



New Mexico
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December 27, 2022

Betsy Kim
betsyk@usafacts.org
GovQA request: P018419-120922

Dear, Betsy Kim:

The New Mexico Department of Public Safety (DPS) recently received your written inspection of Public Records request, pursuant to NMSA 14-2-1 et seq., regarding:

"Dec 9, 2022

To whom it may concern:

Under the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act, I'd like to request the following records:

(a) The New Mexico rape kit backlog in 2022, broken down by:

1. rape kits that were not tested within 30 days of being submitted to the New Mexico Department of Public Safety Forensic Laboratory, in addition to any other accredited forensic or crime lab in the state of New Mexico that tests rape kits.
2. rape kits that were not submitted to the aforementioned crime labs and held by entities that collect rape kits, including, but not limited to, police stations and hospitals.

(b) The month/date that the 2022 rape kit backlog numbers from (a) were collected.

(c) Whether the numbers from (a) are reflective of the rape kit backlog for the entire state. If not, please list the municipalities, police stations, or crime labs that have been excluded from the counts provided in (a).

Please prioritize (a), (b), and (c) in your response. In addition, I would like:

(d) The information from (a), (b), and (c) for 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021.

(e) Of the rape kits that were tested in 2022, the count tested within 30 days of being submitted to a lab.

Please include me on any external or internal correspondence related to this request.

Let me know if clarifying my request might speed the release of these records or reduce any programming or staff time.

If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law.

I seek this information in the public interest as a journalist, and not for a commercial purpose.

If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform me if the cost will exceed \$100.

I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 10 business days. If access to the records I am requesting will take longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records.

Please provide me with the information in a continuous manner. I am more than happy to get partial responses to this request until it's completed in full.

Thank you again for your time. Please let me know if you have any questions."

Please see responses in **Bold**.

(a) The New Mexico rape kit backlog in 2022, broken down by:

1. rape kits that were not tested within 30 days of being submitted to the New Mexico Department of Public Safety Forensic Laboratory, in addition to any other accredited forensic or crime lab in the state of New Mexico that tests rape kits. **102 previously untested (SAKI) kits completed by NM-DPS in 2022.**
2. rape kits that were not submitted to the aforementioned crime labs and held by entities that collect rape kits, including, but not limited to, police stations and hospitals. **31 previously untested (SAKI) kits submitted to NM-DPS in 2022.**

(b) The month/date that the 2022 rape kit backlog numbers from (a) were collected. **December 14, 2022**

(c) Whether the numbers from (a) are reflective of the rape kit backlog for the entire state. If not, please list the municipalities, police stations, or crime labs that have been excluded from the counts provided in (a).

Entire state except for Albuquerque Police Department (City of Albuquerque). This applies also to (d) below.

Please prioritize (a), (b), and (c) in your response. In addition, I would like:

(d) The information from (a), (b), and (c) for 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021.

2021 – 5 kits completed; 16 kits submitted

2020 – 63 kits completed; 138 kits submitted

2019 – 90 kits completed; 292 kits submitted

2018 – 544 kits completed; 192 kits submitted

(e) Of the rape kits that were tested in 2022, the count tested within 30 days of being submitted to a lab. **Zero SAKI kits.**

If we can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact the Records Bureau at (505) 216-8996

Sincerely,



Ashley Lobato

IPRA Coordinator

Department of Public Safety