

INTERPRETING THE DATA ON THE SEXUAL ASSAULT KIT TRACKING SYSTEM REPORT

1. What timeframe does the data on the Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) Tracking report represent?

The data represents all SAKs that were input into the system as of July 1, 2022, as required by House Bill 255 (the Sexual Assault Reform Act of 2021). The data in Boxes 1-6 also represent SAKs that were input as part of the SAK Tracking pilot program, that began on September 14, 2021, as well as SAKs that were voluntarily input by agencies prior to July 1, 2022.

2. Why is the number of SAKs submitted to a laboratory for forensic testing (Box 4) higher than the number of SAKs used by collection sites to conduct forensic medical exams (Box 1)?

SAKs may be entered at any stage in the tracking progress. This was an intentional design element meant to encourage users to participate in the new system as well as to facilitate the movement of kits through the system rather than risk a SAK being held unnecessarily for administrative reasons. Thus, some SAKs have been tracked after the forensic medical exam was completed. For example, some SAKs have been entered into the system at the time law enforcement retrieved them, or when they were received by the GBI crime lab for analysis.

3. How were users, such as forensic medical exam providers and law enforcement agencies, trained during the statewide rollout of the system?

Twenty-eight virtual user trainings were conducted in the first half of 2022. These trainings were open to individuals working in the fields of law enforcement, medical care, advocacy, and law. More than 1,000 individuals registered for and attended these trainings to learn how their agency can effectively use the tracking system. In addition, there is an online training available through the Georgia Public Safety Training Center's course catalog, as well as a previously recorded training and numerous support materials available on the Sexual Violence Resource of Georgia website (svrga.org).

4. How many agencies are currently using the tracking system?

To date, there are 352 agencies with users who have completed training and are participating in the system across multiple disciplines throughout the state.

5. What are the next steps in expanding the system's reach? What does the next year look like?

Based on user feedback, CJCC will continue to work with the system vendor to develop system trainings based on system enhancements. CJCC will also continue to expand the tracking system's user base by contacting remaining law enforcement agencies and hospitals that are noncompliant with enrollment or in need of technical assistance. Using the data from this report, we were able to identify 124 potential agencies that are not utilizing the system as intended, and of those 74 have no users in the system. These agencies will be prioritized for training and technical assistance.