

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

JULY TO SEPTEMBER (Q3)

	<u>Q3- 2019</u>	<u>Q3-2020</u>	<u>Q3-2021</u>
Case Disposal Rates (%)	47.58	39.30	54.65
Case Clearance Rates (%)	102.78	78.31	98.81
Trial Date Certainty Rates (%)	76.00	77.00	83
Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	58.66	52.48	56.03

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

The aggregate new case count in the criminal division of the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021 was 7552, up by 23.99% when compared to the 6091 new cases recorded

in the third quarter of 2020. The Corporate Area Parish Court - Criminal Division with 1188 new cases or 19.70% of the total, followed by the St. Catherine and St. James Parish Courts with 1345 or 17.81% and 912 cases or 12.08% respectively, account for the three largest proportions of the new criminal cases filed in the third quarter of 2021. Taken together, the three parishes with the highest new case count account for 49.59% of the new cases filed in the third quarter of 2021, not dissimilar to the corresponding period in 2020. The parish courts of Hanover, St. Mary and St. Thomas accounted for the lowest shares of the aggregate new cases filed each with under 3.50% of the total new caseload in the reporting period.

The overall average criminal case disposal rate for cases originating in the third quarter of 2021 was 54.65%, which is an increase of 15.35 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2020. The St. Catherine Parish Court disposed of new cases at the fastest rate in the quarter, with a case disposal rate of 69.29%, followed by the St. Thomas and Hanover Parish Courts with 67.61% and 61.82% respectively. The Westmoreland and Clarendon Parish Courts with case disposal rates of 60.67% and 58.23% respectively rounds off the top five performing court on this metric in the reporting period. The parish courts of St. Ann (28.17%), Manchester (31.32%) and St. Elizabeth (51.04%) recorded the lowest case disposal rates in the period.

A measure, which is closely related to the case disposal rate, is the case clearance rate, which provides a measure of the number of cases disposed (regardless of date/year of initiation) for every new case filed in a particular period. This is a productivity index as many

of the disposed cases, which are included in its computation would have originated before the period of focus and is a more instructive statistic on case activity than the case disposal rate. The overall case clearance rate for the third quarter of 2021 was 98.81, an increase of 20.50 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2020. The result suggests that for every 100 new criminal cases that were filed in the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021, roughly 99 cases were disposed (including cases originating prior to the third quarter of 2021). An impressive twelve of the thirteen parish courts satisfied or exceeded the international standard of between 90% and 110% on case clearance rate for the third quarter of 2021 while seven exceeded the 100% mark, as the parish courts continue to inch closer to full recovery from the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. As was the case in the second quarter of 2021, the parish courts of Hanover and St. Thomas had the highest case clearance rates in the quarter, registering rates of 175.76% and 120.24%. They were followed by the St. Mary Parish Court which rounds off the top three performing courts on this metric with 118.78%. There is both a short and long run positive association between the case disposal and case clearance rates, that is, a higher proportion of new cases disposed in a given period (the case disposal rate), should, *ceteris paribus*, correlate with a higher case clearance rate. However, over a relatively short space of time, a court ranking high on the case disposal rate does not guarantee a high case clearance rate as the latter rate not only depends of the disposal of new cases but also the disposal of pending or aged cases brought forward. It is important to point out that a persistent case clearance rate of fewer than 100%, but especially few than 90% will accelerate the

case backlog and therefore the standard to be attained on an annual basis, is between 90% and 110%, based on International best practices.

One highly important measure, which is of keen interest to the leadership of the courts and the policy makers, is the case congestion rate. This is a measure of how well a court is doing in managing its pending caseload, relative to its rates of disposition and clearance and the implied state of resources. The higher the case congestion rate of a court, the more burdensome the caseload and the longer it will take to dispose of cases, again within the context of the existing rates of disposition and clearance and the implied state of resources. The overall case congestion rate recorded for the criminal division of the parish courts for the third quarter of 2021 was 279.58%, a notable improvement when compared to the third quarter of 2020, as the case backlog rate in the Jamaican court system continues to sharply trend downwards. There is a long run negative association between the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate, therefore, sustained increases in the case clearance rate will cause the case congestion rate to fall (improve). The sizeable improvement in the case clearance so far in 2021 have resulted in a notable reduction in the case congestion rate, although such a relationship is not always this clear cut and linear in the short run.

Another measure, which is an important cornerstone in the drive to bring Jamaica among the best performing court systems in the world is the trial date certainty rate. This provides a measurement of the likelihood that dates set for trial will proceed as scheduled (without

adjournment for future dates). The perfect rate of 100% would suggest that all dates set for trial, proceed as scheduled in the relevant period. The overall average trial date certainty rate for criminal matters across the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021 was 83%, a six percentage points increase when compared to the corresponding period in 2020 and roughly the same as the previous quarter. The parish courts of St. James, Trelawny, St. Thomas, Manchester and St. Catherine were the best performing courts on this measurement for the quarter.

The proportion of allocated court time that is utilized for hearings in each parish court bears some long run correlation with the case clearance rate, the case congestion rate and overall court performance. The courtroom utilization rate provides a solid measurement of the proportion of time allocated for court hearings, which are utilized throughout the year in each court. The overall courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021 was 56.03%, an improvement of 3.55 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2020. The parish courts of St. Ann, Westmoreland and Manchester registered the best courtroom utilization rates for the reporting period.

On the matter of caseload distribution in the individual parishes, the data shows that in many instances the outstation courts in the respective parishes are carrying a notable share of the caseload. The overall average number of new cases heard in the outstations in the third quarter of 2021 is approximately 38.03% while roughly 61.97% of cases were heard at the main parish court locations. While outstation court activity in parishes such as St.

James and the Corporate Area account for less than 10% of total activity, there are several parishes where outstations are extensively utilized, accounting for well over 30% of total case activity. This includes the parish courts of Manchester, Hanover, St. Elizabeth and Trelawny, among others. The evidence suggests that there is the potential in many parishes for outstations to be utilized to a greater degree to ease the caseload carriage in the main courts, thus potentially enhancing case clearance and disposal rates by reducing the case congestion.

As with several previous reports, the largest proportion of cases disposed in the third quarter of 2021 was by way of guilty pleas, accounting for 55.05% of the cases disposed. This was followed by cases dismissed, which was responsible for 14.95% of the cases disposed. It is of note that guilty verdicts accounted for roughly 3.01% of the matters disposed while mediated settlements (of various forms) accounted for roughly 6.67% of the cases disposed during the quarter. Taken together, the data therefore reveals a conviction rate of 58.06% for the third quarter of 2021, an increase of 13.63 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2020. Further analysis of the data suggests that for the cases originating over the five year, which are disposed, roughly 39.35% were resolved within 90 days, 60.67% were resolved within six months and 81.13% within a year. An impressive 94.63% of the cases resolved over the period across the parish courts took less than two years.

In terms of the distribution of case types, the report highlights that the largest proportion of the criminal cases filed in the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021 were summary matters with approximately 59.23% of all matters. This is followed by indictments with a roughly 22.69% and matters heard by Lay Magistrates with approximately 9.60% of the total. It is of note that Committal Proceedings accounted for roughly 6.79% of all criminal matters filed in the parish courts in third quarter of 2021. Summary matters had an overall conviction rate of 81.51% in the reporting period while indictments had a conviction rate of 20.01% across the parish courts.

An important delay factor, which affects the efficiency with which cases move towards disposition is the incidence of adjournments in the parish courts. The data suggests that the dominant reasons for adjournments for the quarter were due to incomplete files with an estimated 13.93% of all adjournments, adjournments for issuance of a warrant due to the non-appearance of the accused with 9.01% and adjournments for disclosure with 7.51%. Also featuring prominently on the lists of reasons for adjournment across the criminal division of the parish courts in this reporting period are medical reports outstanding, subpoena of investigating officers and referrals to mediation.

The three most frequent criminal charges filed in the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021 were breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act (including breaches of the Curfew Order and failure to wear a mask in a public place) with 47.63%, assault occasioning bodily harm with 6.88% and unlawful wounding with 5.24% of the total number of charges

filed. The vast majority of charges filed in the third quarter of 2021 involved accused males, accounting for roughly 76.80% of the total. The dominant age group of persons charged in this period were the 18 - 26 and 27 - 36 age groups, accounting for 33.11% and 30.81% respectively of the total.

One of the most decisive and instructive findings from this report comes from the analysis of the distribution of times to disposition and the case backlog rates in the parish courts. The report reveals that on average, the criminal division of the parish courts take roughly 7.3 months to dispose of cases. As at the end of the third quarter of 2021, the courts which had the shortest times to disposition for cases resolved are the parish courts of Hanover (approximately 5 months), Westmoreland (approximately 5 months) and Clarendon (approximately 6 months). These three courts also recorded the lowest average times to disposition in the previous quarter. On the matter of the case backlog rate, the criminal division of the parish courts recorded a net case backlog rate of 1.76% in the reporting period, using the last five years' worth of data as a proxy. This means that only between 1 and 2 of every 100 cases filed over the last five years are over two years old and still active before the criminal division of the parish courts. The gross backlog rate over the same period stands at a notably higher 11.16%, suggesting that roughly 11 of every 100 new cases filed are still either active or inactive and over two years old in the criminal division of the parish courts. Intuitively, these result suggests that inactive cases are a major constituent of the court's gross case backlog. As was the case in the second quarter of 2021, the parish courts of St. Mary, St. Catherine and Westmoreland recorded the lowest

net case backlog rates in the reporting period and have already achieved the targeted net criminal case backlog target which forms part of the judiciary's strategic plan for the next few years. These courts are among those best poised to be almost completely backlog free as far as criminal cases are concerned by the end of the first quarter of 2022.

Using the method of exponential smoothing, the report forecasts that in the fourth quarter of 2021, 7283 new criminal cases will be filed in the criminal division of the parish courts while 6236 are expected to be disposed and 1463 to become inactive. The overall forecasted case clearance rate for the fourth quarter of 2021 in the criminal division of the parish courts is therefore 105.71%. The parish courts of Hanover, St. Thomas and Manchester are forecasted to be the top performers on this metric in the fourth quarter of 2021.

METHODOLOGY

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

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

Disclaimer

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

Chapter 1.0: Criminal Case Activity Statistics in the Parish Courts for the quarter ended September 30, 2021

This chapter provides an assessment of criminal case activity in the parish courts for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021. This includes analysis of the criminal caseload, rates of case disposal, clearance and congestion as well as cases statuses in the various courts over the period, assessments of courtroom utilization rates, case file integrity rates, trial date certainty rates and forecasts of the core case activity outcomes for fourth quarter of 2021. This chapter also explores the common methods of disposition, reasons for court delay, leading charges and case types across the parish courts and associated conviction rates.

Table 1.0: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Number of inactive cases	Number of disposed cases	Active Pending Case Load	Case disposal Rate (%)
Hanover	165	9	93	63	61.82
St. Catherine	1345	168	764	413	69.29
Westmoreland	445	32	238	175	60.67
St. Mary	213	13	99	101	52.58
Clarendon	589	35	308	246	58.23
Portland	342	25	165	152	55.56
St. Elizabeth	529	47	223	259	51.04
Corporate Area Criminal	1488	291	490	707	52.49
St. Thomas	247	9	158	80	67.61
St. James	912	95	424	393	56.91
St. Ann	639	75	105	459	28.17
Trelawny	274	18	129	127	53.65
Manchester	364	16	98	250	31.32
Total	7552	833	3294	3425	
Average/Weighted Average	580.92	64.08	253.38	263.46	54.65
Standard deviation	424.17	81.74	199.60	185.68	12.07
Skewness	1.309	2.171	1.649	1.186	-1.170

The table above shows the aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021. A total of 7,552 new criminal cases were filed across the parish courts, 4,127 cases were either disposed or became inactive, resulting in a weighted average case disposal rate of 54.65%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter 6,091 cases were filed, while 2,394 cases were either disposed or became inactive which resulted in a weighted average disposal rate of 39.30%, which is 15.35 percentage points lower than the rate for the current quarter of 2021. This comparison reveals that over the corresponding quarter, there was an increase of 1,461 cases or 23.99% in the number of new cases filed and an increase of 1,733 cases or 72.39% in the number of cases disposed or became inactive. Nine (9) Parish Courts recorded notable increase in the number of new cases filed. Among the parish courts with the largest increase in new cases filed were the St. Catherine Parish Court, increasing by 85.77% and the St. James Parish Court, which increased by 73.71%.

The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division with 1,488 or 19.70% of the new cases, the St. Catherine Parish Court with 1,345 cases or 17.81% and the St. James Parish Court with 912 or 12.08% accounted for the three largest shares of new cases filed in the third quarter of 2021. These three parish courts with the largest share of new cases filed, cumulatively accounted for 49.59% of the total sample of new criminal cases filed in the third quarter of 2021. On the other end, the parish courts of Hanover with 165 or 2.18% of the new cases, St. Mary with 213 or 2.82% and St. Thomas with 247 or 3.27% accounted for the lowest share of new cases filed in the third quarter of 2021.

The best performing courts in relation to case disposal rates for the third quarter of 2021 were the St. Catherine (69.29%) St. Thomas (67.61%), Hanover (61.82%) Parish Courts. The bottom

three courts on this measure were the St. Ann (28.17%), Manchester (31.32%) and St. Elizabeth (51.04%) parish courts. The parish courts of Manchester and St. Ann were also among the bottom three courts on this measure in the third quarter of 2020. The skewness of the number of new cases filed, the number of cases disposed, and the active pending caseload are all positive, which is an indication that the larger proportion of the courts fall below the overall average case count in each of these data series. The overall skewness of the case disposal rates is a negative figure, which indicates that there were proportionally more courts with disposal rates above the overall case disposal rate in the quarter.

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

Table 2.0a: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court as at September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed in quarter	Number of Disposed cases in Jul.-Sept. 2021	Number of Inactive cases in Jul-Sept. 2021	Grand total number of inactive cases (2016-Jul-Sept. 2021)	Grand total number of disposed cases (2016-Apr.-Jun.2021)	Grand Active Pending Caseload b/f July. 1,2021	Case Clearance Rate (%)	Case Congestion Rate (%)
Hanover	165	264	26	248	4595	270	175.76	150.00
Manchester	364	317	52	1735	6976	1167	101.37	414.91
St. Mary	213	230	23	709	4884	287	118.78	197.63
St. James	912	722	148	2185	12118	1043	95.39	224.71
St. Catherine	1345	1009	226	2954	15834	1070	91.82	195.55
Portland	342	339	46	832	5503	555	112.57	232.99
St. Ann	639	419	159	2877	6660	1017	90.45	286.51
St. Elizabeth	529	345	59	744	5484	624	76.37	285.40
Corporate Area Criminal	1488	1025	436	8480	27002	4468	98.19	407.67
Westmoreland	445	445	47	972	8542	412	110.56	174.19
St. Thomas	247	276	21	468	4568	560	120.24	271.72
Clarendon	589	468	71	1259	8304	1290	91.51	348.61
Trelawny	274	247	42	601	4282	547	105.47	284.08
Total	7552	6106	1356	24064	114752	13310		
Average/Weighted Average	580.92	469.69	104.31	1851.08	8827.08	1023.85	98.81	279.58
Standard deviation	424.17	275.21	117.57	2180.86	6411.02	1090.26	24.18	83.93
Skewness	1.309	1.396	2.184	2.661	2.237	2.998	2.024	0.551

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

Note 2: The Grand Total number of active cases from 2016 to the quarter ended September 30, 2021, for all parish courts combined = 14, 677

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

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

The weighted average case congestion rate among the parish courts in the quarter was 279.58%, an indication that the parish courts (criminal division) as a whole are carrying almost three times the caseload that their current rate of clearance and implied state of resources justifies. This result represents an 88.20 percentage point decrease when compared to the third quarter of 2020, but under the circumstances the case congestion rate is to be interpreted sparingly, particularly since its solely based on a single quarter of case activity. The parish courts of Manchester (414.91%), Corporate Area Criminal (407.67%), Clarendon (348.61%) and St. Ann (286.51%) were the courts with the highest case congestion rates in the third quarter of 2021. The St. Elizabeth (285.40%) and Trelawny (284.08%) Parish Courts rounded off the top 6 most case congested courts in the third quarter of 2021. The parish courts of Manchester, St. Ann, Clarendon and Trelawny were also among the most congested courts in the comparative third quarter of 2020. In general, a high case congestion rate can be a product of resource deficiencies and slow case clearance and case disposal rates. The parish courts of Hanover (150%), Westmoreland (174.19%), and St. Catherine (195.55%) performed best on this measure. As with previous reports, variations in caseload and resources do not appear to be a major factor explaining the variances in performance on this measure as some of the courts ranking on either ends of the scale are the larger courts in the island and resource endowment do not vary in a statistically way among the courts.

The results on the overall case clearance rate for the third quarter of 2021 provide interesting insights into the court-wide progress being made on this measure. The overall weighted average case clearance rate of 98.81%, which is an increase of 20.50 percentage points when compared to the corresponding 2020 third quarter and the performance met the international standard of 90%-100. This overall case clearance rate of 98.81% suggests that for every 100 new cases filed, roughly 99 cases were disposed. Twelve (12) of the thirteen parish courts met international standards of 90%-100%. The parish courts of Hanover (175.76%), St. Thomas (120.24%), St. Mary (118.78%), Portland (112.57%) and Westmoreland (110.56%) were the leading parish courts on this measure. The parish court of St. Elizabeth (76.37%) had the lowest criminal case clearance rates for the quarter and was the only court that didn't meet the international standard of 90%-100%. Twelve (12) parish courts recorded an increase in clearance rates when compared to the third quarter of 2020, a result that is not surprising considering that court activity in the third quarter of 2020 was significantly impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Hanover and St. Ann parish courts saw the largest improvements, with an 81.52 percentage points improvement for the Hanover parish court and a 40.65 percentage points improvement for the St. Ann parish court. The data in the table above were positively skewed to various degrees, indicating that for the most part, proportionately more of the scores in that data set fell below their respective series means.

Refer to Table 3.0 for further comparison of the case clearance rates and the case congestion rates across all parish courts for the 2021 and 2020 calendar years.

Table 2.0b: Percentile rank on selected performance metrics for the Criminal Division of the Parish Courts for the quarter ended September 30, 2021

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

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

Table 2.0c: Forecasted case activity statistics for the fourth quarter of 2021 [October 01 - December 31, 2021]

Parish Court	Forecasted number of new cases	Forecasted number of disposed cases	Forecasted number of inactive cases	Forecasted case clearance rate (%)
Hanover	200	285	26	155.50
Manchester	387	433	76	131.52
St. Mary	242	252	26	114.88
St. James	795	679	140	103.02
St. Catherine	1135	944	279	107.75
Portland	318	335	65	125.79
St. Ann	567	385	98	85.19
St. Elizabeth	455	366	71	96.04
Corporate Area Criminal	1708	1059	485	90.40
Westmoreland	466	549	55	129.61
St. Thomas	197	243	31	139.09
Clarendon	549	425	61	88.52
Trelawny	264	281	50	125.38
Total/Weighted Average	7283	6236	1463	105.71

The above table forecasts core case activity for the criminal division of each parish court and overall for the fourth quarter of 2021. The forecasts are generated using the method of exponential smoothing which uses weighted averages from past observations with weights decaying exponentially as the observations get older. See further explanation of the mathematical science behind the method of exponential smoothing in the glossary of terms. The above data shows that the overall forecasted case clearance rates for the criminal division of the parish courts for the fourth quarter of 2021 is 105.71%, which would be 6.90 percentage points higher than that of the third quarter of 2021. Eleven (11) parish courts are forecasted to satisfy the international standard on case clearance rate of 90% or more in the fourth quarter of 2021, led by the Hanover Parish Court with 155.50%, the St. Thomas Parish Court with 139.09% and the Manchester Parish Court with 131.52%.

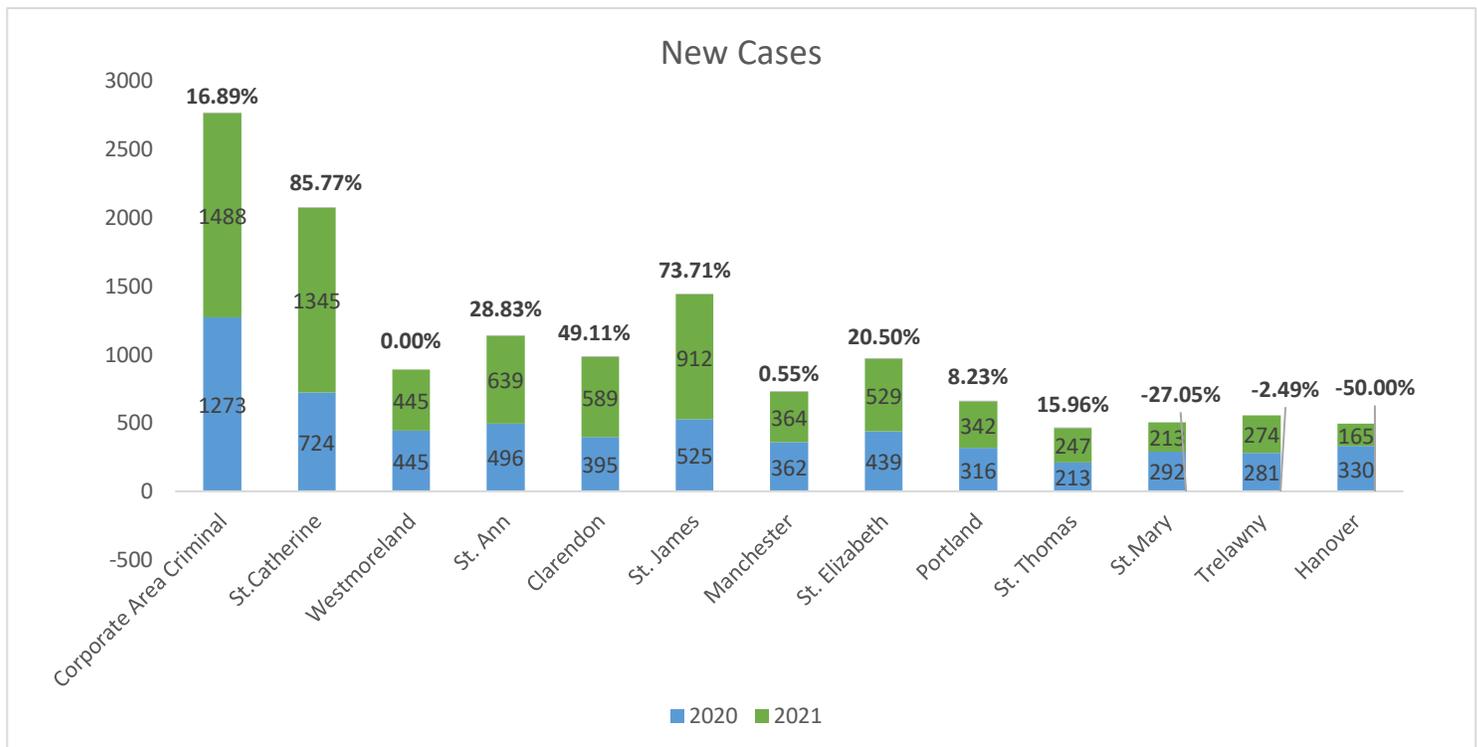
Table 2.0d: Sampling distribution of new cases filed per 10,000 population in the criminal division of the parish courts in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Population size in parish	Case per 10,000 population
Hanover	165	69,533	24
St. Catherine	1345	516,218	26
Westmoreland	445	144,103	31
St. Mary	213	113,615	19
Clarendon	589	245,103	24
Portland	342	81,744	42
St. Elizabeth	529	150,205	35
Corporate Area Criminal	1488	662,426	22
St. Thomas	247	93,902	26
St. James	912	183,811	50
St. Ann	639	172,362	37
Trelawny	274	75,164	36
Manchester	364	189,797	19
Total	7552	2697983	28

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

cases filed per 10,000 population in the quarter. Manchester and St. Mary had respectively the lowest and second lowest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population for the quarter.

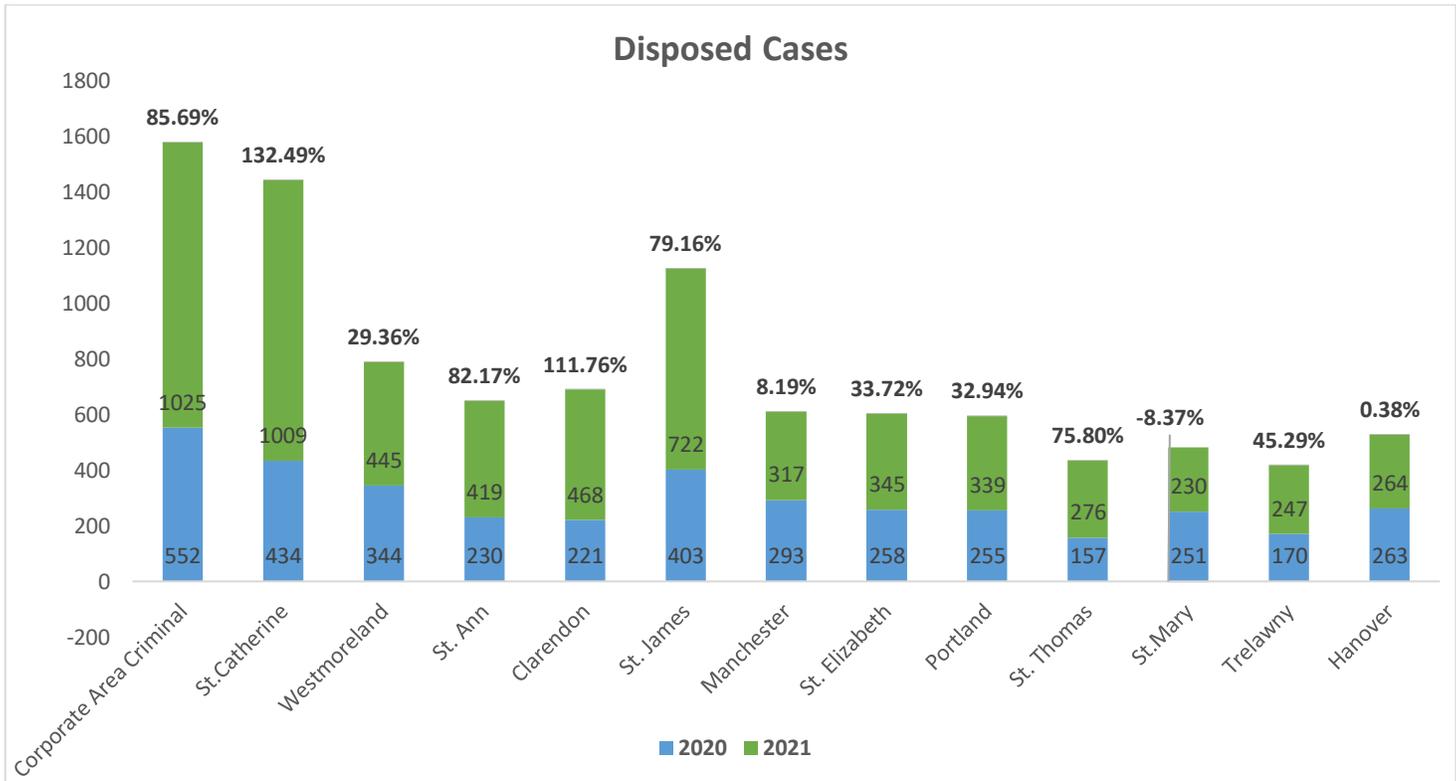
Chart 1.0a: Summary of changes in the number of new cases filed in the third quarter of 2020 and 2021



The above graph provides a breakdown of the changes in the number of new cases filed in third quarter of 2021 and 2020. It is seen that there has been a decrease in new cases filed over the comparative period in three (3) parish courts and an increase in the new cases filed in the nine (9) parish courts, while one (1) had the same number of new cases filed. The Hanover Parish Court fell by 50%, the St. Mary Parish Court fell by 27.05% and the Trelawny Parish Court fell by 2.49%. Among the parish courts with the biggest gains in new cases filed were the St. Catherine

Parish Court which increased by 85.77% and the St. James Parish Court, which increased by 73.71%.

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



The above graph provides a breakdown of the changes in the number of criminal cases disposed in the third quarter of 2021 when compared to the corresponding period in 2020. It is seen that there was an increase in the number of disposed cases over the comparative period in twelve (12) parish courts and a decrease in the disposed cases in the remaining one (1) parish court. Among the parish courts with the largest rise in cases disposed were the St. Catherine Parish Court which increased by 132.49% and the Corporate Area Criminal Court, which increased by 85.69%. The parish court that declined in the number of cases disposed was the St. Mary Parish Court which fell by 8.37%.

Table 2.0e: Sampling distribution of the Indices of Judge Productivity for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Number of Judges	New criminal cases per Judges	Active pending caseload per Judge at the beginning of Q3, 2021	Active caseload per Judge at the end of Q3, 2021	Cases disposed per Judge
Hanover	2	82.50	135.00	72.50	132.00
Manchester	3	121.33	389.00	387.33	105.67
St. Mary	3	71.00	95.67	82.33	76.67
St. James	5	182.40	208.60	217.00	144.40
St. Catherine	5	269.00	214.00	236.00	201.80
Portland	3	114.00	185.00	170.67	113.00
St. Ann	3	213.00	339.00	359.33	139.67
St. Elizabeth	3	176.33	208.00	249.67	115.00
Corporate Area Criminal	9	165.33	496.44	499.44	113.89
Westmoreland	3	148.33	137.33	121.67	148.33
St. Thomas	2	123.50	280.00	255.00	138.00
Clarendon	3	196.33	430.00	446.67	156.00
Trelawny	3	91.33	182.33	177.33	82.33
Total/Weighted Average	47	160.68	283.19	285.11	129.91

Note: Q3- Refers to quarter three (July to Sept. of 2021)

The above table provides a distribution of the new cases filed per judge, the cases disposed per judge and the caseload per judge in the criminal division of the parish courts for the third quarter of 2021. The data reveals that the overall weighted average number of new criminal cases filed per judge in the third quarter of 2021 is roughly 161 cases. The parish courts of St. Catherine (269 cases), St. Ann (213 cases) and Clarendon (196 cases) had the three largest number of new cases filed per judge during the quarter. On the contrary, the parish courts of St. Mary (71 cases), Hanover (83 cases) and the Trelawny Parish Court (91 cases) had the lowest number of new cases filed per judge in the period. In terms of cases disposed per judge, the St. Catherine Parish Court disposed the most cases per judge in the quarter with 202 cases, followed by the Clarendon Parish Court with 156 cases and the Westmoreland Parish Court with 148 cases disposed per

judge. The three courts with the smallest number of cases disposed per judge were the St. Mary Parish Court with 77 cases, the Trelawny Parish Court with 82 disposed cases per judge and the Manchester Parish Court with 106 disposed cases per judge. The overall number of criminal cases disposed per judge was 130 cases. The most crucial of the indicators is the active caseload per judge at the end of the quarter. The data shows that the Corporate Area Criminal Court had the highest caseload per judge at the end of the quarter with 499 cases, followed by the Clarendon Parish Court with 447 cases and the Manchester Parish Court with 387 cases per judge. On the lower end, the parish courts of Hanover and St. Mary with 73 and 82 cases per judge respectively, had the lowest active criminal caseload per judge at the end of the quarter, followed by the Westmoreland Parish Court with 122 active criminal cases per judge. The overall average active criminal caseload per judge at the end of the quarter is 285 cases. The active caseload is a proxy for the existing demand for judicial services in the respective courts and the anecdotal evidence suggests that courts with a higher caseload per judge are generally more hard pressed to sustain high productivity rates.

Table 3.0: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the third quarter (July - September) 2020 and 2021

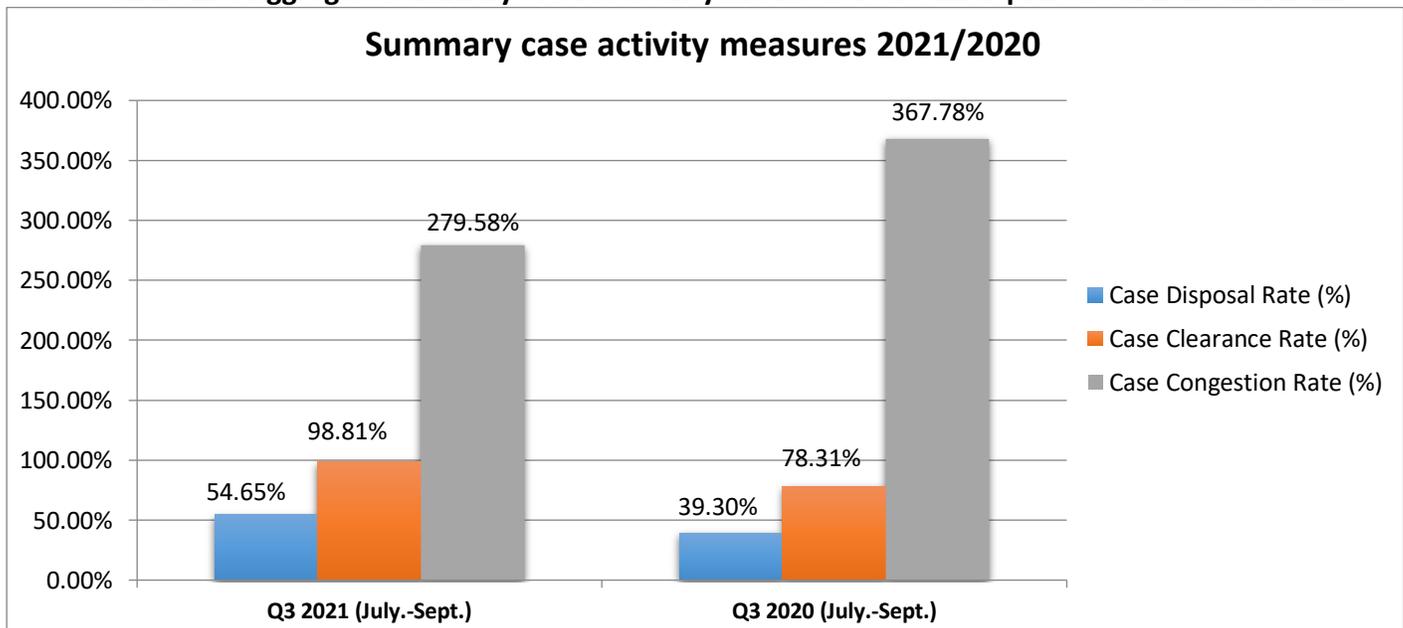
Parish Court	Case Disposal Rate (%) Q3 2021	Case Disposal Rate (%) Q3 2020	Change in case disposal rate Q3 (%)	Case Clearance Rate (%) Q3 2021	Case Clearance Rate (%) Q3 2020	Change in case clearance rate Q3 (%)	Case Congestion Rate (%) Q3 2021	Case Congestion Rate (%) Q3 2020	Change in case congestion rate Q3 (%)
Hanover	61.82	54.55	7.27	175.76	94.24	81.52	150.00	198.07	-48.07
St. Catherine	69.29	42.82	26.47	91.82	83.84	7.98	195.55	290.77	-95.22
Westmoreland	60.67	42.70	17.97	110.56	84.72	25.84	174.19	325.46	-151.27
St. Mary	52.58	42.81	9.77	118.78	95.55	23.23	197.63	229.75	-32.12
Clarendon	58.23	46.58	11.65	91.51	69.37	22.14	348.61	476.64	-128.03
Portland	55.56	34.81	20.75	112.57	91.46	21.11	232.99	306.57	-73.58
St. Elizabeth	51.04	44.65	6.39	76.37	62.87	13.5	285.40	382.61	-97.21
Corporate Area Criminal	52.49	29.22	23.27	98.19	68.03	30.16	407.67	359.58	48.09
St. Thomas	67.61	38.97	28.64	120.24	93.90	26.34	271.72	453.50	-181.78
St. James	56.91	50.29	6.62	95.39	97.52	-2.13	224.71	251.17	-26.46
St. Ann	28.17	30.44	-2.27	90.45	49.80	40.65	286.51	682.59	-396.08
Trelawny	53.65	40.57	13.08	105.47	72.24	33.23	284.08	587.68	-303.60
Manchester	31.32	31.77	-0.45	101.37	90.88	10.49	414.91	565.35	-150.44
Average /Weighted Average	54.65	39.30	15.35	98.81	78.31	20.50	279.58	367.78	-88.20
Standard Deviation	12.07	7.64		24.18	15.10		83.93	150.17	12.07
Skewness	-1.170	0.031		2.024	-0.784		0.551	0.607	-1.170

Note: Q3- Refers to quarter three (July to September of 2021)

The table above provides a comparison of the case disposal rate, the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate for the third quarters of 2021 and 2020. The weighted average case disposal rate for the third quarter of 2021, was 54.65%, which was a 15.35 percentage points increase above the 2020 weighted average rate of 39.30%. The overall case clearance rate of 98.81% for third quarter of 2021 was 20.50 percentage points above the 78.31% recorded in the corresponding period in 2020. The overall case congestion rate for the third quarter of 2021 also

improved, changing from 367.78% in the third quarter of 2020, to 279.58% in the third quarter of 2021, an 88.20 percentage point decrease, though as discussed earlier the case congestion rate for small periods such as a quarter does not have great practical significance, although it is insightful. *Ceteris paribus*, there should be a roughly inverse linear association between the case clearance rates and the case congestion rate. This is more pronounced in the long run than in the short or medium terms.

Chart 2.0: Aggregate summary of case activity metrics for the third quarters of 2020 and 2021



The above chart provides a summary of the progression of the overall case disposal, case clearance and case congestion rates over the comparative third quarters of 2020 and 2021. The chart confirms the earlier discussion that there has been an improvement in all three rates over the comparative period.

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

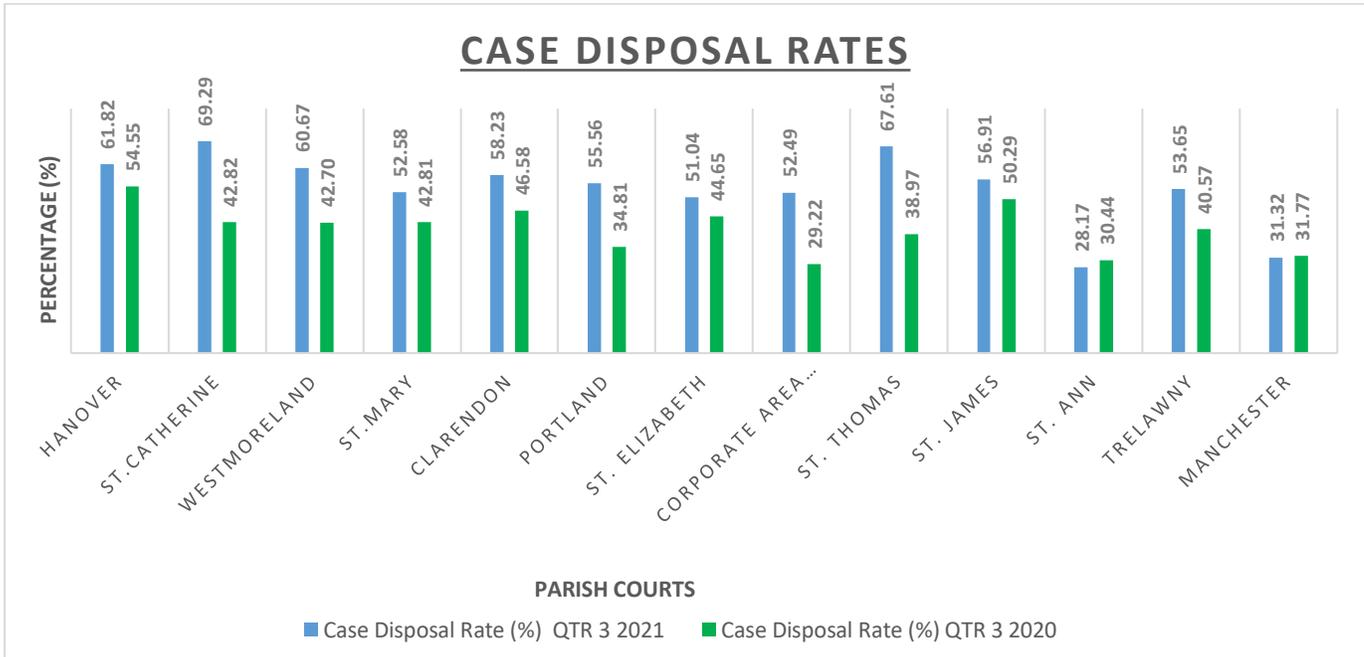


Chart 3.0b: Comparison of case clearance rates across the parish courts for the third quarter of 2020 and 2021

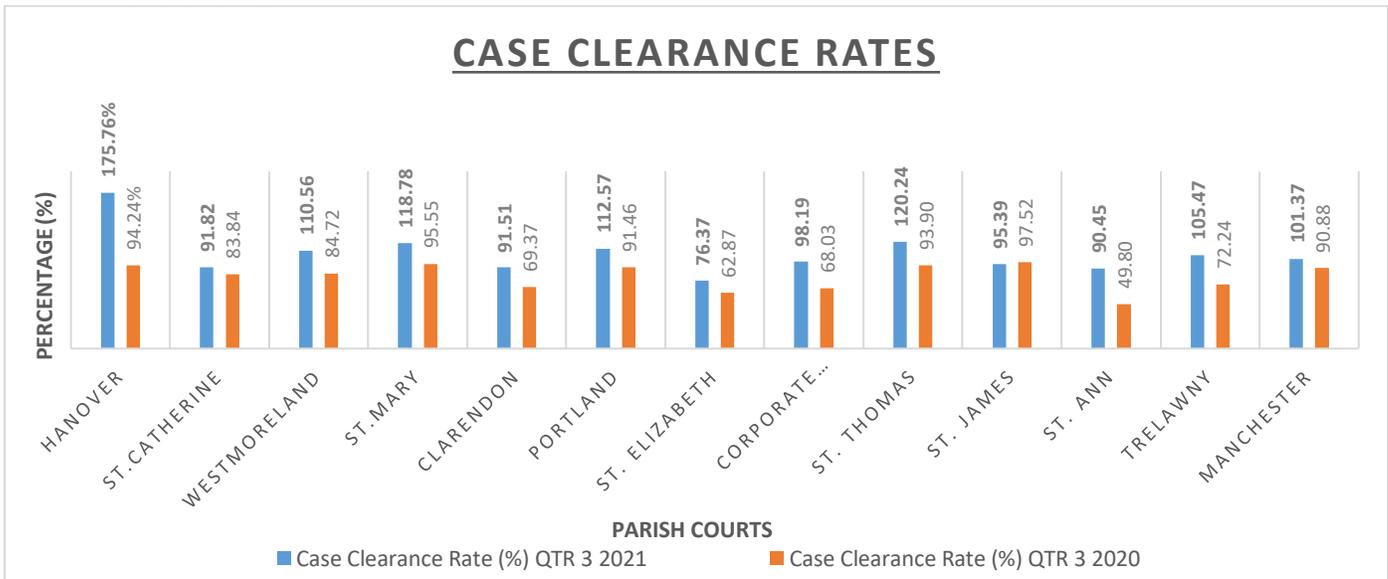


Chart 3.0c: Comparison of case congestion rate across the parish courts for the third quarters of 2020 and 2021

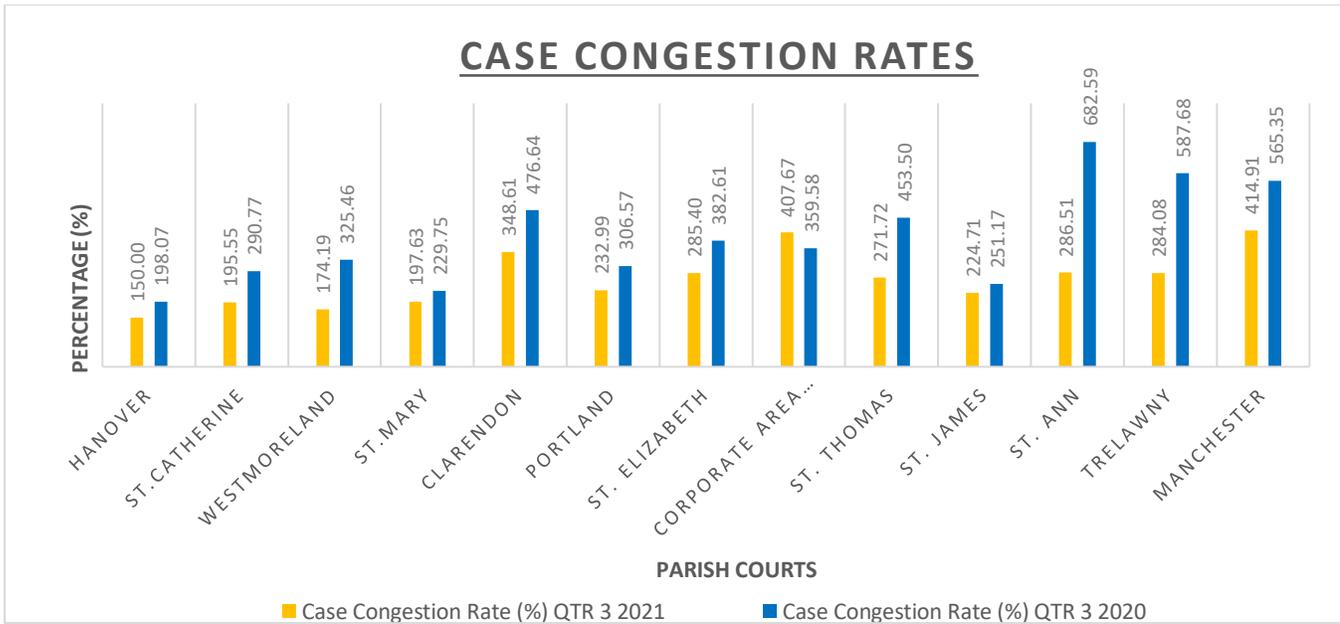


Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of mention court activity for cases disposed between January 01, 2018 and September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Overall number of cases disposed	Number of cases disposed in 1 mention	Number of cases disposed in 2 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 3 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 4 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 5 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 6-10 mentions	Number of cases disposed in more than 10 mentions
Hanover	260	35	35	22	7	3	23	5
Trelawny	274	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portland	339	127	48	40	34	28	40	5
Westmoreland	441	163	88	38	39	29	66	25
Clarendon	466	232	26	6	5	3	13	0
Manchester	313	74	47	16	13	10	21	3
Corporate Area	2400	97	84	36	32	24	86	30
St. Thomas	268	39	31	10	8	3	6	5
St. Mary	230	46	26	21	13	8	20	0
St. Elizabeth	342	64	29	13	7	3	5	1
St. Catherine	1004	55	28	27	21	16	20	6
St. James	716	83	49	21	14	12	28	0
St. Ann	389	75	43	29	26	12	25	5
Mean	572	84	41	21	17	12	27	7
Median	342	74	35	21	13	10	21	5
Skewness	2.88	1.29	0.75	-0.07	0.57	0.74	1.48	1.96
Standard Deviation	590.24	60.90	23.79	12.41	12.42	9.96	24.45	9.64
Total	7442	1090	534	279	219	151	353	85

The above sampling distribution provides critical insights into mention court activity for a representative sample of criminal cases disposed across the parish courts over the period January 01, 2018 to September 30, 2021. In general, the fewer the number of mentions per case, the more efficient the case flow progression. A maximum of five mentions per case is considered to be desirable based on international best practices. A notable 63.57% of the sample of 7442 cases

disposed during the period were resolved on their first appearance before the court. A further 14.65% of the sample of cases disposed were resolved at first mention while 7.18% were resolved after two mentions and 3.75% after three mentions. Cumulatively, roughly 94.11% of the cases sampled were resolved in five or less mentions, inclusive of those resolved on first appearance before the courts. This is an impressive outcome by any measure. Although there are some variances across the parish courts, the overall outcomes were consistently observed for all courts. In other words, the vast majority of the cases sampled were disposed in five or less mentions in all courts and matters disposed on first appearance before the court or within the first few mentions accounted for the largest share of the activity across the courts. These outcomes are not surprising given the consistently high case clearance rates in the parish courts in the last few years. These collective results augur well for the probability of relatively quick and efficient resolution of cases across the parish courts.

Table 5.0a: Comparison of the trial certainty rates for the third quarters of 2020 and 2021

Parish Court	Trial certainty rate (%) Q3 (2021)	Trial certainty rate (%) Q3 (2020)	Change in the trial certainty rate (%)
Westmoreland	37	63	26
Clarendon	60	40	-20
St. Ann	49	60	11
Portland	89	81	-8
St. James	100	100	0
Manchester	98	97	-1
St. Elizabeth	100	83	-17
St. Catherine	95	94	-1
Trelawny	100	77	-23
St. Mary	88	71	-17
St. Thomas	100	98	-2
Corporate Area Criminal	86	51	-35
Hanover	76	89	13
Total/Average	83	77	-6

Q3 represents the third quarter i.e. July-September

The trial date certainty rate provides a measure of the extent to which dates, which are set for trial, proceed on schedule without being delayed to start at some future date. The overall trial date certainty rate for the third quarter of 2021 was 83%, a 6-percentage points increase when compared to the corresponding period in 2020. Six (6) of the parish courts met the prescribed international performance standard of a rate between 92% and 100% in the quarter. Leading the way are the parish courts of Trelawny, St. James, St. Elizabeth and St. Thomas each with a trial certainty rate of 100% for the quarter. This was followed by the parish courts of Manchester with 98% and St. Catherine with 95%. The Portland Parish Court fell just short of the international standard with a trial certainty rate of 89%, but this was still a good result. The minimum-targeted court-wide trial date certainty rate which has been set out by the Honourable Chief Justice for the judiciary for the next 3-4 years is 95%. This is consistent with the push to significantly enhance the efficiency of the court system and hence the timely delivery of justice to the Jamaican

citizenry. The attainment of this minimum threshold rate will depress the overall criminal case backlog in the Jamaican court system below 5%.

Table 5.0b: Percentile Rank on trial date certainty rate for the criminal division of the parish courts in the third quarters of 2020 and 2021

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

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

Table 5.0c: Average duration from first trial date set to date of disposal for matters resolved by trial in the third quarter of 2021

Parish Court	Average duration of trial
Clarendon	51.67
Corporate Area	234.35
Hanover	209.68
Manchester	443.99
Portland	118.77
St. Ann	209.68
St. Catherine	300.32
St. Elizabeth	241.15
St. James	197.68
St. Mary	147.02
St. Thomas	585.97
Trelawny	194.64
Westmoreland	161.26
Weighted average	254.95
Standard Deviation	140.13

The above table summarizes the average durations between first trial date set and the date of case disposal for trial matters resolved in the third quarter of 2021 across the various parish courts. The data shows an overall weighted average interval between the first trial date set and the disposition of such cases in the quarter is 255 days or roughly 8.5 months, with a standard deviation of roughly 140 days or 4.7 months. The Clarendon and Portland Parish Courts had the lowest times between first trial dates set and disposal of cases with roughly 52 days and 119 days respectively, reflective of more ideal standards when compared to most other courts. The St. Thomas and Manchester Parish Courts with average interval times of roughly 586 days or 1.63 years and the Manchester Parish Court with 444 days or roughly 1.23 years rank highest on this measurement for the quarter. Lengthy time intervals between the first trial date and the date of case disposition are symptoms of case management problems, case readiness and possibly even scheduling and calendar management issues in the particular court. The results observed in

Clarendon and Portland are reasonably good pacemakers for all parish courts. The Clarendon Parish Court, despite not always ranking among the top performers has been making steady strides over the past few years in turning around the historically modest performance of the court. In the long run the average time that it takes for trial matters to conclude are good predictors of court productivity, particularly in courts where trial matters are a sizeable share of all cases heard.

Table 5.0d: The percentage of cases proceeding to trial for each Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Number of cases heard in the quarter	Number of cases heard which were either at the trial stage or progressed to the trial in Q3, 2021	Percentage of cases heard which were either at the trial stage or progressed to the trial stage in Q3, 2021 (%)
Clarendon	701	68	9.70
Corporate Area	4000	480	12.00
Hanover	521	110	21.11
Manchester	1120	358	31.96
Portland	662	63	9.52
St. Ann	1649	268	16.25
St. Catherine	2338	435	18.61
St. Elizabeth	866	171	19.75
St. James	1575	173	10.98
St. Mary	491	89	18.13
St. Thomas	535	63	11.78
Trelawny	764	134	17.54
Westmoreland	743	87	11.71
Total/Weighted Average	15965	2499	15.65

Q3 means the third quarter which spans July – September

The above table provides a summary of the percentage of criminal cases heard which were at the trial stage or proceeded to the trial stage in the third quarter of 2021 across the parish courts. It is seen that roughly 15.65% of all criminal cases heard in the third quarter of 2021 across the parish courts were either at the trial stage or progressed to the trial stage. The Manchester Parish

Court had the highest proportion of cases heard which were at the trial stage or progressed to the trial stage in the period, with a rate of 31.96%. This was followed by the Hanover and St. Elizabeth Parish Courts with roughly 21.11% and 19.75% respectively. The parish courts of Portland and Clarendon with rates of 9.52% and 9.70% respectively of cases heard in the third quarter which were either at the trial stage or progressed to the trial stage had the lowest incidence. The proportional reliance of a court on the use of trial to resolve matters could be a predictor of the average duration of cases in the long run. In the long run, courts which rely more heavily on trials to resolve cases will generally have longer average times to disposition which could in turn adversely affect other key performance metrics such as the rate of clearance of cases and the net backlog rate.

Table 6.0a: Distribution of courtroom utilization rates across the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the third quarter ended September 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	54.43	117.22	1.39	30.33	NA	1.1
Westmoreland	70.22	245.33	5.00	37.89	NA	0
Trelawny	53.83	128.33	1.67	32.71	NA	1.0
St. Thomas	45.63	97.67	5.56	25.22	NA	1.0
St. Mary	55.42	120.00	2.78	29.83	NA	1.0
St. James	57.21	112.50	2.78	23.95	NA	1.2
Corporate Area Criminal Court	46.52	129.33	1.00	29.42	NA	1.1
St. Ann	75.05	136.11	14.44	28.33	NA	1.0
Portland	58.92	276.67	4.17	36.70	NA	1.1
Hanover	43.54	108.33	3.33	28.12	NA	1.1
Clarendon	53.19	271.67	2.67	47.60	NA	0
Manchester	64.64	278.33	1.00	37.02	NA	0
St. Elizabeth	49.80	151.94	5.33	28.33	NA	1.1
Overall Averages	56.03	167.19	3.93	31.96	NA	0.82
Standard Deviation	9.38	71.60	3.53	6.41	NA	0.47
Skewness	0.738	0.865	2.427	1.224	NA	-1.389

The above table details the courtroom utilization rate for the various parish courts in the third 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 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 third quarter of 2021. The overall average courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in the quarter was 56.03%, which is an indication that on average roughly 56% of the available hours for court hearings were utilized across the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021. This result is roughly 3.55 percentage points above than the closing figure in 2020. The parish courts recording the highest courtroom utilization rates for the quarter are the St. Ann and Westmoreland Parish Courts with 75.05% and 70.22% respectively, followed by the Manchester Parish Court with 64.64% and the Portland Parish Court with 58.92%. The Hanover and St. Thomas Parish Courts with 43.54% and 45.63% respectively, had the lowest rates, while the Corporate Area Criminal Court with 46.52% 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. The data also isolates the courtroom utilization rate for night court sittings. A part of the designation of night courts is to bolster the capacity of the courts to hear and dispose of more cases in a timely manner. However, partly due to lockdown measures and a daily curfew implemented by the government to curb the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, none of the courts convened night court sittings for the third 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 6.0b: Percentile Rank on Courtroom utilization rate for the criminal division of the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021 and 2020

Parish Court	Percentile rank 2021 (%)	Percentile rank 2020 (%)	Percentile rank (Night Court) 2021 (%)	Percentile rank (Night Court) 2020 (%)
St. Catherine	50	17	N/A	N/A
Westmoreland	92	67	N/A	78
Trelawny	42	25	N/A	N/A
St. Thomas	8	42	N/A	11
St. Mary	58	83	N/A	56
St. James	67	92	N/A	89
Corporate Area Criminal Court	17	58	N/A	22
St. Ann	100	100	N/A	100
Portland	75	75	N/A	N/A
Hanover	0	8	N/A	33
Clarendon	33	0	N/A	0
Manchester	83	50	N/A	67
St. Elizabeth	25	33	N/A	44

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

Table 7.0: Types of matters for each Parish Court for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Indictment	Summary Matters	Lay Magistrates Sittings	Committal Proceedings	Tax	Miscellaneous	LRF	Traffic	NS	Total
Corporate Area Criminal	705	1555	248	165	-	-	-	15	-	2688
St. Catherine	338	1522	150	156	47	-	4	-	-	2217
Manchester	251	241	124	60	-	-	-	-	-	676
St. James	218	865	121	44	22	7	-	-	-	1277
St. Ann	223	391	133	108	14	-	-	-	-	869
Westmoreland	179	395	61	72	27	-	-	-	-	734
Clarendon	191	692	100	68	-	-	5	-	-	1056
Portland	172	243	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	443
St. Elizabeth	172	595	70	27	14	-	1	9	-	888
St. Mary	109	178	23	31	9	-	-	-	-	350
Trelawny	95	235	65	41	-	-	37	-	-	473
Hanover	86	159	44	30	-	-	-	-	-	319
St. Thomas	97	331	33	47	-	-	-	-	-	508
Total	2836	7402	1200	849	133	7	47	24	0	12498
Percentage	22.69	59.23	9.60	6.79	1.06	0.06	0.38	0.19	-	

***Total number of observations = 12,498**LRF means Law Reform Fraudulent Transaction, ***NS means not stated**

The above table provides a breakdown of the different types of new charges filed in each parish court for the third quarter of 2021. For the quarter, 12,498 charges were filed across the parish courts, an increase of approximately 23.28% when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2020. The largest proportions of these charges were filed in the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division (2688), the St. Catherine Parish Court (2217), the St. James Parish Court with (1277) and the Clarendon Parish Court with 1056 charges. The largest share of the charges were summary matters (59.23%); followed by Indictments (22.69%), Lay Magistrates’ matters (9.60%) and Committal Proceedings with 6.79% of the total sample. The Corporate Area Court-Criminal

Division accounted for the largest proportion of summary matters filed, followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. James and Clarendon. The Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division accounted for the largest share of Indictments filed, followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court and the Manchester Parish Court. The largest proportion of Lay Magistrates’ matters was filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine and St. Ann. The Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division, followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court and the St. Ann Parish Court accounted for the largest individual shares of Committal Proceedings in the quarter. As for criminal matters, which are traffic related, the only incidences of these in the quarter were in the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division and the St. Elizabeth Parish Court.

Types of charges

Table 8.01: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	38	12.03
Breach of Curfew Order	32	10.13
Threat	25	7.91
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	24	7.59
Malicious destruction of property	16	5.06
Sub-total	135	42.72

Number of observations sampled (N): 316

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court for the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 38 or 12.03% and breaches of curfew order with 32 or 10.13% of the total sample of charges are the most frequently occurring charges. Threats with 25 or 7.91% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 24 or 7.59% followed this. Malicious destruction

of property with 16 or 5.06% of the total sample rounds off the top five. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 42.72% of the total sample of 316 charges filed in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the third quarter of 2020 in the Hanover Parish Court included breach of curfew order, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property and threat.

Table 8.02: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	103	15.24
Breach of curfew order	88	13.02
Assault occasioning bodily harm	86	12.72
Threat	52	7.69
Unlawful wounding	51	7.54
Sub-total	380	56.21

Number of observations sampled (N): 676

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court for the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 103 or 15.24% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Breach of the curfew order with 88 or 13.02% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 86 or 12.72% rank next. The top five is rounded off by threat with 52 or 7.69% and unlawful wounding with 51 or 7.54% of the sample charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 56.21% of the total sample of 676 charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the third quarter of 2020 in the Manchester Parish Court included assault occasioning bodily harm, threat, disorderly conduct, unlawful wounding, and exposing goods for sale.

Table 8.03: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Portland Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	146	32.96
Assault occasioning bodily harm	35	7.90
Unlawful Wounding	34	7.67
Threat	29	6.55
Malicious destruction of property	19	4.29
Sub-total	263	59.37

Number of observations sampled (N): 443

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Portland Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 146 or 32.96% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 35 or 7.90%, unlawful wounding with 34 or 7.67% and threat with 29 or 6.55% rank next. Malicious destruction of property with 19 or 4.29% rounds off the top five charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 59.37% of the total sample of 443 charges filed in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the third quarter of 2020 in the Portland Parish Court included threat, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, assault at common law and malicious destruction of property.

Table 8.04: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the disaster risk management act	194	22.43
Threat	103	11.91
Assault occasioning bodily harm	73	8.44
Unlawful wounding	65	7.51
Breach of Curfew Order	45	5.20
Sub-total	480	55.49

Number of observations sampled (N): 865

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 195 or 22.43% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Threats with 103 or 11.91% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 73 or 8.44% followed this. Unlawful wounding with 65 or 7.51% and breach of the curfew order with 45 or 5.20% of the total sample rounds of the top charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 55.49% of the total sample of 865 charges filed in the quarter at the St. Ann Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the third quarter of 2020 in the St. Ann parish court included threat, unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, littering in a public place and malicious destruction of property.

Table 8.05: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the disaster risk management act	1240	55.93
Assault occasioning bodily harm	87	3.92
Unlawful wounding	69	3.11
Illegal possession of firearm	49	2.21
Malicious Destruction of Property	44	1.98
Sub-total	1489	67.16

Number of observations sampled (N): 2217

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 1240 or 55.93% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 87 or 3.92% and unlawful wounding with 69 or 3.11% followed this. Illegal possession of firearm with 49 or 2.21% and malicious destruction of property with 44 or 1.98% of the total sample of charges filed round off the top five. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 67.16% of the total sample of 2217 charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the third quarter of 2020 in the St. Catherine parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, illegal possession of firearm, threat and malicious destruction of property.

Table 8.06: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	465	52.78
Assault occasioning bodily harm	59	6.70
Unlawful wounding	47	5.33
Threat	32	3.63
Malicious destruction of property	30	3.41
Sub-total	633	71.85

Number of observations sampled (N): 881

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 465 or 52.78% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 59 or 6.70%, unlawful wounding with 47 or 5.33% and threat with 32 or 3.63% followed this. Malicious destruction of

property accounted for 30 or 3.41% of the sample of charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 71.85% of the total sample of 881 charges filed in the quarter at the St. Elizabeth parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the third quarter of 2020 in the St. Elizabeth parish court included threat, unlawful wounding, armed with an offensive weapon, assault occasioning bodily harm, and malicious destruction of property.

Table 8.07: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. James Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Disaster Risk Management Act	427	33.44
Breach of Curfew Order	144	11.28
Assault Occasioning actual bodily Harm	74	5.79
Unlawful wounding	61	4.78
Failure to wear mask in Public	54	4.23
Sub-total	760	59.51

Number of observations sampled (N): 1277

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges at the St. James Parish Court in third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of Disaster Risk Management Act with 427 or 33.44% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Breaches of the curfew order with 144 or 11.28%, assault occasioning bodily harm with 74 or 5.79% and unlawful wounding with 61 or 4.78% followed this. The top five is rounded off by failure to wear a mask in public with 54 or 4.23% of the total sample. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 59.51% of the sample of 1277 charges filed in quarter at the St. James Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the third quarter of 2020 in the St. James parish court included threat, malicious destruction of property, unlawful wounding, possession of offensive weapon and assault occasioning bodily harm.

Table 8.08: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Curfew Order	65	18.62
Unlawful wounding	41	11.75
Assault occasioning bodily harm	29	8.31
Malicious destruction of property	15	4.30
Possession of ganja	15	4.30
Sub-total	165	47.28

Number of observations sampled (N): 349

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of curfew order with 65 or 18.62% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 41 or 11.75% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 29 or 8.31% followed this. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property and possession of ganja with 15 or 4.30% each of the sample. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 47.28% of the total sample of 349 charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the third quarter of 2020 in the St. Mary parish court included threat, unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, simple larceny and malicious destruction of property.

Table 8.09: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Failure to wear a mask	127	24.90
Breach of curfew order	90	17.65
Illegal possession of firearm	26	5.10
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	29	5.69
Unlawful wounding	22	4.31
Sub-total	294	57.65

Number of observations sampled (N): 510

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that failure to wear a mask with 127 or 24.90% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Breaches of the curfew order with 90 or 17.65% and illegal possession of firearm with 26 or 5.10% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 29 or 5.69% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 22 or 4.31% of the total sample of charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 57.65% of the sample of 510 charges filed in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the third quarter of 2020 in the St. Thomas parish court included unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, breach of the curfew order, possession of offensive weapon and possession of ganja.

Table 8.10: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Curfew Order	101	21.31
Failure to Wear Face Mask in Public	40	8.44
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	37	7.81
Unlawful wounding	24	5.06
Knowingly Possessing Identity Information	20	4.22
Sub-total	222	46.84

Number of observations sampled (N): 474

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of curfew order with 101 or 21.31% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Failure to wear a face mask in public with 40 or 8.44% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 37 or 7.81% followed this. Unlawful wounding with 24 or 5.06%, and knowingly possessing identity information with 20 or 4.22% of the total sample of charges round of the top five charges filed in the quarter. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 46.84% of the total sample of 474 charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the third quarter of 2020 in the Trelawny parish court included breach of curfew order, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, dealing in ganja, possession of ganja and malicious destruction of property.

Table 8.11: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Curfew Order	173	23.86
Assault occasioning bodily harm	67	9.24
Unlawful wounding	54	7.45
Threat	38	5.24
Possession of ganja	30	4.14
Sub-total	362	49.93

Number of observations sampled (N): 725

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of curfew order with 173 or 23.86% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 67 or 9.24% and unlawful wounding with 54 or 7.45% followed this. Threat with 38 or 5.24% and possession of ganja with 30 or 4.14% of the sample rank next. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 49.93% of the total sample of 725 charges filed in the quarter at the Westmoreland Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the second quarter of 2020 in the Westmoreland parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, threat, malicious destruction of property and possession of identity information.

Table 8.12: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Curfew Order	365	34.56
Failure to wear mask in a Public Place	111	10.51
Assault occasioning bodily harm	77	7.29
Unlawful wounding	58	5.49
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	44	4.17
Sub-total	655	62.03

Number of observations sampled (N): 1056

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of curfew order with 365 or 34.56% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Failure to wear a mask in public place with 111 or 10.51% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 77 or 7.29% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 58 or 5.49% and breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 44 or 4.17%. The charges quoted above account for an estimated 62.03% of the sample of 1056 charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the third quarter of 2020 in the Clarendon parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, threat, possession of ganja, malicious destruction of property.

Table 8.13: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the curfew order under the Disaster Risk Management Act	865	32.16
Littering	252	9.37
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	181	6.73
Unlawful wounding	118	4.39
Disorderly conduct	77	2.86
Sub-total	1493	55.50

Number of observations sampled (N): 2690

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division for the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of the curfew order under the Disaster Risk Management Act with 865 or 32.16% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Littering with 252 or 9.37% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 181 or 6.73% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 118 or 4.39% and disorderly conduct with 77 or 2.86% of the charges.

The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 55.50% of the total sample of 2690 charges at filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court –Criminal Division in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the third quarter of 2020 in the Corporate Area parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, littering, unlawful wounding, disorderly conduct, and armed with an offensive weapon.

Table 9.0: Conviction rate for summary and indictment matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Type of case	Number of disposed matters	Number of guilty verdicts	Number of guilty pleas	Aggregate number of guilty outcomes	Estimated conviction rate (%)
Summary	5653	190	4418	4608	81.51
Indictment	2948	82	508	590	20.01

The above table shows the estimated conviction rate for summary and indictment matters heard across all parish courts in the third quarter of 2021. Summary matters heard in the quarter include charges such as possession of an offensive weapon, breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act, exposing goods for sale and breaches of the curfew order. The estimated conviction rate for the quarter for summary matters was 81.51%, which is 18.12 percentage points above the conviction rate of 63.39% recorded for the corresponding third quarter of 2020. The estimated conviction rate for indictment matters was significantly lower at 20.01% for the quarter, a rate which is approximately 0.55 percentage points above the 19.46% recorded in the third quarter of 2020. Indictment matters heard in the quarter included charges such as assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property and simple larceny.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges across the parish courts for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Charge	Frequency	Percentage
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	3547	28.42
Breach of Curfew Order	1968	15.77
Assault occasioning bodily harm	858	6.88
Unlawful wounding	654	5.24
Threat	439	3.52
Failure to Wear Face Mask in Public	429	3.44
Malicious destruction of property	372	2.98
Littering	288	2.31
Possession of offensive weapon	264	2.12
Possession of ganja	235	1.88
Sub-total	9054	72.55

Number of observations sampled (N): 12,479

The above table shows the distribution of the ten most commonly occurring charges across all parish courts for the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 3547 or 28.42% of the total number of charges sampled is the most frequently occurring charge. Breaches of the curfew order with 1968 or 15.77 and assault occasioning bodily harm with 858 or 6.88% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 654 or 5.24% and threats with 439 or 3.52% of the total sample of charges filed in the quarter. These ten most frequently occurring types of charges account for approximately 72.55% of the total sample of charges filed in the quarter.

Table 11.0: Conviction rate for leading occurring charges heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Type of Offence	Number of disposed matters	Number of guilty verdicts	Number of guilty pleas	Aggregate number of guilty outcomes	Estimated conviction rate (%)
Failure to Wear Face Mask in Public	324	27	278	305	94.14
Breach of the disaster risk management act	2544	18	2356	2374	93.32
Breach of Curfew Order	1598	88	1309	1397	87.42
Possession of offensive weapon	215	6	178	184	85.58
Possession of ganja	190	10	133	143	75.26
Littering	38	2	26	28	73.68
Malicious destruction of property	347	8	49	57	16.43
Unlawful wounding	606	19	71	90	14.85
Assault occasioning bodily harm	820	21	87	108	13.17
Threat	297	5	28	33	11.11

The above table shows the estimated conviction rate for the ten (10) leading charges across all parish courts in the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that failure to wear a mask in public had the highest estimated conviction rate on the list with 94.14%. Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 93.32% and breach of the curfew order with 87.42% followed this. The top conviction rates on the list in the quarter are rounded off by possession of an offensive weapon with an estimated conviction rate of 85.58% and possession of ganja with an estimated conviction rate of 75.26%. Possession of offensive weapon recorded the highest estimated conviction rate in the corresponding third quarter of 2020 with 85.61%, followed by littering with an estimated conviction rate of 83.33%.

Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of the average age of active charges for each parish court for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Average age of active charges (days)
Clarendon	36
Trelawny	49
Portland	45
St. Mary	36
Hanover	57
Westmoreland	38
St. Catherine	40
St. Elizabeth	36
St. Ann	40
St. James	39
St. Thomas	44
Corporate Area Criminal	43
Manchester	40
Overall Average	41.77
Standard Deviation	6.00
Skewness	1.50

The above table shows the average age of active charges originating in the third quarter of 2021, for charges originating in said quarter. The overall average age of active matters originating in the quarter was approximately 42 days or roughly 1.4 months, roughly the same number of days recorded in the third quarter of 2020. The parish courts of Clarendon, St. Mary and St. Elizabeth have the lowest averages on the list. On the contrary, the highest averages were observed in the parish courts of Hanover, Trelawny and Portland. The standard deviation of the scores was however relatively low (6 days), an indication that the individual values for the parish courts were on average close to the overall mean. The positive skewness, however, indicates that proportionately more of the individual times to disposition in the data set were below the overall series average. There is an intuitive correlation between case clearance rates and the average age of cases in the long run, but it does not necessarily manifest empirically in the short run. This means that in the long run, courts with higher clearance rates will in general have a lower case

backlog and a lower average age of active cases. Courts which manage to maintain a case clearance rate of between 90% and 110% long enough will eventually eliminate case backlog, a feat that is quite conceivable with improved case progression management in the respective courts. In such cases, the average time taken to dispose of cases will experience a natural decline, tapering off at a modest, tolerable rate and improving the efficiency of the courts and the enhancing the timely delivery of justice.

Table 13.0: Average age of charges disposed for matters originating in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Average age of disposed charges (days)
Clarendon	27
Trelawny	42
Portland	40
St. Mary	35
Hanover	27
Westmoreland	25
St. Catherine	30
St. Elizabeth	30
St. Ann	27
St. James	24
St. Thomas	38
Corporate Area Criminal	20
Manchester	34
Overall Average	30.69
Standard Deviation	6.65
Skewness	0.30

The above table shows that the average time taken to dispose of criminal cases filed in the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021 is approximately 31 days. This is roughly 2 days less than time taken to dispose of cases originating in the third quarter of 2020. The standard deviation of the scores was relatively low (7 days), an indication that the individual values for the parish courts were on average relatively close to the overall mean. This is affirmed by the low positive

skewness. The mean times range from a low of roughly 20 days in the Corporate Area Criminal Court, to a high of 42 days in the Trelawny Parish Court during the quarter.

Table 14.0a: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parishes	Time interval in days							Sample size (n)
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269 days	270-364 days	365 days-547 days	548 days-729 days	730 days and over	
Corporate Area Criminal	10846 (42.4%)	5246 (20.5%)	3052 (11.9%)	1991 (7.8%)	1869 (7.3%)	1121 (4.4%)	1465 (5.7%)	25590 (100%)
St. Catherine	4784 (37.6%)	3200 (25.2%)	1712 (13.5%)	1039 (8.2%)	1126 (8.9%)	451 (3.5%)	408 (3.2%)	12720 (100%)
St. James	3717 (38.3%)	1997 (20.6%)	1131 (11.7%)	873 (9.0%)	917 (9.5%)	482 (5.0%)	584 (6.0%)	9701 (100%)
Manchester	2221 (25.3%)	1547 (17.7%)	1165 (13.3%)	915 (10.4%)	1236 (14.1%)	750 (8.6%)	928 (10.6%)	8762 (100%)
Westmoreland	4290 (53.5%)	1460 (18.2%)	852 (10.6%)	492 (6.1%)	479 (6.0%)	215 (2.7%)	237 (3.0%)	8025 (100%)
St. Ann	2065 (27.9%)	1426 (19.3%)	899 (12.2%)	758 (10.2%)	1017 (13.8%)	559 (7.6%)	672 (9.1%)	7396 (100%)
Clarendon	3629 (44.7%)	1816 (22.3%)	897 (11.0%)	563 (6.9%)	693 (8.5%)	288 (3.5%)	240 (3.0%)	8126 (100%)
St. Thomas	1348 (29.6%)	1042 (22.9%)	604 (13.3%)	550 (12.1%)	480 (10.5%)	236 (5.2%)	294 (6.5%)	4554 (100%)
Portland	1896 (37.3%)	1270 (25%)	628 (12.4%)	421 (8.3%)	434 (8.5%)	261 (5.1%)	175 (3.4%)	5085 (100%)
St. Mary	2449 (42.3%)	1197 (20.7%)	770 (13.3%)	404 (7.0%)	449 (7.7%)	214 (3.7%)	312 (5.4%)	5795 (100%)
St. Elizabeth	2150 (39.1%)	1407 (25.6%)	757 (13.8%)	394 (7.2%)	440 (8.0%)	186 (3.4%)	170 (3.1%)	5504 (100%)
Trelawny	1488 (38.9%)	731 (19.1%)	444 (11.6%)	344 (9.0%)	320 (8.4%)	231 (6.0%)	267 (7.0%)	3825 (100%)
Hanover	2050 (51.1%)	924 (23.0%)	404 (10.1%)	252 (6.3%)	177 (4.4%)	97 (2.4%)	107 (2.7%)	4011 (100%)
% of Total	39.35	21.32	12.21	8.25	8.83	4.67	5.37	
Average	3302.54	1789.46	1024.23	692.00	741.31	391.62	450.69	8391.85
Standard Deviation	2512.80	1206.78	699.32	459.29	472.34	284.28	383.59	5761.60
Skewness	2.55	2.32	2.32	2.07	1.18	1.64	1.83	2.50

Number of charges sampled (N) = 109,094. Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the previous 5.2 years

The table above shows the breakdown of the time disposition for matters filed in the respective parish courts for at least 61 consecutive months (5 years) over the period September 2016 to September 2021. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed of in the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 39.35% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. James and Westmoreland are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed within 90 days. This trend is broadly similar to that seen over the past 24 months. Cumulatively, 81.13% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a continued positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in increasing overall productivity and realizing the objective of becoming the best in the Caribbean region in three years and among the best in the world in six years. From the data set, the parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, Manchester and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 5.37% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, Manchester and St. Ann also had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample range from weak positive to moderate positive, which is an indication that for disposed cases, the distributions of the times taken do not vary dramatically across the courts. The difference, however, is the proportion of cases disposed, relative to the caseload, which as shown earlier, indicates that some courts are performing much better.

Table 14.0b: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition for matters completed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parishes	Time interval in days							Sample size (n)
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269 days	270-364 days	365 days-547 days	548 days-729 days	730 days and over	
Corporate Area Criminal	396 (36.0%)	204 (18.6%)	123 (11.2%)	102 (9.3%)	124 (11.3%)	56 (5.1%)	94 (8.6%)	1099 (100%)
St. Catherine	122 (25.5%)	154 (32.2%)	57 (11.9%)	44 (9.2%)	36 (7.5%)	28 (5.9%)	37 (7.7%)	478 (100%)
St. James	131 (29.2%)	81 (18.1%)	54 (12.1%)	35 (7.8%)	36 (8.0%)	58 (12.9%)	53 (11.8%)	448 (100%)
Manchester	139 (26.9%)	93 (18.0%)	42 (8.1%)	24 (4.6%)	112 (21.7%)	30 (5.8%)	77 (14.9%)	517 (100%)
Westmoreland	228 (53.6%)	56 (13.2%)	25 (5.9%)	23 (5.4%)	29 (6.8%)	27 (6.4%)	37 (8.7%)	425 (100%)
St. Ann	120 (24.9%)	77 (16.0%)	47 (9.8%)	53 (11.0%)	54 (11.2%)	30 (6.2%)	101 (21.0%)	482 (100%)
Clarendon	157 (55.5%)	38 (13.4%)	15 (5.3%)	11 (3.9%)	23 (8.1%)	14 (4.9%)	25 (8.8%)	283 (100%)
St. Thomas	67 (28.3%)	26 (11.0%)	20 (8.4%)	38 (16.0%)	17 (7.2%)	45 (19.0%)	24 (10.1%)	237 (100%)
Portland	108 (44.4%)	58 (23.9%)	32 (13.2%)	22 (9.1%)	6 (2.5%)	10 (4.1%)	7 (2.9%)	243 (100%)
St. Mary	165 (58.1%)	61 (21.5%)	20 (7.0%)	14 (4.9%)	16 (5.6%)	5 (1.8%)	3 (1.1%)	284 (100%)
St. Elizabeth	85 (37.3%)	50 (21.9%)	50 (21.9%)	17 (7.5%)	16 (7.0%)	1 (0.4%)	9 (3.9%)	228 (100%)
Trelawny	90 (37.8%)	30 (12.6%)	28 (11.8%)	19 (8.0%)	7 (2.9%)	12 (5.0%)	52 (21.8%)	238 (100%)
Hanover	122 (50.0%)	55 (22.5%)	15 (6.1%)	10 (4.1%)	16 (6.6%)	11 (4.5%)	15 (6.1%)	244 (100%)
% of Total	37.07	18.88	10.14	7.91	9.45	6.28	10.26	
Average	148.46	75.62	40.62	31.69	37.85	25.15	41.08	400.46
Standard Deviation	148.46	75.62	40.62	31.69	37.85	25.15	41.08	400.46
Skewness	2.35	1.73	2.08	2.10	1.70	0.61	0.73	2.35

Number of charges sampled (N) = 5, 206

The table above shows the breakdown of the time disposition for matters disposed parish courts in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed of in the period took less than 90 days, accounting

for roughly 37.07% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division along with the parish courts of Westmoreland, St. Mary and Clarendon are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed under 90 days. Cumulatively, 74% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in increasing overall productivity and realizing the objective of becoming the best in the Caribbean region in three years and among the best in the world in six years. From the data set, the parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, Manchester and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 10.26% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts of St. Ann, Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division and Manchester also had the largest proportion of their disposed matters in the quarter taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample range from weak positive to moderate positive, which is an indication that for disposed cases, the distributions of the time taken do not vary dramatically across the courts. The difference, however, is the proportion of cases disposed of, relative to the caseload, which as shown earlier, indicates that some courts are performing much better.

Table 15.0a: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Criminal	212.94	1	115	263.99	2.35	1	1848	25590
St. Catherine	197.15	63	125	213.57	2.30	1	1844	12720
St. James	235.37	49	131	276.83	2.34	1	1963	9701
Manchester	320.92	63	216	309.99	1.56	1	1886	8762
Westmoreland	157.77	28	78	198.29	2.45	1	1354	8025
St. Ann	296.42	63	194	299.13	1.76	1	1900	7396
Clarendon	181.13	63	103	213.73	2.48	1	1954	8126
St. Thomas	250.62	5	168	257.74	1.89	1	1690	4554
Portland	205.51	63	126	219.30	2.13	1	1792	5085
St. Mary	203.02	28	115	237.06	2.09	1	1904	5795
St. Elizabeth	186.47	28	119	201.31	2.19	1	1448	5504
Trelawny	244.81	63	133	290.76	2.53	1	4231	3825
Hanover	151.78	28	84	191.90	2.77	1	1841	4011
Average/Weighted Average	219.23	41.92	131.31	244.12	2.22	1.00	1973.46	8391.85
Standard Deviation	50.02	23.33	39.88	41.20	0.33	0.00	703.44	5761.60
Skewness	0.75	-0.57	0.95	0.30	-0.49	0.00	3.14	2.50

Number of charges sampled (N) = 109,094. Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the previous 5.2 years

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a large sample of matters disposed of for each parish court as at September 30, 2021. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 61-month period over September 2016 – September 2021 for most parish courts and it should be noted that these descriptive statistics are for matters disposed over that sample period. The output produces an estimated weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Criminal Division) of approximately 219 days (7.3 months), roughly 12 days above the time taken in the corresponding quarter in 2020. The skewness of these times to disposition is a low positive 0.75, suggesting a cluster of scores around the overall mean. For

matters disposed of in the period, the parish courts of Hanover (152 days), Westmoreland (158 days) and Clarendon (181 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of Manchester (320 days), St. Ann (296 days) and St. Thomas (251 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters disposed over the period. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is, however, wide as shown by the moderately high standard deviation (50.02), suggesting inconsistencies in performances on this measure. An interesting finding is that the minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 1 day; however, the maximum times are substantially larger, in some cases several years. This result continues to be both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 1354 days (45.13 months/3.8 years) in the Westmoreland parish court to a high of 4231 days (141.03 months/11.75 years) in the Trelawny Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a positive 3.14, which is an indication that proportionately more of the maximum times to disposition fell below the overall series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial 109,094 matters.

Table 15.0b: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for matters completed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Criminal	276.99	30	152	359.82	2.88	1	2694	1099
St. Catherine	284.81	108	157	430.17	5.12	1	3571	478
St. James	378.34	633	201.5	524.67	4.42	1	5074	448
Manchester	372.85	481	216	386.69	1.67	1	2105	517
Westmoreland	218.59	2	78	290.47	1.64	1	1176	425
St. Ann	437.66	63	252	506.86	2.14	1	2674	482
Clarendon	219.77	28	70	327.99	2.57	1	1954	283
St. Thomas	389.21	610	270	449.16	2.75	1	2680	237
Portland	177.81	63	101	222.41	3.10	3	1414	243
St. Mary	129.50	14	70	159.08	3.02	1	1302	284
St. Elizabeth	196.06	269	121.5	218.19	2.86	1	1397	228
Trelawny	364.24	1103	176	406.83	1.13	8	1583	238
Hanover	213.74	28	89	375.77	4.33	1	3140	244
Average/Weighted Average	292.86	264.00	150.31	358.32	2.89	1.69	2366.46	400.46
Standard Deviation	97.51	342.70	69.20	111.78	1.16	1.97	1115.42	237.44
Skewness	0.13	1.47	0.42	-0.31	0.48	3.19	1.20	2.35

Number of charges sampled (N) = 5,206

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed of for each parish court in the quarter ended September 30, 2021. The output produces an estimated weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Criminal Division) of approximately 293 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a very low positive 0.13, suggesting that these times were clustered around the overall mean. For matters disposed of in the quarter, the parish courts of St. Mary (130 days), Portland (178 days) and St. Elizabeth (196 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases in the quarter. The parish courts of St. Ann (438 days), St. Thomas (389 days) and St. James (378 days) demonstrate the highest times

to disposition for matters resolved during the quarter. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is, however, wide as shown by the moderately high standard deviation (97.51), suggesting inconsistencies in performances on this measure. An interesting finding is that the minimum time taken to dispose of matters across most parish courts was 1 day; however, the maximum times are substantially larger, in some cases several years. This result continues to be both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 1176 days (39.2 months/3.3 years) in the Westmoreland parish court to a high of 5074 days (169.13 months/14.1 years) in the St. James Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is high positive 3.19, which is an indication that proportionately more of the maximum times to disposition fell below the overall series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial 5,206 matters cases which were resolved during the third quarter of 2021.

15.0c: Net and gross criminal case backlog as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Net case backlog rate (%)	Gross case backlog rate (%)
Clarendon	5.88	12.93
Corporate area	1.54	15.69
Hanover	0.36	3.18
Manchester	2.93	17.87
Portland	1.59	9.83
St. Ann	1.51	6.51
St. Catherine	0.29	9.72
St. Elizabeth	0.83	7.53
St. James	1.75	10.94
St. Mary	0.13	9.48
St. Thomas	2.84	8.56
Trelawny	2.75	11.59
Westmoreland	0.17	7.20
Weighted Average	1.70	11.16
Standard Deviation	1.60	3.89

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 5 years' time series, the net case backlog rate

(weighted average) in the criminal division of the parish courts is 1.70% (with a standard deviation of 1.60%) which is satisfies than the international standard. The estimated gross case backlog rate also stands at a commendable 11.16% (with a standard deviation of 3.89%), an indication that there are a large number of inactive unresolved criminal cases in the parish courts. This rate is only 1.16 percentage points higher than the prescribed rate of 10%, but seemingly has the potential to meet this standard relatively soon with the application of more aggressive case management practices and reduction in the incidence of delays in the criminal courts. Although the time series used for this computation is only 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 0.13% and Westmoreland with an estimated net case backlog rate of 0.17% and the parish court of St. Catherine with 0.29% have the lowest (best) estimated net case backlog rate in the time series, while the parish courts of Clarendon (5.88%), Manchester (2.93%) and St. Thomas (2.84%) have the highest rates. As for the estimated gross backlog rate, the parish courts of Hanover (3.18%), St. Ann (6.51%) and Westmoreland (7.20%) have the lowest (best) estimated gross backlog rates in the series, while the parish courts of Manchester (17.87%), Corporate Area Criminal Court (15.69%) and Clarendon (12.93%) have the highest rates. Taken together, these are quite impressive returns for the criminal court system in Jamaica and augur well for future prospects.

Trial court activity summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Table 16.0a: Time interval between major events for cases that had a trial date in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Average time between filing and first court appearance (in days)	Average time between first court appearance and trial (in days)	Average time between first trial and disposition (in days)
Clarendon	3.64	612.70	51.67
Corporate Area-Criminal Division	4.03	358.24	234.35
Hanover	8.06	192.09	209.68
Manchester	4.21	366.91	443.99
Portland	5.78	396.86	118.77
St. Ann	10.53	669.78	209.68
St. Catherine	13.78	334.50	300.32
St. Elizabeth	8.23	172.60	241.15
St. James	8.03	1053.26	197.68
St. Mary	3.31	165.25	147.02
St. Thomas	5.99	239.20	585.97
Trelawny	5.11	415.49	194.64
Westmoreland	4.17	236.51	161.26
Weighted average	7.15	473.72	254.95
Standard Deviation	3.09	250.79	140.13

Tracking the times between the occurrence of major hearing events along the case flow continuum is important to establishing precise points of possible delay in case progression. The above table provides a summary of the average times between filing a case and the first court appearance, the average time between first court appearance and the first date of trial and the average duration between the first trial date and disposition. Overall, it is seen that the average time between filing a criminal case and the first court appearance is approximately 7 days, while the overall average time between first appearance of a criminal matter in the parish courts and the first trial date is, however, much longer at roughly 15.8 months or 474 days. The average duration between the first trial date set and the date of disposition is roughly 9 months or 255

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

Table 16.0b: Trial court activity summary during the quarter ended September 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 (%)
Clarendon	701	96	13.69
Corporate Area-Criminal Division	4000	646	16.15
Hanover	521	124	23.80
Manchester	1120	425	37.95
Portland	662	72	10.88
St. Ann	1649	356	21.59
St. Catherine	2338	537	22.97
St. Elizabeth	866	205	23.67
St. James	1575	198	12.57
St. Mary	491	89	18.13
St. Thomas	535	63	11.78
Trelawny	764	168	21.99
Westmoreland	743	127	17.09
Total/Weighted Average	15965	3106	19.46

The above table provides a summary of number of cases heard in the third quarter of 2021 in the criminal divisions of the parish courts. Using a sampling distribution, it is seen that of 15,965 criminal cases heard across the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021, 3,106 or 19.46% proceeded to trial. The parish courts of Portland (10.88%), St. Thomas (11.78%) and St. James

(12.57%) had the lowest proportion of cases proceeding to trial, while the parish courts of Manchester (37.95%), Hanover (23.80%) and St. Elizabeth (23.67%) had the highest proportions.

Table 16.0c: Distribution of methods of disposition for matters set for trial during the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage
Dismissed	370	31.57
Not Guilty Verdict	319	27.30
Guilty Plea	237	20.22
Mediated Settlement	112	9.56
Guilty	81	6.91
Transferred	33	2.82
Committed to Circuit	19	1.62
Total	1172	100.00

The above table summarizes the common methods of disposition for a sample of cases proceeding to trial. It is seen that matters dismissed with 31.57% of the cases disposed, not guilty verdicts with 318 or 27.30% and disposals by way of guilty pleas with 237 or 20.22% account for the three leading methods of disposition in the sample.

Methods of Disposal and Conviction Rate [all matters]

Table 17.0: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Guilty Plea	Dismissed	Not Guilty Verdict	Transferred	Mediated Settlement	Guilty Verdict	Committed to Circuit Court	Total
St. Catherine	1087	167	33	139	138	12	85	1661
Corporate Area Criminal	1341	303	61	30	55	27	128	1945
Westmoreland	256	178	125	-	36	-	134	729
St. James	638	-	153	36	56	16	48	947
Manchester	150	341	39	42	71	14	21	678
Clarendon	366	42	111	6	17	175	15	732
St. Elizabeth	377	2	98	41	71	9	5	603
Trelawny	221	143	5	-	29	4	34	436
Hanover	208	58	101	-	29	26	22	444
Portland	161	-	117	-	1	5	32	316
St. Mary	99	179	14	-	59	2	35	388
St. Thomas	345	29	55	2	23	7	77	538
St. Ann	178	34	60	69	73	-	28	442
Total	5427	1476	972	365	658	297	664	9859
Percentage of total	55.05	14.97	9.86	3.70	6.67	3.01	6.73	

Sample size: 9,859

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts for the third quarter of 2021. From the sample, it is observed that the largest proportion of matters disposed of during the quarter were by way of a guilty plea with 55.05% of the sample, followed by matters dismissed with 14.97% and not guilty verdicts with 9.86%. Matters committed to Circuit Court with 6.73%, mediated settlements with 6.67%, matters transferred to another court with 3.70% and guilty verdicts with 3.01% account for the remaining disposals in the quarter. The combined 58.06% of the cases disposed of by way of guilty outcomes represent the estimated criminal conviction rate in the parish courts for the quarter. This

represents an increase of 18.83 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2020.

Common Reasons for Adjournment

Table 18.01: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Reasons for Adjournment	Count	Percentage (%)
File to be completed	1927	13.93
Defendant Not Appearing (DNA) warrant issued	1571	11.35
Disclosure	1039	7.51
Defendants absent	860	6.22
Referred to Mediation	845	6.11
Subpoena investigating officer	751	5.43
Re-issue application	534	3.86
Subpoena crown witness	509	3.68
Facilitate restitution	345	2.49
Sub-total	8381	60.57

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance =13,836)

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 13,836 reasons for adjournments/continuance for matters heard in the third quarter of 2021 across all parish courts. The largest proportion (13.03%) was due to files to be completed. Adjournments due to the non-appearance of the accused, leading to the issuing of warrants with 11.35% and adjournments for disclosure with 7.51% rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment across the parish courts for the quarter. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 6.22% and for referrals to mediation with 6.11%, round of the top five reasons for adjournment in this period. Four of the top five reasons

for adjournment were also featured in the top five for the third quarter of 2020. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above account for 61.53% of the total sample of adjournments.

The case file integrity rate:

One factor, which has a significant bearing on the progression of cases through the court system, is the case file integrity rate. A case file is considered to have met the standards of integrity if at the point of a court hearing requiring the use of said file; it is complete, accurate, available and correctly listed for court. Hence reasons for adjournment such as file incomplete, file not ready for court, matter wrongly listed and matter not before the court have an adverse impact on the case file integrity rate of the courts. In the third quarter of 2021, the case file integrity rate for criminal matters across the parish courts was 85.33% as 14.67% of the total incidence of adjournments was due to the indicated factors, which impair the case file integrity rate. Of these factors, file to be completed accounts for 13.93% of the total incidence of adjournments/continuance and is the greatest contributor, adversely affecting the case file integrity rate. This rate is below the prescribed international standard of 98%-100%. This is an area in which major operational interventions need to be undertaken across the parish courts to improve the availability, completeness, accuracy and correct scheduling of case files for court.

Table 18.02: Summary of mention court activity for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Average number of mentions per case	Standard Deviation of Mentions Per Case	Skewness of mentions per case	Maximum Mention Court Frequency	Minimum Mention Court Frequency
Clarendon	2.51	2.47	1.78	15	1
Corporate Area	4.83	4.48	2.22	39	1
Hanover	4.01	4.40	4.51	40	1
Manchester	3.56	3.25	2.27	26	1
Portland	3.43	3.20	2.12	22	1
St. Ann	4.46	3.72	1.93	31	1
St. Catherine	3.58	3.41	3.90	40	1
St. Elizabeth	2.90	2.95	3.45	20	1
St. James	2.40	2.03	2.00	14	1
St. Mary	3.64	2.63	1.45	20	1
St. Thomas	3.50	2.93	2.19	22	1
Trelawny	1.11	0.48	5.35	4	1
Westmoreland	4.14	3.68	1.48	24	1
Weighted Average	3.96	-	-	-	-
Standard Deviation	0.98	-	-	-	-
Skewness	-0.92	-	-	-	-

The above table summarises the number of mention court appearances per case leading towards disposition in the criminal division of the parish courts for matters heard in the third quarter of 2021. The overall average number of appearances per 10 cases heard is 40, or roughly 4 appearances per case with a standard deviation of 0.98 across the courts sampled and a skewness of -0.92. Together, these results suggest that the average number of appearances per case is within the prescribed international standard, that a slightly larger proportion of cases have more 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 third quarter of 2021 are

the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, St. Ann and Westmoreland Parish Courts, while the Trelawny, St. James and Clarendon Parish Courts were among those with the lowest case appearance incidence per case. In terms of cases disposed, the average mention court appearance for all cases resolved across all the parish courts combined in the third quarter of 2021 was 3.40 with a standard deviation of 3.52. These results suggest that the overall average number of appearances per 10 cases disposed is 34 or roughly 3 appearances per disposed case.

Chapter 2.0: Case Demographics and Courtroom Activity

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

Table 19.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

	Male		Female		Total	
Charge	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Breach of the disaster risk management act	2553	72.69	959	27.31	3512	100.00
Breach of Curfew Order	1406	72.07	545	27.93	1951	100.00
Assault occasioning bodily harm	643	75.74	206	24.26	849	100.00
Unlawful wounding	507	78.36	140	21.64	647	100.00
Threat	335	77.37	98	22.63	433	100.00
Failure to Wear Face Mask in Public	358	84.04	68	15.96	426	100.00
Malicious destruction of property	286	77.51	83	22.49	369	100.00
Littering	203	70.49	85	29.51	288	100.00
Possession of offensive weapon	250	95.42	12	4.58	262	100.00
Possession of ganja	179	76.17	56	23.83	235	100.00

Note: The gender of persons charged was not available for every matter that was filed in the parish courts hence a sample is used. Sample size (N) =12,324 observations.

The above table provides a sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021. Based on the data shown in chart 5.0, it is not surprising that males account for the dominant proportion of all these charges. Among the charges listed with the greatest imbalance in the gender distribution are threat, malicious

destruction of property, and unlawful for which over 77% of the persons charged were male. More particularly, is seen that possession of offensive weapon with 95.42% of the persons charged being male and failure to wear mask in a public space with 84.04% had the most significant incidence of persons charged being male for the quarter. Littering, breach of curfew order and breach of Disaster Risk Management Act saw the highest incidence of female involvement.

The below series of tables provide a sampling distribution of cases by assigned courtroom in the individual parish courts in the third quarter of 2020. These figures are derived from representative data from the respective courts and do not necessary add back to the total population of cases outlined in the first few tables of the report.

Table 20.01: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Westmoreland for the quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	330	206	30	75.51	71.52
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	1	0	0	0.23	0.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	23	1	0	5.26	4.35
Whithorn Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	14	1	0	3.20	7.14
Whithorn Outstation	69	43	4	15.79	68.12
Total/Average	437	251	34	100	65.22

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of criminal cases filed in the third quarter of 2021 at the Westmoreland Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and outlines the applicable disposal rates. The table separates Lay Magistrates' and night court matters heard in each of the relevant locations for ease of comparison. The data shows decisively that matters entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse and the outstation in Whithorn accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 330 (75.51%) and 69 (15.79%) of cases respectively. Sittings at the Lay Magistrates' court at the main courthouse with 23 or 5.26% rank next. The number of cases heard in courtroom one (330 cases), increased by 19.57% going above the 276 cases recorded in the similar quarter of 2020. The disposal rate also increased by 25.14 percentage points moving up to 71.52% compared to the 46.38% reported in 2020. In terms of cases disposed, sittings in courtroom number 1 with 206 cases accounted for the highest absolute share of cases disposed, relative to the number of new cases filed and had the highest disposal rate of 71.52%. The outstation in Whithorn rank next with 43 disposed cases and recorded the second highest disposal rate of 68.12%, which is 26.23 percentage points above the 41.89% recorded in the corresponding third quarter of 2020.

The single outstation in Westmoreland accounted for 18.99% of the total sample of new cases heard, an increase of 1.15 percentage points when compared to the 17.84% recorded in the corresponding third quarter of 2020. The main courthouse accounted for the remaining 81.01%, a decline of 1.19 percentage points when compared to the 82.20% recorded in the corresponding third quarter of 2020.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 330 new cases heard in courtroom number one, 1 was disposed of in courtroom number three.

Table 20.02: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Corporate Area for the quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	1357	501	289	91.26	58.22
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	2	0	0	0.13	0.00
Courtroom #6 (main courthouse)	39	0	0	2.62	0.00
Courtroom #7 (main courthouse)	51	2	2	3.43	7.84
Fast Track	1	0	0	0.07	0.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	37	7	5	2.49	32.43
Total/Average	1487	510	296	100.00	54.20

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021 at the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for the highest proportion of new cases filed in the quarter with 91.26% of the total sample. Courtroom number 7 with roughly 3.43% follows this and courtroom number 6 with 2.62%, rounding off the top three proportion of new cases filed in the quarter. Courtroom number two at the main courthouse accounts for the largest absolute share of cases disposed in the third quarter of 2021 with 289 cases and the highest disposal rate of 58.22%. When compared to the corresponding

quarter in 2020, courtroom number two also accounted for the largest absolute share of cases disposed with 203 cases and had a disposal rate of 35.20%. There represents an increase of 86 cases disposed or a 42.36% increase and 23.02 percentage points increase in the disposal rate. The main courthouse in Half-Way-Tree accounted for 99.93% of the total number of new matters heard in 2021.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 501 cases heard in courtroom two, 17 were disposed of in other courtrooms. In particular, 6 were disposed of at fast-track court, while Courtroom 7 accounted for 4 of these cases. Courtrooms 3 and 8 disposed of 1 case each while the remaining 5 cases were disposed of in Courtroom 5.

Table 18.03: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. James for the quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	31	16	8	3.85	77.42
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	636	331	77	78.91	64.15
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	61	51	1	7.57	85.25
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	11	2	9	1.36	100.00
Cambridge Outstation	65	38	4	8.06	64.62
Lay Magistrates (Main courthouse)	2	0	2	0.25	100.00
Total/Average	806	438	101	100.00	66.87

Note 1: There were 106 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021, at the St. James Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and outlines the disposal rates of the various courtrooms and outstations. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse in Montego Bay had the highest number of new cases filed with 636 cases or 78.91% of the sample, which is a 39.66% decrease, or 418 cases less than the 1054 cases recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter. This was followed by Cambridge outstation with 8.06% and courtrooms number 3 with 7.57% of the sample followed. Courtroom number 4 and Lay Magistrates sittings had the highest disposal rate of 100% each, relative to their low absolute numbers, while courtroom number 3 followed with a disposal rate of 85.25%. The main courthouse in Montego Bay accounts for 91.94% of the new cases heard in the third quarter of 2021. This is 3.01 percentage points below the 94.95% recorded in corresponding third quarter of 2020. The remaining 8.06% was accounted for by the sole outstation (Cambridge).

Table 20.04: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Catherine for the quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case Disposal Rate (%)
Children's Court (main courthouse)	8	1	1	0.59	25.00
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	778	435	125	57.84	71.98
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	47	21	1	3.49	46.81
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	1	0	0	0.07	0.00
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	14	4	0	1.04	28.57
Courtroom #5 (main courthouse)	24	5	1	1.78	25.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	26	2	4	1.93	23.08
Linstead Outstation (courtroom #1)	305	212	37	22.68	81.64
Linstead Outstation (courtroom #2)	1	0	0	0.07	0.00
Linstead Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	11	1	3	0.82	36.36
Old Harbour Outstation (courtroom #1)	124	78	7	9.22	68.55
Old Harbour Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	2	0	1	0.15	50.00
Portmore Outstation (courtroom #1)	4	1	0	0.30	25.00
Total/Average	1345	760	180	100.00	69.89

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021 at the St. Catherine Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and outlines the applicable disposal rates. The table separates Lay Magistrates' and night court matters for the relevant locations for ease of comparisons. The data shows decisively that matters entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse in Spanish Town and Linstead outstation accounts for the largest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 57.84% and 22.68% of the cases respectively. Courtroom 1 at the outstation in Old Harbour with 9.22% of new cases filed ranks next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1

accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 435 cases, which is an increase of 237.21% or 306 cases more than the 129 cases recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2020. Courtroom 1 also had the second highest disposal rate of 71.98%, which is an increase of 24.06 percentage points above the 47.92% recorded in the comparable 2020 third quarter. Courtroom 1 at the outstation in Linstead accounted for the highest disposal rate of 81.64%. The outstation in Old Harbour with disposal rates of 68.55% was among the top highest disposal rates for the quarter. The main courthouse in Spanish Town accounts for 66.77% of the total sample of new cases heard in the third quarter of 2021, an increase of 2.20 percentage points above the 64.50% recorded in the corresponding third quarter of 2020. The outstations combined accounted for the remaining 33.23%.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 778 cases heard in courtroom number one, 11 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Courtrooms 2 and 3 accounted for 3 cases and 2 cases respectively, while the remaining 6 cases were disposed of in courtroom number 4 with 5 cases and Children's court with 1 case.

20.05: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Thomas for the quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main courthouse)	3	0	0	1.22	0.00
Courtroom #1 (main courtroom)	170	128	7	69.11	79.41
Courtroom #2 (main courtroom)	6	0	1	2.44	16.67
Yallahs Outstation	67	38	2	27.24	59.70
Total/Average	246	166	10	100	71.54

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The data shows decisively that matters entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse and the outstation in Yallahs accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 69.11% and 27.24% respectively. Courtroom number 1 also accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 128 cases and the highest disposal rate of 79.41%. When compared to the corresponding 2020 quarter, this represents an increase of 35.66 percentage points above the 43.75% recorded in 2020. The outstation in Yallahs with a disposal rate of 59.70% (compared to 43.33% in 2020) and the courtroom number two with a disposal rate of 16.67% (compared to 20% in 2020) accounts for the second and third highest disposal rates respectively.

The main courthouse in Morant Bay accounted for 72.76% of the total new cases heard in the third quarter, which is an increase of 2.14 percentage points when compared to the 70.62%

recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter. The remaining 27.24% was accounted for by the Yallahs outstation, a decrease of 2.14 percentage points when compared to the 29.38% recorded in the corresponding 2020 third quarter.

Table 20.06: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Trelawny for the quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	13	7	1	4.74	61.54
Clarks town Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	1	1	0	0.36	100.00
Falmouth Outstation	143	71	6	52.19	53.85
Falmouth Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	9	2	0	3.28	22.22
Ulster Spring Outstation	84	45	10	30.66	65.48
Ulster Spring Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	3	2	0	1.09	66.67
Clarks Town Outstation (courtroom #1)	21	7	2	7.66	42.86
Total/Average	274	135	19	100.00	56.20

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021 at the Trelawny Parish Court. The data shows decisively that matters entered in the Falmouth outstation accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 52.19%. The outstation in Ulster Spring and Clarks town with 30.66% and 7.66% respectively, followed. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the outstation in Clarks Town, despite its low absolute numbers, recorded the highest disposal rate of 100%. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the outstations in Ulster Spring and courtroom 1 also at the Ulster Spring outstation ranked next with disposal rates of 66.67% and 65.48% respectively. The outstations accounts for 95.26% of the new cases heard in the third quarter of 2021, while the remaining 4.74% were accounted for by

the main courthouse. In the corresponding 2020 third quarter, the main courthouse accounted for 82.92% of the new cases heard, while the remaining 17.08% were accounted for by the outstations.

Table 20.07: Aggregate case statistics for each outstation in the Parish of St. Mary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main courthouse)	2	1	0	0.96	50.00
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	139	61	10	66.51	51.08
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	4	3	0	1.91	75.00
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	4	1	0	1.91	25.00
Annotto Bay Outstation	30	18	0	14.35	60.00
Gayle Outstation	6	5	0	2.87	83.33
Richmond Outstation	24	12	3	11.48	62.50
Total/Average	209	101	13	100.00	54.55

Note 1: There were 4 missing courtroom/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Mary in the third quarter of 2021. The data shows decisively that courtrooms number 1 at the main courthouse and the Annotto Bay outstation accounts for the highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 66.51% and 14.35% respectively of the total sample. The outstations in Richmond and Gayle with 11.48% and 2.87% respectively rank next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Port Maria accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 61 cases, an increase of 45.23%

or 19 cases above the 42 cases recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter and had a case disposal rate of 51.08%. Despite proportionately low absolute numbers, the outstation in Gayle had the highest disposal rate of 83.33%. Courtroom 2 with 75% had the second highest disposal rate in the quarter. The outstations in the parish account for a combined 28.70% of the total sample number of new cases heard in the third quarter of 2021. A decrease of 13.22 percentage points below the 41.92% recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter. On the other hand, the main courthouse accounts for 71.29%, which is an increase of 13.22 percentage point above the 58.07% recorded in the similar third quarter of 2020.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 139 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, 2 cases were disposed of in Courtroom three and 1 case was disposed of in courtroom 2. Of the 30 cases heard in courtroom number 2 at the outstation in Annotto Bay, 2 were disposed of in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse.

Table 20.08: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Portland for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	180	90	18	58.06	60.00
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	4	4	0	1.29	100.00
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	13	1	0	4.19	7.69
Buff Bay Outstation (courtroom #1)	64	32	5	20.65	57.81
Manchioneal Outstation	49	33	1	15.81	69.39
Total/Average	310	160	24	100	59.35

Note 1: There were 32 missing courtroom/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Portland in the third quarter of 2021. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the main court in Port Antonio accounts for the highest share of new matters heard in the period, with 58.06% of the total sample. In the third quarter of 2020 courtroom one also accounted for the highest share of new matters heard with 59.25% of the cases. Courtroom number 1 at the outstation in Buff Bay and Manchioneal outstations with 20.65% (compared to 18.87% in 2020) and 15.81% (compared to 15.09% in 2020) respectively of the total sample of the new cases heard in the period ranked next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Port Antonio accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 90 cases, a 62.79% increase or 47 more cases compared to the 43 cases recorded in the corresponding 2020 third quarter; and had the third highest disposal rate of 60%. Courtroom number one at the Buff Bay outstation and Manchioneal outstation with rates of 69.93% and 57.81% respectively were among the top three on this measure. The outstations in Portland account for a combined 36.46% of the new cases heard, which is an increase of 1.37 percentage points above the 35.09% recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter. The main courthouse in Port Antonio accounts for the remaining 63.54%, which is a decrease of 1.37 percentage points below the 64.91% recorded in the third quarter of 2020.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 4 cases heard in courtroom number two at the main courthouse, 1 was disposed of at courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse.

Table 20.09: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Hanover for the quarter of ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	56	23	5	34.57	50.00
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	30	19	1	18.52	66.67
Green Island Outstation (lay Magistrates)	4	2	0	2.47	50.00
Green Island Outstation (Courtroom #1)	22	17	1	13.58	81.82
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	16	9	1	9.88	62.50
Ramble Outstation (Courtroom #1)	4	3	0	2.47	75.00
Ramble Lay Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	2	2	0	1.23	100.00
Sandy Bay Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	5	0	0	3.09	0.00
Sandy Bay Outstation (Courtroom #1)	23	17	3	14.20	86.96
Total/Average	162	92	11	100.00	63.58

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Hanover in the third quarter of 2021. The data shows decisively that courtroom number one at the main court in Lucea accounts for the highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 34.57% of the total sample and is 5.43 percentage points below the 40% recorded in the corresponding 2020 third quarter. Courtroom two at the main courthouse and the outstation in Sandy Bay with 18.52% and 14.20% respectively rank next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 23 matters, a 61.67% decline or 37 less cases than the 60 cases recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter. Courtroom 1 at the main courthouse recorded the seventh highest case disposal rate of 50%, which is a decrease of 0.76

percentage points below the 50.76% reported in the comparative 2020 third quarter. Despite the relatively low absolute numbers, Lay Magistrates' sittings at the outstation in Ramble recorded the highest disposal rate of 100%. Courtroom number 1 at the Sandy Bay outstation (86.96%), the outstation in Green Island (81.82%), courtroom 1 at the Ramble outstation (75%), and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse (66.67%) were among the top five disposal rates. The outstations in the parish account for 37.04% of the new cases heard during the quarter, which is a decrease of 8.71 percentage points below the 45.75% in the third quarter of 2020. The main courthouse accounts for the remaining 62.96%, which is an increase of 8.71 percentage points above the 54.25% when compared to the similar quarter of 2020.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 23 cases heard in courtroom number one at the main courthouse, 1 was disposed at Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse.

Table 20.10: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Elizabeth for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rates (%)
Santa Cruz (Children's Court)	5	0	0	0.95	0.00
Balaclava (Children's Court)	1	0	0	0.19	0.00
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	64	30	3	12.10	51.56
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	11	0	1	2.08	9.09
Balaclava Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	2	0	0	0.38	0.00
Balaclava Outstation (courtroom #1)	42	22	5	7.94	64.29
Santa Cruz Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	15	0	5	2.84	33.33
Santa Cruz Outstation (courtroom #1)	388	181	39	73.35	47.94
Santa Cruz Outstation (courtroom #2)	1	0	0	0.19	0.00
Total/Average	529	233	53	100.00	54.06

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Elizabeth for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the Santa Cruz outstation and Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse in Black River accounted for highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 73.35% and 12.10% respectively of the total sample. When compared to the similar third quarter of 2020, both afore mentioned courtrooms also accounted for the highest share of new cases heard with 71.07% and 14.35% respectively. This data represents an increase of 2.28 percentage points for the outstation in Santa Cruz and a decrease of 2.25 percentage points for courtroom 1 at the main courthouse. Courtroom 1 at the Balaclava outstation with 7.94%, and Lay Magistrates sittings at the Santa Cruz outstation with 2.84% round off the top share of new cases heard in the third quarter of 2021. Courtroom 1 at the outstation in Balaclava recorded the highest disposal rate of 64.29% in the third quarter of 2021. Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse and courtroom number 1 at the Santa Cruz outstation ranked next with disposal rates of 51.56% and 47.94% respectively. The Santa Cruz and Balaclava outstations accounts for the highest proportion of new cases heard in the third quarter of 2021 with 85.82%, while the main courthouse in Black River accounts for 14.18%.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, Of the 30 cases heard in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, 1 was disposed of at the outstation in Santa Cruz. Of the 181 cases heard in courtroom one at the outstation in Santa Cruz, 3 cases were disposed of in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse.

Table 20.11: Aggregate case statistics for each outstation in the Parish of St. Ann for the quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
St. Ann's Bay and the Claremont outstation					
Claremont (Children's Court)	3	0	1	0.77	33.33
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	198	50	37	51.03	43.94
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	19	2	1	4.90	15.79
Claremont Outstation	31	13	2	7.99	48.39
Claremont Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	3	0	3	0.77	100.00
Browns Town					
Children's Court	2	1	1	0.52	100.00
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	103	10	4	26.55	13.59
Lay Magistrates' Court	29	1	4	7.47	17.24
Total/Average	388	77	53	100.00	33.51

Note 1: There were 251 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the total in table 1.0

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Ann in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021. The data shows that courtroom 1 in both St. Ann's Bay (the main court) and Browns Town account for the largest shares of new cases heard in the quarter with 51.03% and 26.55% respectively of the total sample. The outstation in Claremont with 7.99% is among the top three largest share of new cases heard. When compared to 2020, the data shows that courtroom 1 in both St. Ann's Bay (main courthouse) and Browns Town were among the top three largest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 19.93% and 33.10% respectively of the total sample. In terms of cases disposed of, courtroom 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute

share of matters disposed of with 50 cases and had a disposal rate of 43.94%. Despite its proportionately low numbers, Lay Magistrates' sittings at the Claremont outstation and Children's Court at the Browns Town outstation both had a disposal rate of 100%. The outstation in Claremont with 48.39%, courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse in St. Ann with 43.94%, were among the highest disposal rates for the quarter. As a whole, the Brown's Town court accounted for approximately 34.54% of the new cases filed in the parish of St. Ann in the third quarter of 2021, which is 27.39 percentage points below the 61.93% recorded in the corresponding 2020 quarter. The St. Ann's Bay courthouse accounts for 55.93% of the new cases heard in the quarter and the Claremont outstation accounted for the remaining 9.53% of new cases.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 50 cases heard in courtroom number one, 3 cases were disposed of in courtroom number two and 1 at the outstation in Claremont.

Table 20.12: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom/outstation in the Parish of Clarendon for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Chaplet on Outstation	89	51	4	15.11	61.80
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	321	163	19	54.50	56.70
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	20	14	-	3.40	70.00
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	13	9	-	2.21	69.23
Frankfield Outstation	17	5	2	2.89	41.18
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	20	12	2	3.40	70.00
Lionel Town Outstation	109	54	8	18.51	56.88
Total/Average	589	308	35	100.00	58.23

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Clarendon in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021. The available data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 in May Pen accounted for highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 54.50% of the total sample. The outstations in Lionel Town and Chapleton account for the next highest shares of new cases heard in the quarter with 18.51% and 15.11% respectively of the total sample. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 163 cases, an increase of 191% or 107 cases higher than the 56 disposed cases recorded for this courtroom in the third quarter 2020 and had the sixth highest disposal rate of 56.70%. Courtroom number two and Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse had the highest disposal rate of 70% each. Courtroom number three at the main courthouse with 69.23% and the outstation in Lionel Town with (56.88%) were among the highest disposal rates for the third quarter of 2021. The main courthouse in May Pen accounted for 63.50% of cases

heard in quarter, while the remaining 36.50% was accounted for by the outstations, which is an increase of 1.94 percentage points above the 34.56% recorded in 2020.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. Of the 321 cases heard in courtroom number, courtroom 2 the main courthouse disposed of 1 case. Of the 109 cases heard at the outstation in Lionel Town, 1 was disposed of in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse.

Table 20.13: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Manchester for the quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	82	25	4	23.16	35.37
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	67	16	1	18.93	25.37
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	5	1	0	1.41	20.00
Children's Court (main courthouse)	1	0	1	0.28	100.00
Porus (Children's Court)	2	0	0	0.56	0.00
Cottage Outstation	9	1	1	2.54	22.22
Cottage Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	3	0	0	0.85	0.00
Christiana Outstation	50	20	1	14.12	42.00
Christiana Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	9	1	0	2.54	11.11
Spalding Outstation	39	13	0	11.02	33.33
Spalding Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	1	0	0	0.28	0.00
Porus Outstation	17	9	0	4.80	52.94
Porus Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	4	0	0	1.13	0.00
Cross Keys Outstation	15	2	0	4.24	13.33
Cross Keys Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	3	0	0	0.85	0.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	47	11	6	13.28	36.17
Total/Average	354	99	14	100	31.92

Note 1: There was 10 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the total in table 1.0

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Manchester in the third quarter ended

September 30, 2021. The data shows courtroom 1 at the main courthouse accounted for the highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 82 cases or 23.16% of the total sample. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse and the outstation in Christiana accounts for the next highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 18.93% and 14.12% respectively of the total sample. Lay Magistrates' sitting at the main courthouse and the outstation in Spalding followed, with 47 cases or 13.28% and 39 cases or 11.02% of the total sample of cases filed in the quarter. In terms of case disposal rate, the children's court at the main courthouse, despite having proportionately low numbers, recorded the highest disposal rate of 100%. The outstation in Porus with 52.94%, the outstation in Christiana with 42% and the Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with 36.17% were among the highest disposal rates for the quarter. The main courthouse in Mandeville accounts for 57.06% of the total sample of new cases heard during the 2021 third quarter, which is a decrease of 17.84 percentage points when compared to the 64.90% recorded in the third quarter of 2020. The remaining 42.94% was accounted for by the various outstations.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 82 cases heard in courtroom number one at the main courthouse, one was disposed of in courtroom 2. Of the 67 cases heard in courtroom number two, 1 was disposed of in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse. Of the 39 cases heard at the outstation in Spalding, 1 was disposed of at courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse.

Table 20.14: proportion of cases heard at the main court and outstation across all parish courts for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Q3

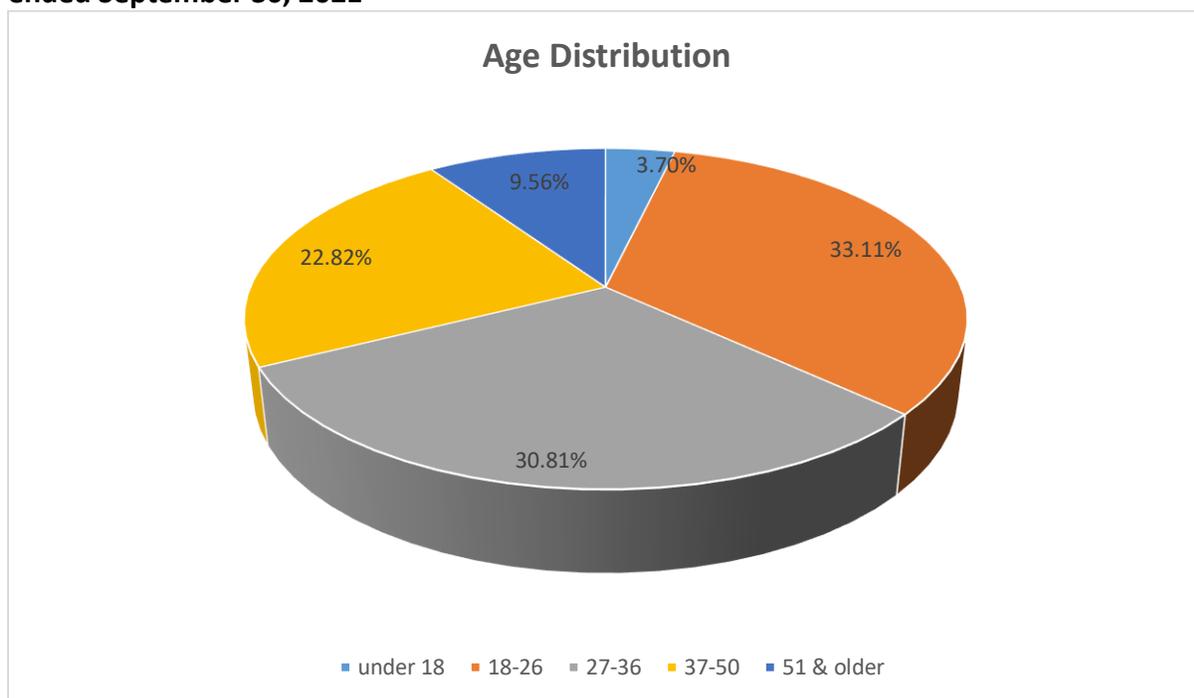
Parish	Main Court Q3 2021 (%)	Outstation Q3 2021 (%)
Westmoreland	81.01	18.99
Corporate Area Criminal	99.93	0.07
St. James	91.94	8.06
St. Catherine	66.77	33.23
St. Thomas	72.76	27.27
Trelawny	4.74	95.26
St. Mary	71.29	28.70
Portland	63.54	36.46
Hanover	62.96	37.04
St. Elizabeth	14.18	85.82
St. Ann	55.93	44.07
Clarendon	63.50	36.50
Manchester	57.06	42.94
Simple Average	61.97	38.03

represents the third quarter July 1-September 30, 2021

The above table provides a proxy summary of the distribution of the utilization of the main courthouse locations and combined outstation usage in the hearing of new criminal cases filed. It is seen that 61.97% of new cases filed were entered for initial hearing in the main courthouse locations, while 38.03% were allocated for outstations. There are significant variances in the extent of main courthouse and outstation usage for the hearing of criminal matters across the parishes. It is seen, for example, that in parishes such as Corporate Area (Kingston and St. Andrew), St. Ann, Westmoreland and St. James, in excess of 80% of the new cases filed were entered for initial hearing, with the usage being particularly acute in the Corporate Area Court Criminal Division, which had 99.93% of cases entered for initial hearing at the main courthouse. On the contrary, there are parishes where the level of outstation usage competes with or outruns the usage of the main courthouse in the hearing of criminal cases filed. St. Elizabeth and Trelawny

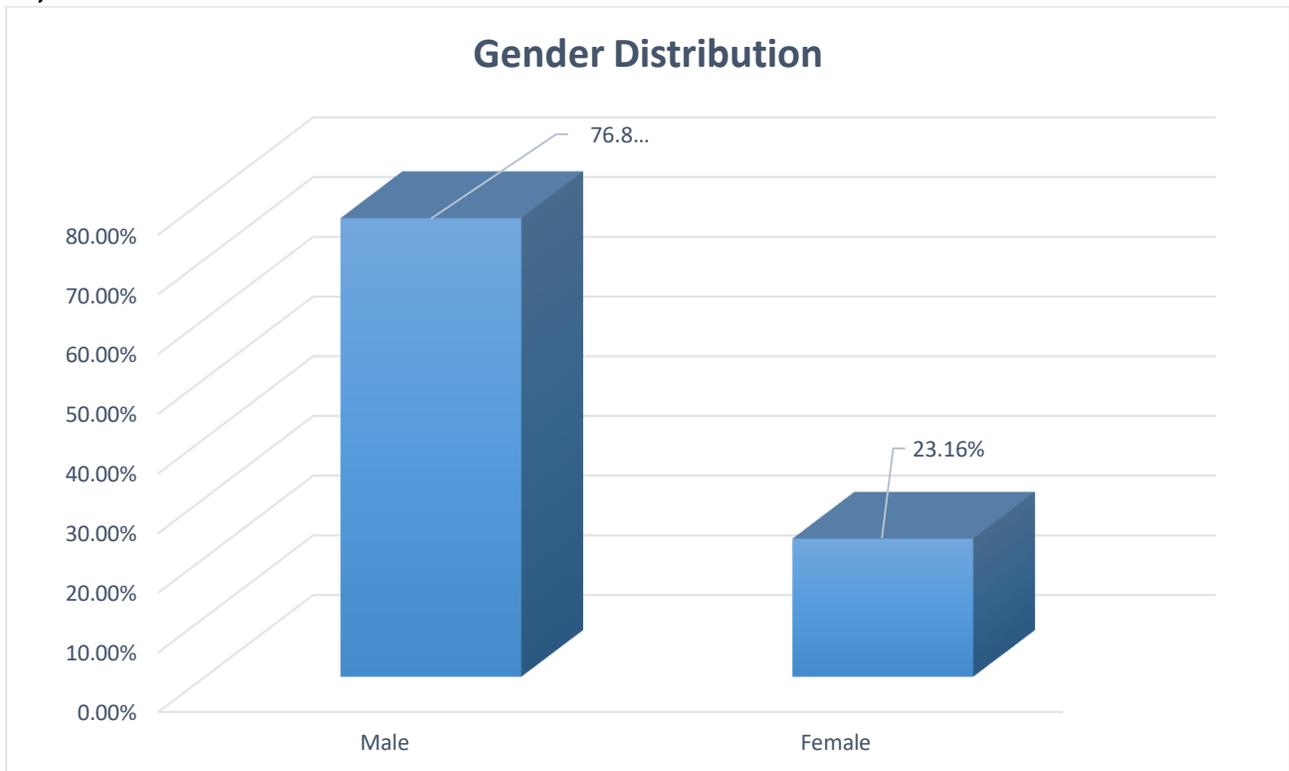
are good examples of courts with significant outstation usage, each registering over 80% for initial hearing of new criminal cases filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021. There may be opportunities for greater utilization of outstations to carry the caseload in some parishes, but such precise determinations require further analyses of total 'demand and supply, in each location.

Chart 4.0: Aggregate age distribution of persons charged for all parish courts for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



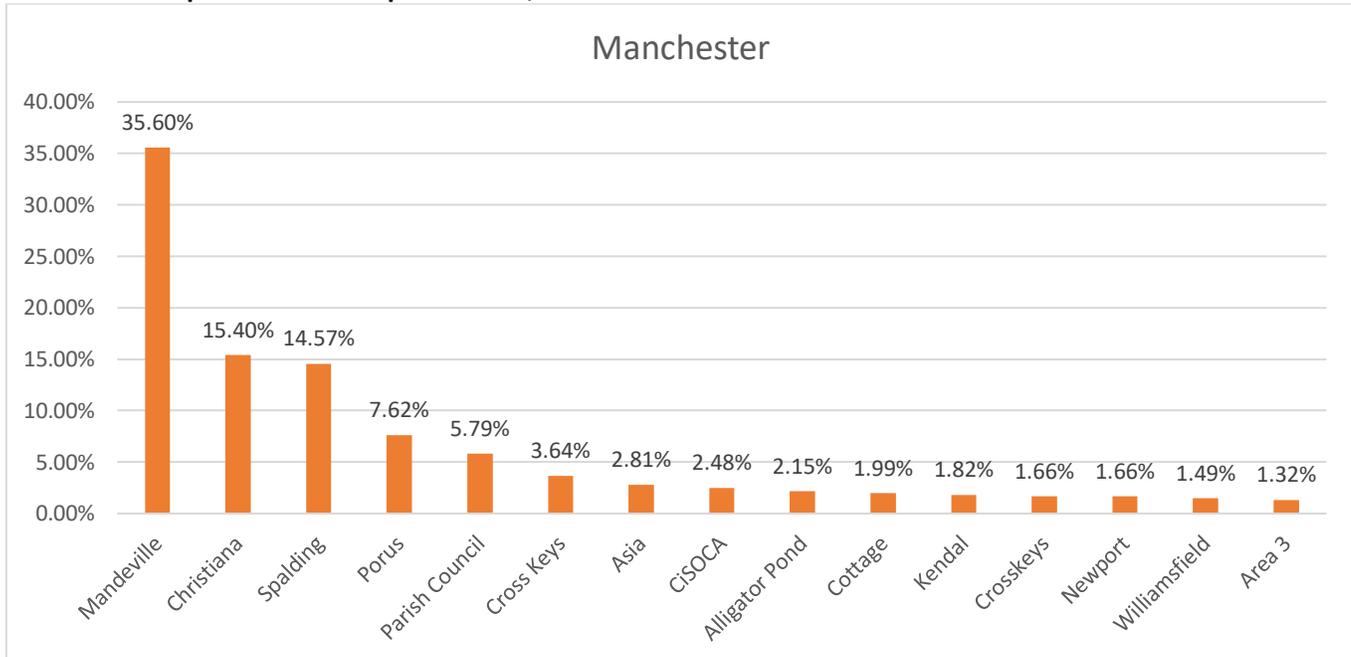
The above chart summarizes the age distribution of persons charged and brought before the criminal division of the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021. It is shown that the 18-26 age group with 33.11% accounted for the largest share of the persons charged, followed by the 27-36 age group with 30.81%. The lowest shares were attributed to the under 18 age group with 3.70% and 51 and over age group with 9.56%. The remaining proportion was accounted for by the 37-50 age group with 22.82% of the total sample.

Chart 5.0: Aggregate gender distribution of persons charged for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



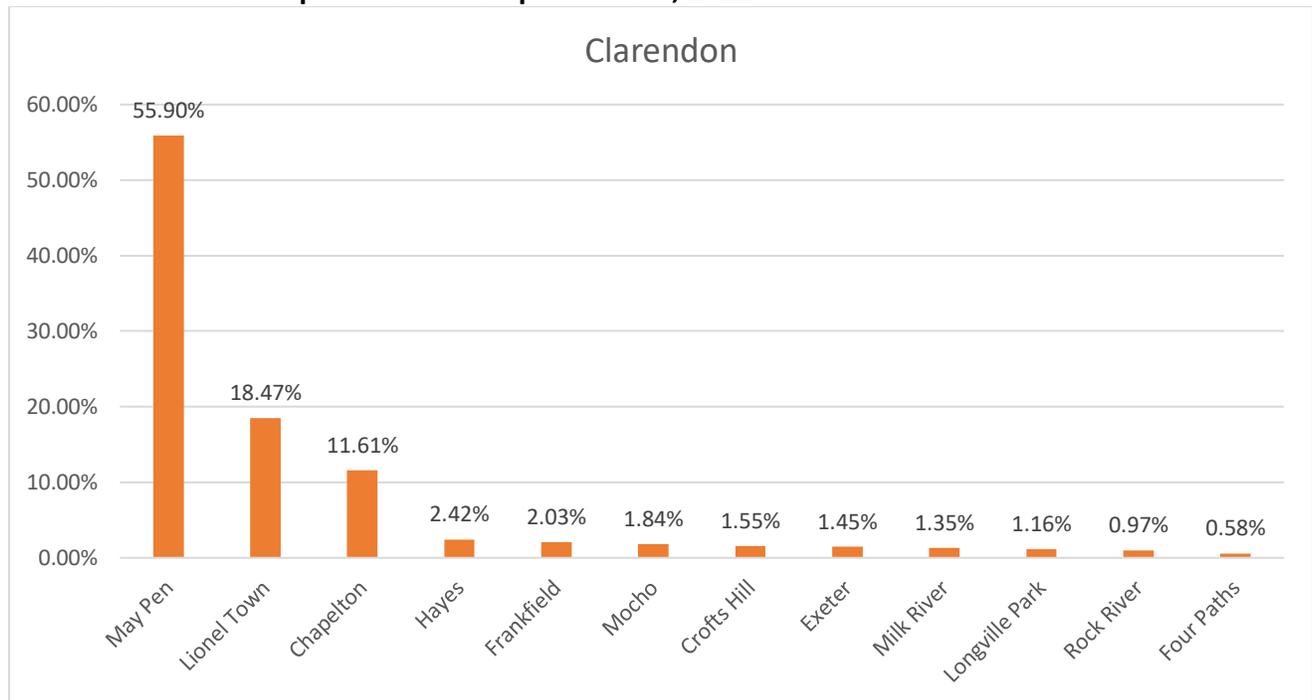
The above chart shows that the overwhelming majority of persons charged for the third quarter of 2021 were male, accounting for roughly 76.84% of the total sample, while females accounted for approximately 23.16%. The gender distribution of persons charged during the third quarter of 2021 was broadly similar to the breakdown for the third quarter of 2020 which had a male to female ratio of approximately 82.53% to 17.47%.

Chart 6.01: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Manchester Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



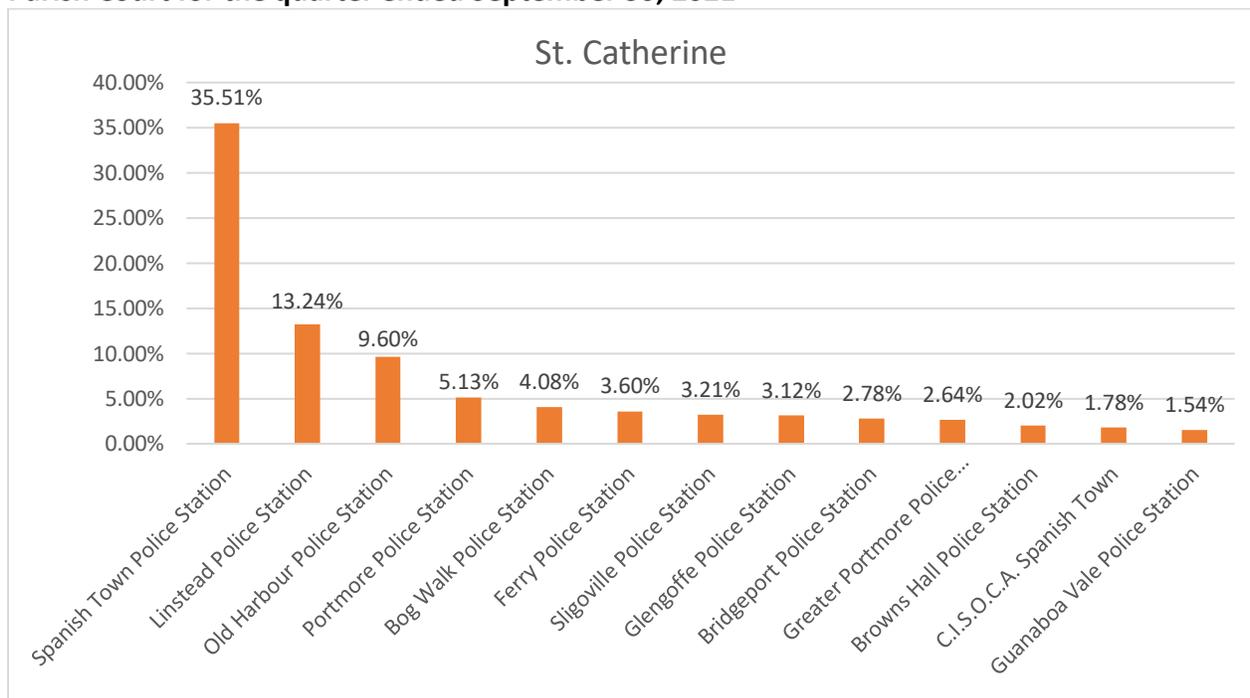
The above chart shows the distribution of charges at the Manchester Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 604 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, 2021 the highest proportion of charges, 35.60%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Mandeville Police Station. This was followed by the Christiana police station, which accounts for 15.40% of total sample of matters reported. The Spalding Police rounded off the top three with 14.57%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Mandeville Police Station, the Christiana Police Station, and the Parish Council. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.02: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Clarendon Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



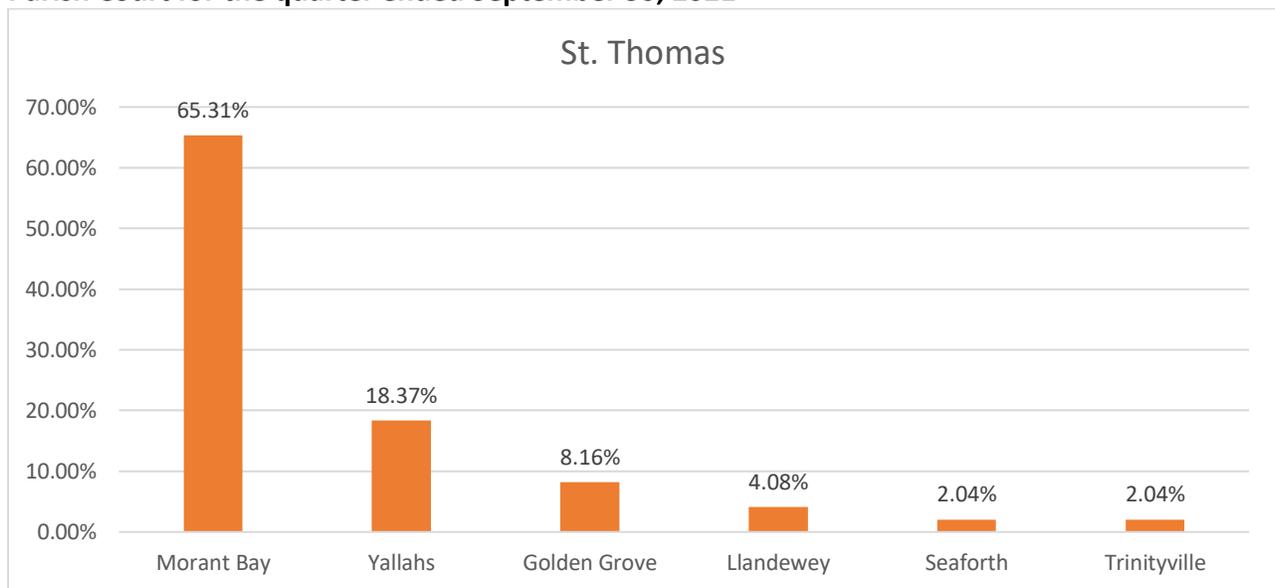
The above chart shows the distribution of charges at the Clarendon Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 1034 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, 2021 the majority of charges, 55.90%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in May Pen Police Station. This was followed by the Lionel Town Police Station, which accounts for 18.47% of total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Chapelton Police Station with 11.61%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three also comprised of the May Pen Police Station, the Lionel Town Police Station, and the Chapelton Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.03: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Catherine Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



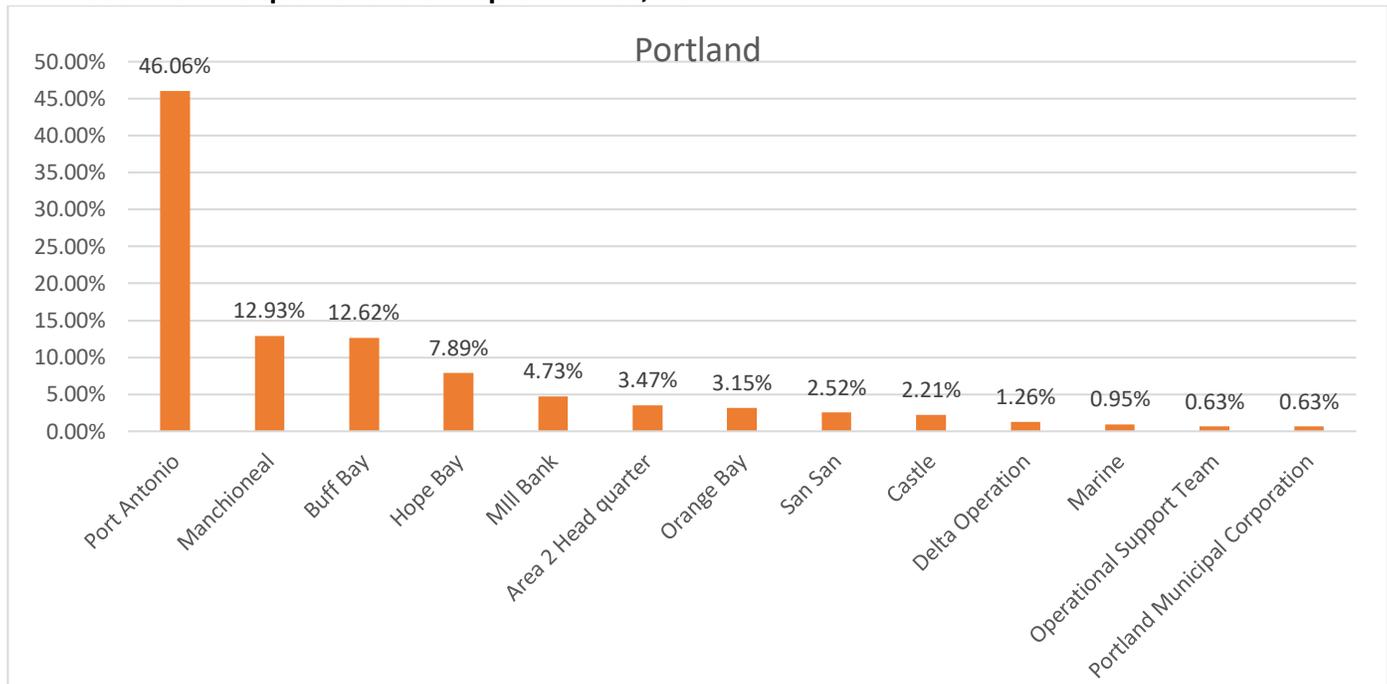
The above chart shows the distribution of charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court, using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 2084 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, the highest proportion of charges, 35.51%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Spanish Town Police Station. This was followed by the Linstead Police Station, which accounts for 13.24% of total sample of matters reported. The Old Harbour Police rounded off the top three with 9.60%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Spanish Town Police Station, the Portmore and the Old Harbour Police Stations. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.04: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Thomas Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



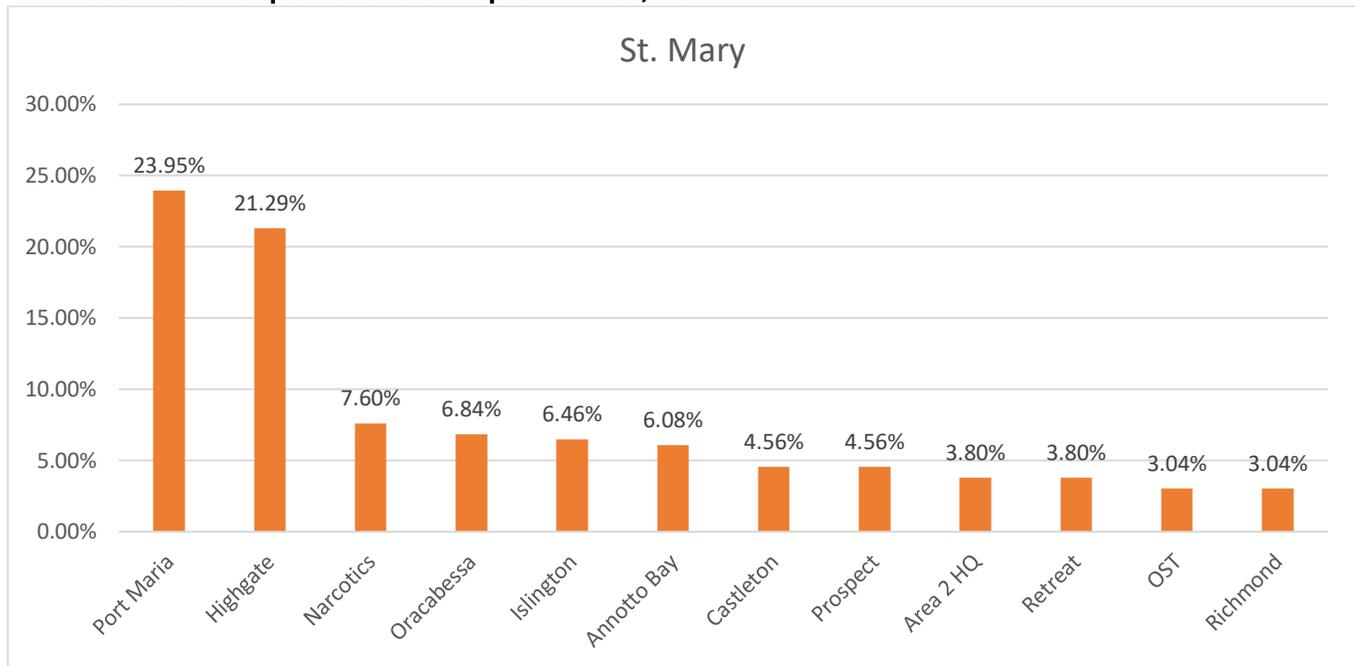
The above chart shows the distribution of charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court, using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 49 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, 2021 the majority of charges, 65.31%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Morant Bay Police Station. This was followed by the Yallahs Police Station, which accounts for 18.37% of total sample of matters reported. The Golden Grove Police rounded off the top three with 8.16%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Morant Bay Police Station, the Yallahs Police Station, and the Golden Grove Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.05: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Portland Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



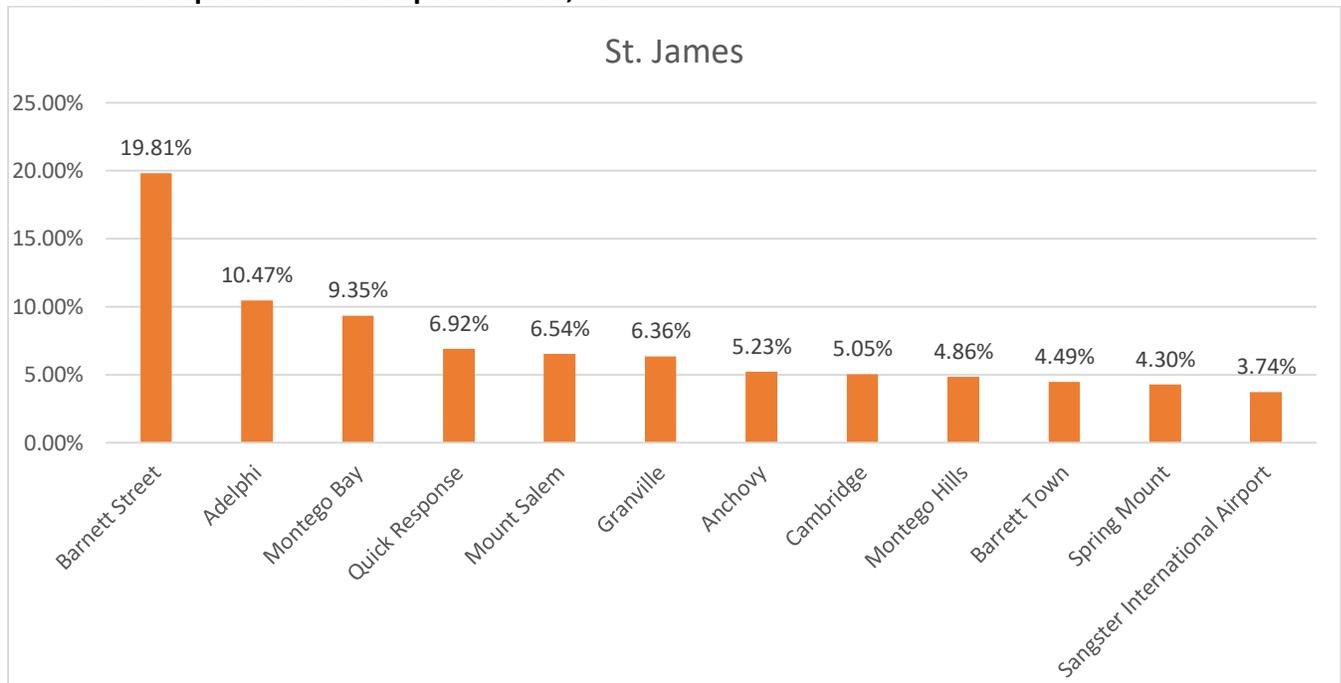
The above chart shows the distribution of charges filed at the Portland Parish Court, using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 317 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, 2021 the highest proportion of charges, 46.06%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Port Antonio Police Station. This was followed by the Manchioneal Police Station, which accounts for 12.93% of total sample of matters reported. The Buff Bay Police rounded off the top three with 12.62%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Port Antonio Police Station, the Buff Bay Police Station, and the Manchioneal Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.06: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Mary Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



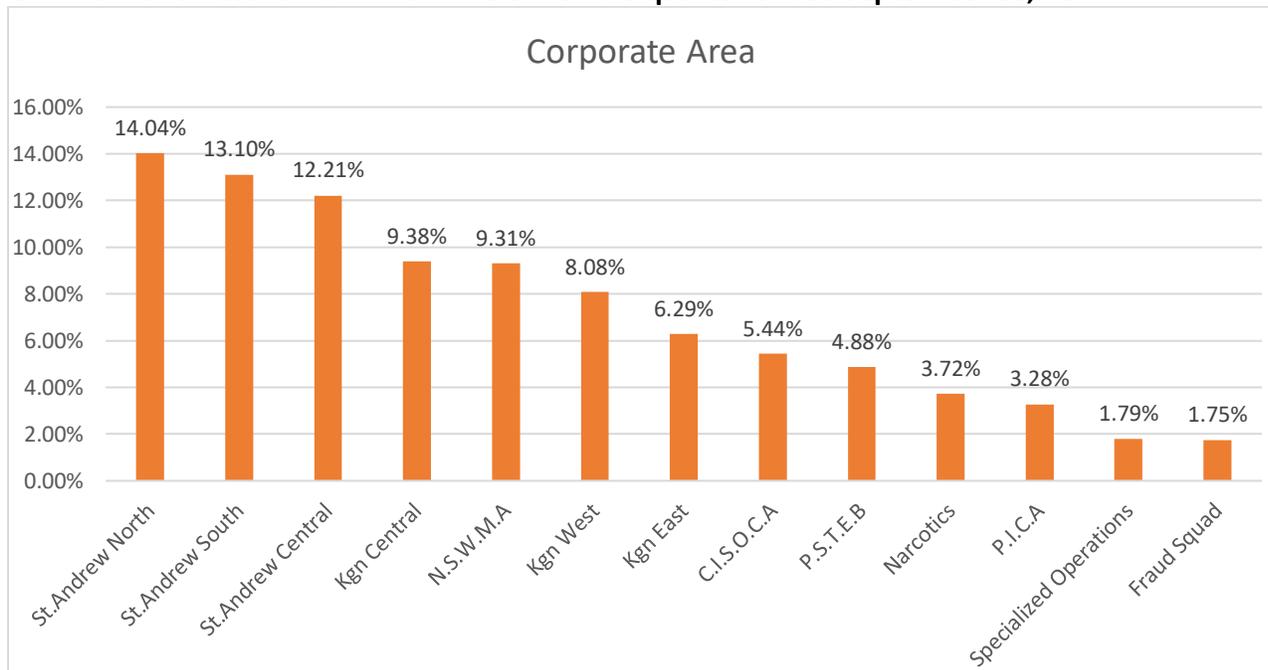
The above chart shows the distribution of charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court, using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 263 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, 2021 the highest proportion of charges, 23.95%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Port Maria Police Station. This was followed by the Highgate Police Station, which accounts for 21.29% of total sample of matters reported. The Narcotics Police rounded off the top three with 7.60%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Port Maria Police Station, the Highgate Police Station, and the Annotto Bay Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.07: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. James Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



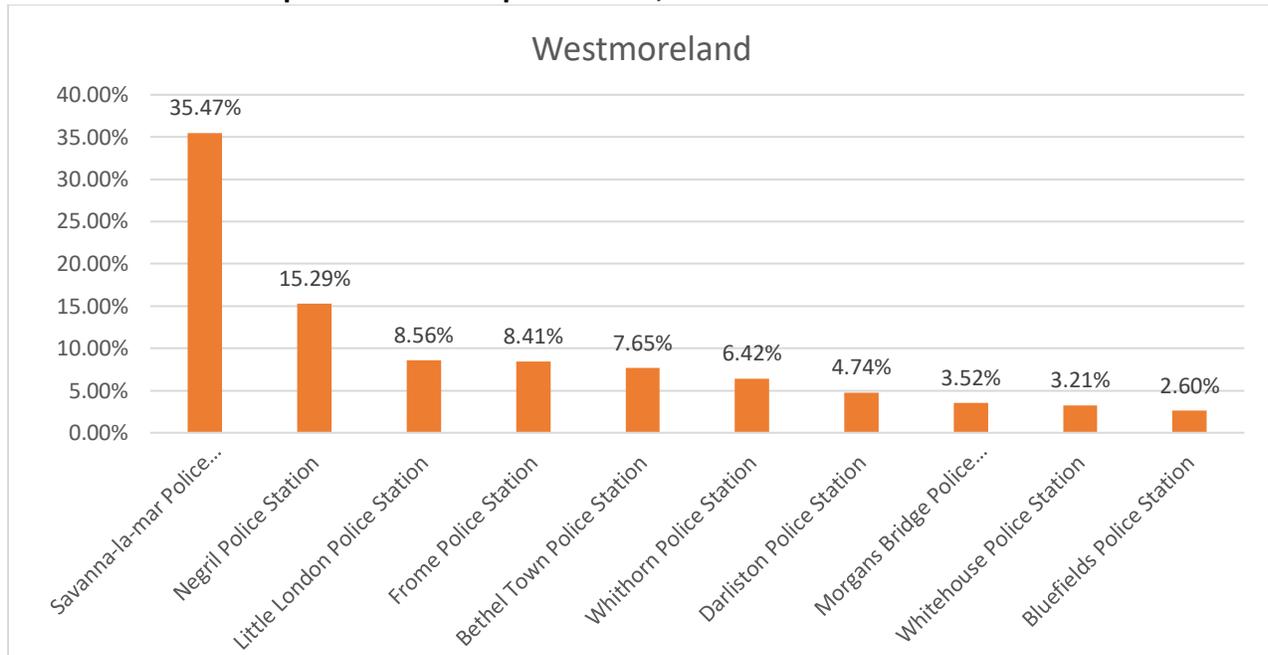
The above chart shows the distribution of charges filed at the St. James Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 535 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, 2021 the highest proportion of charges, 19.81%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Barnett Street Police Station. This was followed by the Adelphi Police Station, which accounts for 10.47% of total sample of matters reported. The Montego Bay Police rounded off the top three with 9.35%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Montego Bay Police Station, the Mount Salem Police Station and the Barnett Street Police station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.08: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Corporate Area Criminal Parish Court – Criminal Division for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



The above chart shows the distribution of charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division, using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 2686 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, 2021 the highest proportion of charges, 14.04%, which were brought before the Court, were reported St. Andrew North Police Station. This was followed by the St. Andrew South Police Station, which accounts for 13.01% of total sample of matters reported. The St. Andrew Central Police rounded off the top three with 12.21%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the St. Andrew Central Police Station, the Kingston West Police Station, and the St. Andrew South Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

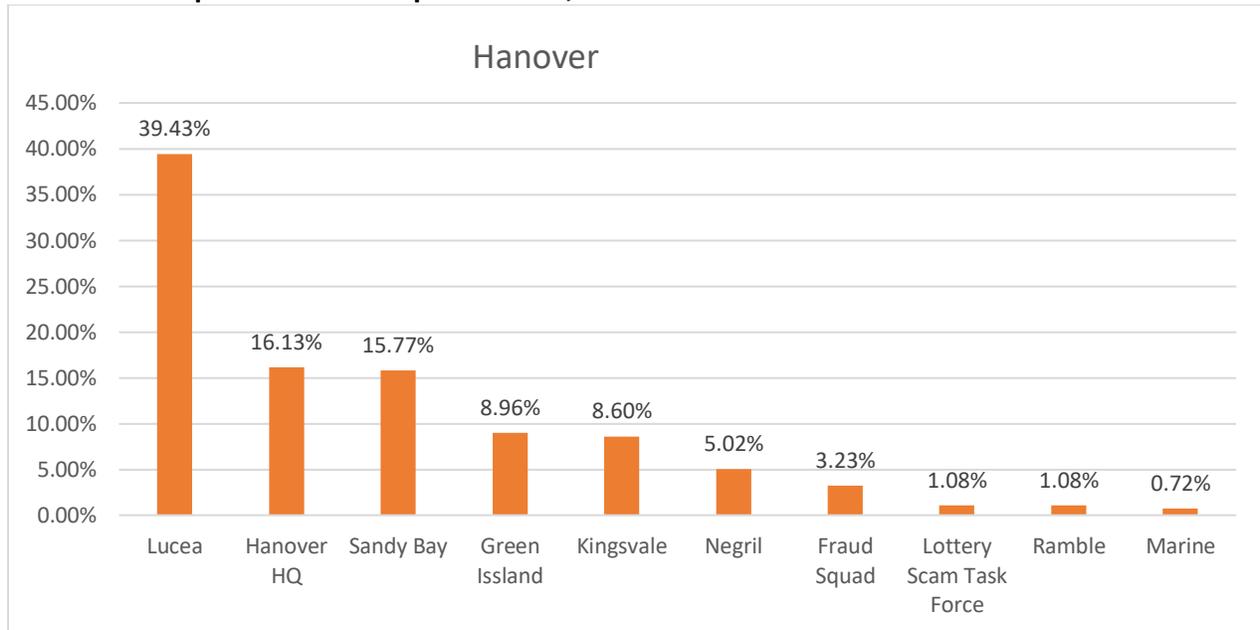
Chart 6.09: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Westmoreland Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



The above chart shows the distribution of charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court, using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 654 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, 2021 the highest proportion of charges, 35.47%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Savanna-la-Mar Police Station. This was followed by the Negril Police Station, which accounts for 15.29% of total sample of matters reported. The Little London Police rounded off the top three with 8.56%.

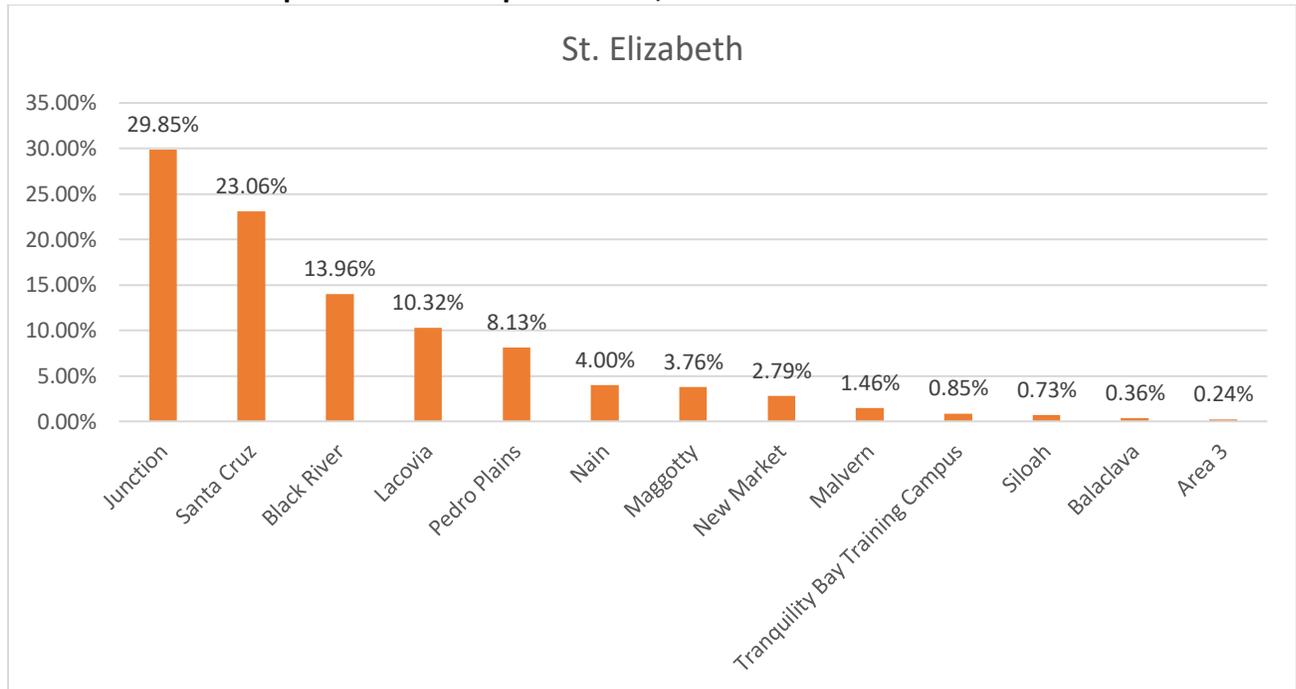
In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Savanna-la-mar Police Station, the Negril Police Station and the Little London Police station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.10: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Hanover Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



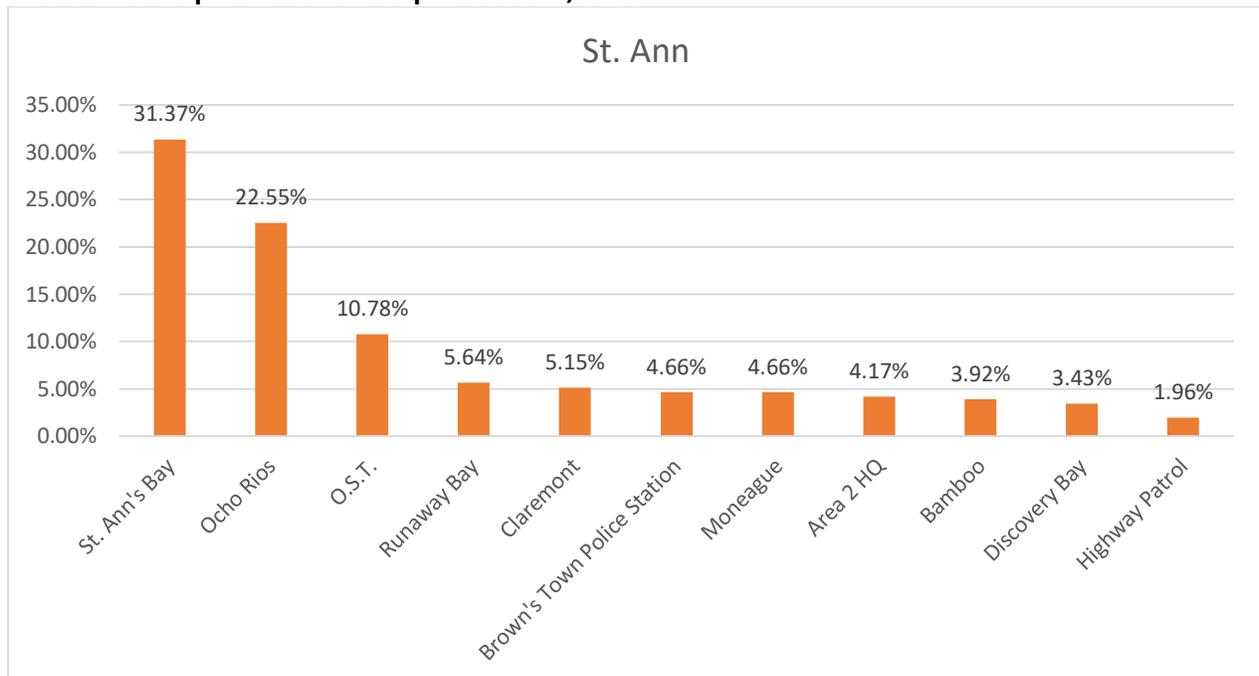
The above chart shows the distribution of charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 279 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, 2021 the highest proportion of charges, 39.43%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Lucea Police Station. This was followed by the Hanover Headquarter (HQ) Police, which accounts for 16.93% of total sample of matters reported. The Sandy Bay Police rounded off the top three with 15.77%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Lucea Police Station, the Hanover Headquarter Police Station and the Kingsvale Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.11: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



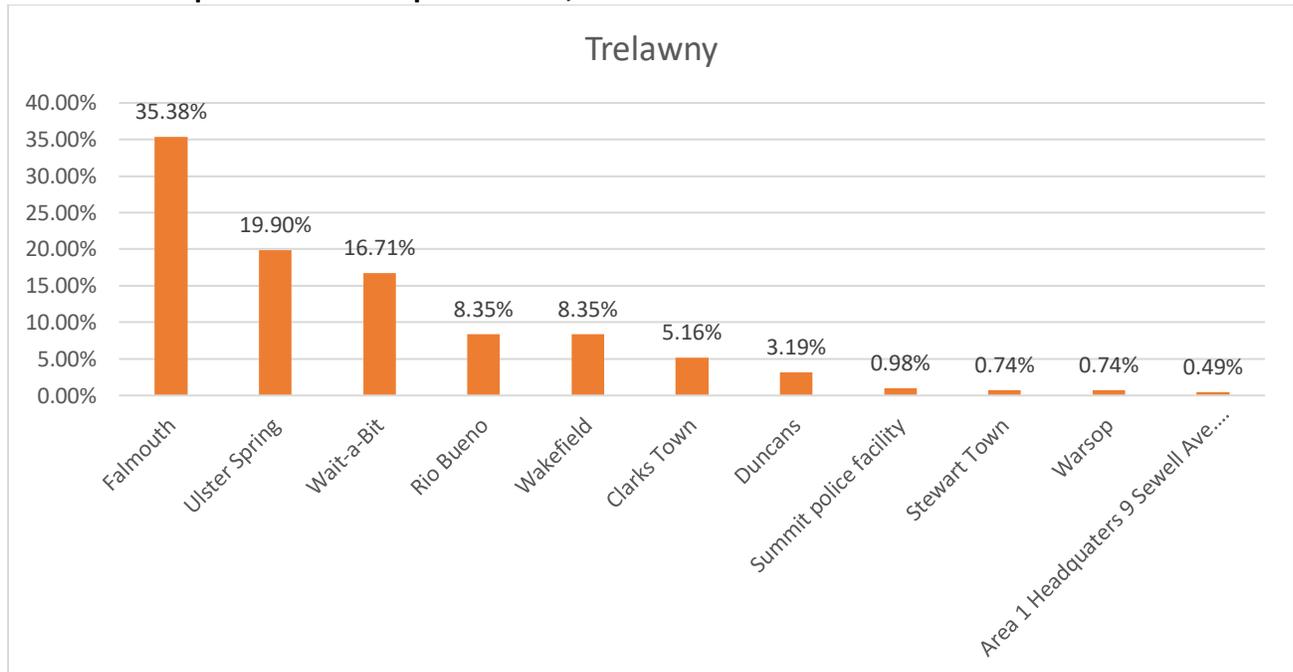
The above chart shows the distribution of charges filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court, using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 824 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, 2021 the highest proportion of charges, 29.85%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Junction Police Station. This was followed by the Santa Cruz Police Station, which accounts for 23.06% of total sample of matters reported. The Black River Police rounded off the top three with 13.96%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Black River Police Station, the Santa Cruz Police Station and the Lacovia Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.12: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Ann Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



The above chart shows the distribution of filed charges at the St. Ann Parish Court, using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 408 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, 2021 the highest proportion of charges, 31.37%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in St. Ann's Bay Police Station. This was followed by the Ocho Rios Police Station, which accounts for 22.55% of total sample of matters reported. The O.S.T Police rounded off the top three with 10.78%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Ocho Rios Police Station, the Bamboo Police Station and the Browns Town Bay Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.13: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Trelawny Parish Court for the quarter ended September 30, 2021



The above chart shows the distribution of charges field at the Trelawny Parish Court, using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 407 records indicate that for the July to September quarter, 2021 the highest proportion of charges, 35.38%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Falmouth Police Station. This was followed by the Ulster Spring Police Station, which accounts for 19.90% of total sample of matters reported. The Wait-a-Bit Police station rounded off the top three with 16.71%. In the corresponding 2020 quarter, the top three comprised of the Falmouth Police Station, the Wakefield Police Station and the Duncans Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Conclusion

The criminal division of the parish courts disposed roughly 55 of every 100 new cases filed in the third quarter of 2021, slightly lower by roughly 3.63 percentage points than the rate recorded in the previous quarter, but notable higher than the corresponding period in 2020, which was 15.35 percentage points lower. The overall performance of the court so far in 2021 show signs of tremendous resilience and a recovery to near pre COVID-19 levels. The overall case clearance rate for the criminal division of the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021 is 98.81%, suggesting that for every 100 new cases filed roughly 99 cases were disposed in the period. Although this is a decline of 12.80 percentage points when compared to the previous quarter, it is a notable 20.50 percentage points higher than the corresponding quarter in 2020. The decline in the 2021 third quarter clearance and disposal rates is partly explained by the lower than average court activity during the month of August, in which time the judiciary is heavily focussed on training and strategic planning. The impressive showing so far in 2021 by the criminal division of the parish courts has contributed to the lowest net case backlog rate in recorded history in Jamaica, with only 1.70% of active criminal cases filed within the last 5 years falling into a state of backlog and only now 6.10% of all active criminal cases being in this backlog classification. These results eclipse the previous record in the second quarter of 2021, placing the courts on course to attaining the target set by the Chief Justice for a net case backlog rate of under 5% in the court system well in advance of the targeted time. This target is set to be achieved by the 2024/25 fiscal year but at the current rate, the criminal division of the parish courts are poised to reach the milestone by the end of the 2022/23 fiscal year. There is now only a small probability that a criminal case filed and presided over in the parish courts will reach a backlog classification before being disposed.

Despite the overall strong performance and positioning of the criminal division of the parish courts, there is still room for improvement in key areas such as trial date certainty rates across many courts and there are many courts which require strengthening of case management practices in order to reduce the incidence of case adjournments and bolster the overall case clearance rate and reduce the average time to disposition while reducing the case backlog rates. Nevertheless, the data again suggests decisively that the criminal division of the parish courts is on course to becoming one of the most productive in the world and certainly the best in the Caribbean Region within the next few years.

Glossary of Statistical Terms

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ⁱ Source:

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

ⁱⁱ Source:

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

