Tennessee Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
Updated August 2022

Older housing is the #1 risk factor for childhood lead exposure

High-risk zip codes have at least 27% of homes built before 1950

There are over 300,000 Tennessee homes built prior to 1950

Which Children Should be Tested?
- Children living in homes built before 1978 or whose parents have occupational exposure to lead
- TennCare children at ages 12 and 24 months
- Children living in high-risk zip codes
- Children whose parents answer “yes” or “don’t know” to any questions on the risk assessment questionnaire used at well-child checks between six and 72 months of age

Health Effects of Lead Exposure
- Damage to the brain and nervous system
- Slowed growth and development
- Learning and behavioral problems
- Hearing and speech problems

6.9% of Tennessee children under age six live in a high-risk zip code

17% of Tennessee children with confirmed elevated lead levels from 2015–2020 resided in high-risk zip codes

Top 20 Zip Codes for Confirmed† EBLL Cases from 2015–2020

Visit TN CLPPP at www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/mch-lead.html for more information.

Data sources:
2019 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, US Census Bureau
LeadTRK, TN Department of Health, Updated August 27, 2022
www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/prevention/lead-effects.htm

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