

**Georgia Bureau of Investigation
March Monthly Report
FY2025**



**Presented to the Board of Public Safety
May 8, 2025**

**Chris Hosey
Director**

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Director's Highlights

- Child Exploitation and Computer Crimes (CEACC) Unit – “Operation Lights Out,” a four-day proactive online undercover investigation, coordinated by the Georgia Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, GBI, and the Muscogee County Sheriff’s Office (SO), resulted in the arrest of nineteen (19) people on numerous charges, including human trafficking charges. The goal of “Operation Lights Out” was to identify persons who engage in sexually explicit communication with children on the Internet, arrange to engage in a sex act with the child, and then travel to meet the child for the purpose of having sex. Additionally, the operation targeted those who are willing to exploit children by purchasing sex with a minor. Online child predators use social media sites, messaging apps, and websites on the Internet to find children, begin conversations with them, introduce sexual content, and arrange a meeting with the child for the purpose of having sex. Boys and girls are both targeted by these predators. Thirty-five (35) cases were established that met the threshold for arrest. Nineteen (19) of those cases were concluded with arrests of perpetrators ranging in age from 21 to 68, who traveled from areas around Columbus, GA, with the intent to meet a child for sex. GBI digital forensic investigators were on hand during the operation to forensically process 21 electronic devices that were seized as evidence during the operation. Additional charges and arrests may follow.

“Operation Lights Out” held from April 24 to April 28, 2025, took months of planning and involved the collaboration of 12 law enforcement agencies, all partners in the Georgia ICAC Task Force. Agencies that participated in the operation: Muscogee County SO, GBI’s CEACC Unit, GBI’s Georgia Information and Sharing Analysis Center (GISAC), GBI’s West Georgia Gang Task Force (WGGTF), Cherokee County SO, Jasper County SO, Colquitt County SO, Polk County Police Department (PD), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), U.S. Army Criminal Investigations Division (CID), Gwinnett County PD, Forsyth County SO, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and U.S. Secret Service.

- Region 9 – GBI’s Investigative Office in Thomasville, GA – During April 2025, following a joint investigation by the GBI and the Remerton PD, nine (9) individuals were arrested and charged with a variety of felony offenses including: Party to the Crime of Aggravated Assault on a Peace Officer, Participation in Criminal Street Gang Activity, Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon, and Possession of a Firearm During a Crime. The nine arrested and charged are: Talonnie Rogers, age 24; Umar Bryant, age 26; Jaquavious Neal, age 21; and Jamarion Clements, age 17, all from Valdosta, GA, are in the Lowndes County Jail on unrelated offenses. Bernard Morrison, age 25; Cameron Little, age 25; and Devante Crumitie, age 24, all from Valdosta, GA, were booked into the Lowndes County Jail. Jacori Morrison, age 22, of Valdosta, GA, was arrested in Panama City, FL by the U.S. Marshals and booked into the Lowndes County Jail. Cameron Roberts, age 25, of Valdosta GA, is in Jackson State Prison on an unrelated offense.

Jailen Bryant age 17, of Valdosta, GA, has been charged in connection with this incident and is actively being sought by law enforcement.

On November 1, 2024, at approximately 1:30 a.m., a large crowd of people allegedly affiliated with two rival criminal street gangs, known as “Bangkrew” and “6block,” were in Remerton, GA, when a fight occurred. Two Lowndes County SO deputies, who were working security in front of a bar off Baytree Place in Remerton, attempted to separate the two groups. As the dispute escalated, gunshots were fired from multiple weapons. One deputy was shot in his protective vest during the incident. He was treated at a local hospital and later released. Jastain Darrisaw, age 20, of Valdosta, GA, was involved in the gang dispute and received multiple gunshot wounds. He was later taken by ambulance to South Georgia Medical Center where he died. Lajoespets Wells, age 31, of Dothan, AL, was shot by two deputies during the incident. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Police recovered numerous firearms and casings from the scene and submitted them to the GBI Crime Lab for analysis. Additional charges are expected and separate use of force investigations in relation to this incident are active and ongoing.

During this investigation the GBI and Remerton PD were assisted by Lowndes County SO, Valdosta PD, U.S. Marshals Service, and the District Attorney’s (DA’s) Office for the Southern Judicial Circuit. The Attorney General’s Prosecution Unit, along with the local DA’s Office, are prosecuting this case.

- Office of Special Investigations (OSI) - Cold Case Unit (CCU) – The Coleman-Baker Act (CBA) request webform has been on the GBI website Home page since June 30, 2023. Forty (40) cold cases are being reviewed or reinvestigated at this time. Fifteen (15) were requests from designated family members and twenty-five (25) were GBI initiated. CCU has also opened thirteen (13) GBI cold case unidentified remains (UID) cases in hopes of identifying the victims with FIGG (Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy). Four (4) of the unidentified remains cases have been identified.
- From January 1 to April 30, 2025, the GBI investigated a total of twenty-four (24) Officer Involved Shootings (OIS). GBI’s Region 1 Investigative Office in Calhoun, GA was requested by Calhoun PD in reference to an OIS in Calhoun, Gordon County, GA. On April 29, 2025, at about 11:40 p.m., local, state, and federal drug task force agents with multiple agencies were conducting a drug investigation. During the operation, law enforcement attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a car occupied by two people. The driver of the car drove toward several officers who were attempting to make an arrest. A Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Agent fired multiple shots at the car, hitting the male driver and female occupant. Both occupants were taken to local hospitals, the female occupant was taken to the hospital by Life Force. No officers were injured. The GBI will continue an independent investigation. Once complete, the investigation will be given to the Gordon County District Attorney’s Office for review.
- On April 26, 2025, during an attempted traffic stop near Augusta, GA, Columbia County Sheriff’s Deputies were serving a domestic violence protective order on a subject. At first, the subject was compliant and non-threatening, but when deputies turned away, the subject fired at them with a 9mm AR Pistol. Deputy Brandon Ray Sikes was mortally wounded. Deputy Gavin White was critically injured. Two deputies returned fire. One of the deputies gathered the injured deputy through a barrage of gunfire and transported him to the hospital. The suspect attempted to flee in his camper but was stopped on the highway. GBI’s Special Operations Unit (SOU)/Bomb Disposal Unit (BDU) was requested by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to assist with suspected explosives on the scene. The suspect was found deceased inside his camper with pipe bombs, firearms, and ammunition. The GBI was not requested to investigate the shooting incident.

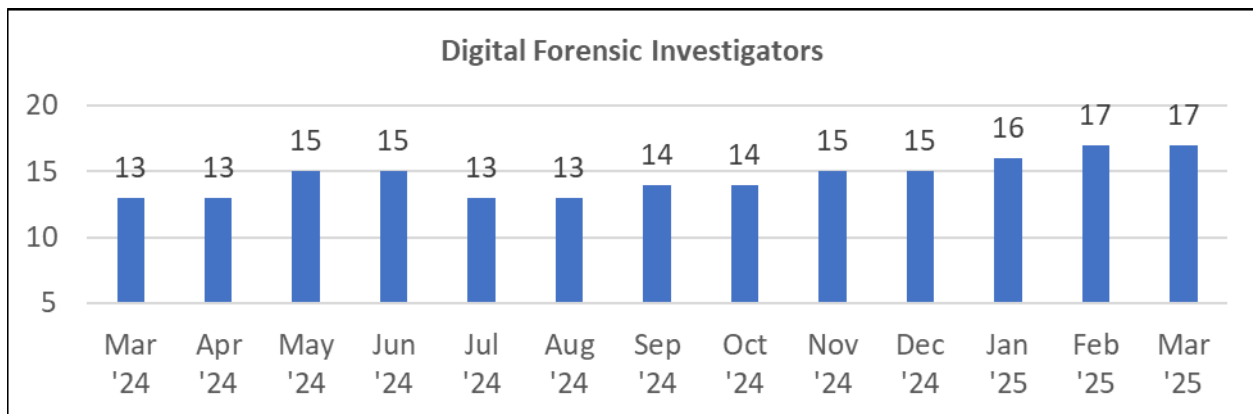
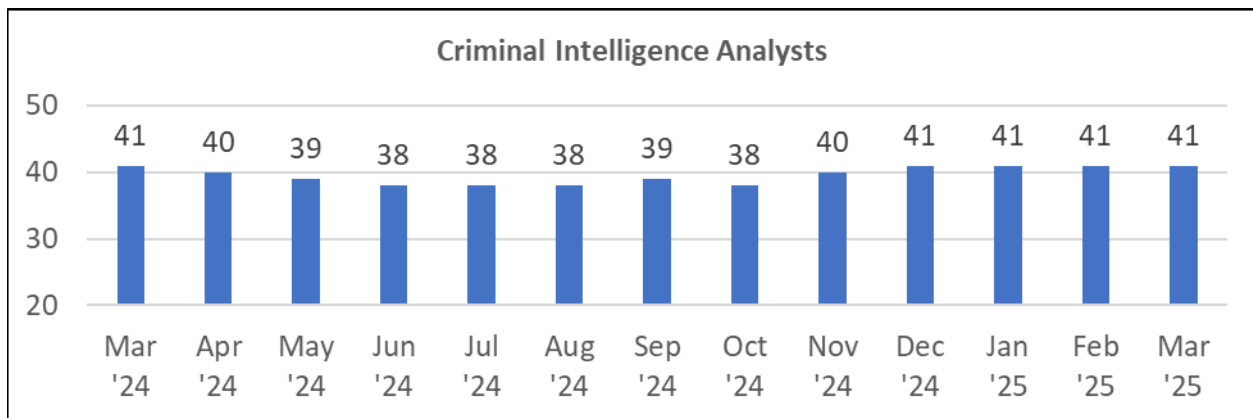
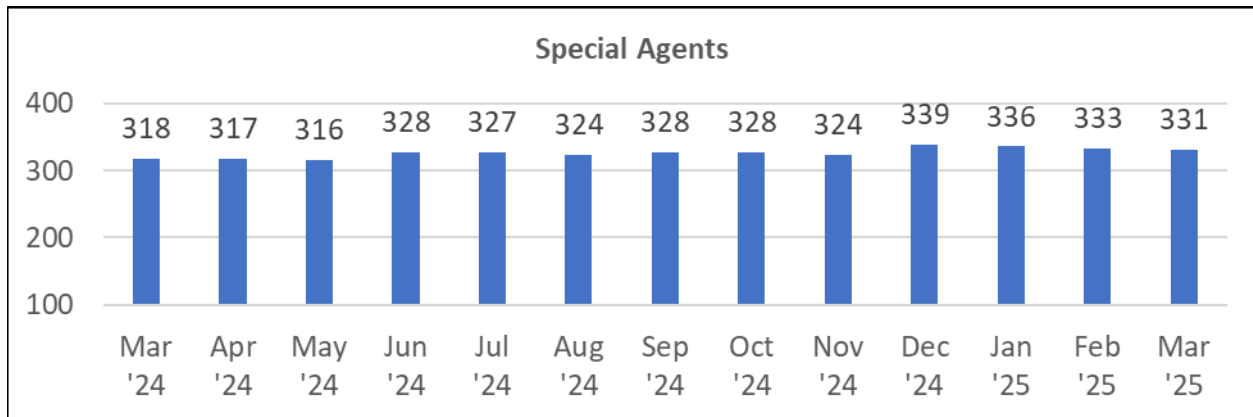
In addition, the Office of Public Safety Support (OPSS), led by GBI Special Agent in Charge Wes Horne, responded to Columbia County providing services and support to the affected personnel.

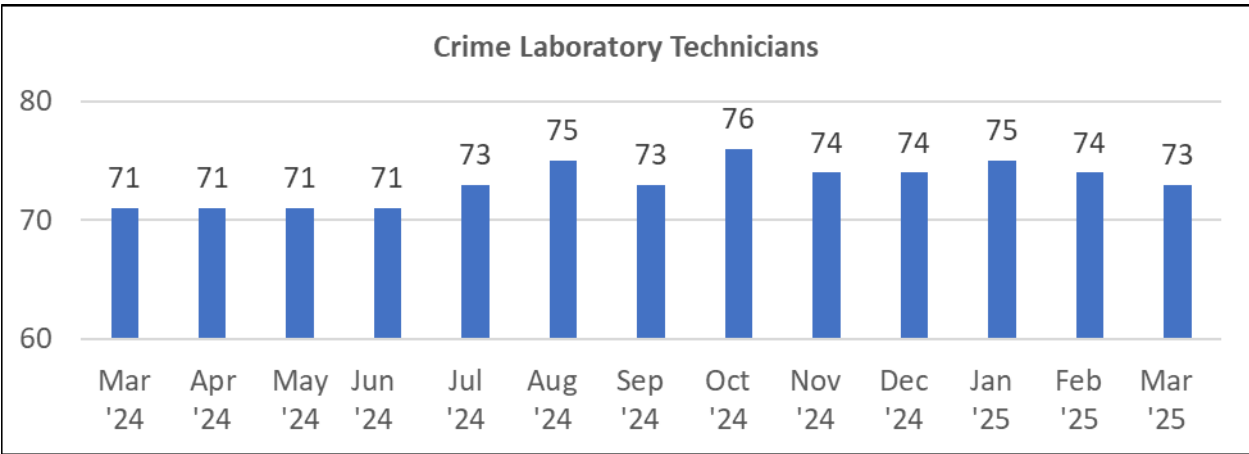
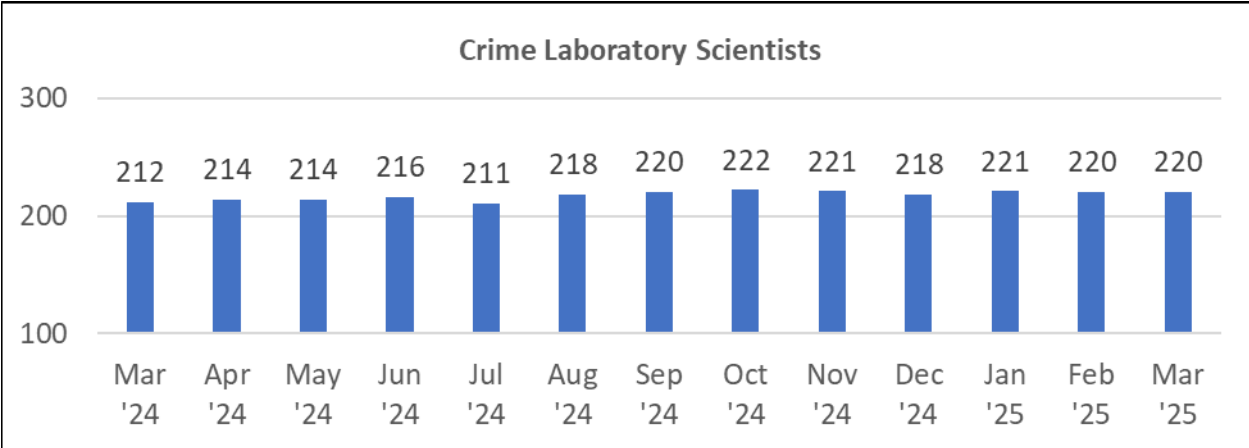
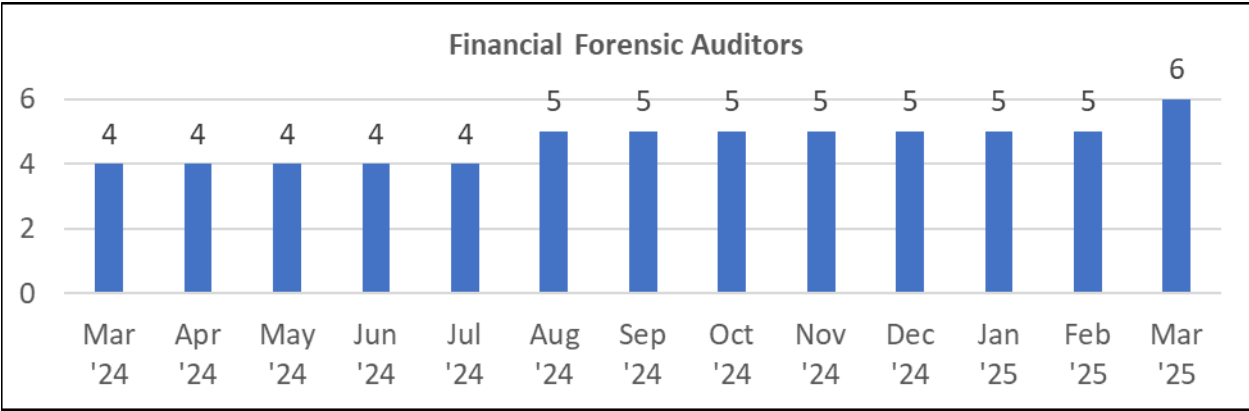


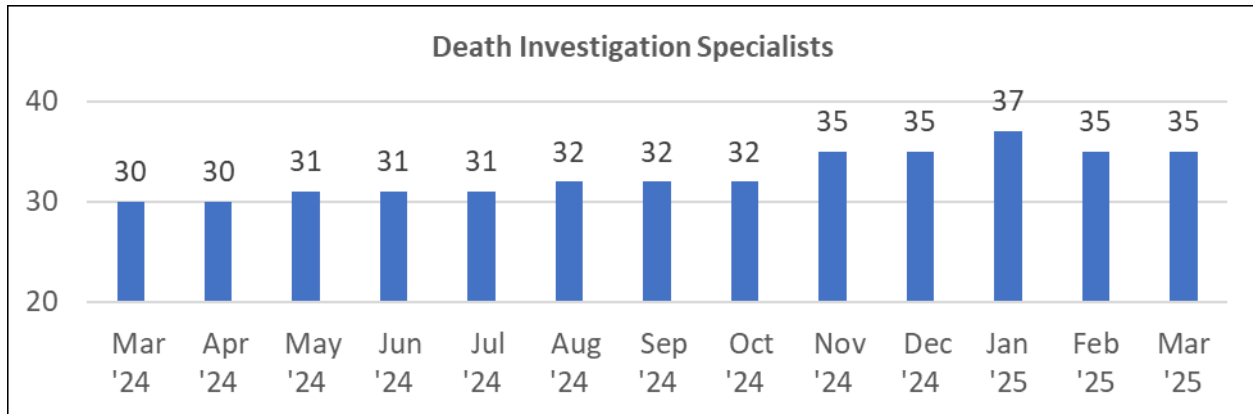
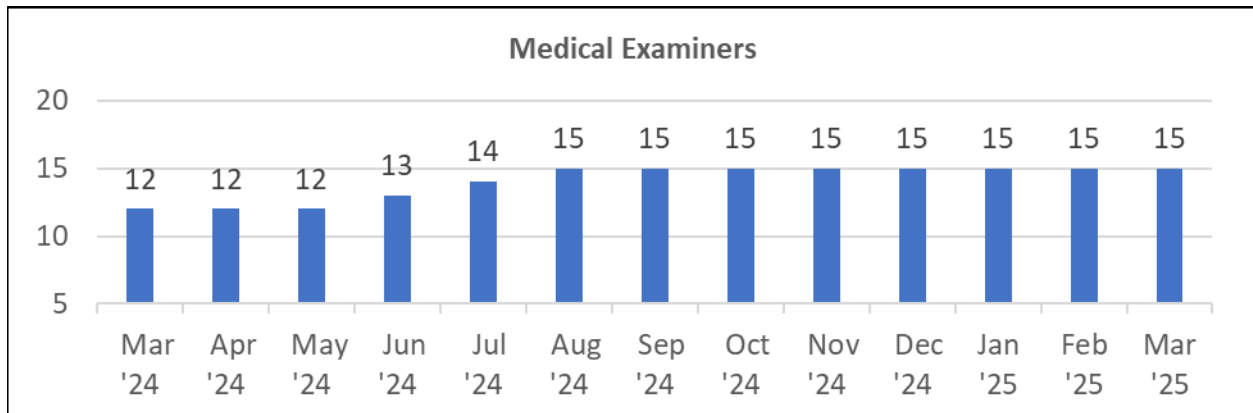
Staffing Report

Filled Positions

(All Fund Sources)







GBI Vacancies -- FY2025

(State Funds Only)

	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sept '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25
DOFS	58	46	45	39	39	42	36	41	42			
Scientist Positions	32	25	23	21	22	25	23	24	24			
Investigative Division	44	42	35	33	34	19	20	21	23			
Sworn Agent Positions	20	22	14	14	18	3	6	8	10			
GCIC	9	9	7	9	9	9	11	11	8			
Admin	5	5	4	4	5	6	6	6	5			

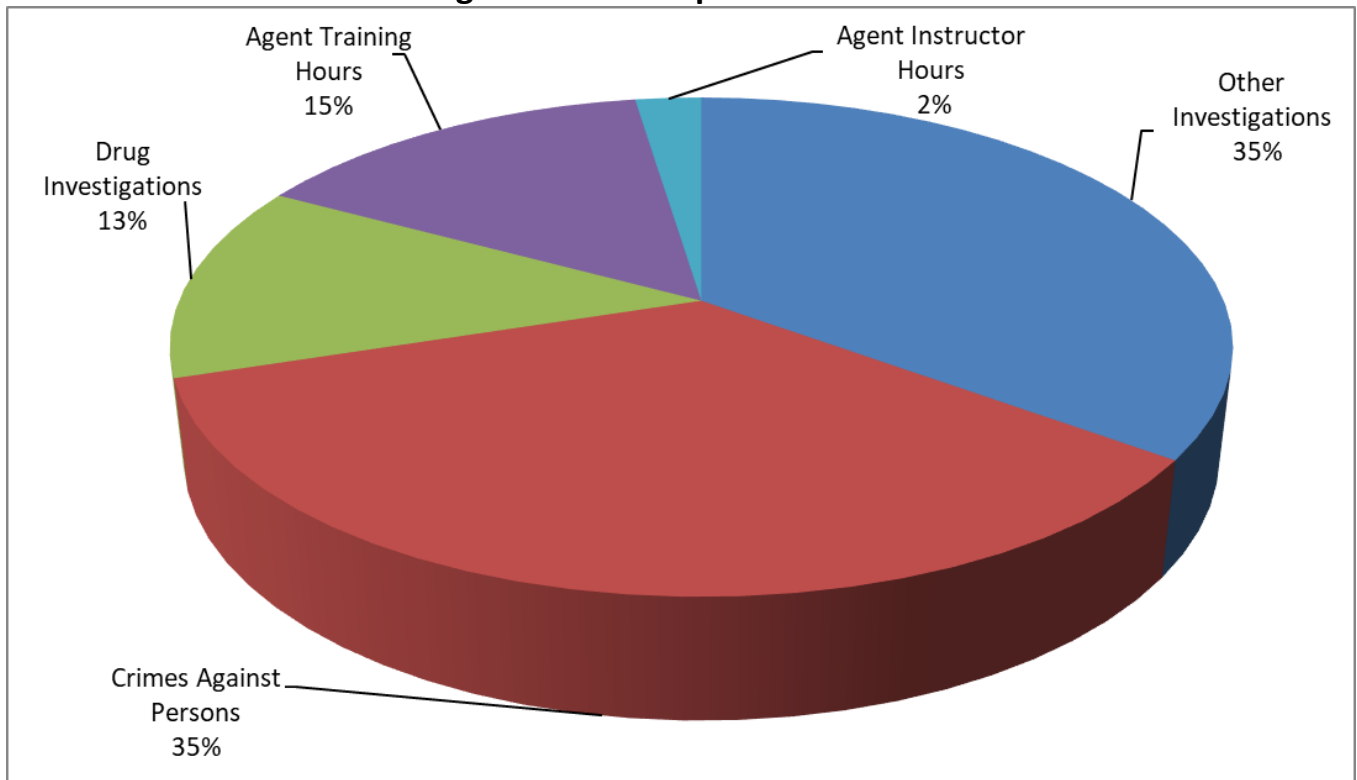


Investigative Division

Investigative Cases – YTD FY2025

	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	FY 2025
* Crimes Against Persons	85	106	130	110	72	62	87	78	95				825
**Drug Investigations	16	22	23	24	18	15	19	28	26				191
***Other Investigations	412	462	424	463	375	359	417	418	499				3,829
Total	513	590	577	597	465	436	523	524	620				4,845

Investigative Hours Expended - YTD FY2025



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

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

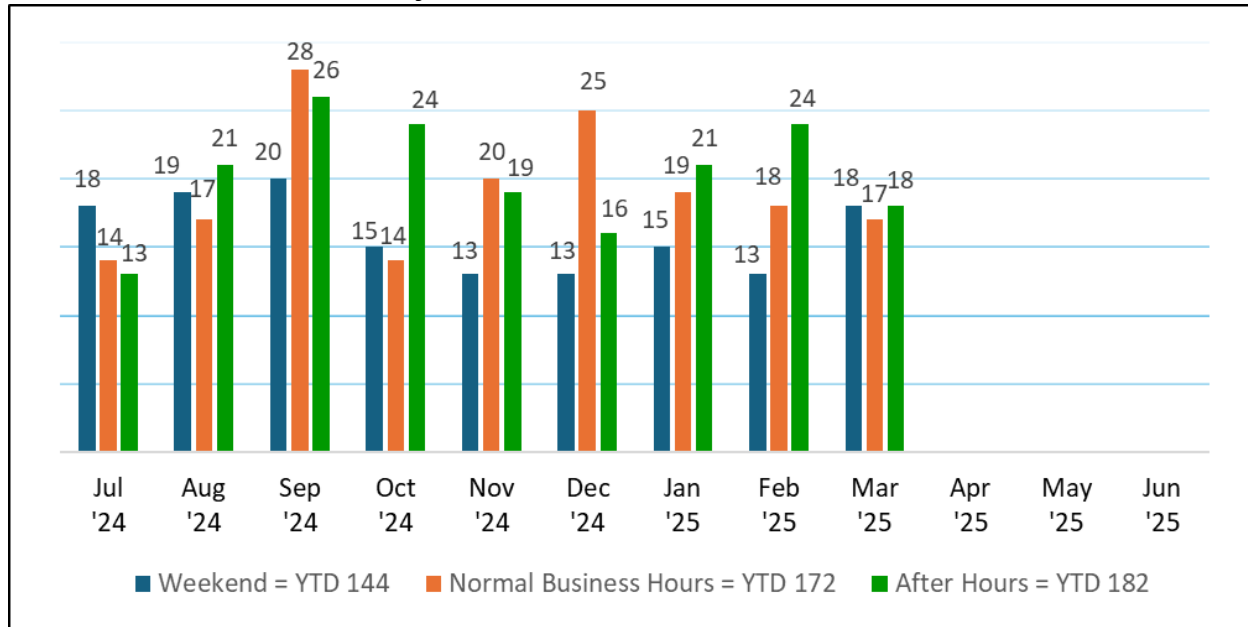
*** **Other Investigations** - corruption, cyber, bomb disposal, election, technology, cold case review, property crimes, special events, etc.

Recoveries, Seizures, Arrests – YTD FY2025

	March 2025	YTD FY2025
Property Stolen	\$0.00	\$170,449.52
Property Recovered	\$0.00	\$237,690.30
Contraband Seized	\$1,854,038.91	\$127,370,585.40
Arrests	67	828
Cases Closed	731	4,872

Note: Monthly totals are accurate at the time of this report. However, the totals may change due to late reporting and pending updates.

Major Case Call Outs - YTD FY2025



Georgia Information Sharing and Analysis Center (GISAC)

Watch Desk Activity YTD FY2025

	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	FY 2025
Threats to Life	34	42	62	36	41	27	49	39	36				366
See Send App Tips	2,352	628	803	571	630	744	653	573	647				7,601
Suspicious Activity	0	1	0	1	4	1	0	1	7				15
*Requests for Info.	1,936	1,978	1,659	1,816	1,516	1,441	1,741	1,702	1,847				15,636

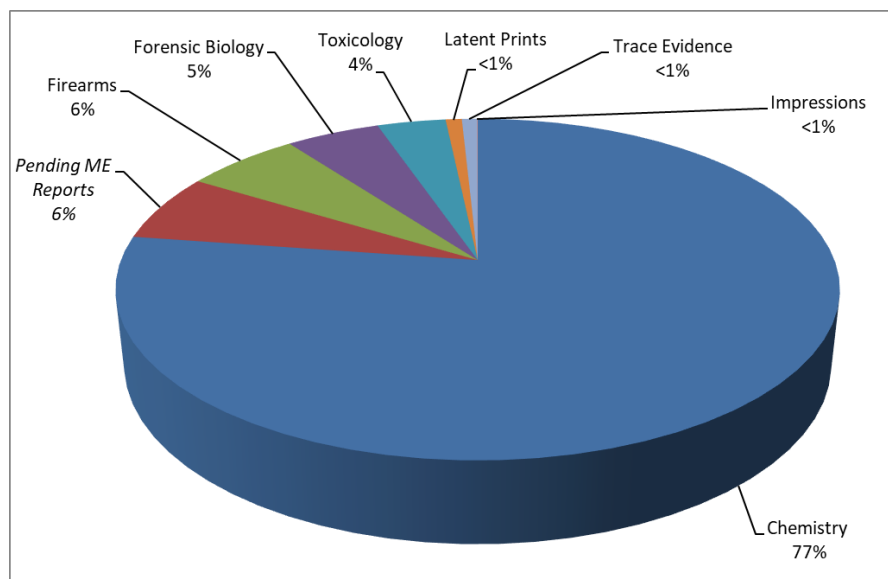
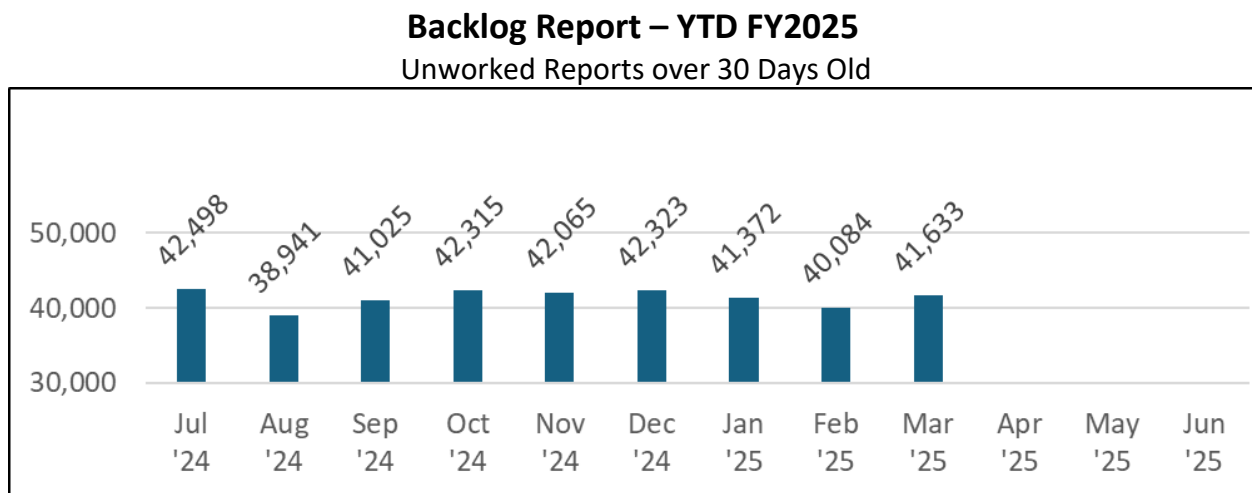
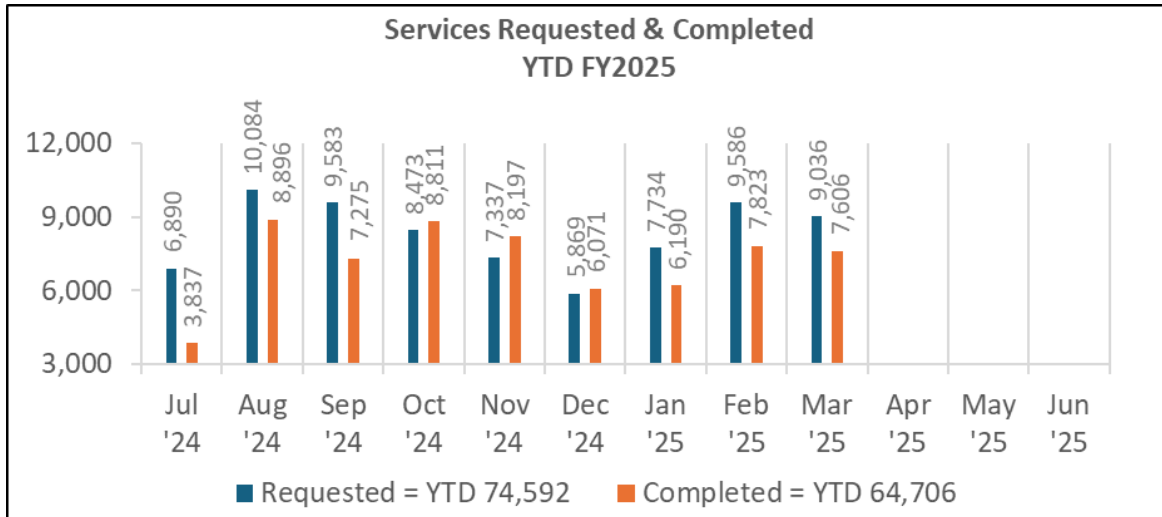
* The GISAC Requests for Information (RFI) totals are accurate at the time of this report. However, the numbers may change due to pending updates and modifications within the reporting system.

Investigative Division Notes:

- Fifteen (15) Special Agent applicants successfully completed the Command Staff interviews. Eleven (11) applicants will be contacted with conditional offers. The tentative hire date is June 16, 2025.



Crime Laboratory



Combined DNA Index System (CODIS)

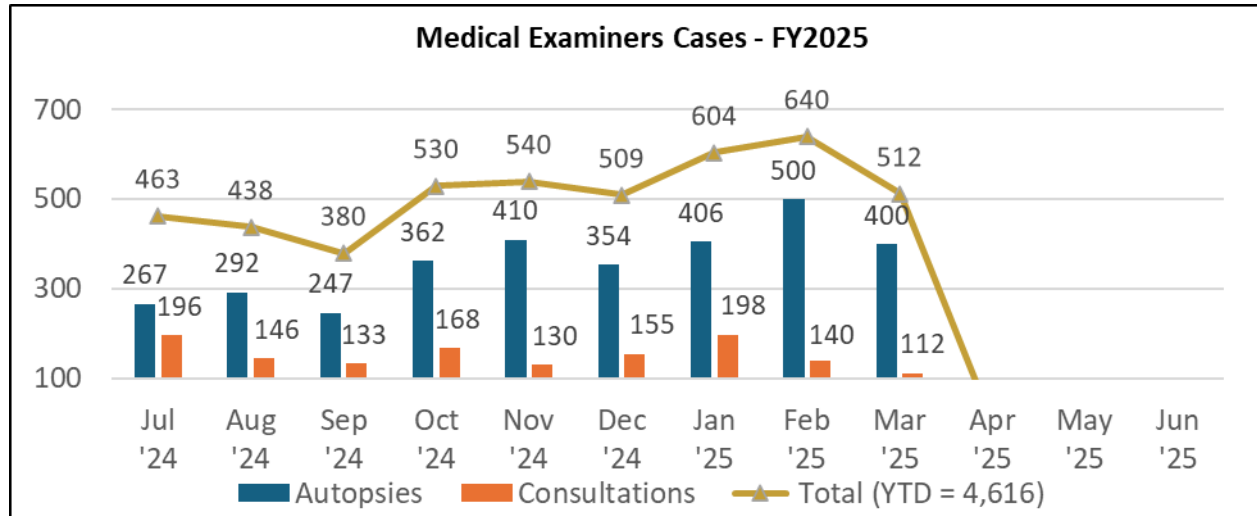
	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	YTD FY2025
Samples Entered	1,710	1,926	1,301	1,366	1,331	1,315	671	1,450	1,105				12,175
Confirmed Hits	65	35	49	55	45	37	38	33	35				392

Crime Laboratory Notes:

- The Crime Laboratory has 26 Scientists in training within their respective disciplines.
- On April 16, 2025, two (2) Crime Lab Scientists and one (1) Forensic Lab Technician began employment with the GBI Division of Forensic Sciences.
- The Division of Forensic Sciences (DOFS) Virtual Symposium is scheduled for June 17, 2025.



Medical Examiners (includes all laboratories)



MEO Backlog - FY2025

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

	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25
Reports Pending	1,938	2,110	2,113	2,436	2,863	2,712	2,494	2,557	2,652			
*Released w/in 90 Days	68.9%	53.0%	67.8%	61.7%	53.1%	58.0%	30.0%	52.9%	56.6%			

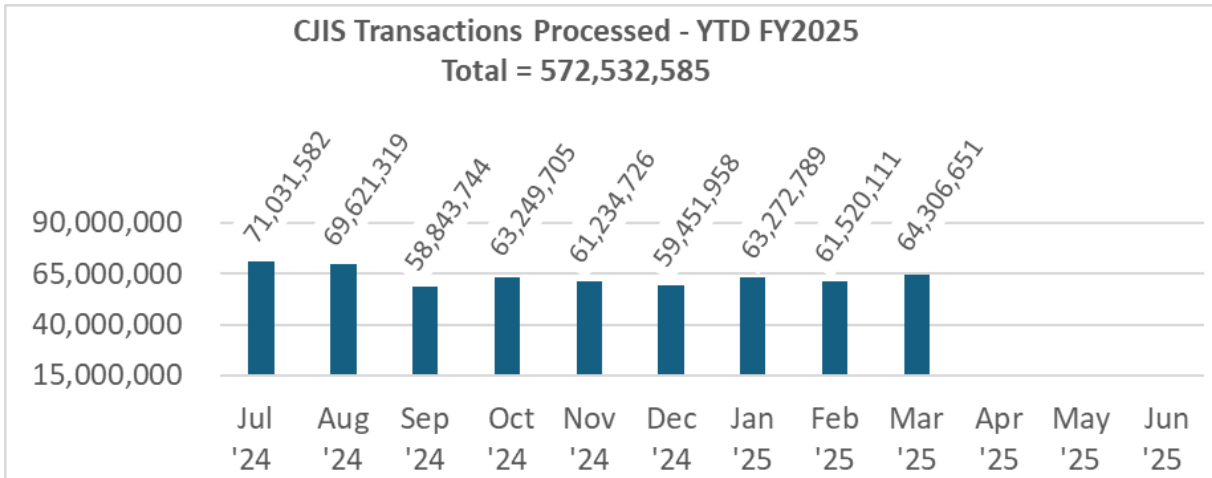
* Due to the number of old case reports released in January 2025 (including a 2022 case), an overall decrease is shown in the Percentage of Cases Released within 90 Days during January.

MEO Notes:

- GBI's Medical Examiner's Office hosted Georgia State Fire Marshal's Office Arson Unit Investigator Monica Puckett and K9 Justice for a presentation regarding fire death investigations.



Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC)



AFIS, CCH, and Applicant Activity Report

	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25
Criminal Fingerprint Submissions												
Submissions	44,936	45,969	43,645	46,204	41,533	41,768	40,370	43,436	46,236			
Submissions w/Palms	15,948	16,590	14,953	15,873	15,157	14,742	15,336	15,536	17,520			
Submissions w/Photos	11,132	11,617	10,231	10,937	10,625	10,259	10,509	10,269	11,640			
Latent Print AFIS HITS	19	44	40	27	18	5	18	18	16			
Applicant Fingerprint Submissions (Non-Criminal)												
Submissions	48,959	52,249	38,524	41,219	34,648	32,310	36,078	35,884	43,268			
Submissions through Rap Back	6,157	6,245	5,099	5,554	4,582	3,962	3,657	3,560	6,139			
Applicant Fingerprint Triggering Events	1,107	1,122	1,062	1,044	977	1,082	1,102	1,168	1,350			
Final Disposition Submissions												
Local Agencies	71,469	71,214	61,447	69,512	60,994	61,691	61,025	75,049	83,129			
GCIC	326	287	285	260	222	266	328	329	634			
Rapid ID Transactions												
Transactions	1,893	2,128	1,592	1,296	1,769	1,478	1,649	1,692	2,015			
Transactions w/AFIS HITS	49%	52%	49%	45%	45%	45%	47%	49%	50%			
Transactions w/NCIC HITS	52%	55%	51%	47%	50%	53%	52%	51%	50%			
**Transactions w/FBI RISC HITS	14%	15%	15%	14%	13%	13%	14%	14%	14%			

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

GCIC Activity Report

	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25
Off-Line Search Requests	17	14	10	15	11	19	18	22	11			
Sex Offender Registry <i>(Database Total 39,656)</i>												
Records Added	106	145	138	125	113	136	110	140	144			
Protection Order Registry <i>(Database Total 180,403)</i>												
Records Added	2,854	3,190	2,621	2,962	2,553	2,496	2,554	2,572	2,859			
Criminal Justice Agencies <i>(e.g. Law Enforcement Agencies, Criminal Court Systems, Corrections, etc.)</i>												
Audited	20	36	38	19	23	45	45	45	45			
In Compliance	4	5	5	7	5	14	14	14	14			
Out of Compliance	16	31	33	12	18	31	31	31	31			
Trained	10	4	4	19	5	2	1	4	2			
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	63	32	41	33	39	19	39	58	51			
In Compliance	32	25	32	18	26	11	24	29	31			
Out of Compliance	31	7	9	15	13	8	15	29	20			
Trained	12	57	16	57	6	349	16	10	109			
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	11	12	29	5	4	6	14	17	10			
CJIS Network Operator Certification (CNO)	3,058	3,078	3,018	2,532	2,345	2,732	4,039	5,527	4,048			
CJIS Security Policy Awareness and Training/Awareness Statement	5,538	6,878	7,064	5,389	4,730	6,303	7,972	12,009	7,906			

GCIC Notes:

- During March 2025, the percentage of electronically received fingerprint cards vs. mailed/manual fingerprint cards was 99.6%



Administration

Office of Privacy and Compliance / Open Records Unit

Open Records/Archives Requests - YTD FY2025

	Jul '24	Aug '24	Sep '24	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	FY 2025
Open Records Requests	694	573	573	586	681	576	544	702	790				5,719

Facilities – Major Projects Status

- Region 1 - Calhoun Office new construction is complete, and the move-in date is May 19, 2025.
- GBI Headquarters' Medical Examiner's Office new construction is scheduled to begin in May 2025.
- West Georgia Gang Task Force's building renovation is scheduled for completion in mid-June 2025.