



Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee

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What's New in Lead Poisoning Prevention

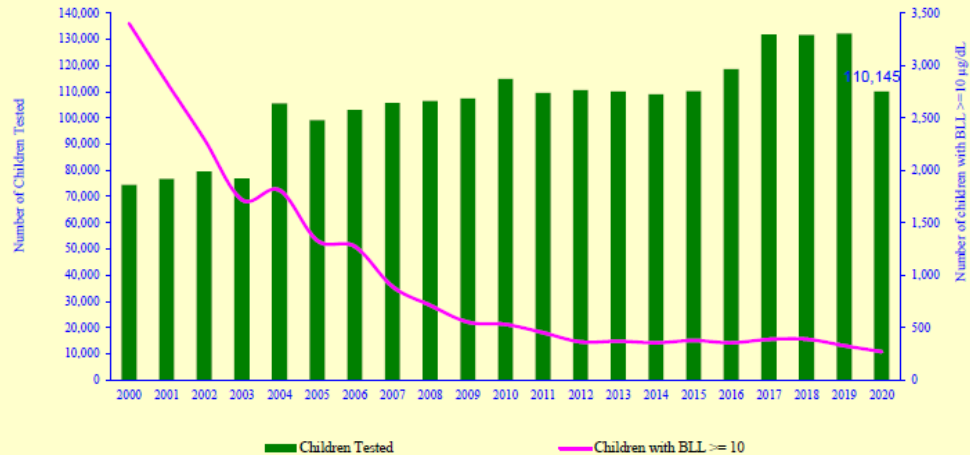
- ❖ MDE annual report presentation at Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission meeting on 11/4/2021

Calendar Year 2020 Statistical Report

Item	Number	Percent
All Children (0-17 Years)		
Number of Tests	120,936	
Number of Children	116,142	
Children 0-72 Months		
Number of Tests	114,735	
Number of Children	110,145	100.0
Age		
Under One	8,838	8.0
One Year	43,962	39.9
Two Years	38,757	35.2
Three Years	6,284	5.7
Four Years	6,942	6.3
Five Years	5,375	4.9
Sex		
Female	52,771	74.9
Male	55,996	50.8
Undetermined	1,391	1.3
Blood Lead Level (µg/dL)		
≤4	108,987	98.9
5-9	901	0.8
10-14	156	0.1
15-19	56	0.1
≥20	58	0.1
Mean BLL (Geometric)	1.59	
Blood Specimen		
Capillary	51,613	46.8
Venous	58,353	53.0
Undetermined	192	0.2

Significant Dropoff in Testing in 2020

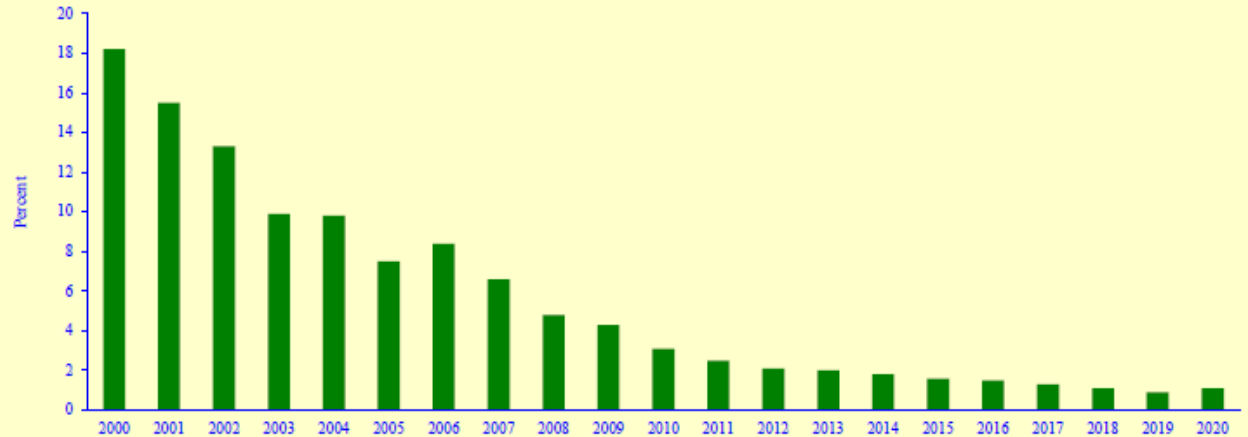
Number of Children 0-72 Months Tested for Lead and the Number Reported to Have Blood Lead Level $\geq 10 \mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$: 2000-2020



The projected number of children tested for lead for 2020 was 136,307.
The observed number is 110,145.

Challenges in Interpreting 2020 Data

Percent of Children 0-72 Months of Age Lead Tested and Identified with a Blood Lead Level of 5-9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$
CY 2000- CY 2020

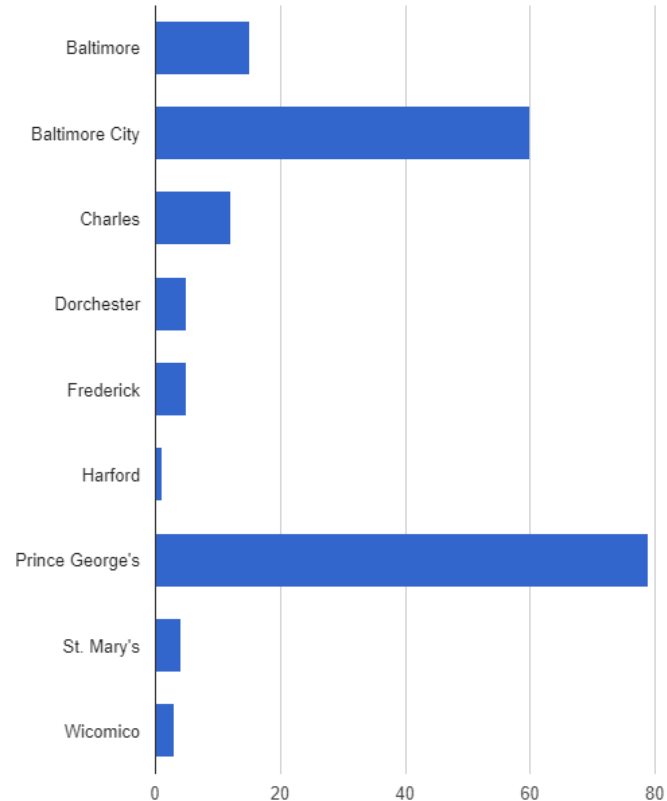


Initiatives to Increase Testing Rates

- ❖ Joint public letter to parents from Lead Commission, MDE, MDH
- ❖ Provider letter from MDH on new resources, importance of testing
- ❖ Public events – Lead Poisoning Prevention Awareness Week (10/25/2021)
- ❖ Other initiatives being contemplated

Enrollment in Local Health Department Home Visiting Programs

- ❖ 184 children enrolled in State Fiscal Year 2021 (7/1/20 – 6/30/22)
- ❖ 47% Female, 53% Male
- ❖ Additional counties (Montgomery, Anne Arundel) coming in 2022



Change of CDC Blood Lead Reference Value

- ❖ October 28, 2021 – CDC announces decrease in blood lead reference value from 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ to 3.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$, based on most recent NHANES data
- ❖ MDH, MDE reviewing implications