

SEXUAL ASSAULT KIT PROCESSING (HB200) ANNUAL REPORT

Utah Bureau of Forensic Services

FY2020



SUBMISSIONS:

- From July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, the Utah Bureau of Forensic Services (UBFS) received **1,271 sexual assault kit submissions**.

COMPLETIONS:

Completions	30 days or less	31-60 days	61-180 days	181 days or more	Total
# of sexual assault kits tested and completed by UBFS	14	51	366	793	1,224
# of outsourced sexual assault kits completed*	0	0	40	1,300	1,340
Total # of sexual assault kits completed					2,564

*When sexual assault kits are outsourced, the DNA testing is performed by a vendor lab whose methods have been approved by UBFS and meet all accreditation requirements. After testing is completed, UBFS has to technically and administratively review all data and determine CODIS eligibility for each case.

- The state crime laboratory issued 2,564 sexual assault kit DNA reports to submitting agencies, which is the highest number issued in its history during a 12-month period.
- 14 sexual assault kit submissions were determined to be Priority 1 cases, and 100% of those cases were completed in 30 days or less.
 - The median turnaround time for Priority 1 completions was 14 days.
- The majority of submissions took more than 180 days to complete because of the overwhelming number of submissions and resulting buildup of kits since passage of HB200. However, once a kit advanced in the queue and was routed to the DNA section for analysis, it was processed in a much shorter amount of time.
 - In June 2020, the median turnaround time for completion once a kit was routed to the DNA section for analysis was 47 days.
- The Utah Department of Public Safety used \$2 million of department funds to outsource sexual assault kits, and to pay crime lab DNA analysts to work overtime. Crime lab DNA analysts worked over 1,500 hours of overtime to help complete DNA analysis on sexual assault kits.

GOALS:

- The crime laboratory's goal for FY2020 was to process the buildup of sexual assault cases and all sexual assault submissions received during the fiscal year. The lab is on target to complete these cases in the next few months.
- The crime laboratory's goal for FY2021 is to reach a state where 90% of sexual assault kit DNA submissions are processed in 30 days or less.

APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS:

- In FY2020, the crime laboratory received \$500,000 to hire 5 DNA analysts. The 5 analysts were hired, trained, and began contributing to casework during FY2020. Those 5 analysts brought the total FTE's to 14 out of 17 requested in the HB200 fiscal note. An additional 3 FTE's were still needed.
- During the FY2021 legislative session, the crime laboratory received an additional appropriation of \$1.6 million. This will provide the additional personnel and resources needed to further reduce turnaround times and expand services.

RESTRICTED KITS:

- The sexual assault kit tracking system indicates there are 79 restricted sexual assault kits being held by law enforcement.