

2017 Lethality Assessment Programs (LAP) Data Analysis



www.dcjs.virginia.gov

2017 Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) Data Analysis

The Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) is an innovative strategy being used to help identify victims of domestic violence who are at the highest risk of being seriously injured or killed by their intimate partners. LAP uses a standardized, evidence-based lethality assessment instrument to identify someone in high danger and immediately connect them to a local domestic violence service program. The nationally recognized LAP model was developed by the Maryland Network to End Domestic Violence (DV) in 2005 and has been used in Virginia since 2012 through collaboration between the Office of the Attorney General, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), and the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.

As of March 2018, 35 law enforcement agencies have partnered with 20 domestic violence agencies across the state in order to implement LAP. DCJS is in the beginning phases of collecting data from participating localities in order to assess the effectiveness of LAP. By implementing LAP and collecting this important data, Virginia hopes to see a decrease in intimate partner homicides, a decrease in law enforcement injuries and fatalities, and an increase in victim safety.

This report covers the period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

Responses were received from 14 lethality assessment programs.

Number of responding domestic violence (DV) agencies: 13

(one DV agency reports for two separate LAPs)

Number of responding law enforcement agencies (LEAs): 27

During 2017, the number of participating and reporting LAPs in Virginia increased substantially. During the first reporting period of 2017 (January–June), there were nine responding DV agencies and 13 responding LE agencies. New lethality assessment programs were implemented in some areas, and additional LEAs signed onto existing LAPs in others. The variance in the numbers of LAPs and participating agencies over the year makes comparing raw numbers reported by the programs difficult. To make the data comparable for all of 2017 for this report, reporting rates were calculated for the responses to each question for each month.

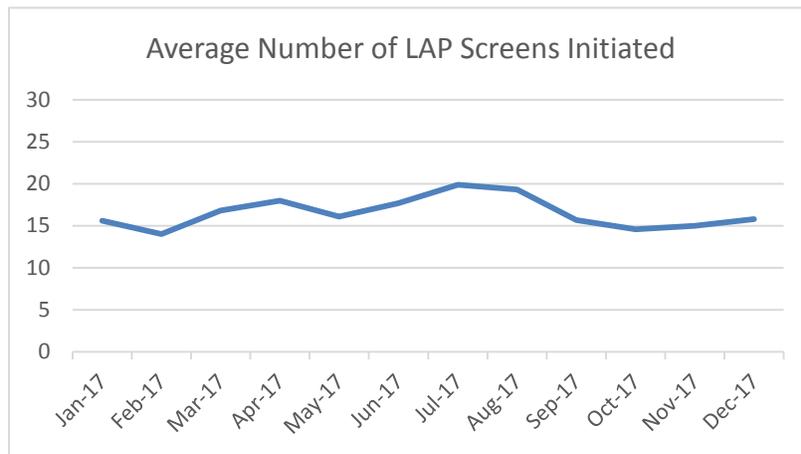
For each LAP data question the programs were asked, the numbers reported by the programs were summed, the number of LEAs or DV agencies that reported data in a given month is noted, and a “reporting rate” per LEA or DV agency was calculated. The reporting rate was calculated by dividing the sum of the reported numbers by the number of LEAs/DV programs reporting. This rate allows the reader of this report to compare rates across months.

Lethality Assessment Screening

How many LAP screens were initiated?

(number of lethality assessment screenings that occurred each month during this reporting period)

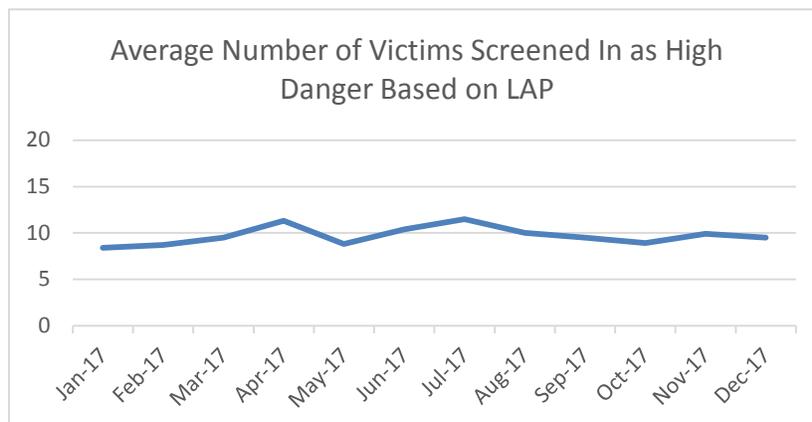
	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	187	168	202	252	225	248	477	464	376	394	406	427	3826
N LEAs	12	12	12	14	14	14	24	24	24	27	27	27	231
reporting rate	15.6	14.0	16.8	18.0	16.1	17.7	19.9	19.3	15.7	14.6	15.0	15.8	16.6



How many victims screened in as high danger based on the LAP?

(number of victims screened as in high danger based on their lethality assessment screening during each month of this reporting period)

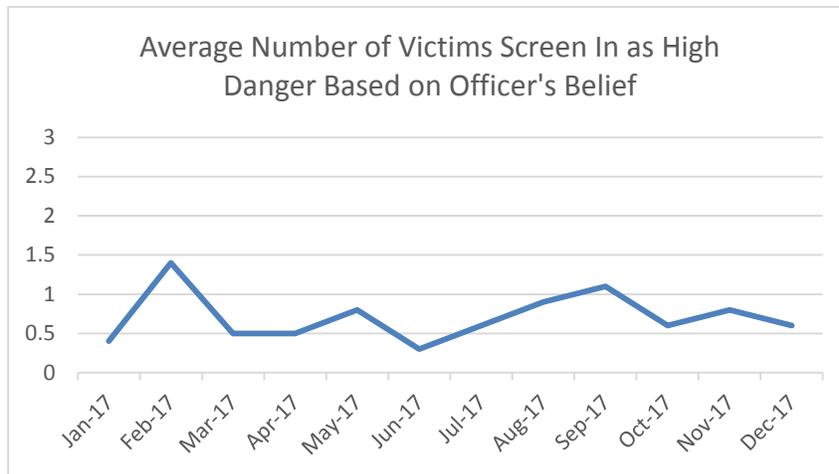
	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	101	104	114	158	123	145	253	221	219	232	257	247	2174
N LEAs	12	12	12	14	14	14	22	22	23	26	26	26	223
reporting rate	8.4	8.7	9.5	11.3	8.8	10.4	11.5	10.0	9.5	8.9	9.9	9.5	9.7



How many victims screened in as high danger based on officer's belief?

(number of victims screened as in high danger based on the responding officer's belief during each month of this reporting period)

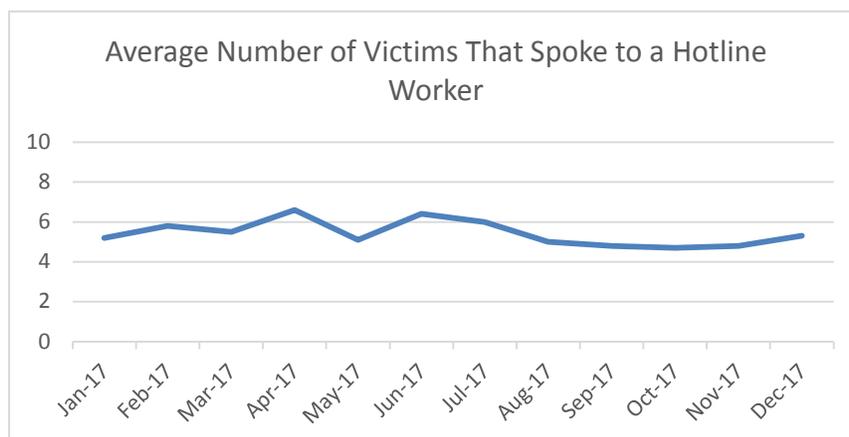
	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	4	15	6	6	9	4	11	17	22	14	19	13	140
N LEAs	11	11	11	12	12	12	20	20	20	23	23	23	198
reporting rate	0.4	1.4	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.9	1.1	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7



How many victims spoke to a hotline worker? (only high danger screens are given the opportunity to speak to a hotline worker)

(number of victims that agreed to speak with a domestic violence hotline worker as part of the lethality assessment process during each month of this reporting period)

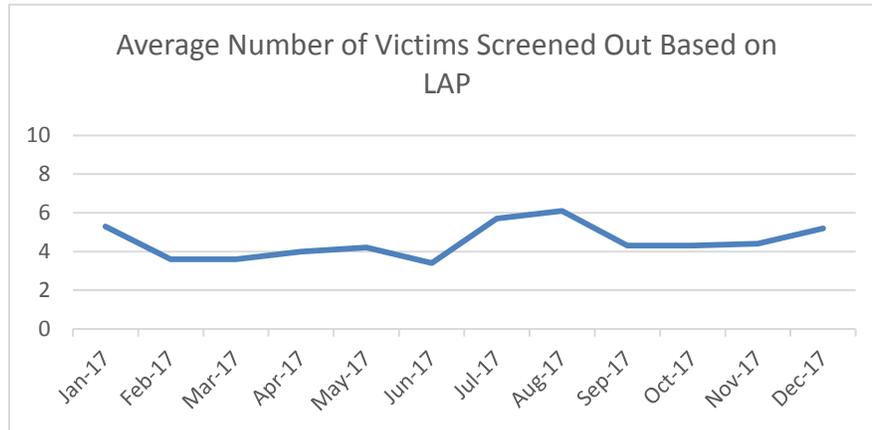
	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	62	69	66	93	72	89	144	121	116	126	130	142	1230
N LEAs	12	12	12	14	14	14	24	24	24	27	27	27	231
reporting rate	5.2	5.8	5.5	6.6	5.1	6.4	6.0	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.8	5.3	5.3



How many victims screened out based on the LAP?

(number of victims screened out, meaning the number of victims whose responses to the LAP questions did not find them at high risk and the responding law enforcement did not find the victim to be at high risk, during each month of this reporting period)

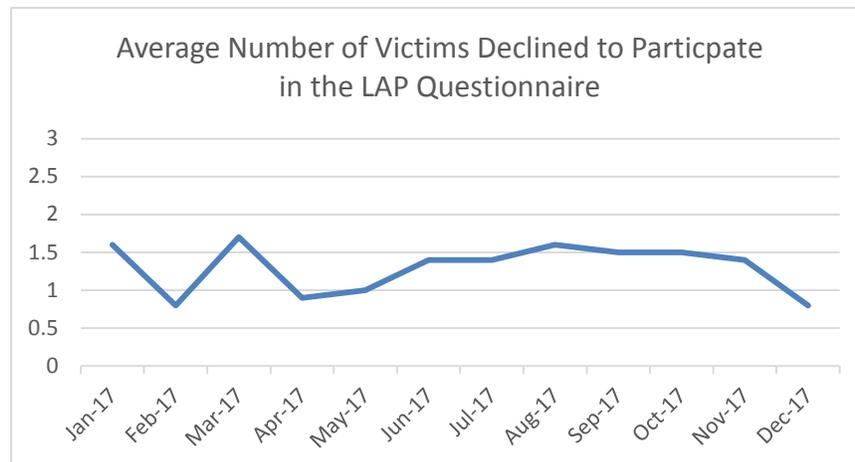
	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	58	40	39	52	55	44	125	133	98	111	113	136	1004
N LEAs	11	11	11	13	13	13	22	22	23	26	26	26	217
reporting rate	5.3	3.6	3.6	4.0	4.2	3.4	5.7	6.1	4.3	4.3	4.4	5.2	4.6



How many victims declined to participate in the LAP questionnaire?

(number of victims that declined to respond to lethality assessment screening questions during each month of this reporting period)

	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	19	9	20	13	14	19	31	36	34	38	37	21	291
N LEAs	12	12	12	14	14	14	22	22	23	26	26	25	222
reporting rate	1.6	0.8	1.7	0.9	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.8	1.3

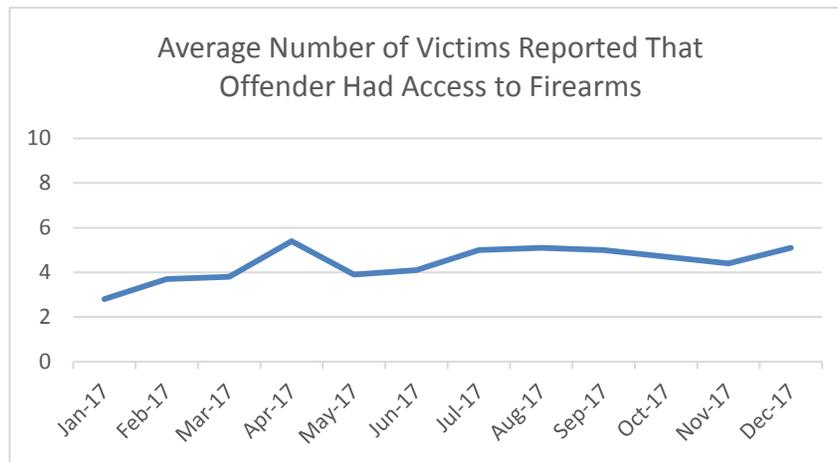


Lethality Assessment Questions

How many victims reported that offender had access to firearms?

(based on the victim's response to LAP question 4, "Does s/he have a gun or can s/he get one easily?")

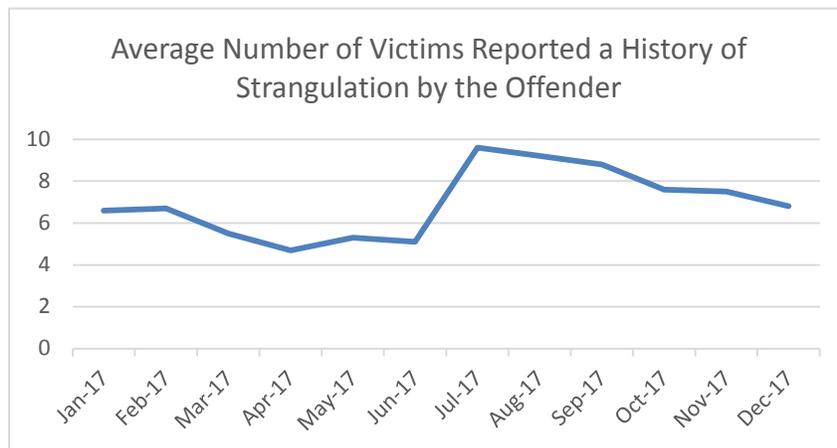
	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	34	44	45	76	54	58	100	102	105	113	105	123	959
N LEAs	12	12	12	14	14	14	20	20	21	24	24	24	211
reporting rate	2.8	3.7	3.8	5.4	3.9	4.1	5.0	5.1	5.0	4.7	4.4	5.1	4.6



How many victims reported a history of strangulation by the offender?

(based on the victim's response to LAP question 5, "Has s/he ever tried to choke you?")

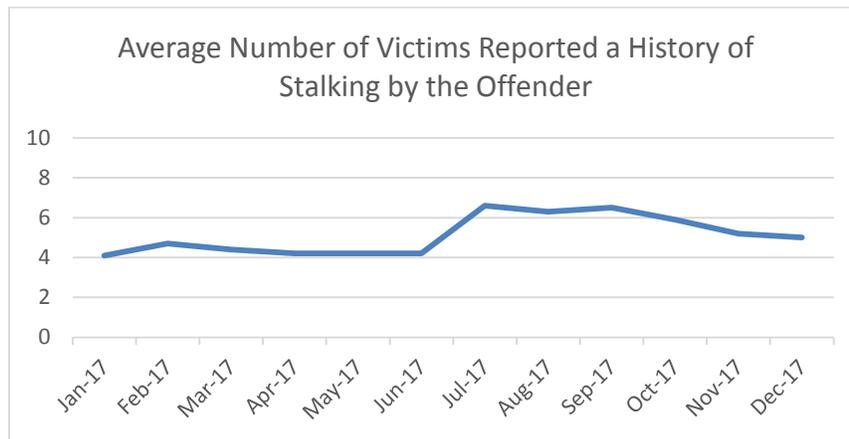
	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	72	74	60	61	69	66	192	184	184	183	181	163	1489
N LEAs	11	11	11	13	13	13	20	20	21	24	24	24	205
reporting rate	6.6	6.7	5.5	4.7	5.3	5.1	9.6	9.2	8.8	7.6	7.5	6.8	7.3



How many victims reported a history of stalking by the offender?

(based on the victim's response to LAP question 11, "Does s/he follow or spy on you or leave threatening messages?")

	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	45	52	48	55	54	54	131	125	136	142	125	120	1087
N LEAs	11	11	11	13	13	13	20	20	21	24	24	24	205
reporting rate	4.1	4.7	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.2	6.6	6.3	6.5	5.9	5.2	5.0	5.3

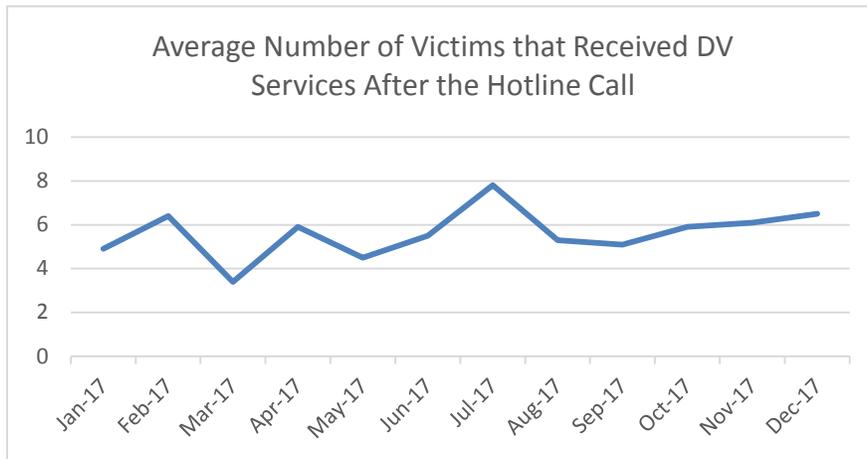


Victim Response

How many victims received DV services after the hotline call?

(number of victims that agreed to receive services from the partnering domestic violence agency after the hotline call during each month of this reporting period)

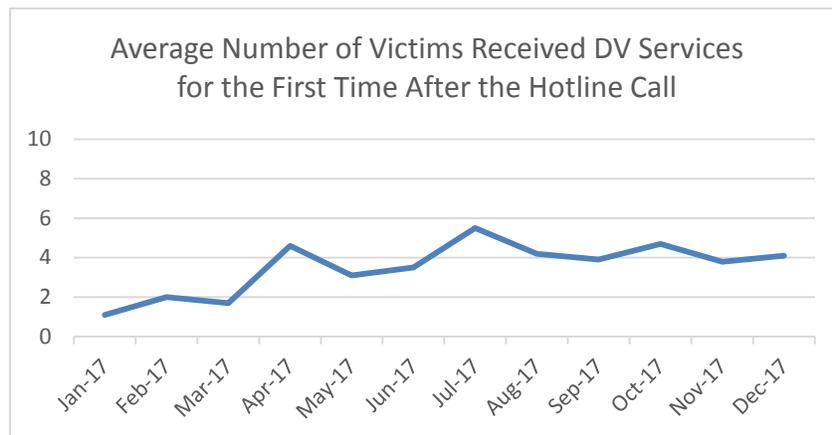
	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	34	45	24	47	36	44	86	58	56	71	73	78	652
N LEAs	7	7	7	8	8	8	11	11	11	12	12	12	114
reporting rate	4.9	6.4	3.4	5.9	4.5	5.5	7.8	5.3	5.1	5.9	6.1	6.5	5.7



How many victims received DV services for the first time after the hotline call?

(number of victims that agreed to receive services for the first time from the partnering domestic violence agency after the hotline call during each month of this reporting period)

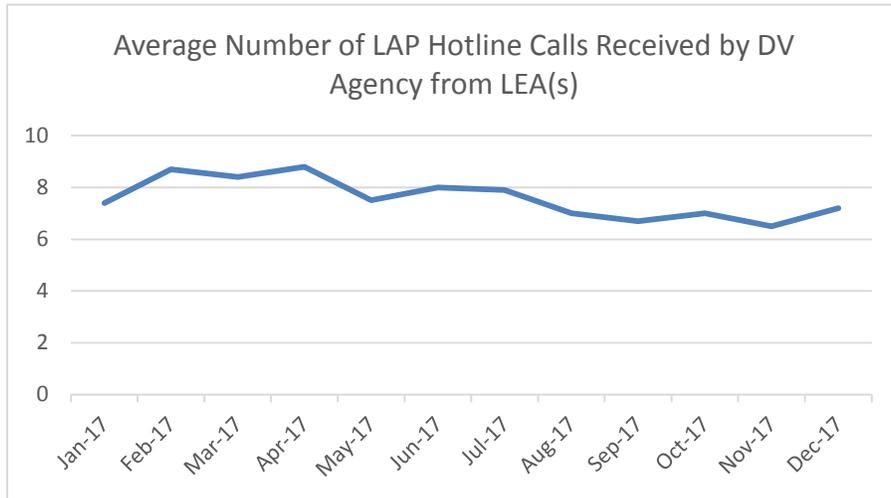
	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	8	14	12	37	25	28	55	42	39	52	42	45	399
N LEAs	7	7	7	8	8	8	10	10	10	11	11	11	108
reporting rate	1.1	2.0	1.7	4.6	3.1	3.5	5.5	4.2	3.9	4.7	3.8	4.1	3.7



How many LAP hotline calls did the DV agency receive from each of the partnering LEAs?

(number of hotline calls received by the domestic violence agency from each of the law enforcement agencies)

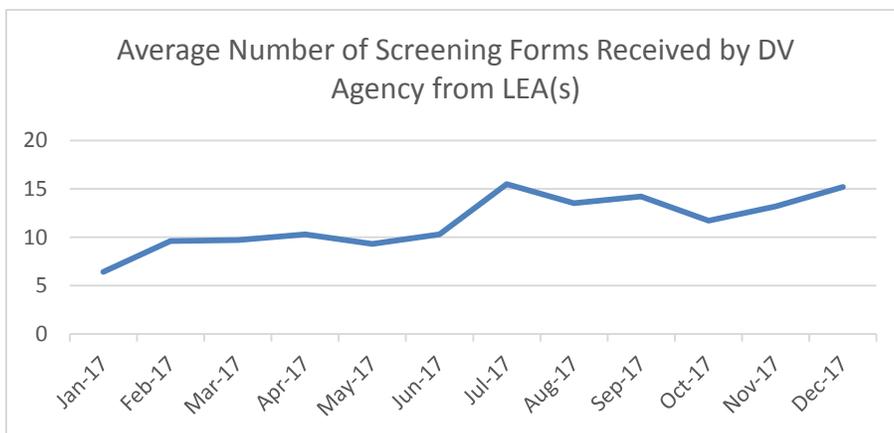
	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	67	78	76	97	82	80	150	132	127	153	142	158	1342
N LEAs	9	9	9	11	11	10	19	19	19	22	22	22	182
reporting rate	7.4	8.7	8.4	8.8	7.5	8.0	7.9	7.0	6.7	7.0	6.5	7.2	7.4



How many screening forms did the DV agency receive from each of the partnering LEAs?

(number of screening forms received by the domestic violence agency from each of the law enforcement agencies)

	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	58	96	97	113	102	113	294	256	270	258	291	334	2282
N LEAs	9	10	10	11	11	11	19	19	19	22	22	22	185
reporting rate	6.4	9.6	9.7	10.3	9.3	10.3	15.5	13.5	14.2	11.7	13.2	15.2	12.3

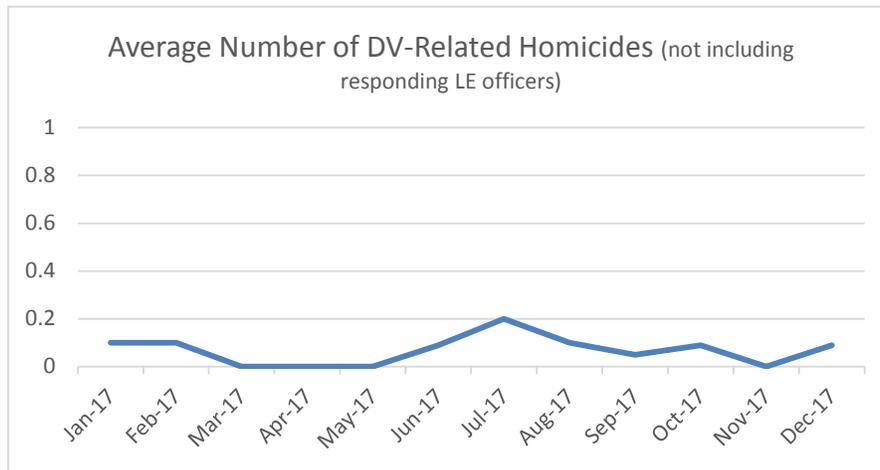


Law Enforcement/Homicide Data

How many DV-related homicides occurred in your locality during the reporting period? (Do not include law enforcement responders. You will be asked about those in the next question.)

(number of DV-related homicides, not including responding law enforcement officers, during each month this reporting period)

	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	1	1	0	0	0	1	4	2	1	2	0	2	14
N LEAs	10	10	10	11	11	11	20	20	20	23	23	23	192
reporting rate	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	0.09	0.2	0.1	0.05	0.09	0	0.09	0.07



How many law enforcement officer deaths occurred in your locality in response to a DV incident during the reporting period?

(number of DV-related deaths of responding law enforcement officers, during each month of this reporting period)

	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N LEAs	11	11	11	11	11	11	15	15	15	16	16	16	159
reporting rate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

How many law enforcement officers were injured in your locality in response to a DV incident during the reporting period?

(number of DV-related injuries of responding law enforcement officers, during each month of this reporting period)

	2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
total	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	5	12
N LEAs	7	7	7	7	7	7	15	16	16	19	19	19	146
reporting rate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.07	0.06	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.3	0.08

