

From: Leibowitz, Traci
Sent: Mon, 23 Jan 2023 16:45:55 +0000
To: Betsy Kim
Subject: RE: PRA response - Vermont Department of Public Safety

For the first question, at the time of our response (mid-December 2022), we had 19 kits on hand that were awaiting testing and had been at the lab over 30 days.

For the second question, Vermont uses a kit tracking system which is intended to help prevent kits from being held at hospitals and/or law enforcement agencies after collection. The system is maintained by the Vermont Network. In addition to that, agencies are educated to submit kits to us within 72 hours of collection based on legislation in the Sexual Assault Survivors Bill of Rights. While no system is perfect, we have a number of processes in place to prevent a glut of kits being held untested.

From: Leibowitz, Traci
Sent: Monday, January 23, 2023 9:47 AM
To: Betsy Kim <betsyk@usafacts.org>
Subject: RE: PRA response - Vermont Department of Public Safety

Hi Betsy, Thanks for following up. I don't have an answer at this moment, but hopefully soon.

From: Betsy Kim <betsyk@usafacts.org>
Sent: Friday, January 20, 2023 6:29 PM
To: Leibowitz, Traci <Traci.Leibowitz@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: PRA response - Vermont Department of Public Safety

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hi Traci,

Wondering if you have any updates on this 🙂. The question I'm most urgently needing an answer on is:

For the 19 kits figure you provided regarding (a) (1): does 19 kits represent the number of kits that were not tested within 30 days but were tested later on as a 2022 aggregate, or the number of kits that had been waiting untested in the lab for 30 or more days as of December of 2022?

Best,
Betsy



Betsy Kim
Data Analyst

(425) 708-8875
www.usafacts.org
g



From: Leibowitz, Traci <Traci.Leibowitz@vermont.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 5:07 AM
To: Betsy Kim <betsyk@usafacts.org>
Subject: RE: PRA response - Vermont Department of Public Safety

Let me confer with the lab about your questions and get back to you.

From: Betsy Kim <betsyk@usafacts.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 5:17 PM
To: Leibowitz, Traci <Traci.Leibowitz@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: PRA response - Vermont Department of Public Safety

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

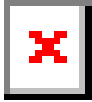
Hi Traci,

Happy New Year, and thank you so much for your response. I'm conducting an analysis of the rape kit backlogs in all 50 states, so I really appreciate the information you provided.

If you don't mind, I have just a couple clarifying questions about the data.

1. For the 19 kits figure you provided regarding (a) (1): does 19 kits represent the number of kits that were not tested within 30 days but were tested later on as a 2022 aggregate, or the number of kits that had been waiting untested in the lab for 30 or more days as of December of 2022?
2. On (a) (2), I understand that there's no concrete data available, but what information do you have regarding the passage of rape kits from law enforcement to the Vermont Forensic Laboratory? For some states, the law enforcement agency backlog of rape kits

is worse than the testing backlog at the lab itself, so I'm willing to take any information at all that you have!
Sincerely, and thank you,
Betsy



Betsy Kim
Data Analyst

(425) 708-8875
www.usafacts.org
g



From: Leibowitz, Traci <Traci.Leibowitz@vermont.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 11:21 AM
To: Betsy Kim <betsyk@usafacts.org>
Subject: PRA response - Vermont Department of Public Safety

December 16, 2022

Betsy Kim
USA Facts
Via Email: betsyk@usafacts.org

Dear Ms. Kim,

I am writing regarding your public records request, received December 12, 2022, requesting information related to rape kit testing data with the Vermont Forensics Lab (copy of request is attached).

Please find attached data responsive to your request. With this release, we consider your request fulfilled. If you have further questions, please contact me at this email address. Thank you for your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Traci Leibowitz
Public Records Request Specialist
Vermont Department of Public Safety