



King County

Department of Judicial Administration

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King County Superior Court

Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) Quarterly Statistical Report

Third Quarter 2024

Department of Judicial Administration

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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. The average filings were 472 cases per month in 2022.

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. The monthly average of filings in 2023 were 462 cases.

In the first three quarters of 2024, 4,115 ITA cases were filed, averaging 457 cases per month. This compares with the monthly average of 472 and 462 cases filed in 2022 and 2023, respectively.

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.

In the first three quarters of 2024, the court resolved 4,052 ITA cases, averaging 450 cases per month. This compares with an average of 493 and 451 cases resolved per month in 2022 and 2023, respectively. The resolution pace was the same as the filing volume in 2024.

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 September 2024, there are 505 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. In the first 3 quarters in 2024, the court issued a total of 13,349 ITA orders, with an average of 4,450 per quarter.

Hearings:

The number of ITA hearings varies from quarter to quarter. In 2022, there were 255 ITA hearings per quarter on average. In 2023, the court held 287 ITA hearings per quarter on average. In the first 3 quarters in 2024, there were 791 ITA hearings, averaging 264 hearings per quarter.

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	2022				2023				2024			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Filings (Total)	1337	1476	1464	1388	1449	1423	1328	1341	1391	1356	1368	
Alcohol Drug Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mental Illness	1142	1232	1312	1166	1214	1203	1156	1162	1320	1240	1256	
Mental Illness Family Initiated	25	15	31	24	35	18	12	17	11	18	20	
Mental Illness Juvenile	20	16	19	13	23	15	8	10	15	14	13	
Mental Health /Other Venue	150	213	102	185	177	187	152	152	45	84	79	
Resolutions (Total)	1261	1714	1426	1519	1471	1390	1277	1273	1437	1304	1311	
Alcohol Drug Treatment	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	
Mental Illness	1086	1445	1258	1299	1251	1173	1107	1099	1345	1219	1200	
Mental Illness Family Initiated	24	26	29	25	33	20	12	18	6	12	15	
Mental Illness Juvenile	20	23	16	16	23	17	4	11	15	12	12	
Mental Health /Other Venue	131	218	123	179	164	180	154	145	71	61	84	
<i>Median Time (days) to Resolution</i>	11	15	11	14	10	11	10	10	13	11	13	
<i>Average Time (days) to Resolution</i>	45	93	19	37	19	20	20	19	26	19	21	
Resolution Types (Total)	1261	1714	1426	1519	1471	1390	1277	1273	1437	1304	1311	
Court Decision To Commit	312	306	296	255	292	307	315	277	290	318	309	
Dismissal Without Trial	164	200	189	197	208	191	173	160	141	110	118	
Uncontested Resolution	785	1208	941	1067	971	892	789	836	1006	876	884	
Quarter End Pending Resolution (Total)	633	337	405	282	274	309	356	333	362	414	505	
Alcohol Drug Treatment	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mental Illness	573	302	381	247	224	259	305	281	323	348	435	
Mental Illness Family Initiated	9	2	3	2	4	3	3	4	8	12	14	
Mental Illness Juvenile	9	4	6	4	4	2	5	4	5	6	8	
Mental Health /Other Venue	40	29	15	29	42	45	43	44	26	48	48	
<i>Median Time (days) Since Filing</i>	116	39	52	25	25	26	38	49	41	44	67	
<i>Average Time (days) since Filing</i>	197	73	99	84	102	112	127	161	175	188	198	
Quarter End Pending Completion (Total)	1382	1479	1512	706	721	826	976	1056	837	1021	1243	
Alcohol Drug Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mental Illness	1132	1195	1223	592	592	669	794	870	701	862	1042	
Mental Illness Family Initiated	7	8	6	7	5	4	4	3	2	1	1	
Mental Illness Juvenile	42	39	41	17	19	21	18	19	18	19	24	
Mental Health /Other Venue	201	237	242	90	105	132	160	164	116	139	176	

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

Reporting Category	2022 YTD				2023 YTD				2024 YTD			
	Q1 YTD	Q2 YTD	Q3 YTD	Annual	Q1 YTD	Q2 YTD	Q3 YTD	Annual	Q1 YTD	Q2 YTD	Q3 YTD	Annual
Filings (Total)	1337	2813	4277	5665	1449	2872	4200	5541	1391	2747	4115	
Alcohol Drug Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mental Illness	1142	2374	3686	4852	1214	2417	3573	4735	1320	2560	3816	
Mental Illness Family Initiated	25	40	71	95	35	53	65	82	11	29	49	
Mental Illness Juvenile	20	36	55	68	23	38	46	56	15	29	42	
Mental Health /Other Venue	150	363	465	650	177	364	516	668	45	129	208	
Resolutions (Total)	1261	2975	4401	5920	1471	2861	4138	5411	1437	2741	4052	
Alcohol Drug Treatment	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Mental Illness	1086	2531	3789	5088	1251	2424	3531	4630	1345	2564	3764	
Mental Illness Family Initiated	24	50	79	104	33	53	65	83	6	18	33	
Mental Illness Juvenile	20	43	59	75	23	40	44	55	15	27	39	
Mental Health /Other Venue	131	349	472	651	164	344	498	643	71	132	216	
Resolution Types (Total)	1261	2975	4401	5920	1471	2861	4138	5411	1437	2741	4052	
Court Decision To Commit	312	618	914	1169	292	599	914	1191	290	608	917	
Dismissal Without Trial	164	364	553	750	208	399	572	732	141	251	369	
Uncontested Resolution	785	1993	2934	4001	971	1863	2652	3488	1006	1882	2766	

Table 3. ITA Statistics by Quarter

Reporting Category	2022				2023				2024			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Petitions Filed (Total)	2685	2927	2812	2735	2785	2708	2557	2554	2638	2569	2608	
Petition for Initial Detention	1367	1488	1468	1377	1431	1411	1350	1349	1448	1304	1371	
Petition for Involuntary Treatment - 14 Day	1038	1112	1066	1070	1091	1036	978	981	977	996	938	
Petition for Involuntary Treatment - 90 Day	117	159	157	124	140	140	130	129	109	119	143	
Petition for Involuntary Treatment - 180 Day	29	28	24	44	22	21	21	22	21	67	74	
Petition / Motion for Revocation	123	132	87	106	85	72	62	58	74	69	56	
Other Petitions	11	8	10	14	16	28	16	15	9	14	26	
Orders Entered (Total)	4479	4834	4630	4185	4569	4361	4090	4023	4263	4367	4719	
Order of Continuance	2600	2726	2635	2432	2735	2606	2288	2318	2445	2420	2614	
Order of Detention / 90 Day Less Restrictive	272	234	229	194	222	227	229	223	253	206	188	
Order of Detention / 180 Day Less Restrictive	12	11	8	7	17	8	12	13	9	21	35	
Order of Detention / 14 Day Commitment	120	154	162	117	138	137	153	124	111	135	152	
Order of Detention / 90 Day Commitment	21	28	47	32	26	22	31	15	28	31	41	
Order of Detention / 180 Day Commitment	11	13	9	19	11	5	7	5	4	29	32	
Order Revoking / Rescinding	24	14	8	15	16	19	15	14	7	15	12	
Order Setting Trial Date	103	122	128	101	106	83	79	93	84	130	132	
Order of Dismissals	191	229	212	211	223	204	180	169	159	126	129	
Other Orders	1125	1303	1192	1057	1075	1050	1096	1049	1163	1254	1384	
Hearings Held (Total)	231	300	311	251	304	302	287	258	215	299	277	
Commitment Hearings	125	169	197	162	172	163	185	174	166	198	231	
Dismissal Hearings	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	3	4	
Continuance Hearings	45	60	43	45	92	92	56	37	28	28	19	
Medication Hearings	2	3	1	4	0	2	3	3	0	1	4	
Other Hearings (motion, revocation & review)	39	41	51	29	41	47	42	39	16	69	19	

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

Reporting Category	2022 YTD				2023 YTD				2024 YTD			
	Q1 YTD	Q2 YTD	Q3 YTD	Annual	Q1 YTD	Q2 YTD	Q3 YTD	Annual	Q1 YTD	Q2 YTD	Q3 YTD	Annual
Petitions Filed (Total)	2685	5612	8424	11159	2785	5493	8050	10604	2638	5207	7815	
Petition for Initial Detention	1367	2855	4323	5700	1431	2842	4192	5541	1448	2752	4123	
Petition for Involuntary Treatment - 14 Day	1038	2150	3216	4286	1091	2127	3105	4086	977	1973	2911	
Petition for Involuntary Treatment - 90 Day	117	276	433	557	140	280	410	539	109	228	371	
Petition for Involuntary Treatment - 180 Day	29	57	81	125	22	43	64	86	21	88	162	
Petition / Motion for Revocation	123	255	342	448	85	157	219	277	74	143	199	
Other Petitions	11	19	29	43	16	44	60	75	9	23	49	
Orders Entered (Total)	4479	9313	13943	18128	4569	8930	13020	17043	4263	8630	13349	
Order of Continuance	2600	5326	7961	10393	2735	5341	7629	9947	2445	4865	7479	
Order of Detention / 90 Day Less Restrictive	272	506	735	929	222	449	678	901	253	459	647	
Order of Detention / 180 Day Less Restrictive	12	23	31	38	17	25	37	50	9	30	65	
Order of Detention / 14 Day Commitment	120	274	436	553	138	275	428	552	111	246	398	
Order of Detention / 90 Day Commitment	21	49	96	128	26	48	79	94	28	59	100	
Order of Detention / 180 Day Commitment	11	24	33	52	11	16	23	28	4	33	65	
Order Revoking / Rescinding	24	38	46	61	16	35	50	64	7	22	34	
Order Setting Trial Date	103	225	353	454	106	189	268	361	84	214	346	
Order of Dismissals	191	420	632	843	223	427	607	776	159	285	414	
Other Orders	1125	2428	3620	4677	1075	2125	3221	4270	1163	2417	3801	
Hearings Held (Total)	211	485	777	1018	305	609	895	1148	215	514	791	
Commitment Hearings	125	294	491	653	172	335	520	694	166	364	595	
Dismissal Hearings	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	5	8	12	
Continuance Hearings	45	105	148	193	92	184	240	277	28	56	75	
Medication Hearings	2	5	6	10	0	2	5	8	0	1	5	
Other Hearings (motion, revocation & review)	39	80	131	160	41	88	130	169	16	85	104	