THE JUDICIARY OF JAMAICA



THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S
EASTER TERM
STATISTICS REPORT

SUPREME COURT OF JAMAICA

(8 APRIL – 31 JULY, 2026)

A COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT OF CASE FLOW,
JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE AND INSTITUTIONAL PROGRESS

OVERALL CASE CLEARANCE

95.41%

4,013 CASES DISPOSED | 4,206 NEW FILINGS

CASE FLOW | PERFORMANCE GAINS | JUDICIAL DELIVERY

THREE-YEAR QUANTITATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

EASTER TERM 2024–2026 PERFORMANCE REFERENCE

INDICATOR	2024	2025	2026
Case clearance	75.02%	83.05%	95.41%
Hearing-date certainty	79.64%	82.79%	74.02%*

2024–25: published headline rates. *2026: modelled planning estimate.
2026 weighted by case disposals, not scheduled hearing dates.

FIVE-DIVISION CLEARANCE: 2025 79.27% → 2026 95.94%

+16.67 percentage points | 600 additional dispositions

PREPARED FOR

THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF JAMAICA

COURT STATISTICS DIVISION | SUPREME COURT OF JAMAICA

EASTER TERM 2026

CONTENTS

Chapters, glossary and supporting annexes

Executive Summary....03
1. High Court Civil Division....08
2. Family and Matrimonial Division....14
3. Estate Division....21
4. Home Circuit Court....26
5. High Court Division of the Gun Court....31
6. Commercial Division....35
7. Aggregate Activity and Judicial Operations....40
8. Performance Implications and Recommendations....48
9. Retrospective Evidence and Planning....50
10. Final Assessment and Path Forward....53
Glossary of Statistical Terms....54
Annex A. Case-Flow Reconciliation and Performance Indicators....66
Annex B. Regression and Evaluation....77
Annex C. Sources and Reporting References....83
Appendix I. Gun Court Easter Term Case and Hearing Records....85
Appendix II. Record Coverage and Comparability Notes....87

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Supreme Court of Jamaica delivered a substantial improvement in case-flow performance during Easter Term 2026 (8 April–31 July). Across seven reporting divisions, the Court completed 4,013 cases against 4,206 new filings, achieving an overall clearance rate of 95.41%. This means that nearly 96 cases were completed for every 100 new cases filed. The 193-case shortfall shows that completions did not yet match new filings; changes in the outstanding caseload require separate inventory records.

The improvement was particularly marked in the divisions accounting for most of the Court's workload. High Court Civil, Family and Matrimonial, and Estate together represented 89.78% of new filings and 91.85% of completed cases. High Court Civil completed 1,838 cases against 1,670 new filings, achieving 110.06% clearance. By completing 168 more matters than it received, the division made a decisive contribution to the overall result and advanced the resolution of cases already before the Court.

The most reliable year-on-year comparison covers the same five divisions in both Easter Terms: High Court Civil, Family and Matrimonial, Estate, Home Circuit and Commercial. Combined clearance improved from 79.27% in 2025 to 95.94% in 2026, a gain of 16.67 percentage points. The divisions completed 3,923 cases, compared with 3,323 a year earlier—600 additional dispositions (18.06%) despite 103 fewer new filings. This is evidence of stronger case-completion performance rather than an increase in incoming work. The matched comparison is more dependable than historical institution-wide headline rates reported on differing bases.

Progress varied across the divisions. Family and Matrimonial clearance rose from 88.06% to 91.73%; Estate from 71.11% to 81.40%; and Home Circuit from 41.10% to 66.90%. High Court Civil recorded the largest improvement, from 75.25% to 110.06%. Commercial clearance moved from

136.09% in Easter 2025 to 83.04% in Easter 2026 on the published case counts. Gun Court completed 90 cases against 113 new filings (79.65%), including 77 cases registered before the term. Revenue Court received four new matters and recorded no disposals. The different patterns call for responses suited to each division rather than a single institution-wide remedy.

The Court also resolved a substantial number of older matters. In High Court Civil, 1,266 of the 1,838 completed cases were more than 24 months old. Across six divisions, 3,907 completed cases had a usable age classification: 2,172 (55.59%) were completed within 24 months and 1,735 (44.41%) after that period. Another 106 disposals lacked a usable age classification. These percentages describe completed cases, not the cases still awaiting resolution. Gun Court ages are measured from recorded active-status dates, which may differ from the start dates used elsewhere.

Reliable hearing dates are essential to sustaining these gains. Reported Easter 2026 hearing-date certainty was 80.05% in Family and Matrimonial, 78.31% in Estate, 71.23% in High Court Civil and 43.85% in Commercial. Where complete Easter hearing data were unavailable, historical figures supported indicative estimates of 70.70% for Home Circuit and 70.89% for Gun Court. Weighting these six divisional rates by case dispositions produces a planning estimate of 74.02%. It is not an observed Court-wide hearing-event rate and is not directly comparable with the historical headline percentages, which used different counting bases. Revenue recorded no dispositions and has no usable hearing-certainty rate.

The next priority is to sustain stronger case completion while improving hearing readiness and reducing avoidable delay. In High Court Civil, Case Management Conference certainty fell from 90.52% in Easter 2025 to 51.85% in Easter 2026, and the reported median interval from defence to first hearing was 34.8 months. In Family, judicial unavailability was a prominent reason for adjournment. Estate processed 742 supplemental oaths alongside 812 initial oaths, indicating

opportunities to reduce repeated registry work. Commercial's reported 43.85% hearing-date certainty warrants attention to both hearing readiness and the consistency of event recording.

Other findings point to strengths that can support further improvement. High Court Civil recorded 97.31% under its defined case-file integrity indicator. Of 4,718 hearings with a recorded delivery mode, 4,410 (93.47%) were conducted by video conference, underscoring the importance of reliable digital services. The Court delivered 86 substantive judgments against 98 newly reserved judgments during the term (87.76%) and 41 application rulings against 72 newly reserved rulings (56.94%). These are comparisons of activity within the same term; delivered decisions do not necessarily relate to matters reserved during that period.

How performance changed from Easter 2025

These like-for-like results point to stronger case-completion capacity, particularly in High Court Civil, as well as improved clearance in Family, Estate and Home Circuit. Sustaining progress will require more dependable case preparation, fewer avoidable adjournments and clearer distinctions between cases, charges and hearing events. Consistent reporting will help the Judiciary and the public assess improvements across future terms.

What the results mean for judicial administration

The Court's immediate task is to sustain increased case completion and make each stage of proceedings more dependable. At Easter Term filing levels, 193 additional dispositions would have brought the seven divisions into balance for the period. The findings support earlier checks of documents and case readiness in High Court Civil and Commercial, more dependable Family hearing lists, streamlined Estate registry processes and better coordination of criminal-case preparation. Progress should be assessed through completed cases, effective hearings and reliable information about outstanding matters.

Five priorities for institutional action

These priorities offer a practical programme for sustaining the Court's improvement and strengthening the public service provided by its divisions:

1. Protect hearing readiness. Apply advance filing and document checks to High Court Civil and Commercial case-management and chamber lists, reducing preventable adjournments and shortening the time to the first effective judicial event.

2. Match judicial capacity to case needs. Expand appropriate use of Masters, Registrars and structured pathways for routine interlocutory matters, particularly where Family lists are disrupted by judicial unavailability.

3. Improve criminal-case readiness. Agree measurable disclosure, investigation and forensic turnaround standards with the Jamaica Constabulary Force, forensic services and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, supported by regular monitoring of hearing outcomes.

4. Direct additional sitting capacity where it can be effective. Use extended sittings and special projects for cases demonstrably ready to proceed, measuring additional completed matters and cost-effectiveness rather than the number of sessions alone.

5. Strengthen registry processes and performance monitoring. Reduce preventable Estate supplemental-filing cycles, maintain complete and consistent case-flow records, and monitor the small Revenue Court caseload without overstating the significance of its four new filings.

Core case activity at a glance — Easter Term 2026

Division	New Cases Filed	Cases Disposed	Clearance Rate (%)	≤24 months, classified (%)	>24 months, classified (%)
High Court Civil (HCV)	1,670	1,838	110.06%	31.12%	68.88%
Family & Matrimonial	1,294	1,187	91.73%	80.87%	19.13%
Estate Division	812	661	81.40%	84.27%	15.73%
Home Circuit Court	142	95	66.90%	25.26%	74.74%
Gun Court	113	90	79.65%	68.54%	31.46%

Division	New Cases Filed	Cases Disposed	Clearance Rate (%)	≤24 months, classified (%)	>24 months, classified (%)
Commercial Division	171	142	83.04%	58.45%	41.55%
Revenue Court	4	0	0.00%	N/A	N/A
Gross total	**4,206**	**4,013**	**95.41%**	**55.59%**	**44.41%**

Across seven divisions, the Court completed 4,013 cases against 4,206 filings, achieving 95.41% clearance. Age-at-disposition percentages are calculated only from cases with a valid age classification; 106 cases without that information are shown separately. For example, Family's 875 timely completions represent 80.87% of its 1,082 age-classified cases, but 73.72% of all 1,187 completed cases. High Court Civil's surplus of 168 dispositions over filings offset part of the 361-case combined shortfall elsewhere.

Together, the other six divisions received 361 more cases than they completed. Estate and Family accounted for 258 of that difference; Home Circuit, Gun Court, Commercial and Revenue accounted for the remaining 103. After allowing for High Court Civil's surplus of 168, the Court-wide difference was 193 cases. Maintaining the stronger overall result will therefore depend on continued progress in divisions where filings still exceed disposals.

CHAPTER 1.0: HIGH COURT CIVIL (HCV) DIVISION

1.1 Executive Summary and Introduction

High Court Civil was central to the Supreme Court's strong Easter Term performance. This chapter examines case filings, hearing preparation, adjournments, file availability and the time taken to resolve matters. Its main finding is encouraging but important for future planning: the division has demonstrated substantial capacity to complete cases, while earlier access to effective case management remains a priority.

High Court Civil received 1,670 new filings, compared with 1,281 in Easter 2025, an increase of 30.37%. It disposed of 1,838 cases, compared with 964 in 2025, an increase of 90.66%. Clearance rose from 75.25% to 110.06%, a gain of 34.81 percentage points. The division completed 168 more matters than it received during the term, a particularly strong result. The next opportunity is to improve the time taken to reach a first effective hearing and reduce adjournments of Case Management Conferences.

1.2 Published 2025 Baseline and Easter 2026 Comparison

The published Easter 2025 report provides the filing and disposal baseline. Its overall sampled hearing-date certainty was 83.99% (3,198 dates, 512 adjournments), while the 90.52% figure refers specifically to Case Management Conferences (897 dates, 85 adjournments). The Case Management Conference measure offers the more clearly defined comparison across terms. The reported 2025 mean time to disposition is not directly comparable with 2026 stage medians, which measure different parts of the case journey.

HCV Division Metric	Easter 2026	Easter 2025
New Cases Filed	1,670	1,281
Cases Disposed	1,838	964
Case Clearance Rate (%)	110.06%	75.25%
Overall HCV hearing certainty (2025 sampled; 2026 broader extract)	71.23% (15,765 dates)	83.99% (3,198 sampled dates)
Case File Integrity Rate (%)	97.31%	97.70%

HCV Division Metric	Easter 2026	Easter 2025
Time to disposition: different bases	45.7 mos (sum of stage medians; not overall median)	56.24 mos (mean)

High Court Civil increased case clearance from 75.25% in Easter 2025 to 110.06% in 2026. Its reported overall hearing-date certainty was 83.99% in the sampled 2025 return and 71.23% in the broader 2026 records, although the two figures may not cover precisely the same hearing population. The directly comparable Case Management Conference (CMC) measure fell from 90.52% to 51.85%, a decrease of 38.67 percentage points. The recorded case-file integrity indicator was 97.70% in 2025 and 97.31% in 2026. These findings show the distinction between strong case completions and the reliability of earlier procedural hearings.

1.3 Case Inflow and Method of Origin (Sample Estimate)

Method of Origin	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Claim Form	1,057	72.15%
Fixed Date Claim Form	387	26.42%
Notice of Application	21	1.43%
Total Sample	**1,465**	**100.00%**

High Court Civil received 1,670 new cases, up 30.37% from the 1,281 reported for Easter 2025. The available method-of-origin categories cover 1,465 filings, or 87.72% of the 2026 total. Within those classified filings, Claim Forms represented 72.15%, Fixed Date Claim Forms 26.42% and Notices of Application 1.43%. The remaining 205 filings were not included in those categories. Recording them explicitly as other or unclassified would give leadership a more complete view of the division's incoming work.

1.4 Hearing Adjournments and Case File Integrity

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Claimant to file documents	881	27.56%
Parties having discussion with view of settlement	428	13.39%

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Claimant's documents not served or short served	321	10.04%
Defendant to file documents	292	9.13%
No parties appearing	222	6.94%
Claimant to comply with order	213	6.66%
Letter indicating no objection outstanding	150	4.69%
Judge unavailable	132	4.13%
Listed reasons	**2,639**	**82.55%**
Other coded reasons not shown	558	17.45%
Coded sample total	**3,197**	**100.00%**

Documents that were not filed, served or completed in time were prominent among the recorded reasons for High Court Civil adjournments. Of 4,536 adjournments, 3,197 were assigned to the coded sample used in the table. The eight displayed reasons account for 2,639 of that sample (82.55%); 558 (17.45%) fall within other categories. The single largest displayed reason, 'Claimant to file documents', accounts for 27.56% of the coded sample. Missing or mislisted court files accounted for 122 recorded adjournments, supporting the 97.31% case-file integrity indicator. These findings place a strong emphasis on early document and service checks, alongside continued registry reliability.

1.5 Hearing Date Certainty by Hearing Type

Hearing Type	Dates Set	Dates Adjourned	Certainty (%)
Trial in Open Court	522	34	93.49%
Trial in Chambers	72	19	73.61%
Assessment of Damages	80	29	63.75%
Case Management Conferences (CMC)	1,267	610	51.85%
All scheduled hearings (full extract)	**15,765**	**4,536**	71.23%

The 2026 High Court Civil hearing-date certainty was 71.23% across 15,765 scheduled dates; open-court trial certainty was 93.49%, while CMC certainty was 51.85% (610 adjournments from 1,267 dates). In Easter 2025 the published CMC result was 90.52% (85 adjournments from 897 dates),

making the 38.67-point deterioration at that stage a significant operational concern. The 2025 overall sample covered 3,198 dates, substantially fewer than the 2026 extract; differences in event inclusion and counting rules may affect the overall year-on-year comparison. The reported median defence-to-first-hearing interval was 34.8 months.

1.6 Estimated Time Between Major Case Events

Case Milestone Interval	Estimated Median Duration
Case Filing to Filing of Defence	0.9 months
Filing of Defence to First Hearing / CMC	34.8 months
First Hearing to Final Disposition	10.0 months
Illustrative sum of stage medians (not lifecycle median)	45.7 months (not an observed total-case median)

The reported case milestones place the wait for the first hearing at the centre of High Court Civil's progression challenge. The median interval from defence to first hearing was 34.8 months. The three reported stage medians (0.9, 34.8 and 10.0 months) add to 45.7 months, but their sum is not the median filing-to-disposition time for individual cases. A valid overall median requires linked case-level start and completion dates. The observed stage results nonetheless support prioritising earlier, effective case management.

1.7 Case Clearance Rate and Target Projections

Metric	Value
Cases Filed	1,670
Cases Disposed	1,838
Case Clearance Rate	110.06%

The 110.06% clearance rate is a particularly strong result: High Court Civil completed 168 more cases than were filed during the term. Its completion figures also show substantial attention to older cases. Of the 1,838 dispositions, 31.12% were completed within 24 months and 68.88% were older than 24 months. The latter figure describes the ages of cases resolved during the term; it does not measure the share of the currently pending caseload that is overdue.

1.8 Selected Performance Metrics and Planning Scenario

Resolved cases	Unresolved cases	Case turnover ratio (%)	Reported administrative days measure	Cases disposed within 2 years	Total disposed	On-time processing rate (%)	Late-disposition share (%)
1,838	6,247	29.42%	391	572	1,838	31.12%	68.88%

High Court Civil combined high case output with the completion of many older matters. Its reported case-turnover indicator was 29.42%, calculated as 1,838 completed cases relative to 6,247 unresolved matters. For a clear assessment of performance, the most useful measures are 110.06% clearance, the 31.12% share of disposals within 24 months, the 68.88% share older than 24 months, and the reported 34.8-month median interval from defence to first hearing. These indicators describe different aspects of progress and should be read together.

For Michaelmas Term 2026, continuing to achieve clearance of at least 100%, improving Case Management Conference reliability and reducing the wait for a first effective hearing would signal lasting progress. A possible 4%–6% increase in output is a planning assumption rather than a forecast. Three practical measures for ongoing review are clearance above 100%, improvement from the 51.85% Case Management Conference certainty baseline, and a shorter median interval between defence filing and the first effective hearing.

1.9 Conclusion and Recommendations

High Court Civil's 1,838 dispositions against 1,670 filings produced 110.06% clearance and a surplus of 168 completions over new cases. This is an important contribution to the Court-wide improvement. At the same time, the reported 34.8-month median wait between defence and first hearing indicates that parties can face considerable delay before cases progress. More dependable document preparation and Case Management Conference listings offer practical opportunities for improvement, supported by regular review of case-level records.

Sustaining HCV performance calls for improvements in both hearing readiness and early case progression.

A limited pilot of automated alerts and pre-hearing readiness declarations, approximately 72 hours before scheduled case-management and chamber dates where procedural rules permit, would allow missing documents to be identified earlier. Its effectiveness should be evaluated through document-related adjournments, hearing-date certainty and the proportion of matters proceeding at their first effective listing.

A monitored post-defence scheduling pathway could include a proposed 90-day case-management checkpoint, subject to judicial directions and available capacity. Measuring the time to the first effective hearing and identifying cases that exceed the benchmark would make intervention more targeted and provide a transparent basis for assessing results.

1.10 Priorities for Hearing Readiness and File Reliability

High Court Civil's 1,838 dispositions against 1,670 filings confirm strong completion capacity. Yet 610 of 1,267 scheduled Case Management Conferences were adjourned (48.15%). Prominent coded reasons concerned document filing, service, defendant submissions and compliance with directions. Earlier case-readiness checks can protect hearing time while sustaining the improvement in clearance.

A staged programme would use electronic readiness declarations and a registry exception queue, allowing corrections rather than automatic sanctions. It should track the defence-to-first-effective-hearing interval, certainty by hearing type and the age of pending and completed matters. Performance comparisons should use similar case groups and account for case volume, age and available judicial sitting capacity.

The reported 97.31% case-file integrity indicator is an adjournment-based proxy, not an audit of all registry files, and does not identify responsibility for scheduling loss. Regular random case-file reconciliation and checks of automated date and status fields would establish whether the indicator reflects file availability across the active inventory and strengthen subsequent reporting.

CHAPTER 2.0: FAMILY DIVISION

2.1 Executive Summary and Case Inflow

Family and Matrimonial matters show a different pattern: relatively dependable hearings and a high share of cases completed within two years, but fewer disposals than new filings during the term. The figures cover the Kingston and Western Regional registries represented in the Easter Term return. This chapter examines the types of matters filed, the availability of judges, the steps leading to disposition and the age of completed cases. These findings can guide practical improvements while respecting the needs of families, children and other vulnerable parties.

2.2 Published 2025 Baseline and Easter 2026 Comparison

Compared with the published Easter 2025 baseline, Family filings declined from 1,483 to 1,294 (−12.74%) and dispositions declined from 1,306 to 1,187 (−9.11%). Because filings contracted more sharply, clearance increased from 88.06% to 91.73% (+3.67 percentage points). The division nevertheless received 107 more cases than it disposed during Easter 2026. Its reported 9.23-month median disposition time must not be treated as a directly comparable continuation of the 2025 published mean of 24.14 months.

Matrimonial Division Metric	Easter 2026	Easter 2025
New Cases Filed	1,294	1,483
Cases Disposed	1,187	1,306
Case Clearance Rate (%)	91.73%	88.06%
Hearing Date Certainty (%)	80.05%	86.44%
Reported time to disposition (different statistics)	9.23 mos (median)	24.14 mos (mean)
Confirmed within 24 months / all disposals†	73.72% (875/1,187)	≈75% (published; basis not matched)

The published Easter 2025 figures support a 3.67-percentage-point increase in Family clearance during 2026, even though absolute dispositions declined by 119. Reported hearing certainty also fell from 86.44% to 80.05%. The 2026 confirmed timely-disposal share of 73.72% is calculated using all 1,187 dispositions, including 105 with unknown age; a different figure of 80.87% uses only the

1,082 age-classified cases. The approximate 2025 timeliness figure has not been established on an identical denominator, so it is not used to claim a precise year-on-year change.

Breakdown of Cases Filed	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Matrimonial FD - Divorce	666	51.47%
Matrimonial FD - Divorce - Children	351	27.13%
Matrimonial FD WR - Divorce	94	7.26%
Matrimonial FD - Division of Property	45	3.48%
Matrimonial FD WR - Divorce - Children	38	2.94%
Matrimonial FD - Guardianship & Custody	35	2.70%
Matrimonial FD - Mental Health Act	29	2.24%
Listed filing categories	**1,258**	**97.22%**
Remaining filings (categories not shown)	36	2.78%
Total new cases filed	1,294	100.00%

The filing categories account for 1,258 of 1,294 new matters (97.22%). Divorce applications, including those involving children, form the largest part of the classified intake. Standardized document checks, suitable early case assessment and appropriate mediation pathways could therefore improve service. The remaining 36 filings complete the reported total, but the source summary does not identify their case types. More complete classification would provide a fuller picture of incoming matters.

2.3 Hearing Adjournments and Continuances

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judge unavailable	91	33.21%
Claimant to file documents	38	13.87%
Parties to file documents	23	8.39%
Defendant to file documents	14	5.11%
Matter referred to mediation	13	4.74%
Parties having discussion with view of settlement	12	4.38%
Listed adjournment reasons	**191**	**69.71%**

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Remaining adjournments (reasons not shown)	83	30.29%
Total recorded adjournments	274	100.00%

Family recorded 274 adjournments, of which the six listed reasons account for 191 (69.71%). Judicial unavailability was the largest listed reason, with 91 adjournments (33.21% of all adjournments). This differs from High Court Civil, where document readiness is more prominent. Protecting scheduled judicial time, directing suitable routine matters through authorized pathways and planning cover for unavoidable absences may therefore produce greater improvements in Family hearings. The remaining 83 adjournments (30.29%) complete the reported total, but their reasons are not specified among the listed categories. More detailed recording would help the Court identify opportunities to prevent repeated postponements.

2.4 Hearing Date Certainty Rates

Type of Hearings	Dates Set	Dates Adjourned	Certainty from recorded dates (%)
Trials	116	19	83.62%
Case Management Conferences (CMC)	95	19	80.00%
Applications (Various)	543	109	79.93%
All scheduled hearings (full extract)	**1,318**	**263**	**80.05%**

The Family Division recorded hearing-date certainty of 80.05%, indicating that approximately four in five scheduled hearing dates proceeded without a recorded adjournment under the applied definition. This is 6.39 percentage points lower than the 86.44% reported in the official Easter 2025 schedule. Trial certainty in 2026 was 83.62%. The results suggest generally reliable scheduling alongside a persistent capacity constraint, particularly adjournments attributed to judicial unavailability.

2.5 Methods of Disposition

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percent (%)
Decree Absolute Granted (Kingston + WR)	1,066	89.81%
Struck Out	71	5.98%
Matter Discontinued	4	0.34%
Decree Absolute set aside	1	0.08%
Listed disposition methods	1,142	96.21%
Other / not stated (calculated residual)	45	3.79%
Grand total	**1,187**	**100.00%**

The disposition-method table explicitly identifies 1,142 of the 1,187 dispositions (96.21%). Decrees Absolute Granted account for 1,066 dispositions, or 89.81% of the total, confirming that the final administrative stage of divorce processing drives most completed matters. A residual 45 dispositions (3.79%) are not represented among the listed methods; the table discloses that residual separately instead of allowing the listed frequencies to appear to sum to 1,187. This distinction matters because a highly concentrated disposition mix can mask smaller categories that consume disproportionate judicial time.

2.6 Case Clearance Rate and Target Projections

Metric	Value
Cases Filed	1,294
Cases Disposed	1,187
Case Clearance Rate	91.73%

The division achieved 91.73% clearance, 3.67 percentage points above the published Easter 2025 benchmark of 88.06%, but disposed of 107 fewer cases than it received in 2026. A higher clearance target requires verified opening inventory, an agreed reduction horizon and a documented stock-and-flow equation. The near-term objective is to approach or sustain 100% clearance while improving hearing certainty from 80.05% and reducing adjournments attributed to judicial unavailability.

Age at Disposition	Frequency	Percent (%)
0 - 12 months	600	50.55%

Age at Disposition	Frequency	Percent (%)
13 - 24 months	275	23.17%
25 - 36 months	115	9.69%
37 - 47 months	41	3.45%
48 months & over	51	4.30%
Listed age bands	**1,082**	**91.15%**
Unclassified / not stated (calculated residual)	105	8.85%
Grand total	**1,187**	**100.00%**

The age categories cover 1,082 of the 1,187 Family dispositions. Of all completed cases, 875 (73.72%) were confirmed as completed within two years and 207 (17.44%) later; another 105 cases (8.85%) had no recorded age. Those 105 cases are reported separately, rather than classified as late. The reported 9.23-month median describes time to disposition among completed cases; it does not describe the age of cases still awaiting resolution.

2.7 Selected Performance Metrics and Planning Scenario

Resolved cases	Unresolved cases	Case turnover ratio (%)	Reported administrative days measure	Cases disposed within 2 years	Total disposed	On-time processing rate (%)	Confirmed late: 17.44%; age unknown: 8.85%
1,187	4,835	24.55%	468	875	1,187	73.72%	17.44% late; 8.85% unknown

Family recorded 1,187 dispositions against 1,294 filings, a difference of 107 cases. Of the completed matters, 875 were confirmed as concluded within two years and 207 after two years; another 105 had no usable age classification. The confirmed within-two-years share is therefore 73.72% of all completed cases. The remaining 26.28% combines later completions with records whose age is unknown and should not be described entirely as late. A separate administrative duration indicator is discussed in the technical appendices.

Looking ahead to Michaelmas Term 2026, more dependable hearing dates and fewer interruptions caused by judicial unavailability could help Family and Matrimonial move closer to 100% clearance. At the Easter intake level, that would require at least 107 additional dispositions without a loss of timeliness. Progress would be evident in

sustained clearance at or above 100%, stable or improving time to disposition, and fewer adjournments caused by unavailable judicial officers. This is a planning objective, not a prediction of future performance.

2.8 Conclusion and Recommendations

The Family Division had 875 of 1,187 dispositions (73.72%) confirmed within two years; among the 1,082 with classified ages, the corresponding share was 80.87%, with a reported median disposition time of 9.23 months. Its 91.73% clearance rate shows improved flow balance relative to the published Easter 2025 comparator but still falls short of contemporaneous intake. The principal operational priority is to protect judicial availability and case readiness without compromising the handling of matters involving children and other sensitive disputes.

Improvement should focus on protecting judicial availability while directing suitable routine work through authorised case-management pathways.

Where permitted, assigning routine interlocutory family applications to Masters or appropriately authorised senior Registrars could preserve judicial time for contested hearings. The effect should be assessed through the number of adjournments attributed to judicial unavailability, the volume of work completed and any displacement of other matters.

Appropriately screened mediation and alternative dispute resolution could also help parties resolve suitable disputes earlier, including some divorce matters involving children. Any such pathway should preserve safeguarding and judicial oversight, with outcomes measured through time to resolution, repeat listings and the experience of affected families.

2.9 Priorities for Judicial Capacity and Case Triage

For Family and Matrimonial matters, relatively strong completed-case timeliness coexists with a deficit in overall flow. The division recorded 1,187 dispositions compared with 1,294 filings, a shortfall of 107 cases. Its 80.05% hearing-date certainty exceeds most other reported divisions, but 91 of the 274 adjournments are attributed to judicial unavailability. Because this is a leading classified reason, judicial cover and protected hearing lists merit testing before assumptions are made about party behaviour or the suitability of particular disputes for mediation.

Decrees absolute dominate dispositions, suggesting scope for standardized procedures. Differentiated case management could separate uncontested or document-complete cases from contested matters requiring judicial intervention, with safeguards for children and vulnerable parties. Operational monitoring should record elapsed days between filing and key milestones, the share of scheduled lists completed, and cases awaiting administrative action. Time standards should reflect case mix and staffing capacity rather than clearance alone.

CHAPTER 3.0: ESTATE DIVISION

3.1 Executive Summary and Introduction

Estate received 812 new matters during Easter Term 2026, compared with 1,132 during Easter 2025, a decline of 28.27%. Registry processes and the completeness of documents are especially important in this division. This chapter considers the relationship between filings and disposals, the volume of supplemental documents and opportunities to reduce repeated administrative steps while maintaining timely access to probate services.

3.2 Published 2025 Baseline and Easter 2026 Comparison

Relative to the published Easter Term 2025 figures, Estate filings fell from 1,132 to 812 (−28.27%) while dispositions fell from 805 to 661 (−17.89%). The count-derived clearance rate increased from 71.11% to 81.40%, a gain of 10.29 percentage points, but intake still exceeded output by 151 cases in 2026. Of the 661 cases disposed, 557 (84.27%) were completed within two years. The division's 742 supplemental oaths relative to 812 initial oaths point to significant administrative document-processing activity, though those transactions must not be mistaken for unique cases.

Estate Division Metric	Easter 2026	Easter 2025
New Cases Filed	812	1,132
Cases Disposed	661	805
Case Clearance Rate (%)	81.40%	71.11%
Hearing Date Certainty (%)	78.31%	83.19%
On-Time Processing Rate (%)	84.27%	83%

The 2026 Estate improvement in clearance arose despite fewer absolute dispositions than the published 2025 baseline, because filing volumes also declined. Hearing-date certainty in the source schedules was 78.31% for 2026, compared with 83.19% in the official 2025 return. The distinction between case-flow balance, timeliness among resolved matters and supplementary filings supports continued investment in front-end completeness checks and requisition monitoring.

3.3 Case Inflow and Method of Origin

Oaths	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Supplemental Oaths	742	47.75
Oaths (Initial)	812	52.25
Total	**1,554**	**100.00**

The Estate Division recorded 812 initial oaths and 742 supplemental oaths, a total of 1,554 oath-related filings. That is approximately 91 supplemental filings for every 100 initial oaths (742 ÷ 812 = 0.91). A supplemental oath does not necessarily represent a separate estate case: the same matter may require more than one additional filing. The ratio is therefore best understood as an indicator of administrative workload. Better front-end document checks and clearer filing guidance may reduce avoidable repeat processing for registries, practitioners and applicants.

3.4 Hearing Adjournments and Continuances

Reasons for adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Claimant to file documents	58	37.42
Defendant to file documents	18	11.61
Claimant to comply with order	14	9.03
Claimant documents not served or short served	10	6.45
No parties appearing	8	5.16
Other miscellaneous adjournments	47	30.32
Total number of adjournments	**155**	**100.00**

Incomplete documents account for a significant share of the named Estate adjournment reasons. Outstanding claimant documents were recorded in 58 of 155 coded adjournments (37.42%), while 47 (30.32%) were placed in miscellaneous categories. The sizeable miscellaneous group supports clearer recording of adjournment causes alongside measures to improve the completeness of documents lodged by practitioners. The table does not establish that any single factor explains every adjournment.

3.5 Hearing Date Certainty Rates

Court and Chamber hearing dates set	Hearing dates adjourned (excluding continuance)	Hearing date certainty (%)
295	64	78.31

Out of 295 scheduled Court and Chamber hearing dates, 64 were adjourned under the recorded exclusion convention, giving (295 − 64) ÷ 295 = 78.31% hearing-date certainty. The calculation measures whether recorded dates proceeded under the stated definition, not whether the underlying matters were concluded. Comparisons to other divisions require their treatment of continuances, relisting and administrative amendments to be identical.

3.6 Methods of Disposition

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percent
Application Granted	16	2.42
Grant of administration signed	256	38.73
Grant of probate signed	254	38.43
Grant of Resealing signed	19	2.87
Letters of Administrator with W/A signed	18	2.72
Notice of Discontinuance noted	32	4.84
WR Grant of administration signed	31	4.69
WR Grant of probate signed	15	2.27
Other	20	3.03
Total	**661**	**100.00**

The two largest Estate disposition pathways were grants of administration signed (256) and grants of probate signed (254), together accounting for 510 of 661 recorded closures, or 77.16%. Additional resealing, western-registry grants and discontinuances provide smaller contributions. Because some disposition categories involve different processing or approval requirements, the relative frequency of each category should inform workflow design without being interpreted as equivalent staff or judicial effort per case.

3.7 Case Clearance Rate and Target Projections

Cases filed	Cases disposed	Case clearance rate (%)
812	661	81.40

The Estate Division disposed of 661 cases against 812 new filings during the reporting window, producing 81.40% count-derived clearance and a 151-case flow deficit. At a constant intake of 812 matters, disposition volume would have to increase by at least 151, or approximately 22.84%, to achieve 100% period clearance. This threshold represents arithmetic parity at the observed intake; it is not a validated staffing model or guarantee of net backlog elimination.

Time Interval (months)	Frequency	Percent
0-12	402	60.82
13-24	155	23.45
25-36	38	5.75
37-47	24	3.63
48 & over	42	6.35
Total	**661**	**100.00**

The Estate time-to-disposition distribution shows that 402 cases were completed within 12 months and a further 155 within 13–24 months, yielding 557 timely completions out of 661 (84.27%). The remaining 104 dispositions were older than 24 months, including 42 at least 48 months old. These bands describe the completed-case distribution and cannot establish the proportion or average age of unresolved estates in the active inventory.

3.8 Selected Performance Metrics and Planning Scenario

Resolved cases	Unresolved cases	Case turnover ratio (%)	Reported administrative days measure	Disposed within 2 years	Total disposed	On-time processing rate (%)	Late-disposition share (%)
661	2,385	27.71%	1,315	557	661	84.27	15.73

Estate completed 661 matters and reported 2,385 unresolved matters, producing a 27.71% ratio of completed to unresolved cases under the stated counting convention. The separate estimate of 1,315 disposition-days lacks the supporting time-base information needed for reliable comparison. The clearest measures for monitoring the division are therefore its 661 completed matters, its 81.40% clearance rate, and its 84.27% share of completed cases resolved within 24 months.

3.9 Conclusion and Recommendations

Estate combines a high share of timely completed matters with case completions below incoming demand. Of 661 disposals, 557 (84.27%) occurred within two years and 402 (60.82%) within 12 months. However, 812 cases were filed, creating a 151-case flow deficit and an 81.40% clearance rate. Timeliness among completed cases does not establish that pending matters are equally well advanced. The 742 supplemental-oath filings, compared with 812 initial oaths, point to administrative workload that merits closer examination through unique-case requisition records. Standardised templates, pre-lodgment completeness checks and dedicated progression review may help reduce avoidable repeat submissions, subject to evaluation.

3.10 Priorities for Registry Efficiency and Throughput

Estate performance illustrates why process volume and new case volume must be reported separately. Although 812 initial oaths were recorded, 742 supplemental oaths were also processed. The latter is not a count of new probate cases and cannot be added to the 812 case inflow to calculate clearance. Rather, 742 divided by 812 provides a contemporaneous supplemental-to-initial filing volume ratio of approximately 0.91. Multiple supplements may relate to one estate, and the ratio alone cannot identify the proportion of defective initial applications.

A controlled review of requisitions, documentary deficiencies, practitioner corrections and supplemental filing reasons would establish whether standard templates or front-end completeness screening would reduce workload without delaying access to probate and administration grants. The intervention should be evaluated on re-submission frequency per unique case, elapsed days between each requisition and compliance, staff review time and case age at disposal. These metrics distinguish efficiency gains from simply shifting activity to a different stage or classification.

CHAPTER 4.0: THE HOME CIRCUIT COURT

4.1 Executive Summary and Case Inflow

The Home Circuit Court plays a central role in the handling of serious criminal matters. This chapter examines its new filings, completed cases, hearing readiness, adjournments and recorded outcomes during Easter Term 2026. Some case records include several charges or hearing dates, so the analysis carefully distinguishes unique cases from charges and scheduled events. The operational focus is on making hearings effective while maintaining the fairness and safeguards required in criminal proceedings.

4.2 Published 2025 Baseline and Easter 2026 Comparison

Home Circuit completed 95 cases against 142 new filings in Easter Term 2026. Compared with Easter 2025, filings fell from 163 to 142 (12.88%) and dispositions increased from 67 to 95 (41.79%). Clearance therefore rose from 41.10% to 66.90%, an improvement of 25.80 percentage points, although incoming filings still exceeded completions by 47 cases. A trend-based estimate places Easter 2026 hearing-date certainty at 70.70%, compared with the published Home Circuit hearing-type average of 74.25% in Easter 2025. This is a planning estimate, not a recorded full-term Easter 2026 rate.

Home Circuit Court Metric	Easter 2026	Easter 2025
New Cases Filed	142	163
Cases Disposed	95	67
Case Clearance Rate (%)	66.90%	41.10%
Hearing-date certainty	70.70% (trend estimate; not observed)	74.25% (published hearing-type mean)
Guilty outcomes among charges (%)	27.91% (48/172 charges)	8.70% (12/138; published table)
Completed within 24 months (different reporting units)	25.26% (24/95 cases)	59.42% (82/138 charges)

Home Circuit completed 95 cases in Easter 2026, of which 24 (25.26%) were recorded as concluded within 24 months. The published Easter 2025 summary identifies 40 such completions among 67 cases (59.70% calculated from the counts, although the source describes the figure as approximately 59%). Its separate charge-age table identifies 82 of 138 disposed charges (59.42%) in the same time band. The lower 2026 case-level share warrants attention, but the historical case and charge summaries are not interchangeable, and consistent counting rules are needed for a definitive comparison.

4.3 Hearing Adjournments and Continuances

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defence Counsel Absent	148	7.40%
Matter not reached	80	4.00%
For file to be completed	65	3.25%
Defence and Prosecution to Engage in Discussions	63	3.15%
For Investigating Officer to Attend	60	3.00%
Crown to Take Instructions	46	2.30%
For Disclosure	44	2.20%
Other miscellaneous reasons	1,494	74.70%
Total Sampled	**2,000**	**100.00%**

In the Home Circuit adjournment extract, 1,494 of the 2,000 recorded reasons (74.70%) were classified as miscellaneous. Defence-counsel absence was the most frequent specifically identified reason, with 148 entries (7.40%). The high proportion of unspecified reasons limits conclusions about why scheduled hearings did not proceed. More precise coding would help the Court identify recurring causes of delay and evaluate measures to improve hearing readiness.

4.4 Hearing-Date Certainty: Easter 2026 Trend Estimate

2025 published hearing type	Easter 2025 certainty (%)
Mention / plea and case management	81.00%
Bail applications	74.00%
Sentencing hearings	75.00%
Trial hearings	67.00%
Unweighted mean of four types	74.25%

The published Home Circuit hearing-type rates averaged 74.25% in Easter 2025 and 71.88% in Hilary 2026. Extending that historical trend one further court term produces an indicative Easter 2026 hearing-date certainty estimate of 70.70%. This is a planning estimate, not an observed Easter Term rate. The underlying calculation and its limitations are set out in Appendix II.

4.5 Disposition Methods and Charge Outcomes

Sample of charges disposed	Total number of guilty outcomes	Charge-level guilty-outcome share (%)
172	48	27.91%

The Easter 2026 charge-outcome sample records 48 guilty outcomes among 172 disposed charges (27.91%). The published Easter 2025 summary table records 12 guilty outcomes among 138 charges (8.70%). The apparent increase should be interpreted cautiously because the reporting classifications and samples may differ between terms. These are proportions of recorded charge outcomes, not case-level conviction rates.

4.6 Case Clearance Rate and Target Projections

Metric	Value
Cases Filed	142
Cases Disposed	95
Case Clearance Rate (%)	66.90%

The Home Circuit count reconciliation is straightforward: 95 recorded case dispositions divided by 142 new filings gives a 66.90% clearance rate. Reaching 100% at unchanged intake would require 47 additional dispositions within an equivalent period, an approximately 49.47% uplift over current output. The operational feasibility of such an increase cannot be assessed from aggregate filings and dispositions alone; it depends on trial readiness, sitting days and case complexity.

4.7 Selected Performance Metrics and Planning Scenario

Resolved cases	Unresolved cases	Case turnover ratio (%)	Cases disposed within 2 years	Total disposed	On-time processing rate (%)	Late-disposition share (%)
95	1,150	8.26%	24	95	25.26%	74.74%

Home Circuit's 95 dispositions against 1,150 unresolved cases produce the reported 8.26% resolved-to-unresolved ratio. Only 24 of the 95 completed cases (25.26%) were disposed of within two years; 71 (74.74%) were older. This shows attention to longstanding matters, while the 47-case gap between new filings and dispositions remains. These figures concern completed cases, not the age of the pending docket.

4.8 Conclusion and Recommendations

Home Circuit completed 95 cases against 142 filings, a shortfall of 47 cases. Twenty-four of the completed matters were within two years and 71 were older; those figures do not establish the ages of the 1,150 unresolved cases. Hearing-date certainty for Easter 2026 is provisionally estimated at 70.70% from published historical trends because complete term-wide hearing records were unavailable. The available adjournment records also show that 1,494 of 2,000 coded reasons (74.70%) were classified as "other", limiting the ability to identify avoidable sources of delay.

The division should direct additional sitting capacity toward matters confirmed as ready to proceed, including through the extended-hours Taxi and Supper Project, subject to an assessment of the additional cases actually completed. Parallel action is needed on evidence readiness, attendance and recording of adjournment reasons.

Dated disclosure and case-preparation milestones, coordinated with the prosecution, defence and relevant agencies, would protect scarce trial dates. Repeated counsel absence should be addressed through the Court's

applicable powers and appropriate procedural safeguards, while outcomes are monitored for fairness and effectiveness.

The combination of more accurate adjournment classifications, advance trial-readiness checks and performance review of extended sittings offers a practical basis for improving effective hearings and sustaining the division's higher output.

4.9 Priorities for Criminal Trial Readiness

Home Circuit completed 95 cases from 142 new filings, leaving a gap of 47. Only 24 dispositions were no more than 24 months old; the other 71 were older. The 74.74% older-case share applies to completed cases, not all cases still pending, whose age must be measured separately.

Extended sittings may improve output when enough cases are ready for hearing. Their value should be assessed through completed matters, repeat adjournments and additional judicial costs, rather than sitting hours alone. The results would guide decisions on continuing or expanding the programme.

CHAPTER 5.0: HIGH COURT DIVISION OF THE GUN COURT

5.1 Executive Summary and Case Inflow

The High Court Division of the Gun Court received 113 new cases and completed 90 during Easter Term 2026, yielding clearance of 79.65%. In Easter 2025 the published counts were 106 filings and 92 disposals; their count-derived clearance was 86.79% (the 2025 report printed 86.77%). In 2026, filings increased by seven and disposals declined by two. Seventy-seven of the 90 completed cases had been registered before the term, demonstrating continued attention to existing matters. Reliable case-readiness procedures and a full-term hearing register remain important priorities.

5.2 Comparative Performance

Performance indicator	Easter 2026	Easter 2025
New cases filed	113	106
Cases disposed	90	92
Case clearance rate	79.65%	86.79%
Hearing-date certainty (observed / estimated)	70.89% (trend estimate; not observed)	76.59%
Guilty outcomes as share of charges	7.69%	7.95% (24/302 charges)

The Gun Court completed 90 cases against 113 new filings, including 77 cases registered before Easter 2026. Its indicative hearing-date certainty estimate for Easter 2026 is 70.89%, based on the trend in published rates for Easter 2025 and Hilary 2026. Because a complete Easter 2026 hearing register is unavailable, the estimate should not be read as an observed rate. Guilty outcomes accounted for 7.95% of 302 recorded charge outcomes in Easter 2025 and 7.69% of 364 in Easter 2026; neither percentage is a case-level conviction rate.

5.3 Hearing-Date Certainty

Hearing performance indicator	Reported result or estimate
Easter 2025 published full-term rate	76.59% (observed)
Hilary 2026 published full-term rate	72.79% (observed)
Easter 2026 linear term-trend projection	70.89% (estimated; not observed)
Easter 2026 full-term observed rate	Not available
20–31 July 2026 partial extract (24 of 45)	53.33% (limited sample; not a full-term rate)

Published Gun Court hearing-date certainty was 76.59% in Easter 2025 and 72.79% in Hilary 2026. Extending that trend by one court term gives an indicative Easter 2026 estimate of 70.89%. The available Easter hearing extract covers only 20–31 July, so it cannot establish a full-term observed rate. The trend calculation and the distinction between this estimate and the partial hearing record are explained in Appendix II.

The Court can strengthen hearing reliability by confirming outstanding disclosure and forensic requirements before trial dates, checking witness availability and monitoring hearing outcomes by type. More reliable preparation would reduce avoidable repeat appearances and make better use of judicial time.

Outstanding witness statements, Scene of Crime documentation, forensic certificates and DNA results featured among the recorded reasons for Gun Court adjournments. Several hearings involved more than one outstanding requirement. These patterns underscore the importance of earlier evidence review, timely disclosure and coordinated preparation with investigative and forensic agencies.

5.4 Charge-Level Methods of Disposition

Charge outcome	Number	Share
No Evidence Offered	115	31.59%
No Further Evidence Offered	83	22.80%
Found Not Guilty	61	16.76%
Not Indicted	30	8.24%
No Case Submission Upheld	18	4.95%
Remitted to Parish Court	18	4.95%
Found Guilty	17	4.67%
Plea Guilty	11	3.02%
Conditional Nolle Prosequi	7	1.92%
Accused Deceased	2	0.55%
Want of prosecution	1	0.27%
Method not stated	1	0.27%
TOTAL	**364**	**100.00%**

The Easter Term disposition schedule records 364 charge outcomes associated with 106 distinct cases. The most frequent outcomes were No Evidence Offered (115), No Further Evidence Offered (83) and Found Not Guilty (61). Together, these categories accounted for 259 charge outcomes, or 71.15% of the total. Findings and pleas of guilt totaled 28 charge outcomes, equivalent to 7.69% of all recorded charge outcomes. These figures describe charge-level outcomes, while the court's final case-disposal total remains 90.

5.5 Case Clearance and Disposition Timeliness

Case performance measure	Easter Term 2026
New cases filed	113
Final cases disposed	90
Case clearance rate	79.65%
Disposals of newly registered cases	13
Disposals of previously registered cases	77
Cases disposed within 24 months	61
Cases disposed after 24 months	28
Cases without an age classification	1
On-time share of age-classified disposals	68.54%
Late share of age-classified disposals	31.46%

Of the 90 completed cases, 89 had dates sufficient for the disposition-timeliness classification. Sixty-one of these cases were completed within 24 months, equivalent to 68.54%, while 28 exceeded 24 months, equivalent to 31.46%. One completed case was not age-classified. The figures show that more than two-thirds of classified dispositions were completed within the two-year benchmark, although almost one-third required a longer period.

5.6 Performance Assessment

The Gun Court completed 90 cases during Easter Term, including 77 matters registered in earlier periods. This demonstrates continuing attention to existing cases, although clearance of 79.65% remained below new intake and the count-derived 2025 rate. The estimated hearing-date certainty of 70.89% provides a provisional scheduling benchmark based on historical trends, not a verified Easter observation. Improved hearing readiness and a complete term-long register would allow future reports to assess the division's actual performance more precisely.

The disposition-timeliness results provide a further basis for targeted intervention. The 68.54% on-time share is a positive foundation, but the 31.46% late share warrants close monitoring of cases approaching and exceeding the 24-month threshold. Greater visibility of case age, hearing history and outstanding evidence would enable the court to prioritize matters at greatest risk of prolonged disposition.

5.7 Conclusions and Recommendations

The principal operational priority is to increase the proportion of cases reaching final disposition while safeguarding procedural fairness and the quality of judicial outcomes. A structured case-readiness process should coordinate the work of the prosecution, defence, investigators, forensic services and registry staff. Early confirmation of witness availability, disclosure compliance and outstanding forensic reports would help reduce avoidable adjournments and improve the productive use of hearing dates.

Alongside these measures, the Court should sustain age-based reviews, particularly for cases nearing or beyond 24 months. Periodic reporting of filings, final dispositions, clearance, hearing-date certainty and disposition timeliness will help judicial leadership monitor progress and identify persistent delay.

CHAPTER 6.0: COMMERCIAL DIVISION

6.1 Executive Summary and Introduction

The Commercial Division deals with business disputes whose timely resolution is important to litigants and the orderly administration of justice. This chapter examines filings, dispositions, case-management dates and the time taken to reach an effective hearing. The evidence supports practical improvements in scheduling and readiness, while the available court records do not establish wider economic effects or their causes.

The Commercial Division completed 142 cases against 171 new filings, producing 83.04% clearance. Its reported overall hearing-date certainty was 43.85%. The two selected hearing categories shown later in this chapter had higher rates, so the divisional figure describes a broader set of scheduled events. Together with the recorded waiting period before first hearing, the result points to the value of better pre-hearing preparation and dependable listing arrangements.

6.2 Published 2025 Baseline and Easter 2026 Comparison

The Easter 2025 Commercial return recorded 133 new filings and 181 dispositions, compared with 171 filings and 142 dispositions in Easter 2026. Filings increased by 28.57% while dispositions declined by 21.55%. Count-derived clearance fell from 136.09% to 83.04%, a reduction of 53.05 percentage points. Published hearing-certainty figures were 85.75% for Easter 2025 and 43.85% for Easter 2026. Because the scheduled-event populations may differ, this report treats the hearing percentages as reported indicators rather than a directly comparable change in hearing effectiveness.

Commercial Division Metric	Easter 2026	Easter 2025
New Cases Filed	171	133
Cases Disposed	142	181
Case Clearance Rate (%)	83.04%	136.09%

Commercial Division Metric	Easter 2026	Easter 2025
Hearing Date Certainty (%)	43.85%	85.75%
Reported time to disposition (different statistics)	23.00 mos (median)	22.42 mos (mean)

Commercial clearance fell from 136.09% in Easter 2025, when dispositions exceeded filings, to 83.04% in Easter 2026, when 142 dispositions fell 29 short of 171 new filings. The reported 2025 mean time to disposition was 22.42 months, while the separately reported 2026 median was 23.0 months. Because a mean and a median describe different aspects of a distribution, these figures do not establish a precise year-on-year change. The 2026 pre-hearing waiting measure nonetheless supports a focused review of listing practices, alongside examination of the reported 43.85% hearing-date certainty rate and its coverage.

6.3 Hearing Date Certainty Rates

Type of Hearings	Hearing-date certainty (%)
Trials in Open Court, Trials in Chamber, and Assessments of Damages	52.11%
Case Management Conferences	44.44%
Reported overall event rate (broader basis; event coverage differs)	43.85% (source report)

The Commercial hearing summary records 43.85% overall hearing-date certainty for Easter 2026, alongside published figures of 85.75% in Easter 2025 and 82.05% in Hilary 2026. This deserves attention to hearing preparation and listing reliability, although the figures are not presented as a uniform, like-for-like series. The overall Easter rate covers a broader hearing population than the two selected categories shown here. The reported median interval from defence to first hearing was 13.8 months.

6.4 Estimated Time Between Major Case Events

Case Milestone Interval	Estimated Median Duration
Case Filing to Filing of Defence	9.7 months
Filing of Defence to First Hearing / CMC	13.8 months
First Hearing to Final Disposition	~ 2.5 months
Separately reported lifecycle median (not sum of stage medians)	**23.0 months (Median)**

The reported median defence-to-first-hearing interval of 13.8 months identifies an important pre-hearing delay. The median from first hearing to disposition is approximately 2.5 months among the recorded cases, but the component stage medians total 26.0 months, compared with a separately calculated overall median of 23.0 months. Medians of distinct intervals are not additive, and these values cannot be combined into the lifecycle of a representative case. Linked case-level timestamps are needed to examine which stages account for the longest waits.

6.5 Case Clearance Rate and Target Projections

Metric	Value
Cases Filed	171
Cases Disposed	142
Case Clearance Rate	83.04%

The division disposed of 142 cases against 171 new filings, a 29-case deficit and an 83.04% clearance rate. The immediate operational priorities are improved hearing-date certainty, a shorter defence-to-first-hearing interval and sustained recovery of case clearance before adopting more ambitious backlog-reduction targets.

6.6 Selected Performance Metrics and Planning Scenario

Resolved cases	Unresolved cases	Case turnover ratio (%)	Reported administrative days measure	Cases disposed within 2 years	Total disposed	On-time processing rate (%)	Late-disposition share (%)
142	516	27.52%	418	83	142	58.45%	41.55%

Of 142 completed Commercial cases, 83 (58.45%) had recorded disposition ages of 24 months or less, while 59 (41.55%) were older. The reported turnover ratio of 27.52% compares completions with 516 unresolved matters, but does not measure how long pending cases will take to finish. The divisional return also contains a 418-day administrative indicator; it is not treated here as a confirmed average time to disposition. The completed-case age profile and reported stage durations provide clearer evidence of case progression.

6.7 Conclusion and Recommendations

The Commercial Division's reported stage medians indicate a notable wait before first hearing: 13.8 months after defence, compared with approximately 2.5 months from first hearing to disposition in the measured case groups. The separately reported overall median lifecycle is 23.0 months. Because the measures describe different distributions and stages, they are not additive. Alongside 83.04% clearance and the reported 43.85% hearing-date certainty, these findings support more consistent readiness checks, listing oversight and appropriate registrar-led case management.

The Court could reinforce early Commercial case readiness through structured pre-trial review and appropriate use of authorised case-management personnel. These measures should be tested against time to first effective hearing and the number of preventable adjournments, rather than assumed to produce an immediate improvement.

Introduce a structured pre-trial conference approximately 14 days before commercial trial dates, where consistent with applicable rules and judicial discretion. A recorded readiness declaration by counsel could identify unresolved disclosure, witness, settlement or logistical issues, allowing appropriate action before the trial listing and reducing avoidable hearing disruption.

Subject to applicable judicial authority and procedural rules, assess whether specialized registrars or other authorized judicial officers can undertake suitable preparatory case-management work.

Evaluate the effect on the 13.8-month defence-to-first-hearing interval rather than assuming that delegation will immediately eliminate delay.

6.8 Priorities for Earlier Effective Case Management

Commercial clearance declined from 136.09% in the Easter 2025 counts to 83.04% in 2026. Reported hearing-date certainty also changed from 85.75% to 43.85%, although differences in the recorded hearing categories and scheduled-date counts limit direct comparison. The Court would benefit from a consistent record of final case closures, scheduled hearing dates, adjournment reasons and the first effective hearing. Together, these measures would help distinguish changes in reporting coverage from changes in service delivery.

The pre-hearing interval deserves a separate operations dashboard that distinguishes first scheduled listing from first effective hearing. On the reported statistics, cases await an estimated 13.8 months between defence and the first hearing, but component medians and total lifecycle medians cannot be summed or subtracted as though each came from the same case.

CHAPTER 7.0: AGGREGATE CASE ACTIVITY, OUTSTANDING JUDGMENTS, COURTROOM UTILIZATION AND MODES OF HEARING

7.1 Aggregate Case Clearance Rate

The preceding chapters show that the divisions face different operational pressures despite substantial improvement in overall clearance. This chapter brings together the results from all seven reporting divisions, including the Gun Court's 90 finalized dispositions, while retaining a separate five-division series for direct comparison with Easter 2025. It also considers the ages of completed cases, judgment and ruling activity, courtroom use and hearing modes to identify priorities for the Judiciary as a whole.

Total cases filed	Total cases disposed	Gross Case clearance rate (%)
4,206	**4,013**	**95.41%**

Across the seven reporting divisions, 4,206 cases were filed and 4,013 disposed, producing an overall clearance rate of 95.41%. The five-division analytical panel contributed 4,089 filings and 3,923 dispositions (95.94% clearance). Gun Court added 113 filings and 90 dispositions, while Revenue accounted for four filings and no dispositions.

7.2 Aggregate Case Activity Summary (Easter Term 2026)

The seven-division totals follow directly from the reported divisional counts of filings and completed cases. Time-to-disposition information is less uniform. High Court Civil's 45.7-month figure represents the sum of three separately reported stage medians, not the median duration of a complete case. Family reports a 9.23-month median and Commercial reports a separately calculated 23.0-month median. Comparable overall duration measures are not established for Estate, Home Circuit or Gun Court. Accordingly, no single Court-wide duration average is presented.

COURT PERFORMANCE | AGGREGATE OVERVIEW

Case Activity and Hearing Date Certainty

Table 1. Gross activity and divisional performance across seven divisions

Division	New Cases Filed	Cases Disposed	Clearance Rate (%)	Reported duration (months)†	Easter hearing certainty: reported / estimated*
High Court Civil (HCV)	1,670	1,838	110.06%	Not directly measured†	71.23%
Family & Matrimonial	1,294	1,187	91.73%	9.23	80.05%
Estate Division	812	661	81.40%	Not established	78.31%
Home Circuit Court	142	95	66.90%	Not established	70.70% (trend est.)
Gun Court	113	90	79.65%	Not established	70.89% (trend est.)
Commercial Division	171	142	83.04%	23.00	43.85%
Revenue Court	4	0	0.00%	N/A	N/A (0 disposals)
Gross / Weighted Total (7 divisions)	**4,206**	**4,013**	**95.41%**	**Not pooled†**	**74.02% (est.)**

* The indicative 74.02% overall hearing-date certainty estimate uses four reported Easter divisional rates and straight-line projections for Home Circuit (70.70%) and Gun Court (70.89%). It is weighted by the number of cases disposed of, not by scheduled hearing dates, and is not an observed Court-wide hearing-event rate. Revenue had no dispositions or usable hearing-rate series. The estimate is not directly comparable with historical institutional hearing-certainty percentages based on different populations or counting rules.

† A single Court-wide average time to disposition is not presented. The available divisional measures differ in how cases and time periods are defined. The report therefore presents each supported divisional measure separately.

Clearance rate = cases disposed ÷ new cases filed × 100. “N/A” indicates no reported rate or duration.

The aggregate case activity results encompass all seven Supreme Court divisions, including the finalized Gun Court figures. Across the reporting period, 4,206 new cases were filed and 4,013 cases were disposed of, yielding an overall case clearance rate of 95.41%. Dispositions therefore fell short of new filings by 193 cases. The High Court Civil Division achieved the highest clearance rate, 110.06%, with 1,838 dispositions against 1,670 filings. It was the only division to record a clearance rate above 100%. The Family and Matrimonial Division followed at 91.73%, while the Commercial, Estate, Gun Court and Home Circuit divisions recorded rates of 83.04%, 81.40%, 79.65% and 66.90%, respectively. The Revenue Court recorded four filings and no dispositions.

The Gun Court contributed 113 new filings and 90 final dispositions, representing approximately 2.69% and 2.24% of the institution's respective totals, and completed 77 matters registered before Easter Term. Its 79.65% clearance is based on the finalized Easter case register. A simple two-observation, per-term historical projection gives an estimated hearing-date certainty of 70.89%; the figure is used solely as an indicative component of the Court-wide planning estimate and is not a measured full-term hearing rate.

For Easter 2026, reported hearing-date certainty was 80.05% in Family and Matrimonial, 78.31% in Estate, 71.23% in High Court Civil and 43.85% in Commercial. Complete Easter hearing registers were not available for Home Circuit or Gun Court; their respective planning estimates of 70.70% and 70.89% are straight-line projections from two historical reporting points each. Weighting the six rates by the 4,013 Easter case dispositions produces an indicative overall estimate of 74.02%. Holding the two projected rates at their last published Hilary values would instead yield 74.09%, a difference of 0.07 percentage points. As a further sensitivity check, the two projected divisions together account for 185 of the 4,013 disposition weights (4.61%). Changing both projected rates by 10 percentage points in the same direction gives a composite range of 73.56%–74.48%. This is an arithmetic scenario range, not a statistical confidence interval. Disposition counts are used as practical planning weights, not as counts of scheduled hearings. The resulting measure is therefore neither an observed Court-wide hearing-event rate nor directly comparable with historical institutional hearing-certainty figures calculated on other bases. A measured Court-wide rate will require consistent event definitions and complete scheduled-hearing records, including reconciliation of Commercial hearing categories.

Case-flow results remain directly reproducible from the reported unique filing and disposition counts. A combined Court-wide mean time to disposition is not calculated, because the available division-level measures are not based on consistently verified populations and summary statistics. The appropriate management comparison is therefore the matched five-division clearance series, alongside carefully labelled division-specific measures of timeliness and hearing reliability.

The central institutional finding is the marked improvement in completed-case output: 95.41% clearance across seven divisions and a 16.67-percentage-point increase to 95.94% in the matched five-division comparison. Sustaining this result, alongside more dependable hearing schedules, would further strengthen the timely delivery of justice.

7.2.1 On-Time and Late-Disposition Shares

Disposition timeliness is assessed against a 24-month threshold from the available age information for completed cases, not from an unweighted average of divisional percentages. The comparable five-division schedules show 3,923 dispositions: 2,111 classified within 24 months, 1,707 after 24 months and 105 without an age classification. The Gun Court dated closures add 61, 28 and one, respectively, but those ages are based on the recorded active-status date and may use a different starting convention. Accordingly, the six-division 55.59% classified-age share is a descriptive gross summary, not a fully harmonized institution-wide timeliness rate; 106 unclassified ages are reported separately.

The six-division documented sample contains 4,013 dispositions, comprising the 3,923 completed cases in the established five-division panel and 90 dated Gun Court closures. Of these, 3,907 have usable age classifications. The resulting count-weighted on-time estimate is 2,172/3,907 = 55.59%, while the late estimate is 1,735/3,907 = 44.41%. On the denominator of all 4,013 documented dispositions, 54.12% are confirmed timely and 43.23% are confirmed late; the remaining 2.64% have unknown age. For the five-division panel alone, the estimates among 3,818 age-classified cases are 55.29% timely and 44.71% late. This distinction prevents the 105 Family dispositions without age classifications and the single Gun Court record without an active-status date from being automatically counted as late.

The Gun Court disposition-age estimates use elapsed time from the recorded active-status date to final disposal, whereas the other divisions use their published age bands. These measures are informative but not perfectly identical: an active-status date may differ from the original registration date. Consequently, the six-division on-time and late estimates describe the age-classified disposition population under the recorded conventions.

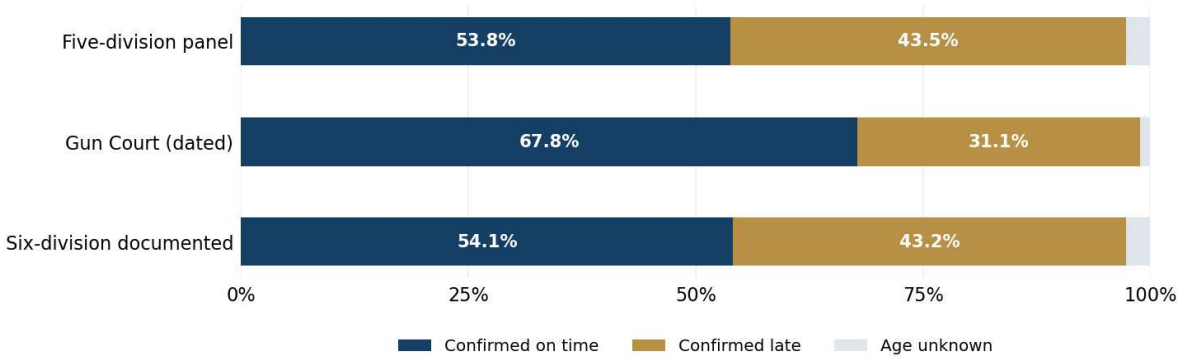


Figure 7.2.2. Confirmed on-time, confirmed late and unclassified disposition shares as percentages of all documented closures. Age-classified estimates in Table 7.2.2 exclude unclassified records from the estimation denominator.

7.3 Judgments Reserved and Judgments Delivered

Judgments Reserved (Cases)	Judgments Delivered (Cases)	Decision flow ratio (%)	Judgments Reserved (Applications)	Judgments Delivered (Applications)	Application flow ratio (%)
98	86	87.76%	72	41	56.94%

The term recorded 86 substantive judgments delivered against 98 newly reserved (87.76%), while 41 application rulings were delivered against 72 newly reserved (56.94%). The difference between these contemporaneous ratios is 30.82 percentage points. Because decisions delivered during the term need not arise from matters reserved during that same term, these ratios do not by themselves measure the stock of outstanding judgments or cohort completion time.

7.4 Courtroom and Chamber Utilization Rates

Physical courtroom utilization was reported at an estimated 61.50%. This is an indication of physical-room use rather than a confirmed measure of all available judicial hearing time. The distinction matters because hearings conducted remotely may make productive use of judicial time without occupying a physical courtroom.

7.5 Modes of Hearing Across Civil and Probate Divisions

Mode of Hearing	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Video Conference	4,410	93.47%
In Person	265	5.62%
Hybrid	32	0.68%

Mode of Hearing	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Teleconference	11	0.23%
Total	**4,718**	**100.00%**

In the classified hearing-mode records, 4,410 of 4,718 events were held by video conference, or 93.47%. A further 265 were in person, 32 hybrid and 11 by teleconference. These figures show that digital hearings were the principal delivery mode in this particular dataset. Because the dataset does not cover all the scheduled hearings counted elsewhere in the report, the 93.47% share should not be presented as the percentage of every Court appearance. Nevertheless, it underscores the importance of reliable technology, support services and contingency arrangements.

7.6 Conclusion and Recommendations

The Court completed 4,013 cases against 4,206 new filings in Easter Term 2026, achieving 95.41% overall clearance. Across the five divisions directly comparable with Easter 2025, clearance reached 95.94%, up from 79.27%. These results provide a strong foundation for continued improvement. The priorities that follow address hearing readiness, registry efficiency and coordination across justice agencies, with particular attention to closing the remaining 193-case difference between filings and dispositions.

7.7 Cross-Division Performance and Reporting Priorities

Easter Term 2026 recorded 4,206 new cases and 4,013 dispositions across seven divisions, leaving a net flow deficit of 193 cases. The five-division panel accounted for 4,089 filings and 3,923 dispositions, Gun Court for 113 and 90 respectively, and Revenue Court for four filings and no disposals. These components reconcile to overall clearance of 95.41%. The 193-case flow difference should not be confused with the outstanding case inventory, which requires separate opening- and closing-stock information.

The judgments schedule is likewise a flow comparison, with 86 substantive judgments delivered against 98 new reservations and 41 application rulings delivered against 72 reservations. The resulting rates of 87.76% and 56.94%

describe concurrent movement in two categories; they do not specify whether the delivered items were reserved within the same term or whether an inherited stock was reduced.

Video conferences accounted for 4,410 of the 4,718 hearings for which a mode of hearing was recorded (93.47%). This demonstrates the importance of reliable digital hearing services, although the figure does not represent every Court appearance. A more complete picture of capacity use would consider judicial sitting time, virtual and in-person hearings, technology interruptions and the proportion of scheduled matters actually heard.

CHAPTER 8.0: INSTITUTIONAL IMPLICATIONS AND STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 From Divisional Findings to Institutional Priorities

The Supreme Court's overall clearance of 95.41%, representing 4,013 completed cases against 4,206 new filings, demonstrates substantial case-completion capacity. The directly comparable five-division rate of 95.94% confirms marked progress over Easter 2025. The Gun Court contributed 90 completed cases against 113 new registrations, or 79.65% clearance. Because operational pressures differ among divisions, further improvements should address hearing preparation, scheduling, registry processes, judicial capacity and coordination with other justice agencies in ways suited to each division.

Five complementary priorities follow from the findings: preparing cases before hearing dates; directing suitable routine matters through authorised judicial and registry processes; strengthening disclosure and trial preparation in criminal proceedings; allocating additional sitting capacity to cases ready to proceed; and reducing repeated Estate registry processing. Reliable case-flow and hearing-event records are an essential monitoring requirement across all five priorities. Together these measures can help reduce avoidable postponements, improve use of judicial time and sustain the Court's stronger case-completion performance.

8.2 Targeted Interventions and Accountability

1. Strengthen pre-hearing document compliance. Pilot readiness certification ahead of selected CMC and chamber hearings, consistent with judicial directions and procedural rules. Evaluate the intervention against the HCV CMC certainty baseline of 51.85% and the frequency of document-related adjournments.

2. Improve the management of routine interlocutory work. Where the law and applicable directions allow, use Masters, Registrars and structured administrative processes for suitable preliminary applications. Measure success through fewer Family adjournments attributable to judicial unavailability, shorter intervals to first hearing in High Court Civil and Commercial, and more dependable scheduled dates.

3. Strengthen cooperation on criminal-case preparation. Agree clear and measurable service standards with the Jamaica Constabulary Force, the Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine, and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for witness statements, disclosure and forensic material. Monitor timely delivery and its effect on the readiness of Gun Court and Home Circuit hearings.

4. Use additional sitting capacity selectively. Where a verified pool of ready-to-hear matters exists, evaluate extended sittings against incremental disposals, avoidable adjournments and resource costs. Additional sitting time should be assessed by completed case work, not by session counts alone.

5. Reduce repeated Estate registry processing. Introduce clearer filing templates, checks before documents are lodged and assigned responsibility for resolving outstanding requirements. Monitor supplemental oaths relative to initial oaths (currently approximately 0.91), alongside clearance and time to disposition. A sustained reduction in avoidable repeat filings, without slower service, would demonstrate progress.

8.3 Implementation Framework and Accountability

Each initiative needs a designated lead and measurable results. High Court Civil should prioritise document readiness and earlier effective hearings; Family, dependable hearing lists; Estate, fewer repeat filings; and the criminal divisions, coordinated disclosure and trial preparation. Evaluation should focus on the problem each initiative is intended to resolve.

Implementation should be staged, with baseline measures, clear responsibilities and regular leadership reviews. Comparisons should take account of workload, case mix and sitting time. Wider adoption should follow demonstrated and sustained improvements in service.

Reducing the outstanding caseload requires more than matching filings with completed cases. Regular reporting of opening and closing pending inventories, transfers, reopenings and the age of pending matters will show whether increased case completion is producing lasting reductions in unresolved work.

CHAPTER 9.0: RETROSPECTIVE EVIDENCE AND FORWARD PLANNING SCENARIOS

9.1 Easter Term Performance in Historical Context

The published Easter 2025 summary shows an 83.05% headline clearance rate, but its displayed totals of 4,298 filings and 3,415 dispositions yield 79.46% when divided directly. The published headline therefore cannot be reproduced from those totals alone. For a more dependable like-for-like comparison, this report uses the same five named divisions in both Easter Terms. They completed 3,323 cases from 4,192 filings in 2025 (79.27%) and 3,923 from 4,089 filings in 2026 (95.94%). That represents 600 additional dispositions (18.06%) and a 16.67-percentage-point increase in clearance. The historical institutional headline figures are retained as published context, not treated as equivalent to the matched series.

The official 2025 publication reports HCV, Family, Estate, Home Circuit, Commercial and Gun Court as separate divisions. The 2026 report presents the seven-division gross Easter Term result and retains a five-division matched-count series for historical comparison. Gun Court is included in the 2026 overall case-flow calculation using its final 113 registrations and 90 dispositions; historical differences in the scope of published indicators remain relevant when interpreting year-on-year change.

The age of cases that have been disposed of differs from the age of cases still pending. Of the six-division disposals with usable age records, 55.59% were completed within 24 months and 44.41% later. These percentages do not measure the Court's outstanding backlog. Gun Court case age is based on recorded active-status dates, and cases with unknown ages are excluded from these two percentages. More complete information about pending cases and their age would allow a fuller assessment of long-running work.

Together, the five-division historical comparison and the seven-division current result show meaningful progress toward balancing incoming and completed cases. Overall clearance was 95.41%; the comparable five divisions reached 95.94%; and High Court Civil completed more

matters than it received. All 2026 filing and disposal counts relate to 8 April–31 July. Gun Court records outside that period are excluded from the Easter Term institutional total.

1. Flow performance and backlog-reduction capacity: overall clearance across the seven divisions was 95.41% (4,013 dispositions from 4,206 filings); the five-division panel achieved 95.94%, and HCV alone exceeded 100%. This indicates substantial institutional throughput, although the 193-case aggregate flow deficit shows that period-wide parity was not attained. Sustained improvement requires raising the weaker divisions while preserving productive output in HCV.

2. Registry reliability: High Court Civil's 97.31% case-file integrity indicator is an indirect measure derived from coded file-related adjournments, not an audit of every court file. It provides a useful operational signal, while periodic case-file checks would establish how reliably files and supporting documents are available when hearings are scheduled.

3. Digital hearing delivery: video conference accounted for 93.47% of the 4,718 hearings with a recorded mode. Remote proceedings therefore predominate in this classified extract.

4. Case progression and scheduling: Reported Easter hearing indicators in four divisions ranged from 43.85% in Commercial to 80.05% in Family. Commercial's marked change calls for consistent event definitions before a firm historical comparison is made. High Court Civil's 34.8-month median defence-to-first-hearing interval points to the need for earlier case engagement despite 110.06% clearance. For the divisions without complete Easter hearing records, trend estimates of 70.70% (Home Circuit) and 70.89% (Gun Court) inform planning only; neither is an observed full-term rate.

5. Reserved decisions: substantive judgments delivered during the term equalled 87.76% of judgments newly reserved, compared with 56.94% for application rulings. These are period activity ratios, not measures of the proportion of an outstanding judgment inventory cleared.

9.2 Planning Scenario and Strategic Outlook (2026–2028)

The 2027–2028 figures provide planning objectives rather than predictions. They use the confirmed Easter Term baseline—95.41% clearance across all seven divisions and 95.94% for the matched five-division group—to identify

what further output or improved case progression could achieve. Actual results will depend on future filings, case readiness, judicial sitting time and available resources. Leadership should assess progress through completed cases, dependable hearings and the ages of both completed and pending cases.

• Capacity scenario: At the Easter Term intake of 4,206 cases, the seven divisions would have required 193 additional dispositions beyond the 4,013 achieved to attain 100% clearance. The corresponding five-division panel would have required 166 additional dispositions beyond 3,923 at 4,089 filings. These gaps indicate the scale of additional output needed for flow parity at the observed intake, not a prediction of future dispositions.

• Backlog measurement: A case completed after 24 months is a late disposition, but this does not indicate the age of cases still awaiting resolution. Cases with unclassified ages must also be shown separately rather than assumed to be late. Reliable assessment of backlog reduction requires opening and closing pending inventories, age bands and adjustments for transferred or reopened cases.

• Lifecycle-compression scenario: HCV's 34.8-month defence-to-first-hearing interval is the clearest quantified delay in the report. Any scenario that assumes compression to 12–14 months should be presented as a management objective contingent on actual scheduling capacity, readiness controls and system implementation, then validated against future observed medians.

• Estate and Commercial scenario: Estate's 84.27% on-time disposition share and Commercial's short post-first-hearing interval show that both divisions can move matters efficiently once ready. Scenario improvement should therefore be tied to reductions in Estate supplemental-oath rework and Commercial pre-hearing delay, with clearance and hearing certainty used as outcome measures.

Easter Term 2026 provides two clear starting points for future review: 95.41% overall clearance across seven divisions and 95.94% in the matched five-division comparison. Reporting on future terms should keep these populations distinct and show changes in new filings, completed cases, hearing reliability and timeliness alongside the headline clearance figures.

CHAPTER 10.0: FINAL ASSESSMENT AND THE PATH FORWARD

10.1 Overall Assessment

Easter Term 2026 marks a substantial achievement for the Supreme Court of Jamaica. Across seven divisions, 4,013 cases were completed against 4,206 new filings, achieving 95.41% clearance. In the five divisions directly comparable with Easter 2025, clearance rose from 79.27% to 95.94%, with 600 more cases completed despite 103 fewer filings. High Court Civil achieved 110.06% clearance, completing 168 more matters than it received. This progress in managing incoming and older cases provides a firm foundation for improvement, even as the 193-case overall flow difference and continuing hearing delays require attention.

10.2 Implementation and Evaluation Priorities

The next priority is to sustain case completion while making effective hearings more dependable. High Court Civil and Commercial need earlier engagement and better document readiness; Family needs reliable hearing lists and appropriate judicial cover; and Estate needs efficient registry processes. Home Circuit and Gun Court require continued coordination of disclosure, evidence and attendance. Each initiative should have clear ownership, measurable outcomes and regular leadership review, consistent with applicable procedural requirements.

Future Court-wide reporting should bring together filings, dispositions, clearance, hearing reliability, time to the first effective hearing and the ages of completed and pending cases. This will help judicial leadership communicate progress, identify lasting gains and direct support where needed. Building on the achievements of Easter Term 2026 while addressing remaining pressures will strengthen the timely administration of justice.

GLOSSARY OF STATISTICAL TERMS

This glossary explains the statistical and operational terms used throughout the report. Where divisions record an indicator differently, that distinction is explained so that readers can interpret the results fairly.

A. Reporting periods and case-count definitions

Administrative reporting extract. A dated selection of records from a case-management or other operational system. Its counts are conditioned by extraction date, selected courts, reporting period and inclusion rules; it is not automatically a verified census of every court activity.

Reporting period or observation window. The beginning and ending dates used to select filings, hearings and case closures. For Easter Term 2026, the period is 8 April–31 July and the Gun Court contributes 113 new cases and 90 final dispositions to the seven-division gross total. The separate late-July hearing extract is insufficient to compute the Gun Court's full-term hearing-certainty rate; that limitation does not affect the final filing and disposal totals.

Five-division analytical comparison. High Court Civil, Family and Matrimonial, Estate, Home Circuit and Commercial form a consistent selected population for historical case-flow comparisons and exploratory regression. In Easter Term 2026, those divisions reported 4,089 filings and 3,923 dispositions (95.94% clearance). Their results must be distinguished from institutional headline rates that use different coverage.

Easter Term Gun Court returns. The reporting interval is 8 April–31 July 2026. Date-filtered case-number records identify 113 new registrations from a broader 203-case January–July register. The final Gun Court disposition total is 90 unique cases with in-term closure dates and disposed status, yielding 79.65% case clearance (90 ÷ 113 × 100). The outcomes export also contains 364 charge-level records involving 106 cases; these are separate statistical units and do not affect the final case-disposal count. The Gun Court is therefore included in the seven-division gross case-flow total, while its full-term hearing certainty is not observed in the available records; historical and late-July information supports planning scenarios only.

Unit of observation. The entity counted in an indicator, such as a unique case, criminal charge, court hearing, adjournment reason, oath, judgment or warrant. Different units are not interchangeable; each table should identify the unit in its numerator and denominator.

Unique case identifier. A stable, nonduplicated number used to link filing, hearing, disposition and status changes for the same case. This identifier is essential for preventing double counting and reconstructing actual pending inventory.

Classified sample and coverage rate. The subset of records with the required classification or valid field. Coverage rate equals classified records divided by eligible records, multiplied by 100. Unclassified records should be quantified and not assumed to resemble the classified group.

Missing or unknown data. Records for which the required value is not reliably captured. Unknown is not synonymous with zero or with a negative outcome; data-quality analysis should show the number and proportion missing, as with age-at-disposition records.

Denominator. The total number of eligible observations to which a rate applies. A defensible percentage identifies the denominator, shows the numerator, and states whether missing, withdrawn, continued or duplicated events were excluded.

Proxy indicator. An indirect substitute used when the intended construct is not observed directly. The HCV case-file integrity percentage is a division-specific proxy based on file-related adjournments; it is not a direct registry audit of every file across the Supreme Court.

Reconciliation. A check that figures in component rows, time periods, categories and underlying records agree with the stated total. Material unexplained differences should be disclosed rather than adjusted silently.

B. Caseload flow, pending stock and timeliness

New cases filed (inflow). The count of newly instituted matters meeting the reporting definition within a stated period. Transfers and reopened cases require explicit treatment so they are not confused with first-time filings.

Case disposition (closure). An event counted as a completed case under the relevant reporting rules. Disposed cases may have originated in the current period or an earlier one; a charge outcome or interlocutory ruling is not automatically a separately disposed case.

Case clearance rate. The number of distinct cases disposed in a reporting period divided by new cases filed in that period, expressed as a percentage. Easter Term 2026 recorded 3,923 ÷ 4,089 × 100 = 95.94% in the five-division analytical panel; 90 ÷ 113 × 100 = 79.65% in Gun Court; and 4,013 ÷ 4,206 × 100 = 95.41% across seven divisions. Case clearance measures period inflow relative to output and is not the same as the number or age of unresolved cases in the pending inventory.

New-case disposal rate. Where a filing cohort can be followed, the proportion of newly filed cases disposed within a specified follow-up window. It differs from the gross clearance rate, which can include older cases. This rate requires case-linked filing and disposition dates and is not derived for the report as a whole.

Case-flow surplus or deficit. Dispositions minus filings within a stated period. A positive amount means output exceeded contemporaneous inflow, while a negative amount means filings exceeded output. The fixed five-division panel records a deficit of 166 cases in 2026 (3,923 − 4,089).

Pending inventory (active case stock). The set of cases open on a specified date under a documented case-status definition. Stock is different from filings or disposals over a period and requires unique-case case-management records.

Stock-and-flow accounting identity. A reconciliation for active inventory: closing pending = opening pending + new entries − final closures ± verified transfers, reopenings and status adjustments. A clearance rate cannot substitute for this equation when opening stock and adjustments are unavailable.

Backlog and aged pending cases. The pending inventory, or a defined aged subset of it, that remains unresolved at a reporting date. The report uses more than 24 months as an analytical age threshold in places, not as a universally established legal or judicial definition of backlog.

Age at disposition. The elapsed time from the relevant start date to final disposition for completed cases. It describes the concluded-case population, not the age distribution of cases still pending.

On-time disposition share. The number of disposed cases completed within the report's stated 24-month benchmark divided by total dispositions, multiplied by 100, with missing ages disclosed. Coverage-limited values are lower bounds for the all-case timely share, not estimates based on assuming missing ages are timely or late.

Late-disposition share. The proportion of disposals known to have exceeded the stated age threshold. The complement of the on-time share equals the late share only if every disposed case has a valid age classification.

Classified-case on-time and late estimates. Where some disposition ages are missing, the count of verified timely cases or verified late cases divided by the sum of timely and late cases with usable ages. Unknown ages are reported separately. This estimator describes the observed age-classified subset and is not a complete-case population statistic if missing records are systematically different.

Gun Court active-status-to-disposition proxy. A measure of elapsed time between the administratively recorded date on which a Gun Court case entered active status and its recorded final disposal date. For the 2026 extract this permits age classification for 89 of 90 documented Easter Term case closures. It can understate a case's full duration if active status began after the original case registration or was reset following reactivation.

Case-turnover ratio (as reported). Reported disposals divided by reported unresolved cases. This descriptive ratio depends on how unresolved cases are defined and is not a validated annual time-to-clear estimate or a substitute for a stock-and-flow inventory model.

Disposition-days estimate. A projection of the time or working days needed to process an outstanding inventory at a specified disposal pace. It is not independently reproducible without the time base, disposal velocity, treatment of arrivals and definition of working versus calendar days.

Mean and median time to disposition. The mean is the arithmetic average of elapsed durations; the median is the 50th percentile. They convey different aspects of a duration distribution. A disposal-weighted average of reported divisional durations that mix medians and means can serve as an explicitly qualified proxy but is not equivalent to the pooled case-level mean. The latter requires consistent case-level measurements.

Disposal-weighted reported-duration proxy. A descriptive calculation that weights each division's reported duration by its number of dispositions. It equals a pooled case-level mean only when all

division-level inputs are genuine means for harmonized populations and periods. When inputs mix means, medians or undocumented administrative indicators, the result is not a valid overall time-to-disposition statistic. No such combined estimate is published for Easter Term 2026.

Median milestone intervals. Median elapsed times measured separately for stages such as filing-to-defence or defence-to-first-hearing. Their medians generally do not sum to the median end-to-end lifecycle, because individual cases need not occupy the same rank in each stage distribution.

Legacy-case disposition. A completed case that entered the system in a previous reporting period or belongs to a designated older cohort. The definition of "legacy" must be specified; it is not necessarily identical to the 24-month late-disposition threshold.

C. Hearing operations, case readiness and institutional indicators

Hearing-date certainty. An administrative indicator based on eligible scheduled hearing dates that were not recorded as adjourned, using the specified rules for continuances, cancellations and eligibility. It does not necessarily show that a substantive hearing took place. A directly measured Court-wide rate requires complete hearing-event records and consistent definitions. For Easter 2026, the indicative 74.02% figure combines four reported divisional rates with trend-based Home Circuit (70.70%) and Gun Court (70.89%) estimates, weighted by divisional case dispositions. Dispositions are not scheduled-hearing counts, so this is a planning indicator, not an observed Court-wide event rate.

Adjournment. The postponement or deferral of a listed hearing or proceeding, classified under the relevant court's administrative rules. Reasons may reflect judicial, party, counsel, procedural or external constraints; an adjournment is not necessarily avoidable.

Continuance. An extension or further listing of an ongoing proceeding. Operational classifications vary, and continuances may be excluded from or included in a certainty denominator depending on the reported rule. No universal distinction based on avoidability is assumed.

Case Management Conference (CMC). A scheduled proceeding used to establish readiness, narrow issues, manage disclosure, set directions and progress a case toward effective hearing or resolution. CMC certainty helps indicate whether the preparatory phase functions as scheduled.

First effective hearing. The earliest event on which the matter proceeds substantively, distinguished from a date merely entered on a calendar. A robust waiting-time measure links the first effective hearing timestamp to a consistently defined filing or defence event.

Readiness certification and pre-hearing triage. A documented check of service, pleadings, disclosure, attendance and other prerequisites before allocating or preserving a hearing slot. Its effect should be assessed through preventable adjournments and case progression, not only the number of checklists completed.

Case-file integrity proxy. In HCV, a measure derived from the frequency of missing/mislisted-file adjournment events relative to a specified adjournment or hearing denominator. It does not directly establish the condition of every digital or physical case file.

Judicial Flexibility Index (JFI). A locally proposed adjournment-to-scheduled-hearing ratio sometimes presented as an index of flexibility. Its use is not validated in this report as a standard measure of judicial conduct or productivity; an unverified index value is not used to rank judges or divisions.

Courtroom utilization rate. Used physical courtroom hours divided by available physical courtroom hours over a stated period. It may understate judicial activity when remote hearings occur and may mislead if available hours or booking rules are not documented.

Hearing mode and classified-mode share. The recorded method of hearing—such as video conference, in person, hybrid or teleconference. The 93.47% video figure in this report applies to the 4,718 hearings with classified mode, not necessarily to every hearing scheduled in the institution.

Judicial availability adjournment. An adjournment assigned a judicial-unavailability reason in the administrative register. The coded share can guide review of listing and coverage arrangements but is not sufficient, on its own, to determine preventability or fault.

Supplemental-oath-to-initial-oath ratio. Supplemental oath filings divided by initial oath filings in the Estate Division. The reported ratio is 742/812 ≈ 0.914; it indicates document workload and possible rework, not the percentage of distinct estates with defective filings.

D. Criminal justice, judgments and outcome classification

Case-level versus charge-level conviction outcome. A case may contain multiple charges. The ratio of guilty charge outcomes to all charge outcomes is not the same as the share of cases or persons resulting in a conviction; denominators and legal definitions must be kept separate.

No Evidence Offered / No Further Evidence Offered. Charge-outcome categories recorded in the Gun Court disposition table. Their frequency may identify patterns warranting investigation but does not, without case linkage, independently establish why evidentiary attrition occurred.

Multi-response adjournment coding. A record structure permitting several reasons to attach to a single adjourned hearing. Percentages of hearings bearing each reason can sum to more than 100%; the Gun Court extract reports 51 reason codes across 24 sampled adjournments.

Disclosure or forensic readiness. The extent to which required statements, materials and scientific reports are available by a defined judicial or prosecutorial cutoff. Meaningful assessment requires case-linked document types, requested dates, receipt dates and completeness standards.

Reserved judgment and delivered judgment. A decision taken under reserve and a decision subsequently issued or delivered. Ratios of delivered to reserved decisions in the same reporting period describe concurrent flows, not necessarily the resolution of the same reserved-judgment cohort.

Application ruling. A judicial determination of an application or interlocutory matter, distinct from a substantive final judgment where the reporting categories so specify. Its outstanding inventory and delivery measures should be separately recorded.

Outstanding-judgment inventory. Judgments reserved but not yet delivered on a specified date. An auditable account requires opening outstanding, new reservations, deliveries and verified adjustments, ideally with reservation and delivery timestamps.

E. Statistical relationships and regression findings

Descriptive statistic. A numerical summary of observed data, such as count, proportion, rate, mean, median or percentage-point change. It can describe patterns but cannot by itself determine the cause of the pattern.

Percentage change versus percentage-point change. Percentage change compares values relative to an initial level: (new − old)/old × 100. Percentage-point change subtracts two percentage rates directly; clearance rising from 80% to 90% is +10 percentage points, equivalent to +12.5% relative growth.

Weighted aggregate rate. An aggregate ratio computed by dividing summed eligible numerators by summed corresponding denominators, rather than taking an unweighted average of divisional percentages. For Easter Term 2026 the seven-division gross clearance rate is 4,013/4,206 = 95.41%, and the five-division subtotal is 3,923/4,089 = 95.94%. The weighted on-time and late shares are based on 3,907 dispositions with usable age information (55.59% and 44.41%); a further 106 disposed cases have unclassified age.

Correlation (Pearson r). A dimensionless measure of linear association between two numeric variables. The filings-to-dispositions model uses five aggregated divisions; the illustrative hearing-certainty model uses four divisions with reported Easter 2026 indicators. Neither identifies a causal relationship.

Ordinary least squares (OLS) regression. A method that estimates an intercept and slope by minimizing squared residuals. Its associations depend on model specification, data quality and sampling structure; with five divisions, fitted coefficients require particularly cautious interpretation.

Slope and intercept. In a linear relation y = a + bx, b is the change in fitted y associated with a one-unit difference in x, and a is the fitted value when x is zero. They are descriptive coefficients, not guaranteed productivity rules or policy effects.

Coefficient of determination (R^2). The share of observed variation in the model outcome explained by the fitted regression within its analysis sample, ranging from 0 to 1 for OLS with an intercept. High R^2 does not imply causality or dependable out-of-sample forecasts.

P-value. A test result describing how unusual a statistic would be under a specified null hypothesis and statistical model. A small p-value does not prove practical importance, causation, or reliable generalization from five administrative divisions.

Confidence interval. An interval constructed by a statistical method with stated long-run coverage under model assumptions. The regression slope intervals in Annex B are conventional OLS intervals and are highly sensitive to the small sample and cross-division comparability.

Sensitivity and leave-one-out analysis. A check of how results change under alternate assumptions or when one observation is removed. This report omits one division at a time to show that an apparently strong pooled relationship may be influenced by a high-volume division.

Influential observation and leverage. An observation that has unusual predictor values or substantial effect on a fitted coefficient. HCV is influential in the filings–dispositions regression because its scale differs markedly from those of several other divisions.

Ecological interpretation. Relationships estimated across divisions describe institutional aggregates; they do not establish the same relationships within individual cases or hearings.

Statistical power and small sample. The capacity to distinguish an effect or relationship from sampling noise. Five aggregated observations provide limited precision and little room to control for caseload mix, judicial capacity or different case-processing rules.

Causal inference. An attempt to estimate what would have happened to an outcome with versus without an intervention, requiring a credible counterfactual and appropriate assumptions. The present cross-divisional regressions are descriptive and do not estimate causal effects.

F. Forecasts, scenarios, evaluation and governance

Forecast versus planning scenario. A forecast predicts future outcomes using a stated model and supporting time series, ideally with uncertainty and validation. A planning scenario instead evaluates assumed future inputs or target paths; the report's 2027–2028 values are scenarios rather than validated forecasts.

Exponential smoothing. A family of time-series forecasting approaches that place relatively greater weight on recent observations. Estimation requires enough comparable dated observations, model specification and forecast-error evaluation; no validated exponential-smoothing model is established by the available tables.

Flow-equilibrium threshold. Clearance of 100%, meaning reported period dispositions equal new filings, under consistent accounting. It indicates no net growth from those two flows alone, but does not remove previously pending stock or account for transfers and reopenings.

Stress test or scenario sensitivity matrix. A table showing how clearance or another outcome changes under stated hypothetical inputs. It supports planning but does not establish that a scenario will occur or that resources will be available.

Service-level agreement (SLA). An inter-agency agreement specifying duties, delivery standards, exceptions and review arrangements for disclosure, witness attendance or forensic reports. Performance is assessed against dated, complete submissions.

Baseline and evaluation period. The verified starting measure and follow-up period used to assess change. Comparisons require consistent case definitions, case mix and reporting windows.

Performance dashboard. A routinely updated set of indicators with clear definitions, dated sources and accountable data owners. It covers both current case flow and pending inventory.

Reporting traceability. The ability to explain how a published figure was calculated, including the records covered, the reporting period and any adjustments. Consistency checks support confidence in the report but do not replace verification of individual court records.

ANNEX A. CASE-FLOW RECONCILIATION AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

This annex sets out the case counts, indicator definitions, historical comparisons and planning calculations underlying the report's principal findings. It provides a common statistical reference for the divisional activity schedules and the institution-wide analysis.

A1. Consolidated Easter Term Activity

The final seven-division Easter Term activity total is 4,206 new cases and 4,013 dispositions, or 95.41% overall clearance. The corresponding five-division analytical panel records 4,089 filings, 3,923 dispositions and 95.94% clearance. Gun Court adds 113 new registrations and 90 final closures (79.65%), while Revenue Court adds four filings and no dispositions. These counts use consistent Easter Term boundaries, and the published 2025 figures are separately identified wherever historical coverage differs.

Case clearance describes the volume of completed cases relative to new filings in a defined reporting period. The disposition-age analysis describes the age of cases completed within that period, while pending-case inventory reports the matters that remain unresolved. Hearing-date certainty separately measures adherence to scheduled dates. The indicative overall hearing-date estimate of 74.02% is based on 2026 dispositions and trend-projected values where full-term hearing records are missing; it should be replaced by a directly measured event-weighted rate when consistent hearing registers become available.

A2. Reconciliation of Easter Term 2026 Divisional Flows

Division	New filings	Dispositions	Clearance	Net flow D−F	Period
High Court Civil (HCV)	1,670	1,838	110.06%	+168	Easter
Family & Matrimonial	1,294	1,187	91.73%	-107	Easter

Division	New filings	Dispositions	Clearance	Net flow D−F	Period
Estate	812	661	81.40%	-151	Easter
Home Circuit	142	95	66.90%	-47	Easter
Gun Court	113	90	79.65%	−23	8 Apr–31 Jul; final disposal count
Commercial	171	142	83.04%	-29	Easter
Revenue	4	0	0.00%	-4	Easter
TOTAL: seven divisions	**4,206**	**4,013**	**95.41%**	**−193**	**8 Apr–31 Jul; final case counts**

Across seven divisions, 4,206 filings exceeded 4,013 dispositions by 193 cases, consistent with the overall clearance rate of 95.41%. Within this result, the five-division panel had a 166-case shortfall, Gun Court a 23-case shortfall and Revenue Court four additional filings without disposals. HCV nevertheless recorded a disposition surplus of 168 cases within the five-division total. The net term flow differences describe changes generated by current-period activity and are not a direct census of the Court's accumulated pending-case inventory.

A3. Comparable Five-Division Historical Results

Easter Term / source status	Filings	Dispositions	Count-derived clearance	Term inflow–output gap
2024	N/V	N/V	N/V	N/V
2025	4,192	3,323	79.27%	869
2026	4,089	3,923	95.94%	166

The historical comparison draws on the Judiciary of Jamaica's published Easter Term 2025 report (case-activity summary, page 8) and the Easter Term 2026 divisional schedules. A comparable five-division count series for 2024 has not been established, so the 2024 figure on the cover is retained as published historical context rather than incorporated into the matched-divisions analysis.

The five directly comparable divisions—High Court Civil, Family and Matrimonial, Estate, Home Circuit and Commercial—recorded 4,192 filings and 3,323 dispositions in Easter 2025, equivalent to 79.27% clearance and a difference of 869 cases. In Easter 2026, those divisions recorded 4,089

filings and 3,923 dispositions, equivalent to 95.94% clearance and a difference of 166 cases. New filings declined by 103 (2.46%), while dispositions increased by 600 (18.06%), improving clearance by 16.67 percentage points. Comparable 2024 divisional counts are not available, so the matched comparison is confined to 2025 and 2026.

The published institutional Easter Term clearance headlines are 75.02% for 2024 and 83.05% for 2025. A distinct subtotal derived from the official 2025 counts for HCV, Family, Estate, Home Circuit and Commercial produces 79.27% clearance. The 2026 records for those same named divisions yield 95.94%. The cover reports published institutional historical benchmarks, whereas the case-flow analysis supplies explicit divisional numerators and denominators. These different reference populations are not represented as a single homogeneous time series.

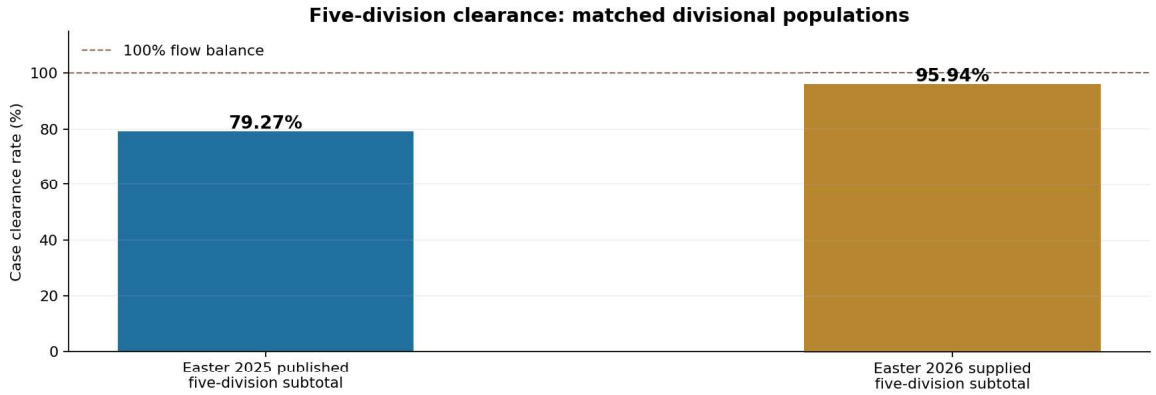


Figure A1. Clearance across the same five named divisions, calculated from Easter 2025 published case counts and Easter 2026 divisional schedules. The comparison covers 2025–2026 only; equivalent five-division data for 2024 are not available.

A4. Division-Level Trends and Calculation Methods

Division	2024 (no matched count series)	Easter 2025 clearance	Easter 2026 clearance	Change (percentage points)
HCV	—	75.25%	110.06%	+34.81 pp
Family	—	88.06%	91.73%	+3.67 pp
Estate	—	71.11%	81.40%	+10.29 pp
Home Circuit	—	41.10%	66.90%	+25.80 pp
Gun Court†	—	86.79%	79.65%†	−7.14 pp†

Division	2024 (no matched count series)	Easter 2025 clearance	Easter 2026 clearance	Change (percentage points)
Commercial	—	136.09%	83.04%	−53.05 pp

Division-level clearance is computed as dispositions divided by filings during the same reporting interval. The published Easter 2025 counts give HCV 75.25% (964/1,281), Family 88.06% (1,306/1,483), Estate 71.11% (805/1,132), Home Circuit 41.10% (67/163), and Commercial 136.09% (181/133); the publication rounded Commercial clearance to approximately 136%. The 2025 Gun Court report records 92 dispositions against 106 filings (86.79% from displayed counts). In Easter 2026, the corresponding Gun Court result was 90 dispositions and 113 registrations, yielding a final rate of 79.65%. Published historical comparators are identified separately from matched divisional series where their coverage differs.

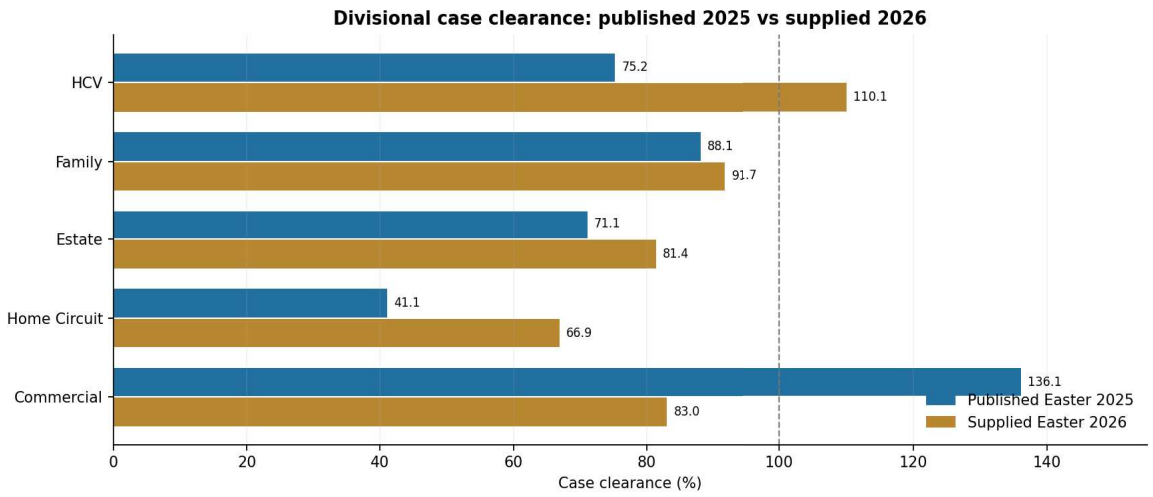


Figure A2. Clearance in the five corresponding divisions for Easter 2025 and Easter 2026. Gun Court is shown separately in the institutional totals, where its 2026 filings and dispositions are fully included.

A5. Disposition-Age Categories and Classification

Division	Disposed	≤24 months confirmed	>24 months confirmed	Unknown age
HCV	1,838	572	1,266	0
Family	1,187	875	207	105
Estate	661	557	104	0
Home Circuit	95	24	71	0

Division	Disposed	≤24 months confirmed	>24 months confirmed	Unknown age
Gun Court, dated extract	90	61	28	1
Commercial	142	83	59	0
Five-division subtotal	**3,923**	**2,111**	**1,707**	**105**
Six-division documented sample	4,013	2,172	1,735	106

The age-at-disposition schedule identifies cases completed within 24 months, those completed later and those without a usable age classification. The five-division panel had 2,111 on-time cases, 1,707 late cases and 105 with unknown age, from 3,923 dispositions. Among the Gun Court's 90 final disposals, 61 were on time, 28 late and one had an unknown active-status date. These counts combine to 4,013 dispositions, of which 2,172 were on time, 1,735 late and 106 unclassified. The indicative shares of 55.59% and 44.41% apply to the 3,907 age-classified cases. Gun Court age is measured from active-status date, which may not coincide with original registration, so the cross-divisional shares remain descriptive estimates.

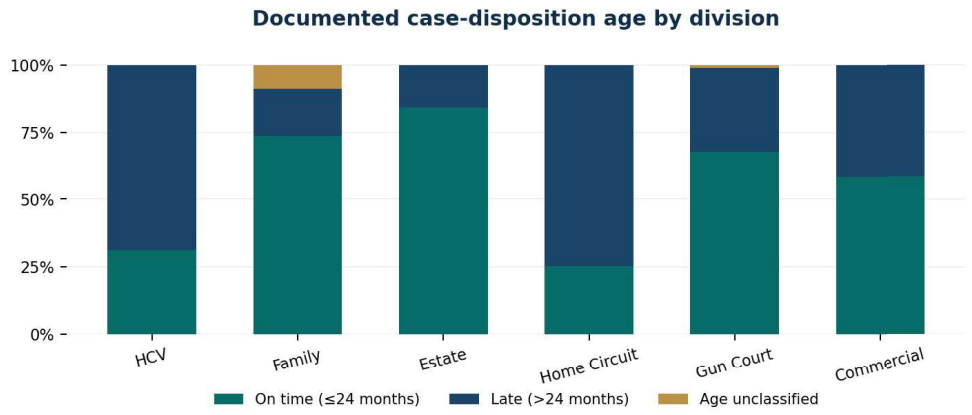


Figure A3. Share of documented on-time, late and unclassified dispositions by division, Easter Term 2026. Gun Court durations are estimated from administrative active-status dates.

A6. Sensitivity Analysis: Output Required for Flow Equilibrium

The five-division term panel recorded 4,089 filings and 3,923 dispositions, leaving a 166-case flow deficit. For the full seven-division total, 4,206 filings less 4,013 final dispositions yields a 193-case

deficit. At the same observed level of intake, 193 additional completed cases would have been required to reach 100% overall clearance. These are arithmetic parity requirements, not forecasts of future judicial output, and should be interpreted separately from estimates of the accumulated pending-case inventory.

Five-division filing scenario	Expected filings	No output growth	Output +5%	Output +10%	Output +15%
-5% filings	3,885	100.98%	106.03%	111.08%	116.12%
+0% filings	4,089	95.94%	100.74%	105.53%	110.33%
+5% filings	4,293	91.38%	95.95%	100.52%	105.09%
+10% filings	4,498	87.22%	91.58%	95.94%	100.30%

The sensitivity table shows how clearance would change if the numbers of new filings and completed cases differed from the Easter baseline. These are simple planning illustrations, not forecasts or required judicial targets. Percentages are calculated from the case counts and assumptions stated for each scenario.

The five-division scenario deliberately uses the same High Court Civil, Family, Estate, Home Circuit and Commercial reporting panel as the published Easter 2025 comparison. Gun Court's finalized 113 filings and 90 dispositions remain included in the seven-division institutional total but are outside this particular matched-panel sensitivity grid; they are not excluded because of missing case-disposition data.

A7. Operational Constraints and Intervention Priorities

HCV. The division's 110.06% clearance reflects strong case completion, yet 610 of 1,267 Case Management Conferences were adjourned (48.15%). Open-court trial certainty, at 93.49%, was much stronger. Earlier checks of documents and filing readiness before CMCs, together with timely case allocation, offer practical opportunities to improve hearing reliability. A pilot could assess

readiness 14 days and again 72 hours before scheduled dates, consistent with procedural rules and judicial directions, and monitor changes in adjournments and effective hearings.

Family. The division recorded 80.05% hearing-date certainty and 91.73% clearance, but completed 107 fewer cases than it received. Judicial unavailability was recorded in 91 of 274 adjournments (33.21%). Protecting scheduled hearing lists and assigning suitable routine applications to appropriately authorized officers offer practical opportunities for improvement. Any changes should respect the particular needs of matters involving children and the legal requirements governing mediation and case management.

Estate. The division recorded 742 supplemental oaths against 812 initial oaths (0.914 supplemental filings per initial oath). This is a process-load signal, not evidence that 91.4% of separate cases are defective. A prospective audit should identify how many supplemental oaths arise per unique estate, which filing deficiencies recur, how often requisitions are repeated, and whether checklist changes reduce multiple lodgments. A reduction in the ratio with steady disposition rates would be an observable efficiency gain.

Home Circuit. The estimated Easter 2026 hearing-date certainty rate is 70.70%, based on a straight-line extension of the published hearing-type averages of 74.25% in Easter 2025 and 71.88% in Hilary 2026. The historical 60.00% trial rate and 71.88% average both refer to Hilary 2026, not Easter 2026. The projection is a practical planning indicator rather than an observed full-term rate. In Easter 2026, 1,494 of 2,000 coded adjournment reasons (74.70%) were recorded as miscellaneous. Better recording of hearing outcomes and reasons for postponement would support a direct measure of hearing reliability and more focused action.

Gun Court. The indicative Easter 2026 hearing-date certainty estimate is 70.89%, obtained by extending the published trend from 76.59% in Easter 2025 to 72.79% in Hilary 2026 by one

additional court-term interval. The available Easter hearing extract covers only 20–31 July 2026, and its 53.33% non-adjournment indicator relates to that limited event sample, not to the entire term. The 70.89% projection is the single central Gun Court estimate included in the 74.02% Court-wide planning measure. Complete dated hearing registers, with consistent treatment of adjournments and continuances, are needed to calculate the observed full-term rate.

Commercial. Hearing certainty stood at 43.85% in 2026, compared with 85.75% in the published Easter 2025 return, while clearance fell from 136.09% to 83.04% using displayed filing and disposition counts. The reported component medians of 9.7, 13.8 and approximately 2.5 months sum to 26.0 months, not the separately reported overall 23.0-month median. Medians generally are not additive, so the figures cannot be interpreted as an exact decomposition of a typical case; linked per-case timestamps are needed to quantify the waiting period.

Revenue. Four new cases and zero dispositions are insufficient to establish a stable trend or general operational deterioration. A proportional response is a dated case register and monthly readiness review, escalating if the same matters persist beyond a documented internal age threshold. Zero divided by four is a valid 0% flow ratio for the period, but the resulting percentage is statistically fragile and should not dominate overall priorities.

A8. Judicial Operations and Performance Measures

Indicator	Proposed unit / formula	Minimum quality control	Review
Case flow and clearance	Unique cases: dispositions ÷ filings	Common case ID; same dates; transfer/reopen rules	Monthly / term
Verified backlog stock	Open at close = open at start + inflow − closures ± transfers/reopens	Dated unique-case roster; case-type and age bands	Monthly / term
Hearing certainty	Eligible dates not recorded as adjourned ÷ eligible dates set	Common event codes and rules for continuances, cancellations and missing outcomes	Monthly

Indicator	Proposed unit / formula	Minimum quality control	Review
First-effective-hearing wait	Median of per-case (first effective hearing − defence filed)	Only cases with both valid timestamps; coverage shown	Quarterly
Timeliness at disposal	Two shares: ≤24m / age-classified; ≤24m / all disposals	Report unknown ages; common age start date and units	Term
Supplemental-oath burden	Supplemental oaths ÷ initial oaths and per unique estate	Separate documents from unique cases	Monthly
Evidence readiness	Required evidence received by cutoff / expected	Case linkage, interagency timestamps and exception codes	Monthly
Reserved-judgment stock	Closing outstanding = opening + new reserves − delivered ± adjustments	Separate applications and substantive judgments	Monthly

More dependable periodic monitoring would connect each case to its filing date, scheduled and effective hearing dates, adjournments, final outcome and closure date. It would also distinguish transfers, reopened cases, charges and hearing events from new and concluded cases, and record the age and complexity of matters. Clear responsibilities for maintaining these records, consistent definitions and published underlying case or hearing counts would make performance results more informative for judicial leadership and the public.

A9. Operational Implementation and Performance Evaluation

Phase	Intervention and owner (proposed)	Decision-quality evidence
First 30 days	Statistics Unit/ICT: agree common case definitions, capture reporting windows, reconcile 2024–26 ratios and missing age records	Signed denominator dictionary; difference log; Gun matched-window extract
Days 31–90	HCV/Commercial registries: pilot two-stage CMC readiness checklist, track failure codes and days to first effective hearing	HCV CMC certainty vs 51.85%; Commercial certainty vs 43.85%; coverage and case mix

Phase	Intervention and owner (proposed)	Decision-quality evidence
Days 31–90	Family leadership: review judge-availability cancellations, protected lists and delegated suitable applications	Number and share of judge-unavailable adjournments; unaffected trial time
Days 31–120	Estate registry: collect unique-estate requisition and supplemental-oath histories; validate a completeness checklist	Supplemental/initial oath ratio vs 0.914; repeat requisitions per estate
Days 61–150	Criminal justice partners: establish an evidence-readiness tracker with documented service standards and escalation	On-time evidence receipt; trial listing certainty; complete reason-code coverage
Days 91–180	Court Statistics Unit: publish stock-and-flow dashboard with auditable baselines and matched-window trend panel	Filings, dispositions, inventory by age, hearing certainty and reason-coded failures

Operational pilots are best assessed against a baseline of comparable case types and reporting periods, with indicators focused on hearing readiness, timeliness, disposition flow and resource utilization. Implementation must remain consistent with the applicable legal framework, procedural discretion, staffing and information-system capacity, and judicial independence. Suggested performance thresholds serve as evaluation criteria rather than predictions of future outcomes.

A10. Forward Planning and Performance Targets

A verified five-division count comparison is available for Easter 2025 and Easter 2026, but those two observations are insufficient for reliable time-series regression, seasonal forecasting or confidence intervals. Even three annual observations would provide an unstable linear trend. A defensible predictive framework requires consistent monthly or term-level observations over a longer period, with stable definitions, case-mix adjustment and out-of-sample checks.

An accurate picture of the Court's pending caseload depends on the opening inventory, new case entries, final disposals and verified changes such as transfers or reopened matters. In standard

case-flow notation, $B(t) = B(t-1) + I(t) - D(t) + T(t)$, where B is active pending inventory, I is new entries, D is final disposals, and T is net verified adjustments. The necessary opening inventories and adjustment histories are not yet available consistently for all divisions, so this report does not present a reconstructed Court-wide pending balance or a statistically validated inventory forecast. With complete records, separate term-by-term modelling of filings and dispositions could support scenario ranges for future caseloads, case readiness and judicial capacity. Such projections would be presented as forecasts only after their assumptions and predictive performance could be evaluated.

The 2027 and 2028 operating pathways remain conditional management scenarios rather than validated statistical forecasts. A single Court-wide average time to disposition is not estimated because several division-level duration inputs lack documented population and statistic type. Judgments delivered against new reservations—86/98 for substantive matters and 41/72 for applications—provide contemporary flow indicators but do not prove a reduction in pending judgment inventory without reliable opening and closing balances.

A11. Reporting Definitions and Counting Rules

Reporting conventions: Easter Term covers 8 April–31 July 2026. Filings and dispositions refer to cases; charge outcomes and hearing events use separate counting units. The Gun Court's January–July figures are not substituted for Easter Term results. Case ages and hearing-date certainty are presented using the stated source definitions, and historical comparisons emphasize comparable case groups. Additional source-coverage and reconciliation information appears in Appendix II.

ANNEX B. EXPLORATORY REGRESSION, DIAGNOSTICS AND EVALUATION DESIGN

B1. Data, estimation unit and analytical purpose

The exploratory regression section contains two separate cross-sectional descriptions. Model 1 relates filings to case dispositions across five corresponding Easter 2026 divisions (High Court Civil, Family, Estate, Home Circuit and Commercial). Model 2 relates hearing-date certainty to clearance using only the four divisions for which an Easter Term hearing indicator is reported (High Court Civil, Family, Estate and Commercial). Home Circuit is excluded from Model 2 because the values formerly assigned to Easter were the published Hilary Term 2026 hearing-type results. Gun Court is outside the matched panel and lacks a verified full-term hearing register; Revenue has insufficient eligible events. Neither model estimates the effect of a management intervention.

With five observations, Model 1 has three ordinary least-squares residual degrees of freedom. Model 2 has only four observations and two residual degrees of freedom. Their fitted parameters, test statistics and intervals are therefore exceptionally sensitive to divisional differences in size, case mix and measurement. The analysis is descriptive and hypothesis-generating; it does not establish causality, staffing needs or reliable future forecasts.

B2. Observed regression inputs

Division	New filings	Dispositions	Clearance (%)	Easter hearing certainty (%)†
High Court Civil (HCV)	1,670	1,838	110.06	71.23
Family and Matrimonial	1,294	1,187	91.73	80.05
Estate	812	661	81.40	78.31
Home Circuit	142	95	66.90	Not observed; excluded
Commercial	171	142	83.04	43.85
Five-division total	**4,089**	**3,923**	**95.94**	**Not pooled***

The five-division case-flow inputs range from 142 to 1,670 new filings. For the separate hearing-certainty comparison, the four eligible observed Easter division-level indicator values range from 43.85% to 80.05%. A common scheduled-hearing denominator has not been reconciled, and event-based hearing statistics cannot be interpreted as unique-case completion probabilities.

The Easter 2026 Home Circuit hearing-certainty input is unavailable: 71.88% was a Hilary Term 2026 hearing-type average. Model 2 therefore excludes Home Circuit rather than treating an out-of-term or unweighted average as an Easter observation. The separate 70.70% straight-line projection is used only in the indicative institutional planning estimate, not in the regression.

B3. Model 1: case filings and dispositions

The fitted 2026 equation is dispositions = -97.44 + 1.0786 × new filings. Pearson r = 0.9887, R^2 = 0.9776, and the two-sided slope test gives p = 0.0014. The conventional 95% slope confidence interval is [0.779, 1.379]. The association is very strong statistically within these five aggregate observations, but this is mainly an association of division size with the volume of work completed. A larger intake division naturally has more opportunity to dispose of cases; the fitted slope is not an estimate of judicial efficiency or the number of additional cases produced by accepting an additional case.

The model is particularly sensitive to the large HCV observation. Re-estimating after excluding HCV reduces the fitted slope to approximately 0.923; other leave-one-division-out fits produce slopes close to 1.08–1.12. This instability is an important qualification even where R^2 is high. Moreover, the model's negative intercept has no plausible operational meaning at zero filings and cannot be used to estimate a minimum staffing complement, a future time-series forecast or a division-level productivity standard.

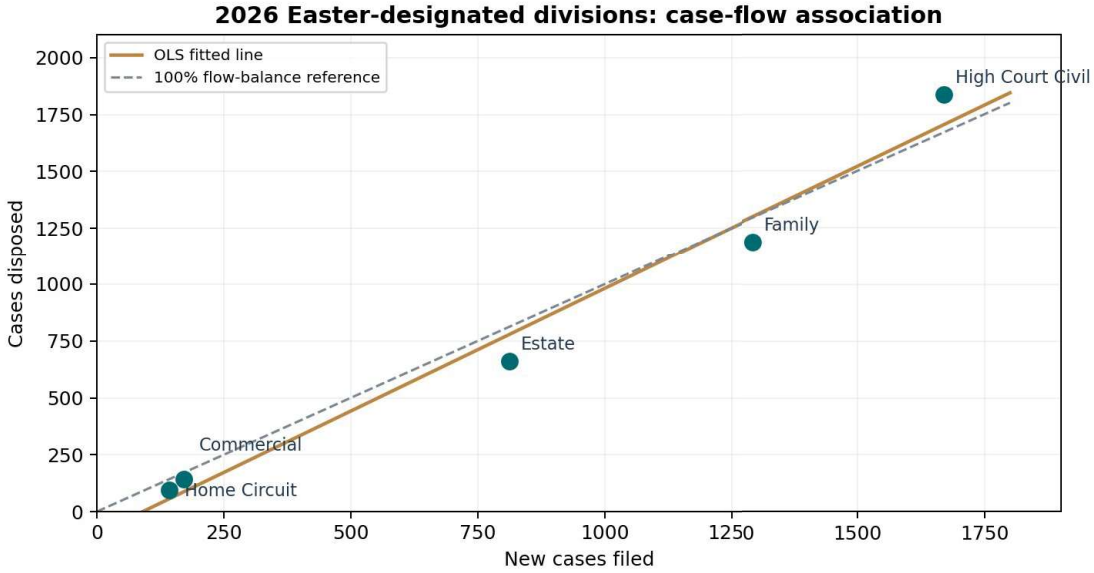


Figure B1. New filings and dispositions across the five 2026 Easter-designated divisions; the diagram is a cross-sectional association, not a causal model.

B4. Model 2: hearing certainty and clearance (four eligible divisions)

Across four divisions, the fitted descriptive relationship is clearance (%) = 78.38 + 0.1928 × hearing certainty (%), with Pearson r = 0.2461, R^2 = 0.0606, and a two-sided slope p-value of 0.7539. The conventional 95% slope confidence interval is [-2.12, 2.50]. With only two residual degrees of freedom and non-harmonized event-level denominators, this association is not statistically reliable evidence that higher recorded certainty changes case clearance. The model cannot support a causal conclusion or a division-wide performance forecast.

Case clearance compares unique completed cases with unique new filings, whereas hearing-date certainty concerns scheduled events; a single case may require several hearings. The trend-based Home Circuit and Gun Court estimates are therefore excluded from this regression, which uses only the four divisions with reported Easter 2026 hearing indicators. Even for those divisions, differences in event definitions and coverage, particularly in Commercial, limit direct comparability. Model 2 is retained as an exploratory description and does not establish causation, forecast case clearance or justify ranking divisions.

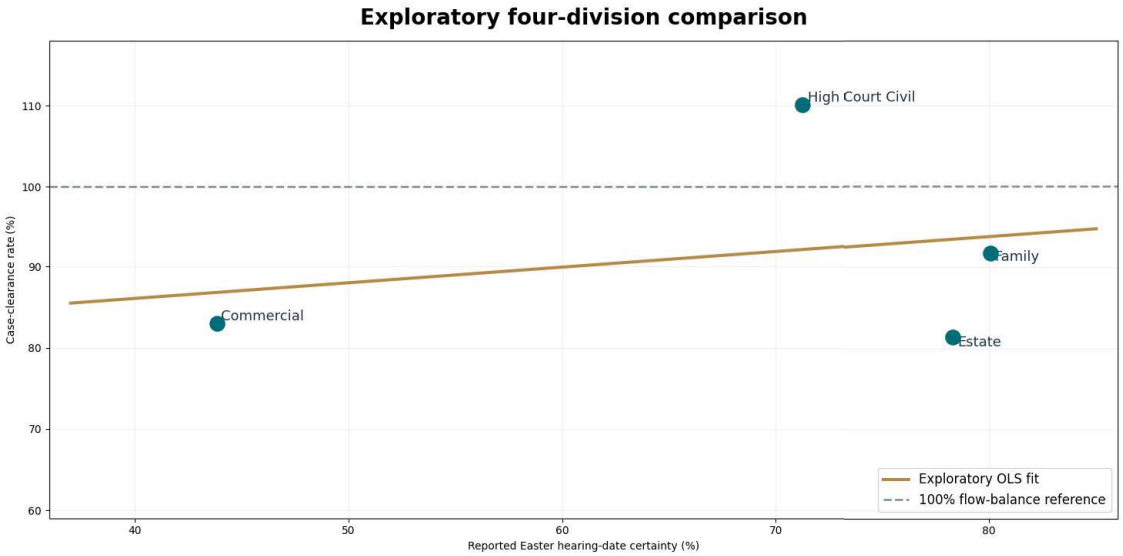


Figure B2. Reported Easter 2026 hearing-date certainty and case clearance for four divisions. The trend-based Home Circuit and Gun Court estimates are not included in the regression; the line is descriptive, not causal.

B5. Sensitivity and robustness diagnostics

Division omitted	Model 1 fitted slope	R^2 after omission
High Court Civil (HCV)	0.923	0.995
Family and Matrimonial	1.121	0.985
Estate	1.078	0.985
Home Circuit	1.105	0.971
Commercial	1.113	0.974

The leave-one-division-out results show how the fitted case-flow relationship changes when a division is omitted. Model 1 uses five divisions, while the separate hearing-certainty model uses four. Neither small cross-sectional model is suitable for forecasting future case volumes, inferring judicial productivity or ranking divisions.

B6. Specifications for future longitudinal analysis

A future case-level or monthly division panel should define disposition as the final closure of a unique case and clearance as unique disposals divided by unique filings within the same specified window. Stock-and-flow accounting should reconcile opening pending inventory, filings, dispositions, transfers in and out, case reopening and administrative corrections before closing stock is reported. Hearing effectiveness should be recorded separately at the event level, including

first scheduled and first effective hearings and all coded reasons for postponement. Data should distinguish cases from charges, judicial applications and hearing events to prevent inadvertent mixing of denominators.

The effectiveness of new scheduling and case-management initiatives is best assessed against clearly described starting conditions, implementation dates, comparable case groups and meaningful outcomes. When sufficient monthly records are available, statistical evaluations may account for differences among divisions, seasonal patterns, earlier filing volumes, pending-case ages and sitting days. A system-wide initiative can be assessed using changes over time, while initiatives introduced in stages can support comparisons between participating and non-participating case groups, provided their prior trends are reasonably similar. Reliable conclusions also depend on checks for unusual observations, alternate outcome definitions, sample selection and performance on data not used to fit the model. These safeguards help leadership distinguish sustainable improvements from changes in case mix or administrative recording.

A stronger follow-up dataset would connect case IDs, first scheduled dates, first effective dates, hearing outcomes, final closure and outstanding inventory, with consistently applied definitions across terms. The current five-division flow model and four-division hearing model can help frame management questions, but they cannot establish a causal effect of a specific intervention or replace audited reporting of unique cases and hearings.

B7. Interpretation and decision rule

Case-disposition volume is closely associated with filing volume across the five divisions in Model 1. The relationship between reported hearing certainty and case clearance across the four divisions in Model 2 is much less precise. Neither model uses the limited Gun Court January–July hearing

extract. These small, aggregated datasets do not establish causation, forecast future operational performance or justify allocating resources on regression results alone.

Until those conditions are satisfied, the recommended decision framework remains descriptive, transparent and proportionate: compare each division with its own validated baseline, track the stock of pending cases as well as current flow, record coverage of each statistic, and implement targeted interventions that can be evaluated on their intended operational outcomes. Such discipline preserves the usefulness of judicial statistics while avoiding precision unsupported by the available administrative data.

ANNEX C. SOURCES AND REPORTING REFERENCES

Historical comparisons draw on the Supreme Court of Jamaica's published Easter Term 2025 and Hilary Term 2026 reports, alongside the Easter 2026 divisional schedules. For Home Circuit, the 2025 summary reports 40 timely completions among 67 disposed cases (59.70% from counts, described in the source as approximately 59%); its separate charge-age sample reports 82 of 138 within 24 months (59.42%). Easter 2026 records 24 of 95 disposed cases within 24 months (25.26%). The differing historical tabulations require care in assessing timeliness across years. The 2025 Home Circuit guilty-outcome share is 8.70% in its summary table, while the 2025 Gun Court charge-outcome share is 7.95%. HCV's 2025 overall sampled hearing certainty was approximately 84%, distinct from its 90.52% CMC rate.

Readers should distinguish outcomes counted by case from those counted by charge or scheduled hearing. The report labels these measures separately and identifies the reporting coverage of its key indicators. That distinction helps explain the Court's completed work accurately and supports more meaningful comparisons across divisions and terms.

The published Easter 2025 institutional cover reported 83.05% clearance, while its displayed counts of 4,298 filings and 3,415 dispositions yield 79.46%; the headline and count-derived figures are therefore not interchangeable. The 2024 and 2025 cover figures remain historical published headlines, but a consistently reconciled institutional series has not been established from the available returns. The Easter 2026 overall result—4,013 dispositions from 4,206 filings, or 95.41%—includes finalized Gun Court counts. The more comparable five-division series rose from 79.27% in Easter 2025 to 95.94% in Easter 2026. The 2025 Gun Court publication printed 86.77% clearance, whereas its counts of 92 dispositions and 106 filings yield 86.79%; count-derived rates are used wherever this report recalculates clearance.

Official reports and online references

Supreme Court of Jamaica statistical reports — View the reports portal

Published Easter Term 2025 statistics (including Tables 3.0, 8.0, 41.0, 43.0, 47.0 and 52.0) — View the 2025 report

Published Hilary Term 2026 statistics (Home Circuit Table 40.0) — View the 2026 Hilary report

APPENDIX I. GUN COURT EASTER TERM CASE AND HEARING RECORDS

The reporting window is 8 April–31 July 2026, inclusive. The figures in this appendix are counts of records meeting the stated source-field definitions. Counts from January–July are not substituted for Easter Term totals.

The case register contains 203 unique case-number records with case-number dates from 2 January to 31 July 2026. Of these, 113 have case-number dates in Easter Term, while 111 have court-office initiation dates in that window. Two cases numbered on 8 April had initiation dates of 1 April and 7 April. The registered case-number date is used for the 113-case filing count; differing initiation-date conventions are disclosed rather than silently merged.

Dataset / event	Date-filtered finding	Statistical interpretation
GC All Cases — case number date	113 unique cases	Easter Term registrations; case numbers dated 8 Apr–31 Jul
GC All Cases — office initiation date	111 unique cases	Two date-convention exceptions; not a separate population to add
GC All Cases — case disposition date	21 dated cases	Only current-2026 case-register cohort; not complete older-case closures
MOD — outcome-event date	364 charge records; 106 distinct cases	Charge outcomes, not 364 case closures or 106 fully disposed cases
MOD — stated disposition method	363 classified; 1 unclassified	28 guilty outcomes (7.69% of 364); charge-level indicator only
MOD — case closure date in period	91 unique cases	Date criterion alone; one record shows an Active current status
MOD — closure date AND disposed status	90 unique cases	90 final Easter Term case dispositions; clearance = 90/113 = 79.65%.
MOD — entire export January–July	557 charge records; 169 distinct cases	Whole-export count spans January–July; 169 distinct cases are not Easter Term final dispositions.
Gun Court Hearings — event date	50 events; 41 distinct cases	Events only 20–31 July; cannot support full-term hearing certainty
Gun Court — final Easter Term clearance	90 / 113 = 79.65%	Final case-disposal count under Easter Term date filtering; charge outcomes counted separately.

Implications for divisional clearance and institutional aggregation

The Gun Court registered 113 new cases and disposed of 90 during Easter Term 2026, achieving 79.65% clearance (90 ÷ 113 × 100). Thirteen closures concerned cases registered during the term and 77 concerned earlier registrations. The broader January–July compilation of 4,296 filings and 4,092 dispositions is excluded from the Easter Term institutional calculation because it includes Gun Court records outside the defined window. The charge-outcome and hearing-status sections use separate and appropriately defined denominators.

Hearing reliability and outcome classifications

The hearing extract contains 50 events dated 20–31 July 2026. Forty-five were recorded with event status 'Closed'; of those, 21 have outcome 'Adjourned', three are coded 'Continuance' and one is coded 'No show/accused absent'. If only explicit adjournments count as hearings that did not proceed, the limited-sample non-adjournment indicator is 24/45 = 53.33%; when continuances and non-attendance are also included, the indicator is 20/45 = 44.44%. Neither is an observed full-term hearing-certainty rate. The separate published-term trend—76.59% in Easter 2025 and 72.79% in Hilary 2026, a 1.90-percentage-point decrease per court-term interval—produces the 70.89% Easter 2026 planning estimate used in the indicative institutional calculation. The dated 28/364 guilty-outcome share describes charges, not the proportion of unique cases ending in conviction.

APPENDIX II. RECORD COVERAGE AND COMPARABILITY NOTES

The following notes document the source coverage and interpretation of selected performance indicators. They support transparent reading of the published findings and distinguish internal arithmetic reconciliation from confirmation of the underlying court registers. The case-flow totals in the report use the finalized Easter Term returns.

High Court Civil: completed-case and hearing records

High Court Civil reported 1,838 final dispositions against 1,670 filings. The increase relative to Hilary 2026 merits case-identifier reconciliation across the administrative system, including final closures, transfers, re-openings and any historical status adjustments associated with the Judicial Case Management System. This distinction does not change the published 110.06% clearance calculation; it identifies the source-level confirmation relevant to interpreting a large movement in completed cases. For scheduled hearings, the 2025 overall sample covered 3,198 dates, compared with 15,765 dates in the Easter 2026 extract. The event population and counting rules must be considered before interpreting the difference in overall hearing certainty as a like-for-like trend. The CMC comparison is reported separately using its own dates and adjournments.

Commercial Division: hearing-event coverage

The Commercial return reports 43.85% overall hearing-date certainty for Easter 2026, while the displayed selected hearing categories have higher rates. The published 85.75% Easter 2025 and 82.05% Hilary 2026 figures also refer to administrative hearing summaries. Complete event-type counts, eligible dates and adjournment classifications would establish which changes reflect scheduling performance and which reflect differences in reporting coverage. Accordingly, the report presents these values as reported indicators rather than a uniformly measured time series.

Pending inventory and duration indicators

Reported unresolved-case counts support division-specific descriptive turnover ratios, but a complete Court-wide pending balance requires reconciled opening and closing inventories, new filings, final disposals, transfers and reopened matters under a common definition. HCV's 6,247 unresolved matters and Commercial's 516 are reported inventory figures, not complete stock-and-flow reconciliations. Similarly, the reported duration statistics differ in coverage and type across divisions, so the report does not publish an aggregate Court-wide mean or median time to disposition. A sum of stage medians is not a directly observed full-case median.

Home Circuit and Gun Court: hearing-date planning estimates

Complete Easter 2026 hearing-event series were not available for Home Circuit or Gun Court. The estimates use a simple straight-line change between Easter 2025 and Hilary 2026, which are two court-term intervals apart. For Home Circuit, the published four-hearing-type averages were 74.25% and 71.88%; dividing the 2.37-percentage-point decline by two gives a change of 1.185 points per term and a projected Easter 2026 value of 70.70%. For Gun Court, the published rates were 76.59% and 72.79%; dividing the 3.80-point decline by two gives 1.90 points per term and a projected value of 70.89%. These are limited-data planning projections, not measured Easter results or statistically validated forecasts. The available Gun Court hearing extract covers only 20–31 July and does not provide a full-term rate. The indicative institutional figure of 74.02% uses the six divisional hearing indicators weighted by their Easter case dispositions (4,013 in all). Since dispositions are not scheduled hearing events, that figure is not an observed event-weighted Court-wide certainty rate. A sensitivity test changing both projected divisional rates by ten percentage points produces a planning range of 73.56%–74.48%; it is not a statistical confidence interval.

Historical figures and distinct counting units

The 2025 published cover cited institutional clearance of 83.05%, while its recorded 4,298 filings and 3,415 dispositions produce 79.46% from those counts; the two are not interchangeable. The same five-division count panel is therefore used for the principal 2025–2026 comparison. In Home Circuit, case-level timeliness and charge-age distributions use distinct populations. Charge outcomes, completed cases and hearing dates are not pooled as though each record represented the same unit. The published 2025 Home Circuit charge-outcome table records 12 guilty outcomes among 138 charges (8.70%), although its accompanying narrative refers to 10; the table-based figure is used consistently in this report.