

Domestic Violence and Firearms in Utah

-Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee,
October 2019

Utah Domestic Violence Coalition

Advocate • Collaborate • Educate



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The Utah Domestic Violence Coalition is non-government organization representing **a team** of victim service providers working to serve survivors of domestic and sexual violence across Utah.

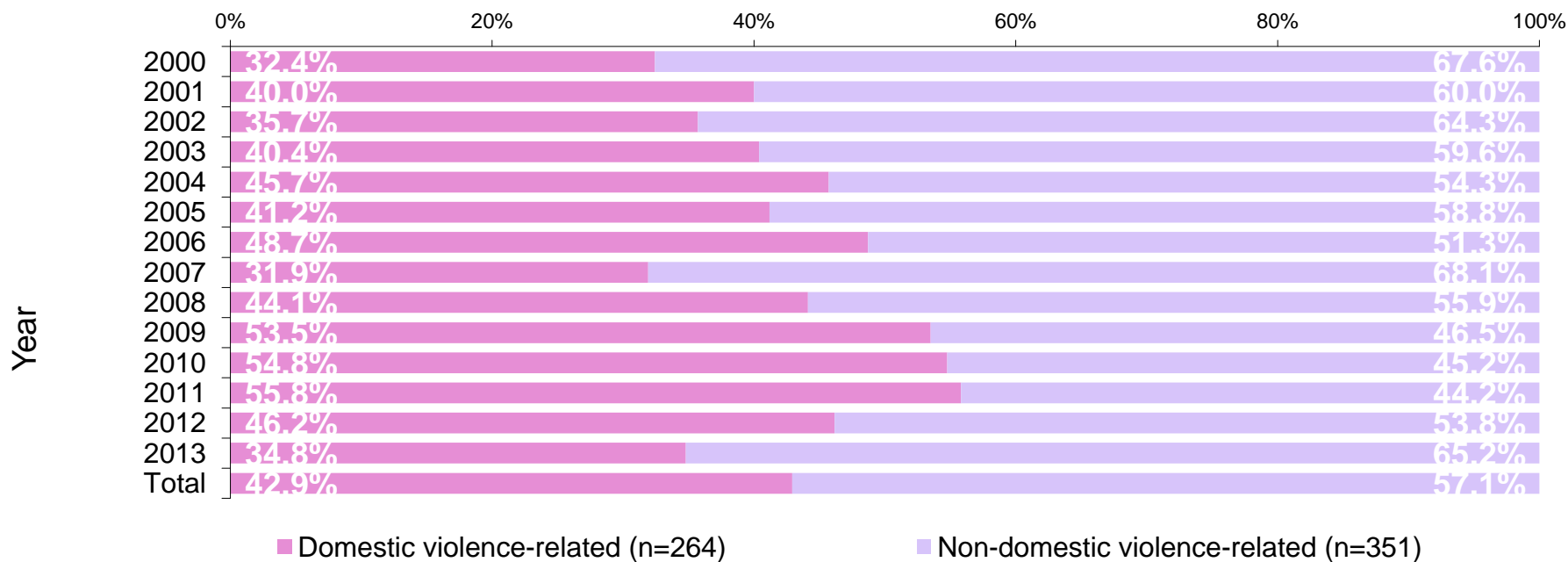
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EACH YEAR, OUR TEAM OF VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDERS THROUGHOUT UTAH, PROVIDE SURVIVORS OF INTIMATE PARTNER **VIOLENCE—**

- ▶ **OVER 100,000 nights of emergency shelter**
 - ▶ **Answering over 43,000 crisis calls**
 - ▶ **At least 54,000 hours of child services**
 - ▶ **250,000 hours of case management and advocacy support**

Percentage of domestic violence-related and non-domestic violence-related adult homicides, Utah, 2000-2013 (Utah DOH VIPP)



Since 2000, 42% of Utah's homicides are domestic violence related.

How are we working to prevent domestic violence deaths in Utah?

- ▶ LAP initiated as a pilot in Utah in 2015, statewide in 2016; funded ongoing in 2019 through the HomeSafe program with SGF.
- ▶ Over 12,000 survivors have engaged in LAP, need for services for high risk/high needs survivors continues to grow
- ▶ Utah's DV Fatality rate dropped from 2017-18 for the first time in 20+ years

Thank you thank you thank you thank you . . .

Key data points to guide the reduction of domestic violence fatalities in Utah

- ▶ The majority of DV homicides and officer involved shootings in response to DV involve a firearm.
- ▶ One-third of the domestic violence perpetrators in Utah die by suicide after committing the homicide.
- ▶ Less than 2% of Utah's DV homicide victims had a protective order at the time of their murder.

Where do we focus DV homicide prevention efforts?

- **Previous threats with a weapon** were associated with increased risk of intimate partner femicide.
- 83% of women killed by intimate partners were **receiving DCFS services** at the time
- 67-80% of intimate partner homicides involve **physical abuse of the female by the male** before the murder.
- 85% of intimate partner homicide victims **were stalked** prior to their murder
- Previous **arrest of the abuser for domestic violence was associated with a decreased risk** of intimate partner femicide.

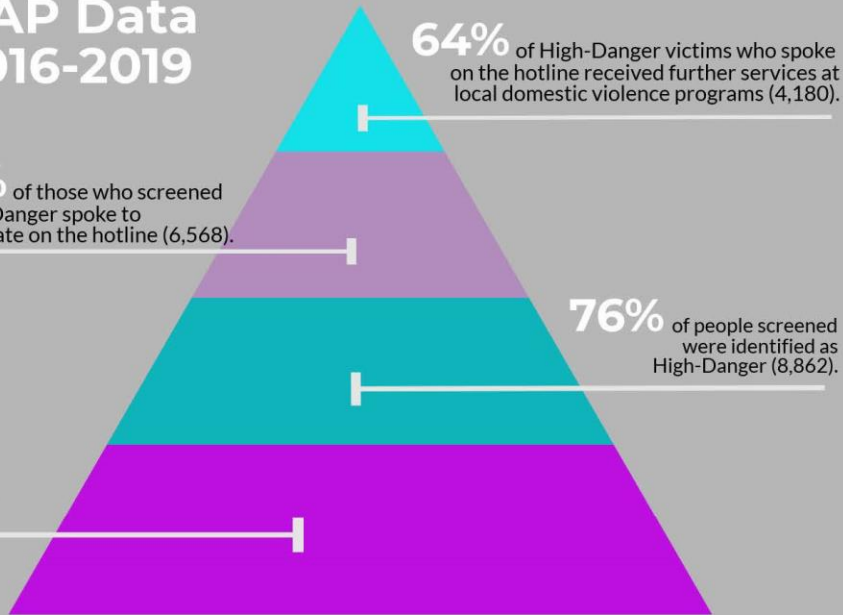
DV Homicide Prevention

Improving safety through policy in Utah

- ▶ Improve state statutes for:
 - ▶ Obtaining Protective Orders, ERPO/Red flag laws
 - ▶ Clearly define a Relinquishment
 - ▶ Restrictions for individuals convicted of perpetrating DV and stalking
 - ▶ Domestic Violence Related Child Abuse
 - ▶ Consistently include dating violence in state statute
 - ▶ Background checks

Lethality Assessment Program Update

LAP Data 2016-2019

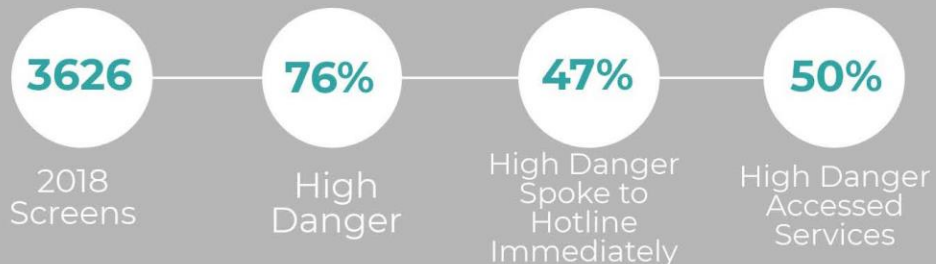


Total # of LAP Screens conducted (by law enforcement, service providers and community agencies).

* The data above is accurate through March 31, 2019

The UDVC began piloting the LAP in late 2015 with select law enforcement and domestic violence agencies. It has grown to include all 13 community-based DV agencies in Utah and over 60 law enforcement departments - with additional jurisdictions joining every quarter.

2018 Breakdown



For additional information please contact Claire Mosby at cmosby@udvc.org

Thank you for your time and attention. We know domestic violence is a preventable public health issue, and we deeply appreciate the support of the Utah Legislature to help us build partnerships and find solutions.

--Jenn Oxborrow, LCSW
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