

BIANNUAL LETHALITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (LAP) Data Analysis

January–June, 2017



Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

www.dcjs.virginia.gov

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.

As of October 2017, 33 law enforcement agencies have partnered with 18 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.

For the period from January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017.

Responses were received from nine lethality assessment programs.

Number of responding domestic violence (DV) agencies: 9

Number of responding law enforcement agencies (LEAs): 13

Two programs implemented in April; therefore data was only submitted April – June.

One program implemented in February and no data was submitted for January.

Increases in numbers of screens and victim responses during the first six months of 2017 may reflect the implementation of three programs after the start of the data collection period and do not necessarily indicate increased trends.

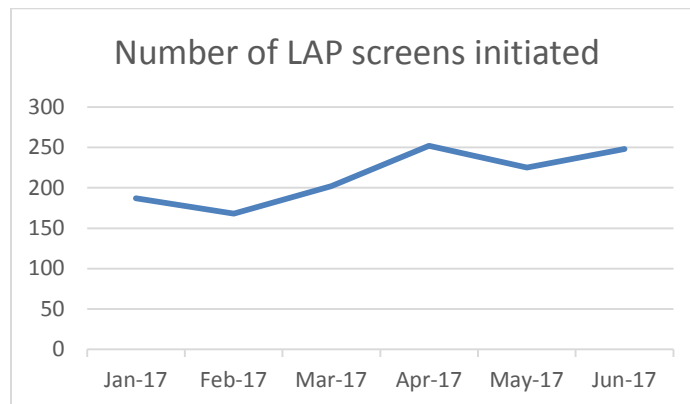
Lethality Assessment Screening

How many LAP screens were initiated?

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

N = 13

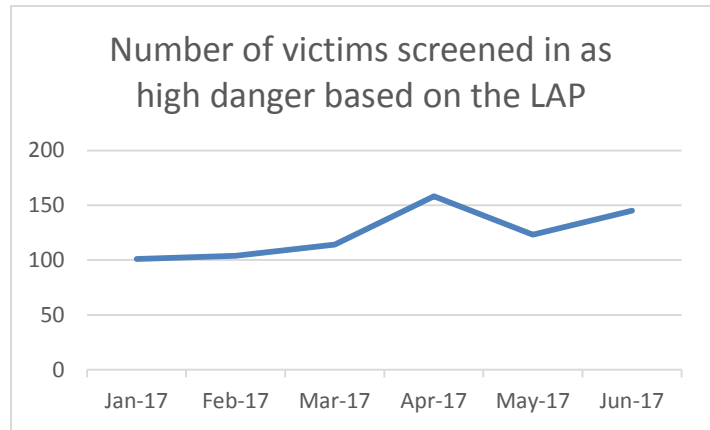
Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total
187	168	202	252	225	248	1282



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

(number of victims screened in as high danger based on their lethality assessment screening during each month of this reporting period)
N = 13

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total	% of all screens
101	104	114	158	123	145	745	58%

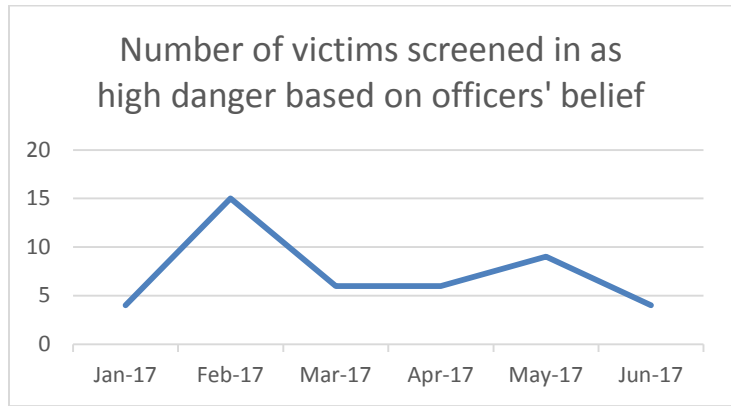


How many victims screened in as high danger based on officer’s belief?

(number of victims screened in as high danger based on the responding officer’s belief during each month of this reporting period)
N = 11

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total	% of all screens
4	15	6	6	9	4	44	4%

Data missing from two programs for Q5.

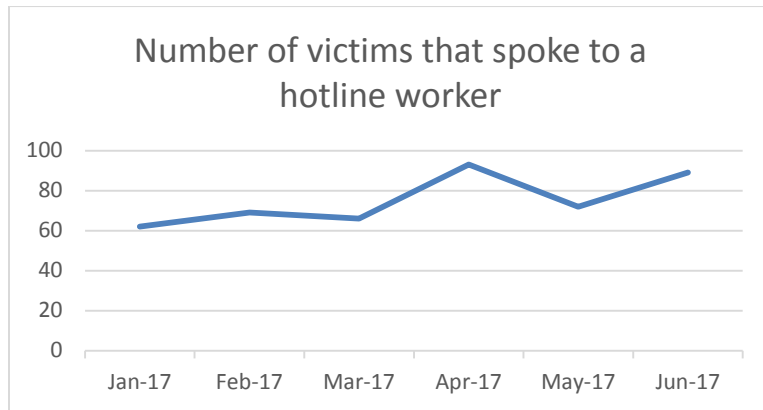


How many victims spoke to a hotline worker? (only high danger screens are offered the opportunity to speak to a hotline worker)
 (number of victims that agreed to speak with a domestic violence hotline worker as part of the lethality assessment process during each month of this reporting period)

N = 13

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total	% of all HD screens
62	69	66	93	72	89	451	55%

Percent calculated based on N = 11 due to data missing from two programs for Q5.



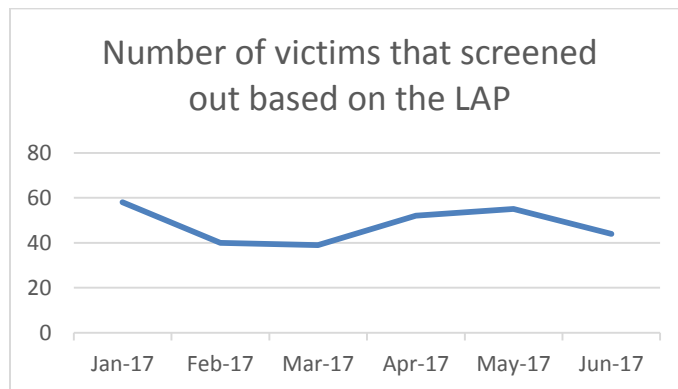
How many victims screened out based on the LAP?

(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)

N = 12

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total
58	40	39	52	55	44	288

Data missing from one program for Q7.

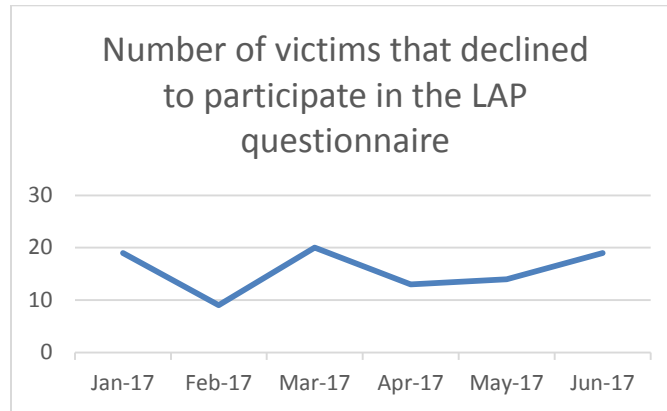


How many victims declined to participate in the LAP questionnaire?

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

N = 13

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total
19	9	20	13	14	19	94



Lethality Assessment Questions

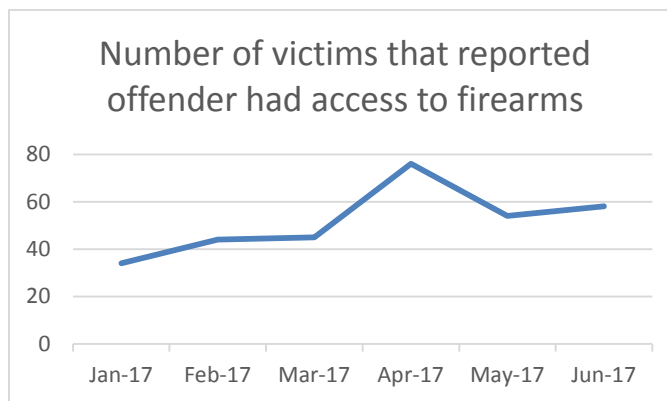
Questions 9 through 11 require data from the screening forms from each of the partnering law enforcement agencies.

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?”)

N = 13

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total	% of all LAP screens
34	44	45	76	54	58	311	24%



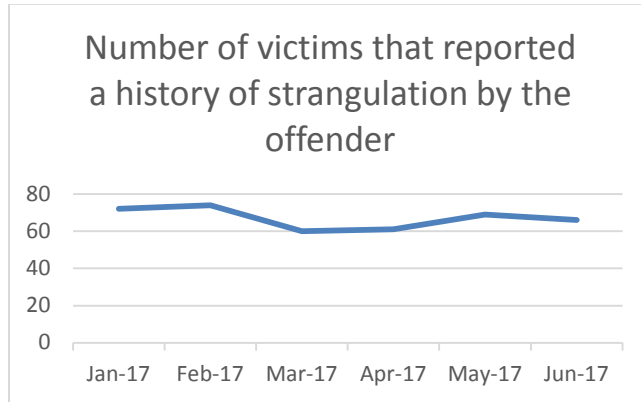
How many victims reported a history of strangulation by the offender?

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

N = 12

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total	% of all LAP screens
72	74	60	61	69	66	402	39%

Data missing from one program for Q10.



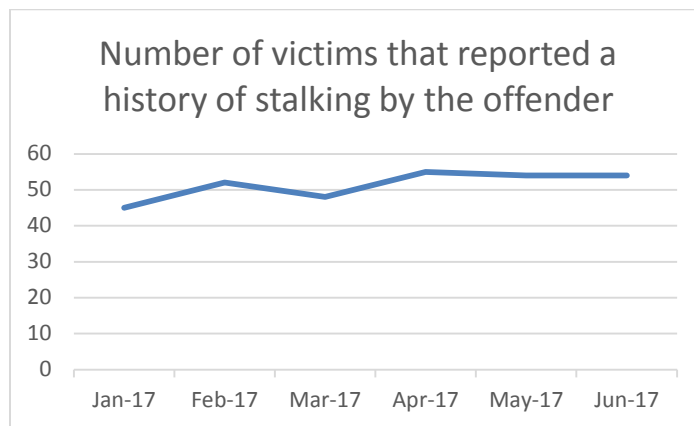
How many victims reported a history of stalking by the offender?

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

N = 12

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total	% of all LAP screens
45	52	48	55	54	54	308	30%

Data missing from one program for Q11.



Victim Response

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

How many victims received DV services after the hotline call?

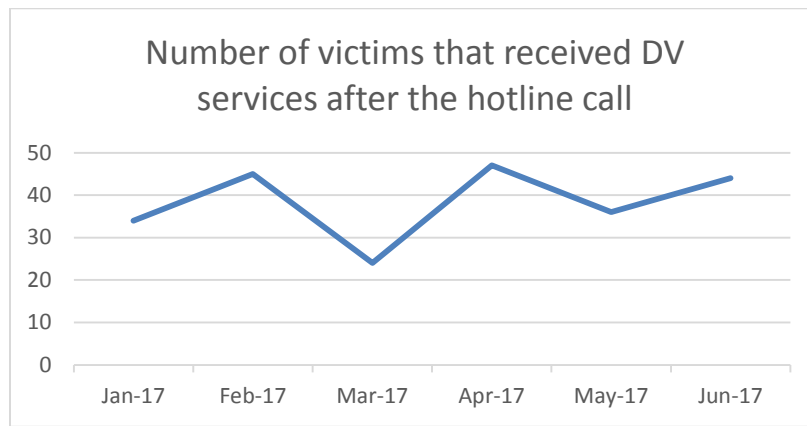
(number of victims that agreed to receive services from the partnering domestic violence agency after the hotline call during each month of this reporting period)

N = 11

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total	% of all HD screens
34	45	24	47	36	44	230	41%

Data missing from two programs for Q12.

Percent calculated based on N = 10 due to data missing from three programs for Q12 and/or Q5.



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

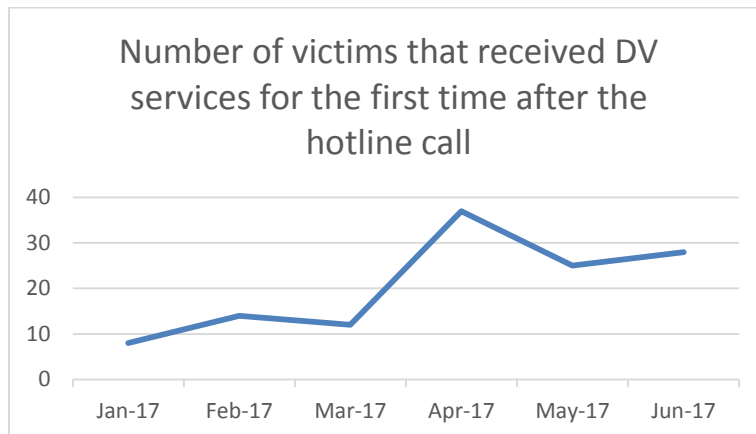
(number of victims that agreed to receive services for the first time from the partnering domestic violence agency after the hotline call during each month of this reporting period)

N = 11

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total	% of all HD screens
8	14	12	37	25	28	124	69%

Data missing from two programs for Q13.

Percent calculated based on N = 9 due to data missing from four programs for Q13 and/or Q5.



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

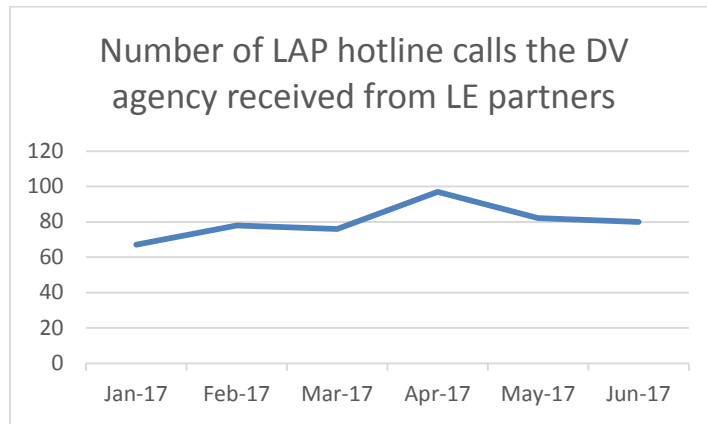
(number of hotline calls received by the domestic violence agency from each of the law enforcement agencies)

N = 11

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total	% of all HD screens
67	78	76	97	82	80	480	86%

Data missing from two programs for Q14.

Percent calculated based on N = 10 due to data missing from three programs for Q14 and/or Q5.



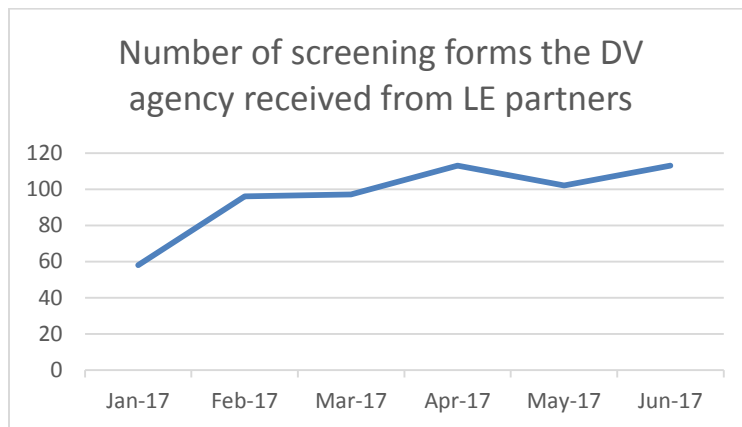
How many screening forms did the DV agency receive from each of the partnering LEAs?

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

N = 11

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total	% of all screens
58	96	97	113	102	113	579	61%

Data missing from two programs for Q15.



Law Enforcement/Homicide Data

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

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)

N = 10

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total
1	1	0	0	0	1	3

Data missing from three programs for Q16.

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)

N = 10

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Data missing from three programs for Q17.

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)

N = 6

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Total
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Data missing from seven programs for Q18.