

# Fall 2009 Blood Lead Results

**Participation Rates**

**Results**

**Environmental Conditions**



# Age Groups Targeted

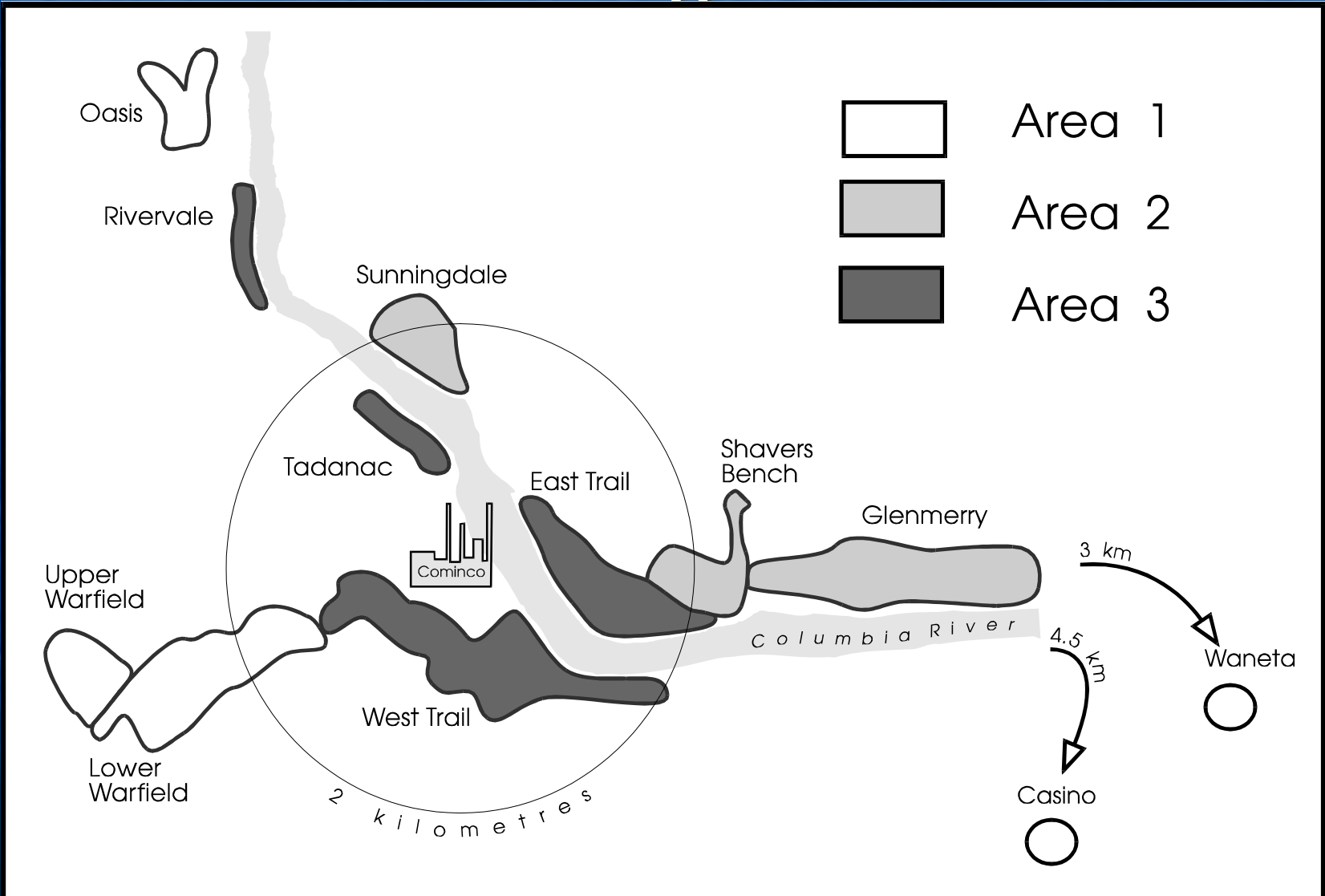
- 1991-2000: age 6-60 months
- 2001-2005: age 6-36 months
- 2006-2008: age 6-60 months
- 2009: age 6-36 months



# Who Was Tested in 2009?

- Target group:
  - Children aged 6-36 months, living in City of Trail or Rivervale (Area 2/3)
- Also:
  - New to area, up to age 5 yrs (60 mos)
  - Previous case management for follow-up

# "Areas" & Neighbourhoods



# The Clinics



# Fall 2009

## Participation By Neighbourhood

Participation for 2009 ( <b>Children under 3 years</b> )				2008
Breakdown by Neighborhoods	# Children Contacted	# Children Participating	% Children Participating	% (No.) Participating
<b>AREA 3 (Children &lt;3 years)</b>				<b>(&lt;3 years)</b>
East Trail	31	26	84%	83% (20)
West Trail	47	39	83%	75% (27)
Tadanac	2	1	50%	75% (3)
Rivervale	1	1	100%	0% (0)
<b>AREA 3 TOTAL</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>77% (50)</b>
<b>AREA 2 (Children &lt; 3 years)</b>				<b>(&lt; 3 years)</b>
Glenmerry	32	19	59%	63% (10)
Shavers Bench	11	8	73%	45% (5)
Sunningdale	16	9	56%	40% (4)
<b>AREA 2 TOTAL</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>51% (19)</b>
<b>AREA 2 &amp; 3</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>68% (69)</b>

Note: Number participating includes 3 children who attended clinic, but no sample was obtained.

# Changes since 2001: Where do Kids Live and Who Participates? (6-36 months)

	<b>2001</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Overall</b>	<b>90 of 119 (76%)</b>	<b>103 of 140 (74%)</b>
<b>Area 2</b> (further out)	<b>48 of 62 (77%)</b>	<b>36 of 59 (61%)</b>
<b>Area 3</b> (closer to smelter)	<b>42 of 57 (74%)</b>	<b>67 of 81 (83%)</b>

# Participation Rates Fall 2009

*(cont'd)*

Area 2/3

<b>Group</b>	<b>Participation Rate (2009)</b>	<b>Participation Rate (2008)</b>
<b>Infants 6-12 months not tested before</b>	<b>76% (28 of 37)</b>	<b>60% (12 of 20)</b>
<b>Case Management</b> (identified in previous clinics and eligible to come back)	<b>100% (19 of 19)</b>	<b>86% (12 of 14)</b>

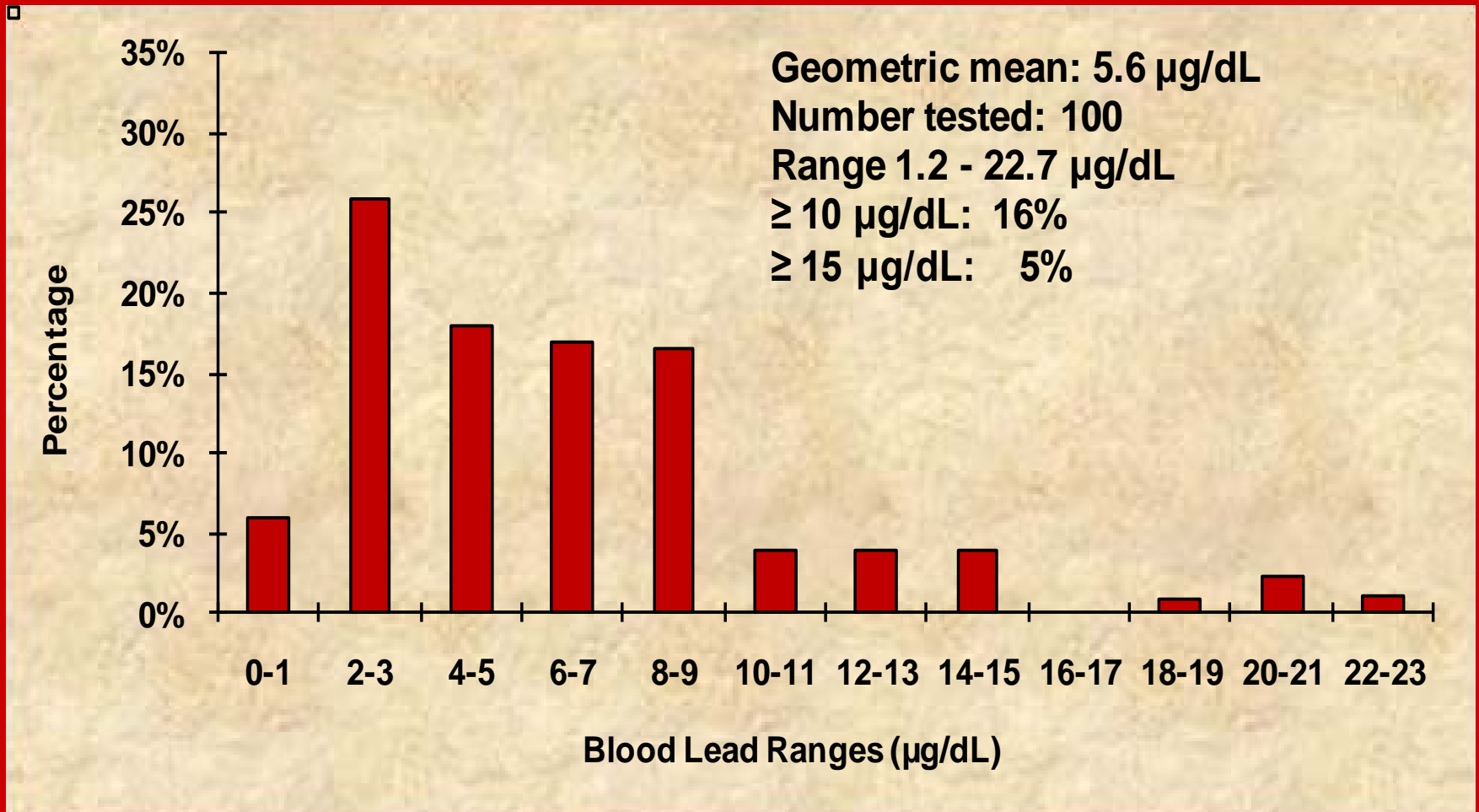


# Home Renovation Support Program Survey Fall 2009

<b>Question</b>	<b>“Yes” Respondents</b>
<b>Are you aware of the HRSP?</b>	<b>45%</b> (54 of 120)
<b>Did you renovate in the past year?</b>	<b>28%</b> (34 of 120)
<b>Did you use the HRSP?</b>	
<b>Of those who renovated:</b>	<b>50%</b> (17 of 34)
<b>Of those who knew of HRSP and reno:</b>	<b>74%</b> (17 of 23)

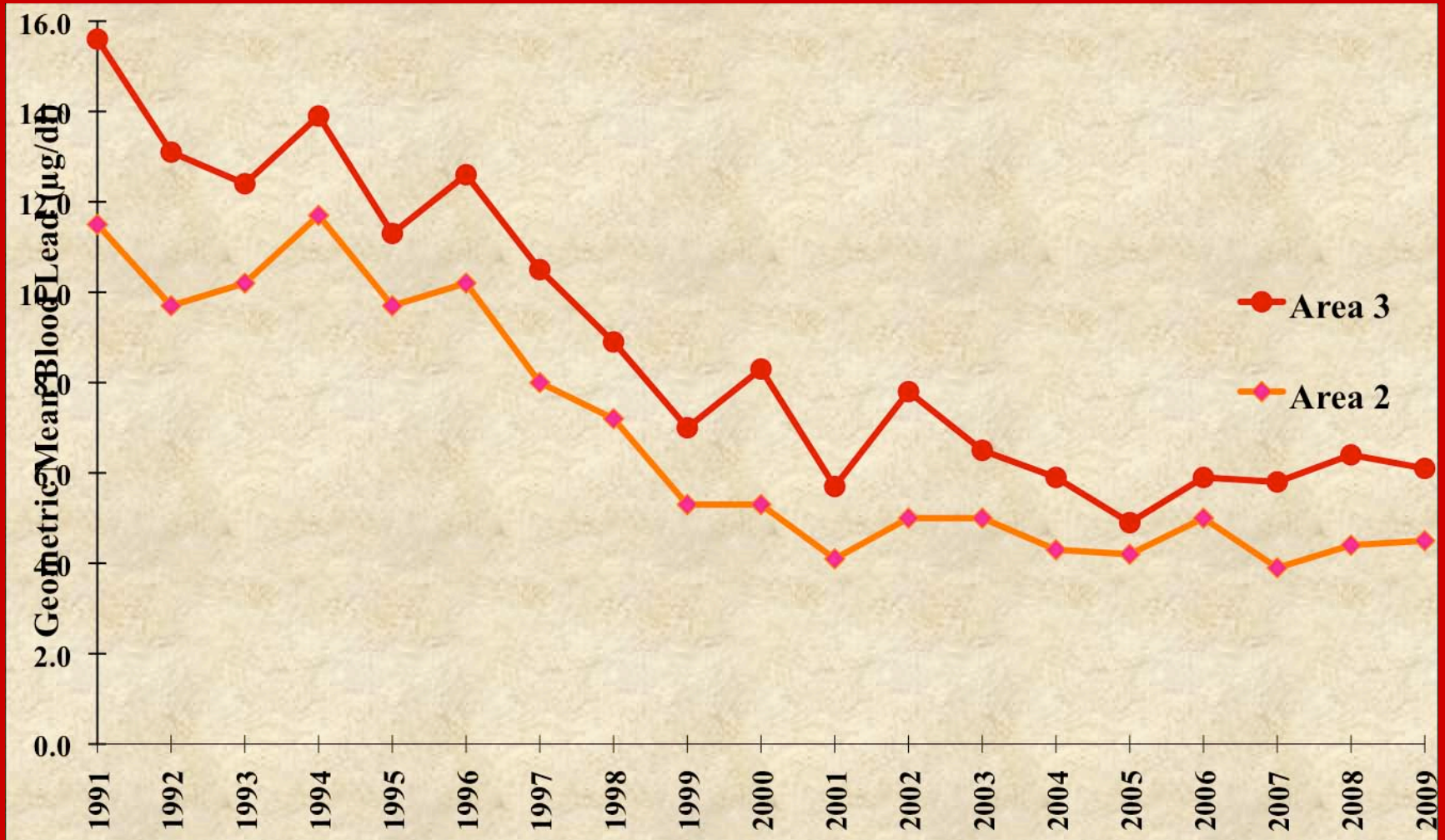
# 2009 Blood Lead Histogram: Area 2/3

*(Age 6 mos. - 36 mos.)*



# Blood Lead Geo Mean by Area

(age 6 – 36 months throughout)

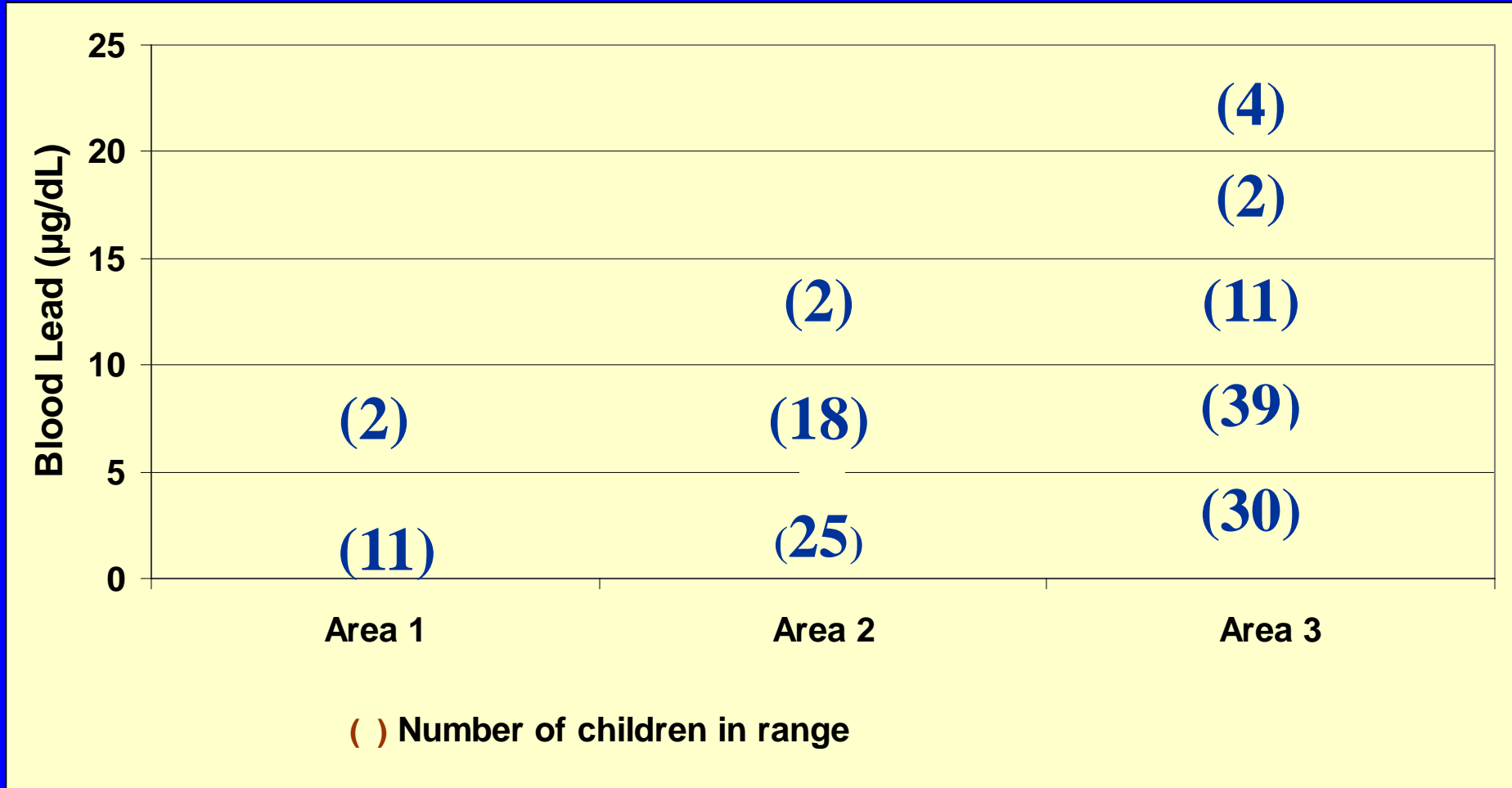


# Area 2 & 3 Children under 3 yrs

<b>Statistic</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
<b>Geometric Means</b>		
Overall	5.6	5.9
Area 2	4.5	4.7
Area 3	6.3	6.4
<b>Percentages Above:</b>		
10 µg/dL	16%	20.3%
15 µg/dL	5%	4.3%
20 µg/dL	3%	1.4%

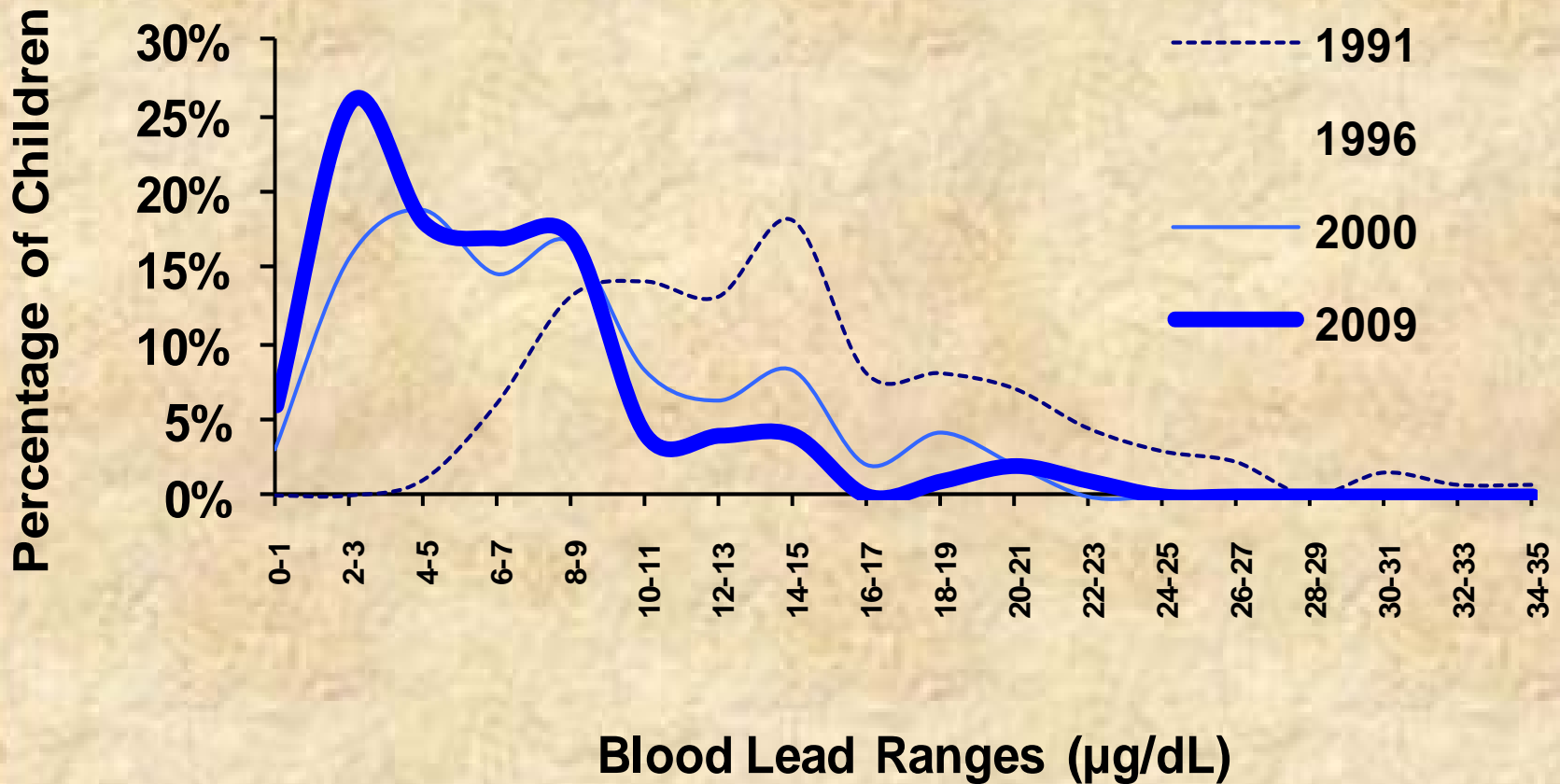
# 2009 Blood Leads by Area

*(Age 6 mos. - 60 mos.)*



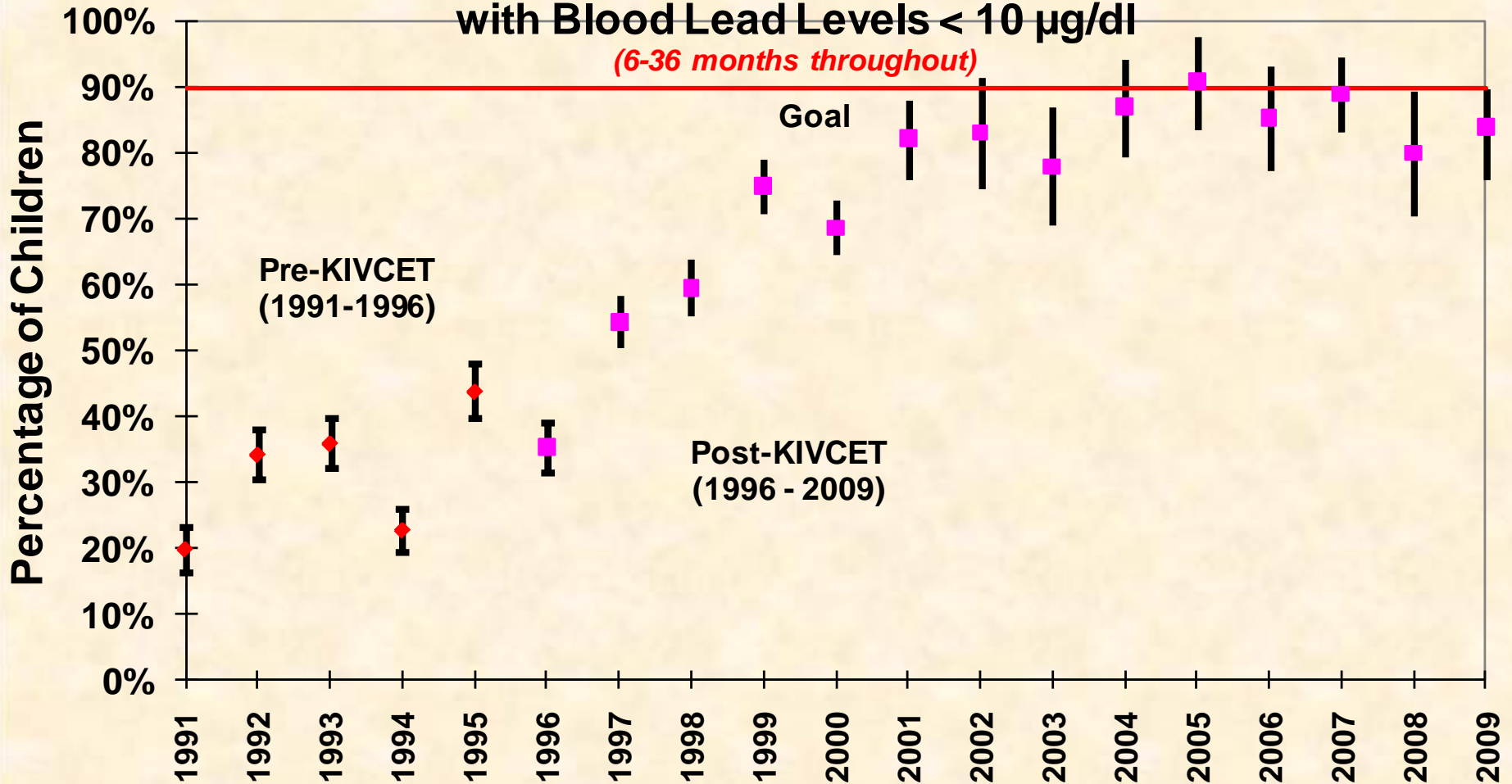
# 1991-2009 shift

## Areas 2 & 3: Children $\leq$ 60 months



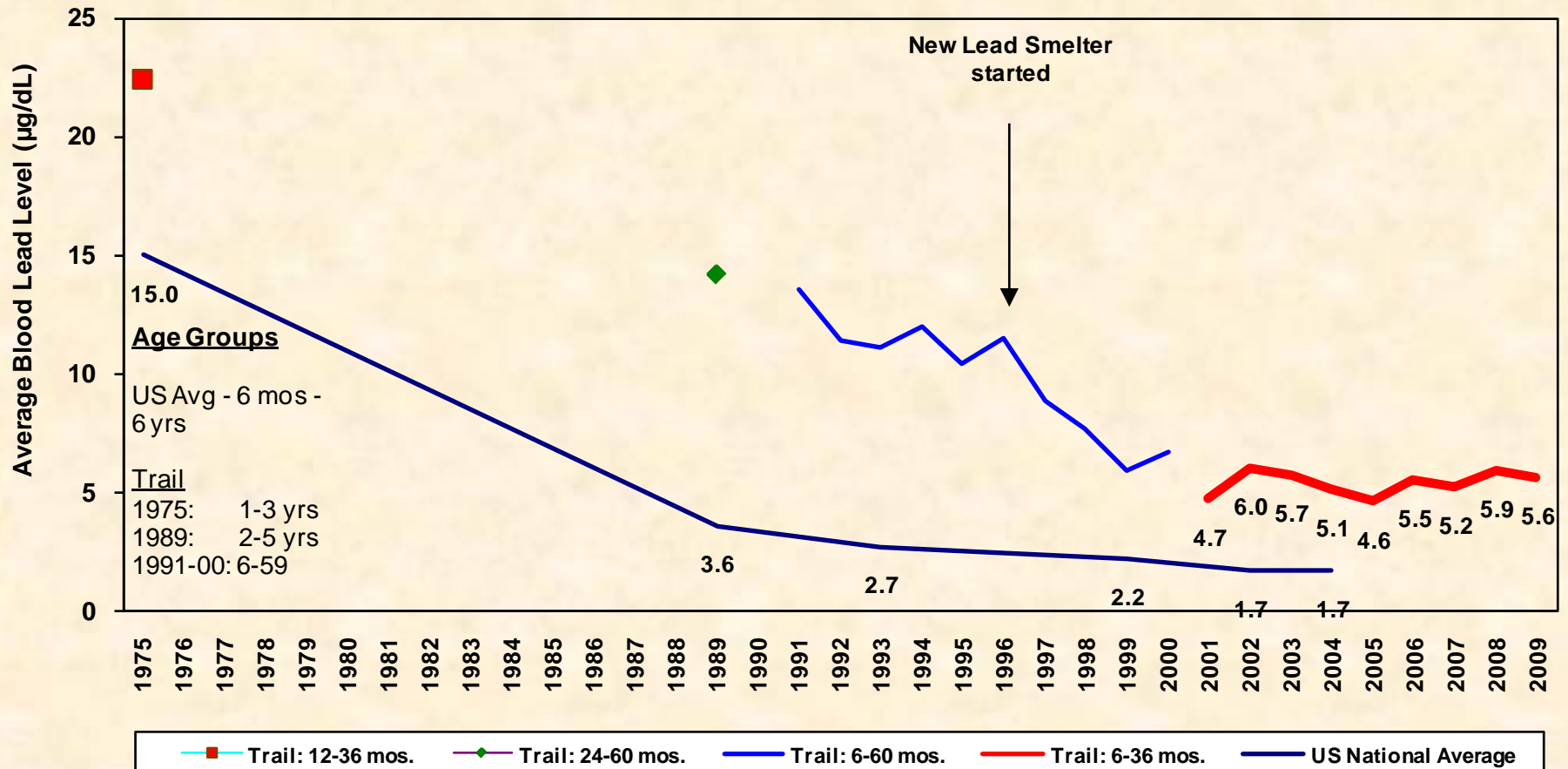
# Goal set by TCLTF for 2005

Trend in Percentage of Children  
with Blood Lead Levels < 10 µg/dl  
(6-36 months throughout)



# Comparison with "background"

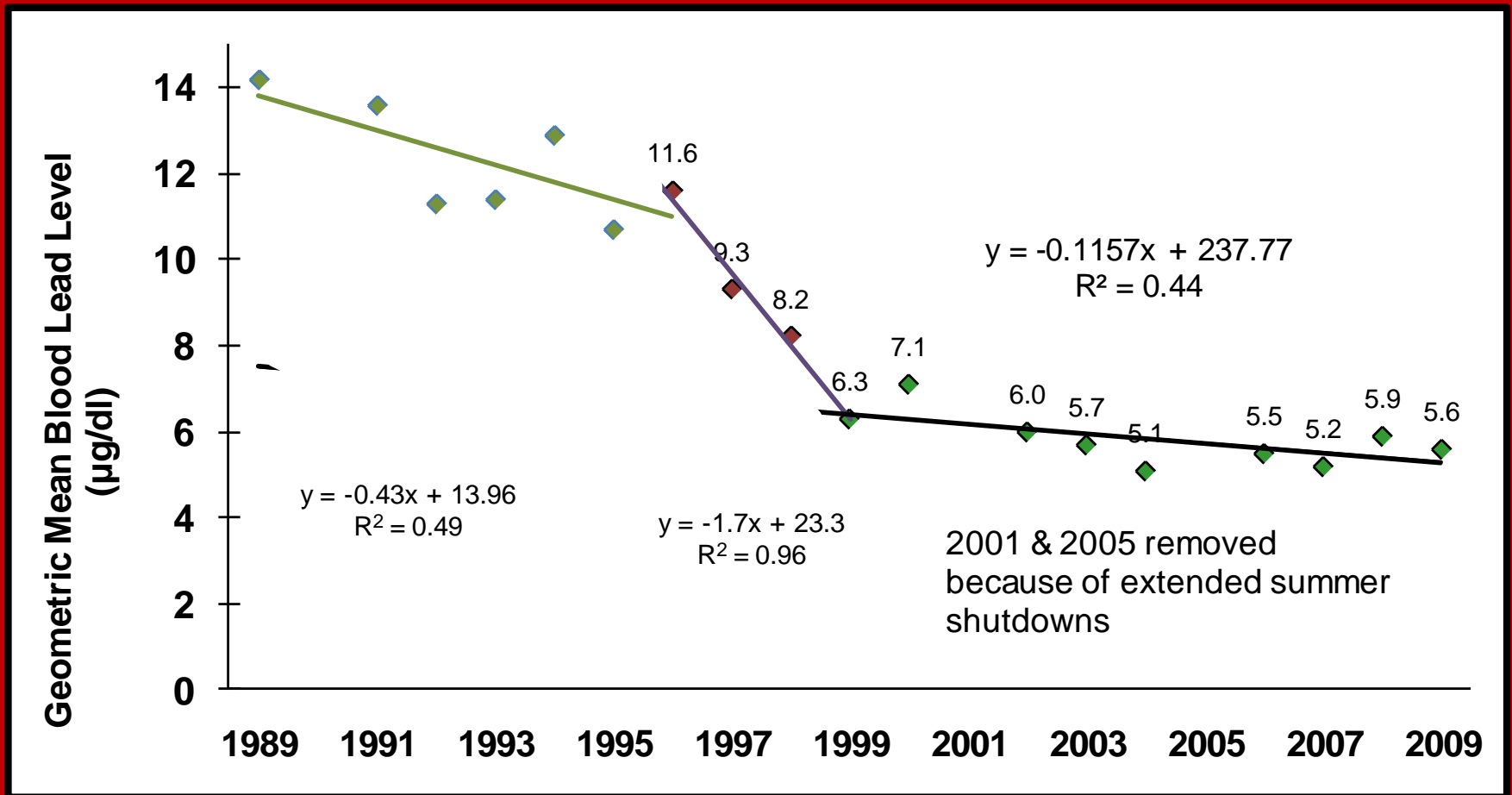
History of Children's Blood Lead Levels in Trail





# Three Distinct Periods

Geometric Mean Blood Pb, 6-36 mos. throughout

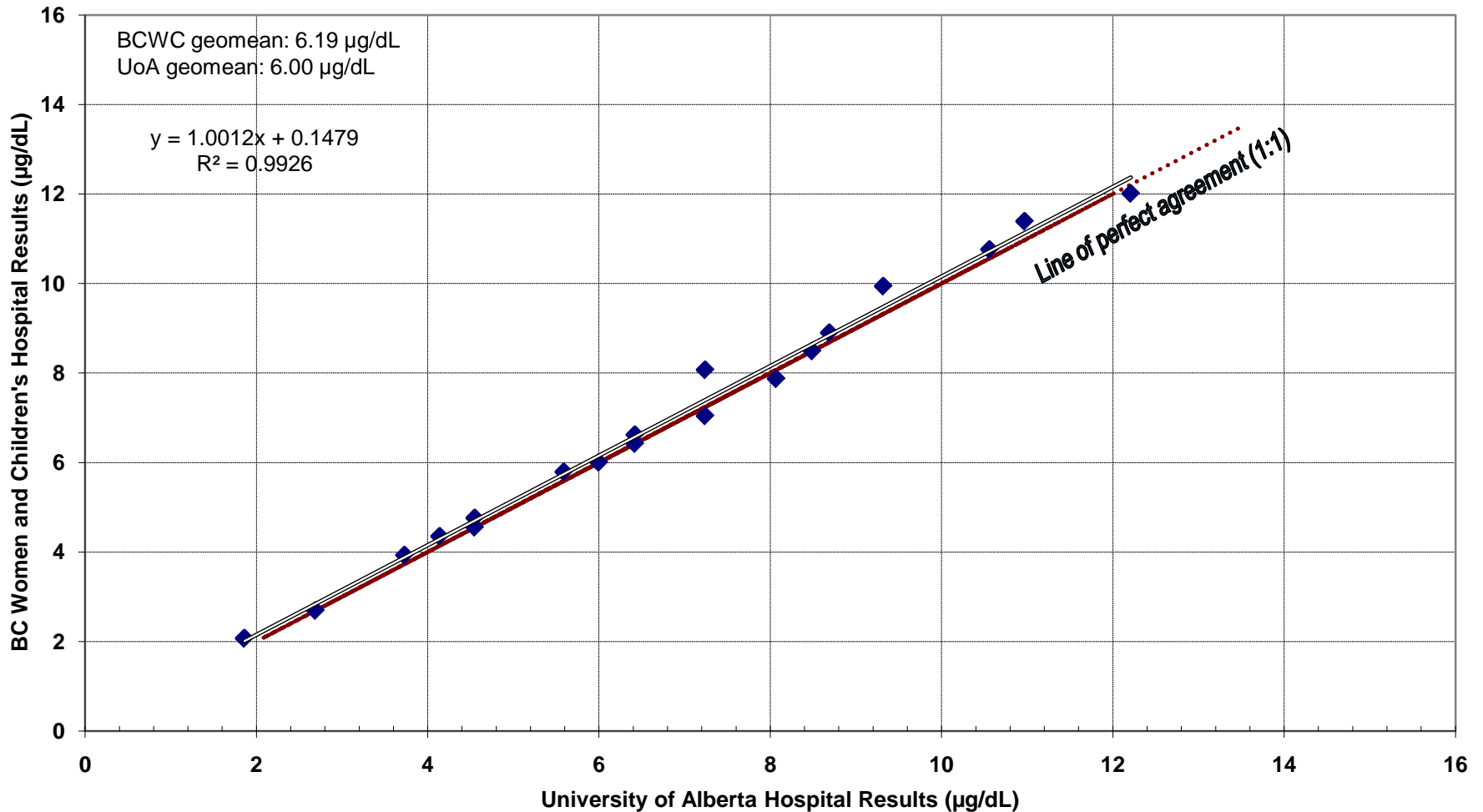


# Comparison with Other Sites

City/Region	Country	Nature of site	Age of kids tested	Year	Blood Lead Level (µg/dL)
La Oroya	Peru	Primary Pb smelter	< 6 yrs	2007	20.0
Port Pirie	Australia	Primary Pb smelter	9 mos to 4 yrs	2005	10.6
Torreón	Mexico	Primary Pb smelter	1-6 yrs	2003	8.3
Hoboken	Belgium	Secondary Pb smelter	2.5 yrs to 6 yrs	2009	6.9
Trail	Canada	Primary Pb smelter	6 mos to 3 yrs	2009	5.6
Mount Isa	Australia	Primary Pb smelter/mini	1-4 yrs	2007	5.0
Rouyn-Noranda	Canada	Primary Cu smelter	6 mos to 5 yrs	1999	5.2
Hamilton	Canada	Urban/city centre	under 6 yrs	2008	3.0
Nation-wide	U.S.A.	Urban/rural (NHANES)	1 to 5 yrs	2004	1.7

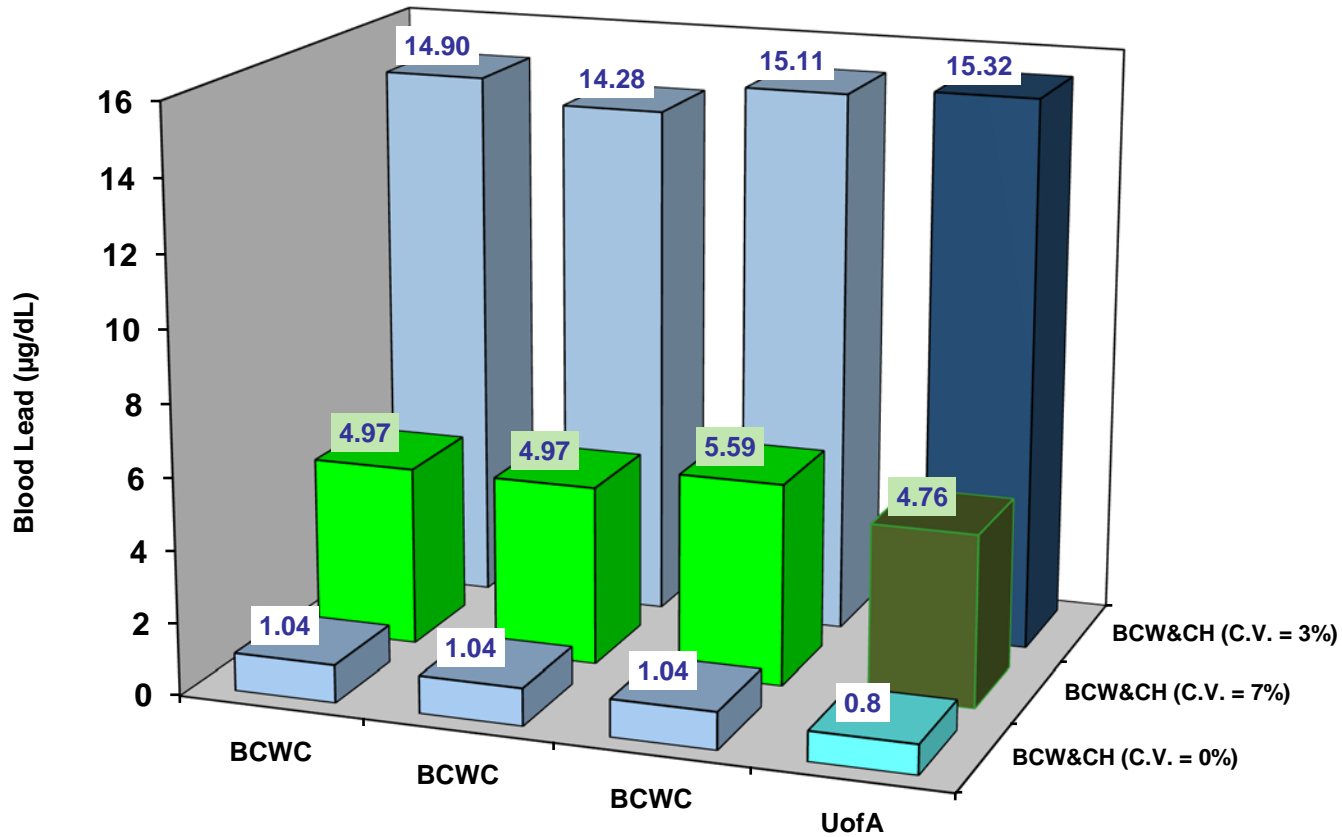
# Quality Control Data

Split sample analytical results  
BC Women & Children's Hospital versus University of Alberta Hospital  
Fall 2009 Trail Blood Lead Clinic



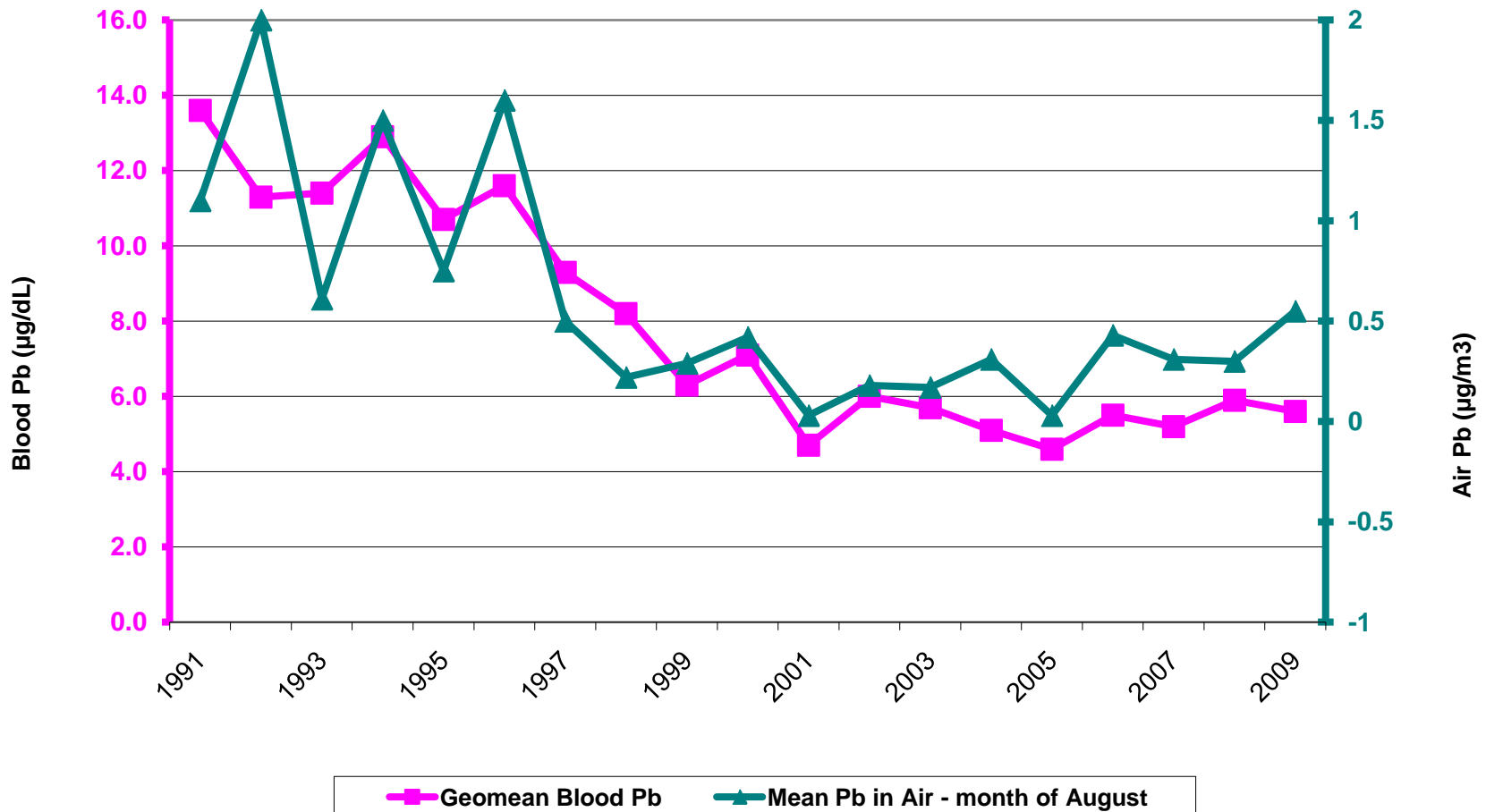
# Quality Control Data

**Fall 2009 Quality Control  
Check Standards Results**



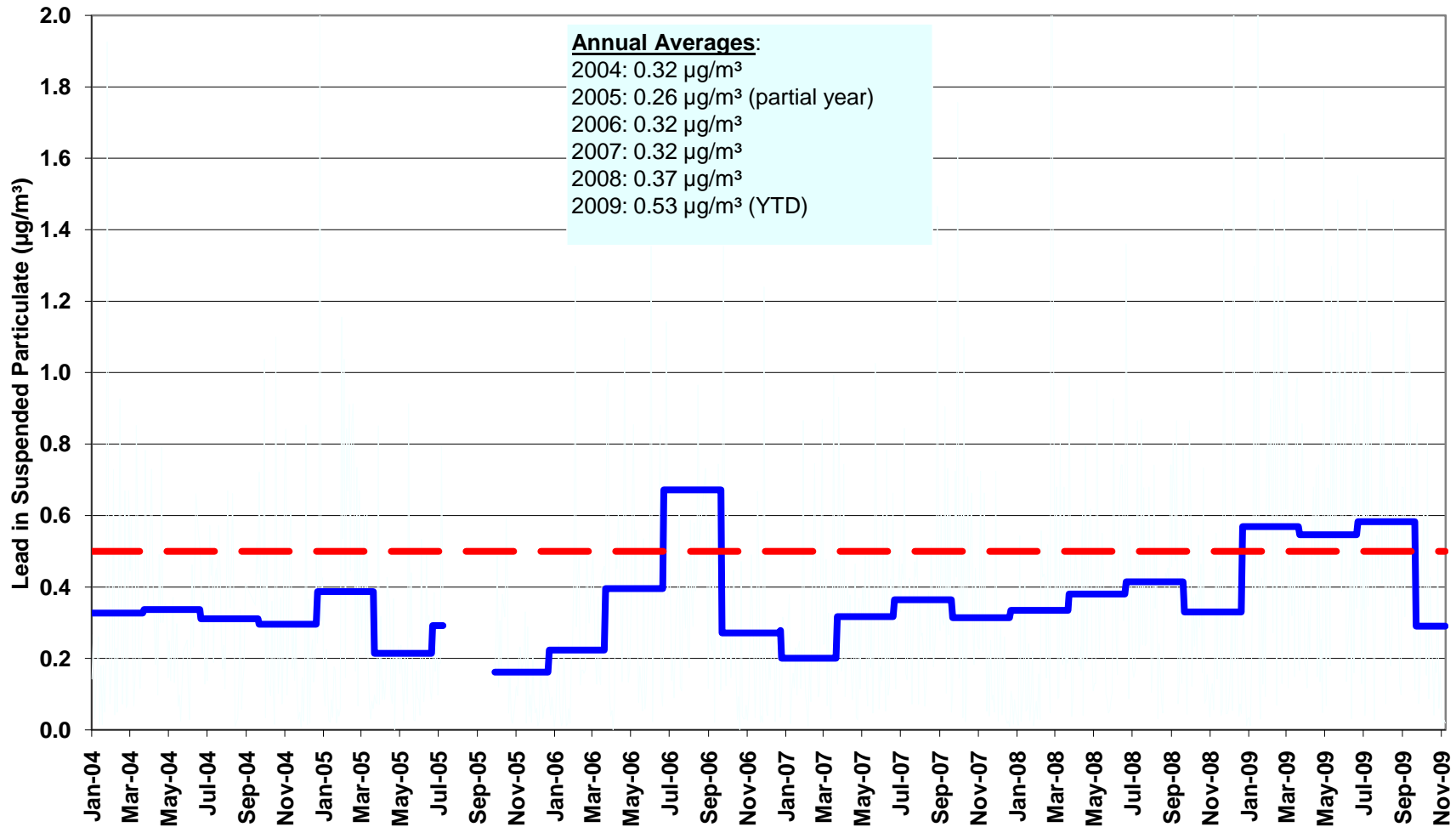
# Air Pb/Blood Pb Relationship

Geomean Blood Pb for Trail Children aged 6-36 Months  
and Air Pb in Month of August



# Air Lead Levels - Butler Park Stn

Butler Park Air Lead

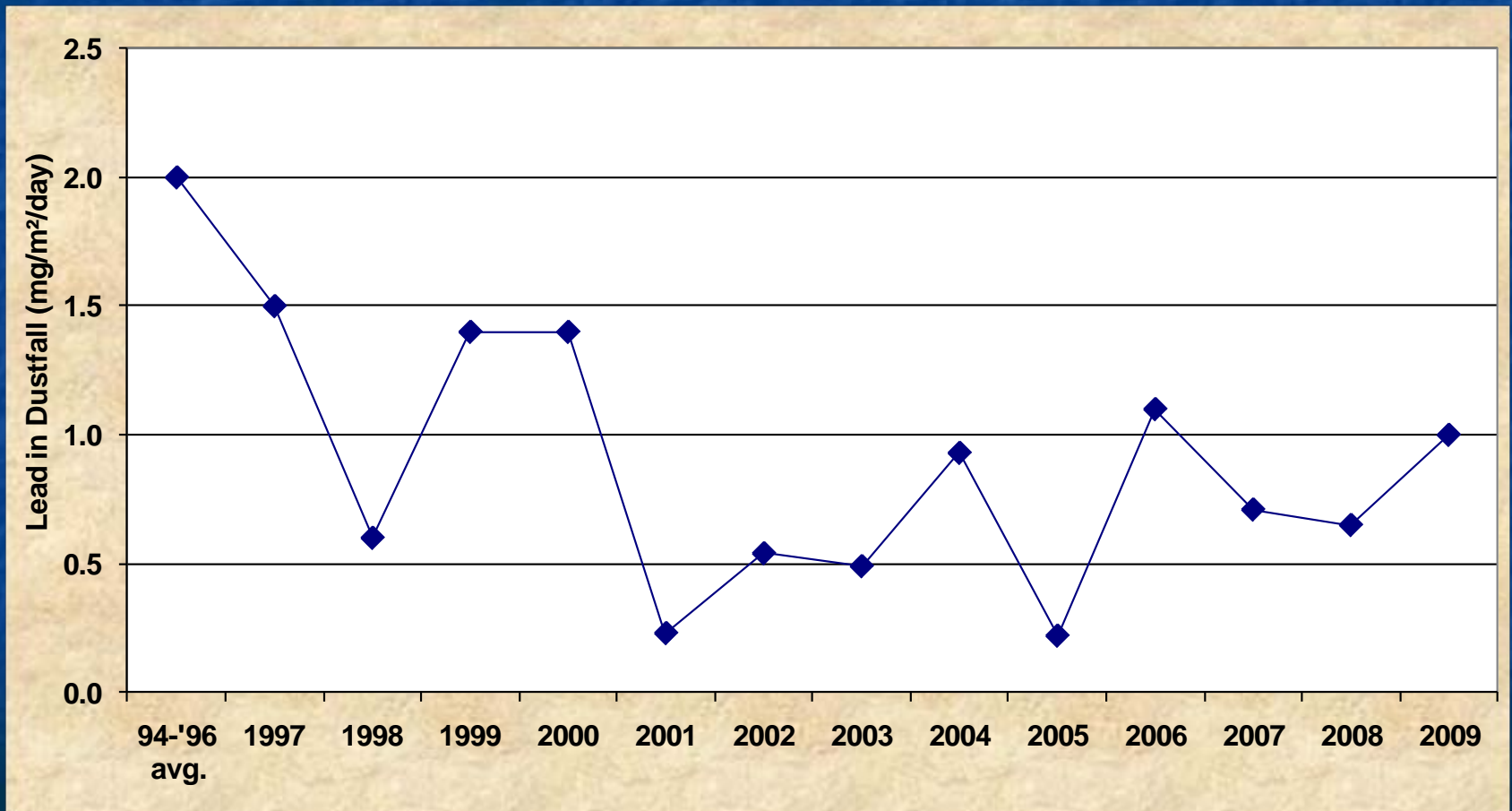


Actual data points - Butler Park

Quarterly Average - Butler Park

WHO Guideline for Annual Average

# Lead in Dustfall: Month of August Only, Area 2/3



# Concluding messages

- Compared with last blood lead survey (2008), average blood lead in 2009 is down slightly, although the change is not significant
- Summer 2009 conditions were again warm and dry and the levels of lead in ambient air and dustfall were higher relative to other very recent years.
- TCLTF goals of having 90% of children with BLL of <10 ug/dL and 99% of children with a BLL <15ug/dl were essentially reached again this year, given the margin of error on the sample:  
(84% ± 8% <10ug/dl and 95% ± 3% <15ug/dl)
- There is no trend in blood lead levels in Trail children in over past 6 years – average blood lead level is not changing significantly.



# Concluding messages

- Huge improvement in children's blood lead levels over the past 18 years, and Trail is at the forefront of smelter communities in terms of low lead emissions and blood lead levels.
- Studies of large numbers of children have found that those with higher blood lead levels tend, on average, to score slightly lower on developmental tests than children with lower blood lead levels.
- Adverse effects associated with blood lead levels seen in children today are subtle, and an individual child's blood lead level is not a reliable predictor of his/her development.

# Concluding messages

- The current "level of concern" for blood lead levels in children is 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ . However, there is no known threshold below which there is no effect.
- A significant percentage (more than 5%) of children greater than 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$  should result in community investigation and intervention.
- Children with elevated blood lead ( $\geq 10 \mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$  OR  $< 12$  months age and  $\geq 7 \mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$  OR increase  $> 3 \mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ ) will continue to receive home visits and assistance with reducing exposure.
- Blood lead testing objectives and goals are being re-evaluated and THEC will propose new scope and goals for blood lead testing.