

Parish Courts of Jamaica
The Chief Justice's Second Quarter Statistics
Report for 2023
(Civil Division)

	APRIL TO JUNE		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)	138.77	115.69	97.51
Trial Date Certainty Rate (%)	91.42	91.91	90.36
Average time to disposition	18.12 months	11.96 months	11.50 months

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Executive Summary

The Civil Division of the Parish Courts has now been firmly established as one of the most productive entities in the Jamaican judiciary with consistently high case clearance rates and low net case backlog rates. As of the end of the third quarter of 2023, the overall net case backlog rate in the parish courts was 1.37% while a case clearance rate of 138.77% was achieved. Together these rates show decisive signs of an efficiently operated division. As with the previous quarter, three parish courts registered net case clearance rates of 0.16% or less, namely the parish courts of St. Mary, Hanover and Westmoreland. Eight parish courts recorded case clearance rates of over 100% during the quarter, with the overall rate rising by an impressive 23.08 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2022. The civil division of the parish courts continue to be challenged with its gross case backlog rate which is still currently over the maximum targeted value of 10%, largely on account of a relatively high incidence of matters adjourned reissued on application without a future date. Another positive outcome from this report is that the overall trial date certainty rate was over 90%, which is now parallel with the output from the criminal division of the parish courts and is an indication of commendable incremental progress over the past few years. See below aggregate case activity summary:

Table 1.0: Aggregate case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of new cases	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Disposal rate (%)	Approximate Gross Clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross trial date certainty rate (%)	Overall weighted average time to disposition (months)
4305	841	5974	20.37	138.77	91.42	18.12

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

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

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

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

Methodology – Generating Court Statistics in Jamaica

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

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

Introduction

This report details case activity in the Civil Division of the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023. Among the key case activity areas reported on are new cases filed, cases disposed and inactive over the period as well as the common causes of action and applications. Other key areas reported on include the absolute number of reissue dates over the period as well as the dominant methods of disposition and reasons for adjournment. The report also highlights the number of matters, which go into various types of enforcements such as judgment summons, warrants of levy and warrants of attachment and are thus reactivated as well as the outcomes of matters that proceed along this path. Important efficiency measures such as the case clearance rate, case disposal rates; trial date certainty rate and case congestion and courtroom utilization rates are computed as measures of court performance, where sufficient data is available. These are important yardstick for assessing the courts in both an absolute and a relative way.

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

The report culminates with critical cumulative case active summaries for the civil courts as a whole for the second quarter of 2023.

The Corporate Area Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division for the second quarter of 2023.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	987	95.73
Disposed	27	2.62
Inactive	17	1.65
Total	1031	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 1031 new big claims cases filed at the Corporate Area Civil Court in the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, 987 or 95.73% cases were still active, 27 were disposed of and 17 were inactive at the end of the quarter. These results produce an estimated gross case disposal rate of 4.27% for big claims for the quarter, which is 15.16 percentage points lower than the estimated disposal rate recorded for big claims in the corresponding second quarter of 2022.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	1092	85.98
Small Claim	176	13.86
POCA	2	0.16
Total	1270	100.00

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 1270 new claims filed at the Corporate Area Civil Court in the second quarter of 2023. Big claims accounted for 1092 or 85.98% of the sample, small claims accounted for 176 or 13.86% and 2 or 0.16% were Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	280	30.43
Recovery of Possession	195	21.20
Rent Owing, Continuing and Recovery of Possession	87	9.46
Damages for Negligence	50	5.43
Breach of contract under Section 146 (Pink Summons)	40	4.35
Sub-total	652	70.87

Total sample size of causes of action= 920

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action for cases entered in the quarter at the Corporate Area Civil Court was breach of contract with 280 or roughly 30.43% of the sample. Recovery of possession and rent owing, continuing and recovery of possession with 195 or 21.20% and 87 or 9.46% respectively rank next. The top five causes of action were rounded off by damages for negligence with 50 or 5.43% and breach of contract under Section 146 (Pink Summons) with 40 or 4.35% of the sample. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 70.87% of the total sample of 920 causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the types of service for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	246	71.93
Bailiff	78	22.81
District Constable	18	5.26
Total	342	100.00

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, against whom a claim is made, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority with 246 or 71.93% of the sample, followed by service by the bailiff with 78 or 22.81% and service by the District Constable with 18 or 5.26%.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	556	50.92
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	536	49.08
Total	1092*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 1031 cases**

The majority of a sample of 1092 matters entered in the second quarter of 2023 were entered in courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 556 or 50.92% of the sample, followed by courtroom 1 with 536 or 49.08% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	368	40.00
Female	346	37.61
Registered Company	202	21.96
Trading As	4	0.43
Total	920	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 920 matters entered in the second quarter of 2023 at the Corporate Area Civil Court, males accounted for the highest proportion of plaintiffs with 368 or 40% of the sample. Females accounted for 346 or 37.61% and registered companies accounted for 202 or 21.96% of the sample. Individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 4 or 0.43% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	499	54.77
Female	319	35.02
Registered Company	83	9.11
Trading As	10	1.10
Total	911	100.00

There were 911 records on the gender of defendants for new matters entered in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of defendants were male with 499 or 54.77% of the sample, followed by females with 319 or 35.02%. Registered companies accounted for 83 or 9.11% of the

sample. Individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 10 or 1.10% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

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

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	577	41.72
Default Judgment Date	486	35.14
Trial	233	16.85
Hearing of Application	34	2.46
Part-Heard Date	30	2.17
Date for Order	21	1.52
Final Judgment Date	2	0.14
Total	1383	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 1383 matters that went to court during the second quarter of 2023, which were adjourned for a default judgment, final judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 577 or 41.72% were adjourned for mention

dates, followed by 486 or 35.14%, which were adjourned for default judgment dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments in this sample were adjournments for trial dates with 233 or 16.85% of sample. It is of note that 30 or 2.17% of the matters in this sample were adjourned part heard. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned at the mention stage and that there is a notable incidence of adjournments for default judgments to be entered. The result on the high incidence of adjournments for mention court hearings is not however an abnormal outcome given that mention court hearings are fundamental and intrinsic to the case flow process in the civil courts.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	242	37.00
Referred to Mediation	26	3.98
Parties in Discussion	15	2.29
Notice of Adjournment	11	1.68
Hearing of application	10	1.53
Sub-total	304	46.48

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 654

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 654 incidences of adjournments heard in the second quarter of 2023. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 242 or 37% of the sample and referrals to mediation with 26 or 3.98% round off the top incidences in the sample. Adjournments for parties in discussion with 15 or 2.29% and notices of adjournment with 11 or 1.68% rank next. The list is completed by adjournments for the hearing of an application

with 10 or 1.53% of the sample. The top reasons for adjournments listed above account for 46.48% of the total sample of adjournments.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	260
Average Incidence	1.2

Corresponding to 218 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 260 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 218 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.2 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 12 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution on the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	648	55.29
Consent	173	14.76
Withdrawal	101	8.62
Oral Admission	69	5.89
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	64	5.46
Sub-total	1055	90.02

NB there were 1172 matters were disposed of in the second quarter of 2023

A total of 1172 matters were disposed of at the Corporate Area Civil Court during the second quarter of 2023. The above table details the top five methods of disposition, which account for 1055 or 90.02% of the total sample. The list is led by matters struck out with 648 or 55.29% of

the disposals, followed by matters disposed by consent with 173 or 14.76% and withdrawals with 101 or 8.62%. Matters disposed by oral admissions and Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) round off the top five methods with 69 or 5.89% and 64 or 5.46% respectively of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 12.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)
1207	1756	145.48

The above table shows 1207 new cases filed at the Corporate Area Civil Court during the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, a gross figure of 1132 cases were disposed of, and 624 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2023. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 145.48%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric. This rate represents a 264.97 percentage points decrease when compared to the corresponding period in 2022.

The estimated net case clearance rate is 93.79%, a 109.32 percentage points decline when compared to the second quarter of 2022. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics, focusing only on the proportion of the cases which did not become inactive which were disposed in the strictest of sense.

Table 13.0a: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	346
Mean	222.4046
Median	127.0000
Mode	119.00
Std. Deviation	268.21863
Skewness	3.414
Std. Error of Skewness	.131
Range	2083.00
Minimum	6.00
Maximum	2089.00

The above table outlines summary data on 346 civil matters disposed in the second quarter of 2023 at the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 222 days or approximately 7.4 months, which is roughly 7 less days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2022. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 119 days. The standard deviation of roughly 268 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness is seen as an indication that there were markedly more scores in the data set which fall below the overall average time. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2089 days or roughly 5.8 years old, while the minimum time taken was 6 days.

Table 13.0b: Descriptive Statistics on the time between reissue and disposal of matters resolved in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	43
Mean	219.8140
Median	171.0000
Mode	36.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	166.41103
Skewness	.572
Std. Error of Skewness	.361
Range	567.00
Minimum	12.00
Maximum	579.00

^aMultiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above table outlines summary data on the time between the reissue and disposal of a sample of 43 matters at the Corporate Area Civil Court. The average time between the reissue date and date of disposition is 220 days or roughly 7.3 months. The standard deviation suggests that there was a small amount of variation in the distribution of the scores and the positive skewness suggests that the larger proportion of the scores in this data series fell below the overall average. A sample of 124 reissued matters in an inactive state at the end of the quarter reveals an average age in that status of approximately 46.60 days.

Table 14.0a: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the resolved in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	2559
Mean	416.0989
Median	227.0000
Mode	15.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	488.33351
Skewness	2.374
Std. Error of Skewness	.048
Range	4211.00
Minimum	3.00
Maximum	4214.00

a. Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above data is based on a sample of 2559 active civil matters as of the second quarter ended June 30, 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 416 days or roughly 14 months, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 15 days. The standard deviation of roughly 488 days suggests that there is a wide dispersion in the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 4214 days old or roughly 11.7 years, while the minimum time is 3 days.

Table 14.0b: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	72
Mean	222.5417
Median	78.0000
Mode	42.00
Std. Deviation	396.87572
Skewness	3.632
Std. Error of Skewness	.283
Range	2037.00
Minimum	8.00
Maximum	2045.00

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 72 active reissued matters at the Corporate Area Civil Court as at the end of the second quarter ended June 30, 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 223 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 42 days and the median age was 78 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was a large variation among the individual scores, with the positive skewness indicating that a larger proportion of the ages were below the overall series average. The highest age in the data set was 2045 days and the lowest was 8 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

Table 15.0: Distribution of courtroom utilization rate for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parish Court	Average overall Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	Highest Recorded Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	Lowest Recorded Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	Standard Deviation of the Courtroom Utilization Rate (%)	Average Courtroom Utilization Rate for Night Court sittings (%)	Average Number of Courtroom Adjournments Per Day
Corporate Area Court-Civil Division	87.44	136.11	2.78	24.64	NA	1.3

The above table details the courtroom utilization rate for the Corporate Area Court for the second quarter of 2023. The courtroom utilization rate provides a measurement of the proportion of available hours for open court hearings in all courtrooms (including outstations) which are utilized. If the usage of any courtroom exceeds the available hours, then the utilization rate will exceed 100% and the rate will fall below 100% if less than the available hours are utilized. The prescribed international standard for the courtroom utilization rate is 100%, which means that all hours allocated for court hearings in any court, on any given day, should be utilized. The overall average courtroom utilization rate for the Corporate Area Civil Court in the quarter was roughly 87.44%, which is an indication that on average roughly 87% of the available hours for court hearings in the second quarter of 2023. The standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rates is moderate, suggesting that on average the rates did not vary widely from the overall mean.

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

Clarendon Parish Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the Clarendon Parish Court for the second quarter of 2023.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	222	72.55
Disposed	71	23.20
Inactive	13	4.25
Total	306	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 306 new cases filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, 222 cases or 72.55% of these cases were still active, while 71 were disposed of and 13 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross case disposal rate of 27.45%, which is 6.28 percentage points above the gross disposal rate recorded in the previous second quarter of 2022.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	304	84.44
Small Claim	56	15.56
Total	360	100.00

The above table represents a sampling distribution of 360 civil claims filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of which 304 or 84.44% were big claims, while 56 or 15.56% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Clarendon parish court for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	147	41.18
Recovery of Possession	35	9.80
Damages for Negligence	28	7.84
Recovery of Sum	22	6.16
Monies Owing	12	3.36
Sub-total	244	68.35

Total sample size of causes of action= 357

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action for cases filed in the quarter at the Clarendon Parish Court was breach of contract with 147 or roughly 41.18% of the sample. Recovery of possession with 35 or 9.80% and damages for negligence with 28 or 7.84% rank next. Recovery of sum with 22 or 6.16% and monies owing with 3.36% of the sample rounds off the causes of action in this representative sample.

Table 4.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	289	80.28
Lionel Town Outstation	33	9.17
Chapleton Outstation	27	7.50
Frankfield Outstation	10	2.78
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	1	0.28
Total	360*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 306 cases**

The majority of a sample of 360 new matters filed in the quarter were entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 289 or 80.28% of the total sample. The Lionel Town Outstation accounted for 33 or 9.17% of the cases filed. The Chapleton outstation accounted for 27 or 7.50% and the Frankfield outstation accounted for 10 or 2.78% of the new cases heard.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Table 5.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	155	43.06
Female	133	36.94
Registered Company	44	12.22
Trading As	28	7.78
Total	360	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 360 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023 at the Clarendon Parish Court, males accounted for the highest proportion of the sample with 155 or 43.06% of the sample, followed by females with 133 or 36.94%. Registered companies accounted for 44 or 12.22% of the sample. Individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 28 or 7.78% of the sample.

Table 6.0: Distribution of defendants in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	221	61.39
Female	116	32.22
Registered Company	15	4.17
Trading As	8	2.22
Total	360	100.00

There were 360 records on the gender of defendants for new matters entered in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of defendants were male with 221 or 61.39% of the sample, followed by females with 116 or 32.22% and registered companies with 4.17% of the sample. Individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 8 or 2.22% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

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

Table 7.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	120	36.70
Trial	115	35.17
Default Judgment Date	74	22.63
Part-Heard Date	16	4.89
Hearing of Application	2	0.61
Total	327	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 327 matters that went to court during the second quarter ended June 30, 2023, which were adjourned for a judgment, mention, part heard, trial date or similar procedural dates. The largest proportion, 120 or 36.70% of the sample, were adjourned for mention dates. Rounding off the incidences of procedural adjournments were matters adjourned for a trial date with 115 or 35.17%, matters adjourned for a default judgment date with 74 or 22.63% and matters adjournment for a part-heard date with 4.89% of the sample.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
New Date	86	51.50
Parties in Discussion	42	25.15
Defendant Absent	9	5.39
Referred to mediation	7	4.19
At Counsel's Request	6	3.59
Sub-total	150	89.82

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 167

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 167 incidences of adjournments and continuances in the second quarter of 2023. Adjournments for a new date to be set accounted for 86 or 51.50% of the sample and adjournments for parties in discussion accounted for 42 or 25.15% of the sample. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants accounted for 9 or 5.39% of the sample, referrals to mediation accounted for 7 or 4.19% and adjournment at counsel's request accounted for 3.59%.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	54
Average Incidence	1.3

Corresponding to 43 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 54 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 43 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.3 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 13 reissue incidences.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	136	50.94
Consent	43	16.10
Settlement	21	7.87
Oral Admission	14	5.24
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	13	4.87
Sub-total	227	85.02

NB: there were 267 matters were disposed of in the second quarter of 2023

A total of 267 civil matters were disposed of at the Clarendon Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. The above table details the top five methods of disposition, which account for 227 or 85.02% of the total sample. The list is led by matters struck out with 136 or 50.94% and matters disposed by consent with 43 or 16.10% of the sample. Matters disposed by settlements with 21 or 7.87% of the sample ranked next and matters disposed by oral admissions with 14 or 5.24% and Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) round off the top methods of disposition with 4.87% of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty rate for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Trial date certainty rate (%)
32	1	96.88

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 32 trial dates were set in the quarter, of which 1 was adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 96.88%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly

97% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment and is 24 percentage points above the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2022.

Table 12.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
306	84	256	83.66	27.45

The above table shows 306 new cases filed at the Clarendon Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, a total of 71 of these cases were disposed of and 13 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 27.45%, a 6.28 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2022. An approximate gross figure of 233 cases were disposed of and 23 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2023. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 83.66%, which is below the international standard on this metric, and is an 18.59 percentage points decline when compared to the second quarter of 2022.

The estimated net case disposal rate for the quarter is 24.23%, which is 14.44 percentage points above the net disposal rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022. The estimated net case clearance rate is 79.52%, which is roughly 9.42 percentage points above the rate recorded in 2022. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 13.0: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	94
Mean	234.0106
Median	193.0000
Mode	193.00
Std. Deviation	173.62297
Skewness	.975
Std. Error of Skewness	.249
Range	728.00
Minimum	35.00
Maximum	763.00

The above table outlines sample data on 94 civil matters disposed in the second quarter of 2023 at the Clarendon Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 234 days or 7.8 months. The most frequently occurring time to disposition and the median time were both 193 days. The standard deviation of roughly 174 days is an indication that there is some variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness suggests that a higher proportion of the scores in the data set fell below the overall average time to disposition. The oldest matter disposed in the sample was 763 days or roughly 2.1 years old, while the minimum time taken was 35 days.

Table 14.0a: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	454
Mean	232.6564
Median	161.0000
Mode	14.00
Std. Deviation	208.33008
Skewness	1.221
Std. Error of Skewness	.115
Range	841.00
Minimum	10.00
Maximum	851.00

The above data is based on sample of 454 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 233 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 14 days. The standard deviation of roughly 208 days suggests that there is some variation in the individual scores around the average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were more scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 851 days old or roughly 2.4 years, while the minimum time taken is 10 days.

Table 14.0b: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	110
Mean	195.9818
Median	144.0000
Mode	144.00
Std. Deviation	180.41842
Skewness	1.475
Std. Error of Skewness	.230
Range	797.00
Minimum	4.00
Maximum	801.00

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 110 active reissued matters at the Clarendon Civil Court as at the end of the second quarter ended June 30, 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 196 days, while the most frequently occurring age and the median age were both 144 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was a large dispersion in the individual scores, with the positive skewness indicating that a larger proportion of the ages were below the average. The highest age in the data set was 801 days and the lowest was 4 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

St. Catherine Parish Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Catherine Parish Court for the second quarter of 2023.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	623	88.24
Disposed	80	11.33
Inactive	3	0.42
Total	706	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 706 new cases filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, 623 cases or 88.24% of these cases were still active, while 80 were disposed of and 3 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 11.76%, which is 4.12 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	820	91.01
Small Claim	81	8.99
Total	901	100.00

The above table shows that from a sample of 901 claims filed in the second quarter of 2023, 820 or 91.01% were big claims and 81 or 8.99% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Catherine Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	284	34.47
Damages for Negligence	139	16.87
Recovery of Possession	104	12.62
Negligence	42	5.10
Rent Owing and Continuing	42	5.10
Sub-total	611	74.15

Total sample size of causes of action= 824

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table details a sample of 824 causes of action entered before the St. Catherine Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. The leading cause of action shown in this sample was breach of contract with 284 or roughly 34.47% of the sample, damages for negligence with 139 or 16.87% and recovery of possession with 104 or 12.62%, which rounds off the top three. The top five causes of action are rounded off by negligence and rent owing and continuing with 42 or 5.10% each of the sample. The causes of action which are listed above, account for 74.15% of the total sample of causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of types of service for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	72	49.66
District Constable	45	31.03
Personal	28	19.31
Total	145	100.00

Types of service as used in the above table refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for the highest proportion of the sample with 72 or 49.66% of the sample, service by the district

constable accounted for 45 or 31.03% and personal service accounted for 28 or 19.31% of the sample.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	696	84.77
Linstead Outstation (courtroom #1)	78	9.50
Old Harbour Outstation (courtroom #1)	47	5.72
Total	821*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 693 cases**

The majority of the sample of 821 new claims filed in the second quarter of 2023 was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 696 or 84.77% of the total sample. The 78 or 9.50% that were entered in courtroom number 1 at the Linstead outstation followed this. Courtroom number 1 at the Old Harbour outstation accounted for 47 or 5.72% of the claims.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	359	44.05
Female	336	41.23
Registered Company	120	14.72
Total	815	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the 815 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023, males accounted for the highest proportion of the sample with 359 or 44.05%, followed by females with 336 or 41.023% and registered companies with 120 or 14.72% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	452	57.00
Female	315	39.72
Registered Company	26	3.28
Total	793	100.00

There were 793 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of defendants were male with 452 or 57% of the total sample, followed by females with 315 or 39.72%. Registered companies account for the remaining proportion with 26 or 3.28% of the total sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

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

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	789	43.88
Trial	470	26.14
Default Judgment Date	378	21.02
Part-Heard Date	131	7.29
Hearing of Application	30	1.67
Total	1798	100.00

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 1798 matters that went to court during the second quarter of 2023, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard, or trial date or similar procedural date. The highest proportion of the sample, 789 or 43.88% were adjourned for a mention date and 470 or 26.14% were adjourned for a trial date. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 378 or 21.02% of matters, which were adjourned for a default judgment date. Matters adjournment for part heard dates accounted for 131 or 7.29% of the sample.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	545	23.25
Defendant Absent	397	16.94
Parties in Discussion	176	7.51
Both Parties Absent	132	5.63
Pending Settlement	79	3.37
Sub-total	1329	56.70

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled= 2344

The above table details a sample of 2344 adjournments or continuances heard in the quarter, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments for no return/for reissue with 545 or 23.25% of the total sample, adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 397 or 16.94% and parties in discussion with 176 or 7.51% and adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 132 or 5.63% round off the top reasons for adjournment for the quarter. Adjournments for pending settlements with 79 or 3.37% complete the list. The top 5 reasons for adjournment account for 56.70% of the total sample.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	17
Average Incidence	1.1

Corresponding to 15 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance of cases in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 17 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 15 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.1 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 11 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	984	70.29
Settlement	101	7.21
Consent	87	6.21
Default Judgment	58	4.14
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	57	4.07
Sub-total	1287	91.93

NB: There were 1400 matters disposed of in the second quarter of 2023

The above table details the sampling distribution of the five leading methods of disposition using a sample of 1400 matters disposed of during the second quarter of 2023. The list is led by matters struck out with 984 or 70.29% of the disposals, followed by settlements with 101 or 7.21%, matters disposed by consent with 87 or 6.21% and matters disposed by default judgments with 58 or 4.14%. Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) account for 57 or 4.07% of the sample. The top 5 methods of disposition listed account for 91.93% of the sample.

Table 12: Sampling distribution of case outcomes for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	28	84.85
Settlement	3	9.09
Judgment for Ancillary Plaintiff	2	6.06
Total	33	100.00

The above table summarizes the distribution of case outcomes using a sample of 33 matters in the second quarter of 2023. Judgments in favour of the plaintiff with 28 or 84.85% of the total sample, accounts for the majority of the sample, while settlements with 3 or 9.09% and judgment for ancillary plaintiff with 2 or 6.06% account for the remaining proportion. This probability distribution provides important insights into the results of cases and the likelihood of matters awarded in favour of the various party types, which may be involved in a case.

Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of Trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
207	21	89.86

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 207 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that 21 were adjourned. This results in a trial date certainty rate of 89.86%, suggesting that during the quarter, there was a roughly 90% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This rate meets the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100% and is 5.32 percentage points below the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2022.

Table 14.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Estimated gross Case clearance rate (%)	Estimated gross Case disposal rate (%)
706	83	1191	168.70	11.76

The above table shows 706 new cases filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, a total of 80 of these cases were disposed of and 3 cases became inactive, leading to a gross case disposal rate of 11.76%, which is 4.12 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022. An approximate gross figure of 1,126 cases were disposed of, and 65 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2023. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 168.70%, which exceeds the international standard for the case clearance rate and is 146.19 percentage points below the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022.

The net disposal rate for the quarter is 11.38%, which is 4.97 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022. The net clearance for the quarter is 160.17%, which is 150.38 percentage points below the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 15.0a: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	1157
Mean	911.8418
Median	891.0000
Mode	1646.00
Std. Deviation	648.97807
Skewness	.136
Std. Error of Skewness	.072
Range	3240.00
Minimum	1.00
Maximum	3241.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 1157 civil matters disposed in the second quarter of 2023 at the St. Catherine Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 912 days or 30.4 months, which is roughly 181 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2022. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 1646 days. There is moderate standard deviation of 649 days, which is an indication that there is a small dispersion of the scores around the overall mean. The positive skewness suggests that a larger proportion of the scores are clustered around the overall average time to disposal. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 3241 days or roughly 9 years old, while the youngest was 1 day.

Table 15.0b: Descriptive Statistics on the time between reissue and disposal of matters resolved in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	106
Mean	823.2642
Median	720.0000
Mode	1567.00
Std. Deviation	526.15110
Skewness	.205
Std. Error of Skewness	.235
Range	1579.00
Minimum	4.00
Maximum	1583.00

The above table outlines summary data on the time between the reissue and disposal of a sample of 106 matters at the St. Catherine Parish Court. The average time between the reissue date and date of disposition is 823 days or roughly 27 months. The standard deviation suggests that there was some amount of variation in the distribution of the scores and the positive skewness suggests that the larger proportion of the scores in this data series are clustered around the overall average.

Table 16.0a: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	3024
Mean	593.9659
Median	358.0000
Mode	85.00
Std. Deviation	653.31919
Skewness	1.817
Std. Error of Skewness	.045
Range	5578.00
Minimum	4.00
Maximum	5582.00

The above data is based on a sample of 3024 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 594 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 85 days. The standard deviation of roughly 653 days suggests that there is a large dispersion in the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 5582 days old or roughly 15.5 years, while the minimum time taken is 4 days.

Table 16.0b: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	388
Mean	627.9923
Median	575.0000
Mode	647.00
Std. Deviation	410.05411
Skewness	2.429
Std. Error of Skewness	.124
Range	2973.00
Minimum	10.00
Maximum	2983.00

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 388 active reissued matters at the St. Catherine Parish Court as at the end of the second quarter ended June 30, 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 628 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 647 days and the median age was 575 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some dispersion in the individual scores, with the positive skewness indicating that a larger proportion of the ages were below the overall average. The highest age in the data set was 2983 days and the lowest was 10 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

Trelawny Parish Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the Trelawny Parish Court for the second quarter of 2023.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	110	80.29
Disposed	14	10.22
Inactive	13	9.49
Total	137	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 137 new cases filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, 110 or 80.29% of these cases were active, and 14 or 10.22% were disposed of and 13 cases became inactive at the end of the quarter. This produces a gross case disposal rate of 19.71% for the quarter, a 1.44 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2022.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	128	84.77
Small Claim	23	15.23
Total	151	100.00

The above table represents a sampling distribution of 151 civil claims filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of which 128 or 84.77% were big claims, while 23 or 15.23% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Trelawny Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Recovery of Possession	28	18.54
Damages for Negligence	17	11.26
Money Owing	16	10.60
Return of Cash	10	6.62
Breach of Contract	9	5.96
Sub-total	80	52.98

Total sample size of causes of action = 151

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, among the leading causes of action in the quarter were recovery of possession with 28 or 18.84% and damages for negligence with 17 or 11.26% of the sample. Money owing with 16 or 10.60%, return of cash with 10 or 6.62% and breach of contract with 9 or 5.96% of the sample close out the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 52.98% of all the total sample of 151 causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of types of service for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	133	89.26
Bailiff	16	10.74
Total	149	100.00

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants whom a claim is made against are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority of the sample with 133 or 89.26% of the sample. Service by the bailiff with 16 or 10.74% accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Falmouth Outstation	95	62.91
Clarks Town Outstation (Courthouse #1)	33	21.85
Ulster Spring Outstation	23	15.23
Total	151*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 137 cases**

The majority of a sample of 151 new matters filed in 62.91% of the accommodations was entered in the Falmouth outstation. The 33 or 21.85% matters that were entered in courtroom 1 at the Clarks Town outstation followed this, while court sittings at the Ulster Spring outstation ranked next with 23 or 15.23% of the accommodations.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Table 5.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	97	64.67
Female	46	30.67
Registered Company	7	4.67
Total	150	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 150 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023 at the Trelawny Parish Court, males accounted for the majority of plaintiffs with 97 or 64.67%, followed by females with 46 or 30.67%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 4.67% of the sample.

Table 6.0: Distribution of defendants in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	100	67.11
Female	47	31.54
Registered Company	2	1.34
Total	149	100.00

There were 149 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of defendants were male with 100 or 67.11% of the sample, followed by females with 47 or 31.54% and registered companies with 1.34%.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

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

Table 7.0: Distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	84	38.01
Default Judgment Date	49	22.17
Trial	47	21.27
Part-Heard Date	38	17.19
Judgment Date	3	1.36
Total	221	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 221 matters that were heard during the second quarter ended June 30, 2023, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 84 or 38.01% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 49 or 22.17%, which were adjourned for default judgment dates. Matters adjourned trial dates with 47 or 21.27% and for part heard dates with 38 or 17.19% rank next. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for mention dates which is expected in civil and most other case types.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	75	31.78
Both Parties Absent	44	18.64
Defendant Absent	30	12.71
Plaintiff Absent	30	12.71
Referred to Mediation	6	2.54
Sub-total	185	78.39

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 236

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 236 incidence of adjournments heard in the second quarter of 2023. Adjournments for no return/ for reissue with 75 or 31.78% of the sample, adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 44 or 18.64% and the absence of defendants and the absence of plaintiffs with 30 or 12.71% each of the sample feature prominently on the list. Referrals to mediation with 6 or 2.54% of the sample respectively close out the list. The top five reasons for adjournments, which are listed above, account for 78.39% of the entire sample.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	38
Average Incidence	1.1

Corresponds to 35 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 38 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 35 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.1 reissues per case file for new claims filed in the quarter, suggesting that every 11 cases reissued had roughly 10 reissue incidences.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Default Judgement	27	20.93
Consent	25	19.38
Oral Admission	22	17.05
Struck Out	17	13.18
Settlement	10	7.75
Sub-total	101	78.29

NB: There were 129 matters disposed of in the second quarter of 2023

The above table details the sampling distribution of the leading methods of disposition using a sample of 129 matters disposed during the second quarter of 2023. The list is led by matters disposed by default judgments with 27 or 20.93% of the dispositions, followed by matters disposed by consent with 25 or 19.38% and oral admissions with 22 or 17.05% of the sample. Matters struck out account for 17 or 13.18% of the sample and disposals by settlement account for 10 or 7.75% of the sample. The top five methods of dispositions enumerated above accounted for 78.29% of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
26	5	80.77

Another important performance metric is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 26 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that 5 were adjourned. This results in an overall estimated trial date certainty rate of 80.77% which suggests that during the quarter there was roughly an 81% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This outcome falls below the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100% and is 19.23 percentage points below the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2022.

Table 12.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of cases disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Estimated Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Estimated Gross case disposal rate (%)
137	27	180	131.39	19.71

The above table shows 137 new cases filed at the Trelawny Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, a total of 14 of these cases were disposed of and 13 cases became inactive, leading to a gross case disposal rate of 19.71%, which is 1.44 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022. An approximate gross figure of 114 cases were disposed of and 66 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2022. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 131.39%, which exceeds

the international standard for the case clearance rate and is 6.11 percentage points below the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022.

The net disposal rate for the quarter is 11.29%, which is 2.85 percentage points below the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022. The net clearance for the quarter is 91.94%, which is 16.14 percentage points below the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 13.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	92
Mean	146.7500
Median	60.5000
Mode	80.00
Std. Deviation	240.05263
Skewness	3.128
Std. Error of Skewness	.251
Range	1188.00
Minimum	2.00
Maximum	1190.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 92 civil cases disposed in the second quarter of 2023 at the Trelawny Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of this sample of cases is roughly 147 days or 4.9 months. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 80 days and the median time was 60.50 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 240 days suggests that the times taken to disposition were spread out over a large range of values and the positive skewness is an indication that a greater proportion of times to disposition fell below the

overall average time. The oldest case disposed in the quarter was 1190 days or roughly 3.3 years old, while minimum time taken to dispose of cases was 2 days.

Table 14.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)	
Number of observations	188
Mean	608.5160
Median	421.5000
Mode	87.00
Std. Deviation	520.29631
Skewness	.632
Std. Error of Skewness	.177
Range	1918.00
Minimum	24.00
Maximum	1942.00

The above data is computed using 188 active cases at the end of the second quarter of 2023. The average age of these cases was roughly 609 days (1.7 years), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 87 days. The standard deviation of roughly 520 days suggests that there is a small amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the mean, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were more scores in the data set which fall below the overall mean. The oldest active case in this sample is 1942 days (5.4 years old), while the youngest is 24 days.

St. Ann Parish Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Ann Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	269	74.10
Disposed	49	13.50
Inactive	45	12.40
Total	363	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 363 new cases filed at the St. Ann Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, 269 cases or 74.10% of these cases were still active, 49 were disposed of and 45 were rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 25.90%, which is a 12.38 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2022.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big	411	85.80
Small	66	13.78
POCA	2	0.42
Total	479	100.00

The above table shows that from 479 new claims filed in the second quarter of 2023, the majority of which were big claims with 411 or 85.80%, while 66 or 13.78% were small claims and 2 or 0.42% were Proceeds of Crime (POCA) claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Ann Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	122	25.74
Recovery of Possession	49	10.34
Damages for Negligence	47	9.92
Rent owing	26	5.49
Money Owing	21	4.43
Sub-total	265	55.91

Total sample size of causes of action (N) = 474

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table uses a sample of 474 matters, from which the leading causes of action filed in the second quarter of 2023 was breach of contract with 122 or roughly 25.74% of the sample and recovery of possession with 49 or 10.34% of the sample. Damages for negligence with 47 or 9.92% of the sample rank next. Rent owing with 26 or 5.49% and money owing with 21 or 4.43% of the total sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 55.91% of the sample of causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of types of service filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	35	53.03
District constable	23	34.85
Personal	8	12.12
Total	66	100.00

Types of service as used in the above table refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for the majority of the sample with 35 or 53.03% of the sample. Service by the district constable accounted for 23 or 34.85% and personal service with 8 or 12.12% of the sample rank next.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	144	67.29
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	39	18.22
Claremont Outstation	30	14.02
Church Hall	1	0.47
Total	214*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 172 cases**

The majority of a sample of 214 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023 were entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, accounting for 144 or 67.29% of the total sample. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for 39 or 18.22% and the Claremont Outstation accounted for 30 or 14.02% of the accommodations. The Church Hall accounted for the remaining 0.47% of the accommodations.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	227	48.82
Female	169	36.34
Registered Company	62	13.33
Trading As	7	1.51
Total	465	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 465 new matters filed in the quarter, males accounted for the highest proportion of the sample with 227 or 48.82%, followed by females with 169 or 36.34% and registered companies with 62 or 13.33% of the total sample. Individuals trading under a business name ("trading as") with 1.51% accounted for the smallest proportion of the total sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	272	57.02
Female	156	32.70
Registered Company	47	9.85
Trading As	2	0.42
Total	477	100.00

There were 477 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of defendants were male with 272 or 57.02% of the total sample, followed by females with 156 or 32.70%. Registered companies accounted for 47 or 9.85% of the total sample and individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 2 or 0.42% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

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

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	374	48.89
Trial	132	17.25
Default Judgment Date	131	17.12
Part-Heard Date	112	14.64
Hearing of Application	13	1.70
Judgment Date	3	0.39
Total	765	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 765 matters that went to court during the second quarter ended June 30, 2023, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard dates and similar procedural dates. Adjournments for mention dates accounted for 374 or 48.89% of the sample, followed by 132 or 17.25%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Matters disposed for default judgment dates accounted for 131 or 17.12% and matters adjourned for a part heard date account for 112 or 14.64% of the total sample. As with most other courts, this data decisively suggests that there is a greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for a mention date,

though this is not an unsurprising result given that mention court stings are intrinsic to the progression of civil and other cases.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	262	25.56
Defendant Absent	126	12.29
Referred to mediation	55	5.37
Both Parties Absent	43	4.20
Pending Settlement	32	3.12
Sub-total	518	50.54

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 1025

The above table details a sample of 1025 reasons for adjournment or continuances for matters that went to court in the second quarter of 2023, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments for no return/for re-issue with 262 or 25.56% of the sample, adjournments due to defendants being absent with 126 or 12.29% and referrals to mediation with 55 or 5.37% of the sample rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment for the quarter in this sample. The list is completed by adjournments due to both parties being absent with 43 or 4.20% and pending settlements with 32 or 3.12% of the sample. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above, account for 50.54% of the total sample of adjournments and continuances.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	90
Average Incidence	1.2

Corresponds to 74 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 90 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 74 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.2 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 12 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	174	34.25
Struck Out	73	14.37
Settlement	64	12.60
Default Judgment	63	12.40
Oral Admission	41	8.07
Sub-total	415	81.69

NB: There were 508 matters disposed of in the quarter

A sample of 508 matters disposed of during the second quarter of 2023 revealed that 174 or 34.25% of matters were disposed by consent, 73 or 14.37% were disposed by being stuck out and 64 or 12.60% of the sample were disposed by settlements. Matters disposed by default judgments with 63 or 12.40% and oral admissions with 41 or 8.07% of the total sample of disposals complete the top five for the quarter. The top five methods of disposition enumerated above, account for 81.69% of the total sample of dispositions. This data provides insights into the overall distribution of the methods of disposition in the second quarter of 2023.

Table 12: Sampling distribution of case outcomes for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	35	85.37
Settlement	6	14.63
Total	41	100.00

The above table summarizes the distribution of case outcomes in the second quarter of 2023 at the St. Ann Parish Court. Judgments in favour of the plaintiff with 35 or 85.37% of the sample of matters, account for the majority of the sample, while settlements with 6 or 14.63% of the sample account for the remaining proportion. This probability distribution provides important insights into the results of cases and the likelihood of matters being awarded in favour of the various party types, which may be involved in a case.

Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
52	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 52 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that none was adjourned. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This meets the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100%.

Table 13.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
363	94	629	173.28	25.90

The above table shows 363 new cases filed at the St. Ann Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, a total of 49 cases were disposed of and 45 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 25.90%, an increase of 12.38 percentage points compared to the second quarter of 2022. An approximate gross figure of 406 cases were disposed of, and 223 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2023. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 173.28%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric and represents a 30.74 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2022.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 15.41%, an improvement of 6.51 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2022. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 127.67%, an improvement of 35.98 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2022. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 14.0a: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (in days)

Number of observations	311
Mean	342.5113
Median	107.0000
Mode	63.00
Std. Deviation	576.54450
Skewness	3.561
Std. Error of Skewness	.138
Range	3975.00
Minimum	2.00
Maximum	3977.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 311 civil matters disposed of in the second quarter of 2023 at the St. Ann Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 343 days or 11.4 months, which is roughly 129 less days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2022. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 63 days. The standard deviation of roughly 577 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores in the data set that fell below the overall average scores. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 3977 days or roughly 11 years old, while the minimum time taken was 2 days.

Table 14.0b: Descriptive Statistics on the time between reissue and disposal of matters resolved in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	26
Mean	673.1923
Median	78.0000
Mode	63.00
Std. Deviation	1191.18355
Skewness	1.946
Std. Error of Skewness	.456
Range	3838.00
Minimum	13.00
Maximum	3851.00

The above table outlines summary data on the time between the reissue and disposal of a sample of 26 matters at the St. Ann Parish Court. The average time between the reissue date and date of disposition is 673 days or roughly 22.4 months. The standard deviation suggests that there was a large amount of variation in the distribution of the scores and the positive skewness suggests that the majority of the scores in this data series fell below the overall average. A sample of 69 reissued matters in an inactive state at the end of the quarter reveals an average age in that status of approximately 366 days or 12 months.

Table 15.0a: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	1196
Mean	605.5870
Median	379.0000
Mode	108.00
Std. Deviation	716.77759
Skewness	2.860
Std. Error of Skewness	.071
Range	5564.00
Minimum	2.00
Maximum	5566.00

The above data is based on sample of 1196 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 606 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 108 days. The standard deviation of roughly 717 days suggests that there is a large amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the series average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter is 5566 days old or roughly 15.5 years, while the minimum age is 2 days.

Table 15.0b: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	86
Mean	540.1977
Median	288.0000
Mode	288.00
Std. Deviation	584.55636
Skewness	1.189
Std. Error of Skewness	.260
Range	2044.00
Minimum	10.00
Maximum	2054.00

The above table outlines summary data on the time average age of a sample of 86 active reissued matters at the St. Ann Parish Court as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 540 days, while the most frequently occurring age and the median age were both 288 days. The high standard deviation indicates that there was a large amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the series mean, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of cases. The highest age in the data set was 2054 days and the lowest was 10 days.

Browns Town's Outstation –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the Brown's Town outstation in the second quarter of 2023.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	38	64.41
Disposed	8	13.56
Inactive	13	22.03
Total	59	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 59 new cases filed at the Brown's Town Court in the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, 38 cases or 64.41% of these cases were still active, 8 were disposed of and 13 were rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 35.59% for the quarter, which is a 22.89 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2022.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Brown's Town Outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	44	53.66
Recovery of Possession	10	12.20
Money Owing	8	9.76
Rent Owing and Continuing	4	4.88
Rent Owing and Recovery of Possession	3	3.66
Sub-total	69	84.15

Total sample size of causes of action (N) = 82

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table uses a sample of 82 matters, from which the leading causes of action filed in the

second quarter of 2023 was breach of contract with 44 or roughly 53.66% of the sample and recovery of possession with 10 or 12.20% of the sample. Money owing with 8 or 9.76% of the sample rank next. Rent owing and continuing with 4 or 4.88% and rent owing and recovery of possession with 3 or 3.66% of the total sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 84.15% of the sample of causes of action.

Table 3.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	82	100.0
Total	82*	100

***Note: Corresponds to 59 cases**

All of a sample of 82 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023 were entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Table 4.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Registered Company	28	34.57
Female	23	28.40
Male	23	28.40
Trading As	7	8.64
Total	81	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 81 new matters filed in the quarter, registered companies accounted for the highest proportion of the sample with 28 or 34.57% of the sample, followed by females and males with 23 or 28.40% each of the total sample. Individuals trading under a business name ("trading as") accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 8.64%.

Table 5.0: Distribution of defendants for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	47	57.32
Female	33	40.24
Registered Company	2	2.44
Total	82	100.00

There were 82 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of defendants were male with 47 or 57.32% of the total sample, followed by females with 33 or 40.24%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 2.44%.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

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

Table 6.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	129	50.39
Trial	48	18.75
Default Judgment Date	38	14.84
Part-Heard Date	36	14.06
Hearing of Application	5	1.95
Total	256	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 256 matters that went to court during the second quarter ended June 30, 2023, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard dates and similar procedural dates. Adjournments for mention dates accounted for 129 or 50.39% of the sample, followed by 48 or 18.75%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Matters disposed for default judgment dates accounted for 38 or 14.84% and matters adjourned for a part-heard date account for 36 or 14.06% of the total sample. As with most other courts, this data decisively suggests that there is a greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for a mention date, though this is not an unsurprising result given that mention court stings are intrinsic to the progression of civil and other cases.

Table 7.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Reasons for Adjournments	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	50	16.67
No Return/Re-Issued	42	14.00
Referred to Mediation	20	6.67
Pending Settlement	13	4.33
Attorney Absent	3	1.00
Sub-total	128	42.67

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 300

The above table details a sample of 300 reasons for adjournment or continuances for matters that went to court in the second quarter of 2023, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 50 or 16.67% of the sample, adjournments for no return/for re-issue with 42 or 14% and referrals to mediation with 20 or 6.67% of the sample rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment for the quarter in this sample. The list is completed by pending settlements with 13 or 4.33% and the absence of

attorneys with 3 or 1.00% of the sample. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above, account for 42.67% of the total sample of adjournments and continuances.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	13
Average Incidence	1.0

Corresponds to 13 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 13 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 13 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1 reissue per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 10 reissue incidences.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Default Judgment	17	20.73
Consent	14	17.07
Struck out	13	15.85
Oral Admission	11	13.41
Settlement	10	12.20
Sub-total	65	79.27

NB: There were 82 matters disposed of in the quarter

A sample of 82 matters disposed during the second quarter of 2023 revealed that 17 or 20.73% of matters were disposed by default judgments and 14 or 17.07% were disposed by consent. Matters struck out with 13 or 15.85% rank next. Oral admissions with 11 or 13.41% and settlements with 10 or 12.20% of the total sample of disposals complete the top five for the quarter. The top five methods of disposition enumerated above, account for 79.27% of the total

sample of dispositions. This data provides insights into the overall distribution of the methods of disposition in second quarter of 2023.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
7	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 7 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that none were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was an estimated 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

Table 11.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
59	21	116	196.61	35.59

The above table shows 59 new cases filed at the Brown's Town Outstation during the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, a total of 8 cases were disposed of and 13 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 35.59%, an increase of 22.89 percentage points compared to the second quarter of 2022. An approximate gross figure of 71 cases were disposed of, and 45 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2023. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 196.61%,

which exceeds the international standard for this metric and represents an 80.74 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2022.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 17.39%, an improvement of 15.60 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2022. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 154.35%, an improvement of 79.35 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2022. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 12.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (in days)

Number of observations	58
Mean	223.8966
Median	113.0000
Mode	63.00
Std. Deviation	279.65792
Skewness	2.007
Std. Error of Skewness	.314
Range	1185.00
Minimum	14.00
Maximum	1199.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 58 civil matters disposed of in the second quarter of 2023 at the Brown's Town Outstation. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 223 days or 7.4 months. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 63 days and the median time was 113 days. The standard deviation of roughly 280 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness suggests that there were more scores in the data set that fell below the overall

average scores. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1199 days or roughly 3.3 years old, while the minimum time taken was 14 days.

Table 13.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)	
Number of observations	477
Mean	493.3124
Median	450.0000
Mode	205.00
Std. Deviation	319.50698
Skewness	.477
Std. Error of Skewness	.112
Range	1250.00
Minimum	21.00
Maximum	1271.00

The above data is based on sample of 477 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 493 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 205 days. The standard deviation of roughly 320 days suggests that there is some amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the series average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter is 1271 days old or roughly 3.5 years, while the minimum age is 21 days.

Westmoreland Parish Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics at the Westmoreland Parish Court for the second quarter of 2023.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	137	70.98
Disposed	41	21.24
Inactive	15	7.77
Total	193	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 193 new cases filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, 137 cases or 70.98% of these cases were still active, while 41 or 21.24% were disposed of and 15 or 7.77% rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 29.02%, which is a 21.57 percentage points decline when compared to the second quarter of 2023.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	222	84.41
Small Claim	41	15.59
Total	263	100.00

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 263 new claims filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023, the majority of which 222 or 84.41% were big claims, while 41 or 15.59% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Westmoreland Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	81	31.03
Recovery of Possession	51	19.54
Monies Owing	15	5.75
Negligence	10	3.83
Cattle Trespass	8	3.07
Sub-total	165	63.22

Total sample size of causes of action = 261

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action filed in the second quarter of 2023 at the Westmoreland Parish Court was breach of contract and recovery of possession with 81 or roughly 31.03% and 51 or 19.54% respectively of the sample. Monies owing with 15 or 5.75%, negligence with 10 or 3.83% and cattle trespass with 8 or 3.07% round off the list. These five leading causes of action account for 63.22% of the sample of 261 causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of types of service in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	146	58.87
Personal	102	41.13
Total	248	100.00

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for 146 or 58.87% and personal service accounted for 102 or 41.13% of the sample.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	124	48.63
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	116	45.49
Whithorn Outstation	15	5.88
Total	255*	100.00

***Note: Corresponds to 187 cases**

The highest proportion of a sample of 255 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023 was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 124 or 48.63% of the sample. The 116 or 45.49% that were entered in courtroom 3 at the main courthouse followed this. Sitzings at the Whithorn outstation accounted for the remaining 5.88% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	148	56.27
Female	97	36.88
Trading As	13	4.94
Registered Company	5	1.90
Total	263	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 263 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023 at the Westmoreland Parish Court, males accounted for the majority of the sample with 148 or 56.27%, followed by females with 97 or 36.88%. Individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for 13 or 4.94% and registered companies accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 1.90%.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	164	62.60
Female	83	31.68
Trading As	8	3.05
Registered Company	7	2.67
Total	262	100.00

There were 262 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of defendants were male with 164 or 62.60% of the sample, followed by females with 83 or 31.68%. Individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) account for 3.05% of the sample and registered companies accounted for 7 or 2.67%.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

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

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Trial	212	62.17
Mention Date	103	30.21
Part-Heard Date	22	6.45
Final Judgment Date	4	1.17
Total	341	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 341 matters that went to court during the second quarter ended June 30, 2023, which were adjourned for a default judgment, a final judgment, mention, part heard, trial date or similar procedural adjournment. The majority, 212 or 62.17% were adjourned for trial dates, followed by 103 or 30.21%, which were adjourned for mention dates. Rounding off the top incidences of procedural adjournments were 22 or 6.45% of matters, which were adjourned for part heard dates and 4 or 1.17% which were adjourned for final judgment dates. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for trial or mention court hearings. This is, however, not an unusual outcome given that mention court hearings are central to the case flow process in the civil courts.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	63	71.59
Pending Settlement	2	2.27
Notice of Intention to be Filed and Served	1	1.14
Refer to Surveyor	1	1.14
Referred to Mediation	1	1.14
Sub-total	68	77.27

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 88

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 88 incidences of adjournments in the second quarter of 2023. Adjournments for no return/ for re-issue with 63 or 71.59% of the sample and pending settlements with 2 or 2.27% account for the top reasons for adjournment in the quarter. Adjournments for Notice of Intention to be Filed and Served, referrals to surveyor and referrals to mediation with 1.14% each of the sample round off this list. The listed reasons for adjournment account for 77.27% of the total sample of adjournments.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	49
Average Incidence	1.4

Corresponds to 35 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 49 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 35 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.4 reissues per case file for new claims filed in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 14 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	66	27.97
Default Judgment	34	14.41
Consent	31	13.14
Oral Admission	30	12.71
Settlement	23	9.75
Sub-total	184	77.97

NB: There were 236 matters disposed of in the quarter

A total of 236 civil matters were disposed of at the Westmoreland Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. The above table details the top five methods of disposal, which account for 77.97% of the total sample. The list is led by matters struck out with 66 or 27.97% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by default judgments with 34 or 14.41% of the sample and matters disposed by consent with 31 or 13.14% of the sample. Matters disposed by oral admissions with 30 or 12.71% and settlements with 23 or 9.75% round off the top five methods dispositions.

Table 12: Sampling distribution of case outcomes for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	26	76.47
Settlement	8	23.53
Total	34	100.00

The above table summarizes the distribution of a sample of case outcomes in the second quarter of 2023 at the Westmoreland Parish Court. Judgements in favour of the plaintiff with 26 or 76.47% of the sample of matters, accounts for the majority of the sample, while settlements account for 8 or 23.53%.

Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
80	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 80 trial dates were set in the quarter; of which none was adjourned. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was an estimated 100% chance that a date set for a trial would proceed without adjournment.

Table 14.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
193	56	239	123.83	29.02

The above table shows 193 new cases filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, a total of 41 of these cases were disposed of, and 15 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 29.02%, a decrease of 21.57 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2022. A gross figure of 180 cases were disposed of, and 59 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2023. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 123.83%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric and is 90.29 percentage points below the second quarter of 2022 rate.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 23.03%, which is 22.42 percentage points below the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 101.12%, which is 102.78 percentage points below the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 15.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	153
Mean	126.8366
Median	69.0000
Mode	111.00
Std. Deviation	146.33898
Skewness	2.074
Std. Error of Skewness	.196
Range	679.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	686.00

The above table outlines summary data on 153 civil matters disposed in the second quarter of 2023 at the Westmoreland Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is approximately 127 days or 4.2 months, which is roughly 7 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2022. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 111 days. The standard deviation is an indication that there is a large amount of variation in the distribution of the scores around the mean time and the positive skewness is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set fell below the mean. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 686 days or roughly 1.9 years, while the minimum time taken was just 7 days.

Table 16.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	372
Mean	554.6613
Median	359.0000
Mode	1521.00
Std. Deviation	506.51954
Skewness	.606
Std. Error of Skewness	.126
Range	1710.00
Minimum	16.00
Maximum	1726.00

The above data is based on sample of 372 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 555 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 1521 days. The standard deviation of roughly 507 days suggests that there is some variation of the individual scores around the average. The positive skewness seen is an indication that more scores in the scores in the data set fell below the mean. The oldest age of active cases was 1726 days or 4.5 years, and the youngest time is 16 days.

St. Mary Parish Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Mary Parish Court for the second quarter of 2023.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	92	67.15
Disposed	45	32.85
Inactive	0	0.00
Total	137	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 137 new civil cases filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, 92 or 67.15% were still active and 45 or 32.85% were disposed of. These results produce an estimated net disposal rate of 32.85% for the quarter, which is an 8.04 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2022.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	127	78.88
Small Claim	34	21.12
Total	161	100.00

The above table shows that of the 161 new claims filed in the quarter, the majority of which were big claims, which accounted for 127 or 78.88% of the total sample, while 34 or 21.12% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Mary Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	44	27.50
Recovery of Possession	15	9.38
Monies Owing	13	8.13
Damages	8	5.00
Damages for Negligence	8	5.00
Sub-total	88	55.00

Total sample size of causes of action = 160

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The data in the above table is computed using a sample of 160 causes of action. As shown in the above table, the leading causes of action for the quarter at the St. Mary Parish Court were breach of contract with 44 or roughly 27.50% of the sample and recovery of possession with 15 or 9.38% of the total sample of causes of action. Monies owing with 13 or 8.13% and damages for negligence and damages with 8 or 5% rank next.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of types of service filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	95	59.38
District Constable	35	21.88
Bailiff	30	18.75
Total	160	100.00

Types of service as used above refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority of the sample with 95 or 59.38% of the sample, with service by the district constable accounting for 35 or 21.88% and service by the bailiff accounting for the remaining 30 or 18.75% of the sample.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	100	62.50
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	23	14.38
Richmond Outstation	20	12.50
Annotto Bay Outstation	12	7.50
Gayle Outstation	5	3.13
Total	160*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 136 cases**

The above data is computed using a sample of 160 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of this sample was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 100 or 62.50% of the sample. Sittings at courtroom 3 at the main courthouse with 23 or 14.38% of the sample and the Richmond outstation with 20 or 12.50% and the Annotto Bay Outstation with 12 or 7.50% of the sample rounds off the top accommodations. The list is completed by sittings at the Gayle Outstation with 5 or 3.13%.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	93	58.13
Female	62	38.75
Registered Company	5	3.13
Total	160	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 160 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023 at the St. Mary Parish Court-Civil Division, males accounted for the majority of plaintiffs with 93 or 58.13%, followed by females with 62 or 38.75%. Registered companies with 3.13% accounted for the lowest proportion of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	112	70.00
Female	47	29.38
Registered Company	1	0.63
Total	160	100.00

There were 160 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of defendants were males with 112 or 70%, followed by females with 47 or 29.38% of the sample. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 0.63% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

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

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Trial	34	34.00
Mention Date	25	25.00
Part-Heard Date	23	23.00
Default Date	18	18.00
Total	100	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 100 matters that went to court during the second quarter ended June 30, 2023, which were adjourned for a default judgment, final judgment, mention,

part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The highest proportion, 34 or 34%, were adjourned for trial dates, followed by 25 or 25%, which were adjourned for mention dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 23 or 23% of the matters which were adjourned for part heard dates. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for a mention hearing and that a notable proportion of the adjournments are for default judgments. The high frequency of adjournments associated with default judgments is not unusual as this stage is intrinsic to case management and case preparation and to the overall case process flow.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	28	20.29
For Process Server to Attend	8	5.80
Defendant Absent	7	5.07
Attorney for Defendant Absent	4	2.90
Plaintiff Absent	4	2.90
Sub-total	51	36.96

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 138

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 138 incidences of adjournments in the second quarter of 2023. Adjournments for no return/ for reissue with 28 or 20.29% of the sample, adjournments for process server to attend with 8 or 5.80% and adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 7 or 5.07% rounds off the top three. Adjournments due to absence of the attorney for the defendant and due to absence of plaintiffs with 4 or 2.90% each of the sample round off this list. The listed reasons for adjournment account for 36.96% of the total sample of adjournments.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	38
Average Incidence	1.2

Corresponds to 31 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 38 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 31 reissued cases. This resulted in an average of 1.2 reissues per case file for new claims filed in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 12 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	86	40.00
Consent	40	18.60
Oral Admission	35	16.28
Default Judgment	19	8.84
Withdrawal	15	6.98
Sub-total	195	90.70

NB: There were 215 matters disposed of in the quarter

The above table details the leading methods of disposition for a sample of 215 civil matters disposed at the St. Mary Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. Matters struck out with 86 or 40%, matters disposed by consent with 40 or 18.60% and matters disposed by oral admissions with 35 or 16.28% are the leading methods of disposition in the sample. Matters disposed by default judgments with 19 or 8.84% of the sample rank next followed by withdrawals with 15 or 6.98% of the sample. The listed methods of disposition account for 90.70% of the total sample of matters disposed of during the quarter.

Table 12: Sampling distribution of case outcomes for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Outcome	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Judgment in Favour of Plaintiff	31	96.88
Judgment in Favour of Defendant	1	3.13
Total	32	100.00

The above table summarizes the distribution of a sample of case outcomes in the second quarter of 2023 at the St. Mary Parish Court. Judgements in favour of the plaintiff account for 31 or 96.88% of the sample, while judgements in favour of the defendants account for 3.13% of the sample. This probability distribution provides important insights into the results of cases and the likelihood of matters being awarded in favour of the various party types, which may be involved in a case.

Table 13.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
34	9	73.53

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 34 trial dates were set in the second quarter of 2023, shows that 9 were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 73.53%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 74% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

Table 14.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate combined number disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate net case clearance rate (%)	Approximate net case disposal rate (%)
137	45	172	125.55	32.85

The above table shows 137 new cases filed at the St. Mary Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, a total of 45 of these cases were disposed of, leading to an estimated net case disposal rate of 32.85%, an improvement of 8.04 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2022. An approximate gross figure of 172 cases were disposed of during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2022. This led to an estimated net case clearance rate of 125.55%, which meets the international standard for this metric, and is 21.04 percentage points above than the second quarter of 2022. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 15.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	120
Mean	166.2083
Median	44.0000
Mode	28.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	410.38279
Skewness	5.554
Std. Error of Skewness	.221
Range	3521.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	3528.00

a. Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 120 civil matters disposed of in the second quarter of 2023 at the St. Mary Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of this sample of cases is roughly 166 days or 5.5 months, which is roughly 135 less days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2022. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 28 days and the median time was 44 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 410 days suggests that the times taken to disposition were spread out over a large range of values and the positive skewness is an indication that a greater proportion of times to disposition fell below the overall average time. The oldest case disposed in the quarter was 3528 days or roughly 9.8 years old, while minimum time taken to dispose of cases was 7 days. The wide dispersion of the highest score from the centre of the data set suggests that there were outlying values in the distribution.

Table 16.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	280
Mean	579.8429
Median	297.5000
Mode	25.00
Std. Deviation	683.59048
Skewness	1.923
Std. Error of Skewness	.146
Range	3608.00
Minimum	8.00
Maximum	3616.00

The above data is based on sample of 280 active civil matters at the end of second quarter of 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 580 days (or roughly 19.3 months), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 25 days. The standard deviation of roughly 684 days suggests that there is a large dispersion of the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were decidedly more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter in the data set is 3616 days old or roughly 10 years, while the minimum age was 8 days.

Portland Parish Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics at the Portland Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	60	80.00
Disposed	11	14.67
Inactive	4	5.33
Total	75	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 75 new civil cases filed at the Portland Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, 60 or 80% were still active, 11 or 14.67% were disposed of and 4 were inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 20% for the quarter, which is 6.87 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	85	83.33
Small Claim	17	16.67
Total	102	100.00

The above table shows that from the 102 new claims filed in the quarter, the majority of which 85 or 83.33% were big claims, while 17 or 16.67% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Portland Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	31	29.25
Recovery of Possession	18	16.98
Negligence- General & Special Damages	8	7.55
Rent Owing	6	5.66
Breach of Contract (Monies Owing)	5	4.72
Sub-total	68	64.15

Total sample size of causes of action = 106

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. Using a sample of 106 matters filed, the data reveals that the leading causes of action filed were breach of contract with 31 or roughly 29.25% of the total sample, recovery of possession with 18 or 16.98%, and negligence-general and special damages with 8 or 7.55%. Rent owing with 6 or 5.66% and breach of contract (monies owing) with 5 or 4.72% round off the top five causes of action for the quarter. The top causes of action, which are listed above, account for 64.15% of the sample.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of types of cases filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	80	75.47
Bailiff	26	24.53
Total	106	100.00

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority with 80 or 75.47% of the sample, while service by the bailiff accounted for 26 or 24.53%.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	21	29.17
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	15	20.83
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	15	20.83
Buff Bay Outstation (courtroom #1)	16	22.22
Manchioneal Outstation	5	6.94
Total	72*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 57 cases**

The largest proportion of the sample of 72 new matters filed in the quarter was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 21 or 29.17% of the sample of accommodations. The 15 or 20.83% that were entered in courtroom number 3 and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse followed this, while the 16 matters that entered in the courtroom 1 at the Buff Bay outstation rank next. Sittings at the Manchioneal Outstation account for 5 or 6.94%.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	56	52.34
Female	32	29.91
Registered Company	18	16.82
Trading As	1	0.93
Total	107	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 107 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023, males accounted for the majority with 56 or 52.34%, followed by females with 32 or 29.91%. Registered companies account for 18 or 16.82% of the sample and individuals trading

under a business name (“trading as”) with 0.93% account for the remaining proportion of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	62	58.49
Female	43	40.57
Registered Company	1	0.94
Total	106	100.00

There were 106 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of defendants were male with 62 or 58.49% of the sample, followed by females with 43 or 40.57% of the sample. Registered companies with 0.94% account for the remaining proportion of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

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

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Mention Date	115	44.92
Trial	110	42.97
Part-Heard Date	23	8.98
Default Judgment Date	8	3.13
Total	256	100.00

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 256 matters that were heard during the second quarter ended June 30, 2023, which were adjourned for a default, mention, part heard, trial or other similar procedural date. The highest proportion, 115 or 44.92% were adjourned for mention dates, followed by 110 or 42.97%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Adjournments for part heard dates with 23 or 8.98% and for default judgment dates with 8 or 3.13% rank next. This data provides insights into the distribution of the stages of adjournment during the quarter at the Portland Parish Court.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	21	25.30
Settlement	9	10.84
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	8	9.64
Default Judgments	5	6.02
Withdrawal	4	4.82
Sub-total	47	56.63

NB: There were 83 matters disposed of in the quarter

A total of 83 civil matters were disposed at the Portland Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. The distribution is led by disposals by consent with 21 or 25.30% of the sample, followed by settlements with 9 or 10.84%, matters disposed by notices of discontinuance (NOD) with 8 or 9.64% and matters disposed by default judgments with 5 or 6.02%. Withdrawals with 4 or 4.82% complete the top 5 methods of disposition for the quarter. The top 5 methods of dispositions enumerated above account for 56.63% of the total sample of dispositions.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
12	3	75.00

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. Using a sample of 12 trial dates set in the quarter, it is seen that 3 was adjourned for reasons other than procedural factors. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 75% which suggests that during the quarter there was roughly a 75% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without

adjournment. The 2023 result is 5.43 percentage points above the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2022.

Table 11.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross Case disposal rate (%)
75	15	74	98.67	20.00

The above table shows 75 new cases filed at the Portland Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, a total of 11 of these cases were disposed of and 4 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 20%, an improvement of 6.87 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2022. An approximate gross figure of 56 cases were disposed of, and 18 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2023. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 98.67%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric, and is 8.77 percentage points more than the second quarter of 2022.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 15.49%, a 4.15 percentage point improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2022. The estimated net clearance rate is 78.87%, a 3.6 percentage point decline when compared to the second quarter of 2022. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 12.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	61
Mean	334.1803
Median	182.0000
Mode	47.00
Std. Deviation	375.37015
Skewness	1.893
Std. Error of Skewness	.306
Range	1743.00
Minimum	11.00
Maximum	1754.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 61 civil matters disposed of in the second quarter of 2023 at the Portland Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 334 days (11.1 months), which is roughly 333 less days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2022. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 47 days and the median time to disposition was 182 days. The standard deviation of roughly 375 days is an indication that there is a wide dispersion in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness observed is an indication that the larger proportion of the scores in this data series were clustered around the overall mean. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1754 days or roughly 4.9 years old, while the youngest was 11 days.

Table 13.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	363
Mean	874.2287
Median	543.0000
Mode	144.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	838.73769
Skewness	1.208
Std. Error of Skewness	.128
Range	4105.00
Minimum	1.00
Maximum	4106.00

a. Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above data is computed using 363 active cases at the end of the second quarter of 2023. The average age of these cases was roughly 874 days (2.4 years), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 144 days (4.8 months). The standard deviation of roughly 839 days suggests that there is some dispersion of the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that most of the scores in the data set fall below the mean. The oldest active case in this sample was 4106 days (11.4 years), while the youngest was 1 day.

St. Thomas Parish Court – Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Thomas Parish Court for the second quarter of 2023.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	75	57.25
Disposed	15	11.45
Inactive	41	31.30
Total	131	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 131 new cases was filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, 75 cases or 57.25% of these cases were still active, while 15 were disposed of and 41 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 42.75%, which is a 3.69 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2022.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	114	78.62
Small Claim	31	21.38
Total	145	100.00

The above table shows that from a sample of 145 new claims filed in the second quarter of 2023, the majority of which 114 or 78.62% were big claims, while 31 or 21.38% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Thomas parish court for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	33	23.08
Defamation of Character	14	9.79
Recovery of Possession	13	9.09
Rent Owing, Continuing and Recovery of Possession	11	7.69
Rent Owing and Continuing	10	6.99
Sub-total	81	56.64

Total sample size of causes of action= 143

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action filed in the second quarter of 2023 at the St. Thomas Parish Court was breach of contract with 33 or roughly 23.08% of the sample. Defamation of character with 14 or 9.79% and recovery of possession with 13 or 9.09% of the sample rounds off the top causes of action in this representative sample. Rent owing, continuing and recovery of possession with 11 or 7.69% and rent owing and continuing with 10 or 6.99% of the sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 56.64% of all the total sample of 143 causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of the types of service for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
District Constable	22	70.97
Bailiff	6	19.35
Personal	3	9.68
Total	31	100.00

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

majority with 22 or 70.97% of the sample. Service by the bailiff with 6 or 19.35% and personal service with 3 or 9.68% ran next.

Table 5.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	113	77.93
Yallahs Outstation	32	22.07
Total	145*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 131 cases**

The majority of a sample of 145 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023 was entered in courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 113 or 77.93% of the sample, while sittings at the Yallahs outstation accounted for 32 or 22.07% of the sample.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Table 6.0: Distribution of plaintiffs in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	73	50.69
Female	66	45.83
Registered Company	3	2.08
Trading As	2	1.39
Total	144	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 144 new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023 at the St. Thomas Parish Court, males accounted for the majority of the sample with 73 or 50.69%, followed by females with 66 or 45.83%. Registered companies accounted for 3 or 2.08% and individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for the lowest proportion with 1.39% of the sample.

Table 7.0: Distribution of defendants in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	86	60.14
Female	54	37.76
Trading As	3	2.10
Total	143	100.00

There were 143 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of defendants were male with 86 or 60.14% of the sample, followed by females with 54 or 37.76% of the sample. Individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for the lowest proportion with 2.10% of the sample.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

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

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Date for Order	130	44.83
Mention Date	78	26.90
Trial	46	15.86
Default Judgment Date	22	7.59
Part-Heard Date	13	4.48
Hearing of Application	1	0.34
Total	290	100.00

The above table is computed based on a sample of 290 cases adjourned during the second quarter of 2023. The highest proportion, 130 or 44.83% were adjourned for an order to be handed down, followed by 78 or 26.90% which were adjourned for a mention date. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 46 or 15.86% of matters, which were adjourned for trial dates. Matters adjourned for a default judgment date with 22 or 7.59% and matters adjourned for a part heard date with 13 or 4.48% of the sample rank next.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Parties in Discussion	61	24.70
Defendant Absent	42	17.00
Attorney Absent	26	10.53
Both Parties Absent	15	6.07
Plaintiff Absent	7	2.83
Sub-total	151	61.13

Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 247

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 247 incidences of adjournments in the second quarter of 2023. Parties in discussion with 61 or 24.70% of the sample, adjournments due to absence of defendants with 42 or 17% and adjournments due to absence of attorneys with 26 or 10.53% rounds off the top three. Adjournments due to absence of both parties with 15 or 6.07% and the absence of plaintiffs with 7 or 2.83% of the sample round off this list. The listed reasons for adjournment account for 61.13% of the total sample of adjournments.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	34
Average Incidence	1.03

Corresponding to 33 cases

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 34 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 33 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.03 reissues per case file for new claims filed in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 10 reissue incidences.

Table 11.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	35	27.13
Struck Out	23	17.83
Oral Admission	19	14.73
Default Judgment	14	10.85
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	13	10.08
Sub-total	104	80.62

NB: there were 129 matters were disposed of in the quarter

The above table details the top five methods of disposal computed from a sample of 129 matters. The list is led by matters disposed of by consent with 35 or 27.13% of the sample. Matters struck out with 23 or 17.83% rank next. Matters disposed by oral admissions with 19 or 14.73% and by default judgments with 14 or 10.85% and Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) with 13 or 10.08% round off the list. The listed methods of disposition account for roughly 80.62% of the sample.

Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty rate for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty rate (%)
25	3	88.00

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 25 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that 3 were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 88%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was an estimated 88% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment and is 5.62 percentage points below the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022.

Table 13.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
131	56	169	129.01	42.75

The above table shows 131 new cases filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, a total of 15 cases were disposed of and 41 became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 42.75%, an increase of 3.69 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2022. A gross figure of 109 cases were disposed of, and 60 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of

origin predating 2023. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 129.01%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric and represents a decrease of 10.05 percentage points when compared to the second quarter of 2022.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 16.67%, a 3.74 percentage points decline when compared to the second quarter of 2022. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 121.11%, a 4.78 percentage points increase when compared to second quarter of 2022. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 14.0: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	93
Mean	520.5161
Median	217.0000
Mode	63.00
Std. Deviation	699.27703
Skewness	2.127
Std. Error of Skewness	.250
Range	2941.00
Minimum	14.00
Maximum	2955.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 93 civil matters disposed in the second quarter of 2023 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 521 days or 17.4 months, which is roughly 99 more days than it took to dispose of matters in the second quarter of 2022. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 63 days. There is a standard deviation of roughly 699 days is an indication that

there is a large amount of variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores falling below the overall average time taken to dispose of the cases. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2955 days or roughly 8.2 years old, while the minimum time taken was 14 days.

Table 15.0a: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive Statistics (days)

Number of observations	240
Mean	1152.5042
Median	759.0000
Mode	3006.00
Std. Deviation	1152.29433
Skewness	.784
Std. Error of Skewness	.157
Range	2991.00
Minimum	15.00
Maximum	3006.00

The above data is based on a sample of 240 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 1153 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 3006 days or 8.4 years. The high standard deviation of roughly 1152 days suggests that there is wide dispersion in the individual scores in the data set, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 3006 days or 8.4 years, while the youngest case was 15 days.

Table 15.0b: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	40
Mean	648.4750
Median	878.0000
Mode	878.00
Std. Deviation	393.71974
Skewness	-.468
Std. Error of Skewness	.374
Range	1385.00
Minimum	11.00
Maximum	1396.00

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 40 active reissued matters at the St. Thomas Parish Court as at the end of the second quarter ended June 30, 2023.

The average age of these matters was roughly 648 days, while the most frequently occurring age and the median age were both 878 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some variation among the individual scores, with the negative skewness indicating that a larger proportion of the ages were above the overall series average. The highest age in the data set was 1396 days and the lowest was 11 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

St. James Parish Court –Civil Division

Chapter 1.0: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. James Parish Court for the second quarter of 2023.

Table 1.0: Case status summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	239	65.84
Disposed	33	9.09
Inactive	91	25.07
Total	363	100.00

The above table presents a status distribution of 363 new cases filed at the St. James Parish Court in the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, 239 cases or 65.84% of these cases were still active, 33 were disposed of and 91 were rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 34.16% for the quarter.

Table 2.0: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	211	52.36
Small Claim	192	47.64
Total	403	100.00

The above table shows that from 403 new claims filed in the second quarter of 2023, the majority of which were big claims with 211 or 52.36%, while 192 or 47.61% were small claims.

Table 3.0: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. James Parish Court-Civil division for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Recovery of Possession	60	15.67
Breach of Contract	33	8.62
Rent Owing and Continuing	28	7.31
Monies Owing	21	5.48
Monies Loaned	19	4.96
Sub-total	161	42.04

Total sample size of causes of action = 383

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table uses a sample of 383 matters, from which the leading causes of action filed in the second quarter of 2023 were recovery of possession with 60 or roughly 15.67% of the sample and breach of contract with 33 or 8.62% of the sample. Rent owing and continuing with 28 or 7.31% and monies owing with 21 or 5.48% of the sample rank next. Monies loaned with 19 or 4.96% of the total sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 42.04% of the sample of causes of action.

Table 4.0: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Cambridge Outstation	220	60.44
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	141	38.74
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	3	0.82
Total	364*	100.00

***Note: Corresponding to 332 cases**

The majority of a sample of 364 matters entered in the second quarter of 2023 were entered in the Cambridge outstation, which accounted for 220 or 60.44% of the sample. Sittings at courtroom number 4 at the main courthouse had 141 matters entered or 38.74% of the sample, followed by courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse with 3 or 0.82%.

Case Demographics for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Table 5.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	183	45.52
Female	157	39.05
Registered Company	62	15.42
Total	402	100.00

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 402 new matters filed in the quarter, males accounted for the highest proportions of the sample with 183 or 45.52% of the sample, followed by females with 157 or 39.05% of the total sample. Registered companies with 62 or 15.42% accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample.

Table 6.0: Distribution of defendants for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	133	56.60
Female	78	33.19
Registered Company	23	9.79
Trading As	1	0.43
Total	235	100.00

There were 235 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the second quarter of 2023. The majority of defendants were male with 133 or 56.60% of the total sample, followed by females with 78 or 33.19%. Registered companies accounted for 23 or 9.79% of the sample and individuals trading under a business name ("trading as") accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 0.43%.

Chapter 2.0: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

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

Table 7.0: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Trial	100	45.25
Mention Date	71	32.13
Part-Heard Date	18	8.14
Default Judgment Date	17	7.69
Final Judgment Date	12	5.43
Hearing of Application	3	1.36
Total	221	100.00

The above table shows a sample of 221 matters that went to court during the second quarter ended June 30, 2023, which were adjourned for a default judgment, mention, part heard dates and similar procedural dates. Adjournments for trial dates accounted for 100 or 45.25% of the sample, followed by 71 or 32.13%, which were adjourned for mention dates. Matters disposed for part heard dates accounted for 18 or 8.14% and matters adjourned for a default judgment date account for 17 or 7.69% of the total sample. As with most other courts, this data decisively suggests that there is a greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for a mention date,

though this is not an unsurprising result given that mention court stings are intrinsic to the progression of civil and other cases.

Table 8.0: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Withdrawal	163	43.24
Default Judgment	66	17.51
Oral Admission	46	12.20
Struck Out	40	10.61
Consent	17	4.51
Sub-total	332	88.06

NB: There were 377 matters disposed of in the quarter

A sample of 377 matters disposed during the second quarter of 2023 revealed that 163 or 43.24% of matters were disposed of by withdrawals and 66 or 17.51% were disposed by default judgments. Matters disposed by oral admissions with 46 or 12.20% and matters struck out with 40 or 10.61% rank next. Matters were disposed of by consent with 17 or 4.51% of the total sample of disposals completing the top five for the quarter. The top five methods of disposition enumerated above account for 88.06% of the total sample of dispositions. This data provides insights into the overall distribution of the methods of disposition in the second quarter of 2023.

Table 9.0: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
45	2	95.56

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 45 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that 2 were adjourned. This results in an estimated

trial date certainty rate of 95.56%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was an estimated 96% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

Table 10.0: Case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross Case disposal rate (%)
363	124	437	120.39	34.16

The above table shows 363 new cases filed at the St. James Parish Court during the second quarter of 2023. At the end of the quarter, a total of 33 cases were disposed of and 91 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 34.16%. An approximate gross figure of 238 cases were disposed of, and 199 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2023. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 120.39%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric and is 39.05 percentage points above the rate recorded in the second quarter of 2022.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 12.13% and the estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 87.50%, a 45.87 percentage points improvement when compared to the second quarter of 2022. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

Table 11.0: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose of matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	178
Mean	189.3876
Median	68.0000
Mode	7.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	254.38676
Skewness	1.861
Std. Error of Skewness	.182
Range	1198.00
Minimum	2.00
Maximum	1200.00

a. Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 178 civil matters disposed in the second quarter of 2023 at the St. James Parish court. The average time taken to dispose of these matters is roughly 189 days or 6.3 months. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 7 days and the median time was 68 days. The standard deviation of roughly 254 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness suggests that there were more scores in the data set that fell below the overall average scores. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1200 days or roughly 3.3 years old, while the minimum time taken was 2 days.

Table 12.0: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Descriptive statistics (in days)

Number of observations	431
Mean	559.0348
Median	451.0000
Mode	879.00
Std. Deviation	447.93198
Skewness	1.119
Std. Error of Skewness	.118
Range	2965.00
Minimum	14.00
Maximum	2979.00

The above data is based on a sample of 431 active civil matters at the end of the second quarter of 2023. The average age of these matters was roughly 559 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 879 days. The standard deviation of roughly 448 days suggests that there is some amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the series average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter is 2979 days old or roughly 8.3 years, while the minimum age is 14 days.

Performance Summaries-Other Parish Court

Table 1.0: Key Performance Indicators for the Civil Divisions of the Manchester, St. Elizabeth and St. James Parish Courts for the second quarter of 2023

Parish Court	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)	Net Case Clearance Rate (%)	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%)	Net Case Disposal Rate (%)	Trial Date certainty Rate (%)
Manchester PC	-	153.57	-	-	-
St. Elizabeth PC	-	83.44	-	33.74	-
Hanover PC	194.50	194.68	94.50	93.62	-

The summary of key performance metrics for the parish courts of Manchester, St. Elizabeth and Hanover shows that the civil division of the Manchester Parish Court recorded an estimated net case clearance rate of 153.57% in the second quarter of 2023. The estimated net case clearance rate for the St. Elizabeth Parish Court in the quarter was 83.44% and the estimated net case disposal rate was 33.74%. The Hanover Parish Court recorded an estimated gross clearance rate of 194.50% and an estimated net clearance rate of 194.68%. The Hanover Parish Court also recorded an estimated gross disposal rate of 94.50% and an estimated net disposal rate of 93.62% for the quarter.

Aggregate data summaries – all Parish Courts

Table 1.0: Aggregate case flow performance estimates for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Approximate number of new cases	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Clearance rate (%)
4305	5974	138.77

The above table provides a summary of aggregate case activity across the civil division of the parish courts in the second quarter of 2023. It shows that a total of 4,305 new cases were filed over the quarter, while 5,974 became inactive or were disposed of, leading to an estimated gross clearance rate of 138.77%. This is a 50.20 percentage points decline when compared to the corresponding period in 2022.

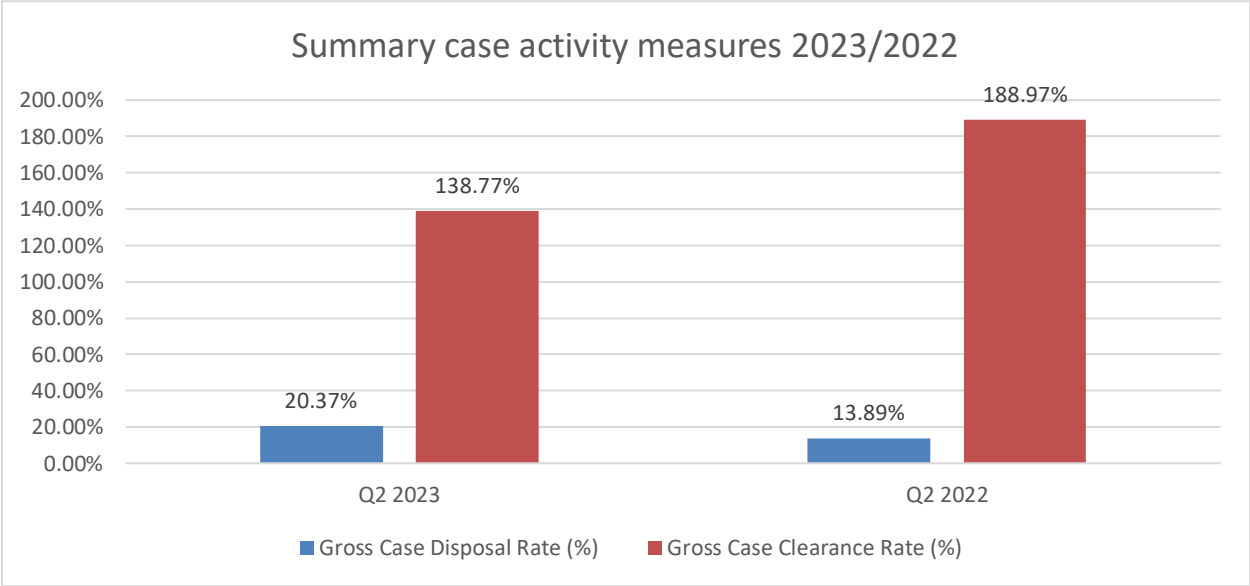
Table 2.0: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parish Court	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%) Q2 2023	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%) Q2 2022	Change in the Gross Case Disposal Rate (%)	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%) Q2 2023	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%) Q2 2022	Change in the Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)
St. Thomas	42.75	39.06	3.69	129.01	139.06	-10.05
Corporate Area- Civil	4.27	19.43	-15.16	145.48	410.45	-264.97
St. Elizabeth						
Hanover	94.50	65.31	29.19	194.50	214.29	-19.79
Manchester						
Portland	20.00	13.13	6.87	98.67	89.90	8.77
St. Ann	25.90	13.52	12.38	173.28	142.54	30.74
St. Catherine	11.76	7.64	4.12	168.70	314.89	-146.19
St. Mary						
Trelawny	19.71	18.27	1.44	131.39	137.50	-6.11
St. James	34.16			120.39	81.34	39.05
Clarendon	27.45	21.17	6.28	83.66	102.25	-18.59
Westmoreland	29.02	50.59	-21.57	123.83	214.12	-90.29
Average /Weighted Average	20.37	13.89	6.48	138.77	188.97	-50.20
Standard Deviation	24.85	19.63		34.25	106.57	
Skewness	2.08	1.11		0.20	1.26	

The table above provides a comparison of the case disposal rate and the case clearance rate and for the second quarter of 2023 and 2022. The weighted average gross case disposal rate for the second quarter of 2023 was 20.37%, which was a 6.48 percentage points improvement when

compared to the second quarter of 2022 weighted average rate of 13.89%. The gross case clearance rate of 138.778% for the second quarter of 2023 was 50.20 percentage points below the 188.97% recorded in the second quarter of 2022.

Chart 1.0: Aggregate summary of case activity metrics for second quarter of 2022 and 2023



The above graph provides a summary of the progression of the overall case disposal and case clearance for the second quarter of 2023 and 2022. It is seen that there has been an improvement in the gross case disposal rate and a decrease in the gross case clearance rate over the comparative period. The case clearance rate moved from 188.97% in the second quarter of 2022 to 138.77% in the second quarter of 2023. The case disposal rate moved from 13.89% in the second quarter of 2022 to 20.37% in the second quarter of 2023, an increase of 6.48 percentage points.

Chart 2.0a: Comparison of case disposal rates across the parish courts for the second quarter of 2022 and 2023

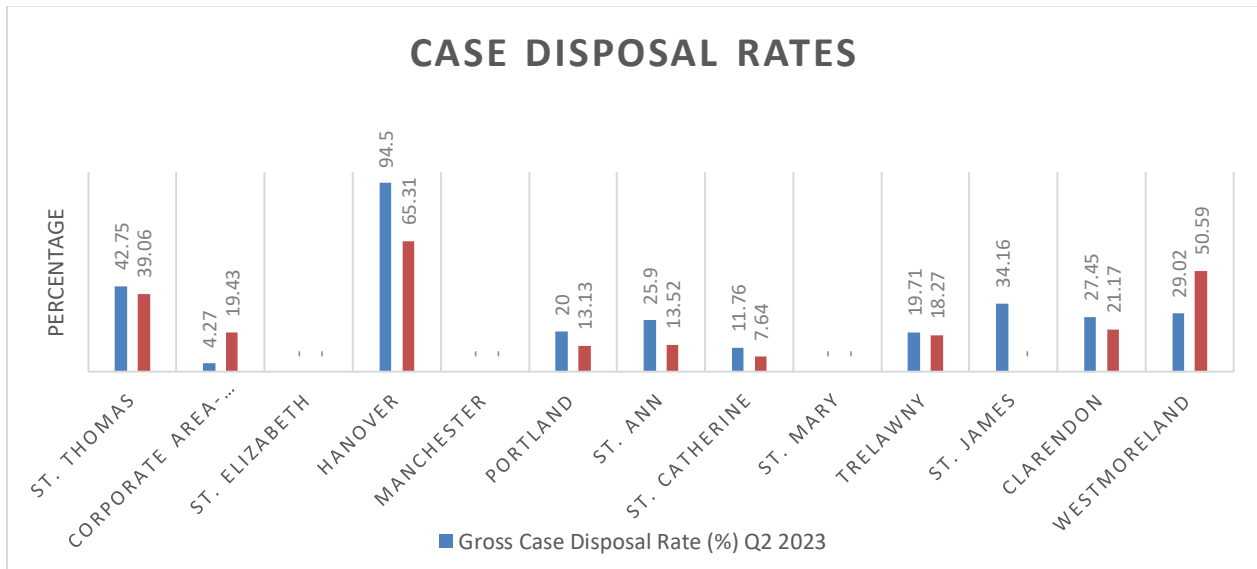


Chart 2.0b: Comparison of case clearance rates across the parish courts for second quarter of 2022 and 2023

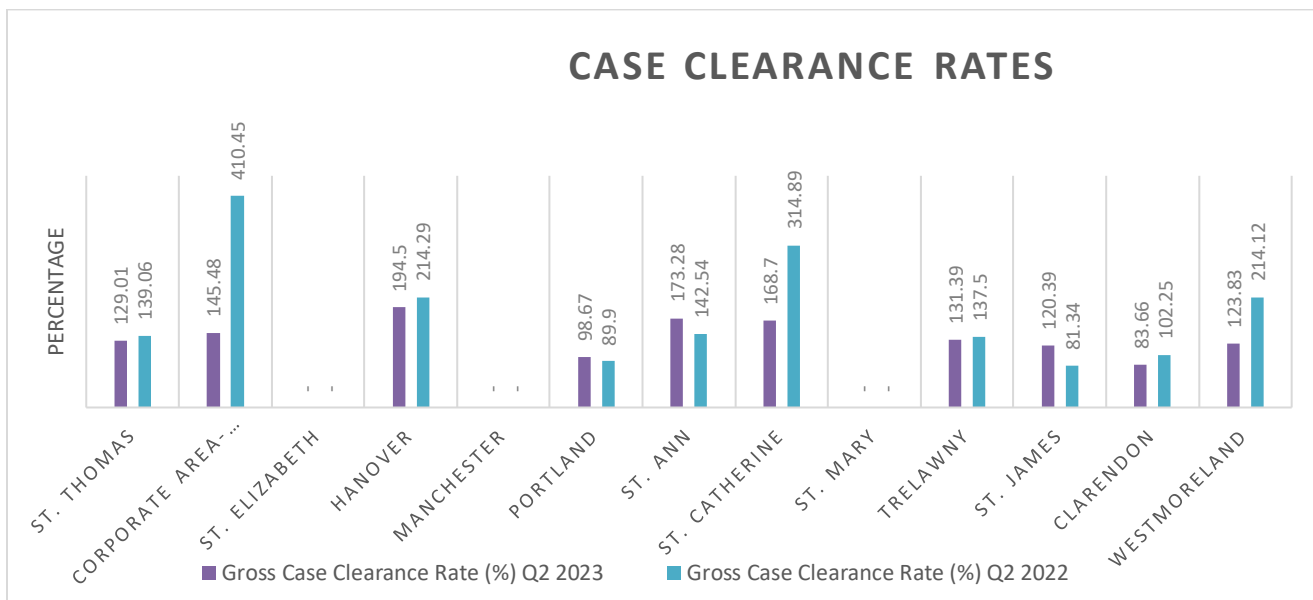


Table 3: Sampling distribution of claims filed during the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parish Court	Big Claims	Small Claims	POCA	Miscellaneous	Total
Corporate area	1092	176	2	-	1270
Portland	85	17	-	-	102
St. Ann	411	66	2	-	479
St. Catherine	820	81	-	-	901
St. Mary	127	34	-	-	161
St. Thomas	114	31	-	-	145
Trelawny	128	23	-	-	151
Westmoreland	222	41	-	-	263
St. James	211	192	-	-	403
Clarendon	304	56	-	-	360
Total	3514	717	4	0	4235

The above table provides an overall summary of the claims files across the parish courts in the second quarter of 2023. The sample of 4,235 new claims filed in the second quarter of 2023 reveals that 3,514 or 82.98% were big claims, while 16.93% were small claims and 0.09% were POCA matters. The Corporate Area Court-Civil Division, the St. Catherine Parish Court, and the St. Ann Parish Court account for the largest share of new complaints filed in the quarter. The Corporate Area Court-Civil Division, the St. Catherine, and the St. Ann Parish Courts account for the largest share of big claims filed in the quarter, while the St. James Parish Court, Corporate Area Court-Civil Division and the St. Catherine Parish Court account for the largest shares of small claims filed.

Table 4.0: Sampling distribution of new cases filed per 10,000 in the civil division of the parish courts in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Population size in parish	Case per 10,000 population
Hanover	109	69,533	16
St. Catherine	706	516,218	14
Westmoreland	193	144,103	13
St. Mary	137	113,615	12
Clarendon	306	245,103	12
Portland	75	81,744	9
St. Elizabeth	326	150,205	22
Corporate Area Civil	1207	662,426	18
St. Thomas	131	93,902	14
St. James	363	183,811	20
St. Ann	363	172,362	21
Trelawny	137	75,164	18
Manchester	252	189,797	13
Total	4305	2697983	16

The above table provides an outline of the number of new civil cases filed per 10,000 population in the parish courts (civil division) in the second quarter of 2023. 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 civil adjudication in the various parishes. It is seen that the parish of St. Elizabeth, which is mid-range in caseloads and population size, registered the largest number of new civil cases filed per 10,000 population in the second quarter of 2023. St. Ann, which is among the courts with the larger caseloads and midrange in population size, ranked second. Equally interesting is the result that the parish of the Portland had the smallest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population in the quarter and is among the parishes with a smaller population size and the parish with the smallest caseload in the quarter. The St. Mary and Clarendon Parish Courts jointly recorded the

second lowest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population, followed by the Westmoreland and Manchester Parish Courts.

Table 5.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Reasons for Adjournment	Count	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	998	19.10
Defendant Absent	854	16.35
Parties in Discussion	308	5.90
Both Parties Absent	238	4.56
Referred to Mediation	150	2.87
Plaintiff Absent	149	2.85
Pending Settlement	121	2.32
New Date	87	1.67
Attorney Absent	77	1.47
Hearing of Application	67	1.28
Sub-total	3049	58.37

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance = (5,224)

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

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

The above table is derived using a sample of 5,224 reasons for adjournments/continuance for matters heard in the second quarter of 2023 across all of the parish courts (civil division). The largest proportion (19.10%) was for no return/ for reissue. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 16.35% and for parties in discussion with 5.90% round out the top three reasons for adjournment across the parish courts. Adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 4.56% and referrals to mediation with 2.87% round of the top five reasons for adjournment for the quarter. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above account for 58.37% of the total sample of adjournments.

Table 6.0a: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parishes	Time interval in days							Sample size (n)
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269 days	270-364 days	365 -547 days	548-729 days	730 days and over	
Corporate Area Civil	4519 (35.3%)	2858 (22.4%)	1429 (11.2%)	1054 (8.2%)	1239 (9.7%)	646 (5.1%)	1039 (8.1%)	12784 (100%)
St. Catherine	2000 1(6.7%)	1619 (13.5%)	940 (7.8%)	764 (6.4%)	1323 (11.0%)	935 (7.8%)	4429 (36.9%)	12010 (100%)
St. James	457 (43.4%)	179 (17.0%)	79 (7.5%)	66 (6.3%)	110 (10.4%)	66 (6.3%)	96 (9.1%)	1053 (100%)
Clarendon	328 (37.2%)	287 (32.6%)	148 (16.8%)	54 (6.1%)	43 (4.9%)	20 (2.3%)	1 (0.1%)	881 (100%)
Westmoreland	818 (56.8%)	279 (19.4%)	117 (8.1%)	87 (6.0%)	80 (5.6%)	34 (2.4%)	24 (1.7%)	1439 (100%)
St. Ann	1292 (31.4%)	947 (23.0%)	495 (12.0%)	331 (8.0%)	431 (10.5%)	216 (5.2%)	407 (9.9%)	4119 (100%)
St. Thomas	617 (34.4%)	399 (22.3%)	203 (11.3%)	132 (7.4%)	164 (9.2%)	97 (5.4%)	180 (10.0%)	1792 (100%)
Portland	212 (29.4%)	154 (21.4%)	75 (10.4%)	55 (7.6%)	85 (11.8%)	15 (2.1%)	125 (17.3%)	721 (100%)
St. Mary	1380 (55.1%)	444 (17.7%)	196 (7.8%)	118 (4.7%)	173 (6.9%)	74 (3.0%)	118 (4.7%)	2503 (100%)
Trelawny	853 (55.4%)	284 (18.5%)	121 (7.9%)	77 (5.0%)	96 (6.2%)	40 (2.6%)	68 (4.4%)	1539 (100%)
% of Total	32.12	19.18	9.79	7.05	9.64	5.52	16.70	-
Average	1247.60	745.00	380.30	273.80	374.40	214.30	648.70	3884.10
Standard Deviation	1272.30	868.51	455.35	351.13	490.25	316.50	1363.39	4595.83
Skewness	2.20	1.98	1.79	1.74	1.60	1.84	2.89	1.60

Number of charges sampled (N) = 38,841

Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the last 66 months across the parish courts

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court as at June 30, 2023. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 66-month period. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed of in the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 32.12% of the

disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. Mary and St. Ann are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed of under 90 days. Cumulatively 68.14% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in increasing overall productivity and realizing the objective of becoming the best in the Caribbean region in three years and among the best in the world in 3-5 years. From the data set, the parish courts (civil division) of St. Catherine, Corporate Area Parish Court, and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 16.70% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts civil division of the St. Catherine, Corporate Area Parish Court, and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample are all relatively high, indicating that in each case a larger proportion of the scores fell below the applicable series mean.

Table 6.0b: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Civil	258.20	34	138	306.56	2.52	1	2791	12784
St. Catherine	591.09	28	468	500.56	0.71	1	2630	12010
St. James	247.08	28	107	303.99	2.08	1	2405	1053
Clarendon	151.31	63	118	125.77	1.66	3	763	881
Westmoreland	138.96	35	75	167.03	2.25	1	1112	1439
St. Ann	296.48	63	154	375.84	2.52	1	2625	4119
St. Thomas	277.71	28	146	338.05	2.28	1	2379	1792
Portland	414.58	2251	177	571.15	2.16	3	2251	721
St. Mary	171.20	28	71	240.01	2.54	1	1634	2503
Trelawny	172.00	28	72	250.91	3.04	1	2080	1539
Total/Weighted Average	352.83	258.60	152.60	317.99	2.18	1.40	2067.00	3884.10
Standard Deviation	139.85	700.20	116.80	138.17	0.63	0.84	682.97	4595.83
Skewness	1.49	3.16	2.59	0.59	-1.40	1.78	-1.03	1.60

Number of charges sampled (N) = 38,841

Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the last 66 months across the parish courts

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court as at June 30, 2023. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 66-month period. The output produces an estimated overall weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Civil Division) of approximately 353 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a positive figure, suggesting that most of these times fell below the overall mean. For matters disposed in the period, the parish courts of Westmoreland (139 days), Clarendon (151 days) and St. Mary (171 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of St. Catherine (591 days), Portland (415 days) and St. Ann (296 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters disposed over the

period of analysis. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is shown to be modest, as conferred by the standard deviation of 139.85. The average minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 1.4 days; however, the average maximum times are substantially larger. These results are both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 763 days (25.4 months/2.1 years) in the Clarendon Parish Court, to a high of 2,791 days (93 months/7.8 years) in the Corporate Area Civil Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a negative value, which is an indication that a larger proportion of the maximum times to disposition were above the series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial and representative 38,841 matters.

Table 7.0a: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parishes	Time interval in days							Sample size (n)
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269 days	270-364 days	365 -547 days	548-729 days	730 days and over	
Corporate Area Civil	98 (28.3%)	126 (36.4%)	50 (14.5%)	13 (3.8%)	30 (8.7%)	12 (3.5%)	17 (4.9%)	346 (100%)
St. Catherine	122 (10.5%)	129 (11.1%)	82 (7.1%)	40 (3.5%)	54 (4.7%)	87 (7.5%)	643 (55.6%)	1157 (100%)
St. James	94 (52.8%)	28 (15.7%)	16 (9.0%)	7 (3.9%)	13 (7.3%)	5 (2.8%)	15 (8.4%)	178 (100%)
Clarendon	20 (21.3%)	23 (24.5%)	22 (23.4%)	6 (6.4%)	17 (18.1%)	5 (5.3%)	1 (1.1%)	94 (100%)
Westmoreland	90 (58.8%)	33 (21.6%)	9 (5.9%)	7 (4.6%)	7 (4.6%)	7 (4.6%)	NA	153 (100%)
St. Ann	128 (41.2%)	54 (17.4%)	24 (7.7%)	18 (5.8%)	34 (10.9%)	20 (6.4%)	33 (10.6%)	311 (100%)
St. Thomas	31 (33.3%)	13 (14.0%)	5 (5.4%)	8 (8.6%)	8 (8.6%)	8 (8.6%)	20 (21.5%)	93 (100%)
Portland	18 (29.5%)	11 (18.0%)	4 (6.6%)	9 (14.8%)	10 (16.4%)	1 (1.6%)	8 (13.1%)	61 (100%)
St. Mary	86 (71.7%)	16 (13.3%)	6 (5.0%)	1 (0.8%)	2 (1.7%)	NA	9 (7.5%)	120 (100%)
Trelawny	61 (66.3%)	13 (14.1%)	8 (8.7%)	NA	4 (4.3%)	2 (2.2%)	4 (4.3%)	92 (100%)
% of Total	28.71	17.12	8.68	4.18	6.87	5.64	28.79	-
Average	74.80	44.60	22.60	12.11	17.90	16.33	83.33	260.50
Standard Deviation	40.36	45.53	25.07	11.47	16.53	27.11	210.09	329.25
Skewness	-0.33	1.47	1.83	2.12	1.34	2.76	2.99	2.70

Number of charges sampled (N) = 2,605

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023. The results shown suggest that only 28.71% of the charges disposed of in the period took less than 90 days. The St. Ann parish court along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division and St. James are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed under 90 days. Cumulatively, 58.69% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year. From the

data set, the parish courts (civil division) of St. Catherine, St. Ann and Corporate Area Parish Court had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 28.79% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts civil division of the St. Catherine, St. Ann and Corporate Area Parish Court had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample are mostly relatively high, indicating that in each case a larger proportion of the scores fell below the applicable series mean.

Table 7.0b: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Civil Division	222.40	119	127	268.22	3.41	6	2089	346
St. Catherine	911.84	1646	891	648.98	0.14	1	3241	1157
St. James	189.39	7	68	254.39	1.86	2	1200	178
Clarendon	234.01	193	193	173.62	0.97	35	763	94
Westmoreland	126.84	111	69	146.34	2.07	7	686	153
St. Ann	342.51	63	107	576.54	3.56	2	3977	311
St. Thomas	520.52	63	217	699.28	2.13	14	2955	93
Portland	334.18	47	182	375.37	1.89	11	1754	61
St. Mary	166.21	28	44	410.38	5.55	7	3528	120
Trelawny	146.75	80	60.50	240.05	3.13	2	1190	92
Total/Weighted Average	543.50	235.70	195.85	379.32	2.47	8.70	2138.30	260.50
Standard Deviation	239.48	498.32	251.73	199.70	1.51	10.18	1207.64	329.25
Skewness	1.99	3.10	2.83	0.57	0.60	2.24	0.27	2.70

Number of charges sampled (N) = 2,605

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023. The output produces an estimated overall weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Civil Division) of approximately 544 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a positive 1.99, suggesting that most of the scores were below the overall mean. For matters disposed of in the period, the parish courts of Westmoreland (127 days), Trelawny (147 days) and St. Mary (166 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of St. Catherine (912 days), St. Thomas (521 days) and St. Ann (343 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters disposed over the period of analysis. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is shown to be modest, as conferred by the standard deviation of 239.48. The average minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 8.70 days; however, the average maximum times are substantially larger. These results are both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 686 days (22.9 months/1.9 years) in the Westmoreland Parish Court, to a high of 3,977 days (132.6 months/11 years) in the St. Ann Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a positive 0.27, which is an indication that most of the maximum times to disposition were clustered the series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial and representative 2,605 matters.

Table 7.0c: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposition for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parish Court	Struck Out	Consent	Settlement	Default Judgment	Oral Admission	Withdrawal	Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	Other	Total
St. Catherine	984	87	101	58	6	54	57	53	1400
Corporate Area Civil	648	173	9	42	69	101	64	66	1172
Westmoreland	66	31	23	34	30	17	12	23	236
Clarendon	136	43	21	12	14	8	13	20	267
Trelawny	17	25	10	27	22	9	2	17	129
Portland	3	21	9	5	-	4	8	33	83
St. Mary	86	40	7	19	35	15	4	9	215
St. Thomas	23	35	4	14	19	-	13	21	129
St. Ann	73	174	64	63	41	32	29	32	508
St. James	40	17	7	66	46	163	9	29	377
Total	2076	646	255	340	282	403	211	303	4516
Percentage of total	45.97	14.30	5.65	7.53	6.24	8.92	4.67	6.71	-

Number of charges sampled (N): 4,516

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts-civil division for the second quarter of 2023. From the sample, it is observed that the highest proportion of matters disposed of during the quarter were by being struck out with 45.97% of the sample, followed by matters disposed by consent with 14.30%, withdrawals with 8.92% and matters disposed by default judgments with 7.53% of the sample. Dispositions grouped under the category, “other methods” with 6.71% and oral admissions with 6.24% rank next. Settlements with 5.65% and matters disposed of by Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) with 4.67% account for the remaining disposals in the quarter.

15.0c: Net and gross case backlog as at the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parish Court	Net case backlog rate (%)	Gross case backlog rate (%)
Clarendon	0.44	11.10
Corporate area	2.84	19.31
Hanover	0.11	4.34
Manchester	1.82	15.80
Portland	1.47	8.54
St. Ann	2.46	22.67
St. Catherine	0.48	7.97
St. James	0.36	10.53
St. Mary	0.16	9.98
St. Thomas	2.36	8.96
Trelawny	1.00	10.27
Westmoreland	0.09	7.56
Weighted Average	1.37	13.03
Standard Deviation	1.02	5.25

Note: The net backlog for the Brown's Town Outstation in St. Ann for the second quarter of 2023 is 7.09% and the gross backlog is 27.56%

The net and gross case backlog rates provide one of the most decisive indicators of court performance as they are strongly influenced by most of the other critical court performance metrics such as the case clearance, case disposal, trial and hearing date certainty rates and are also directly correlated with the case congestion rate. The estimated gross case backlog rate provides a measurement of the proportion of cases filed for a given period (of over two years) which are either active or inactive (i.e. are unresolved) and are over two years old at the date of reporting. The closely related estimated net case backlog rate is the proportion of all cases filed

for a given period (of over two years) which are still active and exceeding two years old at the time of reporting. The estimated net case backlog rate therefore excludes inactive cases which are unresolved. Based on international best practices an estimated gross case backlog rate of under 10% is desirable, while an estimated net case backlog rate of under 5% is prescribed. The results revealed are quite outstanding, revealing a net case backlog rate (weighted average) in the parish courts is 1.37 (with a standard deviation of 1.02%) which is satisfies than the international standard. The estimated gross case backlog rate also stands at a commendable 13.03% (with a standard deviation of 5.25%), an indication that there are a large number of inactive unresolved cases in the parish courts. This rate is only 3.03 percentage points higher than the prescribed rate of 10%, but seemingly has the potential to meet this standard relatively soon with the application of more aggressive case management practices and reduction in the incidence of delays in the courts. Although the time series used for this computation is only 6 years' worth of cases, the sample set is large and representative of the current direction of the court system. The parish courts of Westmoreland with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.09%, Hanover with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.11% and St. Mary with an estimated net case backlog rate of 0.16% have the lowest (best) estimated net case backlog rate in the time series, while the parish courts of Corporate Area (2.84%), St. Ann (2.46%) and St. Thomas (2.36%) have the highest rates. As for the estimated gross backlog rate, the parish courts of Hanover (4.34%), Westmoreland (7.56%) and St. Catherine 7.97%) have the lowest (best) estimated gross backlog rates in the series, while the parish courts of St. Ann (22.67%), Corporate Area Court (19.31%) and Manchester (15.80%) have the highest rates. Taken together, these are quite impressive returns for the court system in Jamaica and augur well for future prospects.

Trial court activity summary for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Table 1.0a: Time interval between major events for cases that had a trial date in the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parish Court	Average time between filing and first court appearance	Average time between first court appearance and trial	Average time between trial and disposition
Clarendon	50.73	196.90	131.22
Corporate Area-Civil Division	151.68	241.64	232.25
Portland	57.61	724.02	344.90
St. Ann	96.51	499.89	901.89
St. Catherine	94.20	506.35	387.95
St. James	53.07	417.09	98.38
St. Mary	81.72	158.07	318.21
St. Thomas	45.06	613.86	746.26
Trelawny	49.38	285.25	197.23
Westmoreland	36.44	81.83	84.65
Weighted Average	82.20	422.21	409.69
Standard Deviation	35.05	211.87	275.39

Tracking the times between the occurrence of major hearing events along the case flow continuum is important to establishing precise points of possible delay in case progression. The above table provides a summary of the average times between filing a case and the first court appearance. The average time between first court appearance and the first date of trial and the average duration between the first trial date and disposition. Overall, it is seen that the average time between filing a civil case and the first court appearance is roughly 2.7 months, while the

overall average time between first appearance of a civil matter in the parish courts and the first trial date is, however, much longer at roughly 14.1 months or 422 days. The average duration between the first trial date set and the date of disposition is roughly 13.7 months or 410 days. These findings indicate that there may be imprecisions in the science of scheduling trial dates which may at times face long delays after a first date set is postponed. Since less than a quarter of civil cases filed in the parish courts will proceed to trial, these findings may not have a dramatic impact on the overall time to disposition of civil cases.

Table 1.0b: Trial court activity summary during the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parish Court	Number of cases heard	Number of cases with a trial date set	Percentage of cases heard which had a trial date set
Clarendon	714	148	20.73
Corporate Area	3387	182	5.37
Portland	271	97	35.79
St. Ann	1381	210	15.21
St. Catherine	3234	612	18.92
St. James	821	70	8.53
St. Mary	333	66	19.82
St. Thomas	327	90	27.52
Trelawny	387	68	17.57
Westmoreland	467	149	31.91
Total/Weighted Average	11322	1692	14.94

The above table provides a summary of number of cases heard in the second quarter of 2023 in the civil divisions of the parish courts. Using a sampling distribution, it is seen that of 11,322 civil

cases heard across the parish courts in the second quarter of 2023, 1,692 or 14.94% proceeded to trial. The parish courts of the Corporate Area (5.37%), St. James (8.53%) and St. Ann (15.21%) had the lowest proportion of cases proceeding to trial, while the parish courts of Portland (35.79%), Westmoreland (31.91%) and St. Thomas (27.52%) had the highest proportion.

Table 1.0c: Distribution of methods of disposition for matters set for trial during the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	123	23.25
Consent	73	13.80
Default Judgement	55	10.40
Transferred	54	10.21
Settlement	46	8.70
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	40	7.56
Judgment	29	5.48
Withdrawal	29	5.48
Trial	28	5.29
Non-Suited	15	2.84
Oral Admission	12	2.27
Other	12	2.27
Not Guilty Plea - Mediated Settlement	11	2.08
Dismissal	2	0.38
Total	529	100.00

The above table summarizes the common methods of disposition for a sample of cases proceeding to trial. It is seen that matters struck out with 23.25% of the cases disposed of, matters disposed by consent with 73 or 13.80% and matters disposed by default judgments with 55 or 10.40% account for the three leading methods of disposition in the sample.

Table 1.0d: Summary of case appearance frequency for the second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parish Court	Average number of appearances per case	Standard Deviation of the number appearances per case	Skewness of the number of appearances per case	Maximum number of appearances per case	Minimum number of appearances per case
Clarendon	2.66	1.98	1.89	11	1
Corporate Area-Civil Division	1.69	1.72	4.18	17	1
Portland	7.78	6.25	0.99	26	1
St. Ann	4.86	6.27	2.85	40	1
St. Catherine	4.45	3.04	1.30	19	1
St. James	2.12	1.66	1.96	12	1
St. Mary	3.62	4.25	3.61	37	1
St. Thomas	10.39	11.27	0.95	37	1
Trelawny	3.73	3.85	2.15	19	1
Westmoreland	2.90	3.38	3.18	30	1
Total/Weighted Average	3.51	-	-	24.80	1.00
Standard Deviation	2.72	-	-	10.75	0.00
Skewness	1.45	-	-	0.19	0.00

The above table summarizes the number of appearances per case heard in the second quarter of 2023, which have at least one mention court appearance. The overall average number of appearances per 10 cases mentioned is 35, or roughly 4 appearances per case with a standard deviation of 2.72 across the courts sampled and a skewness of 1.45. Together, these results suggest that the average number of court appearances per case is within the prescribed

international standard, that a slightly larger proportion of cases have less than the overall average number of appearances and that there isn't on average a wide variation in the number of appearances per case across the courts. Among the parish courts with the highest number of appearances per cases for matters heard in second quarter of 2023 are the St. Thomas (10.39), Portland (7.78) and St. Ann (4.86) Parish Courts, while Corporate Area-Civil Division (1.69), St. James (2.12) and Clarendon (2.66) were among the courts with the lowest mean case appearance incidence.

Table 1.0e: Summary of the average court appearance frequency for cases disposed in second quarter ended June 30, 2023

Parish Court	Average number of appearances per case	Standard Deviation
Clarendon	2.78	1.65
Corporate Area-Civil Division	1.86	1.92
Portland	5.98	5.95
St. Ann	3.46	4.62
St. Catherine	3.74	2.70
St. James	2.56	1.73
St. Mary	3.11	4.42
St. Thomas	4.82	6.73
Trelawny	2.88	2.53
Westmoreland	2.76	2.52
Weighted Average	2.91	-

The above summary specifically addresses the number of appearances per case for matters disposed of in the second quarter of 2023. The overall average observed is roughly 29 appearances for every 10 cases disposed, not dissimilar to the findings from the previous table which provided a descriptive summary of appearances for all cases disposed. The Corporate Area-Civil Division, St. James and Westmoreland Parish Courts were among those with the lowest incidence of appearance per disposed case in the quarter, while the parish courts of Portland, St. Thomas and St. Catherine were among the locations with the highest incidence.

Table 9.0: Critical performance summaries for the civil division of the parish courts in the second quarter of 2023

Parish Court	Approximate number of new cases	Approximate number of Disposed cases and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of year of origin)	Gross Disposal rate (%)	Gross Clearance rate (%)	Approximate trial date certainty rate (%)	Overall weighted average time to disposition (months)
St. Thomas	131	56	169	42.75	129.01	88.00	17.35
Corporate Area-Civil	1207	44	1756	4.27	145.48	NA	7.41
St. Elizabeth	326	110	272	NA	NA	NA	-
Hanover	109	103	212	94.50	194.50	NA	-
Manchester	252	NA	387	NA	153.53*	NA	-
Portland	75	15	74	20.00	98.67	75.00	11.14
St. Ann	363	94	629	25.90	173.28	100.00	11.42
St. Catherine	706	83	1191	11.76	168.70	89.86	30.39
St. Mary	137	45	172	NA	NA	73.53	5.54
Trelawny	137	27	180	19.71	131.39	80.77	4.89
St. James	363	124	437	34.16	120.39	95.56	6.31
Clarendon	306	84	256	27.45	83.66	96.88	7.80
Westmoreland	193	56	239	29.02	123.83	100.00	4.23
Total/Weighted Average	4305	841	5974	20.37	138.77	91.42	18.12
Skewness	2.18	-0.03	2.07	2.08	0.20	-0.46	1.70
Standard Deviation	311.73	34.53	485.69	24.85	34.25	43.50	8.34

Note 1: Corporate Area Court-Civil division gross and net disposal rates were calculated using only new big claims filed in the quarter.

Note 2: The gross case disposal rate for the Brown's Town outstation in St. Ann for the second quarter of 2023 is 35.59% and the net case disposal rate is 17.39%. Note 3: The gross case clearance rate for the Brown's Town outstation in St. Ann for the second quarter of 2023 is 196.61% and the net case clearance rate is 154.35%.

****Net case clearance rate.***

Conclusion

The Civil Division of the Parish Courts continue to be a shining representation of the accomplishments of the Jamaican court system over the past five years. Most of the parish courts now routinely register case clearance rates exceeding the 100% mark and the overall net case backlog rate in the civil division of the Parish Courts is a mere 1.37%, with all courts falling below the desired 5% mark. The civil division of the parish courts of Hanover, Westmoreland and St. Mary have the lowest net case backlog rates and can be statistically classified as backlog free courts. It is however important to note that the gross case backlog rate for the civil division of the parish courts is 13.03%, 3.03 percentage points above the maximum desired level. In this regard the most backlogged courts are the parish courts of St. Ann, Manchester and the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division, however some courts satisfy the standard of falling below the maximum desired 10% gross case clearance, including the Hanover, St. Catherine and Westmoreland Parish Courts which have the lowest rates. The Hanover Parish Court – Civil Division is the only Parish Court which has a gross case backlog rate of under 5%. The overall gross case clearance rate across all courts is 138.77%, led by the Hanover Parish Court with 194.50%, the St. Ann Parish Court with 173.28% and the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division with 145.48%. The civil division of the parish court further recorded an overall trial date certainty rate of 91.42%, with all courts exceeding the 70% mark.

Overall, the direction of the civil division of the parish courts is extremely positive. Along with the criminal division of the parish courts, the civil division is a shining light in what having a data driven system of court operation in which the leadership of the courts are highly motivated and strategic can achieve.

Glossary of Terms

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Source:

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

ⁱ *Source:*

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

