



## **King County**

**Department of Judicial Administration**

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*Director and Superior Court Clerk*

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King County Superior Court

# Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) Quarterly Statistical Report

Fourth Quarter 2023

Department of Judicial Administration

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**Report #: ITA-2023-Q4**

*Seattle:*  
516 Third Avenue Room E609  
Seattle, WA 98104-2386

*Regional Justice Center:*  
401 Fourth Avenue North Room 2C  
Kent, WA 98032-4429

*Juvenile Division:*  
1211 East Alder Room 3015  
Seattle, WA 98122-5598

## Summary

### **Filings:**

ITA filings continue to increase and remain at a high level. In 2022, the total ITA filings reached a historical high of 5,665 cases. It is worth noting that the petitions filed by families (Joel's law cases) have gradually increased since the action was implemented.

In 2023, a total of 5,541 ITA cases were filed, just a slightly lower than the historical high in 2022. Of the 5,541 ITA cases received in 2023, 82 ITA petitions were filed by families, and 668 were from other jurisdictions.

### **Resolutions:**

The resolutions of ITA cases matched with the increasing trend in ITA filings in recent years. The median time (50%tile) to reach resolution has consistently been under 2 weeks.

### **Pending:**

Because the resolution pace of ITA has matched with the filing volume, the pending active ITA cases remain at a reasonable level. At the end of 2023, there are 333 ITA cases pending resolution.

### **Orders:**

There have been a significant number of ITA orders every quarter. There were 4,650 and 4,532 ITA orders entered per quarter in 2021 and 2022, respectively. In 2023, an average of 4,260 ITA orders were entered per quarter.

### **Hearings:**

The number of ITA hearings varies from quarter to quarter. In both 2021 and 2022, there were 272 ITA hearings per quarter on average. In 2023, the court held 288 ITA hearings per quarter on average.

## Terminology

### **Filing**

The number of petitions filed, initiating new ITA cases during the reporting period.

### **Resolution**

The number of petitions (cases) resolved, either by “approval” or “dismissal” order during the reporting period.

An ITA case has been resolved when the Court enters a 14-Day, 90-Day, or 180-Day Order of Detention, Less Restrictive Alternative, or when the Court enters an Order of Dismissal.

Unlike the definition of “resolution” for other Superior Court case types, the “resolution” for these case categories may not indicate the end of judicial involvement when the petition is approved.

### **Pending Resolution**

The number of active cases that have not been resolved, namely, the petition has neither been approved nor dismissed yet.

### **Completion**

ITA cases are completed when a Notice of Release, Notice of Completion of Program, or an Order of Dismissal are filed. When an Order of Dismissal or Notice of Release is filed, and the case has not been resolved by a previous Order, the Order of Dismissal or Notice of Release will resolve and complete the case.

### **Pending Completion**

Indicates the number of cases for which the petition has been approved, but issues (sometimes significant issues) remain in which the court may become actively involved.

### **Resolution Age**

Is the time (days) from filing to resolution, less suspense time if applicable.

### **Pending Resolution Case Age**

Indicates the time (days) from filing to the last day of the reporting period for these cases that remain unresolved (no approval or dismissal of the petition), less suspense time, if applicable.

### **Number of Petitions**

The total number of petitions entered during the reporting period.

### **Number of Orders**

The total number of orders entered during the reporting period.

### **Number of Hearings**

The total number of hearings held other than fact-findings during the reporting period.

Table 1. ITA Statistics by Quarter

Reporting Category	2021				2022				2023			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Filings (Total)</b>	<b>1313</b>	<b>1349</b>	<b>1256</b>	<b>1241</b>	<b>1337</b>	<b>1476</b>	<b>1464</b>	<b>1388</b>	<b>1449</b>	<b>1423</b>	<b>1328</b>	<b>1341</b>
Alcohol Drug Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mental Illness	1078	1088	1107	1101	1142	1232	1312	1166	1214	1203	1156	1162
Mental Illness Family Initiated	9	14	15	21	25	15	31	24	35	18	12	17
Mental Illness Juvenile	20	24	21	18	20	16	19	13	23	15	8	10
Mental Health /Other Venue	206	223	113	101	150	213	102	185	177	187	152	152
<b>Resolutions (Total)</b>	<b>1178</b>	<b>1325</b>	<b>1162</b>	<b>1113</b>	<b>1261</b>	<b>1714</b>	<b>1426</b>	<b>1519</b>	<b>1471</b>	<b>1390</b>	<b>1277</b>	<b>1273</b>
Alcohol Drug Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mental Illness	978	1059	999	982	1086	1445	1258	1299	1251	1173	1107	1099
Mental Illness Family Initiated	10	14	12	13	24	26	29	25	33	20	12	18
Mental Illness Juvenile	19	24	20	14	20	23	16	16	23	17	4	11
Mental Health /Other Venue	171	228	131	104	131	218	123	179	164	180	154	145
<i>Median Time (days) to Resolution</i>	13	12	13	13	11	15	11	14	10	11	10	10
<i>Average Time (days) to Resolution</i>	20	21	21	24	45	93	19	37	19	20	20	19
<b>Resolution Types (Total)</b>	<b>1202</b>	<b>1344</b>	<b>1161</b>	<b>1110</b>	<b>1261</b>	<b>1714</b>	<b>1426</b>	<b>1519</b>	<b>1471</b>	<b>1390</b>	<b>1277</b>	<b>1273</b>
Court Decision To Commit	432	410	323	292	312	306	296	255	292	307	315	277
Dismissal Without Trial	141	203	141	154	164	200	189	197	208	191	173	160
Uncontested Resolution	629	731	697	664	785	1208	941	1067	971	892	789	836
<b>Quarter End Pending Resolution (Total)</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>333</b>
Alcohol Drug Treatment	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mental Illness	377	326	384	486	573	302	381	247	224	259	305	281
Mental Illness Family Initiated	3	3	6	11	9	2	3	2	4	3	3	4
Mental Illness Juvenile	7	5	6	8	9	4	6	4	4	2	5	4
Mental Health /Other Venue	64	43	30	28	40	29	15	29	42	45	43	44
<i>Median Time (days) Since Filing</i>	36	30	60	93	116	39	52	25	25	26	38	49
<i>Average Time (days) since Filing</i>	108	131	156	176	197	73	99	84	102	112	127	161
<b>Quarter End Pending Completion (Total)</b>	<b>1095</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>1164</b>	<b>1301</b>	<b>1382</b>	<b>1479</b>	<b>1512</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>721</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>1056</b>
Alcohol Drug Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mental Illness	917	755	959	1068	1132	1195	1223	592	592	669	794	870
Mental Illness Family Initiated	3	2	4	6	7	8	6	7	5	4	4	3
Mental Illness Juvenile	23	31	38	40	42	39	41	17	19	21	18	19
Mental Health /Other Venue	152	142	163	187	201	237	242	90	105	132	160	164

Table 2. Year-to-Date (YTD) Comparison by Quarter

Reporting Category	2021 YTD				2022 YTD				2023 YTD			
	Q1 YTD	Q2 YTD	Q3 YTD	Annual	Q1 YTD	Q2 YTD	Q3 YTD	Annual	Q1 YTD	Q2 YTD	Q3 YTD	Annual
<b>Filings (Total)</b>	<b>1313</b>	<b>2662</b>	<b>3918</b>	<b>5159</b>	<b>1337</b>	<b>2813</b>	<b>4277</b>	<b>5665</b>	<b>1449</b>	<b>2872</b>	<b>4200</b>	<b>5541</b>
Alcohol Drug Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mental Illness	1078	2166	3273	4374	1142	2374	3686	4852	1214	2417	3573	4735
Mental Illness Family Initiated	9	23	38	59	25	40	71	95	35	53	65	82
Mental Illness Juvenile	20	44	65	83	20	36	55	68	23	38	46	56
Mental Health /Other Venue	206	429	542	643	150	363	465	650	177	364	516	668
<b>Resolutions (Total)</b>	<b>1178</b>	<b>2503</b>	<b>3665</b>	<b>4778</b>	<b>1261</b>	<b>2975</b>	<b>4401</b>	<b>5920</b>	<b>1471</b>	<b>2861</b>	<b>4138</b>	<b>5411</b>
Alcohol Drug Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0
Mental Illness	978	2037	3036	4018	1086	2531	3789	5088	1251	2424	3531	4630
Mental Illness Family Initiated	10	24	36	49	24	50	79	104	33	53	65	83
Mental Illness Juvenile	19	43	63	77	20	43	59	75	23	40	44	55
Mental Health /Other Venue	171	399	530	634	131	349	472	651	164	344	498	643
<b>Resolution Types (Total)</b>	<b>1202</b>	<b>2546</b>	<b>3707</b>	<b>4817</b>	<b>1261</b>	<b>2975</b>	<b>4401</b>	<b>5920</b>	<b>1471</b>	<b>2861</b>	<b>4138</b>	<b>5411</b>
Court Decision To Commit	432	842	1165	1457	312	618	914	1169	292	599	914	1191
Dismissal Without Trial	141	344	485	639	164	364	553	750	208	399	572	732
Uncontested Resolution	629	1360	2057	2721	785	1993	2934	4001	971	1863	2652	3488

Table 3. ITA Statistics by Quarter

Reporting Category	2021				2022				2023			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Petitions Filed (Total)</b>	<b>2737</b>	<b>2846</b>	<b>2596</b>	<b>2472</b>	<b>2685</b>	<b>2927</b>	<b>2812</b>	<b>2735</b>	<b>2785</b>	<b>2708</b>	<b>2557</b>	<b>2554</b>
Petition for Initial Detention	1357	1399	1301	1261	1367	1488	1468	1377	1431	1411	1350	1349
Petition for Involuntary Treatment - 14 Day	1013	1100	983	953	1038	1112	1066	1070	1091	1036	978	981
Petition for Involuntary Treatment -90 Day	146	148	138	119	117	159	157	124	140	140	130	129
Petition for Involuntary Treatment - 180 Day	32	25	31	19	29	28	24	44	22	21	21	22
Petition / Motion for Revocation	179	161	129	111	123	132	87	106	85	72	62	58
Other Petitions	10	13	14	9	11	8	10	14	16	28	16	15
<b>Orders Entered (Total)</b>	<b>4806</b>	<b>5076</b>	<b>4694</b>	<b>4024</b>	<b>4479</b>	<b>4834</b>	<b>4630</b>	<b>4185</b>	<b>4569</b>	<b>4361</b>	<b>4090</b>	<b>4023</b>
Order of Continuance	2741	2837	2701	2369	2600	2726	2635	2432	2735	2606	2288	2318
Order of Detention / 90 Day Less Restrictive	419	397	282	261	272	234	229	194	222	227	229	223
Order of Detention / 180 Day Less Restrictive	21	23	20	14	12	11	8	7	17	8	12	13
Order of Detention / 14 Day Commitment	162	154	147	100	120	154	162	117	138	137	153	124
Order of Detention / 90 Day Commitment	23	18	17	20	21	28	47	32	26	22	31	15
Order of Detention / 180 Day Commitment	12	11	9	4	11	13	9	19	11	5	7	5
Order Revoking / Rescinding	44	38	32	17	24	14	8	15	16	19	15	14
Order Setting Trial Date	150	131	117	82	103	122	128	101	106	83	79	93
Order of Dismissals	175	228	157	184	191	229	212	211	223	204	180	169
Other Orders	1059	1239	1212	973	1125	1303	1192	1057	1075	1050	1096	1049
<b>Hearings Held (Total)</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>258</b>
Commitment and Forced Medication Hearing	3	3	0	0	2	2	1	2	5	2	3	1
Commitment Hearing	167	186	156	123	123	165	194	153	166	158	182	173
Dismissal hearing	2	5	3	0	2	3	1	4	0	2	3	4
Medication Hearing	22	14	22	20	16	17	20	13	31	35	33	27
Motion hearing	1	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Revocation and Forced Medication Hearing	23	22	17	8	9	9	7	9	8	11	10	8
Review hearing	23	27	12	13	14	14	27	6	0	0	0	4
Other Hearings (including hearing continued)	40	73	48	55	65	90	61	64	94	94	56	41
<b>Special Project (RPP) Related Orders</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>			
RPP - Order Less Restrictive Agreement 90	5	3	2	0	4	2	6	0	1			
RPP - Order Less Restrictive Agreement 180	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0			
RPP - Order on Review Hearing	21	24	12	13	14	15	25	5	0			
RPP - Order Terminating	1	2	2	1	0	2	2	1	0			
RPP - Order Terminating Supervision - Graduation	0	3	0	1	1	1	2	1	0			

Table 4. Year-to-Date (YTD) Comparison by Quarter

Reporting Category	2021 YTD				2022 YTD				2023 YTD			
	Q1 YTD	Q2 YTD	Q3 YTD	Annual	Q1 YTD	Q2 YTD	Q3 YTD	Annual	Q1 YTD	Q2 YTD	Q3 YTD	Annual
<b>Petitions Filed (Total)</b>	<b>2737</b>	<b>5583</b>	<b>8179</b>	<b>10651</b>	<b>2685</b>	<b>5612</b>	<b>8424</b>	<b>11159</b>	<b>2785</b>	<b>5493</b>	<b>8050</b>	<b>10604</b>
Petition for Initial Detention	1357	2756	4057	5318	1367	2855	4323	5700	1431	2842	4192	5541
Petition for Involuntary Treatment - 14 Day	1013	2113	3096	4049	1038	2150	3216	4286	1091	2127	3105	4086
Petition for Involuntary Treatment -90 Day	146	294	432	551	117	276	433	557	140	280	410	539
Petition for Involuntary Treatment - 180 Day	32	57	88	107	29	57	81	125	22	43	64	86
Petition / Motion for Revocation	179	340	469	580	123	255	342	448	85	157	219	277
Other Petitions	10	23	37	46	11	19	29	43	16	44	60	75
<b>Orders Entered (Total)</b>	<b>4806</b>	<b>9882</b>	<b>14576</b>	<b>18600</b>	<b>4479</b>	<b>9313</b>	<b>13943</b>	<b>18128</b>	<b>4569</b>	<b>8930</b>	<b>13020</b>	<b>17043</b>
Order of Continuance	2741	5578	8279	10648	2600	5326	7961	10393	2735	5341	7629	9947
Order of Detention / 90 Day Less Restrictive	419	816	1098	1359	272	506	735	929	222	449	678	901
Order of Detention / 180 Day Less Restrictive	21	44	64	78	12	23	31	38	17	25	37	50
Order of Detention / 14 Day Commitment	162	316	463	563	120	274	436	553	138	275	428	552
Order of Detention / 90 Day Commitment	23	41	58	78	21	49	96	128	26	48	79	94
Order of Detention / 180 Day Commitment	12	23	32	36	11	24	33	52	11	16	23	28
Order Revoking / Rescinding	44	82	114	131	24	38	46	61	16	35	50	64
Order Setting Trial Date	150	281	398	480	103	225	353	454	106	189	268	361
Order of Dismissals	175	403	560	744	191	420	632	843	223	427	607	776
Other Orders	1059	2298	3510	4483	1125	2428	3620	4677	1075	2125	3221	4270
<b>Hearings Held (Total)</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>1088</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>1093</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>1151</b>
Commitment and Forced Medication Hearing	3	6	6	6	2	4	5	7	5	7	10	11
Commitment Hearing	167	353	509	632	123	288	482	635	166	324	506	679
Dismissal hearing	2	7	10	10	2	5	6	10	0	2	5	9
Medication Hearing	22	36	58	78	16	33	53	66	31	66	99	126
Motion hearing	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revocation and Forced Medication Hearing	23	45	62	70	9	18	25	34	8	19	29	37
Review hearing	23	50	62	75	14	28	55	61	0	0	0	4
Other Hearings (including hearing continued)	40	113	161	216	65	155	216	280	94	188	244	285
<b>Special Project (RPP) Related Orders</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
RPP - Order Less Restrictive Agreement 90	5	8	10	10	4	6	12	12	1	1	1	1
RPP - Order Less Restrictive Agreement 180	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
RPP - Order on Review Hearing	21	45	57	70	14	29	54	59	0	0	0	0
RPP - Order Terminating	1	3	5	6	0	2	4	5	0	0	0	0
RPP - Order Terminating Supervision - Graduation	0	3	3	4	1	2	4	5	0	0	0	0