

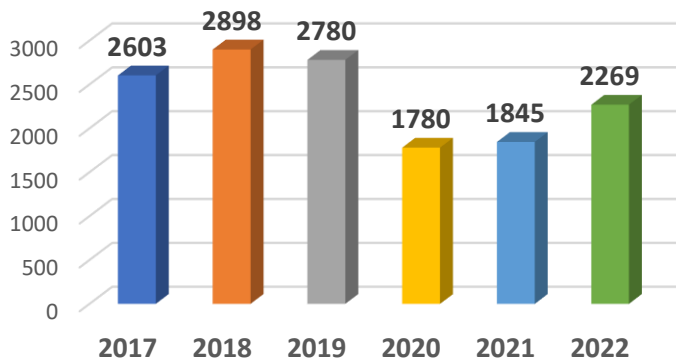
The number of children <6 years tested for lead in 2022 is climbing although we are still testing only 21.4 % of the targeted population.



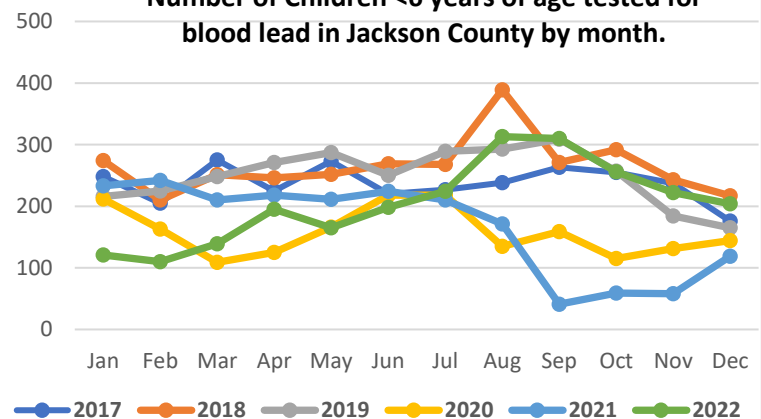
We know:

- The blood lead reference level for children has been lowered to 3.5 µg/dL as a result of extensive evaluation.
- Read [more about the lowering of the blood lead reference value.](#)
- Testing is necessary to determine where children are in terms of blood lead levels.
- Many factors affect lead levels in a child and testing is more important than ever.
- Conducting a [blood lead risk assessment](#) is a good way to determine if a child is at risk of exposure.

Number of Jackson County Children <6 years of age tested for blood lead per calendar year



Number of Children <6 years of age tested for blood lead in Jackson County by month.



Source: MDHHS Childhood Lead Poisoning Program Data & Statistics as of 3/4/2023 (Both charts)

What can health care providers do?

- Contact your patients who are due for blood lead testing.
- The [Quick Provider Reference Guide](#) is updated for working with children on your caseload to determine testing recommendations, particularly for [Medicaid Enrolled](#) children.
- Test for lead or retest if necessary. Early identification of children with elevated blood lead (EBL) levels allows intervention to eliminate ongoing exposure and potential health issues.

The [MDHSS Lab](#) has resources and information on testing and screening of children as well as ordering supplies:

Additional resources are located at:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mileadsafe>

The Jackson County Health Department is here to help.

- Nurse Case Management (NCM) is available for children with confirmed elevated blood lead levels who meet eligibility requirements.
- Services, support and referrals as needed for available through NCM and Lead Education and
- Application assistance for Lead Free Homes program for families where a child under the age of six or a pregnant woman resides and lead is a potential hazard.

For more information, call (517) 768-2131 or visit <https://www.mijackson.org/1319/Lead-Poisoning>