Parish Courts of Jamaica The Chief Justice's First Quarter Statistics Report for 2024

(Criminal Matters)

FIR	FIRST QUARTER SUMMARY					
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>			
Case Disposal Rates (%)	52.32	51.22	57.28			
Case Clearance Rates (%)	97.23	108.41	112.61			
Trial Date Certainty Rates (%)	81	82	85			
Courtroom utilization Rate (%)	65.37	63.41	65.31			

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This statistical report on criminal matters in the Parish Courts of Jamaica is for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024. 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. For the first time in several successive guarters, the parish courts recorded an overall case clearance rate below the 100% which resulted in a high case congestion rate for the period, and a state of disequilibrium in the period between judicial supply and demand, however a number of fundamentals remained intact, due to the long unbroken series of exceptional performances, including the overall net case backlog rate which remains below 3%.

The aggregate new case count in the parish courts in the first quarter of 2024 was 5931, an increase of 12.39% when compared to the corresponding period in the previous year. The Corporate Area Parish Court - Criminal Division with 1522 new cases or 25.66% of the total, followed by the St. Catherine and St. Ann Parish Courts with 795 cases or 13.40% and 519 cases or 8.75% respectively, account for the three largest proportions

of the new criminal cases filed in the period. Taken together, the three parishes with the highest new case count account for 47.81% of the new cases filed in the first quarter of 2024. The parish courts of St. Thomas, Hanover and St. Mary accounted for the lowest shares of the aggregate new cases filed in the period, each with under 4.0% of the total new caseload.

The overall average disposal rate for cases originating in the first quarter of 2024 was 52.32%, which is a decrease of 1.10 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in the previous year. The St. James Parish Court lead the way with a rate of 69.67%, thereby disposing of new cases the fastest in the period. The Hanover and Clarendon Parish Courts ranked next with case disposal rates of 67.52% and 63.34%.

The case clearance rate 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 2024 was 97.23%, down by 11.18 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in the previous year. The result suggests that for every 100 new criminal cases that were filed in the parish courts in 2024, roughly 97 cases were disposed. Nine of the parish courts satisfied the international standard of between 90% and 110% the first quarter of 2024. The top three spots on this metric was occupied by the St. Thomas Parish Court with 135.88%, the Clarendon Parish Court with 117.52% and the St. James Parish Court with 107.05%. After a consistent series of performances in the upper decile on several key metrics, the Clarendon Parish Court has affirmed its standing among the better performing parish courts.

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 case congestion rate is the critical measurement which indicates how close a court is to attaining a state of equilibrium between the demand and supply for judicial resources. Such a state of perfect equilibrium is attained when a congestion rate of 100% is attained by a court. The overall case congestion rate recorded for the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarter of 2024 was

264.50%, an improvement of 5.14 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2023. The parish courts of Hanover, Clarendon and St. James were least congested court at the end of the quarter. 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.

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 criminal division of the parish courts recorded an overall 1 percentage point decline in trial date certainty rate when compared to the corresponding period in the previous year, netting out at 81%. The parish courts of St. Ann, Manchester, Portland and St. James were the leaders on this metric.

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 period in each court. The overall courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in the period was 65.37%, an improvement of 1.96 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in the previous year. Traditional leaders, the Westmoreland Parish Court with a courtroom utilization rate of 89.41%, the Mary Parish Court with 71.25% and the St. Catherine Parish Court with 69.45% were the top

performers on this metric.

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 2024 is approximately 36.98%, while roughly 63.02% of cases were heard at the main parish court locations. While outstation court activity in parishes such as St. James and the Corporate Area account for less than 10% of total activity, there are several parishes where outstations are extensively utilized, accounting for over 30% of total case activity. This includes the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. Mary, Hanover and Trelawny, among others. The evidence continues to suggest 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.

The largest proportion of cases disposed in the first quarter of 2024 was by way of guilty pleas, accounting for 32.61% of the cases disposed. This was followed by cases dismissed, which was responsible for 19.36% of the cases disposed. It is of note that guilty verdicts accounted for roughly 3.72% of the matters disposed while not guilty verdicts accounted for 17.0% of the total. Mediated settlements (of various forms) accounted for roughly 13.02% of the cases disposed during the quarter. Taken together, the data therefore reveals a conviction rate of 36.33 for the quarter. Further analysis of the data suggests that for the cases originating over at least over the past roughly 8 years, which are disposed, roughly 37.10% were resolved within 90 days, 58.14% within

six months and 87.69% within a year.

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 indictments with approximately 43.46% of all matters. This is followed by summary matters with a roughly 27.45% and matters heard by Lay Magistrates with approximately 14.79% of the total. It is of note that Committal Proceedings accounted for roughly 11.56% of all criminal matters filed in the parish courts during the quarter. Summary matters had an overall conviction rate of 64.20% in the quarter while indictments had a conviction rate of 19.41% 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 quarter were incomplete files with 12.70%, warrants issued due to the non-appearance of defendants with 11.19% and adjournments for disclosure with 11.07%, rounding off the top three. Also featuring prominently on the lists of reasons for adjournment across the parish courts during the quarter are adjournments for referral to mediation, absent defendants, medical reports outstanding and subpoena of investigating officers and the crown respectively. This probability distribution for the reasons for adjournments was broadly similar to that of the past few years.

The three most frequent criminal charges filed in the parish courts in the first quarter of 2024 were assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding and malicious

destruction of property. The majority of charges filed during the quarter involved accused males, accounting for roughly 78.62%, with females accounting for 21.38%. The dominant age group of persons charged in period were the 18 – 26 and 27 – 36 age groups, accounting for 29.51% and 29.38% respectively of the total.

One of the most decisive and instructive findings from this annual report comes from the analysis of the distribution of times to disposition in the parish courts. The report reveals that on average, the criminal division of the parish courts took roughly 9 months to dispose of cases in the first quarter of 2024. The courts which had the shortest times to disposition for cases resolved are the parish courts of Westmoreland (approximately 114 days), Hanover (approximately 133 days) and St. Mary (192 days). These three courts are also traditionally among the leading performers across several metrics.

Using the method of exponential smoothing, the report forecasts that in the second quarter of 2024, 5318 new criminal cases will be filed in the criminal division of the parish courts while 4516 cases are expected to be disposed and 1022 to become inactive. The overall forecasted case clearance rate for second quarter of 2024 in the criminal division of the parish courts is therefore 104.14%. The parish courts of St. Thomas, Portland and Clarendon are expected to register the highest case clearance rates in the second quarter of 2024.

With roughly years of extensive data on criminal case activity on the parish courts of Jamaica, the Statistics Unit has determined that a successful court must meet the following minimum requirements in order to satisfy an efficiency threshold for the

sustainable containment of case backlog and provide optimal service to the public. The required minimum annual parameters are summarized below:

Parameter	Minimum Required Standard
Case disposal rate	>=75%
Case clearance rate	>=100%
Case congestion rate	<=115%
Trial Date Certainty Rate	>=85%
Net case backlog rate	<=5%
Gross case backlog rate	<=10%
Average number of mentions per case	<=3

The Statistics Unit has determined that if any court or jurisdiction can consistently achieve these rates, it will attain a high level of efficiency and service excellence.

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 8 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. It should also be noted that there have been progressive improvements in the strength of the data collection mechanism in some courts such as the Clarendon Parish Court, which have positively measurement outcomes.

Chapter 1.0: Criminal Case Activity Statistics in the Parish Courts for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

This chapter provides an assessment of criminal case activity in the parish courts for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024. 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 the upcoming quarters of 2024. 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.

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Number of inactive cases	Number of disposed cases	Active Pending Case Load	Case disposal Rate (%)
Hanover	160	7	101	52	67.50
St. Catherine	795	64	327	404	49.18
Westmoreland	455	21	242	192	57.80
St. Mary	201	4	59	138	31.34
Clarendon	491	36	275	180	63.34
Portland	270	7	97	166	38.52
St. Elizabeth	252	16	107	129	48.81
Corporate Area Criminal	1522	444	443	635	58.28
St. Thomas	131	11	63	57	56.49
St. James	511	43	313	155	69.67
St. Ann	519	75	162	282	45.66
Trelawny	258	10	92	156	39.53
Manchester	366	8	76	282	22.95
Total	5931	746	2357	2828	-
Average/Weighted Average	456.23	57.38	181.31	217.54	52.32
Standard deviation	369.83	118.42	124.83	157.35	14.10
Skewness	2.24	3.38	0.88	1.75	-0.42

Table 1.0: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the first quarter ended March 31,2024

Note: The case disposal rate for the Browns Town outstation for the first quarter of 2024 is 30.12%

The table above shows the aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the first quarter of 2024. A total of 5,931 new criminal cases were filed across the parish courts while 3,103 of these cases were either disposed or became inactive during the period, resulting in a weighted average case disposal rate of 52.32%. In the corresponding period in 2023, 5,277 cases were filed, while 2,703 cases were either disposed or became inactive which resulted in a weighted average disposal rate of 51.22%, which is 1.10 percentage points less than the rate for the first quarter of 2024. This comparison reveals that there was an increase of 654 cases or a 12.39% improvement in the number of new cases filed and an increase of 400 cases or a 14.80% improvement in the number of new cases disposed of or became inactive when compared to the first quarter of 2023. Of the thirteen parish courts listed above, four (4) Parish Courts recorded a decrease in the number of new cases filed, while nine (9) recorded an increase. Among the parish courts with the largest decline in new cases filed were the Hanover Parish Court, decreasing by 28.89%, the St. Thomas Parish Court, which decreased by 5.76% and the St. Mary Parish Court, which decreased by 1.47%. Among the parish courts with the largest improvement in new cases filed were the St. Elizabeth Parish Court, increasing by 51.81%, the Trelawny Parish Court, which increased by 36.51% and the Westmoreland Parish Court, which experienced an increase of 28.53%.

The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division with 1,522 cases or 25.66% of the new cases filed, the St. Catherine Parish Court with 795 cases or 13.40% and the St. Ann Parish Court with 519 or 8.75% accounted for the three largest shares of new cases filed in the first quarter of 2024. These three parish courts with the largest share of new cases filed, cumulatively accounted for 47.82% of the total sample of new criminal cases filed in the first quarter of 2024. On the other end, the parish courts of St. Thomas with 131 cases or 2.21% of the sample of new cases, Hanover

with 160 cases or 2.70% and St. Mary with 201 cases or 3.39% accounted for the lowest shares of new cases filed in the first quarter of 2024. The best performing courts in relation to case disposal rates for the first quarter of 2024 were the St. James (69.67%), Hanover (67.50%) and Clarendon (63.34%) Parish Courts. The bottom three courts on this measure were the Manchester (22.95%), St. Mary (31.34%) and Portland (38.52%) parish courts. The parish court of Manchester was also among the bottom three courts on this measure in the first quarter of 2023. The skewness of the number of new cases filed, the number of cases disposed, and the active pending new caseload are all positive, which is an indication that the larger proportion of the courts fell below the overall average case count in each of these data series. The overall skewness of the case disposal rates is a low negative figure, which indicates that a large proportion of courts had disposal rates which were clustered around the overall average rate for the quarter.

Refer to Table 3.0 for a graphical comparison of the Case Disposal Rates across all Parish Courts for the first quarter of 2023 and 2024.

Table 2.0a: Aggregate case statistics for each	parish court as at March 31, 2024

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed in quarter	Number of Disposed cases in Jan. 1- Mar. 31, 2024	Number of Inactive cases in Jan. 1- Mar. 31, 2024	Grand total number of inactive cases (2016- Mar. 2024)	Grand total number of disposed cases (2016- Mar. 2024)	Grand Active Pending Caseload b/f Jan. 1, 2024	Case Clearance Rate (%)	Case Congestion Rate (%)
Hanover	160	162	8	295	6592	95	106.25	150.00
St. Catherine	795	710	132	3415	24026	1144	105.91	230.29
Westmoreland	455	352	28	1180	12120	241	83.52	183.16
St. Mary	201	152	11	773	6604	322	81.09	320.86
Clarendon	491	513	64	1836	12759	451	117.52	163.26
Portland	270	233	12	752	8118	442	90.74	290.61
St. Elizabeth	252	217	33	-	-	-	99.21	_
Corporate Area Criminal	1522	935	565	12625	37337	3679	98.55	346.73
St. Thomas	131	158	20	592	6417	338	135.88	263.48
St. James	511	491	56	2749	17492	438	107.05	173.49
St. Ann	519	375	112	4257	10493	1053	93.83	322.79
Trelawny	258	182	21	769	6414	392	78.68	320.20
Manchester	366	208	17	1935	10563	728	61.48	486.22
Total	5931	4688	1079	31178	158935	9323	-	-
Average/Weighted Average	456.23	360.62	83.00	2598.17	13244.58	776.92	97.23	264.50
Standard deviation	369.83	243.00	150.06	3390.17	9238.73	966.19	18.90	97.80
Skewness	2.24	1.36	3.20	2.72	1.92	2.87	0.20	0.71

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, 2024, for all parish courts combined= 9,700

Note 3: The case clearance rate for the Browns Town outstation in St. Ann for the first quarter of 2024 is 108.43% and the case congestion rate is 862.22%.

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 first quarter of 2024 was 264.50%, an indication that the parish courts (criminal division) as a whole are carrying roughly three times the caseload that their current rate of clearance and implied state of resources justifies. This result represents a 5.14 percentage points decrease when compared to the first quarter of 2023. The Manchester Parish Court (486.22%) and the parish courts of Corporate Area Court- Criminal Division (346.73%), St. Ann (322.79%) and St. Mary (320.86%) were the courts with the highest case congestion rates in the first quarter of 2024. The Trelawny (320.20%) and Portland (290.61%) Parish Courts rounded off the top 6 most case congested courts at the end of the first quarter of 2024. The parish courts of St. Ann, Portland, Manchester, Trelawny and Corporate Area-Criminal Division were also among the most congested courts in the comparative first quarter of 2023. The parish courts of Hanover (150%), Clarendon (163.26%), and St. James (173.49%) 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 case congestion rate is a more meaningful measurement over a full year.

The results on the overall case clearance rate for the first quarter of 2024 provide interesting insights into the court-wide progress being made on this measure. The overall weighted average case clearance rate of 97.23%, which is a decrease of 11.18 percentage points when compared to the corresponding first quarter of 2023, however, the performance meets the international standard of 90%-110%. This overall case clearance rate of 97.23% suggests that for every 100 new cases filed, roughly 97 cases were disposed of. Nine (9) parish courts met or exceeded the international standards of 90%-110%. The parish courts of St. Thomas (135.88%), Clarendon (117.52%), St. James (107.05%), Hanover (106.25%) and St. Catherine (105.91%) were the leading parish courts on this measure. The parish courts of Manchester (61.48%), Trelawny (78.68%) and St. Mary (81.09%) had the lowest criminal case clearance rates for the quarter. Five (5) parish courts recorded an increase in clearance rates when compared to first quarter of 2023, while eight (8) parish courts recorded a decrease in clearance rates when compared to first quarter of 2023. The Clarendon and St. Thomas parish courts saw the largest gains, with 15.06 and 8.54 percentage points improvement respectively. The St. Elizabeth and Manchester parish courts saw the largest decline, with 84.52 and 41.41 percentage points decline respectively. The data in the table above were 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 of 2023 and 2024.

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

Table 2.0b: Percentile rank on selected performance metrics for the criminal division of the parish courts for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

The table above provides the percentile ranks of the case disposal and case clearance rates for the first quarter of 2024. The percentile rank gives an indication of where particular courts falls on a metric relative to the other courts. The parish courts of St. James (100%), Hanover (92%) and Clarendon (83%) had the highest percentile ranks on case disposal rate for the first quarter of 2024, an indication that they performed better than the vast proportion of the courts on this measure. The percentile ranks of 100% for the St. James 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 Clarendon Parish Court performed better than 83% of all the parish courts on this measurement. The parish courts of Manchester, St. Mary and Portland had the lowest percentile rank on case disposal rate for the quarter. In terms of case clearance rates, the parish courts of St. Thomas (100%), Clarendon (92%) and St. James (83%) had the highest percentile ranks, while the parish courts of Manchester, Trelawny and St. Mary had the lowest.

Parish Court	Forecasted number of new cases	Forecasted number of disposed cases	Forecasted number of inactive cases	Forecasted case clearance rate (%)
Hanover	159	164	7	107.37
Manchester	326	268	24	89.63
St. Mary	192	160	9	87.85
St. James	473	474	50	110.96
St. Catherine	797	736	137	109.59
Portland	206	231	14	118.55
St. Ann	451	344	117	102.20
St. Elizabeth	194	197	26	114.60
Corporate Area Criminal	1359	852	510	100.22
Westmoreland	390	334	30	93.21
St. Thomas	147	162	17	121.39
Clarendon	401	406	54	114.61
Trelawny	223	189	29	97.46
Total/Weighted Average	5318	4516	1022	104.14

Table 2.0c: Forecasted case activity statistics for the second quarter of 2024 [April 01 - June 30,2023]

Note: The forecasted case clearance rate for the Browns Town outstation in St. Ann for the second quarter of 2024 is 86.94%.

The above table forecasts core case activity for the criminal division of each parish court and overall for the second quarter of 2024. 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 above data shows that the overall forecasted case clearance rates for the criminal division of the parish courts for the second quarter of 2024 is 104.14%, which would be 6.91 percentage points higher than that of the first quarter of 2024. Eleven (11) parish courts are forecasted to satisfy

the international standard on case clearance rate of 90% or more in the second quarter of 2024,

led by the St. Thomas Parish Court with 121.39%, the Portland Parish Court with 118.55% and

the Clarendon Parish Court with 114.61%.

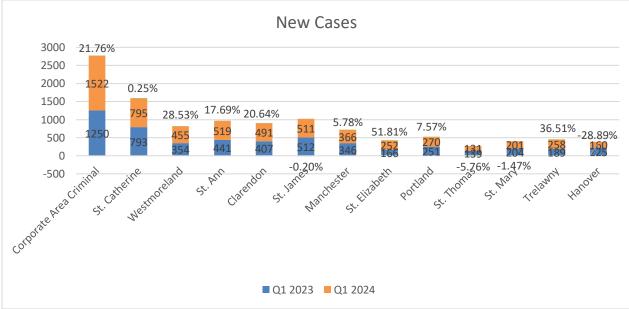
Table 2.0d: Sampling distribution of new cases filed per 10,000 population in the criminal
division of the parish courts in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Population size in parish	Case per 10,000 population
Hanover	160	69,533	23
St. Catherine	795	516,218	15
Westmoreland	455	144,103	32
St. Mary	201	113,615	18
Clarendon	491	245,103	20
Portland	270	81,744	33
St. Elizabeth	252	150,205	17
Corporate Area Criminal	1522	662,426	23
St. Thomas	131	93,902	14
St. James	511	183,811	28
St. Ann	519	172,362	30
Trelawny	258	75,164	34
Manchester	366	189,797	19
Total	5931	2697983	22

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 2024. The population sizes used are based on the last published 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 adjudication in criminal matters in the various parishes. It is seen that the parish of Trelawny, which is among the parishes with the smaller population sizes, and modest caseloads, registered the largest number of new criminal cases filed per 10,000 population in the first quarter of 2024. Portland, which is among the parishes with a smaller population size and modest caseloads, was second on this measurement. Westmoreland, which is among the parishes with modest

caseloads and population sizes, followed. Equally interesting is the result that the St. Thomas Parish Court, which is among the parishes with the smaller quarterly caseload and population size, had the smallest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population in the quarter. St. Catherine had the second lowest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population for the quarter, followed by St. Elizabeth.

Chart 1.0a: Summary of changes in the number of new cases filed in the first quarters of 2023 and 2024



The above chart provides a breakdown of the changes in the number of new cases filed in the first quarter of 2023 and 2024. It is seen that there has been a decrease in new cases filed over the comparative period four (4) parish courts and an increase in nine (9). Among the parish courts with the largest rise in new cases filed were the St. Elizabeth Parish Court increasing by 51.81% and the Trelawny Parish Court, which increased by 36.51%. Among the parish courts with the largest decline in new cases filed were the Hanover parish court fell by 28.89% and the St. Thomas Parish court fell by 5.76%.

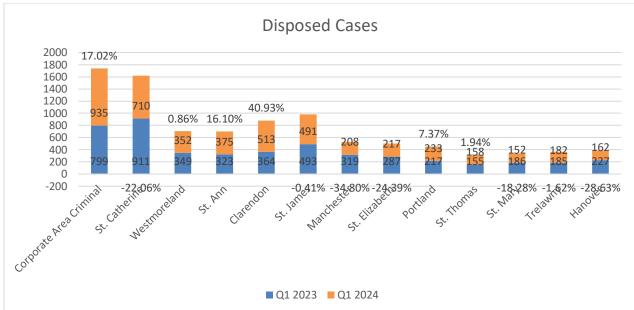


Chart 1.0b: Summary of changes in the number of cases disposed in the first quarters of 2023 and 2024

The above graph provides a breakdown of the changes in the number of cases disposed of in the first quarter of 2023 and 2024. It is seen that there has been a decrease in cases resolved over the comparative period in seven (7) parish courts and an increase in the cases resolved in six (6) parish court. Among the parish courts with the largest rise in cases resolved were the Clarendon Parish Court increasing by 40.93% and the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, which increased by 17.02%. Among the parish courts with the largest decline in cases resolved were the Manchester parish court fell by 34.80% and the Hanover Parish court fell by 28.63%.

Table 2.0e: Sampling distribution of the Indices of Judge Productivity for the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2024

Iviai (11 51, 2024					
Parish Court	Number of Judges	New criminal cases per Judges	Active pending caseload per Judge at the beginning of Q1 2024	Active caseload per Judge at the end of Q1 2024	Cases disposed per Judge
Hanover	2	80.00	47.50	42.50	81.00
St. Catherine	5	159.00	228.80	219.40	142.00
Westmoreland	2	227.50	120.50	158.00	176.00
St. Mary	3	67.00	107.33	120.00	50.67
Clarendon	3	163.67	150.33	121.67	171.00
Portland	2	135.00	221.00	233.50	116.50
St. Elizabeth	3	84.00	0.00	0.00	72.33
Corporate Area Criminal	9	169.11	408.78	411.22	103.89
St. Thomas	2	65.50	169.00	145.50	79.00
St. James	5	102.20	87.60	80.40	98.20
St. Ann	3	173.00	351.00	361.67	125.00
Trelawny	3	86.00	130.67	149.00	60.67
Manchester	3	122.00	242.67	289.67	69.33
Total/Weighted Average	45	131.80	207.18	210.78	104.18

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 2024. The data reveals that the overall weighted average number of new criminal cases filed per judge in the first quarter of 2024 is roughly 132 cases. The parish courts of Westmoreland (228 cases), St. Ann (173 cases) and Corporate Area-Criminal Division (169 cases) had the three largest number of new cases filed per judge during the quarter. On the contrary, the parish courts St. Thomas (66 cases), St. Mary (67 cases) and the Hanover (80 cases) had the lowest number of new cases filed per judge in the quarters. In terms of cases disposed of per judge, the Westmoreland Parish Court disposed of the most cases per judge in the quarter with 176 cases, followed by the Clarendon Parish Court with 171 cases and the St. Catherine Parish Court with 142 cases disposed per judge. The three courts with the smallest number of cases disposed per judge.

judge were the St. Mary Parish Court and the Trelawny Parish Court with 51 and 61 disposed cases per judge respectively and the Manchester Parish Court with 69 disposed cases per judge. The overall number of criminal cases disposed per judge was 104 cases. The most crucial of the indicators is the active caseload per judge at the end of the quarter. The data shows that the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division had the highest caseload per judge at the end of the quarter with 411 cases, followed by the St. Ann Parish Court with 362 cases and the Manchester Parish Court with 290 cases per judge. On the lower end, the parish courts of Hanover and St. James with 43 and 80 cases per judge respectively, had the lowest active criminal caseload per judge at the end of the quarter is 211 cases. The overall average active criminal caseload per judge at the end of the quarter is 211 cases. The active caseload is a proxy for the existing demand for judicial services in the respective courts and the anecdotal evidence suggests that some courts with a higher caseload per judge are generally more hard pressed to sustain high productivity rates.

and 2	.024								
Parish Court	Case Dispos al Rate (%) Q1 2024	Case Disposal Rate (%) Q1 2023	Change in case disposal rate (%)	Case Clearanc e Rate (%) Q1 2024	Case Clearanc e Rate (%) Q1 2023	Change in case clearan ce rate (%)	Case Conges tion Rate (%) Q1 2024	Case Congestion Rate (%) Q1 2023	Change in case congesti on rate (%)
Hanover	67.50	73.78	-6.28	106.25	104	2.25	150.00	133.76	16.24
St. Catherine	49.18	48.42	0.76	105.91	131.15	-25.24	230.29	191.63	38.66
Westmoreland	57.80	70.9	-13.10	83.52	105.65	-22.13	183.16	145.45	37.71
St. Mary	31.34	45.1	-13.76	81.09	95.1	-14.01	320.86	229.38	91.48
Clarendon	63.34	56.27	7.07	117.52	102.46	15.06	163.26	214.87	-51.61
Portland	38.52	44.22	-5.70	90.74	97.21	-6.47	290.61	303.28	-12.67
St. Elizabeth	48.81	51.2	-2.39	99.21	183.73	-84.52	NA	NA	NA
Corporate Area Criminal	58.28	47.6	10.68	98.55	96.8	1.75	346.73	455.7	-108.97
St. Thomas	56.49	53.24	3.25	135.88	127.34	8.54	263.48	308.47	-44.99
St. James	69.67	65.63	4.04	107.05	105.08	1.97	173.49	183.83	-10.34
St. Ann	45.66	38.32	7.34	93.83	95.92	-2.09	322.79	366.19	-43.40
Trelawny	39.53	43.39	-3.86	78.68	110.58	-31.90	320.20	299.04	21.16
Manchester	22.95	37.28	-14.33	61.48	102.89	-41.41	486.22	310.67	175.55
Average /Weighted Average	52.32	51.22	1.10	97.23	108.41	-11.18	264.50	269.64	-5.14
Standard Deviation	14.10	11.75		18.90	24.27		97.80	95.52	90.58
Skewness	-0.42	0.77		0.20	2.47		0.71	0.52	0.81

 Table 3.0: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the first quarter of 2023

 and 2024

The table above provides a comparison of the case disposal rate, the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate for the first quarter of 2024 and 2023. The weighted average case disposal rate for the first quarter of 2024, was 52.32%, which was a 1.10 percentage points increase when compared to the first quarter of 2023, which had a weighted average rate of 51.22%. The overall case clearance rate of 97.23% for the first quarter of 2024 was 11.18 percentage points less the 108.41% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023. The overall case congestion rate for the first quarter of 2024, changing from 269.64% in the first quarter of 2023, to

264.50% in the first quarter of 2024, a 5.14 percentage point decrease. Ceteris paribus, there should be a roughly inverse linear 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.

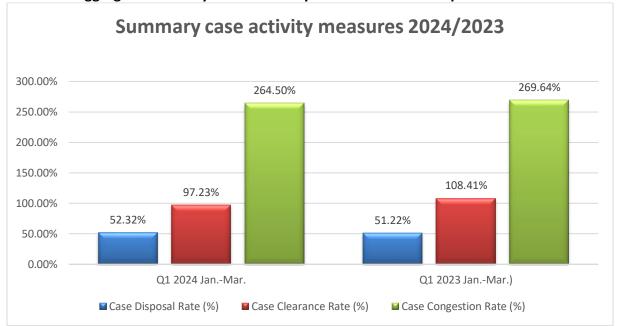
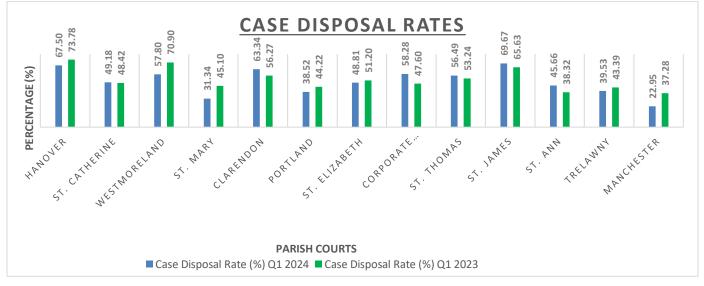


Chart 2.0: Aggregate summary of case activity metrics for the first quarters of 2023 and 2024

Chart 3.0a: Comparison of case disposal rates across the parish courts for the first quarters of 2023 and 2024



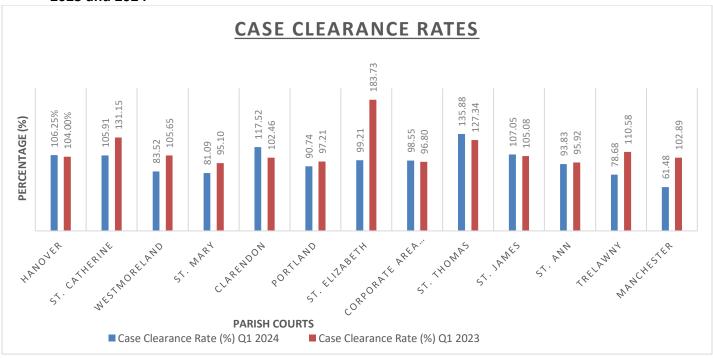


Chart 3.0b: Comparison of case clearance rates across the parish courts for the first quarters of 2023 and 2024

Chart 3.0c: Comparison of case congestion rate across the parish courts for the first quarters of 2023 and 2024

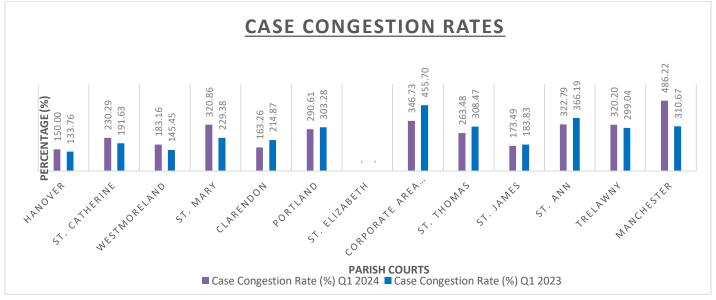


Table 4.0a: Sampling distribution of mention court activity for cases disposed of in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Parish Court	Overall number of cases disposed	Number of cases disposed in 1 mention	Number of cases disposed in 2 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 3 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 4 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 5 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 6-10 mentions	Number of cases disposed in more than 10 mentions
Hanover	160	34	11	12	3	-	-	1
St. Catherine	795	125	94	68	34	27	65	26
Westmoreland	455	184	60	34	21	11	26	22
St. Mary	201	29	17	17	7	7	20	6
Clarendon	491	67	42	15	15	16	30	9
Portland	270	55	46	37	25	22	38	9
Corporate Area Criminal	1522	359	197	109	45	39	99	113
St. Thomas	131	36	30	12	8	10	7	7
St. James	511	290	53	15	3	1	5	-
St. Ann	519	60	32	41	19	12	13	3
Trelawny	258	26	18	16	7	10	12	3
Manchester	366	46	39	20	11	8	9	4
Mean	473.25	109.25	53.25	33.00	16.50	14.82	29.45	18.45
Median	410.50	57.50	40.50	18.50	13.00	11.00	20.00	7.00
Skewness	2.12	1.53	2.41	1.95	1.08	1.24	1.70	2.98
Standard Deviation	380.92	111.37	50.53	29.12	13.03	10.74	28.93	32.35
Total	5679	1311	639	396	198	163	324	203

The above sampling distribution provides critical insights into mention court activity for a representative sample of criminal cases disposed across the parish courts over the first quarter of 2024. In general, the fewer the number of mentions per case, the more efficient the case flow progression. A maximum of five mentions per case is considered to be desirable based on international best practices. A notable 43.05% of the sample of 5,679 cases disposed of during the period were resolved on their first appearance before the court. A further 23.09% of the sample of cases disposed were resolved at first mention, while 11.25% were resolved after two

mentions and 6.97% after three mentions. Cumulatively, roughly 90.72% of the cases sampled were resolved in five or less mentions, inclusive of those resolved on first appearance before the courts. This is an impressive outcome by any measure. Although there are some variances across the parish courts, the overall outcomes were consistently observed for all courts. In other words, the vast majority of the cases sampled were disposed in five or less mentions in all courts and matters disposed on first appearance before the court or within the first few mentions accounted for the largest share of the activity across the courts. These outcomes are not surprising given the consistently high case clearance rates in the parish courts in the last few years. These collective results augur well for the probability of relatively quick and efficient resolution of criminal cases across the parish courts.

Parish Court	Number of cases heard in the quarter	Share of cases heard in the quarter (%)
Clarendon	1001	8.61
Corporate Area-Criminal Division	3635	31.26
Hanover	246	2.12
Manchester	686	5.90
Portland	575	4.95
St. Ann	1010	8.69
St. Catherine	1594	13.71
St. James	848	7.29
St. Mary	410	3.53
St. Thomas	318	2.74
Trelawny	608	5.23
Westmoreland	696	5.99
Total/Weighted Average	11627	100.00

 Table 4.0b: Summary of cases heard during the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

 Device Count

The table above provides a summary of the criminal cases heard during the first quarter of 2024 at the parish courts. From a sample of 11,627 cases heard, it is seen that the Corporate Area Criminal court accounted for the highest share of cases heard with 3,635 cases heard or 31.26%

of the sample, followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court with 1,594 cases heard or 13.71% and the St. Ann parish court with 1,010 cases or 8.69% of the sample. Cumulatively, the top three courts account for roughly 53.66% of the cases sampled. On the lower end, the parish courts of Hanover with 246 cases or 2.12%, St. Thomas with 318 or 2.74% and St. Mary with 410 or 3.53% of the sample, accounted for the lowest share of cases heard in the first quarter of 2024.

Parish Court	Trial certainty rate (%) Q1 (2024)	Trial certainty rate (%) Q1 (2023)	Change in the trial certainty rate (%)	
Westmoreland	42	53	-11	
Clarendon	81	89	-8	
St. Ann	100	47	53	
Portland	100	75	25	
St. James	100	100	0	
Manchester	100	100	0	
St. Catherine	63	57	6	
Trelawny	89	91	-2	
St. Mary	66	99	-33	
St. Thomas	65	96	-31	
Corporate Area Criminal	98	96	2	
Hanover	68	76	-8	
Total/Average	81	82	-1	

Table 5.0a: Comparison of the trial certainty rates for the first guarters of 2023 and 2024

Note 1: The trial date certainty rate for the Browns Town Outstation in St. Ann for Q1 2024 is 100% Note 2: 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 2024 was 81%, a 1-percentage point decline when compared to the first quarter of 2023. Five (5) 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. Ann, Portland, St. James and Manchester each with a trial certainty rate of 100% and Corporate Area-Criminal Division with 98%. The Trelawny Parish

Court-Criminal Division fell just short of the international standard with a trial certainty rate of 89%, 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 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 assist in sustaining the current net case backlog rate of less than 5%.

Table 5.0b: Percentile Rank on trial date certainty rate for the criminal division of the parish
courts in the first quarters of 2023 and 2024

Parish Court	Percentile Rank – Trial Date Certainty Rate Q1 2024 (%)	Percentile Rank – Trial Date Certainty Rate Q1 2023 (%)
Westmoreland	0	9
Clarendon	45	45
St. Ann	73	0
Portland	73	27
St. James	73	91
Manchester	73	91
St. Catherine	9	18
Trelawny	55	55
St. Mary	27	82
St. Thomas	18	64
Corporate Area Criminal	64	64
Hanover	36	36

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 quarter of 2023 and 2024. 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.

Parish Court	Average duration of trial
Clarendon	335.13
Corporate Area	407.01
Hanover	135.42
Manchester	391.28
Portland	891.57
St. Ann	375.69
St. Catherine	401.42
St. James	472.53
St. Mary	280.85
St. Thomas	169.71
Trelawny	271.65
Westmoreland	79.89
Weighted average	364.36
Standard Deviation	208.72

Table 5.0c: Average duration from first trial date set to date of disposal of case for matters resolved by trial in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

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 2024 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 is 364 days or roughly 12.1 months, with a standard deviation of roughly 209 days or 7 months. The Westmoreland and Hanover Parish Courts had the lowest times between first trial dates set and disposal of cases with roughly 80 days and 135 days respectively, reflective of more ideal standards when compared to most other courts. The Portland and St. James Parish Courts with average interval times of roughly 892 days or 29.7 months and 473 days or roughly 15.8 months respectively had the worst ranks on this measurement for the quarter. Lengthy time intervals between the first trial date and the date of case disposition are symptoms of case management problems, case readiness and possibly even scheduling and calendar management issues in the particular court.

Parish Court	Average time between filing and first court appearance (in days)	Average time between first court appearance and trial (in days)	Average time between trial and disposition (in days)
Clarendon	5.24	284.55	335.13
Corporate Area-Criminal Division	4.00	479.15	407.01
Hanover	11.18	142.69	135.42
Manchester	9.05	239.67	391.28
Portland	4.24	301.69	891.57
St. Ann	11.55	528.32	375.69
St. Catherine	4.70	252.93	401.42
St. James	3.56	1341.73	472.53
St. Mary	3.01	171.89	280.85
St. Thomas	7.12	238.85	169.71
Trelawny	6.55	215.84	271.65
Westmoreland	5.70	315.32	79.89
Weighted average	5.18	460.67	364.36
Standard Deviation	2.89	324.50	208.72

Table 5.0d: Time interval between major events for cases that had a trial date in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Note 1: The average time between filing a case and the first court appearance for the Browns Town Outstation in St. Ann for the first quarter of 2024 is 11.58 days.

Note 2: The average time between the first appearance and first trial date for the Browns Town Outstation in St. Ann for the first quarter of 2024 is 818.32 days.

Note 3: The average duration between the first trial date set and the date of disposition for the Browns Town Outstation in St. Ann for the first quarter of 2024 is 207 days.

Tracking the times between the occurrence of major hearing events along the case flow continuum is important to establishing precise points of possible delay in case progression. The above table provides a summary of the average times between filing a case and the first court appearance, the average time between first court appearance and the first date of trial and the average duration between the first trial date and disposition. Overall, it is seen that the average time between filing a criminal case and the first court appearance is approximately 5 days, while the overall average time between first appearance of a criminal matter in the parish courts and the first trial date is, however, much longer at roughly 15.4 months or 461 days. The average

duration between the first trial date set and the date of disposition is roughly 12.1 months or 364 days. These findings indicate that there may be imprecisions in the science of scheduling trial dates which may at times face long delays after a first date set is postponed. Since roughly less than a quarter of criminal cases filed in the parish courts will proceed to trial, these findings may not have a dramatic impact on the overall time to disposition of criminal cases but are nonetheless critical for monitoring case activity.

Parish Court	Number of cases heard	Number of cases with a trial date set	Percentage of cases heard which had a trial date set (%)
Clarendon	1001	241	24.08
Corporate Area-Criminal Division	3635	604	16.62
Hanover	246	59	23.98
Manchester	686	148	21.57
Portland	575	46	8.00
St. Ann	1010	175	17.33
St. Catherine	1594	489	30.68
St. James	848	39	4.60
St. Mary	410	72	17.56
St. Thomas	318	74	23.27
Trelawny	608	131	21.55
Westmoreland	696	122	17.53
Total/Weighted Average	11627	2200	18.92

Table 5.0e: Trial court activity summary during the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Note 1: The Browns Town Outstation in St. Ann had 12.61% of cases heard proceed to trial in the first quarter of 2024

Note 2: Calculations for the Corporate Area Court-Criminal Division were done using data available from sheets in which a trial date was listed from 2017 onwards, hence, the total number of cases heard may differ from the number of cases heard listed in table 4.0b.

The above table provides a summary of number of cases heard in the first quarter of 2024 in the

criminal divisions of the parish courts which had trial dates set, whether in the current quarter,

from the previous quarter or a future date. Using a sampling distribution, it is seen that of 11,627

criminal cases heard across the parish courts in the first quarter of 2024, 2,200 cases or 18.92% had a trial date set. The parish courts of St. James (4.60%), Portland (8%) and Corporate Area-Criminal Division (16.62%) had the lowest proportion of cases proceeding to trial, while the parish courts of St. Catherine (30.68%), Clarendon (24.08%) and Hanover (23.98%) had the highest proportions.

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	69.43	130.56	0.28	29.39	60.77	1.1
Westmoreland	89.41	151.67	5.00	45.48	NA	NA
Trelawny	60.46	118.67	3.33	27.22	NA	1.0
St. Thomas	52.87	109.72	8.06	23.10	NA	NA
St. Mary	71.25	121.94	2.67	25.99	NA	1.0
St. James	66.20	268.33	7.00	37.46	NA	NA
Corporate Area Criminal Court	66.35	145.00	3.00	33.53	NA	1.1
St. Ann	65.50	147.22	1.94	29.57	49.35	1.0
Portland	58.16	225.00	11.11	33.64	NA	1.0
Hanover	59.38	113.89	2.78	33.32	NA	1.1
Clarendon	64.88	298.67	2.33	52.56	76.04	2.0
Manchester	60.59	136.11	5.56	29.45	38.96	NA
Overall Averages Standard	65.37 9.16	163.90 63.76	4.42 3.06	33.39 8.39	56.28 15.90	1.16 0.34
Deviation Skewness	1.62	1.39	0.98	1.28	0.38	2.71

Table 6.0a: Distribution of courtroom utilization rates across the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Note: The courtroom utilization rate for the Browns Town Outstation in St. Ann for in the first quarter of 2024 is 70.67%

The above table details the courtroom utilization rate for the various parish courts in the first quarter of 2024. The courtroom utilization rate provides a measurement of the proportion of available hours for open court hearings in all courtrooms (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 2024. The overall average courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in the quarter was 65.37%, which is an indication that on average roughly 65% of the available hours for court hearings were utilized across the parish courts in the first quarter of 2024. This result is roughly 1.88 percentage points above the figure for the corresponding period in 2023. The parish courts recording the highest courtroom utilization rates for the quarter are the Westmoreland and St. Mary Parish Courts with 89.41% and 71.25% respectively, followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court with 69.43% and the Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Division with 66.35%. The St. Thomas Parish Court and Portland Parish Courts with 52.87% and 58.16% respectively, had the lowest rates, while the Hanover Parish Court with 59.38% 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. The positive skewness of the data suggests that proportionately more of the sample are below the overall mean.

NB: 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 6.0b: Percentile Rank on Courtroom utilization rate for the criminal division of the parish
courts in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Parish Court	Percentile rank Q1 2024 (%)	Percentile rank Q1 2023 (%)		
St. Catherine	82	82		
Westmoreland	100	100		
Trelawny	27	64		
St. Thomas	0	18		
St. Mary	91	45		
St. James	64	73		
Corporate Area Criminal Court	73	27		
St. Ann	55	55		
Portland	9	91		
Hanover	18	9		
Clarendon	45	36		
Manchester	36	0		
Note: Q1 represents the first quarter i.e. January-March				

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 quarter of 2023 and 2024. The results present a relatively consistent picture across both years for most courts in terms of the performances on this measurement. Some courts experienced gains in the ranking, several others experienced declines, and some courts retained the same ranking. The Westmoreland Parish Court performed better than all courts in the first quarter of 2024 and in the first quarter of 2023. The Manchester Parish Court had the lowest courtroom utilization rate in the first quarter of 2023 and the St. Thomas Parish Court with the lowest rate in the first quarter of 2024.

Parish Court	Indictment	Summary Matters	Lay Magistra -tes	Committal Proceedings	Тах	Miscellaneous	LRF	Traffic	NS	Total
			Sittings							
Corporate Area Criminal	1188	831	267	256	-	-	-	22	-	2564
St. Catherine	661	403	214	219	27	-	6	-	-	1530
Manchester	240	96	168	51	5	-	6	-	-	566
St. James	246	214	141	59	30	59	-	-		749
St. Ann	296	259	135	82	1	-	-	2	-	775
Westmoreland	271	135	173	105	16	-	-	-	-	700
Clarendon	303	356	72	55	-	-	-	-	-	786
Portland	233	65	45	6	-	-	44	-	-	393
St. Mary	181	34	34	100	5	-	-	-	-	354
Trelawny	232	83	54	89	17	-	14	-	-	489
Hanover	133	49	37	26	-	-	5	-	-	250
St. Thomas	137	78	62	48	-	-	1	-	-	326
Total	4121	2603	1402	1096	101	59	76	24	0	9482
Percentage	43.46	27.45	14.79	11.56	1.07	0.62	0.80	0.25	0.0	100

Table 7.0: Types of matters for each Parish Court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

*Total number of observations = 9,482**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 2024. For the quarter, 9,482 charges were filed across the parish courts, an increase of approximately 1,224 charges or a 14.82% improvement when compared to the corresponding first quarter of 2023. The largest proportions of these charges were filed in the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division (2,564), the St. Catherine Parish Court (1,530), the Clarendon Parish Court with (786) and the St. Ann Parish Court with 775 charges. The largest share of the charges were Indictments (43.46%); followed by summary matters (27.45%), Lay Magistrates' matters (14.79%) and committal proceedings with 11.56% of the total sample. The

Corporate Area Court-Criminal Division accounted for the largest proportion of Indictments filed, followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine, Clarendon and St. Ann. The Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division accounted for the largest share of summary matters filed, followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court and the Clarendon 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 Westmoreland. The Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division, followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court and the Vestmoreland Parish Court accounted for the largest individual shares of Committal Proceedings 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.

Offence Types

 Table 8.01: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Hanover Parish

 Court-Criminal Division in the first guarter ended March 31, 2024

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning bodily harm	35	14.23
Unlawful wounding	32	13.01
Threat	28	11.38
Malicious destruction of property	15	6.10
Simple larceny	11	4.47
Sub-total	121	49.19

Number of observations sampled (N): 246

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 2024. It is shown that assault occasioning actual bodily harm with 35 or 14.23% and unlawful wounding with 32 or 13.01% of the total sample of charges are the most frequently occurring charges. Threat with 28 or 11.38% followed this, while malicious destruction of property with 15 or 6.10% and simple larceny with 11 or 4.47% of the total sample rounds off the top five. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 49.19% of the total sample of 246 charges filed in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2023 in the Hanover Parish Court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property, threat and assault at common law.

 Table 8.02: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Manchester Parish

 Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning bodily harm	66	11.68
Exposing goods for sale	56	9.91
Unlawful wounding	53	9.38
Threat	36	6.37
Malicious destruction of property	35	6.19
Sub-total	246	43.54

Number of observations sampled (N): 565

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 2024. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 66 or 11.68% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Exposing goods for sale with 56 or 9.91% and unlawful wounding with 53 or 9.38% rank next. The top five is rounded off by threat with 36 or 6.37% and malicious destruction of property with 35 or 6.19% of the sample charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 43.54% of the total sample of 565 charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2023 in the Manchester Parish Court included threat, malicious destruction of property, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding and disorderly conduct.

 Table 8.03: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Portland Parish

 Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Unlawful wounding	61	15.68
Assault occasioning bodily harm	61	15.68
Threat	40	10.28
Malicious destruction of property	22	5.66
Possession of offensive weapon	18	4.63
Sub-total	202	51.93

Number of observations sampled (N): 389

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 2024. It is shown that unlawful wounding and assault occasioning bodily harm with 61 or 15.68% each of the total sample of charges are the most frequently occurring charges. Threat with 40 or 10.28% followed this. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property with 22 or 5.66% and possession of offensive

weapon with 18 or 4.63% of the sample of charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 51.93% of the total sample of 389 charges filed in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2023 in the Portland parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, threat, malicious destruction of property and assault at common law.

Table 8.04: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first guarter ended March 31, 2024

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning bodily harm	82	10.58
Threat	80	10.32
Possession of ganja	47	6.06
Unlawful wounding	47	6.06
Dealing in ganja	44	5.68
Sub-total	300	38.71

Number of observations sampled (N): 775

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 2024. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 82 or 10.58% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Threat with 80 or 10.32% and possession of ganja and unlawful wounding with 47 or 6.06% each followed this. Dealing in ganja with 44 or 5.68% of the total sample rounds of the top charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 38.71% of the total sample of 775 charges filed in the quarter at the St. Ann Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2023 in the St. Ann parish court included threat, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property, and littering in a public place. From a sample of 119 charges, it is seen that the leading charges recorded in the first quarter of 2024 at the Brown's Town Outstation included assault occasioning bodily harm with 25 or 21.01% of the charges and unlawful wounding with 17 or 14.29% and threat with 16

or 13.45%. Assault at common law with 8 or 6.72% and wounding with intent with 5.88% of the

sample followed.

 Table 8.05: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Catherine

 Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning bodily harm	174	11.37
Malicious destruction of property	87	5.69
Unlawful wounding	85	5.56
Possession of offensive weapon	63	4.12
Threat	54	3.53
Sub-total	463	30.26

Number of observations sampled (N): 1530

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 2024. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 174 or 11.37% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Malicious destruction of property with 87 or 5.69%, unlawful wounding with 85 or 5.56% and possession of offensive weapon with 63 or 4.12% followed this. Threat with 54 or 3.53% of the total sample of charges filed round off the top five. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 30.26% of the total sample of 1,530 charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2023 in the St. Catherine parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, threat, possession of offensive weapon, unlawful wounding and malicious destruction of property.

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)			
Assault occasioning bodily harm	85	11.41			
Possession of offensive weapon	76	10.20			
Threat	58	7.79			
Unlawful wounding	49	6.58			
Malicious destruction of property	39	5.23			
Sub-total	307	41.21			

Table 8.06: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. James Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Number of observations sampled (N): 745

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 2024. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 85 or 11.41% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Possession of offensive weapon with 76 or 10.20% and threat with 58 or 7.79% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 49 or 6.58% and malicious destruction of property with 39 or 5.23% of the total sample. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 41.21% of the sample of 745 charges filed in quarter at the St. James Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2023 in the St. James parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, possession of offensive weapon, unlawful wounding, threat and possession of ganja.

 Table 8.07: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Mary Parish

 Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Unlawful wounding	55	15.54
Assault occasioning bodily harm	45	12.71
Malicious destruction of property	26	7.34
Threat	25	7.06
Sexual intercourse with a person		
under 16	21	5.93
Sub-total	172	48.59

Number of observations sampled (N): 354

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 2024. It is shown that unlawful wounding with 55 or 15.54% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 45 or 12.71% and malicious destruction of property with 26 or 7.34% followed this. The top five is rounded off by threat with 25 or 7.06 and sexual intercourse with a person under 16 with 21 or 5.93% of the sample. The charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 48.59% of the total sample of 354 charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2023 in the St. Mary parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, threat, dealing in ganja, possession of ganja and malicious destruction of property.

 Table 8.08: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish

 Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Simple Larceny	46	14.15
Unlawful Wounding	33	10.15
Assault occasioning bodily harm	30	9.23
Dealing in Ganja	13	4.00
Possession of Ganja	13	4.00
Sub-total	135	41.54

Number of observations sampled (N): 325

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 2024. It is shown simple larceny with 46 or 14.15% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 33 or 10.15% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 30 or 9.23% followed this. The top five is rounded off by dealing in ganja and possession of ganja with 13 or 4% each of the total sample of charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 41.54% of the

sample of 325 charges filed in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2023 in the St. Thomas parish court included threat, unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, malicious destruction of property and armed with an offensive weapon.

 Table 8.09: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Trelawny Parish

 Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning bodily harm	59	12.07
Unlawful Wounding	48	9.82
Malicious destruction of property	27	5.52
Possession of offensive weapon	27	5.52
Sexual intercourse with a person under 16	23	4.70
Sub-total	184	37.63

Number of observations sampled (N): 489

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 2024. It is shown assault occasioning bodily harm with 59 or 12.07% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 48 or 9.82% of the sample followed this. Possession of offensive weapon and malicious destruction of property with 27 or 5.52% each, followed by sexual intercourse with a person under 16 with 23 or 4.70% 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 37.63% of the total sample of 489 charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2023 in the Trelawny parish court included unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, malicious destruction of property, possession of offensive weapon, and possession of ganja.

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)							
Assault occasioning bodily harm	115	16.45							
Threat	47	6.72							
Unlawful Wounding	44	6.29							
Malicious destruction of property	37	5.29							
Possession of offensive weapon	36	5.15							
Sub-total	279	39.91							

 Table 8.10: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Westmoreland

 Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first guarter ended March 31, 2024

Number of observations sampled (N): 699

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 2024. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 115 or 16.45% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Threat with 47 or 6.72% and unlawful wounding with 44 or 6.29% followed this. Malicious destruction of property with 37 or 5.29% and possession of offensive weapon with 36 or 5.15% of the sample rank next. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 39.91% of the total sample of 699 charges filed in the quarter at the Westmoreland Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2023 in the Westmoreland parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, threat, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property and possession of offensive weapon.

 Table 8.11: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Clarendon Parish

 Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Smoking in a Public Place	92	11.62
Assault occasioning bodily harm	90	11.36
Possession of offensive weapon	67	8.46
Unlawful wounding	64	8.08
Malicious destruction of property	49	6.19
Sub-total	362	45.71

Number of observations sampled (N): 792

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 2024. It is shown that smoking in a public place with 92 or 11.62% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 90 or 11.36% and possession of offensive weapon with 67 or 8.46% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 64 or 8.08% and malicious destruction of property with 49 or 6.19%. The charges quoted above account for an estimated 45.71% of the sample of 792 charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2023 in the Clarendon parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, possession of offensive weapon, possession of ganja and malicious destruction of property.

Table 8.12: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first guarter ended March 31, 2024

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)		
Littering	369	14.39		
Assault occasioning bodily harm	259	10.10		
Unlawful wounding	183	7.14		
Possession of offensive weapon	97	3.78		
Exposing goods for sale	95	3.71		
Sub-total	1003	39.12		

Number of observations sampled (N): 2564

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 2024. It is shown that littering with 369 or 14.39% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 259 or 10.10% and unlawful wounding with 183 or 7.14% followed this. The top five is rounded off by possession of offensive weapon with 97 or 3.78% and exposing goods for sale with 95 or 3.71% of the charges. The five charges quoted

above accounts for an estimated 39.12% of the total sample of 2,564 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 2023 in the Corporate Area parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property, littering and possession of offensive weapon.

Table 9.0: Conviction rate for summary and indictment matters heard in the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2024

Type of case	Number of disposed matters	Number of guilty verdicts	Number of guilty pleas	Aggregate number of guilty outcomes	Estimated conviction rate (%)
Summary	2050	102	1214	1316	64.20
Indictment	3138	56	553	609	19.41

The above table shows the estimated conviction rate for summary and indictment matters heard across all parish courts in the first quarter of 2024. 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 64.20%, which is 3.24 percentage points above the conviction rate of 60.96% recorded for the corresponding first quarter of 2023. The estimated conviction rate for indictment matters was significantly lower at 19.41% for the quarter, a rate which is approximately 0.56 percentage points above the 18.85% recorded in the first quarter of 2023. Indictment matters heard in the quarter included charges such as assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property and simple larceny.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges across the parish courts for the first guarter ended March 31, 2024

Charge	Frequency	Percentage
Assault occasioning bodily harm	1101	11.62
Unlawful Wounding	754	7.96
Malicious destruction of property	465	4.91
Possession of offensive weapon	464	4.90
Threat	450	4.75
Littering	405	4.28
Disorderly conduct	277	2.92
Simple larceny	237	2.50
Possession of ganja	223	2.35
Resisting arrest	206	2.17
Sub-total	4582	48.37

Number of observations sampled (N): 9,473

The above table shows the distribution of the ten most commonly occurring charges across all parish courts for the first quarter of 2024. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 1,101 or 11.62% of the total number of charges sampled is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 754 or 7.96% and malicious destruction of property with 465 or 4.91% followed this. The top five is rounded off by possession of offensive weapon with 464 or 4.90% and threat with 450 or 4.75% of the total sample of charges filed in the quarter. These ten most frequently occurring types of charges account for approximately 48.37% of the total sample of charges filed in the quarter.

Table 11.0: Conviction rate for leading occurring charges heard in the first quarter ended March31, 2024

Type of Offence	Number of disposed matters	Number of guilty verdicts	Number of guilty pleas	Aggregate number of guilty outcomes	Estimated conviction rate (%)
Possession of offensive weapon	401	25	332	357	89.03
Possession of ganja	204	25	132	157	76.96
Disorderly conduct	206	17	141	158	76.70
Littering	28	0	18	18	64.29
Resisting arrest	141	12	69	81	57.45
Simple larceny	156	2	34	36	23.08
Malicious destruction of property	424	6	58	64	15.09
Unlawful Wounding	609	12	54	66	10.84
Threat	415	11	32	43	10.36
Assault occasioning bodily harm	878	5	68	73	8.31

The above table shows the estimated conviction rate for the ten (10) leading charges across all parish courts in the first quarter of 2024. It is shown that possession of an offensive weapon had the highest estimated conviction rate on the list with 89.03%. Possession of ganja with 76.96% and disorderly conduct with 76.70% followed this. The top conviction rates on the list in the quarter is rounded off by littering with an estimated conviction rate of 64.29%. Possession of an offensive weapon recorded the highest estimated conviction rate in the corresponding first quarter of 2023 with 84.05%, followed by possession of ganja with an estimated conviction rate of 80.31%.

Parish Court	Average age of active charges (days)
Clarendon	50
Trelawny	46
Portland	40
St. Mary	39
Hanover	27
Westmoreland	32
St. Catherine	40
St. Ann	45
St. James	36
St. Thomas	48
Corporate Area Criminal	44
Manchester	37
Overall Average	40.33
Standard Deviation	6.73
Skewness	-0.49

 Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of the average age of active charges for each parish court for

 the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

The above table shows the average age of active charges originating in the first quarter of 2024, for charges originating in said quarter. The overall average age of active matters originating in the quarter was approximately 40 days or roughly 1.3 months, roughly the same average recorded in the first quarter of 2023. The parish courts of Hanover, Westmoreland and St. James have the lowest averages on the list. On the contrary, the highest averages were observed in the parish courts of Clarendon, St. Thomas, Trelawny, St Ann and Corporate Area Criminal. The standard deviation of the scores was, however, relatively low (7 days), an indication that the individual values for the parish courts were on average close to the overall mean. The negative skewness indicates that most of the individual times to disposition in the data set were clustered around the overall series average. There is an intuitive correlation between case 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 their 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, improving the efficiency of the courts and the enhancing the timely delivery of justice.

Parish Court	Average age of disposed charges (days)
Clarendon	28
Trelawny	27
Portland	35
St. Mary	35
Hanover	40
Westmoreland	20
St. Catherine	27
St. Ann	31
St. James	20
St. Thomas	34
Corporate Area Criminal	30
Manchester	26
Overall Average	29.42
Standard Deviation	6.04
Skewness	-0.05

 Table 13.0: Average age of charges disposed for matters originating in the first quarter ended

 March 31, 2024

The above table shows that the average time taken to dispose of criminal cases filed in the Parish Courts in the first quarter of 2024 is approximately 29 days. This is roughly 2 less days than the time taken to dispose of cases originating in the first quarter of 2023. 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 negative skewness, however, indicates that proportionately more of the scores of the individual times to disposition in the data set were close to the overall series average. The scores ranged from a low of roughly 20 days at the Westmoreland and St. James Parish Courts to a high of 40 days for the Hanover Parish Court.

March 31, 2	2024							
Parishes			Time inter	rval in days				
	0-89	90-179	180-269	270-364	365	548 days-	730 days	Sample
	days	days	days	days	days-547	729 days	and	size (n)
					days		over	
Corporate Area	15098	8762	5259	3577	3926	2178	3146	41946
Criminal	(36.0%)	(20.9%)	(12.5%)	(8.5%)	(9.4%)	(5.2%)	(7.5%)	(100%)
St. Catherine	7013	4740	2740	1652	1849	910	1871	20775
	(33.8%)	(22.8%)	(13.2%)	(8.0%)	(8.9%)	(4.4%)	(9.0%)	(100%)
St. James	5825	2978	1636	1252	1395	695	1326	15107
	(38.6%)	(19.7%)	(10.8%)	(8.3%)	(9.2%)	(4.6%)	(8.8%)	(100%)
Manchester	3568	2475	1730	1311	1581	990	1447	13102
	(27.2%)	(18.9%)	(13.2%)	(10.0%)	(12.1%)	(7.6%)	(11.0%)	(100%)
Westmoreland	6261	2044	1143	595	604	263	285	11195
	(55.9%)	(18.3%)	(10.2%)	(5.3%)	(5.4%)	(2.3%)	(2.5%)	(100%)
St. Ann	3322	2450	1505	1187	1557	883	1491	12395
	(26.8%)	(19.8%)	(12.1%)	9.6%	(12.6%)	(7.1%)	(12.0%)	(100%)
Clarendon	5411	2923	1548	965	1134	434	511	12926
	(41.9%)	(22.6%)	(12.0%)	(7.5%)	(8.8%)	(3.4%)	(4.0%)	(100%)
St. Thomas	2037	1575	904	759	723	355	627	6980
	(29.2%)	(22.6%)	(13.0%)	(10.9%)	(10.4%)	(5.1%)	(9.0%)	(100%)
Portland	3078	2042	946	622	649	346	357	8040
	(38.3%)	(25.4%)	(11.8%)	(7.7%)	(8.1%)	(4.3%)	(4.4%)	(100%)
St. Mary	3630	1712	1050	626	613	262	383	8276
	(43.9%)	(20.7%)	(12.7%)	(7.6%)	(7.4%)	(3.2%)	(4.6%)	(100%)
Trelawny	2232	1145	730	546	648	371	618	6290
	(35.5%)	(18.2%)	(11.6%)	(8.7%)	(10.3%)	(5.9%)	(9.8%)	(100%)
Hanover	3160	1313	605	347	269	149	163	6006
	(52.6%)	(21.9%)	(10.1%)	(5.8%)	(4.5%)	(2.5%)	(2.7%)	(100%)
% of Total	37.19	20.95	12.14	8.24	9.17	4.81	7.50	-
Average	5052.92	2846.58	1649.67	1119.92	1245.67	653.00	1018.75	13586.50
Standard	3550.82	2096.29	1274.17	864.83	979.08	558.36	875.79	9905.79
Deviation	3550.82	2030.23	12/4.1/	004.03	575.00	550.50	0/5./9	3303.73
Skewness	2.31	2.38	2.39	2.34	2.04	2.05	1.40	2.44

Table 14.0a: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition as at the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Number of charges sampled (N) = 163,038

Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the previous 7.6 years

The above table shows the breakdown of the times to disposition for matters filed in the respective parish courts for at least 91 consecutive months (7.6 years) over the period September

2016 to March 2024. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed in the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 37.19% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, Westmoreland and St. James are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed within 90 days. This trend is broadly similar to that seen over the past 24 months. Cumulatively, 78.52% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a continued positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in sustaining 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, St. Catherine and Manchester had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 7.50% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, St. Catherine 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 times taken do not vary dramatically across the courts. The difference, however, is the proportion of cases disposed, relative to the caseload, which as shown earlier, indicates that some courts are performing much better.

•	ded March	51, 2024						
Parishes				rval in days				
	0-89	90-179	180-269	270-364	365 days-	548 days-	730 days	Sample
	days	days	days	days	547 days	729 days	and over	size (n)
Corporate Area	480	186	99	46	58	119	185	1173
Criminal	(40.9%)	(15.9%)	(8.4%)	(3.9%)	(4.9%)	(10.1%)	(15.8%)	(100%)
St. Catherine	298	165	84	70	114	29	93	853
	(34.9%)	(19.3%)	(9.8%)	(8.2%)	(13.4%)	(3.4%)	(10.9%)	(100%)
St. James	173	68	36	10	12	12	13	324
	(53.4%)	(21.0%)	(11.1%)	(3.1%)	(3.7%)	(3.7%)	(4.0%)	(100%)
Manchester	87	61	23	19	12	17	23	242
	(36.0%)	(25.2%)	(9.5%)	(7.9%)	(5.0%)	(7.0%)	(9.5%)	(100%)
Westmoreland	158	60	17	9	9	3	5	261
	(60.5%)	(23.0%)	(6.5%)	(3.4%)	(3.4%)	(1.1%)	(1.9%)	(100%)
St. Ann	120	93	71	33	32	3	56	408
	(29.4%)	(22.8%)	(17.4%)	(8.1%)	(7.8%)	(0.7%)	(13.7%)	(100%)
Clarendon	173	79	59	43	22	13	32	421
	(41.1%)	(18.8%)	(14.0%)	(10.2%)	(5.2%)	(3.1%)	(7.6%)	(100%)
St. Thomas	64	71	36	13	8	5	14	211
	(30.3%)	(33.6%)	(17.1%)	(6.2%)	(3.8%)	(2.4%)	(6.6%)	(100%)
Portland	100	70	22	13	9	5	14	233
	(42.9%)	(30.0%)	(9.4%)	(5.6%)	(3.9%)	(2.1%)	(6.0%)	(100%)
St. Mary	68	59	30	15	18	4	13	207
	(32.9%)	(28.5%)	(14.5%)	(7.2%)	(8.7%)	(1.9%)	(6.3%)	(100%)
Trelawny	66	28	15	7	20	11	15	162
	(40.7%)	(17.3%)	(9.3%)	(4.3%)	(12.3%)	(6.8%)	(9.3%)	(100%)
Hanover	110	48	33	5	2	0	6	204
	(53.9%)	(23.5%)	(16.2%)	(2.5%)	(1.0%)	0	(2.9%)	(100%)
% of Total	40.37	21.03	11.17	6.02	6.72	4.70	9.98	-
Average	158.08	82.33	43.75	23.58	26.33	20.09	39.08	391.58
Standard	121.09	46.54	27.83	20.13	31.32	33.72	52.44	308.72
Deviation	121.09	40.54	21.03	20.13	51.52	55.72	52.44	300.72
Skewness	2.03	1.56	0.97	1.33	2.37	3.02	2.35	1.98

Table 14.0b: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition for matters completed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Number of charges sampled (N) = 4,699

The table above shows the breakdown of the time disposition for matters disposed parish courts in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed in the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 40.37% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Court -Criminal Division along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. James and Clarendon are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed under 90 days. Cumulatively, 78.59% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a 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, St. Catherine and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 9.98% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, St. Catherine and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters in the year 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.

Parishes				Time to d	isposition (d	ays)		
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Criminal	255.05	1	143	317.15	2.83	1	2973	41946
St. Catherine	276.55	28	147	368.96	2.82	1	2620	20775
St. James	266.15	66	132	345.26	2.58	1	2679	15107
Manchester	316.67	63	197	333.44	1.87	1	2647	13102
Westmoreland	145.92	28	74	189.68	2.63	1	1792	11195
St. Ann	327.91	63	198	358.55	1.99	1	2314	12395
Clarendon	196.95	63	112	236.15	2.82	1	2985	12926
St. Thomas	273.73	63	168	293.65	1.97	1	2686	6980
Portland	217.62	63	122	290.69	3.73	1	2620	8040
St. Mary	192.23	14	110	227.88	2.31	1	2080	8276
Trelawny	282.19	28	154	333.11	2.08	1	2366	6290
Hanover	150.42	35	82	194.33	2.78	1	1696	6006
Average/Weighted Average	250.17	42.92	136.58	290.74	2.53	1.00	2454.83	13586.50
Standard Deviation	60.49	23.11	39.66	63.57	0.53	0.00	418.67	9905.79
Skewness	-0.32	-0.49	0.08	-0.52	0.79	0.00	-0.68	2.44

Table 15.0a: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed as at the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Number of charges sampled (N) = 163,038

Note 1: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the previous 7.6 years.

Note 2: The average time to disposition for the Browns Town Outstation in St. Ann as at March 31, 2024 is 324.11 days

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a large sample of matters disposed for each parish court as at March 31, 2024. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 91-month period over September 2016 – March 2024 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 250 days (8.3 months). The skewness of these times

to disposition is a low negative 0.32, suggesting a cluster of scores around the overall mean. For matters disposed of in the period, the parish courts of Westmoreland (146 days), Hanover (150 days) and St. Mary (192 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of St. Ann (328 days), Manchester (317 days) and Trelawny (282 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, wide as shown by the moderately high standard deviation (60.49), suggesting 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 1696 days (56.5 months/4.7 years) in the Hanover parish court to a high of 2985 days (99.5 months/8.3 years) in the Clarendon Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a negative 0.68, which is an indication that most of the maximum times to disposition were clustered around the overall series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial 163,038 matters.

Parishes		Time to disposition (days)				/s)		
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area								
Criminal	359.14	67	148	520.49	2.83	1	2973	1173
St. Catherine	303.94	1	155	392.02	2.48	1	2620	853
St. James	160.06	14	78	248.47	3.68	1	1942	324
Manchester	304.22	28	119.50	458.34	2.68	4	2080	242
Westmoreland	114.35	28	56	181.32	4.72	2	1751	261
St. Ann	295.83	28	163	383.33	2.43	1	2252	408
Clarendon	237.99	14	119	343.94	3.79	3	2985	421
St. Thomas	236.91	42	127	375.45	4.04	7	2686	211
Portland	239.12	35	98	470.81	3.95	3	2590	233
St. Mary	206.96	42	140	210.73	1.87	7	1129	207
Trelawny	285.23	7	119	411.44	2.78	2	2273	162
Hanover	132.96	217	76	196.60	4.49	2	1232	204
Average/Weighted Average	272.11	43.58	116.54	349.41	3.31	2.83	2209.42	391.58
Standard Deviation	75.26	57.47	33.64	114.58	0.91	2.17	614.38	308.72
Skewness	-0.31	2.90	-0.43	-0.26	0.07	1.28	-0.55	1.98

Table 15.0b: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for matters completed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Number of charges sampled (N) = 4,699

Note: The average time to disposition for the Browns Town Outstation in St. Ann in the quarter ended March 31, 2024 is 229.76 days

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court in the quarter ended March 31, 2024. The output produces an estimated weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Criminal Division) of approximately 272 days or 9.1 months. The skewness of these times to disposition is a negative 0.31, suggesting that a large proportion of these times were clustered the overall mean. For matters disposed of in the quarter, the parish courts of Westmoreland (114 days), Hanover (133 days) and St. James (160 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases in the quarter. The parish courts of the Corporate Area-Criminal Division (359 days), Manchester (304 days) and St. Catherine (304

days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters resolved during the quarter. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is, however, wide as shown by the moderately high standard deviation (75.26), suggesting inconsistencies in performances on this measure. The average minimum time taken to dispose of matters across half of the parish courts was 2.83 days; 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 1129 days (37.6 months/3.1 years) in the St. Mary parish court to a high of 2985 days (99.5 months/8.3 years) in the Clarendon Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a positive 0.55, which is an indication that proportionately more of the maximum times to compute these descriptive data was a substantial 4,699 matters cases which were resolved during the first quarter of 2024.

Parish Court	Net case backlog rate (%)	Gross case backlog rate (%)
Clarendon	0.31	11.59
Corporate area	4.41	24.68
Hanover	0.07	4.59
Manchester	2.14	16.48
Portland	1.22	8.60
St. Ann	2.77	24.30
St. Catherine	0.48	10.81
St. James	0.86	12.96
St. Mary	0.23	10.27
St. Thomas	2.17	9.59
Trelawny	1.15	10.82
Westmoreland	0.03	8.26
Weighted Average	2.27	16.97
Standard Deviation	1.33	6.17

15.0c: Net and gross criminal case backlog as at the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Note: The net backlog for the Browns Town Outstation in St. Ann for the first quarter of 2024 is 8.56% and the gross backlog is 30.47%.

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, revealing a net case backlog rate (weighted average) in

the criminal division of the parish courts is 2.27% (with a standard deviation of 1.33%) which is satisfies than the international standard. The estimated gross case backlog rate also stands at 16.97% (with a standard deviation of 6.17%), an indication that there are a large number of inactive unresolved criminal cases in the parish courts. This rate is 6.97 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. The sample set is large and representative of the current direction of the court system. The parish courts of Westmoreland and Hanover with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.03% and 0.07% respectively and St. Mary with an estimated net case backlog rate of 0.23% have the lowest (best) estimated net case backlog rate in the time series, while the parish courts Corporate Area Criminal (4.41%), St. Ann (2.77%) and St. Thomas (2.17%) have the highest rates. As for the estimated gross backlog rate, the parish courts of Hanover (4.59%), Westmoreland (8.26%) and Portland (8.60%) have the lowest (best) estimated gross backlog rates in the series, while the parish courts of Corporate Area Criminal Court (24.68%), St. Ann (24.30%) and Manchester (16.48%) 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 Disposition	Frequency	Percentage	
Not guilty	354	33.49	
Dismissed	342	32.36	
Not Guilty Plea - Mediated			
Settlement	137	12.96	
Guilty Plea	130	12.30	
Guilty	75	7.10	
Committed to Circuit	11	1.04	
Transferred	7	0.66	
Withdrawn	1	0.09	
Total	1057	100.00	

Table 16.0c: Distribution of methods of disposition for matters set for trial during the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

The above table summarizes the common methods of disposition for a sample of cases proceeding to trial. It is seen that matters disposed by not guilty verdicts with 33.49% of the cases disposed, matters dismissed with 342 or 32.36% and disposals by way of mediated settlements with 137 or 12.96% account for the three leading methods of disposition in the sample for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024.

Methods of Disposal and Conviction Rate

Parish Court	Guilty Plea	Dismissed	Not Guilty Verdict	Transferred	Mediated Settlement	Guilty Verdict	Committed to Circuit Court	Total
St. Catherine	277	333	36	193	375	14	80	1308
Corporate Area Criminal	743	526	100	25	106	15	123	1638
Westmoreland	182	78	99	7	82	1	36	485
St. James	234	1	274	35	6	50	47	647
Manchester	-	69	67	-	54	91	47	328
Clarendon	386	65	73	44	89	13	35	705
Trelawny	66	104	43	-	13	4	31	261
Hanover	42	13	117	10	11	7	72	272
Portland	31	-	75	-	45	3	23	177
St. Mary	-	104	37	-	32	50	29	252
St. Thomas	89	8	49	35	52	8	42	283
St. Ann	209	40	208	67	37	2	9	572
Total	2259	1341	1178	416	902	258	574	6928
Percentage of total	32.61	19.36	17.00	6.00	13.02	3.72	8.29	-

 Table 17.0: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposition for the first quarter ended

 March 31, 2024

Total sample size: 6,928

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts for the first quarter of 2024. 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 32.61% of the sample, followed by matters dismissed with 19.36% and not guilty verdicts with 17%. Mediated settlements with 13.02%, matters committed to Circuit Court with 8.29%, matters transferred to another court with 6 % and guilty verdicts with 3.72% account for the remaining disposals in the quarter. The combined 36.33% 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 an increase of 2.10 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2023.

Common Reasons for Adjournment

Table 18.01: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment
for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Reasons for Adjournment	Count	Percentage (%)
File to be completed	1446	12.70
Defendant Not Appearing (DNA) warrant		
issued	1274	11.19
Disclosure	1260	11.07
Referred to Mediation	609	5.35
Adjournment request - crown	428	3.76
Re-issue application	321	2.82
Facilitate restitution	238	2.09
Medical report unavailable	225	1.98
Subpoena investigating officer	193	1.70
Subpoena crown witness	175	1.54
Sub-total	6169	54.19

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance =11,385)

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 11,385 reasons for adjournments/continuance for matters heard in the across all parish courts. The largest proportion (12.70%) was for files to be completed. Adjournments due to the nonappearance of the accused, leading to the issuing of warrants with 11.19% and adjournments for disclosure with 11.07% account for the top three reasons for adjournment across the parish courts for the quarter. Adjournments due to referrals to mediation with 5.35% and adjournment request by the crown with 3.76%, round of the top five reasons for adjournment in this period. Four (4) of the top five reasons for adjournment were also featured in the top five for the first quarter of 2023. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above account for 54.19% 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 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 2024, the case file integrity rate for criminal matters across the parish courts was 86.60%, as 13.40% 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 12.70% 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.

Parish Court	Average number of mentions per case	Standard Deviation of Mentions Per Case	Skewness of mentions per case	Maximum Mention Court Frequency	Minimum Mention Court Frequency
Clarendon	3.75	3.14	2.05	22	1
Corporate Area	7.00	8.33	2.63	92	1
Hanover	2.44	2.02	2.15	11	1
Manchester	3.29	2.99	3.54	33	1
Portland	4.28	3.74	1.97	24	1
St. Ann	3.23	2.98	4.27	28	1
St. Catherine	3.62	3.53	2.16	30	1
St. James	1.47	1.28	5.74	16	1
St. Mary	4.17	3.27	1.65	23	1
St. Thomas	3.29	4.01	4.91	40	1
Trelawny	2.90	2.46	2.16	17	1
Westmoreland	5.33	7.21	2.50	37	1
Weighted Average	5.23	-	-	31.08	1.00
Standard Deviation	1.41	-	-	21.03	0.00
Skewness	0.96	-	-	2.47	0.00

 Table 18.2: Summary of mention court activity for matters heard in the first quarter ended

 March 31, 2024

The above table summarises the number of mention court appearances per case leading towards disposition in the criminal division of the parish courts for matters heard in the first quarter of 2024. The overall average number of mention court appearances per case is 5.23 (i.e. between 5 and 6) with a standard deviation of 1.41 across the courts sampled and a skewness of 0.96. Together, these results suggest that the average number of appearances per case is above the prescribed international standard of a maximum of 5 mentions per case, that a larger proportion of cases have less than the overall average number of appearances and that there isn't on average a wide variation in the number of appearances per case for matters heard in the first quarter of 2024 are the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, the Westmoreland and the Portland Parish Courts, while the St. James, Hanover and Trelawny Parish Courts were among

those with the lowest case appearance incidence per case. In terms of cases disposed, the average mention court appearance for all cases resolved across all the parish courts combined in the first guarter of 2024 was 4 with a standard deviation of 0.89.

Chapter 2.0: Case Demographics and Courtroom Activity

This chapter examines case demographics including age and gender distribution of offenders 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 guarter by the respective courtrooms and outstations in each parish.

·	Male		Female		Total	
Charge	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Assault occasioning bodily harm	809	73.55	291	26.45	1100	100
Unlawful Wounding	580	77.03	173	22.97	753	100
Malicious destruction of property	357	76.77	108	23.23	465	100
Possession of offensive weapon	430	92.67	34	7.33	464	100
Threat	344	76.44	106	23.56	450	100
Littering	390	96.30	15	3.70	405	100
Disorderly conduct	202	72.92	75	27.08	277	100
Simple larceny	128	54.24	108	45.76	236	100
Possession of ganja	168	75.68	54	24.32	222	100
Resisting arrest	156	75.73	50	24.27	206	100

Table 19.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

***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) = 4,578

The above table provides a sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024. 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

charges listed with the greatest imbalance in the gender distribution are resisting arrest, threat, threat, malicious destruction of property, and unlawful for which over 75% of the persons charged were male. More particularly, is seen that littering with 92.67% and possession of offensive weapon with 96.30% of the persons charged being male had the most significant incidence of persons charged being male for the quarter. Simple larceny, disorderly conduct, and assault occasioning bodily harm act saw the highest incidence of female involvement.

The below series of tables provide a sampling distribution of cases by assigned courtroom in the individual parish courts in the first quarter of 2024. These figures are derived from representative datasets 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.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in Q1 2024	Number of new cases disposed of in Q1 2024	Number of inactive cases in Q1 2024	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	313	170	15	68.79	59.11
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	1	0	0	0.22	0.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	39	4	3	8.57	17.95
Whithorn Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	6	2	0	1.32	33.33
Whithorn Outstation	96	66	3	21.10	71.88
Total/Weighted Average	455	242	21	100.00	57.80

Table 20.01: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish ofWestmoreland for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

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 2024 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 cases heard in each of the relevant locations for ease of comparison. The data shows decisively that cases entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse and sittings at the Whithorn Outstation account for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 313 (68.79%) and 96 (21.10%) cases respectively. Sittings at the Lay Magistrates' court at the main courthouse with 39 cases or 8.57% rank next. The number of cases heard in courtroom one (313 cases), increased by 46 cases or 17.23% above the 267 cases recorded in the similar first quarter of 2023. The case disposal rate decreased by 21.79 percentage points moving down to 59.11% compared to the 80.90% reported in the first guarter of 2023. In terms of cases disposed of, sittings in courtroom number 1 with 170 cases accounted for the highest absolute share of cases disposed of and had the second highest disposal rate of 59.11%. The outstation in Whithorn ranked next with 66 disposed cases and recorded the highest disposal rate of 71.88%, which is 15.36 percentage points above the 56.52% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023. The single outstation in Westmoreland accounted for 22.42% of the total sample of new cases heard, an increase of 6.04 percentage points when compared to the 16.38% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023. The main courthouse accounted for the remaining 77.58%, a decrease of 6.04 percentage points when compared to the 83.62% recorded in 2023.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in Q1 2024	Number of new cases disposed of in Q1 2024	Number of inactive cases in Q1 2024	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	1314	398	425	86.33	62.63
Courtroom #6 (main courthouse)	42	1	3	2.76	9.52
Courtroom #7 (main courthouse)	47	1	0	3.09	2.13
Gordon Town Outstation	13	3	1	0.85	30.77
Gun Court	28	4	1	1.84	17.86
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	78	36	14	5.12	64.10
Total/Weighted Average	1522	443	444	100.00	58.28

Table 22.02: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Corporate Areafor the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

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 the movement of cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024 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 majority of new cases filed in the quarter with 1,314 cases or 86.33% of the total sample. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with 78 cases or roughly 5.12% follows this and courtroom number 7 with 47 cases or 3.09%, 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 of in the first quarter of 2024 with 398 cases and the second highest disposal rate of 62.63%. When compared to the corresponding first quarter of 2023, courtroom number two also accounted for the largest absolute share of cases disposed of with 257 cases and had a disposal rate of 52.65%. This represents an increase of 141 cases disposed of or a 54.86% increase and 9.98 percentage points increase in the disposal rate. The main courthouse in Half-Way-Tree accounted for 99.15% of the total sample of new cases heard in the first guarter of 2024.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 1314 cases heard in courtroom two, 19 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms. Fifteen (15) cases were disposed of at Fast Track court, three (3) cases were disposed of at courtroom 6 at the main courthouse and one (1) was disposed of at courtroom 5 at the main courthouse.

Table 20.03: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. James for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in Q1 2024	Number of new cases disposed of in Q1 2024	Number of inactive cases in Q1 2024	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	1	1	0	0.20	100.00
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	460	273	37	90.02	67.39
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	12	9	2	2.35	91.67
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	1	1	0	0.20	100.00
Cambridge Outstation	37	29	4	7.24	89.19
Total/Weighted Average	511	313	43	100.00	69.67

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, 2023, 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. The sample shows that courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse in Montego Bay accounts for the majority of new cases heard with 460 cases or 90.02% of the total sample, a decrease of 3 cases or an 0.65% decline below the 463 cases recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023. This was followed by the Cambridge Outstation with 37 cases or 7.24% of the total sample. Courtroom number 4 and 1 at the main courthouse jointly had the highest disposal rate of 100% each, despite the relatively low numbers, followed by courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse with a disposal rate of 91.67%. The main courthouse in Montego Bay accounts for 92.76% of the new cases heard in the first quarter of 2024, 1.77 percentage points below the 94.53% recorded in corresponding first quarter of 2023. The remaining 7.24% was accounted for by the sole outstation (Cambridge).

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in Q1 2024	Number of new cases disposed of in Q1 2024	Number of inactive cases in Q1 2024	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	389	163	26	48.93	48.59
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	85	21	10	10.69	36.47
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	1	0	0	0.13	0.00
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	1	1	0	0.13	100.00
Courtroom #5 (main courthouse)	1	0	0	0.13	0.00
Children's Court Portmore Outstation	21	4	0	2.64	19.05
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	33	10	1	4.15	33.33
Linstead Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	17	10	0	2.14	58.82
Linstead Outstation (Courtroom #1)	137	61	5	17.23	48.18
Linstead Outstation (Courtroom #2)	2	2	0	0.25	100.00
Old Harbour Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	4	1	0	0.50	25.00
Old Harbour Outstation (Courtroom #1)	104	54	22	13.08	73.08
Total/ Weighted Average	795	327	64	100.00	49.18

Table 20.04: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Catherine for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

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, 2024 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 cases entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse in Spanish Town and courtroom 1 at the outstation in Linstead account for the largest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 48.93% and 17.23% of the cases respectively. Courtroom 1 at the outstation in Old Harbour with 13.08% of new cases filed ranks next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 163 cases, which is an increase of 20.74% or 28 more cases than the 135 cases recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023. Courtroom 1 also had the fifth highest disposal rate of 48.59%, which is an increase of 5.41 percentage points above the 43.18% recorded in the comparable first quarter of 2023. Courtroom 2 at outstation in Linstead and Courtroom 4 at the main courthouse jointly had the highest disposal rate of 100%, despite their proportionally low numbers, followed by courtroom 1 at the Old Harbour Outstation with a disposal rate of 73.08%. The main courthouse in Spanish Town accounts for 64.16% of the total sample of new cases heard in the first quarter of 2024, an increase of 7.92 percentage points above the 56.24% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023. The outstations combined accounted for the remaining 35.84%.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 389 cases heard in courtroom number one at the main courthouse, 12 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Courtroom 2 disposed of 5 cases, while courtroom 3 at the main courthouse disposed of 4 cases, courtroom 5 at the main courthouse disposed of 2 cases and courtroom 4 disposed of 1 case.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in Q1 2024	Number of new cases disposed of in Q1 2024	Number of inactive cases in Q1 2024	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main courthouse)	7	1	0	5.34	14.29
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	58	35	3	44.27	65.52
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	31	20	4	23.66	77.42
Yallahs Outstation	30	6	2	22.90	26.67
Yallahs Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	5	1	2	3.82	60.00
Total/Weighted Average	131	63	11	100.00	56.49

20.05: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Thomas for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

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, 2024 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The data shows decisively that cases entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse account for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 44.27% and 23.66% respectively. Courtroom number 1 also accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed of with 35 cases and the second highest disposal rate of 65.52%. When compared to the corresponding first quarter of 2023, this represents a decrease of 1.15 percentage points below the disposal rate of 66.67% recorded. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse with a disposal rate of 77.42% (compared to 67.39% in 2023) accounts for the highest disposal rate in the quarter. The main courthouse in Morant Bay accounted for 73.27% of the total new cases heard in the quarter, which is an increase of 12.53 percentage points when compared to the 60.74% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023. The remaining 26.73% was accounted for by the Yallahs outstation, a decrease of 12.53 percentage points when compared

to the 39.26% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in Q1 2024	Number of new cases disposed of in Q1 2024	Number of inactive cases in Q1 2024	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	5	3	0	1.94	60.00
Falmouth Outstation	69	26	2	26.74	40.58
Falmouth Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	5	3	0	1.94	60.00
Ulster Spring Outstation	53	19	5	20.54	45.28
Ulster Spring Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	5	3	0	1.94	60.00
Clarks Town Outstation (courtroom #1)	120	37	3	46.51	33.33
Clarks town Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	1	1	0	0.39	100.00
Total/Weighted Average	258	92	10	100.00	39.53

 Table 20.06: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of

 Trelawny for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

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, 2024 at the Trelawny Parish Court. The data shows decisively that cases entered in courtroom 1 at the Clarks Town Outstation accounts for the highest proportion of new cases heard in the quarter with 46.51%. The Falmouth Town Outstation and the Ulster Spring Outstation with 26.74% and 20.54% respectively, followed. Courtroom 1 at the Clarks Town Outstation recorded a disposal rate of 33.33% and the Falmouth outstation and Ulster Spring outstation had disposal rates of 40.58% and 45.28% respectively. The outstations in the parish account for 98.06% of the new cases heard in the first quarter of 2024, while the remaining 1.94% were accounted for by the main courthouse. In the corresponding first quarter of 2023, the main courthouse accounted for 5.29% of the new cases heard, while the remaining 94.71% were

accounted for by the outstations.

Table 20.07: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St.	
Mary for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024	

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in Q1 2024	Number of new cases disposed of in Q1 2024	Number of inactive cases in Q1 2024	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main courthouse)	6	0	0	2.99	0.00
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	105	34	3	52.24	35.24
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	1	0	0	0.50	0.00
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	2	0	0	1.00	0.00
Lay Magistrates' (main courthouse)	17	8	0	8.46	47.06
Annotto Bay Outstation	27	5	1	13.43	22.22
Annotto Bay Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	3	0	0	1.49	0.00
Gayle Outstation	12	5	0	5.97	41.67
Richmond Outstation	24	8	1	11.94	37.50
Richmond Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	4	0	0	1.99	0.00
Total/Weighted Average	201	60	5	100.00	32.34

Note 1: There was 1 missing courtroom/Outstation entry 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 2024. 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 52.24% and 13.43% respectively of the total sample. Sittings at the Richmond outstation with 11.94% and Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with 8.46% rank next. In terms of cases disposed of, courtroom number 1 in Port Maria accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 34 cases, roughly 4 less number of cases or a 10.53% decline when compared to the corresponding first quarter of 2023 and had a case disposal rate of 35.24%. The lay Magistrates' court at the main courthouse had the highest disposal rate of 47.06%, followed by the Gayle Outstation with a disposal rate of 41.67%. The outstations in the parish account for a combined 34.82% of the total sample of new cases heard in the first quarter of 2024, a decrease of 6 percentage points below the 40.82% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023. On the other hand, the main courthouse accounts for 65.18%, which is an increase of 6 percentage point above the 59.18% recorded in 2023.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 105 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, 1 case was disposed of in courtroom 3 at the main courthouse.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in Q1 2024	Number of new cases disposed of in Q1 2024	Number of inactive cases in Q1 2024	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	120	41	5	52.86	38.33
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	1	0	0	0.44	0.00
Buff Bay Outstation (courtroom #1)	56	26	1	24.67	48.21
Buff Bay Outstation (courtroom #2)	1	0	0	0.44	0.00
Buff Bay Outstation (Children's Court)	9	1	0	3.96	11.11
Manchioneal Outstation	40	20	1	17.62	52.50
Total/Weighted Average	227	88	7	100.00	41.85

Table 20.08: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish ofPortland for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Note 1: There were 57 missing courtroom/Outstation entry 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 Portland in the first quarter of 2024. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the main court in Port Antonio accounts for the majority of new cases heard in the period, with 52.86% of the total sample. In the first quarter of 2023, courtroom one also accounted for the majority of new cases heard with 56.54% of the cases. Courtroom number 1 at the outstation in Buff Bay and Manchioneal outstation with 24.67% (compared to 25.23% in 2023) and 17.62% (compared to 11.68% in 2023) respectively of the total sample of the new cases heard in the period ranked next. In terms of cases disposed of, courtroom number 1 in Port Antonio accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 41 cases, a 25.45% decrease or 14 less cases compared to the 55 cases recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023; and had the third highest disposal rate of 38.33%. The Manchioneal outstation and courtroom number one at the Buff Bay Outstation with disposal rates of 52.50% and 48.21% respectively ranked first and second on this measure. The outstations in Portland account for a combined 46.25% of the new cases heard, which is an increase of 6.06 percentage points above the 40.19% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023. The main courthouse in Port Antonio accounts for the remaining 53.75%, which is a decrease of 6.06 percentage above the 59.81% recorded in the first quarter of 2023.

Table 20.09: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Hanover for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in Q1 2024	Number of new cases disposed of in Q1 2024	Number of inactive cases in Q1 2024	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	64	42	5	40.00	73.44
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	9	4	0	5.63	44.44
Green Island Outstation (courtroom #1)	25	18	0	15.63	72.00
Green Island Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	6	2	0	3.75	33.33
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	10	5	1	6.25	60.00
Ramble Outstation (courtroom #1)	13	11	1	8.13	92.31
Ramble Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	3	2	0	1.88	66.67
Sandy Bay Outstation (courtroom #1)	18	14	0	11.25	77.78
Sandy Bay Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	12	3	0	7.50	25.00
Total/ Weighted Average	160	101	7	100.00	67.50

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 Hanover in the first quarter of 2024. The data shows decisively that courtroom number one at the courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 40% of the total sample and is 6.96 percentage points above the 33.04% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023. Courtroom one at the Green Island outstation and courtroom one at the Sandy Bay Outstation with 15.63% and 11.25% respectively rank next. In terms of cases disposed of, courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed of with 42 cases, a 27.59% decline or 16 less cases than the 58 cases recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2023. Courtroom 1 at the main courthouse also recorded the third highest case disposal rate of 73.44%, which is a decrease of 6.29 percentage points below the

79.73% reported in the comparative first quarter of 2023. Despite the relatively low absolute numbers, courtroom 1 at the outstation in Ramble recorded the highest disposal rate of 92.31%. The outstations in the parish account for 48.14% of the new cases heard during the quarter, which is a decrease of 4.54 percentage points below the 52.68% in the first quarter of 2023. The main courthouse accounts for the remaining 51.86%, which is an increase of 4.54 percentage points above the 47.32% when compared to 2023.

Table 20.10: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Ann for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in Q1 2024	Number of new cases disposed of in Q1 2024	Number of inactive cases in Q1 2024	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
St. Ann's Bay and the Claremont					
outstation					
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	40	7	1	25.97	20.00
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	4	0	3	2.60	75.00
Claremont Outstation (Children's Court)	3	1	0	1.95	33.33
Claremont Outstation	22	12	0	14.29	54.55
Claremont Outstation (Lay Magistrates' court)	2	0	0	1.30	0.00
Brown's Town					
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	64	20	2	41.56	34.38
Children's Court (main courthouse)	5	1	0	3.25	20.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	14	0	2	9.09	14.29
Total/ Weighted Average	154	41	8	100.00	31.82

Note 1: There were 562 missing courtroom/Outstation entry 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. Ann in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024. The data shows that courtroom 1 in the Brown's Town Outstation and courtroom 1 in St. Ann's Bay (the main courthouse) account for the largest shares of new cases heard in the quarter with 41.56% and 25.97% respectively of the total sample. When compared to the first quarter of 2023, the data shows that courtroom 1 in St. Ann's Bay (main courthouse) and Brown's Town were also among the top three largest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 9.43% and 24.57% respectively of the total sample. In terms of cases disposed of, courtroom 1 at the Brown's Town Outstation accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed of with 20

cases and had a disposal rate of 34.38%. Courtroom 2 at the main courthouse and the Claremont outstation with disposal rates of 75% and 54.55% respectively account the highest disposal rates for the quarter. As a whole, the Brown's Town court accounted for approximately 53.90% of the new cases filed in the parish of St. Ann in the first quarter of 2024, which is 24.75 percentage points above the 29.15% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2024. The St. Ann's Bay courthouse accounts for 28.57% of the new cases heard in the quarter and the Claremont outstation accounted for the remaining 17.53% of new cases.

 Table 20.11: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of

 Clarendon for first quarter ended March 31, 2024

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in Q1 2024	Number of new cases disposed of in Q1 2024	Number of inactive cases in Q1 2024	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	220	149	22	44.81	77.73
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	63	27	1	12.83	44.44
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	39	27	0	7.94	69.23
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	28	8	7	5.70	53.57
Lionel Town Outstation	86	44	2	17.52	53.49
Chapleton Outstation	38	15	2	7.74	44.74
Frankfield Outstation	17	5	2	3.46	41.18
Total/Weighted Average	491	275	36	100.00	63.34

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, 2024. The available data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 in May Pen accounted for highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 44.81% of the total sample. The Lionel Town outstation and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse and account for the next

highest shares of new cases heard in the quarter with 17.52% and 12.83% respectively of the total sample. In terms of cases disposed of, courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 149 cases, an increase of 30.70% or 35 cases more than the 114 disposed cases recorded for this courtroom in the first quarter of 2023 and had the highest disposal rate of 77.73%. Courtroom 3 at the main courthouse with a disposal rate of 69.23% had the second highest disposal rate and Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with a disposal rate of 53.57% was featured among the top 3. The main courthouse in May Pen accounted for 71.28% of cases heard in quarter, while the remaining 28.72% was accounted for by the outstations, which is a decrease of 6.42 percentage points less than the 35.14% recorded in 2023.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. There were 220 new cases heard courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, of this amount, 3 cases each were disposed of in courtroom 2 at the main courthouse and at night court.

Table 20.12: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Manchester for the first guarter ended March 31, 2024

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in Q1 2024	Number of new cases disposed of in Q1 2024	Number of inactive cases in Q1 2024	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	49	25	0	24.75	51.02
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	26	9	1	13.13	38.46
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	13	2	0	6.57	15.38
Cottage Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	1	0	0	0.51	0.00
Christiana Outstation	13	2	0	6.57	15.38
Christiana Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	3	2	0	1.52	66.67
Spalding Outstation	14	5	1	7.07	42.86
Porus Outstation	7	2	0	3.54	28.57
Cross Keys Outstation	7	3	0	3.54	42.86
Cross Keys Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	1	0	0	0.51	0.00
Tax Court	5	0	0	2.53	0.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	59	26	6	29.80	54.24
Total/Weighted Average	198	76	8	100.00	42.42

Note 1: There were 246 missing courtroom/Outstation entry 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 Manchester in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024. The data shows Lay Magistrate's sittings at the main courthouse accounted for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 59 cases or 29.80% of the total sample. Courtroom 1 at the main courthouse and courtroom 2 at the main courthouse account for the next highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 24.75% and 13.13% respectively of the total sample. In terms of case disposal rate, Lay Magistrates' sittings at the Christiana outstation recorded the highest disposal rate of 66.67%, despite its proportionally low numbers, followed by Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with 54.24% and courtroom 1 at the main

courthouse with 51.02%. The main courthouse in Mandeville accounts for 76.78% of the total sample of new cases heard during the first quarter of 2024, which is an increase of 21.35 percentage point when compared to the 55.43% recorded in the first quarter of 2023. The remaining 23.22% was accounted for by the various outstations.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 49 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, courtroom 3 at the main courthouse and the Cross Keys outstation disposed of 1 case each.

Parish	Main Court Q1 2024 (%)	Outstation Q1 2024 (%)
St. James	92.76	7.24
St. Catherine	64.16	35.84
Westmoreland	77.58	22.42
Hanover	51.86	48.14
St. Mary	65.18	34.82
Trelawny	1.94	98.06
St. Thomas	73.27	26.73
Manchester	76.78	23.22
Portland	53.75	46.25
St. Ann	28.57	71.43
Clarendon	71.28	28.72
Corporate Area	99.15	0.85
Simple Averages	63.02	36.98

 Table 20.13: proportion of cases heard at the main court and outstation across all parish courts

 for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

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 63.02% of new cases filed were entered for initial hearing in the main courthouse locations, while 36.98% 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), St. James, Westmoreland and Manchester, in excess of 75% 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 99.15% 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. Trelawny is a good example of courts with significant outstation usage, registering over 90% for initial hearing of new criminal cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2024. 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.

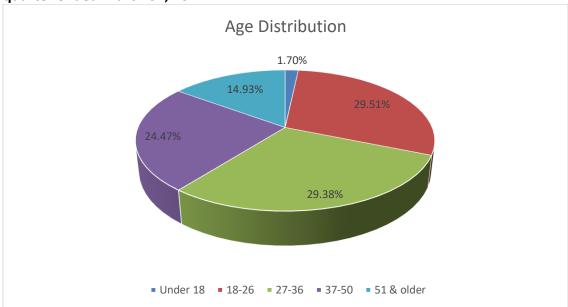


Chart 4.0: Aggregate age distribution of persons charged for all parish courts for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

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 2024. It is shown that the 18-26 age group with 29.51% accounted for the largest share of the persons charged, followed by the 27-36 age group with 29.38%. The lowest shares were attributed to the under 18 age group with 1.70% and 51 and over age group with 14.93%. The remaining proportion was accounted for by the 37-50 age group with 24.47% of the total sample.

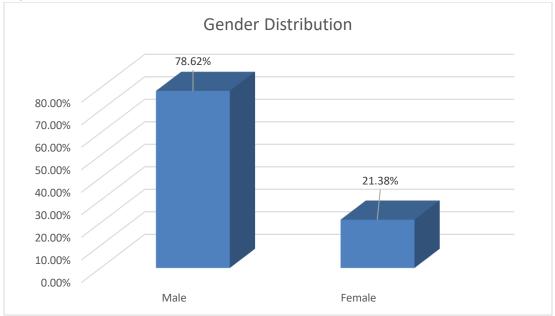


Chart 5.0: Aggregate gender distribution of persons charged for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

The above chart shows that the overwhelming majority of persons charged for the first quarter of 2024 were male, accounting for roughly 78.62% of the total sample, while females accounted for approximately 21.38%. The gender distribution of persons charged during the first quarter of 2024 was broadly similar to the breakdown for the first quarter of 2023 which had a male to female ratio of approximately 78.85% to 21.15%.

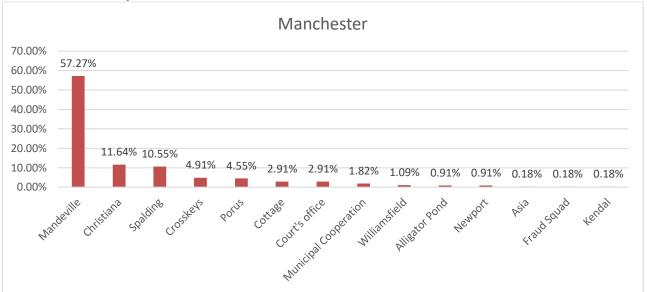
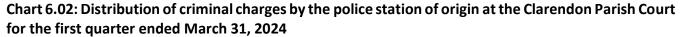
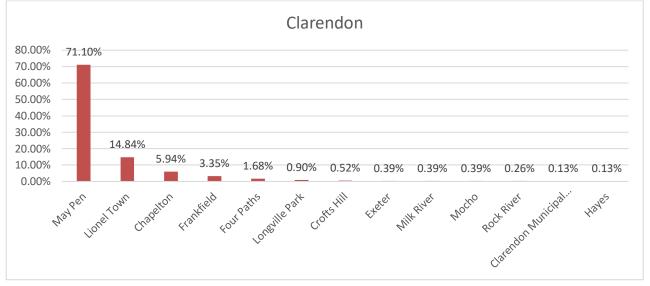


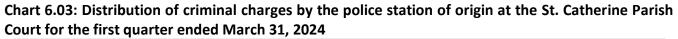
Chart 6.01: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Manchester Parish Court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

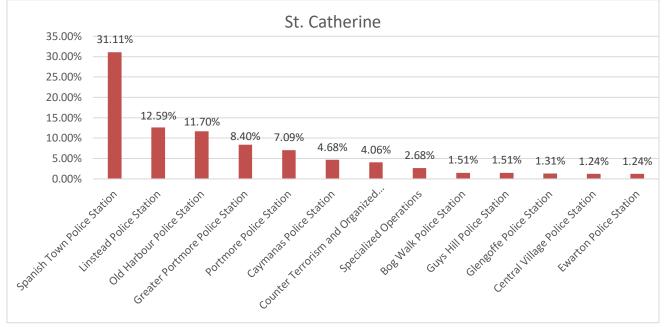
The above chart shows the distribution of charges at the Manchester Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 550 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2024 the majority of charges, 57.27%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Mandeville Police Station. This was followed by the Christiana Police Station, which accounts for 11.64% of the total sample of matters reported. The Spalding police station rounded off the top three with 10.55%. In the corresponding first quarter of 2023, the top three comprised of the Mandeville Police Station, the Christiana Police Station, and the Municipal Corporation.





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 775 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2024, the majority of criminal matters, 71.10%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the May Pen Police Station. This was followed by the Lionel Town Police Station which accounts for 14.84% of the total sample matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Chapelton Police Station with 5.94%. In the previous first quarter of 2023, the top three comprised of the May Pen Police Town and the Chapleton Police Station.





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 1,453 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2024, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 31.11%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Spanish Town Police Station. This was followed by the Linstead Police Station which accounts for 12.59% of the total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Old Harbour Police Station with 11.70%. In the previous first quarter of 2023, the top three comprised of the Spanish Town Police Station, the Linstead and the Old Harbour Police Stations. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

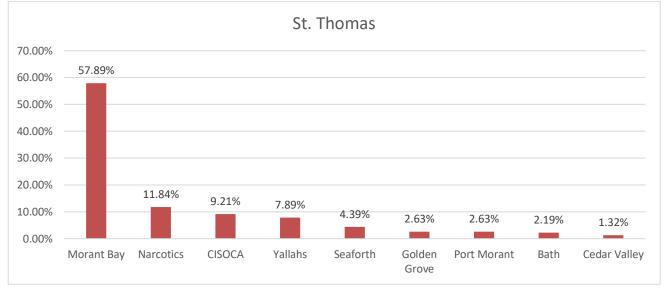
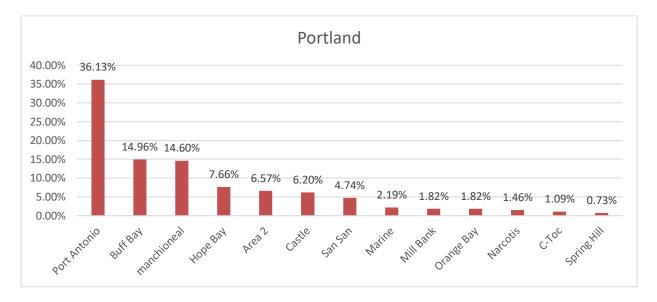


Chart 6.04: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Thomas Parish Court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 228 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2024, the majority of criminal matters, 57.89%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Morant Bay Police Station. This was followed by the Narcotics Police which accounts for 11.84% of the total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by CISOCA with 9.21%. In the previous first quarter of 2023, the top three comprised of the Morant Bay Police Station, the Yallahs Police Station and the Bath Police Station.

Chart 6.05: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Portland Parish Court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024



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 274 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2024, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 36.13%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Port Antonio Police Station. This was followed by the Buff Bay Police Station, which accounts for 14.96% of the total sample matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Manchioneal Police Station with 14.60%. In the previous first quarter of 2023, the top three comprised of the Port Antonio Police Station, the Buff Bay Police Station and the San Police Station.

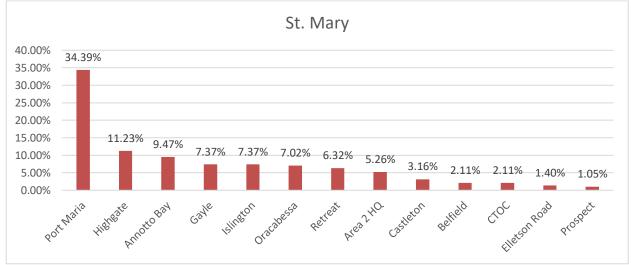
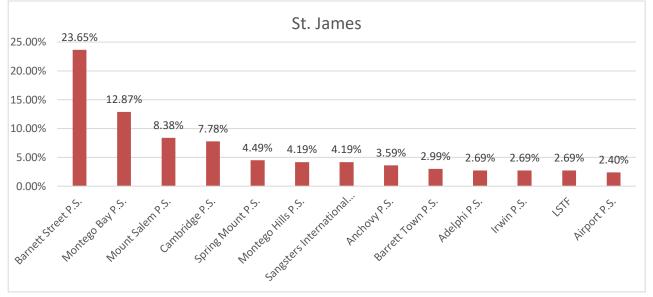
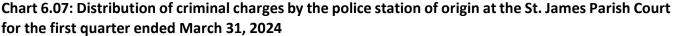


Chart 6.06: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Mary Parish Court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

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 285 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2024, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 34.39%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Port Maria Police Station. This was followed by the Highgate Police Station which accounts for 11.23% of the total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Annotto Bay Police Station with 9.47%. In the previous first quarter of 2023, the top three comprised of the Port Maria Police Station, the Annotto Bay Police Station and the Islington Police Station.





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 334 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2024, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 23.65%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Barnett Street Police Station. This was followed by the Montego Bay Police Station, which accounts for 12.87% of the total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Mount Salem Police Station with 8.38%. In the previous first quarter of 2023, the top three comprised of the Barnett Street Police Station, the Montego Bay Police station and the Sangster's International Airport Police Station.

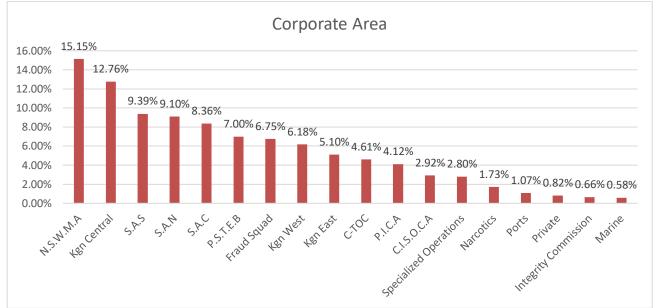


Chart 6.08: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Corporate Area Criminal Parish Court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

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 2,429 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2024, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 15.15%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the N.S.W.M.A Police. This was followed by the Kingston Central Police Station which accounts for 12.76% of the sample matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the St. Andrew South Police Station with 9.39%. In the previous first quarter of 2023, the top three comprised of the Fraud Squad, the N.S.W.M.A Police and the St. Andrew South Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

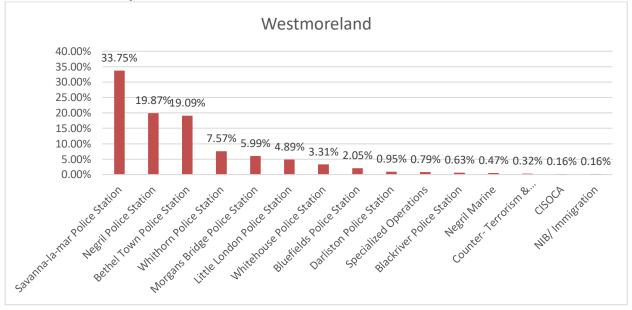


Chart 6.09: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Westmoreland Parish Court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 634 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2024, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 33.75%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Savanna-la-mar Police Station. This was followed by the Negril Police Station which accounts for 19.87% of the total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Bethel Town Police Station with 19.09%. In the previous first quarter of 2023, the top three comprised of the Savanna-la-mar Police Station, the Negril Police Station and Whithorn Police Station.

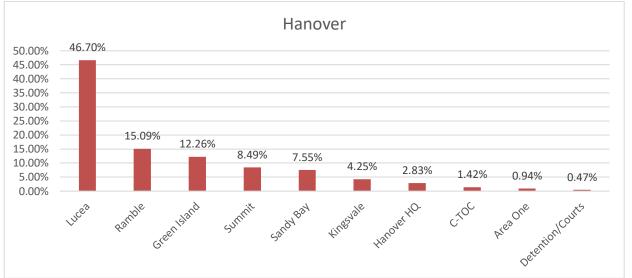
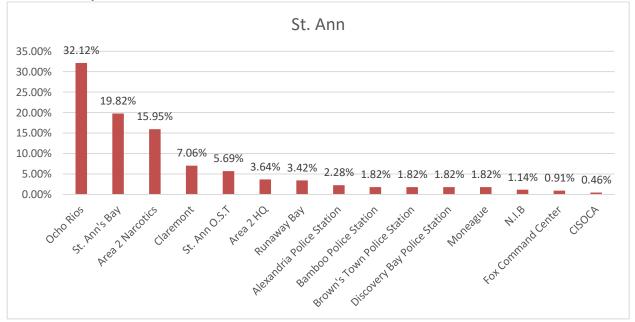
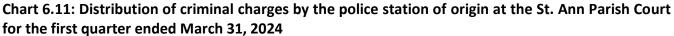


Chart 6.10: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Hanover Parish Court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

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 212 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2024, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 46.70%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Lucea Police Station. This was followed by the Ramble Police Station, which accounts for 15.09% of the sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Green Island Police Station with 12.26%. In the previous first quarter of 2023, the top three comprised of the Lucea Police Station, Green Island Police Station and the Sandy Bay Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.





The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 439 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2024, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 32.12%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Ocho Rios Police Station. This was followed by the St. Ann's Bay Police Station which accounts for 19.82% of the total sample matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Area 2 Police with 15.95%. In the previous first quarter of 2023, the top three comprised of the Ocho Rios Police Station, the St. Ann's Bay Police Station and the O Alexandria Police Station.

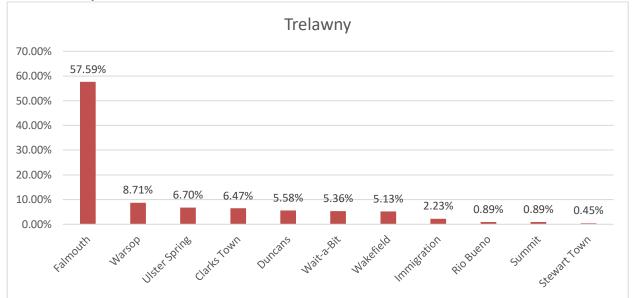


Chart 6.12: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Trelawny Parish Court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2024

The above chart shows the distribution of charges field at the Trelawny Parish Court, using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 448 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2024, the majority of charges, 57.59%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Falmouth Police Station. This was followed by the Warsop Police Station, which accounts for 8.71% of total sample of matters reported. The Ulster Spring Police station rounded off the top three with 6.70%. In the previous first quarter of 2023, the top three comprised of the Falmouth Police Station, Ulster Spring Police Station and the Clarks Town Police Station.

Conclusion

The Criminal Division of the Parish Courts continue to show impressive results despite falling below the 100% mark on overall case clearance rate for the first time in several successive quarters. The overall net case backlog rate however remained under 3%, netting out at 2.27%, with the Hanover and Westmoreland Parish Courts having near zero rates of 0.07% and 0.03% as at the end of the second quarter of 2024. The overall gross case backlog rate stands at 16.97%, which is well above the targeted 10% or less and is due largely to the high incidence of bench warrants issued which are yet to be executed by the police. The net case backlog rate, which is more directly within the realms of the courts control is decidedly within the targeted mark of 5% or less. Based on the overall case clearance rate of 97.23% recorded in the first quarter of 2024, the Criminal Division of the Parish Courts is approximately 6.80 percentage points below the required rate for the 2024/25 fiscal year. The required rate of 104.03% is determined to be the rate necessary to sustain the targeted backlog net case backlog rate of less than 5% while also bringing the courts incrementally closer to a steady state equilibrium path where the total demand for judicial services roughly equate with supply and the case congestion rate therefore tends towards 100%. The criminal division of the parish courts are expected to fare better in the second quarter of 2024 with an overall forecasted rate of 104.14% which would represent a solid rebound.

With over eight years of extensive data on criminal case activity in the parish courts of Jamaica, the Statistics Unit applied Lagrange multiplier techniques to determine that a highly successful court must meet the following minimum requirements in order to satisfy the efficiency threshold for the sustainable containment of the case backlog and to provide optimal service to the public.

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The required minimum annual parameters are summarized below:

Parameter	Minimum Required Standard
Case disposal rate	>=70%
Case clearance rate	>=100%
Case congestion rate	<=115%
Trial Date Certainty Rate	>=85%
Net case backlog rate	<=5%
Gross case backlog rate	<=10%
Average number of mentions per case	<=3

The Statistics Unit has determined that if any court or jurisdiction can consistently achieve these rates, it will attain a high level of efficiency and service excellence. These have been illustrated in the criminal divisions of several parish courts over the past 7.5 years in the Jamaican court system, including the parish courts of Westmoreland, Hanover and St. Mary. These courts have the enviable status of less than 0.15% of active cases, meaning that there is a close to zero probability that a case filed at this court will remain active for more than two years, an outstanding accomplishment which is worthy of acclaim. The Parish Courts of Jamaica are poised to be among the best performing in the world within the coming years.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S ANNUAL STATISTICS REPORT ON CRIMINAL MATTERS IN THE PARISH COURTS-2022

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

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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, 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 35th 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/BestPracticeCaseAgeClearanceRate s.pdf [#] Source:

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