas | 1730 (62.9%) | 460 (16.7%) | 226 (8.2%) | 209 (7.6%) | 125 (4.5%) | 2750 (100%) |
| Portland | 1658 (63.1%) | 448 (17.0%) | 227 (8.6%) | 171 (6.5%) | 124 (4.7%) | 2628 (100%) |

THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S SECOND QUARTER STATISTICAL REPORT ON CRIMINAL MATTERS - PARISH COURTS OF JAMAICA

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Clarendon | 2349 (91.7%) | 114 (4.4%) | 34 (1.3%) | 15 (0.6%) | 50 (2.0%) | 2562 (100%) |
| St. Mary | 1594 (68.8%) | 361 (15.6%) | 170 (7.3%) | 112 (4.8%) | 81 (3.5%) | 2318 (100%) |
| St. Elizabeth | 1453 (66.4%) | 388 (17.7%) | 187 (8.5%) | 85 (3.9%) | 76 (3.1%) | 2189 (100%) |
| Trelawny | 1432 (71.6%) | 291 (14.5%) | 151 (7.5%) | 86 (4.3%) | 41 (2.0%) | 2001 (100%) |
| Hanover | 1436 (77.0%) | 253 (13.6%) | 101 (5.4%) | 55 (2.9%) | 21 (1.0%) | 1866 (100%) |
| % of total | 73.80 | 13.53 | 6.15 | 3.61 | 2.88 | 100 |
| Average | 3296 | 604 | 275 | 162 | 129 | 4466 |
| Standard deviation | 2799 | 432 | 191 | 97 | 79 | 3499 |
| Skewness | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

Note: The data in this table covers at least a consecutive 20 month period over September 2016 - June 30, 2018 for each parish court

The table above shows the breakdown of the time disposition for matters filed in the respective parish courts for at least 20 consecutive months over the period September 2016 to June 2018. The results shown suggests decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed in the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 74% of the disposals. Not surprisingly based on earlier narrative, the parish courts of St. James, St. Catherine, Westmoreland and the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases being disposed in under 90 days. This trend is similar to that observed in the first quarter (January-March, 2018). For the cases disposed over this sample period, the courts as a whole are performing quite creditably with the proportion of cases disposed falling incrementally as the time intervals get larger. Cumulatively, 97.09% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year and the remaining 2.88% took between a year and 23 months across the parish courts. In the previous quarter, cumulatively 89.71% of matters were disposed in less than a year while 10.29% took between a year and 23 months. From the data set, the parish courts of Manchester, St. Ann, Portland and St. Thomas had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking between a year and 23 months however, the significantly larger proportion

THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S SECOND QUARTER STATISTICAL REPORT ON CRIMINAL MATTERS - PARISH COURTS OF JAMAICA

took under a year for these courts. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample did not vary dramatically either within or across the period, particularly for the higher times to disposition. This is an indication that for disposed cases, the times taken are not markedly different across the courts. The difference however is the proportion of cases disposed, relative to the caseload, which as shown earlier, indicates that some courts are performing much better.

Table 9.0: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed as at June 30, 2018

| Parish Court | Time to disposition (in days) | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|----------|---------------|--|
| | Average | Mode | Median | Standard deviation | Skewness | Minimum | Maximum | Number of Disposed charges (sample size) |
| Clarendon | 23.62 | 0 | 0 | 72.33 | 4.35 | 0 | 607 | 2562 |
| Corporate Area Criminal | 52.41 | 0 | 0 | 87.07 | 2.21 | 0 | 514 | 13222 |
| St. Catherine | 55.74 | 0 | 0 | 98.05 | 2.36 | 0 | 633 | 10110 |
| Hanover | 56.54 | 0 | 21 | 83.94 | 2.06 | 0 | 476 | 1864 |
| Westmoreland | 57.94 | 0 | 14 | 91.16 | 2.34 | 0 | 640 | 4358 |
| St. James | 60.65 | 0 | 0 | 108.62 | 2.42 | 0 | 680 | 6549 |
| Trelawny | 68.00 | 0 | 21 | 102.25 | 1.93 | 0 | 569 | 2001 |
| St. Mary | 79.66 | 0 | 35 | 110.07 | 1.8 | 0 | 578 | 2318 |
| St. Elizabeth | 81.05 | 0 | 40 | 107.49 | 1.73 | 0 | 546 | 2189 |
| St. Thomas | 92.71 | 0 | 35 | 124.5 | 1.5 | 0 | 612 | 2750 |
| Portland | 93.82 | 0 | 39 | 127.34 | 1.63 | 0 | 638 | 2628 |
| St. Ann | 96.96 | 0 | 37 | 132.86 | 1.62 | 0 | 659 | 2307 |
| Manchester | 97.27 | 0 | 56 | 122.43 | 1.54 | 0 | 671 | 4308 |
| Total/Average | 70.49 | 0 | 22.92 | 105.23 | 2.11 | 0 | 601.76 | 57166 |
| Std. | 22.07 | 0 | 18.98 | 18.44 | 0.74 | 0 | 62.14 | 3535.60 |
| Skewness | -0.498 | 0 | 0.039 | -0.161 | 2.48 | 0 | -0.720 | 1.800 |

Number of charges sampled (N) = 57,166

Note: The data in this table covers at least a consecutive 20 month period over September 2016 - June 30, 2018 for each Parish Court

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court as at June 30, 2018. For each parish court, the estimates cover at least 20 consecutive months spanning September 2016 to June 2018 and it should be noted that these descriptive statistics are for matters disposed of over that sample period. The output reveals that overall average estimated time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Criminal Division) over the period is 70.49 days; this represents an increase of approximately 10 days over the mean for the last quarter. The skewness of these times to disposition is -0.498, suggesting that there were comparatively more times to disposition among the parish courts, which were above the overall mean. For matters disposed of in the period, the parish courts of Clarendon (24 days), the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division (52 days) and the parish courts of St. Catherine (56 days) and Hanover (56 days) take the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. Nevertheless, it is instructive that the potential is shown for a shorter than average time to disposition. The parish courts of Manchester (97 days), St. Ann (97 days) and Portland (93 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition over the period. The variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts are however wide as shown by the relatively high standard deviation (18.44), suggesting inconsistencies in performances on this measure. An important finding from these results is that in all parish courts the most frequently occurring time to disposition is 0 days (modal value), which is an indication that across the parish courts over the period sampled, a number of the cases disposed, were done on the first day of court appearance. This result is both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the high conviction rate resulting from the incidence of guilty pleas. This further suggests that mechanisms to encourage guilty pleas as seen with the 'Sentence Reduction Days' policy employed in the Supreme Court can potentially have a positive effect on improved use of judicial time and more productive courtroom utilization rates. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 474 days (16 months) in the Hanover Parish Court to a high of 680 days (22.6 months) in the St. James Parish Court. The skewness of the maximum time to disposition is moderately negative (-0.720), which is an indication

that slightly more of these times were higher than the overall mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was 57,166 charges (an increase of approximately 9,668 charges or 20.35% from the last quarter), which is statistically significant and representative.

Methods of Disposal and Criminal Conviction Rate

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposal for the quarter ended June 30, 2018

| Parish Court | Guilty Plea | Dismissed | Not guilty verdict | Transferred | Mediated settlement | Guilty verdict | Committed to circuit court | Total |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Corporate Area Criminal | 698 | 185 | 7 | 28 | 8 | 68 | | 994 |
| St Catherine | 480 | 76 | 2 | 142 | 99 | | 20 | 819 |
| St. James | 323 | | 76 | 2 | 24 | | 3 | 428 |
| Westmoreland | 211 | 170 | 29 | | | 14 | 17 | 441 |
| Manchester | 158 | 95 | 1 | | 11 | | 4 | 269 |
| St. Ann | 54 | 37 | | 12 | 2 | | | 104 |
| Clarendon | 97 | 15 | 68 | 1 | | 66 | 48 | 295 |
| St. Elizabeth | 125 | 8 | 35 | | 23 | | 26 | 217 |
| St. Thomas | 63 | 54 | | 1 | | 13 | | 131 |
| Trelawny | 80 | 12 | 48 | | 3 | 20 | | 164 |
| St. Mary | 82 | 45 | | 1 | 29 | 1 | | 158 |
| Hanover | 56 | 2 | 49 | | 6 | 8 | 1 | 122 |
| Portland | 122 | 7 | 33 | | 20 | | 2 | 185 |
| Total | 2549 | 706 | 348 | 187 | 225 | 190 | 121 | 4327 |
| Percentage of total | 58.91 | 16.32 | 8.04 | 4.32 | 5.20 | 4.39 | 2.80 | 100.00 |

Total sample size = 4327

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts for the April-June quarter 2018. From the sample, it is observed that the majority of matters disposed of during the quarter were by way of guilty plea with 58.91% of the disposals, followed by matters dismissed with 16.32% and not guilty with 8.04%. Matters transferred with 4.32%, mediated settlements with 4.39%, guilty verdicts with 2.80%, and matters committed to Circuit Court with 2.80% account for the remaining methods of disposal in the quarter. The combined

63.3% of the cases disposed by way of guilty outcomes represents the criminal conviction rate in the parish courts for the quarter. This represents a decline of 2.01 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2018.

Common Reasons for Adjournment

Table 10.0: Distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment for the quarter ended June 30, 2018

| Reasons for Adjournment/Continuance | Count | Percentage (%) |
|--|--------------|-----------------------|
| File to be completed | 495 | 12.13 |
| Re-issued application | 377 | 9.24 |
| Disclosure | 328 | 8.04 |
| Medical report unavailable | 224 | 5.49 |
| Subpoena investigating officer | 192 | 4.70 |
| Defendant Not Appearing (DNA) warrant issued | 172 | 4.21 |
| Warrant to issue | 136 | 3.33 |
| Fingerprint outstanding | 125 | 3.06 |
| Referred to other Mediation* | 119 | 2.92 |
| Transferred | 100 | 2.45 |
| Subpoena complainant | 88 | 2.16 |
| Subpoena crown witness | 84 | 2.06 |
| Social enquiry report requested | 75 | 1.84 |
| Statement outstanding | 69 | 1.69 |
| Referred to Probation | 68 | 1.67 |
| Dismissed | 64 | 1.57 |

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance = 4,082)

Note: DNA means that the accused did not appear

***Other mediation refers to mediation facilities excluding Probation and the Dispute Resolution Foundation (DRF)**

The above table shows that from a sample of 4082 incidences of reasons for adjournments/continuance in the April-June quarter across all parish courts, the largest proportion (12.13%) were because of adjournments due to incomplete files. Adjournments due to applications

reissued and those for disclosure with 377 or 9.24% and 328 or 8.04% respectively followed this.

The top five reasons for adjournment across the parish courts was rounded off by adjournments due to medical report outstanding with 224 incidences or 5.49% and subpoena of investigating officer with

192 or 4.70%. These reasons for adjournment also featured prominently in the previous quarter.

There was a reduction of in the 21.54% in the total number of cases adjourned in the second quarter, when compared to the

Table 11.0: Distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for continuance for the quarter ended June 30, 2018

| Reasons for Adjournment/Continuance | Count | Percentage |
|-------------------------------------|-------|------------|
| Sentencing | 694 | 17.00% |
| Part-heard | 15 | 0.37% |

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance = 4,082)

The analysis of adjournments makes a distinction between those incidences, which may be considered avoidable due to either internal or external factors, and those, which are intrinsic to the progression of a case. The above table highlights the primary reasons for adjournment gleaned from the sample, which may be considered as simply intrinsic to the progression of some cases. These reasons are classified as reasons for 'continuance.' As seen in the above table, adjournments for sentencing and those part-heard featured prominently among such reasons.

Table 12.0 Mention Court frequency as at June 30, 2018

| Parish Court | Number of active matters mentioned 0-5 times | Number of active matters mentioned 6-9 times | Number of active matters mentioned 10 and over times |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| St. Catherine | 13627 | 765 | 194 |
| Corporate Area Criminal | 13169 | 973 | 181 |
| St. James | 11579 | 599 | 337 |
| Clarendon | 7967 | 36 | 0 |
| St. Ann | 6135 | 318 | 120 |
| Manchester | 6112 | 636 | 178 |
| Westmoreland | 4598 | 293 | 41 |
| St. Thomas | 3218 | 53 | 7 |

THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S SECOND QUARTER STATISTICAL REPORT ON CRIMINAL MATTERS - PARISH COURTS OF JAMAICA

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Portland | 3206 | 216 | 41 |
| Trelawny | 3064 | 7 | 0 |
| St. Elizabeth | 2919 | 276 | 68 |
| St. Mary | 2812 | 551 | 159 |
| Hanover | 2253 | 118 | 26 |
| Total | 80659 | 4841 | 1352 |
| Proportion | 92.87 | 5.57 | 1.56 |

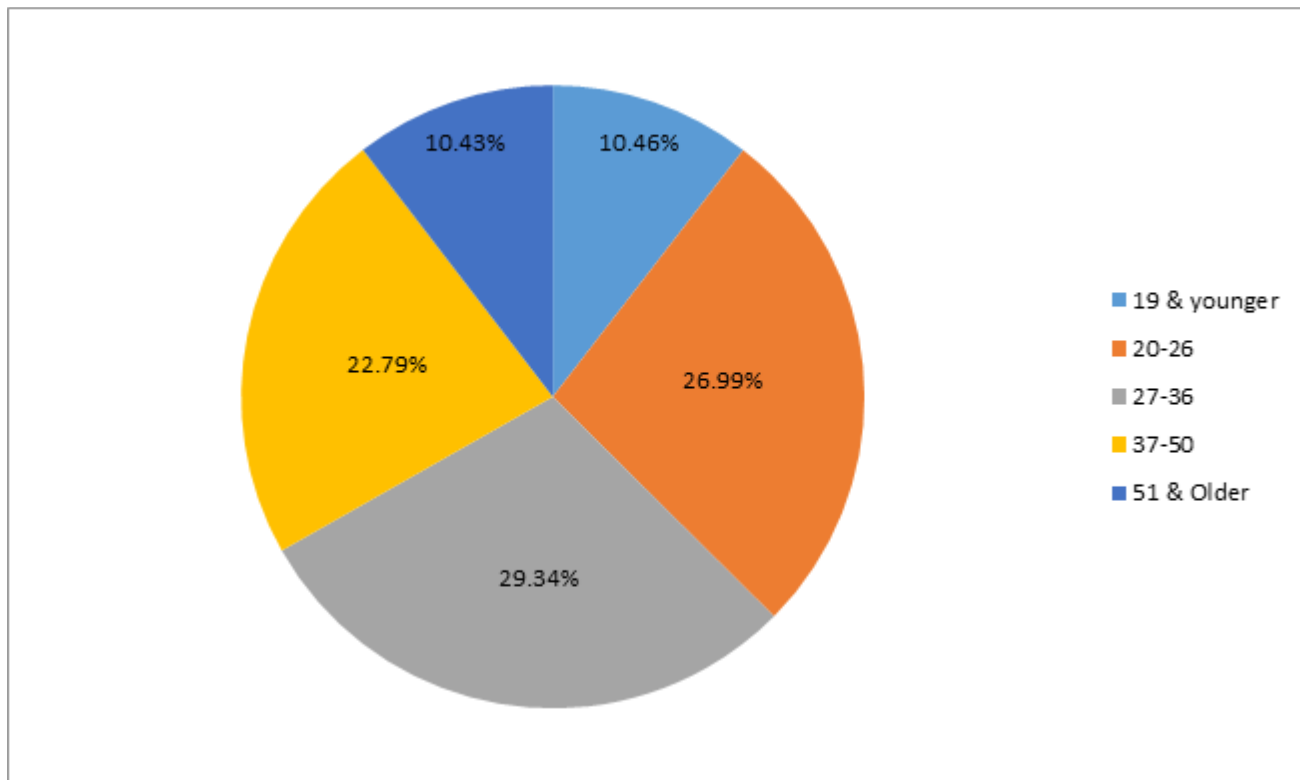
Note: The data in this table covers the period September 2016 to June 30, 2018

The table above shows the mention court frequency as at June 30, 2018. It is seen that there were 80,659 incidences (an increase of 17,197 charges or 27.09% from last quarter) of the active charges with a mention court frequency of 0-5 times; 4,841 incidences or 5.34% (an increase of 1,206 incidences or 33.17% from last quarter) with mention court frequency of 6-9 times. While the remaining 1,352 or 1.56% (an increase of 469 incidences or 53.11%) was mentioned 10 and over times. This represents a total mention court frequency of 86,852 (an increase of 18,872 or 27.76% from the previous quarter) which translates into a court-wide average of roughly two mentions per case file over the period. However, the variances in the average overall mention court frequency among the courts and by case, types are wide, ranging from a low of two to a high of five mentions per case file. The overall range observed over the period is consistent with the International standards.

Chapter 2.0: Criminal case demographics, courtroom/outstation utilization and offence distribution for the quarter ended June 30, 2018.

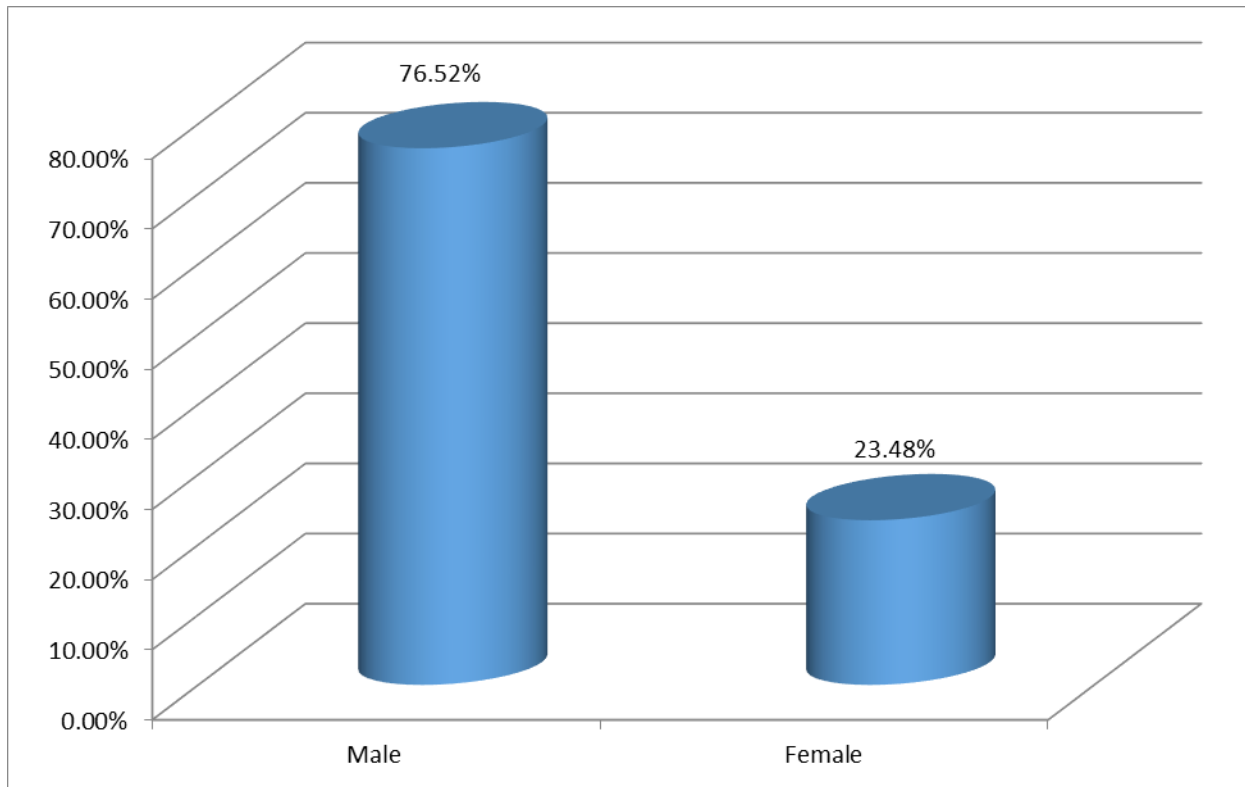
This Chapter of the report outlines a range of measures on case demographics, including gender and age distribution as well as the distribution of the most frequently occurring charges in the second quarter of 2018. Additionally, this chapter highlights the caseload distribution by courtrooms and outstations in the various parishes as well as of the distribution of charges filed by the police stations of origin.

Chart 1.0: Aggregate age distribution of offenders for all parish courts for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



The above chart shows that of the total number of offenders, for which age data was readily available for the April to June quarter, 2018; the largest proportion, 29.34% were from the 27-36 age cohorts. This category is followed by the 20-26 age group with 26.99%, the 37-50 age group with 22.79% and the youngest age cohorts 19 years and younger accounting for 10.46%. The oldest age cohort in the distribution accounted for the lowest proportions with the 51 and over category accounting for 10.43% and of total offenders.

Chart 2.0: Aggregate gender distribution of offenders for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



The above chart shows that the overwhelming majority of offenders for the April to June quarter, 2018 were male, accounting for roughly 76.52% of the total while females accounted for approximately 23.48%. The gender distribution of offenders for the first quarter was quite similar to this breakdown for second quarter with approximately 82.62% to 17.37% male to female ratio.

Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender for the quarter ended June 30, 2018

| | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|--|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|------|
| Charge | Count | % | Count | % | Count | % |
| Assault occasioning actual bodily harm | 1049 | 76.57% | 321 | 23.43% | 1370 | 100% |
| Unlawful wounding | 773 | 75.41% | 252 | 24.59% | 1025 | 100% |
| Armed with an offensive weapon | 592 | 93.23% | 43 | 6.77% | 635 | 100% |

THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S SECOND QUARTER STATISTICAL REPORT ON CRIMINAL MATTERS - PARISH COURTS OF JAMAICA

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----|--------|-----|--------|-----|------|
| Threat | 483 | 77.65% | 139 | 22.35% | 622 | 100% |
| Malicious destruction of property | 434 | 74.19% | 151 | 25.81% | 585 | 100% |
| Exposing goods for sale | 368 | 74.34% | 127 | 25.66% | 495 | 100% |
| Possession of ganja | 301 | 81.35% | 69 | 18.65% | 370 | 100% |
| Disorderly conduct | 209 | 65.72% | 109 | 34.28% | 318 | 100% |
| Dealing in ganja | 249 | 81.37% | 57 | 18.63% | 306 | 100% |
| Littering | 208 | 97.20% | 6 | 2.80% | 214 | 100% |
| Indecent language | 144 | 73.85% | 51 | 26.15% | 195 | 100% |
| Simple larceny | 165 | 85.49% | 28 | 14.51% | 193 | 100% |
| Assault at common law | 161 | 84.74% | 29 | 15.26% | 190 | 100% |
| Resisting arrest | 153 | 80.95% | 36 | 19.05% | 189 | 100% |
| Sexual intercourse with a person under 16 | 177 | 97.79% | 4 | 2.21% | 181 | 100% |
| Illegal possession of firearm | 148 | 94.27% | 9 | 5.73% | 157 | 100% |
| Rape | 139 | 100.0% | 0 | 0.00% | 139 | 100% |
| Smoking in a Public Place | 126 | 94.03% | 8 | 5.97% | 134 | 100% |
| Possession of identity information | 115 | 94.26% | 7 | 5.74% | 122 | 100% |
| Robbery with aggravation | 98 | 95.15% | 5 | 4.85% | 103 | 100% |
| Murder | 83 | 96.51% | 3 | 3.49% | 86 | 100% |

*****The gender of offenders was not available for every matter that was filed in the parish courts N = 11,574**

The above table provides a sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender in the quarter ended June 30, 2018. Based on the data shown in chart 2.0, it is not surprising that males account for the dominant proportion of all these charges. Among the offences listed with the greatest imbalance in the gender distribution are rape, sexual intercourse with a person under 16, robbery with aggravation, littering, possession of an offensive weapon and murder for which over 93% of the offenders were male. Exposing good for sale, indecent language, malicious destruction of property and disorderly conduct saw the highest incidences of female involvement among the offences that appeared most frequently.

Table 13.1: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges across the parish courts for the quarter ended June 30, 2018

| Charge | Count | Percentage (%) |
|--|-------|----------------|
| Assault occasioning actual bodily harm | 1392 | 11.75 |
| Unlawful wounding | 1041 | 8.79 |
| Threat | 639 | 5.39 |
| Malicious destruction of property | 574 | 4.85 |
| Exposing goods for sale | 477 | 4.03 |
| Possession of ganja | 380 | 3.21 |
| Armed with an offensive weapon | 373 | 3.15 |
| Possession of offensive weapon | 339 | 2.86 |
| Disorderly conduct | 325 | 2.74 |
| Dealing in ganja | 313 | 2.64 |
| Littering | 215 | 1.81 |

The above table shows the distribution of the eleven most commonly occurring types of charges across all parish courts for the second quarter of 2018. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 1392 or 11.75% of the total number of charges is the most frequently occurring. This was followed by unlawful wounding with 1041 or 8.79% and threats with 639 or 5.39%. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property with 574 or 4.03% and exposing goods for sale with 477 or 4.03% of the total count of charges filed in the parish courts during the quarter.

These eleven most frequently occurring types of charges account for approximately 51% of the total incidence of charges in the quarter.

Table 14.1: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Westmoreland for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Courtroom/ Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the Quarter | Number of Cases disposed (of those originating in the quarter) | Number of inactive cases (of those originating in the month) | Proportion of new cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|---|---|--|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Courtroom#1 (main court) | 217 | 83 | 13 | 38.07 | 44.24 |
| Night Court (main court) | 207 | 169 | 22 | 36.32 | 92.27 |
| Whithorn Outstation | 56 | 30 | 1 | 9.82 | 55.36 |
| Petty Session (main court) | 38 | 8 | 12 | 6.67 | 52.36 |
| Whithorn Outstation (Petty Session) | 8 | 1 | 4 | 1.40 | 62.50 |
| Courtroom#2 (main court) | 37 | 7 | - | 6.49 | 18.92 |
| Courtroom#3 (main court) | 7 | 5 | - | 1.22 | 71.43 |
| Total/Average | 570 | 303 | 52 | 99.99 | 62.28 |

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2018 at the Westmoreland Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish, and outlines the applicable disposal rates. The table separates Petty Session and Night Court matters heard in each of the relevant locations, for ease of comparison.

The data shows decisively that matters entered in courtroom number 1 and the Night Court in Savanna La Mar accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 217

(38.07%) and 207 (36.32%) matters respectively. This showed an increase of 18 cases or 8.29 percentage points above the 199 cases heard in courtroom 1 and 71 cases or 52.21% above the 136 cases heard in night court in Savanna La Mar in the previous quarter ended March 31, 2018. The Whithorn Outstation with 56 or 9.82% of the new matters heard in the parish ranks next, an increase of 10 cases or 21.74 percentage points when compared to the previous quarter. In terms of cases disposed, the Night Court sittings in Savanna La Mar accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed and had the highest disposal rate for the current quarter and the previous quarter with rates of 92.27% and 94.85% respectively, representing a 2.58% decline over the two quarters. Courtroom 3 with a disposal rate of 71.43% and the Whithorn outstation with a rate of 62.50% rounds off the highest disposal rates. The single outstation in Westmoreland accounted for 11.22% of the total number of new cases heard in the quarter, with the main courthouse accounting for the remaining 88.78%.

Table 14.2: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Corporate Area for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Courtroom/Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the Quarter | Number of cases disposed (of those originating in the quarter) | Number of inactive cases (of those originating in the month) | Proportion of total new Cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|---|---|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Courtroom #2 (main court) | 1119 | 534 | 285 | 73.38 | 73.19 |
| Petty Session Court (main court) | 117 | 46 | 33 | 7.67 | 67.52 |
| Night Court (main court) | 67 | 12 | 8 | 4.39 | 29.85 |
| Courtroom #1 (main court) | 49 | 12 | - | 3.21 | 24.49 |
| Courtroom #4 (main court) | 27 | 9 | - | 1.77 | 33.33 |
| Courtroom #6 (main court) | 19 | 0 | 1 | 1.25 | 5.26 |
| Courtroom #3 (main court) | 38 | 2 | 2 | 2.49 | 10.53 |
| Gordon Town outstation | 13 | 3 | 1 | 0.85 | 30.77 |
| Courtroom #5 (main court) | 11 | 4 | 0 | 0.72 | 36.36 |
| Courtroom #7 (main court) | 22 | 1 | 1 | 1.44 | 9.09 |
| Drug Court (main court) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0.66 | 0 |
| Plea and Case Management Court (main court) | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0.46 | 0 |
| Courtroom # 8 (main court) | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0.26 | 75 |
| Fast Track Court | 21 | 11 | 0 | 1.38 | 52.38 |
| Total/Average | 1525 | 637 | 332 | 100 | 63.48 |

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2018 at the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish, and outlines the applicable disposal rates. It is seen that courtroom number two accounts for the highest proportion of new cases filed in the quarter with 73.38% of the total. The Petty Sessions Court with roughly 7.7% follows this and the Night Court with 5.05%, rounding off the top three accommodations for new cases filed in the quarter. Similarly, in the first quarter courtroom, 1 had the highest proportion of new cases with 72.79% of the total and Petty Session Court and Night court rounded off the top three with approximately 7% and 4.89% respectively. In terms of disposal rates, the data also shows that courtroom number 2 with a disposal rate of 73.19% and Petty Session outstation with 67.52% account for the highest disposal rates. However, in the previous quarter Courtroom number 2 and Gordon Town outstation accounted for the highest disposal rates of 69.67% and 53.57% respectively. Courtroom number 2 increased by a percentage point of 3.52%. Courtroom number 5 with 36.36% rounds off the top three rates of disposal over the period. Courtroom number 2 accounts for the largest absolute share of cases disposed in the quarter with 534 matters, however there as a decrease of 46 matters or 7.93% compared to the 580 matters disposed of in the Jan.-Mar. 2018 quarter. The main courthouse in Half Way Tree accounted for 97.8% of the total number of new matters heard in the second quarter compared to the 98.3% recorded in the first quarter.

Table 14.3: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. James for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Courtroom/Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the quarter | Number of cases disposed (of those originating in the quarter) | Number of inactive cases (of those originating in the month) | Proportion of total new cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Courtroom#2 (main court) | 212 | 186 | 24 | 50.24 | 99.06 |
| Courtroom#4(main court) | 49 | 16 | 33 | 11.61 | 100 |
| Courtroom #3 (main court) | 37 | 33 | 4 | 8.77 | 100 |
| Cambridge Outstation | 19 | 8 | 4 | 4.50 | 63.15 |
| Courtroom#1(main court) | 105 | 92 | 13 | 24.88 | 100 |
| *Total/Average | 422 | 335 | 78 | 100.00 | 97.87 |

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2018 at the St. James Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish, and outlines the disposal rates of the various courtrooms and outstations. Courtroom 2 had the largest amount of new cases filed with 212 cases, a decrease of 33.49% from the 283 cases filed in the first quarter. The sample also shows that, courtroom number 2 at the main court in Montego Bay accounts for the highest share of new cases heard with 50.24%, followed by courtrooms number 1 and 4 with 24.88% and 11.61% respectively of the total number. Cambridge outstation has a substantially higher disposal rate in this quarter of 63.15% compared to the 38.46% recorded in the previous quarter. The main courthouse in Montego Bay accounts for 95.50% of the new cases heard in the quarter, 1.19% lower than the 96.69% recorded in the first quarter.

Table 14.4: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Catherine for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Courtroom/Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the quarter | Number of cases disposed (of those originating in the quarter) | Number of inactive cases (of those originating in the month) | Proportion of new Cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|--|---|---|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Courtroom#1 (main court) | 487 | 229 | 35 | 45.39 | 54.21 |
| Linstead Outstation courtroom #1 | 242 | 136 | 16 | 22.55 | 62.81 |
| Old Harbour Outstation | 62 | 33 | 1 | 5.78 | 54.84 |
| Petty Session (Main Court) | 63 | 3 | 26 | 5.87 | 46.03 |
| Courtroom#2 (main court) | 61 | 27 | 8 | 5.68 | 57.38 |
| Portmore Outstation | 58 | 6 | 3 | 5.41 | 15.52 |
| Courtroom#4 (main court) | 15 | 6 | 0 | 1.40 | 40.00 |
| Portmore Outstation (Night Court) | 22 | 14 | 3 | 2.05 | 77.27 |
| Linstead Outstation courtroom#2 | 21 | 3 | 3 | 1.96 | 28.57 |
| Courtroom#3 (main court) | 15 | 5 | 0 | 1.39 | 33.33 |
| Old Harbour Outstation (Petty Session) | 6 | 1 | 1 | 0.56 | 33.33 |
| Courtroom#5 (main court) | 21 | 8 | 0 | 1.96 | 38.10 |
| Total/Average | 1073 | 471 | 96 | 100 | 52.84 |

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2018 at the St. Catherine Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish, and outlines the applicable disposal rates. The table separates Petty Session and Night Court matters for the relevant locations for ease of comparisons. The data shows decisively that

matters entered in Courtroom number 1 at the main court in Spanish Town and the Linstead outstation (courtroom #1) accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 45.39% and 22.55% respectively. Petty sessions at the main court with 5.87% of the new cases heard ranks next. In terms of cases disposed. Courtroom#1 (main court) accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 229 matters and had the fifth highest disposal rate of 54.21%, while in the previous quarter the Linstead Outstation (courtroom#1) had the highest number of matters disposed with 192 cases. The Night Court at the Portmore Outstation has the highest disposal rate with 77.27%, a decline of 7.73 percentage points from the 85% recorded in the previous quarter. The Linstead Outstation (courtroom 2) and Courtroom #2 at the main court followed with disposal rates of 62.81% and 57.38% respectively. Evidently, the outstations in St. Catherine not only carry a significant new caseload but also appear to be relatively productive with the disposition of cases. The main courthouse in Spanish Town accounted for 61.69% of the total number of new cases heard in the quarter and the outstations combined accounted for the remaining 38.31%.

14.5: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Thomas for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the quarter | Number of cases disposed (of those originating in the quarter) | Number of inactive cases (of those originating in the month) | Proportion of new Cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Courtroom#1 (main court) | 153 | 65 | 4 | 59.30 | 45.10 |
| Yallahs Outstation | 64 | 25 | 2 | 24.81 | 42.19 |
| Children's Court | 22 | 2 | 1 | 8.53 | 13.64 |
| Courtroom#2 (main court) | 14 | 2 | 4 | 5.43 | 42.86 |
| Night Court (main court) | 5 | - | - | - | - |
| Yallahs outstation (Petty Session) | 64 | - | - | - | - |
| Total/Average | 258 | 94 | 11 | | 40.70 |

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2018 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The data shows decisively that matters entered in Courtroom number 1 at the main court in Morant Bay and the Yallahs Outstation accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 59.30% and 24.81% respectively. Courtroom number 1 accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 65 matters and the third highest disposal rate of 42.19%. Courtroom number 1 at the main court and Courtroom 2 with disposal rates of 45.10% and 42.86% respectively accounts for the first and third highest disposal rates respectively. The main courthouse in Morant Bay accounted for 75.19% of the total number of new cases heard in quarter.

Table 14.6: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Trelawny for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Courtroom/Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the quarter | Number of cases disposed (of those originating in the quarter) | Number of inactive cases (of those originating in the month) | Proportion of total new cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Falmouth Court | 130 | 67 | - | 45.94 | 51.54 |
| Ulster Spring outstation | 60 | 26 | - | 21.20 | 45.33 |
| Clarks Town (Children's Court) | 12 | 3 | - | 4.24 | 25 |
| Falmouth (Petty Session) | 17 | 1 | 3 | 6.01 | 23.53 |
| Courtroom#1 (main court) | 14 | 5 | - | 4.95 | 35.71 |
| Ulster Spring (Petty Session) | 8 | 5 | - | 2.83 | 62.5 |
| Clarks Town (Petty Session) | 4 | - | - | 1.41 | - |
| Falmouth (Night Court) | 3 | 1 | - | 1.06 | 33.33 |
| Clarks Town Outstation (Courtroom #1) | 35 | 19 | - | 12.37 | 54.29 |
| Total/Average | 283 | 127 | 3 | | 45.94 |

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2018 at the Trelawny Parish Court. The data shows decisively that matters entered in the Falmouth court and the Ulster Spring Outstation accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 45.94% and 21.20% respectively of the total. This represents a decrease of 15.95 percentage points for the Falmouth court when compared to the 61.89% recorded in the previous quarter while on the contrary it shows a significant increase of 10.83 percentage points for the Ulster Spring outstation when compared to the 10.37 recorded in the previous quarter. The Falmouth Court accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 67 matters and one of the highest disposal rates. Although the absolute numbers are proportionately low, the petty session

THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S SECOND QUARTER STATISTICAL REPORT ON CRIMINAL MATTERS - PARISH COURTS OF JAMAICA

sittings in Clarks Town and Falmouth Night Court rank among the highest disposal rates for the parish in the quarter with 54.29% and 33.33% respectively. The outstations account for 33.57% of the new cases heard in the quarter.

Table 14.7: Aggregate case statistics for each outstation in the Parish of St. Mary for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Courtroom/Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the quarter | Number of Cases disposed (of Those originating in the quarter) | Number of inactive cases (of those originating in the month) | Proportion of total new Cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|--|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Courtroom#1 (main court) | 105 | 32 | 9 | 33.54 | 39.04 |
| Courtroom#2 (main court) | 33 | 7 | 1 | 10.54 | 24.24 |
| Annotto Bay Outstation | 58 | 25 | 4 | 18.53 | 50 |
| Petty Session (main court) | 33 | - | 13 | 4.15 | 39.39 |
| Night Court (main court) | 21 | 8 | 1 | 6.71 | 42.86 |
| Richmond Outstation | 25 | 5 | 3 | 7.99 | 32 |
| Children's Court | 14 | - | - | 4.47 | - |
| Gayle Outstation | 20 | 8 | - | 6.39 | 40 |
| Richmond Outstation (Petty Session) | 1 | 0 | - | 0.32 | - |
| Annotto Bay Outstation (Petty Session) | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.64 | 50 |
| Gayle Outstation (Petty Session) | 1 | 0 | - | - | - |
| Total/Average | 313 | 85 | 32 | | 37.38 |

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Mary in the second quarter ended June 30, 2018. The data shows decisively that courtrooms number 1 and Annotto Bay Outstation account for the highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 33.54% and 18.53% respectively of the total. Courtroom 2 with 10.54% of the new cases heard in the quarter rank next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Port Maria accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 32, a marginal increase of 2 matters or 6.67% when compared to the previous quarter. This courtroom also had the fourth highest case disposal rate. The Annotto Bay outstation and the Night Court in Port Maria with disposal rates of 50% and 42.86% respectively also rank among the top three disposal rates. The outstations in the parish account for a combined 33.87% of the total number of new cases heard in the quarter, marking an increase of 7.87 percentage points above the previous quarter. On the other hand, the main courthouse accounts for roughly 65.81% a decline of 8.19 percentage points compared to the first quarter.

Table 14.8: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Portland for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Courtroom/Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the quarter | Number of cases disposed (of those originating in the quarter) | Number of inactive cases (of those originating in the month) | Proportion of new cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Courtroom#1 (main court) | 256 | 69 | 24 | 65.98 | 36.33 |
| Buff Bay Outstation | 76 | 32 | 9 | 19.59 | 53.95 |
| Manchioneal Outstation | 36 | 21 | 1 | 9.28 | 61.11 |
| Children's Court | 13 | 5 | - | 3.35 | 38.46 |
| Courtroom#2 (main court) | 4 | 3 | - | 1.03 | 75 |
| Courtroom#3 (main court) | 3 | 1 | - | 0.77 | 33.33 |
| Total/Average | 388 | 131 | 34 | | 42.53 |

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Portland in the second quarter ended June 30, 2018. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the main court in Port Antonio accounts for the highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 65.98% of the total, a 5.49 percentage points increase above the 60.49% recorded in the previous quarter. The Buff Bay and Manchioneal Outstations with 19.59% and 9.28% respectively of the total number of the new cases heard in the quarter rank next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Port Antonio accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 69 matters, an increase of 17 matters or 32.69% compared to the 52 matters recorded in the previous quarter. This courtroom also had the fifth highest case disposal rate of 36.33%. Courtroom 2 with a disposal rate of 75%

and the Manchioneal Outstation with a rate of 61.11% are the top two on this measure. The outstations in Portland account for a combined 28.86% of the new cases heard, a marginal decrease of 2.61 percentage points below the 31.47% recorded in the first quarter. The main courthouse in Port Antonio accounts for the remaining 71.13%, an increase of 2.60 percentage points above the 68.53% recorded in the previous quarter.

Table 14.9: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Hanover for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Courtroom/Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the quarter | Number of Cases disposed (of Those originating in the quarter) | Number of cases inactive (of those originating in the month) | Proportion of new cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|---|---|---|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Courtroom #1 (main court) | 88 | 42 | - | 40.55 | 47.73 |
| Sandy Bay Outstation #1 | 38 | 20 | - | 17.51 | 52.63 |
| Green Island (Night Court) | 29 | 14 | - | 13.36 | 48.28 |
| Petty Session (main court) | 9 | - | - | 4.15 | - |
| Ramble Outstation (Courtroom #1) | 22 | 13 | - | 10.14 | 59.09 |
| Sandy Bay (Petty Session) | 10 | 1 | - | 4.61 | 10.00 |
| Courtroom #2 (main court) | 11 | 6 | - | 5.07 | 54.55 |
| Green Island Outstation (Petty Session) | 8 | 1 | - | 3.69 | 12.5 |
| Ramble Outstation (Petty Session) | 2 | - | - | 0.92 | - |
| Total/Average | 217 | 97 | - | | 44.70 |

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Hanover in the second quarter ended June 30, 2018. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the main court in Lucea accounts for the highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 40.55% of the total. Courtroom number 1 at the Sandy Bay Outstation and the Night Court in Green Island with 17.51% and 13.36% respectively rank next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Lucea accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 42 but had the fifth highest case disposal rate of 47.73%, an increase of 2.68 percentage points above the 45.05% recorded in the previous quarter. The Ramble outstation recorded the leading disposal rate of 59.09%. Courtroom 2 at the main court in Lucea and the Sandy Bay outstation recorded disposal rates of 54.55% and 52.63% respectively and were among the top five disposal rates. The outstations in the parish account for roughly 35.26% of the new cases heard during the quarter while the main courthouse accounts for the remaining 67.74%.

Table 14.10: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Elizabeth for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Courtroom/Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the quarter | Number of cases disposed (of those originating in the quarter) | Number of inactive cases (of those originating in the month) | Proportion of new cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|---|---|---|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Santa Cruz Outstation (Courtroom number #1) | 136 | 56 | 12 | 37.57 | 50.00 |
| Courtroom#2 (main court) | 7 | 4 | - | 1.94 | 57.14 |
| Santa Cruz Outstation (Courtroom #2) | 54 | 16 | 2 | 14.92 | 33.33 |
| Balaclava (Courtroom #1) | 38 | 8 | - | 10.50 | 21.05 |
| Santa Cruz (Petty Session) | 21 | 2 | 4 | 5.80 | 28.57 |
| Courtroom #1 (main court) | 70 | 29 | 1 | 19.34 | 42.85 |
| Santa Cruz (Children's Court) | 10 | 2 | - | 2.76 | 20 |
| Balaclava (Courtroom #2) | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1.38 | 40 |
| Petty Session (main court) | 16 | - | 3 | 4.42 | 18.75 |
| Balaclava Outstation (Children's Court) | 2 | - | - | 0.55 | - |
| Balaclava (Petty Session) | 3 | - | 2 | 0.83 | 66.67 |
| Total/Average | 362 | 118 | 25 | | 39.50 |

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Elizabeth in the second quarter ended June

30, 2018. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the Santa Cruz outstation accounted for highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 37.57% of the total. Courtroom number 1 at the main court in Black River and courtroom number 2 at the Santa Cruz outstation accounts for the next highest shares of new cases heard in the quarter with 19.34% and 14.92% respectively of the total. In terms of cases disposed, Petty Sessions in Balaclava accounts for the highest case disposal rate of 66.67%, while Courtroom number 1 at the Santa Cruz outstation recorded the highest disposal rate of 47.22% in the previous quarter. Courtroom 2 at the main court in Black River and Courtroom number 1 at the Santa Cruz outstation had the next highest disposal rates in the quarter with 57.14% and 50% respectively. The Santa Cruz outstation accounts for the highest proportion of new cases heard in the quarter with 61.60% while the main courthouse in Black River accounts for roughly 25.69%. The remaining 12.71% is accounted for the other outstation courts.

Table 14.11: Aggregate case statistics for each outstation in the Parish of St. Ann for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Courtroom/Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the quarter | Number of cases disposed (of those originating in the quarter) | Number of inactive cases (of those originating in the month) | Proportion of new cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| ST.ANN'S BAY | | | | | |
| Courtroom #1 (main court) | 256 | 51 | 25 | 43.61 | 29.69 |
| Petty Session (main court) | 91 | 7 | 19 | 15.50 | 28.57 |
| Claremont Outstation (Petty Session) | 8 | 1 | - | 1.36 | 12.5 |
| Children's Court - Claremont | 9 | 3 | - | 1.53 | 33.33 |
| Claremont outstation | 20 | 2 | - | 3.41 | 10 |

**THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S SECOND QUARTER STATISTICAL REPORT ON CRIMINAL MATTERS -
PARISH COURTS OF JAMAICA**

| BROWNS TOWN | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|------------|-----------|-------|--------------|
| Courtroom #1 | 152 | 42 | 17 | 25.89 | 38.81 |
| Petty Session | 42 | 2 | 9 | 7.16 | 26.19 |
| Children's Court | 9 | 3 | - | 1.53 | 33.33 |
| | | | | | |
| Total/Average | 587 | 111 | 70 | | 30.83 |

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Ann in the second quarter ended June 30, 2018. The data shows that courtroom 1 in both St. Ann's Bay (the main court) and Browns Town account for the largest shares of new cases heard in the quarter with 43.61% and 25.89% respectively of the total. In the previous quarter Courtroom 1 in St. Ann's Bay and courtroom 1 in Browns Town accounted for 51.04% and 20.14%, this showed a decline of 7.43 percentage points for courtroom number 1 in St. Ann's Bay and an increase of 5.75% for courtroom number 1 in Brown's Town. The Petty Session Court in St. Ann's Bay accounts for the third largest share of new cases heard, similar to the first quarter, with 15.50%. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 at the St. Ann's Bay Parish Court accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 51 matters and had the fourth highest case disposal rate of 29.69%. Matters heard in Courtroom number 1 in Brown's Town with a 38.81% disposal rate and Children's Court in the Claremont outstation and Browns Town with a rate of 33.33% accounts for the highest disposal rates in the quarter. As a whole, the Brown's Town court accounted for approximately 34.58% of the new cases filed in the parish of St. Ann during the quarter, an increase of 4.58 percentage points above the 30% recorded in quarter one. The St. Ann's Bay courthouse accounts for 65.42% of the new cases heard in the quarter, an increase of 2.42 percentage points over the 63% recorded in the previous quarter. The outstations apart from Brown's Town account for approximately 7.29% of the total number of new cases filed.

Table 14.12: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom/outstation in the Parish of Clarendon for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Courtroom/Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the quarter | Number of cases disposed (of those originating in the quarter) | Number of inactive cases (of those originating in the month) | Proportion of total new cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Courtroom#1 (main court) | 144 | 56 | 7 | 28.29 | 43.75 |
| Lionel Town outstation | 69 | 20 | 4 | 13.56 | 34.78 |
| Courtroom#2 (main court) | 75 | 40 | 7 | 14.73 | 62.67 |
| Chapleton outstation | 58 | 22 | 1 | 11.39 | 39.66 |
| Courtroom#3 (main Court) | 25 | 14 | - | 4.91 | 56.00 |
| Petty Session (main court) | 65 | 23 | 6 | 12.77 | 44.62 |
| Children's Court (main court) | 26 | 1 | 2 | 5.11 | 11.54 |
| Frankfield Outstation | 21 | 6 | - | 4.13 | 28.57 |
| Night Court (main court) | 26 | 18 | - | 5.11 | 69.23 |
| Total/Average | 509 | 200 | 27 | | 44.60 |

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Clarendon in the second quarter ended June 30, 2018. The available data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 in May Pen accounted for highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 28.29% of the total. Courtroom number 2 in May Pen and the Lionel Town outstation accounts for the next highest shares of new cases heard in the quarter with 14.73% and 13.56% respectively of the total. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in May Pen accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 56 matters and had the fifth highest case disposal rate of

**THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S SECOND QUARTER STATISTICAL REPORT ON CRIMINAL MATTERS -
PARISH COURTS OF JAMAICA**

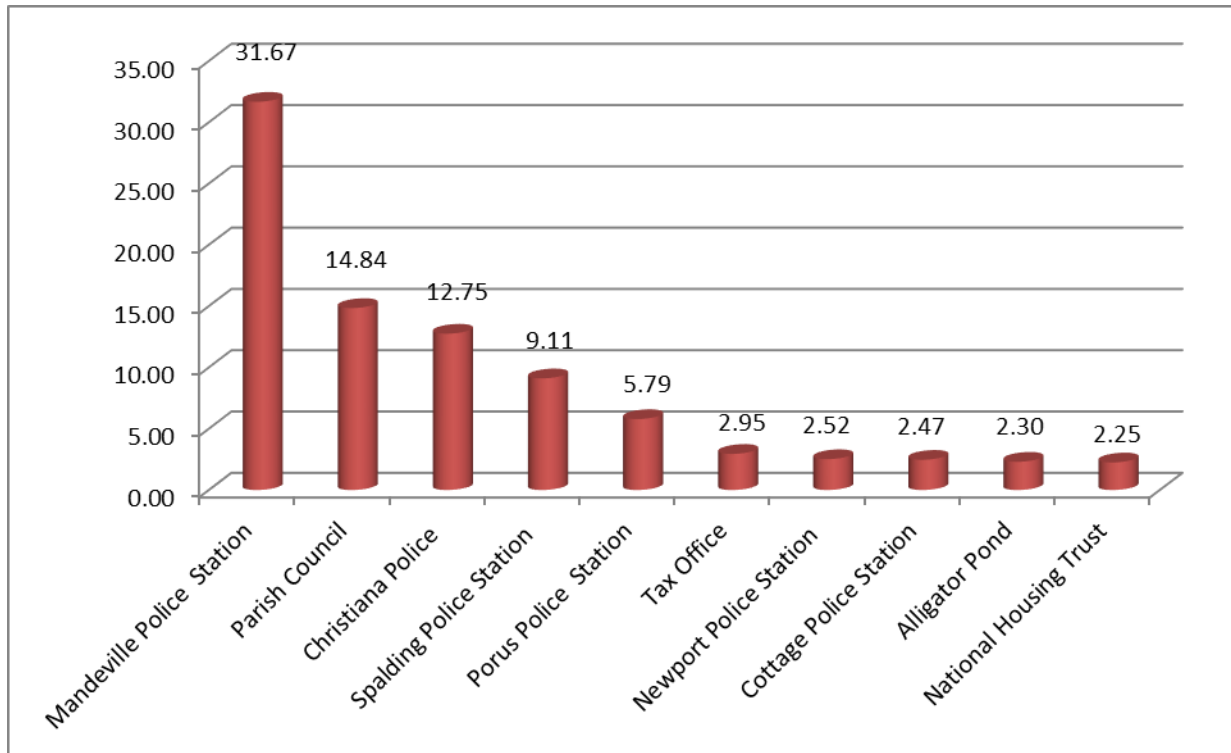
43.75%. Night court sittings with a disposal rate of 69.23% and Courtroom number 2 in May Pen with a disposal rate of 62.67% had the highest disposal rates in the parish in the second quarter. An estimated 29.08% of new cases heard in Clarendon during the first quarter occurred in the outstation locations with the remaining 70.92% taking place in the main court in May Pen.

Table 13.13: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Manchester for the quarter of ended June 30, 2018

| Courtroom/Outstation | Number of new cases filed in the quarter | Number of cases disposed (of those originating in the quarter) | Number of inactive cases(of those originating in the month) | Proportion of total new cases (%) | Case Disposal Rate (%) |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|-------------------------------|
| Courtroom#1 (main court) | 85 | 20 | 10 | 15.21 | 35.29 |
| Courtroom#2 (main court) | 81 | 26 | 2 | 14.49 | 34.57 |
| Petty Session (main court) | 143 | 76 | 16 | 25.58 | 64.34 |
| Christiana Outstation | 51 | 16 | 1 | 9.12 | 33.33 |
| Spalding Outstation | 32 | 2 | - | 5.72 | 6.25 |
| Christiana (Petty Session) | 26 | 9 | 4 | 4.65 | 50 |
| Tax Court (main court) | 17 | 8 | 1 | 3.04 | 52.94 |
| Porus (main court) | 19 | 7 | 1 | 3.40 | 42.11 |
| Cross Keys (main court) | 18 | 4 | 1 | 3.22 | 27.78 |
| Spalding(Petty Session) | 10 | 1 | 2 | 1.79 | 30 |
| Porus (Children's Court) | 13 | - | - | 2.33 | - |
| Cottage Outstation | 15 | 5 | - | 2.68 | 30 |
| Porus (Petty Session) | 5 | 2 | - | 0.89 | 40 |
| Courtroom #3 (main court) | 17 | 5 | - | 3.04 | 29.41 |
| Cross Keys Outstation (Petty Session) | 5 | - | - | 0.89 | - |
| Children's Court (main court) | 7 | - | - | 1.25 | - |
| Night Court (main court) | 12 | 2 | - | 2.15 | 16.67 |
| Cottage (Petty Session) | 3 | - | - | 0.54 | |
| Total/Average | 559 | 183 | 38 | | 39.53 |

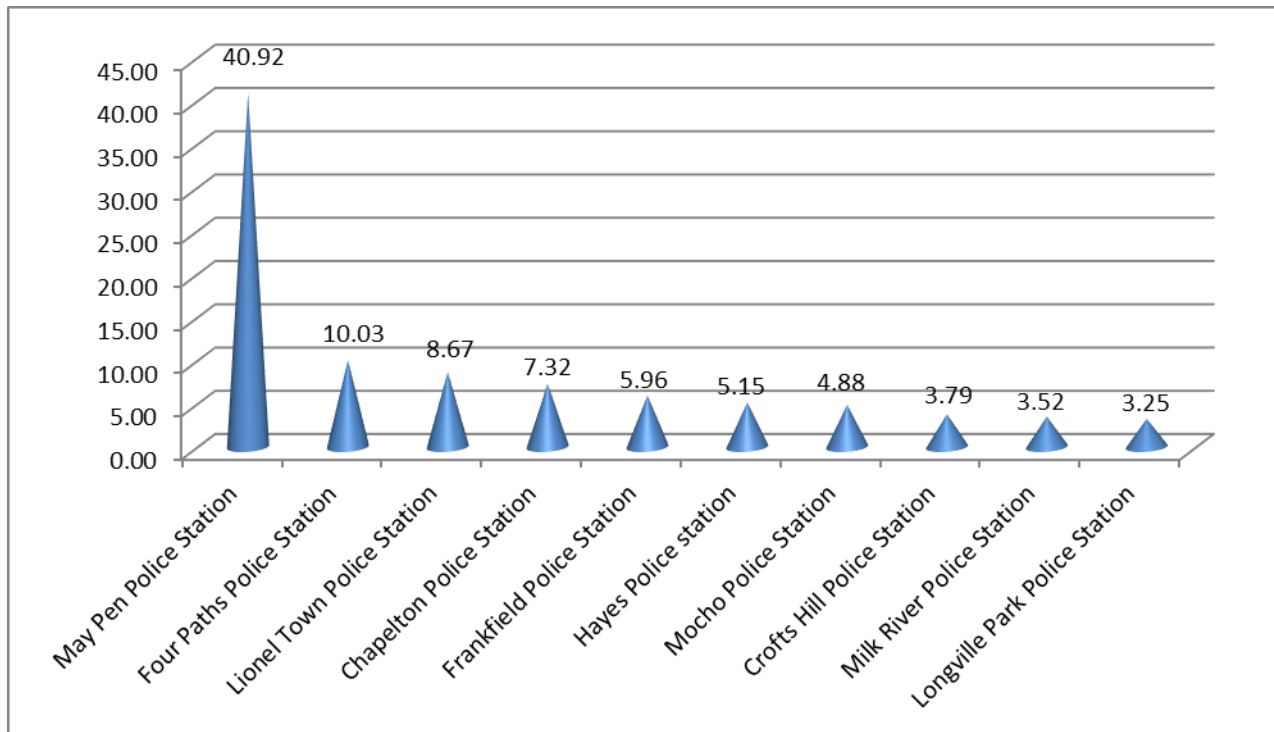
The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Manchester in the second quarter ended June 30, 2018. The data shows that Petty session main court accounted for highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 25.58% of the total. Courtroom number 1 and Courtroom number 2 accounts for the next highest shares of new cases heard in the quarter with 15.21% and 14.49% respectively of the total. There was a decrease of 4.88 and 2.67 percentage points for new matters heard in courtroom 1 and courtroom 2 respectively. In terms of cases disposed, Petty Session sittings at the main court in Mandeville accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 76 matters, 22 matters or 40.74% above the 54 matters recorded in the previous quarter and had the highest case disposal rate of roughly 64.34%, 2.3 percentage points higher than the 62.04% recorded in the first quarter. Petty Session sittings in May Pen with a disposal rate of 64.34% and the Tax Court with a disposal rate of 52.94% had the highest disposal rates in the parish. The main courthouse in Mandeville accounts for 71.38% of the total number of new cases heard in the quarter, an increase of 3.68 percentage points above the 67.70% recorded in the first quarter. The remaining 28.62% were accounted for by the various outstations. This however showed a decline of 3.68 percentage points below the 32.30% reported in the first quarter.

Chart 3.0: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Manchester Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



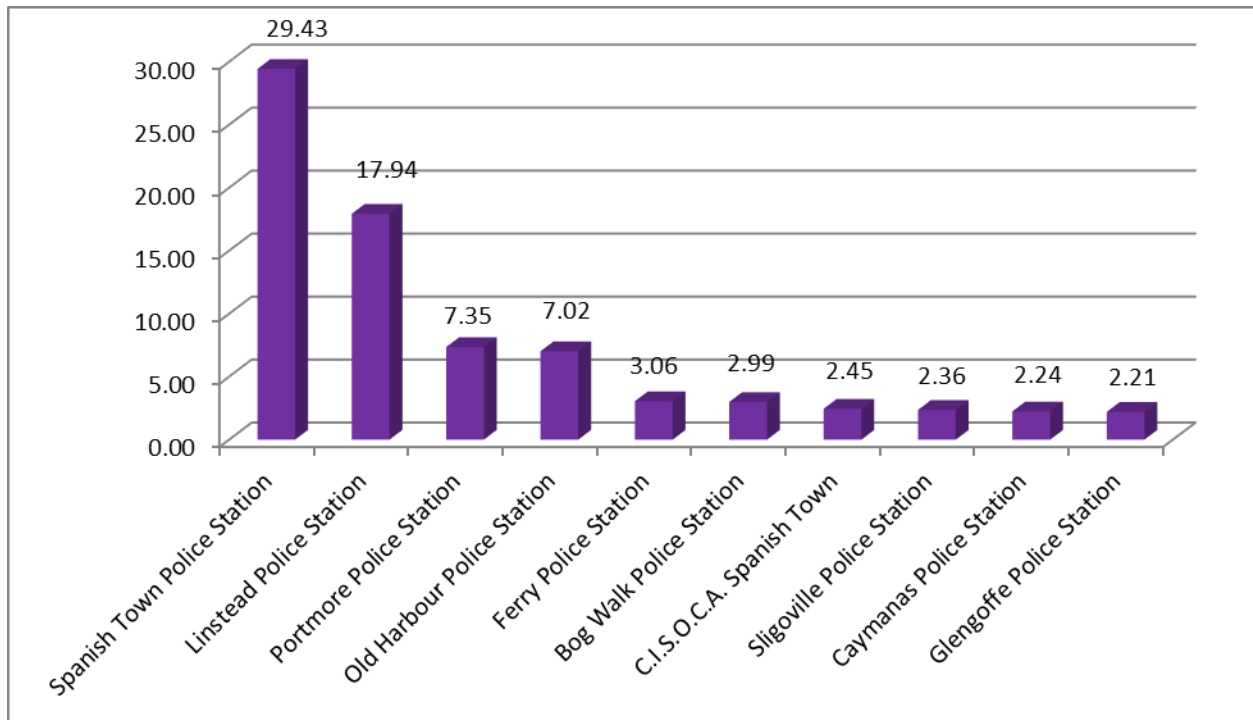
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the Manchester Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 1870 records indicate that for the April to June quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 31.67%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Mandeville Police Station. This was followed by the Parish Council which accounts for 14.84% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Christiana Police Station with 12.75%. In the previous quarter the top three Police Stations were similar to this quarter. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3.1: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Clarendon Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



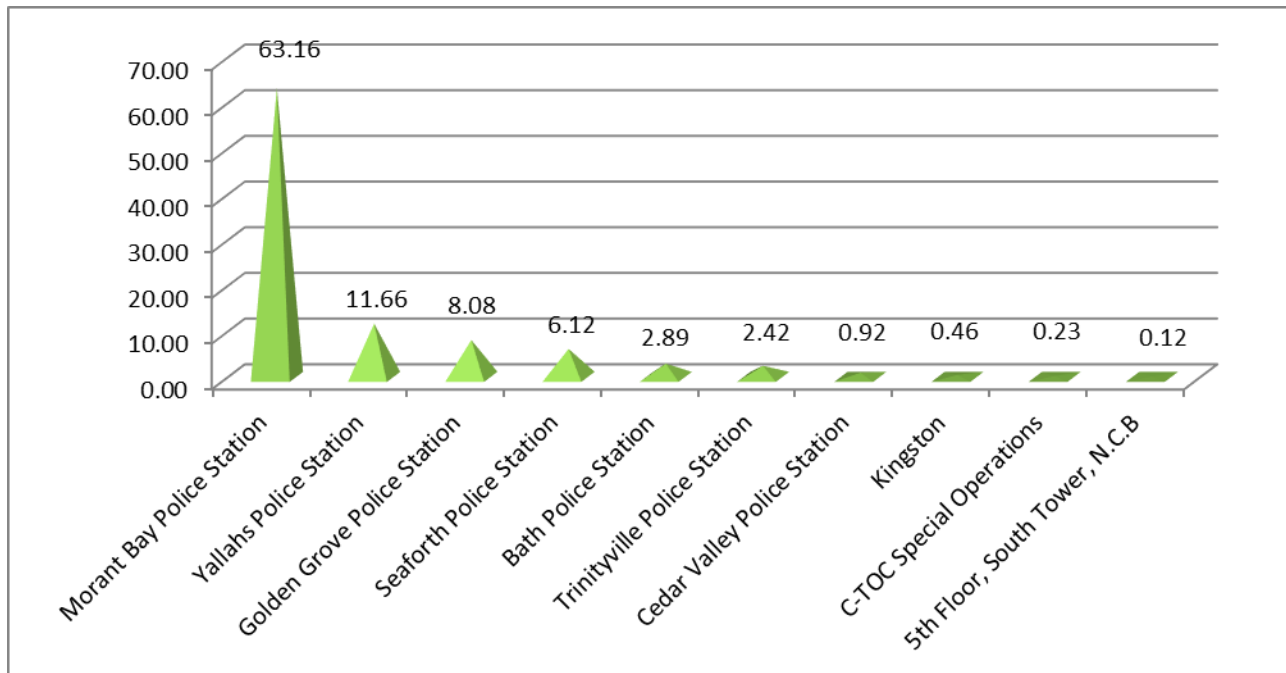
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the Clarendon Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 369 records indicate that for the April to June quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 40.92%, which were brought before the Court were reported in May Pen Police Station. This was followed by the Four Paths Police Station which accounts for 10.03% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Lionel Town Police Station with 8.67%. In the previous quarter the top three Police Stations were similar to this quarter. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3.2: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the St. Catherine Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



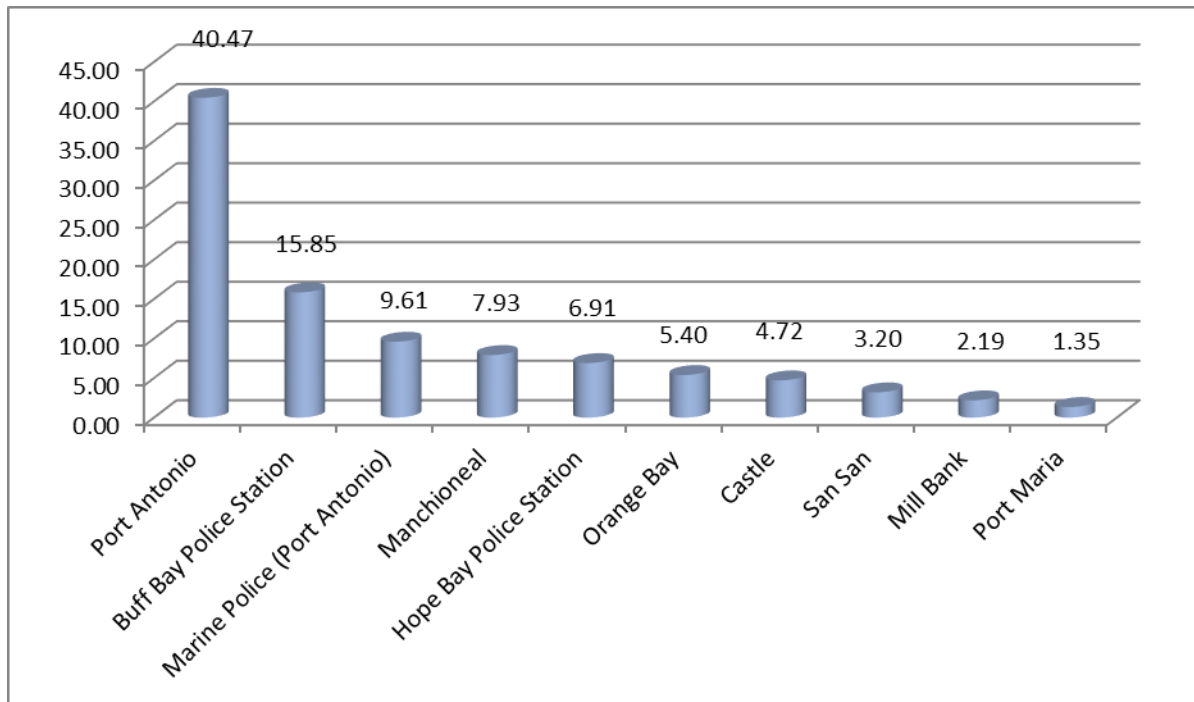
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the St. Catherine Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 3306 records indicate that for the April to June quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 29.43%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Spanish Town Police Station. This was followed by the Linstead Police Station which accounts for 17.94% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Portmore Police with 7.35% of the total charges filed. In the previous quarter the top three Police Stations were similar to this quarter. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3.3: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the St. Thomas Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



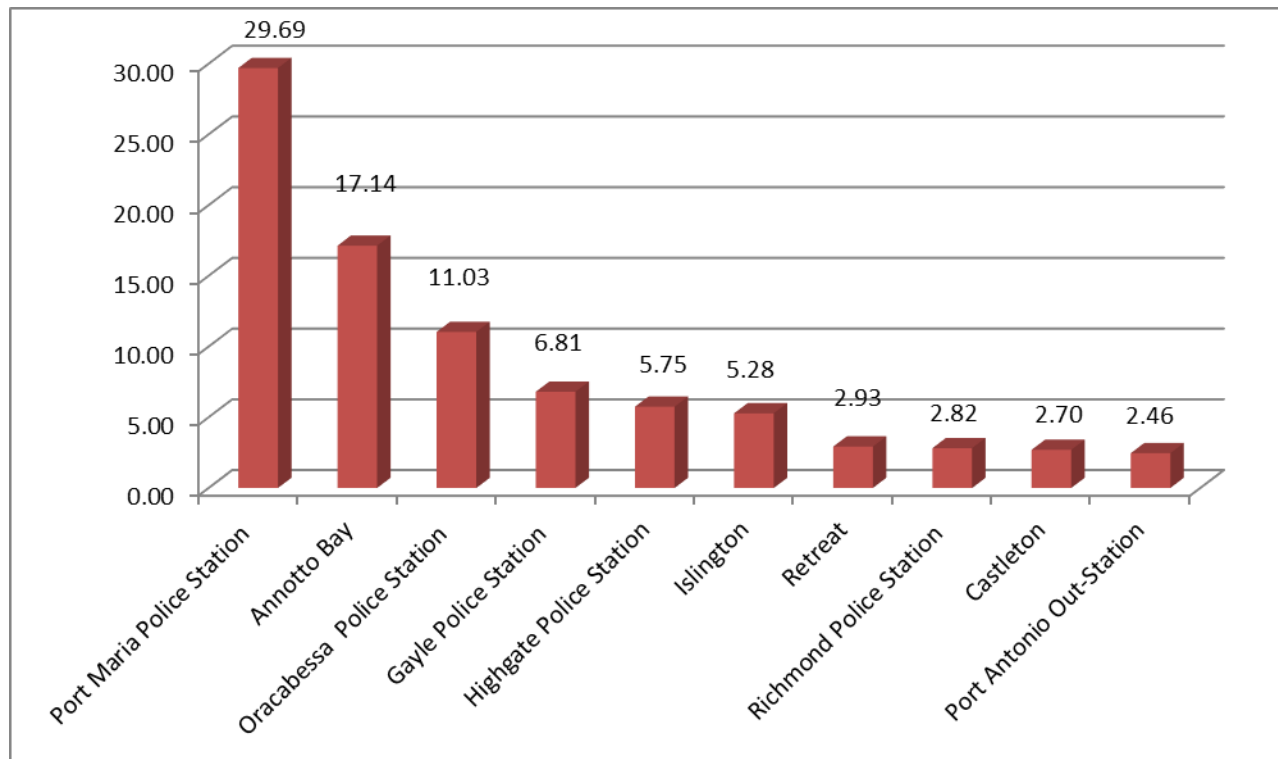
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the St. Thomas Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 866 records indicate that for the April to June quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 63.16%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Morant Bay Police Station. This was followed by the Yallahs Police Station which accounts for 11.66% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Golden Grove Police Station with 8.08%. In the previous quarter the top three was comprised of Morant Bay, Yallahs and Seaforth Police Stations. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3.4: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Portland Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



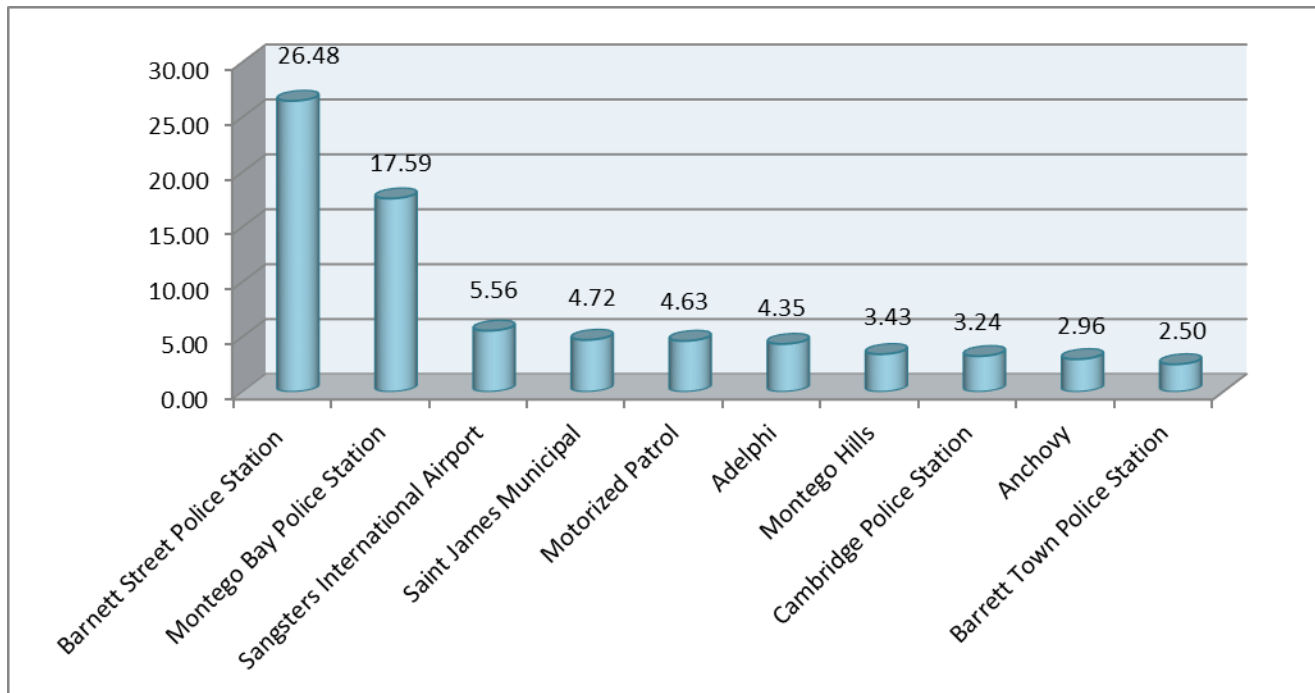
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the Portland Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 593 records indicate that for the April to June quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 40.47%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Port Antonio Police Station. This was followed by the Buff Bay Police Station which accounts for 15.85% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Marine Police with 9.61%. In the previous quarter the top three was comprised of Port Antonio, Buff Bay and Marine Police Stations. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3.5: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the St. Mary Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



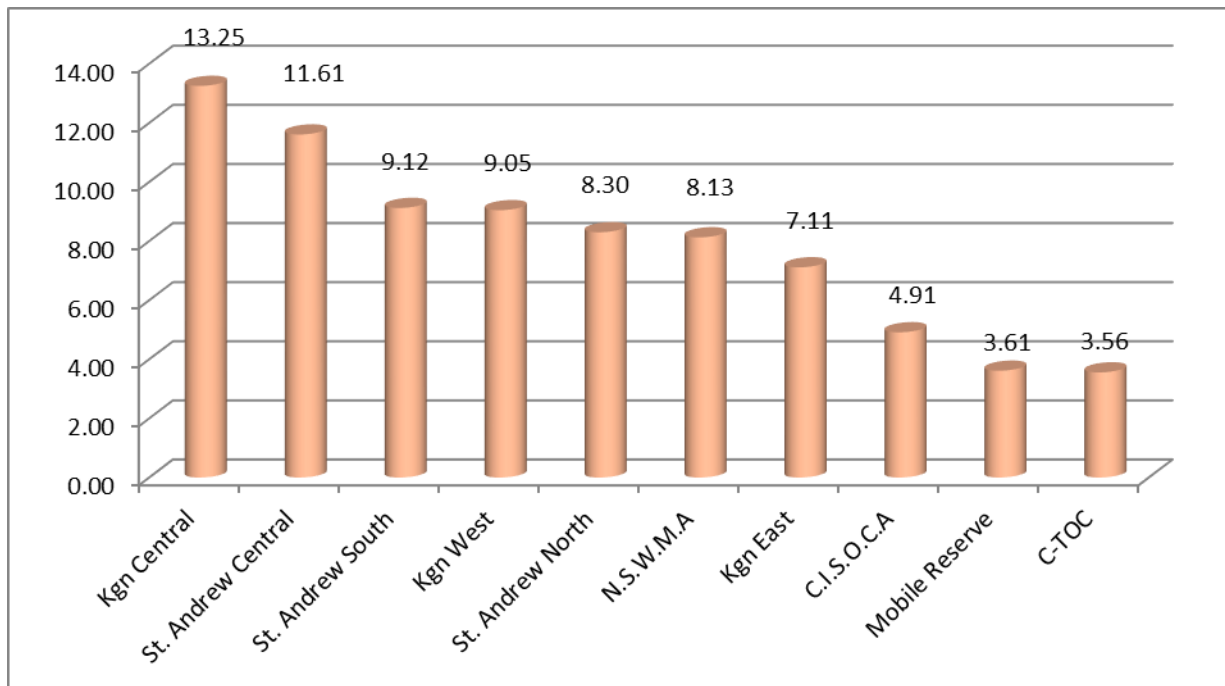
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the St. Mary Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 397 records indicate that for the April to June quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 29.69%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Port Maria Police Station. This was followed by the Annotto Bay Police Station which accounts for 17.14% of total number of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Oracabessa Police with 11.03%. In the previous quarter the top three Police Stations were similar to this quarter. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3.6: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the St. James Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



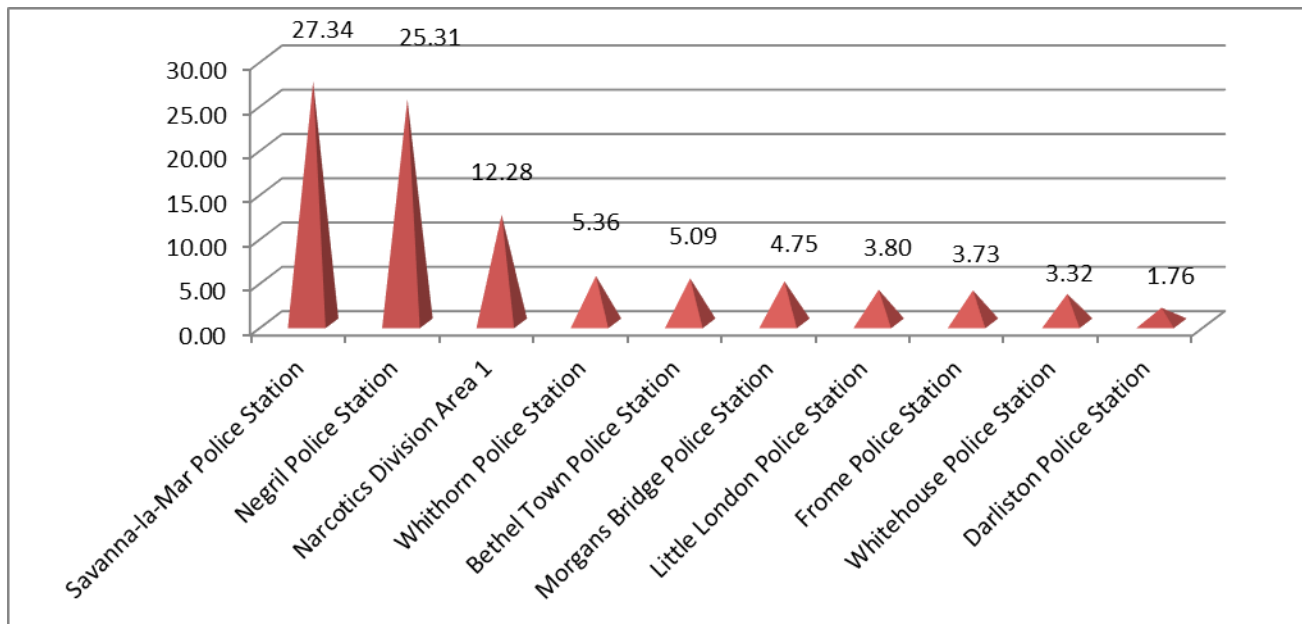
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the St. James Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 1080 records indicate that for the April to June quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 26.48%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Barnett Street Police Station. This was followed by the Montego Bay Police Station which accounts for 17.59% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Sangster's International Airport Police with 5.56% of the total. In the previous quarter the top three was comprised of Barnett Street, Montego Bay Police and St. James Municipal Cooperation. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3.7: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Corporate Area Criminal Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



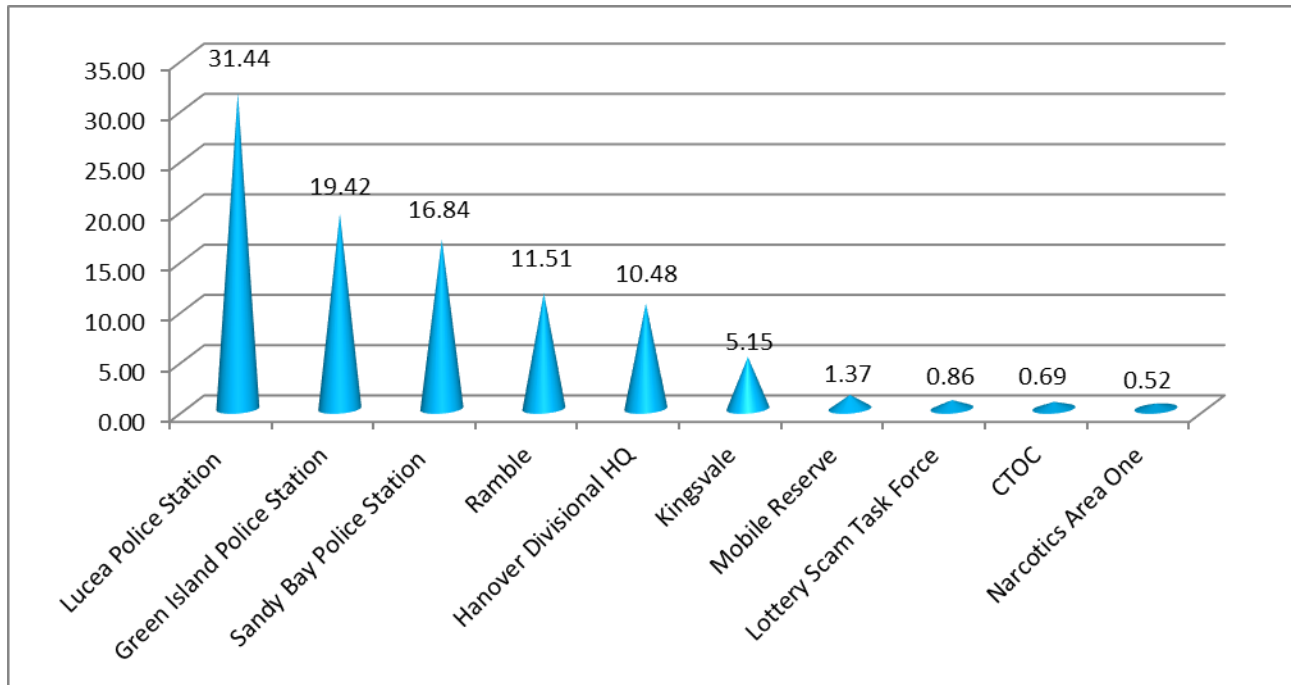
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the Corporate Area Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 5229 records indicate that for the April to June quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 13.25%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Kingston Central Police Station. This was followed by the St. Andrew Central Police Station which accounts for 11.61% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the St. Andrew South Police with 9.12%. In the previous quarter the top three was comprised of Kingston Central, Kingston West and St. Andrew North Police Stations. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3.8: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Westmoreland Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



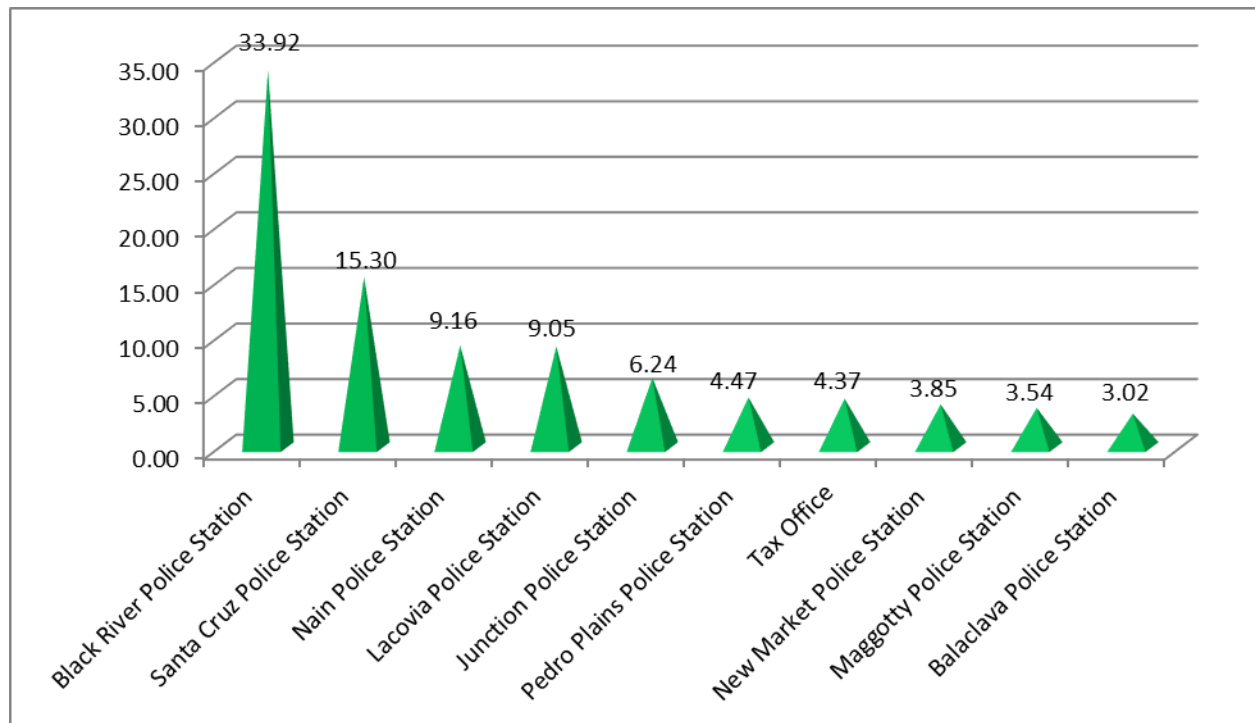
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the Westmoreland Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 1474 records indicate that for the April to June quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 27.34%, which were brought before the Court, were reported at Savanna-la-mar Police. This was followed by the Negril Police Station which accounts for 25.31% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Narcotics Division Area 1 with 12.28%. In the previous quarter the top three was comprised of Narcotics Division Area 1, Negril Police Station and Savanna-la-mar Police Stations. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3.9: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Hanover Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



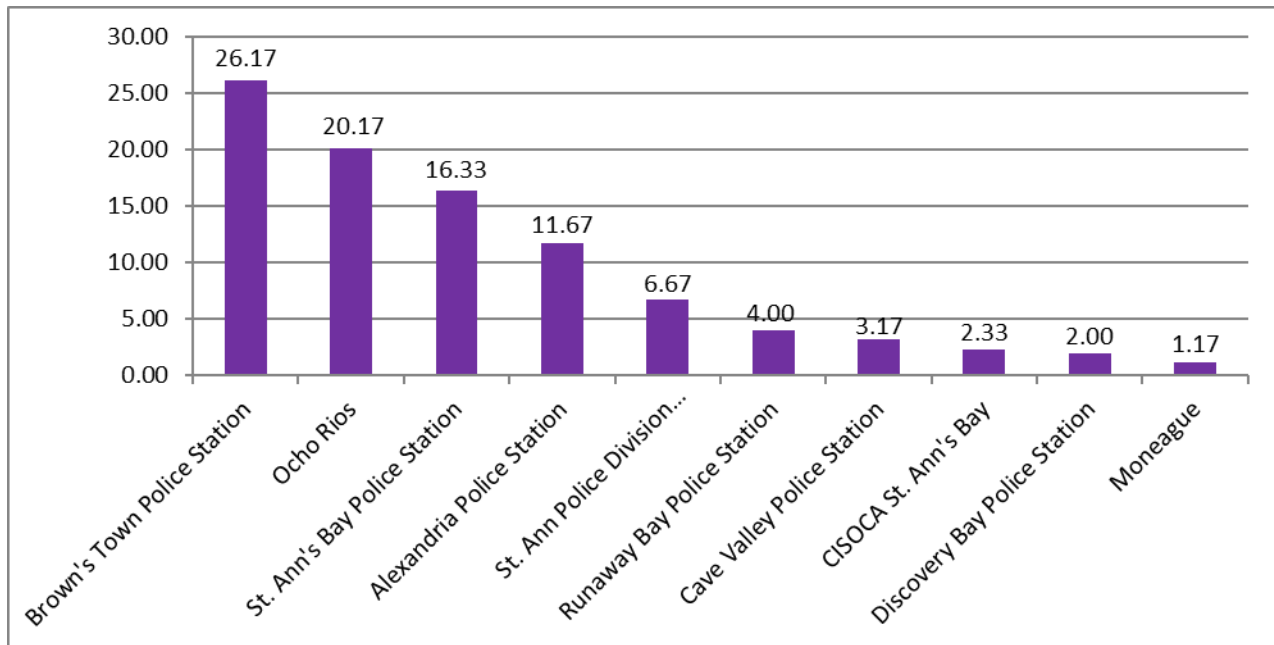
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the Hanover Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 582 records indicate that for the April to March quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 31.44%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Lucea Police Station. This was followed by the Green Island Police Station which accounts for 19.42% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Sandy Bay Police Station with 16.84%. In the previous quarter the top three was comprised of Lucea, Sandy Bay and Green Island Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3.10: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



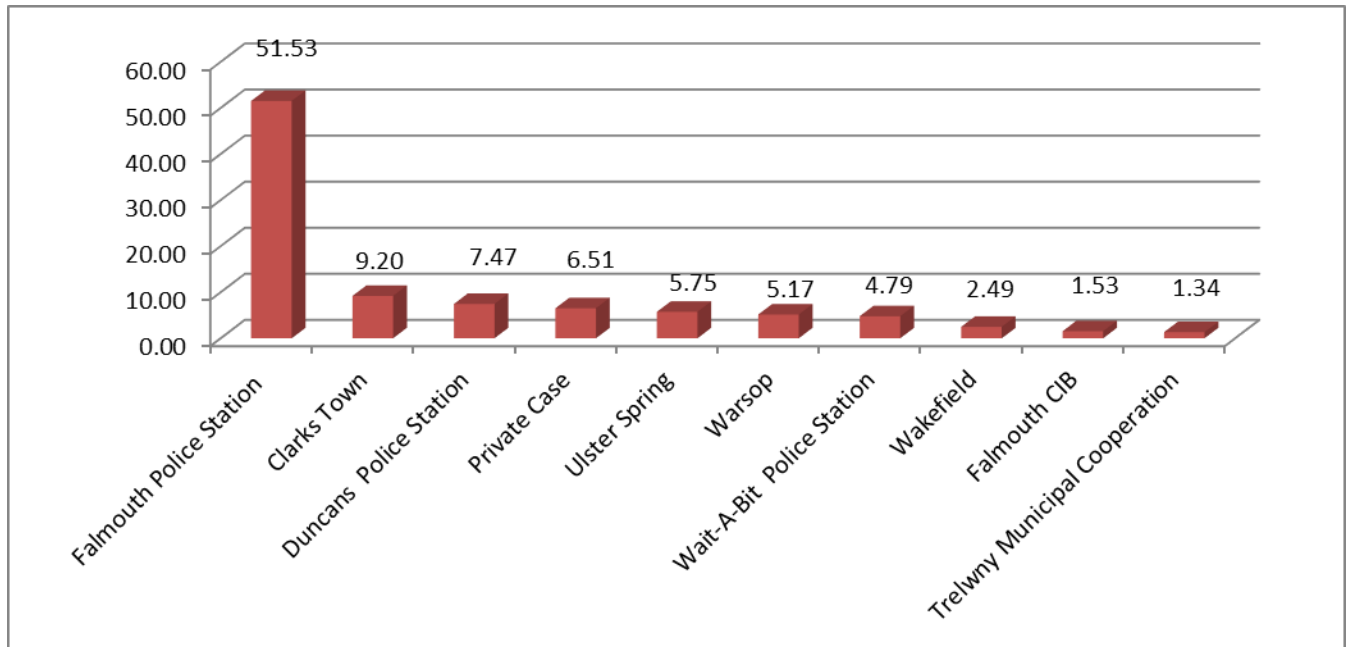
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 961 records indicate that for the April to June quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 33.92%, which were brought before the Court, were reported at the Black River Police Station. This was followed by the Santa Cruz Police Station which accounts for 15.30% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Nain Police with 9.16%. In the previous quarter the top three Police Stations were similar to this quarter. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3.11: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the St. Ann Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the St. Ann Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 600 records indicate that for the April to June quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 26.17%, which were brought before the Court, were reported at the Brown's Town Police Station. This was followed by the Ocho Rios Police Station which accounts for 20.17% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the St. Ann's Bay Police with 16.33%. In the previous quarter the top three was comprised of Ocho Rios, Brown's Town and St. Ann's Bay Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3.12: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Trelawny Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2018



The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the Trelawny Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported as a proxy variable. The data available from a total of 522 records indicate that for the April to June quarter, 2018 the majority of criminal matters, 51.53%, which were brought before the Court, were reported at the Falmouth Police Station. This was followed by the Clarks Town Police Station which accounts for 9.20% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Duncan's Police with 7.47%. In the previous quarter the top three Police Stations were similar to this quarter. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Overall, the second quarter shows an increase in the total number of matters distributed across the many Police Stations/Agencies across the parish courts.

Special feature on the Corporate Area Traffic Court

The Traffic Courts across Jamaica contend with a large backlog of cases which results in an inefficient use of judicial time and resources. This brief section of the report is committed to highlighting some essential findings from case activity as at the half year ended June 30, 2018 at the Corporate Area Traffic Court. The research administered in this regards suggests that a total of 65,195 new matters were filed/listed in the Corporate Area Traffic Court for the period, an alarming 57,494 or 88.19% of which resulted in warrant orders. Due to a large backlog of cases carried forward at this Court, the vast proportion of these warrants were either not yet prepared or yet to be executed at the six month end. Over this time, 1,117 matters were relisted before the court, 822 or 73.59% of which have been disposed by way of granting applications to vacate warrants. This represents a 1.4% “return” on the 57,494 warrants ordered for the period. This finding reflects the trend in this and several other Traffic Courts across the Island. The implication of this finding is that the Traffic Court is rendered as a predominantly warrant-generating centre, an administrative function for which it appears ill-equipped. This is a suboptimal use of judicial resources which requires targeted interventions to curb the existing inefficiencies. Such interventions may include the bolstering of technological resources required to speed up the preparation and execution of warrants, engagement of the relevant external stakeholders to significantly enhance the enforcement of warrants and a revision of the structure and operating procedures of the Traffic Court and the way it interacts with the stakeholders.

Conclusion

This report provides a range of essential insights into criminal case activity in the parish courts for the second quarter ended June 30, 2018, representing a continuation of the trend in comprehensive and consistent reporting on criminal case activity in the parish courts. A number of noteworthy findings have emerged from this report, some affirming the critical trends observed in 2017 and the first quarter of 2018 and others indicative of new patterns. As with previous reports, they provide the basis for important policy and operational decisions. Among these key findings is that there has again been a notable increase in the overall criminal case clearance rate in the parish courts, increasing by an impressive 9.27 percentage points when compared to the first quarter. The overall clearance rate of 98.27% recorded across the parish courts in the second quarter is firmly in line with annualized the International standard of 90% - 110%. This means that there were roughly 9 more cases been disposed for every 100 new cases filed in the second quarter of 2018, when compared to the first quarter. Continuous strides in this regard have undoubtedly had a positive impact on reducing the criminal case carriage in the parish courts by a slow but nonetheless incremental rate. Despite the profound increase in the overall clearance rate, there was however a 2.52 percentage points decline in the case disposal rate when compared to the first quarter of 2018. The continued improvements in the case clearance rates across the parish courts have also had a notable impact on reducing the pre-existing criminal case backlog, although much of these gains have again been reversed by newer cases falling into backlog. It is further impressive to note that eleven of the thirteen parish courts exceeded the international benchmark of a minimum 90% clearance rate for the second quarter, the attainment of which is viewed as the critical foundation for both reducing and preventing case backlog. Of these eleven courts, seven exceeded the 100% mark, led by the

Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division and the parish courts of Hanover and St. Thomas.

The Honourable Chief Justice has set a target for a court wide clearance rate of between 130% and 140% to be attained within the next six (6) years. Another important performance indicator on which this report reveals steady overall results is the trial and hearing date certainty rates. This is seen as a crucial cog in significantly reducing the criminal case backlog in the courts. The data shows that the overall rates fell from 79% in the first quarter to 77% in the second quarter. Though below the International standard of 90% - 100%, the courts are showing good potential and some incremental progress. The Honourable Chief Justice has set a court wide target on this measure of 95% within the next six years. A high trial and hearing date certainty is the foundation of an efficient court system; it bolsters case disposal and case clearances rates, reduces case congestion rates and the time taken to dispose of cases, clears and reduces the probability of case backlog and inspires public confidence in judicial processes. The attainment of the performance targets set by the Chief Justice over the next six years will place Jamaica among the best performing court systems in the World.

The generally improved productivity of the courts can be attributed to the number of factors, including the strengthening of the case management process through the employment of case progression officers across the courts and the adoption of a data driven approach. In all parish courts, data on the status of the criminal cases as well as key delay factors and complexity indicators are electronically available to multiple internal stakeholders by way of the Case Information Statistical System (CISS). In reinforcement of the improved results on the case clearance and disposal rates was the finding that sample data on cases disposed over the past 15-18 months across the parish courts indicate that roughly 74% were disposed of in three months or less. This statistically significant result is indicative of a generally sustained though

modest improvements in the overall efficiency in the criminal case progression and productivity in the parish courts.

As with the previous quarterly report, the data affirms that despite the improvements noted, mathematically all parish courts, based on current rates of disposal and the implied resource endowments are carrying higher caseloads than their existing capacities seem to suggest. This was derived from the analysis of the case congestion rates. The resource constraints faced by the courts are evident from these results; however, there are a number of critical delay factors, which must be addressed in order to improve efficiency. Among these factors are the high incidence of adjournments, which increase the average time taken to dispose of cases and thus foster a sub-optimal use of judicial time. Among the leading delay factors in this regard are again incomplete files, outstanding medical reports and the non-appearance of parties for court. Such factors invariably have a direct association with the incidence of mention and trial and thus trial and hearing date certainty, which tends to vary by parish court but overall falls short of the international standards. It is critical that robust interventions be urgently pursued to engage the necessary stakeholders to redress those delay factors that are outside the court's direct control, for example, outstanding medical certificates for which the Hospitals would be largely culpable and more decisive police action could militate against the frequency of the non-appearance of parties for court. There are however many common reasons for adjournment over which the parish courts have some degree of direct control, such as matters adjourned due to the lack of readiness of files for court, matters left off court lists or matters wrongly listed for court. These can be mitigated by a more robust system of scheduling matters for court and generally more robust case management practices.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The nucleus of improved court performance lies in enhancing the strength of the case management process in the criminal courts. This is necessary to ensure that more sound scheduling practices are employed and that the electronic and other monitoring mechanisms are fully utilized to ensure that the probability of cases lagging in the court system and entering backlog classification are substantially lessened. As mentioned, a strong and direct engagement of external stakeholders, which are at least partly responsible for the lengthy and frequent delays in criminal matters are critical to the way forward. Slow but steady strides are being made in improving the critical performance indicators such as the case clearance rates and trial credibility ratios; however, the system is still a long way from reaching a state of self-sustaining efficiency. Bolstering the technical and human resources at the disposition of the courts is also vital in realising the desired advances in the near future. Below are two strategies, which can be employed court wide in an effort to alter the status quo and create new paths to optimizing efficiency, subject to the existing constraints. These were also outlined in the previous quarterly report.

Firstly, I propose the employment of a Differentiated Case Management (DCM) mechanism. Differentiated case management is a technique that courts can use to create an efficient, tight-fitting assignment of cases for judges based on the specific characteristics of each case, much like putting a jigsaw puzzle together. By balancing complex cases that involve more time and resources with simpler cases that require less time and resources, a court can better utilize its judges and courtrooms. The way this can work is that when a case is filed, a determination of the expected time to complete the case should be made. Depending on the complexity of the case, it can be

assigned to one of four tracks, from the least to most complex. A less complex case would be assigned to an expedited track. Cases in this track would have limited pre-trial

deadlines and trials could possibly be set within 90 days of filing. By contrast, the most complex cases would be assigned to an extended track, where the trial date was set at months away. There could also two other intermediate tracks between the expedited and extended tracks, with varying trial date schedules. This kind of approach could potentially enhance hearing/trial date certainty, improve courtroom utilization rates and over time significantly expedite the disposition of cases. For this mechanism to work effectively, it is important that time standards/expected times for the disposition of cases of varying complexity be firmly established. Backlog monitoring groups within each parish court, called the Backlog Reduction, Evaluation and Assessment Committee (BREAC) – parish court version, could marshal the Differentiated Case Management (DCM) in these courts, forming the ethos of the second facet of my proposal. The purpose of these groups would be to track the aged caseload in the different courts. For this purpose all 'older' cases on the trial list of the courts, however aged can be categorized by complexity, state of readiness and age in the court system. This list can be used on an ongoing basis as the basis of informing the work of the **BREAC** group. The goal is to sustain reductions in the pre-existing case backlog in the parish courts and to marshal the process of revising the scheduling practices of the respective courts, thus making backlog prevention a priority. The Case Progression Officers, under the guidance of the Judges could anchor such groups.

As with the Supreme Court, the parish courts are indeed showing much resilience amidst the constraints experienced however, there is much to be done to accomplish the desired international benchmarks in efficiency and timely delivery of justice, universally. The current operational policy revisions pursued bears much promise in this regard. A serious examination of the causes of wide

variations in the rank of the different parish courts on the various performance indicators should be pursued and the best practices adopted and standardized.

Glossary of Statistical Terms

Clearance rate: The ratio on incoming to outgoing cases or of new cases filed to cases disposed, regardless of when the disposed cases originated. For example, in a given Term 100 new cases were filed and 110 were disposed (including cases originating before that Term) the clearance rate is 110/100 or 110%.

Note: The clearance rate could therefore exceed 100% but the disposal rate has a maximum value of 100%.

A persistent case clearance rate of less than 100% will eventually lead to a backlog of cases in the court system. The inferred international benchmark for case clearance rates is an average of 90%-110 annualized. This is a critical foundation to backlog prevention in the court system.ⁱ

Disposal rate: As distinct from clearance rate, the disposal rate is the proportion of new cases filed which have been disposed in a particular period. For example if 100 new cases are filed in a particular Term and 80 of those cases were disposed in said Term, then the disposal rate is 80%.

Note: A persistent case clearance rate of less than 100% will eventually lead to a backlog of cases in the court system.ⁱⁱ

Trial/hearing date certainty: This is the proportion of dates set for trial or hearing which proceed without adjournment. For example, if 100 trial dates are set in a particular Term and 40 are adjourned, then the trial certainty rate would be 60%. The international standard for this measure is between 92% and 100%.

Court room utilization rate: The proportion of courtrooms in full use on a daily basis or the proportion of hours utilized in a courtroom on a daily basis. The international standard for this rate is 100%.

Case congestion rate: The ratio of pending cases to cases disposed in a given period. It is an indication of how fatigued a court is, given the existing state of resources and degree of efficiency. A case congestion rate of 150% for example, is an indication that given the resources currently at a court's disposal and its degree of efficiency, it is carrying 1.5 times its capacity.

Standard deviation: This is a measure of how widely spread the scores in a data set are around the average value of that data set. The higher the standard deviation, the higher the variation of the raw scores in the data set, from the average score. A low standard deviation is an indication that the scores in a data set are clustered around the average.

Outlier: An outlier is a value that is either too small or too large, relative to the majority of scores/trend in a data set.

Skewness: This is measure of the distribution of scores in a data set. It gives an idea of where the larger proportion of the scores in a data set can be found. Generally, if skewness is positive as revealed by a positive value for this measure, this suggests that a greater proportion of the scores in the data set are at the lower end. If the skewness is negative as revealed by a negative value for this measure, it generally suggests that a greater proportion of the scores are at the higher end. If the skewness measure is approximately 0, then there is roughly equal distribution of scores on both the higher and lower ends of the average figure.

Range: This a is a measure of the spread of values in a data set, calculated as the highest minus the lowest value. A larger range score may indicate a higher spread of values in a data set.

ⁱ Source:

<http://courts.mi.gov/Administration/SCAO/Resources/Documents/bestpractice/BestPracticeCaseAgeClearanceRates.pdf>

ⁱⁱ Source:

<http://courts.mi.gov/Administration/SCAO/Resources/Documents/bestpractice/BestPracticeCaseAgeClearanceRates.pdf>

