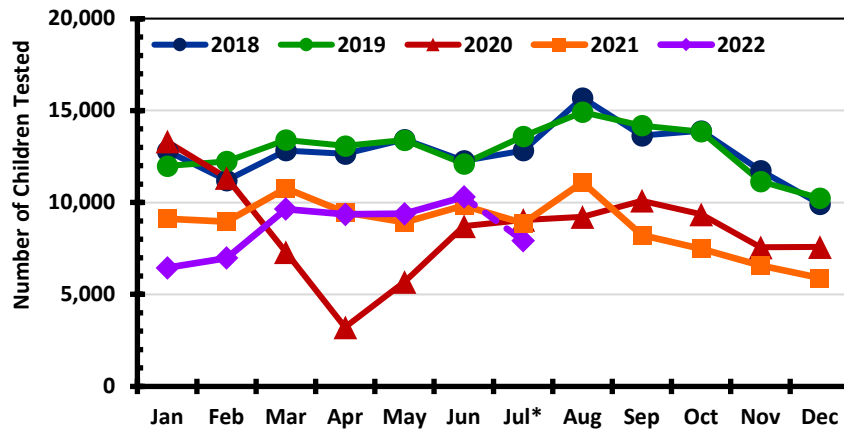


Childhood Blood Lead Testing in Michigan

DATA BRIEF FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

- Blood lead testing remains lower than pre-pandemic levels, and lead exposure can go undetected due to this drop in testing.
- Lead is a neurotoxin. There is no safe level of lead in blood.

Monthly Number of Michigan Children <6 Years Old Tested for Blood Lead: January 2018 to July 2022



*Data for July 2022 are provisional and shown as a dashed line.

Data Source: MDHHS Data Warehouse, Data Current as of 08/17/2022

HOW CAN MY PRACTICE RESPOND?

- Make lead exposure screening and blood lead testing a priority in your practice.
- Blood lead test results are in MCIR. Please review and contact your patients who are due for blood lead testing.

WHO SHOULD BE TESTED FOR BLOOD LEAD?

All children with a positive lead exposure questionnaire. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Bright Futures Periodicity Schedule recommends questionnaire screening for lead exposure at well-child exams conducted at 6 months through 6 years.

- The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services lead exposure questions can be found on the [Pediatric Blood Lead Level Quick Reference for Primary Care Providers](#). A “YES” or “I DON’T KNOW” response indicates a positive screen.

Children enrolled in Medicaid. Blood lead testing is required at:

- 12 and 24 months.
- Between 36 and 72 months, if not previously tested. ([Medicaid Provider Manual; Section 9.6](#))

Children enrolled in WIC. If a child has not had a blood lead test, they must be referred for blood lead testing. ([Social Welfare Act; MCL § 400.1111](#))

Children who are refugees ages 6 months through 16 years. CDC recommends a blood lead test within 90 days of arrival in the U.S.

- Retest after 3-6 months for refugee children <6 years. ([Immigrant, Refugee, and Migrant Health \(CDC.gov\)](#))



To learn more about lead poisoning prevention and blood lead testing, contact the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program:
517-335-8885 or Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe

