



THE STATE
of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Public Safety

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November 12, 2025

The Honorable Gary Stevens
Senate President
Alaska State Capitol, Room 111
208 Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Senator.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov

The Honorable Bryce Edgmon
Speaker of the House
Alaska State Capitol, Room
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Representative.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov

Subject: 2025 Report on Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits

Dear President Stevens and Speaker Edgmon,

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) has prepared the following report on untested sexual assault examination kits as required by AS 44.41.070(b).

The 2025 inventory identified 273 untested sexual assault examination kits in the possession of a law enforcement agency, a medical facility, or the Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. E. Cockrell".

James E. Cockrell
Commissioner

2025 Report on Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits

2025 Inventory of Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits

In 2025, 42 law enforcement agencies maintained case jurisdiction on sexual assault cases in Alaska. The Department of Public Safety used the sexual assault kit tracking system, Track-Kit, to conduct the annual untested kit inventory. All Alaska law enforcement agencies continue to use our tracking system and therefore complied with the inventory requirement. In 2026, the Department of Public Safety will continue to advocate for the passage of House Bill (HB) 62 and Senate Bill (SB) 69 which seek to codify the sexual assault kit tracking system.

The 2025 inventory, which included the existing inventory of untested Sexual Assault Kits (SAKs) in possession of the DPS Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory (Crime Lab), identified a total of 273 untested victim sexual assault kits. As of September 30, 2025, 258 of the untested kits eligible for this report are in possession of the Crime Lab, seven are in law enforcement possession, and eight are at a medical facility and assigned to an Alaska law enforcement agency. The Crime Lab continues to meet the statutory turnaround time for testing, with an average completion time of 145 days during State Fiscal Year 2025.

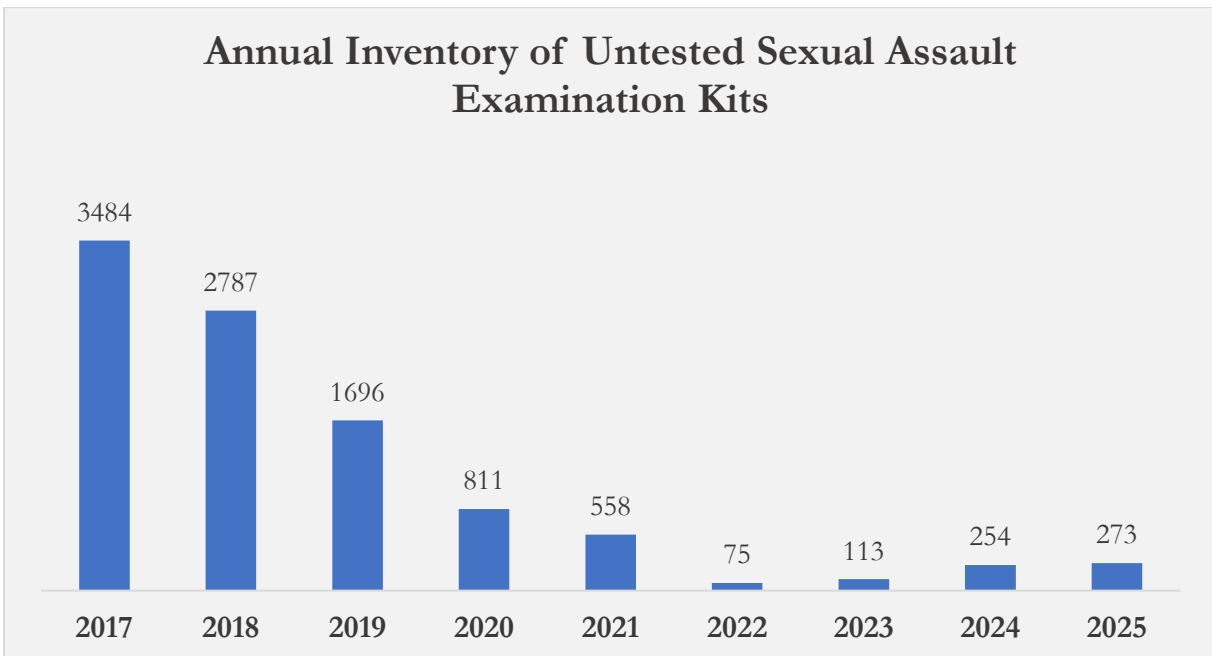


Figure 1. Annual inventory of untested SAKs per year

2025 Report on Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits

2025 Sexual Assault Examination Kits Ineligible for Testing

Between September 1, 2024 and August 31, 2025, 65 SAKs were determined to be ineligible for testing per statute¹, this is a 25 percent decrease from the 2024 inventory. These kits will be retained at the Crime Lab under the same evidence retention timeframes as all other SAKs. These SAKs are not included in the 2025 inventory of 273 untested SAKs as they are not being considered for testing. If a survivor chooses to have their anonymous kit reported to law enforcement, it will be added to the testing queue.

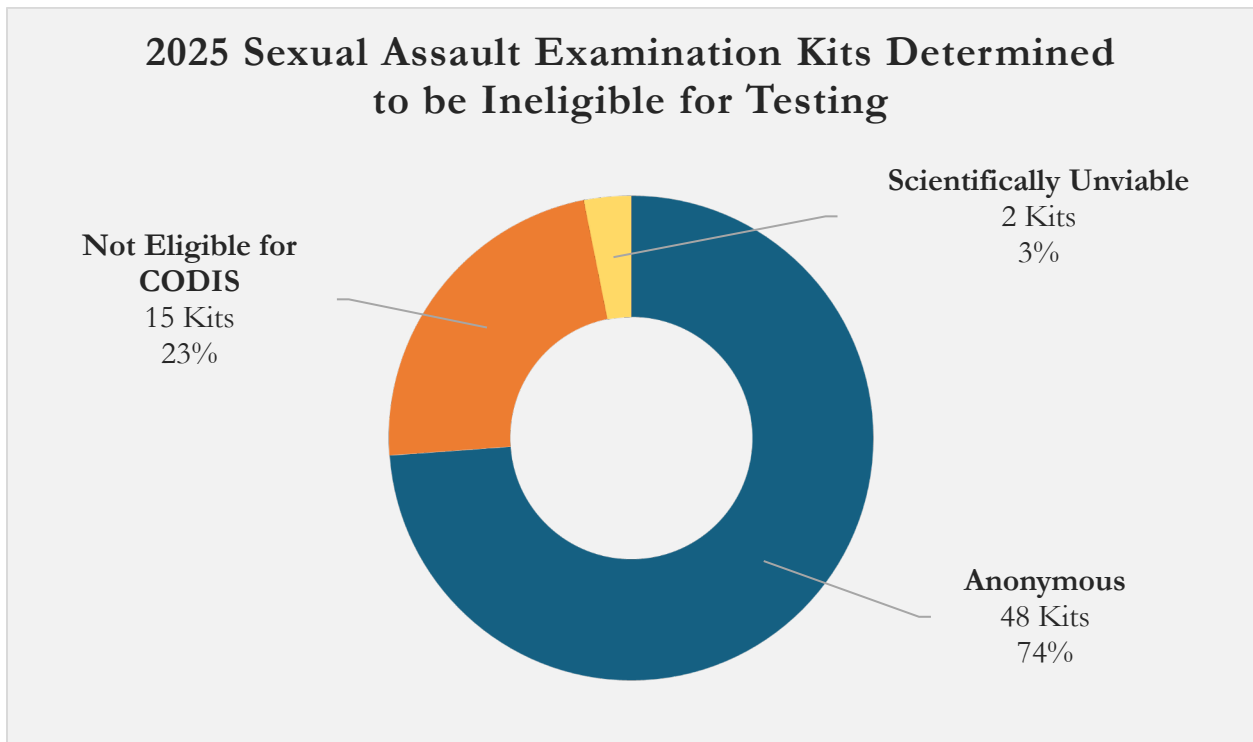


Figure 2. 65 SAKs not eligible for testing by reason for ineligibility.

Ineligible for Testing Categories	2024 inventory	2025 inventory
Anonymous	49	48
Not Eligible for Inclusion in CODIS	34	15
Scientifically Unviable	6	2
TOTAL	87	65

¹ AS 44.41.070(e) provides that a SAK is ineligible for testing if the law enforcement agency or state department finds that the kit:

1. Is scientifically unviable;
2. Does not meet eligibility requirements for inclusion in CODIS; or
3. Was collected from a person who reported a sexual assault anonymously.

Plan to Prevent Future Backlogs of Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits

The Alaska Department of Public Safety's major initiatives to address untested SAKs and prevent future backlogs are:

1. Reduce Sexual Assault Examination Kit (SAK) Testing Turnaround Time

The average turnaround time for testing SAKs has gone from an average of 246 days in 2020 to an average of 145 days in State Fiscal Year 2025.

2. Case Review by a Department of Public Safety (DPS) Investigator

All Sexual Assault Kits that are submitted to the Crime Lab for "storage only" are reviewed by a DPS investigator. The investigator, assigned by the DPS Office of the Commissioner, ensures that analysis is performed for every SAK that should be tested under the law, and that all kits, regardless of their testing status, are properly stored at the Crime Lab. Additionally, the investigator follows up with law enforcement agencies and provides technical assistance and training to DPS on the statutory requirements for SAKs.

3. SAK Tracking Software System

In 2023, DPS implemented a tracking database to allow survivors and agencies involved in sexual assault responses the ability to track the status and location of all SAKs. The software tracks SAKs from the point of distribution all the way through storage at the Crime Lab.

The data tracked in this software provides accurate measurements of turnaround times between each milestone, some of which are mandated in AS 44.41.065. For the 2025 inventory, the turnaround time for law enforcement agencies was 10 days. This is well within the statutory requirement of 30 days.

Additionally, the system enables DPS to track the SAK inventory in real time alleviating the administrative burden from law enforcement agencies to fulfil requirements of the annual inventory as well as ensure compliance with requirements of AS 44.41.070.

In 2026, DPS will continue to advocate for the passage of House Bill (HB) 62 and Senate Bill (SB) 69 which seek to codify the sexual assault kit tracking system.