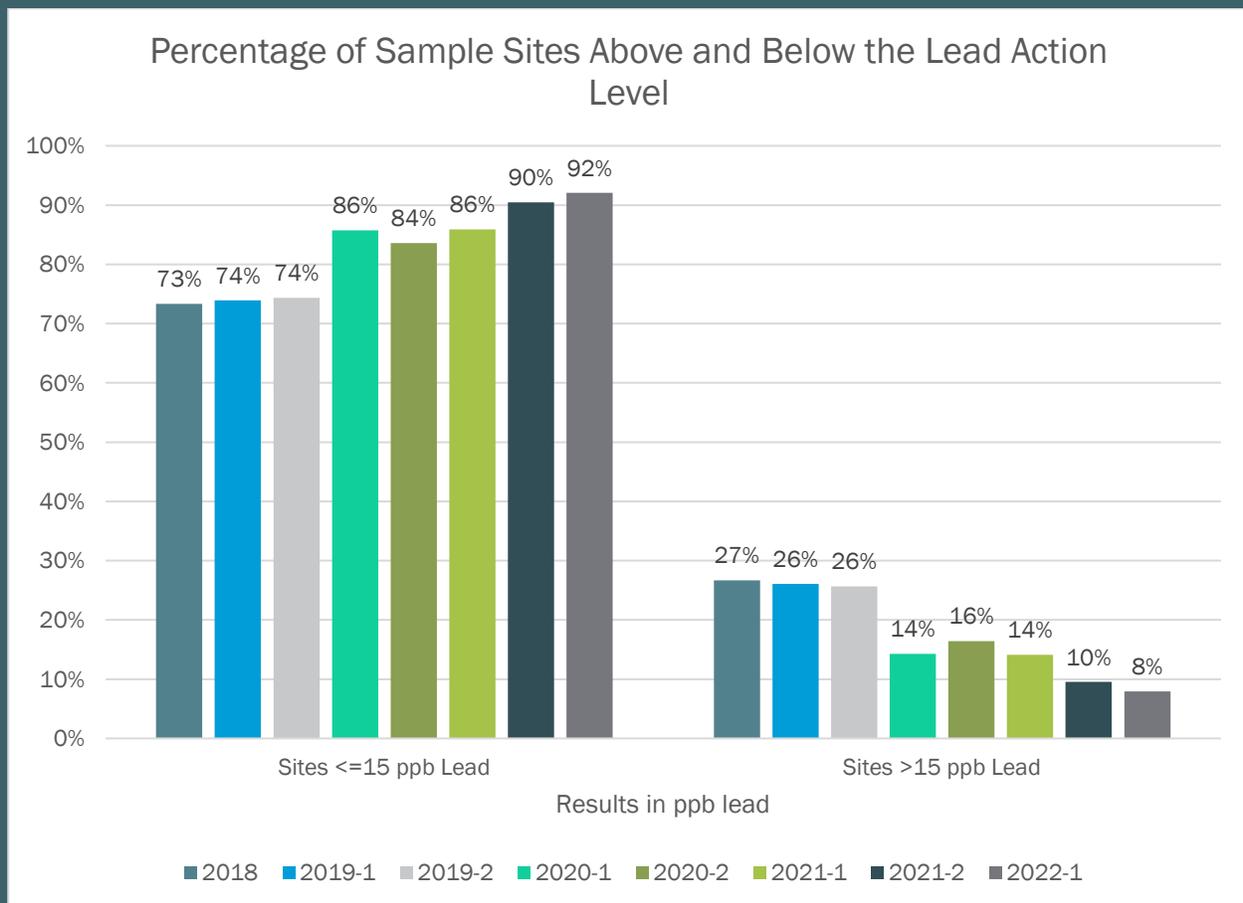


BENTON HARBOR DRINKING WATER LEAD TESTING 2018-PRESENT

The State of Michigan is committed to assisting communities in removing all lead service lines as part of the elimination of lead in drinking water and ensuring that all Michiganders—and notably those in Environmental Justice communities with limited resources like Benton Harbor—have safe drinking water while that work is underway.

In Benton Harbor, the municipal water supply had exceeded the federal drinking water standard* for lead for three consecutive years until the past year, when samples dipped just below the standard. While the city is no longer in exceedance, urgent and immediate efforts to correct the problem continue unabated to ensure residents have access to safe water.



Since 2018, the percentage of water samples above the federal exceedance level have declined, while samples below the level increased.

*The federal action standard for lead in drinking water is 15 parts per billion (ppb).

BENTON HARBOR DRINKING WATER LEAD TESTING

2018-PRESENT

How are lead levels in Benton Harbor trending?

Lead & Copper Rule test results show declining amounts of lead. After three consecutive years of exceeding the lead standard the city is now below the standard, but just barely. The expectation is that levels will continue to decrease as lead service lines are replaced and corrosion control becomes more effective at preventing lead from dissolving into the water from the remaining lead lines.

How is the 90th percentile value calculated?

Federal exceedances are based on lead levels in the 90th percentile of a sampling period. For example, if 60 water samples are analyzed, and 6 are above the federal action threshold, it would violate the federal standard.

How will the city's water system stay in compliance with the lead standard?

Local, state, federal and nonprofit resources being brought to bear on this problem are designed to ensure the safest, quickest path to both compliance and the elimination of lead in drinking water in Benton Harbor and statewide.

EGLE promotes the equitable treatment and meaningful involvement of Michigan's residents regarding the development, implementation, and enforcement of laws, regulations, and policies. Equitable treatment means that no group of people bears a disproportionate share of the negative consequences resulting from governmental, industrial, or commercial operations and policies. Meaningful involvement means all people have an opportunity to participate in decisions that affect their environment and/or health.

EGLE does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, marital status, disability, political beliefs, height, weight, genetic information, or sexual orientation in the administration of any of its programs or activities, and prohibits intimidation and retaliation, as required by applicable laws and regulations.

To request this material in an alternative format, contact EGLE-Accessibility@Michigan.gov or call 800-662-9278.