

MINISTRY PAPER NO. 93/18

The Honourable House is asked to note that Cabinet has approved the tabling of the Chief Justice's Statistics Reports for the Parish Courts of Jamaica for the period January - June 2018.

Annual Reports were prepared for the Supreme Court and Parish Courts for 2017 and these Reports were posted on the website of the Supreme Court and tabled in this Honourable House, and so these Reports represent the continuation of the enhanced efforts to measure court productivity and provide empirical basis for placing the analyses of the judicial system into perspective. This will then inform the policymaking and operational planning apparatus of the leadership of the courts.

The Reports being tabled set out statistics for the:

1. Criminal Case Activity;
2. Criminal Case Demographics;
3. Corporate Area Traffic Court; and
4. Conclusion and Recommendations

Structure of Reports

Each Report is divided into two main sections.

Chapter 1.0 which explores case activity statistics by examining the caseload carried by each Parish Court in aggregate and by quarter as well the associated disposal, clearance, and case congestion rates as appropriate. This section also examines the distribution of the different types of cases filed in the respective courts as well as the most commonly occurring charges and the trial certainty ratios.

The common reasons for adjournment and the distribution of the methods of case disposition are also examined in this section along with the overall conviction rate.

Chapter 2.0 examines case demographics including age and gender distribution of offenders as well as a sample estimate of the geographical distribution of charges based on the Police Station where matters are reported.

Chapter 2.0 also examines the distribution of new cases heard in each quarter by the respective outstation Court in each Parish.

The Honourable House is asked to note the foregoing.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Delroy Chuck".

Delroy Chuck, QC, MP

Minister of Justice

October 8, 2018