

TITLE TO COME



42%

children aged <6 years had venous or capillary BLLs ≥ 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$



Because the production of recycled lead has increased, more workers and their families are potentially exposed to lead from recycling facilities than in the past. As of January 2012, a total of 15 recycled lead smelters are operating in the United States and Puerto Rico.



The average employee BLL was 30.7 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ (range: 3.2–72.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$),

69%

had a BLL ≥ 25 on their initial test (Table 1).



To establish whether take-home lead exposure contributed to children's BLLs ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$, EPA collected and analyzed household environmental samples for lead. Lead levels exceeding the EPA level of concern on wipe samples were common in employee **homes and vehicles.**



Lead brought into the home via contaminated **work clothing and vehicles** are the likely high dose sources of lead exposure.



In adults, moderate and low levels of exposure can increase blood pressure, **decrease fertility**, be **nephrotoxic**, cause **cognitive dysfunction** and **adverse female reproductive** and **birth outcomes**, and possibly have a **carcinogenic effect**.



Lead testing results for dust wipe and vacuum samples from vehicles and households of battery recycling employees, by selected characteristics — Puerto Rico, April and May 2011



In the United States, approximately 70% of lead is derived from recycled materials (mostly scrap lead-acid batteries), and 80% of the recycled lead produced is used in lead-acid batteries



*the reference value for elevated BLLs in children established by CDC in 2012