

DV DATA



FY15

**Community Report on Domestic Violence in
Mecklenburg County**

Prepared by Community Support Services, Mecklenburg County

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements

Executive Summary

Public Safety and Criminal Justice 1

Notes for Public Safety and Criminal Justice 5

Health and Human Services 8

Notes for Health and Human Services 18

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the following agencies for your contribution to this report.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department

Mecklenburg County Public Health Department

Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System

Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

Davidson Police Department

Mecklenburg County Social Services

Huntersville Police Department

Mint Hill Police Department

Matthews Police Department

NC Administrative Office of the Courts

Mecklenburg County Community Support Services

Safe Alliance

For previous DV Data Reports go to the DV Data Warehouse on Mecklenburg County's Community Support Services website.



FY15 Report produced by:
Mecklenburg County Community Support Services Department



Executive Summary

Domestic Violence Community Leadership Team (DV-CLT):

DV-CLT (“The Team”) is a partnership between government, health and human service providers, educational institutions, the private sector and the faith community. The Team raises awareness about domestic violence and focuses on preventing domestic violence. In 2008, The Team recommended developing various metrics and key indicators on domestic violence activity in our county. As a result, the Mecklenburg County’s [Domestic Violence Data Warehouse](#) was developed to “house” the domestic violence related performance metrics, and this annual community report was created.

How to Read This Document:

This report has two sections: the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Section and the Health and Human Services Section. The Public Safety and Criminal Justice Section provides domestic violence related data from various law enforcement agencies and from the 26th Judicial District court system. The Health and Human Services Section includes domestic violence related data from the *Youth Risk Behavior Survey*, from various county departments and from local service providers who specialize in domestic violence intervention and prevention services. Each agency is described briefly, and trend data is reported from the agency’s case management system(s). The data is by fiscal year, calendar year and academic school year. A Notes section follows with definitions and details related to the data tables and graphs.

Key Results Summary:

- The total number of police incident reports filed with a domestic violence relationship is 9,053 in FY15.
- Simple Assault is the most common charge type (4,946) noted in the domestic violence incident police report in FY15.
- The Mecklenburg County Sheriff’s Office served 2,889 domestic violence orders in calendar year 2015.
- The Mecklenburg County Sheriff’s Office seized and stored 376 weapons in the context of domestic violence in calendar year 2015.
- The number of Domestic Violence Protective Orders filed in the 26th Judicial Civil District Court was 3,111 for FY15.
- The 2013 *Youth Risk Behavior Survey* captures local data on violence among middle and high school students in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. In 2013, 8.8 percent of students responded affirmatively to being “physically hurt on purpose” by someone he or she is dating. Likewise, 8.4 percent responded affirmatively to being forced to do “sexual things when [he/she] did not want to.” The 2015 survey results will be available in the summer of 2016.
- Mecklenburg County’s Community Support Services Department served 1,037 adult victims of domestic violence in FY15.
- The domestic violence shelter, provided by Safe Alliance, served 446 adult victims of domestic violence in FY15.

***“We are building a community that does not tolerate domestic violence and stands united to prevent all forms of it.” –
DV-CLT Leadership Team Vision***



Public Safety and Criminal Justice Section

Overview:

This section includes domestic violence related data pertaining to public safety and criminal justice for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2015 and for the calendar year 2015. Trend data is included for comparison purposes. Data is from five out of seven local police jurisdictions and the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office. Domestic violence related data for the court system follows and is from the NC Administrative Office of the Courts. Definitions and End notes conclude the section.

Law Enforcement:

Police Jurisdictions

There are seven police jurisdictions in the county: one in the City of Charlotte and six in the surrounding towns. For this report, six out of seven police jurisdictions provided data. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department collects this data on behalf of the Town of Davidson Police Department. In this table, Davidson and Charlotte's counts are rolled together and reported. The police jurisdiction for Cornelius did not report data for this report.

Table 1: Criminal Incident Reports where a Domestic Violence Relationship is noted

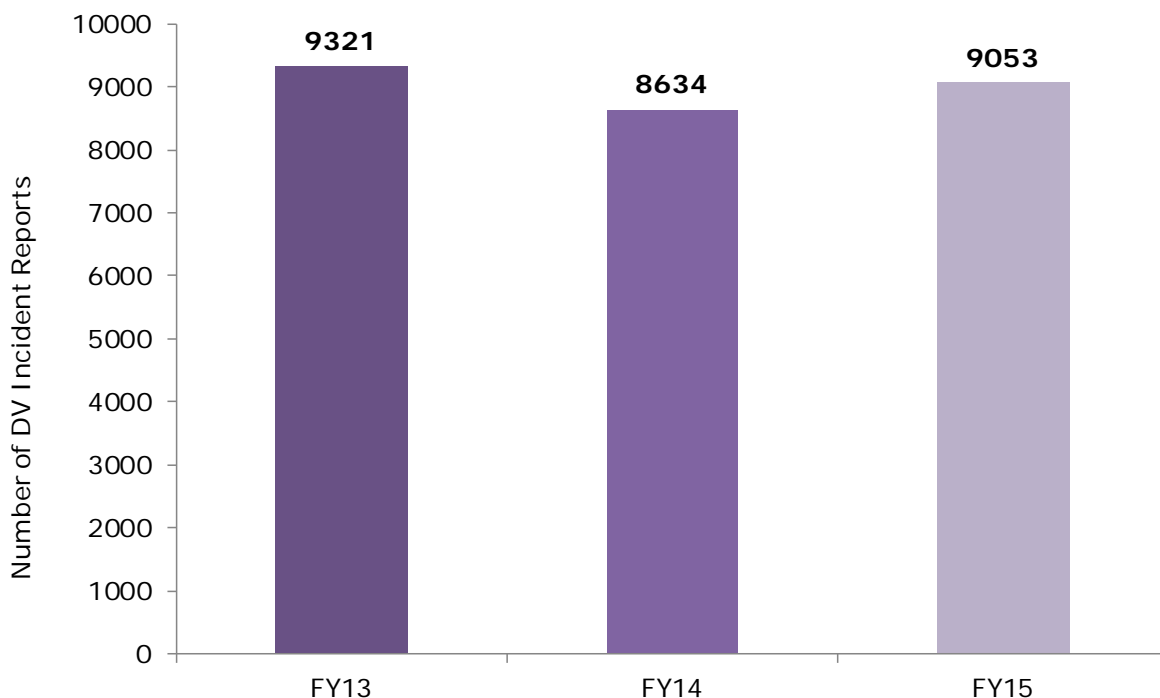
Charge Type ¹	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police ^{2,3} FY15	Cornelius Police FY15 ⁴	Huntersville Police FY15	Mint Hill Police FY15	Matthews Police FY15	Pineville Police FY15	Total Reports FY15
Homicide	12	-	0	0	0	0	12
Rape	68	-	1	2	12	2	85
Robbery	52	-	0	0	14	0	66
Aggravated Assault	809	-	15	4	114	12	954
Negligent Manslaughter	0	-	0	0	0	0	0
Assault on a Female	0	-	0	0	0	40	40
Non-Aggravated Assault	0	-	90	57	0	43	190
Simple Assault	4946	-	0	0	0	0	4946
Sex Offenses	0	-	0	2	0	0	2
Forcible Fondling	173	-	0	0	0	0	173
Forcible Sodomy	14	-	0	0	0	0	14
Sexual Assault w/ Object	5	-	0	0	0	0	5
Harassing Phone Calls	445	-	10	1	38	9	503
Stalking	22	-	4	1	0	3	30
Communicating Threats	1061	-	18	11	88	26	1204
Kidnapping	122	-	1	1	0	0	124
50-B Violations	372	-	10	2	0	5	389
Domestic Violence - 15A-534.1 (2090)	0	-	0	0	300	3	303
Other Offenses	0	-	6	7	0	0	13
FY15 Total DV-Related Incident Reports Filed⁴	8101	-	155	88	566	143	9053
FY14 Total DV-Related Incident Reports Filed	8040	-	134	146	113	121	8634
Variance from previous year	61	-	21	-58	453	22	419

Table 1 shows a list of various charges by incident reports filed with a respective police jurisdiction for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2015. (See the Notes for definitions for “Domestic Violence” and “Personal Relationship”) Because there is no state statutory charge code for domestic violence, the Domestic Violence Community Leadership Team (DVCLT) built consensus around this list of charges to serve as a proxy measurement(s) of domestic violence activity in the county. For example, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department reports 12 homicides in the context of a domestic violence relationship for FY2015. There could be more homicide incident reports for FY15, but 12 occurred in relation to domestic violence.

The total number of police jurisdiction incident reports filed with a domestic violence relationship is 9,053. This is an increase of 419 reports from prior fiscal year. The increase is not a “bad” sign; it could mean more individuals are reporting domestic violence related crimes to their police departments. Of the total, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department represents about 89.4 percent of incident reports filed. It is important to note that the City of Charlotte is the largest police jurisdiction in the county and reports a city population count of 809,958 as of July 1, 2014. Matthews Police Department follows and reports 566 incident reports with a domestic violence relationship for FY15. The US Census Bureau reports a population count of 30,008 for the Town of Matthews as of July 1, 2014.

From the charge perspective, *Simple Assaults* within a domestic violence relationship is the most common charge type listed in the incident report(s) and totals 4,946 for FY15. *Communicating Threats* in the context of a domestic violence relationship follows at 1,204 incidents.

Graph 1: Three-year Summary on Total Number of DV Incident Reports⁵



Graph 1 shows a three year trend of the total number of incident reports with a domestic violence relationship filed with the reporting local police jurisdictions. The trend is consistent for the three-year period.

Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)

The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) is responsible for serving protective orders to perpetrators of domestic violence and for seizing and destroying any weapons that may be found in the home of individuals impacted by domestic violence. These law enforcement activities are ordered by a local judge in the county's court system. ("Protective Order" is defined in the Notes.)

Table 2 lists three years of calendar data for the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office. The three-year trend for Domestic Violence Orders received and served is consistent. There is variation in the activity related to weapon data in the context of domestic violence. The trend line for the number of weapons seized and stored in the context of domestic violence over the three years is increasing.

Table 2: Three-year Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office Data Summary for Domestic Violence⁶

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
DV Orders Received	3551	3395	3727
DV Orders Served	2890	2889	2889
Weapons Seized ⁷	122	115	59
Weapons Destroyed ⁸	100	7	0
Weapons Released ⁹	47	99	39
Seized Weapons Currently Stored by MCSO ¹⁰	203	315	376

NC Administrative Office of the Courts, District 26:

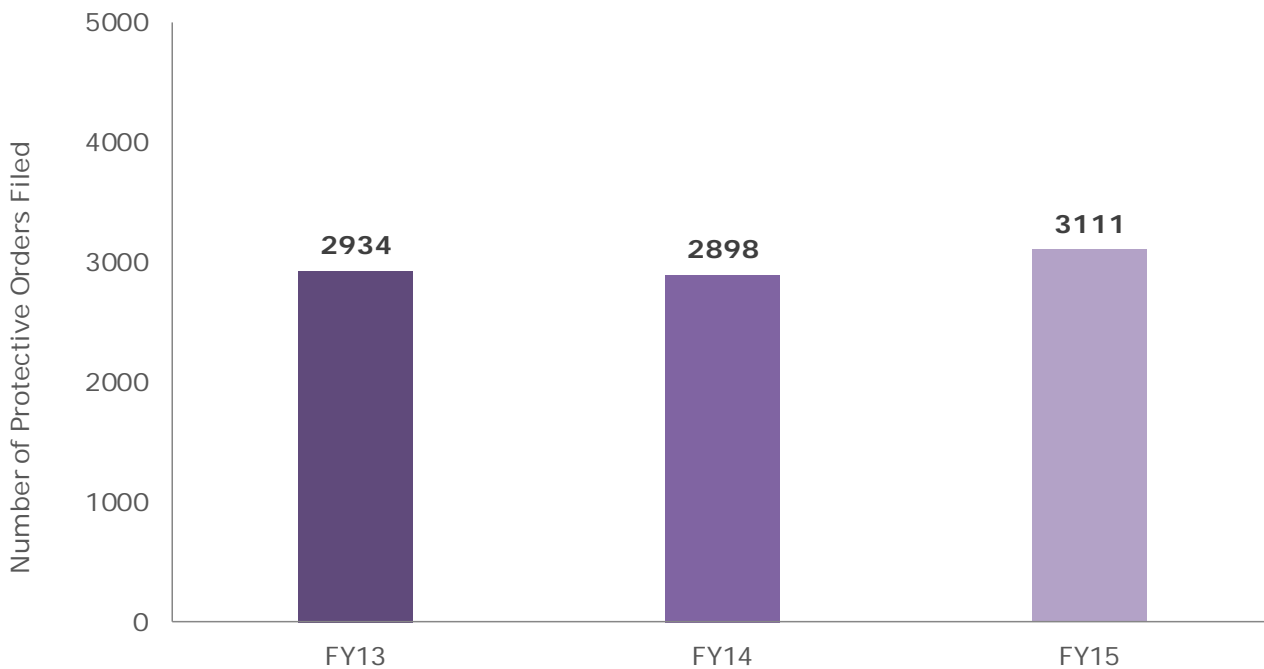
The North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is charged with collecting data on case filings and dispositions in criminal and civil courts at the district and superior court levels. Domestic violence protective orders are filed and adjudicated in district civil court. Violations of the protective order are settled in criminal court at either the district or superior court levels.

Table 3: Summary of Protective Order Case Filings in 26th Judicial Civil District Court¹¹

<u>Number of Case Filings</u>	<u>FY13</u>	<u>FY14</u>	<u>FY15</u>
Protective Order	2,934	2,898	3,111

Table 3 shows three fiscal years of Protective Order case filings in the 26th Civil District Court, which is Mecklenburg County. The number of Protective Order filings increased from the prior fiscal year. Overall, the trend line is consistent for three years.

Graph 2: Protective Order Filings in 26th Judicial Civil District Court



Graph 2 shows the slight increase in the number of Protective Order filings in the 26th Judicial Civil district court from FY14 to FY15.



Notes for Public Safety and Criminal Justice

“Domestic Violence” (NC GS 50B-1) means the commission of one or more of the following acts upon an aggrieved party or upon a minor child residing with or in the custody of the aggrieved party by a person with whom the aggrieved party has or has had a personal relationship, but does not include acts of self-defense:

- (1) Attempting to cause bodily injury, or intentionally causing bodily injury; or
- (2) Placing the aggrieved party or a member of the aggrieved party's family or household in fear of imminent serious bodily injury or continued harassment, as defined in G.S. 14-277.3A, that rises to such a level as to inflict substantial emotional distress; or
- (3) Committing any act defined in G.S. 14-27.2 through G.S. 14-27.7.

A **"Personal Relationship"** [domestic violence relationship] (NC GS 50B-1) means a relationship wherein the parties involved:

- (1) Are current or former spouses;
- (2) Are persons of opposite sex who live together or have lived together;
- (3) Are related as parents and children, including others acting in loco parentis to a minor child, or as grandparents and grandchildren. For purposes of this subdivision, an aggrieved party may not obtain an order of protection against a child or grandchild under the age of 16;
- (4) Have a child in common;
- (5) Are current or former household members;
- (6) Are persons of the opposite sex who are in a dating relationship or have been in a dating relationship. For purposes of this subdivision, a dating relationship is one wherein the parties are romantically involved over time and on a continuous basis during the course of the relationship. A casual acquaintance or ordinary fraternization between persons in a business or social context is not a dating relationship.

A **“Protective Order”** [DV Order] (NC GS 50B-3) restrains the defendant from further acts of domestic violence and may include any of the following types of relief:

- (1) Direct a party to refrain from such acts.
- (2) Grant to a party possession of the residence or household of the parties and exclude the other party from the residence or household.
- (3) Require a party to provide a spouse and his or her children suitable alternate housing.
- (4) Award temporary custody of minor children and establish temporary visitation rights pursuant to G.S. 50B-2 if the order is granted ex parte, and pursuant to subsection (a1) of this section if the order is granted after notice or service of process.
- (5) Order the eviction of a party from the residence or household and assistance to the victim in returning to it.
- (6) Order either party to make payments for the support of a minor child as required by law.
- (7) Order either party to make payments for the support of a spouse as required by law.
- (8) Provide for possession of personal property of the parties, including the care, custody, and control of any animal owned, possessed, kept, or held as a pet by either party or minor child residing in the household.
- (9) Order a party to refrain from doing any or all of the following:
 - a. Threatening, abusing, or following the other party.
 - b. Harassing the other party, including by telephone, visiting the home or workplace, or other means.
 - b1. Cruelly treating or abusing an animal owned, possessed, kept, or held as a pet by either party or minor child residing in the household.
 - c. Otherwise interfering with the other party.
- (10) Award attorney's fees to either party.
- (11) Prohibit a party from purchasing a firearm for a time fixed in the order.



- (12) Order any party the court finds is responsible for acts of domestic violence to attend and complete an abuser treatment program if the program is approved by the Domestic Violence Commission.
- (13) Include any additional prohibitions or requirements the court deems necessary to protect any party or any minor child.

Table 1: Criminal Reports where a Domestic Violence Relationship is noted

¹ These charges were selected by the Domestic Violence Community Leadership Team as trend indicators for domestic violence. Please bear in mind that if multiple victims/offenders were involved, the incident is categorized by the highest incident in a report hierarchy established by the FBI's national crime reporting programs [Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) and National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)]. However, the domestic relationship may be related to one of the lesser offenses involved in the incident. Data is from each police jurisdiction's case management operational system.

² Data was extracted from incident reports by CMPD and the Davidson Police Department in CMPD's online records management system. Data in this system is subject to change if individual reports are subsequently updated, corrected or reclassified to other offenses during investigation. Cases that have been marked "unfounded" after investigation are not included in this data. Relationships in the reports summarized here are not manually verified and may include data entry errors. Data in this chart therefore may not match "domestic" crime data extracted or published using other criteria or definitions of domestic violence or compiled at a later date.

³ Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police data includes DV-related incident reports filed in the Town of Davidson. CMPD counts intimate partner and non-intimate partner relationships in its total.

⁴ Data for Cornelius police jurisdiction is not included for FY15. Attempts to contact this jurisdiction were made with no response.

Graph 1: Three-year Summary on Total Number of DV Incident Reports

⁵ Reporting police jurisdictions include CMPD, Davidson PD, Huntersville PD, Mint Hill PD and Matthews PD. Data is not included for Cornelius and Pineville police departments for FY15.

Table 2: Three-year MCSO Data Summary for Domestic Violence

⁶ Data is by calendar year and from the MCSO OMS data management system. Data on the most current count is reported.

Criteria for a seized weapon to be released by the MCSO under a judicial order.

1. File a motion for the return of weapons with the clerk of court in the county in which the protective order was entered. The form motion, "Motion for Return of Weapons Surrendered under Domestic Violence Order" AOC-CV-319, is available from the office of the clerk of court.
2. The motion must be filed no later than 90 days after the expiration of the Order that required you to surrender the firearms.
3. The motion for the return of the weapon(s) must be filed within 90 days after the expiration of the Domestic Violence Protective Order. The Sheriff may seek an order from the Court to dispose of the weapon(s) if the motion is not filed within 90 days after the expiration of the Domestic Violence Protective Order.
4. The motion must be granted and the order to return the weapon(s) must be issued/signed by a Judge.
5. Obtain a Handgun Purchase Permit from the Registration Division (715 E 4th Street Charlotte, NC 28202) within 30 days prior to the release of weapon(s).

6. All seized weapons are assessed a one-time \$25 administration fee (per weapon) and an additional \$1 per day (per weapon) storage fee. Ammunition (over 50 rounds) will also be assessed an additional \$1 per day storage fee. All storage fees are assessed beginning immediately upon collection of the weapon(s) and/or ammunition, through the date the weapon(s)/ammunition are returned by order to the owner.
7. The owner must obtain all necessary documentation for return of the weapon(s)/ammunition (including without limitation, a court order for return of the weapon(s)/ammunition) and pay all of the above fees in full before weapon(s)/ammunition will be released.
8. Once all of the required paperwork (including the court order for the release of the weapon(s)/ammunition, as well as the required Handgun Permit) is obtained, Jim Cathey must be contacted at (980) 314-5849 to schedule an appointment to pick up the weapon(s)/ammunition ordered to be released. Weapon(s) are released between 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM by appointment only. At the time the appointment is made, the total administration and storage fee charges that are owed (through the date of the appointment) is given. Failure to pick up the weapon(s)/ammunition at the designated time will cause all applicable storage fees to continue to accrue.
9. In order to satisfy all monetary obligations, the person the weapons are ordered returned to must bring cash (United States currency), money order, or bank certified check made out to Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office. Failure to pick up the weapons(s)/ammunition within the statutorily permitted time frame will result in forfeiture of your weapon(s)/ammunition and the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office following NC law with regard to disposition of your forfeited weapon(s)/ammunition.
10. The "Order to Release", Handgun Permit, valid photo identification, and storage fee payment must be presented at the Sheriff's Office location as instructed for pick up. The required items listed above will be approved by an on duty Sheriff's Deputy prior to releasing the weapon(s)/ammunition.

⁷⁻¹⁰ Data related to weapons seized, destroyed, released and stored means the MCSO has been directed by the courts to complete these tasks as part of a judicial order related to DV.

Disclaimer: These are the numbers that are reflected in the MCSO Paper Process System. The actual service numbers are somewhat fluid since there are carry over papers from prior year and at any time the report is run, there are outstanding processes pending service or other disposition. Also "Unserviceable" papers are one that are issued where no address is provided for the defendant. The Defendant may very well be listed as Homeless or with an unknown address and there is no record of employment, prior arrests, etc. to follow up on.

Table 3: Summary of Protective Order Case Filings in Civil District Court

¹¹ Data is from the NC Administrative Office of the Courts VCAP system or civil data management system.



Health and Human Services

Section Overview:

The following data on domestic violence is related to Health and Human Services and includes results from the *2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey*, local domestic violence intervention and prevention programs and child protective services reports with a related domestic violence factor identified. Definitions and Data Methodology are in the Notes at the end of this report section. The data is for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2015 and for the academic calendar year. Trend data is shown for three years.

Public Health Department

2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) collects and releases [national data](#) on health risk behaviors as part of its *Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)*, which is administered in the odd numbered academic year. The CDC plans to release 2015 YRBS reports in June 2016 for all high school students and in July 2016 for minority high school students.

The Public Health Department, of Mecklenburg County, analyzes the local CDC data for participating students in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools system. The school age of the respondents is middle and high school youth for 2013. There are two questions on the *2013 YRBS survey* that relate to teen and youth violence, and data is self-reported by the student. Results capture responses to a student's experience with physical and/or sexual abuse by an intimate partner. Below are the questions that appeared on the *2013 YRBS Survey*.

DV-Related 2013 YRBS Survey Questions:

Question: During the past 12 months, how many times did someone you were dating or going out with physically hurt you on purpose? (Count such things as being hit, slammed into something, or injured with an object or weapon.)

Response Set: A. I did not date or go out with anyone during the past 12 months B. 0 times C. 1 time D. 2 or 3 times E. 4 or 5 times F. 6 or more times

Question: During the past 12 months, how many times did someone you were dating or going out with forced you to do sexual things that you did not want to do? (Count such things as kissing, touching, or being physically forced to have sexual intercourse.)

Response Set: A. I did not date or go out with anyone during the past 12 months B. 0 times C. 1 time D. 2 or 3 times E. 4 or 5 times F. 6 or more times

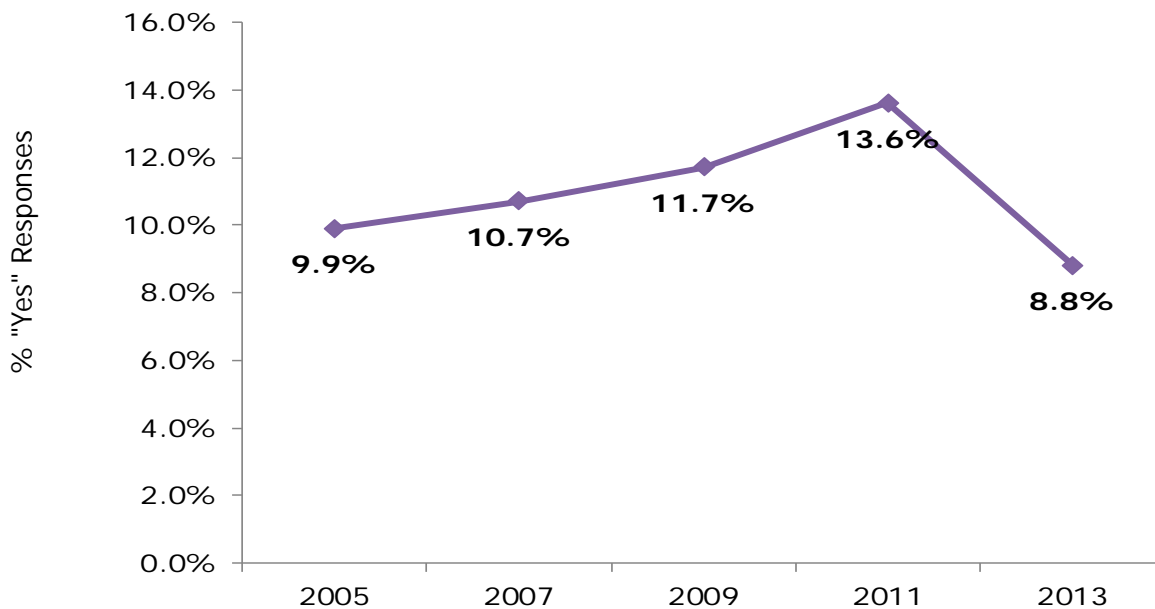
Table 1 shows *YRBS* data for student respondents from Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. In 2013, the number of middle and high school students participating in the *YRBS Survey* is 1,417. The overall population of students participating in the survey is decreasing. Data for 2015 is to be determined.

Of 1,417 students participating, 8.8 percent responded affirmatively (i.e., responses C through F) to their boyfriend or girlfriend “...physically hurting you on purpose.” In addition, 8.4 percent responded affirmatively (i.e., responses C through F) to “...forced sexual things when you did not want to.” The question wording and response set changed for the 2013 academic year, which makes comparisons to 2011 and prior years challenging. (The questions and response set changes from 2011 to 2013 are provided in the Notes section.)

Table 1: *YRBS Survey* Data Trend by Academic Year¹

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2013²</u>	<u>2015</u>
# of Students Participating	1,755	1,484	1,713	1,555	1,417	TBD
Que #1 "Yes" Responses	9.9%	10.7%	11.7%	13.6%	8.8%	TBD
Que #2 "Yes" Responses	8.7%	7.2%	7.2%	10.3%	8.4%	TBD

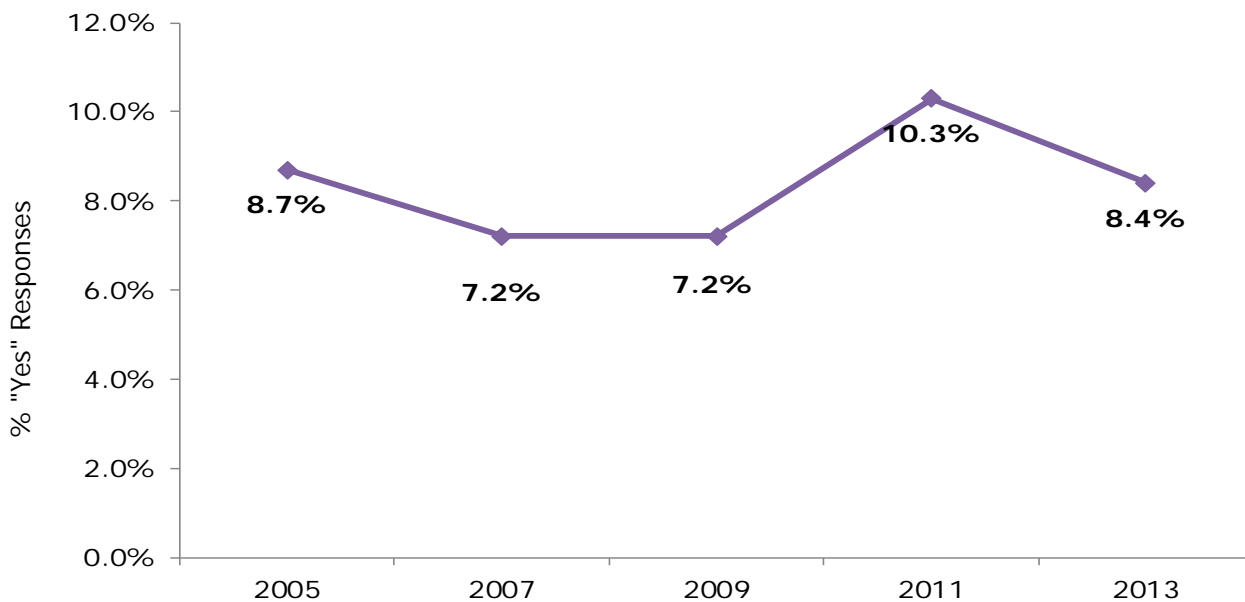
Graph 1: *YRBS* Question #1 Response – “Physically Hurt on Purpose”³



Graph 1 illustrates the trend line for the YRBS Question “...Physically Hurt on Purpose...” There is a slight increase in the trend line, which shows the percent of students participating that responded affirmatively to this question. There is a sharp decrease from 2011 to 2013 in affirmative answers to this question. It is important to note that the question and the response set changed for this question in 2013. Therefore, it is difficult to make comparisons from prior years and to draw conclusions from the data.

Graph 2 shows the trend line for the same time period for the YRBS Question “...Forced Sexual Things.” There is a sharp increase in the affirmative responses to this question from 2009 to 2011. After which, the trend is slightly decreasing. Prior year comparisons and conclusions from the data are difficult to make as this question and its response set changed for 2013.

Graph 2: YRBS Question Response “Forced Sexual Things”⁴



Community Support Services Department (CSS)

Community Support Services, a department of Mecklenburg County, provides various trauma-informed intervention and prevention programs to serve the entire family affected by domestic violence. The programs include the Adult Domestic Violence Victim Services program and Programa Confianza.

DV DATA

The Child Witness Services program provides assistance to children who witness domestic violence in their family. The umbrella of programs offered under Child Witness Services includes HERO, REACH, CARE and SHARE. These programs utilize various best practices in intervention that target children as young as two years to youth. SHARE provides education and outreach services to prevent teen dating violence particularly in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.

Domestic violence perpetrator services are provided through the state-certified New Options for Violent Actions (NOVA) program. Candidates for NOVA are court-ordered or referred by another agency or individual for program participation. Candidates are screened for lethality, mental health and substance abuse as part of the program’s intake and assessment processes prior to program participation.

The Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Center provides visitation and exchange services to families affected by domestic violence. The program objective is “to increase safety for adult and child victims of domestic violence while decreasing opportunities for future abuse...” during the visitation and exchange processes. Data will be reported in future reports.

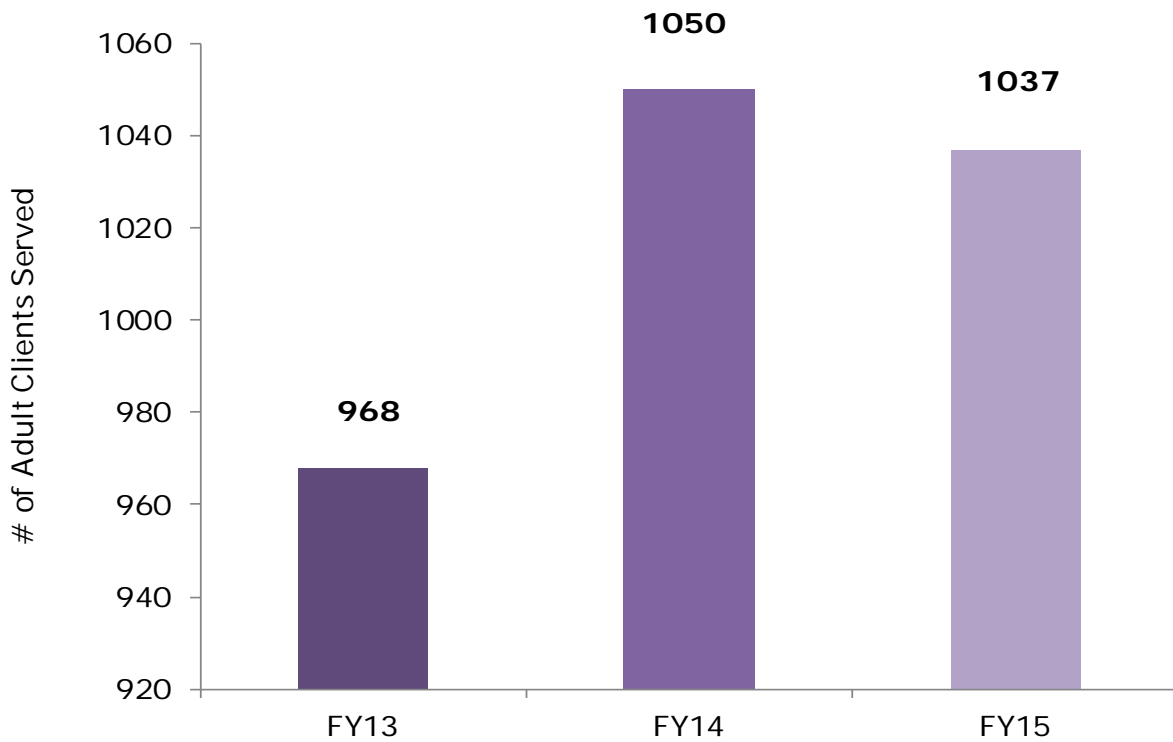
Table 2 shows three fiscal years of data for the domestic violence programs provided by Community Support Services, a department of Mecklenburg County. The number of DV adult victims served is 1,037, a slight decrease from prior fiscal year. On the other hand, the number of domestic violence perpetrators served increased from 758 to 787 individuals from FY14 to FY15. The Knowledge Improvement Rate tests adult victims and child witnesses level of knowledge prior to receiving program services and after program exit. The trend line for the adults and the child(ren) is consistent for the three fiscal years. The Offender Recidivism Rate is a reverse measure. The goal is to achieve low percentage scores. The three-year average for recidivism is 10 percent.

Table 2: Summary Data on Client Served by CSS⁵

	FY13	FY14	FY15
Clients Served			
<i>Adult DV Victims</i>	968	1,050	1,037
<i>Child Witnesses</i>	505	774	692
<i>Offenders</i>	713	758	787
Knowledge Improvement Rate			
<i>Adult DV Victims</i>	94.6%	94.0%	96.8%
<i>Child Witnesses</i>	96.8%	100.0%	98.7%
DV Victims Received Safety Planning⁶	99.5%	100.0%	100.0%
Offender Recidivism Rate	10.9%	7.0%	12.2%

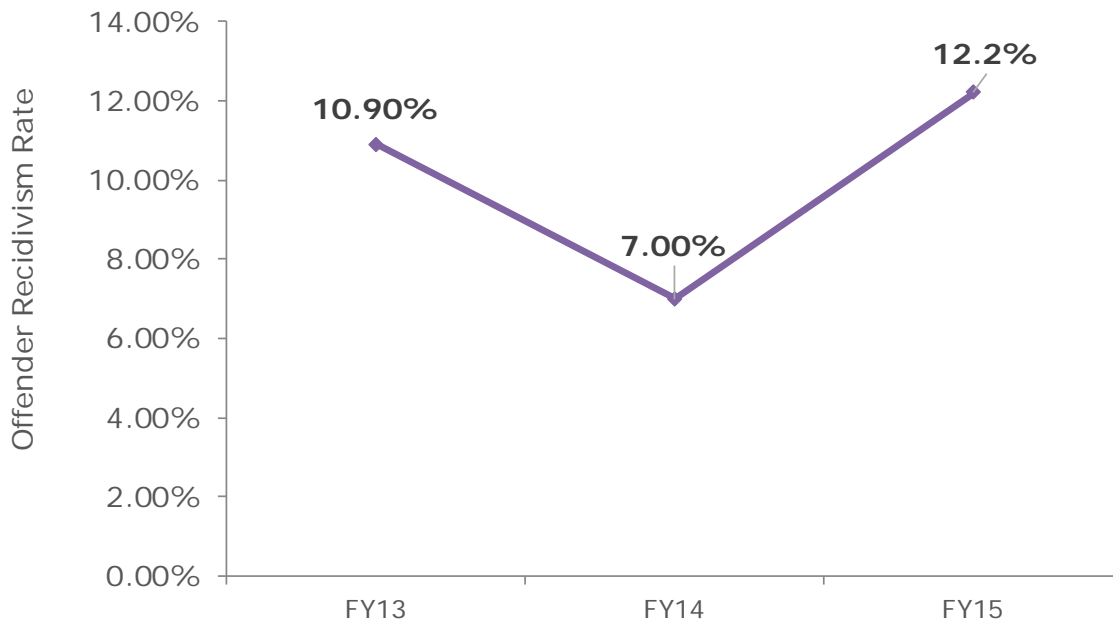
Graph 3 shows the number of adult domestic violence victim clients served by Community Support Services, a department of Mecklenburg County, for three fiscal years. There is a dramatic increase in the number served from FY13 to FY14. This increase may be due to a restructure of the intake process for clients. The numbers served “level out” for FY14 and FY15.

Graph 3: Summary Data on the Number of Adult DV Victims Served by CSS



Graph 4 shows the recidivism rate for court-ordered perpetrators of domestic violence participating in the NOVA program, of the Community Support Services department, of Mecklenburg County. Recidivism means individuals participated and graduated from the NOVA program and returned to the court system with another charge related to domestic violence. The three-year average for recidivism is 10 percent. The measurement is a reverse measure, which means low scores are “good” and demonstrate success of the program.

Graph 4: Offender Recidivism Rate for NOVA Program



Safe Alliance (formerly United Family Services)

Safe Alliance is a local non-profit organization that provides shelter services to domestic violence victims and their families, case management services and victim’s assistance services. In addition, Safe Alliance provides a 24-hour crisis hot-line for sexual assault/rape and domestic violence.

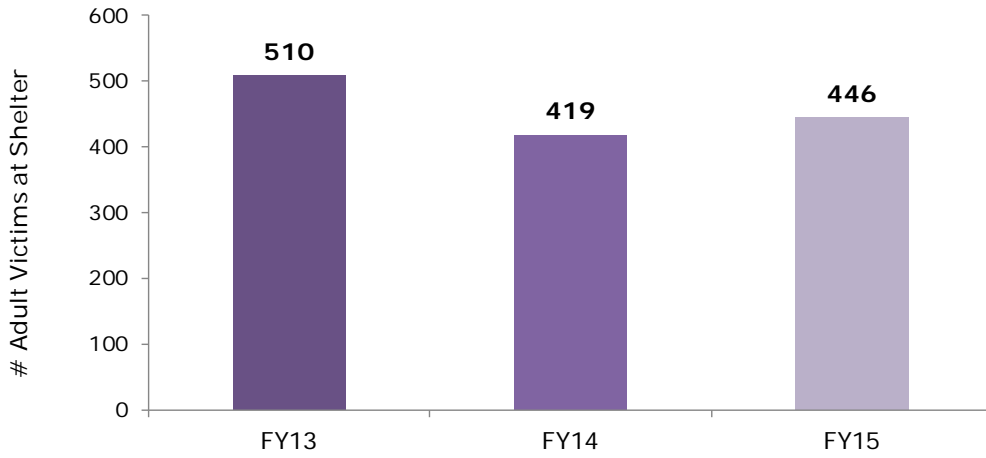
Table 3 provides summary data for clients of Safe Alliance for three fiscal years. The number of adult victims and child(ren) served is stable and consistent for the report period. Those reporting increased safety post exit from the program is high and consistent for the comparison years. The number of domestic violence clients accompanied to court is a duplicated count and is 4,695 for FY15.

Table 3: Summary Data on Clients Served by Safe Alliance

	<u>FY13</u>	<u>FY14</u>	<u>FY15</u>
DV Clients Served at DV Shelter and Hotel Partnership			
<i>Adult DV Victims</i> ⁷	510	419	446
<i>Child Witnesses</i>	422	394	449
Living Violence-Free after DV Shelter Stay ⁸	92.0%	90.4%	87.0%
DV Client Accompanied to Court by Victim Services	4,950	4,284	4,695
Reported Increased Safety Post Exit ⁹	96.0%	100.0%	100.0%

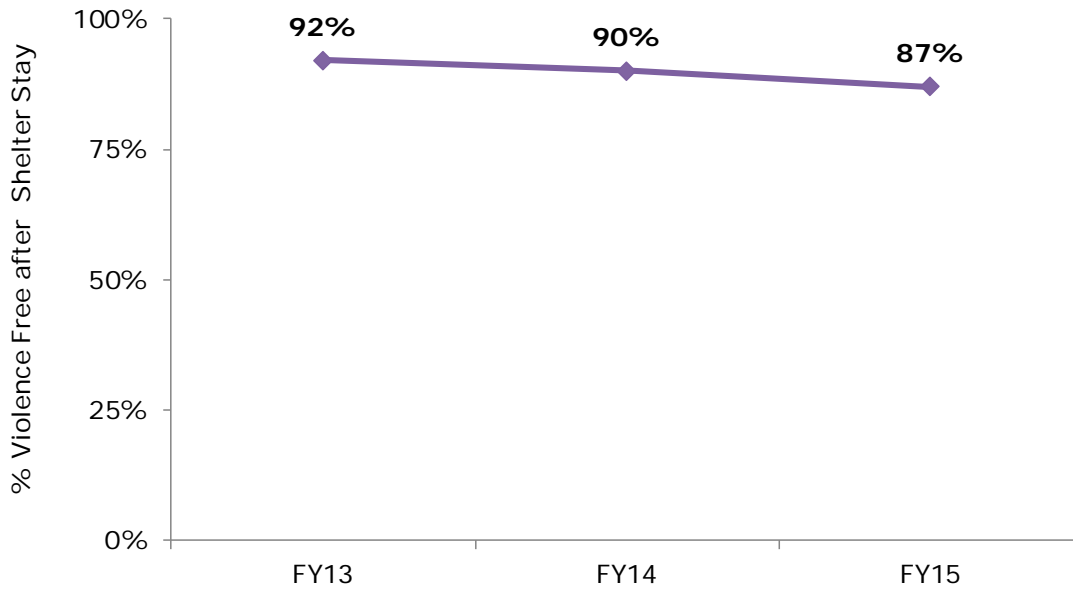
Graph 5 illustrates the number of adult clients served by Safe Alliance’s shelter for three fiscal years. The number served slightly decreased from FY13 to FY14 and is consistent through FY15.

Graph 5: Number of Adult DV Victims Served by Safe Alliance



Graph 6 illustrates the percentage of adult victims living violence free after their stay at the shelter provided by Safe Alliance. The three-year trend decreases slightly over the period.

Graph 6: Trend Data on % of DV Victims Living Violence Free after Shelter Stay





Department of Social Services, Youth and Family Services Division

Youth and Family Services, a division of Mecklenburg County’s Department of Social Services, provides services and information to protect children by “...strengthening the capacity of self-sufficiency of families whose children’s health, welfare and safety are at risk.” Child Protective Services Investigations “conducts investigations of abuse, neglect or dependency and formulates a plan to alleviate any risk factors.” Instances of a domestic violence relationship may arise during the investigation and family assessment.

Table 4 provides data from the Youth and Family Services Division, of the Department of Social Services, for Mecklenburg County. In FY15, 15 percent of reports filed with the Division for investigation had a domestic violence relationship identified. The three-year trend is consistent for the report period.

Table 4: YFS Reports Accepted for Investigation with a Domestic Violence Relationship Identified¹⁰

	FY13	FY14	FY15
% of Reports Accepted ¹⁰	16.9%	16.9%	15%



Notes for Health and Human Services

“**Domestic Violence**” is when two people get into an intimate relationship and one person uses a pattern of coercion and control against the other person during the relationship and/or after the relationship has terminated. It often includes physical, sexual, emotional, or economic abuse. (Source: North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence).

The Domestic Violence **Knowledge Improvement Rate** is derived from a standardized tool administered from the WOC Adult and Child Victim Services programs. Adults and children receive a pre-test on their knowledge of domestic violence prior to receiving services. The same tool is administered to both groups upon program completion. The percentage results represent those with improved scores from pre to post testing. The overall score represents the average of the results for the two client groups.

“**NOVA**” or New Options for Violent Actions is a state certified Batterer Intervention Program designed to provide accountability groups on how to change abusive behaviors toward intimate partners.

For the purposes of the NOVA program, “**Recidivism**” is defined as individuals who complete the NOVA program and are re-arrested for an offense related to domestic violence one year after NOVA program exit date.

The **Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)** is a national survey conducted by the Center for Disease Control. Middle and high school students are surveyed. North Carolina participates on both the state and local levels. In Mecklenburg County, the survey is distributed to Charlotte-Mecklenburg middle and high school students every other academic year. There are two questions which relate to domestic violence on the survey. The questions reflect the percentage of CMS students that self-report experiences with physical and sexual abuse. Data is available for 2005, 2007, 2009 and 2011. The YRBS sample population is derived from the CMS system and is limited to students in Mecklenburg County. The results are used as an estimate of what the average middle and high school aged child are self-reporting with respect to exposure to domestic violence.

Table 1: YRBS Survey Data Trend by Academic Year

¹ The YRBS survey is administered every other calendar year by the Public Health Department to middle and high school CMS students. The data for 2015 is not available.

² In 2013, the DV question(s) wording and response set changed in the YRBS survey. These changes make comparisons to prior year data challenging.

Graph 1: YRBS Question Response “Physically Hurt on Purpose” Trend Results

³ Question wording and response set changed in 2013. These survey modifications may be cause for the decrease in results from 2011 to 2013.

2013 Question:

During the past 12 months, how many times did someone you were dating or going out with physically hurt you on purpose? (Count such things as being hit, slammed into something, or injured with an object or weapon.)

2013 Response Set:

A. I did not date or go out with anyone during the past 12 months B. 0 times C. 1 time D. 2 or 3 times E. 4 or 5 times F. 6 or more times

2011 Question:

Question: During the past 12 months, did your boyfriend or girlfriend ever hit, slap or physically hurt you on purpose?

2011 Response Set:

Yes; No

Graph 2: YRBS Question Response “Forced Sexual Things” Trend Results

⁴ Question wording and response set changed in 2013. These survey modifications may be cause for the slight decrease in results from 2011 to 2013.

2013 Question:

During the past 12 months, how many times did someone you were dating or going out with force you to do sexual things that you did not want to do? (Count such things as kissing, touching, or being physically forced to have sexual intercourse.)

2013 Response Set:

A. I did not date or go out with anyone during the past 12 months B. 0 times C. 1 time D. 2 or 3 times E. 4 or 5 times F. 6 or more times

2011 Question:

Have you ever been forced to have sexual intercourse when you did not want to?

2011 Response Set:

Yes; No

Table 2: Summary Data on Various CSS Programs

⁵ Data source is Bell Data system, an internal case management system. Data is for the Adult DV Victims, Child DV Victims and NOVA programs.

⁶ “DV Victims Received Safety Planning” is the average of the actual results for the DV Safety Plan Children and the DV Safety Plan Adult service level measures.

Table 3: Summary Data on Clients Served by Safe Alliance

⁷ “DV Adult Victims” are residential (i.e., living in the DV Shelter) and non-residential clients.

⁸ This rate is self-reported and 3 months after DV Shelter exit.

⁹ This rate is assessed for Victim Assistance Clients only.

Table 4: YFS Reports Accepted for Investigation with a Domestic Violence Relationship Identified

¹⁰ Prior year results are updated to reflect inconsistencies with pulling data from the DSS case management system.