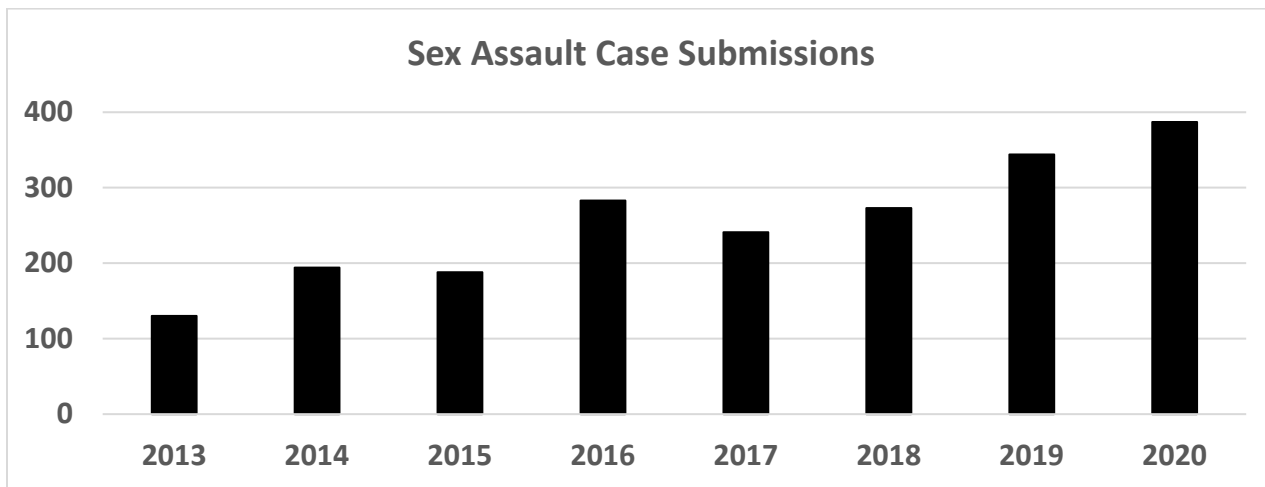


Legislative Section D question

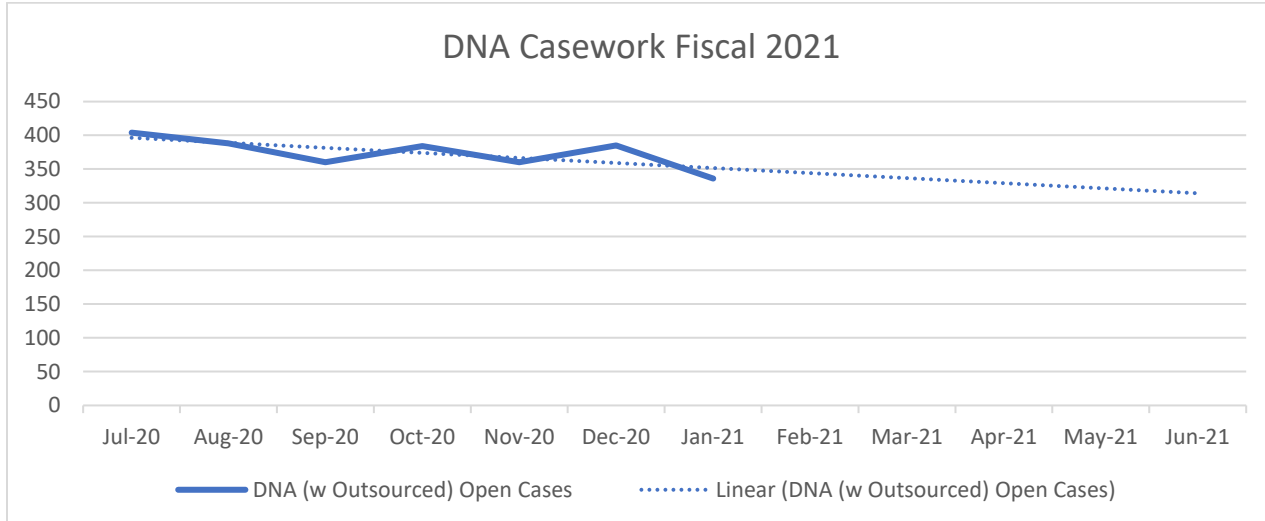
Can you provide clarification on the \$125,000 over the biennium to outsource sexual assault kit testing in the Forensic Science Division? Is this to address the backlog of cases or all cases?

FSD Response and Information

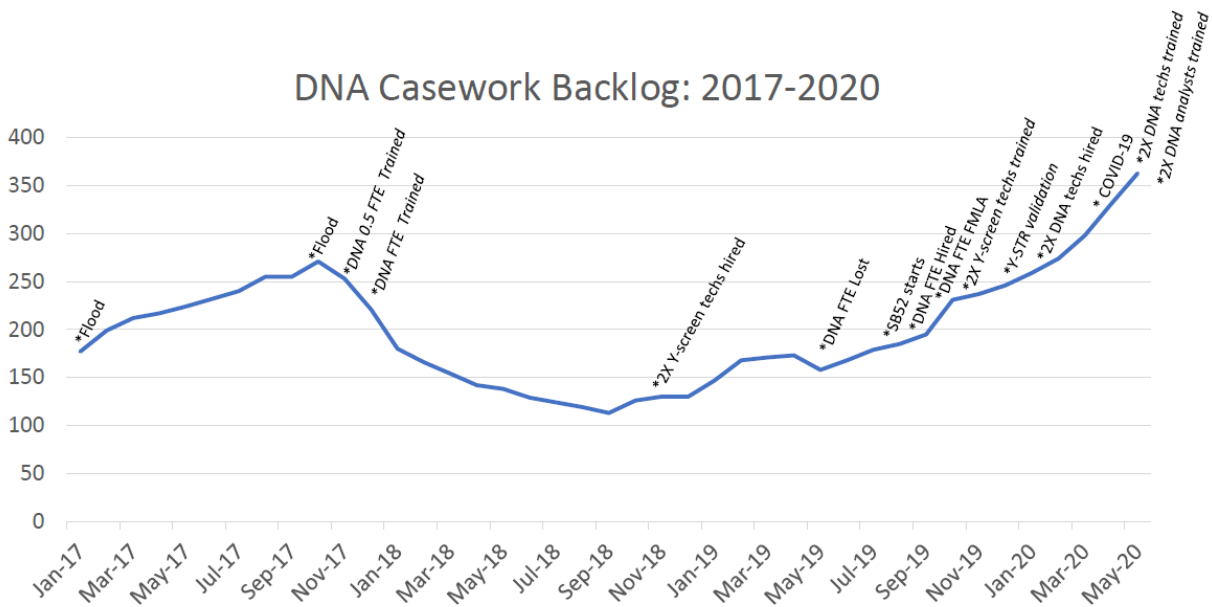
The \$125,000 request is for outsourcing sexual assault cases due to the 42% increase in submitted cases. The main reason for this increase was the passing of Senate Bill 52 during the 2019 legislative session. This bill called for all sexual assault cases to be submitted to the laboratory for testing. The original bill had this amount included but the money was not appropriated.



DNA Casework



Tracking of Casework from 2017-mid-2020

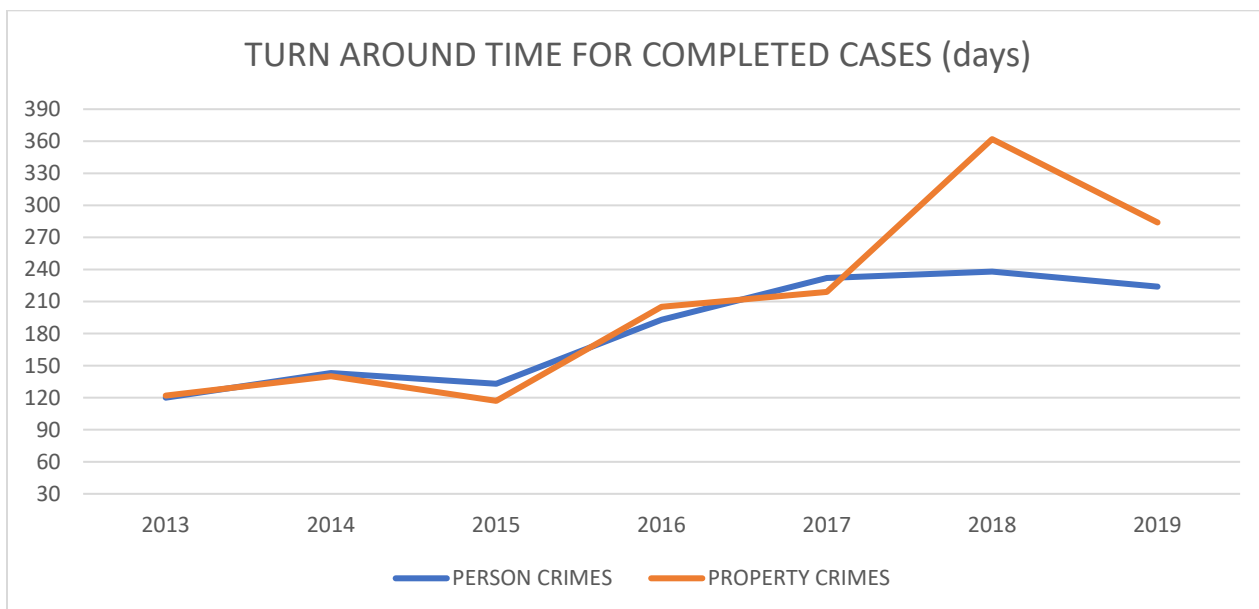


2020 completed goals related to Biology Casework:

1. Transfer 600 sq. ft. space to Biology section
2. Outsourced roughly 65 cases in 2020 to deal with increasing case submission.
3. Created 2 modified DNA technician positions will eventually increase testing capacity. The impact of these positions will be tracked to determine positive impact.
4. Increase the number of cross-trained analysts which will increase sections flexibility and decrease the possibility of a “bottleneck” in the testing process.

Turn-around time for report

Increasing turn-around times are in correlation increases in submitted cases. It takes time to ramp up production through new instrumentation or staff.



Future Assessment

The Biology section has undergone a large number of changes over the last 18 months (new testing systems, new services, new personnel, etc.). We are starting to see increased testing capacity, but it is too soon to understand what the long-term effects are. The Division plans to do a full long-term plan for this section in mid-2021 to understand if additional resources are needed and how to properly distribute them.