

PARISH COURTS OF JAMAICA

April 01 to June 30, 2017

**SECOND QUARTER
STATISTICAL REPORT
2017**

**Prepared by the Statistics Unit with the support of the Information
Technology Unit**

**Supreme Court
Jamaica**

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Introduction

On July 01st, 2016, an upgraded data capture sheet for criminal matters was launched in the parish courts. The aim of this data capture platform is to create a robust and comprehensive mechanism for capturing data on the progression of criminal matters in the parish courts. This data will afford the Court system the opportunity to monitor the efficiency with which criminal matters move through the Justice system and to align resources accordingly. The country's policy making apparatus will also benefit from the opportunity to pursue systemic changes which are necessary to redress institutional and social deficiencies. This report provides statistics on criminal case handling for all parish courts for the second quarter ended June 30, 2017.

Over the years there has been much concern regarding the number of cases in the Parish Courts. This has been referred to from time to time as a "backlog" of over 400,000 cases. The reality is that cases are being disposed of but there are also many new cases entering into the system as a result of criminal activity and increased litigation in our courts.

In May, 2016 a statistician was employed to the Supreme Court, facilitated by the Justice Undertakings for Social Transformation (JUST) programme. As a result a Statistics Unit was established at the Supreme Court with the aim of establishing a data capture mechanism which will ultimately enable the courts to give an accurate count of the number of cases in our Parish Courts. Members of the court staff across the parishes have worked diligently along with the

statistician and staff assigned to the courts by the Ministry of Justice to collect and input data so as to provide information to the public. I commend them for the work accomplished thus far. There is much more to be done to enable the court to provide additional information, especially regarding the work being done in the Civil Courts of the Parish Courts and the Family Courts. That process has commenced. However digitization of all records in our court system is our ultimate objective. This can only be achieved with provision of adequate resources.

I welcome the publication of this statistical report for second quarter ended June 30, 2017 and look forward to receiving the necessary support in order to sustain the work of the Statistics Unit.

Zailia R. McCalla, O.J.

Chief Justice of Jamaica

Executive Summary

This statistical report on criminal matters in the parish courts of Jamaica is for the second quarter ending June 30, 2017. As with the first quarter report, this report interrogates a number of vital measures which provides insights into the operations of the parish courts on both an individual and an aggregated basis. The report forms an important basis for understanding criminal case activity in the parish courts as well as demographic characteristics of criminal cases. For a number of key measures, the report provides statistics on both the second quarter of 2017 and the year to date.

The aggregate new case count in the parish courts for the quarter was 8,219 cases, a decline of roughly 6.26% when compared to the first quarter. For the first six months of 2017, a total of 17,204 new criminal cases have been filed in the parish courts. The largest proportion of this number is accounted for by the Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Court with roughly 18.53% of the total, followed by the St. Catherine and Clarendon Parish Courts with 16.50% and 9.80% respectively. The parish courts of Hanover, St. Elizabeth and Trelawny, all with under 4% of the total case load so far in 2017, account for the lowest proportional case load.

The overall average disposal rate for cases originating on the second quarter was 35.86% a marginal decline of 2.14 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2017. This

disposal rate should not be interpreted adversely as it only relates to a single quarter hence this report also provides a measure of the case disposal rate for matters originating since the beginning of the year to the end of June. In this respect the report reveals some commendable results with 9 of the 13 parish courts having year to date case disposal rates of over 50% and an overall average of almost 58%. The Westmoreland Parish Court has been setting the pace so far with the rate of disposal of cases originating since January, 2017, disposing of an impressive 70% of all such cases. The St. Catherine Parish Court and the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Court are also pace setters in this respect with case disposal rates of roughly 69% and 68% respectively, results which are remarkably interesting considering that these two courts have the largest criminal case load. The parish courts of St. Elizabeth, Manchester, Clarendon and St. Ann show overall case disposal rates of fewer than 50% for matters originating since January, 2017. The overall results of the criminal case disposal rates so far in 2017 show immense promise for the reduction of the court-wide case backlog but require deliberate policy actions to engender continuous improvements. It must be reiterated that these disposal rates are for matters originating since the beginning of the year and may not therefore be seamlessly used for generalization. Nevertheless they provide some good insights.

A measure which is closely related to the case disposal rate is the clearance rate which provides a measure of the number of cases disposed of for every new case filed in the same period. This is simply a productivity index as the disposed cases which are included in its computation could have originated before the period of focus. As with the disposal rates the figures show

decisively that most of the parish courts demonstrated moderate to high case clearance rates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2017. The Westmoreland and St. Catherine Parish Courts are again the leaders in this respect with clearance rates of well over a 100%. They are closely followed by the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Court which had a case clearance rate of just over 100% for the quarter. The overall average case clearance rate for the quarter is roughly 75%, suggesting that approximately 75 cases were disposed for every 100 new ones filed in the second quarter of 2017.

The overwhelming proportion of cases disposed of in the quarter was by way of either a guilty plea or a guilty verdict, producing an overall estimated conviction rate of roughly 78% in the second quarter, roughly the same as that of the first quarter. In terms of the distribution of case types, the report highlights that the largest proportion of the cases brought before the courts were indictments with roughly 39% of all charges. This is followed by summary matters with approximately 37% and petty sessions with about 10% of the total. The distribution of the case types in the first quarter were somewhat similar however it is of note that committal proceedings declined as a proportion of the total number of cases, falling by just over six percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2017.

An important factor which affects the efficiency with which cases move towards disposition is the incidence of adjournments in the courts. The report suggests that apart from adjournments due to some form of ‘continuance’ or for sentencing, the dominant reasons for adjournments for the second quarter were the unavailability of medical reports and incomplete files. When

the year to date data is considered, the non-appearance of the accused also features as a prominent reason for adjournment.

As with the previous quarter, the four most frequent criminal charges filed in the courts in the second quarter of 2017 were unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, threats and possession of an offensive weapon. The overwhelming majority of offences were committed by males, accounting for roughly 80% of all charges brought before the parish courts in the quarter. The dominant age group for offenders was the 20 -26 and 27 -36 age groups which together accounting for roughly 58% of all offences brought before the parish courts in the quarter, exactly the same as the first quarter of 2017.

Structure of report

The report is divided into two main sections. The first section explores case activity statistics by examining the case load carried by each parish court in the quarter as well the associated disposal rates. This section also examines the distribution of the different types of cases brought before the courts as well as the most commonly occurring charges and the individual and aggregate case clearance rates. The common reasons for adjournment and the distribution of the methods of case disposition are also examined in this section along with the overall conviction rate. Most of these measures are examined both for the second quarter itself however this is supplemented by using the aggregate scores for the first six months of 2017.

Section 2.0 examines case demographics including age and gender distribution of offenders as well as a sample estimate of the geographical distribution of charges based the police station where matters are reported.

Section 1.0: Case Activity Statistics

Parish Court	Total Number of cases	Number of cases inactive	Number of cases disposed	Active Pending case Load	Case Disposal Rate
Manchester	640	44	145	451	29.53
Clarendon	664	21	205	438	34.04
St. Catherine	1454	114	587	753	48.21
St.Thomas	404	14	109	281	30.45
Portland	372	24	92	256	31.18
St. Mary	280	19	62	199	28.93
St. James	654	41	82	531	18.81
Corporate Area Criminal	1637	402	437	798	51.25
Westmoreland	533	39	167	327	38.65
Hanover	296	1	74	221	25.34
St. Elizabeth	299	11	66	222	25.75
St. Ann	618	19	34	565	8.58
Trelawny	359	0	129	230	35.93
Total/Gross	8219	749	2198	5272	35.86

The above table shows the aggregate case load statistics for each parish court for the second quarter ended June 30, 2017. The table shows that 8,219 new cases were filed in the parish

courts in the period. The top three parish courts with the highest new case load in the quarter were the Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Court and the St. Catherine Parish Court accounting for 19.91% and 17.69% respectively of the total new case load, followed by the Clarendon Parish Court with 8.07% of the total. On the other hand, the bottom three parish courts with the lowest new case load in the quarter were the St. Mary and Hanover Parish Courts with 3.40% and 3.60% respectively of the total and the St. Elizabeth Parish Court with 3.63%. The Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Court and the St. Catherine Parish Court with 51.25% and 48.21% respectively and the Westmoreland Parish Court with 38.65% account for the highest case disposal rates for matters originating in the quarter. On the other hand, the parish courts of St. Ann with 8.58%, St. James with 18.81% and Hanover with 25.34% had the lowest case disposal rates. It is of interest that some of the parish courts with the larger case loads also rank among those with the higher disposal rates. The gross disposal rate across all parish courts was approximately 35.86% during the quarter.

Table 1.0b: Aggregate case statistics for each Parish Court as at June 30, 2017

Parish Court	Total Number of cases	Number of cases inactive	Number of cases disposed	Active Pending case Load	Case Disposal Rate
Manchester	1271	237	342	692	45.55
Clarendon	1690	106	572	1012	40.12
St. Catherine	2840	351	1595	894	68.52
St.Thomas	835	41	393	401	51.98
Portland	763	93	299	371	51.38
St. Mary	732	97	318	317	56.69
St. James	1440	285	645	510	64.58
Corporate Area Criminal	3189	690	1466	1033	67.61
Westmoreland	1136	173	620	343	69.81
Hanover	586	9	306	271	53.75
St. Elizabeth	656	83	237	336	48.78
St. Ann	1407	230	387	790	43.85
Trelawny	659	41	321	297	54.93
Total/Gross	17204	2436	7501	7267	57.76

The above table shows the combined case load statistics for each parish court for the first two quarters of the year spanning January 01 -June 30, 2017. The table shows that 17,204 new cases were entered before the courts in the period. The top three parish courts with the

highest new case load in the quarter were the Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Court and the St. Catherine Parish Court with 18.53%, 16.50% respectively and Clarendon Parish Court with 9.8% of the total case load respectively. On the other hand, the bottom three parish courts with the lowest case load in the quarter were the Hanover Parish Court with 3.40%, the St. Elizabeth Parish Court with 3.81% and the Trelawny Parish Court with 3.83% of total case load. The Westmoreland Parish Court and the St. Catherine Parish Court with 69.61% and 68.53% respectively and the Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Court with 67.61% are the courts with the highest case disposal rates in the period. On the other hand, the Parish Courts of Clarendon with 40.12%, St. Ann with 43.85% and Manchester with 45.55% had the lowest case disposal rates. Again, it is of interest that some of the parish courts with the larger case loads also rank among those with the higher disposal rates. The gross disposal rate across all Parish Courts was approximately 57.76% during the six month period, notably higher than the disposal rate for the second quarter itself.

Table 2.0: Average monthly case statistics for each Parish Court as at June 30, 2017

Parish Court	Total number of cases	Number of cases inactive	Number of cases disposed	Active pending case load	Case disposal rate
Manchester	212	40	57	115	45.55
Clarendon	282	18	95	169	40.12
St. Catherine	473	59	266	149	68.52
St.Thomas	139	7	66	67	51.98

Portland	127	16	50	62	51.38
St. Mary	122	16	53	53	56.69
St. James	240	48	108	85	64.58
Corporate Area Criminal	532	115	244	172	67.61
Westmoreland	189	29	103	57	69.81
Hanover	98	2	51	45	53.75
St. Elizabeth	109	14	40	56	48.78
St. Ann	235	38	65	132	43.535
Trelawny	110	7	54	50	54.93
Total/Gross	2867	406	1250	1211	57.76

*** The averages are calculated using table 1b hence approximations were necessary.

The above table shows the average monthly case load statistics for each Parish Court from January-June 2017. The data is consistent with the previous table as it is shown that the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Court and St. Catherine Parish Court with 532 and 473 cases respectively and the Clarendon Parish Court with 282, had the highest average monthly case load during the period. Similarly, the three courts with the lowest average monthly case load are the parish courts of Hanover and St. Elizabeth with 98 and 109 cases respectively and the Trelawny Parish Court with 110 cases.

Case Types
Table 3.0a: Types of charges for each Parish Court for the quarter ended June 30, 2017

Parish Court	Case Types						Miscellaneous	Total
	Indictment	Petty Sessions	Committal Proceedings	Summary Matters	Traffic	Tax		
Manchester	392	209	106	214	0	38	0	959
Clarendon	248	141	60	455	0	0	0	904
St. Catherine	650	251	171	982	0	4	0	2058
St.Thomas	205	58	70	225	0	5	0	563
Portland	278	86	17	148	0	0	0	529
St. Mary	171	66	84	96	0	4	0	421
St. James	267	143	61	500	0	0	11	982
Corporate Area Criminal	1123	290	177	1209	9	0	0	2808
Westmoreland	291	102	72	219	0	5	0	689
Hanover	156	93	26	134	0	0	0	409
St. Elizabeth	233	139	70	287	0	0	0	729
St. Ann	327	111	69	91	1	10	0	609
Trelawny	212	83	25	212	0	0	9	541
Total	4553	1772	1008	4772	10	66	20	12201
Percentage	37.3	14.5	8.3	39.1	0.1	0.5	0.2	100

***Total number of charges in the sample = 12,201.

	Case Types			
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Parish Court	Indictment	Petty Sessions	Committal Proceedings	Summary Matters	Traffic	Tax	Miscellaneous	Total
Manchester	777	445	234	495	0	38	0	1989
Clarendon	597	417	185	775	0	0	0	1974
St. Catherine	1262	511	316	1721	0	4	0	3814
St.Thomas	415	133	148	428	12	5	0	1141
Portland	530	162	36	311	0	0	0	1039
St. Mary	487	131	150	267	0	4	0	1039
St. James	865	280	104	1170	0	0	11	2430
Corporate 'Area Criminal	2400	568	411	2082	36	0	0	5497
Westmoreland	585	206	142	445	0	5	0	1383
Hanover	323	156	69	258	0	0	0	806
St. Elizabeth	484	202	136	408	4	0	0	1234
St. Ann	665	330	164	501	1	10	0	1671
Trelawny	403	151	43	334	0	0	9	940
Total	9793	3692	2138	9195	53	66	20	24957
Percentage	39.24	14.79	8.57	36.84	0.21	0.26	0.08	100

The above table provides a breakdown of the different types of new charges entered before each parish court for the quarter ended June 30, 2017. The table is computed using a significant sample of 12,201 which represents roughly 97% of all the charges entered in the quarter. The majority of the charges were Summary Matters (39.1%); this was followed by Indictments (37.3%), Petty Sessions (14.5%) and Committal Proceedings with 8.3% of the total sample. The

largest share of both Summary Matters and Indictments were accounted for by the Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Court followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine and St. James. The largest proportion of Petty Sessions was also entered in the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Court followed

by the parish courts of St. Catherine and Manchester. The Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Court followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine and Manchester, account for the largest individual shares of Committal Proceedings. As for criminal matters which are traffic related, the only incidence of these in the quarter was in the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Court and the parish court of St. Ann.

Table 3.0b: Types of charges for each Parish Court as at June 30, 2017

***Total number of charges in the sample = 24,957.

The above table provides a breakdown of the different types of charges entered before each parish court from January 01 –June 30, 2017. The table is computed using a significant sample of 24,957 which represents roughly 96% of all the charges entered in the period. The majority of the charges were Indictments (39.2%); this was followed by Summary Matters (36.8%), Petty Sessions (14.7%) and Committal Proceedings with 8.5% of the total sample. The largest share of both Indictments and Summary Matters were accounted for by the Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Court followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine and St. James. The largest

proportion of Petty Sessions cases was also entered in the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Court followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine and Manchester. The Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Court followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine and Manchester, account for the largest individual shares of Committal Proceedings. As for criminal matters which are traffic related, the only incidence of these in the quarter was in the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Court and the parish courts of St. Thomas, St. Elizabeth and St. Ann.

Offence Types

Table 4.0: Most frequent charges across the parish courts as at June 30, 2017.

Charges	Count	Percentage (%)
Unlawful wounding	2744	10.53
Assault occasioning bodily harm	2513	9.64
Threat	2072	7.95
Possession of offensive weapon	2057	7.89
Armed with an offensive weapon	1533	5.88
Malicious destruction of property	1337	5.13
Exposing goods for sale	982	3.77
Possession of ganja	971	3.73
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	891	3.42

Larceny as a servant	542	2.08
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***Total number of charges = 26,060

The above table shows the distribution of the ten most commonly occurring types of charges across all parish courts for the period January 01 – June 30, 2017. It is shown that unlawful wounding with 2744 or 10.53% of the total number of charges is the most frequently occurring. This was followed by assault occasioning bodily harm with 2513 or 9.64% and threat with 2072 or 7.95%. The top five is rounded off by possession of offensive weapon with 2057 or 7.89% and armed with an offensive weapon with 1533 or 5.88% of the total count of charges brought before the parish courts in the period. These ten most frequently occurring types of charges account for approximately 60% of the total incidence of charges in the period.

Table 5.0: Average age of active charges for each parish court as at June 30, 2017

Parish Court	Average Age of Active charges (days)
Manchester	105.25
Clarendon	149.80
St. Catherine	83.00
St. Thomas	105.12
Portland	127.70
St. Mary	93.00
St. James	75.23

Corporate Area Criminal	68.52
Westmoreland	71.95
Hanover	71.36
St. Elizabeth	83.15
St. Ann	105.96
Trelawny	95.08

***These figures are computed from the time the electronic system was implemented in each Parish Court in 2016

The above table shows that the average age of active charges for each parish court as at June 30, 2017. It is important to note that these figures are only for charges which have originated since the use of the electronic data capture system commenced in all parish courts between August and October, 2016. The parish courts of Clarendon, Portland, St. Ann and Manchester had the active charges with the highest average age over the period. On the contrary, the lowest average age of charges over the period were observed for in the Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Court and the parish courts of Hanover, Westmoreland and St. James.

Methods of Disposal

Table 6.0a: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposal for the quarter ended June 30, 2017

Method of Disposal	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Guilty Plea	2108	62.00

Guilty Verdict	546	16.10
Dismissal	519	15.30
Not Guilty Verdict	165	4.90
Mediated Settlement	34	1.00
Transferred	26	0.80

Total sample size = 3,398

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts for the quarter ended June 30, 2017. Using this distribution, it is seen that the majority of matters disposed of in the quarter were by way of guilty pleas with 62% of the disposals, followed by guilty verdicts with 16.10%. Taken together therefore, guilty outcomes (either by verdict or plea) account for 78.10% of the disposals, representing an approximation of the conviction rate for criminal matters in the parish courts for the quarter. Dismissals with 15.30%, not guilty verdicts with 4.9%, matters transferred and mediated settlements each with roughly 1% account for the remaining methods of disposal in the quarter.

Table 6.0b: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposal as at June 30, 2017

Method of Disposal	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Guilty Plea	3998	57.52
Guilty Verdict	1433	20.62
Dismissal	1000	14.39

Not Guilty Verdict	389	5.60
Mediated Settlement	68	0.98
Transferred	63	0.91

Total sample size = 6,951

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts for the period January-June 2017. Using this distribution, it is seen that the majority of matters disposed of in the period were by way of guilty pleas with 57.52% of the disposals, followed by guilty verdicts with 20.62%. Taken together therefore, guilty outcomes (either by verdict or plea) account for 78.14% of the disposals, representing an approximation of the conviction rate for criminal matters in the parish courts for the period. Dismissals with 14.39%, not guilty verdicts with 5.60%, matters transferred and mediated settlements each with roughly 1% account for the remaining methods of disposal in the period.

Most common reasons for adjournment

Table 8.0a: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment across all Parish Courts for the quarter ended June 30, 2017

Reasons for Adjournment	Count	Percentage
Continuance (Part-heard)	1590	56.16
Defendant not appearing	397	14.02
Files to be completed	371	13.1
Sentencing	361	12.75
Medical report unavailable	112	3.96

Total sample size =2,831

The above table shows that from a sample of 2,831 adjournments in the second quarter of 2017, the majority 55.16% were as a result of matters part-heard which were therefore adjourned for continuance. Matters adjourned due to the defendant not appearing with 14.02% and matters adjourned due to incomplete files with 13.1% of the sample rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment in the quarter. Adjournments due to sentencing with 12.75% of the sample and medical report unavailable with 3.96% complete the top five reasons for adjournment in the quarter.

Table 8.0b: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment across all Parish Courts as at June 30, 2017

Reasons for Adjournment	Count	Percentage
Continuance (Part-heard)	3031	55.74
Sentencing	771	14.18
Defendant not appearing	761	13.99
Files to be completed	466	8.57
Medical report unavailable	217	3.99

Total sample size =5,438

The above table shows that from a sample of 5,438 adjournments in the period of January-June 2017, the majority 55.74% were as a result of matters part-heard which were therefore adjourned for continuation. Matters adjourned due to sentencing with 14.18% and matters

adjourned due to defendant not appearing with 13.99% of the sample rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment in the period. Adjournments due to incomplete files with 8.57% of the sample and medical report unavailable with 3.99% complete the top five reasons for adjournment in the period.

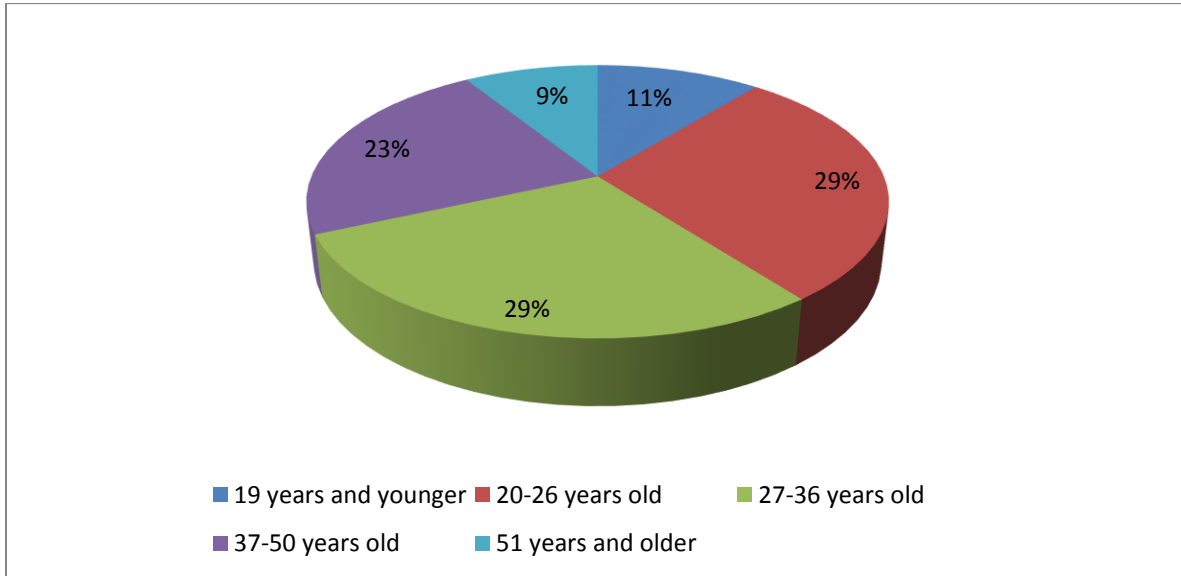
Table 9.0a: Case clearance rate for the quarter ended June 30, 2017

Parish Court	Clearance rate (%)
Manchester	35.99
Clarendon	69.23
St. Catherine	153.93
St.Thomas	57.14
Portland	74.03
St. Mary	45.95
St. James	71.05
Corporate Area Criminal	102.46
Westmoreland	133.33
Hanover	75.86
St. Elizabeth	52.17
St. Ann	28.37
Trelawny	72.65
Overall average/Gross clearance rate	74.78

The clearance rate provides a measure of the ratio of incoming to disposed cases within a given period of time. The disposed cases used in this computation are not necessarily from the new cases filed in the quarter. The table above shows that for the quarter ending June 30, 2017 the overall/gross clearance rate is 74.78% which is an indication that for every 100 new cases filed in the quarter, roughly 75 cases were disposed. The parish court with the highest case clearance rate for the quarter is the St. Catherine with roughly 153.93%, followed by Westmoreland with roughly 133.33% and Corporate Area Parish Court- Criminal Court with almost 102.46%. On the other hand, the St. Ann Parish Court with approximately 28.37% and the St. Mary Parish Court with 45.95% recorded the lowest clearance rates. Based on earlier analysis, these results are not surprising due to the positive correlation between the case disposal rate and the clearance rate. The parish courts with higher case disposal rates generally also have higher case clearance rates.

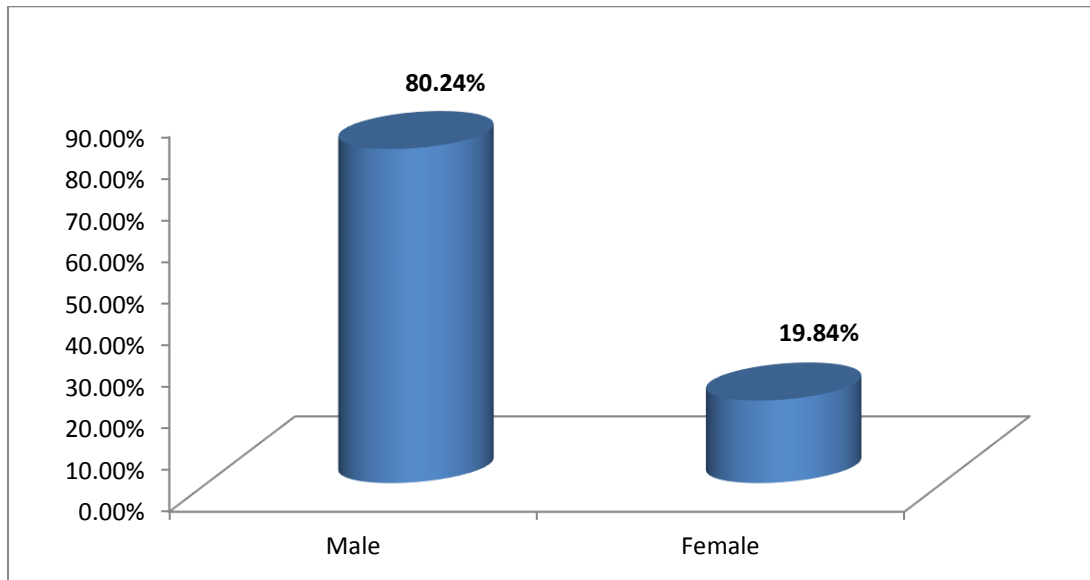
Section 2.0: Case Demographics

Chart 1.0: Aggregate age distribution of offenders for all parish courts for the quarter ended June 30, 2017



The chart above shows the aggregate age distribution of offenders for all parish courts for the quarter ended June 30, 2017. The majority of the offenders were between the ages 20 and 26 and the ages of 27 and 36 years, accounting for 29% of the total number respectively. This is followed by the age category of 37-50 years old with 23%, 19 years and younger with 11% and the oldest age group of 51 years and older accounted for the lowest proportion with 9% of the offenders.

Chart 2.0: Aggregate gender distribution of offenders for all parish courts for the quarter ended June 30, 2017



The above chart shows the gender distribution of offender for all parish courts for the quarter ended June 30, 2017. As shown, the majority of the offenders were males accounting for 80.24% of the total while female offenders account for the remaining 19.84% of the cases brought before the courts.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender for the period January-June, 2017

Charge	Male		Female		Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Unlawful wounding	669	74.00%	235	26.00%	904	100%

Assault occasioning bodily harm	589	71.48%	235	28.52%	824	100%
Threat	497	74.07%	174	25.93%	671	100%
Possession of Offensive Weapon	556	91.90%	49	8.10%	605	100%
Malicious destruction of property	334	71.98%	130	28.02%	464	100%
Possession of ganja	312	79.59%	80	20.41%	392	100%
Exposing goods for sale	253	76.90%	76	23.10%	329	100%
Dealing in ganja	228	79.44%	59	20.56%	287	100%
Simple larceny	183	79.91%	46	20.09%	229	100%
Disorderly conduct	127	58.53%	90	41.47%	217	100%
Resisting arrest	98	75.97%	31	24.03%	129	100%
Robbery with aggravation	75	92.59%	6	7.41%	81	100%
Murder	37	90.24%	4	9.76%	41	100%

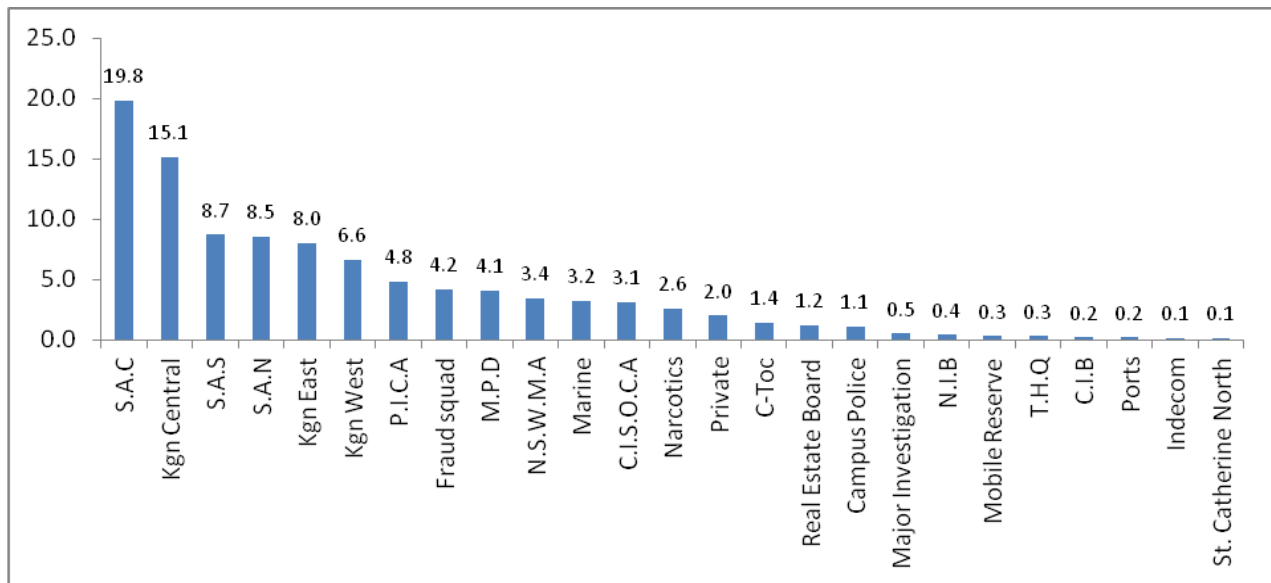
***The gender of offenders was not available for every matter that was entered before the courts

The above table provides a sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender in the period January 01 – June 30 2017. Based on the data shown in chart 2.0, it is not surprising that males account for the dominant proportion of all these charges. Among the offences listed with the greatest imbalance in the gender distribution are murder and robbery with aggravation for which over 90% of the offenders were male. Disorderly conduct, assault occasioning bodily harm and malicious destruction of property saw the highest incidence of female involvement among the offences which appeared most frequently.

Sampling distribution of offences by police station for all parish courts for the month of June, 2017

A series of charts are displayed below which use data from the month of June, 2017 to provide snapshot of the distribution of criminal charges based on the police stations at which the matters were reported in each parish.

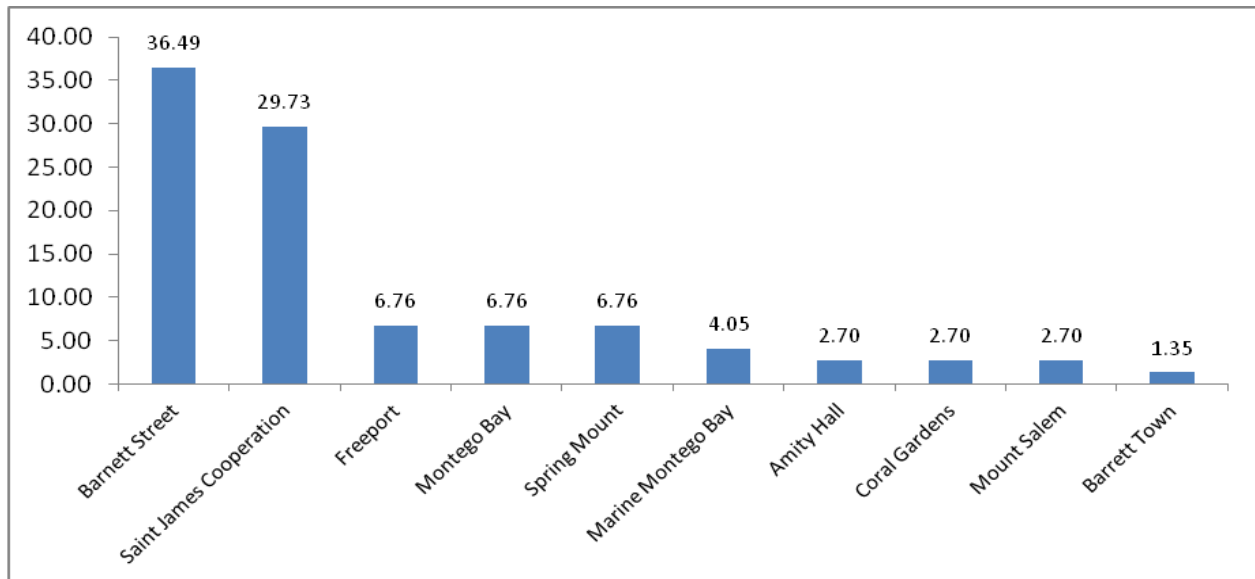
Chart 3a: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Corporate Area Criminal Court



The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the Corporate Area Parish Court - Criminal Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 999 records indicate that for the month of June, 2017 the majority of criminal matters,

19.8%, which were brought before the Court were reported at St. Andrew Central (S.A.C) . This was followed by the Kingston Central Police Station which accounts for 15.1% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the S.A.S Police Station with 8.7%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

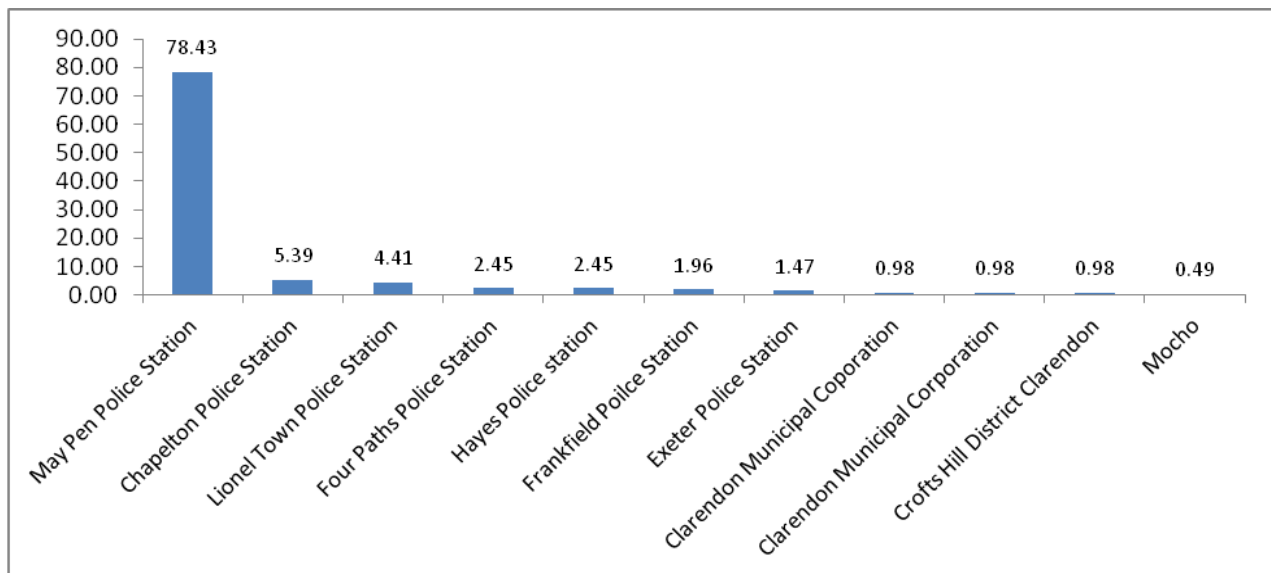
Chart 3b: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. James Parish Court



The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the parish of St. James using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 74 records indicate that for the month of June, 2017 the majority of criminal matters, 36%, which were brought before the St. James Parish Court were reported in Barnett Street. This was followed by the St. James Cooperation which accounts for 29.73% of total matters reported. The top three

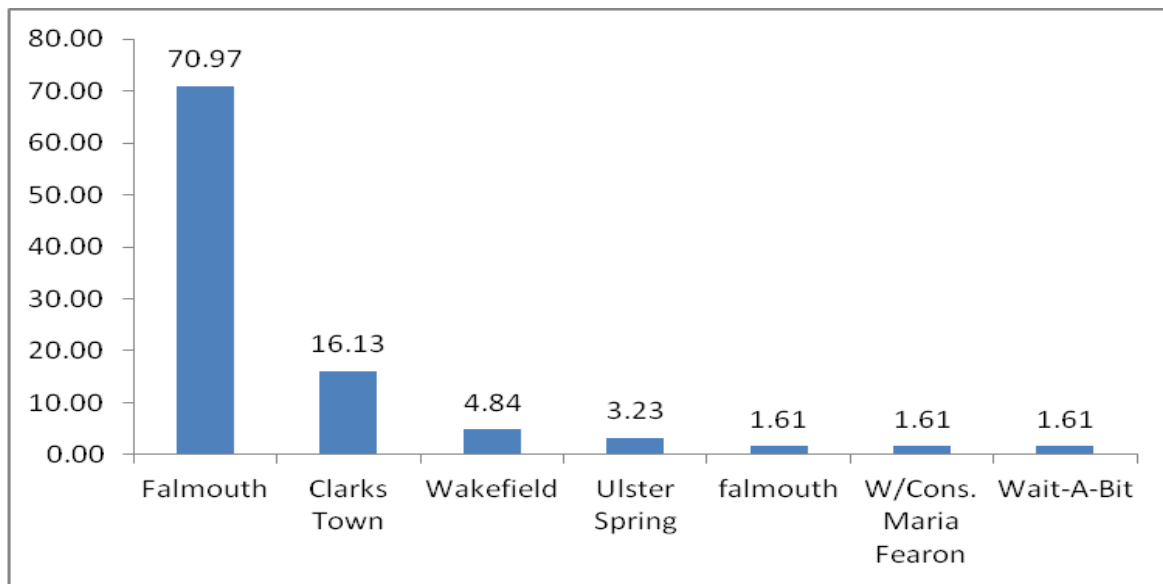
was rounded off by the Freeport Police Station with 6.67%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3c: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Clarendon Parish Court



The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the parish of Clarendon using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 204 records indicate that for the month of June, 2017 the majority of criminal matters, 78.43%, which were brought before the Clarendon Parish Court were reported in May Pen. This was followed by the Chapelton Police Station which accounts for 5.39% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Lionel Town Police Station with 4.41%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

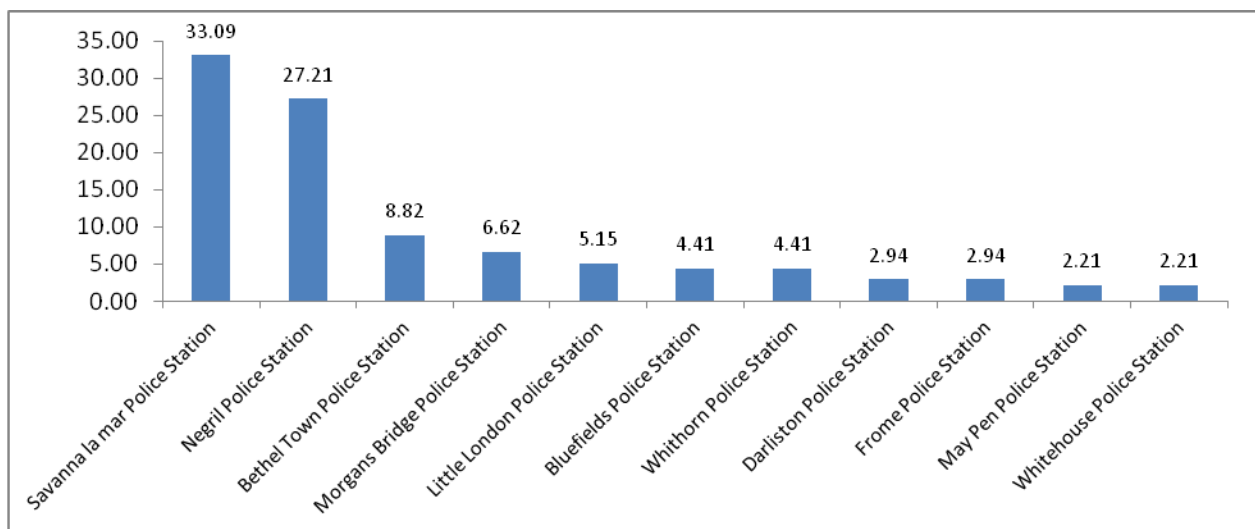
Chart 3d: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Trelawny Parish Court



The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the parish of Trelawny using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 62 records indicate that for the month of June, 2017 the majority of criminal matters, 70.79%, which were brought before the Trelawny Parish Court were reported in Falmouth. This was followed by the Clarks Town Police Station which accounts for 16.13% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Wakefield Police Station with 4.84%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

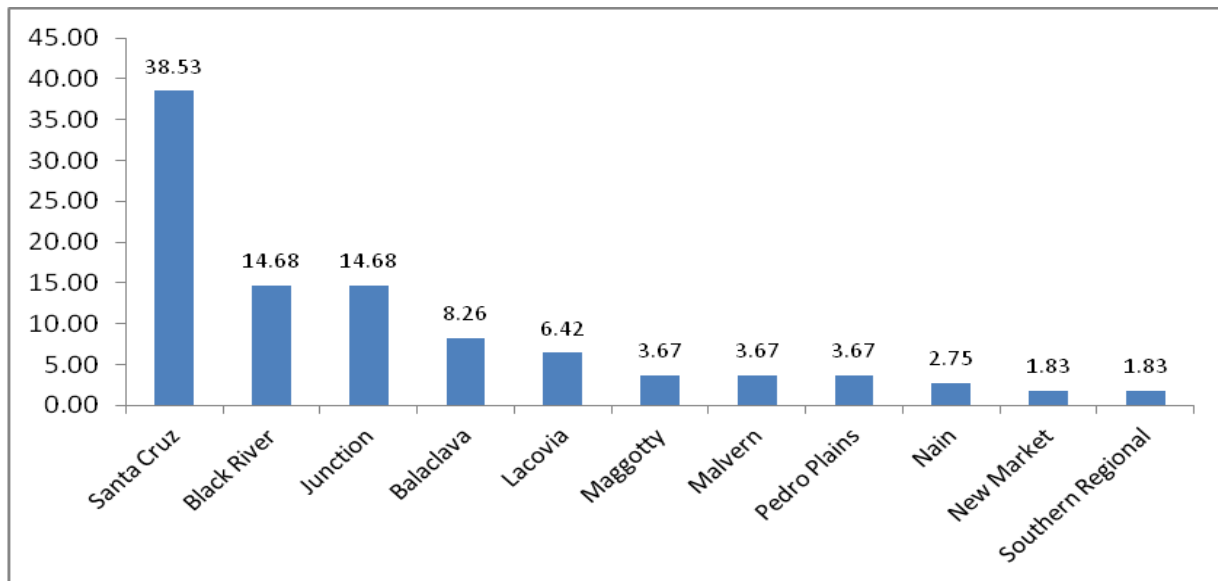
Chart 3e: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Westmoreland

Parish Court



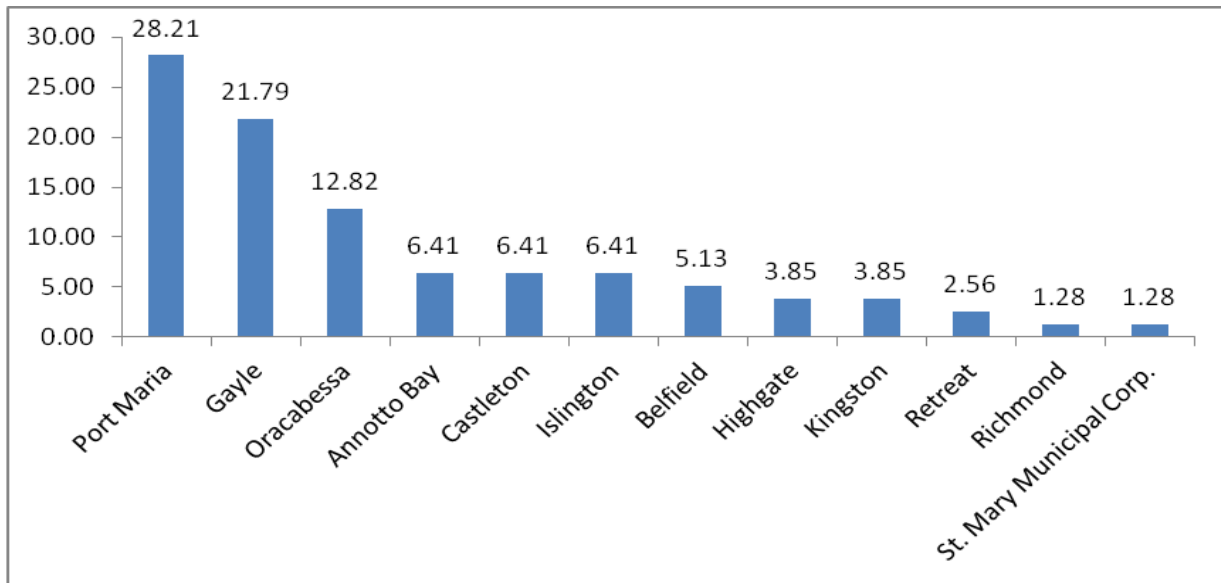
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the parish of Westmoreland using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 136 records indicate that for the month of June, 2017 the majority of criminal matters, 33.09%, which were brought before the Westmoreland Parish Court were reported at the Savanna- La-Mar Police Station. This was followed by the Negril Police Station which accounts for 27.21% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Bethel Town Police Station with 8.82%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3f: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court



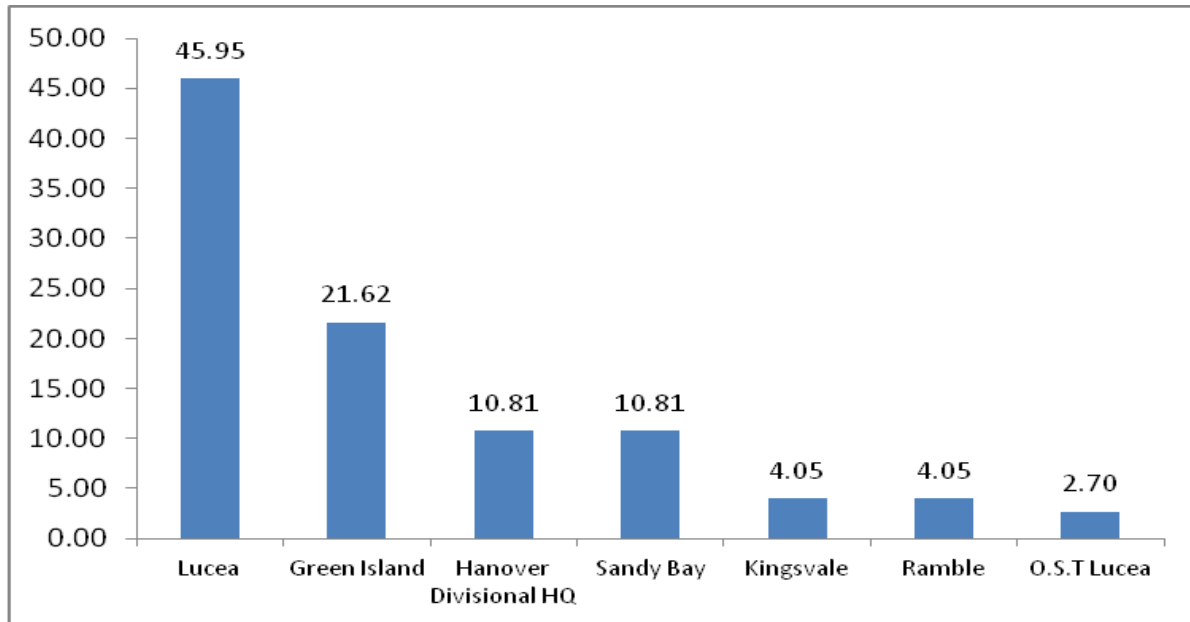
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the parish of St. Elizabeth using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 109 records indicate that for the month of June 2017 the majority of criminal matters, 38.53%, which were brought before the St. Elizabeth Parish Court, were reported in Santa Cruz. This was followed by the Black River Police Station which accounts for 14.68% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Junction Police Station with 14.68%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3g: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Mary Parish Court



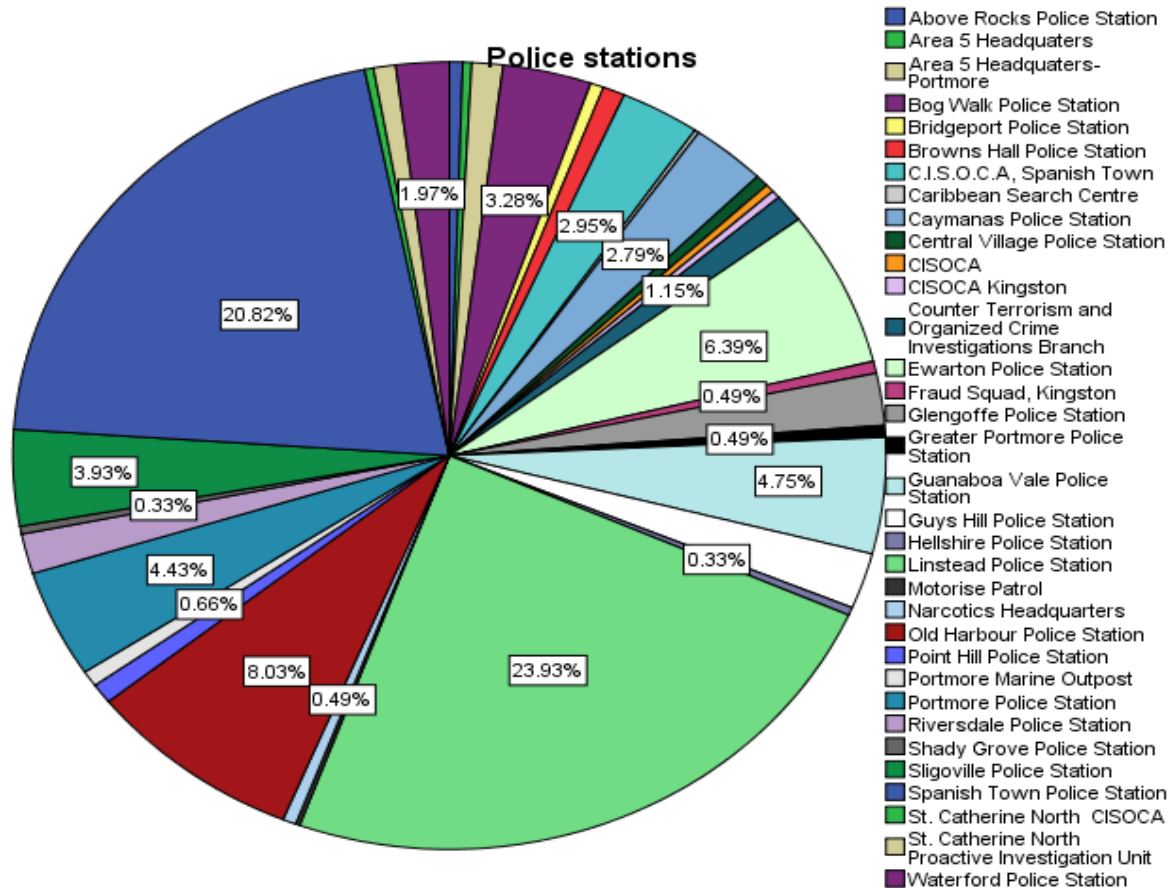
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the parish of St. Mary using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 78 records indicate that for the month of June, 2017 the majority of criminal matters, 28.2%, which were brought before the St. Mary Parish Court were reported in Port Maria. This was followed by the Gayle Police Station which accounts for 21.79% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Oracabessa Police Station with 12.82%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3h: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Hanover Parish Court



The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the parish of Hanover using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 74 records indicate that for the month of June 2017, the majority of criminal matters, 45.95%, which were brought before the Hanover Parish Court, were reported in Lucea. This was followed by the Green Island Police Station which accounts for 21.62% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Hanover Courtal HQ with 10.81%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

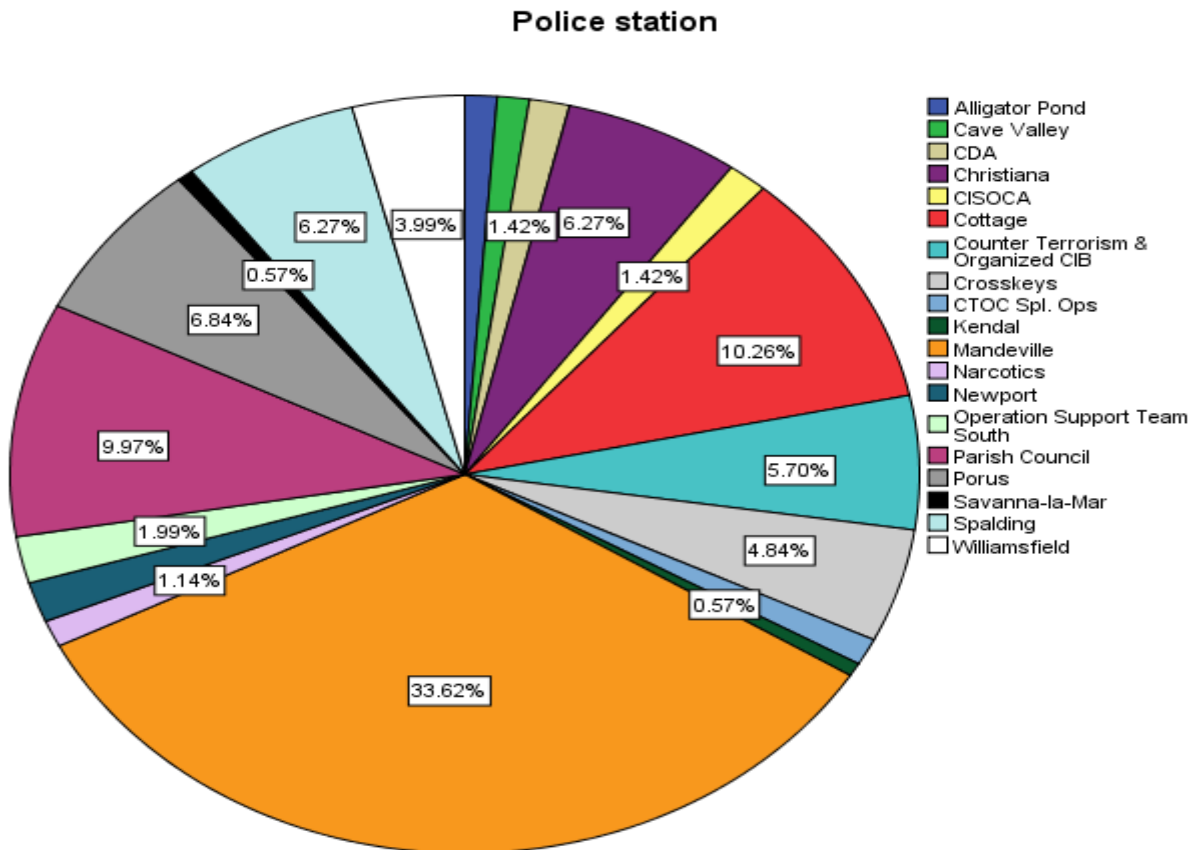
Chart 3i: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the St. Catherine Parish Court



The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the parish of St. Catherine using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 610 records indicate that for the month of June, 2017 the majority of criminal matters, 23.93%, which were brought before the St. Catherine Parish Courts, were reported in Linstead Police Station. This was followed by the Spanish Town Police Station which accounts for 20.28% of total matters

reported and the Old Harbour Police Station with 8.03%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

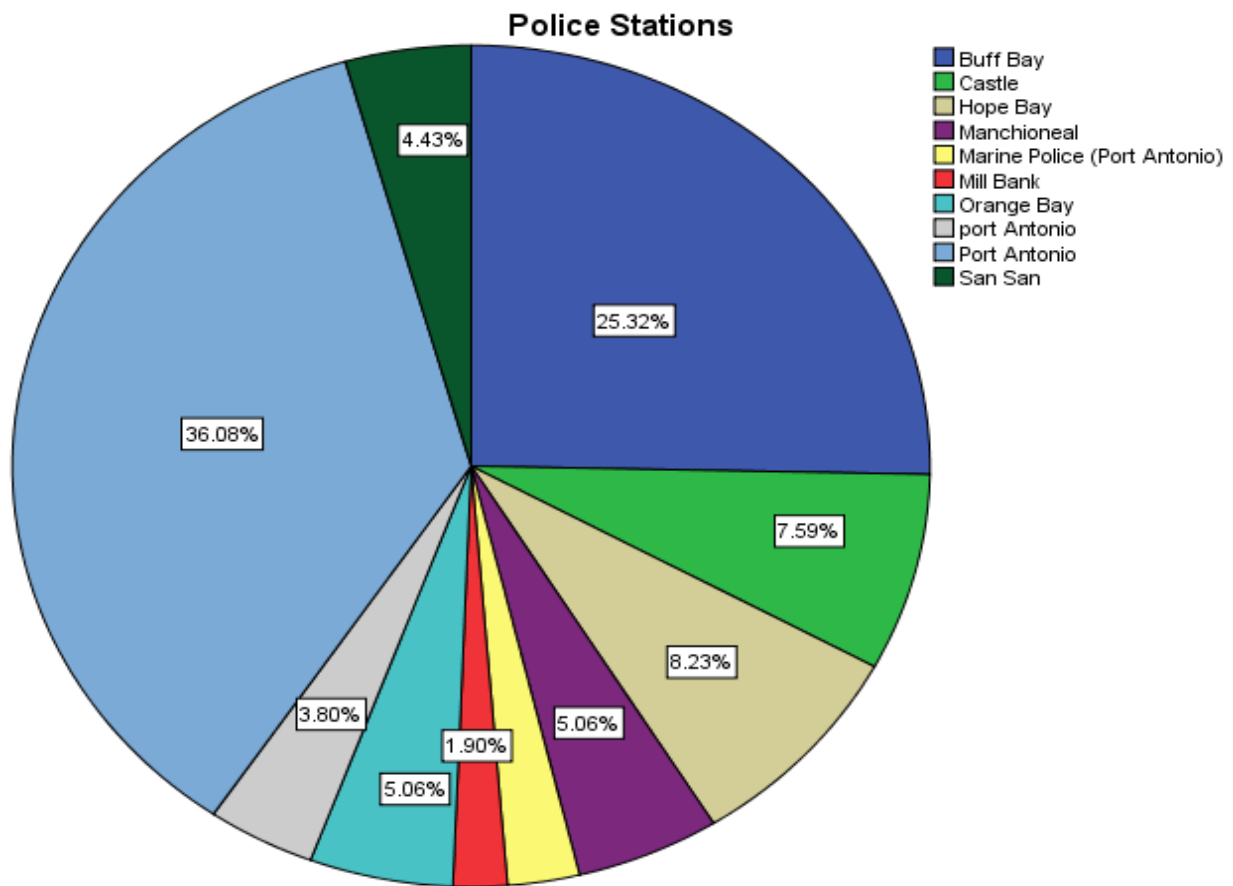
Chart 3j: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Manchester Parish Court



The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the parish of Manchester using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 351 records indicate that for the month of June, 2017 the majority of criminal matters, 33.62%, which were brought before the Manchester Parish courts, were reported in Mandeville. This was followed by the Parish Cottage Police

Station which accounts for 10.26% of total matters reported and the Parish Council with 9.97%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

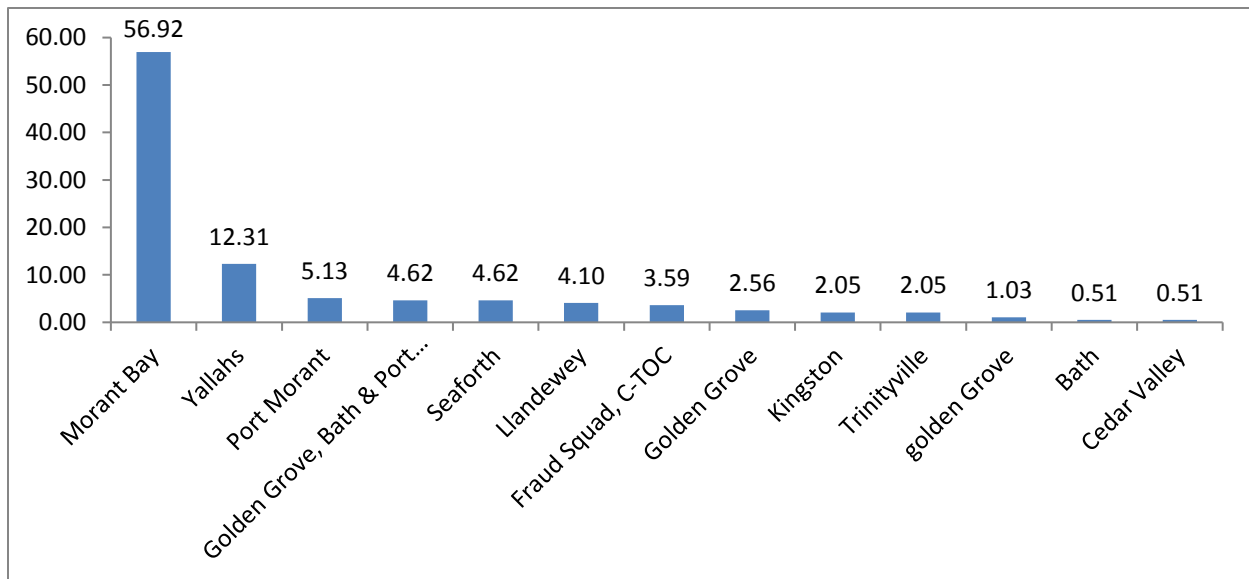
Chart 3k: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Portland Parish Court



The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the parish of Portland using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 158 records indicate that for the month of June, 2017, the majority of criminal matters, 36.08% of which were brought before the Portland Parish Court were reported at the Port Antonio Police Station. This was followed by the Buff

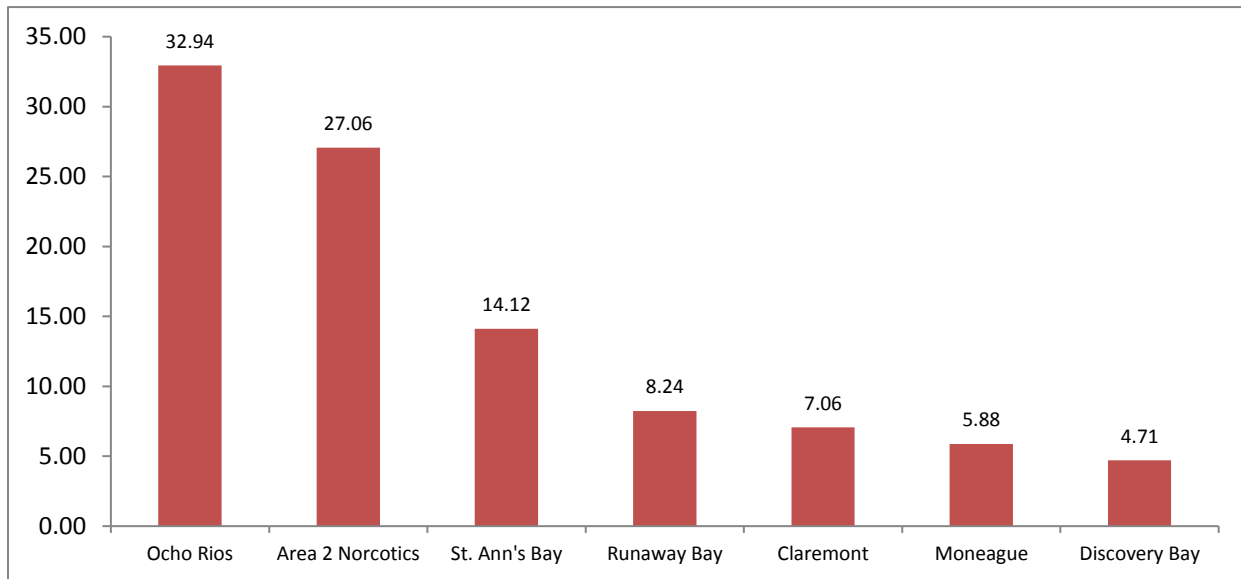
Bay Police Station which accounts for 25.32% of total matters reported and the Hope Bay Police Station with 8.23%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish and are broadly consistent with the distribution observed in the previous months.

Chart 3I: Distribution of Criminal Offences by the Police station of Origin at the St. Thomas Parish Court



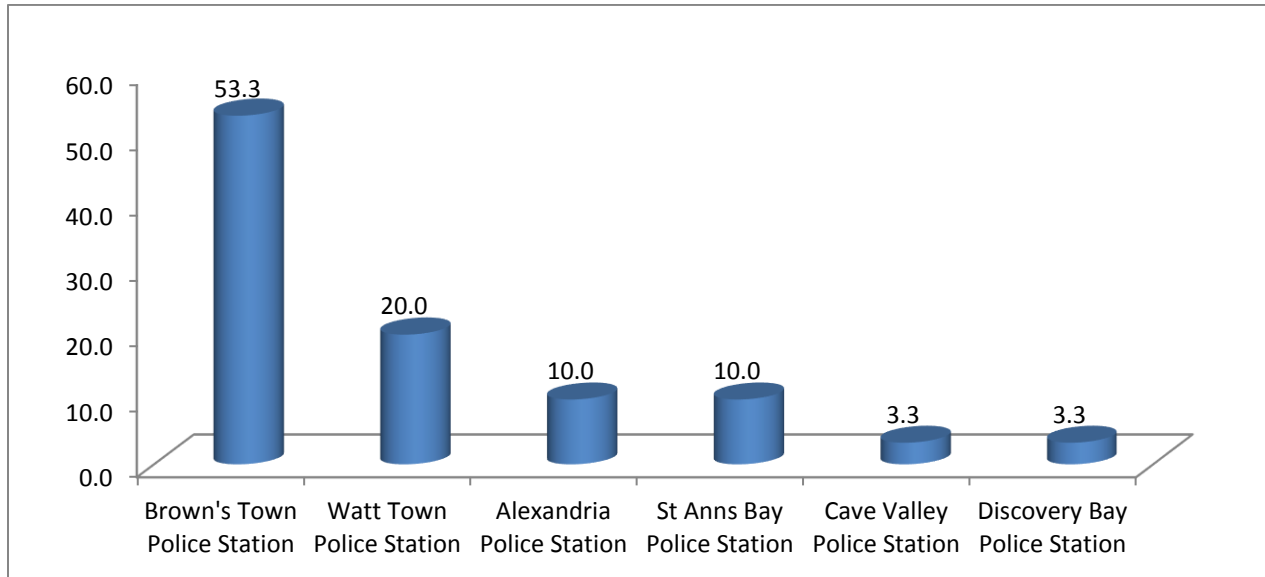
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the parish St. Thomas using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 195 records indicate that for the month of June, the majority of criminal matters, 56.92%, which were brought before the St. Thomas Parish Court, were reported in Morant Bay. This was followed by the Yallas Police Station which accounts for 12.31% of total matters reported and the Port Morant Police Station with 5.13%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3m: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Ann Parish Court



The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the parish of St. Ann using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 85 records indicate that for the month of June, the majority of criminal matters 32.94%, which were brought before the St. Ann Parish Courts, were reported at the Ochi Rios Police Station. This was followed by the Area 2 Norcotics which accounts for 27.06% of total matters reported and the St. Ann’s Bay Bay Police Station with 14.12%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 3m: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Brown’s Town Outstation.



The above chart shows the distribution of crimes in the Brown’s Town area using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 30 records indicate that for the month of June, the majority of criminal matters 53%, which were brought before the Brown’s Town Courts, were reported in Brown’s Town Police Station. This was followed by the Watt Town Police Station which accounts for 20% of total matters reported and the Alexandria Police Station with 10%. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the parish.

Conclusion

This report provides a range of essential insights into case activity in the parish courts for the second quarter ending June 30, 2017. The results are quite insightful and provide an affirmation of many of the results from the previous quarter. This report is however far more instructive and intrusive as it not only examines criminal case activity in the parish courts for the specific quarter but also provides a range of vital statistics on case activity for the first half of 2017. It therefore provides a deeply practical account of criminal matters in the parish courts using a myriad of important measures. An understanding of the key contributors to the adjournment of cases, the distribution of case types and case load by parish courts as well methods of disposal and the court-wide conviction rates are also clearly established. Also established are the dominant offence types and important demographics measures, among other indicators. Among the most crucial findings from this report is that the majority of parish courts have so far this year produced criminal case disposal rates in excess of 50% with some as high as over 60%. Equally crucial is the related finding that most of the parish courts have had relatively high clearance rates for charges so far this year with some averaging over 100%, a suggestion that some courts are disposing at least as many cases as new ones filed over the same period. These results are very informative and if sustained, there could be major dent in the case backlog in the court system within the coming two years.

Among the findings which have the greatest implications for the efficiency with which matters progress through the courts system is that a large proportion of the reasons for adjournment are due to matters part-heard, the non-attendance of the accused, medical reports outstanding and incomplete files. These deficiencies which were also seen in the previous quarterly report require special operational interventions and stakeholder collaboration to produce the desired solutions.

The proportionately large incidence of male and youth involvement in nearly all types of criminal offences are also quite telling from a demographic and social standpoint. Similarly telling is the fact that youth, particularly the age group of 20-36 account for almost 60% of all offences brought before the parish courts so far in 2017. The parish courts demonstrates a comparatively high criminal conviction rate of about 78%, a statistic which could have massive implications for state planning and social policy. Furthermore the data suggests that mediated settlements ranks quite low among the methods of disposal for criminal matters, a result which may be indicative of a need for greater interventions in order to achieve a higher rate of settlements.

These findings contained in this report could form the core of important operational and policy interventions which are needed to bolster efficient flow of criminal cases throughout the court system. Supplementary data for the second half of 2017 will further constitute the basis for an empirically driven approach to case management in the courts.

