Parish Courts of Jamaica The Chief Justice's First Quarter Statistics Report for 2022 (Civil Matters)

	JANUARY TO MARCH			
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	
Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)	156.57	116.93	107.63	
Trial Date Certainty Rate (%)	90.20	86.83	85.38	
Average time to disposition	11.96 months	10.40 months	10.87 months	

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Executive Summary

The Civil Division of the Parish Courts continued where it left off in 2021, returning some impressive results in the first quarter of 2022, despite the persistence of some common causes of cases delay which warrant an exploration of possible operational reforms. The Honourable Chief Justice has set a targeted court-wide case clearance rate of 130%, a trial date certainty rate of 95% and an overall net case backlog rate of under 5% to be achieved by the end of the 2024/25 fiscal year. The results of this first quarter report for 2022 suggests that the Civil Division of the Parish Courts are firmly on course to realizing these targets by that time.

One of the most positive results from this first quarter report is the output on the vital measurement of the gross case clearance rates, with the Civil Division of the Parish Courts as a whole recording an impressive 156.57%, an increase of 39.64 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2021, one of the highest overall case clearance rates on record in the Jamaican judiciary. The four leading parish courts on this measurement saw some familiar top performers, including the St. Catherine Parish Court with a rate of 272.10%, the Corporate Area Court- Civil Division with a rate of 214.24%, the Westmoreland Parish Court with 219.59% and the Hanover Parish Court with 142.25%. Ten of the parish courts exceeded the 100% case clearance rate mark for civil cases in the first quarter of 2022. The closely related gross case disposal rate was not as impressive, but this is not atypical for a single quarters' worth of data. The Parish Courts of Westmoreland and Hanover were the leaders on this metric.

The Civil Division of the Parish Courts also had strong returns on the overall trial date certainty rate in the period, recording a commendable overall rate of 90.20%, 3.30 percentage points

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higher that the corresponding period in 2021. The parish courts of Westmoreland, St. Ann and Trelawny were the leaders on this metric for the quarter. The overall average time taken to dispose a civil case in the first quarter of 2022 was roughly 359 days which is just over a month and a half longer than the average in the corresponding period in 2021. The parish courts of Hanover, Westmoreland and St. Mary had the lowest average times to disposition for cases resolved during the quarter.

One of the most important findings from this report comes from the analysis of the backlog rates. As of the end of the first quarter of 2022, the estimated gross case backlog rate in the civil division of the parish courts was 12.20%, that is, an estimated 12.20% of combined active and inactive cases in these courts were over two years old, based on the last 6 years of case activity as a proxy. When inactive cases are deducted however to produce the net case backlog rate, it is revealed that the estimated case backlog rate in the Civil Division of the Parish Courts as at the end of the first quarter of 2022 is roughly 1.27%, an indication that roughly this proportion of active cases were over two years old at the end of the quarter, using data from the last 6 years as a proxy. The Hanover, St. Mary and Westmoreland Parish Courts were again the very best positioned courts on this metric for the year, each with only a handful of active civil cases in a state of backlog.

The timely and efficient progression of cases in the civil courts is affected by several delays factors, among which in the first quarter of 2022 were the absence of defendants, no returns, the absence of both parties, the absence of the plaintiffs and attorney absenteeism, all of which were among the leading reasons for adjournment across the courts in the period. The dominant

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method of disposition for cases resolved were disposals by being struck out, by consent judgment, settlements, default judgments and by way of oral admissions.

The Civil Division of the Parish Courts continue the trend of creditable performances and is well positioned as at the end of the first quarter of 2022 to make a significant contribution to the overall quantitative targets of the Jamaican judiciary as it strives to become the best in the region and one of the bests in the world over the coming few years. The parish courts of Hanover, Westmoreland and St. Mary have already achieved the target of reducing their overall net case backlog rate to under 5%, joining the High Court Division of the Gun Court and the Revenue Court as other major courts confirmed to have attained this feat.

See below aggregate case activity summary:

Table 1.0: Aggregate case flow performance estimates for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Approximate number of new cases	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Disposal rate (%)	Approximate Gross Clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross trial date certainty rate (%)	Overall average time to disposition (months)
3905	549	6114	14.73	156.57	90.20	11.96

Note: For the Corporate Area Civil Court, the gross case disposal rate was calculated only using the new big claims filed during the year

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	>=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.

Methodology – Generating Court Statistics in Jamaica

Guaranteeing the reliability and validity of the data used to produce the periodic statistical reports for the Jamaican Courts is of utmost importance as we seek to produce a data driven enterprise for policymaking and operational decisions. As a result, a robust and verifiable system of data production has been created in both the parish courts and the Supreme Court. At the parish courts, a data capture system for criminal matters, called the CISS (Case Information Statistical System) has been operational in all courts for the past five years. This system captures

a wide range of data on the progression of criminal cases from initiation to disposition and is manned by at least one dedicated Data Entry Officer (soon to be called Statistical Officers) in each court. These officers update the system on a daily basis so that the data produced is as close as possible to real time. The electronic data sheets for each parish court are then validated and backed-up to the network at the end of each month and the data submitted to a centralized, secure medium for processing by the Statistical Unit of the Supreme Court. A data validation mechanism is in place to periodically sample case files in all parish courts and the Divisions of the Supreme Court on a quarterly basis. A representative sample of case files are taken in each case and crosschecked against the electronic data to detect and eliminate errors of omission and commission.

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

Introduction

This report details case activity in the Civil Division of the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. Among the key case activity areas reported on are new cases filed, cases disposed and inactive over the period as well as the common causes of action and applications. Other key areas reported on include the absolute number of reissue dates over the period as well as the dominant methods of disposition and reasons for adjournment. The report also highlights the number of matters, which go into various types of enforcements such as judgment summons, warrants of levy and warrants of attachment and are thus reactivated as well as the outcomes of matters that proceed along this path. Important efficiency measures such as the case clearance rate, case disposal rates; trial date certainty rate and case congestion and courtroom utilization rates are computed as measures of court performance, where sufficient data is available. These are important yardstick for assessing the courts in both an absolute and a relative way.

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

The report culminates with critical cumulative case active summaries for the civil courts as a whole for the first quarter of 2022.

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The Corporate Area Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division for the first quarter of 2022.

Table 1.0: Case status summary	v for big	g claims for the first q	uarter ended March 31. 2022

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	454	94.00
Disposed	20	4.14
Inactive	9	1.86
Total	483	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 483 new big claims cases filed at the Corporate

Area Civil Court in the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, 454 or 94% cases were still

active, 20 were disposed and 0 were inactive at the end of the quarter. These results produce an

estimated gross case disposal rate of 6% for big claims for the quarter.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the first quarter ended March 31,
2022

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	489	73.42
Small Claim	177	26.58
Total	666	100.00

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 666 new claims filed at the Corporate Area Civil Court in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of which 489 or 73.42% were big claims, while 177 or 26.58% were small claims. Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the first quarter ended March31, 2022

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Recovery of Possession	22	36.67
Rent Owing, Continuing and Recovery of	19	31.67
Possession		
Breach of Contract	3	5.00
Recovery of possession under section 89	3	5.00
Rent Owing	2	3.33
Sub-total	49	81.67

Total sample size of causes of action= 60

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action for cases entered in the first quarter at the Corporate Area Civil Court was recovery of possession with 22 or roughly 36.67% of the sample. Rent owing, continuing and recovery of possession with 19 or 31.67% and breach of contract and recovery of possession under section 89 with 3 or 5% each rank next. The top five causes of action were rounded off by rent owing with 2 or 3.33% of the sample. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 81.67% of the total sample of 60 causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the types of service for the first quarter ended March 31,
2022

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	26	65
Bailiff	12	30
District Constable	2	5
Total	40	100.00

Methods of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, against whom a claim is made, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority with 26

or 65% of the sample followed by service by the bailiff with 12 or 30.0%.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the first
quarter ended March 31, 2022

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	417	86.16
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	65	13.43
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	2	0.41
Total	484*	100.00

*Note: Corresponding to 478 cases

The majority of a sample of 484 matters entered in the first quarter of 2022 were entered in courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 417 or 86.16% of the sample. Courtroom 1 at the main courthouse had 65 matters entered or 13.43% of the sample and courtroom 3 had 2 matters entered or 0.41% of the sample, rounding off the top three accommodations.

Case Demographics for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Table 6.0: Sampling distribution of plaintiffs in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	28	45.90
Male	28	45.90
Registered Company	5	8.20
Total	61	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 61 matters entered in the first quarter of 2022

at the Corporate Area Civil Court, males and females accounted for the largest proportion of

plaintiffs with 28 or 45.90% each of the sample. Registered companies accounted for 5 or 8.20% of the sample.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	32	53.33
Male	27	45.00
Registered company	1	1.67
Total	60	100.0

There were 60 records on the gender of defendants for new matters entered in the first quarter of 2022. The highest proportion of defendants were female with 32 or 53.33% of the sample, followed by males with 27 or 45%. Registered companies accounted for 1 or 1.67% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

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

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	456	46.25
Default Judgment Date	274	27.79
Trial	167	16.94
Part-Heard Date	56	5.68
Date for Order	16	1.62
Hearing of Application	10	1.01
Final Judgment Date	7	0.71
Total	986	100.00

 Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the first quarter

 ended March 31, 2022

The above table shows a sample of 986 matters that went to court during the first quarter of 2022, which were adjourned for a default judgment, final judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 456 or 46.25% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 274 or 27.79%, which were adjourned for default judgment dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments in this sample were adjournments for trial dates with 167 or 16.94% of sample. It is of note that 56 or 5.68% of the matters in this sample were adjourned part heard. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned at the mention stage and that there is a notable incidence of adjournments for default judgments to be entered. The result on the high incidence of adjournments for mention court hearings is not however an abnormal outcome given that mention court hearings are fundamental and intrinsic to the case flow process in the civil courts.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	131	23.77
Placed on Trial List	55	9.98
At Counsel's Request	13	2.36
For Sentence/Order	9	1.63
Referred to Mediation	9	1.63
Sub-total	217	39.38

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 551

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 551 incidences of adjournments heard in the first quarter of 2022. Adjournments due to absence of defendants with 131 or 23.77% of the sample, adjournments for placement on trial list with 55 or 9.98% and adjournments at counsel's request with 13 or 2.36% rounds off the top three incidences in the sample. The list is completed by adjournments for sentence/order and referrals to mediation with 9 or 1.63% each of the sample. The top reasons of adjournments listed above account for 39.38% of the total sample of adjournments.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2022

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	158
Average Incidence	1.1
Corresponding to 140 cases	

Corresponding to 140 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 158 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 140 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.1 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting

that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 11 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution on the top five methods of disposition for the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2022

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	121	28.14
Struck Out	118	27.44
Default Judgment	58	13.49
Withdrawal	43	10.00
Settlement	36	8.37
Sub-total	376	87.44

NB: there were 430 matters were disposed in the first quarter of 2022

A total of 430 matters were disposed at the Corporate Area Civil Court during the first quarter of 2022. The above table details the top five methods of disposition, which accounts for 376 or 87.44% of the total sample. The list is led by matters disposed by consent with 121 or 28.14% of the disposals, followed by matters struck out with 118 or 27.44% and by default judgments with 58 or 13.49%. Withdrawals and matters disposed by settlements round off the top five methods with 43 or 10% and 36 or 8.37% respectively of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 12.0: Case flow r	performance estimates for the first quarter ended March 31, 202	2
		-

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)
660	1414	214.24

The above table shows 660 new cases filed at the Corporate Area Civil Court during the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, a gross figure of 697 cases were disposed, and 717

cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2021. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 214.24%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric. This rate represents a 71.30 percentage points increase when compared to the corresponding period in 2021.

The estimated net case clearance rate is 105.61%, a 31.25 percentage points improvement when compared to the first quarter of 2021. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics, focusing only on the proportion of the cases which did not become inactive which were disposed in the strictest of sense.

Table 13.0: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Descriptive Statistics (days)		
Number of observations	255	
Mean	289.7765	
Median	169.0000	
Mode	67.00	
Std. Deviation	462.05113	
Skewness	7.136	
Std. Error of Skewness	.153	
Range	5722.00	
Minimum	10.00	

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Maximum

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 255 civil matters disposed in the first quarter of 2022 at the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 290 days or approximately 9.7 months, which is roughly 78 less days than it took to dispose of matters in the first quarter of 2021. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 67 days. The standard deviation of roughly 462 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive

5732.00

skewness is seen as an indication that there were markedly more scores in the data set which fall

below the overall average time. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 5732 days or

roughly 15.9 years old, while the minimum time taken was 10 days.

Table 14.0: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the first quarter ended March 31,2022

Number of observations	1496
Mean	368.9679
Median	258.0000
Mode	83.00
Std. Deviation	426.18125
Skewness	2.576
Std. Error of Skewness	.063
Range	3358.00
Minimum	1.00
Maximum	3359.00

Descriptive Statistics (days)

The above data is based on a sample of 1496 active civil matters as of the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. The average age of these matters was roughly 369 days or roughly 12.3 months, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 83 days. The standard deviation of roughly 426 days suggests that there is a wide dispersion in the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 3359 days old or roughly 9.3 years, while the minimum time is 1 day.

Parish Court	Average overall Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	Highest Recorded Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	Lowest Recorded Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	Standard Deviation of the Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	Average Courtroom Utilization Rate for Night Court sittings (%)	Average Number of Courtroom Adjournments Per Day
Corporate Area Court- Civil Division	73.86	111.11	23.61	24.56	NA	2.0

Table 15.0: Distribution of courtroom utilization rate for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above table details the courtroom utilization rate for the Corporate Area Court for the first quarter of 2022. The courtroom utilization rate provides a measurement of the proportion of available hours for open court hearings in all courtroom (including outstations) which are utilized. If the usage of any courtroom exceeds the available hours, then the utilization rate will exceed 100% and the rate will fall below 100% if less than the available hours are utilized. The prescribed international standard for the courtroom utilization rate is 100%, which means that all hours allocating for court hearings in any court, on any given day should be utilized. The overall average courtroom utilization rate for the Corporate Area Civil Court in the quarter was roughly 73.86%, which is an indication that on average roughly 74% of the available hours for court hearings in the first quarter of 2022. The standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rates is moderate, suggesting that on average the rates did not vary widely from the overall mean.

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

Hanover Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the Hanover

Parish Court for the first quarter of 2022.

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	43	60.56
Disposed	20	28.17
Inactive	8	11.27
Total	71	100.00

 Table 1.0: Case status summary for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above table presents a status distribution of 71 new cases filed at the Hanover Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, 43 cases or 60.56% of these cases were still active, while 20 were disposed and 8 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross case disposal rate of 39.44%, which is 23.06 percentage points below the gross disposal rate recorded in the previous first quarter of 2021.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the first quarter ended March 31,	
2022	

Type of Claim	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	61	80.26
Small Claim	15	19.74
Total	76	100

The above table represents a sampling distribution of 76 civil claims filed at the Hanover Parish

Court in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of which 61 or 80.26% were big claims, while 15

or 19.74% were small claims.

 Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Hanover Parish Court

 Civil division for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Recovery of Possession	15	35.71
Breach of Contract	7	16.67
Rent Due and Owing	4	9.52
Rent Owing	2	4.76
Money Owing for work done	2	4.76
Sub-total	30	71.43

Sample size (n)= 42

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action for cases filed in the quarter at the Hanover Parish Court recovery of possession with 15 or roughly 35.71% of the sample. Breach of contract with 7 or 16.67% and rent due and owing with 9.52% rank next. Rent owing and money owing for work done with 4.76% each of the sample rounds off the causes of action in this representative sample.

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	24	58.54
District Constable	14	34.15
Personal	3	7.32
Total	41	100.00

Methods of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for the majority of the sample with 24 or 58.54% of the sample. Service by District Constable with 14 or 34.15% and

personal service with 3 or 7.32% of the sample rank next.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the first quarter
ended March 31, 2022

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	35	46.05
Sandy Bay Outstation (courtroom #1)	19	25.00
Green Island Outstation (courtroom #2)	9	11.84
Ramble Outstation (courtroom #1)	7	9.21
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	2	2.63
Sandy Bay Outstation (courtroom #2)	2	2.63
Green Island Outstation (courtroom #1)	2	2.63
Total	76*	100.00

*Note: Corresponding to 71 cases

The largest proportions of a sample of 76 new matters filed in the quarter were entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 35 or 46.05% of the total sample. Courtroom number 1 at the Sandy Bay Outstation accounted for 19 or 25% of the cases filed. Courtroom number 2 at the Green Island outstation accounted for 9 or 11.84% and courtroom 1 at the Ramble Outstation accounted for 7 or 9.21% of the new cases heard.

Case Demographics for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	36	47.37
Female	33	43.42
Registered Company	7	9.21
Total	76	100.0

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 76 plaintiffs in the first quarter of 2022 at the Hanover Parish Court, 36 or 47.37% were males and females accounted for 33 or 43.42% of the sample. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 9.21% of the sample.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	51	67.11
Female	25	32.89
Total	76	100

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

There were 76 records on the gender of defendants for new matters entered in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of defendants were male with 51 or 67.11% of the sample, followed by females with 25 or 32.89%.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

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

Table 8.0: Distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2022

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	19	43.18
Part-Heard Date	10	22.73
Trial	10	22.73
Default Judgment Date	5	11.36
Total	44	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 44 matters that went to court during the first ended March 31, 2022, which were adjourned for a judgment, mention, part heard, trial date or similar procedural dates. The largest proportion, 19 or 43.18% of the sample, were adjourned for mention dates. Matters adjourned for a part heard date and a trial date accounted for 10 or 22.73% each of the sample. Rounding off the incidences of procedural adjournments were matters adjourned for a default judgment date with 5 or 11.36% of the sample.

 Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the first

 quarter ended March 31, 2022

Reasons for Adjournments	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	27	48.21
Defendant Absent	9	16.07
Attorney Absent	7	12.50
Plaintiff Absent	7	12.50
Both Parties Absent	3	5.36
Other	3	5.36
Total	56	100.00

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 56 incidences of adjournments and continuances in the first quarter of 2022. Adjournments for no return/for re-issue accounted for 27 or 48.21% of the sample and the absence of defendants accounted for 9 or 16.07% of the sample. Adjournments due to the absenteeism of plaintiffs and attorneys accounted for 12.50% each of the sample and adjournments due to the absence of both parties accounted for 5.36%.

 Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the first quarter ended

 March 31, 2022

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	21	22.83
Oral Admission	21	22.83
Struck Out	11	11.96
Withdrawal	10	10.87
Final Judgment	9	9.78
Settlement	9	9.78
Sub-total	81	88.04

NB: There were 92 matters disposed for the first quarter of 2022

A total of 92 civil matters were disposed at the Hanover Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. The above table details the top five methods of disposition, which accounts for 81 or 88.04% of the total sample. The list is led by matters disposed by oral admissions and matters disposed by consent with 21 or 22.83% each of the sample. Matters struck out with 11 or 11.96% rank next, followed by withdrawals with 10 or 10.87%. Matters disposed by final judgments and settlements round off the top methods of disposition with 9.78% each of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the first quarter ended March 31,2022

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
8	2	75

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 8 trial dates were set in the first quarter of 2022 shows that 2 were adjourned. This results in a trial date certainty rate of 75%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 75% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment and it is 1 percentage point below the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2021.

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross Case disposal rate (%)
71	28	101	142.25	39.44

The above table shows 71 new cases filed at the Hanover Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, a total of 20 of these cases were disposed and 8 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 39.44%, a 23.06 percentage points decline when compared to the first quarter of 2021. An approximate gross figure of 87 cases was disposed, and 14 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2022. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 142.25%, which exceeds the international standard on this metric, and is a 130.25 percentage points decline when compared to the first quarter.

The estimated net case disposal rate for the quarter is 31.75%, which is 18.25 percentage points below the net disposal rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021. The estimated net case clearance rate is 138.10%, which is roughly 145.23 percentage points below the rate recorded in 2021. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 13.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Descriptive statistics (in days)		
Number of observations	64	
Mean	170.53	
Std. Error of Mean	34.990	
Median	77.00	
Mode	78	
Std. Deviation	279.918	
Skewness	4.046	
Std. Error of Skewness	.299	
Range	1757	
Minimum	11	
Maximum	1768	

Descriptive statistics (in days)

The above table outlines sample data on 64 civil matters disposed in the first quarter of 2022 at the Hanover Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 171 days or 5.7 months and is roughly 24 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the first quarter of 2021. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 78 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 280 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness suggests that a higher proportion of the scores in the data set fell below the overall average time to disposition. The oldest matter disposed in the sample was 1768 days or roughly 4.9 years old, while the minimum time taken was just 11 days. Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active cases as at the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Number of observations	71
Mean	470.3662
Median	271.0000
Mode	850.00
Std. Deviation	476.06909
Skewness	1.303
Std. Error of Skewness	.285
Range	1885.00
Minimum	22.00
Maximum	1907.00

Descriptive statistics (in days)

The above data is based on sample of 71 active civil matters at the end of the first quarter of 2022. The average age of these matters was roughly 470 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 850 days. The standard deviation of roughly 476 days suggests that there is a wide dispersion in the individual scores around the average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were markedly more scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 1907 days old or roughly 5.3 years, while the minimum time taken is 22 days.

Manchester Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	317	87.09
Disposed	47	12.91
Inactive	0	0.00
Total	364	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 364 new cases filed at the Manchester Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, 317 cases or 87.09% of these cases were still active, while 47 were disposed. These results produce an estimated net case disposal rate of 12.91%.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the first quarter ended March 31,2022

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	382	90.31
Small Claim	41	9.69
Total	423	100.00

The above table represents a sampling distribution of 423 civil claims filed at the Manchester

Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of which 382 or 90.31% were big claims,

while 41 or 9.69% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Manchester Parish Court-Civil division for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Damages for Negligence	67	15.84
Recovery of Possession	38	8.98
Monies Due & Owing	25	5.91
Rent Owing and Recovery of	18	4.26
Possession		
Arrears of Rent	15	3.55
Sub-total	163	38.53

Total sample size of causes of action = 423

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action for the first quarter of 2022 at the Manchester Parish Court was damages for negligence with 67 or roughly 15.84% of the sample. Recovery of possession with 38 or 8.98% and monies due and owing with 25 or 5.91% of the sample round off the leading causes of action in this representative sample. Rent owing and recovery of possession with 18 or 4.26% and arrears of rent with 15 or 3.55% rank next. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 38.53% of all the total sample of 423 causes of action. Table 4.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the firstquarter ended March 31, 2022

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	288	68.09
Christiana Outstation	32	7.57
Small Claims Court #3	27	6.38
Spalding Outstation	21	4.96
Porus Outstation	17	4.02
Cottage Outstation	14	3.31
Small Claims Court #2	14	3.31
Cross Keys Outstation	9	2.13
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	1	.24
Total	423*	100.00

*Note: Corresponding to 364 cases

The majority of a sample of 423 new matters filed in the quarter were entered in courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 288 or 68.09% of the total sample. The Christiana outstation accounted for 32 or 7.57% of the cases filed. Courtroom number 3 at the Small Claims Court accounted for 27 or 6.38% and the Spalding outstation accounted for 21 or 4.96% of the new cases heard.

Table 5.0: Distribution of a	pplications filed in the first o	quarter ended March 31, 2022
	ppileations means the motor	

Type of Application	Frequency	Percentage (%)	
Application for Court Order	423	100.0	
Total	423	100.0	

A sample of 423 applications filed during the first quarter of 2022 revealed that all applications for court order.

Case Demographics for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	231	55.00
Female	158	37.62
Registered Company	31	7.38
Total	420	100.00

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 420 new matters entered in the first quarter of 2022 at the Manchester Civil Court, males accounted for the majority of plaintiffs with 231 or 55%, followed by females with 158 or 37.62%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 31 or 7.38% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	247	60.54
Female	143	35.05
Registered Company	18	4.41
Total	408	100.00

There were 408 records on the gender of defendants for new matters entered in the first quarter of 2022. As with the claimants, the majority of defendants were male with 247 or 60.54% of the sample, followed by females with 143 or 35.05%. Registered companies accounted for 18 or 4.41% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022 This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantity of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delays factors explored are the reasons for adjournment, the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur and the incidence of reissued cases emanating from the non-service or short service of summonses. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the first quarter
ended March 31, 2022

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	294	38.94
Trial	256	33.91
Default Judgment Date	174	23.05
Part-Heard Date	31	4.11
Total	755	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 755 matters that went to court during the first quarter of 2022, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural dates. The largest proportion, 294 or 38.94% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 256 or 33.91%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Rounding off the top incidences of procedural adjournments were 174 or 23.05% of matters, which were adjourned for a default judgment date and 4.11% of the sample which was adjourned for a part heard date.

 Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in

 the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	232	25.30
New Date	216	23.56
No Return/Re-Issued	172	18.76
Both Parties Absent	94	10.25
Placed on Trial List	65	7.09
Sub-total	779	84.95

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)= 917

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 917 incidences of adjournments in the first quarter of 2022. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 232 or 25.30% of the sample and adjournments for a new date to be set with 216 or 23.56% of the sample account for the highest proportion of adjournments. Adjournments due to no return/for re-Issued with 172 or 18.76% of the sample rounds off the top three incidences in the sample. Adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 94 or 10.25% and placement on the trial list with 7.09% of the sample rank next.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the first quarter ended
March 31, 2022

Measured	Frequency	
Overall Incidence	44	
Average Incidence	1.05	

Corresponding to 42 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 44 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 42 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.05 reissues per case file for new claims filed in

the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 11 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the first quarterended March 31, 2022

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	288	59.38
Final Judgment	40	8.25
Consent	39	8.04
Withdrawal	28	5.77
Settlement	24	4.95
Sub-total	419	86.39

NB: There were 485 matters disposed the first quarter of 2022

The above table summarizes 485 claims which were disposed at the Manchester Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022 and the above table details the methods of disposition. The list is led by matters struck out with 288 or 59.38% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by final judgments with 40 or 8.25% and by consent with 39 or 8.04%. Withdrawals with 28 or 5.77% rank next, followed by settlements with 4.95% of the sample.

There was only minimal trial date activity in the first quarter of 2022, hence no trial date certainty rate is recorded for the period.

Table 12.0: Case flow performance estimates for the first quarter ended March 31,	2022

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed cases in the quarter	Approximate net case clearance rate (%)	Approximate net case disposal rate (%)
364	47	430	118.13	12.91

The above table shows 364 new cases filed at the Manchester Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, a total of 47 of these cases were disposed, leading to an estimated net case disposal rate of 12.91%. An approximate gross figure of 430 cases was disposed during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2022. This led to an estimated net case clearance rate of 118.13%, which exceeds the international standard on this metric. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 13.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2022

Number of observations	131
Mean	184.4809
Std. Error of Mean	11.34390
Median	154.0000
Mode	119.00
Std. Deviation	129.83684
Skewness	1.791
Std. Error of Skewness	.212
Range	782.00
Minimum	2.00
Maximum	784.00

Descriptive statistics (in days)

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 131 matters disposed in the first quarter of 2022 at the Manchester Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 184 days or 6.1 months. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 119 days and the median time was 154 days. The standard deviation of roughly 130 days is an indication that there is some amount of variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores in the data set that fell below the overall average scores. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 784 days or

roughly 2.2 years old, while the minimum time taken was 2 days.

Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the first quarter ended March 31,2022

Descriptive statistics (in days)	
Number of observations	871
Mean	316.1963
Median	181.0000
Mode	55.00
Std. Deviation	399.10828
Skewness	2.811
Std. Error of Skewness	.083
Range	4576.00
Minimum	3.00
Maximum	4579.00

Descriptive statistics (in days)

The above data is based on sample of 871 matters at the end of the first quarter of 2022. The average age of these matters was roughly 316 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 55 days and the median age was 181 days. The standard deviation of roughly 399 days suggests that there is a wide dispersion of the individual scores around the average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were more scores in the data set, which were below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter is 4579 days old or roughly 12.7 years, while the minimum age is 3 days.

St. Catherine Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	582	85.46
Disposed	85	12.48
Inactive	14	2.06
Total	681	100.00

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above table presents a status distribution of 681 new cases filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, 582 cases or 85.46% of these cases were still active, while 85 were disposed and 14 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 14.54%, which is 1.56 percentage points below the rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021.

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	793	90.53
Small Claim	81	9.25
POCA	2	0.23
Total	876	100.00

Table 2 0. Sampling distribution	of types of claims filed in the first of	nuarter ended March 31 2022
Table 2.0. Sampling distribution	or types or claims med in the mst	quarter enueu warth 51, 2022

The above table shows that from a sample of 876 claims filed in the first quarter of 2022, 793 or

90.53% were big claims, 81 or 9.25% were small claims and 2 were Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA)

claims.

 Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Catherine Parish

 Court-Civil division for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach Of Contract	307	36.12
Damages for Negligence	153	18.00
Recovery Of Possession	131	15.41
Negligence	53	6.24
Rent Owing And Continuing	50	5.88
Sub-total	694	81.65

Total sample size of causes of action= 850

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table details a sample of 850 causes of action entered before the St. Catherine Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. The leading cause of action shown in this sample was breach of contract with 307 or roughly 36.12% of the sample, damages for negligence with 153 or 18% and recovery of possession with 131 or 15.41%, which rounds off the top three. The top five causes of action are rounded off by negligence with 53 or 6.24% and rent owing and continuing with 50 or 5.88% of the sample. The causes of action which are listed above, account for 81.65% of the total sample of causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling	g distribution of types	s of service for the first	quarter ended March 31, 2022
Tuble 4.0. Sumpling	g distribution of type.	of service for the mist	

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	130	50.00
Personal	103	39.62
District Constable	27	10.38
Total	260	100

Types of service as used in the above table refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for the highest proportion with 130 or 50% of the sample, personal service accounted for 103 or 39.62% and service by the district constable accounted for 27 or 10.38% of the sample.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the first quarterended March 31, 2022

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	678	78.29
Linstead Outstation (courtroom #1)	127	14.67
Old Harbour Outstation (courtroom #1)	59	6.81
Portmore Outstation (courtroom #1)	2	0.23
Total	866*	100.00

*Note: Corresponding to 671 cases

The majority of the sample of 866 new claims filed in the first quarter of 2022 was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 678 or 78.29% of the total sample. The 127 or 14.67% that were entered in courtroom number 1 at the Linstead outstation followed this. Courtroom number 1 at the Old Harbour outstation accounted for 59 or 6.81% of the claims and courtroom number 1 at the Portmore outstation accounted for 0.23% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	388	44.60
Female	365	41.95
Registered company	117	13.45
Total	870	100

It is seen in the above table that of the 870 new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022, males accounted for the largest proportion with 388 or 44.60%, followed by females with 365 or 41.95% and registered companies with 117 or 13.45% of the sample.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	507	58.48
Female	322	37.14
Registered Company	38	4.38
Total	867	100.00

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

There were 867 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of defendants were male with 507 or 58.48% of the total sample, followed by females with 322 or 37.14%. Registered companies account for the remaining proportion with 38 or 4.38% of the total sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

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

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the first quarterended March 31, 2022

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	699	43.85
Trial	464	29.11
Default Judgment Date	255	16.00
Part Heard	79	4.96
Hearing of Application	65	4.08
Sub-total	1562	97.99

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)=1594

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 1594 matters that went to court during the first quarter of 2022, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard, or trial date or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 699 or 43.85% were adjourned for a mention date and 464 or 29.11% were adjourned for a trial date. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 255 or 16% of matters, which were adjourned for a default judgment date. Matters adjournment for part heard dates accounted for 79 or 4.96% of the sample.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in
the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Reason for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	275	14.91
No Return/Re-Issued	263	14.26
Both Parties Absent	197	10.68
Placed on Trial List	179	9.71
Parties in Discussion	112	6.07
Sub-total	1026	55.64

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)= 1844

The above table details a sample of 1844 adjournments or continuances heard in the quarter, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 275 or 14.91% of the total sample, adjournments for no return/for re-issue with 263 or 14.26% and adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 197 or 10.68% and placement on the trial list with 179 or 9.71% round off the top reasons for adjournment for the quarter. Parties in discussion with 112 or 6.07% complete the list. The top 5 reasons for adjournment account for 55.64% of the total sample.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the firstquarter ended March 31, 2022

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	108
Average Incidence	1.5

Corresponds to 74 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance of cases in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 108 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 74 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.5 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 15 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the first quarter	
ended March 31, 2022	

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	1584	77.16
Settlement	144	7.01
Consent	110	5.36
Default Judgment	85	4.14
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	40	1.95
Sub-total	1963	95.62

NB: There were 2053 matters disposed in the first quarter of 2022

The above table details the sampling distribution of the five leading methods of disposition using a sample of 2053 matters disposed during the first quarter of 2022. The list is led by matters struck out with 1584 or 77.16% of the disposals, followed by settlements with 144 or 7.01%, matters disposed by consent with 110 or 5.36% and matters disposed by default judgments with 85 or 4.14%. Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) account for 40 or 1.95% of the sample. The top 5 methods of disposition listed account for 95.62% of the sample.

Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of case outcomes for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Case outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	28	66.67
Settlement	14	33.33
Total	42	100.00

The above table summarizes the distribution of case outcomes using a sample of 42 matters in the first quarter of 2022. Judgments in favour of the plaintiff with 28 or 66.67% of the total sample, accounts for the majority of the sample, while settlements with 14 or 33.33% account for the remaining proportion. This probability distribution provides important insights into the results of cases and the likelihood of matters awarded in favour of the various party types, which may be involved in a case.

Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the first quarter ended March 31,
2022

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
242	19	92.15

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 242 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that 19 were adjourned. This results in a trial date certainty rate of 92.15%, suggesting that during the quarter, there was a roughly 92% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This rate meets the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100%. This result is also 1.50 percentage points below the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2021.

Number of new cases filed	Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter	Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Gross Case disposal rate (%)
681	99	1853	272.10	14.54

 Table 14.0: Case flow performance estimates for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above table shows 681 new cases filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, a total of 85 of these cases were disposed and 14 cases became inactive, leading to a gross case disposal rate of 14.54%, which is 1.56 percentage points below the rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021. An approximate gross figure of 1771 cases were disposed, and 82 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2022. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 272.10%, which exceeds the international standard for the case clearance rate and is 171.74 percentage points above the rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021.

The net disposal rate for the quarter is 12.74%, which is 6.39 percentage points above the rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021. The net clearance for the quarter is 265.52%, which is

206.74 percentage points above the rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021. The net clearance

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

Table 15.0: Descriptive statistics o	n the time taken to	dispose of matters in	the first quarter ended
March 31, 2022			

Number of observations	1763
Mean	995.2876
Median	1196.0000
Mode	1073.00
Std. Deviation	503.81483
Skewness	706
Std. Error of Skewness	.058
Range	2373.00
Minimum	5.00
Maximum	2378.00

Descriptive statistics (in days)

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 1763 civil matters disposed in the first quarter of 2022 at the St. Catherine Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 995 days or 33.2 months, which is roughly 562 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the first quarter of 2022. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 1073 days. There is a relatively high standard deviation of 504 days, which is an indication that there is some variation of the scores around the overall mean. The negative skewness suggests that a larger proportion of the scores that are above the overall average time to disposal. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2378 days or roughly 6.6 years old, while the youngest was 5 days.

Table 16.0a: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2022

Number of observations	2516
Mean	628.1705
Median	420.0000
Mode	135.00
Std. Deviation	651.01660
Skewness	2.007
Std. Error of Skewness	.049
Range	7476.00
Minimum	6.00
Maximum	7482.00

The above data is based on a sample of 2516 active civil matters at the end of the first quarter of 2022. The average age of these matters was roughly 628 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 135 days. The standard deviation of roughly 651 days suggests that there is a large dispersion in the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 7482 days old or roughly 21 years, while the minimum time taken is just 6 days.

Table 16.0b: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2022

Descriptive	statistics	(in days)

Number of observations	90
Mean	53.16
Std. Error of Mean	2.396
Median	56.00
Mode	72
Std. Deviation	22.731
Skewness	453
Std. Error of Skewness	.254
Range	84
Minimum	3
Maximum	87

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 90 active reissued matters at the St. Catherine Parish Court as at the end of the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. The average age of these matters was roughly 53 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 72 and the median age was 56 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some dispersion in the individual scores, with the negative skewness indicating that a slightly larger proportion of the ages were above the overall average. The highest age in the data set was 87 days and the lowest was 3 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

Trelawny Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Case status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	108	78.26
Disposed	12	8.70
Inactive	18	13.04
Total	138	100.00

 Table 1.0: Case status summary for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above table presents a status distribution of 138 new cases filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, 108 or 78.26% of these cases were active, and 12 or 8.70% were disposed and 18 cases became inactive at the end of the quarter. This produces a gross case disposal rate of 21.74% for the quarter.

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	121	78.06
Small Claim	34	21.94
Total	155	100.00

The above table represents a sampling distribution of 155 civil claims filed at the Trelawny Parish

Court in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of which 121 or 78.06% were big claims, while 34

or 21.94% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Trelawny Parish Court-Civil division for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Recovery of Possession	34	22.82
Money Owing	18	12.08
Arrears of Rent	7	4.70
Breach of Contract	5	3.36
Negligence	5	3.36
Sub-total	69	46.31

Total sample size of causes of action=149

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, among the leading causes of action in the quarter were recovery of possession with 34 or 22.82% and monies owing with 18 or 12.08%. Arrears of rent with 7 or 4.70%, breach of contract and negligence with 5 or 3.36% each of the sample close out the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 46.31% of all the total sample of 149 causes of action.

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	131	85.06
Bailiff	23	14.94
Total	154	100.00

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of types of service for the first quarter ended March 31, 202	Table 4.0: Sampling c	listribution of types	of service for the first of	guarter ended March 31, 2022
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Methods of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority of the sample with 131 or 85.06% of the sample. Service by the bailiff with 23 or 14.94% accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the firstquarter ended March 31, 2022

Courtroom/outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Falmouth Outstation	98	63.23
Ulster Spring Outstation	29	18.71
Clarks Town Outstation (courtroom #1)	27	17.42
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	1	0.65
Total	155*	100.00

*Note: Corresponding to 138 cases

The majority of a sample of 155 new matters filed in 63.23% of the accommodations was entered in the Falmouth outstation. The 29 or 18.71% matters that were entered in the Ulster Spring Outstation followed this, while court sittings at courtroom 1 at the Clarks Town outstation ranked next with 27 is 17.42% of the accommodations. Courtroom number 1 at main courthouse outstation accounted for 0.65% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	83	54.25
Male	66	43.14
Registered Company	4	2.61
Total	153	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 153 new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022 at the Trelawny Parish Court, females accounted for the majority of plaintiffs with 83 or 54.25%, followed by males with 66 or 43.14%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 2.61% of the sample.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	113	72.90
Female	37	23.87
Registered Company	5	3.23
Total	155	100.00

 Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

There were 155 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of defendants were male with 113 or 72.90% of the sample, followed by females with 37 or 23.87% and registered companies with 3.23%.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

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

Table 8.0: Distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2022

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	74	37.56
Trial Date	47	23.86
Default Judgment Date	41	20.81
Part-heard	34	17.26
Final Judgement Date	1	0.51
Total	197	100

The above table shows a sample of 197 matters that were heard during the first quarter ended March 31, 2022, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 74 or 37.56% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 47 or 23.86%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Matters adjourned for default judgment dates with 41 or 20.81% and for part heard dates with 34 or 17.26% rank next. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for mention dates which is expected in civil and most other case types.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in
the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	64	40.00
Both Parties Absent	37	23.13
Defendant Absent	24	15.00
Attorney Absent	7	4.38
Plaintiff Absent	7	4.38
Referred to mediation	7	4.38
Sub-total	146	91.25

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)=160

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 160 incidence of adjournments heard in the first quarter of 2022. Adjournments for no return/ for reissue with 64 or 40% of the sample, adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 37 or 23.13% and the absence of defendants with 24 or 15% of the sample feature prominently on the list. Adjournments for the absence of plaintiffs, the absence of attorneys and referrals to mediation with 7 or 4.38% each of the sample respectively close out the list. The top five reasons for adjournments, which are listed above, account for 91.25% of the entire sample.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Default Judgment	31	25.00%
Consent	27	21.77%
Oral Admission	15	12.10%
Withdrawal	12	9.68%
Final Judgment	11	8.87%
Sub-total	96	77.42%

NB: There were 125 matters disposed for the first quarter of 2022

The above table details the sampling distribution of the leading methods of disposition using a sample of 125 matters disposed during the first quarter of 2022. The list is led by matters disposed by default judgments with 31 or 25% of the dispositions, followed by matters disposed by consent with 27 or 21.77% and matters disposed by oral admissions with 15 or 12.10% of the sample. Withdrawals account for 12 or 9.68% of the sample and disposals by final judgments account for 11 or 8.87% of the sample. The top five methods of dispositions enumerated above accounted for 77.42% of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the first quarter ended March 31,
2022

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
20	0	100.00

Another important performance metric is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 20 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that none was adjourned. This results in an overall estimated trial date certainty rate of 100% which suggests that during the quarter there was roughly a 100%

chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This outcome met the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100%.

Approximate number of new cases filed	Number of cases disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in quarter)	Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Estimated gross case clearance rate (%)	Estimated gross case disposal rate (%)
138	30	177	128.26	21.74

Table 12.0: Case flow pe	erformance estimates for the first q	uarter ended March 31, 2022
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The above table shows 138 new cases filed at the Trelawny Parish Court during first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, a total of 12 of these cases were disposed and 18 cases became inactive, leading to a gross case disposal rate of 21.74%. An approximate gross figure of 113 cases was disposed and 64 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2022. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 128.26%, which meets the international standard for the case clearance rate.

The net disposal rate for the quarter is 10%, which is 8.33 percentage points below the rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021. The net clearance for the quarter is 94.17%, which is 11.40 percentage points above the rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 13.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	87
Mean	223.4368
Median	125.0000
Mode	154.00
Std. Deviation	290.43835
Skewness	3.042
Std. Error of Skewness	.258
Range	1860.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	1867.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 87 civil cases disposed in the first quarter of 2022 at the Trelawny Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of this sample of cases is roughly 223 days or 7.4 months. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 154 days and the median time was 125 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 290 days suggests that the times taken to disposition were spread out over a large range of values and the positive skewness is an indication that a greater proportion of times to disposition fell below the overall average time. The oldest case disposed in the quarter was 1867 days or roughly 5.2 years old, while minimum time taken to disposed of cases was 7 days. Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended June 30, 2021

Descriptive statistics (in days)	
Number of observations	348
Mean	430.1149
Median	331.0000
Mode	87.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	342.02384
Skewness	1.016
Std. Error of Skewness	.131
Range	1826.00
Minimum	24.00
Maximum	1850.00

 $\ensuremath{{}_{a}}$ Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above data is computed using 348 active cases at the end of the first quarter of 2022. The average age of these cases was roughly 430 days (1.2 years), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 87 days. The standard deviation of roughly 342 days suggests that there is some dispersion of the individual scores around the mean, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set which fall below the overall mean. The oldest active case in this sample is 1850 days (5 years old), while the youngest is 24 days.

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

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022.

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	388	88.58
Disposed	33	7.53
Inactive	17	3.88
Total	438	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 438 new cases filed at the St. Ann Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, 388 cases or 88.58% of these cases were still active, 33 were disposed and 17 were rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 11.42%, which is a 1.28 percentage points improvement when compared to the first quarter of 2021.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the first quarter ended March 31,
2022

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	418	77.99
Small Claim	118	22.01
Total	536	100.00

The above table shows that from 536 new claims filed in the first quarter of 2022, the majority of which were big claims with 418 or 77.99%, while 118 or 22.01% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Ann Parish Court-Civildivision for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Cause of action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	201	47.29%
Damages for Negligence	38	8.94%
Recovery of Possession	32	7.53%
Money Owing	29	6.82%
Rent Owing and Continuing	26	6.12%
Rent Owing, Continuing and Recovery of	26	6.12%
Possession		
Sub-total	352	82.82%

Total sample size of causes of action (N) =425

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table uses a sample of 425 matters, from which the leading causes of action filed in the first quarter of 2022 was breach of contract with 201 or roughly 47.29% of the sample and damages for negligence with 38 or 8.94% of the sample. Recovery of possession with 32 or 7.53%, money owing with 29 or 6.82% of the sample rank next. Rent owing and continuing and rent owing, continuing and recovery of possession with 26 or 6.12% each of the total sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 82.82% of the sample of causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of types of service filed in the first quarter ended March 31,2022

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	46	46.46%
District Constable	35	35.35%
Personal	18	18.18%
Total	99	100.00%

Types of service as used in the above table refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted

for the highest proportion with 46 or 46.46% of the sample. Service by District Constable

accounted for 35 or 35.35%, personal service with 18 or 18.18% of the sample rank next.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the first quarterended March 31, 2022

Courtroom/outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	85	59.03
Claremont Outstation	52	36.11
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	7	4.86
Total	144*	100.00

*Note: Corresponding to 123 cases

The majority of a sample of 144 new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022 were entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, accounting for 85 or 59.03% of the total sample. Claremont Outstation accounted for 52 or 36.11% and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for 7 or 4.86% of the accommodations.

Case Demographics for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	240	45.03
Female	200	37.52
Registered Company	91	17.07
Trading As	2	0.38
Total	533	100.00

 Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 533 new matters filed in the quarter, males accounted for the largest proportion with 240 or 45.03%, followed by females with 200 or 37.52% and registered companies with 91 or 17.07% of the total sample. Individuals trading under a business name ("trading as") with 0.38% accounted for the smallest proportion of the total sample.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	321	61.03
Female	165	31.37
Registered Company	36	6.84
Trading As	4	0.76
Total	526	100.00

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

There were 526 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of defendants were male with 321 or 61.03% of the total sample, followed by females with 165 or 31.37%. Registered companies accounted for 36 or 6.84% of the total sample and individuals trading under a business name ("trading as") accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 4 or 0.76%.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

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

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the first quarterended March 31, 2022

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	404	48.97
Default Judgment Date	167	20.24
Trial	138	16.73
Part-Heard Date	92	11.15
Hearing of Application	21	2.55
Final Judgment Date	3	0.36
Total	825	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 825 matters that went to court during the first quarter ended March 31, 2022, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard dates and similar procedural dates. Adjournments for mention dates accounted for 404 or 48.97% of the sample, followed by 167 or 20.24%, which were adjourned for default judgment dates. Matters disposed for trial dates accounted for 138 or 16.73% and matters adjourned for a part-heard date account for 92 or 11.15% of the total sample. As with most other courts, this data decisively suggests that there is a greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for a mention date, though this is not an unsurprising result given that mention court stings are intrinsic to the progression of civil and other cases.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in
the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Reasons for Adjournments	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No return/Re-Issued	217	20.99
Defendant Absent	169	16.34
Both Parties Absent	103	9.96
Placed on Trial List	77	7.45
Referred to mediation	54	5.22
Sub-total	620	59.96

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)= 1034

The above table details a sample of 1034 reasons for adjournment or continuances for matters that went to court in the first quarter of 2022, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments due to the no return/for re-issue with 217 or 20.99% of the sample, adjournments due to defendants being absent with 169 or 16.34% and adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 103 or 9.96% of the sample rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment for the quarter in this sample. The list is completed by adjournments due to placement on the trial list with 77 or 7.45% and referrals to mediation with 54 or 5.22% of the sample. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above, account for 59.96% of the total sample of adjournments and continuances.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the firstquarter ended March 31, 2022

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	50
Average Incidence	1.3

Corresponds to 39 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 50 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 39 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.3 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 13 reissue incidences. Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the first quarterended March 31, 2022

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	93	27.93
Struck Out	55	16.52
Settlement	50	15.02
Default Judgment	30	9.01
Withdrawal	28	8.41
Sub-total	256	76.88

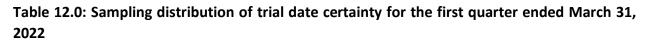
NB: There were 333 matters disposed for the first quarter of 2022

A sample of 333 matters disposed during the first quarter of 2022 revealed that 93 or 27.93% of matters were disposed by consent, 55 or 16.52% were disposed by being stuck out and 50 or 15.02% of the sample were disposed by settlements. Matters disposed by default judgments with 30 or 9.01% and withdrawals with 28 or 8.41% of the total sample of disposals complete the top five for the quarter. The top five methods of disposition enumerated above, account for 76.88% of the total sample of dispositions. This data provides insights into the overall distribution of the methods of disposition in the first quarter of 2022.

Case outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	24	80.00
Settlement	4	13.33
Judgment in Favour of Defendant	2	6.67
Total	30	100.00

The above table summarizes the distribution of case outcomes in the first quarter of 2022 at the St. Ann Parish Court. Judgments in favour of the plaintiff with 24 or 80% of the sample of matters, account for the majority of the sample, while settlements with 4 or 13.33% and judgments in favour of the defendant with 6.67% of the sample account for the remaining proportion. This

probability distribution provides important insights into the results of cases and the likelihood of matters being awarded in favour of the various party types, which may be involved in a case.



Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
34	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 34 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that none was adjourned. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This meets the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100%.

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
438	50	459	104.79	11.42

The above table shows 438 new cases filed at the St. Ann Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, a total of 33 cases were disposed and 17 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 11.42%, an increase of 1.28 percentage points compared to the first quarter of 2021. An approximate gross figure of 271 cases were disposed,

and 188 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2022. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 104.79%, which meets the international standard for this metric and represents a 22.33 percentage points decline when compared to the first guarter of 2021.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 7.84%, an improvement of 2.62 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2021. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 64.37%, a decline of 13.24 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2021. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	216
Mean	559.5833
Median	209.5000
Mode	119.00
Std. Deviation	824.31481
Skewness	2.403
Std. Error of Skewness	.166
Range	3975.00
Minimum	8.00
Maximum	3983.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 216 civil matters disposed in the first quarter of 2022 at the St. Ann Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 560 days or 18.7 months, which is roughly 73 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the first quarter of 2021. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 119 days. The standard deviation of roughly 824 days is an indication that there is a wide

variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores in the data set that fell below the overall average scores. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 3983 days or roughly 11 years old, while the minimum time taken was 8 days.

Table 15.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the first quarter ended March 31,2022

Number of observations	1180
Mean	570.8873
Median	350.0000
Mode	57.00
Std. Deviation	719.38535
Skewness	2.581
Std. Error of Skewness	.071
Range	5102.00
Minimum	8.00
Maximum	5110.00

Descriptive statistics (in days)

The above data is based on sample of 1180 active civil matters at the end of the first quarter of 2022. The average age of these matters was roughly 571 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 57 days. The standard deviation of roughly 719 days suggests that there is a large amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the series average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter is 5110 days old or roughly 14 years, while the minimum age is 8 days.

Westmoreland Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics at the Westmoreland Parish Court for the first quarter of 2022.

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	33	34.02
Disposed	35	36.08
Inactive	29	29.90
Total	97	100

 Table 1.0: Case status summary for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above table presents a status distribution of 97 new cases filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, 33 cases or 34.02% of these cases were still active, while 35 or 36.08% were disposed and 29 or 29.90% rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 65.98%, which is a 7.26 percentage points improvement when compared to the first quarter of 2022.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the first quarter ended March	ı 31,
2022	

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	116	84.06
Small Claim	22	15.94
Total	138	100.00

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 138 new claims filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of which 116 or 84.06% were big claims, while 22 or 15.94% were small claims.

 Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Westmoreland Parish

 Court-Civil division for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Recovery of Possession	39	28.26
Assault and Battery	9	6.52
Negligence	9	6.52
Monies Owing	4	2.90
Other	56	40.58
Sub-total	117	84.78

Total sample size of causes of action=138

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. Otherwise from the causes of action pooled under "other", the leading cause of action filed in the first quarter of 2022 at the Westmoreland Parish Court was recovery of possession with 39 or roughly 28.26% of the sample. Assault and battery and negligence with 9 or 6.52% each, and monies owing with 4 or 2.90% round off the list. These five leading causes of action account for 84.78% of the sample of 138 causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of types of service in the first quarter en	nded March 31, 2022
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Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	64	50.39
Bailiff	63	49.61
Total	127	100.00

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority of the sample with 64 or 50.39% of the sample, while service by the bailiff accounted for 63 or 49.61%.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the firstquarter ended March 31, 2022

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #3 main courthouse)	65	48.15
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	44	32.59
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	17	12.59
Whithorn Outstation	9	6.67
Total	135*	100.00

*Note: Corresponding to 97 cases

The largest proportion of a sample of 135 new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022 was entered in courtroom number 3 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 65 or 48.15% of the sample. The 44 or 32.59% that were entered in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse followed this. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for 17 or 12.59% and sittings at the Whithorn outstation accounted for the remaining 6.67% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Table 6.0: Distribution of	plaintiffs for the first	t quarter ended March 31	L, 2022
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Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	76	55.07
Female	54	39.13
Registered Company	8	5.80
Total	138	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 138 new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022 at the Westmoreland Parish Court, males accounted for the majority of the sample with 76 or 55.07%, followed by females with 54 or 39.13%. Registered companies accounted for 8 or 5.80% of the sample.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	72	52.55
Female	58	42.34
Trading As	4	2.92
Registered Company	3	2.19
Total	137	100.00

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

There were 137 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022. As with the claimants, the majority of defendants were male with 72 or 52.55% of the sample, followed by females with 58 or 42.34%. Individuals trading under a business name ("trading as") accounted for 4 or 2.92% and registered companies account for 2.19% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the quarter ended March 31, 2021

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

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the first quarter ended
March 31, 2022

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	156	50.00
Trial	122	39.10
Final Judgment Date	34	10.90
Total	312	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 312 matters that went to court during the first quarter ended March 31, 2022, which were adjourned for a default judgment, a final judgment, mention, part heard, trial date or similar procedural adjournment. The highest proportion, 156 or 50% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 122 or 39.10%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Rounding off the top incidences of procedural adjournments were 34 or 10.90% of matters, which were adjourned for final judgment dates. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for trial or mention court hearings. This is, however, not an unusual outcome given that mention court hearings are central to the case flow process in the civil courts.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in
the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Placed on Trial List	25	28.41
No Return/Re-Issued	14	15.91
Defendant Absent	8	9.09
Pending Settlement	3	3.41
Amendment of Particulars of Claim	2	2.27
Sub-total	52	59.09

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)= 88

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 88 incidences of adjournments for matters heard in the first quarter of 2022. Adjournments for placement on the trial list account for the largest proportion of the sample with 25 or 28.41%, while adjournments for no return/for re-issue rank next with 14 or 15.91% of the sample. The absence of defendants accounted for 9.09%

of the sample and pending settlements with 3 or 3.41% and adjournments for the amendment of the particulars of a claim with 2.27% the sample completes the top five reasons for adjournment for the quarter. The top five reasons for adjournment enumerated above account for 59.09% of the total sample of adjournments and continuances heard in the quarter.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the firstquarter ended March 31, 2022

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	54
Average Incidence	1.5
Corresponds to 37 cases	

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition

and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or

short served. The above table draws on a sample of 54 incidences of reissue, corresponding to

37 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.5 reissues per case file for new claims filed in the

quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 15 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the first quarterended March 31, 2022

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	52	21.94
Consent	43	18.14
Oral Admission	28	11.81
Default Judgment	26	10.97
Non-Suited	19	8.02
Settlement	19	8.02
Sub-total	187	78.90

NB: There were 237 matters disposed for the first quarter of 2022

A total of 237 civil matters were disposed at the Westmoreland Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. The above table details the top five methods of disposal, which accounts for 78.90% of the total sample. The list is led by matters struck out with 52 or 21.94% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by consent with 43 or 18.14% and oral admissions with 28 or 11.81%. Matters disposed by default judgments with 26 or 10.97%, matters non-suited and settlements with 19 or 8.02% round off the top five methods dispositions.

Table 12: Sampling distribution of case outcomes for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Case Outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	25	80.65
Settlement	5	16.13
Judgment in Favour of defendant	1	3.23
Total	31	100.0

The above table summarizes the distribution of a sample of case outcomes in the first quarter of 2022 at the Westmoreland Parish Court. Judgements in favour of the plaintiff with 25 or 80.65% of the sample of matters, accounts for the majority of the sample, while settlements account for 5 or 16.13%. Judgements in favour of defendants account for the smallest share with 3.23% of the sample. This probability distribution provides important insights into the results of cases and the likelihood of matters being awarded in favour of the various party types, which may be involved in a case.

Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the first quarter ended March 31,2022

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
72	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 72 trial dates were set in the quarter; of which none was adjourned. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was an estimated 100% chance that a date set for a trial would proceed without adjournment and is 5 percentage points above the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2021.

Approximate **Combined number of** disposed and inactive Approximate **Approximate Gross** Approximate cases (of those number of disposed Number of gross Case Approximate originating in the and inactive cases in clearance gross Case new cases filed quarter) disposal rate (%) the quarter rate (%) 97 64 213 219.59 65.98

Table 14.0: Case flow performance estimates for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above table shows 97 new cases filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, a total of 35 of these cases were disposed, and 29 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 65.98%, an improvement of 7.26 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2021. A gross figure of 175 cases was disposed, and 38 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2022. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 219.59%, which satisfies the international standard for this metric and is 34.27 percentage points above the first quarter of 2021 rate.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 51.47%, which is 2.61 percentage points above the rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 257.35%, which is 75.53 percentage points above the rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021.

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

these metrics.

Table 15.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2022

Number of observations	155
Mean	143.12
Std. Error of Mean	12.714
Median	82.00
Mode	35
Std. Deviation	158.288
Skewness	2.162
Std. Error of Skewness	.195
Range	859
Minimum	2
Maximum	861

Descriptive statistics (in days)

The above table outlines summary data on 155 civil matters disposed in the first quarter at the Westmoreland Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is approximately 143 days or 4.8 months, which is roughly 7 less days than it took to dispose of matters in the first quarter of 2021. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 35 days. The standard deviation is an indication that there is a large amount of variation in the distribution of the scores around the mean time and the positive skewness is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set fell below the mean. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 861 days or roughly 2.4 years, while the minimum time taken was just 2 days.

Table 16.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the first quarter ended March 31,2022

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	326
Mean	414.99
Std. Error of Mean	18.025
Median	288.00
Mode	169
Std. Deviation	325.452
Skewness	.878
Std. Error of Skewness	.135
Range	1099
Minimum	64
Maximum	1163

The above data is based on sample of 326 active civil matters at the end of the first quarter of 2022. The average age of these matters was roughly 415 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 169 days. The standard deviation of roughly 325 days suggests that there some dispersion of the individual scores around the average. The positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more scores in the scores in the data set fell below the mean. The oldest age of active cases was 1163 days or 3.2 years, and the youngest time is 64 days.

Table 16.0b: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters reissued for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Descriptive	statistics	(in	days)	
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Number of observations	32
Mean	38.47
Std. Error of Mean	3.229
Median	47.50
Mode	56
Std. Deviation	18.263
Skewness	158
Std. Error of Skewness	.414
Range	42
Minimum	15
Maximum	57

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 32 active reissued matters at the Westmoreland Parish Court as at the end of the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. The average age of these matters was roughly 38 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 56 days and the median age was 47.50 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some amount of variation among the individual scores, with the negative skewness indicating that more of the ages were above the overall series average. The highest age in the data set was 57 days and the lowest was 15 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

St. Mary Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Court for the first quarter of 2022.

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	111	76.03
Disposed	34	23.29
Inactive	1	0.68
Total	146	100.00

 Table 1.0: Case status summary for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above table presents a status distribution of 146 new civil cases filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, 111 or 76.03% were still active, 34 or 23.29% were disposed and 1 or 0.68% was inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 23.97% for the quarter, which is 14.92 percentage points below the rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021.

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	130	80.75
Small Claim	31	19.25
Total	161	100.00

The above table shows that from the 161 new claims filed in the quarter, the majority of which were big claims, which accounted for 130 or 80.75% of the total sample, while 31 or 19.25% were small claims.

 Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Mary Parish Court

 Civil division for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	65	65.66
Recovery of Possession	19	19.19
Damages for Negligence	7	7.07
Damage to Cultivation	6	6.06
Arrears of Rent	1	1.01
Special Damages	1	1.01
Total	99	100.00

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The data in the above table is computed using a sample of 99 causes of action. As shown in the above table, the leading causes of action for the quarter at the St. Mary Parish Court were breach of contract with 65 or roughly 65.66% of the sample and recovery of possession with 19 or 19.19% of the total sample of causes of action. Damages for negligence with 7 or 7.07% and damages to cultivation with 6 or 6.06% rank next. The top causes of action in this sample are rounded off by arrears of rent and special damages with 1.01% each of the sample.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of types of cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022
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Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	151	93.79
Bailiff	10	6.21
Total	161	100.00

Types of service as used above refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority of the sample with 151 or 93.79% of the sample, with service by the bailiff accounting for the remaining 10 or 6.21% of the sample.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the firstquarter ended March 31, 2022

Courtroom	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	113	70.19
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	26	16.15
Annotto Bay Outstation	12	7.45
Galye Outstation	4	2.48
Richmond Outstation	4	2.48
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	2	1.24
Total	161*	100.00

*Note: Corresponding to 146 cases

The above data is computed using a sample of 161 new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of this sample was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 113 or 70.19% of the sample. Courtroom number 3 at the main courthouse with 26 or 16.15% of the sample and Annotto Bay outstation with 12 or 7.45% of the sample rounds off the top 3 accommodations. The list is completed by the Gayle outstation and the Richmond outstation with 4 or 2.48% each of the sample and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse with 2 or 1.24%.

Case Demographics for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

 Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)	
Male	108	67.08	
Female	42	26.09	
Registered Company	11	6.83	
Total	161	100.00	

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 161 new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022 at the St. Mary Parish Court-Civil Division, males accounted for the majority of plaintiffs

with 108 or 67.08%, followed by females with 42 or 26.09%. Registered companies with 6.83% accounted for the lowest proportion of the sample.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	118	73.75
Female	38	23.75
Registered Company	4	2.50
Total	160	100.00

There were 160 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of defendants were males with 118 or 73.75%, followed by females with 38 or 23.75% of the sample. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 4 or 2.50% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for first quarter ended March 31, 2022 This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantum of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delay factors explored are the reasons for adjournment and the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, which were completed in the quarter, as well as other essential metrics. Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2022

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	63	45.32
Trial	36	25.90
Default Judgment Date	19	13.67
Part-heard Date	19	13.67
Hearing of Application	2	1.44
Total	139	100.0

The above table shows a sample of 139 matters that went to court during the first ended March 31, 2022, which were adjourned for a default judgment, final judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 63 or 45.32% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 36 or 25.90%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were the 19 or 13.67% each of the matters which were adjourned for default judgment dates and for part heard dates. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for a mention hearing and that a notable proportion of the adjournments are for default judgments. The high frequency of adjournments associated with default judgments is not unusual as this stage is intrinsic to case management and case preparation and to the overall case process flow.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the first
quarter ended March 31, 2022

Reasons for adjournment/continuance	Frequency	Percentage (%)
For Mention (continuance)	45	29.03
Part Heard (continuance)	5	3.23
No Return/Re-Issued	4	2.58
For Judgment (continuance)	2	1.29
Other	94	60.65
Sub-total	150	96.77

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled= 155

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 155 incidences of adjournments or continuances for matters heard in the first quarter of 2022. Other than the reasons for adjournment pooled under "other", continuances, which are adjournments intrinsic to the progression of a case, for mention, account for the largest proportion of the sample with 45 or 29.03%, followed by continuances for part heard with 5 or 3.23% of the sample.

Table 10: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the first quarterended March 31, 2022

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	18
Average Incidence	1.2

Corresponding to 15 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 18 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 15 reissued cases. This result in an average of 1.2 reissues per case file for new claims filed in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 12 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the first quarterended March 31, 2022

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	41	25.79
Oral Admission	26	16.35
Consent	23	14.47
Default Judgment	15	9.43
Settlement	13	8.18
Sub-Total	118	74.22

NB: There were 159 matters disposed for the first quarter of 2022

The above table details the leading methods of disposition for a sample of 159 civil matters disposed at the St. Mary Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. Matters struck out with 41 or 25.79%, matters disposed by oral admissions with 26 or 16.35% and matters disposed by consent with 23 or 14.47% are the leading methods of disposition in the sample. Matters disposed by default judgments with 9.43% of the sample rank next followed by disposals by settlements with 8.18% of the sample. The listed methods of disposition account for 74.22% of the total sample of matters disposed during the quarter.

Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the first quarter ended March 31,2022

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
29	4	86.21

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 29 trial dates were set in the first quarter of 2022 shows that 4 were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 86.21%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 86% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross Case disposal rate (%)
146	35	153	104.79	23.97

The above table shows 146 new cases filed at the St. Mary Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, a total of 34 of these cases were disposed and 1 case became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 23.97%, a decline of 14.92 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2021. An approximate gross figure of 149 cases were disposed, and 4 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2022. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 104.79%, which meets the international standard for this metric, and is 4.79 percentage points above than the first quarter of 2021.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 23.45%, a 7.44 percentage point decline when compared to the first quarter of 2021. The estimated net clearance rate is 102.76%, an 9.04 percentage point improvement when compared to the first quarter of 2021. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics of	on the time taken to	dispose of matters i	in the first quarter ended
March 31, 2022			

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	113
Mean	151.5752
Median	56.0000
Mode	14.00
Std. Deviation	195.17436
Skewness	1.736
Std. Error of Skewness	.227
Range	977.00
Minimum	3.00
Maximum	980.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 113 civil cases disposed in the first quarter

of 2022 at the St. Mary Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of this sample of cases is

roughly 152 days or 5.1 months, which is roughly 59 less days than it took to dispose of matters in the first quarter of 2021. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 14 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 195 days suggests that the times taken to disposition were spread out over a large range of values and the positive skewness is an indication that a greater proportion of times to disposition fell below the overall average time. The oldest case disposed in the quarter was 980 days or roughly 2.7 years old, while minimum time taken to disposed of cases was 3 days. The wide dispersion of the highest score from the centre of the data set suggests that there were outlying values in the distribution.

 Table 15.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

 Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	272
Mean	498.6213
Median	325.0000
Mode	24.00
Std. Deviation	557.56863
Skewness	2.429
Std. Error of Skewness	.148
Range	3136.00
Minimum	24.00
Maximum	3160.00

The above data is based on sample of 272 active civil matters at the end of the first quarter of 2022. The average age of these matters was roughly 499 days (or roughly 17 months), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution and the median age were both 24 days. The standard deviation of roughly 558 days suggests that there is a large dispersion of the individual scores, while the high positive skewness seen is an indication that there were decidedly more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter in the data set is 3160 days old or roughly 8.8 years, while the minimum age was

24 days. The wide dispersion of the highest score from the centre of the data set suggests that there were outlying values in the distribution.

Portland Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics at the Portland

Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022.

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	64	86.49
Disposed	6	8.11
Inactive	4	5.41
Total	74	100.00

 Table 1.0: Case status summary for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above table presents a status distribution of 74 new civil cases filed at the Portland Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, 64 or 86.49% were still active, 6 or 8.11% were disposed and 4 or 5.41% were inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 13.51% for the quarter, which is 32.14 percentage points below the rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	78	85.71
Small Claim	13	14.29
Total	91	100.00

The above table shows that from the 91 new claims filed in the quarter, the majority of which 78 or 85.71% were big claims, while 13 or 14.29% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Mary Parish Court-Civil division for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Causes of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	22	48.89
Recovery of Possession	19	42.22
Damages for Breach of Contract	1	2.22
Damages for Trespass	1	2.22
Negligence And Damages	1	2.22
Rent Owing	1	2.22
Total	45	100.00

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. Using a sample of 45 matters filed, the data reveals that the leading causes of action filed were breach of contract with 22 or roughly 48.89% of the total sample and recovery of possession with 19 or 42.22%. Damages for breach of contract, damages for trespass, negligence and damages and rent owing with 1 or 2.22% each round off the causes of action for the quarter.

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	67	74.44
Bailiff	23	25.56
Total	90	100.00

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority with 67 or 74.44% of the sample, while service by the bailiff accounted for 23 or 25.56%.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the firstquarter ended March 31, 2022

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	13	32.50
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	11	27.50
Manchioneal Outstation	8	20.00
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	5	12.50
Buff Bay Outstation (courtroom #2)	3	7.50
Total	40	100.00

The largest proportion of the sample of 40 new matters filed in the quarter was entered in courtroom number 3 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 13 or 32.50% of the sample of accommodations. The 11 or 27.50% that were entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse followed this, while the 8 matters that entered in Manchioneal outstation rank next. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse account for 5 or 12.50% and courtroom 2 at the Buff Bay outstation account for 7.50% of the accommodations.

Case Demographics for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	44	48.35
Female	26	28.57
Registered Company	21	23.08
Total	91	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 91 new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022, males accounted for the largest proportion with 44 or 48.35%, followed by females with 26 or 28.57% and registered companies with 21 or 23.08%.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	56	62.22
Female	30	33.33
Registered Company	4	4.44
Total	90	100.00

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

There were 90 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of defendants were male with 56 or 62.22% of the sample, followed by females with 30 or 33.33% of the sample and registered companies with 4 or 4.44%.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for first quarter ended March 31, 2022 This chapter of the report highlights delay factors, which potentially inhibit the efficient progression of cases towards disposition as well as the quantum of cases disposed prior to enforcement and the methods of disposition. Among the primary delay factors explored are the reasons for adjournment and the stages of matters at which adjournments are most likely to occur. This section also highlights the average time that it took to dispose of cases, which were completed in the quarter, as well as other essential metrics.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the first quarter
ended March 31, 2022

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	159	51.13
Part-Heard Date	72	23.15
Trial	69	22.19
Default Judgment Date	11	3.54
Total	311	100.00

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 311 matters that were heard during the first quarter ended March 31, 2022, which were adjourned for a default, mention, part heard,

trial or other similar procedural date. The majority, 159 or 51.13% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 72 or 23.15%, which were adjourned for part heard dates. Adjournments for trial dates with 69 or 22.19% and for default judgment dates with 11 or 3.54% complete the list. This data provides insights into the distribution of the stages of adjournment during the quarter at the Portland Parish Court.

 Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in

 the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	23	6.91
Defendant Absent	5	1.50
Plaintiff Absent	2	0.60
Pending Settlement	1	0.30
Referred to Mediation	1	0.30
Other	151	45.35
Sub-total	183	54.95

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N)=333

The above data is computed from a sample of 333 reasons for adjournment heard in the first quarter of 2022. Otherwise from the reasons for adjournment pooled under "other", adjournments for no return/ for reissue with 23 or 6.91% account for the highest share of the adjournments, followed by adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 1.50% and the absence of plaintiffs with 2 or 0.60% of the sample. The list is completed by adjournments due to pending settlement and referrals to mediation with 0.30% each of the sample. The reasons for adjournment listed account for 54.95% of the total sample of reasons for adjournments/continuances.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	29	27.62
Consent	23	21.90
Struck Out	13	12.38
Default Judgment	11	10.48
Settlement	6	5.71
Sub-total	82	78.10

NB: There were 105 matters disposed for the first quarter of 2022

A total of 105 civil matters were disposed at the Portland Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. The distribution is led by disposals by notices of discontinuance (NOD) with 29 or 27.62% of the sample, followed by matters disposed by consent with 23 or 21.90% and matters struck out with 13 or 12.38%. Matters disposed by default judgments with 11 or 10.48% and matters disposed by settlements with 6 or 5.71% complete the top 5 methods of disposition for the quarter. The top 5 methods of dispositions enumerated above account for 78.10% of the total sample of dispositions.

Sample of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
54	18	66.67

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. Using a sample of 54 trial dates set in the quarter, it is seen that 18 was adjourned for reasons other than procedural factors. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 66.67% which suggests that during the quarter there was roughly a 67% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. The 2022 result is 13.33 percentage points below the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2021.

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
74	10	90	121.62	13.51

The above table shows 74 new cases filed at the Portland Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, a total of 6 of these cases were disposed and 4 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 13.51%, a decline of 32.14 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2021. An approximate gross figure of 80 cases were disposed, and 10 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2022. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 121.62%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric, and is 110.99 percentage points less than the first quarter of 2021.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 8.57%, a 27.33 percentage point decline when compared to the first quarter of 2021. The estimated net clearance rate is 114.29%, a 113.92 percentage point decline when compared to the first quarter of 2021. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

 Table 13.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the first quarter ended

 March 31, 2022

Number of observations	93
Mean	472.12
Median	302.00
Mode	980
Std. Deviation	436.193
Skewness	.714
Std. Error of Skewness	.250
Range	1394
Minimum	15
Maximum	1409

Descriptive statistics (in days)

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 93 civil matters disposed in first quarter of 2022 at the Portland Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 472 days (15.7 months), which is roughly 83 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the first quarter of 2021. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 980 days and the median time to disposition was 302 days. The standard deviation of roughly 436 days, is an indication that there is some amount of variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness observed is an indication that the larger proportion of the scores in this data series fall below the overall mean. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1409 days or roughly 4 years old, while the youngest was 15 days. Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Number of observations	418
Mean	940.5622
Median	759.0000
Mode	1907.00
Std. Deviation	816.85347
Skewness	.963
Std. Error of Skewness	.119
Range	4022.00
Minimum	3.00
Maximum	4025.00

Descriptive statistics (in days)

The above data is computed using 418 active cases at the end of the first quarter of 2022. The average age of these cases was roughly 941 days (2.6 years), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 1907 days (64 months). The standard deviation of roughly 817 days suggests that there is some dispersion of the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set fall below the mean. The oldest active case in this sample was 4025 days (11.2 years), while the youngest 3 days.

St. Thomas Parish Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

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

Thomas Parish Court for the first quarter of 2022.

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	121	74.23
Disposed	23	14.11
Inactive	19	11.66
Total	163	100.00

 Table 1.0: Case status summary for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above table presents a status distribution of 163 new cases was filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, 121 cases or 74.23% of these cases were still active, while 23 were disposed and 19 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 25.77%, which is a 0.06 percentage points improvement when compared to the first quarter of 2021.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the first quarter ended March 31,
2022

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	103	55.98
Small Claim	81	44.02
Total	184	100.00

The above table shows that from a sample of 184 new claims filed in the first quarter of 2022,

the majority of which 103 or 55.98% were big claims, while 81 or 44.02% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Thomas parish courtfor the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	77	43.02
Recovery of Possession	17	9.50
Monies Owing	14	7.82
Rent Owing	12	6.70
Trespass to Land	9	5.03
Sub-total	129	72.07

Total sample size of causes of action= 179

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action filed in the first quarter of 2022 at the St. Thomas Parish Court was breach of contract with 77 or roughly 43.02% of the sample. Recovery of possession with 17 or 9.50% and monies owing with 14 or 7.82% of the sample rounds off the top three causes of action in this representative sample. Rent owing with 12 or 6.70% and trespass to land with 9 or 5.03% of the sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 72.07% of all the total sample of 179 causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the types of service for the first quarter ended March 31,
2022

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
District Constable	33	67.35
Bailiff	11	22.45
Personal	5	10.20
Total	49	100.00

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the district constable accounted for the majority with 33 or 67.35% of the sample. Service by the bailiff with 11 or 22.45% and personal

service with 5 or 10.20% rant next.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for thefirst quarter ended March 31, 2022

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	88	47.83
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	51	27.72
Yallahs Outstation	45	24.46
Total	184*	100.00

*Note: Corresponding to 530 cases

The largest proportion of a sample of 184 new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022 was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 88 or 47.83% of the sample. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for 51 or 27.72% and the Yallahs outstation accounted for 45 or 24.46% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	110	59.78
Female	73	39.67
Trading As	1	0.54
Total	184	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 184 new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022 at the St. Thomas Parish Court, males accounted for the majority of the sample with 110 or 59.78%, followed by females with 73 or 39.67%. Individuals trading under a business name ("trading as") accounted for the lowest proportion with 0.54% of the sample.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	125	67.93
Female	57	30.98
Registered Company	1	0.54
Trading As	1	0.54
Total	184	100.00

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

There were 184 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the first quarter of 2022. The majority of defendants were male with 125 or 67.93% of the sample, followed by females with 57 or 30.98% of the sample. Registered companies and individuals trading under a business name ("trading as") accounted for 0.54% each of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

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

 Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the first quarter

 ended March 31, 2022

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Date for Order	149	41.74
Trial	113	31.65
Mention Date	49	13.73
Default Judgement Date	40	11.20
Part-Heard Date	6	1.68
Total	357	100.00

The above table is computed based on a sample of 357 cases adjourned during the first quarter of 2022. The highest proportion, 149 or 41.74% were adjourned for an order to be handed down, followed by 113 or 31.65% which were adjourned for a trial date. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 49 or 13.73% of matters, which were adjourned for mention dates. Matters adjourned for a default judgment date with 40 or 11.20% of the sample rank next.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for the first quarterended March 31, 2022

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Attorney Absent	76	31.67
Defendant Absent	32	13.33
Placed on Trial List	25	10.42
Judge Absent/III	16	6.67
Both Parties Absent	10	4.17
Sub-total	159	66.25

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 240

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 240 incidences of adjournments in the first quarter of 2022. Adjournments due to the absence of attorneys with 76 or 31.67% of the sample, adjournments due to the absence of defendants and placement on the trial list with 32 or 13.33%

and 25 or 10.42% respectively of the adjournments rounds off the top three. Adjournments due to the absence of judge/judge being ill with 6.67% and the absence of both parties with 10 or 4.17% of the sample round off this list. The listed reasons for adjournment account for 66.25% of the total sample of adjournments.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the first quarter ended	
March 31, 2022	

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	30
Average Incidence	1.1
Corresponding to 27 apres	

Corresponding to 27 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 30 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 27 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.1 reissues per case file for new claims filed in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 11 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the first quarter ended
March 31, 2022

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	34	21.52
Consent	32	20.25
Default Judgment	25	15.82
Trial	17	10.76
Settlement	16	10.13
Sub-total	124	78.48

NB: there were 158 matters were disposed in the first quarter of 2022

The above table details the top five methods of disposal computed from a sample of 158 matters. The list is led by matters struck out with 34 or 21.52% of the sample. Matters disposed by consent and matters disposed by default judgments with 32 or 20.25% and 25 or 15.82% respectively rank next. Matters disposed by trial with 17 or 10.76% and matters disposed by settlements with 16 or 10.13% round off the list. The listed methods of disposition account for roughly 78.48% of the sample.

Table 12: Sampling distribution of case outcomes for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Case Outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)	
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	15	65.22	
Settlement	7	30.43	
Judgment in Favour of Defendant	1	4.35	
Total	23	100.00	

The above table summarizes the distribution of a sample of case outcomes in the first quarter of 2022 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. Judgements in favour of the plaintiff with 15 or 65.22% of the sample of matters, accounts for the majority of the sample. Settlements account for 30.43% of the total sample and judgements in favour of the defendants account for 4.35%. This probability distribution provides important insights into the results of cases and the likelihood of matters being awarded in favour of the various party types, which may be involved in a case.

 Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty rate for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty rate (%)	
31	5	83.87	

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 31 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that 5 were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 83.87%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was an estimated 84% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment and is 16.13 percentage points below the rate recorded in the first quarter of 2021.

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
163	42	174	106.75	25.77

Table 14.0: Case flow performance estimates for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above table shows 163 new cases filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court during the first quarter of 2022. At the end of the quarter, a total of 23 cases were disposed and 19 became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 25.77%, an increase of 0.06 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2021. A gross figure of 133 cases were disposed, and 41 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2022. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 106.75%, which satisfies the international standard for this metric and represents a decrease of 14.68 percentage points when compared to the first quarter of 2021.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 15.97%, a 2.78 percentage points decline when compared to the first quarter of 2021. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 92.36%,

a 0.95 percentage points increase when compared to first quarter of 2021. The net clearance and

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

Table 15.0: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2022

Number of observations	112
Mean	398.6339
Median	238.0000
Mode	63.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	442.62216
Skewness	1.872
Std. Error of Skewness	.228
Range	2052.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	2059.00

Descriptive Statistics (days)

a Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 112 civil matters disposed in the first quarter of 2022 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 399 days or 13.3 months, which is roughly 91 less days than it took to dispose of matters in the first quarter of 2021. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 63 days. There is a standard deviation of roughly 443 days is an indication that there is some amount of variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores falling below the overall average time taken to dispose of the cases. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2059 days or roughly 6 years old, while the minimum time taken was 7 days.

Table 16.0: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	381
Mean	853.6614
Median	512.0000
Mode	2550.00
Std. Deviation	861.73930
Skewness	1.089
Std. Error of Skewness	.125
Range	2540.00
Minimum	10.00
Maximum	2550.00

The above data is based on sample of 381 active civil matters at the end of the first quarter of 2022. The average age of these matters was roughly 854 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 2550 days or 7.1 years. The high standard deviation of roughly 862 days suggests that there is wide dispersion in the individual scores in the data set, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 2550 days or 7.1 years, while the youngest case was 10 days.

Performance Summaries-Other Parish Courts

Parish Court	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)	Net Case Clearance Rate (%)	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%)	Net Case Disposal Rate (%)	Estimated Trial Date certainty Rate (%)
Clarendon PC	62.07	38.46	26.33	17.83	-
St. James PC	120.27	106.24	-	-	-
St. Elizabeth	-	102.30	-	10.16	-

Table 1.0: Key Performance Indicators for the Civil Divisions of the St. James and Clarendon Parish Courts for the first guarter of 2022

The summary of key performance metrics for the parish courts of Clarendon, St. Elizabeth and St. James shows that the civil division of the Clarendon Parish Court recorded an estimated gross case clearance rate of 62.07% in the first quarter of 2021. This court also registered an estimated net clearance rate of 38.46% in the quarter and gross and net case disposal rates of 26.33% and 17.83% respectively. The estimated case gross clearance rate for the St. James Parish Court in the quarter was 120.27% and the net clearance rate was 106.24%. The St. Elizabeth Parish Court recorded an estimated net clearance rate of 102.30% and an estimated net disposal rate of 10.16% for the quarter.

Aggregate data summaries – all Parish Courts

Table 1.0: Aggregate case flow performance estimates for the first quarter ended March 31,2022

Approximate number of new cases	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Clearance rate (%)
3905	6114	156.57

The above table provides a summary of aggregate case activity across the civil division of the

parish courts in the first quarter of 2022. It shows that a total of 3905 new cases were filed over the quarter, while 6114 became inactive or were disposed, leading to an estimated gross clearance rate of 156.57%. This is a 39.64 percentage points improvement when compared to the corresponding period in 2021.

Parish Court	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%) Q1 2022	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%) Q1 2021	Change in the Gross Case Disposal Rate (%)	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%) Q1 2022	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%) Q1 2021	Change in the Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)
St. Thomas	25.77	25.71	0.06	106.75	121.43	-14.68
Corporate Area- Civil	6	-	-	214.24	142.94	71.3
St. Elizabeth	-	-	-	-	66.4	-
Hanover	39.44	62.5	-23.06	142.25	272.5	-130.25
Manchester	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portland	13.51	45.65	-32.14	121.62	232.61	-110.99
St. Ann	11.42	10.14	1.28	104.79	127.12	-22.33
St. Catherine	14.54	16.1	-1.56	272.1	100.36	171.74

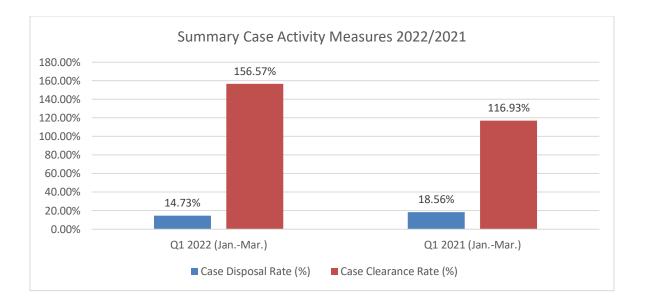
Table 2.0: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the first quarter of 2021 and 2022

St. Mary	23.97	38.89	-14.92	104.79	100	4.79
Trelawny	21.74	-	-	128.26	-	-
St. James	-	-	-	120.27	-	-
Clarendon	26.33	55.32	-28.99	62.07	88.51	-26.44
Westmoreland	65.98	58.72	7.26	219.59	185.32	34.27
Average /Weighted Average	14.73	18.56	-3.83	156.57	116.93	39.64
Standard Deviation	17.28	19.95	-	62.87	66.51	-
Skewness	1.64	-0.34	-	0.98	0.99	-

Note: Q1- Refers to quarter one (January to March of 2022 and 2021 respectively)

The table above provides a comparison of the case disposal rate and the case clearance rate and for the first quarters of 2022 and 2021. The weighted average gross case disposal rate for the first quarter of 2022 was 14.73%, which was a 3.83 percentage points decline when compared to the first quarter of 2021 weighted average rate of 18.56%. The gross case clearance rate of 156.57% for the first quarter of 2022 was 39.64 percentage points above the 116.93% recorded in the first quarter of 2021.

Chart 1.0: Aggregate summary of case activity metrics for first quarter of 2021 and 2022



The above graph provides a summary of the progression of the overall case disposal and case clearance for the first quarter of 2022 and 2021. It is seen that there has been a decline in the gross disposal rate and an improvement in the gross case clearance rate over the comparative period. The case clearance rate moved from 116.93% in the first quarter of 2021 to 156.57% in the first quarter of 2022. The disposal rate moved from 18.56% in the first quarter of 2021 to 14.73% in the first quarter of 2022, a decrease of 3.83 percentage points.

Chart 2.0a: Comparison of case disposal rates across the parish courts for the first quarter of 2021 and 2022

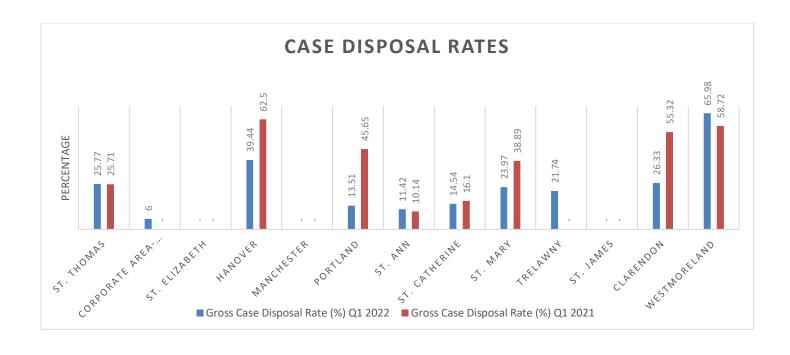


Chart 2.0b: Comparison of case clearance rates across the parish courts for first quarter of 2021 and 2022

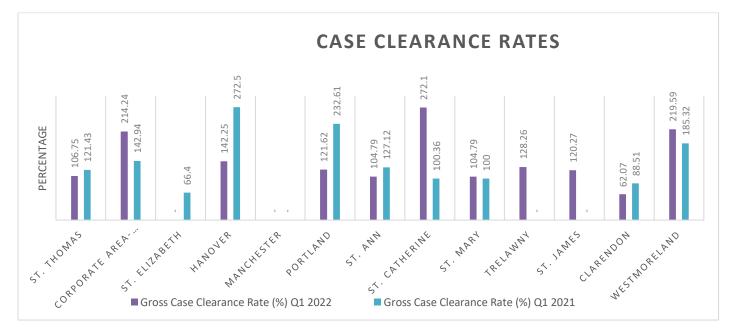


Table 3: Sampling distribution of claims filed during the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Parish Court	Big Claims	Small Claims	ΡΟϹΑ	Miscellaneous	Total
Corporate area	489	177	-	-	666
Hanover	61	15	-	-	76

Total	3242	830	2	-	4074
Clarendon	240	79	-	-	319
St. James	311	138	-	-	449
Westmoreland	116	22	-	-	138
Trelawny	121	34	-	-	155
St. Thomas	103	81	-	-	184
St. Mary	130	31	-	-	161
St. Elizabeth	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
St. Catherine	793	81	2	-	876
St. Ann	418	118	-	-	536
Portland	78	13	-	-	91
Manchester	382	41	-	-	423

The above table provides an overall summary of the claims files across the parish courts in the first quarter of 2022. The sample of 4074 new claims filed in the first quarter of 2022 reveals that 3242 or 79.58% were big claims, while 20.37% were small claims and 0.05% were POCA matters. The St. Catherine Parish Court, the Corporate Area Parish Court – Civil Division and the St. Ann Parish Court accounts for the largest share of new plaints filed in the quarter. The St. Catherine, The Corporate Area Parish Court – Civil Division and St. Ann Parish Courts account for the largest share of big claims filed in the quarter, while the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division, the St. James Parish Court and the St. Ann Parish Court accounts for the St. Ann Parish Court accounts for the St. Ann Parish Court Area Court – Civil Division, the St. James Parish Court and the St. Ann Parish Court accounts for the largest share of small claims filed.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of new cases filed per 10,000 in the civil division of the parish courts inthe first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Population size in parish	Case per 10,000 population
Hanover	71	69,533	10
St. Catherine	681	516,218	13
Westmoreland	97	144,103	7
St. Mary	146	113,615	13
Clarendon	319	245,103	13
Portland	74	81,744	9
St. Elizabeth	305	150,205	20
Corporate Area Civil	660	662,426	10
St. Thomas	163	93,902	17
St. James	449	183,811	24
St. Ann	438	172,362	25
Trelawny	138	75,164	18
Manchester	364	189,797	19
Total	3905	2697983	14

The above table provides an outline of the number of new civil cases filed per 10,000 population in the parish courts (civil division) in the first quarter of 2022. The population sizes used are based on the last national population census in 2011 and therefore the data does not have full current value. Nevertheless, this kind of data provides interesting insights into the demand for the civil adjudication in the various parishes. It is seen that the parish of St. Ann, which is among the parishes with the largest caseload and a mid-range population size, registered the largest number of new civil cases filed per 10,000 population in the first quarter of 2022. St. James, which is midrange in population size, but among the courts with the larger caseloads, ranked second. Equally interesting is the result that the parish of Westmoreland had the smallest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population in the quarter and was among the parishes with the smallest quarterly caseload. Portland had the second lowest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population for the quarter.

Table 5.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment for the first
quarter ended March 31, 2022

Reasons for Adjournment/Continuance	Count	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	885	16.46
No return/Re-Issued	787	14.63
Both Parties Absent	452	8.40
Placed on Trial List	428	7.96
New Date	216	4.02
Pending Settlement	177	3.29
Plaintiff Absent	176	3.27
Parties in Discussion	145	2.70
Referred for other Mediation	121	2.25
Attorney Absent	112	2.08
Sub-total	3499	65.06

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance = (5,378) 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 5,378 reasons for adjournments/continuance for matters heard in the first quarter of 2022 across all of the parish courts (civil division). The largest proportion (16.46%) was due to the absence of defendants. Adjournments for no return/for re-issue with 14.63% and adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 8.40% rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment across the parish courts. Adjournments due placement

on the trial list with 7.96% and adjournments for a new date to be set with 4.02%, round of the top five reasons for adjournment for the quarter. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above account for 65.06% of the total sample of adjournments.

Table 6.0a: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition as at the first quarter ended March 31,2022

Parishes	Time interval in days								
	0-89 days	90-179	180-269	270-364	365 -547	548-729	730 days	Sample	
		days	days	days	days	days	and over	size (n)	
Corporate	3615	2024	1060	778	795	442	966	9680	
Area Civil	(37.3%)	(20.9%)	(11.0%)	(8.0%)	(8.2%)	(4.6%)	(10.0%)	(100%)	
St. Catherine	1509	1108	650	435	499	243	1839	6283	
	(24.0%)	(17.6%)	(10.3%)	(6.9%)	(7.9%)	(3.9%)	(29.3%)	(100%)	
Manchester	145	153	69	76	30	12	11	496	
	(29.2%)	(30.8%)	(13.9%)	(15.3%)	(6.0%)	(2.4%)	(2.2%)	(100%)	
Westmoreland	495	173	69	61	50	14	8	870	
	(56.9%)	(19.9%)	(7.9%)	(7.0%)	(5.7%)	(1.6%)	(0.9%)	(100%)	
St. Ann	836	616	319	202	257	126	352	2708	
	(30.9%)	(22.7%)	(11.8%)	(7.5%)	(9.5%)	(4.7%)	(13.0%)	(100%)	
St. Thomas	483	332	162	102	123	69	134	1405	
	(34.4%)	(23.6%)	(11.5%)	(7.3%)	(8.8%)	(4.9%)	(9.5%)	(100%)	
Portland	242	142	86	57	89	64	140	820	
	(29.5%)	(17.3%)	(10.5%)	(7.0%)	(10.9%)	(7.8%)	(17.1%)	(100%)	
St. Mary	1015	354	155	95	136	57	159	1971	
	(51.5%)	(18.0%)	(7.9%)	(4.8%)	(6.9%)	(2.9%)	(8.1%)	(100%)	
St. Elizabeth	901	474	192	113	102	54	57	1893	
	(47.6%)	(25.0%)	(10.1%)	(6.0%)	(5.4%)	(2.9%)	(3.0%)	(100%)	
Trelawny	687	217	91	50	69	24	37	1175	
	(58.5%)	(18.5%)	(7.7%)	(4.3%)	(5.9%)	(2.0%)	(3.1%)	(100%)	

Hanover	459	138	67	43	37	24	54	822
	(55.8%)	(16.8%)	(8.2%)	(5.2%)	(4.5%)	(2.9%)	(6.6%)	(100%)
% of Total	36.93	20.38	10.38	7.15	7.78	4.01	13.36	-
Average	944.27	521.00	265.45	182.91	198.82	102.64	341.55	2556.64
Standard Deviation	965.33	575.99	314.57	227.29	239.53	130.74	568.01	2859.81
Skewness	2.45	2.15	2.05	2.24	1.97	2.14	2.29	2.01

Number of charges sampled (N) = 28,123

Note 1: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the last 51 months across the parish courts Note 2: The data provided by the St. Elizabeth Parish court is as at the December 31, 2021

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court as at March 31, 2022. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 51-month period. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed of in the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 36.93% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. Mary and St. Elizabeth are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed under 90 days. Cumulatively 74.85% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in increasing overall productivity and realizing the objective of becoming the best in the Caribbean region in three years and among the best in the world in 3-5 years. From the data set, the parish courts (civil division) of Corporate Area Parish Court, St. Catherine and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 13.36% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts civil division of the Corporate Area Parish Court, St. Catherine, and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample are all relatively high, indicating that in each case a larger proportion of the scores fell below the applicable series mean.

Parishes		Time to disposition (days)								
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample		
				Deviation				size (N)		
Corporate Area Civil	282.33	27	134	392.54	3.46	1	5732	9680		
St. Catherine	516.91	28	250	546.72	1.13	1	3236	6283		
Manchester	198.08	28	152.50	227.45	7.79	2	3652	496		
Westmoreland	130.76	35	76	151.08	2.22	1	964	870		
St. Ann	366.65	63	156	563.71	3.47	1	5929	2708		
St. Thomas	270.02	28	141	340.96	2.70	1	2606	1405		
Portland	435.14	28	217	611.80	3.09	3	4515	820		
St. Mary	227.90	28	84	378.86	3.40	1	3220	1971		
St. Elizabeth	169.98	28	91	244.67	4.59	1	2597	1893		
Trelawny	147.32	28	69	204.45	3.03	1	1867	1175		
Hanover	213.55	28	71	460.56	6.17	1	4671	822		
Total/Weighted Average	321.49	31.73	131.05	374.80	3.73	1.27	3544.45	2556.64		
Standard Deviation	123.41	10.59	60.85	157.47	1.86	0.65	1553.88	2859.81		
Skewness	0.96	3.09	0.84	0.13	1.13	2.42	0.09	2.01		

Table 6.0b: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed as at the first quarterended March 31, 2022

Number of charges sampled (N) = 28,123

Note 1: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the last 51 months across the parish courts Note 2: The data provided by the St. Elizabeth Parish court is as at the December 31, 2021

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish

court as at March 31, 2022. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a

51-month period. The output produces an estimated overall weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Civil Division) of approximately 321 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a moderate positive figure, suggesting that these times were generally clustered around the overall mean. For matters disposed in the period, the parish courts of Westmoreland (131 days), Trelawny (147 days) and St. Elizabeth (170 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of St. Catherine (517 days), Portland (435 days) and St. Ann (367 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters disposed over the period of analysis. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is showed to be modest, as conferred by the standard deviation of 123.41. The average minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 1.27 days; however, the average maximum times are substantially larger. These results are both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 964 days (32.1 months/2.7 years) in the Westmoreland Parish Court, to a high of 5929 days (198 months/16.5 years) in the St. Ann Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a low positive value, which is an indication that a larger proportion of the maximum times to disposition were clustered around the series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial and representative 28,123 matters.

Table 6.0c: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed in the first quarter endedMarch 31, 2022

Parishes		Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)	
Corporate Area Civil Division	289.78	67	169	462.05	7.14	10	5732	255	
St. Catherine	995.29	1073	1196	503.81	-0.71	5	2378	1763	
Manchester	184.48	119	154	129.84	1.79	2	784	131	
Westmoreland	143.12	35	82	158.29	2.16	2	861	155	
St. Ann	559.58	119	209.50	824.31	2.40	8	3983	216	
St. Thomas	398.63	63	238	442.62	1.87	7	2059	112	
Portland	472.12	980	302	436.19	0.71	15	1409	93	
St. Mary	151.58	14	56	195.17	1.74	3	980	113	
Trelawny	223.44	154	125	290.44	3.04	7	1867	87	
Hanover	170.53	78	77	279.92	4.05	11	1768	64	
Total/Weighted Average	358.86	270.20	260.85	372.26	2.42	7.00	2182.10	298.90	
Standard Deviation	266.30	401.34	337.54	208.14	2.09	4.22	1560.34	517.82	
Skewness	1.72	1.75	2.86	1.00	1.12	0.52	1.58	3.09	

Number of charges sampled (N) = 2,989

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. The output produces an estimated overall weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Civil Division) of approximately 713 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a positive 1.72, suggesting that most scores in the data set fell below the overall mean. For matters disposed of in the period, the parish courts of Westmoreland (143 days), St. Mary (152 days) and Hanover (171 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of St. Catherine (995 days), St. Ann (560 days) and Portland (472 days) demonstrate the highest times to

disposition for matters disposed over the period of analysis. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is showed to be modest, as conferred by the standard deviation of 266.30. The average minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 7 days; however, the average maximum times are substantially larger. These results are both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 784 days (26.13 months/2.2 years) in the Manchester Parish Court, to a high of 5732 days (191 months/15.9 years) in the Corporate Area Civil Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a positive 1.58, which is an indication that more of the maximum times to disposition were below around the series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial and representative 2,989 matters.

Parish Court	Struck Out	Consent	Settlement	Default Judgment	Oral Admission	Withdrawal	Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	Other	Total
St. Catherine	1584	110	144	85	13	34	40	43	2053
Corporate Area Civil	118	121	36	58	15	43	22	17	430
Westmoreland	52	43	19	26	28	17	9	43	237
Manchester	288	39	24	18	16	28	11	61	485
Trelawny	11	27	11	31	15	12	-	17	124
Hanover	11	21	9	3	21	10	-	17	92
Portland	13	23	6	11	1	2	29	20	105
St. Mary	41	23	13	15	26	3	12	20	153
St. Thomas	34	32	16	25	12	1	5	33	158
St. Ann	55	93	50	30	24	28	21	32	333
Total	2207	532	328	302	171	178	149	303	4170
Percentage of total	52.93	12.76	7.87	7.24	4.10	4.27	3.57	7.27	100

Table 6.0d: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposition for the first quarter ended March 31,2022

Number of charges sampled (N): 4,170

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish

courts-civil division for the first quarter of 2022. From the sample, it is observed that the majority of matters disposed of during the quarter were by being struck out with 52.93% of the sample, followed by matters disposed by consent with 12.76% and settlements with 7.87% and dispositions grouped under the category, "other methods" with 7.27% of the sample. Matters disposed by default judgments with 7.24% and withdrawals with 4.27% rank next. Matters

disposed by oral admissions with 4.10% and by Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) with 3.57% account for the remaining disposals in the quarter.

Parish Court	Net case backlog rate (%)	Gross case backlog rate (%)		
Clarendon	0.51	10.19		
Corporate area	1.56	16.38		
Hanover	0.15	3.22		
Manchester	2.46	17.07		
Portland	1.91	9.01		
St. Ann	2.77	21.40		
St. Catherine	0.46	10.48		
St. Elizabeth	0.69	7.11		
St. James	0.98	10.09		
St. Mary	0.12	9.65		
St. Thomas	2.99	8.92		
Trelawny	2.35	11.09		
Westmoreland	0.13	7.36		
Weighted Average	1.27	12.20		
Standard Deviation	1.07	4.78		

 Table 7.0: Net and gross case backlog as at the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Note 1: These backlog rates relate only to cases filed since January 2017 and are therefore proxies. Note 2: The backlog rates for the St. Elizabeth parish is calculated with data up to December 31, 2021

The net and gross case backlog rates provide one of the most decisive indicators of court performance as they are strongly influenced by most of the other critical court performance metrics such as the case clearance, case disposal, trial and hearing date certainty rates and are also directly correlated with the case congestion rate. The estimated gross case backlog rate provides a measurement of the proportion of cases filed for a given period (of over two years) which are either active or inactive (i.e. are unresolved) and are over two years old at the date of reporting. The closely related estimated net case backlog rate is the proportion of all cases filed for a given period (of over two years) which are still active and exceeding two years old at the time of reporting. The estimated net case backlog rate therefore excludes inactive cases which are unresolved. Based on international best practices an estimated gross case backlog rate of under 10% is desirable, while an estimated net case backlog rate of under 5% is prescribed. The results revealed are quite outstanding as using a 5 years' time series, the net case backlog rate (weighted average) in the parish courts is 1.27% (with a standard deviation of 1.07%) which is satisfies than the international standard. The estimated gross case backlog rate also stands at a commendable 12.20% (with a standard deviation of 4.78%), an indication that there are a large number of inactive unresolved cases in the parish courts. This rate is only 2.20 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 courts. Although the time series used for this computation is only 5 years' worth of cases, the sample set is large and representative of the current direction of the court system. The parish courts of St. Mary with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.12%, Westmoreland with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.13% and Hanover with an estimated net case backlog rate of 0.15% have the lowest (best) estimated net case backlog rate in the time series, while the parish courts of St. Thomas (2.99%), St. Ann (2.77%) and Manchester (2.46%) have the highest rates. As for the estimated gross backlog rate, the parish courts of Hanover (3.22%), St. Elizabeth (7.11%) and Westmoreland (7.36%) have the lowest (best) estimated gross backlog rates in the series, while the parish courts of St. Ann (21.40%), Manchester (17.07%) and

Corporate Area Court (16.38%) have the highest rates. Taken together, these are quite impressive

returns for the court system in Jamaica and augur well for future prospects.

Trial court activity summary for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

Table 1.0a: Time interval between major events for cases that had a trial date in the first quarter ended
March 31, 2022

Parish Court	Average time between filing and first court appearance	Average time between first court appearance and trial	Average time between trial and disposition	
Corporate Area-Civil				
Division	118.53	354.64	366.30	
Hanover	34.20	116.70	197.63	
Manchester	63.56	117.44	340.00	
Portland	58.60	951.38	292.44	
St. Ann	64.42	589.14	1195.78	
St. Catherine	e 109.73		379.52	
St. Mary	53.82	233.43	128.42	
St. Thomas	45.44	530.36	489.79	
Trelawny	64.60	293.57	296.20	
Westmoreland	38.01	96.41	131.94	
Weighted Average	83.60	508.44	478.68	
Standard Deviation	28.08	270.26	307.69	

Tracking the times between the occurrence of major hearing events along the case flow continuum is important to establishing precise points of possible delay in case progression. The above table provides a summary of the average times between filing a case and the first court appearance. The average time between first court appearance and the first date of trial and the average duration between the first trial date and disposition. Overall, it is seen that the average time between filing a civil case and the first court appearance is roughly 2.8 months, while the overall average time between first appearance of a civil matter in the parish courts and the first trial date is, however, much longer at roughly 16.9 months or 508 days. The average duration between the first trial date set and the date of disposition is roughly 16 months or 479 days. These findings indicate that there may be imprecisions in the science of scheduling trial dates which may at times face long delays after a first date set is postponed. Since less than a quarter of civil cases filed in the parish courts will proceed to trial, these findings may not have a dramatic impact on the overall time to disposition of civil cases.

Parish Court	Number of cases Number of cases with heard a trial date set		Percentage of cases heard which had a trial date set	
Corporate Area	irea 2247 202		8.99	
Hanover	162	23	14.20	
Manchester	1352	8	0.59	
Portland	336	109	32.44	
St. Ann	1405 172		12.24	
St. Catherine	3480	489	14.05	
St. Mary	362	51	14.09	
St. Thomas	as 407 114		28.01	
Trelawny	399	58	14.54	
Westmoreland	360	90	25.00	
Total/Weighted Average	10510	1316	12.52	

Table 1.0b: Trial court activity summary during the first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above table provides a summary of number of cases heard in the first quarter of 2022 in the civil divisions of the parish courts. Using a sampling distribution, it is seen that of 10510 civil cases heard across the parish courts in the first quarter of 2022, 1316 or 12.52% proceeded to trial. The parish courts of Manchester (0.59%), Corporate Area (8.99%) and St. Ann (12.24%) had the lowest proportion of cases proceeding to trial, while the parish courts of Portland (32.44%), St. Thomas (28.01%) and Westmoreland (25%) had the highest proportion.

Table 1.0c: Distribution of methods of disposition for matters set for trial during the first quarter ended
March 31, 2022

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)		
Struck Out	99	18.40		
Transferred	87	16.17		
Consent	68	12.64		
Default	67	12.45		
Settlement	46	8.55		
Trial	39	7.25		
Withdrawal	31	5.76		
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	30	5.58		
Judgment	25	4.65		
Non-Suited	18	3.35		
Oral Admission	10	1.86		
Mediation	8	1.49		
Other	6	1.12		
Dismissal	3	0.56		
Order	1	0.19		
Total	538	100.00		

The above table summarizes the common methods of disposition for a sample of cases proceeding to trial. It is seen that matters struck out with 18.40% of the cases disposed, matters transferred to another court with 87 or 16.17% and matters disposed by consent with 68 or 12.64% account for the three leading methods of disposition in the sample.

Parish Court	Average number of appearances per case	Standard Deviation of the number appearances per case	Skewness of the number of appearances per case	Maximum number of appearances per case	Minimum number of appearances per case
Corporate Area-Civil					
Division	2.67	3.01	3.22	29	1
Hanover	4.74	7.06	3.02	33	1
Manchester	2.16	1.67	3.01	19	1
Portland	5.93	4.71	1.09	1.09 23	
St. Ann	4.99	6.13	2.83 40		1
St. Catherine	2.90	2.22	1.40 16		1
St. Mary	5.36	4.99	1.53 25		1
St. Thomas	7.63	8.78	1.16	31	1
Trelawny	7.41	6.16	1.41 29		1
Westmoreland	3.10	2.91	1.84 14		1
Total/Weighted	3.60	-	-	-	-
Average					
Standard Deviation	1.95	-	-	-	-
Skewness	0.26	-	-	-	-

The above table summarizes the number of appearances per case heard in the first quarter of 2022, which have at least one mention court appearance. The overall average number of

appearances per 10 cases mentioned is 36, or roughly 4 appearances per case with a standard deviation of 1.95 across the courts sampled and a skewness of 0.26. Together, these results suggest that the average number of court appearances per case is within the prescribed international standard, that a slightly larger proportion of cases have less than the overall average number of appearances and that there isn't on average a wide variation in the number of appearances per case across the courts. Among the parish courts with the highest number of appearances per cases for matters heard in the first quarter of 2022 are the St. Thomas (7.63), Trelawny (7.41) and Portland (5.93) Parish Courts, while Manchester (2.16), Corporate Area Court-Civil Division (2.67) and St. Catherine (2.90) were among the courts with the lowest mean case appearance incidence.

Parish Court	Average number of appearances per case	Standard Deviation
Corporate Area-Civil Division	3.61	3.93
Hanover	3.86	5.07
Manchester	1.82	1.31
Portland	6.35	4.97
St. Ann	4.37	6.19
St. Catherine	2.54	2.01
St. Mary	3.56	3.51
St. Thomas	3.76	4.83
Trelawny	8.00	5.29
Westmoreland	2.91	2.68
Weighted Average	3.26	-

 Table 1.0e: Summary of the average court appearance frequency for cases disposed in first quarter ended March 31, 2022

The above summary specifically addresses the number of appearances per case for matters disposed in the first quarter of 2022. The overall average observed is roughly 33 appearances for every 10 cases disposed, not dissimilar to the findings from the previous table which provided a descriptive summary of appearances for all cases disposed. The Manchester, St. Catherine and Westmoreland Parish Courts were among those with the lowest incidence of appearance per disposed case in the quarter, while the parish courts of Trelawny, Portland and St. Ann were among the locations with the highest incidence.

Table 8.0: Critical performance summaries for the civil division of the parish courts in the first quarterof 2022

Parish Court	Approximate number of new cases	Approximate number of Disposed cases and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of year of origin)	Gross Disposal rate (%)	Gross Clearance rate (%)	Approximate trial date certainty rate (%)	Overall average time to disposition (months)
St. Thomas	163	42	174	25.77	106.75	83.87	13.29
Corporate Area- Civil	660	29	1414	6.00	214.24	-	9.66
St. Elizabeth	305	31	312	-	-	-	-
Hanover	71	28	101	39.44	142.25	75.00	5.68
Manchester	364	47	430	-	-	-	6.15
Portland	74	10	90	13.51	121.62	66.67	15.74
St. Ann	438	50	459	11.42	104.79	100.00	18.65
St. Catherine	681	99	1853	14.54	272.10	92.15	33.18
St. Mary	146	35	153	23.97	104.79	86.21	5.05
Trelawny	138	30	177	21.74	128.26	100.00	7.45
St. James	449	0	540	-	120.27	-	-
Clarendon	319	84	198	26.33	62.07	-	-
Westmoreland	97	64	213	65.98	219.59	100.00	4.77
Total/Weighted Average Skewness	3905 0.68	549 0.71	6114	14.73 1.64	156.57 0.98	90.20	11.96
Standard Deviation	210.94	27.47	542.37	17.28	62.87	12.50	8.88

*Note: Corporate Area Court-Civil division gross and net disposal rates was calculated using only new big claims filed in the quarter

Conclusion

The Civil Division of the Parish Courts continued its impressive trend over the past few years by recording a number of outstanding output in the first quarter of 2022, now rivalling the Criminal Division of the Parish Courts on most metrics. Among the most impressive results from this first quarter report for the Civil Division of the Parish Courts was the attainment of an overall gross case clearance rate of 156.57%, 39.64 percentage points higher than the corresponding quarter in 2021. This impressive returns contributed to a further decline in the net case backlog rate for cases filed over at least the past six years to just about 1.27 percentage points, roughly the same as the Criminal Division of the Parish Courts over the same period and suggesting that there may be no statistically significant difference in the performances of these two vital divisions of the Parish Courts over the past few years. The gross backlog rate for the Civil Division of the Parish Courts over the same period was 12.20, which is also in the same general ballpark as the Criminal Division. The Parish Courts of Hanover, St. Catherine and Westmoreland continue to be standouts on most key performance measurements while the Corporate Area Civil Court also ranked along in the top four courts on the key clearance rate metric over the period of analysis. Extraordinarily, ten of the parish courts exceeded the 100% gross case clearance rate for civil cases in the first quarter of 2022, with three, namely the Corporate Area Parish Court – Civil Division and the Parish Courts of Westmoreland and St. Catherine eclipsing the 200% mark.

Despite the impressive performance of the Civil Division of the Parish Courts, there is a still need to continuously reduce the overall average time taken to dispose cases which stood at 11.96 months for matters resolved during the quarter, while the problem of unnecessary adjournments continues to be a source of court delay which needs to be addressed through deliberate court

driven action and operational reforms. It must however be acknowledged that many of the reasons for adjournment are outside of the court's direct control. Among the leading causes of case delay seen in this and previous report are the absence of case parties and attorneys and the re-issuance of matters.

As the Honourable Chief Justice of Jamaica continues to lead an aggressive reform agenda for the courts, it is expected that some of the main Divisions of the Parish Court will satisfy and in some cases exceed the key quantitative targets which will potentially position the judiciary among the bests globally.

Glossary of Terms

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

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

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

A persistent case clearance rate of less than 100% will eventually lead to a backlog of cases in the court system. The inferred international benchmark for case clearance rates is an average of 90%-110 annualized. This is a critical foundation to backlog prevention in the court system. ^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%. A distinction is sometimes made between the gross and net case disposal rates. The simple difference is that the net rate completely excludes inactive cases from its computation while the gross rate does not.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Source:

ⁱ Source:

http://courts.mi.gov/Administration/SCAO/Resources/Documents/bestpractice/BestPracticeCaseAgeClearanceRate s.pdf

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