



*“Economic impacts of Lead Exposure in Michigan” evaluates the economic impacts of lead poisoning among Michigan children using four well-documented outcomes from childhood exposure to lead. Data was collected in 2014 by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the report was generated by the Ecology Center.*

## Main findings of this report:

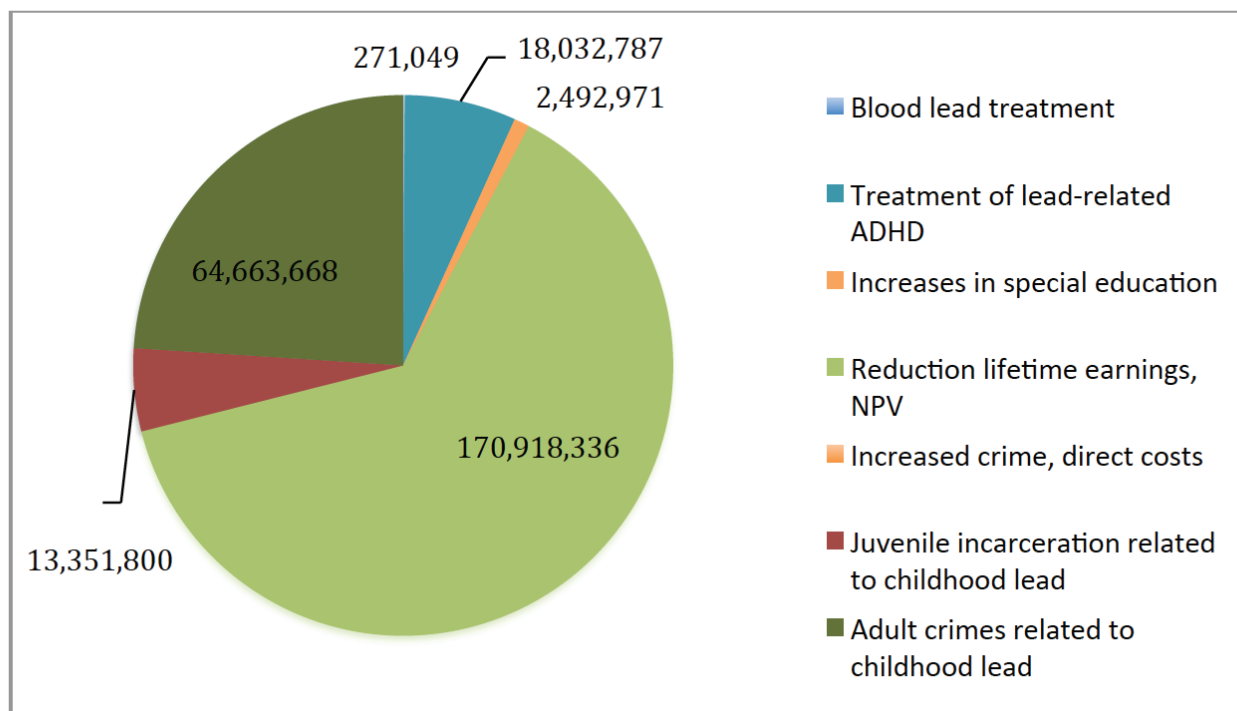
Costs associated with elevated blood lead levels were found to total \$270 million for the state of Michigan in 2014

Of these total costs, \$112 million is transferred to taxpayers.

Lead impacts a child’s brain and nervous system, and has been linked to the following impacts and annual costs:

- Increased need for health care: over \$18 million
- Increased crime: over \$77 million
- Special education: approximately \$2.5 million
- Decreased lifetime earnings: approximately \$171 million

## Summary of Costs Associated with Lead Exposure, 2014



*\*All costs were estimated outside of the Flint Water Crisis and do not include Flint-related costs.*



### The Solution

Reducing the cases of lead poisoning can be achieved by targeting the largest source of contamination: lead paint in homes.

The Ecology Center report found that the total costs to remediate lead-paint based hazards in 100,000 of the most at risk homes would be approximately \$600 million

- This would reduce lead exposure and associated costs by 70% in Michigan
- A \$600 million investment in remediation pays for itself in approximately three years by reducing costs of treatment and associated costs of exposure.

### Breakdown of Costs Associated with Lead Exposure, 2014

Category	Amount	Costs to Taxpayer	Description of Assumed Taxpayer Costs
<b>Increased in health care</b>			
Blood lead treatment	271,049	243,944	Estimated 90% of children with elevated BLL are on Michigan Medicaid programs
Treatment of lead-related ADHD	18,032,787	16,229,508	Estimated 90% of children with elevated BLL are on Michigan Medicaid programs
Increases in special education	2,492,971	2,492,971	Estimated 100% of costs through public education
Reduction lifetime earnings, NPV	170,918,336	13,673,467	Estimated 8% state and local effective tax rate
		34,183,667	Estimated 20% effective federal tax rate
<b>Increased crime</b>			
Juvenile incarceration related to childhood lead	13,351,800	13,351,800	100% taxpayer cost
Adult crimes related to childhood lead	64,663,668	32,331,834	50% taxpayer cost
<b>TOTAL costs of lead exposure in year (2014)</b>	<b>269,730,611</b>	<b>112,507,191</b>	