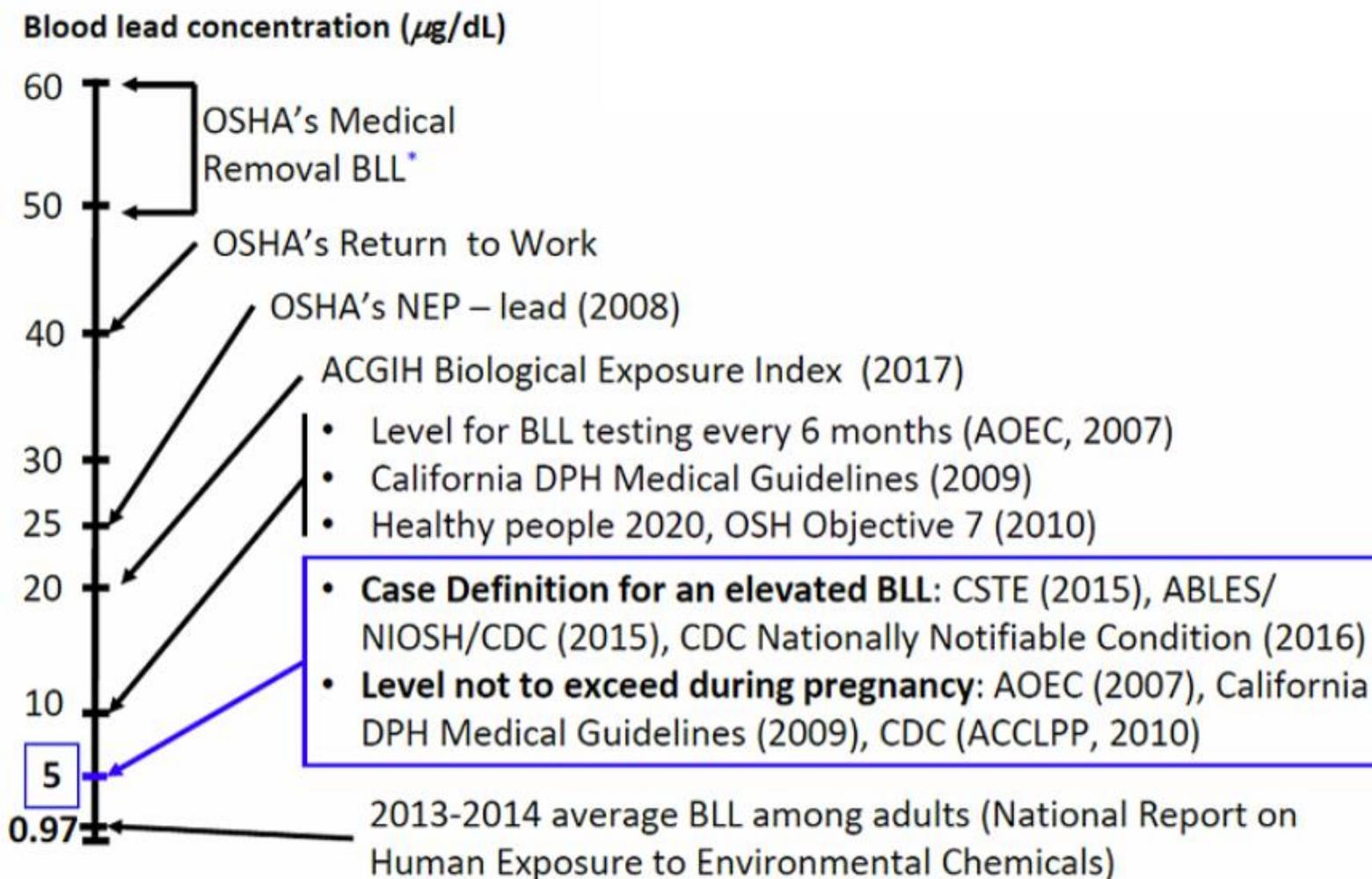


## Reference Blood Lead Levels (BLLs) for Adults in the U. S.

Slide updated 10/17/2017



\*The OSHA Lead Standards state that the examining physician has broad flexibility to tailor protections to the worker's needs.

## Source Documents for Reference Blood Lead Levels – as posted on the NIOSH web page, April 17, 2018

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/ables/ReferenceBloodLevelsforAdults.html>

1. [Occupational Safety and Health Administration \(OSHA\). Lead Standards](#)
2. [American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists \(ACGIH\). Biological Exposure Indices](#)
3. [OSHA Instruction: National Emphasis Program \(NEP\) on Lead](#)

“Inspections will also be conducted in establishments where reported employee blood lead levels were at or above 25 µg/dL”

4. Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics (AOEC). Medical Management Guidelines for Lead-Exposed Adults, Revised 04/24/2007. [CSTE Medical Management Guidelines Added October 2013, see Pages 16-17](#)
5. Kosnett MJ et al. [Recommendations for Medical Management of Adult Lead Exposure.](#)
6. [California Department of Public Health \(CDPH\) Medical Guidelines for the Lead-Exposed Worker](#)
7. Department of Health and Human Services. [Healthy People 2020 Occupational Safety and Health objective 7 \(OSH-7\) and operational definition](#)
8. [Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists \(CSTE\) Position Statement 15-EH-01.](#) Public Health Reporting and National Notification for Elevated Blood Lead Levels.
9. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention(CDC), National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), [Adult Blood Lead Epidemiology and Surveillance \(ABLES\) case definition for an elevated blood lead level](#)
10. CDC. National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS). [Nationally Notifiable Non-Infectious Conditions. Lead, Elevated Blood Levels 2016 Case Definition](#)
11. CDC. Advisory Committee on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention (ACCLPP): [Guidelines for the Identification and Management of Lead Exposure in Pregnant and Lactating Women](#)

These guidelines recommend follow-up activities and interventions beginning at blood lead levels (BLLs)  $\geq 5$  µg/dL in pregnant women. The essential activity in management of pregnant women with BLLs  $\geq 5$  µg/dL is removal of the lead source, disruption of the route of exposure, or avoidance of the lead-containing substance or activity.

12. National Toxicology Program (NTP). [Health Effects of Low-level Lead Evaluation](#)
13. CDC. [National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals. Updated tables, January 2017](#)