Table of Contents

Agenda	Page 3
• July 8, 2022 Draft Meeting Minutes	
President's Report	
Operations: Detailed Data	
Agenda Item 8: Action Item Summary	
Agenda Item 9: Action Item Summary	Page 96
• Treasurer's Report	Page 97
• Quality Report	Page 104



Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting

September 9, 2022



Position 1 - Dr. Stacey Mitchell, Board Chair

Position 2 - Anna Vasquez

Position 3 - Philip Hilder

Position 4 - Francisco Medina

Position 5 - Vanessa Goodwin

Position 6 - Ellen Cohen

Position 7 - Lois J. Moore

Position 8 - Mary Lentschke, Vice Chair

Position 9 - Vicki Huff

Ex-Officio - Tracy Calabrese

SC SCIENCE CELL

Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc.

Board of Directors Public Meeting

Friday, September 9, 2022

www.houstonforensicscience.org

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Notice is hereby given that beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the date set out above, a quorum of the board of directors (the "board") of the Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc. ("HFSC" and/or the "corporation") will meet in the City Hall Council Annex Chamber, 900 Bagby St. (public level), Houston, Texas 77002.

In accordance with Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code (Texas Open Meetings Act) the agenda is posted for public information, at all times, for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of the meeting on the bulletin board located on the exterior wall of the City Hall building at 901 Bagby. The notice of this meeting, the agenda and the meeting packet are also posted online at https://www.houstonforensicscience.org/meeting-archives.php.

The items listed below may be taken out of order at the discretion of the chair. After the meeting concludes, a recording of the meeting will be posted to HFSC website at www.houstonforensicscience.org.

PARTICIPATING IN THE PUBLIC MEETING:

Members of the public may attend the meeting in person or participate by viewing the meeting through a live stream broadcast on the internet. To view the live stream meeting <u>online</u> please visit https://www.houstontx.gov/htv/index.html.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

The public is permitted to speak in-person during the public comment agenda item and as permitted by the chair.

A speaker may address any subject relevant to the purpose of the corporation. Each speaker should limit his or her comments to three minutes. The chair may limit both the number of speakers and the time allotted for each speaker. A speaker who plans to submit a document for the board's consideration should provide at least ten copies of the document, each marked with the speaker's name. If you have questions regarding attending this meeting please contact Amanda DeBerry, secretary of the board of directors, at 713-204-8179.

AGENDA

- 1. Call to order.
- 2. Roll call; confirmation of presence of quorum.
- 3. Public Comment.
- 4. Reading of draft minutes from July 8, 2022, board meeting. Consideration of proposed corrections, if any. Approval of minutes.
- 5. Report from Dr. Stacey Mitchell, board chair including a monthly update of activities, reminders about the board's upcoming meeting schedule, and other announcements.

- 6. Discussion regarding the corporation's Technical Advisory Group (the "TAG"), including membership composition, future advisement to the corporation, and other purposes for which the TAG was created.
- 7. Report from Dr. Peter Stout, CEO and president, including technical and operations updates, staffing, and update from the August stakeholders meeting regarding request prioritization and case acceptance polices.
- 8. Consider approval of Dr. Stout's proposed list of annual corporate priorities and goals, and possible related action.
- 9. Consider delegating authority to Dr. Stout to negotiate and enter into a contract for DNA outsourcing services between the Corporation and Signature Science, LLC, to be funded by the FY 2021- Bureau of Justice Assistance DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) federal grant, total budget not to exceed \$318,050.00.
- 10. Presentation from Mr. David Leach, treasurer and CFO, regarding approval of proposed fiscal year 2022 budget reallocations and possible related action.
- 11. Report from Ms. Erika Ziemak, quality director, including an overview of the blind quality control program, external assessment findings, TFSC disclosures and testimony monitoring.
- 12. Adjournment.

NOTICE REGARDING SPECIAL NEEDS:

Persons requiring accommodations for special needs may contact HFSC at 713-204-8179.

NOTICE REGARDING CLOSED MEETINGS:

As authorized by Texas Government Code Chapter 551.001 (the "Open Meetings Act"), if, during the course of the meeting covered by this notice, the board should determine that a closed or executive meeting or session of the board should be held or is required in relation to any items included in this notice, then such closed or executive meeting or session as authorized by Section 551.001 et seq. of the Texas Government Code will be held by the board at that date, hour and place given in this notice or as soon after the commencement of the meeting covered by the notice as the board may conveniently meet in such closed or executive meeting or session concerning any and all subjects and for any and all purposes permitted by Section 551.071-551.089, inclusive, of the Open Meetings Act, including, but not limited to:

551.071 - Consultation with Attorney
551.072 - Deliberation Regarding Real Property
551.073 - Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gift Section
551.074 - Personnel Matters
551.076 - Deliberation Regarding Security Devices
551.084 - Exclusion of Witness
551.087 - Economic Development Negotiations

The presiding officer shall announce that the board will convene in a closed meeting; that is, in "a meeting to which the public does not have access," sometimes known as an "executive session." The presiding officer's announcement will identify the provision(s) of the Open Meetings Act permitted by

Section 551.071-551.089 under which the closed meeting will be held. Should any final action, final decision, or final vote be required in the opinion of the board with regard to any matter considered in such closed or executive meeting or session, then such final action, final decision, or final vote shall be at either:

- A. The open meeting covered by this notice upon the reconvening of the public meeting, or
- B. At a subsequent public meeting of the board upon notice thereof, as the board shall determine

Certification of Posting of Notice of the Board of Directors of the Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc.

I, Amanda DeBerry, secretary, do hereby certify that a notice of this meeting was posted on Tuesday, the 6th day of September 2022, in a place convenient to the public on the bulletin board located on the exterior wall of the City Hall building at 901 Bagby Street, Houston, Texas 77002, and on the HFSC website as required by Section 551.002 et seq., Texas Government Code

Given under my hand this the 6th day of September 2022.

Amanda DeBerry

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Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc.

Board of Directors Public Meeting ~ Minutes ~

Friday, July 8, 2022

www.houstonforensicscience.org

1. CALL TO ORDER:

At 9 a.m., Board Chairwoman Stacey Mitchell called the meeting to order.

The Houston Forensic Science Center, Inc. ("HFSC" and/or the "corporation") board of directors (the "board") convened this in-person meeting on Friday, July 8, 2022, in the City Hall Council Annex Chamber, 900 Bagby St. (public level), Houston, Texas 77002. In a manner permitted by the corporation's bylaws, the meeting was called by providing all directors with notice of the date, time and purpose of the meeting at least three days before the scheduled date.

In accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code (Texas Open Meetings Act) a notice of this meeting was posted on the bulletin board located on the exterior wall of the City Hall building at 901 Bagby on July 5.

2. ROLL CALL:

The following board members were present in-person:

Chairwoman Stacey Mitchell
Philip Hilder
Francisco Medina
Vanessa Goodwin
Ellen Cohen
Tracy Calabrese

The following board member was absent:

Vice-chairwoman Mary Lentschke	
Anna Vasquez	
Lois Moore	
Vicki Huff	

Chairwoman Mitchell declared a quorum was present noting that all members were physically present in-person.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chairwoman Mitchell gave members of the public an opportunity to address the board. No members of the public addressed the board.

4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING:

Following a motion by Director Ellen Cohen and seconded by Director Philip Hilder, the board unanimously approved the May 13, 2022 meeting minutes.

5. CHAIRWOMAN MITCHELL'S REPORT:

The chairwoman first recognized and thanked the members for their attendance at the meeting.

Next, she reminded members of the next board meeting on Sept. 9, 2022. The meeting will focus on looking at HFSC's progression towards meeting its annual goals and setting new goals for next year. She noted that the meeting calendar was slightly different this year since the board decided to align their discussions with the same timeframe the staff used, including Dr. Peter Stout's annual evaluation.

6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF HFSC'S REVISED FY23 BUDGET:

President and CEO Dr. Peter Stout began by asking the board to consider approving HFSC's revised fiscal year (FY) 2023 budget. He pointed out that the city ultimately decided to keep HFSC's budget at \$28.5 million, the same as FY 2022 in addition to a one-time allocation of \$3 million in federal relief funds provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The corporation's initial \$1.5 million award was part of Mayor Sylvester Turner and the Houston city council's public safety initiative, One Safe Houston.

He then outlined the plan to spend the \$3 million in ARPA grant funding which includes \$2 million for training, \$300,000 for overtime in the crime scene unit and firearms, and \$700,000 to outsource toxicology cases. Outsourcing will help the group catch up and ultimately eliminate the backlog.

Director Francisco Medina made a motion to approve the revised FY23 budget. Director Vanessa Goodwin seconded the motion, and the board unanimously approved the motion.

7. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BUDGET MODIFICATION TO THE SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE CORPORATION:

Chairwoman Mitchell first noted that the board approved an overarching agreement from the city to receive ARPA federal relief funds at the board meeting in May. She explained that the approved agreement with the city was to allocate an additional \$1.5 million to the laboratory. However, the approved budget amount increased, requiring the members' approval before Dr. Stout could sign the final agreement.

Next, Director Philip Hilder asked how long the ARPA funding would last. Dr. Stout stated that the ARPA funding must be obligated by June 2024, but he anticipates the funding will be allocated by the end of FY23.

Director Hilder made a motion to approve a budget modification to the sub-recipient agreement between the city for HFSC to receive the \$3 million in ARPA funding. Director Cohen seconded the motion, and the board unanimously approved the motion.

8. PRESIDENT AND CEO DR. PETER STOUT'S REPORT:

Dr. Stout discussed the current challenges with homicides in the city and the workload it places on the laboratory. For example, the crime scene unit processed a recording-breaking number of 85 vehicles in June, compared to 77 in February. He acknowledged that many HFSC sections struggle with significant backlogs but shared that the latent prints section's backlog decreased below 1,500. Last year, the group implemented its lean six sigma project to help improve the processes and address the long-standing backlog of 2,200 cases.

Next, Dr. Stout noted that the quality division wrapped up the annual internal audits on May 27, which help prepare the laboratory for the reaccreditation assessment that occurs every four years. The ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) external assessment is slated from August 8-12.

He briefly explained the staffing turnover issue in the seized drug section, noting they have added six new trainees. Therefore, he anticipates that the marijuana backlog will remain for another year.

9. PRESIDENT AND CEO DR. PETER STOUT'S PRESENTATION REGARDING CASEWORK PRIORITIZATION AND RELATED CHALLENGES:

Dr. Stout first reiterated that the revised FY23 budget limits the corporation's ability to address the growing workload. Next, he addressed the complexities of casework prioritization, indicating there is limited time and staff to fulfill the stakeholder's needs.

He briefly explained the purpose of the discussion, noting that the goal centered around the members better understanding the challenges the lab is facing and obtaining their help in managing its workflow without compromising quality standards.

Given the limited resources, he shared that the laboratory's challenges include demands to expedite misdemeanor DWI cases, the wasted time the analysts spend waiting outside the courtroom before testifying, or hours spent fulfilling document requests for dismissed cases.

Director Hilder asked how the HCDAO sets priorities for its cases and what authority an Assistant District Attorney (ADA) has regarding priority. Dr. Stout stated that no established policy exists at the HCDAO. However, one issue HFSC often faces is choosing which case to prioritize because, historically, its choice is dictated by the prosecuting ADA who yells the loudest. With respect to trials, the judges demand that the state be prepared with their witnesses, and the ADAs respond to the demands by requesting the analysts wait at the courthouse until their testimony is needed. Director Vanessa Goodwin inquired about a letter that HFSC wrote to the presiding and administrative judges asking them to allow remote testimony and for the personnel to be on call. Dr. Stout's replied that the response received was silence. HFSC does not have control over what the judges do in their courtroom, thus it is challenging to make progress on certain issues.

Dr. Stout touched on strains and impacts on the HCDAO, highlighting the 46,000 felony cases backlogged spread between 69 ADAs, which means about 1,000 are sitting on their desks.

In response to the suggestions offered by various board members, Dr. Stout stated the systemic issue could work if routine communication was established between the laboratory, prosecution, and law enforcement. For example, if stakeholders routinely update the system to indicate when a case has been dismissed or needs to be taken out of the queue to avoid unnecessary work. He suggested getting all the parties involved to the table within the next three months to discuss the lab's proposal on case management policy because if the lab can't provide the results, the system stops. He's hopeful that everyone understands the priority of this and the difficulty and works actively in negotiations to get to a solution that works for everyone.

Lastly, Chairwoman Mitchell reiterated that they are at the beginning stages of addressing the issues and pulling the stakeholders in to dive further into the stated challenges. She added that members would continue to work with Dr. Stout, and if the time comes for the board to act or show additional support for any changes, then she's confident they'll be prepared to do whatever is best for the staff.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairwoman Mitchell requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Francisco Medina made a motion to adjourn. Director Hilder seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

The undersigned secretary of the board hereby certifully 8, 2022 public meeting of the board.	fies the following are true and correct minutes of the
By: <u>Amanda DeBerry</u>	_ Amanda DeBerry, Secretary

President's Report

September 9, 2022

Operational update/highlight

Operations

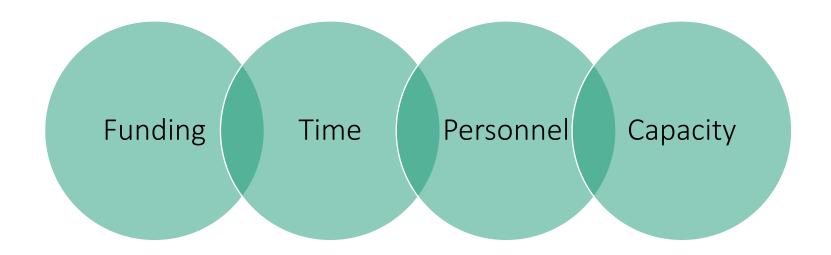
- CSU cleared out over 170 VEB reports, reducing the backlog to under 200
- Toxicology outsourcing resumed with ARPA funds- this will result in the backlog starting to decrease
- The requests for digital work have had a ~60% decrease the last three months
- ANAB external assessment concluded on August 11th.

Staffing

 With recent turnover in Seized Drugs, only four analysts processing nonmarijuana case work- expect backlog to be an issue for another year

Prioritization:

How do we determine what work gets done and when, given our limited resources?



HFSC has limited time and staff available to do the work

- Extensive time and labor required to fulfill requests and meet stakeholder needs
- Increasing number of requests and complexity
- Staff size will not grow significantly in FY23 to manage increased workload
- Staff work long hours to keep up, risking burnout
- Backlog means work is waiting to be done; to prioritize 1 case means SOMETHING else must wait.
 We have no spare capacity.
- Staff also face challenges in managing other administrative and testimony requests

Objective priority management

- HFSC will need more case information to determine priorities
- Priority requests risk bias
- Need mechanisms that insulate analysts from the requests
 - Reduce potential biasing influence
 - Reduce distraction
- Additional importance of driving requests through the "portal"

Progress since July Board Meeting

Prioritization

Stake holder meeting Wednesday (8/31)

- Representation from
 - HCDAO
 - HPD
 - City of Houston
 - PDO and defense bar
 - Administrative judges and court administration
- Primarily discussed prioritization and testimony management
- Action items developed around finalizing case management policies and reoccurring prioritization meetings

Case management policies

- New policies created for the other disciplines plan to launch October 1, 2022
 - Digital and multimedia
 - Limit the number of items to 3 to be analyzed in first request
 - Allows for rejection of requests that do not provide documentation needed (ex- search warrants)
 - Firearms
 - Requires a consultation/prioritization on any requests over 20 cartridge casings
 - Establishes a limit to how many priorities the section can work at one time (5)
 - Latent print revisions



Consistent priority management structures

- Weekly tactical meetings HCDAO, HPD and HFSC
 - Misdemeanor (predominantly tox and seized drugs)
 - Felony (other disciplines)
 - All representatives of the State (under criminal law)
- Stakeholder meetings
 - HPD, HCDAO, Defense Bar, HFSC AND judicial administration
 - High-level view across the system, not individual cases
 - Ongoing discussion of how to best manage testimony scheduling and docketing to ensure HFSC can be responsive to those frameworks
- Request Portal
 - HCDAO went live on September 2; requests for service no longer by phone and email
 - Still building a framework for priority requesting

Efforts to Increase Grant Funding

- Limited availability of federal funds for disciplines oustide FBIO
- HFSC is unable to take advantage of certain forensic grants, due to elibigility
- Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants
 - Could provide additional resources for other HFSC disciplines
 - Eligible recipients are states and units of local government, as defined by federal law
 - HFSC's unique legal structure is often problematic for federal program eligibility
 - HFSC has been deemed ineligible for Coverdell, in part, due to language in our certificate of formation
 - HFSC, city legal, and our federal partners are reviewing a potential resolution by amending Article 13 of the certificate of formation
- Any progress on eligibility will positively impact the next grant cycle

2022-2023 HFSC Company Goals

- All sections complete 80% of monthly one-on-ones as measured by the workflow in Qualtrax and 90% completion company-wide of mid-year reviews (using a one-on-one and short documentation in Qualtrax)
- 2. 12-15% voluntary turnover rate company-wide for the review year.
- 3. Each staff member receives a minimum of 16 hours of continuing education.
- 4. All sections (technical and support) hit their section production and quality goals. Each section's goal reflects working towards stakeholder needs and producing quality work.

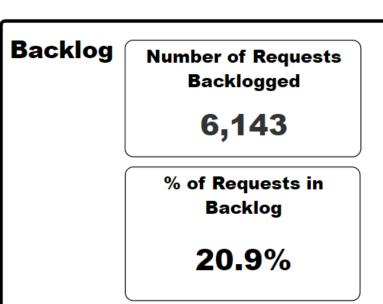
 Scoring:
 - 1- 0 of 14
 - 2- 9 or less of 14
 - 3- 10-11 of 14
 - 4- 12-13 of 14
 - 5- 14 of 14

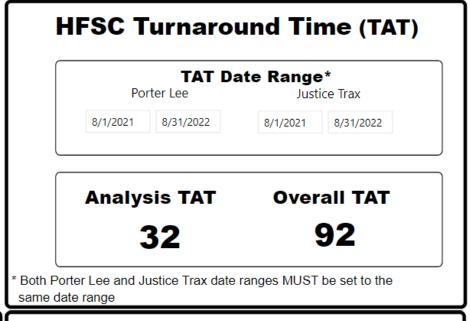
Operations Data - August 2022

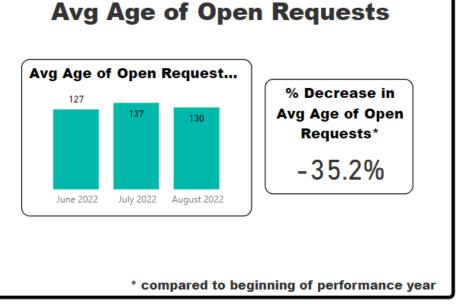
Detailed data

August 2022 Company Overview









August 2022 Company Overview

% Decrease in Age of Open Requests*

-35.2%

* compared to beginning of performance year

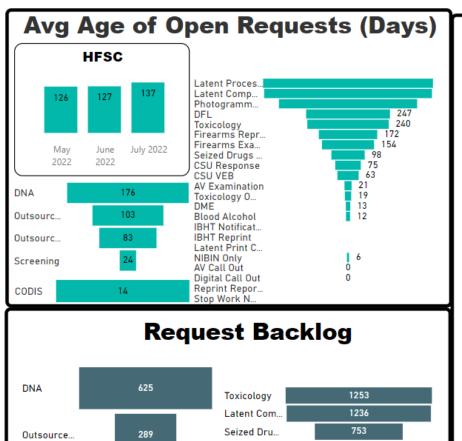


% of Requests in Backlog

20.9%

Outsource...

Screening



Latent Proc...

CSU Respo...

CSU VEB

Firearms Ex...

Firearms Re...

Section/Service Backlog Present if >15 requests are in the Backlog

DFL

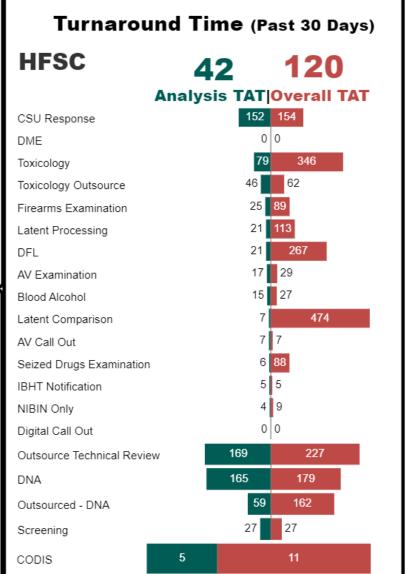
729

408

362

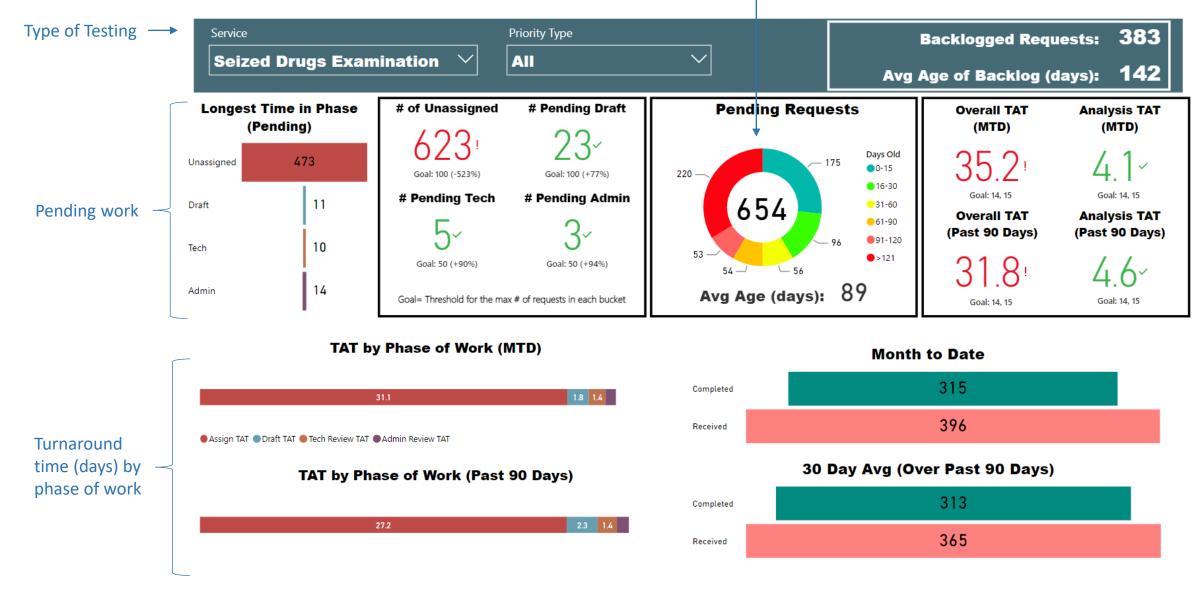
188

175



Key for Dashboard Section Pages

Center of ring=total pending cases
Ring=breakdown of age for all pending cases



TAT= Turnaround Time MTD= Month to date

Backlogged Requests = Requests open over 30 days

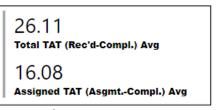
Key for Dashboard Historical Pages 1/2 Date Range 8/1/2018 8/31/2019 **Total TAT by Month** ● Rec'd-Assign TAT ● Assigned TAT ● Total TAT 27.6 30 32.5 26.3 25.7 24.9 20.9 20.9 10 February 2019 March 2019 April 2019 May 2019 June 2019 July 2019 August 2019 Data broken **Requests Completed** down by month 44 38 38 11 36 36 36 6 14 10 11 17 33 30 26 25 10 24 21 8 February 2019 March 2019 April 2019 May 2019 June 2019 July 2019 August 2019

■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days ■ Requests Completed > 30 Days Old ■ Total Completed

Type of testing



Selected Time Frame Averages



Overall average for the selected date range



Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests

Key for Dashboard Historical Pages 2/2



Client Services and Case Management (CS/CM)

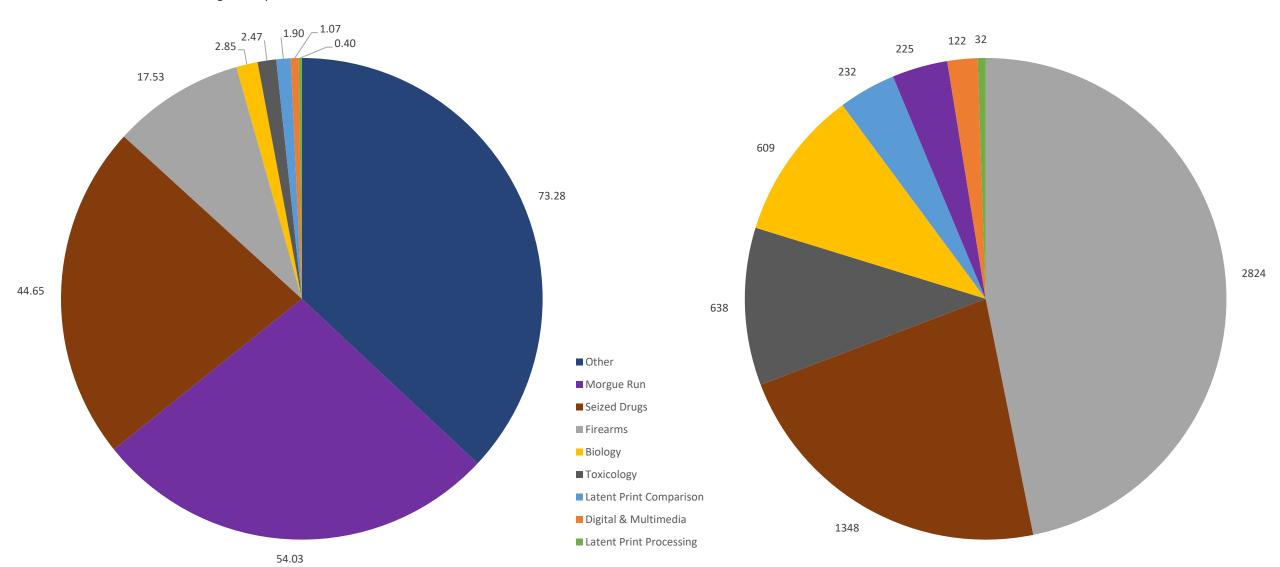
CS/CM – August

Total Time by Section (Hours)

See Time Categories by Section slide for breakdown

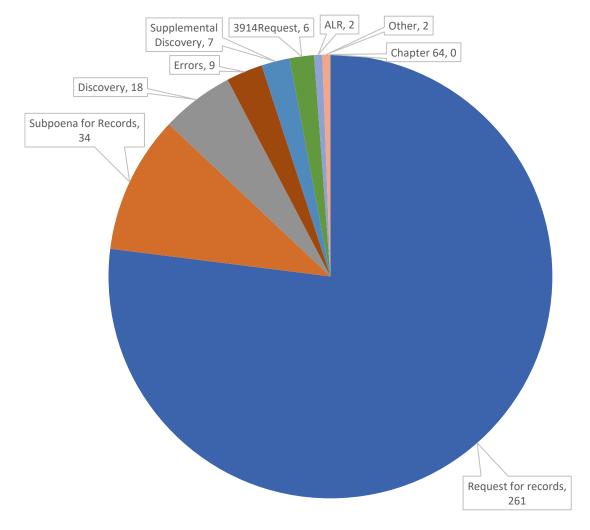
Evidence Handling

Total Items by Section



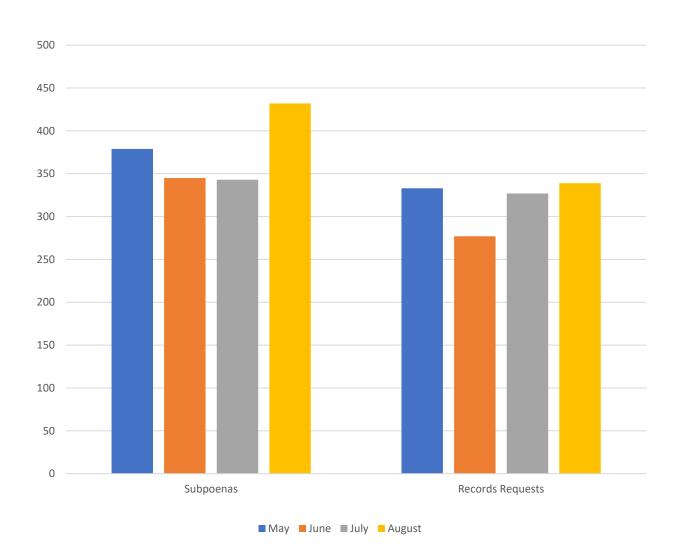
CS/CM – August

Requests by Type



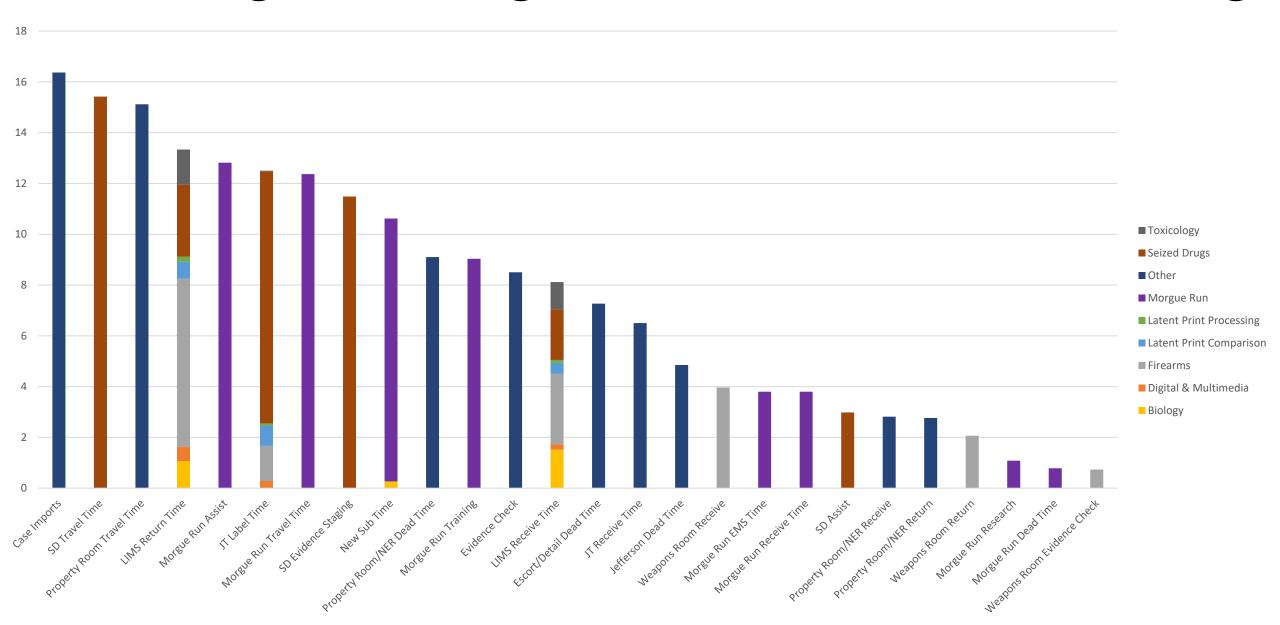
Administrative

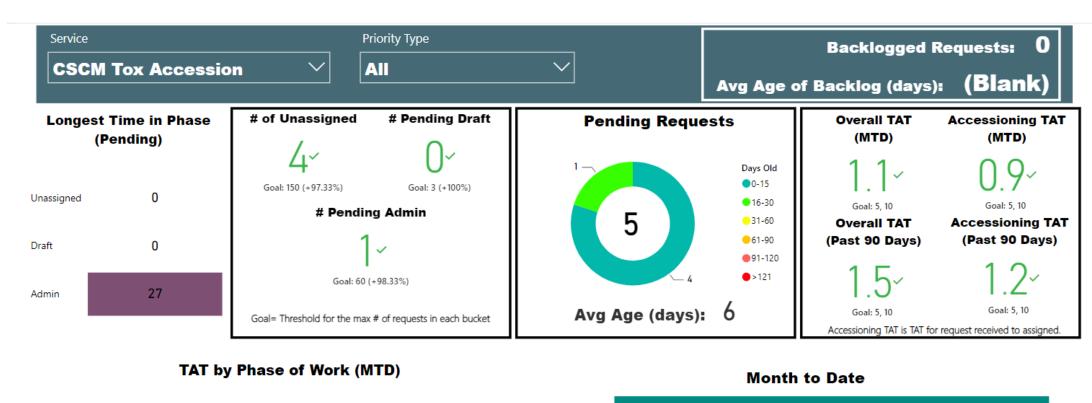
Subpoenas & Records Requests



Time Categories – August

Evidence Handling





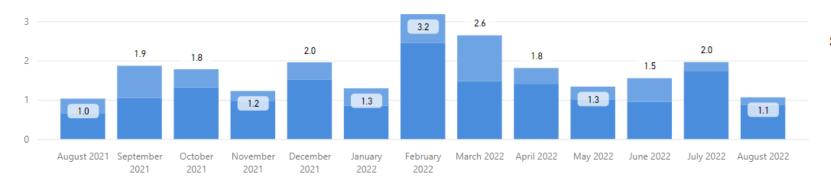


Date Range

8/1/2021 8/31/2022

Total TAT by Month

■ Rec'd-Assign TAT ■ Assigned TAT — Total TAT



Request Type CSCM Tox Accession Priority Type All

Selected Time Frame Averages

1.75
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
0.51
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

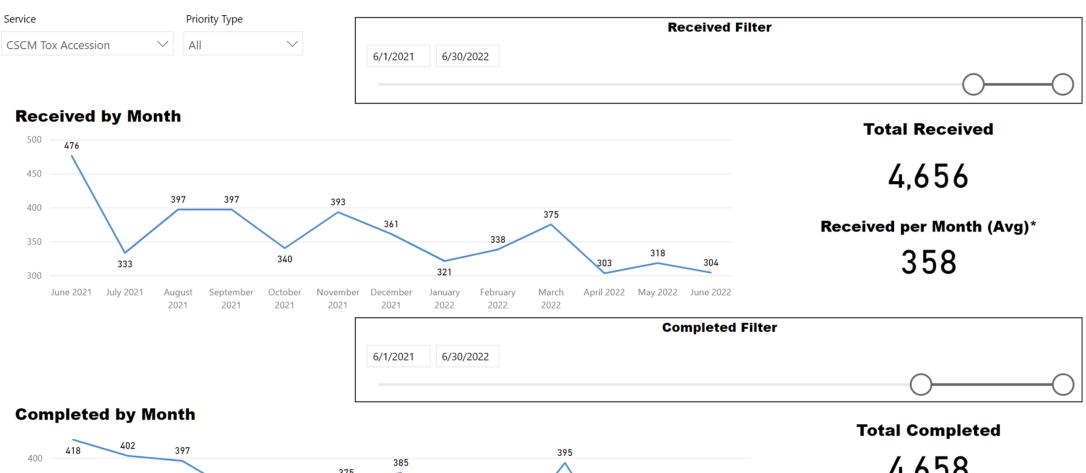
Requests Completed

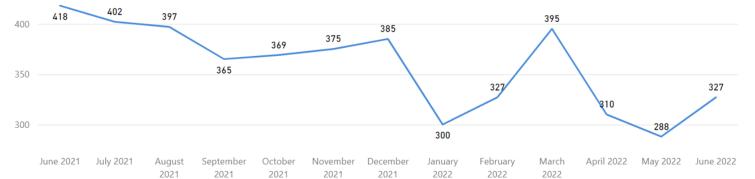


■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days
■ Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
● Total Completed



Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests



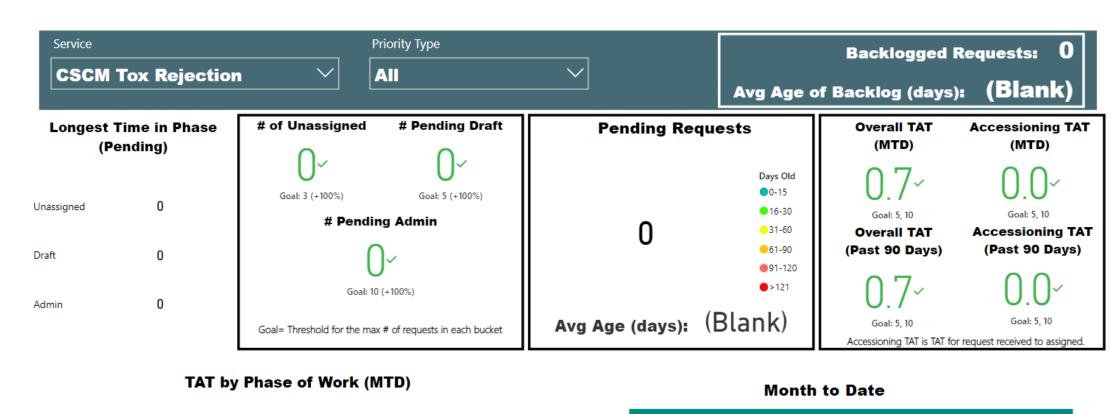


4,658

Completed per Month (Avg)*

358

^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average



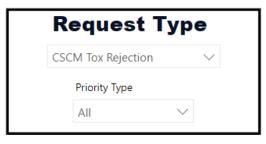


Date Range 8/1/2021 8/31/2022 Total TAT by Month Rec'd-Assign TAT Assigned TAT Total TAT 4 1.0 0.5 0.5

0.8

January

2022



Selected Time Frame Averages

1.31
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
1.31
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

0.7

0.7

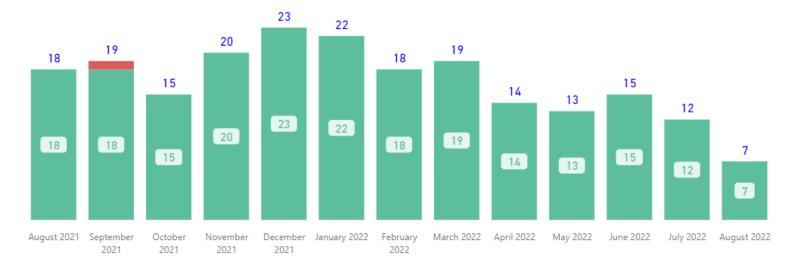
March 2022 April 2022 May 2022 June 2022 July 2022 August 2022

Requests Completed

February

2022

1.2



■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days
■ Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
● Total Completed

August 2021 September

October

2021

November

2021

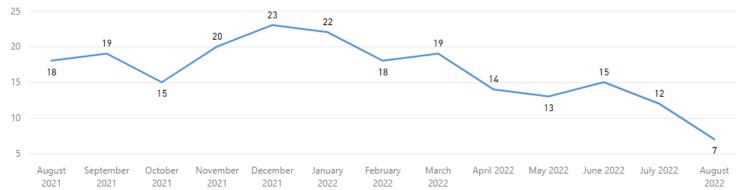
December

2021



Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests

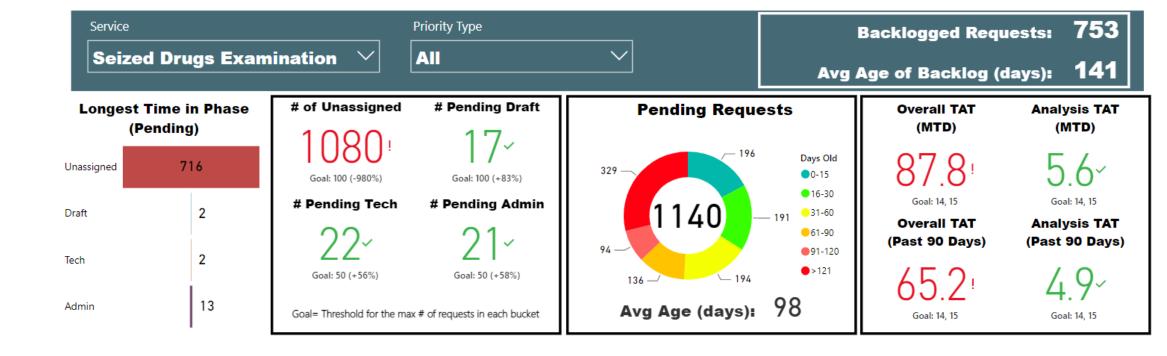


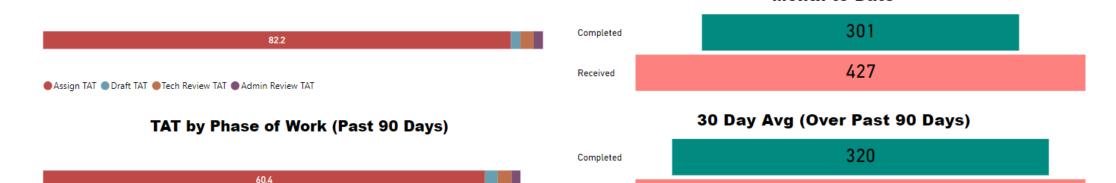


Completed per Month (Avg)*

^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average

Seized Drugs



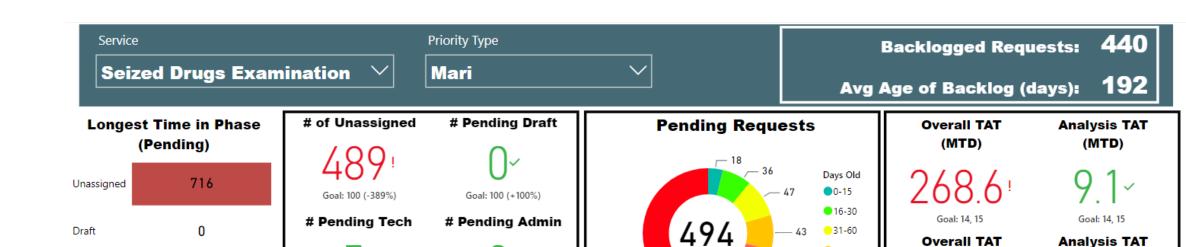


Received

Month to Date

383

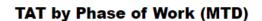
TAT by Phase of Work (MTD)



303

Avg Age (days):

Goal: 50 (+100%)



Goal: 50 (+90%)

Goal= Threshold for the max # of requests in each bucket



0

0

Tech

Admin

Month to Date

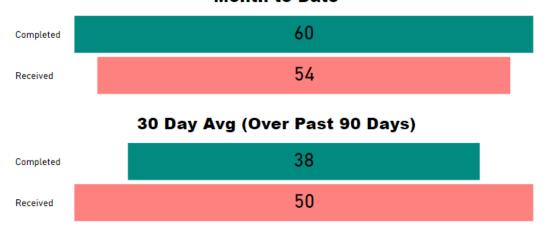
(Past 90 Days)

Goal: 14, 15

61-90

91-120

>121



(Past 90 Days)

Goal: 14, 15





Selected Time Frame Averages

45.78
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg

5.23
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

Requests Completed



■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days
■ Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
● Total Completed

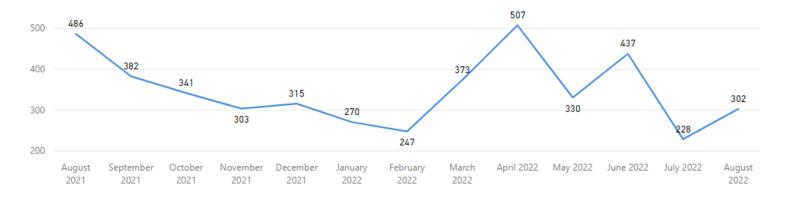


Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests



| Completed Filter | 8/1/2021 | 8/31/2022 | | O

Completed by Month



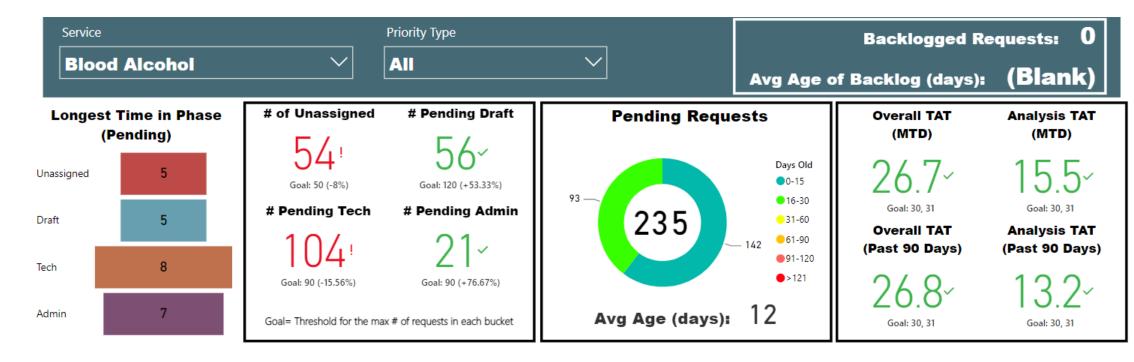
Total Completed

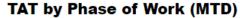
4,521

Completed per Month (Avg)*

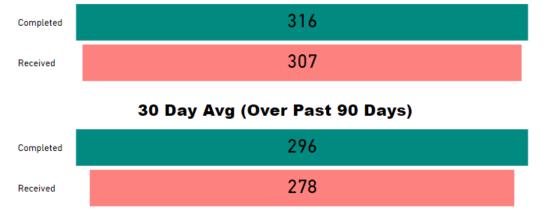
^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average

Toxicology









Date Range 8/1/2021 8/31/2022 **Total TAT by Month** ● Rec'd-Assign TAT ● Assigned TAT — Total TAT 25.5 23.4 27.7 27.5 27.1 21.4 20.1 23.5 22.9 20 19.4 18.1 10

January

2022

August 2021 September

October

2021

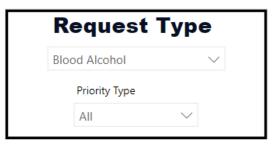
November

2021

■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days ● Requests Completed > 30 Days Old ● Total Completed

December

2021



Selected Time Frame Averages

26.1

26.0

March 2022 April 2022 May 2022 June 2022 July 2022 August 2022

23.73 Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg 16.31 Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

Received to Complete

Requests Completed > 30 Days Old

% Completed > 30 Days Old

4228

309

7.31 %

Requests Completed

Requests Completed

February

2022



to be backlogged requests

Requests more than 30 days old are considered



April 2022 May 2022 June 2022



August

Completed by Month

2021

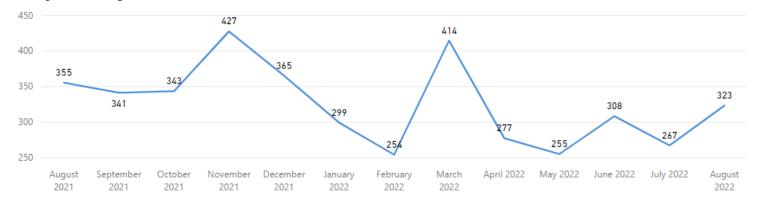
300

2021

315

October

2021



February

March

299

January

December

2021

November

2021

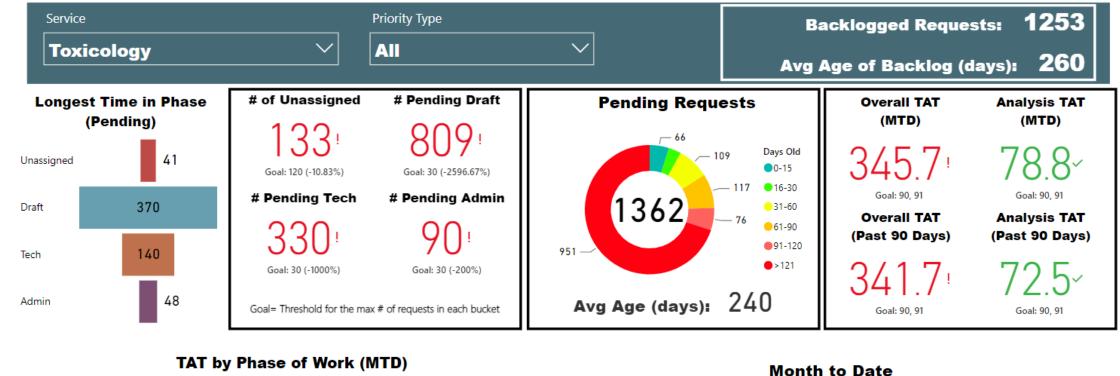
Total Completed

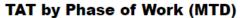
323

4,228

Completed per Month (Avg)*

^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average



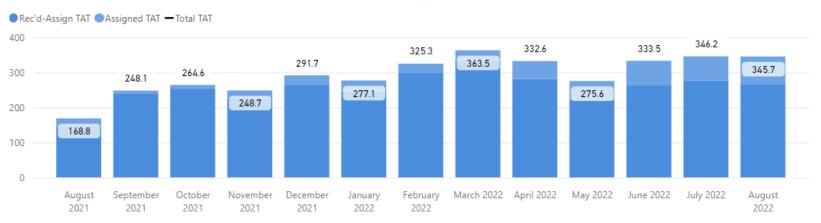




Date Range

8/1/2021 8/31/2022

Total TAT by Month



Request Type Toxicology Priority Type All

Selected Time Frame Averages

292.95
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
39.27
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

Requests Completed



■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days
■ Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
● Total Completed

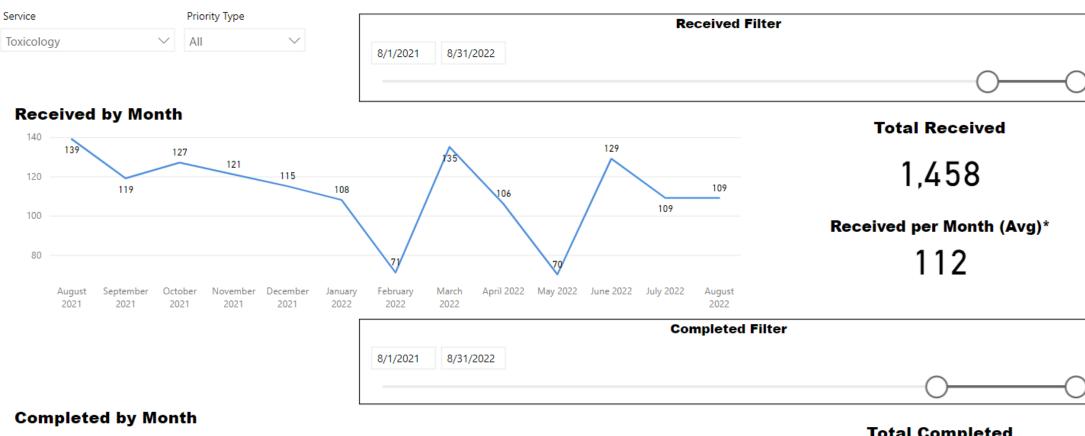
Received to Complete

1798
Requests Completed

1794
Requests Completed > 30 Days Old

99.78 %
% Completed > 30 Days Old

Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests





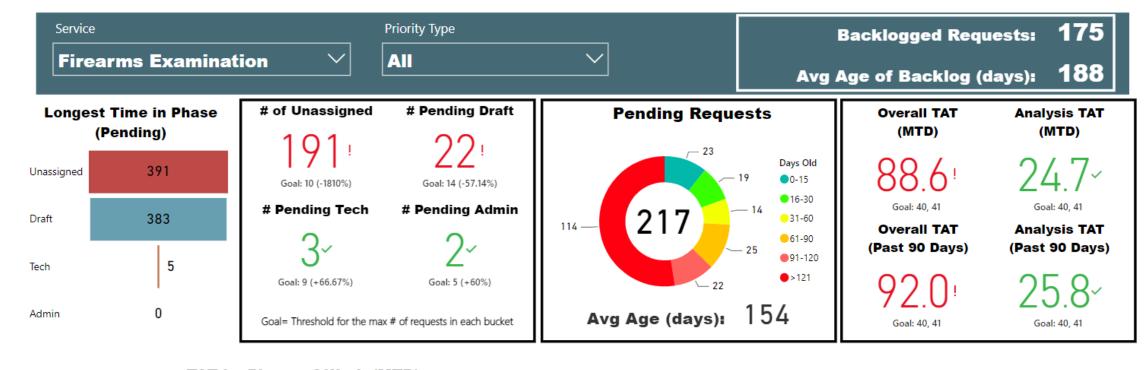
Total Completed

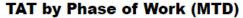
1,798

Completed per Month (Avg)*

^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average

Firearms



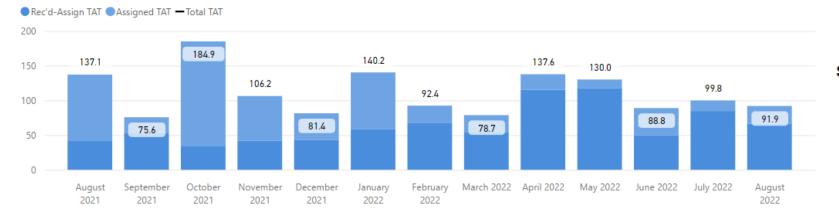




Date Range



Total TAT by Month



Request Type Firearms Examination Priority Type All

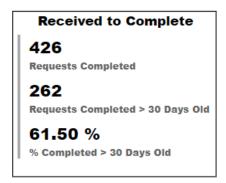
Selected Time Frame Averages

113.64
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
51.55
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

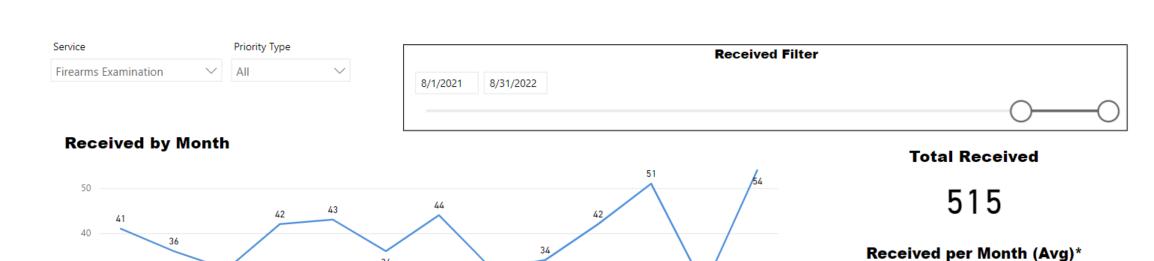
Requests Completed



■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days
■ Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
● Total Completed



Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests



April 2022 May 2022 June 2022 July 2022

| Completed Filter | 8/1/2021 | 8/31/2022 | | O | O |

August

2022

28

Completed by Month

2021

32

October

2021

2021

December

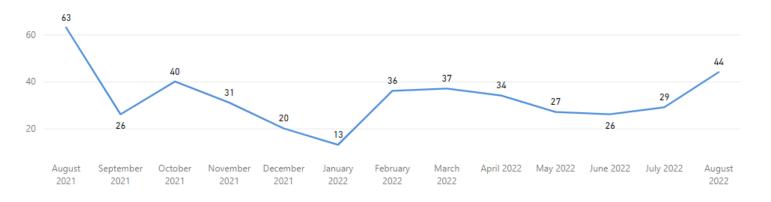
2021

January

2022

30

2021



February

2022

32

March

2022

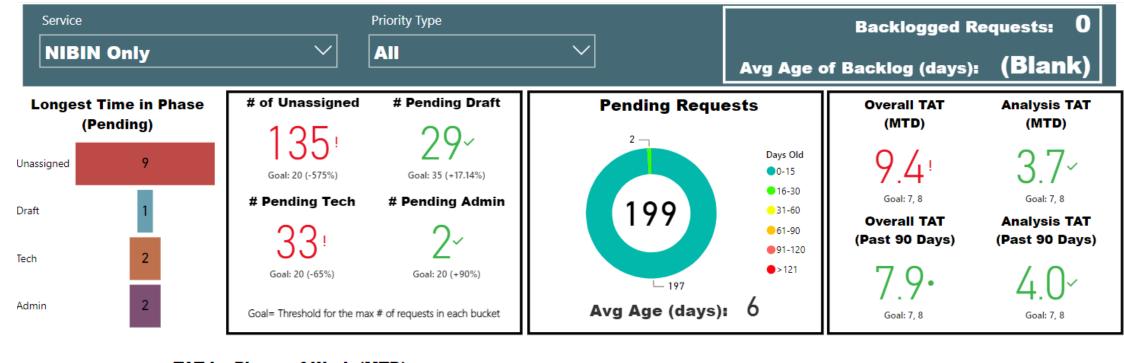
Total Completed

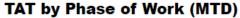
40

426

Completed per Month (Avg)*

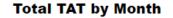
^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average

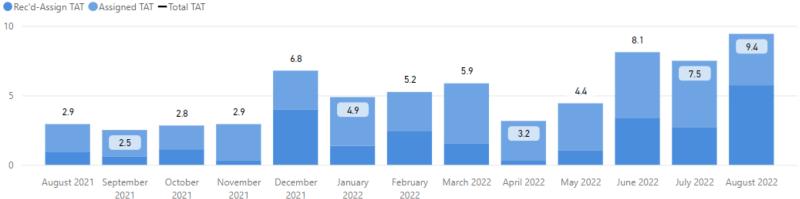


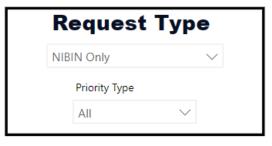




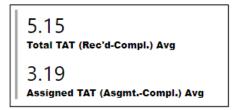
Date Range 8/1/2021 8/31/2022







Selected Time Frame Averages



Requests Completed



Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests

Received to Complete
6055
Requests Completed
93
Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
1.54 %
% Completed > 30 Days Old



Completed by Month



Total Completed

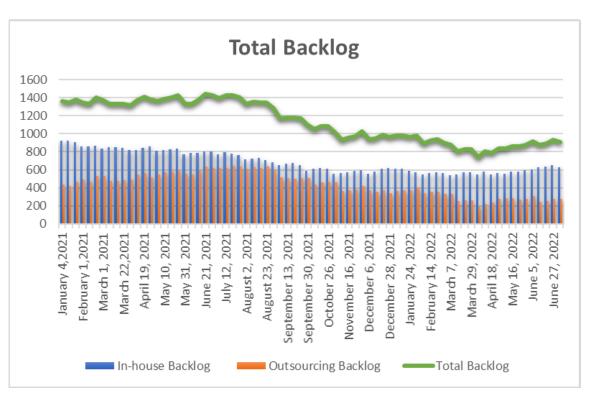
6,055

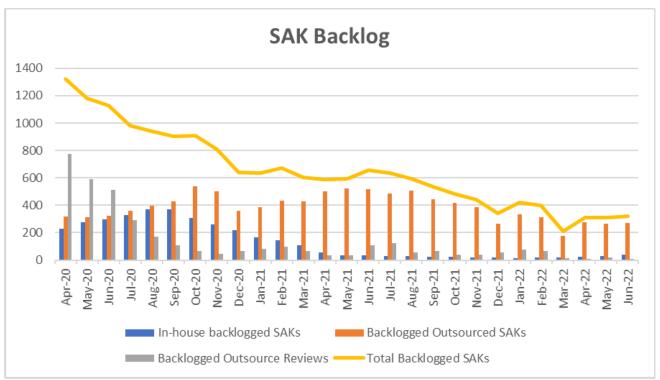
Completed per Month (Avg)*

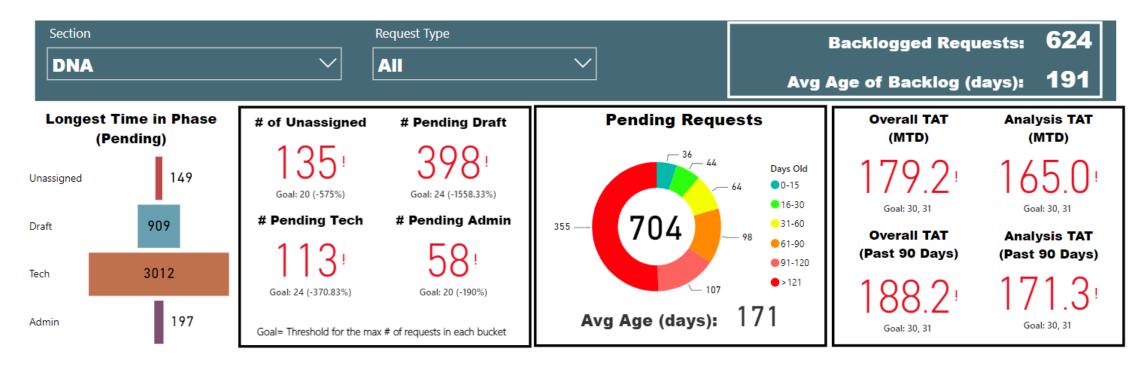
^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average

Forensic Biology

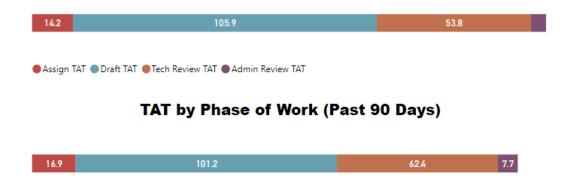
DNA Backlog Update

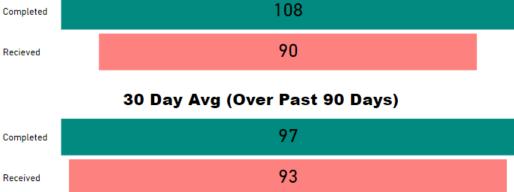


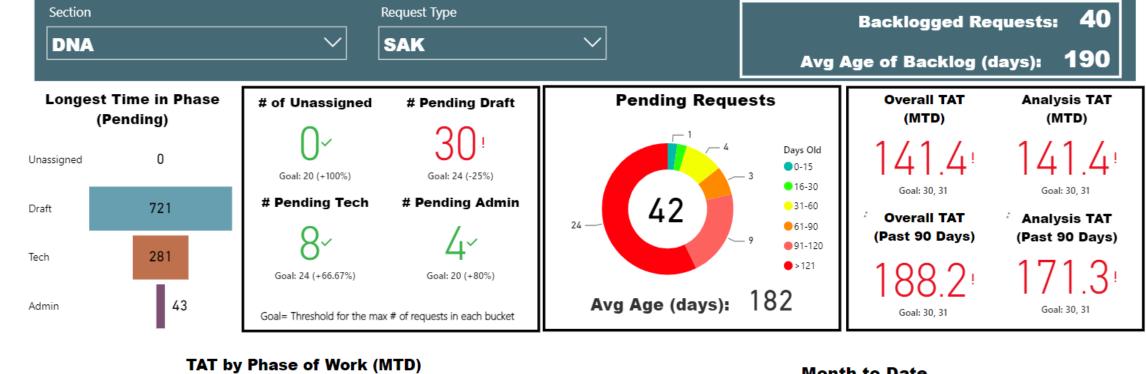




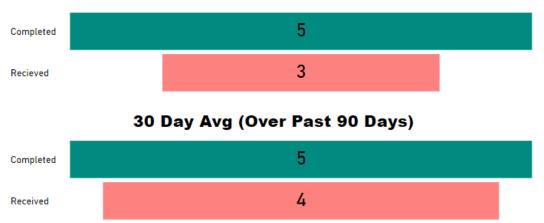
TAT by Phase of Work (MTD)

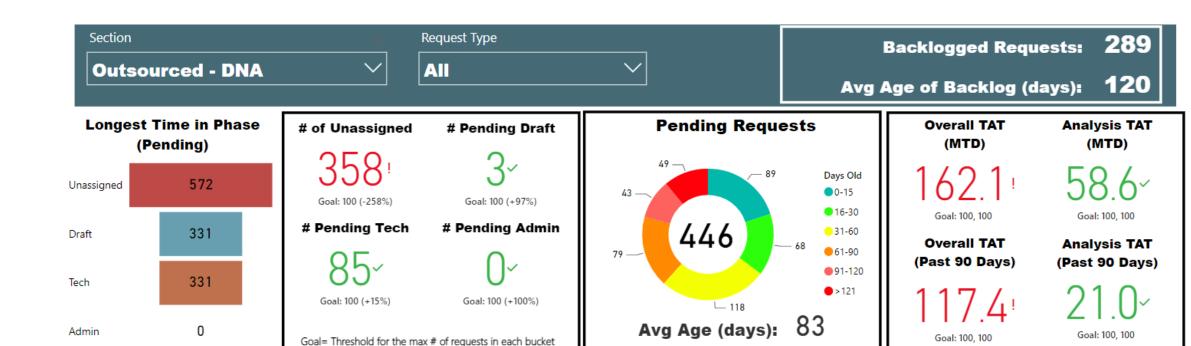


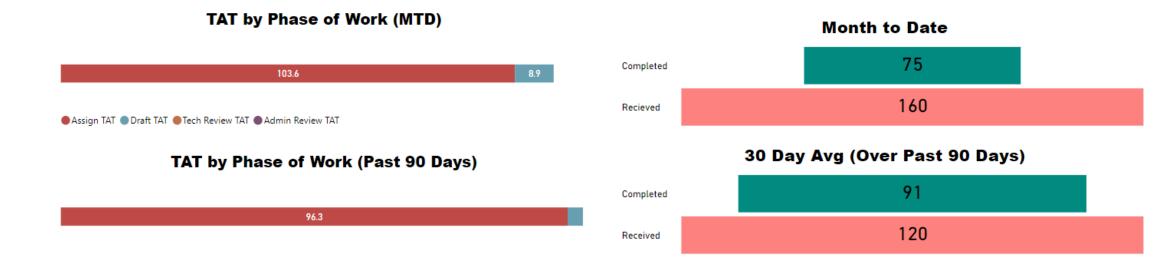


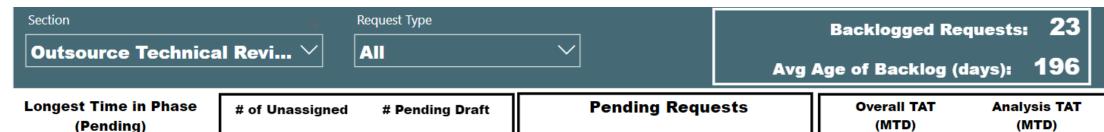


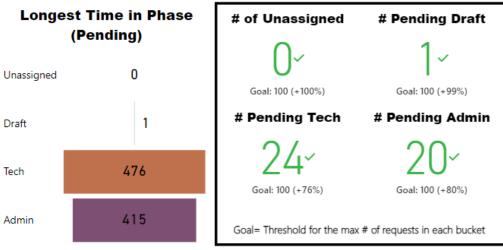


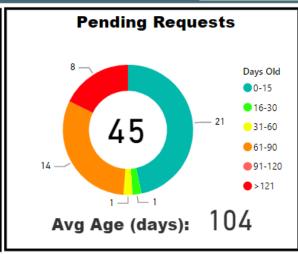


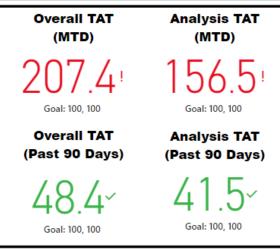


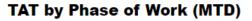


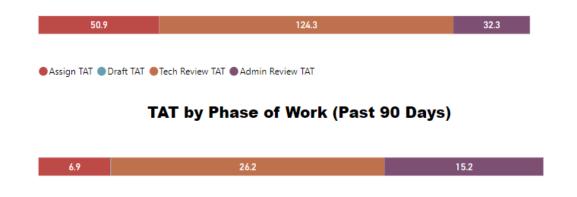


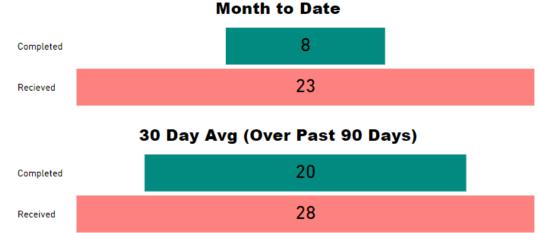








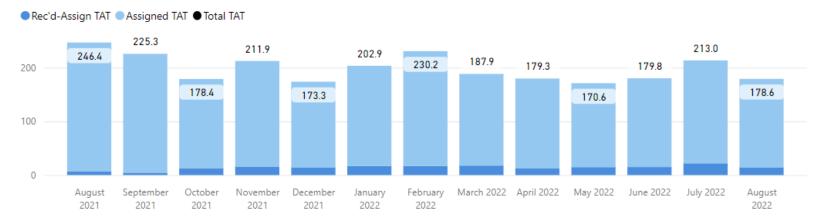




Date Range

8/1/2021 8/31/2022

Total TAT by Month

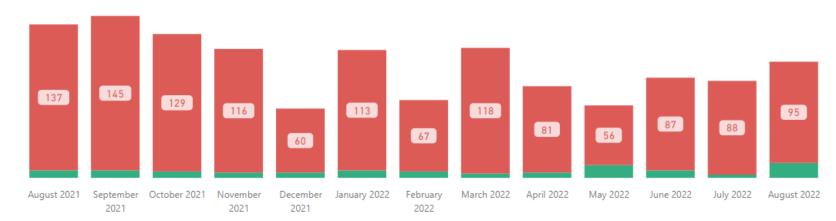


Request Type DNA Request Type All

Selected Time Frame Averages

201.11
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
188.08
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

Requests Completed



■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days
■ Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
■ Total Completed

Received to Complete

1380
Requests Completed

1292
Requests Completed > 30 Days

93.62 %
% Completed > 30 Days

Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests

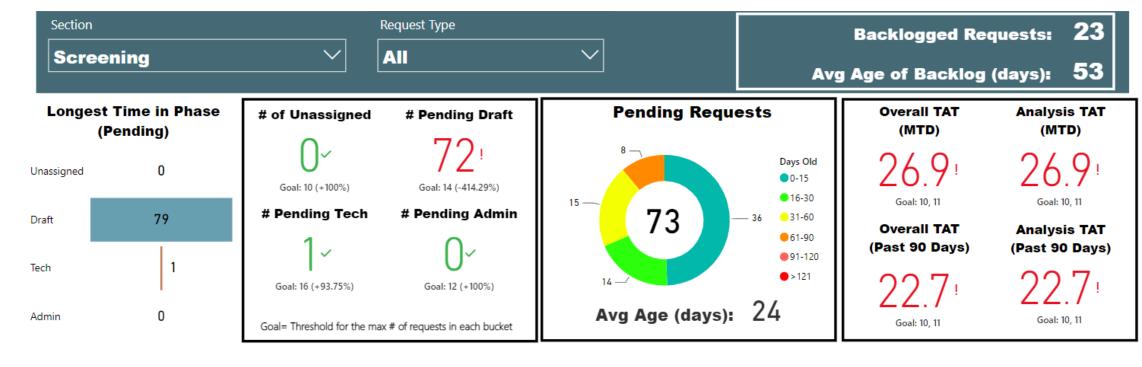


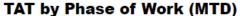


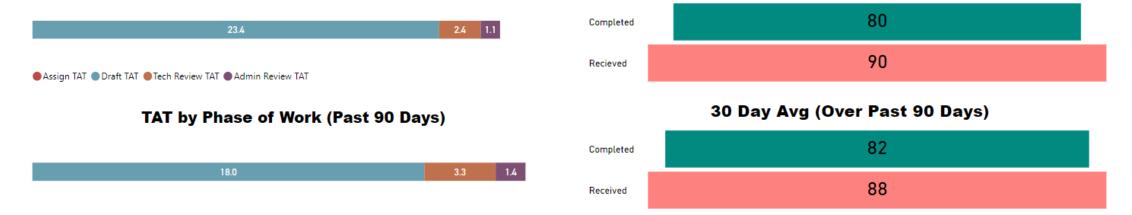
1380

Completed per Month (Avg)*

^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average



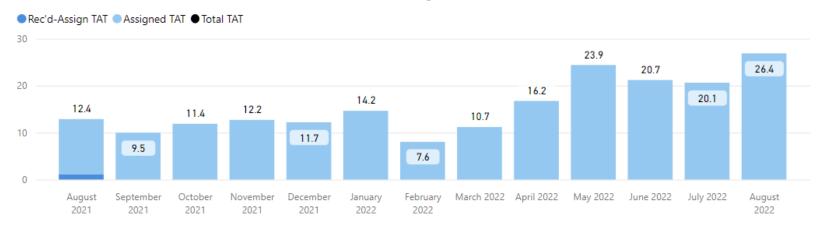




Date Range

8/1/2021 8/31/2022

Total TAT by Month

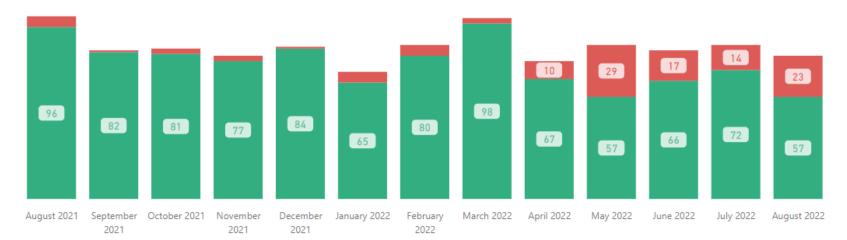


Request Type Screening Request Type All

Selected Time Frame Averages

15.03
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
15.40
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

Requests Completed



Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests

Requests Completed

122
Requests Completed > 30 Days

11.05 %
% Completed > 30 Days

Received to Complete

[■] Requests Completed w/in 30 Days
■ Requests Completed >30 Days Old
■ Total Completed



February 2022 May 2022 June 2022 July 2022 August 2022

Completed Filter

8/1/2021 8/31/2022

Completed by Month

2021

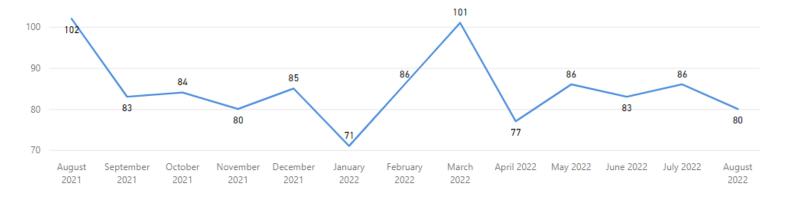
October

2021

2021

50

2021



50

January

2022

December

2021

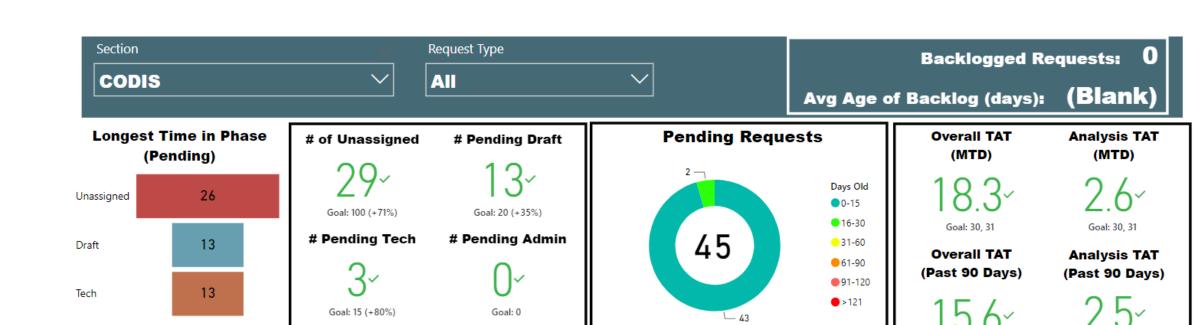
Total Completed

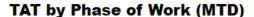
88

1104

Completed per Month (Avg)*

^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average

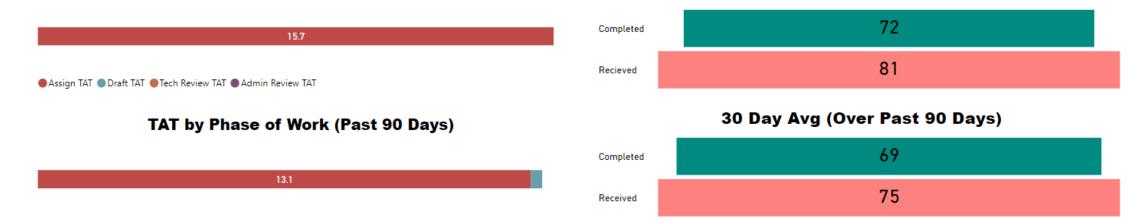




Goal= Threshold for the max # of requests in each bucket

0

Admin



Avg Age (days):

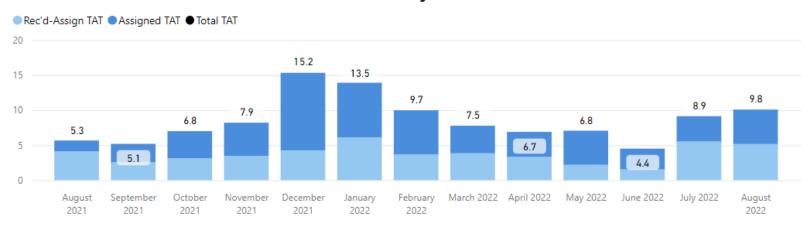
Goal: 30, 31

Goal: 30, 31

Date Range

8/1/2021 8/31/2022

Total TAT by Month



Request Type cods

Selected Time Frame Averages

8.11
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
4.80
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

Requests Completed



■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days
■ Requests Completed >30 Days Old
■ Total Completed

Received to Complete 4969 Requests Completed 106 Requests Completed > 30 Days 2.13 % % Completed > 30 Days

Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests





Received by Month



Total Received

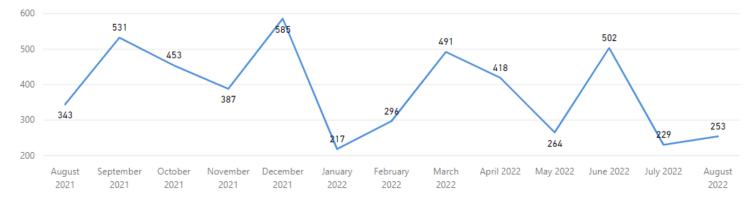
4932

Received per Month (Avg)*

379

| Completed Filter | 8/1/2021 | 8/31/2022 |

Completed by Month



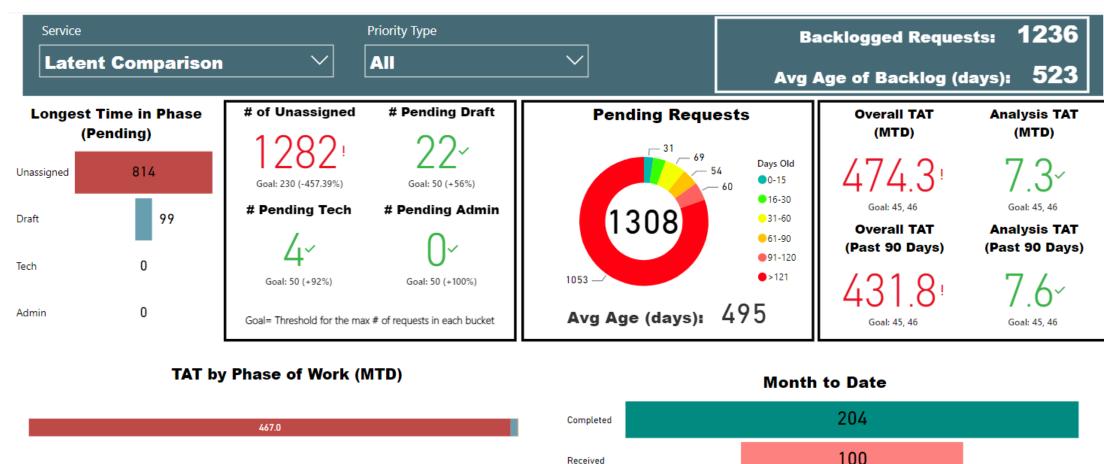
Total Completed

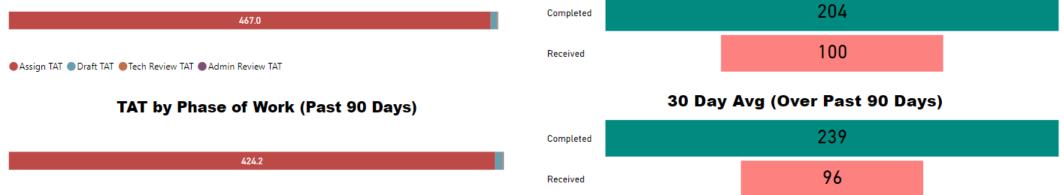
4969

Completed per Month (Avg)*

^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average

Latent Prints



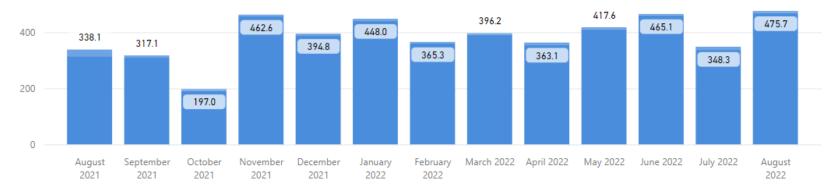


Date Range



Total TAT by Month

● Rec'd-Assign TAT ● Assigned TAT — Total TAT



Request Type Latent Comparison Priority Type All

Selected Time Frame Averages

390.68
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
7.93
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

Requests Completed

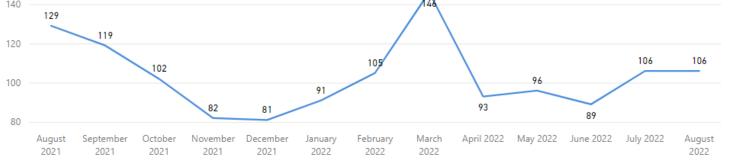


■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days
■ Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
● Total Completed



Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests

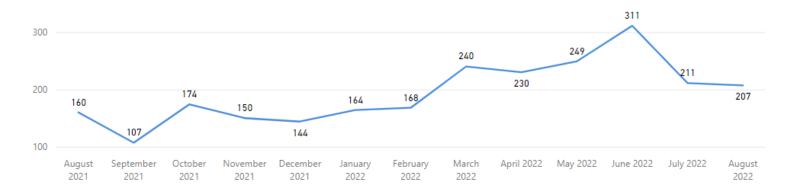




Received per Month (Avg)*

103

Completed by Month

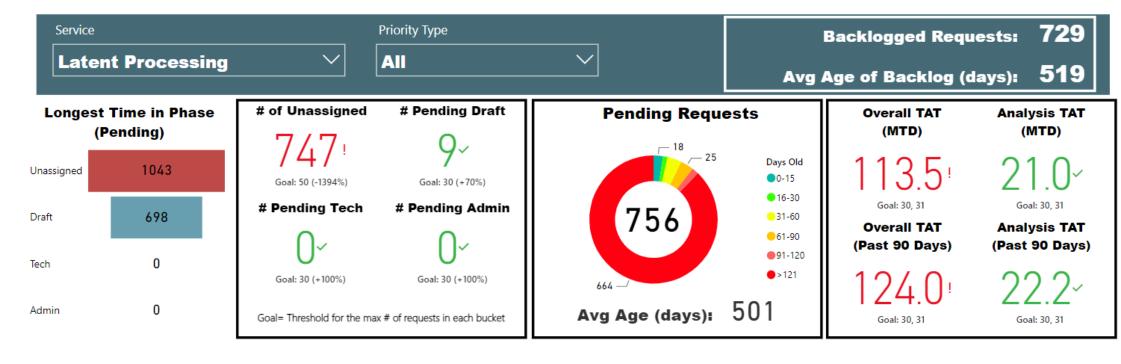


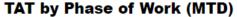
Total Completed

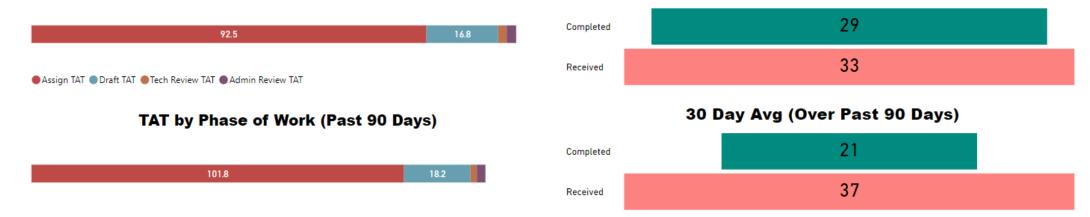
2,515

Completed per Month (Avg)*

^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average

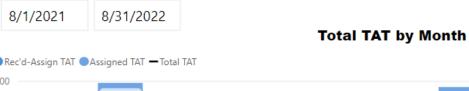


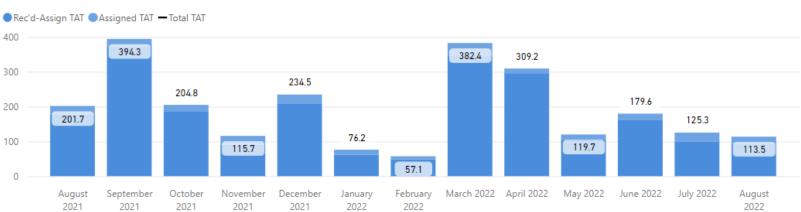


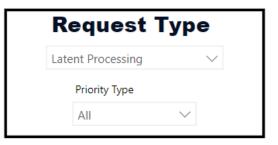


Month to Date

Date Range







Selected Time Frame Averages

191.53 Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg 21.77 Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

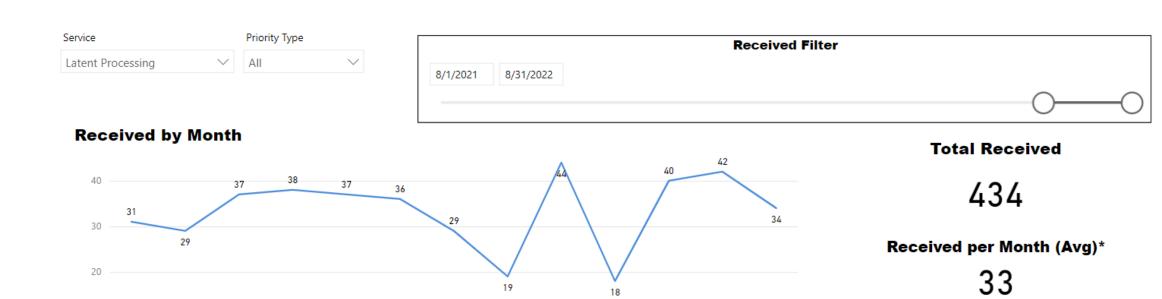
Requests Completed



■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days ● Requests Completed > 30 Days Old ● Total Completed



Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests



April 2022 May 2022 June 2022 July 2022

August 2022

Completed by Month

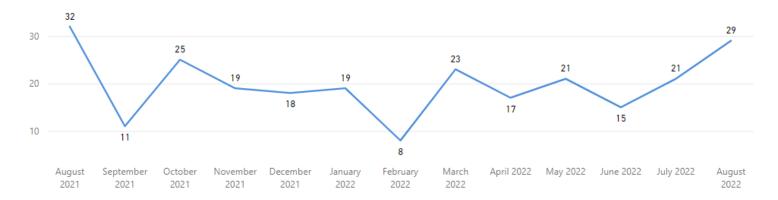
2021

2021

2021

2021

2021



February

2022

January

2022

March

2022

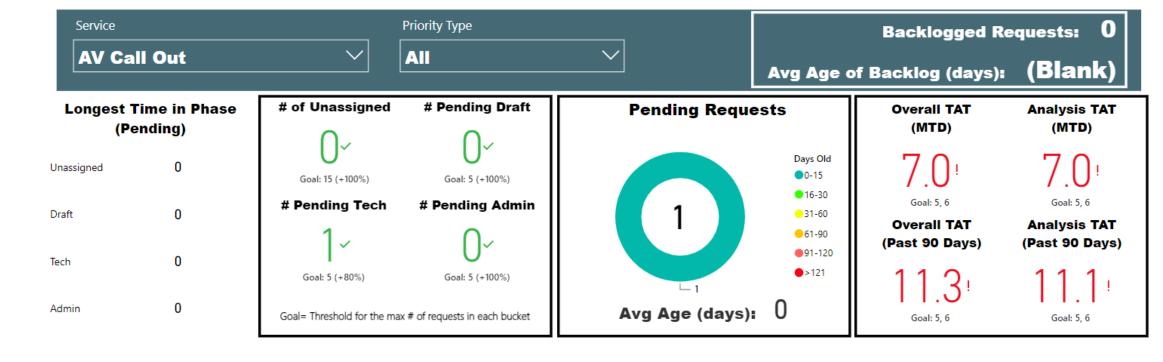
Total Completed

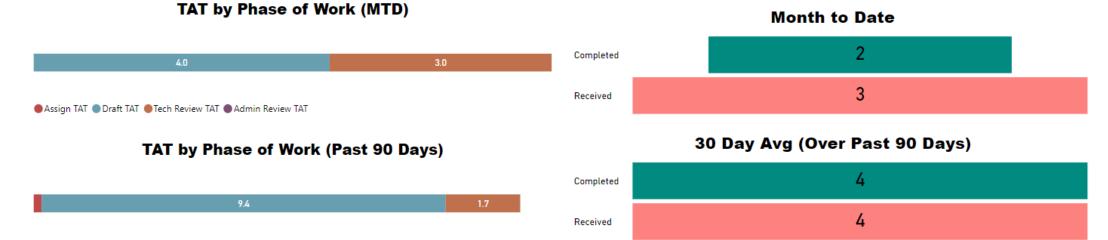
258

Completed per Month (Avg)*

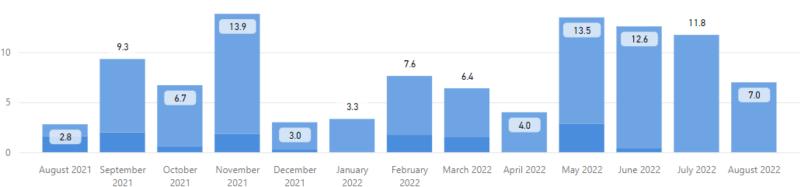
^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average

Digital Multi-Media





Date Range 8/1/2021 8/31/2022 Total TAT by Month Rec'd-Assign TAT Assigned TAT Total TAT

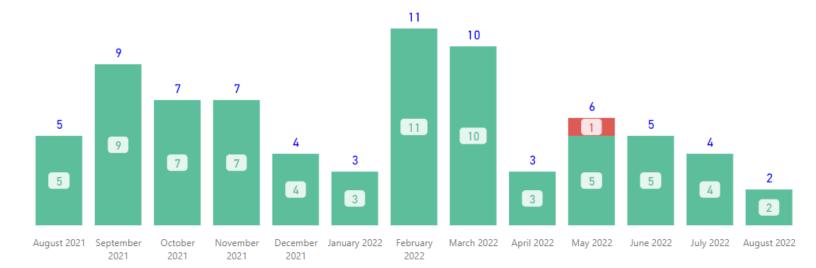


Request Type AV Call Out Priority Type All

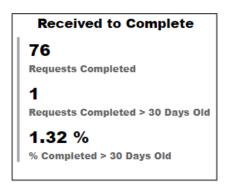
Selected Time Frame Averages

8.28
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
7.00
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

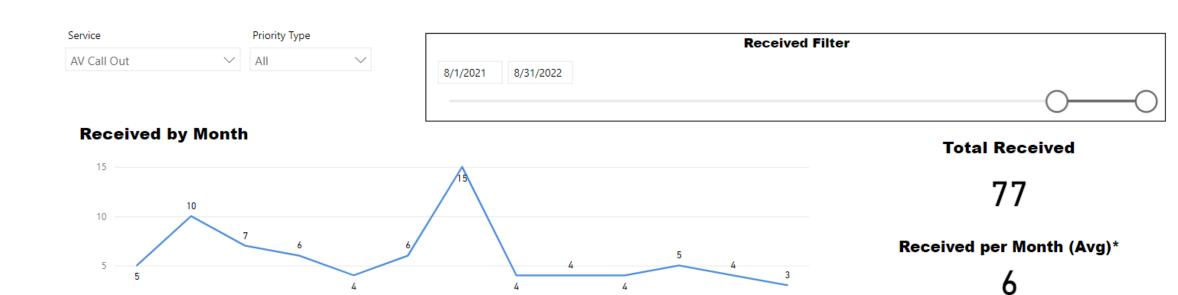
Requests Completed



■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days
■ Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
● Total Completed



Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests



April 2022 May 2022 June 2022 July 2022



August

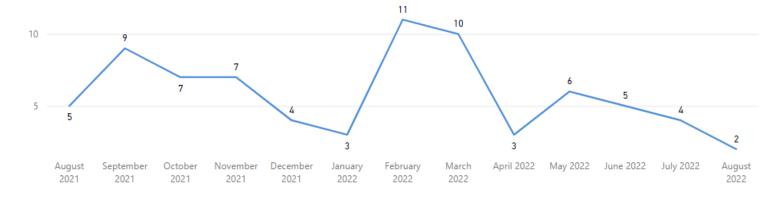
Completed by Month

2021

2021

October

2021



February

March

December

2021

November

2021

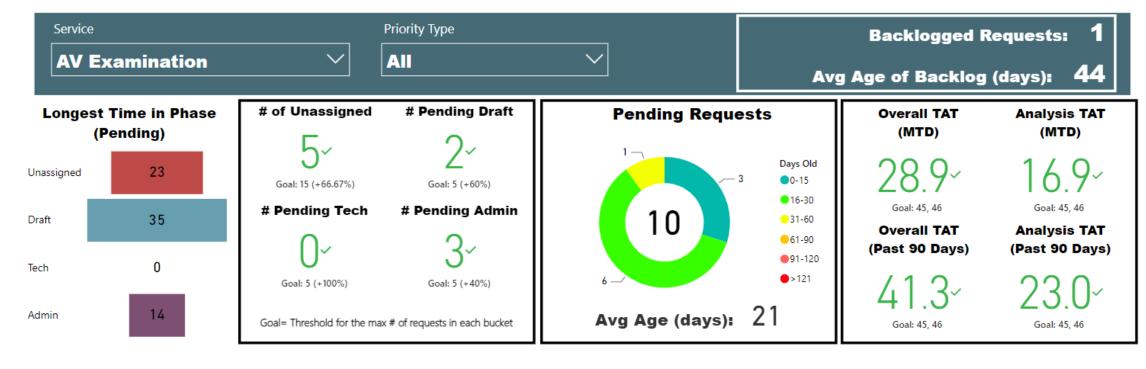
January

Total Completed

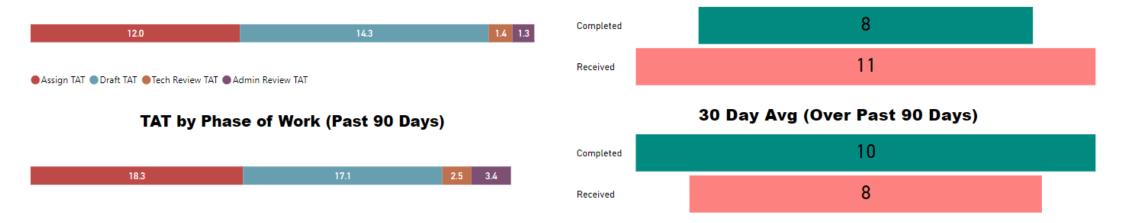
76

Completed per Month (Avg)*

^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average







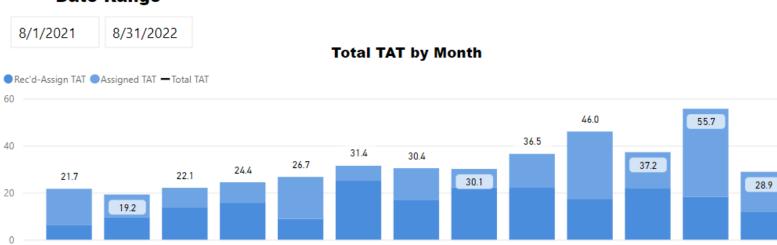
Month to Date

Date Range

August 2021 September

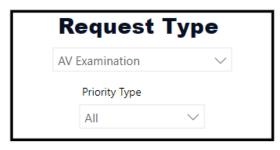
2021

2021



January

2022



Selected Time Frame Averages

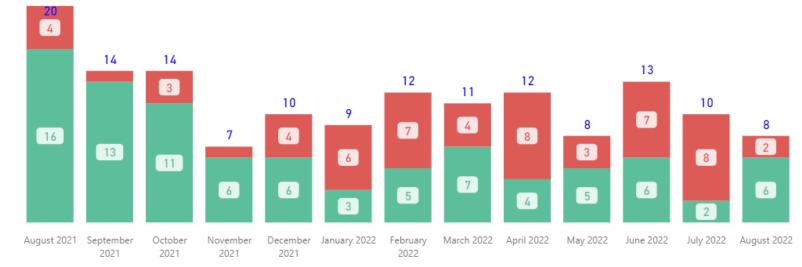
30.45
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
14.97
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

Requests Completed

February

2022

March 2022 April 2022 May 2022 June 2022 July 2022 August 2022



58
Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
39.19 %
% Completed > 30 Days Old

Received to Complete

148

Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests

■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days ■ Requests Completed > 30 Days Old ■ Total Completed

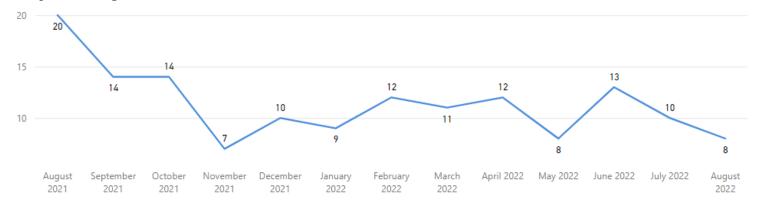
November

2021

December



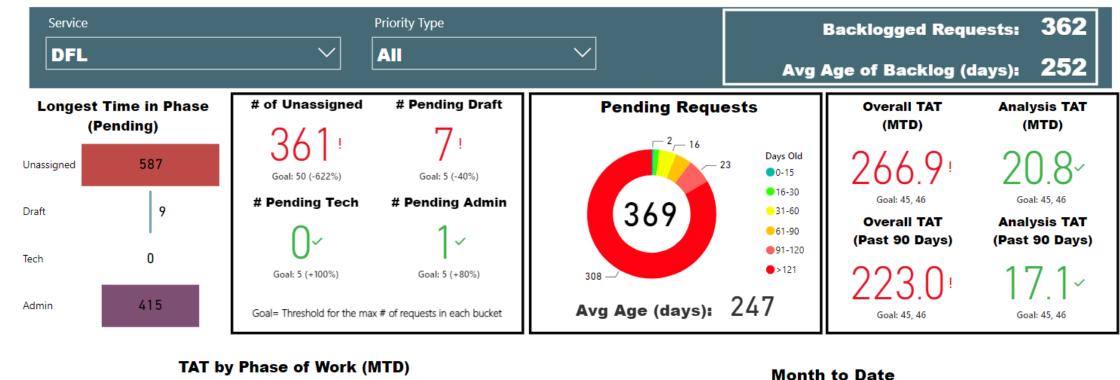
Completed by Month

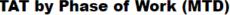


Total Completed

Completed per Month (Avg)*

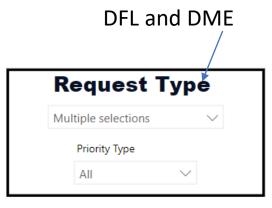
^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average







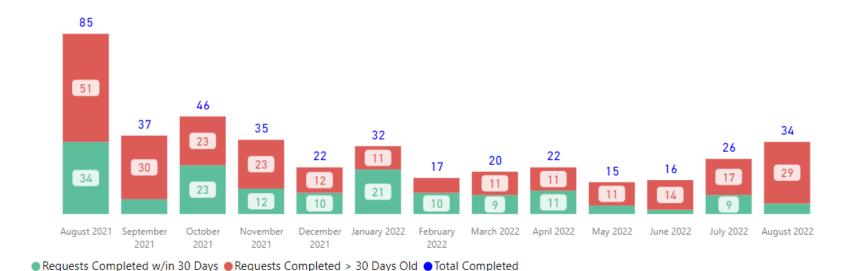
Date Range 8/31/2022 8/1/2021 **Total TAT by Month** ● Rec'd-Assign TAT ● Assigned TAT — Total TAT 300 259.2 219.6 210.5 179.2 200 144.8 125.3 108.5 161.2 82.2 131.4 77.8 100 99.0 0 March 2022 April 2022 May 2022 June 2022 September October December January February August November 2021 2021 2021 2021 2021 2022 2022



Selected Time Frame Averages

137.61
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
10.99
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

Requests Completed



Received to Complete
407
Requests Completed
250
Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
61.43 %
% Completed > 30 Days Old

Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests



April 2022 May 2022 June 2022

March

February

January

November

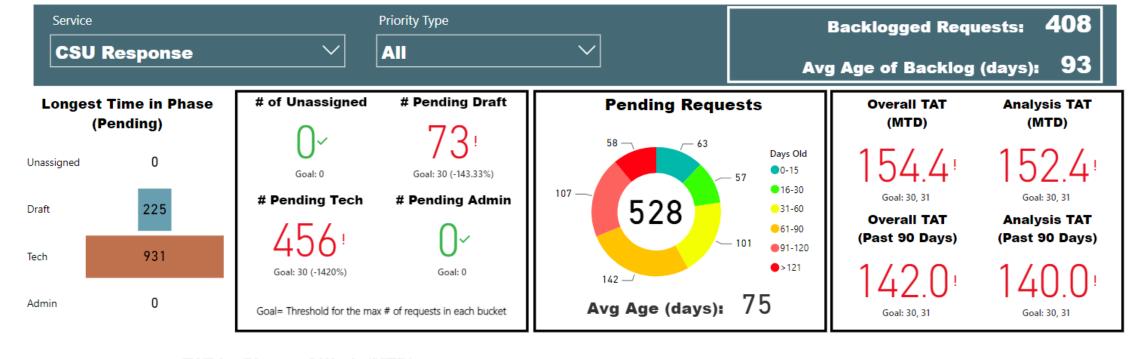
August

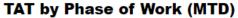
August

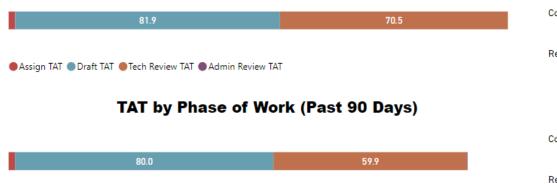
Completed per Month (Avg

^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average

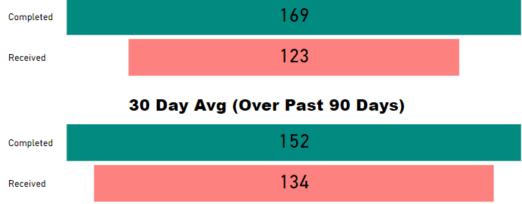
Crime Scene Unit







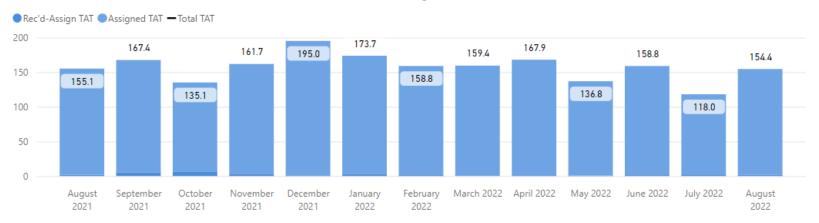
Month to Date



Date Range



Total TAT by Month



Request Type CSU Response Priority Type All

Selected Time Frame Averages

157.16
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
155.00
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

Requests Completed



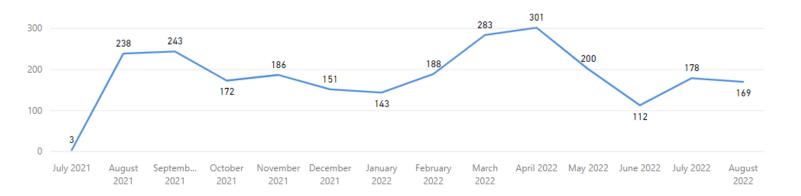
■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days
■ Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
● Total Completed



Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests



Completed by Month

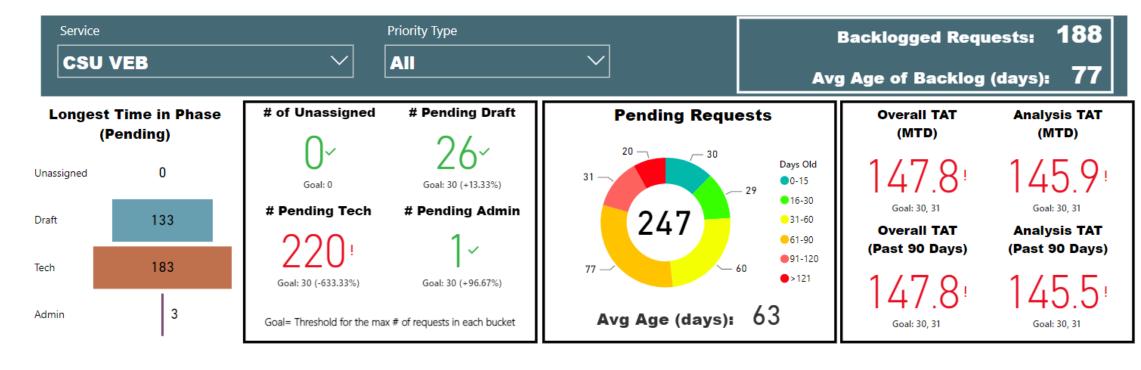


Total Completed

2,567

Completed per Month (Avg)*

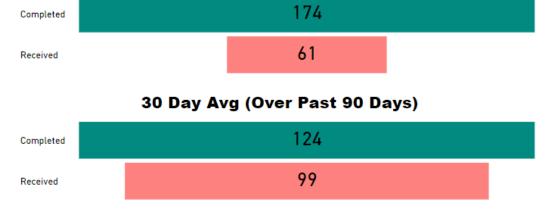
^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average







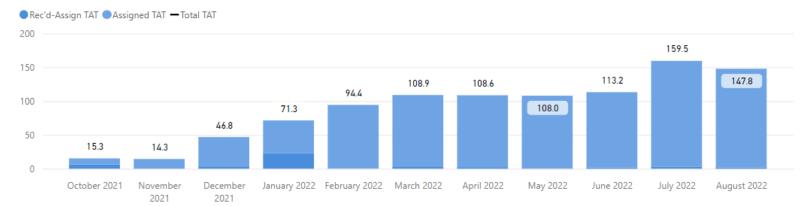
Month to Date



Date Range

8/1/2021 8/31/2022

Total TAT by Month

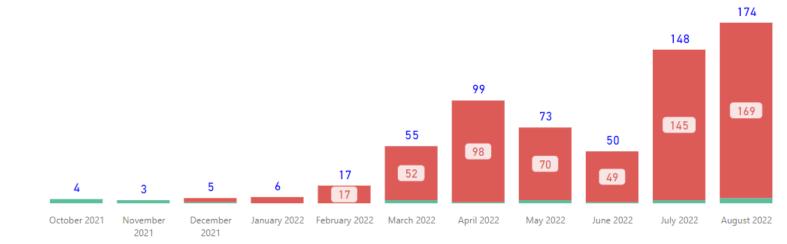


Request Type CSU VEB Priority Type All

Selected Time Frame Averages

129.32
Total TAT (Rec'd-Compl.) Avg
126.95
Assigned TAT (Asgmt.-Compl.) Avg

Requests Completed



■ Requests Completed w/in 30 Days
■ Requests Completed > 30 Days Old
● Total Completed



Requests more than 30 days old are considered to be backlogged requests

50

August 2022

50

October 2021

5

December

2021

January 2022

February

2022

March 2022

April 2022

May 2022

3

November

2021

Completed per Month (Avg)*

^{*} months with zero activity are not calculated into the average

HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC.

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors September 9, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda Action Item No.:	8. Consider approval of Dr. Stout's proposed list of annual corporate priorities and goals, and possible related action.
Subject:	Consider approval and adoption of the president and CEO's corporate priorities and goals, for the 2022-2023 review period.
Background:	On December 10, 2021, the Board offered, and Dr. Peter Stout accepted, a 5-year agreement of employment as president and CEO of HFSC, effective January 13, 2022. Pursuant to Dr. Stout's agreement, at least once during the calendar year, Stout in consultation with the Board Chair, shall develop and submit for the Board's consideration and approval a proposed list of annual priorities for the Corporation. In previous years, under the prior employment agreement, such presentation occurred by June 1 st of each year. The parties agreed to amend this provision in the current agreement, to coincide with the corporation's staff performance review schedule, which also includes establishing annual company goals.
Executive Summary:	Pursuant to the employment agreement, Dr. Stout shall present his proposed list of company priorities to the Board for approval annually. Such priorities must be consistent with the purposes for which the Corporation was created, as described in the Corporation's Certificate of Formation and Bylaws. If approved by the Board, fulfillment or progress towards these priorities shall be among the criteria by which the Board reasonably evaluates Dr. Stout's annual performance, the following year. This presentation is now conducted separate and apart from Dr. Stout's annual performance evaluation, as contemplated by the current agreement of employment.
Fiscal Impact:	No anticipated additional fiscal impact.
Staff Recommendation:	No recommendation.
By:	Dr. Peter Stout, President and CEO Legal review by General Counsel

HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER, INC.

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

September 9, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda Action Item No.:	9. Consider delegating authority to Dr. Stout to negotiate and enter into a contract for DNA outsourcing services between the Corporation and Signature Science, LLC, to be funded by the FY 2021- Bureau of Justice Assistance DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) federal grant, total budget not to exceed \$318,050.00
Subject:	Upon completion of negotiations, delegating authority to Dr. Stout to enter into a contract for DNA outsourcing services with Signature Science, LLC.
Background:	HFSC was awarded the FY 2021- BJA DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction federal grant to help address HFSC's current backlog of forensic biology cases. Through various awards over the years, this grant has specifically assisted HFSC in continuing working through its backlog of sexual assault kits (SAKs), which is a priority for the Corporation and its stakeholders. Without the use of federal funds, HFSC would not be able to complete the project at this time.
Executive Summary:	In July 2022, HFSC issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for DNA outsourcing services. Signature Science was selected as the successful respondent, after consideration of the stated selection criteria. The services provided will be funded by the FY2021- BJA DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction federal grant, award number 15-PBJA-21-GG-03193-DNAX. HFSC will utilize the remaining funds to close out the FY2021 grant award by continuing to outsource SAKs and expand shipments to now include non-SAK samples. HFSC anticipates the vendor's services will help HFSC process approximately 300 cases by early 2023. The parties are in the midst of negotiations to finalize the contract, thus designating authority to Dr. Stout to execute the final agreement, is necessary. As is standard in HFSC RFPs, HFSC intends to execute the contract as soon as possible after HFSC's selection of the successful respondent. However, HFSC, at its sole discretion, may terminate discussions with the Respondent who submitted the highest ranked Proposal
Fiscal Impact:	if a contract is not executed within a reasonable time. No anticipated additional fiscal impact.
Staff Recommendation:	Staff recommends approval
By:	Dr. Peter Stout, President and CEO Legal review and approved as to form by General Counsel

		FY22 Budget	FY22 Budget V2	FY22 Final	Adjustment V2	FY22 Budget Final
411000	City of Houston-Appropriations	\$ 28,508,207	\$ 28,508,207	28,508,208		\$ 28,508,208
	Fund 2213	900,451	900,451	731,454		
	HFSC Operations	27,607,756	27,607,756	27,776,754		
415000	City of Houston Direct OH-Appro	-	-			
416000	City of Houston - Safe funds	-	-	64,943		64,943
420000	Donations	12	12	2,990		2,990
425000	In-Kind Donations	3,509	3,509	85,397		85,397
426000	Training Services	(300)	(300)			
440000	Grants	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,981,328		1,981,328
450000	Forensic Services	9,275	9,275	29,471		29,471
490001	Miscellaneous Copy Fees (RE Commission)	-	-			
490002	Interest Income	17,120	17,120	24,664		24,664
		30,137,823	30,137,823	30,697,002	-	30,137,823

		FY22 Budget	FY22 Budget V2	FY22 Final	Adjustment V2	FY22 Budget Final
	Personnel:					
500010	Salary Base - Civilian	16,588,420	16,564,420	16,512,116	(25,000)	16,539,420
501070	Pension - Civilian	1,010,819	1,025,819	1,017,872		1,025,819
502010	FICA - Civilian	1,174,336	1,184,336	1,202,250	20,000	1,204,336
503010	Health Insurance - Active Civ	1,429,632	1,359,632	1,323,245		1,359,632
503015	Basic Life Ins - Active Civil	60,998	25,998	17,853		25,998
503090	Workers Comp - Civilian Adm	27,216	37,216	41,790	5,000	42,216
503100	Workers Comp - Civil Claims	135	0	(465)		0
504031	Unemployment Taxes - Admi	35,108	15,108	5,430		15,108
		20,326,664	20,212,529	20,120,091	-	20,212,529

		FY22 Budget	FY22 Budget V2	FY22 Final	Adjustment V2	FY22 Budget Final
Sı	upplies:					
511010	Chemical Gases & Special Fluids	25,907	20,907	27,943	7,500	28,407
511045	Computer Supplies	(35)	5,965	14,247	8,500	14,465
511050	Paper & Printing Supplies	9,535	15,535	10,491		15,535
511055	Publications & Printed Material	2,866	8,866	10,723	2,000	10,866
511060	Postage	441	941	472		941
511070	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	69,217	76,217	74,452		76,217
511080	General Laboratory Supply	1,122,888	1,062,888	837,448	(18,000)	1,044,888
511095	Small Technical & Scientific Eq	16,899	22,899	18,472		22,899
511110	Fuel	23	123	121		123
511120	Clothing	15,186	24,186	18,697		24,186
511125	Food/Event Supplies	4,235	14,235	11,691		14,235
511130	Weapons Munitions & Supplies	6,997	18,997	14,252		18,997
511145	Small Tools & Minor Equipment	6,171	16,171	11,093		16,171
511150	Miscellaneous Parts & Supplies	37,988	32,988	12,524		32,988
		1,318,318	1,320,918	1,062,625	-	1,320,918

		FY22 Budget	FY22 Budget V2	FY22 Final	Adjustment V2	FY22 Budget Final
Ser	vices:					
520105	Accounting & Auditing Svcs	53,953	78,953	61,107		78,953
520109	Medical Dental & Laboratory Ser	100,000	1,500,000	1,495,849		1,500,000
520110	Management Consulting Services	218,370	214,370	226,709	13,000	227,370
520112	Banking Services	3,893	4,393	3,746		4,393
520113	Photographic Services	-	-	1,311	1,500	1,500
520114	Misc Support Serv Recruit Relo	55,751	54,751	44,727		54,751
520115	Real Estate Rental	916,405	881,405	830,064		881,405
520118	Refuse Disposal	25,763	33,763	31,587		33,763
520119	Computer Equip/Software Maint.	1,108,619	1,258,619	1,492,268	235,000	1,493,619
520121	IT Application Services	65,680	25,680	28,307	3,000	28,680
520123	Vehicle & Motor Equip. Services	_	500	-		500
520124	Other Equipment Services	309,765	559,765	383,629	(122,500)	437,265
520520	Printing & Reproduction Serv.	2,738	738	289		738
520605	Public Information Svcs	2,082	1,082	475		1,082
520705	Insurance (Non-Medical)	227,393	189,254	137,983		189,254
520765	Membership & Prof. Fees	20,271	38,271	30,926		38,271
520805	Education & Training	272,289	407,289	267,594	(130,000)	277,289
520815	Tuition Reimbursement	16,519	22,519	17,721		22,519
520905	Travel - Training Related	116,695	119,695	184,364	65,000	184,695
520910	Travel - Non-training Related	10,579	27,579	15,575	(10,000)	17,579

		FY22 Budget	FY22 Budget V2	FY22 Final	Adjustment V2	FY22 Budget Final
	Services:					
521405	Building Maintenance Services	9,327	94,327	64,323	(28,000)	66,327
521505	Utilities	121,299	251,299	268,649	18,000	269,299
521605	Data Services	204,992	198,992	189,801	(8,000)	190,992
521610	Voice Services, Equip & Labor	45,092	80,092	74,352		80,092
521725	Other Rental Fees	50,912	55,912	62,421	7,000	62,912
521730	Parking Space Rental	195,888	198,888	169,340	(25,000)	173,888
521905	Legal Services	25,000	23,000	1,223	(1,000)	22,000
522205	Metro Commuter Passes	3,792	792	2,408	2,000	2,792
522305	Freight	22,205	29,705	27,218		29,705
522430	Misc. Other Services & Chrgs	31,323	131,323	104,879	(20,000)	111,323
532000	Sub-Contractor (COH)	900,451	649,451	516,196		649,451
	Total Services:	5,137,045	7,132,406	6,735,039	-	7,132,406
	Total Services less CoH	4,236,594	6,482,955	6,218,843	-	6,482,955
531085	Interest Expense	1,060,504	1,080,504	1,078,693		1,080,504

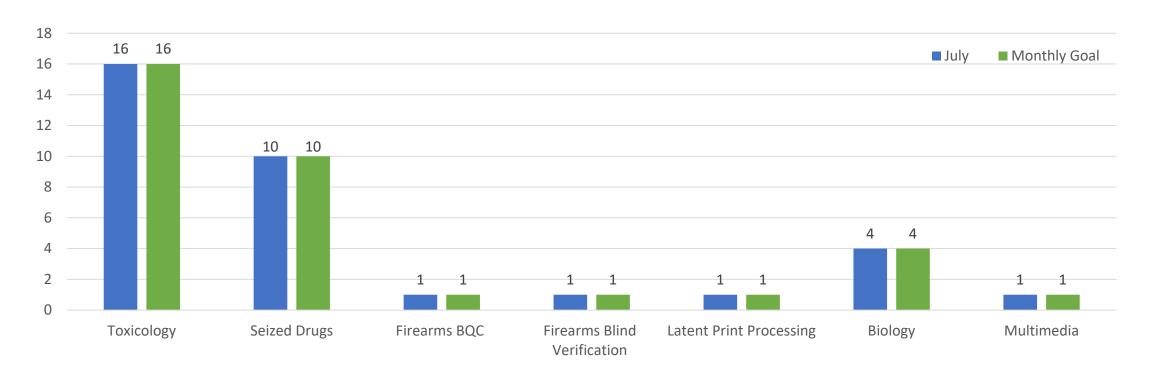
		FY22 Budget	FY22 Budget V2	FY22 Final	Adjustment V2	FY22 Budget Final
No	on-Capital Expenditures					
551010	Furniture and Fixtures	25,000	28,500	15,817		28,500
551015	Computer Equipment	91,030	191,030	42,913	(5,000)	186,030
551025	Scientific/Medical Equipment	9,752	12,190	16,980	5,000	17,190
551040	Non-Capital - Other	-	-			-
	Total Non-Capital Expenditures	125,782	231,720	75,710	-	231,720
Са	apital Expenditures					
170140	Improvements	-	-	68,691	68,691	68,691
170210	Furniture & Fixtures	-	-			-
170220	Capital - Vehicles	168,000	168,000	110,044	(55,000)	113,000
170230	Computer Hardware/SW	30,000	30,000	38,351	8,500	38,500
170240	Scientific/Foren Eqmt	718,021	308,257	59,575	(185,191)	123,066
170980	Const in Progress	-	-			-
	Total Capital Expenditures	916,021	506,257	207,971	(163,000)	274,566
	Total Expenses w/ CapX Before Depr.	28,884,334	30,484,334	29,280,129	(163,000)	30,252,643

			FY22 Budget	FY22 Budget V2	FY22 Final	Adjustment V2	FY22 Budget Final
		NI less Capital Spending	(602,809)	(2,202,809)	(601,936)	(0)	(2,134,118)
610000		City of Houston Direct Overhead	-				
		Grant and Training Expense	1,600,000	-	-		-
456505		456505 - FA Gain/Loss	-		-		-
	Net Or	dinary Income After Capital Expenditures	(2,202,809)	(2,202,809)	(601,936)	(0)	(601,936)

Quality Division Report September 9, 2022

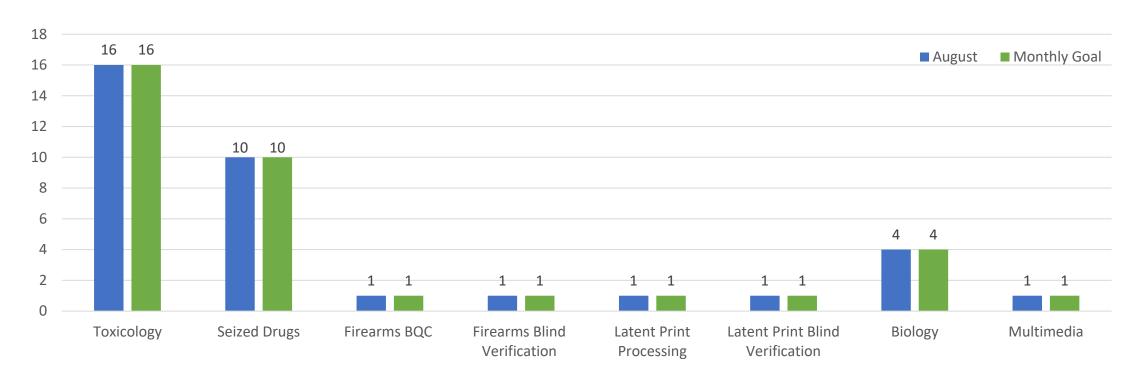


Blind Quality Controls Submitted in July





Blind Quality Controls Submitted in August





Blind Quality: Completed Cases

Forensic Discipline	Cases Completed in July	Cases Completed in August	
Toxicology	13 (BAC)	19 (BAC)	
TOXICOTOSY	6 (Drugs)	1 (Drugs)	
Seized Drugs	7	7	
Biology	5 (DNA)	1 (DNA)	
biology	1 (screening)	3 (screening)	
Firearms	0	0	
Firearms	2	1	
Blind Verification	2	_	
Latent Print Processing	0	2	
Latent Print Comparison	3	5	
Latent Print Blind Verification	0	0	
Multimedia	0	0	



2022 External Assessment

ANAB external assessment August 8-11

- Firearms section finding regarding reports
 - Reports previously included link to document on HFSC's eDiscovery site which provides explanations of an identification, exclusion, or inconclusive results.
- Biology section had four findings regarding Excel-based workbook validation documentation
 - Review of validation testing confirmed no additional testing is needed and no technical impact to casework.

Texas Forensic Science Commission voted "no further action needed" based on the laboratory's corrective actions and root cause analysis

- Accidental upload of blind quality control samples to CODIS
- Profiles immediately removed from CODIS upon discovery
- No investigations impacted
- Quality Division failed to properly communicate to Biology section
- Qualtrax workflow created to document approval prior to using new DNA profiles in blind quality control cases



Texas Forensic Science Commission investigative panel formed for Forensic Biology disclosure during quarterly meeting in April 2022

- HFSC analyst testified in 2017 for Texas Department of Public Safety Colone capital murder case
- Analyst provided testimony regarding 2013 evidence examination performed while employed at TX DPS
- Texas Court of Criminal Appeals issued an opinion and mandate in March 2022 overturning the death sentence conviction
 - Opinion found the analyst gave the jury a false impression when he suggested that there was nothing awry with the manner in which the evidence was handled at TX DPS

- HFSC requested TFSC assist with the investigation since it involves multiple agencies
- TFSC will determine if either a finding of professional negligence or professional misconduct for the analyst is appropriate
- Analyst terminated in May 2022
- Harris County District Attorney's Office (HCDAO) requested rework of impacted cases
- Collaboration with HCDAO to determine prioritization of rework



- Harris County Public Defender's Office (HCPDO) facilitating review of previous cases
 - Review to focus on materiality of DNA analysis
 - If materiality is determined, an in-depth case review will follow
- Upcoming TFSC quarterly meeting on October 7th



Disclosure to the Texas Forensic Science Commission regarding former NIBIN technician who failed to properly label test fired bullets and cartridge cases:

- Harris County District Attorney's Office and accrediting bodies notified
 - Sample switch discovered during a comparison request
 - Audit of technician's test fires for proper labeling
 - Decision to avoid technician's test fires in casework
 - Audit of comparisons using technician's test fires
 - No issues identified
 - Three firearms not available for retest



2022 Testimony Data

- 53 analysts have testified this year
 - 50 were monitored
 - 3 not monitored will need to be monitored in future testimony or transcript will be reviewed
- Transcript review project
 - First round: completed
 - Second round: transcripts requested to court reporters, waiting for response



Detailed Data



2022 Proficiency Testing

Discipline		Tests in Progress	Tests Completed	Comments
Seized Drugs		0	6	
Toxicology		10	13	
Firearms		5	1	
Crime Scene		7	2	
Latent Prints		6	9	
Multimedia	Audio/Video	2	0	
Multimedia	Digital	4	0	
Forensic Biology		12	23	





Corrective Actions, Incidents, and Preventive Actions

Quality Tracking Number	Section	Classification	Notification Date	Summary of Notification
2022-040	Biology/DNA	Corrective Action	7/6/2022	When an exclusion was generated from the STRmix software, the corresponding report statement did not include information indicating the conclusion was supported by an associated likelihood ratio. This may have inadvertently been interpreted as though the exclusion was determined by visual comparison to a known as opposed to it being generated by probabilistic genotyping software.
2022-048	Biology/DNA	Incident	8/3/2022	As part of conformance to OSAC Registry 022 Standard for Forensic DNA Analysis Training Programs, worksheets were created by the section but were not then consistently used in training binders.
2022-051	Biology/DNA	Incident	7/13/2022	An extraction reagent blank exhibited allelic activity consistent with one of the reference samples in the extraction set.
2022-052	Biology/DNA	Incident	8/18/2022	Cases involving reinterpretation of legacy data were authored and technically reviewed by analysts who did not have the required authorization memos since their previous memos had expired. Authorization memos that are specific to the reinterpretation of previously utilized technologies, amplification kits and/or platforms within the Forensic Biology section expire every two years and new authorization memos must be issued after demonstration of the required technical skills and knowledge.
2022-E A -02	Biology/DNA	Corrective Action	8/22/2022	During the 2022 ANAB reassessment the assessment team determined previous Forensic Biology internal software validations did not include documentation of the determination of which studies would be conducted as required by the FBI Quality Assurance Standards.
2022-EA-03	Biology/DNA	Corrective Action	8/22/2022	During the 2022 ANAB reassessment the assessment team determined previous Forensic Biology internal software validations did not contain documentation regarding whether regression, sensitivity or specificity testing was performed as required by the FBI Quality Assurance Standards.
2022-EA-04	Biology/DNA	Corrective Action	8/22/2022	During the 2022 ANAB reassessment the assessment team determined the documentation for previous Forensic Biology internal software modifications did not

HFSC'S Quality Division investigates nonconforming work and helps develop solutions in compliance with accreditation and legal standards. For the purposes of this board report, Quality tracking numbers associated to nonconformances are subject to re-assignment based upon further investigation and/or risk assessment.



Corrective Actions, Incidents, and Preventive Actions

Quality Tracking Number	Section	Classification	Notification Date	Summary of Notification
				contain a determination of whether the modification was a major or minor revision as required by the FBI Quality Assurance Standards.
2022-E A -05	Biology/DNA	Corrective Action	8/22/2022	During the 2022 ANAB reassessment the assessment team determined previous Forensic Biology internal software validations did not contain documentation to support that all required testing was performed nor a conclusionary statement that the software was fit for the intended use.
2022-PAR8	Biology/DNA	Preventive Action	7/6/2022	The CODIS Unit historically reviewed CODIS matches using paper documentation in a case file. This included printing match detail reports, checklists, and supporting eligibility documents. The CODIS Unit transitioned to a more efficient virtual workflow to review and track CODIS matches.
2022-044	Client Services & Case Management	Corrective Action	7/11/2022	A CS/CM specialist physically transferred toxicology evidence to a location within the biology evidence vault although the evidence was electronically transferred to the correct location. The toxicology evidence was at room temperature for approximately 11 days.
2022-045	Client Services & Case Management	Corrective Action	7/12/2022	A CS/CM specialist documented that a blood tube returned from an outsourcing laboratory after analysis was performed was leaking; however, she did not photograph the blood tube as required by the CS/CM SOP.
2022-PAR4	Client Services & Case Management	Preventive Action	3/3/2022	Previously when a stakeholder requested a FARO scan, CSU handled the communication and release of these records to the requestor. To ensure consistency with all other record releases, CS/CM assumed these duties from CSU. This process change provides better customer service to the stakeholder, improves the documentation of the request and release of the FARO scans, and allows CSU more time to focus on technical duties.
2022-046	Crime Scene	Incident	7/5/2022	A CSI inadvertently formatted her SD card prior to saving video she took at a crime scene in October 2021. The video is nonrecoverable.
2022-050	Crime Scene	Incident	8/17/2022	While attempting to fulfill a discovery request, the CSU technical leader discovered that a CSU request had been created in HFSC's historical laboratory information management system but was cancelled prior to the CSI drafting a report within the system.

HFSC'S Quality Division investigates nonconforming work and helps develop solutions in compliance with accreditation and legal standards. For the purposes of this board report, Quality tracking numbers associated to nonconformances are subject to re-assignment based upon further investigation and/or risk assessment.



Corrective Actions, Incidents, and Preventive Actions

Quality Tracking Number	Section	Classification	Notification Date	Summary of Notification
2022-049	Firearms	Incident	7/7/2022	A cartridge case was found on the floor of the Firearms section. Because the cartridge case did not have any uniquely identifying information engraved or written on it, the origin of this item could not be determined.
2022-EA-01	Firearms	Corrective Action	8/21/2022	During the 2022 ANAB re-assessment the assessment team found the Firearms section's reports did not include language that qualified the significance of any associations or include the reason(s) when the reported results were inconclusive. The reports included a link to HFSC's eDiscovery page to a document that provided explanations of an identification, exclusion or inconclusive result.
2022-PAR10	Firearms	Preventive Action	6/9/2022	The Firearms section, together HFSC's Legal created two documents: one providing general information about firearms examinations and terminology, and the other providing information about recent challenges to the field of firearms examinations. These documents will be made available to both prosecutors and defense attorneys to help improve understanding and communication between analysts and attorneys prior to trial. These documents should prevent the need for multiple and/or extensive pretrial meetings and improve the quality of information provided to jurors during testimony.
2022-PAR5	Multimedia	Preventive Action	3/15/2022	The Multimedia section began returning skimmers to the property room in 2022, rather than retaining them in their evidence vault. Skimmer evidence had been stored at HFSC while the Multimedia section worked towards developing effective methods to extract meaningful data from them. However, this resulted in a lack of space and time-consuming inventory audits of their evidence vault.
2022-PAR6	Multimedia	Preventive Action	6/8/2022	The Multimedia section completed their technical review from copies of derivative data extracted from evidence. A new process was implemented whereby the physical derivative data (rather than the copied data) is reviewed by the technical reviewer. This process improvement ensures that the physical derivative data being sent to the requester has been directly subjected to the technical review process.
2022-PAR7	Multimedia	Preventive Action	7/1/2022	Rather than automatically disposing of derivative data stored in the Multimedia's isolated network approximately every thirty days by a designated analyst, an email notification to section management and approval system was implemented. This

HFSC'S Quality Division investigates nonconforming work and helps develop solutions in compliance with accreditation and legal standards. For the purposes of this board report, Quality tracking numbers associated to nonconformances are subject to re-assignment based upon further investigation and/or risk assessment.



Corrective Actions, Incidents, and Preventive Actions

Quality Tracking Number	Section	Classification	Notification Date	Summary of Notification
				verification system will ensure that the section management reviews the data stored in this network prior to authorizing its removal.
2022-024	Toxicology	Incident	7/26/2022	A blood tube was accidently broken by a toxicology analyst/supervisor prior to analysis. The remaining blood was transferred to a new labeled tube. There was sufficient sample available for analysis and for future additional testing.
2022-047	Toxicology	Corrective Action	7/28/2022	There were several instances where the performance check of the pH meter did not meet all the required acceptance criteria but were deemed as "passed". The section is actively reviewing past performance checks completed from 2016 to present and researching the potential impact, if any, to casework.
2022-PAR9	Toxicology	Preventive Action	4/4/2022	Although an analyst can perform independent casework immediately after satisfactorily completing a competency test and being authorized in a specific analytical technique, the Toxicology section now requires that the newly authorized analyst to be observed by an experienced analyst during their first casework analysis. This new observational process will ensure that the analyst has the technical support available if needed while analyzing authentic casework their first time.