

Parish Courts of Jamaica
The Chief Justice's Statistics
Report for the First Quarter of 2021
(Criminal matters)

	JANUARY TO MARCH (Q1)		
	<u>Q1- 2019</u>	<u>Q1-2020</u>	<u>Q1-2021</u>
Case Disposal Rates (%)	53.75	48.59	49.98
Case Clearance Rates (%)	103.46	96.47	94.89
Trial Date Certainty Rates (%)	82	84	81
Courtroom utilization Rate (%)	59.85	57.78	59.76

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary 3

Methodology..... 12

Chapter 1.0: Criminal Case Activity Statistics 14

Chapter 2.0: Criminal Case Demographics 64

Chapter 3.0: Conclusion 104

Chapter 4.0: Glosary of Terms 106

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This statistical report on criminal matters in the Parish Courts of Jamaica is for the first quarter of 2021. It represents a continuation of the enhanced efforts to measure court productivity with a view to providing a concrete basis for placing the analyses of the judicial system into proper perspective and for informing the policymaking and operational planning apparatus of the leadership of the courts. This report interrogates a number of vital measures, which provide insights into the operations of the parish courts on both an individual and an aggregated basis. It forms an important foundation for understanding criminal case activity and delay factors in the parish courts as well as important characteristics of criminal cases. This report creates the framework within which the quantitative and some qualitative targets set out in the strategic plan of the judiciary can be monitored and evaluated. In seeking to significantly reduce the case backlog in the court system, the Chief Justice has set out to achieve a court-wide case clearance rate of 130% and an overall trial date certainty rate of 95% over the next 3-4 years. If these targets are achieved, the court-wide case backlog rate will fall below 5% no later than December 2025, placing Jamaica unquestionably among the most productive court systems in the world. The report highlights the advances and shortfalls in relation to all key performance metrics in the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarter of 2021 as well as challenges being encountered by the courts.

The aggregate new case count in the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarter of 2021 was 7079, up by 16.28% when compared to the 6088 new cases recorded

in the first quarter of 2020. The Corporate Area Parish Court - Criminal Division with 1520 new cases or 21.47% of the total, followed by the St. Catherine and St. James Parish Courts with 979 cases or 13.83% and 711 cases or 10.04% respectively, account for the three largest proportions of the new criminal cases filed in the first quarter of 2021. The Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division and the St. Catherine Parish Court traditionally rank as the courts with the highest new criminal caseload. Taken together, the three parishes with the highest new case count account for 45.34% of the new cases filed in the first quarter of 2021, not dissimilar to the corresponding period in 2020. The parish courts of St. Mary, Trelawny and St. Thomas again accounted for the lowest shares of the aggregate new cases filed each with under 4% of the total new caseload in the first quarter of 2021.

The overall average criminal case disposal rate for cases originating in the first quarter of 2021 was 49.98%, which is an increase of 1.39 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2020. The Westmoreland Parish Court disposed of new cases at the fastest rate in the quarter, with a disposal rate of 64.22%, followed by the Hanover and the St. James Parish Courts with 61.38% and 58.37% respectively. The St. Catherine and Clarendon Parish Courts with disposal rates of 56.49% and 54.26% respectively rounds off the top five performing court on this metric in the first quarter of 2021. The parish courts of St. Ann (29.13), Manchester (37.41%) and St. Thomas (42.06%) recorded the lowest case disposal rates in the first quarter of 2021.

A measure, which is closely related to the case disposal rate, is the case clearance rate, which provides a measure of the number of cases disposed (regardless of date/year of initiation) for every new case filed in a particular period. This is a productivity index as many of the disposed cases, which are included in its computation, would have originated before the period of focus and is a more instructive statistic on case activity than the case disposal rate. The overall case clearance rate for the first quarter of 2021 was 94.89%, a decrease of 1.58 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2020. The result suggests that for every 100 new criminal cases that were filed in the parish courts in the first quarter of 2021, roughly 95 cases were disposed (including cases originating prior to 2021). Although this is the lowest case clearance rate recorded in a first quarter for the past three calendar years, it still satisfies the international standard. An interesting result from the first quarter results is that the Manchester Parish Court had one of the lowest case disposal rates for the quarter but still managed to record the highest case clearance rate, an impressive 147.63%, a clear indication that there was significantly more productive activity on the movement of older cases (i.e. pre first quarter cases) in the period. The Portland Parish Court was second, sustaining its strong output for the past few years by registering a rate of 126.27% while the Westmoreland Parish Court with 123.30% was third, continuing its trend as arguably the most consistent top performing parish court for the past five years. Ten of the thirteen parish courts met the international standard of between 90% and 110% on case clearance rate for the first quarter of 2021 while eight exceeded the 100% mark, an impressive outcome, by any yardstick. There is both a short and long run positive association between the case disposal and case clearance rates, that is, a higher proportion

of new cases disposed in a given period (the case disposal rate), should, *ceteris paribus*, correlate with a higher case clearance rate. However, over a relatively short space of time, a court ranking high on the case disposal rate does not guarantee a high case clearance rate as the latter rate not only depends of the disposal of new cases but also the disposal of pending or aged cases brought forward. It is important to point out that a persistent case clearance rate of fewer than 100%, especially few than 90% will accelerate the case backlog and therefore the standard to be attained on an annual basis, is between 90% and 110%, based on International best practices.

One highly important measure, which is of keen interest to the leadership of the courts and the policy makers, is the case congestion rate. This is a measure of how well a court is doing in managing its pending caseload, relative to its rates of disposition and clearance and the implied state of resources. The higher the case congestion rate of a court, the more burdensome the caseload and the longer it will take to dispose of cases, again within the context of the existing rates of disposition and clearance and the implied state of resources. The overall case congestion rate recorded for the criminal division of the parish courts for the first quarter of 2021 was 307.24%, an increase of 0.89 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2020. There is a long run negative association between the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate, therefore, sustained increases in the case clearance rate will cause the case congestion rate to fall. The slight fall in case clearance rate for the first quarter of 2020 correlated with a small rise in case congestion rate for the period, however this relationship is not always this clear cut in the short run.

Another essential measure, which is an important cornerstone in the drive to bring Jamaica among the best performing court systems in the world is the trial date certainty rate. This provides a measurement of the likelihood that dates set for trial will proceed as scheduled (without adjournment for future dates). The perfect rate of 100% would suggest that all dates set for trial proceed as scheduled in the relevant period. The overall average trial date certainty rate for criminal matters across the parish courts in the first quarter of 2021 was 81%, a 3 percentage points increase when compared to the corresponding period in 2020. The St. James Parish Court with a rate of 100%, the St. Thomas Parish Court with 98% and the Portland and Trelawny Parish Courts, each with rates of 97% rounds were the top performing courts on this metric for the first quarter of 2021.

The proportion of allocated court time that is utilized for hearings in each parish court bears some long run correlation with the case clearance rate, the case congestion rate and overall court performance. The courtroom utilization rate provides a solid measurement of the proportion of time allocated for court hearings, which are utilized throughout the year in each court. The overall courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in the first quarter of 2021 was 59.76%, an improvement of 1.98 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2020. The Parish Courts of St. Ann, Westmoreland and St. James which are typically among the best five performers on this metric, registered the best courtroom utilization rates for the first quarter of 2021.

On the matter of caseload distribution in the individual parishes, the data shows that in many instances the outstation courts in the respective parishes are carrying a notable share of the caseload. The overall average number of new cases heard in the outstations in the first quarter of 2021 is approximately 38.56%, up by 9.12 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2019, while roughly 64.13% of cases were heard at the main parish court locations, a decline of 6.43 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2020. While outstation court activity in parishes such as St. James and the Corporate Area account for less than 15% of total activity, there are several parishes where outstations are extensively utilized, accounting for well over 30% of total case activity. This includes the parish courts of Manchester, Hanover, St. Elizabeth and Trelawny, among others. The evidence suggests that there is the potential in many parishes for outstations to be utilized to a greater degree to ease the caseload carriage in the main courts, thus potentially enhancing case clearance and disposal rates by reducing the case congestion.

As with several previous reports, the largest proportion of cases disposed in the first quarter of 2021 was by way of guilty pleas, accounting for 35.67% of the cases disposed. This was followed by cases dismissed, which was responsible for 23.14% of the cases disposed. It is of note that guilty verdicts accounted for roughly 2.65% of the matters disposed while not guilty verdicts accounted for 12.97% of the total. Mediated settlements (of various forms) accounted for roughly 11.52% of the cases disposed during the quarter. Taken together, the data therefore reveals a conviction rate of 38.32% for the first quarter

of 2021. Further analysis of the data suggests that for the cases originating over the past four and a half years, which are disposed, roughly 39.36% were resolved within 90 days, 61.35% within six months and 82.25% within a year. Only about 17.75% of criminal cases currently being disposed in the parish courts take a year or more, a highly competitive positioning among judiciaries globally at present. An impressive 95.61% of the cases resolved over the period across the parish courts took less than two years.

In terms of the distribution of case types, the report highlights that the largest proportion of the criminal cases filed in the parish courts were summary matters with approximately 38.86% of all matters. This is followed by indictments with a roughly 35.72% and matters heard by Lay Magistrates with approximately 14.42% of the total. It is of note that Committal Proceedings accounted for roughly 8.19% of all criminal matters filed in the parish courts in first quarter of 2021. Summary matters had an overall conviction rate of 67.92% in the first quarter of 2021 while indictments had a conviction rate of 19.366% across the parish courts.

An important delay factor, which affects the efficiency with which cases move towards disposition is the incidence of adjournments in the parish courts. The data suggests that the dominant reasons for adjournments for the quarter were due to incomplete files with an estimated 11.45% of all adjournments, referrals to mediation with 9.06%, adjournments for disclosure with 7.89% and adjournments for the issuance of warrants due to the non-attendance of the accused with 7.67%. Also featuring prominently on the lists of reasons

for adjournment across the parish courts in the quarter are medical reports outstanding and subpoena of investigating officers and the crown respectively.

The three most frequent criminal charges filed in the parish courts in 2020 were assault occasioning bodily harm with 11.61%, unlawful wounding with 9.15% and breach of the curfew order with 6.77% of the total number of charges filed. The vast majority of charges filed in the first quarter of 2021 involved accused males, accounting for roughly 77.66% of the charges filed during the period. The dominant age group of persons charged in 2020 were the 27 – 36 and 18 - 26 age groups, accounting for 31.87% and 31.55% respectively of the total.

One of the most decisive and instructive findings from this report comes from the analysis of the distribution of times to disposition and the case backlog rates in the parish courts. The report reveals that on average, the criminal division of the parish courts take roughly seven months to dispose of cases. In the first quarter of 2021, the courts which had the shortest times to disposition for cases resolved are the parish courts of Westmoreland (4.75 months), Hanover (5 months) and Clarendon (6 months). Based on these results, it is not surprising that all three of these three parish courts ranked among the best on the case disposal rate metric. On the matter of the case backlog rate, the criminal division of the parish courts recorded a net case backlog rate of 2.65% in the first quarter of 2021, using the last four and a half years' worth of data as a proxy. This means that only 2 or 3 of every 100 cases filed over the past four and a half years are over two years old and still active

before the criminal division of the parish courts. The gross backlog rate over the same period stands at a notably higher 12.50%, suggesting that roughly 12 or 13 of every 100 new cases filed are still either active or inactive and over two years old in the criminal division of the parish courts. Intuitively, these result suggests that inactive cases are a major constituent of the court's gross case backlog. The parish courts of St. Catherine, St. Mary and Hanover recorded the lowest net case backlog rates in the first quarter of 2021 and have already achieved the targeted net criminal case backlog target which forms part of the judiciary's strategic plan for the next few years. These courts are among those best poised to be completely backlog free as far as criminal cases are concerned by the end of 2021.

Using the method of exponential smoothing, the report forecasts that in the second quarter of 2021, 5789 new criminal cases will be filed in the criminal division of the parish courts while 4339 are expected to be disposed and 1104 inactive. The overall forecasted case clearance rate for the second quarter of 2021 in the criminal division of the parish courts is therefore 94.02%. The parish courts of Manchester, Westmoreland and Portland are forecasted to be the top performers in the second quarter of 2021.

METHODOLOGY

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

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

Disclaimer

The numbers that are reflected in the case activity summaries in the annual statistics report may vary slightly from those quoted in the individual quarterly reports throughout the year due to occasional constraints with timely access to all records and other mitigating factors. Methodological adjustments may also result in slight variations in comparative figures across periods.

Chapter 1.0: Criminal Case Activity Statistics in the Parish Courts for the quarter ended March 31, 2021

This chapter provides an assessment of criminal case activity in the parish courts for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021. This includes analysis of the criminal caseload, rates of case disposal, clearance and congestion as well as cases statuses in the various courts over the period, assessments of courtroom utilization rates, case file integrity rates, trial date certainty rates and forecasts of the core case activity outcomes for 2021. This chapter also explores the common methods of disposition, reasons for court delay, leading charges and case types across the parish courts and associated conviction rates.

Table 1.0: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Number of inactive cases	Number of disposed cases	Active Pending Case Load	Case disposal Rate (%)
Hanover	334	11	194	129	61.38
St. Catherine	979	111	442	426	56.49
Westmoreland	545	30	320	195	64.22
St. Mary	249	15	108	126	49.40
Clarendon	540	42	251	247	54.26
Portland	354	36	122	196	44.63
St. Elizabeth	373	31	140	202	45.84
Corporate Area Criminal	1520	266	465	789	48.09
St. Thomas	233	9	89	135	42.06
St. James	711	73	342	296	58.37
St. Ann	563	56	108	399	29.13
Trelawny	277	14	113	150	45.85
Manchester	401	23	127	251	37.41
Total	7079	717	2821	3541	
Average/Weighted Average	544.54	55.15	217	272.38	49.98
Standard deviation	359.98	69.56	133.56	182.76	9.89
Skewness	1.933	2.68	0.904	2.126	-0.316

The above table shows the aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021. A total of 7,079 new criminal cases were filed across the parish courts, while 3,538 cases were either disposed or became inactive, resulting in a weighted average case disposal rate of 49.98%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, 6,088 cases were filed, while 2,958 cases were either disposed or became inactive, resulting in a weighted average case disposal rate of 48.59%, which is 1.39 percentage points lower than the rate for the first quarter of 2021. When compared to the first quarter of 2020, there was an increase of 991 cases or 16.28% in the number of new cases filed and an increase of 580 or 19.61% in the number of cases that were disposed or became inactive. Of the thirteen parish courts listed above, five (5) recorded a decline in the number of new cases filed, while eight (8) recorded an increase. Among the parish courts with the largest drop in new cases filed were the St. Thomas Parish Court, falling by 15.58% and the Portland Parish Court, which fell by 6.84%.

The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division with 1,520 or 21.47% of the new cases, the St. Catherine Parish Court with 979 cases or 13.83% and the St. James Parish Court with 711 or 10.04% accounted for the three largest shares of new cases filed in the first quarter of 2021. These three parish courts with the largest share of new cases filed, cumulatively accounted for 45.35% of the total number of new criminal cases filed in the first quarter of 2021. On the lower end, the parish courts of St. Thomas with 233 or 3.29% of the new cases, St. Mary with 249 or 3.52% and Trelawny with 277 or 3.91% accounted for the lowest share of new cases filed in the first quarter of 2021.

The best performing courts in relation to case disposal rates for the quarter were the Westmoreland (64.22%), Hanover (61.38%) and St. James (58.37%) Parish Courts. The bottom

three courts on this measure were the St. Thomas (42.09%), Manchester (37.41%) and St. Ann (29.13%) Parish Courts. The parish courts of Manchester and St. Ann were also among the bottom three courts on this measure in the first quarter of 2020. The skewness of the number of new cases filed, the number of cases disposed, and the active pending caseload are all positive, which is an indication that the larger proportion of the courts fell below the overall average case counts in each of these applicable columns. The overall skewness of the case disposal rates is a low negative figure, which indicates that there were slightly more courts falling above the overall case disposal rate in the period.

Refer to Table 3.0 for a graphical comparison of the Case Disposal Rates across all Parish Courts for the first quarter (January- March) of 2020 and 2021.

Table 2.0a: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court as at March 31, 2021

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed in quarter	Number of Disposed cases in Jan-Mar. quarter	Number of Inactive cases in Jan-Mar. quarter	Grand total number of inactive cases (2016-March 31, 2021)	Grand total number of disposed cases (2016-March 31, 2021)	Grand Active Pending Case Load b/f Jan. 1, 2021	Case Clearance Rate (%)	Case Congestion Rate (%)
Hanover	334	331	44	243	3937	306	112.28	170.67
Manchester	401	515	77	1651	6168	1327	147.63	291.89
St. Mary	249	213	21	678	4364	277	93.98	224.79
St. James	711	576	140	1943	10506	1072	100.70	249.02
St. Catherine	979	812	197	2625	13688	1029	103.06	199.01
Portland	354	392	55	757	4774	665	126.27	227.96
St. Ann	563	303	18	2605	5840	1476	57.02	635.20
St. Elizabeth	373	338	14	659	4729	653	94.37	291.48
Corporate Area Criminal	1520	680	310	5244	16391	2688	65.13	425.05
Westmoreland	545	614	58	911	7355	819	123.30	202.98
St. Thomas	233	249	35	436	4025	654	121.89	312.32
Clarendon	540	340	62	1100	6683	1929	74.44	614.18
Trelawny	277	270	53	568	3698	663	116.61	291.02
Total	7079	5633	1084	19420	92158	13558		
Average/Weighted Average	544.54	433.31	83.38	1493.85	7089.08	1042.92	94.89	307.24
Standard deviation	359.98	187.10	85.25	1376.75	4016.32	678.91	25.98	150.72
Skewness	1.933	0.787	1.936	1.885	1.497	1.311	-0.292	1.458

*Note 1: *The figures are computed for the period since the use of the CISS system commenced in August 2016. Not all courts commenced at the same time, so the exact times vary but are long enough to make statistically significant inferences.*

Note 2: The grand total number of active cases from 2016 to the quarter ended March 31, 2021, for all parish courts combined= 13,473

The table above is an extension of table 1.0. Among the critical performance measures reported in this table is the case congestion rate across the parish courts. This provides a measure of manageability of a court's existing caseload. In particular, it provides an indication of the caseload burden relative to existing resources and the pace of case clearance. As an empirical

measurement of case carriage load, the case congestion rate is more meaningful over longer period, typically a year or more; hence, the quarterly results are to be interpreted in a guarded way.

The weighted average case congestion rate among the parish courts in the quarter was 307.24%, an indication that the parish courts (criminal division) as a whole, are carrying just over three times the caseload that their current rate of clearance and implied state of resources justifies. This result represents a 0.89 percentage point increase when compared to the first quarter of 2020. The parish courts of St. Ann (635.20%), Clarendon (614.18%), Corporate Area Criminal Division (425.05%) and St. Thomas (312.32%) were the courts with the highest case congestion rates in the first quarter of 2021. The Manchester (291.89%) and St. Elizabeth parish courts (291.148%) rounded off the top 6 most case congested courts in the first quarter of 2021. The parish courts of Clarendon (694.99%), St. Ann (403.36%) and Manchester (381.59%) were also among the most congested courts in the comparative first quarter of 2020. In general, a high case congestion rate can be a product of resource deficiencies and slow clearance of cases. A sustained improvement in the clearance and case disposal rates, supported by high hearing and trial date certainty will substantially reduce the case congestion in a court in the medium to long run. The parish courts of Hanover (170.67%), St. Catherine (199.01%), and Westmoreland (202.98%) performed best on this measure. As with previous reports, variations in caseload and resources do not appear to be a major factor explaining the variances in performance on this measure as some of the courts ranking on either ends of the scale are the larger courts in the island and resource endowment do not vary in a statistically way among the courts.

The results on the overall case clearance rate for the first quarter of 2021 provide interesting insights into the court-wide progress being made on this measure. The overall weighted average case clearance rate of 94.89%, which is a slight decrease of 1.58 percentage points when compared to the corresponding 2020 first quarter, however, the performance still met the required international standard of 90%-100%. This overall case clearance rate of 94.89% suggests that for every 100 new cases filed, roughly 95 were resolved. Ten of the thirteen parish courts met international standards of 90%-110% and the parish courts of Manchester (147.63%), Portland (126.27%), Westmoreland (123.30%), St. Thomas (121.89%) and Trelawny (116.61%) were the leading parish courts on this measure. The parish courts of St. Ann (57.02%), Corporate Area Criminal (65.13%) and Clarendon (74.44%) had the lowest criminal case clearance rates for the quarter and were the only courts that didn't meet the international standard of 90%-100%. Seven (7) parish courts recorded an increase in clearance rates when compared to the first quarter of 2020. The St. Thomas and Westmoreland parish courts saw the largest improvements, with a 38.19 percentage points improvement for the St. Thomas Parish Court and a 37.66 percentage points improvement for the Westmoreland Parish Court. The data in the table above were mostly positively skewed to various degrees, indicating that for the most part, proportionately more of the scores in that data set fell below their respective series means.

Refer to Table 3.0 for further comparison of the case clearance rates and the case congestion rates across all parish courts for the first quarter (Jan.-March) of 2021 and 2020

Table 2.0b: Percentile rank on selected performance metrics for the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Parish Court	Percentile Rank - Case Disposal rate (%)	Percentile Rank - Case Clearance Rate (%)
Hanover	92	58
St. Catherine	75	50
Westmoreland	100	83
St. Mary	58	25
Clarendon	67	17
Portland	25	92
St. Elizabeth	33	33
Corporate Area Criminal	50	8
St. Thomas	17	75
St. James	83	42
St. Ann	0	0
Trelawny	42	67
Manchester	8	100

The table above provides the percentile ranks of the case disposal, the case clearance and the case congestion rate for the first quarter of 2021. The percentile rank gives an indication of where particular courts falls on each of the metrics relative to the other courts. The parish courts of Westmoreland (100%), Hanover (92%) and St. James (83%) had the highest percentile ranks on case disposal rate for the first quarter 2021, an indication that they performed better than the vast proportion of the courts on this measure. The percentile ranks of 100% for the Westmoreland Parish Court for example means that they performed better than all the courts on case disposal rate in the quarter, while the Hanover Parish Court performed better than 92% of the parish courts and the St. James Parish Court performed better than 83% of all the parish courts on this measurement. The parish courts of St. Ann, Manchester and St. Thomas had the lowest percentile ranks on case disposal rate for the quarter. In terms of case clearance rates, the parish courts of Manchester (100%), Portland (92%) and Westmoreland (83%) had the

highest percentile ranks, while the parish courts of St. Ann, the Corporate Area Court- Criminal Division and Clarendon had the lowest.

Table 2.0c: Forecasted case activity statistics for the second quarter of 2021

Parish Court	Forecasted number of new cases	Forecasted number of disposed cases	Forecasted number of inactive cases	Forecasted case clearance rate (%)
Hanover	288	231	37	93.06
Manchester	340	383	68	132.65
St. Mary	223	202	20	99.55
St. James	491	399	99	101.43
St. Catherine	730	581	230	111.10
Portland	279	292	55	124.37
St. Ann	451	245	19	58.54
St. Elizabeth	334	274	42	94.61
Corporate Area Criminal	1420	626	360	69.44
Westmoreland	418	434	50	115.79
St. Thomas	187	181	33	114.44
Clarendon	401	284	48	82.79
Trelawny	227	207	43	110.13
Total/Weighted Average	5789	4339	1104	94.02

The above table forecasts core case activity for the criminal division of each parish court and overall. The forecasts are generated using the method of exponential smoothing which uses weighted averages from past observations with weights decaying exponentially as the observations get older. See further explanation of the mathematical science behind the method of exponential smoothing in the glossary of terms. The data presented shows that the overall forecasted case clearance rates for the criminal division of the parish courts in the second quarter of 2021 is 94.02%, which would be 0.87 percentage points lower than that of the first quarter of 2021. Ten parish courts are forecasted to satisfy the international standard on case clearance rate of 90% or more in second quarter of 2021, led by the Manchester Parish Court with 132.06%, the Portland Parish Court with 124.37% and the Westmoreland Parish Court with 115.79%.

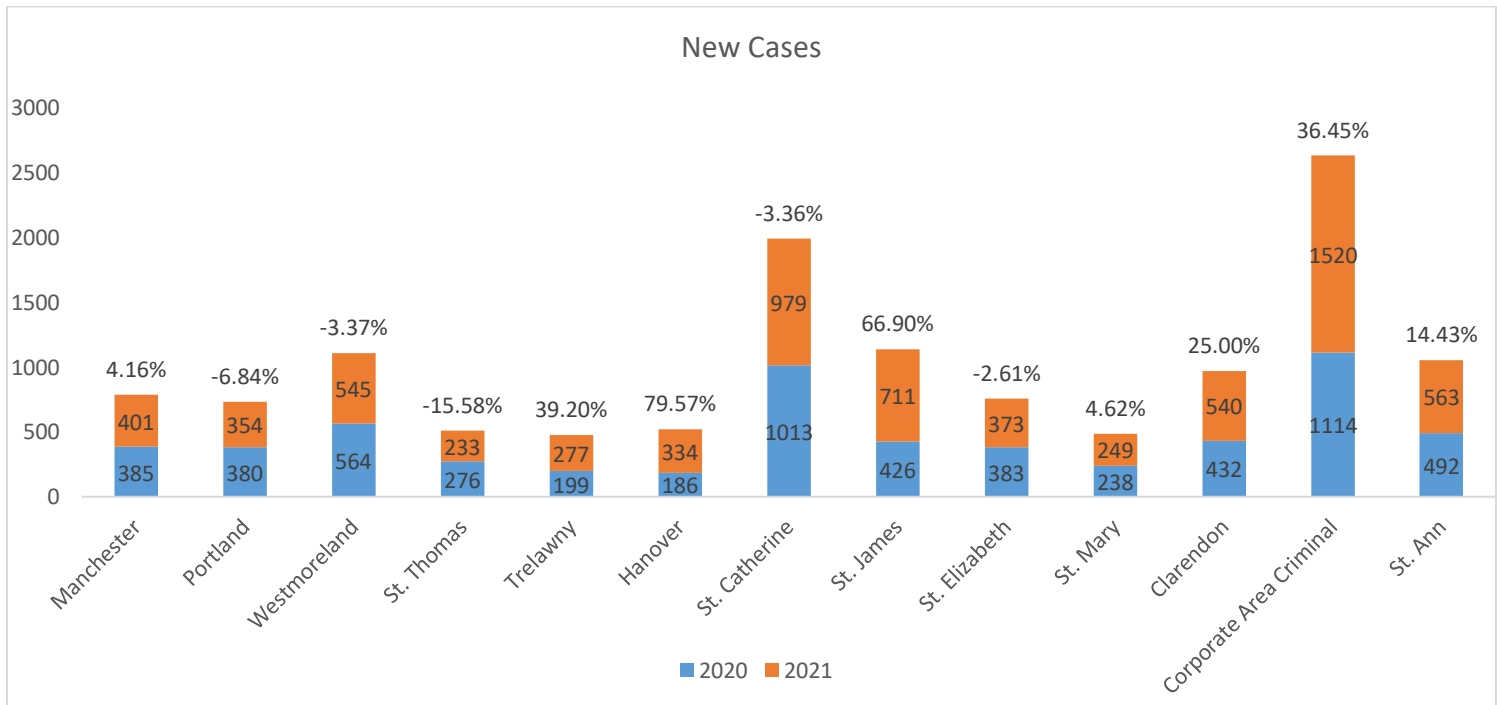
Table 2.0d: Sampling distribution of new cases filed per 10,000 in the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Population size in parish	Case per 10,000 population
Hanover	334	69,533	48
St. Catherine	979	516,218	19
Westmoreland	545	144,103	38
St. Mary	249	113,615	22
Clarendon	540	245,103	22
Portland	354	81,744	43
St. Elizabeth	373	150,205	25
Corporate Area Criminal	1520	662,426	23
St. Thomas	233	93,902	25
St. James	711	183,811	39
St. Ann	563	172,362	33
Trelawny	277	75,164	37
Manchester	401	189,797	21
Total	7079	2,697,983	26

The above table provides an outline of the number of new criminal cases filed per 10,000 population in the parish courts in the first quarter of 2021. The population sizes used are based on the last national population census in 2011 and therefore the data does not have full current value. Nevertheless, this kind of data provides interesting insights into the demand for the criminal adjudication in the various parishes. It is seen that the parishes of Hanover and Portland, which are among the parishes with the smallest caseload and the smallest population sizes, registered the largest number of new criminal cases filed per 10,000 population in the first quarter of 2021. St. James and Westmoreland which are mid-range in population size but among the courts with the larger caseloads, were third and fourth respectively. Equally interesting is the result that the parishes of Clarendon and St. Catherine were among the smallest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population in the quarter. These two parishes are among those with the

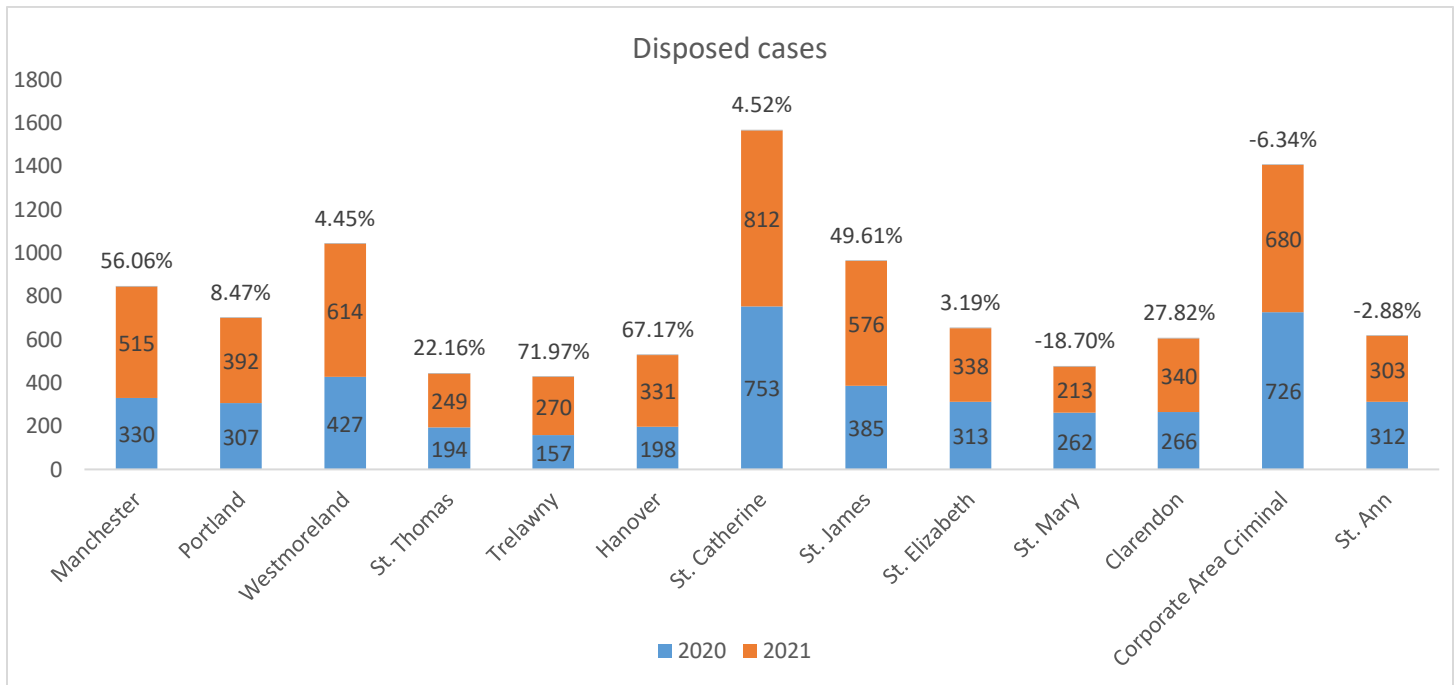
larger quarterly caseload and bigger populations. Manchester had the second lowest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population for the quarter.

Chart 1.0a: Summary of changes in the number of new cases filed in the first quarter of 2020 and 2021



The above graph provides a breakdown of the changes in the number of new cases filed in first quarter of 2021 and 2020. It is seen that there has been a decrease in new cases filed over the comparative period in five (5) parish courts and an increase in the new cases filed in the other eight (8) parish courts. Among the parish courts with the largest drop in new cases filed were the St. Thomas Parish Court falling by 15.58% and the Portland Parish Court, which fell by 6.84%. Among the parish courts with the biggest gain in new cases filed were the Hanover Parish Court which increased by 79.57% and the St. James Parish Court, which increased by 66.90%.

Chart 1.0b: Summary of changes in the number of cases disposed in the first quarter of 2020 and 2021



The above graph provides a breakdown of the changes in the number of cases disposed in first quarter of 2021 and 2020. It is seen that there has been a decrease in cases resolved over the comparative period in three (3) parish courts and an increase in the cases resolved in the other ten (10) parish courts. The St. Mary Parish Court fell by 18.70%, the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division fell by 6.34% and the St. Ann Parish Court fell by 2.88%. Among the parish courts with the biggest gain in the cases disposed in the quarter were the Trelawny Parish Court increasing by 71.97% and the Hanover Parish Court, which increased by 67.17%.

Table 2.0e: Sampling distribution of the indices of Judge Productivity for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Parish Court	Number of Judges	New criminal cases per Judges	Active pending caseload per Judge at the beginning of Q1, 2021	Active caseload per Judge at the end of Q1, 2021	Cases disposed per Judge
Hanover	2	167.00	153.00	132.50	165.50
St. Catherine	5	195.80	205.80	199.80	162.40
Westmoreland	3	181.67	273.00	230.67	204.67
St. Mary	3	83.00	92.33	97.33	71.00
Clarendon	3	180.00	643.00	689.00	113.33
Portland	3	118.00	221.67	190.67	130.67
St. Elizabeth	3	124.33	217.67	224.67	112.67
Corporate Area Criminal	9	168.89	298.67	357.56	75.56
St. Thomas	2	116.50	327.00	301.50	124.50
St. James	5	142.20	214.40	213.40	115.20
St. Ann	3	187.67	492.00	572.67	101.00
Trelawny	3	92.33	221.00	205.67	90.00
Manchester	3	133.67	442.33	378.67	171.67
Total/Weighted Average	47	150.62	288.47	296.17	119.85

Note: Q1- Refers to quarter one (January to March of 2021)

The above table provides a distribution of the new cases filed per judge, the cases disposed per judge and the caseload per judge in the criminal division of the parish courts for the first quarter of 2021. The data reveals that the overall weighted average number of criminal cases filed per judge in the first quarter of 2021 is roughly 151 cases. The parish courts of St. Catherine (1976 cases), St. Ann (187 cases) and Westmoreland (182 cases) had the three largest number of new cases filed per judge during the quarter. On the contrary, the parish courts of Trelawny (92 cases), St. Mary (83 cases) and the St. Thomas Parish Court (117 cases) had the lowest number of new cases filed per judge in the period. In terms of cases disposed per judge, the Westmoreland Parish Court disposed the most cases per judge in the quarter with 205 cases, followed by the

Manchester Parish Court with 172 cases and the Hanover Parish Court with 166 disposed per judge. The three courts with the smallest number of cases disposed per judge were the St. Mary Parish Court with 71 cases, the Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Division with 76 disposed cases per judge and the Trelawny Parish Court with 90 disposed cases per judge. The overall number of criminal cases disposed per judge was 120.

The most crucial of the indicators is the active caseload per judge at the end of the quarter. The data shows that the Clarendon Parish Court had the highest caseload per judge at the end of the period with 689 cases, followed by the St. Ann Parish Court with 573 cases and the Manchester Parish Court with 379 cases per judge. On the lower end, the parish courts of St. Mary and Hanover with 97 and 133 cases per judge respective had the lowest active criminal caseload per judge at the end of the quarter, followed by the Portland Parish Court with 191 active criminal cases per judge. The overall average active criminal caseload per judge at the end of the quarter is 296 cases. The active caseload is a proxy for the existing demand for judicial services in the respective courts and the anecdotal evidence suggests that courts with a higher caseload per judge are generally more hard pressed to sustain high productivity rates.

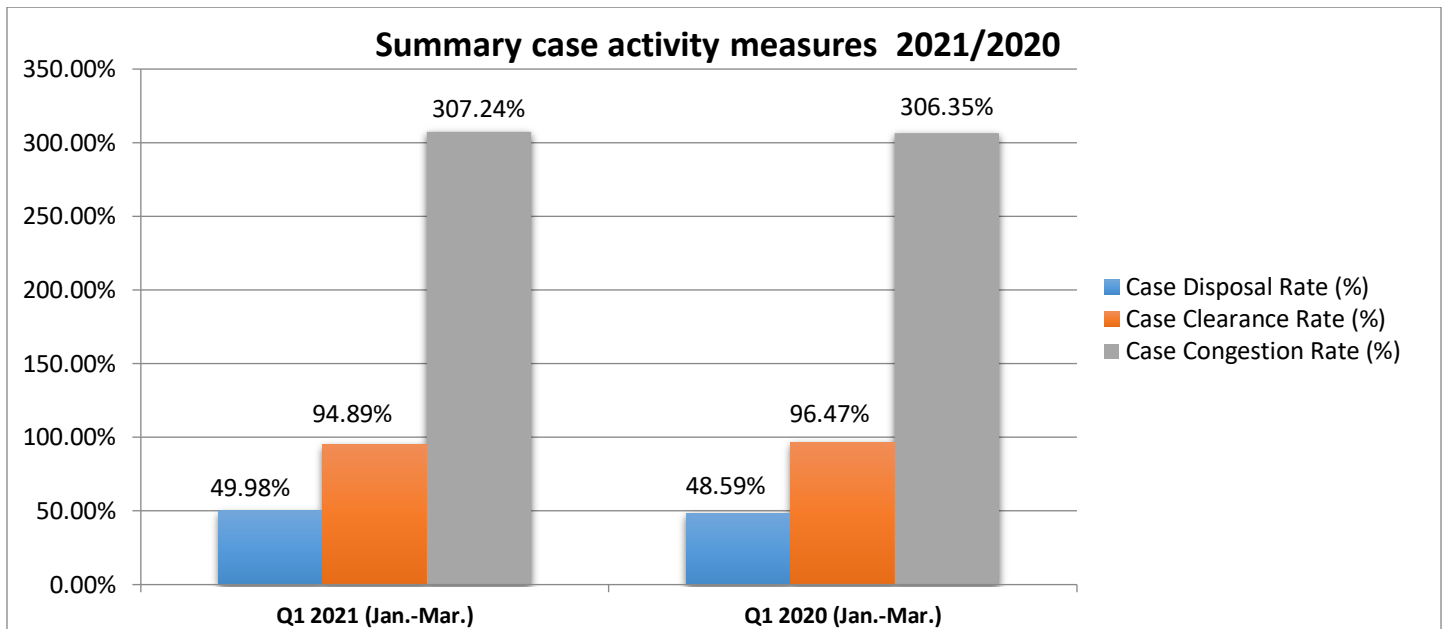
Table 3.0: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the first quarter (January-March) 2020 and 2021

Parish Court	Case Disposal Rate (%) Q1 2021	Case Disposal Rate (%) Q1 2020	Change in the Case Disposal Rate (%)	Case Clearance Rate (%) Q1 2021	Case Clearance Rate (%) Q1 2020	Change in the Case Clearance Rate (%)	Case Congestion Rate (%) Q1 2021	Case Congestion Rate (%) Q1 2020	Change in the Case Congestion Rate (%)
Hanover	61.38	62.37	-0.99	112.28	128.49	-16.21	170.67	183.26	-12.59
St. Catherine	56.49	58.54	-2.05	103.06	98.22	4.84	199.01	184.72	14.29
Westmoreland	64.22	55.85	8.37	123.30	85.64	37.66	202.98	232.30	-29.32
St. Mary	49.40	52.52	-3.12	93.98	124.37	-30.39	224.79	191.89	32.9
Clarendon	54.26	51.62	2.64	74.44	83.10	-8.66	614.18	694.99	-80.81
Portland	44.63	49.47	-4.84	126.27	92.11	34.16	227.96	260.57	-32.61
St. Elizabeth	45.84	48.04	-2.2	94.37	89.30	5.07	291.48	253.51	37.97
Corporate Area Criminal	48.09	46.50	1.59	65.13	89.23	-24.1	425.05	285.21	139.84
St. Thomas	42.06	44.20	-2.14	121.89	83.70	38.19	312.32	364.94	-52.62
St. James	58.37	44.37	14	100.70	117.61	-16.91	249.02	289.22	-40.2
St. Ann	29.13	40.24	-11.11	57.02	90.85	-33.83	635.20	403.36	231.84
Trelawny	45.85	33.67	12.18	116.61	79.40	37.21	291.02	631.65	-340.63
Manchester	37.41	31.17	6.24	147.63	124.16	23.47	291.89	381.59	-89.7
Average /Weighted Average	49.98	48.59	1.39	94.89	96.47	-1.58	307.24	306.35	0.89
Standard Deviation	9.89	9.09	-	25.98	17.90	-	150.72	162.97	-
Skewness	-0.316	-0.299	--	-0.292	0.770	-	1.458	1.387	-

Note: Q1- Refers to quarter one (January to March of 2021 and 2020 respectively)

The table above provides a comparison of the case disposal rate, the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate for the first quarters of 2021 and 2020. The weighted average case disposal rate for the first quarter of 2021 was 49.98%, which was 1.39 percentage points increase above the 2020 weighted average rate of 48.59%. The case clearance rate of 94.89% for the first quarter of 2021 was 1.58 percentage points below the 96.47% recorded in the first quarter 2020. The case congestion rate also fell slightly, moving from 306.35% in the first quarter of 2020, to 307.24% in the first quarter of 2021, a 0.89 percentage point increase. Ceteris paribus, there should be a roughly linear inverse association between the case clearance rates and the case congestion rate. This is more pronounced in the long run than in the short or medium terms.

Chart 2.0: Aggregate summary of case activity metrics for the first quarter of 2020 and 2021



The above graph provides a summary of the progression of the overall case disposal, case clearance and case congestion rate for first quarter of 2021 and 2020. It is seen that there has been a worsening in the clearance rate and the congestion rate over the comparative period. The case clearance rate moved from 96.47% in the first quarter of 2020 to 94.89% in the current 2021 first quarter. The congestion rate fell by 0.89 percentage points, which is an indication that cases are taking a slightly longer time to disposition. The disposal rate saw an improvement over the comparative period, moving from 48.59% in the first quarter of 2020 to 49.98% in the current first quarter of 2021, an increase of 1.39 percentage points.

Chart 3.0A: Comparison of case disposal rates across the parish courts for the first quarters of 2020 and 2021

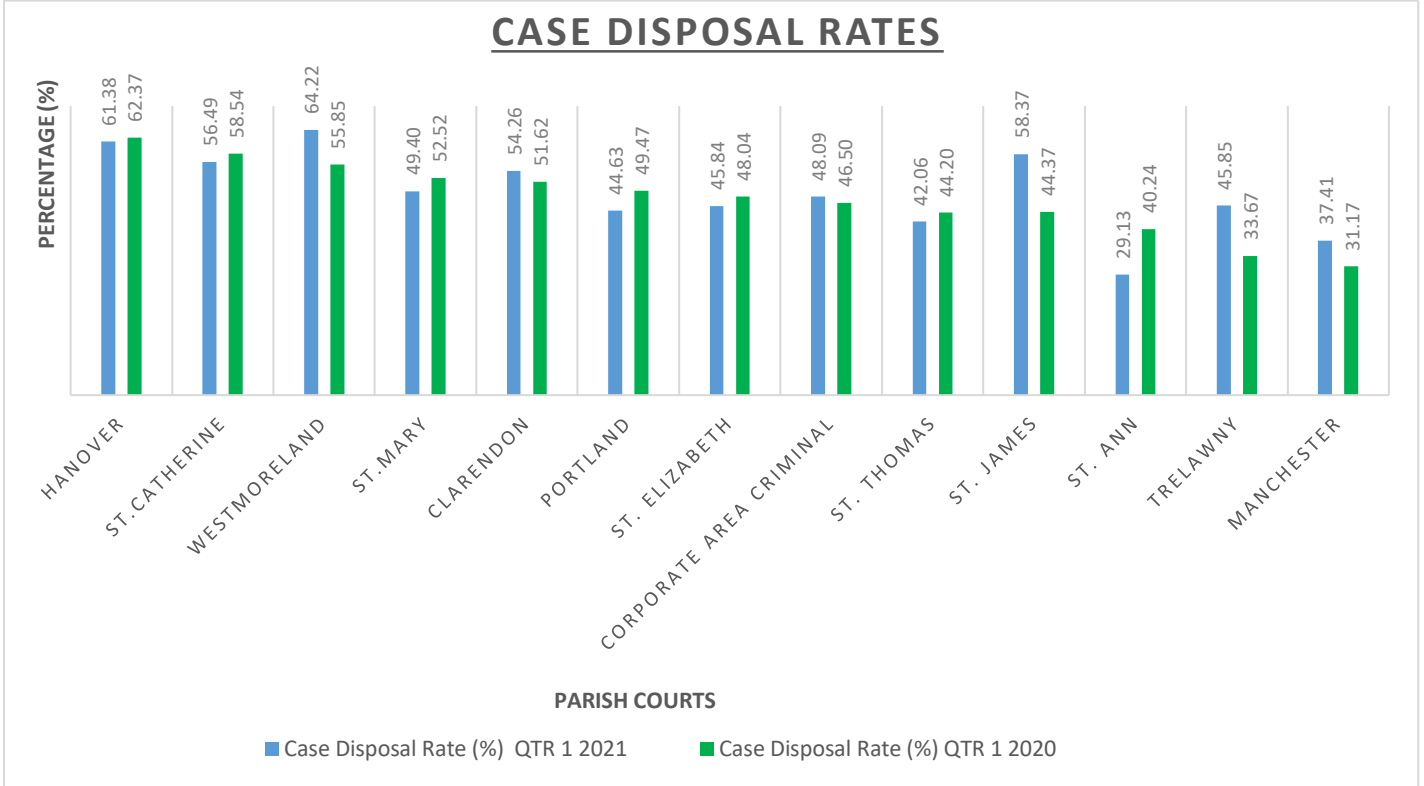


Chart 3.0B: Comparison of case clearance rates across the parish courts for the first quarter of 2020 and 2021

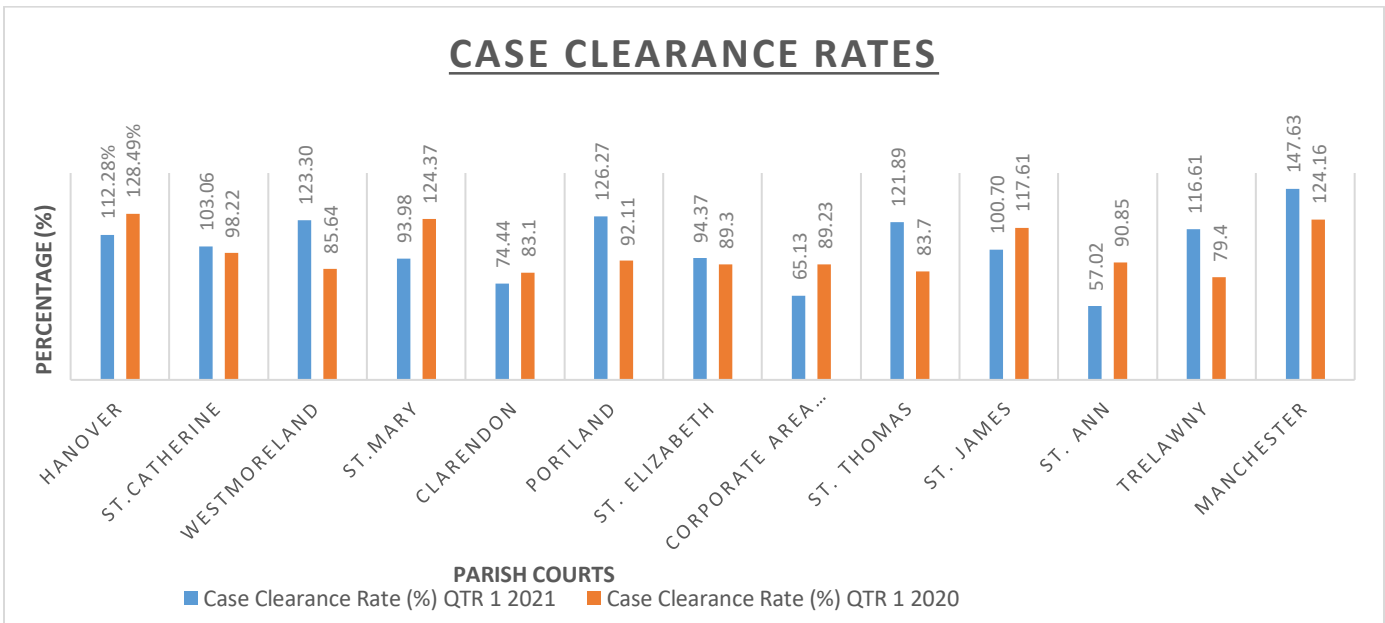


Chart 3.0C: Comparison of case congestion rate across the parish courts for the first quarters of 2020 and 2021

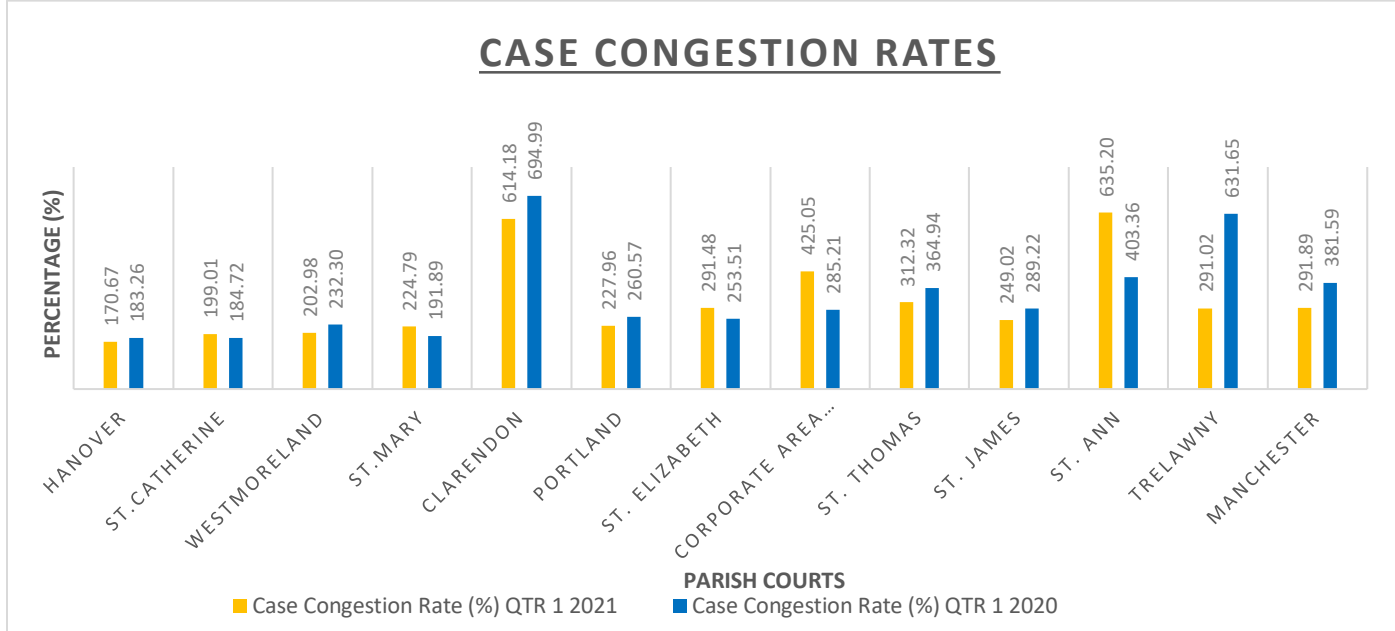


Table 4.0a: Comparison of the trial certainty rates for the first quarters of 2020 and 2021

Parish Court	Trial certainty rate (%) Q1 (2021)	Trial certainty rate (%) Q1 (2020)	Change in the Trial certainty Rate (%)
Westmoreland	46	76	-30
Clarendon	59	77	-18
St. Ann	40	66	-26
Portland	97	97	0
St. James	100	95	5
Manchester	89	82	7
St. Elizabeth	93	92	1
St. Catherine	90	91	-1
Trelawny	97	94	3
St. Mary	89	89	0
St. Thomas	98	99	-1
Corporate Area Criminal	89	52	37
Hanover	62	76	-14
Total/Average	81	84	-3

Q1 represents the first quarter i.e. January-March

The trial date certainty rate provides a measure of the extent to which dates, which are set for trial, proceed on schedule without being delayed to start at some future date. The overall trial

date certainty rate for the first quarter of 2021 was 81%, a 3-percentage points decrease when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2020. Five of the parish courts met the prescribed international performance standard of a rate between 92% and 100% in the quarter. Leading the way are the parish courts of St. James with a trial certainty rate of 100%, St. Thomas with 98%, Portland and Trelawny with 97% each and St. Elizabeth with 93%. The St. Catherine Parish Court fell just short of the international standard with a trial certainty rate of 90%, but this was still a promising result. The minimum-targeted court-wide trial date certainty rate, which has been set out by the Honourable Chief Justice for the judiciary for the next 5-6 years, is 95%. This is consistent with the push to significantly enhance the efficiency of the court system and hence the timely delivery of justice to the Jamaican citizenry. The attainment of this minimum threshold rate will depress the overall criminal case backlog in the Jamaican court system below 5%.

Table 4.0b: Percentile Rank on trial date certainty rate for the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarter of 2020 and 2021

Parish Court	Percentile Rank – Trial Date Certainty Rate Q1 2021 (%)	Percentile Rank – Trial Date Certainty Rate Q1 2020 (%)
Westmoreland	8	17
Clarendon	17	33
St. Ann	0	8
Portland	75	92
St. James	100	83
Manchester	33	42
St. Elizabeth	67	67
St. Catherine	58	58
Trelawny	75	75
St. Mary	33	50
St. Thomas	92	100
Corporate Area Criminal	33	0
Hanover	25	17

The above table provides a summary of the percentile rank of the various parish courts with regards to their performances on the trial date certainty rates for the first quarters of 2020 and 2021. The results present a mixed picture across both years for most courts in terms of the relative performances on this measurement. Some courts experienced gains in the ranking and several others experienced declines, while some courts remained the same. There were however no dramatic changes in ranking for any court over the comparable period.

Table 4.0c: Average duration from first trial date set to date of disposal of case for matters resolved by trial in the first quarter of 2021

Parish Court	Average Time (days)
Clarendon	83.17
Corporate Area	222.42
Hanover	161.71
Manchester	371.98
Portland	177.55
St. Ann	357.20
St. Catherine	278.45
St. Elizabeth	351.36
St. James	219.34
St. Mary	165.87
St. Thomas	480.56
Trelawny	166.60
Westmoreland	91.33
Weighted average	267.56
Standard Deviation	114.77

The above table summarizes the average durations between first trial date set and the date of case disposal for trial matters resolved in the first quarter of 2021 across the various parish courts. The data shows an overall weighted average interval between the first trial date set and the disposition of such cases in the quarter of 268 days or roughly 22 months, with a standard deviation of roughly 115 days or 9.58 months. The Clarendon and Westmoreland Parish Courts

had the lowest times between first trial dates set and disposal of cases with roughly 83 days and 91 days respectively, reflective of more ideal standards when compared to most other courts. The St. Thomas and Manchester Parish Courts with average interval times of roughly 481 days or 1.34 years and the Manchester Parish Court with 372 days or roughly a year rank lowest on this measurement. Lengthy time intervals between the first trial date and the date of case disposition are symptoms of grave problems in case management, case readiness and possibly even scheduling and calendar management in the particular court. The results observed in Clarendon and Westmoreland are reasonably good pace makers for all parish courts. Not surprisingly, the Westmoreland Parish Court consistently been among the top performers on nearly all key performance measurements for at least the past four years. The Clarendon Parish Court, despite not always ranking among the top performers has been making steady strides over the past few years in turning around the historically modest performance of the court. In the long run the average time that it takes for trial matters to conclude are good predictors of court productivity, particularly in courts where trial matters are a sizeable share of all cases heard.

Table 4.0d: The percentage of cases proceeding to trial for each Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021

Parish Court	Number of cases heard in the quarter	Number of cases heard which were either at the trial stage or progressed to the trial in Q1, 2021	Percentage of cases heard which were either at the trial stage or progressed to the trial stage in Q1, 2021 (%)
Clarendon	968	93	9.61
Corporate Area	3657	527	14.41
Hanover	634	109	17.19
Manchester	1466	457	31.17
Portland	858	61	7.11
St. Ann	1687	319	18.91
St. Catherine	2056	505	24.56
St. Elizabeth	902	223	24.72
St. James	1506	190	12.62
St. Mary	516	72	13.95
St. Thomas	737	137	18.59
Trelawny	746	90	12.06
Westmoreland	1065	183	17.18
Total/Weighted Average	16798	2966	17.66

Q1 means the first quarter which spans January – March.

The above table provides a summary of the percentage of criminal cases heard which were at the trial stage or proceeded to the trial stage in the first quarter of 2021 across the parish courts. It is seen that roughly 17.66% of all criminal cases heard in the first quarter of 2021 across the parish courts were either at the trial stage or progressed to the trial stage. The Manchester Parish Court had the highest proportion of cases heard which were at the trial stage or progressed to the trial stage in the period, with a rate of 31.17%. This was followed by the St. Catherine and St. Elizabeth Parish Courts with roughly 25% each. The parish courts of Portland and Clarendon with rates of 9.61% and 7.11% of cases heard in the first quarter which were either at the trial stage or progressed to the trial stage had the lowest incidence. The proportional reliance of a court on

the use of trial to resolve matters could be a predictor of the average duration of cases in the long run. In the long run, courts which rely more heavily on trial to resolve cases will generally have longer average times to disposition which could in turn adversely affect other key performance metrics such as the rate of clearance of cases and the net backlog rate.

Table 5.0a: Distribution of courtroom utilization rates across the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Parish Court	Average overall courtroom utilization rate (%)	Highest recorded courtroom utilization rate (%)	Lowest recorded courtroom utilization rate (%)	Standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rate (%)	Average courtroom utilization rate for Night Court sittings (%)	Average number of courtroom adjournments per day
St. Catherine	58.99	128.61	4.17	30.53	N/A	1.3
Westmoreland	80.22	260.00	1.67	41.27	N/A	0
Trelawny	51.33	153.67	2.33	32.47	N/A	1
St. Thomas	56.97	104.17	8.33	25.43	N/A	1
St. Mary	69.66	277.67	8.33	38.29	N/A	1
St. James	63.95	140.00	1.39	30.97	N/A	1.3
Corporate Area Criminal Court	54.90	126.67	3.33	28.24	N/A	1.1
St. Ann	85.54	137.50	9.17	31.05	N/A	1
Portland	51.39	118.00	0.00	29.04	N/A	1.2
Hanover	39.06	108.89	3.89	23.78	N/A	1
Clarendon	46.99	122.33	0.33	21.56	N/A	1
Manchester	61.65	122.00	4.00	29.20	N/A	1
St. Elizabeth	56.27	112.50	9.67	23.27	N/A	1
Overall Averages	59.76	147.08	4.35	29.62	N/A	0.99
Standard Deviation	12.84	55.78	3.41	5.65	N/A	0.32
Skewness	0.67	1.94	0.46	0.66	N/A	-2.73

The above table details the courtroom utilization rate for the various parish courts in the first quarter of 2021. The courtroom utilization rate provides a measurement of the proportion of

available hours for open court hearings in all courtroom (including outstations) which are actually utilized. If the usage of any courtroom exceeds the available hours, then the utilization rate will exceed 100% and the rate will fall below 100% if less than the available hours are utilized. The prescribed international standard for the courtroom utilization rate is 100%, which means that all hours allocated for court hearings in any court, on any given day should be utilized. The data suggests that as a whole, the parish courts of Jamaica performed below this level in the first quarter of 2021. The overall average courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in the quarter was 59.76%, which is an indication that on average roughly 60% of the available hours for court hearings were utilized across the parish courts in the first quarter of 2021. This result is roughly 1.98 percentage points above than the closing figure in 2020. The parish courts recording the highest courtroom utilization rates for the quarter are the St. Ann and Westmoreland Parish Courts with 85.54% and 80.22% respectively, followed by the St. Mary Parish Court with 69.66% and the St. James Parish Court with 63.95%. The Hanover and Clarendon Parish Courts with 39.06% and 46.99% respectively, had the lowest rates, while the Trelawny Parish Court with 51.33% had the next lowest rate. The standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rates was relatively low, suggesting that on average the rates for the individual courts did not vary widely from the overall mean. This is affirmed by the low positive skewness of the data. Due to lockdown measures and daily curfew implemented by the Jamaican government to curb the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, none of the courts convened night court sittings for the first quarter of 2021.

The sample size of days used to compute the rates for each court were sufficiently large and representative, though not the same for all courts. The margin of error of the courtroom utilization rates is a reliable $\pm 2.5\%$.

Table 5.0b: Percentile Rank on Courtroom utilization rate for the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarter of 2021 and 2020

Parish Court	Percentile rank 2021 (%)	Percentile rank 2020 (%)	Percentile rank (Night Court) 2021 (%)	Percentile rank (Night Court) 2020 (%)
St. Catherine	58	17	N/A	67
Westmoreland	92	92	N/A	92
Trelawny	17	25	N/A	0
St. Thomas	50	50	N/A	42
St. Mary	83	83	N/A	83
St. James	75	58	N/A	17
Corporate Area Criminal Court	33	42	N/A	75
St. Ann	100	100	N/A	100
Portland	25	75	N/A	58
Hanover	0	0	N/A	50
Clarendon	8	8	N/A	8
Manchester	67	67	N/A	25
St. Elizabeth	42	33	N/A	33

The above table provides a summary of the percentile rank of the various parish courts with regards to their performances on the courtroom utilization rates for the first quarters of 2020 and 2021. The results present a relatively consistent picture across both years for most courts in terms of the relative performances on this measurement. Some courts experienced gains in the ranking, several others experienced declines, and some courts retained the same ranking. The St. Ann Parish court performed better than all courts in both the first quarter of 2020 and the first quarter of 2021, with the Hanover Parish Court having the lowest courtroom utilization rate in both the first quarter of 2020 and the first quarter of 2021. In terms of the courtroom utilization

for Night Court sittings, the St. Ann Parish court also performed better than all courts in 2020 and the Trelawny Parish Court had the lowest night court utilization rate for the first quarter of 2020.

Table 6.0: Types of matters for each Parish Court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Parish Court	Indictment	Summary Matters	Lay Magistrate's Sittings	Committal Proceedings	Tax	Miscellaneous	LRF	Traffic	N S	Total
Corporate Are Criminal	1036	1312	350	220	-	-	-	24	-	2942
St. Catherine	601	763	245	160	60	-	3	-	-	1832
Manchester	273	132	163	37	9	1	6	-	-	621
St. James	281	455	166	47	7	34	-	-	-	990
St. Ann	299	343	186	86	1	-	-	2	-	917
Westmoreland	291	353	97	90	36	-	-	-	-	867
Clarendon	270	280	105	75	96	-	-	-	-	826
Portland	294	111	28	2	-	-	-	-	-	435
St. Elizabeth	191	282	92	34	20	-	2	8	-	629
St. Mary	230	34	62	92	-	-	-	-	-	418
Trelawny	128	182	56	42	-	-	18	-	-	426
Hanover	188	259	99	28	-	-	1	-	-	575
St. Thomas	151	99	60	58	-	-	3	-	-	371
Total	4233	4605	1709	971	229	35	33	34	0	11849
Percentage	35.72	38.86	14.42	8.19	1.93	0.30	0.28	0.29	-	

*Total number of observations = 11,849**LRF means Law Reform Fraudulent Transaction,
***NS means not stated

The above table provides a breakdown of the different types of new charges filed in each parish court for the first quarter of 2021. For the quarter, 11,849 charges were filed across the parish courts, an increase of approximately 25.88% when compared to the corresponding quarter in

2020. The largest proportions of these charges were filed in the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division (2943), the St. Catherine Parish Court (1832), the St. James Parish Court with (990) and the St. Ann Parish Court with 917 charges. The largest share of the charges were Summary matters (38.86%); followed by Indictments (35.72%), Lay Magistrates’ matters (14.42%) and Committal Proceedings with 8.19% of the total. The Corporate Area Court-Criminal Division accounted for the largest proportion of summary matters filed, followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. James and Westmoreland. The Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division accounted for the largest share of Indictments filed, followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court and the St. Ann Parish Court. The largest proportion of Lay Magistrates’ matters was filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine and St. Ann. The Corporate Area Criminal Court followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court and the St. Mary Parish Court accounted for the largest individual shares of Committal Proceedings filed in the quarter. As for criminal matters, which are traffic related, the only incidences of these in the quarter were in the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division, the St. Ann Parish Court and the St. Elizabeth Parish Court.

Distribution of leading charges filed in each parish court in the first quarter of 2021

Table 7.1: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	57	12.69
Unlawful wounding	50	11.14
Breach of Curfew Order	45	10.02
Threat	33	7.35
Malicious destruction of property	29	6.46
Sub-total	214	47.66

Number of observations sampled (N): 449

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court for the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that Assault occasioning bodily harm with 57 or 12.69% and unlawful wounding with 50 or 11.14% of the total sample of charges are the most frequently occurring charges. Breach of curfew order with 45 or 10.02% followed this, while threat with 33 or 7.35% and malicious destruction of property with 29 or 6.46% of the total sample rounds off the top five. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 47.66% of the total sample of 449 charges filed in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the Hanover Parish Court included, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property, threat and assault at common law.

Table 7.2: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Unlawful wounding	84	13.91
Assault occasioning bodily harm	82	13.58
Exposing goods for sale	53	8.77
Threat	44	7.28
Malicious destruction of property	40	6.62
Sub-total	303	50.17

Number of observations sampled (N): 604

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court for the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that unlawful with 84 or 13.91% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 82 or 13.58% and exposing goods for sale with 53 or 8.77% rank next. The top five is rounded off by threat with 44 or 7.28% and malicious destruction of property with 40 or 6.62% of the sample charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated

50.17% of the total sample of 604 charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the Manchester Parish Court included larceny as a servant, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, exposing goods for sale and threat.

Table 7.3: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Portland Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning bodily harm	85	20.48
Unlawful wounding	48	11.57
Malicious destruction of property	36	8.67
Littering in a public place	33	7.95
Threat	32	7.71
Sub-total	234	56.39

Number of observations sampled (N): 415

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Portland Parish Court in the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 85 or 20.48% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 48 or 11.57% and malicious destruction of property with 36 or 8.67% followed this. The top five is rounded off by littering in a public place with 33 or 7.95% and threat with 32 or 7.71% of the sample of charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 56.39% of the total sample of 415 charges filed in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the Portland parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, threat, possession of an offensive weapon and exposing goods for sale.

Table 7.4: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Threat	361	22.35
Unlawful wounding	176	10.90
Assault occasioning bodily harm	172	10.65
Malicious destruction of property	97	6.01
Breach of the disaster risk management act	64	3.96
Sub-total	870	53.87

Number of observations sampled (N): 1615

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court in the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that threat with 361 or 22.35% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 176 or 10.90% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 172 or 10.65% followed this. Malicious destruction of property with 97 or 6.01% and breach of the disaster risk management act with 64 or 3.96% of the total sample rounds of the top charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 53.87% of the total sample of 1615 charges filed in the quarter at the St. Ann Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the St. Ann parish court included threat, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, littering in a public place, and illegal possession of firearm.

Table 7.5: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the disaster risk management act	210	11.52
Assault occasioning bodily harm	191	10.48
Unlawful wounding	145	7.95
Breach of The Excise Duty Act	85	4.66
Malicious Destruction of Property	78	4.28
Sub-total	709	38.89

Number of observations sampled (N): 1823

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that assault breach of the disaster risk management act with 210 or 11.52% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 191 or 10.48% and unlawful wounding with 145 or 7.95% followed this. Breach of The Excise Duty Act with 85 or 4.66% and malicious Destruction of Property with 78 or 4.28% of the total sample of charges filed round off the top five. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 38.89% of the total sample of 1823 charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the St. Catherine parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, possession of offensive weapon, smoking in a public place, unlawful wounding and threat.

Table 7.6: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Unlawful wounding	77	13.65
Assault occasioning bodily harm	56	9.93
Threat	44	7.80
Armed with an offensive weapon	36	6.38
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	27	4.79
Sub-total	240	42.55

Number of observations sampled (N): 564

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court in the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that unlawful wounding with 77 or 13.65% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 56 or 9.93%, threat with 44 or 7.80% and armed with an offensive weapon with 36 or 6.38% followed this. Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act accounted

for 27 or 4.79% of the sample of charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 42.55% of the total sample of 564 charges filed in the quarter at the St. Elizabeth parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the St. Elizabeth parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, possession of offensive weapon, unlawful wounding, threat and malicious destruction of property.

Table 7.7: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. James Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Disaster Risk Management Act	115	11.73
Assault occasioning bodily harm	95	9.69
Breach of Curfew Order	77	7.86
Threat	69	7.04
Possession of offensive weapon	68	6.94
Sub-total	424	43.27

Number of observations sampled (N): 980

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges at the St. James Parish Court in first quarter of 2021. It is shown that breach of Disaster Risk Management Act with 115 or 11.73% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 95 or 9.69%, breach of curfew order with 77 or 7.86% and threat with 69 or 7.04% followed this. The top five is rounded off by possession of offensive weapon with 68 or 6.94% of the total sample. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 43.27% of the sample of 980 charges filed in quarter at the St. James Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the St. James parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, possession of offensive weapon, unlawful wounding, threat and malicious destruction of property.

Table 7.8: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Unlawful wounding	63	15.67
Assault occasioning bodily harm	44	10.95
Malicious destruction of property	26	6.47
Simple larceny	20	4.98
Threat	15	3.73
Sub-total	168	41.79

Number of observations sampled (N): 402

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that unlawful wounding with 63 or 15.67% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 44 or 10.95% and malicious destruction of property with 26 or 6.47% followed this. The top five is rounded off by simple larceny with 20 or 4.98% and threat with 15 or 3.73% of the sample. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 41.79% of the total sample of 402 charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the St. Mary parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, threat, possession of ganja and dealing in ganja.

Table 7.9: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning bodily harm	54	15.17
Unlawful wounding	37	10.39
Malicious destruction of property	21	5.90
Threat	21	5.90
Sexual intercourse with a person under 16	19	5.34
Sub-total	152	42.70

Number of observations sampled (N): 356

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court in the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 54 or 15.17% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 37 or 10.39% and malicious destruction of property and threat with 21 or 5.90% each followed this. The top five is rounded off by sexual intercourse with a person under 16 with 19 or 5.34% of the total sample of charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 42.70% of the sample of 356 charges filed in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the St. Thomas parish court included possession of offensive weapon, unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, possession of ganja and smoking in a public place.

Table 7.10: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	60	15.35
Breach of Curfew Order	39	9.97
Unlawful wounding	30	7.67
Possession of offensive weapon	27	6.91
Dealing in ganja	19	4.86
Possession of ganja	19	4.86
Sub-total	194	49.62

Number of observations sampled (N): 391

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 60 or 15.35% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Breach of curfew order with 39 or 9.97% and unlawful wounding with 30 or 7.67% followed this. Possession of offensive weapon with 27 or 6.91%, dealing in ganja and possession

of ganja with 19 or 4.86% each of the total sample of charges round of the top five charges filed in the quarter. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 49.62% of the total sample of 391 charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the Trelawny parish court included unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, possession of offensive weapon, malicious destruction of property and possession of ganja.

Table 7.11: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning bodily harm	106	14.70
Unlawful wounding	86	11.93
Threat	45	6.24
Possession of ganja	43	5.96
Malicious destruction of property	40	5.55
Sub-total	320	44.38

Number of observations sampled (N): 721

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 106 or 14.70% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 86 or 11.93% and threat with 45 or 6.24% followed this. Possession of ganja with 43 or 5.96% and malicious destruction of property with 40 or 5.55% of the sample rank next. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 44.38% of the total sample of 721 charges filed in the quarter at the Westmoreland Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the Westmoreland parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, possession of offensive weapon, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property and possession of ganja.

Table 7.12: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	109	15.82
Unlawful wounding	70	10.16
Breach of Curfew Order	56	8.13
Malicious Destruction of Property	45	6.53
Threat	28	4.06
Sub-total	308	44.70

Number of observations sampled (N): 689

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in first quarter of 2021. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 109 or 15.82% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 70 or 10.16% and breach of curfew order with 56 or 8.13% followed this. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property with 45 or 6.53% and threat with 28 or 4.06%. The charges quoted above account for an estimated 44.70% of the sample of 689 charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the Clarendon parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, threat, possession of ganja, malicious destruction of property and dealing in ganja.

Table 7.13: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the curfew order under the disaster risk management act	543	18.45
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	277	9.41
Littering	254	8.63
Unlawful Wounding	176	5.98
Disorderly conduct	105	3.57
Sub-total	1355	46.04

Number of observations sampled (N): 2943

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division for the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that breach of the curfew order under the disaster risk management act with 543 or 18.45% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 277 or 9.41% and littering with 254 or 8.63% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 176 or 5.98% and disorderly conduct with 105 or 3.57% of the charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 46.04% of the total sample of 2943 charges at filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court –Criminal Division in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2020 in the Corporate Area parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, exposing goods for sale, possession of offensive weapon and disorderly conduct.

Table 8.0: Conviction rate for summary and indictment matters heard in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Type of case	Number of disposed matters	Number of guilty verdicts	Number of guilty pleas	Aggregate number of guilty outcomes	Estimated conviction rate (%)
Summary	3416	70	2250	2320	67.92
Indictment	4131	115	697	812	19.66

The above table shows the estimated conviction rate for summary and indictment matters heard across all parish courts in the first quarter of 2021. Summary matters heard in the quarter include charges such as possession of an offensive weapon, possession of ganja, exposing goods for sale and dealing in ganja. The estimated conviction rate for the quarter for summary matters was 67.92%, which is 1.45 percentage points below the conviction rate of 69.37% recorded for the

first quarter of 2020. The estimated conviction rate for indictment matters was significantly lower at 19.66% for the quarter, a rate which is approximately 1.47 percentage points below the rate of 21.13% recorded in the first quarter of 2020. Indictment matters heard in the quarter included charges such as assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property and simple larceny.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges across the parish courts for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Charge	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning bodily harm	1388	11.61
Unlawful wounding	1094	9.15
Breach of Curfew Order	809	6.77
Threat	783	6.55
Malicious destruction of property	575	4.81
Possession of offensive weapon	457	3.82
Breach of the disaster risk management act	432	3.61
Littering	319	2.67
Possession of ganja	301	2.52
Disorderly Conduct	294	2.46
Sub-total	6452	53.98

Number of observations sampled (N): 11,952

The above table shows the distribution of the ten most commonly occurring charges across all parish courts for the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 1388 or 11.61% of the total number of charges sampled is the most frequently occurring. Unlawful wounding with 1094 or 9.15% and breach of curfew order with 809 or 6.77% followed this. The top five is rounded off by threat with 783 or 6.55% and malicious destruction of property with 575 or 4.81% of the total sample of charges filed in the quarter. These ten most frequently occurring types of charges account for approximately 53.98% of the total sample of charges filed in the quarter.

Table 10.0: Conviction rate for leading occurring charges heard in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Type of Offence	Number of disposed matters	Number of guilty verdicts	Number of guilty pleas	Aggregate number of guilty outcomes	Estimated conviction rate (%)
Littering	56	5	48	53	94.64
Possession of offensive weapon	402	8	342	350	87.06
Breach of Curfew Order	544	14	454	468	86.03
Breach of the disaster risk management act	231	1	190	191	82.68
Disorderly conduct	223	13	149	162	72.65
possession of ganja	275	3	181	184	66.91
Unlawful wounding	997	21	106	127	12.74
Assault occasioning bodily harm	1195	22	124	146	12.22
Malicious destruction of property	558	16	50	66	11.83
Threat	405	11	29	40	9.88

The above table shows the estimated conviction rate for the nine leading charges across all parish courts in the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that littering had the highest estimated conviction rate on the list with 94.64%. Possession of offensive weapon with 87.06% and breach of curfew order with 86.03% followed this. The top conviction rates on the list in the quarter are rounded off by breach of the disaster risk management act with an estimated conviction rate of 82.68% and disorderly conduct with an estimated conviction rate of 72.65%. Smoking in a public place recorded the highest estimated conviction rate in the corresponding first quarter of 2020 with 94.76%, followed by possession of offensive weapon with an estimated conviction rate of 92.67%. Threat had the lowest estimated conviction rate on the list for the quarter with 9.88%. Malicious destruction of property with 11.83% and assault occasioning bodily harm with an estimated conviction rate of 12.22% had the next lowest conviction rates on the list. Unlawful

wounding with an estimated conviction rate of 12.74% also had a relatively low estimated conviction rate. Assault occasioning bodily harm had the lowest estimated conviction rate in the corresponding first quarter of 2020 with 12.07%.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the average age of active charges for each parish court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Parish Court	Average age of active charges (days)
Clarendon	36
Trelawny	43
Portland	40
St. Mary	40
Hanover	40
Westmoreland	32
St. Catherine	32
St. Elizabeth	40
St. Ann	40
St. James	41
St. Thomas	43
Corporate Area Criminal	41
Manchester	43
Overall Average	39.31
Standard Deviation	3.73
Skewness	-1.24

The above table shows the average age of active charges originating in the first quarter of 2021, for charges originating in said quarter. The overall average age of active matters originating in the quarter was approximately 39 days or roughly 1.3 months, roughly 4 days shorter than the average in the first quarter of 2020. The parish courts of St. Catherine, Westmoreland and Clarendon have the lowest averages on the list. On the contrary, the highest averages were observed for in the parish courts of St. Thomas, Trelawny and Manchester. The standard deviation of the scores was, however, relatively low (4 days), an indication that the individual values for the parish courts were on average close to the overall mean. The negative skewness,

however, indicates that proportionately more of the individual times to disposition in the data set were above the overall series average. There is an intuitive correlation between clearance rates and the average age of cases in the long run, but it does not necessarily manifest empirically in the short run. This means that in the long run, courts with higher clearance rates will in general have a lower case backlog and a lower average age of active cases. Courts, which manage to maintain a case clearance rate of between 90% and 110% long enough will eventually eliminate case backlog, a feat that is quite conceivable with improved case progression management in the respective courts. In such cases, the average time taken to dispose of cases will experience a natural decline, tapering off at a modest, tolerable rate and improving the efficiency of the courts and the enhancing the timely delivery of justice.

Table 12.0: Average age of charges disposed for matters originating in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Parish Court	Average age of disposed charges (days)
Clarendon	44
Trelawny	30
Portland	37
St. Mary	27
Hanover	28
Westmoreland	25
St. Catherine	25
St. Elizabeth	25
St. Ann	26
St. James	34
St. Thomas	26
Corporate Area Criminal	26
Manchester	33
Overall Average	29.69
Standard Deviation	5.81
Skewness	1.48

The above table shows that the average time taken to dispose of criminal cases filed in the first quarter of 2021, which were filed in the Parish Courts, is 29.69 days. This is 2.92 days more than time taken to

dispose of cases originating in the first quarter of 2020, which were disposed. The standard deviation of the scores was relatively low (6 days), an indication that the individual values for the parish courts were on average close to the overall mean. The positive skewness, however, indicates that proportionately more of the individual times to disposition in the data set fell below the overall series average. The scores ranged from a low of roughly 25 days at the Westmoreland, St. Catherine and Elizabeth Parish Courts to a high of 44 days for the Clarendon Parish Court.

Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition as at the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Parishes	Time interval in days							Sample size (n)
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269 days	270-364 days	365 -547 days	548-729 days	730 days and over	
Corporate Area Criminal	7872 (43.2%)	4060 (22.3%)	2203 (12.1%)	1411 (7.8%)	1420 (7.8%)	650 (3.6%)	587 (3.2%)	18203 (100)
St. Catherine	4383 (38.1%)	2865 (24.9%)	1556 (13.5%)	949 (8.3%)	1016 (8.8%)	386 (3.4%)	346 (3.0%)	11501 (100)
St. James	3387 (39.1%)	1803 (20.8%)	1012 (11.7%)	775 (8.9%)	832 (9.6%)	396 (4.6%)	458 (5.3%)	8663 (100)
Manchester	1927 (25.2%)	1367 (17.9%)	1081 (14.1%)	856 (11.2%)	1076 (14.1%)	609 (8.0%)	741 (9.7%)	7657 (100)
Westmoreland	3728 (54.3%)	1312 (19.1%)	760 (11.1%)	436 (6.3%)	405 (5.9%)	125 (1.8%)	104 (1.5%)	6870 (100)
St. Ann	1821 (28.2%)	1273 (19.7%)	806 (12.5%)	671 (10.4%)	901 (13.9%)	496 (7.7%)	498 (7.7%)	6466 (100)
Clarendon	2936 (43.4%)	1535 (22.7%)	788 (11.6%)	468 (6.9%)	616 (9.1%)	241 (3.6%)	183 (2.7%)	6767 (100)
St. Thomas	1124 (29.3%)	925 (24.1%)	522 (13.6%)	489 (12.8%)	396 (10.3%)	164 (4.3%)	212 (5.5%)	3832 (100)
Portland	1622 (37.0%)	1088 (24.8%)	550 (12.6%)	381 (8.7%)	408 (9.3%)	172 (3.9%)	161 (3.7%)	4382 (100)
St. Mary	2083 (41%)	1029 (20.3%)	701 (13.8%)	360 (7.1%)	405 (8.0%)	197 (3.9%)	302 (5.9%)	5077 (100)
St. Elizabeth	1928 (39.7%)	1257 (25.9%)	654 (13.5%)	337 (6.9%)	381 (7.8%)	153 (3.1%)	150 (3.1%)	4860 (100)
Trelawny	1250 (39.2%)	654 (20.5%)	378 (11.8%)	289 (9.1%)	287 (9.0%)	179 (5.6%)	153 (4.8%)	3190 (100)
Hanover	1681 (50.4%)	800 (24.0%)	333 (10.0%)	213 (6.4%)	149 (4.5%)	75 (2.2%)	87 (2.6%)	3338 (100)
% of Total	39.36	21.99	12.49	8.41	9.13	4.23	4.39	100.00
Average	2749.38	1536.00	872.62	587.31	637.85	295.62	306.31	6985.08
Standard Deviation	1831.86	939.17	513.50	336.22	376.60	191.32	206.41	4107.02
Skewness	2.04	2.00	1.68	1.33	0.76	0.84	0.93	1.90

Number of charges sampled (N) = 90,806

Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the previous 4.5 years.

The table above shows the breakdown of the time disposition for matters filed in the respective parish courts for at least 54 consecutive months over the period September 2016 to March 2021.

The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed of in

the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 39.36% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. James and Westmoreland are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed under 90 days. This trend is broadly similar to that seen over the past 24 months. Cumulatively, 82.25% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a continued positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in increasing overall productivity and realizing the objective of becoming the best in the Caribbean region in three years and among the best in the world in six years. From the data set, the parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, Manchester and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 4.39% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts of Manchester, Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division and St. Ann also had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample range from weak positive to moderate positive, which is an indication that for disposed cases, the distributions of the time taken do not vary dramatically across the courts. The difference, however, is the proportion of cases disposed of, relative to the caseload, which as shown earlier, indicates that some courts are performing much better.

Table 14.0a: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed as at the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Criminal	183.93	1	110	208.53	2.07	1	1447	18203
St. Catherine	194.18	63	124	208.88	2.29	1	1844	11501
St. James	224.0	49	126	258.12	2.29	1	1805	8663
Manchester	308.90	63	215	291.59	1.50	1	1860	7657
Westmoreland	142.52	28	77	173.45	3.08	1	1974	6870
St. Ann	284.00	63	189	299.44	5.18	1	8875	6466
Clarendon	181.86	63	105	205.49	2.20	1	1575	6767
St. Thomas	238.11	119	161	238.00	1.87	1	1671	3832
Portland	207.60	63	129	233.97	3.37	1	3702	4382
St. Mary	210.92	28	119	243.02	1.98	1	1650	5077
St. Elizabeth	183.25	28	118	200.53	2.28	1	1491	4860
Trelawny	222.19	28	126	250.25	2.10	1	1598	3190
Hanover	152.72	35	86	189.44	2.81	1	1841	3338
Total/Weighted Average	208.53	48.54	129.62	230.82	2.54	1.00	2410.23	6985.08
Standard Deviation	47.14	29.07	38.48	37.94	0.94	0.00	2025.27	4107.02
Skewness	0.77	0.88	1.05	0.45	2.05	0.00	3.18	1.90

Number of charges sampled (N) = 90,806

Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least a 51-month period over September 2016 – March 2021 for most parish courts.

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed of for each parish court as at March 31, 2021. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 54-month period over September 2016 – March 2021 for most parish courts and it should be noted that these descriptive statistics are for matters disposed over that sample period. The output produces an estimated weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Criminal Division) of approximately 209 days, roughly 2.51 days above the time taken in the corresponding quarter in 2020. The skewness of these times to disposition is a very low

positive 0.77, suggesting that these times were clustered around the overall mean. For matters disposed of in the period, the parish courts of Westmoreland (143 days), Hanover (153 days) and Clarendon (182 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of Manchester (309 days), St. Ann (284 days) and St. Thomas (238 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters disposed over the period. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is however modest, as shown by the standard deviation (47.14), suggesting some inconsistencies in performances on this measure. An interesting finding is that the minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 1 day; however, the maximum times are substantially larger, in some cases several years. This result continues to be both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 1447 days (48.23 months/4 years) in the Corporate Area parish court to a high of 8875 days (295.83 months/24.65 years) in the St. Ann Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is high positive 3.18, which is an indication that proportionately more of the maximum times to disposition fell below the overall series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial 90,806 matters.

Table 14.0b: Net and gross criminal case backlog as at the first quarter ended March 31, 2020

Parish Court	Net case backlog rate (%)	Gross case backlog rate (%)
Clarendon	12.66	18.03
Corporate area	1.47	15.31
Hanover	0.58	3.24
Manchester	3.36	17.91
Portland	2.69	10.55
St. Ann	3.22	19.55
St. Catherine	0.27	9.31
St. Elizabeth	0.84	8.07
St. James	1.91	11.28
St. Mary	0.14	8.74
St. Thomas	2.65	7.61
Trelawny	2.61	11.09
Westmoreland	1.25	8.04
Weighted Average	2.47	12.50
Standard Deviation	3.09	4.68

The net and gross case backlog rates provide one of the most decisive indicators of court performance as they are strongly influenced by most of the other critical court performance metrics such as the case clearance, case disposal, trial and hearing date certainty rates and are also directly correlated with the case congestion rate. The estimated gross case backlog rate provides a measurement of the proportion of cases filed for a given period (of over two years) which are either active or inactive (i.e. are unresolved) and are over two years old at the date of reporting. The closely related estimated net case backlog rate is the proportion of all cases filed for a given period (of over two years) which are still active and exceeding two years old at the time of reporting. The estimated net case backlog rate therefore excludes inactive cases which are unresolved. Based on international best practices an estimated gross case backlog rate of under 10% is desirable, while an estimated net case backlog rate of under 5% is prescribed. The results revealed are quite outstanding as using a 4.5 years' time series, the net case backlog rate

(weighted average) in the criminal division of the parish courts is 2.47% (with a standard deviation of 3.09%) which is satisfies than the international standard. The estimated gross case backlog rate also stands at a commendable 12.50% (with a standard deviation of 4.68%), an indication that there are a large number of inactive unresolved criminal cases in the parish courts. This rate is only 2.50 percentage points higher than the prescribed rate of 10%, but seemingly has the potential to meet this standard relatively soon with the application of more aggressive case management practices and reduction in the incidence of delays in the criminal courts. Although the time series used for this computation is only 4.3 years' worth of cases, the sample set is large and representative of the current direction of the court system. The parish courts of St. Mary with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.14% and St. Catherine with an estimated net case backlog rate of 0.27% and the parish court of Hanover with 0.58% have the lowest (best) estimated net case backlog rate in the time series, while the parish courts of Clarendon (12.66%), Manchester (3.36%) and St. Ann (3.22%) have the highest rates. As for the estimated gross backlog rate, the parish courts of Hanover (3.24%), St. Thomas (7.61%) and Westmoreland (8.04%) have the lowest (best) estimated gross backlog rates in the series, while the parish courts of St. Ann (19.55%), Clarendon (18.03%) and Manchester (17.91%) have the highest rates. Taken together, these are quite impressive returns for the criminal court system in Jamaica and augur well for future prospects.

Methods of Disposal and Conviction Rate

Table 15.0: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposition for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Parish Court	Guilty Plea	Dismissed	Not Guilty Verdict	Transferred	Mediated Settlement	Guilty Verdict	Committed to Circuit Court	Total
St. Catherine	479	378	33	115	300	19	88	1412
Corporate Area Criminal	1099	424	59	49	94	84	143	1952
Westmoreland	259	359	146	3	91	12	161	1031
St. James	386	-	168	72	43	18	95	782
Manchester	193	414	13	65	99	38	160	982
Clarendon	85	5	185	26	57	7	50	415
St. Elizabeth	243	14	129	-	118	3	66	573
Trelawny	159	103	9	-	82	17	53	423
Hanover	241	63	123	1	53	30	32	543
Portland	37	-	154	-	64	16	17	288
St. Mary	-	290	9	-	16	-	26	341
St. Thomas	154	12	98	18	70	8	55	415
St. Ann	87	158	118	51	18	2	3	437
Total	3422	2220	1244	400	1105	254	949	9594
Percentage of total	35.67	23.14	12.97	4.17	11.52	2.65	9.89	100.00

Total sample size: 9,594

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts for the first quarter of 2021. From the sample, it is observed that the largest proportion of matters disposed of during the quarter were by way of a guilty plea with 35.67% of the sample, followed by matters dismissed with 23.24% and not guilty verdicts with 12.97%. Mediated settlements with 11.52%, matters committed to Circuit Court with 9.89%, matters transferred to another court with 4.17% and guilty verdicts with 2.65% account for the remaining disposals in the quarter. The combined 38.32% of the cases disposed of by way of guilty outcomes represent

the estimated criminal conviction rate in the parish courts for the quarter. This represents a decline of 2.96 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2020.

Common Reasons for Adjournment

Table 16.1: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Reasons for Adjournment	Count	Percentage (%)
File to be completed	1486	11.45
Referred to Mediation	1176	9.06
Disclosure	1024	7.89
Defendant Not Appearing (DNA) warrant issued	996	7.67
Subpoena investigating officer	804	6.19
Re-issue application	572	4.41
Subpoena crown witness	497	3.83
Defendants absent	388	2.99
Subpoena complainant	383	2.95
Medical report unavailable	371	2.86
Sub-total	7697	59.29

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance =12,982)

Note: DNA means that the accused 'did not appear'

**Referral to mediation encompasses referrals to Probation and to the Dispute Resolution Foundation*

The above table is derived using a sample of 12,982 reasons for adjournments/continuance for matters heard in the first quarter of 2021 across all parish courts. The largest proportion (11.45%) was due to files to be completed. Adjournments for referrals to mediation with 9.06% and adjournments for disclosure with 7.89% rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment across the parish courts. Adjournments due to the non-appearance of the accused, leading to the issuing of warrants with 7.67% and to subpoena investigating officer with 6.19%, round of the top five

reasons for adjournment for the quarter. Four of the top five reasons for adjournment were also featured in the top five for the first quarter of 2020. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above account for 59.29% of the total sample of adjournments.

The case file integrity rate:

One factor, which has a significant bearing on the progression of cases through the court system, is the case file integrity rate. A case file is considered to have met the standards of integrity if at the point of a court hearing requiring the use of said the file; it is complete, accurate, available and correctly listed for court. Hence reasons for adjournment such as file incomplete, file not ready for court, matter wrongly listed and matter not before the court have an adverse impact on the case file integrity rate of the courts. In the first quarter of 2021, the case file integrity rate for criminal matters across the parish courts was 87.46% as 12.54% of the total incidence of adjournments was due to the indicated factors, which impair the case file integrity rate. Of these factors, file to be completed accounts for 11.45% of the total incidence of adjournments/continuance and is the greatest contributor, adversely affecting the case file integrity rate. This rate is below the prescribed international standard of 98%-100%. This is an area in which major operational interventions need to be undertaken across the parish courts to improve the availability, completeness, accuracy and correct scheduling of case files for court.

Table 16.2: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for continuance for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Reasons for Continuance	Count	Percentage (%)
Sentencing	879	6.77
Part Heard	701	5.40
Bail application	114	0.88
Sub-total	1694	13.05

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance = 12,982)

The analysis of adjournments makes a distinction between those incidences, which may be considered avoidable due to either internal or external factors, and those, which are intrinsic to the progression of a case. The above table highlights the primary reasons for adjournment gleaned from the sample, which may be considered as simply intrinsic to the progression of some cases. These reasons are classified as reasons for ‘continuance.’ As seen in the above table, adjournments for sentencing, part heard matters and those for bail application featured prominently among such reasons. Sentencing in particular, accounted for 6.77% of the total incidence of adjournments/continuance sampled.

Chapter 2.0: Criminal Case Demographics and Courtroom Activity

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

Table 17.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

	Male		Female		Total	
Charge	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Assault occasioning bodily harm	946	73.56	340	26.44	1286	100
Unlawful wounding	734	74.90	246	25.10	980	100
Breach of Curfew Order	584	72.19	225	27.81	809	100
Threat	404	73.72	144	26.28	548	100
Malicious destruction of property	373	72.43	142	27.57	515	100
Possession of offensive weapon	407	92.71	32	7.29	439	100
Breach of the disaster risk management act	308	71.46	123	28.54	431	100
Littering	281	88.64	36	11.36	317	100
Possession of ganja	218	75.69	70	24.31	288	100
Disorderly Conduct	190	67.14	93	32.86	283	100

*****The gender of offenders was not available for every matter that was filed in the parish courts hence a sample is used. Sample size (N) = 11,142**

The above table provides a sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021. Based on the data shown in chart 5.0, it is not surprising that males account for the dominant proportion of all these charges. Among the offences listed with the greatest imbalance in the gender distribution is possession of ganja, unlawful wounding, threat and assault occasioning bodily harm for which over 70% of the offenders were male. More particularly, it is seen that possession of offensive weapon with 92.71% of offenders being male and littering with 88.64% had the most significant incidence of offenders being male for the quarter. Disorderly conduct, malicious destruction of property and possession

of ganja saw the highest incidence of female involvement among the offences, which appeared most frequently.

The below series of tables provide a sampling distribution of cases by assigned courtroom in the individual parish courts in the first quarter of 2021. These figures are derived from representative data from the respective courts and do not necessary add back to the total population of cases outlined in the first few tables of the report.

Table 18.1: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Westmoreland for the quarter ended March 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	389	252	29	71.38	72.24
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	17	4	0	3.12	23.53
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	36	1	0	6.61	2.78
Whithorn Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	12	1	0	2.20	8.33
Whithorn Outstation	91	66	2	16.70	74.73
Total/Average	545	324	31	100	65.14

Note: The dynamics of the movement of cases or matters between courtrooms relative to the case counting rules may result in variations from the results in table 1.0.

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of criminal cases filed in the first quarter of 2021 at the Westmoreland Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and outlines the applicable disposal rates. The table separates Lay Magistrates and night court matters heard in each of the relevant locations for ease of comparison. The data shows decisively that matters entered in courtroom number 1 at the main

courthouse and the outstation in Whithorn accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 389 (71.38%) and 91 (16.70%) cases respectively. Sittings at the Lay Magistrates 'court at the main courthouse with 36 or 6.61% rank next. The number of cases heard in courtroom one (389 cases), increased by 56.22% going above the 249 cases recorded in the similar quarter of 2020. The disposal rate increased by 29.67 percentage points moving up to 72.24% compared to the 42.57% reported in the first quarter of 2020. In terms of cases disposed, sittings in courtroom number 1 with 252 cases accounted for the highest absolute share of cases disposed, relative to the number of new cases filed and had the second highest disposal rate of 72.74%. The outstation in Whithorn rank next with 66 disposed cases and recorded the highest disposal rate of 74.73%, an 18.67 percentage points above the 56.06% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2020.

The single outstation in Westmoreland accounted for 18.89% of the total number of new cases heard, an increase of 6.13 percentage points when compared to the 12.76% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2020. The main courthouse accounted for the remaining 81.11%, a decline of 6.13 percentage points when compared to the 87.24% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2020.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 389 new cases heard in courtroom number one, 3 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Two (2) of these were disposed of in courtroom two at the main courthouse and 1 was disposed of in courtroom number 3 at the main courthouse.

Table 18.2: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Corporate Area for the quarter ended March 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	1332	443	247	87.63	51.80
Courtroom #6 (main courthouse)	51	2	0	3.36	3.92
Courtroom #7 (main courthouse)	46	0	2	3.03	4.35
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	91	40	21	5.99	67.03
Total/Average	1520	485	270	100.00	49.67

Note: The dynamics of the movement of cases or matters between courtrooms relative to the case counting rules may result in variations from the results in table 1.0.

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021 at the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for the highest proportion of new cases filed in the quarter with 87.63% of the total. The Lay Magistrates Court with roughly 5.99% follows this and courtroom number 6 with 3.36%, rounding off the top three proportion of new cases filed in the quarter. Courtroom number two at the main courthouse accounts for the largest absolute share of cases disposed in the first quarter of 2021 with 443 cases and the second highest disposal rate of 51.80%. When compared to the corresponding quarter in 2020, courtroom number two also accounted for the largest absolute share of cases disposed with 364 cases and a disposal rate of 50.59%. This represents an increase of 79 new cases filed or a 21.70% increase and 1.21 percentage points increase in the disposal rate. The main courthouse in Half-Way-Tree accounted for 100% of the total number of new cases heard in 2021.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 1322 cases heard in courtroom two, 37 were disposed of in other courtrooms. In particular, 13 were disposed of at fast-track court and 14 in courtroom 4. Courtroom 5 accounted for 7 of these disposed cases and Lay Magistrates' disposed of 3 cases. Of the 91 cases heard at Lay Magistrates sittings at the main courthouse, 3 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. Two (2) were disposed of in courtroom 2 and 1 case was disposed of in Courtroom 5.

Table 18.3: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. James for the quarter ended March 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	516	279	41	78.66	62.02
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	17	12	2	2.59	82.35
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	46	2	9	7.01	23.91
Cambridge Outstation	77	53	5	11.74	75.32
Total/Average	656	346	57	100.00	61.43

Note 1: There were 55 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.

Note 2: The dynamics of the movement of cases or matters between courtrooms relative to the case counting rules may result in variations from the results in table 1.0.

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021 at the St. James Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and outlines the disposal rates of the various courtrooms and outstations. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse in Montego Bay had the highest

number of new cases filed with 516 cases or 78.66% of the sample, which is a 49.13% increase or 170 cases more than 346 recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter. This was followed by Cambridge outstation with 11.74%, courtrooms number 4 and 3 with 7.01% and 2.59% respectively of the sample followed. Courtroom number 3 had the highest disposal rate of 82.53% relative to its low absolute numbers, while the outstation in Cambridge followed with a disposal rate of 75.32%. Courtrooms 2 and 4 followed with rates of 62.02% and 23.91% respectively. The main courthouse in Montego Bay accounts for 88.26% of the new cases heard in the first quarter of 2021. This is 6.68 percentage points below the 94.94% recorded in corresponding first quarter of 2020. The remaining 11.74% was accounted for by the sole outstation (Cambridge).

As mentioned not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 516 cases heard in courtroom two, 1 was disposed of in courtroom number 3 at the main courthouse.

Table 18.4: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Catherine for the quarter ended March 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	531	237	53	54.24	54.61
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	51	25	7	5.21	62.75
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	5	1	1	0.51	40.00
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	30	7	2	3.06	30.00
Courtroom #5 (main courthouse)	7	1	1	0.72	28.57
Children's Court (main courthouse)	20	5	0	2.04	25.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	28	5	12	2.86	60.71
Portmore Outstation (Courtroom #1)	2	0	1	0.20	50.00
Linstead Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	12	3	1	1.23	33.33
Linstead Outstation (courtroom #1)	158	85	11	16.14	60.76
Old Harbour Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	10	0	7	1.02	70.00
Old Harbour Outstation (courtroom #1)	125	75	16	12.77	72.80
Total/Average	979	444	112	100.00	56.79

Note: The dynamics of the movement of cases or matters between courtrooms relative to the case counting rules may result in variations from the results in table 1.0.

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2020 at the St. Catherine Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and outlines the applicable disposal rates. The table separates Lay Magistrates and night court matters for the relevant locations for ease of comparisons. The data shows decisively that matters entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse in Spanish Town and courtroom 1 at the Linstead outstation accounts for the largest share of new cases

heard in the quarter with 54.24% and 16.14% of the cases respectively. Courtroom 1 at the outstation in Old Harbour with 12.77% of the new cases filed ranks next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 237 cases, which is an increase of 56.95% or 86 cases more than the 151 cases recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2020. Courtroom 1 also had the sixth highest disposal rate of 54.61%, which is an increase of 7.69 percentage points when compared to the 46.92% recorded in 2020. The outstation in Old Harbour had the highest disposal rate of 72.80% and Lay Magistrates' court sittings at the outstation in Old Harbour and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse with disposal rates of 70.00% and 62.75% ranks second and third respectively. The main courthouse in Spanish Town accounts for 68.64% of the total number of new cases heard in the first quarter of 2021, an increase of 20.66 percentage points above the 47.98% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2020. The outstations combined accounted for the remaining 31.36%.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said courtrooms. In particular, of the 531 cases heard in courtroom number one at the main courthouse, 37 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Courtrooms 2 and 3 accounted for 19 cases and 4 cases respectively. Courtroom number 5 disposed of 5 cases, 2 cases were disposed of at Lay Magistrates' sittings and 7 were disposed of at courtroom 1 at the Old Harbour Outstation. Of the 51 cases heard in courtroom number two at the main courthouse, 1 was disposed of in courtroom number one. Of the 30 cases heard in courtroom number four, 1 case was disposed of in courtroom number three. Of the 158 cases heard at the Linstead outstation, 1 case was disposed of at Lay Magistrates' sittings at the outstation in Linstead. Of the 125 cases

heard at the outstation in Old Harbour, 2 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms. One (1) case was disposed of in courtroom 5, while 1 disposed of in courtroom number 1.

18.5: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Thomas for the quarter ended March 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main courthouse)	11	1	0	4.76	9.09
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	70	25	0	30.30	35.71
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	94	36	8	40.69	46.81
Yallahs Outstation	56	27	1	24.24	50.00
Total/Average	231	89	9	100	42.42

Note 1: There was 1 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.

Note 2: The dynamics of the movement of cases or matters between courtrooms relative to the case counting rules may result in variations from the results in table 1.0.

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The data shows decisively that matters entered in courtroom numbers 2 and 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 40.69% and 30.30% respectively. Courtroom number 2 also accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 36 cases and the second highest disposal rate of 46.81%. When compared to the corresponding 2020 quarter, this represents a decline of 2 cases or 5.26% below the 38 cases disposed of in 2020 and a 3.78 percentage points decrease in the disposal rate recorded of 50.59% in 2020. The outstation in Yallahs with disposal rates of 50.00% (compared to 47.27% in 2020) and courtroom number 1 with 35.71% (compared to 51.49% in 2020) accounts for the first and third highest disposal rates respectively.

The main courthouse in Morant Bay accounted for 75.76% of the total new cases heard in the first quarter, which is a decline of 2.57 percentage points when compared to the 78.33% recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter. The remaining 24.24% was accounted for by the Yallahs outstation, an increase of 2.57 percentage points when compared to the 21.67% recorded in the corresponding 2020 first quarter.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 94 cases heard in courtroom 2 at the main courthouse, 2 were disposed of in courtroom number 1. Of the 56 cases heard at the outstation in Yallahs, 1 case was disposed of in courtroom number one at the main courthouse.

Table 18.6: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Trelawny for the quarter ended March 31, 2021.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	12	7	0	4.33	58.33
Clarks town Outstation (Children's Court)	1	0	0	0.36	0.00
Falmouth Outstation	144	59	4	51.99	43.75
Falmouth Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	8	2	0	2.89	25.00
Ulster Spring Outstation	65	29	5	23.47	52.31
Ulster Spring Outstation (Lay Magistrates ¹)	2	0	1	0.72	50.00
Clarks Town Outstation (courtroom #1)	45	18	5	16.25	51.11
Total/Average	277	115	15	100.00	46.93

Note: The dynamics of the movement of cases or matters between courtrooms relative to the case counting rules may result in variations from the results in table 1.0.

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021 at the Trelawny Parish Court. The data shows decisively that matters

entered in the Falmouth outstation accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 51.99%. The outstation in Ulster Spring and Clarks Town with 23.47% and 16.25% respectively, followed. Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, despite its low absolute numbers, recorded the highest disposal rate of 58.33%. The outstations in Ulster Spring and Clarks town ranked next with 52.31% and 51.11% respectively. The outstations accounted for 95.67% of the new cases heard in the first quarter of 2021, while the remaining 4.33% were accounted for by the main courthouse. In the corresponding 2020 first quarter, the main courthouse accounted for 93.47% of the new cases heard while the remaining 6.53% were accounted for by the outstations.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said courtrooms. In particular, of the 12 cases heard in courtroom number one, 1 case was disposed of in courtroom one at the outstation in Clarks Town. Of the 65 cases heard at the Ulster Spring outstation, 1 case was disposed of at the outstation in Ulster Spring.

Table 18.7: Aggregate case statistics for each outstation in the Parish of St. Mary for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main courthouse)	8	1	0	3.32	62.50
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	134	52	4	55.60	38.81
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	6	4	0	2.49	66.67
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	2	2	0	0.83	100.00
Annotto Bay Outstation	48	26	1	19.92	56.25
Gayle Outstation	8	4	0	3.32	50.00
Richmond Outstation	35	20	3	14.52	65.71
Total/Average	241	109	8	100.00	48.55

Note 1: There were 8 missing courtroom/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.

Note 2: The dynamics of the movement of cases or matters between courtrooms relative to the case counting rules may result in variations from the results in table 1.0.

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Mary in the first quarter of 2021. The data shows decisively that courtrooms number 1 at the main courthouse and the Annotto Bay outstation account for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 55.60% and 19.92% respectively of the total. The outstations in Richmond and Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with 14.52% rank next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Port Maria accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 52 cases, an increase of 5 matters or 10.64% above the 47 matters recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter and had a case disposal rate of 38.81%. Despite proportionately low absolute numbers, courtroom 3

at the main courthouses had the highest disposal rate with 100%. Courtroom number 2 with a disposal rate of 66.67%, had the second highest disposal rate in the quarter.

The outstations in the parish account for a combined 37.76% of the total number of new cases heard in the first quarter of 2021, which is an increase of 6.24 percentage points above 31.52% recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter. On the other hand, the main courthouse accounts for roughly 62.24% of new cases, which is a decline of 6.22 percentage point below the 68.46% recorded in the similar first quarter of 2020.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said courtrooms. In particular, of the 134 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, 5 cases were disposed of in Courtroom two. Of the 48 cases heard at the outstation in Annotto Bay, 1 case was disposed of in the Children's Court.

Table 18.8: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Portland for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main courthouse)	3	0	0	0.92	0.00
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	204	77	24	62.77	49.51
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	3	1	0	0.92	33.33
Buff Bay Outstation (courtroom#1)	80	29	5	24.62	42.50
Buff Bay Outstation (Children's Court)	8	2	0	2.46	25.00
Manchioneal Outstation	27	8	4	8.31	44.44
Total/Average	325	117	33	100	46.15

Note 1: The dynamics of the movement of cases or matters between courtrooms relative to the case counting rules may result in variations from the results in table 1.0.

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Portland in the first quarter of 2021. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the main court in Port Antonio accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 62.77% of the total. In the first quarter of 2020, courtroom 1 also accounted for the highest share of new cases heard with 54.76% of the cases. Courtroom 1 at the outstation in Buff Bay and Manchioneal outstation with 24.62% (compared to 7.94% in 2020) and 8.31% (compared to 13.49% in 2020) respectively of the total number of the new cases heard in the quarter ranked next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Port Antonio accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 77 matters, an increase of 10 cases or a 14.93% increase compared to the 67 matters recorded in the corresponding 2020 first quarter and had the highest disposal rate of 49.51%. Manchiolneal outstation and courtroom number one at the Buff Bay outstation with disposal rates of 44.44% and 42.50% were among the top three on this measure.

The outstations in Portland account for a combined 10.77% of the new cases heard, which is a decrease of 18.99 percentage points below the 29.76% recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter. The main courthouse in Port Antonio accounts for the remaining 89.23%, which is an increase of 18.99 percentage points above 70.24% recorded in the first quarter of 2020.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said courtrooms. In particular, of the 204 cases heard in courtroom number one at the main courthouse, 1 case was disposed of in courtroom 3. Of the 80 cases heard at the outstation in Buff Bay, 1 was disposed of in courtroom number three.

Table 18.9: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Hanover for the quarter of ended March 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courtroom)	130	83	6	39.27	68.46
Courtroom #2 (main courtroom)	44	25	2	13.29	61.36
Courtroom #3 (main courtroom)	4	4	0	1.21	100.00
Green Island Outstation (courtroom #1)	49	33	3	14.80	73.47
Green Island Outstation (courtroom #2)	1	0	0	0.30	0.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	10	4	0	3.02	40.00
Green Island Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	9	2	0	2.72	22.22
Ramble Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	1	1	0	0.30	100.00
Ramble Outstation (courtroom #1)	21	14	0	6.34	66.67
Sandy Bay Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	16	4	0	4.83	25.00
Sandy Bay (courtroom #1)	46	26	2	13.90	60.87
Total/Average	331	196	13	100.00	63.14

Note 1: There was 3 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Hanover in the first quarter of 2021. The data shows decisively that courtroom number one at the main court in Lucea accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 39.27% of the total, which 18.26 percentage points below the 57.53% recorded in the corresponding 2020 first quarter. Courtroom one at the outstation in Green Island and courtroom number one at the Sandy Bay outstation with 14.80% and 13.90% respectively rank next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Lucea accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 83 cases, which is 26 more cases

or an increase of 45.61%, over the 57 cases recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter. Courtroom 1 at the main courthouse also recorded the third highest case disposal rate of 68.46%, which is an increase of 3.97 percentage points above the 64.49% reported in the comparative 2020 first quarter. Courtroom number 1 at the outstation in Green Island (73.47%), courtroom number 1 at the Ramble outstation (66.67%), courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse (61.36%), and Courtroom number 1 at the Sandy Bay Outstation (60.87%), were among the top five disposal rates. The outstations in the parish account for 43.21% of the new cases heard during the quarter, which is an increase of 9.87 percentage points above the 33.33% in the first quarter of 2020. The main courthouse accounts for the remaining 56.79% of cases, which is a decrease of 9.88 percentage points below the 66.67% recorded in the similar quarter of 2020.

Table 18.10: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Elizabeth for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rates (%)
Santa Cruz (Children's Court)	5	1	0	1.34	20.00
Courtroom #1 (main courtroom)	49	26	0	13.14	53.06
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courtroom)	18	0	0	4.83	0.00
Balaclava Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	6	0	1	1.61	16.67
Balaclava Outstation (courtroom #1)	39	14	1	10.46	38.46
Santa Cruz Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	17	0	1	4.56	5.88
Santa Cruz Outstation (courtroom #1)	216	87	25	57.91	40.74
Santa Cruz Outstation (courtroom #2)	23	17	3	6.17	86.96
Total/Average	373	145	31	100	47.18

Note: The dynamics of the movement of cases or matters between courtrooms relative to the case counting rules may result in variations from the results in table 1.0.

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Elizabeth for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the Santa Cruz outstation and Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse in Black River accounted for highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 57.91% and 13.14% respectively of the total. When compared to the similar first quarter of 2020, both afore mentioned courtrooms also accounted for the highest share of new cases heard with 56.43% and 27.03% respectively. This data represents an increase of 1.48 percentage points for the outstation in Santa Cruz and a decrease of 13.89 percentage points for courtroom 1 at the main courthouse.

Courtroom number 1 at the Balaclava outstation with 10.46%, the outstation in Santa Cruz outstation and Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse, with 6.17% and 4.83% respectively rounded off the top five share of new cases heard in the first quarter of 2021. Courtroom 2 at the outstation in Santa Cruz recorded the highest disposal rate of 86.96% for the quarter. Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse and courtroom number 1 at the outstation in Santa Cruz ranked next with 53.06% and 40.74% respectively. The Santa Cruz and Balaclava outstations accounts for the highest proportion of new cases heard in the first quarter with a combined 82.04%, an increase of 18.79 percentage points, while the main courthouse in Black River accounts for 17.96% of the new cases.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said courtrooms. In particular, of the 49 cases heard in courtroom number 1 at the

main courthouse, 12 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. There were 6 cases disposed of in courtroom number one at the Santa Cruz outstation and 1 in Children's court and 5 at the Santa Cruz outstation. Of the 39 cases heard in courtroom one at the at the outstation in Balaclava, 2 cases were disposed of at the outstation in Santa Cruz. Of the 216 cases heard in courtroom one at the Santa Cruz outstation, 3 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. Of this amount, 2 cases were disposed of at the Balaclava outstation, while 1 was disposed of in courtroom 2 at the Santa Cruz outstation.

Table 18.11: Aggregate case statistics for each outstation in the Parish of St. Ann for the quarter ended March 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
St. Ann's Bay and the Claremont outstation					
Claremont (Children's Court)	3	0	0	0.90	0.00
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	106	31	12	31.83	40.57
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	78	29	5	23.42	43.59
Claremont Outstation	19	5	1	5.71	31.58
Claremont Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	6	0	3	1.80	50.00
Browns Town					
Children's Court	1	0	1	0.30	100.00
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	89	22	8	26.73	33.71
Lay Magistrates' Court	31	7	6	9.31	41.94
Total/Average	333	94	36	100.00	39.04

Note 1: There were 230 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the total in table 1.0

Note 2: The dynamics of the movement of cases or matters between courtrooms relative to the case counting rules may result in variations from the results in table 1.0

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Ann in the first quarter ended March 31,

2021. The data shows that courtroom 1 in both St. Ann's Bay (the main court) and Browns Town account for the largest shares of new cases heard in the quarter with 31.83% and 26.73% respectively of the total. Courtroom 2 at the main courthouse with 23.42% is among the top three largest share of new cases heard. When compared to 2020, the data shows that courtroom 1 in both St. Ann's Bay (main courthouse) and Browns Town also accounted for the largest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 27.51% and 18.18% respectively of the total. In terms of cases disposed of, courtroom 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed of with 31 cases, a decrease of 6 cases or 16.22% below the 37 cases recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter and had a disposal rate of 40.57%. Despite its proportionately low numbers, the Children's court in Browns Town had the highest disposal rate of 100%. Lay Magistrate sittings at the outstation in Claremont with 50%, courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse with 43.59% and Lay Magistrates' sittings at the outstation in Browns Town with 41.94% were among the highest disposal rates for the quarter in the St. Ann parish court. The Brown's Town Outstation accounted for approximately 36.34% of the new cases filed in the parish of St. Ann in the first quarter of 2021, which is 2.24 percentage points above the 34.10% recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter. The St. Ann's Bay courthouse accounts for 55.25% and the Claremont Outstation account for the remaining 8.41% of the new cases heard in the quarter.

As mentioned not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 106 cases heard in courtroom number one at the main courthouse, 2 cases were disposed of in courtroom 2. Of the 78 cases heard in courtroom number two at the main courthouse, 4 were disposed of in Courtroom 1.

Table 18.12: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom/outstation in the Parish of Clarendon for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	208	118	11	38.52	62.02
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	125	49	15	23.15	51.20
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	1	1	0	0.19	100.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	41	17	5	7.59	53.66
Lionel Town Outstation	87	31	10	16.11	47.13
Chapleton Outstation	54	29	3	10.00	59.26
Frankfield Outstation	24	9	0	4.44	37.50
Total/Average	540	254	44	100.00	55.19

Note: The dynamics of the movement of cases or matters between courtrooms relative to the case counting rules may result in variations from the results in table 1.0

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Clarendon in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021. The available data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 in May Pen accounted for highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 38.52% of the total. Courtroom 2 at the main courthouse and the outstation in Lionel Town account for the next highest shares of new cases heard in the quarter with 23.15% and 16.11% respectively of the total. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in May Pen accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 118 matters, an increase of 73 cases or an increase of 162.22% above the 45 disposed cases recorded for this courtroom in the first quarter of 2020. Courtroom one at the main courthouse also had the second highest disposal rate of 62.02%. Despite its proportionately low absolute numbers, courtroom 3 at the main courthouse had the highest disposal rate of

100%. The Outstation in Chapleton with (59.26%), Lay magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with (53.66%), courtroom number 2 with (51.20%) and the outstation in Lionel Town with (47.13%) and were among the highest disposal rates for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021. The main courthouse in May Pen accounted for 69.44% of cases heard in quarter, while the remaining 30.56% was accounted for by the outstations, which is an increase of 1.49 percentage points above the 29.07% recorded in 2020.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said courtrooms. Of the 208 cases heard in courtroom number one, 1 was disposed of in courtroom number 3. Of the 87 cases heard at the outstation in Lionel Town, 1 was disposed of in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse. Of the 54 cases heard at the outstation in Chapelton, 1 was disposed of at the outstation in Lionel Town.

Table 18.13: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Manchester for the quarter ended March 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	84	27	1	21.54	33.33
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	75	25	5	19.23	40.00
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	12	0	0	3.08	0.00
Children's Court (main courthouse)	6	1	0	1.54	16.67
Porus (Children's Court)	3	2	0	0.77	66.67
Cottage Outstation	7	2	0	1.79	28.57
Christiana Outstation	35	11	2	8.97	37.14
Christiana Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	10	0	0	2.56	0.00
Spalding Outstation	42	20	3	10.77	54.76
Spalding Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	8	1	0	2.05	12.50
Porus Outstation	24	4	0	6.15	16.67
Porus Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	3	2	0	0.77	66.67
Cross Keys Outstation	6	1	0	1.54	16.67
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	75	36	6	19.23	56.00
Total/Average	390	132	17	100	38.21

Note 1: There were 11 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the total in table 1.0

Note 2: The dynamics of the movement of cases or matters between courtrooms relative to the case counting rules may result in variations from the results in table 1.0

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Manchester in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021. The data shows courtroom 1 at the main courthouse accounted for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 84 cases or 21.54% of the total. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounts for the next highest share of new cases heard in the quarter both with 75 cases or 19.23% of the total. The outstation in Spalding followed with 42 cases or 10.77% of the total number of cases filed in the

quarter. When compared to quarter one of 2020, both courtroom 2 at the main courthouse and Lay Magistrates' sittings were also among the top three highest share of new cases with 15.26% and 23.16% respectively. In terms of cases disposed rate of, the children's court at the outstation in Porus and Lay Magistrates' sittings at the outstation in Porus with 66.67% each were among the highest disposal rates for the quarter. Despite both having proportionately low absolute numbers, Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse had the next highest disposal rate with 56.00%. This was followed by the outstation in Spalding with a disposal rate of 54.76% and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse with a disposal rate of 40.00%. The main courthouse in Mandeville accounts for 64.62% of the total number of new cases heard during the 2021 first quarter, which is a decrease of 3.54 percentage points below the 68.16% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2020. The remaining 35.38% was accounted for by the various outstations.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 84 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, one was disposed of in courtroom 3. Of the 75 cases heard in courtroom number two at the main courthouse, 1 was disposed of at the outstation in Spalding. Of the 30 cases heard at the outstation in Spalding, 1 was disposed of at Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse. Of the 24 cases heard at the outstation in Porus, 1 was disposed of courtroom number 1. There were 75 cases heard at Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse, of this amount 1 was disposed of in courtroom 1.

Table 18.14: proportion of cases heard at the main court and outstation across all parish courts for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021

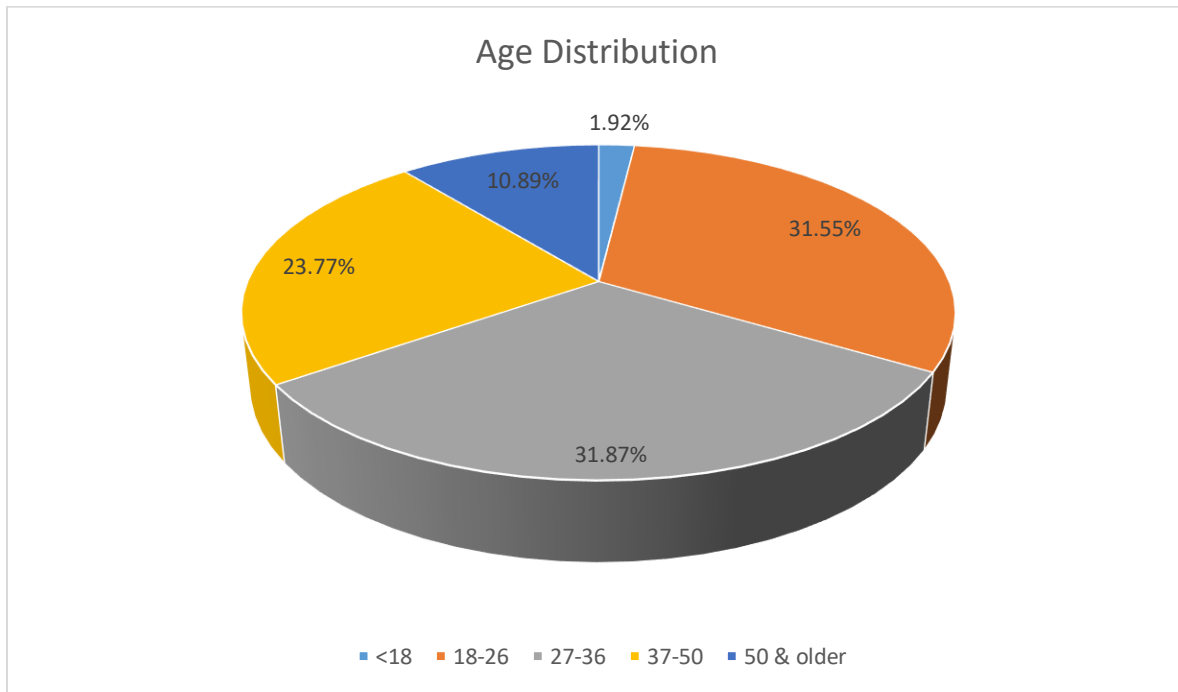
Parish	Main Court Q1 2021 (%)	Outstation Q1 2021 (%)
St. James	88.26	11.74
St. Catherine	68.64	31.36
Westmoreland	81.11	18.89
Hanover	56.79	43.21
St. Mary	62.24	37.76
Trelawny	4.33	95.67
St. Thomas	75.76	24.24
St. Elizabeth	17.96	82.04
Manchester	64.62	35.38
Portland	89.23	10.77
St. Ann	55.25	44.75
Clarendon	69.44	30.56
Corporate Area	100.00	0.00
Simple Averages	64.13	38.86

Q1 represents the first quarter January 1-March 31, 2021

The above table provides a proxy summary of the distribution of the utilization of the main courthouse locations and combined outstation usage in the hearing of new criminal cases filed. It is seen that 64.13% of new cases filed were entered for initial hearing in the main courthouse locations, while 38.86% were allocated for outstations. There are significant variances in the extent of main courthouse and outstation usage for the hearing of criminal matters across the parishes. It is seen, for example, that in parishes such as Corporate Area (Kingston and St. Andrew), Westmoreland, Portland and St. James, in excess of 80% of the new cases filed were entered for initial hearing with the usage being particularly acute in the Corporate Area Court Criminal Division which had 100% of cases entered for initial hearing at the main courthouse. On the contrary, there are parishes where the level of outstation usage competes with or outruns the usage of the main courthouse in the hearing of criminal cases filed. St. Elizabeth and Trelawny are good examples of courts with significant outstation usage, each registering over 80% for

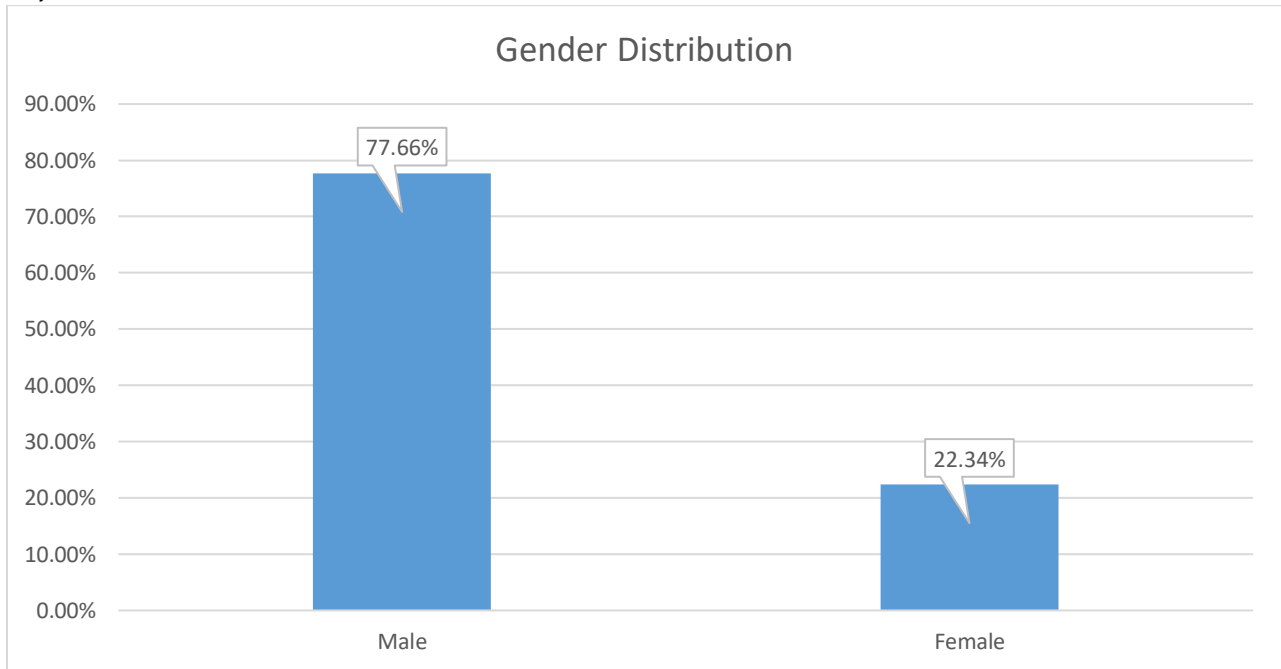
initial hearing of new criminal cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021. There may be opportunities for greater utilization of outstations to carry the caseload in some parishes, but such precise determinations require further analyses of total 'demand and supply, in each location.

Chart 4.0: Aggregate age distribution of persons charged for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021



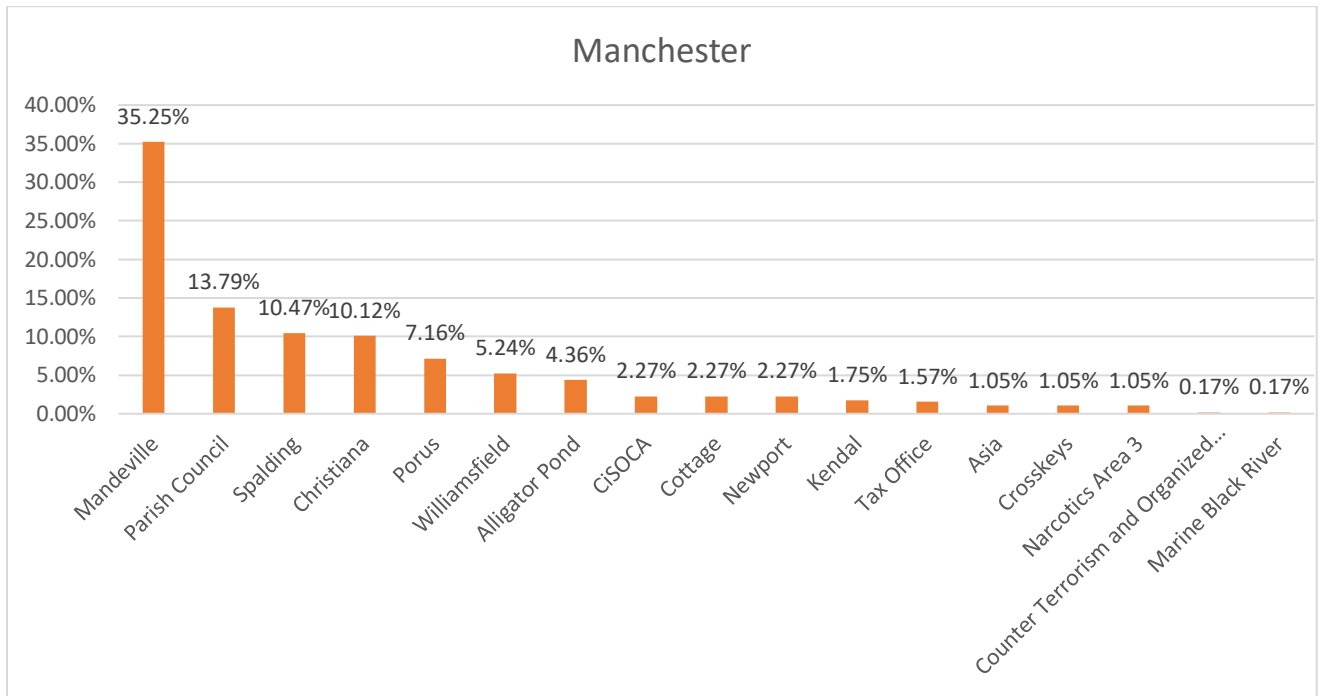
The above chart summarizes the age distribution of persons charged and brought before the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarter of 2021. It is shown that the 27- 36 age group with 31.87% accounted for the largest share of the persons, followed by the 18 -26 age group which accounted for 31.55%. The lowest shares were attributed to the under 18 age group with 1.92% and the 51 and over age group with 10.89%. The remaining proportion was accounted for by the 37 – 50 age group with 23.77% of the total.

Chart 5.0: Aggregate gender distribution of persons charged for the first quarter ended March 31, 2021



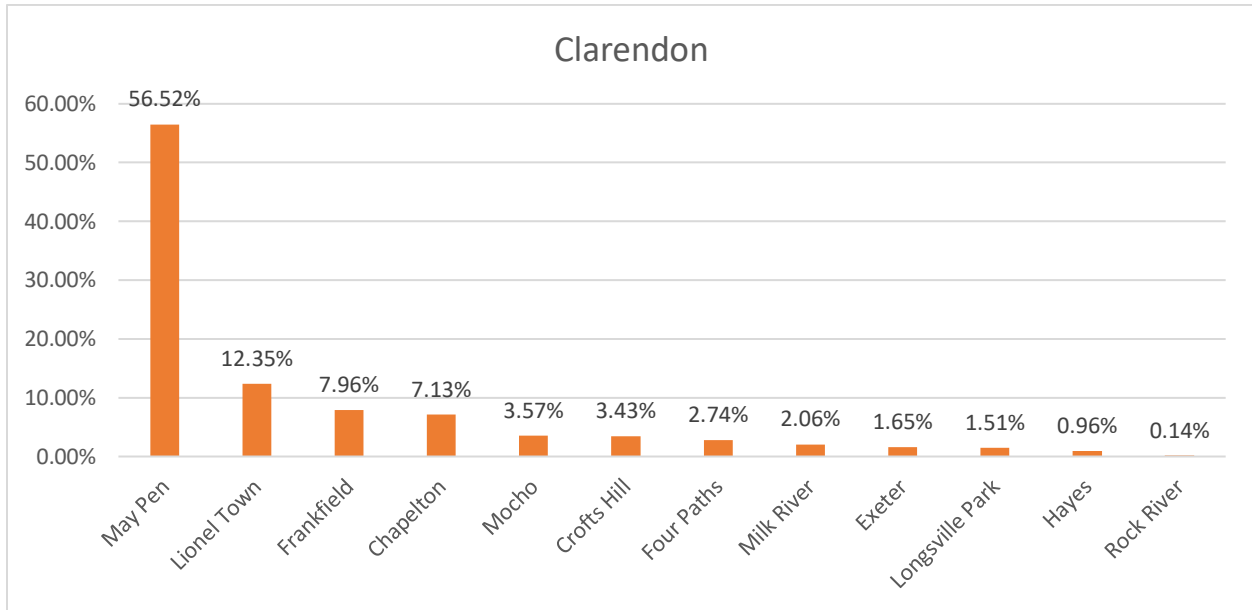
The above chart shows that the overwhelming majority of persons charged for the first quarter of 2021 were male, accounting for roughly 77.66% of the total, while females accounted for approximately 22.34%. The gender distribution of persons charged during the first quarter of 2021 was broadly consistent with the breakdown for the first quarter of 2020 which had a male to female ratio of approximately 84.12% to 15.88%.

Chart 6.01: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Manchester Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021



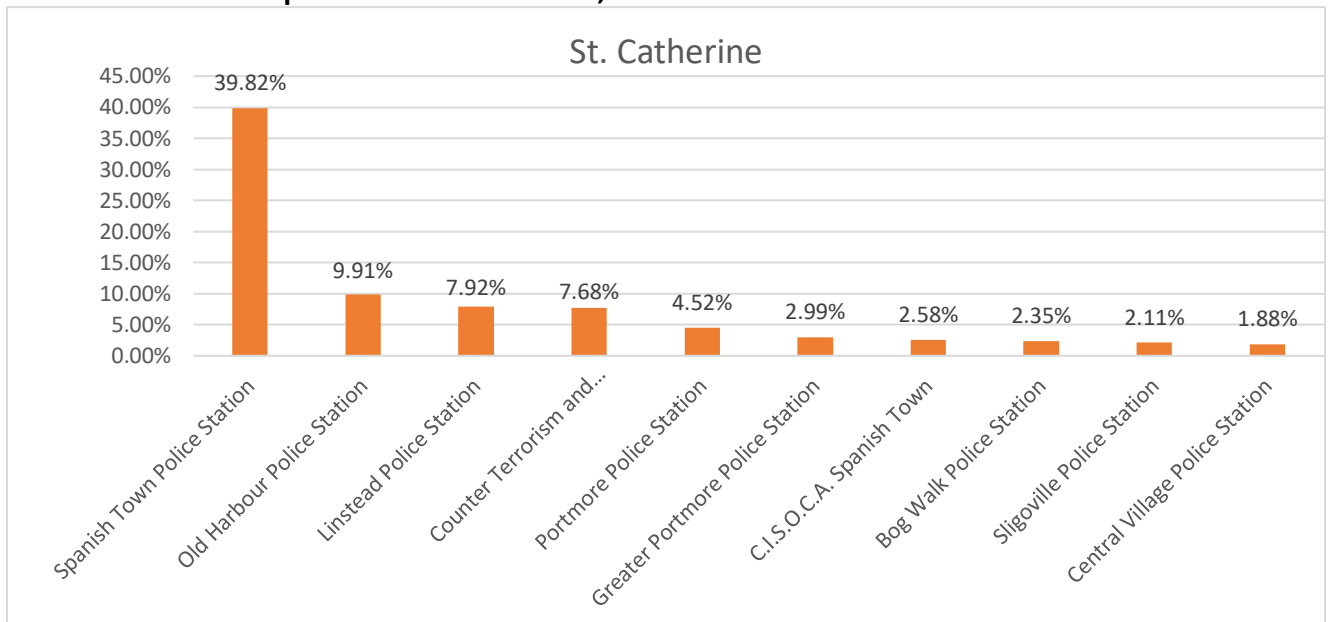
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a sample of 573 records indicate that for the January to March quarter, 2021 the largest proportion of criminal matters, 35.25%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Mandeville Police Station. This was followed by the Parish Council, which accounts for 13.79% of total matters reported. The Spalding Police rounded off the top three with 10.47%. The top three was rounded off by the Christiana Police Station with 10.01%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Mandeville Police Station, the Parish Council and the Christiana Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the parish.

Chart 6.2: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Clarendon Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021



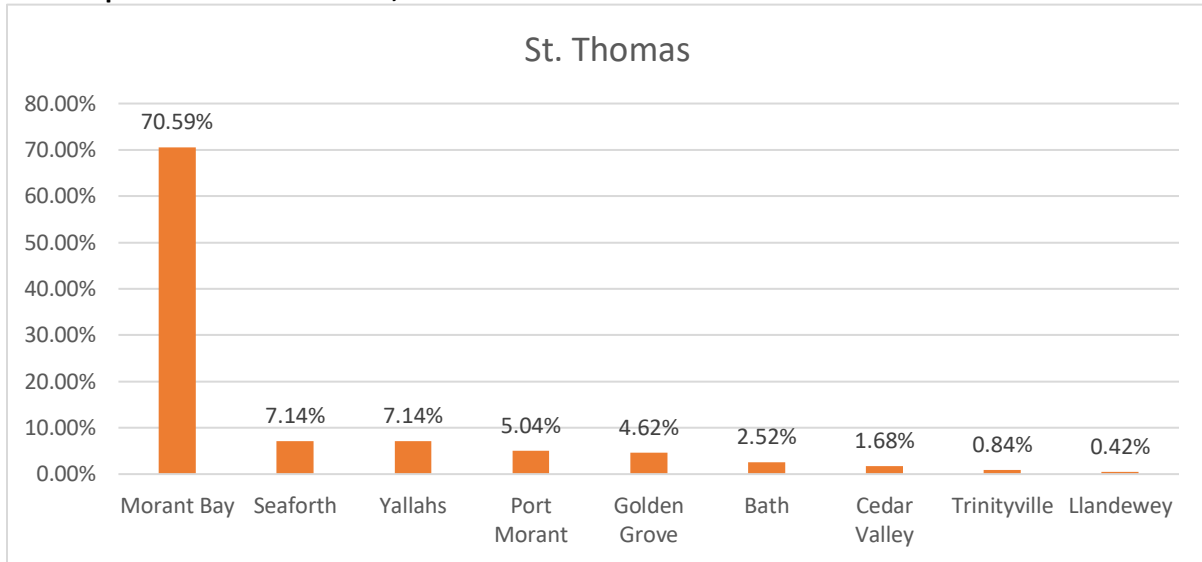
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a sample of 729 records indicate that for the January to March quarter 2021, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 56.52%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in May Pen Police Station. This was followed by the Lionel Town Police Station, which accounts for 12.35% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Frankfield Police Station with 7.96%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the May Pen Police Station, the Mocho and the Kingston Central Lock-up. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.3: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Catherine Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021



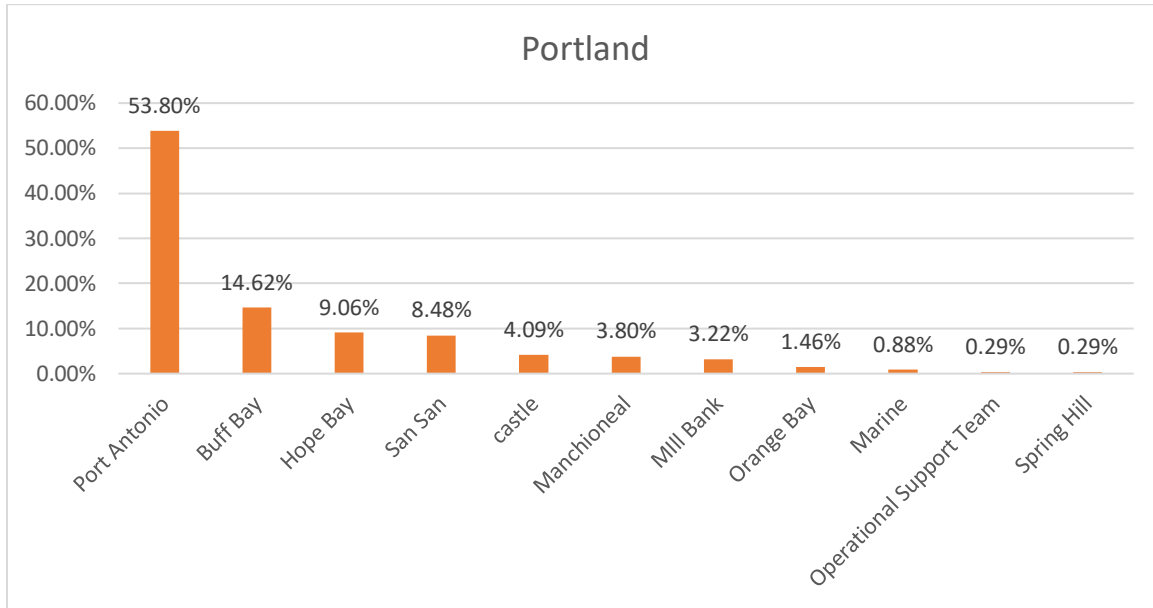
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 1705 records indicate that for the January to March quarter 2021, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 39.82%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Spanish Town Police Station. This was followed by the Old Harbour Police Station, which accounts for 9.91% of the matters reported. The Linstead Police rounded off the top three with 7.68%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Spanish Town Police Station, the Portmore and the Bridgeport Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the parish.

Chart 6.4: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Thomas Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021



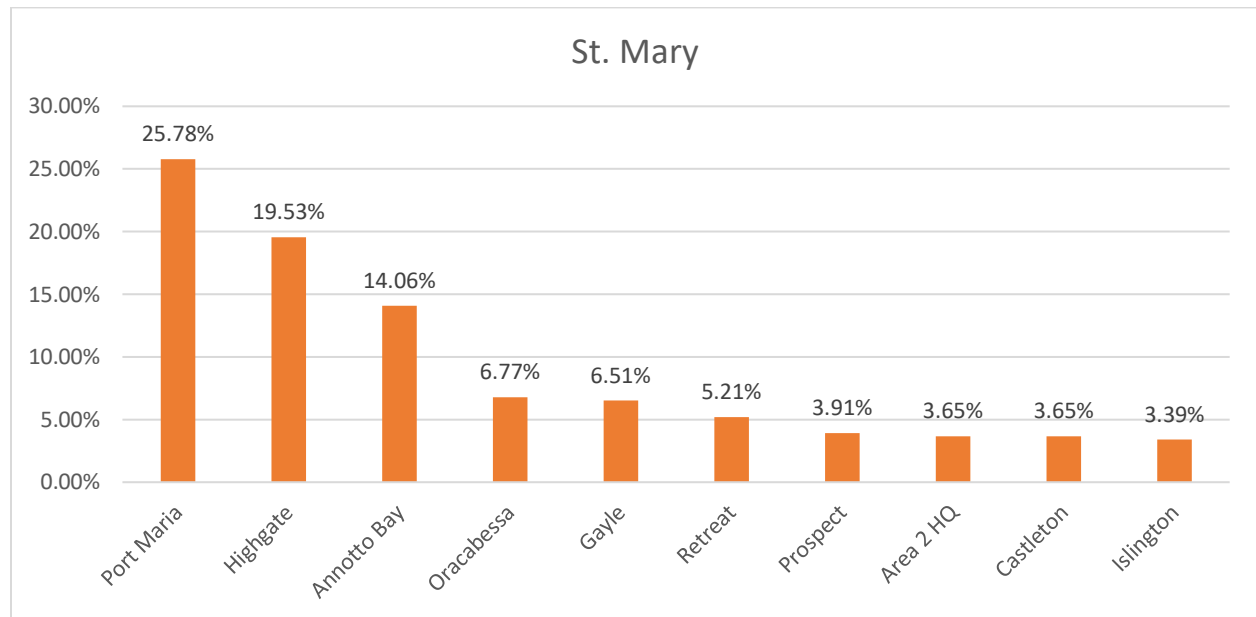
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges at the St. Thomas Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 238 records indicate that for the January to March quarter 2021, the majority of criminal matters, 70.59%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Morant Bay Police Station. This was followed by the Seaforth Police Station, which accounts for 7.14% of the matters reported. The Yallahs Police rounded off the top three with 6.28%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Morant Bay Police Station, the Yallahs Police Station and the Narcotics Police. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the parish.

Chart 6.5: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Portland Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021



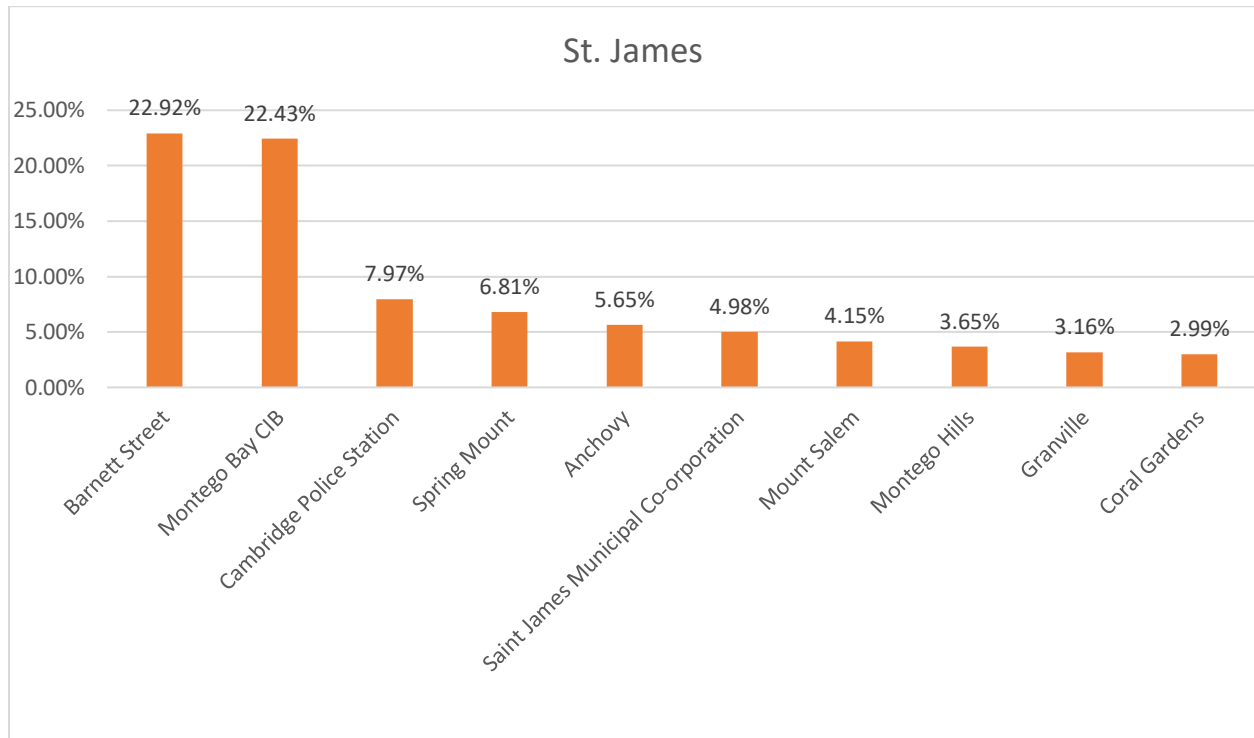
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Portland Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 342 records indicate that for the January to March quarter 2021, the majority of criminal matters, 53.80%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Port Antonio Police Station. This was followed by the Buff Bay Police Station, which accounts for 14.62% of the matters reported. The Hope Bay Police rounded off the top three with 9.06%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three also comprised of the Port Antonio Police Station, the Buff Bay Police Station and the Hope Bay Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the parish.

Chart 6.6: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Mary Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021



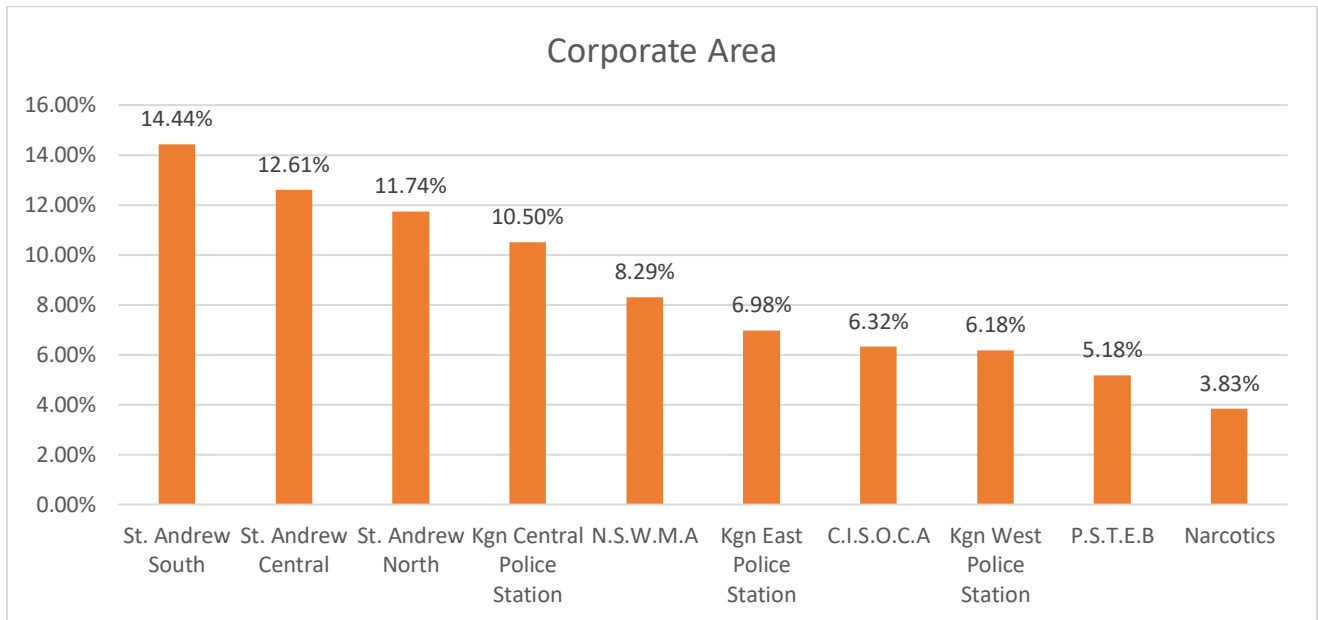
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 384 records indicate that for the January to March quarter 2021, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 25.78%, which were brought before the court, were reported at the Port Maria Police Station. This was followed by the Highgate Police Station, which accounts for 19.53% of the matters reported. The Annotto Bay police station rounded off the top three with 14.06%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Port Maria Police Station, the Annotto Bay Police Station and the Oracabessa Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the parish.

Chart 6.7: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. James Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021



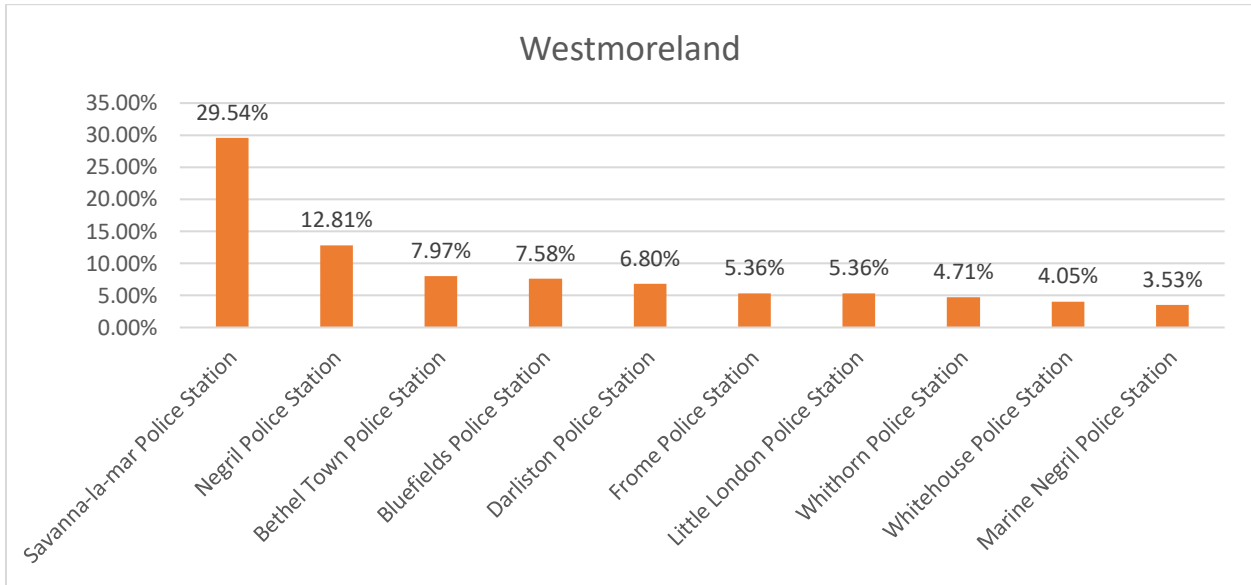
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. James Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 602 records indicate that for the January to March quarter 2021, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 22.92%, which were brought before the court, were reported at the Barnett Street Police Station. This was followed by the Montego Bay CIB, which accounts for 22.43% of the matters reported. The Cambridge Police rounded off the top three with 7.97%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Barnett Street Police Station, the Montego Bay Police Station and the C.I.S.O.C.A Police. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the parish.

Chart 6.8: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Corporate Area Criminal Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021



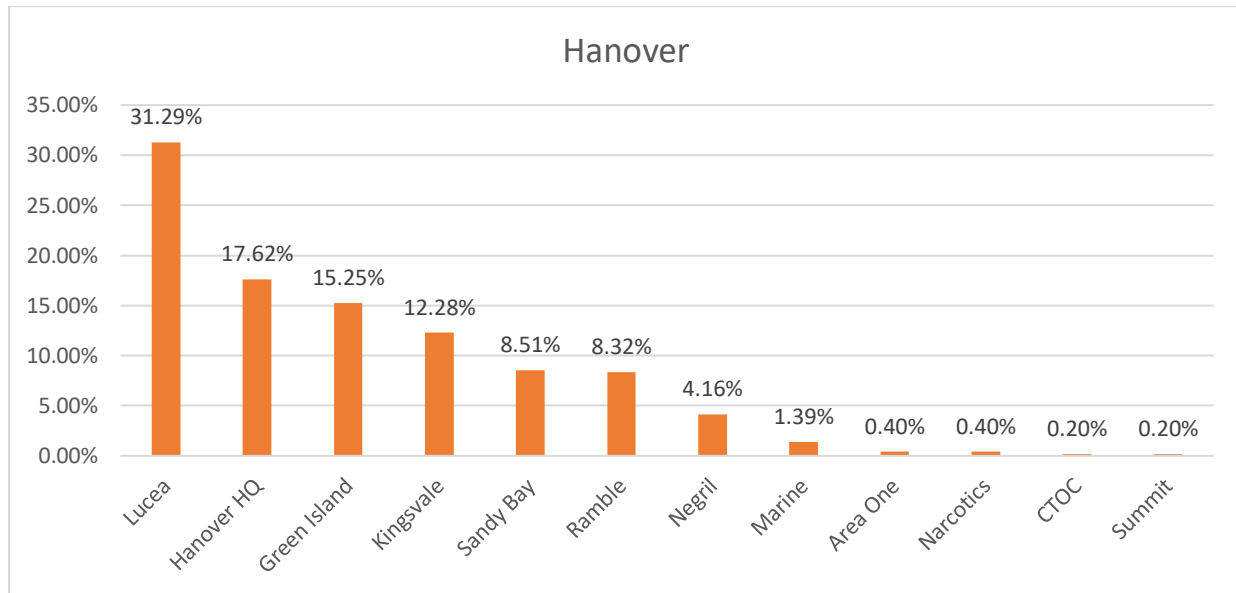
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 2895 records indicate that for the January to March quarter 2021, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 14.44%, which were brought before the court, were reported at the St. Andrew South Police Station. This was followed by the St. Andrew Central Police Station, which accounts for 12.61% of the matters reported. The St. Andrew North Police rounded off the top three with 11.74%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the St. Andrew Central Police Station, the Kingston West Police Station and the Kingston Central Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the parish.

Chart 6.9: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Westmoreland Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021



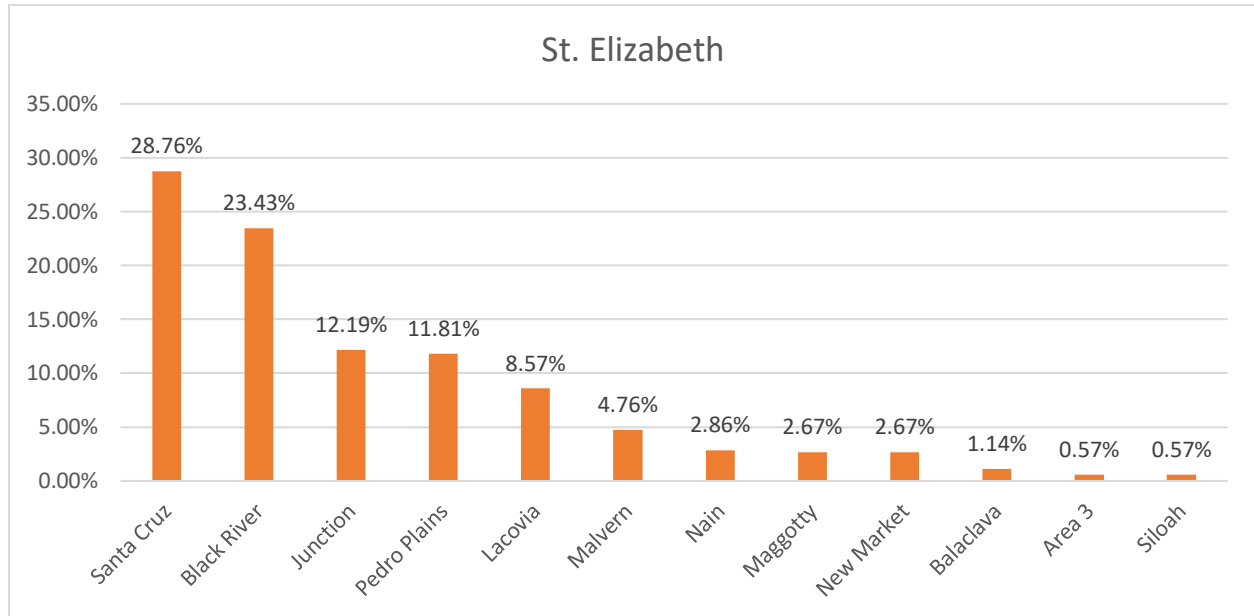
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the Westmoreland Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 765 records indicate that for the January to March quarter 2021, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 29.54%, which were brought before the court, were reported at the Savanna-la-mar Police Station. This was followed by the Negril Police Station, which accounts for 12.81% of the matters reported. The Bethel Town Police rounded off the top three with 7.97%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Savanna-la-mar Police Station, the Negril Police Station and the Area 3 Narcotics Police. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.10: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Hanover Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021



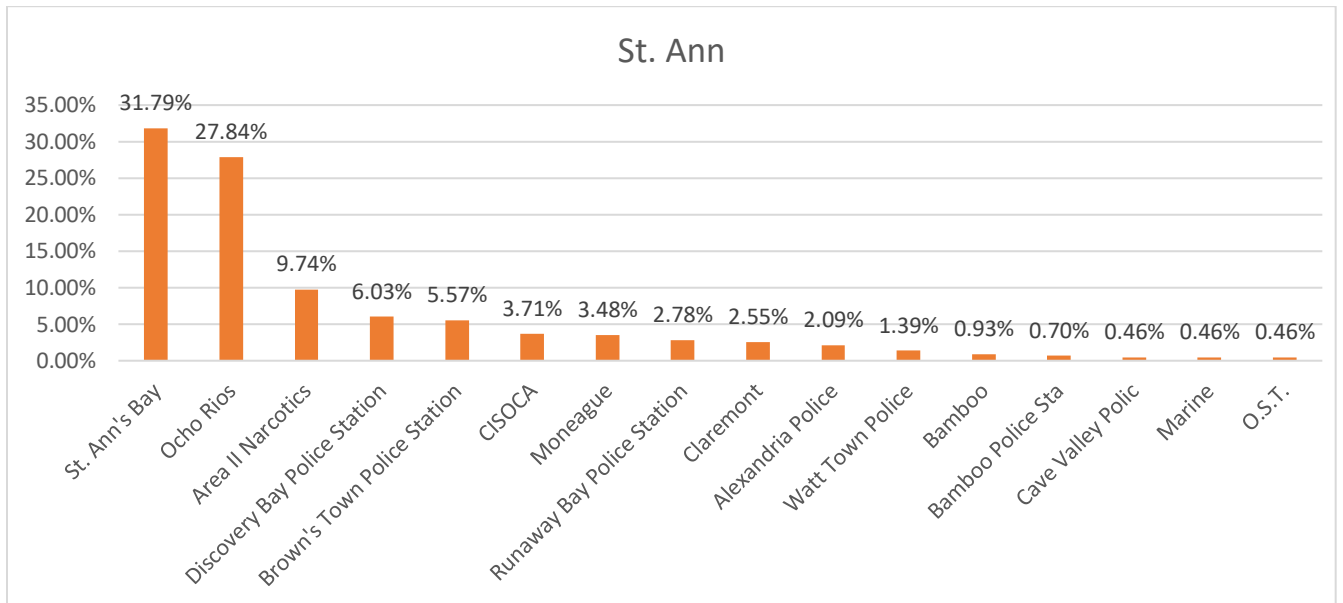
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 505 records indicate that for the January to March quarter 2021, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 31.29%, which were brought before the court, were reported at the Lucea Police Station. This was followed by the Hanover HQ Police, which accounts for 17.62% of the matters reported. The Green Island Police Station rounded off the top three with 15.25%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Lucea Police Station, the Hanover Headquarter Police Station and the Green Island Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the parish.

Chart 6.11: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021



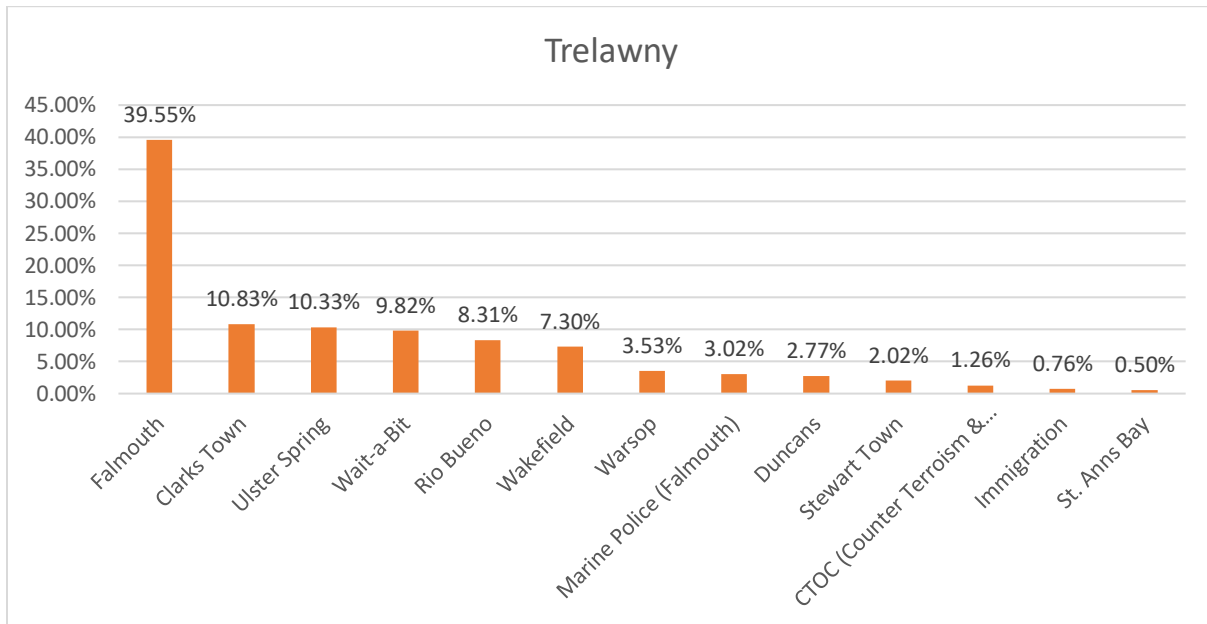
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 525 records indicate that for the January to March quarter 2021, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 28.76%, which were brought before the court, were reported at the Santa Cruz Police Station. This was followed by the Black River Police Station, which accounts for 23.43% of the matters reported. The Junction Police rounded off the top three with 12.19%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Black River Police Station, the Santa Cruz Police Station and the Junction Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the parish.

Chart 6.12: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Ann Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 202



The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges at the St. Ann Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 431 records indicate that for the January to March quarter 2021, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 31.79%, which were brought before the court, were reported at the St. Ann’s Bay Police Station. This was followed by the Ocho Rios Police Station, which accounts for 27.84% of the matters reported. The Area 2 Narcotics Police rounded off the top three with 9.74%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Ocho Rios Police Station, the St. Ann’s Bay Police Station and the Discovery Bay Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the parish.

Chart 6.13: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Trelawny Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2021



The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 397 records indicate that for the January to March quarter 2021, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 39.55%, which were brought before the court, were reported at the Falmouth Police Station. This was followed by the Clarks Town Police Station, which accounts for 10.83% of the matters reported. The Ulster Spring rounded off the top three with 10.33%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Falmouth Police Station, the Clarks Town Police Station and the Duncans Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the parish.

Conclusion

The Parish Courts of Jamaica demonstrated tremendous resilience in the first quarter of 2021, continuing a trend from 2020 even as the institutional landscape in the society continues to battle the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The overall case clearance rate of roughly 95% was a testament to this positive showing and is one of the key highlights from this report. Although this is the lowest first quarter case clearance rate for the criminal division of the parish courts over the past three years, the result still satisfies the international standards and suggests that the parish courts remain broadly on course with achieving key quantitative targets set out by the Jamaican judiciary over the next 3-4 years. The slight slowing down in this key productivity indicator from the lofty heights of 103.46% in the first quarter of 2019 however suggests that the challenge in meeting the key quantitative targets have been compounded but still not out of reach. The fact that 10 of the 13 parish courts satisfied the international standard on this measurement and that that eight of these exceeded the 100% mark is significant accomplishment, by any yardstick. Among other significant accomplishments noted in this report is that roughly 96% of all cases disposed during the quarter were under two years old while 39.36% were resolved within 90 days and 82.25% within one year. These promising results were reinforced by the fact that the net case backlog rate for matters filed over the past five years was under 2.5% and the overall rate for this metric regardless of year of filing was 7.56%, now only slightly above the target of under 5% set out by the Honourable Chief Justice as part of the judiciary's strategic plan. Some parish courts such as St. Catherine, St. Mary and Hanover have already achieved an overall net case backlog rate of under 5% and it is forecasted that by the end of 2021 at least five other parish courts will have met the target. An optimally functioning court system where cases are resolve

in a timely manner and where there is confidence in its processes is vital to the running of an efficient economy and a society which is built on the foundations of the rule of law. There is still some way to go in the Jamaican court system as a whole to reducing incidence of court delay and to instilling and engendering a more productive culture among its stakeholders thereby reducing the incidence of adjournments and wastage of judicial time. There is also still a lot of work that is needed for the courts to improve the management of records and therefore enhance the case file integrity rates. Parallel improvements in the case management practices within the courts are also needed as the pursuit of the aggressive targets set out in the strategic plan continues.

Glossary of Statistical Terms

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Case File Integrity Rate: Measures the proportion of time that a case file is fully ready and available in a timely manner for a matter to proceed. Hence, any adjournment, which is due to the lack of readiness of a case file or related proceedings for court at the scheduled time, impairs the case file integrity rate. The international benchmark for the casefile integrity is 100%

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

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

Skewness: This is measure of the distribution of scores in a data set. It gives an idea of where the larger proportion of the scores in a data set can be found. Generally, if skewness is positive as revealed by a positive value for this measure, this suggests that a greater proportion of the scores in the data set are at the lower end. If the skewness is negative as revealed by a negative value for this measure, it generally suggests that a greater proportion of the scores are at the higher

end. If the skewness measure is approximately 0, then there is roughly equal distribution of scores on both the higher and lower ends of the average figure.

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

Case backlog: A case that is in the court system for more than two years without disposition. The **gross backlog rate** measures the proportion of all cases filed within a given period which remain unresolved for a period of over two years (both active and inactive cases).

The **net backlog rate** on the other hand measures the proportion of active cases filed in a given period which are unresolved for over two years.

Percentile Rank: This refers to the percentage of scores that are equal to or less than a given score. Percentile ranks, like percentages, fall on a continuum from 0 to 100. For example, a percentile rank of 45 indicates that 45% of the scores in a distribution of scores fall at or below the score at the 45th percentile.

Percentile ranks are useful when you want to quickly understand how a particular score compares to the other scores in a distribution of scores. For instance, knowing a court disposed 300 cases in a given period doesn't tell you much. You don't know how many case disposals were possible, and even if you did, you wouldn't know how that court's score compared to the rest of the courts. If, however, you were told that the court scored at the 80th percentile, then you would know that this court did as well or better than 80% of the courts in case disposals.

Difference between percentage and percentile changes: The difference between percentage and percentage points, the latter is strictly used to compare two percentages, for example, if the clearance rate in 2018 was 89% and the clearance rate in 2019 is 100%, then the appropriate expression to compare these would be "an 11 percentage points increase". However, if we are comparing two absolute numbers, say, 1000 cases were disposed in 2018, and 1500 in 2019, then there would be a 50% increase in cases disposed.

Weighted Average: Weighted average is a calculation that takes into account the varying degrees of significance of the groups or numbers in a data set. In calculating a weighted average for a particular variable, the individual scores or averages for each group are multiplied by the weight or number of observations in each of those groups, and summed. The outcome is then divided by the summation of the number of observations in all groups combined. For example, if we wish to calculate the weighted average clearance rate for the parish courts, the product of the clearance rate and number of cases for each court are computed, added, and then divided by the total number of cases across all the parish courts. This means that a court with a larger caseload has a greater impact on the case clearance rate than a smaller court.

A weighted average can be more accurate than a simple average in which all numbers in a data set are assigned an identical weight.

Continuance and Adjournment: In a general sense, any delay in the progression of a hearing in which a future date/time is set or anticipated for continuation is a form of adjournment. However, in order to make a strict distinction between matters which are adjourned for procedural factors and those which are generally avoidable, court statistics utilizes the terms 'continuance' and 'adjournment'. Here, 'continuance' is used strictly to describe situations in

which future dates are set due to procedural reasons and ‘adjournments’ is used to describe the circumstances in which future dates of appearance are set due to generally avoidable reasons. For example, adjournments for another stage of hearing, say from a plea and case management hearing to a trial hearing or from the last date of trial to a sentencing date are classified as ‘continuance’ but delays for say, missing or incomplete files, due to outstanding medical reports or attorney absenteeism are classified as ‘adjournments’. Adjournments as defined in this document have an adverse effect on hearing date certainty rates but continuances do not.

Exponential Smoothing: Exponential smoothing of time series data assigns exponentially decreasing weights for newest to oldest observations. In other words, the older the data, the less priority (“weight”) the data is given; newer data is seen as more relevant and is assigned more weight. Smoothing parameters (smoothing constants)— usually denoted by α — determine the weights for observations.

Exponential smoothing is usually used to make short term forecasts, as longer term forecasts using this technique can be quite unreliable.

- **Simple (single) exponential smoothing** uses a weighted moving average with exponentially decreasing weights.
- **Holt’s trend-corrected double exponential smoothing** is usually more reliable for handling data that shows trends, compared to the single procedure.
- **Triple exponential smoothing** (also called the Multiplicative Holt-Winters) is usually more reliable for parabolic trends or data that shows trends and seasonality.

ⁱ Source:

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

ⁱⁱ Source:

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

