

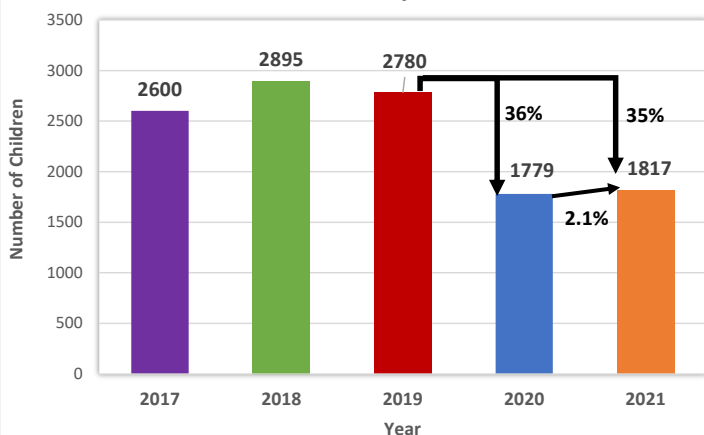
Although the number of children tested for blood lead in 2021 rose 2.1%, it remained 35% lower than testing in 2019.



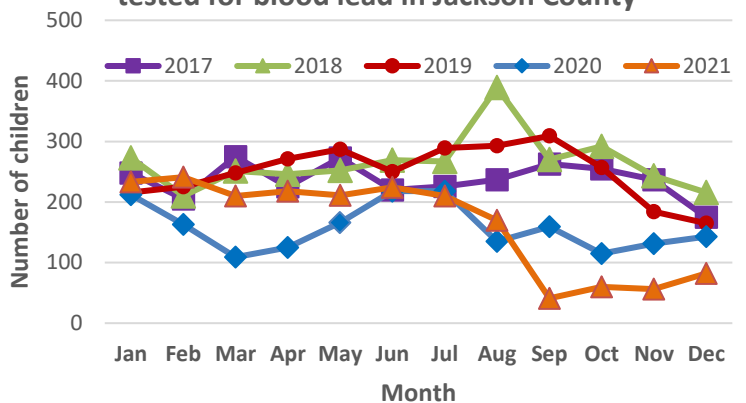
We know:

- The blood lead reference level for children has been lowered to 3.5 µg/dL. Read [more about the lowering of the blood lead reference value](#).
- Testing is necessary to determine where children are in terms of blood lead levels.
- Many factors affect lead levels in a child and testing is more important than ever.

Number of Children <6 years of age Tested for Blood Lead Level in Jackson County from 2017 - 2021



Number of Children <6 years of age tested for blood lead in Jackson County



Source: MDHHS Childhood Lead Poisoning Program Data & Statistics as of 4/11/2022 (Both charts)

## What can health care providers do?

- **Test for lead or retest if necessary.** Early identification of children with elevated blood lead (EBL) levels allows intervention to prevent ongoing exposure and potential health effects
- Refer to the [Blood Lead Level Quick Reference Guide for Primary Care Providers](#) for current blood lead testing, risk assessment and follow-up guidelines
- The Health and Aging Services Administration has updated their Medical Management of Childhood Lead Exposure Recommendations, which are viewed on this [Bulletin regarding Medicaid enrolled children](#).

The [MDHHS Lab](#) has resources and information on testing and screening of children as well as ordering supplies:

Or visit: <https://www.michigan.gov/mileadsafe>

## The Jackson County Health Department is here to help.

- **Nurse Case Management (NCM)** is available for children with confirmed elevated blood lead levels who meet eligibility requirements.
- **Capillary Blood Lead testing** provided if needed for children and pregnant WIC Clients
- Services, support and referrals as needed for successful outcomes for children with EBL are available through NCM and **Lead Education and Outreach**
- Application assistance for Lead Free Homes program for families where a child under the age of six or a pregnant woman resides and lead is a potential hazard.
- For more information: Call (517) 768-2131 or visit <https://www.mijackson.org/1319/Lead-Poisoning>