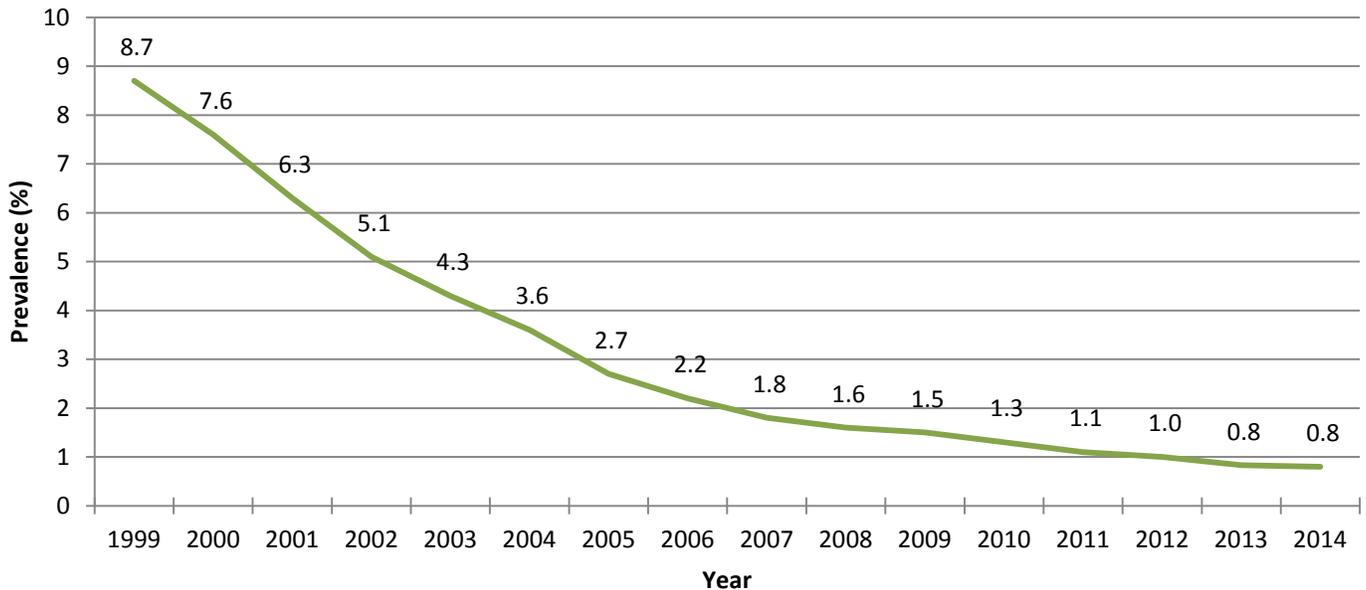


Prevalence of Confirmed Blood Lead Levels ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ in Tested Ohio Children, Less than Six Years of Age, 1999-2014



The prevalence of confirmed blood lead levels ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ is a measure of the proportion of children tested, less than six years of age, who were identified to have confirmed blood lead levels ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ in a calendar year. The figure shows a steady decline in the prevalence of children with blood lead levels ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ from 8.7 percent in 1999 to approximately 0.8 percent in 2014.

Please note: Children tested for lead more than once in a calendar year were counted only once. Only the highest confirmed blood lead level was used for a child during the year if a confirmed test existed for the child, or the highest test for the year, otherwise. Estimates were made using data from the Healthy Housing and Lead Poisoning Surveillance System at the Ohio Department of Health. In November of 2014, the state of Ohio adopted 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ as the new threshold for elevated blood lead levels in children. This is in line with the CDC reference value, and the scientific literature which has established that children are subject to adverse effects of lead poisoning at blood lead levels much lower than 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$.