



Finger Lakes Lead Summit

September 19, 2023

Housing & Workforce Need

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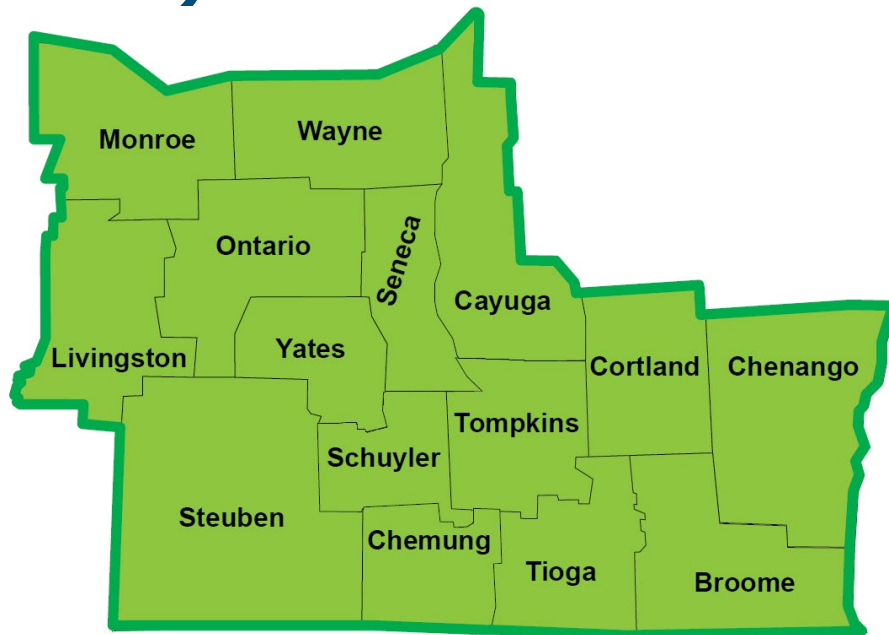
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Finger Lakes Children's Environmental Health Center (FLCEHC) counties



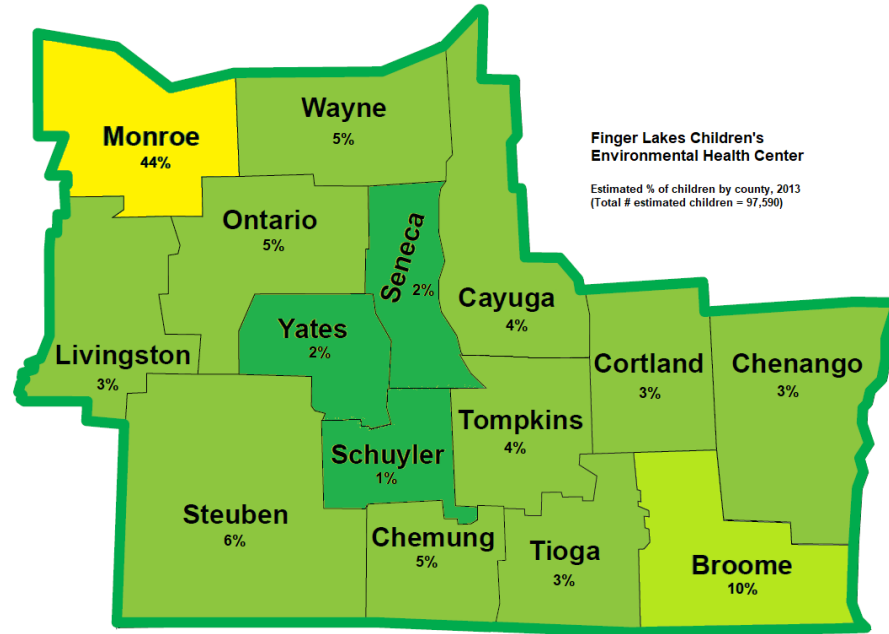
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FLCEHC counties – distribution of children



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Pivotal counties



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Pivotal counties - Data*



~27,000 children under 5 years of age

poverty in families with children under five years old ranges from 5.3% in Ontario to 10.2% in Chemung

1/5 to 1/3 of housing is rental units

67% of housing was built before 1980 (~141,000 occupied units)

racial diversity - 95% white, yet needs of Finger Lakes BIPOC communities often get overlooked

*American Community Survey www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/

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NCHH/NEHA

“Rural communities not only experience substandard housing but also lack affordable housing; nearly half of rural renters are cost burdened, spending 30% to 50% of their income on housing expenses. Geographical isolation and low population density means that rural residents often have fewer housing choices, and services to address housing quality may be harder to access and hindered by higher supply and travel costs.”



Rural Communities and Healthy Housing Primer

This resource provides a high-level description of rural communities, residents, and housing issues, and documents potential funding sources and resources for rural housing.

nchh.org/resource-library/rural-communities-and-healthy-housing-primer.pdf

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NEHA/NCHH Survey & Roundtable Discussions



Identifying Needs of Rural Healthy Housing Organizations Questionnaire: Summary Report

www.neha.org/Images/resources/rural%20healthy%20housing_survey%20summary_2023.pdf

- **Geographical location** can impact community outreach and environmental health mitigation if residents are spread out or isolated
- **Grant funding eligibility** creates a challenge for rural communities
- **Workforce development** and support is needed
- **Lack of available housing**, as well as a lack of enforcement or regulation of housing standards to keep it safe
- **Equity** is a significant concern as low-income and residents of color bear a disproportionate burden of poor housing quality

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Renovation, Repair, and Painting



Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels Related to Home Renovation, Repair, and Painting Activities --- New York State, 2006--2007

Although blood lead levels (BLLs) ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ are associated with adverse behavioral and developmental outcomes, and environmental and medical interventions are recommended at ≥ 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$, no level is considered safe (1,2). A 1997 analysis conducted by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) indicated that home renovation, repair, and painting (RRP) activities were important sources of lead exposure among children with BLLs ≥ 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ in New York state (excluding New York City) during 1993--1994 (3). Subsequently, local health departments in New York state began to routinely collect information about RRP activities when investigating children's home environments for lead sources. This report updates the 1997 analysis with data from environmental investigations conducted during 2006--2007 in New York state (excluding New York City) for 972 children with BLLs ≥ 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$. RRP activities were identified as the probable source of lead exposure in 139 (14%) of the 972 children. Resident owners or tenants performed 66% of the RRP work, which often included sanding and scraping (42%), removal of painted materials or structures (29%), and other activities (29%) that can release particles of lead-based paint. RRP activities continued to be an important source of lead exposure during 2006--2007. Children living in housing built before 1978 (when lead-based paint was banned from residential use) that are undergoing RRP activities should be considered at high risk for elevated BLLs, and appropriate precautions should be taken to prevent exposure.

Since 1993, New York state regulations* have required BLL testing for all children at ages 1 and 2 years. In 2007, 83% of children were tested at least once before age 3 years, but only 41% were tested at ages 1 and 2

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Renovation, Repair, and Painting

An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#) ▼



United States Environmental Protection Agency

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Lead

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Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting Program

Any renovation, repair, or painting (RRP) project in a pre-1978 home or building can easily create dangerous lead dust. EPA requires that RRP projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities and preschools built before 1978 be performed by lead-safe certified contractors. Generally, EPA's Lead RRP rule does not apply to homeowners doing RRP projects in their own homes. However, it does apply if you rent all or part of your home, operate a child care center in your home or if you buy, renovate, and sell homes for profit (i.e., a house flipper).



How Does the RRP Program Apply to You?

- [Contractors](#)

Connect with Us

Receive EPA Lead RRP Updates

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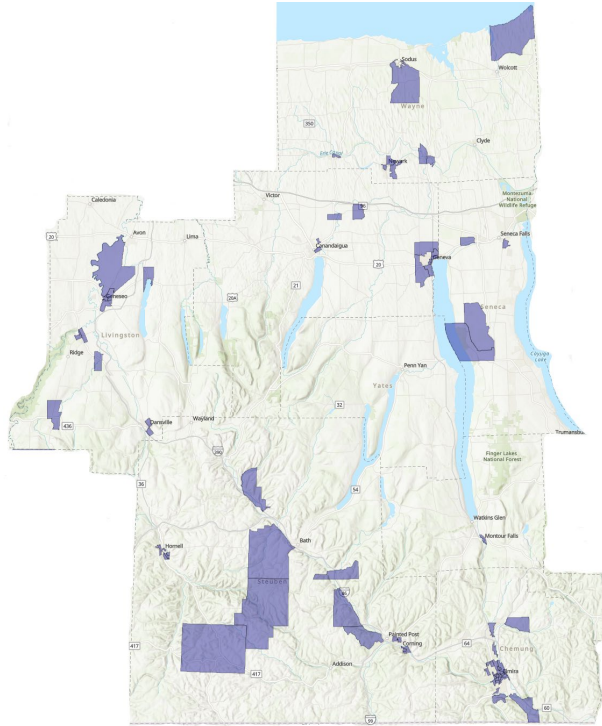
Environmental Justice

"RRP ...may present certain enforcement challenges, such as the prevalence of unpermitted work that is difficult to trace, DIY renovations and complete demolitions which are exempt from the rule, and very small contractors unable to pay penalties."

www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-07/ejleadpainttoolkit.pdf



Potential Environmental Justice Areas (PEJAs)



PEJAs are U.S. Census block groups of 250 to 500 households each that had populations with at least one of the following:

- ≥ 52.42% members of minority groups in urban area, or
- ≥ 26.28% members of minority groups in rural area, or
- ≥ 22.82% household incomes below the federal poverty level in an urban or rural area



Stories



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Department**

Stories from the Field

MELISSA MCARTHUR- LEAD PROGRAM COORDINATOR

ELLIE CARL- PUBLIC HEALTH SANITARIAN, LEAD PROGRAM

I Feel the Need, the Need for RRP

- A child with a EBLL <10 ug/dL
- Landlord hires employees to complete renovations
- “Contractors” begin to sand and dry scrape inside the home
- Immediately stopped work and required landlord to clean before continuing renovations
- Two months later, child’s BLL jumped more than 10 ug/dL until it reached nearly 20 ug/dL

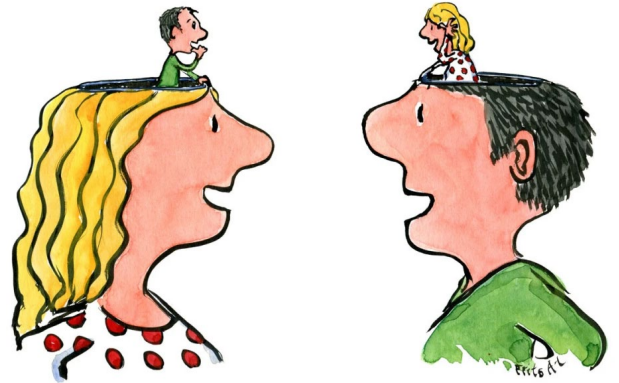


Lab Sample ID	Client Code	Sample Description	Length (inch)	Width (inch)	Area (Sq ft)	Total µg	Results Lead µg/ft ²
8513383	1	ENTRY FL	12	12	1.00	18.35	18.35
8513384	2	ENTRY WS	2	15	0.21	89.45	429.34
8513385	3	BDRM 1 FL	12	12	1.00	14.67	14.67
8513386	4	BDRM 1 WS	2	15	0.21	113.43	544.46
8513387	5	LANDING FL	12	12	1.00	18.71	18.71
8513388	6	LANDING WS	2	15	0.21	12.45	59.74
8513389	7	BTHRM FL	12	12	1.00	<5	<5.00
8513390	8	BTHRM WS	2	15	0.21	<5	<24.00
8513391	9	LAUNDRY FL	12	12	1.00	<5	<5.00

Changing Perspective

- A more conservative landlord, was uncooperative from the start
- As our time working together grew, he began to be more friendly
- At our most recent reinspection, he apologized for his actions
- His perspective and attitude had completely changed... How??
- Forensic Files Season 11, Episode 4 - Sunday's Wake

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vQ3MY800RUM>



Ending the Cycle

- Generational lead poisoning
- An EBLL case involved two children, living in the same home, both with EBLs of around 20ug/dL
- Upon interview, we discovered their father, who was incarcerated at the time, grew up in the very same household

