

ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

ANNUAL REPORT
OF
SEXUAL ASSAULT KITS



November 30, 2019

Arizona Department of Public Safety

“Courteous Vigilance”

Annual Report of Sexual Assault Kits

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INTRODUCTION

Arizona Revised Statutes §13-1426 and 13-1427 establish the procedure, time limits, and reporting requirements for the submission and analysis of sexual assault kits (SAKs) in Arizona. ARS §13-1427.A requires law enforcement agencies to report to the Department of Public Safety the following:

1. The number of sexual assault kits that the agency received.
2. The number of sexual assault kits that were submitted to a public accredited crime laboratory for analysis.
3. The number of sexual assault kits that were not submitted to a public accredited crime laboratory for analysis.
4. The reason or reasons for not submitting evidence from each sexual assault kit to a public accredited crime laboratory for analysis.

This report includes SAKs received by agencies during FY2019 and how many of those kits were submitted or not submitted for forensic laboratory analysis. SAKs collected in prior years and submitted as part of the ongoing Sex Assault Kit Initiative are not included in this report.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

The Department of Public Safety surveyed Arizona law enforcement agencies regarding their SAKs received during FY2019. The survey requested the information necessary to meet the requirements of ARS §13-1427.A. The Department compiled their responses which are summarized in the “Survey Results” section below.

LABORATORIES

Arizona has seven public accredited crime laboratories that perform forensic DNA analysis:

- The DPS Northern Regional Crime Laboratory in Flagstaff
- The DPS Central Regional Crime Laboratory in Phoenix
- The DPS Southern Regional Crime Laboratory in Tucson
- The Phoenix Police Department Crime Laboratory
- The Tucson Police Department Crime Laboratory
- The Mesa Police Department Crime Laboratory
- The Scottsdale Police Department Crime Laboratory

The municipal laboratories provide forensic DNA analysis of SAKs to their respective agencies (and other agencies through intergovernmental agreement), and the DPS laboratories provide SAK analysis to all other Arizona agencies. All of the public accredited crime laboratories analyze every SAK submitted for analysis and do not decline analysis of any SAK.

SURVEY RESULTS

The Department surveyed 101 Arizona law enforcement agencies regarding the number of SAKs received by each agency in FY2019 as the result of a sexual assault investigation. The survey also collected information regarding the number of SAKs submitted to a laboratory for forensic DNA analysis and the reasons SAKs were not submitted to a laboratory. The responses from the individual agencies are included in Appendix A.

A total of 1,833 SAKs were received by these agencies in FY2019, and 1,589 (86.7%) of these kits were subsequently submitted to a laboratory for analysis. For the 244 unsubmitted kits, agencies provided the reasons for not submitting the kits for analysis. The reasons given included the following:

- The allegations were determined to be unfounded through investigation.
- The victim elected to not move forward with the analysis of the SAK.
- Other
 - The agency was assisting another agency (the crime occurred in another jurisdiction).
 - The suspect confessed.
 - The prosecuting attorney declined prosecution.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

In FY2019, the Department implemented Track-Kit, a web-based system for tracking all SAKs from the collection of the kit by a forensic nurse examiner, continuing through the transfer to the law enforcement agency and concluding with the laboratory forensic DNA analysis. This system will provide real-time tracking of the location of each SAK and provide the status of each kit to victims, prosecutors, and law enforcement.

A Track-Kit pilot program was conducted in the first half of FY2019, and the system was implemented in January 2019. A manual survey of agencies was conducted to gather the FY2019 SAK information for the full year. In FY2020, the information will be available directly from the Track-Kit system so a manual survey will no longer be necessary.

APPENDIX A

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

AGENCY REPORT
OF
SEXUAL ASSAULT KIT SUBMISSIONS

FISCAL YEAR 2019

SAKs Received – The number of Sexual Assault Kits received by an agency in FY2019
 SAKs Submitted – The number of SAKs received that were subsequently submitted to a forensic laboratory for DNA analysis
 SAKs Not Submitted – The number of SAKs received that were not submitted to a forensic laboratory for analysis

Reasons for SAKs Not Submitted – Reasons provided by the agency for SAKs that were not submitted for analysis. Reason options were:

- Unfounded – The allegations were unfounded as determined by the investigating agency
- VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) – The victim elected to not move forward with the analysis of the SAK as a provision of VAWA
- Other – Reasons other than Unfounded or VAWA

Law Enforcement Agency	SAKs Received	SAKs Submitted	SAKs Not Submitted	Reason for SAKs Not Submitted		
				Unfounded	VAWA	Other
Apache County Sheriff's Office	0					
Apache Junction PD	11	10	1	1	0	0
Arizona Department of Public Safety	1	1				
Arizona State University PD	4	4	0			
Arizona Western College PD	0					
Avondale PD	35	16	19	1	1	17
Benson PD	0					
Bisbee PD	0					
Buckeye PD	13	9	4	2	0	2
Bullhead City PD	2	1	1	1	0	0
Camp Verde Marshal's Office	1	1	0			
Casa Grande PD	31	24	7	0	1	6
Central Arizona College PD	0					
Chandler PD	43	41	2	2	0	0
Chino Valley PD	3	0	3	1	0	2

Clarkdale PD	0					
Clifton PD	0					
Cochise County Sheriff's Office	7	7	0			
Coconino County Sheriff's Office	13	5	8	8	0	0
Coolidge PD	4	2	2	2	0	0
Cottonwood PD	4	4	0			
Douglas PD	2	1	1	0	0	1
Eagar PD	0					
Eastern Arizona College PD	0					
El Mirage PD	8	6	2	2	0	0
Eloy PD	4	3	1	0	0	1
Flagstaff PD	62	23	39	1	14	24
Florence PD	5	4	1	0	0	1
Fredonia Marshal's Office	0					
Gila County Sheriff's Office	3	2	1	0	0	1
Gilbert PD	32	27	5	4	0	1
Glendale PD	69	69	0			
Globe PD	15	1	14	14	0	0
Goodyear Police Department	17	16	1	0	0	1
Graham County Sheriff's Office	1	1	0			
Grand Canyon University PD	0					
Greenlee County Sheriff's Office	1	1	0			
Hayden PD	0					
Holbrook PD	4	4	0			
Huachuca City PD	1	1	0			
Jerome PD	0					
Kearny PD	0					
Kingman PD	7	2	5	0	0	5
Lake Havasu City PD	13	8	5	2	2	1
La Paz County Sheriff's Office	8	5	3	2	0	1
Mammoth PD	0					
Marana PD	4	2	2	1	1	0
Maricopa County Sheriff's Office	46	36	10	6	0	4
Maricopa PD	15	10	5	5		
Mesa PD	126	123	3	0	2	1
Miami PD	0					
Mohave County Sheriff's Office	2	1	1	1	0	1
Navajo County Sheriff's Office	5	5	0			
Nogales PD	4	4	0			
Northern Arizona University PD	7	4	3	0	2	1
Oro Valley PD	0					
Page PD	8	5	3	2	1	0
Paradise Valley PD	2	2	0			
Parker PD	0					
Patagonia Marshal's Office	0					

Payson PD	4	3	1	0	0	1
Peoria PD	13	13	0			
Phoenix PD	588	583	5	2	3	0
Pima College PD	0					
Pima County Sheriff's Department	42	39	3	3	0	0
Pima PD	0					
Pinal County Sheriff's Office	15	8	7	3	0	4
Pinetop-Lakeside PD	0					
Prescott PD	9	2	7	2	0	5
Prescott Valley PD	19	12	7	7	0	0
Quartzsite PD	1	1	0			
Safford PD	1	0	1	0	0	1
Sahuarita PD	7	7	0			
Saint Johns PD	0					
San Luis PD	4	4	0			
Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office	5	5	0			
Scottsdale PD	39	39	0			
Sedona PD	2	2	0			
Show Low PD	3	3	0			
Sierra Vista Police	24	15	9	4	3	2
Snowflake-Taylor PD	3	0	3	2	0	1
Somerton PD	0					
South Tucson PD	1	0	1	0	0	1
Springerville PD	0					
Superior PD	1	0	1	1	0	0
Surprise PD	17	17	0			
Tempe PD	114	108	6	3	2	1
Thatcher PD	1	1	0			
Tolleson PD	1	1	0			
Tombstone Marshal's Office	1	1	0			
Tucson PD	209	186	23	1	15	7
University of Arizona PD	5	5	0			
Wellton PD	1	1				
Wickenburg PD	1	1	0			
Willcox PD	0					
Williams PD	1	1	0			
Winslow PD	2	2	0			
Yavapai College PD	0					
Yavapai County Sheriff's Office	16	9	7	3	0	4
Yuma County Sheriff's Office	10	9	1	1	0	0
Yuma PD	31	20	11	7	4	0