

Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service

Magistrates Court Statistics (Provisional Statistics) April to June 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 April to June 2010.

During the quarter;

- There were 1,124 scheduled magistrates' sittings
- There were 57 additional magistrates' sittings
- The average waiting time in the adult criminal court from first hearing to disposal was 5 weeks
- 15,412 new adult criminal defendants were received in court and 13,460 adult defendants were disposed of during the period

Ends

Notes for Editors

During Apr – Jun 2010:

- There were 1,124 scheduled magistrates' sittings of which:
Criminal 751
Youth 129
Family 244
- There were 57 additional magistrates' sittings of which:
Criminal 51
Youth 2
Family 4
- There were 57 special magistrates' sittings of which:
Criminal 57
- 15,412 new adult criminal defendants were received in court and 13,460 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

Venue	% Adults Disposed	% Adults Entered
Belfast	28	27
Londonderry	10	9
Antrim	12	14
Fermanagh	15	16
Armagh	12	11
Ards	11	11
Craigavon	12	12

- 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 5 weeks. (Figure 2)
- 980 new defendants were entered in the youth court and 777 youth defendants were disposed of in the youth court.
- The average waiting time in the youth court from first hearing to disposal was 10 weeks.
- 1,666 new civil applications were entered and 1,438 civil applications were disposed of.
- The average length of time for a case to progress through the civil court was 7 weeks from date of issue to disposal.

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

Venue	Waiting Time (in weeks)
Belfast	5.0
Londonderry	4.3
Antrim	5.8
Fermanagh	4.2
Armagh	7.4
Ards	5.5
Craigavon	4.8

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/en-GB/Publications/Targets_and_Performance/p_tp_MagistratesCourtBulletin_AprJun_2010.htm

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

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