

Magistrates Court Statistics (Provisional Statistics) January - March 2011

13th May 2011

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 2011.

During the quarter;

- There were 1,170 scheduled magistrates' sittings
- There were 66 additional magistrates' sittings
- 14,554 new adult criminal defendants were received in court and 14,421 adult defendants were disposed of
- The average waiting time in the adult criminal court from first hearing to disposal was 7 weeks

Ends

Notes for Editors

During Jan – Mar 2011:

- There were 1,155 scheduled magistrates' sittings of which:

Criminal	767
Youth	142
Family	261

- There were 69 additional magistrates' sittings of which:

Criminal	57
Youth	4
Family	5

- 14,554 new adult criminal defendants were received in court and 14,421 adult defendants were disposed of during the period. (Figure 1)

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

Venue	% Adults Disposed	% Adults Entered
Belfast	31	33
Londonderry	10	9
Antrim	11	10
Fermanagh	16	15
Armagh	10	11
Ards	12	12
Craigavon	10	10

- The majority of prosecutions disposed in the adult court were brought by PSNI/ PPS.
- 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)

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

Venue	Waiting Time (in weeks)
Belfast	6.7
Londonderry	7.1
Antrim	7.6
Fermanagh	5.7
Armagh	6.3
Ards	8.2
Craigavon	7.5

- 749 new defendants were entered in the youth court and 811 youth defendants were disposed of in the youth court
- The average waiting time in the youth court from first hearing to disposal was 13 weeks

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_JanMarch_2011.htm

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

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