



Domestic Violence Task Force Annual Report

October 2018



The Institute for
Urban Policy Research
at The University of Texas at Dallas



COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION of TEXAS



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This report was completed by the Institute for Urban Policy Research at the University of Texas at Dallas on behalf of the City of Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force.



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The Bank of America tower is bathed in purple light as part of the Paint the Town Purple Campaign, 2014

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Introduction

For over 30 years, the City of Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force has served the community by combating domestic violence and raising awareness about this critical public health and safety issue. Comprised of elected officials and representatives of law enforcement, courts, and corrections, as well as members of advocacy, religious, media, and volunteer organizations, the Task Force has established itself as the clear voice of community safety concerns and activism regarding intimate partner violence. Now in its fourth year, the annual report builds on the first three reports and provides updates, cross-year comparisons, and annual trend information on the activities and membership of partners in the Task Force. Cumulatively, these efforts highlight Dallas's systemic response to the threat of domestic violence.

The City of Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force was created in 1987 to investigate and monitor the city's response to domestic violence. Representatives from the Dallas Police Department (DPD) and family violence advocacy organizations, including The Family Place, Genesis Women's Shelter & Support, Mosaic Family Services, Salvation Army, and Hope's Door, participate on the Task Force. Other key partners come from the local criminal justice system, government, and social services, and include the City of Dallas Office of the Mayor and City Council, Dallas County District Attorney's Office, City of Dallas Attorney's Office, county and district court judges, and shelter placement and transportation providers. Although the Task Force was instructed to meet for only 2 years at its inception, the group quickly realized the impact of their coordinated efforts on helping victims. Strong working relationships have been formed within the group, which has been meeting quarterly since 1986. This coordinated community response team is a model for other cities that wish to establish strong links across providers, law enforcement, the courts, and corrections. All Task Force general meetings are open to the public.

In addition to the general Task Force meeting, an Executive Committee, composed of a small number of partners, meets bi-monthly to discuss detailed metrics, share concerns and new initiatives, and help guide city policy. Recently, the Task Force has received increased media attention, especially in the form of its annual report, under the leadership of Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings. Following the brutal murder of Karen Cox Smith in 2013, Mayor Rawlings launched the Men Against Abuse Campaign and appointed Councilmember Jennifer Gates to chair the Domestic Violence Task Force, thereby mobilizing the community to do more to address domestic violence.

Councilmember Gates was charged with gathering metrics to highlight community and government efforts in raising awareness. Toward this end, in 2014 she invited Dr. Denise Paquette Boots (professor of Public Policy and Political Economy and senior research fellow at the Institute for Urban Policy Research at the University of Texas at Dallas) to join the Executive Committee and general Task Force and spearhead its data collection. Accordingly, Dr. Boots met with these partners over an 18-month period to ensure reliability and rigor in this collection of measures, as these agencies and organizations had voluntarily contributed significant efforts and manpower to inform the inaugural report, which was released in the fall of 2015. While the inaugural report was written without external funding, since the 2015–16 report, the efforts have been funded by local donors in Dallas. These donors for the past 2 years include Communities Foundation of Texas, Dallas Women's Foundation, Mary Kay, Verizon, and the Embrey Family Foundation. Their generous funding has allowed for the metrics to expand considerably, and each year new metrics are reported from partners on areas related to domestic violence education, prevention, services, and the response within the criminal justice system. Partners across the Task Force use this report to educate about domestic violence issues, fund raise for their nonprofits, and convey

the complexities of the systemic response to intimate partner violence across agencies, systems, and organizations.

This report builds on those of the previous 3 years, administering similar surveys for both general Task Force and Executive Committee partners. Furthermore, it includes updated and expanded metrics from nonprofit partners and local government agencies, particularly law enforcement and judicial partners. The period is

June 1, 2017, through May 31, 2018. This 1-year time period allows the research team to gather metrics and present these data in a report in the month of October, which is National Domestic Violence Awareness month. Together, these data present a overarching picture of the systemic response to domestic violence in the community and offer a preliminary glimpse into the year-over-year changes that can promote positive public policy and criminal justice responses moving forward.



In June 2017, The Family Place opened the new Ann Moody Place, expanding their capacity to serve women in crisis situations.

Image: thefamilyplace.org

A General Overview of the Systemic Response

In June of 2018, all attendees of the general Domestic Violence Task Force meetings were invited by email to participate in a brief electronic survey about their organizations and levels of involvement. In all, more than 60 invitations were distributed to individual email addresses. Of those invited, 24 started the survey, and 23 completed it, yielding a 96% completion rate, an increase compared to last year's completion rate of 91%. These response rates are outstanding considering that all attendees of general Task Force meetings were invited to return the survey, regardless of whether they had attended once or were regular participants. One should note that even if a person, either an individual or an organizational representative, attended one meeting over the 1-year period, he or she received an email invitation. This strategy creates a larger sample to include in the solicitation (and potentially more beneficial information across a wide range of participants). However, it also means that some of these invitations may not be accepted because the recipient is not a vested member of the general Task Force, or he or she was a one-time guest, reducing the valid response rate and inflating the number of solicitations. Therefore, caution is warranted in interpreting the response rates overall or the variance, as they may change each year, depending on Task Force meeting attendance and activities.

About the Survey

The survey asked respondents for information about themselves, their organizations (if applicable), and their involvement in the Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force. Those persons who indicated they represented the interests of an organization, such as a nonprofit or government agency, were asked about their organizations' employment,

characteristics, mission, and purpose. Respondents whose organizations provided shelter services were asked about shelter capacity. As with any survey instrument, respondents were free to answer all, some, or none of the questions. This caused the total sample size to vary across tables and figures. To maintain integrity, missing data were not imputed, and no entries were changed from the original.

This year's survey, like in the previous 3 years, represents an attempt to integrate responses across both the general membership and the metric-reporting Task Force members. These metric-reporting Task Force members serve on the Executive Committee, meet as a separate group, and attend the general Task Force meetings. Each organizational representative agreed to provide detailed monthly performance metrics on domestic-violence-related functions within their agencies. To the previous year's 3,112 variables we have added an additional 87, comprising questions on impact of the survey, outreach to underserved populations, and efforts regarding batterer intervention and prevention programs for domestic abusers. A key goal of each successive annual report is to expand variables of interest related to the systemic domestic violence response in Dallas. Again, these variables provide a comprehensive overview regarding the scope and scale of domestic violence in the city of Dallas. The sheer magnitude of this data set and the complexities surrounding the interpretation of the measures, however, produced a considerable share of difficulties as measures were combined across partners for a succinct presentation within this report. Institute staff spent roughly 200 hours cleaning and coding the data to produce the results contained in this report and hundreds more hours planning, executing, interpreting, and writing the analyses contained herein.

Survey Findings

Seventeen different organizations and one individual (without organizational affiliation) responded to the demographic portion of the survey. This number represents a drop in responses from last year, when 26 organizations and two individuals provided data. One organization represented a for-profit entity, and one was a higher education / research institution. The remaining organizations were nonprofits, offices of elected officials, and government agencies. Figure 1 depicts the types of organization the respondents represented. As in previous years, nonprofits were the most common type of responding organization. Their representation has

grown steadily, now at half (50%) of all responding organizations. For the second consecutive year, there were no faith-based organizations among the respondents.

The vast majority of individuals who responded to the survey have participated in the Task Force for 3 or more years. Table 1 shows that 43% have participated for 3 to 4 years, and more than 30% have participated for 5 or more years. The organizational tenure on the Task Force among this year's survey respondents is comparable to the personal tenure this year. As described in Table 2, almost 80% of agencies have participated for at least 3 years, and more than half for at least 5.

Table 1. Distribution of Respondents by Organization Sector and Tenure on the Task Force, 2017–18

	Government Agency	Nonprofit	Elected Official	For Profit	Researcher	Individual	Total
Less Than 1 Year	--	2 29%	--	--	--	--	2 14%
1–2 Years	1 50%	--	--	--	--	--	1 7%
3–4 Years	1 50%	2 29%	1 50%	1 100%	1 100%	--	6 43%
5–9 Years	--	1 14%	1 50%	--	--	1 100%	3 21%
10 or More Years	--	2 29%	--	--	--	--	2 14%
Total	2	7	2	1	1	1	14

Table 2. Distribution of Respondent Organizations by Organization Type and Tenure on Task Force, 2017–18

	Government Agency	Nonprofit	Total
Less Than 1 Year	0	2 29%	2 22%
1–2 Years	--	--	--
3–4 Years	1 50%	1 14%	2 22%
5–9 Years	--	2 29%	2 22%
10 or More Years	1 50%	2 29%	3 33%
Total	2	7	9

Percentage of Respondents by Type of Organization Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force, 2014-18

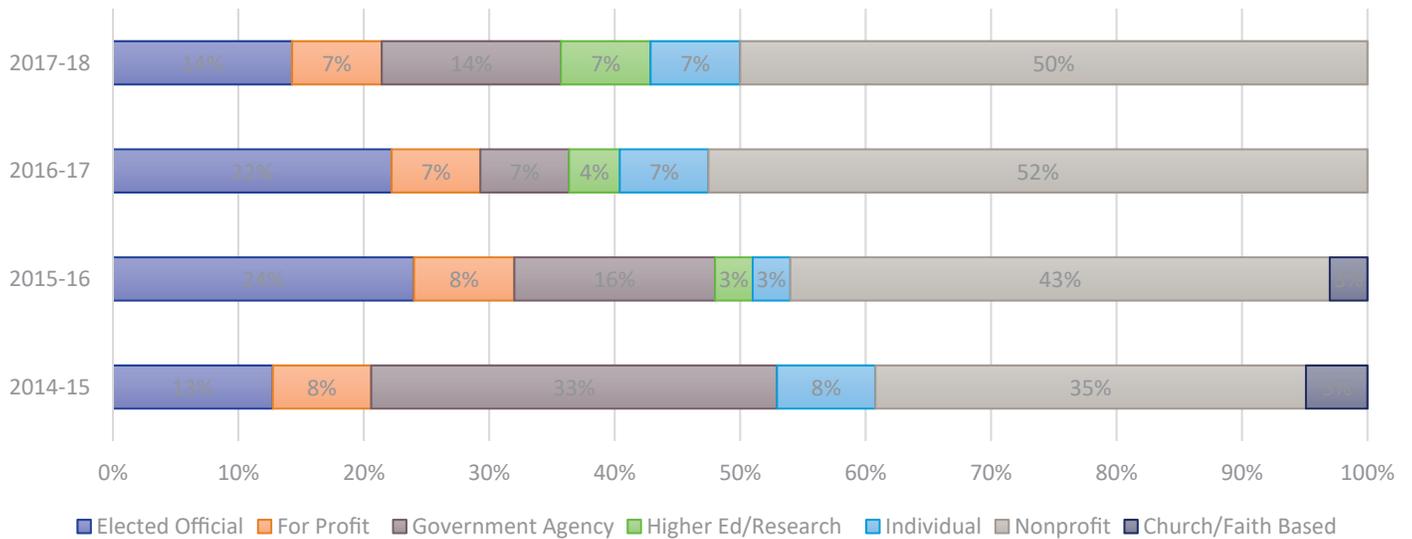


Figure 1. Types of Organizations Responding, 2017-18

Percentage of Organizations by Total and Domestic Violence Employees Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force, 2017-18

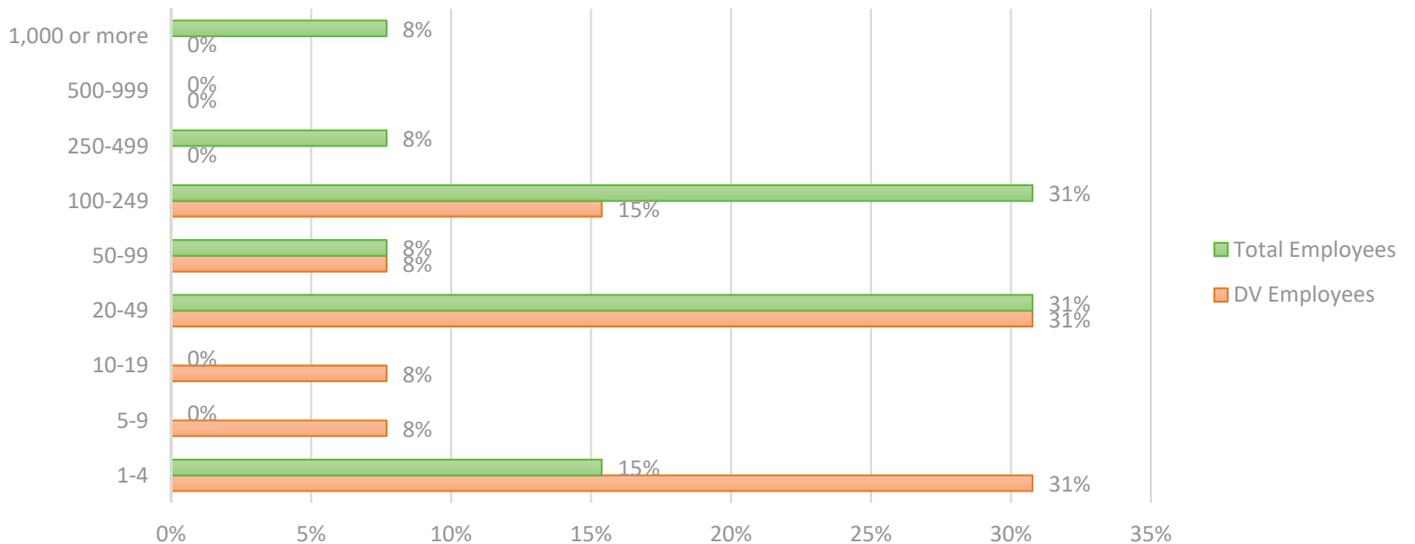


Figure 2. Total and Domestic Violence Employment of Responding Organizations, 2017-18

As depicted in Figure 2, just under half of the organizations answering the survey employed fewer than 50 employees; nearly one third of the organizations employed between 100 and 250, and nearly one fifth employed over 250 employees. The figure also narrows the focus to only those employees who worked in areas of domestic violence. Three fourths of respondent

organizations had fewer than 50 employees solely dedicated to working on domestic-violence-related projects, and 1 in 3 reported fewer than 5.

Services Provided by Agencies

Figure 3 depicts the variety of services provided by those surveyed and the change in the proportion of organizations providing each type of service over the 4 years of annual report

Percentage of Organizations Providing Specific Services Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force, 2014–18

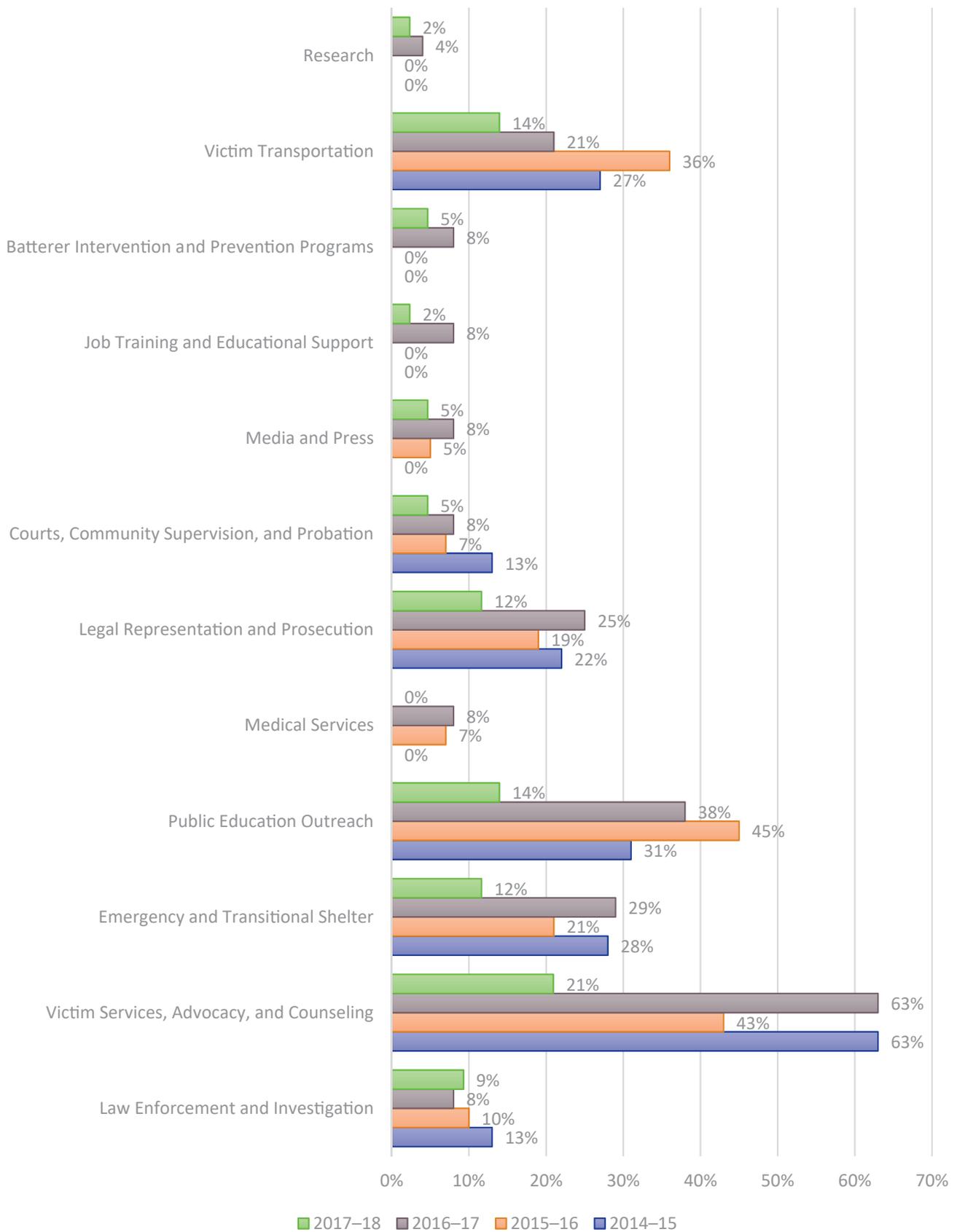


Figure 3. Percentage of Organizations Providing Specific Services, 2014–18

Types of Transportation Provided by Transporting Organizations Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force, 2014–18

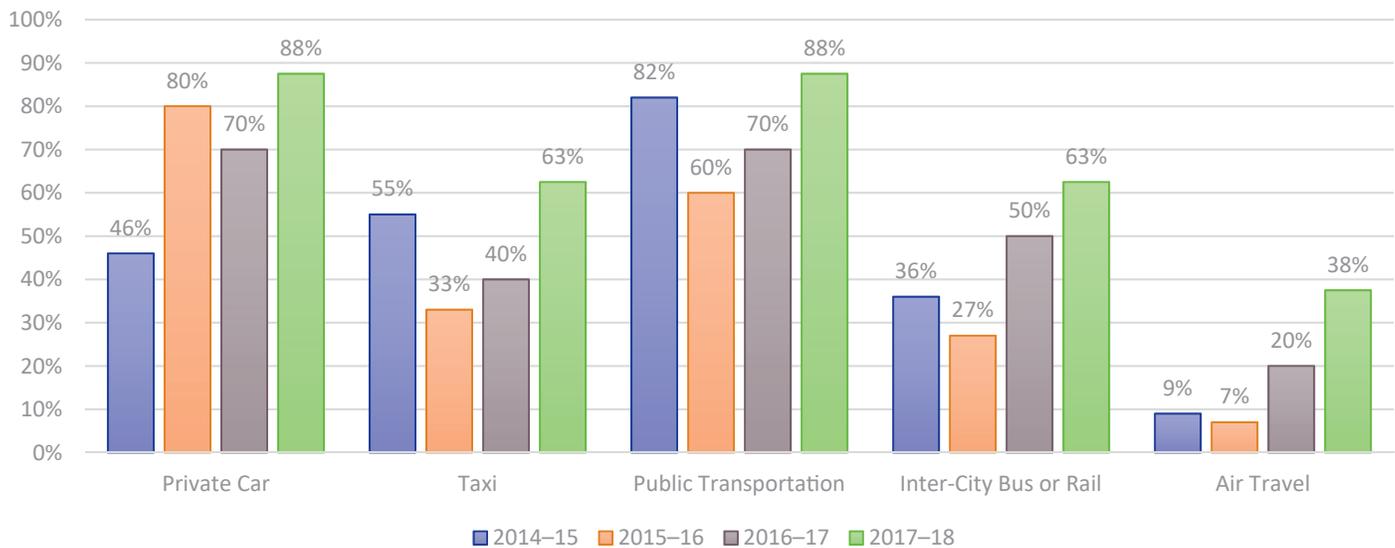


Figure 4. Type of Transportation Provided, 2014–18

surveys. It should be noted that these categories are not mutually exclusive; partners may choose up to three areas of services provided. Thus, categories may cumulatively add to more than 100%. Law enforcement grew slightly among the organizations that responded, compared to last year, moving from 8% to 9%, but still lower than 13% during the 2014–15 report. Despite victim service and advocacy continuing to have the largest number of organizational respondent representation, there was a 42% decrease in reporting from organizations on this year's survey when compared to last year (at 63% of respondents). Other services provided by significant numbers of organizations include public education and outreach at 14%, emergency shelter and transitional housing support at 12%, legal representation and prosecution at 12%, and victim transportation at 14%. Overall, the lower number of respondents resulted in lower percentages of providers identifying across each category.

Figure 4 further illustrates the variety of transportation services provided among agencies that do so. For the 2017–18 reporting cycle, all modes of transportation experienced an increase over last year and had the highest levels since the inception of this report. Other than air travel, which nearly doubled from the previous reporting

cycle, the largest increase occurred among organizations providing taxi service, which increased by 58%, from 40% to 63%. There were also 25% increases in the availability of both public transportation and inter-city bus or rail.

Figure 5 expands on the types of transportation provided by adding what types of services can be accessed by each transportation mode. Wraparound services and emergency shelter were the most prominent reasons to provide private car and taxi transportation; public transportation was also a major source of transportation for those seeking wrap around services. Many organizations offer public transportation to clients to access any type of service, which is likely due to its relatively low cost. On the other hand, safety concerns make public transportation a less attractive option for those seeking emergency shelter. Inter-city bus and air travel were most frequently provided for emergency shelter and other purposes, which typically related to relocating a victim to be with family members.

Families to Freedom is an organization that focuses solely on providing transportation assistance to victims who are fleeing their abuser. During the 2017–18 reporting cycle, Families to Freedom helped 259 victims of family violence escape their situation.

Purpose of Transportation Provided by Transporting Organizations Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force, 2017–18

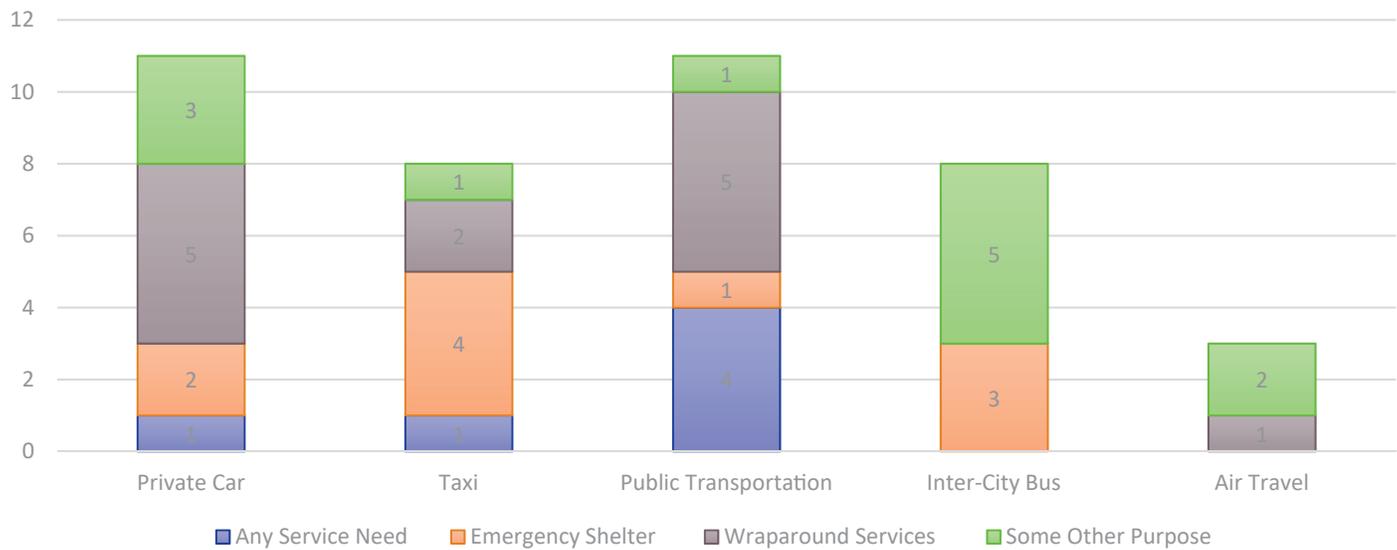


Figure 5. Purposes for Which Transportation Was Provided, 2017–18

Families to Freedom provides services to clients through three main programs: fuel cards to support transport in the victim's own vehicle, car and van rides for victims without a vehicle, and bus and train tickets for longer distance travel. Of the 45 victims assisted with fuel cards, roughly 80% reached safe haven with family or friends, while the remaining clients required additional shelter housing assistance. Another 72 victims received assistance to travel via commercial transport (bus, train, or plane), of which more than 80% were able to find safe haven with a family member or friend. One should note that Families to Freedom receives no discounts from commercial carriers and pays full fare.

Just over one half of victims (142) were assisted through car and van rides. Two thirds of these clients were transported to a location within the DFW area. Another 24 clients were placed into a shelter in North Texas and who then traveled again to their final destination to be with family or friends outside the state.

Client Diversity

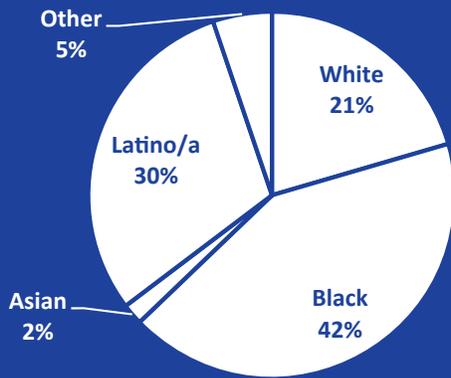
After the administration and creation of the 2015–16 annual survey, members of the Task Force suggested that gathering information on the demographics of clients using partner

services would be of value to them to help direct resources. This is the third year in which partners have provided these data. The questions asked about a variety of characteristics ranging from race/ethnicity to immigration status and homelessness. Means were calculated from the data provided by 10 organizations. Figure 6 presents key characteristics and descriptive statistics regarding demographics served by Task Force partners.

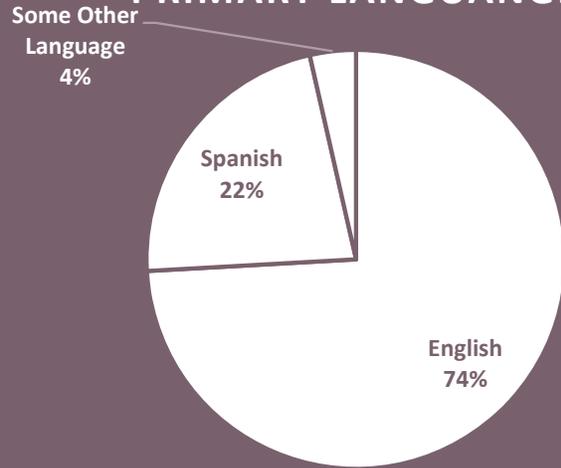
According to the data provided, clients identified as 42% Black, 30% Latino/a, 21% White and 5% as other or unknown. Only 2% of clients at the average agency identified as Asian, and 0% of them identified as Native American or Pacific Islander. Around three quarters (74%) of clients at the average agency identified English as their primary language, and almost a quarter (22%) spoke Spanish as their primary language. Only 4% reported a language besides English or Spanish as their primary one.

Continuing last year's pattern, lower educational attainment and income were associated with clients seeking services. That is, roughly 7 out of 10 clients (68%) served had a high school diploma or less. Moreover, only 1 in 3 had higher than a high school education (32%). Only 4% of the clients at the average shelter possessed a

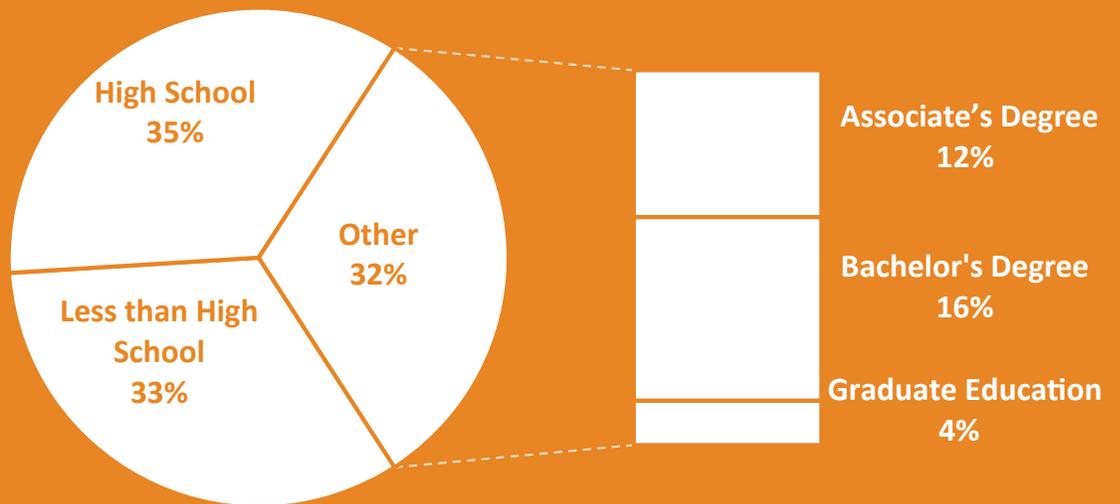
RACE AND ETHNICITY OF CLIENTS SERVED



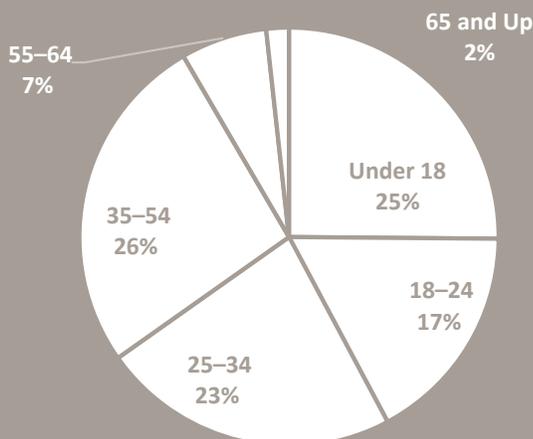
PRIMARY LANGUAGE



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF CLIENTS



CLIENT AGE



POVERTY STATUS

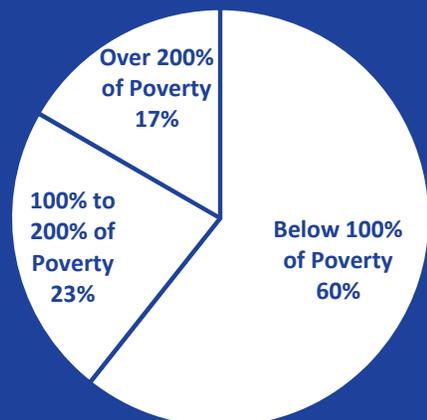


Figure 6. Demographic Characteristics of Clients Served, 2017-18

graduate degree. These data are similar to the demographics captured in last year's report. Like last year, most clients are from impoverished backgrounds, with 60% at the average organization reporting income below the poverty line; over a fifth (23%) of them earn between 101% and 200% of the poverty line, and 17% of them earn above 200% of the poverty line.

A quarter (26%) of clients seen by the average agency are under 18 years old, and half of them are between the ages of 25 and 54 (49%). An additional 7% of clients were between the ages of 55 and 64. Approximately a fifth (22%) of clients seeking services from the average agency reported being homeless. There was a substantial decrease in the numbers of undocumented immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees who sought services (down to 14% from 25% last year). Task Force partners have commented that this community has been largely marginalized and is fearful of seeking services that might make them vulnerable to deportation. While we do not know the specific reasons for the decline, it is possible that fewer immigrant populations are seeking assistance to get away from their abusers. It is also possible that our agencies and organizations may not be seeking data on this point so as to not scare away clients who are in danger. Either way, these metrics should be viewed with caution.

It is important to note that although suggested in last year's report, the Task Force did not add any new demographic variables to this year's survey. Additional variables could be valuable when considering that there is little data on various underserved groups, like the LGBTQ+, those living with a substance abuse problem, victims with special needs, and those who have custody of older male children. It is understandable that any organization might hesitate in expanding data collection given the already time-consuming nature of the work and the privacy implications of sharing victims' personal information.

Training and Education Provided

As in last year's survey, information on training and education was included in response to suggestions from respondents. This year, 11 respondents reported conducting 215 training and education sessions. Combined, these agencies reached 4,830 people. While the number of events reflects a decrease from the previous year, with the number of training sessions down by 61% (from 548 reported in 2016–17), the number of attendees increased slightly (up from 14,748 reported in 2016–17, an increase of just under 1%). The average number reached per event has increased from approximately 30 per session to 69 per session. While reach has increased, it will be important to continue to saturate the community with vital information and educational opportunities from Task Force partners to increase the number exposed to this important content. These cumulative outreach efforts are vital to dispel myths surrounding domestic violence and to provide outreach and support to vulnerable populations in their communities, places of worship, schools, and workplaces.

Reported Shelter Capacities

All Task Force members who reported providing shelter services shared details about their shelter capacity for both on- and off-site shelters. *On-site shelter* refers to the capacity to house victims of domestic violence within the facility itself. In essence, reporting organizations own and manage the facilities that provide on-site shelter. Off-site shelters make use of facilities not controlled by the serving organization. For the reporting organizations, *off-site capacity* refers to motel or hotel rooms that the organization reserved and paid for as needed. In previous years, off-site emergency and transitional housing were reported by some partners; this year's report does not have any off-site data, so this metric is not presented in the tables and narrative that follows. Capacity can further be broken down into emergency shelters and transitional housing. An *emergency shelter* is defined here as one that provides victims of domestic violence with

immediate and short-term shelter directly after an incident has occurred. *Transitional housing* is defined as service that provides long-term housing assistance to clients, as well as subsidized housing and services to rebuild clients' lives after leaving an abusive relationship.

Another important change in this year's presentation of general shelter partners' metrics concerns the overall presentation of shelter capacities. While the past 3 years' annual reports included a breakdown of both emergency and transitional rooms and beds for all partners who reported data, this year's report excludes any metrics concerning beds. Since the inception of the annual report, all the executive committee partners have expressed concerns regarding the interpretation of reporting beds. Indeed, how rooms are used is determined in real time by shelter partners who consider a complex combination of characteristics regarding the configuration of varying victims and families who seek shelter at any given time at the different shelter locations. It may also be decided by the amount of space available at the time that a victim seeks safe harbor. For instance, an adult female victim with a preteen son may not share a room with other unrelated victims with younger children. This scenario deflates the number of beds used for that room while that victim and her child are sheltered but is not reflective of fewer beds available at that shelter. In a sense, the bed count is simply the configuration of how victims are sheltered. It is not really about how many victims could be sheltered if they were at maximum. At the same time, that shelter may be at 100% capacity because all their rooms are occupied. Accordingly, there are significant fluctuations in the use of rooms depending on the gender, ages, and number of dependent children who accompany an adult seeking shelter from his or her abuser. With this caveat in mind, beds are therefore excluded from the discussion and presentation of relevant metrics regarding shelter capacities in this report.

The data displayed in Table 3 represent an aggregation of all five shelters that responded to the general survey distributed to the Task Force

in the Greater Dallas area this year. The four Executive Committee shelter partners are Genesis Women's Shelter & Support, Mosaic Family Services, The Salvation Army, and The Family Place; and the general Task Force member is Brighter Tomorrows. It is noteworthy that last year's report did not include metrics from this last partner, but from another general Task Force partner, Hope's Door. As metrics change from year to year based upon responding organizations, readers are reminded to view data with caution since they are not necessarily inclusive of all partners who serve victims or provide shelter. Thus, annualized data may not be comparable from year to year on some variables. Tables 3 and 4 present the data reported for the current year regarding number of rooms and the number of victims served for all five shelter partners reporting data this year.

As seen in Table 3, from June 1, 2017, through May 31, 2018, the five shelter partners reported having a capacity of 79 on-site emergency rooms for women and children, and 10 for men and children. In addition, they reported a capacity of 74 on-site transitional rooms for women and children, and four dedicated rooms for men and children. Since the partners responding are different in this year's report, between-year comparisons with 2016–17 data were not appropriate.

Shelter Support and Referral Services

Though not all members of the Task Force provide shelter, a couple of organizations that responded to the survey assist victims by helping them find appropriate shelter. Data related to referral services are presented in Table 4.

Table 3. Number of On-Site Rooms Available, 2017–18

	Emergency	Transitional
Women & Children	79	74
Men & Children	10	4
Total	89	78

Table 4. Number of Victims Placed and Unplaced, by Gender and Exigency, 2017–18

	Placed		Not Placed	
	Emergency	Transitional	Emergency	Transitional
Women	103	3	7	0
Children	113	0	0	0
Men	0	0	4	0
Total	216	3	11	0

The two organizations reporting this year are Annie’s Gifts of Love Charitable Foundation and Families to Freedom. Combined, they found shelter for 106 women and 113 children, mostly in emergency shelters, with the exception of three women. Eleven victims were unable to be placed in any type of shelter, a small increase from last year’s nine.

Two of the partners that reported referring victims last year did not fill out the survey this time around; therefore, current data cannot be interpreted as an appropriate estimate of need in the area or an accurate portrayal of the placed and unplaced. Variation is normal across each report due to the voluntary nature of participation in the Task Force survey.

Each partner’s contributions expand the understanding of the scope of need for emergency and transitional shelter space. A topic often discussed in Task Force meetings is the unmet need for domestic violence services in South Dallas, an area where many victims live in poverty and lack the resources to leave their abusers. There are partners who provide referral services in this area and completed the survey in previous years, but who are not represented in the current report. It would be of great value if response rates within the Task Force increased in future iterations of the report, but it is understandable that most partners operate under limited resources and can’t always allocate time to completing the survey.

It is also important to emphasize that one cannot simply add up the number of unplaced victims across organizations and interpret the sum as a headcount of need in the region. There is no way to determine whether victims went to multiple organizations to seek help, or whether

they returned to the same organization at a later time and were able to be placed. Finally, since different organizations reported data in different years, drawing conclusions from cross-report comparisons is not recommended.

Restrictions to Service

There are multiple reasons shelters may be unable to accommodate clients besides lack of space. Some organizations face criteria imposed by their funding, whether private or federal. Internal bylaws or board oversight can also lead to service restrictions. Safety concerns for victims, or an inability to serve the needs of specific groups can also drive restrictions. Service restrictions affect organizations that provide service referrals as well.

Organizations that provide referral services reported that the three major barriers to finding placement at a shelter were: victims with complicated stories that seemed suspicious or dishonest, victims unable to take pets, and victims unable to bring their teenage sons. Callers with complicated stories struggle to find placement due to having inconsistent or missing information in their requests. Though they might be a victim, concealing information prevents them from getting help. Common reasons for concealing information are a criminal past, an unresolved CPS case, a drug dependency, or being a sex worker.

Barriers to placement that are less common usually involve a medical condition or being prescribed certain medication. One facility was not able to place a victim who was planning to relocate outside the Dallas metro area into transitional housing due to requiring a longer stay in the area than originally intended.

In the 2015–16 report, a key barrier that was raised for shelter referral organizations and the shelters themselves was the inability to share real-time shelter availability for victims across these partners. For the past 3 years, shelter organizations have maintained a Google Docs system to do just that. Shelters now are able to help place victims at other facilities and relay this information to shelter referral and placement organizations and police in real time. These efforts show the importance of sharing resources and working collaboratively, as they significantly impact promptly getting victims to a safe haven when they are in the most need.

A continuing concern brought up by shelter partners was immigration status and current federal policies involving family separation and deportation. This will be discussed in more detail at the end of this report in the policy and future recommendations section. Several respondent organizations indicated that they are currently reviewing their policies to ensure trauma-informed care practices, such as rule reduction.

Another partner has noted that an increased prevalence of mental health issues among the survivors they serve has led them to increase the

number of mental health providers on their staff. This will serve to reduce the barriers to service for those facing mental health difficulties.

It should also be noted that the restrictions discussed here do not reflect the total number of shelter and referral partners participating on the Task Force; therefore, other restrictions may exist that are not cited here.

Outreach Opportunities

Beginning with the 2017–18 program year, respondents were asked to identify outreach methods used to reach victims of family violence. Figure 7 presents the frequency of responses to various uses of outreach tools. Public or invited talks were the most prevalently used, with nearly 70% of respondents reporting regular or limited use. Posters or flyers and social media posts had similar prevalence, though the balance between regular and limited use shifted to less regular use. While nearly 70% reported at least limited use of social media posts, less than 10% reported using paid social media posts, on even a limited basis.

Respondents reported Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram as their more prevalent platforms. Of those who used these platforms, some reported a commitment to daily social media posts as

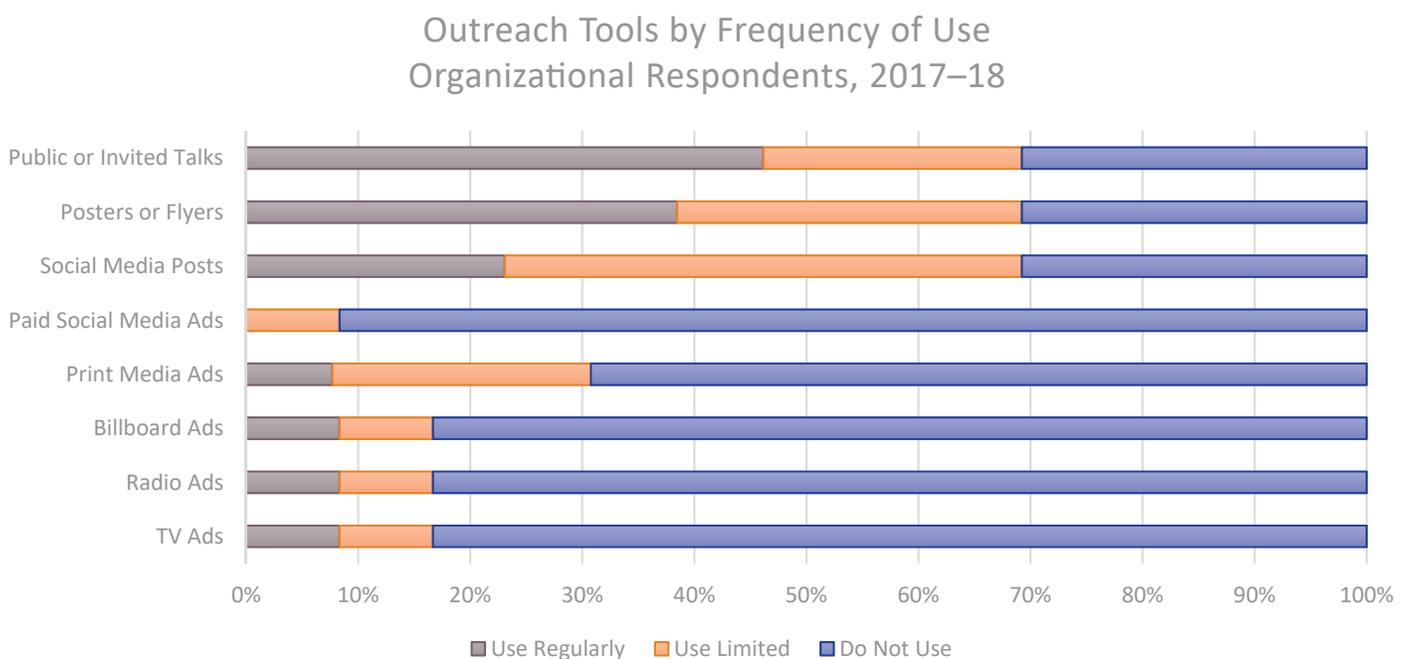


Figure 7. Frequency of Use for Outreach Tools Identified by Organizational Respondents, 2017–18

a vehicle for continuous promotion of advocacy messages. Among those respondents who used any of these methods regularly, there was wide agreement that these tools were useful for reaching special populations: racial and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ+ victims, and undocumented persons.

Funding Needs

Also new to this year's survey were questions regarding organizational respondents' financial needs. Organizations were asked to describe their funding needs in four key areas: staffing and payroll, contractual services, supplies and equipment, and capital expansion.

Figure 8 presents the distribution of organizational respondents by level of funding need and area of request. As might be expected, the greatest need is in areas of staffing and payroll, where only 8% of organizations report being adequately funded. Of those remaining, 42% report needing funding to expand their current capacity, and a full 50% report funding is needed to meet their current demand.

Only slightly better performing was supplies and equipment, with 9% of organizations reporting adequate funding, and only 9% of organizations

reporting funding needed to meet their current demand. The majority (82%) report that funding is necessary for any expansion in capacity.

Regarding capital expansion, nearly one quarter (23%) report adequate funding. Nearly another quarter (23%) report funding is needed to meet their current demand, while just over one half (54%) report funding needed for necessary expansion.

Last, almost one half (42%) of respondents reported being adequately funded for contractual services. These services include functions that are important, but may not rise to the level of retaining a full-time staff member. One third of respondents reported needing funding in this area to meet existing demand at their organization, while 25% report needing additional funding for any expansion.

Reasons for Participating on the Task Force

Respondents to the survey were asked about their reasons for participating on the Domestic Violence Task Force. By and large, respondents indicated that the Task Force provides opportunities for collaborative problem solving, a space

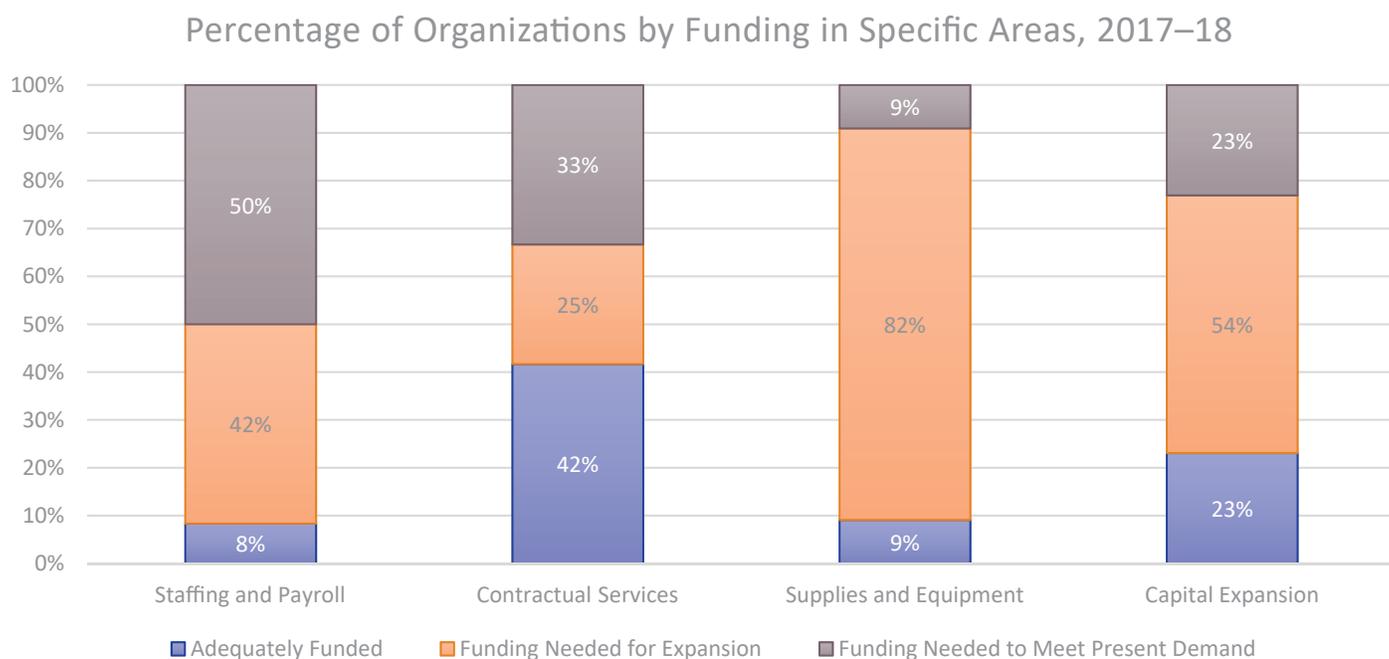


Figure 8. Distribution of Organizations by Funding Need and Category, 2017–18

to share knowledge and learnings, and a place to reinforce each other during the difficult times of this trying mission. Said one respondent,

The Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force serves as a place for [organization name] to hear about initiatives that are being planned, connect with other service providers, and contribute solutions that may not be known to other members during discussions.

Another respondent noted that:

The Task Force is a wonderful way to bring together advocated [sic] committed to ending intimate partner violence. The opportunities for collaboration, information sharing and partnership are extremely beneficial to us all.

Others noted the importance of the Domestic Violence Task Force as a space for advocacy. Said one respondent, "[Our organization] participates in the Domestic Violence Task Force as a community partner to advocate for social change to end domestic violence." These and others recognized the value of coming together with elected leadership and representatives from the criminal justice community to ensure that the voice of the victim is heard and represented.

One respondent quickly summed up the value of sitting together:

The Domestic Violence Task Force is a huge network. I participate in the . . . Task Force to support the effort that the City of Dallas is putting forth to eradicate Domestic Violence. Domestic Violence is an ugly blot on America and it is even uglier in the African American community. The only way to defeat it is to raise awareness, teach love of others and to offer support needed to help folks rebuild broken lives. I attend the meetings to increase my awareness and to think of new initiatives that will help the southern section of Dallas County. [Our organization] does not have a fall event but we attend many October awareness events in support [of] efforts to end Domestic Violence. We can STOP domestic violence.

What the Task Force Means to Me...

The Domestic Violence Task Force is the only forum I participate in that brings together all of the agencies and service providers, including public officials, law enforcement, the district attorney's office and the City and County courts to address the lethal issue of domestic violence. Every time we attend a meeting we learn about a new resource or get critical information about the issue that helps inform our work.

—Survey Respondent

What the Task Force Means to Me...

I am psychotherapist in private practice. Each month I receive from three to six calls from LGBT victims and survivors of [intimate partner violence] and male rape, The majority of them have not reached out to any agency, organization, or other mental health provider out of concern/fear of how they will be treated. There are a number reasons for this, some real, some imagined . . . I do this for them, and for the others who never call anyone for the same reasons. And I do this for me because if I do not advocate for their needs I could not sit across from them in my office and not feel ashamed.

—Survey Respondent



The Clothesline Project, which collects T-shirts decorated by victims of domestic violence, on display at Dallas Love Field Airport, October 2016.

Image: cmjsgates/twitter.com



Members of the Domestic Violence Task Force pose with the Dallas City Council after receiving the Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation, October 2017.

Image: cmjsgates/twitter.com

Detailed Analysis of Agency Metrics

Lead researchers Dr. Denise Paquette Boots and Dr. Timothy Bray met quarterly with Executive Committee partners on the Task Force. In addition, one or both of them attended all general Task Force meetings over the past annual reporting year. Together, these researchers oversaw the creation of this year's annual survey.

To streamline the monthly data collection of metrics for Executive Committee partners, a Google-based metric collection system was initiated by the research team as well. This facilitates monthly data entry and the ability of partners to revise monthly metrics without intervention or lost communications. Feedback during the general and Executive Committee meetings is critical to the research team in anticipating needs on the survey creation and launch and modifying measures to capture important information. The data collection from the Executive Committee partners in particular is key to providing a rich portrait of both needs and responses to domestic violence by Task Force partners.

In the following section, only Executive Committee partner metrics are presented. These include a wide variety of metrics on victim services, police, courts, and elected officials that have been collected over the past four years. Note that, in contrast, the additional section at the beginning of the annual report represents cumulative metrics from all Task Force partners. These Executive Committee members agreed to provide monthly data across a large number of key variables, thereby permitting a more detailed inspection of monthly trends versus the generalized annual data. The domestic violence shelters, Dallas Police Department, the Dallas County District Attorney, the Dallas City Attorney, Dallas courts, and City of Dallas elected officials provided the data for this year's report that follows.

Shelters

The shelter metrics in this section provide detailed monthly information from four nonprofit organizations in Dallas that serve on the Executive Committee: Genesis Women's Shelter & Support, Mosaic Family Services, The Salvation Army, and The Family Place. The majority of the population assisted by the four shelters were women and children, a demographic group that historically tends to have higher needs for shelter (National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 2016). Note that only four shelter partners are reporting here, rather than the five that reported data for the general survey portion of this report. Therefore, these metrics cannot necessarily be combined or compared to the general Task Force metrics presented earlier. Just as in previous annual reports, the detailed metrics from these four shelter agencies include: (a) reported capacity in rooms, (b) number unserved due to lack of space, (c) average monthly capacity, (d) average nightly emergency population, and (e) average nightly transitional population. Also, beginning this year, the report will provide the total number served each month.

Reported Capacity in Rooms

Table 5, like Table 3, reports the combined capacity total from the Executive Committee Task Force shelter members. *On-site* again refers to the capacity available to house domestic violence victims within a facility that is owned, operated,

Table 5. Number of On-Site Rooms Available, 2017–18

	Emergency	Transitional
Women & Children	64	66
Men & Children	7	4
Total	71	70

and managed by the organization itself. As covered in the general shelter reporting section, the report no longer provides capacity that is outside an organization's direct control. Like in the general Task Force section on rooms, capacity can further be broken down into emergency shelter and transitional housing. An *emergency shelter* is defined here as one that provides victims of domestic violence with immediate and short-term shelter directly after an incident has occurred. *Transitional housing* is defined as one that provides long-term housing assistance to clients, as well as subsidized housing and services to rebuild clients' lives after leaving an abusive relationship.

For the 2017–18 reporting period, the total on-site emergency capacity for all victims was 71 rooms; this includes 64 rooms for women and children, and seven rooms for men and children. The four shelters also reported a total of 70 rooms for transitional housing. These totals included 66 rooms for women and children, and four rooms for men and children.

On-site emergency shelter capacity for women and children increased by 25%, from 51 to 64 rooms. Rooms for men increased six-fold, from one to seven. This increase is attributed to The Family Place opening their new male shelter on

May 8, 2017. This is the first shelter for male victims of domestic violence and their children of any age in Texas. It has filled an important gap that was identified in previous annual reports. The Family Place also opened a new shelter for females and children in August of 2017, further increasing capacity. With so few rooms available, even modest expansions by shelter partners can produce big returns. More funding is needed.

Total Clients Served

As noted earlier, this year's report contributes the number served each month by the four Executive Committee shelter partners. As Figure 9 depicts, the shelters have seen a fairly constant increase in the numbers served year-over-year. During the 2017–18 reporting cycle, shelters served a monthly average of 485 clients on-site. This is an 18% annual increase from 2016–17's average of 409, and a 29% annual increase over 2015–16's average of 376. Overall, these four shelters provided on-site service to roughly 5,815 victims and their children.

Unserved Due to Lack of Space

Figure 10 presents the data on the monthly number of victims seeking shelter who were unserved. From June 2017 through May 2018, the



Figure 9. Total Served On-Site, 2017–18

TOTAL UNSERVED DUE TO LACK OF SPACE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHELTER PARTNERS, 2014–18



Figure 10. Total Unserved Due to Lack of Space, 2014–18

Executive Committee shelter partners turned away a total of 13,378 women, children, and men due to a lack of space. This represents a 68% increase from the previous reporting period, which saw 7,950 clients unserved due to space. It is notable that there has been a sharp increase in demand of services, and this year's figure tops the previous high of 10,154 that went unserved in 2015–16. The month of September 2017 saw the highest monthly number of victims unserved at 1,357, a number larger than 2017–18 monthly average of 1,134. The monthly trends have remained largely consistent over the years, although the 2017–18 numbers were much larger when compared to the same month in previous years.

While the number of unserved victims is higher this year than in years past, the reasons behind this increase are unknown at this time. It could be that shelters simply cannot keep up with the constantly rising population and demands for domestic violence services in the Dallas area. Recall that this increase occurred even when shelters expanded their room capacities in 2017. Since there is no identifying information reported for the victims, it is not possible to know if some of the numbers have been duplicated. For instance, if the same victim was turned away at multiple sites, each site would report the person as unserved and inflate the unserved number count.

This issue has been cited as a concern in previous published reports that urged caution in interpreting the numbers presented. With that being said, shelter providers have noted that the number of potential duplicates may be decreasing as adoption of the new Google Docs platform increases.

It is possible that the rise in number of victims turned away, especially in September 2017, could be due to Hurricane Harvey, which displaced many people along the Texas coast. Shelter partners reported that they had an increase in the number of people seeking placement who were forced to relocate due to the hurricane and subsequent emergency evacuation. This natural disaster created high unexpected demand for victims who may not have stayed in the Dallas area but still had a need for emergency shelter.

This metric regarding the number of victims left unserved is a vital piece of the picture of domestic violence victim needs for services, yet it is important to remember that many victims do not seek shelter (Kim & Gray, 2008).

Victims might not seek emergency shelter for a number of reasons: their abuser leaves, they have a safe place to stay with friends or family, or they leave the area and find shelter somewhere else. Victim transportation services can play an important role in relocating victims to other safe

communities. There is still a great need in Dallas. Some victims also opt to stay with their abusers because they feel they have no viable options, are too terrified to leave, are overwhelmed with issues such as joint custody of children or family pressures to stay in an abusive environment, or are financially dependent on their abuser.

These are just a few reasons that victims might not seek shelter from a nonprofit. The complexities of the decision to leave an abusive relationship are well documented in both empirical research and the clinical realities of shelters that provide support and outreach services for victims as they heal. Toward that end, the nonresidential components of the shelter providers' programs are critical in addressing the needs of domestic violence victims and providing critical outreach services within the community. To help address these needs, Mosaic Family Services received funding to open a fully licensed daycare center on-site that will open in January 2019.

Average Monthly Capacity

Figure 11 depicts the average monthly facility capacity for the four reporting shelters. Overall, the 2017–18 reporting period saw an average

Access to childcare has always been one of the primary barriers for our survivors, and this funding makes it possible for us to offer a new service to our survivors to alleviate the burden.

—Survey Respondent

capacity use of 98%, representing a 1-percentage-point increase from the previous reporting period. It is notable that from June to September 2017, average monthly capacity never fell below 99%. Both July 2017 and April 2018 saw an average use of 100%. For all years, shelter capacity remains close to 100% in November and December, though it fell to 94% in November 2017. In totality, the demand continues to exceed the capacity; this is evidenced by the number of unserved victims who could not find placement, as discussed in the previous section. Shelter and support partners have repeatedly voiced a need for more funding to meet both short- and long-term housing and safety needs of victims in Dallas. The metrics each year provide further support for these claims with concrete numbers across key partners providing domestic violence services in the community.

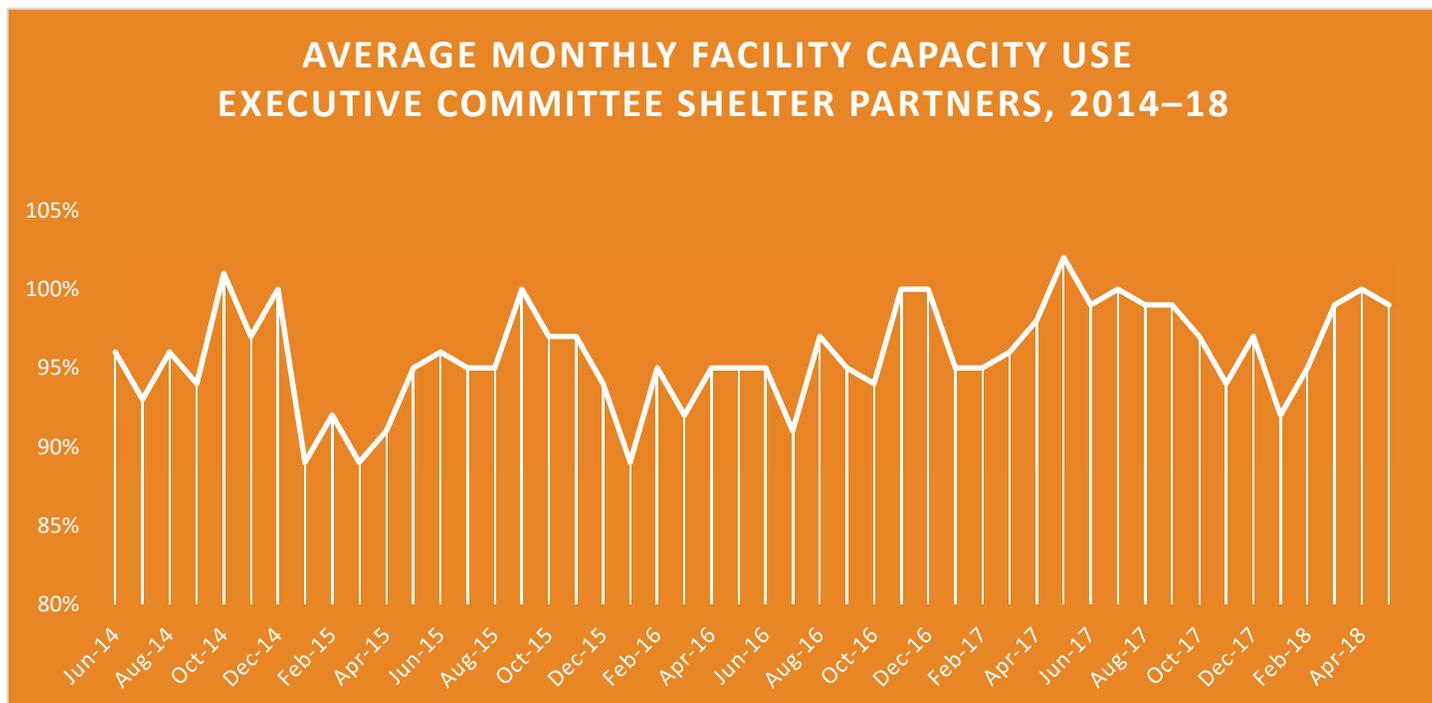


Figure 11. Average Monthly Facility Capacity Use, 2014–18

These data demonstrate the persistent and ongoing high demand for rooms and beds for all shelters. Yet there are critical subtleties regarding the interpretation of data across the various shelter partners that warrant caution when interpreting these metrics. For example, although these numbers provide insight into capacity, differing shelter policies related to how victims are housed create challenges for interpretation. Without question, continued funding to help address the needs of all vulnerable populations is warranted.

Average Nightly Emergency Population

Figure 12 presents the average nightly emergency shelter populations, for both on- and off-site, from the four Executive Committee reporting shelters. While other areas have omitted off-site counts, they are included here to maintain the historical trend data over the last 4 years. The average monthly number of victims in emergency shelters was 332 in the 2017–18 reporting cycle. This represents a robust 35% increase from the previous year's monthly average of 246 victims, or 86 additional victims per month in 2017–18. This is the second year in a row in which Dallas has seen an increase in the average nightly emergency population of at least 35%.

The ability to accommodate this growth can be attributed to the opening of The Family Place's new shelter, accommodating adult women, their children, and their pets.

Average Nightly Transitional Population

In addition to providing emergency shelter for victims, shelter partners also provided transitional housing services. These transitional services included long-term housing, job training, financial education, and counseling support for victims, all aimed at helping survivors reestablish healthy lives and avoid homelessness. These victims in transitional housing have varied needs depending on their circumstances. As a result of the control and social isolation their abusers exert over them, many victims are unable to form social ties or work outside the home prior to seeking safe haven (Kim & Gray, 2008). Moreover, many clients in transitional housing are still in grave danger. In some cases, the abuser has not been arrested, and in others, the victim and abuser are still engaged in active criminal or civil legal cases. Both these scenarios present a serious danger to the victim. As a result of these factors, sufficient long-term transitional housing is a vital component of care and healing for victims. All the shelter partners identified the

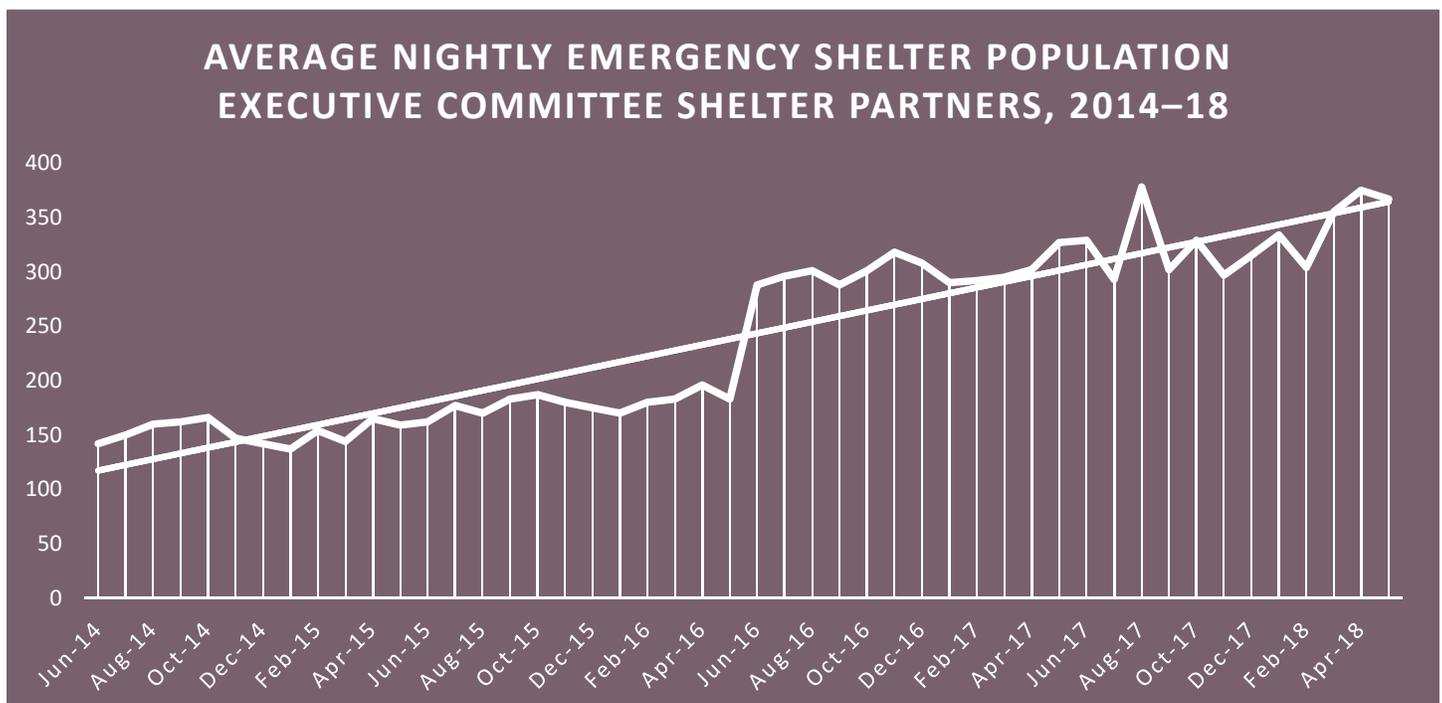


Figure 12. Average Nightly Emergency Shelter Population, 2014–18

AVERAGE NIGHTLY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING POPULATION, ON- AND OFF-SITE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHELTER PARTNERS, 2014–18



Figure 13. Average Nightly Transitional Shelter Population, 2014–18

need for trauma-informed care and programming that is survivor focused. Victims who receive transitional housing services are frequently long-term clients or patients, with services provided from several months to years, depending on the unique needs of the victim and the capacity of the shelter provider.

Figure 13 presents the average nightly transitional population for the four shelters. The average monthly number of victims in transitional housing for the current reporting period was 155. This represents a decrease from the previous reporting year by an average of seven victims a month, or a 4% decrease. This marks the second year of declines in the average nightly population in transitional shelter. While the immediate cause remains unseen, these modest decreases do not offset the robust increases seen in the average nightly emergency shelter population.

Dallas County shelter partners play an invaluable role in combating domestic violence for adult and child victims, thereby contributing to the health and success of the greater Dallas community. Continuing funding for these nonprofits combined with the high level of cooperation among partners on the Task Force enables these organizations to leverage precious resources in their efforts to stop domestic violence. The

ongoing need for more resources to provide transitional housing space and long-term outreach support were highlighted several times throughout the survey by Executive Committee shelter partners as an area of critical focus for future development.

Programmatic Advances Among Executive Committee Shelter and Outreach Providers

As stated earlier in this report, Mosaic Family Services was selected as one of the beneficiaries of The Crystal Charity Ball in 2018; this generous funding will fund a fully licensed daycare center on-site for parents who have appointments to receive services at their main shelter. Access to childcare has always been one of the primary barriers for victims, and this funding makes it possible for Mosaic to offer a new service to their clients to alleviate the burden. The funding and programming will start in January 2019. Due to this and other funding, Mosaic has been able to expand other programs and office space, enabling them to reach more victims. Despite these gains, Mosaic simultaneously reported that they had to decrease their legal staff and the number of new legal cases that they could accept. They continue

to see an increase in victims seeking services that overwhelms their current capacity in all their programs.

The Family Place reported a significant increase in the mental health needs of clients, including children, which has led them to introduce dedicated mental health staff within their emergency shelter.

The Family Place has initiated progressive policies and procedures to serve transgender victims within their shelter. They report:

Preoperative transgender victims may experience difficulty in shelters that serve victims who are biologically the opposite sex. For example, a transgender preoperative female for female victims and their children may still be viewed as "male" by victims in the shelter, which can be a trigger for both. At The Family Place, we place victims according to how they choose to identify. If this creates a concern for either party, we can place the transgender victim in their own room at their request.

Similarly, the other shelter partners echoed concern regarding LGBTQ+ populations who face discrimination and micro-aggressions, be they from service providers, other victims, law enforcement, the judicial system, or the community at large.

Genesis Women's Shelter and Support reports that they now provide lethality assessment follow-up and check-in within 48 hours of the initial call to their hotline. In addition, they have adjusted their eligibility guidelines to lower the barriers for accepting domestic violence clients into emergency shelter and transitional housing. They also report changing programmatic and outreach services, such as meeting times, group offerings, and advocacy services, to be more flexible and accessible to their clients. Genesis

continues to coordinate training on innovative, trauma-informed care to their staff. Likewise, they continue to revise policies and protocols to provide a global, trauma-informed perspective of care.

In addition, Genesis hosted the 13th annual Conference on Crimes Against Women [CCAW]. As one of the premiere conferences on violence against women for practitioners who work in law enforcement, advocacy, legal, and medical fields, roughly 2,000 registrants from the United States and across the world attended it. In 2018 Genesis also announced the acceptance of applications for CCAW's new training program within the Institute for Coordinated Community Response. Supported by the W. W. Caruth, Jr. Foundation and the Moody Foundation, the institute provides a full year of training, resources, networking, and technical assistance to selected rural, under-resourced Texas counties that are motivated to improve their systemic response to domestic violence via the creation of a coordinated community response team. This fellow program is offered at no cost to participants, and comprised of teams of prosecutors, law enforcement officers, and victim advocates.

The Salvation Army reports a significant rise in the number of high-need individuals who have serious behavioral health needs and present with many barriers. Their program manager is working with their care team to ensure equal access to services regardless of the severity of the victim's barriers. Toward this end, their advocates are receiving additional training and staff support for this transition in practice to succeed. Their program is focusing on culturally competent care and services, while overcoming bias, specifically for transgender individuals, which can be partly mitigated through continuous community awareness and sensitivity training.

Cumulatively, the Task Force partners continue to provide services that complement each other and meet specific needs in the community. As one partner aptly noted,

It is important to have a coordinated, collaborative, and multidisciplinary response to family violence prevention and intervention; no one person, agency, or government can do it alone.

Police Response

Domestic Violence Offenses, Arrests, and Case Filings

As the largest law enforcement agency in Dallas County, DPD is an important partner on the general Task Force and Executive Committee. At over 120 years old, DPD today has more than 3,000 sworn and 570 civilian workers.

Since 2015 DPD has experienced significant organizational and leadership changes that have had a profound impact on the Domestic Violence Unit. Over the last 3 years, the Domestic Violence Unit has experienced a great deal of turnover with its command staff and detectives as well. As the 2017–18 reporting year began, the unit found itself with eight detective vacancies and one sergeant vacancy. Over the following 2 months, additional vacancies resulted from temporary reassignments to personnel and communications and retirements. By August the vacancies had been filled, though one sergeant would not return from medical leave until November.

In December Chief Hall implemented a new command structure, relocating the Domestic Violence Unit from the Special Investigations Division to the Investigations Division. In February the department changed its staffing policy, requiring detectives in the Domestic Violence Unit to fully staff evening and weekend shifts. Twelve detectives and one sergeant were reassigned to evening shifts, and eight detectives and two sergeants had days off reconfigured to accommodate schedule changes. During the following month, one detective retired and three others transferred due to conflicts with working evenings.

During the 2017–18 reporting year, DPD implemented an innovative High Risk Offender Program (HROP). The program is staffed by an HROP detective and an HROP coordinator—a case worker from The Family Place. All cases deemed high risk by the HROP detective and coordinator are packaged and presented to the HROP Team each month. Upon acceptance into the program, each case receives, at a minimum, monthly visits to ensure the safety and needs of the victim and the integrity of the case are being met. At the end of April, the team was working on 23 cases. The team works together to ensure the victim is not re-offended by the suspect and that the case is properly adjudicated.

Over the past 4 years, DPD has provided detailed metrics to the Domestic Violence Task Force and been an invaluable member of the Executive Committee and general Task Force. For the 2017–18 reporting cycle, DPD gave detailed monthly metrics to the research team and regular updates to Task Force members throughout the year on the following items: (a) number of reported offenses determined to be domestic violence related; (b) domestic violence arrests, with a breakdown between misdemeanor and felony offenses; (c) family violence cases filed; (d) protective order violation offenses; and (e) family violence and intimate partner murders. DPD also provided retrospective data for variables of interest about the victims and offenders, and case-specific variables regarding intimate partner murders.

As shown in Figure 14, the number of reported offenses determined to be related to domestic violence peaked in 2016 at just over 16,000 calls, then decreased slightly to approximately 15,000 calls and has remained relatively consistent since. During the last reporting cycle, which runs from June 1, 2017, through May 31, 2018, DPD received 15,347 calls that were determined to be domestic violence related. That is nearly identical to the 15,566 received during the previous 12 months. Calls categorized as domestic violence related may be assigned to any unit, not only the Domestic Violence Unit. Moreover, this metric includes calls involving Class C misdemeanors

NUMBER OF REPORTED OFFENSES DETERMINED TO BE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-RELATED DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT, 2014–18



Figure 14. Number of Reported Offenses Determined to Be Domestic Violence Related, 2014–18

and miscellaneous incident reports that may involve domestic violence whether or not they generated a domestic violence incident report.

Note that calls to 9-1-1 may not be immediately classified as domestic violence related, as there are many offense codes that can have a domestic violence origin and require further examination. For instance, a 9-1-1 report of people fighting might later be determined to be domestic in origin. Likewise, a 9-1-1 report of a loud noise disturbance may, upon further investigation, be found to be a domestic violence complaint. Figure 14 shows that the month-to-month trend in domestic violence calls has remained largely consistent over the last 4 years. Over that time period, June of 2016 had the highest call volume with 1,477 calls determined to be domestic violence related. Over the last 2 reporting years, the month-to-month trends have been fairly similar with sharp declines in the month of February in both 2017 and 2018; similarly, a return to previous levels was reported in the following month or months in both years.

Case Filings

Over the past 4 years, DPD has filed 15,750 family violence cases. While the month-to-month trend shown in Figure 15 shows only a slight

upward trend for the 4-year period, the 2017–18 reporting cycle accounts for 4,379 cases, the most filed in any of the four reporting cycles. This represents a 24% increase from the 3,527 cases filed during the previous 12 months. In fact, the 2017–18 reporting cycle includes the three highest monthly totals since this report began. The highest total occurred in April 2018 when 458 cases were filed; this is followed by January 2018 in which 457 cases were filed and June 2017 when 435 cases were filed.

The increase in case filings comes despite significant fluctuations in staffing levels within the Domestic Violence Unit. In fact, the months with the highest levels of cases filed were actually months when the unit was either already short-handed or experienced a staff decline. That said, the implementation of automated case filings may account for the overall increase in filings for the year, as a whole.

Court orders of protection, commonly called protection orders, are documents that legally restrict the behavior of known or suspected domestic violence perpetrators. The provisions of these orders may include limitations to communication, distance to be maintained from the victim, and other stipulations specific to the case at hand. Protective order violations occur when a

NUMBER OF FAMILY VIOLENCE CASES FILED DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT, 2014–18

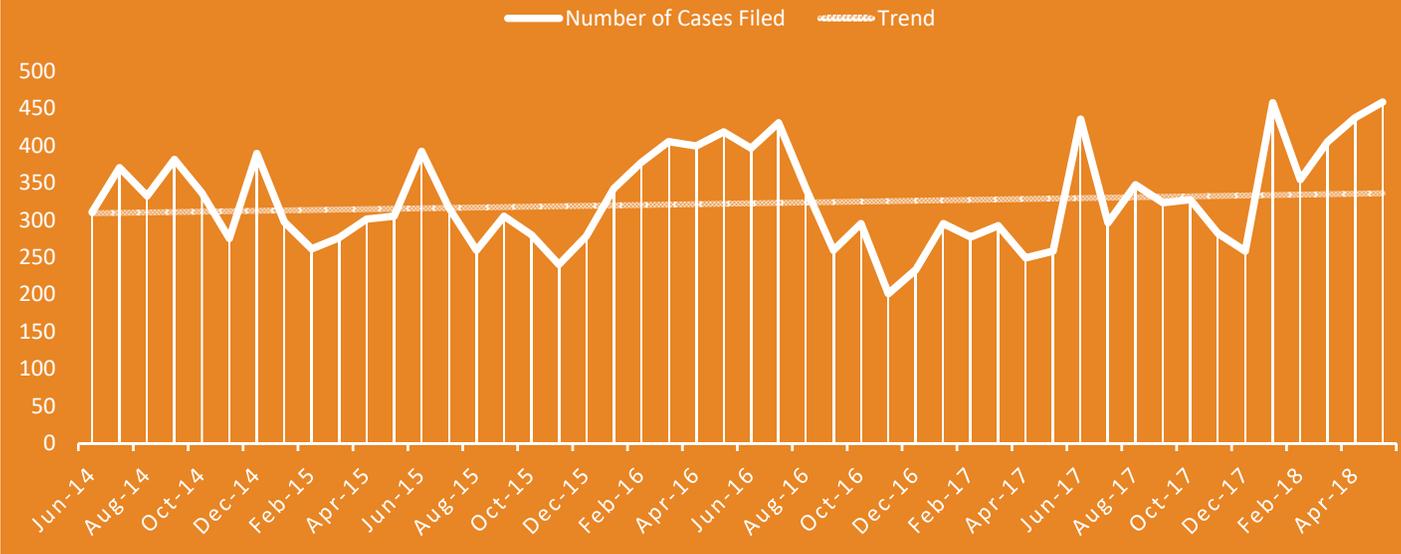


Figure 15. Number of Family Violence Cases Filed, 2014–18

perpetrator violates the requirements of the order. Over the past 4 years, DPD reported 757 protective order violations, 219 of which occurred during the 2017–18 reporting period. This represents a 4% increase from the 211 violations reported during 2016–17 and a 23% increase compared to the 178 violations reported during the 2015–16 reporting period. Figure 16 provides the month-to-month variation in the reports filed. During the 2017–18 reporting year, the highest number of violations

reported in a single month was 23, which occurred in both March and April of 2018. Across all 4 years of data, March of 2017 marked the high pointed violations.

Misdemeanor and Felony Arrests

Figure 17 presents the consistent decrease in the number of misdemeanor domestic violence arrests reported by DPD, with the solid line linking

NUMBER OF PROTECTIVE ORDER VIOLATION OFFENSES DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT, 2014–18

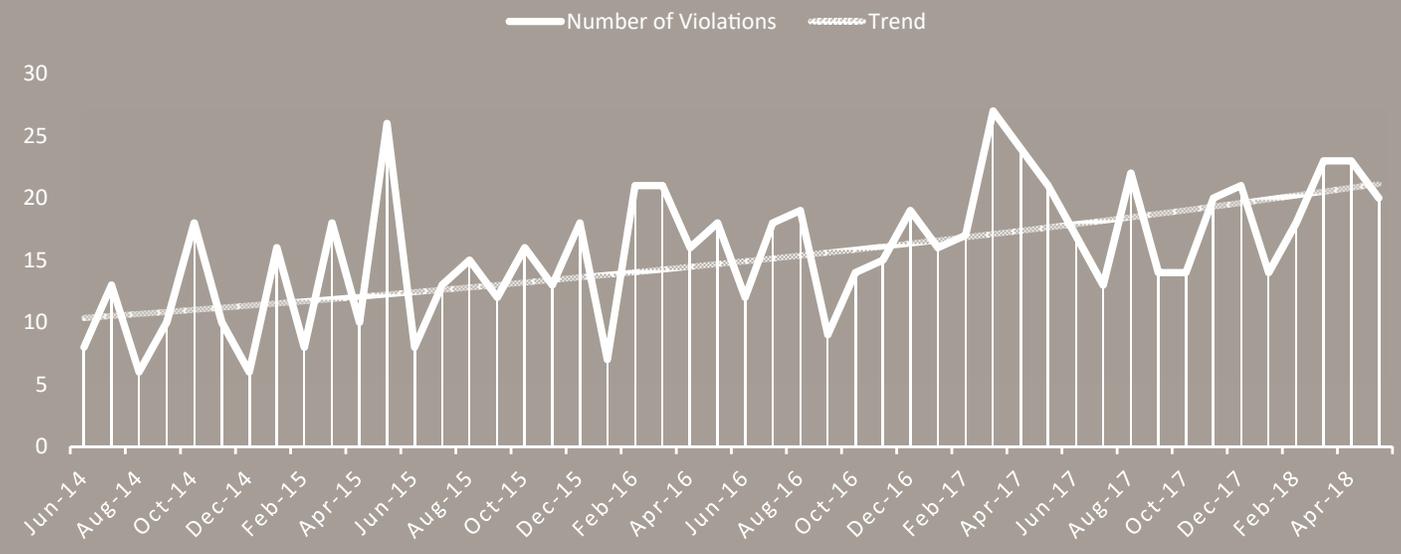


Figure 16. Number of Protective Order Violation Offenses, 2014–18

NUMBER OF MISDEMEANOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ARRESTS DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT, 2014–18

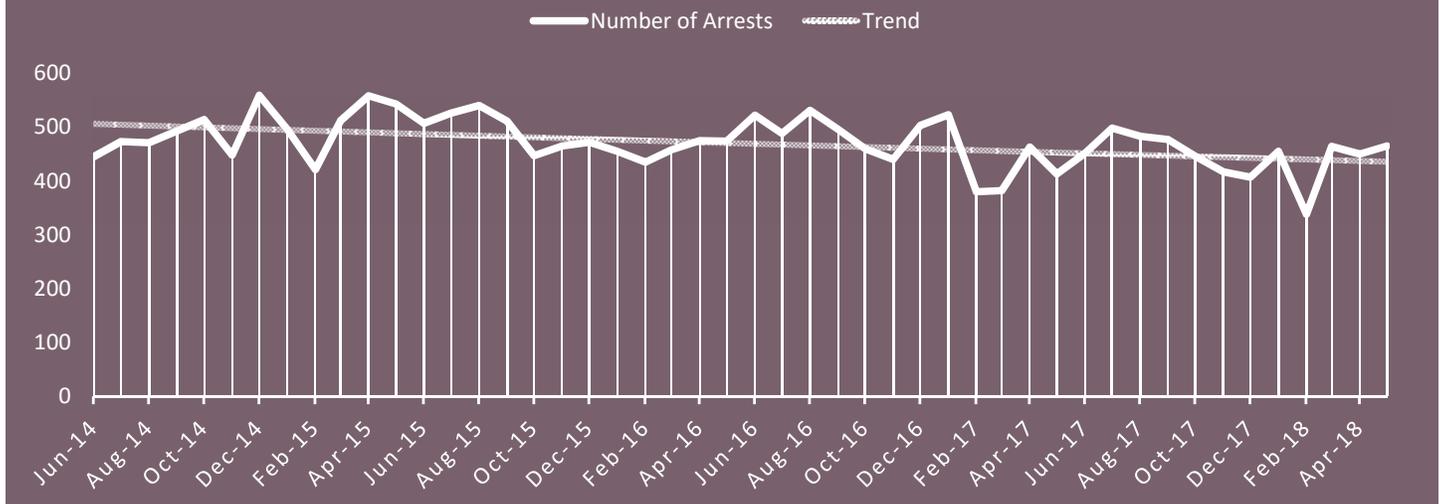


Figure 17. Number of Misdemeanor Domestic Violence Arrests, 2014–18

monthly totals. Over the previous 4 years, DPD made 22,650 arrests on misdemeanor domestic violence charges. The current period has had the largest decline in misdemeanor arrests since this report started (2014), with 5,351 misdemeanor domestic violence arrests, 250 fewer arrests. The rate of decrease of misdemeanor arrests for the period has been 5%, which is a slight increase when compared to the 3% decline reported during the previous cycles. Furthermore, February saw the lowest number of misdemeanor arrests by DPD for both the 2016–17 and 2017–18 reporting periods, with 380 and 338 arrests, respectively. Similarly, there was a dip in the number of reported offenses via 9–1–1 calls as well as protective orders sought during these months (see Figure 14 on page 31 and Figure 16 on page 32). The month of July 2017 recorded the highest number of arrests at 498, whereas last year it took place in August with 531 arrests.

Figure 18 shows the number of felony domestic violence arrests in 2014–18. This figure depicts an overall table trend in felony arrests (indicated by the dotted line). However, in 2017–18, DPD reported the highest number of felony arrests yet at 1,754, which indicates a 14% increase from last year's 1,545 arrests. Over the last 4 years, DPD has reported 6,422 felony domestic violence arrests. When considering the monthly distribution, the

month of October showed 162 detentions. This number represents a 10% rise from the previous high of 147 arrests reported in January of 2016–17.

To represent the true volume of domestic violence arrests, Figure 19 presents the total number of arrests by the level of charge (misdemeanor versus felony) for June of 2014 through May of 2018. Misdemeanors are presented in blue and felonies in orange. Each month, the DPD makes between 458 and 649 arrests for misdemeanors and felony domestic violence. This is roughly 18 domestic violence arrests every day of the year.

Lethality Assessment Program

In 2012 DPD received a grant to implement the Domestic Violence Lethality Assessment developed by the Maryland Model (Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence, 2017). The instrument assesses the likelihood of lethal violence based on 11 protective factors, and is an evidence-based instrument considered a best practice for increasing victim safety and preventing intimate partner homicides. These lethality assessments represent a critical tool for DPD in reducing the likelihood of domestic homicides and identifying high-risk cases within the community once they are reported to police. The lethality assessments

NUMBER OF FELONY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ARRESTS DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT, 2014–18

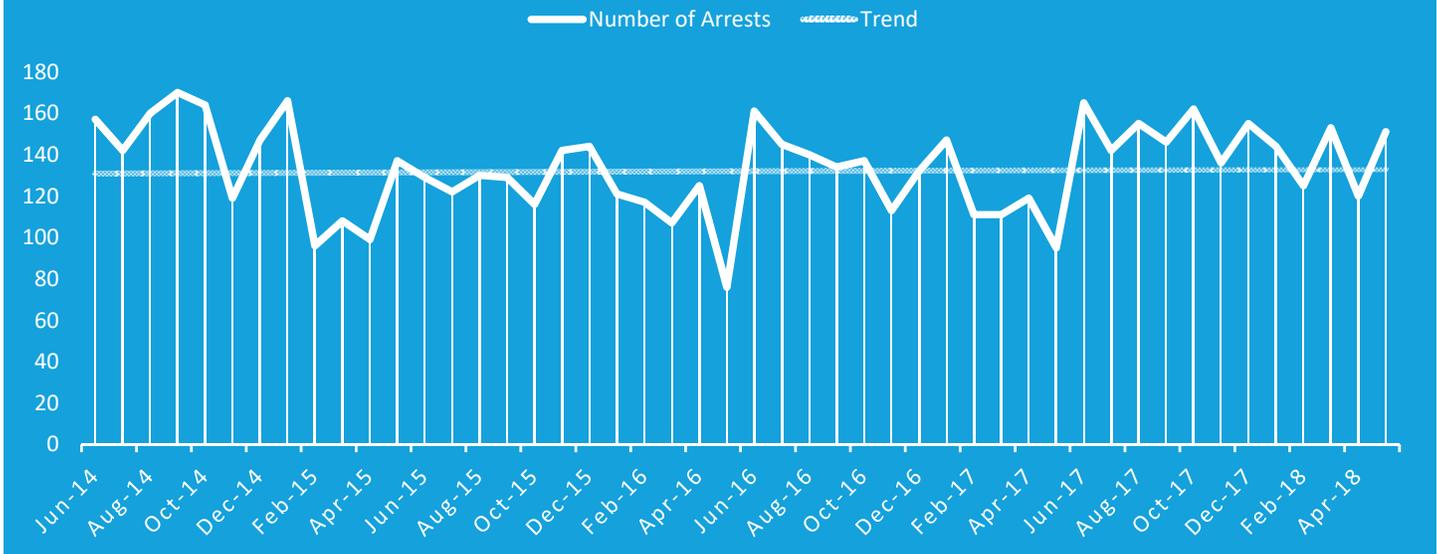


Figure 18. Number of Felony Domestic Violence Arrests, 2014–18

Number of Arrests for Domestic Violence by Level of Charge Dallas Police Department, 2014–18

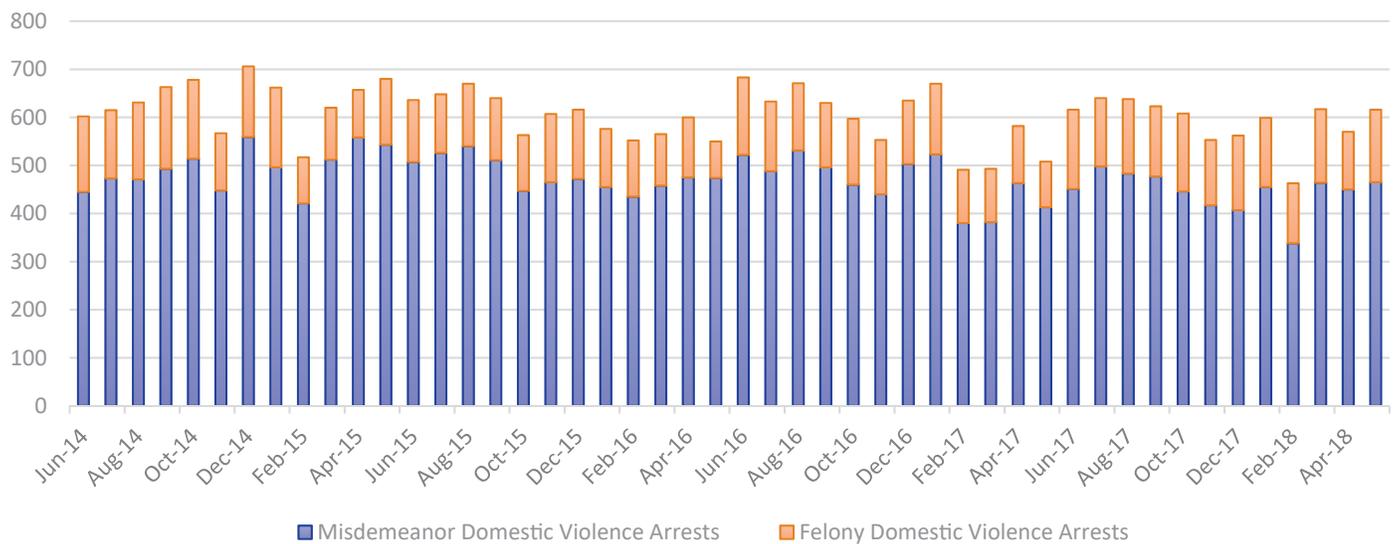


Figure 19. Number of Domestic Violence Arrests by Level of Charge, 2014–18

are conducted as part of the Domestic Violence Supplement Packet for calls related to intimate partner violence (see Appendix A).

Figure 20 presents the month-to-month trend of completed lethality assessments. DPD conducted 19,576 lethality assessments since first providing data on this metric 3 years ago; DPD conducted 6,363 lethality assessments, which is up 5% from 2016–17. The month of July accounted

for the highest number of lethality assessments completed (636), while February had the lowest (395) for 2016–17. Overall, Figure 20 shows a gradual decrease from the high seen in 2015 over the 3-year period of lethality assessments conducted. It should be noted that the decline is slowing.

Using data indicators from the lethality assessment tool, which are administered by responding officers, DPD seeks to identify domestic violence

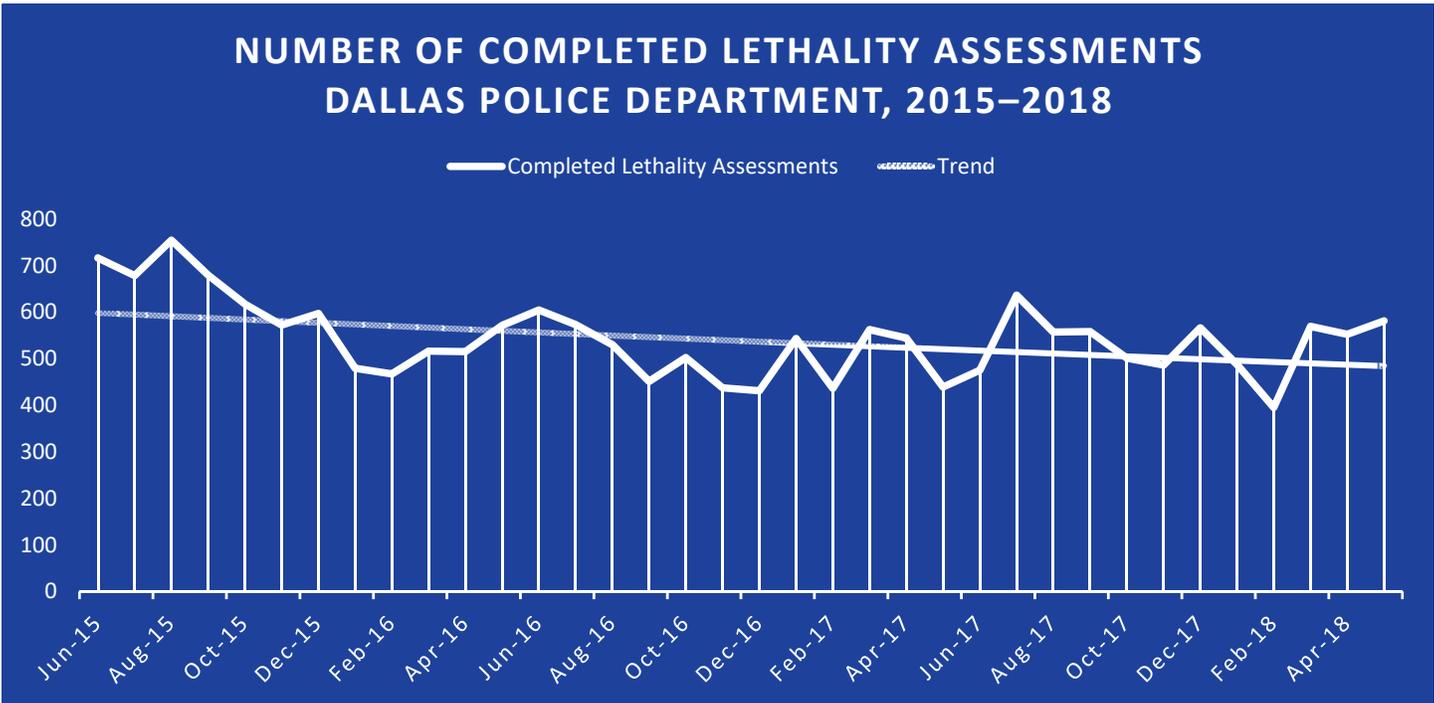


Figure 20. Number of Completed Lethality Assessments, 2015–18

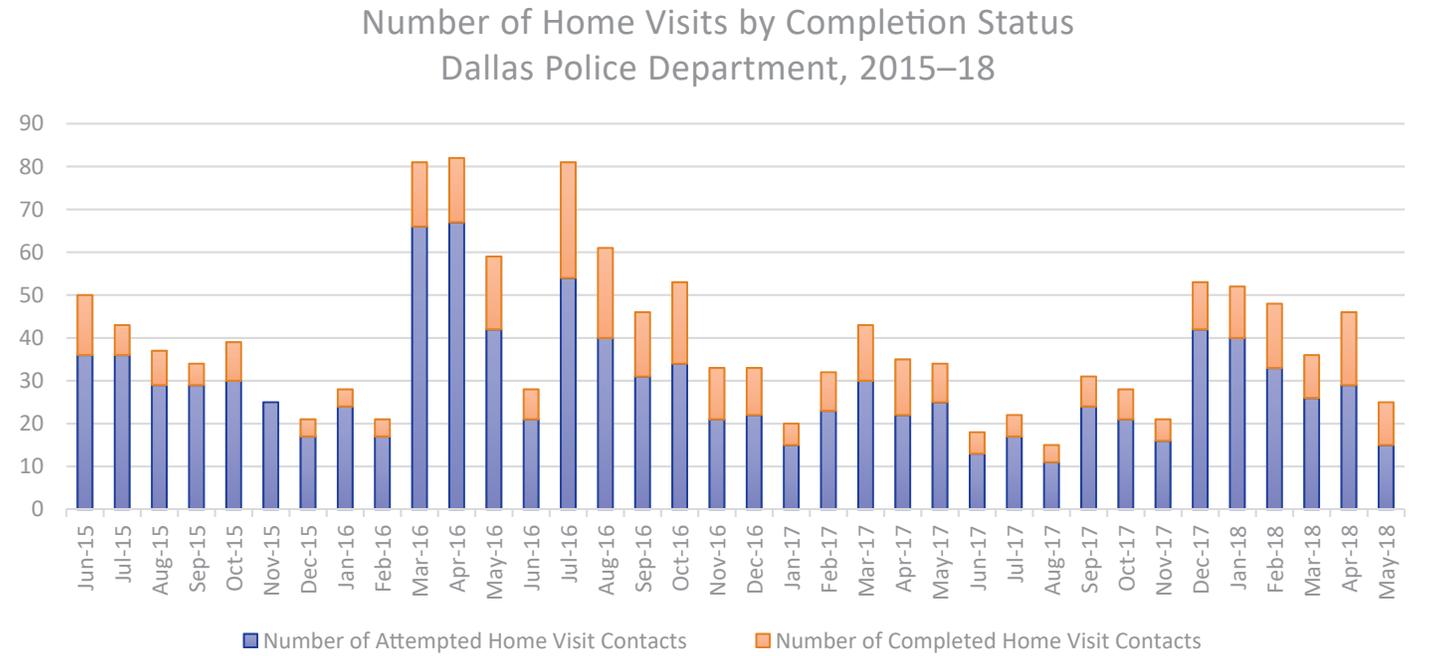


Figure 21. Number of Home Visits by Completion Status, 2015–18

victims who are at higher risk for lethal violence. Domestic Violence Unit detectives subsequently follow up with these victims by conducting a home visit where they can assess safety, discuss the facts of the case, and offer information on community resources.

Figure 21 illustrates the total monthly number of attempted home visit contacts and total monthly number of completed home visit contacts

across the past 3 years. During the 2017–18 reporting cycle, there was an overall drop in both the number of attempted and completed home visits. DPD attempted 287 home visits, which is a 15% decrease from 2016–17 (338). Of those attempted, 108 were completed, which represents a 33% drop in the number of completed visits from last year’s 161. The percentage of home visits that resulted

in successful contact with the victim diminished as well, dropping from 47% in 2016–17 to just 38% in 2017–18.

In sum, the department saw the number of attempted visits decrease by 33%, and the success of those visits decrease by 47%. Both decreases merit additional consideration. Although DPD was hopeful last year that visitations would rise, the addition of a high-risk victim coordinator and staffing changes did not produce anticipated results.

The leadership in the Domestic Violence Unit reported moving aggressively toward filling vacancies to provide additional personnel, which should have a positive impact on the number of cases filed and home visits for the next reporting cycle. With increased staffing, the leadership within the unit expects that changes will be made in work schedules to be more aligned with victim availability.

Family Violence Murders

Figure 22 displays the monthly trend in the previous 4 years for all homicides between family members investigated by DPD. This figure presents monthly totals for family violence murders

occurring during each of the four reporting periods. One should note that, within this report, family violence murders comprise *all family-involved murders*, not just those committed by former or current intimate partners (these are disaggregated in the next section of the report). Over the past 4 years, 64 family violence murders have occurred within the city of Dallas. Since 2014, family violence murders have declined slightly: there were 21, 15, 16, and 12 murders, respectively. January (11), February (10), and March (10) saw the greatest number of family violence murders over the four-year period.

Intimate Partner Homicides

There have been 32 intimate partner (IP) homicides in the city of Dallas recorded since 2014, with 11, 6, 7, and 8 victims annually. Of the 12 family violence murders reported by DPD in 2017–18, two thirds (8 of 12) involved intimate partners. With eight victims killed by their partners in 2017–18, this is a slight increase from the previous year (seven). Figure 23 presents the month-to-month trend in these homicides and reveals that May and September are the only months without an intimate partner homicide since reporting began.

Number of Family Violence Murders by Month and Year
Dallas Police Department, 2014–18

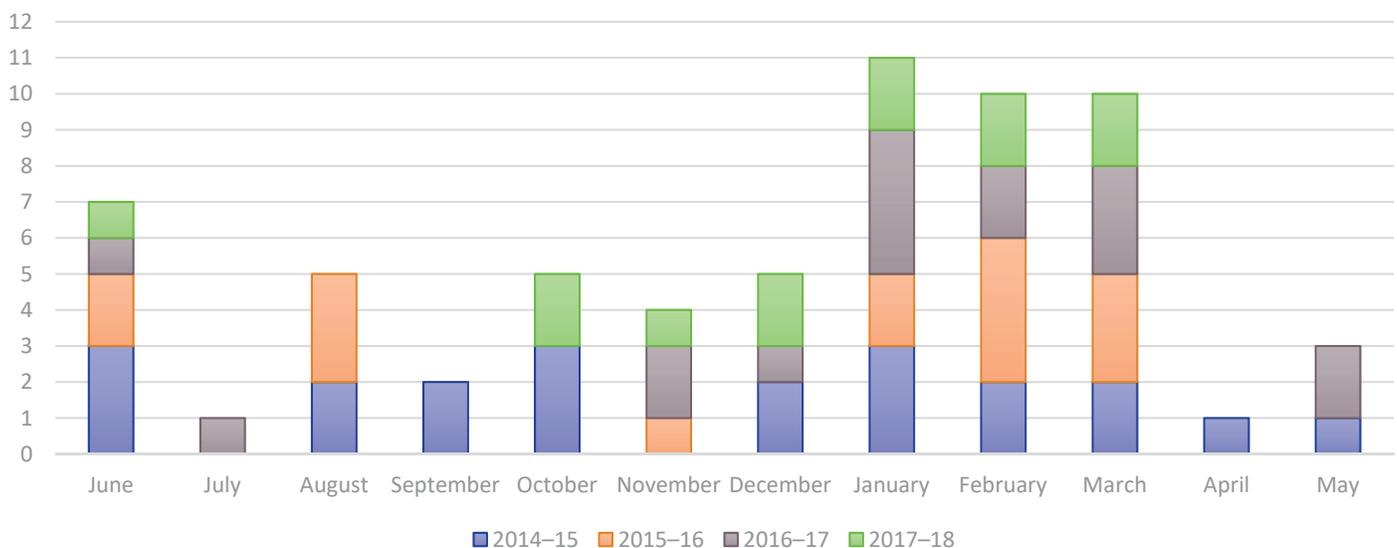


Figure 22. Number of Family Violence Murders by Month and Year, 2014–18

Number of Intimate Partner Murders by Month and Year Dallas Police Department, 2014–18

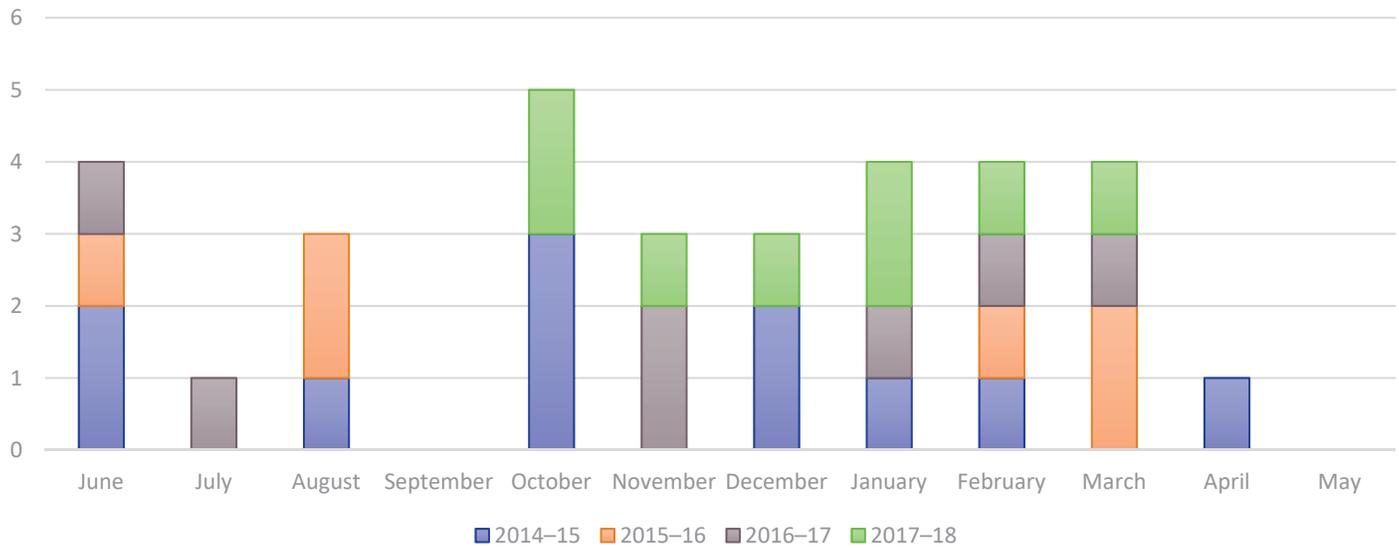


Figure 23. Number of Intimate Partner Murders by Month and Year, 2014–18

Figure 24 presents a schematic of the characteristics of the eight intimate partner homicide offenses committed between June of 2017 and May of 2018. Of the eight victims, seven were female, and one was male. Notably, all the female victims were Black, while the sole male victim was Latino. As in years past, intimate partner victims continue to be a burden born overwhelmingly by people of color.

All the victims were murdered by an opposite-sex intimate partner. One of the Black female victims was murdered by a White male; all other victims were murdered by someone of the same race or ethnicity as themselves. Seven of the homicides were committed with a handgun, while the eighth was committed without a weapon.

Depiction of Gender, Race/Ethnicity, and Relationship Status for Intimate Partner Homicides, Dallas Police Department, 2017-18

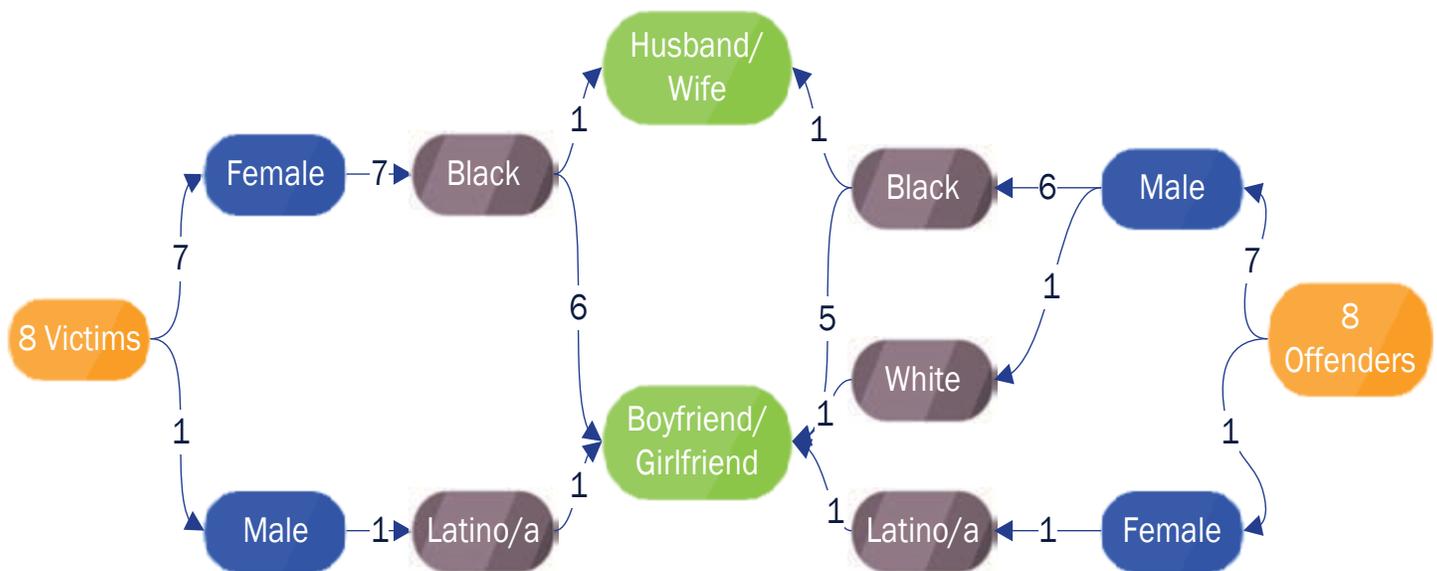


Figure 24. Intimate Partner Homicides by Race/Ethnicity, Gender, and Relationship, 2017–18

Table 6. Demographic Characteristics of Intimate Partner Homicide Victims and Offenders, 2014–18

Demographic Characteristics	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18
Total Offenses	11	6	7	8
Victim Demographics				
Average Age	39	44	40	30
Black	45%	67%	71%	88%
Latino/a	36%	17%	0%	13%
White	18%	17%	29%	0%
Male	18%	17%	57%	13%
Female	82%	83%	43%	88%
Average Number of Prior Victimizations	0.20	0.50	0.80	1.0
Offender Demographics				
Average Age	40	46	41	36
Black	64%	67%	71%	75%
Latino/a	36%	17%	14%	13%
White	0%	17%	14%	13%
Male	82%	83%	43%	88%
Female	18%	17%	57%	13%
Average Prior Offenses	11.0	7.50	11.0	

In keeping with last year's addition of presenting substantive victim-offender specific data, Table 6 presents the demographic characteristics across the combined 32 offenses involving intimate partner homicide victims and offenders. When considering the 4-year trends, some interesting similarities and differences were found. The average age of the victims has fallen to just 30 years of age, which is substantially younger than previous years (39, 44, and 40). The vast majority of victims continue to be Black—65% across all 4 years—and the 2017–18 reporting cycle is the first not to include any White victims. As expected, and keeping with national statistics on these crimes, females account for the majority of victims, except in 2016–17 when they were 43% of all victims. The 2017–18 reporting cycle returned to the trend with 7 of the 8 incidents involving a female victim. Prior victimization continues to rise, with the average perpetrator having one prior victimization on his or her record.

Similar to the age of the victims, the average offender age also decreased, but the gap between the average age of the offender and the

victim has widened. During the 2017–18 year, the average offender was 36 years old—6 years older than the average victims. This is the largest age gap reported over the last 4 years. The majority of offenders during those 12 months were Black males; there was one White male offender and one Latina offender. In 7 of the 8 cases the offender and victim were of the same race or ethnicity. This finding echoes national studies on violent crime, which show that more than one half of all violent victimizations are intra-racial (Morgan, 2017).

Turning to Table 7, these data show the intimate partner homicide types for each type of premises where these offenses occurred by reporting period. In keeping with prior research, victims were overwhelmingly targeted at their place of residence (75% of all victimizations), with 44% and 31% of all intimate partner homicides occurring in apartments or single-family homes across the 4-year period. In fact, in 2017–18 all the reported intimate partner homicides occurred in a residential setting.

Table 7. Intimate Partner Homicides by Type of Premises, 2014–18

Type of Premises	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	Total
Office	0%	17%	0%	0%	3%
Public Space	0%	17%	43%	0%	13%
Single Family	27%	17%	29%	50%	31%
Apartment	64%	17%	29%	50%	44%
Residential Common Space	9%	17%	0%	0%	6%
Open Field	0%	17%	0%	0%	3%
Total	11	6	7	8	32

Table 8. Intimate Partner Homicides by Sex of Victim and Weapon Type, 2014–18

Weapon Type	Male Victim	Female Victim	Total
Firearm	38%	85%	71%
Knife	38%	5%	14%
Hands / Fist / Feet	0%	5%	4%
Other Weapon	25%	5%	11%
Total	8	20	28

Table 8 portrays the breakdown of intimate partner homicides by sex of the victim and weapon type for the 28 intimate partner homicides for which type of weapon could be determined. Firearms were the weapon of choice for most intimate partner killers, with 71% using one. Knives, used in 14% of these murders, were the second most common weapon. Interesting variation can be seen by gender. Female victims are far more likely than males to be killed by a firearm (85% versus 38%). For male victims, the weapon use shows much more variance, with no single weapon type emerging as dominant.

Additionally, Table 9 offers information on the presence of witnesses to these intimate partner homicides. For the 22 intimate partner homicides for which the presence or absence of witnesses could be established by police, victims were killed without witnesses present in over three quarters of them.

Last, Figure 25 offers a comprehensive, detailed schematic overview of all 32 intimate partner homicides and their characteristics between June of 2014 and May of 2018. In this 4-year period, there were 24 female and eight male victims; proportionately, three fourths of the victims were females (75%). Of these 24 female intimate partner homicide victims, 16 were Black, five were Latina, and three were White. Again, with 88% of all victims being non-White, people of color, and in particular, women of color, are disproportionately killed by their partners. Twenty-three of these female homicide victims were killed by a current husband, common-law husband, or boyfriend, and one by an ex-husband. Of the eight males killed by intimate partners in the city of Dallas over the 4 years, five were Black, two were White, and one was Latino. All these victims were killed by their current or former wives, common-law wives, or girlfriends.

Table 9. Intimate Partner Homicides by Presence of Witnesses, 2014–18

Witnesses to Homicide	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	Total
None	82%	67%	80%	77%
One or More Witnesses	18%	33%	20%	23%
Total	11	6	5	22

Distribution of Intimate Partner Murder Victims
by Sex, Race/Ethnicity, and Relationship
Dallas Police Department, 2014-2018

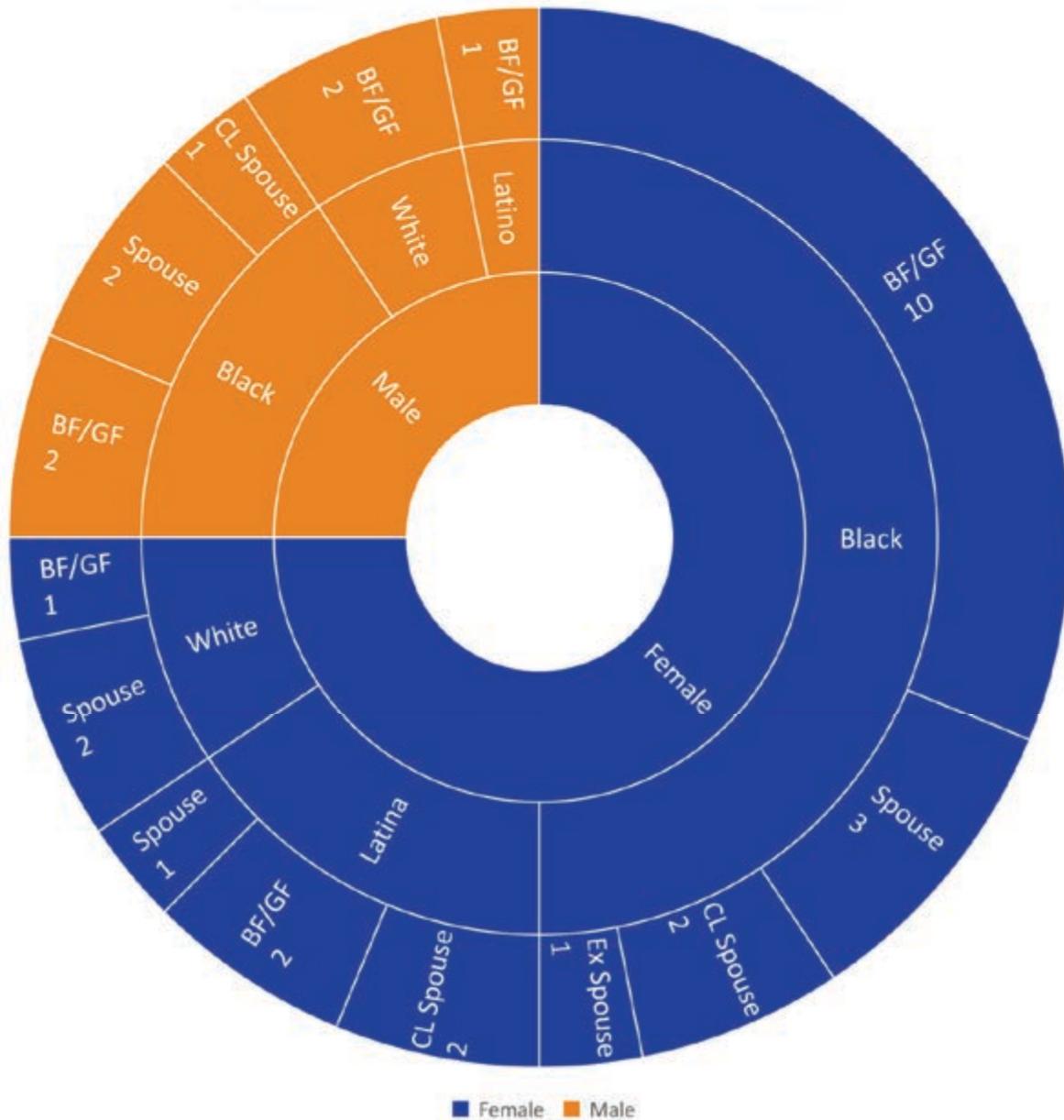


Figure 25. Intimate Partner Homicides by Race/Ethnicity, Gender, and Relationship, 2014-18

Some additional facts were made available regarding intimate partner homicides committed during the most recent reporting year. In 2 of the 8 cases, the offender is suspected of having been under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of the crime. Both cases involved Black male suspects using a firearm during the escalation of an argument; in both cases the victim was a Black female. In one case, the offender committed suicide in conjunction with the homicide; that offender was a White male, and his victim was

a Black female. Finally, in one case, the intimate partner homicide occurred in the presence of at least one child; the offender was a Black male, and his victim was his wife, a Black female.

Overall, while the number of intimate partner homicides had a slight increase this year, it remains relatively stable. Continuing to track and consider trends, similarities, and differences across the unique characteristics, offender-victim specific characteristics, and risk factors for

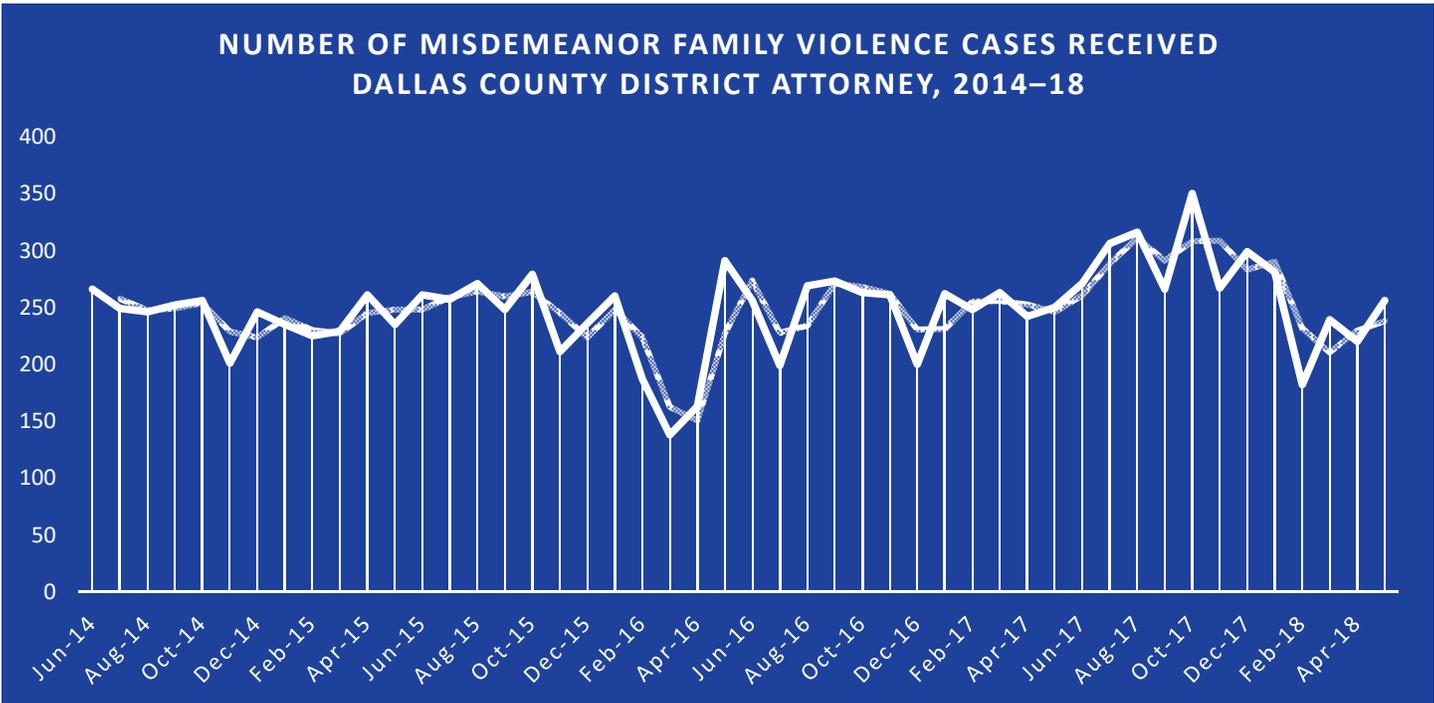


Figure 26. Number of Misdemeanor Family Violence Cases Received, 2014-18

intimate partner homicide victims is an important step in transparency, accountability, and reporting. While there were not the gains anticipated by DPD in home visits for high-risk victims, this annual report offers a chance for converging and complex details to be summarized and provides a guide for future policy to improve process and services.

Prosecution

Dallas County District Attorney's Office

Figure 26 presents the monthly number of misdemeanor family violence cases received by the Dallas County District Attorney's Office from June 2014 to May 2018. In the 2017-18 program year, the Dallas County District Attorney's office received 3,253 misdemeanor domestic violence cases, an increase of 9% from the previous year. On average, 249 cases were received each month from 2014 to 2018. A spike in the number of cases received occurred during July, August, and October of 2017, when more than 300 cases were received in each month. Figure 27 depicts the number of Class C misdemeanor family violence cases that were rejected each month from 2014

to 2018. On average, 245 cases were rejected each month in the 2017-18 program year, a decrease of 38% from the previous year.

Figure 28 shows the monthly number of felony family violence cases received from June 2014 to May 2018. The Dallas County District Attorney's Office reported receiving 3,225 felony domestic violence cases during the 2017-18 program year, an increase of 9% from the previous year. On average, 240 cases were received per month from 2014 to 2018. This metric involves only intimate partner violence cases and excludes other forms of family violence committed by siblings, parents, or other relatives.

Figure 29 reports the number of felony family violence cases rejected by the Dallas County District Attorney's Office from June 2014 to May 2018. In the 2017-18 reporting year, the office rejected 88 family violence cases, compared to 90 in 2016-17, 107 in 2015-16, and 105 in 2014-15. On average, seven felony family violence cases were rejected each month in 2017-18, compared to eight in 2016-17 and nine each in 2015-16 and 2014-15.

Figure 30 illustrates the total number of family violence cases that were indicted or determined as no-bill by the grand jury. Of the total number of felony family violence cases received by the

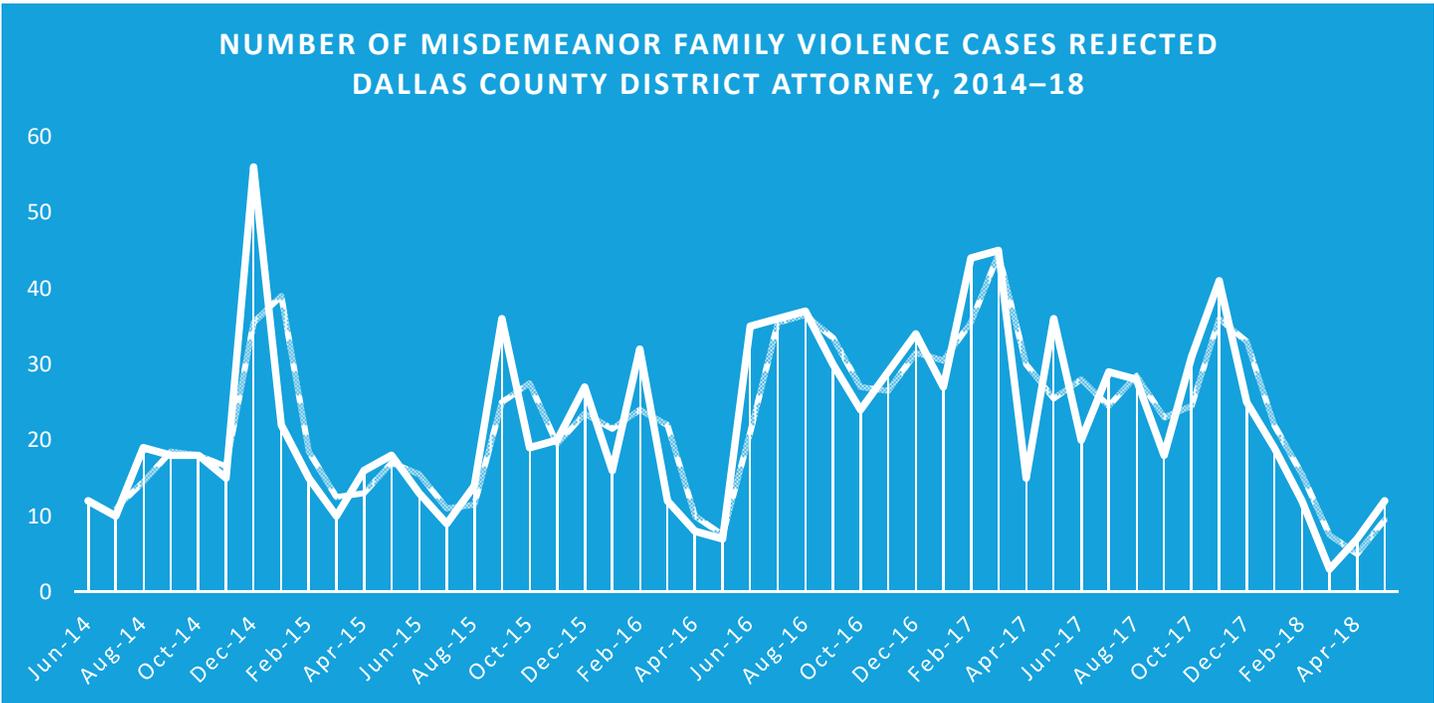


Figure 27. Number of Misdemeanor Family Violence Cases Rejected, 2014–18

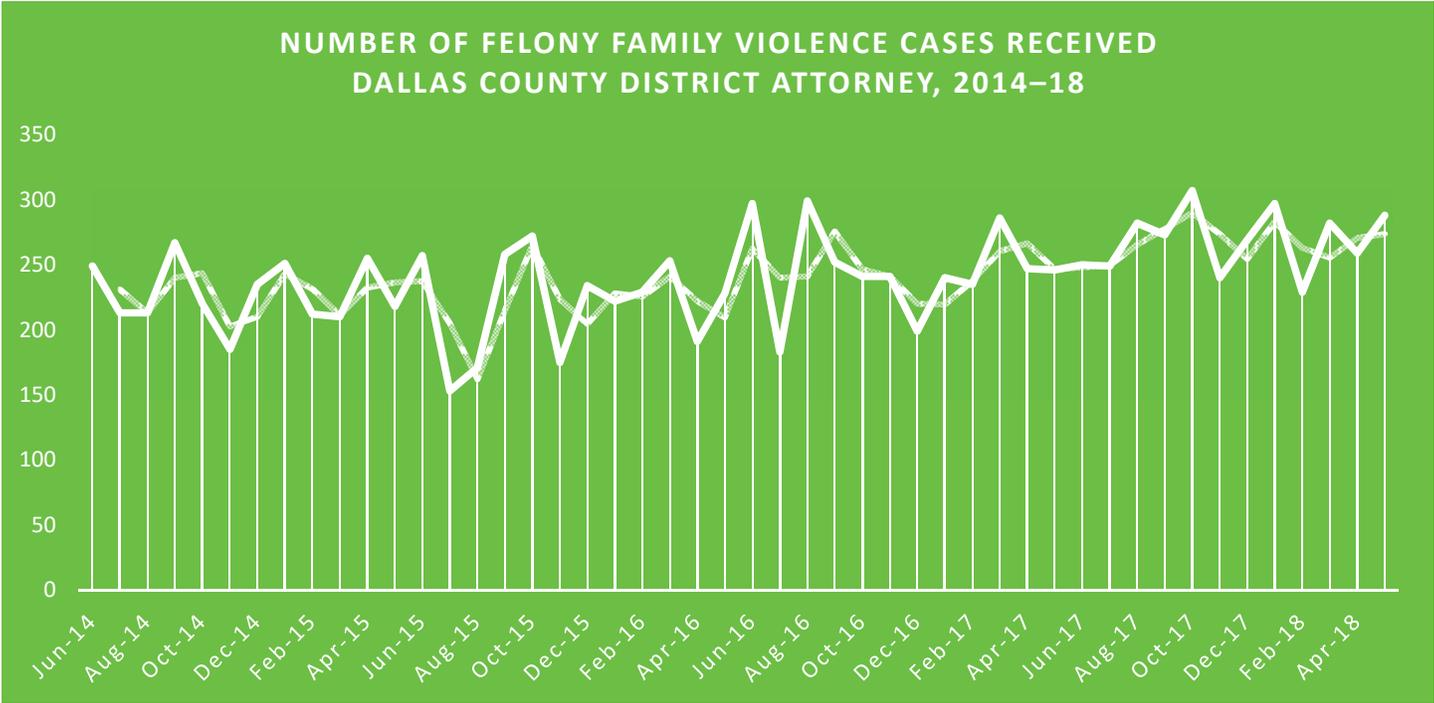


Figure 28. Number of Felony Family Violence Cases Received, 2014–18

Dallas County District Attorney’s Office in 2017–18, 2,001 (62%) were indicted, while 502 (16%) were determined to have inadequate grounds for prosecution and were issued a no-bill. As such, 78% of these cases were presented to the grand jury. The outstanding percentage of these cases (a) were received as felony but reduced to misdemeanors, (b) were rejected by the district attorney’s office, or (c) were returned to the originating law enforcement agency for more investigation. A

general trend observed in Figure 30 is a steady increase over the years in the number of cases indicted.

Penalties for domestic violence crimes can be enhanced when another crime has been committed that carries extra considerations for sentencing. The Texas Criminal Code has identified six aggravating circumstances for which the sentence can be enhanced:

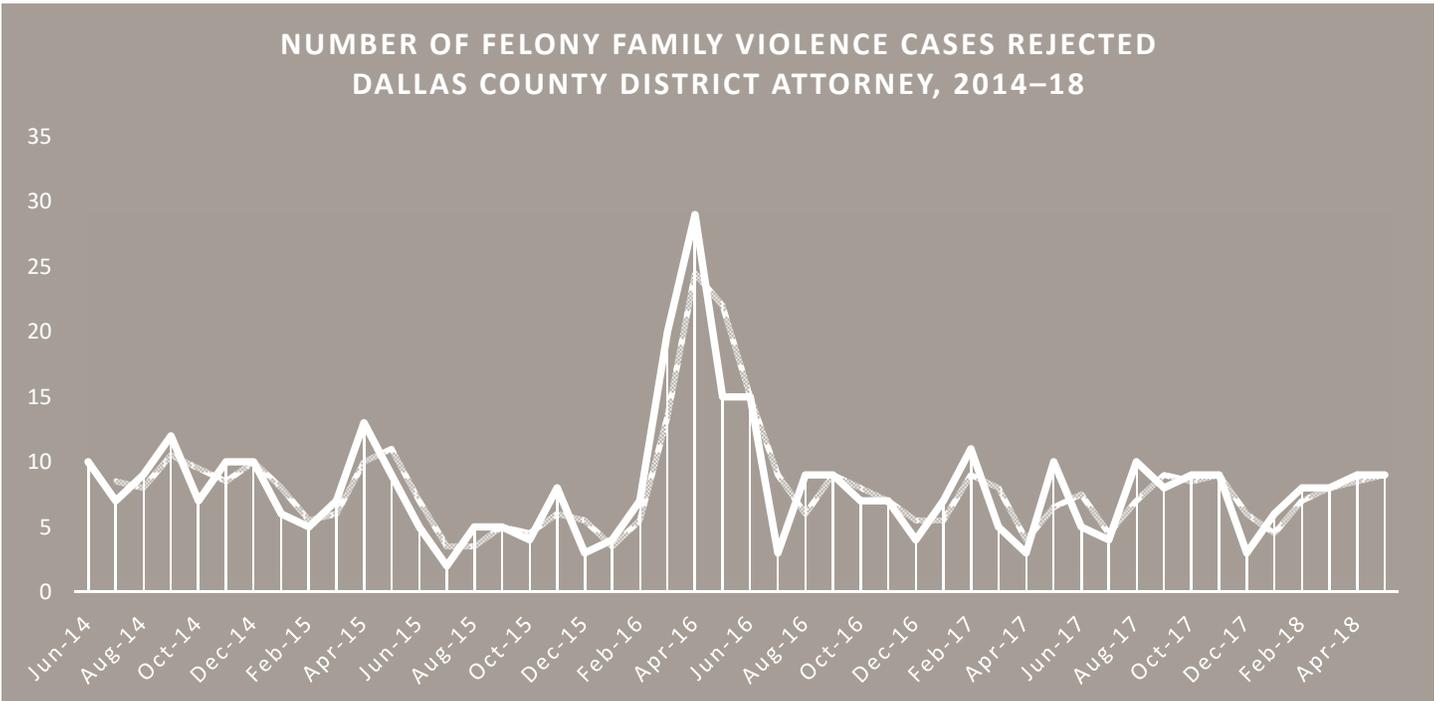


Figure 29. Number of Felony Family Violence Cases Rejected, 2014–18

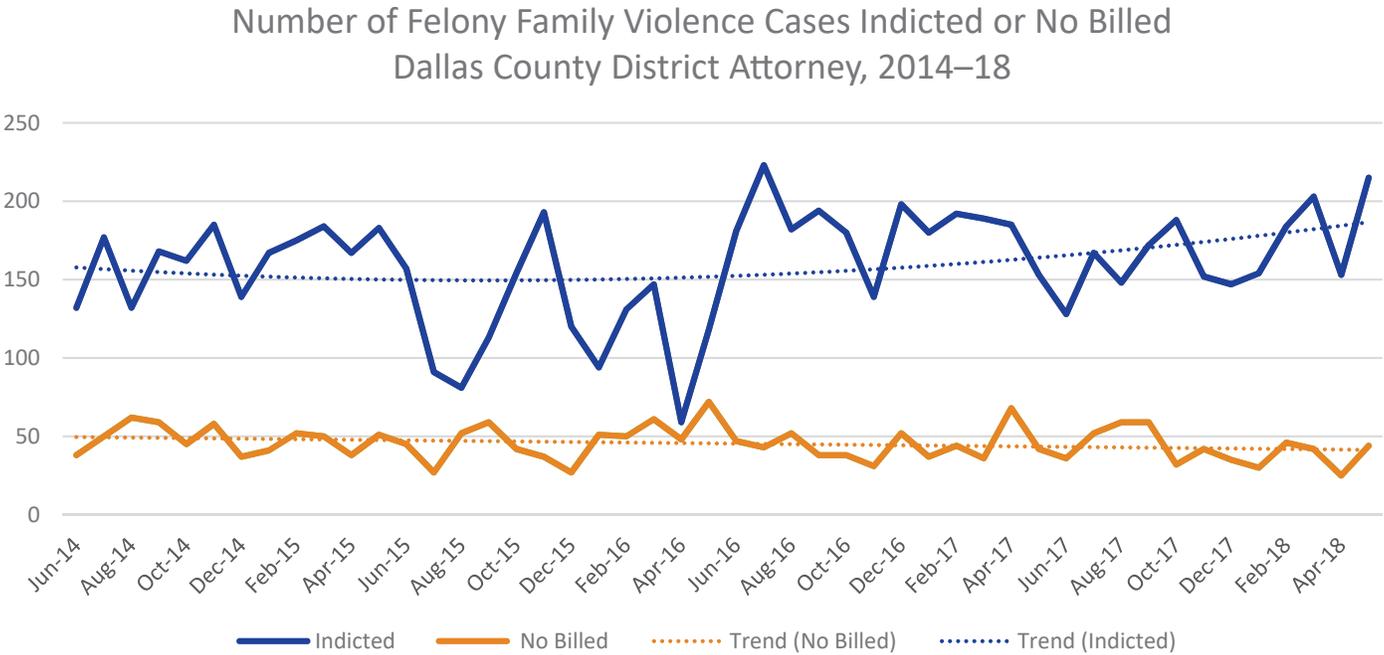


Figure 30. Number of Felony Family Violence Cases Indicted or No Billed, 2014–18

- Continuous family violence enhancement: This occurs with a history of two or more arrests for assault against a family member during a 12-month period, enhancing the offense to a third-degree felony;
- Assault enhancement: This occurs when a misdemeanor family violence assault offense is enhanced by a prior family violence conviction, enhancing the offense to a third-degree felony;
- Impeding enhancement: This occurs when there is evidence of strangulation with a previous family violence conviction, in-

creasing the offense to a second-degree felony;

- Stalking: Incidents of stalking over a period of time can enhance an offense to a third-degree felony;
- Misdemeanor Violation of Protective Order: A nonviolent violation of a protective order can enhance an offense to a Class A misdemeanor; and,
- Felony Violation of a Protective Order: A violent violation of a protective order can enhance a crime to a third-degree felony.

Table 10 presents the annual number of cases to which each category of enhancement was applied. In 2017–18, 1,283 cases received enhancement to family violence offenses, compared to 1,366 the previous year.

Figure 31 illustrates the monthly trends in the types of enhancement applied by the district attorney in 2017–18. A majority of enhancement cases during the year were due to assault or impeding circumstances, a trend that held relatively steady across all months of the year. Figure 32 shows the monthly trend in the number of enhancements applied to prosecution.

The district attorney’s office reports data regarding orders of protection, including the number of order petitions that were granted, withdrawn, dismissed, and denied. In the 2017–18 reporting year, Dallas County judges granted 574 orders of protection, dismissed 64 requests, and denied 36. Ninety-four defendants withdrew their petition before hearing (see Figure 33). Compared to the previous year, the number of orders of

Table 10. Number of Prosecution Enhancements by Type and Year, 2014–18

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18
Continuous Family Violence	156	108	106	96
Impeding Assault	168	500	575	581
Stalking	29	30	29	28
Misdemeanor Violation of Protection Order	61	67	63	68
Felony Violation of Protection Order	65	77	31	72
Total	1,147	1,291	1,366	1,283

Family Violence Prosecution Enhancements
Dallas County District Attorney, 2017–18

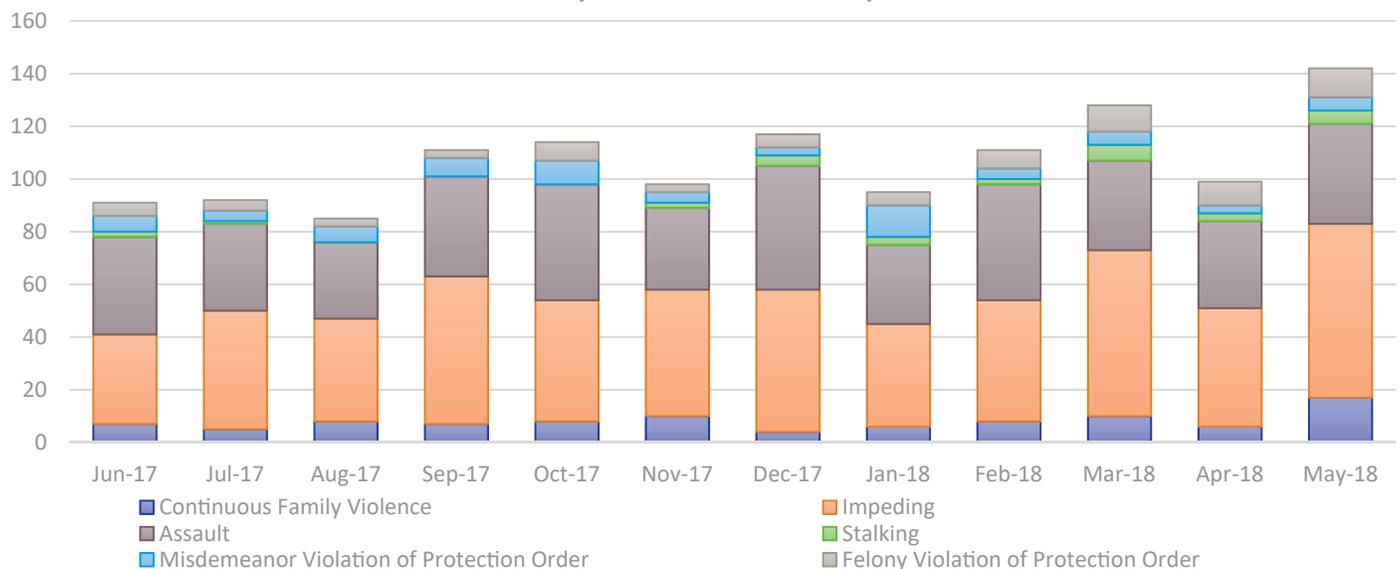


Figure 31. Family Violence Prosecution Enhancements, 2017–18

TOTAL NUMBER OF ENHANCEMENTS DALLAS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY, 2016–18

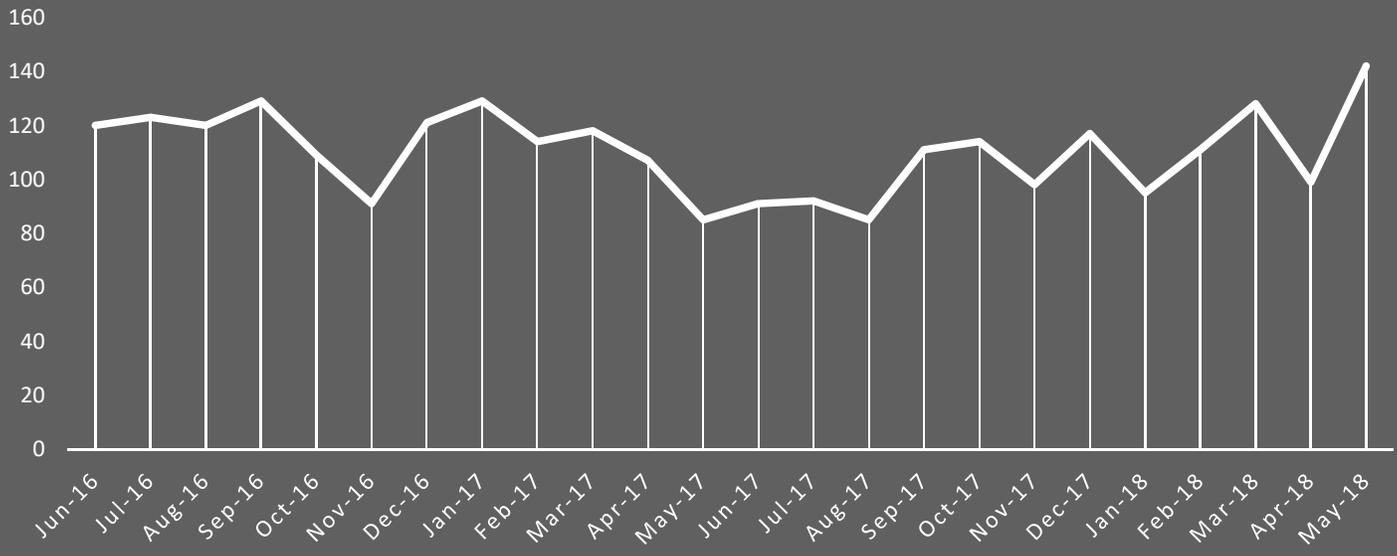


Figure 32. Family Violence Prosecution Enhancements, 2016–18

protection increased by 6%, and the number of orders of protection dismissed increased by 14%. The district attorney's office reported over 10 satellite offices opening in the past year. Together they have served 739 clients, issuing 65 protective orders, two of which were life protective orders.

any disposition peaked in the months of January, February, March, and April, with 70 or more orders of protection granted, dismissed, dropped, or denied in each month. The highest number of orders of protection of any disposition were observed in the month of March (79).

Figure 34 illustrates the monthly trends in orders of protection for each disposition in 2017–18. The total number of orders of protection of

The charts in Figure 34 compare trends in orders of protection for each disposition separately. On average, the courts granted 48 orders

Applications for Orders of Protection by Disposition Dallas County District Attorney, 2017–18

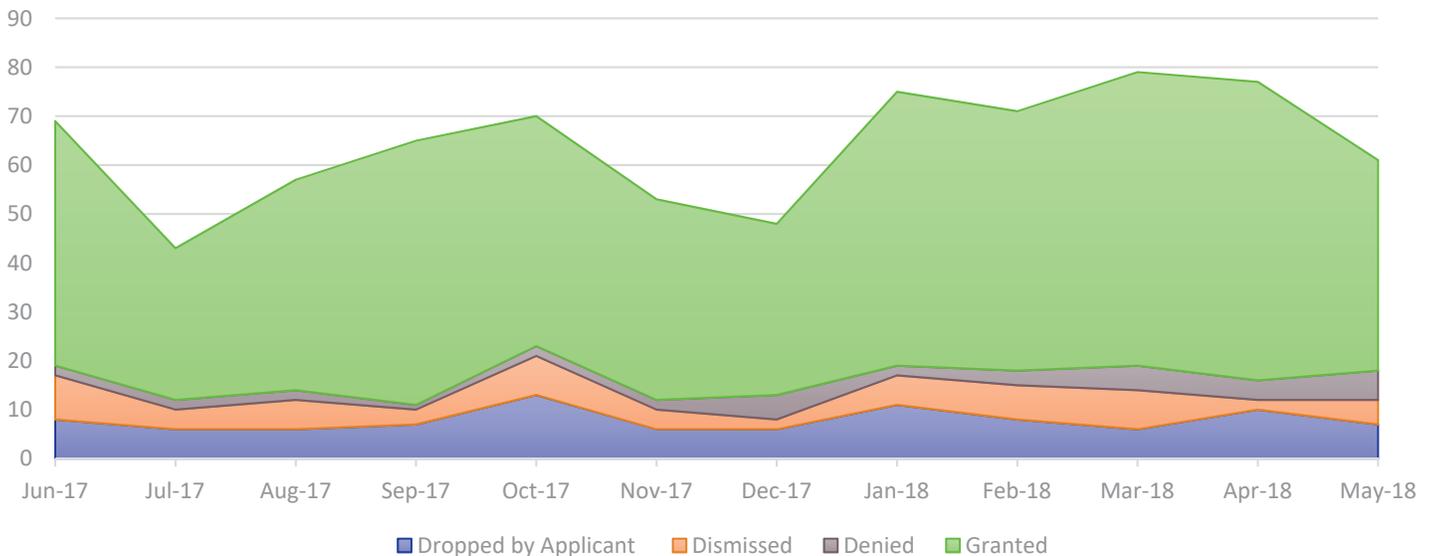


Figure 33. Applications for Orders of Protection, 2017–18

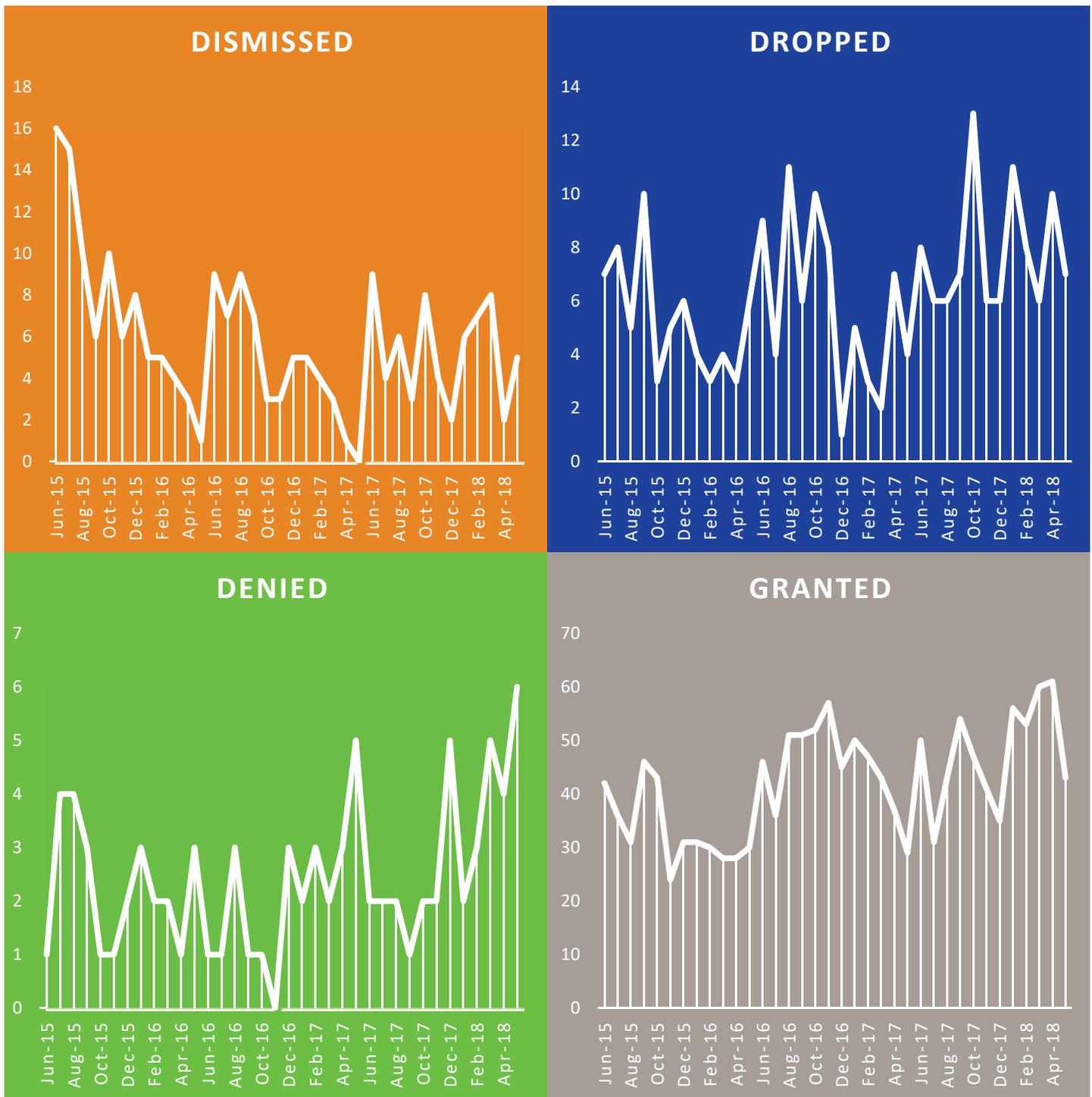


Figure 34. Order of Protection Trends by Disposition, 2015–18

of protection each month in 2017–18. The average number of monthly orders of protection that were dismissed, dropped, and denied in 2017–18 were five, eight, and three, respectively.

City of Dallas Attorney’s Office

The city of Dallas Attorney’s Office is responsible for prosecuting Class C misdemeanors in the City of Dallas, including Class C domestic

violence cases. Class C misdemeanors, usually involving lower risk offenses that do not involve physical injury to victims, are punishable by fines of up to \$500 and do not entail jail time. Cases involving Class C misdemeanors are handled by the municipal court and prosecuted by the City of Dallas Attorney’s Office. From June 2017 to May 2018, 10,222 Class C misdemeanor family violence cases were received by the municipal court in the city of Dallas, which is an increase of 154% from the number of cases received the previous year.

FAMILY VIOLENCE CASES RECEIVED DALLAS CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, 2015–18

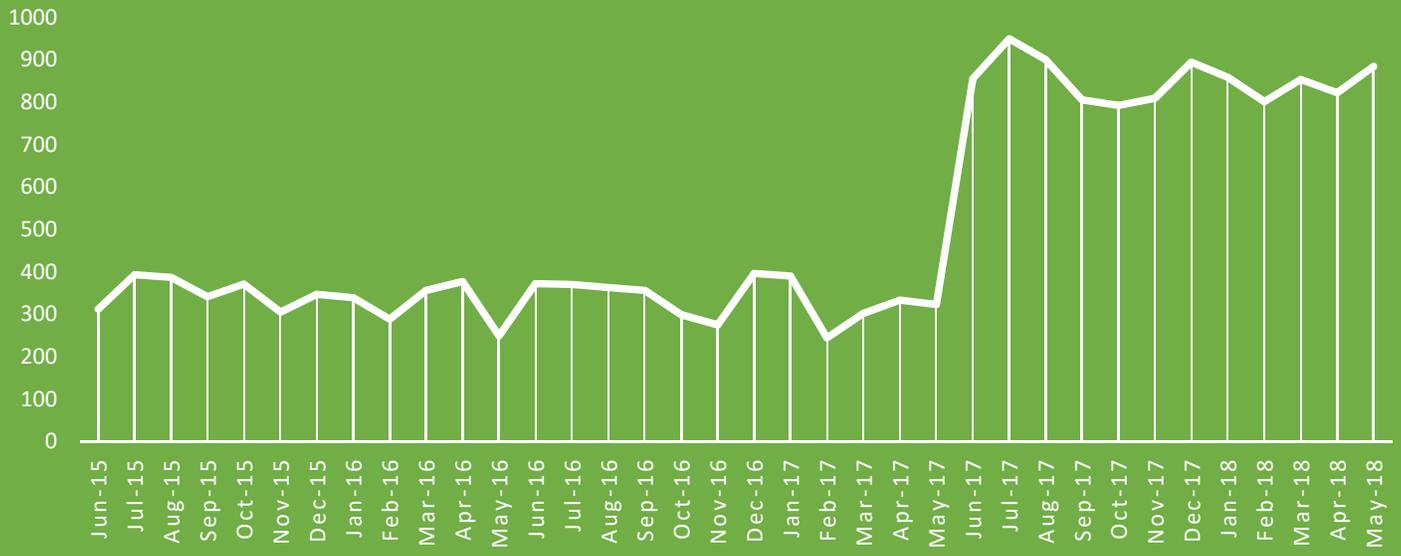


Figure 35. Family Violence Cases Received, Dallas City Attorney's Office, 2015–18

Case Dismissals by Cause Dallas City Attorney's Office, 2016–18

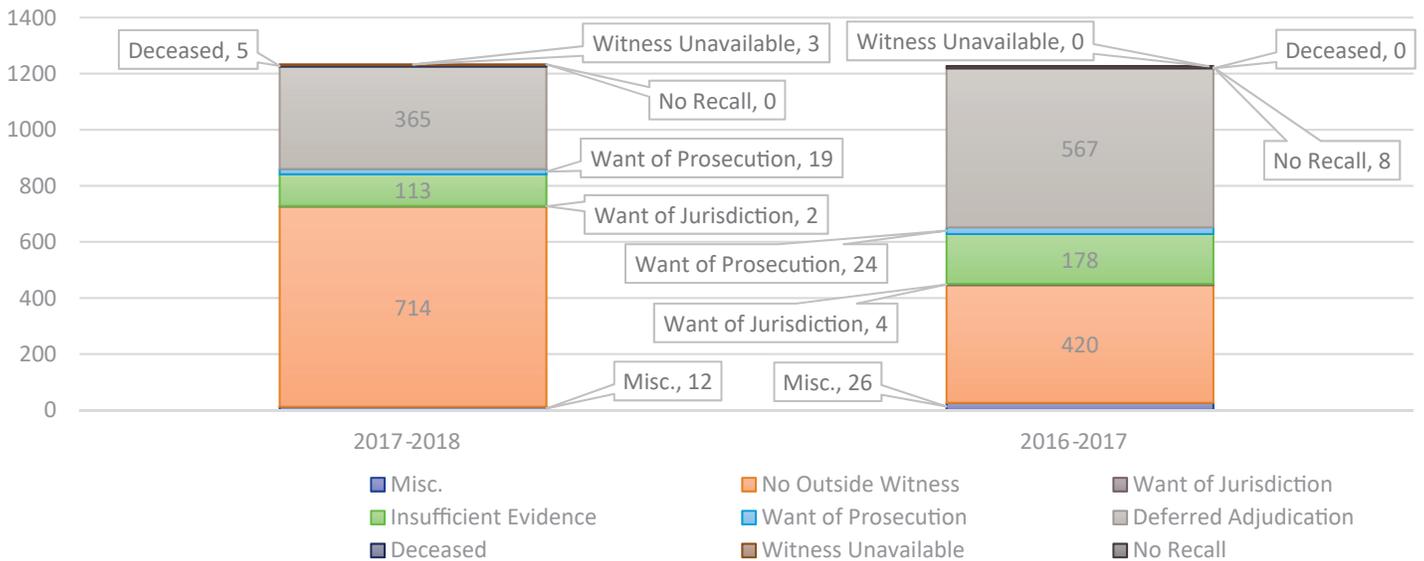


Figure 36. Case Dismissals by Cause, 2016–18

Figure 35 depicts the number of cases received per month in the 3-year period from 2015 to 2018. The average monthly number of cases received in the 2017–18 reporting year was 852, which is more than double the average monthly number of cases received in the previous 2 reporting years (337).

Figure 36 illustrates the relative proportions of family violence case dismissals by cause in the 2017–18 and 2016–17 reporting periods. In

2017–18, 58% of dismissals were made due to no outside witness, and 30% were made due to deferred disposition (in former years' reports this was referred to as deferred adjudication).

Dallas County Courts

In keeping with past years, this section of the report provides details on the judicial response and selective programs within the Dallas courts.

In 2014 Judge Rick Magnis established the Dallas County Felony Domestic Violence Court [FDVC] to promote victim and community safety by increasing the court's monitoring of offenders assessed to be of high risk of lethal domestic violence and placed on felony probation in the community. Started as a pilot program in January 2014, the FDVC program has received funding support from Violence Against Women Act [VAWA] grants through the Texas Criminal Justice Division for 4 years and a year-long grant through The Family Place from the Texas Council on Family Violence.

With the retirement of Judge Magnis during the 2016–17 reporting year, Judge Brandon Birmingham of the 292nd Judicial District Court now presides over this specialty court program. In keeping with offender accountability as well as some of the ideals of therapeutic jurisprudence that influence problem-solving courts with difficult populations throughout the United States, the team includes the following members: presiding Judge Brandon Birmingham; two dedicated probation officers; The Family Place (that conducts the high-risk BIPP); a prosecutor; a public defender; Genesis Women's Shelter and Support victim advocate; a team of forensic psychological assessors (employed by the Dallas County Community Supervision and Corrections Department); a substance abuse counselor (from a community vendor); an electronic monitoring service (contracted vendor); a data collection specialist to record offender-related variables; and a detective from the DPD Family Violence Unit.

Overall, the FDVC program aims to increase accountability for the offenders while also providing opportunities for pro-social change through cognitive behavioral intervention in areas of need. The program specifically focuses on creating opportunities for personal insights and accountability of their behavior in the intimate partner violence situation/relationship and behavioral change via the high-risk BIPP. In addition, the court typically orders offenders on probation into substance and alcohol abuse treatment as needed, employment counseling and referrals, and psychological support services. Another goal

is to maintain and enhance victim safety through the use of electronic monitoring, illicit drug monitoring, and swift and immediate sanctions for noncompliance with FDVC program requirements.

Between June 1, 2017, and May 31, 2018, the FDVC program conducted 293 forensic domestic violence assessments and recommended 134 participants to Judge Birmingham's FDVC program from the court of original jurisdiction. The FDVC program accepted 40 new clients, and 36 new participants began during this period. Twenty-one participants successfully graduated from the program, and one prior graduate successfully completed probation during the period. There were 20 probationers revoked during the period, but three never began the program, and five had absconded (four prior to the period). In regard to the 12 individuals revoked while participating in the court, the primary reasons were: one had a new sexual charge; two had new domestic violence charges; two had new non-domestic violence felony charges; two had victim contact; two continually used substances, and three were noncompliant with program requirements. Seven of these revocations resulted in 5 or more years in the Texas Department of Corrections. As these offenders present a considerable risk to the victims, recall that one of the goals of this program is to preserve public safety and hold these offenders accountable quickly for violations while they are under probation.

While the FDVC continues to protect public and victim safety and reinforce accountability of batterers, the program administrators cite the need for additional funding to improve and ensure access to interventions for the offenders. There is an ongoing need for additional funds for GPS and BIPP services for indigent offenders who do not have money to participate. This is of paramount importance as we are in fact punishing the victim (and the community) if an offender is not afforded monitoring due to a lack of resources and placed on community supervision in the community without them. The FDVC has been criticized due to an overrepresentation of minorities in the program, but upon examination of the numbers, this was shown to be a function of the criminal justice system and not

the FDVC program. When examining the domestic violence evaluations from January 2014 until May 2018, it showed an equal percentage of White and Black defendants being referred for an evaluation and subsequently referred to the FDVC program. Therefore the overrepresentation of minorities appears to be a function of the court in who is referred for the evaluation and then placed in the FDVC program. Nationally, high-risk felony domestic violence programs such as FDVC have been shown to provide intense probation supervision and specialized courses that address cognitive behavioral programming, thereby increasing victim safety and reducing lethality.

The Gun Surrender Program started by Dallas County judges in 2014 has been fully active for over 3 years. Judge Roberto Cañas conducted a training for judges on the program's procedures in April 2018. This was done in conjunction with Southern Methodist University's Dedman School of Law and Moms Demand Action. Over the past 3 years, the procedures of the program have proven time and time again to work. The program continues to experience the same challenges of discovering whether a particular offender is in legal possession of a firearm. To date, the program has collected 140 guns. This is far fewer than the estimated 2,400 guns that were expected to have been collected to this point. However, it should be stressed that the official number of guns collected reflects only the number of guns surrendered to the Dallas County Sheriff's Department through the Gun Surrender Program. The number does not reflect the number of guns seized as evidence of a domestic violence crime, nor does it reflect the number of guns surrendered to court-approved third parties under the Gun Surrender Program. Going forward, those responsible for implementation of the program should develop a process to capture these numbers as well.

To address the issue of discovering whether a particular offender is in legal possession of a firearm, Judge Shequitta Kelly is planning to implement an incentive program through which if an offender surrenders his gun, she will give him credit toward any court costs or fines. The plan is creative, but some in the domestic violence advocate community question whether judges

should put themselves in the position of negotiating with domestic violence offenders about whether that offender should be compliant with the law. Judge Kelly has not announced a date to begin implementing her incentive program. When implemented it will be geared toward those offenders on criminal probation only, which will represent a small percentage of the total number of offenders and respondents. The judiciary will need to put forth other ideas to address this challenge, especially for those offenders on bond for a domestic violence crime and respondents in the protective order and family courts.

Meetings regarding the Gun Surrender Program have been consistently held over the past year. The most promising progress has been made on the idea of a combined law enforcement task force made up of officers from the Dallas County Sheriff's Department and DPD. The purpose of the task force would be to investigate whether offenders and respondents are in legal possession of firearms. This task force would be similar to the task force in Seattle, King County, Washington.

Elected Officials

City of Dallas Councilmember Jennifer Gates (District 13) continues to oversee and chair the Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force general and Executive Committee meetings. Quarterly general meetings are held with community partners on the Domestic Violence Task Force, including DPD, the Dallas County District Attorney's Office, the City of Dallas Attorney's Office, and various nonprofit partners throughout the Metroplex. During these meetings, Councilmember Gates leads discussions on trends, reporting on victim support services and activities by partners. The Task Force also coordinates events with partners in the community and the Dallas mayor's office across the calendar year. These initiatives provide the public and Task Force partners with a visible elected leader. The sharing of resources and events information impacts daily activities of Task Force partners and directs relevant policy, legal, and criminal justice initiatives as part of a coordinated community response to domestic violence in the community and across these sectors.

On October 18, 2017, Mayor Mike Rawlings, Councilmember Jennifer Gates, as well as partners across the city of Dallas recognized National Domestic Violence Awareness Month with a city-wide proclamation to raise awareness in the community about domestic violence. Such proclamations encourage public involvement and citizens to take a stand on this public health issue.

District 13 coordinated the distribution of over 2,800 purple ribbons, which were placed at 13 Parks and Recreation Centers as well as city libraries. These ribbons were hung throughout the month of October, and were available free of charge for Dallas residents to place around their own trees to spread awareness about domestic violence. Additionally, purple lapel pins were provided to City departments, and stationed at three city hall spots for employees and visitors to pick up. A social media campaign was launched throughout the month of October to highlight the organization of members of the Task Force, upcoming Domestic Violence Awareness Month events, and relevant statistics. This campaign was shared across Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram platforms.

For the fourth consecutive year, the Clothesline Project—a visual display of T-shirts created by survivors of or in honor of someone affected by domestic violence—was displayed in the Dallas City Hall lobby, as well as at Dallas Love Field. The Salvation Army also loaned two sculptures portraying victims of domestic violence to Dallas Love Field.

On October 26, 2017, Mayor Rawlings, Councilmember Gates, District Attorney Faith Johnson, DPD Chief U. Renee Hall, representatives from the foundation sponsors of the report, and other key partners joined with the UT Dallas Institute for Urban Policy Research team to unveil the third annual report from the Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force at their annual breakfast event at city hall. Mayor Rawlings and Councilmember Gates discussed the contributions of the partners over the past year and the community initiatives that had occurred to reduce domestic violence and hold perpetrators accountable. Dr. Denise Paquette



Paint the Town Purple, an annual campaign, focuses on building awareness through purple ribbons and lights displayed throughout the month of October.

Boots then offered an overview of key findings and distributed an info-graphic and the full report to Task Force partners, community leaders, and the media. Roughly 120 people attended the event, and there was extensive media coverage regarding the event and the findings from the report. This year's annual breakfast will be held on October 26, 2018, to unveil the present report.

On Friday, February 23, 2018, Mayor Mike Rawlings held a news conference alongside Dallas County District Attorney Faith Johnson, Dallas Police Chief U. Renee Hall, and Judge Roberto Cañas to call for better use of the Dallas County Gun Surrender Program. Specifically, Mayor Rawlings called on judges to step up participation in the program, which was originally crafted by Judge Cañas. The Gun Surrender Program provides the tools for Dallas County judges to order guns to be turned over by domestic violence abusers and defendants awaiting trial. The news conference, hosted at the Genesis Women's Shelter and

Support Services outreach office in Dallas, was reported on by the *Dallas Morning News*, CBS 11, and Fox 4, among other media sources. The press conference prompted the formation of the Gun Surrender Committee, headed by Councilmember Jennifer Gates, which includes representatives from the district attorney's office, local law enforcement, judicial members, victims' advocacy organizations, shelters, and other community stakeholders. In addition to the organized activities during Domestic Violence Awareness month, Councilmember Gates attended the Gun Surrender Program meetings in March and April of 2018. The Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law provided direction and oversight on this crucial program and worked closely with former County Court 10 Judge Roberto Cañas to launch and expand the program. Councilmember Gates has been extremely supportive of the program and

encouraged it to grow over the past few years. In addition, on September 30, 2017, Councilmember Gates held a kickoff event to launch the Domestic Violence Youth Ambassador program. A new initiative this year, the program pairs students with local nonprofits and the City of Dallas Youth Commission to educate and spread awareness in their respective schools by creating relevant artwork and sharing on social media.

As in the past 4 years, Councilmember Gates remains the main liaison between the research team, city hall, and Task Force community partners. She has directed the drive for funding from community foundations to support the collection of data and report writing for the Task Force for the past 3 years. The first funding was secured in the 2016–17 reporting year. At the time this report was written, no funding has been secured to continue the data collection beyond this report.



In 2017 the Domestic Violence Task Force launched their Youth Ambassador Program, which empowers young people from campuses throughout Dallas to be advocates against domestic violence.

Image: cmjsgates/twitter.com

Organizational Priorities, Policy Suggestions, and Impact

Members of the Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force offered qualitative data on the 2017–18 survey, offering context and suggestions for strengthening and transforming efforts to end domestic violence. Current interventions to reduce domestic violence in Dallas continue to face challenges. Similar to last year, institutions and service providers are struggling to fully support the needs of immigrant, LGBTQ+, mentally ill, and other vulnerable victim and survivor populations.

Challenges for Shelter Providers

Changes in immigration laws and persistent anti-immigrant sentiments make it increasingly difficult to serve immigrant victims and survivors, both documented and undocumented. Interventions need to be informed with knowledge about the socioeconomic, cultural, and political contexts within which immigrant women experience domestic violence. A survivor's immigration status influences her access to legal protections. Agencies need to work closely with the legal community to have up-to-date and accurate information on current laws and explore strategies at the municipal level to keep victims and survivors safe. Said one survey respondent,

Throughout the year we have seen undocumented immigrants withdrawing themselves from enrollment in programs both hosted internally and externally with our collaborative partners due to fears of being deported. We have a tense shelter environment due to existing national policies regarding residency status.

Homophobia, heterosexism, transphobia, and biphobia create a context that affects victims and survivors' experiences with their abusive partners, support systems, and access to resources. Organizations and agencies need to develop effective ways for documenting sexual orientation and

gender identification, as well as use assessment tools that are culturally appropriate to ensure that people are directed to the support most beneficial for them.

Respondents reported numerous shelter-related challenges. Victims and survivors from surrounding cities and counties are seeking services in Dallas. Low- to no-cost transportation options continue to be highlighted as a critical need. There is a need for the development of regional mechanisms to understand both the needs of victims and survivors and existing infrastructure of services and resources. Agencies also reported a significant rise in the number of individuals seeking shelter who are struggling with mental health challenges, which present numerous barriers for both shelters and clients. One shelter reported "We are also seeing more victims presenting to us with untreated mental illness and drug dependency." Trauma-based paradigms can help providers address the range of issues victims and survivors with mental illnesses. Furthermore, including nonresidential community-based counseling and advocacy services expands access and convenience to victims and survivors seeking safety and healing from abuse.

One shelter noted an increase in victims seeking shelter with their teenage sons during the summer months. Victims explained that it was easier to secure temporary housing when school was in session. A greater degree of coordination between school-based homeless prevention programs and community-based domestic violence resources may be in order.

Natural disasters outside the North Texas area introduced challenges for organizations as well. Hurricane Harvey, which struck the Gulf Coast region in August 2017, increased the shelter-seeking population in North Texas. Domestic violence shelters were pressed to find housing for victims, and to ensure the safety of their existing clients

by limiting shelter to victims only. Similarly, the fluctuation in family sizes challenged shelters, as larger families who required additional rooms served to decrease capacity.

Another barrier to accessing services that respondents identified is lack of pet-friendly human shelters and other safe housing options for victims and survivors and their pets. Policy recommendations included including pets in protective orders, promoting education of family violence units about the link between animal cruelty and human violence, and promoting participation of commissioned or certified animal cruelty investigators in the Domestic Violence Task Force.

In general, respondents reported tremendous progress removing guns from convicted domestic abusers and those subject to protective orders based on intimate partner violence. However, given the fact that Texas does not have a mandatory gun registration, it can be hard for city and county officials to enforce state and federal laws governing firearms and domestic violence offenders. Therefore, it is important to consider increasing public visibility of the program and coordinating with other programs to expand the reach. A recent bright spot is the implementation of the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP). LAP prepares first responders to support victims and survivors from domestic violence homicides, serious injury, and re-assaults through an introduction to the support and shelter services available in the area.

Efforts to end domestic violence require multimodal systemic approaches that might include programs specific to domestic violence specific programs and adding violence reduction components to other efforts. Survivors and victims benefit when efforts are coordinated and harness all possible resources and strategies to end domestic violence. Continuing the work of the Task Force agencies and providers is breaking down silos and bringing together social care, health care, housing, and legal support, and developing integrated care to meet the needs of victims and survivors.

Policy Recommendations

As in years past, respondents were asked to identify opportunities for policy improvements that will further protect victims of domestic violence. This year's responses can be broadly characterized in three key areas: outreach and sensitivity to at-risk populations, opportunities for training and education, and procedural improvements.

Outreach and Sensitivity

Respondents identified two populations for whom they suggest special attention be paid. They identified LGBTQ+ victims as an underserved group who often remain invisible within their own communities. Said one respondent,

Agencies and organizations who may be providing services to these individuals need to develop effective ways of documenting sexual orientation and gender identification . . . Just having data on individuals who may self-identify is not enough.

In a similar way, respondents also identified a need to closely examine how undocumented victims may best be accommodated in the systemic response. For instance, some service providers require referral from a police department. However, victims with citizenship concerns may be reluctant to engage the formal law enforcement system over fears of deportation. Moreover, abusers of these victims often use threats about deportation to further abuse their victims.

Opportunities for Training and Education

Respondents identified necessary training that they believe will better equip those in the response system to meet the needs of victims. The first area involves the intersection of animal abuse and domestic abuse. One respondent suggested that family violence units be trained on "the link between animal cruelty

and human violence and the importance of a multi-discipline response, preventative strategies, and cross-reporting."

Respondents also suggested an expansion of the use of the lethality assessment tools. Beyond simply adopting the tools as a matter of policy, they suggest that responders be trained in administering the instrument and successfully documenting responses.

Procedural Improvements

Respondents identified several opportunities where existing processes and practices might be improved to provide a more effective systemic response to domestic violence. Respondents were laser focused on the need to implement the firearms surrender program more robustly. While it is almost always illegal for domestic violence abusers to possess firearms, there remains no solid process for removing firearms from these offenders. Said one offender, "I think it is imperative that the City of Dallas work with county officials

to hold accountable state and federal law regarding perpetrators' possession of fire arms."

Recently, Judge Roberto Cañas has developed a robust program within his courtroom for ensuring the removal occurs. Respondents have identified the need to codify the processes he has implemented as a mechanism to ensure that it happens regularly and consistently.

An additional area of systemic improvement identified by the respondents related to transportation. Despite the availability of public transportation, respondents suggested that it alone cannot meet the immediate needs of victims who desire to flee their abuser. Said one respondent,

Even with DART buses and train systems, there are areas where public transportation is not available or not safe for victims to use. For example, it's not safe for a victim to wait at a bus stop sign near her home when the abuser could drive by and see her waiting there . . . [We need] better options from the City of Dallas or from Dallas-area shelters to provide assistance to victims to get to emergency shelter facilities. Whether it's a taxi or staff person, local agencies ought to find a solution.

The report has informed our Communications Team and Executive Leadership Team enabled their ability to better advocate and educate; influenced our strategic plan to include substantial collaboration with human domestic violence victim shelters and advocacy organizations; better informed the law enforcement and criminal justice individuals we partner with; better informed the community at large.

—Survey Respondent

Impact

Since its inception, the *Domestic Violence Task Force Annual Report* has become a vital part of the effort to protect victims and survivors in the City of Dallas. In this year's survey, respondents were asked a series of questions regarding how they use the survey report. Figure 37 presents the distribution of responses. The most frequently cited use was to make current, relevant information available to the public to advocate for program

Distribution of Respondents by Type of Use Identified, 2017–18

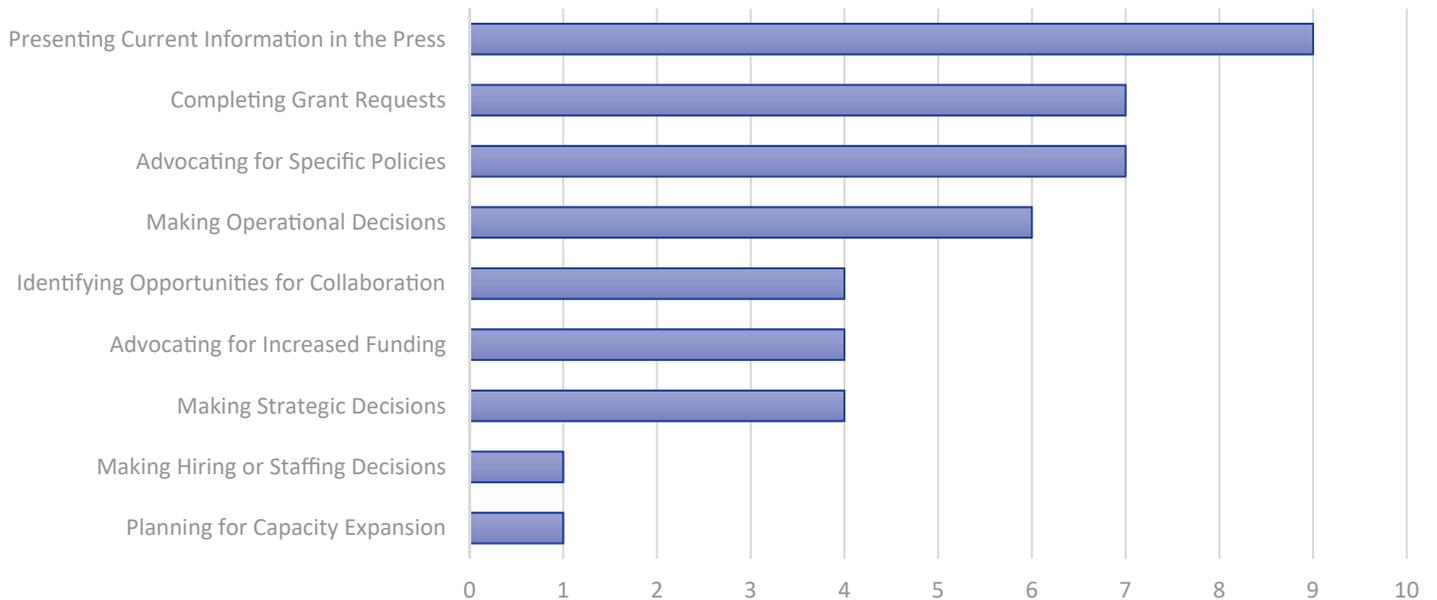


Figure 37. Predominant Survey Uses Identified by Respondents, 2017–18

dollars and to amplify and educate the public on the state of domestic violence in the City of Dallas. One partner wrote:

The Task Force has served the community by combating domestic violence and raising awareness. . . . When guests realized that shelters remain near 100% capacity each month, the need to support our cause grew. Our strategy was to raise awareness with the introduction of the report as well as spotlighting advocacy agencies. . . . The more information we give the public at our various events, the more awareness is raised and ultimately people decide to help eradicate the problem.

Two uses share the second most frequent use: using data for grant requests and advocating for specific policies and needs. One agency shared:

The report has helped with strategic decisions regarding underserved populations such as male victims of domestic violence and the need for more shelter space for female victims and their families. We frequently use the report for local statistics in grant applications.

Among these varied uses, what stands out is that many organizations have fully embraced the report and incorporated it into multiple facets of their operational efforts. One respondent aptly

summarized this understanding:

I have a copy of the report's summary framed in our office for all office visitors to see. That framed summary is also taken to new volunteer orientation meetings where we discuss the national view of DV and the Texas view of DV as reported by NNEDV, then the Dallas view of DV as reported by UTD, and then finally the power and control wheel to view DV relationships. A digital copy of the summary is used in PowerPoint presentations with groups of potential donors and sometimes taken to small meetings with potential donors. Our social media volunteers comb the full report for data to post on social media to inform the public. Finally, the report is used to inform our volunteers and board members of the continual need for our agency's services.

Respondents were asked to rate their agreement with a series of statements regarding the

The statistics compiled continue to raise awareness of domestic violence and what needs to be done on a continual basis. It gives providers, funders, and stakeholders a clearer picture.

—Survey Respondent

Distribution of Respondents by Perception of Survey Utility, 2017–18

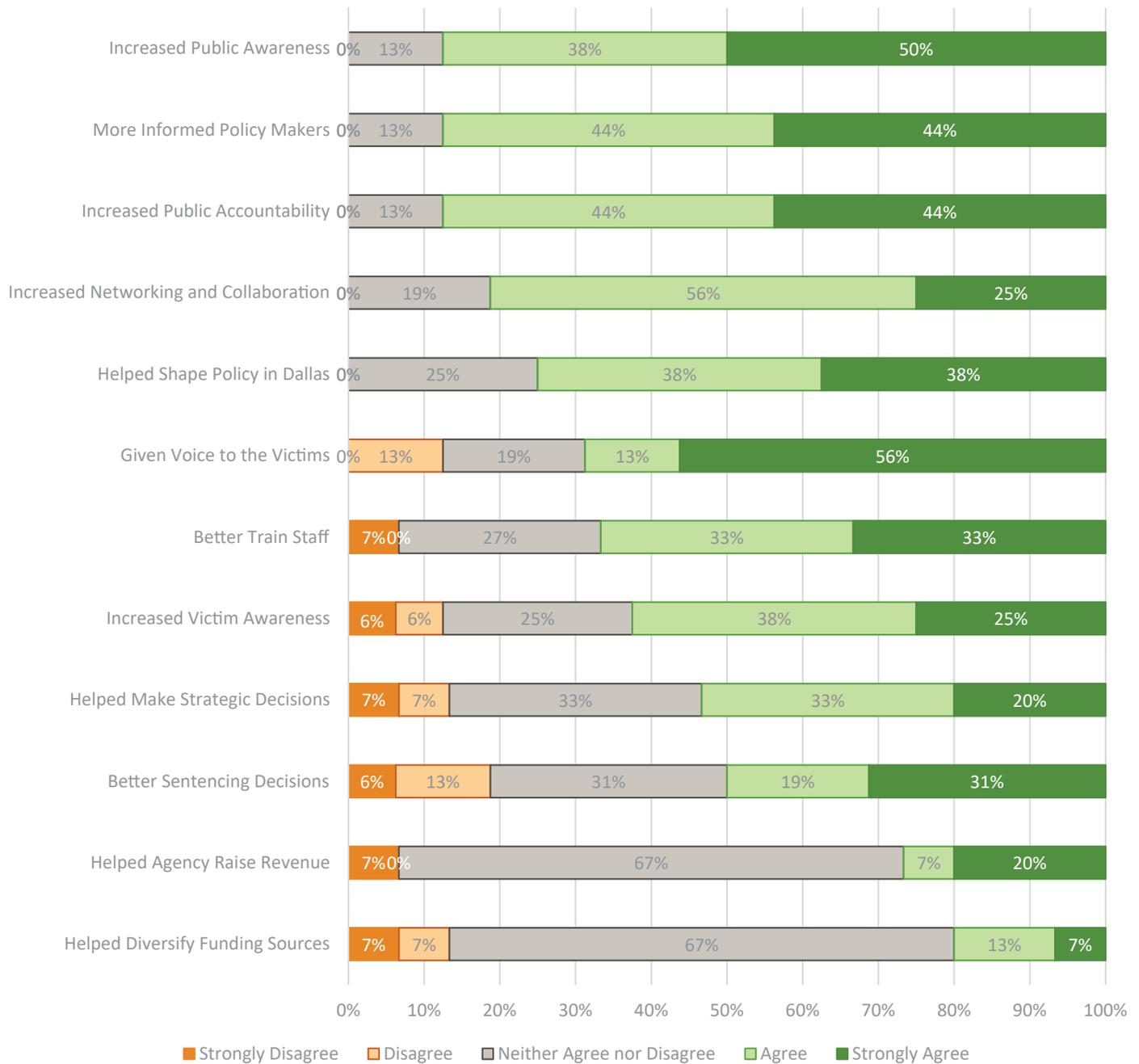


Figure 38. Distribution of Survey Respondents by Perception of Report Utility, 2017–18

utility of the report to the domestic violence response system and the community at large. Figure 38 presents a summary of respondents' levels of agreement with a variety of impact statements. As the figure shows, there is widespread agreement that the report has had significant impact in shaping the policy community in Dallas. Those statements with the highest support focused on areas of public policy and public awareness. In a three-way tie for highest agreement are the following: the report has increased

public awareness (88% agree or strongly agree); the report has produced more informed policy makers (88% agree or strongly agree); and the report has increased public accountability (88% agree or strongly agree). Rounding out the top five are agreement that the report has increased networking and collaboration (81% agree or strongly agree), and agreement that the report has helped shape policy in Dallas (76% agree or strongly agree).

In the middle range of support, one finds four statements regarding organizational operations and decision-making. Just over 2 out of 3 respondents agreed with the statements that the report has given voice to the victims and that the report has helped them to better train their staff. Another 63% of respondents agreed that the report has helped increased victim awareness. Just over one half agreed that the report has helped them make strategic decisions within their organization.

In only three statements did fewer than 50% of respondents express agreement. These included diversification of resources (20% agreed or strongly agreed), helped agency raise revenue (27% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed),

and better sentencing decisions (44% agreed). Even among these, the percentage disagreeing or strongly disagreeing ranged between 7% and 20%.

This review suggests that the community finds great value in the *Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force Annual Report* in the areas of accountability, collaboration, and awareness. By providing year-over-year performance statistics, respondents identified a major contribution of the report in the area of public accountability. Furthermore, the availability of a set of metrics collected annually and in consistent fashion has provided a resource to help shape domestic violence response policy in Dallas and assess its effectiveness over time. Additionally, many of the partners cited the report as an indispensable tool for funding and program development.

References

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Appendices

A. Dallas Police Department Domestic Violence Supplement

B. Dallas Police Department Domestic Violence Lethality Screening Tool

C. Dallas County District Attorney's Office Satellite Location Document

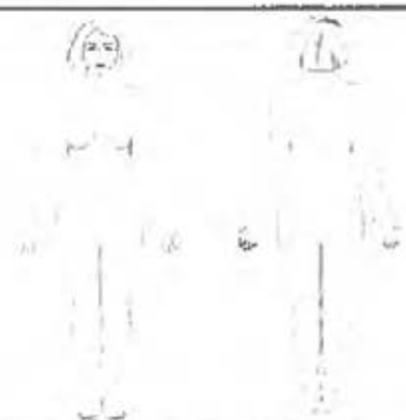
DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPLEMENT

VICTIM'S NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE, MAIDEN):		R/S/DOB:	SERVICE NUMBER:
HOME ADDRESS:		HOME TELEPHONE:	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER:
BUSINESS ADDRESS:		MOBILE TELEPHONE:	EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER:
EMAIL ADDRESS OF VICTIM:		HEIGHT OF VICTIM:	WEIGHT OF VICTIM:
SUSPECT'S NAME:	R/S/DOB:	SUSPECT'S ADDRESS:	SUSPECT'S PHONE NUMBER:
LOCATION OF OFFENSE:		SUSP DESCRIPTION (HT, WT, CLOTHING):	

EMOTIONAL STATES AND CRIME SCENE DESCRIPTION	VICTIM (Mark all that apply)	<p style="text-align: center;">OFFICER'S OBSERVATIONS DESCRIBE CRIME SCENE CONDITIONS OBSERVED (property damage, bloodstains, door damage, possible weapons, etc.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EMOTIONAL SIGNS WHAT PHYSICAL MANNERISMS IS VICTIM DISPLAYING FOR EACH EMOTIONAL STATE MARKED (EX: NERVOUS: victim visibly shaking and rubbing hands together.)</p>
	<input type="checkbox"/> ANGRY <input type="checkbox"/> HYSTERICAL <input type="checkbox"/> APOLOGETIC <input type="checkbox"/> AFRAID <input type="checkbox"/> CRYING <input type="checkbox"/> IRRATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> FEARFUL <input type="checkbox"/> NERVOUS <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> PREGNANT	
	SUSPECT (Mark all that apply)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> ANGRY <input type="checkbox"/> HYSTERICAL <input type="checkbox"/> APOLOGETIC <input type="checkbox"/> AFRAID <input type="checkbox"/> CRYING <input type="checkbox"/> IRRATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> FEARFUL <input type="checkbox"/> NERVOUS <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> PREGNANT	

STATEMENTS	STATEMENTS MADE BY VICTIM
	RES GESTAE STATEMENTS MADE BY SUSPECT

BODY INJURY DIAGRAM	SERVICE #: _____
 <p style="text-align: center;">(CIRCLE ONE) VICTIM OR SUSPECT</p>	

PLEASE DRAW ON DIAGRAM (S) LOCATION OF ALL INJURIES AND DESCRIBE THE TYPE OF INJURY.

OFFICER'S NAME:	OFFICER'S BADGE #:	OFFICER'S SIGNATURE:	ELEMENT #:	DATE & TIME:
SUPERVISOR'S NAME:	SUPERVISOR'S BADGE #:	SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE:	ELEMENT #:	

VERBAL STATEMENTS OR EXCITED UTTERANCES MADE BY CHILD TO OFFICER					
1.					
2.					
CHILDREN	CHILDREN PRESENT DURING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO				
	<u>NAME</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
WITNESSES	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SSN</u>	<u>EMAIL ADDRESS</u>	<u>HOME PHONE</u>	<u>WORK PHONE</u>
	VERBAL STATEMENTS OR EXCITED UTTERANCES MADE BY WITNESSES TO OFFICER				
	1.				
2.					
TRANSLATOR INFORMATION					
1.					
CONTACT PERSON	PERSON TO CONTACT FOR COMPLAINANT OR SHELTER COMPLAINANT WAS TAKEN TO				
	NAME: _____	ADDRESS: _____	PHONE 1: _____	PHONE 2: _____	
	PERSON WHO COULD TESTIFY TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VICTIM AND SUSPECT				
	NAME: _____	ADDRESS: _____	PHONE 1: _____	PHONE 2: _____	
EVIDENCE	<u>MEDICAL TREATMENT</u>			<u>RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VICTIM AND SUSPECT (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)</u> <input type="checkbox"/> SPOUSE <input type="checkbox"/> FORMER SPOUSE <input type="checkbox"/> COHABITANT <input type="checkbox"/> FORMER COHABITANT <input type="checkbox"/> BLOOD RELATION <input type="checkbox"/> IN-LAW <input type="checkbox"/> PARENT OF CHILD <input type="checkbox"/> FOSTER PARENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOSTER CHILD <input type="checkbox"/> DATING <input type="checkbox"/> ACTIVE MILITARY/RESERVE: <input type="checkbox"/> VICTIM <input type="checkbox"/> SUSPECT BRANCH _____ LENGTH OF RELATIONSHIP _____ YEAR(S) _____ MONTH(S)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	<input type="checkbox"/> EMT UNIT #	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINED		
	<input type="checkbox"/> SEEK OWN	<input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITAL (WHICH ONE?)			
	AUDIO / VIDEO OF INVESTIGATION? IF SO, VEH # ?				
	<u>PHOTOGRAPHS</u>				
	VICTIM (with or without injuries)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	SUSPECT (with or without injuries)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	CRIME SCENE (evidence!!!!)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	CHILDREN	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	<u>PROPERTY</u>				
TYPE OF WEAPON USED					
WEAPON(S) IMPOUNDED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO			
PROPERTY TAG NUMBER(S)					
WAS SUSPECT ARRESTED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO					
WAS AN E.P.O. APPLIED FOR? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO					

Documentation Form for Attempted Strangulation Cases

Use this form when a victim reports being "choked" or strangled

Method and/or Manner:

How was the victim strangled?:

- One Hand (R or L) Two Hands Forearm (R or L) Knee / Foot

Device/Weapon used in strangulation?

(Describe): _____

How Long? _____ seconds _____ minutes Also smothered?

From 1 to 10, how hard was the suspect's grip (not pain level)? (low)1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 (high)

Multiple Attempts: _____ Multiple Methods: _____

Is the suspect RIGHT or LEFT handed? (circle one)

What did the suspect say while he was strangling the victim? _____

Was she / he shaken simultaneously while being strangled? _____

Was her / his head being pounded against wall, floor or ground? _____

What did the victim think was going to happen? _____

How or why did the suspect stop strangling her / him? _____

Describe what the suspect's face looked like during strangulation (angry, smiling, etc)

Threats to kill or harm pets? Yes No

Describe prior incidents of strangulation?

Symptoms and / or internal injury:

Breathing Changes	Voice Changes	Swallowing Changes	Behavioral Changes	Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty breathing	<input type="checkbox"/> Raspy voice	<input type="checkbox"/> Trouble swallowing	<input type="checkbox"/> Agitation	<input type="checkbox"/> Dizzy
<input type="checkbox"/> Hyperventilation	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoarse Voice	<input type="checkbox"/> Painful to swallow	<input type="checkbox"/> Amnesia	<input type="checkbox"/> Headaches
<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to breathe	<input type="checkbox"/> Coughing	<input type="checkbox"/> Neck Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> PTSD	<input type="checkbox"/> Fainted
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to speak	<input type="checkbox"/> Nausea	<input type="checkbox"/> Hallucinations	<input type="checkbox"/> Urination
		<input type="checkbox"/> Vomiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Combativeness	<input type="checkbox"/> Defecation

Face	Eyes & Eyelids	Nose	Ear	Mouth
<input type="checkbox"/> Red or flushed	<input type="checkbox"/> Petechiae to R and / or L eyeball	<input type="checkbox"/> Bloody nose	<input type="checkbox"/> Petechiae (external and / or ear canal)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bruising
<input type="checkbox"/> Pinpoint red spots (petechiae)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petechiae to R and / or L eyelid	<input type="checkbox"/> Broken nose (ancillary finding)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bleeding from ear canal	<input type="checkbox"/> Swollen tongue
<input type="checkbox"/> Scratch marks	<input type="checkbox"/> Bloody red eyeball	<input type="checkbox"/> Petechiae		<input type="checkbox"/> Swollen lips
				<input type="checkbox"/> Cuts/abrasions (ancillary finding)

Under Chin	Chest	Shoulders	Neck	Head
<input type="checkbox"/> Redness	<input type="checkbox"/> Redness	<input type="checkbox"/> Redness	<input type="checkbox"/> Redness	<input type="checkbox"/> Petechiae (on scalp)
<input type="checkbox"/> Scratch marks	Ancillary findings:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Bruise(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bruise(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bruise(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Finger nail impressions	<input type="checkbox"/> Hair pulled
<input type="checkbox"/> Abrasions	<input type="checkbox"/> Abrasions	<input type="checkbox"/> Abrasions	<input type="checkbox"/> Bruise(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bump
			<input type="checkbox"/> Swelling	<input type="checkbox"/> Skull fracture
			<input type="checkbox"/> Ligature mark	

ASSAULT VICTIM STATEMENT

Page ____ of ____

Service Number: _____

The following information will be used in the filing of criminal charges against the suspect in this case. Should you give any false answers or information, you could be prosecuted for the crime of "False Report to a Peace Officer" under Section 37.08 of the Texas Penal Code.

Name: _____ DOB: _____ Social Security #: _____

Multiple horizontal lines for providing details of the assault.

THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE:

VICTIM'S SIGNATURE

DATE

OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

DECLARACION DE LA VICTIMA

Pagina ____ de ____

Numero del Reporte: _____

La informacion que sigue se usara para hacer cargos criminales contra la persona sospechada en esta causa. Si Usted de respuestas o informacion falsa, podemos poner cargos contra Usted por el crimen de "Reporte Falso a Oficial de Policia" segun la seccion 37.08 del codigo penal de Texas.

Nombre y Fecha de Nacimiento:

Numero Seguro Social:

LA INFORMACION DICHA ESTA CORRECTA A LO MEJOR DE MI CONOCIMIENTO.

FIRMA DE LA VICTIMA

FECHA

FIRMA DEL OFICIAL

WITNESS STATEMENT

Page ____ of ____

Service Number: _____

The following information will be used in the filing of criminal charges against the suspect in this case. Should you give any false answers or information, you could be prosecuted for the crime of "False Report to a Peace Officer" under Section 37.08 of the Texas Penal Code.

Name: _____ DOB: _____ Social Security #: _____

Multiple horizontal lines for providing witness information.

THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE:

WITNESS SIGNATURE

DATE

OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

DECLARACION DE TESTIGO

Pagina ____ de ____

Numero del Reporte: _____

La informacion que sigue se usara para hacer cargos criminales contra la persona sospechada en esta causa. Si Usted de respuestas o informacion falsa, podemos poner cargos contra Usted por el crimen de "Reporte Falso a Oficial de Policia" segun la seccion 37.08 del codigo penal de Texas.

Nombre y Fecha de Nacimiento:

Numero Seguro Social:

LA INFORMACION DICHA ESTA CORRECTA A LO MEJOR DE MI CONOCIMIENTO.

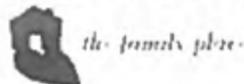
FIRMA DE TESTIGO

FECHA

FIRMA DEL OFICIAL



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LETHALITY SCREEN FOR FIRST RESPONDERS



(214) 941-1991

(214) 946-4357 (HELP)

Officer:	Date:	Case #:
Victim:	Offender:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if victim did not answer any of the questions.		
▶ A "Yes" response to any of Questions #1-3 automatically triggers the protocol referral.		
1. Has he/she ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a weapon?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
2. Has he/she threatened to kill you or your children?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
3. Do you think he/she might try to kill you?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
▶ Negative responses to Questions #1-3, but positive responses to at least four of Questions #4-11, trigger the protocol referral.		
4. Does he/she have a gun or can he/she get one easily?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
5. Has he/she ever tried to choke you?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
6. Is he/she violently or constantly jealous or does he/she control most of your daily activities?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
7. Have you left him/her or separated after living together or being married?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
8. Is he/she unemployed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
9. Has he/she ever tried to kill himself/herself?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
10. Do you have a child that he/she knows is not his/hers?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
11. Does he/she follow or spy on you or leave threatening messages?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
▶ An officer may trigger the protocol referral, if not already triggered above, as a result of the victim's response to the below question, or whenever the officer believes the victim is in a potentially lethal situation.		
Is there anything else that worries you about your safety? (If "yes") What worries you?		
What is the victim's gender?	<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
What is the suspect's gender?	<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
Was the Victim Transported to a Hospital?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Was the suspect intoxicated/high during this offense?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the suspect At Large?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Check one: <input type="checkbox"/> Victim screened in according to the protocol <input type="checkbox"/> Victim screened in based on the belief of officer <input type="checkbox"/> Victim did not screen in		
If victim screened in: After advising her/him of a high danger assessment, did the victim speak with the hotline counselor? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

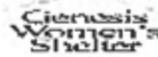
Note: The questions above and the criteria for determining the level of risk a person faces is based on the best available research on factors associated with lethal violence by a current or former intimate partner. However, each situation may present unique factors that influence risk for lethal violence that are not captured by this screen. Although most victims who screen "positive" or "high danger" would not be expected to be killed, these victims face much higher risk than that of other victims of intimate partner violence.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LETHALITY SCREEN FOR FIRST RESPONDERS



10-1 units plus



(214) 941-1991

(214) 946-4357 (HELP)

Officer:	Date:	Case #:
Victim:	Offender:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if victim did not answer any of the questions.		
▶ A "Yes" response to any of Questions #1-3 automatically triggers the protocol referral.		
1. Tiene él / ella nunca usó un arma en contra de usted o le amenazó con un arma? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.		
2. Tiene él / ella amenazó de muerte a usted o a sus hijos? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.		
3. ¿Cree usted que él / ella podría tratar de matarte? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.		
▶ Negative responses to Questions #1-3, but positive responses to at least four of Questions #4-11, trigger the protocol referral.		
4. ¿Tiene él / ella una pistola o puede él / ella conseguir uno fácilmente? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.		
5. Tiene él / ella alguna vez trató de ahogarse? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.		
6. ¿Es él / ella violentamente o constantemente celoso o él / ella controlan la mayor parte de sus actividades diarias? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.		
7. ¿Ha dejado a él / ella o separados después de vivir juntos o estar casado? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.		
8. ¿Es él / ella desempleado? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.		
9. Tiene él / ella alguna vez trató de matar a sí mismo / a? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.		
10. ¿Tiene un niño que él / ella sabe que no es él / ella? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.		
11. ¿Él / ella seguir o espiar a usted o dejar mensajes amenazantes? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.		
▶ An officer may trigger the protocol referral, if not already triggered above, as a result of the victim's response to the below question, or whenever the officer believes the victim is in a potentially lethal situation.		
¿Hay algo más que usted se preocupa por su seguridad? (Si responde "Si") ¿Qué te preocupa?		
What is the victim's gender? <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		
What is the suspect's gender? <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		
Was the Victim Transported to a Hospital? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
¿Estaba el sospechoso ebrio / en drogado durante este delito? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Is the suspect At Large? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Check one: <input type="checkbox"/> Victim screened in according to the protocol <input type="checkbox"/> Victim screened in based on the belief of officer <input type="checkbox"/> Victim did not screen in		
If victim screened in: After advising her/him of a high danger assessment, did the victim speak with the hotline counselor? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: The questions above and the criteria for determining the level of risk a person faces is based on the best available research on factors associated with lethal violence by a current or former intimate partner. However, each situation may present unique factors that influence risk for lethal violence that are not captured by this screen. Although most victims who screen "positive" or "high danger" would not be expected to be killed, these victims face much higher risk than that of other victims of intimate partner violence.

Form DPD-RS1-4-1-2013

DALLAS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SATELLITE OFFICES



The Dallas County District Attorney's Office has opened
ELEVEN satellite offices to better serve YOU!

Each location offers:

- Protective order screening
- Intimate crime resources
- Case information
- Interaction with a prosecutor

THE PEOPLE'S OFFICE IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK!

LOCATION:	HOURS:
CPD Patrol Stations	2:00pm-5:00pm
North Central 6969 McCallum Boulevard Dallas, Texas 75252	Tuesday Thursday
Northwest 9801 Harry Hines Boulevard Dallas, Texas 75220	Tuesday Thursday
Southwest 4230 W. Illinois Avenue Dallas, Texas 75211	Tuesday Thursday
South Central 1999 E. Camp Wisdom Road Dallas, Texas 75241	Tuesday Thursday
Central at Jubilee Park 907 S. Carroll Avenue Dallas, Texas 75223	Tuesday Thursday
Southeast at Bexar Street 5411 Bexar Street Dallas, Texas 75215	Tuesday Thursday
Northeast 9915 East Northwest Highway Dallas, Texas 75238	Tuesday Thursday

LOCATION:	HOURS:
City of Dallas Community Courts	9:00am-5:00pm
South Oak Cliff Community Court 2111 South Corinth Street Dallas, Texas 75203	Monday
West Dallas Community Court 2828 Fishtrap Road Dallas, Texas 75212	Tuesday
South Dallas Community Court 2922 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Dallas, Texas 75215	Thursday
Northeast Dallas Community Court 9451 LBJ Freeway, Suite 125 Dallas, Texas 75243	Monday

**For more information,
please call (214)653-3528**

OFICINAS SATELITES DEL FISCAL DEL DISTRITO DEL CONDADO DALLAS



¡Oficina del fiscal de Distrito del Condado de Dallas ha abierto **once** oficinas para servirle mejor!

Cada ubicación ofrece lo siguiente:

- protección orden
- recursos de crimen íntima
- proyección información
- interacción con un fiscal

¡OFICINA DE LA GENTE ESTÁ MÁS CERCA DE LO QUE CREES!

Lugares:	Horario:
Estaciones de Policías	2:00pm-5:00am
North Central 6969 McCallum Boulevard Dallas, Texas 75252	martes jueves
Northwest 9801 Harry Hines Boulevard Dallas, Texas 75220	martes jueves
Southwest 4230 W. Illinois Avenue Dallas, Texas 75211	martes jueves
South Central 1999 E. Camp Wisdom Road Dallas, Texas 75241	martes jueves
Central at Jubilee Park 907 S. Carroll Avenue Dallas, Texas 75223	martes jueves
Southeast at Bexar Street 5411 Bexar Street Dallas, Texas 75215	martes jueves
Northeast 9915 East Northwest Highway, Dallas, Texas 75238	martes jueves

Lugares:	Horario:
Cortes de Comunidad de la Ciudad	9:00am-5:00pm
South Oak Cliff Community Court 2111 South Corinth Street Dallas, Texas 75203	lunes
West Dallas Community Court 2828 Fishtrap Road Dallas, Texas 75212	martes
South Dallas Community Court 2922 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard Dallas, Texas 75215	jueves
Northeast Dallas Community Court 9451 LBJ Freeway, Suite 125 Dallas, Texas 75243	lunes

**Para obtener más información,
llame al (214)653-3528**



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Urban Policy Research
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800 West Campbell Road, WT20
Richardson, Texas 75080-3021

(972)883-5430 voice (972)883-5431 facsimile

Visit us on the Web! <http://iupr.utdallas.edu>

