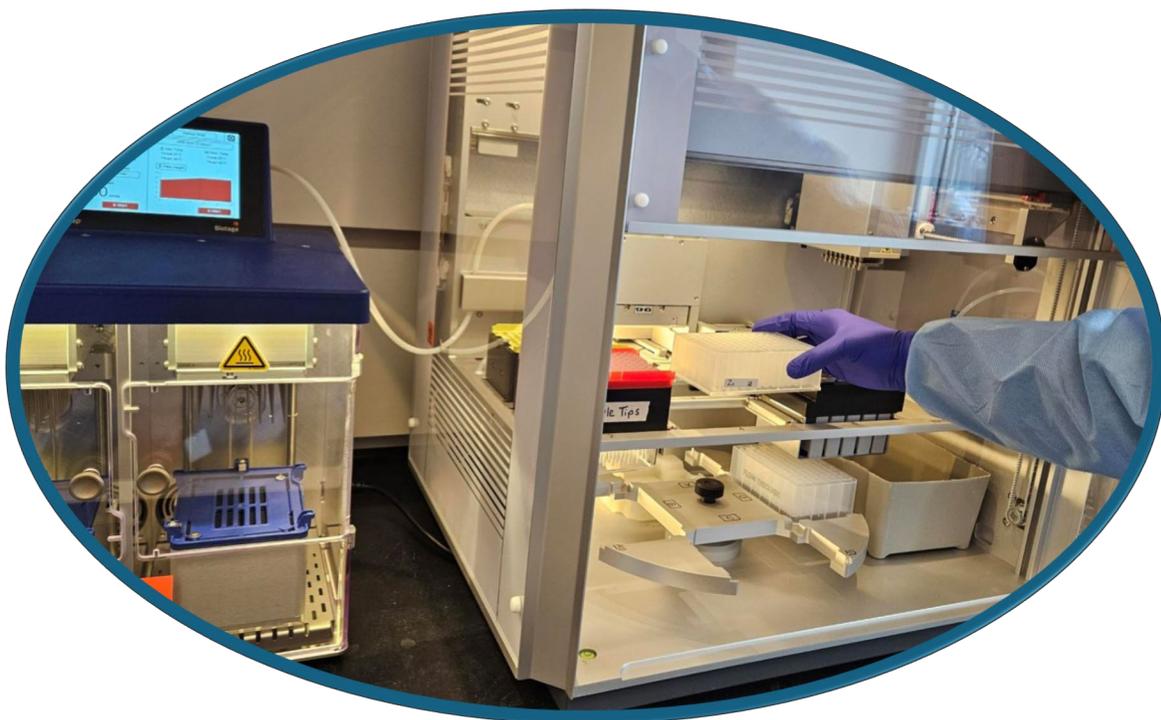


Indiana State Department of Toxicology



2025 Annual Report

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Cover Page Image: Forensic Scientist Logan Hickey preparing samples for ISDT’s new drug screening method using automated sample preparation equipment.

ABOUT ISDT

The Indiana State Department of Toxicology (ISDT) provides forensic toxicology services for the State of Indiana through its laboratory testing and breath test program.

Mission: Provide quality testing for alcohol and drugs, a dependable breath test program, expert testimony, and education on the science of forensic toxicology.

Vision: To provide quality forensic toxicology services for the state of Indiana.

Values: All programs in the Department operate with the following values at their core:

Quality

Impartiality

Transparency

Customer Focus

Employee Growth

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The year 2025 was full of meaningful transition, disciplined focus, and impressive achievement for ISDT. Despite significant organizational changes, including the decision not to fill several vacant positions, our team continued to deliver a consistently high level of service to the State of Indiana. This dedication speaks volumes about the professionalism, commitment, and resilience of our staff.

I want to extend my sincere gratitude to every member of the ISDT team. Your hard work, problem-solving, and flexibility during a year of change made these accomplishments possible. As we look ahead, we remain focused on strengthening our operations, advancing our scientific capabilities, and continuing to serve Indiana with integrity and excellence.

Thank you for your dedication and for the exceptional work you do each and every day.

— *Director Christina Beymer*

2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

ISDT provides services throughout the State of Indiana. Under Indiana statute, all evidentiary breath tests are required to be performed on breath alcohol instruments certified by ISDT. ISDT receives laboratory submissions from law enforcement agencies throughout the state, including state, county, and local police agencies and county coroner's offices. These maps provide a clear visual summary of where breath testing is occurring and where laboratory submissions originate, helping stakeholders better understand statewide service coverage. It is important to note that laboratory submissions do not provide an overview of all toxicology testing performed in the State of Indiana, as police agencies may submit evidence for toxicology testing to other public or private laboratories.

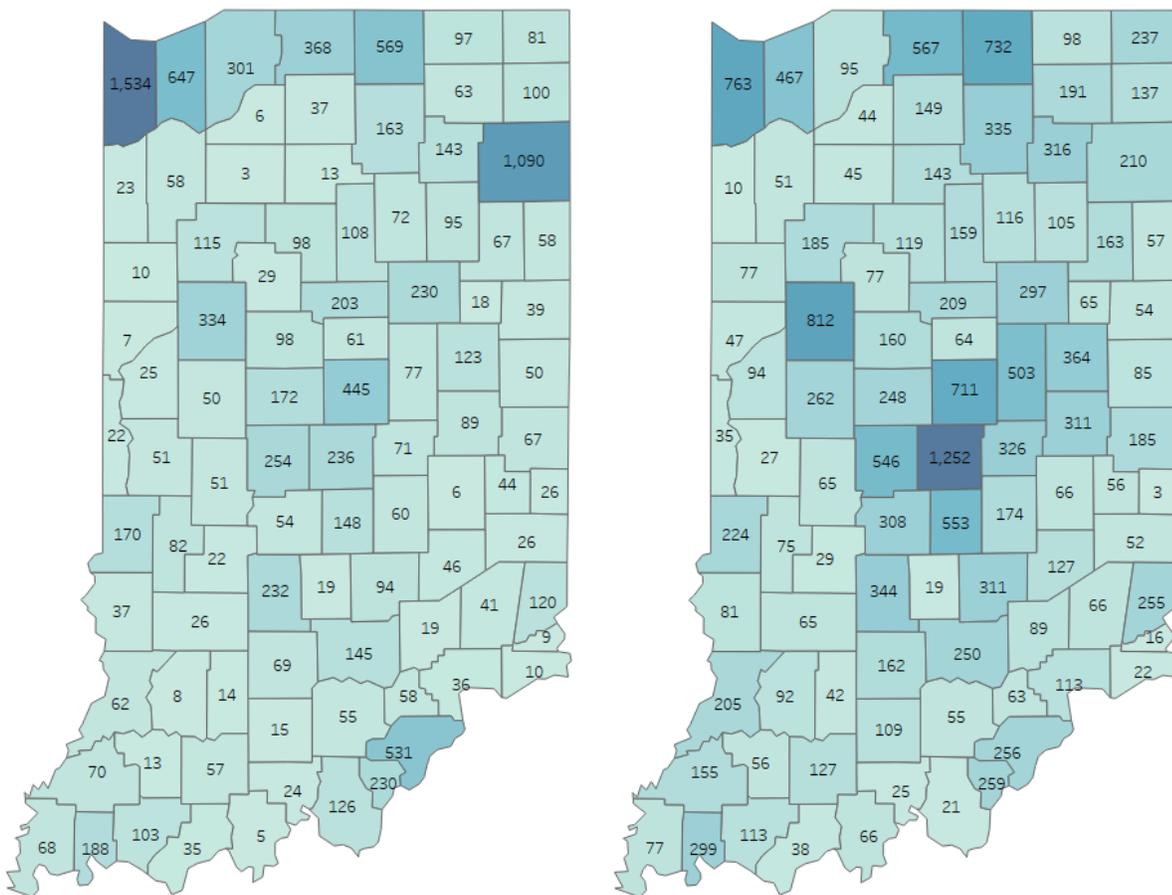


Figure 1. Breath Tests Conducted (left) and Laboratory Case Submissions (right) in 2025

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

ISDT experienced significant changes to its organizational structure in 2025. Due to budget constraints, several positions were not filled when vacancies occurred, including the General Counsel, Breath Test Program Supervisor, Program Coordinator, and Forensic Laboratory Technician. As ISDT no longer has a dedicated General Counsel, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) is providing legal guidance and counsel for ISDT. Additionally, ISDT converted the remaining two Forensic Laboratory Technician positions to Forensic Scientists, and the Assistant Director now also serves as the Breath Test Program Supervisor. ISDT's total staffing decreased from 30 to 24. ISDT ended 2025 with 23 of its 24 positions filled (one vacant Forensic Scientist).

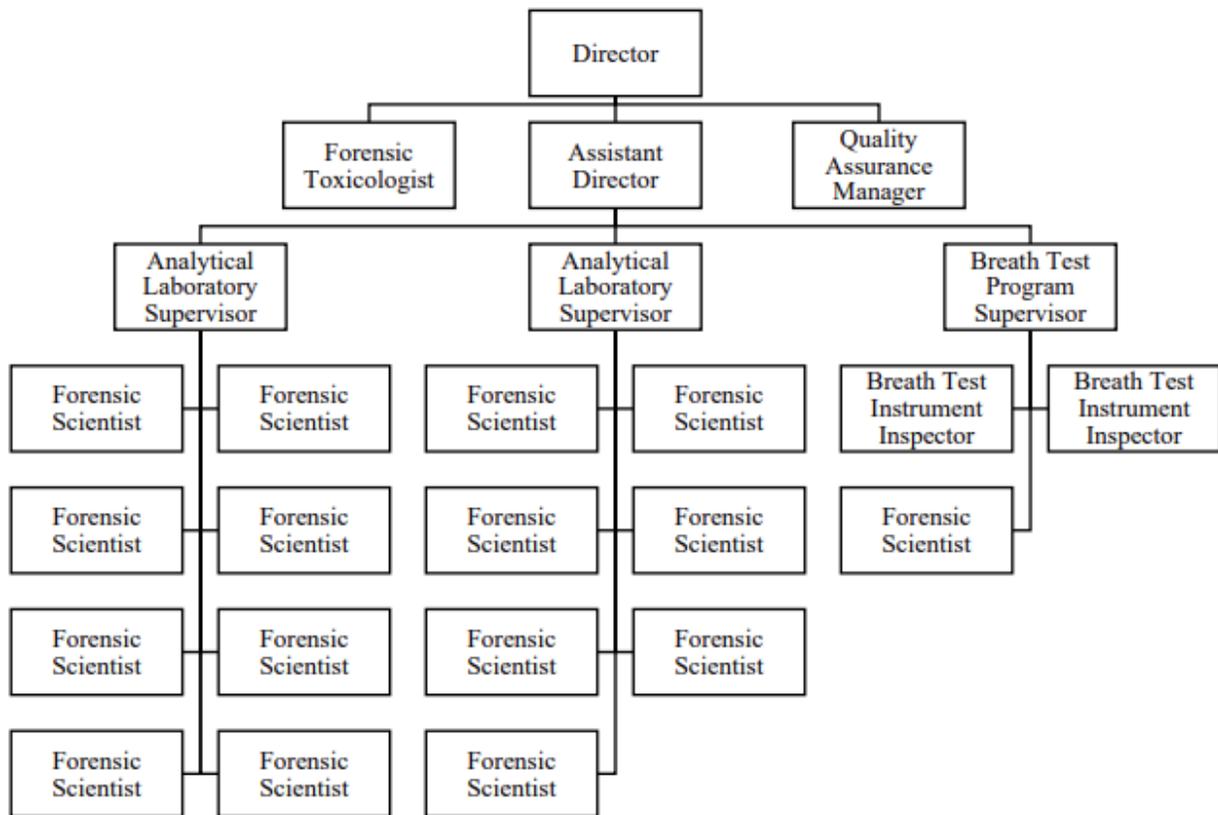


Figure 2 ISDT Organizational Chart

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2025, the agency advanced several major initiatives that expanded analytical capabilities, improved data accessibility for stakeholders, and modernized program operations. These accomplishments demonstrate continued commitment to scientific rigor, service improvement, and operational efficiency.

- **Implemented Cannabinoids Confirmation Method**

The laboratory developed and validated a new cannabinoids confirmation method, expanding the analyte panel to include CBD and delta-8 THC. This enhancement strengthens the laboratory's ability to identify drugs of interest.

- **Developed a New Drug Screening Method**

A new drug screening method was successfully developed utilizing automated sample preparation equipment and liquid chromatography high-resolution Orbitrap mass spectrometry. This advancement lowers the detection limit for buprenorphine and adds important analytes such as cocaethylene and gabapentin to the screening panel, improving sensitivity and broadening toxicological coverage.



Figure 3. Liquid Chromatograph Orbitrap Mass Spectrometer

- **Implemented Electronic Case File (ECF) Access**

The laboratory integrated the Electronic Case File as part of the process for issuing toxicology reports, allowing customers to view key documents—including chain of custody records, toxicology analysis request forms, and evidence images—directly online. This enhancement increases transparency and improves customer experience.

- **Updated Breath Test Operator Training Program**

The breath test operator training curriculum was updated to incorporate more real-world examples and issues encountered during field operations. These updates strengthen operator competency and support improved decision-making.

- **Initiated Implementation of the Breath Alcohol Database**

Work began on the development of a centralized Breath Alcohol Database designed to modernize record management. Once fully implemented, this system will streamline inspection review processes and improve organization of compliance records.

LABORATORY TESTING

ISDT analyzed blood specimens submitted by 493 agencies in 2025. Most agencies submit specimens for analysis in evidence collection kits provided by ISDT. Agencies may submit evidence for alcohol analysis, drug analysis, or both. Per ISDT's testing policy, when both alcohol and drug testing are requested in non-fatal/serious bodily injury traffic incidents, the drug testing request is canceled if the subject alcohol test result is ≥ 0.10 g/100 mL.

Case submissions continue to rise year over year. A total of 17,887 cases were submitted in 2025, including 13,713 requests for alcohol analysis and 10,459 requests for drug analysis, for a total of 24,172 testing requests. This is an increase of 10% for testing requests compared to 2024.

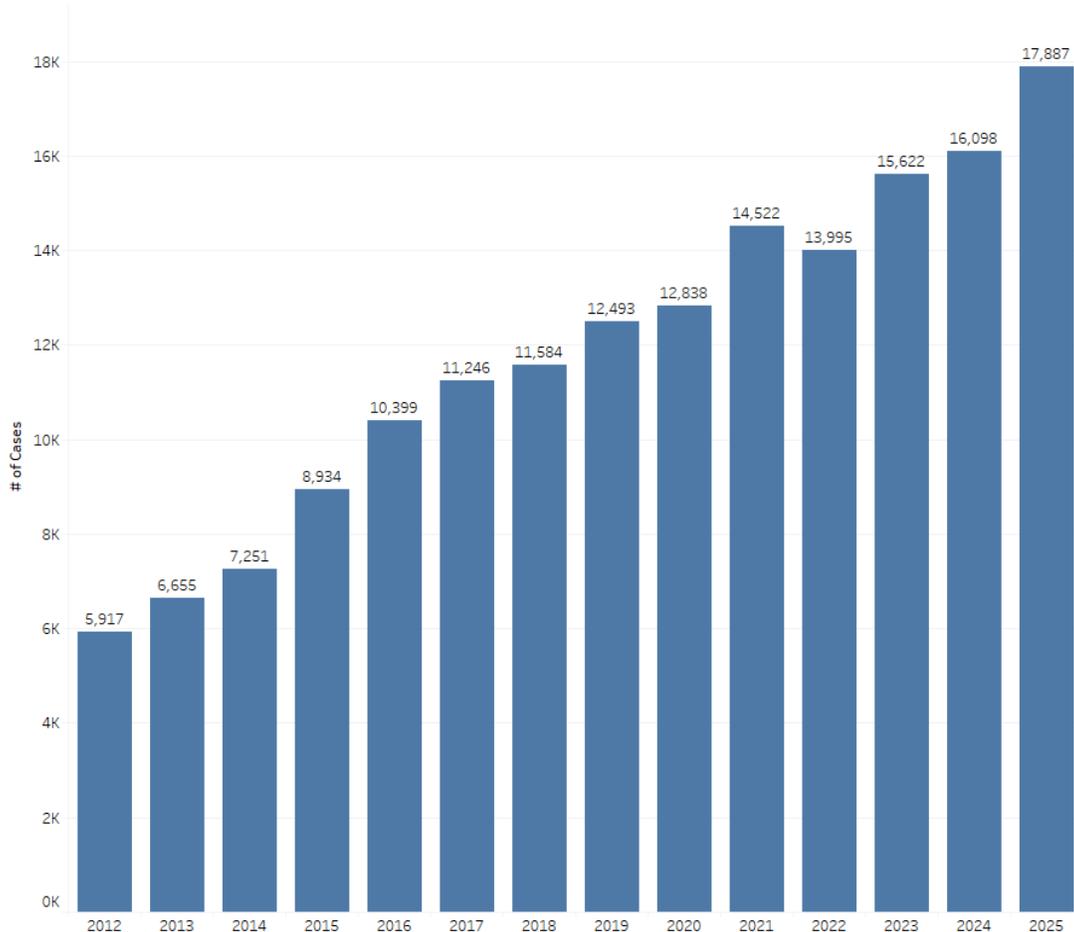


Figure 4. Laboratory Case Submissions

ISDT completed 12,171 requests for alcohol analysis and 6,011 requests for drug analysis in 2025 (total of 18,182 requests). All alcohol analysis is completed by ISDT staff, while some drug analysis is outsourced.

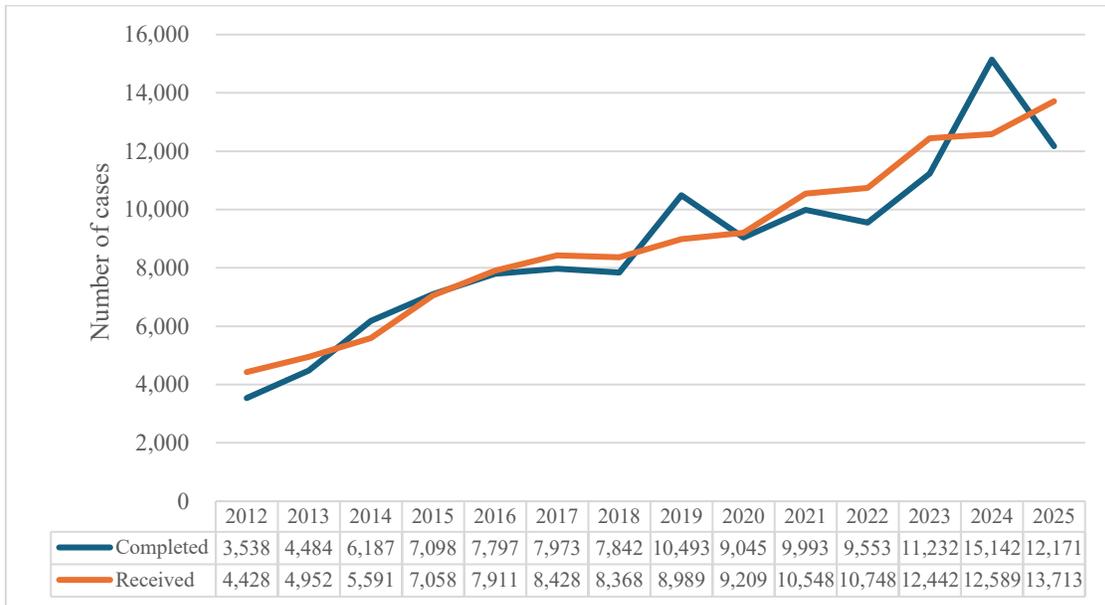


Figure 5. Alcohol Analysis Requests Received and Completed

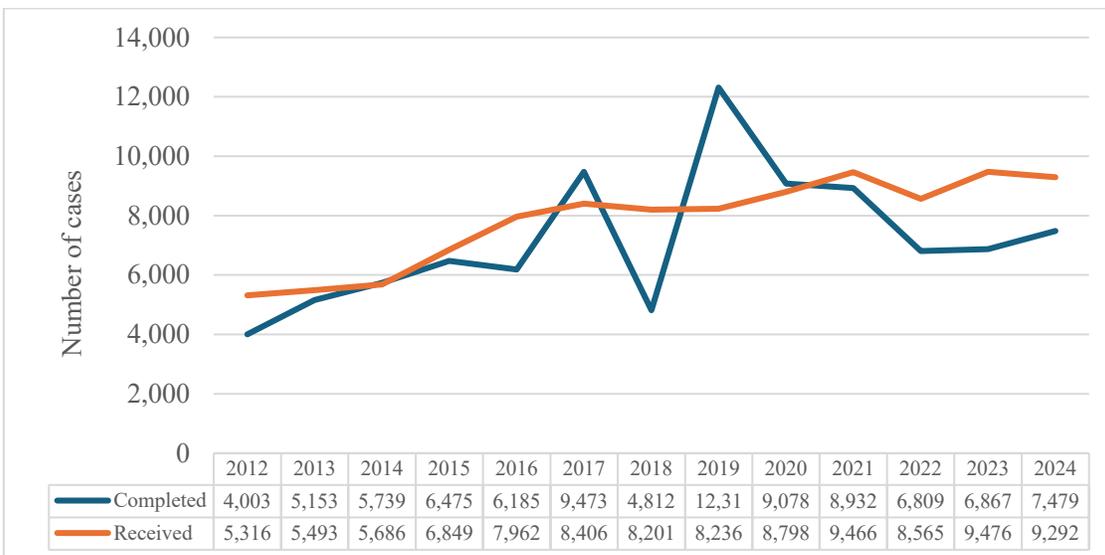


Figure 6. Drug Analysis Requests Received and Completed

Timely reporting of analytical results is essential to meeting the needs of ISDT stakeholders. Turnaround time (TAT) directly affects how quickly law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and other partners can make informed decisions based on laboratory findings. Efficient TAT supports case progression, improves public safety outcomes, and ensures that critical information is available when it is needed most.

Testing for cases is prioritized based upon the type of offense, with priority being given to fatal accidents, death investigations, sexual assaults, neglect cases, and officer involved incidents. TAT is measured as the time from evidence receipt until the issue date of the toxicology report.

		2023	2024	2025
Alcohol	Priority	25	11	13
	Non-Priority	115	43	29
Drug	Priority	56	30	33
	Non-priority	195	107	129

Figure 7. Turnaround Times (in days)

Of the specimens ISDT screened for drugs in 2025, 75.6% were positive for one or more drugs or drug metabolites, compared to 72.1% in 2024 and 67.7% in 2023. This change in the percentage of positive cases may be due to the change in drugs included in the testing panel and lower limits of detection.

Drug Class	Year		
	2023	2024	2025
Cannabinoids	60.9%	58.7%	63.8%
Stimulants	34.5%	39.7%	37.9%
Opioids	24.7%	24.0%	22.3%
Benzodiazepines/Z-drugs	18.1%	16.6%	15.0%
Cocaine	9.4%	10.4%	10.7%
Cyclobenzaprine	1.1%	1.4%	1.0%
Barbiturates	0.6%	0.7%	0.6%
Buprenorphine	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%
Carisoprodol	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%

Table 1. Drug Class Positivity

Agencies submitting specimens to ISDT for testing indicate offense information on the Toxicology Analysis Request form (TAR). Of the cases received in 2025, ~97.1% were traffic related, which was consistent with past years.

Traffic/Non-Traffic	Offense	% of cases
Traffic	Operating Vehicle While Intoxicated	79.0%
	Personal Injury/Serious Bodily Injury Crash	14.5%
	Property Damage Crash	14.3%
	Fatal Crash	2.4%
	Other: Traffic Related	1.8%
	Traffic Stop	0.5%
Non-Traffic	Death Investigation	0.8%
	Other: Non-Traffic Related	0.8%
	Overdose	0.2%
	Neglect/Endangerment	0.2%
	Suicide	0.1%
	Sexual Assault	0.1%
	Officer Involved	0.1%
	Domestic Violence	0.1%
	Homicide	< 0.1%
	Public Intoxication	< 0.1%
Traffic or Non-Traffic Juvenile		1.0%
Unknown		1.3%

Table 2. Offenses of Cases Submitted

Of the cases reported in 2025 for ethanol, the blood alcohol concentration (BAC) was ≥ 0.08 g/100 mL in ~92% of cases and ≥ 0.15 g/100 mL in ~66% of cases.

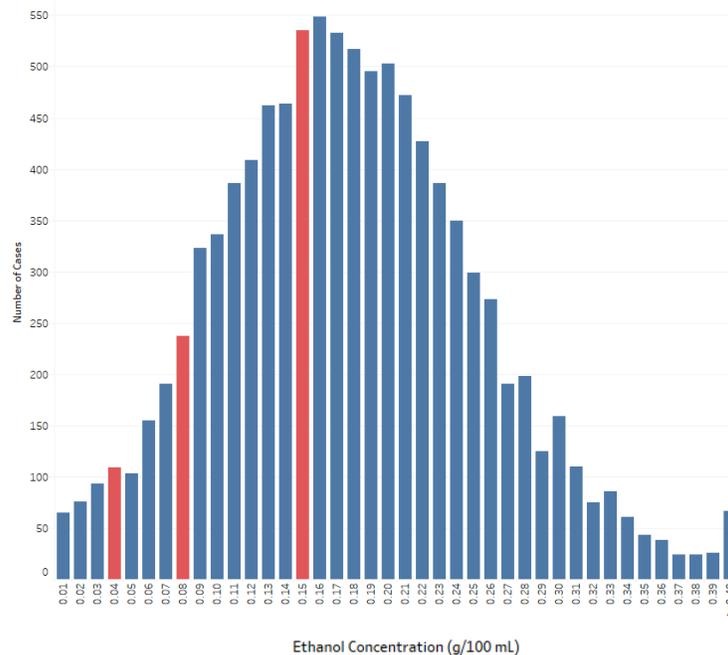


Figure 8. Laboratory Blood Alcohol Results (red bars signify different per se limits)

BREATH ALCOHOL

ISDT is responsible for inspecting and certifying evidentiary breath alcohol instruments and certifying breath test operators according to 260 IAC 2.5. There are 204 breath test instruments strategically placed throughout Indiana. Each instrument requires inspection and certification every 180 days. During 2025, ISDT completed ~800 instrument inspections and certifications.

ISDT held 13 breath test operator certification courses, certifying a total of 389 new operators. At the end of 2025, Indiana had 4,559 certified breath test operators employed by 340 law enforcement agencies.

In 2025, there were 11,939 breath tests conducted, with 8,780 (73.5%) completed tests. A breath subject test is completed when the subject delivers two breath samples with measurable results that agree with each other within 0.020 g/210L of breath. Most tests conducted that were not completed were due to the subject refusing to complete the breath test or not providing a sufficient sample.



Of the completed breath alcohol subject tests in 2025, the breath alcohol concentration (BrAC) was ≥ 0.08 g/100 mL in ~91.4% of cases and ≥ 0.15 g/100 mL in ~42.8% of cases.

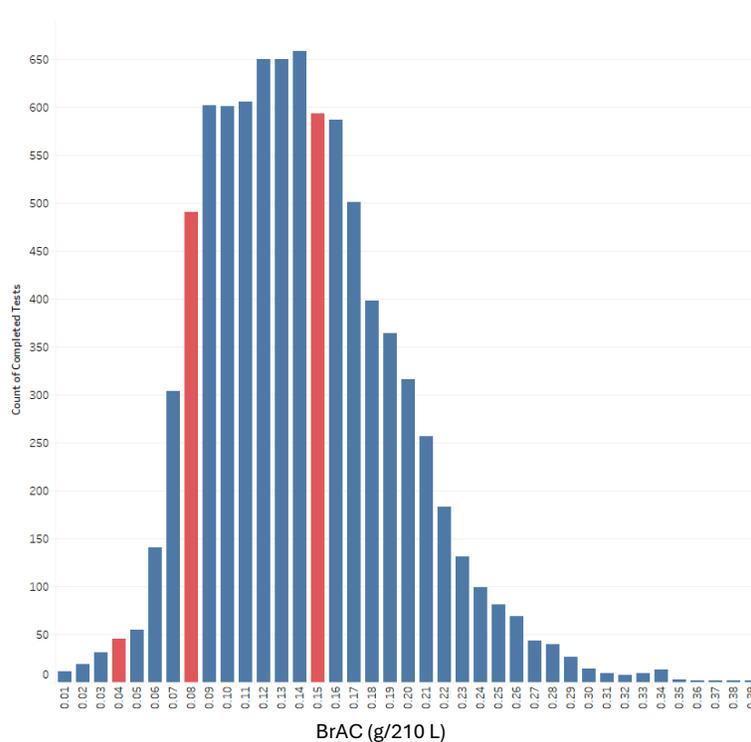


Figure 11. Breath Alcohol Results (red bars signify different per se limits)

IGNITION INTERLOCK PROGRAM

ISDT is responsible for certifying ignition interlock device models in accordance with 260 IAC 3. Ignition interlock device certifications are valid for three years.

As of the end of 2025, 13 ignition interlock device models are certified in the State of Indiana. All ignition interlock certifications are available on the ISDT website at: <https://www.in.gov/isdt/certified-device-models/>.

Vendors of ignition interlock devices report to ISDT on an annual basis the number of devices installed:

	2023	2024	2025
# of ignition interlock devices	1,729	1,922	2,173

Table 4. Number of Ignition Interlock Devices Installed as of December 1 of Each Year

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

ISDT’s budget is comprised of general fund appropriations, dedicated fund appropriations, and grants. The Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) awarded ISDT grant funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for federal fiscal year 2025 (October 1, 2024-September 30, 2025). These funds were used for reduction of ISDT’s laboratory case backlog/turnaround times, the purchase of supplies, and salary and benefits for three Forensic Scientists and an Analytical Laboratory Supervisor.

Fund	Amount	Time Period
General Fund	\$2,760,026	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025
Dedicated Fund	\$355,000	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025
Grant Fund	\$778,293	October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025
Total	\$3,893,319	

Table 5. ISDT Funding

ACCREDITATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE



The agency maintained full accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 through the ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) throughout 2025 in both testing (analytical laboratory) and calibration (breath alcohol). This accreditation reflects the agency’s ongoing commitment to technical competence, impartiality, and the consistent generation of reliable analytical results. As part of routine quality assurance activities, the laboratory and breath alcohol program successfully completed all required proficiency tests during

the year, with 100% of results rated satisfactory. These outcomes demonstrate strong adherence to established methods, effective internal controls, and a culture of continuous quality improvement.

TESTIMONY

ISDT received ~950 subpoenas in 2025 and personnel provided testimony 94 times in depositions, bench trials, and jury trials throughout the State of Indiana. ISDT personnel provide expert testimony in relation to laboratory testing, breath alcohol testing, and interpretation of laboratory and breath test results.

OUTREACH

Throughout 2025, the agency continued its commitment to supporting stakeholders through proactive outreach, training, and communication efforts. Staff engaged with partners across the state to provide timely information, technical guidance, and educational resources related to blood and breath toxicology testing.

- DRE School
 - Provided general training about ISDT to ~15-20 police officers training to become Drug Recognition Experts
- THC 201
 - “Delta-9 THC and Other Phytocannabinoids” & “Synthetic Cannabinoids”
 - Partnered with Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council (IPAC) and Indiana Public Defenders Council (IPDC) to provide training to attorneys regarding cannabinoids and impaired driving
 - ~300 attendees (in-person and online)
- Guest Lectures for Students
 - “Forensic Toxicology”
 - 10-15 college students
 - “Forensic Toxicology”
 - ~20 high school students

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2026

In the coming year, the agency will focus on targeted initiatives that enhance analytical capability, modernize data systems, expand testing methodologies, and reduce turnaround times. These priorities support continued operational improvement and ensure the agency remains responsive to statewide needs.

- **Complete and Fully Implement the Breath Alcohol Database**

The agency will finalize development and deploy the new Breath Alcohol Database, creating a centralized system for managing inspection reports, certifications, and related documentation. Once implemented, the database will streamline the inspection review process and improve organization of records.

- **Install and Validate a New LC-QQQ Instrument**

A new liquid chromatography triple quadrupole (LC/QQQ) system will be installed and validated to support drug confirmation testing for cannabinoids and benzodiazepines. This instrument will increase analytical capacity and provide additional flexibility for confirmatory testing workflows.

- **Develop a New Testing Method for Inhalants**

The laboratory will develop and validate an analytical method for detecting and confirming inhalants, including difluoroethane (DFE). Establishing this capability will expand the laboratory's scope of testing and address a growing need for reliable analysis of inhalant-related cases.

- **Reduce Case Backlogs and Improve Turnaround Times**

Focused efforts will be directed toward backlog reduction through enhanced workflow management, targeted process improvements, and optimized scheduling of analytical resources. These efforts aim to improve turnaround times, increase efficiency, and better support stakeholders relying on timely results.

CONTACT US



Indiana State Department of Toxicology

550 W. 16th Street, Suite A

Indianapolis, IN 46202

www.IN.gov/isdt

317-921-5000

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