



## PARISH COURTS OF JAMAICA – CIVIL DIVISION

(JULY 1, 2025 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2025)

Court Metrics	July - September Highlights				
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
<b>Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)</b>	110.15	129.69	114.30	115.69	97.51
<b>Trial Date Certainty Rate (%)</b>	90.12	87.47	97.00	91.91	90.36
<b>Average Time to Disposition</b>	13.90	19.38	12.79	15.90	11.50
	months	months	months	months	months

## Table of Contents

<b>CHIEF JUSTICE'S MESSAGE ANNUAL, CIVIL COURT THIRD QUARTER 2025.....</b>	<b>17</b>
Executive summary.....	18
Methodology.....	24
Introduction .....	27
<b>Chapter 1.0: The Corporate Area Court – Civil Division .....</b>	<b>28</b>
1.1: Case Activity Summary.....	28
1.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third ended September 30, 2025.....	32
<b>Chapter 2.0: Clarendon Parish Court – Civil Division .....</b>	<b>39</b>
2.1: Case Activity Summary.....	39
2.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025.....	42
<b>Chapter 3.0: St. Catherine Parish Court –Civil Division.....</b>	<b>48</b>
3.1: Case Activity Summary.....	48
3.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025.....	52
<b>Chapter 4.0: Trelawny Parish Court –Civil Division .....</b>	<b>59</b>
4.1: Case Activity Summary.....	59
<b>Chapter 5.0: St. Ann Parish Court –Civil Division.....</b>	<b>69</b>
5.1: Case Activity Summary.....	69
5.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025.....	73
<b>5.3: Browns Town Outstation –Civil Division .....</b>	<b>80</b>
5.3.1: Case Activity Summary.....	80
5.3.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025 ....	83
<b>Chapter 6.0: Westmoreland Parish Court –Civil Division.....</b>	<b>88</b>
6.1: Case Activity Summary.....	88
6.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025.....	92
<b>Chapter 7.0: St. Mary Parish Court –Civil Division.....</b>	<b>99</b>
7.1: Case Activity Summary.....	99
7.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025.....	103
<b>Chapter 8.0: Portland Parish Court –Civil Division .....</b>	<b>109</b>
8.1: Case Activity Summary.....	109
8.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025.....	113
<b>Chapter 9.0: St. Thomas Parish Court – Civil Division.....</b>	<b>118</b>
9.1: Case Activity Summary.....	118

9.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025.....	122
<b>Chapter 10.0: St. James Parish Court –Civil Division.....</b>	<b>128</b>
10.1: Case Activity Summary.....	128
10.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025....	131
<b>Chapter 11.0: St. Elizabeth Parish Court – Civil Division .....</b>	<b>138</b>
11.1: Case Activity Summary.....	138
11.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025....	140
<b>Chapter 12: Manchester Parish Court – Civil Division .....</b>	<b>146</b>
12.1: Case Activity Summary.....	146
12.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025....	149
<b>Performance Summaries-Other Parish Court.....</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>Aggregate data summaries – all Parish Courts.....</b>	<b>155</b>
Conclusion .....	185
Glossary of Statistical Terms .....	187

## List of Tables / Charts

### Executive Summary

Table i	Aggregate case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	21
Table ii	Aggregate case statistics for each Parish Court for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	22
Table iii	Key Performance Metrics of High-Performing Courts	.....	24

### Corporate Area

Table 1.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	28
Table 1.02	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Corporate Area Parish Court- Civil Division in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	28

Table 1.03	Sampling distribution of the types of service for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	29
Table 1.04	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	30
Table 1.05	Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	30
Table 1.06	Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	31
Table 1.07	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	32
Table 1.08	Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	33
Table 1.09	Sampling distribution on the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	33
Table 1.10	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	34
Table 1.11a	Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	35
Table 1.11b	Descriptive Statistics on the time between reissue and disposal of matters resolved in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	36
Table 1.12a	Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	37
Table 1.12b	Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	38

## Clarendon

Table 2.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	39
Table 2.02	Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	39

Table 2.03	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Clarendon Parish Court in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	40
Table 2.04	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	40
Table 2.05	Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	41
Table 2.06	Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	41
Table 2.07	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	42
Table 2.08	Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	43
Table 2.09	Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	43
Table 2.10	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	44
Table 2.11	Sampling distribution of trial date certainty rate for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	44
Table 2.12	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	45
Table 2.13	Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	46
Table 2.14	Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	47

#### **St. Catherine**

Table 3.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	48
Table 3.02	Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	48

Table 3.03	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Catherine Parish Court-Civil Division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	49
Table 3.04	Sampling distribution of types of service for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	49
Table 3.05	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	50
Table 3.06	Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	50
Table 3.07	Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	51
Table 3.08	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	52
Table 3.09	Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	53
Table 3.10	Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	53
Table 3.11	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	54
Table 3.12	Sampling distribution of Trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	54
Table 3.13	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	55
Table 3.14	Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	56
Table 3.15a	Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	57
Table 3.15b	Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	58
<b>Trelawny</b>		
Table 4.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	59

Table 4.02	Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	59
Table 4.03	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Trelawny Parish Court-Civil Division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	60
Table 4.04	Sampling Distribution of types of services for third quarter ended September 30, 2025	60
Table 4.05	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	61
Table 4.06	Distribution of applications filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	61
Table 4.07	Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	61
Table 4.08	Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	62
Table 4.09	Distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	63
Table 4.10	Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	64
Table 4.11	Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	64
Table 4.12	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	65
Table 4.13	Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	65
Table 4.14	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	66
Table 4.15	Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	67
Table 4.16	Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	68

Table 5.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	69
Table 5.02	Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	69
Table 5.03	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Ann Parish Court-Civil Division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	70
Table 5.04	Sampling distribution of types of service filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	70
Table 5.05	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	71
Table 5.06	Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	71
Table 5.07	Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	71
Table 5.08	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	73
Table 5.09	Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	74
Table 5.10	Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	74
Table 5.11	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	75
Table 5.12	Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	75
Table 5.13	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	76
Table 5.14	Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	77
Table 5.15a	Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	78
Table 5.15b	Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	79

**Brown's Town  
Outstation**

Table 5.3.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	80
Table 5.3.02	Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	80
Table 5.3.03	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Browns Town Outstation for third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	81
Table 5.3.04	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	81
Table 5.3.05	Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	82
Table 5.3.06	Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	82
Table 5.3.07	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	83
Table 5.3.08	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	84
Table 5.3.09	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	84
Table 5.3.10	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	85
Table 5.3.11	Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	86
Table 5.3.12	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	87

**Westmoreland**

Table 6.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	88
Table 6.02	Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	88
Table 6.03	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Westmoreland Parish Court-Civil	.....	89

	Division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	
Table 6.04	Sampling distribution of types of service in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	89
Table 6.05	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	90
Table 6.06	Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	90
Table 6.07	Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	91
Table 6.08	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	92
Table 6.09	Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	93
Table 6.10	Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	93
Table 6.11	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	94
Table 6.12	Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	94
Table 6.13	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	95
Table 6.14	Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	96
Table 6.15a	Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	97
Table 6.15b	Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	98
<b>St. Mary</b>		
Table 7.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	99
Table 7.02	Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	99

Table 7.03:	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Mary Parish Court-Civil Division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	100
Table 7.04	Sampling distribution of types of service filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	100
Table 7.05	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	101
Table 7.06	Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	101
Table 7.07	Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	102
Table 7.08	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	103
Table 7.09	Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	104
Table 7.10	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	104
Table 7.11	Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	105
Table 7.12	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	106
Table 7.13	Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	107
Table 7.14	Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	108
<b>Portland</b>		
Table 8.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	109
Table 8.02	Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	109
Table 8.03	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Portland Parish Court-Civil Division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	110

Table 8.04	Sampling distribution of types of service for cases filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	110
Table 8.05	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	111
Table 8.06	Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	111
Table 8.07	Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	112
Table 8.08	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	113
Table 8.09	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	114
Table 8.10	Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	114
Table 8.11	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	115
Table 8.12	Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	116
Table 8.13	Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	117

#### **St. Thomas**

Table 9.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	118
Table 9.02	Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	118
Table 9.03	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Thomas Parish Court-Civil Division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	119
Table 9.04	Sampling distribution of the types of service for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	119

Table 9.05	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	120
Table 9.06	Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	120
Table 9.07	Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	121
Table 9.08	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	122
Table 9.09	Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	123
Table 9.10	Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	123
Table 9.11	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	124
Table 9.12	Sampling distribution of trial date certainty rate for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	124
Table 9.13	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	125
Table 9.14	Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	126
Table 9.15	Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	127
<b>St. James</b>		
Table 10.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	128
Table 10.02	Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	128
Table 10.03	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. James Parish Court-Civil Division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	129
Table 10.04	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	129

Table 10.05	Table 5.0: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	130
Table 10.06	Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	130
Table 10.07	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	131
Table 10.08	Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	132
Table 10.09	Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	132
Table 10.10	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	133
Table 10.11	Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	133
Table 10.12	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	134
Table 10.13	Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	135
Table 10.14a	Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	136
Table 10.14b	Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	137

#### **St. Elizabeth**

Table 11.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	138
Table 11.02	Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	138
Table 11.03	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court-Civil Division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	139
Table 11.04	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	139

Table 11.05	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	140
Table 11.06	Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	141
Table 11.07	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	142
Table 11.08	Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	142
Table 11.09	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	143
Table 11.10	Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	144
Table 11.11	Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	145

#### **Manchester**

Table 12.01	Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	146
Table 12.02	Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	146
Table 12.03	Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. James Parish Court-Civil Division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	147
Table 12.04	Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	147
Table 12.05	Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	148
Table 12.06	Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	148
Table 12.07	Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	149
Table 12.08	Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	150
Table 12.09	Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	.....	150

Table 12.10	Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	151
Table 12.11	Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	151
Table 12.12	Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	152
Table 12.13	Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	153
Table 12.14	Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	154
<b>Other Parishes</b>		
Table 13.01	Key Performance Indicators for the Civil Division of the Hanover and Parish Court for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	155
<b>All Parish Courts- Data Summaries</b>		
Table 13.02	Aggregate data summaries – all Parish Courts: Aggregate case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	155
Table 13.03:	Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	156
Chart 13.04:	Aggregate summary of case activity metrics for the third quarter of 2024 and 2025	157
Chart 13.05a:	Comparison of case disposal rates across the parish courts for the third quarter of 2024 and 2025	158
Chart 13.05b	Comparison of case clearance rates across the parish courts for the third quarter of 2024 and 2025	158
Table 13.06	Sampling distribution of claims filed during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	159
Table 13.07	Forecasted case activity statistics for the fourth quarter of 2025 [October 01 – December 31, 2025]	160
Table 13.08	Sampling distribution of new cases filed per 10,000 in the civil division of the parish courts in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	161

Table 13.09	Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	162
Table 13.10a	Sampling distribution of the times to disposition as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	163
Table 13.10b	Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed as at third quarter ended September 30, 2025	165
Table 13.11a	Sampling distribution of the times to disposition in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	167
Table 13.11b	Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	169
Table 13.11c	Sampling distribution of the methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	171
Table 13.12a	Net and gross civil case backlog as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	172
Table 13.12b	Net and gross civil case backlog as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025 for cases over 18 months	174
Table 13.13a	Time interval between major events for cases that had a trial date in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	176
Table 13.13b	Trial court activity summary during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	177
Table 13.13c	Distribution of methods of disposition for matters set for trial during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	178
Table 13.13d	Summary of case appearance frequency for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	179
Table 13.13e	Summary of the average court appearance frequency for cases disposed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	180
Table 13.14a	Distribution of courtroom utilization rates across Parish Courts of Jamaica for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	181
Table 13.14b	Percentile Rank on Courtroom utilization for the civil division of the parish courts in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	183
Table 13.15	Critical performance summaries for the civil division of the parish courts in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025	184

## CHIEF JUSTICE'S MESSAGE ANNUAL, CIVIL COURT THIRD QUARTER 2025

In this third quarter, the clearance rate for the Civil Division of the Parish Courts was 110.15% which represents a 19.53% decline from the same period in 2024. Despite this overall decline, the overall case

clearance rate is over 110.15%, which means that across the Parish Court Civil Division, the backlog is not returning.

The gross backlog of cases older than 24 months is 20.40% and in respect of cases older than 18 months, 22.08%. The net backlog of cases using the 24 month standard is 4.49% and on the 18 month standard the net backlog is 5.58%. On either the 24 month or 18 month standard the aim must be to get the gross backlog under 10% for each court and the Civil Division overall.

The time has not come to refine the data collection and analysis to look more closely at the performance of each court so that in the next 24 – 36 months' time standards are customised for each court within the overall times standard. The data is telling us that the composition of cases is similar but not identical, and the unique circumstances of each court should be accommodated.

The courts continue to reengineer and transform from being colonial institutions to independent Jamaica institutions committed to delivering the best service possible to our citizens and whomever needs court services. Time standards established to reduce wait times for adjudicative service must be kept under constant review so that the time from filing to adjudication is reduced to an irreducible minimum time so that the core principles of natural justice can be met.

With this mind for the year 2026, all Parish Courts - which need it - a programme must establish a programme build upon or influenced by the model (or any better model) developed in the Parish of St Mary by Her Honour Mrs Nicole Kellier. That model requires that all matters older than 18 months (the new time standards) be identified, and a special drive developed to dispose of them.

This is necessary for three reasons. First, it reinforces the culture of service, reduces wait times, and removes the notion that cases come to court and stagnate. Second, it drives the notion that all cases filed must be concluded and removed from the list. Third, the civil courts are being prepared for the increase in jurisdiction of up to JA\$5m.

We are at the point in our history where we can say that we now know what is required to manage a court efficiently and effectively. Time standards, effective case management, and courteous service are the hallmarks of a functioning court system.

I want to thank all the judges, staff, and all stakeholders who have all contributed to the success of these courts. May we continue to strive for excellence.

## Executive summary

The Honourable Chief Justice has outlined the following strategic objectives for the court system: a court-wide case clearance rate of 130%, a trial date certainty rate of 85%, and an overall net case backlog rate of under 5%. The results presented in this third quarter report (covering July 1 to September 30, 2025) indicate that the Civil Division of the Parish Courts is on track to meet these targets. Regarding gross case clearance rates, the Civil Division of the Parish Courts recorded 110.15% during the report period. This represents a decrease of 19.54 percentage points compared to the same period in 2024 and meets the international standard for this metric. Ten (10) parish courts surpassed the 90% mark for case clearance rates during the third quarter of 2025. The trial date certainty rate for the Civil Division of the Parish Courts stood at 90.12%, meeting the required standard. The average time to dispose a civil case in the quarter was approximately 417 days (13.90 months). Trelawny (3.95 months), Manchester (6.19 months), and St. Elizabeth (8.59 months) Parish Courts had the lowest average times to disposition. The backlog rate remains a key metric in this report. As of the end of the third quarter of 2025, the estimated gross case backlog rate for cases older than 24 months in the Civil Division of the Parish Courts was 20.40%, meaning approximately 20.40% of combined active and inactive cases were over two years old. This is above the targeted value of 10%. However, when inactive cases are excluded, the net case backlog rate for active cases was approximately 4.49%, which meets the required annual standard of ≤5%. The St. Thomas, Trelawny, St. Catherine, St. Mary and Clarendon Parish Courts performed best in this regard, each with less than 2.0% of active civil cases in backlog. As of the end of the third quarter of 2025, the estimated gross case backlog rate for cases older than 18 months in the Civil Division of the Parish Courts was 22.08 meaning approximately 22.08% of combined active and inactive cases were over 18 months old. This is

above the targeted value of 10%. However, when inactive cases are excluded, the net case backlog rate for active cases was approximately 5.58%, which slightly exceeds the required annual standard of ≤5%. The St. Thomas, Trelawny, St. Catherine, St. Mary, and Clarendon Parish Courts performed best in this regard, each with less than 2.0% of active civil cases in backlog. Several factors influenced case progression in the third quarter of 2025, with the leading causes of adjournment being no returns, the absence of defendants, plaintiffs or both parties, ongoing discussions, and referrals to mediation. The five primary methods of case disposition during the quarter were by being struck out, settlement, consent judgment, default judgment, and withdrawal. The Civil Division of the Parish Courts continues to demonstrate strong performance, having already achieved the target of reducing the overall net case backlog rate to under 5%. As of the end of the third quarter of 2025, the division is well positioned to make noteworthy progress toward meeting the overall quantitative targets. The Judiciary of Jamaica remains on a steady path towards becoming a world-class institution that leverages innovation and technology to deliver efficient services and timely judgments in an environment where all stakeholders are valued.

**See below aggregate case activity summary:**

**Table i: Aggregate case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of new cases	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Disposal rate (%)	Approximate Gross Clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross trial date certainty rate (%)	Overall average time to disposition (months)
3784	835	4168	22.07	110.15	90.12	13.90

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

**Table ii: Aggregate case statistics for each Parish Court for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parish Court	Number of new cases filed in quarter	Approximate number of Disposed cases and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of quarter of origin)	Case Disposal Rate (%)	Case Clearance Rate (%)
St. Thomas	150	42	153	28.00	102.00
Corporate Area-Civil	658	403	1048	61.25	159.27
St. Elizabeth	296	12	230	4.05	77.70
Hanover	99	20	126	20.20	127.27
Manchester	355	37	347	10.42	97.75
Portland	53	12	80	22.64	150.94
St. Ann	401	38	322	9.48	80.30
St. Catherine	635	66	724	10.39	114.02
St. Mary	171	48	193	28.07	112.87
Trelawny	123	16	112	13.01	91.06
St. James	333	84	440	25.23	132.13
Clarendon	243	28	247	11.52	101.65
Westmoreland	267	29	146	10.86	54.68
<b>Total/Weighted Average</b>	<b>3784</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>4168</b>	<b>22.07</b>	<b>110.15</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>3.36</b>	<b>1.85</b>	<b>2.01</b>	<b>0.13</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>189.28</b>	<b>103.94</b>	<b>279.07</b>	<b>14.77</b>	<b>29.56</b>

**Forecast:**

Using the method of exponential smoothing, it is forecast that in the fourth quarter of 2025, 3,816 new civil cases will be filed in the civil division of the parish courts, while 4,379 cases are expected to be disposed or become inactive. The overall forecasted case clearance rate for the fourth quarter of 2025 in the civil division of the parish courts is therefore 114.77%. The parish courts of Corporate Area – Civil Division, St. Mary and Hanover are expected to register the highest case clearance rates in the fourth quarter of 2025.

With over nine years of extensive data on case activity in the parish courts of Jamaica, Lagrange multiplier techniques were applied to determine the minimum requirements that a highly

successful court must meet in order to satisfy an efficiency threshold for the sustainable containment of case backlog and to provide optimal service to the public. The minimum annual required standards for each key parameter are summarized in the table below:

**Table iii: Key Performance Metrics of High-Performing Courts**

Parameter	Minimum Annual Required Standard
Case Disposal Rate	$\geq 75\%$
Case Clearance Rate	$\geq 100\%$
Case Congestion Rate	$\leq 115\%$
Trial Date Certainty Rate	$\geq 85\%$
Net Case Backlog Rate	$\leq 5\%$
Gross Case Backlog Rate	$\leq 10\%$
Average Number of case management dates	$\leq 3$

If any court or jurisdiction can consistently achieve these rates, it will attain a high level of efficiency and service excellence, characteristic of high performing courts.

## Methodology

To create a data-driven enterprise for policymaking and operational decisions, the Judiciary of Jamaica ensures the reliability and validity of the data used to produce the periodic Court Statistics Reports is maintained to be of paramount importance. Consequently, a robust and verifiable system of data production has been established in both the parish courts and the Supreme Court.

In the parish courts, a data capture system for civil matters, known as the Case Information Statistical System (CISS), has been operational in all courts for the past eight years. This system captures a comprehensive range of data on the progression of cases from initiation to disposition and is managed by at least one dedicated Data Entry/Statistical Officer in each court. These officers update the system daily to ensure that the data produced, is as close to real-time as possible. The electronic data sheets for each parish court are then validated and backed up to the network at the end of each month, with the data submitted to a centralized, secure medium for processing by the Statistics and Data Division at the Supreme Court.

A comprehensive data validation mechanism is in place to periodically sample case files in all parish courts on a quarterly basis. In each instance, a representative sample of case files is taken and cross-checked against the electronic data to detect and eliminate errors of omission and commission. Monthly statistical data is processed using these submissions, culminating in Quarterly Reports and eventually the Annual Report. All Quarterly and Annual Parish Court Statistics Reports produced 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 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. Note, progressive improvements in the strength of the data collection mechanism in some courts have positively impacted measurement outcomes.

## Introduction

This report provides an overview of case activity in the Civil Division of the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the third quarter of 2025, ending on September 30, 2025. It covers key areas such as the number of new cases filed, cases disposed, and inactive cases during the period, alongside the most common causes of action and applications. Additionally, the report examines the number of reissue dates, the leading methods of case disposition, and reasons for adjournments. It also addresses the various enforcement actions taken, such as judgment summonses, warrants of levy, and warrants of attachment, noting how these cases are reactivated and their outcomes. Crucial efficiency indicators, including case clearance and disposal rates, trial date certainty, case congestion, and courtroom utilization, are calculated to measure court performance, where data is available. These metrics serve as important benchmarks for evaluating the courts, both individually and comparatively. The report is divided into three sections: the first summarizes case flow and demographics, the second focuses on delay factors, dispositions, and performance metrics, and the third highlights enforcement-related activities.

For several courts, the data is based on population estimates derived from representative samples, ensuring reliability and data integrity. However, one limitation is that data collection timelines differ between courts, affecting comparability at this stage. In some instances, scientific sampling methods are used to fill data gaps. The report concludes with cumulative case activity summaries for the Civil Courts for the third quarter of 2025.

## Chapter 1.0: The Corporate Area Court – Civil Division

### 1.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division for the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 1.01: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	255	38.75
Disposed	204	31.00
Inactive	199	30.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 658 new big claims cases filed at the Corporate Area Civil Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 255 or 38.75% cases were still active, 204 were disposed and 199 were inactive at the end of the quarter. These results produce an estimated gross case disposal rate of 61.25% for big claims for the quarter, which is 25.92 percentage points above the estimated disposal rate recorded for big claims in the corresponding third quarter of 2024.

**Table 1.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	783	99.75
POCA	2	0.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 785 new claims filed at the Corporate Area Civil Court in the third quarter of 2025. Big claims accounted for 783 or 99.75% of the sample and Proceeds of Crime (POCA) accounted for 2 or 0.25%.

**Table 1.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	222	33.48
Damages for Negligence	134	20.21
Recovery of Possession	110	16.59
Rent Owing and Continuing	27	4.07
Rent Owing, Continuing and Recovery of Possession	24	3.62
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>77.98</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action = 663**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action for cases entered in the quarter at the Corporate Area Civil Court was breach of contract with 222 or roughly 33.48% of the sample. Damages for negligence and recovery of possession with 134 or 20.21% and 110 or 16.59% respectively rank next. The top five causes of action were rounded off by rent owing and continuing with 27 or 4.07% and rent owing, continuing and recovery of possession with 24 or 3.62% of the sample. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 77.98% of the total sample of 663 causes of action.

**Table 1.04: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	341	57.12
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	256	42.88
<b>Total</b>	<b>597*</b>	<b>100.00</b>

\*Note: Corresponding to 509 cases

The majority of a sample of 597 matters entered in the third quarter of 2025 were entered in courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 341 or 57.12% of the sample, followed by courtroom 1 with 256 or 42.88% of the sample.

#### **Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Table 1.05: Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	342	43.96
Female	281	36.12
Registered Company	135	17.35
Trading As	20	2.57
<b>Total</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 778 matters entered in the third quarter of 2025 at the Corporate Area Civil Court, males accounted for the highest proportion of plaintiffs with 342 or 43.96% of the sample. Females accounted for 281 or 36.12% and registered companies accounted for 135 or 17.35% of the sample. Individuals trading under a business name (“trading As”) accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 20 or 2.57% of the sample.

**Table 1.06: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	328	48.38
Female	264	38.94
Registered Company	59	8.70
Trading As	27	3.98
<b>Total</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>100.00</b>

There were 678 records on the gender of defendants for new matters entered in the third quarter of 2025. The highest proportion of defendants were male with 328 or 48.38% of the sample, followed by females with 264 or 38.94%. Registered companies accounted for 59 or 8.70% of the sample. Individuals trading under a business name (“trading As”) accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 27 or 3.98% of the sample.

## 1.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 1.07: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Case management Date	268	48.11
Default Judgment Date	157	28.19
Trial	102	18.31
Part-Heard Date	19	3.41
Hearing of Application	8	1.44
Final Judgment Date	3	0.54
<b>Total</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows a sample of 557 matters that went to court during the third quarter of 2025, which were adjourned for a default judgment, final judgment, case management, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 268 or 48.11% were adjourned for case management dates, followed by 157 or 28.19%, which were adjourned for default judgment dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments in this sample were adjournments for trial dates with 102 or 18.31% of sample. It is of note that 19 or 3.41% of the matters in this sample were adjourned part heard. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned at the case management stage and

that there is a notable incidence of adjournments for default judgments to be entered. The result on the high incidence of adjournments for case management court hearings is not however an abnormal outcome given that case management court hearings are fundamental and intrinsic to the case flow process in the civil courts.

**Table 1.08: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	34
Average Incidence	1.00

**Corresponding to 34 cases**

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 34 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 34 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 10 reissue incidences.

**Table 1.09: Sampling distribution on the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	237	35.27
Consent	150	22.32
Withdrawal	88	13.10
Default Judgment	63	9.38
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	44	6.55
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>86.61</b>

**NB there were 672 matters were disposed**

A total of 672 matters were disposed at the Corporate Area Civil Court during the third quarter of 2025. The above table details the top five methods of disposition, which account for 582 or 86.61% of the total sample. The list is led by matters struck out with 237 or 35.27% of the

disposals, followed by matters disposed of by consent with 150 or 22.32% and withdrawals with 88 or 13.10%. Matters disposed of by default judgment and by Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) round off the top five methods with 63 or 9.38% and 44 or 6.55% respectively of the total sample of dispositions.

**Table 1.10: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
658	403	1048	159.27	61.25

The above table shows 658 new big claims cases filed at the Corporate Area Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, a total of 204 of these cases were disposed and 199 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 61.25%, a 25.92 percentage points increase when compared to the third quarter of 2024. An approximate gross figure of 587 cases was disposed, and 461 cases became inactive during the quarter, several of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 159.27%, which exceeds the international standard on this metric, and is a 34.51 percentage points decrease when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

The estimated net case disposal rate for the quarter is 44.44%, which is 21.02 percentage points above the net disposal rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024. The estimated net case clearance rate is 127.89%, which is approximately 11.58 percentage points below the rate

recorded in 2024. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

**Table 1.11a: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	322
Mean	294.4938
Median	166.0000
Mode	112.00
Std. Deviation	353.36979
Skewness	3.223
Std. Error of Skewness	.136
Range	2678.00
Minimum	1.00
Maximum	2679.00

The above table outlines summary data on 322 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division. The average time taken to resolve these matters is roughly 294 days or approximately 9.8 months, which is roughly 184 less days than it took to dispose matters in the third quarter of 2024. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 112 days. The standard deviation of roughly 353 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness is seen as an indication that there were markedly more scores in the data set which fell below the overall average time. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2,679 days or roughly 7.4 years old, while the minimum time taken was 1 day.

**Table 1.11b: Descriptive Statistics on the time between reissue and disposal of matters resolved in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	45
Mean	358.0444
Median	289.0000
Mode	245.00
Std. Deviation	368.57415
Skewness	4.124
Std. Error of Skewness	.354
Range	2239.00
Minimum	104.00
Maximum	2343.00

The above table outlines summary data on the time between the reissue and disposal of a sample of 45 matters at the Corporate Area Court – Civil Division. The average time between the reissue date and date of disposition is 358 days or roughly 11.9 months. The standard deviation suggests that there was a large amount of variation in the distribution of the scores and the positive skewness suggests that the majority of the scores in this data series fell below the overall average. A sample of 46 reissued matters in an inactive state at the end of the quarter reveals an average age in that status of approximately 213 days.

**Table 1.12a: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	4283
Mean	810.1676
Median	746.0000
Mode	256.00
Std. Deviation	661.85366
Skewness	1.693
Std. Error of Skewness	.037
Range	5032.00
Minimum	5.00
Maximum	5037.00

The above data is based on a sample of 4,283 active civil matters as of the third quarter ended September 30, 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 810 days or roughly 27 months, while the most frequently occurring age was 256 days and the median age in the distribution was 746 days. The standard deviation of roughly 662 days suggests that there is some dispersion in the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 5,037 days old or roughly 14 years, while the minimum time is 5 days.

**Table 1.12b: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	64
Mean	448.8750
Median	453.0000
Mode	376.00
Std. Deviation	357.68704
Skewness	3.647
Std. Error of Skewness	.299
Range	2535.00
Minimum	74.00
Maximum	2609.00

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 64 active reissued matters at the Corporate Area Civil Court as at the end of the third quarter ended September 30, 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 449 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 376 days and the median age was 453 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was a large variation among the individual scores, with the positive skewness indicating that a larger proportion of the ages were below the overall series average. The highest age in the data set was 2,609 days and the lowest was 74 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

## Chapter 2.0: Clarendon Parish Court – Civil Division

### 2.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the Clarendon Parish Court for the Third quarter of 2025.

**Table 2.01: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	215	88.48
Disposed	26	10.70
Inactive	2	0.82
<b>Total</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 243 new cases filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 215 cases or 88.48% of these cases were still active, while 26 were disposed and 2 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross case disposal rate of 11.52%, which is 6.70 percentage points below the gross disposal rate recorded in the previous third quarter of 2024.

**Table 2.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	225	83.03
Small Claim	46	16.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table represents a sampling distribution of 271 civil claims filed at the Clarendon Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. The majority of which 225 or 83.03% were big claims, while 46 or 16.97% were small claims.

**Table 2.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Clarendon parish court for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	123	45.39
Recovery of Possession	23	8.49
Damages for Negligence	22	8.12
Trespass	17	6.27
Breach of Termination & Redundancy Payment Act	13	4.80
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>73.06</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action= 271**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action for cases filed in the quarter at the Clarendon Parish Court was breach of contract with 123 or roughly 45.39% of the sample. Recovery of possession with 23 or 8.49% and damages for negligence with 22 or 8.12% rank next. Trespass with 17 or 6.27% and breach of Termination and Redundancy Pay Act with 13 or 4.80% of the sample rounds off the causes of action in this representative sample.

**Table 2.04: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	195	71.96
Chapelton Outstation	36	13.28
Lionel Town Outstation	28	10.33
Frankfield Outstation	12	4.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>271*</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**\*Note: Corresponding to 243 cases**

The majority of a sample of 271 new matters filed in the quarter were entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 195 or 71.96% of the total sample. The Chapelton Outstation accounted for 36 or 13.28% of the cases filed. The Lionel Town Outstation accounted for 28 or 10.33% and the Frankfield Outstation accounted for 12 or 4.43% of the new cases heard.

## Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

**Table 2.05: Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	142	52.79
Male	111	41.26
Trading As	9	3.35
Registered Company	7	2.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 269 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025 at the Clarendon Parish Court, females accounted for 142 or 52.79% of the sample, while males accounted for 111 or 41.26% of the sample, followed by individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) with 9 or 3.35%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 7 or 2.60% of the sample.

**Table 2.06: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	186	69.66
Female	76	28.46
Trading As	5	1.87
<b>Total</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>100.00</b>

There were 267 records on the gender of defendants for new matters entered in the third quarter of 2025. The majority of defendants were male with 186 or 69.66% of the sample, followed by females with 76 or 28.46% and individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) with 5 or 1.87% of the sample.

## 2.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 2.07: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Case management Date	158	44.01
Trial	101	28.13
Default Judgment Date	70	19.50
Part-Heard Date	24	6.69
Hearing of Application	6	1.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows a sample of 359 matters that went to court during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025, which were adjourned for a judgment, case management, part heard, trial date or similar procedural dates. The highest proportion, 158 or 44.01% of the sample, were adjourned for case management dates. Rounding off the incidences of procedural adjournments were matters adjourned for a trial date with 101 or 28.13%, matters adjourned for a default judgment date with 70 or 19.50%, matters adjournment for a part heard date with 24 or 6.69% of the sample, and matters adjourned for the hearing of an application date with 6 or 1.67%.

**Table 2.08: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	62	15.58
No Return/Re-Issued	48	12.06
Judge Absent/Ill	36	9.05
Parties in Discussion	29	7.29
New Date	28	7.04
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>51.01</b>

**Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 398**

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 398 incidences of adjournments and continuances in the third quarter of 2025. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants accounted for 62 or 15.58% of the sample and adjournments for no return or for reissue accounted for 48 or 12.06% of the sample. Adjournments due to the absence or illness of judges accounted for 36 or 9.05%, parties in discussion accounted for 29 or 7.29% and adjournment for a new date to set accounted for 28 or 7.04% of the sample.

**Table 2.09: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	32
Average Incidence	1.1

**Corresponding to 28 cases**

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 32 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 28 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.1 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 11 reissue incidences.

**Table 2.10: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	125	44.17
Settlement	39	13.78
Consent	27	9.54
Default Judgment	25	8.83
Withdrawal	19	6.71
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>83.04</b>

**NB: there were 283 matters were disposed**

A total of 283 civil matters were disposed at the Clarendon Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. The above table details the top five methods of disposition, which account for 235 or 83.04% of the total sample. The list is led by matters struck out with 125 or 44.17% and matters disposed by settlements with 39 or 13.78% of the sample. Matters disposed by consent with 27 or 9.54% of the sample ranked next, followed by matters disposed by default judgment with 25 or 8.83% and withdrawals with 19 or 6.71% of the total sample of dispositions.

**Table 2.11: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty rate for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Sample of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Trial date certainty rate (%)
49	7	85.71

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 49 trial dates were set in the quarter, of which 7 were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 85.71%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 86% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment and is 7.15 percentage

points below the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2024 for the corresponding period.

**Table 2.12: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)	Approximate net case disposal rate (%)
243	28	247	101.65	11.52

The above table shows 243 new cases filed at the Clarendon Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, a total of 26 of these cases were disposed and 2 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 11.52%, a 6.70 percentage points decline when compared to the third quarter of 2024. An approximate gross figure of 243 cases were disposed and 4 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 101.65%, which meets below the international standard on this metric, and is a 20.32 percentage points increase when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

The estimated net case disposal rate for the quarter is 10.79%, which is 6.70 percentage points below the net disposal rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024. The estimated net case clearance rate is 100.83%, which is roughly 20.11 percentage points above the rate recorded in 2024. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

**Table 2.13: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	157
Mean	288.5032
Median	149.0000
Mode	63.00
Std. Deviation	316.26283
Skewness	1.708
Std. Error of Skewness	.194
Range	1390.00
Minimum	6.00
Maximum	1396.00

The above table outlines sample data on 157 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the Clarendon Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose these matters is roughly 289 days or 9.6 months. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 63 days and the median time was 149 days. The standard deviation of roughly 316 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness suggests that a higher proportion of the scores in the data set fell below the overall average time to disposition. The oldest matter disposed in the sample was 1,396 days or roughly 3.9 years, while the minimum time taken was 6 days.

**Table 2.14: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	511
Mean	433.5225
Median	256.0000
Mode	85.00
Std. Deviation	432.59290
Skewness	1.229
Std. Error of Skewness	.108
Range	1663.00
Minimum	11.00
Maximum	1674.00

The above data is based on a sample of 511 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 434 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 85 days. The standard deviation of roughly 433 days suggests that there is a wide variation in the individual scores around the average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were more scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 1,674 days old or roughly 4.7 years, while the minimum time taken is 11 days.

## Chapter 3.0: St. Catherine Parish Court –Civil Division

### 3.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Catherine Parish Court for the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 3.01: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	569	89.61
Disposed	66	10.39
Inactive	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 635 new cases filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 569 cases or 89.61% of these cases were still active, while 66 were disposed. These results produce an estimated net disposal rate of 10.39%, which is 0.55 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 3.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claims	681	87.87
Small Claims	94	12.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows that from a sample of 775 claims filed in the third quarter of 2025, 681 or 87.87% were big claims and 94 or 12.13% were small claims.

**Table 3.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Catherine Parish Court-Civil division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	262	33.85
Damages for Negligence	141	18.22
Recovery of Possession	133	17.18
Rent Owing, Continuing and Recovery of Possession	59	7.62
Rent Owing and Continuing	43	5.56
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>82.43</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action= 774**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table details a sample of 774 causes of action entered before the St. Catherine Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. The leading cause of action shown in this sample was breach of contract with 262 or roughly 33.85% of the sample, damages for negligence with 141 or 18.22% and recovery of possession with 133 or 17.18%, which rounds off the top three. The top five causes of action are rounded off by rent owing, continuing and recovery of possession with 59 or 7.62% and rent owing and continuing with 43 or 5.56% of the sample. The causes of action which are listed above, account for 82.43% of the total sample of causes of action.

**Table 3.04: Sampling distribution of types of service for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	67	45.58
Personal	42	28.57
District Constable	38	25.85
<b>Total</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Types of service as used in the above table refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for the highest proportion of the sample with 67 or 45.58% of the sample, personal service

accounted for 42 or 28.57% and service by the district constable accounted for 38 or 25.85% of the sample.

**Table 3.05: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	539	70.09
Linstead Outstation	81	10.53
Courtroom #6 (main courthouse)	78	10.14
Old Harbour Outstation	44	5.72
Portmore Outstation	27	3.51
<b>Total</b>	<b>769*</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**\*Note: Corresponding to 630 cases**

The majority of the sample of 769 new claims filed in the third quarter of 2025 was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 539 or 70.09% of the total sample. The 81 or 10.53% that were entered in the Linstead outstation followed this. Sittings in courtroom number 6 at the main courthouse accounted for 78 or 10.14% of the claims.

#### **Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Table 3.06: Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	386	50.20
Female	314	40.83
Registered Company	69	8.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is seen in the above table that of the 769 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025, males accounted for the majority of the sample with 386 or 50.20%, followed by females with 314 or 40.83% and registered companies with 69 or 8.97% of the sample.

**Table 3.07: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	463	61.41
Female	283	37.53
Registered Company	8	1.06
<b>Total</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>100.00</b>

There were 754 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2024. The majority of defendants were male with 463 or 61.41% of the total sample, followed by females with 283 or 37.53%. Registered companies account for the remaining proportion with 8 or 1.06% of the total sample.

### 3.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 3.08: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Trial	275	34.72
Case management Date	251	31.69
Default Judgment Date	162	20.45
Part-Heard Date	95	11.99
Hearing of Application	9	1.14
<b>Total</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 792 matters that went to court during the third quarter of 2025, which were adjourned for a default judgment, case management, part heard, or trial date or similar procedural date. The highest proportion of the sample, 275 or 34.72% were adjourned for a trial date and 251 or 31.69% were adjourned for a case management date. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 162 or 20.45% of matters, which were adjourned for a default judgment date. Matters adjournment for part heard dates accounted for 95 or 11.99% of the sample.

**Table 3.09: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	340	29.80
Defendant Absent	129	11.31
Both Parties Absent	80	7.01
Plaintiff Absent	49	4.29
Judge Absent/Ill	48	4.21
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>56.62</b>

**Number of adjournments/continuances sampled= 1,141**

The above table details a sample of 1,141 adjournments or continuances heard in the quarter, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments for no return/for reissue with 340 or 29.80% of the total sample, adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 129 or 11.31% and the absence of both parties with 80 or 7.01% and adjournments due to the absence of plaintiff with 49 or 4.29% round off the top reasons for adjournment for the quarter. Adjournments due to the absence or illness of judges with 48 or 4.21% complete the list. The top 5 reasons for adjournment account for 56.62% of the total sample.

**Table 3.10: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	123
Average Incidence	1.4

**Corresponding to 85 cases**

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance of cases in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 123 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 85 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.4 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 14 reissue incidences.

**Table 3.11: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	431	50.06
Consent	168	19.51
Default Judgment	67	7.78
Settlement	66	7.67
Withdrawal	40	4.65
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>89.66</b>

**NB: There were 861 matters disposed**

The above table details the sampling distribution of the five leading methods of disposition using a sample of 861 matters disposed during the third quarter of 2025. The list is led by matters struck out with 431 or 50.06% of the disposals, followed matters disposed by consent with 168 or 19.51%, matters disposed by default judgments with 67 or 7.78% and matters disposed by settlements with 66 or 7.67%. Matters withdrawn account for 40 or 4.65% of the sample. The top 5 methods of disposition listed account for 89.66% of the sample.

**Table 3.12: Sampling distribution of Trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
86	14	83.72

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 86 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that 14 were adjourned. This results in a trial date certainty rate of 83.72%, suggesting that during the quarter, there was a roughly 84% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This rate falls below the prescribed

international benchmark of between 90% and 100% and is 2.29 percentage points above the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2024.

**Table 3.13: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Estimated gross Case clearance rate (%)	Estimated Net Case disposal rate (%)
635	66	724	114.02	10.39

The above table shows 635 new cases filed at the St. Catherine Parish Court during the third quarter of 2024. An approximate gross figure of 706 cases were disposed, and 18 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 114.02%, which exceeds the international standard for the case clearance rate and is 16.78 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024.

The net disposal rate for the quarter is 10.39%, which is 0.55 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024. The net clearance for the quarter is 111.18%, which is 14.92 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

**Table 3.14: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	550
Mean	789.7727
Median	543.0000
Mode	1736.00
Std. Deviation	737.86749
Skewness	1.484
Std. Error of Skewness	.104
Range	4063.00
Minimum	1.00
Maximum	4064.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 550 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the St. Catherine Parish Court. The average time taken to resolve these matters is roughly 790 days or 26.3 months, which is roughly 246 more days than it took to resolve matters in the third quarter of 2024. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 1736 days. The standard deviation of approximately 738 days is an indication that there is some dispersion of the scores around the overall mean. The positive skewness suggests that a larger proportion of the scores are below the overall average time to disposal. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 4,064 days or roughly 11.3 years, while the youngest was 1 day.

**Table 3.15a: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	1366
Mean	570.0637
Median	327.0000
Mode	12.00
Std. Deviation	676.70207
Skewness	2.556
Std. Error of Skewness	.066
Range	6401.00
Minimum	4.00
Maximum	6405.00

The above data is based on a sample of 1,366 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 570 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 12 days. The standard deviation of roughly 677 days suggests that there is a large dispersion in the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 6,405 days old or roughly 17.8 years, while the minimum time taken is 4 days.

**Table 3.15b: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	156
Mean	376.8654
Median	13.0000
Mode	12.00
Std. Deviation	630.27946
Skewness	1.344
Std. Error of Skewness	.194
Range	1912.00
Minimum	4.00
Maximum	1916.00

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 156 active reissued matters at the St. Catherine Parish Court as at the end of the third quarter ended September 30, 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 377 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 12 days and the median age was 13 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was a large variation in the individual scores, with the positive skewness indicating that a larger proportion of the ages were below the overall average. The highest age in the data set was 1,916 days and the lowest was 4 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

## Chapter 4.0: Trelawny Parish Court –Civil Division

### 4.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the Trelawny Parish Court for the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 4.01: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	107	86.99
Disposed	15	12.20
Inactive	1	0.81
<b>Total</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 123 new cases filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 107 or 86.99% of these cases were active, 15 or 12.20% were disposed and 1 case became inactive at the end of the quarter. This produces a gross case disposal rate of 13.01% for the quarter, a 0.03 percentage points decline when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 4.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	108	83.72
Small Claim	21	16.28
<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table represents a sampling distribution of 129 civil claims filed at the Trelawny Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. The majority of which 108 or 83.72% were big claims, while 21 or 16.28% were small claims.

**Table 4.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Trelawny Parish Court-Civil division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Recovery of Possession	24	18.75
Money Owing	20	15.63
Arrears of rent	14	10.94
Damages for Negligence	10	7.81
Arrears of Rent & Recovery of Possession	9	7.03
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>60.16</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action = 128**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, among the leading causes of action in the quarter were recovery of possession with 24 or 18.75% and money owing with 20 or 15.63% of the sample. Arrears of rent with 14 or 10.94% and damages for negligence and arrears of rent and recovery of possession with 10 or 7.81% and 9 or 7.03% respectively of the sample close out the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 60.16% of all the total sample of 128 causes of action.

**Table 4.04: Sampling distribution of types of service for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	109	86.51
Bailiff	17	13.49
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants whom a claim is made against are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority of the sample with 109 or 86.51% of the sample, followed by service by the bailiff with 17 or 13.49% of the sample.

**Table 4.05: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Falmouth Outstation	85	65.89
Clarks Town Outstation	23	17.83
Ulster Spring Outstation	21	16.28
<b>Total</b>	<b>129*</b>	<b>100.00</b>

\*Note: Corresponding to 123 cases

The majority of a sample of 129 new matters filed in 65.89% of the accommodations was entered in the Falmouth outstation. The 23 or 17.83% matters that were entered in the Clarks Town Outstation followed this, while court sittings at the Ulster Spring Outstation ranked next with 21 or 16.28% of the accommodations.

**Table 4.06: Distribution of applications filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Type of Application	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Application for Court Order	129	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>100</b>

A sample of 129 applications filed during the third quarter of 2025 revealed that applications for court order accounted for 100% of the sample.

#### **Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Table 4.07: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	57	49.14
Male	56	48.28
Registered Company	3	2.59
<b>Total</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 116 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025 at the Trelawny Parish Court, females accounted for the highest proportion of plaintiffs with

57 or 49.14%, followed by males with 56 or 48.28%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 3 or 2.59% of the sample.

**Table 4.08: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	53	51.46
Female	46	44.66
Registered Company	4	3.88
<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>100.00</b>

There were 103 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025. The majority of defendants were male with 53 or 51.46% of the sample, followed by females with 46 or 44.66% and registered companies with 4 or 3.88%.

## 4.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 4.09: Distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Case management Date	52	39.10
Trial	37	27.82
Default Judgment Date	26	19.55
Part-Heard Date	18	13.53
<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows a sample of 133 matters that were heard during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025, which were adjourned for a default judgment, case management, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The largest proportion, 52 or 39.10% were adjourned for case management dates, followed by 37 or 27.82%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Matters adjourned for default judgment dates with 26 or 19.55% and for part heard dates with 18 or 13.53% rank next. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for case management dates which is expected in civil and most other case types.

**Table 4.10: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Re-Issue	99	45.62
Defendant Absent	31	14.29
Plaintiff Absent	14	6.45
Both Parties Absent	10	4.61
No Return/Re-Issued	4	1.84
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>72.81</b>

**Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 217**

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 217 incidence of adjournments heard in the third quarter of 2025. Adjournments for reissue with 99 or 45.62% of the sample, adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 31 or 14.29%, the absence of plaintiffs with 14 or 6.45% and the absence of both parties with 10 or 4.61% of the sample feature prominently on the list. Adjournments for no return or for re-issue with 4 or 1.84% of the sample close out the list. The top five reasons for adjournments, which are listed above, account for 72.81% of the entire sample.

**Table 4.11: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	15
Average Incidence	1

**Corresponds to 15 cases**

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 15 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 15 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1 reissues per case file for new claims filed in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 10 reissue incidences.

**Table 4.12: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	39	35.45
Oral Admission	17	15.45
Struck Out	15	13.64
Default Judgment	11	10.00
Final Judgment	9	8.18
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>82.73</b>

**NB: There were 110 matters disposed**

The above table details the sampling distribution of the leading methods of disposition using a sample of 110 matters disposed during the third quarter of 2025. The list is led by matters disposed by consent with 39 or 35.45% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by oral admissions with 17 or 15.45% and matters struck out with 15 or 13.64% of the sample. Matters disposed by default judgments account for 11 or 10% of the sample and disposals by final judgments account for 9 or 8.18% of the sample. The top five methods of dispositions enumerated above accounted for 82.73% of the total sample of dispositions.

**Table 4.13: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

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

Another important performance metric is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 26 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that 5 were adjourned. This results in an overall estimated trial date certainty rate of 80.77% which suggests that during the quarter there was roughly an 81%

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

**Table 4.14: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Estimated Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Estimated gross case disposal rate (%)
123	16	112	91.06	13.01

The above table shows 123 new cases filed at the Trelawny Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, a total of 15 of these cases were disposed and 1 case became inactive, leading to a gross case disposal rate of 13.01%, which is 0.03 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024. An approximate gross figure of 103 cases were disposed and 9 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to a gross case clearance rate of 91.06%, which meets the international standard for the case clearance rate and is 5.46 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024.

The net disposal rate for the quarter is 12.30%, which is 2.39 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024. The net clearance for the quarter is 84.43%, which is 15.96 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

**Table 4.15: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	68
Mean	118.5882
Median	63.0000
Mode	63.00
Std. Deviation	158.94195
Skewness	3.285
Std. Error of Skewness	.291
Range	972.00
Minimum	1.00
Maximum	973.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 68 civil cases disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the Trelawny Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose this sample of cases is roughly 119 days or 4 months. The most frequently occurring time to disposition and the median time were both 63 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 159 days suggests that the times taken to disposition were spread out over a large range of values and the positive skewness is an indication that a greater proportion of times to disposition fell below the overall average time. The oldest case disposed in the quarter was 973 days or roughly 2.7 years old, while minimum time taken to dispose cases was 1 day.

**Table 4.16: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	262
Mean	447.5267
Median	180.0000
Mode	28.00
Std. Deviation	570.82323
Skewness	1.939
Std. Error of Skewness	.150
Range	2652.00
Minimum	21.00
Maximum	2673.00

The above data is computed using 262 active cases at the end of the third quarter of 2025. The average age of these cases was roughly 448 days (1.2 years), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 28 days. The standard deviation of roughly 571 days suggests that there is a large amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the mean, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were more scores in the data set which fall below the overall mean. The oldest active case in this sample is 2,673 days (7.4 years old), while the youngest is 21 days.

## Chapter 5.0: St. Ann Parish Court –Civil Division

### 5.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Ann Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 5.01: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	363	90.52
Disposed	38	9.48
Inactive	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 401 new cases filed at the St. Ann Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 363 cases or 90.52% of these cases were still active, and 38 were disposed. These results produce an estimated net disposal rate of 9.48%, which is a 2.20 percentage points increase when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 5.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claims	460	86.63
Small Claims	71	13.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows that from 531 new claims filed in the third quarter of 2025, the majority of which were big claims with 460 or 86.63%, while 71 or 13.37% were small claims.

**Table 5.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Ann Parish Court-Civil division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	155	29.19
Recovery of Possession	132	24.86
Rent Owing	40	7.53
Rent Owing and Continuing	40	7.53
Money Owing	34	6.40
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>75.52</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action (N) = 531**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table uses a sample of 531 matters, from which the leading causes of action filed in the third quarter of 2025 was breach of contract with 155 or roughly 29.19% of the sample and recovery of possession with 132 or 24.86% of the sample. Rent owing and rent owing and continuing with 40 or 7.53% each of the sample rank next. Money owing with 34 or 6.40% of the total sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 75.52% of the sample of causes of action.

**Table 5.04: Sampling distribution of types of service filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	36	50.70
District Constable	19	26.76
Personal	16	22.54
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Types of service as used in the above table refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for the majority of the sample with 36 or 50.70% of the sample. Service by the district constable accounted for 19 or 26.76% and personal service with 16 or 22.54% of the sample rank next.

**Table 5.05: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	100	70.42
Claremont Outstation	41	28.87
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	1	0.70
<b>Total</b>	<b>142*</b>	<b>100.00</b>

\*Note: Corresponding to 128 cases

The majority of a sample of 142 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025 were entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, accounting for 100 or 70.42% of the total sample. The Claremont Outstation accounted for 41 or 28.87% and sittings in courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse accounted for 1 or 0.70% of the accommodations.

#### **Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Table 5.06: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	280	53.95
Female	188	36.22
Registered Company	51	9.83
<b>Total</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 519 new matters filed in the quarter, males accounted for the majority of the sample with 280 or 53.95%, followed by females with 188 or 36.22% and registered companies with 51 or 9.83% of the total sample.

**Table 5.07: Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	303	57.82
Female	194	37.02
Registered Company	23	4.39
Trading As	4	0.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>100.00</b>

There were 524 records on the gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025. The majority of defendants were male with 303 or 57.82% of the total sample, followed by females with 194 or 37.02%. Registered companies accounted for 23 or 4.39% of the total sample and individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 4 or 0.76%.

## 5.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 5.08: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Case management Date	198	33.85
Trial	150	25.64
Part-Heard Date	122	20.85
Default Judgment Date	71	12.14
Hearing of Application	31	5.30
Final Judgment Date	13	2.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows a sample of 585 matters that went to court during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025, which were adjourned for a default judgment, case management, part heard dates and similar procedural dates. Adjournments for case management dates accounted for 198 or 33.85% of the sample, followed by 150 or 25.64%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Matters adjourned for part heard dates accounted for 122 or 20.85% and matters adjourned for a default judgment date account for 71 or 12.14% of the total sample. As with most other courts, this data decisively suggests that there is a greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for

a case management date, though this is not an unsurprising result given that case management court stings are intrinsic to the progression of civil and other cases.

**Table 5.09: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Reasons for Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	94	14.07
No Return/Re-Issued	92	13.77
Both Parties Absent	28	4.19
Pending Settlement	23	3.44
Plaintiff Absent	23	3.44
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>38.92</b>

**Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 668**

The above table details a sample of 668 reasons for adjournment or continuances for matters that went to court in the third quarter of 2025, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 94 or 14.07% of the sample, adjournments for no return/for re-issue with 92 or 13.77% and the absence of both parties with 28 or 4.19% of the sample rounds off the top three reasons for adjournment for the quarter in this sample. The list is completed by pending settlements and the absence of plaintiffs with 23 or 3.44% each of the sample. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above, account for 38.92% of the total sample of adjournments and continuances.

**Table 5.10: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	50
Average Incidence	1.4

**Corresponds to 35 cases**

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or

short served. The above table draws on a sample of 50 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 35 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.4 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 14 reissue incidences.

**Table 5.11: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck out	101	26.37
Consent	65	16.97
Withdrawal	52	13.58
Default Judgment	48	12.53
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	48	12.53
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>81.98</b>

**NB: There were 383 matters disposed**

A sample of 383 matters disposed during the third quarter of 2025 revealed that 101 or 26.37% of matters were disposed by being struck out, 65 or 16.97% were disposed by consent and 52 or 13.58% of the sample were disposed by withdrawals. Matters disposed by default judgments and matters disposed by Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) with 48 or 12.53% each of the total sample of disposals complete the top five for the quarter. The top five methods of disposition enumerated above, account for 81.98% of the total sample of dispositions. This data provides insights into the overall distribution of the methods of disposition in the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 5.12: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
55	1	98.18

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 55

trial dates set in the quarter revealed that 1 was adjourned. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 98.18%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 98% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This meets the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100%.

**Table 5.13: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate Net case disposal rate (%)
401	38	322	80.30	9.48

The above table shows 401 new cases filed at the St. Ann Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, an approximate gross figure of 299 cases were disposed, and 23 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 80.30%, which falls below the international standard for this metric and represents a 0.12 percentage points increase when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 9.48%, an increase of 2.20 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2024. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 74.56%, an increase of 1.46 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2024. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

**Table 5.14: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	226
Mean	282.0531
Median	112.0000
Mode	231.00
Std. Deviation	451.32292
Skewness	3.089
Std. Error of Skewness	.162
Range	2724.00
Minimum	4.00
Maximum	2728.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 226 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the St. Ann Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose these matters is roughly 282 days or 9.4 months, which is roughly 115 less days than it took to resolve matters in the third quarter of 2024. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 231 days. The standard deviation of 451 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores in the data set that fell below the overall average scores. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2,728 days or roughly 7.6 years old, while the minimum time taken was 4 days.

**Table 5.15a: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	1619
Mean	742.9531
Median	601.0000
Mode	146.00
Std. Deviation	667.65021
Skewness	1.807
Std. Error of Skewness	.061
Range	5216.00
Minimum	6.00
Maximum	5222.00

The above data is based on a sample of 1,619 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 743 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 146 days. The standard deviation of roughly 668 days suggests that there is some amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the series average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter is 5,222 days old or roughly 14.5 years, while the minimum age is 6 days.

**Table 5.15b: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

<b>Descriptive statistics (in days)</b>	
Number of observations	111
Mean	518.2613
Median	439.0000
Mode	539.00
Std. Deviation	674.01690
Skewness	3.513
Std. Error of Skewness	.229
Range	4210.00
Minimum	12.00
Maximum	4222.00

The above table outlines summary data on the time average age of a sample of 111 active reissued matters at the St. Ann Parish Court as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025.

The average age of these matters was roughly 518 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 539 days and the median age was 439 days. The high standard deviation indicates that there was a large amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the series mean, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of cases. The highest age in the data set was 4,222 days and the lowest was 12 days.

## 5.3: Browns Town Outstation –Civil Division

### 5.3.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the Brown's Town outstation in the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 5.3.01: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	56	91.80
Disposed	5	8.20
Inactive	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 61 new cases filed at the Brown's Town Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 56 cases or 91.80% of these cases were still active and 5 were disposed. These results produce an estimated net disposal rate of 8.20% for the quarter, which is a 5.53 percentage points increase when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 5.3.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claims	55	80.88
Small Claims	13	19.12
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows that from 68 new claims filed in the third quarter of 2025, the majority of which were big claims with 55 or 80.88%, while 13 or 19.12% were small claims.

**Table 5.3.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Browns Town Outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Money owing	24	35.29
Breach of Contract	8	11.76
Damages to cultivation	4	5.88
Rent Owing	4	5.88
Rent Owing and Continuing	4	8.88
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>64.71</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action (N) = 68**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table uses a sample of 68 matters, from which the leading causes of action filed in the third quarter of 2025 was money owing with 24 or roughly 35.29% of the sample and breach of contract with 8 or 11.76% of the sample. Damages done to cultivation, rent owing, and rent owing and continuing with 4 or 5.88% each of the total sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 64.71% of the sample of causes of action.

**Table 5.3.04: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	66	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>66*</b>	<b>100</b>

**\*Note: Corresponds to 61 cases**

All of a sample of 66 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025 were entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse.

## Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

**Table 5.3.05: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	34	53.97
Female	29	46.03
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 63 new matters filed in the quarter, males accounted for the majority of the sample with 34 or 53.97% of the sample, followed by females with 29 or 46.03% of the sample.

**Table 5.3.06: Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	43	67.19
Female	21	32.81
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100.00</b>

There were 64 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025. The majority of defendants were male with 43 or 67.19% of the total sample, followed by females with 21 or 32.81%.

### 5.3.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 5.3.07: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Case management Date	71	41.04
Trial	41	23.70
Default Judgment Date	30	17.34
Part-Heard Date	24	13.87
Hearing of Application	6	3.47
Final Judgment Date	1	0.58
<b>Total</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows a sample of 173 matters that went to court during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025, which were adjourned for a default judgment, case management, part heard dates and similar procedural dates. Adjournments for case management dates accounted for 71 or 41.04% of the sample, followed by 41 or 23.70%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Matters adjournment for default judgment dates account for 30 or 17.34% and matters adjourned for a part heard date account for 24 or 13.87% of the total sample. As with most other courts, this data decisively suggests that there is a greater probability that a matter will be

adjourned for a case management date, though this is not an unsurprising result given that case management court stings are intrinsic to the progression of civil and other cases.

**Table 5.3.08: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Reasons for Adjournments	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	30	16.13
No Return/Re-Issued	17	9.14
Both parties absent	4	2.15
Plaintiff Absent	4	2.15
Judge Absent/Ill	3	1.61
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>31.18</b>

**Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 186**

The above table details a sample of 186 reasons for adjournment or continuances for matters that went to court in the third quarter of 2025, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments due to the absence of defendants accounted for 30 or 16.13% of the sample, adjournments for no return or for reissue accounted for 17 or 9.14% and the absence of both parties and the absence of plaintiffs with 4 or 2.15% of the sample account for the top reasons for adjournment for the quarter in this sample. The list is completed by the absence or illness of the judge with 3 or 1.61% of the sample. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above, account for 31.18% of the total sample of adjournments and continuances.

**Table 5.3.09: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck out	12	25.53
Consent	10	21.28
Default Judgment	6	12.77
Settlement	5	10.64
Withdrawal	5	10.64
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>80.85</b>

**NB: There were 47 matters disposed**

A sample of 47 matters disposed during the third quarter of 2025 revealed that 12 or 25.53% of matters were disposed by being struck out, 10 or 21.28% were disposed by consent and 6 or 12.77 were disposed by default judgments. Settlements and withdrawals with 5 or 10.64% each of the sample round out the list. This data provides insights into the overall distribution of the methods of disposition in the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 5.3.10: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate net case disposal rate (%)
61	5	52	85.25	8.20

The above table shows 61 new cases filed at the Brown's Town Outstation during the third quarter of 2024. At the end of the quarter, an approximate gross figure of 41 cases were disposed, and 11 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 85.25%, which falls below the international standard for this metric and represents a 47.92 percentage points increase when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 8.20%, an increase of 5.53 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2024. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 67.21%, an increase of 33.88 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2024. The

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

**Table 5.3.11: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	26
Mean	267.5385
Median	73.5000
Mode	21.00
Std. Deviation	420.93109
Skewness	1.978
Std. Error of Skewness	.456
Range	1520.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	1527.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 26 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the Brown's Town Outstation. The average time taken to dispose these matters is roughly 268 days or 8.9 months. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 21 days and the median time was 73.50 days. The standard deviation of roughly 421 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness suggests that there were more scores in the data set that fell below the overall average scores. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1,527 days or roughly 4.2 years old, while the minimum time taken was 7 days.

**Table 5.3.12: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

<b>Descriptive statistics (in days)</b>	
Number of observations	984
Mean	754.1941
Median	664.0000
Mode	146.00
Std. Deviation	525.71799
Skewness	.558
Std. Error of Skewness	.078
Range	2076.00
Minimum	18.00
Maximum	2094.00

The above data is based on a sample of 984 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 754 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 146 days. The standard deviation of roughly 526 days suggests that there is some amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the series average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter is 2,094 days old or roughly 5.8 years, while the minimum age is 18 days.

## Chapter 6.0: Westmoreland Parish Court –Civil Division

### 6.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics at the Westmoreland Parish Court for the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 6.01: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	238	89.14
Disposed	28	10.49
Inactive	1	0.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 267 new cases filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 238 cases or 89.14% of these cases were still active, while 28 or 10.49% were disposed and 1 or 0.37% rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 10.86%, which is a 3.86 percentage points decline when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 6.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	281	92.43
Small Claim	23	7.57
<b>Total</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 304 new claims filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025, the majority of which 281 or 92.43% were big claims, while 23 or 7.57% were small claims.

**Table 6.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Westmoreland Parish Court-Civil division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	72	24.00
Recovery of Possession	46	15.33
Excess Rent Owing	36	12.00
Rent Due and Continuing	14	4.67
Negligence	13	4.33
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>60.33</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action = 300**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action filed in the third quarter of 2025 at the Westmoreland Parish Court was breach of contract and recovery of possession with 72 or roughly 24% and 46 or 15.33% respectively of the sample. Excess rent owing with 36 or 12%, rent due and continuing with 14 or 4.67% and negligence with 13 or 4.33% round off the list. These five leading causes of action account for 60.33% of the sample of 300 causes of action.

**Table 6.04: Sampling distribution of types of service in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	166	55.15
Personal	135	44.85
<b>Total</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the bailiff accounted for 166 or 55.15% and personal service accounted for 135 or 44.85% of the sample.

**Table 6.05: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	39	33.91
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	23	20.00
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	31	26.96
Whithorn Outstation	22	19.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>115*</b>	<b>100.00</b>

\*Note: Corresponds to 102 cases

The highest proportion of a sample of 115 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025 was entered in courtroom number 3 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 39 or 33.91% of the sample. The 23 or 20% that were entered in courtroom 1 at the main courthouse followed this. Sittings at the courtroom number 2 accounted for 31 or 26.96% and sittings at the Whithorn Outstation accounted for the remaining 22 or 19.13% of the sample.

#### **Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Table 6.06: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	177	59.40
Female	74	24.83
Registered Company	47	15.77
<b>Total</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 298 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025 at the Westmoreland Parish Court, males accounted for the majority of the sample with 177 or 59.40%, followed by females with 74 or 24.83%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample with 47 or 15.77%.

**Table 6.07: Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	156	53.06
Female	81	27.55
Registered Company	38	12.93
Trading As	19	6.46
<b>Total</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>100.00</b>

There were 294 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025. The majority of defendants were male with 156 or 53.06% of the sample, followed by females with 81 or 27.55%. Registered companies account for 38 or 12.93% of the sample and individuals trading under a business name (“trading as”) accounted for 19 or 6.46%.

## 6.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 6.08: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Case management Date	160	60.84
Trial	77	29.28
Part-Heard Date	23	8.75
Hearing of Application	3	1.14
<b>Total</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows a sample of 263 matters that went to court during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025, which were adjourned for a default judgment, a final judgment, case management, part heard, trial date or similar procedural adjournment. The majority, 160 or 60.84% were adjourned for case management dates, followed by 77 or 29.28%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Rounding off the top incidences of procedural adjournments were 23 or 8.75% of matters, which were adjourned for part heard dates. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for trial or case management court hearings. This is, however, not an unusual outcome given that case management court hearings are central to the case flow process in the civil courts.

**Table 6.09: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Reasons for Adjournments	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No Return/Re-Issued	29	19.33
Referred to Mediation	21	14.00
Attorney Absent	15	10.00
Parties in Discussion	13	8.67
Pending Settlement	5	3.33
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>55.33</b>

**Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 150**

The above table details a sample of 150 reasons for adjournment or continuances for matters that went to court in the third quarter of 2025, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments due to no return or for reissue with 29 or 19.33% of the sample, adjournments due to referrals to mediation with 21 or 14% and the absence of attorneys with 15 or 10% and parties in discussion with 13 or 8.67% of the sample rounds off the top reasons for adjournment for the quarter in this sample. The list is completed by pending settlements with 5 or 3.33% of the sample. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above, account for 55.33% of the total sample of adjournments and continuances.

**Table 6.10: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	38
Average Incidence	1.2

**Corresponds to 31 cases**

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 38 incidences of reissue, corresponding to

31 reissued cases. This resulted in an average of 1.2 reissues per case file for new claims filed in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 12 reissue incidences.

**Table 6.11: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	35	24.31
Struck Out	32	22.22
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	18	12.50
Default Judgment	16	11.11
Settlement	14	9.72
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>79.86</b>

**NB: There were 144 matters disposed**

A total of 144 civil matters were disposed at the Westmoreland Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. The above table details the top five methods of disposal, which account for 79.86% of the total sample. The list is led by matters disposed by consent with 35 or 24.31% of the disposals, followed by matters struck out with 32 or 22.22% of the sample. Matters disposed by Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) with 18 or 12.50%, default judgments with 16 or 11.11% and settlements with 14 or 9.72% round off the top five methods dispositions.

**Table 6.12: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
51	0	100.0

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 51 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that none were adjourned. This results in an overall trial

date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This meets the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100%.

**Table 6.13: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross case clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
267	29	146	54.68	10.86

The above table shows 267 new cases filed at the Westmoreland Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, a total of 28 of these cases were disposed, and 1 case became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 10.86%, a decrease of 3.86 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2024. A gross figure of 129 cases were disposed, and 17 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 54.68%, which is below the international standard for this metric and is 32.44 percentage points below the third quarter of 2024 rate.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 10.53%, which is 3.67 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 48.50%, which is 30.51 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024.

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

**Table 6.14: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	92
Mean	268.7826
Median	107.0000
Mode	28.00
Std. Deviation	373.71452
Skewness	2.540
Std. Error of Skewness	.251
Range	2189.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	2196.00

The above table outlines summary data on 92 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the Westmoreland Parish Court. The average time taken to resolve these matters is approximately 269 days or 9 months, which is roughly 97 more days than it took to resolve matters in the third quarter of 2024. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 28 days. The standard deviation is an indication that there is a large amount of variation in the distribution of the scores around the mean time and the positive skewness is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set fell below the mean. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2,196 days or roughly 6.1 years, while the minimum time taken was just 7 days.

**Table 6.15a: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	634
Mean	797.2035
Median	574.5000
Mode	48.00
Std. Deviation	723.88032
Skewness	.789
Std. Error of Skewness	.097
Range	2529.00
Minimum	20.00
Maximum	2549.00

The above data is based on a sample of 634 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 797 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 48 days. The standard deviation of roughly 724 days suggests that there is some variation of the individual scores around the average. The positive skewness seen is an indication that more scores in the scores in the data set fell below the mean. The oldest age of active cases was 2,549 days or 7.1 years, and the youngest time is 20 days.

**Table 6.15b: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	61
Mean	266.3607
Median	202.0000
Mode	328.00
Std. Deviation	231.57670
Skewness	1.857
Std. Error of Skewness	0.306
Range	1071.00
Minimum	20.00
Maximum	1091.00

The above table outlines summary data on the time average age of a sample of 61 active reissued matters at the Westmoreland Parish Court as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 266 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 328 days and the median age was 202 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was some amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the series mean, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were proportionately more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of cases. The highest age in the data set was 1,091 days and the lowest was 20 days.

## Chapter 7.0: St. Mary Parish Court –Civil Division

### 7.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Mary Parish Court for the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 7.01: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	123	71.93
Disposed	48	28.07
Inactive	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 171 new cases filed at the St. Mary Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 123 cases or 71.93% of these cases were still active, while 48 or 28.07% were disposed. These results produce an estimated net disposal rate of 28.07%, which is a 9.75 percentage points increase when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 7.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	156	83.42
Small Claim	31	16.58
<b>Total</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows that of the 187 new claims filed in the quarter, the majority of which were big claims, which accounted for 156 or 83.42% of the total sample, while 31 or 16.58% were small claims.

**Table 7.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Mary Parish Court-Civil division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	84	44.92
Recovery of Possession	38	20.32
Cattle Trespass	12	6.42
Monies Owing	7	3.74
Arrears of Rent	5	2.67
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>78.07</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action = 187**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The data in the above table is computed using a sample of 187 causes of action. As shown in the above table, the leading causes of action for the quarter at the St. Mary Parish Court were breach of contract with 84 or roughly 44.92% of the sample and recovery of possession with 38 or 20.32% of the total sample of causes of action. Cattle trespass with 12 or 6.42%, Monies owing with 7 or 3.74%, and arrears of rent with 5 or 2.67% rank next.

**Table 7.04: Sampling distribution of types of service filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal	142	75.94
Bailiff	45	24.06
<b>Total</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Types of service as used above refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, personal service accounted for the majority of the sample with 142 or 75.94% of the sample and service by the bailiff accounting for 45 or 24.06% of the sample.

**Table 7.05: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	124	66.31
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	22	11.76
Annotto Bay Outstation	17	9.09
Gayle Outstation	12	6.42
Richmond Outstation	12	6.42
<b>Total</b>	<b>187*</b>	<b>100.00</b>

\*Note: Corresponding to 171 cases

The above data is computed using a sample of 187 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025.

The majority of this sample was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 124 or 66.31% of the sample. Sittings at courtroom 2 at the main courthouse with 22 or 11.76% of the sample and the Annotto Bay Outstation with 17 or 9.09% of the sample rounds off the top accommodations. The list is completed by sittings at the Gayle Outstation and the Richmond Outstation with 12 or 6.42% each of the sample.

#### **Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Table 7.06: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	106	56.68
Female	75	40.11
Registered Company	6	3.21
<b>Total</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 187 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025 at the St. Mary Parish Court-Civil Division, males accounted for the majority of plaintiffs with 106 or 56.68%, followed by females with 75 or 40.11%. Registered companies with 6 or 3.21% accounted for the lowest proportion of the sample.

**Table 7.07: Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	133	71.12
Female	49	26.20
Registered Company	5	2.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>100.00</b>

There were 187 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025. The majority of defendants were males with 133 or 71.12%, followed by females with 49 or 26.20% of the sample. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 5 or 2.67% of the sample.

## 7.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 7.08: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Trial	44	58.67
Case management Date	25	33.33
Default Judgment Date	5	6.67
Hearing of Application	1	1.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows a sample of 75 matters that went to court during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025, which were adjourned for a default judgment, final judgment, case management, part heard, trial or similar procedural date. The majority, 44 or 58.67%, were adjourned for trial dates, followed by 25 or 33.33%, which were adjourned for case management dates. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 5 or 6.67% of the matters which were adjourned for default judgment dates. This data decisively suggests that there is a markedly greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for a case management hearing and that a notable proportion of the adjournments are for default judgments. The high

frequency of adjournments associated with default judgments is not unusual as this stage is intrinsic to case management and case preparation and to the overall case process flow.

**Table 7.09: Sampling distribution of the leading incidence of reissued matters for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	16
Average Incidence	1.1

**Corresponds to 14 cases**

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 16 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 14 reissued cases. This resulted in an average of 1.1 reissues per case file for new claims filed in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 11 reissue incidences.

**Table 7.10: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	68	31.92
Consent	33	15.49
Default Judgment	28	13.15
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	18	8.45
Withdrawal	17	7.98
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>77.00</b>

**NB: There were 213 matters disposed**

The above table details the leading methods of disposition for a sample of 213 civil matters disposed at the St. Mary Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. Matters struck out with 68 or 31.92%, matters disposed by consent with 33 or 15.49% and matters disposed by default judgments with 28 or 13.15% are the leading methods of disposition in the sample. Matters

disposed by Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) with 18 or 8.45% of the sample rank next, followed by matters disposed by withdrawals with 17 or 7.98% of the sample. The listed methods of disposition account for 77% of the total sample of matters disposed during the quarter.

**Table 7.11: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of trial dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
23	6	73.91

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. A sample of 23 trial dates set in the quarter revealed that 6 were adjourned. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 73.91%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was a roughly 74% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This rate falls below the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100%.

**Table 7.12: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate combined number disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate net case clearance rate (%)	Approximate net case disposal rate (%)
171	48	193	112.87	28.07

The above table shows 171 new cases filed at the St. Mary Parish Court during the third quarter of 2024. At the end of the quarter, a total of 48 of these cases were disposed, leading to an estimated net case disposal rate of 28.07%, an increase of 9.75 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2024. A gross figure of 193 cases were disposed many of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to an estimated net case clearance rate of 112.87%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric and is 193.24 percentage points below the third quarter of 2024 rate. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

**Table 7.13: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	139
Mean	547.1007
Median	83.0000
Mode	14.00
Std. Deviation	989.13074
Skewness	2.295
Std. Error of Skewness	.206
Range	4371.00
Minimum	4.00
Maximum	4375.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 139 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the St. Mary Parish Court. The average time taken to resolve cases in this sample is roughly 547 days or 18.2 months. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 14 days and the median time was 83 days. The standard deviation of roughly 989 days suggests that the times taken to disposition were spread out over a large range of values and the positive skewness is an indication that a greater proportion of times to disposition were below the overall average time. The oldest case disposed in the quarter was 4,375 days or roughly 12.2 years old, while minimum time taken to dispose cases was 4 days.

**Table 7.14: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	188
Mean	751.1223
Median	602.5000
Mode	29.00
Std. Deviation	774.11519
Skewness	1.314
Std. Error of Skewness	.177
Range	3356.00
Minimum	19.00
Maximum	3375.00

The above data is based on a sample of 188 active civil matters at the end of third quarter of 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 751 days (or roughly 2.1 years), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 29 days. The standard deviation of roughly 774 days suggests that there is a large dispersion of the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were decidedly more scores in the data set, which fell below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter in the data set is 3,375 days old or roughly 9.4 years, while the minimum age was 19 days.

## Chapter 8.0: Portland Parish Court –Civil Division

### 8.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics at the Portland Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 8.01: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	41	77.36
Disposed	12	22.64
Inactive	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 53 new civil cases filed at the Portland Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 41 or 77.36% were still active and 12 or 22.64% were disposed. These results produce an estimated net disposal rate of 22.64% for the quarter, which is 17.95 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 8.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	62	82.67
Small Claim	13	17.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows that of the 75 new claims filed in the quarter, the majority of which were big claims, which accounted for 62 or 82.67% of the total sample, while 13 or 17.33% were small claims.

**Table 8.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the Portland Parish Court-Civil division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Recovery of Possession	14	18.67
Breach of Contract (Monies Owing)	9	12.00
Breach of Contract	8	10.67
Trespass-Damages	5	6.67
Damages to Cultivation	4	5.33
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>53.33</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action = 75**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. Using a sample of 75 matters filed, the data reveals that the leading causes of action filed were recovery of possession with 14 or roughly 18.67% of the total sample, breach of contract (monies owing) with 9 or 12%, and breach of contract with 8 or 10.67%. Damages for trespass with 5 or 6.67% and damages to cultivation with 4 or 5.33% round off the top five causes of action for the quarter. The top causes of action, which are listed above, account for 53.33% of the sample.

**Table 8.04: Sampling distribution of types of cases filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Bailiff	40	53.33
Personal	35	46.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by a bailiff accounted for the majority with 40 or 53.33% of the sample, while personal service accounted for 35 or 46.67%.

**Table 8.05: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	15	33.33
Courtroom #3 (main courthouse)	13	28.89
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	10	22.22
Buff Bay Outstation	5	11.11
Manchioneal Outstation	2	4.44
<b>Total</b>	<b>45*</b>	<b>100.00</b>

\*Note: Corresponding to 30 cases

The largest proportion of the sample of 45 new matters filed in the quarter was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 15 or 33.33% of the sample of accommodations. The 13 or 28.89% that were entered in courtroom number 3 at the main courthouse followed this, while the 10 matters that entered in courtroom 2 at the main courthouse rank next. Sittings at the Buff Bay Outstation account for 5 or 11.11% and the Manchioneal Outstation accounted for 2 or 4.44%.

#### **Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Table 8.06: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	45	60.00
Female	27	36.00
Registered Company	3	4.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 75 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025, males accounted for the majority with 45 or 60%, followed by females with 27 or 36%. Registered companies with 3 or 4% account for the remaining proportion of the sample.

**Table 8.07: Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	43	57.33
Female	31	41.33
Registered Company	1	1.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100.00</b>

There were 75 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025.

The majority of defendants were male with 43 or 57.33% of the sample, followed by females with 31 or 41.33% of the sample. Registered companies with 1 or 1.33% account for the remaining proportion of the sample.

## 8.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 8.08: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Case Management Date	116	48.74
Trial	71	29.83
Default Judgment Date	26	10.92
Part-Heard Date	23	9.66
Final Judgment Date	2	0.84
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 238 matters that were heard during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025, which were adjourned for a default, case management, part heard, trial or other similar procedural date. The highest proportion, 116 or 48.74% were adjourned for case management dates, followed by 71 or 29.83%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Adjournments for default judgment dates with 26 or 10.92% and for part heard dates with 23 or 9.66% rank next. This data provides insights into the distribution of the stages of adjournment during the quarter at the Portland Parish Court.

**Table 8.09: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Consent	40	31.75
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	18	14.29
Struck Out	18	14.29
Default Judgment	9	7.14
Final Judgment	6	4.76
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>72.22</b>

**NB: There were 126 matters disposed**

A total of 126 civil matters were disposed at the Portland Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. The distribution is led by disposals by consent with 40 or 31.75% of the sample, followed by disposals by Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) and matters struck out with 18 or 14.29% each. Matters disposed by default judgments with 9 or 7.14% and matters disposed by final judgments with 6 or 4.76% complete the top 5 methods of disposition for the quarter. The top 5 methods of dispositions enumerated above account for 72.22% of the total sample of dispositions.

**Table 8.10: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
18	11	38.89

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for trial will proceed without adjournment. Using a sample of 18 trial dates set in the quarter, it is seen that 11 were adjourned for reasons other than procedural factors. This results in an overall trial date certainty rate of 38.89% which suggests that during the quarter there was roughly a 39% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. The 2025 result is 44.44 percentage points below the figure registered in the corresponding period in 2024.

**Table 8.11: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate Net Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate net Case disposal rate (%)
53	12	80	150.94	22.64

The above table shows 53 new cases filed at the Portland Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, a total of 12 of these cases were disposed, leading to an estimated net case disposal rate of 22.64%, an increase of 17.95 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2024. A gross figure of 80 cases was disposed, many of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to an estimated net case clearance rate of 150.94%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric and is 58.75 percentage points above the third quarter of 2024 rate. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

**Table 8.12: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	104
Mean	485.8269
Median	175.0000
Mode	1161.00
Std. Deviation	579.05526
Skewness	1.304
Std. Error of Skewness	.237
Range	2170.00
Minimum	7.00
Maximum	2177.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 104 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the Portland Parish Court. The average time taken to resolve these matters is roughly 486 days (16.2 months), which is roughly 61 more days than it took to resolve matters in the third quarter of 2024. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 1,161 days and the median time to disposition was 175 days. The standard deviation of roughly 579 days is an indication that there is some dispersion in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness observed is an indication that the larger proportion of the scores in this data series were below the overall mean. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2,177 days or roughly 6 years old, while the youngest was 7 days.

**Table 8.13: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	349
Mean	606.2206
Median	208.0000
Mode	148.00
Std. Deviation	799.42786
Skewness	2.365
Std. Error of Skewness	.131
Range	4907.00
Minimum	22.00
Maximum	4929.00

The above data is computed using 349 active cases at the end of the third quarter of 2025. The average age of these cases was roughly 606 days (1.7 years), while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 148 days. The standard deviation of roughly 799 days suggests that there is a large dispersion of the individual scores, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that most of the scores in the data set fall below the mean. The oldest active case in this sample was 4,929 days (13.7 years), while the youngest was 22 days.

## Chapter 9.0: St. Thomas Parish Court – Civil Division

### 9.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Thomas Parish Court for the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 9.01: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	108	72.00
Disposed	23	15.33
Inactive	19	12.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 150 new cases was filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 108 cases or 72% of these cases were still active, while 23 were disposed and 19 rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 28%, which is an 8.95 percentage points increase when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 9.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	128	71.91
Small Claim	50	28.09
<b>Total</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows that from a sample of 178 new claims filed in the third quarter of 2025, the majority of which 128 or 71.91% were big claims, while 50 or 28.09% were small claims.

**Table 9.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. Thomas parish court for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	81	45.76
Recovery of Possession	28	15.82
Cattle Trespass	7	3.95
Defamation of Character	7	3.95
Goods Sold and Delivered	6	3.39
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>72.88</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action= 177**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. As shown in the above sample data, the leading cause of action filed in the third quarter of 2025 at the St. Thomas Parish Court was breach of contract with 81 or roughly 45.76% of the sample. Recovery of possession with 28 or 15.82%, and cattle trespass and defamation of character with 7 or 3.95% each of the sample rounds off the top causes of action in this representative sample. Goods sold and delivered with 6 or 3.39% of the sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 72.88% of all the total sample of 177 causes of action.

**Table 9.04: Sampling distribution of the types of service for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Type of Service	Frequency	Percentage (%)
District Constable	41	70.69
Bailiff	17	29.31
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Types of service refer to the formal way in which defendants, whom a claim is made against, are summoned to court. In the table above, service by the district constable accounted for the majority with 41 or 70.69% of the sample, followed by service by a bailiff with 17 or 29.31%.

**Table 9.05: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	121	67.98
Yallahs Outstation	45	25.28
Courtroom #2 (main courthouse)	12	6.74
<b>Total</b>	<b>178*</b>	<b>100.00</b>

\*Note: Corresponding to 150 cases

The majority of a sample of 178 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2024 was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 121 or 67.98% of the sample, followed by sittings at the Yallahs outstation with 45 or 25.28% of the sample and sittings in courtroom number 2 at the main courthouse with 12 or 6.74%.

#### **Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Table 9.06: Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	87	48.88
Female	82	46.07
Registered Company	9	5.06
<b>Total</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 178 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025 at the St. Thomas Parish Court, males accounted for the highest proportion of the sample with 87 or 48.88%, followed by females with 82 or 46.07%. Registered companies accounted for the lowest proportion with 9 or 5.06% of the sample.

**Table 9.07: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	104	58.43
Female	71	39.89
Trading As	2	1.12
Registered Company	1	0.56
<b>Total</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>100.00</b>

There were 178 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025. The majority of defendants were male with 104 or 58.43% of the sample, followed by females with 71 or 39.89% of the sample. Individuals trading under a business name ("trading as") accounted for 2 or 1.12% of the sample, and registered companies accounted for the lowest proportion of the sample with 0.56%.

## 9.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 9.08: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Case management Date	63	32.98
Trial	57	29.84
Default Judgment Date	45	23.56
Part-Heard Date	25	13.09
Date for Order	1	0.52
<b>Total</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table is computed based on a sample of 191 cases adjourned during the third quarter of 2025. The highest proportion, 63 or 32.98% were adjourned for a case management date, followed by 57 or 29.84% which were adjourned for a trial date. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 45 or 23.56% of matters, which were adjourned for default judgment dates. Matters adjourned for a part heard date with 25 or 13.09% and matters adjourned for an order to be handed down with 1 or 0.52% of the sample rank next.

**Table 9.09: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	39	20.31
Referred to Mediation	22	11.46
Both Parties Absent	11	5.73
Not Reached	5	2.60
Plaintiff Absent	4	2.08
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>42.19</b>

**Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 192**

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 192 incidences of adjournments in the third quarter of 2025. The absence of defendants with 39 or 20.31% of the sample, referrals to mediation with 22 or 11.46% and adjournments due to absence of both parties with 11 or 5.73% rounds off the top three. Parties not reached with 5 or 2.60% and the absence of plaintiffs with 4 or 2.08% of the sample round off this list. The listed reasons for adjournment account for 42.19% of the total sample of adjournments.

**Table 9.10: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	20
Average Incidence	1.2

**Corresponding to 17 cases**

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 20 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 17 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.2 reissues per case file for new claims filed in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 12 reissue incidences.

**Table 9.11: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Default Judgment	34	25.95
Struck Out	24	18.32
Consent	23	17.56
Settlement	17	12.98
Oral Admission	15	11.45
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>86.26</b>

**NB: there were 131 matters were disposed**

The above table details the top five methods of disposal computed from a sample of 131 matters.

The list is led by matters disposed by default judgments with 34 or 25.95% of the sample. Matters struck out with 24 or 18.32% rank next. Matters disposed by consent with 23 or 17.56%, matters disposed by settlements with 17 or 12.98% and oral admissions with 15 or 11.45% round off the list. The listed methods of disposition account for roughly 86.26% of the sample.

**Table 9.12: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty rate for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

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

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 20 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that none was adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was an estimated 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

**Table 9.13: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of new cases filed	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate gross clearance rate (%)	Approximate gross case disposal rate (%)
150	42	153	102.00	28.00

The above table shows 150 new cases filed at the St. Thomas Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, a total of 23 cases were disposed and 19 became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 28%, an increase of 8.95 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2024. A gross figure of 110 cases were disposed, and 43 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 102%, which meets the international standard for this metric and represents an increase of 11.52 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 17.56%, an 8.23 percentage points increase when compared to the third quarter of 2024. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 83.97%, a 20.64 percentage points increase when compared to third quarter of 2024. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

**Table 9.14: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	84
Mean	303.1905
Median	126.0000
Mode	140.00
Std. Deviation	593.98453
Skewness	3.121
Std. Error of Skewness	.263
Range	2377.00
Minimum	2.00
Maximum	2379.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 84 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the St. Thomas Parish Court. The average time taken to resolve these matters is roughly 303 days or 10.1 months, which is roughly 128 more days than it took to resolve matters in the third quarter of 2024. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition was 140 days. The standard deviation of roughly 594 days is an indication that there is a large amount of variation in the distribution of the scores. The positive skewness suggests that there were proportionately more scores falling below the overall average time taken to dispose the cases. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2,379 days or roughly 6.6 years old, while the minimum time taken was 2 days.

**Table 9.15: Descriptive Statistics on the age of active matters as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	271
Mean	277.4539
Median	182.0000
Mode	14.00
Std. Deviation	292.93106
Skewness	2.353
Std. Error of Skewness	.148
Range	1843.00
Minimum	12.00
Maximum	1855.00

The above data is based on a sample of 271 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 277 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 14 days. The high standard deviation of roughly 293 days suggests that there is wide dispersion in the individual scores in the data set, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 1,855 days or 5.2 years, while the youngest case was 12 days.

## Chapter 10.0: St. James Parish Court –Civil Division

### 10.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. James Parish Court for the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 10.01: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	249	74.77
Disposed	55	16.52
Inactive	29	8.71
<b>Total</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 333 new cases filed at the St. James Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 249 cases or 74.77% of these cases were still active, 55 were disposed and 29 were rendered as inactive. These results produce an estimated gross disposal rate of 25.23% for the quarter, which is a 6.12 percentage points decrease when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 10.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claims	307	73.98
Small Claims	108	26.02
<b>Total</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows that from 415 new claims filed in the third quarter of 2025, the majority of which were big claims with 307 or 73.98%, while 108 or 26.02% were small claims.

**Table 10.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action at the St. James Parish Court-Civil division for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	140	34.23
Recovery of Possession	78	19.07
Prescription Rights and Injunction	33	8.07
Rent Owing and Continuing	18	4.40
Damages for Negligence	16	3.91
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>69.68</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action = 409**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table uses a sample of 409 matters, from which the leading causes of action filed in the third quarter of 2025 were breach of contract with 140 or roughly 34.23% of the sample and recovery of possession with 78 or 19.07% of the sample. Prescriptive rights and injunction with 33 or 8.07% and rent owing and continuing with 18 or 4.40% of the sample rank next. Damages for negligence with 16 or 3.91% of the total sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 69.68% of the sample of causes of action.

**Table 10.04: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Cambridge Outstation	142	65.14
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	41	18.81
Courtroom #4 (main courthouse)	35	16.06
<b>Total</b>	<b>218*</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**\*Note: Corresponding to 197 cases**

The majority of a sample of 218 matters entered in the third quarter of 2025 were entered in the Cambridge Outstation, which accounted for 214 or 65.14% of the sample. Sittings in the courtroom 1 at the main courthouse had 41 matters entered or 18.81% of the sample, followed by courtroom 4 with 35 or 16.06%.

## Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

**Table 10.05: Distribution of plaintiffs for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	178	46.60
Female	160	41.88
Registered Company	44	11.52
<b>Total</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is seen in the above table that of the sample of 382 new matters filed in the quarter, males accounted for the highest proportions of the sample with 178 or 46.60% of the sample, followed by females with 160 or 41.88% of the total sample. Registered companies, with 44 or 11.52%, accounted for the remaining proportion of the sample.

**Table 10.06: Distribution of defendants for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	188	49.60
Female	117	30.87
Registered Company	74	19.53
<b>Total</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>100.00</b>

There were 379 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025. The highest proportion of defendants were male with 188 or 49.60% of the total sample, followed by females with 117 or 30.87%. Registered companies accounted for the remaining 74 or 19.53% of the sample.

## 10.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 10.07: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case flow stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Case management Date	193	37.99
Trial	132	25.98
Part-Heard Date	116	22.83
Default Judgment Date	32	6.30
Final Judgment Date	21	4.13
Hearing of Application	14	2.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows a sample of 508 matters that went to court during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025, which were adjourned for a default judgment, case management, part heard dates and similar procedural dates. Adjournments for case management dates accounted for 193 or 37.99% of the sample, followed by 132 or 25.98%, which were adjourned for trial dates. Matters adjourned for part heard dates accounted for 116 or 22.83%, followed by matters adjourned for a default judgment date with 32 or 6.30% of the total sample. As with most other courts, this data decisively suggests that there is a greater probability that a matter will be

adjourned for a case management date, though this is not an unsurprising result given that case management court stings are intrinsic to the progression of civil and other cases.

**Table 10.08: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Attorney Absent	12	14.63
Both Parties Absent	9	10.98
Referred to Mediation	9	10.98
Defendant Absent	4	4.88
Pending Settlement	2	2.44
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>43.90</b>

**Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 82**

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 82 incidences of adjournments in the third quarter of 2025. The absence of attorneys with 12 or 14.63% of the sample, adjournments due to absence of both parties and referrals to mediation with 9 or 10.98% each rounds off the top three. Adjournments due to absence of defendants with 4 or 4.88% and pending settlements with 2 or 2.44% of the sample round off this list. The listed reasons for adjournment account for 43.90% of the total sample of adjournments.

**Table 10.09: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	65
Average Incidence	1.3

**Corresponding to 52 cases**

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 65 incidences of reissue, corresponding to

52 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.3 reissues per case file for new claims filed in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 13 reissue incidences.

**Table 10.10: Sampling distribution of the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Method of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	204	56.98
Consent	45	12.57
Default Judgment	36	10.06
Oral Admission	24	6.70
Settlement	12	3.35
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>89.66</b>

**NB: There were 358 matters disposed**

A sample of 358 matters disposed during the third quarter of 2025 revealed that 204 or 56.98% of matters were struck out and 45 or 12.57% were disposed by consent. Matters disposed by default judgments with 36 or 10.06% and oral admissions with 24 or 6.70% rank next. Settlements with 12 or 3.35% of the total sample of disposals completing the top five for the quarter. The top five methods of disposition enumerated above account for 89.66% of the total sample of dispositions. This data provides insights into the overall distribution of the methods of disposition in the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 10.11: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
64	0	100

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 64 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that none were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 100%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there

was an estimated 100% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment and is 12.28 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 10.12: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate Gross Case disposal rate (%)
333	84	440	132.13	25.23

The above table shows 333 new cases filed at the St. James Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, a total of 55 cases were disposed and 29 cases became inactive, leading to an estimated gross case disposal rate of 25.23%, which is 6.12 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024. An approximate gross figure of 332 cases was disposed, and 108 cases became inactive during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to an estimated gross case clearance rate of 132.132%, which exceeds the international standard for this metric and is 34.01 percentage points above the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024.

The estimated net disposal rate for the quarter is 18.09%, a 3.30 percentage points increase when compared to the third quarter of 2024. The estimated net clearance rate for the quarter is 109.21%, a 52.40 percentage points increase when compared to third quarter of 2024. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

**Table 10.13: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	224
Mean	294.1696
Median	199.0000
Mode	199.00
Std. Deviation	361.45726
Skewness	2.286
Std. Error of Skewness	.163
Range	1817.00
Minimum	3.00
Maximum	1820.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 224 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the St. James Parish court. The average time taken to resolve these matters is roughly 294 days or 9.8 months. However, the most frequently occurring time to disposition and the median time were both 199 days. The standard deviation of roughly 361 days is an indication that there is a wide variation in the distribution of the scores, while the positive skewness suggests that there were more scores in the data set that fell below the overall average scores. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 1,820 days or roughly 5.1 years old, while the minimum time taken was 3 days.

**Table 10.14a: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	695
Mean	551.1396
Median	363.0000
Mode	148.00
Std. Deviation	520.19175
Skewness	1.493
Std. Error of Skewness	.093
Range	2433.00
Minimum	4.00
Maximum	2437.00

The above data is based on a sample of 695 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 551 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 148 days. The standard deviation of roughly 520 days suggests that there is some amount of dispersion of the individual scores around the series average, while the positive skewness seen is an indication that there were more scores in the data set, which fall below the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter is 2,437 days old or roughly 6.8 years, while the minimum age is 4 days.

**Table 10.14b: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive statistics (in days)**

Number of observations	76
Mean	561.5263
Median	302.0000
Mode	239.00
Std. Deviation	554.86300
Skewness	1.486
Std. Error of Skewness	0.276
Range	2145.00
Minimum	64.00
Maximum	2209.00

The above table outlines summary data on the average age of a sample of 76 active reissued matters at the St. James Parish Court as at the end of the third quarter ended September 30, 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 562 days, while the most frequently occurring age was 239 days and the median age was 302 days. The standard deviation indicates that there was a large variation among the individual scores, with the positive skewness indicating that a larger proportion of the ages were below the overall series average. The highest age in the data set was 2,209 days and the lowest was 64 days. Cases which are reissued for a specific date are considered as active as distinct from cases reissued on application (R.I.A) which are classified as inactive cases.

## Chapter 11.0: St. Elizabeth Parish Court – Civil Division

### 11.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the St. Elizabeth Parish Court for the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 11.01: Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	284	95.95
Disposed	12	4.05
Inactive	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 296 new cases filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 284 or 95.95% of cases were still active and 12 were disposed at the end of the quarter. These results produce an estimated net disposal rate of 4.05% for the quarter, which is a 3.25 percentage points decline when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 11.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claim	214	71.81
Small Claim	84	28.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows that from 298 new claims filed in the third quarter of 2025, the majority of which were big claims with 214 or 71.81%, while 84 or 28.19% were small claims.

**Table 11.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Goods Sold and Delivered	43	14.68
Breach of Contract	41	13.99
Monies Owed	36	12.29
Recovery of Possession	32	10.92
Monies Loaned	20	6.83
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>58.70</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action= 293**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table uses a sample of 293 matters, from which the leading causes of action filed in the third quarter of 2025 were goods sold and delivered with 43 or roughly 14.68% of the sample and breach of contract with 41 or 13.99% of the sample. Monies owing with 36 or 12.29% and recovery of possession with 32 or 10.92% of the sample rank next. Monies loaned with 20 or 6.83% of the total sample round off the list. The top five causes of action, which are listed above, account for 58.70% of the sample of causes of action.

**Table 11.04: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Santa Cruz Outstation (Courtroom #1)	122	41.64
Santa Cruz Outstation (Courtroom #2)	98	33.45
Courtroom #1 (Main Courthouse)	53	18.09
Balaclava Outstation (Courtroom #1)	14	4.78
Balaclava Outstation (Courtroom #2)	6	2.05
<b>Total</b>	<b>293*</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**\*Note: Corresponding to 292 cases**

The highest proportion of a sample of 293 matters entered in the third quarter of 2025 were entered in courtroom 1 at the Santa Cruz Outstation, which accounted for 122 or 41.64% of the sample. Sittings at courtroom 2 at the Santa Cruz Outstation had 98 matters entered or 33.45%

of the sample and sittings at courtroom 1 at the main courthouse accounted for 53 or 18.09% of the sample.

## 11.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 11.05: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Case Management	113	29.82
Return day/New (first before court)	98	25.86
Part Heard	49	12.93
Reissue date	28	7.39
Trial	28	7.39
Judgment Summons	27	7.12
Default Judgement	23	6.07
Application for Substituted Service	7	1.85
Ruling	3	0.79
Application for Judgment Summons	2	0.53
Application to Relist	1	0.26
<b>Total</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows a sample of 379 matters that went to court during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025, which were adjourned for a default judgment, case management, part heard dates and similar procedural dates. Adjournments for case management dates accounted

for 113 or 29.82% of the sample, followed by 98 or 25.86%, which were adjourned for return dates. Matters adjourned for part heard dates accounted for 49 or 12.93% and matters adjourned for a reissue date and a trial date account for 28 or 7.39% each of the total sample. As with most other courts, this data decisively suggests that there is a greater probability that a matter will be adjourned for a case management date, though this is not an unsurprising result given that case management court stings are intrinsic to the progression of civil and other cases.

**Table 11.06: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Both Parties Absent	40	12.08
Defendant Absent	38	11.48
Default Judgement	29	8.76
Re-issued	23	6.95
Referred to Mediation	16	4.83
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>44.11</b>

**Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 331**

The above table shows the distribution of a sample of 331 incidences of adjournments heard in the third quarter of 2025. Adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 40 or 12.08% of the sample and the absence of defendants with 38 or 11.48% round off the top incidences in the sample. Adjournments for default judgments with 29 or 8.76% and for re-issue with 23 or 6.95% rank next. The list is completed by referrals to mediation with 16 or 4.83% of the sample. The top reasons for adjournments listed above account for 44.11% of the total sample of adjournments.

**Table 11.07: Sampling distribution on the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck out	106	51.21
Oral admission	22	10.63
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	20	9.66
Default Judgment	15	7.25
Final Judgement	11	5.31
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>84.06</b>

**NB there were 207 matters were disposed**

A total of 207 matters were disposed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. The above table details the top five methods of disposition, which account for 174 or 84.06% of the total sample. The list is led by matters struck out with 106 or 51.21% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by oral admissions with 22 or 10.63%, Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) with 20 or 9.66%, and default judgments with 15 or 7.25%. Matters disposed by final judgments round off the top five methods with 11 or 5.31% of the total sample of dispositions.

**Table 11.08: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
51	2	96.08

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 51 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that 2 were adjourned. This results in an estimated trial date certainty rate of 96.08%. The output suggests that during the quarter, there was an estimated 96% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment.

**Table 11.09: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate Gross Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate net Case disposal rate (%)
296	12	230	77.70	4.05

The above table shows 296 new cases filed at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, a total of 12 cases were disposed, leading to an estimated net case disposal rate of 4.05%, a decrease of 3.25 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2024. A gross figure of 230 cases was disposed during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to an estimated net case clearance rate of 77.70%, which falls below the international standard for this metric and represents a decrease of 8.14 percentage points when compared to the third quarter of 2024. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

**Table 11.10: Descriptive statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	120
Mean	257.5583
Median	87.0000
Mode	98.00
Std. Deviation	421.24341
Skewness	2.477
Std. Error of Skewness	.221
Range	2370.00
Minimum	2.00
Maximum	2372.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 120 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the St. Elizabeth Parish Court. The average time taken to dispose these matters is roughly 258 days or 8.6 months. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 98 days. There is high standard deviation of 421 days, which is an indication that there is a large dispersion of the scores around the overall mean. The positive skewness suggests that a larger proportion of the scores are below around the overall average time to disposal. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 2,372 days or roughly 6.6 years old, while the youngest was 2 days.

**Table 11.11: Descriptive statistics on the age of active matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	2590
Mean	1337.1606
Median	1362.0000
Mode	1217.00
Std. Deviation	660.82410
Skewness	-.039
Std. Error of Skewness	.048
Range	4199.00
Minimum	8.00
Maximum	4207.00

The above data is based on a sample of 2,590 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 1,337 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 1,217 days. The standard deviation of roughly 661 days suggests that there is a small dispersion in the individual scores, while the negative skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set were close to the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 4,207 days old or roughly 11.7 years, while the minimum time taken is 8 days.

## Chapter 12: Manchester Parish Court – Civil Division

### 12.1: Case Activity Summary

This chapter details a summary of civil case activity and supporting demographics in the Manchester Parish Court for the third quarter of 2025.

**Table 12.01 Case status summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Active	318	89.58
Disposed	37	10.42
Inactive	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table presents a status distribution of 355 new cases filed at the Manchester Parish Court in the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, 318 cases or 89.58% of these cases were still active, while 37 were disposed at the end of the quarter. These results produce an estimated net case disposal rate of 10.42%, which is a 52.24 percentage points deterioration when compared to the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 12.02: Sampling distribution of types of claims filed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Claim Type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Big Claims	367	90.17
Small Claims	40	9.83
<b>Total</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows that from a sample of 407 claims filed in the third quarter of 2025, 367 or 90.17% were big claims and 40 or 9.83% were small claims.

**Table 12.03: Sampling distribution of the leading causes of action in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Cause of Action	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Breach of Contract	108	29.51
Recovery of Possession	92	25.14
Damages for Negligence	49	13.39
Monies Owing	20	5.46
Damages to Cultivation	15	4.10
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>77.60</b>

**Total sample size of causes of action= 366**

A cause of action refers to the substantive reason that a claim is made in the civil courts. The above table details a sample of 366 causes of action entered before the Manchester Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. The leading cause of action shown in this sample was breach of contract with 108 or roughly 29.51% of the sample, recovery of possession with 92 or 25.14% and damages for negligence with 49 or 13.39%, which rounds off the top three. The top five causes of action are rounded off by monies owing with 20 or 5.46% and damages to cultivation with 15 or 4.10% of the sample. The causes of action which are listed above, account for 77.60% of the total sample of causes of action.

**Table 12.04: Sampling Distribution of new matters filed by courtroom and outstation for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Courtroom/Outstation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Courtroom #1 (main courthouse)	260	70.84
Christiana Outstation	53	14.44
Spalding Outstation	30	8.17
Porus Outstation	11	3.00
Cross Keys Outstation	7	1.91
Cottage Outstation	6	1.63
<b>Total</b>	<b>367*</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**\*Note: Corresponding to 315 cases**

The majority of the sample of 367 new claims filed in the third quarter was entered in courtroom number 1 at the main courthouse, which accounted for 260 or 70.84% of the total sample. The

53 or 14.44% that entered the Christiana outstation followed this. The Spalding outstation accounted for 30 or 8.17% of the claims.

**Case Demographics for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Table 12.05: Distribution of plaintiffs in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	194	53.30
Female	163	44.78
Registered Company	7	1.92
<b>Total</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is seen in the above table that of the 364 new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025, males accounted for the majority of the sample with 194 or 53.30%, followed by females with 163 or 44.78% and registered companies with 7 or 1.92% of the sample.

**Table 12.06: Distribution of defendants in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	225	61.48
Female	123	33.61
Registered Company	17	4.64
Trading As	1	0.27
<b>Total</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>100.00</b>

There were 366 records on gender of defendants for new matters filed in the third quarter of 2025. The majority of defendants were male with 225 or 61.48% of the total sample, followed by females with 123 or 33.61%. Registered companies account for 17 or 4.64% and Individuals trading under a business name ("trading as") accounted for the remaining 0.27% of the sample.

## 12.2: Delay Factors and Case Disposition stages for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025

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

**Table 12.07: Sampling distribution of adjournment stages for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Case Flow Stage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Case management Date	226	37.79
Default Judgment Date	219	36.62
Trial	108	18.06
Part-Heard Date	41	6.86
Hearing of Application	4	0.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table shows the sampling distribution of 598 matters that went to court during the third quarter of 2025, which were adjourned for a default judgment, case management, part heard, or trial date or similar procedural date. The highest proportion of the sample, 226 or 37.79% were adjourned for a case management date and 219 or 36.62% were adjourned for a default judgment date. Rounding off the top three incidences of procedural adjournments were 108 or 18.06% of matters, which were adjourned for a trial date. Matters adjournment for part heard dates accounted for 41 or 6.86% of the sample.

**Table 12.08: Sampling distribution of the leading reasons for adjournment for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Reasons For Adjournment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Both Parties Absent	114	17.30
Defendant Absent	108	16.39
No Return/Re-Issued	71	10.77
Pending Settlement	21	3.19
Plaintiff Absent	16	2.43
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>50.08</b>

**Number of adjournments/continuances sampled (N) = 659**

The above table details a sample of 659 adjournments or continuances heard in the quarter, the top five of which are enumerated in the above table. Adjournments due to the absence of both parties with 114 or 17.30% of the total sample, adjournments due to the absence of defendants with 108 or 16.39% and for no return/for reissue with 71 or 10.77% and pending settlements with 21 or 3.19% round off the top reasons for adjournment for the quarter. Adjournments due to the absence of plaintiffs with 16 or 2.43% complete the list. The top 5 reasons for adjournment account for 50.08% of the total sample.

**Table 12.09: Sampling distribution of incidence of reissued matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Measure	Frequency
Overall Incidence	41
Average Incidence	1.3

**Corresponding to 31 cases**

The number of times that matters are reissued has a profound impact on the rate of disposition and clearance of cases in the civil courts. A case is typically reissued when summonses are not served or short served. The above table draws on a sample of 41 incidences of reissue, corresponding to 31 reissued cases. This results in an average of 1.3 reissues per case reissued in the quarter, suggesting that every 10 cases reissued had roughly 13 reissue incidences.

**Table 12.10 Sampling distribution on the top five methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck Out	151	45.48
Consent	52	15.66
Withdrawal	32	9.64
Oral Admission	23	6.93
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	21	6.33
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>84.04</b>

**NB there were 332 matters were disposed**

The above table details the sampling distribution of the five leading methods of disposition using a sample of 332 matters disposed during the third quarter of 2025. The list is led by matters struck out with 151 or 45.48% of the disposals, followed by matters disposed by consent with 52 or 15.66% and matters withdrawn with 32 or 9.64%. Oral admissions with 23 or 6.93% and Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) account for 21 or 6.33% of the sample. The top 5 methods of disposition listed account for 84.04% of the sample.

**Table 12.11: Sampling distribution of trial date certainty for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of trial dates set	Number of dates adjourned	Estimated trial date certainty ratio (%)
53	3	94.34

One of the most important performance metrics is the trial date certainty rate, which measures the likelihood that a date that is set for a trial will proceed without date adjournment. A sample of 53 trial dates were set in the quarter shows that 3 were adjourned. This results in a trial date certainty rate of 94.34%, suggesting that during the quarter, there was a roughly 94% chance that a date set for trial would proceed without adjournment. This rate meets the prescribed international benchmark of between 90% and 100%.

**Table 12.12: Case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate Number of new cases filed	Approximate Combined number of disposed and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate Gross number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of date of case initiation)	Approximate net Case clearance rate (%)	Approximate net Case disposal rate (%)
355	37	347	97.75	10.42

The above table shows 355 new cases filed at the Manchester Parish Court during the third quarter of 2025. At the end of the quarter, a total of 37 of these cases were disposed leading to a net case disposal rate of 10.42%, which is 52.24 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024. An approximate gross figure of 347 cases was disposed during the quarter, many of which have dates of origin predating 2025. This led to an estimated net case clearance rate of 97.75%, which meets the international standard for the case clearance rate and is 42.12 percentage points below the rate recorded in the third quarter of 2024. The net clearance and disposal rates isolate and exclude inactive cases from the calculation of these metrics.

**Table 12.13: Descriptive Statistics on the time taken to dispose matters in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	215
Mean	185.6930
Median	146.0000
Mode	182.00
Std. Deviation	168.13345
Skewness	1.677
Std. Error of Skewness	.166
Range	802.00
Minimum	3.00
Maximum	805.00

The above table outlines summary data on a sample of 215 civil matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025 at the Manchester Parish Court. The average time taken to resolve these matters is roughly 186 days or 6.2 months. The most frequently occurring time to disposition was 182 days. There is moderate standard deviation of 168 days, which is an indication that there is some dispersion of the scores around the overall mean. The positive skewness suggests that a larger proportion of the scores are below around the overall average time to disposal. The oldest matter disposed in the quarter was 805 days or roughly 2.2 years old, while the youngest was 3 days.

**Table 12.14: Descriptive Statistics on age of active matters reissued as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Descriptive Statistics (days)**

Number of observations	1127
Mean	465.0683
Median	578.0000
Mode	669.00
Std. Deviation	267.48450
Skewness	-.320
Std. Error of Skewness	.073
Range	961.00
Minimum	11.00
Maximum	972.00

The above data is based on a sample of 1,127 active civil matters at the end of the third quarter of 2025. The average age of these matters was roughly 465 days, while the most frequently occurring age in the distribution was 669 days. The standard deviation of roughly 267 days suggests that there is a small dispersion in the individual scores, while the negative skewness seen is an indication that proportionately more of the scores in the data set were close to the overall average age of the active cases. The oldest active matter was 972 days old or roughly 2.7 years, while the minimum time taken is 11 days.

## Performance Summaries-Other Parish Court

**Table 13.01: Key Performance Indicators for the Civil Divisions of the Hanover Parish Court for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parish Court	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)	Net Case Clearance Rate (%)	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%)	Net Case Disposal Rate (%)	Trial Date certainty Rate (%)
Hanover	NA	127.27	NA	20.20	NA

The summary of key performance metrics for the Hanover Parish Court shows that the civil division of the Hanover Parish Court recorded an estimated net clearance rate of 127.27% and an estimated net disposal rate of 20.20% for the quarter.

## Aggregate data summaries – all Parish Courts

**Table 13.02: Aggregate case flow performance estimates for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Approximate number of new cases	Approximate gross number of disposed and inactive cases in the quarter	Approximate Gross Clearance rate (%)
3784	4168	110.15

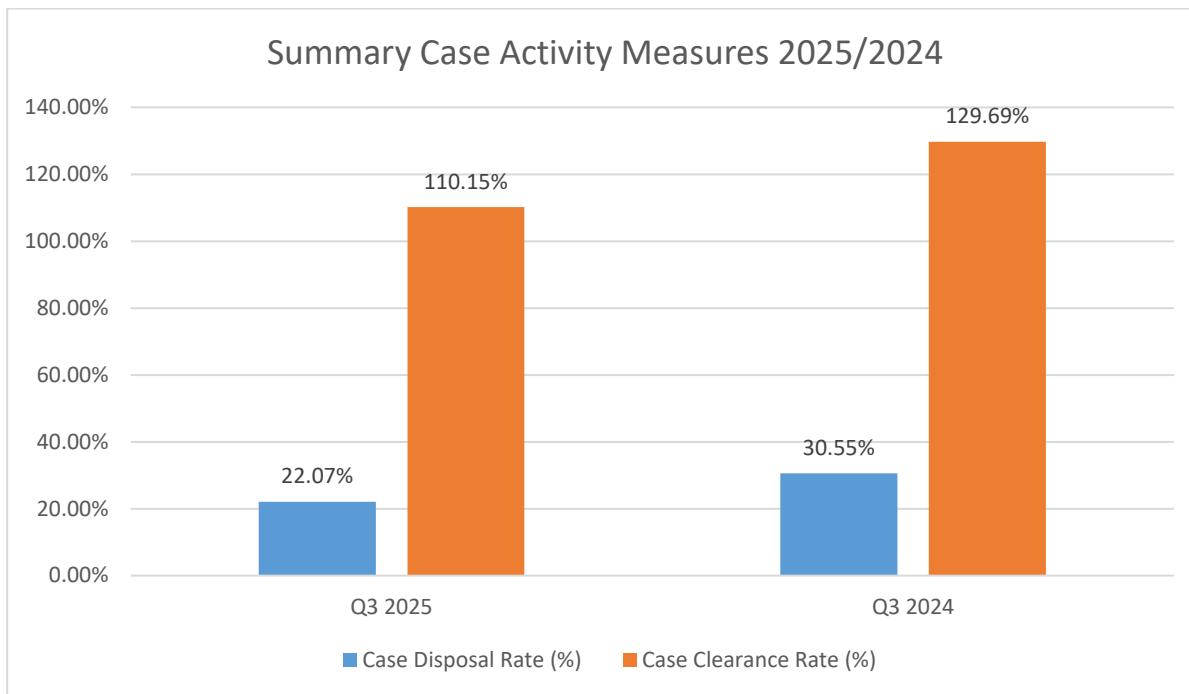
The above table provides a summary of aggregate case activity across the civil division of the parish courts in the third quarter of 2025. It shows that a total of 3,784 new cases were filed over the quarter, while 4,168 became inactive or were disposed, leading to an estimated gross clearance rate of 110.15%. This is a 19.54 percentage points decrease when compared to the corresponding period in 2024.

**Table 13.03: Aggregate summary case statistics for each parish court for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parish Court	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%) Q3 2025	Gross Case Disposal Rate (%) Q3 2024	Change in the Gross Case Disposal Rate (%)	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%) Q3 2025	Gross Case Clearance Rate (%) Q3 2024	Change in the Gross Case Clearance Rate (%)
St. Thomas	28.00	19.05	8.95	102	90.48	11.52
Corporate Area- Civil	61.25	35.33	25.92	159.27	193.78	-34.51
St. Elizabeth	NA	NA	NA	NA	87.55	NA
Hanover	NA	71.43	NA	NA	98.21	NA
Manchester	NA	72.3	NA	NA	157.9	NA
Portland	NA	NA	NA	NA	93.75	NA
St. Ann	NA	13.31	NA	80.3	80.18	0.12
St. Catherine	NA	11.79	NA	114.02	130.8	-16.78
St. Mary	NA	NA	NA	NA	306.87	NA
Trelawny	13.01	13.04	-0.03	91.06	96.52	-5.46
St. James	25.23	31.35	-6.12	132.13	98.12	34.01
Clarendon	11.52	18.22	-6.7	101.65	81.33	20.32
Westmoreland	10.86	14.72	-3.86	54.68	87.12	-32.44
<b>Average /Weighted Average</b>	<b>22.07</b>	<b>30.55</b>	<b>-8.48</b>	<b>110.15</b>	<b>129.69</b>	<b>-19.54</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>19.23</b>	<b>23.39</b>		<b>31.88</b>	<b>64.59</b>	
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>1.72</b>	<b>1.35</b>		<b>0.28</b>	<b>2.27</b>	

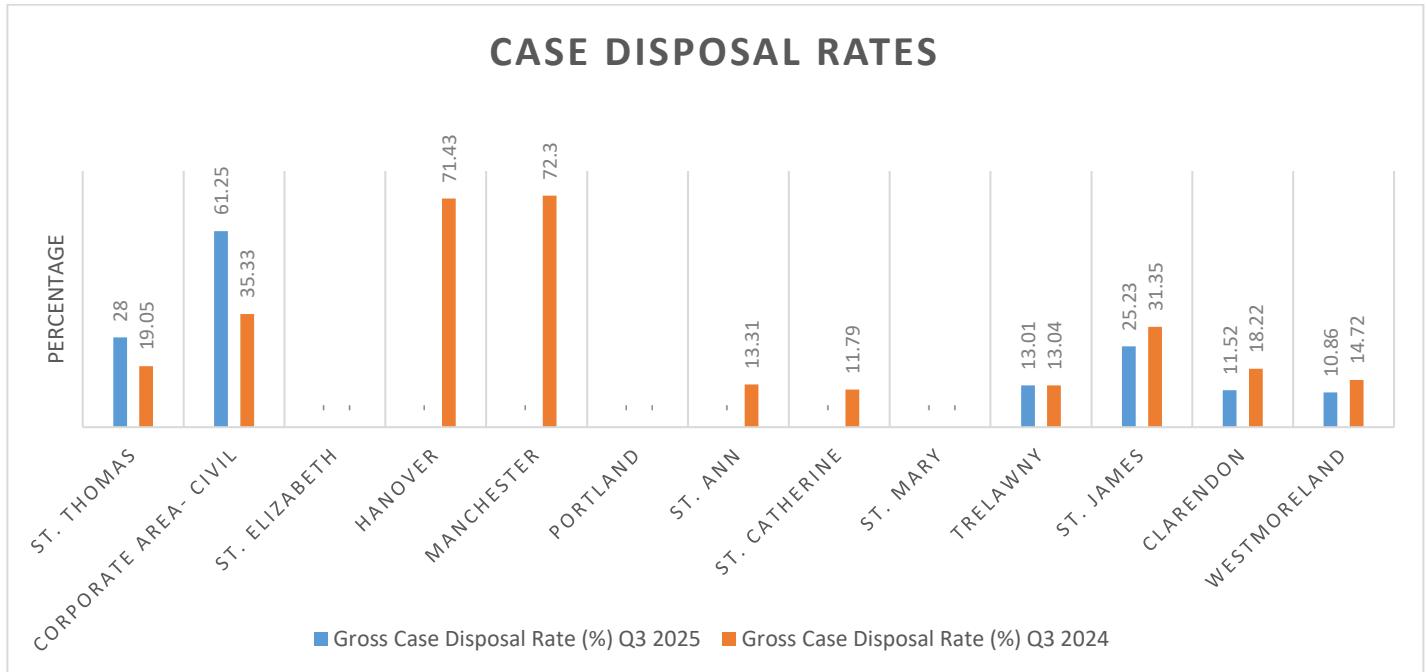
The table above provides a comparison of the case disposal rate and the case clearance rate for the third quarters of 2025 and 2024. The weighted average gross case disposal rate for the third quarter of 2025 was 22.07%, which was an 8.48 percentage points decline when compared to the third quarter of 2024 weighted average rate of 30.55%. The gross case clearance rate of 110.15% for the third quarter of 2025 was 19.54 percentage points below the 129.69% recorded in the third quarter of 2024.

**Chart 13.04: Aggregate summary of case activity metrics for the third quarters of 2024 and 2025**

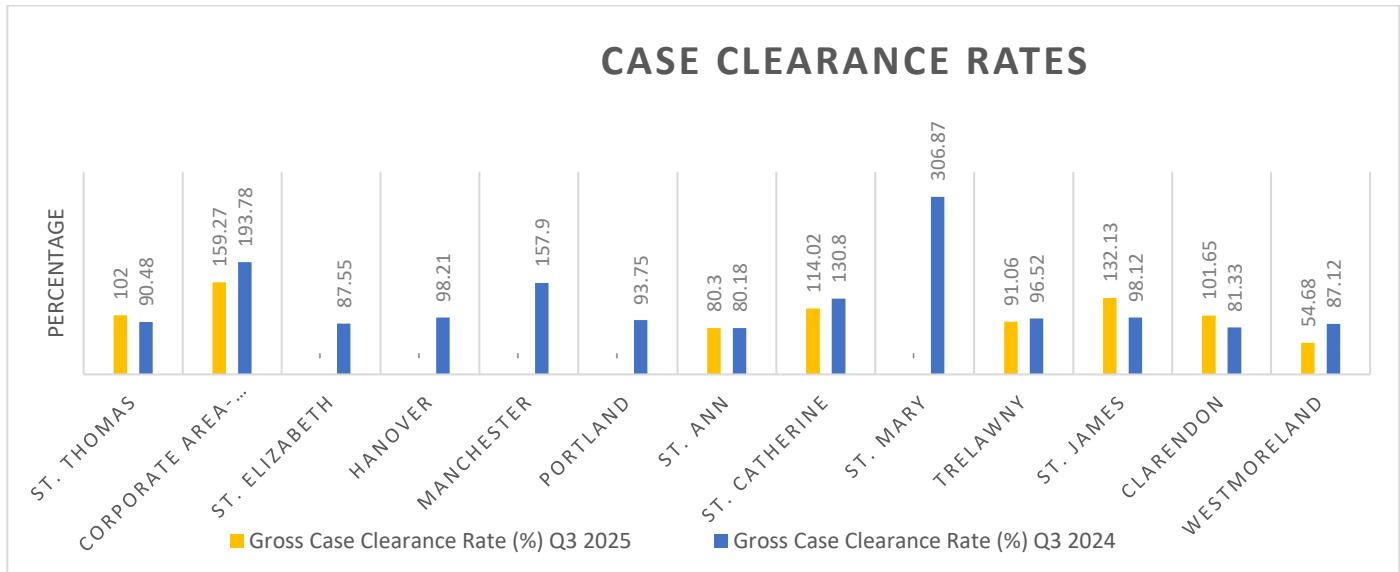


The above graph provides a summary of the progression of the overall case disposal and case clearance for the third quarters of 2025 and 2024. It is seen that there has been a decline in the gross case disposal rate and in the gross case clearance rate over the comparative period. The case clearance rate moved from 129.69% in the third quarter of 2024 to 110.15% in the third quarter of 2025. The case disposal rate moved from 30.55% in the third quarter of 2024 to 22.07% in the third quarter of 2025, a decrease of 8.48 percentage points.

**Chart 13.05a: Comparison of case disposal rates across the parish courts for the third quarters of 2024 and 2025**



**Chart 13.05b: Comparison of case clearance rates across the parish courts for the third quarters of 2024 and 2025**



**Table 13.06: Sampling distribution of claims filed during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parish Court	Big Claims	Small Claims	POCA	Miscellaneous	Total
Corporate area	783	-	2	-	785
Portland	62	13	-	-	75
St. Ann	460	71	-	-	531
St. Catherine	681	94	-	-	775
St. Elizabeth	214	84	-	-	298
St. Mary	156	31	-	-	187
St. Thomas	128	50	-	-	178
Trelawny	108	21	-	-	129
Westmoreland	281	23	-	-	304
St. James	307	108	-	-	415
Clarendon	225	46	-	-	271
Manchester	367	40	-	-	407
<b>Total</b>	<b>3772</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4355</b>

The above table provides an overall summary of the claims files across the parish courts in the third quarter of 2025. The sample of 4,355 new claims filed in the third quarter of 2025 reveals that 3,772 or 86.61% were big claims, while 13.34% were small claims and 0.05% were POCA matters. The Corporate Area Court-Civil Division, the St. Catherine Parish Court, and the St. Ann Parish Court account for the largest share of new plaintiffs filed in the quarter. The Corporate Area Court-Civil Division, the St. Catherine, and the St. Ann Parish Courts account for the largest share of big claims filed in the quarter, while the St. James, St. Catherine and the St. Elizabeth Parish Court account for the largest shares of small claims filed.

**Table 13.07: Forecasted case activity statistics for the fourth quarter of 2025 [October 01 - December 31, 2025]**

Parish Court	Forecasted number of new cases	Forecasted number of disposed cases	Forecasted number of inactive cases	Forecasted case clearance rate (%)
Hanover	99	121	0	122.02
Manchester	339	328	83	120.96
St. Mary	172	222	0	129.20
St. James	350	285	119	115.36
St. Catherine	641	704	19	112.70
Portland	62	70	1	115.15
St. Ann	373	340	19	96.13
St. Elizabeth	275	269	3	98.86
Corporate Area Civil	758	626	455	142.52
Westmoreland	207	140	16	75.32
St. Thomas	162	130	49	110.18
Clarendon	258	255	4	100.54
Trelawny	119	117	6	103.37
<b>Total/Weighted Average</b>	<b>3816</b>	<b>3607</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>114.77</b>

*Note: The forecasted case clearance rate for the Browns Town outstation in St. Ann for the fourth quarter of 2025 is 103.42%.*

The above table forecasts core case activity for the civil division of each parish court and overall for the fourth quarter of 2025. 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 rate for the civil division of the parish courts for the fourth quarter of 2025 is 114.77%, which would be 4.62 percentage points higher than that of the third quarter of 2025. Twelve (12) of the 13 parish courts are forecasted to satisfy the international standard on case clearance rate of 90% or more in the fourth quarter of 2025, led by the

Corporate Area Parish Court – Civil Division with 142.52%, the St. Mary Parish Court with 129.20% and the Hanover Parish Court with 122.02%.

**Table 13.08: Sampling distribution of new cases filed per 10,000 in the civil division of the parish courts in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

<b>Parish Court</b>	<b>Number of new cases filed</b>	<b>Population size in parish</b>	<b>Case per 10,000 population</b>
Hanover	99	69780	14
St. Catherine	635	542763	12
Westmoreland	267	146205	18
St. Mary	171	116497	15
Clarendon	243	258643	9
Portland	53	84972	6
St. Elizabeth	296	153201	19
Corporate Area Civil	658	672904	10
St. Thomas	150	94485	16
St. James	333	188656	18
St. Ann	401	175310	23
Trelawny	123	77427	16
Manchester	355	193694	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>3784</b>	<b>2774538</b>	<b>14</b>

The above table provides an outline of the number of new civil cases filed per 10,000 population in the parish courts (civil division) in the third quarter of 2025. The population sizes used are based on the last national population census in 2022 and represent the most current value. This kind of data provides interesting insights into the demand for civil adjudication in the various parishes. It is seen that the parish of St. Ann, which is among the courts with a larger caseload and midrange population size, registered the largest number of new civil cases filed per 10,000 population in the third quarter of 2025. St. Elizabeth, which is midrange in caseload and population size, ranked second. Equally interesting is the result that the parish of Portland had the smallest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population in the quarter and is the parish

with the smallest caseloads and among the parishes with a smaller population size. The Clarendon Parish Court recorded the second lowest number of new cases filed per 10,000 population, followed by the Corporate Area Parish Court – Civil Division.

**Table 13.09: Sampling distribution of the most frequently occurring reasons for adjournment for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Reasons for Adjournment	Count	Percentage (%)
Defendant Absent	627	13.28
No Return/Re-Issued	618	13.08
Both Parties Absent	298	6.31
Re-issued	122	2.58
Plaintiff Absent	119	2.52
Parties in Discussion	105	2.22
Referred to Mediation	96	2.03
Judge Absent/Ill	91	1.93
Attorney Absent	57	1.21
Hearing of Application	40	0.85
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2173</b>	<b>46.01</b>

*(Sample size of reasons for adjournments/continuance =4,723)*

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

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

The above table is derived using a sample of 4,723 reasons for adjournment/continuance for matters heard in the third quarter of 2025 across all of the parish courts (civil division). The largest proportion (13.28%) was due to the absence of defendants. Adjournments for no return/ for reissue with 13.08% and the absence of both parties with 6.31% round out the top three reasons for adjournment across the parish courts. Reissues with 2.58% and the absence plaintiffs with 2.52% round off the top five reasons for adjournment for the quarter. The leading reasons for adjournment listed above account for 46.01% of the total sample of adjournments.

**Table 13.10a: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parishes	Time interval in days							
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269 days	270-364 days	365 -547 days	548-729 days	730 days and over	Sample size (n)
Corporate Area Civil	5762 (29.7%)	4398 (22.7%)	2210 (11.4%)	1672 (8.6%)	1964 (10.1%)	1039 (5.4%)	2343 (12.1%)	19388 (100%)
St. Catherine	3260 (17.3%)	2713 (14.4%)	1733 (9.2%)	1368 (7.3%)	2027 (10.8%)	1523 (8.1%)	6230 (33.0%)	18854 (100%)
St. James	1091 (43.3%)	458 (18.2%)	249 (9.9%)	140 (5.6%)	203 (8.1%)	104 (4.1%)	275 (10.9%)	2520 (100%)
Clarendon	659 (35.3%)	525 (28.1%)	285 (15.3%)	151 (8.1%)	132 (7.1%)	69 (3.7%)	45 (2.4%)	1866 (100%)
Westmoreland	1326 (51.8%)	525 (20.5%)	244 (9.5%)	153 (6.0%)	167 (6.5%)	69 (2.7%)	77 (3.0%)	2561 (100%)
St. Ann	2182 (31.4%)	1448 (20.9%)	754 (10.9%)	522 (7.5%)	637 (9.2%)	347 (5.0%)	1052 (15.2%)	6942 (100%)
St. Thomas	919 (34.2%)	622 (23.1%)	295 (11.0%)	189 (7.0%)	210 (7.8%)	128 (4.8%)	324 (12.1%)	2687 (100%)
Portland	592 (25.6%)	397 (17.2%)	221 (9.6%)	165 (7.1%)	303 (13.1%)	139 (6.0%)	491 (21.3%)	2308 (100%)
St. Mary	2156 (47.0%)	658 (14.3%)	269 (5.9%)	166 (3.6%)	225 (4.9%)	119 (2.6%)	998 (21.7%)	4591 (100%)
Trelawny	1256 (53.0%)	471 (19.9%)	189 (8.0%)	127 (5.4%)	138 (5.8%)	74 (3.1%)	115 (4.9%)	2370 (100%)
Manchester	418 (37.4%)	377 (33.8%)	196 (17.5%)	72 (6.4%)	33 (3.0%)	13 (1.2%)	8 (0.7%)	1117 (100%)
St. Elizabeth	1679 (43.2%)	1003 (25.8%)	395 (10.2%)	237 (6.1%)	231 (5.9%)	139 (3.6%)	205 (5.3%)	3889 (100%)
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>30.83</b>	<b>19.68</b>	<b>10.19</b>	<b>7.18</b>	<b>9.07</b>	<b>5.45</b>	<b>17.60</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>1775.00</b>	<b>1132.92</b>	<b>586.67</b>	<b>413.50</b>	<b>522.50</b>	<b>313.58</b>	<b>1013.58</b>	<b>5757.75</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>1494.82</b>	<b>1224.96</b>	<b>671.97</b>	<b>532.70</b>	<b>703.39</b>	<b>470.46</b>	<b>1772.57</b>	<b>6422.57</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>1.96</b>	<b>2.18</b>	<b>1.96</b>	<b>1.95</b>	<b>1.88</b>	<b>2.14</b>	<b>2.73</b>	<b>1.83</b>

*Number of charges sampled (N) = 69,093*

*Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the last 93 months across the parish courts*

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court as at September 30, 2025. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 93-month period. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the

charges disposed in the period took less than 90 days, accounting for roughly 30.83% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court-Civil Division along with the parish courts of St. Catherine, St. Ann and St. Mary are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed under 90 days. Cumulatively 67.88% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year, a positive indicator of the potential effectiveness of the courts in increasing overall productivity and realizing the objective of becoming the best in the Caribbean region in three years and among the best in the world in 3-5 years. From the data set, the parish courts (civil division) of St. Catherine, Corporate Area – Civil Division, and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that roughly 17.60% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts civil division of the St. Catherine, Corporate Area, and St. Ann had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to resolve matters in this sample are all relatively high, indicating that in each case a larger proportion of the scores fell below the applicable series mean.

**Table 13.10b: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Civil	319.47	27	166	394.04	2.56	1	4254	19388
St. Catherine	584.95	28	401	565.22	1.43	1	4854	18854
St. James	270.19	28	114.50	385.90	2.71	1	3577	2520
Clarendon	190.94	63	126	197.03	2.46	1	1428	1866
Westmoreland	166.86	28	84	229.17	3.55	1	2196	2561
St. Ann	397.25	63	160	601.39	3.15	1	5929	6942
St. Thomas	355.39	28	139	608.49	3.60	1	3471	2687
Portland	494.98	63	245	641.60	2.37	2	4515	2308
St. Mary	465.62	28	100	702.86	1.70	1	4375	4591
Trelawny	183.76	28	78	286.88	3.63	1	2710	2370
Manchester	139.82	91	102	121.62	2.22	1	805	1117
St. Elizabeth	203.31	28	99	296.51	4.39	1	3971	3889
<b>Total/Weighted Average</b>	<b>391.68</b>	<b>41.92</b>	<b>151.21</b>	<b>419.23</b>	<b>2.81</b>	<b>1.08</b>	<b>3507.08</b>	<b>5757.75</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>146.50</b>	<b>21.99</b>	<b>91.09</b>	<b>197.39</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>1483.44</b>	<b>6422.57</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>0.54</b>	<b>1.27</b>	<b>2.20</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>0.16</b>	<b>3.46</b>	<b>-0.42</b>	<b>1.83</b>

*Number of charges sampled (N) = 69,093*

*Note: The data in this table covers case activity for at least the last 93 months across the parish courts*

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court as at September 30, 2025. For each parish court, the estimates cover case activity for at least a 93-month period. The output produces an estimated overall weighted average time taken to resolve matters in the parish courts (Civil Division) of approximately 392 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a positive figure, suggesting that most of these times fell below the overall mean. For matters disposed in the period, the parish courts of Manchester (140 days), Westmoreland (167 days) and Trelawny (184 days) took the lowest times on average to resolve cases over the period. The parish courts of St. Catherine (585 days), Portland (495 days) and St.

Mary (466 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters disposed over the period of analysis. The average variation among the times to disposition across the parish courts is shown to be modest, as conferred by the standard deviation of 146.50. The average minimum time taken to resolve matters across all parish courts was 1.08 days; however, the average maximum times are substantially larger. These results are both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 805 days (26.8 months/2.2 years) in the Manchester Parish Court, to a high of 5,929 days (197.6 months/16.5 years) in the St. Ann Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a low negative value, which is an indication that a larger proportion of the maximum times to disposition were close to the series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial and representative 69,093 matters.

**Table 13.11a: Sampling distribution of the times to disposition in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parishes	Time interval in days							
	0-89 days	90-179 days	180-269 days	270-364 days	365 -547 days	548-729 days	730 days and over	Sample size (n)
Corporate Area Civil	83 (25.8%)	86 (26.7%)	40 (12.4%)	27 (8.4%)	41 (12.7%)	13 (4.0%)	32 (9.9%)	322 (100%)
St. Catherine	65 (11.8%)	57 (10.4%)	41 (7.5%)	42 (7.6%)	74 (13.5%)	42 (7.6%)	229 (41.6%)	550 (100%)
St. James	71 (31.7%)	28 (12.5%)	62 (27.7%)	7 (3.1%)	24 (10.7%)	6 (2.7%)	26 (11.6%)	224 (100%)
Clarendon	44 (28.0%)	42 (26.8%)	18 (11.5%)	12 (7.6%)	16 (10.2%)	2 (1.3%)	23 (14.6%)	157 (100%)
Westmoreland	42 (45.7%)	12 (13.0%)	9 (9.8%)	6 (6.5%)	10 (10.9%)	4 (4.3%)	9 (9.8%)	92 (100%)
St. Ann	82 (36.3%)	55 (24.3%)	45 (19.9%)	10 (4.4%)	6 (2.7%)	1 (0.4%)	27 (11.9%)	226 (100%)
St. Thomas	30 (35.7%)	30 (35.7%)	8 (9.5%)	4 (4.8%)	4 (4.8%)	2 (2.4%)	6 (7.1%)	84 (100%)
Portland	36 (34.6%)	18 (17.3%)	7 (6.7%)	2 (1.9%)	6 (5.8%)	10 (9.6%)	25 (24.0%)	104 (100%)
St. Mary	72 (51.8%)	20 (14.4%)	9 (6.5%)	1 (0.7%)	5 (3.6%)	3 (2.2%)	29 (20.9%)	139 (100%)
Trelawny	41 (60.3%)	13 (19.1%)	8 (11.8%)	3 (4.4%)	1 (1.5%)	1 (1.5%)	1 (1.5%)	68 (100%)
Manchester	60 (27.9%)	71 (33.0%)	34 (15.8%)	20 (9.3%)	16 (7.4%)	10 (4.7%)	4 (1.9%)	215 (100%)
St. Elizabeth	62 (51.7%)	28 (23.3%)	3 (2.5%)	2 (1.7%)	4 (3.3%)	8 (6.7%)	13 (10.8%)	120 (100%)
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>29.90</b>	<b>19.99</b>	<b>12.34</b>	<b>5.91</b>	<b>9.00</b>	<b>4.43</b>	<b>18.43</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>57.33</b>	<b>38.33</b>	<b>23.67</b>	<b>11.33</b>	<b>17.25</b>	<b>8.50</b>	<b>35.33</b>	<b>191.75</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>18.19</b>	<b>24.02</b>	<b>19.67</b>	<b>12.49</b>	<b>21.11</b>	<b>11.29</b>	<b>61.93</b>	<b>135.44</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>-0.04</b>	<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.70</b>	<b>1.65</b>	<b>2.11</b>	<b>2.73</b>	<b>3.28</b>	<b>1.88</b>

*Number of charges sampled (N) = 2,301*

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025. The results shown suggest decisively that a significant proportion of the charges disposed in the period took less than 90 days, accounting

for roughly 29.90% of the disposals. The Corporate Area Parish Court – Civil Division along with the parish courts of St. Ann, St. Mary and St. James are among the courts accounting for the larger proportions of cases disposed under 90 days. Cumulatively, 68.14% of the matters disposed over the period took less than a year. From the data set, the parish courts (civil division) of St. Catherine, Corporate Area, and St. James had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than a year. The data set also shows that approximately 18.43% of the matters disposed over the period took over 730 days or over 2 years. The parish courts civil division of the St. Catherine, Corporate Area, and St. Mary had the largest proportion of their disposed matters taking more than 2 years. The skewness of the times taken by the respective parish courts to resolve matters in this sample are mostly relatively high, indicating that in each case a larger proportion of the scores fell below the applicable series mean.

**Table 13.11b: Descriptive statistics on the time to disposition for cases disposed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parishes	Time to disposition (days)							
	Average	Mode	Median	Standard Deviation	Skewness	Minimum	Maximum	Sample size (N)
Corporate Area Civil Division	294.49	112	166	353.37	3.22	1	2679	322
St. Catherine	789.77	1736	543	737.87	1.48	1	4064	550
St. James	294.17	199	199	361.46	2.29	3	1820	224
Clarendon	288.50	63	149	316.26	1.71	6	1396	157
Westmoreland	268.78	28	107	373.71	2.54	7	2196	92
St. Ann	282.05	231	112	451.32	3.09	4	2728	226
St. Thomas	303.19	140	126	593.98	3.12	2	2379	84
Portland	485.83	1161	175	579.06	1.30	7	2177	104
St. Mary	547.10	14	83	989.13	2.30	4	4375	139
Trelawny	118.59	63	63	158.94	3.29	1	973	68
Manchester	185.69	182	146	168.13	1.68	3	805	215
St. Elizabeth	257.56	98	87	421.24	2.48	2	2372	120
<b>Total/Weighted Average</b>	<b>417.12</b>	<b>335.58</b>	<b>163.00</b>	<b>458.71</b>	<b>2.38</b>	<b>3.42</b>	<b>2330.33</b>	<b>191.75</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>181.55</b>	<b>538.26</b>	<b>126.35</b>	<b>236.62</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>2.23</b>	<b>1079.31</b>	<b>135.44</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>1.53</b>	<b>2.22</b>	<b>2.84</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>-0.13</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>1.88</b>

*Number of charges sampled (N) = 2,301*

The table above shows the descriptive statistics on a sample of matters disposed for each parish court in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025. The output produces an estimated overall weighted average time taken to resolve matters in the parish courts (Civil Division) of approximately 417 days. The skewness of these times to disposition is a positive 1.53, suggesting that most of the scores were below the overall mean. For matters resolved in the period, the parish courts of Trelawny (119 days), Manchester (186 days) and St. Elizabeth (258 days) took the lowest times on average to resolve cases over the period. The parish courts of St. Catherine (790 days), St. Mary (547 days) and Portland (486 days) demonstrate the highest times to disposition for matters resolved over the period of analysis. The average variation among the times to

disposition across the parish courts is shown to be modest, as conferred by the standard deviation of 181.55 days. The average minimum time taken to resolve matters across all parish courts was 3.42 days; however, the average maximum times are substantially larger. These results are both a reflection of the relative complexity of cases entering open court over the period as well as the relative strength of case management across the various parish courts. The maximum times to disposition in the sample ranged from a low of 805 days (26.8 months/2.2 years) in the Manchester Parish Court, to a high of 4,375 days (145.8 months/12.2 years) in the St. Mary Parish Court. The overall skewness of the maximum times to disposition is a positive 0.60, which is an indication that most of the maximum times to disposition were clustered around the series mean. The sample size used to compute these descriptive data was a substantial and representative 2,301 matters.

**Table 13.11c: Sampling distribution of the methods of disposition for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parish Court	Struck Out	Consent	Settlement	Default Judgment	Oral Admission	Withdrawal	Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	Other	Total
St. Catherine	431	168	66	67	3	40	24	62	861
Corporate Area Civil	237	150	18	63	38	88	44	34	672
Westmoreland	32	35	14	16	10	6	18	13	144
Clarendon	123	27	36	24	11	19	14	19	273
Trelawny	15	39	9	11	17	6	-	13	110
Portland	18	40	6	9	4	2	18	29	126
St. Mary	68	33	15	28	10	17	18	24	213
St. Thomas	24	23	17	34	15	3	2	13	131
St. Ann	101	65	19	48	16	52	48	34	383
St. James	204	45	12	36	24	9	8	20	358
St. Elizabeth	106	10	9	15	22	3	20	22	207
Manchester	151	52	15	19	23	32	21	19	332
<b>Total</b>	<b>1510</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>3810</b>
<b>Percentage of total (%)</b>	<b>39.63</b>	<b>18.03</b>	<b>6.19</b>	<b>9.71</b>	<b>5.07</b>	<b>7.27</b>	<b>6.17</b>	<b>7.93</b>	<b>-</b>

*Number of charges sampled (N): 3,810*

The above table shows a sampling distribution of the methods of disposition across all parish courts-civil division for the third quarter of 2025. From the sample, it is observed that the highest proportion of matters disposed during the quarter were by being struck out with 39.63% of the sample, followed by matters disposed by consent with 18.03%, default judgments with 9.71% and dispositions grouped under the category, “other methods” with 7.93% of the sample. Withdrawals with 7.27% and settlements with 6.19% rank next. Notices of Discontinuance (NOD) with 6.17% and oral admissions with 5.07% account for the remaining disposals in the quarter.

**Table 13.12a: Net and gross civil case backlog as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025 for cases over 24 months**

Paris Court	Net Case Backlog Rate (%)	Gross Case Backlog Rate (%)
Clarendon	1.30	14.15
Corporate Area	5.22	31.11
Manchester	4.80	-
Portland	2.21	13.60
St. Ann	4.11	27.43
St. Catherine	1.09	3.27
St. Elizabeth	19.23	26.24
St. James	2.57	23.17
St. Mary	1.19	1.70
St. Thomas	0.32	24.16
Trelawny	0.98	25.93
Westmoreland	4.99	19.10
<b>Weighted Average</b>	<b>4.49</b>	<b>20.40</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>5.10</b>	<b>9.81</b>

*Note: The net backlog for the Browns Town Outstation in St. Ann for Q3 2025 is 14% and the gross backlog is 28.64%.*

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 a net case backlog rate (weighted average) for cases over 24 months in the parish

courts of 4.49% (with a standard deviation of 5.10%), which satisfies the international standard. The estimated gross case backlog rate also stands at 20.40% (with a standard deviation of 9.81%), an indication that there are a large number of inactive unresolved cases in the parish courts. This rate is 10.40 percentage points higher than the prescribed rate of 10%, but can be improved to meet this standard with the application of more aggressive case management practices and reduction in the incidence of delays in the civil courts. The sample set is large and representative of the current direction of the court system. The parish courts of St. Thomas with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.32%, Trelawny and St. Catherine with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.98% and 1.09% respectively have the lowest (best) estimated net case backlog rate in the time series, while the parish courts of St. Elizabeth (19.23%), Corporate Area (5.22%) and Westmoreland (4.99%) have the highest rates. As for the estimated gross backlog rate, the parish courts of St. Mary (1.70%) and St. Catherine (3.27%) have the lowest (best) estimated gross backlog rates in the series, while the parish courts of Corporate Area-Civil Division (31.11%), St. Ann (27.43%) and St. Elizabeth (26.24%) have the highest rates.

**Table 13.12b: Net and gross civil case backlog as at the third quarter ended September 30, 2025 for cases over 18 months**

Paris Court	Net Case Backlog Rate (%)	Gross Case Backlog Rate (%)
Clarendon	1.84	15.26
Corporate Area	6.19	32.94
Manchester	17.07	-
Portland	2.69	14.12
St. Ann	5.21	30.10
St. Catherine	1.32	3.53
St. Elizabeth	21.29	28.34
St. James	3.48	29.64
St. Mary	1.42	1.95
St. Thomas	0.64	25.96
Trelawny	1.17	27.71
Westmoreland	5.52	20.61
<b>Weighted Average</b>	<b>5.58</b>	<b>22.08</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>6.64</b>	<b>10.83</b>

*Note: The net backlog for the Browns Town Outstation in St. Ann for Q3 2025 is 17.57% and the gross backlog is 34.04%.*

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 a net case backlog rate (weighted average) for cases over 18 months in the parish

courts of 5.58% (with a standard deviation of 6.64%), which exceeds the international standard. The estimated gross case backlog rate also stands at 22.08% (with a standard deviation of 10.83%), an indication that there are a large number of inactive unresolved cases in the parish courts. This rate is 12.08 percentage points higher than the prescribed rate of 10%, but can be improved to meet this standard with the application of more aggressive case management practices and reduction in the incidence of delays in the civil courts. The sample set is large and representative of the current direction of the court system. The parish courts of St. Thomas with an estimated net backlog rate of 0.64%, Trelawny and St. Catherine with an estimated net backlog rate of 1.17% and 1.32% respectively have the lowest (best) estimated net case backlog rate in the time series, while the parish courts of St. Elizabeth (21.29%), Manchester (17.07%) and Corporate Area (6.19%) have the highest rates. As for the estimated gross backlog rate, the parish courts of St. Mary (1.95%) and St. Catherine (3.53%) have the lowest (best) estimated gross backlog rates in the series, while the parish courts of Corporate Area-Civil Division (32.94%), St. Ann (30.10%) and St. James (29.64%) have the highest rates.

**Trial court activity summary for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

**Table 13.13a: Time interval between major events for cases that had a trial date in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parish Court	Average time between filing and first court appearance	Average time between first court appearance and trial	Average time between trial and disposition
Clarendon	52.19	228.48	357.63
Manchester	70.36	222.79	126.16
Portland	46.70	713.73	463.34
St. Ann	88.91	398.96	350.60
St. Catherine	78.33	434.86	634.35
St. James	47.32	425.28	326.18
St. Mary	47.45	129.07	300.78
St. Thomas	48.56	265.68	641.05
Trelawny	47.51	234.60	152.44
Westmoreland	33.59	199.22	368.31
<b>Weighted Average</b>	<b>63.40</b>	<b>362.18</b>	<b>443.51</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>17.21</b>	<b>171.39</b>	<b>171.93</b>

Tracking the times between the occurrence of major hearing events along the case flow continuum is important to establishing precise points of possible delay in case progression. The above table provides a summary of the average times between filing a case and the first court appearance. The average time between the first court appearance and the first date of trial and the average duration between the first trial date and disposition. Overall, it is seen that the average time between filing a civil case, and the first court appearance is approximately 2.1 months, while the overall average time between first appearance of a civil matter in the parish courts and the first trial date is, however, much longer at approximately 12.1 months or 362 days. The average duration between the first trial date set and the date of disposition is approximately

14.8 months or 444 days. These findings indicate that there may be imprecisions in the science of scheduling trial dates which may at times face lengthy delays after a first date set is postponed.

Since less than a quarter of civil cases filed in the parish courts will proceed to trial, these findings may not have a dramatic impact on the overall time to disposition of civil cases.

**Table 13.13b: Trial court activity summary during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parish Court	Number of cases heard	Number of cases with a trial date set	Percentage of cases heard which had a trial date set
Clarendon	747	163	21.82
Manchester	935	118	12.62
Portland	252	71	28.17
St. Ann	1091	204	18.70
St. Catherine	1981	365	18.43
St. Elizabeth	1080	51	4.72
St. James	1023	210	20.53
St. Mary	370	63	17.03
St. Thomas	391	90	23.02
Trelawny	350	63	18.00
Westmoreland	535	102	19.07
<b>Total/Weighted Average</b>	<b>8755</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>17.13</b>

The above table provides a summary of number of cases heard in the third quarter of 2025 in the civil divisions of the parish courts. Using a sampling distribution, it is seen that of 8,755 civil cases heard across the parish courts in the third quarter of 2025, 1,500 or 17.13% proceeded to trial.

The parish courts of the St. Elizabeth (4.72%), Manchester (12.62%) and St. Mary (17.03%) had the lowest proportion of cases proceeding to trial, while the parish courts of Portland (28.17%), St. Thomas (23.02%) and Clarendon (21.828%) had the highest proportion.

**Table 13.13c: Distribution of methods of disposition for matters set for trial during the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Methods of Disposition	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Struck out	75	16.03
Consent	72	15.38
Trial	55	11.75
Default Judgement	51	10.90
Final Judgment	48	10.26
Withdrawal	46	9.83
Settlement	41	8.76
Notice of Discontinuance (NOD)	26	5.56
Transferred	20	4.27
Non Suited	15	3.21
Other	12	2.56
By Consent - Mediated Settlement	3	0.64
Oral Admission	2	0.43
Order	2	0.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table summarizes the common methods of disposition for a sample of cases proceeding to trial. It is seen that matters struck out with 75 or 16.03% of the cases disposed, matters disposed by consent with 72 or 15.38% and by trial with 55 or 11.75% account for the leading methods of disposition in the sample.

**Table 13.13d: Summary of case management date activity for matters heard in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parish Court	Average number of case management dates per case	Standard Deviation of case management dates Per Case	Skewness of case management dates per case	Maximum case management dates Frequency	Minimum case management dates Frequency
Clarendon	2.54	2.81	3.00	19	1
Corporate Area	2.53	2.83	2.79	30	1
Manchester	3.04	2.58	1.82	15	1
Portland	9.45	10.89	1.57	40	1
St. Ann	6.03	7.60	2.32	40	1
St. Catherine	3.65	3.87	2.11	26	1
St. James	4.98	4.37	1.54	23	1
St. Mary	4.57	5.73	2.44	32	1
St. Thomas	2.69	3.56	4.06	22	1
Trelawny	3.67	4.33	2.80	32	1
Westmoreland	4.01	5.02	3.03	31	1
<b>Weighted Average</b>	<b>3.90</b>	-	-	<b>28.18</b>	<b>1.00</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>2.03</b>	-	-	<b>8.05</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>1.83</b>	-	-	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

The above table summarizes the number of appearances per case heard in the third quarter of 2025, which have at least one case management date. The overall average number of case management dates per 10 cases case management is 39, or approximately 4 dates per case with a standard deviation of 2.03 across the courts sampled, and a skewness of 1.83. Together, these results suggest that the average number of case management dates per case is within the prescribed international standard, that a slightly larger proportion of cases have less than the overall average number of case management dates and that there is not on average a wide variation in the number of case management dates per case across the courts. Among the parish courts with the highest number of case management dates per cases for matters heard in the

third quarter of 2025 are the Portland (9.45), St. Ann (6.03) and St. James (4.98) Parish Courts, while Corporate Area (2.53), Clarendon (2.54) and St. Thomas (2.69) were among the courts with the lowest mean case management dates.

**Table 13.13e: Summary of the average court appearance frequency for cases disposed in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parish Court	Average number of appearances per case	Standard Deviation
Clarendon	1.89	1.64
Corporate Area-Civil Division	2.68	3.02
Manchester	2.81	2.35
Portland	10.77	13.21
St. Ann	3.26	4.21
St. Catherine	3.10	3.60
St. James	3.80	4.05
St. Mary	3.15	4.05
St. Thomas	2.74	4.44
Trelawny	2.28	1.94
Westmoreland	3.09	3.61
<b>Weighted Average</b>	<b>3.19</b>	-

The above summary specifically addresses the number of case management dates per case for matters disposed in the third quarter of 2025. The overall average observed is approximately 32 dates for every 10 cases disposed, not dissimilar to the findings from the previous table which provided a descriptive summary of appearances for all cases disposed. The Clarendon, Trelawny and Corporate Area Parish Courts were among those with the lowest number of case management dates per disposed case in the quarter, while the parish courts of Portland, St. James and St. Ann were among the locations with the highest incidence.

**Table 13.14a: Distribution of courtroom utilization rates across the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

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	78.41	133.33	7.22	27.88	76.74	1.00
Westmoreland	72.22	145.00	11.33	33.62	NA	NA
Trelawny	67.16	122.00	7.67	27.10	NA	1.00
St. Thomas	60.34	111.11	18.33	21.11	NA	NA
St. Mary	72.70	143.33	10.00	27.76	NA	1.00
St. James	56.66	112.50	2.78	27.57	NA	1.00
Corporate Area Civil Court	96.72	211.94	28.33	27.87	NA	1.41
St. Ann	68.57	128.06	4.17	27.16	78.78	1.00
Portland	56.08	112.78	4.72	25.61	NA	1.00
Hanover	55.50	113.33	1.11	28.26	NA	1.00
Clarendon	75.87	223.33	17.78	42.92	80.42	1.00
Manchester	79.73	150.00	18.33	30.80	NA	NA
<b>Overall Averages</b>	<b>70.00</b>	<b>142.23</b>	<b>10.98</b>	<b>28.97</b>	<b>78.65</b>	<b>1.05</b>
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>12.10</b>	<b>37.84</b>	<b>8.16</b>	<b>5.27</b>	<b>35.58</b>	<b>0.49</b>
<b>Skewness</b>	<b>0.73</b>	<b>1.52</b>	<b>0.84</b>	<b>1.69</b>	<b>-0.32</b>	<b>3.00</b>

*Note: The courtroom utilization rate for the Browns Town Outstation in St. Ann for Q3 2025 is 69.41%*

The above table details the courtroom utilization rate for the various Parish Courts in the third quarter of 2025. The courtroom utilization rate provides a measurement of the proportion of available hours for open court hearings in all courtrooms (including outstations) which are actually utilized. If the usage of any courtroom exceeds the available hours, then the utilization rate will exceed 100% and the rate will fall below 100% if less than the available hours are utilized. The prescribed international standard for the courtroom utilization rate is 100%, which means that all hours allocated for court hearings in any court on any given day should be utilized. The

data suggests that as a whole, the Parish Courts of Jamaica performed below this level in the third quarter of 2025. The overall average courtroom utilization rate across the Parish Courts in the quarter was 70%, which is an indication that approximately 70% of the available hours for court hearings were utilized across the Parish Courts in the third quarter of 2025. The Parish Courts recording the highest courtroom utilization rates for the quarter are the Corporate Area Parish Court- Civil Division and Manchester Parish Court with 96.72% and 79.73% respectively, followed by the St. Catherine Parish Court with 78.41% and the Clarendon Parish Court with 75.87%. The Hanover Parish Court and Portland Parish Courts with 55.50% and 56.08% respectively, had the lowest rates, while the St. James Parish Court with 56.66% had the next lowest rate. It is quite commendable and worth noting that all Parish Courts exceeded a courtroom utilization rate of 50% for the quarter. 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. The positive skewness of the data suggests that proportionately more of the sample are clustered around the overall mean.

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

**Table 13.14b: Percentile Rank on Courtroom utilization rate for the civil division of the parish courts in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parish Court	Percentile rank Q3 2025 (%)	Percentile rank Q3 2024 (%)
St. Catherine	82	82
Westmoreland	55	45
Trelawny	36	64
St. Thomas	27	36
St. Mary	64	91
St. James	18	55
Corporate Area Civil Court	100	100
St. Ann	45	0
Portland	9	18
Hanover	0	9
Clarendon	73	27
Manchester	91	73

***Note: Q3 represents the third quarter i.e. July-September***

The above table provides a summary of the percentile rank of the various Parish Courts with regards to their performances on the courtroom utilization rates for the third quarter of 2025 and 2024. The results present a relatively consistent picture across both years for most courts in terms of the performances on this measurement. Some courts experienced gains in the ranking, several others experienced declines, and some courts retained the same ranking. The Corporate Area Civil Court performed better than all courts in the third quarter of 2025 and the third quarter of 2024. The Hanover Parish Court had the lowest courtroom utilization rate in the third quarter of 2025, and the St. Ann parish Court had the lowest courtroom utilization in the third quarter of 2024.

**Table 13.15: Critical performance summaries for the civil division of the parish courts in the third quarter ended September 30, 2025**

Parish Court	Approximate number of new cases	Approximate number of Disposed cases and inactive cases (of those originating in the quarter)	Approximate number of disposed and inactive cases (regardless of quarter of origin)	Gross Disposal rate (%)	Net Disposal rate (%)	Gross Clearance rate (%)	Net Clearance (%)	Approximate trial date certainty rate (%)	Overall average time to disposition (months )
St. Thomas	150	42	153	28.00	17.56	102.00	83.97	100.00	10.11
Corporate Area-Civil	658	403	1048	61.25	44.44	159.27	127.89	NA	9.82
St. Elizabeth	296	12	230	NA	4.05	NA	77.70	96.08	8.59
Hanover	99	20	126	NA	20.20	NA	127.27	NA	NA
Manchester	355	37	347	NA	10.42	NA	97.75	94.34	6.19
Portland	53	12	80	NA	22.64	NA	150.94	38.89	16.19
St. Ann	401	38	322	NA	9.48	80.30	74.56	98.18	9.40
St. Catherine	635	66	724	NA	10.39	114.02	111.18	83.72	26.33
St. Mary	171	48	193	NA	28.07	NA	112.87	73.91	18.24
Trelawny	123	16	112	13.01	12.30	91.06	84.43	80.77	3.95
St. James	333	84	440	25.23	18.09	132.13	109.21	100.00	9.81
Clarendon	243	28	247	11.52	10.79	101.65	100.83	85.71	9.62
Westmoreland	267	29	146	10.86	10.53	54.68	48.50	100.00	8.96
<b>Total/Weighted Average</b>	<b>3784</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>4168</b>	<b>22.07</b>	<b>16.53</b>	<b>110.15</b>	<b>98.64</b>	<b>90.12</b>	<b>13.90</b>
Skewness	0.90	3.36	1.85	1.72	1.61	0.28	-0.04	-2.03	1.53
Standard Deviation	189.28	103.94	279.07	19.23	10.54	31.88	27.07	18.17	6.05

*Note 1: Corporate Area Court-Civil division clearance and disposal rates was calculated using only new big claims filed in the quarter.*

*Note 2: The net case disposal rate for the Browns Town outstation in St. Ann for Q3 2025 is 8.20%*

*Note 3: The gross case clearance rate for the Browns Town outstation in St. Ann for Q3 2025 is 85.25% and the net case clearance rate is 67.21%*

## Conclusion

The Civil Division of the Parish Courts sustained its remarkable performance trend in the third quarter of 2025, achieving outstanding results across most key metrics. A notable highlight of this period was an overall gross case clearance rate of 110.15%, meeting international standards, although being lower than the corresponding period in 2024. This achievement contributed to a further reduction in the net case backlog rate for matters pending for at least two years, which stood at approximately 4.49%. Notably, this rate aligns closely with that of the Criminal Division, underscoring the consistent performance of both divisions in addressing case backlogs. The gross backlog rate for the Civil Division during the same period was 20.40%, also comparable to the Criminal Division's metrics. The Parish Courts of Corporate Area - Civil Division and St. James emerged as top performers across most critical indicators during this reporting period. Significantly, ten parish courts exceeded 90% gross case clearance rate for civil cases, with the St. Mary, Corporate Area-Civil Division, Portland and St. James performing the best on this measure. Despite these commendable achievements, there remains an urgent need to reduce the average case disposal time, which stood at 13.90 months for cases resolved during the quarter. Unnecessary adjournments continue to present a challenge, contributing to delays that must be addressed through strategic, court-driven interventions and operational reforms. It is important to acknowledge, however, that certain causes of delay, such as "No Return/Re-Issued," the absence of defendants, "parties in discussion," and the absence of both parties, fall outside the court's immediate control. Under the visionary and data-driven leadership of the Honourable Chief Justice of Jamaica, the courts are poised to meet and potentially exceed key quantitative targets, positioning Jamaica's judiciary among the best globally. The progress recorded in the

third quarter of 2025 establishes a strong foundation for achieving these strategic objectives, bringing the judiciary closer to delivering a world-class system of timely and effective justice for all stakeholders.

## Glossary of Statistical Terms

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

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

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

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

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

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

The international standard for this measure is between 92% and 100%.

**Courtroom utilization rate:** The proportion of courtrooms in full use on a daily basis or the proportion of hours utilized in a courtroom on a daily basis.

The international standard for this rate is 100%.

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

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

The international benchmark for casework 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 a 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 an approximately equal distribution of scores on both the higher and lower ends of the average figure.

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

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

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

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

Percentile ranks are useful when you want to quickly understand how a particular score compares to the other scores in a distribution of scores. For instance, knowing a court disposed 300 cases in a given period doesn't tell you much. You don't know how many case disposals were

possible, and even if you did, you wouldn't know how that court's score compared to the rest of the courts. If, however, you were told that the court scored at the 80th percentile, then you would know that this court did as well or better than 80% of the courts in case disposals.

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

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

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

**Continuance and Adjournment:** In a general sense, any delay in the progression of a hearing in which a future date/time is set or anticipated for continuation is a form of adjournment.

However, in order to make a strict distinction between matters which are adjourned for procedural factors and those which are generally avoidable, court statistics utilizes the terms 'continuance' and 'adjournment.' Here, 'continuance' is used strictly to describe situations in which future dates are set due to procedural reasons and 'adjournments' is used to describe the circumstances in which future dates of appearance are set due to generally avoidable reasons.

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

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

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

- Simple (single) exponential smoothing uses a weighted moving average with exponentially decreasing weights.
- Holt's trend-corrected double exponential smoothing is usually more reliable for handling data that shows trends, compared to the single procedure.

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

---

<sup>i</sup> Source :

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

<sup>ii</sup> Source :

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