

CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING SC TRACKING

SC DPH CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM META DATA

BACKGROUND

SC Tracking receives childhood lead data from South Carolina Department of Public Health (DPH) Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. Children under the age of 6 who live or spend time in a house built prior to 1978 or who live with someone who works with lead should have a blood lead test. Medicaid requires blood lead testing at 12- and 24-month well child visits. Parents/guardians should contact their child's healthcare provider to schedule a blood lead test. If a capillary test (finger stick) has a result of 3.5 µg/dL or greater, this test should be followed by a venous test to get a more accurate result. Confirmed elevated blood lead levels are blood lead levels ≥ 5 µg/dL and have undergone further confirmatory blood lead level screens, as defined by the CDC's blood lead reference value of ≥ 5 µg/dL in 2012. In 2022, the elevated blood lead level threshold updated from ≥ 5 µg/dL to ≥ 3.5 µg/dL.

DATA LIMITATIONS

The data cannot indicate: 1) the total number of children affected, 2) the cost, effect, result, or consequence of lead exposure, 3) the source of lead exposure.

ACCESS CONSTRAINTS

In accordance with the DPH Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program guidelines, numbers less than five and their associated rates are suppressed to protect patient confidentiality.

USE CONSTRAINTS

Any user of this data must have reviewed and understood the metadata content before attempting to understand, interpret or use DPH Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program data. No attempt should be made to identify survey participant identity through use of this data set. This is a public dataset and is not for commercial purposes. Any use of this data should contain proper data source acknowledgement to: DPH Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. Additional data requests should be made to DPH Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.



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MEASURE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

The number of children tested for childhood lead poisoning in South Carolina from 2011-2022 is displayed on the [Childhood Lead Exposure Dashboard](#). Additionally, the number and percent of confirmed elevated blood lead levels by age group is displayed by year, county, and state on the [Childhood Lead Exposure Dashboard](#). The [County Profiles Dashboard](#) displays the percent of confirmed elevated blood lead levels in children aged 0 to <6 at the county and state-levels in 2023. Confirmed elevated blood lead levels are blood levels ≥ 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ and have undergone further confirmatory blood lead level screening as outlined by the CDC's blood lead reference guide.

SUGGESTED CITATION

SC DPH Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. [Graphic name]. Available online: www.dph.sc.gov/tracking. Accessed on [date accessed].

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Learn more about SC DPH Lead Surveillance initiatives: [Childhood Lead Data and Information | South Carolina Department of Public Health](#)

Learn more about lead testing in children: [Testing for Lead Poisoning in Children | Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention | CDC](#)



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US CENSUS BUREAU META DATA

BACKGROUND

The US Census Bureau collects data on America's population and economy using various scientific and statistical methods, including the use of surveys and questionnaires. Among those surveys, the American Community Survey (ACS) is the premier source for detailed population and housing information that documents changes occurring across communities in the nation. The ACS is conducted monthly every year and is sent to a sample of addresses (about 3.5 million) across the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Survey questions are different from the Decennial Census conducted every 10 years. The ACS provides a method for analyzing social, economic, and geographic data annually related to populations at the national, state, county, and ZIP Code levels.

DATA LIMITATIONS

The ACS is administered online, via phone, or by email, and only captures information on people who choose to participate. Smaller sample sizes observed among counties may display larger margins of error.

ACCESS CONSTRAINTS

Data is based on an estimated five-year period, which includes data from the stated year and four years prior. For example, 2023 data displays an aggregation of data from years 2019-2023. Data may not be available for the following reasons as outlined by the ACS: 1) estimate not computed due to insufficient number of sample cases, 2) estimate not applicable or available, or 3) estimate not displayed due to insufficient number of sample cases for selected geography.

USE CONSTRAINTS

Any user of this data must have reviewed and understood the metadata content before attempting to understand, interpret or use US Census Bureau data. No attempt should be made to identify survey participant identity through use of this data set. This is a public dataset and is not for commercial purposes. Any use of this data should contain proper data source acknowledgement to: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. Additional data requests should be made to the US Census Bureau.



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US CENSUS BUREAU META DATA

MEASURE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

The following data is displayed on the [Childhood Lead Exposure Dashboard](#) and is updated annually:

The **age of housing** determined by year of structure built in 2023 at the county-level. Housing questions are asked within ACS to help local, state, tribal, and federal agencies analyze whether adequate housing is available and affordable for residents, provide and funding housing assistance programs, and measure neighborhood stability. The housing ages are grouped by the following years: 1939 or earlier, 1940-1959, 1960-1979, 1980-1999, 2000-2009, 2010-2019, 2020 or later. The percentage of homes within each year group are calculated by the US Census Bureau. The data can be classified by homeownership types: Occupied Housing Units, Owner Occupied Housing Units, and Renter Occupied Housing Units.

Data source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, Table S2504

The percent of **children less than age 5 living below poverty** at the county-level in 2023. Poverty status is determined by comparing annual income to a set of dollar values, called poverty thresholds, that vary by family size, number of children, and the age of the householder. If a family's pretax money income is less than the dollar value of their threshold, that family and every person in it are in poverty. The poverty measure excludes children under the age of 15 who are not related to the householder, people living in institutional group quarters, and people living in college dormitories or military barracks.

Data source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, Table S1701

SUGGESTED CITATION

US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, Table Number. [Graphic name]. Available online: www.dph.sc.gov/tracking. Accessed on [date accessed].



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US CENSUS BUREAU META DATA

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Learn more about the US Census Bureau here: [Census.gov](https://www.census.gov/) | [U.S. Census Bureau Homepage](https://www.census.gov/)

Learn more about US Census Bureau data here: <https://data.census.gov/>

Learn more about the American Community Survey (ACS) here: [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](https://www.census.gov/acs/)



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