



Reference data 2018 (01/01/2018 - 31/12/2018)

Start/end date of the data collection campaign : 01/03/2019 - 01/10/2019

Objective :

The CEPEJ decided, at its 31th plenary meeting, to launch the eighth evaluation cycle 2018 – 2020, focused on 2018 data. The CEPEJ wishes to use the methodology developed in the previous cycles to get, with the support of its national correspondents' network, a general evaluation of the judicial systems in the 47 member states of the Council of Europe as well as three observer states (Israel, Morocco and Kazakhstan). This will enable policy makers and judicial practitioners to take account of such unique information when carrying out their activities.

The present questionnaire was adapted by the Working group on evaluation of judicial systems (CEPEJ-GT-EVAL) in view of the previous evaluation cycles and considering the comments submitted by CEPEJ members, observers, experts and national correspondents. The aim of this exercise is to increase awareness of judicial systems in the participating states, to compare the functioning of judicial systems in their various aspects, as well as to have a better knowledge of the trends of the judicial organisation in order to help improve the efficiency of justice. The evaluation questionnaire and the analysis of the results becomes a genuine tool in favour of public policies on justice, for the sake of the European citizens.

Instruction :

The ways to use the application and to answer the questions are guided by two main documents:

- User manual
- Explanatory note

While the explanatory note gives definitions and explanations on the CEPEJ evaluation questionnaire and the methodology needed for replying, the User manual is a tool to help you navigate through this application. You can download the Explanatory note as a whole on the CEPEJ website. The specific explanations are also accessible for each question within this application under the tab "Explanatory note". This will serve as immediate consultation tool when answering questions. The user manual is accessible in the "Documentation" tab of the application.

In case you have any questions related to these documents or on the use of the application, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat.

1.General and financial information

1.1.Demographic and economic data

1.1.1.Inhabitants and economic general information



001. Number of inhabitants (if possible on 1 January of the reference year +1)

[1 881 600]

Comments

002. Total of annual public expenditure at state level and where appropriate, public expenditure at regional or federal entity level (in €)

	Amount
State or federal level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Regional / federal entity level (total for all regions / federal entities)	29 503 598 700 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

003. Per capita GDP (in €) in current prices for the reference year

[23 605]

Comments

004. Average gross annual salary (in €) for the reference year

[30 109]

NA

Comments

005. Exchange rate of national currency (non-Euro zone) in € on 1 January of the reference year +1

[0.8969]

Allow decimals : 5

NAP

Comments Bank of England Currency Charts: GBP to EUR

A1. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 1 to 5

Sources: 1. Source: Mid Year Population Estimates, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA, June 2018) 2. Source: Country and regional public sector finances net fiscal balance tables: financial year ending 2018
3. Source: Gross Value Added (ONS, 2017)
4. Source: Median gross annual earnings for FT employees (NISRA, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2018)
5. Source: 31 Dec 2018 Exchange rate, Bank of England Currency Charts

1.1.2. Budgetary data concerning judicial system

006. Annual (approved and implemented) public budget allocated to the functioning of all courts, in € (without the budget of the public prosecution services and without the budget of legal aid). If you cannot separate the budget allocated to the courts from the budgets of public prosecution

services and/or legal aid, please go to question 7. If you are able to answer this question 6, please answer NA to the question 7.

	Approved budget (in €)	Implemented budget (in €)
TOTAL - Annual public budget allocated to the functioning of all courts (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7)	78 569 857 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	79 763 823 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Annual public budget allocated to (gross) salaries	27 922 895 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	27 818 690 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Annual public budget allocated to computerisation	4 980 304 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	4 737 559 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Annual public budget allocated to justice expenses (expertise, interpretation, etc.)	28 348 528 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	30 398 569 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
4. Annual public budget allocated to court buildings (maintenance, operating costs)	17 296 667 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	16 791 129 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
5. Annual public budget allocated to investments in new (court) buildings	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
6. Annual public budget allocated to training	21 463 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	17 876 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
7. Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Please indicate any useful comment to explain the figures provided. If the annual public budget allocated to the functioning of all courts actually implemented is different from the approved annual public budget allocated to the functioning of all courts, please indicate the main reasons for the differences: NICTS budget allocation is a net budget, to take account of income generated for the services provided. The approved budget should actually be €47,321,334 rather than €78,569,857 as shown in the table as approved income, which is a negative budget (-€31,248,523), should be deducted from the total. Similarly, the implemented budget should be actually be €50,459,033 instead of €79,763,823 as the implemented income (-€29,304,790) should be deducted from the total).

007. If you cannot answer question 6 because you cannot isolate the public budget allocated to courts from the budget allocated to public prosecution services and/or legal aid, please fill only the appropriate line in the table according to your system:

	Approved budget (in €)	Implemented budget (in €)
Total annual public budget allocated to all courts and the public prosecution services together	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Total annual public budget allocated to all courts and legal aid together	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Total annual public budget allocated to all courts, public prosecution services and legal aid together	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - Please indicate any useful comment to explain the figures provided. If the annual public budget actually implemented is different from the approved annual public budget, please indicate the main reasons for the differences: N/A

008. Are litigants in general required to pay a court fee to start a proceeding at a court of general jurisdiction:

	Litigants required to pay a court fee to start a proceeding at a court of general jurisdiction ?
for criminal cases	() Yes (X) No
for other than criminal cases	(X) Yes () No

If there are exceptions to the rule to pay these court fees, could you please provide comments on those exceptions? NICTS operates an exemptions and remissions policy to support those in the payment of court fees where they can demonstrate that they are in receipt of qualifying passported benefits, or, would be placed under financial hardship as a result of paying the court fee. NICTS also partially subsidises (50%) children and family cases and fully subsidises cases relating to domestic violence.

008-1. Please briefly present the methodology of calculation of these court fees:

- The court fees are set on the basis of full cost recovery as per Chapter 6 of Managing Public Money Northern Ireland and include administrative and judicial costs associated with providing the service, including overheads. These court fees can be fixed, variable, semi-variable or semi-fixed depending on the nature of the case and/or associated processes.

The fees for initiating court proceedings follow a tiered structure with application fees to the lower court tier (Magistrates Court) being less than the higher court tiers (County Court and Court of Judicature). Most court fees are a fixed amount, some are within a banded structure based on the amount claimed (contested) and a small number of court fees are variable (based on amount claimed, with upper and lower limits).

008-2. The amount of court fees requested to commence an action for 3000€ debt recovery:

- [132]
- [] NA
- [] NAP

Comments Small Claims Court - €132 (18/19 fee rate), Civil Bill - €219 (2018/19 fee rate). Opted to include the initial fee amount necessary (with the euro rate at the time applied) to commence either a small claim or civil bill consistent with the response provided in the 2012 data. This appears to be consistent with the way this information is presented in other EU reports.

009. Annual income of court fees received by the State (in €):

- [24 573 705]
- [] NA
- [] NAP

Comments

012. Annual approved public budget allocated to legal aid, in €.

	TOTAL	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
TOTAL - Annual approved public budget allocated to legal aid (12.1 + 12.2)	90 979 000 [] NA [] NAP	41 171 000 [] NA [] NAP	49 808 000 [] NA [] NAP
12.1 for cases brought to court (court fees and/or legal representation)	90 979 000 [] NA [] NAP	41 171 000 [] NA [] NAP	49 808 000 [] NA [] NAP
12.2 for cases not brought to court (legal advice, ADR and other legal services)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments No Differences – For information Euro/Sterling exchange rate used 0.8969 as at 31 Dec 2018.

Non Ringfenced RDEL budget equalled final outturn for 2018-19. Legal Aid budget excludes operating costs of the Legal Services Agency NI. The 2014 return had legal aid spend as €135.3m for 2014-15, and our recent return looking at 2018-19 was €90.9m. There are two reasons. Firstly, there is a difference in the two figures due to changes in the exchange rates used to convert figures from sterling to Euros, using the 2018-19 exchange rate would change the 2014-15 spend to €117.5m. Secondly, the reduced spend in 2018-19 reflects reforms to legal aid funding which the Department has been implementing since 2014-15 which has had an impact on costs, in an attempt to make the legal aid budget more manageable.

012-1. Annual implemented public budget allocated to legal aid, in €.

	TOTAL	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
TOTAL - Annual implemented public budget allocated to legal aid (12-1.1 + 12-1.2)	90 979 000 [] NA [] NAP	41 171 000 [] NA [] NAP	49 808 000 [] NA [] NAP
12-1.1 for cases brought to court (court fees and/or legal representation)	90 979 000 [] NA [] NAP	41 171 000 [] NA [] NAP	49 808 000 [] NA [] NAP
12-1.2 for cases not brought to court (legal advice, ADR and other legal services)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

If the public budget actually implemented regarding legal aid is different from the annual approved public budget allocated to legal aid, please indicate the main reasons for the differences: No Differences – For information Euro/Sterling exchange rate used 0.8969 as at 31 Dec 2018.

Non Ringfenced RDEL budget equalled final outturn for 2018-19. Legal Aid budget excludes operating costs of the Legal Services Agency NI.

The 2014 return had legal aid spend as €135.3m for 2014-15, and our recent return looking at 2018-19 was €90.9m. There are two reasons. Firstly, there is a difference in the two figures due to changes in the exchange rates used to convert figures from sterling to Euros, using the 2018-19 exchange rate would change the 2014-15 spend to €117.5m. Secondly, the reduced spend in 2018-19 reflects reforms to legal aid funding which the Department has been implementing since 2014-15 which has had an impact on costs, in an attempt to make the legal aid budget more manageable.

013. Annual (approved and implemented) public budget allocated to the public prosecution services, in €.

	Approved budget (in €)	Implemented budget (in €)
Total annual public budget allocated to the public prosecution services, in € (including 13.1)	37 900 079 [] NA [] NAP	37 606 427 [] NA [] NAP

13.1. Annual public budget allocated to training of public prosecution services	58 953 [] NA [] NAP	58 953 [] NA [] NAP
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Please indicate any useful comment to explain the figures provided. Moreover, if the annual public budget allocated to the public prosecution services actually implemented is different from the approved annual public budget, please indicate the main reasons for the differences:

014. Authorities formally responsible for the budgets allocated to the courts (multiple options possible):

	Preparation of the total court budget	Adoption/approval of the total court budget	Management and allocation of the budget among the courts	Evaluation of the use of the budget at a national level courts
Ministry of Justice	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Other ministry	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Parliament	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Supreme Court	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
High Judicial Council	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Courts	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Inspection body	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Other	(X) Yes () No [] NAP	(X) Yes () No [] NAP	(X) Yes () No [] NAP	(X) Yes () No [] NAP

If any other Ministry and/or inspection body and/or other, please specify: In April 2010 responsibility for the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service (NICtS) transferred from the Treasury Department to the Northern Ireland Assembly, Department of Justice (DoJ).

014-1. (Former question 61) Who is entrusted with responsibilities related to the budget within the court?

	Preparation of the budget	Arbitration and allocation of the budget	Day to day management of the budget	Evaluation and control of the use of the budget
Management Board	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No
Court President	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No

Court administrative director	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Head of the court clerk office	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Other	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No

Comments - If "other", please specify: The Northern Ireland Secretary of State set out the annual budget allocation for Northern Ireland departments. The NICTS annual budget is confirmed by the DoJ Permanent Secretary. The NICTS Board is responsible for business and corporate planning and reporting, and the oversight of the functions of NICTS including finance, planning, performance, and policy initiatives. The Finance Committee assists the Board with financial oversight and budgetary control. It is the role of Finance Director to advise the Committee on any material issues concerning financial oversight and budgetary control. The Finance Director is supported by the NICTS Finance team, who along with the relevant business managers across the Agency, monitor the day to day expenditure closely to try and live within the resource and capital allocations provided.

A2. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 6 to 14:

Sources: Question 6, the approved budget is based on the initial 2018/19 budget and the implanted budget is based on the final 2018/19 budget. The exchange rate used is the Bank of England Exchange rate at 31 December 2018.

1.1.3. Budgetary data concerning the whole justice system

015-1. Annual (approved and implemented) public budget allocated to the whole justice system, in € (this global budget includes the judicial system budget - see 15-2 and other elements of the justice system - see 15-3)

	Approved budget (in €)	Implemented budget (in €)
Total annual public budget allocated to the whole justice system in €	1 150 692 000 [] NA [] NAP	1 150 692 000 [] NA [] NAP

Please indicate any useful comment to explain the figures provided above and specify if a large portion of the budget allocated to the whole justice system comes from an international organisation. Moreover, if the annual public budget allocated to the whole justice system actually implemented is different from the approved annual public budget, please indicate the main reasons for the differences:

Euro/Sterling exchange rate used 0.8969 as at 31 Dec 2018

Budget based on final 2018-19 Non Ringfenced RDEL budget. Figures exclude non cash resource budgets and capital budgets.

Some Police Services, budget includes all elements for operating the Police Service of NI.

Functioning of the Ministry of Justice –covers the remaining functions of the Department of Justice in NI not separately indicated in 15-3.

015-2. Elements of the judicial system budget (Q6, Q7, Q12 and Q13)

	Included	Not included	Does not exist (NAP)
Courts (see question 6 or 7)	(X)	()	()
Legal aid (see question 12 or 7)	(X)	()	()

Public prosecution services (see question 13 or 7)	()	(X)	()
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015-3. Other budgetary elements

	Included	Not included	Does not exist (NAP)
Prison system	(X)	()	()
Probation services	(X)	()	()
High Judicial Council	()	()	(X)
Constitutional court	()	()	(X)
Judicial management body	()	()	(X)
State advocacy	()	()	(X)
Enforcement services	()	()	(X)
Notariat	()	()	(X)
Forensic services	(X)	()	()
Judicial protection of juveniles	(X)	()	()
Functioning of the Ministry of Justice	(X)	()	()
Refugees and asylum seekers services	()	()	(X)
Immigration Service	()	()	(X)
Some police services (e.g. : transfer, investigation, prisoners' security)	(X)	()	()
Other	()	()	(X)

If "other", please specify: NAP

A3. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 15-1, 15-2 and 15-3:

Sources: Department of Justice Budgeting System

2. Access to justice and all courts

2.1. Legal Aid

2.1.1. Scope of legal aid

016. Does legal aid apply to:

	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
Representation in court	(X) Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	(X) Yes () No [] NA [] NAP
Legal advice, ADR and other legal services	(X) Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	(X) Yes () No [] NA [] NAP

016-1. Please briefly describe the organisation of the legal aid system in your country both before going to court and during court proceedings.

- Civil legal services provide advice and representation across a wide range of issues and court proceedings. The greatest volume of business is in respect of family matters (including child welfare), personal injury claims, bail applications and advice at police stations in criminal matters. Advice and representation is provided where applicants can demonstrate that they meet financial means and legal merits tests. The assessment of an applicant's means was determined, for the greater part of the year, by the Legal Aid Assessment Office (LAAO), an office of the Department for Communities (DfC). This function transferred from DfC to the Legal Services Agency in 2019. By bringing the function in-house, and thereby amalgamating all civil legal aid services within the one organisation, this will support the development of a more integrated approach to the delivery and administration of legal aid whilst maximising efficiencies,

Criminal legal aid is granted by the judiciary if applicants before the Magistrates' Courts, County Court on appeal and Crown Court have insufficient means to pay for their own defence and it is in the interests of justice that applicants should be represented. Similar provisions apply to cases before the Criminal Court of Appeal.

017. Does legal aid include the coverage of or the exemption from court fees?

(X) Yes

() No

[] NAP

If yes, please specify: Where court fees are payable in a particular case, solicitor can include the cost of same as a disbursement when submitting their claims for fees.

018. Can legal aid be granted for the fees that are related to the enforcement of judicial decisions (e.g. fees of an enforcement agent)?

(X) Yes

() No

[] NAP

If yes, please specify: Where court fees are payable in a particular case, solicitor can include the cost of same as a disbursement when submitting their claims for fees.

019. Can legal aid be granted for other costs (different from those mentioned in questions 16 to 18, e.g. fees of technical advisors or experts, costs of other legal professionals (notaries), travel costs etc.)?

	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
Legal aid granted for other costs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If yes, please specify: Additional costs of expert witnesses, medical reports, legal opinions, travel costs etc are covered by legal aid on approval of prior authority.

2.1.2. Information on legal aid

020. Please indicate the number of cases for which legal aid has been granted:

	Total	Cases brought to court	Cases not brought to court
TOTAL	80 677 [] NA [] NAP	45 329 [] NA [] NAP	35 348 [] NA [] NAP
In criminal cases	31 733 [] NA [] NAP	31 733 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
In other than criminal cases	48 944 [] NA [] NAP	13 596 [] NA [] NAP	35 348 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - Please specify when appropriate: The number of cases brought to court in other than criminal cases relates to criminal and civil certificates issued in the year 2018-19. The number of other than criminal cases not brought to court refers to the amount of acts of 'advice and assistance' granted in the period 2018-19. This data is from the Legal Services Agency Annual Report and Accounts 2018-19. The number of criminal cases not brought to court is not available.

021. In criminal cases, can individuals who do not have sufficient financial means be assisted by a free of charge (or financed by a public budget) lawyer?

	Assisted by a free of charge lawyer
Accused individuals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Victims	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Comments - If yes, please specify: Criminal legal aid is granted by reference to two tests, the means test and the interest of justice test i.e if the defendant's means are insufficient to cover the cost and it is in the interests of justice that the defendant is legally represented, then legal aid will be granted.

022. In criminal cases are these individuals free to choose their lawyer within the framework of the

legal aid system?

	free selection of lawyer
Accused individuals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Victims	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

023-0. Does your country have an income and assets evaluation for granting full or partial legal aid?

Yes

No

Comments - Please indicate if any other criteria are taken into account for the granting of legal aid and any comment that could explain the data provided above: Criminal cases – there is no fixed means test for income or capital, this is decided upon by the discretion of the Magistrate or Judge.

Non-criminal cases – the upper limits for applicants under the Civil Legal Aid Scheme for Representation Higher are detailed above. These limits apply after a financial assessment has been completed by the Legal Services Agency.

Where a client’s weekly disposable income does not exceed £234 and their capital does not exceed £1,000, they shall be eligible for advice and assistance or representation (lower courts). These financial assessments are carried out by the solicitor. This information has been obtained from the Legal Services Agency.

The annual income value (for one person), (in €) for full legal aid to the applicant for other than criminal cases is £10,995 in personal injury cases while the assets value (for one person), (in €) is £8,560 in personal injury cases.

NB: This applies to both full and partial legal aid.

023. If yes, please specify in the table:

	Annual income value (for one person), (in €)	Assets value (for one person), (in €)
Full legal aid to the applicant for criminal cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Full legal aid to the applicant for other than criminal cases	9 937 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	6 750 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Partial legal aid to the applicant for criminal cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Partial legal aid to the applicant for other than criminal cases	9 937 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	6 750 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

024. Is it possible to refuse legal aid for lack of merit of the case (for example for frivolous action or no chance of success)?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please explain the exact criteria for denying legal aid: A person applying for civil legal aid must satisfy a 'merits test'. They must show that they have reasonable grounds for taking, defending or being a party to the proceedings in question. Furthermore they may be refused legal aid, if in the particular circumstances of the case, it appears unreasonable that they should do so.

025. Is the decision to grant or refuse legal aid taken by:

- the court
- an authority external to the court
- a mixed authority (court and external bodies)

Comments

026. Is there a private system of legal expense insurance enabling individuals (this does not concern companies or other legal persons) to finance court proceedings?

- Yes
- No

Comments - If appropriate, please inform about the current development of such insurances in your country; is it a growing phenomenon? Yes 'before the event' legal expenses insurance is available as a standard add-on with, for example, house insurance policies. There is also limited coverage available for 'after the event insurance'.

027. Can judicial decisions direct how legal costs, paid by the parties during the procedure, will be shared:

	Judicial decisions direct how legal costs will be shared
in criminal cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
in other than criminal cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Comments

B1. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 20 and 23 :

Sources: The data for Question 20 is from the Legal Services Agency Annual Report and Accounts 2018-19. The information for Question 23 was obtained from the Legal Services Agency.

2.2.Court users and victims

2.2.1.Rights of the users and victims

028. Are there official internet sites/portals (e.g. Ministry of Justice, etc.) where general public may have free of charge access to the following:

Yes	Internet adresse(es)

legal texts (e.g. codes, laws, regulations, etc.)	()	(X) http://www.legislation.gov.uk/
case-law of the higher court/s	()	(X) http://www.judiciaryni.uk
other documents (e.g. downloadable forms, online registration)	()	(X) http://www.courtsni.gov.uk

Please specify what documents and information are included in "other documents": A range of Court documents are specified in court rules which can be assessed on <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/>

The Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service also maintains a website which:

- a) Contains case law
- b) Provides for on-line processing of a range of court business
- c) Provides information leaflets and court forms <http://www.courtsni.gov.uk>

029. Is there an obligation to provide information to the parties concerning the foreseeable timeframes of proceedings?

- () Yes, always
- () No
- (X) Yes, only in some specific situations

Comments - If yes, only in some specific situations, please specify: Yes depending on the court proceedings the timeframe of proceedings may be specified in legislation

030. Is there a public and free-of-charge specific information system to inform and to help victims of offences?

- (X) Yes
- () No

Comments - If yes, please specify: Victim Support Northern Ireland is the charity which helps people affected by any type of crime. They provide emotional support, information and practical help to victims, witnesses and others affected by crime (see <http://www.victimsupportni.co.uk>)

031. Are there special favourable arrangements to be applied, during judicial proceedings, to the following categories of vulnerable persons:

	Information mechanism	Special arrangements in hearings	Other specific arrangements
Victims of sexual violence/rape	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
Victims of terrorism	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
Minors (witnesses or victims)	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
Victims of domestic violence	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
Ethnic minorities	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No

Disabled persons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Juvenile offenders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Other (e.g. victims of human trafficking, forced marriage, sexual mutilation)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Comments - If "other vulnerable person" and/or "other special arrangements", please specify: For all witnesses in proceedings, special measures may be applied for which may (depending on the circumstances) permit:

Evidence to be given by way of video link

Screened evidence

Evidence in chief by video evidence

Electronic evidence presentation

Interpreters (including language and for those with a disability)

Court appointed registered intermediaries for people with communication and language difficulties

Special arrangements exist for juveniles (called Youth in Northern Ireland) where the court sits without the usual formality of wigs and gowns, and the defendants are not required to sit in the dock. Source: NICTS

031-1. Is it possible for minors to be a party to a judicial proceeding:

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify which procedures can be concerned (civil, criminal, administrative / normal or accelerated procedure) and at which conditions (can minor benefit from legal aid, be represented by a lawyer, etc.): In criminal proceedings, children between 10 and 17 can be defendants

032. Does your country allocate compensation for victims of offences?

Yes, please specify for which kind of offences: A court may order compensation as part of the decision in cases involving criminal injuries, criminal damage or where loss has been sustained e.g theft, fraud etc. The person convicted of the offence may be ordered to pay compensation to the victim. There is a separate procedure where the victim may apply for compensation to a tribunal arising specifically from criminal injury; the incident must have been reported to the police, but no court decision is required.

No

Comments

032-1. Is a court decision necessary in the framework of the compensation procedure?

Yes

No

Comments Both yes and no may apply. A court may order compensation as part of the decision in cases involving criminal injuries, criminal damage or where loss has been sustained e.g theft, fraud etc. The person convicted of the offence may be ordered to pay compensation to the victim. There is a separate procedure where the victim may apply for compensation to a tribunal arising specifically from criminal injury; the incident must have been reported to the police, but no court decision is required.

033. If yes, does this compensation come from:

a public fund

damages and interests to be paid by the person responsible

a private fund

Comments Source: NICTS

034. Are there studies that evaluate the recovery rate of the damages awarded by courts to victims?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please illustrate with available data concerning the recovery rate, the title of the studies, the frequency of the studies and the coordinating body:

035. Do public prosecutors have a specific role with respect to victims (protection and assistance)?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify: The Prosecution Decision

A victim is entitled to ask for their specific views to be taken into account as part of the Prosecutor's decision-making process. Should a victim choose to do so, their views will be given careful consideration by the Prosecutor before they make a decision. The views of the victim will be provided by the police in a report for the file which is prepared for the PPS. In cases where the Prosecutor is considering offering an alternative to prosecution (for example, a caution or informed warning), the victim will be informed of this where possible and given an opportunity to tell the PPS their views on this potential course of action. The views of victims are important and, whilst the Prosecutor will not always be able to act in accordance with these wishes, they will be carefully considered before a decision is reached.

Special Measures

Special measures are a range of provisions that can be put in place if the Judge is satisfied that a victim is either vulnerable or intimidated and, if so, whether special measures would be likely to improve the quality of their evidence. Examples of such measures include the use of screens or curtains (so that the victim does not see the defendant), giving evidence away from the courtroom via 'live link' or allowing assistance from a registered intermediary (to assist those persons with significant communication difficulties).

Once the Prosecutor dealing with the case receives the victim's statement and any other evidence, they will decide whether a special measures application can be made to the court. The Prosecutor will then present the application to the court and the defendant's lawyers will be given an opportunity to object. The Judge will then make the final decision. Other measures the PPS may also consider include the following: -removing the address of a victim from the papers to be disclosed to the defence where that address is not legally relevant to the case; and/or -seeking to agree witness statements with the defence so that the victim need not attend in person. It should be noted, however, that the defence cannot be made to agree the evidence of any witness. These matters are normally dealt with by the Prosecutor prior to the trial so as to ease any concerns of the victim in advance. Where special measures have been granted, the PPS will ask the court to give the case priority.

036. Do victims of offences have the right to dispute a public prosecutor's decision to discontinue a case? Please verify the consistency of your answer with that of the question 105 regarding the possibility for a public prosecutor "to discontinue a case without needing a decision by a judge". (The answer NAP means that the public prosecutor cannot decide to discontinue a case on his/her own. A decision by a judge is needed.)

Yes

No

NAP

Comments - If necessary, please specify: Victims are entitled to ask for a review of a decision not to prosecute after detailed reasons have been requested and / or received. Once received, the PPS will conduct a review of the decision. If there is additional evidence or information, the original Prosecutor will reconsider the case. If there is no new evidence or information, a different Prosecutor will conduct the review.

Where a decision is taken by the PPS to substantially alter a charge, to discontinue all proceedings, or to offer no evidence, the victim will be informed of this decision and given reasons for the decision where requested. Victims are entitled to ask for a meeting to discuss this decision.

037. Is there a system for compensating users in the following circumstances:

	Number of requests for compensation	Number of condemnations	Total amount (in €)
Total	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Excessive length of proceedings	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Non-execution of court decisions	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Wrongful arrest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Wrongful conviction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - Where appropriate, please give details on the compensation procedure and the calculation method for the amount of the compensation (e.g. the amount per day for unjustified detentions or convictions): There is only a remedy for wrongful arrest or wrongful conviction – this would be by way of a separate civil remedy taken by the individual

2.2.2 Confidence and satisfaction of citizens with their justice system

038. Does your country implement surveys aimed at legal professionals and court users to measure their trust in justice and their satisfaction with the services delivered by the judicial system? If yes, how frequently and up to what level?

	National level	Court level
1. Surveys aimed at judges	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
2. Surveys aimed at court staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
3. Surveys aimed at public prosecutors	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
4. Surveys aimed at lawyers	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
5. Surveys aimed at the parties	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc

6. Surveys aimed at other court users (e.g. jurors, witnesses, experts, interpreters, representatives of governmental agencies, NGOs)	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
7. Surveys aimed at victims	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
8. Other not mentioned	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc

Comments - Please, indicate the references and links to the satisfaction surveys you mentioned above: NIVAWS - The Department of Justice routinely undertakes both quantitative (survey) and qualitative (interview) research with victims and witnesses of crime.

www.justice-ni.gov.uk/articles/victims-and-witnesses

Other NICTS initiated surveys are not published – these are aimed at court users and are for specific purposes e.g. increases to court fees.

040. Is there a national or local procedure for filing complaints about the functioning of the judicial system? (for example, handling of the case by a judge or the duration of a proceeding)

Yes

No

Comments

041. If yes, please specify certain aspects of this procedure:

	Authority responsible for dealing with the complaint	Existence of a time limit to deal with the complaint for this authority
Court concerned	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Higher court	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Ministry of Justice	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
High Judicial Council	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Other external bodies (e.g. Ombudsman)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Comments

041-1. If yes, please specify certain aspects of this procedure:

	Number of complaints	Compensation amount granted
Court concerned	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Higher court	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Ministry of Justice	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
High Judicial Council	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Other external bodies (e.g. Ombudsman)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If possible, please give information concerning the efficiency of this complaint procedure and any useful comment:

3. Organisation of the court system

3.1. Courts

3.1.1. Number of courts

042. Number of courts considered as legal entities (administrative structures) and geographic locations.

	Number of courts
42.1 First instance courts of general jurisdiction (legal entities)	17 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
42.2 First instance specialised courts (legal entities)	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
42.3 All the courts (geographic locations) (this includes 1st instance courts of general jurisdiction, first instance specialised courts, all second instance courts and courts of appeal and all Supreme Courts)	17 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments 3 court tiers within the jurisdiction and 17 physical court locations - Tribunals may sit in other non-court locations.

<https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/articles/information-our-court-offices>

There have been a number of courthouse closures and removal from leased premises in the period since the previous return. Annex A of document (weblink below) shows current courthouses in operation. <https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/justice/Single%20Jurisdiction%20Internet%20Info%20Agreed.pdf>

043. Number (legal entities) of first instance specialised courts (or specific judicial order)

	Number of courts
Total (must be the same as the data given under question 42.2)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Commercial courts (excluded insolvency courts)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Insolvency courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Labour courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Family courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Rent and tenancies courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Enforcement of criminal sanctions courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Fight against terrorism, organised crime and corruption	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Internet related disputes	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Administrative courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Insurance and / or social welfare courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Military courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Other specialised 1st instance courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If "other specialised 1st instance courts", please specify: NAP

044. Is there a foreseen change in the structure of courts [for example a reduction of the number of courts (geographic locations) or a change in the powers of courts]?

Yes

No

Comments - Please specify:

045. Number of first instance courts (geographic locations) competent for a case concerning:

	Number of courts
a debt collection for small claims	12 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
an employment dismissal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
a robbery	17 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

an insolvency case

1

NA

NAP

Comments

045-1. Is your definition for small claims the same as the one in the Explanatory note?

Yes

No

Comments - If not, please give your definition for small claims:

045-2. Please indicate the value in € of a small claim:

[3 000]

Comments Up to £3,000

C. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 42, 43 and 45:

Sources: www.courtsni.gov.uk

3.2. Court staff

3.2.1. Judges and non-judge staff

046. Number of professional judges sitting in courts (if possible on 31 December of the reference year). (Please give the information in full-time equivalent and for permanent posts actually filled for all types of courts - general jurisdiction and specialised courts)

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of professional judges (1 + 2 + 3)	68 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	45 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	23 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Number of first instance professional judges	57 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	36 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	21 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Number of second instance (court of appeal) professional judges	3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Number of Supreme Court professional judges	8 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	6 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	2 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comment - Please provide any useful comment for interpreting the data above: One female first instance professional judge works part time with a Full-time Equivalent of 0.6. This has been rounded up to 1 as decimals are not permitted.

047. Number of court presidents (professional judges).

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of court presidents (1 + 2 + 3)	7 [] NA [] NAP	4 [] NA [] NAP	3 [] NA [] NAP
1. Number of first instance court presidents	7 [] NA [] NAP	4 [] NA [] NAP	3 [] NA [] NAP
2. Number of second instance (court of appeal) court presidents	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Number of Supreme Court presidents	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments

048. Number of professional judges sitting in courts on an occasional basis and who are paid as such (if possible on 31 December of the reference year):

	Figure
Gross figure	575 [] NA [] NAP
In full-time equivalent	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments - If necessary, please provide comments to explain the answer provided:

048-1. Do these professional judges sitting in courts on an occasional basis deal with a significant part of cases?

- () Yes If yes, please give specifications on the types of cases and an estimate in percentage.
- () No
- [X] NAP

Comments

049. Number of non-professional judges who are not remunerated but who can possibly receive a simple defrayal of costs (if possible on 31 December of the reference year) (e.g. lay judges or “juges consulaires”, but not arbitrators or persons sitting in a jury):

	Figure
Gross figure	[] NA [X] NAP
In full time equivalent	[] NA [X] NAP

Comments

049-1. If such non-professional judges exist at first instance in your country, please specify for which types of cases:

	Yes	No	Echevinage
criminal cases (severe)	()	()	()
criminal cases (misdemeanour and/or minor)	()	()	()
family law cases	()	()	()
labour law cases	()	()	()
social law cases	()	()	()
commercial law cases	()	()	()
insolvency cases	()	()	()
other civil cases	()	()	()

NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify:

050. Does your judicial system include trial by jury with the participation of citizens?

Yes

No

Comments

050-1. If yes, for which type of case(s)?

Criminal cases

Other than criminal cases

Comments

051. Number of citizens who were involved in such juries for the year of reference:

[25 000]

NA

NAP

Comments

052. Number of non-judge staff who are working in courts (if possible on 31 December of the reference year) (this data should not include the staff working for public prosecutors; see question 60) (please give the information in full-time equivalent and for permanent posts actually filled)

Total	Males	Females

Total non-judge staff working in courts (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5)	680 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. Rechtspfleger (or similar bodies) with judicial or quasi-judicial tasks having autonomous competence and whose decisions could be subject to appeal	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
2. Non-judge staff whose task is to assist the judges such as registrars (case file preparation, assistance during the hearing, court recording, helping to draft the decisions)	438 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Staff in charge of different administrative tasks and of the management of the courts (human resources management, material and equipment management, including computer systems, financial and budgetary management, training management)	242 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
4. Technical staff	[X] NA [] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
5. Other non-judge staff	[X] NA [] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP

Comments - If "other non-judge staff", please specify:

052-1. Number of non-judge staff by instance (if possible on 31 December of the reference year) (this data should not include the staff working for public prosecutors; see question 60) (please give the information in full-time equivalent and for permanent posts actually filled)

	Total	Males	Females
Total non-judge staff working in courts (1+2+3)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. Total non-judge staff working in courts at first instance level	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. Total non-judge staff working in courts at second instance (court of appeal) level	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Total non-judge staff working in courts at Supreme Court level	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments

053. If there are Rechtspfleger (or similar bodies) in your judicial system, please specify in which fields do they have a role:

[] legal aid

- family cases
- payment orders
- registry cases (land and/or business registry cases)
- enforcement of civil cases
- enforcement of criminal cases
- other cases not mentioned (please describe in comment)
- non-litigious cases
- NAP

Comments - Please briefly describe their status and duties:

054. Have the courts outsourced certain services under their responsibilities to external providers?

- Yes
- No

Comments

054-1. If yes, please specify which services have been outsourced:

- IT services
- Training of staff
- Security
- Archives
- Cleaning

Other types of services (please specify): Provision of interpreters, coroners removal services, courier services, catering, transcription services, some IT services outside of the main NI government shared service contract, accountancy services. Some other miscellaneous support services.

Comments

C1. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 46, 47, 48, 49 and 52

Sources: <https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/publications/nicts-annual-report-and-accounts>
NICTS Judicial HR records

3.3. Public prosecution

3.3.1. Public prosecutors and staff

055. Number of public prosecutors (on 31 December of the reference year). Please give the information in full-time equivalent and for permanent posts actually filled for all types of courts - general jurisdiction and specialised courts.

Total	Males	Females

Total number of prosecutors (1 + 2 + 3)	162 [] NA [] NAP	59 [] NA [] NAP	103 [] NA [] NAP
1. Number of prosecutors at first instance level	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. Number of prosecutors at second instance (court of appeal) level	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Number of prosecutors at Supreme Court level	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Please indicate any useful comment for interpreting the data above:

056. Number of heads of prosecution offices.

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of heads of prosecution offices (1 + 2 + 3)	1 [] NA [] NAP	1 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
1. Number of heads of prosecution offices at first instance level	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
2. Number of heads of prosecution offices at second instance (court of appeal) level	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
3. Number of heads of prosecution offices at Supreme Court level	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP

Please provide any useful comment for interpreting the data above:

057. Do other persons have similar duties to those of public prosecutors?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments - If yes, please specify their title and functions: NAP

057-1. Please specify their number (in full-time equivalent):

[]
[] NA

059. If yes, is their number included in the number of public prosecutors that you have indicated under question 55?

() Yes

() No

[] NAP

Comments

059-1. Do prosecution offices have specially trained prosecutors in domestic violence and sexual

violence ?

Yes

No

Comments

060. Number of staff (non-public prosecutors) attached to the public prosecution services (on 31 December of the reference year) (without the number of non-judge staff, see question 52) (in full-time equivalent and for permanent posts actually filled).

	Total	Males	Females
Number of staff (non-public prosecutors) attached to the public prosecution service	309 [] NA	106 [] NA	203 [] NA

Comments

C2. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 55, 56 and 60

Sources: Public Prosecution Service

3.4. Gender equality

3.4.1 Specific provisions for facilitating gender equality

061-2. Are there specific provisions for facilitating gender equality within the framework of the procedures for recruiting :

	Yes, please specify	No
judges	(X)	()
prosecutors	(X)	()
non-judge staff	(X)	()
lawyers	(X)	()
notaries	(X)	()
enforcement agents	(X)	()

[] NA

Comments - if the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments. If you have additional comments please specify: Additional comments for 'if yes, please specify' section above:

JUDGES: Under the terms of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002, a Judicial Appointments Commission (NIJAC) was established which should so far as is reasonably practicable, be reflective of the community in Northern Ireland. The Commission is similarly tasked

to make appointments to listed judicial offices which are similarly reflective of the community in Northern Ireland so far as is reasonably practicable. These positive duties require a programme of action from the Commission but are subject to the overriding principle that applications should be made solely on merit. NIJAC produces an annual monitoring report on a number of equality categories including the gender composition of the judiciary and applicant pool for judicial posts. As can be seen above, there is an advanced equality framework for judicial appointments in Northern Ireland which is subject to regular review. NIJAC is in addition subject to the oversight of the Commissioner for Public Appointments Northern Ireland . The Commissioner monitors the application of selection on merit by a number of specified public bodies and diversity (including gender) is a key part of the Code of Practice of the Commissioner.

PROSECUTORS: Under the terms of Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, public authorities must have due regard to the promotion of equality of opportunity between nine equality categories, one of which is gender. The Director of Public Prosecutions as head of the Public Prosecution Service (‘PPS’) is a designated public body to whom the provision applies. The PPS in Northern Ireland has an Equality Scheme in place which it notes is submitted annually to the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland (itself set up under the 1998 Act) in line with its responsibilities under Section 75. <https://www.ppsni.gov.uk/Equality-and-Diversity-Policies---5081.html>

NON-JUDGE STAFF: The Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service is an agency of the Department of Justice and is as such subject to the duty on promotion of equality of opportunity under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. The Department of Justice has an Equality Action Plan 2017-2022, which includes a focus on gender issues such as women’s mentoring and leadership programmes.

LAWYERS: Lawyers employed in the Government Legal Service in Northern Ireland are covered by an equality framework within the Northern Ireland Civil Service derived from Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. Northern Ireland has a well-developed corps of equality law and practice as noted above. In relation to the private sector, it is important to note that all employers are subject to the provisions of the Sex Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 (as amended).

NOTARIES:Notaries in Northern Ireland are appointed by the Lord Chief Justice under the provisions of the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Order 1978

ENFORCEMENT AGENTS: The Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland is a designated public body under a duty to promote equality of opportunity under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. The Chief Inspector of Criminal Justice (charged with inspecting and evaluating co-operation of agencies within the criminal justice system) is also a designated public body for the purposes of Section 75. It is also important to appreciate the role and functions of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, in terms of advising on compliance of legislation and the promotion of human rights within Northern Ireland, which will include a range of issues including gender

061-3. Are there specific provisions for facilitating gender equality within the framework of the procedures for promoting :

	Yes, please specify	No
judges	(X)	()
prosecutors	()	(X)
non-judge staff	(X)	()
lawyers	(X)	()
notaries	(X)	()
enforcement agents	(X)	()

[] NA

Comments - if the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments. If you have additional comments please specify: Additional comments for 'if yes, please specify' section above:

JUDGES: Under the terms of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002, a Judicial Appointments Commission (NIJAC) was established which should so far as is reasonably practicable, be reflective of the community in Northern Ireland. The Commission is similarly tasked to make appointments to listed judicial offices which are similarly reflective of the community in Northern Ireland so far as is reasonably

practicable. These positive duties require a programme of action from the Commission but are subject to the overriding principle that applications should be made solely on merit. NIJAC produces an annual monitoring report on a number of equality categories including the gender composition of the judiciary and applicant pool for judicial posts. As can be seen above, there is an advanced equality framework for judicial appointments in Northern Ireland which is subject to regular review. NIJAC is in addition subject to the oversight of the Commissioner for Public Appointments Northern Ireland . The Commissioner monitors the application of selection on merit by a number of specified public bodies and diversity (including gender) is a key part of the Code of Practice of the Commissioner. NON-JUDGE STAFF: The Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service is an agency of the Department of Justice and is as such subject to the duty on promotion of equality of opportunity under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. The Department of Justice has an Equality Action Plan 2017-2022, which includes a focus on gender issues such as women’s mentoring and leadership programmes. LAWYERS: Lawyers employed in the Government Legal Service in Northern Ireland are covered by an equality framework within the Northern Ireland Civil Service derived from Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. Northern Ireland has a well-developed corps of equality law and practice as noted above. In relation to the private sector, it is important to note that all employers are subject to the provisions of the Sex Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 (as amended).

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ENFORCEMENT AGENTS: The Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland is a designated public body under a duty to promote equality of opportunity under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. The Chief Inspector of Criminal Justice (charged with inspecting and evaluating co-operation of agencies within the criminal justice system) is also a designated public body for the purposes of Section 75. It is also important to appreciate the role and functions of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, in terms of advising on compliance of legislation and the promotion of human rights within Northern Ireland, which will include a range of issues including gender

3.4.2 At national level

061-4. Do you have, at national level, one or more recent surveys or reports related to - wholly or partly - the distribution males/females within the judicial system concerning:

	Yes	No
judges	(X)	()
prosecutors	()	(X)
non-judge staff	(X)	()
lawyers	(X)	()
notaries	(X)	()
enforcement agents	(X)	()

Comments - If the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments. Could you specify the reference or internet link of this/these document(s) or send it/them to us? See NIJAC Equality Monitoring Report. The Society liaises with NIJAC to provide figures for the composition of the solicitors’ profession. This provides a basis of comparison and analysis in terms of analysing the progression of candidates through to judicial office when compared with the make-up of the profession as a whole. Public bodies as outlined above will liaise directly with the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland to detail how they are complying with their duties to promote equality of opportunity. <https://www.nijac.gov.uk/sites/nijac/files/NIJAC%20Equality%20Monitoring%20Report%202018.pdf> The Police Service of Northern Ireland provides a breakdown of the composition of its officer and civilian workforce. <https://www.psn.police.uk/inside-psni/Statistics/workforce-composition-statistics/>

061-5. Is there a national programme or an orientation document to promote males/females

equality within the judicial system?

Yes

No

Comments - if the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments. Could you specify the reference or internet link of this/these document(s) or send it/them to us?

061-6. At national level, is there any specific person (e.g. an equal opportunities commissioner)/institution dealing with gender issues in the justice system concerning:

	Yes, please specify	No
the recruitment of judges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
the promotion of judges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
the recruitment of prosecutors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
the promotion of prosecutors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
the recruitment of non-judge staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
the promotion of non-judge staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments - if other than recruitment and/or promotion, please specify. If the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments NIJAC, the Equality Commission and the Commissioner for Public Appointments have a range of duties which include the monitoring and assessment of equality on grounds of gender in the case of NIJAC and the Equality Commission.

061-6-1. Please specify the text which set up this person/institution :

(title, date, nature of the text) NIJAC- Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002 (as amended)
Equality Commission- Northern Ireland Act 1998 (as amended)
Commissioner for Public Appointments- Commissioner for Public Appointments (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 (as amended)
Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission- Northern Ireland Act 1998 (as amended)

NAP

061-6-2. Please specify the status of this person/institution:

(e.g. independent, attached to the Ministry of Justice, to the High Judicial Council or equivalent or to an inter-ministerial institution specifically dedicated to gender equality) NIJAC- Independent and established by statute. Chaired by the Lord Chief Justice who is head of the independent judiciary
Equality Commission- Independent and established by statute. Commission for Public Appointments- Independent and established by legislation.
Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission- Independent and established by statute.

061-6-3. Please specify if this person/institution has an information and consultative function or if its opinions/decisions have legal consequences:

(e.g. block a decision or allow an appeal)

3.4.3 At court/public prosecution services level

061-7. At the court or public prosecution services level, is there a person (e.g. an equal opportunities commissioner)/institution specifically dedicated to ensure the respect of gender equality in the organisation of judicial work:

	Yes	No
in courts (judges)	()	(X)
in public prosecution services (prosecutors)	()	(X)
for courts' non-judge staff	()	(X)

Comments - If yes, please specify their titles and tasks. If the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments.

Note - The management of court business in relation to the deployment of judges is the responsibility of the Lord Chief Justice for Northern Ireland. In terms of non-judicial matters, the key responsible officers are the leadership team within the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunal Service, an agency of the Department of Justice.

061-8. Does the feminisation of certain functions, if it exists in your country, within courts or public prosecution services, lead to concrete changes in the organisation of the work in the following areas:

	Yes	No
Assignment in different positions	()	(X)
Workload distribution	()	(X)
Working hours	()	(X)
Modalities of teleworking and presence in the work space	()	(X)
Replacement of absent persons	()	(X)
Organisation of the hearings	()	(X)

Other	()	(X)
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Comments - If other, please specify. Could you also indicate concrete examples referring to the various possibilities mentioned? If the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments. NAP

061-9. In order to improve gender balance in access to different judicial professions and equality in promotion and in access to functions of responsibility, what are the measures, in your country, which:

have been already implemented (please specify) : NIJAC outline that equality monitoring occurs at application, shortlisting and appointment stages. Data analysis considers progress of under-represented groups and comparisons are made against the estimated pool of eligible candidates. This information helps inform an outreach programme to widen the pool of applicants, which includes the following:-

- Tailored Scheme Outreach Plans for all judicial appointment competitions
- Working with others to promote and enhance understanding of judicial opportunities
- Extending our understanding of the challenges and barriers to achieving judicial diversity and doing what we can to alleviate or eliminate.

are planned (please specify) : NAP

Comments - If the situation changed since reference year, please specify in the comments. NAP

[] NAP

061-10. In your judicial system, and eventually based on evaluation, studies or official reports, what are the main causes of inequalities in:

recruitment procedures (please specify):

promotion procedures and access to the functions of responsibility (please specify) :

Comments - If the situation changed since reference year, please specify in the comments.

061-11. In your courts, is there particular attention given to gender issues regarding the public and users of justice, in particular:

	Yes, please specify	No
judges and court staff are more chosen among males or females according to the type of cases	()	(X)
the composition of hearings with several judges is always mixed	()	(X)
statistics exist concerning males and females who initiate a case/victims, accused persons, etc.	()	(X)

Comments - if you have additional comments please specify. If the situation changed since reference year, please specify in the comments. NAP

3.5 Use of information technologies in courts

3.5.1 General policies in Information Technology in judicial systems

062-1. Basic principles and models used in Information technology policies and strategies definition

	Organisation
IT policies and strategies	() defined and coordinated at national level by one institution (X) defined and coordinated at national level by several institutions () defined and coordinated at unit/stakeholder level () other
IT Governance	() governed on national level by one institution () governed on national level by several institutions (X) organised at unit/stakeholder level () other

Comments

065-1. In case there is a national structure in charge of the strategic policy making and governance of the judicial system modernisation (including also IT) what is the composition of this structure?

- () administrative, technical and scientific staff only
- () mixed teams of judicial staff (judges/prosecutors/etc.) and administrative/technical/scientific staff
- (X) other (please specify in a comment)

Comments - (please specify if there are other modernisation approaches that have been implemented): NAP

065-2. Which is the organisational model primarily chosen for conducting structural IT projects in courts and the management of applications (maintenance, evolution)?

	Implementing new projects	Management of applications
Mainly by an IT department with the help of professionals in the field (judges, prosecutors, non-judge judicial staff, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non
Mainly by professionals in the field (judges, prosecutors, non-judge judicial staff, etc.) with the help of an internal IT department and/or an external service provider	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non
Other alternatives (external service provider only – specify in a comment)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Non

Comments - please also describe in case of “other alternatives” Support for IT systems provided by service providers – both private sector companies and public sector (shared services).

065-3. Is there a device of detection and promotion of innovations regarding IT coming from personal and/or local/court level initiatives?

- Yes
- No

Comments (please specify projects that have experienced national developments)

065-4. Have you measured the impact resulting from the implementation of one or several components of your new information system?

- Yes
- No

065-4-1. If yes, have you measured the impact on (multiple answers possible):

- Business processes
- Workload
- Human resources
- Costs
- Other, please specify

Comments (please specify examples of the impact)

3.5.2 Security of courts information system and personal data protection

065-5. Are there independent audits or other mechanisms to contribute to the global security policy regarding the information system of the judiciary ?

- Yes
- No

Comments (please specify in particular if national frameworks of information security exist):

065-6. Is the protection of personal data managed by courts ensured at legislative level?

- Yes
- No

Comment - If yes, please specify among others: if there are authorities specifically responsible for protection of personal data; the extent of the rights granted to citizens in the specific framework of software used by courts; if there are controls or limitations by law regarding the sharing of databases managed by courts with other administrations (police, etc.) Data Protection Act 2018. GDPR. Information Commissioners Office

3.5.3 Centralised databases for decision support

062-4. Is there a centralised national database of court decisions (case-law, etc.)?

- Yes
- Non

Comments

062-4-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	For 1st instance decisions	For 2nd instance decisions	For 3rd instance decisions	Link with ECHR case law	Data anonymised	Case-law database available free online	Case-law database available in open data
Civil and/or commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Criminal	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Comments - if it exists in other matters please specify

062-6. Is there a computerised national record centralising all criminal convictions?

- Yes
- No

Comments

062-6-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

- Linkage with other European records of the same nature
- Content directly available through computerised means for judges and/or prosecutors
- Content directly available for purposes other than criminal (civil and administrative matters)

Comments - Please specify who is the authority delivering the access

3.5.4 Writing assistance tools

062-7. Are there writing assistance tools for which the content is coordinated at national level? (models or templates, paragraphs already pre-written, etc.)

- Yes
- No

Comment – if it exists in other matters please specify

062-7-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Availability rate
Civil and/or commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA

062-8. Are there voice recording tools?

- Yes
- No

Comments

062-8-1. If yes, please specify:

Availability of simple dictation tools	Availability of multiple speakers recording tools	Voice recognition feature
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Civil and/or commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> in all courts <input type="checkbox"/> in most of the courts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in some courts / some pilot phases <input type="checkbox"/> not available for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> in all courts <input type="checkbox"/> in most of the courts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in some courts / some pilot phases <input type="checkbox"/> not available for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Pilot testing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input type="checkbox"/> in all courts <input type="checkbox"/> in most of the courts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in some courts / some pilot phases <input type="checkbox"/> not available for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> in all courts <input type="checkbox"/> in most of the courts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in some courts / some pilot phases <input type="checkbox"/> not available for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Pilot testing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> in all courts <input type="checkbox"/> in most of the courts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in some courts / some pilot phases <input type="checkbox"/> not available for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> in all courts <input type="checkbox"/> in most of the courts <input type="checkbox"/> in some courts / some pilot phases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not available for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Pilot testing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA

062-9. Is there an intranet site within the judicial system for distribution of news/novelities?

Availability rate:

- 100% - accessible to everyone in judiciary
- 50-99% - accessible for most judges/prosecutors in all instances
- 10-49% - in some courts only
- 1-9% - in one court only
- 0% (NAP) - No access

NA

Comments

3.5.5 Technologies used for administration of the courts and case management

063-1. Is there a case management system (CMS) ? (Software used for registering judicial proceedings and their management)

- Yes
- No

Comments - if it exists in other matters please specify

063-1-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	CMS deployment rate	Status of case online	Centralised or interoperable database	Early warning signals (for active case management)	Status of integration/connection of a CMS with a statistical tool
Civil and/or commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> accessible to parties <input type="checkbox"/> publication of decision online <input type="checkbox"/> both <input type="checkbox"/> not accessible at all <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Fully integrated including BI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated <input type="checkbox"/> Not integrated but connected <input type="checkbox"/> Not connected at all <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> accessible to parties <input type="checkbox"/> publication of decision online <input type="checkbox"/> both <input type="checkbox"/> not accessible at all <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Fully integrated including BI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated <input type="checkbox"/> Not integrated but connected <input type="checkbox"/> Not connected at all <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> accessible to parties <input type="checkbox"/> publication of decision online <input type="checkbox"/> both <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not accessible at all <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Fully integrated including BI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated <input type="checkbox"/> Not integrated but connected <input type="checkbox"/> Not connected at all <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

063-2. Computerised registries managed by courts

	Deployment rate	Data consolidated at national level	Service available online	Statistical module integrated or connected
Land registry	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Business registry	<input type="checkbox"/> 100%	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
	<input type="checkbox"/> 50-99%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> 10-49%			
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-9%			
	<input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP)			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA			

Comment – if it exists in other matters please specify Both of these exist but they sit outside of the Courts system in Northern Ireland

063-6. Budgetary and financial management systems of courts

	Tool deployment rate	Data consolidated at national level	System communicating with other ministries (financial among others)
Budgetary and financial management of courts	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Justice expenses management	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Other (please specify in comments)	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Comments

063-7. Measurement tools to assess the workload of judges, prosecutors and/or non-judge/non-prosecutor staff (tool quantifying the activity of judges, prosecutors and/or non-judge/non-prosecutor staff – for example the number of cases resolved)

Yes

No

Comments

063-7-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

Tools deployment rate	Data used for monitoring at national level	Data used for monitoring at court local level	Tool integrated in the CMS
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For judges	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
For prosecutors	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
For non-judge/non-prosecutor staff	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

3.5.6 Technologies used for communication between courts, professionals and/or court users

users

064-2. Is there a possibility to submit a case to courts by electronic means?(possibility to introduce a case by electronic means, for example an e-mail or a form on a website)

Yes

No

Comments

064-2-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Availability rate	Simultaneous submission of cases in paper form remains mandatory	Specific legislative framework authorising the submission of a case	An integrated/connect ed tool with the CMS
Civil and/or commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
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Comments - if it exist in other matters please specify

064-3. Is it possible to request legal aid by electronic means?

Yes

No

Comments

064-3-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Requesting legal aid electronically
Availability rate	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Formalisation of the request in paper form remains mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Specific legislative framework regarding requests for legal aid by electronic means	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Granting legal aid is also electronic	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Information available in CMS	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

064-4. Is it possible to transmit summons to a judicial meeting or a hearing by electronic means? (a judicial meeting relates to stages prior to a court hearing, with a view to mediation or conciliation)

Yes

No

Comments

064-4-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Summons produced by CMS	Simultaneous summon in paper form remains mandatory	Consent of the user to be notified by electronic means	Modalities (if other please specify in comments)	Specific legislative framework
Civil and/or commercial	[]	[]	[]	[] SMS [] E-mail [] Specific computer application [] Other	[]
Criminal	[]	[]	[]	[] SMS [] E-mail [] Specific computer application [] Other	[]
Administrative	[]	[]	[]	[] SMS [] E-mail [] Specific computer application [] Other	[]

Comments

064-6. Are there possibilities of electronic communication between courts and lawyers and/or parties? (sending of electronic files and data concerning a judicial proceeding with or without scanned documents, mainly to develop dematerialised communication)

Communication between court and lawyers representing parties

(X) Yes

() No

Communication between court and parties not represented by lawyer

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

064-6-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

Tool deployment rate	Trial phases concerned	Modalities (if there are different according to the trial phases or if other, please specify in a comment)	Specific legal framework

Civil and/or commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) - for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submission of a case to a court <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phases preparatory to a hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schedule of hearings and/or appeals management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transmission of court decisions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Criminal	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) - for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Submission of a case to a court <input type="checkbox"/> Phases preparatory to a hearing <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule of hearings and/or appeals management <input type="checkbox"/> Transmission of court decisions	<input type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) - for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Submission of a case to a court <input type="checkbox"/> Phases preparatory to a hearing <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule of hearings and/or appeals management <input type="checkbox"/> Transmission of court decisions	<input type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Comments

064-7. Terms and conditions of electronic communication used by professionals other than lawyers (sending of electronic data concerning a judicial proceeding with or without scanned documents, mainly to develop dematerialised communication)

	Tool deployment rate	Modalities (if there are different according to the deeds or if other, please specify in a comment)	Specific legal framework
Enforcement agents (as defined in Q169 and following)	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Notaries (as defined in Q192 and following)	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Experts (as defined in Q202 and following)	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Judicial police services	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Comments

064-9. Are there online processing devices of specialised litigation? (low value litigation, undisputed claims, preparatory phases to the resolution of family conflicts, etc. – please, specify in “comments” section)

Yes

No

Comments – Please describe the system that exists. Small claims on-line

064-10. Videoconferencing between courts, professionals and/or users (this concerns the use of audio-visual devices in the framework of judicial proceedings such as the hearing of parties, etc.)

Yes

No

Comments

064-10-1. If yes, please specify the following information and describe in comments of this section the cases of actual use of videoconferencing and the expected benefits (for example, the use of this device to reduce the number of detainees’ transfers to the court):

	Deployment rate (chose one only)	Proceeding phase	Specific legislative framework
Civil and/or commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prior to the hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> During the hearing <input type="checkbox"/> After the hearing	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Criminal	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prior to the hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> During the hearing <input type="checkbox"/> After the hearing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Prior to the hearing <input type="checkbox"/> During the hearing <input type="checkbox"/> After the hearing	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Comments

064-11. Recording of hearings or debates (sound or audio-visual recording during the investigation and/or trial phase(s))

Yes

No

Comments

064-11-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Tool deployment rate	Type of recording	Specific legislative framework
Civil and/or commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sound <input type="checkbox"/> Video <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Criminal	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sound <input type="checkbox"/> Video <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sound <input type="checkbox"/> Video <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

064-12. Is electronic evidence admissible?

Admissibility of electronic evidence	Legislative framework
---	------------------------------

Civil and/or commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> General law only <input type="checkbox"/> General and specialised law <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specialised law only
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> General law only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General and specialised law <input type="checkbox"/> Specialised law only
Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> General law only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General and specialised law <input type="checkbox"/> Specialised law only

Comments

3.6. Performance and evaluation

3.6.1. National policies applied in courts and public prosecution services

066. Are quality standards determined for the judicial system at national level (are there quality systems for the judiciary and/or judicial quality policies)?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

067. Do you have specialised personnel entrusted with implementation of these national level quality standards?

	Yes / No
within the courts	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
within the public prosecution services	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Comments

3.6.2. Performance and quality objectives at court level/public prosecution services

077. Concerning court activities, have you defined performance and quality indicators?

Yes

No

Comments

078. If yes, please select the main performance and quality indicators that have been defined for courts:

number of incoming cases

length of proceedings (timeframes)

- number of resolved cases
- number of pending cases
- backlogs
- productivity of judges and court staff
- satisfaction of court staff
- satisfaction of users (regarding the services delivered by the courts)
- costs of the judicial procedures
- number of appeals
- appeal ratio
- clearance rate
- disposition time
- other (please specify):

Comments

077-1. Concerning public prosecution activities, have you defined performance and quality indicators?

- Yes
- No

Comments

078-1. If yes, please select the main performance and quality indicators for the public prosecution services that have been defined:

- number of incoming cases
- length of proceedings (timeframes)
- number of resolved cases
- number of pending cases
- backlogs
- productivity of prosecutors and prosecution staff
- satisfaction of prosecution staff
- satisfaction of users (regarding the services delivered by the public prosecutors)
- costs of the judicial procedures
- clearance rate
- disposition time
- percentage of convictions and acquittals
- other (please specify): Caseload, dip sampling, no bills & acquittals by direction & freedom of information.

Comments

073. Do you have a system to evaluate regularly court performance based primarily on the defined indicators?

Yes

No

Comments

073-0. If yes, please specify the frequency:

Annual

Less frequent

More frequent

Comments - If "less frequent" or "more frequent", please specify: Quarterly

073-1. Is this evaluation of the court activity used for the later allocation of resources within this court?

Yes

No

Comments

073-2. If yes, which courses of action are taken?

Identifying to the causes of improved or deteriorated performance

Reallocating resources (human/financial resources based on performance (treatment)

Reengineering of internal procedures to increase efficiency (treatment)

Other (please specify):

Comments

073-3. Do you have a system to evaluate regularly the performance of the public prosecution services based primarily on the defined indicators?

Yes

No

Comments

073-4. If yes, please specify the frequency:

Annual

Less frequent

More frequent

Comments - If "less frequent" or "more frequent", please specify: Monthly and quarterly

073-5. Is this evaluation of the activity of public prosecution services used for the later allocation of resources within this public prosecution service?

Yes

No

Comments

073-6. If yes, which courses of action are taken?

- Identifying to the causes of improved or deteriorated performance
- Reallocating resources (human/financial resources based on performance (treatment))
- Reengineering of internal procedures to increase efficiency (treatment)
- Other (please specify):

Comments

079. Who is responsible for evaluating the performance of the courts (multiple options possible) :

- High Judicial Council
- Ministry of Justice
- Inspection authority
- Supreme Court
- External audit body
- Other (please specify):Analytical Services Group (Department of Justice & NICTS) resourced by statisticians from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) provide quality assured statistical reports. All management grades are also responsible for evaluating the performance of their business area / team on a periodic basis to ensure targets are on track to be met.

Comments

079-1. Who is responsible for evaluating the performance of the public prosecution services (multiple options possible) :

- Public prosecutorial Council
- Ministry of Justice
- Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior public prosecutor
- Prosecutor General /State public prosecutor
- External audit body
- Other (please specify):Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland / Committee for Justice (Northern Ireland Assembly - when functioning)

Comments

3.6.3. Measuring courts’ / public prosecution services activity

070. Do you regularly monitor court activities (performance and quality) concerning:

- number of incoming cases
- length of proceedings (timeframes)
- number of resolved cases
- number of pending cases
- backlogs
- productivity of judges and court staff
- satisfaction of court staff
- satisfaction of users (regarding the services delivered by the courts)

- costs of the judicial procedures
- number of appeals
- appeal ratio
- clearance rate
- disposition time
- other (please specify):

Comments

070-1. Do you regularly monitor public prosecution activities (performance and quality) concerning:

- number of incoming cases
- length of proceedings (timeframes)
- number of resolved cases
- number of pending cases
- backlogs
- productivity of prosecutors and prosecution staff
- satisfaction of prosecution staff
- satisfaction of users (regarding the services delivered by the by the public prosecution)
- costs of the judicial procedures
- clearance rate
- disposition time
- percentage of convictions and acquittals

other (please specify): Caseload, dip sampling, no bills & acquittals by direction, hate crime/domestic violence and sexual offences prosecution rates, case prep, decisions by type, cracked trials, applications

Comments

071. Do you monitor the number of pending cases and cases that are not processed within a reasonable timeframe (backlogs) for:

- civil law cases
- criminal law cases
- administrative law cases

Comments

072. Do you monitor waiting time during judicial proceedings?

	Yes (If yes, please specify)	No
within the courts	(X)	()
within the public prosecution services	()	(X)

3.6.4. Information regarding courts /public prosecution services activity



080. Is there a centralised institution that is responsible for collecting statistical data regarding the functioning of the courts?

Yes (please indicate the name and the address of this institution):Analytical Services Group (NICTS), 4th Floor Laganside House, 23 - 27Oxford Street, Belfast, BT1 3LA

No

Comments

080-1. Does this institution publish statistics on the functioning of each court:

Yes, on internet

No, only internally (in an intranet website)

No

Comments

080-2. Is there a centralised institution that is responsible for collecting statistical data regarding the functioning of the public prosecution services?

Yes (please indicate the name and the address of this institution):Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). NISRA Statisticians are seconded to the Public Prosecution Service

No

Comments

080-3. Does this institution publish statistics on the functioning of each public prosecution service?

Yes, on internet

No, only internally (in an intranet website)

No

Comments

081. Are individual courts required to prepare an activity report (that includes, for example, data on the number of resolved cases or pending cases, the number of judges and administrative staff, targets and assessment of the activity)?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please describe the content of the report and its audience (i.e. to whom the report is intended):

081-1. If yes, please specify in which form this report is released:

Internet

Intranet (internal) website

Paper distribution

Comments

081-2. If yes, please, indicate the periodicity at which the report is released:

- Annual
- Less frequent
- More frequent

Comments

081-3. Are public prosecution services required to prepare an activity report (that includes, for example, data on the number of incoming cases, the number of decisions, the number of public prosecutors and administrative staff, targets and assessment of the activity)?

- Yes
- No

Comments - If yes, please describe the content of the report and its audience (i.e. to whom the report is intended): Files received by type and classification, information request submitted to police by type, decisions issued by type, reasons for no prosecution, average days required for the issue of prosecutorial decisions by decision type, summons issued, defendants dealt with in crown/magistrates' court. This data is published in a quarterly Official Statistics statistical publication. There is a requirement for the PPS Annual Report and Accounts to be laid in the NI Assembly / Westminster and made available to the public.

081-4. If yes, please specify in which form this report is released:

- Internet
- Intranet (internal) website
- Paper distribution

Comments

081-5. If yes, please, indicate the periodicity at which the report is released:

- Annual
- Less frequent
- More frequent

Comments

3.6.5 Courts administration

082. Is there a process or structure of dialogue between the public prosecution services and courts regarding the way cases are presented before courts (for example the organisation, number and planning of hearings, on-call service for urgent cases, selection of simplified procedures of prosecution...)?

- Yes
- No

Comments - If yes, please specify: NAP

082-1. Is there in general a process or structure of dialogue between lawyers and courts regarding

the way cases are presented before courts in other than criminal matters (e.g. organisation, number and planning of hearings, on-call service for urgent cases)?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify: NAP

3.6.6 Performance and evaluation of judges and public prosecutors

083. Are there quantitative performance targets defined for each judge (e.g. the number of resolved cases in a month or year)?

Yes

No

Comments

083-1. Who is responsible for setting the individual targets for each judge?

Executive power (for example the Ministry of Justice)

Legislative power

Judicial power (for example the High Judicial Council, Supreme Court)

President of the court

Other (please specify):

Comments NAP. See answer to 083 above

114. Is there a system of qualitative individual assessment of the judges' work?

Yes

No

Comments

114-1. If yes, please specify the frequency of this assessment:

Annual

Less frequent

More frequent

083-2. Are there quantitative performance targets defined for each public prosecutor (e.g. the number of decisions in a month or year)?

Yes

No

Comments

083-3. Who is responsible for setting the individual targets for each public prosecutor

Executive power (for example the Ministry of Justice)

Prosecutor General /State public prosecutor

Public prosecutorial Council

Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior public prosecutor

Other (please specify):

Comments

120. Is there a system of qualitative individual assessment of the public prosecutors' work?

Yes

No

Comments

120-1. If yes, please specify the frequency of this assessment:

Annual

Less frequent

More frequent

Comments

C4. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this chapter:

Sources: Public Prosecution Service

- Dip sampling of cases by senior managers.

- Line management assessment (e.g. prosecutor performance at court).

OLCJ (083 and 114)

4.Fair trial

4.1.Principles

4.1.1.Principles of fair trial

084. Percentage of first instance criminal in absentia judgments (cases in which the suspect is not attending the hearing in person nor is represented by a lawyer)?

[]

NA

NAP

Comments - Please add methodology for calculation used.

085. Is there a procedure to effectively challenge a judge, if a party considers that the judge is not impartial?

Yes

No

Comments - Please could you briefly specify:

085-1. Ratio between the total number of initiated procedures of challenges and total number of finalised challenges (in the reference year):

[]
 [X] NA

Comments There is a Judicial Complaint procedure administered by the Office of the Lord Chief Justice

086. Is there in your country a monitoring system for the violations related to Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights?

[] For civil procedures (non-enforcement)
 [] For civil procedures (timeframe)
 [] For criminal procedures (timeframe)
 [] NAP

Comments - Please specify what are the terms and conditions of this monitoring system (information related to acknowledged violations by ECHR at the State/courts level; implementation of internal systems to prevent other violations (that are similar) and if possible to measure an evolution of the established violations):

086-1. Is there in your country a possibility to review a case after a decision on violation of human rights by the European Court of Human Rights?

() Yes
 (X) No
 [] NAP

Comments

D1. Please indicate the sources for answering questions in this chapter.

Sources: <https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/articles/nicts-statistics-and-research>

4.2. Timeframe of proceedings

4.2.1. General information

087. Are there specific procedures for urgent matters regarding:

[X] civil cases
 [X] criminal cases
 [] administrative cases
 [] There is no specific procedure for urgent matters

Comments - If yes, please specify: Judicial reviews, emergency protection processes, injunctions, emergency criminal courts, emergency appeal courts

Source: NICTS - specific procedures in civil and criminal cases.

088. Are there simplified procedures for:

- civil cases (small disputes)
- criminal cases (misdemeanour cases)
- administrative cases
- There is no simplified procedure

Comments - If yes, please specify: Default judgment procedures exist in the civil cases and administrative cases. Criminal cases include fixed penalty cases issued by prosecuting authorities and enforced by the court. Source: NICTS

088-1. For these simplified procedures, may judges deliver an oral judgement with a written order and without the full reasoning of the judgement ?

- civil cases
- criminal cases
- administrative cases

Comments - If yes, please specify: Small claims courts

089. Do courts and lawyers have the possibility to conclude agreements on arrangements for processing cases (presentation of files, decisions on timeframes for lawyers to submit their conclusions and on dates of hearings)?

- Yes
- No

Comments - If yes, please specify: Case progression officers are in place in the Criminal Courts and case management by the Judiciary exists in the majority of the business areas.

4.2.2. Case flow management – first instance

091. First instance courts: number of other than criminal law cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the first instance court
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	53 495 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	40 466 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Civil (and commercial) litigious cases (including litigious enforcement cases and if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Non litigious cases (2.1+2.2+2.3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

2.1. General civil (and commercial) non-litigious cases, e.g. uncontested payment orders, request for a change of name, non-litigious enforcement cases etc. (if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3; without registry cases and other cases, see categories 2.2 and 2.3)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2.2. Registry cases (2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2.2.1. Non litigious land registry cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2.2.2 Non-litigious business registry cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2.2.3. Other registry cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2.3. Other non-litigious cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Administrative law cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
4. Other cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments NICTS does not collate the information in the format requested. To attempt to locate, retrieve and extract the information would require a disproportionate amount of work, and for this reason it has not been possible to provide the information requested.

092. If courts deal with “civil (and commercial) non-litigious cases”, please indicate the case categories included:

. Not available

093. Please indicate the case categories included in the category "other cases":

. Not available

094. First instance courts: number of criminal law cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the first instance court
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)	[X] NA [] NAP	42 553 [] NA [] NAP	41 747 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. Severe criminal cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Other cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments - If you cannot make a distinction between misdemeanour criminal cases and severe criminal cases (according to the CEPEJ definitions), please indicate the categories of cases reported in the category "serious offences" and cases reported in the category "minor offences". If "Other cases" please specify: NICTS does not collate the information in the format requested. To attempt to locate, retrieve and extract the information would require a disproportionate amount of work, and for this reason it has not been possible to provide the information requested.

4.2.3. Case flow management – second instance

097. Second instance courts (appeal): Number of "other than criminal law" cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the second instance court
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. Civil (and commercial) litigious cases (including litigious enforcement cases and if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. Non litigious cases (2.1+2.2+2.3)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

2.1. General civil (and commercial) non-litigious cases, e.g. uncontested payment orders, request for a change of name, non-litigious enforcement cases etc. (if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3; without registry cases and other cases, see categories 2.2 and 2.3)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2.2. Registry cases (2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2.2.1. Non litigious land registry cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2.2.2 Non-litigious business registry cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2.2.3. Other registry cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2.3. Other non-litigious cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Administrative law cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
4. Other cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments - If “Other cases” please specify NICTS does not collate the information in the format requested. To attempt to locate, retrieve and extract the information would require a disproportionate amount of work, and for this reason it has not been possible to provide the information requested.

098. Second instance courts (appeal): Number of criminal law cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the second instance court
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. Severe criminal cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

3. Other cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If you cannot make a distinction between misdemeanour criminal cases and severe criminal cases (according to the CEPEJ definitions), please indicate the categories of cases reported in the category "serious offences" and cases reported in the category "minor offences". If "Other cases", please specify. NICTS does not collate the information in the format requested. To attempt to locate, retrieve and extract the information would require a disproportionate amount of work, and for this reason it has not been possible to provide the information requested.

4.2.4. Case flow management – Supreme Court

099. Highest instance courts (Supreme Court): Number of “other than criminal law” cases:

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the Supreme Court
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Civil (and commercial) litigious cases (including litigious enforcement cases and if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Non litigious cases (2.1+2.2+2.3)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.1. General civil (and commercial) non-litigious cases, e.g. uncontested payment orders, request for a change of name, non-litigious enforcement cases etc. (if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3; without registry cases and other cases, see categories 2.2 and 2.3)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.2. Registry cases (2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.2.1. Non litigious land registry cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.2.2 Non-litigious business registry cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.2.3. Other registry cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

2.3. Other non-litigious cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Administrative law cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
4. Other cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments - If "Other cases", please specify NICTS does not collate the information in the format requested. To attempt to locate, retrieve and extract the information would require a disproportionate amount of work, and for this reason it has not been possible to provide the information requested.

099-1. At the level of the Highest court (Supreme Court), is there a procedure of manifest inadmissibility?

- () Yes
(X) No

Comments

099-1-1. If yes, please indicate the number of:

cases received by the Highest court? []

cases closed by this procedure? []

Comments

100. Highest instance courts (Supreme Court): Number of criminal law cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the Supreme Court
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. Severe criminal cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Other cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments - If you cannot make a distinction between misdemeanour criminal cases and severe criminal cases (according to the CEPEJ definitions), please indicate the categories of cases reported in the category "serious offences" and cases reported in the category "minor offences". If "Other cases", please specify NICTS does not collate the information in the format requested. To attempt to locate, retrieve and extract the information would require a disproportionate amount of work, and for this reason it has not been possible to provide the information requested.

4.2.5. Case flow management and timeframes – specific cases

101. Number of litigious divorce cases, employment dismissal cases, insolvency, robbery cases, intentional homicide cases, cases relating to asylum seekers and cases relating to the right of entry and stay for aliens received and processed by first instance courts.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec ref. year
Litigious divorce cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
Employment dismissal cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
Insolvency	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
Robbery case	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
Intentional homicide	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
Cases relating to asylum seekers (refugee status under the 1951 Geneva Convention)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
Cases relating to the right of entry and stay for aliens	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments NICTS does not collate the information in the format requested. To attempt to locate, retrieve and extract the information would require a disproportionate amount of work, and for this reason it has not been possible to provide the information requested.

101-1. Could you briefly describe the system in your country dealing with judicial remedies relating to asylum seekers (refugee status under the 1951 Geneva Convention) and the right of entry and stay for aliens:

- . The First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum) is responsible for handling appeals against some decisions made by the Home Office relating to:
- permission to stay in the UK
 - deportation from the UK
 - entry clearance to the UK

102. Average length of proceedings, in days (from the date the application for judicial review is lodged). The average length of proceedings has to be calculated from the date the application for judicial review is lodged to the date the judgment is made, without taking into account the

enforcement procedure.

	% of decisions subject to appeal	Average length in 1st instance (in days)	Average length in 2nd instance (in days)	Average length in 3rd instance (in days)	Average total length of the total procedure (in days)	% of cases pending for more than 3 years for all instances
Civil and commercial litigious cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Litigious divorce case	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Employment dismissal case	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Insolvency	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Robbery case	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Intentional homicide	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

103. Where appropriate, please indicate the specific procedure regarding divorce cases (litigious and non-litigious):

. In Northern Ireland, marriage and Civil Partnership Agreements (civil contracts between same sex couples) can be dissolved through divorce, nullity and dissolution proceedings. All are litigious, there is no non-litigious option in Northern Ireland. Proceedings are commenced by way of petition and in the case of marital or civil partnership breakdown the petition may not be presented to the court before the expiration of the period of two years from the date of the marriage or civil partnership agreement. There is no time requirement for nullity proceedings. Parties may also petition the court for judicial separation proceedings which if a decree is granted mean that the petitioner is no longer obliged to cohabit with the respondent and effects how property is devolved on the death of an intestate party to the marriage.

104. How is the length of proceedings calculated for the six case categories of question 102? Please give a description of the calculation method.

. Not available

4.2.6. Case flow management – public prosecution

105. Role and powers of the public prosecutor in the criminal procedure (multiple options possible):

- to conduct or supervise police investigation
- to conduct investigations
- when necessary, to request investigation measures from the judge
- to charge
- to present the case in court
- to propose a sentence to the judge
- to appeal
- to supervise the enforcement procedure
- to discontinue a case without needing a decision by a judge (ensure consistency with question 36!)
- to end the case by imposing or negotiating a penalty or measure without requiring a judicial decision
- other significant powers (please specify): Use of diversion (e.g. caution) as an alternative to prosecution

Comments A different interpretation to this question may have applied in previous years. A Public Prosecutor has the power to direct a diversionary measure as an alternative to prosecution. However, they have no power to impose or negotiate such a penalty or measure, which may well be rejected by a suspect / defendant and would typically result in criminal prosecution proceedings instead.

106. Does the public prosecutor also have a role in:

- civil cases
- administrative cases
- insolvency cases

Comments - If yes, please specify: NAP

107. Cases processed by the public prosecutor - Total number of first instance criminal cases:

	Received during the reference year	Discontinued during the reference year (see Q108 below)	Concluded by a penalty or a measure imposed or negotiated by the public prosecutor	Cases brought to court
Total number of first instance cases processed by the public prosecutor	42 395 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	15 478 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	4 028 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	30 725 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments Received during the reference year - 42,395 cases received relating to 50,231 suspects.

Discontinued during the reference year - no prosecutions at suspect level.

Concluded by a penalty or a measure imposed or negotiated by the public prosecutor - 4,028 diversions at suspect level.

Cases brought to court - 30,725 prosecutions at suspect level.

During 2011-12, the PPS received approximately 53.3k cases, then 49.6k, 47.3k and 45.4k during the subsequent 4 annual periods. It would appear that previous responses for 2012 and 2014 against Q107.1.1 reflect the number of cases received and proceeded with. There has actually been a gradual reduction in the intervening years, largely accounted for by increased police disposal powers.

107-1. If the guilty plea procedure exists, how many cases were brought to court by the prosecutor through this procedure?

	Number of guilty plea procedures
Total	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Before the court case	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
During the court case	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

108. Total number of cases which were discontinued by the public prosecutor.

	Number of cases
Total number of cases which were discontinued by the public prosecutor (1+2+3+4)	15 478 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Discontinued by the public prosecutor because the offender could not be identified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Discontinued by the public prosecutor due to the lack of an established offence or a specific legal situation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Discontinued by the public prosecutor for reasons of opportunity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
4. Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

109. Do the figures include traffic offence cases?

Yes

No

Comments

D2. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 91, 94, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 107, 107-1 and 108.

Sources: PPS Case Management System.

5. Career of judges and public prosecutors

5.1. Recruitment and promotion

5.1.1. Recruitment and promotion of judges

110. How are judges recruited?

- mainly through a competitive exam (open competition)
- mainly through a recruitment procedure for experienced legal professionals (for example experienced lawyers)
- a combination of both (competitive exam and working experience)
- other (please specify):

Comments

111. Authority(ies) responsible for recruitment. Are judges initially/at the beginning of their career recruited and nominated by:

- an authority made up of judges only
- an authority made up of non-judges only
- an authority made up of judges and non-judges

Comments - Please indicate the name of the authority(ies) involved in the whole procedure of recruitment and nomination of judges. If there are several authorities, please describe their respective roles: The Northern Ireland Judicial Appointments Commission (NIJAC)

112. Is the same authority (Q111) competent for the promotion of judges?

- Yes
- No

Comments

113. What is the procedure for the promotion of judges? (multiple answers possible)

- Competitive test / Exam
- Other procedure (interview or other)
- No special procedure

Comments - Please specify how the promotion of judges is organised (especially if there is no competition or examination): NIJAC does not promote judges. Judges may choose to progress their careers by applying to serve at a higher tier. This is through open competition, as was their original appointment.

113-1. Please indicate the criteria used for the promotion of a judge? (multiple answers possible)

- Years of experience
- Professional skills (and/or qualitative performance)
- Performance (quantitative)
- Assessment results
- Subjective criteria (e.g. integrity, reputation)
- Other
- No criteria

Comments - Please specify any useful comment regarding the criteria (especially if you have checked the box "performance" or "other"):

The NI Judicial Appointment Commission's role is to recruit and select for judicial office, there is no 'promotion' route as such. If a serving 'junior' judge wishes to be elevated to a higher tier they will have to apply in open competition.

5.1.2. Status, recruitment and promotion of prosecutors

115. What is the status of public prosecution services?

- statutory independent
- under the authority of the Minister of Justice or another central authority
- other (please specify):

Comments - When appropriate, please specify the objective guarantees of this independence (transfer, appointment...). The independence of the Director of Public Prosecutions (as head of the PPS) is set out in the legislation.

115-1. Does the law or another regulation prevent specific instructions to prosecute or not, addressed to a public prosecutor?

- Yes
- No

Comments - If yes, please specify: Under s32A of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2004, a person commits an offence if, with the intention of perverting the course of justice, he seeks to influence the Director, the Deputy Director or a Public Prosecutor in any decision as to whether to institute or continue criminal proceedings. A person also commits an offence if, with the intention of perverting the course of justice, he seeks to influence a barrister or solicitor to whom the Director has under section 36(2) assigned the institution or conduct of any criminal proceedings in any decision as to whether to institute or continue those proceedings.

116. How are public prosecutors recruited?

- mainly through a competitive exam (open competition)
- mainly through a recruitment procedure for experienced legal professionals (for example experienced lawyers)
- a combination of both (competitive exam and working experience)
- other (please specify):

Comments

117. Authority(ies) responsible for recruitment. Are public prosecutors initially/at the beginning of their career recruited by:

- an authority composed of public prosecutors only
- an authority composed of non-public prosecutors only
- an authority composed of public prosecutors and non-public prosecutors

Comments - Please indicate the name of the authority(ies) involved in the whole procedure of recruitment and nomination of public prosecutors. If there are several authorities, please describe their respective roles: Public Prosecution Service for Northern Ireland

118. Is the same authority (Q.117) formally responsible for the promotion of public prosecutors?

- Yes
- No, please specify which authority is competent for promoting public prosecutors

Comments NAP

119. What is the procedure for the promotion of prosecutors? (multiple answers possible)

- Competitive test / exam
- Other procedure (interview or other)
- No special procedure

Comments - Please, specify the procedure (especially if it is a procedure different from a competitive test or an exam): Interview

119-2. Please indicate the criteria used for the promotion of a prosecutor:

- Years of experience
- Professional skills (and/or qualitative performance)
- Performance (quantitative)
- Assessment results
- Subjective criteria (e.g. integrity, reputation)
- Other
- No criteria

Comments - Please, specify any useful comment regarding the criteria (especially if you have checked the box "performance" or "other"): Performance at interview

5.1.3.Mandate and retirement of judges and prosecutors

121. Are judges appointed to office for an undetermined period (i.e. "for life" = until the official age of retirement)?

- Yes, please indicate the compulsory retirement age:70
- No

Comments - If yes, are there exceptions (e.g. dismissal as a disciplinary sanction)? Please specify:

121-1. Can a judge be transferred to another court without his/her consent:

- For disciplinary reasons
- For organisational reasons
- For other reasons (please specify modalities and safeguards):
- No

Comments

122. Is there a probation period for judges (e.g. before being appointed "for life")? If yes, how long is this period?

- Yes, duration of the probation period (in years):
- No

Comments

123. Are public prosecutors appointed to office for an undetermined period (i.e. "for life" = until the official age of retirement)?

- Yes, please indicate the compulsory retirement age:NA
- No

Comments - If yes, are there exceptions (e.g. dismissal as a disciplinary sanction)? Please specify: Dismissal as a disciplinary action

124. Is there a probation period for public prosecutors? If yes, how long is this period?

Yes, duration of the probation period (in years):1

No

Comments

125. If the mandate for judges is not for an undetermined period (see question 121), what is the length of the mandate (in years)?

[]

NA

NAP

Comments

125-1. Is it renewable?

Yes

No

NAP

Comments

126. If the mandate for public prosecutors is not for an undetermined period (see question 123), what is the length of the mandate (in years)?

[]

NA

NAP

Comments

126-1. Is it renewable?

Yes

No

NAP

Comments

E1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this chapter:

Sources: Northern Ireland Civil Service Pension Scheme

5.2. Training

5.2.1. Training of judges



127. Types of different trainings offered to judges:

	Compulsory	Optional	No training proposed
Initial training (e.g. attend a judicial school, traineeship in the court)	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
General in-service training	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
In-service training for specialised judicial functions (e.g. judge for economic or administrative issues)	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
In-service training for management functions of the court (e.g. court president)	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
In-service training for the use of computer facilities in courts	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
In-service training on ethics	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No

Comments

128. Frequency of the in-service training of judges:

	Frequency of the judges training
General in-service training	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training for specialised judicial functions (e.g. judge for economic or administrative issues)	[] Regularly (for example every year) [X] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training for management functions of the court (e.g. court president)	[] Regularly (for example every year) [X] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training for the use of computer facilities in courts	[] Regularly (for example every year) [X] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training on ethics	[] Regularly (for example every year) [X] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed

Comments - Please indicate any information on the periodicity of the continuous training of judges: Judges are invited to JSB training events that are appropriate to their tier. Judges are invited to make applications for funding to attend external conferences and training courses that are relevant to their area of work. JSB provides specialised training for Judges who are selected to be ticketed for Homicide Trials, Extradition Cases and Serious Sexual Offences.

5.2.2. Training of prosecutors

129. Types of different trainings offered to public prosecutors:

	Compulsory	Optional	No training proposed
Initial training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
General in-service training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
In-service training for specialised functions (e.g. public prosecutors specialised on organised crime)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
In-service training for management functions (e.g. Head of prosecution office, manager)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
In-service training for the use of computer facilities in office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
In-service training on ethics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Comments

130. Frequency of the in-service training of public prosecutors :

	Frequency of the in-service training
General in-service training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed
In-service training for specialised functions (e.g. public prosecutor specialised on organised crime)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed
In-service training for management functions (e.g. Head of prosecution office, manager)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed
In-service training for the use of computer facilities in office	<input type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed
In-service training on ethics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed

Comments - Please indicate any information on the periodicity of the in-service training of prosecutors: As and when required

131. Do you have public training institutions for judges and / or prosecutors?

	Initial training only	Continuous training only	Initial and continuous training
One institution for judges	[]	[]	[]
One institution for prosecutors	[]	[]	[]
One single institution for both judges and prosecutors	[]	[]	[]

Comments

131-0. If yes, what is the budget of such institution(s)?

	Budget of the institution for the reference year, in €
One institution for judges	[] NA [X] NAP
One institution for prosecutors	[] NA [X] NAP
One single institution for both judges and prosecutors	[] NA [X] NAP

Comments

131-1. If judges and/or prosecutors have no compulsory initial training in such institutions, please indicate briefly how these judges and/or prosecutors are trained?

. Judges and Prosecutors are both recruited by means of an external competition. In-house training is provided by the Northern Ireland Judicial Appointments Commission in respect of judges, and the PPS in respect of prosecutors.

131-2. Number of in-service training courses (in days) organised by the judicial training institution for judges, prosecutors, non-judge and non-prosecutor staff

	Number of training courses in days organised, without e-learning	Online training courses available during the reference year (e-learning)
Total	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
1. Only for judges	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
2. Only for prosecutors	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP

3. Only for other non-judge staff	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
4. Only for other non-prosecutor staff	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
5. Other common training	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments:

E2. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this chapter:

Sources: PPS

5.3.Practice of the profession

5.3.1.Salaries and benefits of judges and prosecutors

132. Salaries of judges and public prosecutors on 31 December of the reference year:

	Gross annual salary, in €	Net annual salary, in €	Gross annual salary, in local currency	Net annual salary, in local currency
First instance professional judge at the beginning of his/her career	122 400 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	75 880 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	110 334 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	68 400 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Judge of the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Court (please indicate the average salary of a judge at this level, and not the salary of the Court President)	233 937 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	130 460 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	210 876 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	117 600 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Public prosecutor at the beginning of his/her career	39 292 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	28 173 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	35 324 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	25 328 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Public prosecutor of the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Instance (please indicate the average salary of a public prosecutor at this level, and not the salary of the Attorney General).	67 106 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	48 116 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	60 331 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	43 258 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments Note: the public prosecutor of the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Instance reflects deployment of UG6 prosecutors at appeal hearings in the County Court structure. Appeals in higher courts are managed by outside counsel, engaged for that purpose.

133. Do judges and public prosecutors have additional benefits?

Judges	Public prosecutors
--------	--------------------

Reduced taxation	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Special pension	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Housing	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Other financial benefit	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No

Comments

134. If “other financial benefit”, please specify:

--	--

[X] NAP

135. Can judges combine their work with any of the following other functions/activities?

	With remuneration	Without remuneration
Teaching	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Research and publication	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Arbitrator	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Consultant	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Cultural function	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Political function	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Mediator	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Other function	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No

Comments - If rules exist in your country (e.g. authorisation needed to perform these activities), please specify. If “other function”, please specify. NAP

137. Can public prosecutors combine their work with any of the following other functions/activities?

With remuneration	Without remuneration

Teaching	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Research and publication	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Arbitrator	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Consultant	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Cultural function	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Political function	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Mediator	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Other function	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No

Comments - If rules exist in your country (e.g. authorisation needed to perform these activities), please specify. If “other function”, please specify:

139. Productivity bonuses: do judges receive bonuses based on the fulfilment of quantitative objectives in relation to the number of resolved cases (e.g. number of cases resolved over a given period of time)?

- () Yes
(X) No

Comments - If yes, please specify the conditions and possibly the amounts:

5.3.2 Body/institution of ethics

138. Is there in your country an institution / body giving opinions on ethical questions of the conduct of judges (e.g. involvement in political life, use of social media by judges, etc.)

- () Yes
(X) No

Comments

138-1. If yes, how is this institution / body formed

- () only by judges
() by judges and other legal professionals
() other, please specify:

Comments

138-2. Are the opinions of this institution / body publicly available?

- () Yes
() No

[] NAP

Comments - Please describe the work of this institution / body, the frequency of opinions, etc.

[] NAP

138-3. Is there in your country an institution / body giving opinions on ethical questions of the conduct of prosecutors (e.g. involvement in political life, use of social media by prosecutors, etc.)

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

138-4. If yes, how is this institution / body formed

() only by prosecutors

() by prosecutors and other legal professionals

() other, please specify:

Comments

138-5. Are the opinions of this institution / body publicly available?

() Yes

() No

[] NAP

Comments - Please describe the work of this institution / body, the frequency of opinions, etc.

[] NAP

5.4. Disciplinary procedures

5.4.1. Authorities responsible for disciplinary procedures and sanctions

140. Who is authorised to initiate disciplinary proceedings against judges (multiple options possible)?

[] Court users

[] Relevant Court or hierarchical superior

[] High Court / Supreme Court

[] High Judicial Council

[] Disciplinary court or body

[] Ombudsman

[] Parliament

[] Executive power (please specify):

[X] Other (please specify): Lord Chief Justice (Northern Ireland) a Lord Justice of Appeal, Tribunal Presidents/Chairmen. [Another Lord Chief Justice, a Justice of the Supreme Court – only for serious complaints against the LCJ NI].

[] This is not possible

Comments

141. Who is authorised to initiate disciplinary proceedings against public prosecutors (multiple options possible):

- Citizens
- Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior public prosecutor
- Prosecutor General /State public prosecutor
- Public prosecutorial Council (High Judicial Council)
- Disciplinary court or body
- Ombudsman
- Professional body
- Executive power (please specify):
- Other (please specify):
- This is not possible

Comments

142. Which authority has disciplinary power over judges? (multiple options possible)

- Court
- Higher Court / Supreme Court
- High Judicial Council
- Disciplinary court or body
- Ombudsman
- Parliament
- Executive power (please specify):

Other (please specify): Lord Chief Justice (Northern Ireland) a Lord Justice of Appeal, Tribunal Presidents/Chairmen. [Another Lord Chief Justice, a Justice of the Supreme Court – only for serious complaints against the LCJ NI].

Comments

143. Which authority has disciplinary power over public prosecutors? (multiple options possible):

- Supreme Court
- Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior
- Prosecutor General /State public prosecutor
- Public prosecutorial Council (High Judicial Council)
- Disciplinary court or body
- Ombudsman
- Professional body
- Executive power (please specify):
- Other (please specify):

Comments

5.4.2. Number of disciplinary procedures and sanctions



144. Number of disciplinary proceedings initiated during the reference year against judges and public prosecutors. (If a disciplinary proceeding is undertaken because of several reasons, please count the proceedings only once and for the main reason.)

	Judges	Prosecutors
Total number (1+2+3+4)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. Breach of professional ethics	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. Professional inadequacy	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Criminal offence	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
4. Other	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify:

145. Number of sanctions pronounced during the reference year against judges and public prosecutors:

	Judges	Prosecutors
Total number (total 1 to 10)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. Reprimand	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. Suspension	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Withdrawal from cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
4. Fine	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
5. Temporary reduction of salary	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
6. Position downgrade	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
7. Transfer to another geographical (court) location	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

8. Resignation	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
9. Other	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
10. Dismissal	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify. If a significant difference exists between the number of disciplinary proceedings and the number of sanctions, please indicate the reasons.

E3. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 144 and 145:

Sources: Office of the Lord Chief Justice

6.Lawyers

6.1.Profession of lawyer

6.1.1.Status of the profession of lawyers



146. Total number of lawyers practising in your country:

	Total	Male	Female
Number of lawyers	777 [] NA	[X] NA	[X] NA

Comments Practising barristers includes independent practitioners working from Bar Library (666), employed (54) and independent members working from other locations (57). The male/female breakdown is available only for independent practitioners working from the Bar Library: 431 males and 235 females. This information is not available for employed and independent members working from other locations.

147. Does this figure include "legal advisors" who cannot represent their clients in court (for example, some solicitors or in-house counsellors)?

Yes ()

No (X)

Comments

148. Number of legal advisors who cannot represent their clients in court:

[]

[X] NA

[] NAP

Comments

149. Do lawyers have a monopoly on legal representation in (multiple options are possible):

	First instance	Second instance	Highest instance court (Supreme Court)
Civil cases	[]	[]	[]
Dismissal cases	[]	[]	[]
Criminal cases – Defendant	[]	[]	[]
Criminal cases – Victim	[]	[]	[]
Administrative cases	[]	[]	[]

[X] NAP

Comments - Please indicate any useful clarifications regarding the content of lawyers' monopoly: There is no monopoly.

149-0. If there is no monopoly, please specify the organisations or persons that may represent a client in court:

	First instance	Second instance	Highest instance court (Supreme Court)
Civil society organisation	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Family member	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Self-representation	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Trade union	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Other	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No

Comments - If "other", please specify. In addition, please specify for the categories mentioned the types of cases concerned by this/these representation(s): Solicitors, Solicitor Advocates.

149-1. In addition to the functions of legal representation and legal advice, can a lawyer exercise other activities?

- [] Notarial activity
- [X] Arbitration / mediation
- [] Proxy / representation
- [] Property manager
- [] Real estate agent
- [] Other law activities (please specify):

Comments

149-2. What are the statuses for exercising the profession of lawyer?

Self-employed lawyer

Staff lawyer

In-house lawyer

Comments

150. Is the lawyer profession organised through:

a national bar association

a regional bar association

a local bar association

Comments

151. Is there a specific initial training and/or exam to enter the profession of lawyer?

Yes

No

Comments - If not, please indicate if there are other specific requirements as regards diplomas or university degrees:

152. Is there a mandatory general in-service professional training system for lawyers?

Yes

No

Comments

153. Is the specialisation in some legal fields linked to specific training, levels of qualification, specific diploma or specific authorisations?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify: Barristers with specific practices are organised in Bar Associations which provide specialist professional training and representation.

Barristers who wish to become Senior Counsel must complete an independent appointment process to attain the rank of Queen's Counsel.

F1. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 146 and 148:

Sources: The Bar Council of Northern Ireland

6.1.2. Practicing the profession

154. Can court users establish easily what the lawyers' fees will be (i.e. a prior information on the foreseeable amount of fees)?

Yes

No

Comments This varies between criminal and civil practice. However, if it's a legally aided case, the client is not required to pay and the

government payer generally operates a standard fee mechanism. In certain areas such as arbitration and mediation publicly quoted fees are available.

155. Are lawyers' fees freely negotiated?

- Yes
- No

Comments In publicly funded work, fees are increasingly laid out in statutory rules/practice directions/guidelines as standardised or scale fees. In privately funded work, the fee will depend on a high number of variables so can be obtained on request from the barrister and some negotiation on fees may be possible.

156. Do laws or bar association standards provide any rules on lawyers' fees (including those freely negotiated)?

- Yes, laws provide rules
- Yes, standards of the bar association provide rules
- No, neither laws nor bar association standards provide rules

Comments Practicing barristers are subject to the Bar Council Code of Conduct and Constitution of Bye Laws of the Inn of Court of Northern Ireland which provide rules on fees. Fees for publicly funded work laid out in statutory rules are accompanied by explanatory notes and guidelines on the procedure for claiming fees from the Legal Services Agency.

6.1.3. Quality standards and disciplinary procedures

157. Have quality standards been determined for lawyers?

- Yes
- No

Comments - If yes, what are the quality criteria used? Practicing barristers are subject to the Bar Council Code of Conduct. Barristers must also satisfy mandatory CPD requirements annually on their application for a practising certificate. Newly qualified barristers must complete a mandatory period of pupillage under the supervision of a more senior practitioner. The Bar Council has instituted a mandatory Advocacy Training programme which must be completed in various stages.

158. If yes, who is responsible for formulating these quality standards:

- the bar association
- the Parliament
- other (please specify):

Comments The Bar Council of Northern Ireland as the regulatory body.

159. Is it possible to file a complaint about:

- the performance of lawyers
- the amount of fees

Comments - Please specify: The Bar Council is the regulatory body and complaints against barristers are investigated by the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) of the Bar Council. The Legal Services Oversight Commissioner has independent oversight of all complaints. Meanwhile service complaints are to be considered by a separate independent body to the PCC (the Bar Complaints Committee).

160. Which authority is responsible for disciplinary procedures?

- a judge

Ministry of Justice

a professional authority

other (please specify):

Comments If the complaints handling process finds evidence of misconduct, a disciplinary panel consisting of High Court Judiciary, senior barristers and lay persons is convened to determine the matter and recommend any discipline required.

161. Disciplinary proceedings initiated against lawyers. (If a disciplinary proceeding is undertaken because of several reasons, please count the proceedings only once and for the main reason.)

	Number of disciplinary proceedings
Total number of disciplinary proceedings initiated (1 + 2 + 3 + 4)	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Breach of professional ethics	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Professional inadequacy	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Criminal offence	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
4. Other	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify:

162. Sanctions pronounced against lawyers.

	Number of sanctions
Total number of sanctions (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5)	4 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Reprimand	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Suspension	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Withdrawal from cases	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
4. Fine	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
5. Other	2 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify. If a significant difference between the number of disciplinary proceedings and the number of

sanctions exists, please indicate the reasons. Other refers to a warning & payment of costs for the disciplinary action. All 4 sanctions refer to the one disciplinary action in question 161.

7. Court related mediation and other alternative Dispute Resolution

7.1 Court related mediation

7.1.1 Details on court related mediation

163. Does the judicial system provide for court-related mediation procedures?

Yes

No

Comments

163-1. In some fields, does the judicial system provide for mandatory mediation with a mediator?

Before/instead of going to court

Ordered by the court, the judge, the public prosecutor or a public authority in the course of a judicial proceeding

No mandatory mediation

Comments - If there is mandatory mediation, please specify which fields are concerned:

163-2. In some fields, does the legal system provide for mandatory informative sessions with a mediator?

Yes

No

Comments - If there are mandatory informative sessions, please specify which fields are concerned:

164. Please specify, by type of cases, who provides court-related mediation services:

	Private mediator	Public authority (other than the court)	Judge	Public prosecutor
Civil and commercial cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Family cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Administrative cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Labour cases including employment dismissals	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Criminal cases	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Consumer cases	(X) Yes () No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
-----------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------

Comments

165. Is there a possibility to receive legal aid for court-related mediation or receive these services free of charge?

- () Yes
(X) No
[] NAP

Comments - If yes, please specify (only one or both options)::

166. Number of accredited or registered mediators for court-related mediation:

	Total	Males	Females
Number of mediators	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments

167. Number of court-related mediations:

	Number of cases for which the parties agreed to start mediation	Number of finished court-related mediations	Number of cases in which there is a settlement agreement
Total (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. Civil and commercial cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. Family cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Administrative cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
4. Labour cases including employment dismissal cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
5. Criminal cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
6. Consumer cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments - Please indicate the source:

168. Do the following alternative dispute resolution (ADR) methods exist in your country?

- Mediation other than court-related mediation
- Arbitration
- Conciliation (if different from mediation)
- Other ADR (please specify):

Comments

G1. Please indicate the source for answering question 166:

Source: NAP

8.Enforcement of court decisions

8.1.Execution of decisions in civil matters

8.1.1.Functioning

169. Do you have enforcement agents in your judicial system?

- Yes
- No

Comments

170. Number of enforcement agents

	Total	Male	Female
Number of enforcement agents	16 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	11 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	5 <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

171. Are enforcement agents (multiple options are possible):

- judges
- bailiffs practising as private professionals under the authority (control) of public authorities
- bailiffs working in a public institution
- other

Comments - Please specify their status and powers: Other - 1 Chief Enforcement Officer, 2 Deputy Chief Enforcement Officers, 1 Senior Enforcement Officer, 11 Enforcement Officers (& nominated officers) Since the last return we have reclassified an enforcement agent who has specific powers of enforcement and not administrative staff. Therefore, the Nominated Officer and Registration Officers have been removed from this segment. 1.In the Enforcement of Judgments Office (EJO) AND Enforcement Agents are the Master (Enforcement of Judgments Office), the Chief Enforcement Officer (including his Deputies), Enforcement Officers. All have statutory powers made under the Judgments Enforcement (NI) Order 1981. They also exercise their functions in accordance with Article 8 of the Judgments Enforcement (NI)Order 1981. 2.The Master is appointed under section 70 of the Judicature (NI) Act 1978. Her role is to (a)Exercise judicial functions and discretion in determining contested cases;

(b) Ensure all the legislative requirements are followed;

(c) To make orders of enforcement (by application of the Chief Enforcement Officer)

3. The Chief Enforcement Officer is designated by the Department of Justice of Northern Ireland, and the powers to issue summons to compel debtors to a means examination, issue specific enforcement orders and make certain applications for enforcement to the EJO master. 4. An Enforcement Officer is designated by the Department of Justice of Northern Ireland and is responsible for the completion of means reports, the service of certain enforcement orders and the execution of Orders for Delivery of Possession of Land and Orders for the Delivery of Possession of Goods and Orders of Seizure.

171-1. Do enforcement agents have the monopoly in exercising their profession?

Yes

No

Comments - Please indicate any useful clarifications regarding the content of the enforcement agents' monopoly or on the opposite regarding the competition they have to deal with:

171-2. Can the enforcement agent carry out the following civil enforcement proceedings:

	Option
Seizure of movable tangible properties	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes with monopoly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes without monopoly <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Seizure of immovable properties	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes with monopoly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes without monopoly <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Seizure from a third party of the debtor claims regarding a sum of money	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes with monopoly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes without monopoly <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Seizure of remunerations	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes with monopoly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes without monopoly <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Seizure of motorised vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes with monopoly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes without monopoly <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Eviction measures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes with monopoly <input type="checkbox"/> Yes without monopoly <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Enforced sale by public tender of seized properties	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes with monopoly <input type="checkbox"/> Yes without monopoly <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes with monopoly <input type="checkbox"/> Yes without monopoly <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

171-3. Apart of the enforcement of court decisions, what are the other activities that can be carried out by enforcement agents?

- Service of judicial and extrajudicial documents
- Debt recovery
- Voluntary sale of moveable or immoveable property at public auction
- Seizure of goods
- Recording and reporting of evidence
- Court hearings service
- Provision of legal advice
- Bankruptcy procedures
- Performing tasks assigned by judges
- Representing parties in courts
- Drawing up private deeds and documents
- Building manager
- Other

Comments

172. Is there a specific initial training or exam to become an enforcement agent?

- Yes
- No

Comments

172-1. Is there a system of mandatory general continuous training for enforcement agents?

- Yes
- No

Comments Training is an ongoing basis, and individual training needs are assessed, discussed and actioned – both related to new and updated internal procedures

173. Is the profession of enforcement agents organised by (the answer NAP means that the profession is not organised):

- a national body
- a regional body
- a local body
- NAP

Comments

174. Are enforcement fees easily established and transparent for court users?

- Yes

No

Comments

175. Are enforcement fees freely negotiated?

Yes

No

Comments

176. Do laws provide any rules on enforcement fees (including those freely negotiated)?

Yes

No

Comments

H0. Please indicate the sources for answering question 170

Source: Section 70 of the Judicature (NI) Act 1970 & Article 2 of the Judgments Enforcement (NI) Order 1981

8.1.2. Efficiency of enforcement services



177. Is there a body entrusted with supervising and monitoring the enforcement agents' activity?

Yes

No

Comments

178. Which authority is responsible for supervising and monitoring enforcement agents?

professional body

judge

Ministry of Justice

public prosecutor

other (please specify):

Comments

179. Have quality standards been determined for enforcement agents?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, what are the quality criteria used?

180. If yes, who is responsible for establishing these quality standards?

professional body

judge

Ministry of Justice

other (please specify):

Comments

181. Is there a specific mechanism for executing court decisions rendered against public authorities, including supervising such execution?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify: The Crown Proceedings Act 1947 (as it applies to the Crown in Northern Ireland)

182. Is there a system for monitoring how the enforcement procedure is conducted by the enforcement agent?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify: NICS Performance Management System and governance checks

183. What are the main complaints made by users concerning the enforcement procedure? Please indicate a maximum of 3.

no execution at all

non execution of court decisions against public authorities

lack of information

excessive length

unlawful practices

insufficient supervision

excessive cost

other (please specify):

Comments

184. Has your country prepared or established concrete measures to change the situation concerning the enforcement of court decisions – in particular regarding decisions against public authorities?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify: The Northern Ireland Department of Justice have mechanisms in place to introduce legislative changes to primary or secondary legislation governing the statutory functions of the EJO if they are required.

185. Is there a system measuring the length of enforcement procedures:

		Existence of the system
for civil cases		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

for administrative cases	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
--------------------------	--

Comments Whilst EJO has standards for producing certain processes, none would measure the length of enforcement procedures. EJO are introducing new ways of working and measuring timeliness of the length of enforcement procedures is being developed.

186. Regarding a decision on debt collection, please estimate the average timeframe to notify the decision to the parties who live in the city where the court sits (one option only):

- between 1 and 5 days
 between 6 and 10 days
 between 11 and 30 days
 more (please specify):
 NA

Comments

187. Number of disciplinary proceedings initiated against enforcement agents. (If a disciplinary proceeding is undertaken because of several reasons, please count the proceedings only once and for the main reason.)

	Number of disciplinary proceedings initiated
Total number of initiated disciplinary proceedings (1+2+3+4)	0 [] NA [] NAP
1. For breach of professional ethics	0 [] NA [] NAP
2. For professional inadequacy	0 [] NA [] NAP
3. For criminal offence	0 [] NA [] NAP
4. Other	0 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify:

188. Number of sanctions pronounced against enforcement agents:

	Number of sanctions pronounced
Total number of sanctions (1+2+3+4+5)	0 [] NA [] NAP
1. Reprimand	0 [] NA [] NAP

2. Suspension	0 [] NA [] NAP
3. Withdrawal from cases	0 [] NA [] NAP
4. Fine	0 [] NA [] NAP
5. Other	0 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - If “other”, please specify. If a significant difference between the number of disciplinary proceedings and the number of sanctions exists, please indicate the reasons:

H1. Please indicate the sources for answering questions 186, 187 and 188:

Source: NAP - no disciplinary proceedings have commenced against any enforcement agent

8.2.Execution of decisions in criminal matters

8.2.1.Functioning of execution in criminal matters



189. Which authority is in charge of the enforcement of judgments in criminal matters? (multiple options possible)

- Judge
- Public prosecutor
- Prison and Probation Services
- Other authority (please specify):

Comments - Please specify his/her functions and duties (e.g. initiative or monitoring functions). Criminal judgments may include a range of orders including custody, probation, compensation and other monetary penalties. Police, courts and other statutory bodies may be involved in enforcement of monetary penalties in terms of monitoring, collecting etc.

The Judge imposes the monetary penalty, a collection order and allow time to pay when sentencing the defendant. If the defendant fails to pay as directed by the judge, FCS have responsibility for recovering the unpaid monetary penalties. The Justice Act(NI) 2016 gave FCS the powers to ascertain means and circumstances of the defendant, deduct from benefits, attach from earnings, freeze monies in bank accounts and apply to the court to seize vehicles. FCS may also grant extensions of time to pay or agree instalment plans. If FCS are unsuccessful in recovering the monetary penalties, the case will be referred back to the Judge. The Judge can consider a custodial sentence or unpaid work as an alternative to the payment.

190. Are the effective recovery rates of fines decided by a criminal court evaluated by studies?

- Yes
- No

Comments

191. If yes, what is the recovery rate?

- 80-100%
- 50-79%
- less than 50%

Comments - Please indicate the source for answering this question: NICTS Finance Branch

9. Notaries

9.1. Profession of notary

9.1.1. Number and status of notaries

192. Number and type of notaries in your country. If you do not have notaries skip to question 197.

	Total	Male	Female
TOTAL (1+2+3+4)	34 [] NA [] NAP	24 [] NA [] NAP	10 [] NA [] NAP
1. Private professionals (without control from public authorities)	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
2. Professionals appointed by the State	34 [] NA [] NAP	24 [] NA [] NAP	10 [] NA [] NAP
3. Public officials	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
4. Other	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify the status:

192-1. What are the access conditions to the profession of notary (multiple options possible):

- diploma
- professional experience/professional training
- exam
- appointment procedure by the State
- other (please specify):

Comments

192-2. Are notaries appointed to office for an undetermined period (i.e. "for life" = until the official age of retirement)?

- yes, please indicate the age of retirement:
- no, please specify the duration of the appointment: until they cease to practice as a practitioner

Comments - are there exceptions (e.g. dismissal as a disciplinary sanction)? Please specify: Dismissal if their practising certificate is revoked by the Law Society

194. What kind of activities do notaries perform (multiple options possible):

- Within some civil procedures (for example inheritance or inheritance distribution; divorce by mutual consent)
- Authentication
- Certification of signatures
- Legality control of documents submitted by the parties
- Mediation
- Taking of oaths
- Other, for example collect taxes, keep registers etc. (please specify):

Comments

194-1. Do notaries have the exclusive rights when exercising their profession:

- Within some civil procedures (for example inheritance or inheritance distribution; divorce by mutual consent)
- Authentication
- Certification of signatures
- Legality control of documents submitted by the parties
- Mediation
- Taking of oaths
- Other, for example collect taxes, keep registers etc. (please specify):

Comments - Please indicate any useful clarifications regarding the content of the notaries' exclusive rights or on the opposite regarding the competition they have to deal with:

194-2. In which areas of law do notaries perform their activities (multiple options possible)?

- Real estate transaction
- Family law
- Succession law
- Company law
- Legality control of gambling activities
- Other

Comments

194-3. Do notaries use specialised digital systems in their activity?

- In establishing authentic instruments
- In recording authentic instruments (archives)
- Other activity (please specify):

Comments Not known

195. Is there an authority entrusted with supervising and monitoring the notaries' work?

- Yes

() No

Comments

196. If yes, which authority is responsible for supervising and monitoring notaries (multiple options possible)?

professional body

court

Ministry of Justice

public prosecutor

other (please specify):

Comments

196-1. Is there a system of general continuous training for all notaries?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

11. Please indicate the sources for answering question 192:

Sources: Secretary to the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland

10. Court interpreters

10.1. Details on profession of court interpreter

10.1.1. Status of court interpreters

197. Is the title of court interpreters protected?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

198. Is the function of court interpreters regulated by legal norms?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

199. Number of accredited or registered court interpreters:

[]

[X] NA

Comments

200. Are there binding provisions regarding the quality of court interpretation within judicial proceedings?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please specify (e.g. having passed a specific exam): Regulated under the terms of a contract and codes of conduct and ethics with the appointed service provider

201. Are the courts responsible for selecting court interpreters?

[] Yes, for recruitment and/or appointment for a specific term of office

[] Yes, for recruitment and/or appointment on an ad hoc basis, according to the specific needs of given proceedings

[X] No, please specify which authority selects court interpretersThe contracted service provider

Comments

J1. Please indicate the sources for answering question 199

Sources: NAP

11.Judicial experts

11.1.Profession of judicial expert

11.1.1.Status of judicial experts



202. In your system, what types of judicial experts can be requested to participate in judicial procedures (multiple choices possible):

[X] experts who are requested by the parties to bring their expertise to support their argumentation,

[] experts appointed by a court to put their scientific and technical knowledge on issues of fact at the court's disposal,

[] "legal experts" who might be consulted by the judge on specific legal issues or requested to support the judge in preparing the judicial work (but do not take part in the decision).

[] Other (please specify):

Comments

202-1. Are there lists or databases of registered judicial experts?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments - Please indicate any useful comment regarding these lists or databases of experts, if they do exist (e.g. : Does the expert take an oath? How is his/her skill evaluated? By whom?):

202-2. Who is responsible for registering judicial experts?

- Ministry of justice
- Courts
- Independent body (association of judicial experts)
- Other

Comments

202-3. Is the registration of judicial experts limited in time?

- Yes, for how long
- No

Comments

203. Is the title of judicial experts protected?

- Yes
- No

Comments - If appropriate, please explain the meaning of this protection:

203-1. Does the judicial expert have an obligation of training?

	Obligation of training
Initial training	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Continuous training	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Comments

203-2. If yes, does this training concern:

- judicial proceedings
- the profession of expert
- other

Comments

204. Is the function of judicial experts regulated by legal norms?

- Yes
- No

Comments

204-1. On the occasion of a task entrusted to him/her, does the judicial expert have to report any potential conflicts of interest?

- Yes
- No

Comments

205. Number of accredited or registered judicial experts:

	Total	Male	Female
Number of experts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

205-1. Who sets the expert remuneration?

- The party calling the expert to assist
--

206. Are there binding provisions regarding the exercise of the function of judicial expert within judicial proceedings?

- Yes
- No

Comments - If yes, please specify, in particular the given time to provide a technical report to the judge:

206-1. Number of cases where expert opinion was ordered by a judge or requested by the parties

	Number of cases
Total (1+2+3+4)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1.Civil and commercial litigious cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.Administrative cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.Criminal cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
4.Other cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

207. Are the courts responsible for selecting judicial experts?

- Yes, for recruitment and/or appointment for a specific term of office
- Yes, for recruitment and/or appointment on an ad hoc basis, according to the specific needs of given proceedings
- No, please specify which authority selects judicial expertsExpert witnesses are selected by parties based on their qualifications,

expertise and experience.

Comments

207-1. Does the judge control the progress of the expertise?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

K1. Please indicate the sources for answering question 205

Sources: NAP

12.Reforms in judiciary

12.1.Foreseen reforms

12.1.1.Reforms

208. Can you provide information on the current debate in your country regarding the functioning of justice? Are there foreseen reforms? Please inform whether these reforms are under preparation or have only been envisaged at this stage. Have innovative projects been implemented? If possible, please observe the following categories:

1. (Comprehensive) reform plans NAP

2. Budget Budgets for future plans past 2019-20 have currently not been set.

3. Courts and public prosecution services (e.g. powers and organisation, structural changes - e.g. reduction of the number of courts -, management and working methods, information technologies, backlogs and efficiency, court fees, renovations and construction of new buildings) Proposal to bring forward a consultation on increasing the jurisdiction of county courts in Northern Ireland to hear civil cases.

Proposal to bring forward a consultation on creating a single family court in Northern Ireland.

3.1. Access to justice and legal aid Reforms to ensure that legal aid services continue to offer value for money are continuing. These are focused on reforming remuneration (such as making greater use of standardised fees) and ensuring appropriate quality standards are in place. A wider examination of the future strategy for Access to Justice for Northern Ireland is in the early planning stages.

4. High Judicial Council NAP

5. Legal professionals (judges, public prosecutors, lawyers, notaries, enforcement agents, etc.): organisation, education and training, etc. Regulation •The implementation of the Legal Complaints and Regulation Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 which sees the entire complaints process overseen by an independent oversight commissioner, conduct complaints retained by the PCC but service complaints handled by a new Bar Complaints Committee

- Reform of existing disciplinary rules & procedures to reflect best practice
- Reform of Code of Conduct to reflect best practice
- Increased supervision of anti-money laundering and engagement with newly formed UK-wide supervisory bodies such as the Office for Professional Body AML Supervision

Professional Standards

- Embedding of new mandatory CPD regime with specified minimum requirements in areas of Advocacy, Ethics and Practice Management

- Specific training aimed at vulnerable witnesses and issues arising out of sexual offence cases

- Specific training relevant to each Bar association and area of law to reflect latest developments
- Development of updated overall Advocacy training strategy

- Reform of education and training provision at the Institute of Professional Legal Studies to align with requirements of the Bar Areas of Law

- Mediation & Arbitration service being extended and supported in response to emerging need for such services

- Engagement in a series of reforms in civil and family justice arising out of various Access to Justice reviews

- Practice Management
- Adoption of technology enabled improvements to practice management

6. Reforms regarding civil, criminal and administrative laws, international conventions and cooperation activities NAP

7. Enforcement of court decisions NAP

8. Mediation and other ADR NAP

9. Fight against crime NAP

9.1. Prison system NAP

9.2 Child friendly justice Reforms to the youth justice system in Northern Ireland are currently taking place with the aim of developing a welfare-oriented approach to dealing with children in, or on the fringes of, the criminal justice system to improve their longer-term outcomes. The most significant reform is the establishment of a joint Justice and Health programme team to transform secure children's facilities in NI. Existing secure care and justice facilities will be repurposed into a single secure Campus for vulnerable children with complex needs, providing specialist support to address issues including psychiatric, substance misuse and behavioural (including offending) issues.

The Youth Justice Agency is also developing a new welfare-based model of practice for those children under its supervision, and there is an increased focus on Early Intervention, providing tailored services and support to children to prevent offending behaviour and de-escalate problems in the community. Ultimately, the intention is to reform all youth justice legislation, including custodial and community disposals, and to simplify and consolidate provision into a single Children's Bill, although this is outwith the timeframe of this exercise.

9.3. Violence against partners Consultation on options for legislation to protect victims of domestic abuse from being cross-examined by perpetrators in person in family proceedings.

10. New information and communication technologies Speeding up justice is one of the biggest challenges facing the justice system in Northern Ireland and is being taken forward via a Speeding Up Justice Programme with four strands: performance reporting; working in partnership; legislation; and research and analysis.

The Department of Justice is also developing an overarching Criminal Justice Digital Strategy that incorporates digital plans across the criminal justice sector, helping to ensure a coordinated approach to digital developments and that collaboratively digital opportunities are maximised to deliver a more effective justice system.

11. Other NAP