

Environment

Elevated blood lead levels among adults

Occupational lead exposure is an important health problem in the United States. Lead exposure causes acute and chronic adverse effects in multiple organ systems. Evidence indicates that lead exposure can lead to adverse cardiovascular and kidney effects, cognitive impairment, and adverse reproductive outcomes.

In 2014, 47 individuals were reported with blood lead levels greater than 25 micrograms per deciliter (for a rate of 2.4 per 100,000 workers; Figure 1).

FIGURE 1

Elevated blood lead levels (≥ 25 mcg/dL) among employed persons age 16+ by year, Oregon



Source: Healthy Homes, Schools and Workplaces Program

Additional Resources:

Adult Blood Lead Epidemiology and Surveillance Program
(www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/ABLES/description.html)

ATSDR Lead Toxicity
(<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/csem/csem.asp?csem=7&po=0>)

About the Data: Blood lead test results are a reportable condition in Oregon. Results reported are managed by the Healthy Homes, Schools and Workplaces Program which is part of Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division, Center for Prevention & Health Promotion. Values reported here and analysis protocols are available at: <http://www.cste.org/group/OHIndicators>.

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