

# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM (CLPPP)



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# OVERVIEW

The County of San Diego Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) helps keep children safe from lead.

CLPPP works to identify and stop lead exposure and ensure children with elevated blood lead levels (BLL) receive appropriate medical care and follow-up.

This is accomplished through nurse case management, engagement and education, identification and reduction of lead hazards and support.



# WHAT IS LEAD?



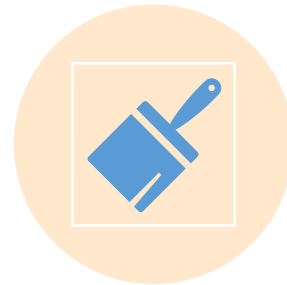
Lead is a naturally occurring element found in the Earth's crust.



Can be found in all parts of our environment: air, soil, water, and even inside our homes.



Lead is useful, but it is toxic to humans and animals.



Lead is also added to some ceramic glazes and plumbing materials to name a few.



# WHO IS AT RISK FOR LEAD POISONING?

- Children six years of age and under are at greatest risk
  - Ingestion is the main exposure route of lead entering the body in children
  - Frequently crawling on floors and furniture which may be contaminated
  - Frequent hand to mouth contact
  - Lead is absorbed and stored in their bodies at a faster rate than adults



# HOW CAN LEAD HARM A CHILD?

## Lead exposure can cause irreversible damage



Damage to the brain and nervous system

Development of behavior problems including inattention, impulsivity, aggression & hyperactivity



Hearing and speech problems

Affects child's behavior & ability to learn & function



Slowed growth and development

Permanent damage to a child's bones, kidneys and cardiovascular system as well as lowered IQ



Learning and behavior problems

Underperformance in school



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SAN DIEGO

# COMMON SOURCES OF LEAD

Homes built before 1978: chipping, peeling or flaking paint & lead-based pipes

Imported spices such as turmeric and dried chilies

Imported glazed pottery

Lead contaminated soil or dust

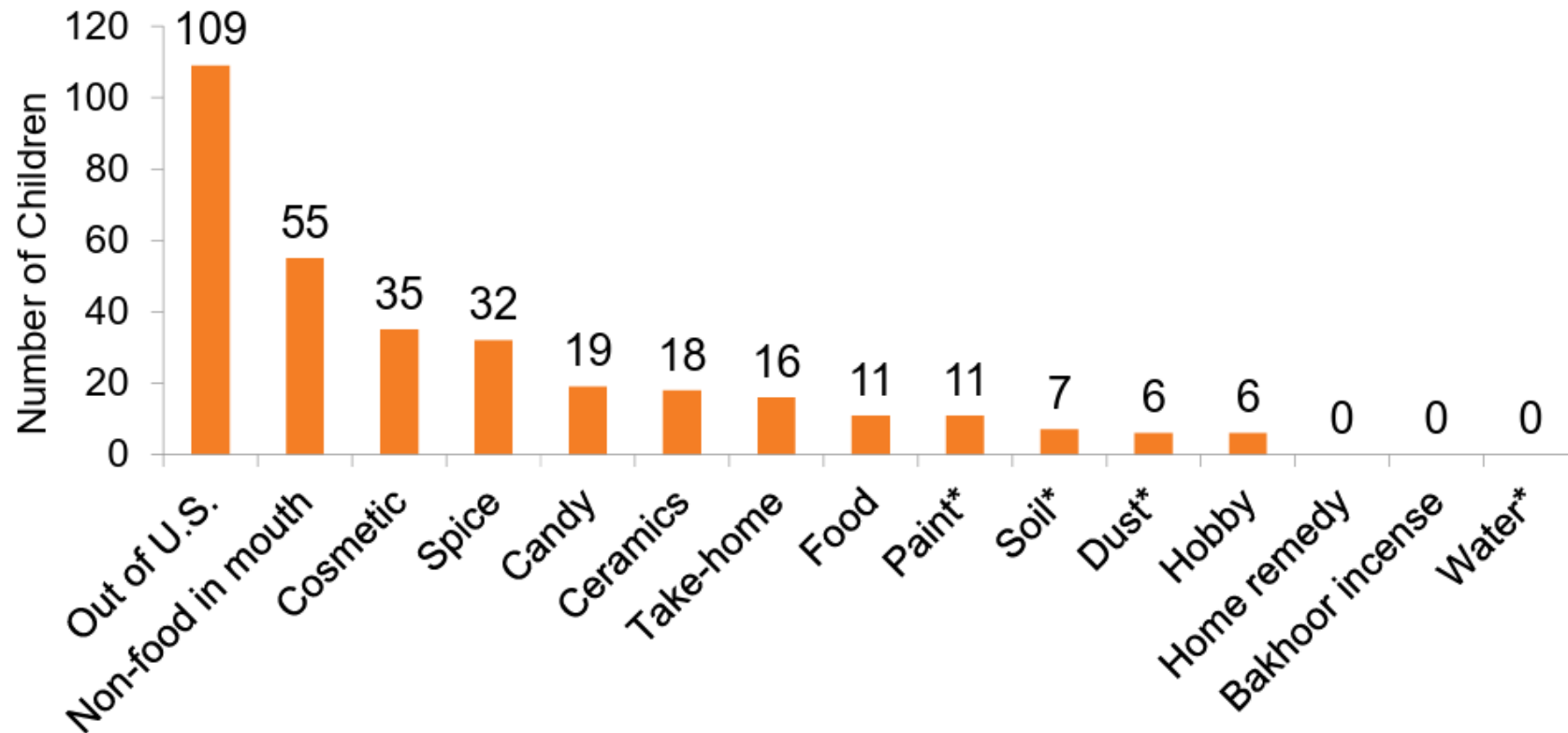
Hobbies, work industries, shooting ranges, construction, mining, welding, plumbing, battery recycling and smelters



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# SOURCES OF LEAD EXPOSURE IN SAN DIEGO

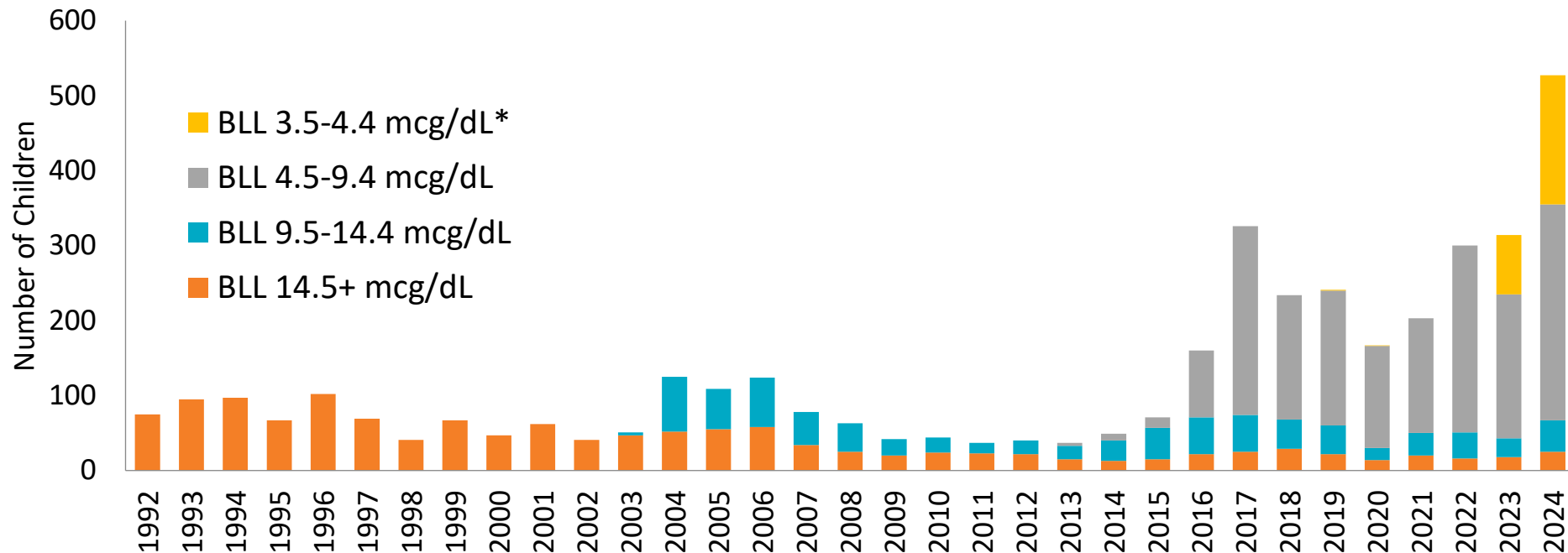
**Probable Exposures of Children Receiving CLPPP Services, 2020-2024, N=159**



Includes children with a newly identified venous BLL 9.5 mcg/dL or greater. A case may have more than one exposure or there may be no source of exposure identified. Some cases were not assessed because a home visit was not done. The sources listed on this slide are not inclusive of all potential sources of exposure.

# WHO IS AT RISK FOR LEAD POISONING?

## Children Receiving Services From the County of San Diego Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) by Year, 1992-2024

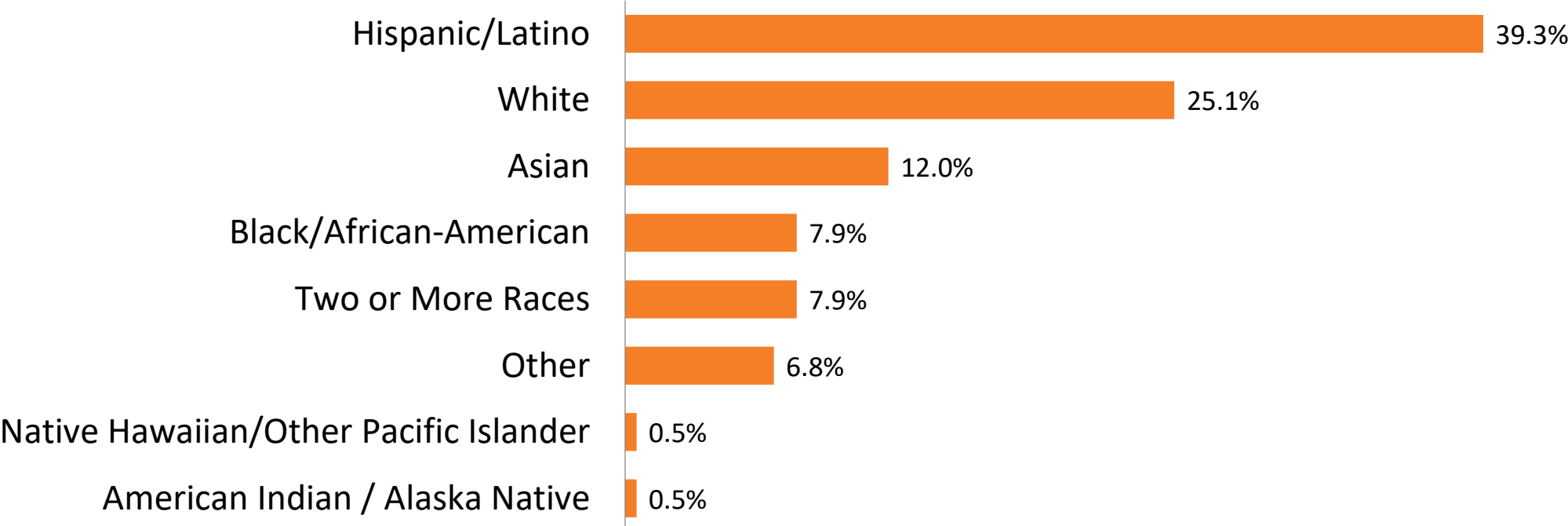


BLL = Blood lead level. Includes children under 21 years of age at case identification. Services to children with a BLL 9.5-14.4 mcg/dL began in 2004. Children with a BLL 5-9.4 mcg/dL started receiving information and follow-up from San Diego CLPPP in 2013 to ensure decreases in blood lead levels. Categorization by level is based on a newly identified venous BLL. Grouped by year that CLPPP was notified of the BLL which may not be the same year services were initiated. Counts are subject to change as additional information becomes available.

\*In 2023, San Diego CLPPP began providing services to children with a BLL of 3.5 mcg/dL or higher in accordance with the CDC's updated blood reference value.

# CHILDREN RECEIVING SERVICES BY RACE/ETHNICITY

**Percentage of Children Receiving CLPPP Services  
By Race/Ethnicity, 2020-2024, N=191**



Includes children with a newly identified venous BLL 9.5 mcg/dL or greater, excluding those with unknown race and ethnicity (N=50). Race and ethnicity are based on self-identification; those with unknown race/ethnicity are primarily those who did not receive a home visit where information could be obtained.

# CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC HEALTH (CDPH) FUNDING

- San Diego County receives approximately \$1.7 million annually from the State of California to provide lead poisoning prevention related services.
  - 95% of funding is received from taxes and fines imposed on current and past emitters of environmental lead (gasoline, paint, and air emitters).
  - 5% of funding comes from Medi-Cal matching funds.



# OUTCOMES AND ACTIVITIES FY24-25

Case management services to 111 children.

Education to 951 families.

Outreach to approximately 5,000 people.

Participation at over 550 community events.

Environmental investigations at 42 homes.

Education to 662 healthcare providers.



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# STAFFING

## Public Health Services

Public Health Nurse Supervisor (0.72 FTE)\*

Public Health Nurses (2.19 FTE)\*

Community Health Promotion Specialist (0.5 FTE)

Senior Health Info Management Technician (0.71 FTE)\*

Senior Office Assistant (0.6 FTE)\*

Epidemiologist II (0.07 FTE)

Administrative Analyst (0.07 FTE)

Code Enforcement Officer (0.5 FTE)

## Department of Environmental Health & Quality

Supervising Industrial Hygienist (0.09 FTE)

Industrial Hygienist III (0.16 FTE)

Industrial Hygienist II (0.16 FTE)

Industrial Hygienist I (0.054 FTE)

*\*Other funding sources cover the balance of these FTEs who work 100% on CLPPP*



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# CONTRACTS

- **Department of Environmental Health and Quality: \$289,500**

- Conducts countywide home visits with CLPPP to identify and advise on removing lead hazards.

FY26/27- \$140,000

FY27/28- \$149,500

- **City of San Diego: \$504,452**

- Conducts home visits in the City of San Diego with CLPPP to identify lead hazards and advise on their removal.

FY26/27- \$255,976

FY27/28- \$248,476

- **Family Health Centers of San Diego: \$300,000**

- Provides countywide education and outreach services to help families identify lead hazards and prevent lead poisoning.

FY26/27- \$150,000

FY27/28- \$150,000



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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Authorize the approval and acceptance of \$3,488,932 in funds for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028, for lead poisoning prevention related services.**
- 2. Authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Health and Human Services Agency, to pursue future funding opportunities related to lead poisoning prevention services efforts.**



# THANK YOU

For more information:

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**619-861-8980**



*The Public Health Services department, County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, has maintained national public health accreditation, since May 17, 2016, and was reaccredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board on August 21, 2023.*