

## **Department of State Police Forensic Services Division**

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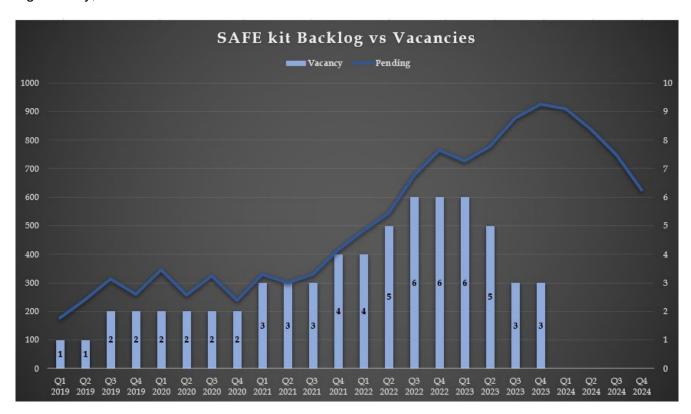
## Legislative Report Department of State Police Forensic Services Report on Sexual Assault Kits January 9, 2025

ORS 181A-324(5) directs the Department of Oregon State Police (OSP) to submit a report describing progress made on the backlog of untested sexual assault forensic evidence kits ("SAFE kits") to the interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to the judiciary by January 15th of each calendar year.

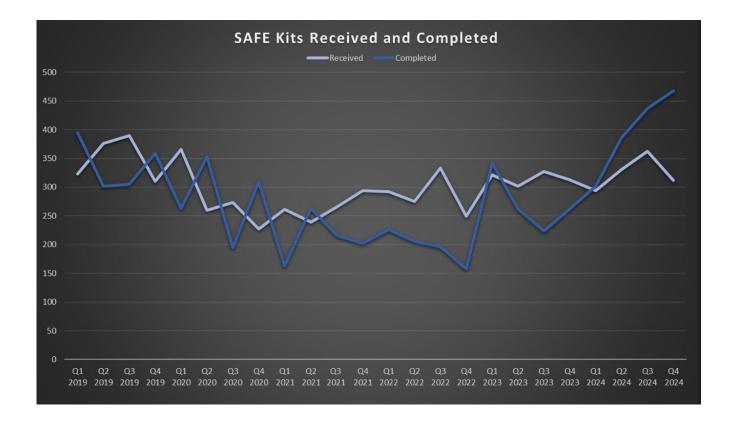
## SAFE KIT ANALYSIS

The OSP Forensic Services Division (FSD) continues to work with agencies to ensure compliance with requirements outlined in SB 1571. As of December 31, 2024, the FSD had custody of 565 SAFE kits pending analysis, down from 926 at the end of 2023. The average SAFE kit turn-around time in December 2023 was 244 days, but that decreased to 166 days in December 2024. A positive trend also continues to be seen with DNA analytical turnaround time. Once initiated, DNA analysis was completed in 10.8 days in 2023, but that improved to 9.8 days in 2024.

The DNA unit has continued to experience production challenges due to unexpected vacancies, lengthy training programs, and increasing demands outside of casework. However, as of this report date, all DNA vacancies have been filled and the SAFE kit backlog has been decreasing steadily and significantly, as demonstrated in the chart below.



The following chart tracks the number of SAFE kits received and completed each quarter for the past six years. As you can see, the number of SAFE kits completed has steadily increased every quarter since Q3 of 2023.



The FSD is committed to transparency and provides Division, Discipline and SAFE kit data on the Oregon State Police website:

https://www.oregon.gov/osp/programs/forensics/Pages/operationaldata.aspx

Brian Medlock

Forensic Services Division Director

Oregon State Police