

ANNUAL SUMM	ARY
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	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Case Disposal Rates (%)	73.75	64.57
Case Clearance Rates (%)	101.60	96.09
Trial Date Certainty Rates (%) Courtroom utilization Rate (%)	70 59.85	74 54.68

QUARTERLY SUMMARY - 2020

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Case Disposal Rates	48.59	24.79	39.30	40.06
Case Clearance Rates	96.47	51.57	78.31	121.50

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This statistical report on criminal matters in the Parish Courts of Jamaica is for the year ended December 31, 2020. It represents a continuation of the enhanced efforts to measure court productivity with a view to providing a concrete basis for placing the analyses of the judicial system into proper perspective and for informing the policymaking and operational planning apparatus of the leadership of the courts. This report interrogates a number of vital measures, which provide insights into the operations of the parish courts on both an individual and an aggregated basis. It forms an important foundation for understanding criminal case activity and delay factors in the parish courts as well as important characteristics of criminal cases. This report creates the framework within which the quantitative and some qualitative targets set out in the strategic plan of the judiciary can be monitored and evaluated. In seeking to significantly reduce the case backlog in the court system, the Chief Justice has set out to achieve a court-wide case clearance rate of 130% and an overall trial date certainty rate of 95% over the next 4-5 years. If these targets are achieved, the court-wide case backlog rate will fall below 5% no later than December 2025, placing Jamaica unquestionably among the most productive court systems in the world. This report highlights several critical strides made so far in moving towards the stated targets. Many of these metrics will again be reviewed at the end of this fiscal year, which marks the second of the key quantitative targets established by the Chief Justice.

The aggregate new case count in the parish courts in 2020 was 21166, down by 20.94% when compared to the 26771 new cases recorded in 2019, the third consecutive year of

decline. The Corporate Area Parish Court - Criminal Division with 4800 new cases or 22.68% of the total, followed by the St. Catherine and St. Ann Parish Courts with 2747 cases or 12.98% and 1667 cases or 7.88% respectively, account for the three largest proportions of the new criminal cases filed in 2020. The Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division and the St. Catherine Parish Court also ranked as the courts with the highest new caseload in 2019. Taken together, the three parishes with the highest new case count account for 43.53% of the new cases filed in 2020, not dissimilar to the previous year. The parish courts of St. Mary, Trelawny and St. Thomas again accounted for the lowest shares of the aggregate new cases filed each with under 4.5% of the total new caseload in 2020.

The overall average disposal rate for cases originating in 2020 was 64.57%, which is a decrease of 9.18 percentage points when compared to the previous year. The Hanover Parish Court disposed of new cases at the fastest rate in 2020, with a disposal rate of 76.35%, followed by the Westmoreland and the St. Mary Parish Courts with 73.49% and 73.55% respectively. The St. Catherine and Clarendon Parish Courts with disposal rates of 70.55% and 69.85% round off the top five performing court on this metric in 2020. These were the only five courts in 2020 which had an overall approximate case disposal rate of 70% or higher, which is considered to be a minimum theoretical ideal. The parish courts of St. Ann (51.77%), Manchester (53.37%) and Trelawny (59.03%) recorded the lowest case disposal rates in 2020. The overall fall in the case disposal rate in the criminal division of the parish courts negatively impacted the overall case clearance and case congestion rates

in 2020 in most instances but this was largely due to the downturn in overall case activity associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

A measure, which is closely related to the case disposal rate, is the case clearance rate, which provides a measure of the number of cases disposed (regardless of date/year of initiation) for every new case filed in a particular period. This is a productivity index as many of the disposed cases, which are included in its computation, would have originated before the period of focus and is a more instructive statistic on case activity than the case disposal rate. The overall case clearance rate for 2020 was 96.09%, a decrease of 5.51 percentage points when compared to 2019. The result suggests that for every 100 new criminal cases that were filed in the parish courts in 2020, roughly 96 cases were disposed (including cases originating prior to 2019). In light of the general downturn in case activity is 2020, the overall case clearance rate recorded is strong show of resilience. Equally noteworthy is the fact that all parish courts, except the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division satisfied the international standard on case clearance rate in 2020 by exceeding 90%. Quite interestingly, two of the parish courts ranking among the lowest on case disposal rate, ranked among the bests on the case clearance rate metric, namely the Manchester and St. Ann Parish Courts. In particular, the Manchester Parish Court with a case clearance rate of 117.69% had the leading case clearance rate in 2020, the first time that this court has led on this measurement in the annual reports. The St. Mary Parish Court was second, sustaining its strong output for the past few years by registering a rate of 114.76% while the St. Ann Parish Court with 105.46% was third, the first time that this court is ranking in

the top three on this metric in these annual statistics reports. There is both a short and long run positive association between the case disposal and case clearance rates, that is, a higher proportion of new cases disposed in a given period (the case disposal rate), should, ceteris paribus, correlate with a higher case clearance rate. However, over a relatively short space of time, a court ranking high on the case disposal rate does not guarantee a high case clearance rate as the latter rate not only depends of the disposal of new cases but also the disposal of pending or aged cases brought forward. It is important to point out that a persistent case clearance rate of fewer than 100%, especially few than 90% will accelerate the case backlog and therefore the standard to be attained on an annual basis, is between 90% and 110%, based on International best practices.

One highly important measure, which is of keen interest to the leadership of the courts and the policy makers, is the case congestion rate. This is a measure of how well a court is doing in managing its pending caseload, relative to its rates of disposition and clearance and the implied state of resources. The higher the case congestion rate of a court, the more burdensome the caseload and the longer it will take to dispose of cases, again within the context of the existing rates of disposition and clearance and the implied state of resources. The overall case congestion rate recorded for the criminal division of the parish courts in 2020 was 157.87%, an increase of 10.70 percentage points when compared to 2019, a result that is not surprising considering that both the case disposal and case clearance rates fell. There is a long run negative association between the case clearance rate and the case

congestion rate, therefore, sustained increases in the case clearance rate will cause the case congestion arte to fall.

Another essential measure, which is an important cornerstone in the drive to bring Jamaica among the best performing court systems in the world is the trial date certainty rate. This provides a measurement of the likelihood that dates set for trial will proceed as scheduled (without adjournment for future dates). The perfect rate of 100% would suggest that all dates set for trial proceed as scheduled in the relevant period. Isolating the period of suspension of court activity due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the overall average trial date certainty rate for criminal matters across the parish courts in 2020 was 74%, a 4 percentage points increase when compared to 2019. The parish court of Portland with 88% was the leader on this measurement while the St. James Parish Court with 85% and the Trelawny and St. Thomas Parish Courts each with 84% rounds off the leading courts on this metric in 2020.

An analysis of the distribution of the metrics discussed above across the criminal division of the parish courts over 2019 and 2020 suggests that all courts experienced a decline in case disposal rate. As it regards the case clearance rate, all parish courts except Manchester, St. Ann, Trelawny and Clarendon, experienced declines in their case clearance rates. Both Manchester and St. Ann gained over 20 percentage points on this metric in 2020. Not surprisingly, the majority of the courts experienced increases (a worsening) of their case clearance congestion rate in 2020. This dominant outcome was however defied by the parish courts of Hanover, Clarendon, St, Mary and Manchester and St. Ann, with the

latter two making the biggest strides on this metric. Only three of the parish courts experienced declines in trial date certainty rate in 2020, namely Westmoreland, St. Thomas and the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division. The Hanover and St. Elizabeth Parish Courts made the biggest gains on this metric in 2020, both leaping by more than 10 percentage points. It is of note that dates directly affected by the suspension of court activity due to the COVID-19 pandemic were excluded from the computation of the trial date certainty rates.

The proportion of allocated court time that is utilized for hearings in each parish court bears some long run correlation with the case clearance rate, the case congestion rate and overall court performance. The courtroom utilization rate provides a solid measurement of the proportion of time allocated for court hearings, which are utilized throughout the year in each court. The overall courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in 2020 was 54.68%, a decline of 5.17 percentage points when compared to 2019, while the corresponding rate for night courts was 44.19%, down by 10.49 percentage points in comparison to 2019. For the second consecutive year, the St. Ann Parish Court had the highest overall courtroom utilization rate, recording 75.59%, followed by the St. James and St. Mary Parish Courts with 65.84% and 60.71% respectively. The Portland Parish Court with 60.51% was closely behind with the fourth highest overall courtroom utilization rate in 2020. The Clarendon, Hanover and St. Catherine Parish Courts ranked in the lowest quintile on this measurement for 2020. The parish courts of St. Ann, Westmoreland and St. Catherine had the best courtroom utilization rates for night court sittings in 2020. It is of

note that night court activity across the courts was substantially lower than normal, due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on normal court operations.

On the matter of caseload distribution in the individual parishes, the data shows that in many instances the outstation courts in the respective parishes are carrying a notable share of the caseload. The overall average number of new cases heard in the outstations in 2020 is approximately 35.38%, up by 11.76 percentage points when compared to 2019 while roughly 65.62% of cases were heard at the main parish court locations, a decline of 10.76 percentage points when compared to 2019. While outstation court activity in parishes such as St. James and the Corporate Area account for less than 7% of total activity, there are several parishes where outstations are extensively utilized, accounting for well over 20% of total case activity. This includes the parish courts of St. Catherine, Manchester, Clarendon, St. Elizabeth and Portland, among others. The evidence suggests that there is the potential in many parishes for outstations to be utilized to a greater degree to ease the caseload carriage in the main courts, thus potentially enhancing case clearance and disposal rates by reducing the case congestion.

As with 2019, the largest proportion of cases disposed in 2020 was by way of guilty pleas, accounting for 34.16% of the cases disposed. This was followed by cases dismissed, which was responsible for 22.71% of the cases disposed. It is of note that guilty verdicts accounted for roughly 3.55% of the matters disposed while not guilty verdicts accounted for 13.54% of the total. Mediated settlements (of various forms) accounted for roughly 11.98% of the

cases disposed during the year. Taken together, the data therefore reveals a conviction rate of 37.72% for the 2020 calendar year. Further analysis of the data suggests that for the cases originating over at least over the past four years, which are disposed, roughly 39.71% were resolved within 90 days, 61.66% within six months and 82.56% within a year. Only about 17.44% of criminal cases currently being disposed in the parish courts take a year or more, a highly competitive positioning among judiciaries globally at present.

In terms of the distribution of case types, the report highlights that the largest proportion of the criminal cases filed in the parish courts were indictments with approximately 39.23% of all matters. This is followed by summary matters with a roughly 32.74% and matters heard by Lay Magistrates with approximately 15.22% of the total. It is of note that Committal Proceedings accounted for roughly 10.20% of all criminal matters filed in the parish courts in 2020. Summary matters had an overall conviction rate of 66.16% in 2020 while indictments had a conviction rate of 19.31% across the parish courts.

An important delay factor, which affects the efficiency with which cases move towards disposition is the incidence of adjournments in the parish courts. The data suggests that the dominant reasons for adjournments for the year were due to the issuance of warrants for defendants not appearing (DNA- warrant issued) with an estimated 19.21% of all adjournments and incomplete files with 8% of the total. Ranking next are adjournments due to mediation referrals with approximately 7.04% and applications reissued with an estimated 6.61% of the incidence of adjournments. Also featuring prominently on the lists

of reasons for adjournment across the parish courts in 2020 are medical reports outstanding and subpoena of investigating officers and the crown respectively. This probability distribution for the reasons for adjournments was markedly similar to that of 2019.

The three most frequent criminal charges filed in the parish courts in 2020 were assault occasioning bodily harm with 12.10%, unlawful wounding with 9.34% and threats with 6.67 of the total number of charges filed. These were also the dominant charges filed in the previous four years. The vast majority of charges filed in 2020 involved accused males, accounting for roughly 81.42% of the charges filed during the year. The dominant age group of persons charged in 2020 were the 27 – 36 and 18 - 26 age groups, accounting for 30.50% and 29.60% respectively of the total.

One of the most decisive and instructive findings from this annual report comes from the analysis of the distribution of times to disposition and the case backlog rates in the parish courts. The report reveals that on average, the criminal division of the parish courts take roughly seven months to dispose of cases. In 2020, the courts which had the shortest times to disposition for cases resolved are the parish courts of Westmoreland (4.5 months), Hanover (5.42 months) and Clarendon (5.77 months). Based on these results, it is not surprising that all three of these three parish courts ranked among the best on the case disposal rate metric. Interestingly, the best performing courts on the case clearance rate metric, namely the Manchester Parish Court (9.89 months), the St. Ann Parish Court (9.7

months) and the St. Mary Parish Court (8.61 months), registered the highest average time times to disposition in 2020. This might appear to be a contraction but the result is simply explained by the fact that these three courts disposed proportionately more aged than newer cases in 2020, hence, also their comparatively modest showing on the case disposal rate metric. On the matter of the case backlog rate, the criminal division of the parish courts recorded a net case backlog rate of 2.64% in 2020, using the last four years' worth of data as a proxy. This means that only 2 or 3 of every 100 cases filed over the past four years are over two years old and still active before the criminal division of the parish courts. The gross backlog rate over the same period stands at a notably higher 11.83%, suggesting that roughly 12 of every 100 new cases filed are still either active or inactive and over two years old in the criminal division of the parish courts. Intuitively, these result suggests that inactive cases are a major constituent of the court's gross case backlog. The parish courts of St. Catherine, St. Mary and Hanover recorded the lowest net case backlog rates in 2020.

Using the method of exponential smoothing, the report forecasts that in 2021, 25832 new criminal cases will be filed in the criminal division of the parish courts while 18932 are expected to be disposed and 4618 inactive. The overall forecasted case clearance rate for 2021 in the criminal division of the parish courts is therefore 91.17%. The St. Mary, St. Catherine and Westmoreland Parish Courts are forecasted to end 2021 with the highest case clearance rates, followed by the St. James and Portland Parish Courts. These estimates are subject to adjustment as the year progresses.

METHODOLOGY

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

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

Disclaimer

The numbers that are reflected in the case activity summaries in the annual statistics report may vary slightly from those quoted in the individual quarterly reports throughout the year due to occasional constraints with timely access to all records and other mitigating factors. Methodological adjustments may also result in slight variations in comparative figures across periods.

Chapter 1.0: Criminal Case Activity Statistics in the Parish Courts for 2020

This chapter provides an assessment of criminal case activity in the parish courts for the 2020 calendar year. This includes analysis of the criminal caseload, rates of case disposal, clearance and congestion as well as cases statuses in the various courts over the period, assessments of courtroom utilization rates, case file integrity rates, trial date certainty rates and forecasts of the core case activity outcomes for 2021. This chapter also explores the common methods of disposition, reasons for court delay, leading charges and case types across the parish courts and associated conviction rates.

Table 1.0: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the year ended December 31, 2020

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Number of inactive cases	Number of disposed cases	Active Pending New Case Load	Case disposal Rate (%)
Hanover	998	88	674	236	76.35
St. Catherine	2747	450	1488	809	70.55
Westmoreland	1603	106	1072	425	73.49
St. Mary	881	92	556	233	73.55
Clarendon	1436	203	800	433	69.85
Portland	1221	98	735	388	68.22
St. Elizabeth	1348	115	768	465	65.50
Corporate Area Criminal	4800	1024	1876	1900	60.42
St. Thomas	851	70	428	353	58.52
St. James	1517	208	787	522	65.59
St. Ann	1667	378	485	804	51.77
Trelawny	808	62	415	331	59.03
Manchester	1289	97	591	601	53.37
Total	21166	2991	10675	7500	
Average/Weighted Average	1628.15	230.08	821.15	576.92	64.57
Standard deviation	1078.39	267.50	429.11	437.48	7.90
Skewness	2.473	2.530	1.602	2.610	-0.332

The table above shows the aggregate case statistics for each parish court for the 2020 calendar year. A total of 21,166 new criminal cases were filed across the parish courts, while 13,666 cases were either disposed or became inactive, resulting in a weighted average case disposal rate of 64.57%. In the previous year, 26,771 cases were filed, while 19,743 cases were either disposed or inactive resulting in a weighted average disposal rate of 73.75%, which is 9.18 percentage points higher than the rate for the 2020 calendar year. When compared to the 2019 calendar year, there was a decrease of 5,605 cases or 20.94% in the number of cases filed and decrease of 6,077 or 30.78% in the number of new cases that were disposed or became inactive. All the courts except for the Hanover Parish Court, recorded declines in the number of new cases filed. This result is not surprising given that most court operations were adversely affected due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division with 4,800 or 22.76% of the new cases, the St. Catherine Parish Court with 2,747 cases or 12.98% and the St. Ann Parish Court with 1,667 or 7.88% accounted for the three largest shares of new cases filed in 2020. These three parish courts with the largest share of new cases filed, cumulatively accounted for 43.53% of the total number of new criminal cases filed in 2020. On the lower end, the parish courts of Trelawny with 808 or 3.82% of the new cases, St. Thomas with 851 or 4.02%, and St. Mary with 881 or 4.16% accounted for the lowest share of new cases filed in the 2020 calendar year.

The best performing courts in relation to case disposal rates for the period were the Hanover (76.35%) St. Mary (73.55%), Westmoreland (73.49%) and St. Catherine (70.55%) Parish Courts.

The bottom four courts on this measure were the St. Ann (51.77%), Manchester (53.37%), St. Thomas (58.52%) and Trelawny (59.03%) parish courts. Similarly, the parish courts of St. Thomas, Trelawny, Manchester and St. Ann were also among the bottom four courts on this measure in the 2019 calendar year. The skewness of the number of new cases filed, the number of cases disposed, and the active pending caseload are all positive, which is an indication that the larger proportion of the courts fell below the overall average case counts in each of these applicable columns. The overall skewness of the case disposal rates is a low negative figure, which indicates that there was a relative cluster of courts near the overall average rate for the period. Nevertheless, the result suggests that proportionately more courts were above the overall average case disposal rate for 2020.

Refer to Table 4.0 for a graphical comparison of the Case Disposal Rates across all Parish Courts for the calendar years 2019 and 2020.

Table 2.0a: Aggregate case statistics for each parish court as at December 31, 2020

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed in year	Number of Disposed cases in 2020	Number of Inactive cases in 2020	Grand total number of inactive cases (2016- 2020)	Grand total number of disposed cases (2016- 2020)	Grand Active Pending Case Load b/f Jan. 1,2020	Case Clearance Rate (%)	Case Congestion Rate (%)
Hanover	998	827	122	231	3607	252	95.09	131.72
Manchester	1289	1255	262	1600	5623	1196	117.69	163.81
St. Mary	881	893	118	659	4115	330	114.76	119.78
St. James	1517	1276	232	1829	9897	1023	99.41	168.44
St. Catherine	2747	2093	592	2494	12899	825	97.74	133.04
Portland	1221	1081	139	729	4465	463	99.92	138.03
St. Ann	1667	1253	505	2518	5502	436	105.46	119.62
St. Elizabeth	1348	1061	171	582	4357	484	91.39	148.70
Corporate Area Criminal	4800	2716	1274	5000	15344	1736	83.13	163.81
Westmoreland	1603	1377	169	879	6722	559	96.44	139.84
St. Thomas	851	677	111	423	3780	540	92.60	176.52
Clarendon	1436	1082	281	730	4552	2096	94.92	193.74
Trelawny	808	653	118	502	3264	799	95.42	208.43
Total	21166	16244	4094	18176	84127	10739	-	-
Average/Weighted Average	1628.15	1249.54	314.92	1398.15	6471.31	826.08	96.09	156.87
Standard deviation	1078.39	574.48	325.69	1327.50	3840.17	558.78	9.32	26.63
Skewness	2.473	1.672	2.472	1.878	1.546	1.331	0.795	0.51

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

Note 2: The Grand Total number of active cases from 2016 to the year ended December 31, 2020 for all parish courts combined = 18201

The table above is an extension of table 1.0. Among the critical performance measures reported in this table is the case congestion rate across the parish courts. This provides a measure of manageability of a court's existing caseload. In particular, it provides an indication of the caseload burden relative to existing resources and the pace of case clearance. As an empirical measurement of case carriage load, the case congestion rate is more meaningful over longer period, typically a year or more; hence, the quarterly results are to be interpreted in a guarded way.

The weighted average case congestion rate among the parish courts in the 2020 calendar year was 156.87%, an indication that the courts as a whole are carrying roughly 57% more than the caseload that their current rate of clearance and implied state of resources justifies. This result represents a 10.70 percentage points increase when compared to the 2019 calendar year. The parish courts of Trelawny (208.43 %), Clarendon (193.74%), St. Thomas (176.52%) and St. James (168.44%) are the courts with the highest case congestion rates in the 2020 calendar year. The Manchester parish court and the Corporate Area Parish Court - Criminal Division each (163.81% each) rounded off the top 6 most case congested courts in 2020. The parish courts of Clarendon (254.18%) and St. Ann (194.48%) were the most congested courts in the comparative calendar year of 2019. In general, a high case congestion rate can be a product of resource deficiencies and slow case clearance and case disposal rates. Thus, improved resource efficiencies and higher case clearance and case disposal rates, supported by high hearing and trial date certainty will substantially reduce the case congestion in a court in the medium to long run. The parish courts of St. Ann (119.62%), St. Mary (119.78%) and Hanover (131.72%) performed best on this measure. As with previous reports, variations in caseload and resources do not appear to be a major factor explaining the variances in performance on this measure as some of the courts ranking on either ends of the scale are the larger courts in the island and resource endowment do not vary in a statistically way among the courts.

The results on the overall case clearance rate for the 2020 calendar year provide interesting insights into the court-wide progress being made. The overall weighted average case clearance rate of 96.09%, which is a decrease of 5.51 percentage points when compared to the 2019 calendar year. This result is also not surprising given that normal court operations were

significantly impacted from the end of the first quarter and most of the second quarter due to the COVID -19 pandemic. However, the performance still satisfied the required international standard of 90%-100% for the third consecutive year and was by any measure a guite resilient showing. This overall case clearance rate of 96.09% suggests that for every 100 new cases filed in the year, roughly 96 were resolved. Three of the thirteen parish courts exceeded the 100% mark for the annual criminal case clearance rate, namely the parish courts of Manchester (117.69%), St. Mary (114.76%) and St. Ann (105.46%). The Corporate Area Court-Criminal Division had the lowest case clearance rate in the year of 83.13% and was the only parish court to go below the 90%-100% international standard. Nine parish courts recorded a decrease in clearance rates when compared to the 2019 calendar year, with the Manchester, St. Ann, Clarendon and Trelawny parish courts being the only ones that saw an improvement on the rate. The Manchester and St. Ann parish courts saw the largest improvements, with a 21.28 percentage points improvement for the Manchester parish court and a 20.02 percentage points improvement for the St. Ann parish court. The data series captured in the respective columns in the above table are all positively skewed to varying degrees, indicating that for each series, proportionately more of the scores fell below their respective series means.

Refer to Table 5.0 for further comparison of the case clearance rates and the case congestion rates across all parish courts for the 2018 and 2020 calendar years.

Table 2.0b: Percentile rank on selected performance metrics for the criminal division of the parish courts for the year ended December 31, 2020.

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

The table above provides the percentile ranks of the case disposal and case clearance rates for the 2020 calendar year. The percentile rank gives an indication of where particular courts falls on each of the metrics relative to the other courts. The parish courts of Hanover (100%), St. Mary (92%) and Westmoreland (83%) had the highest percentile ranks on case disposal rate for 2020, an indication that they performed better than all or the vast proportion of the courts on this measure. The percentile ranks of 100% for the Hanover Parish Court for example means that they performed better than all the courts on case disposal rate in the year, while the St. Mary Parish Court performed better than 92% of the parish courts and the Westmoreland Parish Court performed better than 83% of all the parish courts on this measurement. The parish courts of St. Ann, Manchester and St. Thomas had the lowest percentile rank on case disposal rate for the year. In terms of case clearance rates, the parish courts of Manchester (100%), St. Mary (92%)

and St. Ann (83%) had the highest percentile ranks, while the parish courts of St. Thomas, St. Elizabeth and The Corporate Area Court-Criminal Division had the lowest.

Table 2.0c: Forecasted case activity statistics for the year 2021

Parish Court	Forecasted number of new cases	Forecasted number of disposed cases	Forecasted number of inactive cases	Forecasted case clearance rate (%)
Hanover	989	842	64	91.61
Manchester	1799	1271	404	93.11
St. Mary	1097	958	158	101.73
St. James	2257	1767	390	95.57
St. Catherine	3590	2783	709	97.27
Portland	1301	1052	179	94.62
St. Ann	2041	1308	452	86.23
St. Elizabeth	1341	1047	130	87.77
Corporate Area Criminal	5502	3309	1428	86.10
Westmoreland	1904	1565	243	94.96
Clarendon	1938	1452	279	89.32
St. Thomas	1068	831	98	86.99
Trelawny	1005	747	84	82.69
Total/Weighted Average	25832	18932	4618	91.17

The above table forecasts core case activity for the criminal division of each parish court and overall. The forecasts are generated using the method of exponential smoothing which uses weighted averages from past observations with weights decaying exponentially as the observations get older. See further explanation of the mathematical science behind the method of exponential smoothing in the glossary of terms. The above data shows that the overall forecasted case clearance rates for the criminal division of the parish courts in 2021 is 91.17%, which would be 4.92 percentage points lower than that of 2020. 2020 saw a notable decline in the number of new cases filed which assisted in cushioning the 30.56% decline in the number of cases disposed in 2019, thus the decline in the case disposal rate was not as significant as it would

have been if the number of new cases filed kept pace with previous years. Seven parish courts are forecasted to satisfy the international standard on case clearance rate of 90% or more in 2021, led by the St. Mary Parish Court with 101.73%, the St. Catherine Parish Court with 97.27% and the St. James Parish Court with 95.57%. Changing quarterly patterns throughout 2021 may lead to an adjustment of these forecasts and such changes will be reported in the published quarterly reports.

Table 2.0d: Sampling distribution of new cases filed per 10,000 in the criminal division of the parish court in 2020.

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed	Population size in parish	New cases per 10,000 population
Hanover	998	69,533	144
St. Catherine	2747	516,218	53
Westmoreland	1603	144,103	111
St. Mary	881	113,615	78
Clarendon	1436	245,103	59
Portland	1221	81,744	149
St. Elizabeth	1348	150,205	90
Corporate Area Criminal	4800	662,426	72
St. Thomas	851	93,902	91
St. James	1517	183,811	83
St. Ann	1667	172,362	97
Trelawny	808	75,164	107
Manchester	1289	189,797	68
Total	21166	2,697,983	78

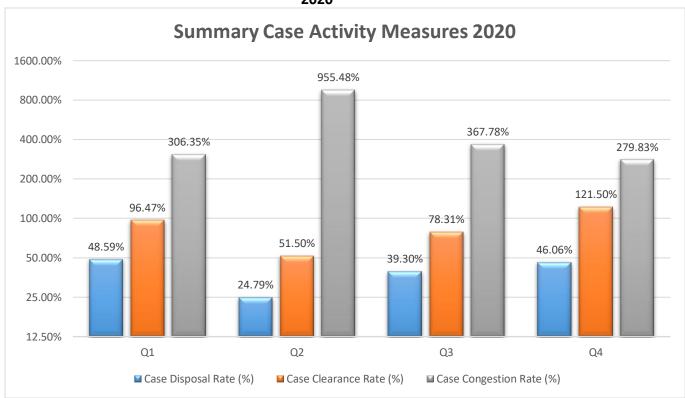
The above table provides an outline of the number of new criminal cases filed per 10,000 population in the parish courts in 2020. The population sizes used are based on the last national population census in 2011 and therefore the data does not have full current value. Nevertheless, this kind of data provides interesting insights into the demand for the criminal adjudication in the various parishes. It is seen that the parishes of Hanover and Portland, which are among the parishes with the smallest caseload and the smallest

population sizes registered the largest number of new criminal cases filed per 10,000 population in 2020. Westmoreland which is mid-range in population size but among the courts with the larger caseloads was third. Equally interesting is the result that the parishes of Clarendon and St. Catherine had the smallest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population in 2020. These two parishes are among those with the larger annual caseload and bigger populations. Manchester had the third lowest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population for the year.

Table 3.0: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the period Jan.-Dec. 2020

Statistical measurements	Case Disposal Rate (%) Q4	Case Disposal Rate (%) Q3	Case Disposal Rate (%) Q2	Case Disposal Rate (%) Q1	Case Clearance Rate (%) Q4	Case Clearance Rate (%) Q3	Case Clearance Rate (%) Q2	Case Clearance Rate (%) Q1	Case Congestion Rate (%) Q4	Case Congestion Rate (%) Q3	Case Congestion Rate (%) Q2	Case Congestion Rate (%) Q1
Average /Weighted Average	46.06	39.30	24.79	48.59	121.50	78.31	51.50	96.47	279.83	367.78	955.48	306.35
Standard Deviation	8.62	7.65	8.56	9.09	37.22	15.10	24.82	17.90	317.93	150.17	883.38	162.97
Skewness	-0.620	0.031	0.19	-0.299	-0.558	-0.78	1.37	0.770	0.616	0.61	0.96	1.387

The above table provides a detailed quantitative summary of the progression of the key measures discussed so far, namely the case disposal rate, the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate across the four quarters of 2020 for all parish courts combined. A pictorial representation of this data follows.



Graph 1.0: Aggregate summary of selected case activity metrics over the four quarters of 2020

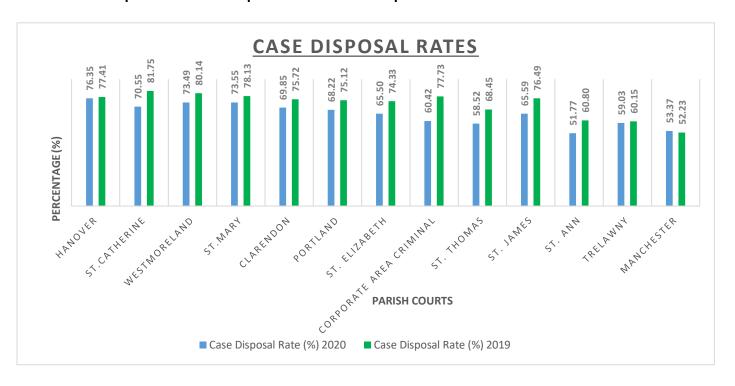
The above graph provides a summary of the progression of the overall case disposal, case clearance and case congestion rate over the four quarters of 2020 for all parish courts combined. It is seen that there were significant fluctuations in the progression of all three metrics over the four quarters, a result which is not surprising given that normal court operations were adversely affected due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The overall case disposal rate varied within a band of a low of 24.79% in the second quarter and a high of 48.59% in the first quarter. The case clearance rate ranged from a low of 51.50% in the second quarter to 121.50% in the fourth quarter of 2020, while the case congestion rate was at its lowest in fourth quarter with 279.83% and at its highest in the second quarter with a rate of 955.48%.

Table 4.0: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for 2019 & 2020

Parish Court	Case Disposal Rate (%) 2020	Case Disposal Rate (%) 2019	Case Clearance Rate (%) 2020	Case Clearance Rate (%) 2019	Case Congestion Rate (%) 2020	Case Congestion Rate (%) 2019
Hanover	76.35	77.41	95.09	103.90	131.72	141.39
St. Catherine	70.55	81.75	97.74	111.49	133.04	110.69
Westmoreland	73.49	80.14	96.44	96.71	139.84	124.56
St. Mary	73.55	78.13	114.76	125.64	119.78	121.64
Clarendon	69.85	75.72	94.92	92.55	193.74	254.18
Portland	68.22	75.12	99.92	109.01	138.03	138.52
St. Elizabeth	65.50	74.33	91.39	99.93	148.70	135.11
Corporate Area Criminal	60.42	77.73	83.13	103.20	163.81	126.82
St. Thomas	58.52	68.45	92.60	96.78	176.52	153.04
St. James	65.59	76.49	99.41	105.34	168.44	137.92
St. Ann	51.77	60.80	105.46	85.44	119.62	194.48
Trelawny	59.03	60.15	95.42	88.12	208.43	186.41
Manchester	53.37	52.23	117.69	96.41	163.81	174.46
Average /Weighted Average	64.57	73.75	96.09	101.60	156.87	146.17
Standard Deviation	7.90	9.03	9.32	10.61	26.63	39.46
Skewness	-0.332	-1.225	0.796	0.784	0.51	1.521

The table above provides a comparison of the case disposal rate, the case clearance rate and the case congestion rate over the 2020 and 2019 calendar years. The weighted average case disposal rate in 2020, was 64.57%, which was 9.18 percentage points below the 2019 weighted average rate of 73.75%. The case clearance rate of 96.09% for 2020 was 5.51 percentage points below the 101.60% recorded in 2019. The 2020 case congestion rate also deteriorated, moving from 146.17% in 2019, to 156.87 in 2020, which is a 10.70 percentage points fall, although this may not have great practical significance in the current context. Ceteris paribus, there should be a roughly linear inverse association between the case clearance rates and the case congestion rate. This is more pronounced in the long run than in the short or medium terms.

Chart 2.0A: Comparison of case disposal rates across the parish courts for 2020 and 2019





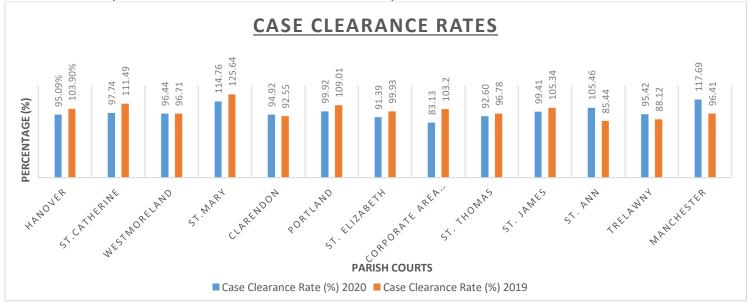


Chart 2.0C: Comparison of case congestion rate across the parish courts for 2020 and 2019

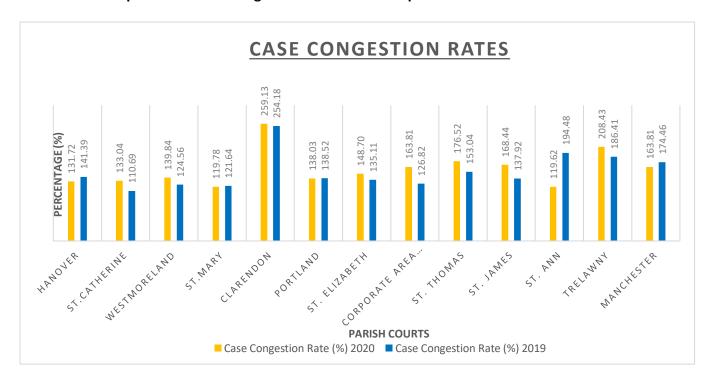


Table 5.0: Comparison of the trial certainty rates for 2019 and 2020

Parish Court	Trial certainty rate (%) (2020)	Trial certainty rate (%) (2019)
Westmoreland	57	94
Clarendon	61	54
St. Ann	70	60
Portland	88	85
St. James	85	81
Manchester	76	68
St. Elizabeth	80	67
St. Catherine	73	64
Trelawny	84	75
St. Mary	80	77
St. Thomas	84	85
Corporate Area Criminal	53	56
Hanover	68	50
Total/Average	74	70

The trial date certainty rate provides a measure of the extent to which dates, which are set for trial, proceed on schedule without being delayed to start at some future date. Period of suspension of court activity due directly to the COVID-19 pandemic were isolated in the computation of the 2020 trial date certainty rates. The overall trial date certainty rate for the 2020 calendar year was 74%, a 4-percentage points improvement when compared to the 2019 overall trial certainty rate. None of the parish courts met the prescribed international performance standard of a rate between 92% and 100% in the year. The parish court of Portland had the highest trial date certainty rate with 88%, followed by St. James with a rate of 85% and the parish courts of Trelawny and St. Thomas with a trial date certainty rate of 84% each. The minimum-targeted trial date certainty rate, which has been set out by the Honourable Chief Justice for the judiciary for the next 4-5 years, is 95%. This is consistent with the push to significantly enhance the efficiency of the court system and hence the timely delivery of justice to the Jamaican citizenry. The attainment of this minimum threshold rate will depress the overall criminal case backlog in the Jamaican court system below 5%.

Table 5.0b: Percentile Rank on trial date certainty rate for the criminal division of the parish courts in 2019 and 2020

Parish Court	Percentile Rank – Trial Date Certainty Rate 2020 (%)	Percentile Rank – Trial Date Certainty Rate 2019 (%)
Westmoreland	8	100
Clarendon	17	8
St. Ann	33	25
Portland	100	83
St. James	92	75
Manchester	50	50
St. Elizabeth	58	42
St. Catherine	42	33
Trelawny	75	58

St. Mary	58	67
St. Thomas	75	83
Corporate Area		
Criminal	0	17
Hanover	25	0

The above table provides a summary of the percentile rank of the various parish courts with regards to their performances on the trial date certainty rates for both 2019 and 2020. The results present a very mixed picture across both years for most courts in terms of the relative performances on this measurement. Some courts experienced gains in the ranking and several others experienced declines – a case in point is the Westmoreland Parish Court which performed better than all other courts on this measurement in the year 2019, but only performed better than 8% of the courts on the list for 2020.

Table 6.0a: Distribution of courtroom utilization rates across the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the year 2020

Parish Court	Average overall courtroom utilization rate (%)	Highest recorded courtroom utilization rate (%)	Lowest recorded courtroom utilization rate (%)	Standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rate (%)	Average courtroom utilization rate for Night Court sittings (%)	Average number of courtroom adjournments per day
St. Catherine	49.46	225.00	0.00	28.89	53.64	1.2
Westmoreland	59.81	306.67	1.00	40.56	56.14	0.0
Trelawny	50.29	281.00	1.33	34.53	25.24	1.0
St. Thomas	50.98	111.67	0.00	28.69	40.50	1.1
St. Mary	60.71	273.33	1.67	38.65	51.30	1.0
St. James	65.84	163.00	2.00	36.45	40.46	1.3
Corporate Area Criminal Court	54.34	133.33	4.17	26.98	50.13	1.1
St. Ann	75.59	262.50	1.1	31.79	60.78	1.1
Portland	60.51	270.00	0.00	38.89	49.46	1.2
Hanover	38.80	166.67	1.67	23.36	48.41	1.1
Clarendon	36.70	133.33	0.67	23.47	24.06	1.4

Manchester	57.73	140.00	0.67	29.90	37.96	1.2
St. Elizabeth	50.07	120.00	1.00	25.42	36.44	1.1
Overall						
Averages	54.68	198.96	1.18	31.35	44.19	1.06
Standard						
Deviation	10.51	71.82	1.11	5.96	11.29	0.34
Skewness	0.08	0.22	1.61	0.20	-0.54	-2.90

The above table details the courtroom utilization rate for the various parish courts in the 2020 calendar year. The courtroom utilization rate provides a measurement of the proportion of available hours for open court hearings in all courtroom (including outstations) which are actually utilized. If the usage of any courtroom exceeds the available hours, then the utilization rate will exceed 100% and the rate will fall below 100% if less than the available hours are utilized. The prescribed international standard for the courtroom utilization rate is 100%, which means that all hours allocated for court hearings in any court, on any given day should be utilized. The data suggests that as a whole, the parish courts of Jamaica performed below this level in the 2020 calendar year. The overall average courtroom utilization rate across the parish courts in the year was 54.68%, which is an indication that on average roughly 55% of the available hours for court hearings were utilized across the parish courts in the year 2020. This result is roughly 5.17 percentage points lower than the closing figure in 2019. The parish courts recording the highest courtroom utilization rates for the year are the St. Ann and St. James Parish Courts with 75.59% and 65.84% respectively, followed by the St. Mary Parish Court with 60.71% and the Portland Parish Court with 60.51%. The Clarendon and Hanover Parish Courts with 36.70% and 38.80% respectively, had the lowest rates, while the St. Catherine Parish Court with 49.46% had the next lowest rate. The standard deviation of the courtroom utilization rates was relatively low, suggesting that on average the rates for the individual courts did not vary widely from the overall

mean. This is affirmed by the low positive skewness of the data. The data also isolates the courtroom utilization rate for night court sittings. A part of the designation of night courts is to bolster the capacity of the courts to hear and dispose of more cases in a timely manner. At an overall courtroom utilization rate of 44.19%, the night courts use 10.49 percentage points less of the allotted time than regular day court sittings. The St. Ann Parish Court with a night court utilization rate of 60.78% and the Westmoreland Parish Court with 56.14% ranked highest for the year, with the St. Catherine Parish Court ranking next with 53.64%. At the lower end of the courtroom utilization rates for night court sittings were the parish courts of Clarendon (24.06%), Trelawny (25.24%) and the St. Elizabeth Parish Court with 36.44%.

The sample size of days used to compute the rates for each court were sufficiently large and representative, though not the same for all courts however period of suspension of court activity which were due directly to the COVID-19 pandemic were excluded. The margin of error of the courtroom utilization rates is a reliable \pm 2.5%.

Table 6.0b: Percentile Rank on Courtroom utilization rate for the criminal division of the parish courts in 2019 and 2020

Parish Court	Percentile rank 2020 (%)	Percentile rank 2019 (%)	Percentile rank (Night Court) 2020 (%)	Percentile rank (Night Court) 2019 (%)
St. Catherine	17	25	83	58
Westmoreland	67	83	92	92
Trelawny	33	42	8	8
St. Thomas	42	17	42	42
St. Mary	83	67	75	67
St. James	92	50	33	75
Corporate Area Criminal Court	50	75	67	83
St. Ann	100	100	100	100
Portland	75	92	58	50
Hanover	8	8	50	17
Clarendon	0	0	0	0
Manchester	58	58	25	33
St. Elizabeth	25	33	17	25

The above table provides a summary of the percentile rank of the various parish courts with regards to their performances on the courtroom utilization rates for both 2019 and 2020. The results present a relatively consistent picture across both years for most courts in terms of the relative performances on this measurement. Some courts experienced gains in the ranking, several others experienced declines, and some courts retained the same ranking. The St. Ann Parish court performed better than all courts in both 2019 and 2020, with the Clarendon Parish Court having the lowest courtroom utilization rate in both 2019 and 2020. In terms of the courtroom utilization for Night Court sittings, the results also present a reasonably consistent picture across both years for most courts in terms of the relative performances on this measurement. The St. Ann Parish court also performed better than all courts in both 2019 and 2020 and the Clarendon Parish Court had the lowest night court utilization rate for both years.

Table 7.0: Types of matters for each Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020

Parish Court	Indictment	Summary	Lay	Committal	Tax	Miscellaneous	LRF	Traffic	Total
		Matters	Magistrates Sittings	Proceedings	142	Wilsecharico as	Ziti		Total
Corporate Are Criminal	3427	3176	1253	737	-	-	-	74	8667
St. Catherine	1775	1539	609	524	132	-	28	-	4607
Manchester	1029	418	582	206	116	-	-	-	2351
St. James	782	770	390	257	67	90	-	-	2356
St. Ann	959	746	578	230	-	-	-	14	2527
Westmoreland	1076	885	327	307	44	-	-	-	2639
Clarendon	761	820	317	272	220	-	-	-	2390
Portland	827	264	195	84	-	-	-	-	1370
St. Elizabeth	784	819	275	151	41	-	-	12	2082
St. Mary	639	319	207	291	23	-	-	-	1479
Trelawny	490	462	171	146	-	-	46	-	1315

Hanover	644	629	275	130	-	-	-	-	1678
St. Thomas	530	605	143	232	6	-	1	-	1517
Total	13723	11452	5322	3567	649	90	75	100	34978
Percentage	39.23	32.74	15.22	10.20	1.86	0.26	0.21	0.29	100

^{*}Total number of observations = 34,978 **LRF means Law Reform Fraudulent Transaction, ***NS means not stated

The above table provides a breakdown of the different types of new charges filed in each parish court for the 2020 calendar year. For the year, 34,978 charges were filed across the parish courts, a decrease of approximately 16.97% when compared to the previous year. The largest proportions of these charges were filed in the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division (8667), the St. Catherine Parish Court (4607), the Westmoreland Parish Court with (2639) and the St. Ann Parish Court with 2527 charges. The largest share of the charges were Indictments (39.23%); followed by Summary matters (32.74%), Lay Magistrates' matters (15.22%) and Committal Proceedings with 10.20% of the total. The Corporate Area Court-Criminal Division accounted for the largest proportion of Indictments filed, followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine, Westmoreland and Manchester. The Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division accounted for the largest share of summary matters filed, followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court and the Westmoreland Parish Court. The largest proportion of Lay Magistrates' matters was filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court – Criminal Division followed by the parish courts of St. Catherine and Manchester. The Corporate Area Criminal Court followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court and the Westmoreland Parish Court accounted for the largest individual shares of Committal Proceedings filed in the year. As for criminal matters, which are traffic related, the only incidences of these in the year were in the Corporate Area Parish Court - Criminal Division, the St. Ann Parish Court and the St. Elizabeth Parish Court.

Offence Types

The following tables provide a breakdown of the most frequently occurring charges for each parish court in 2020.

Table 8.1: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	202	13.90
Unlawful wounding	169	11.60
Breach of Curfew Order	151	10.40
Threat	115	7.90
Malicious destruction of property	110	7.60
Sub-total	747	51.40

Number of observations sampled (N): 1453

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court for the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 202 or 13.90% and unlawful wounding with 169 or 11.60% of the total sample of charges are the most frequently occurring charges. Breach of curfew order with 151 or 10.40% followed this, while threat with 115 or 7.90% and malicious destruction of property with 110 or 7.60% of the total sample rounds off the top five. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 51.40% of the total sample of 1453 charges filed in the year.

Table 8.2: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault assasianing hadily harm	241	10.60
Assault occasioning bodily harm	241	10.69
Unlawful Wounding	234	10.38
Threat	152	6.74
Exposing goods for sale	146	6.48
Larceny as a servant	119	5.28
Sub-total	892	39.57

Number of observations sampled (N): 2254

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court for the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 241 or 10.69% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 234 or 10.38% and threat with 152 or 6.74% rank next. The top five is rounded off by exposing goods for sale with 146 or 6.48% and larceny as a servant with 119 or 5.28% of the sample charges. The top five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 39.57% of the total sample of 2254 charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court in the year.

Table 8.3: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Portland Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency Percentage (
Assault occasioning bodily harm	240	17.96
Unlawful wounding	187	14.00
Threat	168	12.57
Malicious destruction of property	99	7.41
Assault at common law	73	5.46
Sub-total	767	57.41

Number of observations sampled (N): 1336

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Portland Parish Court in the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 240 or 17.96% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 187 or 14.00% and threat with 168 or 12.57% followed this. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property with 99 or 7.41% and assault at common law with 73 or 5.46% of the sample of charges. The five charges quoted above account

for an estimated 57.41% of the total sample of 1336 charges filed during the year at the Portland Parish Court.

Table 8.4: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Threat	452	19.36
Unlawful wounding	ounding 238	
Assault occasioning bodily harm	220	9.42
Malicious destruction of property	101	4.33
Littering in a public place	96	4.11
Sub-total	1107	47.41

Number of observations sampled (N): 2335

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court in the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that threat with 452 or 19.36% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 238 or 10.19% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 220 or 9.42% followed this. Malicious destruction of property with 101 or 4.33% and littering in a public place with 96 or 4.11% of the total sample rounds of the top charges. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 47.41% of the total sample of 2335 charges filed in the year at the St. Ann Parish Court.

Table 8.5: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
		10.10
Assault occasioning bodily harm	572	13.49
Unlawful wounding	358	8.44
Possession of offensive weapon	251	5.92
Malicious destruction of property	245	5.78
Threat	239	5.64
Sub-total	1665	39.27

Number of observations sampled (N): 4240

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 572 or 13.49% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 358 or 8.44% and possession of offensive weapon with 251 or 5.92% followed this. Malicious destruction of property with 245 or 5.78% and threat with 239 or 5.64% of the total sample of charges filed round off the top five. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 39.27% of the total sample of 4240 charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the year.

Table 8.6: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning bodily harm	233	12.32
Unlawful wounding	214	11.31
Threat	166	8.77
Armed with an offensive weapon	115	6.08
Malicious destruction of property	102	5.39
Sub-total	830	43.87

Number of observations sampled (N): 1892

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court in the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 233 or 12.32% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 214 or 11.31% and threat with 166 or 8.77% followed this. Armed with an offensive weapon accounted for 115 or 6.08% of the sample of charges and malicious destruction of property with 102 or 5.39% rank next. The five charges quoted above

account for an estimated 43.87% of the total sample of 1892 charges filed in the year at the St. Elizabeth parish Court.

Table 8.7: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. James Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning Bodily Harm	199	9.66
Unlawful wounding	170	8.26
Threat	152	7.38
Possession of offensive Weapon	145	7.04
Malicious Destruction of Property	106	5.15
Sub-total	772	37.49

Number of observations sampled (N): 2059

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges at the St. James Parish Court in the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 199 or 9.66% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 170 or 8.26%, threat with 152 or 7.38% and possession of offensive weapon with 145 or 7.04% followed this. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property with 106 or 5.15% of the total sample. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 37.49% of the sample of 2059 charges filed in year at the St. James Parish Court.

Table 8.8: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Unlawful wounding	176	13.25
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	156	11.75
Threat	136	10.24
Malicious destruction of property	73	5.50
Possession of ganja	44	3.31
Sub-total	585	44.05

Number of observations sampled (N): 1328

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that unlawful wounding with 176 or 13.25% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Assault occasioning bodily harm with 156 or 11.75% and threat with 136 or 10.24% followed this. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property with 73 or 5.50% and possession of ganja with 44 or 3.31% of the sample. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 44.05% of the total sample of 1328 charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the year.

Table 8.9: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning bodily harm	143	9.82
Unlawful wounding	128 8.79	
Possession of offensive weapon	125	8.59
Possession of ganja	76	5.22
Sexual intercourse with a person under 16	74	5.08
Sub-total	546	37.50

Number of observations sampled (N): 1456

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court in the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 143 or 9.82% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 128 or 8.79% and possession of offensive weapon with 125 or 8.59% followed this. The top five is rounded off by possession of ganja with 76 or 5.22% and sexual intercourse with a person under 16 with 74 or 5.08% of the total sample of charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 37.50% of the sample of 1456 charges filed in the year.

Table 8.10: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Curfew Order	203	16.15
Unlawful wounding	153	12.17
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	148	11.77
Offensive Weapon	86	6.84
Possession of ganja	69	5.49
Sub-total	659	52.43

Number of observations sampled (N): 1257

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that breach of curfew order with 203 or 16.15% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 153 or 12.17% and assault occasioning bodily harm with 148 or 11.77% followed this. Offensive weapon with 86 or 6.84% and possession of ganja with 69 or 5.49% of the total sample of charges round of the top five charges filed in the year. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 52.43% of the total sample of 1257 charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the year.

Table 8.11: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)	
Assault occasioning bodily harm	374	15.58	
Unlawful wounding	234	9.75	
Malicious Destruction of Property	163	6.79	
Threat	146	6.08	
Exposing goods for sale	108	4.50	
Sub-total	1025	42.71	

Number of observations sampled (N): 2400

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that assault

occasioning bodily harm with 374 or 15.58% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 234 or 9.75% and malicious destruction of property with 163 or 6.79% followed this. Threat with 146 or 6.08% and exposing goods for sale with 108 or 4.50% of the sample rank next. The five charges quoted above account for an estimated 42.71% of the total sample of 2400 charges filed in the year at the Westmoreland Parish Court.

Table 8.12: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm	279	14.04
Unlawful Wounding	164	8.25
Threat	133	6.69
Possession of ganja	105	5.28
Malicious Destruction of Property	101	5.08
Sub-total	782	39.36

Number of observations sampled (N): 1987

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 279 or 14.04% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Unlawful wounding with 164 or 8.25% and threat with 133 or 6.69% followed this. The top five is rounded off by possession of ganja with 105 or 5.28% and malicious destruction of property with 101 or 5.08%. The charges quoted above account for an estimated 39.36% of the sample of 1987 charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in the year.

Table 8.13: Distribution of the most frequently occurring charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division in the year ended December 31, 2020

Offence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	843	10.79
Littering	611	7.82
Unlawful Wounding	547	7.00
Disorderly conduct	377	4.83
Malicious destruction of property	322	4.12
Sub-total	2700	34.57

Number of observations sampled (N): 7810

The above table shows the sampling distribution of the five (5) most commonly occurring charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division for the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 843 or 10.79% of the total sample of charges is the most frequently occurring charge. Littering with 611 or 7.82% and unlawful wounding with 547 or 7.00% followed this. The top charges five is rounded off by disorderly conduct with 377 or 4.83% and malicious destruction of property with 322 or 4.12% of the charges. The five charges quoted above accounts for an estimated 34.57% of the total sample of 7810 charges at filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court —Criminal Division in the year.

Table 9.0: Conviction rate for summary and indictment matters heard in the year ended December 31, 2020

Type of case	Number of disposed matters	Number of guilty verdicts	Number of guilty pleas	Aggregate number of guilty outcomes	Estimated conviction rate (%)
Summary	8924	374	5330	5904	66.16
Indictment	11270	358	1819	2177	19.31

The above table shows the estimated conviction rate for summary and indictment matters heard across all parish courts in the 2020 calendar year. Summary matters heard in the year include charges such as possession of an offensive weapon, possession of ganja, exposing goods for sale and dealing in ganja. The estimated conviction rate for the year for summary matters was 66.16%,

which is approximately 2.49 percentages points above the conviction rate recorded at the end of the 2019 calendar year. The estimated conviction rate for indictment matters was significantly lower at 19.31% for the year, which is approximately 1.87 percentages points below the conviction rate recorded at the end of 2019. Indictment matters heard in the year included charges such as assault occasioning bodily harm, unlawful wounding, malicious destruction of property and simple larceny. These results are broadly similar to that seen over the past 12 months.

Table 10.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges across all parish courts for the year ended December 31, 2020

Charge	Frequency	Percentage
Assault occasioning bodily harm	3850	12.10
Unlawful wounding	2972	9.34
Threat	2123	6.67
Malicious destruction of property	1642	5.16
Armed with an offensive weapon	1429	4.49%
Possession of ganja	976	3.07%
Disorderly conduct	898	2.82%
Dealing in ganja	805	2.53%
Littering	731	2.30%
Simple larceny	692	2.18%
Sub-total	16118	50.67%

Number of observations sampled (N): 31,807

The above table shows the distribution of the ten most commonly occurring charges across all parish courts for the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that assault occasioning bodily harm with 3850 or 12.10% of the total number of charges sampled is the most frequently occurring. Unlawful wounding with 2972 or 9.34% and threat with 2123 or 6.67% followed this. The top five is rounded off by malicious destruction of property with 1642 or 5.16% and armed with an offensive weapon with 1429 or 4.49% of the total sample of charges filed in the year. These ten

most frequently occurring types of charges account for approximately 50.67% of the total sample of charges filed in the year.

Table 11.0: Conviction rate for leading occurring charges heard in the year ended December 31, 2020

Type of Offence	Number of disposed matters	Number of guilty verdicts	Number of guilty pleas	Aggregate number of guilty outcomes	Estimated conviction rate (%)
Armed with an offensive weapon	1198	25	1036	1061	88.56
Littering	56	-	48	48	85.71
Possession of ganja	877	21	664	685	78.11
Dealing in ganja	705	17	463	480	69.09
Disorderly conduct	575	26	360	386	67.13
Simple larceny	509	25	126	151	29.67
Malicious destruction of property	1274	25	166	191	14.99
Unlawful wounding	2542	80	288	368	14.48
Threat	1129	47	96	143	12.67
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	3230	74	314	388	12.01

The above table shows the estimated conviction rate for the nine leading charges across all parish courts in the 2020 calendar year. It is shown that armed with an offensive weapon had the highest estimated conviction rate on the list with 88.56%. Littering with 85.71% and possession of ganja with 78.11% followed this. The top conviction rates on the list in the year are rounded off by dealing in ganja with an estimated conviction rate of 69.09% and disorderly conduct with an estimated conviction rate of 67.13%. Assault occasioning bodily harm had the lowest estimated conviction rate on the list with 12.01%. Threats with 12.67% and unlawful wounding with an

estimated conviction rate of 14.48% had the next lowest conviction rates on the list. Malicious destruction of property with an estimated conviction rate of 14.99% also had a relatively low estimated conviction rate.

Table 12.0: Sampling distribution of the average age of active charges for each parish court for the year ended December 31, 2020

Parish Court	Average age of active charges (days)
Clarendon	159
Trelawny	147
Portland	109
St. Mary	149
Hanover	122
Westmoreland	132
St. Catherine	138
St. Elizabeth	126
St. Ann	150
St. James	152
St. Thomas	158
Corporate Area Criminal	145
Manchester	176
Overall Average	143.31
Standard Deviation	17.76
Skewness	-0.24

The above table shows the average age of active charges originating in the 2020 calendar year, for charges originating in said year. The overall average age of active matters originating in the year was approximately 143 days or roughly 4.8 months, roughly 1 day shorter than the average in the 2019 calendar. The parish courts of Portland, Hanover, St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland and St. Catherine have the lowest averages on the list. On the contrary, the highest averages were observed for in the parish courts of Manchester, Clarendon, St. Thomas, St. James and St. Ann. The standard deviation of the scores was however relatively low (approximately 18 days), an indication that the individual values for the parish courts were on average close to the overall

mean. This result is affirmed by the weak negative skewness. There is an intuitive correlation between clearance rates and the average age of cases in the long run, but it does not necessarily manifest empirically in the short run. This means that in the long run, courts with higher clearance rates will in general have a lower case backlog and a lower average age of active cases. Courts, which manage to maintain a case clearance rate of between 90% and 110% long enough will eventually eliminate case backlog, a feat that is quite conceivable with improved case progression management in the respective courts. In such cases, the average time taken to dispose of cases will experience a natural decline, tapering off at a modest, tolerable rate and improving the efficiency of the courts and the enhancing the timely delivery of justice.

Table 13.0: Average age of charges disposed for matters originating in the year ended December 31, 2020

Parish Court	Average age of disposed charges (days)
Clarendon	106
Trelawny	102
Portland	90
St. Mary	86
Hanover	65
Westmoreland	81
St. Catherine	102
St. Elizabeth	105
St. Ann	135
St. James	103
St. Thomas	150
Corporate Area Criminal	104
Manchester	118
Overall Average	103.62
Standard Deviation	22.09
Skewness	0.52

The above table shows that the average time taken to dispose of criminal cases filed in 2020, which were filed in the Parish Courts, is 103.62 days. This is approximately 19.62 days more than

time taken to dispose of cases originating in the 2019 calendar year, which were disposed. The standard deviation of roughly 22 days is an indication that there were moderate variations in the distribution of the scores, which ranged from a low of roughly 65 days at the Hanover Parish Court, to a high of 150 days for the St. Thomas Parish Court. The moderate positive skewness is an indication that a significant proportion of the scores were clustered around the overall average, score though slightly more fell below it.

Table 14.0: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition as at the year ended December 31, 2020

Parishes	Time interval in days						
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269	270-364	365 days	Sample size	
			days	days	and over	(n)	
Corporate Area	7469	3820	2069	1396	2328	17082	
Criminal	(34.7%)	(22.4%)	(12.1%)	(8.2%)	(13.6%)	(100%)	
St. Catherine	4135	2674	1467	889	1783	10948	
	(37.8%)	(24.4%)	(13.4%)	(8.1%)	(16.3%)	(100%)	
St. James	3237	1728	940	736	1502	8143	
	(39.8%)	(21.2%)	(11.5%)	(9.0%)	(18.4%)	(100%)	
Manchester	1814	1264	1006	801	2012	6897	
	(26.3%)	(18.3%)	(14.6%)	(11.6%)	29.2%)	(100)	
Westmoreland	3404	1203	673	377	501	6158	
	(55.3%)	(19.5%)	(10.9%)	(6.1%)	(8.1%)	(100%)	
St. Ann	1727	1219	773	642	1817	6178	
	(28.0%)	(19.7%)	(12.5%)	(10.4%)	(29.4%)	(100%)	
Clarendon	2791	1439	713	422	891	6256	
	(44.6%)	(23.0%)	(11.4%)	(6.7%)	14.2%)	(100%)	
St. Thomas	883	751	430	378	610	3052	
	(28.9%)	(24.6%)	(14.1%)	(12.4%)	(20.0%)	(100%)	
Portland	1517	983	517	364	805	4186	
	(36.2%)	(23.5%)	(12.4%)	(8.7%)	(19.2%)	(100%)	
St. Mary	1955	979	658	356	1022	4970	
	(39.3%)	(19.7%)	(13.2%)	(7.2%)	(20.6%)	(100%)	
St. Elizabeth	1834	1171	622	313	636	4576	
	(40.1%)	(25.6%)	(13.6%)	(6.8%)	(13.9%)	(100%)	
Trelawny	1176	583	344	274	526	2903	
	(40.5%)	(20.1%)	(11.8%)	(9.4%)	(18.1%)	(100%)	
Hanover	1595	724	297	193	296	3105	
	(51.4%)	(23.3%)	(9.6%)	(6.2%)	(9.5%)	(100%)	
% of Total	39.71	21.95	12.44	8.46	17.44	100.00	
Average	2579.77	1426.00	808.38	549.31	1133.00	6496.46	
Standard							
Deviation	1748.53	895.32	489.10	334.74	670.49	3901.40	
Skewness	2.03	1.95	1.66	1.48	0.54	1.87	

Number of charges sampled (N) = 84,454

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

The table above shows the breakdown of the time disposition for matters filed in the respective parish courts for at least 51 consecutive months over the period September 2016 to December 2020. 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 39.71% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, Westmoreland and St. James and are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed under 90 days. This trend is broadly similar to that seen over the past 24 months. Cumulatively, 82.56% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a continued positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in increasing overall productivity and realizing the objective of becoming the best in the Caribbean region in three years and among the best in the world in six years. From the data set, the parish courts of Corporate Area Parish Court-Criminal Division, Manchester and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to dispose of matters in this sample range from relatively weak to moderate positive, which is an indication that for disposed cases, the times distributions of the time taken do not vary dramatically across the courts. The difference, however, is the proportion of cases disposed of, relative to the caseload, which as shown earlier, indicates that some courts are performing much better.

Table 15.0a: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed as at the year ended December 31, 2020

Parishes		Time to disposition (days)						
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area								
Criminal	176.73	1	108	195.09	1.97	1	1394	17082
St. Catherine	223.17	63	126	334.49	5.86	1	5321	10948
St. James	213.30	49	121	238.13	2.12	1	1755	8143
Manchester	296.76	63	204	320.33	5.20	1	9044	6897
Westmoreland	134.57	7	77	160.09	3.32	1	1974	6158
St. Ann	292.29	63	189	327.22	5.06	1	8875	6178
Clarendon	173.09	63	103	193.39	2.08	1	1371	6256
St. Thomas	238.81	119	160	247.44	2.63	1	2436	3052
Portland	244.48	63	136	326.85	3.41	1	3702	4186
St. Mary	258.15	28	128	374.40	4.16	1	5684	4970
St. Elizabeth	188.50	28	118	222.67	2.71	1	1568	4576
Trelawny	211.40	63	121	231.79	1.96	1	1422	2903
Hanover	162.68	35	84	246.89	4.63	1	2409	3105
Total/Weighted								
Average	212.89	49.62	128.85	262.98	3.47	1.00	3611.92	6496.46
Standard								
Deviation	49.28	30.57	36.90	66.32	1.37	0.00	2773.46	3901.40
Skewness	0.16	0.46	0.81	0.20	0.45	0.00	1.22	1.87

Number of charges sampled (N) = 84,454

Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at the past four years

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed of for each parish court as at December 31, 2020. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a four-year period for most parish courts and it should be noted that these descriptive statistics are for matters disposed over that sample period. The output produces an estimated weighted average time taken to dispose of matters in the parish courts (Criminal Division) of approximately 213 days, roughly the 9 less days than the previous year. The skewness of these times to disposition is a very low positive 0.16, suggesting that these times were generally clustered around the overall mean. For matters disposed of in the period, the parish courts of

Westmoreland (135 days), Hanover (163 days) and Clarendon (173 days) took the lowest times on average to dispose of cases over the period. The parish courts of Manchester (297 days), St. Ann (292 days) and St. Mary (258 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 however modest, as shown by the standard deviation (49.28). An interesting finding is that the minimum time taken to dispose of matters across all parish courts was 1 day; however, the maximum times are substantially larger, in some cases several years. This result continues to be both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 1371 days (45.7 months/3.8 years) in the Clarendon Parish Court, to a high of 9044 days (301 months/25.12 years) in the Manchester Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a moderately positive 1.22, which is an indication that proportionately more of the maximum times to disposition fell below the overall series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial and representative 84,454 matters.

Table 15.0b: Net and gross criminal case backlog as at the year ended December 31, 2020

Parish Court	Net case backlog rate (%)	Gross case backlog rate (%)
Clarendon	13.86	18.92
Corporate area	1.58	14.41
Hanover	0.63	3.04
Manchester	3.57	18.11
Portland	2.71	10.52
St. Ann	2.92	18.61
St. Catherine	0.32	9.04
St. Elizabeth	0.99	8.40
St. James	1.99	6.70
St. Mary	0.35	8.55
St. Thomas	2.35	6.95
Trelawny	3.65	11.08
Westmoreland	1.18	7.79
Weighted Average	2.64	11.83
Standard Deviation	3.52	5.07

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

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

results revealed are quite outstanding as using a 4 years' time series, the net case backlog rate (weighted average) in the criminal division of the parish courts is 2.64% (with a standard deviation of 3.52%) which is satisfies than the international standard. The estimated gross case backlog rate also stands at a commendable 11.83% (with a standard deviation of 5.07%), an indication that there are a large number of inactive unresolved criminal cases in the parish courts. This rate is only 1.83 percentage points higher than the prescribed rate of 10%, but seemingly has the potential to meet this standard relatively soon with the application of more aggressive case management practices and reduction in the incidence of delays in the criminal courts. Although the time series used for this computation is only 4 years' worth of cases, the sample set is large and representative of the current direction of the court system. The parish courts of St. Catherine with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.32% and St. Mary with an estimated net case backlog rate of 0.35% and the parish court of Hanover with 0.63% have the lowest (best) estimated net case backlog rate in the time series, while the parish courts of Clarendon (13.86%), Trelawny (3.65%) and Manchester (3.57%) have the highest rates. As for the estimated gross backlog rate, the parish courts of Hanover (3.04%), St. James (6.70%) and St. Thomas (6.95%) have the lowest (best) estimated gross backlog rates in the series, while the parish courts of Clarendon (18.92%), St. Ann (18.61%) and Manchester (18.11%) have the highest rates. Taken together, these are quite impressive returns for the criminal court system in Jamaica and augur well for future prospects.

Methods of Disposal and Conviction Rate

Table 16.0: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposition for the year ended December 31, 2020

Parish Court	Guilty	Dismissed	Not	Transferred	Mediated	Guilty	Committed to	Total
Tansii Court	Plea	Distillissed	Guilty Verdict	Transierreu	Settlement	Verdict	Circuit Court	Total
St. Catherine	1229	771	86	494	684	38	238	3540
Corporate Area Criminal	2293	1503	226	120	219	128	360	4849
Westmoreland	544	770	461	41	206	115	175	2312
St. James	809	1	486	99	242	140	73	1850
Manchester	526	800	36	342	319	47	345	2415
Clarendon	678	48	556	136	280	20	199	1917
St. Elizabeth	626	77	353	11	303	47	174	1591
Trelawny	302	223	242	14	90	88	69	1028
Hanover	570	238	264	31	84	118	75	1380
Portland	125	56	457	10	106	68	62	884
St. Mary	333	501	26	0	303	37	197	1397
St. Thomas	421	78	161	45	134	44	131	1014
St. Ann	281	741	108	139	94	18	9	1390
Total	8737	5807	3462	1482	3064	908	2107	25567
Percentage of total	34.17	22.71	13.54	5.80	11.98	3.55	8.24	100.00

Total sample size: 25,567

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts for 2020. From the sample, it is observed that the largest proportion of matters disposed of during the year were by way of a guilty plea with 34.17% of the sample, followed by matters dismissed with 22.71% and not guilty verdicts with 13.54%. Mediated settlements with 11.98%, matters committed to Circuit Court with 8.24%, matters transferred to another court with 5.80% and guilty verdicts with 3.55% account for the remaining disposals in the year. The combined 37.72% of the cases disposed of by way of guilty outcomes represent the estimated criminal

conviction rate in the parish courts for the year. This represents a decline of 2.21 percentage points when compared to the corresponding period in 2019.

Common Reasons for Adjournment

Table 17.1: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment for the year ended December 31, 2020

Reasons for Adjournment	Count	Percentage (%)
Defendant Not Appearing (DNA) warrant issued	4080	19.21
File to be completed	1698	8.00
Referred to Mediation	1496	7.04
Re-issue application	1403	6.61
For Disclosure	881	4.15
Subpoena investigating officer	837	3.94
Defendant absent	496	2.34
Medical report unavailable	488	2.30
Subpoena crown witness	440	2.07
Sub-total	11819	55.65

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance =21,238)

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

The above table is derived using a sample of 21,238 reasons for adjournments/continuance for matters heard in the 2020 calendar year across all parish courts. The largest proportion (19.21%) was due to the non-appearance of the accused, leading to the issuing of warrants. Adjournments files to be completed with 8% and adjournments for referrals to mediation with 7.04% rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment across the parish courts. Adjournments for the re-issue of applications with 6.61% and for disclosure with 4.15%, round of the top five reasons for adjournment for the year. Four of the top five reasons for adjournment were also featured in the

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

top five for the 2019 calendar year. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above account for 55.65% of the total sample of adjournments.

The case file integrity rate:

One factor, which has a significant bearing on the progression of cases through the court system, is the case file integrity rate. A case file is considered to have met the standards of integrity if at the point of a court hearing requiring the use of said the file; it is complete, accurate, available and correctly listed for court. Hence reasons for adjournment such as file incomplete, file not ready for court, matter wrongly listed and matter not before the court have an adverse impact on the case file integrity rate of the courts. In 2020, the case file integrity rate for criminal matters across the parish courts was 91.59% as 8.41% of the total incidence of adjournments was due to the indicated factors, which impair the case file integrity rate. Of these factors, file to be completed accounts for 8% of the total incidence of adjournments/continuance and is the greatest contributor, adversely affecting the case file integrity rate. This rate is below the prescribed international standard of 98%-100%. This is an area in which major operational interventions need to be undertaken across the parish courts to improve the availability, completeness, accuracy and correct scheduling of case files for court.

Table 17.2: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for continuance for the year ended December 31, 2020

Reasons for Continuance	Count	Percentage (%)
Sentencing	1337	6.30
Part Heard	881	4.15
Bail application	225	1.06
Sub-total Sub-total	2443	11.50

(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance = 21,238)

The analysis of adjournments makes a distinction between those incidences, which may be considered avoidable due to either internal or external factors, and those, which are intrinsic to the progression of a case. The above table highlights the primary reasons for adjournment gleaned from the sample, which may be considered as simply intrinsic to the progression of some cases. These reasons are classified as reasons for 'continuance.' As seen in the above table, adjournments for sentencing, part heard matters and those for bail application featured prominently among such reasons. Sentencing led this list for 2020 with 6.30% of the total incidence of adjournments/continuance sampled.

Chapter 2.0: Case Demographics and Courtroom Activity

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

Table 18.0: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender for the year ended December 31, 2020

	Male		Female		Total	
Charge	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Armed with an	1326	93.12	98	6.88	1424	100
offensive weapon						
Littering	670	91.78	60	8.22	730	100
Possession of ganja	800	82.39	171	17.61	971	100
Dealing in ganja	661	82.63	139	17.38	800	100
Disorderly conduct	586	66.29	298	33.71	884	100
Malicious destruction	1266	77.62	365	22.38	1631	100
of property						
Unlawful wounding	2273	76.87	684	23.13	2957	100
Assault occasioning	2874	74.71	973	25.29	3847	100
actual bodily harm						
Threat	1575	75.29	517	24.71	2092	100
Simple larceny	571	82.99	117	17.01	688	100

***The gender of offenders was not available for every matter that was filed in the parish courts hence a sample is used. Sample size (N) = 16,024

The above table provides a sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring charges by gender in the 2020 calendar year. Based on the data shown in chart 4.0, it is not surprising that males account for the dominant proportion of all these charges. Among the charges listed with the greatest imbalance in the gender distribution are possession of ganja and dealing in ganja and simple larceny, for which over 80% of the offenders were male. More particularly, is seen that the charges of armed with an offensive weapon with 93.12% of persons charged being male and littering with 91.78% had the highest incidence of person charged being male for the year.

Disorderly conduct, assault occasioning bodily harm and threat saw the highest incidence of female involvement among the offences, which appeared most frequently.

The below series of tables provide a sampling distribution of cases by assigned courtroom in the individual parish courts in the year 2020. These figures are derived from representative data from the respective courts and do not necessary add back to the total population of cases outlined in the first two case activity tables in the report.

Table 19.1: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Westmoreland for the 2020 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	908	588	63	56.86	71.70
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	29	14	0	1.82	48.28
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	7	3	0	0.44	42.86
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	144	87	12	9.02	68.75
Night Court (main courthouse)	244	204	23	15.28	93.03
Whithorn Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	33	13	6	2.07	57.58
Whithorn Outstation	232	162	6	14.53	72.41
Total/Average	1597	1071	110	100	73.95

Note 1: There were 6 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of criminal cases filed in 2020 at the Westmoreland Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and

outlines the applicable disposal rates. The table separates Lay Magistrates and night court matters heard in each of the relevant locations for ease of comparison. The data shows decisively that matters entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse and Night court at the main courthouse accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the year with 908 (56.86%) and 244 (15.28%) matters respectively. The outstation in Whithorn with 232 or 14.53% rank next. The number of matters heard in courtroom one (908 cases), decreased by 15.22%, going below the 1071 cases recorded in the similar period of 2019. The disposal rate, however, increased by 1.11 percentage points moving up to 71.70% compared to the 70.59% reported in 2019. In terms of cases disposed, sittings in courtroom number 1 with 588 cases accounted for the highest absolute share of cases disposed, relative to the number of new cases filed and had the third highest disposal rate of 71.70%. Night court sittings at the main court had 204 disposed cases and recorded the highest disposal rate of 93.03%, a 4.36 percentage points decline when compared to the 97.39% recorded in the corresponding period of 2019. The outstation in Whithorn rank next and registered an absolute share of 162 cases disposed in the period, which led to a disposal rate of 72.41%, a decline of 8.89 percentage points than the 81.30% recorded in the 2019 calendar year.

The single outstation in Westmoreland accounted for 16.59% of the total number of new cases heard, an increase of 3.07 percentage points when compared to the 13.52% recorded in the corresponding 2019 period. The main courthouse accounted for the remaining 83.41%, a decline of 5.07 percentage points when compared to the 88.48% recorded in the 2019 calendar year.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said

rooms. In particular, of the 908 new cases heard in courtroom number one, 160 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. One hundred and five (105) of these were disposed of in courtroom 2, twenty-eight (28) were disposed of in courtroom three, twenty-seven (27) at night court sittings at the main courthouse. Of the 29 cases heard in courtroom number two, 2 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. One was disposed of at night court sittings while one (1) was disposed of in courtroom number one. Of the 244 cases heard at night court sittings 15 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. Courtrooms 2 and 3 accounted for 7 and 4 cases respectively. Three cases while the remaining 1 case was disposed of in courtroom 1. Of the 232 cases heard at the outstation in Whithorn, 2 cases were disposed of in Lay Magistrates sittings at the outstation in Whithorn and 1 in courtroom one at the main courthouse. Of the 144 cases heard at Lay Magistrates sittings at the main court one was disposed of in courtroom 2 and courtroom three.

Table 18.2: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Corporate Area for the 2020 calendar year.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	1	0	0	0.02	0.00
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	4022	1645	968	83.81	64.97
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	3	0	0	0.06	0.00
Courtroom #6 (main courthouse)	171	68	10	3.56	45.61
Courtroom #7 (main courthouse)	170	39	10	3.54	28.82
Courtroom #8 (main courthouse)	9	3	1	0.19	44.44
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	372	127	65	7.75	51.61
Gun Court (main courthouse)	1	0	0	0.02	0.00
Night Court (main courthouse)	1	1	0	0.02	100.00
Gordon Town Outstation	49	11	4	1.02	30.61
Total/Average	4799	1894	1058	100.00	61.51

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in 2020 the Corporate Area Court – Criminal Division. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations. Courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for the highest proportion of new cases filed in the year with 83.81% of the total. The Lay Magistrates Court with roughly 7.75% follows this and courtroom number 6 with 3.56%, rounding off the top three proportion of new cases filed in period. Courtroom number two accounts for the largest absolute share of cases disposed in 2020 with 1645 matters and the highest disposal rate of 64.97%. When compared to the corresponding 2019-year, courtroom number two also accounted for the largest absolute share of cases disposed with 2683 matters and a disposal rate of 81.26%. This represents a decline of 1038 new

cases filed and 16.29 percentage points in the disposal rate. The main courthouse in Half-Way-Tree accounted for 98.98% of the total number of new matters heard in 2020 while the remaining less than 1.02% was accounted for by the single outstation (Gordon Town).

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 4022 cases heard in courtroom two, 338 were disposed of in other courtrooms. In particular, 121 were disposed of at fast-track court, Courtroom 4 accounted for 75 of these cases, night court sittings accounted for 55 of these disposed cases. Courtroom 5 accounted for 21 of these disposed cases, courtroom 8 disposed of 35 cases, courtroom 3 accounted for 16 of these. Plea and case and courtroom number 2 each disposed of 1 case. Lay Magistrates sittings and courtroom number six accounted for 2 and 4 cases respectively. Courtroom one and six accounted for 4 a case each, while Courtroom 2 and plea and case accounted for 1 case each. Of the three cases heard in courtroom 4 1 was disposed of at fasttrack court. Of the 171 cases heard in courtroom six, three were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. one case was disposed of in Courtroom 2, while night court accounted for 1 case. Of the 170 cases heard in courtroom number seven, courtroom 6 accounted for 7 cases. One of the 9 cases heard in Courtroom 8 were disposed of in Courtroom 2 at the main courthouse and fast track court. Of the 49 cases heard at the outstation in Gordon Town 5 were disposed of night court sittings at the main courthouse. Of the 372 cases heard at Lay magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse 4 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. Two (2) were disposed of at night court sittings while 2 were disposed of in courtroom number 2. The 1 case that was heard at night court sittings at the main courthouse was disposed of in courtroom number 5.

Table 18.3: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. James for the 2020 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	3	1	1	0.21	66.67
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	1185	677	131	83.92	68.19
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	46	28	12	3.26	86.96
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	84	23	40	5.95	75.00
Cambridge Outstation	97	59	10	6.87	71.13
Lay Magistrates (main courthouse)	2	0	2	0.14	100.00
Total/Average	1412	787	193	100.14	69.41

Note 1: There were 105 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the calendar year ended Jan-Dec. 2020 at the St. James Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and outlines the disposal rates of the various courtrooms and outstations. Courtroom 2 at the main courthouse had the largest number of new cases filed with 1185 cases, which is 930 cases less than the 2115 cases reported in the corresponding period of 2019. This was followed by Cambridge outstation with 6.87%, courtrooms number 4 and 3 with 5.95% and 3.26% respectively of the sample followed. Lay magistrates' sittings had the highest disposal rate of 100% relative to its low absolute numbers, while Courtroom 3 followed with a disposal rate of 86.96%. Courtrooms 4 and Cambridge outstation followed with rates of 75% and 71.13% respectively. The main courthouse in Montego Bay accounts for 93.13% of the new cases

heard in 2020. This is 2.86 percentage points below the 95.99% recorded in previous 2019 calendar year. The remaining 6.87% was accounted for by the sole outstation (Cambridge).

As mentioned not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. Of the 1185 cases heard in courtroom two 50 were disposed of in other courtrooms /outstation. Thirty-seven (37) were disposed of in courtroom 3, 8 in courtroom 4, ten in courtroom number 1 and 1 at the outstation in Cambridge. Forty-six cases were heard in courtroom 3 at the main courthouse, four (4) were disposed of in courtroom number 2 and 1 in courtroom one (1). There were 97 cases heard at the outstation in Cambridge, of that amount 1 was disposed of in courtroom 2 at the main courthouse.

Table 18.4: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Catherine for the 2020 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	1233	670	159	44.89	67.23
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	128	72	17	4.66	69.53
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	20	8	3	0.73	55.00
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	59	32	5	2.15	62.71
Courtroom #5 (main courthouse)	27	13	0	0.98	48.15
Children's Court (main courthouse)	86	47	1	3.13	55.81
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	178	41	87	6.48	71.91
Portmore Outstation (Courtroom #1)	1	0	1	0.04	100.00
Portmore Outstation (Night Court)	267	185	80	9.72	99.25
Linstead Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	50	7	31	1.82	76.00
Linstead Outstation (Courtroom #1)	418	249	35	15.22	67.94
Old Harbour Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	28	13	7	1.02	71.43
Old Harbour Outstation (Courtroom #1)	252	149	32	9.17	71.83

Total/Average	2747	1486	458	100.00	70.77

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in the period ended December 31, 2020 at the St. Catherine Parish Court. In particular, it compares the relative proportions of new cases filed, which are accounted for by the different courtrooms and outstations in the parish and outlines the applicable disposal rates. The table separates Lay Magistrates and night court matters for the relevant locations for ease of comparisons. The data shows decisively that matters entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse in Spanish Town and Linstead outstation accounts for the largest share of new cases heard in the period with 44.89% and 15.22% of the sample respectively. Night court at the outstation in Portmore with 9.72% of the new cases heard ranks next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 670 cases, which is 405 cases less than the 1075 cases recorded in the corresponding period of 2019 and had the eighth highest disposal rate of 67.23%, which is a decrease of 11 percentage points when compared to the 78.23% recorded in 2019. Night court sittings at the outstation in Portmore and the outstation in Linstead with disposal rates of 99.25% and 76% respectively, rank second and third respectively. The main courthouse in Spanish Town accounts for 63.01% of the total number of new cases heard in the third 2020, 7.35 percentage points above the 55.66% recorded in the corresponding 2019 calendar year. The outstations combined accounted for the remaining 36.99%. Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 1233 cases heard in courtroom number one, 111 were disposed of in

other courtrooms/outstation. Courtrooms 2 and 3 accounted for 31 and 27 cases respectively.

Courtrooms 4 and 5 disposed of 30 and 20 cases respectively. Children's court at the outstation in Portmore accounted for 1 case while 2 cases were disposed of at Lay magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse. Of the 128 cases heard in courtroom number two, 15 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Courtroom one accounted for 12 cases while courtrooms 3, 4 and the outstation in Linstead disposed of 1 case each. Of the 20 cases heard in courtroom 3, two (2) cases were disposed of in courtroom one. Of the 59 cases heard in courtroom number four, 12 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. five (5) cases were disposed of in courtroom number one and number three. The children's court in the Portmore outstation and courtroom number two accounted for 1 case each. Of the 27 cases heard in courtroom number five, 8 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Five cases were disposed of in courtroom number one, while 2 cases were disposed of in courtroom number 4. The remaining one cases were accounted for by courtrooms three. Of the 267 cases heard in night court sittings at the Portmore outstation, 26 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. The outstation in Linstead accounted for ten of these 26 cases while courtrooms number one and five accounted for 7 cases and 2 cases respectively. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the Linstead outstation accounted for 5 cases while courtrooms 4 and courtroom 2 at the Linstead outstation disposed of 1 case each. Of the 418 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the Linstead outstation, 12 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. Courtrooms one and four accounted for 10 cases and I case respectively, while the lay magistrate's sittings at the Linstead outstation disposed of the remaining one case.

18.5: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Thomas for the 2020 calendar year.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main					
courthouse)	36	6	1	4.72	19.44
Courtroom #1 (main courtroom)	395	221	24	51.77	62.03
Courtroom #2 (main courtroom)	162	74	28	21.23	62.96
Yallahs Outstation (Lay					
Magistrates' Court)	6	0	3	0.79	50.00
Yallahs Outstation	164	96	6	21.49	62.20
Total/Average	763	397	62	100	60.16

Note 1: There were 88 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in 2020 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The data shows decisively that matters entered in courtroom numbers 1 at the main court in Morant Bay and the Yallahs outstation accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the year with 51.77% and 21.49% respectively. Courtroom number 1 also accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 221 matters and the third highest disposal rate of 62.03%. When compared to the corresponding 2019 period, this represents a decline of 86 cases or 28.01% below the 307 cases disposed in 2019 and a 6.35 percentage points decrease in the disposal rate recorded of 68.38% in 2019. Courtroom 2 at the main courthouse and the outstation in Yallahs with disposal rates of 62.96% (compared to 67.05% in 2019) and 62.20% (compared to 68.28% in 2019) respectively accounts for the first and second highest disposal rates respectively. The main courthouse in Morant Bay accounted for 77.72% of the total new cases heard in 2020, a decline of 4.23 percentage points when compared to the 81.95% recorded in the corresponding

2019 period. The remaining 22.28% was accounted for by the Yallahs outstation, an increase of 4.23 percentage points when compared to the 18.05% recorded in the corresponding 2019 calendar year.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 395 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse 11 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Courtroom number 2 accounted for 5 cases while the outstation in Yallahs accounted for 6 cases. Of the 162 cases heard in courtroom number two, 15 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. Courtroom number 1 accounted for 9 cases while the outstations in Yallahs and the Children's court disposed of 6. Of the 164 cases heard at the outstation in Yallahs, 4 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. Courtroom one and night court at the main courthouse accounted for 1 case each while Children's court disposed of 2 cases.

Table 18.6: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Trelawny for the 2020 calendar year.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	112	75	8	13.86	74.11
Clarks town (Children's Court)	3	3	0	0.37	100.00
Falmouth Outstation	393	196	21	48.64	55.22
Falmouth Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	23	9	5	2.85	60.87
Ulster Spring Outstation	153	65	23	18.94	57.52
Ulster Spring Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	8	1	1	0.99	25.00
Clarks Town Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	12	6	2	1.49	66.67
Clarks Town Outstation (Courtroom #1)	104	65	6	12.87	68.27
Total/Average	808	420	66	100.00	60.15

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of the movement of cases filed in 2020 at the Trelawny Parish Court. The data shows decisively that matters entered in the Falmouth outstation accounts for the highest share of new cases heard in the year, with 48.64%. The outstation in Ulster Spring and courtroom 1 at the main courthouse with 18.94% and 13.86% respectively, followed. Children's court in the outstation of Clarks Town despite its proportionately low absolute numbers accounted for the highest disposal rate of 100%. Courtroom number 1 recorded one of the highest disposal rates with 74.11% and courtroom 1 at the Clarks Town outstation and the lay magistrates' sittings at the Clarks Town outstation ranked next with 68.27% and 66.67%. The outstations accounts for 86.14% of the new cases heard in 2020 while the remaining 13.86% were accounted for by the main courthouse. In 2019, the

outstations accounted for 93.16% of the new cases heard while the remaining 6.84% were accounted for by the main courthouse.

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed of in said rooms. In particular, of the 112 cases heard in courtroom number one, 13 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. The courtroom one at the outstation in Clarks Town accounted for 8 cases while the outstation in Falmouth disposed of in 3 cases. The outstation in Ulster Spring and Lay Magistrates' sittings at the outstation in Clarks town accounted for 1 case each. Of the 393 cases heard at the Falmouth outstation courtroom number one at the main courthouse disposed of 2 while courtroom number one at the outstation in Clarks Town disposed of 5 cases. The remaining 1 case was accounted for by Lay magistrates' sittings at the outstation in Falmouth. Of the 153 cases heard at the Ulster Spring outstation 2 cases were disposed in Courtroom number one at the Clarks Town outstation and the Falmouth outstation. Of the 104 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the Clarks Town outstation, 8 cases were disposed of in other courtroom/outstations. The outstations of Falmouth accounted for 6 cases. Lay magistrates' sittings at the Clarks Town outstation and courtroom number one disposed 1 case each.

Table 18.7: Aggregate case statistics for each outstation in the Parish of St. Mary for the 2020 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main courthouse)	35	15	0	4.00	42.86
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	462	288	34	52.80	69.70
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	15	9	1	1.71	66.67
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	18	15	0	2.06	83.33
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	59	17	42	6.74	100.00
Night Court (main courthouse)	3	1	2	0.34	100.00
Annotto Bay Outstation	143	112	4	16.34	81.12
Annotto Bay Outstation (Petty Session)	2	1	1	0.23	100.00
Gayle Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	4	4	0	0.46	100.00
Gayle Outstation	49	39	4	5.60	87.76
Richmond Outstation	84	61	3	9.60	76.19
Richmond Outstation (Petty Session)	1	1	0	0.11	100.00
Total/Average	875	563	91	100.00	74.74

Note 1: There were 6 missing courtroom/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the table in 1.0.

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Mary in 2020. The data shows decisively that courtrooms number 1 and the Annotto Bay outstation accounts for the highest share of new matters heard in the year, with 52.80% and 16.34% respectively of the total. The outstations in Richmond and Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with 9.60% and 6.74% ranks next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Port Maria accounts for the highest absolute share of cases disposed with 288 cases, a decrease of 136 matters or 32.08%, below the 424

matters recorded in the corresponding 2019 period and had a case disposal rate of 69.70%. Despite proportionately low absolute numbers, night court sittings at the main courthouse, Lay Magistrates sittings at the Annotto Bay and Richmond outstations all had disposal rates of 100%. and the with disposal rates of 80% had the second highest disposal rate in the year. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse with 100% was among the highest disposal rates for the period.

The outstations in the parish account for a combined 32.35% of the total number of new cases heard in the 2020 period, 3.89 percentage points above 28.45% recorded in the corresponding 2019 period. On the other hand, the main courthouse accounts for roughly 67.65% a decline of 4.27 percentage point below the 71.93% recorded in the similar 2019 calendar year.

As mentioned not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 462 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, 84 cases were disposed of in other courtroom/outstation. Courtrooms two and three accounted for 24 and 48 cases respectively. Children's court disposed of 1 case each. Six (6) cases were disposed of at night court sittings at the main courthouse, while circuit court and outstation in Richmond accounted for 3 and 2 cases respectively. Of the 18 cases heard in courtroom 3 at the main courthouse 5 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. The following courtrooms/outstation disposed of 1 case each; Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse, Richmond outstation, Night court sittings, and courtrooms 1 and 2. Of the 59 cases heard at Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse, 9 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms. Courtrooms three and one disposed of 4 and 3 cases respectively, while the remaining 2 cases were disposed of night court sittings at the main courthouse. There were 3 cases heard at the

night court sittings at the main courthouse, one case was disposed of in circuit court. Two were disposed of at night court sittings while 1 case was disposed of at the circuit court. Of the 143 cases heard at the outstation in Annotto Bay 20 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. Courtrooms number one, two and 3 accounted for 5 cases each. Lay magistrates' sittings at the Annotto Bay outstation and night court sittings at the main courthouse disposed of 3 cases and 1 case respectively. Forty-nine (49) cases were heard at the outstation in Gayle of this amount 2 cases were disposed of in courtroom number two. There were 84 cases heard at the outstation in Richmond, of this amount 12 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. There were 6 cases accounted for in courtroom number three, 4 cases disposed of in courtroom number 2 while courtroom 1 and lay magistrates' sittings in Richmond outstation disposed of 1 case each.

Table 18.8: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Portland for 2020 calendar year.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Children's Court (main					
courthouse)	43	18	5	4.29	53.49
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	597	350	49	59.52	66.83
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	52	39	1	5.18	76.92
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	21	10	1	2.09	52.38
Buff Bay Outstation (courtroom #1)	157	87	7	15.65	59.87
Buff Bay Outstation (courtroom #2)	24	21	0	2.39	87.50
Manchioneal Outstation	109	79	3	10.87	75.23
Total/Average	1003	604	66	100	66.80

Note 1: There were 218 missing courtrooms/Outstation entry therefore the number in this table may not equate to the total in table 1.0.

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Portland in 2020. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the main court in Port Antonio accounts for the highest share of new matters heard in the period, with 59.52% of the total. In 2019 courtroom one also accounted for the highest share of new matters heard with 60.26%. Courtroom #1 at the outstation in Buff Bay and Manchioneal outstations with 15.69% (compared to 21.12% in 2019) and 10.87% (compared to 11.33% in 2019) respectively of the total number of the new cases heard in the period ranked next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Port Antonio accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 350 matters, 131 matters or 27.23% decline compared

to the 481 matters recorded in the corresponding 2019 calendar year and had the fourth highest disposal rate. Courtroom number two at the Buff Bay outstation courtroom number two at the main courthouse with rates of 87.50% and 76.92% respectively were among the top three on this measure.

The outstations in Portland account for a combined 28.91% of the new cases heard was a decrease of 3.71 percentage points below the 35.09% recorded in the corresponding 2019 period. The main courthouse in Port Antonio accounts for the remaining 71.09% and increased by 5.71 percentage points above the 67.38% recorded in the 2019 calendar year

Not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 597 cases heard in courtroom number one, there were 19 cases disposed of in other courtrooms. Courtrooms two and three disposed of 9 cases and 8 cases respectively. While the Manchioneal outstation disposed of 2 cases. Of the 52 cases heard in courtroom number two, 6 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Courtrooms number one and three accounted for 4 and 2 cases respectively. of the 157 cases heard in courtroom1 at the buff Bay Outstation of the Courtroom one disposed of 1 case. Of the 109 cases heard at the outstation in Manchioneal Courtroom two and three disposed of 1 each. Courtroom two at the outstation in Buff Bay accounted for 1 case.

Table 18.9: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Hanover for the year of ended December 31, 2020

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courtroom)	466	308	53	46.74	77.47
Courtroom #2 (main courtroom)	99	66	3	9.93	69.70
Green Island Outstation (courtroom #1)	133	89	14	13.34	77.44
Green Island Outstation (Courtroom #2)	1	1	0	0.10	100.00
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	68	45	5	6.82	73.53
Green Island Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	15	10	2	1.50	80.00
Ramble Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	7	5	0	0.70	71.43
Ramble Outstation (courtroom #1)	58	49	3	5.82	89.66
Sandy Bay Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	30	16	2	3.01	60.00
Sandy Bay Outstation (courtroom #1)	120	86	8	12.04	78.33
Total/Average	997	675	90	100.00	76.73

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Hanover in 2020. The data shows decisively that courtrooms number one at the main court in Lucea accounts for the highest share of new matters heard in the year, with 46.74% of the total, which is 7.75 percentage points above the 38.99% recorded in 2019. Courtroom one at the outstation in Green Island and courtroom number one at the Sandy bay outstation with 13.34% and 12.04% respectively rank next. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in Lucea accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 308 matters, which is 67 more matters than the 308 matters recorded in

the comparative 2019 period and recorded the fifth highest case disposal rate of 77.47%, a decrease of 1.88 percentage point above the 75.59% reported in the comparative 2019 period. Courtroom number 1 at the Ramble outstation (89.66%), Lay Magistrates' sittings at the Green Island outstation (80.00%) and Courtroom #1 at the Sandy Bay Outstation (78.33%), were among the top five disposal rates. The outstations in the parish account for 36.51% of the new cases heard during period which is 7.64 percentage points below the 44.15% recorded in 2019. The main courthouse accounts for the remaining 63.49%, an increase of 7.64 percentage points above the 55.85% when compared to the similar period of 2019.

As mentioned not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 466 cases heard in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse, 7cases were disposed of at other courtrooms/outstations. Outstations in Sandy Bay accounted for 3 cases, while the outstation in Green Island disposed of 2 cases. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse and courtroom number two accounted for 1 case each. Of the 99 cases heard in courtroom number two, one case was disposed of at the outstation in Ramble. There were 58 cases heard at the outstation in Ramble. Of this amount one (1) case was disposed of at the Sandy Bay outstation. Of the 133 cases heard at the Green Island outstation, four cases were disposed of in other courtrooms /outstation. One (1) case was disposed of in courtroom 1 at the outstation in Sandy Bay, 2 were disposed of in courtroom 2 at the main courthouse while the remaining 1 was disposed of in courtroom number one.

Table 18.10: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of St. Elizabeth for the 2020 calendar year.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rates (%)
Santa Cruz (Children's Court)	19	10	1	1.41	57.89
Balaclava (Children's Court)	2	1	0	0.15	50.00
Courtroom #1 (main courtroom)	278	177	25	20.64	72.66
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courtroom)	67	33	7	4.97	59.70
Balaclava Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	20	5	3	1.48	40.00
Balaclava Outstation (courtroom #1)	96	59	11	7.13	72.92
Santa Cruz Outstation (night Court)	1	0	1	0.07	100.00
Santa Cruz Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	68	25	3	5.05	41.18
Santa Cruz Outstation (courtroom#1)	763	440	67	56.64	66.45
Santa Cruz Outstation (courtroom#2)	33	15	5	2.45	60.61
Total/Average	1347	765	123	100	65.92

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

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Elizabeth in 2020. The data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 at the Santa Cruz outstation and Courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse in Black River accounted for highest share of new matters heard in the year, with 56.64% and 20.64% respectively of the total. When compared to the similar period of 2019 both afore mentioned courtrooms also accounted for the highest share of new cases heard with 56.55% and 18.71% respectively. This data represents an increase accounted for by both courtrooms of less than 1 percentage point and 1.93 percentage points respectively.

Courtroom 1 at the Balaclava outstation with 7.13%, Lay Magistrates' sittings at the Santa Cruz outstation and Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse, with 5.05% and 4.97%

respectively rounded off the top five share of new cases heard in the 2020 period. Although the numbers are proportionately low, night court sittings at the Santa Cruz outstation with disposal rates of 100% was the highest disposal rate in 2020. Courtroom number 1 at the Balaclava outstation and courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse ranked next with 72.92% and 72.66% respectively. The Santa Cruz and Balaclava outstations accounts for the highest proportion of new cases heard in 2020 with 74.38%, an increase of 7.71 percentage points when compared to the 66.67% recorded in the corresponding 2019 period while the main courthouse in Black River accounts for 25.62%.

As mentioned not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, Of the 278 cases heard in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, 49 were disposed of in other courtrooms /outstation. There were 34 cases disposed of in courtroom number one at the Santa Cruz outstation and 6 in courtroom number two also at the Santa Cruz outstation. Courtroom number one at the Balaclava outstation and children's court at the Santa Cruz outstation disposed of 3 cases each. Night court sittings at the Santa Cruz outstation and Lay Magistrates' sittings disposed of 1 case each. The remaining 1 case was disposed of at children's court in balaclava outstation. Of the 33 cases heard in courtroom one at the at the outstation in Santa Cruz 58 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation, 15 were disposed of in courtroom 1. There were 31 cases disposed of in courtroom 2 at the Santa Cruz outstation. Courtroom number 1 at the Balaclava outstation disposed of 5 cases, while Children's court in Santa Cruz accounted for 2 cases. Courtroom number 2 and night court sittings at the Santa Cruz outstation disposed of 1 case each. Of the 763 cases heard in courtroom two at the Santa Cruz outstation, 2 were disposed of in courtroom 2 at the Santa Cruz outstation.

Table 18.11: Aggregate case statistics for each outstation in the Parish of St. Ann for the 2020 calendar year.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
St. Ann's Bay and the Claremont outstation					
Claremont (Children's Court)	14	9	1	1.07	71.43
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	395	137	65	30.13	51.14
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	184	67	64	14.04	71.20
Lay Magistrates' Court (main Courthouse)	67	20	34	5.11	80.60
Claremont Outstation	67	24	5	5.11	43.28
Claremont Outstation (Lay Magistrates')	22	7	10	1.68	77.27
BROWNS TOWN					
Children's Court	12	6	2	0.92	66.67
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	351	88	54	26.77	40.46
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	199	55	52	15.18	53.77
Total/Average	1311	413	287	100.00	53.39

Note 1: There were 356 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the total in table 1.0

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of St. Ann in 2020. The data shows that courtroom 1 in both St. Ann's Bay (the main court) and Browns Town account for the largest shares of new cases heard in the year with 30.13% and 26.77% respectively of the total. Lay Magistrates' sittings in Browns Town with 15.18% is among the top three largest share of new cases heard. When compared to 2019, the data shows that courtroom 1 in both St. Ann's Bay (main courthouse) and Browns Town also accounted for the largest share of new cases heard in the year with 46.99% and 25.24% respectively of the total. In terms of cases disposed of, courtroom 1 at the main courthouse accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed of with 137 cases, and a disposal rate of 51.14%. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse

had the highest with a disposal rate of 80.60%. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the Claremont outstation with 77.27%, children's court at the Claremont outstation with 71.43% and courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse with 71.20% were among the highest disposal rates for the year in the parish court. As a whole, the Brown's Town court accounted for approximately 42.87% of the new cases filed in the parish of St. Ann in 2020, 12.54 percentage points above the 30.33% recorded in the corresponding 2019 period. The St. Ann's Bay courthouse accounts for the remaining 57.13% of the new cases heard in the year, which is a decline of 12.54 percentage points, below the 69.67% recorded in 2019. As a whole, outstation activity (including Brown's Town) accounted for 50.72% of the new cases heard in the 2020 calendar year.

As mentioned not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 395 cases heard in courtroom number one, 13 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms. Courtroom 2 disposed of 12 cases and the outstation in Claremont disposed of 1 case. Of the 184 cases heard in courtroom number two, 27 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Courtroom 1 disposed of 26 of these cases while the children's court at the Claremont outstation disposed of 1 case. There were 67 cases heard at Lay magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse, of this amount 2 were disposed of in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse.

Table 18.12: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom/outstation in the Parish of Clarendon for 2020 calendar year.

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	428	271	34	29.85	71.26
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	349	154	96	24.34	71.63
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	99	65	4	6.90	69.70
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	108	41	35	7.53	70.37
Night Court (main courthouse)	13	10	1	0.91	84.62
Lionel Town Outstation	195	121	17	13.60	70.77
Chapleton Outstation	191	127	15	13.32	74.35
Frankfield Outstation	51	14	5	3.56	37.25
Total/Average	1434	803	207	100.00	70.43

^{*}There were 2 missing Courtroom/Outstation entry therefore the number in this table may not equate to the total in table 1.0

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Clarendon in 2020. The available data shows decisively that courtroom number 1 in May Pen accounted for highest share of new matters heard in the year, with 29.85% of the total. Courtroom 2 at the main courthouse and the outstation in Lionel Town accounts for the next highest shares of new cases heard in the year with 24.34% and 13.60% respectively of the total. In terms of cases disposed, courtroom number 1 in May Pen accounts for the highest absolute share of matters disposed with 271 matters, 94 cases fewer than the 365 disposed cases recorded for this courtroom in 2019 and had the fourth highest disposal rate of 71.26%. Despite its proportionately low absolute numbers, Night court sittings at the main courthouse had the highest disposal rate with 84.62%. The outstation in Chapleton with (74.35%), courtroom number 2 with (71.63%), the outstation in Lionel Town with

(70.77%) and Lay magistrates' sittings at the main courthouse were among the highest disposal rates for the 2020 calendar year. The main courthouse in May Pen accounted for 69.52% of cases heard in the period 2.69 percentage points below the 72.12% recorded in the 2019 comparative period while the remaining 30.47% was accounted for by the outstations, an increase of 2.68 percentage points above the 27.79% recorded in 2019.

As mentioned, not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. Of the 428 cases heard in courtroom number one, 7 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. Courtrooms number two and three accounted for 2 cases and 1 case respectively. night court sittings accounted for 3 cases while the outstation in Lionel Town and disposed of 1 case. There were 99 cases heard at courtroom 3 at the main courthouse, of this amount 1 was disposed of in courtroom one while the remaining 1 was accounted for at night court sittings at the main courthouse. Of the 13 cases heard at night court sittings, 1 was disposed of in courtroom 3 at the main courthouse. Of the 195 cases heard at the outstation in Lionel Town, 6 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Courtrooms number one and three accounted, while the remaining 1 cases was disposed of in courtroom number 3. Of the 191 cases heard at the Chapleton outstation 4 cases were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstations. Courtroom 1 accounted for 2 cases; night court sittings also accounted for 1 case. The remaining 1 case was disposed of by the outstation in Lionel Town.

Table 18.13: Aggregate case statistics for each courtroom and outstation in the Parish of Manchester for the 2020 calendar year

Courtroom/Outstation	Number of new cases filed in 2020	Number of new cases disposed of in 2020	Number of inactive cases in 2020	Proportion of new cases (%)	Case disposal rate (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	307	153	21	24.04	56.68
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	238	130	7	18.64	57.56
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	30	14	2	2.35	53.33
Children's Court (main courthouse)	3	1	0	0.23	33.33
Porus (Children's Court)	15	7	0	1.17	46.67
Night Court (main courthouse)	12	7	0	0.94	58.33
Cottage Outstation	18	5	0	1.41	27.78
Cottage Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	7	0	0	0.55	0.00
Christiana Outstation	110	49	7	8.61	50.91
Christiana Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	44	16	3	3.45	43.18
Spalding Outstation	64	23	4	5.01	42.19
Spalding Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	19	0	0	1.49	0.00
Porus Outstation	46	26	4	3.60	65.22
Porus Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	8	2	0	0.63	25.00
Cross Keys Outstation	60	31	2	4.70	55.00
Cross Keys Outstation (Lay Magistrates)	13	3	2	1.02	38.46
Lay Magistrates' Court (main courthouse)	240	106	32	18.79	57.50
Tax Court (main courthouse)	43	21	4	3.37	58.14
Total/Average	1277	594	88	100	53.41

Note 1: There were 12 missing courtrooms/Outstation entries therefore the number in this table may not equate to the total in table 1.0.

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

The above table summarizes the distribution of new cases filed, disposed and inactive across the various courtrooms and outstations in the parish of Manchester in 2020. The data shows courtroom 1 at the main courthouse accounted for the highest share of new matters heard in the period, with 153 cases or 24.04% of the total. In 2019, Lay magistrates at the main courthouse accounted for 260 cases or 25.43% of the total. Lay Magistrates' sittings at the main

courthouse and Courtroom number 2 accounts for the next highest share of new cases heard in the period with 18.79% and 18.64% respectively of the total. When compared to 2019, both courtrooms 2 and Lay Magistrates' sittings were also among the top three highest share of new cases with 18.55% and 25.43% respectively. In terms of cases disposal rate of, the outstation in Porus with 65.22% and night court sittings at the main courthouse with 58.33% were among the highest disposal rates for the period. The main courthouse in Mandeville accounts for 69.36% of the total number of new cases heard during the 2020 period a decrease of 5.87 percentage points when compared to the 75.23% recorded in 2019. The remaining 30.64% was accounted for by the various outstations.

As mentioned not all new cases that were heard in the listed courtrooms/outstations were disposed in said rooms. In particular, of the 307 cases heard in courtroom 1, eighteen were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. courtrooms number 2 disposed of 8 cases. Children's court in Porus outstation and the Porus outstation accounted for 2 cases each. Children's court and night court sittings both at the main courthouse accounted for 2 cases each. The remaining 2 were disposed of in courtroom number three. Of the 78 cases heard in courtroom number two, 5 cases were disposed of in courtroom 1. Night court sittings and the outstation in Christiana disposed of 4 and 2 cases respectively. of the 30 cases heard in courtroom number three, courtrooms number one and two disposed of 4 cases and 2 cases each. Of the 12 cases heard at night court sittings at the main courthouse, 7 were disposed of in other courtrooms/outstation. Four (4) cases were disposed of in courtroom number 1. Courtroom number 2 and the outstation in Spaulding accounted for 1 case each. The remaining 1 case was disposed of at children's court at the Porus outstation. There were 18 cases heard at the outstation in Cottage, of this amount 2 were disposed of in courtroom 3. Of the 110 cases heard at the outstation in Christiana, 2 cases were disposed of in courtroom number one. Courtroom

number 3 accounted for 1 case while the remaining 1 case was disposed of in courtroom 2. Of the heard at the outstation in Porus, 3 cases were disposed of. Courtroom number one disposed of one while petty session and children's court both in the Porus outstation also disposed of 1 case each. Of the 240 cases heard at lay magistrates' sittings, one was disposed of in courtroom 2.

Table 18.14: proportion of cases heard at the main court and outstation across all parish courts for the 2020 calendar year.

Parish Court	Main Court 2020 (%)	Outstation 2020 (%)
St. James	93.13	6.87
St. Catherine	63.01	36.99
Westmoreland	83.41	16.59
Hanover	63.49	36.51
St. Mary	67.65	32.35
Trelawny	13.86	86.14
St. Thomas	77.72	22.28
St. Elizabeth	25.61	74.39
Manchester	69.36	30.64
Portland	71.09	28.91
St. Ann	49.28	50.72
Clarendon	63.52	36.48
Corporate Area	98.98	1.02
Simple Averages (%)	64.62	35.38

The above table provides a proxy summary of the distribution of the utilization of the main courthouse locations and combined outstation usage in the hearing of new criminal cases filed in 2020. It is seen that 64.62% of new cases filed were entered for initial hearing in the main courthouse locations, while 35.38% were allocated for outstations. There are significant variances in the extent of main courthouse and outstation usage for the hearing of criminal matters across the parishes. It is seen for example, that in parishes such as Corporate Area (Kingston and St. Andrew), Westmoreland and St. James, in excess of 80% of the new criminal cases filed were entered for initial hearing at the main courthouse, with the extent of usage being

particularly acute in the Corporate Area Court-Criminal Division which had 98.98% of cases entered for initial hearing at the main courthouse.

On the contrary there are parishes where the level of outstation usage competes with or outruns the usage of the main courthouse in the hearing of criminal cases filed. St. Elizabeth and Trelawny are good examples of courts with significant outstation usage, each registering over 70% for initial hearing of new criminal cases filed in the 2020 calendar year. There may be opportunities for greater utilization of outstations to carry the caseload in some parishes, but such precise determinations require further analyses of total demand and supply and the associated elasticities at each location.

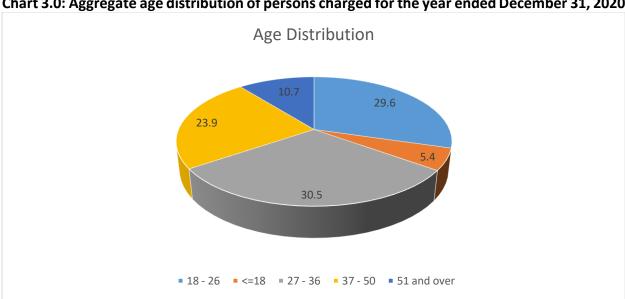


Chart 3.0: Aggregate age distribution of persons charged for the year ended December 31, 2020

The above chart summarizes the age distribution of persons charged and brought before the criminal division of the parish courts in 2020. It is shown that the 27-36 age group with 30.50% accounted for the largest share of the persons, followed by the 18-26 age group which accounted for 29.60%. The lowest shares were attributed to the 18 and under age group with 5.40% and the 51 and over age group with 10.70%. The remaining proportion was accounted for by the 37 – 50 age group with 23.90% of the total.

Gender Distribution

90.00%

80.00%

70.00%

60.00%

40.00%

30.00%

10.00%

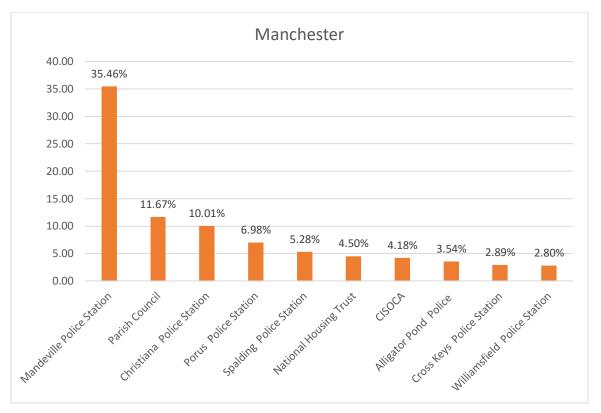
Male

Female

Chart 3.0: Aggregate gender distribution of persons charged for the year ended December 31, 2020

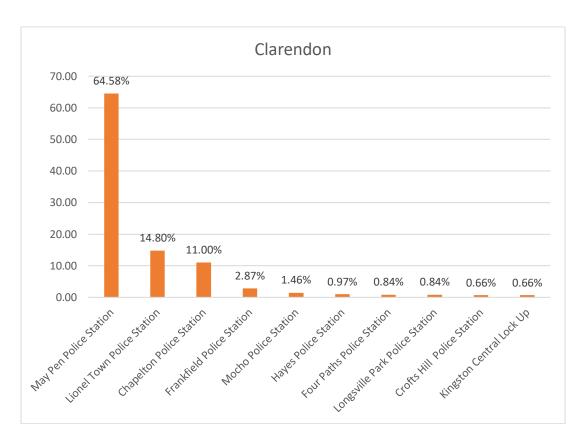
The above chart shows that the overwhelming majority of persons charged for the 2020 calendar year were male, accounting for roughly 81.42% of the total, while females accounted for approximately 18.57%. The gender distribution of persons charged during the 2020 calendar year was similar to this breakdown for the 2019 calendar year which had a male to female ratio of approximately 81.38% to 18.61%.

Chart 5.01: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Manchester Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020



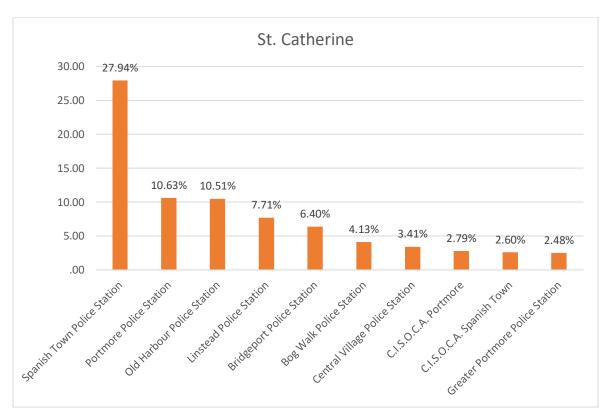
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Manchester Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 2177 records indicate that for the 2020 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 35.46%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Mandeville Police Station. This was followed by the Parish Council which accounts for 11.67% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Christiana Police Station with 10.01%. In the previous year, the top three also comprised of the Mandeville Police Station, the Parish Council and the Christiana Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 4.02: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Clarendon Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020



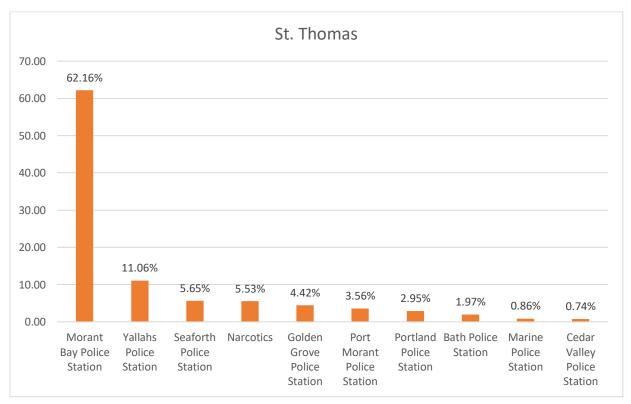
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Clarendon Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 2264 records indicate that for the 2020 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 64.58%, which were brought before the Court were reported in May Pen Police Station. This was followed by the Lionel Town Police Station which accounts for 14.80% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Chapleton Police with 11%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the May Pen Police Station, the Mocho and the Crofts Hill Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 4.03: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Catherine Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020



The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 4188 records indicate that for the 2020 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 27.94%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Spanish Town Police Station. This was followed by the Portmore Police Station which accounts for 10.63% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Old Harbour Police Station with 10.51%. %. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Spanish Town Police Station, the Portmore and the Linstead Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 5.04 Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Thomas Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020



The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 814 records indicate that for the 2020 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 62.16%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in the Morant Bay Police Station. This was followed by the Yallahs Police Station which accounts for 11.06% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Seaforth Police Station with 5.65%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Morant Bay Police Station, the Yallahs Police Station and the Seaforth Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

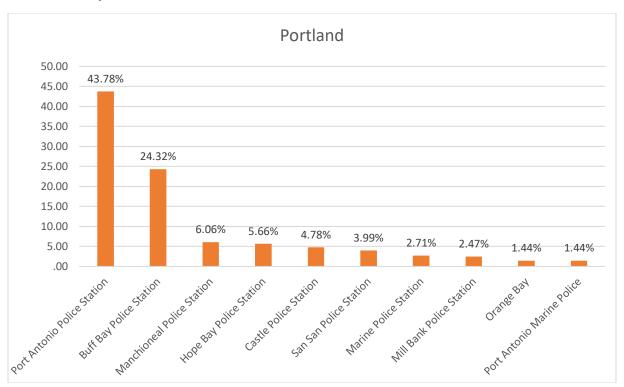
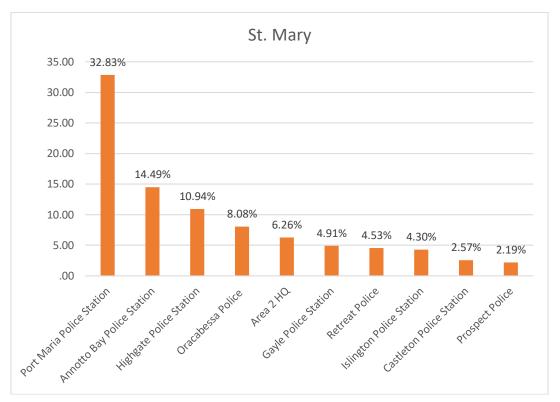


Chart 5.05: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Portland Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020

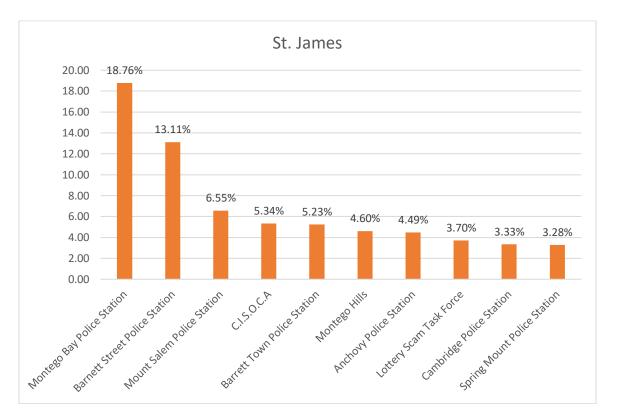
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Portland Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 1254 records indicate that the 2020 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 43.78%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Port Antonio Police Station. This was followed by the Buff Bay Police Station which accounts for 24.32% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Manchioneal Police with 6.06%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Port Antonio Police Station, the Buff Bay Police Station and the Hope Bay Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 5.06: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Mary Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020



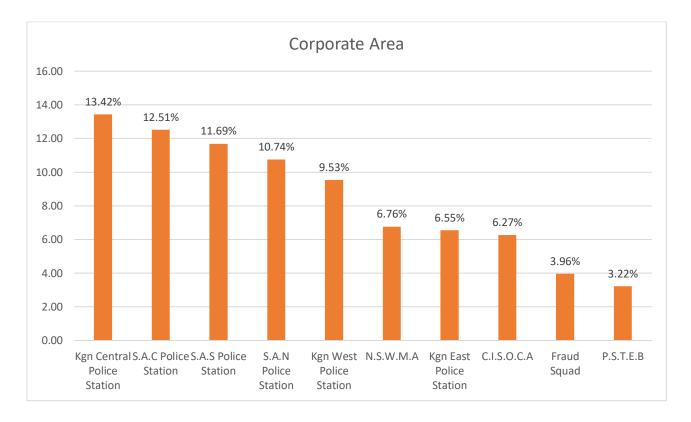
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Mary Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 1325 records indicate that for the 2020 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 32.83%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Port Maria Police Station. This was followed by the Annotto Bay Police Station which accounts for 14.49% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Highgate Police with 10.94%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Port Maria Police Station, the Annotto Bay Police Station and the Highgate Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 5.07: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. James Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020



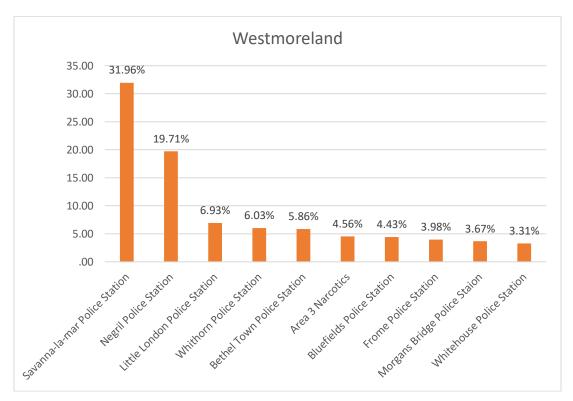
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. James Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 1892 records indicate that for the 2020 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 18.76%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Montego Bay Police Station. This was followed by the Barnett Street Police Station which accounts for 13.11% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Mount Salem Police Station with 6.55%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Barnett Street Police Station, the Fraud Squad and the Mount Salem Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 5.08: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Corporate Area Criminal Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020



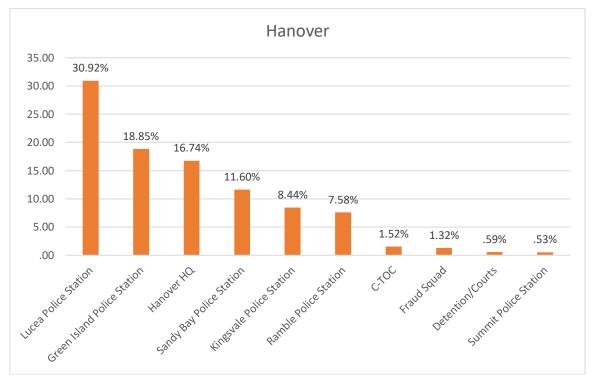
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 8582 records indicate that for the 2020 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 13.42%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Kingston Central Police Station. This was followed by the St. Andrew Central Police Station which accounts for 12.51% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the St. Andrew South Police with 11.69%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the St. Andrew Central Police Station, the Kingston West Police Station and the Kingston Central Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 5.09: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Westmoreland Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020



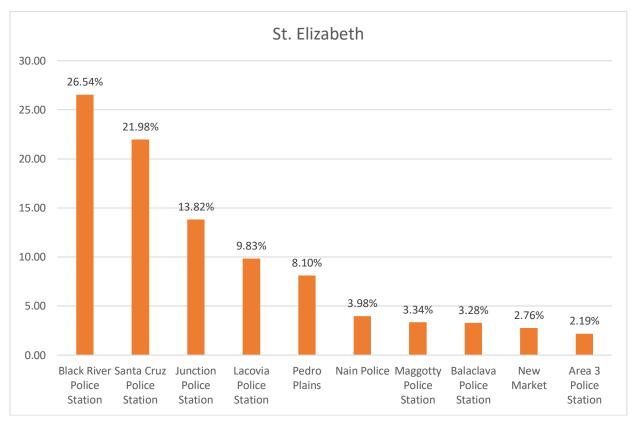
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 2237 records indicate that for the 2020 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 31.96%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Savanna-la-mar Police Station. This was followed by the Negril Police Station which accounts for 19.71% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Little London Police Station with 6.93%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Savanna-la-mar Police Station, the Negril Police Station and the Whithorn Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 5.10: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Hanover Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020



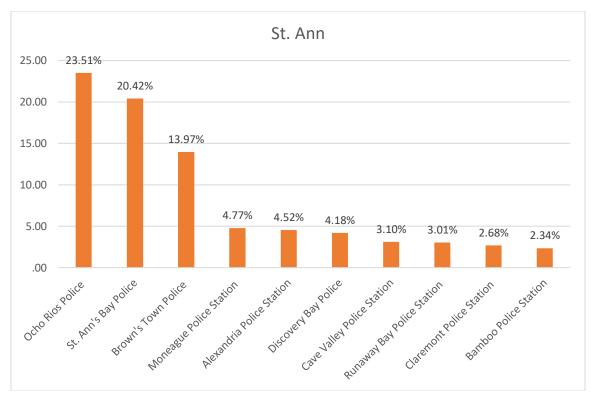
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Hanover Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 1517 records indicate that for the 2020 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 30.92%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Lucea Police Station. This was followed by the Green island which accounts for 18.85% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Hanover Headquarter Police with 16.74%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Lucea Police Station, the Hanover Headquarter Police Station and the Sandy Bay Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 5.11: Distribution of criminal offences by the police station of origin at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020



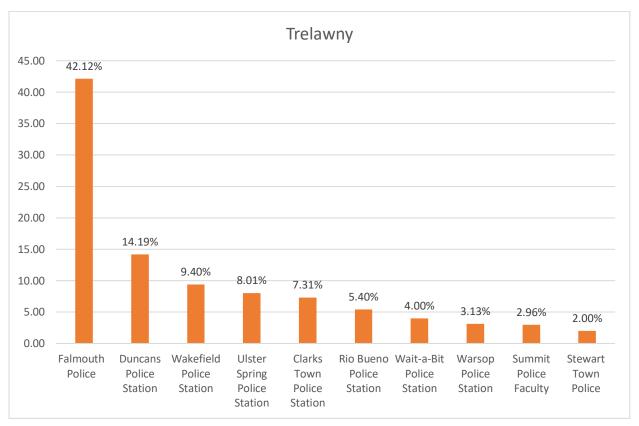
The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 1556 records indicate that the 2020 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 26.54%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Black River Police Station. This was followed by the Santa Cruz Police Station which accounts for 21.98% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by Junction Police Station with 13.82%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Black River Police Station, the Santa Cruz Police Station and the Junction Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 5.12: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the St. Ann Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020



The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the St. Ann Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 1195 records indicate that for the 2020 calendar year, the majority of criminal matters, 23.51%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Ocho Rios Police Station. This was followed by the St. Ann's Bay Police Station which accounts for 20.42% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Brown's Town Police Station with 13.97%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Ocho Rios Police Station, the St. Ann's Bay Police Station and the Brown's Town Police Station. This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Chart 5.13: Distribution of criminal charges by the police station of origin at the Trelawny Parish Court for the year ended December 31, 2020



The above chart shows the distribution of criminal charges filed at the Trelawny Parish Court using the police stations at which the matters were reported. The data available from a total of 1149 records indicate that as at December 31, 2020 the majority of criminal matters, 42.12%, which were brought before the Court, were reported in Falmouth Police Station. This was followed by Duncans Police Station which accounts for 14.19% of total matters reported. The top three was rounded off by the Wakefield Police Station with 9.40%. In the previous year, the top three comprised of the Falmouth Police Station, the Clarks Town Police Station and the Duncans Police Station This data provides important insights into the geographical distribution of criminal offences committed in the Parish.

Conclusion

In 2020, the Jamaican court system, like all other institutions experienced abnormal activity constraints due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Normal court activity was therefore suspended between the latter part of March and June 2020, which created a peculiar constraint for the courts in maintaining a high level of productivity and service efficiency. Through the application of various creative strategies, including the use of virtual hearings, the parish courts of Jamaica demonstrated a high level of resilience, despite the abnormal challenges faced and in so doing managed to maintain strong performance outputs, remaining broadly on course to meet key quantitative targets which are core facets of the strategic plan for the judiciary. Total court activity fell significantly when compared to 2019 as seen for example by the decline of 20.94% in the number of new cases filed. The criminal division of the parish courts recorded an overall case clearance rate of 96.09% in 2020, a decline of 5.51 percentage points when compared to 2019 but the minimum prescribed international standard of 90% on this measure was safely met and as a result there was no unanticipated spike in the number of cases falling into backlog classification. Impressively, all except one of the parish courts satisfied the international standard for case clearance rate in 2020 while three – the Manchester, St. Mary and St. Ann Parish Courts exceeded the 100% mark, a first for St. Ann in the upper quintile on this annualized measurement. Based on the slight fall in the case clearance rate, it was not surprising that the case congestion rate inversely experienced an increase, netting out at 156.87% which was 10.70 percentage points higher than 2019. The criminal division of the parish courts also disposed of a lower proportion of new cases filed than usual, experiencing a decline of 9.18 percentage points in case disposal rate, netting out at 64.57% at year end. These courts also registered an overall trial date

certainty rate of 74% in 2020, a 4 percentage points increase when compared to 2019. It is however worth noting that the periods of suspension of court activity due to the COVID-19 pandemic were isolated in order to standardize the computations and facilitate worthwhile comparisons. A decline of 5.17 percentage points was experienced in the overall courtroom utilization rate for the parish courts in 2020 when compared to 2019, having registered an overall rate 54.68% for periods of normal operation.

The time taken to resolve cases in the court system are predicted by the metrics outlined earlier in this section and, along with the case backlog rates may be considered the ultimate measurements of the state of affairs in a court system. Using the full population of criminal cases filed in the past four years in the parish courts, the data reveals a net case backlog rate of 2.64% which suggests that only 2 or 3 in every 100 criminal cases entering the parish courts over the past four years are still active and in a state of backlog (i.e. over two years old). The data further suggests that roughly 83% of all criminal cases disposed over the past four years in the parish courts were done in less than a year and roughly 40% were disposed within three months of filing. Furthermore, analysis of the times taken to dispose of criminal cases across the parish courts suggest that in 2020 the average time to disposition of criminal cases resolved was 213 days or roughly 7 months, a slight improvement when compared to 2019. Taken together, despite the novel challenges faced in 2020, it is clear that the criminal division of the parish courts remain broadly on course with the key quantitative targets set out in the strategic plan for the judiciary. In fact, the output of the criminal division of the parish courts at the moment are quite competitive both regionally and internationally. Using the method of exponential smoothing, it is forecasted that in 2021, the criminal division of the parish courts

will register an overall case clearance rate of 91.17%, as the number of new cases filed are expected increase sharply when compared to 2020, even if 2019 levels are not restored. All quantitative predictions at this point suggests that the criminal division of the parish courts is poised to become one of the most productive court systems in the Caribbean and Latin American region over the next 2-3 years. Strengthening case management practices, reducing the incidence of non-procedural adjournments and introducing new, advanced case management technology by way of the Judicial Case Management System (JCMS) will be central to guaranteeing the desired productivity outcomes.

Glossary of Statistical Terms

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

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

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

Disposal rate: As distinct from clearance rate, the disposal rate is the proportion of new cases filed which have been disposed in a particular period. For example, if 100 new cases are filed in a particular Term and 80 of those cases were disposed in said Term, then the disposal rate is 80%. **Note:** A persistent case clearance rate of less than 100% will eventually lead to a backlog of cases in the court system.ⁱⁱ

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

which future dates are set due to procedural reasons and 'adjournments' is used to describe the

circumstances in which future dates of appearance are set due to generally avoidable reasons.

For example, adjournments for another stage of hearing, say from a plea and case management

hearing to a trial hearing or from the last date of trial to a sentencing date are classified as

'continuance' but delays for say, missing or incomplete files, due to outstanding medical reports

or attorney absenteeism are classified as 'adjournments'. Adjournments as defined in this

document have an adverse effect on hearing date certainty rates but continuances do not.

Exponential Smoothing: Exponential smoothing of time series data assigns exponentially

decreasing weights for newest to oldest observations. In other words, the older the data, the less

priority ("weight") the data is given; newer data is seen as more relevant and is assigned more

weight. Smoothing parameters (smoothing constants)— usually denoted by α — determine the

weights for observations.

Exponential smoothing is usually used to make short term forecasts, as longer term forecasts

using this technique can be quite unreliable.

 Simple (single) exponential smoothing uses a weighted moving average with exponentially decreasing weights.

accreasing weights.

Holt's trend-corrected double exponential smoothing is usually more reliable for handling

data that shows trends, compared to the single procedure.

Triple exponential smoothing (also called the Multiplicative Holt-Winters) is usually more

reliable for parabolic trends or data that shows trends and seasonality.

Source:

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

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