

Parish Courts of Jamaica
The Chief Justice's Annual Statistics
Report for Second Quarter of 2021
(Civil Matters)

	APRIL TO JUNE HIGHLIGHTS (Q2)		
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)	115.85	105.85	94.55
Average time to disposition	11.70 months	10.98 months	12.15 months

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Executive Summary

In the second quarter of 2021, the civil division of the parish courts excelled on several vital performance metrics, reinforcing the prospects of accomplishing the key quantitative objectives set out in the strategic plan of the judiciary and continuing the strong recovery of the courts from the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Honourable Chief Justice has set a targeted court-wide case clearance rate of 130% and a trial date certainty rate of 95% to be achieved by the end of the 2024/25 fiscal year. This civil report is to date one of the most comprehensive of its kind on case activity in the parish court civil jurisdiction. The findings reinforce that the civil division of the parish courts perform as well as the criminal division in several key areas, despite the fact that civil cases may on average travel more complex paths that depend quite a bit on third party actions and compliance.

One of the most impressive results from this second quarter report is the output on the vital measurement of the gross case clearance rates, with the civil division of the parish courts as a whole recording an impressive 115.85% for the period. The Hanover Parish Court again registered an unprecedented civil case clearance rate of 285.11%, one of the highest in recorded history for any court island wide in any major business line in a quarter. The Westmoreland Parish Court with a gross case clearance rate of 197.87% had the second highest rate on this metric in the period. The St. Ann Parish Court ranked third on this metric for the quarter, with a rate of 141.99%, its highest recorded result in any major business line for a quarter. Impressively, nine of the parish courts met or exceeded the 100% gross case clearance rate mark in the second quarter of 2021, the same as the previous quarter of the year. The overall performance on the related gross case disposal rate was less impressive across the parish courts for the period but

this is partly attributed to the relative distribution of return days for the period. The Hanover Parish Court however still stood out on this metric with the highest rate recorded in the quarter of 72.34% while the Westmoreland Parish Court with a rate of 57.45% and the Clarendon Parish Court with 43.30% ranked next. The Hanover Parish Court has now clearly established itself as a top performing parish court across both the criminal and civil business lines.

The civil division of the parish courts also fared quite commendably on the overall trial date certainty rate in the period, recording a commendable overall rate of 86.66%. The Corporate Area Civil Court and the parish courts of St. Ann, Trelawny and Westmoreland were the leaders on this metric in the period. The speed with which decisions are delivered in civil cases is important as it contributes to increasing confidence in the judicial processes and it is a critical pillar of economic activity. The overall average time taken to dispose a civil case in the second quarter of 2021 is roughly 350 days or approximately 11.70 months. The parish courts of Westmoreland, St. Mary, Manchester and St. Elizabeth performed best on this measurement.

One of the most profound findings from this report comes from the analysis of the backlog rates. As of the end of the second quarter of 2021, the estimated gross case backlog rate in the civil division of the parish courts was 11.24%, that is, an estimated 11.24% of combined active and inactive cases in these courts were over two years old, based on the last 4.5 years of case activity as a proxy. When inactive cases are deducted however to produce the net case backlog rate, it is revealed that the estimated case backlog rate in the civil division of the parish courts as at the end of the second quarter of 2021 is 1.79%, an indication that roughly this proportion of active cases in the civil division of the parish courts were over two years old at the end of the quarter, using data from the last 4.5 years as a proxy. The Hanover, St. Catherine, St. Mary and

Westmoreland Parish Courts were the best positioned courts on this metric in the second quarter of 2021, each with net civil case backlog rates of under 1%. Furthermore, roughly 93.06% of the cases disposed across the civil divisions of the parish courts in the second quarter of 2021 were disposed in two years or less while 80.87% were disposed in a year or less and 41.10 were disposed within 90 days.

The timely and efficient progression of cases in the civil courts is affected by several delays factors, among which in the second quarter of 2021 were the absence of defendants, no returns, the absence of both parties, the absence of the plaintiffs and attorney absenteeism, all of which were among the leading reasons for adjournment across the courts in the period. The dominant method of disposition for cases resolved were disposals by being struck out, by consent judgment, through settlement and by way of default judgments.

The civil division of the parish courts continue the trend of creditable performances and is well positioned as at the end of the second quarter of 2021 to make a profound contribution to the overall quantitative targets of the Jamaican judiciary as it strives to become the best in the region and one of the bests in the world over the coming years.

See below aggregate case activity summary:

Table 1.0: Aggregate case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Disposal rate (%)	Approximate Gross Clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross trial date certainty rate (%)	Overall average time to disposition (months)
4454	409	5160	9.18	115.85	86.66	11.7

Methodology – Generating Court Statistics in Jamaica

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 five 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 (soon to be called Statistical Officers) in each court. These officers update the system on a daily basis so that the data produced is as close as possible to real time. The electronic data sheets for each parish court are then validated and

backed-up to the network at the end of each month and the data submitted to a centralized, secure medium for processing by the Statistical Unit of the Supreme Court. A data validation mechanism is in place to periodically sample case files in all parish courts and the Divisions of the Supreme Court 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.

The Court Statistics Unit at the Supreme Court produces various quarterly and annual court reports which 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.

Introduction

This report details case activity in the Civil Division of the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021. Among the key case activity areas reported on are new cases filed, cases disposed and inactive over the period as well as the common causes of action and applications. Other key areas reported on include the absolute number of reissue dates over the period as well as the dominant methods of disposition and reasons for adjournment. The report also highlights the number of matters, which go into various types of enforcements such as judgment summons, warrants of levy and warrants of attachment and are thus reactivated as well as the outcomes of matters that proceed along this path. Important efficiency measures such as the case clearance rate, case disposal rates; trial date certainty rate and case congestion and courtroom utilization rates are computed as measures of court performance, where

sufficient data is available. These are important yardstick for assessing the courts in both an absolute and a relative way.

A full report is presented for each court and is subdivided into three main sections. The first section summarizes case flow activity and case demographics, the second section details case delay factors and dispositions as well as important performance metrics, and the third and final section summarizes case activity in the enforcement phase. The data produced for several of the courts rely on point estimates of the population parameters using a body of available representative data. This approach is however quite reliable and preserves data integrity and validity. One limitation is that the starting points of the data sets for all courts are not homogenous and therefore not entirely comparable at this stage. In some cases, the report also relies on the application of scientific sampling techniques to compensate for some data gaps.

The report culminates with critical cumulative case active summaries for the civil courts as a whole in the second quarter of 2021.

The Corporate Area Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of case activity and supporting demographics in the Corporate Area Parish Court – Civil Division in the second quarter of 2021. The data used in this section, largely represents the results of representative samples taken of case activity at the court. It is important to note that in many cases the data presented represents point estimates of the population parameters using the electronically available data at the time of reporting.

Table 1.0: Return Day activity for cases entered in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Number of cases which had a return day	Active	Disposed	Inactive	Input/output Rate from Return Day
1016	279	250	487	72.54

The above table provides a breakdown of the cases handled at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division which had a return date set for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021. A total of 1016 cases met this criterion, of which 279 were still active at the end of the quarter. A further 250 cases were disposed and 487 cases were rendered as inactive at the end of the quarter. These results produced an input/output rate of 72.54%, which is an indication that roughly 73% of cases with a scheduled return day either became inactive or disposed in the period of analysis.

Table 2.0: Overall summary of cases handled in court at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Active	Disposed	Inactive	Total Cases
728	671	623	2022

The above table provides a breakdown of the cases handled in court at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division in the second quarter of 2021. A total of 2022 cases were handled, of which 728 were still active at the end of the quarter. 671 of these cases were disposed and 623 were rendered as inactive at the end of the quarter.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims that had a return date in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	1378	83.77
Small Claim	267	16.23
Total	1645	100.00

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 1645 claims handled on return day at the Corporate Area Civil Court in the second quarter of 2021. The larger proportion of which 1378 or 83.77% were big claims, while 267 or 16.23% were small claims.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the types of service of summons for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	349	63.00
Bailiff	110	19.86
Not on file	51	9.21
District Constable	29	5.23
Not served	8	1.44
Served By Registered Post	7	1.26
Total	554	100.00

Methods of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the highest proportion with 349 or 63% of the sample. Service by the bailiff with 110 or 19.86% and personal service with 2 or 6.45% of the sample ranks next.

Table 5.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action for new cases entered at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	262	27.04
Recovery of Possession	184	18.99
Breach of contract under Section 146 (Pink Summons)	94	9.70
Rent Owing, Continuing and Recovery of Possession	88	9.08
Damages for Negligence	66	6.81
Sub-total	694	71.62

Total sample size of causes of action= 969

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action for new cases entered in the second quarter

at the Corporate Area Civil Court was breach of contract with 262 or roughly 27.04% of the sample. Recovery of possession with 184 or 18.99% and breach of contract under Section 146 (Pink Summons) with 94 or 9.70% and rent owing, continuing and recovery of possession with 88 or 9.08% ranks next. The top five causes of action were rounded off with damages for negligence with 66 or 6.81% of the sample. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 71.62% of the total sample of 969 causes of action.

Table 6.0: Sampling Distribution of matters entered by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #2 (Main courthouse)	657	56.98
Courtroom #1 (Main courthouse)	465	40.33
Courtroom #3 (Main courthouse)	31	2.69
Total	1153*	100.00%

***Note: Corresponding to 1017 cases**

The largest proportion of a sample of 1153 matters entered in the second quarter of 2021 were entered in courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 657 or 56.98% of the sample. Courtroom 1 at the main courthouse had 465 matters entered or 40.33% of the sample and courtroom 3 had 31 matters entered or 2.69% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Table 7.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for new matters entered in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	375	35.21
Registered Company	337	31.64
Female	335	31.46
Trading As	18	1.69
Total	1065	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 1065 new matters entered in the second quarter of 2021 at the Corporate Area Civil Court, males accounted for the largest proportion of plaintiffs with 375 or 35.21%, followed by registered companies with 337 or 31.64%. Females accounted for 335 or 31.46% of the sample, while individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for 1.69% of the sample.

Table 8.0: Distribution of defendants for new matters entered in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	505	48.51
Female	420	40.35
Registered Company	102	9.80
Trading As	14	1.34
Total	1041	100.00

There were 1041 records on the gender of defendants for new matters entered in the second quarter of 2021. As with the claimants, the majority of defendants were male with 505 or 48.51% of the sample, followed by females with 420 or 40.35%. Registered companies accounted for 102 or 9.80% of the sample, while individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for 1.34% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay factors and case disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantum of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delay factors explored are the reasons for adjournment and the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to

occur. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, which were completed in the quarter, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	508	37.38
Trial	390	28.70
Default Judgment Date	303	22.30
Part-Heard Date	77	5.67
Date for Order	31	2.28
Final Judgment Date	30	2.21
Hearing of Application	20	1.47
Total	1359	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 1359 matters that went to court during the second quarter of 2021, which were adjourned for a default judgment, final judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 508 or 37.38% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 390 or 28.70%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments in this sample were adjournments for default judgment dates with 303 or 22.30% of sample. It is of note that 77 or 5.67% of the matters in this sample were adjourned part heard. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned at the mention stage and that there is a notable incidence of adjournments for default judgments to be entered. The result on the high incidence of adjournments for mention court hearings is not however an abnormal outcome given that mention court hearings are fundamental and intrinsic to the case flow process in the civil courts.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Placed on Trial List	243	26.82
Defendant Absent	206	22.74
Both Parties Absent	25	2.76
At Counsel's Request	20	2.21
Judgment Reserved	13	1.43
Sub-total	507	55.96

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 906

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 906 incidences of adjournments heard in the second quarter of 2021. Adjournments due to placement on the trial list with 243 or 26.82% of the sample, adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 206 or 22.74% and adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 25 or 2.76% rounds off the top three incidences in the sample. The list is completed by adjournments at defence counsel's request with 20 or 2.21% of the sample and adjournments due to the reservation of judgment with 1.43% of the sample. The top reasons of adjournments listed above account for 55.96% of the total sample of adjournments.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the quarter ended June 30, 2021

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	197
Average Incidence	1.4

Corresponding to 143 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 197 incidences of reissue, corresponding to

143 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.4 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 14 reissue incidences.

Table 12.0: Sampling distribution on the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	146	24.62
Consent	135	22.77
Default Judgment	69	11.64
Settlement	56	9.44
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	52	8.77
Sub-total	458	77.23

NB there were 593 matters were disposed in the second quarter of 2020

A total of 593 matters were disposed at the Corporate Area Civil Court during the second quarter of 2021. The above table details the top five methods of disposition, which accounts for 458 or 77.23% of the total sample. The list is led by matters struck out with 146 or 24.62% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by consent with 135 or 22.77% and by default judgments with 69 or 11.64%. Matters disposed by settlements and Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) round off the top five methods with 56 or 9.44% and 52 or 8.77% respectively of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 13: Sampling distribution of case outcomes for matters entered in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	146	83.43
Settlement	29	16.57
Total	175	100.00

The above table summarizes the sample distribution of 175 case outcomes for matters entered in the second quarter of 2021 at the Corporate Area Civil Court. Judgments in favour of the plaintiff with 146 or 83.43% of the sample of matters account for the larger proportion, while

settlements with 29 accounts for the remaining 16.57% of the sample. This probability distribution provides important insights into the results of cases and the likelihood of matters being awarded in favour of the various party types, which may be involved in a case.

Table 14.0: Case flow performance estimated for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases	Approximate number of disposed and inactive case in the quarter	Approximate Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)
1455	1635	112.37

The above table shows 1318 new cases filed at the Corporate Area Civil Court during the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a gross figure of 818 cases were disposed, and 817 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 112.37%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric. This rate represents a 383.78 percentage points decrease when compared to the corresponding period in 2020.

The estimated net clearance rate is 56.22%, a 188.4 percentage points decline when compared to the second quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics, focusing only on the proportion of the cases which did not become inactive which were disposed in the strictest of sense.

Table 15.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty rate for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Estimated Trial date certainty rate (%)
132	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 132 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that none were adjourned. This results in an impressive overall trial date certainty rate of 100% which meets the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

Table 16.0a: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	401
Mean	384.8229
Std. Error of Mean	22.26537
Median	192.0000
Mode	705.00
Std. Deviation	445.86359
Skewness	2.450
Std. Error of Skewness	.122
Range	3116.00
Minimum	6.00
Maximum	3122.00

The above table outlines summary data on 401 civil matters disposed in the second quarter of 2021 at the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division. The average time taken to dispose of these

matters is roughly 384.82 days or roughly 1.1 years, which is roughly 136 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 705 days or 23.5 months. The standard deviation of roughly 446 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness is seen as an indication that there were markedly more scores in the data set which fall below the overall average time. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 3122 days or roughly 8.67 years old, while the minimum time taken was 6 days.

Table 16.0b: Descriptive Statistics on the time between reissue and disposal of matters resolved in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (days)	
Number of observations	114
Mean	743.1491
Std. Error of Mean	86.35920
Median	363.5000
Mode	3566.00
Std. Deviation	922.06395
Skewness	1.952
Std. Error of Skewness	.226
Range	3533.00
Minimum	33.00
Maximum	3566.00

The above table outlines summary data on the time between the reissue and disposal of a sample of 114 matters at the Corporate Area Civil Court. The average time between the reissue date and date of disposition is 743 days or roughly 2 years. The high standard deviation is an indication that there was a large amount of variation in the distribution of the scores and the positive skewness suggests that the larger proportion of the scores in this data series fell below the overall

average. A sample of 148 reissued matters in an inactive state at the end of the quarter reveals an average age in that status of approximately 78 days.

Table 17.0a: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	1290
Mean	442.9419
Std. Error of Mean	13.87585
Median	224.0000
Mode	6.00
Std. Deviation	498.37277
Skewness	2.554
Std. Error of Skewness	.068
Range	5528.00
Minimum	6.00
Maximum	5534.00

The above data is based on a sample of 1290 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter ended June 30, 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 442.94 days or roughly 15 months, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 6 days. The standard deviation of roughly 498 days suggests that there is a wide dispersion in the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 5534 days old or roughly 15 years, while the minimum time taken is 6 days.

Table 17.0b: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters reissued as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	181
Mean	503.5083
Std. Error of Mean	39.29817
Median	279.0000
Mode	97.00
Std. Deviation	528.70279
Skewness	1.323
Std. Error of Skewness	.181
Range	2302.00
Minimum	6.00
Maximum	2308.00

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 181 active reissued matters at the Corporate Area Civil Court as at the end of the second quarter ended June 30, 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 504 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 97 and the median age was 279 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was a large dispersion in the individual scores, with the positive skewness indicating that most of the ages were below the average. The highest age in the data set was 2308 days and the lowest was 6 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

Table 18.0: Distribution of courtroom utilization rate for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Parish Court	Average overall Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	Highest Recorded Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	Lowest Recorded Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	Standard Deviation of the Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	Average Courtroom Utilization Rate for Night Court sittings (%)	Average Number of Courtroom Adjournments Per Day
Corporate Area Court-Civil Division	60.09	116.67	3.33	29.65	NA	1

The above table details the courtroom utilization rate for the Corporate Area Court for the second quarter of 2021. The courtroom utilization rate provides a measurement of the proportion of available hours for open court hearings in all courtrooms (including outstations) which are 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 allocating for court hearings in any court, on any given day should be utilized. The overall average courtroom utilization rate for the Corporate Area Civil Court in the quarter was roughly 60.09%, which is an indication that on average roughly 60% of the available hours for court hearings in the second quarter of 2021. This rate is also 16 percentage points above the overall average courtroom utilization rate for the second quarter of 2020. The standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rates is moderate, suggesting that on average the rates did not vary widely from the overall mean.

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 $\pm 2.5\%$.

Hanover Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the Hanover Parish Court for the second quarter of 2021.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	13	27.66
Disposed	23	48.94
Inactive	11	23.40
Total	47	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 47 new cases filed at the Hanover Parish Court in the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 13 cases or 27.66% of these cases were still active, while 23 were disposed and 11 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross case disposal rate of 72.34%, which is 10.99 percentage points below the gross disposal rate recorded in the previous second quarter of 2020.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of claim	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	40	78.43
Small Claim	11	21.57
Total	51	100.00

The above table represents a sampling distribution of 51 civil claims filed at the Hanover Parish Court in the second quarter of 2021. The larger proportion of which 40 or 78.43% were big claims, while 11 or 21.57% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
District Constable	20	60.61
Bailiff	12	36.36
Personal	1	3.03
Total	33	100

Methods of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the district constable accounted for the highest proportion with 20 or 60.61% of the sample. Service by the bailiff with 12 or 36.36% and personal service with 1 or 3.03% of the sample ranks next.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action filed at the Hanover Parish Court-Civil Division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Recovery of Possession	11	27.50
Rent Due and Owing	6	15.00
Breach of Contract	5	12.50
Damages for Negligence	4	10.00
Damages done to Cultivation	3	7.50
Sub-total	29	72.50

Sample size (n)= 40

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action for cases filed in the second quarter at the Hanover Parish Court was recovery of possession with 11 or roughly 27.50% of the sample. Rent due and owing with 6 or 15%, breach of contract with 12.50% and damages for negligence with 10% rank next. Damages done to cultivation with 7.50% of the sample rounds off the causes of action in this representative sample.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	percentage (%)
Sandy Bay Outstation (courtroom #1)	15	29.41
Green Island Outstation (courtroom #2)	14	27.45
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	13	25.49
Ramble Outstation (courtroom #2)	8	15.69
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	1	1.96
Total	51*	100.0

***Note: Corresponding to 47 cases**

The largest proportions of a sample of 51 new matters filed in the quarter were entered in courtroom number 1 at the Sandy Bay outstation, which accounted for 15 or 29.41% of the total sample. Courtroom number 2 at the Green Island outstation accounted for 14 or 27.45% of the cases filed. Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounted for 13 or 25.49%, courtroom 2 at the Ramble outstation with 8 or 15.69% and courtroom 2 at the main courthouse accounted for the remaining 1.96% of cases heard.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	31	60.78
Female	14	27.45
Registered Company	6	11.76
Total	51	100.0

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 51 plaintiffs in the second quarter of 2021 the Hanover Parish Court, 31 or 60.78% were males and females accounted for 14 or 27.45% of the sample. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 11.76% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	36	72.00
Female	13	26.00
Registered Company	1	2.00
Total	50	98

There were 50 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were male with 36 or 72% of the sample, followed by females with 13 or 26% of the sample and registered companies with 2% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantity of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delays factors explored are the reasons for adjournment, the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur and the incidence of reissued cases emanating from the non-service or short service of summonses. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 8.0: Distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Part -Heard date	40	34.48
Mention Date	32	27.59
Trial	24	20.69
Default Judgment Date	20	17.24
Total	116	100

The above table shows a sample of 116 matters that went to court during the quarter ended June 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a judgment, mention, part heard, trial date or similar procedural dates. The largest proportion, 40 or 34.48% of the sample, were adjourned for part heard dates. Matters adjourned for a mention date accounted for 32 or 27.59% of the sample and matters adjourned for a trial date accounted for 24 or 20.69% of the sample. Rounding off the incidences of procedural adjournments were matters adjourned for a default judgment date with 20 or 17.24% of the sample.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Reasons for adjournments	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	33	30.56
Defendant Absent	32	29.63
Attorney Absent	17	15.74
Plaintiff Absent	14	12.96
Referred to Mediation	3	2.78
Sub-total	99	91.67

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)=108

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 108 incidences of adjournments and continuances in the second quarter of 2021. Adjournments due to no return/for re-issue accounted for 33 or 30.56% of the sample and adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 32 or 29.63% accounted for the largest proportion of the sample. Adjournments for the absenteeism of attorneys and the absenteeism of plaintiffs accounted for 15.74% and 12.96% respectively of the sample. Adjournments for referrals to mediation round off the top of reasons for adjournments during the quarter with 2.78% of the sample. The reasons for adjournments enumerated above account for 91.67% of the total sample of adjournments and continuances.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the quarter ended June 30, 2021

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	15
Average Incidence	1.2

Corresponding to 13 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance of cases in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 15 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 13 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.2 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 12 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	23	21.90
Consent	21	20.00
Final Judgment	15	14.29
Oral Admission	15	14.29
Default Judgment	12	11.43
Settlement	12	11.43
Sub-total	98	93.33

NB: There were 105 matters disposed for the second quarter ended June 30,2021

A total of 105 civil matters were disposed at the Hanover Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. The above table details the top five methods of disposition, which accounts for 98 or 93.33% of the total sample. The list is led by matters struck out with 23 or 21.90% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by consent with 21 or 20% and disposals by final judgment and oral admissions with 15 or 14.29% each. Matters disposed by settlements and default judgments round off the top methods of disposition with 11.43% each of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 12.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross Case disposal rate (%)
47	34	134	285.11	72.34

The above table shows 47 new cases filed at the Hanover Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 23 of these cases were disposed and 11 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 72.34%, a 10.99 percentage points decline when compared to the second quarter of 2020. An approximate gross figure of 117 cases was disposed, and 17 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 285.11%, which exceeds the international standard on this metric and is a 64.28 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2020.

The estimated net case disposal rate for the quarter is 63.89%, which is 2.78 percentage points below the net disposal rate recorded in the second quarter of 2020. The estimated net case clearance rate is 325%, which is roughly the same as the recorded 2020 rate. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
22	7	68.18

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 22 trial dates were set in the second quarter of 2021 shows that 7 were adjourned. This results in a trial date certainty rate of 68.18%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 68% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	69
Mean	357.23
Std. Error of Mean	57.893
Median	184.00
Mode	184
Std. Deviation	480.898
Skewness	2.125
Std. Error of Skewness	.289
Range	1845
Minimum	7
Maximum	1852

The above table outlines sample data on 69 civil matters disposed in the second quarter of 2021 at the Hanover Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 357 days or 11.9 months and is roughly 114 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2020. The most frequently occurring time to disposition and the median time to dispose of cases were both 184 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 481 days is an indication that there is a large variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness suggests that most of the scores in the data set fell below the overall average time to disposition.

The oldest matter disposed in the sample was 1852 days or roughly 5.1 years, while the minimum time taken was just 7 days.

Table 15.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active cases as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	94
Mean	651.04
Std. Error of Mean	99.209
Median	302.00
Mode	120 ^a
Std. Deviation	961.863
Skewness	3.114
Std. Error of Skewness	.249
Range	4509
Minimum	83
Maximum	4592

a. Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above data is based on sample active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 651 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 120 days. The standard deviation of roughly 962 days suggests that there is a wide dispersion in the individual scores around the average, while the large positive skewness seen is an indication that there were markedly more scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 4592 days old or 12.8 years, while the minimum time taken is 83 days.

Manchester Court –Civil Division (Small Claims Court)

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of case activity with a principal emphasis on the statuses of new cases filed in the quarter as well the distribution of the associated causes of action. This section also outlines the incidence and types of relief sought by way of applications made throughout the life of a case as well as essential demographic measures such as gender and age of the claimants and defendants.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	43	89.58
Disposed	5	10.42
Inactive	0	0.00
Total	48	100

The above table presents a status distribution of 48 new small claim cases filed at the Manchester Court in the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 43 of these cases were still active and 5 were disposed. This led to an estimated net disposal rate of 10.42%.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Manchester Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Monies Due & Owing	7	14.00
Loan	5	10.00
Arrears of Rent	3	6.00
Balance owing on loan	3	6.00
Damages to Cultivation	3	6.00
Refund of money	3	6.00
Total	24	48.00

Total sample size of cause of action =50

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action for the second quarter of 2021 at the Manchester Parish Court was monies due and owing with 7 or roughly 14% of the sample. Loan with 5 or 10% of the sample round off the leading causes of action in this representative sample. Arrears of rent, balance owing on loan, damages to cultivation and refund of money with 3 or 6% each rank next. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 48% of all the total sample of 50 causes of action.

Table 3.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Small Claims Court #3	28	56.00
Small Claims Court #2	22	44.00
Total	50*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 48 cases**

The larger proportion of a sample of 50 new small claims filed in the second quarter of 2021 was entered in courtroom number 3 at the small claims court with 28 or 56%. Courtroom number 2 at the small claims court accounted for the remaining 22 or 44% of the total sample.

Table 4.0: Distribution of applications filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of Application	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Application for court Order	50	100.0
Total	50	100.0

A sample of 50 applications filed relating to small claims during the second quarter of 2021 were all applications for court order.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Table 5.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	23	46.94
Female	22	44.90
Registered Company	4	8.16
Total	49	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 49 new small claims filed in the second quarter of 2021 at the Manchester Parish Court, males accounted for the largest proportion with 23 or 46.94% of the sample, followed by females with 22 or 44.90% of the sample and registered companies with 8.16% of the sample.

Table 6.0: Distribution of defendants in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	36	76.60
Female	11	23.40
Total	47	100

There were 47 records on gender of defendants for new small claims filed in the second quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were male with 36 or 76.60% of the sample, followed by females with 11 or 23.40% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantity of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delays factors explored are the reasons for adjournment, the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur

and the incidence of reissued cases emanating from the non-service or short service of summonses. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 7.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Trial	21	52.50
Mention Date	10	25.00
Default Judgment Date	8	20.00
Part-Heard Date	1	2.50
Total	40	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 40 small claims that went to court during the second quarter ended June 30, 2020, which were adjourned for a default, judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural dates. The largest proportion, 21 or 52.50% were adjourned for trial dates, followed by 10 or 25%, which were adjourned for mention dates. Rounding off the top incidences of procedural adjournments were 8 or 20% of matters, which were adjourned for a default judgment date and 2.50% of the sample which was adjourned for a part heard date.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	25	41.67
No Return/Re-Issued	7	11.67
Placed on Trial List	7	11.67
New Date	5	8.33
To Settle Legal Representation	5	8.33
Total	49	81.67

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)=60

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 60 incidences of adjournments in the second quarter of 2021. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 25 or 41.67% of the sample, adjournments due to no return/for reissue and adjournments due to placement on the trial list with 7 or 11.67% each of the sample rounds off the top three incidences in the sample. The list is completed by adjournments for a new date and to settle legal representation with 8.33% each of the sample. The top reasons of adjournment listed above account for 81.67% of the total sample of adjournments and continuances for small claim matters heard in the quarter.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Method of disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	28	56.00
Final Judgment	20	40.00
Settlement	2	4.00
Total	50	100

The above table summarizes 50 small claims which were disposed at the Manchester Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021 and the above table details the methods of disposition. The list is led by matters struck out with 28 or 56% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by final judgements with 20 or 40% and by settlements with 2 or 4%.

Table 10.0: Case flow performance estimates for second quarter ended June 30, 2020

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Net Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate Net Case disposal rate (%)
48	5	49	102.08	10.42

The above table shows 48 new small claims filed at the Manchester Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 5 of these cases were disposed, leading to an estimated net case disposal rate of 10.42%. An approximate gross figure of 49 cases were disposed during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated net case clearance rate of 102.08%.

The overall net case clearance rate (big and small claims combined) at the Manchester Parish Court for the quarter was 134.92%.

Table 11.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	28
Mean	207.1429
Std. Error of Mean	39.15809
Median	119.0000
Mode	119.00
Std. Deviation	207.20516
Skewness	1.345
Std. Error of Skewness	.441
Range	784.00
Minimum	2.00
Maximum	786.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 28 small claims disposed in the second quarter of 2021 at the Manchester Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 207 days or 6.9 months. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition and the median time were both 119 days. The standard deviation of roughly 207 days is an indication that there is a large variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive

skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores in the data set that fell below the overall average scores. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 786 days or roughly 2.2 years old, while the minimum time taken was 2 days.

Table 12.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	174
Mean	704.8448
Std. Error of Mean	25.78441
Median	768.5000
Mode	1045.00
Std. Deviation	340.11976
Skewness	-.617
Std. Error of Skewness	.184
Range	1526.00
Minimum	2.00
Maximum	1528.00

The above data is based on sample of 174 active small claims at the end of the second quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 705 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 1045 days. The standard deviation of roughly 340 days suggests that there is some amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the average, while the negative skewness seen is an indication that there were markedly more scores in the data set, which were above the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter is 1528 days old or roughly 4.2 years, while the minimum age is 2 days.

St. Catherine Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of case activity with a principal emphasis on the statuses of new cases filed for the period as well the distribution of the associated causes of action. This section also outlines the essential demographic measures such as gender and age of the claimants and defendants.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	693	89.19
Disposed	55	7.08
Inactive	29	3.73
Total	777	100

The above table presents a status distribution of 777 new cases filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 693 cases or 89.19% of these cases were still active, while 55 were disposed and 29 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 10.81%, which is 10.07 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2020.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	840	89.08
Small Claim	103	10.92
Total	943	100.00

The above table shows that from a sample of 943 claims filed in the second quarter of 2021, 840 or 89.09% were big claims and 103 or 10.92% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	94	37.30
Bailiff	89	35.32
District Constable	69	27.38
Total	252	100.00

Types of service as used in the above table refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the highest proportion with 94 or 37.30% of the sample, service by the bailiff accounted for 89 or 35.32% and service by the district constable accounted for 69 or 27.38% of the sample.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Cause of action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of contract under Section 146 (Pink Summons)	333	35.88
Damages for Negligence	261	28.13
Recovery of possession under section 89	138	14.87
Rent Owing, Continuing and Recovery of Possession	77	8.30
Rent Owing and Continuing	43	4.63
Sub-Total	852	91.81

Total sample size of causes of action=928

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table details a sample of 928 causes of action filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. The leading cause of action shown in this sample was breach of contract under section 146 (Pink Summons) with 333 or roughly 35.88% of the sample, damages for negligence, with 261 or 28.13% and recovery of possession under section 89 with 138 or 14.87%, which rounds off the top three. The top five causes of action are rounded off by rent

owing, continuing and recovery of possession with 77 or 8.30% and rent owing and continuing with 43 or 4.63% of the sample. The causes of action which are listed above, account for 91.81% of the total sample of causes of action.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	759	80.49
Linstead Outstation (courtroom #1)	126	13.36
Old Harbour (courtroom #1)	57	6.04
Portmore Outstation	1	0.11
Total	943*	100

Note: Corresponding to 777 cases

The largest proportion of the sample of 943 new claims filed in the second quarter of 2021 was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 759 or 80.49% of the total sample. 126 or 13.36% that were entered in courtroom number 1 at the Linstead outstation followed this. Courtroom number 1 at the Old Harbour outstation accounted for 57 or 6.04% of the claims, followed by 0.11% which was entered in the Portmore outstation.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	444	47.18
Female	385	40.91
Registered company	112	11.90
Total	941	100

It is seen in the above table that of the 941 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021, males accounted for the largest proportion with 444 or 47.18%, followed by females with 385 or 40.91% and registered companies with 112 or 11.90% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	591	63.69
Female	295	31.79
Registered Company	42	4.53
Total	928	100

There were 928 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were male with 591 or 63.69% of the total sample, followed by females with 295 or 31.79%. Registered companies account for the remaining proportion with 42 or 4.53% of the total sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantity of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delays factors explored are the reasons for adjournment, the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur and the incidence of reissued cases emanating from the non-service or short service of summonses. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	640	44.26
Trial	395	27.32
Default Judgment Date	278	19.23
Part - Heard Date	81	5.60
Hearing of application	31	2.14
Final Judgement date	21	1.45
Total	1446	100

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 1446 matters that went to court during the second quarter of 2021, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard, or trial date or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 640 or 44.26% were adjourned for a mention date and 395 or 27.32% were adjourned for a trial date. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 278 or 19.23% of matters, which were adjourned for a default judgment date. Matters adjournment for part heard dates accounted for 81 or 5.60% of the sample.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Reasons for adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	247	16.88
Placed on Trial List	233	15.93
Pending Settlement	123	8.41
Both Parties Absent	113	7.72
Parties in Discussion	50	3.42
Sub-total	766	52.36

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)=1463

The above table details a sample of 1463 adjournments or continuances heard in the quarter, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments due to the absence of

defendants with 247 or 16.88% of the total sample, adjournments due to placement on the trial list with 233 or 15.93% and adjournments for pending settlements with 123 or 8.41% and the absence of both parties with 113 or 7.72%% round off the top reasons for adjournment for the quarter. Adjournments for parties in discussion with 50 or 3.42% complete the list. The top 5 reasons for adjournment account for 52.36% of the total sample.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the quarter ended June 30, 2021

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	105
Average Incidence	1.4

Corresponding to 76 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance of cases in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 105 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 76 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.4 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 14 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	169	25.53
Consent	158	23.87
Default Judgment	103	15.56
Settlement	100	15.11
Withdrawal	42	6.34
Sub-Total	572	86.40

NB: There were 662 matters disposed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

The above table details the sampling distribution of the five leading methods of disposition using a sample of 662 matters disposed during the second quarter of 2021. The list is led by matters struck out with 169 or 25.53% of the disposals, followed by disposals by consent with 158 or 23.87%, matters disposed by default judgments with 103 or 15.56% and settlements with 100 or 15.11%. Disposals by withdrawals account for 42 or 6.34% of the sample. The top 5 methods of disposition listed account for 86.40% of the sample.

Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of case outcomes for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	30	76.92
Settlement	9	23.08
Total	39	100

The above table summarizes the distribution of case outcomes using a sample of 39 matters in the second quarter of 2021. Judgments in favour of the plaintiff with 30 or 76.92% of the total sample, accounts for the larger proportion, while settlements with 9 or 23.08% rank next. This probability distribution provides important insights into the results of cases and the likelihood of matters awarded in favour of the various party types, which may be involved in a case.

Table 13.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases filed	Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross Case disposal rate (%)
777	84	885	113.90	10.81

The above table shows 777 new cases filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 55 of these cases were disposed and 29 cases became inactive, leading to a gross case disposal rate of 10.81%, which is 10.07 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2020. An approximate gross figure of 557 cases was disposed and 328 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2020. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 113.90%, which exceeds the international standard for the case clearance rate and is 30.97 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2020.

The net disposal rate for the quarter is 7.35%, which is 6.79 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2020. The net clearance for the quarter is 74.47%, which is 63.13 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 14.0: Sampling distribution of Trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated Trial date certainty ratio (%)
162	14	91.36

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 162 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that 14 were adjourned. This results in a trial date certainty rate of 91.26%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly

91% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This rate satisfies the prescribed International benchmark of between 90% and 100.

Table 15.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	468
Mean	383.31
Std. Error of Mean	18.713
Median	221.50
Mode	497
Std. Deviation	404.814
Skewness	2.013
Std. Error of Skewness	.113
Range	2048
Minimum	7
Maximum	2055

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 468 civil matters disposed in the second quarter of 2021 at the St. Catherine Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 383 days or 12.8 months, which is roughly 293 less days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 497 days. There is a relatively high standard deviation of 405 days, which is an indication that there is a relatively wide variation of the scores around the overall mean. The positive skewness suggests that a larger proportion of the scores that fall below the overall average time to disposal. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2055 days or roughly 5.7 years old, while the youngest was 7 days.

Table 16.0a: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	2042
Mean	575.3972
Std. Error of Mean	13.04118
Median	407.0000
Mode	15.00
Std. Deviation	589.31110
Skewness	1.554
Std. Error of Skewness	.054
Range	4847.00
Minimum	5.00
Maximum	4852.00

The above data is based on a sample of 2042 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 575 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 15 days. The standard deviation of roughly 589 days suggests that there is a large dispersion in the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 4852 days old or roughly 1.3 years, while the minimum time taken is just 5 days.

Table 16.0b: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	78
Mean	49.18
Std. Error of Mean	3.210
Median	54.00
Mode	90
Std. Deviation	28.347
Skewness	.203
Std. Error of Skewness	.272
Range	84
Minimum	6
Maximum	90

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 78 active reissued matters at the St. Catherine Parish Court as at the end of the second ended June 30, 2020. The average age of these matters was roughly 49 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 90 and the median age was 54 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some dispersion in the individual scores, with the relatively small positive skewness indicating that a large proportion of the ages were clustered around the average. The highest age in the data set was 90 days and the lowest was 6 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

Trelawny Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of case activity with a principal emphasis on the statuses of new cases filed for the period as well the distribution of the associated causes of action. This section also outlines the essential demographic measures such as gender and age of the claimants and defendants.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	129	82.69
Disposed	22	14.10
Inactive	5	3.21
Total	156	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 156 new cases filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 129 or 82.69% of these cases were active, and 22 or 14.10% were disposed and 5 cases which became inactive at the end of the quarter. This produces a gross case disposal rate of 17.31%, a 9.72 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2020.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	129	74.14
Small Claim	45	25.86
Total	174	100

The above table represents a sampling distribution of 174 civil claims filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the second quarter of 2021. The larger proportion of which 129 or 74.14% were big claims, while 45 or 25.86% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	143	82.66
Bailiff	30	17.34
Total	173	100

Methods of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the higher proportion with 143 or 82.66% of the sample. Service by the bailiff with 30 or 17.34% accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action filed at the Trelawny Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Money Owing	20	12.20
Arrears of Rent	18	10.98
Recovery of Possession	18	10.98
Monies Due & Owing	15	9.15
Damages for Negligence	10	6.10
Sub-Total	81	49.39

Total sample size of causes of action=164

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, among the leading causes of action filed in the second quarter were money owing with 20 or 12.20% followed by arrears of rent and recovery of possession with 18 or 10.98% each of the sample. Monies due and owing with 15 or 9.15% and damages for

negligence with 6.10% each the sample close out the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 49.39% of all the total sample of 164 causes of action.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Courtroom/outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Falmouth Outstation	108	62.07
Ulster Spring Outstation	31	17.82
Clarks Town Outstation (courtroom #1)	23	13.22
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	12	6.90
Total	174*	100

***Note: Corresponding to 156 cases**

The largest proportion of a sample of 174 new matters filed in 62.07% of the accommodations was entered in the Falmouth outstation. 31 or 17.82% matters that were entered in the Ulster Spring Outstation followed this, while court sittings at courtroom 1 at the Clarks Town outstation ranked next with 23 is 13.22% of the accommodations. Courtroom number 1 at main courthouse outstation accounted for 12 or 6.90% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	75	43.60
Male	74	43.02
Registered Company	23	13.37
Total	172	100

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 172 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021 at the Trelawny Parish Court, females accounted for the largest proportion with 75 or 43.60%, followed by males with 74 or 43.02%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 13.37% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	109	66.06
Female	52	31.52
Registered Company	4	2.42
Total	165	100

There were 165 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were male with 109 or 66.06% of the sample, followed by females with 52 or 31.52% and registered companies with 2.42%.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantum of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delay factors explored are the reasons for adjournment and the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, which were completed in the quarter, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 8.0: Distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	133	47.33
Default Judgment Date	61	21.71
Trial	58	20.64
Part-Heard Date	28	9.96
Final Judgment Date	1	0.36
Total	281	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 281 matters that were heard during the second quarter ended June 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 133 or 47.33% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 61 or 21.71%, which were adjourned for default judgment dates. Matters adjourned for trial dates with 58 or 20.64% and for part heard dates with 28 or 9.966% rank next. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for mention dates which is expected in civil and most other case types.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Reasons for adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Both Parties Absent	69	29.87
No Return/Re-Issued	43	18.61
Defendant Absent	30	12.99
Plaintiff Absent	19	8.23
Referred to Restorative Justice (RJ) Centre	14	6.06
Sub-total	175	75.76

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)=231

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 231 incidence of adjournments/continuance heard in the second quarter of 2021. Adjournments due absence of both parties with 69 or 29.87% of the sample, no return/re-issued with 43 or 18.61% and defendants being absent with 30 or 12.99% of the sample feature prominently on the list. Adjournments for the absence of plaintiffs with 19 or 8.23% and adjournments for referrals to Restorative Justice (RJ) Centre with 14 or 6.06% of the sample close out the list. The top five reasons for adjournments, which are listed above, account for 75.76% of the entire sample.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the quarter ended June 30, 2021

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	37
Average Incidence	1.4

Corresponding to 27 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 37 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 27 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.4 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 14 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	48	26.23
Consent	30	16.39
Oral Admission	30	16.39
Default Judgment	26	14.21
Settlement	21	11.48
Sub-total	155	84.70

NB: There were 183 matters disposed for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

The above table details the sampling distribution of the leading methods of disposition using a sample of 183 matters disposed during the second quarter of 2021. The list is led by matters struck out with 48 or 26.23% of the dispositions, followed by matters disposed by consent and oral admissions with 30 or 16.39% each of the sample. Matters disposed by default judgments account for 26 or 14.21% of the sample and disposals by settlements account for 21 or 11.48% of the sample. The top five methods of dispositions enumerated above accounted for 84.70% of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 12.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Number of cases disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in quarter)	Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross case disposal rate (%)
156	27	176	112.82	17.31

The above table shows 156 new cases filed at the Trelawny Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 22 of these cases were disposed and 5 cases became inactive, leading to a gross case disposal rate of 17.31%, which is 9.72 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2020. An approximate gross figure of 166 cases was disposed and 10 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2020. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 112.82%, which meets the international standard for the case clearance rate and is 92.57 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2020.

The net disposal rate for the quarter is 14.57%, which is 9.38 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2020. The net clearance for the quarter is 109.93%, which is 93.05 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
9	0	100

Another important performance metric is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 0 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that none was adjourned. This results in an overall estimated trial date certainty rate of 100% which suggests that during the quarter. This outcome met the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100%.

Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	116
Mean	271.6034
Std. Error of Mean	39.09270
Median	84.5000
Mode	119.00
Std. Deviation	421.04123
Skewness	2.553
Std. Error of Skewness	.225
Range	2223.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	2230.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 116 civil cases disposed in the second quarter of 2021 at the Trelawny Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of this sample of cases is roughly 272 or 9.1 months. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 119 days and the median time was 84.50 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 421 days suggests that the times taken to disposition were spread out over a large range of values and the positive skewness is an indication that a greater proportion of times to disposition fell

below the overall average time. The oldest case disposed in the quarter was 2230 days or roughly 6.2 years old, while minimum time taken to disposed of cases was 7 days.

Table 15.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	312
Mean	395.2404
Std. Error of Mean	22.31125
Median	268.0000
Mode	57.00
Std. Deviation	394.09528
Skewness	2.161
Std. Error of Skewness	.138
Range	2318.00
Minimum	22.00
Maximum	2340.00

The above data is computed using 312 active cases at the end of the second quarter of 2021. The average age of these cases was roughly 395 days (13.2 months), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 57 days. The standard deviation of roughly 394 days suggests that there is wide dispersion of the individual scores around the mean, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set which fall below the overall mean. The oldest active case in this sample is 2340 days (6.5 years old), while the youngest is 22 days.

St. Ann Court –Civil Division (Including Brown’s Town)

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Ann Parish Court in the second quarter of 2021.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	363	95.28
Disposed	7	1.84
Inactive	11	2.89
Total	381	100

The above table presents a status distribution of 381 new cases filed at the St. Ann Parish Court in the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 363 cases or 95.28% of these cases were still active, 7 were disposed and 11 were rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 4.72%, which is a 2.69 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2020.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	381	84.67
Small Claim	68	15.11
POCA	1	0.22
Total	450	100

The above table shows that from 450 new claims filed in the second quarter of 2021, the largest proportion of which were big claims with 381 or 84.67%, while 68 or 15.11% were small claims and 1 was a Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) claim.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	25	51.02
District Constable	18	36.73
Personal	5	10.20
Registered Post	1	2.04
Total	49	100.0

Types of service as used in the above table refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for the highest proportion with 25 or 51.02% of the sample. Service by the district constable accounted for 18 or 36.73%, personal service accounted for 5 or 10.20% of the sample and service by registered post accounted for the remaining 2.04% of the sample.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action filed at the St. Ann Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	110	27.57
Damages for Negligence	70	17.54
Recovery of Possession	36	9.02
Breach of contract under Section 146 (Pink Summons)	35	8.77
Money Owing	28	7.02
Sub-total	279	69.92

Total sample size of causes of action (N) =399

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table uses a sample of 399 matters, from which the leading causes of action filed in the second quarter of 2021 was breach of contract with 110 or roughly 27.57% of the sample and damages for negligence with 70 or 17.54%. Recovery of possession with 36 or 9.02%, breach of contract under section 146 (pink summons) with 35 or 8.77% and money owing with 28 or 57.02%

of the total sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 69.92% of the sample of causes of action.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (Main courthouse)	160	87.43
Claremont Outstation	15	8.20
Courtroom #2	8	4.37
Total	183*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 168 cases**

The largest proportion of a sample of 183 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021 were entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, accounting for 160 or 87.43% of the total sample. The Claremont Outstation accounted for 15 or 8.20% and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for 8 or 4.37% of the accommodations.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	220	49.22
Female	138	30.87
Registered Company	83	18.57
Trading As	6	1.34
Total	447	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 447 new matters filed in the second quarter, males accounted for the largest proportion with 220 or 49.22%, followed by females with 138 or 30.87% and registered companies with 83 or 18.57% of the total sample. Individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) with 6 or 1.34% accounted for the smallest proportion of the total sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	281	62.86
Female	134	29.98
Registered Company	32	7.16
Total	447	100.00

There were 447 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were male with 281 or 62.86% of the total sample, followed by females with 134 or 29.98%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 32 or 7.16% of the total sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantum of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delay factors explored are the reasons for adjournment and the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, which were completed in the quarter, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	407	47.83
Default Judgment Date	189	22.21
Trial	154	18.10
Part-Heard Date	79	9.28
Hearing of Application	21	2.47
Final Judgment Date	1	0.12
Total	851	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 851 matters that went to court during the second quarter ended June 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard dates and similar procedural dates. Adjournments for mention dates accounted for 407 or 47.83% of the sample, followed by 189 or 22.21%, which were adjourned for default judgment dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 154 or 18.10% of matters, which were adjourned for trial dates. Matters adjourned for a part-heard date account for 79 or 9.28% of the total sample. As with most other courts, this data decisively suggests that there is a greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for a mention date, though this is not an unsurprising result given that mention court stings are intrinsic to the progression of civil and other cases.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Reasons for Adjournments	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	215	20.26
Defendant Absent	202	19.04
Both Parties Absent	136	12.82
Placed on Trial List	89	8.39
Pending Settlement	61	5.75
Sub-total	703	66.26

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)=1061

The above table details a sample of 1061 reasons for adjournment or continuances for matters that went to court in the second quarter of 2021, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments due to the no return/for re-issue with 215 or 20.26% of the sample, adjournments due to the defendant being absent with 202 or 19.04% and the absence of both parties with 136 or 12.82% of the sample rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment for the quarter in this sample. The list is completed by adjournments due to placement on the trial

list with 89 or 8.39% and pending settlements with 61 or 5.75% of the sample. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above, account for 66.26% of the total sample of adjournments and continuances.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the quarter ended June 30, 2021

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	68
Average Incidence	1.2

Corresponding to 58 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 68 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 58 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.2 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 12 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	94	24.74
Consent	76	20.00
Settlement	63	16.58
Oral Admission	38	10.00
Withdrawal	36	9.47
Total	307	80.79

NB: There were 380 matters disposed for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

A sample of 380 matters disposed during the second quarter of 2021 revealed that 94 or 24.74% of matters were struck out, 76 or 20% were disposed by consent and 63 or 16.58% of the sample were disposed by settlements. Matters disposed by oral admissions with 38 or 10% and

withdrawals with 36 or 9.47% of the total sample of disposals complete the top five for the quarter. The top five methods of disposition enumerated above, account for 80.79% of the total sample of dispositions. This data provides insights into the overall distribution of the methods of disposition in the second quarter of 2021.

Table 12.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended September 30, 2020

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
381	18	541	141.99	4.72

The above table shows 381 new cases filed at the St. Ann Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 7 cases were disposed and 11 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 4.72%, an improvement of 2.69 percentage points compared to the second quarter of 2020. An approximate gross figure of 300 cases were disposed, and 241 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 141.99%, which is above the international standard for this metric and represents a 78.03 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2020.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 1.89% and the estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 81.08%, an improvement of 67.61 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated Trial date certainty ratio (%)
41	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 41 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that none was adjourned. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This meets the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100%.

Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	253
Mean	532.67
Std. Error of Mean	50.730
Median	219.00
Mode	91
Std. Deviation	806.905
Skewness	3.328
Std. Error of Skewness	.153
Range	5926
Minimum	3
Maximum	5929

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 253 civil matters disposed in the second quarter of 2021 at the St. Ann Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 533 days or 17.8 months, which is roughly 272 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to

disposition was 91 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 807 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness suggests that there were markedly more scores in the data set that fell below the overall average scores. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 5929 days or roughly 16 years old, while the minimum time taken was 3 days.

Table 15.0a: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	1368
Mean	633.6827
Std. Error of Mean	19.08411
Median	468.0000
Mode	84.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	705.85411
Skewness	2.386
Std. Error of Skewness	.066
Range	5244.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	5251.00

^a Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above data is based on sample of 1368 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 634 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 84 days. The standard deviation of roughly 706 days suggests that there is a wide dispersion of the individual scores around the series average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter is 5251 days old or roughly 14.6 years, while the minimum age is 7 days.

Table 15.0b: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters reissued as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive Statistics (in days)

Number of observations	126
Mean	585.3175
Std. Error of Mean	50.18872
Median	455.0000
Mode	104.00
Std. Deviation	563.36702
Skewness	1.530
Std. Error of Skewness	.216
Range	2656.00
Minimum	13.00
Maximum	2669.00

The above table outlines summary data on the time average age of a sample of 126 active reissued matters at the St. Ann Parish Court as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 585 days, with the most frequently occurring age was 104 days and the median age was 455 days. The modest standard deviation indicates that there was some amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the series mean, with the positive skewness indicating that most of the ages were clustered around the series average. The highest age in the data set was 2669 days or roughly 7 years and the lowest was 13 days.

Westmoreland Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics at the Westmoreland Parish Court for the second quarter of 2021.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	40	42.55
Disposed	33	35.11
Inactive	21	22.34
Total	94	100

The above table presents a status distribution of 94 new cases filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 40 cases or 42.55% of these cases were still active, while 33 or 35.11% were disposed and 21 or 22.34% rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 57.45%, which is a 29.76 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2020.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of Claim	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	96	83.48
Small Claim	19	16.52
Total	115	100.00

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 115 new claims filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the second quarter of 2021. The larger proportion of which 96 or 83.48% were big claims, while 19 or 16.52% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	62	59.62
Personal	42	40.38
Total	104	100

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for the higher proportion with 62 or 59.62% of the sample, while personal service accounted for 42 or 40.38%.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Recovery of Possession	23	20.72
Rent Due and Continuing	13	11.71
Recovery of Money Due & Owing	11	9.91
Breach of Contract	9	8.11
Damages To Cultivation	8	7.21
Monies Owing	8	7.21
Subtotal	72	64.86

Total sample size of causes of action=111

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action filed in the second quarter of 2021 at the Westmoreland Parish Court was recovery of possession with 23 or roughly 20.72% of the sample. Rent due and continuing with 13 or 11.71%, recovery of monies due and owing with 11 or 9.91%, breach of contract with 9 or 8.11%, damages to cultivation and monies owing with 8 or 7.21% each round off the list. These five leading causes of action account for 64.86% of the sample of 111 causes of action.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Courtroom/outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	54	51.92
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	37	35.58
Whithorn Outstation	13	12.50
Total	104*	100

***Note: Corresponding to 83 cases**

The largest proportion of a sample of 104 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021 was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 54 or 51.92% of the sample. 37 or 35.58% that were entered in courtroom 3 at the main courthouse followed this. Sittings at the Whithorn outstation accounted for the remaining 12.50% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	53	46.09
Male	48	41.74
Registered Company	11	9.57
Trading AS	3	2.61
Total	115	100.0

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 115 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021 at the Westmoreland Parish Court, females accounted for the largest proportion with 53 or 46.09%, followed by males with 48 or 41.74%. Registered companies accounted for 11 or 9.57% of the sample and individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for 2.61% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	55	48.25
Male	53	46.49
Trading As	4	3.51
Registered Company	2	1.75
Total	114	100.00

There were 114 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021. The highest proportion of defendants were female with 55 or 48.25% of the sample, followed by males with 53 or 46.49%. Individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for 4 or 3.51% of the sample and registered companies accounted for 1.75% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the quarter ended June 30, 2021

This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantum of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delay factors explored are the reasons for adjournment and the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, which were completed in the quarter, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	126	64.95
Trial	52	26.80
Final Judgment Date	16	8.25
Total	194	100

The above table shows a sample of 194 matters that went to court during the second quarter ended June 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a default judgment, a final judgment, mention, part heard, trial date or similar procedural adjournment. The largest proportion, 126 or 64.95% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 52 or 26.80%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 16 or 8.25% of matters, which were adjourned for final judgment dates. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for trial or mention court hearings. This is, however, not an unusual outcome given that mention court hearings are central to the case flow process in the civil courts.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	41	20.92
Oral Admission	32	16.33
Struck Out	31	15.82
Settlement	29	14.80
Final Judgment	26	13.27
Total	159	81.12

NB: There were 196 matters disposed for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

A total of 196 civil matters were disposed at the Westmoreland Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. The above table details the top five methods of disposal, which accounts for 81.12% of the total sample. The list is led by matters disposed by consent with 41 or 20.92% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by oral admissions with 32 or 16.33% and matters struck out with 31 or 15.82%. Matters disposed by settlements with 29 or 14.80% and matters disposed by final judgments with 26 or 13.27% round off the top five methods dispositions.

Table 10: Sampling distribution of case outcomes for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	35	92.11
Judgment in Favour of defendant	2	5.26
Settlement	1	2.63
Total	38	100.0

The above table summarizes the distribution of a sample of 38 case outcomes in the second quarter of 2021 at the Westmoreland Parish Court. Judgments in favour of the plaintiff with 35 or 92.11% of the sample of matters, accounts for the largest proportion. Judgments in favour of defendants account for 5.26% of the sample, while settlements account for 2.63%. This probability distribution provides important insights into the results of cases and the likelihood of matters being awarded in favour of the various party types, which may be involved in a case.

Table 11.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross Case disposal rate (%)
94	54	186	197.87	57.45

The above table shows 94 new cases filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 33 of these cases were disposed, and 21 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 57.45, an improvement of 29.76 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2021. A gross figure of 156 cases was disposed, and 30 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 197.87%, which

exceeds the international standard for this metric and is 127.87 percentage points above the 2020 second quarter rate.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 45.21%, which is 26.95 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2020. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 213.70%, which is 170.22 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated Trial date certainty ratio (%)
24	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 24 trial dates were set in the quarter; of which none was adjourned. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter there was an estimated 91005% chance that a date set for a trial would proceed without adjournment.

Table 13.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	112
Mean	148.59
Std. Error of Mean	13.634
Median	105.00
Mode	182 ^a
Std. Deviation	144.288
Skewness	1.696
Std. Error of Skewness	.228
Range	750
Minimum	5
Maximum	755

a. Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above table outlines summary data on 112 civil matters disposed in the second quarter at the Westmoreland Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is approximately 149 days or 5 months, which is roughly 73 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2020. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 182 days. The high standard deviation is an indication that there is a large variation in the distribution of the scores around the mean time and the positive skewness is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set fell below the mean. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 755 days or roughly 2.1 years, while the minimum time taken was just 5 days.

Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	282
Mean	379.03
Std. Error of Mean	13.978
Median	352.00
Mode	392
Std. Deviation	234.726
Skewness	.846
Std. Error of Skewness	.145
Range	824
Minimum	79
Maximum	903

The above data is based on sample of 282 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 379 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 392 days. The standard deviation of roughly 235 days suggests that there some dispersion of the individual scores around the average. The positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more scores in the scores in the data set fell below the mean. The oldest age of active cases was 903 days or 2.5 years, and the youngest time is 79 days.

St. Mary Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Mary Parish Court for the second quarter of 2021.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	124	69.66
Disposed	50	28.09
Inactive	4	2.25
Total	178	100

The above table presents a status distribution of 178 new civil cases filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 124 or 69.66% were still active, 50 or 28.09% were disposed and 4 or 2.25% were inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 30.34% for the quarter.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	167	76.96
Small Claim	50	23.04
Total	217	100

The above table shows that from the 217 new claims filed in the quarter, the larger proportion were big claims, which accounted for 167 or 76.96% of the total sample, while 50 or 23.04% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	208	95.85
Bailiff	9	4.15
Total	217	100

Types of service as used above refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the higher proportion with 208 or 95.85% of the sample, with service by the bailiff accounting for the remaining 9 or 4.15%.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action filed at the St. Mary Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	36	42.86
Recovery of Possession	31	36.90
Damages for Negligence	8	9.52
Arrears of Rent	5	5.95
Damages	3	3.57
Special Damages	1	1.19
Total	84	100.00

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The data in the above table is computed using a sample of 84 causes of action. As shown in the above table, the leading causes of action filed in the second quarter of 2021 at the St. Mary Parish Court was breach of contract with 36 or roughly 42.86% of the sample and recovery of possession with 31 or 36.90% of the total sample of causes of action. Damages for negligence with 8 or 9.52% and arrears of rent with 5 or 5.95% rank next. The causes of action in this sample are rounded off by damages with 3.57% of the sample and special damages with 1.19%.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	144	66.36
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	36	16.59
Richmond Outstation	15	6.91
Annotto Bay Outstation	14	6.45
Gayle Outstation	8	3.69
Total	217*	100.0

***Note: Corresponding to 178 cases**

The above data is computed using a sample of 217 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021. The largest proportion of this sample was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 144 or 66.36% of the sample. Courtroom number 3 at the main courthouse with 36 or 16.59% of the sample and the Richmond outstation with 15 or 6.91% of the sample rounds off the top 3 accommodations. The list is completed by the Annotto Bay outstation with 14 or 6.45% and the Gayle outstation with 8 or 3.69%.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	105	48.39
Female	96	44.24
Registered Company	16	7.37
Total	217	100

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 217 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021 at the St. Mary Parish Court-Civil Division, males accounted for the largest proportion of plaintiffs with 105 or 48.39%, followed by females with 96 or 44.24%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 16 or 7.37% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	153	70.51
Female	54	24.88
Registered Company	10	4.61
Total	217	100.0

There were 259 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were males with 153 or 70.51%, followed by females with 54 or 24.88% of the sample. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 10 or 4.61% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for second quarter ended June 30, 2021

This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantum of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delay factors explored are the reasons for adjournment and the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, which were completed in the quarter, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	93	51.96
Trial	54	30.17
Part-heard Date	20	11.17
Default Judgment Date	10	5.59
Final Judgement Date	2	1.12
Total	179	100.0

The above table shows a sample of 179 matters that went to court during the second ended June 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a default judgment, final judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 93 or 51.96% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 54 or 30.17%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were the 20 or 11.17% of the matters which were adjourned for part heard dates. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for a mention hearing and that a notable proportion of the adjournments are for default judgments. The high frequency of adjournments associated with mention matters is not unusual as this stage is intrinsic to case management and case preparation and to the overall case process flow.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Reasons for adjournment/continuance	Frequency	Percentage (%)
For Mention	49	27.22
For Judgement	5	2.78
Other	126	70.00
Total	180	100

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 180 incidences of adjournments or continuances for matters heard in the second quarter of 2021. Other than the reasons for adjournment pooled under “other”, continuances, which are adjournments intrinsic to the progression of a case, for mention account for the largest proportion of the sample with 49 or 27.22% and continuances for judgment with 5 or 2.78% rank next.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	86	42.36
Other	51	25.12
Consent	24	11.82
withdrawal	14	6.90
Settlement	10	4.93
Default Judgment	10	4.93
Sub-Total	195	96.06

NB: There were 203 matters disposed for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

The above table details the leading methods of disposition for a sample of 203 civil matters disposed at the St. Mary Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. Matters struck out with 86 or 42.36%, the methods of disposition pooled under “other” dispositions with 51 or 25.12% and matters disposed by consent with 24 or 11.82% are the leading methods of disposition in the sample. Disposals by withdrawals with 6.90% of the sample rank next followed by disposals by settlements and disposal by default judgments with 4.93% each complete the list. The listed methods of disposition account for 96.06% of the total sample of matters disposed during the quarter.

Table 11.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Combined number disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross Case disposal rate (%)
178	54	193	108.43	30.34

The above table shows 178 new cases filed at the St. Mary Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 50 of these cases were disposed and 4 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 30.34%. An approximate gross figure

of 161 cases were disposed, and 32 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 108.43%, which meets the international standard for this metric, but 13.79 percentage points lower than the second quarter of 2020.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 28.74% and the estimated net clearance rate is 92.53%, a 22.16 percentage point improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2020.

The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
27	15	44.44

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 27 trial dates were set in the second quarter of 2021 shows that 15 were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 44.44%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 44% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

Table 13.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	116
Mean	182.18
Std. Error of Mean	22.715
Median	91.00
Mode	91
Std. Deviation	244.653
Skewness	2.501
Std. Error of Skewness	.225
Range	1107
Minimum	2
Maximum	1109

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 116 civil cases disposed in the second quarter of 2021 at the St. Mary Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of this sample of cases is roughly 182 days or 6.1 months, which is roughly 29 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 91 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 245 days suggests that the times taken to disposition were spread out over a large range of values and the positive skewness is an indication that a greater proportion of times to disposition fell below the overall average time. The oldest case disposed in the quarter was 1109 days or roughly 3 years old, while minimum time taken to disposed of cases was 2 days. The wide dispersion of the highest score from the centre of the data set suggests that there were outlying values in the distribution.

Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	294
Mean	383.7551
Std. Error of Mean	28.79639
Median	205.0000
Mode	205.00
Std. Deviation	493.75531
Skewness	3.073
Std. Error of Skewness	.142
Range	2863.00
Minimum	23.00
Maximum	2886.00

The above data is based on sample of 294 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2020. The average age of these matters was roughly 384 days (or roughly 12.8 months), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution and the median age were both 205 days. The standard deviation of roughly 493.76 days suggests that there is a large dispersion of the individual scores, while the high positive skewness seen is an indication that there were decidedly more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter in the data set is 2886 days old or roughly 8 years, while the minimum age was 23 days. The wide dispersion of the highest score from the centre of the data set suggests that there were outlying values in the distribution.

Portland Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics at the Portland Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	51	76.12
Disposed	9	13.43
Inactive	7	10.45
Total	67	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 67 new cases filed at the Portland Parish Court in the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 51 or 76.12% were still active, 9 or 13.43% were disposed and 7 or 10.45% were inactive. This data suggests that the estimated gross case disposal rate for the quarter was 23.88%.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of claim	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	52	73.24
Small Claim	19	26.76
Total	71	100.00

The above table shows that from the 71 new claims filed in the quarter, the larger proportion of which 52 or 73.24% were big claims, while 19 or 26.76% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	35	54.69
Bailiff	29	45.31
Total	64	100.00

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the higher proportion with 35 or 54.69% of the sample, while service by the bailiff accounted for 29 or 45.31%.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action filed at the Portland Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	31	45.59
Recovery of Possession	16	23.53
Outstanding Debt	3	4.41
Rent Owing and Continuing	3	4.41
Negligence	2	2.94
Negligence And Damages	2	2.94
Sub-total	57	83.82

Total sample size of causes of action= 68

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. Using a sample of 68 matters filed, the data reveals that the leading causes of action filed were breach of contract with 31 or roughly 45.59% of the total sample, recovery of possession with 16 or 23.53%, outstanding debt and rent owing and continuing with 3 or 4.41% each. Negligence and negligence and damages round off the top five causes of action for the quarter with 2.94% each. The top causes of action, which are listed above, account for 83.82% of the sample.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	13	23.64
Buff Bay Outstation (courthouse #2)	13	23.64
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	10	18.18
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	10	18.18
Manchioneal Outstation	7	12.73
Buff Bay Outstation (courthouse #1)	2	3.64
Total	55	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 52 cases**

The largest proportion of the sample of 55 new matters filed in the quarter was entered in courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse and sittings at courtroom 2 at the Buff Bay outstation which accounted for 13 or 23.64% each of the sample of accommodations. 10 or 18.18% each that were entered in courtroom number 1 and 3 at the main courthouse followed this, while the 7 matters that entered in Manchioneal outstation rank next. Courtroom number 1 at the Buff Bay outstation account for 2 or 3.64% of the accommodations.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	31	45.59
Female	28	41.18
Registered Company	9	13.24
Total	68	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 68 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021, males accounted for the largest proportion with 31 or 45.59%, followed by females with 28 or 41.18% and registered companies with 9 or 13.24%.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	45	66.18
Female	21	30.88
Registered Company	2	2.94
Total	68	100.00

There were 68 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the quarter. The majority of defendants were male with 45 or 66.18% of the sample, followed by females with 21 or 30.88% of the sample and registered companies with 2 or 2.94%.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantum of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delay factors explored are the reasons for adjournment and the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, which were completed in the quarter, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 8.0: Distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	183	46.92
Trial	104	26.67
Part-Heard Date	61	15.64
Default Judgment Date	40	10.26
Date for Order	2	0.51
Total	390	100.00

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 390 matters that were heard during the second quarter ended June 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a default, mention, part heard, trial or other similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 183 or 46.92% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 104 or 26.67%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Adjournments for part heard dates with 61 or 15.64% and for default judgment dates with 40 or 10.26% accounted for the largest proportions. This data provides insights into the distribution of the stages of adjournment during the quarter at the Portland Parish Court.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Reasons for adjournments	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Pending Settlement	40	11.56
Defendant Absent	35	10.12
Both Parties Absent	26	7.51
New date	24	6.94
No Return/Re-Issued	20	5.78
Sub-total	145	41.91

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)=346

The above data is computed from a sample of 346 reasons for adjournment heard in the second quarter of 2021. Adjournments due to pending settlements with 40 or 11.56% account for the highest share of the adjournments, followed by adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 35 or 10.12%. Adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 26 or 7.51% of the sample account for the third highest share of the reasons for adjournment. The list is completed by adjournments for a new date to be set with 24 or 6.94% of the sample and no return/ for re-issue with 20 or 5.78% rank next. The reasons for adjournment listed account for 41.91% of the total sample of reasons for adjournments/continuances.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	16	28.57
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	9	16.07
Settlement	9	16.07
Struck Out	7	12.50
Judgment	5	8.93
Sub-total	46	82.14

NB: There were 56 matters disposed for the second quarter ended June 30,2021

A total of 56 civil matters were disposed at the Portland Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. The distribution is led by disposals by consent with 16 or 28.57% of the sample, followed by disposals by notices of discontinuance (NOD) and disposals by settlement with 9 or 16.07% each. Matters struck out with 7 or 12.50% and matters disposed by final judgments with 5 or 8.93% complete the top 5 methods of disposition for the quarter. The top 5 methods of dispositions enumerated above account for 82.14% of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 11.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross Case disposal rate (%)
67	16	79	117.91	23.88

The above table shows 46 new cases filed at the Portland Court during the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 9 of these cases were disposed and 7 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 23.88%. An approximate gross figure of 64 cases were disposed, and 15 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which having dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 117.91%,

which exceeds the international standard for this metric and represents a decrease of 18.2 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2020.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 15% and the estimated net clearance rate is 106.67%, an improvement of 15 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2021. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
56	9	83.93

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. Using A sample of 56 trial dates set in the quarter, it is seen that 9 were adjourned for reasons other than procedural factors. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 83.93% which suggests that during the quarter there was roughly an 84% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

Table 13.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	51
Mean	408.9216
Std. Error of Mean	62.94322
Median	224.0000
Mode	224.00
Std. Deviation	449.50448
Skewness	1.512
Std. Error of Skewness	.333
Range	1687.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	1694.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 51 civil matters disposed in second quarter of 2021 at the Portland Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 409 days (14 months), which is roughly 153 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition and the median time to disposition were both 224 days. There is a high standard deviation of roughly 450 days, is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness observed is an indication that the larger proportion of the scores in this data series fall below the overall mean. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1694 days or roughly 5 years old, while the youngest was 7 days.

Table 14.0a: Descriptive statistics on the age of active cases as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	474
Mean	805.7004
Std. Error of Mean	31.17360
Median	632.0000
Mode	1633.00
Std. Deviation	678.69735
Skewness	.953
Std. Error of Skewness	.112
Range	3474.00
Minimum	21.00
Maximum	3495.00

The above data is computed using 474 active cases at the end of the second quarter of 2021. The average age of these cases was roughly 806 days (2.2 years), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 1633 days (4.5 years). The standard deviation of roughly 679 days suggests that there is some dispersion of the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set fall below the mean. The oldest active case in this sample was 3495 days (9.7 years), while the youngest 21 days.

Table 14.0b: Descriptive statistics on the age of active cases reissued as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	35
Mean	276.4286
Std. Error of Mean	34.80250
Median	205.0000
Mode	58.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	205.89436
Skewness	.637
Std. Error of Skewness	.398
Range	644.00
Minimum	23.00
Maximum	667.00

^a Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 35 active reissued matters at the Portland Parish Court as at the end of the second quarter ended June 30, 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 276 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 58 and the median age was 205 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some amount of variation among the individual scores, with the positive skewness indicating that a larger proportion of the ages fell below the overall average. The highest age in the data set was 667 days and the lowest was 23 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

St. Thomas Parish Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Thomas Parish Court.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	107	86.29
Disposed	15	12.10
Inactive	2	1.61
Total	124	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 124 new cases was filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court in second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 107 cases or 86.29% of these cases were still active, while 15 were disposed and 2 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 13.71%, which is an 8.23 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2020.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	94	69.63
Small Claim	41	30.37
Total	135	100.00

The above table shows that from the 135 new claims filed in the second quarter of 2021, the larger proportion of which 94 or 69.63% were big claims, while 41 or 30.37% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action filed at the St. Thomas parish court for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	43	32.58
Recovery of Possession	21	15.91
Negligence	18	13.64
Money Owing	9	6.82
Detinue and Conversion	5	3.79
Sub-total	96	72.73

Total sample size of causes of action= 132

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action filed in the second quarter of 2021 at the St. Thomas Parish Court was breach of contract with 43 or roughly 32.58% of the sample. Recovery of possession with 21 or 15.91% and negligence with 18 or 13.64% of the sample rounds off the top three causes of action in this representative sample. Money owing with 9 or 6.82% and detinue and conversion with 5 or 3.79% of the sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 72.73% of all the total sample of 132 causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	61	45.86
Yallahs Outstation	39	29.32
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	33	24.81
Total	133*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 122 cases**

The largest proportion of a sample of 133 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021 was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 61 or 45.86% of

the sample. The Yallahs outstation accounted for 39 or 29.32% and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for 33 or 24.81% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2020

Table 5.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	71	55.04
Male	56	43.41
Registered Company	2	1.55
Total	129	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 129 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021 at the St. Thomas Parish Court, females accounted for the largest proportion with 71 or 55.04%, followed by males with 56 or 43.41%. Registered companies accounted for the lowest proportion with 2 or 1.55% of the sample.

Table 6.0: Distribution of defendants in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	94	72.31
Female	36	27.69
Total	130	100.00

There were 130 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were male with 94 or 72.31% of the sample, followed by females with 36 or 27.69% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantum of cases disposed prior to

enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delay factors explored are the reasons for adjournment and the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 7.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Date for Order	105	35.84
Trial	78	26.62
Mention Date	64	21.84
Default Judgment Date	27	9.22
Part-Heard Date	18	6.14
Final Judgment Date	1	0.34
Total	293	100.00

The above table is computed based on a sample of 293 cases adjourned during the second quarter of 2021. The largest proportion, 105 or 35.84% were adjourned for an order to be handed down, followed by 78 or 26.62% which were adjourned for a trial date. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 64 or 21.84% of matters, which were adjourned for mention dates. Matters adjourned for a default judgment date with 27 or 9.22% and for a part heard date with 18 or 6.14% rank next.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment/continuance for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Reasons For Adjournment/Continuance	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Placed on Trial List	36	17.73
Defendant Absent	30	14.78
Judge Absent/Ill	29	14.29
Both Parties Absent	14	6.90

Attorney Absent	13	6.40
Sub-total	122	60.10

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 203

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 203 incidences of adjournments in the second quarter of 2021. Adjournments due to placement on the trial list with 36 or 17.73% of the sample, adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 30 or 14.78% and adjournments due the judge being absent or ill with 29 or 14.29% of the adjournments rounds off the top three. Adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 6.90% and the absence of attorneys with 13 or 6.40% of the sample round off this list. The listed reasons for adjournment account for 60.10% of the total sample of adjournments.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	32	31.07
Consent	20	19.42
Oral Admission	17	16.50
Trial	13	12.62
Default judgment	9	8.74
sub-total	91	88.35

NB: there were 103 matters were disposed in the second quarter of 2021

The above table details the top five methods of disposal computed from a sample of 103 matters. The list is led by matters struck out with 32 or 31.07% of the sample. Matters disposed by consent 20 or 19.42% and matters disposed by oral admissions with 17 or 16.50% rank next. Matters disposed at trial with 13 or 12.62% and matters disposed by default judgments with 9 or 8.74% round off the list. The listed methods of disposition account for roughly 88.35% of the sample.

Table 10.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
124	17	128	103.23	13.71

The above table shows 124 new cases filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 15 cases were disposed and 2 became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 13.71%, an increase of 8.23 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2020. A gross figure of 94 cases were disposed, and 34 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 103.23%, which meets the international standard for this metric and represents a decrease of 6.36 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2020.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 12.30%, and the estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 77.05%, a 33.57 percentage points increase when compared to the second quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty rate for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty rate (%)
22	2	90.91

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 22 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that 2 were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 90.91%. The output suggests that during the quarter there was an estimated 91% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

Table 12.0: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	80
Mean	392.1875
Std. Error of Mean	34.00788
Median	262.5000
Mode	119.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	304.17571
Skewness	.604
Std. Error of Skewness	.269
Range	1029.00
Minimum	28.00
Maximum	1057.00

^a Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 80 civil matters disposed in the second quarter of 2021 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these

matters is roughly 392 days or 13 months, which is roughly 94 less days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 119 days. There is a standard deviation of roughly 304 days is an indication that there is some variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness suggests that there were more scores falling below the overall average time taken to dispose of the cases. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1057 days or roughly 2.9 years old, while the minimum time taken was 28 days.

Table 13.0a: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	414
Mean	706.4300
Std. Error of Mean	37.53494
Median	364.0000
Mode	2276.00
Std. Deviation	763.72307
Skewness	1.215
Std. Error of Skewness	.120
Range	2253.00
Minimum	23.00
Maximum	2276.00

The above data is based on sample of 414 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 706 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 2276 days or 6.3 years. The high standard deviation of roughly 764 days suggests that there is wide dispersion in the individual scores in the data set, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that most in the scores in the data set fall below

the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 2276 days or 6.3 years, while the youngest case was 23 days.

Table 13.0b: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters reissued as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive Statistics (days)	
Number of observations	53
Mean	342.1887
Std. Error of Mean	46.27031
Median	148.0000
Mode	148.00
Std. Deviation	336.85297
Skewness	1.892
Std. Error of Skewness	.327
Range	1309.00
Minimum	57.00
Maximum	1366.00

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 53 active reissued matters at the St. Thomas Parish Court as at the end of the second quarter ended June 30, 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 342 days, while the most frequently occurring age and the median age were both 148 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some amount of variation among the individual scores, with the positive skewness indicating that proportionately more of the ages were below the overall series average. The highest age in the data set was 1366 days and the lowest was 57 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

St. Elizabeth Parish Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Elizabeth Parish Court.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	224	91.43
Disposed	21	8.57
Inactive	0	0.00
Total	245	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 245 new cases filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court in the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 224 cases or 91.43% of these cases were still active, while 21 were disposed and 0 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated net disposal rate of 8.57%.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2020

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	146	54.28
Small Claim	123	45.72
Total	269	100.00

The above table shows that from 269 new claims filed in the quarter, the larger proportion were big claims, which accounted for 146, or 54.28% of the total sample, while 123 or 45.72% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Goods Sold and Delivered	38	25.50
Monies Owing	27	18.12
Breach of Contract	12	8.05
Recovery of Possession	12	8.05
Cattle Trespass	9	6.04
Damages	9	6.04
Sub-total	107	71.81

Total sample size of causes of action= 149

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The data in the above table is computed using a sample of 149 causes of action. As shown in the above table, the leading cause of action filed in the second quarter of 2021 at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court were goods sold and delivered with 38 or roughly 25.50% of the sample. Monies owing with 27 or 18.12% and breach of contract and recovery of possession with 12 or 8.05% each of the sample rounds off the top causes of action in this representative sample. The top five causes of action are rounded off by cattle trespass and damages with 9 or 6.04% of the sample each. The top five causes of action, which is listed above, accounts for 71.81% of all the total sample of 149 causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Santa Cruz Outstation (courtroom #1)	190	70.63
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	60	22.30
Balaclava Outstation (courtroom #1)	19	7.06
Total	269*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 245 cases**

The largest proportion of a sample of 269 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021 were entered in courtroom number 1 at the Santa Cruz outstation, which accounted for 190 or 70.63%

of the sample. Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounted for 60 or 22.30% while the Balaclava outstation (courtroom #1) accounted for 19 or 7.06% of the total.

Table 5.0: Sampling distribution of applications filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Type of Application	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Order for Personal Service	267	99.26
Application for Court Order	2	0.74
Total	269	100.00

A sample of 269 applications filed during the second quarter of 2021 revealed that applications for order for personal service accounted for the higher proportion with 267 or 99.26% of the applications filed in the quarter, while 2 or 0.74% were applications for court order.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	137	51.12
Female	120	44.78
Registered Company	9	3.36
Trading As	2	0.75
Total	268	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 268 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021 at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court, males accounted for the largest proportion with 137 or 51.12% of the sample, followed by females with 120 or 44.78%. Registered companies accounted for the 9 or 3.36% of the sample and individuals trading under a business name (“Trading as”) accounted for the lowest proportion with 2 or 0.75% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	178	66.17
Female	86	31.97
Trading As	3	1.12
Registered Company	2	0.74
Total	269	100.00

There were 269 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2021. As with the claimants, the majority of defendants were male with 178 or 66.17% of the sample, followed by females with 86 or 31.97%. Individuals trading as businesses (“Trading as”) accounted for 1.12% of the sample and registered companies account for the remaining 0.74% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantum of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delay factors explored are the reasons for adjournment and the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, which were completed in the quarter, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Trial	180	42.25
Mention Date	162	38.03
Part-Heard Date	39	9.15
Default Judgment Date	36	8.45
Hearing of Application	6	1.41
Final Judgment Date	3	0.70
Total	426	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 426 matters that went to court during the second ended June 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a default, judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural dates. The largest proportion, 180 or 42.25% were adjourned for trial dates, followed by 162 or 38.03%, which were adjourned for mention dates. Rounding off the top incidences of procedural adjournments were 39 or 9.15% of matters, which were adjourned for a part heard date, 36 or 8.45% which were adjourned for a default judgment date, 1.41% which were adjourned for the hearing of an application date and 0.70% which were adjourned for a final judgment date.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment/continuance for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Reasons For Adjournment/Continuance	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Placed on Trial List	141	33.10
Defendant Absent	54	12.68
Pending Settlement	21	4.93
Plaintiff Absent	21	4.93
Refer to Surveyor	18	4.23
Sub-total	255	59.86

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 426

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 426 incidences of adjournments heard in the second quarter of 2021. Adjournments due to placement on trial list with 141 or 33.10% of the sample, adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 54 or 12.68% and adjournments due to pending settlements and the absence of plaintiffs with 21 or 4.93% rounds off the top three incidences in the sample. The list is completed by referrals to surveyor with 18 or 4.23% of the sample.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the quarter ended June 30, 2021

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	55
Average Incidence	1.1

Corresponding to 49 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 55 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 49 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.1 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 11 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution on the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	67	23.51
Default Judgment	43	15.09
Settlement	36	12.63
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	33	11.58
Oral Admission	26	9.12
Sub-total	205	71.93

NB: there were 285 matters were disposed in the second quarter of 2020

A total of 285 civil matters were disposed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. The above table details the top five methods of disposal, which accounts for 205 or 71.93% of the total sample. The list is led by matters struck out with 67 or 23.51% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by default judgements with 43 or 15.09% and disposals by settlements with 36 or 12.63%. Matters disposed by notices of discontinuance (NOD) and matters disposed by oral admissions round off the top five methods with 33 or 11.58% and 9.12% respectively of the total dispositions.

Table 12.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)	Approximate net case disposal rate (%)
245	21	229	93.47	8.57

The above table shows 245 new cases filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court during the second quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 21 of these cases were disposed, leading to an estimated net case disposal rate of 8.57%. A gross figure of 226 cases were disposed, and 3 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 93.47%, which meets the international standard for this metric.

The estimated net clearance rate is 92.24%, which is 80.55 percentage points above the rate recorded in the comparative second quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty rate for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Estimated Trial date certainty rate (%)
82	11	86.59

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 82 trial dates was set in the quarter of which 11 were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 86.59%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 87% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

Table 14.0a: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	203
Mean	211.3990
Std. Error of Mean	14.75240
Median	151.0000
Mode	328.00
Std. Deviation	210.18939
Skewness	1.853
Std. Error of Skewness	.171
Range	1157.00
Minimum	12.00
Maximum	1169.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 203 civil matters disposed in the second quarter of 2021 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 211 days or 7 months, which is roughly 111 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 328 days. There is a high standard deviation which is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores in the series. The positive skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores falling below the overall average time taken to dispose of the cases. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1169 days or roughly 3.2 years old, while the minimum time taken was 12 days.

Table 14.0b: Descriptive Statistics on the time between reissue and disposal of matters resolved in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (days)	
Number of observations	37
Mean	181.4324
Std. Error of Mean	26.21050
Median	154.0000
Mode	36.00
Std. Deviation	159.43225
Skewness	1.969
Std. Error of Skewness	.388
Range	755.00
Minimum	28.00
Maximum	783.00

The above table outlines summary data on the time between the reissue and disposal of a sample of 37 matters at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court. The average time between the reissue date and date of disposition is 181 days. The standard deviation is an indication that there was some

amount of variation in the distribution of the scores and the positive skewness suggests that the larger proportion of the scores in this data series fell below the overall average. The maximum age observed was 783 days, while the lowest was 28 days.

Table 15.0a: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	1569
Mean	378.0943
Std. Error of Mean	6.96073
Median	275.0000
Mode	267.00
Std. Deviation	275.71885
Skewness	.570
Std. Error of Skewness	.062
Range	1236.00
Minimum	2.00
Maximum	1238.00

The above data is based on sample of 1569 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 378 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 267 days. The standard deviation of roughly 276 days suggests that there is some dispersion of the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 1238 days old or roughly 3.4 years, while the minimum time taken is 2 days.

Table 15.0b: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters reissued as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	78
Mean	181.9103
Std. Error of Mean	15.84713
Median	147.0000
Mode	300.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	139.95808
Skewness	.667
Std. Error of Skewness	.272
Range	601.00
Minimum	2.00
Maximum	603.00

^a Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 78 active reissued matters at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court as at the end of the second ended June 30, 2020. The average age of these matters was roughly 182 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 300 and the median age was 147 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some dispersion in the individual scores, with the modest positive skewness indicating some cluster of the scores around the average. The highest age in the data set was 603 days and the lowest was 2 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

Performance Summaries-Other Parish Courts

Table 1.0: Key Performance Indicators for the Civil Divisions of the St. James, Manchester and Clarendon Parish Courts for the second quarter of 2021

Parish Court	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)	Net Case Clearance Rate (%)	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%)	Net Case Disposal Rate (%)	Trial Date certainty Rate (%)
Clarendon PC	77.32	37.63	43.30	25.26	75.15
St. James PC	-	90.21	-	-	-
Manchester PC	-	134.92	-	-	-

The summary of key performance metrics for the parish courts of Clarendon, Manchester and St. James shows that the civil division of the Clarendon Parish Court recorded an estimated gross case clearance rate of 77.32% in the second quarter of 2021. This court also registered an estimated net clearance rate of 37.63% in the quarter and gross and net case disposal rates of 43.30% and 25.26% respectively. The Clarendon Parish Court also recorded a trial date certainty rate of 75.15% for the second quarter of 2021. The estimated case net clearance rate for the St. James Parish Court in the quarter was 90.21% while the Manchester Parish Court (small and big claims combined) recorded an estimated net clearance rate of 134.92% for the quarter.

Aggregate data summaries – all Parish Courts

Table 1.0: Aggregate case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Clearance rate (%)
4454	5160	115.85

The above table provides a summary of aggregate case activity across the civil division of the parish courts in the second quarter of 2021. It shows that a total of 4454 new cases were filed over the quarter, while 5160 became inactive or were disposed, leading to an estimated gross clearance rate of 115.85%.

Table 2.0: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the second quarter (April-June) 2020 and 2021

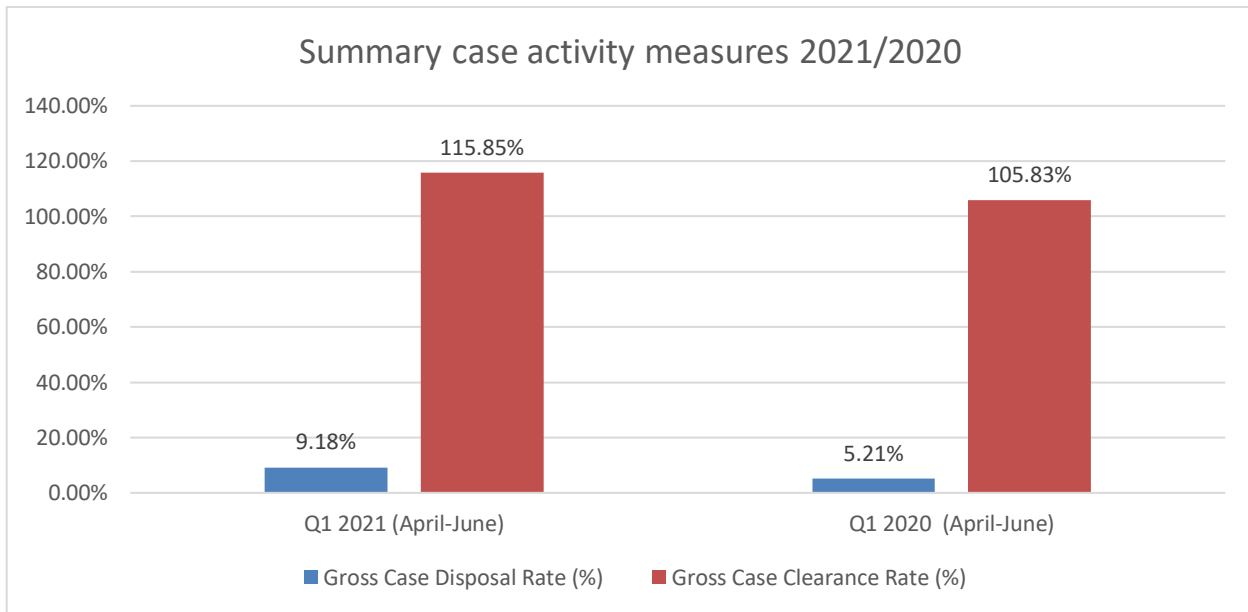
Parish Court	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%) Q2 2021	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%) Q2 2020	Change in the Gross Case Disposal Rate (%)	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%) Q2 2021	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%) Q2 2020	Change in the Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)
St. Thomas	13.71	5.48	8.23	103.23	109.59	-6.36
Corporate Area- Civil	-	1.54	-	112.37	496.15	-383.78
St. Elizabeth	-	-	-	93.47	-	-
Hanover	72.34	83.33	-10.99	285.11	220.83	64.28
Manchester	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portland	23.88	-	-	117.91	136.11	-18.2
St. Ann	4.72	2.03	2.69	141.99	63.96	78.03
St. Catherine	10.81	0.74	10.07	113.90	82.93	30.97
St. Mary	30.34	-	-	108.43	122.22	-13.79
Trelawny	17.31	7.59	9.72	112.82	20.25	92.57
St. James	-	-	-	139.13	447.37	-308.24
Clarendon	43.30	-	-	77.32	-	-
Westmoreland	57.45	27.69	29.76	197.87	70	127.87
Average /Weighted Average	9.18	5.21	3.97	115.85	105.83	10.02
Standard Deviation	23.21	23.34		68.26	138.51	
Skewness	1.00	2.19		2.05	2.20	

Note: Q2- Refers to quarter one (April to June of 2021 and 2020 respectively)

The table above provides a comparison of the case disposal rate, the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate for the second quarters of 2021 and 2020. The weighted average gross case disposal rate for the second quarter of 2021 was 9.18%, which was 3.97 percentage points improvement when compared to the 2020 weighted average rate of 5.21%. The gross case

clearance rate of 115.85% for the second quarter of 2021 was 10.02 percentage points above the 105.83% recorded in the second quarter 2020.

Chart 1.0: Aggregate summary of case activity metrics for the second quarter of 2020 and 2021



The above graph provides a summary of the progression of the overall case disposal and case clearance for second quarter of 2021 and 2020. It is seen that there has been an improvement in the gross disposal rate and in the gross case clearance rate over the comparative period. The case clearance rate moved from 105.83% in the second quarter of 2020 to 115.85% in the current 2021 second quarter. The disposal rate moved from 5.21% in the second quarter of 2020 to 9.18% in the current second quarter of 2021, an increase of 3.97 percentage points.

Chart 2.0a: Comparison of case disposal rates across the parish courts for the second quarters of 2020 and 2021

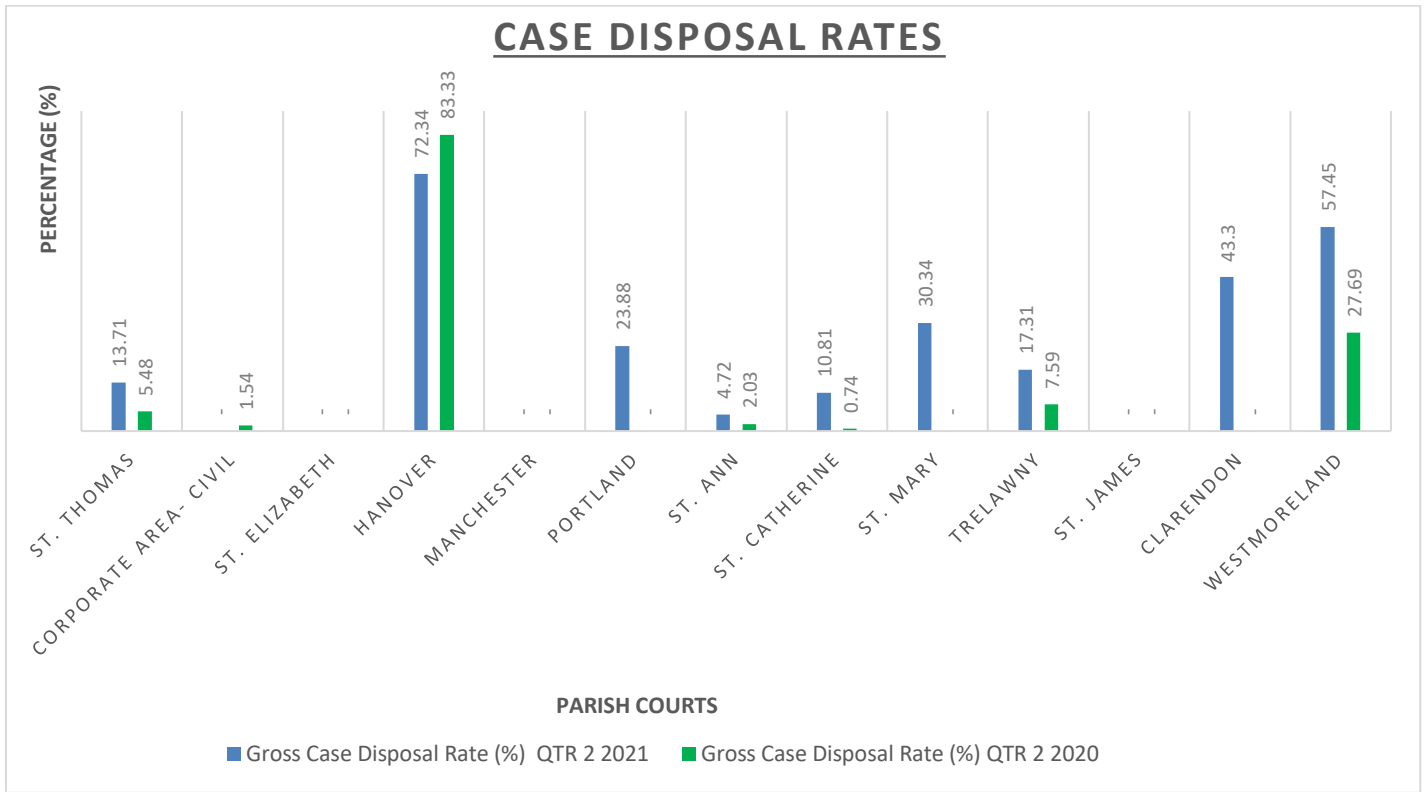


Chart 2.0b: Comparison of case clearance rates across the parish courts for the second quarter of 2020 and 2021

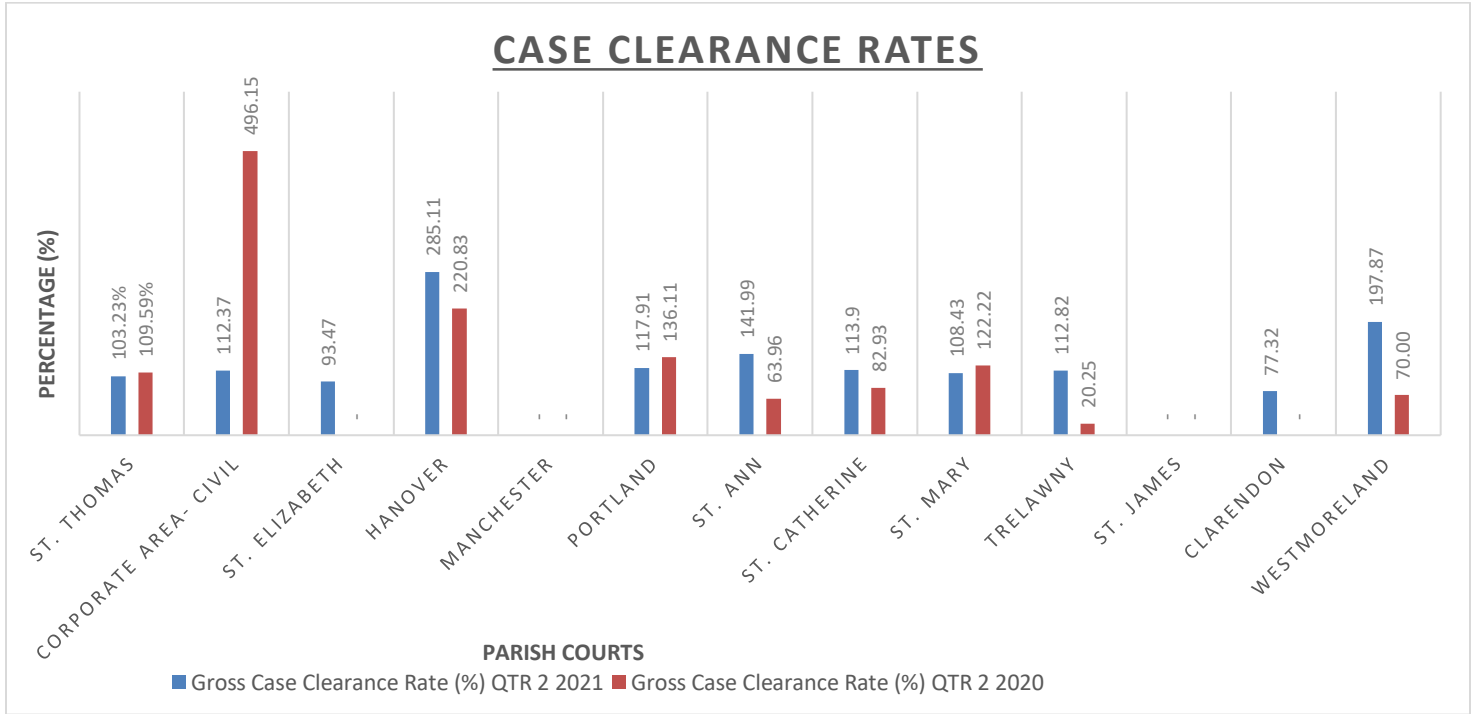


Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of claims filed during the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Parish Court	Big Claims	Small Claims	POCA	Miscellaneous	Total
Corporate area	1132	323	-	-	1455
Hanover	40	11	-	-	51
Manchester	310	48			358
Portland	52	19	-	-	71
St. Ann	381	68	1	-	450
St. Catherine	840	103	-	-	943
St. Elizabeth	146	123	-	-	269
St. Mary	167	50	-	-	217
St. Thomas	94	41	-	-	135
Trelawny	129	45	-	-	174
Westmoreland	96	19	-	-	115
St. James	252	126	-	-	378
Clarendon	154	40	-	-	194
Total	3793	1016	1	0	4810

The above table provides an overall summary of the claims files across the parish courts in the second quarter of 2021. The sample of 4810 new claims filed in the second quarter of 2021 reveals that 3793 or 78.86% were big claims, while 21.12% were small claims and 0.02% were POCA matters. The Corporate Area Parish Court – Civil Division, the St. Catherine Parish Court and the St. James Parish Court accounts for the largest share of new complaints filed in the quarter. The Corporate Area Parish Court – Civil Division, the St. Catherine and St. Ann Parish Courts account for the largest share of big claims filed in the quarter, while the Corporate Area Court –

Civil Division, the St. James Parish Court and the St. Elizabeth Parish Court accounts for the largest shares of small claims filed.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of new cases filed per 10,000 in the civil division of the parish courts in the second quarter of 2021

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Population size in parish	Case per 10,000 population
St. Ann	381	172362	22
Clarendon	194	245103	8
Corporate area	1455	662426	22
Hanover	47	69533	7
Manchester	358	189797	19
Portland	67	81744	8
St. Catherine	777	516218	15
St. Elizabeth	245	150205	16
St. James	378	183811	21
St. Mary	178	69533	26
St. Thomas	124	93902	13
Trelawny	156	75164	21
Westmoreland	94	144103	7
Total	4454	2697983	17

The above table provides an outline of the number of new civil cases filed per 10,000 population in the parish courts (civil division) in the second quarter of 2021. The population sizes used are based on the last national population census in 2011 and therefore the data does not have full current value. Nevertheless, this kind of data provides interesting insights into the demand for the civil adjudication in the various parishes. It is seen that the parish of St. Mary, which is among the parishes with the smallest caseload and the smallest population sizes, registered the largest number of new civil cases filed per 10,000 population in the second quarter of 2021. St. Ann which is mid-range in population size but among the courts with the larger caseloads, ranked second. Equally interesting is the result that the parishes of Portland and Hanover had the

smallest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population in the quarter and had the smallest quarterly caseload. Westmoreland had the third lowest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population for the quarter.

Table 5.0: Distribution of courtroom utilization rates across the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Parish Court	Average overall courtroom utilization rate (%)	Highest recorded courtroom utilization rate (%)	Lowest recorded courtroom utilization rate (%)	Standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rate (%)	Average courtroom utilization rate for Night Court sittings (%)	Average number of courtroom adjournments per day
St. Catherine	54.34	120.83	2.78	28.43	N/A	1.2
Westmoreland	69.94	123.33	3.33	32.24	N/A	0.0
Trelawny	61.67	138.67	3.00	33.39	N/A	1.0
St. Thomas	56.33	108.33	4.44	27.19	N/A	1.0
St. Mary	64.02	131.67	12.33	31.06	N/A	1.0
St. James	60.78	142.33	4.67	29.58	N/A	1.1
Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division	60.09	116.67	3.33	29.65	N/A	1.0
St. Ann	71.54	201.39	4.17	35.41	N/A	2.0
Portland	57.66	255.00	0.00	34.46	N/A	1.2
Hanover	55.85	115.28	1.39	28.69	N/A	1.1
Clarendon	49.13	137.33	4.00	26.82	N/A	1.0
Manchester	61.86	272.33	2.00	32.66	N/A	1.0
St. Elizabeth	53.92	130.56	1.67	28.57	N/A	1.3
Overall Averages	59.78	153.36	3.62	30.63	N/A	1.07
Standard Deviation	6.31	54.13	2.94	2.79	N/A	0.42
Skewness	0.43	1.59	2.28	0.34	N/A	-0.53

The above table details the courtroom utilization rate for the various parish courts in the second quarter of 2021. The courtroom utilization rate provides a measurement of the proportion of available hours for open court hearings in all courtroom (including outstations) which are actually

utilized. If the usage of any courtroom exceeds the available hours, then the utilization rate will exceed 100% and the rate will fall below 100% if less than the available hours are utilized. The prescribed international standard for the courtroom utilization rate is 100%, which means that all hours allocated for court hearings in any court, on any given day should be utilized. The data suggests that as a whole, the parish courts of Jamaica performed below this level in the second quarter of 2021. The overall average courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in the quarter was 59.78%, which is an indication that on average roughly 60% of the available hours for court hearings were utilized across the parish courts in the second quarter of 2021. The parish courts recording the highest courtroom utilization rates for the quarter are the St. Ann and Westmoreland Parish Courts with 71.54% and 69.94% respectively, followed by the St. Mary Parish Court with 64.02% and the Manchester Parish Court with 61.86%. The Clarendon and St. Elizabeth Parish Courts with 49.13% and 53.92% respectively, had the lowest rates, while the St. Catherine Parish Court with 54.34% had the next lowest rate. The standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rates was relatively low, suggesting that on average the rates for the individual courts did not vary widely from the overall mean. This is affirmed by the low positive skewness of the data. Due to lockdown measures and daily curfew implemented by the Jamaican government to curb the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, none of the courts convened night court sittings for the second quarter of 2021.

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

Table 6.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Reasons for Adjournment	Count	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	861	17.23
Placed on Trial List	770	15.41
Both Parties Absent	398	7.96
No Return/Re-Issued	340	6.80
Pending Settlement	260	5.20
Plaintiff Absent	135	2.70
Attorney Absent	92	1.84
Parties in Discussion	82	1.64
Referred to Mediation	78	1.56
At Counsel's Request	61	1.22
Sub-total	3077	61.56

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance = (4,998)

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 4,998 reasons for adjournments/continuance for matters heard in the second quarter of 2021 across all of the parish courts (civil division). The largest proportion (17.23%) was due to the absence of defendants. Adjournments due to placement on the trial list with 15.41% and adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 7.96% rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment across the parish courts. Adjournments for no return/ for re-issue with 6.80% and pending settlements with 5.20%, round of the top five reasons for adjournment for the quarter. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above account for 61.56% of the total sample of adjournments.

Table 7.0a: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Parishes	Time interval in days							Sample size (n)
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269 days	270-364 days	365 -547 days	548-729 days	730 days and over	
Corporate Area Civil	3426 (38.3%)	1858 (20.8%)	940 (10.5%)	748 (8.4%)	798 (8.9%)	431 (4.8%)	735 (8.2%)	8936 (100%)
St. Catherine	1249 (33.9%)	848 (23.0%)	494 (13.4%)	316 (8.6%)	368 (10.0%)	143 (3.9%)	261 (7.1%)	3679 (100%)
Manchester (Small Claims)	43 (23%)	28 (15.0%)	23 (12.3%)	49 (26.2%)	28 (15.0%)	9 (4.8%)	7 (3.7%)	187 (100%)
Westmoreland	298 (61.3%)	92 (18.9%)	45 (9.3%)	32 (6.6%)	15 (3.1%)	3 (0.6%)	1 (0.2%)	486 (100%)
St. Ann	547 (34.5%)	332 (20.9%)	191 (12.0%)	138 (8.7%)	150 (9.5%)	70 (4.4%)	158 (10.0%)	1586 (100%)
St. Thomas	422 (36.6%)	296 (25.7%)	127 (11.0%)	81 (7.0%)	76 (6.6%)	52 (4.5%)	99 (8.6%)	1153 (100%)
Portland	193 (34.7%)	102 (18.3%)	70 (12.6%)	39 (7.0%)	53 (9.5%)	47 (8.5%)	52 (9.4%)	556 (100%)
St. Mary	772 (52.3%)	279 (18.9%)	133 (9.0%)	69 (4.7%)	102 (6.9%)	40 (2.7%)	81 (5.5%)	1476 (100%)
St. Elizabeth	818 (51.2%)	411 (25.7%)	161 (10.1%)	97 (6.1%)	68 (4.3%)	23 (1.4%)	19 (1.2%)	1597 (100%)
Trelawny	594 (62.5%)	161 (16.9%)	67 (7.0%)	34 (3.6%)	52 (5.5%)	19 (2.0%)	24 (2.5%)	951 (100%)
Hanover	363 (58.5%)	104 (16.8%)	56 (9.0%)	21 (3.4%)	21 (3.4%)	18 (2.9%)	37 (6.0%)	620 (100%)
% of Total	41.10	21.25	10.87	7.65	8.15	4.03	6.94	
Average	793.18	410.09	209.73	147.64	157.36	77.73	134.00	1929.73
Standard Deviation	934.44	531.26	274.79	215.85	234.54	123.48	213.83	2507.34
Skewness	2.61	2.41	2.30	2.59	2.47	2.79	2.63	2.59

Number of charges sampled (N) = 21,227

Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the last 42 months across the parish courts

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court as at June 30, 2021. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 42-month period. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed of in the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 41.10% of the

disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. Elizabeth and St. Mary are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed under 90 days. Cumulatively 80.87% 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 3-5 years. From the data set, the parish courts (civil division) of Corporate Area Parish Court, 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 6.94% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts-civil division of the Corporate Area Parish Court, St. Catherine, and St. Ann 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 are all relatively high, indicating that in each case a larger proportion of the scores fell below the applicable series mean.

Table 7.0b: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Civil	252.33	27	130	307.32	2.43	1	3018	8936
St. Catherine	249.70	28	145	289.82	2.35	1	1774	3679
Manchester (Small Claims)	266.18	28	252	197.72	1.04	2	1001	187
Westmoreland	107.07	364	63	119.32	1.94	1	755	486
St. Ann	321.98	28	148	506.69	3.90	1	5929	1586
St. Thomas	244.93	28	126	312.64	2.64	1	2365	1153
Portland	290.91	28	154	334.32	1.94	3	1778	556
St. Mary	178.82	28	79.5	242.24	2.33	1	1579	1476
St. Elizabeth	133.24	28	82	150.96	2.66	1	1169	1597
Trelawny	135.85	28	63	197.30	3.19	1	1597	951
Hanover	168.69	28	64	271.04	3.25	1	1852	620
Total/Weighted Average	232.75	58.45	118.77	266.31	2.52	1.27	2074.27	1929.73
Standard Deviation	71.66	101.34	57.29	105.72	0.77	0.65	1422.90	2507.34
Skewness	-0.10	3.32	1.19	0.93	-0.07	2.42	2.27	2.59

Number of charges sampled (N) = 21,227

Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the last 42 months across the parish courts

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court as at June 30, 2021. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 42-month period. The output produces an estimated overall weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Civil Division) of approximately 233 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a low negative figure, suggesting that these times were generally clustered around the overall mean. For matters disposed in the period, the parish courts of Westmoreland (107 days), St. Elizabeth (133 days) and Trelawny (136 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of St. Ann (321 days), Portland

(291 days) and Manchester (266 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters disposed over the period of analysis. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is showed to be modest, as conferred by the standard deviation of 71.66. The average minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 1.27 days; however, the average maximum times are substantially larger. These results are 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 755 days (25.2 months/2.1 years) in the Westmoreland Parish Court, to a high of 5929 days (198 months/16.5 years) in the St. Ann Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a high positive value, which is an indication that a larger proportion of the maximum times to disposition were below the series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial and representative 21,227 matters.

Table 7.0c: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed in the quarter ended June 30, 2021

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Civil Division	384.82	705	192	445.86	2.45	6	3122	401
St. Catherine	383.31	497	221.50	404.81	2.01	7	2055	468
Manchester (Small Claims)	207.14	119	119	207.21	1.35	2	786	28
Westmoreland	148.59	182	105	144.29	1.70	5	755	112
St. Ann	532.67	91	219	806.91	3.33	3	5929	253
St. Thomas	392.19	119	262.50	304.18	0.604	28	1057	80
Portland	408.92	224	224	449.50	1.51	7	1694	51
St. Mary	182.18	91	91	244.65	2.50	2	1109	116
St. Elizabeth	211.40	328	151	210.19	1.85	12	1169	203
Trelawny	271.60	119	84.50	421.04	2.55	7	2230	116
Hanover	357.23	184	184	480.90	2.13	7	1852	69
Total/Weighted Average	349.68	241.73	168.50	374.50	2.00	7.82	1978.00	172.45
Standard Deviation	119.60	196.23	61.58	184.90	0.73	7.28	1491.96	145.57
Skewness	0.17	1.68	-0.08	1.14	-0.12	2.46	2.12	1.23

Number of charges sampled (N) = 1,897

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court in the quarter ended June 30, 2021. The output produces an estimated overall weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Civil Division) of approximately 350 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a low positive output, suggesting that these times were generally clustered around the overall mean. For matters disposed of in the period, the parish courts of Westmoreland (149 days), St. Mary (182 days) and Manchester (207 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of St. Ann (533 days), Portland (409 days) and St. Thomas (392 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters disposed over the period of analysis. The average variation among the

times to disposition across the parish courts is showed to be modest, as conferred by the standard deviation. The average minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 7.82 days; however, the average maximum times are substantially larger. These results are 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 755 days (25.2 months/2.1 years) in the Westmoreland Parish Court, to a high of 5929 days (198 months/16.5 years) in the St. Ann Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is positive, which is an indication that proportionately more of the maximum times to disposition fell below the series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial and representative 1,897 matters.

Table 8.0d: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Parish Court	Struck Out	Consent	Settlement	Default Judgment	Oral Admission	Withdrawal	Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	Other Meth	Total
St. Catherine	169	158	100	103	16	42	29	45	662
Corporate Area Civil	146	135	56	69	32	35	52	68	593
Westmoreland	31	41	29	9	32	22	3	29	196
Manchester (Small Claims)	28	-	2	-	-	-	-	20	50
St. Elizabeth	67	19	36	43	26	7	33	54	285
Trelawny	48	30	21	26	30	12	10	6	183
Hanover	23	21	12	12	15	5	-	17	105
Portland	7	16	9	3	-	4	9	8	56
St. Mary	86	24	10	10	-	14	4	55	203
St. Thomas	32	20	5	9	17	5	1	14	103
St. Ann	94	76	63	26	38	36	24	23	380
Total	731	540	343	310	206	182	165	339	2816
Percentage of total	25.96	19.18	12.18	11.01	7.32	6.46	5.86	12.04	

Number of charges sampled (N): 2816

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts-civil division for the second quarter of 2021. From the sample, it is observed that the largest proportion of matters disposed of during the quarter were by being struck out with 25.96% of the sample, followed by matters disposed by consent with 19.18% and matters disposed by settlements with 12.18%. Dispositions grouped under the category, “other methods” with 12.04%, matters disposed by default judgments with 11.01%, and oral admissions with 7.32% rank next. Matters disposed by withdrawals with 6.46% and by Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) with 5.86% account for the remaining disposals in the quarter.

Table 9.0: Net and gross case backlog as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2020

Parish Court	Net case backlog rate (%)	Gross case backlog rate (%)
Clarendon	5.65	11.18
Corporate area	1.51	15.50
Hanover	0.66	3.44
Manchester	2.97	17.72
Portland	1.68	9.93
St. Ann	3.16	20.00
St. Catherine	0.28	9.47
St. Elizabeth	0.69	7.65
St. James	1.76	10.87
St. Mary	0.12	8.99
St. Thomas	2.38	7.61
Trelawny	2.63	11.24
Westmoreland	0.46	7.24
Weighted Average	1.79	11.94
Standard Deviation	1.54	4.54

Note: These backlog rates relate only to cases filed since January 2017 and are therefore proxies.

The net and gross case backlog rates provide one of the most decisive indicators of court performance as they are strongly influenced by most of the other critical court performance metrics such as the case clearance, case disposal, trial and hearing date certainty rates and are also directly correlated with the case congestion rate. The estimated gross case backlog rate provides a measurement of the proportion of cases filed for a given period (of over two years) which are either active or inactive (i.e. are unresolved) and are over two years old at the date of

reporting. The closely related estimated net case backlog rate is the proportion of all cases filed for a given period (of over two years) which are still active and exceeding two years old at the time of reporting. The estimated net case backlog rate therefore excludes inactive cases which are unresolved. Based on international best practices an estimated gross case backlog rate of under 10% is desirable, while an estimated net case backlog rate of under 5% is prescribed. The results revealed are quite outstanding as using a 4.5 years' time series, the net case backlog rate (weighted average) in the parish courts is an impressive 1.79% (with a standard deviation of 1.54%) which satisfies the international standard. The estimated gross case backlog rate also stands at a commendable 11.94% (with a standard deviation of 4.54%), an indication that there are a large number of inactive unresolved cases in the parish courts. This rate is only 1.94 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 parish courts. Although the time series used for this computation is only 4.5 years' worth of cases, the sample set is large and representative of the current direction of the court system. The parish courts of St. Mary with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.12% and St. Catherine with an estimated net case backlog rate of 0.28% and the parish court of Westmoreland with 0.46% have the lowest (best) estimated net case backlog rate in the time series, while the parish courts of Clarendon (5.65%), St. Ann (3.16%) and Manchester (2.97%) have the highest rates. As for the estimated gross backlog rate, the parish courts of Hanover (3.44%), Westmoreland (7.24%) and St. Thomas (7.61%) have the lowest (best) estimated gross backlog rates in the series, while the parish courts of St. Ann (20%),

Manchester (17.72%) and Corporate Area (15.5%) have the highest rates. Taken together, these are quite impressive returns for the court system in Jamaica and augur well for future prospects.

Trial court activity summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Table 1.0a: Time interval between major events for cases that had a trial date in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Parish Court	Average time between case filing and first court appearance (in days)	Average time between first court appearance and first trial date (in days)	Average time between first trial date and disposition (in days)
Corporate Area-Civil Division	63.75	363.01	414.49
Hanover	35.13	186.79	434.95
Manchester-Small Claims	62.00	93.55	581.33
Portland	62.15	637.97	61.08
St. Ann	69.63	465.60	769.34
St. Catherine	87.74	344.03	303.99
St. Elizabeth	61.49	227.43	267.52
St. Mary	39.25	344.86	289.74
St. Thomas	47.90	296.27	458.94
Trelawny	78.70	181.96	475.88
Westmoreland	30.10	100.13	67.70
Weighted Average	66.90	343.10	385.25
Standard Deviation	57.99	294.69	375.00

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 civil case and the first court appearance is just over 2 months, while the overall average time between first appearance of a civil matter in the parish courts and the first trial date is, however, much longer at roughly 11 months or 343 days. The average duration between the first trial date set and the date of disposition is even higher at roughly 13 months or 385 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 less than a quarter of civil 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 civil cases.

Table 1.0b: Trial court activity summary during the quarter ended June 30, 2021

Parish Court	Number of cases heard	Number of cases with a trial date set	Percentage of cases heard which had a trial date set (%)	Number of cases for which only 1 trial date was set	Percentage of cases set for trial which only had 1 trial date (%)
Hanover	199	56	28.14	32	16.08
Corporate Area-Civil Division	2022	433	21.41	185	9.15
Manchester (Small Claims)	130	11	8.46	5	3.85
Portland	341	92	26.98	47	13.78
St. Ann	1683	187	11.11	71	4.22
St. Catherine	2524	440	17.43	186	7.37

St. Elizabeth	828	255	30.80	85	10.27
St. Mary	455	54	11.87	24	5.27
St. Thomas	374	115	30.75	32	8.56
Trelawny	461	48	10.41	27	5.86
Westmoreland	320	37	11.56	25	7.81
Total/Weighted Average	9337	1728	18.51	719	7.70

The above table provides a summary of number of cases heard in the second quarter of 2021 in the civil divisions of the parish courts. Using a sampling distribution, it is seen that of 9336 civil cases heard across the parish courts in the second quarter of 2021, 1728 or 18.51% proceed to trial, 41.61% of which proceeded on the first trial date set. The parish courts of Manchester (8.46%), Trelawny (10.41%) and St. Ann (11.11%) had the lowest proportion of cases proceeding to trial, while the parish courts of St. Elizabeth (30.80%), St. Thomas (30.75%) and Hanover (28.14%) had the highest proportion.

Table 1.0c: Distribution of methods of disposition for matters set for trial during the quarter ended June 30, 2021

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	132	19.94
Consent	107	16.16
Default Judgment	72	10.88
Settlement	66	9.97
Final Judgment	62	9.37
Trial	61	9.21
Transferred	54	8.16

Withdrawal	44	6.65
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	33	4.98
Other	9	1.36
Non-Suited	8	1.21
Oral Admission	5	0.76
Order	3	0.45
Application For Plaintiff Denied	2	0.30
Application For Plaintiff Granted	2	0.30
Application For Defendant Granted	1	0.15
Dismissal	1	0.15
Total	662	100.00

The above table summarizes the common methods of disposition for a sample of cases proceeding to trial. It is seen that matters struck out with 19.94% of the cases disposed, matters disposed by consent with 107 or 16.16% and disposals by default judgment with 72 or 10.88% account for the three leading methods of disposition in the sample.

Table 1.0d: Sampling distribution of case appearance frequency for all cases with at least one mention which were heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Parish Court	Average number of appearances per case	Standard Deviation of the number appearances per case	Skewness of the number of appearances per case	Maximum number of appearances per case	Minimum number of appearances per case
Corporate Area-Civil Division	3.81	4.46	2.97	38	1
Hanover	7.45	9.26	2.10	40	1
Manchester - Small Claims	2.94	3.23	2.34	17	1
Portland	5.28	3.60	0.68	17	1
St. Ann	5.06	6.27	2.97	40	1
St. Catherine	2.40	1.86	2.07	15	1
St. Elizabeth	3.60	3.14	2.08	21	1
St. Mary	3.94	3.83	2.21	24	1
St. Thomas	5.17	4.88	1.91	28	1
Trelawny	5.79	5.73	1.83	29	1
Westmoreland	2.79	2.34	2.23	19	1
Total/Weighted Average	3.81	-	-	-	-

The above table summarizes the number of appearances per case heard in the second quarter of 2021, which have at least one mention court appearance. The overall average number of appearances per 10 cases mentioned is 38, or roughly 4 appearances per case with a standard deviation of 1.52 across the courts sampled and a skewness of 0.61. Together, these results suggest that the average number of court appearances per case is within the prescribed

international standard, that a slightly 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 across the courts. Among the parish courts with the highest number of appearances per cases for matters heard in the second quarter of 2021 are the Hanover (7.45), Trelawny (5.79) and Portland (5.28) Parish Courts, while St. Catherine (2.40), Westmoreland (2.79) and Manchester (2.94) were among the courts with the lowest mean case appearance incidence.

Table 1.0e: Summary of the average court appearance frequency for cases disposed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2021

Parish Court	Average number of appearances per case	Standard Deviation
Corporate Area-Civil Division	4.57	4.61
Hanover	6.36	8.92
Manchester-Small claims	2.20	2.23
Portland	4.30	2.90
St. Ann	4.62	6.11
St. Catherine	2.01	1.57
St. Elizabeth	2.91	2.55
St. Mary	3.20	3.74
St. Thomas	4.86	4.48
Trelawny	4.96	6.00
Westmoreland	2.45	1.89
Weighted Average	3.66	-

The above summary specifically addresses the number of appearances per case for matters disposed in the second quarter of 2021. The overall average observed is roughly 37 appearances for every 10 cases disposed, not dissimilar to the findings from the previous table which provided a descriptive summary of appearances for all cases disposed. The St. Catherine, Westmoreland and Manchester Parish Courts were among those with the lowest incidence of appearance per disposed case in the quarter, while the parish courts of Hanover, Trelawny and St. Thomas were among the locations with the highest incidence.

Table 10.0: Critical performance summaries for the civil division of the parish courts in the second quarter of 2021

Parish Court	Approximate number of new cases	Approximate number of Disposed cases and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of year of origin)	Gross Disposal rate (%)	Gross Clearance rate (%)	Approximate trial date certainty rate (%)	Overall average time to disposition (months)
St. Thomas	124	17	128	13.71	103.23	90.91	13.1
Corporate Area-Civil	1455	0	1635	-	112.37	100	12.8
St. Elizabeth	245	21	229	-	93.47	86.59	7.0
Hanover	47	34	134	72.34	285.11	68.18	11.9
Manchester	358	0	483	-	-	-	6.9
Portland	67	16	79	23.88	117.91	83.93	13.6
St. Ann	381	18	541	4.72	141.99	100	17.8
St. Catherine	777	84	885	10.81	113.90	91.36	12.8
St. Mary	178	54	193	30.34	108.43	44.44	

							6.1
Trelawny	156	27	176	17.31	112.82	100	9.1
St. James	378	0	341	-	-	-	-
Clarendon	194	84	150	43.30	77.32	75.15	-
Westmoreland	94	54	186	57.45	197.87	100	5.0
Total/Weighted Average	4454	409	5160	9.18	115.85	86.66	11.7
Skewness	2.33	0.76	2.28	1.07	0.97	-1.48	0.18
Standard Deviation	386.82	28.92	434.83	23.26	68.26	17.32	3.99

Conclusion

Despite the continued constraints on court activity posed by the broad societal effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the parish courts of Jamaica continue to make quantum strides in the clearance of cases and in reducing its case backlog. In the second quarter of 2021, the civil division of the parish courts registered an overall gross case clearance rate of 115.85% which is an increase of 10.02 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2020. This result means that the civil division of the parish courts were able to dispose roughly 10 more cases for every 100 new cases filed. Another crucial measure, that of the trial date certainty rate which netted out at a commendable overall rate of 86.66% for the second quarter of 2021. Furthermore, the overall average time taken to resolve civil cases which last appeared in the second quarter of 2021 was 326 days or 11.70 months, broadly similar to the outcome in the corresponding period in 2020. Given the consistently high case clearance rate in the civil division

of the parish courts over the past six quarters, it is not surprising that the overall estimated gross case backlog rate at the end of the second quarter of 2021 stood at a promising 11.24% which means that only about 11.24% of active and inactive cases combined were over two years in age as of the end of the quarter. Even more impressive however is that only about 1.74% of active cases filed across the civil division of the parish courts over the past 4.5 years were over two years old as of the end of the second quarter of 2021. These results augur well for the civil division of the parish courts which like the criminal division is well poised at this stage to make a profound contribution towards the fulfilment of the key quantitative targets set out in the strategic plan of the judiciary. The current trend would suggest that in the coming years the probability of a case entering the parish courts system being resolved within months will be much higher than in the past. The data suggests that in the second quarter of 2021 only 6.94% of cases disposed were over two years old, that is, 93.06% of the cases resolved in the quarter did not fall into a backlog classification. Moreover, there is an estimated 80.87% chance that a civil case filed in the parish courts will be disposed within a year and an estimated 41.10% chance that such matters will be disposed within 90 days of filing. By any measure, these are encouraging results. Nearly all parish courts performed creditably in the second quarter of 2021, with parish courts such as Hanover, Portland, St. Ann, the Corporate Area and Westmoreland ranking among the very best performers. The next few years in the Jamaican court system will be exciting and interesting as the leadership of the judiciary makes a quantum push to create a more sustainable and efficient court system in which the public can be confident and on which key economic activities can be built.

Glossary of Terms

Sampling Distribution: A sampling distribution of a given population is the distribution of frequencies of a range of outcomes that could possibly occur for a statistic of a population. A population is the entire pool from which a statistical sample is drawn.

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%. A distinction is sometimes made between the gross and net case clearance rates. The simple difference is that the net rate completely excludes inactive cases from its computation while the gross rate does not.

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. ¹

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%. A distinction is sometimes made between the gross and net case disposal rates. The simple difference is that the net rate completely excludes inactive cases from its computation while the gross rate does not.

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

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

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

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

Case File Integrity Rate: Measures the proportion of time that a case file is fully ready and available in a timely manner for a matter to proceed. Hence, any adjournment, which is due to the lack of readiness of a case file or related proceedings for court at the scheduled time, impairs the case file integrity rate. The international benchmark for the case file 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 too small or too large, relative to the majority of scores/trend in a data set.

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

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

Case backlog: A case that is in the court system for more than two years without disposition.

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. 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.

Source:

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

ⁱ *Source:*

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

