

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

JULY TO SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS (Q3)

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)	87.51	81.51	80.42
Trial Date Certainty Rate (%)	90.36	79.75	75.44
Average time to disposition	11.50 months	9.80 months	10.45 months

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Executive Summary

In the third quarter of 2021, the civil division of the parish courts excelled on several vital performance metrics, reinforcing the prospects of accomplishing the key quantitative objectives set out in the strategic plan of the judiciary and continuing the strong recovery of the courts from the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Honourable Chief Justice has set a targeted court-wide case clearance rate of 130% and a trial date certainty rate of 95% to be achieved by the end of the 2024/25 fiscal year. This civil report is to date one of the most comprehensive of its kind on case activity in the parish court civil jurisdiction.

One of the most positive results from this third quarter report is the output on the vital measurement of the gross case clearance rates, with the civil division of the parish courts as a whole recording a commendable 87.51% for the period. The Hanover Parish Court again registered an impressive gross case clearance rate of 192.16%. The Westmoreland Parish Court with a gross case clearance rate of 186.84% had the second highest rate on this metric in the period while the Portland Parish Court ranked third with a rate of 143.28%. Five of the parish courts met or exceeded the 100% gross case clearance rate mark in the quarter, a decline compared to the comparable period in 2020 and the previous quarter. The overall performance on the related gross case disposal rate was less impressive across the parish courts for the period but this is partly attributed to the relative distribution of return days for the period. The Hanover Parish Court however still stood out on this metric with the highest rate recorded in the quarter of 57.14% while the Westmoreland Parish Court with a rate of 53.95% ranked next. The Hanover Parish Court has now decidedly established itself as a top performing parish court across both the criminal and civil business lines.

The civil division of the parish courts also fared quite commendably on the overall trial date certainty rate in the period, recording a commendable overall rate of 90.36%. The Corporate Area Civil Court and the parish courts of St. Ann, St. Thomas, Westmoreland, Portland and Trelawny and Westmoreland were the leaders on this metric for the period. The speed with which decisions are delivered in civil cases is important as it contributes to increasing confidence in the judicial processes and it is a critical pillar of economic activity. The overall average time taken to dispose a civil case in the third quarter of 2021 is roughly 345 days or approximately 11.50 months. The parish courts of Westmoreland, St. Mary and Trelawny performed best on this measurement.

One of the most profound findings from this report comes from the analysis of the backlog rates. As of the end of the third quarter of 2021, the estimated gross case backlog rate in the civil division of the parish courts was 11.16%, that is, an estimated 11.16% of combined active and inactive cases in these courts were over two years old, based on the last 5 years of case activity as a proxy. When inactive cases are deducted however to produce the net case backlog rate, it is revealed that the estimated case backlog rate in the civil division of the parish courts as at the end of the third quarter of 2021 is roughly 1.70%, an indication that roughly this proportion of active cases in the civil division of the parish courts were over two years old at the end of the quarter, using data from the last 5 years as a proxy. The Hanover, St. Elizabeth, St. Catherine, St. Mary and Westmoreland Parish Courts were among the best positioned courts on this metric in the third quarter of 2021, each with net civil case backlog rates of under 1%. Furthermore, roughly 90.53% of the cases disposed across the civil divisions of the parish courts in the third

quarter of 2021 were disposed in two years or less while 78.26% were disposed in a year or less and 39.38 were disposed within 90 days.

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

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

See below aggregate case activity summary:

Table 1.0: Aggregate case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the year)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the year	Approximate Gross Disposal rate (%)	Approximate Gross Clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross trial date certainty rate (%)	Overall average time to disposition (months)
4219	429	3692	10.17	87.51	90.36	11.5

Methodology – Generating Court Statistics in Jamaica

Guaranteeing the reliability and validity of the data used to produce the periodic statistical reports for the Jamaican Courts is of utmost importance as we seek to produce a data driven enterprise for policymaking and operational decisions. As a result, a robust and verifiable system of data production has been created in both the parish courts and the Supreme Court. At the parish courts, a data capture system for criminal matters, called the CISS (Case Information Statistical System) has been operational in all courts for the past five years. This system captures a wide range of data on the progression of criminal cases from initiation to disposition and is manned by at least one dedicated Data Entry Officer (soon to be called Statistical Officers) in each court. These officers update the system on a daily basis so that the data produced is as close as possible to real time. The electronic data sheets for each parish court are then validated and backed-up to the network at the end of each month and the data submitted to a centralized,

secure medium for processing by the Statistical Unit of the Supreme Court. A data validation mechanism is in place to periodically sample case files in all parish courts and the Divisions of the Supreme Court on a quarterly basis. A representative sample of case files are taken in each case and crosschecked against the electronic data to detect and eliminate errors of omission and commission.

The Court Statistics Unit at the Supreme Court produces various quarterly and annual court reports which are published on the website of the Supreme Court; however, interim data required by stakeholders may be requested through the Office of the Chief Justice.

Introduction

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

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

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

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

The Corporate Area Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

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

Number of cases which had a return day	Active	Disposed	Inactive	Input/output Rate from Return Day
973	513	123	337	47.28

The above table provides a breakdown of the cases handled at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division which had a return date set for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021. A total of 973 cases met this criterion, of which 513 were still active at the end of the quarter. A further 123 cases were disposed and 337 cases were rendered as inactive at the end of the quarter. These results produced an input/output rate of 47.28%, which is an indication that roughly 47% of cases with a scheduled return day either became inactive or disposed in the period of analysis.

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

Active	Disposed	Inactive	Total Cases
493	379	467	1339

The above table provides a breakdown of the cases handled in court at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division in the third quarter of 2021. A total of 1339 cases were handled, of which 493 were still active at the end of the quarter. 379 of these cases were disposed and 467 were rendered as inactive at the end of the quarter.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	918	72.23
Small Claim	353	27.77
Total	1271	100.00

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 1271 new claims filed at the Corporate Area Civil Court in the third quarter of 2021. The majority of which 918 or 72.23% were big claims, while 353 or 27.77% were small claims.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the types of service for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	260	62.50
Bailiff	86	20.67
Not on file	45	10.82
District Constable	16	3.85
Served By Registered Post	2	0.48
Serve By Affixing	1	0.24
Total	416	100.00

Methods of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority with 260 or 62.50% of the sample. Service by the bailiff with 86 or 20.67% and those not on file with 45 or 10.82% of the sample ranks next.

Table 5.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of contract	224	24.59
Recovery of Possession	174	19.10
Damages for Negligence	106	11.64
Rent Owing, Continuing and Recovery of Possession	88	9.66
Breach of contract under Section 146 (Pink Summons)	75	8.23
Sub-total	667	73.22

Total sample size of causes of action= 911

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action for cases entered in the third quarter at the Corporate Area Civil Court was breach of contract with 224 or roughly 24.59% of the sample. Recovery of possession with 174 or 19.10% and damages for negligence with 106 or 11.64% and rent owing, continuing and recovery of possession with 88 or 9.66% ranks next. The top five causes of action were rounded off by breach of contract under section 146 (pink summons) with 75 or 8.23% of the sample. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 73.22% of the total sample of 911 causes of action.

Table 6.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	594	53.08
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	511	45.67
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	13	1.16
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	1	0.09
Total	1119*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 980 cases**

The majority of a sample of 1119 matters entered in the third quarter of 2021 were entered in courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 594 or 53.08% of the sample. Courtroom 1 at the main courthouse had 511 matters entered or 45.67% of the sample and courtroom 3 had 13 matters entered or 1.16% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Table 7.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	373	44.99
Female	286	34.50
Registered Company	165	19.90
Trading As	5	0.60
Total	829	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 829 new matters entered in the third quarter of 2021 at the Corporate Area Civil Court, males accounted for the largest proportion of plaintiffs with 373 or 44.99%, followed by females with 286 or 34.50%. Registered companies accounted for 165 or 19.90% of the sample, while individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for 0.60% of the sample.

Table 8.0: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	385	47.18
Female	334	40.93
Registered Company	90	11.03
Trading As	7	0.86
Total	816	100.00

There were 816 records on the gender of defendants for new matters entered in the third quarter of 2021. As with the claimants, the highest proportion of defendants were male with 385 or 47.18% of the sample, followed by females with 334 or 40.93%. Registered companies accounted for 90 or 11.03% of the sample, while individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for 0.86% of the sample.

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

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

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

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	363	44.49
Default Judgment Date	185	22.67
Trial	183	22.43
Part-Heard Date	43	5.27
Date for Order	22	2.70
Hearing of Application	10	1.23
Final Judgment Date	10	1.23
Total	816	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 816 matters that went to court during the third quarter of 2021, which were adjourned for a default judgment, final judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 363 or 44.49% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 185 or 22.67%, which were adjourned for default judgment dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments in this sample were adjournments for trial dates with 183 or 22.43% of sample. It is of note that 43 or 5.27% of the matters in this sample were adjourned part heard. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned at the mention stage and that there is a notable

incidence of adjournments for default judgments to be entered. The result on the high incidence of adjournments for mention court hearings is not however an abnormal outcome given that mention court hearings are fundamental and intrinsic to the case flow process in the civil courts.

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

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Placed on Trial List	109	20.72
Defendant Absent	96	18.25
Both Parties Absent	28	5.32
New Date	17	3.23
Parties in Discussion	16	3.04
Sub-total	266	50.57

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 526

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 526 incidences of adjournments heard in the third quarter of 2021. Adjournments due to placement on the trial list with 109 or 20.72% of the sample, adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 96 or 18.25% and adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 28 or 5.32% rounds off the top three incidences in the sample. The list is completed by adjournments for a new date with 17 or 3.23% of the sample and adjournments due to parties in discussion with 3.04% of the sample. The top reasons of adjournments listed above account for 50.57% of the total sample of adjournments.

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

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	185
Average Incidence	1.3

Corresponding to 147 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or

short served. The above table draws on a sample of 185 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 147 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.3 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 13 reissue incidences.

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

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	87	27.71
Consent	59	18.79
Withdrawal	44	14.01
Settlement	30	9.55
Default judgments	29	9.24
Sub-total	249	79.30

NB: there were 314 matters were disposed in the third quarter of 2020

A total of 314 matters were disposed at the Corporate Area Civil Court during the third quarter of 2021. The above table details the top five methods of disposition, which accounts for 249 or 79.30% of the total sample. The list is led by matters struck out with 87 or 27.71% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by consent with 59 or 18.79% and by withdrawals with 44 or 14.01%. Matters disposed by settlements and by default judgments round off the top five methods with 30 or 9.55% and 29 or 9.24% respectively of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 13: Sampling distribution of case outcomes for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case Outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	45	88.24
Settlement	5	9.80
Judgment for Ancillary Plaintiff	1	1.96
Total	51	100.00

The above table summarizes the sample distribution of 51 case outcomes for matters entered in the third quarter of 2021 at the Corporate Area Civil Court. Judgments in favour of the plaintiff

with 45 or 88.24% of the sample of matters account for the majority of the sample, while settlements with 5 accounts for 9.80% of the sample and judgment for ancillary plaintiff accounted for the remaining 1.96%. This probability distribution provides important insights into the results of cases and the likelihood of matters being awarded in favour of the various party types, which may be involved in a case.

Table 14.0: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)
1271	1135	89.30

The above table shows 1318 new cases filed at the Corporate Area Civil Court during the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a gross figure of 495 cases were disposed, and 640 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 89.30%, which is below the international standard for this metric. This rate represents a 468.23 percentage points decrease when compared to the corresponding period in 2020.

The estimated net clearance rate is 38.95%, a 500.85 percentage points decline when compared to the third quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics, focusing only on the proportion of the cases which did not become inactive which were disposed in the strictest of sense.

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

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Trial date certainty rate (%)
57	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 57 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that none were adjourned. This results in an impressive overall trial date certainty rate of 100% which meets the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100% and is 9.84 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020.

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

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	194
Mean	366.1959
Median	185.5000
Mode	74.00
Std. Deviation	461.65966
Skewness	2.496
Std. Error of Skewness	.175
Range	2388.00
Minimum	5.00
Maximum	2393.00

The above table outlines summary data on 194 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2021 at the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 366 days or roughly 12.2 months, which is roughly 102 more days than it took to

dispose of matters in the third quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 74 days. The standard deviation of roughly 462 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness is seen as an indication that there were markedly more scores in the data set which fall below the overall average time. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2393 days or roughly 6.6 years old, while the minimum time taken was 5 days.

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

Descriptive statistics (days)

Number of observations	76
Mean	591.0263
Median	351.0000
Mode	127.00
Std. Deviation	546.40642
Skewness	1.207
Std. Error of Skewness	.276
Range	2034.00
Minimum	24.00
Maximum	2058.00

The above table outlines summary data on the time between the reissue and disposal of a sample of 76 matters at the Corporate Area Civil Court. The average time between the reissue date and date of disposition is 591 days or roughly 1.6 years. The standard deviation suggests that there was a large amount of variation in the distribution of the scores and the positive skewness suggests that the larger proportion of the scores in this data series fell below the overall average. A sample of 152 reissued matters in an inactive state at the end of the quarter reveals an average age in that status of approximately 66 days.

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

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	1361
Mean	421.7766
Median	223.0000
Mode	27.00
Std. Deviation	482.74217
Skewness	2.716
Std. Error of Skewness	.066
Range	5619.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	5626.00

The above data is based on a sample of 1361 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter ended September 30, 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 422 days or roughly 14 months, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 27 days. The standard deviation of roughly 483 days suggests that there is a wide dispersion in the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 5626 days old or roughly 16 years, while the minimum time taken is 7 days.

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

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	231
Mean	505.0346
Median	308.0000
Mode	104.00
Std. Deviation	462.13761
Skewness	1.246
Std. Error of Skewness	.160
Range	2302.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	2309.00

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 231 active reissued matters at the Corporate Area Civil Court as at the end of the third quarter ended September 30, 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 505 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 104 days and the median age was 308 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some amount of variation among the individual scores, with the positive skewness indicating that a larger proportion of the ages were below the overall series average. The highest age in the data set was 2309 days and the lowest was 7 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

Hanover Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	27	42.86
Disposed	10	15.87
Inactive	26	41.27
Total	63	100

The above table presents a status distribution of 63 new cases filed at the Hanover Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 27 cases or 42.86% of these cases were still active, while 10 were disposed and 26 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross case disposal rate of 57.14%, which is 13.45 percentage points below the gross disposal rate recorded in the previous third quarter of 2020.

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

Type of claim	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	53	81.54
Small Claim	12	18.46
Total	65	100

The above table represents a sampling distribution of 65 civil claims filed at the Hanover Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. The majority of which 53 or 81.54% were big claims, while 12 or 18.46% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Type of service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	13	43.33
Personal	9	30.00
District Constable	8	26.67
Total	30	100

Methods of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for the highest proportion with 13 or 43.33% of the sample. Personal service with 9 or 30% and service by District Constable with 8 or 26.67% of the sample rank next.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Hanover Parish Court-Civil division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Monies Loaned	23	45.10
Recovery of Possession	7	13.73
Breach of Contract	6	11.76
Monies Dues and Owing	4	7.84
Arrears of Rent	2	3.92
Sub-total	42	82.35

Sample size (n)= 51

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action for cases filed in the third quarter at the Hanover Parish Court was monies loaned with 23 or roughly 45.10% of the sample. Recovery of possession with 7 or 13.73%, breach of contract with 11.76% and monies due and owing with 7.84% rank next. Arrears of rent with 3.92% of the sample rounds off the causes of action in this representative sample.

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

Courtroom/outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #2 (Main courthouse)	24	36.92
Courtroom #1 (Main courthouse)	23	35.38
Sandy Bay Outstation (Courtroom #1)	11	16.92
Green Island (Courtroom #2)	4	6.15
Ramble (Courtroom #2)	2	3.08
Sandy Bay (Courtroom #2)	1	1.54
Total	65*	100.0

***Note: Corresponding to 63 cases**

The largest proportions of a sample of 65 new matters filed in the quarter were entered in courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 24 or 36.92% of the total sample. Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounted for 23 or 35.38% of the cases filed. Courtroom number 1 at the Sandy Bay outstation accounted for 11 or 16.92% and courtroom 2 at the Green Island outstation accounted for 4 or 6.15% of the new cases heard.

Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	24	36.92
Registered Company	23	35.38
Female	18	27.69
Total	65	100.0

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 65 plaintiffs in the third quarter of 2021 the Hanover Parish Court, 24 or 36.92% were males and registered companies accounted for 23 or 35.38% of the sample. Females accounted for the remaining 27.69% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	38	58.46
Female	27	41.54
Total	65	100

There were 65 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021.

The majority of defendants were male with 38 or 58.46% of the sample, followed by females with 27 or 41.54% of the sample.

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

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

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

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	42	34.15
Part Heard date	40	32.52
Trial	28	22.76
Default Judgment Date	11	8.94
Hearing of Application	2	1.63
Total	123	100

The above table shows a sample of 123 matters that went to court during the quarter ended September 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a judgment, mention, part heard, trial date or similar procedural dates. The largest proportion, 42 or 34.15% of the sample, were adjourned for mention dates. Matters adjourned for a part heard date accounted for 40 or 32.52% of the sample and matters adjourned for a trial date accounted for 28 or 22.76% of the sample. Rounding off the incidences of procedural adjournments were matters adjourned for a default judgment date with 11 or 8.94% of the sample and matters adjournment for the hearing of an application date with 1.63%.

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

Reasons for Adjournments	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Both Parties Absent	19	20.65
Defendant Absent	19	20.65
Attorney Absent	18	19.57
No Return/Re-Issued	16	17.39
Plaintiff Absent	12	13.04
Sub-total	84	91.30

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)= 92

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 92 incidences of adjournments and continuances in the third quarter of 2021. Adjournments due to the absence of both parties and the absence of defendants each accounted for 19 or 20.65% of the sample. Adjournments for the absenteeism of attorneys accounted for 19.57% of the sample and adjournments for no return/for re-issue accounted for 16 or 17.39%. Adjournments due to the absence of plaintiffs round off the top of reasons for adjournments during the quarter with 13.04% of the sample. The reasons for adjournments enumerated above account for 91.30% of the total sample of adjournments and continuances.

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

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Default Judgment	13	22.03
Consent	12	20.34
Oral Admission	11	18.64
Struck Out	9	15.25
Final Judgment	7	11.86
Sub-total	52	88.14

NB: There were 59 matters disposed for the third quarter of 2021

A total of 59 civil matters were disposed at the Hanover Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. The above table details the top five methods of disposition, which accounts for 52 or 88.14% of the total sample. The list is led by matters disposed by default judgments with 13 or 22.03% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by consent with 12 or 20.34%. Oral admissions with 11 or 18.64% rank next, followed by matters disposed by being struck out with 9 or 15.25%. Matters disposed by final judgments round off the top methods of disposition with 11.86% of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 11.0: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross Case disposal rate (%)
63	36	104	165.08	57.14

The above table shows 63 new cases filed at the Hanover Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 10 of these cases were disposed and 26 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 57.14%, a 13.45 percentage points decline when compared to the third quarter of 2020. An approximate gross figure of 73 cases was disposed, and 31 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of

origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 165.08%, which exceeds the international standard on this metric, but is a 27.08 percentage points decline when compared to the third quarter of 2020.

The estimated net case disposal rate for the quarter is 27.03%, which is 34.51 percentage points below the net disposal rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020. The estimated net case clearance rate is 197.30%, which is roughly 12.96 percentage points below the rate recorded in 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

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

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
12	1	91.67

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 12 trial dates were set in the third quarter of 2021 shows that none was adjourned. This results in a trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment and it is 29.17 percentage points above the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2020.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	49
Mean	329.08
Std. Error of Mean	62.699
Median	179.00
Mode	11
Std. Deviation	438.896
Skewness	2.883
Std. Error of Skewness	.340
Range	2478
Minimum	8
Maximum	2486

The above table outlines sample data on 49 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2021 at the Hanover Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 329 days or 11 months and is roughly 9 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the third quarter of 2020. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 11 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 439 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness suggests that most of the scores in the data set fell below the overall average time to disposition. The oldest matter disposed in the sample was 2486 days or roughly 6.9 years old, while the minimum time taken was just 8 days.

Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active cases as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	120
Mean	544.50
Std. Error of Mean	80.553
Median	221.00
Mode	74
Std. Deviation	882.416
Skewness	3.596
Std. Error of Skewness	.221
Range	4600
Minimum	72
Maximum	4672

The above data is based on sample of 120 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 545 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 74 days. The standard deviation of roughly 882 days suggests that there is a wide dispersion in the individual scores around the average, while the large positive skewness seen is an indication that there were markedly more scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 4672 days old or roughly 13 years, while the minimum time taken is 72 days.

Manchester Court –Civil Division (Small Claims Court)

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	48	100.00
Disposed	0	0.00
Inactive	0	0.00
Total	48	100

The above table presents a status distribution of 48 new small claim cases filed at the Manchester Court in the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, all new cases were still active, hence a disposal rate is not reportable.

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

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Monies Due & Owing	7	14.58
Arrears of Rent	2	4.17
Breach of Contract	2	4.17
Other	37	77.08
Total	48	100.00

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. Apart from the causes of action pooled under “other”, it is shown in the above sample data, among the leading causes of action for small claims matters in the third quarter of 2021 at the Manchester Parish Court is monies due and owing with 7 or 14.58% of the sample, followed by arrears of rent and breach of contract with 2 or 4.17% each of the sample.

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

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Small claim court #2	30	62.50
Small claim court #3	18	37.50
Total	48*	100

***Note: Corresponding to 48 cases**

The larger proportion of a sample of 48 new small claims filed in the third quarter of 2021 was entered in courtroom number 2 at the small claims court with 30 or 62.50%. Courtroom number 3 at the small claims court accounted for the remaining 18 or 37.50% of the total sample.

Table 4.0: Distribution of applications filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Type of Application	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Application for court	48	100.0

A sample of 48 applications filed relating to small claims during the third quarter of 2021 were all applications for court order.

Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Table 5.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	26	55.32
Female	21	44.68
Total	47	100

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 47 new small claims filed in the third quarter of 2021 at the Manchester Parish Court, males accounted for the majority of claims with 26 or 55.32% of the sample, followed by females with 21 or 44.68% of the sample.

Table 6.0: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	33	68.75
Female	14	29.17
Registered company	1	2.08
Total	48	100

There were 48 records on gender of defendants for new small claims filed in the third quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were male with 33 or 68.75% of the sample, followed by females with 14 or 29.17% and registered companies with 2.08% of the sample.

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

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

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

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Trial	12	46.15
Default Judgment Date	7	26.92
Mention Date	5	19.23
Part-Heard Date	2	7.69
Total	26	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 26 small claims that went to court during the third quarter ended September 30, 2020, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural dates. The largest proportion, 12 or 46.15% were adjourned for trial dates, followed by 7 or 26.92%, which were adjourned for default judgment dates. Rounding off the top incidences of procedural adjournments were 5 or 19.23% of matters, which were adjourned for a mention date and 7.69% of the sample which was adjourned for a part heard date.

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

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	14	31.11
No Return/Re-Issued	14	31.11
Placed on Trial List	10	22.22
New Date	3	6.67
Plaintiff Absent	2	4.44
Not Reached	1	2.22
To File Notice	1	2.22
Total	45	100.00

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)= 45

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 45 incidences of adjournments in the third quarter of 2021. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants and adjournments due to no return/for reissue with 14 or 31.11% each of the sample, adjournments due to placement on the trial list with 10 or 22.22% of the sample rounds off the top three incidences in the sample. Adjournments for a new date with 3 or 6.67% and the absence of plaintiffs with 4.44% of the sample rank next.

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

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	17	60.71
Default Judgment	4	14.29
Final Judgment	4	14.29
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	1	3.57
Oral Admission	1	3.57
Settlement	1	3.57
Total	28	100.00

The above table summarizes 28 small claims which were disposed at the Manchester Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021 and the above table details the methods of disposition. The list is led by matters struck out with 17 or 60.71% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by

default judgements and by final judgments with 4 or 14.29% each. Matters disposed by Notices of Discontinuance (NOD), oral admissions and settlements each accounted for 3.57% of the sample.

Table 10.0: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Net Case clearance rate (%)
48	39	81.25

The above table shows 48 new cases filed at the Manchester small claims Court during the third quarter of 2021. A gross figure of 39 cases were disposed during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2020. This led to a net case clearance rate of 81.25%, which is below the international standard for the case clearance rate. The net disposal and net clearance rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics, focusing only on the proportion of active cases which were disposed.

The overall net case clearance rate (big and small claims combined) at the Manchester Parish Court for the quarter was 54.60%.

There was only minimal trial date activity for small claims cases during the third quarter of 2021, hence no trial date certainty rate is recorded for the period.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	11
Mean	231.6364
Median	154.0000
Mode	154.00
Std. Deviation	280.68961
Skewness	3.122
Std. Error of Skewness	.661
Range	1001.00
Minimum	63.00
Maximum	1064.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 11 small claims disposed in the third quarter of 2021 at the Manchester Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 232 days or 7.7 months. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition and the median time were both 154 days. The standard deviation of roughly 281 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores in the data set that fell below the overall average scores. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1064 days or roughly 3 years old, while the minimum time taken was 63 days.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	184
Mean	759.5217
Median	832.5000
Mode	1137.00
Std. Deviation	475.51854
Skewness	2.044
Std. Error of Skewness	.179
Range	4394.00
Minimum	3.00
Maximum	4397.00

The above data is based on sample of 184 active small claims at the end of the third quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 760 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 1137 days. The standard deviation of roughly 476 days suggests that there is some amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were more scores in the data set, which were below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter is 4397 days old or roughly 12.21 years, while the minimum age is 3 days.

St. Catherine Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	615	86.74
Disposed	54	7.62
Inactive	40	5.64
Total	709	100

The above table presents a status distribution of 709 new cases filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 615 cases or 86.74% of these cases were still active, while 54 were disposed and 40 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 13.26%, which is 0.93 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020.

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

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	785	88.40
Small Claim	103	11.60
Total	888	100

The above table shows that from a sample of 888 claims filed in the third quarter of 2021, 785 or 88.40% were big claims and 103 or 11.60% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	70	47.62
Personal	48	32.65
District Constable	29	19.73
Total	147	100

Types of service as used in the above table refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for the highest proportion with 70 or 47.62% of the sample, personal service accounted for 48 or 32.65% and service by District Constable accounted for 29 or 19.73% of the sample.

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

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of contract	271	31.40
Damages for Negligence	228	26.42
Recovery of possession	112	12.98
Negligence	66	7.65
Rent Owing and Continuing	49	5.68
Total	726	84.13

Total sample size of causes of action= 863

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table details a sample of 863 causes of action filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. The leading cause of action shown in this sample was breach of contract with 271 or roughly 31.40% of the sample, damages for negligence with 228 or 26.42% and recovery of possession with 112 or 12.98%, which rounds off the top three. The top five causes

of action are rounded off by negligence with 66 or 7.65% and rent owing and continuing with 49 or 5.68% of the sample. The causes of action which are listed above, account for 84.13% of the total sample of causes of action.

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

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	766	86.55
Linstead Outstation (courtroom #1)	77	8.70
Old Harbour Outstation (courtroom #1)	42	4.75
Total	885*	100

***Note: Corresponding to 707 cases**

The majority of the sample of 885 new claims filed in the third quarter of 2021 was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 766 or 86.55% of the total sample. 77 or 8.70% that were entered in courtroom number 1 at the Linstead outstation followed this. Courtroom number 1 at the Old Harbour outstation accounted for 42 or 4.75% of the claims.

Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	387	43.58
Female	367	41.33
Registered company	134	15.09
Total	888	100

It is seen in the above table that of the 888 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021, males accounted for the largest proportion with 387 or 43.58%, followed by females with 367 or 41.33% and registered companies with 134 or 15.09% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	528	59.73
Female	318	35.97
Registered Company	38	4.30
Total	884	100

There were 884 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were male with 528 or 59.73% of the total sample, followed by females with 318 or 35.97%. Registered companies account for the remaining proportion with 38 or 4.30% of the total sample.

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

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

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

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	703	50.25
Trial	307	21.94
Default Judgment Date	275	19.66
Part-Heard Date	72	5.15
Hearing of Application	29	2.07
Final Judgment Date	13	0.93
Total	1399	100.0

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 1399 matters that went to court during the third quarter of 2021, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard, or trial date or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 703 or 50.25% were adjourned for a mention date and 307 or 21.94% were adjourned for a trial date. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 275 or 19.66% of matters, which were adjourned for a default judgment date. Matters adjournment for part heard dates accounted for 72 or 5.15% of the sample.

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

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	272	18.97
Both Parties Absent	259	18.06
Placed on Trial List	172	11.99
Pending Settlement	91	6.35
Hearing of Application	30	2.09
Sub-total	824	57.46

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)=1434

The above table details a sample of 1434 adjournments or continuances heard in the quarter, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 272 or 18.97% of the total sample, adjournments due to the absence of both

parties with 259 or 18.06% and adjournments due to placement on the trial list with 172 or 11.99% and pending settlements with 91 or 6.35% round off the top reasons for adjournment for the quarter. Adjournments for the hearing of an application with 30 or 2.09% complete the list. The top 5 reasons for adjournment account for 57.46% of the total sample.

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

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	165
Average Incidence	1.3

Corresponding to 126 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance of cases in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 165 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 126 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.3 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 13 reissue incidences.

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

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	147	30.12
Struck Out	114	23.36
Default Judgment	60	12.30
Settlement	52	10.66
Trial	35	7.17
Sub-total	408	83.61

NB: There were 488 matters disposed in the third quarter of 2021

The above table details the sampling distribution of the five leading methods of disposition using a sample of 488 matters disposed during the third quarter of 2021. The list is led by matters

disposed by consent with 147 or 30.12% of the disposals, followed by matters struck out with 114 or 23.36%, matters disposed by default judgments with 60 or 12.30% and settlements with 52 or 10.66%. Disposals by trial account for 35 or 7.17% of the sample. The top 5 methods of disposition listed account for 83.61% of the sample.

Table 12: Sampling distribution of case outcomes for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	35	92.11
Settlement	3	7.89
Total	38	100

The above table summarizes the distribution of case outcomes using a sample of 38 matters in the third quarter of 2021. Judgments in favour of the plaintiff with 35 or 92.11% of the total sample, accounts for the majority of the sample, while settlements with 3 or 7.89% account for the remaining proportion. This probability distribution provides important insights into the results of cases and the likelihood of matters awarded in favour of the various party types, which may be involved in a case.

Table 13.0: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases filed	Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Estimate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Estimate Gross Case disposal rate (%)
709	94	528	74.47	13.26

The above table shows 709 new cases filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 54 of these cases were disposed and 40 cases became inactive, leading to a gross case disposal rate of 13.26%, which is 0.93 percentage

points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020. An approximate gross figure of 419 cases was disposed and 109 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2020. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 74.47%, which falls below the international standard for the case clearance rate but is 34.36 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020.

The net disposal rate for the quarter is 8.07%, which is 2.79 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020. The net clearance for the quarter is 62.63%, which is 28.06 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

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

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
131	3	97.71

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 131 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that 3 were adjourned. This results in a trial date certainty rate of 97.71%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 98% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This rate satisfies the prescribed International benchmark of between 90% and 100. The 2021 result is 11.35 percentage points above the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2020.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	276
Mean	527.9928
Median	311.0000
Mode	77.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	538.17024
Skewness	1.382
Std. Error of Skewness	.147
Range	2032.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	2039.00

^a Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 276 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2021 at the St. Catherine Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 528 days or 17.6 months, which is roughly 58 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the third quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 77 days. There is a relatively high standard deviation of 538 days, which is an indication that there is a relatively wide variation of the scores around the overall mean. The positive skewness suggests that a larger proportion of the scores that fall below the overall average time to disposal. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2039 days or roughly 5.7 years old, while the youngest was 7 days.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	2224
Mean	562.0913
Median	329.0000
Mode	72.00
Std. Deviation	606.60283
Skewness	2.127
Std. Error of Skewness	.052
Range	7294.00
Minimum	6.00
Maximum	7300.00

The above data is based on a sample of 2224 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 562 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 72 days. The standard deviation of roughly 607 days suggests that there is a large dispersion in the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 7300 days old or roughly 20 years, while the minimum time taken is just 6 days.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	163
Mean	39.02
Std. Error of Mean	2.334
Median	28.00
Mode	9
Std. Deviation	29.797
Skewness	.663
Std. Error of Skewness	.190
Range	85
Minimum	6
Maximum	91

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 163 active reissued matters at the St. Catherine Parish Court as at the end of the third ended September 30, 2020. The average age of these matters was roughly 39 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 9 and the median age was 28 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some dispersion in the individual scores, with the positive skewness indicating that a slightly large proportion of the ages fell above the overall average. The highest age in the data set was 91 days and the lowest was 6 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

Trelawny Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	126	76.36
Disposed	9	5.45
Inactive	30	18.18
Total	165	100

The above table presents a status distribution of 165 new cases filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 126 or 76.36% of these cases were active, and 9 or 5.45% were disposed and 30 cases which became inactive at the end of the quarter. This produces a gross case disposal rate of 23.64%, a 19.76 percentage points decline when compared to the third quarter of 2020.

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

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	140	76.09
Small Claim	44	23.91
Total	184	100

The above table represents a sampling distribution of 184 civil claims filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. The majority of which 140 or 76.09% were big claims, while 44 or 23.91% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	152	84.44
Bailiff	28	15.56
Total	180	100

Methods of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority of the sample with 152 or 84.44% of the sample. Service by the bailiff with 28 or 15.56% accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample.

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

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Recovery of Possession	28	15.82
Money Owing	27	15.25
Arrears of Rent	18	10.17
Breach of Contract	10	5.65
Monies Due & Owing	10	5.65
Sub-total	93	52.54

Total sample size of causes of action= 177

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, among the leading causes of action filed in the third quarter were recovery of possession with 28 or 15.82%, followed by money owing with 27 of 15.25% and arrears of rent with 18 or 10.17% of the sample. Breach of contract and Monies due and owing

with 10 or 5.65% each of the sample close out the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 52.54% of all the total sample of 177 causes of action.

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

Courtroom/outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Falmouth Outstation	99	54.10
Ulster Spring Outstation	37	20.22
Clarks Town Outstation (courtroom #1)	37	20.22
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	10	5.46
Total	183*	100

***Note: Corresponding to 164 cases**

The largest proportion of a sample of 183 new matters filed in 54.10% of the accommodations was entered in the Falmouth outstation. 37 or 20.22% matters that were entered in both the Ulster Spring Outstation and courtroom 1 at the Clarks Town outstation followed this. Courtroom number 1 at main courthouse accounted for 10 or 5.46% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	94	51.65
Female	74	40.66
Registered Company	14	7.69
Total	182	92

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 182 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021 at the Trelawny Parish Court, males accounted for the majority of plaintiffs with 94 or 51.65%, followed by females with 74 or 40.66%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 7.69% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	124	68.13
Female	54	29.67
Registered Company	4	2.20
Total	182	100

There were 182 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were male with 124 or 68.13% of the sample, followed by females with 54 or 29.67% and registered companies with 2.20%.

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

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

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

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	104	45.02
Trial Date	54	23.38
Default Judgment Date	48	20.78
Part-heard	25	10.82
Total	231	100

The above table shows a sample of 231 matters that were heard during the third quarter ended September 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 104 or 45.02% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 54 or 23.38%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Matters adjourned for default judgment dates with 48 or 20.78% and for part heard dates with 25 or 10.82% rank next. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for mention dates which is expected in civil and most other case types.

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

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	95	35.45
Both Parties Absent	89	33.21
Defendant Absent	29	10.82
Plaintiff Absent	9	3.36
Referred to mediation	9	3.36
Sub-total	231	86.19

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)=268

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 268 incidence of adjournments/continuance heard in the third quarter of 2021. Adjournments for no return/ for reissue with 95 or 35.45% of the sample, adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 89 or 33.21% and defendants being absent with 29 or 10.82% of the sample feature prominently on the list. Adjournments for the absence of plaintiffs and referrals to mediation with 9 or 3.36% each of the sample close out the list. The top five reasons for adjournments, which are listed above, account for 86.19% of the entire sample.

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

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	37	31.62
Default Judgment	15	12.82
Oral Admission	15	12.82
Consent	14	11.97
Settlement	12	10.26
Sub-total	93	79.49

NB: There were 117 matters disposed for the third quarter of 2021

The above table details the sampling distribution of the leading methods of disposition using a sample of 117 matters disposed during the third quarter of 2021. The list is led by matters struck out with 37 or 31.62% of the dispositions, followed by matters disposed by default judgments and oral admissions with 15 or 12.82% each of the sample. Matters disposed by consent account for 14 or 11.97% of the sample and disposals by settlements account for 12 or 10.26% of the sample. The top five methods of dispositions enumerated above accounted for 79.49% of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 11.0: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Number of cases disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in quarter)	Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Estimated Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Estimated Gross case disposal rate (%)
165	39	163	98.79	23.64

The above table shows 165 new cases filed at the Trelawny Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 9 of these cases were disposed and 30 cases became inactive, leading to a gross case disposal rate of 23.64%, which is 19.79 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020. An approximate gross figure of 108 cases was disposed and 55 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin

predating 2021. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 98.79%, which meets the international standard for the case clearance rate and is 27.09 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020.

The net disposal rate for the quarter is 6.67%, which is 32.11 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020. The net clearance for the quarter is 80%, which is 28.98 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

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

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
17	0	100

Another important performance metric is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 17 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that none was adjourned. This results in an overall estimated trial date certainty rate of 100% which suggests that during the quarter there was roughly a 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This outcome met the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100%.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	75
Mean	149.1733
Median	94.0000
Mode	56.00
Std. Deviation	177.39263
Skewness	3.315
Std. Error of Skewness	.277
Range	1089.00
Minimum	10.00
Maximum	1099.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 75 civil cases disposed in the third quarter of 2021 at the Trelawny Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of this sample of cases is roughly 149 days or 5 months. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 56 days and the median time was 94 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 177 days suggests that the times taken to disposition were spread out over a large range of values and the positive skewness is an indication that a greater proportion of times to disposition fell below the overall average time. The oldest case disposed in the quarter was 1099 days or roughly 3.1 years old, while minimum time taken to disposed of cases was 10 days.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	309
Mean	381.3528
Median	331.0000
Mode	86.00
Std. Deviation	317.64185
Skewness	1.225
Std. Error of Skewness	.139
Range	1724.00
Minimum	3.00
Maximum	1727.00

The above data is computed using 309 active cases at the end of the third quarter of 2021. The average age of these cases was roughly 381 days (12.7 months), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 86 days. The standard deviation of roughly 318 days suggests that there is some dispersion of the individual scores around the mean, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set which fall below the overall mean. The oldest active case in this sample is 1727 days (4.8 years old), while the youngest is 3 days.

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

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	366	92.19
Disposed	14	3.53
Inactive	17	4.28
Total	397	100

The above table presents a status distribution of 397 new cases filed at the St. Ann Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 366 cases or 92.19% of these cases were still active, 14 were disposed and 17 were rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 7.81%, which is a 3.74 percentage points decline when compared to the third quarter of 2020.

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

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	361	75.52
Small Claim	116	24.27
POCA	1	0.21
Total	478	100

The above table shows that from 478 new claims filed in the third quarter of 2021, the majority of which were big claims with 361 or 75.52% of the sample, while 116 or 24.27% were small claims and 1 was a Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) claim.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
District Constable	32	47.76
Bailiff	19	28.36
Personal	16	23.88
Total	67	100.0

Types of service as used in the above table refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by District Constable accounted for the highest proportion with 32 or 47.76% of the sample. Service by the bailiff accounted for 19 or 28.36% and personal service accounted for the remaining 23.88% of the sample.

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

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of contract under Section 146 (Pink Summons)	151	37.28
Damages for Negligence	55	13.58
Recovery of Possession	35	8.64
Rent Owing, Continuing and Recovery of Possession	25	6.17
Money Owing	19	4.69
Rent Owing	19	4.69
Sub-Total	304	75.05

Total sample size of causes of action (N) =405

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table uses a sample of 405 matters, from which the leading causes of action filed in the third quarter of 2021 was breach of contract under section 146 (pink summons) with 151 or roughly 37.28% of the sample and damages for negligence with 55 or 13.58% of the sample.

Recovery of possession with 35 or 8.64%, rent owing, continuing and recovery possession with 25 or 6.17%, money owing and rent owing with 19 or 4.69% each of the total sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 75.05% of the sample of causes of action.

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

Courtroom/outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	251	70.70
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	59	16.62
Claremont Outstation	45	12.68
Total	355*	100

***Note: Corresponding to 321 cases**

The majority of a sample of 355 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021 were entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, accounting for 251 or 70.70% of the total sample. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for 59 or 16.62% and the Claremont Outstation accounted for 45 or 12.68% of the accommodations.

Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	220	45.93
Female	183	38.20
Registered Company	75	15.66
Trading As	1	0.21
Total	479	100.0

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 479 new matters filed in the third quarter, males accounted for the largest proportion with 220 or 45.93%, followed by females with 183 or

38.20% and registered companies with 75 or 15.66% of the total sample. Individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) with 0.21% accounted for the smallest proportion of the total sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	305	64.21
Female	133	28.00
Registered Company	34	7.16
Trading As	3	0.63
Total	475	100

There were 475 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were male with 305 or 64.21% of the total sample, followed by females with 133 or 28%. Registered companies accounted for 34 or 7.16% of the total sample and individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 3 or 0.63%.

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

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

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

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	456	51.76
Default Judgment Date	153	17.37
Trial	153	17.37
Part-Heard Date	100	11.35
Hearing of Application	17	1.93
Final Judgment Date	2	0.23
Total	881	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 881 matters that went to court during the third quarter ended September 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard dates and similar procedural dates. Adjournments for mention dates accounted for 456 or 51.76% of the sample, followed by 153 or 17.37%, which were adjourned for both default judgment dates and trial dates. Matters adjourned for a part-heard date account for 100 or 11.35% of the total sample. As with most other courts, this data decisively suggests that there is a greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for a mention date, though this is not an unsurprising result given that mention court stings are intrinsic to the progression of civil and other cases.

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

Reasons for Adjournments	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No return/Re-Issued	212	19.36
Both Parties Absent	185	16.89
Defendant Absent	162	14.79
Placed on Trial List	96	8.77
Pending Settlement	28	2.56
Sub-total	683	62.37

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)= 1095

The above table details a sample of 1095 reasons for adjournment or continuances for matters that went to court in the third quarter of 2021, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments due to the no return/for re-issue with 212 or 19.36% of the sample, adjournments due to both parties being absent with 185 or 16.89% and the absence of defendants with 162 or 14.79% of the sample rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment for the quarter in this sample. The list is completed by adjournments due to placement on the trial list with 96 or 8.77% and pending settlements with 28 or 2.56% of the sample. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above, account for 62.37% of the total sample of adjournments and continuances.

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

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	61
Average Incidence	1.2

Corresponding to 50 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 61 incidences of reissue, corresponding to

50 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.2 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 12 reissue incidences.

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

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	92	24.15
Settlement	67	17.59
Default Judgment	60	15.75
Consent	48	12.60
Oral Admission	48	12.60
Withdrawal	35	9.19
Sub-Total	350	91.88

NB: There were 381 matters disposed for the third quarter of 2021

A sample of 381 matters disposed during the third quarter of 2021 revealed that 92 or 24.15% of matters were struck out, 67 or 17.59% were disposed by settlements and 60 or 15.75% of the sample were disposed by default judgments. Matters disposed by oral admissions and by consent with 48 or 12.60% each and withdrawals with 35 or 9.19% of the total sample of disposals complete the top five for the quarter. The top five methods of disposition enumerated above, account for 91.88% of the total sample of dispositions. This data provides insights into the overall distribution of the methods of disposition in the third quarter of 2021.

Table 12.0: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
397	31	529	133.25	7.81

The above table shows 397 new cases filed at the St. Ann Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 14 cases were disposed and 17 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 7.81%, a decline of 3.74 percentage points compared to the third quarter of 2020. An approximate gross figure of 325 cases were disposed, and 204 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 133.25%, which is above the international standard for this metric and represents an 81.20 percentage points improvement when compared to the third quarter of 2020.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 3.68%, a decline of 1.76 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2020. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 85.53%, an improvement of 43.48 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

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

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
44	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 44 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that none was adjourned. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This meets the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100% and 6.98 percentage points above the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2020.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	208
Mean	369.4663
Median	236.5000
Mode	138.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	300.16462
Skewness	.921
Std. Error of Skewness	.169
Range	1191.00
Minimum	6.00
Maximum	1197.00

Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 208 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2021 at the St. Ann Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters

is roughly 369 days or 12.3 months, which is roughly 21 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the third quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 138 days. The standard deviation of roughly 300 days is an indication that there is some variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores in the data set that fell below the overall average scores. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1197 days or roughly 3 years old, while the minimum time taken was 6 days.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	1238
Mean	261.70
Std. Error of Mean	7.165
Median	195.00
Mode	28
Std. Deviation	252.119
Skewness	1.146
Std. Error of Skewness	.070
Range	983
Minimum	5
Maximum	988

The above data is based on sample of 1238 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 262 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 28 days. The standard deviation of roughly 252 days suggests that there is a wide dispersion of the individual scores around the series average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter is 988 days old or roughly 2.7 years, while the minimum age is 5 days.

Westmoreland Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	35	46.05
Disposed	17	22.37
Inactive	24	31.58
Total	76	100

The above table presents a status distribution of 76 new cases filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 35 cases or 46.05% of these cases were still active, while 17 or 22.37% were disposed and 24 or 31.58% rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 53.95%, which is a 5.34 percentage points decline when compared to the third quarter of 2020.

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

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	82	84.54
Small Claim	15	15.46
Total	97	100

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 97 new claims filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. The majority of which 82 or 84.54% were big claims, while 15 or 15.46% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	53	56.38
Personal	41	43.62
Total	94	100

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for the majority of the sample with 53 or 56.38% of the sample, while personal service accounted for 41 or 43.62%.

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

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Recovery of Possession	22	22.68
Negligence	12	12.37
Monies Owing	10	10.31
Recovery of Money	10	10.31
Breach of Contract	8	8.25
Sub-total	62	63.92

Total sample size of causes of action=97

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action filed in the third quarter of 2021 at the Westmoreland Parish Court was recovery of possession with 22 or roughly 22.68% of the sample. Negligence with 12 or 12.37%, monies owing and recovery of money with 10 or 10.31% each and breach of contract with 8 or 8.25% round off the list. These five leading causes of action account for 63.92% of the sample of 97 causes of action.

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

Courtroom/outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	38	44.71
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	30	35.29
Whithorn Outstation	9	10.59
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	8	9.41
Total	85*	100

***Note: corresponding to 64 cases**

The largest proportion of a sample of 85 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021 was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 38 or 44.71% of the sample. 30 or 35.29% that were entered in courtroom 3 at the main courthouse followed this. Sittings at the Whithorn outstation accounted for 9 or 10.59% and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for the remaining 9.41% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	51	52.58
Female	28	28.87
Registered Company	16	16.49
Trading AS	2	2.06
Total	97	100.0

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 97 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021 at the Westmoreland Parish Court, males accounted for the majority of the sample with 51 or 52.58%, followed by females with 28 or 28.87%. Registered companies accounted for 16 or 16.49% of the sample and individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for 2.06% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	59	61.46
Female	35	36.46
Registered Company	2	2.08
Total	96	100.0

There were 96 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021.

The majority of defendants were male with 59 or 61.46% of the sample, followed by females with 35 or 36.46%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 2.08% of the sample.

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

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

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

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	176	71.26
Trial	49	19.84
Final Judgment Date	21	8.50
Hearing of application	1	0.40
Total	247	100

The above table shows a sample of 247 matters that went to court during the third quarter ended September 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a default judgment, a final judgment, mention,

part heard, trial date or similar procedural adjournment. The majority, 176 or 71.26% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 49 or 19.84%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 21 or 8.50% of matters, which were adjourned for final judgment dates. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for trial or mention court hearings. This is, however, not an unusual outcome given that mention court hearings are central to the case flow process in the civil courts.

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

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	25	26.60
Settlement	17	18.09
Oral Admission	14	14.89
Consent	9	9.57
Withdrawal	8	8.51
Total	73	77.66

NB: There were 94 matters disposed for the third quarter of 2021

A total of 94 civil matters were disposed at the Westmoreland Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. The above table details the top five methods of disposal, which accounts for 77.66% of the total sample. The list is led by matters disposed by being struck out with 25 or 26.60% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by settlements with 17 or 18.09% and oral admissions with 14 or 14.09%. Matters disposed by consent with 9 or 9.57% and withdrawals with 8 or 8.51% round off the top five methods dispositions.

Table 10.0: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate gross case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
76	41	142	186.84	53.95

The above table shows 76 new cases filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 17 of these cases were disposed, and 24 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 53.95%, a decline of 5.34 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2021. A gross figure of 108 cases was disposed, and 34 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 186.84%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric and is 57.55 percentage points above the 2020 third quarter rate.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 32.69%, which is 16.42 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 207.69%, which is 95.19 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
27	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 27 trial dates were set in the quarter; of which none was adjourned. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter there was an estimated 100% chance that a date set for a trial would proceed without adjournment and is 17.50 percentage points above the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2020.

Table 12.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	70
Mean	161.11
Std. Error of Mean	17.535
Median	98.00
Mode	28 ^a
Std. Deviation	146.710
Skewness	1.687
Std. Error of Skewness	.287
Range	667
Minimum	5
Maximum	672

a. Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above table outlines summary data on 70 civil matters disposed in the third quarter at the Westmoreland Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is approximately 161 days or 5.4 months, which is roughly 43 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the third quarter of 2020. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 28 days. The standard deviation is an indication that there is some variation in the distribution of the scores around the mean time and the positive skewness is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set fell below the mean. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 672 days or roughly 1.9 years, while the minimum time taken was just 5 days.

Table 13.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	339
Mean	380.43
Std. Error of Mean	14.409
Median	326.00
Mode	109
Std. Deviation	265.298
Skewness	.842
Std. Error of Skewness	.132
Range	915
Minimum	76
Maximum	991

The above data is based on sample of 339 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 380 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 109 days. The standard deviation of roughly 265 days suggests that there some dispersion of the individual scores around the average. The positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more scores in the scores in the data set fell below the mean. The oldest age of active cases was 991 days or 2.8 years, and the youngest time is 76 days.

St. Mary Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	94	61.44
Disposed	38	24.84
Inactive	21	13.73
Total	153	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 153 new civil cases filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 94 or 61.44% were still active, 38 or 24.84% were disposed and 21 or 13.73% were inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 38.56% for the quarter, which is 15.21 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020.

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

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	136	71.20
Small Claim	55	28.80
Total	191	100

The above table shows that from the 191 new claims filed in the quarter, the majority of which were big claims, which accounted for 136 or 71.20% of the total sample, while 55 or 28.80% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of cases filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Type of service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	173	90.58
Bailiff	18	9.42
Total	191	100

Types of service as used above refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority of the sample with 173 or 90.58% of the sample, with service by the bailiff accounting for the remaining 18 or 9.42% of the sample.

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

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	56	49.12
Recovery of Possession	41	35.96
Negligence and Damages	6	5.26
Damages	5	4.39
Damages for Negligence	4	3.51
Nuisance	1	.88
Trespass	1	.88
Total	114	100

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The data in the above table is computed using a sample of 114 causes of action. As shown in the above table, the leading causes of action filed in the third quarter of 2021 at the St. Mary Parish Court was breach of contract with 56 or roughly 49.12% of the sample and recovery of possession with 41 or 35.96% of the total sample of causes of action. Negligence and Damages with 6 or 5.26% and damages with 5 or 4.39% rank next.

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

Courtroom	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	121	63.35
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	42	21.99
Annotto Bay Outstation	16	8.38
Richmond Outstation	10	5.24
Galve Outstation	2	1.05
Total	191*	100.0

Note: Corresponding to 153 cases

The above data is computed using a sample of 191 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021. The majority of this sample was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 121 or 63.35% of the sample. Courtroom number 3 at the main courthouse with 42 or 21.99% of the sample and the Annotto Bay outstation with 16 or 8.38% of the sample rounds off the top 3 accommodations. The list is completed by the Richmond Bay outstation with 10 or 5.24% and the Gayle outstation with 2 or 1.05%.

Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	97	50.79
Female	87	45.55
Registered Company	7	3.66
Total	191	100

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 191 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021 at the St. Mary Parish Court-Civil Division, males accounted for the majority of plaintiffs with 97 or 50.79%, followed by females with 87 or 45.55%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 7 or 3.66% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	134	70.16
Female	54	28.27
Registered Company	3	1.57
Total	191	100.0

There were 191 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were males with 134 or 70.16%, followed by females with 54 or 28.27% of the sample. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 3 or 1.57% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for third quarter ended September 30, 2021

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

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

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	155	63.27
Part-heard Date	34	13.88
Trial	30	12.24
Default Date	26	10.61
Total	245	100.0

The above table shows a sample of 245 matters that went to court during the third ended September 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a default judgment, final judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The majority, 155 or 63.27% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 34 or 13.88%, which were adjourned for part heard dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were the 30 or 12.24% of the matters which were adjourned for trial dates. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for a mention hearing and that a notable proportion of the adjournments are for default judgments. The high frequency of adjournments associated with mention matters is not unusual as this stage is intrinsic to case management and case preparation and to the overall case process flow.

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

Reasons for adjournment/continuance	Frequency	Percentage (%)
For Mention (continuance)	35	14.17
For Judgement (continuance)	8	3.24
Other	204	82.59
Total	247	100

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 247 incidences of adjournments or continuances for matters heard in the third quarter of 2021. Other than the reasons for adjournment pooled under “other”, continuances, which are adjournments intrinsic to the progression of a case, for mention account for the largest proportion of the sample with 35 or 14.17%, followed by continuances for judgment with 8 or 3.24% of the sample.

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

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	71	44.65
Other	31	19.50
Consent	27	16.98
Withdrawal	9	5.66
Final Judgment	8	5.03
Sub-Total	146	91.82

NB: There were 159 matters disposed for the third quarter of 2021

The above table details the leading methods of disposition for a sample of 159 civil matters disposed at the St. Mary Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. Matters struck out with 71 or 44.65%, the methods of disposition pooled under “other” dispositions with 31 or 19.50% and matters disposed by consent with 27 or 16.98% are the leading methods of disposition in the sample. Disposals by withdrawals with 5.66% of the sample rank next followed by disposals by final judgments with 5.03% complete the list. The listed methods of disposition account for 91.82% of the total sample of matters disposed during the quarter.

Table 11.0: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Combined number disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross Case disposal rate (%)
153	59	156	101.96	38.56

The above table shows 153 new cases filed at the St. Mary Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 38 of these cases were disposed and 21 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 38.56%, an improvement of 15.21 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2021. An approximate gross figure of 121 cases were disposed, and 35 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have

dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 101.96%, which meets the international standard for this metric, and is 13.13 percentage points above than the third quarter of 2020.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 28.79%, a 14.59 percentage point improvement when compared to the third quarter of 2020. The estimated net clearance rate is 91.67%, an 18.37 percentage point improvement when compared to the third quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

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

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
21	4	80.95

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 21 trial dates were set in the third quarter of 2021 shows that 4 were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 80.95%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 81% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	108
Mean	103.9167
Median	38.5000
Mode	21.00
Std. Deviation	194.36867
Skewness	5.395
Std. Error of Skewness	.233
Range	1631.00
Minimum	3.00
Maximum	1634.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 108 civil cases disposed in the third quarter of 2021 at the St. Mary Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of this sample of cases is roughly 104 days or 3.5 months, which is roughly 298 less days than it took to dispose of matters in the third quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 21 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 194 days suggests that the times taken to disposition were spread out over a large range of values and the positive skewness is an indication that a greater proportion of times to disposition fell below the overall average time. The oldest case disposed in the quarter was 1634 days or roughly 4.5 years old, while minimum time taken to disposed of cases was 3 days. The wide dispersion of the highest score from the centre of the data set suggests that there were outlying values in the distribution.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	373
Mean	361.1475
Median	213.0000
Mode	52.00
Std. Deviation	472.56028
Skewness	3.238
Std. Error of Skewness	.126
Range	2975.00
Minimum	3.00
Maximum	2978.00

The above data is based on sample of 373 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2020. The average age of these matters was roughly 361 days (or roughly 12 months), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 52 days and the median age was 213 days. The standard deviation of roughly 473 days suggests that there is a large dispersion of the individual scores, while the high positive skewness seen is an indication that there were decidedly more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter in the data set is 2978 days old or roughly 8.3 years, while the minimum age was 3 days. The wide dispersion of the highest score from the centre of the data set suggests that there were outlying values in the distribution.

Portland Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	54	80.60
Disposed	9	13.43
Inactive	4	5.97
Total	67	100

The above table presents a status distribution of 67 new civil cases filed at the Portland Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 54 or 80.60% were still active, 9 or 13.43% were disposed and 4 or 5.97% were inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 19.40% for the quarter, which is 12.91 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2020.

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

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	76	91.57
Small Claim	7	8.43
Total	83	100.00

The above table shows that from the 83 new claims filed in the quarter, the majority of which 76 or 91.57% were big claims, while 7 or 8.43% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of types of service in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	46	58.23
Bailiff	33	41.77
Total	79	100.00

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority with 46 or 58.23% of the sample, while service by the bailiff accounted for 33 or 41.77%.

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

Causes of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	30	37.50
Recovery of Possession	24	30.00
Negligence	7	8.75
Negligence And Damages	4	5.00
Monies Owing	3	3.75
Special Damages	3	3.75
Sub-Total	71	88.75

Total sample size of causes of action= 80

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. Using a sample of 80 matters filed, the data reveals that the leading causes of action filed were breach of contract with 30 or roughly 37.50% of the total sample, recovery of possession with 24 or 30%, and negligence with 7 or 8.75%. Negligence and damages account for 4 or 5%, monies owing, and special damages round off the top five causes of action for the quarter with 3.75% each. The top causes of action, which are listed above, account for 88.75% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Table 5.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	38	45.78
Male	34	40.96
Registered Company	8	9.64
Trading A's	3	3.61
Total	83	100.0

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 83 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021, females accounted for the largest proportion with 38 or 45.78%, followed by males with 34 or 40.96%, registered companies with 8 or 9.64% and individuals trading under a business name ("trading as") with 3 or 3.61% of the total sample.

Table 5.0: Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	64	77.11
Female	19	22.89
Total	83	100.0

There were 83 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the quarter. The majority of defendants were male with 64 or 77.11% of the sample, followed by females with 19 or 22.89% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for third quarter ended September 30, 2021

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

Table 6.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	117	57.07
Trial	59	28.78
Default Judgment Date	14	6.83
Part-Heard Date	12	5.85
Date for Order	3	1.46
Total	205	100.00

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 205 matters that were heard during the third quarter ended September 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a default, mention, part heard, trial or other similar procedural date. The majority, 117 or 57.07% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 59 or 28.78%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Adjournments for default judgment dates with 14 or 6.83% and for part heard dates with 12 or 5.85% accounted for the largest proportions. This data provides insights into the distribution of the stages of adjournment during the quarter at the Portland Parish Court.

Table 7.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Pending Settlement	23	13.94
Defendant Absent	22	13.33
Both Parties Absent	21	12.73
No Return/Re-Issued	17	10.30
New Date	11	6.67
Sub-total	94	56.97

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)= 165

The above data is computed from a sample of 165 reasons for adjournment heard in the third quarter of 2021. Adjournments due to pending settlements with 23 or 13.94% account for the highest share of the adjournments, followed by adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 22 or 13.33%. Adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 21 or 12.73% of the sample account for the third highest share of the reasons for adjournment. The list is completed by adjournments for no return/ for reissue with 17 or 10.30% of the sample and adjournments for a new date to be set with 11 or 6.67% rank next. The reasons for adjournment listed account for 56.97% of the total sample of reasons for adjournments/continuances.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	12	21.82
Default Judgment	9	16.36
Settlement	8	14.55
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	6	10.91
Oral Admission	3	5.45
Sub-total	38	69.09

NB: There were 55 matters disposed for the third quarter of 2021

A total of 55 civil matters were disposed at the Portland Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. The distribution is led by disposals by consent with 12 or 21.82% of the sample, followed

by disposals by default judgment with 9 or 16.36% and disposals by settlement with 8 or 14.55%. Matters disposed by notices of discontinuance (NOD) with 6 or 10.91% and matters disposed by oral admissions with 3 or 5.45% complete the top 5 methods of disposition for the quarter. The top 5 methods of dispositions enumerated above account for 69.09% of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 9.0: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross Case disposal rate (%)
67	13	96	143.28	19.40

The above table shows 67 new cases filed at the Portland Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 9 of these cases were disposed and 4 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 19.40%, an improvement of 12.91 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2020. An approximate gross figure of 87 cases were disposed, and 9 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 143.28%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric, and is 58.86 percentage points above than the third quarter of 2020.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 14.29%, a 9.03 percentage point improvement when compared to the third quarter of 2020. The estimated net clearance rate is 91.67%, a 12.72

percentage point improvement when compared to the third quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

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

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. Using A sample of 24 trial dates set in the quarter, it is seen that none was adjourned for reasons other than procedural factors. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 100% which suggests that during the quarter there was roughly an 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. The 2021 result is 15.38 percentage points above the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2020.

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

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	38
Mean	205.82
Std. Error of Mean	24.026
Median	195.00
Mode	23
Std. Deviation	148.107
Skewness	.533
Std. Error of Skewness	.383
Range	493
Minimum	21
Maximum	514

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 38 civil matters disposed in third quarter of 2021 at the Portland Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 206 days (7 months), which is roughly 189 less days than it took to dispose of matters in the third quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 23 days and the median time to disposition was 195 days. The standard deviation of roughly 148 days, is an indication that there is some amount of variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness observed is an indication that the larger proportion of the scores in this data series fall below the overall mean. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 514 days or roughly 1.4 years old, while the youngest was 21 days.

Table 12.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	452
Mean	844.6195
Median	668.0000
Mode	1725.00
Std. Deviation	699.61545
Skewness	.850
Std. Error of Skewness	.115
Range	3563.00
Minimum	24.00
Maximum	3587.00

The above data is computed using 452 active cases at the end of the third quarter of 2021. The average age of these cases was roughly 845 days (2.3 years), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 1725 days (4.8 years). The standard deviation of roughly 699 days suggests that there is some amount of dispersion of the individual scores, while the positive

skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set fall below the mean. The oldest active case in this sample was 3587 days (10 years), while the youngest 24 days.

St. Thomas Parish Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	103	78.03
Disposed	14	10.61
Inactive	15	11.36
Total	132	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 132 new cases was filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court in third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 103 cases or 78.03% of these cases were still active, while 14 were disposed and 15 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 21.97%, which is an 11.58 percentage points improvement when compared to the third quarter of 2020.

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

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	99	69.23
Small Claim	44	30.77
Total	143	100.00

The above table shows that from a sample of 143 new claims filed in the third quarter of 2021, the majority of which 99 or 62.82% were big claims, while 44 or 30.77% were small claims.

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

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	54	40.00
Recovery of Possession	17	12.59
Money Owing	15	11.11
Negligence	10	7.41
Cattle Trespass	6	4.44
Sub-total	102	75.56

Total sample size of causes of action= 135

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action filed in the third quarter of 2021 at the St. Thomas Parish Court was breach of contract with 54 or roughly 40% of the sample. Recovery of possession with 17 or 12.59% and money owing with 15 or 11.11% of the sample rounds off the top three causes of action in this representative sample. Negligence with 10 or 7.41% and cattle trespass with 6 or 4.44% of the sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 75.56% of all the total sample of 135 causes of action.

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

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	70	48.95
Yallahs outstation	40	27.97
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	33	23.08
Total	143*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 132 cases**

The largest proportion of a sample of 143 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021 was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 70 or 48.95% of the sample. The Yallahs outstation accounted for 40 or 27.97% and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for 33 or 23.08% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the third ended September 30, 2020

Table 5.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	68	50.00
Female	56	41.18
Registered Company	11	8.09
Trading As	1	0.74
Total	136	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 136 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021 at the St. Thomas Parish Court, males accounted for the largest proportion with 68 or 50%, followed by females with 56 or 41.18%. Registered companies accounted for 11 or 8.09% of the sample and Individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for the lowest proportion with 0.74% of the sample.

Table 6.0: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	89	63.12
Female	49	34.75
Registered Company	2	1.42
Trading As	1	0.71
Total	141	100.00

There were 141 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were male with 89 or 63.12% of the sample, followed by females with 49 or 34.75% of the sample. Registered companies accounted for 2 or 1.42% of the sample and individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for the lowest proportion with 0.71% of the sample.

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

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

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

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Date for Order	65	53.72
Trial	39	32.23
Default Judgment Date	10	8.26
Mention Date	7	5.79
Total	121	100.00

The above table is computed based on a sample of 121 cases adjourned during the third quarter of 2021. The majority, 65 or 53.72% were adjourned for an order to be handed down, followed by 39 or 32.23% which were adjourned for a trial date. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 10 or 8.26% of matters, which were adjourned for default judgment dates. Matters adjourned for a mention date with 7 or 5.79% of the sample rank next.

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

Reasons For Adjournment/Continuance	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Placed on Trial List	13	22.41

Defendant Absent	10	17.24
Plaintiff Absent	10	17.24
Not Reached	6	10.34
Attorney Absent	3	5.17
Sub-total	42	72.41

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 58

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 58 incidences of adjournments in the third quarter of 2021. Adjournments due to placement on the trial list with 13 or 22.41% of the sample, adjournments due to the absence of defendants and the absence of plaintiffs with 10 or 17.24% each of the adjournments rounds off the top three. Adjournments due to parties not reached with 10.34% and the absence of attorneys with 3 or 5.17% of the sample round off this list. The listed reasons for adjournment account for 72.41% of the total sample of adjournments.

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

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	17	25.00
Oral Admission	10	14.71
Settlement	10	14.71
Withdrawal	9	13.24
Consent	7	10.29
Sub-total	53	77.94

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

The above table details the top five methods of disposal computed from a sample of 103 matters. The list is led by matters struck out with 17 or 25% of the sample. Matters disposed by settlements and matters disposed by oral admissions with 10 or 14.71% each rank next. Withdrawals with 9 or 13.24% and matters disposed by consent with 7 or 10.29% round off the list. The listed methods of disposition account for roughly 77.94% of the sample.

Table 10.0: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
132	29	109	82.58	21.97

The above table shows 132 new cases filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 14 cases were disposed and 15 became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 21.97%, an increase of 11.58 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2020. A gross figure of 64 cases were disposed, and 45 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 82.58%, which is below the international standard for this metric and represents a decrease of 52.48 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2020.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 11.97%, a 9.15 percentage points increase when compared to the third quarter of 2020. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 54.70%, a 55.16 percentage points decline when compared to the third quarter of 2020. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

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

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Trial date certainty rate (%)
19	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 19 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that none was adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter there was an estimated 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

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

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	50
Mean	435.3200
Median	343.5000
Mode	196.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	330.24483
Skewness	1.780
Std. Error of Skewness	.337
Range	1660.00
Minimum	35.00
Maximum	1695.00

^a Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 50 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2021 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 435 days or 14.5 months, which is roughly 84 more days than it took to dispose

of matters in the third quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 196 days. There is a standard deviation of roughly 330 days is an indication that there is some amount of variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores falling below the overall average time taken to dispose of the cases. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1695 days or roughly 4.7 years old, while the minimum time taken was 35 days.

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

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	338
Mean	867.1627
Median	555.0000
Mode	2368.00
Std. Deviation	820.21328
Skewness	.965
Std. Error of Skewness	.133
Range	2358.00
Minimum	10.00
Maximum	2368.00

The above data is based on sample of 338 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 867 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 2368 days or 6.6 years. The high standard deviation of roughly 820 days suggests that there is wide dispersion in the individual scores in the data set, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 2368 days or 6.6 years, while the youngest case was 10 days.

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

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	71
Mean	413.0986
Median	240.0000
Mode	240.00
Std. Deviation	342.65002
Skewness	1.347
Std. Error of Skewness	.285
Range	1435.00
Minimum	23.00
Maximum	1458.00

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 71 active reissued matters at the St. Thomas Parish Court as at the end of the third quarter ended September 30, 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 413 days, while the most frequently occurring age and the median age were both 240 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some amount of variation among the individual scores, with the positive skewness indicating that proportionately more of the ages were below the overall series average. The highest age in the data set was 1458 days and the lowest was 23 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

St. Elizabeth Parish Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	211	89.41
Disposed	23	9.75
Inactive	2	0.85
Total	236	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 236 new cases filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court in the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, 211 cases or 89.41% of these cases were still active, while 23 were disposed and 2 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 10.59%.

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

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	179	64.86
Small Claim	97	35.14
Total	276	100.00

The above table shows that from 276 new claims filed in the quarter, the majority were big claims, which accounted for 179, or 64.86% of the total sample, while 97 or 35.14% were small claims.

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

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Monies Owing	30	18.63
Recovery of Possession	25	15.53
Goods Sold and Delivered	23	14.29
Rent Owing and Recovery of Possession	13	8.07
Damages for Negligence	12	7.45
Sub-total	103	63.98

Total sample size of causes of action= 161

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The data in the above table is computed using a sample of 161 causes of action. As shown in the above table, the leading cause of action filed in the third quarter of 2021 at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court were monies owing with 30 or roughly 18.63% of the sample. Recovery of possession with 25 or 15.53% and goods sold and delivered with 23 or 14.29% of the sample rounds off the top causes of action in this representative sample. The top five causes of action are rounded off by rent owing and recovery of possession with 13 or 8.07% of the sample and damages for negligence with 12 or 7.45%. The top five causes of action, which is listed above, accounts for 63.98% of all the total sample of 161 causes of action.

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

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Santa Cruz Outstation (courtroom #1)	163	59.06
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	95	34.42
Balaclava Outstation (courtroom #1)	18	6.52
Total	276*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 236 cases**

The majority of a sample of 276 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021 were entered in courtroom number 1 at the Santa Cruz outstation, which accounted for 163 or 59.06% of the

sample. Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounted for 95 or 34.42% while the Balaclava outstation (courtroom #1) accounted for 18 or 6.52% of the total.

Table 5.0: Sampling distribution of applications filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Type of Application	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Order for Personal Service	271	98.91
Application for Court Order	2	0.73
Application for Substituted Service	1	0.36
Total	274	100.00

A sample of 274 applications filed during the third quarter of 2021 revealed that applications for order for personal service accounted for the majority of the sample with 271 or 98.91% of the applications filed in the quarter, while 2 or 0.73% were applications for court order and 0.36 was application for substituted service.

Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	146	53.09
Male	124	45.09
Registered Company	3	1.09
Trading As	2	0.73
Total	275	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 275 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021 at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court, females accounted for the majority of the sample with 146 or 53.09% of the sample, followed by males with 124 or 45.09%. Registered companies accounted

for 3 or 1.09% of the sample and individuals trading under a business name (“Trading as”) accounted for the lowest proportion with 2 or 0.73% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	185	67.52
Female	80	29.20
Trading As	5	1.82
Registered Company	4	1.46
Total	274	100.00

There were 274 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2021. The majority of defendants were male with 185 or 67.52% of the sample, followed by females with 80 or 29.20%. Individuals trading as businesses (“Trading as”) accounted for 1.82% of the sample and registered companies account for the remaining 1.46% of the sample.

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

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

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

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	210	45.36
Trial	134	28.94
Default Judgment Date	69	14.90
Part-Heard Date	39	8.42
Hearing of Application	7	1.51
Final Judgment Date	4	0.86
Total	463	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 463 matters that went to court during the third ended September 30, 2021, which were adjourned for a default, judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural dates. The largest proportion, 210 or 45.36% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 134 or 28.94%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Rounding off the top incidences of procedural adjournments were 69 or 14.90% of matters, which were adjourned for a default judgment date, 39 or 8.42% which were adjourned for a part heard date, 1.51% which were adjourned for the hearing of an application date and 0.86% which were adjourned for a final judgment date.

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

Reasons For Adjournment/Continuance	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Placed on Trial List	103	22.25
Defendant Absent	93	20.09
Plaintiff Absent	27	5.83
Both Parties Absent	22	4.75
Amendment of Particulars of Claim	18	3.89
Sub-total	263	56.80

Nb: Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)= 463

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 463 incidences of adjournments heard in the third quarter of 2021. Adjournments due to placement on trial list with 103 or 22.25% of the sample, adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 93 or 20.09% and adjournments due to the absence of plaintiffs with 27 or 5.83% rounds off the top three incidences in the sample. The list is completed by the absence of both parties with 22 or 4.75% of the sample and amendment of particulars of claim with 18 or 3.89%.

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

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	41
Average Incidence	1.2

Corresponding to 35 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 41 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 35 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.2 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 12 reissue incidences.

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

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Oral Admission	31	19.50
Struck Out	27	16.98
Settlement	22	13.84
Final Judgment	17	10.69
Default Judgment	15	9.43
Sub-total	112	70.44

NB: there were 159 matters were disposed in third quarter of 2021

A total of 159 civil matters were disposed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. The above table details the top five methods of disposal, which accounts for 112 or 70.44% of the total sample. The list is led by oral admissions with 31 or 19.50% of the disposals, followed by matters struck out with 27 or 16.98% and disposals by settlements with 22 or 13.84%. Matters disposed by final judgments and matters disposed by default judgements round off the

Table 12.0: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
236	25	125	52.97	10.59

The above table shows 236 new cases filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court during the third quarter of 2021. At the end of the quarter, a total of 23 of these cases were disposed and 2 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 10.59%. An approximate gross figure of 121 cases was disposed, and 4 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of

52.97%, which is below the international standard on this metric, but is a 5.13 percentage points improvement when compared to the third quarter of 2020.

The estimated net case disposal rate for the quarter is 9.83%, which is roughly 9.25 percentage points above the recorded 2020 rate. The estimated net case clearance rate is 51.71%, which is roughly 5.31 percentage points above the recorded 2020 rate. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

top five methods with 17 or 10.69% and 9.43% respectively of the total dispositions.

Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty rate for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Trial date certainty rate (%)
53	4	92.45

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 53 trial dates was set in the quarter of which 4 were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 92.45%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 92% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment and is 8.84 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2021.

Table 14.0: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	96
Mean	314.1979
Median	177.0000
Mode	91.00
Std. Deviation	323.92513
Skewness	1.840
Std. Error of Skewness	.246
Range	1394.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	1401.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 96 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2021 at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 314 days or 10.5 months, which is roughly 123 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the third quarter of 2020. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 91 days. There is a high standard deviation which is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores in the series. The positive skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores falling below the overall average time taken to dispose of the cases. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1401 days or roughly 3.9 years old, while the minimum time taken was 7 days.

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

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	1766
Mean	431.3539
Median	358.0000
Mode	21.00
Std. Deviation	357.27815
Skewness	1.639
Std. Error of Skewness	.058
Range	2744.00
Minimum	2.00
Maximum	2746.00

The above data is based on sample of 1766 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2021. The average age of these matters was roughly 431 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 21 days. The standard deviation of roughly 357 days suggests that there is some amount of dispersion of the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 2746 days old or roughly 7.6 years, while the minimum time taken is 2 days.

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

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	178
Mean	324.9494
Median	385.0000
Mode	450.00
Std. Deviation	209.49693
Skewness	.630
Std. Error of Skewness	.182
Range	1124.00
Minimum	3.00
Maximum	1127.00

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 178 active reissued matters at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court as at the end of the third ended September 30, 2020.

The average age of these matters was roughly 345 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 450 and the median age was 385 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some amount of dispersion in the individual scores, with the modest positive skewness indicating some cluster of the scores around the average. The highest age in the data set was 1127 days and the lowest was 3 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

Performance Summaries-Other Parish Courts

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

Parish Court	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)	Net Case Clearance Rate (%)	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%)	Net Case Disposal Rate (%)	Trial Date certainty Rate (%)
Clarendon PC	91.26	39.32	30.10	15.05	24.39
St. James PC	-	57.32	-	-	-
Manchester PC	-	54.60	-	-	-

The summary of key performance metrics for the parish courts of Clarendon, Manchester and St. James shows that the civil division of the Clarendon Parish Court recorded an estimated gross case clearance rate of 91.26% in the third quarter of 2021. This court also registered an estimated net clearance rate of 39.32% in the quarter and gross and net case disposal rates of 30.10% and 15.05% respectively. The Clarendon Parish Court also recorded a trial date certainty rate of 24.39% for the third quarter of 2021. The estimated case net clearance rate for the St. James Parish Court in the quarter was 57.32% while the Manchester Parish Court (small and big claims combined) recorded an estimated net clearance rate of 54.60% for the quarter.

Aggregate data summaries – all Parish Courts

Table 1.0: Aggregate case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Approximate number of new cases	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Clearance rate (%)
4219	3692	87.51

The above table provides a summary of aggregate case activity across the civil division of the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021. It shows that a total of 4219 new cases were filed over the quarter, while 3692 became inactive or were disposed, leading to an estimated gross clearance rate of 87.51%. This is a six percentage points improvement when compared to the corresponding period in 2020.

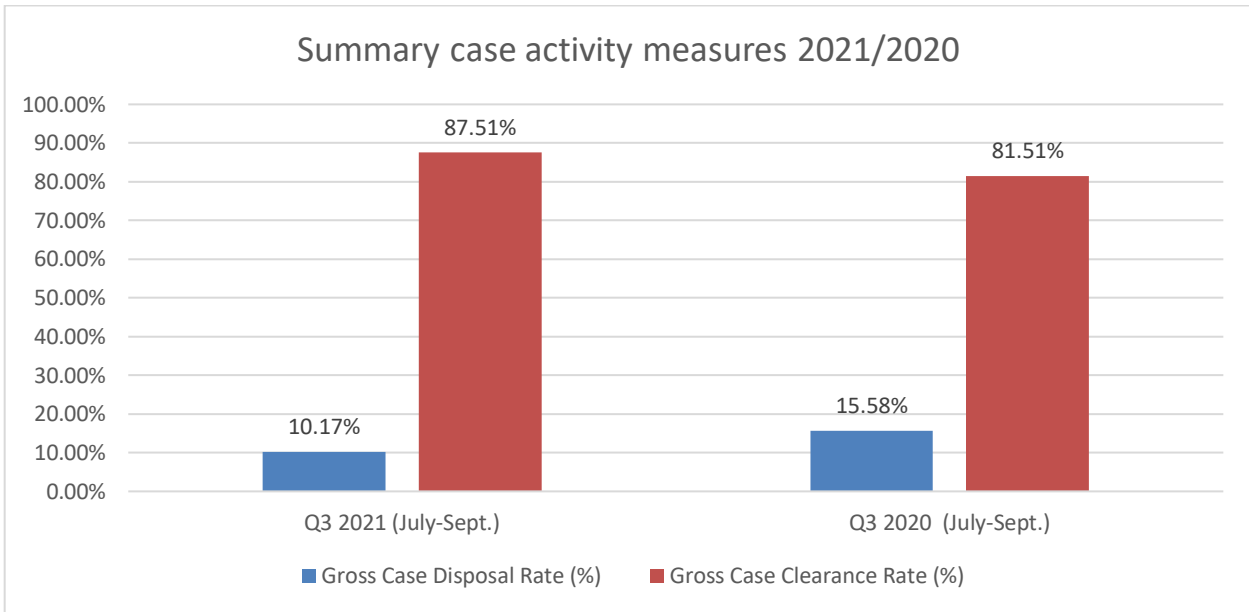
Table 2.0: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the third quarter (July-September) 2020 and 2021

Parish Court	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%) Q3 2021	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%) Q3 2020	Change in the Gross Case Disposal Rate (%)	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%) Q3 2021	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%) Q3 2020	Change in the Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)
St. Thomas	21.97	10.39	11.58	82.58	135.06	-52.48
Corporate Area- Civil	-	41.10	-	89.30	557.53	-468.23
St. Elizabeth	10.59	-	-	52.97	47.84	5.13
Hanover	57.14	70.59	-13.45	165.08	192.16	-27.08
Manchester	-	-	-	-	25.74	-
Portland	19.40	6.49	12.91	143.28	84.42	58.86
St. Ann	7.81	11.55	-3.74	133.25	52.05	81.2
St. Catherine	13.26	12.33	0.93	74.47	40.11	34.36
St. Mary	38.56	23.35	15.21	101.96	88.83	13.13
Trelawny	23.64	43.40	-19.76	98.79	71.70	27.09
St. James	-	-	-	-	32.53	-
Clarendon	30.10	51.02	-20.92	91.26	91.43	-0.17
Westmoreland	53.95	59.29	-5.34	186.84	129.29	57.55
Average /Weighted Average	10.17	15.58	-5.41	87.51	81.51	6.00
Standard Deviation	17.30	23.09	13.82	41.01	139.96	152.17
Skewness	0.77	0.34	-0.04	0.63	2.94	-2.93

Note: Q3- Refers to quarter three (July to September of 2021 and 2020 respectively)

The table above provides a comparison of the case disposal rate and the case clearance rate and for the third quarters of 2021 and 2020. The weighted average gross case disposal rate for the third quarter of 2021 was 10.17%, which was a 5.41 percentage points decline when compared to the 2020 weighted average rate of 15.58%. The gross case clearance rate of 87.51% for the third quarter of 2021 was 6 percentage points above the 81.51% recorded in the third quarter 2020.

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



The above graph provides a summary of the progression of the overall case disposal and case clearance for third quarter of 2021 and 2020. It is seen that there has been a decline in the gross disposal rate and an improvement in the gross case clearance rate over the comparative period. The case clearance rate moved from 81.51% in the third quarter of 2020 to 87.51% in the current 2021 third quarter. The disposal rate moved from 15.58% in the third quarter of 2020 to 10.17% in the current third quarter of 2021, a decrease of 5.41 percentage points.

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

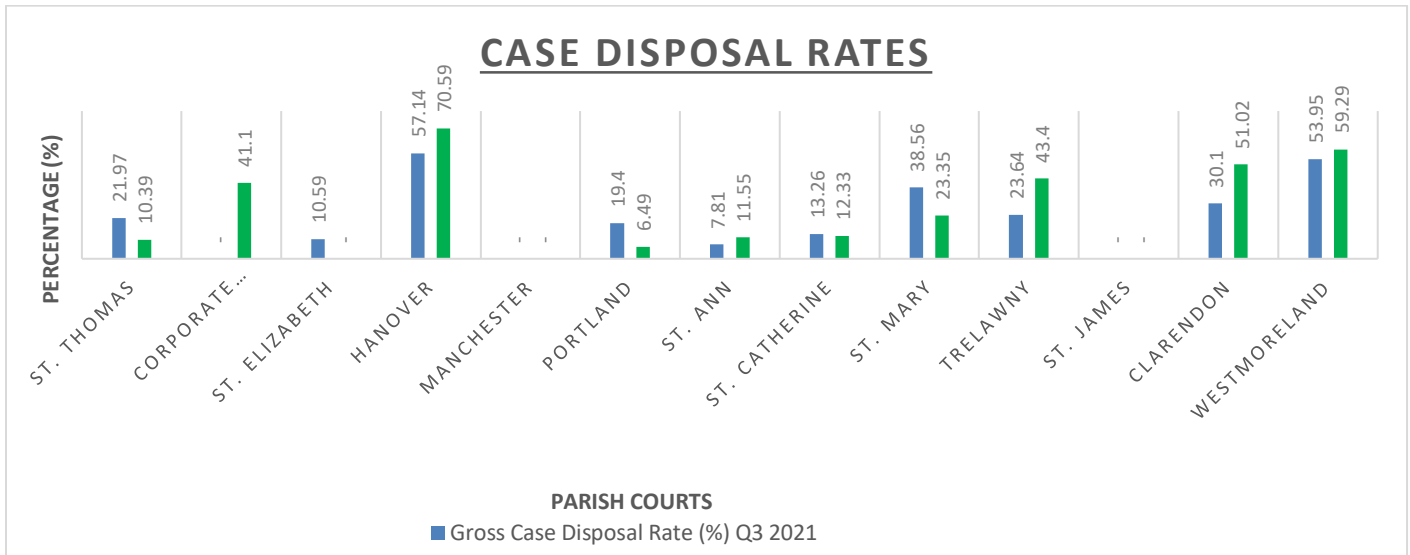


Chart 2.0b: Comparison of case clearance rates across the parish courts for the third quarter of 2020 and 2021

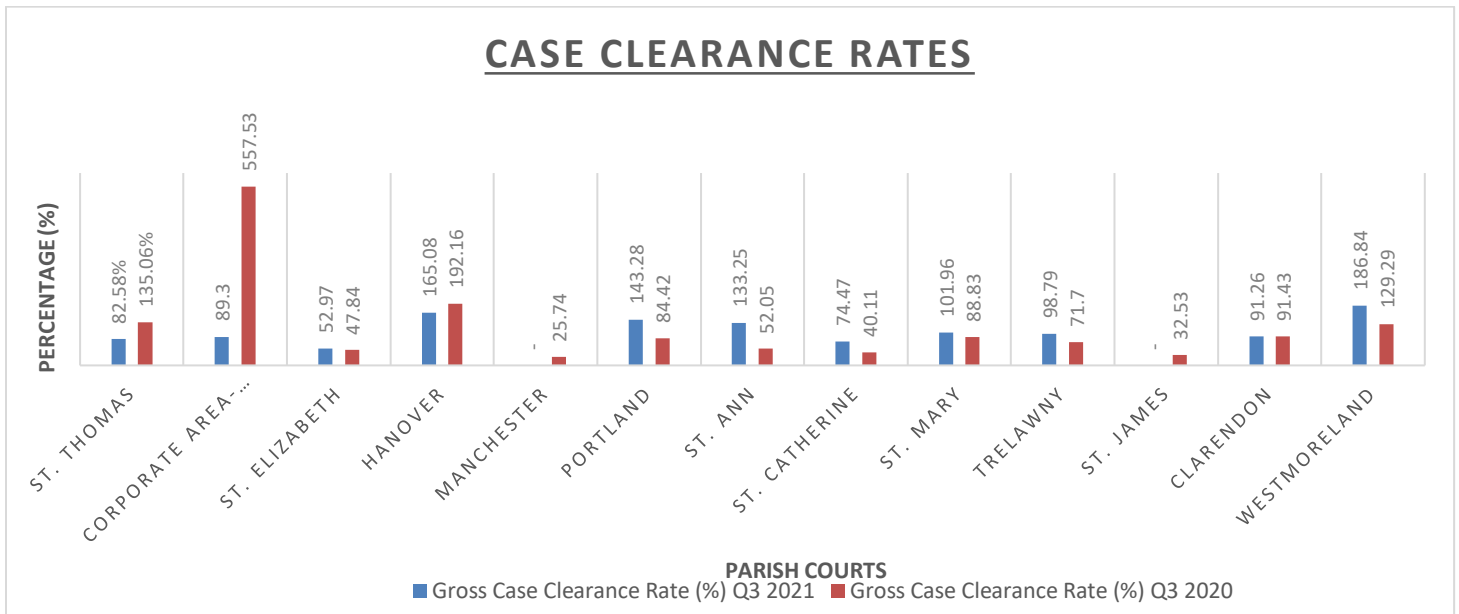


Table 3: Sampling distribution of claims filed during the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Big Claims	Small Claims	POCA	Miscellaneous	Total
Corporate area	918	353	-	-	1271
Hanover	53	12	-	-	65
Manchester	300	48	-	-	348
Portland	76	7	-	-	83
St. Ann	361	116	1	-	478
St. Catherine	785	103	-	-	888
St. Elizabeth	179	97	-	-	276
St. Mary	136	55	-	-	191
St. Thomas	99	44	-	-	143
Trelawny	140	44	-	-	184
Westmoreland	82	15	-	-	97
St. James	260	136	-	-	396
Clarendon	165	41	-	-	206
Total	3554	1071	1	0	4626

The above table provides an overall summary of the claims files across the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021. The sample of 4626 new claims filed in the third quarter of 2021 reveals that 3554 or 76.83% were big claims, while 23.15% were small claims and 0.02% were POCA matters. The Corporate Area Parish Court – Civil Division, the St. Catherine Parish Court and the St. Ann Parish Court accounts for the largest share of new complaints filed in the quarter. The Corporate Area Parish Court – Civil Division, the St. Catherine and St. Ann Parish Courts account for the largest share of big claims filed in the quarter, while the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division, the St. James Parish Court and the St. Ann Parish Court accounts for the largest shares of small claims filed.

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

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Population size in parish	Case per 10,000 population
St. Ann	397	172362	23
Clarendon	206	245103	8
Corporate area	1271	662426	19
Hanover	63	69533	9
Manchester	348	189797	18
Portland	67	81744	8
St. Catherine	709	516218	14
St. Elizabeth	236	150205	16
St. James	396	183811	22
St. Mary	153	69533	22
St. Thomas	132	93902	14
Trelawny	165	75164	22
Westmoreland	76	144103	5
Total	4219	2697983	16

The above table provides an outline of the number of new civil cases filed per 10,000 population in the parish courts (civil division) in the 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 civil adjudication in the various parishes. It is seen that the parish of St. Ann, which is among the parishes with the largest caseload and a mid-range population size, registered the largest number of new civil cases filed per 10,000 population in the third quarter of 2021. St. James, which is mid-range in population size, but among the courts with the larger caseloads, ranked second. Equally interesting is the result that the parish of Westmoreland had the smallest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population in the quarter and was among the parishes with

the smallest quarterly caseload. Portland and Clarendon had the second lowest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population for the quarter with 8 each.

Table 5.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Reasons for Adjournment	Count	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	717	16.18
Both Parties Absent	625	14.11
Placed on Trial List	514	11.60
No return/Re-Issued	382	8.62
Pending Settlement	158	3.57
Plaintiff Absent	127	2.87
Parties in Discussion	62	1.40
Attorney Absent	48	1.08
Referred for other Mediation	47	1.06
Hearing of Application	44	0.99
Sub-total	2724	61.48

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance = (4,431)

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

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

The above table is derived using a sample of 4,431 reasons for adjournments/continuance for matters heard in the third quarter of 2021 across all of the parish courts (civil division). The largest proportion (16.18%) was due to the absence of defendants. Adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 14.11% and adjournments due to placement on the trial list with 11.60% rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment across the parish courts. Adjournments for no return/

for re-issue with 8.62% and pending settlements with 3.57%, round of the top five reasons for adjournment for the quarter. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above account for 61.48% of the total sample of adjournments.

Table 6.0a: 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 -547 days	548-729 days	730 days and over	
Corporate Area Civil	3507 (36.7%)	1917 (20.1%)	983 (10.3%)	770 (8.1%)	819 (8.6%)	469 (4.9%)	1095 (11.5%)	9560 (100%)
St. Catherine	1296 (32.2%)	887 (22.1%)	520 (12.9%)	344 (8.6%)	389 (9.7%)	165 (4.1%)	421 (10.5%)	4022 (100%)
Manchester (Small Claims)	44 (22.0%)	35 (17.5%)	25 (12.5%)	49 (24.5%)	28 (14.0%)	9 (4.5%)	10 (5.0%)	200 (100%)
Westmoreland	319 (58.5%)	110 (20.2%)	51 (9.4%)	39 (7.2%)	19 (3.5%)	6 (1.1%)	1 (0.2%)	545 (100%)
St. Ann	590 (32.6%)	400 (22.1%)	210 (11.6%)	141 (7.8%)	186 (10.3%)	88 (4.9%)	196 (10.8%)	1811 (100%)
St. Thomas	422 (35.2%)	303 (25.3%)	139 (11.6%)	86 (7.2%)	87 (7.3%)	59 (4.9%)	102 (8.5%)	1198 (100%)
Portland	204 (31.4%)	110 (16.9%)	78 (12.0%)	46 (7.1%)	62 (9.5%)	57 (8.8%)	93 (14.3%)	650 (100%)
St. Mary	857 (51.3%)	300 (18.0%)	138 (8.3%)	74 (4.4%)	105 (6.3%)	45 (2.7%)	152 (9.1%)	1671 (100%)
St. Elizabeth	814 (49.2%)	426 (25.8%)	170 (10.3%)	99 (6.0%)	74 (4.5%)	32 (1.9%)	39 (2.4%)	1654 (100%)
Trelawny	620 (61.4%)	181 (17.9%)	74 (7.3%)	41 (4.1%)	52 (5.1%)	19 (1.9%)	23 (2.3%)	1010 (100%)
Hanover	384 (56.6%)	108 (15.9%)	60 (8.8%)	29 (4.3%)	31 (4.6%)	20 (2.9%)	47 (6.9%)	679 (100%)
% of Total	39.38	20.77	10.64	7.47	8.05	4.21	9.47	-
Average	823.36	434.27	222.55	156.18	168.36	88.09	198.09	2090.91
Standard Deviation	955.08	545.92	286.64	222.27	240.33	134.25	320.87	2682.59
Skewness	2.58	2.38	2.29	2.55	2.40	2.71	2.60	2.57

Number of charges sampled (N) = 23,000

Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the last 45 months across the parish courts

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court as at September 30, 2021. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 45-month period. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed of in the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 39.38% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. Elizabeth and St. Mary are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed under 90 days. Cumulatively 78.26% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in increasing overall productivity and realizing the objective of becoming the best in the Caribbean region in three years and among the best in the world in 3-5 years. From the data set, the parish courts (civil division) of Corporate Area Parish Court, St. Catherine and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 9.47% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts-civil division of the Corporate Area Parish Court, St. Catherine, and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample are all relatively high, indicating that in each case a larger proportion of the scores fell below the applicable series mean.

Table 6.0b: 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 Civil	300.63	27	139	407.13	2.96	1	4254	9560
St. Catherine	302.95	28	154	397.65	2.70	1	3236	4022
Manchester (Small Claims)	284.14	28	245	315.54	6.45	2	3652	200
Westmoreland	114.84	70	70	124.96	1.89	1	755	545
St. Ann	330.04	28	154	498.83	3.78	1	5929	1811
St. Thomas	251.78	28	133	314.91	2.58	1	2365	1198
Portland	414.81	28	191	627.85	3.38	3	4515	650
St. Mary	236.80	28	84	395.37	3.22	1	3220	1671
St. Elizabeth	155.88	28	91	232.61	5.32	1	2597	1654
Trelawny	132.54	28	63	181.28	2.90	1	1145	1010
Hanover	196.23	28	70	349.41	4.52	1	3512	679
Total/Weighted Average	273.98	31.73	126.73	349.59	3.61	1.27	3198.18	2090.91
Standard Deviation	91.66	12.70	57.79	142.21	1.34	0.65	1478.27	2682.59
Skewness	0.143	3.313	0.770	0.318	1.082	2.420	-0.003	2.567

Number of charges sampled (N) = 23,000

Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the last 45 months across the parish courts

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court as at September 30, 2021. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 45-month period. The output produces an estimated overall weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Civil Division) of approximately 274 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a low positive figure, suggesting that these times were generally clustered around the overall mean. For matters disposed in the period, the parish courts of Westmoreland (115 days), Trelawny (133 days) and St. Elizabeth (156 days) took the lowest times

on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of Portland (415 days), St. Ann (330 days) and St. Catherine (303 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters disposed over the period of analysis. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is showed to be modest, as conferred by the standard deviation of 91.66. The average minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 1.27 days; however, the average maximum times are substantially larger. These results are both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 755 days (25.2 months/2.1 years) in the Westmoreland Parish Court, to a high of 5929 days (198 months/16.5 years) in the St. Ann Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a low negative value, which is an indication that a larger proportion of the maximum times to disposition were clustered around the series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial and representative 23,000 matters.

Table 6.0c: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed in the quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Civil Division	366.20	74	185.5	461.66	2.50	5	2393	194
St. Catherine	527.99	77	311	538.17	1.38	7	2039	276
Manchester (Small Claims)	231.64	154	154	280.69	3.12	63	1064	11
Westmoreland	161.11	28	98	146.71	1.69	5	672	70
St. Ann	369.47	138	236.5	300.16	0.92	6	1197	208
St. Thomas	435.32	196	343.5	330.24	1.78	35	1695	50
Portland	205.82	23	195	148.11	0.53	21	514	38
St. Mary	103.92	21	38.5	194.37	5.40	3	1634	108
St. Elizabeth	314.20	91	177	323.93	1.84	7	1401	96
Trelawny	149.17	56	94	177.39	3.32	10	1099	75
Hanover	329.08	11	179	438.90	2.88	8	2486	49
Total/Weighted Average	345.30	79.00	182.91	303.67	2.31	15.45	1472.18	106.82
Standard Deviation	131.74	61.01	90.60	132.90	1.36	18.34	649.46	83.33
Skewness	0.28	0.75	0.34	0.44	1.07	2.14	0.22	1.03

Number of charges sampled (N) = 1,175

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court in the quarter ended September 30, 2021. The output produces an estimated overall weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Civil Division) of approximately 345 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a low positive 0.28, suggesting that these times were generally clustered around the overall mean. For matters disposed of in the period, the parish courts of St. Mary (104 days), Trelawny (149 days) and Westmoreland (161 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of St. Catherine (528 days), St. Thomas (435 days) and St. Ann (369 days)

demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters disposed over the period of analysis. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is showed to be modest, as conferred by the standard deviation of 131.74. The average minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 15.45 days; however, the average maximum times are substantially larger. These results are both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 514 days (17.1 months/1.4 years) in the Portland Parish Court, to a high of 2486 days (83 months/6.9 years) in the Hanover Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a positive 0.22, which is an indication that more of the maximum times to disposition were clustered around the series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial and representative 1,175 matters.

Table 6.0d: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2021

Parish Court	Struck Out	Consent	Settlement	Default Judgment	Oral Admission	Withdrawal	Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	Other	Total
St. Catherine	114	147	52	60	25	26	16	48	488
Corporate Area Civil	87	59	30	29	21	44	26	18	314
Westmoreland	25	9	17	7	14	8	6	8	94
Manchester (Small Claims)	17	-	1	4	1	-	1	4	28
St. Elizabeth	27	12	22	15	31	3	9	40	159
Trelawny	37	14	12	15	15	8	-	16	117
Hanover	9	12	1	13	11	6	-	7	59
Portland	14	12	8	9	3	-	6	3	55
St. Mary	71	27	3	4	-	9	-	45	159
St. Thomas	17	7	10	7	10	9	-	8	68
St. Ann	92	48	67	60	48	35	12	19	381
Total	510	347	223	223	179	148	76	216	1922
Percentage of total	26.53	18.05	11.60	11.60	9.31	7.70	3.95	11.24	100

Number of charges sampled (N): 1,922

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts-civil division 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 being struck out with 26.53% of the sample, followed by matters disposed by consent with 18.05% and matters disposed by settlements and by default judgments with 11.60% each. Dispositions grouped under the category, “other methods” with 11.24% and oral admissions with 9.31% rank next. Matters disposed by withdrawals with 7.70% and by Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) with 3.95% account for the remaining disposals in the quarter.

Table 7.0: Net and gross 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 parish courts is 1.70% (with a standard deviation of 1.60%) which is satisfactory 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 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 parish 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 Court (15.69%) and Clarendon (12.93%) have the highest rates. Taken together, these are quite impressive returns for the court system in Jamaica and augur well for future prospects.

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

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

Parish Court	Average time between filing and first court appearance	Average time between first court appearance and trial	Average time between trial and disposition
Corporate Area-Civil Division	67.01	364.21	560.16
Hanover	33.81	176.63	544.08
Manchester-Small Claims	58.50	136.75	-
Portland	63.07	728.55	192.53
St. Ann	74.52	503.11	645.02
St. Catherine	119.86	444.79	272.11
St. Elizabeth	60.10	227.18	188.98
St. Mary	47.72	321.93	114.90
St. Thomas	50.70	293.99	370.17
Trelawny	67.44	196.50	269.17
Westmoreland	31.89	127.27	96.40
Weighted Average	72.34	355.37	378.93
Standard Deviation	23.67	182.70	196.10

Tracking the times between the occurrence of major hearing events along the case flow continuum is important to establishing precise points of possible delay in case progression. The above table provides a summary of the average times between filing a case and the first court appearance. The average time between first court appearance and the first date of trial and the average duration between the first trial date and disposition. Overall, it is seen that the average time between filing a civil case and the first court appearance is just over 2 months, while the overall average time between first appearance of a civil matter in the parish courts and the first trial date is, however, much longer at roughly 12 months or 355 days. The average duration between the first trial date set and the date of disposition is even higher at roughly 13 months

or 379 days. These findings indicate that there may be imprecisions in the science of scheduling trial dates which may at times face long delays after a first date set is postponed. Since less than a quarter of civil cases filed in the parish courts will proceed to trial, these findings may not have a dramatic impact on the overall time to disposition of civil cases.

Table 1.0b: Trial court activity summary during the quarter ended 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	Number of cases for which only 1 trial date was set	Percentage of cases set for trial which only had 1 trial date (i.e. Only 1 trial date adjournment)
Hanover	192	47	24.48	30	15.63
Corporate Area	1339	225	16.80	166	12.40
Manchester (Small Claims)	63	5	7.94	4	6.35
Portland	294	47	15.99	36	12.24
St. Ann	1490	203	13.62	128	8.59
St. Catherine	2019	365	18.08	233	11.54
St. Elizabeth	728	202	27.75	93	12.77
St. Mary	439	64	14.58	30	6.83
St. Thomas	183	55	30.05	21	11.48
Trelawny	415	53	12.77	43	10.36
Westmoreland	337	38	11.28	38	11.28
Total/Weighted Average	7499	1304	17.39	822	10.96

The above table provides a summary of number of cases heard in the third quarter of 2021 in the civil divisions of the parish courts. Using a sampling distribution, it is seen that of 7499 civil cases heard across the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021, 1304 or 17.39% proceeded to trial, 63.04% of which proceeded on the first trial date set. The parish courts of Manchester (7.94%), Westmoreland (11.28%) and Trelawny (12.77%) had the lowest proportion of cases proceeding

to trial, while the parish courts of St. Thomas (30.05%), St. Elizabeth (27.75%) and Hanover (24.48%) had the highest proportion.

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

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	176	21.49
Trial	133	16.24
Consent	102	12.45
Default	97	11.84
Settlement	66	8.06
Judgment	61	7.45
Oral Admission	47	5.74
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	38	4.64
Withdrawal	38	4.64
Non Suited	21	2.56
Transferred	20	2.44
Other	10	1.22
Order	4	0.49
By Consent - Mediated Settlement	3	0.37
Application For Defendant Denied	1	0.12
Application For Defendant Granted	1	0.12
Mediation	1	0.12
Total	819	100.00

The above table summarizes the common methods of disposition for a sample of cases proceeding to trial. It is seen that matters struck out with 21.49% of the cases disposed, matters disposed at trial with 133 or 16.24% and disposals by consent with 102 or 12.45% account for the three leading methods of disposition in the sample.

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

Parish Court	Average number of appearances per case	Standard Deviation of the number appearances per case	Skewness of the number of appearances per case	Maximum number of appearances per case	Minimum number of appearances per case
Corporate Area-Civil Division	3.34	4.07	2.95	30	1
Hanover	6.40	8.40	2.34	40	1
Manchester (Small Claims)	1.85	1.55	2.83	8	1
Portland	4.70	3.44	0.84	15	1
St. Ann	4.58	5.51	3.28	40	1
St. Catherine	2.37	1.93	1.83	16	1
St. Elizabeth	3.88	3.61	1.86	23	1
St. Mary	4.15	4.00	2.30	26	1
St. Thomas	4.80	4.41	2.69	25	1
Trelawny	6.22	5.77	1.77	29	1
Westmoreland	3.22	2.93	1.63	20	1
Total/Weighted Average	3.57	-	-	-	-
Standard Deviation	1.43	-	-	-	-
Skewness	0.10	-	-	-	-

The above table summarizes the number of appearances per case heard in the third quarter of 2021, which have at least one mention court appearance. The overall average number of appearances per 10 cases mentioned is 36, or roughly 4 appearances per case with a standard deviation of 1.43 across the courts sampled and a skewness of 0.10. Together, these results suggest that the average number of court appearances per case is within the prescribed international standard, that a slightly larger proportion of cases have less than the overall average number of appearances and that there isn't on average a wide variation in the number of appearances per case across the courts. Among the parish courts with the highest number of

appearances per cases for matters heard in the third quarter of 2021 are the Hanover (6.40), Trelawny (6.22) and St. Thomas (4.80) Parish Courts, while Manchester (1.85), St. Catherine (2.37) and Westmoreland (3.22) were among the courts with the lowest mean case appearance incidence.

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

Parish Court	Average number of appearances per case	Standard Deviation
Corporate Area-Civil Division	4.65	4.92
Hanover	4.84	7.05
Manchester (Small Claims)	1.63	0.93
Portland	4.58	3.84
St. Ann	3.87	4.09
St. Catherine	2.00	1.85
St. Elizabeth	3.03	2.67
St. Mary	2.82	2.47
St. Thomas	4.60	3.84
Trelawny	2.67	3.11
Westmoreland	2.38	1.92
Weighted Average	3.41	-

The above summary specifically addresses the number of appearances per case for matters disposed in the third quarter of 2021. The overall average observed is roughly 34 appearances for every 10 cases disposed, not dissimilar to the findings from the previous table which provided a descriptive summary of appearances for all cases disposed. The Manchester, St. Catherine and Westmoreland Parish Courts were among those with the lowest incidence of appearance per disposed case in the quarter, while the parish courts of Hanover, Corporate Area-Civil Division and St. Thomas were among the locations with the highest incidence.

Table 8.0: Critical performance summaries for the civil division of the parish courts in the third quarter of 2021

Parish Court	Approximate number of new cases	Approximate number of Disposed cases and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of year of origin)	Gross Disposal rate (%)	Gross Clearance rate (%)	Approximate trial date certainty rate (%)	Overall average time to disposition (months)
St. Thomas	132	29	109	21.97	82.58	100	14.5
Corporate Area-Civil	1271	-	1135	-	89.3	100	12.2
St. Elizabeth	236	25	125	10.59	52.97	92.45	10.5
Hanover	63	36	104	57.14	165.08	91.67	11.0
Manchester	348	-	190	-	-	-	7.7
Portland	67	13	96	19.4	143.28	100	6.9
St. Ann	397	31	529	7.81	133.25	100	12.3
St. Catherine	709	94	528	13.26	74.47	97.71	17.6
St. Mary	153	59	156	38.56	101.96	80.95	3.5
Trelawny	165	39	163	23.64	98.79	100	5.0
St. James	396	-	227	-	-	-	-
Clarendon	206	62	188	30.1	91.26	24.39	-
Westmoreland	76	41	142	53.95	186.84	100	5.4
Total/Weighted Average	4219	429	3692	10.17	87.51	90.36	11.5
Skewness	2.15	1.19	2.37	0.77	0.63	-2.93	0.28
Standard Deviation	337.25	23.22	294.38	17.30	41.01	22.48	4.38

Conclusion

Despite the continued constraints on court activity posed by the broad societal effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the parish courts of Jamaica continue to make quantum strides in the clearance of cases and in containing its case backlog. In the third quarter of 2021, the civil division of the parish courts registered an overall gross case clearance rate of 87.51% which is an increase of 6.0 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2020. This result means that the civil division of the parish courts were able to dispose roughly 6 more cases for every 100 new cases filed in the period. Another crucial measure, that of the trial date certainty rate, netted out at a commendable overall rate of 90.36% for the third quarter of 2021, a 10.61 percentage points increase when compared to the corresponding period in 2020. Furthermore, the overall average time taken to resolve civil cases which last appeared in the third quarter of 2021 was 345 days or 11.50 months, broadly similar to the outcome in the corresponding period in 2020. Given the consistently high case clearance rate in the civil division of the parish courts over the past seven quarters, it is not surprising that the overall estimated gross case backlog rate at the end of the third quarter of 2021 stood at a promising 11.16% which means that only about 11.16% of active and inactive cases combined were over two years in age as of the end of the quarter. Even more impressive however is that only about 1.70% of active cases filed across the civil division of the parish courts over the past 5 years were over two years old as of the end of the third quarter of 2021. Both of these rates represent slight improvements when compared to the previous quarter and the corresponding quarter in 2020. These results augur well for the civil division of the parish courts which like the criminal division is well poised at this stage to make a profound contribution towards the fulfilment of the key quantitative targets set out in

the strategic plan of the judiciary. The current trend would suggest that in the coming years the probability of a case entering the parish courts system being resolved within a few months will be much higher than in the past. The data suggests that in the third quarter of 2021 only 9.47% of cases disposed were over two years old, that is, 90.53% of the cases resolved in the quarter did not fall into a backlog classification. Moreover, there is an estimated 78.26% chance that a civil case filed in the parish courts will be disposed within a year and an estimated 39.38% chance that such matters will be disposed within 90 days of filing. By any measure, these are encouraging results. Most parish courts performed creditably in the third quarter of 2021, with parish courts such as Hanover, Portland, St. Catherine, St. Ann and Westmoreland ranking among the very best performers. The next few years in the Jamaican court system will be exciting and interesting as the leadership of the judiciary makes a quantum push to create a more sustainable and efficient court system in which the public can be confident and on which key economic activities can be built.

Glossary of Terms

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

Clearance rate: The ratio on incoming to outgoing cases or of new cases filed to cases disposed, regardless of when the disposed cases originated. For example, in a given Term 100 new cases were filed and 110 were disposed (including cases originating before that Term) the clearance rate is $110/100$ or 110%. A distinction is sometimes made between the gross and net case clearance rates. The simple difference is that the net rate completely excludes inactive cases from its computation while the gross rate does not.

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

A persistent case clearance rate of less than 100% will eventually lead to a backlog of cases in the court system. The inferred international benchmark for case clearance rates is an average of 90%-110 annualized. This is a critical foundation to backlog prevention in the court system.¹

Disposal rate: As distinct from clearance rate, the disposal rate is the proportion of new cases filed which have been disposed in a particular period. For example, if 100 new cases are filed in a particular Term and 80 of those cases were disposed in said Term, then the disposal rate is 80%. A distinction is sometimes made between the gross and net case disposal rates. The simple difference is that the net rate completely excludes inactive cases from its computation while the gross rate does not.

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

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

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

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

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

Standard deviation: This is a measure of how widely spread the scores in a data set are **around** the average value of that data set. The higher the standard deviation, the higher the variation of

the raw scores in the data set, from the average score. A low standard deviation is an indication that the scores in a data set are clustered around the average.

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

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

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

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

Case backlog: A case that is in the court system for more than two years without disposition. The **gross backlog rate** measures the proportion of all cases filed within a given period which remain unresolved for a period of over two years. The **net backlog rate** on the other hand measures the proportion of active cases filed in a given period which are unresolved for over two years.

Percentile Rank: This refers to the percentage of scores that are equal to or less than a given score. Percentile ranks, like percentages, fall on a continuum from 0 to 100. For example, a percentile rank of 45 indicates that 45% of the scores in a distribution of scores fall at or below the score at the 35th percentile.

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

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

Weighted Average: Weighted average is a calculation that takes into account the varying degrees of significance of the groups or numbers in a data set. In calculating a weighted average for a particular variable, the individual scores or averages for each group are multiplied by the weight or number of observations in each of those groups, and summed. The outcome is then divided by the summation of the number of observations in all groups combined. For example, if we wish to calculate the weighted average clearance rate for the parish courts, the product of the

clearance rate and number of cases for each court are computed, added, and then divided by the total number of cases across all the parish courts. This means that a court with a larger caseload has a greater impact on the case clearance rate than a smaller court.

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

Continuance and Adjournment: In a general sense, any delay in the progression of a hearing in which a future date/time is set or anticipated for continuation is a form of adjournment. However, in order to make a strict distinction between matters which are adjourned for procedural factors and those which are generally avoidable, court statistics utilizes the terms ‘continuance’ and ‘adjournment’. Here, ‘continuance’ is used strictly to describe situations in which future dates are set due to procedural reasons and ‘adjournments’ is used to describe the circumstances in which future dates of appearance are set due to generally avoidable reasons. For example, adjournments for another stage of hearing, say from a plea and case management hearing to a trial hearing or from the last date of trial to a sentencing date are classified as ‘continuance’ but delays for say, missing or incomplete files, due to outstanding medical reports or attorney absenteeism are classified as ‘adjournments’. Adjournments as defined in this document have an adverse effect on hearing date certainty rates but continuances do not.

Source:

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

ⁱ *Source:*

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

