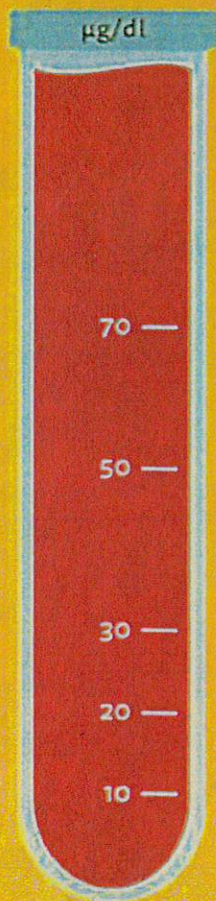




Millions of Children in Medi-Cal Have Not Received Required Testing for Lead Poisoning

The damage lead poisoning causes to children may be irreversible . . .

Blood Lead Levels



Potential Health Outcomes by Level

Death
Coma
Seizure

Impaired Bone Development

Anemia

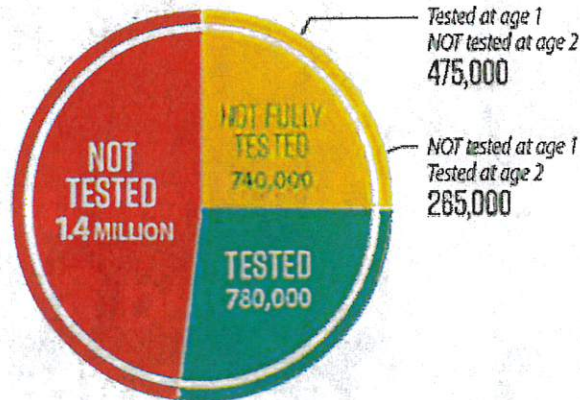
Immune System Effects

Damaged Hearing
Behavioral Disorders
Decreased IQ Level

. . . but nearly **10,000** of the State's children were found to have elevated lead levels during 2017.

In addition, most one- and two-year-old children in Medi-Cal did not receive all of the lead tests that state regulations require.

**2.9 MILLION
ELIGIBLE
CHILDREN
IN MEDI-CAL**
AT AGES 1 AND 2 YEARS
*Fiscal years 2009-10
through 2017-18*



We found that the majority of those children who are tested and found to have elevated lead levels are concentrated in certain census tracts throughout the State...



... yet the California Department of Public Health focuses on removing lead from the houses of children who are already poisoned, rather than proactively abating lead hazards before children are exposed to them.

**View the Number of Missed Tests and
Elevated Lead Levels in Your Neighborhood**

**There are a number of actions DHCS and
CDPH should take to improve the provision
of tests for, and prevention of, lead poisoning.**

Learn More



Instructions are also available on our website for ordering copies of the reports. If you need any additional information about these reports or any other report, please contact our office at (916) 445-0255 or TTY (916) 445-0033.

For questions regarding the contents of reports, please contact Margarita Fernández, Chief of Public Affairs, at (916) 445-0255.

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