

Justice Delayed: Access to Justice in Tort Litigation in England and Wales

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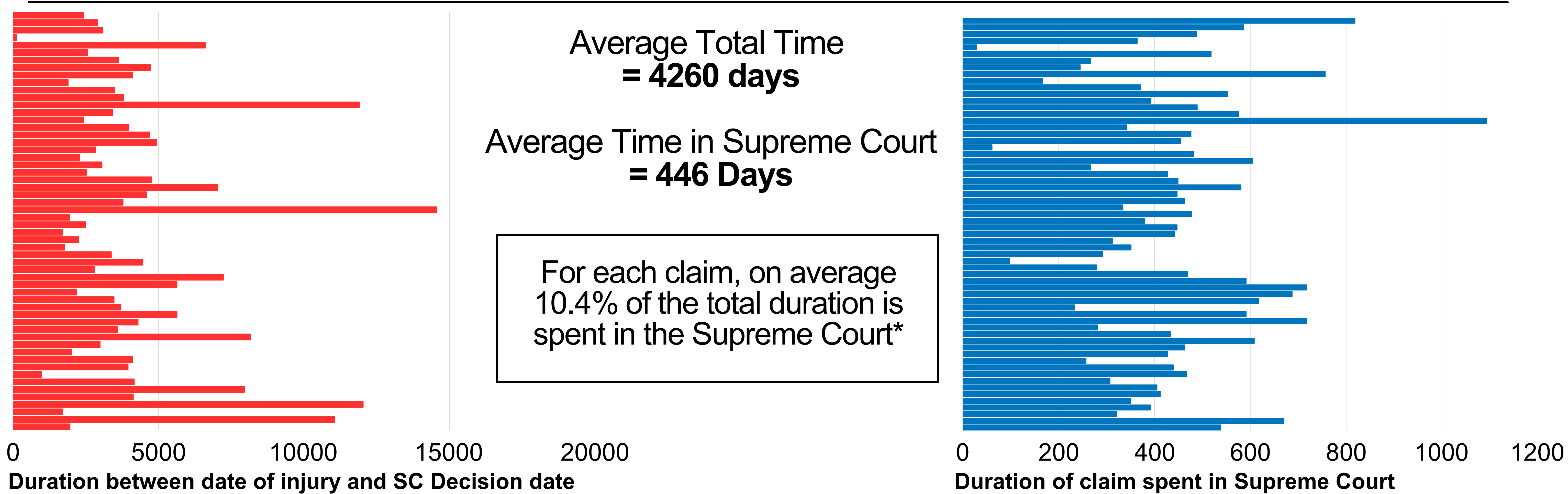
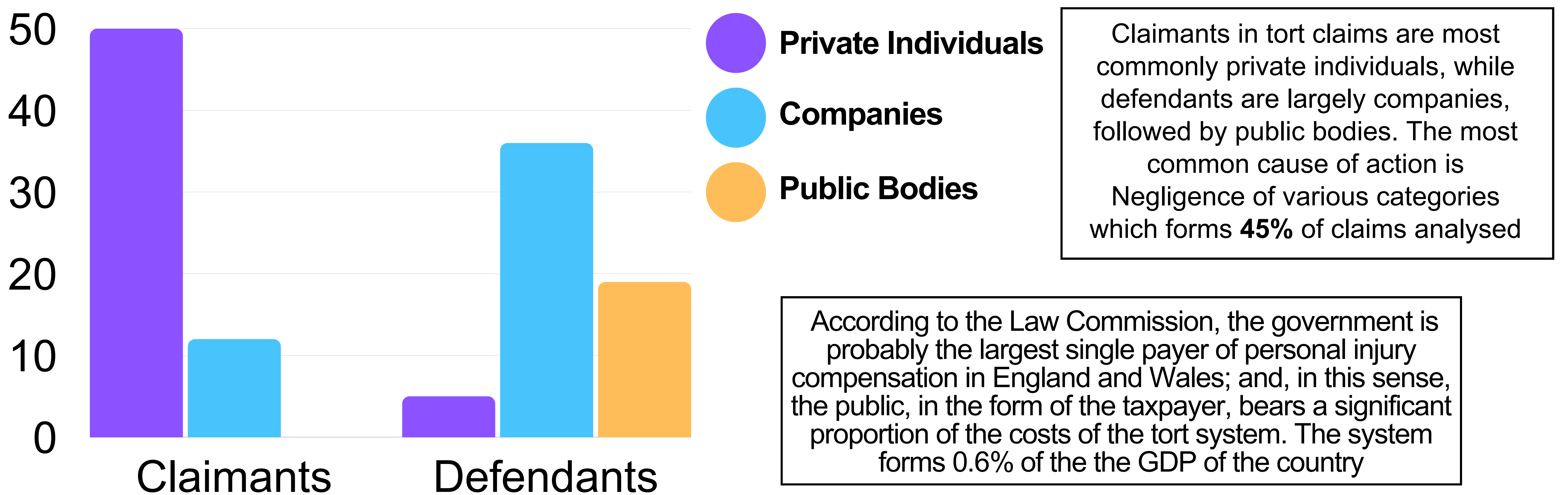
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INTRODUCTION

This research aims to assess the duration of tort claims in England and Wales, following its journey from the point of injury to the date of decision in the Supreme Court. The primary objective is to fill the existent gap in research on court timelines while determining the primary users of tort-related legal resources. A total of 84 claims between 2016 and 2024 were studied.

FINDINGS



Tort claims that progress to the Supreme Court represent only a small share of all claims. As per the trend, such claims commonly involve defendants appealing the assessment of damages. Most claims are of relevance to public interest or decide on a general point of law.

*Data used covers claims between 2016 and 2024. Certain claims with incomplete data sets were excluded from the findings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Creating a robust database of databases to track tort claims in the UK in order to foster better access to information
- Facilitating a dense body of research to update existing literature with timelines, the true cost of tort litigation and roadblocks in accessing such litigation
- Determining whether the costs of litigation are justified by examining their impact on mitigating future torts