What does 5μg/dL mean?

5 micrograms per deciliter (5μg/dL) is used by the Centers for Disease Control to identify children with blood lead levels that are much higher than most children’s level.

The effects of blood lead levels higher than 5μg/dL include:

- Decreased academic achievement
- Lower IQ scores
- Attention-related problems
- Anti-social behaviors

Chesapeake PSR supports legislation to improve state and local efforts to address elevate blood lead levels in children, to broaden the authority of the state to intervene and notify parents and landlords when elevated blood lead levels in a child are detected, to test school drinking water for lead levels, and to hold manufacturers of lead–based paint liable for harm caused by their products in residential buildings.

Compiled by Chesapeake PSR from data provided by the Maryland Department of the Environment.