



MiTracking

Michigan Environmental
Public Health Tracking

February 2022

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Portal News

Updated Data

- [Drinking Water](#) (updated years: 2020)
- Emergency Department Visits- (updated years: 2019)
 - [Carbon Monoxide \(CO\) Poisoning](#)
- Hospitalizations- (updated years: 2018)
 - [Asthma](#)
 - [CO Poisoning](#)
 - [Heart Attacks](#)
 - [Heat Illness](#)
- [Lead Exposure - Children](#) (Quarterly update to 5/31/21)

Portal Changes

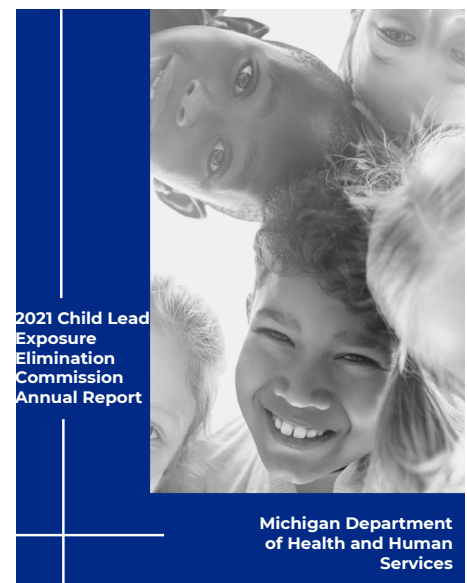
New Blood Lead Reference Value (BLRV) for Lead Exposure - Children

CDC has updated the blood lead reference value (BLRV) from 5 µg/dL to 3.5 µg/dL. This change is in response to the [Lead Exposure and Prevention Advisory Committee \(LEPAC\)](#) recommendation made on May 14, 2021. The BLRV is meant to identify children with higher levels of lead in their blood compared to most children. MiTracking will be updating the data portal to reflect the new BLRV. Elevated blood lead measures will be able to be queried by both 3.5 and 5 µg/dL reference values. Data portal changes are planned for February/March 2022.

Partner Highlights

Child Lead Exposure Elimination Commission (CLEEC)- 2021 Annual Report

The Child Lead Exposure Elimination Commission (CLEEC) acts as an advisor for the Governor and the MDHHS director. CLEEC works with all levels of government and groups on programs and policies to end child lead exposure. CLEEC's 2021 Annual Report explains CLEEC's activity in the past year and discusses childhood lead exposure data in Michigan. Much of the lead data provided in the annual report are from Michigan's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) data, which are available on the [MiTracking data portal](#). To see the report go to [2021 CLEEC Annual Report](#).



Partner Highlights

Michigan Climate and Health Adaptation Program (MICHAP) – Cold Health and Safety: Michigan Winter Weather Fact Sheet

The Michigan Climate and Health Adaptation Program (MICHAP) has released a Cold Health and Safety fact sheet for Michigan winter weather. The fact sheet explains some of the health risks associated with cold weather and ways you can protect yourself and your family. You can learn more about hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, winter-related falls, and other resources. You can find the fact sheet on the [MICHAP homepage](#).

COLD HEALTH AND SAFETY MICHIGAN WINTER WEATHER








This fact sheet explains some of the health risks associated with cold weather and ways you can protect yourself and your family. Read on to learn about hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and falls.

Health Risks of Cold Weather

Hypothermia is a sickness that can happen when your body loses heat faster than it can produce it. Your body temperature drops so low that your body loses the ability to function. People are at risk of hypothermia in very cold weather, or even in cool weather if their skin is wet from water or sweating.

Signs of hypothermia include shivering, slurred speech, confusion, fumbling hands, sleepiness, and unconsciousness. Babies look bright red or have very cold skin. They may seem lifeless or very sleepy.

Frostbite is a type of injury that is caused when skin freezes because it is exposed to extremely cold temperatures. Frostbite can cause permanent damage to the body. In severe cases, the skin tissue may be so damaged that the affected body part needs to be removed (amputated).

Stages of Frostbite	Prevent Hypothermia and Frostbite
Healthy Skin 	 Wear a hat or headband that covers your ears. Dress in several layers of loose, warm clothing. Wear mittens with liners instead of gloves. Limit your time outdoors. Avoid alcohol and drugs. Wear socks and liners that provide insulation and move sweat from your skin.
Frostnip: Mild frostbite. Skin may appear red and feel cold or numb. 	
Superficial Frostbite: Affected areas feel warm and tingly. Red skin turns whiter or paler. 	
Deep Frostbite: Skin turns white or bluish gray. Affected area will not sense cold and may feel painful. Joints and muscles may no longer function. 	

Who is most at risk for hypothermia and frostbite?

- People with poor blood circulation
- People who are not dressed warmly enough
- Older adults, especially those who do not have adequate food, clothing, or heating
- Babies sleeping in cold rooms
- People who stay outdoors for long periods of time
- People using drugs or alcohol

MiTracking Team

Meet Tom

- **MiTracking role:** *Section Manager and Grant Principal Investigator for MiTracking program*
- **Favorite MiTracking dataset?** *Tie between drug overdose and childhood lead*
- **Why Public Health and Epidemiology?** *I went into Public Health due to a combination of coming from a medical family and learning at a certain point that I feel best when I am trying to improve other's lives. With epidemiology, I love using objective science to chart the best way to improve health.*
- **How do you spend your non-work time?** *I love golf, exercise, and U-M sports.*



Announcements

Virtual Presentations

MiTracking is a great online resource covering a range of environmental health topics. MiTracking offers VIRTUAL presentations and trainings on how to use the data portal. If you are interested in a FREE training, email us at MDHHS-MiTracking@Michigan.gov.

MLA-Spring Conference

MiTracking will be attending the Michigan Library Association (MLA) Spring Institute for Youth Services, an event for youth library workers. The event takes place on March 10 and 11 in Mt. Pleasant, MI.

MiTracking on NEHA Podcast

MiTracking's Program Manager, Jill Maras participated in the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)'s Environmental Public Health Tracking Podcast Series. The podcast shares MiTracking's history, challenges, successes and future goals. Listen to the podcast at [MiTracking Podcast](#).

Questions about COVID-19?

Visit [MDHHS COVID-19 webpage](#) for frequently asked questions, finding test sites, and information on "Mask up, Mask Right" and MI Safe Start. For additional questions, call the COVID-19 hotline at 888-535-6136 or email COVID19@michigan.gov.



mdhhs-mitracking@michigan.gov



1-800-648-6942



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