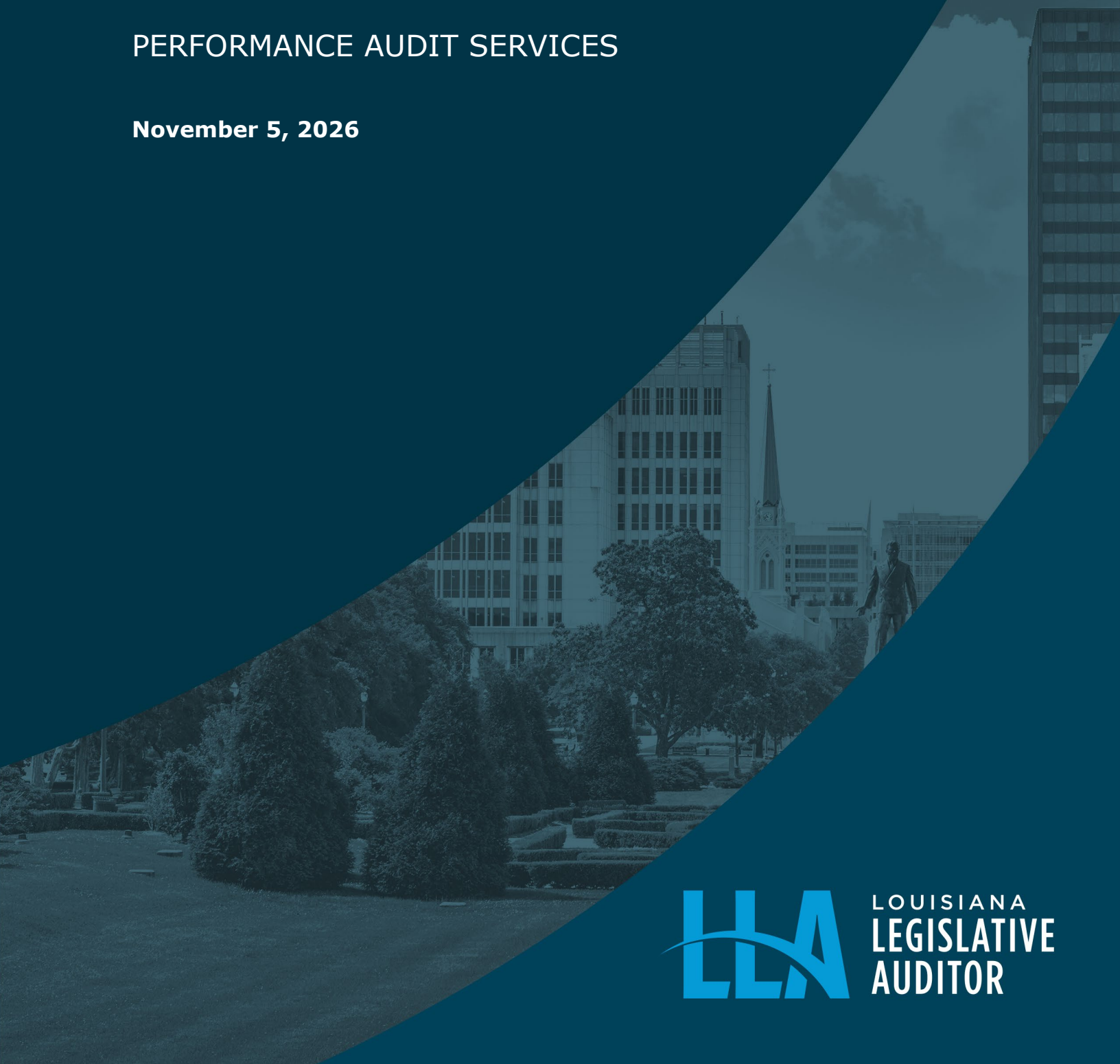
SEXUAL ASSAULT KIT TRACKING SYSTEM AND OUTSTANDING CODIS HITS

LOUISIANA STATE POLICE CRIME LAB

PERFORMANCE AUDIT SERVICES

November 5, 2026



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November 5, 2026

The Honorable J. Cameron Henry, Jr.
President of the Senate
The Honorable Phillip R. DeVillier,
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Dear Senator Henry and Representative DeVillier:

This report provides the results of our evaluation of the state's Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System and law enforcement's follow-up on potential DNA matches in the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS).

Overall, the Louisiana State Police Crime Lab (LSPCL) has implemented a sexual assault kit tracking system in compliance with state law. However, additional legislative changes could strengthen the law's requirements, and LSPCL could make modifications to the system to improve the information it tracks and displays for survivors.

We found that as of February 2026, law enforcement had not submitted 337 (17.9%) of the 1,879 reported sexual assault kits collected from July 2024 through December 2025 to a crime lab, as required by state law. In addition, state law does not explicitly say that all kits submitted to crime labs must be tested.

We also found that the Kit Tracking System does not always display the accurate location and status of a kit because the system has limited status options and not all required entities participate in the system.

In addition, according to the Kit Tracking System, at least 560 (26.2%) of the 2,138 kits collected from July 2024 through December 2025 did not meet the statutory timeframes for law enforcement pickup and/or submission to a crime lab for testing. Louisiana law also does not establish such timeframes for medical providers or crime labs, unlike other states.

We found as well that ensuring that entities comply with statutory Kit Tracking System requirements and required timeframes is challenging because there is no oversight authority and state law does not include penalties for noncompliance.

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Additionally, we found LSPCL could improve the accuracy of data collected through the Kit Tracking System by adding system controls to minimize errors, requiring case numbers, and implementing detailed statewide policies for system administration and data entry.

We found, too, that at least 39 (2.7%) of the 1,424 kits collected in fiscal year 2025 resulted in a CODIS hit during fiscal year 2025.

Also, effective August 1, 2026, state law requires LSPCL to create a statewide outstanding CODIS hit tracking system to increase accountability and transparency regarding law enforcement follow-up on CODIS hits. LSPCL, crime labs, and law enforcement agencies should incorporate best practices into the new system and related processes.

The report contains our findings and recommendations. I hope this report will benefit you in your legislative decision-making process.

We would like to express our appreciation to LSPCL, other crime labs, and other law enforcement entities across the state for their assistance during this audit.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. “Mike” Waguespack, CPA
Legislative Auditor

MJW/ch

SAK TRACKING

Louisiana Legislative Auditor

Michael J. "Mike" Waguespack, CPA

Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System and Outstanding CODIS Hits
Louisiana State Police Crime Lab

November 2026

Audit Control # 40250022

Introduction

Since 2023, the Louisiana legislature has implemented several laws to improve accountability and transparency for the handling of sexual assault kits (kits)[1] *(see text box at right).* We conducted this audit based on a legislative request to evaluate Louisiana's processes related to the Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System (Kit Tracking System) implemented in July 2024. The request also asked us to evaluate processes related to outstanding Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) hits, which are investigative leads generated when DNA profiles obtained from evidence, such as kits, match with profiles in CODIS.[2] The Louisiana State Police Crime Lab (LSPCL) oversees the Kit Tracking System and is Louisiana's State CODIS Administrator.

Sexual Assault Kits (kits) are designed to assist in the preservation of human biological specimens and associated evidence collected during forensic medical examinations for the purpose of documenting, preserving, and analyzing evidence of a sexual assault or other sexually oriented crime.

Collecting and Testing Sexual Assault Kits. State law[3] provides that all sexual assault survivors have the right to a forensic medical exam (FME), including collection of a kit. FMEs are performed by a medical provider, such as a sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) or an emergency room doctor. The medical provider asks the survivor whether they want the kit to be reported or unreported to law enforcement, as this determines whether the survivor's identifying information will be provided with the kit to law enforcement for investigation[4] *(see text box at right).* Medical

Reported Kits are those collected from survivors who report the crime to law enforcement and request that the case proceed as a criminal investigation and potential prosecution.

Unreported Kits are those collected from survivors who decline to report the crime to law enforcement and request that no investigation or prosecution occur. However, survivors can decide to convert these kits to reported status at any time within the kits' 20-year retention period.

[1] For more information about Louisiana's response to sexual assault and services available to survivors, see our report, Sexual Assault Response in Louisiana, issued in June 2026. Legislative initiatives relevant to this project are summarized later in this introduction.
[2] CODIS is administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
[3] Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 46:1845
[4] Medical providers must submit unreported kits to law enforcement without any identifying information but maintain records in case the kits are reported later. If the medical provider works for a

providers notify law enforcement when the kit is ready for pickup. Law enforcement transports and stores reported kits until they are submitted to one of the state's six forensic laboratories (crime labs) for testing and stores unreported kits for at least 20 years before their destruction. Once the crime lab retrieves what it needs from the kit for testing,[5] the lab returns the kit to law enforcement for storage. When testing is complete, the lab provides law enforcement with a report of testing results that can be used for investigation and prosecution of the case.

Identifying and Investigating CODIS Hits. Crime labs extract DNA from biological evidence[6] in reported kits and develop DNA profiles[7] that can be compared with confirmation samples from suspects, survivors, and/or consensual partners to help identify or exclude individuals as suspects. Labs also enter eligible DNA profiles[8] into the FBI's CODIS system, which searches for potential matches (i.e., CODIS hits) in local, state, and national databases of DNA profiles collected from certain offenders and/or arrestees as well as unsolved forensic case files. When a CODIS hit occurs, crime labs must complete an internal confirmation process and then notify the investigating law enforcement agency. CODIS hits serve as investigative leads, but law enforcement must obtain a confirmation sample from the individual identified and submit it to the crime lab for DNA confirmation testing if the CODIS hit will provide evidence for court. It is important that law enforcement agencies follow up on CODIS hits, as they can aid investigations by identifying unknown assailants, linking unsolved cases, identifying serial offenders, or exonerating the wrongfully convicted. Exhibit 1 shows the process for a reported kit with a CODIS hit from collection through prosecution.

coroner's office with secure storage, the law allows unreported kits to be stored at the coroner's office; however, other unreported kits must be transferred to law enforcement for storage.

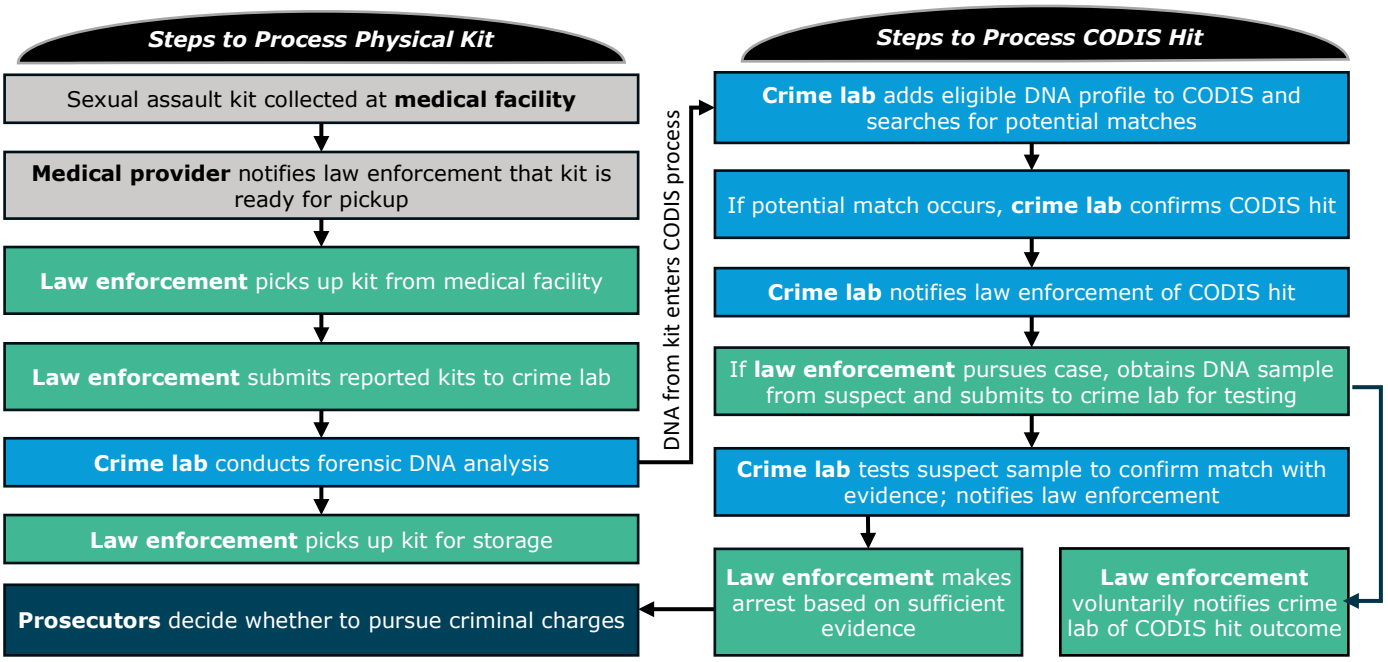
[5] Throughout this report, kit testing refers to DNA testing of forensic evidence contained in the kits.

[6] This may include semen, blood, saliva, skin cells, or other bodily fluids/biological materials.

[7] A DNA profile consists of a set of DNA identification characteristics that permits the DNA of one person to be distinguishable from that of another person.

[8] Not all DNA profiles are eligible for entry into CODIS. The FBI's National DNA Index System (NDIS) Operational Procedures Manual explains the criteria for CODIS entry.

Exhibit 1
Process for a Reported Sexual Assault Kit with Confirmed CODIS Hit



Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff based on state and federal law and discussions with stakeholders.

Legislative Initiatives. DNA evidence contained in kits can be crucial for investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases. However, crime labs nationwide have struggled with backlogs of untested kits, kits not being submitted to crime labs for testing, and a lack of transparency for sexual assault survivors regarding the location and status of their kits. In addition, opportunities to aid investigations with CODIS hits can be missed due to communication breakdowns or a lack of oversight and accountability. As a result, there has been a nationwide push to provide transparency to survivors about their kits and to ensure law enforcement follows up on CODIS hits. For example, best practices recommended by the U.S. National Institute of Justice (NIJ),[9] the National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI),[10] and the End the Backlog initiative[11] have been implemented by many states. In Louisiana, the legislature has implemented the following initiatives:

[9] The NIJ issued the National Best Practices for Sexual Assault Kits in 2017, which was developed by a working group of subject matter experts representing victims, victim advocates, medical providers, crime labs, law enforcement, prosecutors, and the judiciary. All NIJ best practices cited in this report come from this 2017 report.

[10] Administered by the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance, SAKI provides grant funding and best practices to enhance the criminal justice response to sexual assault and hold offenders accountable by maximizing evidence found in kits.

[11] End the Backlog is a program of the Joyful Heart Foundation, a national nonprofit organization with the mission to transform society's response to sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse; support survivors' healing; and end this violence forever. Unless otherwise specified, all End the Backlog best practices cited in this report come from Comprehensive Rape Kit Reform: A Legislative Handbook, published in January 2020.

- **Kit Tracking System.** Act 193 of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session requires Louisiana State Police[12] to create a statewide system to track the status and location of all kits throughout the criminal justice process and allow survivors of sexual assault to anonymously view their kits' status. LSPCL worked with the Office of Technology Services (OTS) to develop the Kit Tracking System, which launched in July 2024.

- **Updated Timeframes for Processing Kits.** The 2023 legislation also amended state law[13] to require law enforcement to submit all reported kits to a crime lab for testing within 30 days of picking up the kit, whereas the law previously only required submission of reported kits in this timeframe if the case involved an unknown suspect. In addition, Act 669 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session requires law enforcement to pick up kits within 72 hours after receiving notification of their completion from the medical provider, whereas the law previously allowed seven days.

- **Outstanding CODIS Hit Tracking System.** To create accountability in the CODIS hit notification and resolution process, Act 488 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session requires Louisiana State Police[14] to create a statewide system to track the status of CODIS hits that have not been resolved within 90 days of law enforcement notification. As the State CODIS Administrator, LSPCL will oversee the creation and operation of the outstanding hit tracking system. According to LSPCL, it plans to also develop this system in collaboration with OTS.

Collected Kits and Kit Tracking System Statistics. Since system implementation in July 2024, 2,138 kits were collected through December 2025, including 1,879 (87.9%) kits that were reported to law enforcement for investigation. These kits were collected at 102 medical facilities located in 38 different parishes throughout the state, with almost half collected in either Orleans Parish (514, or 24.0%) or East Baton Rouge Parish (504, or 23.6%). These kits were in the jurisdiction of 166 different law enforcement agencies in 63 parishes,[15] with the largest number of kits assigned to the New Orleans Police Department (352, or 16.5%) and the Baton Rouge Police Department (184, or 8.6%).[16] Exhibit 2 shows that as of February 2026, 1,542 reported kits collected from July 2024 through December 2025 had been submitted for testing to one of the state's six

[12] The law assigns responsibility for administering the Kit Tracking System to Louisiana State Police, which delegates this duty to LSPCL.
[13] R.S. 15:623
[14] The law assigns responsibility for administering the outstanding CODIS hit tracking system to Louisiana State Police, which delegates this duty to LSPCL.
[15] For reported kits, the jurisdiction is determined by the location of the incident. For unreported kits, the jurisdiction is determined by the location where the kit was collected.
[16] See Appendix C for a count of reported and unreported kits by medical facility, law enforcement jurisdiction, and parish.

crime labs, which include LSPCL and the five other labs located throughout the state that qualify to participate in CODIS.[17]

Exhibit 2
Kits Received by Crime Labs for Testing
for Kits Collected between July 2024 through December 2025

Receiving Lab	Kits Received by February 2026		Number of Law Enforcement Agencies Served
	Number	Percent of Total	
Louisiana State Police Crime Lab (LSPCL)	750	48.6%	45
North Louisiana Criminalistics Lab (NLCL)	317	20.6%	50
Southwest Louisiana Crime Lab (SWCL)	183	11.9%	13
Acadiana Criminalistics Lab (ACL)	159	10.3%	27
Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office Crime Lab (JPCL)	76	4.9%	4
St. Tammany Coroner Forensic Center (STCL)	57	3.7%	5
Total	**1,542**	**100.0%**	**141***

***** Total is less than sum of rows because some law enforcement agencies requested testing from more than one crime lab.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using data obtained from the Kit Tracking System as of February 2026. This is based on agencies that submitted testing requests based on the Kit Tracking System, not all agencies that potentially could be served for all different types of testing.

To conduct this audit, we obtained all Kit Tracking System data as of February 2026 to analyze whether kits collected from July 2024 through December 2025 were processed in compliance with statutory requirements. We also obtained laboratory system data for fiscal years 2024 through 2025 from each of the state's six crime labs to test the reliability of the Kit Tracking System data and provide statistics on lab activities. We obtained and analyzed CODIS hit data for fiscal years 2024 through 2025 from each of the six crime labs to provide statistics and assess how they track outstanding hits. In addition, we surveyed law enforcement entities across the state and met with several entities involved in processing kits regarding their experience with the Kit Tracking System and their CODIS hit processes.[18] We also researched best practices and other states' processes for kit tracking and CODIS hit follow-up.

The objective of this audit was:

To evaluate the Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System and law enforcement's follow-up on potential DNA matches from CODIS.

Our results are summarized on pages 7-8 and discussed in detail throughout the remainder of the report. Appendix A contains LSPCL's response, and Appendix B contains our scope and methodology. Appendix C contains the number of reported and unreported kits by parish, law enforcement agency, and medical facility.

[17] As the State CODIS Administrator, LSPCL maintains the state-level CODIS database and ensures the state's other participating labs comply with federal requirements, such as accreditation.
[18] We sent surveys to 340 law enforcement agencies in February 2026 and received responses from 113, for an overall response rate of 33.2%. However, some agencies did not respond to or were excluded from results for some questions. See Appendix B for more details on our methodology.

Appendix D shows compliance with statutory kit processing timeframes by law enforcement agency. Appendix E contains the number of CODIS hits for all offenses by crime lab and by law enforcement agency. Appendix F includes a listing of our Matters for Legislative Consideration.

Objective: To evaluate the Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System and law enforcement's follow-up on potential DNA matches from CODIS.

Overall, LSPCL has implemented a sexual assault kit tracking system in compliance with state law. However, additional legislative changes could strengthen requirements in state law, and LSPCL could make modifications to the system to improve the information it tracks and displays for survivors. In addition, as LSPCL develops a new tracking system for outstanding CODIS hits, it should consider incorporating best practices for CODIS hit notifications and tracking CODIS hit follow-up, as well as encouraging law enforcement to develop CODIS policies. Specifically, we found the following:

- **As of February 2026, of the 1,879 reported kits collected from July 2024 through December 2025, law enforcement had not submitted 337 (17.9%) to a crime lab for testing, as required by state law. In addition, state law does not explicitly state that all kits submitted to crime labs must be tested, resulting in inconsistency among law enforcement and crime labs regarding which kits must be tested.** Clarifying in law which kits must be tested would help ensure kits are tested as necessary while also accounting for crime labs' workload.

- **The Kit Tracking System does not always display the accurate location and status of a kit because the system has limited status options and not all required entities participate in the system.** As a result, survivors may not always see accurate, complete information about their kit in the system.

- **According to the Kit Tracking System, at least 560 (26.2%) of the 2,138 kits collected from July 2024 through December 2025 did not meet statutory timeframes for law enforcement pickup and/or submission to a crime lab for testing. In addition, unlike some other states, Louisiana law does not establish timeframes for medical providers or crime labs.** LSPCL could expand its use of automatic alerts in the Kit Tracking System to notify entities when kits approach or exceed expected timeframes.

- **Ensuring that entities comply with statutory Kit Tracking System requirements and required timeframes is challenging because there is no oversight authority and state law does not include penalties for noncompliance. Reporting on noncompliance in LSPCL's annual report could increase transparency and encourage compliance**. LSPCL completed an

annual report for the first year of the Kit Tracking System's operation, but it did not submit this report to legislative committees as required.

- **LSPCL could improve the accuracy of data collected through the Kit Tracking System by adding system controls to minimize errors, requiring case numbers, and implementing detailed statewide policies for system administration and data entry.** Collecting accurate information is important to support survivors' rights and required annual reporting.

- **At least 39 (2.7%) of the 1,424 kits collected in fiscal year 2025 resulted in a CODIS hit during fiscal year 2025**. DNA profiles entered into CODIS could also result in hits in the future, as 76.7% of CODIS hits confirmed in fiscal years 2024 and 2025 across all crime types were from cases in prior years.

- **Effective August 1, 2026, state law requires LSPCL to create a statewide outstanding CODIS hit tracking system to increase accountability and transparency regarding law enforcement follow-up on CODIS hits.** LSPCL, crime labs, and law enforcement agencies should incorporate best practices into the new system and related processes, including creating consistent CODIS hit notification processes, tracking CODIS hit follow-up by law enforcement, and encouraging law enforcement to develop CODIS-specific policies and procedures.

Our findings and recommendations are discussed in more detail in the following sections.

As of February 2026, of the 1,879 reported kits collected from July 2024 through December 2025, law enforcement had not submitted 337 (17.9%) to a crime lab for testing, as required by state law. In addition, state law does not explicitly state that all kits submitted to crime labs must be tested, resulting in inconsistency among law enforcement and crime labs regarding which kits must be tested.

Act 193 of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session requires law enforcement to submit kits from reported cases to a crime lab for testing within 30 days of pickup from a medical facility. Prior to this Act, state law only required law enforcement to submit reported kits for testing if the suspect was unknown. The NIJ's National Best Practices, SAKI, and End the Backlog recommend testing all reported kits to maximize the number of DNA profiles added to CODIS, which can help solve other

past or future crimes and enhance public safety by identifying serial offenders. In addition, these best practices state that testing all kits can help to exonerate the wrongfully convicted and to establish confidence in the criminal justice system for survivors. According to End the Backlog, at least 40 states[19] require all reported kits to be tested, regardless of whether law enforcement will pursue a case.

As of February 2026, of the 1,879 reported kits collected from July 2024 through December 2025, law enforcement had not submitted 337 (17.9%) to a crime lab for testing, as required by state law. According to our law enforcement agency survey, 31.3% of survey respondents stated that they send all reported kits to a crime lab, as required by state law. However, almost two-thirds of surveyed law enforcement agencies responded that they only submit reported kits that will be investigated or they submit both reported and unreported kits, which is not in line with state law. Exhibit 3 shows the results of our law enforcement agency survey regarding which kits law enforcement sends to crime labs. See Appendix C for the number of reported and unreported kits by parish, law enforcement agency, and medical facility.

Exhibit 3
"Which Kits Do Law Enforcement Agencies Submit for Testing?"
Responses from Law Enforcement Agencies with Kits*

Response	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Only reported kits for cases that will be investigated	28	43.7%
All reported kits received	20	31.3%
All kits received (both reported and unreported)	14	21.9%
Unsure	2	3.1%
Total	**64**	**100.0%**

*Only includes responses from the 64 responding law enforcement agencies (of 111 total) that had kits during July 2024 through February 2026. See Appendix B for our methodology.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff from February 2026 survey of law enforcement agencies.

[19] Including Washington, D.C.

State law does not explicitly state whether all kits submitted to crime labs must be tested, resulting in inconsistency among both law enforcement and crime labs regarding which kits must be tested. When law enforcement sends reported kits to a crime lab, the lab may not test all kits they receive *(see text box at right)*. For example, one crime lab stated that it tests all kits submitted by law enforcement, while the other five crime labs stated that they will not test a kit if law enforcement or the district attorney informs them that the case will not be pursued. According to several crime labs, they also use their own judgment to determine which kits to test based on circumstantial or administrative factors. Several crime labs also stated that clarifying in law which kits must be tested would be helpful, as minimizing testing that is unlikely to inform an investigation would allow crime labs to spend more time on DNA testing for other high-priority cases, such as homicides. End the Backlog explains that relying on case-by-case decisions rather than a uniform testing policy increases the risk that kits will go untested due to factors such as insufficient training on the value of DNA evidence, misinterpretation of trauma-related survivor behavior as noncooperation, resource limitations, and individual biases.

Examples of Reasons Crime Labs May Not Test Reported Kits

- Law enforcement informs lab it will not pursue case because:
  - survivor changed kit to unreported
  - survivor became uncooperative
  - investigation found no crime occurred
- District Attorney will not prosecute case
- Case summary shows:
  - kit collected as precaution only
  - initial encounter was consensual and became non-consensual (making the DNA profile ineligible for CODIS entry)
- Crime lab rejects DNA testing request for administrative reasons such as:
  - kit not yet entered in Kit Tracking System
  - no confirmation sample provided by law enforcement on case with known suspect

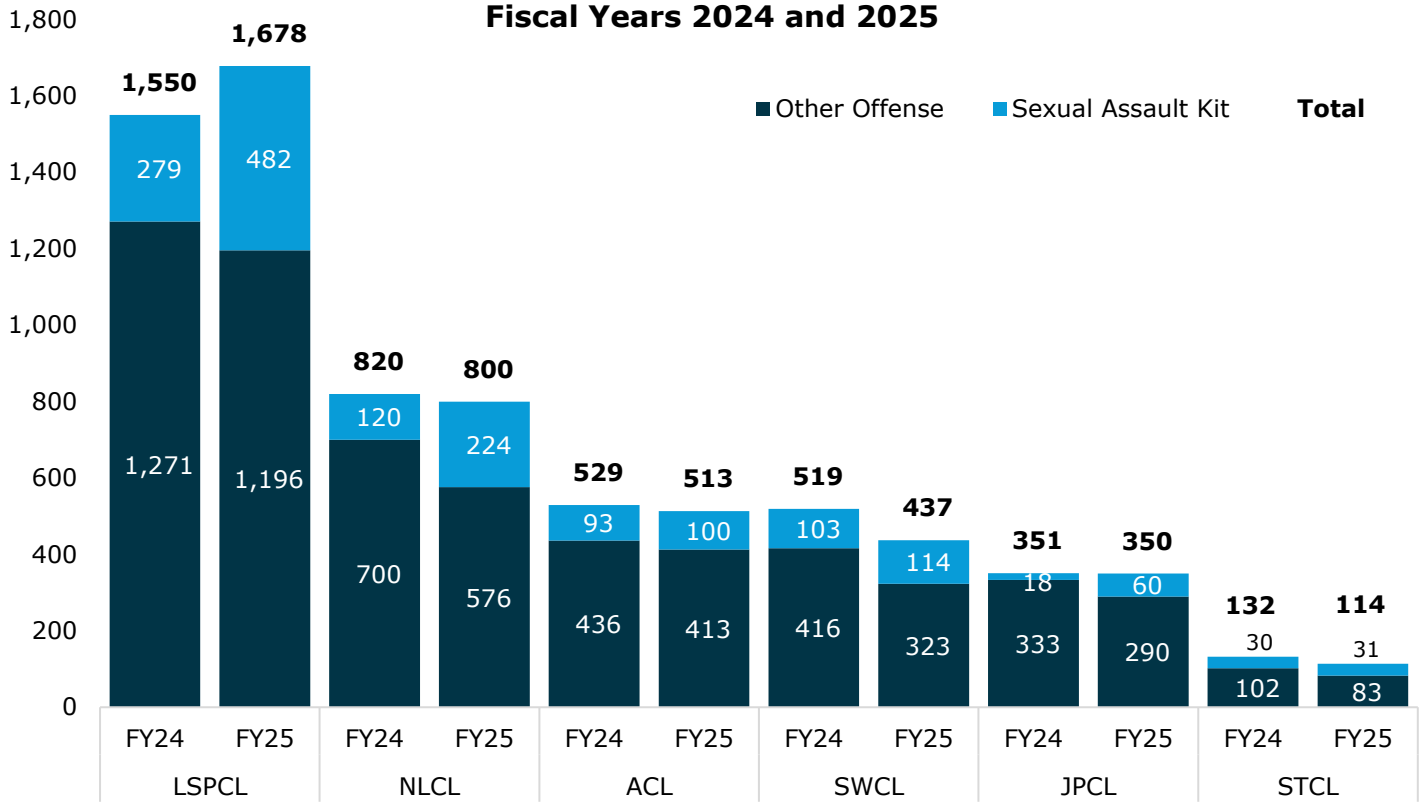
Updating the law to clearly state that all reported kits must be tested and establish processes for verifying any exceptions would help to further the state's goal of increasing accountability and transparency for survivors. The lack of a consistent statewide requirement specifying which kits must be tested increases the risk that some reported kits will not be tested, which could undermine confidence in the criminal justice system. While at least 40 states[20] require all reported kits to be tested, some states, such as North Carolina and Idaho, allow for exceptions to the testing requirement, such as when law enforcement determines that no crime has occurred. In Idaho, law enforcement must have sufficient evidence to prove the report was false, and independent review of the evidence by the county prosecutor is required to confirm that testing is not needed.

While the 2023 legislation likely resulted in more kits being submitted for testing, crime labs did not always receive any additional funding for the materials and manpower needed to test additional kits. During fiscal years 2024 and 2025, cases with kits made up 1,654 (21.2%) of the 7,793 cases with DNA testing requests for all crimes across the state.[21] Since the implementation of the Kit Tracking System in July 2024, the number of cases with

[20] Including Washington, D.C.
[21] Cases with DNA requests may include multiple DNA requests. Our results are based on a unique count of cases.

kits submitted to crime labs for testing increased 57.2% from 643 in fiscal year 2024 to 1,011 in fiscal year 2025. Although requests for kit testing increased, the overall number of cases with DNA testing requests for all crimes decreased for five of the crime labs. Several labs stated that testing kits involves greater complexity and resources than most other types of DNA testing, and that testing more kits limits how much DNA testing they can perform for other types of crimes, such as homicides. Exhibit 4 shows the number of DNA testing requests for cases with kits and other offenses by crime lab for fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

Exhibit 4
Number of Sexual Assault Kit Cases and Other Offense Cases with DNA Requests
Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025



Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using laboratory system data provided by the state's six crime labs.

According to crime labs, hiring adequate staff to process more kits is a challenge because of a shortage of qualified DNA analysts and the extended time required to train new analysts. In addition, some crime labs stated that they struggled to increase kit testing with their existing resources. The crime labs each have a different combination of funding sources, and some are more reliable than others. All six crime labs receive federal grants. LSPCL receives regular state funding, and two crime labs, NLCL and ACL, received $1 million to $1.5 million each in state general funds in both fiscal years 2024 and 2025 for operational support. During this period, most funding for four[22] of the labs came from local government

[22] ACL, JPCL, NLCL, and SWCL

(e.g., court fees, appropriations from sheriffs) and/or self-generated revenue (e.g., fees for tests). However, funding sources can change from year to year. For example, STCL relied primarily on federal grants during this period, as the ad valorem tax that provided most of its funding in the past ended in 2024. According to STCL, its self-generated funding could also run out in 2027.

End the Backlog emphasizes that implementing reforms such as testing all reported kits requires significant resources, so it is important for states to ensure that they appropriate sufficient funding to support these efforts. As of 2020, 10 states had appropriated ongoing funds for sexual assault kit reform. When clarifying which reported kits must be tested, it is important to also consider how these requirements will impact crime labs' workloads overall, as well as whether additional resources would need to be appropriated to support increased testing long-term.[23]

> **Matter for Legislative Consideration 1:** The legislature may wish to consider clarifying in state law whether crime labs must test all reported kits and clearly defining any exceptions for reported kits not to undergo testing.

The Kit Tracking System does not always display the accurate location and status of a kit because the system has limited status options and not all required entities participate in the system. As a result, survivors may not always see accurate, complete information about their kit in the system.

State law[24] requires the Kit Tracking System to allow medical providers performing FMEs, law enforcement agencies, all crime labs in the state, prosecutors, and other entities having custody of kits to access the Kit Tracking System and track the status and location of kits in the system. The law specifies that all entities with custody of kits must fully participate in the system and provide all required information no later than July 1, 2024.

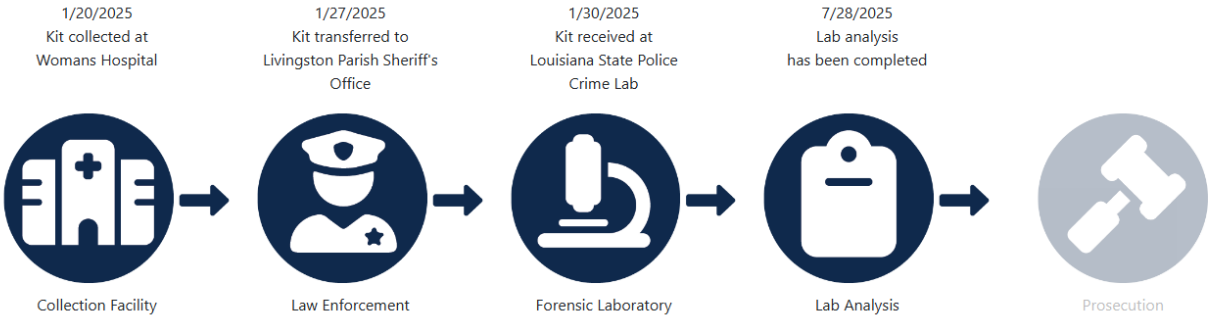
[23] See NIJ best practices for an overview of major factors impacting crime lab efficiency, as well as strategies that can help crime labs optimize operations. For example, the NIJ notes that adopting the Direct to DNA approach instead of screening kits first allows labs to analyze evidence and obtain information necessary to search CODIS in a more timely manner.
[24] R.S. 15:624.1

The Kit Tracking System does not capture or display all kit locations and statuses to accurately indicate where kits are located and whether testing occurs. State law[25] requires the Kit Tracking System to track the location status of kits throughout the criminal justice process *(see text box at right).* State law[26] also requires the system to allow sexual assault survivors to anonymously track or receive updates regarding the status of their kits. LSPCL created a portal on the Louisiana State Police website where survivors can look up a kit's status in the Kit Tracking System using its unique serial number. The survivor portal only displays high-level information about kits to prevent disclosure of confidential or identifying information. Exhibit 5 shows an example of what survivors see in their portal to the Kit Tracking System.

State law requires the Kit Tracking System to track:

- initial collection at medical facilities
- receipt and storage at law enforcement agencies
- receipt and analysis at forensic laboratories
- storage or destruction after completion of analysis

Exhibit 5
Example of Survivor Portal in Kit Tracking System



Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff from a screen shot of the Kit Tracking System survivor portal.

Although only limited information is shown to survivors in the portal, the Kit Tracking System captures additional details that support coordination between entities involved in processing kits, such as medical providers, law enforcement, crime labs, and district attorneys. For example, to simplify kit tracking, LSPCL designed the system to only allow each type of reporting entity to enter information related to their steps in the process, as shown in Exhibit 6.

[25] R.S. 15:624.1
[26] R.S. 15:624.1

Exhibit 6
Information Entered in the Kit Tracking System by Required Reporting Entities*

Medical Providers	Have access to add new kit and enter: • unique kit number • medical facility where collected • date of collection • **if reported or unreported**	• law enforcement agency assigned to receive kit • **date notification sent to law enforcement to pick up kit**
Law Enforcement Agencies	Have access to enter: • date kit was picked up from medical provider • crime lab assigned to receive kit • **law enforcement case number**	• **status of related case (open, closed, suspended, etc.)** • **relevant district court**
Crime Labs	Have access to enter: • date lab received kit • date testing is completed	• **date kit returned to law enforcement for storage**
District Attorneys	Have access to enter: • status of prosecution related to kit	

* Information in **bold** is not visible in the survivor-facing portal on Louisiana State Police website.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information from LSPCL and the Kit Tracking System data.

It is important for the portal to display sufficient information for survivors to know where their kits are located and whether they are being processed as expected. However, due to the limited information included, we found the portal sometimes displays inaccurate kit locations or statuses even though accurate information is included in the more detailed underlying data. In addition, we identified some kit locations and statuses that the system does not currently track at all, meaning that both the underlying data and the information displayed in the portal are inaccurate for some kits. For example, we identified the following issues:

- **Current Location of Kit:** Some kit locations are entered in the system but not reflected in the survivor portal, such as when crime labs return kits to law enforcement for storage. In addition, the system does not have fields to track some location changes at all. For example, SANEs in one area of the state store all unreported kits at the coroner's office;[27] however, the Kit Tracking System shows that these kits are still located at the medical facility where the kit was collected. According to LSPCL, as of October 2026, it is in the process of updating the system to require the SANE to record storage locations for unreported kits.

- **Reported vs. Unreported Kits:** While the Kit Tracking System captures whether a kit was reported, the survivor portal does not display this information, which could help survivors confirm if their kits are being processed in accordance with their decisions. According to LSPCL, having the reported or unreported status in the survivor portal could lead to retaliation if accessed by a suspect. On the other hand, according to a survivor advocate, explaining in the portal that a kit was reported or unreported would help survivors understand why no

[27] In this area, the coroner's office houses the SANE program.

action is taken for unreported kits, and also help alert survivors if law enforcement treats kits as unreported even though a report was made. In addition, although kits can switch between being unreported and reported at a survivor's request, the system does not track the dates of the report status change. Since unreported and reported kits are subject to different legal requirements, it is important for participating entities to know the date of each status so that timeframes are met and that kits are not tested without survivor consent.

- **Toxicological Analysis:** State law[28] requires the Kit Tracking System to indicate whether a kit contains biological materials collected for the purpose of forensic toxicological analysis. However, the system does not capture this information. The toxicological kit is separate from the sexual assault kit and can be used to determine whether a case involved drug facilitated sexual assault. Not all survivors have a toxicological kit conducted.

- **Delayed Entry when Testing Completed:** Several crime labs noted that even though they usually return kits to law enforcement after testing is complete, the system requires the labs to enter the Return Date before the Testing Complete Date, which delays the labs from updating the system when testing is complete.

- **Reported Kits Not Tested:** When law enforcement agencies submit reported kits for testing, the testing request is sometimes cancelled by law enforcement or the crime lab, and the kit is returned to law enforcement without testing. However, the Kit Tracking System does not have a status option to denote when a reported kit's case is closed without testing or have fields to capture the reason why it was not tested.

It is important for the Kit Tracking System to have options to track all possible locations and statuses of kits to ensure correct information can be entered and displayed. When there is no option to track key changes, this can result in misleading information being displayed to survivors and skew report statistics used to measure how well the process is working overall. For example, since the system has no option for tracking reported kits whose cases are closed without testing, the crime labs record these kits' statuses inconsistently in the Kit Tracking System.[29] Some crime labs leave these kits in "Pending Lab Submission" or "Pending Lab Analysis" status, making it appear that kits are still awaiting testing even though they were returned to law enforcement and no testing is planned. Other crime labs mark these kits as "Testing Completed," making it appear that the kits have been fully analyzed even though no testing was performed. In addition, one lab stated that it has LSPCL change all kits it decides not to test to "Unreported" status.

[28] R.S. 15:624.1

[29] Based on discussion with all crime labs and review of statuses assigned in the Kit Tracking System for examples of reported kits with cancelled testing provided by three crime labs.

Several crime labs noted the need for a separate status when reported kits are sent back to law enforcement without testing. In addition, in our survey of law enforcement, 19 (29.7%) of 64 responding agencies indicated that adding locations and statuses to the system that are not currently captured would improve processes related to the Kit Tracking System. According to SANE and survivor advocates, the Kit Tracking System showing more information than a kit's location, such as whether the case has been closed, active, or reasons for delays in testing, would provide transparency for what is happening with the evidence. According to LSPCL, as of October 2026, it is working on updating the system to indicate when kits are not tested, including adding an "Action Deferred" status instead of "Pending Lab" status for closed or rejected cases and allowing a Return Date to be entered without requiring a Testing Complete Date to be populated when a kit is returned to law enforcement without testing.

Many other states' tracking systems track more comprehensive kit locations and statuses and display more detail about them in the survivor portal. For example, 16 of the 47 states with a tracking system[30] use the Track-Kit system,[31] which scans kits' barcodes to capture each change of custody, allowing kits to have as many locations recorded as needed. In addition, Idaho and Florida display the current location of a kit and the testing status separately and denote the reason a kit was not tested when applicable. Updating Louisiana's Kit Tracking System and the survivor portal to include more options to denote the actual location of a kit and its status would help ensure accurate information is available for survivors and for LSPCL reporting on the Kit Tracking System data.

Not all law enforcement agencies with custody of kits have enrolled in the Kit Tracking System, and as a result, they do not enter required information into the system. According to Kit Tracking System data, as of February 2026, 30 law enforcement agencies that had jurisdiction for a total of 60 kits[32] never signed up for the system or entered any information for those kits. Overall, of the 383 law enforcement agencies[33] in the state, 225 (58.7%) had not enrolled as of February 2026; however, not all of these law enforcement agencies have had custody of a kit or process kits.[34] Prior to LSPCL launching the system in July 2024, it sent letters and emailed all entities required to track kits with instructions for enrollment. LSPCL requires users to complete an online training video before it grants approval for system access. It is important to confirm that reporting entities enter information in the Kit Tracking System for all kits as required to ensure accountability and transparency for all survivors. According to

[30] Either actively using or in the process of implementing. Includes Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico.
[31] InVita's Track-Kit System is used to track the status and location of kits by Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, North Dakota, South Carolina, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin as of September 2025.
[32] Eighteen of these kits were still sent to a crime lab; however, the law enforcement agencies did not enter pickup dates for these kits.
[33] Count of the law enforcement agencies that LSPCL invited to the Kit Tracking System prior to its launch in July 2024, which includes agencies that have not enrolled in the system as of February 2026.
[34] According to our survey, some law enforcement agencies do not handle kits, as they are handled by another law enforcement agency in their area.

LSPCL, it maintains a weekly report of law enforcement agencies that have not enrolled in the system and attempts to contact these agencies monthly. In addition, LSPCL is working on a system flag to alert LSPCL when a kit is assigned to a law enforcement agency that has no active portal administrator on file.

In addition, no district attorneys have enrolled or entered information in the Kit Tracking System, and as a result, the system does not include the prosecution status of any of the kits. Act 353 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session[35] requires district attorney participation, stating, "All entities, including law enforcement, *district attorney offices*, and healthcare providers having custody of sexual assault collection kits" must provide required information and fully participate in the Kit Tracking System. However, as the law specifies that this applies to entities having custody of kits, it is unclear whether state law requires district attorneys to participate in the Kit Tracking System as district attorneys do not generally take custody of kits. According to the Louisiana District Attorneys Association (LDAA), district attorneys' participation would not increase transparency to survivors because they rarely take custody of kits. If a case is referred to a district attorney for prosecution, according to LDAA, the district attorneys would already be working closely with the survivor and providing them status updates, which would occur whether or not a kit was collected. Although the Kit Tracking System was designed to collect information about prosecution status for kits, these fields were blank for all kits in the system as of February 2026.

In our review of other states, we only identified one state, Illinois, that requires district attorneys to enter prosecution information into a kit tracking system. At least five states[36] allow district attorneys read-only access to their states' kit tracking systems or allow district attorneys to voluntarily enter information about prosecution related to a kit.

Recommendation 1: LSPCL should make adjustments to the Kit Tracking System to collect and display the accurate location of a kit.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that it has implemented enhancements to the Kit Tracking System to improve the accuracy and transparency of kit location information. Specifically, when a law enforcement agency closes, suspends, or rejects a case, the system will automatically update the kit status from "Pending Lab Submission" to "Action Deferred." The survivor portal has also been updated to clearly communicate when a case has been deferred or closed by law enforcement and when a kit has been returned by the laboratory without analysis. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

[35] The initial Kit Tracking System law allowed district attorneys to access the system, which was designed to collect information about prosecution. Act 353 amended the law because no district attorneys participated.
[36] South Carolina, Tennessee, Maryland, Michigan, and Texas

Recommendation 2: LSPCL should make adjustments to the Kit Tracking System to collect and display the status of a kit, including whether or not it was tested.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that it is enhancing the Kit Tracking System to display whether a sexual assault kit was tested and, when applicable, the reason testing was not conducted. While all reported kits are expected to be submitted to the appropriate crime laboratory for analysis, certain circumstances may result in a kit not being tested. In cases involving CODIS-ineligible kits with an unknown suspect, the laboratory will continue to work collaboratively with law enforcement to determine the most appropriate course of action, which may include a decision not to proceed with testing. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

Recommendation 3: LSPCL should evaluate what information is displayed in the survivor portal to determine what additional information would improve transparency for survivors.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that it will evaluate the information displayed in the survivor portal to determine whether additional information can be provided to enhance transparency for survivors. In conducting this evaluation, LSPCL stated it must carefully balance the goal of increased transparency with the need to protect survivor safety and privacy. Additionally, LSPCL emphasizes that the survivor portal is intended to supplement, not replace, direct communication between survivors and the law enforcement investigators responsible for their cases. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

According to the Kit Tracking System, at least 560 (26.2%) of the 2,138 kits collected from July 2024 through December 2025 did not meet statutory timeframes for law enforcement pickup and/or submission to a crime lab for testing. In addition, unlike some other states, Louisiana law does not establish timeframes for medical providers or crime labs. LSPCL could expand its use of automatic alerts in the Kit Tracking System to notify entities when kits approach or exceed expected timeframes.

In addition to requiring the creation of the Kit Tracking System, Act 193 of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session and Act 669 of the 2024 Regular Legislative

Session added timeframes for law enforcement agencies to pick up kits from medical facilities and to submit reported kits to crime labs for testing. Specifically, law enforcement must pick up kits from medical facilities within 72 hours of notification and then submit reported kits to a crime lab within 30 days.

According to the Kit Tracking System, at least 560 (26.2%) of 2,138 kits collected from July 2024 through December 2025 did not meet statutory timeframes for law enforcement pickup and/or submission to a crime lab for testing. The NIJ and End the Backlog indicate that meeting statutory timeframes for each stage of processing kits is important to prevent backlogs and other delays that compromise public safety and negatively impact criminal justice outcomes. We tested whether kits met Louisiana's timeframes and found:

- **Of the 2,012 kits picked up by law enforcement, 313 (15.6%) were not picked up within 72 hours[37] of receiving notification by the medical facility as required by law.** Although we found that 1,601 (79.6%) of the 2,012 kits picked up by law enforcement that were collected between July 2024 and December 2025 were picked up timely, 313 (15.6%) were picked up more than four days after the Notification Date, and 98 (4.8%) of these kits could not be assessed due to date errors, as shown in Exhibit 7.

Exhibit 7
Kits Picked Up by Law Enforcement within Required Timeframes
July 2024 through December 2025

Compliance	Number of Kits	Percent of Kits
Picked Up Timely	1,601	79.6%
More than Four Days	313	15.6%
N/A – Date Error(s)*	98	4.8%
Total	**2,012**	**100.0%**

* One or both date fields that should have been populated were blank, or dates were entered in illogical sequence (Pickup Date was before Notification Date).
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff based on analysis of Kit Tracking System data.

Untimely kits were picked up an average of 19.4 days after the notification was received, and as long as 442 days after for one kit. See Appendix D for compliance with statutory kit processing timeframes by law enforcement agency.

- **Of the 1,542 reported kits submitted to a crime lab, the Kit Tracking System shows that law enforcement exceeded the 30-day requirement for submitting 282 (18.3%) kits to a crime lab for testing.** We found that 1,213 (78.7%) of the 1,542 kits collected between July 2024 and December 2025 that were submitted to a

[37] To reduce the risk of inaccurate determinations of noncompliance, our analysis identified pickup dates entered in the kit tracking system by the law enforcement agency that were more than four days after the notification date entered by the medical facility.

crime lab were submitted within 30 days. However, 282 (18.3%) exceeded 30 days, and 47 (3.0%) could not be assessed due to date errors, as shown in Exhibit 8.

Exhibit 8
Kits Submitted to a Crime Lab Within 30 Days
July 2024 through December 2025

Compliance	Number of Kits	Percent of Kits
Submitted Timely	1,213	78.7%
More than 30 Days	282	18.3%
N/A – Date Error(s)*	47	3.0%
Total	**1,542**	**100.0%**

* One or both date fields that should have been populated were blank, or dates were entered in illogical sequence (Lab Received Date was before Law Enforcement Pickup Date).
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff based on analysis of Kit Tracking System data.

Untimely kits were submitted to crime labs in 91.6 days on average, with the longest taking 427 days to submit. See Appendix D for compliance with statutory kit processing timeframes by law enforcement agency.

Unlike some other states, Louisiana law does not establish timeframes for medical providers to notify law enforcement that kits are ready for pickup or for crime labs to test kits. We found 16 states[38] that have laws requiring medical providers to notify law enforcement within certain timeframes, ranging from four hours to 14 days. For example, Mississippi and Illinois require medical providers to notify law enforcement within four hours. Eleven states[39] require medical providers to notify law enforcement within 24 hours. In Louisiana, there is no legal timeframe for medical providers to send notifications. We found that for 1,492 (71.9%) of 2,075 kits with notifications sent to law enforcement, medical providers notified law enforcement the same day they collected a kit that it was ready for pickup. For 254 (12.2%), medical providers notified law enforcement the next day, and for 263 (12.7%), two or more days later.[40] For five of these kits, medical providers took more than 100 days to notify law enforcement that a kit was ready for pickup.

In addition, we found 22 states[41] have statutory timeframes for how long crime labs have to complete testing once they receive a kit. Specifically, seven

[38] Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.
[39] Hawaii, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, New Jersey, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.
[40] Time ranges could not be assessed for 66 (3.2%) kits submitted to law enforcement due to issues in one or both date fields.
[41] Arkansas; California; Connecticut; Delaware; Florida; Hawaii; Idaho; Illinois; Kentucky; Massachusetts; Michigan; Mississippi; Nevada; New Mexico; New York; Pennsylvania; Rhode Island; South Dakota; Texas; Washington; Washington, D.C.; and Wisconsin.

(31.8%) states have timeframes ranging from 30 days to 60 days, 11 (50.0%) states range between 90 days and 120 days, and four (18.2%) states have six-month timeframes for crime labs to test kits. In Louisiana, there is no legal timeframe for crime labs to test the kits they receive from law enforcement. We found that for 932 kits[42] with testing completed, crime labs took an average of 140 days (about 4.7 months) to complete forensic DNA testing. Exhibit 9 shows a breakdown of the time ranges for completing testing.

Exhibit 9
Time Ranges for Completing Testing
For Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025 with Testing Completed as of February 2026

Time Range	Number of Kits	Percent of Kits
Completed in <3 Months	388	41.4%
Completed in 3 to <6 Months	246	26.2%
Completed in 6 to <9 Months	194	20.7%
Completed in 9 to <12 Months	71	7.6%
Completed in One Year or More	33	3.5%
N/A – Date Error(s)	6	0.6%
Total	**938**	**100.0%**

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff based on analysis of Kit Tracking System data.

LSPCL could expand its use of automatic alerts in the Kit Tracking System to notify entities when kits approach or exceed expected timeframes. Since entities do not always enter all information as required, we could not determine if date fields were blank because the action did not occur or because the entity did not enter the date in the system. For example, of the 813 reported kits collected between July 2024 and December 2025 that had "Pending Law Enforcement," "Pending Lab Submission," or "Pending Lab Analysis" statuses as of February 2026, 407 (50.1%) of these kits had remained in that status for more than six months.

We identified eight states[43] that use automatic alerts in their tracking systems to help remind entities to complete pending actions and enter information as required. According to LSPCL, the Kit Tracking System already sends automated alerts for some steps in the process *(see text box at right)*. Expanding automated alerts sent by the Kit Tracking System could help ensure entities take action and enter dates in the system within expected timeframes, whether based on statute or best practices. Sending alerts before the timeframe expires, when it expires, and periodically thereafter until the information is entered would provide

Automated Alerts Already Sent by Kit Tracking System

- Alerts medical providers that have not selected law enforcement agency within 24 hours of entering kit in system
- Alerts medical providers if law enforcement has not picked up kit within 72 hours
- Alerts law enforcement when reported kit has not been submitted to a crime lab within 30 days

[42] Excludes six kits with status showing testing was completed, but one or both date fields had issues.
[43] Alaska, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, South Carolina, and Texas.

further assurance that action is taken and information is entered as required. According to LSPCL, as of October 2026, it is working on additional automated alerts, including immediate emails to law enforcement when a medical provider enters a kit into the system, and escalating alerts to law enforcement for the 72-hour pickup requirement including a 24-hour reminder, 72-hour past-due notice, and daily alerts thereafter until law enforcement picks up a kit from the medical facility.

Matter for Legislative Consideration 2: The legislature may wish to consider amending state law to include timeframes for medical providers to notify law enforcement when a kit is ready for pickup.

Matter for Legislative Consideration 3: The legislature may wish to consider amending state law to include timeframes for how long crime labs should take to complete testing of kits.

Recommendation 4: LSPCL should expand automated alerts in the Kit Tracking System to notify participating entities when an action is due.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that it is expanding the use of automated alerts within the Kit Tracking System to improve compliance with required actions and statutory timeframes. While the system currently includes automated notifications, additional alerts are being implemented to address incomplete entries, law enforcement pickup, timeframe alerts, and non-participating entities. In addition to these automated measures, LSPCL administrative staff conduct weekly reviews of system activity and stakeholder participation and proactively contact agencies when follow-up is needed. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

Ensuring that entities comply with statutory Kit Tracking System requirements and required timeframes is challenging because there is no oversight authority and state law does not include penalties for noncompliance. Reporting on noncompliance in LSPCL's annual report could increase transparency and encourage compliance.

While LSPCL is the administrator of the Kit Tracking System, it does not have oversight authority of the entities required to participate in the Kit Tracking System, such as police departments, sheriff's offices, coroner's offices,[44] medical providers, and other crime labs in the state. Nationwide, other states have struggled to

[44] Some coroner's offices have SANE programs that conduct forensic medical exams and input kit collection information into the Kit Tracking System.

achieve full participation among the entities required by law to participate. For example, South Carolina performance auditors reported that not all law enforcement and medical providers had enrolled in their state's tracking system, and because state law included no penalties for noncompliance, there were not many options available to enforce the requirements.[45]

Requiring LSPCL to report entities that do not enter information in the Kit Tracking System or meet timeframes as required by law in its annual Kit Tracking System report could increase transparency and encourage compliance. Ensuring compliance with state law is challenging because of the various entities required to enter information into the Kit Tracking System. Other states, such as Georgia, Nevada, South Carolina, and Washington require reports on their tracking systems to include noncompliance by jurisdiction. For example, South Carolina's semiannual report must include the average and median length of time for kits to be submitted for testing statewide and by jurisdiction. According to LSPCL, it periodically reviews Kit Tracking System data to identify entities that are not entering information as required and conducts outreach to encourage noncompliant entities to participate, but it does not currently have a formal policy to ensure these reviews are performed on a routine basis. In addition, although Louisiana law requires the annual Kit Tracking System report to show the percent of kits tested within six months or one year, it does not include any information about whether law enforcement agencies meet statutory timeframes for picking up kits or submitting them for testing. If state law was amended to require the annual report to include a list of entities that did not enter information in the Kit Tracking System or meet statutory timeframes as required, it could improve transparency and accountability. This reporting could also help motivate noncompliant entities to enroll in the Kit Tracking System and meet timeframes as required.

LSPCL completed an annual report for the first year of the Kit Tracking System's operation and presented it to the Sexual Assault Oversight Commission in October 2025 but did not submit this report to legislative committees as required. State law[46] requires LSPCL to submit an annual report on the statewide sexual assault kit tracking system to the Sexual Assault Oversight Commission, the Senate Committee on Judiciary B, the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, and the governor no later than July 31st of each year. LSPCL may also publish the current report on its website. As of October 2026, LSPCL had not submitted an annual report to the required entities. While LSPCL completed an annual report for 2025, it did not disseminate the report or publish the annual report on its website.[47] Several other states publish their annual tracking system reports on their websites, such as Idaho, Nevada, and Georgia.

[45] South Carolina (SC) Legislative Audit Council, A Review of the Statewide Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System Operated by the SC State Law Enforcement Division, 2024.
[46] R.S. 15:624.1
[47] LSPCL maintains a dashboard on its website that displays Kit Tracking System statistics.

Matter for Legislative Consideration 4: The legislature may wish to consider amending state law to require LSPCL to include noncompliance by jurisdiction in its annual Kit Tracking System report.

Recommendation 5: LSPCL should submit its Kit Tracking System annual report to the legislature each year by July 31st as required by state law.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that it will ensure that the Kit Tracking System annual report is submitted to the Legislature by July 31st of each year in accordance with state law. To ensure compliance with state law, LSPCL will implement procedures to verify that a hard copy or electronic copy of the annual report is submitted to the appropriate legislative entities by the statutory deadline each year. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

Recommendation 6: LSPCL should publish its Kit Tracking System annual report on its website to increase transparency and accountability.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that it will publish the Kit Tracking System annual report on the system's public-facing website to enhance transparency and accountability. Public availability of the report will provide stakeholders, policymakers, and the public with greater visibility into program operations, compliance efforts, and performance outcomes. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

LSPCL could improve the accuracy of data collected through the Kit Tracking System by adding system controls to minimize errors, requiring case numbers, and implementing detailed statewide policies for system administration and data entry. Collecting accurate information is important to support survivors' rights and required annual reporting.

Through meetings with various entities who enter information in the Kit Tracking System, our survey of law enforcement, and reliability testing of the system's data pulled as of February 2026, we identified several ways that LSPCL could improve the accuracy of data collected by the Kit Tracking System. While some of these changes would require updating the system design, others only require the implementation of rules or policies to help ensure consistent data entry and system administration. LSPCL worked with OTS to develop the Kit Tracking System using Microsoft Power Platform. OTS receives $27,000 per year for licenses, and LSPCL has internal Information Technology staff for maintenance and updates to the system.

We found that 606 (28.3%) of the 2,138 kits collected from July 2024 through December 2025 had one or more issues with the location, status, and/or dates shown in the Kit Tracking System. Exhibit 10 summarizes the issues we identified during testing of the system's data[48] through site visits to selected law enforcement agencies, comparison to crime lab data, and logic testing.

Exhibit 10
Issues Identified with Status and Date Fields in the Kit Tracking System Data
For Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Type of Testing	Issue Identified	Number Kits Affected
Law Enforcement Site Visits	Kits not at location expected based on system information	22
	Dates could not be compared due to blanks in system or on physical kit	16
	Kits not in system	3
	Pickup Date on kit more than seven days different than date in system	1
Comparison to Crime Lab Data	Lab Testing Complete Date more than seven days different in system vs. crime lab data	21
	Lab Received Date more than seven days different in system vs. crime lab data	9
	Lab Testing Complete Date blank in system, but not crime lab data	9
	Lab Received Date blank in system but not crime lab data	3
Logic Testing	Conflicting reported status vs. overall status or Report Date	259
	Dates out of sequence	253
	Date skipped (blank) mid-process	39
	Conflicting overall status vs. last date populated	11
	Total Kits with One or More Issues*	**606**

* The total number of kits is less than the sum of rows because some kits had more than one issue.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff based on data from the Kit Tracking System, laboratory system data from crime labs, and LLA site visits to a selection of law enforcement agencies. See Appendix B for more detailed explanation of reliability testing performed.

Adding system controls for date fields would help ensure that dates are entered in logical order and that no dates are left blank. When physical kits are processed, some steps must always occur before others. For example, a kit cannot be reported to law enforcement before it is collected, law enforcement cannot pick up a kit before receiving notification from the medical facility that it is ready, and a lab cannot receive a kit before it is picked up by law enforcement. However, as shown in Exhibit 10, more than 250 kits had date fields that either did not follow the logical order of steps or were left blank even though later steps in the process were entered.

It is important that entities enter dates correctly because the system automatically assigns the kit status based on which dates have been entered. In addition, some of these dates are displayed in the portal for survivors and are used for LSPCL reporting. LSPCL could potentially prevent some errors by adding system controls like edit checks to require dates to occur in a logical sequence and to require all dates to be entered before dates later in the process are added.

[48] See Appendix B for additional information on the scope and methodology of these tests.

Updating the system to allow entities to make edits and adding system controls to ensure edits are accurate would help ensure the Kit Tracking System displays accurate and up-to-date information. The Kit Tracking System does not currently allow entities to edit information after initially entered. Entities can contact LSPCL by phone or email to manually correct information. However, we received feedback from several entities that their inability to edit information often results in incorrect information remaining in the system. For example, errors may occur due to manual entry, or information about whether a case is reported or law enforcement case status may change after law enforcement first enters information for the kit.

In our survey of law enforcement, 19 (29.7%) of 64 agencies responded that the ability to edit kit information would improve processes related to the Kit Tracking System.

LSPCL stated that, as of October 2026, it is working on updating the system to allow law enforcement to make some changes, such as allowing law enforcement to change the case status, adding a "Rejected" case status option for cases declined by investigators or prosecutors, and allowing labs to update the Return to Law Enforcement Date. These changes do not encompass all possible edits needed or add any controls to ensure the edits are accurate. LSPCL should ensure that entities can make all edits needed and include controls to ensure edits are appropriate, such as requiring LSPCL approval or creating a table that captures the dates and users for all changes.

Requiring users to provide law enforcement and crime lab case numbers in the Kit Tracking System could help them to more easily find kits in their own systems and to collaborate with other entities throughout the process. The Kit Tracking System tracks kits using the unique kit number that appears on each physical kit. However, other entities do not all track this number in their individual case management systems, which can make it difficult for them to look up the kits. For example, during our site visits to selected law enforcement agencies,[49] agency staff were only able to look up the location of missing kits in their case management systems for kits that had the law enforcement case number entered in the Kit Tracking System. However, a law enforcement case number was not entered for 119 (6.3%) of the 1,879 reported kits collected from July 2024 to December 2025, and the system does not have fields to track other case numbers used by crime labs. Adding required fields for these entities to enter their respective case numbers would help ensure that kits can be located if the Kit Tracking System is incomplete and that information between systems can be cross-referenced as needed. Similar to the law enforcement case number field, the survivor portal should not display the crime lab case number to prevent exposure of identifying information. According to LSPCL, as of October 2026, labs can add their lab case number directly on the kits alongside the law enforcement case number, and staff can view and search by lab number in the system. In addition, LSPCL is working on making the law enforcement case number field mandatory.

[49] For three law enforcement agencies, we performed site visits to check if the locations for their kits in the system were accurate based on review of the physical kits.

Implementing statewide policies or guidance documents in addition to the training course required for enrollment in the Kit Tracking System would help ensure that all entities enter information consistently and timely. LSPCL requires users who input information in the system to take a web-based training that provides an overview of the system's purpose and the types of information that must be entered based on their entity type (medical provider, law enforcement, crime lab, etc.). However, some entities stated that significant time may pass between when they take the training and when they need to enter information in the system. In addition, the training does not provide comprehensive guidance to ensure consistent data entry by all entities.

Some data issues we identified in the system are caused by inconsistent data entry, such as entities entering different information in the same fields[50] or delaying data entry. LSPCL guidance does not include expectations for how long it should take entities to input data into the Kit Tracking System. According to our interviews with participating entities, some enter required information the same day, while others enter updates monthly or quarterly. In addition, entities may not ensure changes are input into the system if responsibility for updating certain information is unclear. During our site visits to three law enforcement agencies, we found that 21 (7.9%) of the 265 kits in the Kit Tracking System for those agencies were not in the location shown by the system. Eight (38.1%) of the 21 kits appeared to have the wrong location in the system because of delays in entering transfers between law enforcement and the crime lab. Four (19.0%) of the 21 had been transferred to another law enforcement agency but the system was not updated, and the guidance is unclear regarding which jurisdiction should enter the change into the system. The Kit Tracking System has fields to denote transfers between law enforcement agencies, but the LSPCL training does not include any guidance for when they should be used, or by whom.

In our survey of law enforcement, 38 (34.2%) of 111 agencies responded that written statewide policies on law enforcement responsibilities for the Kit Tracking System and/or a written system operations manual including explanations of what information should be entered in each field would help improve processes related to the system.

Other states, such as Alaska, Georgia, and West Virginia, have created user guides for their tracking systems that entities can reference as needed when entering information in the system. State law[51] authorizes LSPCL to adopt rules as necessary to implement the Kit Tracking System. Whether by setting requirements in statewide rules or policies or creating reference guides, LSPCL should create easily accessible documents that set expectations for data entry and address challenges and exceptional circumstances encountered in the first years of the system's operations *(see text box at right for examples).*

Examples of Additional Statewide Guidance

- How often Kit Tracking System should be updated
- Specific information that should be entered in each field
- How to enter information in exceptional situations

[50] For example, while most crime labs enter the Report Issue Date as the Testing Complete Date, one crime lab said that it enters the Technical Review Date, which occurs up to 10 days before the finished report is issued to the agency.
[51] R.S. 15:624.1

Recommendation 7: LSPCL should add date controls to the Kit Tracking System to require dates to be entered in logical order and prevent dates from being left blank.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that it is implementing system enhancements to strengthen data quality and accuracy within the Kit Tracking System. Date fields will be designated as mandatory and must be entered in a logical sequence before an entry can be submitted. The system will also prevent users from saving records with incomplete required information. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

Recommendation 8: LSPCL should add a function to the Kit Tracking System to allow entities to edit information, as well as system controls such as LSPCL approval and a log capturing all changes to help LSPCL ensure that all edits are appropriate and correct.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that it is currently testing system enhancements that will allow participating entities to make corrections to information entered into the Kit Tracking System. In addition, the system will maintain a comprehensive audit log documenting all changes. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

Recommendation 9: LSPCL should add fields to capture identifying numbers corresponding to other entities' case management systems and require these fields to be completed.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that the Kit Tracking System currently includes a field for the law enforcement agency case number, and LSPCL will make this field mandatory for all kits designated as "Reported." In addition, LSPCL is implementing a new field to capture the corresponding crime laboratory case management number, further strengthening the ability to track kits across participating entities. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

Recommendation 10: LSPCL should issue statewide guidance for the Kit Tracking System that includes detailed expectations for data entry as well as LSPCL's periodic reviews of data entered in the system.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that it has published comprehensive statewide guidance within the LSP.org website to promote consistent and accurate data entry across all participating entities. This guidance includes detailed instructions and expectations for data entry and clarifies stakeholder responsibilities. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

At least 39 (2.7%) of the 1,424 kits collected in fiscal year 2025 resulted in a CODIS hit during fiscal year 2025. DNA profiles entered into CODIS could also result in hits in the future, as 76.7% of CODIS hits confirmed in fiscal years 2024 and 2025 across all crime types were from cases in prior years.

In Louisiana, individuals who are legally required to provide DNA samples following an arrest or conviction for a qualifying offense[52] have their DNA profiles[53] entered into CODIS. Crime labs also enter into CODIS eligible DNA profiles developed from forensic evidence collected in connection with a crime. CODIS searches these profiles for potential matches, known as CODIS hits, which can generate investigative leads by identifying a potential suspect or linking previously unconnected crimes. There are also other forms of evidence that law enforcement collects when investigating cases, and CODIS may or may not play a role in the ultimate outcome of a case.

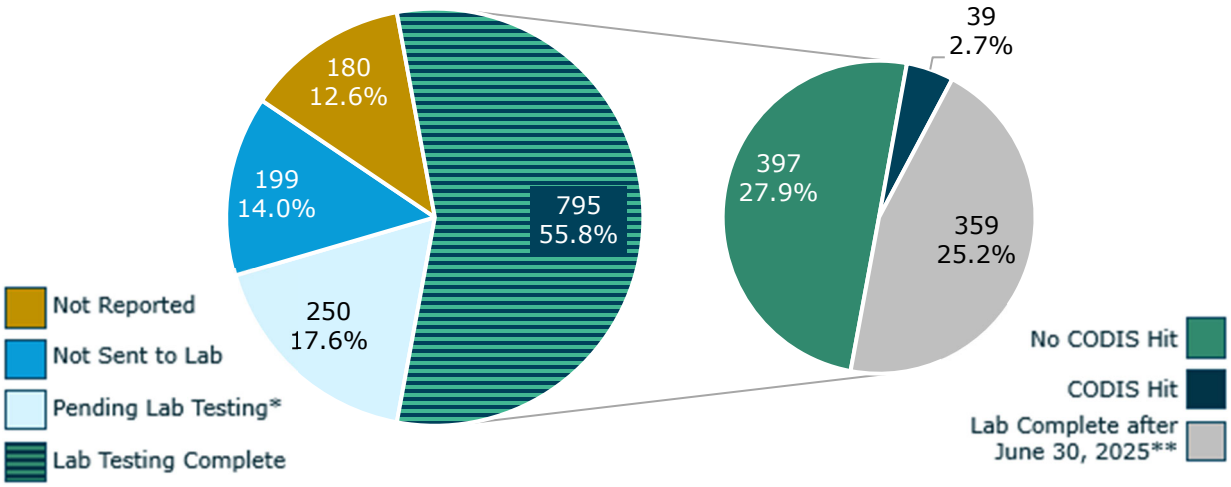
In our law enforcement survey, of the 55 agencies that said they receive one or more CODIS hits per year, 40 (72.7%) responded that CODIS hits are "always" or "often" helpful to investigations.

At least 39 (2.7%) of the 1,424 kits collected in fiscal year 2025 resulted in a CODIS hit during fiscal year 2025.[54] One of the primary goals of testing kits is to enter eligible DNA profiles into CODIS to search for a match. However, not all kits contain forensic DNA, or DNA that is eligible for input into CODIS. In addition, if law enforcement submits a kit and includes a DNA sample from a suspect, the kit's forensic DNA may not need to be entered into CODIS to identify a hit since the lab already has the suspect's DNA.[55] While the result of testing does not always result in inputting DNA profiles into CODIS, it is an important investigative tool. Exhibit 11 shows the crime lab status for all kits collected in fiscal year 2025 as well as the percent of these kits that had a CODIS hit in fiscal year 2025 based on data provided by the state's six crime labs.

[52] State law (R.S. 15:609 and 611) allows DNA collected from arrestees and offenders to be added to CODIS if the crime was a felony or one of the specified offenses listed in R.S. 15:603.
[53] A DNA profile consists of a set of DNA identification characteristics that permit the DNA of one person to be distinguishable from that of another person.
[54] Of the 39, three had CODIS hits during August through November 2025.
[55] In these instances, the DNA profile is added to CODIS; however, CODIS is not searched for the purpose of identifying a suspect.

Exhibit 11
Crime Lab Status as of February 2026 for Kits Collected in Fiscal Year 2025

Total Kits Collected: *1,424*
Testing Complete as of February 2026: *795*



*Some of the kits pending lab testing may not have been tested, as discussed in this report.
**These kits had crime lab testing completed during July 2025 through February 2026; however, we received CODIS data through June 30, 2025, so we could not determine whether these kits had a CODIS hit.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using Kit Tracking System Data and laboratory system data provided by the state's six crime labs.

During fiscal years 2024 and 2025, the state's six crime labs confirmed CODIS hits for 1,363 cases, including at least 111 (8.1%) that were related to a kit.[56] Most of the CODIS hits that occurred during this time were hits from cases before fiscal years 2024 and 2025, as CODIS continually scans for matches against new profiles. Of the cases with CODIS hits that occurred during this time, 1,046 (76.7%) were related to cases that began prior to fiscal years 2024 and 2025. The remaining 317 (23.3%) were hits related to cases that began in fiscal years 2024 or 2025. DNA profiles entered into CODIS may result in a hit at any time in the future. See Appendix E for the number of CODIS hits across all offenses by crime lab and law enforcement agency.

[56] There were 1,363 cases with CODIS hits, but a total of 1,393 CODIS hits overall.

Louisiana does not include whether kit testing identified a CODIS hit in the Kit Tracking System, which could provide survivors with more information but could also increase the risk to survivor safety *(see text box at right).* According to LSPCL, it did not include CODIS hits in the system because of concerns that including too much information could compromise law enforcement investigations if accessed by the suspect. Some states, including California, Connecticut, Florida, and Idaho display in the survivor portal whether there was a CODIS hit identified during testing. These states do not include details or personally identifiable information in their tracking systems about the CODIS hit; rather, they display only whether there was a match. For example, Idaho's tracking system displays the date the DNA profile from the kit was entered into CODIS and the date of the CODIS hit. LSPCL could consider including in the Kit Tracking System whether testing resulted in a CODIS Hit to provide more information to survivors about the status of their kit. If LSPCL began tracking CODIS hits in the Kit Tracking System, it could also create automated alerts to notify and remind law enforcement of outstanding CODIS hits. For example, Alaska's tracking system sends automated alerts to law enforcement requesting them to input updates on the status of a case and whether law enforcement has taken action on the CODIS hit.

According to a survivor advocate, survivors would like to see in the Kit Tracking System whether their kit resulted in a CODIS hit.

According to LSPCL, including CODIS information in the survivor portal could potentially put survivors at risk of retaliation from a suspect.

Effective August 1, 2026, state law requires Louisiana State Police to create a statewide outstanding CODIS hit tracking system to increase accountability and transparency regarding law enforcement follow-up on CODIS hits. LSPCL, crime labs, and law enforcement agencies should incorporate best practices into the new system and related processes, including creating consistent CODIS hit notification processes, tracking CODIS hit follow-up by law enforcement, and encouraging law enforcement to develop CODIS-specific policies and procedures.

According to SAKI,[57] opportunities to capitalize on CODIS hits associated with unsolved sexual assaults and other violent crimes can be missed due to communication breakdowns or a lack of oversight and accountability. Once crime labs identify and confirm a CODIS hit, they must notify the appropriate law

[57] SAKI, *Maximizing Investigative Leads: Recommended Practices for Communicating, Pursuing, and Tracking CODIS Hits*

enforcement agency of the hit. CODIS hits provide law enforcement investigative leads that can assist in solving cases. SAKI states that without multiple layers of accountability in place, CODIS hits may be inadvertently missed, not assigned, or filed away without being addressed.

Effective August 1, 2026, Act 488 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session requires Louisiana State Police to create a statewide outstanding CODIS hit tracking system to increase accountability and transparency regarding law enforcement follow-up on CODIS hits *(see text box at right)*. According to LSPCL, it is in the process of developing a three-pronged approach to address CODIS hit follow-up:

Act 488 states, "The legislature recognizes the importance of improving the collective response of the criminal justice system to criminal investigations, including sexual assault investigations; therefore, measures shall be taken to create **accountability in the CODIS hit notification and resolution process**. Tracking of outstanding CODIS hits is essential to ensuring that scientific work done in the crime laboratories successfully translates into justice in the state, and that future convictions or exonerations in older cases **are not lost or buried** under new caseloads."

- Using funds from a SAKI grant, LSPCL is developing a database to track outstanding lawfully owed DNA from arrestees and convicted offenders, which will increase profiles added to CODIS.

- LSPCL is developing a database to track CODIS hits that have been outstanding for 90 days, meaning law enforcement has not reported to a crime lab on action taken to follow up on the hit, such as obtaining a confirmation DNA sample from the suspect identified through the CODIS hit.

- Both systems will link with the Office of Motor Vehicles (OMV) system to flag the driver's licenses of individuals who owe DNA to the state. Act 465 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session mandates OMV to place a flag on an individual's driving record who is required by law to submit a DNA sample but the DNA has yet to be collected. OMV shall not issue, renew, or reinstate any driver's license until the person has submitted the required DNA. According to LSPCL, the OMV flag will also assist law enforcement in locating individuals, such as during a traffic stop, to collect owed DNA, including confirmation DNA samples for CODIS hits.

We identified four states that have developed CODIS hit follow-up tracking systems. For example, California developed the CODIS Hit Outcome Project in 2009 to send CODIS hit notifications and collect information about related cases' follow-up actions and outcomes, including prosecution and conviction. In 2024, Alaska implemented the Forensic Science Hit Outcome Program (FSHOP) to track notifications and law enforcement follow-up for all CODIS hits to help ensure appropriate action is taken and to report on the status of CODIS hits across the state. In addition, Idaho developed a system to track whether follow-up occurred for sexual assault cases with a CODIS hit, and North Carolina developed a system based on state law requiring law enforcement to notify their crime lab within 15

days of an arrest and within 15 days after a conviction resulting from a CODIS hit. In our law enforcement survey, 19 (34.5%) of 55 agencies indicated support for creating a centralized statewide database to track all outstanding hits.

LSPCL, crime labs, and law enforcement agencies should incorporate best practices into the new outstanding CODIS hit tracking system and related processes. Based on SAKI best practices *(see text box to right),* we identified three areas related to CODIS hit follow-up that Louisiana's forthcoming outstanding CODIS hit tracking system could help improve: (1) creating consistent CODIS hit notification processes, (2) tracking CODIS hit follow-up by law enforcement, and (3) encouraging law enforcement agencies to develop CODIS-specific policies and procedures.

SAKI recommends that agencies:

- Establish a consistent and reliable process for CODIS hit notification
- Address CODIS hit follow-up tracking and accountability
- Establish and regularly update a formal, written CODIS hit policy

Source: SAKI, *Maximizing Investigative Leads: Recommended Practices for Communicating, Pursuing, and Tracking CODIS Hits*, 2025

(1) Creating consistent CODIS hit notification processes. The FBI's National DNA Index System (NDIS) Manual[58] requires crime labs to make a good faith effort to complete their confirmation processes within 30 days of the hit. After confirmation, the crime lab then has 14 days to notify the submitting law enforcement agency of the confirmed CODIS hit. Louisiana's six crime labs all send CODIS hit notifications by email. We found that for 1,100 (95.4%) of 1,153 CODIS hits,[59] crime labs notified law enforcement agencies of the hits within this overall period of 45 days. However, while the crime labs sent most notifications timely, ensuring that notifications are received by the appropriate law enforcement party is a common challenge nationwide.

One challenge is that law enforcement agencies may not always update crime labs when law enforcement contacts change due to turnover, retirement, or reassignment. Sending notifications to multiple law enforcement contacts can help to ensure they are delivered. However, only two of Louisiana's six crime labs routinely send notifications to more than one law enforcement contact. In addition, there is no consistency amongst law enforcement agencies on the types of contacts they provide to receive CODIS hits. In our law enforcement survey, 37 (67.3%) of 55 agencies responded that hit notifications are received by the detective assigned to the case, 24 (43.6%) by management, 14 (25.5%) by an administrative email address, and nine (16.4%) by evidence or crime scene personnel.[60] While 30 (54.5%) agencies

One crime lab stated that it requested all law enforcement agencies to provide two points of contact in addition to the assigned detective to receive all CODIS hit notifications, and that it has had success with this method.

[58] The NDIS Manual establishes requirements for crime lab participation in CODIS.
[59] Based on CODIS notification data provided by the six crime labs. This analysis excludes CODIS hits that occurred in this period for which the crime lab did not track notification date. One lab never tracked notification date, and one lab did not start tracking notification date until January 2025.
[60] The sum is greater than 55 because some law enforcement agencies have notifications sent to more than one contact.

responded that two or more contacts get the notifications, the notification only goes to one contact for 25 (45.5%) of the responding agencies. SAKI suggests that law enforcement agencies create a designated position or email to receive all CODIS hit notifications to help ensure that they are all acknowledged and assigned for investigation in a timely manner.

Another challenge is that crime labs do not always know when notifications are not successfully delivered. Best practices suggest implementing settings that automatically send a receipt to the lab when the agency opens a hit notification, which can help crime labs to identify unopened notifications to ensure the information is received. However, only one of the Louisiana crime labs receives read receipts on its email notifications, and while two other labs stated that they ask law enforcement to confirm receipt, they do not always receive that confirmation.

As LSPCL develops the outstanding CODIS hit tracking system, it should work with the other crime labs in the state to evaluate CODIS hit notification processes, identify changes that crime labs should take to better ensure notification delivery, how they will track CODIS hit notifications, and what information they must all collect. Creating consistent CODIS hit notification processes is especially important because crime labs will be the entities responsible for tracking which hits have no law enforcement action reported 90 days after the notification was sent, which would prompt a flag on an individual's driver's license. Adopting the best practices noted above would help prevent unnecessary delays to law enforcement's response to CODIS hit notifications during this 90-day period. Consistently tracking CODIS hit notification information could provide statewide statistics and oversight not currently available.

(2) Tracking CODIS hit follow-up by law enforcement. According to SAKI, timely and consistent follow-up on CODIS hits is essential for advancing investigations and ensuring justice, and having a tracking system ensures accountability and facilitates collaboration between crime labs and law enforcement. However, based on our discussions with other states with systems that track CODIS hit follow-up, getting all law enforcement agencies to provide follow-up information can be challenging. In Louisiana, four (66.7%) of the six crime labs currently track whether law enforcement has taken action on CODIS hits based on voluntary law enforcement reporting. The two labs that do not track CODIS hit follow-up accounted for 274 (19.7%) of 1,393 CODIS hits statewide. Therefore, current statistics on CODIS hit follow-up are incomplete. For the four crime labs attempting to track CODIS hit follow-up, they request in their CODIS hit notification letters that law enforcement respond with the status of the related case and whether action is taken. However, since law enforcement does not always respond to their requests, even crime labs that track outcomes cannot always determine whether CODIS hits are outstanding, or if a law enforcement agency took action but did not inform the crime lab. Using available data, we found that law enforcement did not report any follow-up actions to crime labs for 292 (20.9%) CODIS hits. Exhibit 12 shows CODIS hit follow-up actions voluntarily reported to crime labs by law enforcement for fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

Exhibit 12
Voluntary CODIS Hit Status Reported to Crime Labs by Law Enforcement
Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025

CODIS Hit Status	Number	Percent
Reported Case in Progress	428	30.7%
Reported No Outcomes	292	20.9%
Crime Lab Does Not Track Follow-up	274	19.7%
Reported Closed	221	15.9%
Confirmation Swab Submitted	178	12.8%
Total	**1,393**	**100.0%**

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by crime labs.

As LSPCL develops the outstanding CODIS hit tracking system, it should work with the other crime labs in the state and law enforcement agencies to determine how to best collect CODIS hit follow-up information in a timely and consistent manner. Educating law enforcement agencies on the new statutory requirements for reporting follow-up information, how the outstanding CODIS hit system will be used to support efforts to collect DNA owed for CODIS hits, and the processes established for providing follow-up information is essential to help ensure prompt reporting. Developing effective and consistent processes for crime labs to collect follow-up information from law enforcement could reduce the number of CODIS hits that erroneously appear to be outstanding at 90 days due to lack of law enforcement response, helping to ensure the OMV driver's license flag only appears for hits that are truly outstanding.

When developing the new system, LSPCL could also explore the use of automatic alerts to notify law enforcement when outstanding CODIS hits are entered into the system and if they have not been resolved by certain timeframes, as recommended by SAKI. For example, Alaska's FSHOP system sends automated alerts to law enforcement to remind them to take action and to track that action in the system *(see text box at right)*. In addition, LSPCL should consider using the outstanding CODIS hit system to send periodic reports to law enforcement agencies showing all their outstanding CODIS hits. Currently, LSPCL, which has the highest number of CODIS hits statewide, sends monthly spreadsheets of outstanding CODIS hits to the law enforcement agencies it serves in an effort to collect follow-up information. Reports are sent to agency leadership to provide oversight of CODIS hits that may have previously slipped through the cracks. In our law enforcement survey, 24 (43.6%) of 55 respondents stated that periodic lists of outstanding CODIS hits sent to agency management would help ensure CODIS hits receive timely, appropriate action.

In Alaska, law enforcement has 60 days to update the status of a CODIS hit in FSHOP, which has a drop-down menu with comprehensive status options to ensure the system collects specific descriptions of actions taken and final outcomes, including arrests and convictions or reasons for case closure.

(3) Encouraging law enforcement agencies to develop CODIS-specific policies and procedures. According to best practices, law enforcement agencies should establish CODIS policies to ensure consistent follow-up when CODIS hits are

received. Although many law enforcement agencies indicated in our survey that they make efforts to follow up on hits, only three (5.5%) of 55 responding agencies have established CODIS policies. As shown in Exhibit 13, 39 (70.9%) respondents stated that they determine how to follow up on CODIS hits based on verbal guidance from supervisors and managers, whereas 13 (23.6%) stated they received CODIS hit training, and 9 (16.4%) stated they receive no guidance on CODIS hits or were unsure how their law enforcement agency determines how to follow up on CODIS hits.

Exhibit 13
"What Guidance Does Your Agency Offer to Help Determine What Action Should Be Taken with CODIS Hits?"*
55 Responding Agencies

Response	Number of Agencies***	Percent of Agencies
Verbal guidance from supervisor/management	39	70.9%
CODIS hit training	13	23.6%
No guidance	7	12.7%
Other**	3	5.5%
Written CODIS hit policy/process (such as standard operating procedure)	3	5.5%
Unsure	2	3.6%

* Results only include law enforcement agencies that received CODIS hits.
** Other responses included guidance from crime labs or other law enforcement agencies.
*** Responding agencies could select all that applied for this survey question.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff from February 2026 survey of law enforcement agencies.

SAKI recommends that law enforcement develop CODIS hit policies and procedures that clearly define expectations, roles, and responsibilities for all personnel involved, including the timing of required actions. Policies should include the designated law enforcement point of contact, duties of the lead investigator, and duties of the law enforcement supervisor. In addition, the law enforcement agency should provide regular training on the policy and annually review the policy for effectiveness. As LSPCL develops a CODIS hit tracking system, it should encourage law enforcement agencies to develop CODIS-specific policies and procedures based on best practices. When LSPCL provides guidance and training on the forthcoming tracking system, it should include recommendations for CODIS hit best practices that law enforcement could incorporate into policies. According to LSPCL, it does not have authority to mandate that law enforcement adopt CODIS policies, but it could recommend that law enforcement agencies implement certain policies.

Recommendation 11: As LSPCL develops an outstanding CODIS hit tracking system, it should work with other crime labs in the state and law enforcement agencies to develop consistent processes for CODIS hit notifications and confirming law enforcement receipt of hits.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that it is collaborating with the other crime

laboratories in Louisiana, as well as law enforcement stakeholders, to establish a standardized statewide process for CODIS hit notifications and confirmation of receipt. As part of this effort, LSPCL is developing a new CODIS hit tracking database that will document when notifications are transmitted to law enforcement agencies and when receipt of those notifications is acknowledged. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

Recommendation 12: As LSPCL develops an outstanding CODIS hit tracking system, it should work with the other state crime labs and law enforcement agencies to determine how to best collect CODIS hit follow-up information from law enforcement in a timely and consistent manner.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that it is developing a tracking system to document CODIS hit notifications and subsequent law enforcement follow-up activities. Consistent with the efforts described in Recommendation 11, LSPCL is coordinating with the other state crime laboratories and law enforcement agencies to establish standardized procedures for collecting and recording follow-up information in a timely and consistent manner. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

Recommendation 13: As LSPCL develops an outstanding CODIS hit tracking system, it should encourage law enforcement agencies to develop CODIS-specific policies and procedures.

Summary of Management's Response: LSPCL agreed with this recommendation and stated that it recognizes the importance of agency-level policies and procedures in ensuring the consistent and effective management of CODIS hit notifications and follow-up activities. To support law enforcement agencies in this effort, the State CODIS Administrator will develop and distribute model CODIS policies and procedures that agencies may adopt or adapt to meet their operational needs. See Appendix A for LSPCL's full response.

APPENDIX A: MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSE

JEFF LANDRY
GOVERNOR

COLONEL FRANK J. BESSON
DEPUTY SECRETARY

State of Louisiana

Department of Public Safety and Corrections
Public Safety Services

Colonel Frank Besson
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November 2, 2026

Michael J. "Mike" Waguespack, CPA
Louisiana Legislative Auditor
P.O. Box 94397
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

RE: Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System and Outstanding CODIS Hits. Audit Report Number 40250022

Dear Mr. Waguespack,

The Louisiana State Police Crime Laboratory (LSPCL) acknowledges receipt of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's report regarding the Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System and Outstanding CODIS Hits and appreciates the opportunity to provide a formal response to the findings and recommendations presented. LSPCL remains firmly committed to maintaining the integrity, efficiency, and transparency of these critical programs while ensuring the highest level of service to victims, stakeholders, and the citizens of Louisiana.

In support of that commitment, LSPCL has already initiated corrective actions and process improvements designed to strengthen oversight, enhance operational effectiveness, and address the areas identified within the report. These efforts reflect our dedication to continuous improvement, accountability, and the responsible stewardship of the programs entrusted to our agency.

The following outlines LSPCL's response to each recommendation, along with the actions taken and planned measures to ensure continued program enhancement and compliance with established objectives.

Recommendation 1: LSPCL should make adjustments to the Kit Tracking System to collect and display the accurate location of a kit.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation and has implemented enhancements to the Kit Tracking System to improve the accuracy and transparency of kit location information. Additional kit status options are being added to ensure a kit's status accurately reflects its current disposition. Specifically, when a law enforcement agency closes, suspends, or rejects a case, the system will automatically update the kit status from "Pending Lab Submission" to "Action Deferred," providing a more accurate representation of the kit's chain of custody.

The survivor portal has also been updated to clearly communicate when a case has been deferred or closed by law enforcement and when a kit has been returned by the laboratory without analysis. Additionally, for unreported kits, the system now requires Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) and medical facilities to document the physical storage location of the kit, ensuring greater accountability and addressing concerns regarding kits stored outside traditional medical facilities, including those maintained by coroner-administered SANE programs.

Recommendation 2: LSPCL should make adjustments to the Kit Tracking System to collect and display the status of a kit, including whether or not it was tested.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation and is enhancing the Kit Tracking System to display whether a sexual assault kit was tested and, when applicable, the reason testing was not conducted. While all reported kits are expected to be submitted to the appropriate crime laboratory for analysis, certain circumstances may result in a kit not being tested. These include kits designated as unreported; unreported kits are not submitted to labs therefore they are not tested, kits initially reported but later changed to unreported at the survivor's request, and kits that are determined to be ineligible for CODIS entry.

In cases involving CODIS-ineligible kits with an unknown suspect, the laboratory will continue to work collaboratively with law enforcement to determine the most appropriate course of action, which may include a decision not to proceed with testing. These enhancements will provide greater transparency regarding kit status while accurately reflecting investigative and laboratory processes.

Recommendation 3: LSPCL should evaluate what information is displayed in the survivor portal to determine what additional information would improve transparency for survivors.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation and will evaluate the information displayed in the survivor portal to determine whether additional information can be provided to enhance transparency for survivors. In conducting this evaluation, LSPCL must carefully balance the goal of increased transparency with the need to protect survivor safety and privacy. Because access to

kit information is linked to the kit number, there is a potential risk that unauthorized individuals, including suspects, could view status information if they obtain that number.

Additionally, LSPCL emphasizes that the survivor portal is intended to supplement, not replace, direct communication between survivors and the law enforcement investigators responsible for their cases. Any enhancements to the portal will be considered with these factors in mind to ensure transparency, safety, and case integrity are appropriately balanced.

Recommendation 4: LSPCL should expand automated alerts in the Kit Tracking System to notify participating entities when an action is due.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation and is expanding the use of automated alerts within the Kit Tracking System to improve compliance with required actions and statutory timeframes. While the system currently includes automated notifications, additional alerts are being implemented to address the below.

- Incomplete entries: If a SANE begins entering kit collection details but does not complete them, the system will send an email reminder.
- Law enforcement pickup: When a SANE or medical facility designates a law enforcement agency, that agency's administrator will receive an email with the kit number, the medical facility, and a link to the portal.
- Timeframe alerts: Stakeholders will receive email alerts as kits approach or reach applicable timeframes.
- Non-participating agencies: If a kit is assigned to a law enforcement agency that is not active in the system, the system will email the Kit Tracking System administrative staff so they can follow up.

In addition to these automated measures, LSPCL administrative staff conduct weekly reviews of system activity and stakeholder participation and proactively contact agencies when follow-up is needed. These enhancements will strengthen accountability, improve communication among participating entities, and promote timely progression of kits through the tracking process.

Recommendation 5: LSPCL should submit its Kit Tracking System annual report to the legislature each year by July 31st as required by state law.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation and will ensure that the Kit Tracking System annual report is submitted to the Legislature by July 31 of each year in accordance with state law. The most recent report was provided to the Sexual Assault Oversight Committee, which includes representatives from the Governor's Office, the Louisiana Senate, the Louisiana House of Representatives, and the Attorney General's Office. To ensure compliance with state law, LSPCL will implement procedures to verify that a hard copy or electronic copy of the annual report is submitted to the appropriate legislative entities by the statutory deadline each year.

Recommendation 6: LSPCL should publish its Kit Tracking System annual report on its website to increase transparency and accountability.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation and will publish the Kit Tracking System annual report on the system's public-facing website to enhance transparency and accountability. Public availability of the report will provide stakeholders, policymakers, and the public with greater visibility into program operations, compliance efforts, and performance outcomes. In addition, LSPCL will ensure that the annual report is distributed to all agencies and entities.

Recommendation 7: LSPCL should add date controls to the Kit Tracking System to require dates to be entered in logical order and prevent dates from being left blank.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation and is implementing system enhancements to strengthen data quality and accuracy within the Kit Tracking System. Date fields will be designated as mandatory and must be entered in a logical sequence before an entry can be submitted. The system will also prevent users from saving records with incomplete required information. While certain date fields were originally optional to allow users to begin an entry and complete it at a later time, these enhancements will improve data integrity, reduce entry errors, and support more reliable tracking and reporting of kit activity.

Recommendation 8: LSPCL should add a function to the Kit Tracking System to allow entities to edit information, as well as system controls such as LSPCL approval and a log capturing all changes to help LSPCL ensure that all edits are appropriate and correct.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation and is currently testing system enhancements that will allow participating entities to make corrections to information entered into the Kit Tracking System. In addition, the system will maintain a comprehensive audit log documenting all changes, including the nature of the modification and the user responsible for the update. These controls will improve data accuracy while ensuring appropriate oversight and transparency of all system modifications.

Recommendation 9: LSPCL should add fields to capture identifying numbers corresponding to all reporting entities' case management systems and require these fields to be completed.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation. The Kit Tracking System currently includes a field for the law enforcement agency case number, and LSPCL will make this field mandatory for all kits designated as "Reported." In addition, LSPCL is implementing a new field to capture the corresponding crime laboratory case management number, further strengthening the ability to track kits across participating entities.

Recommendation 10: LSPCL should issue statewide guidance for the Kit Tracking System that includes detailed expectations for data entry as well as LSPCL's periodic reviews of data entered in the system.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation and has published a comprehensive statewide guidance within the LSP.org website to promote consistent and accurate data entry across all

participating entities. This guidance includes detailed instructions and expectations for data entry and clarify stakeholder responsibilities.

Recommendation 11: As LSPCL develops an outstanding CODIS hit tracking system, it should work with other crime labs in the state and law enforcement agencies to develop consistent processes for CODIS hit notifications and confirming law enforcement receipt of hits.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation and is collaborating with the six other crime laboratories in Louisiana, as well as law enforcement stakeholders, to establish a standardized statewide process for CODIS hit notifications and confirmation of receipt. As part of this effort, LSPCL is developing a new CODIS hit tracking database that will document when notifications are transmitted to law enforcement agencies and when receipt of those notifications is acknowledged.

In addition, LSP is coordinating with its Office of Legal Affairs and the Office of Motor Vehicles to support notification and contact processes. Because no commercially available system currently meets the specific needs of Louisiana's CODIS hit tracking requirements, LSPCL is developing the database internally using grant-funded resources. These efforts will improve consistency, accountability, and statewide oversight of CODIS hit notifications and follow-up activities.

Recommendation 12: As LSPCL develops an outstanding CODIS hit tracking system, it should work with the other state crime labs and law enforcement agencies to determine how to best collect CODIS hit follow-up information from law enforcement in a timely and consistent manner.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation and is developing a tracking system to document CODIS hit notifications and subsequent law enforcement follow-up activities. Consistent with the effort described in Recommendation 11, LSPCL is coordinating with the other state crime laboratories and law enforcement agencies to establish standardized procedures for collecting and recording follow-up information in a timely and consistent manner.

System development is focused on creating an efficient, user-friendly process that minimizes administrative burden while improving the completeness, accuracy, and timeliness of CODIS hit follow-up reporting. These efforts will enhance statewide accountability and provide greater visibility into the status and disposition of CODIS hit investigations.

Recommendation 13: As LSPCL develops an outstanding CODIS hit tracking system, it should encourage law enforcement agencies to develop CODIS specific policies and procedures.

LSPCL agrees with this recommendation and recognizes the importance of agency-level policies and procedures in ensuring the consistent and effective management of CODIS hit notifications and follow-up activities. To support law enforcement agencies in this effort, the State CODIS Administrator will develop and distribute model CODIS policies and procedures that agencies may adopt or adapt to meet their operational needs. Providing this guidance will

promote statewide consistency, strengthen accountability, and support timely and appropriate responses to CODIS hit notifications.

The LSPCL is committed to strengthening the Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System and CODIS hit notification processes through enhanced oversight, improved technology, increased transparency, and continued collaboration with our criminal justice partners. We believe the actions described herein will address the recommendations and further support our mission of providing high-quality forensic services while promoting public trust and accountability.

LSPCL respectfully submits these responses and should additional information, clarification, or discussion regarding any of these responses be needed, the LSPCL stands ready to provide further assistance and work collaboratively to address any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Captain Chad Guidry
Louisiana State Police
Crime Lab Director

APPENDIX B: SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

This report provides the results of our performance audit of the Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System (Kit Tracking System) and outstanding CODIS hits. We conducted this performance audit under the provisions of Title 24 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended. This audit generally covered July 2023 through February 2026. Our audit objective was:

To evaluate the Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System and law enforcement's follow-up on potential DNA matches from CODIS.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objective. We believe the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objective.

We obtained an understanding of internal control that is significant to the audit objective and assessed the design and implementation of such internal control to the extent necessary to address our audit objective. We also obtained an understanding of legal provisions that are significant within the context of the audit objective, and we assessed the risk that illegal acts, including fraud, and violations of applicable contract, grant agreement, or other legal provisions could occur. Based on that risk assessment, we designed and performed procedures to provide reasonable assurance of detecting instances of noncompliance significant to those provisions.

To answer our objective, we performed the following audit steps:

- Researched and reviewed applicable state laws and regulations regarding the Kit Tracking System, processing sexual assault kits (kits), Federal Bureau of Investigation's Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) hits, and the outstanding CODIS hit tracking system.

- Researched and reviewed federal CODIS requirements and guidance.

- Met with leadership and staff from the Louisiana State Police Crime Lab (LSPCL), North Louisiana Criminalistics Lab (NLCL), Southwest Louisiana Crime Lab (SWCL), Acadiana Criminalistics Lab (ACL), Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office Crime Lab (JPCL), and St. Tammany Coroner Forensic Center (STCL).

- Met with stakeholders regarding the Kit Tracking System and CODIS hit follow-up, including crime labs, law enforcement associations,

police departments, sheriff's offices, district attorneys, survivor advocates, and sexual assault nurse examiners.

- Observed meetings of the Sexual Assault Oversight Commission.
- Researched other states' laws and processes related to sexual assault kit tracking systems, processing kits, and CODIS hit tracking systems.
- Researched best practices regarding sexual assault kit tracking and CODIS hit notifications, follow-up, and tracking.
- Obtained and reviewed LSPCL's fiscal year 2025 annual report on the Kit Tracking System.
- Obtained and reviewed LSPCL's Kit Tracking System training.
- Obtained and analyzed Kit Tracking System data from LSPCL as of February 18, 2026, to test for compliance with statutory requirements, entity participation, and general statistics.
- Obtained and analyzed data from laboratory information management systems of each of the state's six crime labs showing DNA testing requests received in fiscal years 2024 and 2025.
- Performed the following reliability testing on the Kit Tracking System data:
    - Conducted site visits to evidence rooms at three of the 166 law enforcement agencies that had kits collected in July 2024 through December 2025 assigned to them in the Kit Tracking System as of February 2026 to check if the locations, Collection Dates, and Pickup Dates for the 265 kits assigned to these agencies in the system were accurate based on review of the physical kits. We also checked if the agencies had kits that were not entered into the Kit Tracking System. We selected these agencies to include a variety of law enforcement agencies, including sheriff's offices and police departments, small and large agencies, and urban and rural agencies.
    - Compared the Lab Received Date and Lab Testing Complete Date in the Kit Tracking System to DNA Request data obtained from the six crime labs for the 842 reported kits collected in fiscal year 2025 that appeared in both datasets in order to test the reliability of those fields. We excluded 582 (40.9%) of the 1,424 kits collected in fiscal year 2025 in the Kit Tracking System from this analysis because they either were unreported, had a status showing they were not submitted to the lab, did not have a match in the DNA Request data, or did not have a kit

number provided by the crime labs to link kits from the Kit Tracking System to case number in the DNA Request data.

- Performed logic testing of status and date fields entered in the Kit Tracking System to identify conflicting fields for the 2,138 kits collected between July 2024 and December 2025.

- Obtained and analyzed CODIS hit data from each of the state's six crime labs for fiscal years 2024 and 2025.
  - Used case numbers from the crime labs' DNA Request data to identify kits collected in fiscal year 2025 from the Kit Tracking System that had CODIS hits in the crime labs' CODIS hit data.
  - Two crime labs provided CODIS hits after the end of fiscal year 2025 (one through October 2025 and one through December 2025). We included these hits when identifying which kits collected in fiscal year 2025 received a CODIS hit. However, most labs (including the two largest labs) only provided CODIS hits through the end of fiscal year 2025.
- Surveyed law enforcement agencies across the state to gather information and feedback about the Kit Tracking System, follow-up on CODIS hits, and relevant internal policies and procedures.
  - We sent surveys to 340 law enforcement agencies in February 2026 and received responses from 113, for an overall response rate of 33.2%. However, some agencies did not respond to or were excluded from results for some questions.
  - 111 agencies responded to questions about the Kit Tracking System, but to ensure responses were relevant, we filtered some questions to only include the 64 agencies whose responses showed that they had enrolled in the Kit Tracking System and had received at least one kit since July 1, 2024 (when the system was implemented).
  - 92 agencies responded to questions about CODIS hits, but to ensure responses were relevant, we filtered some questions to only include the 55 agencies who responded that they receive at least one CODIS hit per year.
- Obtained and reviewed amounts and types of funding sources from each of the state's six crime labs for fiscal years 2024 and 2025.
- Provided LSPCL with our results and met to obtain feedback, which is incorporated throughout the report.

APPENDIX C: REPORTED AND UNREPORTED KITS BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY PARISH, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, AND KIT COLLECTION MEDICAL FACILITY

This appendix includes three tables based on Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System data for sexual assault kits (kits) collected during July 2024 through December 2025:

- Exhibit C.1 shows reported and unreported kits by the parish of law enforcement jurisdiction.
- Exhibit C.2 shows reported and unreported kits by law enforcement agency.
- Exhibit C.3 shows reported and unreported kits by the medical facility where the kits were collected.

Exhibit C.1
Reported and Unreported Kits by Law Enforcement Parish*
Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Law Enforcement Parish	Reported	Unreported	Total
*No law enforcement agency listed***		59	59
Acadia	11	1	12
Allen	16		16
Ascension	24	2	26
Assumption	5		5
Avoyelles	10		10
Beauregard	19		19
Bienville		1	1
Bossier	46		46
Caddo	94	9	103
Calcasieu	150	7	157
Caldwell	3		3
Cameron	3		3
Catahoula	2		2
Claiborne	4		4
Concordia	8		8
De Soto	7	1	8
East Baton Rouge	298	6	304
East Carroll	2		2
East Feliciana	5	2	7
Evangeline	4		4
Franklin	4		4
Grant	5		5
Iberia	22		22
Iberville	15		15
Jackson	11		11
Jefferson	80	44	124
Jefferson Davis	15		15

Exhibit C.1
Reported and Unreported Kits by Law Enforcement Parish*
Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Law Enforcement Parish	Reported	Unreported	Total
La Salle	6		6
Lafayette	83	16	99
Lafourche	19		19
Lincoln***	18		19
Livingston	56	4	60
Madison	6		6
Morehouse	8		8
Natchitoches	12	1	13
Orleans	292	65	357
Ouachita	80	1	81
Out of State	9	2	11
Plaquemines	7	1	8
Pointe Coupee	7		7
Rapides	43	2	45
Red River	3		3
Richland			0
Sabine	3		3
St. Bernard	24		24
St. Charles	10	3	13
St. Helena	5		5
St. James	3	2	5
St. John the Baptist	19	1	20
St. Landry	18	2	20
St. Martin	15	2	17
St. Mary	14		14
St. Tammany	57	9	66
Tangipahoa	72	7	79
Tensas	2		2
Terrebonne	30	3	33
Union	9		9
Vermilion	14		14
Vernon	6		6
Washington	28	4	32
Webster	12	1	13
West Baton Rouge	15		15
West Carroll	1		1
West Feliciana	7		7
Winn	3		3
Total	**1,879**	**258**	**2,138*** **

* Law enforcement parish corresponds to parish where incident occurred for reported kits (which may differ from the parish of the medical facility where kit was collected) or, for unreported, where the kit was collected.
**Of the 59, 56 were collected in East Baton Rouge Parish, two were collected in Calcasieu Parish, and one was collected in Acadia Parish.
***Includes one kit with a blank reported/unreported status.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using Kit Tracking System data.

Exhibit C.2
Reported and Unreported Kits by Law Enforcement Agency
Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Law Enforcement Agency	Law Enforcement Agency Parish	Kits Reported	Kits Unreported	Total Kits
*No law enforcement agency listed**			59	59
Abbeville Police Department	Vermilion	7		7
Acadia Parish Sheriff's Office	Acadia	4	1	5
Addis Police Department	West Baton Rouge	1		1
Alexandria Police Department	Rapides	24	2	26
Allen Parish Correctional	Allen	7		7
Allen Parish Sheriff's Office	Allen	5		5
Amite Police Department	Tangipahoa	1		1
Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office	Ascension	19	2	21
Assumption Parish Sheriff's Office	Assumption	5		5
Avoyelles Parish Sheriff's Office	Avoyelles	7		7
Baker Police Department	East Baton Rouge	3	5	8
Baldwin Police Department	St. Mary	1		1
Ball Police Department	Rapides	1		1
Bastrop Police Department	Morehouse	4		4
Baton Rouge Police Department	East Baton Rouge	183	1	184
Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office	Beauregard	12		12
Benton Police Department	Bossier	2		2
Berwick Police Department	St. Mary	2		2
Bienville Parish Sheriff's Office	Bienville		1	1
Bogalusa Police Department	Washington	8	1	9
Bossier City Police Department	Bossier	25		25
Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office	Bossier	17		17
Breaux Bridge Police Department	St. Martin	5		5
Broussard Police Department	Lafayette	1		1
Brusly Police Department	West Baton Rouge	1		1
Bunkie Police Department	Avoyelles	1		1
Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office	Caddo	11		11
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office	Calcasieu	82	4	86
Caldwell Parish Sheriff's Office	Caldwell	3		3
Cameron Parish Sheriff's Office	Cameron	3		3
Carencro Police Department	Lafayette	2	1	3
Catahoula Parish Sheriff's Office	Catahoula	2		2
Church Point Police Department	Acadia	1		1
Claiborne Parish Sheriff's Office	Claiborne	3		3
Concordia Parish Coroner's Office	Concordia	1		1
Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office	Concordia	5		5
Cottonport Police Department	Avoyelles	1		1
Covington Police Department	St. Tammany	3	2	5
Crowley Police Department	Acadia	2		2
Denham Springs Police Department	Livingston	5		5
DeQuincy Police Department	Calcasieu	1		1
DeRidder Police Department	Beauregard	7		7
DeSoto Parish Sheriff's Office	De Soto	5	1	6
East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office	East Baton Rouge	88		88
East Carroll Parish Sheriff's Office	East Carroll	2		2
East Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office	East Feliciana	5	2	7
Elayn Hunt Correctional Center	Iberville	5		5
Erath Police Department	Vermilion	1		1
Eunice Police Department	Acadia	4		4

Exhibit C.2
Reported and Unreported Kits by Law Enforcement Agency
Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Law Enforcement Agency	Law Enforcement Agency Parish	Kits Reported	Kits Unreported	Total Kits
Evangeline Parish Sheriff's Office	Evangeline	3		3
Farmerville Police Department	Union	3		3
Federal Correctional Institute Pollock	Grant	3		3
Ferriday Police Department	Concordia	1		1
Fort Johnson Police Department	Vernon	1		1
Franklin Parish Sheriff's Office	Franklin	4		4
Franklinton Police Department	Washington	3		3
Glenmora Police Department	Rapides	1		1
Gonzales Police Department	Ascension	5		5
Grambling Police Department**	Lincoln	2		3
Grambling State University Police Department	Lincoln	8		8
Grant Parish Sheriff's Office	Grant	2		2
Gretna Police Department	Jefferson	4	1	5
Hammond Police Department	Tangipahoa	11	1	12
Haughton Police Department	Bossier	2		2
Homer Police Department	Claiborne	1		1
Houma Police Department	Terrebonne	14	2	16
Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office	Iberia	6		6
Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office	Iberville	6		6
Independence Police Department	Tangipahoa	2		2
Jackson Parish Sheriff's Office	Jackson	9		9
Jeanerette Police Department	Iberia	4		4
Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff's Office	Jefferson Davis	4		4
Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office	Jefferson	59	39	98
Jennings Police Department	Jefferson Davis	9		9
Jonesboro Police Department	Jackson	2		2
Kaplan Police Department	Vermilion	1		1
Kenner Police Department	Jefferson	14	4	18
Kentwood Police Department	Tangipahoa	3		3
La Salle Corrections	La Salle	1		1
Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office	Lafayette	28	1	29
Lafayette Police Department	Lafayette	50	13	63
Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office	Lafourche	15		15
Lake Charles Police Department	Calcasieu	47	3	50
LaSalle Parish Sheriff's Office	La Salle	5		5
Leesville Police Department	Vernon	2		2
Lincoln Parish Sheriff's Office	Lincoln	4		4
Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office	Livingston	47	4	51
Louisiana State Police	East Baton Rouge	5		5
Louisiana State University Police Department	East Baton Rouge	10		10
Madison Parish Sheriff's Office	Madison	4		4
Mamou Police Department	Evangeline	1		1
Mandeville Police Department	St. Tammany	2		2
Mansfield Police Department	De Soto	2		2
Many Police Department	Sabine	2		2
Marksville Police Department	Avoyelles	1		1
McNeese State University Police Department	Calcasieu	1		1

Exhibit C.2
Reported and Unreported Kits by Law Enforcement Agency
Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Law Enforcement Agency	Law Enforcement Agency Parish	Kits Reported	Kits Unreported	Total Kits
Melville Police Department	St. Landry	2		2
Minden Police Department	Webster	2		2
Monroe Police Department	Ouachita	37		37
Morehouse Parish Sheriff's Office	Morehouse	4		4
Morgan City Police Department	St. Mary	5		5
Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office	Natchitoches	5	1	6
Natchitoches Police Department	Natchitoches	6		6
New Iberia Police Department	Iberia	12		12
New Orleans Police Department	Orleans	287	65	352
New Roads Police Department	Pointe Coupee	2		2
Northwestern State University	Natchitoches	1		1
Oakdale Police Department	Allen	4		4
Opelousas Police Department	St. Landry	5		5
Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office	Orleans	5		5
Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office	Ouachita	30	1	31
Out of State Agency	Out of State	8	2	10
Out of State Facility	Out of State	1		1
Patterson Police Department	St. Mary	2		2
Pearl River Police Department	St. Tammany	2		2
Pineville Police Department	Rapides	5		5
Plaquemine Police Department	Iberville	1		1
Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office	Plaquemines	7	1	8
Pointe Coupee Sheriff's Office	Pointe Coupee	5		5
Port Allen Police Department	West Baton Rouge	3		3
Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office	Rapides	12		12
Red River Parish Sheriff's Office	Red River	3		3
Ruston Police Department	Lincoln	4		4
Sabine Parish Sheriff's Office	Sabine	1		1
Scott Police Department	Lafayette	2		2
Shreveport Police Department	Caddo	83	9	92
Slidell Police Department	St. Tammany	14	1	15
Southeastern University Police Department	Tangipahoa	1	1	2
Springhill Police Department	Webster	3		3
St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office	St. Bernard	24		24
St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office	St. Charles	10	3	13
St. Gabriel Police Department	Iberville	2		2
St. Helena Parish Sheriff's Office	St. Helena	5		5
St. James Parish Sheriff's Office	St. James	3	2	5
St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office	St. John the Baptist	19	1	20
St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office	St. Landry	11	1	12
St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Office	St. Martin	10	2	12
St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Office	St. Mary	4		4
St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office	St. Tammany	36	6	42
Sulphur Police Department	Calcasieu	13		13
Sunset Police Department	St. Landry		1	1
Swanson Correctional Center	Ouachita	2		2
Tallulah Police Department	Madison	2		2
Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office	Tangipahoa	53	5	58

Exhibit C.2
Reported and Unreported Kits by Law Enforcement Agency
Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Law Enforcement Agency	Law Enforcement Agency Parish	Kits Reported	Kits Unreported	Total Kits
Tensas Parish Sheriff's Office	Tensas	2		2
Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office	Terrebonne	16	1	17
Thibodaux Police Department	Lafourche	4		4
Tickfaw Police Department	Tangipahoa	1		1
Union Parish Sheriff's Office	Union	6		6
University Of Louisiana at Lafayette Police Department	Lafayette		1	1
Vermilion Parish Sheriff's Office	Vermilion	5		5
Vernon Parish Sheriff's Office	Vernon	3		3
Vidalia Police Department	Concordia	1		1
Vinton Police Department	Calcasieu	5		5
Walker Police Department	Livingston	4		4
Washington Parish Sheriff's Office	Washington	17	3	20
Webster Parish Sheriff's Office	Webster	7	1	8
Welsh Police Department	Jefferson Davis	2		2
West Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office	West Baton Rouge	10		10
West Carroll Parish Sheriff's Office	West Carroll	1		1
West Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office	West Feliciana	7		7
West Monroe Police Department	Ouachita	11		11
Westlake Police Department	Calcasieu	1		1
Westwego Police Department	Jefferson	3		3
White Castle Police Department	Iberville	1		1
Winn Parish Sheriff's Office	Winn	1		1
Winnfield Police Department	Winn	2		2
Zachary Police Department	East Baton Rouge	9		9
Total		**1,879**	**258**	**2,138****

*Of the 59, 56 were collected in East Baton Rouge Parish, two were collected in Calcasieu Parish, and one was collected in Acadia Parish.
**Includes one kit with a blank reported/unreported status.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using Kit Tracking System data.

Exhibit C.3
Reported and Unreported Kits by Kit Collection Medical Facility
Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Collection Medical Facility	Medical Facility Parish	Reported	Unreported	Total
Abbeville General Hospital	Vermilion	10		10
Acadia St. Landry Hospital	Acadia	1	1	2
Acadian Medical Center	Acadia	2	1	3
Baton Rouge General – Mid-City	East Baton Rouge	19	7	26
Baton Rouge General Medical Center	East Baton Rouge	18	10	28
Bayou Bend Health System	St. Mary	1		1
Bienville Medical Center	Bienville		1	1
Brentwood Hospital	Caddo	1		1
Caddo Parish Coroner's Office	Caddo	2		2
Calcasieu Parish Coroner's Office	Calcasieu	2		2
Chabert Medical Center	Terrebonne	4		4
Children's Hospital New Orleans	Orleans	208	10	218

Exhibit C.3
Reported and Unreported Kits by Kit Collection Medical Facility
Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Collection Medical Facility	Medical Facility Parish	Reported	Unreported	Total
Christus Coushatta Health Care Center	Red River	2		2
Christus Health Shreveport – Bossier	Caddo	12	1	13
Christus Ochsner St. Patrick Hospital	Calcasieu	1		1
Christus St. Frances Cabrini Hospital	Rapides	76	2	78
Claiborne Memorial Medical Center	Claiborne	2		2
DeSoto Regional Health System	De Soto	3	1	4
East Baton Rouge Parish Coroner's Office	East Baton Rouge	4		4
East Jefferson General Hospital	Jefferson		1	1
Franklin Medical Center	Franklin	1		1
Glenwood Regional Medical Center	Ouachita	16		16
Hearts of Hope	Lafayette	10	4	14
Hood Memorial Hospital	Tangipahoa	3		3
Iberia Medical Center	Iberia	13		13
Jackson Parish Hospital	Jackson	5		5
Jefferson Parish Coroner's Office	Jefferson	8	2	10
Lady of the Sea General Hospital	Lafourche	6		6
Lafayette Parish Health Unit	Lafayette		1	1
Lake Charles Memorial Hospital	Calcasieu	203	10	213
Lakeview Hospital	St. Tammany	6	4	10
Lallie Kemp Medical Center	Tangipahoa	5	1	6
Lane Regional Medical Center	East Baton Rouge	12	5	17
Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center	Terrebonne	2		2
Livingston Parish Coroner's Office	Livingston	1		1
Minden Medical Center	Webster	10	1	11
Natchitoches Parish Coroner's Office	Natchitoches	1		1
Natchitoches Regional Medical Center	Natchitoches	9	1	10
New Iberia Medical Center	Iberia	1		1
New Orleans Family Justice Center	Orleans	16	6	22
North Oaks Medical Center, LLC	Tangipahoa	32	4	36
Northern Louisiana Medical Center*	Lincoln	14		15
Ochsner Abrom Kaplan Memorial Hospital	Vermilion	3		3
Ochsner Acadia General Hospital	Acadia	2		2
Ochsner Emergency Room - Marrero	Jefferson	3		3
Ochsner Health Center - River Parishes	St. John the Baptist	3	1	4
Ochsner Lafayette General Medical Center	Lafayette	27	2	29
Ochsner Lafayette General Orthopedic Hospital	Lafayette	4		4
Ochsner LSU Health Monroe	Ouachita	23		23
Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport	Caddo	22	2	24
Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport - St. Mary Medical Center	Caddo	3		3
Ochsner Medical Center - Baton Rouge	East Baton Rouge	20	6	26
Ochsner Medical Center - New Orleans	Orleans	6	8	14
Ochsner Medical Center - Kenner LLC	Jefferson	4	3	7
Ochsner Rehabilitation Hospital	Jefferson		1	1
Ochsner St. Anne General Hospital	Lafourche	2		2
Ochsner St. Martin Hospital	St. Martin	8	1	9
Ochsner St. Mary	St. Mary	9		9
Ochsner University Hospital and Clinics	Lafayette	24	2	26
Ochsner Westbank Medical Center	Jefferson	1		1
Opelousas General Health System	St. Landry	9	2	11

Exhibit C.3
Reported and Unreported Kits by Kit Collection Medical Facility
Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Collection Medical Facility	Medical Facility Parish	Reported	Unreported	Total
Orleans Parish Coroner's Office	Orleans	3		3
Ouachita Parish Coroner's Office	Ouachita	2		2
Our Lady of Lourdes Emergency Center Scott	Lafayette	3		3
Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center, Inc.	Lafayette	11	4	15
Our Lady of Lourdes Woman's and Children's Hospital	Lafayette	31	4	35
Our Lady of the Angels Hospital	Washington	9	1	10
Our Lady of the Lake - North Emergency Room	East Baton Rouge	12	3	15
Our Lady of the Lake Children's Hospital	East Baton Rouge	170	4	174
Our Lady of the Lake Livingston Emergency Room	Livingston	11	4	15
Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center	East Baton Rouge	65	13	78
Our Lady of the Lake Tau Center	East Baton Rouge	2		2
Out-of-State Facility	Out of State	19	1	20
Parish Forensics	Lafayette	4		4
Red River Parish Jail	Red River	1		1
Riverside Medical Center	Washington	2		2
Sabine Medical Center	Sabine	3		3
Savoy Medical Center	Evangeline	1		1
Slidell Memorial Hospital	St. Tammany	15	1	16
Slidell Memorial Hospital East	St. Tammany	4		4
South Bossier Medical Clinic	Bossier	1		1
Springhill Medical Center	Webster	1	1	2
St. Charles Parish Hospital	St. Charles	2	2	4
St. Francis Medical Center	Ouachita	82	1	83
St. James Parish Hospital	St. James	2		2
St. Tammany Health System - Mandeville Emergency Department	St. Tammany	1		1
St. Tammany Parish Coroner's Office	St. Tammany	3		3
St. Tammany Parish Hospital	St. Tammany	29	4	33
Terrebonne General Health System	Terrebonne	16	2	18
Terrebonne Parish Coroner's Office	Terrebonne		1	1
Thibodaux Regional Medical Center	Lafourche	6		6
Trinity Medical	Concordia	4		4
Tulane Lakeside Hospital	Jefferson	27	24	51
Union General Hospital	Union	1		1
University Medical Center New Orleans	Orleans	196	61	257
Vernon Parish Coroner's Office	Vernon	2		2
West Jefferson Medical Center	Jefferson		1	1
Willis-Knighton Bossier	Bossier	36	2	38
Willis-Knighton North	Caddo	29		29
Willis-Knighton Pierremont	Caddo	17	2	19
Willis-Knighton South	Caddo	25	2	27
Woman's Hospital	East Baton Rouge	116	18	134
Total		**1,879**	**258**	**2,138***

*Includes one kit with a blank reported/unreported status.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using Kit Tracking System data.

APPENDIX D: COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTORY TIMEFRAMES BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

This appendix includes two tables based on the Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System (Kit Tracking System) data:

- Exhibit D.1 shows whether law enforcement picked up sexual assault kits (kits) within four days of the medical facility notifying law enforcement that the kit was ready for pickup.

- Exhibit D.2 shows whether law enforcement submitted kits to the lab within 30 days of picking them up from the medical facility.

In both tables, exclusions due to date errors are included to show the number of kits not assessed. These exclusions do not necessarily indicate noncompliance.

The purpose of this appendix is to show there may be issues in the processes for picking up kits from medical facilities and submitting kits to a crime lab that contribute to the untimeliness of meeting required timeframes. As discussed in the report, there are no consequences for not meeting these timeframes. Timeliness results presented do not factor in whether a kit was transferred between jurisdictions or any other reasons a kit might be untimely but is outside of the law enforcement agency's control. For more information about why kits were not timely, contact the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Exhibit D.1
Timeliness of Kits Picked Up by Law Enforcement
Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Law Enforcement Agency	Timely (Within 4 Days)	Over 4 Days*	Excluded due to Date Error**	Total	% Over 4 Days
Abbeville Police Department	7			**7**	0.0%
Acadia Parish Sheriff's Office	5			**5**	0.0%
Alexandria Police Department	25	1		**26**	3.8%
Allen Parish Sheriff's Office	4	1		**5**	20.0%
Amite Police Department		1		**1**	100.0%
Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office	8	11	2	**21**	52.4%
Assumption Parish Sheriff's Office	3	2		**5**	40.0%
Avoyelles Parish Sheriff's Office	3	3	1	**7**	42.9%
Baker Police Department		6	2	**8**	75.0%
Baldwin Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Bastrop Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Baton Rouge Police Department	74	97	5	**176**	55.1%
Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office	12			**12**	0.0%
Benton Police Department		2		**2**	100.0%
Berwick Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%

Exhibit D.1 Timeliness of Kits Picked Up by Law Enforcement Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025					
Law Enforcement Agency	**Timely (Within 4 Days)**	**Over 4 Days***	**Excluded due to Date Error****	**Total**	**% Over 4 Days**
Bienville Parish Sheriff's Office			1	**1**	0.0%
Bogalusa Police Department	5	3		**8**	37.5%
Bossier City Police Department	20	3	2	**25**	12.0%
Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office	14	2	1	**17**	11.8%
Breaux Bridge Police Department	4	1		**5**	20.0%
Broussard Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Brusly Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office	9	1	1	**11**	9.1%
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office	85	1		**86**	1.2%
Cameron Parish Sheriff's Office	3			**3**	0.0%
Carencro Police Department	3			**3**	0.0%
Catahoula Parish Sheriff's Office	1			**1**	0.0%
Church Point Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Claiborne Parish Sheriff's Office		1	1	**2**	50.0%
Concordia Parish Coroner's Office	1			**1**	0.0%
Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office	2		3	**5**	0.0%
Covington Police Department	5			**5**	0.0%
Crowley Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Denham Springs Police Department	2	3		**5**	60.0%
DeRidder Police Department	7			**7**	0.0%
DeSoto Parish Sheriff's Office	4	2		**6**	33.3%
East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office	75	12	1	**88**	13.6%
East Carroll Parish Sheriff's Office			2	**2**	0.0%
East Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office	3	2	2	**7**	28.6%
Elayn Hunt Correctional Center	1		3	**4**	0.0%
Erath Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Eunice Police Department	4			**4**	0.0%
Evangeline Parish Sheriff's Office	2		1	**3**	0.0%
Farmerville Police Department	3			**3**	0.0%
Franklin Parish Sheriff's Office	4			**4**	0.0%
Franklinton Police Department	1	2		**3**	66.7%
Glenmora Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Gonzales Police Department	2	3		**5**	60.0%
Grambling Police Department	2		1	**3**	0.0%
Grambling State University Police Department	6		2	**8**	0.0%
Grant Parish Sheriff's Office	2			**2**	0.0%
Gretna Police Department	5			**5**	0.0%
Hammond Police Department	11	1		**12**	8.3%
Haughton Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Homer Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Houma Police Department	16			**16**	0.0%
Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office	5	1		**6**	16.7%
Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office	5	1		**6**	16.7%
Independence Police Department		1		**1**	100.0%
Jackson Parish Sheriff's Office	7	2		**9**	22.2%
Jeanerette Police Department	2		1	**3**	0.0%
Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff's Office	4			**4**	0.0%
Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office	91	7		**98**	7.1%
Jennings Police Department	9			**9**	0.0%

Exhibit D.1 Timeliness of Kits Picked Up by Law Enforcement Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025					
Law Enforcement Agency	**Timely (Within 4 Days)**	**Over 4 Days***	**Excluded due to Date Error****	**Total**	**% Over 4 Days**
Jonesboro Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Kaplan Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Kenner Police Department	17	1		**18**	5.6%
Kentwood Police Department		1		**1**	100.0%
Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office	28		1	**29**	0.0%
Lafayette Police Department	60	1	2	**63**	1.6%
Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office	11	4		**15**	26.7%
Lake Charles Police Department	48	1		**49**	2.0%
LaSalle Parish Sheriff's Office	4	1		**5**	20.0%
Leesville Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Lincoln Parish Sheriff's Office	4			**4**	0.0%
Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office	48	1	2	**51**	2.0%
Louisiana State Police	1	1	2	**4**	25.0%
Louisiana State University Police Department	1	9		**10**	90.0%
Madison Parish Sheriff's Office	4			**4**	0.0%
Mandeville Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Mansfield Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Many Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Marksville Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Melville Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Minden Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Monroe Police Department	36		1	**37**	0.0%
Morehouse Parish Sheriff's Office	3		1	**4**	0.0%
Morgan City Police Department	4			**4**	0.0%
Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office	5			**5**	0.0%
Natchitoches Police Department	6			**6**	0.0%
New Iberia Police Department	12			**12**	0.0%
New Orleans Police Department	283	51	18	**352**	14.5%
New Roads Police Department			2	**2**	0.0%
Northwestern State University	1			**1**	0.0%
Oakdale Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Opelousas Police Department	3		1	**4**	0.0%
Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office	5			**5**	0.0%
Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office	31			**31**	0.0%
Out-of-State Agency	2		8	**10**	0.0%
Out-of-State Facility			1	**1**	0.0%
Patterson Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Pearl River Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Pineville Police Department	3		2	**5**	0.0%
Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office	6	2		**8**	25.0%
Pointe Coupee Sheriff's Office	3	2		**5**	40.0%
Port Allen Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office	12			**12**	0.0%
Red River Parish Sheriff's Office	3			**3**	0.0%
Ruston Police Department	4			**4**	0.0%
Sabine Parish Sheriff's Office	1			**1**	0.0%
Scott Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Shreveport Police Department	80	2	7	**89**	2.2%
Slidell Police Department	10	5		**15**	33.3%

Exhibit D.1
Timeliness of Kits Picked Up by Law Enforcement
Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Law Enforcement Agency	Timely (Within 4 Days)	Over 4 Days*	Excluded due to Date Error**	Total	% Over 4 Days
Southeastern University Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Springhill Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office	18	6		**24**	25.0%
St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office	13			**13**	0.0%
St. Gabriel Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
St. Helena Parish Sheriff's Office	1	3	1	**5**	60.0%
St. James Parish Sheriff's Office	4	1		**5**	20.0%
St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office	18	2		**20**	10.0%
St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office	9	2		**11**	18.2%
St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Office	12			**12**	0.0%
St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Office	4			**4**	0.0%
St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office	42			**42**	0.0%
Sulphur Police Department	12	1		**13**	7.7%
Tallulah Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office	35	20	2	**57**	35.1%
Tensas Parish Sheriff's Office	1	1		**2**	50.0%
Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office	14	2	1	**17**	11.8%
Thibodaux Police Department	4			**4**	0.0%
Tickfaw Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Union Parish Sheriff's Office	6			**6**	0.0%
University Of Louisiana at Lafayette Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Vermilion Parish Sheriff's Office	5			**5**	0.0%
Vernon Parish Sheriff's Office	1	2		**3**	66.7%
Vidalia Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Vinton Police Department	4	1		**5**	20.0%
Walker Police Department	2	1	1	**4**	25.0%
Washington Parish Sheriff's Office	17	3		**20**	15.0%
Webster Parish Sheriff's Office	5		1	**6**	0.0%
Welsh Police Department	1		1	**2**	0.0%
West Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office	6	4		**10**	40.0%
West Carroll Parish Sheriff's Office	1			**1**	0.0%
West Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office***	3	3	1	**7**	42.9%
West Monroe Police Department	11			**11**	0.0%
Westlake Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Westwego Police Department	3			**3**	0.0%
White Castle Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Winnfield Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Zachary Police Department	3	6		**9**	66.7%
Total	**1,601**	**313**	**98**	**2,012**	**15.6%**

***** To reduce the risk of inaccurate determinations of noncompliance, our analysis identified Pickup Dates entered in the Kit Tracking System by the law enforcement agency that were more than four days after the Notification Date entered by the medical facility (rather than 72 hours, as required by law).
** One or both date fields that should have been populated based on status were blank, or dates were entered in illogical sequence (Pickup Date was before Notification Date).
*** According to the West Feliciana Parish Sheriff, the untimely kits resulted from kits originating with another governmental entity and the delays occurred before the kits came within the sheriff's office's custody, and the sheriff's office did not cause nor is responsible for the delays.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff based on analysis of Kit Tracking System data.

Exhibit D.2 Timeliness of Kits Submitted to a Crime Lab Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025					
Law Enforcement Agency	**Timely (within 30 Days)**	**Over 30 Days**	**Excluded due to Date Error***	**Total**	**% Over 30 Days**
Abbeville Police Department	1	5		**6**	83.3%
Acadia Parish Sheriff's Office	3			**3**	0.0%
Alexandria Police Department	17	5	1	**23**	21.7%
Allen Parish Sheriff's Office	1	3		**4**	75.0%
Amite Police Department		1		**1**	100.0%
Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office	18	1		**19**	5.3%
Assumption Parish Sheriff's Office	5			**5**	0.0%
Avoyelles Parish Sheriff's Office	5			**5**	0.0%
Baker Police Department		1	1	**2**	50.0%
Baldwin Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Bastrop Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Baton Rouge Police Department	55	50	4	**109**	45.9%
Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office	11	1		**12**	8.3%
Benton Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Berwick Police Department	1		1	**2**	0.0%
Bogalusa Police Department	3	2		**5**	40.0%
Bossier City Police Department	14	8	1	**23**	34.8%
Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office	16	1		**17**	5.9%
Breaux Bridge Police Department	5			**5**	0.0%
Broussard Police Department		1		**1**	100.0%
Brusly Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office	10			**10**	0.0%
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office	79	1		**80**	1.3%
Cameron Parish Sheriff's Office	3			**3**	0.0%
Carencro Police Department	1	1		**2**	50.0%
Catahoula Parish Sheriff's Office	1			**1**	0.0%
Church Point Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Claiborne Parish Sheriff's Office	1		1	**2**	0.0%
Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office	2		3	**5**	0.0%
Covington Police Department		3		**3**	100.0%
Crowley Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Denham Springs Police Department	3			**3**	0.0%
DeRidder Police Department	3	3		**6**	50.0%
DeSoto Parish Sheriff's Office	2	1		**3**	33.3%
East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office	53	11		**64**	17.2%
East Carroll Parish Sheriff's Office			2	**2**	0.0%
East Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office	1	4		**5**	80.0%
Elayn Hunt Correctional Center		1	3	**4**	25.0%
Erath Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Eunice Police Department	4			**4**	0.0%
Evangeline Parish Sheriff's Office	2	1		**3**	33.3%
Farmerville Police Department	3			**3**	0.0%
Franklin Parish Sheriff's Office	4			**4**	0.0%
Franklinton Police Department	1		1	**2**	0.0%
Glenmora Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Gonzales Police Department	3			**3**	0.0%
Grambling Police Department	1	1		**2**	50.0%
Grambling State University Police Department	2	4	2	**8**	50.0%
Grant Parish Sheriff's Office	2			**2**	0.0%

Exhibit D.2 Timeliness of Kits Submitted to a Crime Lab Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025					
Law Enforcement Agency	**Timely (within 30 Days)**	**Over 30 Days**	**Excluded due to Date Error***	**Total**	**% Over 30 Days**
Gretna Police Department	2	1	1	**4**	25.0%
Hammond Police Department	11			**11**	0.0%
Haughton Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Homer Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Houma Police Department	7	3		**10**	30.0%
Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office	4	2		**6**	33.3%
Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office	2			**2**	0.0%
Jackson Parish Sheriff's Office	2			**2**	0.0%
Jeanerette Police Department	1	1	1	**3**	33.3%
Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff's Office	2	2		**4**	50.0%
Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office	50	4	4	**58**	6.9%
Jennings Police Department		8		**8**	100.0%
Jonesboro Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Kaplan Police Department		1		**1**	100.0%
Kenner Police Department	9	3		**12**	25.0%
Kentwood Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office	16	8		**24**	33.3%
Lafayette Police Department	44	2	1	**47**	4.3%
Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office	8	1		**9**	11.1%
Lake Charles Police Department	45		1	**46**	0.0%
LaSalle Parish Sheriff's Office		5		**5**	100.0%
Leesville Police Department	1	1		**2**	50.0%
Lincoln Parish Sheriff's Office	4			**4**	0.0%
Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office	23	23		**46**	50.0%
Louisiana State Police	2		2	**4**	0.0%
Louisiana State University Police Department	9			**9**	0.0%
Madison Parish Sheriff's Office	1	2		**3**	66.7%
Mandeville Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Mansfield Police Department		1		**1**	100.0%
Many Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Melville Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Minden Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Monroe Police Department	21	8		**29**	27.6%
Morehouse Parish Sheriff's Office	3	1		**4**	25.0%
Morgan City Police Department	3	1		**4**	25.0%
Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office	5			**5**	0.0%
Natchitoches Police Department	2	1		**3**	33.3%
New Iberia Police Department	9	3		**12**	25.0%
New Orleans Police Department	270	5	1	**276**	1.8%
New Roads Police Department			2	**2**	0.0%
Oakdale Police Department	1	1		**2**	50.0%
Opelousas Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office	4	1		**5**	20.0%
Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office	14	6		**20**	30.0%
Patterson Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Pearl River Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Pineville Police Department	4	1		**5**	20.0%
Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office	2			**2**	0.0%
Pointe Coupee Sheriff's Office	5			**5**	0.0%

Exhibit D.2
Timeliness of Kits Submitted to a Crime Lab
Kits Collected July 2024 through December 2025

Law Enforcement Agency	Timely (within 30 Days)	Over 30 Days	Excluded due to Date Error*	Total	% Over 30 Days
Port Allen Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office	9			**9**	0.0%
Red River Parish Sheriff's Office	2	1		**3**	33.3%
Ruston Police Department	3	1		**4**	25.0%
Scott Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Shreveport Police Department	48	17	5	**70**	24.3%
Slidell Police Department	12	2		**14**	14.3%
Southeastern University Police Department		1		**1**	100.0%
Springhill Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office	23	1		**24**	4.2%
St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office	6	2		**8**	25.0%
St. Gabriel Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
St. Helena Parish Sheriff's Office	1	1		**2**	50.0%
St. James Parish Sheriff's Office	2	1		**3**	33.3%
St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office	8	5		**13**	38.5%
St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office	5	1		**6**	16.7%
St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Office	9	1		**10**	10.0%
St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Office	4			**4**	0.0%
St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office	22	14		**36**	38.9%
Sulphur Police Department	13			**13**	0.0%
Tallulah Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office	22	11		**33**	33.3%
Tensas Parish Sheriff's Office	2			**2**	0.0%
Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office	7	1	1	**9**	11.1%
Thibodaux Police Department	4			**4**	0.0%
Tickfaw Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Union Parish Sheriff's Office	1			**1**	0.0%
Vermilion Parish Sheriff's Office	3	2		**5**	40.0%
Vernon Parish Sheriff's Office	1			**1**	0.0%
Vidalia Police Department			1	**1**	0.0%
Vinton Police Department	4			**4**	0.0%
Walker Police Department	3	1		**4**	25.0%
Washington Parish Sheriff's Office	14	2		**16**	12.5%
Webster Parish Sheriff's Office	2	3		**5**	60.0%
Welsh Police Department	1	1		**2**	50.0%
West Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office	6	2		**8**	25.0%
West Carroll Parish Sheriff's Office	1			**1**	0.0%
West Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office**	3	4		**7**	57.1%
West Monroe Police Department	10			**10**	0.0%
Westlake Police Department	1			**1**	0.0%
Westwego Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Winnfield Police Department	2			**2**	0.0%
Zachary Police Department	8	1		**9**	11.1%
Total	**1,213**	**282**	**47**	**1,542**	**18.3%**

* One or both date fields that should have been populated based on status were blank, or dates were entered in illogical sequence (Lab Received Date was before Law Enforcement Pickup Date).
** According to the West Feliciana Parish Sheriff, the untimely kits resulted from kits originating with another governmental entity and the delays occurred before the kits came within the sheriff's office's custody, and the sheriff's office did not cause nor is responsible for the delays.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff based on analysis of Kit Tracking System data.

APPENDIX E: CODIS HITS (ALL OFFENSES) BY CRIME LAB AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

This appendix includes two tables:

- Exhibit E.1 shows the number of cases with CODIS hits in fiscal years 2024 and 2025 by crime lab.
- Exhibit E.2 shows the number of cases with CODIS hits by law enforcement agency for this period.

These CODIS hits were for all offenses, not just cases related to sexual assault.

Exhibit E.1
Cases with CODIS Hit by Crime Lab (All Offenses)
Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025

Crime Lab	Cases with CODIS Hit
Acadiana Criminalistics Lab	113
Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office Crime Lab	55
Louisiana State Police Crime Lab	682
North Louisiana Criminalistics Lab	340
Southwest Louisiana Crime Lab	139
St. Tammany Coroner Forensic Center	34
Total	**1,363**

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using CODIS hit data provided by the six crime labs.

Exhibit E.2
Cases with CODIS Hit by Law Enforcement Agency (All Offenses)
Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025

Law Enforcement Agency	Cases with CODIS Hit
Abbeville Police Department	2
Acadia Parish Sheriff's Office	3
Alexandria Police Department	21
Allen Parish Sheriff's Office	2
Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office	28
Assumption Parish Sheriff's Office	7
Avoyelles Parish Sheriff's Office	3
Baker Police Department	5
Bastrop Police Department	7
Baton Rouge Fire Department - Arson	9
Baton Rouge Police Department	142
Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office	6
Berwick Police Department	1
Bienville Parish Sheriff's Office	2
Bogalusa Police Department	8
Bossier City Police Department	14
Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office	2

Exhibit E.2 Cases with CODIS Hit by Law Enforcement Agency (All Offenses) Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025	
Law Enforcement Agency	**Cases with CODIS Hit**
Breaux Bridge Police Department	2
Broussard Police Department	2
Bunkie Police Department	1
Caddo Coroner's Office	1
Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office	20
Calcasieu Parish Coroner's Office	1
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office	75
Caldwell Parish Sheriff's Office	2
Cameron Parish Sheriff's Office	4
Catahoula Parish Sheriff's Office	1
Centenary College Department of Public Safety	1
Central Police Department	1
Claiborne Parish Sheriff's Office	3
Covington Police Department	2
Crowley Police Department	7
Delhi Police Department	1
Denham Springs Police Department	11
DeRidder City Police Department	1
DeSoto Parish Sheriff's Office	8
East Baton Rouge Parish District Attorney's Office	1
East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office	49
East Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office	1
Elayn Hunt Correctional Center	1
Eunice Police Department	3
Evangeline Parish Sheriff's Office	2
Ferriday Police Department	1
Franklin Police Department	2
Franklin Parish Sheriff's Office	5
Franklinton Police Department	2
French Settlement Police Department	1
Gonzales Police Department	13
Grand Coteau Police Department	1
Grant Parish Sheriff's Office	1
Hammond Fire Prevention	1
Hammond Police Department	16
Harahan Police Department	1
Henderson Police Department	2
Houma Police Department	16
Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office	8
Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office	7
Independence Police Department	1
Jackson Marshal’s Office	2
Jackson Parish Sheriff's Office	2
Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office	35
Jennings City Police Department	1
Kenner Police Department	7
Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office	2
Lafayette Police Department	18
Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office	6
Lake Charles City Police Department	26

Exhibit E.2 Cases with CODIS Hit by Law Enforcement Agency (All Offenses) Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025	
Law Enforcement Agency	**Cases with CODIS Hit**
LaSalle Parish Sheriff's Office	1
Leesville Police Department	1
Lincoln Parish Sheriff's Office	2
Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office	17
Louisiana State Police	10
Louisiana State University (LSU) Forensic Anthropology and Computer Enhancement Services Laboratory	28
LSU Police Department	4
LSU Health Shreveport University Police	1
Madison Parish Sheriff's Office	9
Mamou Police Department	1
Mandeville Police Department	7
Many Police Department	1
Marksville Police Department	1
Minden Police Department	5
Monroe Police Department	35
Morehouse Sheriff's Office	3
Morgan City	1
Natchitoches Police Department	3
Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office	1
New Iberia Police Department	8
New Iberia Sheriff's Office	1
New Orleans Police Department	155
New Roads Police Department	2
Oak Grove Police Department	2
Opelousas Police Department	17
Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office	1
Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office	9
Patterson Police Department	1
Pineville Police Department	1
Plaquemine Police Department	3
Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office	5
Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff's Office	4
Ponchatoula Police Department	1
Port Allen Police Department	2
Port St. Lucie Police Department	1
Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office	16
Rayburn Correctional Center	2
Red River Parish Sheriff's Office	5
Richland Parish Sheriff's Office	3
Ruston Police Department	2
Sabine Parish Sheriff's Office	4
Scott Police Department	2
Shreveport Fire Investigation	3
Shreveport Police Department	118
Slidell Police Department	6
Southeastern Louisiana University Police Department	1
St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office	10
St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office	6
St. George Fire Protection District	1

Exhibit E.2
Cases with CODIS Hit by Law Enforcement Agency (All Offenses)
Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025

Law Enforcement Agency	Cases with CODIS Hit
St. Helena Parish Sheriff's Office	2
St. James Parish Sheriff's Office	15
St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office	28
St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office	1
St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Office	6
St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Office	5
St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office	13
State Fire Marshal	5
Sulphur City Police Department	17
Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office	10
Tensas Parish Sheriff's Office	1
Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office	10
Thibodaux Police Department	2
Tunica-Biloxi Police Department	1
University of Louisiana Monroe Police Department	1
Union Pacific Railroad Police Department	1
Vermilion Parish Sheriff's Office	3
Vernon Parish Sheriff's Office	1
Vidalia Police Department	1
Ville Platte Police Department	4
Walker Police Department	9
Washington Parish Sheriff's Office	7
Webster Parish Sheriff's Office	1
Welsh Police Department	2
West Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office	5
West Carroll Parish Sheriff's Office	1
West Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office	3
West Monroe Police Department	2
Westlake City Police Department	2
Winn Parish Sheriff's Office	3
Zachary Police Department	8
Other*	30
Total	**1,363**

***** Other includes non-law enforcement agencies or out-of-state agencies that were included in the CODIS data provided by the six crime labs.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using CODIS hit data provided by the six crime labs.

APPENDIX F: MATTERS FOR LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERATION

Matter for Legislative Consideration 1: The legislature may wish to consider clarifying in state law whether crime labs must test all reported kits and clearly defining any exceptions for reported kits not to undergo testing.

Matter for Legislative Consideration 2: The legislature may wish to consider amending state law to include timeframes for medical providers to notify law enforcement when a kit is ready for pickup.

Matter for Legislative Consideration 3: The legislature may wish to consider amending state law to include timeframes for how long crime labs should take to complete testing of kits.

Matter for Legislative Consideration 4: The legislature may wish to consider amending state law to require LSPCL to include noncompliance by jurisdiction in its annual Kit Tracking System report.