

Analytical Services Group

County Court Bulletin

October to December 2016

Research and Statistical Bulletin 05/2017

Provisional quarterly figures

R Redmond

10 February 2017





Produced by Analytical Services Group, Department of Justice.

For further information write to:

Analytical Services Group, NI Courts and Tribunals Service, 4th Floor, Laganside House, 23-27 Oxford Street, Belfast BT1 3LA

Telephone: 028 9072 8920

Email: rodney.redmond@courtsni.gov.uk

This bulletin is available on the Internet at:

www.courtsni.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This bulletin provides information on throughput at County Courts in Northern Ireland during the period October to December 2016 and commentary on trends observed for this quarter in each year from 2007. On 31st October 2016, a single County Court Division called "The County Court of Northern Ireland" replaced the seven existing County Court Divisions. As a consequence of this change, data contained in the County Court Bulletin is now disaggregated by Court Office (Processing Office). Data will also continue to be published by the seven existing County Court Divisions until the end of 2016. During the period October to December 2016:
- There were 1,808 civil bills with a notice of intention to defend (NID) received, a 1% decrease on the same quarter last year (1,829). In total, 2,527 civil bills were disposed, similar to the number disposed during the same period in 2015 (2,519).
- ➤ 34 equity cases were received during October to December 2016, the same as the number received during the period October to December 2015, while 29 equity cases were disposed, similar to the 28 disposed during the same period last year.
- A total of 205 ejectment cases were received, down 8% on the 223 cases received during October to December 2015, with the number of ejectment cases disposed decreasing by 12%, from 205 in the same quarter last year to 180 this quarter.
- > 2,450 small claims were received, down 6% on the 2,604 received during the same quarter last year. The number of small claims cases disposed decreased by 15% from 2,533 during October to December 2015 to 2,160 this quarter.
- Five criminal damage cases were received, and eleven cases were disposed during the quarter. This compares with two cases received and four cases disposed during the same quarter in 2015.
- A total of 385 divorce decrees were granted in the county court, up 2% on the 377 granted during the same period last year.
- County Court and District Judges sat a total of 1,169 sitting days during the quarter, up 6% on the 1,101 sitting days recorded during the period October to December 2015. Some 60% of time was spent on criminal business with 24% spent on civil business and 16% on family business (compared to 49%, 33% and 18% respectively during October to December 2015). The increase in both the number of sitting days, and the proportion of time spent on criminal business is reflective of increased activity in the Crown Court during the period aimed at addressing a backlog of cases arising from the recent legal aid dispute that commenced during May 2015 and was resolved in February 2016.

CONTENTS

Contents	Page
 Introduction Methodology Findings 3.1 Ordinary civil bills 3.2 Equity 3.3 Ejectment 3.4 Small claims 3.5 Criminal damage 3.6 Divorces 3.7 Licences 3.8 Sitting Days 	1 2 4
Appendix 1 – Tables	12
Appendix 2 – Explanatory Notes	40
Figure	Page
Figure 1: Civil bills with NID received: October – December 2007 to October - December 2016 Figure 2: Civil bills disposed, by method of disposal: October - December 2007	4
to October - December 2016	5
Figure 3: Ejectment cases received and disposed: October - December 2007 to October - December 2016	6
Figure 4: Small claims cases disposed, by type of disposal: October - December	
<u>2007 to October - December 2016</u> Figure 5: Criminal Damage cases received and disposed: October - December	7
2007 to October - December 2016	8
Figure 6: Divorce petitions by number of decrees granted, by type: October - December 2007 to October - December 2016	9
Figure 7: County Court Sitting Days by Business Type: October - December	10
<u>2016</u>	
Figure 8: County Court Sitting Days by Business Type: October - December 2007 to October - December 2016	11
Table	Page
Table 1: Number of ordinary civil bill cases and applications received	12
Table 2: Number of ordinary civil bill cases with NID received by Judicial Level	13
Table 3: Number of ordinary civil bill cases and applications disposed	14
Table 4: Number of ordinary civil bill cases by amount awarded	15
Table 5: Outstanding civil bills with NID but no COR	16
Table 6: Outstanding civil bills with COR	16
Table 7: Time intervals in weeks for civil bill cases	17

Table 8: Time intervals in weeks for civil bill applications	17
Table 9: Equity cases and applications received	18
Table 10: Equity cases and applications disposed	19
Table 11: Outstanding equity cases	20
Table 12: Time intervals in weeks for equity	21
Table 13: Ejectment cases received	22
Table 14: Ejectment cases disposed	22
Table 15: Outstanding ejectment cases with NID	23
Table 16: Time intervals in weeks for ejectment	23
Table 17: Number of small claims cases and applications received	24
Table 18: Number of small claims cases with NOD received	25
Table 19: Number of small claims cases and applications disposed	26
Table 20: Outstanding claims with NOD	27
Table 21: Time intervals in weeks for small claims	28
Table 22: Number of criminal damage cases and applications received	29
Table 23: Number of criminal damage cases and applications disposed	30
Table 24: Outstanding criminal damage cases	31
Table 25: Time intervals in weeks for criminal damage	31
Table 26: Divorce petitions by number of decrees granted	32
Table 27: Divorce petitions by number of decrees absolute issued	33
Table 28: Matrimonial applications received	34
Table 29: Matrimonial applications disposed	35
Table 30: Time intervals in weeks for divorce petitions	36
Table 31: Time intervals in weeks for divorce applications	37
Table 32: Licences received and disposed	38
Table 33: County Court Judge & District Judge Sitting Days	39

1. INTRODUCTION

Civil cases are commenced in the county court if the value of the case is less than £30,000. The financial limit in the County Court increased from £15,000 to £30,000 on the 25 February 2013. However, for claims concerning matrimonial property or compensation for criminal injuries or criminal damage to property, there is no financial limit. The county court also has jurisdiction to hear applications for adoptions and undefended divorces. Applications for intoxicating liquor licences and certificates of registration for clubs are also made to the county court. In addition to its original civil jurisdiction the county court hears appeals under a number of statutory provisions from the magistrates' courts or from other tribunals.

County courts can deal with a wide range of cases, but the most common ones are:-

- landlord and tenant disputes, for example, possession (eviction), rent arrears, repairs
- consumer disputes, for example, faulty goods or services
- personal injury claims (injuries caused by negligence), for example, traffic accidents, falling into holes in the pavement, accidents at work
- undefended divorce cases, but only in some county courts
- some domestic violence cases, but these may also be heard in the magistrates court
- race and sex discrimination cases
- debt problems, for example, a creditor seeking payment
- employment problems, for example, wages or salary owing or pay in lieu of notice.

The county court also deals with small claims. In general, a small claim is one where the value of the claim is not more than £3,000. This limit was increased from £2,000 in May 2011.

The most common types of claim dealt with in the small claims court are:

- compensation for faulty services provided, for example, by builders, dry cleaners and garages
- compensation for faulty goods, for example, televisions or washing machines which go wrong
- disputes between landlords and tenants, for example, rent arrears or compensation for not doing repairs
- wages owed or money in lieu of notice.

All claims arising from regulated credit agreements must be started in the county court, whatever their value.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Data sources

Data contained in Tables 1 to 31 and Table 33 use data that are inputted onto the Integrated Court Operations System (ICOS). This system was implemented across the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service (NICTS) over a two year period from 2005 to 2007. While ICOS was introduced in the County Court during 2005, data derived from ICOS has been used as the source for official government statistics since 2007, when the implementation of ICOS across all court tiers was completed. ICOS is a live operating system used in each court tier to process every part of court business, from receipt of payments through to the production of final orders made. The data are input into this system on a daily basis by court clerks, and this information is checked and confirmed by another member of staff to ensure the data entries are correct. As data on licence applications received and disposed are not recorded on ICOS, these data are compiled manually by each county court office and submitted on a quarterly basis.

2.2 Methodology for generating data

Analytical Service Group (ASG) Statisticians based within the NICTS take a download of county court information from ICOS on a monthly basis. The information is downloaded using a package called Oracle Discoverer which extracts all the relevant data from ICOS into text files which are refreshed with up to date information each weekend. The text files are downloaded onto a secure internal facility that only specified statistical personnel have access to. The data contained in the files are identified only by numbers and names and addresses are not held. These statistical files are not transmitted outside the NICTS statistical team. ASG statisticians based in the NICTS import these data into the Statistics Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). SPSS is then used to perform extensive data validations to identify potential errors in the data and to ensure the data are reliable and robust.

2.3 Baseline and Time period

Data contained within this bulletin relate to the time series 2007, when ICOS was adopted as the source of county court data, to the current calendar year 2016.

2.4 Frequency of Publication

This bulletin is published on a quarterly basis. The next bulletin will cover the first quarter of 2017 and will be published on 12th May 2017.

2.5 Data quality and validation

ASG statisticians based in the NICTS have invested significant time and effort creating and extensive computer programme within SPSS to validate the information downloaded from ICOS. The programme includes over 100 checks against downloaded court data to: (i) check consistency over time and between variables; (ii) assess the reliability of data using logic checks; (iii) check that variables fall within accepted ranges; and (iv) check with the ICOS Support Team in the event of any major discrepancies that have occurred since the last download. The validation program produces user friendly tables highlighting the potential problems which are circulated to each county court venue as a validation report. The NICTS statistics team then ensure that all validations relating to the reporting period are amended prior to publication. Once these amendments have been checked, SPSS syntax programming is then used to generate the tables in the publication.

2.6 Counting rules

Receipts are counted from the date the case is entered onto ICOS and the fees are receipted. Disposals are counted from the result date that a final order was made against the case changing the case status to dealt with. On 31st October 2016, a single County Court Division called "The County Court of Northern Ireland" will replace the seven existing County Court Divisions. As a consequence of this change, data contained in the County Court Bulletin is now disaggregated by Court Office (Processing Office). Data will also continue to be published by the seven existing County Court Divisions until the end of 2016.

2.6 Interpreting trends

Care should be taken when comparing data trends before and after 2005, when ICOS was introduced as the source for the majority of county court data. Additionally, due to on-going changes to the legal jurisdiction of the county court, users should be cautious of comparing trends in small claims and ordinary civil bills. Changes made to the upper limit of small claims in May 2011 (from £2,000 to £3,000) will have resulted in some claims that would have previously been ordinary civil bills becoming small claims. Also, changes to jurisdiction to increase the upper limit of ordinary civil bills during February 2013 (from £15,000 to £30,000) will have resulted in some cases that were previously High Court writs becoming ordinary civil bills. For further advice on differences in data between years, please contact the statistician responsible for this bulletin.

2.7 Revisions

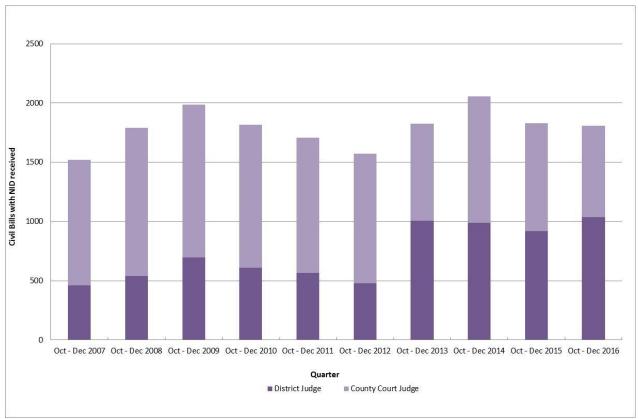
Any revision to data will be applied in light of the ASG (NICTS) Statistical Note 'Policy Statement on Revisions' which can be found on the Statistics and Research page of the Services section on the NICTS website (www.courtsni.gov.uk). Incorrect figures of changes to this publication will be published on the web in a formal Statistical Notice.

3. FINDINGS

3.1 Ordinary civil bills

There were 1,808 civil bills with a notice of intention to defend (NID) received, a 1% decrease on the same quarter last year (1,829) (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Civil bills with NID received: October - December 2007 to October - December 2016



In total, 2,527 civil bills were disposed, a similar number to the 2,519 disposed during the same period in 2015 (Figure 2).

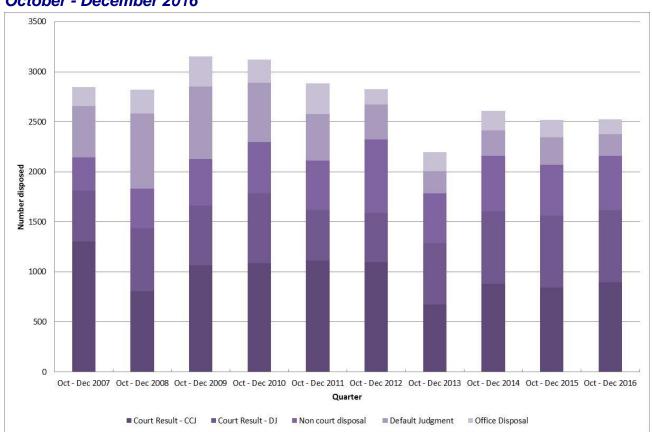


Figure 2: Civil bills disposed, by method of disposal: October - December 2007 to October - December 2016

The average time taken from issue to disposal of a civil bill was 59 weeks, compared to the 55 weeks reported for the same quarter in 2015.

3.2 Equity

A total of 34 equity cases were received during October to December 2016, the same as the number received during the period October to December 2015, while the number of equity cases disposed increased slightly from 28 during the period October to December 2015, to 29 this quarter. The average time taken from issue to disposal of equity cases was 76 weeks, down from 108 weeks during the same period last year. The relatively small number of equity cases disposed each quarter can lead to significant changes in average times observed from issue to disposal.

3.3 Ejectment

A total of 205 ejectment cases were received, down 8% on the 223 cases received during October to December 2015, with the number of ejectment cases disposed decreasing by 12%, from 205 in the same quarter last year to 180 this quarter (Figure 3).

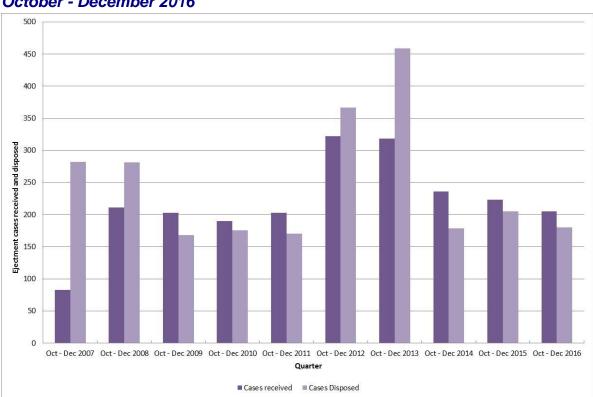


Figure 3: Ejectment cases received and disposed: October - December 2007 to October - December 2016

The overall trend in ejectment cases received since 2007 is similar to the number of mortgage cases received in the High Court over the same time and is likely to be due to the economic conditions of this period.

The average time taken from issue to disposal for ejectment cases was 21 weeks, compared to 16 weeks during the October to December quarter in 2015.

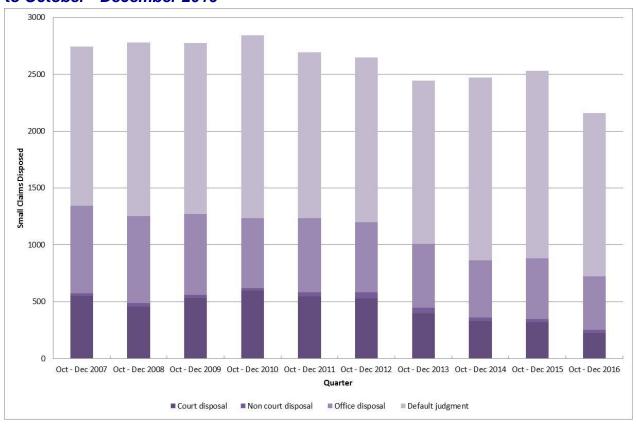
3.4 Small claims

2,450 small claims were received, down 6% on the 2,604, received during the same quarter last year.

The number of small claims cases disposed decreased by 15% from 2,533 during October to December 2015 to 2,160 this quarter, the lowest number during this quarter since the beginning of the time series in 2007.

Of the 2,160 small claims disposed during the quarter, the majority (67%) were disposed by way of default judgment, a situation observed during each of the October to December quarters since the beginning of the time series in 2007 (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Small claims cases disposed, by type of disposal: October - December 2007 to October - December 2016

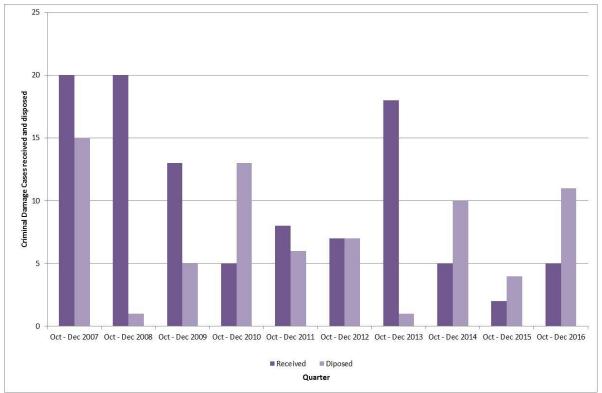


The average number of weeks from issue to disposal for small claims cases was 18 weeks, compared to 22 weeks during the corresponding quarter last year.

3.5 Criminal Damage

Five criminal damage cases were received and eleven cases were disposed during the quarter. This compares with two cases received and four cases disposed during the same quarter in 2015 (Figure 5).

Figure 5: Criminal Damage cases received and disposed: October - December 2007 to October - December 2016



The average time taken in weeks from issue to disposal of Criminal Damage cases disposed was 342 weeks, compared to 136 weeks for cases disposed during the same period last year. The relatively small number of cases disposed each quarter can lead to significant changes in average times observed from issue to disposal.

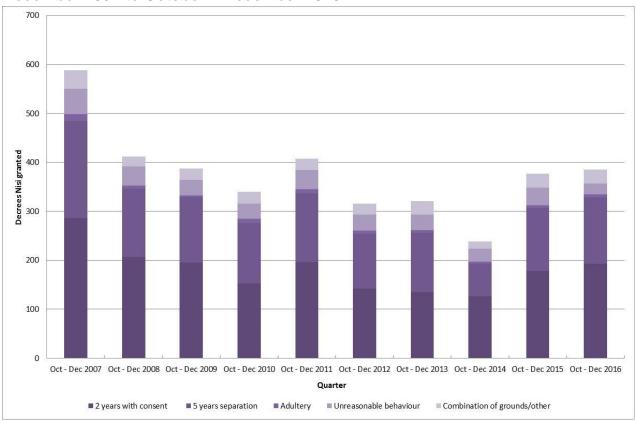
3.6 Divorces

While all divorces are received in the High Court, divorce decrees are granted and decrees absolute issued in the County Court for less contentious and undefended cases.

A total of 385 divorce decrees were granted in the county court, up 2% on the 377 granted during the same period last year.

The main type of divorce decree granted was '2 years with consent' accounting for 50% of decrees (193), followed by '5 years separation', 35% (135) of decrees (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Divorce petitions by number of decrees granted, by type: October - December 2007 to October - December 2016



A total of 393 decrees absolute were issued in the county court, a decrease of 23% on the 511 issued during the period October to December 2015. Again the most common type of decree absolute was '2 years with consent', accounting for 50% (196) of cases.

The average time taken from issue to the date a divorce decree was granted was 27 weeks, with an average of nine weeks from the date the decree was granted until the date the decree absolute was issued. This compares to 30 weeks and eight weeks during the same period last year.

3.7 Licences

There were 59 licence applications received and 70 disposed, compared to the 58 received and 42 disposed during the same quarter last year.

3.8 Sitting Days

County Court and District Judges sat a total of 1,169 sitting days during the guarter, up 6% on the 1,101 sitting days recorded during the period October to December 2015.

Within these 1,169 sitting days, 60% of time was spent on criminal business, 24% of time was spent on civil business and 16% of time was spent on family business (Figure 7).

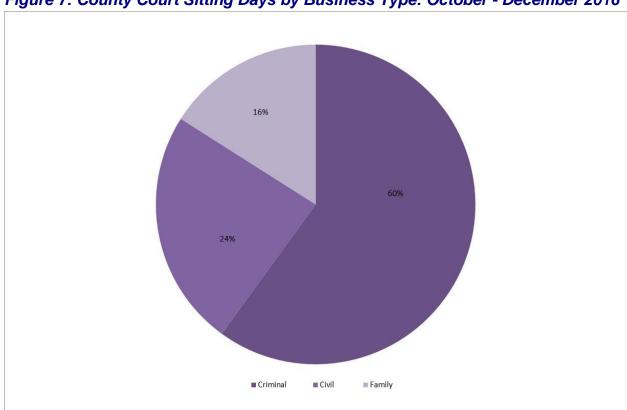
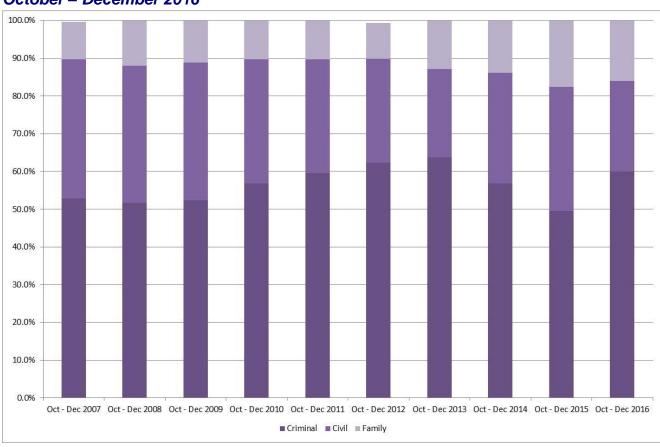


Figure 7: County Court Sitting Days by Business Type: October - December 2016

The proportion of time spent on criminal business has displayed a steady increase from 53% during October to December 2007 to 64% during the guarter October to December 2013. This is largely reflective of County Court Judges dealing with increased volumes of cases in the Crown Court over the period.

The proportion of time spent on criminal business then decreased to 50% during October to December 2015. This decrease was reflective of the action taken by a number of solicitors and counsel who withdrew their representation from a number of Crown Court cases in response to the introduction, in May 2015, of new rules in relation to legal aid remuneration. Following resolution of this dispute in February 2016, activity in the Crown Court has increased while the backlog of cases arising from the dispute is addressed. This has resulted in an increase both in the number of days sat by County Court Judges and the proportion of time spent on criminal business (60%) during October to December 2016.

Figure 8: County Court Sitting Days by Business Type: October - December 2007 to October - December 2016



APPENDIX 1

Civil Bills

Table 1: Number of ordinary civil bill cases and applications received

	Division	Court Office	
Case	Antrim	Antrim	3
		Ballymena	5
		Coleraine	170
		Total	178
	Ards	Downpatrick	3
		Newtownards	217
		Total	220
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	0
		Newry	98
		Total	98
	Belfast	Laganside	1,644
		Total	1,644
	Craigavon	Craigavon	192
		Lisburn	2
		Total	194
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	143
		Enniskillen	2
		Dungannon	2
		Total	147
	Londonderry	Londonderry	130
		Total	130
	Northern Ireland	Total	2,611
Application	Antrim	Antrim	8
		Ballymena	9
		Coleraine	63
		Total	80
	Ards	Downpatrick	8
		Newtownards	101
		Total	109
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	4
		Newry	67
		Total	71
	Belfast	Laganside	629
		Total	629
	Craigavon	Craigavon	140
		Lisburn	3
		Total	143
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	100
		Enniskillen	0
		Dungannon	0
		Total	100
	Londonderry	Londonderry	87
		Total	87
	Northern Ireland	Total	1,219

Table 2: Number of ordinary civil bill cases with NIDs received by judicial level

Division	Court Office	County court judge	District judge	Total
Antrim	Antrim	1	1	2
	Ballymena	0	1	1
	Coleraine	67	102	169
	Total	68	104	172
Ards	Downpatrick	2	0	2
	Newtownards	68	143	211
	Total	70	143	213
Armagh and South	Armagh	1	0	1
Down	Newry	43	67	110
	Total	44	67	111
Belfast	Laganside	431	404	835
	Total	431	404	835
Craigavon	Craigavon	53	143	196
	Lisburn	0	1	1
	Total	53	144	197
Fermanagh and	Omagh	65	85	150
Tyrone	Enniskillen	1	0	1
	Dungannon	0	1	1
	Total	66	86	152
Londonderry	Londonderry	41	87	128
	Total	41	87	128
Northern Ireland	Total	773	1,035	1,808

Table 3: Number of ordinary civil bills cases and applications disposed

	Division	Court Office	Court result - CCJ	Court result - DJ	Non court disposals	Default judgement	Office disposal	Total
Case	Antrim	Antrim	3	0	2	0	2	7
		Ballymena	3	1	4	2	2	12
		Coleraine	40	65	66	6	14	191
		Total	46	66	72	8	18	210
	Ards	Downpatrick	0	3	0	0	0	3
		Newtownards	48	85	61	4	16	214
		Total	48	88	61	4	16	217
	Armagh and	Armagh	3	8	3	0	0	14
	South Down	Newry	33	57	32	4	8	134
		Total	36	65	35	4	8	148
	Belfast	Laganside	587	300	193	9	46	
	Deliast					9		1,135
	Civil	Total	587	300	193	9	46	1,135
	Civil Processing Centre	Civil Processing Centre	0	0	28	192	19	239
	Contro	Total	0	0	28	192	19	239
	Craigavon	Craigavon	78	9	70	1 1	16	174
	J	Lisburn	9	1	11	0	5	26
		Total	87	10	81	1	21	200
	Fermanagh	Omagh	43	111	37	1	7	199
	and Tyrone	Enniskillen	1	2	0	0	0	3
			1	2	0	0	1	4
		Dungannon Total						
	Londondonni		45	115	37	1	8	206
	Londonderry	Londonderry	45	76	38	1	12	172
	No atherm	Total	45	76	38	1	12	172
Amuliantian	Northern Ireland	Total	894	720	545	220	148	2,527
Application	Antrim	Antrim	3	1	5	0	0	9
		Ballymena	2	0	3	0	0	5
		Coleraine	7	5	21	0	0	33
		Total	12	6	29	0	0	47
	Ards	Downpatrick	3	0	2	0	0	5
		Newtownards	4	18	33	0	0	55
		Total	7	18	35	0	0	60
	Armagh and	Armagh	0	2	1	0	0	3
	South Down	Newry	10	10	22	0	0	42
		Total	10	12	23	0	0	45
	Belfast	Laganside	29	46	142	0	0	217
		Total	29	46	142	0	0	217
	Civil Processing Centre	Civil Processing Centre	0	0	16	0	0	16
		Total	0	0	16	0	0	16
	Craigavon	Craigavon	14	0	46	0	0	60
		Lisburn	2	0	1	0	0	3
		Total	16	0	47	0	0	63
	Fermanagh	Omagh	5	5	40	0	0	50
	and Tyrone	Enniskillen	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Dungannon	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Total	5	5	40	0	0	50
	Londonderry	Londonderry	5	14	29	0	0	48
	Londonderry	Total	5	14	29	0	0	48
	Northern	Total	84	101	361	0	0	546
	Ireland	Total	84	101	301	U	U	54

Table 4: Number of ordinary civil bills cases by amount awarded¹

	Division	Court Office	No value	Less than £1000	£1000- 2999	£3000- 4999	Over £5000	Total
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0	0	0	1	2	3
		Ballymena	0	1	0	1	2	4
		Coleraine	21	5	22	19	38	105
		Total	21	6	22	21	42	112
	Ards	Downpatrick	2	1	0	0	0	3
		Newtownards	28	5	19	30	51	133
		Total	30	6	19	30	51	136
	Armagh and	Armagh	1	0	5	1	4	11
	South Down	Newry	15	1	23	22	29	90
		Total	16	1	28	23	33	101
	Belfast	Laganside	498	29	128	93	139	887
		Total	498	29	128	93	139	887
	Craigavon	Craigavon	20	9	15	17	26	87
		Lisburn	3	0	1	3	3	10
		Total	23	9	16	20	29	97
	Fermanagh	Omagh	43	13	23	34	41	154
	and Tyrone	Enniskillen	2	0	0	0	1	3
		Dungannon	1	0	1	0	1	3
		Total	46	13	24	34	43	160
	Londonderry	Londonderry	55	9	21	14	22	121
		Total	55	9	21	14	22	121
	Northern Ireland	Total	689	73	258	235	359	1,614

Excludes cases that were adjourned generally, default judgements or had office disposals

Table 5: Outstanding civil bills with NID but no COR

	Division	Court Office	County Court Judge	District Judge	Total
Case	Antrim	Antrim	4	3	7
		Ballymena	4	9	13
		Coleraine	184	196	380
		Total	192	208	400
	Ards	Downpatrick	2	3	5
		Newtownards	113	211	324
		Total	115	214	329
	Armagh and	Armagh	21	17	38
	South Down	Newry	148	140	288
		Total	169	157	326
	Belfast	Laganside	1,713	952	2,665
		Total	1,713	952	2,665
	Craigavon	Craigavon	119	208	327
		Lisburn	11	12	23
		Total	130	220	350
	Fermanagh	Omagh	266	237	503
	and Tyrone	Enniskillen	1	1	2
		Dungannon	0	1	1
		Total	267	239	506
	Londonderry	Londonderry	123	157	280
		Total	123	157	280
	Northern Ireland	Total	2,709	2,147	4,856

Table 6: Outstanding civil bills with COR

Division	Court Office	County court judge	District judge	Total
Antrim	Antrim	0	4	4
	Ballymena	6	3	9
	Coleraine	67	65	132
	Total	73	72	145
Ards	Downpatrick	0	0	0
	Newtownards	24	89	113
	Total	24	89	113
Armagh and South	Armagh	1	3	4
Down	Newry	50	52	102
	Total	51	55	106
Belfast	Laganside	766	326	1,092
	Total	766	326	1,092
Craigavon	Craigavon	48	81	129
	Lisburn	23	11	34
	Total	71	92	163
Fermanagh and	Omagh	88	101	189
Tyrone	Enniskillen	1	0	1
	Dungannon	3	3	6
	Total	92	104	196
Londonderry	Londonderry	30	51	81
	Total	30	51	81
Northern Ireland	Total	1,107	789	1,896

Table 7: Time intervals in weeks for civil bill cases²

	Division	Court Office	Issue to disposal
Case	Antrim	Antrim	21
		Ballymena	107
		Coleraine	44
		Total	45
	Ards	Downpatrick	15
		Newtownards	39
		Total	38
	Armagh and	Armagh	61
	South Down	Newry	51
		Total	52
	Belfast	Laganside	63
		Total	63
	Craigavon	Craigavon	53
		Lisburn	58
		Total	54
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	64
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	266
		Dungannon	175
		Total	70
	Londonderry	Londonderry	56
		Total	56
	Northern Ireland	Total	59

² Excludes default judgements and office disposals

Table 8: Time intervals in weeks for civil bill applications²

applications			
	Division	Court Office	Issue to disposal
Application	Antrim	Antrim	9
		Ballymena	10
		Coleraine	10
		Total	10
	Ards	Downpatrick	3
		Newtownards	9
		Total	8
	Armagh and	Armagh	22
South D	South Down	Newry	10
		Total	11
	Belfast	Laganside	16
		Total	16
	Craigavon	Craigavon	10
		Lisburn	23
		Total	12
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	12
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0
		Dungannon	0
		Total	12
	Londonderry	Londonderry	10
		Total	10
	Northern Ireland	Total	13

² Excludes default judgements and office disposals

Equity

Table 9: Equity cases and applications received

	cases and application	Court Office	
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0
Guod	7	Ballymena	0
		Coleraine	3
		Total	3
	Ards	Downpatrick	1
	7 0.0	Newtownards	0
		Total	1
	Armagh and	Armagh	0
	South Down	Newry	2
		Total	2
	Belfast	Laganside	13
		Total	13
	Craigavon	Craigavon	2
		Lisburn	0
		Total	2
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	10
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0
		Dungannon	0
		Total	10
	Londonderry	Londonderry	3
		Total	3
	Northern Ireland	Total	34
Application	Antrim	Antrim	0
		Ballymena	2
		Coleraine	0
		Total	2
	Ards	Downpatrick	0
		Newtownards	0
		Total	0
	Armagh and	Armagh	0
	South Down	Newry	6
		Total	6
	Belfast	Laganside	3
		Total	3
	Craigavon	Craigavon	0
		Lisburn	0
		Total	0
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	9
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0
		Dungannon	0
		Total	9
	Londonderry	Londonderry	0
		Total	0
	Northern Ireland	Total	20

Table 10: Equity cases and applications disposed

Tuble 10. Equi	Division	Court Office	Court result - CCJ	Court result - DJ	Non court	Total
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0	0	0	0
		Ballymena	0	0	0	0
		Coleraine	0	1	0	1
		Total	0	1	0	1
	Ards	Downpatrick	0	0	0	0
		Newtownards	4	0	0	4
		Total	4	0	0	4
	Armagh and	Armagh	0	0	1	1
	South Down	Newry	4	0	0	4
		Total	4	0	1	5
	Belfast	Laganside	3	0	1	4
		Total	3	0	1	4
	Craigavon	Craigavon	5	0	1	6
		Lisburn	0	0	0	0
		Total	5	0	1	6
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	4	1	2	7
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0	0	0	0
		Dungannon	0	0	0	0
		Total	4	1	2	7
	Londonderry	Londonderry	2	0	0	2
		Total	2	0	0	2
	Northern Ireland	Total	22	2	5	29
Application	Antrim	Antrim	0	0	0	0
		Ballymena	0	1	0	1
		Coleraine	0	1	0	1
		Total	0	2	0	2
	Ards	Downpatrick	0	0	0	0
		Newtownards	1	0	0	1
	A	Total	1	0	0	1
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	0	0	0	0
	Coulii Down	Newry	2	1	1	4
	Belfast	Total	2	1	1	4
	Deliasi	Laganside	0	0	1	1
	Craigavon	Total	0	0	1	1
	Graigavon	Craigavon Lisburn	0	0	0	0
		Total	0	0	0	0
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	7	1	1	9
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0	0	0	0
		Dungannon	0	0	0	0
		Total	7	1	1	9
	Londonderry	Londonderry	0	0	1	1
	201140114011	Total	0	0	1	1
	Northern Ireland	Total	10	4	4	18
	Northern relatio	IUlai	10	4	4	10

Table 11: Outstanding equity cases

	Division	Court Office	
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0
		Ballymena	6
		Coleraine	25
		Total	31
	Ards	Downpatrick	5
		Newtownards	17
		Total	22
	Armagh and	Armagh	0
	South Down	Newry	32
		Total	32
	Belfast	Laganside	57
		Total	57
	Craigavon	Craigavon	14
		Lisburn	1
		Total	15
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	52
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0
		Dungannon	0
		Total	52
	Londonderry	Londonderry	22
		Total	22
	Northern Ireland	Total	231

Table 12: Time intervals in weeks for equity

	Division	Court Office	Issue to disposal
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0
		Ballymena	0
		Coleraine	24
		Total	24
	Ards	Downpatrick	0
		Newtownards	155
		Total	155
	Armagh and	Armagh	0
	South Down	Newry	63
		Total	63
	Belfast	Laganside	53
		Total	53
	Craigavon	Craigavon	41
		Lisburn	0
		Total	41
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	102
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0
		Dungannon	0
		Total	102
	Londonderry	Londonderry	31
		Total	31
	Northern Ireland	Total	76
Application	Antrim	Antrim	0
		Ballymena	1
		Coleraine	6
		Total	3
	Ards	Downpatrick	0
		Newtownards	18
		Total	18
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	0
		Newry	28
		Total	28
	Belfast	Laganside	0
		Total	0
	Craigavon	Craigavon	0
		Lisburn	0
		Total	0
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	5
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0
		Dungannon	0
	Londonderry	Total	5
	Londonderry	Londonderry Total	0
	Northern Ireland	Total	0
	Hortierii ileiaila	1 Utai	11

Ejectment

Table 13: Ejectment cases received

	Division	Court Office	
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0
		Ballymena	0
		Coleraine	9
		Total	9
	Ards	Downpatrick	0
		Newtownards	29
		Total	29
	Armagh and	Armagh	0
	South Down	Newry	10
		Total	10
	Belfast	Laganside	115
		Total	115
	Craigavon	Craigavon	17
		Lisburn	0
		Total	17
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	19
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0
		Dungannon	0
		Total	19
	Londonderry	Londonderry	6
		Total	6
	Northern Ireland	Total	205

Table 14: Ejectment cases disposed

	Division	Court Office	Court result - CCJ	Court result - DJ	Non court disposals	Total
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0	0	0	0
		Ballymena	2	0	0	2
		Coleraine	14	0	0	14
		Total	16	0	0	16
	Ards	Downpatrick	0	0	0	0
		Newtownards	1	30	2	33
		Total	1	30	2	33
	Armagh and	Armagh	2	0	0	2
Sout	South Down	Newry	4	0	0	4
		Total	6	0	0	6
	Belfast	Laganside	3	67	1	71
		Total	3	67	1	71
	Craigavon	Craigavon	0	24	1	25
		Lisburn	0	1	0	1
		Total	0	25	1	26
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	15	0	0	15
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0	0	0	0
		Dungannon	0	0	0	0
		Total	15	0	0	15
	Londonderry	Londonderry	11	0	2	13
		Total	11	0	2	13
	Northern Ireland	Total	52	122	6	180

Table 15: Outstanding ejectment cases with NID

	Division	Court Office	
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0
		Ballymena	1
		Coleraine	3
		Total	4
	Ards	Downpatrick	0
		Newtownards	3
		Total	3
	Armagh and	Armagh	0
	South Down	Newry	7
		Total	7
	Belfast	Laganside	13
		Total	13
	Craigavon	Craigavon	0
		Lisburn	2
		Total	2
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	10
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0
		Dungannon	0
		Total	10
	Londonderry	Londonderry	3
		Total	3
	Northern Ireland	Total	42

Table 16: Time intervals in weeks for ejectment³

Table 16: Time intervals in weeks for ejectment				
	Division	Court Office	Issue to disposal	
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0	
		Ballymena	14	
		Coleraine	19	
		Total	19	
	Ards	Downpatrick	0	
		Newtownards	21	
		Total	21	
	Armagh and	Armagh	16	
	South Down	Newry	19	
		Total	18	
	Belfast	Laganside	23	
		Total	23	
	Craigavon	Craigavon	16	
		Lisburn	54	
		Total	17	
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	27	
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0	
		Dungannon	0	
		Total	27	
	Londonderry	Londonderry	12	
		Total	12	
	Northern Ireland	Total	21	

³ Excludes default judgements, non-court disposals and office disposals

Small Claims

Table 17: Number of small claims cases and applications received

	Division	Court Office	
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0
		Ballymena	6
		Coleraine	39
		Total	45
	Ards	Downpatrick	3
		Newtownards	27
		Total	30
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	10
		Newry	12
		Total	22
	Belfast	Laganside	2,258
		Total	2,258
	Craigavon	Craigavon	26
		Lisburn	7
		Total	33
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	32
		Enniskillen	2
		Dungannon	1
		Total	35
	Londonderry	Londonderry	27
		Total	27
	Northern Ireland	Total	2,450
Applications	Antrim	Antrim	0
		Ballymena	0
		Coleraine	1
		Total	1
	Ards	Downpatrick	0
		Newtownards	5
	Associate Davide Davide	Total	5
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	0
		Newry	3
	Delfeet	Total	3
	Belfast	Laganside	35
	Craigayon	Total	35
	Craigavon	Craigavon	1
		Lisburn Total	1
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	2
	1 Simulagii and Tyrone	Enniskillen	6
		Dungannon	0
		Total	6
	Londonderry	Londonderry	
		Total	2
	Northern Ireland	Total	54
		- Otal	54

Table 18: Number of small claims cases with NODs received

	Division	Court Office	
Case	Antrim	Antrim	1
		Ballymena	5
		Coleraine	36
		Total	42
	Ards	Downpatrick	2
		Newtownards	31
		Total	33
	Armagh and South	Armagh	8
	Down	Newry	14
		Total	22
	Belfast	Laganside	140
		Total	140
	Craigavon	Craigavon	24
		Lisburn	5
		Total	29
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	28
		Enniskillen	1
		Dungannon	0
		Total	29
	Londonderry	Londonderry	24
		Total	24
	Northern Ireland	Total	319

Table 19: Number of small claims cases and applications disposed

	Division	Court Office	Court disposal	Non court disposal	Office disposal	Default judgement	Total
Case	Antrim	Antrim	1	0	0	0	1
		Ballymena	2	0	0	0	2
		Coleraine	37	2	6	1	46
		Total	40	2	6	1	49
	Ards	Downpatrick	0	0	1	0	1
		Newtownards	33	6	10	1	50
		Total	33	6	11	1	51
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	2	0	2	0	4
		Newry	19	1	6	1	27
		Total	21	1	8	1	31
	Belfast	Laganside	57	8	45	6	116
		Civil Processing Centre	0	4	388	1,429	1,821
		Total	57	12	433	1,435	1,937
	Craigavon	Craigavon	20	0	1	0	21
		Lisburn	8	1	1	0	10
		Total	28	1	2	0	31
	Fermanagh	Omagh	32	0	7	0	39
	and Tyrone	Enniskillen	1	1	0	0	2
		Dungannon	0	0	0	0	0
		Total	33	1	7	0	41
	Londonderry	Londonderry	14	3	2	1	20
	Total	14	3	2	1	20	
	Northern Ireland	Total	226	26	469	1,439	2,160
Applications	Antrim	Antrim	0	0	0	0	0
		Ballymena	0	0	0	0	0
		Coleraine	4	0	0	0	4
		Total	4	0	0	0	4
	Ards	Downpatrick	0	0	0	0	0
		Newtownards	3	1	0	0	4
		Total	3	1	0	0	4
	Armagh and	Armagh	0	0	0	0	0
	South Down	Newry	2	0	0	0	2
	D. If	Total	2	0	0	0	2
	Belfast	Laganside	11	8	0	0	19
	Overi	Total	11	8	0	0	19
	Craigavon	Craigavon	2	0	0	0	2
		Lisburn	0	0	0	0	0
	Form supply	Total	2	0	0	0	2
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	7	0	0	0	7
	and Tyrone	Enniskillen	0	0	0	0	0
		Strabane	0	0	0	0	0
	I amalas I	Total	7	0	0	0	7
	Londonderry	Londonderry	1	0	0	0	1
	N. d	Total	1	0	0	0	1
	Northern Ireland	Total	30	9	0	0	39

Table 20: Outstanding small claims with NOD

NOD	T	
Division	Court Office	
Antrim	Antrim	0
	Ballymena	12
	Coleraine	52
	Total	64
Ards	Downpatrick	1
	Newtownards	33
	Total	34
Armagh and South Down	Armagh	14
	Newry	19
	Total	33
Belfast	Laganside	255
	Total	255
Craigavon	Craigavon	35
	Lisburn	4
	Total	39
Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	30
	Enniskillen	2
	Dungannon	0
	Total	32
Londonderry	Londonderry	45
	Total	45
Northern Ireland	Total	502

Table 21: Time intervals in weeks for small claims³

	Division	Court Office	Issue to disposal
Case	Antrim	Antrim	10
		Ballymena	9
		Coleraine	17
		Total	17
	Ards	Downpatrick	0
		Newtownards	17
		Total	17
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	21
	Down	Newry	19
	Polfoot	Total	19
	Belfast	Laganside	16
		Total	16
	Craigavon	Craigavon	17
		Lisburn	22
	Formananh and Timona	Total	19
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	23
		Enniskillen	11
		Dungannon	0
	Landandanni	Total	22
	Londonderry	Londonderry	10
		Total	10
A I' d'	Northern Ireland	Total	18
Applications	Antrim	Antrim	0
		Ballymena	0
		Coleraine	7
	Ards	Total	7
	Ards	Downpatrick	0
		Newtownards	9
	Armagh and South	Total	9
	Down	Armagh	0
		Newry Total	6
	Belfast		6
	Deliast	Laganside Total	4
	Craigavon	Craigavon	4
	O algavon	Lisburn	10
		Total	10
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	10
	. Jillianagir ana i yi ono	Enniskillen	6
			0
		Dungannon	0
	Londonderry	Total	6
	Londonderry	Londonderry	0
	Northorn Ireland	Total	0
3 Fredrick - defended	Northern Ireland dgements, non-court disposals ar	Total	6

³ Excludes default judgements, non-court disposals and office disposals

Criminal Damage

Table 22: Number of criminal damage cases and applications received

	Division	Court Office	
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0
		Ballymena	0
		Coleraine	0
		Total	0
	Ards	Downpatrick	0
		Newtownards	0
		Total	0
	Armagh and South	Armagh	0
	Down	Newry	0
		Total	0
	Belfast	Laganside	4
		Total	4
	Craigavon	Craigavon	0
		Lisburn	0
		Total	0
	Fermanagh and	Omagh	0
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0
		Dungannon	0
		Total	0
	Londonderry	Londonderry	1
		Total	1
	Northern Ireland	Total	5
Applications	Antrim	Antrim	0
		Ballymena	0
		Coleraine	0
		Total	0
	Ards	Downpatrick	0
		Newtownards	0
		Total	0
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	0
	Down	Newry	0
	-	Total	0
	Belfast	Laganside	0
		Total	0
	Craigavon	Craigavon	0
		Lisburn	0
	Farmer and and	Total	0
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	0
	Tyrone	Enniskillen	0
		Dungannon	0
	Landay !	Total	0
	Londonderry	Londonderry	0
	North or United	Total	0
	Northern Ireland	Total	0

Table 23: Number of criminal damage cases and applications disposed

	nber of criminal damage case	Non			
	Division	Court Office	Court	court	
			disposal	disposal	Total
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0	0	0
		Ballymena	0	0	0
		Coleraine	0	0	0
		Total	0	0	0
	Ards	Downpatrick	0	0	0
		Newtownards	0	0	0
		Total	0	0	0
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	0	0	0
		Newry	0	0	0
		Total	0	0	0
	Belfast	Laganside	4	1	5
		Total	4	1	5
	Craigavon	Craigavon	4	0	4
		Lisburn	0	0	0
		Total	4	0	4
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	0	1	1
		Enniskillen	0	0	0
		Dungannon	0	0	0
		Total	0	1	1
	Londonderry	Londonderry	1	0	1
		Total	1	0	1
	Northern Ireland	Total	9	2	11
Applications	Antrim	Antrim	0	0	0
		Ballymena	0	0	0
		Coleraine	0	0	0
		Total	0	0	0
	Ards	Downpatrick	0	0	0
		Newtownards	0	0	0
		Total	0	0	0
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	0	0	0
		Newry	0	0	0
		Total	0	0	0
	Belfast	Laganside	0	0	0
		Total	0	0	0
	Craigavon	Craigavon	0	0	0
		Lisburn	0	0	0
		Total	0	0	0
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	0	0	0
		Enniskillen	0	0	0
		Dungannon	0	0	0
		Total	0	0	0
	Londonderry	Londonderry	0	0	0
		Total	0	0	0
	Northern Ireland	Total	0	0	0

Table 24: Outstanding criminal damage cases

	Division	Court Office	
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0
		Ballymena	0
		Coleraine	3
		Total	3
	Ards	Downpatrick	0
		Newtownards	2
		Total	2
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	5
		Newry	2
		Total	7
	Belfast	Laganside	23
		Total	23
	Craigavon	Craigavon	4
		Lisburn	0
		Total	4
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	15
		Enniskillen	0
		Dungannon	0
		Total	15
	Londonderry	Londonderry	2
		Total	2
	Northern Ireland	Total	56

Table 25: Time intervals in weeks for criminal damage²

Table 25: Time intervals in weeks for criminal damage					
	Division	Court Office	Issue to disposal		
Case	Antrim	Antrim	0		
		Ballymena	0		
		Coleraine	0		
		Total	0		
	Ards	Downpatrick	0		
		Newtownards	0		
		Total	0		
	Armagh and South Down	Armagh	0		
		Newry	0		
		Total	0		
	Belfast	Laganside	103		
		Total	103		
	Craigavon	Craigavon	629		
		Lisburn	0		
		Total	629		
	Fermanagh and Tyrone	Omagh	0		
		Enniskillen	0		
		Dungannon	0		
		Total	0		
	Londonderry	Londonderry	153		
		Total	153		
	Northern Ireland	Total	342		

² Excludes default judgements and office disposals

Divorces

Table 26: Divorce petitions by number of decrees granted

Division	Court Office	2 years with consent	5 years separation	Adultery	Unreasonable behaviour	Combination of grounds/other	Total
Antrim	Antrim	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ballymena	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Coleraine	32	35	3	8	8	86
	Total	32	35	3	8	8	86
Ards	Downpatrick	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Newtownards	30	14	0	2	2	48
	Total	30	14	0	2	2	48
Armagh and	Armagh	22	11	0	0	5	38
South Down	Newry	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	22	11	0	0	5	38
Belfast	Laganside	57	31	1	5	6	100
	Total	57	31	1	5	6	100
Craigavon	Craigavon	26	16	1	1	2	46
	Lisburn	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	26	16	1	1	2	46
Fermanagh	Omagh	0	0	0	0	1	1
and Tyrone	Enniskillen	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Dungannon	8	7	1	3	1	20
	Total	8	7	1	3	2	21
Londonderry	Londonderry	18	21	1	3	3	46
	Total	18	21	1	3	3	46
Northern Ireland	Total	193	135	7	22	28	385

Table 27: Divorce petitions by number of decrees absolute issued

Division	Court Office	2 years with consent	5 years separation	Adultery	Unreasonable behaviour	Combination of grounds/other	Total
Antrim	Antrim	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ballymena	0	0	0	1	1	2
	Coleraine	25	21	1	13	4	64
	Total	25	21	1	14	5	66
Ards	Downpatrick	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Newtownards	37	24	1	3	1	66
	Total	37	24	1	3	1	66
Armagh and	Armagh	15	12	1	3	1	32
South Down	Newry	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Total	16	12	1	3	1	33
Belfast	Laganside	59	28	3	5	1	96
	Total	59	28	3	5	1	96
Craigavon	Craigavon	19	23	2	4	5	53
	Lisburn	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Total	19	24	2	4	5	54
Fermanagh	Omagh	0	0	0	0	0	0
and Tyrone	Enniskillen	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Dungannon	18	15	0	1	1	35
	Total	18	15	0	1	1	35
Londonderry	Londonderry	22	14	0	2	5	43
	Total	22	14	0	2	5	43
Northern Ireland	Total	196	138	8	32	19	393

Table 28: Matrimonial applications received

Division	Court Office	Ancillary relief	Matrimonial application to a master	Other	Total
Antrim	Antrim	0	0	0	0
	Ballymena	2	0	0	2
	Coleraine	8	0	1	9
	Total	10	0	1	11
Ards	Downpatrick	0	0	0	0
	Newtownards	1	1	0	2
	Total	1	1	0	2
Armagh and	Armagh	10	0	0	10
South Down	Newry	1	0	0	1
	Total	11	0	0	11
Belfast	Laganside	6	0	10	16
	Total	6	0	10	16
Craigavon	Craigavon	2	0	1	3
	Lisburn	2	0	0	2
	Total	4	0	1	5
Fermanagh	Omagh	0	0	0	0
and Tyrone	Enniskillen	0	0	0	0
	Dungannon	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0	0
Londonderry	Londonderry	4	0	2	6
	Total	4	0	2	6
Northern Ireland	Total	36	1	14	51

Table 29: Matrimonial applications disposed

	поста предостава				
Division	Court Office	Ancillary	Matrimonial application to a		
		relief	master	Other	Total
Antrim	Antrim	0	0	0	0
	Ballymena	2	0	0	2
	Coleraine	7	0	0	7
	Total	9	0	0	9
Ards	Downpatrick	0	0	0	0
	Newtownards	6	0	2	8
	Total	6	0	2	8
Armagh and	Armagh	12	0	0	12
South Down	Newry	1	0	2	3
	Total	13	0	2	15
Belfast	Laganside	2	1	0	3
	Total	2	1	0	3
Craigavon	Craigavon	3	0	0	3
	Lisburn	0	0	0	0
	Total	3	0	0	3
Fermanagh	Omagh	0	0	0	0
and Tyrone	Enniskillen	0	0	0	0
	Dungannon	3	0	0	3
	Total	3	0	0	3
Londonderry	Londonderry	7	0	2	9
	Total	7	0	2	9
Northern Ireland	Total	43	1	6	50

Table 30: Time intervals in weeks for divorce petitions

petitions	_		
Division	Court Office	Issue to date decree granted	Date decree granted to date absolute issued
Antrim	Antrim	0	0
	Ballymena	0	0
	Coleraine	27	8
	Total	27	8
Ards	Downpatrick	0	0
	Newtownards	23	8
	Total	23	8
Armagh and South	Armagh	27	8
Down	Newry	0	0
	Total	27	8
Belfast	Laganside	26	9
	Total	26	9
Craigavon	Craigavon	38	9
	Lisburn	0	0
	Total	38	9
Fermanagh and	Omagh	19	0
Tyrone	Enniskillen	0	0
	Dungannon	36	11
	Total	35	11
Londonderry	Londonderry	22	9
	Total	22	9
Northern Ireland	Total	27	9

Table 31: Time intervals in weeks for divorce applications⁴

Division	Court Office	Issue to disposal
Antrim	Antrim	0
	Ballymena	37
	Coleraine	27
	Total	28
Ards	Downpatrick	0
	Newtownards	35
	Total	35
Armagh and South	Armagh	59
Down	Newry	39
	Total	57
Belfast	Laganside	35
	Total	35
Craigavon	Craigavon	5
	Lisburn	0
	Total	5
Fermanagh and	Omagh	0
Tyrone	Enniskillen	0
	Dungannon	43
	Total	43
Londonderry	Londonderry	25
	Total	25
Northern Ireland	Total	37

⁴ Excludes non-court disposals

Licences

Table 32: Licences⁵

Division	Court Office	Licences Received	Licences Disposed
Antrim	Antrim	10	9
	Total	10	9
Ards	Downpatrick	3	8
	Newtownards	4	2
	Total	7	10
Armagh and South Down	Armagh and South Down	8	14
	Total	8	14
Belfast	Laganside	25	28
	Total	25	28
Craigavon	Craigavon	1	1
	Lisburn	1	1
	Total	2	2
Fermanagh and Tyrone	Fermanagh and Tyrone	3	2
	Total	3	2
Londonderry	Londonderry	4	5
	Total	4	5
Northern Ireland	Total	59	70

⁵Data for Antrim, Armagh & South Down, Fermanagh & Tyrone and Londonderry are reported by County Court Division

County Court Judge and District Judge Sitting Days

Table 33: County Court Judge & District Judge Sitting Days (hrs:mins:secs)⁶

	Court Judge & Distric	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Total time		Total	Total	Total
Division	Court Office	Number of sitting days	Average sitting	Total time	criminal time	civil time	family time
Antrim	Antrim	94	02:29:34	234:20:00	211:35:00	22:45:00	0:00:00
	Ballymena	12	02:53:30	34:42:00	07:55:00	11:47:00	15:00:00
	Coleraine	24	03:34:42	85:53:00	30:38:00	45:55:00	09:20:00
	Total	130	02:43:48	354:55:00	250:08:00	80:27:00	24:20:00
Ards	Downpatrick	91	03:06:50	283:23:00	254:30:00	24:08:00	04:45:00
	Newtownards	34	02:52:12	97:35:00	09:20:00	72:10:00	16:05:00
	Total	125	03:02:51	380:58:00	263:50:00	96:18:00	20:50:00
Armagh and	Armagh	8	02:00:45	16:06:00	05:36:00	10:20:00	0:10:00
South Down	Banbridge@Newry	6	00:16:10	01:37:00	01:37:00	00:00:00	00:00:00
	Newry	115	03:07:10	358:45:00	235:36:00	108:44:00	14:25:00
	Total	129	02:55:06	376:28:00	242:49:00	119:04:00	14:35:00
Belfast	Laganside	403	03:06:41	1253:55:00	579:41:00	332:37:00	341:37:00
	Total	403	03:06:41	1253:55:00	579:41:00	332:37:00	341:37:00
Craigavon	Craigavon	122	02:38:24	322:05:00	228:56:00	30:31:00	62:38:00
	Lisburn	11	03:15:21	35:49:00	08:59:00	25:25:00	01:25:00
	Total	133	02:41:27	357:54:00	237:55:00	55:56:00	64:03:00
Fermanagh and	Omagh	17	03:03:42	52:03:00	07:30:00	40:40:00	03:53:00
Tyrone	Enniskillen	7	02:42:42	18:59:00	00:00:00	17:50:00	01:09:00
	Dungannon	116	03:37:19	420:09:00	330:32:00	51:27:00	38:10:00
	Strabane	1	02:15:00	02:15:00	02:15:00	00:00:00	00:00:00
	Total	141	03:29:58	493:26:00	340:17:00	109:57:00	43:12:00
Londonderry	Magherafelt	1	00:55:00	00:55:00	00:00:00	00:55:00	00:00:00
	Limavady	2	02:02:30	04:05:00	00:00:00	03:30:00	00:35:00
	Londonderry	105	02:20:50	246:28:00	167:30:00	34:38:00	44:20:00
	Total	108	02:19:42	251:28:00	167:30:00	39:03:00	44:55:00
Northern Ireland	Total	1,169	02:58:03	3,469:04:00	2,082:10:00	833:22:00	553:32:00

⁶A court sitting day is counted as any day where the judiciary sit in court. It does not include time in chambers or days where the judiciary are sitting in chambers

APPENDIX 2 - EXPLANATORY NOTES

Amount awarded

This relates to the monetary value awarded in cases such as small claims and ordinary civil bills. On occasion the amount awarded may be unliquidated which means that the claim was not made for a specific amount of money, but rather, for example, damage caused to a property, for repairs for damage caused or for faulty workmanship.

Application

The act of applying to a civil court to ask it to do something, for example to start proceedings or make an order.

Case

The proceedings, arguments and evidence in court and the court hearing.

Certificate of Readiness (COR)

When a small claim or civil bill is contested by the respondent, the matter will proceed to the county court for judgment. Before the case can be heard, both parties must contribute to the completion of a Certificate of Readiness (COR) which informs the court that the case is ready to heard and can therefore be listed by the court for hearing.

County Court Judge (CCJ)

This is a judge who sits in the County Court and the Crown Court. In the County Court, they will sit on business such as ordinary civil bills (with a value over £10,000 and up to £30,000), criminal damage, licences, equity, ejectment and divorces.

Court Disposal

Includes all cases issued with a final order by County Court Judge or District Judge.

Criminal Damage

These are cases in which there is an allegation that a property has been destroyed or damaged or where a person is alleged to have made threats, had intent, or was found to have anything on their property with intent to cause damage to another property.

Default Judgment

This is a judgment in favour of one party due to some failure to take action by the other party. In most cases this will be a judgment in favour of the applicant due to the failure of the respondent to contest the claim brought against them. The failure to take action is the default. The default judgment is the relief requested in the party's original petition.

Disposed

The date a case is finally dealt with via a court or non-court result and the case is no longer in the court process.

District Judge (DJ)

This is a judge who sits in the County Court or Magistrates' Court. In the County Court they will sit on business such as small claims and ordinary civil bills (with a value up to £10,000).

Divorces

These are proceedings initiated in order to dissolve a marriage. Dissolutions of civil partnerships are also included within these figures. Following the issue of a divorce petition in the High Court, if it is a defended case it will be heard in the High Court and if it is an undefended case it may be heard either in the High Court or the County Court (depending on the choice of the individuals involved). Initially a Decree Nisi, judicial separation or nullity is granted, which is an initial order for divorce. Providing that no reason is provided to the court to challenge the nisi, a Decree Absolute, which is a final order for divorce that dissolves a marriage and permits an individual party to remarry, is made. A defended divorce is a proceeding in which an individual (the petitioner) applies for a divorce and the other party (the respondent) indicates that they wish to contest a divorce being granted at all, or on the reasons stated by the petitioner.

Equity

Any type of proceeding which seeks a court judgement on disputes relating to property disputes i.e. who owns it, and should damages be paid.

Ejectment

A legal document which seeks to recover possession of land and/or a dwelling house (e.g. where a tenant has stopped paying rent). Similar matters relating to properties owned with a mortgage are dealt with through proceedings within the Chancery Division of the High Court.

Issue

This is the process by which a complaint or claim is lodged with the court. It can also be described as the 'Received Date'.

Licences

These are applications for intoxicating liquor licences and certificates of registration for public houses and clubs, enabling their legal operation.

Matrimonial Application

These are applications attached to divorce proceedings such as Ancillary Relief applications that relate to financial relief to one or both parties following a petition for divorce, for example, maintenance and the division of property/finances.

Notice of Dispute (NOD)

When a small claim is taken by an applicant against a respondent, the respondent may contest the claim and signal their intention to dispute the claim through a Notice of Dispute. This means that the case will then be listed before a judge in court for resolution.

Non court disposal

Includes all disposals not completed in court, for example settlements or withdrawals.

Notice of Intention to Defend (NID)

When a civil bill is taken by an applicant against a respondent, the respondent may contest the claim and signal their intention to dispute the claim through a Notice of Intention to Defend. This means that the case will then be listed before a judge in court for resolution.

Ordinary civil bills

A legal document which seeks to recover damages for (i) personal injury claims (injuries caused by negligence), for example, traffic accidents, falls on pavements and accidents at work and (ii) consumer disputes, for example, faulty goods or services. There have been a number of changes in the threshold for ordinary civil bills in recent years. Until 25 February 2013 ordinary civil bills related to cases seeking damages between £3,000 and £15,000 (prior to May 2011, the lower limit was £2,000). Following changes made on 25 February 2013, the upper limit for civil bills was extended to include cases seeking damages between £3,000 and £30,000.

Outstanding case

A case that is currently active within the County Court system, for example, live cases not yet disposed.

Received

The date the papers are lodged with the court and the fees receipted.

Sitting Days

A court sitting day is counted as any day where the judiciary sit in court. It is a period of work by a judge on a single day. Multiple sittings on one calendar date will be aggregated into one sitting day based on the Judicial officer, venue and sitting date. Several types of business may be heard within one sitting day. Days are classified on the basis of the majority business undertaken, except for the Magistrates court, when it is based in the first instance, on the earliest scheduled sitting. Where the start time for two or more sittings is the same, the days are classified on the majority of business undertaken. It does not include time in chambers or days where the judiciary are sitting in chambers.

Small claims

Small claims allow certain types of claims to be decided informally by the county court, usually without the need of a solicitor or barrister. In general a small claim is one where the value to be claimed is not more than £3,000 (before May 2011 the upper limit was £2,000). Examples of small claims are (i) compensation for faulty services by, for example, builders, dry cleaners and garages (ii) compensation for faulty goods such as electrical goods (iii) disputes between landlords and tenants for rent arrears or compensation for not doing repairs and (iv) debts or wages owed or money in lieu of notice.

Time intervals

This is the time taken (in weeks) between the case, application or claim being received by the court and the date it is finally resolved, by either the court, an arrangement between parties out of court or by being withdrawn by the applicant.

Analytical Services Group,
Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service,

Department of Justice

4th Floor, Laganside House

23-27 Oxford Street,
Belfast BT1 3LA

Email: Rodney.redmond@courtsni.gov.uk

Telephone: 028 9072 8920

www.courtsni.gov.uk