

# WHAT YOUR CHILD'S BLOOD LEAD TEST MEANS

Lead exposure happens when children come in contact with lead in the air, in dust, and in lead paint. Lead can also be found in soil, drinking water supplied by lead plumbing or faucets, and imported candies, spices, and health supplements. Lead is used for some jobs and hobbies.

**Lead is a serious health threat.**

A fingertip prick with a result greater than or equal to 3.5 ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ ) should be retested with a second test using blood from a vein.

LEAD RESULT in micrograms per deciliter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ )	WHAT YOUR RESULT MEANS	NEXT STEPS
LESS THAN 3.5	Your child may have been exposed to lead.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A blood lead test can tell you if you or your loved ones have recent or ongoing exposures to lead. Blood lead tests cannot tell you if you were exposed to lead in the past.</li><li>• Learn about safe cleaning, healthy foods, and keeping your child lead-free at <a href="https://Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe">Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe</a>.</li></ul>
3.5 to less than 15	Your child's lead level is high.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• See your child's doctor to review your child's lead test.</li><li>• Follow-up with your doctor for a retest within one to three months to make sure your child's lead level is not going up.</li><li>• Call the MDHHS Lead Safe Home Program at 866-691-5323 or your local health department to learn about having your home inspected for lead.</li><li>• Learn about safe cleaning, healthy foods, and keeping your child lead-free at <a href="https://Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe">Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe</a>.</li></ul>
15 to less than 45	Your child's lead level is very high.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contact your child's doctor immediately.</li><li>• Follow-up with your doctor for a retest within one month to make sure your child's lead level is not going up.</li><li>• Call the MDHHS Lead Safe Home Program at 866-691-5323 or your local health department to learn about having your home inspected for lead.</li><li>• Learn about safe cleaning, healthy foods, and keeping your child lead-free at <a href="https://Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe">Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe</a>.</li></ul>
45 OR HIGHER	Your child needs to see a doctor right away.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contact your child's doctor immediately.</li><li>• You should not take your child home until the source of lead is found and addressed.</li><li>• Call the MDHHS Lead Safe Home Program at 866-691-5323 or your local health department to learn about having your home inspected for lead.</li><li>• Your child will need regular retests and medical monitoring.</li></ul>

For more information, visit [Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe](https://Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe) or call the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 517-335-8885.

# MAKE EVERY DAY LEAD SAFE



**WASH YOUR HANDS  
FREQUENTLY**



**DO NOT WEAR  
SHOES IN HOUSE**



**EAT FOODS HIGH  
IN CALCIUM AND IRON**

**Are you  
cleaning lead  
safe?**



- Use throw-away supplies and towels.
- Wear rubber gloves or wash your hands well after cleaning.
- Use soapy cleaners.
- Rinse with fresh water after cleaning.
- Throw away wipes after cleaning each area.
- Empty wash water down a toilet.
- Clean often.

**Does your  
home have  
lead plumbing  
or faucets?**



If yes:

- Use a filter that is tested and certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for lead reduction.
- Flush your pipes before drinking or using water for cooking.
- Use cold water for cooking and mixing formula.

**Thinking of  
making home  
repairs?**



- Have your home tested for lead. Call 866-691-5323 to learn more.
- If your home was built before 1978, use a certified lead professional.
- Avoid power sanders, open-flame torches, heat guns, dry scrapers and dry sandpaper on painted surfaces.
- Paint over peeling or chipping paint.

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Childhood Lead  
Poisoning Prevention