

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

<b>FIRST SUMMARY (Q1)</b>			
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Case Disposal Rates (%)	57.28	49.98	48.59
Case Clearance Rates (%)	112.61	94.89	96.47
Trial Date Certainty Rates (%)	85	82	84
Courtroom utilization Rate (%)	63.31	57.78	59.76

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This statistical report on criminal matters in the Parish Courts of Jamaica is for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. It represents a continuation of the enhanced efforts to measure court productivity with a view to providing a concrete basis for placing the analyses of the judicial system into proper perspective and for informing the policymaking and operational planning apparatus of the leadership of the courts. This report interrogates a number of vital measures, which provide insights into the operations of the parish courts on both an individual and an aggregated basis. It forms an important foundation for understanding criminal case activity and delay factors in the parish courts as well as important characteristics of criminal cases. This report creates the framework within which the quantitative and some qualitative targets set out in the strategic plan of the judiciary can be monitored and evaluated. In seeking to significantly reduce the case backlog in the court system, the Chief Justice has set out to achieve a court-wide case clearance rate of 130% and an overall trial date certainty rate of 95% over the next 2-3 years. The attainment of these targets are geared towards reducing the overall net case backlog rate in the Jamaican court system to below 5%. This report highlights several critical strides made so far in moving towards the stated targets.

As of the end of the first quarter of 2022, only about 1.27% of active criminal cases in the Jamaican Parish Courts are in a state of backlog, a monumental accomplishment which means that these courts have already met one of the key quantitative targets set out in the judiciary' strategic plan. This performance places the Jamaican judiciary among the best performing judiciaries in the world which apply similar backlog rate measurements and

definitions. As at the end of the first quarter of 2022, the Criminal Division of all Parish Courts had net backlog rates of significantly less than 5%, thus satisfying the international standard. The Parish Courts of St. Mary, Westmoreland and Hanover had the lowest percentage of active cases in backlog at the end of the first quarter, each with less than or equal to 0.15%. The overall or gross backlog rates in the Criminal Division of the Parish Courts stands at a notably higher 12.20%, which includes both inactive and active cases.

The aggregate new case count in the parish courts in the first quarter of 2022 is 6992, a decline of 1.16% when compared to the corresponding period in 2021. The Corporate Area Parish Court - Criminal Division with 1610 new cases or 23.01% of the total, followed by the St. Catherine and St. James Parish Courts with 1095 cases or 15.65% and 790 cases or 11.95% respectively, account for the three largest proportions of the new criminal cases filed in the first quarter of 2022. Taken together, the three parishes with the highest new case count account for 49.95% of the new cases filed during the quarter. The parish courts of St. Mary, Hanover and St. Thomas accounted for the lowest shares of the aggregate new cases filed, each with under 5.0% of the total new caseload during the quarter.

The overall average disposal rate for cases originating in the first quarter of 2022 was 57.28%, which is an increase of 7.30 percentage points when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2021. The parish courts of St. James and Westmoreland disposed of new cases fastest during the quarter with case disposal rates of 68.99% and 68.83% respectively, followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court with 68.49%.

The case clearance rate provides a measure of the number of cases disposed (regardless of date/year of initiation) for every new case filed in a particular period. This is a productivity index as many of the disposed cases, which are included in its computation, would have originated before the period of focus and is a more instructive statistic on case activity than the case disposal rate. The overall case clearance rate for the first quarter of 2022 was 112.61, up by 17.72 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2021, one of the best outcomes in the recorded history of the criminal courts in Jamaica. The result suggests that for every 100 new criminal cases that were filed in the parish courts in the first quarter of 2022, roughly 113 cases were disposed (including cases originating prior to 2022). For the second time in recorded history, all thirteen parish courts satisfied the international standard of between 90% and 110% in the first quarter of 2022. The St. Elizabeth Parish Court was the leading court on this measurement for the first time, with a rate of 159.50%, followed by the parish court of Hanover with a typically impressive 128.30%, St. Thomas with 126.64% and Clarendon, with one of its most impressive returns in recorded history with a rate of 120.54%.

One highly important measure, which is of keen interest to the leadership of the courts and the policy makers is the case congestion rate. This is a measure of how well a court is doing in managing its pending caseload, relative to its rates of disposition and clearance and the implied state of resources. The higher the case congestion rate of a court, the more burdensome the caseload and the longer it will take to dispose of cases, again within the context of the existing rates of disposition and clearance and the implied state of resources. The overall case congestion rate recorded for the criminal division of the parish courts in

the first quarter of 2022 was 269.21%, an improvement of 38.03 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2021. There is a long run negative association between the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate, therefore, sustained increases in the case clearance rate will cause the case congestion rate to fall.

Another essential measure, which is an important cornerstone in the drive to bring Jamaica among the best performing court systems in the world is the trial date certainty rate. This provides a measurement of the likelihood that dates set for trial will proceed as scheduled (without adjournment for future dates). The perfect rate of 100% would suggest that all dates set for trial proceed as scheduled in the relevant period. The overall trial date certainty rate in the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarter of 2022 is 85%, an increase of 4 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2021. The parish courts of St. James, Manchester and Trelawny were the leaders on this metric.

The proportion of allocated court time that is utilized for hearings in each parish court bears some long run correlation with the case clearance rate, the case congestion rate and overall court performance. The courtroom utilization rate provides a solid measurement of the proportion of time allocated for court hearings, which are utilized in each court. The overall courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in the first quarter of 2022 was 63.31%, an improvement of 3.55 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2021. The parish courts of Westmoreland with 77.72%, Portland with 70.53% and St. Mary with 67.87% were the leaders on this metric for the period.

On the matter of caseload distribution in the individual parishes, the data shows that in many instances the outstation courts in the respective parishes are carrying a notable share of the caseload. The overall average number of new cases heard in the outstations in the first quarter of 2022 is approximately 35.77 while roughly 64.23% of cases were heard at the main parish court locations, distributions which are broadly similar to that of the previous year. While outstation court activity in parishes such as St. James and the Corporate Area account for less than 10% of total activity, there are several parishes where outstations are extensively utilized, accounting for well over 30% of total case activity. This includes the parish courts of St. Catherine, Trelawny, Manchester, St. Elizabeth and Portland, among others. The evidence continues to suggest that there is the potential in many parishes for outstations to be utilized to a greater degree to ease the caseload carriage in the main courts, thus potentially enhancing case clearance and disposal rates by reducing the case congestion.

The largest proportion of cases disposed in the first quarter of 2022 was by way of guilty pleas, accounting for 46.40% of the cases disposed. This was followed by cases dismissed, which was responsible for 19.29% of the cases disposed. It is of note that guilty verdicts accounted for roughly 2.23% of the matters disposed while not guilty verdicts accounted for 10.65% of the total. Mediated settlements (of various forms) accounted for roughly 7.87% of the cases disposed during the quarter. Taken together, the data therefore reveals a conviction rate of 48.63% for the first quarter of 2022. Further analysis of the data

suggests that for the cases disposed during the quarter, roughly 30% were resolved within 90 days, 49.92% within six months and 74.12% within a year.

In terms of the distribution of case types, the report highlights that the largest proportion of the criminal cases filed in the parish courts were summary matters with approximately 47.74% of all matters. This is followed by indictments with a roughly 29.36% and matters heard by Lay Magistrates with approximately 11.80% of the total. It is of note that Committal Proceedings accounted for roughly 7.65% of all criminal matters filed in the parish courts in the quarter. Summary matters had an overall conviction rate of 74.28% in the quarter while indictments had a conviction rate of 18.99% across the parish courts.

An important delay factor, which affects the efficiency with which cases move towards disposition is the incidence of adjournments in the parish courts. The data suggests that the dominant reasons for adjournments for the quarter was due to incomplete files with 16.83% of the total, adjournments for the issuance of warrants for defendants not appearing (DNA- warrant issued) with an estimated 13.91% and adjournments for disclosure with 11.69%. Also featuring prominently on the lists of reasons for adjournment across the parish courts in the period are absent defendants, medical reports outstanding and subpoenas of investigating officers.

The three most frequent criminal charges filed in the parish courts in the first quarter of 2022 were breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act (DRMA) and related charges, assault occasioning bodily harm and unlawful wounding. The vast majority of charges filed

in in the quarter involved accused males, accounting for roughly 77.89%. The dominant age group of persons charged in the period were the 27 – 36 and 18 - 26 age groups, accounting for 33.95% and 30.37% respectively of the total.

One of the most decisive and instructive findings from this annual report comes from the analysis of the distribution of times to disposition in the parish courts. The report reveals that on average, the criminal division of the parish courts took just over 10 months to dispose of cases during the first quarter of 2022. In this period, the courts which had the shortest times to disposition for cases resolved are the parish courts of Westmoreland (5.13 months), Portland (5.70) and St. Mary (6.00 months).

Using the method of exponential smoothing, the report forecasts that in the second quarter of 2022, 7,419 new criminal cases will be filed in parish courts while 6,849 cases are expected to be disposed and 1,485 to become inactive. The overall forecasted case clearance rate for the second quarter in the criminal division of the parish courts is therefore 112.33%.

With 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**

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

criminal case files in all parish courts on a quarterly basis. A representative sample of case files are taken in each case and crosschecked against the electronic data to detect and eliminate errors of omission and commission.

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

**Disclaimer**

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

## Chapter 1.0: Criminal Case Activity Statistics in the Parish Courts for the quarter ended March 31, 2022

This chapter provides an assessment of criminal case activity in the parish courts for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. This includes analysis of the criminal caseload, rates of case disposal, clearance and congestion as well as cases statuses in the various courts over the period, assessments of courtroom utilization rates, case file integrity rates, trial date certainty rates and forecasts of the core case activity outcomes for the upcoming quarter in 2022. This chapter also explores the common methods of disposition, reasons for court delay, leading charges and case types across the parish courts and associated conviction rates.

**Table 1.0: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Number of inactive cases	Number of disposed cases	Active Pending Case Load	Case disposal Rate (%)
Hanover	212	5	116	91	57.08
St. Catherine	1095	166	584	345	68.49
Westmoreland	446	18	289	139	68.83
St. Mary	179	10	78	91	49.16
Clarendon	409	24	189	196	52.08
Portland	319	31	115	173	45.77
St. Elizabeth	363	30	164	169	53.44
Corporate Area Criminal	1610	347	611	652	59.50
St. Thomas	192	8	97	87	54.69
St. James	790	116	429	245	68.99
St. Ann	639	114	123	402	37.09
Trelawny	288	27	96	165	42.71
Manchester	455	25	196	234	48.57
<b>Total</b>	<b>6997</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>3087</b>	<b>2989</b>	
<b>Average/Weighted Average</b>	<b>538.23</b>	<b>70.85</b>	<b>237.46</b>	<b>229.92</b>	<b>57.28</b>
<b>Standard deviation</b>	<b>414.44</b>	<b>97.24</b>	<b>186.29</b>	<b>158.34</b>	<b>10.13</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>2.22</b>	<b>1.30</b>	<b>1.79</b>	<b>0.14</b>

The table above shows the aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the first quarter of 2022. A total of 6997 new criminal cases were filed across the parish courts, 4,008 cases were either disposed or became inactive, resulting in a weighted average case disposal rate of 57.28%. In the previous first quarter of 2022, 7079 cases were filed, while 3,538 cases were either disposed or became inactive which resulted in a weighted average disposal rate of 49.98%, which is 7.30 percentage points lower than the rate for the first quarter of 2022. This comparison reveals that over the corresponding first quarter of 2021, there was a decrease of 82 cases or 1.16% in the number of new cases filed and an increase of 470 cases or 13.28% in the number of cases disposed or became inactive. Of the thirteen parish courts listed above, seven (7) Parish Courts recorded a decrease in the number of new cases filed, while six (6) recorded an increase. Among the parish courts with the largest decline in new cases filed were the Hanover Parish Court, decreasing by 36.53%, the St. Mary Parish Court, which decreased by 28.11% and the Clarendon Parish Court, which decreased by 24.26%.

The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division with 1,610 cases or 23.01% of the new cases, the St. Catherine Parish Court with 1,095 cases or 15.65% and the St. James Parish Court with 790 or 11.29% accounted for the three largest shares of new cases filed in the first quarter of 2022. These three parish courts with the largest share of new cases filed, cumulatively accounted for 49.95% of the total sample of new criminal cases filed in the first quarter of 2022. On the other end, the parish courts of St. Mary with 179 cases or 2.56% of the new cases, St. Thomas with 192 cases or 2.74% and Hanover with 212 cases or 3.03% accounted for the lowest share of new cases filed in the first quarter of 2022.

The best performing courts in relation to case disposal rates for the first quarter of 2022 were the St. James (68.99%), Westmoreland (68.83%), St. Catherine (68.49%) Parish Courts. The bottom three courts on this measure were the St. Ann (37.09%), Trelawny (42.71%) and Portland (45.77%) parish courts. The parish court of St. Ann was also among the bottom three courts on this measure in the first quarter of 2021. The skewness of the number of new cases filed, the number of cases disposed, and the active pending caseload are all positive, which is an indication that the larger proportion of the courts fall below the overall average case count in each of these data series. The overall skewness of the case disposal rates is a positive figure, which indicates that there were proportionally more courts with disposal rates below the overall case disposal rate in the quarter.

*Refer to Table 3.0 for a graphical comparison of the Case Disposal Rates across all Parish Courts for the first quarter of 2021 and 2022.*

**Table 2.0a: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court as at March 31, 2022**

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed in quarter	Number of Disposed cases in Jan.-Mar. 2022	Number of Inactive cases in Jan.-Mar. 2022	Grand total number of inactive cases (2016-March 31, 2022)	Grand total number of disposed cases (2016-March 31, 2022)	Grand Active Pending Caseload b/f Jan 1, 2022	Case Clearance Rate (%)	Case Congestion Rate (%)
Hanover	212	255	17	275	5165	209	128.30	154.78
St. Catherine	1095	897	263	3524	17924	1109	105.94	190.00
Westmoreland	446	487	26	1033	9598	279	115.02	141.33
St. Mary	179	182	17	728	5282	221	111.17	201.01
Clarendon	409	430	63	1605	9692	703	120.54	225.56
Portland	319	247	51	785	6216	439	93.42	254.36
St. Elizabeth	363	518	61	828	6138	765	159.50	194.82
Corporate Area Criminal	1610	1295	486	9239	30076	5853	110.62	419.03
St. Thomas	192	214	28	504	5025	559	126.04	310.33
St. James	790	788	160	2464	13729	854	120.00	173.42
St. Ann	639	419	163	3330	7600	1594	91.08	383.68
Trelawny	288	228	66	674	4805	592	102.08	299.32
Manchester	455	457	61	1791	7929	1037	113.85	288.03
<b>Total</b>	<b>6997</b>	<b>6417</b>	<b>1462</b>	<b>26780</b>	<b>129179</b>	<b>14214</b>	-	-
<b>Average/Weighted Average</b>	<b>538.23</b>	<b>493.62</b>	<b>112.46</b>	<b>2060.00</b>	<b>9936.85</b>	<b>1093.38</b>	<b>112.61</b>	<b>269.21</b>
<b>Standard deviation</b>	<b>414.44</b>	<b>324.91</b>	<b>133.39</b>	<b>2402.04</b>	<b>7168.24</b>	<b>1483.16</b>	<b>17.46</b>	<b>86.77</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>1.45</b>	<b>2.16</b>	<b>2.53</b>	<b>2.18</b>	<b>3.18</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>0.72</b>

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

**Note 2: The grand total number of active cases from 2016 to the quarter ended March 31, 2022, for all parish courts combined= 12,410**

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

period, typically a year or more; hence, the quarterly results are to be interpreted in a guarded way.

The weighted average case congestion rate among the parish courts in the first quarter of 2022 was 269.21%, an indication that the parish courts (criminal division) as a whole are carrying roughly three times the caseload that their current rate of clearance and implied state of resources justifies. This result represents a 38.03 percentage points decrease when compared to the first quarter of 2021. The parish courts of Corporate Area Criminal (419.03%), St. Ann (383.68%), St. Thomas (310.33%) and Trelawny (299.32%) were the courts with the highest case congestion rates in the first quarter of 2022. The Manchester (288.03%) and Portland (254.36%) Parish Courts rounded off the top 6 most case congested courts in the first quarter of 2022. The parish courts of Trelawny, St. Thomas and Corporate Area Criminal were also among the most congested courts in the comparative first quarter of 2021. In general, a high case congestion rate can be a product of resource deficiencies and slow case clearance and case disposal rates. The parish courts of Westmoreland (141.33%), Hanover (154.78%), and St. James (173.42%) performed best on this measure. As with previous reports, variations in caseload and resources do not appear to be a major factor explaining the variances in performance on this measure as some of the courts ranking on either ends of the scale are the larger courts in the island and resource endowment do not vary in a statistically way among the courts.

The results on the overall case clearance rate for the first quarter of 2022 provide interesting insights into the court-wide progress being made on this measure. The overall weighted average case clearance rate of 112.61%, which is an increase of 17.72 percentage points when compared to the corresponding first quarter of 2021 and the performance exceeds the international

standard of 90%-100. This overall case clearance rate of 112.61% suggests that for every 100 new cases filed, roughly 113 cases were disposed. All thirteen (13) parish courts met or exceeded the international standards of 90%-100%. The parish courts of St. Elizabeth (159.50%), Hanover (128.30%), St. Thomas (126.04%), Clarendon (120.54%) and St. James (120%) were the leading parish courts on this measure. The parish court of St. Ann (91.08%) had the lowest criminal case clearance rates for the quarter, but still met the international standard of 90%-100%. Nine (9) parish courts recorded an increase in clearance rates when compared to the first quarter of 2021. The St. Elizabeth and Clarendon parish courts saw the largest gains, with 65.13 and 46.10 percentage points improvement respectively. The data in the table above were positively skewed to various degrees, indicating that for the most part, proportionately more of the scores in that data set fell below their respective series means.

*Refer to Table 3.0 for further comparison of the case clearance rates and the case congestion rates across all parish courts for the first quarter of 2021 and 2022.*

**Table 2.0b: Percentile rank on selected performance metrics for the criminal division of the parish courts for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

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

The table above provides the percentile ranks of the case disposal and case clearance rates for the first quarter of 2022. The percentile rank gives an indication of where particular courts falls on each of the metrics relative to the other courts. The parish courts of St. James (100%), Westmoreland (92%) and St. Catherine (83%) had the highest percentile ranks on case disposal rate for the first quarter of 2022, an indication that they performed better than the vast proportion of the courts on this measure. The percentile ranks of 100% for the St. James Parish Court for example means that they performed better than all the courts on case disposal rate in the quarter, while the Westmoreland Parish Court performed better than 92% of the parish courts and the St. Catherine Parish Court performed better than 83% of all the parish courts on this measurement. The parish courts of St. Ann, Trelawny and Portland had the lowest percentile rank on case disposal rate for the quarter. In terms of case clearance rates, the parish courts of St. Elizabeth (100%), Hanover (92%) and St. Thomas (83%) had the highest percentile ranks, while the parish courts of St. Ann, Portland and Trelawny had the lowest.

**Table 2.0c: Forecasted case activity statistics for the second quarter of 2022 [April 01 -June 30, 2022]**

<b>Parish Court</b>	<b>Forecasted number of new cases</b>	<b>Forecasted number of disposed cases</b>	<b>Forecasted number of inactive cases</b>	<b>Forecasted case clearance rate (%)</b>
Hanover	206	300	22	156.31
Manchester	435	450	63	117.93
St. Mary	214	221	23	114.02
St. James	843	829	174	118.98
St. Catherine	1258	1033	286	104.85
Portland	318	298	56	111.32
St. Ann	581	452	150	103.61
St. Elizabeth	462	479	62	117.10
Corporate Area Criminal	1582	1249	459	107.96
Westmoreland	495	565	41	122.42
St. Thomas	196	238	27	135.20
Clarendon	534	462	69	99.44
Trelawny	295	273	53	110.51

<b>Total/Weighted Average</b>	<b>7419</b>	<b>6849</b>	<b>1485</b>	<b>112.33</b>
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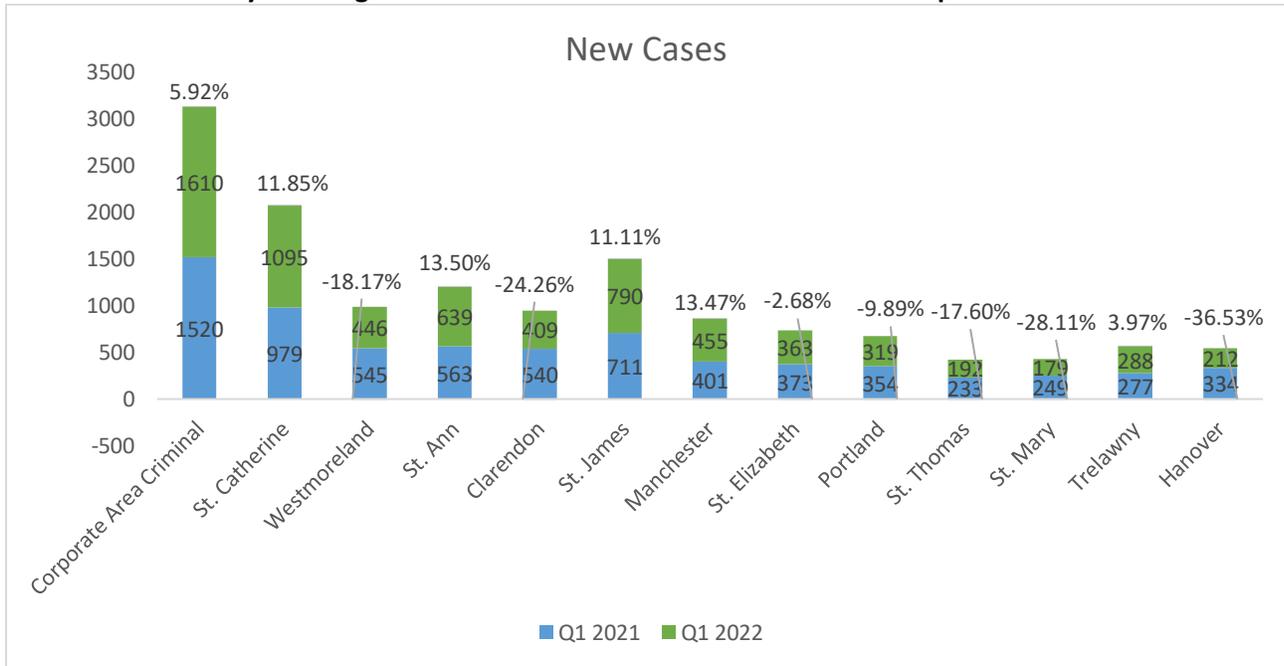
The above table forecasts core case activity for the criminal division of each parish court and overall for the second quarter of 2022. The forecasts are generated using the method of exponential smoothing which uses weighted averages from past observations with weights decaying exponentially as the observations get older. See further explanation of the mathematical science behind the method of exponential smoothing in the glossary of terms. The above data shows that the overall forecasted case clearance rates for the criminal division of the parish courts for the second quarter of 2022 is 112.33%, which would be 0.28 percentage points lower than that of the first quarter 2022. All thirteen (13) parish courts are forecasted to satisfy the international standard on case clearance rate of 90% or more in the 2022 second quarter of 2022, led by the Hanover Parish Court with 156.31%, the St. Thomas Parish Court with 135.20% and the Westmoreland Parish Court with 122.42%.

**Table 2.0d: Sampling distribution of new cases filed per 10,000 population in the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Parish Court</b>	<b>Number of new cases filed</b>	<b>Population size in parish</b>	<b>Case per 10,000 population</b>
Hanover	212	69,533	30
St. Catherine	1095	516,218	21
Westmoreland	446	144,103	31
St. Mary	179	113,615	16
Clarendon	409	245,103	17
Portland	319	81,744	39
St. Elizabeth	363	150,205	24
Corporate Area Criminal	1610	662,426	24
St. Thomas	192	93,902	20
St. James	790	183,811	43
St. Ann	639	172,362	37
Trelawny	288	75,164	38
Manchester	455	189,797	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>6997</b>	<b>2697983</b>	<b>26</b>

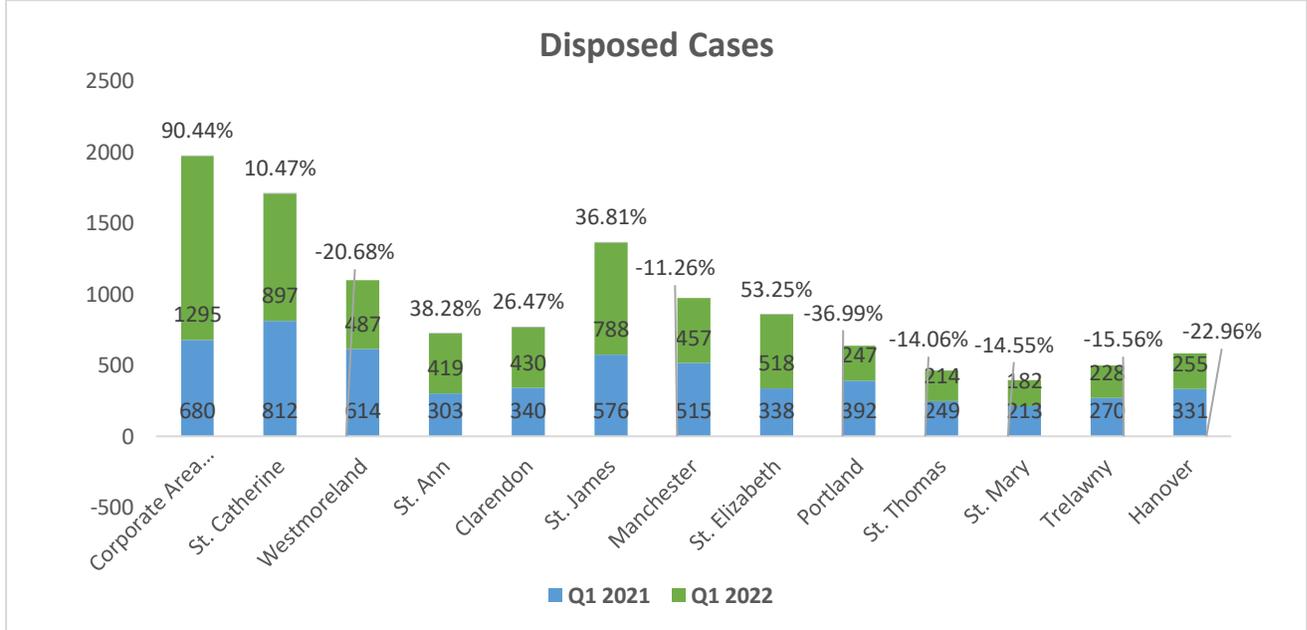
The above table provides an outline of the number of new criminal cases filed per 10,000 population in the parish courts in the first quarter of 2022. The population sizes used are based on the last national population census in 2011 and therefore the data does not have full current value. Nevertheless, this kind of data provides interesting insights into the demand for the criminal adjudication in the various parishes. It is seen that the parish of St. James, which is mid-range in population size, but among the courts with the larger caseloads, registered the largest number of new criminal cases filed per 10,000 population in the first quarter of 2022. Portland, which is among the parishes with the smallest caseload and the smallest population sizes, was second on this measurement. Trelawny and St. Ann parish courts were third and fourth respectively. Equally interesting is the result that the Clarendon and St. Catherine Parish Courts, which are among the parishes with the larger quarterly caseload and bigger populations, ranked among the smallest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population in the quarter. St. Mary and Clarendon respectively, had the lowest and second lowest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population for the quarter.

**Chart 1.0a: Summary of changes in the number of new cases filed in the first quarters of 2021 and 2022**



The above chart provides a breakdown of the changes in the number of new cases filed in first quarter of 2022 and 2021. It is seen that there has been a decrease in new cases filed over the comparative period in seven (7) parish courts and an increase in the new cases filed in the other six (6) parish courts. Among the parish courts with the largest drop in new cases filed were the Hanover Parish Court falling by 36.53% and the St. Mary Parish Court, which fell by 28.11%. Among the parish courts with the biggest gain in new cases filed were the St. Ann Parish Court which increased by 13.50% and the Manchester Parish Court, which increased by 13.47%.

**Chart 1.0b: Summary of changes in the number of cases disposed in the first quarter of 2021 and 2022**



The above graph provides a breakdown of the changes in the number of cases disposed in first quarter of 2022 and 2021. It is seen that there has been a decrease in cases resolved over the comparative period in seven (7) parish courts and an increase in the cases resolved in the other six (6) parish courts. The Portland Parish Court fell by 36.99%, the Hanover Parish Court fell by 22.96% and the Westmoreland Parish Court fell by 20.68%. Among the parish courts with the biggest gain in the cases disposed in the quarter were the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division increasing by 90.44% and the St. Elizabeth Parish Court, which increased by 53.25%.

**Table 2.0e: Sampling distribution of the Indices of Judge Productivity for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Parish Court	Number of Judges	New criminal cases per Judges	Active pending caseload per Judge at the beginning of Q1 2022	Active caseload per Judge at the end of Q1 2022	Cases disposed per Judge
Hanover	2	106.00	104.50	74.50	127.50
St. Catherine	5	219.00	221.80	208.80	179.40
Westmoreland	3	148.67	93.00	70.67	162.33
St. Mary	3	59.67	73.67	67.00	60.67
Clarendon	3	136.33	234.33	206.33	143.33
Portland	3	106.33	146.33	153.33	82.33
St. Elizabeth	3	121.00	255.00	183.00	172.67
Corporate Area Criminal	9	178.89	650.33	631.33	143.89
St. Thomas	2	96.00	279.50	254.50	107.00
St. James	5	158.00	170.80	139.20	157.60
St. Ann	3	213.00	531.33	550.33	139.67
Trelawny	3	96.00	197.33	195.33	76.00
Manchester	3	151.67	345.67	324.67	152.33
<b>Total/Weighted Average</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>148.87</b>	<b>302.43</b>	<b>283.66</b>	<b>136.53</b>

*Note: Q1- Refers to quarter one (January to March of 2022)*

The above table provides a distribution of the new cases filed per judge, the cases disposed per judge and the caseload per judge in the criminal division of the parish courts for the first quarter of 2022. The data reveals that the overall weighted average number of new criminal cases filed per judge in the first quarter of 2022 is roughly 149 cases. The parish courts of St. Catherine (219 cases), St. Ann (213 cases) and Corporate Area Criminal (178.89 cases) had the three largest number of new cases filed per judge during the quarter. On the contrary, the parish courts of St. Mary (59.67 cases), St. Thomas (96 cases) and the Trelawny Parish Court (96 cases) had the lowest number of new cases filed per judge in the quarter. In terms of cases disposed per judge, the St. Catherine Parish Court disposed the most cases per judge in the quarter with 179 cases, followed by the St. Elizabeth Parish Court with 173 cases and the Westmoreland Parish Court with 162

cases disposed per judge. The three courts with the smallest number of cases disposed per judge were the St. Mary Parish Court with 61 cases, the Trelawny Parish Court with 76 disposed cases per judge and the Portland Parish Court with 82 disposed cases per judge. The overall number of criminal cases disposed per judge was 137 cases. The most crucial of the indicators is the active caseload per judge at the end of the quarter. The data shows that the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division had the highest caseload per judge at the end of the quarter with 631 cases, followed by the St. Ann Parish Court with 550 cases and the Manchester Parish Court with 325 cases per judge. On the lower end, the parish courts of St. Mary and Westmoreland with 67 and 71 cases per judge respectively, had the lowest active criminal caseload per judge at the end of the quarter, followed by the Hanover Parish Court with 75 active criminal cases per judge. The overall average active criminal caseload per judge at the end of the quarter is 284 cases. The active caseload is a proxy for the existing demand for judicial services in the respective courts and the anecdotal evidence suggests that some courts with a higher caseload per judge are generally more hard pressed to sustain high productivity rates.

**Table 3.0: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the first quarter (January - March) 2021 and 2022**

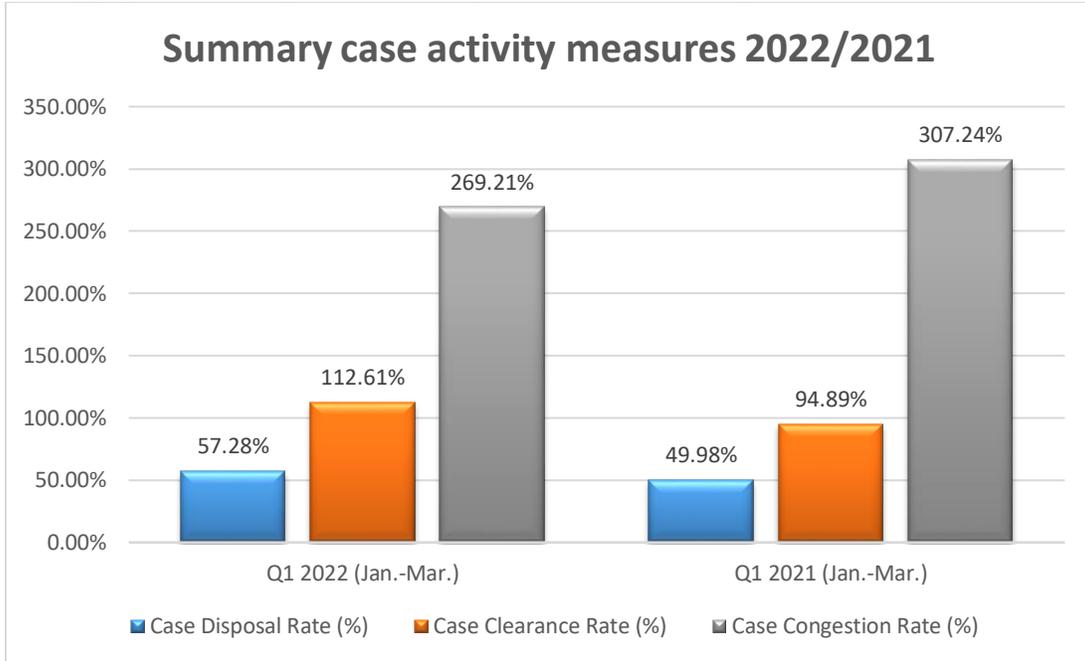
Parish Court	Case Disposal Rate (%) Q1 2022	Case Disposal Rate (%) Q1 2021	Change in case disposal rate Q1 (%)	Case Clearance Rate (%) Q1 2022	Case Clearance Rate (%) Q1 2021	Change in case clearance rate Q1 (%)	Case Congestion Rate (%) Q1 2022	Case Congestion Rate (%) Q1 2021	Change in case congestion rate Q1 (%)
Hanover	57.08	61.38	-4.30	128.30	112.28	16.02	154.78	170.67	-15.89
St. Catherine	68.49	56.49	12.00	105.94	103.06	2.88	190.00	199.01	-9.01
Westmoreland	68.83	64.22	4.61	115.02	123.30	-8.28	141.33	202.98	-61.65
St. Mary	49.16	49.4	-0.24	111.17	93.98	17.19	201.01	224.79	-23.78
Clarendon	52.08	54.26	-2.18	120.54	74.44	46.10	225.56	614.18	-388.62
Portland	45.77	44.63	1.14	93.42	126.27	-32.85	254.36	227.96	26.40
St. Elizabeth	53.44	45.84	7.60	159.50	94.37	65.13	194.82	291.48	-96.66
Corporate Area Criminal	59.50	48.09	11.41	110.62	65.13	45.49	419.03	425.05	-6.02
St. Thomas	54.69	42.06	12.63	126.04	121.89	4.15	310.33	312.32	-1.99
St. James	68.99	58.37	10.62	120.00	100.70	19.30	173.42	249.02	-75.60
St. Ann	37.09	29.13	7.96	91.08	57.02	34.06	383.68	635.20	-251.52
Trelawny	42.71	45.85	-3.14	102.08	116.61	-14.53	299.32	291.02	8.30
Manchester	48.57	37.41	11.16	113.85	147.63	-33.78	288.03	291.89	-3.86
<b>Average /Weighted Average</b>	<b>57.28</b>	<b>49.98</b>	<b>7.30</b>	<b>112.61</b>	<b>94.89</b>	<b>17.72</b>	<b>269.21</b>	<b>307.24</b>	<b>-38.03</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>10.13</b>	<b>9.89</b>		<b>17.46</b>	<b>25.98</b>		<b>86.77</b>	<b>150.72</b>	
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>-0.32</b>		<b>1.17</b>	<b>-0.29</b>		<b>0.72</b>	<b>1.46</b>	

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

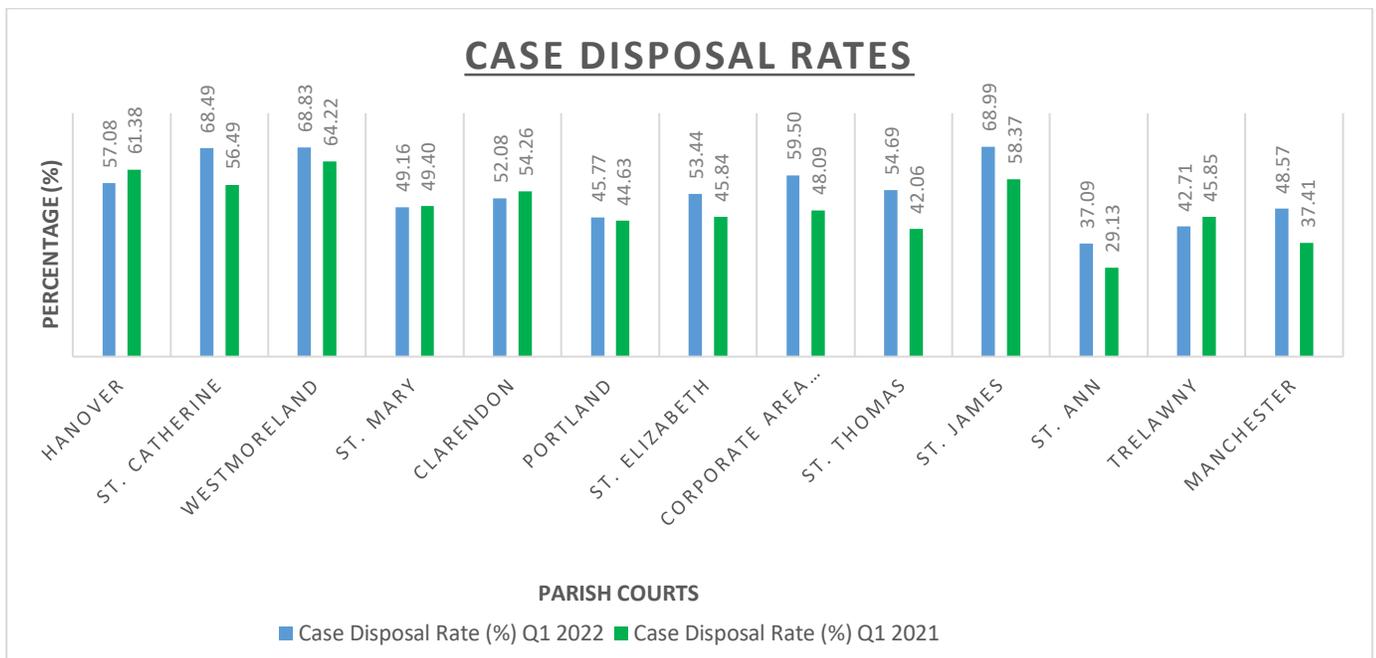
The table above provides a comparison of the case disposal rate, the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate for the first quarter of 2021 and 2022. The weighted average case disposal rate for the first quarter of 2022, was 57.28%, which was a 7.30 percentage points increase above the first quarter of 2021 weighted average rate of 49.98%. The overall case clearance rate of 112.61% for the first quarter of 2022 was 17.72 percentage points above the 94.89% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2021. The overall case congestion rate for the first quarter of 2022 also improved, changing from 307.24% in the first quarter of 2021, to 269.21% in the first quarter of 2022, a 38.03 percentage point decrease. Ceteris paribus, there should be a roughly

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

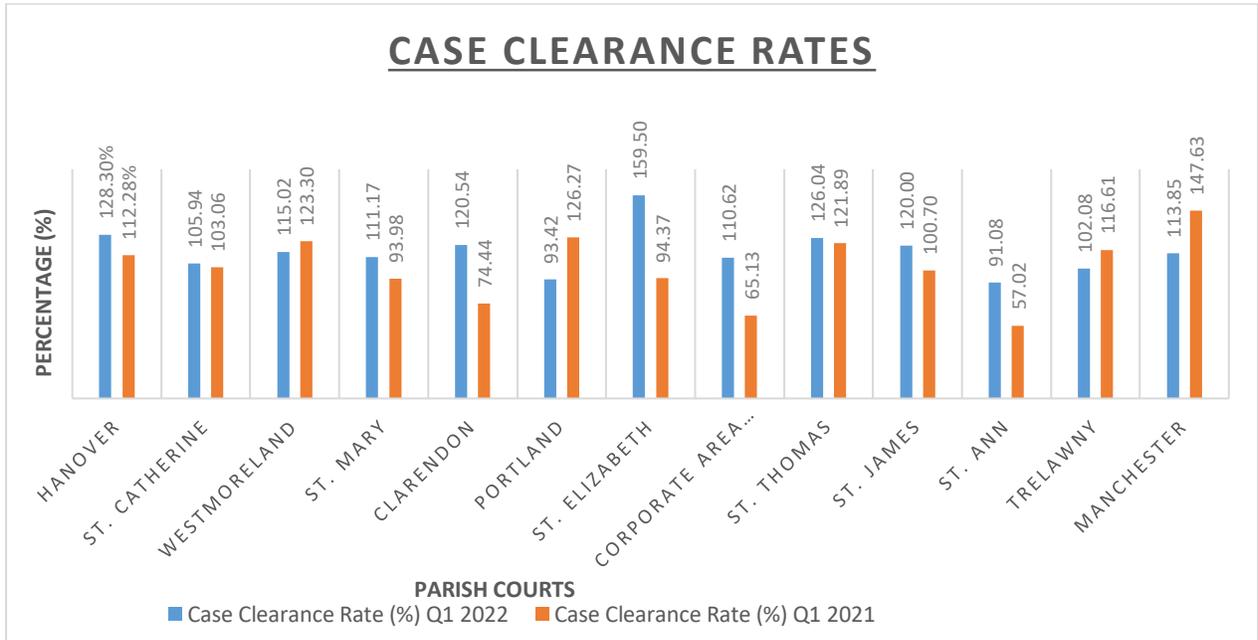
**Chart 2.0: Aggregate summary of case activity metrics for the first quarters of 2021 and 2022**



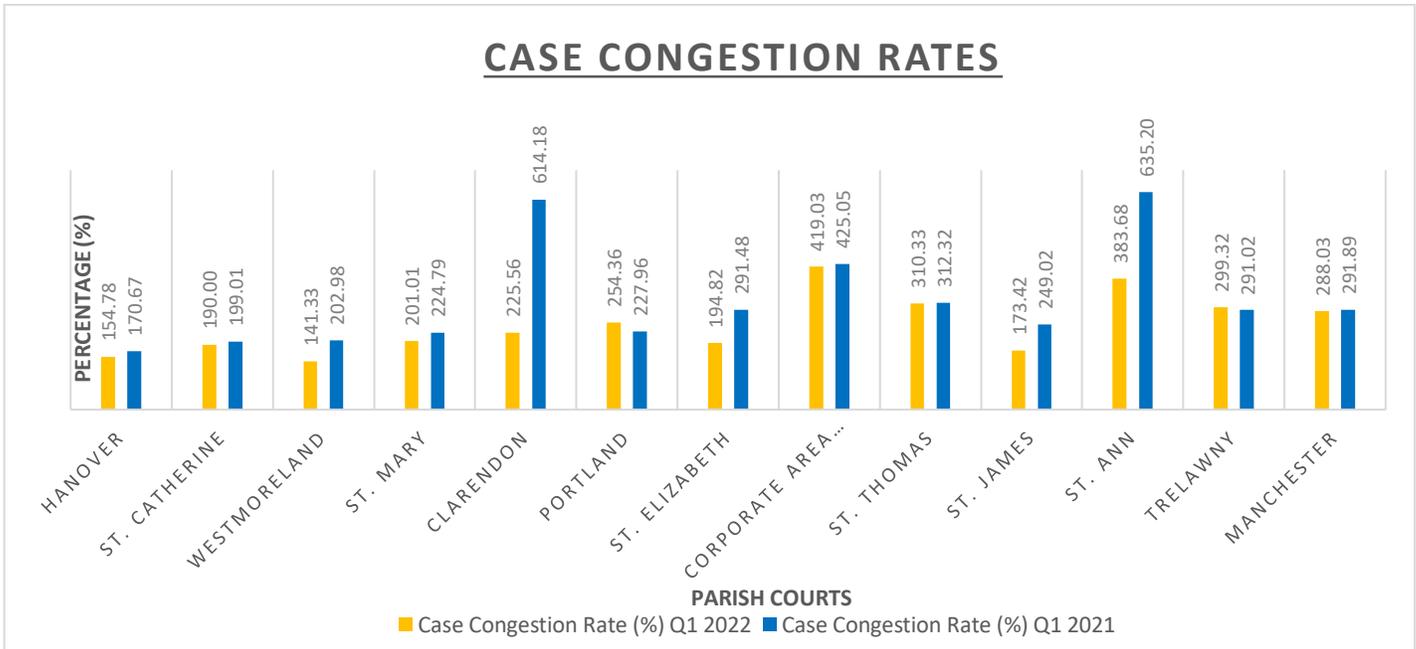
**Chart 3.0a: Comparison of case disposal rates across the parish courts for the first quarters of 2021 and 2022**



**Chart 3.0b: Comparison of case clearance rates across the parish courts for the first quarters of 2021 and 2022**



**Chart 3.0c: Comparison of case congestion rate across the parish courts for the first quarters of 2021 and 2022**



**Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of mention court activity for cases disposed in the quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Parish Court	Overall number of cases disposed	Number of cases disposed in 1 mention	Number of cases disposed in 2 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 3 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 4 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 5 mentions	Number of cases disposed in 6-10 mentions	Number of cases disposed in more than 10 mentions
Hanover	255	49	22	13	7	7	7	0
Trelawny	228	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Portland	247	82	40	24	24	15	35	10
Westmoreland	487	244	64	59	24	25	58	29
Clarendon	430	85	42	31	19	15	42	0
Manchester	457	55	22	20	6	4	18	7
Corporate Area	1295	643	181	91	74	38	108	95
St. Thomas	214	27	29	14	10	10	16	6
St. Mary	182	33	29	16	23	8	17	2
St. Catherine	897	146	67	61	31	18	46	14
St. James	788	50	33	25	35	19	43	4
St. Ann	419	79	46	38	19	17	27	13
<b>Mean</b>	<b>491.58</b>	<b>124.67</b>	<b>48.00</b>	<b>32.67</b>	<b>22.67</b>	<b>14.67</b>	<b>34.75</b>	<b>15.00</b>
<b>Median</b>	<b>424.50</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>36.5</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>6.5</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>1.43</b>	<b>2.76</b>	<b>2.53</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>1.76</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>1.49</b>	<b>2.92</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>339.27</b>	<b>175.23</b>	<b>45.64</b>	<b>25.77</b>	<b>19.27</b>	<b>10.18</b>	<b>28.82</b>	<b>26.52</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5899</b>	<b>1496</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>180</b>

The above sampling distribution provides critical insights into mention court activity for a representative sample of criminal cases disposed across the parish courts over the first quarter of 2022. In general, the fewer the number of mentions per case, the more efficient the case flow progression. A maximum of five mentions per case is considered to be desirable based on international best practices. A notable 45.13% of the sample of 5,899 cases disposed during the period were resolved on their first appearance before the court. A further 25.36% of the sample of cases disposed were resolved at first mention, while 9.76% were resolved after two mentions and 6.65% after three mentions. Cumulatively, roughly 94.49% of the cases sampled were

resolved in five or less mentions, inclusive of those resolved on first appearance before the courts. This is an impressive outcome by any measure. Although there are some variances across the parish courts, the overall outcomes were consistently observed for all courts. In other words, the vast majority of the cases sampled were disposed in five or less mentions in all courts and matters disposed on first appearance before the court or within the first few mentions accounted for the largest share of the activity across the courts. These outcomes are not surprising given the consistently high case clearance rates in the parish courts in the last few years. These collective results augur well for the probability of relatively quick and efficient resolution of criminal cases across the parish courts.

**Table 5.0a: Comparison of the trial certainty rates for the first quarters 2021 and 2022**

Parish Court	Trial certainty rate (%) Q1 (2022)	Trial certainty rate (%) Q1 (2021)	Change in the trial certainty rate (percentage points)
Westmoreland	57	46	11
Clarendon	95	59	36
St. Ann	54	40	14
Portland	70	97	-27
St. James	100	100	0
Manchester	100	89	11
St. Elizabeth	NA	93	NA
St. Catherine	89	90	-1
Trelawny	98	97	1
St. Mary	97	89	8
St. Thomas	84	98	-14
Corporate Area Criminal	95	89	6
Hanover	82	62	20
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>4</b>

*Q1 represents the first quarter i.e. January-March*

The trial date certainty rate provides a measure of the extent to which dates, which are set for trial, proceed on schedule without being delayed to start at some future date. The overall trial

date certainty rate for the first quarter of 2022 was 85%, a 4-percentage points increase when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2021. Six (6) of the parish courts met the prescribed international performance standard of a rate between 92% and 100% in the quarter. Leading the way are the parish courts of St. James and Manchester each with a trial certainty rate of 100%, Trelawny with 98%, St. Mary with 97%, Clarendon and the Corporate Area Parish Court-criminal Division with 95% each. The St. Catherine Parish Court fell just short of the international standard with a trial certainty rate of 89%, but this was still a promising result. The minimum-targeted court-wide trial date certainty rate, which has been set out by the Honourable Chief Justice for the judiciary for the next 5-6 years, is 95%. This is consistent with the push to significantly enhance the efficiency of the court system and hence the timely delivery of justice to the Jamaican citizenry. The attainment of this minimum threshold rate will depress the overall criminal case backlog in the Jamaican court system below 5%.

**Table 5.0b: Percentile Rank on trial date certainty rate for the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarters of 2021 and 2022**

Parish Court	Percentile Rank – Trial Date Certainty Rate Q1 2022 (%)	Percentile Rank – Trial Date Certainty Rate Q1 2021 (%)
Westmoreland	9	8
Clarendon	55	17
St. Ann	0	0
Portland	18	75
St. James	91	100
Manchester	91	33
St. Elizabeth	NA	67
St. Catherine	45	58
Trelawny	82	75
St. Mary	73	33
St. Thomas	36	92
Corporate Area Criminal	55	33
Hanover	27	25

The above table provides a summary of the percentile rank of the various parish courts with regards to their performances on the trial date certainty rates for the first quarters of 2021 and 2022. The results present a mixed picture across both years for most courts in terms of the relative performances on this measurement. Some courts experienced gains in the ranking and several others experienced declines, while some courts remained the same. There were however no dramatic changes in ranking for any court over the comparable period.

**Table 5.0c: Average duration from first trial date set to date of disposal of case for matters resolved by trial in the first quarter of 2022**

<b>Parish Court</b>	<b>Average duration of trial</b>
Clarendon	142.51
Corporate Area	283.46
Hanover	155.89
Manchester	279.50
Portland	229.44
St. Ann	212.32
St. Catherine	282.37
St. James	255.66
St. Mary	181.68
St. Thomas	354.43
Trelawny	298.02
Westmoreland	66.44
<b>Weighted average</b>	<b>244.55</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>80.53</b>

The above table summarizes the average durations between first trial date set and the date of case disposal for trial matters resolved in the first quarter of 2022 across the various parish courts. The data shows an overall weighted average interval between the first trial date set and the disposition of such cases in the quarter is 245 days or roughly 8.2 months, with a standard deviation of roughly 81 days or 2.7 months. The Westmoreland and Clarendon Parish Courts had the lowest times between first trial dates set and disposal of cases with roughly 66 days and 143

days respectively, reflective of more ideal standards when compared to most other courts. The St. Thomas and Trelawny Parish Courts with average interval times of roughly 354 days or 11.8 months for the St. Thomas Parish Court and the Trelawny Parish Court with 298 days or roughly 9.93 months had the worst rank on this measurement for the quarter. Lengthy time intervals between the first trial date and the date of case disposition are symptoms of case management problems, case readiness and possibly even scheduling and calendar management issues in the particular court.

**Table 5.0d: 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 (in days)	Average time between first court appearance and trial (in days)	Average time between trial and disposition (in days)
Clarendon	7.22	318.8	142.51
Corporate Area-Criminal Division	4.10	436.50	283.46
Hanover	8.01	145.29	155.89
Manchester	6.07	341.22	279.50
Portland	6.69	387.97	229.44
St. Ann	11.91	764.81	212.32
St. Catherine	4.93	215.38	282.37
St. James	13.45	569.16	255.66
St. Mary	4.07	153.33	181.68
St. Thomas	5.47	267.32	354.43
Trelawny	4.05	396.55	298.02
Westmoreland	6.33	237.79	66.44
<b>Weighted average</b>	<b>5.98</b>	<b>368.66</b>	<b>244.55</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>3.02</b>	<b>178.45</b>	<b>80.53</b>

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

court appearance is approximately 6 days, while the overall average time between first appearance of a criminal matter in the parish courts and the first trial date is, however, much longer at roughly 12.3 months or 369 days. The average duration between the first trial date set and the date of disposition is roughly 8.2 months or 245 days. These findings indicate that there may be imprecisions in the science of scheduling trial dates which may at times face long delays after a first date set is postponed. Since roughly less than a quarter of criminal cases filed in the parish courts will proceed to trial, these findings may not have a dramatic impact on the overall time to disposition of criminal cases but are nonetheless critical for monitoring case activity.

**Table 5.0e: Trial court activity summary during the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Parish Court</b>	<b>Number of cases heard</b>	<b>Number of cases with a trial date set</b>	<b>Percentage of cases heard which had a trial date set (%)</b>
Clarendon	1008	367	36.41
Corporate Area-Criminal Division	4386	850	19.38
Hanover	414	138	33.33
Manchester	1224	396	32.35
Portland	658	107	16.26
St. Ann	1520	330	21.71
St. Catherine	2162	535	24.75
St. James	1479	169	11.43
St. Mary	390	105	26.92
St. Thomas	570	113	19.82
Trelawny	760	143	18.82
Westmoreland	733	122	16.64
<b>Total/Weighted Average</b>	<b>15304</b>	<b>3375</b>	<b>22.05</b>

The above table provides a summary of number of cases heard in the first quarter of 2022 in the criminal divisions of the parish courts which had trial dates set, whether in the current year, from the previous year or a future date. Using a sampling distribution, it is seen that of 15,304 criminal cases heard across the parish courts in the first quarter of 2022, 3375 or 22.05% had a trial date

set. The parish courts of St. James (11.43%), Portland (16.26%) and Westmoreland (16.64%) had the lowest proportion of cases proceeding to trial, while the parish courts of Clarendon (36.41%), Hanover (33.33%) and Manchester (32.35%) had the highest proportions.

**Table 6.0a: Distribution of courtroom utilization rates across the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Parish Court	Average overall courtroom utilization rate (%)	Highest recorded courtroom utilization rate (%)	Lowest recorded courtroom utilization rate (%)	Standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rate (%)	Average courtroom utilization rate for Night Court sittings (%)	Average number of courtroom adjournments per day
St. Catherine	54.87	121.11	1.67	27.80	NA	1.0
Westmoreland	77.72	141.00	2.33	36.21	NA	0
Trelawny	65.41	142.33	1.67	30.99	NA	1.0
St. Thomas	51.87	109.67	10.83	22.45	NA	0
St. Mary	67.87	141.94	10.83	29.27	NA	1.0
St. James	60.17	270.00	10.00	31.57	NA	1.5
Corporate Area Criminal Court	57.63	141.67	1.33	30.08	NA	1.1
St. Ann	65.65	133.33	6.39	27.91	NA	1.0
Portland	70.53	259.00	3.67	33.80	NA	1.0
Hanover	60.63	218.06	1.39	38.21	NA	1.0
Clarendon	65.24	255.67	1.00	35.57	NA	1.0
Manchester	62.10	150.33	2.67	29.71	NA	1.0
<b>Overall Averages</b>	<b>63.31</b>	<b>173.68</b>	<b>4.48</b>	<b>31.13</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>0.88</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>7.05</b>	<b>59.06</b>	<b>3.94</b>	<b>4.33</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>0.44</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>-0.19</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>-1.47</b>

The above table details the courtroom utilization rate for the various parish courts in the first quarter of 2022. The courtroom utilization rate provides a measurement of the proportion of available hours for open court hearings in all courtrooms (including outstations) which are actually utilized. If the usage of any courtroom exceeds the available hours, then the utilization

rate will exceed 100% and the rate will fall below 100% if less than the available hours are utilized. The prescribed international standard for the courtroom utilization rate is 100%, which means that all hours allocated for court hearings in any court, on any given day should be utilized. The data suggests that as a whole, the parish courts of Jamaica performed below this level in the first quarter of 2022. The overall average courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in the quarter was 63.31%, which is an indication that on average roughly 63% of the available hours for court hearings were utilized across the parish courts in the first quarter of 2022. This result is roughly 3.55 percentage points above than the closing figure in 2021. The parish courts recording the highest courtroom utilization rates for the first quarter are the Westmoreland and Portland Parish Courts with 77.72% and 70.53% respectively, followed by the St. Mary Parish Court with 67.87% and the St. Ann Parish Court with 65.65%. The St. Thomas and St. Catherine Parish Courts with 51.87% and 54.87% respectively, had the lowest rates, while the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division with 57.63% had the next lowest rate. The standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rates was relatively low, suggesting that on average the rates for the individual courts did not vary widely from the overall mean. This is affirmed by the low positive skewness of the data. The sample size of days used to compute the rates for each court were sufficiently large and representative, though not the same for all courts. The margin of error of the courtroom utilization rates is a reliable  $\pm 2.5\%$ .

**Table 6.0b: Percentile Rank on Courtroom utilization rate for the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarters of 2022 and 2021**

<b>Parish Court</b>	<b>Percentile rank 2022 (%)</b>	<b>Percentile rank 2021 (%)</b>
St. Catherine	9	58
Westmoreland	100	92
Trelawny	64	17
St. Thomas	0	50
St. Mary	82	83
St. James	27	75
Corporate Area Criminal Court	18	33
St. Ann	73	100
Portland	91	25
Hanover	36	0
Clarendon	55	8
Manchester	45	67
St. Elizabeth	NA	42

The above table provides a summary of the percentile rank of the various parish courts with regards to their performances on the courtroom utilization rates for the first quarters of 2021 and 2022. The results present a relatively consistent picture across both years for most courts in terms of the performances on this measurement. Some courts experienced gains in the ranking, several others experienced declines, and some courts retained the same ranking. The Westmoreland Parish Court better than all courts in the first quarter of 2022 and St. Ann Parish court performed better than all courts in the first quarter of 2021, with the Hanover Parish Court having the lowest courtroom utilization rate in the first quarter of 2021 and the St. Thomas parish court having the lowest utilization rate in the first quarter of 2022.

**Table 7.0: Types of matters for each Parish Court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Parish Court	Indictment	Summary Matters	Lay Magistrates Sittings	Committal Proceedings	Tax	Miscellaneous	LRF	Traffic	NS	Total
Corporate Area Criminal	1001	1329	289	253	-	-	-	66	-	2938
St. Catherine	432	1085	143	181	24	-	11	-	-	1876
Manchester	294	259	191	50	-	-	-	-	-	794
St. James	188	661	185	48	89	30	-	-	-	1201
St. Ann	278	369	134	79	65	-	4	5	-	934
Westmoreland	203	352	80	35	33	-	-	-	-	703
Clarendon	223	347	98	56	-	-	2	-	-	726
Portland	201	185	28	13	-	-	4	-	-	431
St. Mary	95	136	33	33	6	-	-	-	-	303
Trelawny	118	283	30	44	1	-	39	-	-	515
Hanover	106	98	60	14	-	-	3	-	-	281
St. Thomas	114	186	36	42	-	-	-	-	-	378
<b>Total</b>	<b>3253</b>	<b>5290</b>	<b>1307</b>	<b>848</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11080</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>29.36</b>	<b>47.74</b>	<b>11.80</b>	<b>7.65</b>	<b>1.97</b>	<b>0.27</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>0.64</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100</b>

\*Total number of observations = 11,080\*\*LRF means Law Reform Fraudulent Transaction, \*\*\*NS means not stated

The above table provides a breakdown of the different types of new charges filed in each parish court for the first quarter of 2022. For the quarter, 11,080 charges were filed across the parish courts, a decrease of approximately 769 charges or 6.49% when compared to the corresponding first quarter of 2021. The largest proportions of these charges were filed in the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division (2,938), the St. Catherine Parish Court (1,876), the St. James Parish Court with (1,201) and the St. Ann Parish Court with 934 charges. The largest share of the charges were summary matters (47.74%); followed by Indictments (29.36%), Lay Magistrates’ matters (11.80%) and Committal Proceedings with 7.65% of the total sample. The Corporate Area Court-Criminal

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

### Offence Types

**Table 8.01: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Unlawful wounding	33	12.31
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	30	11.19
Threat	23	8.58
Malicious destruction of property	21	7.84
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management act	19	7.09
Breach of Curfew Order	19	7.09
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>54.10</b>

**Number of observations sampled (N): 268**

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court for the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that unlawful wounding with 33 or 12.31% and assault occasioning actual bodily harm with 30 or 11.19% of the total sample of charges are the most frequently occurring charges. Threat with 23 or 8.58% followed this, while malicious destruction of property with 21 or 7.84% and breaches of the Disaster Risk

Management Act and breaches of the curfew order with 19 or 7.09% each of the total sample rounds off the top five. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 54.10% of the total sample of 268 charges filed in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2021 in the Hanover Parish Court included, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property, threat and breaches of the curfew order.

**Table 8.02: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	150	18.94
Assault occasioning bodily harm	69	8.71
Exposing goods for sale	62	7.83
Unlawful Wounding	62	7.83
Malicious Destruction of Property	47	5.93
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>49.24</b>

**Number of observations sampled (N): 792**

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court for the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 150 or 18.94% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 69 or 8.71% and exposing goods for sale and unlawful wounding with 62 or 7.83% each rank next. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property with 47 or 5.93% of the sample charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 49.24% of the total sample of 792 charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2021 in the Manchester Parish Court included malicious destruction of

property, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, exposing goods for sale and threat.

**Table 8.03: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Portland Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Assault occasioning bodily harm	68	15.93
Unlawful Wounding	49	11.48
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	46	10.77
Malicious destruction of property	20	4.68
Threat	20	4.68
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>47.54</b>

**Number of observations sampled (N): 427**

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Portland Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 68 or 15.93% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 49 or 11.48% and breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 46 or 10.77% followed this. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property and threat with 20 or 4.68% each of the sample of charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 47.54% of the total sample of 427 charges filed in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2021 in the Portland parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, threat, malicious destruction of property and littering in a public place.

**Table 8.04: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Threat	97	10.81
Breach of Curfew Order	78	8.70
Assault occasioning bodily harm	75	8.36
Unlawful wounding	73	8.14
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	63	7.02
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>43.03</b>

Number of observations sampled (N): 897

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that threat with 97 or 10.81% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Breaches of the curfew order with 78 or 8.70% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 75 or 8.36% followed this. Unlawful wounding with 73 or 8.14% and breach of the disaster risk management act with 63 or 7.02% of the total sample rounds of the top charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 43.03% of the total sample of 897 charges filed in the quarter at the St. Ann Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2021 in the St. Ann parish court included threat, assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property, and breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act.

**Table 8.05: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	674	35.95
Assault occasioning bodily harm	129	6.88
Unlawful Wounding	82	4.37
Illegal possession of firearm	61	3.25
Malicious Destruction of Property	57	3.04
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1003</b>	<b>53.49</b>

Number of observations sampled (N): 1875

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that breaches of the disaster risk management act with 674 or 35.95% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 129 or 6.88% and unlawful wounding with 82 or 4.37% followed this. Illegal possession of firearm with 61 or 3.25% and malicious Destruction of Property with 57 or 3.04% of the total sample of charges filed round off the top five. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 53.49% of the total sample of 1875 charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2021 in the St. Catherine parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, breaches of the disaster risk management act, breach of the Excise Duty Act, unlawful wounding and malicious destruction of property.

**Table 8.06: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. James Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	475	39.52
Threat	82	6.82
Assault occasioning bodily harm	58	4.83
Unlawful wounding	43	3.58
Malicious destruction of property	37	3.08
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>57.82</b>

**Number of observations sampled (N): 1202**

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges at the St. James Parish Court in first quarter of 2022. It is shown that breaches of Disaster Risk Management Act with 475 or 39.52% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Threat with 82 or 6.82%, assault occasioning bodily harm with 58 or 4.83% and unlawful wounding with 43 or 3.58% followed this. The top five is rounded off malicious

destruction of property with 37 or 3.08% of the total sample. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 57.82% of the sample of 1,202 charges filed in quarter at the St. James Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2021 in the St. James parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, possession of offensive weapon, breach of curfew order, threat and breaches of Disaster Risk Management Act.

**Table 8.07: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Curfew Order	58	19.14
Unlawful wounding	30	9.90
Assault occasioning bodily harm	28	9.24
Malicious destruction of property	20	6.60
Threat	16	5.28
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>50.17</b>

**Number of observations sampled (N): 303**

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that breaches of the curfew order with 58 or 19.14% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 30 or 9.90% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 28 or 9.24% followed this. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property with 20 or 6.60% and threat with 16 or 5.28% of the sample. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 50.17% of the total sample of 303 charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2021 in the St. Mary parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, threat, simple larceny and malicious destruction of property.

**Table 8.08: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	109	28.39
Assault occasioning bodily harm	50	13.02
Unlawful wounding	30	7.81
Armed with an offensive weapon	19	4.95
Malicious destruction of property	17	4.43
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>58.59</b>

Number of observations sampled (N): 384

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 109 or 28.39% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 50 or 13.02%, unlawful wounding with 30 or 7.81% and armed with an offensive weapon with 19 or 4.95% followed this. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property with 17 or 4.43% of the total sample of charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 58.59% of the sample of 384 charges filed in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2021 in the St. Thomas parish court included sexual intercourse with a person under 16, unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, malicious destruction of property and threat.

**Table 8.09: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Curfew Order	100	19.19
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	42	8.06
Unlawful wounding	42	8.06
Failure to Wear Face Mask in Public	31	5.95
Knowingly Possessing Identity Information	30	5.76
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>47.02</b>

**Number of observations sampled (N): 521**

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that breaches of curfew order with 100 or 19.19% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning actual bodily harm and unlawful wounding with 42 or 8.06% each followed this. Failure to Wear Face Mask in Public with 31 or 5.95% and knowingly possessing identity information with 30 or 5.76% of the total sample of charges round of the top five charges filed in the quarter. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 47.02% of the total sample of 521 charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2021 in the Trelawny parish court included unlawful wounding, assault occasioning bodily harm, breach of the curfew order, possession of offensive weapon, dealing in ganja and possession of ganja.

**Table 8.10: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Curfew Order	116	17.19
Assault occasioning bodily harm	99	14.67
Threat	59	8.74
Failure to wear face mask	55	8.15
Unlawful Wounding	43	6.37
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>55.11</b>

**Number of observations sampled (N): 675**

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that Breaches of the curfew order with 116 or 17.19% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 99 or 14.67% and threat with 59 or 8.74%

followed this. Failure to wear face mask with 55 or 8.15% and unlawful wounding with 43 or 6.37% of the sample rank next. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 55.11% of the total sample of 675 charges filed in the quarter at the Westmoreland Parish Court. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2021 in the Westmoreland parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, threat, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property and possession of ganja.

**Table 8.11: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Breach of Curfew Order	152	20.94
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	79	10.88
Assault occasioning bodily harm	69	9.50
Unlawful wounding	54	7.44
Malicious destruction of property	33	4.55
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>53.31</b>

**Number of observations sampled (N): 726**

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in first quarter of 2022. It is shown that breaches of Curfew Order with 152 or 20.94% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 79 or 10.88% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 69 or 9.50% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 54 or 7.44% and malicious destruction of property with 33 or 4.55%. The charges quoted above account for an estimated 53.31% of the sample of 726 charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2021 in the Clarendon parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, threat, breach of curfew order and malicious destruction of property.

**Table 8.12: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Breach of the curfew order under the disaster risk management act	624	21.45
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	237	8.15
Littering	232	7.98
Unlawful wounding	149	5.12
Disorderly conduct	101	3.47
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1343</b>	<b>46.17</b>

**Number of observations sampled (N): 2909**

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division for the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that breach of the curfew order under the disaster risk management act with 624 or 21.45% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 237 or 8.15% and littering with 232 or 7.98% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 149 or 5.12% and disorderly conduct with 101 or 3.47% of the charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 46.17% of the total sample of 2,909 charges at filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court –Criminal Division in the quarter. The top five most frequently occurring charges recorded in the first quarter of 2021 in the Corporate Area parish court included assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, breach of the curfew order under the disaster risk management act, littering and disorderly conduct.

**Table 9.0: Conviction rate for summary and indictment matters heard in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Type of case	Number of disposed matters	Number of guilty verdicts	Number of guilty pleas	Aggregate number of guilty outcomes	Estimated conviction rate (%)
Summary	4732	82	3433	3515	74.28
Indictment	3138	87	509	596	18.99

The above table shows the estimated conviction rate for summary and indictment matters heard across all parish courts in the first quarter of 2022. Summary matters heard in the quarter include charges such as possession of an offensive weapon, breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act, exposing goods for sale and breaches of the curfew order. The estimated conviction rate for the quarter for summary matters was 74.28%, which is 6.36 percentage points above the conviction rate of 67.92% recorded for the corresponding first quarter of 2021. The estimated conviction rate for indictment matters was significantly lower at 18.99% for the quarter, a rate which is approximately 0.67 percentage points below the 19.66% recorded in the first quarter of 2021. Indictment matters heard in the quarter included charges such as assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property and simple larceny.

**Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges across the parish courts for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Charge</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	1652	15.01
Breach of Curfew Order	1198	10.88
Assault occasioning bodily harm	955	8.68
Unlawful wounding	691	6.28
Threat	428	3.89
Malicious destruction of property	428	3.89
Littering	276	2.51
Disorderly conduct	246	2.23
Possession of offensive weapon	236	2.14
Exposing goods for sale	209	1.90
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>6319</b>	<b>57.40</b>

**Number of observations sampled (N): 11,008**

The above table shows the distribution of the ten most commonly occurring charges across all parish courts for the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that breaches of the Disaster Risk Management Act with 1,652 or 15.01% of the total number of charges sampled is the most frequently occurring charge. Breaches of the curfew order with 1,198 or 10.88% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 955 or 8.68% followed this. The top five is rounded off by unlawful wounding with 691 or 6.28% and threats and malicious destruction of property with 428 or 3.89% each of the total sample of charges filed in the quarter. These ten most frequently occurring types of charges account for approximately 57.40% of the total sample of charges filed in the quarter.

**Table 11.0: Conviction rate for leading occurring charges heard in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Type of Offence	Number of disposed matters	Number of guilty verdicts	Number of guilty pleas	Aggregate number of guilty outcomes	Estimated conviction rate (%)
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	1431	27	1253	1280	89.45
Possession of offensive weapon	259	4	226	230	88.80
Breach of Curfew Order	1135	13	918	931	82.03
Exposing goods for sale	192	7	144	151	78.65
Disorderly conduct	196	11	121	132	67.35
Littering	52	-	28	28	53.85
Malicious destruction of property	384	5	51	56	14.58
Unlawful wounding	678	18	67	85	12.54
Assault occasioning bodily harm	917	6	83	89	9.71
Threat	339	7	20	27	7.96

The above table shows the estimated conviction rate for the ten (10) leading charges across all parish courts in the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act had the highest estimated conviction rate on the list with 89.45%. Possession of an offensive weapon with 88.80% and breach of the curfew order with 82.03% followed this. The top conviction rates on the list in the quarter are rounded off by exposing goods for sale with an estimated conviction rate of 78.65% and disorderly conduct with an estimated conviction rate of 67.35%. Littering recorded the highest estimated conviction rate in the corresponding first quarter of 2021 with 94.64%, followed by possession of offensive weapon with an estimated conviction rate of 87.06%.

**Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of the average age of active charges for each parish court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Parish Court</b>	<b>Average age of active charges (days)</b>
Clarendon	41
Trelawny	42
Portland	34
St. Mary	36
Hanover	37
Westmoreland	25
St. Catherine	35
St. Ann	41
St. James	39
St. Thomas	45
Corporate Area Criminal	41
Manchester	39
<b>Overall Average</b>	<b>37.92</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>5.16</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>-1.38</b>

The above table shows the average age of active charges originating in the first quarter of 2022, for charges originating in said quarter. The overall average age of active matters originating in the quarter was approximately 38 days or roughly 1.3 months, roughly 1 day less than the average recorded in the first quarter of 2021. The parish courts of Westmoreland, Portland and St. Catherine have the lowest averages on the list. On the contrary, the highest averages were observed in the parish courts of St. Thomas, Trelawny, Clarendon, St. Ann and the Corporate Area Criminal. The standard deviation of the scores was however relatively low (5 days), an indication that the individual values for the parish courts were on average close to the overall mean. The negative skewness, however, indicates that proportionately more of the individual times to disposition in the data set were above the overall series average. There is an intuitive correlation between case clearance rates and the average age of cases in the long run, but it does not

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

**Table 13.0: Average age of charges disposed for matters originating in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Parish Court</b>	<b>Average age of disposed charges (days)</b>
Clarendon	34
Trelawny	29
Portland	27
St. Mary	27
Hanover	35
Westmoreland	25
St. Catherine	26
St. Ann	32
St. James	25
St. Thomas	27
Corporate Area Criminal	29
Manchester	27
<b>Overall Average</b>	<b>28.58</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>3.37</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>0.96</b>

The above table shows that the average time taken to dispose of criminal cases filed in the first quarter of 2022, which were filed in the Parish Courts, is approximately 29 days. This is roughly 1 day less than time taken to dispose of cases originating in the first quarter of 2021. The standard deviation of the scores was relatively low (3 days), an indication that the individual values for the

parish courts were on average close to the overall mean. The positive skewness, however, indicates that slightly more of the individual times to disposition in the data set fell below the overall series average. The scores ranged from a low of roughly 25 days at the Westmoreland and St. James Parish Courts to a high of 35 days for the Hanover Parish Court.

**Table 14.0a: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition as at the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Parishes	Time interval in days							Sample size (n)
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269 days	270-364 days	365 days-547 days	548 days-729 days	730 days and over	
Corporate Area Criminal	12043 (38.7%)	6358 (20.4%)	3956 (12.7%)	2693 (8.7%)	2687 (8.6%)	1461 (4.7%)	1927 (6.2%)	31125 (100%)
St. Catherine	5218 (37.0%)	3521 (25.0%)	1933 (13.7%)	1195 (8.5%)	1238 (8.8%)	510 (3.6%)	480 (3.4%)	14095 (100%)
St. James	4193 (36.7%)	2365 (20.7%)	1309 (11.5%)	993 (8.7%)	1082 (9.5%)	547 (4.8%)	921 (8.1%)	11410 (100%)
Manchester	2471 (25.0%)	1752 (17.7%)	1332 (13.5%)	1020 (10.3%)	1342 (13.6%)	857 (8.7%)	1123 (11.3%)	9897 (100%)
Westmoreland	4808 (53.5%)	1654 (18.4%)	972 (10.8%)	537 (6.0%)	542 (6.0%)	229 (2.5%)	248 (2.8%)	8990 (100%)
St. Ann	2266 (26.2%)	1654 (19.1%)	1064 (12.3%)	868 (10.0%)	1197 (13.8%)	675 (7.8%)	936 (10.8%)	8660 (100%)
Clarendon	4272 (43.8%)	2235 (22.9%)	1130 (11.6%)	674 (6.9%)	789 (8.1%)	331 (3.4%)	313 (3.2%)	9744 (100%)
St. Thomas	1483 (29.1%)	1155 (22.7%)	685 (13.4%)	603 (11.8%)	555 (10.9%)	262 (5.1%)	350 (6.9%)	5093 (100%)
Portland	2195 (36.8%)	1475 (24.7%)	730 (12.2%)	472 (7.9%)	490 (8.2%)	286 (4.8%)	319 (5.3%)	5967 (100%)
St. Mary	2751 (42.3%)	1315 (20.2%)	848 (13%)	532 (8.2%)	489 (7.5%)	238 (3.7%)	337 (5.2%)	6510 (100%)
St. Elizabeth	2317 (38.6%)	1519 (25.3%)	821 (13.7%)	458 (7.6%)	470 (7.8%)	201 (3.3%)	223 (3.7%)	6009 (100%)
Trelawny	1703 (38.6%)	821 (18.6%)	511 (11.6%)	389 (8.8%)	389 (8.8%)	253 (5.7%)	344 (7.8%)	4410 (100)
Hanover	2304 (49.7%)	1061 (22.9%)	486 (10.5%)	287 (6.2%)	244 (5.3%)	122 (2.6%)	132 (2.8%)	4636 (100%)
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>37.95</b>	<b>21.25</b>	<b>12.47</b>	<b>8.47</b>	<b>9.10</b>	<b>4.72</b>	<b>6.05</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>3694.15</b>	<b>2068.08</b>	<b>1213.62</b>	<b>824.69</b>	<b>885.69</b>	<b>459.38</b>	<b>588.69</b>	<b>9734.31</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>2786.94</b>	<b>1463.35</b>	<b>911.65</b>	<b>624.11</b>	<b>651.57</b>	<b>368.42</b>	<b>508.82</b>	<b>7044.32</b>

<b>Skewness</b>	<b>2.52</b>	<b>2.43</b>	<b>2.58</b>	<b>2.51</b>	<b>1.91</b>	<b>1.92</b>	<b>1.76</b>	<b>2.63</b>
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*Number of charges sampled (N) = 126,546*

*Note 1: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the previous 5.6 years*

*Note 2: The data provided by the St. Elizabeth Parish court is as at the December 31, 2021*

The table above shows the breakdown of the time disposition for matters filed in the respective parish courts for at least 67 consecutive months (5.6 years) over the period September 2016 to March 2022. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed of in the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 37.95% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, Westmoreland and Clarendon are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed within 90 days. This trend is broadly similar to that seen over the past 24 months. Cumulatively, 80.13% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a continued positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in sustaining overall productivity and realizing the objective of becoming the best in the Caribbean region in three years and among the best in the world in six years. From the data set, the parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, Manchester and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 6.05% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, Manchester and St. Ann also had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample range from weak positive to moderate positive, which is an indication that for disposed cases, the distributions of the times taken do not vary dramatically across the courts. The difference, however, is the proportion of cases disposed,

relative to the caseload, which as shown earlier, indicates that some courts are performing much better.

**Table 14.0b: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition for matters completed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Parishes	Time interval in days							Sample size (n)
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269 days	270-364 days	365 days-547 days	548 days-729 days	730 days and over	
Corporate Area Criminal	399 (26.5%)	259 (17.2%)	221 (14.7%)	187 (12.4%)	152 (10.1%)	73 (4.9%)	213 (14.2%)	1504 (100%)
St. Catherine	224 (32.9%)	148 (21.8%)	119 (17.5%)	79 (11.6%)	47 (6.9%)	29 (4.3%)	34 (5.0%)	680 (100%)
St. James	168 (22.7%)	152 (20.6%)	78 (10.6%)	66 (8.9%)	79 (10.7%)	16 (2.2%)	180 (24.4%)	739 (100%)
Manchester	123 (25.2%)	83 (17.0%)	90 (18.4%)	47 (9.6%)	37 (7.6%)	31 (6.4%)	77 (15.8%)	488 (100%)
Westmoreland	211 (49.6%)	84 (19.8%)	58 (13.6%)	25 (5.9%)	31 (7.3%)	9 (2.1%)	7 (1.6%)	425 (100%)
St. Ann	72 (15.9%)	76 (16.8%)	61 (13.5%)	30 (6.6%)	87 (19.2%)	52 (11.5%)	74 (16.4%)	452 (100%)
Clarendon	137 (31.3%)	133 (30.4%)	62 (14.2%)	44 (10.0%)	30 (6.8%)	16 (3.7%)	16 (3.7%)	438 (100%)
St. Thomas	62 (23.0%)	68 (25.2%)	43 (15.9%)	15 (5.6%)	39 (14.4%)	9 (3.3%)	34 (12.6%)	270 (100%)
Portland	86 (43.9%)	47 (24.0%)	23 (11.7%)	16 (8.2%)	20 (10.2%)	1 (0.5%)	3 (1.5%)	196 (100%)
St. Mary	119 (41.9%)	53 (18.7%)	41 (14.4%)	40 (14.1%)	15 (5.3%)	15 (5.3%)	1 (0.4%)	284 (100%)
Trelawny	91 (36.7%)	32 (12.9%)	26 (10.5%)	16 (6.5%)	29 (11.7%)	7 (2.8%)	47 (19.0%)	248 (100%)
Hanover	96 (38.7%)	58 (23.4%)	45 (18.1%)	13 (5.2%)	19 (7.7%)	15 (6.0%)	2 (0.8%)	248 (100%)
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>29.94</b>	<b>19.98</b>	<b>14.52</b>	<b>9.68</b>	<b>9.80</b>	<b>4.57</b>	<b>11.52</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>149.00</b>	<b>99.42</b>	<b>72.25</b>	<b>48.17</b>	<b>48.75</b>	<b>22.75</b>	<b>57.33</b>	<b>497.67</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>94.24</b>	<b>63.91</b>	<b>54.13</b>	<b>48.53</b>	<b>39.52</b>	<b>20.89</b>	<b>70.43</b>	<b>360.35</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>1.89</b>	<b>1.54</b>	<b>2.13</b>	<b>2.43</b>	<b>1.90</b>	<b>1.58</b>	<b>1.53</b>	<b>2.23</b>

*Number of charges sampled (N) = 5972*

The table above shows the breakdown of the time disposition for matters disposed parish courts in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. 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 29.94% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division along with the parish courts of Westmoreland, St. Catherine and St. James are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed under 90 days. Cumulatively, 74.12% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in increasing overall productivity and realizing the objective of becoming the best in the Caribbean region in three years and among the best in the world in six years. From the data set, the parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, St. James and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 11.52% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, St. James and Manchester also had the largest proportion of their disposed matters in the quarter taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample range from weak positive to moderate positive, which is an indication that for disposed cases, the distributions of the time taken do not vary dramatically across the courts. The difference, however, is the proportion of cases disposed of, relative to the caseload, which as shown earlier, indicates that some courts are performing much better.

**Table 15.0a: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed as at the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Criminal	230.43	1	131	277.45	2.44	1	2183	31125
St. Catherine	200.28	63	126	217.41	2.33	1	1969	14095
St. James	257.71	49	139	311.82	2.26	1	2029	11410
Manchester	328.56	63	217	321.38	1.59	1	1956	9897
Westmoreland	155.47	28	78	195.02	2.49	1	1792	8990
St. Ann	321.30	63	206	334.49	1.84	1	2149	8660
Clarendon	183.50	63	105	218.46	2.58	1	1954	9744
St. Thomas	256.93	119	169	267.09	1.94	1	1733	5093
Portland	231.30	63	129	297.32	3.17	1	2847	5967
St. Mary	202.67	28	113	235.56	2.09	1	1904	6510
St. Elizabeth	194.06	28	119	218.48	2.54	1	1912	6009
Trelawny	253.38	63	134	301.23	2.07	1	1864	4410
Hanover	158.51	28	90	196.56	2.55	1	1414	4636
<b>Average/Weighted Average</b>	<b>230.60</b>	<b>50.69</b>	<b>135.08</b>	<b>260.94</b>	<b>2.30</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>1977.38</b>	<b>9734.31</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>54.64</b>	<b>29.02</b>	<b>40.81</b>	<b>49.62</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>324.77</b>	<b>7044.32</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>0.56</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>2.63</b>

*Number of charges sampled (N) = 126,546*

*Note 1: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the previous 5. 6 years.*

*Note 2: 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 large sample of matters disposed of for each parish court as at March 31, 2022. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 67-month period over September 2016 – March 2022 for most parish courts and it should be noted that these descriptive statistics are for matters disposed over that sample period. The output produces an estimated weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Criminal Division) of approximately 231 days (7.7 months). The skewness of these times to disposition is a low positive 0.56, suggesting a cluster of scores around the overall mean. For

matters disposed of in the period, the parish courts of Westmoreland (155 days), Hanover (159 days) and Clarendon (184 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of Manchester (329 days), St. Ann (321 days) and St. James (258 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters disposed over the period. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is, however, wide as shown by the moderately high standard deviation (54.64), suggesting inconsistencies in performances on this measure. An interesting finding is that the minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 1 day; however, the maximum times are substantially larger, in some cases several years. This result continues to be both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 1414 days (47.13 months/3.9 years) in the Hanover parish court to a high of 2847 days (94.90 months/7.90 years) in the Portland Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a positive 1.35, which is an indication that proportionately more of the maximum times to disposition fell below the overall series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial 126,546 matters.

**Table 15.0b: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for matters completed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Criminal	377.27	86	218	489.26	2.60	1	2682	1504
St. Catherine	217.66	56	149	220.66	1.83	1	1263	680
St. James	436.96	28	219	484.11	1.64	1	3100	739
Manchester	336.37	28	217	346.92	1.58	1	1913	488
Westmoreland	153.84	10	90	190.37	3.02	3	1792	425
St. Ann	418.54	63	328	387.85	1.57	2	1830	452
Clarendon	205.04	63	125	223.34	2.65	7	1646	438
St. Thomas	313.20	120	183	337.04	1.69	5	1733	270
Portland	170.69	42	112	184.22	2.93	3	1512	196
St. Mary	181.35	21	110	178.57	1.69	1	1211	284
Trelawny	352.67	28	184	420.29	1.54	1	1831	248
Hanover	208.98	35	106	505.19	13.12	3	7656.00	248
<b>Average/Weighted Average</b>	<b>310.73</b>	<b>48.33</b>	<b>170.08</b>	<b>330.65</b>	<b>2.99</b>	<b>2.42</b>	<b>2347.42</b>	<b>497.67</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>102.24</b>	<b>31.22</b>	<b>68.87</b>	<b>127.44</b>	<b>3.24</b>	<b>1.93</b>	<b>1756.18</b>	<b>360.35</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>0.24</b>	<b>1.16</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>3.28</b>	<b>1.47</b>	<b>2.93</b>	<b>2.23</b>

*Number of charges sampled (N) = 5972*

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed of for each parish court in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. The output produces an estimated weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Criminal Division) of approximately 311 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a positive 0.24, suggesting that these times were clustered around the overall mean. For matters disposed of in the quarter, the parish courts of Westmoreland (154 days), Portland (171 days) and St. Mary (181 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases in the quarter. The parish courts of St. James (437 days), St. Ann (419 days) and Corporate Area Criminal (377 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters resolved during the quarter. The average variation among the

times to disposition across the parish courts is, however, wide as shown by the moderately high standard deviation (102.24), suggesting inconsistencies in performances on this measure. An interesting finding is that the minimum time taken to dispose of matters across half of the parish courts was 1 day; however, the maximum times are substantially larger, in some cases several years. This result continues to be both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 1211 days (40.37 months/3.4 years) in the St. Mary parish court to a high of 7656 days (255.2 months/21.3 years) in the Hanover Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a positive 2.93, which is an indication that proportionately more of the maximum times to disposition fell below the overall series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial 5,972 matters cases which were resolved during the first quarter of 2022.

**15.0c: Net and gross criminal case backlog as at the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Parish Court</b>	<b>Net case backlog rate (%)</b>	<b>Gross case backlog rate (%)</b>
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
<b>Weighted Average</b>	<b>1.27</b>	<b>12.20</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>1.07</b>	<b>4.78</b>

*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 based on 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 performance metrics such as the case clearance, case disposal, trial and hearing date certainty rates and are also directly correlated with the case congestion rate. The estimated gross case backlog rate provides a measurement of the proportion of cases filed for a given period (of over two years) which are either active or inactive (i.e. are unresolved) and are over two years old at the date of reporting. The closely related estimated net case backlog rate is the proportion of all cases filed for a given period (of over two years) which are still active and exceeding two years old at the time of reporting. The estimated net case backlog rate therefore excludes inactive cases which are unresolved. Based on international best practices an estimated gross case backlog rate of under 10% is desirable, while an estimated net case backlog rate of under 5% is prescribed. The results revealed are quite outstanding as using a 5 years' time series, the net case backlog rate (weighted

average) in the criminal division of the parish courts is 1.27% (with a standard deviation of 1.07%) which satisfies 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 criminal 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 criminal courts. Although the time series used for this computation is only 5 years' worth of cases, the sample set is large and representative of the current direction of the court system. The parish courts of St. Mary with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.12%, 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 Criminal Court (16.38%) have the highest rates. Taken together, these are quite impressive returns for the criminal court system in Jamaica and augur well for future prospects.

**Table 16.0: Distribution of methods of disposition for matters set for trial during the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage
Dismissed	500	32.45
Not guilty verdict	384	24.92
Guilty plea	313	20.31
Mediated settlement	138	8.96
Guilty verdict	131	8.50
Committed to Circuit	53	3.44
Transferred	22	1.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>1541</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table summarizes the common methods of disposition for a sample of cases proceeding to trial. It is seen that matters dismissed with 32.45% of the cases disposed, not guilty verdicts with 384 or 24.92% and disposals by way of guilty pleas with 313 or 20.31% account for the three leading methods of disposition in the sample for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022.

#### Methods of Disposal and Conviction Rate

**Table 17.0: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposition for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Parish Court	Guilty Plea	Dismissed	Not Guilty Verdict	Transferred	Mediated Settlement	Guilty Verdict	Committed to Circuit Court	Total
St. Catherine	835	194	12	180	211	12	137	1581
Corporate Area Criminal	1406	687	33	86	61	34	117	2424
Westmoreland	300	221	129	1	54	1	78	784
St. James	672	-	266	153	40	85	50	1266
Manchester	204	371	48	50	85	26	30	814
Clarendon	382	55	120	21	76	21	43	718
Trelawny	177	140	11	1	16	4	43	392
Hanover	110	46	141	2	13	15	45	372
Portland	50	1	130	-	14	4	29	228
St. Mary	78	111	16	-	60	-	90	355
St. Thomas	148	21	81	-	83	13	61	407

St. Ann	153	30	49	8	53	2	95	390
<b>Total</b>	<b>4515</b>	<b>1877</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>9731</b>
<b>Percentage of total</b>	<b>46.40</b>	<b>19.29</b>	<b>10.65</b>	<b>5.16</b>	<b>7.87</b>	<b>2.23</b>	<b>8.41</b>	<b>100</b>

Total sample size: 9,731

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts for the first quarter of 2022. From the sample, it is observed that the largest proportion of matters disposed of during the quarter were by way of a guilty plea with 46.40% of the sample, followed by matters dismissed with 19.29% and not guilty verdicts with 10.65%. Matters committed to Circuit Court with 8.41%, mediated settlements with 7.87%, matters transferred to another court with 5.16% and guilty verdicts with 2.23% account for the remaining disposals in the quarter. The combined 48.63% of the cases disposed of by way of guilty outcomes represent the estimated criminal conviction rate in the parish courts for the quarter. This represents an increase of 10.31 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2021.

#### Common Reasons for Adjournment

**Table 18.01: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Reasons for Adjournment	Count	Percentage (%)
File to be completed	1950	16.83
Disclosure	1415	12.21
Defendant Not Appearing (DNA) warrant issued	1612	13.91
Re-issued applications	722	6.23
Referred to Mediation	696	6.01
Subpoena investigating officer	540	4.66

Facilitate restitution	239	2.06
Subpoena complainant	225	1.94
Subpoena crown witness	220	1.90
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>7619</b>	<b>65.75</b>

**(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance = 11,587)**

*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 11,587 reasons for adjournments/continuance for matters heard in the across all parish courts. The largest proportion (16.83%) was due to files to be completed. Adjournments for disclosure with 12.21% and adjournments due to the non-appearance of the accused, leading to the issuing of warrants with 13.91% rounds account for the top three reasons for adjournment across the parish courts for the quarter. Adjournments due to the re-issue of applications with 6.23% and for referrals to mediation with 6.01%, round of the top five reasons for adjournment in this period. Four of the top five reasons for adjournment were also featured in the top five for the first quarter of 2021. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above account for 65.75% of the total sample of adjournments.

**The case file integrity rate:**

One factor, which has a significant bearing on the progression of cases through the court system, is the case file integrity rate. A case file is considered to have met the standards of integrity if at the point of a court hearing requiring the use of said file; it is complete, accurate, available and correctly listed for court. Hence reasons for adjournment such as file incomplete, file not ready for court, matter wrongly listed and matter not before the court have an adverse impact on the case file integrity rate of the courts. In the first quarter of 2022, the case file integrity rate for criminal matters across the parish courts was 82.40%, as 17.60% of the total incidence of

adjournments was due to the indicated factors, which impair the case file integrity rate. Of these factors, file to be completed accounts for 16.83% of the total incidence of adjournments/continuance and is the greatest contributor, adversely affecting the case file integrity rate. This rate is below the prescribed international standard of 98%-100%. This is an area in which major operational interventions need to be undertaken across the parish courts to improve the availability, completeness, accuracy and correct scheduling of case files for court.

**Table 18.02: Summary of mention court activity for matters heard in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Parish Court	Average number of mentions per case	Standard Deviation of Mentions Per Case	Skewness of mentions per case	Maximum Mention Court Frequency	Minimum Mention Court Frequency
Clarendon	3.88	2.69	1.22	21	1
Corporate Area	4.47	4.96	2.48	48	1
Hanover	3.12	2.63	2.17	22	1
Manchester	3.58	3.45	2.22	27	1
Portland	4.17	4.24	2.22	24	1
St. Ann	4.24	3.59	1.39	20	1
St. Catherine	3.54	3.36	4.13	40	1
St. James	3.53	2.89	1.89	16	1
St. Mary	4.35	3.20	1.54	23	1
St. Thomas	4.26	3.63	2.37	33	1
Trelawny	1.17	0.64	4.26	4	1
Westmoreland	4.67	4.86	1.58	25	1
<b>Weighted Average</b>	<b>4.19</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>0.93</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>-2.10</b>	-	-	-	-

The above table summarises the number of mention court appearances per case leading towards disposition in the criminal division of the parish courts for matters heard in the first quarter of 2022. The overall average number of appearances per 10 cases heard is 42, or roughly 4 appearances per case with a standard deviation of 0.93 across the courts sampled and a skewness of -2.10. Together, these results suggest that the average number of appearances per case is

within the prescribed international standard, that a slightly larger proportion of cases have more than the overall average number of appearances and that there isn't on average a wide variation in the number of appearances per case across the courts. Among the parish courts with the highest number of appearances per cases for matters heard in the first quarter of 2022 are the Westmoreland, Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division and the St. Mary Parish Courts, while the Trelawny, Hanover and St. James Parish Courts were among those with the lowest case appearance incidence per case. In terms of cases disposed, the average mention court appearance for all cases resolved across all the parish courts combined in the first quarter of 2022 was 3.36 with a standard deviation of 0.78. These results suggest that the overall average number of appearances per 10 cases disposed is 34 or roughly 3 appearances per disposed case.

## Chapter 2.0: Case Demographics and Courtroom Activity

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

**Table 19.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

	Male		Female		Total	
Charge	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Breach of the Disaster Risk Management Act	1166	73.75	415	26.25	1581	100
Breach of Curfew Order	834	69.97	358	30.03	1192	100
Assault occasioning bodily harm	711	74.76	240	25.24	951	100
Unlawful wounding	539	78.12	151	21.88	690	100
Threat	332	78.86	89	21.14	421	100
Malicious destruction of property	335	78.27	93	21.73	428	100
Littering	218	79.27	57	20.73	275	100
Disorderly conduct	158	64.23	88	35.77	246	100
Possession of offensive weapon	280	94.28	17	5.72	297	100
Exposing goods for sale	154	73.68	55	26.32	209	100

**\*\*\*The gender of offenders was not available for every matter that was filed in the parish courts hence a sample is used. Sample size (N) =6,290**

The above table provides a sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. Based on the data shown in chart 5.0, it is not surprising that males account for the dominant proportion of all these charges. Among the charges listed with the greatest imbalance in the gender distribution are unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property and threat for which over 75% of the persons charged were

male. More particularly, is seen that possession of offensive weapon with 94.28% of the persons charged being male and littering with 79.27%, had the most significant incidence of persons charged being male for the quarter. Disorderly conduct, breach of curfew order, and exposing goods for sale saw the highest incidence of female involvement.

The below series of tables provide a sampling distribution of cases by assigned courtroom in the individual parish courts in the first quarter of 2022. These figures are derived from representative data from the respective courts and do not necessary add back to the total population of cases outlined in the first few tables of the report.

**Table 20.01: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Westmoreland for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Courtroom/Outstation</b>	<b>Number of new cases filed in 2022</b>	<b>Number of new cases disposed of in 2022</b>	<b>Number of inactive cases in 2022</b>	<b>Proportion of new cases (%)</b>	<b>Case disposal rate (%)</b>
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	307	203	15	68.83	71.01
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	17	14	0	3.81	82.35
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	41	14	0	9.19	34.15
Whithorn Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	20	11	1	4.48	60.00
Whithorn Outstation	61	47	2	13.68	80.33
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>68.83</b>

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of criminal cases filed in the first quarter of 2022 at the Westmoreland Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and outlines the applicable disposal rates. The table separates Lay Magistrates' and night court matters heard in each of the relevant locations for ease of

comparison. The data shows decisively that matters entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse and the outstation in Whithorn accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 307 (68.83%) and 61 (13.68%) cases respectively. The Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with 41 cases or 9.19% rank next. The number of cases heard in courtroom one (307 cases), decreased by 21.08% going 82 cases below the 389 cases recorded in the similar quarter of 2021. The disposal rate also decreased by 1.23 percentage points going down to 71.01% compared to the 72.24% reported in 2021. In terms of cases disposed, sittings in courtroom number 1 with 203 cases accounted for the highest absolute share of cases disposed, relative to the number of new cases filed and had the third highest disposal rate of 71.01%. The outstation in Whithorn rank next with 47 disposed cases and recorded the second highest disposal rate of 80.33%, which is 5.60 percentage points above the 74.73% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2021.

The single outstation in Westmoreland accounted for 18.16% of the total sample of new cases heard, a decrease of 0.73 percentage points when compared to the 18.89% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2021. The main courthouse accounted for the remaining 81.84%, an increase of 0.73 percentage points when compared to the 81.11% recorded in the corresponding January to March quarter of 2021.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 307 new cases heard in courtroom number one at the main courthouse, 8 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Four (4) of these were disposed of in courtroom two and four (4) cases were disposed of in courtroom number three (3).

**Table 20.02: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Corporate Area for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Courtroom/Outstation</b>	<b>Number of new cases filed in 2022</b>	<b>Number of new cases disposed of in 2022</b>	<b>Number of inactive cases in 2022</b>	<b>Proportion of new cases (%)</b>	<b>Case disposal rate (%)</b>
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	1409	552	340	87.52	63.31
Courtroom #6 (main courthouse)	50	1	0	3.11	2.00
Courtroom #7 (main courthouse)	49	3	0	3.04	6.12
Gordon Town Outstation	31	26	0	1.93	83.87
Gun Court	18	0	0	1.12	0.00
Fast Track Court	2	1	0	0.12	50.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	51	28	7	3.17	68.63
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>1610</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>59.50</b>

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022, at the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for the highest proportion of new cases filed in the quarter with 1409 or 87.52% of the total sample. Sittings at the Lay Magistrates’ Court at the main courthouse with roughly 3.17% follows this and courtroom number 6 at the main courthouse with 3.11%, rounding off the top three proportion of new cases filed in the quarter. Courtroom number two at the main courthouse accounts for the largest absolute share of cases disposed in the first quarter of 2022 with 552 cases and the third highest disposal rate of 63.31%. When compared to the corresponding first quarter of 2021, courtroom number two also accounted for the largest absolute share of cases disposed with 443 cases and a disposal rate of 51.80%. There was an increase of 77 new cases or an increase of 5.78% and an increase of 11.51 percentage points in the disposal rate. The main courthouse in Half-Way-Tree

accounted for 96.84% of the total number of new matters heard in the first quarter of 2022, while the remaining 3.16% were heard at outstations.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 1409 cases heard in courtroom two, 40 were disposed of in other courtrooms. In particular, 30 were disposed of at fast track court, courtroom two accounted for 2 cases, while courtroom four accounted for 8 of these cases. Of the 50 cases heard in courtroom 6, one (1) was disposed of in courtroom number 7.

**Table 20.03: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. James for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Courtroom/Outstation</b>	<b>Number of new cases filed in 2022</b>	<b>Number of new cases disposed of in 2022</b>	<b>Number of inactive cases in 2022</b>	<b>Proportion of new cases (%)</b>	<b>Case disposal rate (%)</b>
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	613	369	75	84.67	72.43
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	50	38	9	6.91	94.00
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	48	8	31	6.63	81.25
Cambridge Outstation	13	9	1	1.80	76.92
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>74.59</b>

*Note 1: There were 66 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.*

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022 at the St. James Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and outlines the disposal rates of the various courtrooms and outstations. The sample shows that courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse in Montego Bay accounts for the highest share of new cases heard with 369 cases or 84.67% of the sample, which is an increase of 6.01 percentage points above the 78.66% recorded in the corresponding 2021

first quarter. This was followed by courtroom number 3 with 38 cases or 6.91% of the sample and courtroom number 4 with 6.63% of the sample. Courtroom number 3 had the highest disposal rate of 94.00%, while courtroom number 4 followed with a disposal rate of 81.25%. The main courthouse in Montego Bay accounts for 98.20% of the new cases heard in the first quarter of 2022. This is 9.94 percentage points above the 88.26% recorded in corresponding first quarter of 2021. The remaining 1.80% was accounted for by the sole outstation (Cambridge).

**Table 20.04: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Catherine for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2022	Number of new cases disposed of in 2022	Number of inactive cases in 2022	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	608	294	123	55.53	68.59
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	18	8	2	1.64	55.56
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	11	4	3	1.00	63.64
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	29	11	0	2.65	37.93
Courtroom #5 (main courthouse)	12	7	0	1.10	58.33
Children's Court (Portmore Outstation)	13	0	0	1.19	0.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	11	9	0	1.00	81.82
Portmore Outstation (courtroom #1)	1	0	0	0.09	0.00
Linstead Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	20	4	2	1.83	30.00
Linstead Outstation (courtroom #1)	236	157	19	21.55	74.58
Old Harbour Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	1	1	0	0.09	100.00
Old Harbour Outstation (courtroom #1)	135	89	17	12.33	78.52
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>1095</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>68.49</b>

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022 at the St. Catherine Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and

outstations in the parish and outlines the applicable disposal rates. The table separates Lay Magistrates' and night court matters for the relevant locations for ease of comparisons. The data shows decisively that matters entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse in Spanish Town and courtroom number 1 at the Linstead outstation accounts for the largest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 55.53% and 21.55% respectively of the sample. Matters entered in courtroom one at the Old Harbour outstation with 12.33% of the new cases heard ranks next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 294 cases, which is an increase of 24.05% or 57 cases more than the 237 cases recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2021 and had the fifth highest disposal rate of 68.59%, which is an increase of 13.98 percentage points when compared to the 54.61% recorded in 2021. The Lay Magistrates' sitting at outstation in Old Harbour had the highest disposal rate of 100%, despite their proportionately low absolute number of cases. The Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse and courtroom 1 at the Old Harbour outstation with disposal rates of 81.82% and 78.52% ranks second and third respectively. The main courthouse in Spanish Town accounts for 62.92% of the total sample of new cases heard in the first quarter of 2022, a decline of 5.72 percentage points below the 68.64% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2021. The outstations combined accounted for the remaining 37.08% of the sample.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 608 cases heard in courtroom number one, 35 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Courtroom 4 disposed of 15 cases, courtrooms 3 and 2 accounted

for 11 cases and 9 cases respectively. Of the 29 cases heard in courtroom number four, 3 were disposed of in courtroom number three.

**20.05: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Thomas for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Courtroom/Outstation</b>	<b>Number of new cases filed in 2022</b>	<b>Number of new cases disposed of in 2022</b>	<b>Number of inactive cases in 2022</b>	<b>Proportion of new cases (%)</b>	<b>Case disposal rate (%)</b>
Children's Court (main courthouse)	4	1	0	2.11	25.00
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	63	36	4	33.16	63.49
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	54	26	4	28.42	55.56
Yallahs Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	3	1	0	1.58	33.33
Yallahs Outstation	66	33	0	34.74	50.00
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>55.26</b>

*Note 1: There were 2 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.*

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022, at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The data shows decisively that matters entered at the outstation in Yallahs accounts for the highest share of new cases filed with 34.74%. Courtroom numbers 1 and 2 at the main courthouse ranked next with 33.16% and 28.42% respectively of the sample. Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 36 cases and the highest disposal rate of 63.49%. When compared to the corresponding 2021 first quarter, this represents an increase of 27.78 percentage points above the disposal rate of 35.71% recorded in 2021. Courtroom number 2 with a disposal rate of 55.56% (compared to 46.81% in 2021) and the outstation in Yallahs with a

disposal rate of 50% (compared to 50% in 2021) account for the second and third highest disposal rates respectively.

The main courthouse in Morant Bay accounted for 63.69% of the sample of new cases heard in the first quarter, which is a decline of 12.07 percentage points when compared to the 75.76% recorded in the corresponding 2021 quarter. The remaining 36.31% was accounted for by the Yallahs outstation, an increase of 12.07 percentage points when compared to the 24.24% recorded in the corresponding 2021 first quarter.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 54 cases heard in courtroom 2 at the main courthouse, 1 case was disposed of in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse and the other at the outstation in Yallahs.

**Table 20.06: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Trelawny for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Courtroom/Outstation</b>	<b>Number of new cases filed in 2022</b>	<b>Number of new cases disposed of in 2022</b>	<b>Number of inactive cases in 2022</b>	<b>Proportion of new cases (%)</b>	<b>Case disposal rate (%)</b>
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	12	2	0	4.17	16.67
Clarks town Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	3	0	1	1.04	33.33
Falmouth Outstation	131	46	11	45.49	43.51
Falmouth Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	4	0	1	1.39	25.00
Ulster Spring Outstation	103	35	12	35.76	45.63
Ulster Spring (Lay Magistrates')	2	0	0	0.69	0.00
Clarks Town Outstation (courtroom #1)	33	13	2	11.46	45.45
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>42.71</b>

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the third quarter ended March 31, 2022, at the Trelawny Parish Court. The data shows decisively that matters entered in the Falmouth outstation accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the quarter, with 45.49% of the sample and had the highest absolute number of cases disposed with 46 cases. The outstation in Ulster Spring and courtroom one at the Clarks Town outstation with 35.76% and 11.46% respectively of the sample, followed. The Ulster spring outstation had the highest disposal rate of 45.63%, followed by courtroom 1 at the Clarks Town outstation with a rate of 45.45%. The outstations accounts for 95.83% of the new cases heard in the first quarter of 2022, while the remaining 4.17% were accounted for by the main courthouse. In the corresponding 2021 first quarter, the main courthouse accounted for 4.33% of the new cases heard, while 95.67% were accounted for by the outstations.

**Table 20.07: Aggregate case statistics for each outstation in the Parish of St. Mary for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Courtroom/Outstation</b>	<b>Number of new cases filed in 2022</b>	<b>Number of new cases disposed of in 2022</b>	<b>Number of inactive cases in 2022</b>	<b>Proportion of new cases (%)</b>	<b>Case disposal rate (%)</b>
Children's Court (main courthouse)	2	0	0	1.18	0.00
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	89	42	4	52.66	51.69
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	2	1	0	1.18	50.00
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	1	0	0	0.59	0.00
Annotto Bay Outstation	36	16	1	21.30	47.22
Gayle Outstation	12	5	0	7.10	41.67
Richmond Outstation	27	12	2	15.98	51.85
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>49.11</b>

*Note 1: There were 10 missing courtroom/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.*

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Mary in the first quarter of 2022. The data shows decisively that courtrooms number 1 at the main courthouse and the Annotto Bay Outstation accounts for the highest share of new matters heard in the quarter with 52.66% and 21.30% respectively of the total sample. The outstation in Richmond ranks next with 15.98% of the sample. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Port Maria accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 42 cases, which is a decrease of 10 cases or 19.23% below the 52 cases disposed of in the corresponding 2021 quarter. Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse also had a case disposal rate of 51.69%. The outstation in Richmond had the highest disposal rate of 51.85% for the quarter.

The outstations in the parish account for a combined 44.38% of the total sample of new cases heard in the first quarter of 2022, which is an increase of 6.62 percentage points above 37.76%

recorded in the corresponding 2021 quarter. On the other hand, the main courthouse accounts for roughly 55.62%, which is a decline of 6.62 percentage point below the 62.24% recorded in the similar first quarter of 2021.

As mentioned not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 89 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, 2 cases were disposed of in courtroom two and 2 cases disposed of in courtroom number 3.

**Table 20.08: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Portland for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Courtroom/Outstation</b>	<b>Number of new cases filed in 2022</b>	<b>Number of new cases disposed of in 2022</b>	<b>Number of inactive cases in 2022</b>	<b>Proportion of new cases (%)</b>	<b>Case disposal rate (%)</b>
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	173	86	14	59.25	57.80
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	2	0	0	0.68	0.00
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	6	2	1	2.05	50.00
Buff Bay Outstation (courtroom #1)	67	10	3	22.95	19.40
Buff Bay Outstation (Children’s Court)	8	0	4	2.74	50.00
Manchioneal Outstation	36	16	2	12.33	50.00
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>99.32</b>	<b>47.26</b>

*Note 1: There were 20 missing courtroom/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.*

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Portland in the first quarter of 2022. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the main court in Port Antonio accounts for the highest share of new matters heard in the period, with 59.25% of the total sample or 173 cases. In the first quarter of 2021, courtroom one also accounted for the highest share of new cases

heard with 62.77% of the sample. Courtroom 1 at the outstation in Buff Bay and Manchioneal outstations with 22.95% (compared to 24.62% in 2021) and 12.33% (compared to 8.31% in 2021) respectively of the total sample of the new cases heard in the period ranked next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse accounted for the highest number of cases disposed with 86 cases, which is 9 cases more or 11.69% increase compared to the 77 cases disposed of in the corresponding 2021 first quarter. Courtroom 1 at the main courthouse also had the highest disposal rate of 57.80%.

The outstations in Portland account for a combined 38.01% of the new cases heard in the quarter, which is an increase of 2.62 percentage points above the 35.39% recorded in the corresponding 2021 quarter. The main courthouse in Port Antonio accounts for the remaining 61.99%, decreasing by 2.62 percentage points when compared to the 64.61% recorded in the first quarter of 2021.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 173 cases heard in courtroom number one, there were 26 cases disposed of in other courtrooms. Sixteen (16) were disposed of at the Manchioneal outstation, 5 were disposed of at the Buff Bay outstation, while courtroom 3 and 2 accounted for 2 cases and 3 cases respectively. Of the 36 cases heard at the outstation in Manchioneal, 1 case was disposed of in Courtroom number two.

**Table 20.09: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Hanover for the quarter of ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Courtroom/Outstation</b>	<b>Number of new cases filed in 2022</b>	<b>Number of new cases disposed of in 2022</b>	<b>Number of inactive cases in 2022</b>	<b>Proportion of new cases (%)</b>	<b>Case disposal rate (%)</b>
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	62	35	3	32.98	61.29
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	25	15	0	13.30	60.00
Green Island Outstation (courtroom #1)	21	15	0	11.17	71.43
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	13	5	1	6.91	46.15
Green Island Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	4	1	1	2.13	50.00
Ramble Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	1	0	0	0.53	0.00
Ramble Outstation (courtroom #1)	26	19	0	13.83	73.08
Sandy Bay Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	7	5	0	3.72	71.43
Sandy Bay Outstation (courtroom #1)	29	20	0	15.43	68.97
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>63.83</b>

*Note 1: There was 24 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.*

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Hanover in the first quarter of 2022. The data shows decisively that courtroom number one at the main court in Lucea accounts for the highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 32.98% of the total sample, which is 6.29 percentage points below the 39.27% recorded in the corresponding 2021 first quarter. Courtroom one at the Sandy Bay outstation and courtroom one at the Ramble outstation with 15.43% and 13.83% respectively rank next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Lucea accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 35 cases, which is 48 less cases than the 83 cases disposed of in the corresponding 2021 quarter. Courtroom one at the main courthouse also recorded the fifth highest case disposal rate of 61.29%, a decrease of 7.17 percentage points below the 68.46% reported in the comparative 2021 first quarter. Courtroom

1 at the outstation in Ramble (73.08%), courtroom number 1 at the Green Island outstation (71.43%), Lay Magistrates' sittings in Sandy Bay (71.43%), and Courtroom 1 at the Sandy Bay Outstation (68.97%), were among the top five disposal rates.

The outstations in the parish account for 46.81% of the new cases heard during the quarter, which is an increase of 3.60 percentage points above the 43.21% recorded in the first quarter of 2021. The main courthouse accounts for the remaining 53.19%, a decrease of 3.60 percentage points below the 56.79% when compared to the similar quarter of 2021.

**Table 20.10: Aggregate case statistics for each outstation in the Parish of St. Ann for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2022	Number of new cases disposed of in 2022	Number of inactive cases in 2022	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
<b>St. Ann's Bay and the Claremont outstation</b>					
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	148	54	32	37.19	58.11
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	91	31	36	22.86	73.63
Claremont Outstation	23	13	0	5.78	56.52
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	30	3	19	7.54	73.33
<b>Browns Town</b>					
Courtroom #1	82	3	0	20.60	3.66
Lay Magistrates' Court	24	1	1	6.03	8.33
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>48.49</b>

*Note 1: There were 369 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the total in table 1.0*

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Ann in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. The data shows that courtroom 1 and 2 at the St. Ann's Bay main courthouse accounts for the largest shares of new cases heard in the quarter with 37.19% and 22.86% respectively of the

total sample. Courtroom 1 at the main courthouse in Browns Town with 20.60% of the sample of new cases heard ranks next. When compared to 2021, the data shows that courtroom 1 in both St. Ann's Bay (main courthouse) and Browns Town also accounted for the largest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 31.83% and 26.73% respectively of the total sample. In terms of cases disposed of, courtroom 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed of with 54 cases and has a disposal rate of 58.11%. Courtroom number 2 at St. Ann's Bay had the highest disposal rate of 73.63%, followed by Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with a disposal rate of 73.33%. As a whole, the Brown's Town Outstation accounted for approximately 26.63% of the new cases filed in the parish of St. Ann in the first quarter of 2022, which is 9.71 percentage points below the 36.34% recorded in the corresponding first quarter of 2021. The St. Ann's Bay courthouse accounts for 67.59% of the new cases heard in the quarter and the Claremont outstation accounted for the remaining 5.78% of new cases.

As mentioned not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 148 cases heard in courtroom number one at the main courthouse, 1 case were disposed of in courtroom 2. Of the 91 cases heard in courtroom number two, 6 were disposed of in Courtroom 1.

**Table 20.11: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom/outstation in the Parish of Clarendon for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2022	Number of new cases disposed of in 2022	Number of inactive cases in 2022	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	178	85	11	43.84	53.93
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	34	11	1	8.37	35.29
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	13	8	1	3.20	69.23
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	38	26	4	9.36	78.95
Lionel Town Outstation	84	41	2	20.69	51.19
Chapleton Outstation	47	15	5	11.58	42.55
Frankfield Outstation	12	3	0	2.96	25.00
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>52.46</b>

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Clarendon in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. The available data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 in May Pen accounted for highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 43.84% of the total sample, 5.32 percentage points above the 38.52% recorded in the first quarter of 2021. The outstation in Lionel Town and Chapleton accounts for the next highest shares of new cases heard in the quarter with 20.69% and 11.58% respectively of the total sample. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in May Pen accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 85 cases, which is a decrease of 27.97% or 33 cases lower than the 118 disposed cases recorded for this courtroom in the first quarter of 2021. Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse also had the third highest disposal rate of 53.93%. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse had the highest disposal rate of 78.95% followed by courtroom number three at the main courthouse

with a disposal rate of 69.23%. The main courthouse in May Pen accounted for 64.77% of cases heard in quarter, which is 4.67 percentage points below the 69.44% recorded in the similar first quarter of 2021. The remaining 35.23% was accounted for by the outstations, an increase of 4.67 percentage points above the 30.56% recorded in 2021.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. Of the 178 cases heard in courtroom number one at the main courthouse, 1 was disposed of in courtroom number 2. Of the 84 cases heard at the outstation in the Lionel Town outstation, 1 was disposed of in courtroom 3 at the main courthouse.

**Table 20.12: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Manchester for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**

<b>Courtroom/Outstation</b>	<b>Number of new cases filed in 2022</b>	<b>Number of new cases disposed of in 2022</b>	<b>Number of inactive cases in 2022</b>	<b>Proportion of new cases (%)</b>	<b>Case disposal rate (%)</b>
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	97	50	6	23.43	57.73
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	78	27	3	18.84	38.46
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	3	1	1	0.72	66.67
Cottage Outstation	12	5	0	2.90	41.67
Christiana Outstation	107	72	6	25.85	72.90
Christiana Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	6	4	0	1.45	66.67
Spalding Outstation	19	3	2	4.59	26.32
Spalding Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	2	0	0	0.48	0.00
Porus Outstation	15	6	1	3.62	46.67
Porus Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	3	0	0	0.72	0.00
Cross Keys Outstation	1	0	0	0.24	0.00
Cross Keys Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	1	0	0	0.24	0.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	70	26	6	16.91	45.71
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>52.90</b>

*Note 1: There were 34 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the total in table 1.0*

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Manchester in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. The data shows the outstation in Christiana accounted for the highest share of new matters heard in the quarter, with 107 cases or 25.85% of the total sample. Courtroom number 1 and 2 at the main courthouse accounts for the next highest share of new cases heard in the quarter with 23.43% and 18.84% respectively of the total sample. When compared to the first quarter of 2021, both courtrooms 1 and 2 with 21.54% and 19.23%, as well as Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with 19.23% were also among the top three highest share of new cases. In terms of case disposal rate, the outstation in Christiana with 72.90% recorded the highest disposal rate for the quarter. Despite both having proportionately low absolute numbers, courtroom number 3 and Lay Magistrates' sittings at the outstation in Christiana followed with a disposal rate of 66.67% each. Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse with a disposal rate of 57.73% and the Porus outstation with a disposal rate of 46.67% were the courtrooms/outstations with the top disposal rates for the quarter.

The main courthouse in Mandeville accounts for 59.90% of the total sample of new cases heard during the first quarter of 2022, which is a decrease of 4.72 percentage points when compared to the 64.62% recorded in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021. The remaining 40.10% was accounted for by the various outstations.

As mentioned not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 97 cases heard in courtroom one at the main courthouse, two were disposed of in courtroom 2 and one was disposed of in outstation in Christiana. Of the 3 cases heard in courtroom number three, 1 was disposed of at the outstation

in Cross Keys. Of the 107 cases heard at the outstation in Christiana, 1 was disposed of at the outstation in Spalding and 1 was disposed of in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse. There were 70 cases heard at Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse, of this amount, 2 was disposed of in courtroom 3 at the main courthouse.

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**Table 20.13: proportion of cases heard at the main court and outstation across all parish courts for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**

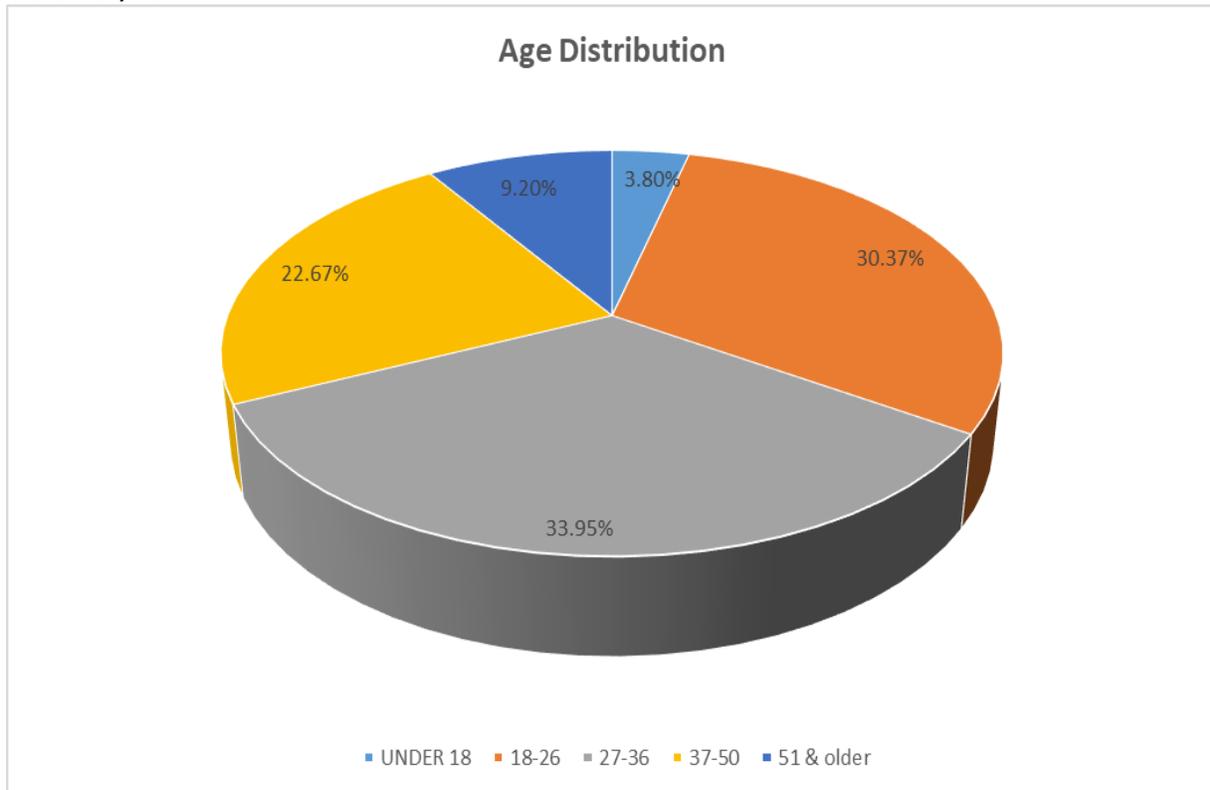
<b>Parish</b>	<b>Main Court Q1 2022 (%)</b>	<b>Outstation Q1 2022 (%)</b>
St. James	98.20	1.80
St. Catherine	62.92	37.08
Westmoreland	81.84	18.16
Hanover	53.19	46.81
St. Mary	55.62	44.38
Trelawny	4.17	95.83
St. Thomas	63.69	36.31
Manchester	59.90	40.10
Portland	61.99	38.01
St. Ann	67.59	32.41
Clarendon	64.77	35.23
Corporate Area	96.84	3.16
<b>Simple Averages</b>	<b>64.23</b>	<b>35.77</b>

*Note: Q1 refers to the first quarter of 2022 (January-March)*

The above table provides a proxy summary of the distribution of the utilization of the main courthouse locations and combined outstation usage in the hearing of new criminal cases filed. It is seen that 64.23% of new cases filed were entered for initial hearing in the main courthouse locations, while 35.77% were allocated for outstations. There are significant variances in the extent of main courthouse and outstation usage for the hearing of criminal matters across the parishes. It is seen, for example, that in parishes such as Corporate Area (Kingston and St. Andrew), St. James and Westmoreland, in excess of 80% of the new cases filed were entered for initial hearing, with the usage being particularly acute in the St. James Parish Court, which had 98.20% of cases entered for initial hearing at the main courthouse. On the contrary, there are parishes where the level of outstation usage competes with or outruns the usage of the main courthouse in the hearing of criminal cases filed. Trelawny is a good example of courts with significant outstation usage, registering roughly 95.83% for initial hearing of new criminal cases filed in the first quarter ended March 31, 2022. There may be opportunities for greater utilization

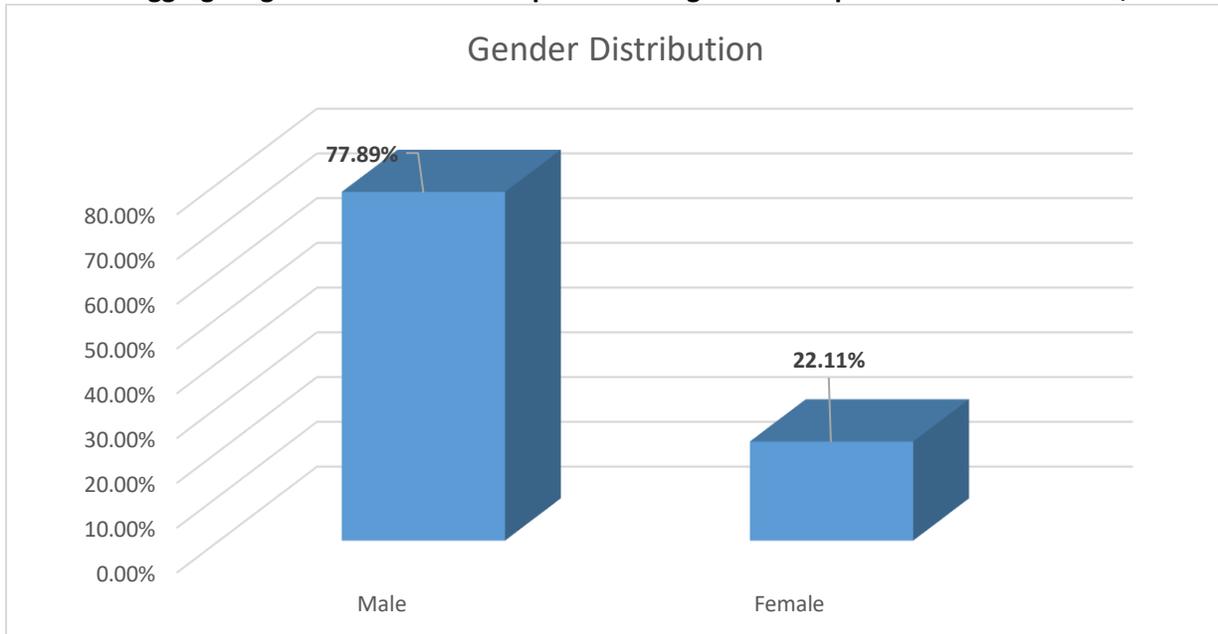
of outstations to carry the caseload in some parishes, but such precise determinations require further analyses of total 'demand and supply, in each location.

**Chart 4.0: Aggregate age distribution of persons charged for all parish courts for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



The above chart summarizes the age distribution of persons charged and brought before the criminal division of the parish courts in the first quarter of 2022. It is shown that the 27-36 age group with 33.95% accounted for the largest share of the persons charged, followed by the 18-26 age group with 30.37%. The lowest shares were attributed to the under 18 age group with 3.80% and 51 and over age group with 9.20%. The remaining proportion was accounted for by the 37-50 age group with 22.67% of the total sample.

**Chart 5.0: Aggregate gender distribution of persons charged for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



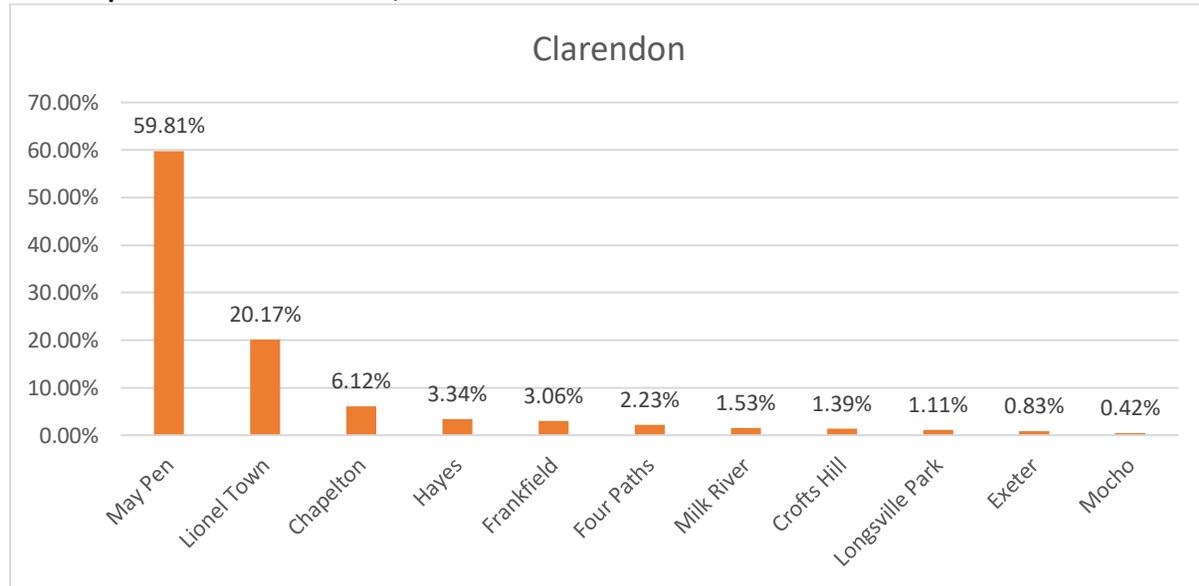
The above chart shows that the overwhelming majority of persons charged for the first quarter of 2022 were male, accounting for roughly 77.89% of the total sample, while females accounted for approximately 22.11%. The gender distribution of persons charged during the first quarter of 2021 was broadly similar to the breakdown for the first quarter of 2022 which had a male to female ratio of approximately 77.66% to 22.34%.

**Chart 6.01: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Manchester Parish Court for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022**



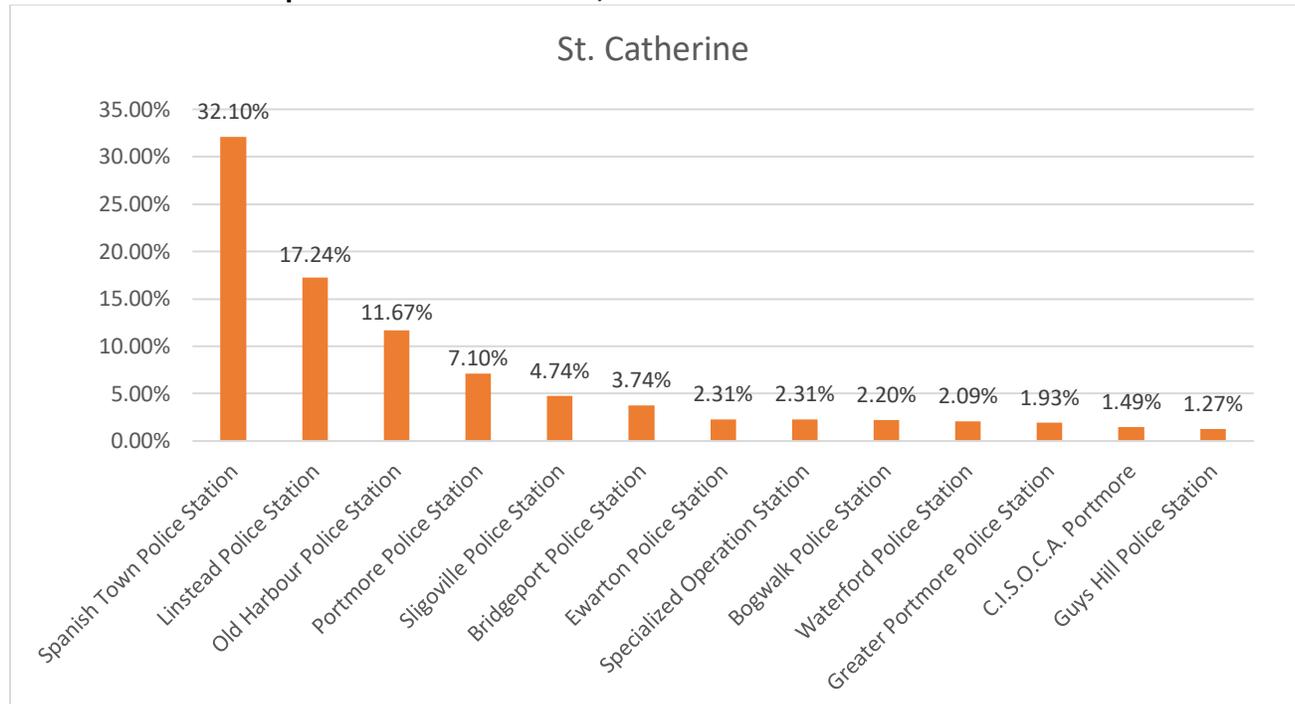
The above chart shows the distribution of charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 626 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2022, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 49.68%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Mandeville Police Station. This was followed by Christiana Police station, which accounts for 24.60% of the total sample of matters reported. The Alligator Pond Police station rounded off the top three with 4.47%. In the corresponding 2021 quarter, the top three comprised of the Mandeville Police Station, the Parish Council and the Spalding Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

**Chart 6.02: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Clarendon Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



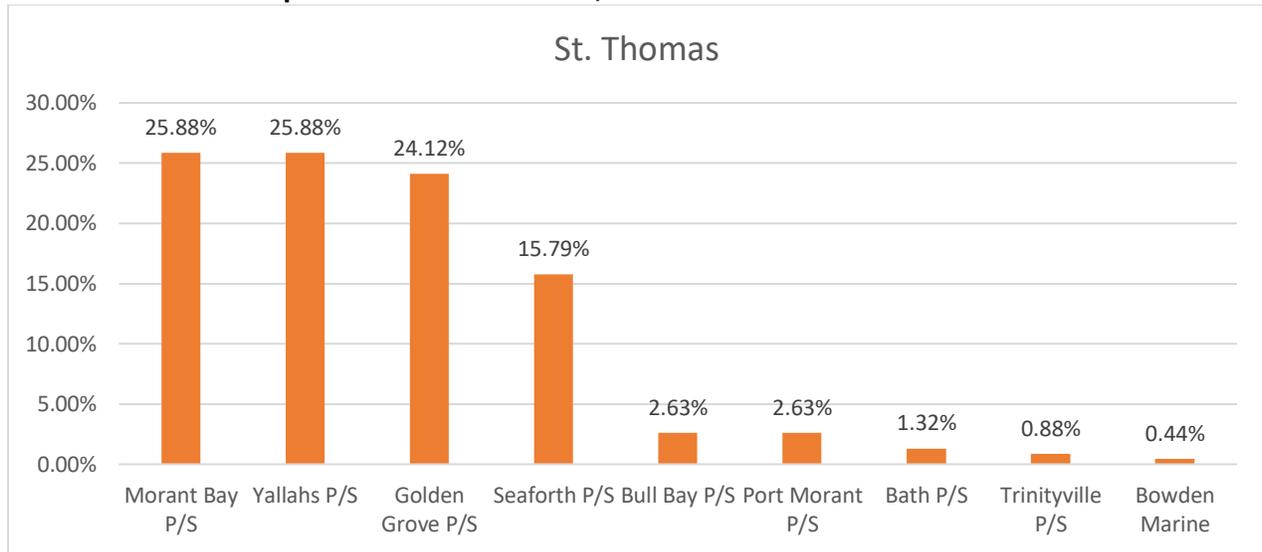
The above chart shows the distribution of charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 719 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2022, the majority of criminal matters, 59.81%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in May Pen Police Station. This was followed by the Lionel Town Police Station, which accounts for 20.17% of the total sample of matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Chapelton Police Station with 6.12%. In the corresponding 2021 quarter, the top three comprised of the May Pen Police Station, the Lionel Town Police Station and the Frankfield Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

**Chart 6.03: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Catherine Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



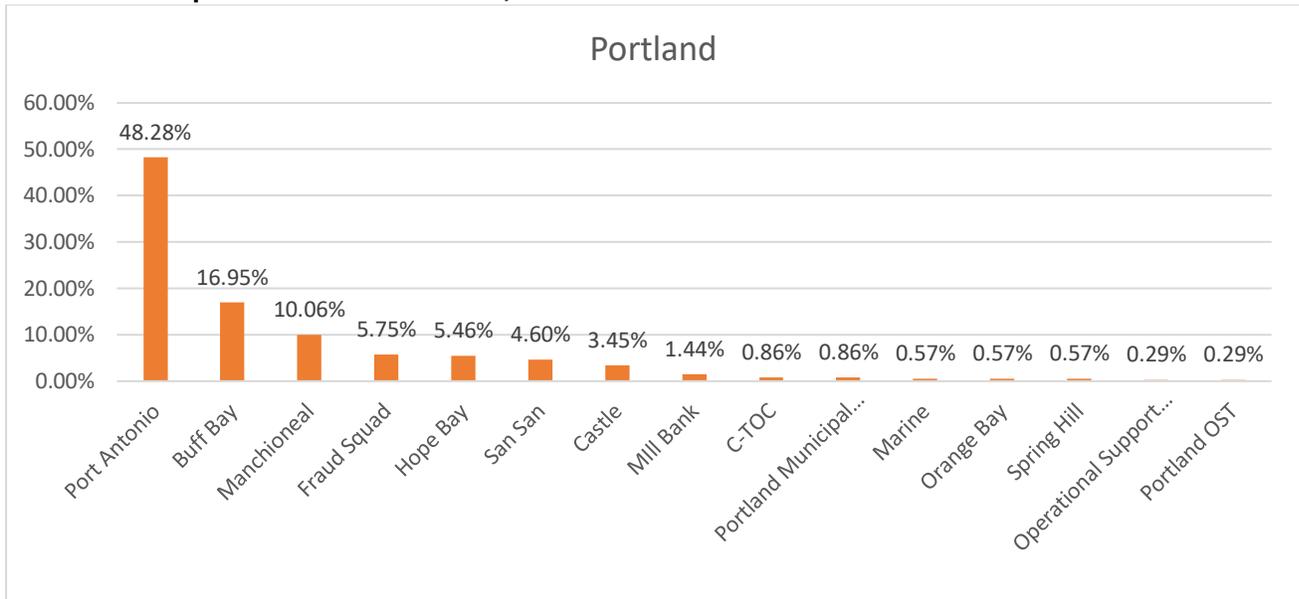
The above chart shows the distribution of charges at the St. Catherine Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 1816 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2022, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 32.10%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Spanish Town Police Station. This was followed by the Linstead Police Station, which accounts for 17.24% of the total sample of matters reported. The Old Harbour Police station rounded off the top three with 11.67%. In the corresponding 2021 quarter, the top three comprised of the Spanish Town Police Station, the Old Harbour Police station, and the Linstead Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

**Chart 6.04: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Thomas Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



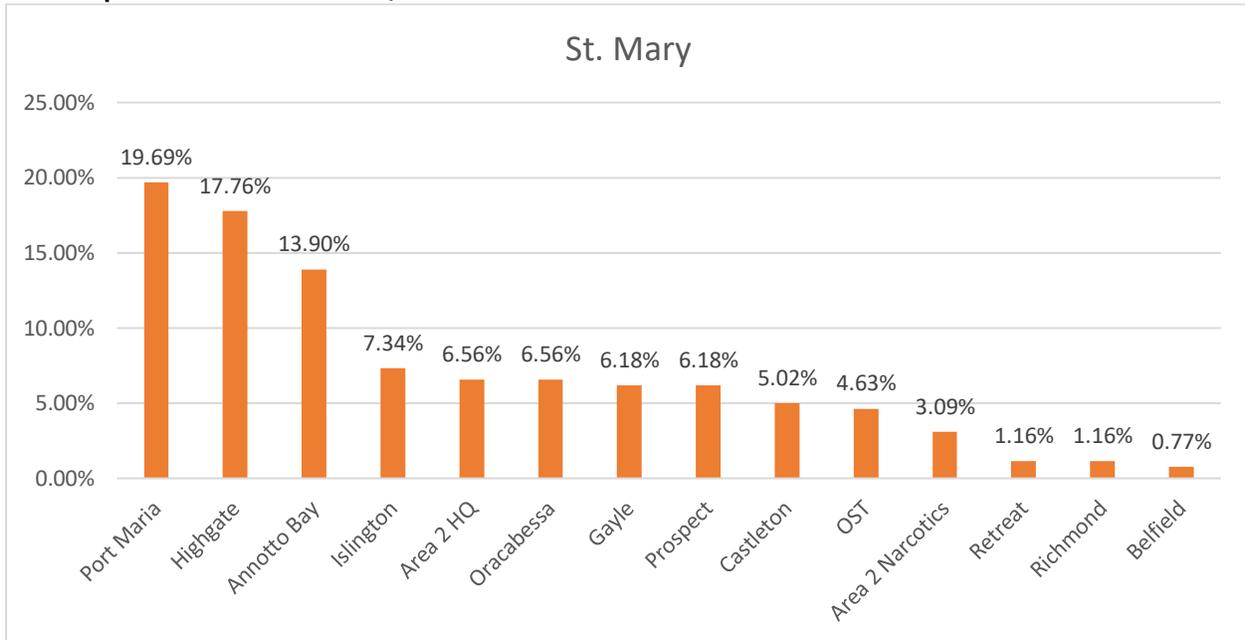
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the St. Thomas Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 228 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2022, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 25.88%, which were brought before the court, were reported in both the Morant Bay and Yallahs Police Stations. The Golden Grove Police rounded off the top three with 24.12%. In the corresponding 2021 quarter, the top three comprised of the Morant Bay Police Station, the Yallahs Police Station and the Seaforth Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

**Chart 6.05: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Portland Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



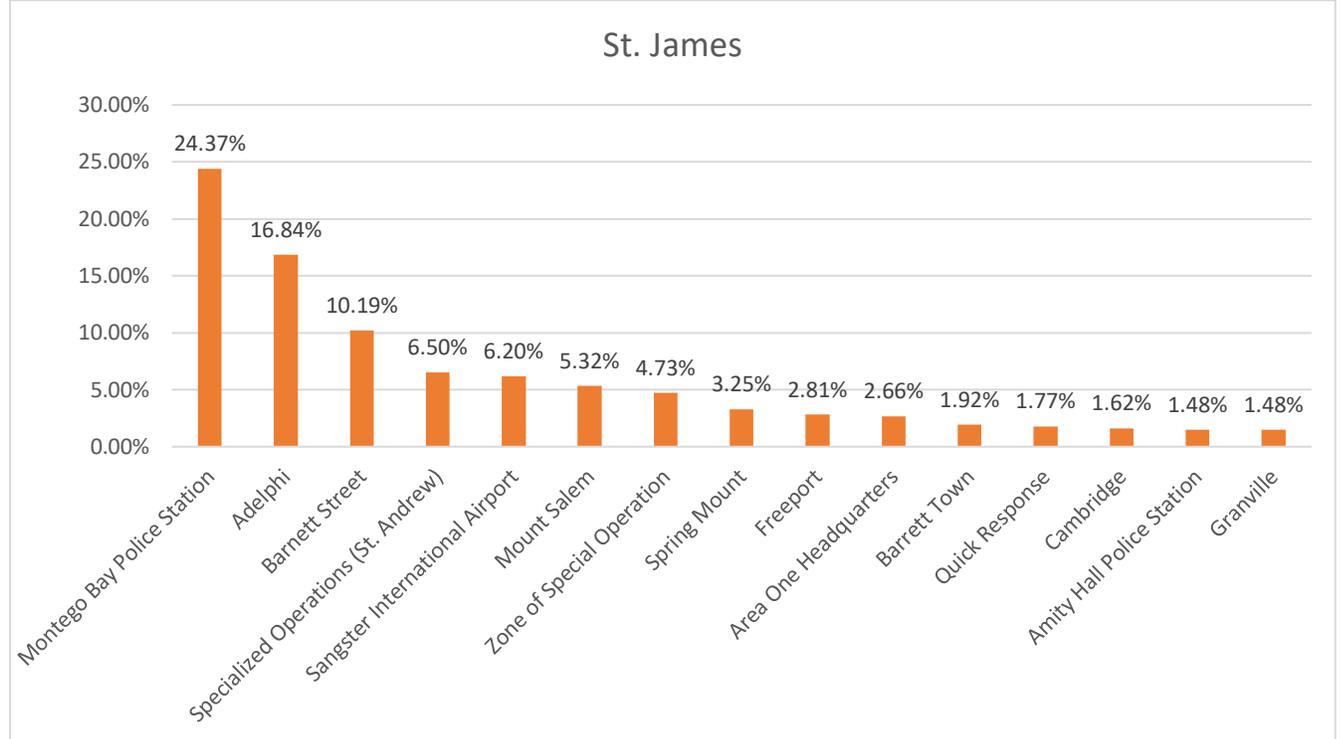
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the Portland Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 348 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2022, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 48.28%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Port Antonio Police Station. This was followed by the Buff Bay Police Station, which accounts for 16.95% of the total sample of matters reported. The Manchioneal Police station rounded off the top three with 10.06%. In the corresponding 2021 quarter, the top three comprised of the Port Antonio Police Station, the Buff Bay Police Station and the Hope Bay Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

**Chart 6.06: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the St. Mary Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



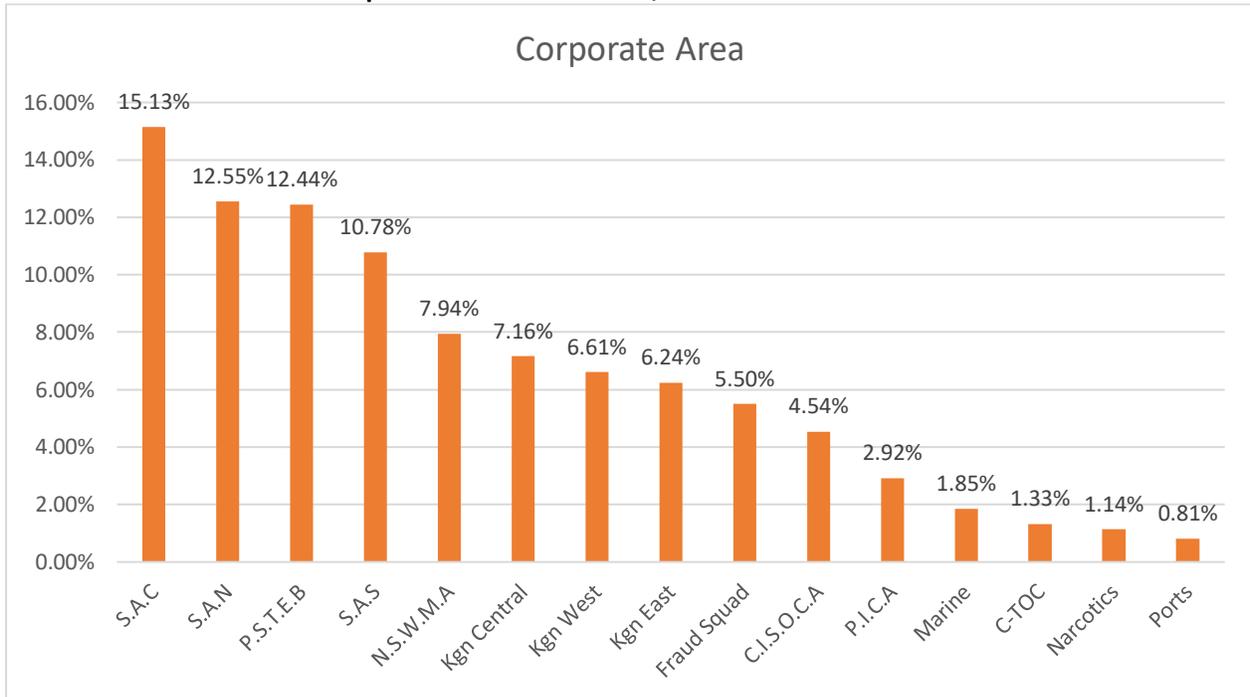
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the St. Mary Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 259 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2022, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 19.69%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Port Maria Police Station. This was followed by the Highgate Police Station, which accounts for 17.76% of the total sample of matters reported. The Annotto Bay Police station rounded off the top three with 13.90%. In the corresponding 2021 quarter, the top three comprised of the Port Maria Police Station, the Annotto Bay Police Station and the Highgate Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

**Chart 6.07: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the St. James Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



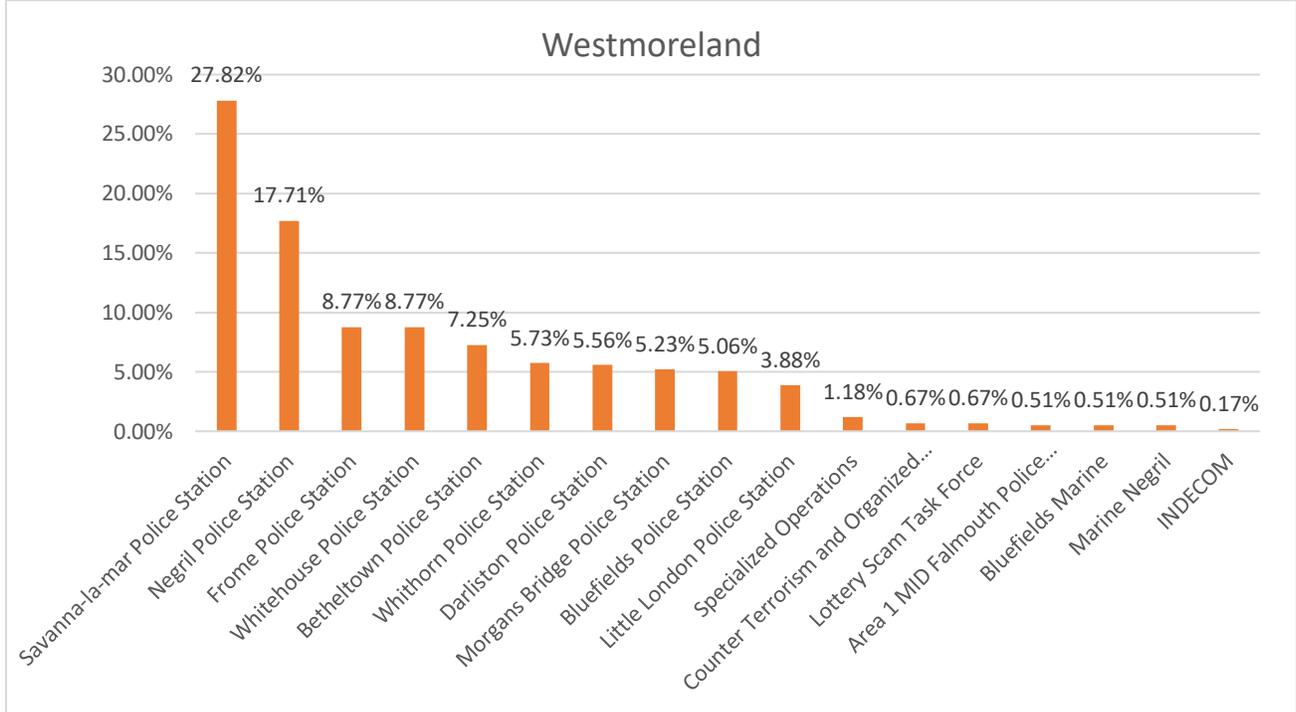
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the St. James Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 677 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2022, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 24.37%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Montego Bay Police Station. This was followed by the Adelphi Police Station, which accounts for 16.84% of the total sample of matters reported. The Barnett Street Police station rounded off the top three with 10.19%. In the corresponding 2021 quarter, the top three comprised of the Barnett Street Police Station, the Montego Bay CIB and the Cambridge Police station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

**Chart 6.08: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Corporate Area Criminal Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



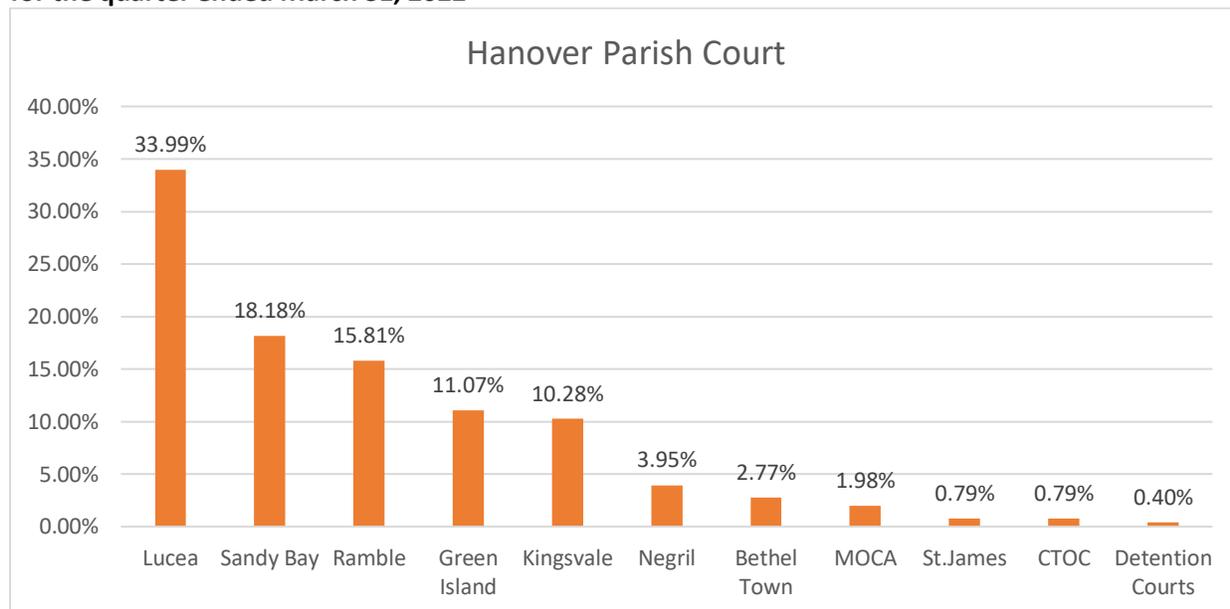
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the Corporate Area Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 2709 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2022, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 15.13%, which were brought before the Court, were reported St. Andrew Central Police Station. This was followed by the St. Andrew North Police Station, which accounts for 12.55% of the total sample of matters reported. The P.S.T.E.B Police rounded off the top three with 12.44%. In the corresponding 2021 quarter, the top three comprised of the St. Andrew South Police Station, the St. Andrew North Police Station and the St. Andrew Central Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

**Chart 6.09: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Westmoreland Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



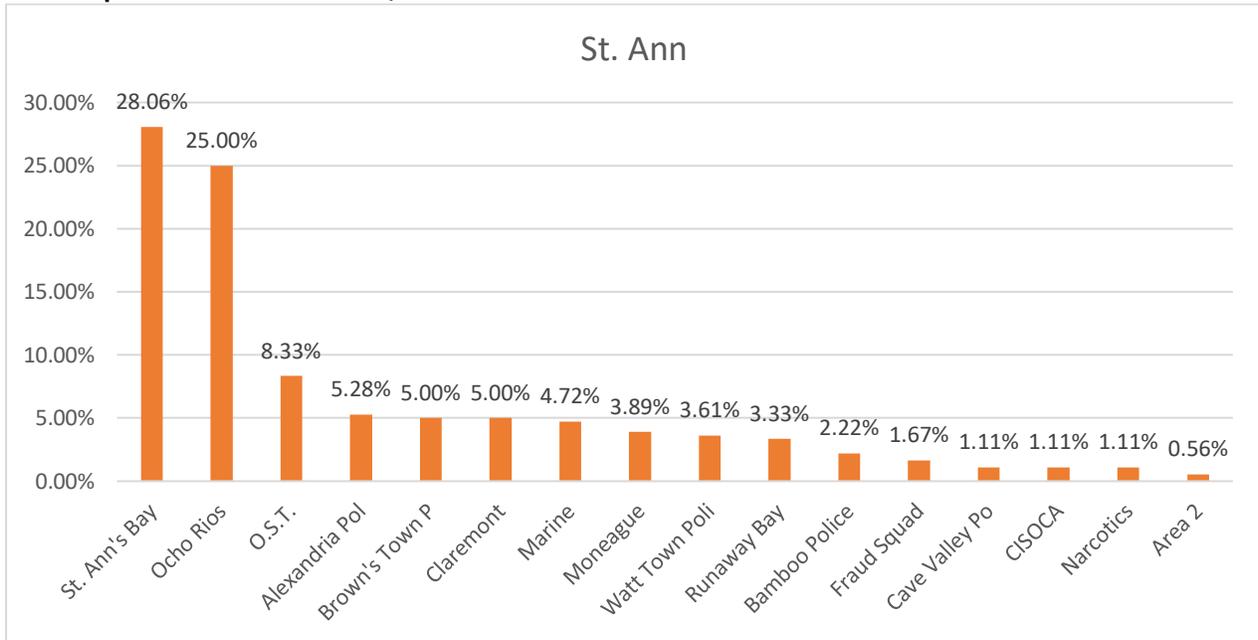
The above chart shows the distribution of crimes at the Westmoreland Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 593 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2022, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 27.82%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Savanna-la-mar Police Station. This was followed by the Negril Police Station, which accounts for 17.71% of the total sample of matters reported. The Frome and Whitehouse Police stations rounded off the top three with 8.77% each. In the corresponding 2021 quarter, the top three comprised of the Savanna-la-mar Police Station, the Negril Police Station and the Bethel Town Police station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

**Chart 6.10: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Hanover Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



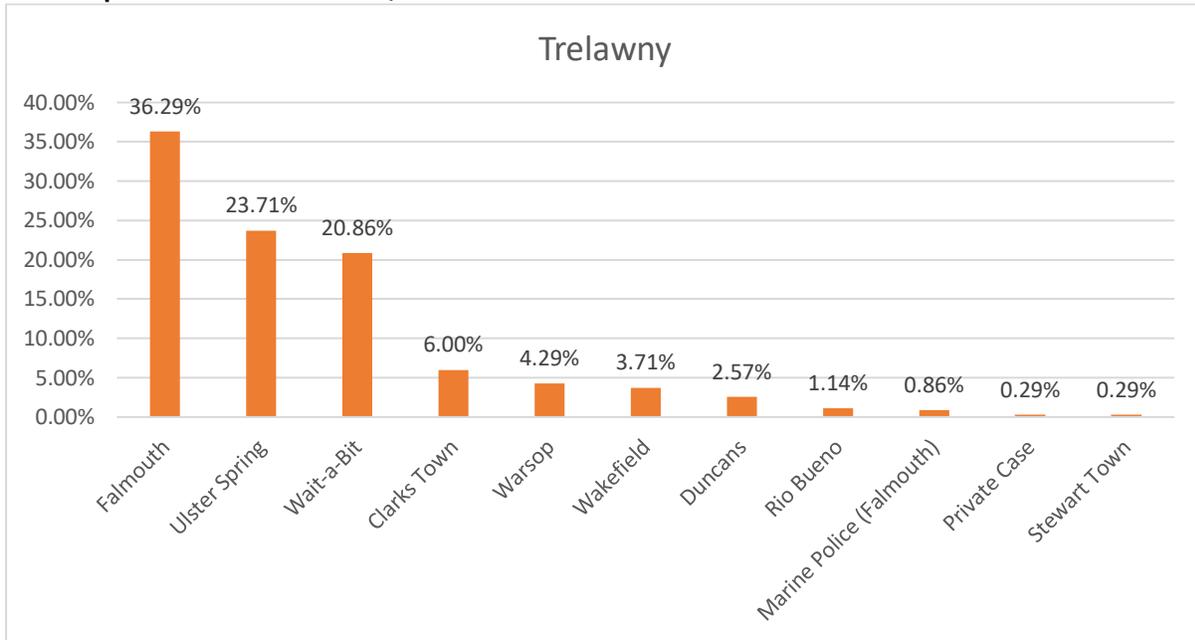
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 253 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2022, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 33.99%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Lucea Police Station. This was followed by the Sandy Bay Police, which accounts for 18.18% of the total sample of matters reported. The Ramble Police station rounded off the top three with 15.81%. In the corresponding 2021 quarter, the top three comprised of the Lucea Police Station, the Hanover Headquarter Police Station and the Green Island Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

**Chart 6.11: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the St. Ann Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 360 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2022, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 28.06%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in St. Ann’s Bay Police Station. This was followed by the Ocho Rios Police Station, which accounts for 25.00% of the total sample of matters reported. The O.S.T Police station rounded off the top three with 8.33%. In the corresponding 2021 quarter, the top three comprised of the Ocho Rios Police Station, the St. Ann’s Bay Police Station and the Area 2 Narcotics. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

**Chart 6.12: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the Trelawny Parish Court for the quarter ended March 31, 2022**



The above chart shows the distribution of charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from 350 records indicate that for the first quarter of 2022, the highest proportion of criminal matters, 36.29%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Falmouth Police Station. This was followed by the Ulster Spring Police Station, which accounts for 23.71% of the total sample of matters reported. The Wait-A-Bit Police Station rounded off the top three with 20.86%. In the corresponding 2021 quarter, the top three comprised of the Falmouth Police Station, the Clarks Town Police Station and the Ulster Spring Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

## Conclusion

Over the past six years, the Jamaican judiciary has carried out extensive measurement of productivity in the parish courts and as time progresses and the emphasis on measurements increase under the leadership of Chief Justice Bryan Sykes, these courts have made monumental progress in reducing its case backlog and becoming more efficient, key facets of enhancing public confidence. As of the end of the first quarter of 2022, only about 1.27% of active cases in the Criminal Division of the Parish Courts are in a state of backlog, a significant achievement, coming from double digits a four years ago. The Criminal Division of the Parish Courts had a typically strong showing in the first quarter of 2022 with an overall case clearance rate of 112.61%, one of the highest recorded results in the court’s history. The Criminal Division of the Parish Courts is a shining example of what can be achieved through resilience and an emphasis on productivity and measurement, even amidst limited resources. It is expected that by the end of 2022, the Criminal Division of the Parish Courts will have less than 0.50% of its active cases in a state of backlog, which is essentially being ‘backlog free’.

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

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

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

### Glossary of Statistical Terms

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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<sup>i</sup> Source:

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

<sup>ii</sup> Source:

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

