

Forensic Imaging Market Forecasts to 2034 – Global Analysis By Modality (CT, X-ray, MRI, Ultrasound and 3D Photogrammetry), Application (Clinical studies and Death investigations), End User and By Geography

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Abstracts

According to Statistics MRC, the Global Forensic Imaging Market is accounted for \$7.64 billion in 2026 and is expected to reach \$18.65 billion by 2034 growing at a CAGR of 11.8% during the forecast period. Forensic imaging refers to the application of advanced imaging technologies in the field of forensic science to assist in the analysis, documentation, and reconstruction of evidence related to legal investigations. It involves the use of various imaging modalities such as computed tomography (CT), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), X-rays, and 3D imaging to visualize and analyze crime scenes, injuries, and post-mortem examinations. It plays a crucial role in providing accurate and detailed information for law enforcement, forensic experts, and legal professionals, aiding in the resolution of criminal cases, identification of victims, and the presentation of evidence in legal proceedings.

According to CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), number deaths due to all types of homicides were around 24,576 in 2020, off which, gun-related homicides increased by 35%.

Market Dynamics:

Driver:

Growing preference for virtopsy or virtual autopsy

Virtopsy utilises advanced imaging technologies, such as CT scans and MRI, to provide

non-invasive and detailed examinations of cadavers. This approach addresses concerns associated with traditional autopsies, such as invasiveness and cultural or religious considerations. Forensic imaging enables precise 3D reconstructions, aiding in accurate cause-of-death determinations and evidence documentation. As the preference for quicker, less invasive, and technologically advanced forensic methods grows, virtopsy becomes instrumental in modern forensic investigations, driving the adoption of sophisticated imaging solutions and contributing to the evolution of the forensic imaging market.

Restraint:

High cost of forensic instruments & procedures

Advanced imaging technologies, including high-resolution scanners, 3D imaging systems, and multispectral imaging devices, are crucial for comprehensive forensic investigations. However, these cutting-edge instruments come with a substantial price tag, encompassing not only the initial purchase cost but also expenses related to installation, maintenance, and training. Ongoing operational costs, including maintenance and staff training, contribute to the overall expense, impeding the widespread adoption of advanced forensic imaging solutions.

Opportunity:

Increase in crime rates

The surge in criminal activities necessitates enhanced forensic capabilities, driving the demand for advanced imaging technologies. Forensic imaging solutions play a crucial role in evidence collection, crime scene analysis, and the determination of accurate criminal profiles. As law enforcement agencies strive to address the growing challenges of criminal investigations, there is a heightened need for cutting-edge tools that can provide clear and detailed insights. This creates a favourable environment for the adoption of forensic imaging technologies, offering opportunities for market growth as the complexity of criminal cases rises. Ultimately, this contributes to more effective and efficient investigative processes.

Threat:

Lack of accuracy

In forensic investigations, the accuracy of imaging results is paramount for reliable and conclusive evidence. Some forensic imaging technologies may have limitations in terms of resolution, sensitivity, or specificity, impacting the accuracy of the captured images. Also, human error, subjective judgements, or a lack of training can compromise the accuracy of the analysis. In certain cases, forensic imaging may not capture the complete set of data needed for a comprehensive analysis, leading to gaps in the information available to investigators. Thus, it will hamper market demand.

Covid-19 Impact

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the forensic imaging market by disrupting supply chains, delaying projects, and affecting budget allocations for forensic technologies. With limitations on physical access to crime scenes and forensic laboratories, there is an increased reliance on digital evidence, driving the demand for remote forensic imaging solutions. Also, delays in court proceedings and forensic investigations during lockdowns have influenced the overall market dynamics. As the global situation stabilizes, the market is expected to rebound with increased emphasis on technology adoption for efficient and remote forensic processes.

The MRI segment is expected to be the largest during the forecast period

The MRI segment is estimated to hold the largest share. Utilised extensively in forensic investigations, MRI provides detailed images of internal structures, aiding in the examination of soft tissues, organs, and bones without invasive procedures. Its non-invasive nature makes it valuable in post-mortem examinations, offering insights into injuries, pathology, and causes of death. Furthermore, the high resolution and multi-dimensional capabilities of MRI contribute to accurate forensic analyses, assisting law enforcement and forensic experts in unravelling complex cases.

The hospitals segment is expected to have the highest CAGR during the forecast period

The hospitals segment is anticipated to have lucrative growth during the forecast period. In hospitals, forensic imaging is employed to aid in legal investigations involving traumatic injuries, post-mortem examinations, and evidence documentation. Hospitals play a pivotal role in providing expertise and infrastructure for forensic imaging procedures, contributing to accurate diagnosis and comprehensive forensic analyses. The collaboration between medical professionals and forensic experts within hospital settings enhances the capabilities of imaging technologies, ensuring their applicability in both clinical and legal contexts.

Region with largest share:

Asia Pacific commanded the largest market share during the extrapolated period. Factors such as rising crime rates, expanding populations, and the need for sophisticated investigative tools contribute to the market's expansion. Ongoing technological advancements and strategic collaborations between law enforcement agencies and forensic experts contribute to the market's expansion. The rise in crime rates further propels the adoption of state-of-the-art forensic imaging solutions, positioning the Asia-Pacific region as a key player in advancing forensic capabilities and modernizing legal proceedings.

Region with highest CAGR:

North America is expected to witness profitable growth over the projection period. The region, led by the United States and Canada, boasts well-established forensic infrastructure and significant investments in cutting-edge imaging technologies. With a focus on precision and efficiency in legal proceedings, North America positions itself as a key player in advancing forensic imaging applications, addressing the evolving challenges in crime investigations, and reinforcing its status as a leading contributor to the global forensic imaging market.

Key players in the market

Some of the key players in the Forensic Imaging Market include GE Healthcare, Siemens Healthineers, Koninklijke Philips N.V., Canon Medical Systems Corporation, Bruker, Hitachi, Ltd., Neusoft Corporation, Toshiba Medical Systems, Inc., FUJIFILM, 3M COMPANY, Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., Ultra-Electronics Forensic Technology Inc., Agilent Technologies, Canon Medical Systems and Shimadzu Corporation.

Key Developments:

In April 2022, Bruker announced the launch of a differentiated benchtop FT-NMR solution for forensic narcotics testing, called the Fourier 80 CrimeLab, with a nuclear magnetic resonance NMR Narcotics Profiling module. This unique forensics solution offers the flexibility of information-rich FT-NMR in an easy-to-use, automated method with detailed reports on the types and quantities of substances in seized drug samples.

In June 2022, Thermo Fisher unveils LC-MS system for forensic toxicology. Thermo

Fisher is providing forensic toxicologists, clinical research toxicologists, employee drug testing facilities, and wellness organizations with an all-in-one liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS) toxicology solution to keep pace with the ever-changing landscape of emerging and illicit drugs.

Modalities Covered:

CT

X-ray

MRI

Ultrasound

3D Photogrammetry

Applications Covered:

Clinical Studies

Death investigations

End Users Covered:

Hospitals

Forensic Institutes

Regions Covered:

North America

US

Canada

Mexico

Europe

Germany

UK

Italy

France

Spain

Rest of Europe

Asia Pacific

Japan

China

India

Australia

New Zealand

South Korea

Rest of Asia Pacific

South America

Argentina

Brazil

Chile

Rest of South America

Middle East & Africa

Saudi Arabia

UAE

Qatar

South Africa

Rest of Middle East & Africa

What our report offers:

- Market share assessments for the regional and country-level segments
- Strategic recommendations for the new entrants
- Covers Market data for the years 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2030, 3032 and 2034
- Market Trends (Drivers, Constraints, Opportunities, Threats, Challenges, Investment Opportunities, and recommendations)
- Strategic recommendations in key business segments based on the market estimations
- Competitive landscaping mapping the key common trends
- Company profiling with detailed strategies, financials, and recent developments
- Supply chain trends mapping the latest technological advancements

Free Customization Offerings:

All the customers of this report will be entitled to receive one of the following free customization options:

Company Profiling

Comprehensive profiling of additional market players (up to 3)

SWOT Analysis of key players (up to 3)

Regional Segmentation

Market estimations, Forecasts and CAGR of any prominent country as per the client's interest (Note: Depends on feasibility check)

Competitive Benchmarking

Benchmarking of key players based on product portfolio, geographical presence, and strategic alliances

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