

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

ANNUAL SUMMARY

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Case Disposal Rates (%)	77.51	64.57	73.75
Case Clearance Rates (%)	106.47	96.09	101.60
Trial Date Certainty Rates (%)	74	74	70.0
Courtroom utilization Rate (%)	59.74	54.68	59.85

QUARTERLY SUMMARY - 2021

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Case Disposal Rates	49.98	58.28	54.65	62.54
Case Clearance Rates	94.89	111.61	98.81	121.01

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary 3

Methodology..... 11

Chapter 1.0: Criminal Case Activity Statistics 12

Chapter 2.0: Criminal Case Demographics 74

Chapter 3.0: Conclusion 114

Chapter 4.0: Glosary of Terms 115

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This statistical report on criminal matters in the Parish Courts of Jamaica is for the year ended December 31, 2021. It represents a continuation of the enhanced efforts to measure court productivity with a view to providing a concrete basis for placing the analyses of the judicial system into proper perspective and for informing the policymaking and operational planning apparatus of the leadership of the courts. This report interrogates a number of vital measures, which provide insights into the operations of the parish courts on both an individual and an aggregated basis. It forms an important foundation for understanding criminal case activity and delay factors in the parish courts as well as important characteristics of criminal cases. This report creates the framework within which the quantitative and some qualitative targets set out in the strategic plan of the judiciary can be monitored and evaluated. In seeking to significantly reduce the case backlog in the court system, the Chief Justice has set out to achieve a court-wide case clearance rate of 130% and an overall trial date certainty rate of 95% over the next 3 years. The attainment of these targets are geared towards reducing the overall net case backlog rate in the Jamaican court system to below 5%. This report highlights several critical strides made so far in moving towards the stated targets.

Arguably the most significant finding from this sixth instalment of the Chief Justice's Annual Report on Criminal matters in the Parish Courts is that as at December 31, 2021, less than 5% of active criminal cases in the parish court jurisdiction are in a state of backlog, which means that one of the main quantitative targets set out in the strategic plan for the

judiciary to be achieved by the end of the 2023/24 fiscal year has already been attained by this division of the parish courts. As of December 31, 2021, only 3.85% of active cases in the criminal division of the parish courts are in a state of backlog and if we narrow this analysis to active criminal cases which have been filed in the parish courts over the past six years, only about 1% are in a state of backlog. These are remarkable accomplishments by any yardstick and places the criminal division of the parish courts in the upper quintile among judiciaries around the world on this vital metric of court efficiency. The overall gross case backlog rate which includes both active and inactive cases in a state of backlog, however still stands above 10% and will be a priority for the judiciary as the Chief Justice embarks on rolling out his much anticipated strategy of Differentiated Case Management (DCM) across all Jamaican courts. The impressive results seen in the case backlog reduction in the criminal division of the parish courts in 2021 is also borne out in several other critical performance metrics for 2021.

The aggregate new case count in the parish courts in 2021 was 31,015, a marked increase of 46.53% above the 21,166 recorded in 2020, reversing three years of decline. The Corporate Area Parish Court - Criminal Division with 6406 new cases or 20.65% of the total, followed by the St. Catherine and St. James Parish Courts with 5063 cases or 16.32% and 3381 cases or 10.90% respectively, account for the three largest proportions of the new criminal cases filed in 2021. The Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division and the St. Catherine Parish Court also ranked as the courts with the highest new caseload in the previous six years. Taken together, the three parishes with the highest new case count account for 47.87% of the new cases filed in 2021, not dissimilar to the previous year. The

parish courts of St. Mary, Trelawny and St. Thomas again accounted for the lowest shares of the aggregate new cases filed each with under 4.0% of the total new caseload in 2021.

The overall average disposal rate for cases originating in 2021 was 77.51%, which is an increase of 12.94 percentage points when compared to the previous year. Returning to the pinnacle for the first time in at least three years, the Westmoreland Parish Court disposed of new criminal cases at the fastest rate in 2021, with an impressive case disposal rate of 89.54%, followed by the St. James and Hanover Parish Courts with 87.37% and 85.51% respectively, cementing western dominance on this metric. The St. Catherine and Portland Parish Courts with case disposal rates of 83.25% and 81.94% respectively round off the top five performing court on this metric in 2021. Remarkably, 10 of the 13 parish courts exceeded the theoretical ideal of a 70% criminal case disposal rate in 2021. The parish courts of St. Elizabeth (69.50%), St. Ann (66.08%) and Manchester (65.32%) recorded the lowest case disposal rates in 2021. As expected, the sizeable overall increase in the criminal case disposal rates had a positive impact on the case clearance rate in 2021.

The case clearance rate provides a measure of the number of cases disposed (regardless of date/year of initiation) for every new case filed in a particular period. This is a productivity index as many of the disposed cases, which are included in its computation, would have originated before the period of focus and is a more instructive statistic on case activity than the case disposal rate. The overall case clearance rate for 2021 was 106.47%, up by 10.38 percentage points when compared to 2020. The result suggests that for every 100 new

criminal cases that were filed in the parish courts in 2021, roughly 106 cases were disposed (including cases originating prior to 2021). For the first time in recorded history, all thirteen parish courts satisfied the international standard of between 90% and 110% in 2021. The Westmoreland Parish Court which also lead on case disposal rate was also the top performing court on this measurement, registering an extraordinary 125.23%, followed by the Manchester and Portland Parish Courts which had striking rates of 124.20% and 116.53% respectively for the year. It is noteworthy that despite having one of the lowest case disposal rates for the year, the Manchester Parish Court still managed to rank among the top three courts on the case clearance rate metric.

One highly important measure, which is of keen interest to the leadership of the courts and the policy makers, is the case congestion rate. This is a measure of how well a court is doing in managing its pending caseload, relative to its rates of disposition and clearance and the implied state of resources. The higher the case congestion rate of a court, the more burdensome the caseload and the longer it will take to dispose of cases, again within the context of the existing rates of disposition and clearance and the implied state of resources. The overall case congestion rate recorded for the criminal division of the parish courts in 2021 was 136.14%, an improvement of 20.73 percentage points when compared to 2020, the lowest case congestion rate recorded in the criminal division of the parish courts since this type of reporting began. There is a long run negative association between the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate, therefore, sustained increases in the case clearance rate will cause the case congestion rate to fall.

Another essential measure, which is an important cornerstone in the drive to bring Jamaica among the best performing court systems in the world is the trial date certainty rate. This provides a measurement of the likelihood that dates set for trial will proceed as scheduled (without adjournment for future dates). The perfect rate of 100% would suggest that all dates set for trial proceed as scheduled in the relevant period. For the second consecutive year, the overall trial date certainty rate in the criminal division of the parish courts is 74%, although this is well below the 95% targeted by the Chief Justice, it is nonetheless a fair result that endures promise. The parish courts of Portland and St. James each with 94.0% were the leaders on this measurement followed by the Manchester Parish Court with a rate of 87.0%.

The proportion of allocated court time that is utilized for hearings in each parish court bears some long run correlation with the case clearance rate, the case congestion rate and overall court performance. The courtroom utilization rate provides a solid measurement of the proportion of time allocated for court hearings, which are utilized throughout the year in each court. The overall courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in 2021 was 59.74%, an improvement of 5.06 percentage points when compared to the previous year. For the third consecutive year, the St. Ann Parish Court had the highest overall courtroom utilization rate, recording 75.91%, followed by the parish courts of Westmoreland and St. Mary with rates of 74.27% and 64.69% respectively. The Hanover, St. Thomas and St. Elizabeth Parish Courts ranked in the lowest quintile on this measurement for 2021.

On the matter of caseload distribution in the individual parishes, the data shows that in many instances the outstation courts in the respective parishes are carrying a notable share of the caseload. The overall average number of new cases heard in the outstations in 2020 is approximately 37.66%, up by 2.28 percentage points when compared to 2020 while roughly 62.34% of cases were heard at the main parish court locations, a decline of 3.28 percentage points when compared to 2020. While outstation court activity in parishes such as St. James and the Corporate Area account for less than 15% of total activity, there are several parishes where outstations are extensively utilized, accounting for well over 20% of total case activity. This includes the parish courts of St. Catherine, Manchester, Clarendon, St. Elizabeth and Portland, among others. The evidence continues to suggest that there is the potential in many parishes for outstations to be utilized to a greater degree to ease the caseload carriage in the main courts, thus potentially enhancing case clearance and disposal rates by reducing the case congestion.

As with 2020, the largest proportion of cases disposed in 2021 was by way of guilty pleas, accounting for 48.67% of the cases disposed. This was followed by cases dismissed, which was responsible for 17.03% of the cases disposed. It is of note that guilty verdicts accounted for roughly 2.68% of the matters disposed while not guilty verdicts accounted for 11.12% of the total. Mediated settlements (of various forms) accounted for roughly 8.52% of the cases disposed during the year. Taken together, the data therefore reveals a conviction rate of 51.35% for the 2021 calendar year. Further analysis of the data suggests that for the cases originating over at least over the past roughly six years, which are disposed,

roughly 39.71% were resolved within 90 days, 60.64% within six months and 80.78% within a year. Roughly 19.22% of criminal cases currently being disposed in the parish courts take a year or more, a highly competitive positioning among judiciaries globally at present.

In terms of the distribution of case types, the report highlights that the largest proportion of the criminal cases filed in the parish courts were summary matters with approximately 53.83% of all matters. This is followed by indictments with a roughly 26.34% and matters heard by Lay Magistrates with approximately 10.81% of the total. It is of note that Committal Proceedings accounted for roughly 6.93% of all criminal matters filed in the parish courts in 2021. Summary matters had an overall conviction rate of 77.41% in 2021 while indictments had a conviction rate of 20.48% across the parish courts.

An important delay factor, which affects the efficiency with which cases move towards disposition is the incidence of adjournments in the parish courts. The data suggests that the dominant reasons for adjournments for the year were due to the issuance of warrants for defendants not appearing (DNA- warrant issued) with an estimated 25.75% of all adjournments and incomplete files with 10.60% of the total. Ranking next are adjournments for disclosure with 7.79% and those for referrals to mediation with 7.29%. Also featuring prominently on the lists of reasons for adjournment across the parish courts in 2021 are absent defendants, medical reports outstanding and subpoena of investigating officers and the crown respectively. This probability distribution for the reasons for adjournments was broadly similar to that observed in 2020.

The three most frequent criminal charges filed in the parish courts in 2021 were breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act (DRMA) and related charges, assault occasioning bodily harm and unlawful wounding. The vast majority of charges filed in 2021 involved accused males, accounting for roughly 77.52%. The dominant age group of persons charged in 2021 were the 27 – 36 and 18 - 26 age groups, accounting for 31.84% and 32.76% respectively of the total.

One of the most decisive and instructive findings from this annual report comes from the analysis of the distribution of times to disposition in the parish courts. The report reveals that on average, the criminal division of the parish courts took roughly eleven months to dispose of cases in 2021. In 2021, the courts which had the shortest times to disposition for cases resolved are the parish courts of St. Mary (5.5 months), Hanover (6.9 months) and Portland (6.53 months). Based on these results, it is not surprising that all three of these three parish courts ranked among the best on the case disposal rate metric.

Using the method of exponential smoothing, the report forecasts that in 2022, 27,295 new criminal cases will be filed in the criminal division of the parish courts while 22,861 cases are expected to be disposed and 4,761 to become inactive. The overall forecasted case clearance rate for 2021 in the criminal division of the parish courts is therefore 101.20%. The St. Mary, Manchester and Westmoreland Parish Courts are forecasted to end 2022 with the highest case clearance rates. These estimates are subject to adjustment as the year progresses.

With almost six years of extensive data on criminal case activity on the parish courts of Jamaica, the Statistics Unit applied Lagrange multiplier techniques to determine that a successful court must meet the following minimum requirements in order to satisfy an efficiency threshold for the sustainable containment of case backlog and provide optimal service to the public. The required minimum annual parameters are summarized below:

Parameter	Minimum Required Standard
Case disposal rate	$\geq 75\%$
Case clearance rate	$\geq 95\%$
Case congestion rate	$\leq 115\%$
Trial Date Certainty Rate	$\geq 85\%$
Net case backlog rate	$\leq 5\%$
Gross case backlog rate	$\leq 10\%$
Average number of mentions per case	≤ 3

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

METHODOLOGY

Guaranteeing the reliability and validity of the data used to produce the periodic statistical reports for the Jamaican Courts is of utmost importance as we seek to produce a data driven enterprise for policymaking and operational decisions. As a result, a robust and verifiable system of data production has been created in both the parish courts and the Supreme Court. At the parish courts, a data capture system for criminal matters, called the CISS (Case Information Statistical System) has been operational in all courts for the past two years. This system captures a wide range of data on the progression of criminal cases from initiation to disposition and is manned by at least one dedicated Data Entry Officer in

each court. The Data Entry Officers update the system on a daily basis so that the data produced is as close as possible to real time. The electronic data sheets for each parish court are then validated and backed-up to the network at the end of each month and the data submitted to a centralized, secure medium for processing by the Statistics Unit at the Supreme Court. A robust data validation mechanism is in place to periodically sample criminal case files in all parish courts on a quarterly basis. A representative sample of case files are taken in each case and crosschecked against the electronic data to detect and eliminate errors of omission and commission.

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

Disclaimer

The numbers that are reflected in the case activity summaries in the annual statistics report may vary slightly from those quoted in the individual quarterly reports throughout the year due to occasional constraints with timely access to all records and other mitigating factors. Methodological adjustments may also result in slight variations in comparative figures across periods. It should also be noted that there have been progressive improvements in the strength of the data collection mechanism in some courts such as the Clarendon Parish Court, which have positively measurement outcomes.

Chapter 1.0: Criminal Case Activity Statistics in the Parish Courts for 2021

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

Table 1.0: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Number of inactive cases	Number of disposed cases	Active Pending Case Load	Case disposal Rate (%)
Hanover	1249	56	1012	181	85.51
St. Catherine	5063	808	3407	848	83.25
Westmoreland	2085	147	1720	218	89.54
St. Mary	958	66	711	181	81.11
Clarendon	2395	240	1655	500	79.12
Portland	1379	166	964	249	81.94
St. Elizabeth	2010	200	1197	613	69.50
Corporate Area Criminal	6406	1319	3257	1830	71.43
St. Thomas	992	50	673	269	72.88
St. James	3381	532	2422	427	87.37
St. Ann	2270	547	953	770	66.08
Trelawny	1166	84	768	314	73.07
Manchester	1661	118	967	576	65.32
Total	31015	4333	19706	6976	
Average/Weighted Average	2385.77	333.31	1515.85	536.62	77.51
Standard deviation	1654.93	377.31	943.65	447.53	8.14
Skewness	1.62	1.80	1.24	2.23	-0.08

The table above shows the aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the 2021 calendar year. A total of 31,015 new criminal cases were filed across the parish courts, 24,039 cases were either disposed or became inactive, resulting in a weighted average case disposal rate of 77.51%. In the previous year, 21,166 cases were filed, while 13,666 cases were either disposed or became inactive which resulted in a weighted average disposal rate of 64.57%, which is 12.94 percentage points lower than the rate for the current 2021 calendar year. This comparison reveals that over the corresponding 2020 calendar year, there was an increase of 9,849 cases or 46.53% in the number of new cases filed and an increase of 10,373 cases or 75.90% in the number of cases disposed or became inactive. All thirteen (13) Parish Courts recorded notable increase in the number of new cases filed. Among the parish courts with the largest increase in new cases filed were the St. James Parish Court, increasing by 122.87%, the St. Catherine Parish Court, which increased by 84.31% and the Clarendon Parish Court, which increased by 66.78%.

The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division with 6,406 or 20.65% of the new cases, the St. Catherine Parish Court with 5,063 cases or 16.32% and the St. James Parish Court with 3381 or 10.90% accounted for the three largest shares of new cases filed in the 2021 calendar year. These three parish courts with the largest share of new cases filed, cumulatively accounted for 47.87% of the total sample of new criminal cases filed in the 2021 calendar year. On the other end, the parish courts of St. Mary with 958 or 3.09% of the new cases, St. Thomas with 992 or 3.20% and

Trelawny with 1166 or 3.76% accounted for the lowest share of new cases filed in 2021 calendar year.

The best performing courts in relation to case disposal rates for the 2021 calendar year were the Westmoreland (89.54%), St. James (87.37%), Hanover (85.51%) Parish Courts. The bottom three courts on this measure were the Manchester (65.32%), St. Ann (66.08%) and St. Elizabeth (69.50%) parish courts. The parish courts of Manchester and St. Ann were also among the bottom three courts on this measure in the 2020 calendar year. The skewness of the number of new cases filed, the number of cases disposed, and the active pending caseload are all positive, which is an indication that the larger proportion of the courts fall below the overall average case count in each of these data series. The overall skewness of the case disposal rates is a negative figure, which indicates that there were proportionally more courts with disposal rates above the overall case disposal rate in the year.

Refer to Table 4.0 for a graphical comparison of the Case Disposal Rates across all Parish Courts for the calendar years of 2020 and 2021.

Table 2.0a: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court as at December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed in year	Number of Disposed cases in 2021	Number of Inactive cases in 2021	Grand total number of inactive cases (2016-2021)	Grand total number of disposed cases (2016-2021)	Grand Active Pending Caseload b/f Jan 1, 2021	Case Clearance Rate (%)	Case Congestion Rate (%)
Hanover	1249	1306	74	274	4945	310	110.49	112.97
St. Catherine	5063	4162	948	3344	17156	1042	100.93	119.47
Westmoreland	2085	2422	189	1025	9234	716	125.23	107.28
St. Mary	958	959	85	730	5194	281	108.98	118.68
Clarendon	2395	1990	291	1552	9312	1942	95.24	190.14
Portland	1379	1412	195	780	6097	668	116.53	127.38
St. Elizabeth	2010	1685	252	828	6138	660	96.37	137.84
Corporate Area Criminal	6406	4749	1587	10148	32226	2733	98.91	144.24
St. Thomas	992	1027	85	484	4854	654	112.10	148.02
St. James	3381	3119	605	2376	13279	1090	110.14	120.06
St. Ann	2270	1863	652	3321	8110	1779	110.79	160.99
Trelawny	1166	1174	129	642	4802	710	111.75	143.98
Manchester	1661	1822	241	1791	7633	1358	124.20	146.34
Total	31015	27690	5333	27295	128980	13943		
Average/Weighted Average	2385.77	2130.00	410.23	2099.62	9921.54	1072.54	106.47	136.14
Standard deviation	1654.93	1194.84	441.33	2625.91	7628.95	711.25	9.53	22.72
Skewness	1.62	1.30	1.89	2.74	2.42	1.20	0.11	0.96

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

Note 2: The Grand Total number of active cases from 2016 to the year ended December 31, 2021, for all parish courts combined = 14,214

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

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

The weighted average case congestion rate among the parish courts in the year was 136.14%, an indication that the parish courts (criminal division) as a whole are carrying 36% more than the caseload that their current rate of clearance and implied state of resources justifies. This result represents a 20.73 percentage point decrease when compared to the 2020 calendar year. The parish courts of Clarendon (190.14%), St. Ann (160.99%), St. Thomas (148.02%) and Manchester (146.34%) were the courts with the highest case congestion rates in the 2021 calendar year. The Corporate Area Criminal (144.24%) and Trelawny (143.98%) Parish Courts rounded off the top 6 most case congested courts in the 2021 calendar year. The parish courts of Manchester, St. Thomas, Clarendon, Corporate Area Criminal and Trelawny were also among the most congested courts in the comparative 2020 calendar year. In general, a high case congestion rate can be a product of resource deficiencies and slow case clearance and case disposal rates. The parish courts of Westmoreland (107.28%), Hanover (112.97%), and St. Mary (118.68%) performed best on this measure. As with previous reports, variations in caseload and resources do not appear to be a major factor explaining the variances in performance on this measure as some of the courts ranking on either ends of the scale are the larger courts in the island and resource endowment do not vary in a statistically way among the courts.

The results on the overall case clearance rate for the 2021 calendar year provide interesting insights into the court-wide progress being made on this measure. The overall weighted average case clearance rate of 106.47%, which is an increase of 10.38 percentage points when compared

to the corresponding 2020 calendar year and the performance met the international standard of 90%-100. This overall case clearance rate of 106.47% suggests that for every 100 new cases filed, roughly 11 cases were disposed. All thirteen (13) parish courts met international standards of 90%-100%. The parish courts of Westmoreland (125.23%), Manchester (124.20%), Portland (116.53%), St. Thomas (112.10%) and Trelawny (111.75%) were the leading parish courts on this measure. The parish court of Clarendon (95.24%) had the lowest criminal case clearance rates for the year, but still met the international standard of 90%-100%. Twelve (12) parish courts recorded an increase in clearance rates when compared to the 2020 calendar year, a result that is not surprising considering that court activity in the 2020 calendar year was significantly impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Westmoreland and St. Thomas parish courts saw the largest gains, with 28.79 and 19.50 percentage points improvement respectively. The data in the table above were positively skewed to various degrees, indicating that for the most part, proportionately more of the scores in that data set fell below their respective series means.

Refer to Table 4.0 for further comparison of the case clearance rates and the case congestion rates across all parish courts for the 2021 and 2020 calendar years.

Table 2.0b: Percentile rank on selected performance metrics for the criminal division of the parish courts for the year ended December 31, 2021

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

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

Manchester (92%) and Portland (83%) had the highest percentile ranks, while the parish courts of Clarendon, St. Elizabeth and Corporate Area Criminal had the lowest.

Table 2.0c: Forecasted case activity statistics for the 2022 Calendar year [January 01 -December 31, 2022]

Parish Court	Forecasted number of new cases	Forecasted number of disposed cases	Forecasted number of inactive cases	Forecasted case clearance rate (%)
Hanover	1087	1053	65	102.85
Manchester	1738	1608	355	112.95
St. Mary	1020	988	121	108.73
St. James	2600	2322	450	106.62
St. Catherine	4066	3383	805	103.00
Portland	1308	1245	191	109.79
St. Ann	2097	1627	493	101.10
St. Elizabeth	1629	1365	175	94.54
Corporate Area Criminal	5743	3867	1452	92.62
Westmoreland	1964	1973	205	110.90
St. Thomas	980	906	80	100.61
Clarendon	2024	1578	268	91.21
Trelawny	1039	946	101	100.77
Total/Weighted Average	27295	22861	4761	101.20

The above table forecasts core case activity for the criminal division of each parish court and overall for the 2022 calendar year. The forecasts are generated using the method of exponential smoothing which uses weighted averages from past observations with weights decaying exponentially as the observations get older. See further explanation of the mathematical science behind the method of exponential smoothing in the glossary of terms. The above data shows that the overall forecasted case clearance rates for the criminal division of the parish courts for the 2022 calendar year of 2022 is 101.20%, which would be 5.27 percentage points lower than that of the 2021 calendar year. All thirteen (13) parish courts are forecasted to satisfy the international standard on case clearance rate of 90% or more in the 2022 calendar year, led by

the Manchester Parish Court with 112.95%, the Westmoreland Parish Court with 110.90% and the Portland Parish Court with 109.79%.

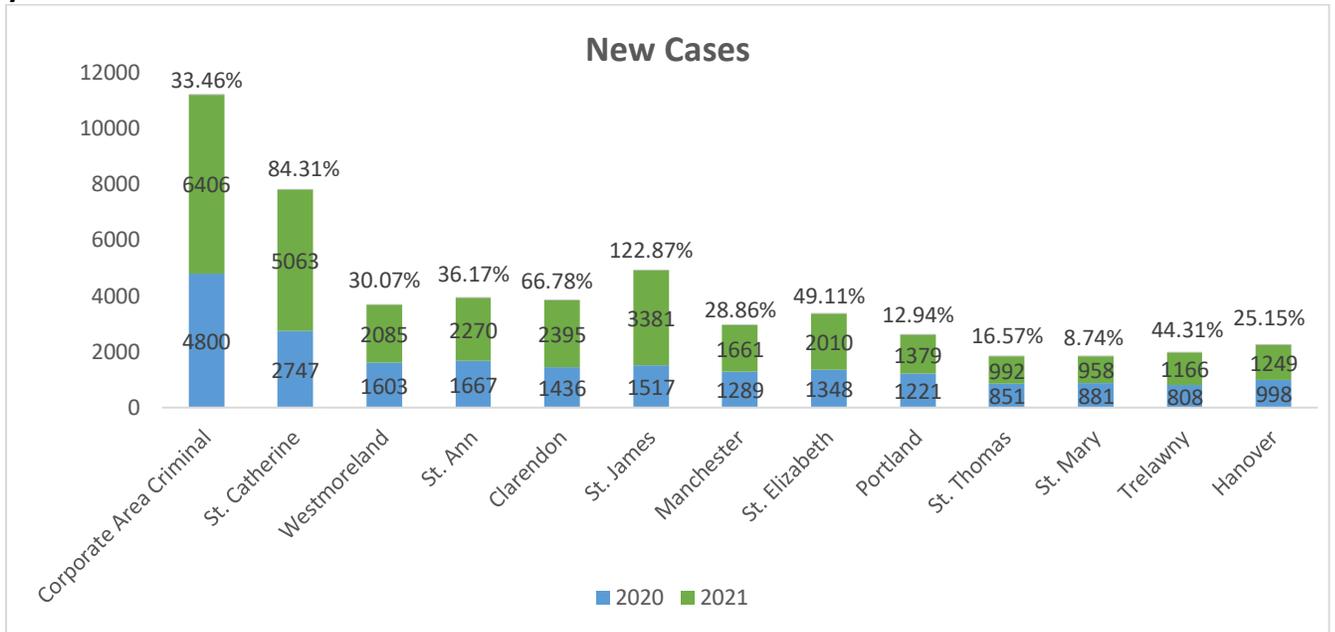
Table 2.0d: Sampling distribution of new cases filed per 10,000 populations in the criminal division of the parish courts in the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Population size in parish	Case per 10,000 population
Hanover	1249	69,533	180
St. Catherine	5063	516,218	98
Westmoreland	2085	144,103	145
St. Mary	958	113,615	84
Clarendon	2395	245,103	98
Portland	1379	81,744	169
St. Elizabeth	2010	150,205	134
Corporate Area Criminal	6406	662,426	97
St. Thomas	992	93,902	106
St. James	3381	183,811	184
St. Ann	2270	172,362	132
Trelawny	1166	75,164	155
Manchester	1661	189,797	88
Total	31015	2697983	115

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

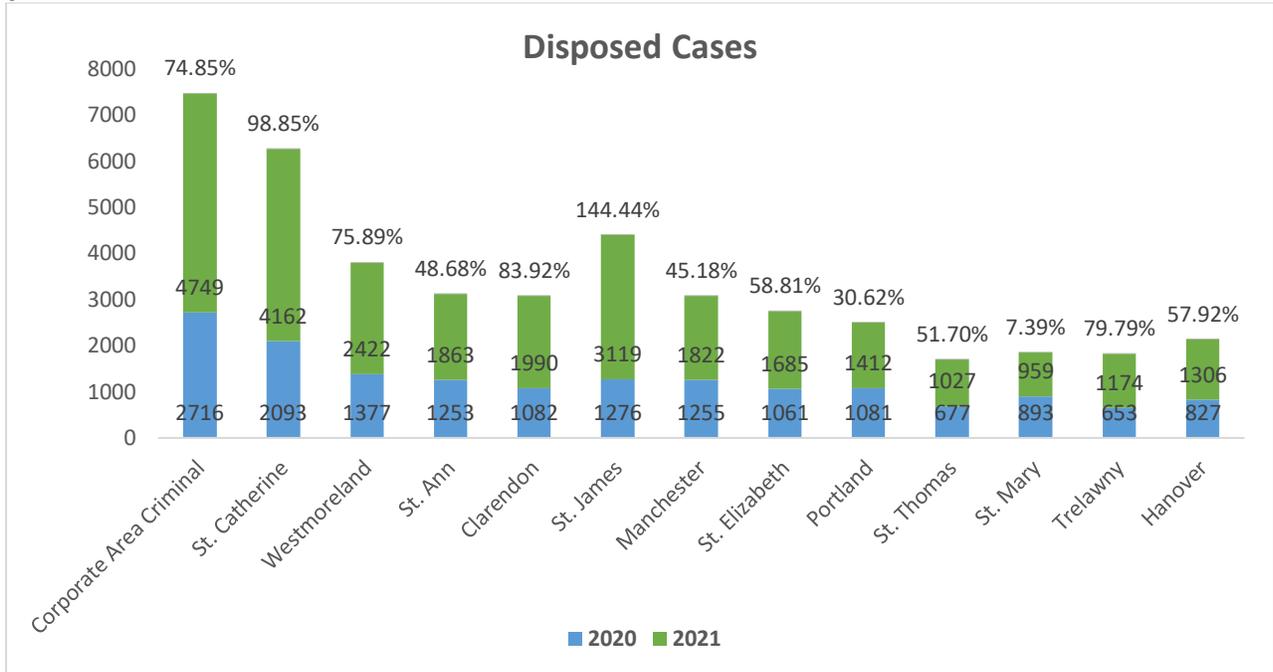
the larger yearly caseload and bigger populations, ranked among the smallest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population in the year. St. Mary and Manchester had respectively the lowest and second lowest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population for the year.

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



The above graph provides a breakdown of the changes in the number of new cases filed in the 2021 and 2020 calendar years. It is seen that there has been an increase in new cases filed over the comparative period in all thirteen (13) parish courts. Among the parish courts with the biggest gains in new cases filed were the St. James Parish Court which increased by 122.87% and the St. Catherine Parish Court, which increased by 84.31%.

Chart 1.0b: Summary of changes in the number of cases disposed in the 2020 and 2021 calendar years



The above graph provides a breakdown of the changes in the number of criminal cases disposed in the 2021 calendar year when compared to the corresponding 2020 calendar year. It is seen that there was an increase in the number of disposed cases over the comparative period in all thirteen (13) parish courts. Among the parish courts with the largest rise in cases disposed were the St. James Parish Court which increased by 144.44%, the St. Catherine Parish Court, which increased by 98.85% and the Clarendon Parish Court, which increased by 83.92%.

Table 2.0e: Sampling distribution of the Indices of Judge Productivity for the year December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Number of Judges	New criminal cases per Judges	Active pending caseload per Judge at the beginning of 2021	Active caseload per Judge at the end of 2021	Cases disposed per Judge
Hanover	2	624.50	155.00	89.50	653.00
St. Catherine	5	1012.60	208.40	199.00	832.40
Westmoreland	3	695.00	238.67	63.33	807.33
St. Mary	3	319.33	93.67	65.00	319.67
Clarendon	3	798.33	647.33	685.33	663.33
Portland	3	459.67	222.67	146.67	470.67
St. Elizabeth	3	670.00	220.00	244.33	561.67
Corporate Area Criminal	9	711.78	303.67	311.44	527.67
St. Thomas	2	496.00	327.00	267.00	513.50
St. James	5	676.20	218.00	149.40	623.80
St. Ann	3	756.67	593.00	511.33	621.00
Trelawny	3	388.67	236.67	191.00	391.33
Manchester	3	553.67	452.67	318.67	607.33
Total/Weighted Average	47	659.89	296.66	253.94	589.15

The above table provides a distribution of the new cases filed per judge, the cases disposed per judge and the caseload per judge in the criminal division of the parish courts for the 2021 calendar year. The data reveals that the overall weighted average number of new criminal cases filed per judge in the 2021 calendar year is roughly 660 cases. The parish courts of St. Catherine (1012.60 cases), Clarendon (798.33 cases) and St. Ann (756.67 cases) had the three largest number of new cases filed per judge during the year. On the contrary, the parish courts of St. Mary (319.33 cases), Trelawny (388.67 cases) and the Portland Parish Court (459.67 cases) had the lowest number of new cases filed per judge in the year. In terms of cases disposed per judge, the St. Catherine Parish Court disposed the most cases per judge in the year with 832 cases, followed by the Westmoreland Parish Court with 807 cases and the Clarendon Parish Court with

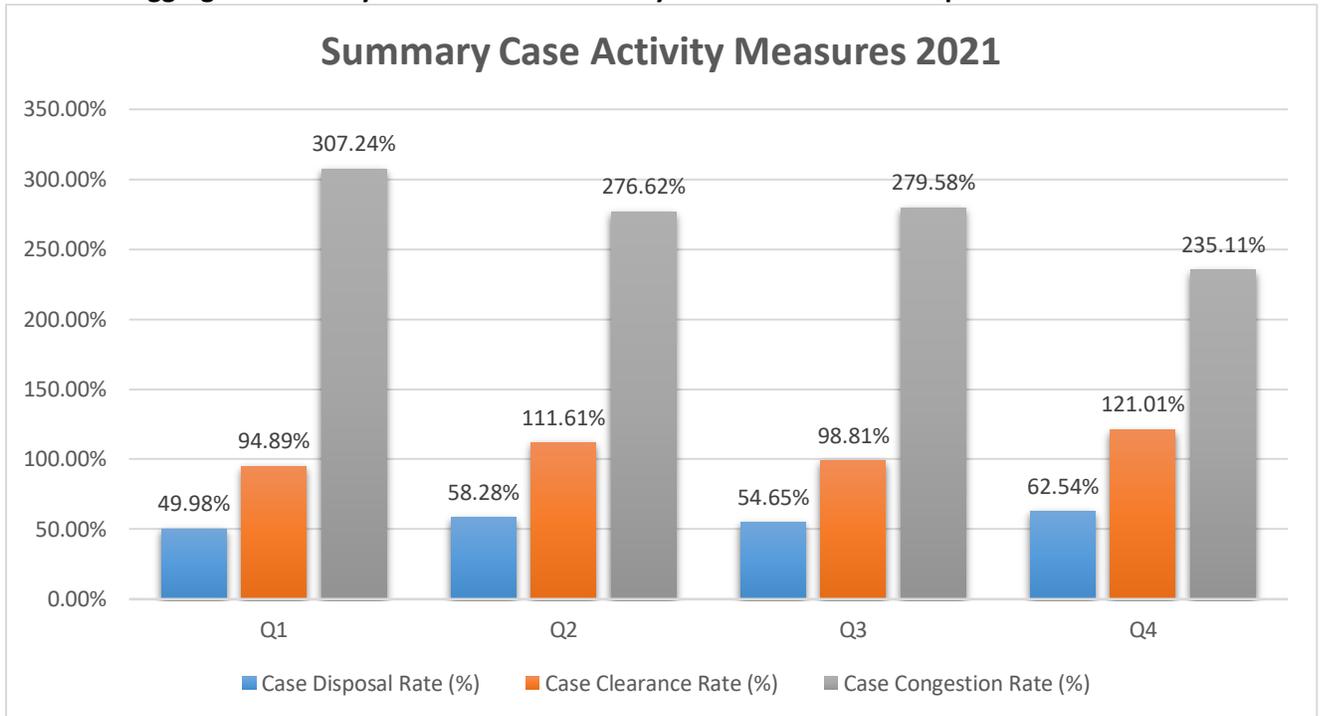
663 cases disposed per judge. The three courts with the smallest number of cases disposed per judge were the St. Mary Parish Court with 320 cases, the Trelawny Parish Court with 391 disposed cases per judge and the Portland Parish Court with 471 disposed cases per judge. The overall number of criminal cases disposed per judge was 589 cases. The most crucial of the indicators is the active caseload per judge at the end of the year. The data shows that the Clarendon Parish Court had the highest caseload per judge at the end of the year with 685 cases, followed by the St. Ann Parish Court with 511 cases and the Manchester Parish Court with 319 cases per judge. On the lower end, the parish courts of Westmoreland and St. Mary with 63 and 65 cases per judge respectively, had the lowest active criminal caseload per judge at the end of the year, followed by the Hanover Parish Court with 90 active criminal cases per judge. The overall average active criminal caseload per judge at the end of the year is 254 cases. The active caseload is a proxy for the existing demand for judicial services in the respective courts and the anecdotal evidence suggests that some courts with a higher caseload per judge are generally more hard pressed to sustain high productivity rates.

Table 3.0: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the period Jan.-Dec. 2021

Statistical Measurements	Case Disposal Rate (%)	Case Clearance Rate (%)	Case Congestion Rate (%)									
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Weighted Average	62.54	54.65	58.28	49.98	121.01	98.81	111.61	94.89	235.11	279.58	276.62	307.24
Standard Deviation	10.83	12.07	11.84	9.89	14.99	24.18	69.94	25.98	68.87	83.93	128.25	150.72
Skewness	0.79	-1.17	0.18	-0.32	1.04	2.02	2.09	-0.29	0.08	0.55	1.65	1.46

The above table provides a detailed quantitative summary of the progression of the key measures discussed so far, namely the case disposal rate, the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate across the four quarters of 2021 for all parish courts combined. A pictorial representation of this data follows.

Chart 2.0: Aggregate summary of selected case activity metrics over the four quarters of 2021



The above graph provides a summary of the progression of the overall case disposal, case clearance and case congestion rate over the four quarters of 2021 for all parish courts combined. It is seen that there was some amount of fluctuations in the progression of all three metrics over the four quarters throughout the year, partly on account of the impact of COVID-19 fuelled lockdowns experienced at different points throughout the year. The overall case disposal rate varied within a band of a low of 49.98% in the first quarter and a high of 62.54% in the fourth quarter. The case clearance rate ranged from a low of 94.89% in the first quarter to 121.01% in the fourth quarter of 2021, while the case congestion rate was at its lowest in fourth quarter with 235.11% and at its highest in the first quarter with a rate of 307.24%.

Table 4.0: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for 2020 and 2021

Parish Court	Case Disposal Rate (%) 2021	Case Disposal Rate (%) 2020	Change in case disposal rate (%)	Case Clearance Rate (%) 2021	Case Clearance Rate (%) 2020	Change in case clearance rate (%)	Case Congestion Rate (%) 2021	Case Congestion Rate (%) 2020	Change in case congestion rate (%)
Hanover	85.51	76.35	9.16	110.49	95.09	15.40	112.97	131.72	-18.75
St. Catherine	83.25	70.55	12.70	100.93	97.74	3.19	119.47	133.04	-13.57
Westmoreland	89.54	73.49	16.05	125.23	96.44	28.79	107.28	139.84	-32.56
St. Mary	81.11	73.55	7.56	108.98	114.76	-5.78	118.68	119.78	-1.10
Clarendon	79.12	69.85	9.27	95.24	94.92	0.32	190.14	193.74	-3.60
Portland	81.94	68.22	13.72	116.53	99.92	16.61	127.38	138.03	-10.65
St. Elizabeth	69.50	65.50	4.00	96.37	91.39	4.98	137.84	148.70	-10.86
Corporate Area Criminal	71.43	60.42	11.01	98.91	83.13	15.78	144.24	163.81	-19.57
St. Thomas	72.88	58.52	14.36	112.10	92.60	19.50	148.02	176.52	-28.50
St. James	87.37	65.59	21.78	110.14	99.41	10.73	120.06	168.44	-48.38
St. Ann	66.08	51.77	14.31	110.79	105.46	5.33	160.99	119.62	41.37
Trelawny	73.07	59.03	14.04	111.75	95.42	16.33	143.98	208.43	-64.45
Manchester	65.32	53.37	11.95	124.20	117.69	6.51	146.34	163.81	-17.47
Average /Weighted Average	77.51	64.57	12.94	106.47	96.09	10.38	136.14	156.87	-20.73
Standard Deviation	8.14	7.90		9.53	9.32		22.72	27.72	
Skewness	-0.08	-0.33		0.11	0.80		0.96	0.58	

The table above provides a comparison of the case disposal rate, the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate for the 2021 and 2020 calendar years. The weighted average case disposal rate for the 2021 calendar year, was 77.51%, which was a 12.94 percentage points increase above the 2020 weighted average rate of 64.57%. The overall case clearance rate of 106.47% for the 2021 calendar year was 10.38 percentage points above the 96.06% recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar year. The overall case congestion rate for the 2021 calendar year also improved, changing from 156.87% in the 2020 calendar year, to 136.14% in the 2021 calendar year, a 20.73 percentage point decrease. Ceteris paribus, there should be a roughly

inverse linear association between the case clearance rates and the case congestion rate. This is more pronounced in the long run than in the short or medium terms.

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

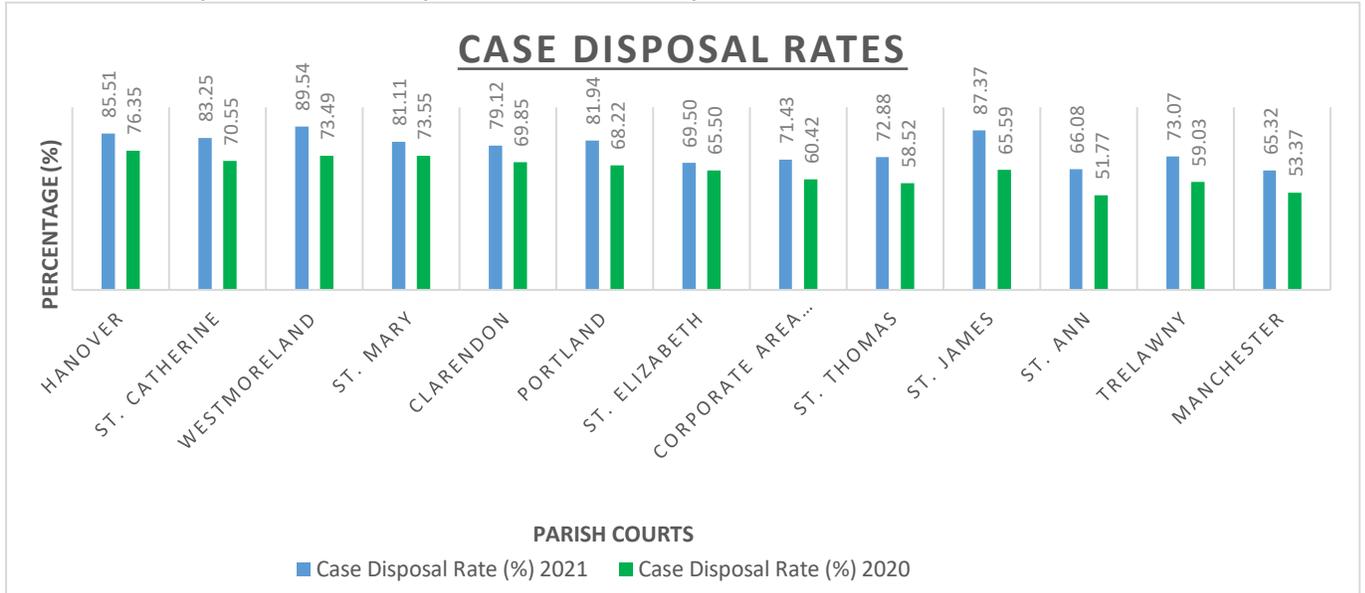


Chart 3.0b: Comparison of case clearance rates across the parish courts for 2020 and 2021

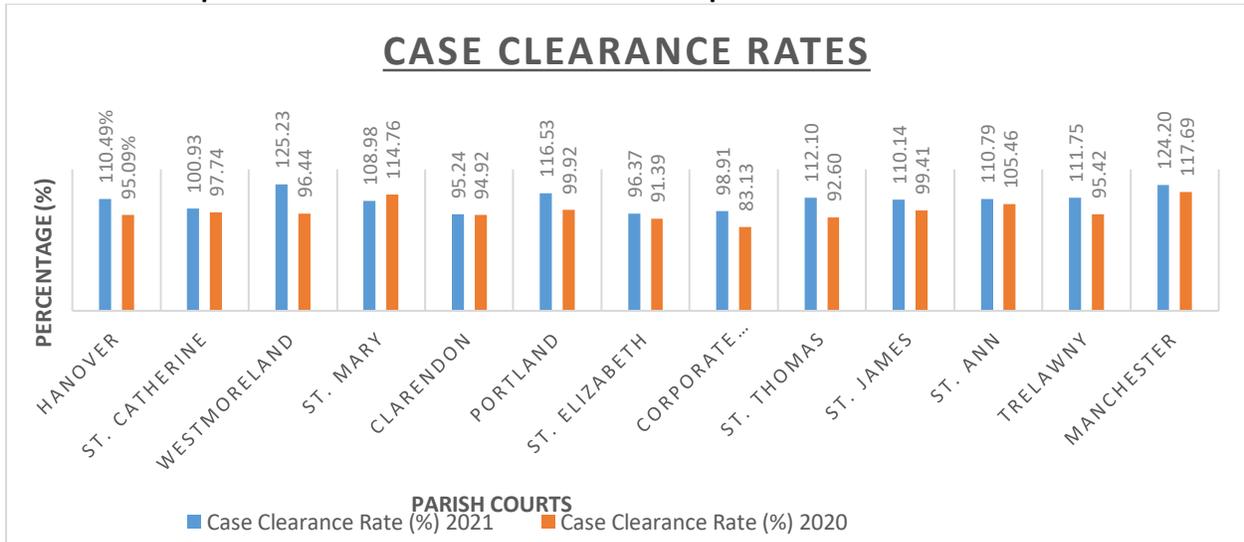


Chart 3.0c: Comparison of case congestion rate across the parish courts for the 2020 and 2021

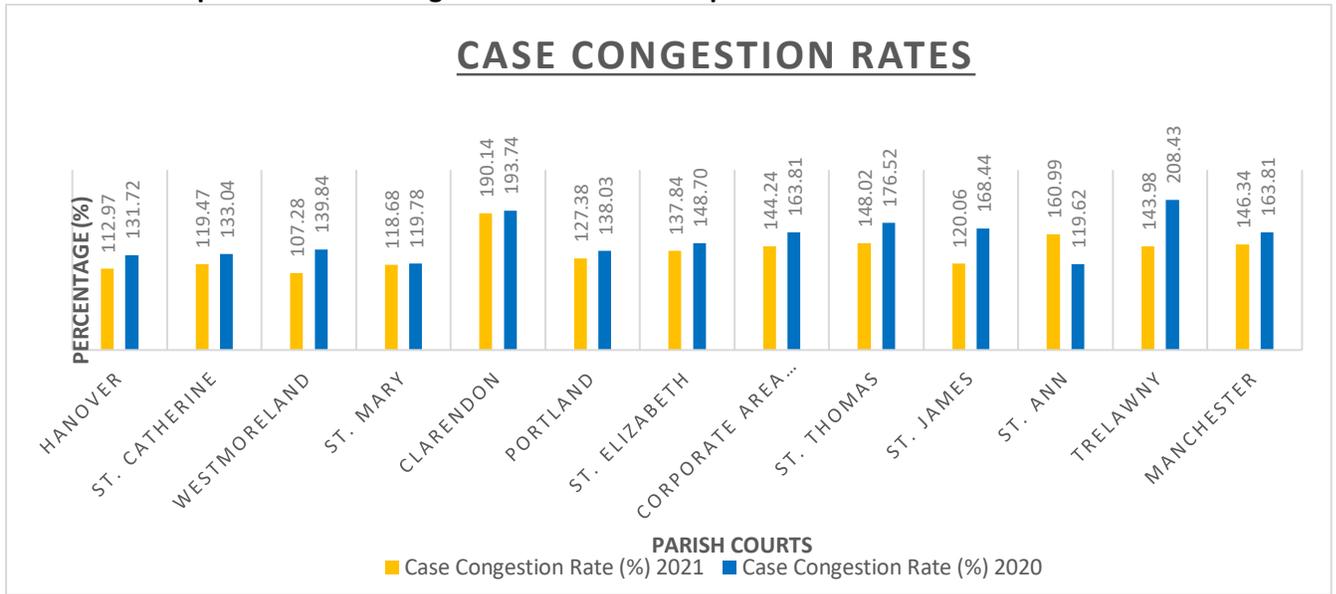


Table 5.0: Sampling distribution of mention court activity for cases disposed in the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Overall number of cases disposed	Number of cases disposed in 1 mention	Number of cases disposed in 2 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 3 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 4 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 5 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 6-10 mentions	Number of cases disposed in more than 10 mentions
Hanover	1306	156	83	60	34	25	65	21
St. Catherine	4162	353	224	149	107	65	132	40
Westmoreland	2422	1016	460	202	146	147	435	107
St. Mary	959	196	140	86	85	45	105	23
Clarendon	1990	884	276	165	101	85	151	10
Portland	1412	473	223	145	135	111	181	29
St. Elizabeth	1685	385	166	99	65	37	67	13
Corporate Area Criminal	4749	491	400	233	199	142	350	189
St. Thomas	1027	176	115	65	49	29	62	22
St. James	3119	407	186	128	80	59	183	38
St. Ann	1863	314	179	120	95	67	129	46
Trelawny	1174	36	4	0	0	0	0	0
Manchester	1822	302	210	123	94	65	155	56
Mean	2130.00	399.15	205.08	121.15	91.54	67.46	155.00	45.69
Median	1822	353	186	123	94	65	132	29
Skewness	1.30	1.22	0.72	-0.08	0.32	0.60	1.36	2.23
Standard Deviation	1194.84	278.48	122.12	61.69	50.93	44.19	119.07	50.74
Total	27690	5189	2666	1575	1190	877	2015	594

The above sampling distribution provides critical insights into mention court activity for a representative sample of criminal cases disposed across the parish courts over the period January 01, 2021 to December 31, 2021. In general, the fewer the number of mentions per case, the more efficient the case flow progression. A maximum of five mentions per case is considered to be desirable based on international best practices. A notable 53.14% of the sample of 27,690 cases disposed during the period were resolved on their first appearance before the court. A further 18.74% of the sample of cases disposed were resolved at first mention while 9.63% were resolved after two mentions and 5.69% after three mentions. Cumulatively, roughly 94.66% of the cases sampled were resolved in five or less mentions, inclusive of those resolved on first appearance before the courts. This is an impressive outcome by any measure. Although there are some variances across the parish courts, the overall outcomes were consistently observed for all courts. In other words, the vast majority of the cases sampled were disposed in five or less mentions in all courts and matters disposed on first appearance before the court or within the first few mentions accounted for the largest share of the activity across the courts. These outcomes are not surprising given the consistently high case clearance rates in the parish courts in the last few years. These collective results augur well for the probability of relatively quick and efficient resolution of criminal cases across the parish courts.

Trial court activity summary for the year ended December 31, 2021

Table 6.0a: Comparison of the trial certainty rates for 2020 and 2021

Parish Court	Trial certainty rate (%) (2021)	Trial certainty rate (%) (2020)	Change in the trial certainty rate (%)
Westmoreland	45	57	-12
Clarendon	64	61	3
St. Ann	50	70	-20
Portland	94	88	6
St. James	94	85	9
Manchester	87	76	11
St. Elizabeth	68	80	-12
St. Catherine	65	73	-8
Trelawny	81	84	-3
St. Mary	82	80	2
St. Thomas	83	84	-1
Corporate Area Criminal	74	53	21
Hanover	69	68	1
Total/Average	74	74	0

The trial date certainty rate provides a measure of the extent to which dates, which are set for trial, proceed on schedule without being delayed to start at some future date. The overall trial date certainty rate for the 2021 calendar year was 74%, roughly the same rate recorded in the 2020 calendar year. Two (2) of the parish courts met the prescribed international performance standard of a rate between 92% and 100% in the year. Leading the way are the parish courts of Portland and St. James each with a trial certainty rate of 94% for the year. The Manchester Parish Court fell just short of the international standard with a trial certainty rate of 87%, but this was still a good result. The minimum-targeted court-wide trial date certainty rate which has been set out by the Honourable Chief Justice for the judiciary for the next 3-4 years is 95%. This is consistent with the push to significantly enhance the efficiency of the court system and hence

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

Table 6.0b: Percentile Rank on trial date certainty rate for the criminal division of the parish courts in 2020 and 2021

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

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

Table 6.0c: Average duration from first trial date set to date of disposal of case for matters resolved by trial in 2021

Parish Court	Average duration of trial
Clarendon	86.84
Corporate Area	227.34
Hanover	161.14
Manchester	392.02
Portland	124.10
St. Ann	277.22
St. Catherine	271.76
St. Elizabeth	387.32
St. James	313.60
St. Mary	134.84
St. Thomas	479.42
Trelawny	220.34
Westmoreland	110.55
Weighted average	265.46
Standard Deviation	122.84

The above table summarizes the average durations between first trial date set and the date of case disposal for trial matters resolved in the 2021 calendar year across the various parish courts. The data shows an overall weighted average interval between the first trial date set and the disposition of such cases in the year is 265 days or roughly 8.8 months, with a standard deviation of roughly 123 days or 4.1 months. The Clarendon and Westmoreland Parish Courts had the lowest times between first trial dates set and disposal of cases with roughly 87 days and 111 days respectively, reflective of more ideal standards when compared to most other courts. The St. Thomas and Manchester Parish Courts with average interval times of roughly 479 days or 1.33 years and the Manchester Parish Court with 392 days or roughly 1.09 years had the worst rank on this measurement for the year. Lengthy time intervals between the first trial date and the date of case disposition are symptoms of case management problems, case readiness and possibly even scheduling and calendar management issues in the particular court. The results

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

Table 6.0d: Time interval between major events for cases that had a trial date in the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Average time between filing and first court appearance (in days)	Average time between first court appearance and trial (in days)	Average time between trial and disposition (in days)
Clarendon	5.28	379.54	86.84
Corporate Area-Criminal Division	3.87	410.35	227.34
Hanover	8.88	159.74	161.14
Manchester	5.74	355.54	392.02
Portland	7.80	274.80	124.10
St. Ann	11.98	683.67	277.22
St. Catherine	9.63	257.99	271.76
St. Elizabeth	8.34	212.04	387.32
St. James	8.19	801.53	313.60
St. Mary	5.23	183.69	134.84
St. Thomas	7.59	277.28	479.42
Trelawny	5.23	402.04	220.34
Westmoreland	6.31	185.84	110.55
Weighted average	6.86	397.01	265.46
Standard Deviation	2.23	194.00	122.84

Tracking the times between the occurrence of major hearing events along the case flow continuum is important to establishing precise points of possible delay in case progression. The above table provides a summary of the average times between filing a case and the first court appearance, the average time between first court appearance and the first date of trial and the

average duration between the first trial date and disposition. Overall, it is seen that the average time between filing a criminal case and the first court appearance is approximately 7 days, while the overall average time between first appearance of a criminal matter in the parish courts and the first trial date is, however, much longer at roughly 13.2 months or 397 days. The average duration between the first trial date set and the date of disposition is roughly 8.8 months or 265 days. These findings indicate that there may be imprecisions in the science of scheduling trial dates which may at times face long delays after a first date set is postponed. Since roughly less than a quarter of criminal cases filed in the parish courts will proceed to trial, these findings may not have a dramatic impact on the overall time to disposition of criminal cases but are nonetheless critical for monitoring case activity.

Table 6.0e: Trial court activity summary during the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Number of cases heard	Number of cases with a trial date set	Percentage of cases heard which had a trial date set (%)
Clarendon	2868	554	19.32
Corporate Area-Criminal Division	9363	1416	15.12
Hanover	1578	299	18.95
Manchester	2979	973	32.66
Portland	1924	191	9.93
St. Ann	3824	901	23.56
St. Catherine	6225	1078	17.32
St. Elizabeth	2695	554	20.56
St. James	4422	458	10.36
St. Mary	1251	190	15.19
St. Thomas	1555	237	15.24
Trelawny	1850	277	14.97
Westmoreland	2888	399	13.82
Total/Weighted Average	43422	7527	17.33

The above table provides a summary of number of cases heard in the 2021 calendar year in the criminal divisions of the parish courts which had trial dates set, whether in the current year, from the previous year or a future date. Using a sampling distribution, it is seen that of 43,422 criminal cases heard across the parish courts in the 2021 calendar year, 7,527 or 17.33% had a trial date set. The parish courts of Portland (9.93%), St. James (10.36%) and Westmoreland (13.82%) had the lowest proportion of cases proceeding to trial, while the parish courts of Manchester (32.66%), St. Ann (23.56%) and St. Elizabeth (20.56%) had the highest proportions.

Table 7.0a: Distribution of courtroom utilization rates across the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Average overall courtroom utilization rate (%)	Highest recorded courtroom utilization rate (%)	Lowest recorded courtroom utilization rate (%)	Standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rate (%)	Average courtroom utilization rate for Night Court sittings (%)	Average number of courtroom adjournments per day
St. Catherine	55.69	128.61	1.39	29.76	NA	1.2
Westmoreland	74.27	260.00	1.33	36.52	NA	0.0
Trelawny	57.59	250.00	1.67	35.38	NA	1.0
St. Thomas	53.64	104.17	1.67	26.79	NA	1.0
St. Mary	64.69	277.67	1.94	33.38	NA	1.0
St. James	59.54	142.33	1.39	29.37	NA	1.2
Corporate Area Criminal Court	55.49	261.67	0.33	30.04	NA	1.1
St. Ann	75.91	201.39	4.17	32.58	NA	1.1
Portland	57.53	276.67	1.00	33.55	NA	1.2
Hanover	48.29	115.28	1.39	29.67	NA	1.1
Clarendon	57.07	278.67	2.67	48.75	NA	1.1
Manchester	62.50	279.33	1.00	33.03	NA	1.9
St. Elizabeth	54.43	151.94	1.67	27.82	NA	1.2
Overall Averages	59.74	209.83	1.66	32.82	NA	1.08
Standard Deviation	7.92	70.79	0.93	5.59	NA	0.40
Skewness	1.07	-0.40	1.69	2.05	NA	-1.13

Note: A point estimate for 2021 was used in the calculation of the Clarendon and St. Elizabeth courtroom utilization rates

The above table details the courtroom utilization rate for the various parish courts in the 2021 calendar year. The courtroom utilization rate provides a measurement of the proportion of available hours for open court hearings in all courtrooms (including outstations) which are actually utilized. If the usage of any courtroom exceeds the available hours, then the utilization rate will exceed 100% and the rate will fall below 100% if less than the available hours are utilized.

The prescribed international standard for the courtroom utilization rate is 100%, which means that all hours allocated for court hearings in any court, on any given day should be utilized. The data suggests that as a whole, the parish courts of Jamaica performed below this level in the 2021 calendar year. The overall average courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in the year was 59.74%, which is an indication that on average roughly 60% of the available hours for court hearings were utilized across the parish courts in the 2021 calendar year. This result is roughly 5.06 percentage points above than the closing figure in 2020. The parish courts recording the highest courtroom utilization rates for the year are the St. Ann and Westmoreland Parish Courts with 75.91% and 74.27% respectively, followed by the St. Mary Parish Court with 64.69% and the Manchester Parish Court with 62.50%. The Hanover and St. Thomas Parish Courts with 48.29% and 53.64% respectively, had the lowest rates, while the St. Elizabeth Parish Court with 54.43% had the next lowest rate. The standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rates was relatively low, suggesting that on average the rates for the individual courts did not vary widely from the overall mean. This is affirmed by the low positive skewness of the data. The data also isolates the courtroom utilization rate for night court sittings. A part of the designation of night courts is to bolster the capacity of the courts to hear and dispose of more cases in a timely manner. However, largely due to COVID-19 containment measures implemented by the Jamaican government, the courts did not convene night court sittings for the 2021 calendar year.

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

Table 7.0b: Percentile Rank on Courtroom utilization rate for the criminal division of the parish courts in 2021 and 2020

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

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

Table 8.0: Types of matters for each Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Indictment	Summary Matters	Lay Magistrates Sittings	Committal Proceedings	Tax	Miscellaneous	LRF	Traffic	NS	Total
Corporate Area Criminal	3550	6709	1182	807	-	-	-	108	-	12356
St. Catherine	1780	5387	690	614	140	-	17	-	-	8628
Manchester	1013	1159	643	199	9	1	7	-	-	3031
St. James	881	3040	567	174	82	77	-	-	-	4821
St. Ann	1054	1332	566	366	91	-	-	13	-	3422
Westmoreland	969	1883	327	289	93	-	-	-	-	3561
Clarendon	943	2382	395	281	146	-	6	-	-	4153
Portland	821	666	140	81	-	-	-	-	-	1708
St. Elizabeth	759	1868	320	151	131	-	4	41	-	3274
St. Mary	670	607	221	226	31	-	-	-	-	1755
Trelawny	436	1140	214	154	-	-	91	-	-	2035
Hanover	551	1202	283	131	-	-	2	-	-	2169
St. Thomas	512	1108	170	196	-	-	16	-	-	2002
Total	13939	28483	5718	3669	723	78	143	162	-	52915
Percentage	26.34	53.83	10.81	6.93	1.37	0.15	0.27	0.31	-	100

***Total number of observations = 52,915**LRF means Law Reform Fraudulent Transaction, ***NS means not stated**

The above table provides a breakdown of the different types of new charges filed in each parish court for the 2021 calendar year. For the year, 52, 915 charges were filed across the parish courts, an increase of approximately 51.28% when compared to the corresponding 2020 calendar year. The largest proportions of these charges were filed in the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division (12,356), the St. Catherine Parish Court (8,628), the St. James Parish Court with (4,821) and the Clarendon Parish Court with 4,153 charges. The largest share of the charges were

summary matters (53.83%); followed by Indictments (26.34%), Lay Magistrates’ matters (10.81%) and Committal Proceedings with 6.93% of the total sample. The Corporate Area Court-Criminal Division accounted for the largest proportion of summary matters filed, followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. James and Clarendon. The Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division accounted for the largest share of Indictments filed, followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court and the St. Ann Parish Court. The largest proportion of Lay Magistrates’ matters was filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine and Manchester. The Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division, followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court and the St. Ann Parish Court accounted for the largest individual shares of Committal Proceedings in the year. As for criminal matters, which are traffic related, the only incidences of these in the year were in the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division, the St. Ann Parish Court and the St. Elizabeth Parish Court.

Offence Types

Table 9.01: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the Disaster risk Management Act	431	19.92
Breach of Curfew Order	302	13.96
Assault occasioning bodily harm	166	7.67
Unlawful wounding	146	6.75
Threat	123	5.68
Sub-total	1168	53.97

Number of observations sampled (N): 2,164

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court for the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breaches of the

Disaster Risk Management Act with 431 or 19.92% and breaches of curfew order with 302 or 13.96% of the total sample of charges are the most frequently occurring charges. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 166 or 7.67% and unlawful wounding with 146 or 6.75% followed this. Threat with 123 or 5.68% of the total sample rounds off the top five. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 53.97% of the total sample of 2,164 charges filed in the year. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the 2020 calendar year in the Hanover Parish Court included breach of curfew order, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property and threat.

Table 9.02: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	479	15.81
Assault occasioning bodily harm	331	10.92
Breach of curfew order	295	9.74
Unlawful wounding	249	8.22
Exposing goods for sale	195	6.44
Sub-total	1549	51.12

Number of observations sampled (N): 3,030

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court for the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 479 or 15.81% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 331 or 10.92% and breach of curfew order with 295 or 9.74% rank next. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 249 or 8.22% and exposing goods for sale with 195 or 6.44% of the sample of charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 51.12% of the total sample of 3,030 charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court in the year. The top five most frequently occurring charges

recorded in the 2020 calendar year in the Manchester Parish Court included assault occasioning bodily harm, threat, larceny as a servant, unlawful wounding, and exposing goods for sale.

Table 9.03: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Portland Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	361	21.11
Assault occasioning bodily harm	201	11.75
Threat	153	8.95
Unlawful Wounding	147	8.60
Malicious destruction of property	118	6.90
Sub-total	980	57.31

Number of observations sampled (N): 1,710

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Portland Parish Court in the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 361 or 21.11% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 201 or 11.75%, threat with 153 or 8.95% and unlawful wounding with 147 or 8.60% rank next. Malicious destruction of property with 118 or 6.90% rounds off the top five charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 57.31% of the total sample of 1,710 charges filed in the year. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the 2020 calendar year in the Portland Parish Court included threat, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, assault at common law and malicious destruction of property.

Table 9.04: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Threat	450	13.20
Breach of the disaster risk management act	413	12.11
Assault occasioning bodily harm	281	8.24
Unlawful wounding	258	7.57
Malicious destruction of property	132	3.87
Sub-total	1534	45.00

Number of observations sampled (N): 3,409

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court in the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that threat with 450 or 13.20% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 413 or 12.11% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 281 or 8.24% followed this. Unlawful wounding with 258 or 7.57% and malicious destruction of property with 132 or 3.87% of the total sample rounds of the top charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 45% of the total sample of 3,409 charges filed in the year at the St. Ann Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the 2020 calendar year in the St. Ann parish court included threat, unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, littering in a public place and malicious destruction of property.

Table 9.05: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the disaster risk management act	3890	45.08
Assault occasioning bodily harm	524	6.07
Unlawful wounding	395	4.58
Malicious Destruction of Property	213	2.47
Possession of offensive weapon	201	2.33
Sub-total	5223	60.53

Number of observations sampled (N): 8,629

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 3,890 or 45.08% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 524 or 6.07% and unlawful wounding with 395 or 4.58% followed this. Malicious destruction of property with 213 or 2.47% and possession of offensive weapon with 201 or 2.33% of the total sample of charges filed round off the top five. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 60.53% of the total sample of 8,629 charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the year. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the 2020 calendar year in the St. Catherine parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, possession of offensive weapon, threat and malicious destruction of property.

Table 9.06: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	1197	36.67
Assault occasioning bodily harm	246	7.54
Unlawful wounding	242	7.41
Threat	162	4.96
Possession of offensive weapon	136	4.17
Sub-total	1983	60.75

Number of observations sampled (N): 3,264

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court in the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 1,197 or 36.67% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 246 or 7.54%, unlawful

wounding with 242 or 7.41% and threat with 162 or 4.96% followed this. Possession of offensive weapon accounted for 136 or 4.17% of the sample of charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 60.75% of the total sample of 3,264 charges filed in the year at the St. Elizabeth parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the 2020 calendar year in the St. Elizabeth parish court included threat, unlawful wounding, armed with an offensive weapon, assault occasioning bodily harm, and malicious destruction of property.

Table 9.07: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. James Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Disaster Risk Management Act	1738	36.05
Breach of Curfew Order	292	6.06
Assault occasioning bodily harm	281	5.83
Possession of offensive weapon	221	4.58
Threat	215	4.46
Sub-total	2747	56.98

Number of observations sampled (N): 4,821

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges at the St. James Parish Court in the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breaches of Disaster Risk Management Act with 1,738 or 36.05% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Breaches of the curfew order with 292 or 6.06%, assault occasioning bodily harm with 281 or 5.83% possession of offensive weapon with 221 or 4.58% followed this. The top five is rounded off by threat with 215 or 4.46% of the total sample. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 56.98% of the sample of 4,821 charges filed in year at the St. James Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the 2020 calendar year in the St. James parish court included threat, malicious destruction of property, unlawful wounding, possession of offensive weapon and assault occasioning bodily harm.

Table 9.08: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Curfew Order	296	16.86
Unlawful wounding	195	11.10
Assault occasioning bodily harm	159	9.05
Malicious destruction of property	92	5.24
Threat	60	3.42
Sub-total	802	45.67

Number of observations sampled (N): 1,756

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breaches of curfew order with 296 or 16.86% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 195 or 11.10% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 159 or 9.05% followed this. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property with 92 or 5.24% and threat with 60 or 3.42% of the sample. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 45.67% of the total sample of 1,756 charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the year. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the 2020 calendar year in the St. Mary parish court included threat, unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, possession of ganja and malicious destruction of property.

Table 9.09: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Failure to wear mask in public	257	12.86
Breach of Curfew Order	237	11.86
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act (DRMA)	190	9.51
Assault occasioning bodily harm	159	7.96
Unlawful wounding	118	5.91
Sub-total	961	48.10

Number of observations sampled (N): 1,998

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that failure to wear a mask in public with 257 or 12.86% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Breaches of curfew order with 237 or 11.86% and breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act (DRMA) with 190 or 9.51% followed this. The top five is rounded off by assault occasioning bodily harm with 159 or 7.96% and unlawful wounding with 118 or 5.91% of the sample. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 48.10% of the total sample of 1,998 charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the year. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the 2020 calendar in the St. Mary parish court included possession of offensive weapon, unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, possession of ganja and sexual intercourse with a person under 16.

Table 9.10: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Curfew Order	514	25.23
Assault occasioning bodily harm	172	8.44
Unlawful wounding	120	5.89
Failure to Wear Face Mask in Public	118	5.79
Possession of ganja	74	3.63
Sub-total	998	48.99

Number of observations sampled (N): 2,037

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breaches of curfew order with 514 or 25.23% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 172 or 8.44% and unlawful wounding with 120 or 5.89% followed this. Failure to wear a face mask in public with 118 or 5.79%, and possession of ganja

with 74 or 3.63% of the total sample of charges round of the top five charges filed in the year. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 48.99% of the total sample of 2,037 charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the year. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the 2020 calendar year in the Trelawny parish court included breach of curfew order, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, possession of ganja and possession of offensive weapon.

Table 9.11: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Curfew Order	698	19.91
Assault occasioning bodily harm	366	10.44
Failure to wear mask in a public place	237	6.76
Unlawful wounding	229	6.53
Threat	175	4.99
Sub-total	1705	48.63

Number of observations sampled (N): 3,506

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breaches of curfew order with 698 or 19.91% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 366 or 10.44% and failure to wear mask in a public place with 237 or 6.76% followed this. Unlawful wounding with 229 or 6.53% and threat with 175 or 4.99% of the sample rank next. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 48.63% of the total sample of 3,506 charges filed in the year at the Westmoreland Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the 2020 calendar year in the Westmoreland parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, threat, malicious destruction of property and exposing goods for sale.

Table 9.12: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Curfew Order	1035	24.95
Failing to wear mask in a public place	392	9.45
Assault occasioning bodily harm	348	8.39
Unlawful wounding	233	5.62
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	214	5.16
Sub-total	2222	53.56

Number of observations sampled (N): 4,149

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breaches of curfew order with 1,035 or 24.95% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Failure to wear a mask in a public place with 392 or 9.45% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 348 or 8.39% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 233 or 5.62% and breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 214 or 5.16%. The charges quoted above account for an estimated 53.56% of the sample of 4,149 charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in the year. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the 2020 calendar year in the Clarendon parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, threat, possession of ganja, malicious destruction of property.

Table 9.13: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2021

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the curfew order under the disaster risk management act	3802	30.89
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	884	7.18
Littering	827	6.72
Unlawful Wounding	584	4.75
Disorderly conduct	372	3.02
Sub-total	6469	52.56

Number of observations sampled (N): 12,307

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division for the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breaches of the curfew order under the Disaster Risk Management Act with 3,802 or 30.89% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 884 or 7.18% and littering with 827 or 6.72% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 584 or 4.75% and disorderly conduct with 372 or 3.02% of the charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 52.56% of the total sample of 12,307 charges at filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court –Criminal Division in the year. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in 2020 calendar year in the Corporate Area parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, littering, unlawful wounding, disorderly conduct, and malicious destruction of property.

Table 10.0: Conviction rate for summary and indictment matters heard in the year ended December 31, 2021

Type of case	Number of disposed matters	Number of guilty verdicts	Number of guilty pleas	Aggregate number of guilty outcomes	Estimated conviction rate (%)
Summary	22691	582	16982	17564	77.41
Indictment	15058	345	2739	3084	20.48

The above table shows the estimated conviction rate for summary and indictment matters heard across all parish courts in the 2021 calendar year. Summary matters heard in the year include charges such as possession of an offensive weapon, breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act, exposing goods for sale and breaches of the curfew order. The estimated conviction rate for the year for summary matters was 77.41%, which is 11.25 percentage points above the conviction

rate of 66.16% recorded for the corresponding 2020 calendar year. The estimated conviction rate for indictment matters was significantly lower at 20.48% for the year, a rate which is approximately 1.17 percentage points above the 19.31% recorded in the 2020 calendar year. Indictment matters heard in the year included charges such as assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property and simple larceny.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges across the parish courts for the year ended December 31, 2021

Charge	Frequency	Percentage
Breach of the disaster risk management act	9146	17.33
Breach of Curfew Order	7588	14.38
Assault occasioning bodily harm	4118	7.80
Unlawful wounding	3117	5.91
Threat	1978	3.75
Malicious destruction of property	1731	3.28
Possession of offensive weapon	1312	2.49
Failure to wear mask in a public place	1289	2.44
Possession of ganja	1059	2.01
Littering	968	1.83
Sub-total	32306	61.21

Number of observations sampled (N): 52,780

The above table shows the distribution of the ten most commonly occurring charges across all parish courts for the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 9,146 or 17.33% of the total number of charges sampled is the most frequently occurring charge. Breaches of the curfew order with 7,588 or 14.38% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 4,118 or 7.80% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 3,117 or 5.91% and threats with 1,978 or 3.75% of the total sample of charges filed in the year. These ten most frequently occurring types of charges account for approximately 61.21% of the total sample of charges filed in the year.

Table 12.0: Conviction rate for leading occurring charges heard in the year ended December 31, 2021

Type of Offence	Number of disposed matters	Number of guilty verdicts	Number of guilty pleas	Aggregate number of guilty outcomes	Estimated conviction rate (%)
Breach of the disaster risk management act	7211	137	6218	6355	88.13
Breach of Curfew Order	5848	170	4982	5152	88.10
Possession of offensive weapon	1165	29	971	1000	85.84
Failure to wear mask in a public place	1083	37	875	912	84.21
Littering	149	7	114	121	81.21
Possession of ganja	989	24	682	706	71.39
Malicious destruction of property	1774	40	222	262	14.77
Assault occasioning bodily harm	4106	71	450	521	12.69
Unlawful wounding	3255	76	335	411	12.63
Threat	1396	40	113	153	10.96

The above table shows the estimated conviction rate for the ten (10) leading charges across all parish courts in the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act had the highest estimated conviction rate on the list with 88.13%. Breach of the curfew order with 88.10% and possession of an offensive weapon with 85.84% followed this. The top conviction rates on the list in the year are rounded off by failure to wear a mask in a public place with an estimated conviction rate of 84.21% and littering with an estimated conviction rate of 81.21%. Armed with an offensive weapon recorded the highest estimated conviction rate in the corresponding 2020 calendar year with 88.56%, followed by littering with an estimated conviction rate of 85.71%.

Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of the average age of active charges for each parish court for the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Average age of active charges (days)
Clarendon	135
Trelawny	134
Portland	135
St. Mary	131
Hanover	122
Westmoreland	123
St. Catherine	156
St. Elizabeth	134
St. Ann	160
St. James	145
St. Thomas	153
Corporate Area Criminal	157
Manchester	143
Overall Average	140.62
Standard Deviation	12.78
Skewness	0.17

The above table shows the average age of active charges originating in the 2021 calendar year, for charges originating in said year. The overall average age of active matters originating in the year was approximately 141 days or roughly 4.7 months, roughly 2 days less than the average recorded in the 2020 calendar year. The parish courts of Hanover, Westmoreland and St. Mary have the lowest averages on the list. On the contrary, the highest averages were observed in the parish courts of St. Ann, Corporate Area Criminal and St. Catherine. The standard deviation of the scores was however relatively low (13 days), an indication that the individual values for the parish courts were on average close to the overall mean. This result is affirmed by the low positive negative skewness. There is an intuitive correlation between case clearance rates and the average age of cases in the long run, but it does not necessarily manifest empirically in the short run. This means that in the long run, courts with higher clearance rates will in general have a

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

Table 14.0: Average age of charges disposed for matters originating in the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Average age of disposed charges (days)
Clarendon	84
Trelawny	79
Portland	86
St. Mary	71
Hanover	73
Westmoreland	57
St. Catherine	92
St. Elizabeth	87
St. Ann	103
St. James	86
St. Thomas	103
Corporate Area Criminal	91
Manchester	91
Overall Average	84.85
Standard Deviation	12.70
Skewness	-0.64

The above table shows that the average time taken to dispose of criminal cases filed in the parish courts in the 2021 calendar year is approximately 85 days. This is roughly 19 days less than the time taken to dispose of cases originating in the 2020 calendar year. The standard deviation of the scores was relatively low (13 days), an indication that the individual values for the parish courts were on average relatively close to the overall mean. This is affirmed by the low negative

skewness. The mean times range from a low of roughly 57 days in the Westmoreland Parish Court, to a high of 103 days in the St. Thomas and St. Ann Parish Courts during the year.

Table 15.0a: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition as at the year ended December 31, 2021

Parishes	Time interval in days							Sample size (n)
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269 days	270-364 days	365 days-547 days	548 days-729 days	730 days and over	
Corporate Area Criminal	11224 (41.5%)	5589 (20.7%)	3285 (12.1%)	2114 (7.8%)	2055 (7.6%)	1173 (4.3%)	1609 (5.9%)	27049 (100%)
St. Catherine	5001 (37.3%)	3375 (25.1%)	1812 (13.5%)	1118 (8.3%)	1191 (8.9%)	481 (3.6%)	443 (3.3%)	13421 (100%)
St. James	4020 (37.7%)	2212 (20.7%)	1228 (11.5%)	927 (8.7%)	1002 (9.4%)	530 (5.0%)	744 (7.0%)	10663 (100%)
Manchester	2348 (25.0%)	1655 (17.6%)	1238 (13.2%)	969 (10.3%)	1305 (13.9%)	826 (8.8%)	1048 (11.2%)	9389 (100%)
Westmoreland	4593 (53.7%)	1570 (18.3%)	914 (10.7%)	512 (6.0%)	509 (5.9%)	220 (2.6%)	241 (2.8%)	8559 (100%)
St. Ann	2192 (26.8%)	1580 (19.3%)	999 (12.2%)	836 (10.2%)	1106 (13.5%)	621 (7.6%)	860 (10.5%)	8194 (100%)
Clarendon	4098 (44.4%)	2086 (22.6%)	1053 (11.4%)	629 (6.8%)	754 (8.2%)	323 (3.5%)	297 (3.2%)	9240 (100%)
St. Thomas	1331 (28.8%)	1071 (23.2%)	633 (13.7%)	582 (12.6%)	483 (10.4%)	209 (4.5%)	314 (6.8%)	4623 (100%)
Portland	2086 (37.0%)	1438 (25.5%)	707 (12.5%)	456 (8.1%)	467 (8.3%)	284 (5.0%)	196 (3.5%)	5634 (100%)
St. Mary	2629 (42.3%)	1262 (20.3%)	807 (13.0%)	487 (7.8%)	474 (7.6%)	223 (3.6%)	336 (5.4%)	6218 (100%)
St. Elizabeth	2317 (38.6%)	1519 (25.3%)	821 (13.7%)	458 (7.6%)	470 (7.8%)	201 (3.3%)	223 (3.7%)	6009 (100%)
Trelawny	1612 (38.9%)	790 (19.0%)	485 (11.7%)	362 (8.7%)	360 (8.7%)	245 (5.9%)	295 (7.1%)	4149 (100%)
Hanover	2204 (50.2%)	1005 (22.9%)	443 (10.1%)	276 (6.3%)	225 (5.1%)	106 (2.4%)	130 (3.0%)	4389 (100%)
% of Total	38.84	21.40	12.27	8.27	8.85	4.63	5.73	-
Average	3511.92	1934.77	1109.62	748.15	800.08	418.62	518.15	9041.31
Standard Deviation	2596.12	1279.91	747.69	482.89	512.75	305.02	431.68	6062.70
Skewness	2.45	2.27	2.33	2.07	1.29	1.50	1.62	2.45

Number of charges sampled (N) = 117,537

Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the previous 5.6 years

The table above shows the breakdown of the time disposition for matters filed in the respective parish courts for at least 64 consecutive months (5.33 years) over the period September 2016 to December 2021. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed of in the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 38.84% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, Westmoreland and Clarendon are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed within 90 days. This trend is broadly similar to that seen over the past 24 months. Cumulatively, 80.78% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a continued positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in sustaining overall productivity and realizing the objective of becoming the best in the Caribbean region in three years and among the best in the world in six years. From the data set, the parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, Manchester and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 5.73% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, Manchester and St. Ann also had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample range from weak positive to moderate positive, which is an indication that for disposed cases, the distributions of the times taken do not vary dramatically across the courts. The difference, however, is the proportion of cases disposed, relative to the caseload, which as shown earlier, indicates that some courts are performing much better.

Table 15.0b: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition for matters completed in the year ended December 31, 2021

Parishes	Time interval in days							Sample size (n)
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269 days	270-364 days	365 days-547 days	548 days-729 days	730 days and over	
Corporate Area Criminal	1761 (31.9%)	1069 (19.4%)	699 (12.7%)	492 (8.9%)	565 (10.2%)	290 (5.3%)	638 (11.6%)	5514 (100%)
St. Catherine	876 (32.4%)	703 (26.0%)	347 (12.8%)	236 (8.7%)	282 (10.4%)	134 (5.0%)	128 (4.7%)	2706 (100%)
St. James	707 (29.5%)	423 (17.6%)	250 (10.4%)	171 (7.1%)	201 (8.4%)	138 (5.8%)	507 (21.2%)	2397 (100%)
Manchester	527 (21.1%)	381 (15.3%)	227 (9.1%)	174 (7.0%)	342 (13.7%)	345 (13.8%)	499 (20.0%)	2495 (100%)
Westmoreland	1144 (49.6%)	332 (14.4%)	233 (10.1%)	129 (5.6%)	153 (6.6%)	129 (5.6%)	185 (8.0%)	2305 (100%)
St. Ann	446 (22.6%)	335 (16.9%)	205 (10.4%)	172 (8.7%)	222 (11.2%)	159 (8.0%)	438 (22.2%)	1977 (100%)
Clarendon	683 (38.1%)	382 (21.3%)	213 (11.9%)	141 (7.9%)	155 (8.6%)	82 (4.6%)	139 (7.7%)	1795 (100%)
St. Thomas	239 (22.9%)	233 (22.3%)	138 (13.2%)	117 (11.2%)	110 (10.5%)	59 (5.7%)	148 (14.2%)	1044 (100%)
Portland	466 (39.2%)	356 (29.9%)	130 (10.9%)	49 (4.1%)	46 (3.9%)	110 (9.2%)	33 (2.8%)	1190 (100%)
St. Mary	658 (48.9%)	272 (20.2%)	145 (10.8%)	128 (9.5%)	78 (5.8%)	34 (2.5%)	30 (2.2%)	1345 (100%)
St. Elizabeth	477 (32.5%)	339 (23.1%)	203 (13.8%)	143 (9.7%)	136 (9.3%)	68 (4.6%)	102 (6.9%)	1468 (100%)
Trelawny	405 (35.2%)	188 (16.3%)	134 (11.7%)	81 (7.0%)	109 (9.5%)	75 (6.5%)	158 (13.7%)	1150 (100%)
Hanover	486 (42.3%)	274 (23.8%)	134 (11.7%)	69 (6.0%)	92 (8.0%)	37 (3.2%)	57 (5.0%)	1149 (100%)
% of Total	33.45	19.92	11.52	7.92	9.39	6.26	11.54	-
Average	682.69	406.69	235.23	161.69	191.62	127.69	235.54	2041.15
Standard Deviation	397.52	234.45	152.61	110.96	139.84	93.61	207.40	1193.44
Skewness	1.89	2.25	2.67	2.42	1.78	1.47	0.92	2.25

Number of charges sampled (N) = 26,535

The table above shows the breakdown of the time disposition for matters disposed parish courts in the year ended December 31, 2021. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed of in the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 33.45% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division along with the parish courts of Westmoreland, St. Catherine and St. James are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed under 90 days. Cumulatively, 72.81% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in increasing overall productivity and realizing the objective of becoming the best in the Caribbean region in three years and among the best in the world in six years. From the data set, the parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, Manchester and St. James had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 11.54% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, St. James and Manchester also had the largest proportion of their disposed matters in the year taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample range from weak positive to moderate positive, which is an indication that for disposed cases, the distributions of the time taken do not vary dramatically across the courts. The difference, however, is the proportion of cases disposed of, relative to the caseload, which as shown earlier, indicates that some courts are performing much better.

Table 16.0a: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed as at the year ended December 31, 2021

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Criminal	216.61	1	118	266.64	2.35	1	2106	27049
St. Catherine	199.09	63	126	216.55	2.35	1	1969	13421
St. James	246.34	49	134	296.82	2.36	1	2975	10663
Manchester	328.52	63	217	320.25	1.58	1	1956	9389
Westmoreland	155.51	28	78	195.23	2.47	1	1354	8559
St. Ann	315.62	63	199	330.32	1.86	1	2149	8194
Clarendon	183.29	63	105	218.66	2.54	1	1954	9240
St. Thomas	253.81	119	169	262.81	2.00	1	1690	4623
Portland	204.48	63	126	218.94	2.16	1	1792	5634
St. Mary	203.62	28	114	237.90	2.09	1	1904	6218
St. Elizabeth	194.06	28	119	218.48	2.54	1	1912	6009
Trelawny	246.58	63	133	290.47	2.07	1	1864	4149
Hanover	157.30	28	87	197.35	2.59	1	1414	4389
Average/Weighted Average	223.96	50.69	132.69	251.57	2.23	1.00	1926.08	9041.31
Standard Deviation	53.52	29.02	40.32	46.19	0.30	0.00	393.02	6062.70
Skewness	0.82	0.65	0.97	0.48	-0.76	0.00	1.35	2.45

Number of charges sampled (N) = 117,537

Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the previous 5.6 years.

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a large sample of matters disposed of for each parish court as at December 31, 2021. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 64-month period over September 2016 – December 2021 for most parish courts and it should be noted that these descriptive statistics are for matters disposed over that sample period. The output produces an estimated weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Criminal Division) of approximately 224 days (7.5 months), roughly 11 days above the time taken in the corresponding 2020 calendar year. The skewness of these times to disposition is a low positive 0.82, suggesting a cluster of scores around the overall mean. For

matters disposed of in the period, the parish courts of Westmoreland (156 days), Hanover (157 days) and Clarendon (183 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of Manchester (329 days), St. Ann (316 days) and St. Thomas (254 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters disposed over the period. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is, however, wide as shown by the moderately high standard deviation (53.52), suggesting inconsistencies in performances on this measure. An interesting finding is that the minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 1 day; however, the maximum times are substantially larger, in some cases several years. This result continues to be both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 1354 days (45.13 months/3.8 years) in the Westmoreland parish court to a high of 2975 days (99.17 months/8.26 years) in the St. James Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a positive 1.35, which is an indication that proportionately more of the maximum times to disposition fell below the overall series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial 117,537 matters.

Table 16.0b: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for matters completed in the year ended December 31, 2021

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Criminal	325.73	55	168	429.16	2.59	1	2694	5514
St. Catherine	233.56	28	139	293.47	4.51	1	3571	2706
St. James	637.60	5346	201	1258.17	3.98	1	10986	2397
Manchester	446.23	481	336	412.36	1.16	1	2105	2495
Westmoreland	216.86	28	91	274.06	1.72	1	1330	2305
St. Ann	456.36	63	270	487.92	1.54	1	3164	1977
Clarendon	249.02	49	125	316.21	2.58	1	2695	1795
St. Thomas	346.25	63	211	382.43	2.30	1	2680	1044
Portland	195.84	548	118	237.59	3.21	1	2331	1190
St. Mary	164.52	14	91	208.20	3.17	1	1983	1345
St. Elizabeth	248.22	77	145	279.88	2.35	1	1912	1468
Trelawny	325.43	63	163	382.88	1.66	1	2116	1150
Hanover	207.39	91	104	377.23	13.60	1	9333	1149
Average/Weighted Average	328.30	531.23	166.31	410.74	3.41	1.00	3607.69	2041.15
Standard Deviation	134.11	1457.05	72.59	267.18	3.21	0.00	2982.75	1193.44
Skewness	1.32	3.52	1.24	3.04	3.06	0.00	2.07	2.25

Number of charges sampled (N) = 26,535

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed of for each parish court in the year ended December 31, 2021. The output produces an estimated weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Criminal Division) of approximately 328 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a positive 1.32, suggesting that proportionally more of these times were below the overall mean. For matters disposed of in the year, the parish courts of St. Mary (165 days), Portland (196 days) and Hanover (207 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases in the year. The parish courts of St. James (638 days), St. Ann (456 days) and Manchester (446 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition

for matters resolved during the year. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is, however, wide as shown by the moderately high standard deviation (134.11), suggesting inconsistencies in performances on this measure. An interesting finding is that the minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 1 day; however, the maximum times are substantially larger, in some cases several years. This result continues to be both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 1330 days (44.3 months/3.7 years) in the Westmoreland parish court to a high of 10,986 days (366.2 months/30.5 years) in the St. James Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a positive 2.07, which is an indication that proportionately more of the maximum times to disposition fell below the overall series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial 26,535 matters cases which were resolved during the 2021 calendar year.

16.0c: Net and gross criminal case backlog as at the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Net case backlog rate (%)	Gross case backlog rate (%)
Clarendon	1.07	9.58
Corporate area	1.57	16.30
Hanover	0.13	3.08
Manchester	2.51	17.29
Portland	1.68	8.86
St. Ann	2.87	20.78
St. Catherine	0.38	9.75
St. Elizabeth	0.69	7.11
St. James	1.41	10.39
St. Mary	0.13	9.46
St. Thomas	2.71	8.38
Trelawny	2.70	11.48
Westmoreland	0.11	7.20
Weighted Average	1.34	11.94
Standard Deviation	1.06	4.77

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

The net and gross case backlog rates provide one of the most decisive indicators of court performance as they are strongly influenced by most of the other critical court performance metrics such as the case clearance, case disposal, trial and hearing date certainty rates and are also directly correlated with the case congestion rate. The estimated gross case backlog rate provides a measurement of the proportion of cases filed for a given period (of over two years) which are either active or inactive (i.e. are unresolved) and are over two years old at the date of reporting. The closely related estimated net case backlog rate is the proportion of all cases filed for a given period (of over two years) which are still active and exceeding two years old at the time of reporting. The estimated net case backlog rate therefore excludes inactive cases which are unresolved. Based on international best practices an estimated gross case backlog rate of under 10% is desirable, while an estimated net case backlog rate of under 5% is prescribed. The

results revealed are quite outstanding as using a 5 years' time series, the net case backlog rate (weighted average) in the criminal division of the parish courts is 1.34% (with a standard deviation of 1.06%) which is satisfies than the international standard. The estimated gross case backlog rate also stands at a commendable 11.94% (with a standard deviation of 4.77%), an indication that there are a large number of inactive unresolved criminal cases in the parish courts. This rate is only 1.94 percentage points higher than the prescribed rate of 10%, but seemingly has the potential to meet this standard relatively soon with the application of more aggressive case management practices and reduction in the incidence of delays in the criminal courts. Although the time series used for this computation is only 5 years' worth of cases, the sample set is large and representative of the current direction of the court system. The parish courts of Westmoreland with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.11%, Hanover and St. Mary each with an estimated net case backlog rate of 0.13% have the lowest (best) estimated net case backlog rate in the time series, while the parish courts of St. Ann (2.87%), St. Thomas (2.71%) and Trelawny (2.70%) have the highest rates. As for the estimated gross backlog rate, the parish courts of Hanover (3.08%), St. Elizabeth (7.11%) and Westmoreland (7.20%) have the lowest (best) estimated gross backlog rates in the series, while the parish courts of St. Ann (20.78%), Manchester (17.29%) and Corporate Area Criminal Court (16.30%) have the highest rates. Taken together, these are quite impressive returns for the criminal court system in Jamaica and augur well for future prospects.

Table 17.0: Distribution of methods of disposition for matters set for trial during the year ended December 31, 2021

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage
Dismissed	1955	32.49
Not guilty	1598	26.55
Guilty Plea	1183	19.66
Mediated settlement	617	10.25
Guilty	458	7.61
Committed to Circuit	153	2.54
Transferred	54	0.90
Total	6018	100

The above table summarizes the common methods of disposition for a sample of cases proceeding to trial. It is seen that matters dismissed with 32.49% of the cases disposed, not guilty verdicts with 1,598 or 26.55% and disposals by way of guilty pleas with 1,183 or 19.66% account for the three leading methods of disposition in the sample for the year ended December 31, 2021.

Methods of Disposal and Conviction Rate

Table 18.0: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposition for the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Guilty Plea	Dismissed	Not Guilty Verdict	Transferred	Mediated Settlement	Guilty Verdict	Committed to Circuit Court	Total
St. Catherine	3977	1043	99	522	925	60	401	7027
Corporate Area Criminal	5890	1599	240	189	384	178	600	9080
Westmoreland	1454	1141	558	4	239	16	619	4031
St. James	2544	-	787	238	235	171	306	4281
Manchester	793	1572	156	208	374	170	288	3561
Clarendon	1600	138	793	94	220	260	240	3345
St. Elizabeth	1458	55	622	82	333	48	155	2753
Trelawny	937	490	47	10	234	37	199	1954
Hanover	1050	220	525	6	127	162	199	2289
Portland	410	1	575	-	106	27	139	1258
St. Mary	215	934	51	-	302	3	234	1739
St. Thomas	917	114	355	77	205	72	211	1951
St. Ann	817	415	231	345	178	9	70	2065
Total	22062	7722	5039	1775	3862	1213	3661	45334
Percentage of total	48.67	17.03	11.12	3.92	8.52	2.68	8.08	

Total sample size: 45,334

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts for the 2021 calendar year. From the sample, it is observed that the largest proportion of matters disposed of during the year were by way of a guilty plea with 48.67% of the sample, followed by matters dismissed with 17.03% and not guilty verdicts with 11.12%. Mediated settlements with 8.52%, matters committed to Circuit Court with 8.08%, matters transferred to another court with 3.92% and guilty verdicts with 2.68% account for the remaining disposals in the year. The combined 51.35% of the cases disposed of by way of guilty outcomes represent the

estimated criminal conviction rate in the parish courts for the year. This represents an increase of 13.63 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2020.

Common Reasons for Adjournment

Table 19.01: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment for the year ended December 31, 2021

Reasons for Adjournment	Count	Percentage (%)
Defendant Not Appearing (DNA) warrant issued	5851	25.75
File to be completed	2409	10.60
Disclosure	1771	7.79
Re-issue application	1683	7.41
Referred to Mediation	1657	7.29
Subpoena investigating officer	955	4.20
Defendants absent	715	3.15
Medical report unavailable	511	2.25
Subpoena crown witness	442	1.95
Sub-total	15994	70.39

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance = 22,722)

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 22,722 reasons for adjournments/continuance for matters heard in the 2021 calendar year across all parish courts. The largest proportion (25.75%) was due to the non-appearance of the accused, leading to the issuing of warrants. Adjournments due to the files to be completed with 10.60% and adjournments for disclosure with 7.79% rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment across the parish courts for the year. Adjournments

due to the re-issue of applications with 7.41% and for referrals to mediation with 7.29%, round of the top five reasons for adjournment in this period. The top five reasons for adjournment were also featured in the top five for the 2020 calendar year. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above account for 70.39% of the total sample of adjournments.

The case file integrity rate:

One factor, which has a significant bearing on the progression of cases through the court system, is the case file integrity rate. A case file is considered to have met the standards of integrity if at the point of a court hearing requiring the use of said file; it is complete, accurate, available and correctly listed for court. Hence reasons for adjournment such as file incomplete, file not ready for court, matter wrongly listed and matter not before the court have an adverse impact on the case file integrity rate of the courts. In the 2021 calendar year, the case file integrity rate for criminal matters across the parish courts was 87.59% as 12.41% of the total incidence of adjournments was due to the indicated factors, which impair the case file integrity rate. Of these factors, file to be completed accounts for 10.60% of the total incidence of adjournments/continuance and is the greatest contributor, adversely affecting the case file integrity rate. This rate is below the prescribed international standard of 98%-100%. This is an area in which major operational interventions need to be undertaken across the parish courts to improve the availability, completeness, accuracy and correct scheduling of case files for court.

Table 19.02: Summary of mention court activity for matters heard in the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish Court	Average number of mentions per case	Standard Deviation of Mentions Per Case	Skewness of mentions per case	Maximum Mention Court Frequency	Minimum Mention Court Frequency
Clarendon	2.81	2.30	1.43	19	1
Corporate Area	5.06	5.00	2.16	43	1
Hanover	3.48	3.61	4.22	40	1
Manchester	4.19	4.14	2.23	30	1
Portland	3.43	3.14	2.38	25	1
St. Ann	4.26	4.03	2.23	33	1
St. Catherine	3.50	3.25	3.67	40	1
St. Elizabeth	2.52	2.62	3.20	20	1
St. James	3.55	3.64	3.37	40	1
St. Mary	3.84	2.95	1.82	26	1
St. Thomas	3.59	2.94	2.02	23	1
Trelawny	1.10	0.39	5.08	4	1
Westmoreland	3.66	3.60	1.74	26	1
Weighted Average	25.38	-	-	-	-
Standard Deviation	0.95	-	-	-	-
Skewness	-1.06	-	-	-	-

The above table summarises the number of mention court appearances per case leading towards disposition in the criminal division of the parish courts for matters heard in the 2021 calendar year. The overall average number of appearances per 10 cases heard is 25, or roughly 3 appearances per case with a standard deviation of 0.95 across the courts sampled and a skewness of -1.06. Together, these results suggest that the average number of appearances per case is within the prescribed international standard, that a slightly larger proportion of cases have more than the overall average number of appearances and that there isn't on average a wide variation in the number of appearances per case across the courts. Among the parish courts with the highest number of appearances per cases for matters heard in the 2021 calendar year are the

Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, St. Ann and Manchester Parish Courts, while the Trelawny, St. Elizabeth and Clarendon Parish Courts were among those with the lowest case appearance incidence per case. In terms of cases disposed, the average mention court appearance for all cases resolved across all the parish courts combined in the 2021 calendar year was 3.74 with a standard deviation of 3.85. These results suggest that the overall average number of appearances per 10 cases disposed is 37 or roughly 4 appearances per disposed case.

Chapter 2.0: Case Demographics and Courtroom Activity

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

Table 20.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender for the year ended December 31, 2021

Charge	Male		Female		Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Breach of the disaster risk management act	6704	73.57	2409	26.43	9113	100.00
Breach of Curfew Order	5442	72.05	2111	27.95	7553	100.00
Assault occasioning bodily harm	3047	74.28	1055	25.72	4102	100.00
Unlawful wounding	2417	77.87	687	22.13	3104	100.00
Threat	1500	76.49	461	23.51	1961	100.00
Malicious destruction of property	1323	76.56	405	23.44	1728	100.00
Possession of offensive weapon	1234	94.27	75	5.73	1309	100.00
Failure to wear mask in a public place	1056	82.37	226	17.63	1282	100.00
Possession of ganja	812	76.82	245	23.18	1057	100.00
Littering	769	80.02	192	19.98	961	100.00

*****The gender of offenders was not available for every matter that was filed in the parish courts hence a sample is used. Sample size (N) = 52, 327**

The above table provides a sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender in the year ended December 31, 2021. Based on the data shown in chart 5.0, it is not surprising that males account for the dominant proportion of all these charges. Among the charges listed with the greatest imbalance in the gender distribution are threat, malicious destruction of property, possession of ganja and unlawful wounding for which over 75% of the

persons charged were male. More particularly, it is seen that possession of offensive weapon with 94.27% of the persons charged being male, failure to wear mask in a public space with 82.37% and littering with 80.02% had the most significant incidence of persons charged being male for the year. Breach of curfew order, breach of Disaster Risk Management Act and assault occasioning bodily harm saw the highest incidence of female involvement.

The below series of tables provide a sampling distribution of cases by assigned courtroom in the individual parish courts in the 2021 calendar year. These figures are derived from representative data from the respective courts and do not necessarily add back to the total population of cases outlined in the first few tables of the report.

Table 21.01: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Westmoreland for the 2021 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	1511	1258	112	72.54	90.67
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	23	10	9	1.10	82.61
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	3	0	1	0.14	33.33
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	115	62	1	5.52	54.78
Whithorn Outstation	388	348	19	18.63	94.59
Whithorn Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	43	37	0	2.06	86.05
Total/Average	2083	1715	142	100.00	89.15

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of criminal cases filed in the 2021 calendar year at the Westmoreland Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and

outstations in the parish and outlines the applicable disposal rates. The table separates Lay Magistrates' and night court cases heard in each of the relevant locations for ease of comparison. The data shows decisively that cases entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse and the outstation in Whithorn accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the year with 1,511 (72.54%) and 388 (18.63%) of cases respectively. Sittings at the Lay Magistrates' court at the main courthouse with 115 or 5.52% rank next. The number of cases heard in courtroom one (1,511 cases), increased by 66.41% going above the 908 cases recorded in the similar 2020 calendar year. The disposal rate also increased by 18.97 percentage points moving up to 90.67% compared to the 71.70% reported in 2020. In terms of cases disposed, sittings in courtroom number 1 with 1,258 cases accounted for the highest absolute share of cases disposed, relative to the number of new cases filed, and had the second highest disposal rate of 90.67%. The outstation in Whithorn rank next with 348 disposed cases and recorded the highest disposal rate of 94.59%, which is 22.18 percentage points above the 72.41% recorded in 2020.

The single outstation in Westmoreland accounted for 20.69% of the total sample of new cases heard, an increase of 4.10 percentage points when compared to the 16.59% recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar year. The main courthouse accounted for the remaining 81.37%, a decline of 4.10 percentage points when compared to the 83.41% recorded in 2020.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 1,511 new cases heard in courtroom number one, 35 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Eighteen (18) of these were disposed of in courtroom 2, fourteen (14) were disposed of in courtroom 3, three (3) at Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main

courthouse. Of the 388 cases heard at the Whithorn outstation, 1 case was disposed of in courtroom 1.

Table 21.02: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Corporate Area for the 2021 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	5738	2943	1251	89.59	73.09
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	2	2	0	0.03	100.00
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	4	1	1	0.06	50.00
Courtroom #6 (main courthouse)	186	52	5	2.90	30.65
Courtroom #7 (main courthouse)	196	95	7	3.06	52.04
Courtroom #8 (main courthouse)	1	0	0	0.02	0.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	257	150	54	4.01	79.38
Fast Track	3	0	1	0.05	33.33
Gordon Town Outstation	18	14	0	0.28	77.78
Total/Average	6405	3257	1319	100.00	71.44

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the year ended December 31, 2021 at the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for the highest proportion of new cases filed in the year with 89.59% of the total sample. Lay Magistrates’ sittings at the main courthouse with roughly 4.01% follows this and courtroom number 7 with 3.06%, rounding off the top three proportion of new cases filed in the year. Courtroom number two at the main courthouse accounts for the largest absolute share of cases disposed in the 2021 calendar year with 2,943 cases and the fourth highest disposal rate of 73.09%. When compared to the

corresponding 2020 calendar year, courtroom number two also accounted for the largest absolute share of cases disposed with 1,645 cases and had a disposal rate of 64.97%. This represents an increase of 1,298 cases disposed or a 78.91% increase and 8.12 percentage points increase in the disposal rate.

The main courthouse in Half-Way-Tree accounted for 99.67% of the total number of new cases heard in 2021.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 5,738 cases heard in courtroom two, 99 were disposed of in other courtrooms. Two (2) cases were disposed of at Courtroom 1, sixteen (16) were disposed of at courtroom 3, while Courtroom 4 accounted for 81 of these cases.

Table 21.03: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. James for the 2021 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	31	21	9	0.97	96.77
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	2543	1895	335	79.92	87.69
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	130	112	13	4.09	96.15
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	145	50	75	4.56	86.21
Cambridge Outstation	323	263	32	10.15	91.33
Lay Magistrates (main courthouse)	10	5	5	0.31	100.00
Total/Average	3182	2346	469	100.00	88.47

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the year ended December 31, 2021, at the St. James Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative

proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and outlines the disposal rates of the various courtrooms and outstations. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse in Montego Bay had the highest number of new cases filed with 2,543 cases or 79.92% of the sample, which is a 114.60% increase, or 1,358 cases more than the 1,185 cases recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar year. This was followed by Cambridge outstation with 10.15% and courtroom number 4 with 4.56% of the sample followed. Lay Magistrates' sittings had the highest disposal rate of 100%, relative to its low absolute numbers, while courtroom number 1 followed with a disposal rate of 96.77%. The main courthouse in Montego Bay accounts for 89.85% of the new cases heard in the 2021 calendar year. This is 3.28 percentage points below the 93.13% recorded in corresponding 2020 calendar year. The remaining 10.85% was accounted for by the sole outstation (Cambridge).

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. Of the 2,543 cases heard in courtroom two, 7 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Two (2) were disposed of in courtroom 3 and five (5) were disposed of in courtroom 4. Of the 130 cases heard in courtroom 2, one was disposed of in courtroom 2. There were 323 cases heard at the outstation in Cambridge, of that amount, 2 cases were disposed of in courtroom 2 at the main courthouse.

Table 21.04: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Catherine for the 2021 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	2995	1924	566	59.15	83.14
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	161	95	18	3.18	70.19
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	14	8	3	0.28	78.57
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	81	53	8	1.60	75.31
Courtroom #5 (main courthouse)	58	28	4	1.15	55.17
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	100	49	27	1.98	76.00
Linstead Outstation (Courtroom #1)	963	755	95	19.02	88.27
Linstead Outstation (Courtroom #2)	3	1	0	0.06	33.33
Linstead Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	35	18	15	0.69	94.29
Old Harbour Outstation (Courtroom #1)	563	432	61	11.12	87.57
Old Harbour Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	21	8	8	0.41	76.19
Portmore Outstation (Children's Court)	61	30	2	1.20	52.46
Portmore Outstation (Courtroom #1)	8	5	1	0.16	75.00
Total/Average	5063	3406	808	100.00	83.23

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the year ended December 31, 2021 at the St. Catherine Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and outlines the applicable disposal rates. The table separates Lay Magistrates' and night court matters for the relevant locations for ease of comparisons. The data shows decisively that cases entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse in Spanish Town and Linstead outstation account for the largest share of new cases heard in the year with

59.15% and 19.02% of the cases respectively. Courtroom 1 at the outstation in Old Harbour with 11.12% of new cases filed ranks next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 1,924 cases, which is an increase of 187.16% or 1,254 cases more than the 670 cases recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar year. Courtroom 1 also had the fourth highest disposal rate of 83.14%, which is an increase of 15.91 percentage points above the 67.23% recorded in the comparable 2020 calendar year. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the Linstead Outstation accounted for the highest disposal rate of 94.29%, followed by courtroom 1 at the Linstead Outstation with a disposal rate of 88.27%. The main courthouse in Spanish Town accounts for 67.34% of the total sample of new cases heard in 2021, an increase of 4.33 percentage points above the 63.01% recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar year. The outstations combined accounted for the remaining 32.66%.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 2,995 cases heard in courtroom number one, 163 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. The children's court at the Portmore Outstation and the Linstead outstation disposed of 2 cases each, courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse disposed of 58 cases, courtroom 3 disposed of 36 cases, courtroom 4 disposed of 28 cases and courtroom 5 disposed of 32 cases. The remaining 5 cases were disposed of in the old Harbour outstation with 1 case and Lay Magistrates' Court at the main courthouse with 4 cases.

21.05: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Thomas for the 2021 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main courthouse)	34	5	0	3.44	14.71
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	401	312	15	40.63	81.55
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	303	178	25	30.70	67.00
Yallahs Outstation (Lay Magistrates' Court)	3	0	2	0.30	66.67
Yallahs Outstation	246	175	8	24.92	74.39
Total/Average	987	670	50	100.00	72.95

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the year ended December 31, 2021 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The data shows decisively that cases entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the year with 40.63% and 30.70% respectively. Courtroom number 1 also accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 312 cases and the highest disposal rate of 81.55%. When compared to the corresponding 2020 calendar year, this represents an increase of 19.52 percentage points above the 62.03% recorded. The Yallahs outstation with a disposal rate of 74.39% (compared to 62.20% in 2020) accounts for the highest disposal rate in the year.

The main courthouse in Morant Bay accounted for 74.77% of the total new cases heard in the year, which is a decrease of 2.95 percentage points when compared to the 77.72% recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar year. The remaining 25.23% was accounted for by the Yallahs

outstation, an increase of 2.95 percentage points when compared to the 22.28% recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar year.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 401 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, 19 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Courtroom number 2 accounted for 13 cases, while the outstation in Yallahs accounted for 6 disposed cases. Of the 303 cases heard in courtroom number two, 27 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. Courtroom number 1 accounted for 22 cases, while the outstations in Yallahs disposed of 5 cases.

Table 21.06: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Trelawny for the 2021 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	42	32	1	3.60	78.57
Children’s Court (main courthouse)	1	1	0	0.09	100.00
Falmouth Outstation	595	390	36	51.03	71.60
Falmouth Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	29	20	2	2.49	75.86
Ulster Spring Outstation	336	224	32	28.82	76.19
Ulster Spring Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	12	8	1	1.03	75.00
Clarks Town Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	6	2	0	0.51	33.33
Clarks Town Outstation (Courtroom #1)	145	91	12	12.44	71.03
Total/Average	1166	768	84	100.00	73.07

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the year ended December 31, 2021 at the Trelawny Parish Court. The data shows decisively that cases entered in the Falmouth outstation accounts for the majority of new cases heard in the year, with 51.03%.

The outstation in Ulster Spring and courtroom 1 at the Clarks Town Outstation with 28.82% and 12.44% respectively, followed. Children's court, despite its low absolute numbers, recorded the highest disposal rate of 100%. Courtroom number one at the main courthouse and the Ulster Spring outstation ranked next with disposal rates of 78.57% and 76.19% respectively. The outstations accounts for 96.31% of the new cases heard in 2021, while the remaining 3.69% were accounted for by the main courthouse. In the corresponding 2020 calendar year, the main courthouse accounted for 13.86% of the new cases heard, while the remaining 86.14% were accounted for by the outstations.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 595 cases heard in the Falmouth outstation, 15 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. The courtroom one at the outstation in Clarks Town accounted for 8 cases, courtroom 1 at main courthouse disposed of 4 cases, while Lay Magistrates' sittings at the outstation in Falmouth disposed of in 3 cases.

Table 21.07: Aggregate case statistics for each outstation in the Parish of St. Mary for the 2021 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main courthouse)	16	8	0	1.69	50.00
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	568	411	34	60.17	78.35
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	19	17	1	2.01	94.74
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	7	5	0	0.74	71.43
Annotto Bay Outstation	186	145	11	19.70	83.87
Gayle Outstation	34	30	2	3.60	94.12
Richmond Outstation	114	95	5	12.08	87.72
Total/Average	944	711	53	100.00	80.93

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Mary in the 2021 calendar year. The data shows decisively that courtrooms number 1 at the main courthouse and the Annotto Bay outstation accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the year, with 60.17% and 19.70% respectively of the total sample. The outstations in Richmond and Gayle with 12.08% and 3.60% respectively rank next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Port Maria accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 411 cases, an increase of 42.71% or 123 cases above the 288 cases recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar year and had a case disposal rate of 78.35%. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse had the highest disposal rate of 94.74%, followed by the Gayle outstation with a rate of 94.12%. The outstations in the parish account for a combined 35.38% of the total sample of new cases heard in the 2021 calendar year. An increase of 3.03 percentage points above the 32.35% recorded in the

corresponding 2020 calendar year. On the other hand, the main courthouse accounts for 64.62%, which is a decrease of 3.03 percentage point below the 67.65% recorded in 2020.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 568 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, 60 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. Children’s court, disposed of 1 case, the Annotto Bay outstation disposed of 2 cases each, courtroom 2 disposed of 42 cases, while courtroom 3 disposed of 15 cases.

Table 21.08: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Portland for 2021 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main courthouse)	3	2	0	0.24	66.67
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	762	546	91	62.10	83.60
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	22	19	0	1.79	86.36
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	17	9	3	1.39	70.59
Buff Bay Outstation (courtroom #1)	254	200	18	20.70	85.83
Buff Bay Outstation (Children’s court)	29	7	3	2.36	34.48
Manchioneal Outstation	140	103	10	11.41	80.71
Total/Average	1227	886	125	100.00	82.40

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Portland in the 2021 calendar year. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the main court in Port Antonio accounts for the majority of new cases heard in the period, with 62.10% of the total sample. In the 2020 calendar year, courtroom one also accounted for the majority of new cases heard with 59.52% of the

cases. Courtroom number 1 at the outstation in Buff Bay and Manchioneal outstations with 20.70% (compared to 15.65% in 2020) and 11.41% (compared to 10.87% in 2020) respectively of the total sample of the new cases heard in the period ranked next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Port Antonio accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 546 cases, a 56% increase or 196 more cases compared to the 350 cases recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar year; and had the third highest disposal rate of 83.60%. Courtroom number two at the main courthouse and courtroom one at the Buff Bay outstation with rates of 86.36% and 85.83% respectively were among the top three on this measure. The outstations in Portland account for a combined 34.48% of the new cases heard, which is an increase of 5.57 percentage points above the 28.91% recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar year. The main courthouse in Port Antonio accounts for the remaining 65.52%, which is a decrease of 5.57 percentage points below the 71.09% recorded in the 2020 calendar year.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 762 cases heard in courtroom number one, 47 cases disposed of in other courtrooms. Courtrooms two and three disposed of 27 cases and 19 cases respectively, while the Manchioneal outstation disposed of 1 case.

Table 21.09: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Hanover for the year of ended December 31, 2021

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courtroom)	494	400	16	40.59	84.21
Courtroom #2 (main courtroom)	148	108	9	12.16	79.05
Courtroom #3 (main courtroom)	4	4	0	0.33	100.00
Green Island Outstation (courtroom #1)	162	140	5	13.31	89.51
Green Island Outstation (Courtroom #2)	2	2	0	0.16	100.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	63	53	2	5.18	87.30
Green Island Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	33	20	5	2.71	75.76
Ramble Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	7	7	0	0.58	100.00
Ramble Outstation (courtroom #1)	107	99	5	8.79	97.20
Sandy Bay Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	36	28	3	2.96	86.11
Sandy Bay Outstation (courtroom #1)	161	142	10	13.23	94.41
Total/Average	1217	1003	55	100.00	86.94

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Hanover in the 2021 calendar year. The data shows decisively that courtroom number one at the main court in Lucea accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the year, with 40.59% of the total sample and is 6.15 percentage points below the 46.74% recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar year. Courtroom one at the Green Island outstation and courtroom one at the outstation in Sandy Bay with 13.31% and 13.23% respectively rank next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 400 cases, a 29.87% improvement or 92 more cases than the 308 cases recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar

year. Courtroom 1 at the main courthouse also recorded the ninth highest case disposal rate of 84.21%, which is an increase of 6.74 percentage points above the 77.47% reported in the comparative 2020 calendar year. Despite the relatively low absolute numbers, Lay Magistrates' sittings at the outstation in Ramble, courtroom 3 at the main courthouse and courtroom 2 at the Ramble outstation all recorded a disposal rate of 100%. The outstations in the parish account for 41.74% of the new cases heard during the year, which is an increase of 5.23 percentage points above the 36.51% in the 2020 calendar year. The main courthouse accounts for the remaining 58.26%, which is a decrease of 5.23 percentage points below the 63.49% when compared to 2020.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 494 cases heard in courtroom number one at the main courthouse, Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse disposed of 2 cases, while courtroom two, courtroom 1 at the Sandy Bay outstation and courtroom 1 at the Green Island outstation each disposed of 1 case.

Table 21.10: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Elizabeth for the 2021 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rates (%)
Santa Cruz (Children's Court)	23	12	0	1.14	52.17
Balaclava (Children's Court)	3	1	0	0.15	33.33
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	287	184	19	14.28	70.73
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	64	26	17	3.18	67.19
Balaclava Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	16	3	8	0.80	68.75
Balaclava Outstation (courtroom #1)	156	105	12	7.76	75.00
Santa Cruz Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	76	20	29	3.78	64.47
Santa Cruz Outstation (courtroom #1)	1330	801	108	66.17	68.35
Santa Cruz Outstation (courtroom #2)	55	45	6	2.74	92.73
Total/Average	2010	1197	199	100.00	69.45

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Elizabeth for the 2021 calendar year. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the Santa Cruz outstation and Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse in Black River accounted for highest share of new cases heard in the year, with 66.17% and 14.28% respectively of the total sample. When compared to the similar 2020 calendar year, both afore mentioned courtrooms also accounted for the highest share of new cases heard with 56.64% and 20.64% respectively. This data represents an increase of 9.53 percentage points for the outstation in Santa Cruz and a decrease of 6.36 percentage points for courtroom 1 at the main courthouse. Courtroom 1 at the Balaclava outstation with 7.76%, and Lay Magistrates sittings at the Santa Cruz outstation with 3.78% round off the top

share of new cases heard in the 2021 calendar year. Courtroom 2 at the outstation in Santa Cruz recorded the highest disposal rate of 92.73% in the 2021 calendar year. Courtroom number 1 at the Balaclava outstation and Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse ranked next with disposal rates of 75% and 70.73% respectively. The Santa Cruz and Balaclava outstations accounts for the majority of new cases heard in the 2021 calendar year with 82.54%, while the main courthouse in Black River accounts for 17.46%.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 287 cases heard in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, the children's court in Santa Cruz, courtroom 1 in the Balaclava outstation and courtroom 2 in the Santa Cruz outstation disposed of 2 cases each. Courtroom 1 at the Santa Cruz outstation disposed of 31 cases.

Table 21.11: Aggregate case statistics for each outstation in the Parish of St. Ann for the 2021 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
St. Ann's Bay and the Claremont outstation					
Claremont (Children's Court)	15	9	1	0.76	66.67
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	669	323	172	33.99	73.99
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	391	163	71	19.87	59.85
Lay Magistrates' Court (main Courthouse)	140	29	44	7.11	52.14
Claremont Outstation	129	93	9	6.55	79.07
Claremont Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	21	6	15	1.07	100.00
Browns Town					
Children's Court	8	5	3	0.41	100.00
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	466	202	63	23.68	56.87
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	129	23	42	6.55	50.39
Total/Average	1968	853	420	100.00	64.68

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Ann in the year ended December 31, 2021.

The data shows that courtroom 1 in both St. Ann's Bay (the main court) and Browns Town account for the largest shares of new cases heard in the year with 33.99% and 23.68% respectively of the total sample. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse with 19.87% is among the top three largest share of new cases heard. When compared to 2020, the data shows that courtroom 1 in both St. Ann's Bay (main courthouse) and Browns Town were among the top three largest share of new cases heard in the year with 30.13% and 26.77% respectively of the total sample. In terms

of cases disposed of, courtroom 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed of with 323 cases and had a disposal rate of 73.99%. Despite its proportionately low numbers, Lay Magistrates' sittings at the Claremont outstation and Children's Court at the Browns Town outstation both had a disposal rate of 100%. The outstation in Claremont with 79.07%, Children's court at the Claremont outstation with 66.67%, were among the highest disposal rates for the year. As a whole, the Brown's Town court accounted for approximately 30.64% of the new cases filed in the parish of St. Ann in the 2021 calendar year, which is 12.23 percentage points below the 42.87% recorded in the corresponding 2020 calendar year. The St. Ann's Bay courthouse accounts for 60.97% of the new cases heard in the year and the Claremont outstation accounted for the remaining 8.39% of new cases.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 669 cases heard in courtroom number one at the main courthouse, 4 cases were disposed of in Claremont outstation and 48 cases were disposed of at courtroom 2.

Table 21.12: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom/outstation in the Parish of Clarendon for 2021 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	1123	773	80	46.89	75.96
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	277	185	61	11.57	88.81
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	45	37	4	1.88	91.11
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	90	77	11	3.76	97.78
Lionel Town Outstation	458	308	46	19.12	77.29
Chapleton Outstation	334	230	29	13.95	77.54
Frankfield Outstation	68	45	9	2.84	79.41
Total/Average	2395	1655	240	100.00	79.12

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Clarendon in the year ended December 31, 2021. The available data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 in May Pen accounted for highest share of new cases heard in the year, with 46.89% of the total sample. The outstations in Lionel Town and Chapleton account for the next highest shares of new cases heard in the year with 19.12% and 13.95% respectively of the total sample. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 773 cases, an increase of 185.24% or 502 cases higher than the 271 disposed cases recorded for this courtroom in the 2020 calendar year and had the lowest disposal rate of 75.96%. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse had the highest disposal rate of 97.78%. Courtroom number three at the main courthouse with 91.11%, courtroom number two at the main courthouse with 88.81%, the outstation in Frankfield with 79.41% were among the highest

disposal rates for 2021 calendar year. The main courthouse in May Pen accounted for 64.10% of cases heard in year, while the remaining 35.90% was accounted for by the outstations, which is an increase of 5.43 percentage points above the 30.47% recorded in 2020.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. Of the 1,123 cases heard in courtroom number one, children's court and the Lionel Town Outstation disposed of 1 case each. Courtroom number 2 and the Chapleton outstation disposed of 2 cases each and courtroom number 3 disposed of 3 cases. Of the 458 cases heard at the outstation in Lionel Town, 5 were disposed of in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, 2 were disposed of in courtroom two and 1 was disposed of in the children's court.

Table 21.13: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Manchester for the 2021 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2021	Number of new cases disposed of in 2021	Number of inactive cases in 2021	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	402	253	16	24.71	66.92
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	335	206	17	20.59	66.57
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	45	25	2	2.77	60.00
Children's Court (main courthouse)	11	6	1	0.68	63.64
Porus (Children's Court)	12	9	0	0.74	75.00
Cottage Outstation	33	14	2	2.03	48.48
Cottage Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	3	0	0	0.18	0.00
Christiana Outstation	191	115	14	11.74	67.54
Christiana Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	43	16	2	2.64	41.86
Spalding Outstation	134	84	10	8.24	70.15
Spalding Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	12	10	0	0.74	83.33
Porus Outstation	84	45	4	5.16	58.33
Porus Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	12	5	0	0.74	41.67
Cross Keys Outstation	42	24	2	2.58	61.90
Cross Keys Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	5	0	0	0.31	0.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	263	155	33	16.16	71.48
Total/Average	1627	967	103	100.00	65.77

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Manchester in the year ended December 31, 2021. The data shows courtroom 1 at the main courthouse accounted for the highest share of new cases heard in the year, with 402 cases or 24.71% of the total sample. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse and Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse accounts for the next highest share of new cases heard in the year with 20.59% and 16.16% respectively of the total sample. The outstation in Christiana and the outstation in Spalding followed, with 191 cases

or 11.74% and 134 cases or 8.24% of the total sample of cases filed in the year. In terms of case disposal rate, Lay Magistrates' sittings at the Spalding outstation, despite having proportionately low numbers, recorded the highest disposal rate of 83.33%. Children's court at the outstation in Porus with 75%, Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with 71.48% and the Spalding outstation with 70.15% were among the highest disposal rates for the year. The main courthouse in Mandeville accounts for 64.90% of the total sample of new cases heard during the 2021 calendar year, which is a decrease of 4.46 percentage points when compared to the 69.36% recorded in the 2020 calendar year. The remaining 35.10% was accounted for by the various outstations.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 402 cases heard in courtroom number one at the main courthouse, 1 case was disposed of at the Spalding outstation, Children's court disposed of 2 cases, courtroom 2 disposed of 6 cases and courtroom 3 disposed of 4 cases. Of the 335 cases heard in courtroom number two at the main courthouse, courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, Children's court in Porus, Children's court at the main courthouse, the outstations in Spalding and Cross Keys disposed of 1 case each. Courtrooms one and three disposed of 4 cases and 2 cases respectively.

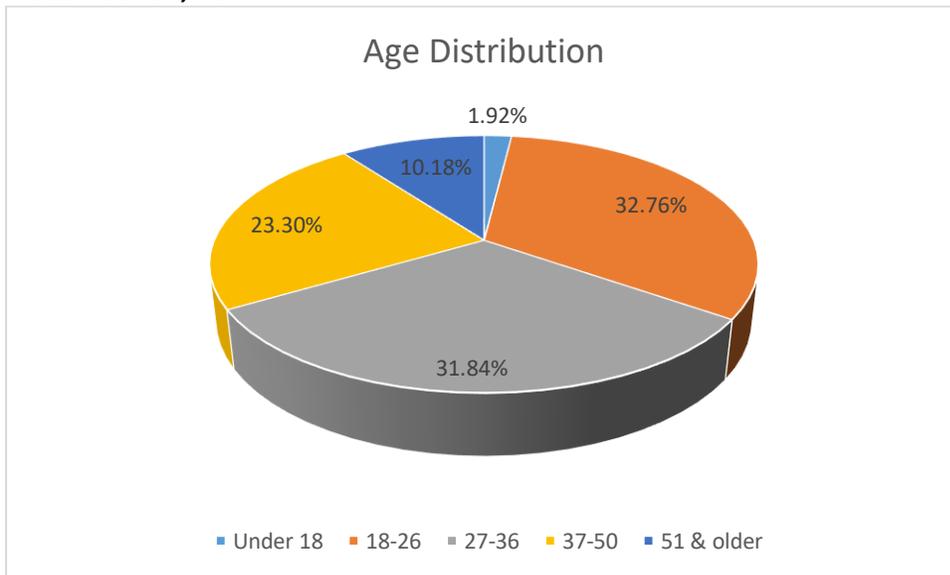
Table 21.14: proportion of cases heard at the main court and outstation across all parish courts for the year ended December 31, 2021

Parish	Main Court 2021 (%)	Outstation 2021 (%)
Westmoreland	79.31	20.69
Corporate Area-Criminal	99.67	0.33
St. James	89.85	10.15
St. Catherine	67.34	32.66
St. Thomas	74.77	25.23
Trelawny	3.69	96.31
St. Mary	64.62	35.38
Portland	65.52	34.48
Hanover	58.26	41.74
St. Elizabeth	17.46	82.54
St. Ann	60.97	39.03
Clarendon	64.1	35.9
Manchester	64.9	35.1
Simple Averages	62.34	37.66

The above table provides a proxy summary of the distribution of the utilization of the main courthouse locations and combined outstation usage in the hearing of new criminal cases filed. It is seen that 62.34% of new cases filed were entered for initial hearing in the main courthouse locations, while 37.66% were allocated for outstations. There are significant variances in the extent of main courthouse and outstation usage for the hearing of criminal matters across the parishes. It is seen, for example, that in parishes such as Corporate Area (Kingston and St. Andrew), St. James and Westmoreland, in excess of 75% of the new cases filed were entered for initial hearing, with the usage being particularly acute in the Corporate Area Court Criminal Division, which had 99.67% of cases entered for initial hearing at the main courthouse. On the contrary, there are parishes where the level of outstation usage competes with or outruns the usage of the main courthouse in the hearing of criminal cases filed. St. Elizabeth and Trelawny are good examples of courts with significant outstation usage, each registering over 80% for

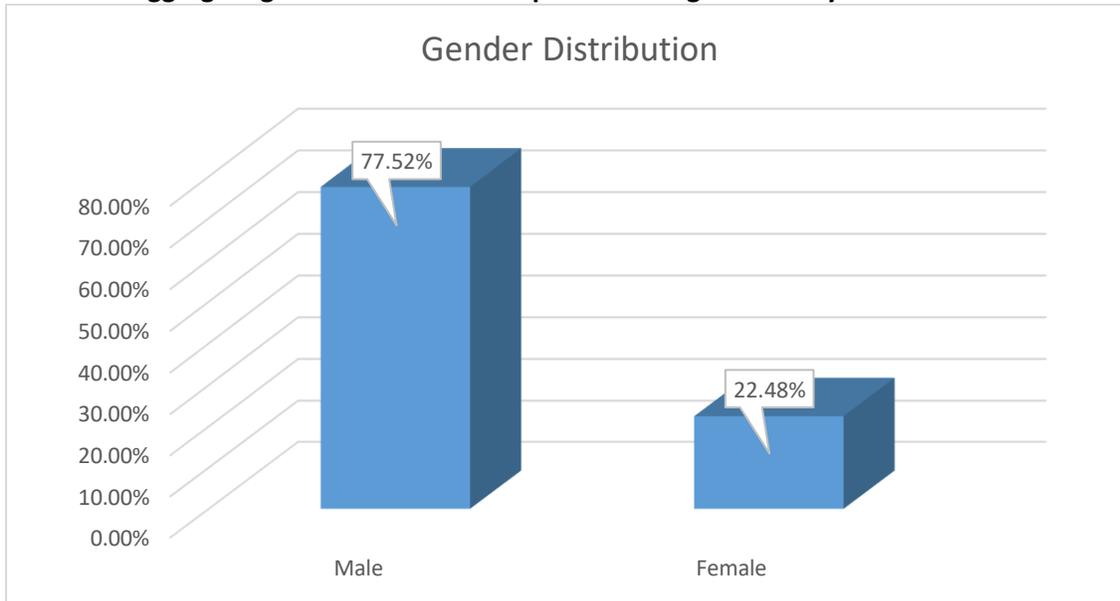
initial hearing of new criminal cases filed in the year ended December 31, 2021. There may be opportunities for greater utilization of outstations to carry the caseload in some parishes, but such precise determinations require further analyses of total 'demand and supply, in each location.

Chart 4.0: Aggregate age distribution of persons charged for all parish courts for the year ended December 31, 2021



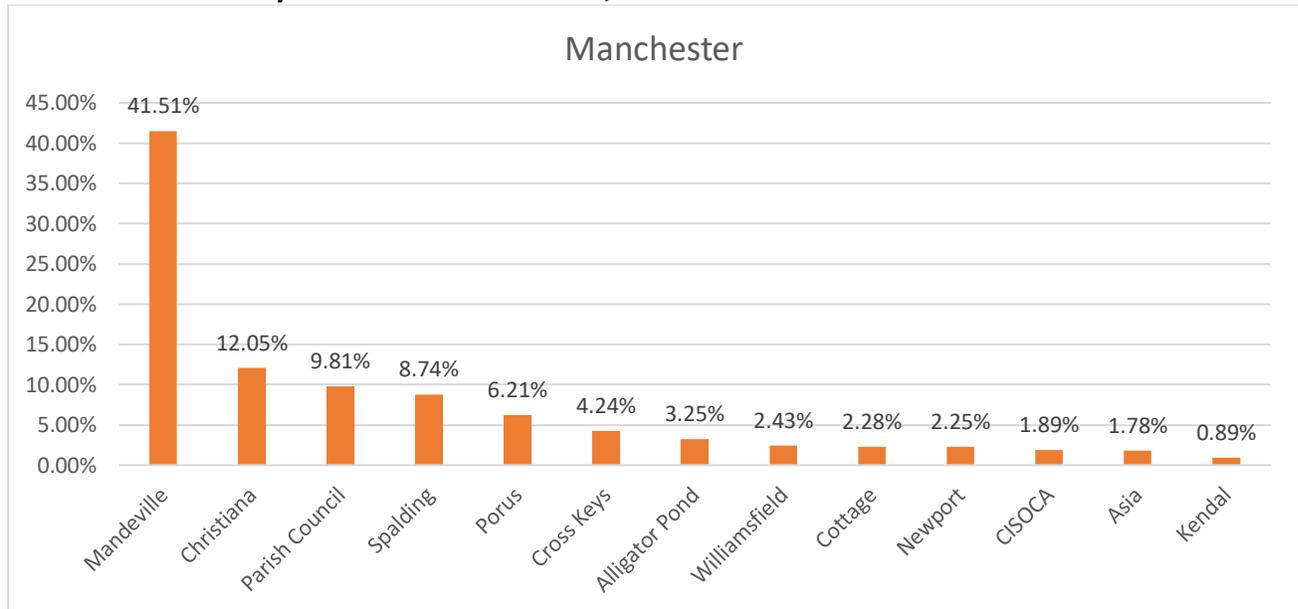
The above chart summarizes the age distribution of persons charged and brought before the criminal division of the parish courts in the 2021 calendar year. It is shown that the 18-26 age group with 32.76% accounted for the largest share of the persons charged, followed by the 27-36 age group with 31.84%. The lowest shares were attributed to the under 18 age group with 1.92% and 51 and over age group with 9.56%. The remaining proportion was accounted for by the 37-50 age group with 22.82% of the total sample.

Chart 5.0: Aggregate gender distribution of persons charged for the year ended December 31, 2021



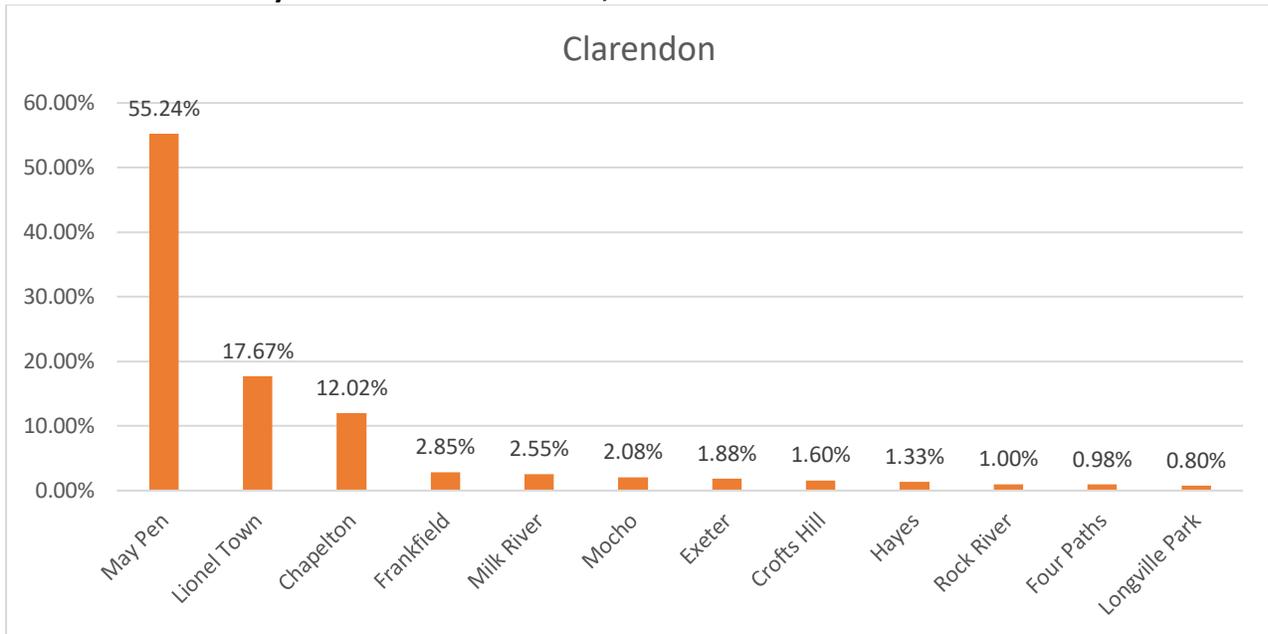
The above chart shows that the overwhelming majority of persons charged for the 2021 calendar year were male, accounting for roughly 77.52% of the total sample, while females accounted for approximately 22.48%. The gender distribution of persons charged during the 2021 calendar year was broadly similar to the breakdown for the 2020 calendar year which had a male to female ratio of approximately 81.42% to 18.57%.

Chart 6.01: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Manchester Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



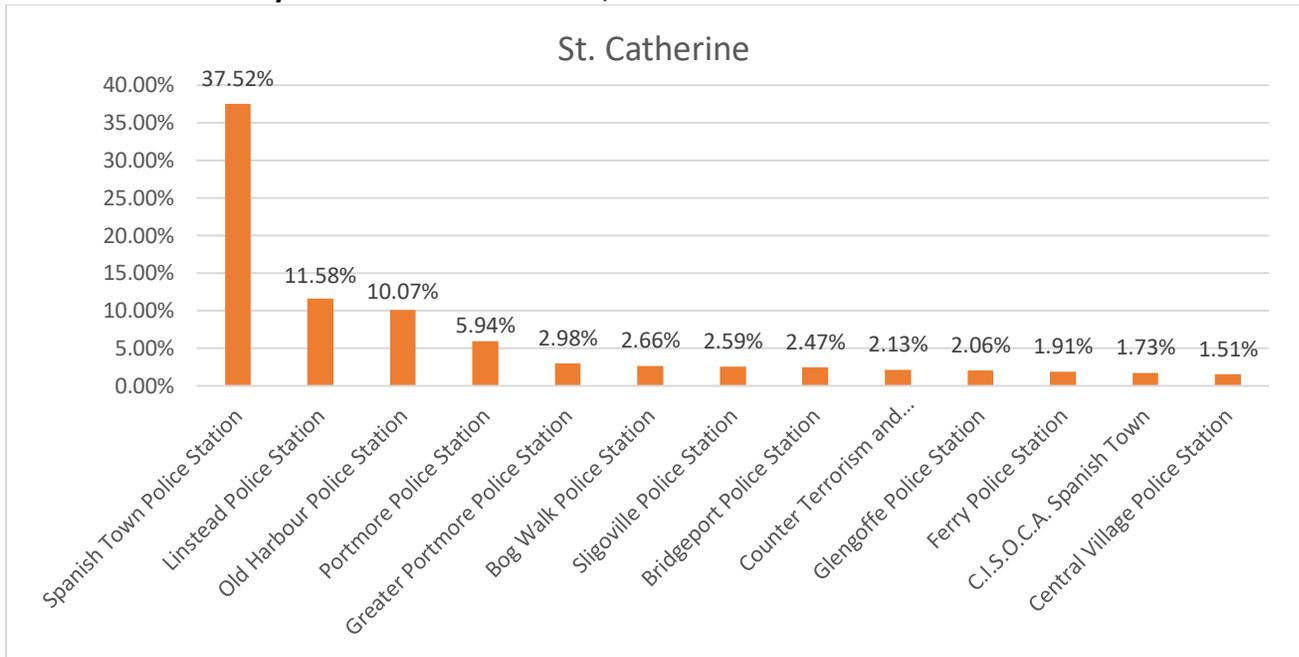
The above chart shows the distribution of charges at the Manchester Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 2,804 records indicate that for the 2021 calendar year the highest proportion of charges, 41.51%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Mandeville Police Station. This was followed by the Christiana police station, which accounts for 12.05% of the total sample of matters reported. The Parish Council rounded off the top three with 9.81%. In the corresponding 2020 calendar year, the top three comprised of the Mandeville Police Station, the Christiana Police Station, and the Parish Council. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.02: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Clarendon Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



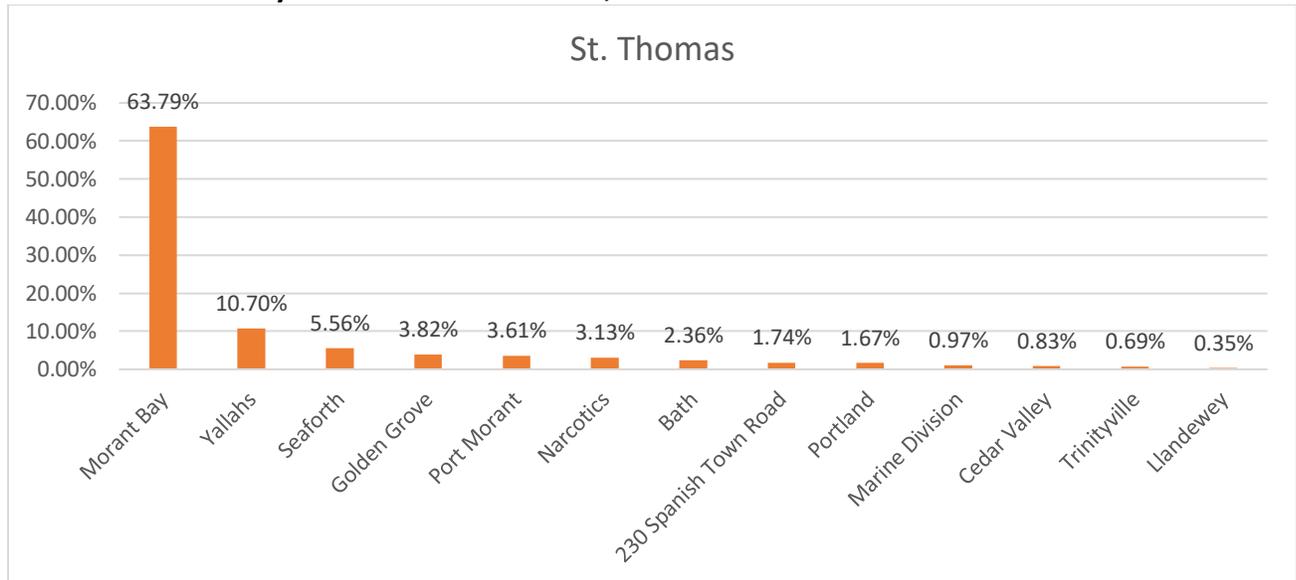
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 3,995 records indicate that for the 2021 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 55.24%, which were brought before the Court were reported in the May Pen Police Station. This was followed by the Lionel Town Police Station which accounts for 17.67% of the total sample matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Chapelton Police with 12.02%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the May Pen Police Station, the Lionel Town and the Chapelton Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.03: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Catherine Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



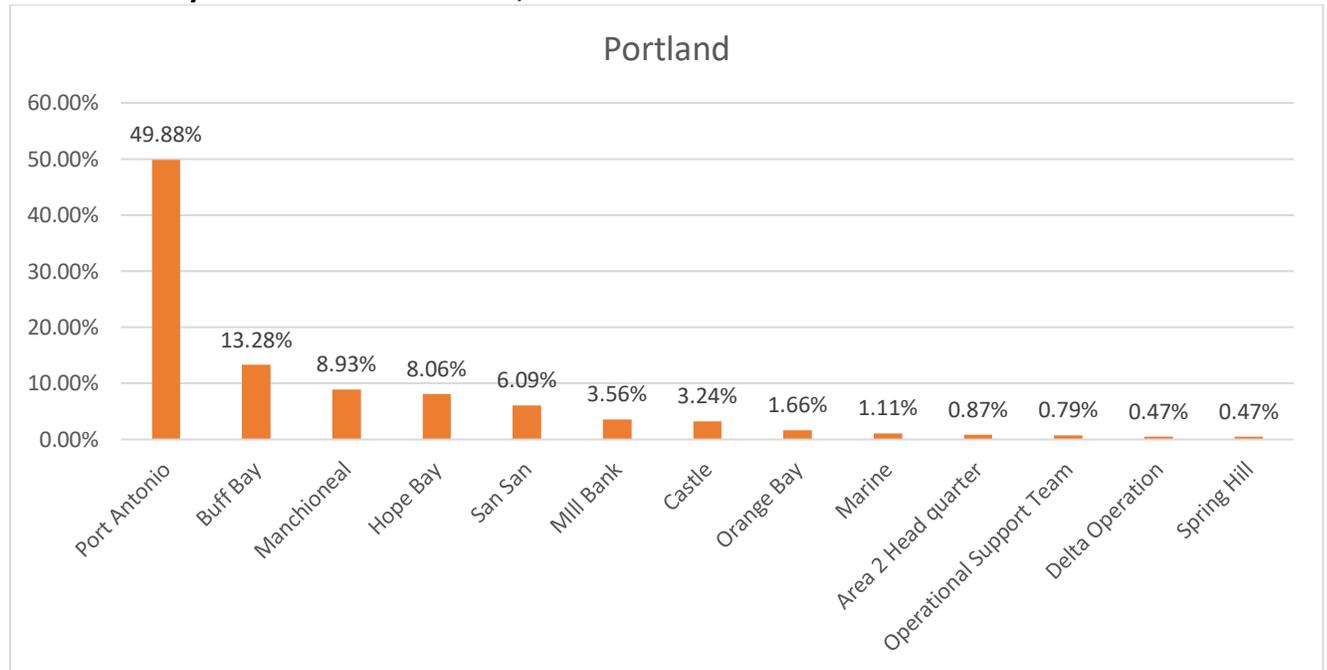
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 8,264 records indicate that for the 2021 calendar year, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 37.52%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Spanish Town Police Station. This was followed by the Linstead Police Station which accounts for 11.58% of the total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Old Harbour Police Station with 10.07%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Spanish Town Police Station, the Portmore and the Old Harbour Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.04: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Thomas Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



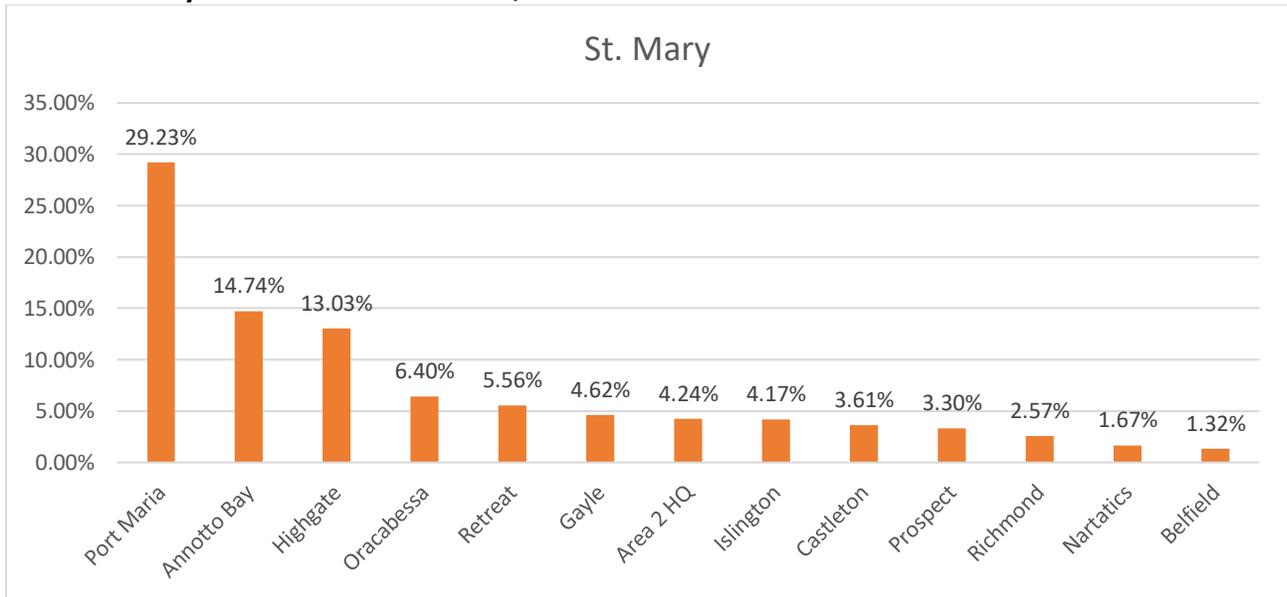
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 1,439 records indicate that for the 2021 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 63.79%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Morant Bay Police Station. This was followed by the Yallahs Police Station which accounts for 10.70% of the total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Seaforth Police Station with 5.56%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Morant Bay Police Station, the Yallahs Police Station and the Seaforth Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.05: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Portland Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



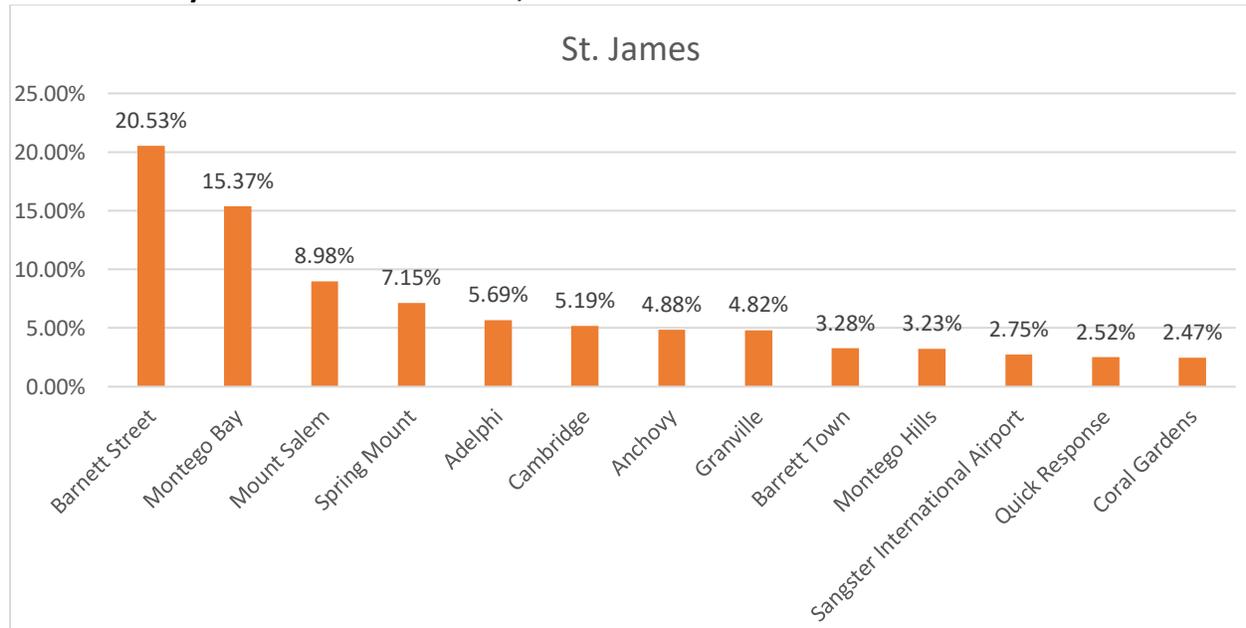
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Portland Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 1,265 records indicate that for the 2021 calendar year, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 49.88%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Port Antonio Police Station. This was followed by the Buff Bay Police Station, which accounts for 13.28% of the total sample matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Manchioneal Police Station with 8.93%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Port Antonio Police Station, the Buff Bay Police Station and the Manchioneal Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.06: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Mary Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



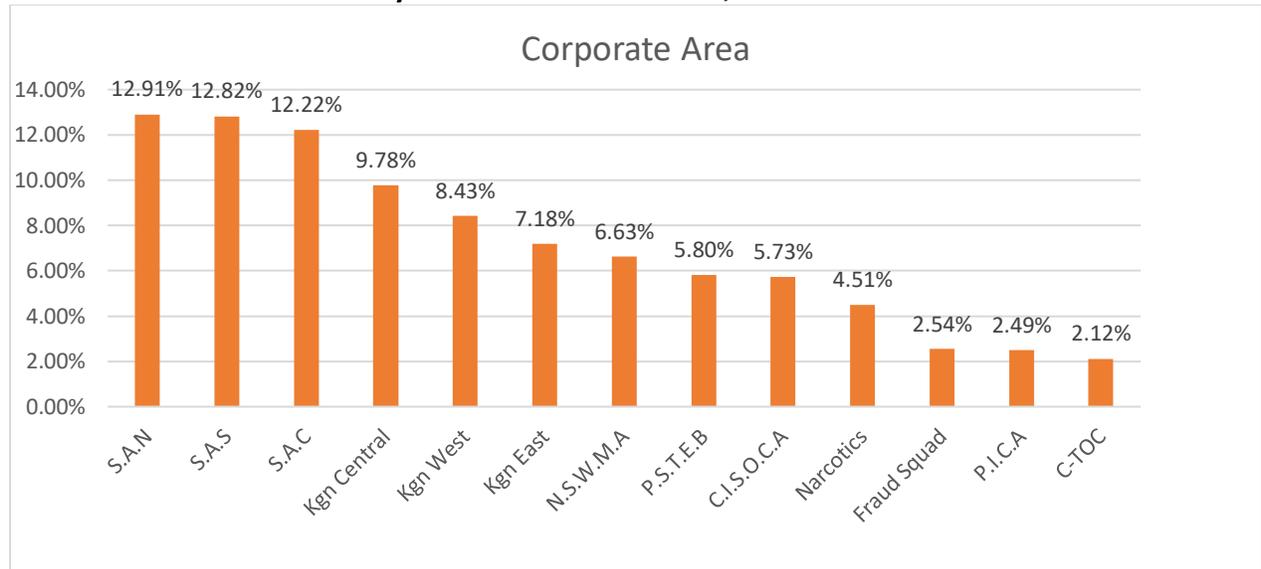
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 2,877 records indicate that for the 2021 calendar year, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 29.23%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Port Maria Police Station. This was followed by the Annotto Bay Police Station which accounts for 14.74% of the total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Highgate Police with 13.03%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Port Maria Police Station, the Annotto Bay Police Station and the Highgate Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.07: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. James Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



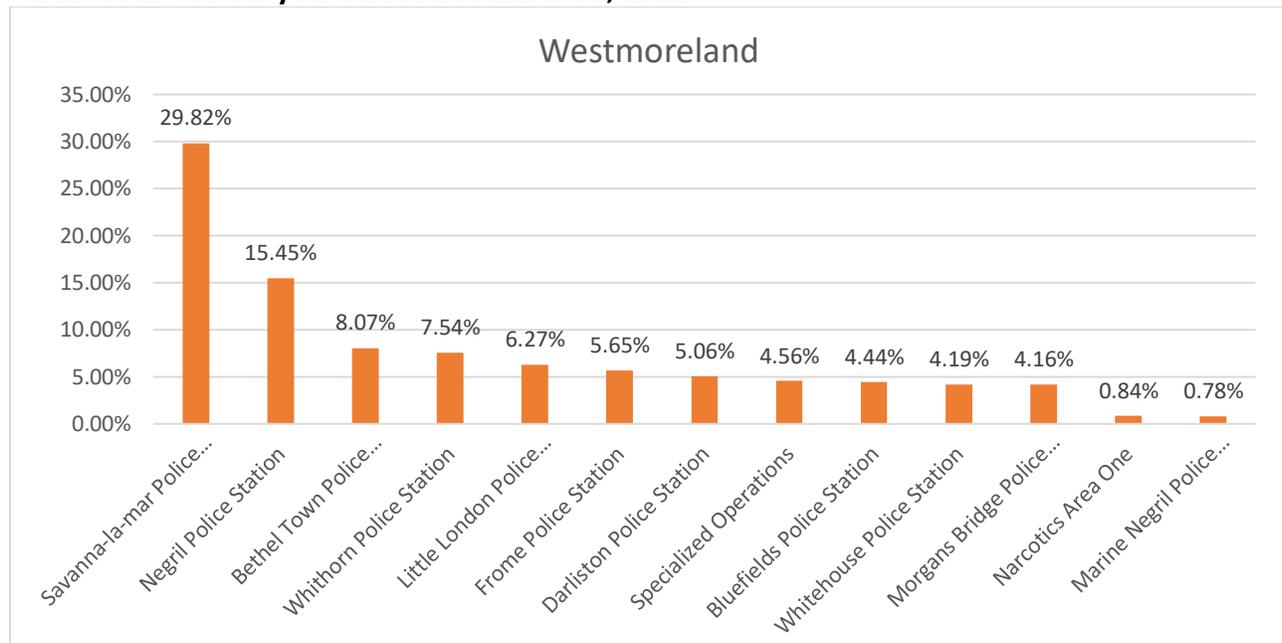
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. James Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 3,565 records indicate that for the 2021 calendar year, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 20.53%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Barnett Street Police Station. This was followed by the Montego Bay Police Station, which accounts for 15.37% of the total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Mount Salem Police Station with 8.98%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Barnett Street Police Station, the Montego Bay Police station and the Mount Salem Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.08: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Corporate Area Criminal Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



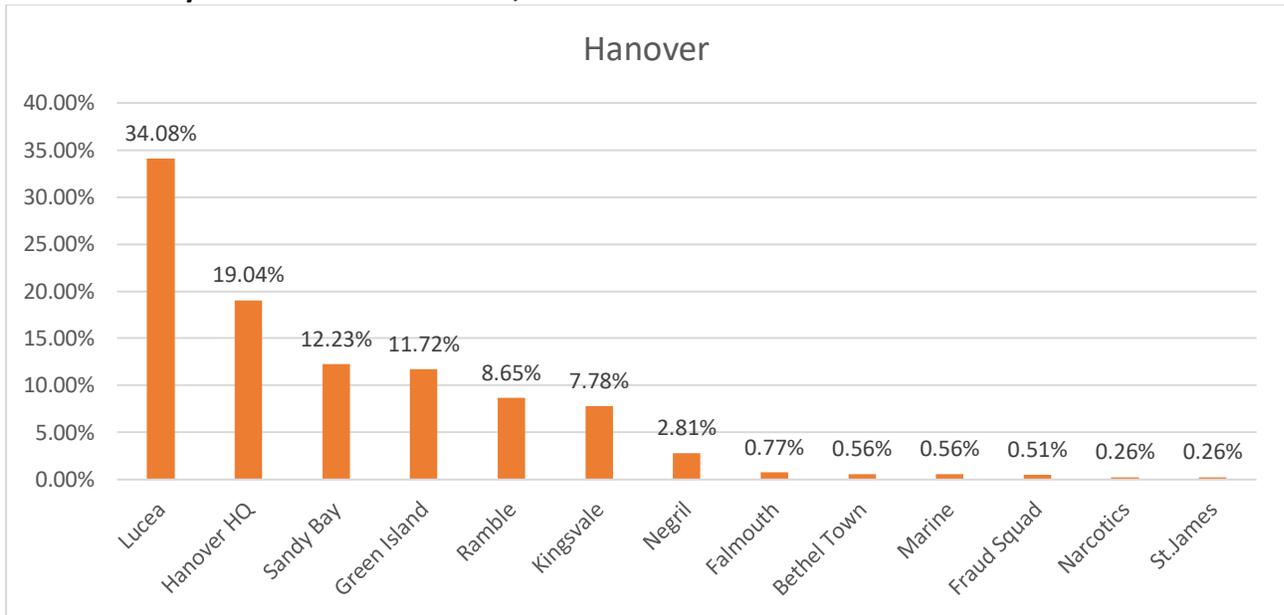
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 12,270 records indicate that for the 2021 calendar year, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 12.91%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the St. Andrew North Police Station. This was followed by the St. Andrew South Police Station which accounts for 12.82% of the sample matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the St. Andrew Central Police with 12.22%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the St. Andrew Central Police Station, the Kingston Central Police Station and the St. Andrew South Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.09: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Westmoreland Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



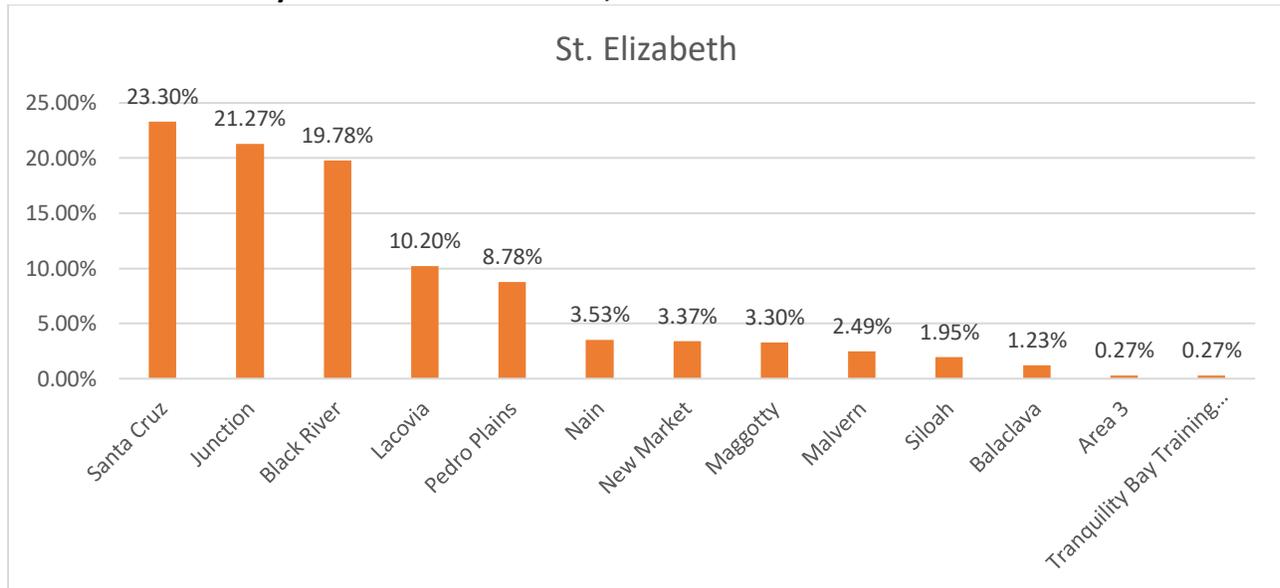
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 3,223 records indicate that for the 2021 calendar year, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 29.82%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Savanna-la-mar Police Station. This was followed by the Negril Police Station which accounts for 15.45% of the total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Bethel Town Police Station with 8.07%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Savanna-la-mar Police Station, the Negril Police Station and the Little London Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.10: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Hanover Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



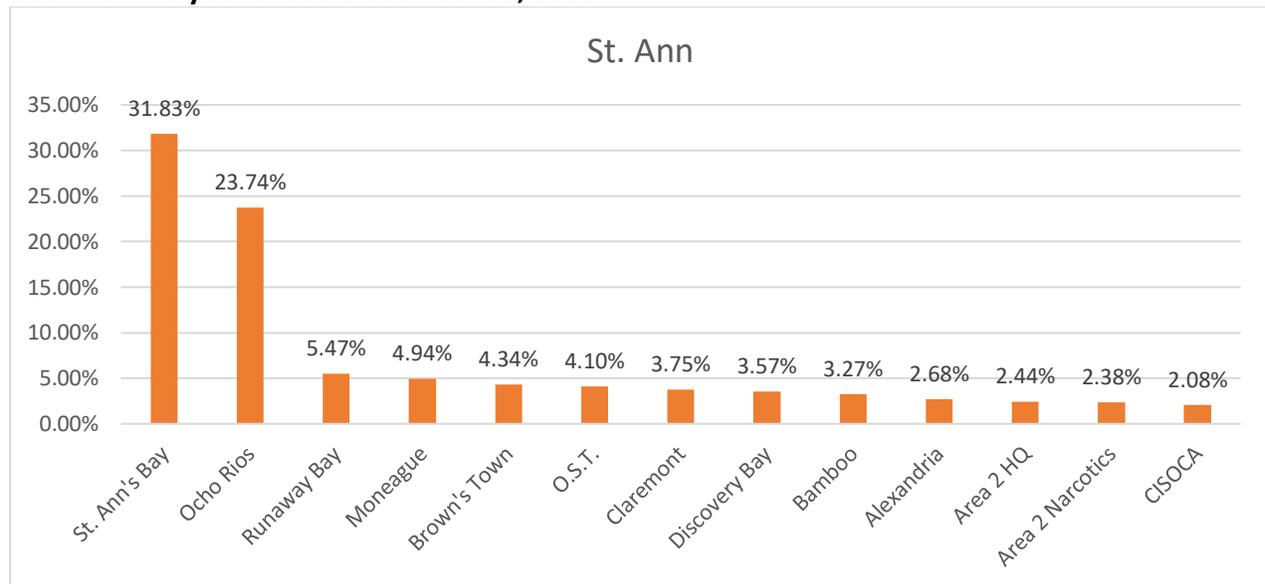
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 1,954 records indicate that for the 2021 calendar year, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 34.08%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Lucea Police Station. This was followed by the Hanover Headquarter Police, which accounts for 19.04% of the sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Sandy Bay Police Station with 12.23%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Lucea Police Station, the Hanover Headquarter Police Station and the Green Island Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.11: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



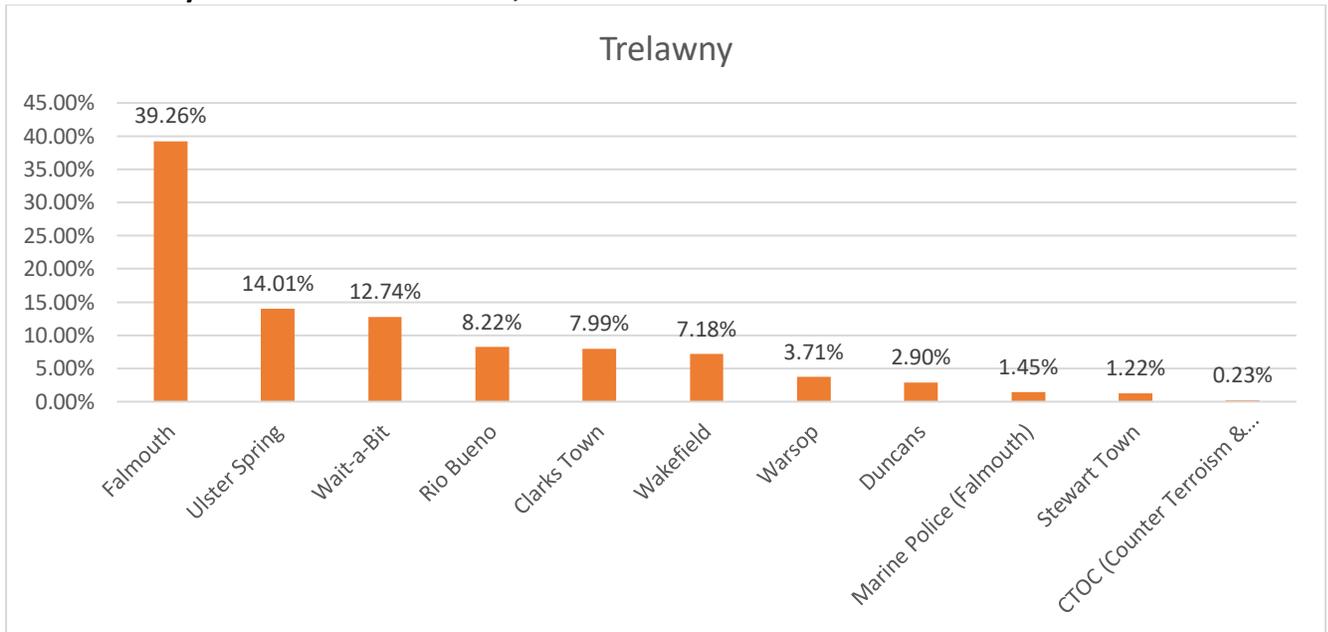
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 2,609 records indicate that the 2021 calendar year, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 23.30%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Santa Cruz Police Station. This was followed by the Junction Police Station, which accounts for 21.27% of the total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by Black River Police Station with 19.78%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Black River Police Station, the Santa Cruz Police Station and the Junction Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.12: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Ann Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 1,681 records indicate that for the 2021 calendar year, the largest proportion of criminal matters, 31.83%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the St. Ann’s Bay Police Station. This was followed by the Ocho Rios Police Station which accounts for 23.74% of the total sample matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Runaway Bay Police Station with 5.47%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Ocho Rios Police Station, the St. Ann’s Bay Police Station and the Brown’s Town Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 6.13: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Trelawny Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2021



The above chart shows the distribution of charges field at the Trelawny Parish Court, using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 1,727 records indicate that for the 2021 calendar year, the highest proportion of charges, 39.26%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Falmouth Police Station. This was followed by the Ulster Spring Police Station, which accounts for 14.01% of total sample of matters reported. The Wait-a-Bit Police station rounded off the top three with 12.74%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Falmouth Police Station, the Wakefield Police Station and the Duncans Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Conclusion

As the Jamaican judiciary continues its unprecedented push to become one of the leading court systems in the world and the best in the Caribbean Region, this report has made it clear that the Criminal Division of the Parish Courts of Jamaica are on course to make a profound contribution to this objective. 2021 reflects that the Jamaica judiciary is highly resilient and that its leadership is making remarkable progress towards creating an efficient and accountable court system.

Among the most impressive findings from this annual report, the sixth consecutive instalment of its kind is with regards to the key performance indicators of the case clearance and case disposal rates. The overall case disposal rate increased by 12.94 percentage points, netting out at 77.50%, an impressive result which exceeds the prescribed minimum annual disposal rate of 70%, set out in international literature. Ten of the thirteen courts exceeded the prescribed international standard on this measurement. On the even more important measurement of the case clearance rate, the criminal division of the parish courts as a whole recorded a rate of 106.47%, which is 10.38 percentage points higher than the rate recorded in 2020. For the first time in recorded history, all thirteen parish courts satisfied the international standards of between 90% and 110% on this measurement. Concomitantly, the overall case congestion rate in the criminal division of the parish courts fell by 20.73%, reaching its lowest level in recorded history. The crucial measure of the net and gross case backlog rates also reached their lowest levels in recorded history. Using data for the past roughly six years as a focal point, the overall net case backlog rate reached its lowest recorded annual level of 1.34%, suggesting that only 1 in every 100 active criminal cases filed over the past six years are in a state of backlog. By any measure, this is a remarkable accomplishment. Overall, the parish

courts as a whole have now accomplished the feat of having less than 5% of active criminal cases in a state of backlog, attaining one of the key targets set out by the Honourable Chief Justice Bryan Sykes.

With almost six years of extensive data on criminal case activity in the parish courts of Jamaica, the Statistics Unit applied Lagrange multiplier techniques to determine that a successful court must meet the following minimum requirements in order to satisfy the efficiency threshold for the sustainable containment of the case backlog and to provide optimal service to the public. The required minimum annual parameters are summarized below:

Parameter	Minimum Required Standard
Case disposal rate	>=75%
Case clearance rate	>=95%
Case congestion rate	<=115%
Trial Date Certainty Rate	>=85%
Net case backlog rate	<=5%
Gross case backlog rate	<=10%
Average number of mentions per case	<=3

The Statistics Unit has determined that if any court or jurisdiction can consistently achieve these rates, it will attain a high level of efficiency and service excellence. These have been illustrated in the criminal divisions of several parish courts over the past six years in the Jamaican court system, including the parish courts of Westmoreland, Hanover and St. Mary and St. Catherine, among others. These four courts have the enviable status of less than 0.40% of active cases filed over the past six years been in a state of backlog, meaning that there is a close to zero probability that a case filed at this court will remain active for more than two years, an outstanding accomplishment which is worthy of acclaim. The Parish Courts of Jamaica are poised to be among the best in the world within the coming years.

Glossary of Statistical Terms

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Percentile Rank: This refers to the percentage of scores that are equal to or less than a given score. Percentile ranks, like percentages, fall on a continuum from 0 to 100. For example, a percentile rank of 45 indicates that 45% of the scores in a distribution of scores fall at or below the score at the 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 Adjourment: 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 adjourment. 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 'adjourment'. Here, 'continuance' is used strictly to describe situations in

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

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

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

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

ⁱ Source:

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

ⁱⁱ Source:

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

