

2019 LEAD EXPOSURE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE DATA BRIEF

In 2019, nearly 600 children living in NH had blood lead levels high enough to impair their ability to think, concentrate and learn. Lead poisoning is entirely preventable.

Figure 1: Annual number (and percentage) of children tested for blood lead, ages 0 - 6 years old, 2015 - 2019.

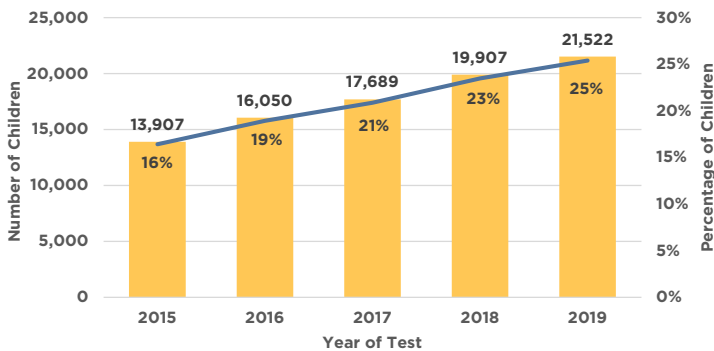


Figure 2: Percentage of 1-and 2-year-old children tested for blood lead, 2015 - 2019.

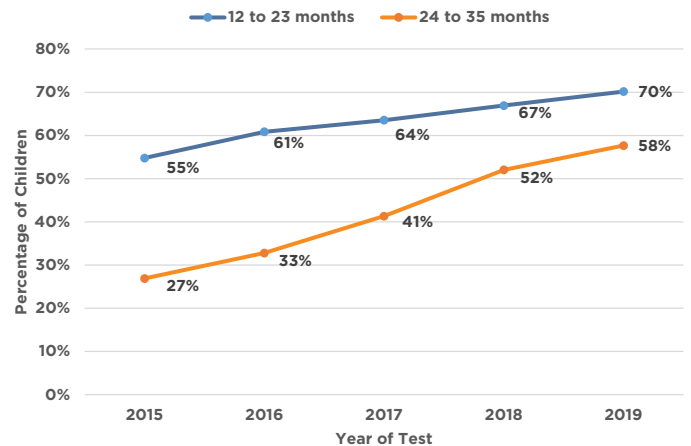


Figure 3: Number of NH one-year-olds enrolled in Medicaid tested for blood lead, 2019.

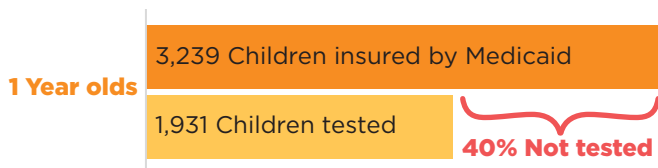


Figure 4: Number of NH two-year-olds enrolled in Medicaid tested for blood lead, 2019.



Among the number of NH's one-year-olds continuously enrolled in Medicaid for at least 12 months prior to their 2nd year birthday, an estimated 60% were tested for blood lead in 2019. This proportion has remained relatively stable in recent years.

Among the number of NH's two-year-olds continuously enrolled in Medicaid for at least 12 months prior to their 3rd year birthday, an estimated 48% were tested for blood lead in 2019. Similar to one-year-old Medicaid enrollees, this proportion has also remained relatively stable in recent years.

Testing at 1 & 2 years old

NH requires blood lead level testing of all children ages 1 and 2 years.

Effective April 9, 2018, NH became a Universal blood lead level testing state. **All** NH children are required to have their blood tested for lead at age 1 year, and **again**, a second test, at age 2 years. It is also recommended to test all children 3 to 6 years who have not been previously tested.



Figure 9: Number of children <6 years with elevated blood lead levels at CDC's reference level of 5µg/dL or higher where lead exposure investigations and medical case management is recommended.

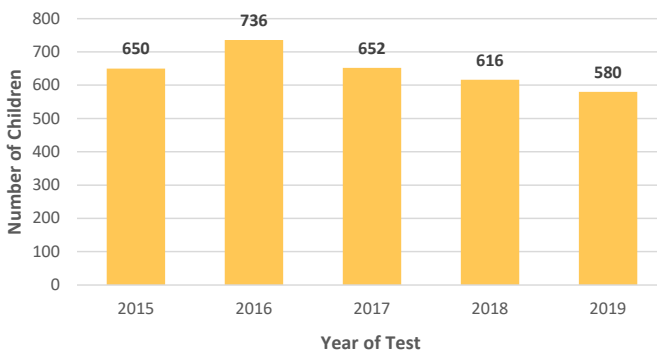
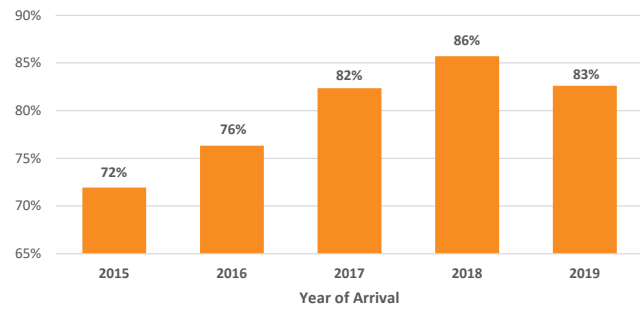
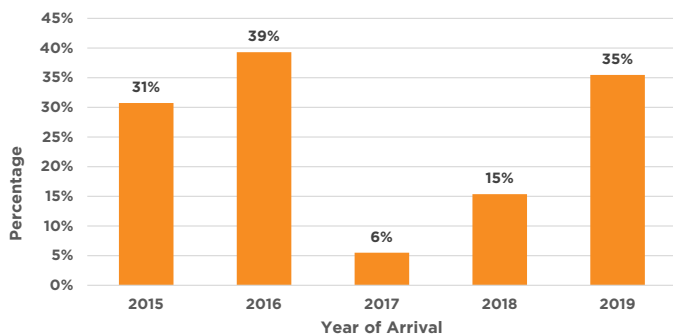


Figure 10: Percentage of newly arrived refugees aged 0 - 16 years tested for blood lead levels within 3 months of arrival, 2015 -2019.



Current federal guidelines require that all refugee arrivals aged 6 months to 16 years are tested for blood lead levels upon entry into the United States. In 2019, a total of 92 refugee children arrived in NH. Of these newly arrived refugees, 83% were tested for blood lead levels within 3 months of arrival.

Figure 11: Percentage of newly arrived refugees 0 - 72 months with an elevated blood lead level of 5 µg/dL or higher within 3 months of arrival.



35%
11 OUT OF 31



In 2019, 35% (11 out of 31) of children newly arrived refugees in NH tested for blood lead within 3 months of arrival had a blood lead level of 5µg/dL or higher. This compares to an estimated 22.7% of newly arrived refugees in US with an elevated blood lead level of 5µg/dL or higher within 3 months of arrival.

Numbers in New Hampshire in 2019

Figure 5: Percentage of children aged 72 months or younger tested for blood lead by School Administrative Unit¹.

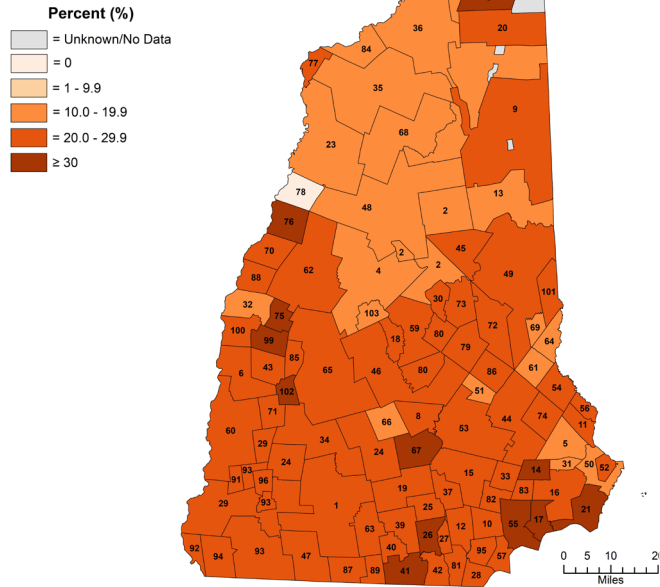


Figure 6: Number of children aged 72 months or younger with blood lead elevations of 5µg/dL or greater by School Administrative Unit^{1,2}.

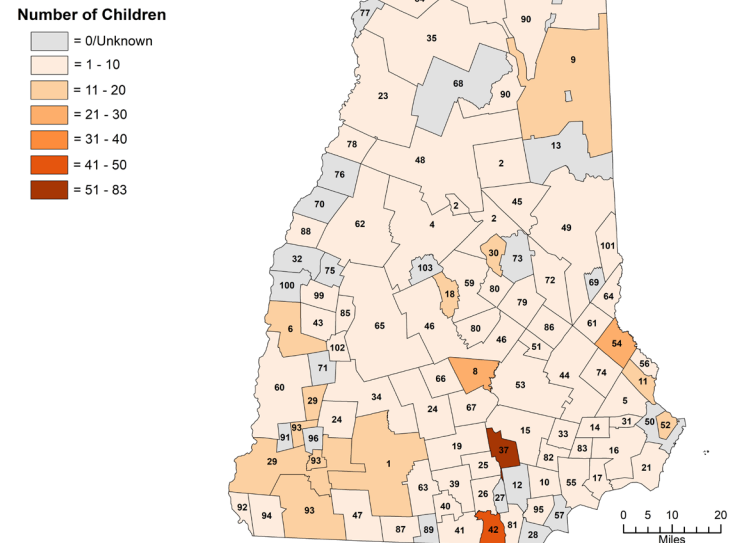


Figure 7: Number of children aged 72 months or younger with blood lead level elevations of 5µg/dL or higher by town.

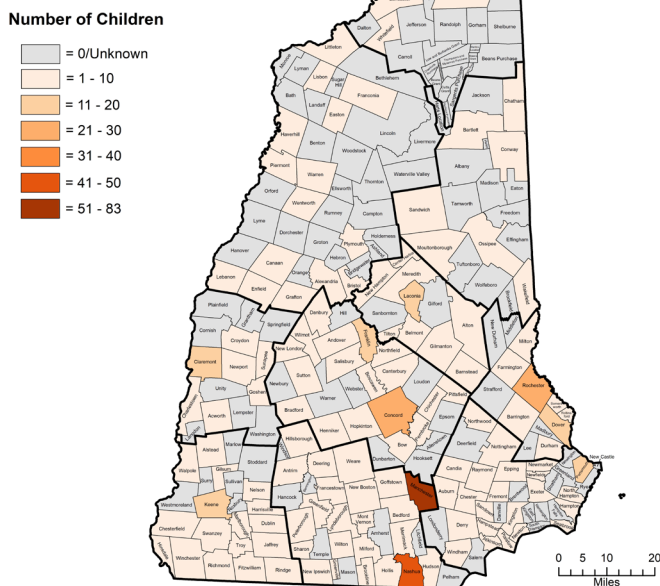
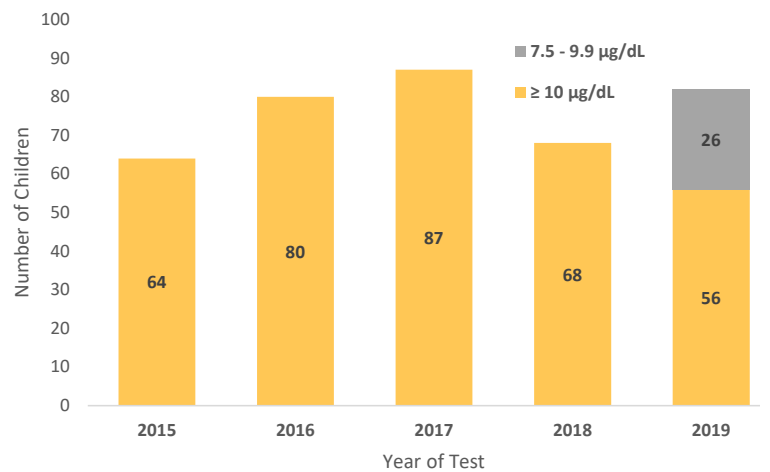


Figure 8: New children aged 72 months or younger above the state action limit requiring medical nurse case management, 2015 - 2019.



On July 1, 2019, the NH action level requiring a public health nurse home visit and a lead exposure investigation was lowered from 10µg/dL or higher to 7.5µg/dL or higher for children aged 72 months and younger.

¹A SAU map with towns can be found at <https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/sau-map.pdf>

² 5µg/dL is the blood lead level at which Lead Exposure Investigations and Medical Case Management is Recommended by the CDC for Children <6 years.

Lead by the Numbers in 2019

Lead poisoning is

100%
preventable



Of structures in NH's highest risk communities built prior to 1978 when lead paint was banned



Children 72 months or younger had blood lead levels high enough to call for medical management



Parents notified that their children had elevated blood lead level 3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or higher



1 in 3

Parents of children with blood lead levels greater than 7.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$, report that renovations have taken place in the home within the last six months



1 in 5

Attention Deficit Disorder cases were attributed to lead exposure

www.aap.org



It only takes a speck of lead dust the size of a grain of salt to poison a child



Testing A Child for Lead Exposure

- Single Visit
- Simple Finger Stick
- Answer in 3 Minutes

Children's blood lead levels can easily and accurately be tested with a simple, finger-stick blood sample during a Well Child Check visit at age 1 year and again at age 2 years at healthcare provider offices with point-of-care testing using Lead Care II analyzers.

Table 1: NH Statewide and Select High-Risk Communities - 2019 Testing Data 6 Years or Younger

TOWN	AGE GROUP (IN MONTHS)	TOTAL NUMBER SCREENED	POPULATION CENSUS 2010	PERCENTAGE SCREENED (%) ³	SCREENING RATES, PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM A YEAR EARLIER (2018)	NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH 5 - 9 µg/dL	NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH ≥10 µg/dL
BERLIN	0 to 11	8	87	9.2	↓ -11.1	0	0
	12 to 23	80	75	106.7	↑ 14.3	<5	0
	24 to 35	59	102	57.8	↓ -18.1	<5	0
	36 to 72	21	284	7.4	↑ 5.0	<5	0
CLAREMONT	0 to 11	2	128	1.6	— 0.0	0	0
	12 to 23	103	172	59.9	↑ 8.4	7	<5
	24 to 35	74	177	41.8	↑ 1.4	<5	0
	36 to 72	88	526	16.7	↑ 6.0	<5	<5
CONCORD	0 to 11	25	440	5.7	↑ 31.6	<5	0
	12 to 23	290	452	64.2	↑ 5.1	10	<5
	24 to 35	233	489	47.7	↑ 8.4	<5	<5
	36 to 72	86	1,441	6.0	↓ -14.0	6	0
CONWAY	0 to 11	1	89	1.1	— 0.0	0	0
	12 to 23	19	95	20.0	↓ -17.4	<5	0
	24 to 35	24	99	24.2	↑ 33.3	<5	0
	36 to 72	8	329	2.4	— 0.0	<5	0
DOVER	0 to 11	22	374	5.9	↑ 83.3	<5	0
	12 to 23	237	356	66.6	↓ -2.5	7	0
	24 to 35	182	341	53.4	↑ 4.6	5	0
	36 to 72	79	1,087	7.3	↑ 6.8	7	0
FARMINGTON	0 to 11	6	87	6.9	↑ 100.0	0	0
	12 to 23	41	98	41.8	↓ -26.8	<5	0
	24 to 35	40	72	55.6	↓ -4.8	<5	<5
	36 to 72	16	265	6.0	↑ 77.8	<5	0
FRANKLIN	0 to 11	11	99	11.1	↓ -35.3	0	0
	12 to 23	65	96	67.7	↑ 1.6	5	<5
	24 to 35	60	95	63.2	↑ 17.7	11	0
	36 to 72	25	318	7.9	↓ -32.4	<5	0
GREENVILLE	0 to 11	0	19	0.0	— 0.0	0	0
	12 to 23	16	23	69.6	↓ -23.8	<5	0
	24 to 35	15	26	57.7	↓ -6.3	0	0
	36 to 72	6	84	7.1	↓ -40.0	0	0
HAVERHILL	0 to 11	0	45	0.0	— 0.0	0	0
	12 to 23	1	35	2.9	— 0.0	0	0
	24 to 35	3	69	4.4	— 0.0	0	0
	36 to 72	2	123	1.6	— 0.0	0	0
HILLSBORO	0 to 11	0	67	0.0	↓ -100.0	0	0
	12 to 23	47	77	61.0	↓ -8.0	<5	0
	24 to 35	38	74	51.4	↑ 21.9	<5	<5
	36 to 72	21	240	8.8	↑ 5.0	<5	0
HINSDALE	0 to 11	2	45	4.4	— 0.0	<5	0
	12 to 23	32	31	103.2	↑ 6.7	<5	0
	24 to 35	31	41	75.6	↑ 10.7	0	0
	36 to 72	7	133	5.3	↓ -46.2	<5	0

³Screening Rates Presented may exceed 100% in situations where number of children screened exceeds 2010 Census Population.

TOWN	AGE GROUP (IN MONTHS)	TOTAL NUMBER SCREENED	POPULATION CENSUS 2010	PERCENTAGE SCREENED (%) ³	SCREENING RATES, PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM A YEAR EARLIER (2018)	NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH 5 - 9 µg/dL	NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH ≥10 µg/dL
HUDSON	0 to 11	22	257	8.6	↓ -21.4	0	0
	12 to 23	186	255	72.9	↑ 21.6	<5	0
	24 to 35	177	285	62.1	↑ 27.3	<5	0
	36 to 72	65	953	6.8	↑ 32.7	0	0
KEENE	0 to 11	1	159	0.6	↓ -85.7	<5	0
	12 to 23	144	182	79.12	↓ -5.3	7	0
	24 to 35	117	185	63.2	↑ 6.4	<5	0
	36 to 72	51	613	8.3	↑ 116.7	<5	<5
LACONIA	0 to 11	11	178	6.2	↓ -35.3	0	0
	12 to 23	127	178	71.4	↑ 2.4	8	0
	24 to 35	113	174	64.9	↑ 39.5	<5	<5
	36 to 72	27	506	5.3	↓ -25.0	<5	0
LEBANON	0 to 11	3	184	1.6	— 0.0	0	0
	12 to 23	92	174	52.9	↑ 24.3	<5	0
	24 to 35	74	160	46.3	↑ 21.3	<5	0
	36 to 72	39	443	8.8	↑ 143.8	<5	0
MANCHESTER	0 to 11	43	1,525	2.8	↓ -25.9	<5	0
	12 to 23	1,103	1,512	72.9	↑ 0.4	24	8
	24 to 35	936	1,498	62.5	↑ 3.0	15	<5
	36 to 72	475	4,165	11.4	↑ 13.9	21	<5
NASHUA	0 to 11	39	1,076	3.6	↓ -25.0	0	0
	12 to 23	796	1,088	73.2	↑ 0.9	17	<5
	24 to 35	716	1,078	66.4	↑ 27.9	15	<5
	36 to 72	318	3,274	9.7	↑ 55.9	8	0
NEWMARKET	0 to 11	10	101	9.9	↓ -23.1	0	0
	12 to 23	63	123	51.2	↓ -7.4	<5	0
	24 to 35	49	123	39.8	↓ -3.9	0	<5
	36 to 72	9	327	2.8	↓ -18.2	<5	0
NEWPORT	0 to 11	2	74	2.7	↓ -33.3	0	<5
	12 to 23	56	92	60.9	↑ 33.3	0	0
	24 to 35	35	77	45.5	↓ -7.9	<5	0
	36 to 72	23	214	10.8	↑ 35.3	<5	<5
PETERBOROUGH	0 to 11	0	58	0.0	↓ -100.0	0	0
	12 to 23	37	63	58.7	↓ -19.6	<5	0
	24 to 35	34	63	54.0	↓ -19.1	<5	0
	36 to 72	6	171	3.5	↓ -45.5	<5	0
PITTSFIELD	0 to 11	4	63	6.4	↓ -20.0	0	0
	12 to 23	26	47	55.3	↓ -7.1	<5	0
	24 to 35	19	45	42.2	↓ -24.0	0	0
	36 to 72	13	171	7.6	↓ -7.1	<5	0
ROCHESTER	0 to 11	16	333	4.8	↓ -42.9	0	0
	12 to 23	235	384	61.2	↑ 13.0	8	<5
	24 to 35	137	380	36.1	↓ -23.0	<5	0
	36 to 72	67	1,043	6.4	↑ 1.5	7	<5
SOMERSWORTH	0 to 11	9	170	5.3	↓ -18.2	0	0
	12 to 23	99	163	60.7	↑ 10.0	<5	0
	24 to 35	66	157	42.0	↓ -2.9	<5	0
	36 to 72	37	480	7.7	— 0.0	<5	0
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE	0 to 11	704	12,994	5.4	↓ -7.6	18	1
	12 to 23	9,486	13,521	70.2	↑ 5.0	210	32
	24 to 35	8,048	13,959	57.7	↑ 11.1	135	16
	36 to 72	3,284	44,293	7.4	↑ 15.7	108	7
TOTAL	0 to 72	21,522	84,767	25.4	↑ 8.1	471	56