

2018 Biannual Lethality Assessment Programs (LAP) Data Analysis (January 1, 2018–June 30, 2018)



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Biannual 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 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.

Presently, 41 law enforcement agencies have partnered with 21 domestic violence agencies across the state in order to implement LAP. DCJS is collecting data from participating localities in order to assess the effectiveness of LAP and hopes to see a decrease in intimate partner homicides, a decrease in law enforcement injuries and fatalities, and an increase in victim safety.

This analysis report provides aggregated data on LAP screenings, certain lethality assessment questions, victim response, and law enforcement/homicide data *for the period from January 1, 2018–June 30, 2018*.

- **Responses were received from 14 lethality assessment programs.**
- **Number of responding domestic violence (DV) agencies: 14**
- **Number of responding law enforcement agencies (LEAs): 22**

Increases in numbers of screens and victim responses during this six month period may reflect the implementation of one program after the start of the data collection period and do not necessarily indicate increased trends.

Lethality Assessment Screening

1. How many LAP screens were initiated?

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

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 21 LEAs	May 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Total
301	288	313	331	361	344	1938

2. 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)

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 22 LEAs	May 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Total	% of all screens
184	176	187	214	270	264	1295	67%

3. 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)

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 22 LEAs	May 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Total	% of all screens
10	15	18	8	10	17	78	4%

4. How many victims spoke to a hotline worker? (Only high danger screens are offered 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)

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 22 LEAs	May 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Total	% of all HD screens
95	100	113	151	187	177	823	64%

5. 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)

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 22 LEAs	May 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Total
93	86	95	122	124	123	643

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)

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 22 LEAs	May 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Total
22	20	31	35	33	32	173

Lethality Assessment Questions

Questions 9 through 11 require data from the screening forms from each of the partnering law enforcement agencies.

7. 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?")

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 22 LEAs	May 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Total	% of all LAP screens
92	73	74	95	109	95	538	28%

8. 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?")

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 22 LEAs	May 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Total	% of all LAP screens
159	132	126	148	182	162	909	47%

9. 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?")

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 22 LEAs	May 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Total	% of all LAP screens
117	98	107	115	129	122	688	36%

Victim Response

Questions 12 through 15 require data from the partnering domestic violence agency.

10. 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)

Jan 2018 N = 13 DVAs	Feb 2018 N = 13 DVAs	Mar 2018 N = 13 DVAs	Apr 2018 N = 14 DVAs	May 2018 N = 14 DVAs	Jun 2018 N = 14 DVAs	Total	% of all HD screens
51	59	75	87	106	85	463	36%

11. 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)

Jan 2018 N = 12 DVAs	Feb 2018 N = 12 DVAs	Mar 2018 N = 12 DVAs	Apr 2018 N = 13 DVAs	May 2018 N = 13 DVAs	Jun 2018 N = 13 DVAs	Total	% of all HD screens
50	31	45	59	77	70	332	26%

12. 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)

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 22 LEAs	May 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Total	% of all HD screens
124	112	137	177	206	211	967	75%

13. 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)

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 22 LEAs	May 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Total	% of all screens
248	224	257	298	312	328	1667	86%

Law Enforcement/Homicide Data

Questions 16 through 18 require data from each of the partnering law enforcement agencies.

14. 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)

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 22 LEAs	May 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Total
2	2	1	3	0	1	9

15. 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)

Jan 2018 N = 20 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 21 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 22 LEAs	May 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 22 LEAs	Total
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

16. 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)

Jan 2018 N = 17 LEAs	Feb 2018 N = 18 LEAs	Mar 2018 N = 18 LEAs	Apr 2018 N = 19 LEAs	May 2018 N = 19 LEAs	Jun 2018 N = 19 LEAs	Total
3	1	0	2	1	1	8