

**Georgia Bureau of Investigation
January Monthly Report
FY2026**



**Presented to the Board of Public Safety
March 5, 2026**

**Chris Hosey
Director**

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Director's Highlights

- West Georgia Gang Task Force (WGGTF) – On Thursday, February 12, 2026, the GBI's West Georgia Gang Task Force (WGGTF), along with the Muscogee County Sheriff's Office, the Fulton County Sheriff's Office, the Cobb County Sheriff's Office, the Harris County Sheriff's Office, the Russell County Sheriff's Office, the Lee County Sheriff's Office, the Drug Enforcement Agency, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation executed 18 search warrants in connection to an investigation into a local trafficking organization operating in Muscogee County, GA, Harris County, GA, and Russell County, AL. As a result of this operation, thirteen (13) individuals from Muscogee and Harris County were arrested.

During the 18 search warrants, approximately 2.2 pounds of suspected Cocaine, approximately 46 grams of suspected Fentanyl, approximately 2.5 pounds of suspected Marijuana, approximately 105 grams of suspected THC, approximately 101 suspected Hydrocodone Pills, and other assorted pills and drugs were seized. The total value of the drugs seized was \$126,321.00. There were 14 vehicles and \$101,035.12 in U.S. currency also seized. This investigation remains active and ongoing. Additional arrests and charges are expected.

The West Georgia Gang Task Force is a GBI led multi-jurisdictional gang task force consisting of GBI Agents, the Muscogee County Sheriff's Office, the Columbus Police Department, the LaGrange Police Department, and the Georgia Department of Community Supervision.

- Office of Special Investigations (OSI) – Cold Case Unit (CCU) – On February 17, 2026, Edrick Lamont Faust, age 48 of Athens, GA, was found guilty of all 12 counts in the Tara Louise Baker murder investigation, including Malice Murder, Felony Murder, Burglary, Aggravated Sodomy, Rape, Aggravated Assault, Arson in the First Degree, and Possession of a Knife during the Commission of a Felony. Faust was sentenced to two life sentences plus 45 years, to be served consecutively.

On January 19, 2001, Athens-Clarke County firefighters found Tara Louise Baker's body while responding to a fire at her Athens apartment. The investigation determined that the fire was intentionally set, and investigators spent over two decades seeking answers in the case. At the time, Tara was 23 years old and a first-year law school student at the University of Georgia.

In September 2023, the GBI Cold Case Unit partnered with Athens-Clarke County Police Department and conducted an in-depth review and analysis into Baker's death. In Tara's case, it was biological evidence and DNA science combined with collaborative investigative work with law enforcement partners and prosecutors that resulted in this arrest and conviction of Faust.

The following agencies and work units assisted the GBI Cold Case Unit and Athens-Clarke County Police Department: FBI Gainesville RA, FBI Athens RA, FBI Athens Safe Streets Task Force, GBI Appalachian Regional Drug Enforcement Office, GBI Division of Forensic Sciences, Georgia State Patrol, and Western Judicial Circuit Office of District Attorney.

- From January 1 to February 28, 2026, the GBI investigated a total of fifteen (15) Officer Involved Shootings (OIS).

GBI Region 10 – February 24, 2026, Atlanta, GA – At the request of the Atlanta Police Department, GBI agents are investigating an officer involved shooting in Atlanta, GA. Rande Gilliam, age 59, of Lithonia, GA, was shot and injured. No officers were injured during this incident.

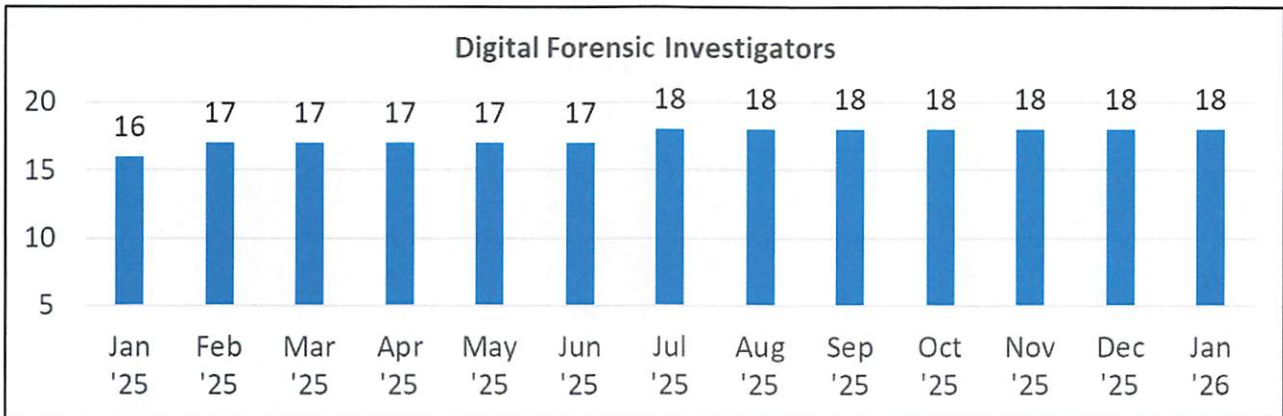
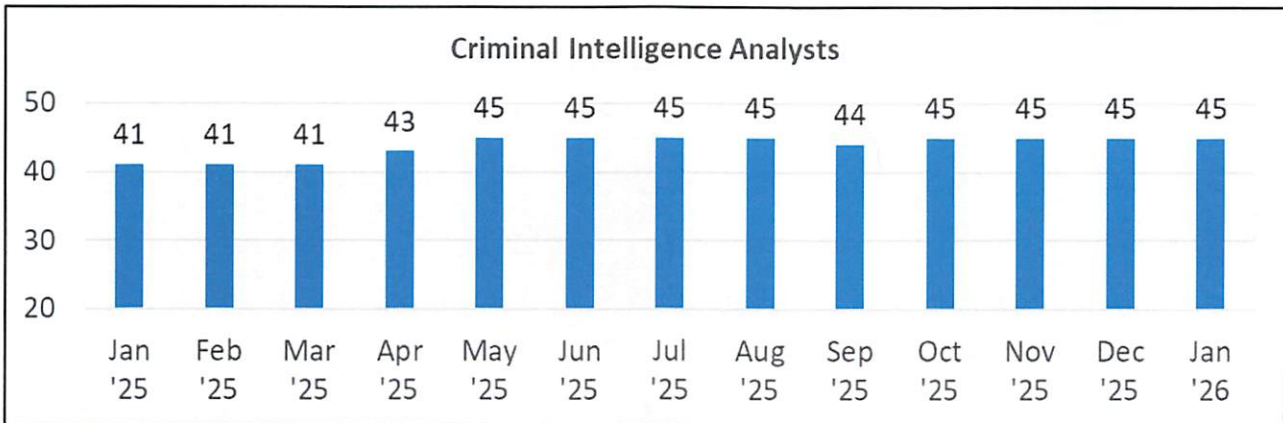
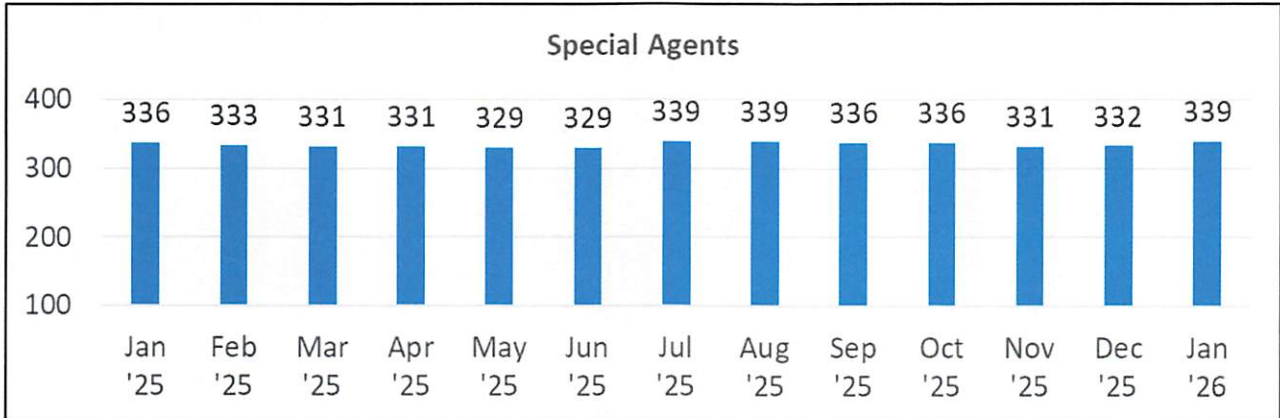
Preliminary information indicates that on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at about 2:16 p.m., Atlanta Police Department officers responded to the 3200 block of Lenox Road NE, Atlanta, GA, in reference to a domestic disturbance call. Officers spoke with the 911 caller, who indicated a man she recently met had forced his way into her home. The man was later identified as Gilliam. The woman stated she then fled her home and called 911. The woman also told responding officers she had witnessed Gilliam doing drugs and that he had begun to act erratically. Additionally, a maintenance worker reported seeing Gilliam with a crowbar and a knife. Gilliam later left the property, at which time the 911 caller and maintenance worker lost sight of him. The responding officers remained in the area and located Gilliam several minutes later near the 3000 block of Lenox Road. At that time, officers confronted Gilliam on the sidewalk. Gilliam then approached one of the responding officers, brandishing a knife. The officer shot at Gilliam, hitting him. Gilliam was taken to Grady Hospital in stable condition.

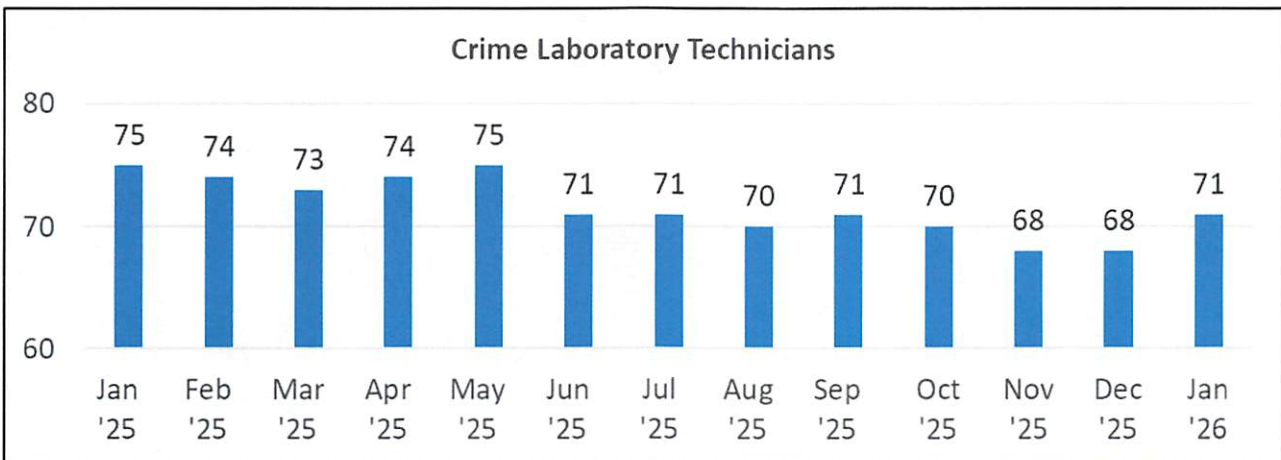
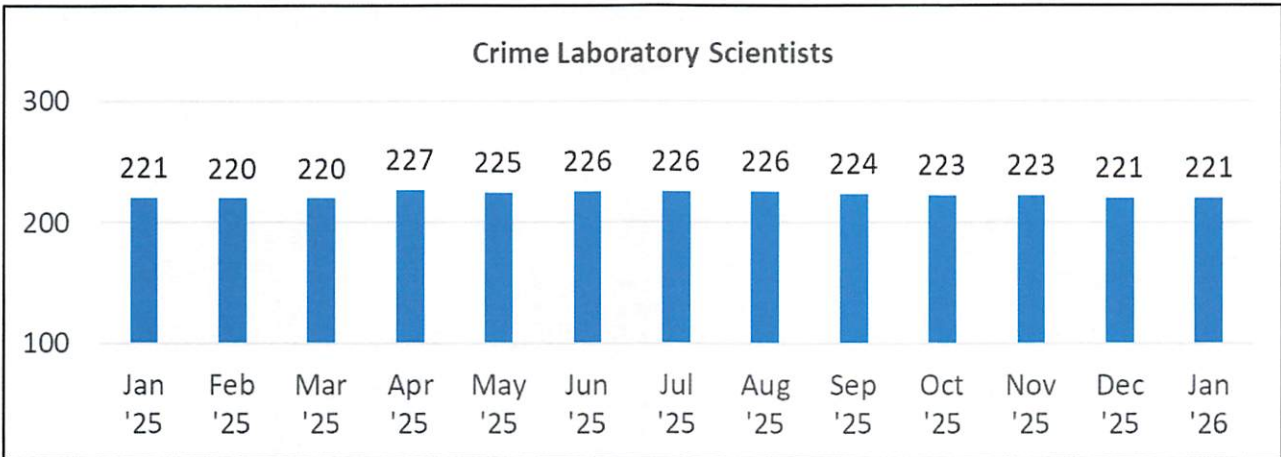
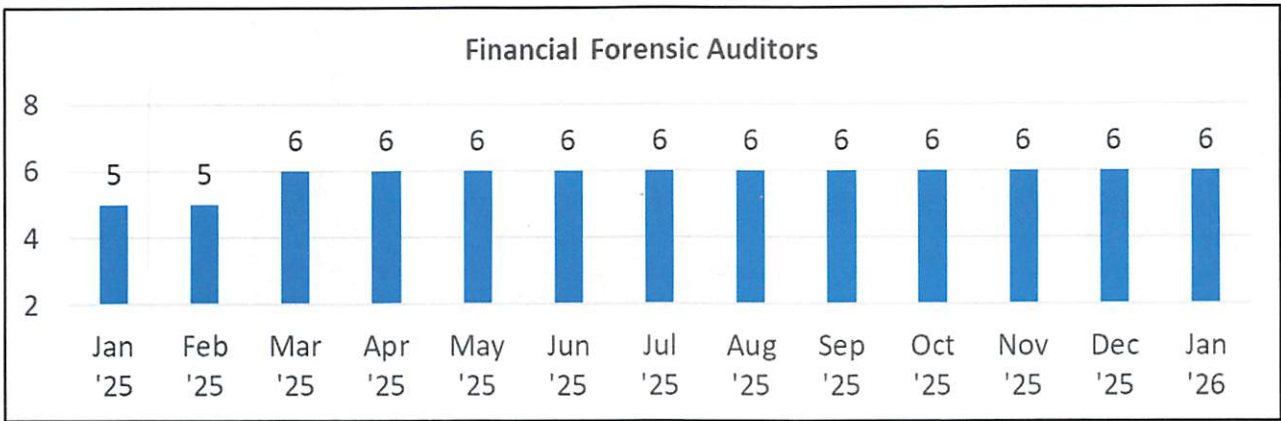
The investigation is active and ongoing. Once the investigation is complete, the GBI will provide the case to the Fulton County District Attorney's Office for review.

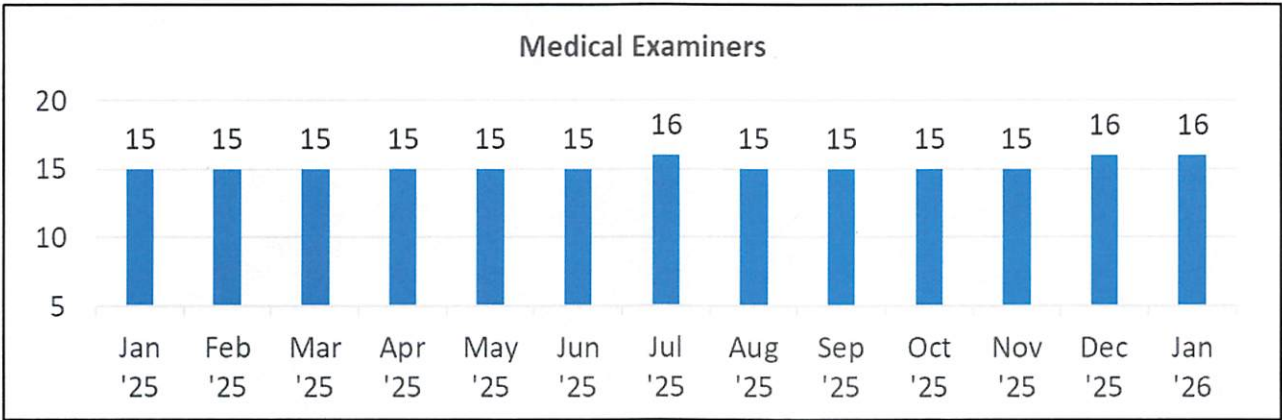


Staffing Report

Filled Positions (All Fund Sources)







GBI Vacancies – YTD FY2026

(State Funds Only)

	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sept '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26
DOFS	38	38	38	41	41	42	42					
Scientist Positions	21	21	23	22	22	22	21					
Investigative Division	20	20	25	26	26	25	20					
Sworn Agent Positions	5	5	8	9	10	14	8					
GCIC	4	4	4	5	5	4	5					
Admin	6	7	6	7	6	6	7					

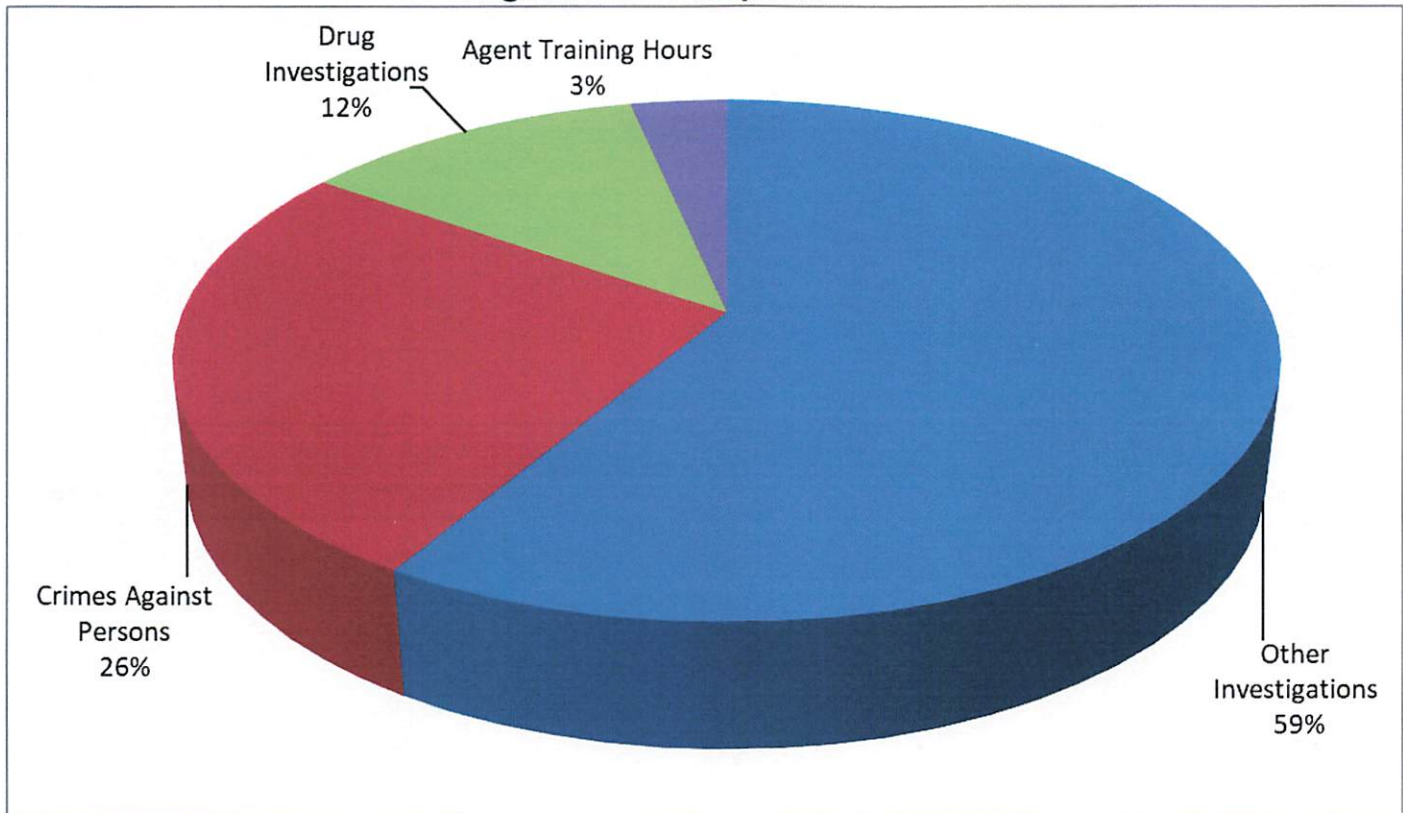


Investigative Division

Investigative Cases – YTD FY2026

	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26	FY 2026
* Crimes Against Persons	162	119	70	110	114	105	133						813
**Drug Investigations	76	60	80	69	64	65	63						477
***Other Investigations	650	529	692	496	548	541	656						4,112
Total	888	708	842	675	726	711	852						5,402

Investigative Hours Expended - YTD FY2026



* **Crimes Against Persons** - death investigations, assaults, kidnapping, robbery, child abuse & exploitation/trafficking, etc.

** **Drug Investigations** - felony investigations, trafficking, manufacturing, distribution, etc.

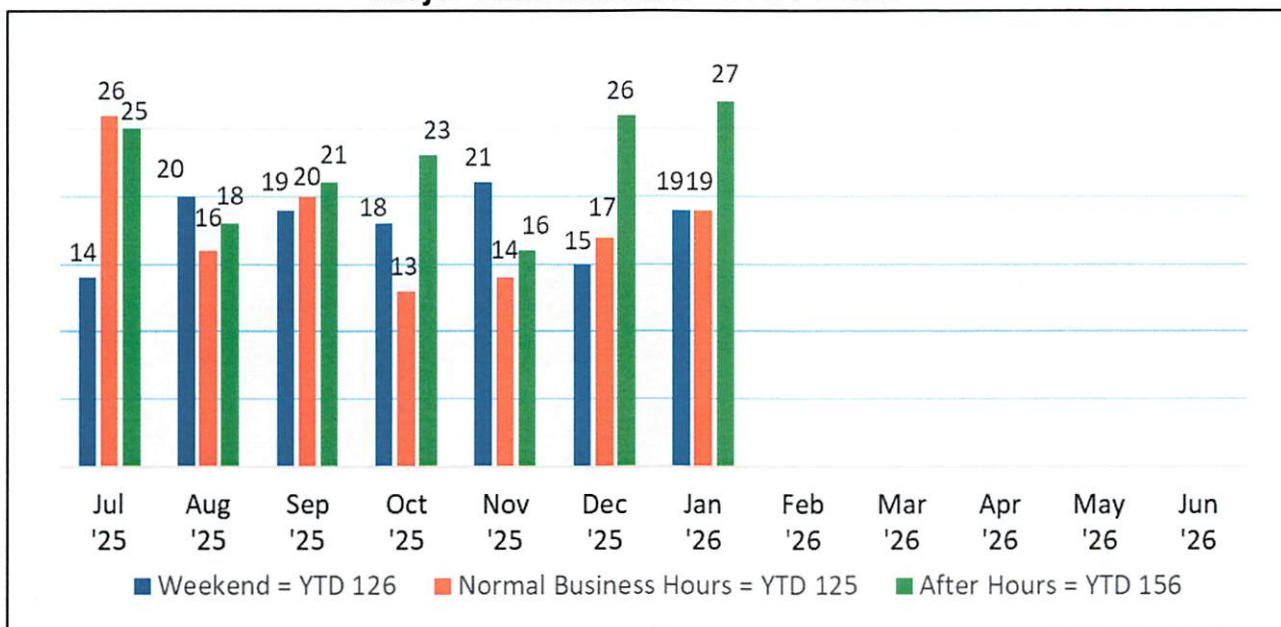
*** **Other Investigations** - corruption, cyber, bomb disposal, election, technology, cold case review, property crimes, special events, etc.

Recoveries, Seizures, Arrests – YTD FY2026

	January 2026	YTD FY2026
Property Stolen	\$0.00	\$0.00
Property Recovered	\$7,988,472.00	\$7,993,043.00
* Contraband Seized	\$2,510,417.00	\$78,051,631.85
Arrests	51	530
* Cases Closed	605	3,118

*Note: In July 2025, we began the process of transitioning to a new case management system which includes the migration of data. Reported totals may change as a result.

Major Case Call Outs - YTD FY2026



Georgia Information Sharing and Analysis Center (GISAC)

Watch Desk Activity YTD FY2026

	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26	FY 2026
Threats to Life	15	30	31	29	12	17	20						154
See Send App Tips	954	1,225	1,461	1,236	1,189	939	746						7,750
Suspicious Activity	3	2	1	0	2	1	3						12
*Requests for Info.	1,351	1,552	1,456	1,324	1,186	1,046	1452						9,367

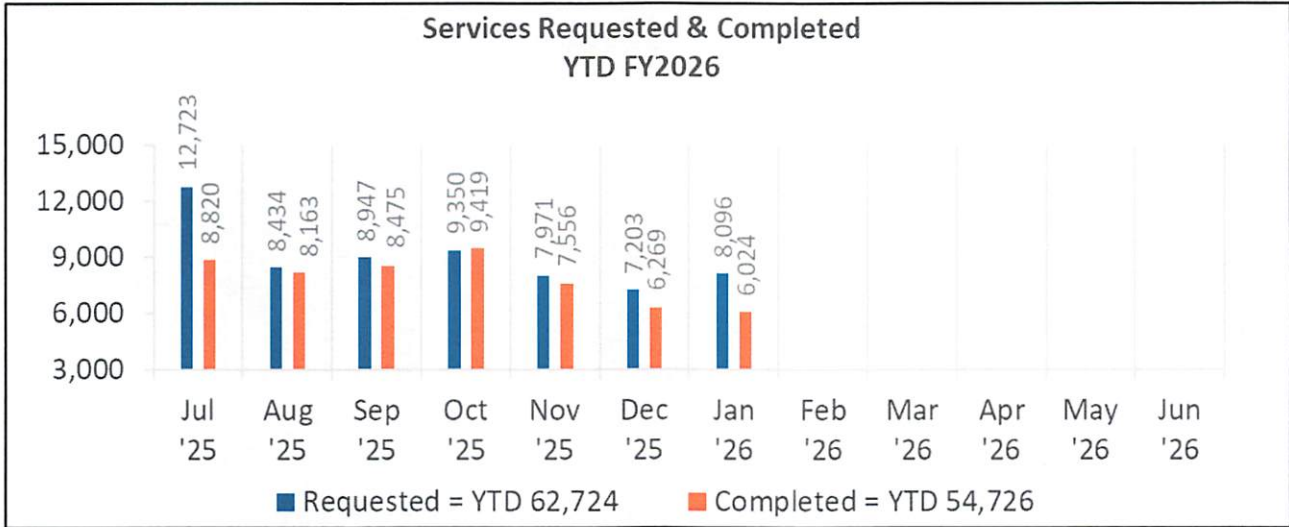
* Note: In July 2025, we began the process of transitioning to a new case management system which includes the migration of data. The GISAC Requests for Information (RFI) totals may change due to pending updates and modifications within the reporting system.

Investigative Division Notes:

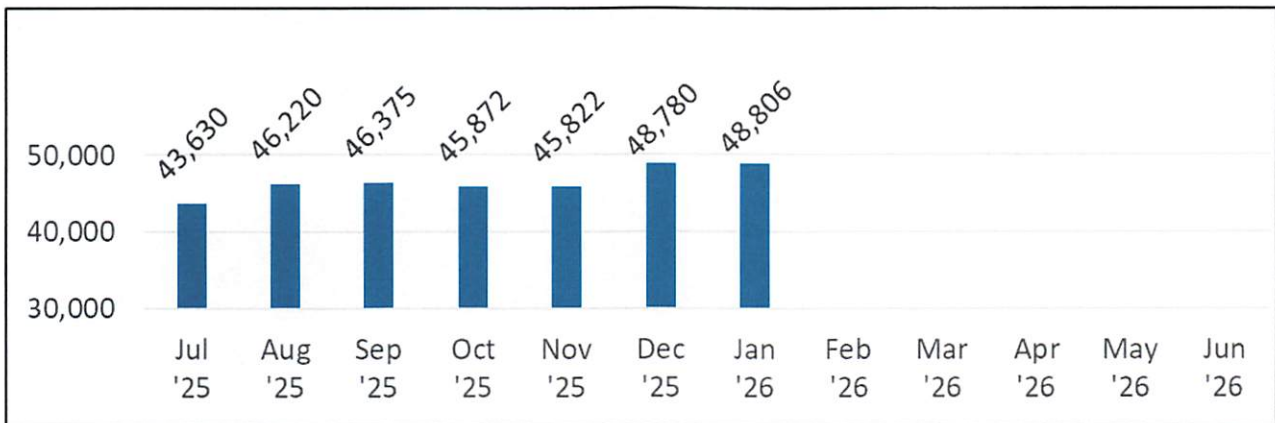
- Update: Special Agent applicant assessments were on Saturday, February 14th and out of 100 applicants interviewed, 50 met the established passing criteria and will advance to the next stage of the hiring process.

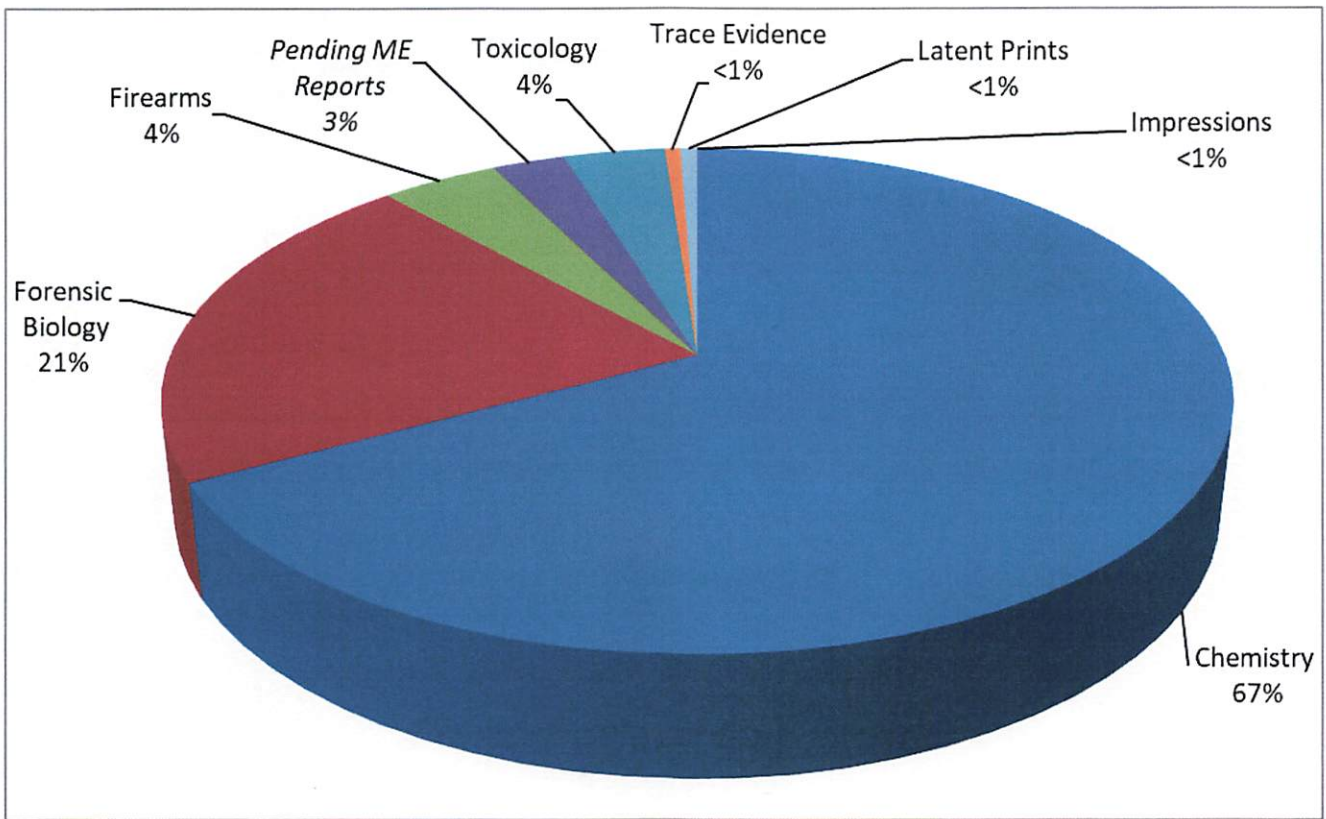


Crime Laboratory



Backlog Report – YTD FY2026 Unworked Reports over 30 Days Old





Combined DNA Index System (CODIS)

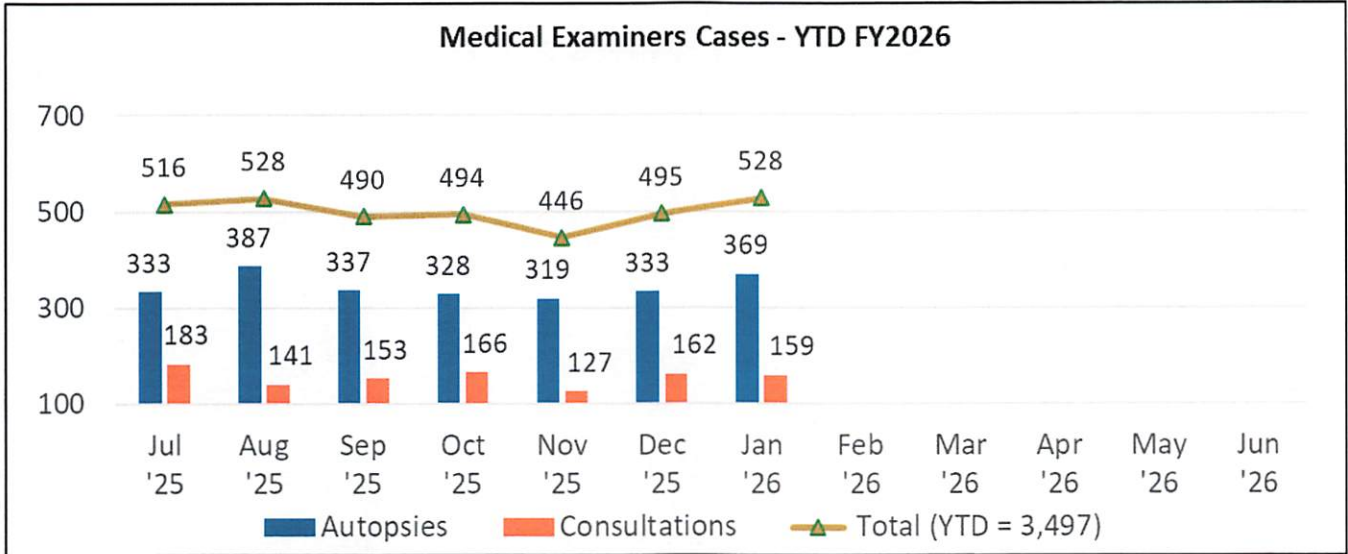
	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26	YTD FY2026
Samples Entered	1,923	2,477	2,295	2,907	2,308	29	36						11,975
Confirmed Hits	37	43	48	47	69	29	28						301

Crime Laboratory Notes:

- The Crime Laboratory has 15 Scientists in training within their respective disciplines.



Medical Examiners (includes all laboratories)



MEO Backlog – YTD FY2026

Medical Examiner data is calculated as >90 days from the date of examination in accordance with National Association of Medical Examiner accreditation standards.

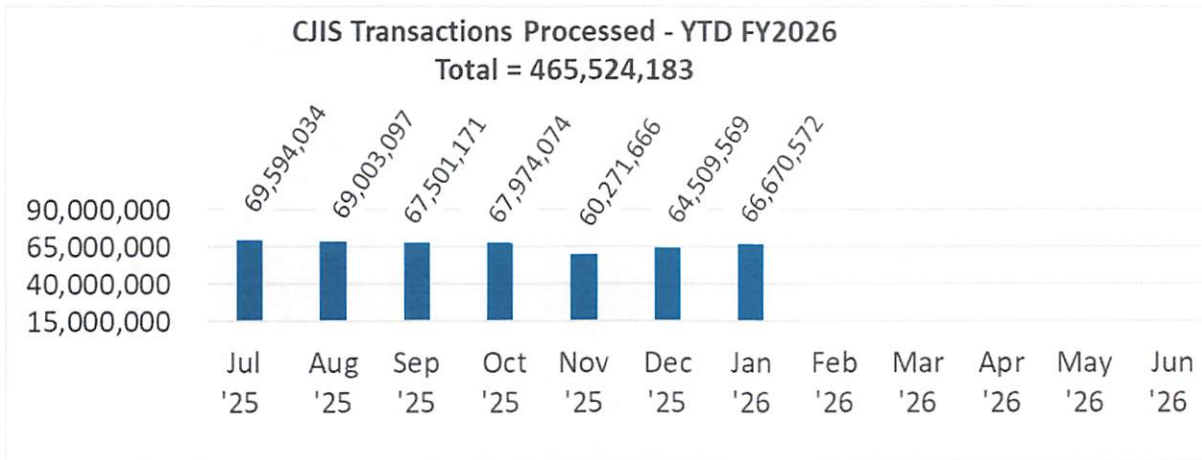
	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26
Reports Pending	1,779	1,401	1,250	1,269	1,260	1,280	1,282					
*Released w/in 90 Days	75.6%	63.6%	63.1%	61.4%	58.2%	62.6%	54.4%					

MEO Notes:

- Fellowship applicant interviews have been scheduled.
- Emory Medical Student rotating in Medical Examiner's Office.



Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC)



AFIS/MBIS, CCH, and Applicant Activity Report

	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26
Criminal Fingerprint Submissions												
Submissions	45,867	30,989	37,054	36,880	33,884	34,722	36,093					
Submissions w/Palms	16,806	11,778	*Not Avail.	*Not Avail.	*Not Avail.	*Not Avail.	*Not Avail.					
Submissions w/Photos	10,629	7,590	*Not Avail.	*Not Avail.	*Not Avail.	*Not Avail.	*Not Avail.					
Latent Print AFIS HITS	16	24	*Not Avail.	*Not Avail.	40	*Not Avail.	54					
Applicant Fingerprint Submissions (Non-Criminal)												
Submissions	47,314	37,097	43,735	42,604	31,424	33,139	42,815					
Submissions through Rap Back	5,522	4,136	5,680	5,628	4,077	4,346	6,001					
Applicant Fingerprint Triggering Events	1,440	1,099	1,286	1,407	1,179	1,322	1,378					
Final Disposition Submissions												
Local Agencies	81,109	72,924	74,570	80,573	57,658	71,621	63,656					
GCIC	267	278	178	309	192	170	249					
Rapid ID Transactions												
Transactions	2,017	1,868	1,852	2,068	1,810	1,607	1,836					
Transactions w/AFIS HITS	58%	60%	56%	60%	59%	61%	56%					
Transactions w/NCIC HITS	52%	52%	54%	56%	50%	50%	52%					
Transactions w/FBI RISC HITS	14%	15%	17%	18%	14%	14%	17%					

* NEC continues to work on providing criminal fingerprint submission monthly data.

GCIC Activity Report

	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26
Off-Line Search Requests	19	20	16	12	12	19	24					
Sex Offender Registry <i>(Database Total 40,639)</i>												
Records Added	125	130	132	122	113	113	115					
Protection Order Registry <i>(Database Total 184,993)</i>												
Records Added	2,952	3,149	3,146	3,171	2,440	2,729	2545					
Criminal Justice Agencies <i>(e.g. Law Enforcement Agencies, Criminal Court Systems, Corrections, etc.)</i>												
Audited	0	0	13	32	37	20	21					
In Compliance	0	0	3	1	8	1	4					
Out of Compliance	0	0	10	31	29	19	17					
Trained	5	6	4	**19	4	0	1					
Non-Criminal Justice <i>(e.g. Civil Courts, City, County and Charter Schools, Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL), Department of Community Health (DCH), etc.)</i>												
Audited	39	51	30	51	36	11	44					
In Compliance	21	31	19	27	19	11	28					
Out of Compliance	18	20	11	24	17	0	16					
Trained	10	21	51	12	11	1	8					
Learning Management System (LMS) <i>An on-line system for criminal justice and non-criminal justice staff to enroll and attend e-learning courses.</i>												
Georgia Criminal Street Gang Database	9	5	3	3	1	8	11					
CJIS Network Operator Certification (CNO)	3,637	2,941	2,781	3,159	2,769	3,128	5,976					
CJIS Security Policy Awareness and Training/Awareness Statement	7,165	6,231	5,630	6,550	5,454	5,543	15,037					

** FBI RISC HITS - Repository for individuals of Special Concerns (RISC). This group includes Wanted Persons including the Immigration Violator File, National Sex Offenders, known or appropriately Suspected Terrorists and other persons of special interest groups defined by the FBI.

The percentage of electronically received fingerprint cards vs. mailed/manual fingerprint cards = 99.9%



Office of Privacy and Compliance / Open Records Unit

Open Records/Archives Requests - YTD FY2026

Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26	FY 2026
721	750	720	732	588	590	782						4883

Facilities – Major Projects Status

- GBI Headquarters’ new Medical Examiner’s Office construction is underway.
- The new Central Medical Examiner’s Building is in the schematic design phase.
- The new Region 11 Investigative Office is in the construction document phase.
- Contracts have been issued for the new Region 10 Investigative Office and will begin the programming phase with the design team.