



# THE NATIONAL DNA DATA BANK OF CANADA

ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024



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**NATIONAL DNA DATA BANK OF CANADA**

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<https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/forensics/national-dna-data-bank>

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER
3	QUICK FACTS
3	ABBREVIATIONS
4	NATIONAL MISSING PERSONS DNA PROGRAM CELEBRATES 5 YEARS OF SUCCESS
6	THE NATIONAL DNA DATA BANK
8	OFFENDER AND FORENSIC HITS
8	CONVICTED OFFENDER SUBMISSIONS
10	PROCESSING OF BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES
10	<i>Convicted Offender Samples</i>
10	<i>Crime Scene and Victim Samples</i>
10	<i>Voluntary Donor Samples</i>
11	<i>Missing Persons, Relatives of Missing Persons and Human Remains Samples</i>
12	COMPARING DNA PROFILES
12	INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION
13	PRIVACY OF INFORMATION
14	THE VALUE OF SECONDARY DESIGNATED OFFENCE SUBMISSIONS
15	SUCCESS STORIES
20	NATIONAL DNA DATA BANK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
21	KEY STATISTICS
26	FINANCIAL STATEMENT

# MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

I am honoured to present the National DNA Data Bank annual report for 2023-2024.

For the past 24 years, the National DNA Data Bank and its many partners have helped investigating agencies solve criminal and humanitarian cases, both nationally and internationally, by using DNA to identify suspects, victims, and missing persons, and by linking crime scenes.

There are now 681,459 DNA profiles in the criminal indices including those processed and analyzed by the National DNA Data Bank from convicted offenders and those from contributing laboratories derived from crime scene evidence. To date, the Data Bank has matched 90,789 DNA profiles linked to criminal investigations.

Additionally, the National Missing Persons DNA Program, a partnership between the National DNA Data Bank and the RCMP's National Centre for Missing Persons and Unidentified Remains, celebrated its 5th anniversary in March 2023. The program continues to grow with 2,428 DNA profiles now included in the humanitarian indices of the Data Bank. In the last few years, the submissions of biological samples and DNA profiles, as well as advancements in technology and services, have played a valuable role in helping resolve investigations of missing persons and unidentified human remains. As a result, 84 DNA associations have been reported related to these humanitarian investigations.

I have immense pride for our employees at the National DNA Data Bank, and all our partners in law enforcement, for their unwavering dedication to helping keep Canadians safe and to bringing needed answers to victims and their loved ones. I am pleased to share several success stories in this year's report, which highlight the teamwork and dedication of all involved.

Thank you all for your resolve, your expertise, and your professionalism.

**Mike Duheme**  
*Commissioner*



# QUICK **FACTS**

Convicted Offender Samples Received in 2023/24 <sup>1</sup>	<b>18,928</b>
Increase in the Crime Scene Index in 2023/24	<b>13,822</b>
Offender Hits (Convicted Offender to Crime Scene) in 2023/24	<b>4,862</b>
Forensic Hits (Crime Scene to Crime Scene) in 2023/24	<b>568</b>
Offender and Forensic Hits in 2023/24	<b>5,430</b>
Offender and Forensic Hits since June 30, 2000	<b>90,774</b>
Human Remains Hits – Putative identifications made since March 6, 2018 <sup>2</sup>	<b>84</b>

<sup>1</sup>2023/24 refers to the fiscal year from April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

<sup>2</sup>The date the humanitarian indices came into force.

## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>CODIS</b>	Combined DNA Index System
<b>DNA</b>	Deoxyribonucleic acid
<b>INTERPOL</b>	International Criminal Police Organization
<b>RCMP</b>	Royal Canadian Mounted Police



# NATIONAL MISSING PERSONS DNA PROGRAM CELEBRATES 5 YEARS OF SUCCESS

**A**S SUBMITTING AGENCIES ACROSS CANADA become more educated about the value of the Program, it is hoped that even more coroners and investigators will choose to participate.



## **T**HE NATIONAL MISSING PERSONS DNA PROGRAM

marked five years of operation on March 6, 2023. The Program is a collaborative initiative between the RCMP's National Centre for Missing Persons and Unidentified Remains and the National DNA Data Bank. It was established as the result of amendments to the *DNA Identification Act* that expanded the mandate of the National DNA Data Bank and led to the creation of three new indices to support humanitarian investigations.

The design of the Program permits the submission of biological samples for DNA analysis within the National DNA Data Bank as well as the submission of DNA profiles previously generated by approved laboratories. This accommodates the diverse needs of police and coroners, and supports both current and historical cases of missing persons and unidentified human remains from across Canada.

Over the past five years, the National DNA Data Bank has enhanced and broadened its technical services to further assist with missing persons and human remains investigations. A specialized expertise in processing bones and teeth was developed, with a method to extract DNA from these types of exhibits being implemented in January 2020. In addition, mitochondrial DNA analysis, a technology that is particularly useful for old or degraded samples and that is able to make links to more distant relatives, has been operational since March 2023. With these technological advancements, the Program is now able to provide a wide range of DNA analyses to support missing persons investigations.

The Program achieved its first breakthrough within two years of its opening when unidentified remains were linked to another DNA profile contained in the National DNA Data Bank. Over the following two years, 27 more associations were reported. As of March 2024, the Program has provided evidence to assist in the identification of human remains in 84 cases.

The success of the National Missing Persons DNA Program is the result of the collaboration and the dedication of all involved. As submitting agencies across Canada become more educated about the value of the Program, it is hoped that even more coroners and investigators will choose to participate. Increasing the number of DNA profiles in the National DNA Data Bank will enhance the likelihood of making associations to aid in the resolution of more investigations involving missing persons and unidentified human remains.



# THE NATIONAL DNA DATA BANK

**T**HE NATIONAL DNA DATA BANK is a centralized collection of over half a million DNA profiles that helps investigators across the country solve a range of crimes. Its main goals are:

- link crime scenes across jurisdictional boundaries;
- help identify or eliminate suspects;
- determine whether a serial offender has been involved in certain crimes; and
- assist investigators, coroners and medical examiners to find missing persons and identify human remains.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, the RCMP is the steward of the National DNA Data Bank, which operates for the benefit of Canada's entire law enforcement community.





**S**INCE THE CREATION of the humanitarian indices, 84 DNA associations have assisted in the identification of found remains.

The **DNA Identification Act** allows the National DNA Data Bank to maintain the following indices (databases):

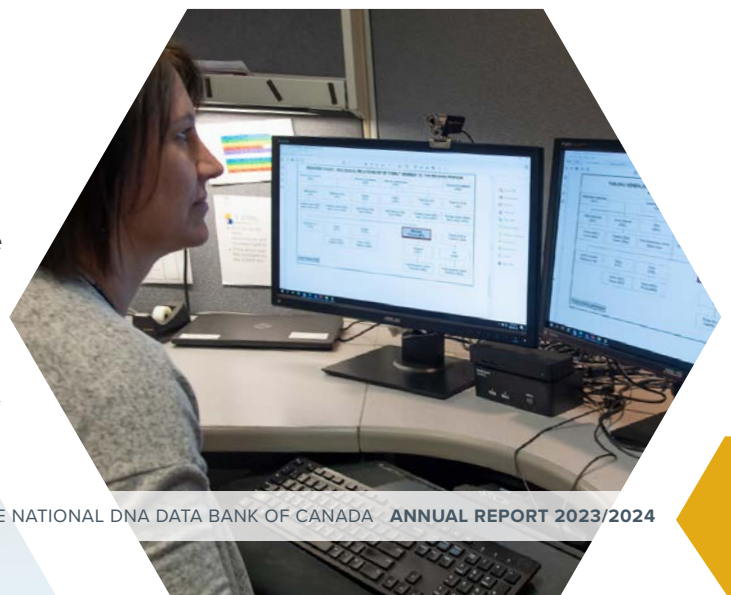
- *Convicted Offenders Index*
- *Crime Scene Index*
- *Victims Index*
- *Voluntary Donors Index*
- *Missing Persons Index*
- *Relatives of Missing Persons Index*
- *Human Remains Index*

The Convicted Offenders Index, Crime Scene Index, Victims Index and Voluntary Donors Index provide assistance to criminal investigations as follows:

- DNA profiles found at crime scenes are compared to the DNA profiles of convicted offenders. When a match is made, it can help identify a suspect. An “offender hit” is the term used to describe this type of DNA match. If no match is made, this information can also help eliminate suspects.
- DNA profiles found at different crime scenes are compared. When a match is made between DNA profiles found at separate crime scenes, it can help link crimes for which no suspects have been identified. This determines whether a serial offender is involved in a number of cases. A “forensic hit” is the term used to describe this type of DNA match.
- DNA profiles contained in the Victims Index and Voluntary Donors Index are compared to DNA profiles in the other indices. This helps to identify

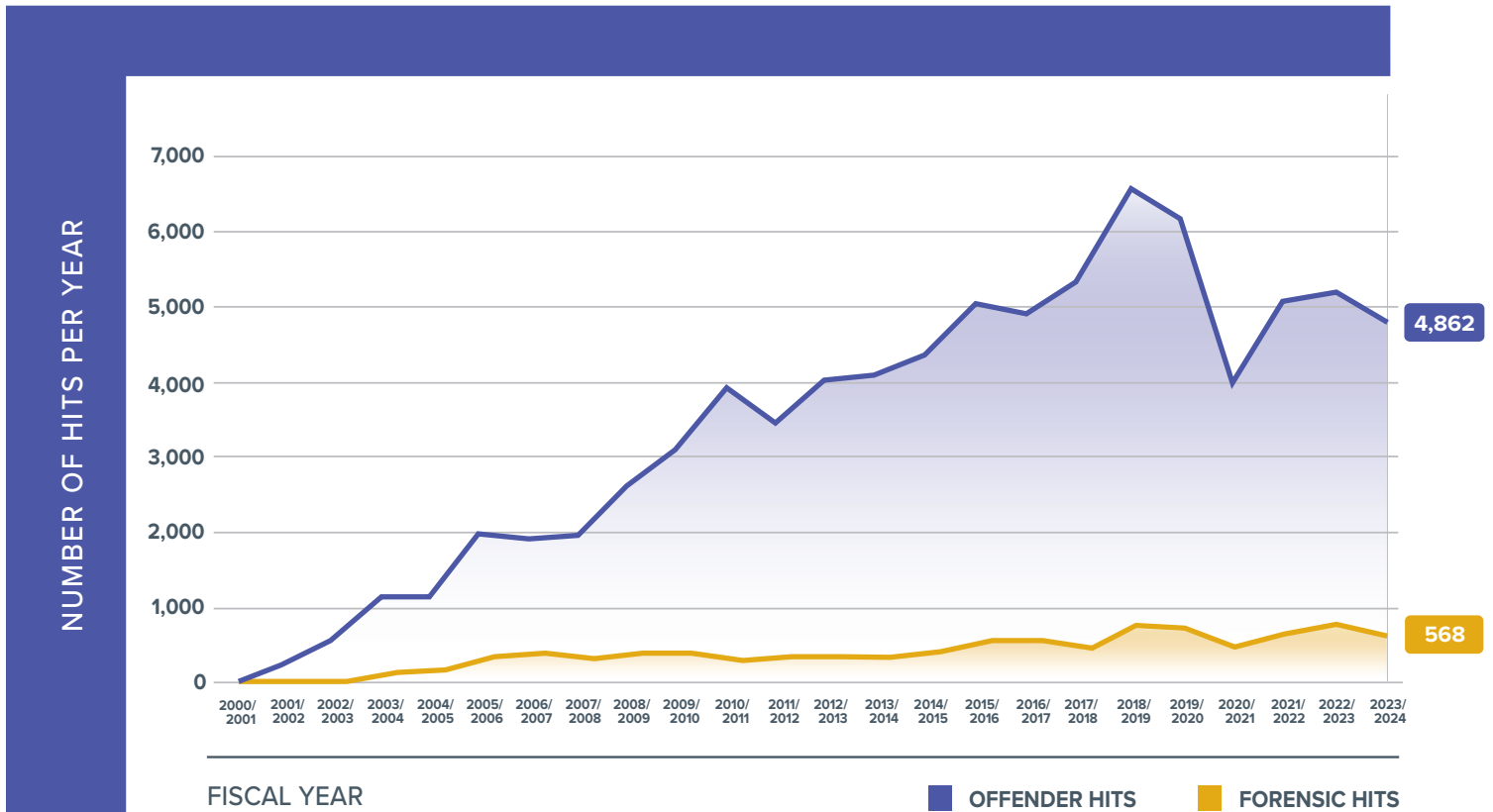
unknown victims, link crime scenes together through victim and voluntary donor DNA profiles, or eliminate the voluntary donors from the focus of an investigation. The DNA profiles from voluntary donors can also be used for elimination purposes in humanitarian investigations.

As part of the National Missing Persons DNA Program, the National DNA Data Bank maintains the Missing Persons Index, Relatives of Missing Persons Index and Human Remains Index to support humanitarian investigations at the national level. These indices allow DNA profiles developed from biological samples and other items collected and submitted by police, coroners and medical examiners to be compared to other DNA profiles in the National DNA Data Bank. The DNA profiles in the Relatives of Missing Persons Index can only be compared to those in the Missing Persons Index and Human Remains Index.



## OFFENDER AND FORENSIC HITS

When the National DNA Data Bank first began operating in 2000, it contained few DNA profiles. As more DNA profiles were added over the years, a greater number of matches were made in less time.



## CONVICTED OFFENDER SUBMISSIONS

Every year, the National DNA Data Bank processes convicted offender submissions consisting of:

- biological samples (used to generate DNA profiles that are entered into the Convicted Offenders Index); or
- endorsement submissions (fingerprints and supporting documentation for convicted offenders whose DNA profiles are already in the Convicted Offenders Index).

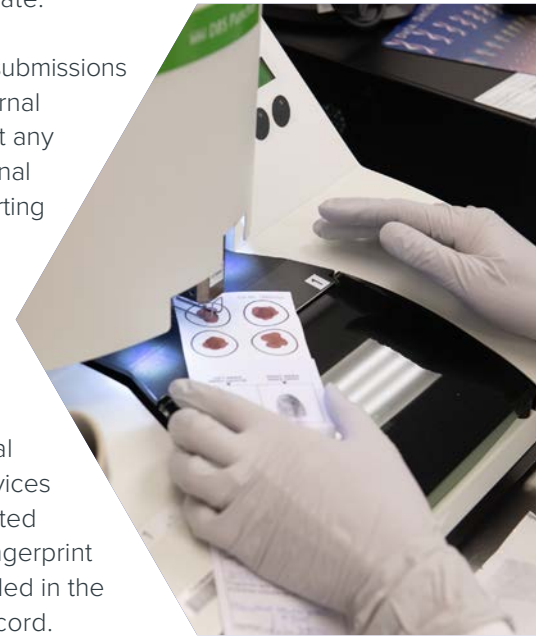
Before executing a new DNA order or authorization, an officer must query the Canadian Police Information Centre to determine whether a convicted offender's DNA profile is already in the Convicted Offenders Index. If it is, the officer can use the endorsement process to ensure that a convicted offender's DNA profile will remain in the index if:

- the conviction for which the original DNA order was made is being quashed on appeal;
- the original DNA order/authorization is being quashed on appeal; or
- the retention period is expiring because the person was either:
  - convicted as a young person; or
  - previously discharged under Section 730 of the *Criminal Code* of a designated offence. (Note: this condition was removed as of March 6, 2018 when amendments to the *DNA Identification Act* came into force).

When a biological sample or an endorsement submission is received, the documentation is

reviewed to ensure that the DNA order was issued for a criminal offence for which DNA can legally be collected and that the offender's personal information required for the submission is complete and accurate.

All convicted offender submissions are recorded in an internal tracking system without any of the offender's personal information. The supporting documentation for convicted offender biological sample or endorsement submissions are sent to the RCMP's Canadian Criminal Real Time Identification Services so they can be associated with an individual by fingerprint comparison and recorded in the individual's criminal record.




## PROCESSING OF BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES

### Convicted Offender Samples

When someone is found guilty of committing a designated offence for which a biological sample can be obtained, the judge can issue a DNA order. However, for some designated offences, such as murder, the judge has no discretion and must issue an order. A trained peace officer will then execute the DNA order by collecting a biological sample from that person in the form of a blood, buccal or hair sample. The National DNA Data Bank is responsible for processing all convicted offender biological samples and entering the DNA profiles derived from these samples into the Convicted Offenders Index.

Kits designed specifically for the National DNA Data Bank are used for collecting biological samples from offenders. There are three types of kits available:

- **Blood:** The sample is obtained by using a sterile lancet to prick the fingertip
- **Buccal:** The inside of the mouth is rubbed with a foam applicator to obtain skin cells
- **Hair:** Six to eight hairs are pulled out with the root sheath attached



Although all three types of biological samples have been legally approved for collection, more than 98% of samples taken from convicted offenders involve blood samples. The officers are encouraged to collect blood samples because this sample type has proven to be more reliable than hair or buccal samples in generating high-quality DNA profiles.

**T**HE NATIONAL DNA DATA BANK IS responsible for processing all convicted offender biological samples and entering the DNA profiles derived from these samples into the Convicted Offenders Index.

### Crime Scene and Victim Samples

Crime scene DNA evidence is collected by police investigators and examined by forensic laboratories across Canada to generate DNA profiles. Only a DNA profile derived from a designated offence can be added to the Crime Scene Index or the Victims Index. The National DNA Data Bank is also responsible for removing victims' DNA profiles in accordance with the *DNA Identification Act*. The following public forensic laboratories are authorized to add DNA profiles to the Crime Scene Index and the Victims Index:

- Centre of Forensic Sciences in Toronto and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario;
- Laboratoire de sciences judiciaires et de médecine légale in Montréal, Quebec; and
- RCMP National Forensic Laboratory Services in Ottawa, Edmonton and Surrey.

### Voluntary Donor Samples

Samples collected from voluntary donors during the course of a criminal investigation of a designated offence are processed by a public forensic laboratory. If the resulting DNA profile provides a potential benefit to the investigation, it is added to the Voluntary Donors Index. Voluntary donor samples collected as part of a humanitarian investigation are provided to the National DNA Data Bank for processing and added to the index. The National DNA Data Bank is responsible for removing voluntary donors' DNA profiles in accordance with the *DNA Identification Act*.



## Missing Persons, Relatives of Missing Persons and Human Remains Samples

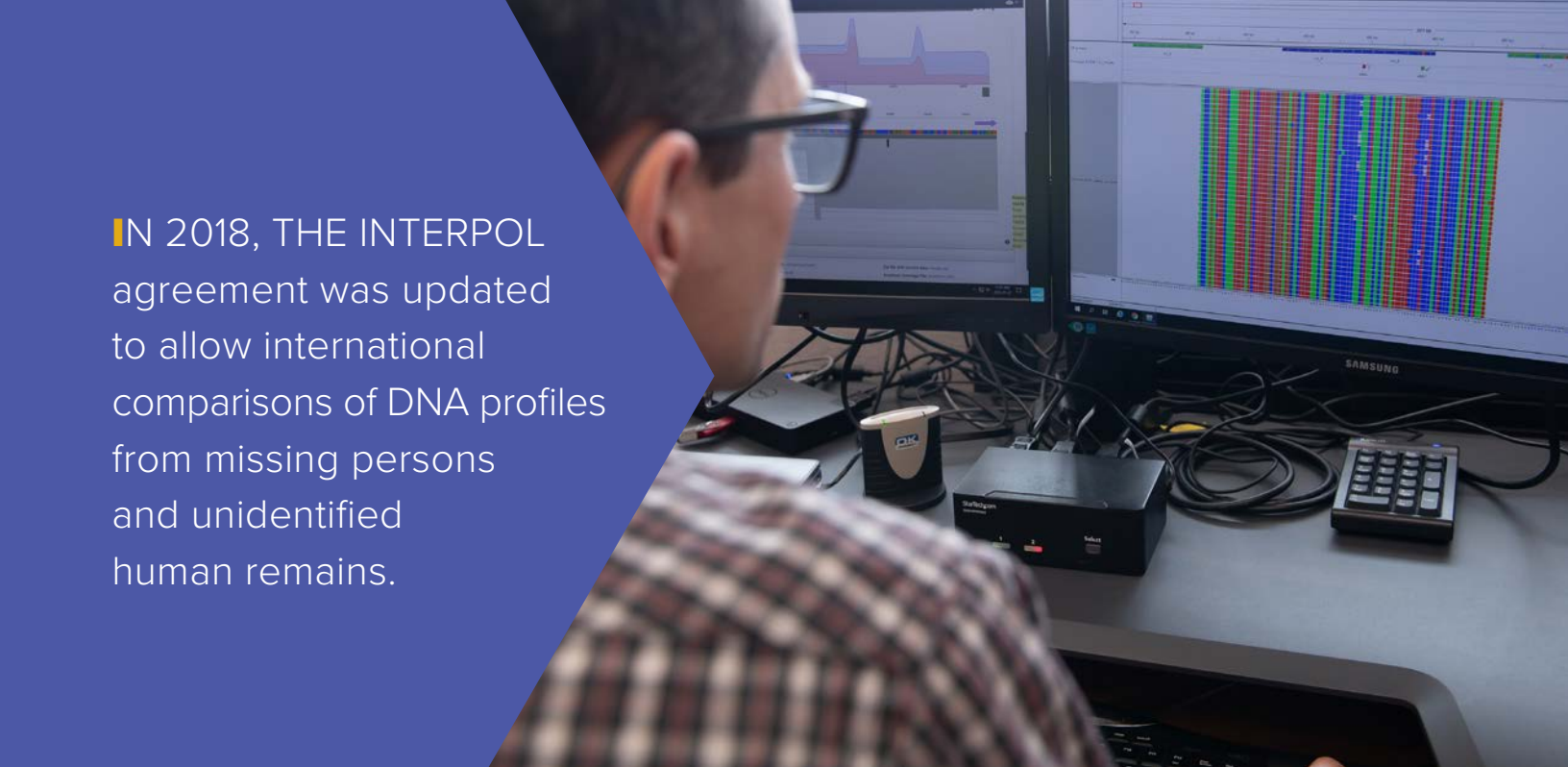
Processing of samples from missing persons, relatives of missing persons and found human remains falls within the National Missing Persons DNA Program. This program is a partnership between the National Centre for Missing Persons and Unidentified Remains and the National DNA Data Bank. The role of the National Centre is to act as a single point of contact for investigators. As such, the National Centre authorizes the submission of samples and genetic profiles related to missing persons and human remains investigations.

Under the *DNA Identification Act*, the National DNA Data Bank is responsible for maintaining the humanitarian indices and also for:

- receiving biological samples from submitting agencies and developing DNA profiles;
- receiving DNA profiles from approved laboratories for technical review;
- interpreting and comparing DNA profiles from human remains, relatives of missing persons and personal belongings from missing persons;

- adding and removing DNA profiles in the Human Remains Index, Relatives of Missing Persons Index and Missing Persons Index in accordance with the legislation;
- issuing and explaining kinship and identity association reports; and
- providing scientific advice and support to the National Centre for Missing Persons and Unidentified Remains and investigators, as required.

To better serve the National Missing Persons DNA Program, the National DNA Data Bank introduced technologies for the isolation and characterization of DNA. Specifically, it introduced procedures for the development of DNA profiles from personal effects and calcified tissue samples, such as bone and teeth. In addition, procedures were validated to analyze the Y-chromosome and utilize an advanced technology using Next Generation Sequencing, which allows for mitochondrial DNA analysis.



**I**N 2018, THE INTERPOL agreement was updated to allow international comparisons of DNA profiles from missing persons and unidentified human remains.

## COMPARING DNA PROFILES

The DNA profiles are compared using the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), which is a secure network and software program developed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Department of Justice, and provided to the RCMP. CODIS has become an internationally accepted tool for forensic laboratories, allowing DNA profile information to be compared using a standard, secure format. In Canada, the National DNA Data Bank uses CODIS for daily comparisons of DNA profiles. Each new DNA profile entered into one of the national DNA indices is automatically compared against profiles contained in other national DNA indices, as permitted by the *DNA Identification Act*.

## INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION

The National DNA Data Bank shares DNA information with international investigating authorities through an international DNA Information Sharing Agreement with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL). This agreement is approved by the Government of Canada and is limited to investigations and prosecutions of designated offences or investigations involving missing persons and unidentified human remains.

Since the first international agreement was signed in 2002, 1,974 incoming international requests related to criminal investigations to search the Convicted Offenders Index, the Crime Scene Index, the Missing Persons Index and the Human Remains Index were received. These searches produced 9 offender hits and 13 forensic hits. Furthermore, 400 requests related to criminal investigations were sent to other countries with an INTERPOL agreement for comparison to DNA profiles developed from crime scene samples, resulting in 12 offender hits and 2 forensic hits.

In 2018, the agreement was updated to allow international comparisons of DNA profiles from missing persons and unidentified human remains. Since then, 113 incoming international requests were received to search missing persons and unidentified human remains profiles against the Convicted Offenders Index, the Crime Scene Index, the Missing Persons Index and the Human Remains Index. Furthermore, 65 requests were sent to other countries with an INTERPOL agreement for comparison of DNA profiles developed from missing persons and unidentified human remains. The incoming requests resulted in 2 putative identification and the outgoing requests resulted in 2 putative identifications.

## PRIVACY OF INFORMATION

The *DNA Identification Act* specifies that DNA profiles in the National DNA Data Bank's indices can only be used for law enforcement or humanitarian purposes. The Act also clearly states that the DNA profiles in the Relatives of Missing Persons Index can only be compared to DNA profiles in the Missing Persons Index and Human Remains Index.

As an additional safeguard to protect the privacy of individuals, when a convicted offender's biological sample is received, the donor's identity is separated from his or her genetic information, and the sample is identified by a numeric bar code. These bar codes are the only link connecting personal information, the biological sample and the DNA profile. The offender's personal information is kept in a separate registry maintained by the RCMP's Canadian Criminal Real Time Identification Services, which National DNA Data Bank employees cannot access. This process ensures that the National DNA Data Bank employees do not have access to offenders' personal information for DNA profiles they are processing. Likewise, Canadian Criminal Real Time Identification Services employees do not have access to the offenders' genetic information. With the exception of biological sex, DNA profiles do not reveal medical or physical information about the donor.

The Act further protects privacy rights by requiring informed consent for submissions of DNA profiles to the Relatives of Missing Persons Index, the Victims Index and the Voluntary Donors Index. This consent can be withdrawn at any time by the contributor. In addition, at least once every five years, the investigating agency is contacted about the case to ensure that the person from whom the DNA profile was obtained has not withdrawn their consent. Investigators are also asked whether they believe the DNA profile will continue to assist in the investigation for which it was obtained. If removal is requested or if the investigating agency fails to respond, then the DNA profile is removed from the appropriate DNA index and the biological sample is destroyed.

Lastly, DNA information will only be shared with other investigative authorities as permitted by legislation.



## THE VALUE OF SECONDARY DESIGNATED OFFENCE SUBMISSIONS

The *Criminal Code* classifies those offences that may be the subject of a DNA order as either primary or secondary designated offences. When the National DNA Data Bank first started its operations in 2000, the number of secondary designated offences was limited. In 2008, the *Criminal Code* was amended and the list of secondary designated offences was expanded to include a wider range of offences (e.g., failure

to appear and drug offences). While usually less violent, these offences can help solve more serious criminal offences.

To illustrate the value of submissions for these offences, offender DNA match data was selected for a few common secondary designated offences. The figure below provides the number of offender matches to ongoing investigations (including murders and sexual assaults) that were the outcome of DNA orders being issued for offenders convicted of secondary designated offences.







# SUCCESS STORIES

**T**HE NATIONAL DNA DATA BANK IS PROUD TO contribute to the safety of Canadians by providing assistance in criminal investigations. With the adoption of its new humanitarian indices, the National DNA Data Bank also proved to play a valuable role in investigations of missing persons and unidentified human remains.

Cases featured this year emphasize how DNA evidence plays a pivotal role in solving or advancing criminal investigations and successfully prosecuting violent offenders even long after the crime was committed. These also demonstrate how collaboration with international partners can help bring closure to families of missing persons.

These achievements serve as compelling examples of the diligent and collaborative efforts from the forensic, policing and judicial communities.

**Warning:** this section includes references to violent crimes including sexual assault.

## DNA MATCH SECURES CONVICTION IN OLD HISTORICAL CASE


**O**n September 17, 1981, a woman was sexually assaulted while in an underground parkade garage within a condominium complex in Edmonton, Alberta.

Following the incident, the police accompanied the woman to the hospital for examination, where she provided biological samples to aid the investigation. These samples, as well as the clothes she was wearing during the incident, were sent to the forensic laboratory. Forensic DNA testing was not available at the time and the positive semen test results alone could not provide sufficient leads to further the investigation. The case remained unsolved for 38 years.

In 2019, the Edmonton Police Service historical crimes section breathed new life into the old investigation by resubmitting the victim's clothing items to the RCMP National Forensic Laboratory Services for DNA analysis. A DNA profile was recovered from the clothing items, which matched that of a known convicted offender in the National DNA Data Bank.

The suspect was apprehended in February 2020 and charged with rape under the 1981 Criminal Code. His conviction for the crime came in September 2023, a staggering 42 years after the assault, resulting in a three-and-a-half-year prison sentence. The judge, citing the reliability and trustworthiness of the DNA evidence presented, found no reasonable doubt regarding the suspect's guilt.

This landmark case stands as one of the National DNA Data Bank's oldest DNA matches, and highlights the enduring impact of forensic technologies in delivering justice even decades after the commission of a crime.



*“The advancements made in obtaining viable profiles from very old samples of genetic material, and the work the National DNA Data Bank does at cataloging these samples, has resulted in justice for survivors of sexual violence; justice that they would never have thought was possible. It also means that offenders can't rely on the fog of time to cover their crimes. You can't hide from your own DNA; justice will come for you, it's simply a matter of time.”*

**Sergeant Steve Levesque**  
EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE

## MURDER CONVICTION CEMENTED THANKS TO DNA MATCH

**O**n May 24, 2018, a man entered a church library situated in downtown Ottawa, where he severely beat and sexually assaulted a 59-year-old volunteer librarian.

A few hours after the attack, a co-worker discovered the victim unconscious and promptly dialed 911. The victim was transported to the hospital to receive immediate treatment. Based on information from the first responders, and with the husband's consent, the medical team conducted a thorough sexual assault examination of the victim. Subsequently, the evidence collected was submitted to the Centre of Forensic Sciences for analysis. Tragically, the victim later succumbed to her injuries.

Law enforcement collected surveillance footage from nearby businesses, and recordings were sent to local police agencies. Within a single day, a suspect was identified and placed under surveillance.

On Sunday May 27, 2018, the investigators received confirmation that a DNA profile obtained from the evidence collected during the sexual assault examination matched a DNA profile in the Convicted Offender Index, confirming the identity of the suspect and leading to his immediate arrest. Subsequently, the victim's DNA profile was obtained from the suspect's personal belongings, further solidifying his connection to the assault.

On December 11, 2022, the suspect was convicted of first-degree murder for the 2018 assault and murder of the librarian. Conviction for first degree murder carries an automatic life sentence with no possibility of parole for 25 years.



*“The importance of the DNA database in this case was paramount, and solidified the identity of the victim’s attacker within four days of her murder.”*

Detective Krista Hill  
OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE

## DNA MATCH LEADS TO CONVICTION IN 22-YEAR ASSAULT CASE

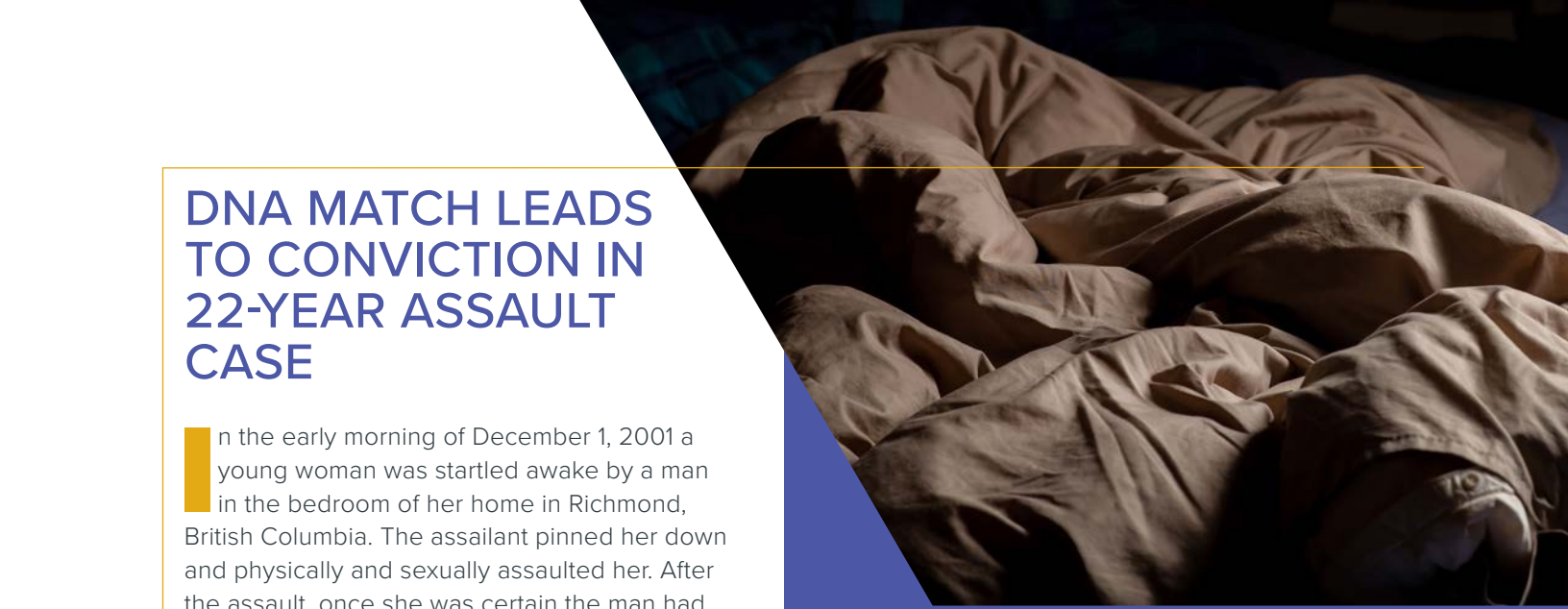
In the early morning of December 1, 2001 a young woman was startled awake by a man in the bedroom of her home in Richmond, British Columbia. The assailant pinned her down and physically and sexually assaulted her. After the assault, once she was certain the man had left, the victim fled to a nearby convenience store and asked to call the police.

Responding RCMP officers escorted the victim to the hospital where various biological samples were collected and forwarded to the RCMP National Forensic Laboratory Services to aid in the investigation. While a male DNA profile was obtained from the evidence, it failed to match to any known offender in the National DNA Data Bank at the time.

Over the following 14 years, more than 20 suspects were identified and investigated. On each occasion the unknown male DNA profile was compared to potential suspect DNA profiles by the RCMP forensic scientists. Despite these efforts, all suspects were eventually cleared, leaving the case unsolved.

In 2015, due to a conviction for an unrelated offence, an offender was compelled to provide a biological sample for inclusion in the National DNA Data Bank. This offender's profile proved to be a match for the DNA profile collected in the 2001 sexual assault case.

On October 23, 2023, nearly 22 years after the crime occurred, the suspect was convicted of one count of sexual assault and one count of breaking and entering, thanks to the lead generated within the National DNA Data Bank.



*“Despite considerable neighbourhood inquiries and suspect canvassing, the initial phase of this investigation failed to surface the assailant. Diligent processing of the crime scene and handling of exhibits led to the identification and conviction of the offender through a match with the National DNA Data Bank. Besides playing a key role in the offender’s conviction, the DNA evidence allowed police to eliminate other potential suspects and focus investigative efforts. It is through the National DNA Data Bank that we were able to resolve this case, provide answers to the victim, and potentially prevent other violent sexual crimes.”*

**Inspector Karina Desrosiers**  
RICHMOND RCMP SERIOUS CRIMES UNIT

## CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATION BRINGS CLOSURE TO FAMILY OF MISSING PERSON

In January 2023, Peel Regional Police received a report of a missing woman last seen in Niagara Falls, Ontario. Niagara Regional Police Service was notified and informed its law enforcement partners in the United States. Just a few months later, in May, the New York State Police found remains matching the description of the woman reported missing in Canada.

A collaborative effort between multiple partners began in order to make a positive identification. Niagara Regional Police Service and Peel Regional Police obtained and submitted biological samples from the found remains and personal effects of the missing person. These DNA profiles were compared with profiles obtained from the missing person's family members and submitted to the National Missing Persons DNA Program, with the help of RCMP liaison officers.

In July 2023 the National DNA Data Bank reported an association between the remains found in the United States and the missing person from Canada.

According to Peel Regional Police Detective Constable Kelly Hewitt, through the joint efforts of Niagara Regional Police, Niagara Parks Police, New York State Police, and the National Missing Persons DNA Program, positive identification was made, giving closure to the missing person's loved ones.

The National DNA Data Bank continues to play a critical role helping with the identification of found remains across the nation.



*“As a routine practice regarding missing person investigations, the Niagara Regional Police Service ensures that personal effects and familial DNA are sought at the onset of an incident. It is of utmost importance to have DNA profiles entered into the National DNA Data Bank, as one can never be certain when, and where, their loved one potentially could be located or recovered.*”

*The National DNA Data Bank assisted in positively identifying and locating numerous cases here in the Niagara Region. Notably, our close proximity to the United States border means that we have also used the National DNA Data Bank to help identify people recovered from international waterways.*

*Without the cooperation from families and the assistance of the Program, many families would never receive the closure that they deserve.”*

**Detective Constable Sara Mummery**  
NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

# NATIONAL DNA DATA BANK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**E**STABLISHED IN 2000 UNDER the mandate of the *DNA Identification Act*, the National DNA Data Bank Advisory Committee provides strategic guidance and direction on scientific advancements, matters of law, legislative changes, privacy issues and ethical practices. In addition, the Advisory Committee reports to the Commissioner of the RCMP on matters related to the National DNA Data Bank operations and advises the Commissioner on a range of issues related to DNA ethics, scientific advancements and legislative changes. The members of the Advisory Committee are appointed by the Minister of Public Safety and collectively represent a diverse spectrum of expertise. The current members of the Advisory Committee are:

**C/SUPT. BRENDAN HEFFERNAN** (RETIRED)  
CHAIRPERSON  
*Police Community*

**DERRILL PREVETT**, K.C.  
VICE-CHAIR  
*The Law*

**DR. FREDERICK R. BIEBER**, PH. D.  
*Bio-Medical Ethics*

**DR. RON FOURNEY**, PH. D., O.O.M.  
*Forensic DNA*

**SUE O'SULLIVAN**, B.A., O.O.M.  
*Human Rights*

**DR. MICHAEL SZEGO**, PH. D., MHSC.  
*Bioethics*

**DR. BEN KOOP**, PH. D.  
*Medical Genetics*

**LACEY Batalov**  
*Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada.*

**DR. NANCY LAURIN**, PH. D.  
*National DNA Data Bank, RCMP*

For more information about the Advisory Committee's role, please visit the National DNA Data Bank Advisory Committee website: <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/dnaac-adncc/index-eng.htm>.

# KEY STATISTICS

**BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES:** June 30, 2000 through March 31, 2024

**ENDORSEMENTS:** January 1, 2008 through March 31, 2024

**TABLE 1**

DNA Profiles Contained in the Criminal Indices	
Convicted Offenders Index	457,477
Crime Scene Index	223,823
Victims Index	159
Voluntary Donors Index	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>681,459</b>

**TABLE 2**

DNA Profiles Contained in the Humanitarian Indices	
Missing Persons Index	247
Relatives of Missing Persons Index	1,833
Human Remains Index	348
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,428</b>

## Biological Samples Received versus DNA Profiles Contained in the Convicted Offenders Index:

As of March 31, 2024, 508,110 biological samples were received, of which 457,477 DNA profiles are contained in the Convicted Offenders Index. The difference of 10% can be attributed to rejected samples, duplicate samples, biological samples in the process of being analyzed and DNA profiles removed because of an absolute or conditional discharge, expired retention period, or because the conviction or the DNA order/authorization was quashed on appeal.



**TABLE 3**

Breakdown of DNA Profiles Contained in the Crime Scene Index	
Centre of Forensic Sciences	87,800
Laboratoire de sciences judiciaires et de médecine légale	61,365
RCMP National Forensic Laboratory Services	74,658
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>223,823</b>

**TABLE 4**

Matches and Associations Reported	
Offender Hits	81,668
Forensic Hits	9,106
Victim Hits	15
Human Remains Hits - Putative identification	84
Humanitarian Index Hits - Investigative lead	26
Offender Duplicates <sup>1</sup>	15,634
Identical DNA Profiles	442

<sup>1</sup>Does not include duplicate samples identified prior to laboratory analysis.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

**OFFENDER HIT:** A DNA profile developed from crime scene evidence and entered into the Crime Scene Index matches a DNA profile in the Convicted Offenders Index.

**FORENSIC HIT:** A DNA profile developed from crime scene evidence and entered into the Crime Scene Index matches another crime scene DNA profile in the Crime Scene Index.

**VICTIM HIT:** A DNA profile developed from a victim and entered into the Victims Index matches a DNA profile in another index.

### HUMAN REMAINS HIT - PUTATIVE

**IDENTIFICATION:** A DNA profile developed from human remains and entered into the Human Remains Index matches or is associated to a DNA profile(s) in the Missing Persons Index, the Convicted Offenders Index or the Relatives of Missing Persons Index.

### HUMANITARIAN INDEX HIT - INVESTIGATIVE

**LEAD:** A DNA profile developed from human remains and entered into the Human Remains Index or a DNA profile developed from a personal effect of a missing person and entered into the Missing Persons Index matches to a crime scene DNA profile in the Crime Scene Index.

**OFFENDER DUPLICATE:** Instances where two biological samples from the same person were submitted.

**IDENTICAL DNA PROFILES:** DNA profiles of identical twins.



TABLE 5

Offender Hits by Case Type	
Break and Enter Offences	34,209
Robberies	8,748
Sexual Offences	8,185
Assaults	6,512
Homicides	5,463
Attempted Murders	1,649
Others	16,902
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>81,668</b>

TABLE 6

Convicted Offender Submissions Received – Breakdown by Category of Offence		
	Biological Samples	Endorsements
Primary	272,525	102,698
Secondary	231,334	124,941
Other <sup>1</sup>	4,251	1,393
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>508,110</b>	<b>229,032</b>

<sup>1</sup>The “Other” category includes submissions received following a conviction for a non-designated offence or without a DNA court order. These submissions are not processed unless a corrected order is received.

**Primary and Secondary Offences:** See section 487.04 of *Criminal Code* of Canada and section 196.11 of the *National Defence Act*.

TABLE 7

Convicted Offender Submissions Received – Breakdown by Type of Offender		
	Biological Samples	Endorsements
Adult Offenders	446,855	221,054
Young Offenders	61,127	7,970
Military Offenders <sup>1</sup>	128	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>508,110</b>	<b>229,032</b>

<sup>1</sup>A member of the military convicted of a designated offence.

TABLE 8

Convicted Offender Submissions Received – Breakdown by Type of Offence		
	Biological Samples	Endorsements
Assaults	311,622	152,477
Sexual Offences	111,939	17,660
Break and Enter Offences	69,824	46,636
Robberies	56,212	24,948
<i>Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and Cannabis Act</i> Offences	47,280	21,279
Homicides	11,213	2,985
Others	85,729	76,276
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>693,819</b>	<b>342,261</b>

**NOTE:** More than one offence may be associated with a submission.

**TABLE 9**

Convicted Offender Submissions Received by Province/Territory				
	April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024		June 30, 2000 to March 31, 2024	
	Biological Samples	Endorsements	Biological Samples	Endorsements (from Jan 1st, 2008)
British Columbia	1,311	836	55,676	24,065
Alberta	1,973	1,285	54,824	23,859
Saskatchewan	951	501	22,203	5,967
Manitoba	967	800	30,515	13,354
Ontario	9,462	8,431	224,461	130,910
Quebec	3,290	1,201	86,820	22,460
New Brunswick	359	182	6,880	1,259
Nova Scotia	308	150	12,459	3,299
Prince Edward Island	56	14	1,392	173
Newfoundland & Labrador	130	68	6,794	1,683
Yukon	20	21	918	309
Northwest Territories	54	42	2,633	978
Nunavut	47	19	2,535	716
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,928</b>	<b>13,550</b>	<b>508,110</b>	<b>229,032</b>

**NOTE 1:** The above information represents the convicted offender submissions received and is not reflective of the number of convictions eligible for a DNA order.

**NOTE 2:** An additional 2,500 endorsements have been received in 2023/24 and are currently undergoing processing. They will be accounted for in next year's statistics.

## REJECTION OF SUBMISSIONS

The National DNA Data Bank has rejected only 7,908 (1.6 %) of the biological samples and 3,361 (1.5 %) of the endorsements it has received to date. Reasons for rejection include: the offender was convicted of a non-designated offence, the biological sample was inadequate, the collection kit used was inappropriate (sample), the offender's DNA profile was not contained in the Convicted Offenders Index (endorsement), or the DNA order was missing or invalid.

## COLLECTION OF ADDITIONAL BODILY SUBSTANCES

If a biological sample is rejected because the quality of the sample is deemed inadequate for DNA analysis, or if it was not submitted in accordance with the *DNA Identification Regulations*, an application for resampling can be authorized by a judge. Since June 30, 2000, 2,173 samples taken under this provision were received.

**TABLE 10**

Breakdown of Biological Samples Destroyed and DNA Profiles Removed from the Convicted Offenders Index		
	ADULT	YOUNG PERSON
Conditional discharge (repealed for adults as of March 6, 2018)	11,322	2,449
Conviction quashed on appeal	950	35
Absolute discharge (repealed for adults as of March 6, 2018)	596	244
Duplicate sample (same order)	388	37
No suitable DNA profile obtained	160	23
Order/authorization quashed	55	9
Retention period expired	N/A	11,062
Other	75	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,546</b>	<b>13,871</b>

N/A: Not applicable

**TABLE 11**

Summary of Indices and Associations Made					
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Total number of DNA profiles in the Crime Scene Index at year-end	173,292	184,549	196,827	210,001	223,823
Increase in Crime Scene Index DNA profiles <sup>1</sup>	13,844	11,257	12,278	13,174	13,822
Total number of DNA profiles in Convicted Offenders Index at year-end	401,546	411,999	425,567	440,139	457,477
Increase in DNA profiles in the Convicted Offenders Index <sup>1</sup>	17,058	10,453	13,568	14,572	17,338
Submissions received (biological samples and endorsements)	37,447	23,181	28,306	31,566	32,478
Associations made (Offender and Forensic Hits)	6,857	4,327	5,622	5,972	5,430

<sup>1</sup> Net increase after rejections and removals from indices.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024	
EXPENDITURE TYPE	EXPENDITURE (\$ thousands)
Personnel	2,884
Internal Services	929
Employee Benefit Plan	502
Transport and Telecommunications	35
Development and Infrastructure Support	26
Rentals	153
Repair and Maintenance	56
Utilities, Materials, Supplies and Miscellaneous	1,146
Capital and Minor Equipment Purchases	121
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>5,852</b>
Allocated Indirect Costs <sup>1</sup>	254
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,106</b>

<sup>1</sup>Allocated Indirect Costs include: Forensic Science and Identification Services administrative and corporate support, recruitment, the Quality Assurance Program, IT support and the National DNA Data Bank Advisory Committee.

**Note:** The financial statement includes costs for the National Missing Persons DNA Program as these apply within the National DNA Data Bank.