The main sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust in buildings constructed before 1978.

75% of Illinois homes built before 1978 contain some lead-based paint.

Illinois children with an elevated blood lead level: 2,500

**Health Effects**

- Damage to brain and nervous system
- Slowed growth and development
- Hearing and speech problems
- Learning and behavior problems

Lead Poisoning is 100% Preventable

- Ask your doctor to test your child if you are concerned about his or her exposure.
- Have your home tested if it was built before 1978.
- Avoid using folk remedies and makeup if they contain lead.

**Prevention**

- Damp-mop floors, damp-wipe surfaces, and frequently wash your child's hands, pacifiers, and toys.
- Use cold tap water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula, as hot water is more likely to have a higher lead level.