Domestic Violence Data in Utah
Annual Report to the Legislature – November 2025
Utah Commission on Criminal & Juvenile Justice

Note: This is the first report prepared in accordance with requirements for the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ) in 63M-7-220 and for the Public Safety Data Management Task Force (PSDM) in 36-29-111. For more information on the general work and progress of the PSDM Task Force (i.e., (7)(a) through (e) in 36-29-11), please refer to the 2025 Public Safety Portal Report.

Summary: This annual report to the Legislature on domestic violence (DV) data collection in Utah introduces and compiles the extensive work completed to date by a data working group formed, in collaboration with CCJJ, within the Domestic Violence Subcommittee of the Victim Services Commission in 2024. This work and recommendations were presented to the PSDM Task Force in November (see **Supporting Document #1** at the end of this report), and these were also laid out in a larger report (see **Supporting Document #2** at the end of this report). The current report supplements this work by providing a summary (along with supporting figures) of currently available DV data in Utah (per (2) (a) through (d) of 63M-7-220 and (8)(b) of 36-29-111) and highlighting important recommendations (per (3)(b) of 63M-7-220 and (8)(c)(ii) of 36-29-111). As will become clear, much of the currently available DV data comes after a victim has officially engaged with the criminal justice system (i.e., offense reported to the police, criminal case filed by the prosecutor in the Courts). Efforts to improve DV data collection in Utah should focus on: a) expanding the collection of quality prevalence data outside of the criminal justice system, from general victimization in the overall population (i.e., surveys) to those who seek other services after victimization; b) improving data within the criminal justice system (i.e., better flagging of offenses as DV); c) developing an integrated statewide database where all service providers can enter data (regardless of funding sources or grants) to get a fuller picture of DV service data; and d) creating a platform to display and track DV data in Utah (i.e., DV data dashboards in CCJJ's Public Safety Portal).

Background: During the 2023 Legislative Session, H.B. 43 created a time-limited Domestic Violence Data Task Force to assess the landscape of DV data in the state (including lethality assessments, cohabitant abuse protective orders, and the prevalence of DV) and provide feedback and recommendations. This task force issued a report in November 2023 (see **Supporting Document #3** at the end of this report), and the group was due to sunset on December 31, 2024. In the subsequent 2024 Legislative Session, H.B. 532 moved this repeal date up to October 1, 2024, and simultaneously inserted the language for the prior duties of the DV Data Task Force into the statute for the Public Safety Data Management (PSDM) Task Force (in 36-29-111) while also assigning these same duties to CCJJ in 63M-7-220. As neither of these groups possess the same level of expertise in DV-related issues as the members of the original DV Data Task Force, staff from CCJJ (who also serve as staff to the PSDM Task Force) reached out to the Victim Services Commission (VSC) within CCJJ for assistance. One of VSC's subcommittees focused on domestic violence agreed to collaborate with CCJJ and form a data working group to assist in addressing these statutory requirements related to DV data collection and recommendations – this not only provided necessary expertise but also some level of continuity, as several members of the VSC Domestic Violence subcommittee also served on the original DV Data Task Force formed by H.B. 43. This DV data working group has met monthly starting in the fall of 2024 and has produced a comprehensive spreadsheet of the DV data landscape, as well as the summary presentation to the PSDM Task Force and the full report with recommendations appended to this current report **(#1** and **#2** in the **Supporting Documents** that follow). This assessment and recommendations form the backbone of this report, and the reader is encouraged to review these two documents for more details. Additionally, CCJJ has gathered some of the DV data stipulated in the statutes to summarize here, while also providing a review of important limitations and recommendations for improvement to DV data collection moving forward.

Summary of DV Data Currently Required to be Collected in Statute: The review below represents data which CCJJ currently has access to, either through existing data sharing agreements and/or data that is already being submitted to the Public Safety Portal database or that is available through other online agency dashboards. The DV data working group's comprehensive DV data spreadsheet provides a more exhaustive overview of all data sources that could apply to the statutory requirements. When applicable, reference is made to other potential data sources in the following.

Lethality Assessments (LA)

Starting in July 2023, law enforcement officers responding to domestic violence calls involving intimate partners (where a predominant aggressor is identified) are required to conduct a lethality assessment, and the results of these assessments are reported to the Department of Public Safety in accordance with 77-36-2.1. The Department of Public Safety's Statewide Information and Analysis Center (SIAC) maintains a website with dashboards summarizing the data from these assessments. **Figure 1** in the **Supporting Figures** section (**p.6**) also provides a basic summary of the number of assessments conducted in the first two fiscal years (a), and a breakdown of the outcomes for all assessments conducted through September 2025 (b). Just over 11,000 assessments were conducted in both FY2024 (11,161) and FY2025 (11,097). Of the 25,381 total assessments conducted through September 2025, 63.4% of these were determined to be potentially lethal (which requires referral to a victim advocate). Further information on several of the individual questions from this data is provided below in the discussion of the prevalence of DV involving specific characteristics (strangulation, threats of homicide and suicide). The SIAC recently published a report focused on DV-related homicides including LA data.

In addition to law enforcement, other organizations that provide DV services within the state (i.e., shelters) also conduct lethality assessments with victims. At this time, these assessments are collected and maintained by the Utah Domestic Violence Coalition (UDVC). CCJJ does not have direct access to this additional data at the time of this report but is in active discussions with UDVC to develop a process to receive this deidentified summary data from these assessments in the Public Safety Portal (PSP) to integrate with the law enforcement assessments and provide a more complete picture of all lethality assessments conducted in Utah. Finally, there are various other organizations (i.e., healthcare, military, and community-based organizations not specifically focused on DV) who also conduct some lethality assessments, and a process will need to be developed to target and integrate these additional assessments and to ensure the same methods and training are standardized across contexts.

For information on the lethality assessment instrument, training and protocols, and the data collection efforts implemented by law enforcement and other organizations, please refer to **Supporting Documents #1 and #2** at the end of this report.

Cohabitant Abuse Protective Orders

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) tracks cohabitant abuse protective orders in their CORIS database and is required to provide the number of these that are issued, amended or dismissed before the date of expiration, or dismissed (under 78B-7-605) each year for the previous calendar year. CCJJ currently has data for the years 2019-2024 (the AOC provided five full years in the first year of reporting), and this is summarized in **Figure 2** in the **Supporting Figures** section (**p.6**). The number of cohabitant abuse protective orders issued declined from 4,222 in 2019 to 3,285 in 2024, a drop of 22% over the six-year period. The other categories (amendments and the two types of dismissals) have held steadier, particularly over the past four years. It is important to note with this data that these categories are not mutually exclusive – while the two types of dismissals are separate categories, a protective order can be both amended and dismissed. Also, the AOC tracks the number of protective orders that are amended, not the total number of amendments (a protective order can be amended multiple times).

One limitation of the cohabitant abuse protective order data is the ability to track the outcomes and link the protective orders with violations. As will be shown below in the prevalence section, the AOC has data for cases involving violations of protective orders, but it is more difficult to track, for example, the number/percent of issued protective orders that were ultimately violated.

Prevalence of DV in the State – General

In their reports (see **Supporting Documents #1 and #2**), the DV data working group used a useful analogy of a funnel to describe the context of prevalence in relation to DV data, with three levels starting from the wider end at the top down to the middle and ultimately down to the narrow end at the bottom:

1) Wide end/largest group of people – the number of individuals experiencing DV in Utah (i.e., assessed through self-report, surveys), regardless of whether they have sought/received DV support or services, or engaged with the criminal or civil justice systems.
   - The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) reports on Utah-specific data from the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey conducted periodically. In the most recent survey conducted in 2022, 14.2% of Utah adults reported being physically hurt by an intimate partner in their lifetime (over 20% of female respondents).
   - CCJJ has not had funding to conduct a new Utah Crime Survey since the 2014 report, though these used to be conducted every 3-4 years for a time. The 2014 survey included questions about victim-offender relationships in victimization for various violent crimes, and these surveys also included questions about stalking (see below). This survey found that overall victimization for violent crime (robbery, assault, threat of violence, and rape or other sexual assault) in the past year and over the lifetime was 7.8% and 41.2% respectively, and that almost a third (31.3% in the previous year and 32.0% lifetime) was committed by current or former intimate partners – this equates to roughly 2.5% experiencing DV in the prior year and 13.2% in their lifetime.
   - It would require additional funding for either DHHS or CCJJ to conduct surveys like these more regularly to target the greater prevalence of DV and track trends.

2) Middle/next largest group – of those experiencing DV, the number who have reached out for services and support, regardless of engagement with the justice system or the funding source of the service provider.
   - Several agencies in the state (i.e., DHHS Division of Child and Family Services, CCJJ's Office for Victims of Crime, UDVC) report on this information. One issue with the data that is reported is that it is mostly dependent on grant funding and the reporting requirements that accompany this.
   - This is still very useful data, and CCJJ and its partners can make greater efforts to consolidate this information and track trends. Because of the limitations related to grant reporting, however, the trends will likely be as reflective of the general waxing and waning of grant funding at the federal and state levels as it is of the actual trends in victims seeking DV services. Alternatively, a more effective solution would involve a shared statewide database that would allow all service providers and other organizations to record their data, regardless of grant funding. This information could then be securely transferred in a protected manner to CCJJ's Public Safety Portal (PSP) for tracking.

3) Narrow end/smallest group – the number of victims who reported a DV incident to law enforcement and/or engaged with the criminal justice system (i.e., charges filed, Courts).
   - For crimes reported to law enforcement, the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) enables the collection of victim-offender relationship data for these incidents, and this allows DV-related crimes to be distinguished based on these relationships. DPS' Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI) has developed online Crime in Utah dashboards to display

this NIBRS data (pages 16-18 in particular for DV data). DPS' SIAC recently published a summary report of law enforcement-based data on DV (both NIBRS and LA) in August 2024. In **Figure 3** in the **Supporting Figures** section (**p.7**), data is extracted from the BCI dashboards to show trends in the total DV incidents reported to law enforcement over the past five fiscal years (a), as well as these incidents specifically involving intimate partners (b) or children (c). Overall DV and DV involving intimate partners have been relatively stable around the 5-year average (13,795 for total, 7,433 for intimate partners) apart from a slight dip in FY2022, though DV involving a child showed an increase in FY2025, up 8% from FY2024 and elevated over its 5-year average (2,575 incidents). The NIBRS data also provides information on injuries and weapons used in DV incidents.

- DV-related arrests and court cases are somewhat more difficult to track, as law enforcement, prosecutors, and the Courts often employ more general crime codes (i.e., assault) without consistent use of DV flags, unless the offense fits into a more specific code (i.e., DV in the presence of a child, stalking – see below).

Prevalence of DV – Stalking, Strangulation, DV in the Presence of Children, Threats of Suicide or Homicide

In addition to general prevalence of DV, statutory language calls for data collection related to the prevalence of several more specific characteristics potentially involved in DV cases: stalking, strangulation, violence in the presence of children, and threats of suicide or homicide. As outlined in the levels of prevalence in the previous section, more can be done to collect prevalence on these specific DV circumstances in the general population (i.e., surveys, Level 1) and in those who seek services for DV (i.e., shelters and other service providers through grant reporting or a statewide database, Level 2). For the first level, the somewhat outdated Utah Crime Survey, last conducted by CCJJ in 2014, asked questions about the experience of stalking behaviors in the previous year in all four surveys conducted (2004, 2006, 2010, and 2014), and also extended this to lifetime victimization and distinguished between stalking and harassment in the last two of these surveys (2010 and 2014). Across these surveys, the experience of at least one or more of the eight stalking behaviors in the previous year ranged from 13.4% (2010, 2014) to 20.4% (2004); in the latter two surveys, the lifetime experience was 22.8%. Looking more closely at the more restrictive definition of stalking (the experience of one or more of these behaviors led the individual to be somewhat or very fearful for their safety), the prevalence in the previous year was 7.6% in 2010 and 6.1% in 2014 (13.6% and 13.2% respectively for lifetime).

As with general prevalence, much of the data available for each of these more specific characteristics comes at the third level (once the victim has engaged with the criminal justice system). For example, **Figure 4** in the **Supporting Figures** section (**p.8**) shows trends over the past five fiscal years for cases filed in the Courts with charges involving stalking and DV in the presence of a child (these offenses have specific statutes related to them). Both offense categories show an upward trend over the past five years, with the 767 stalking cases in FY2025 almost twice the number in FY2021 (385), and the 4,276 DV in the presence of a child cases in FY2025 were 12% higher than FY2021 (3,803). Figure 4 also shows trends for cases involving the violation of a protective order (though not specific to DV/intimate partners).

For strangulation and threats of suicide and/or homicide, the best data currently available comes from the lethality assessments discussed earlier (see also the SIAC dashboards). Using data pulled from the dashboards, **Figure 5** in the **Supporting Figures** section (**p.8**) shows the percentage of overall victims (from assessments conducted between July 2023-September 2025) who answered affirmatively to the following three questions: 1) "Aggressor has tried to choke or strangle the victim" (37.6%), 2) "Aggressor has threatened to kill victim or children" (28.8%), and 3) "Aggressor has attempted suicide" (28.4%). While these do not have exact congruence with statutory language (i.e., suicide attempts vs. threats of suicide), this current base of over 25,000 assessments provides a good baseline of prevalence in those who report DV incidents to law enforcement (other questions are also relevant to stalking).

Recommendations for Improving DV Data Collection: The above assessment of current DV data collection in Utah, along with the appended reports in the **Supporting Documents** section, gives a sense of what is available (or more easily accessed) and what requires more extensive work to access and/or integrate in order to provide a more complete picture of DV in Utah. The following is a summary of some of the major recommendations developed by the VSC DV Subcommittee data working group, in consultation with CCJJ, broken down by which potential actions could be accomplished on a shorter-term horizon vs. more long-term goals that likely need more planning and/or funding to accomplish.

Shorter Term Actions

1) Create a confidential and protected process that allows UDVC's data on lethality assessments collected from community-based DV service providers and programs to be fed into CCJJ's Public Safety Portal (PSP), with regular (i.e., quarterly) updates.
    - UDVC data not only includes the total number of lethality assessments completed by community-based advocates following a self-referral, but also important follow up information on self-referrals to community-based resources following a law enforcement lethality assessment.
    - Integration of this data with the SIAC law enforcement assessments will provide more depth to the LA data, as it will include self-referrals and not just reported incidents.

2) In the shorter term, develop a process to collect and integrate service use data collected and reported for grant purposes by OVC, DCFS, UDVC, and other agencies.
    - This could also involve working with UDVC to standardize intake questions (and other surveys/assessments) to help develop more uniform data across organizations (in a manner that still meets grant reporting requirements).
    - This shorter-term work could also help pave the way for the longer-term goal to create a statewide database for this purpose (see below).

3) Create a domestic violence data section in CCJJ's Public Safety Portal (PSP), with dashboards displaying all data that is collected.
    - This could start with data from the criminal justice system that is more readily available (like what is presented in the **Supporting Figures**), then expand as more information comes into the PSP.

### Medium to Longer Term Actions/Goals (*require additional funding and/or time)

4) Work to improve the flagging and identification of all DV crimes by law enforcement, prosecutors, and the Courts.
    - This could involve statutory requirements and/or training to ensure existing flagging capabilities are used more consistently.

5) Increase funding and resources for DHHS' Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPP), along with the Office of Public Health Assessment and CCJJ, to conduct more frequent prevalence surveys on general victimization, DV, and more specific categories of DV.
    - Ideally, prevalence surveys could be conducted annually or biennially.

6) Develop and manage a statewide Domestic Violence Database that allows all community organizations to enter data into a state-funded system, regardless of their funding sources or grant reporting requirements.
    - This could be modeled after the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) in the Department of Workforce Service's Office of Homeless Services.
    - Some of this data (confidential, not name-based) could be integrated into CCJJ's PSP.

7) Explore statutory changes and/or some other process (i.e., health systems collaboration) required for medical provider data related to DV to be shared in aggregate.

Supporting Figures:

Figure 1. The total number of lethality assessments (LA) conducted by law enforcement by fiscal year (a), and the LA outcomes for all assessments conducted between July 2023 and September 2025 (b). Source: Utah Department of Public Safety, Statewide Information & Analysis Center (SIAC); pulled from SIAC data dashboards October 2025.

(a)

(b)
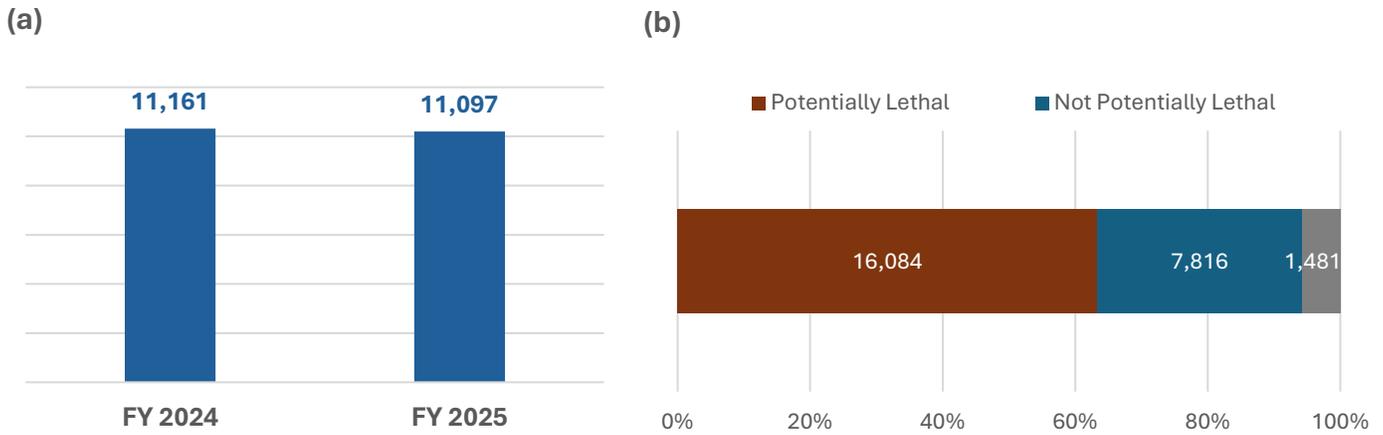
Figure 2. Cohabitant abuse protective orders issued, amended or dismissed before expiration, and dismissed (Section 78B-7-605) by calendar year, 2019-24. Source: Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), CORIS database.
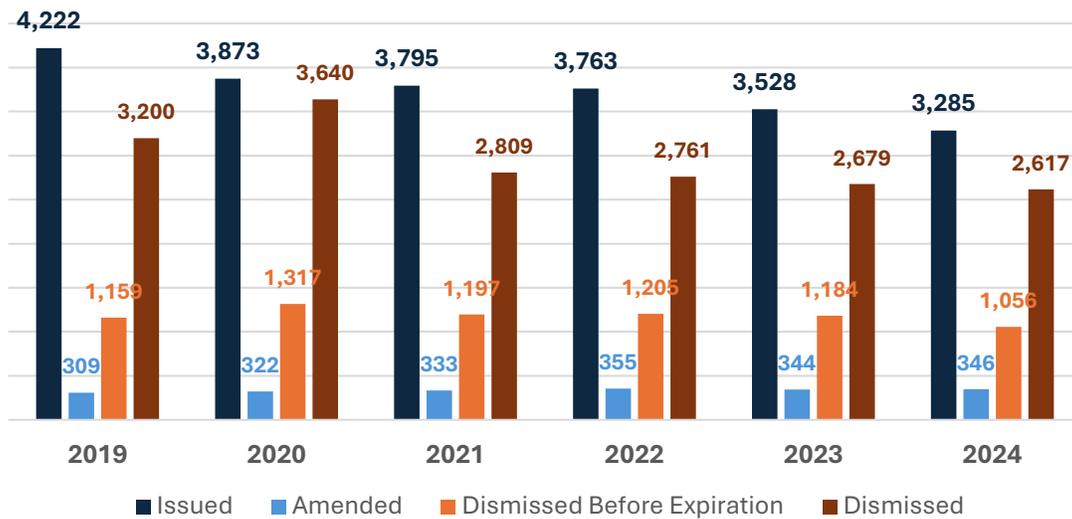
Figure 3. General prevalence indicator – DV offenses reported to law enforcement by victim relationship: total DV offenses (a), intimate partner victim (b), and child victim (c). Data are displayed by fiscal year, FY2021-25. Source: NIBRS data reported to the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Identification; pulled from the Crime in Utah Dashboards October 2025.
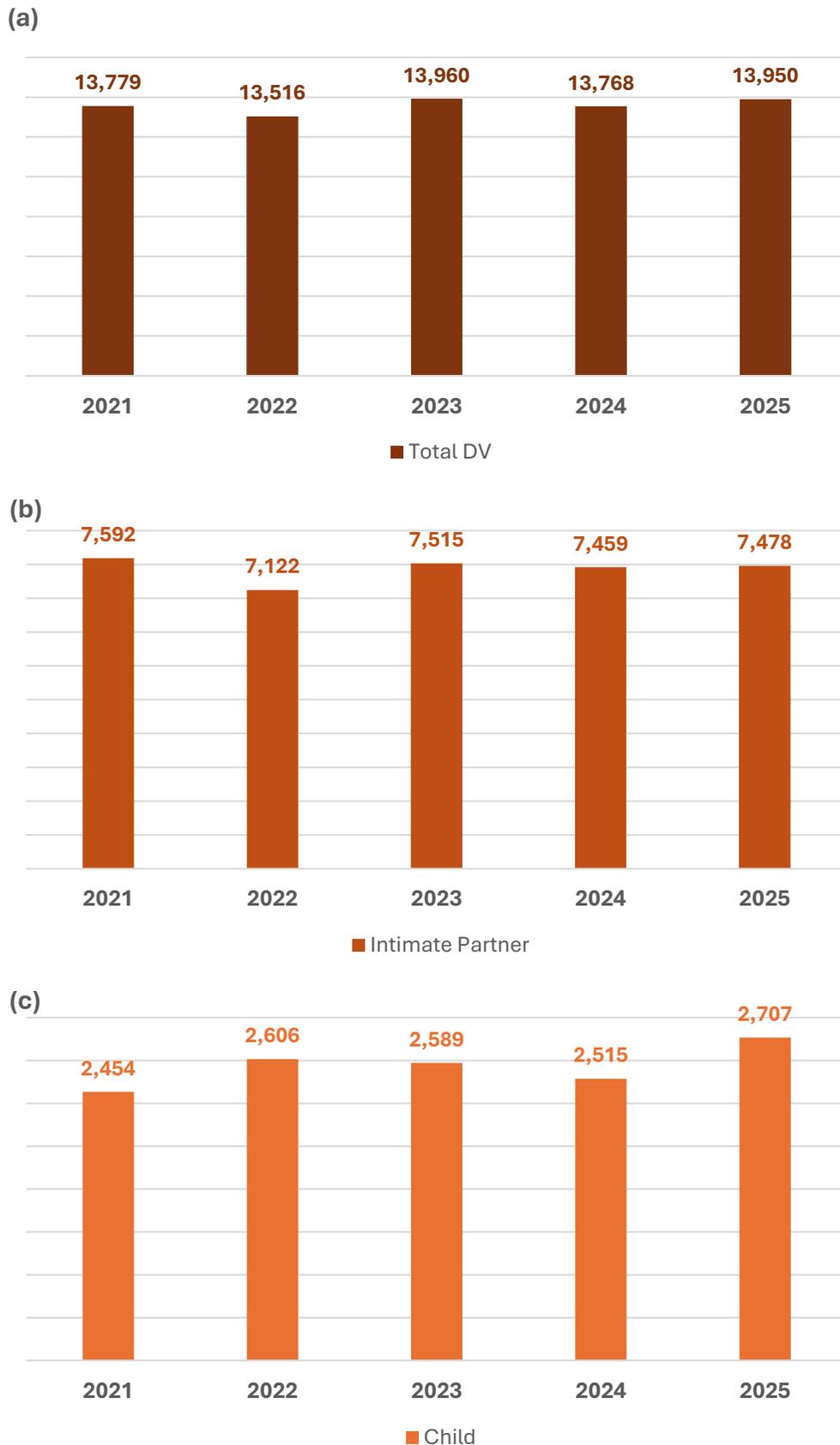
Figure 4. Cases filed in the Courts with charges involving stalking, DV in the presence of a child, and/or violation of a protective order by fiscal year, FY2021-25. Source: Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), CORIS database.
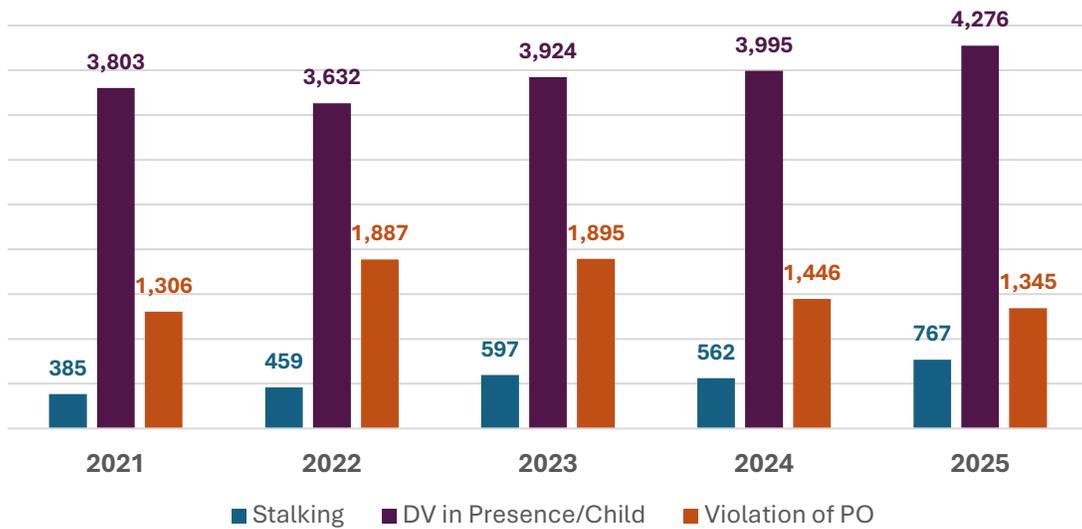
Figure 5. Percentage of overall lethality assessments (conducted between July 2023-September 2025) with affirmative responses indicating that the aggressor attempted or threatened the following behaviors: choking/strangulation, homicide, suicide. Source: Utah Department of Public Safety, Statewide Information & Analysis Center (SIAC); pulled from SIAC data dashboards October 2025.
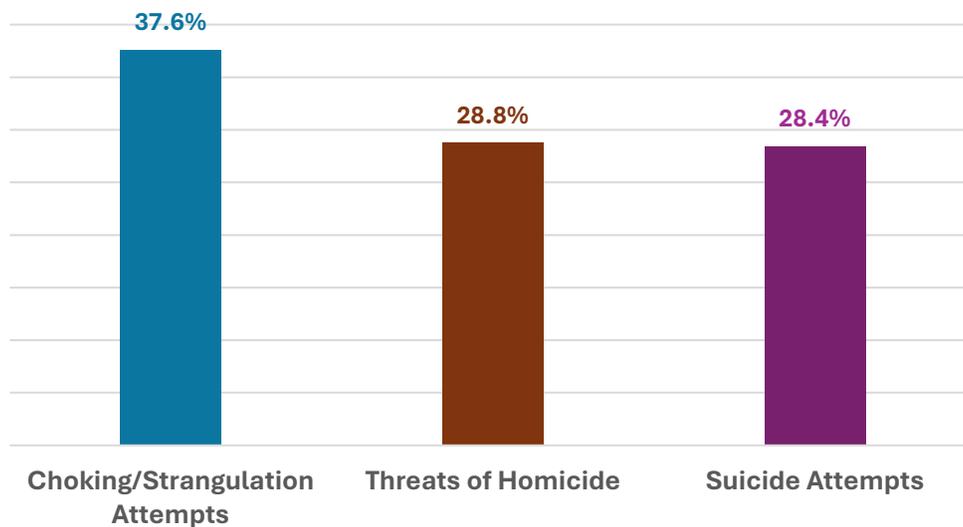
Supporting Documents:

1. **PSDM Task Force Presentation on Domestic Violence Data (November 6, 2025)**
2. **Full Report from the Victim Services Commission, Domestic Violence Subcommittee, Data Working Group – "Statutory Requirements on DV Data Reporting: Current Availability and Recommendations for Closing Gaps" (August 2025)**
3. **Final Report from the Original Domestic Violence Data Task Force from 2023 H.B. 43, continued from 2021 H.B. 301 (November 2023)**

PSDM Task Force

Domestic Violence Data Meeting Report

Victim Services Commission

- The Utah State Legislature established the Utah Victim Services Commission in 2023. The mission of the Utah Victim Services Commission is to generate unity to reduce and eliminate the impact of crime on victims through a comprehensive and evidence-based prevention, treatment, and trauma-informed justice strategy.

DV Sub-Committee

- There are 4 Statutorily created subcommittees. The Domestic Violence Sub-Committee is made up of experts in this field. It is chaired by the Utah Domestic Violence Coalition and Restoring Ancestral Winds. The Domestic Violence Sub-committee Data group meets monthly to discuss and inform the changes from the following statutes.

Statute on Domestic Violence (DV) Data Collection

- Time-Limited DV Data Task Force established in code in 2023 (HB 43) - housed in Department of Public Safety (DPS).
- One report was presented by DPS to Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee in October 2023.
- DPS task force repealed and data requirements merged into Public Safety Data Management Task Force (PSDM) statute in 2024 through HB 532
- **https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title36/Chapter29/36-29-S111.html?v=C36-29-S111_2024100120240501**
- Victim Services Commision Domestic Violence Data Subcommittee got assigned this section to work on.

Requirements of Statute

1. **Lethality Assessments conducted in the state** - "the type of lethality assessments used by law enforcement agencies and other organizations that provide domestic violence services" (statutory language)

Currently available:
- ○ Statewide Information and Analysis Center (SIAC)
- ○ Utah Domestic Violence Coalition (UDVC)

Unavailable: A method to integrate this data for various organizations that conduct lethality assessments, such as military, healthcare, and community-based organizations not specifically focused on domestic violence.

Requirements of Statute

2. **Lethality Assessment Trainings & Protocols** - "training and protocols implemented by law enforcement agencies and other organizations that provide domestic violence services regarding the use of lethality assessments" (statutory language)

Currently Available:

- SIAC and UDVC training numbers
- Video views from SIAC
- Utah Prosecution Council's training program

Unavailable: Individual Law Enforcement Agency training data or training provided by other organizations conducting lethality assessments, including local law enforcement and other potential users.

Requirements of Statute

3. **Data Collection Methods of Domestic Violence Data** - "the data collection efforts implemented by law enforcement agencies and other organizations that provide domestic violence services" (statutory language)

Currently Available: Domestic Violence Data Subcommittee collaborates with agencies collecting domestic violence data in Utah and is actively updating this list.

Unavailable: Uniformity of this process

Requirements of Statute

4. **Cohabitant Abuse Protective Orders** - "the number of cohabitant abuse protective orders that, in the immediately preceding calendar year, were: (A) issued; (B) amended or dismissed before the date of expiration; or (C) dismissed" (statutory language)

Currently Available: Number of cohabitant protective orders that have been issued, amended, dismissed before expiration, and dismissed for 2019 - 2024.

Unavailable: Reliable data on violations, and outcomes of violations, of protective orders from both courts & law enforcement data

Prevalence Context

Prevalence of domestic violence overall in the state, as well as specific types of domestic violence, are data points required by statute.

Overall prevalence must **include 3 levels** in order to paint an accurate picture of the impact of domestic violence in Utah:

1. Number of people who have experienced domestic violence in Utah through self-reports

2. Of those, number of people who have reached out for services and support

3. Of those, number of people who reported domestic violence to law enforcement and engaged with the criminal justice system

Requirements of Statute

5. **The prevalence of domestic violence in the state**
   1. **Number of people who have experienced domestic violence in Utah through self-reports**
      - Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) at DHHS - have released state-specific surveys
   2. **Of those, number of people who have reached out for services and support**
      - Data collected is currently dependent on funder & grant data reporting requirements
      - DV Program at DCFS collects this data on new survivors accessing services for the first time, but this is only for shelter-based and a few other DCFS-funded organizations.
   3. **Of those, number of people who reported domestic violence to law enforcement and engaged with the criminal justice system**
      - BCI Dashboard & Court data
      - Utah Intimate Partner Violence Lethality Assessment (UIPVLA) Data Dashboard (SIAC)

Overall Recommendations for Prevalence Data:
- VIPP could do other studies on self-reported experiences, with various subcategories - state funding needed.
- Shared Statewide database for all reporting and data collecting organizations record their data with that can confidentiality then be integrated into the Public Safety Portal

Requirements of Statute

6. **The prevalence of stalking in domestic violence cases:**

Currently Available: Courts may be able to provide information on protective orders and violations when applicable to stalking - non specific to Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence

- Utah Intimate Partner Violence Lethality Assessment question from SIAC data: "Aggressor follows, spies, or leaves threatening messages"

Unavailable: We do not have a way to integrate this data for "other organizations" that collect data on instances of stalking

Requirements of Statute

6. **The prevalence of strangulation in domestic violence cases**

Currently Available:

- Utah Intimate Partner Violence Lethality Assessment question from SIAC data: "Aggressor has tried to choke or strangle victim"
- DPS BCI Dashboard data on strangulation related crimes (however unable to separate out by Intimate Partner Violence/Domestic Violence)

Unavailable:

- Integration of Court information related to strangulation as well as the data collected by "other organizations"
- Clarify law enforcement data tags to more specifically pull out intimate partner violence.
- Create statutory ability, and health systems collaboration, for medical providers to share aggregate data on how many strangulation medical diagnostic codes are used annually.

Requirements of Statute

6. **The prevalence of violence in the presence of a child in domestic violence cases**:

Currently Available: Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) could pull aggregate data on number of cases with domestic violence (dv) related child abuse

- Likely to not be integrated into Public Safety Portal

    Statutory change reflecting strangulation in the presence of a child as a dv offense, LE charging data may reflect this prevalence.

Unavailable: Integration of Court information related to violence in the presence of a child as well as the data collected by "other organizations"

Requirements of Statute

6. The prevalence of threats of suicide or homicide in domestic violence cases:

Currently Available:

- Multiple Utah Intimate Partner Violence Lethality Assessment questions could provide data to this question
- DPS data from law enforcement shows domestic violence with weapons and types of weapons.

Unavailable: Integration of Court information related to these threats as well as the data collected by "other organizations"

Recommendations: Short Term Actions – Domestic Violence Data

- Adding a domestic violence section to the Public Safety Portal(PSP)

- Integrating all DV crime data into PSP (BCI Dashboard)

- Integrating Utah Intimate Partner Violence Lethality Assessment (UIPVLA) data into PSP (DPS Section)

Short Term Actions – Integrating UIPVLA Community-Based data into PSP

- UDVC has UIPVLA Data from Community-based domestic violence programs that can be integrated into the Public Safety Portal and updated quarterly
  - Percentage of law enforcement screens where the victim-survivor immediately speaks to a community based advocate following assessment
  - Total number of lethality assessments completed by community based advocates following a self-referral & percentage of those screened as high danger
  - Percentage of self-referrals to a community based hotline with a lethality assessment completed by law enforcement previously (*data available starting from July 2024*)

Recommendations: Medium Term Actions

- Statewide database
  - All community organizations can enter data into a system, which is funded by the state, regardless of their funding sources or grants.
  - Some of this data could then be integrated into the Public Safety Portal.
  - Additionally, we aim to standardize data collection across both government and community-based service providers.
- Work to improve LE / Courts tagging and identification of DV crimes

Recommendations:
Long Term Actions

- Increase resources for DHHS's Violence & Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) to conduct prevalence surveys
- Include VIPP data in efforts to connect non-law enforcement state agency data to Public Safety Portal
- Explore statutory changes and/or process required for medical provider data to be shared in aggregate

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Statutory requirements on DV data reporting:
Current availability and recommendations for closing gaps

What data is the "easiest" to integrate or add into the Public Safety Portal (PSP) now?
Where are the gaps and what are our recommendations for addressing those gaps?
(Full information from committee here - statewide DV data spreadsheet)

1. **Lethality Assessments conducted in the state** - *"the type of lethality assessments used by law enforcement agencies and other organizations that provide domestic violence services" (statutory language)*
   ○ The only readily available data is from SIAC - already integrated with PSP?
   ○ **Recommendations:**
      ■ Create a confidential path for feeding UDVC's data on LAPs being collected from DV service providers into the PSP.
      ■ Develop a systems map of what assessments are being conducted, and by what organizations/systems.
      ■ Standardize surveys and intake questions to help develop more uniform data collection across organizations/systems.
      ■ Resource a statewide hub that can gather data from disparate sources such as healthcare and DV service providers and other community orgs that are currently conducting LAPs.

2. **Lethality Assessment Trainings & Protocols** - *"training and protocols implemented by law enforcement agencies and other organizations that provide domestic violence services regarding the use of lethality assessments" (statutory language)*
   ○ There is no tracking to ensure that all officers are trained other than perhaps initial training provided by POST - is this available/integrated into PSP?
   ○ Views on DPS's LAP video - number should be trackable.
   ○ Number of attendees from DPS/UDVC training on the lethality assessment mandate offered periodically - law enforcement and other organizations attend these but there is no official requirement.
   ○ UPC provides some training on DV, specifically on identifying a predominant aggressor which is required before an officer conducts a lethality assessment on scene - they may have attendee data to share.
   ○ **Recommendations:**
      ■ More regular and robust training for law enforcement on domestic violence response and investigation beyond initial POST training, including but not limited to lethality assessments and predominant aggressor identification. Funds, staff time, and materials are needed, as well as ideally compensation for officer hours spent in training. Annual update/training, plus an online module, should be the minimum requirement for all officers since DV is such a common call and often

complex and dangerous for officers. Then tracking attendance would satisfy this data reporting requirement.

- ■ Re: above recommendation, consider adding this domestic violence requirement to THIS section of code (POST basic training course requirements). Training on "responses to sexual traumas and investigations of sexual assault and sexual abuse" is required every 3 years in this section of statute. Again, there is nothing similar for ongoing training required for domestic violence.

3. **Data Collection Methods of Domestic Violence Data** - *"the data collection efforts implemented by law enforcement agencies and other organizations that provide domestic violence services" (statutory language)*
   - ○ This information is all included in the spreadsheet linked above - that's the main progress this committee has made in the past year.
   - ○ Gaps and recommendations are also included throughout this document.

4. **Cohabitant Abuse Protective Orders** - *"the number of cohabitant abuse protective orders that, in the immediately preceding calendar year, were: (A) issued; (B) amended or dismissed before the date of expiration; or (C) dismissed" (statutory language)*
   - ○ The only readily available data is from the Courts - already integrated with PSP?
   - ○ **Recommendations:**
     - ■ Collect reliable data on violations of protective orders - how many violations are reported, what sorts of violations, now many cited vs arrested, why others not cited or arrested, etc.

5. **Prevalence of Domestic Violence in the State (overall prevalence is first part of statute)**
   Committee explored this with a funnel analogy perspective:
   1. Wide end of funnel and largest group of people - self-reported experience of domestic violence, whether or not they have ever received DV support/services, participated in criminal/civil justice system, etc.
      - ● Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) at DHHS - have released state-specific surveys in the past, but most is older now (resource page). Some new data was recently posted here.
      - ● VIPP also has access to CDC NISVS data, which includes state-specific reports, but only done every 10 years (sometimes less).

   2. Middle of funnel and next largest group of people - those who have received support/services from community-based DV service providers regardless of criminal/civil justice system participation, funding source, etc.
      - ● DV Program at DCFS collects this data on new survivors accessing services for the first time, but this is only for shelter-based and a few other DCFS-funded organizations. Not all community organizations.

3. Narrow end of funnel and smallest group of people - reported to law enforcement and/or participated in some aspect of criminal/civil justice system
    ● DPS posts data dashboard with law enforcement DV reports - already integrated with PSP?
    ● Courts data also reflects this level of prevalence to some extent.

Overall Prevalence Recommendations:
    ● VIPP could do other studies on self-reported experiences, with various subcategories - state funding needed.
    ● Develop and manage a state-sponsored domestic violence database (similar to what we have for homeless services at OHS) that all community organizations can enter overall data into, regardless of their funding sources, government grant reporting requirements, etc. Must protect confidentiality and not be name-based. Some level of this data could then be integrated into PSP.
    ● Standardize surveys and service provider intake questions to help develop more uniform data collection.
    ● Explore the utility of more consistent shared definitions, not based around a grant source, in order to maximize how many organizations/communities could participate.

6. **Sub-category of prevalence - *stalking in domestic violence cases (statutory language)***
    ○ Courts may be able to provide information on protective orders and violations when applicable to stalking behaviors.
    ○ "Aggressor follows, spies, or leaves threatening messages" is a LAP question - available from SIAC's data.
    ○ **Recommendations:**
        ■ Integrate DV service provider data on stalking with statewide data collection mechanisms - again, state-sponsored, confidential database that service providers can utilize is needed.

7. **Sub-category of prevalence - *strangulation in domestic violence cases (statutory language)***
    ○ "Aggressor has tried to choke victim" is a LAP question - available from SIAC's data.
    ○ DPS data from law enforcement may also include this dynamic since strangulation is its own offense and should have a cohabitant tag in law enforcement data. Would not be specific to show only intimate partner violence though.
    ○ UDVC collects data on strangulation exams if they are submitted through the reimbursement program - would overlap/double count with law enforcement data though.
    ○ **Recommendations:**
        ■ Clarify law enforcement data tags to more specifically pull out intimate partner violence.

- As noted above, develop a state-sponsored database for collecting prevalence data from service providers, including these subcategories.
- Create statutory ability, and health systems collaboration, for medical providers to share aggregate data on how many strangulation medical diagnostic codes are used annually.

8. **Sub-category of prevalence -** *violence in the presence of a child in domestic violence cases (statutory language)*
   - "Victim has a child that aggressor does not believe is theirs" is a LAP question - doesn't get at this concept specifically, but this data is available from SIAC.
   - DCFS can pull aggregate data on number of cases with DV Related Child Abuse, as designated in their system. Likely cannot be integrated into PSP though.
   - Recent statutory change creates strangulation in the presence of a child as a DV offense, so law enforcement data should reflect that prevalence.
   - Anything "in the presence of a child" should be flagged in law enforcement data - if so, DPS data would reflect that.
   - **Recommendations:**
     - As noted above, develop a state-sponsored database for collecting prevalence data from service providers, including these subcategories.

9. **Sub-category of prevalence -** *threats of suicide or homicide in domestic violence cases*
   - "Aggressor has threatened to kill victim and/or children" is a LAP question - available from SIAC's data.
   - "Victim believes aggressor will try to kill them" is a LAP question - available from SIAC's data.
   - "Aggressor has attempted suicide" is a LAP question - available from SIAC's data.
   - "Aggressor used/threatened victim with a weapon" is a LAP question - available from SIAC's data.
   - DPS data from law enforcement shows DV with weapons and types of weapons.
   - Law enforcement data should also include a specific code for threats of suicide. Again, these should also have a cohabitant tag, though it would not be specific to show intimate partner violence only.
   - **Recommendations:**
     - Create statutory ability, and health systems collaboration, for medical providers to share aggregate data on these medical diagnostic codes.
     - As noted above, develop a state-sponsored database for collecting prevalence data from service providers, including these subcategories.

Domestic Violence Data Task Force Report

Previous Gap Assessment

Based on 2021 HB 301, the Utah Department of Public worked with DCFS and CCJJ to identify aggregate data regarding domestic violence and specifically the prevalence of stalking, strangulation, violence in the presence of a child, and suicidal or homicidal threats.

Analysis of Domestic Violence in Utah Release: 3 November 2021

DPS assessed DV data likely to be incomplete due to a lack of consistency in Utah law enforcement and non-law enforcement agencies sharing data or reporting on domestic violence. Not every agency was sharing data through the same platform, while some agencies did not report at all.

Analysis of Domestic Violence in Utah Release: 22 August 2023

DPS now assesses that many of the gaps in law enforcement sharing of domestic violence incidents have improved. Due to Utah Senate Bill (S.B.) 117 that went into effect requiring all Utah law enforcement to conduct lethality assessments (LAP) when responding to domestic incidents involving intimate partners. The new LAP is now co-operated by Utah's DPS and UDVC along with 16 community-based service providers who assist law enforcement when a lethality assessment is high risk. This updated LAP enables better collaboration between agencies, ensures all Utah law enforcement are screening IPV victims for lethality, and compiles IPV data into one source. It also assists in identifying the number of lethality assessments, the prevalence of stalking, strangulation, violence in the presence of children, and threats of suicide or homicide.

However, there are still gaps in Domestic Violence Data. Utah currently does not gather information on DV cases of non-intimate partners. The new LAP does not provide information on the outcome of victims and aggressors. Without that information, it is difficult to assess the LAP's full impact. The LAP does not tell how it affects an aggressor's jail pre-trial release, sentencing, or intervention efforts. Similarly, it does not capture details on the success of services or intervention efforts provided to victims.

LAP Data

In August 2023, Utah law enforcement was able to collect and report data on 1,015 Intimate Partner Violence Lethality Assessment Protocols (LAPs) submitted by 106 agencies. Per the LAP, victims most often reported 375 times the aggressor tried to choke the victim, 291 times the aggressor had threatened to kill the victim or children, 288 times the aggressor had attempted suicide, and 430 times the aggressor followed, spied, or left threatening messages.

(U) August 2023 Yes Answers

Category	Count
Aggressor is Violently Jealous or Controlling	615
Victim is Separated from Aggressor after Cohabitating	556
Aggressor Follows, Spies, or leaves Threatening…	430
Aggressor is Unemployed	398
Aggressor has tried Choking Victim	375
Aggressor has a Gun or can easily get one	345
Aggressor has Threatened to Kill victim and/or children	291
Aggressor has Attempted Suicide	288
Victim believes Aggressor will try to Kill them	268
Aggressor Used/Threatened Victim with a Weapon	224
Victim has a Child that Aggressor does not believe is…	187

2023 Domestic Violence Data Task Force Commission & Questionnaire

In September 2023, the Domestic Violence Data Task Force was established in accordance with the recently enacted legislative House Bill 43, focused on Domestic Violence Modifications. This task force has been formed with the purpose of effectively coordinating efforts and providing recommendations to the Legislature concerning the collection of domestic violence data within the state.

Membership:
> Utah Department of Public Safety, Department of Corrections, Chair of the Board of Pardons and Parole, Utah Chiefs of Police Association, Utah Sheriffs' Association (awaiting designee), State Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, Division of Child and Family Services, Division of Indian Affairs, Office of Homeless Services, the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration Office of the Court's, Utah League of Cities and Towns and the Utah Association of Counties (awaiting designee), Statewide Association of Prosecutors, Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Utah Domestic Violence Coalition, a Criminal justice system advocate, and a Nongovernment organization victim advocate

2023 Data Task Force Questionnaire:
> H.B. 43 sought to compile information pertaining to various aspects of domestic violence, with a specific focus on identifying gaps in data collection and sharing. In September, task force members participated in a questionnaire aimed at pinpointing these gaps. Highlighted below are some of the questions and corresponding responses.
>
> - 100 % believed the Utah IPV Lethality Assessment will assist officers in providing better awareness to survivors on the seriousness of the circumstances surrounding an incident of intimate partner violence.
> - 90 % believed the Utah IPV Lethality Assessment will provide more resources to victims that will strengthen their safety following an incident of intimate partner violence. (The other 10 % was unfamiliar with the question)
> - 90 % believed there is not sufficient data being collected on what intervention resources are being provided throughout the judicial process to aggressors of domestic violence. (The other 10 % was unfamiliar with the question)
> - 90 % believed the state should create an additional assessment tool to better assess the aggressor and their possibility of recidivism. (The other 10 % was unfamiliar with the question)
> - When asked what categories were not being tracked well, 70 % indicated offender Intervention efforts, 20 % indicated victim services provided by community-based advocates and 10% indicated law enforcement assessments.
> - 70 % believed there should be a shared database among community service providers, law enforcement, and the courts to better share information on what intervention resources are being provided to the convicted aggressor of domestic violence. (The other 30 % was unfamiliar with the question)