
Lethal Means and Risk in the Community *- Common Sense Approaches*

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New Hampshire



The New Hampshire Landscape



Opioid Epidemic
Culture of Gun Ownership
Mental Health Hospitalization
High Rates of Suicide

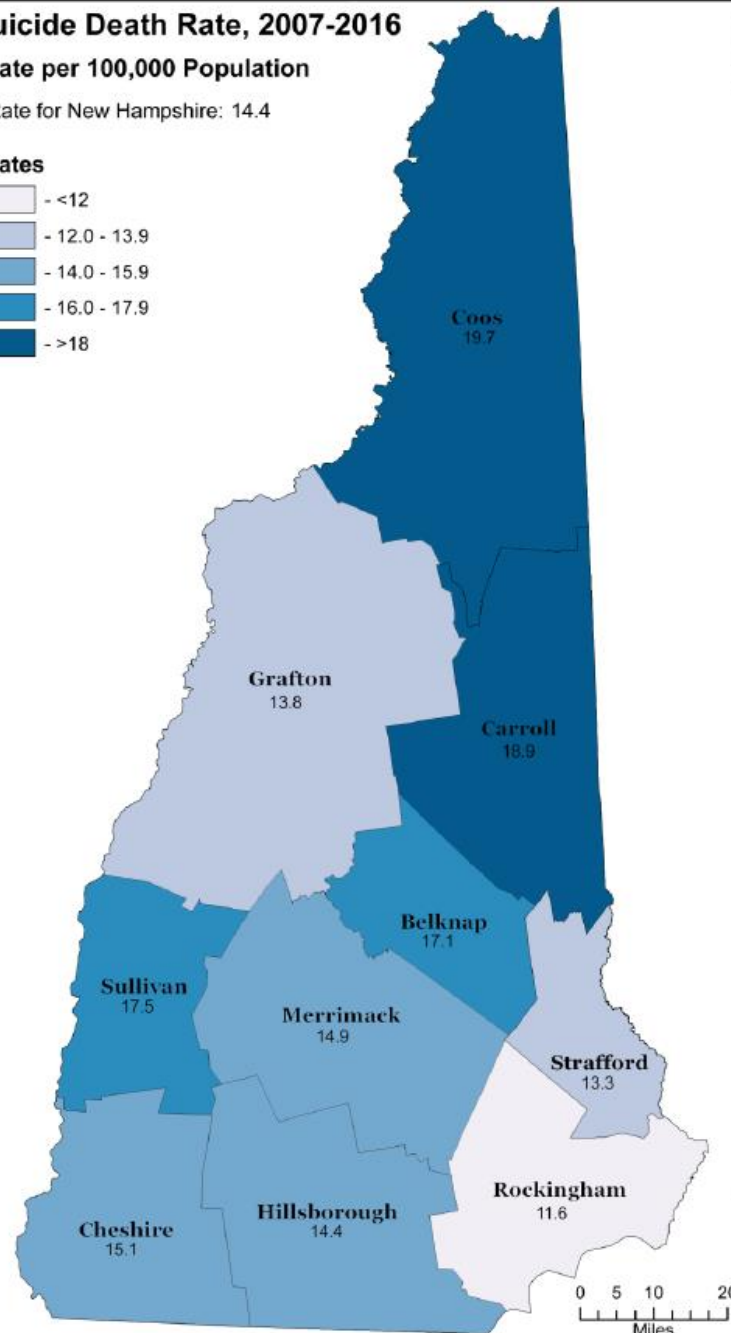
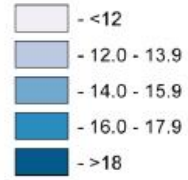


New Hampshire Suicide Death Rate, 2007-2016

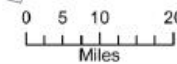
Crude Death Rate per 100,000 Population

Crude Death Rate for New Hampshire: 14.4

Rates



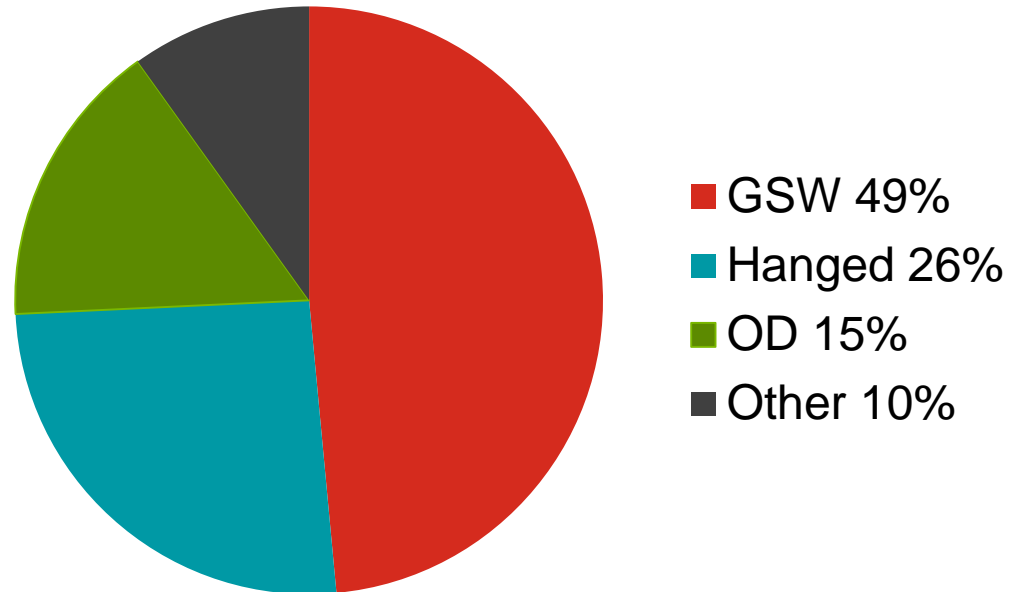
Data Source: Office of Chief
Medical Examiner, NH



New Hampshire Deaths by Suicide

▶ Preliminary data for 2017 shows a total of 255 deaths by suicide

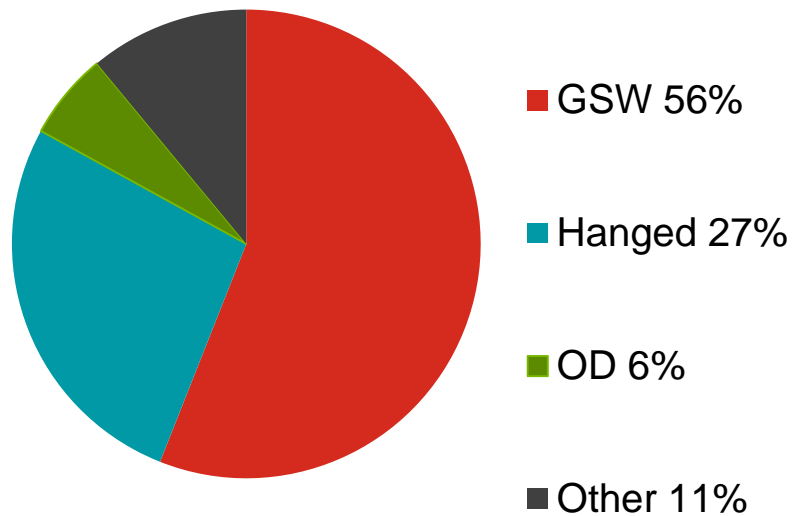
Manner of Death



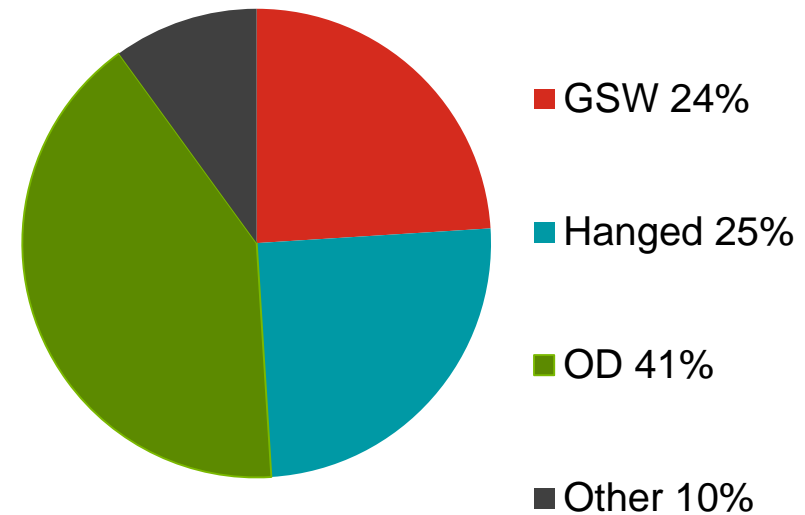
New Hampshire Deaths by Suicide

▶ Preliminary data for 2017 shows a total of 255 deaths by suicide (1 still pending)

Manner of Death - Males



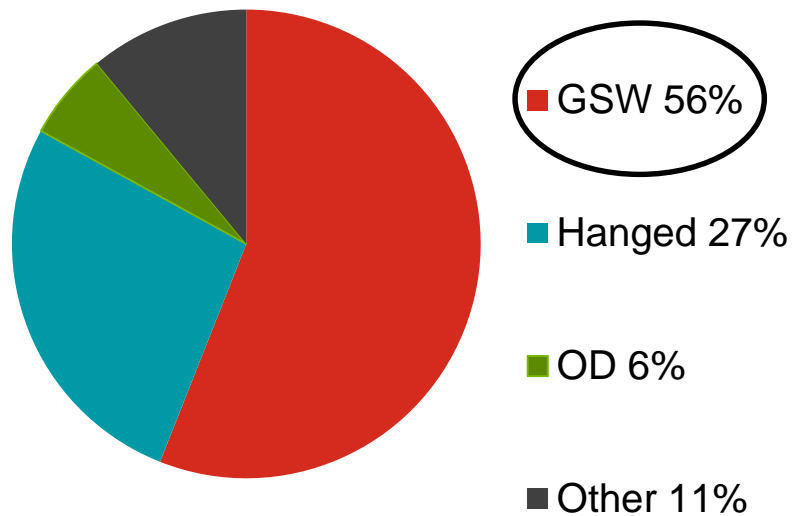
Manner of Death - Females



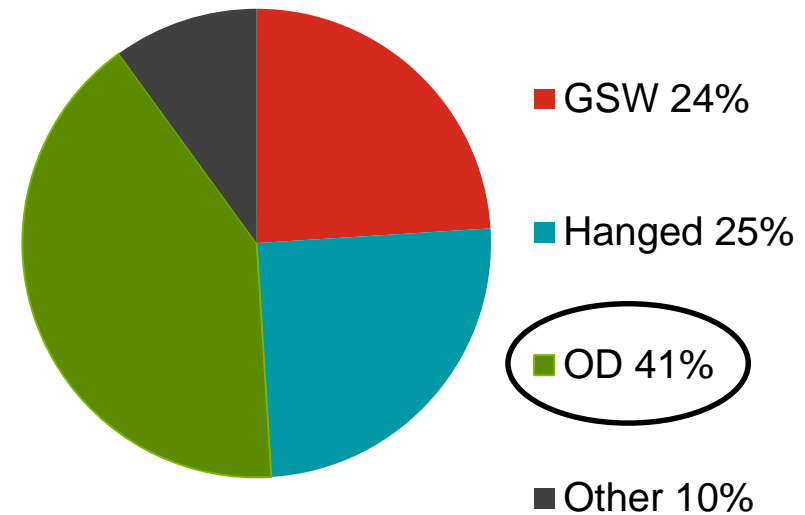
New Hampshire Deaths by Suicide

▶ Preliminary data for 2017 shows a total of 255 deaths by suicide (1 still pending)

Manner of Death - Males



Manner of Death - Females



New Hampshire Interventions

- ▶ **Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) training**
- ▶ **The Gun Shop Project**
- ▶ **Youth Suicide Prevention Assembly (YSPA)**
- ▶ **Other:**
 - ▶ **NH Suicide Prevention Council**
 - ▶ **Connect Trainings**
 - ▶ **Zero Suicide Initiatives**



Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) training

- ▶ *CALM* is designed to help providers implement counseling strategies to reduce access to lethal means, particularly (but not exclusively) firearms, for clients and their families who are at risk of suicide.

 - ▶ Developed by Injury Prevention Center at Children's Hospital at Dartmouth, NH

 - ▶ 1.5 to 2 hour training includes:
 - ▶ Background on suicide data and lethal means

 - ▶ Negotiation of means restriction (video presentation).

 - ▶ Conducting a family firearms assessment - Presentation and discussion on conducting a counseling session; optional role plays.

 - ▶ Evaluation
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Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) training

- ▶ Encourages providers who interact with individuals at risk of suicide to routinely assess for access to lethal means.
- ▶ Training Objectives:
 - ▶ Increased knowledge about the association between access to lethal means and suicide, and the role of means restriction in preventing suicide.
 - ▶ Increased skills and confidence to work with clients and their families to assess and reduce their access to lethal means.



New Partnerships – The Gun Shop Project



RALPH DEMICCO
Ralph Demicco is a gun owner and the former owner of Riley's Sport Shop in New Hampshire.

After three suicides occurred in a short period of time with guns purchased from his shop, Demicco helped spearhead the Gun Shop Project in an effort to reduce suicide.



Means Matter began work in NH in 2009



The Gun Shop Project



New Hampshire Firearm Retailers: **Your vigilance could save a life!**

Close to one in ten firearm suicides in New Hampshire occur with guns purchased within that same week, usually within *hours*. While not all suicides are preventable, you could reduce the odds that a gun bought at your store today is used in a suicide tomorrow.



The Gun Shop Project

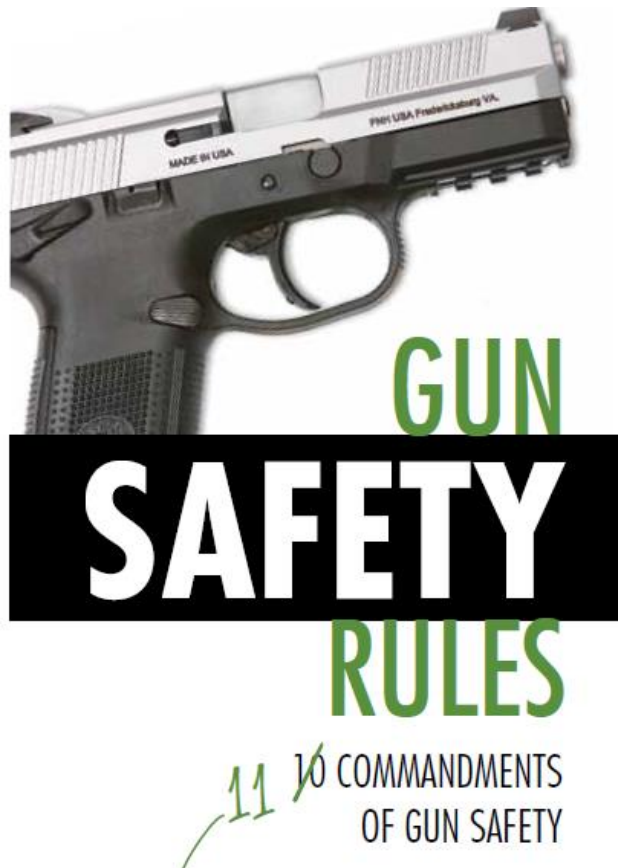


**CONCERNED ABOUT
A FAMILY MEMBER
OR FRIEND?**

Objectives:

- ▶ Share guidelines on how to avoid selling or renting a firearm to a suicidal customer
- ▶ Encourage gun stores and firing ranges to display and distribute suicide prevention materials tailored to their customers
- ▶ Half of the gun shops in New Hampshire are disseminating the materials, according to visits to all shops in 2012. And the project is now nationwide!





11. Consider temporary off-site storage if a family member may be suicidal. When an emotional crisis (like a break-up, job loss, legal trouble) or a major change in someone's behavior (like depression, violence, heavy drinking) causes concern, storing guns outside the home for a while may save a life. Friends as well as some shooting clubs, police departments, or gun shops may be able to store them for you until the situation improves.

The Gun Shop Project



Resource Links

- ▶ CALM - <http://www.sprc.org/resources-programs/calm-counseling-access-lethal-means>
 - ▶ The Gun Shop Project - <http://www.sprc.org/news/new-hampshire-gun-shop-project>
 - ▶ NH Suicide Prevention Council - <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/bchs/spc/index.htm>
 - ▶ Connect Trainings - <http://www.theconnectprogram.org/>
 - ▶ Zero Suicide Initiatives - <http://zerosuicide.sprc.org/>
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