

# **Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service Magistrates Court Statistics (Provisional Statistics) January to March 2010**

14 May 2010

Figures published today by the NI Courts and Tribunals Service in the quarterly Magistrates Court Bulletin outline the Crown court business received and dealt with from the quarter January to March 2010.

## **During the quarter**

- There were 1,118 scheduled sittings
- 12,740 adult defendants were disposed of during the period.
- The volume of adult business was highest in the Division of Belfast
- The average waiting time in the adult criminal court from first hearing to disposal was 7 weeks

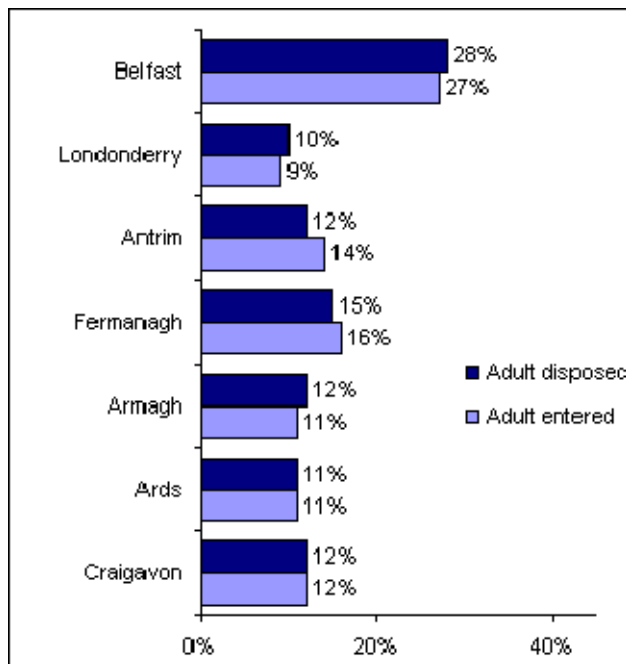
Ends

## **Notes for Editors**

### **During Jan – Mar 2010:**

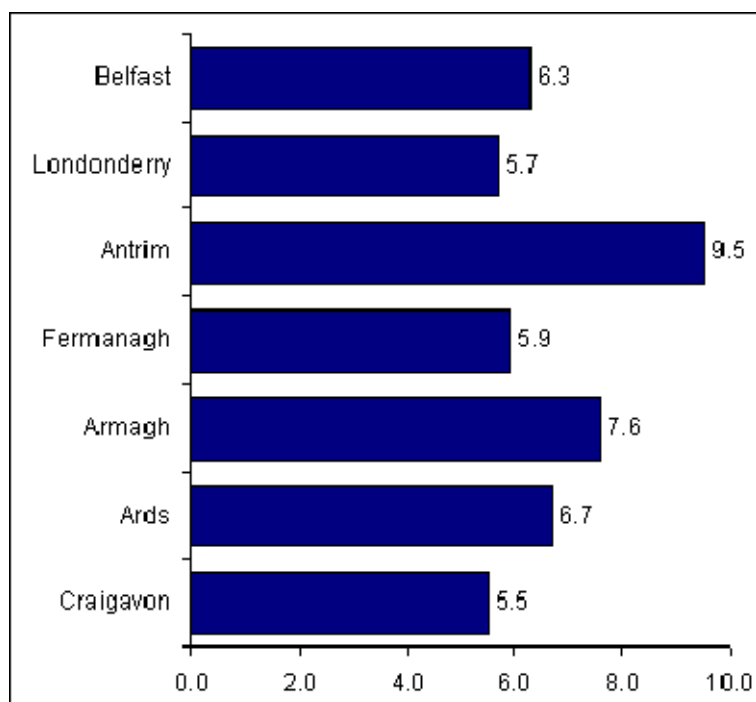
- There were 1,118 scheduled magistrates' sittings of which:  
Criminal 732  
Youth 137  
Family 249
- There were 71 additional magistrates' sittings of which:  
Criminal 64  
Youth 1  
Family 6
- There were 47 special magistrates' sittings of which:  
Criminal 47
- 12,750 new adult criminal defendants were received in court and 12,740 adult defendants were disposed of during the period. (Figure 1)
- The majority of prosecutions disposed in the adult court were brought by PSNI/ PPS.

Figure 1: Percentage of adults entered and disposed of in the court divisions



- The volume of adult business was highest in the Division of Belfast.
- The average waiting time in the adult criminal court from first hearing to disposal was 7 weeks. (Figure 2)
- 736 new defendants were entered in the youth court and 757 youth defendants were disposed of in the youth court.
- The average waiting time in the youth court from first hearing to disposal was 12 weeks.
- 1,468 new civil applications were entered and 1,237 civil applications were disposed of.
- The average length of time for a case to progress through the civil court was 8 weeks from date of issue to disposal.

Figure 2: Waiting times in weeks in adult magistrates' courts (1st hearing to disposal)



### Important Notes:

Figures are computed from a live database and may change due to late returns and further validations.

Date of disposal is based on the date of sentencing, date of acquittal or date a bill of indictment is not proceeded with.

Waiting times do not exclude recess.

The full version is available at:

[http://www.courtsni.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/3D0CA33E-6F39-4B69-952F-687767710818/0/p tp\\_MagistratesCourtBulletin\\_JanMar\\_2010.pdf](http://www.courtsni.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/3D0CA33E-6F39-4B69-952F-687767710818/0/p tp_MagistratesCourtBulletin_JanMar_2010.pdf)

If you have any further queries or if you have difficulty viewing the figures please contact:

*Press Team  
Communications Group  
Northern Ireland Court Service  
Laganside House  
23-27 Oxford Street  
Belfast  
BT1 3LA  
Tel. 028 9041 2387*