

Mandatory Blood Lead Testing



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Stuart Schmitz

April 26, 2016 Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Introduction to lead poisoning in Iowa
3. Lead impact on children
4. Chapter 67, Iowa Code 641: “Blood Lead Testing”
5. Types of blood lead tests and some statistics
6. Procedures for schools to file data to IDPH
7. Options for parents to file children’s blood lead testing to schools
8. Time frame for 2016-2017 school year data
9. Results of 2015-2016 school data matching
10. Follow up on non-tested children
11. Comments and questions



Lead is a metal

It is very soft, highly malleable, ductile, and a relatively poor conductor of electricity

It is very resistant to corrosion but but oxidizes upon exposure to air



#1 Source: Pre 1978 Homes

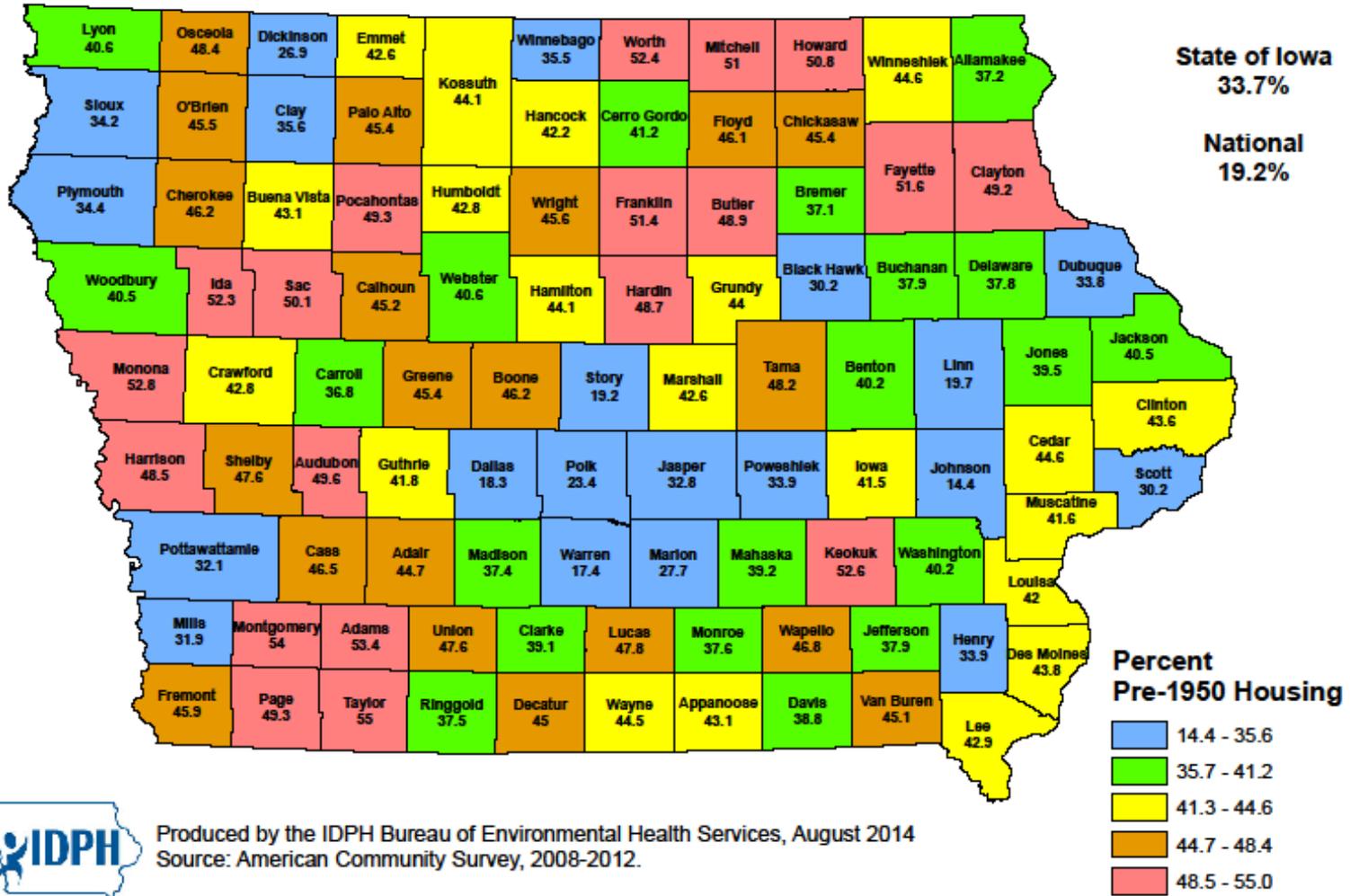
**THE OLDER THE HOUSE, THE GREATER
CHANCES FOR LEAD POISONING**



HOUSING DATA 2008-12 (ACS)

Age of Housing	Iowa Average	National Average	Rank
Pre 1940	27.3%	14.2%	4 rd
Pre 1950	33.7%	19.2%	5 th
Pre 1960	44.8%	29.5%	6 th

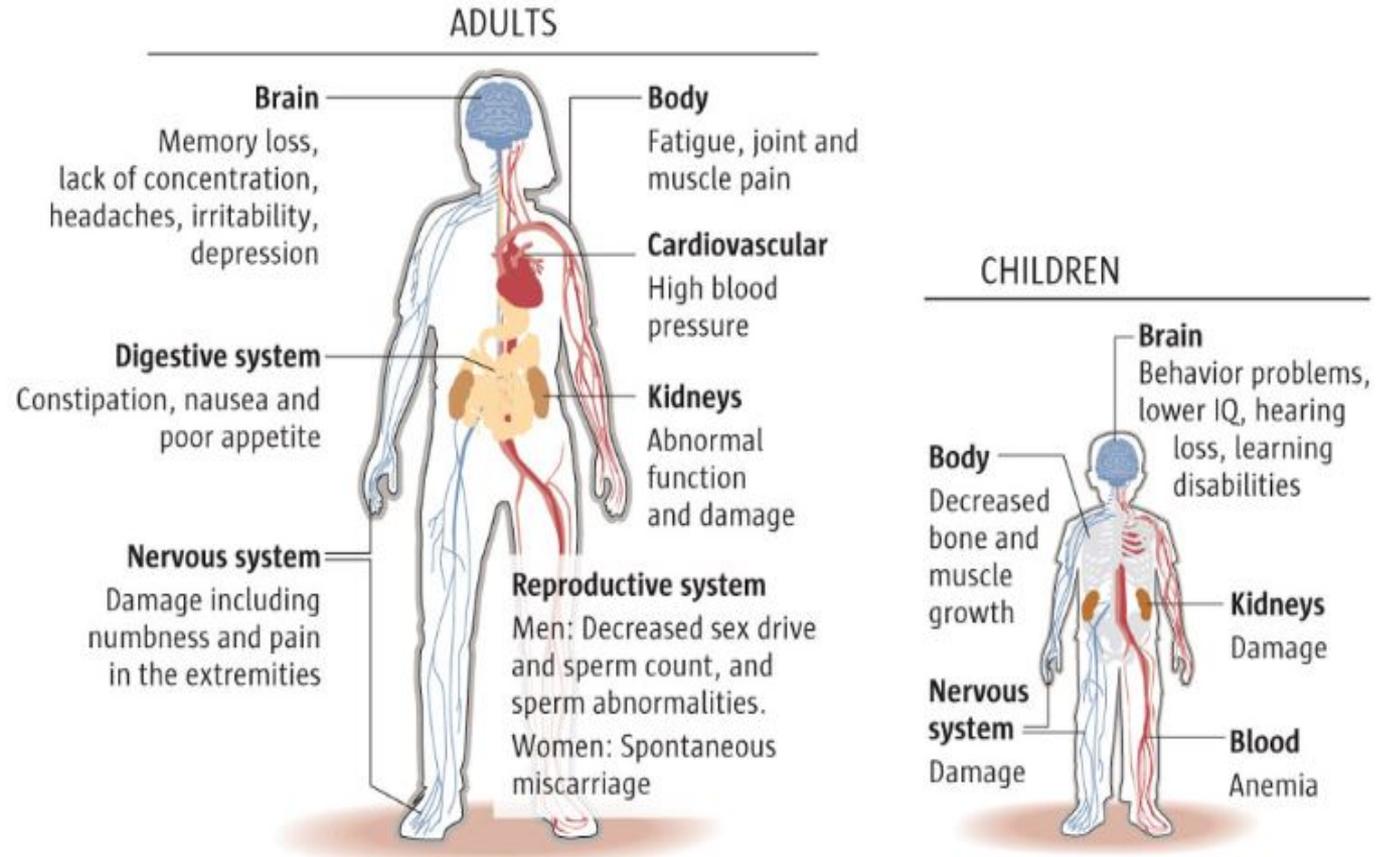
Housing Built Before 1950 -- ACS 2008-2012



Produced by the IDPH Bureau of Environmental Health Services, August 2014
Source: American Community Survey, 2008-2012.

Lead impact on children & adults

Because of their high hand-to-mouth activity and body size, children are more affected by exposure to lead than are adults.



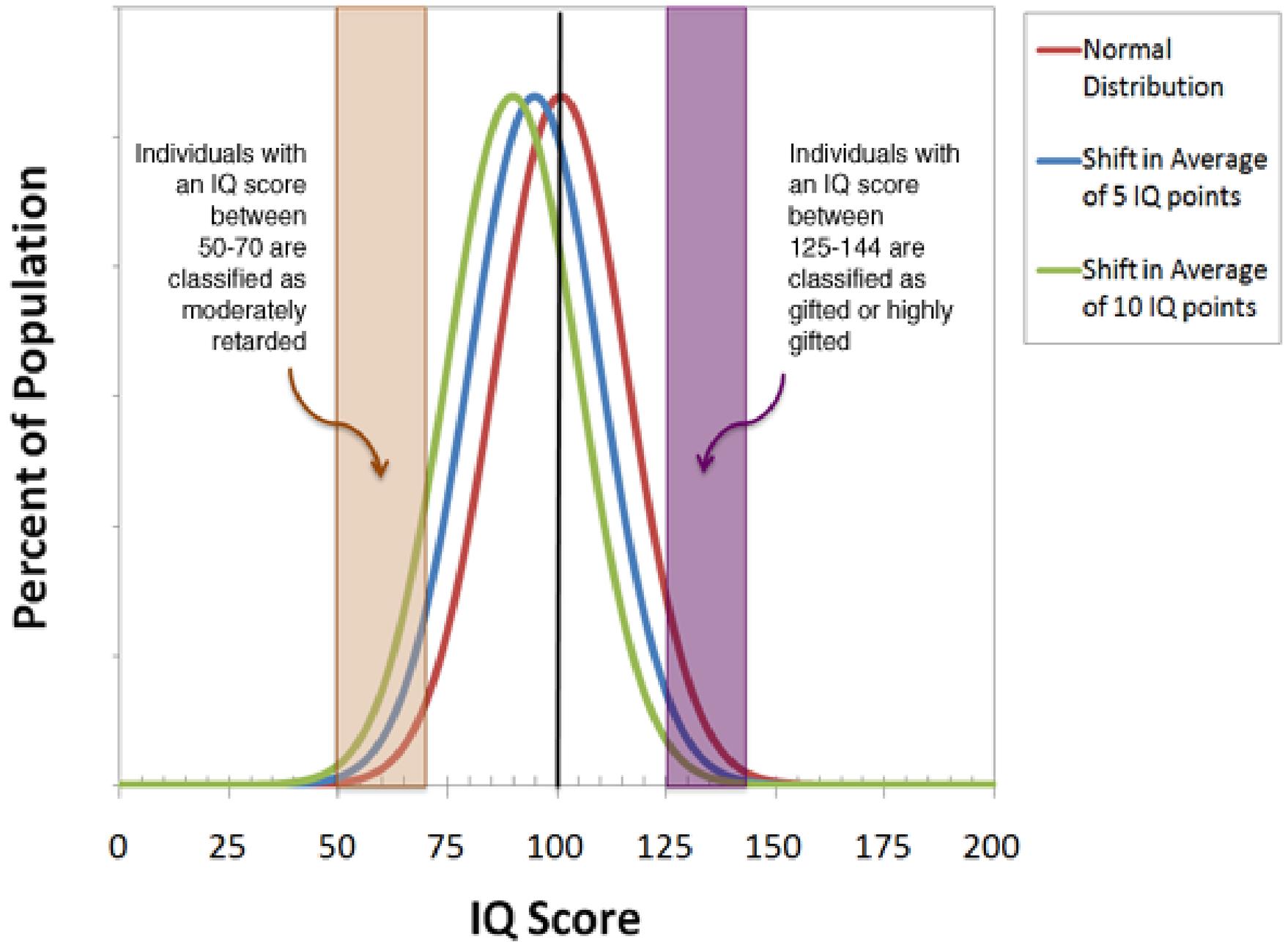
MARK NOWLIN / THE SEATTLE TIMES

Sources: Public Health – Seattle and King County; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Institutes of Health

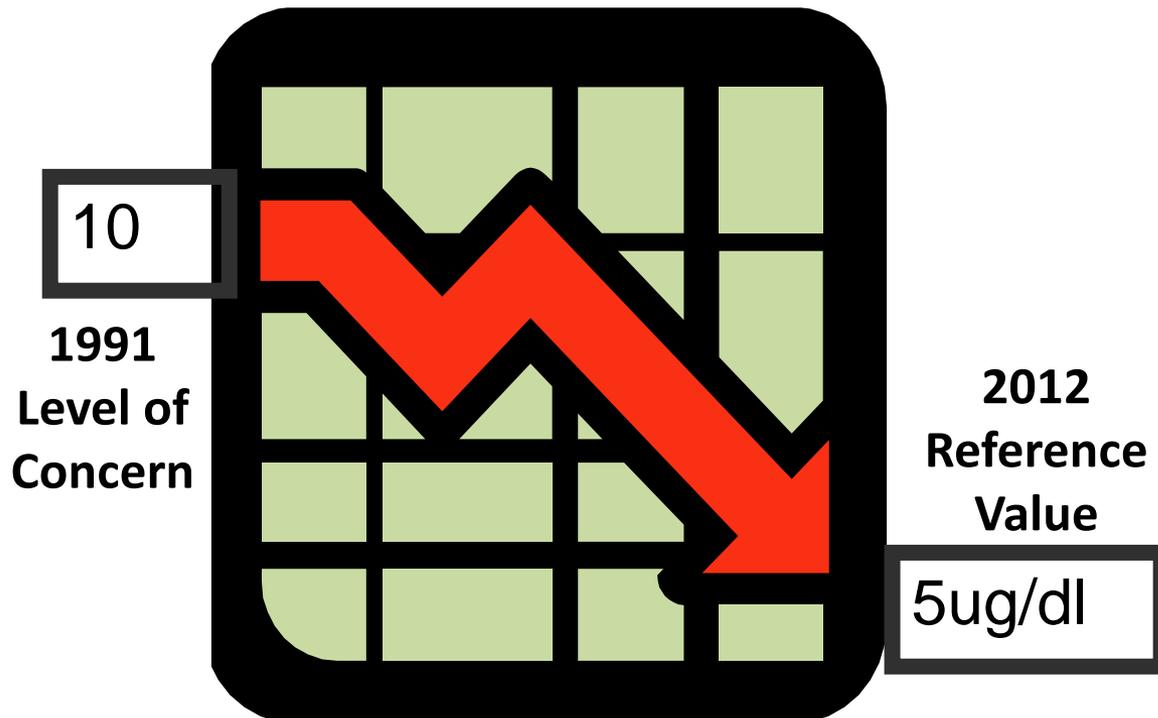
SYMPTOMS OF CHILDHOOD LEAD EXPOSURE

- **Stomachache**
- **Irritability**
- **Vomiting**
- **Constipation**
- **Headaches**
- **Poor appetite**

It is difficult to diagnose lead poisoning based on these symptoms.



CDC Update on Blood Lead Levels in Children



CHAPTER 67, IOWA CODE 641 BLOOD LEAD TESTING

Purpose: Improve the health of Iowa's children.



Mandatory Blood Lead Testing in Iowa



The bill passed 2007-08 legislative

Requiring all Children entering kindergarten to have evidence of at least one blood lead test.



Children will NOT be kept out of school if they do not have blood lead test

TYPES OF BLOOD LEAD TESTING DONE

Capillary : Finger stick

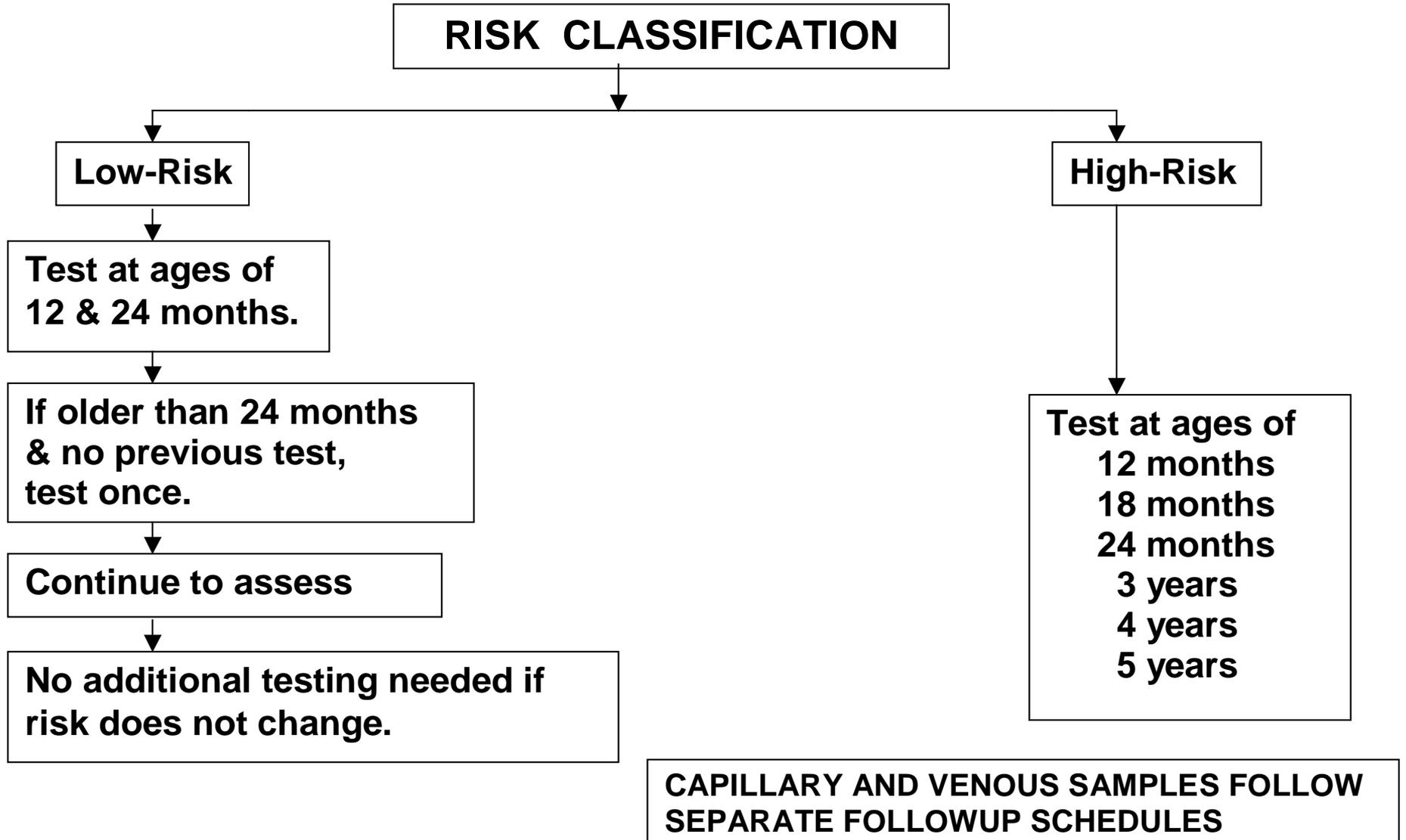


Venous: Vein draw



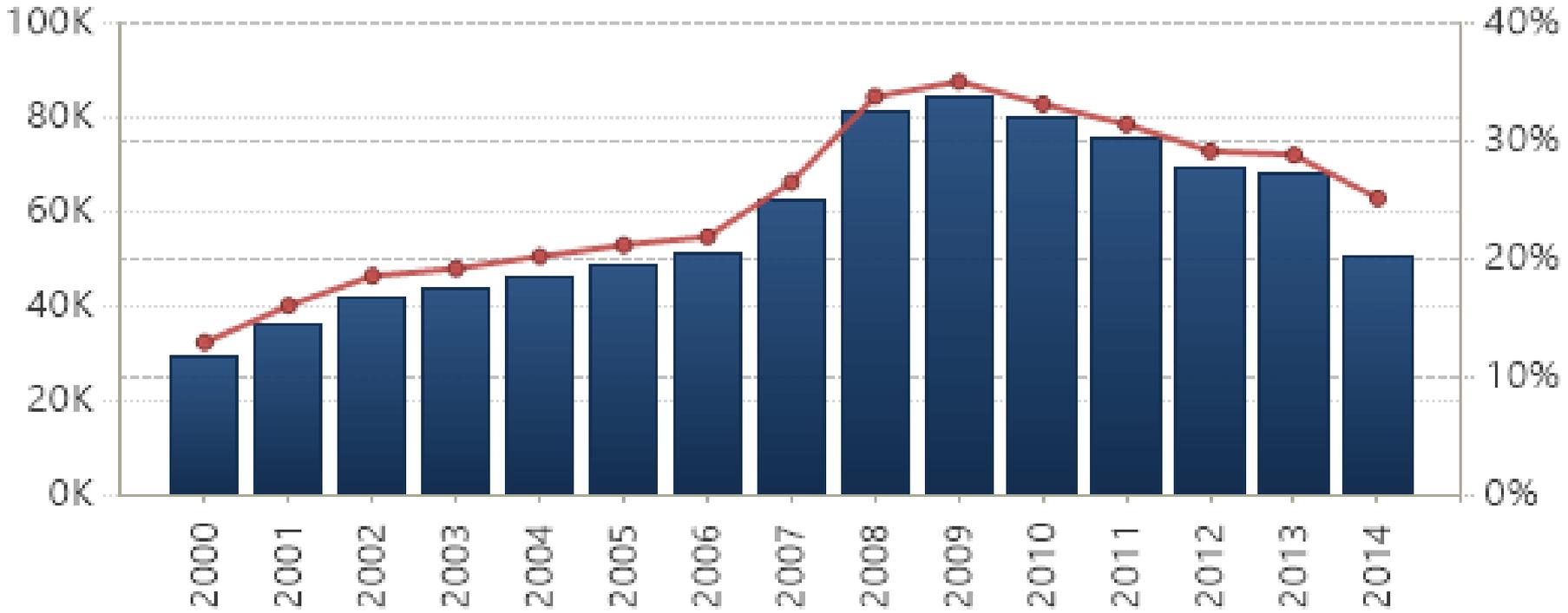
BASIC LEAD TESTING CHART

(Based on Risk and Age)

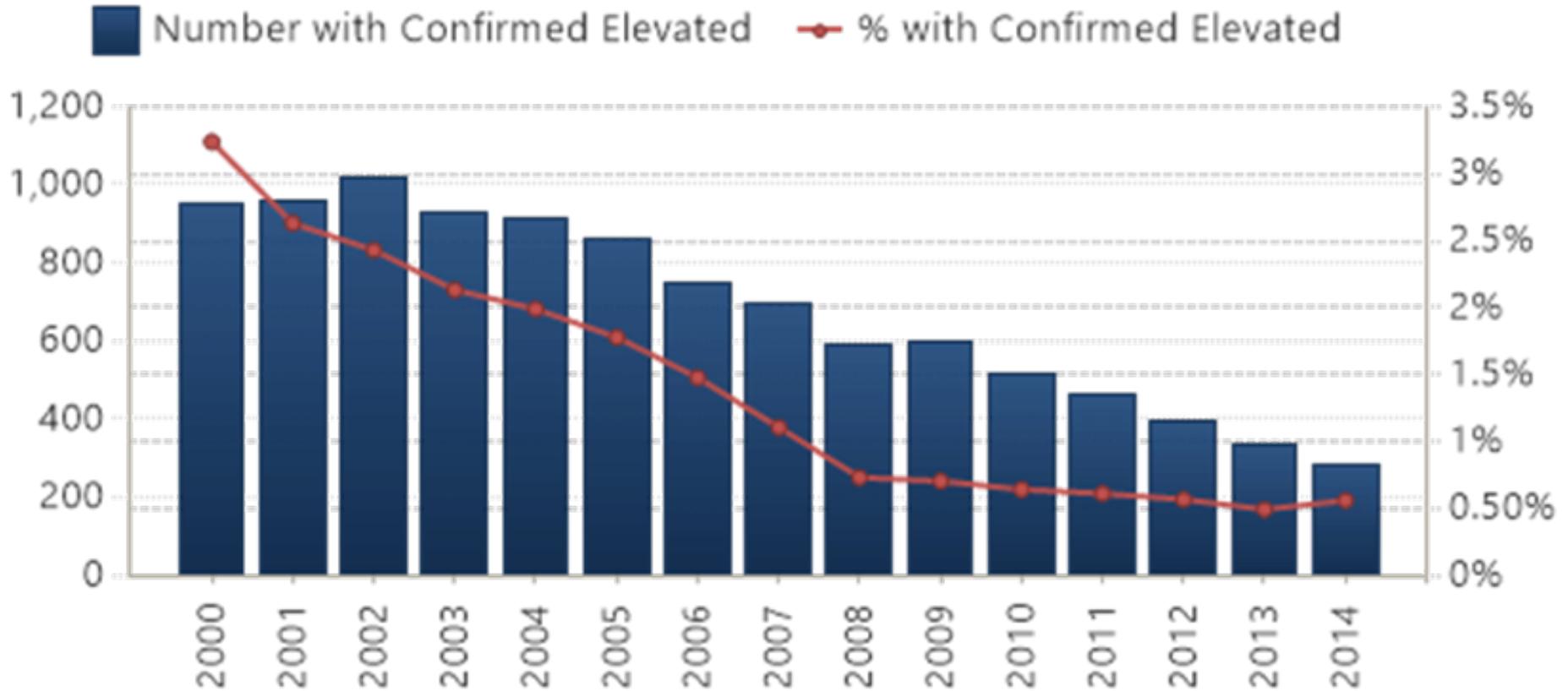


Number of Children Tested for Blood Lead Level

■ Number of Children Tested ● % Population Tested



Number of children confirmed (≥ 10 ug/dL)

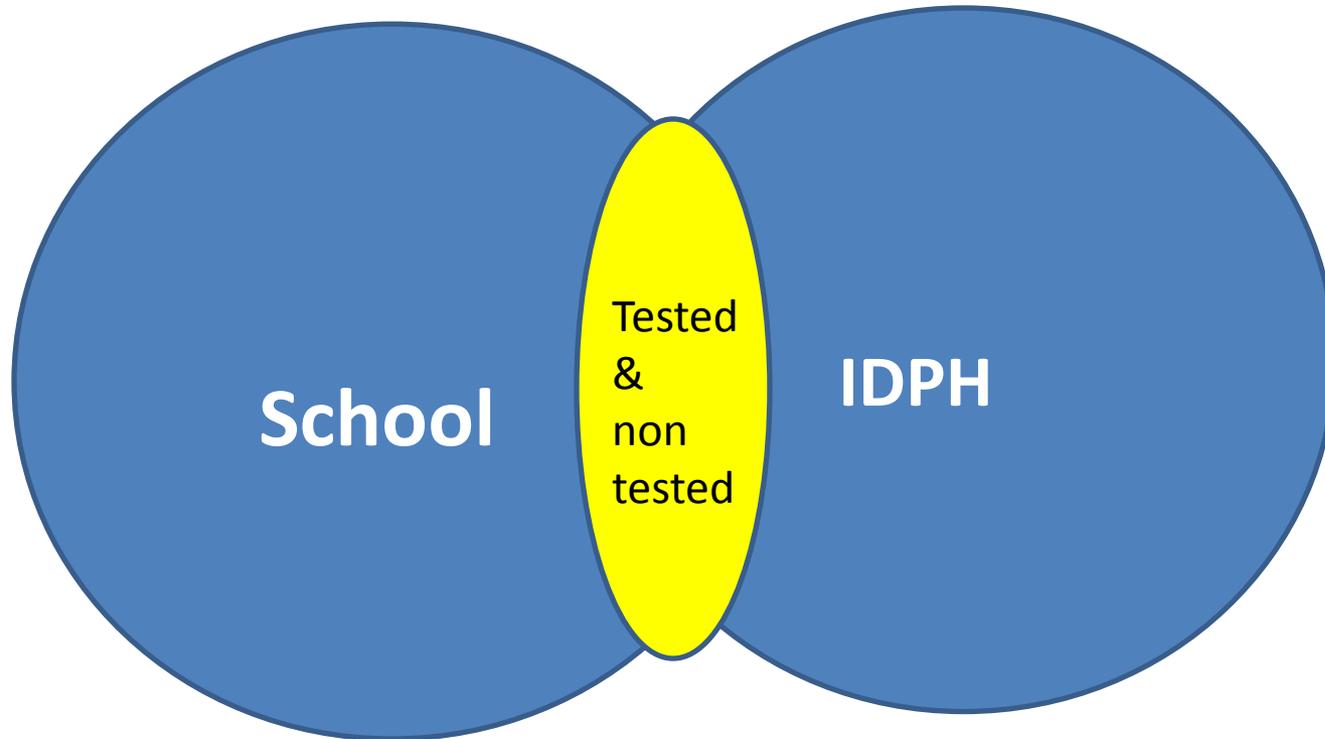


Partnership between IDPH & Department of Education

641—67.7(135) Proof of blood lead testing.



Matching process



2016-2017 school data to be reported

1. Student contact information

1.1 Name

1.2 Date of Birth

1.3 Address

2. Exemptions

2.1 Religious

2.2 Low risk Exemption

2016-2017 school data to be reported

3. School

3.1 Name

3.2 School District #

3.3 Address

4. School contact information

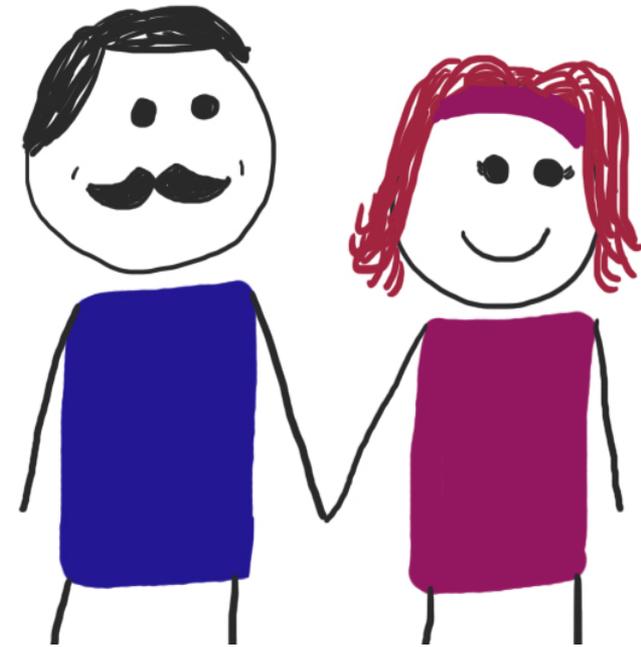
4.1 Name of the person

4.2 Phone #

4.3 E-mail address

Options for parents

- A. Provide evidence of a blood lead test to the school
- B. Submit a religious exemption to the school
- C. Request a low-risk exemption to IDPH and submit it to school.



Evidence of a blood lead test

- Doc. of a lab result:
 - A Hospital
 - Dr.'s Clinic
 - Public health clinic

NOTE:

If your school receives the statement from a Dr.'s office that a child received a blood lead test, without the value, this should be accepted. However, this document will not be sufficient for IDPH or local lead program to follow up on the child's blood lead test.



Characteristics of a blood lead test from a laboratory

- Patient's address at the time of the draw
- Date of Birth
- Value provided in micrograms per deciliter
- Guardian name
- Phone numbers
- Name of the physician who ordered the test
- Name and address of the facility where the test was drawn.

Note: A lab result is a valid document to be used for IDPH's lead data base surveillance.

Religious Exemption

Download the religious exemption form

<http://idph.iowa.gov/lpp/blood-lead-testing>

Phone: 800-972-2026

E-mail: rossany.brugger@idph.iowa.gov

Parents must

- Fill out the form and notarize it
- Submit it to the child's school

School must

- Mark an **X** in the column for the religious exemption of the specific child.

Low-probability of blood lead level poisoning exemption

- Parent call 800-972-2026 or e-mail stuart.schmitz@idph.iowa.gov and request a low risk exemption.
- Parent responds to a questionnaire provided by IDPH.
- If information meets criteria: Parent will receive a form from IDPH.
- If information doesn't meet criteria: IDPH will inform the parent that they must have their children screened for lead.

Procedures to follow when low risk exemption form is provided

Parents must

- Fill out the form
- Sign
- Have notarized
- Return to the Department of Public Health with a copy to the child's school.

School must

- Mark an **X** in the column for the low risk exemption of the specific child.

Anticipated timelines for new school year

<u>Start of school year 2016</u>	IDPH sends the revised excel sheet to schools
<u>October 31, 2016</u>	School electronic submission (via e-mail) of kindergartners or younger students .
<u>August 2016 – Dec. 31,</u>	IDPH receives requests for low risk exemptions <u>2016-2017</u>
<u>January 31, 2017</u>	IDPH informs on the results to the schools that submitted data.
<u>Start of school year 2017</u>	IDPH sends a revised excel sheet (if necessary) to schools for new school year.

Handling the results

IDPH to school



School to parent



Parent take action



Results of 2015-2016 school data

1. School enrollment: **39,237**.
School file: **70.0%**
2. Iowa schools districts: **333** districts.
School file: **250** districts, or **75.1%** of them.
3. **8510** children were not matched to lead tests in HHLPSS. This was **30.1%** of the school file.

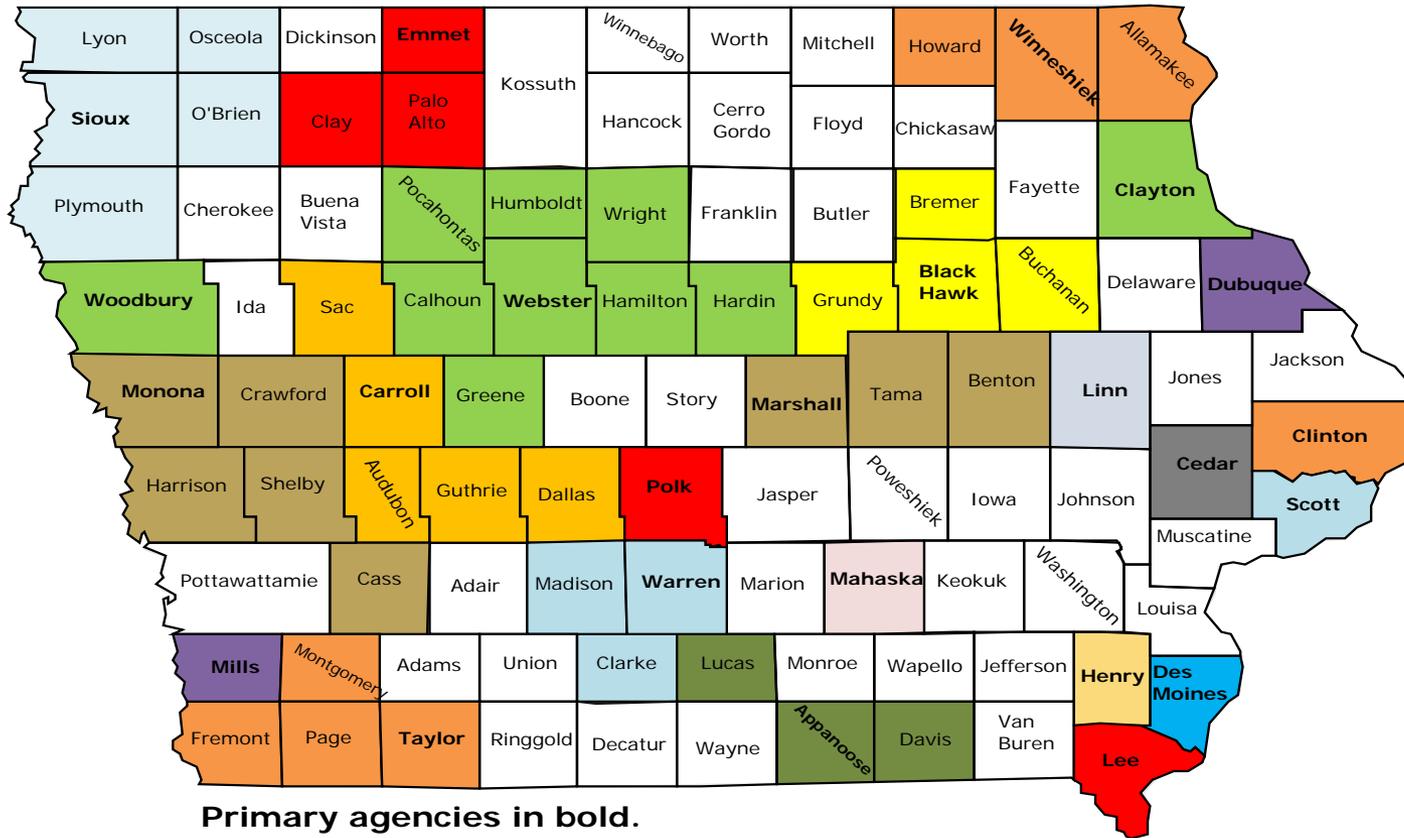
Possible reasons to the 30.1%

1. Children never had a test.
2. Children had a test outside Iowa.
3. They had a test in Iowa and it was not reported to IDPH.
4. They had a test and it was reported to IDPH, but was under a different name.

Payment sources for blood lead testing

- Medicaid and hawk-i
- Private insurance plans
- Some county health deparats
- The CLPPPs (If the child is under 6 years of age)

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) 2015 - 2016 Local CLPPPs and Service Areas



Source: Iowa Department of Public Health, Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, July 2015

FOLLOW UP

IDPH Memorandum:

- Recommend parents to have their children tested.
- If the child has been tested at least once, please send the records to Rossany Brugger by e-mail, mail or fax.
- If the child has not been tested, have them tested and send the records to Rossany Brugger by e-mail, mail or fax.

FOLLOW UP

Important: Parents and/or school nurses must add to the results, the name of the school and county.

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Challenges

For IDPH

1. **Work relationship with several stakeholders:**
 - School districts/schools
 - Local health departments
 - Laboratories
 - Improve low lead data reports from some labs
2. **Lead data base construction in progress**
3. **Funds cuts**
 - To pay for lead testing

For schools

1. **Comply with IDPH's time frames:**
 - Contractual services
 - New personnel
2. **Deal with IDPH's data base margin error.**
3. **No compatibility btw school data base and IDPH excel sheet**
4. **Basic/limited knowledge of excel**
5. **Limited time to follow up on non-tested children**

For more information about lead poisoning

- **Iowa Department of Public Health**

(800) 972-2026

Stuart Schmitz (515) 281-8707

Rossany Brugger (515) 281-3225

IDPH: <http://idph.iowa.gov>

Mandatory Blood Lead Testing Program:

<http://idph.iowa.gov/lpp/blood-lead-testing>

Chapter 67:

<http://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/Files/LPP/Chapter.641.67.pdf>

For more information about lead poisoning

- Statistics on Iowa lead poisoning

<https://pht.idph.state.ia.us/healtheffects/LeadPoisoning/Dashboards/Annual%20Testing%20Children%20Under%206/State%20Measures.aspx>
x

- Iowa local health departments

http://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/userfiles/147/lph_addresses.pdf

- CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/>

Thank you!



Questions?

