



# LETHAL MEANS SAFETY

## WHAT IS LETHAL MEANS SAFETY?

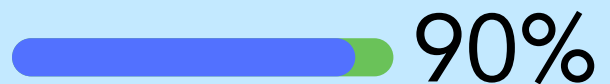
Lethal Means Safety refers to efforts aimed at making a suicide method less deadly and/or less available during a suicidal crisis.

## MYTH VS. REALITY

It is a myth that if someone is determined to kill themselves there is nothing you can do about it.

The majority of people experiencing a suicidal crisis will not simply find another method to kill themselves.

**Simple actions, taken before a person is in crisis, can make all the difference.**



of individuals who survive a nonfatal suicide attempt **WILL NOT** go on to die by suicide.

## MINUTES MATTER



TIME



DISTANCE

## HOW DOES LETHAL MEANS SAFETY WORK?

Lethal Means Safety can help a person in crisis wait out their intense suicidal feelings and allows for potentially lifesaving mental health support and resources to intervene.

**Putting time and distance between a suicidal person and lethal means can help save a life.**

For more information go to [samaritansnyc.org](https://samaritansnyc.org)

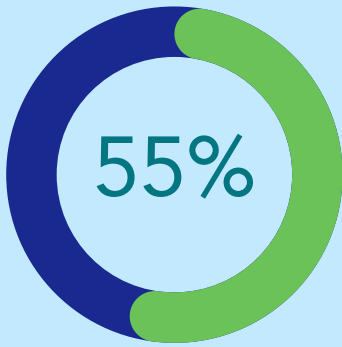
This is intended for informational purposes and is not a substitute for professional services.

If you (or someone you know) are in immediate danger call 911. If you are in crisis and need to talk call 212-673-3000.

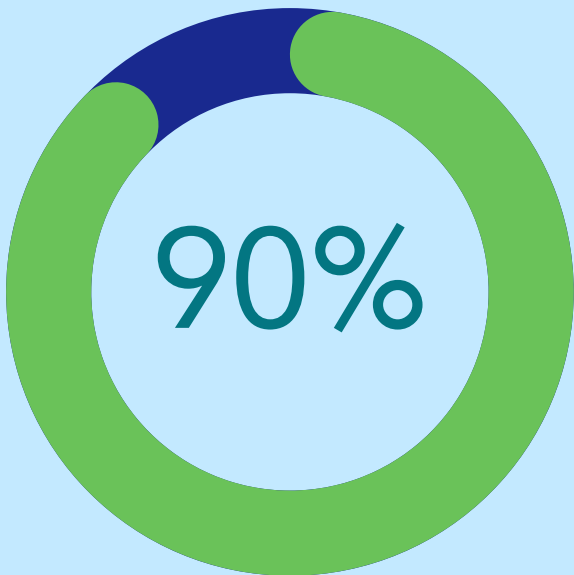
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Less than 5% of suicide attempts involved firearms.



However, firearms account for 55% of all deaths by suicide.



90% of suicide attempts using a firearm are fatal.

All other methods for suicide combined are 4% fatal.

## A CLOSER LOOK AT FIREARMS

Access to firearms itself does not make a person suicidal. It makes someone who is already thinking about suicide more capable of dying.

**This is why lethal means safety is so important.**

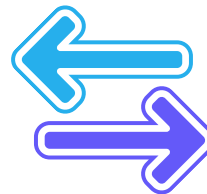


## SAFE FIREARM STORAGE



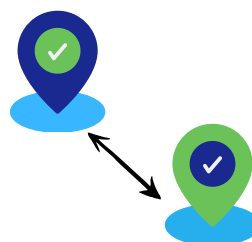
### LOCKED

Keep all firearms locked and secured.



### SEPARATE

Ensure firearms + ammunition are stored in separate places.



### OFFSITE

Consider storing firearms offsite, especially if you are worried about yourself or someone else living in the home.