

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



**Presented to the Board of Public Safety
September 11, 2025**

**Chris Hosey
Director**

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Director's Highlights

- Middle Georgia Gang Task Force (MGGTF) – On August 7, 2025, following a two-month investigation by the GBI's MGGTF, Dublin Police Department (PD), Georgia State Patrol (GSP), Georgia Department of Community Supervision (DCS), and the Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC), the MGGTF executed a search warrant at a home in the 500 block of Pine Street, Dublin, Laurens County, GA. As a result of this search warrant, GBI agents seized 461 grams of suspected Methamphetamine, 321 grams of suspected Powder Cocaine, 24 grams of suspected Crack Cocaine, 15 grams of suspected Ecstasy/MDMA, an unspecified quantity of suspected Oxycodone, an unspecified quantity of Alprazolam, 1 AR Style rifle, 1 handgun, and \$5,390 of US currency.

The GBI arrested and charged Brantley David Johnson, age 36, of Dublin, GA, with Trafficking Methamphetamine, Trafficking of Cocaine, Possession with Intent to Distribute Ecstasy, Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, Possession of Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, Possession of Schedule IV with Intent to Distribute, and Possession of Schedule II with Intent to Distribute. Makesha Latrise Johnson, age 49, of Dublin, GA, was arrested and charged with Trafficking Methamphetamine, Trafficking of Cocaine, Possession with Intent to Distribute Ecstasy, Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, Possession of Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, Possession of Firearm by Felon, Possession of Schedule IV with Intent to Distribute, and Possession of Schedule II with Intent to Distribute. Both were booked into the Laurens County Jail after arrest.

- Region 7 – GBI's Investigative Office in Thomson, GA, and GBI's Cold Case Unit (CCU) – On August 8, 2025, the GBI arrested four individuals from the Thomson area in the murder investigation of Cheryl Newsome and Troy Bennett. After 5 years, GBI agents and Warren County Sheriff's Office (SO) deputies charged Randy Hall, age 39, Lora Thornton, age 34, Chance McKenna, age 21, and a minor with Murder (2 counts), Armed Robbery (2 counts) and 1st degree Burglary (1 count) in connection with Newsome and Bennett's deaths.

On Monday, August 3, 2020, Newsome and Bennett were found deceased in their home with evidence to indicate a home invasion had occurred. Newsome was a retired nurse, and Bennett was a veteran and retired firefighter. The GBI's Region 7 Investigative Office was requested by the Warren County SO to assist in the death investigation. The GBI and the Warren County SO began and continued a diligent investigation into their deaths. On August 14, 2023, The GBI CCU received a Coleman-Baker Act application from Newsome and Bennett's family requesting a review of the case. The GBI CCU partnered with GBI's Region 7 Investigative Office and Warren County SO to conduct an in-depth review and analysis of the ongoing investigation and to assist with the continuing investigation.

Hall and Thornton were booked into the McDuffie County Jail. McKenna is in custody in the Georgia Department of Corrections.

- Office of Special Investigations (OSI) - Cold Case Unit (CCU) – Fifty (50) cold cases are being reviewed or reinvestigated at this time. Eighteen (18) were Coleman-Baker Act (CBA) requests from designated family members and the remaining cases were GBI initiated from cold cases throughout the State. The CBA request webform is available on GBI's website Home page. 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.
- On August 8, 2025, the Emory University PD requested the GBI investigate an officer involved shooting in Atlanta near the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at Emory University in DeKalb County, GA. The Atlanta PD had requested the GBI investigate a shooting incident that occurred prior to the officer involved shooting. The officer involved shooting resulted in the death of DeKalb County Police Officer David Rose, age 33, a United States Marine Corps veteran who had served with the DeKalb County PD for 11 months. Officer Rose was shot and killed responding to an active shooter who was brandishing multiple guns, firing at the windows of the CDC building. When law enforcement arrived, the shooter turned and fired at the officers. Officer Rose was struck and succumbed to his wounds at Emory University Hospital. Another officer received non-life-threatening injuries. The shooter, identified as Patrick Joseph White, age 30, of Kennesaw, GA, was found on the 2nd floor of the CVS with a self-inflicted gunshot wound. He died at the scene.

More than 500 shell casings were recovered from the crime scene. Investigators recovered a total of five firearms, along with other critical evidence. The ATF, FBI, Atlanta PD, Brookhaven PD, Chamblee PD, DeKalb County PD, Dekalb County SO, Dunwoody PD, and GSP assisted with clearing and securing the scene.

- From January 1 to August 31, 2025, the GBI investigated a total of forty-nine (49) Officer Involved Shootings (OIS). On August 31, 2025, GBI's Region 10 – Atlanta Regional Field Office in Conyers, GA, was requested by the Henry County PD. Henry Co PD officers responded to a 911 domestic incident on Brannan Road. As officers arrived at the scene, they encountered Greg Hamilton, age 38, of McDonough, GA, outside of the home holding a shotgun. Officers repeatedly told Hamilton to drop the shotgun, which he refused. One officer discharged his weapon, hitting Hamilton. Hamilton was taken to a local hospital for treatment. No officers were injured. This investigation is active and ongoing. Once the investigation is complete, the case file will be given to the Henry County District Attorney's Office for review.

Promotions Effective August 2025

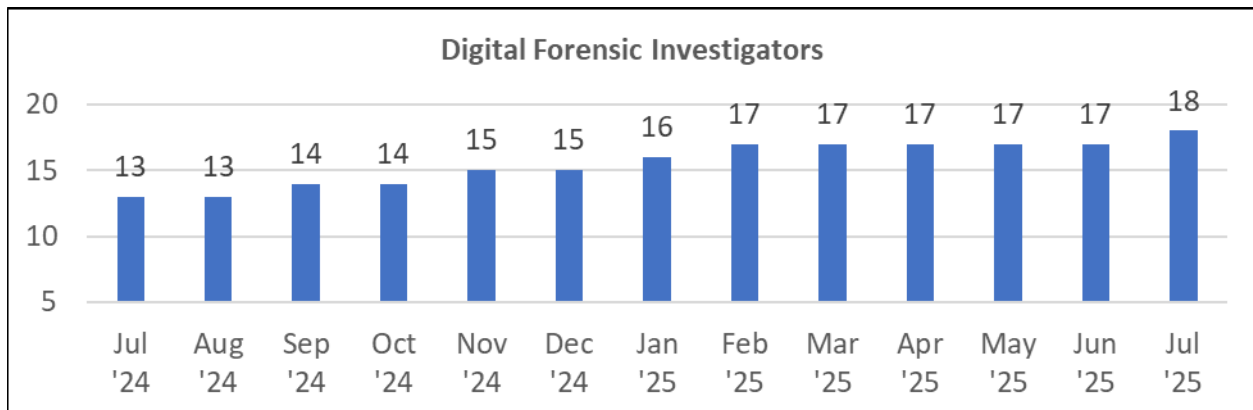
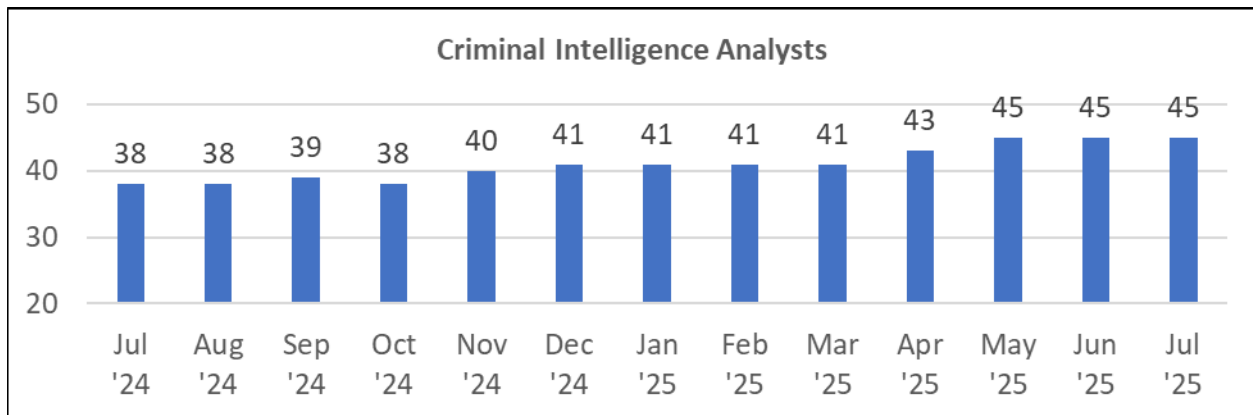
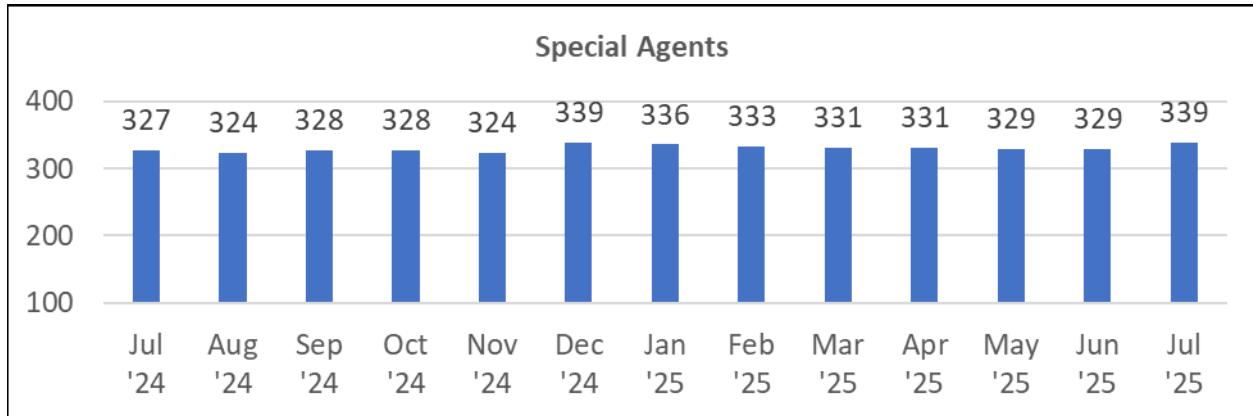
- Nicole Astor was promoted to Division of Forensic Sciences Chemistry Manager at Headquarters in Decatur, GA, effective August 1, 2025.
- Nicholas Goldy was promoted to Division of Forensic Sciences Chemistry Assistant Manager at Headquarters in Decatur, GA, effective August 1, 2025.
- Kim Jewett was promoted to Division of Forensic Sciences Trace Evidence Manager at Headquarters in Decatur, GA, effective August 1, 2025.
- Ben Stephenson was promoted to Division of Forensic Sciences Toxicology Manager at Headquarters in Decatur, GA, effective August 1, 2025.

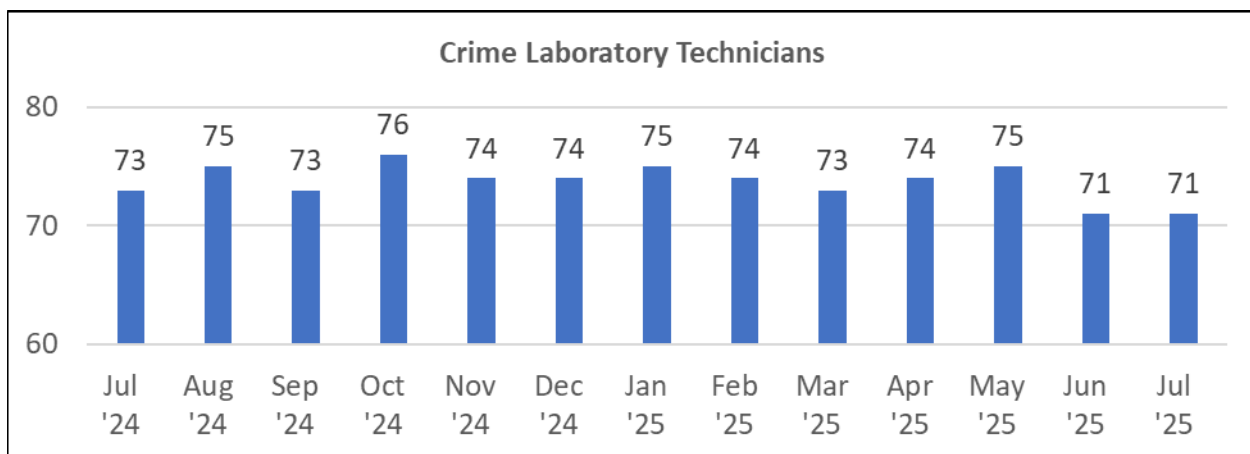
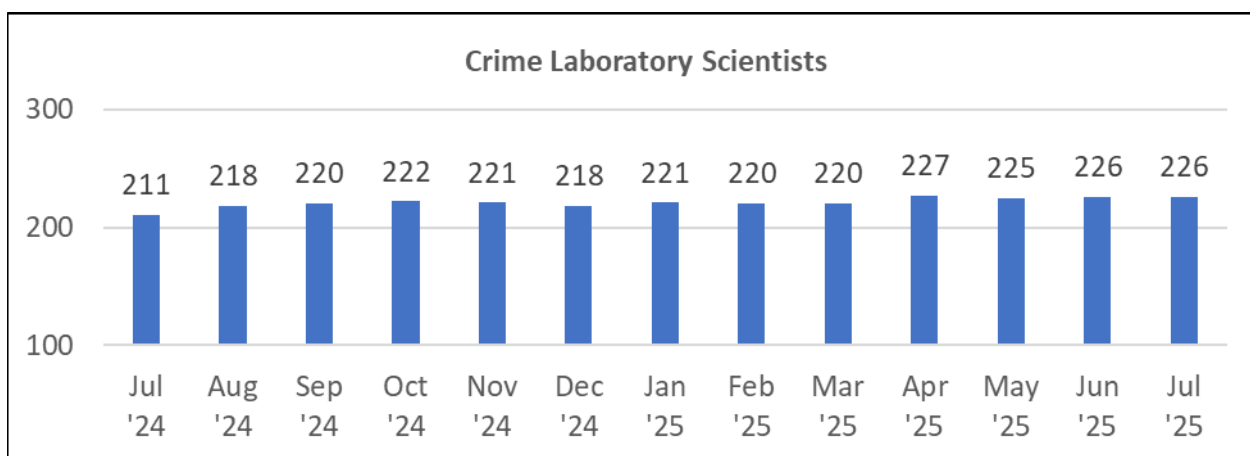
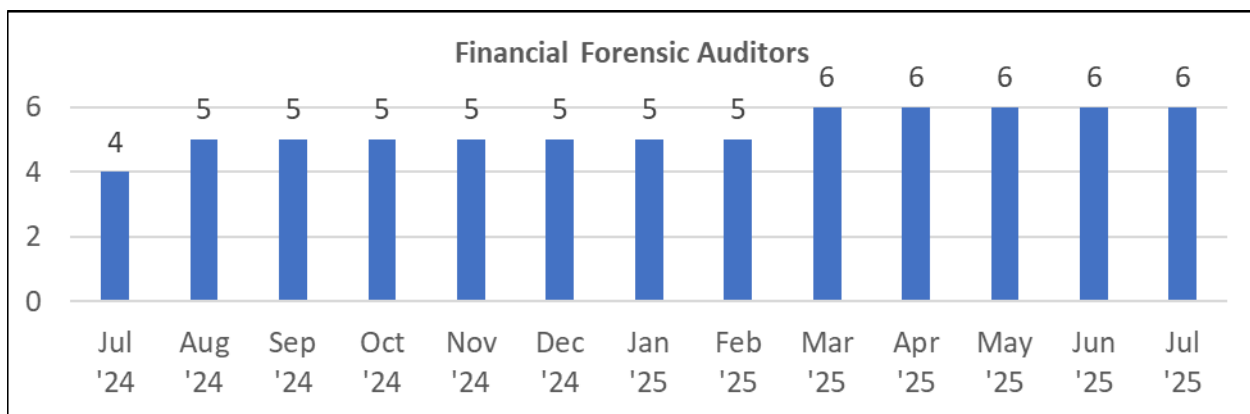


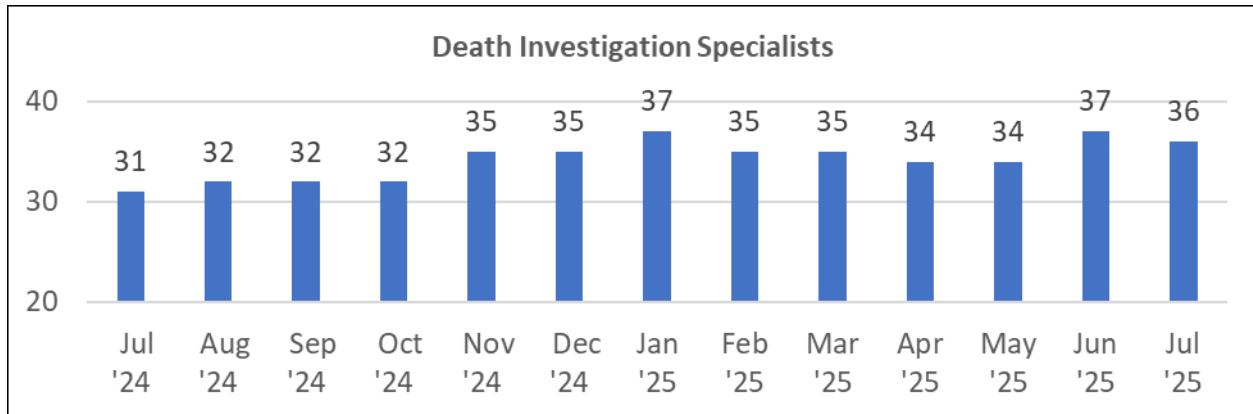
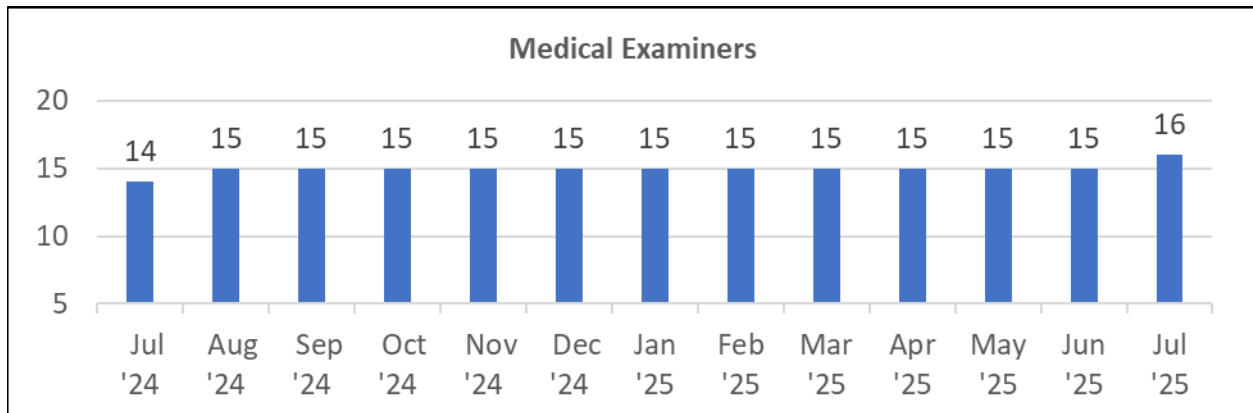
Staffing Report

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											
Scientist Positions	21											
Investigative Division	20											
Sworn Agent Positions	5											
GCIC	4											
Admin	6											

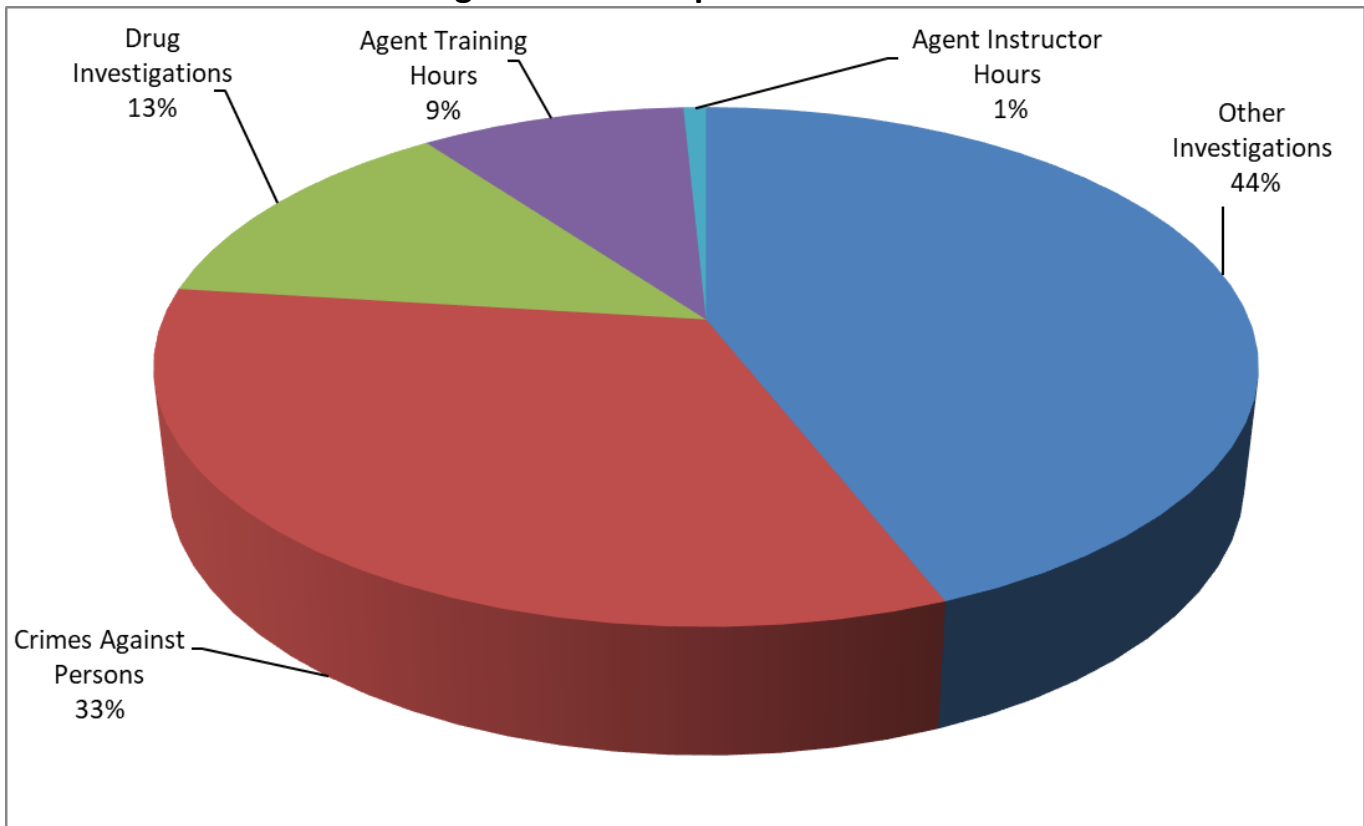


Investigative Division

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												162
**Drug Investigations	76												76
***Other Investigations	650												650
Total	888												888

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.

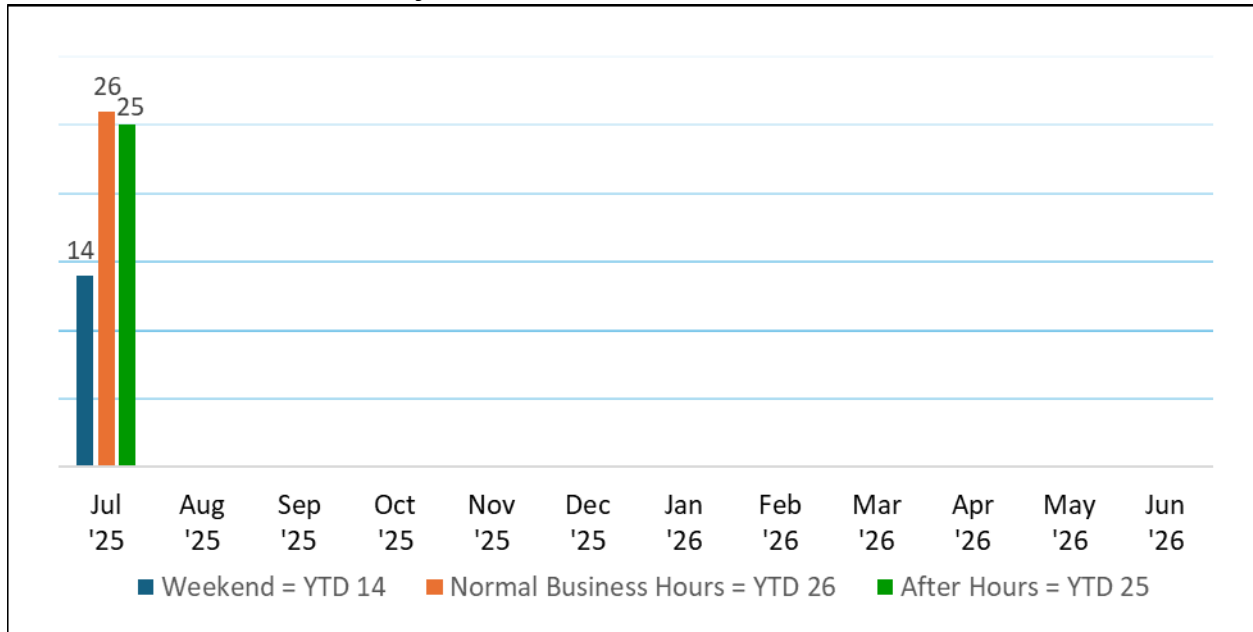
*** **Other Investigations** - corruption, cyber, bomb disposal, election, technology, cold case review, property crimes, special events, etc.

Recoveries, Seizures, Arrests – YTD FY2026

	July 2025	YTD FY2026
Property Stolen	\$0.00	\$0.00
Property Recovered	\$0.00	\$0.00
* Contraband Seized	\$33,682.00	\$33,682.00
Arrests	49	49
* Cases Closed	122	122

**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												15
See Send App Tips	954												954
Suspicious Activity	3												3
*Requests for Info.	1,351												1,351

** 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.*

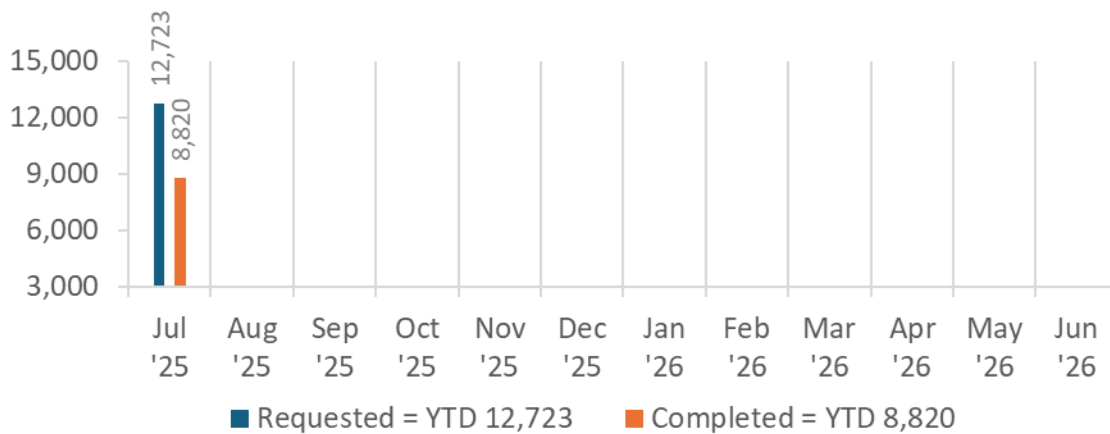
Investigative Division Notes:

- Forty-seven (47) Special Agent applicants are currently in the hiring process, polygraphs and backgrounds are ongoing.

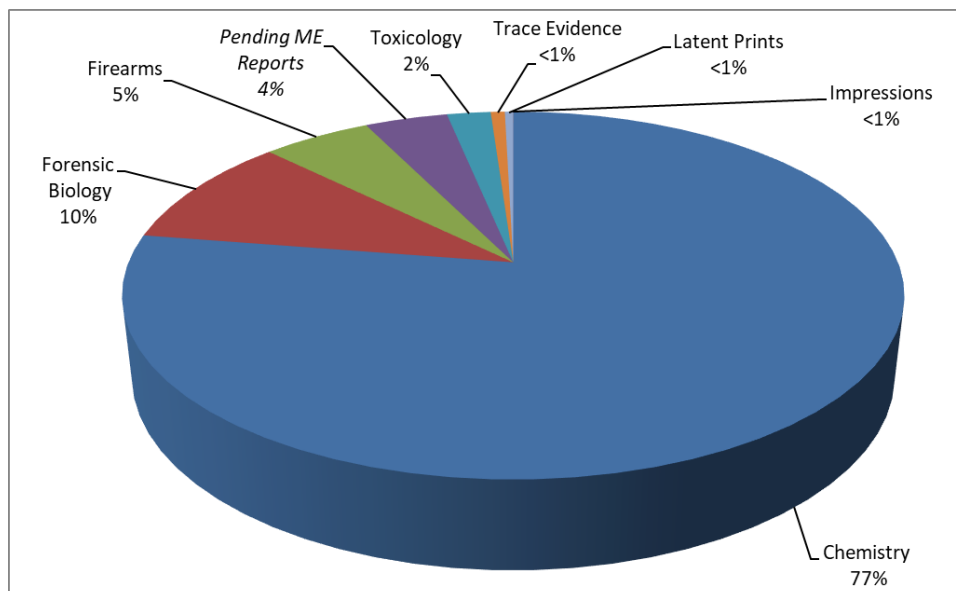
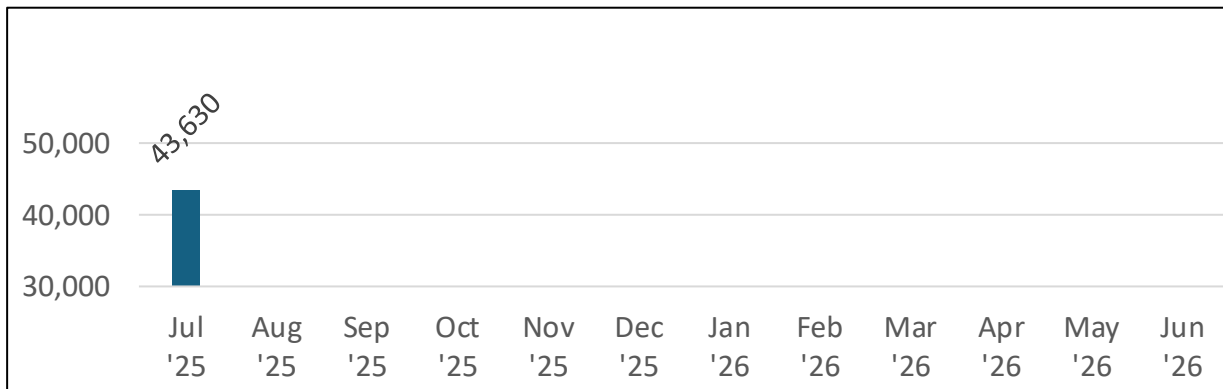


Crime Laboratory

Services Requested & Completed
YTD FY2026



Backlog Report – YTD FY2026
Unworked Reports over 30 Days Old



Combined DNA Index System (CODIS)

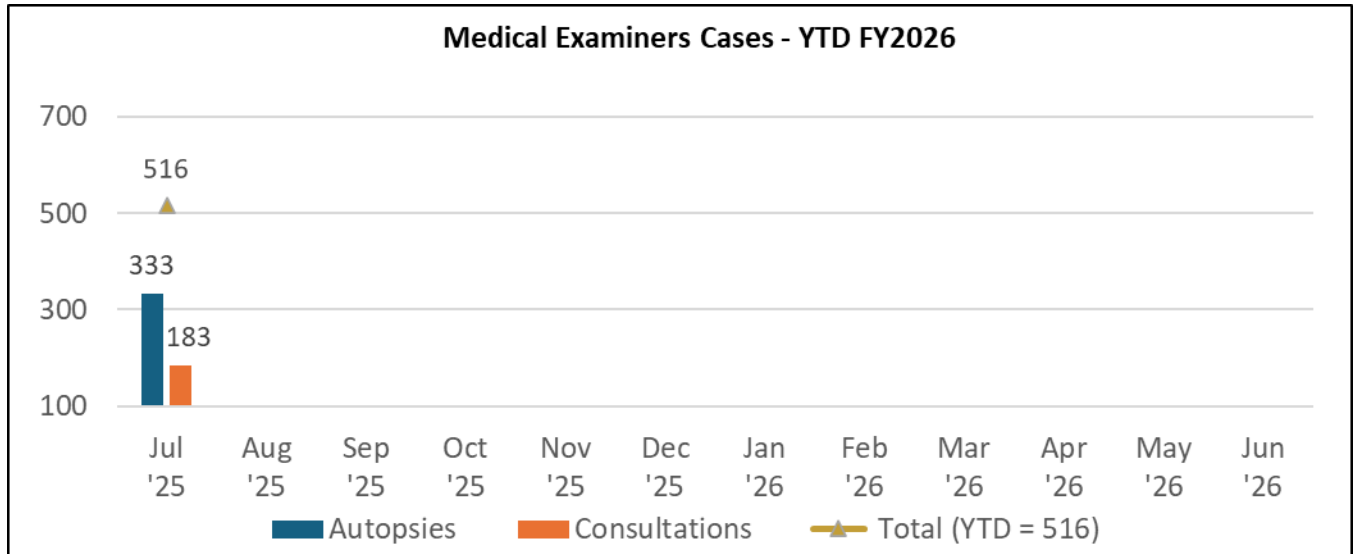
	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26	YTD FY2026
Samples Entered	1,923												1,923
Confirmed Hits	37												37

Crime Laboratory Notes:

- The Crime Laboratory has 21 Scientists in training within their respective disciplines.
- During August 2025, two (2) Crime Lab Scientists and one (1) Death Investigation Specialist began employment with the GBI Division of Forensic Sciences.



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.

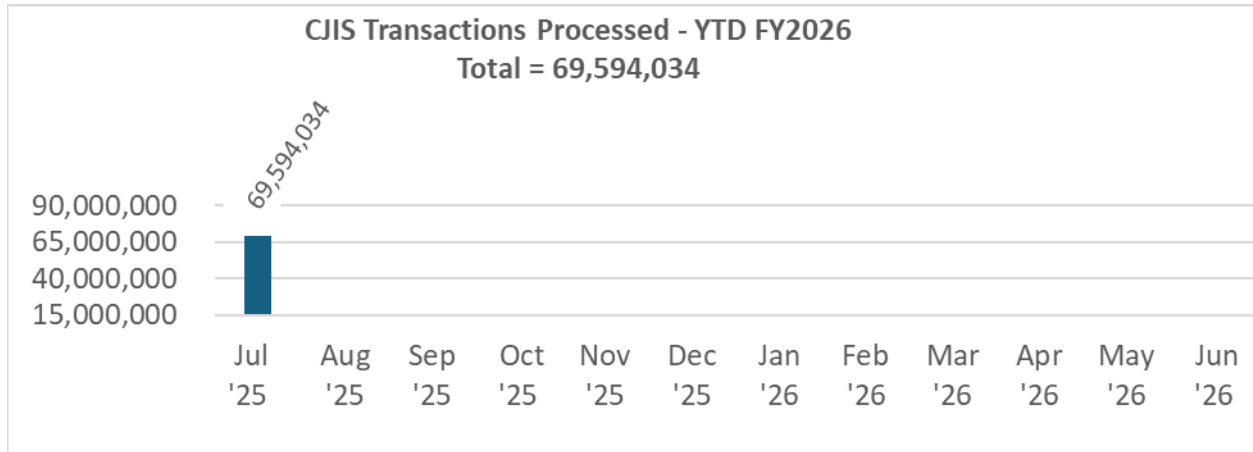
	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26
Reports Pending	1,779											
*Released w/in 90 Days	75.6%											

MEO Notes:

- Two medical students began one-month rotations with the GBI Medical Examiner's Office.
- During August 2025, FY26 MEO Fellows received classroom/lecture training on legal, gunshot wounds, deaths in water, death scene investigations, and blunt force injury. Fellows also visited Artivion for a tour of their facility and lab demonstrations.
- MEO Fellows, visiting students, and MEO staff received an entomology lecture provided by Dr. Edward Mondor, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Department of Biology, who specializes in Environmental Biology, Insect Ecology, and Forensic Entomology.



Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC)



AFIS, 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											
Submissions w/Palms	16,806											
Submissions w/Photos	10,629											
Latent Print AFIS HITS	16											
Applicant Fingerprint Submissions (Non-Criminal)												
Submissions	47,314											
Submissions through Rap Back	5,522											
Applicant Fingerprint Triggering Events	1,440											
Final Disposition Submissions												
Local Agencies	81,109											
GCIC	267											
Rapid ID Transactions												
Transactions	2,017											
Transactions w/AFIS HITS	58%											
Transactions w/NCIC HITS	52%											
**Transactions w/FBI RISC HITS	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 '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	20											
Sex Offender Registry <i>(Database Total 40,025)</i>												
Records Added	125											
Protection Order Registry <i>(Database Total 192,326)</i>												
Records Added	2,952											
Criminal Justice Agencies <i>(e.g. Law Enforcement Agencies, Criminal Court Systems, Corrections, etc.)</i>												
Audited	0*											
In Compliance	0*											
Out of Compliance	0*											
Trained	5											
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											
In Compliance	21											
Out of Compliance	18											
Trained	10											
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											
CJIS Network Operator Certification (CNO)	3,637											
CJIS Security Policy Awareness and Training/Awareness Statement	7,165											

* The CJIS Compliance unit began a new 3-year audit cycle, which included preparation for the new cycle in the months of July and August – 2025. Audit numbers will begin to show on the September 2025 monthly report.

GCIC Notes:

- During July 2025, the percentage of electronically received fingerprint cards vs. mailed/manual fingerprint cards was 99.8%.
- The GBI-GCIC Training Symposium will be held during the dates of October 27-28, 2025, in Jekyll Island. Registration is open. For information, visit [2025 GBI-GCIC Training Symposium - Registration is open](#)



Administration

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
Open Records Requests	721												721

Facilities – Major Projects Status

- GBI Headquarters' Medical Examiner's Office new construction is scheduled to begin in mid-September 2025.
- The new Central Medical Examiner's Building is currently in the programming phase of design.