# Table of Contents

- Introduction ................................................................. 5
- Summary of What We Found ............................................ 6
- Overall Study Results ..................................................... 8
- How to Read Your Graphs ............................................... 10
- Asthma ................................................................. 12
- Pesticides ............................................................... 18
- Flame Retardants ......................................................... 22
- Fragrance Chemicals ....................................................... 30
- Combustion Byproducts - PAHs ....................................... 34
- Banned Industrial Chemicals - PCBs ................................. 38
- Personal Care Product Chemicals ..................................... 42
- Plastics Chemicals ......................................................... 48
- Appendix ................................................................. 54

For more information, contact us by phone at 617-332-4288 or email at GHS@silentspring.org
Researchers collected household air and dust and children’s urine samples to learn more about how home environments can affect asthma.
Introduction

The number of children with asthma has gone up in the last few years. Some people think that allergens and chemicals that are common inside homes are adding to the problem.

We wanted to learn more about some of the chemicals in pesticides (used to kill bugs or weeds) and everyday things – from shampoo and soap to couches and shower curtains.

This study

• We went to 94 homes, including yours, to measure the levels of 75 chemicals.
• We measured household air and dust and children’s urine samples.
• We looked for chemicals that might affect breathing and asthma as well as other health problems.

The study results will help us learn how common chemicals can affect asthma.

This report will tell you what we found in your home and your child’s urine sample. You will be able to see whether your results are higher or lower than other people’s. And we will tell you how to lower the levels of chemicals in your home.

We will tell you if your results are above a health guide. But for most of the chemicals, scientists don’t know enough yet to say how they could affect health for your family. We are studying these chemicals to learn more. We still want to show you your results because there are often things you can do to reduce your exposure.
Summary of What We Found

Your home had one of the highest levels of a **personal care product**. These chemicals come from products like soap, shampoo, and deodorant.

See page 42

Your samples had higher levels of **combustion byproducts** than most others in the study. These chemicals can cause breathing problems.

See page 34

Your samples had a higher level of a **flame retardant** than most others in the study. These chemicals can come from furniture foam.

See page 22

**Other Chemicals**

- Your samples had lower levels than most people for fragrance chemicals.

  See page 30

**Overall Study Results**

- You are exposed to particles from traffic, cooking, and other sources
- We found fragrance chemicals – which are avoidable asthma triggers – in every home.

  See page 8

We know more about the health effects of some chemicals than others. Clear connections between chemicals and health can’t always be made.
What You Can Do

1. Avoid products marked as antibacterial.
2. Open windows or use an exhaust fan when cooking.
3. Fix rips in furniture so foam isn't exposed.
4. Choose products that are fragrance-free.
Overall Study Results

What is the purpose of the study?

Many children in your community have asthma. Sometimes chemicals, mold, or dust can make asthma symptoms worse. Since some apartment buildings in your community are being renovated, we did this study to find out whether renovations are changing homes in any way that could increase or decrease breathing problems, including asthma.

You are exposed to particles from traffic, cooking, and other sources

Small particles in the air can travel deep inside the lung, and can affect your health. These particles, which may come from smoking, cooking or traffic, can trigger asthma attacks.

Tips for a healthy home

• do not smoke inside
• open windows or use exhaust fans when cooking foods that make a lot of smoke
• do not burn candles or incense when people with lung conditions are in the home.
• Ask your building manager to install "high-MERV" air filters in the building ventilation (heating/cooling) system to reduce particle pollution.

There are many asthma triggers in the home.

Some asthma triggers are related to pests, such as cockroaches and mice. We found mouse allergen in the dust in many homes, and many children were allergic to this allergen.

Tips for a healthy home

• keep pests out of your home by eliminating sources of food and water and sealing up holes and gaps
• limit the use of pesticides, which can be bad for your health
You are exposed to chemicals from the products you use.

You are exposed to chemicals in the products you use and the building materials around you. Exposure may be direct (for example, applying lotion) or indirect (for example, chemicals move out of your furniture and into your air and dust).

Tips for a healthy home

- Use only a few simple cleaners – water, fragrance-free soap, baking soda and vinegar – for many cleaning tasks.
- Open windows or use bathroom or kitchen vents when using products that have a strong smell.
- Keep dust levels low by wiping surfaces with a damp cloth and cleaning with a vacuum cleaner with a HEPA filter.

We found fragrance chemicals – which are avoidable asthma triggers – in every home.

Most of the homes also had antibacterial chemicals, another avoidable asthma trigger. These chemicals have been linked to worsening asthma symptoms.

Tips for a healthy home

- Choose fragrance-free and avoid anti-bacterial products.
- Soap and water are just as effective as antibacterial soap.
How to Read Your Graphs

Later in this report, you will find information about the chemicals we tested and graphs of your results.

Each graph shows how much of a chemical we measured in your home or your child’s urine sample. You might want to notice:

What kinds of chemicals were found?

Is my level for a chemical higher than others?
The graphs show the chemicals we found in your samples at levels that were higher than most of the others in the study. If your level of a chemical is a lot higher than others, that means you can probably make changes to lower the level.

If you would like help reading your graphs, please contact us by phone at 617-332-4288 or email at GHS@silentspring.org
Chemical group: Parabens

Chemical: propyl paraben

Units of measure:
Amount of chemical in urine, dust, or air. Higher numbers mean more chemical exposure.

Your child's chemical levels:
The orange circles are your child's chemical levels.

Other children in the study:
Each blue circle is another child's chemical level.

Not detected:
The chemical was below the limit of detection in these children's urine. The chemical might not be there or it might be a very low level that we couldn't measure.

Tested in:
We tested for chemicals in your air, dust, and child's urine.

Percentiles:
In a national survey of children, 95% had levels below this point.

95% of US children below here

µg/L

Other children in the study

Your child's chemical levels

Not detected

your child
Feb 2013
11

your child
Aug 2013
2.0

your child
Aug 2013
0.70

Not detected

The chemical was below the limit of detection in these children's urine. The chemical might not be there or it might be a very low level that we couldn't measure.
Asthma

We found 5 asthma related chemicals in your samples. Most people had less than 13.5.

How chemicals relate to asthma

A main focus of this study was on asthma. We are studying these chemicals because we suspect they might be connected with asthma symptoms.
General tips for a healthy home

In your home

- **Burning anything in your house, whether smoking or cooking, can release chemicals that can trigger asthma symptoms.** Don’t allow anyone to smoke in your home. Open the window or use an exhaust fan when cooking.

- **Fragrances can irritate lungs.** Many products contain fragrances, including air fresheners, laundry detergents, diapers, and soaps. You can buy products that are fragrance free.

- **Try to reduce the use of chemical cleaners and pesticides in your home.** Some household cleaners can irritate eyes or lungs.

- **Wiping with a damp cloth or mop captures dust and prevents chemicals and allergens in the dust from getting into the air.** So mop rather than sweep, wet-wipe surfaces to remove dust, or use a vacuum with a HEPAi (high-efficiency particulate absorption) filter if you can.

Community Actions

- **Idling cars can put particulate matter in your air.** Anti-idling ordinances have improved air quality in some communities. Try to avoid idling your car and encourage your neighbors to do the same.

- **Talk to your building manager about using integrated pest management (IPM) to decrease the use of pesticides in your building.** You can help by eliminating open food sources, including food for pets. Also, check for and repair drips or leaks, and reduce clutter in your home. Share the information you’ve learned with your neighbors.
Known links to asthma

Children show asthma symptoms when they’re exposed to things they’re allergic to. Also, some chemicals irritate the respiratory system and can cause asthma symptoms.

Dust mite allergen

House dust mites are tiny bugs that you cannot see. They live in fabric and can be found in mattresses, pillows, cloth-covered furniture, carpeting, and stuffed toys.

Cockroach allergen

Some children are sensitive to the allergens that cockroaches leave behind. Pests need the same things humans do: food, water, shelter, and a way to come and go. Cockroaches like kitchens because they are warm and provide sources of food and water.

Mold-related chemical

Too much water in your home or humidity in the air can lead to mold growth or pest problems. For example, after a water leak, mold can grow on walls and floors. This mold can lead to breathing problems, especially for sensitive individuals.

Particulate Matter

Particles in the air from traffic, cooking, and smoking can be inhaled and trigger asthma attacks.

Tobacco smoke exposure

First and secondhand smoke comes from a burning cigarette, cigar, or pipe, or from an exhaling smoker. Second hand smoke exposure has been show to trigger asthma attacks in young children.
Formaldehyde

Formaldehyde is found in furniture made from particle board and in insulation, carpet, and cigarette smoke. Formaldehyde levels go up with higher temperature and humidity.

Possible links to asthma

Other chemicals we tested for may also affect asthma and the respiratory system. We don’t yet have enough evidence to be sure, but you might still consider taking steps to reduce your exposure to these chemicals.

Fragrance Chemicals

We don’t usually think of fragrances as chemicals, but they are. Fragrance chemicals are used to create artificial smells or mask the odor of other ingredients. Fragrances are found in many commonly used products such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, lotion, powder, candles, air freshener, and laundry and cleaning products.

Phthalates (pronounced tha-lates)

Phthalates are chemicals used to make plastics more flexible and to keep the color and scent in personal care products. They are found in many products such as vinyl shower curtains, nail polish, food containers, toys, and plastic bags.

Antibacterials

Antibacterials kill bacteria and are sometimes found in household cleaning products, soaps, and hand sanitizers. One reason to avoid anti-bacterial products is the active ingredient triclosan. The American Medical Association recommends that triclosan not be used in the home, as it may boost bacterial resistance to antibiotics.

Pesticides

Pesticides are chemicals that kill insects, ants, termites, mold, weeds, and other pests.

We also measured chemicals that might change when a building is renovated. These chemicals are not expected to affect asthma, but they may affect health in other ways. Your results for these chemicals are included, too.
### Your Results:

**Asthma**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FRAGRANCE CHEMICALS</th>
<th>PHTHALATES</th>
<th>TOBACCO</th>
<th>ANTIBACTERIALS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chemicals used to create artificial smells or mask unwanted odors</td>
<td>Found in some plastics and personal care products</td>
<td>Chemicals found in tobacco or breakdown products of nicotine</td>
<td>Chemicals that kill bacteria found in soaps and hand sanitizers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You were below the median in all of these chemicals.

Your Results:

- Asthma: 16

Green Housing Study
Your Family’s Results 2015

- Your chemical level
- Other people's chemical levels
- Households where the chemical was not detected
Pesticides

Chemicals that kill insects, ants, termites, mold, weeds, and other pests

You were below the median in most pesticides. Turn the page to see your results.

We found 3 pesticides in your samples. Most people had less than 6.

Our methods could detect very low levels of pesticides that may have been too low to be detected by other tests.

How pesticides get in your home

- Pesticides can get into your home in bug sprays, cleaners, or mothballs.
- Pesticides from outside might come into your home on your shoes or pets.
- Children can be exposed to pesticides outside the home, too.
- Some of the pesticides we tested for have been banned. They are still found in homes, because they can stay on indoor surfaces and in dust for a long time.

Pesticides and health

- Pesticides can cause many types of health effects. They can affect the brain, reproductive system, hormones, and how well the body fights off disease.
- The Environmental Protection Agency reviews the safety of pesticides. They phased out use of chlorpyrifos (in 2000) and diazinon (in 2004) in home products because of health concerns.
What you can do for a healthy home

Consider alternatives for controlling pests

- **Be less appetizing**: Keep food in sealed containers.
- **Be less inviting**: Seal cracks and crevices to keep pests out.
- **Kill without chemicals**: Use traps instead of sprays.

Keep pesticides levels low

- **Pesticides may be in your house dust**. Try to keep dust levels low. Wipe floors and surfaces with a damp cloth or mop. Or use a vacuum with a HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) filter to prevent dust from getting back into the air.

- **Keep pesticides from getting in**. Place rugs in doorways to avoid tracking pesticides into your home. Take off your outdoor shoes at the door.

If you must use pesticides...

- Store pesticides out of the reach of children.
### Your Results:

**Pesticides**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEED KILLERS</th>
<th>OTHER PEST CONTROL CHEMICALS</th>
<th>ORGANOPHOSPHATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chemicals used to control weeds, also found in disinfectants</td>
<td>Lice and flea control, mothballs</td>
<td>Nerve agents used to control insects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You were below the median in all weed killers.

You were below the median in all of these chemicals.

You were below the median in:
- diazinon
- propoxur

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical</th>
<th>µg/wipe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>chlorpyrifos dust</td>
<td>0.012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chlorpyrifos</td>
<td>0.034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chlorpyrifos</td>
<td>0.097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chlorpyrifos</td>
<td>0.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chlorpyrifos</td>
<td>0.79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **your chemical level**
- **other people's chemical levels**
- **households where the chemical was not detected**
### Your Results:

**Pesticides**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PYRETHROIDs</th>
<th>BANNED ORGANOCHLORINES</th>
<th>INSECT REPELLANTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common chemicals used to control insects</td>
<td>Chemicals used to control insects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You were below the median in all pyrethroids.

You were below the median in all banned organochlorines.

**DEET**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>µg/wipe</th>
<th>dust</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.073</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.018</td>
<td>your home</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Your chemical level
- Other people's chemical levels
- Households where the chemical was not detected

*Your Home: Feb 2013 0.018 µg/wipe*
Flame Retardants

Chemicals added to many products to make it harder for them to catch fire.

Your samples had a higher level of a **flame retardant** than most others in the study.

Turn the page to see your results.

We found 6 flame retardants in your samples. Most people had less than 11.

**How flame retardants get in your home**

- Flame retardants are added to products such as furniture foam, electronics, and cloth.
- These chemicals come out of products and collect in house dust. People accidentally eat dust when it gets on food or hands. Babies and toddlers are more exposed to dust, because they spend time on the floor and put things in their mouths.

**Flame retardants and health**

- Some flame retardants might cause cancer. Others affect thyroid hormones or the brain and nervous system, which means that they can affect brain development and IQ, weight, depression, energy, and muscle control. Some flame retardants haven’t been studied yet for health effects.
- Some flame retardants are banned in Europe and in many states because they affect thyroid hormones.
What you can do for a healthy home

Dust

- Flame retardants can stick around your house in dust. Try to keep dust levels low. For example, wipe surfaces with a damp cloth or mop. Or use a vacuum with a HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) filter to prevent dust from getting back into the air.

- Wash your hands often.

Furniture

- Fix rips in furniture so foam isn't exposed.

- When you buy furniture, ask for furniture that doesn’t contain flame retardants, including in the foam. Or choose furniture made from wool, hemp, polyester, latex, down, or leather, because these materials are naturally slow to catch fire. Choose rug pads made from felt, jute, or rubber instead of foam.
Flame retardants in furniture foams and electronics. Most of these chemicals are being phased out of use.

Your Results:

**Flame Retardants**

**BROMINATED FLAME RETARDANTS**

You were below the median in:
- 22BBM13P
- 23DB1P

Your chemical level

Other people's chemical levels

Households where the chemical was not detected
Your Results:
Flame Retardants

FIREMASTER 550
Replacement for brominated flame retardants in furniture foams

TPHP

- air
- dust

You were below the median in
- BEH-TEBP
- EH-TBB

Your home
Feb 2013
0.38

Your chemical level
other people's chemical levels
households where the chemical was not detected
Your Results:
Flame Retardants

NON-HALOGENATED ORGANOPHOSPHATES

Often used in plastics and flame retardant mixtures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TBOEP</th>
<th>air</th>
<th>dust</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ng/m³</td>
<td></td>
<td>µg/wipe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td></td>
<td>820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.3</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.7</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You were below the median in
- TBOPP
- TBPP
- TMPP

Your Results:
Flame Retardants

26 Green Housing Study
Your Family’s Results 2015
Your Results:
Flame Retardants

HALOGENATED ORGANOPHOSPHATES

Widely used flame retardants found in furniture foams, plastics, textiles, and insulation

Your chemical level  ○  other people's chemical levels  ●  households where the chemical was not detected
Your Results:

Flame Retardants

HALOGENATED ORGANOPHOSPHATES

Widely used flame retardants found in furniture foams, plastics, textiles, and insulation

You were below the median in

- TCEP
- TDCIPP related compound

Your Family's Results 2015

• your chemical level
• other people's chemical levels
• households where the chemical was not detected
Fragrances

Your samples had lower levels than most people for fragrance chemicals.

Turn the page to see your results.

We found 3 fragrance chemicals in your samples. Most people had less than 8.5.

How fragrances get in your home

- Fragrance chemicals are sometimes in products such as soap, shampoo, and cosmetics. They are sometimes in cleaners, laundry products, dryer sheets, diapers, and air fresheners. Dryer sheets and air fresheners have a lot of fragrance.

Fragrances and health

- Some fragrance chemicals may increase asthma symptoms.
- Some fragrance chemicals are weak estrogen mimics, so they may affect breast development, puberty, fertility, and some cancers. Scientists are working to learn more.
What you can do for a healthy home

Avoid products with fragrances

- Don’t use air fresheners or dryer sheets.
- Use products that are fragrance-free.

silentspring.org
© 2015 Silent Spring Institute.

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.
FRAGRANCE CHEMICALS

Chemicals used to create artificial smells or mask unwanted odors.

You were below the median in all fragrance chemicals.
Combustion Byproducts - PAHs

Formed when things such as gasoline and diesel are burned

Your samples had higher levels of combustion byproducts than most others in the study.

Turn the page to see your results.

We found 4 combustion byproducts in your samples. Most people had less than 3.5.

How PAHs get in your home

- Combustion byproducts known as PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) can be found in gasoline, vehicle exhaust, tobacco smoke, wood fires, cooking fumes, and grilled food.

PAHs and health

- These chemicals can cause breathing problems, heart disease as well as lung and other cancers.
What you can do for a healthy home

Your home

• **Tobacco smoke is a source of PAHs.** Don’t smoke and don’t allow smoking in your home.

• **Chemicals in the air can build up indoors.** Turn on the exhaust fan or open the window when you are cooking. Vent your gas stove, broiler, grill, or fireplace to the outdoors.

Your community

• **Some of your home’s air quality comes from your community’s air.** Work towards improving the air in your whole neighborhood by advocating for air pollution controls and anti-idling rules. Work to support public transportation and switching buses and trucks away from diesel to safer fuels.

• **Ask your building manager to install "high-MERV" air filters** in the building ventilation (heating/cooling) system to reduce particle pollution.

• **Work with your building manager to reduce smoking,** enforce no-smoking rules, and help residents quit.
Combustion byproducts that can be found in gasoline, vehicle exhaust, tobacco smoke, wood fires, cooking fumes, and grilled food.

**Your Results:**

**Combustion Byproducts - PAHs**

- **Benzo(a)pyrene dust**
  - Feb 2013: 0.047 µg/wipe
  - Your home: 0.047 µg/wipe

- **Naphthalene dust**
  - Feb 2013: 0.0089 µg/wipe
  - Your home: 0.0089 µg/wipe

- **Phenanthrene dust**
  - Feb 2013: 0.17 µg/wipe
  - Your home: 0.17 µg/wipe

- **Pyrene dust**
  - Feb 2013: 0.25 µg/wipe
  - Your home: 0.25 µg/wipe

**PAHS**

Combustion byproducts that can be found in gasoline, vehicle exhaust, tobacco smoke, wood fires, cooking fumes, and grilled food.
Your Results:
Combustion Byproducts - PAHs

TOBACCO
Chemicals found in tobacco or breakdown products of nicotine

You were below the median in all of these chemicals.
Banned Industrial Chemicals

Used in electronic equipment and plastics until 1979

Your samples had lower levels than most people for **banned industrial chemicals**.

Turn the page to see your results.

We found 0 banned industrial chemicals in your samples. Most people had 0.

How PCBs get in your home

- PCBs were used in electronic equipment, floor finishes, and construction materials before they were banned in the U.S. in 1979.
- PCBs are found in pre-1979 fluorescent light ballasts, caulk, and the air, dust, and soil in and around older buildings.
- They are also found in fish from polluted waters and soil in former industrial areas.
- PCB 11 is an unintentional byproduct found in commercial pigments used in paints, inks, and other materials in the home. Pigments made in the U.S. are less likely to contain these PCB contaminants.

PCBs and health

- PCBs affect thyroid hormones. Exposure during pregnancy affects the baby’s brain development and IQ. They may increase breast cancer risk in some people.
- EPA banned the use of PCBs in 1979 because of health concerns.
What you can do for a healthy home

### Dust

- **PCBs, although banned, can still be in dust in older homes.** Keep dust levels low. Wipe floors and surfaces with a damp cloth or mop. Or use a vacuum with a HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) filter to prevent dust from getting back into the air.

- **Wash hands often.**

### Food

- **If you are fishing, observe signs about eating the fish.** In the grocery store, bluefish, swordfish, and shark can have high levels.

- **PCBs accumulate in fat.** Trim off skin and fat from fish and meat and let fat drain off before cooking. Choose low-fat dairy.

### Buildings

- **Buildings constructed before 1979 may have used contaminated materials.** Avoid touching caulk or surfaces near caulk in pre-1979 buildings.

- **Be careful when renovating older buildings.** Follow EPA guidelines for managing PCB-containing materials.

- **Some paints made outside of the US can contain PCB 11.** Look for products made in the US.
You were below the median in all PCBs.
Personal Care Products

Chemicals found in hair and body care products and cosmetics

Your home had one of the highest levels of a personal care product.

Turn the page to see your results.

We found 8 personal care products in your samples. Most people had less than 13.

How these chemicals get in your home

- Chemicals in products such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, lotion, hair products, cosmetics, and sunscreen.
- Chemicals come out of these products into the air and dust.

Personal care product chemicals and health

- Many of these chemicals are hormone disruptors. Some mimic estrogen or block androgen, so they may affect child development, fertility, and some cancers. Scientists are working to learn more.
What you can do for a healthy home

**Dust**

- **Keep dust levels low.** Wipe surfaces with a damp cloth and use a vacuum with a HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) filter to prevent dust from getting back into the air.

**Products**

- **Avoid using nail polish or apply it outdoors.**
- **Use products that are fragrance-free.**
- **Avoid products marked as antibacterial.** These products may contain triclosan, a chemical we tested for in this study.
- **Learn which companies avoid harmful chemicals.** Look for labels that say “phthalate-free” and ask stores and manufacturers whether products are phthalate-free.
- **Avoid products with parabens listed on the label.** Common names for these chemicals include butyl paraben, ethyl paraben, methyl paraben, and propyl paraben.
- **Sunscreens may contain chemicals of concern.** Choose shade, hats, and tightly woven clothing instead of sun screen when you can.

**Speak out**

- **Ask your favorite brands and stores to choose safer chemicals** and join campaigns to get chemicals of concern out of consumer products.
Your Results:

Personal Care Products

SUNSCREEN CHEMICALS

PARABENS

Preservatives that can be found in shampoos, toothpaste, gels, and other personal care products

You were below the median in

- BP-3

You were below the median in all parabens.
Your Results:
Personal Care Products

PHTHALATES
Additives found in some personal care products

DBP related chemicals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical Type</th>
<th>Your Home Feb 2013</th>
<th>Your Child Feb 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urine</td>
<td>450 µg/wipe</td>
<td>20 µg/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air</td>
<td>410 ng/m³</td>
<td>16 ng/m³</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

95% of US children below here

Your chemical level ○ other people's chemical levels ● households where the chemical was not detected

You were below the median in
- mCPP
You were below the median in all antibacterials.

ANTIBACTERIALS

Chemicals that kill bacteria found in soaps and hand sanitizers

Your Results:

Personal Care Products

- your chemical level
- other people's chemical levels
- households where the chemical was not detected
Plastics Chemicals

Chemicals that are added to plastics

You were below the median in most plastics chemicals. Turn the page to see your results.

We found 9 plastics chemicals in your samples. Most people had less than 17.

How plastics chemicals get in your home

- These chemicals are found in vinyl products, food packaging, plastic toys, furniture, and other products.
- They come out of these products and collect in household dust.

Plastics chemicals and health

- Many of these chemicals are hormone disruptors. Some mimic estrogen or block androgen, so they may affect child development, fertility, and some cancers. Scientists are working to learn more.
- Some of these chemicals contribute to allergies and asthma.
- Some phthalates were banned in kids toys and cosmetics in Europe because of concerns about their effects on children's development.
What you can do for a healthy home

Your food

- Chemically may come out of plastic containers into your food or drinks. Use stainless steel or glass containers for food and drinks. Avoid microwaving food in plastic containers. Brew coffee in a French press instead of a plastic coffee maker.

- Processed foods tend to have more of these chemicals than fresh foods. Cook more meals at home with fresh ingredients.

- Chemicals used in food cans may get into your food. Choose fresh or frozen instead of canned food or drinks.

Your home

- Find alternatives to plastic. Go plastic- and vinyl-free when possible, including for shower curtains (choose untreated cloth or nylon instead), toys and flooring.

- Chemicals in plastic end up in your dust. Keep dust levels low. For example, wipe surfaces with a damp cloth and use a vacuum with a HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) filter to keep dust from getting back into the air.

Your life

- Advocate for a change in how consumer products and food packaging are made. Ask your favorite brands and stores to choose safer chemicals and join campaigns to get chemicals of concern out of food packaging and consumer products.
PHTHALATES

Plasticizers found in some plastics including vinyl plastics

DEHP

- **Air**
  - 810 ng/m³
- **Dust**
  - 2,300 µg/wipe

**Your Results:**

Plastics Chemicals

Green Housing Study

Your Family's Results 2015
Your Results:
Plastics Chemicals

PHTHALATES

Plasticizers found in some plastics including vinyl plastics

DINP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Air</th>
<th>Dust</th>
<th>Urine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You were below the median in:
- BBP
- DCHP
- DEHP related chemicals
- mCNP
- MiBP

Your chemical level: 22
Other people's chemical levels: 140
Households where the chemical was not detected: 93
### Your Results:

#### Plastics Chemicals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BISPHENOLS</th>
<th>PLASTICIZERS</th>
<th>PHTHALATE SUBSTITUTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Used in consumer plastics as plasticizers, especially for clear plastic products such as water bottles.</td>
<td>Used to increase plasticity.</td>
<td>Additives found in some plastics used instead of phthalates.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**You were below the median in all bisphenols.**

**You were below the median in all phthalate substitutes.**

#### DEHA

**Air**

- 140 ng/m³
- 56 ng/m³
- 23 ng/m³
- 9.7 ng/m³
- 4.0 ng/m³

**Dust**

- 51 µg/wipe
- 19 µg/wipe
- 7.2 µg/wipe
- 2.7 µg/wipe
- 1.0 µg/wipe

---

**Your home**

- Feb 2013
- 4.0

**Other people's chemical levels**

- 11
- 10
- 8
- 6
- 5

**Households where the chemical was not detected**
You were below the median in all alkylphenols.
The appendix lists every chemical in this report with how much of it was found in your home or your child’s urine. If a chemical was "not detected", that means the chemical was below the limit of detection. The chemical might not be there at all, or it might be at a very low level that we couldn’t measure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHEMICAL</th>
<th>FULL NAME</th>
<th>VISIT</th>
<th>DUST (µg/wipe)</th>
<th>AIR (ng/m³)</th>
<th>URINE (µg/L)</th>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22BBM13P</td>
<td>2,2-bisbromomethyl-1,3-propanediol</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23DB1P</td>
<td>2,3-dibromo-1-propanol</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-DCP</td>
<td>2,4-dichlorophenol</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-DCP</td>
<td>2,5-dichlorophenol</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHTN</td>
<td>6-acetyl-1,1,2,4,4,7-hexamethyltetraline</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.038</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Asthma, Fragrance Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBP</td>
<td>butylbenzyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Asthma, Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>monobenzyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>Asthma, Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BDE 47</td>
<td>2,2',4,4'-tetra-bromodiphenyl ether</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.083</td>
<td>0.062</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEH-TEBP</td>
<td>bis[2-ethylhexyl]tetabromophthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEMICAL</td>
<td>FULL NAME</td>
<td>VISIT</td>
<td>DUST (µg/wipe)</td>
<td>AIR (ng/m³)</td>
<td>URINE (µg/L)</td>
<td>CATEGORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>benzo(a)pyrene</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.047</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Combustion Byproducts - PAHs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BP</td>
<td>benzophenone</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Personal Care Product Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BP-3</td>
<td>benzophenone-3</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>Personal Care Product Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BPA</td>
<td>bisphenol A</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>butyl paraben</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>Personal Care Product Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carbaryl</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chlorpyrifos</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.012</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cotinine</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Asthma, Combustion Byproducts - PAHs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cypermethrin</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DBP</td>
<td>di-n-butyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Personal Care Product Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DBP related chemicals</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Personal Care Product Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEMICAL</td>
<td>FULL NAME</td>
<td>VISIT</td>
<td>DUST</td>
<td>AIR</td>
<td>URINE</td>
<td>CATEGORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>µg/wipe</td>
<td>ng/m³</td>
<td>µg/L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mono-n-butyl phthalate</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>Personal Care Product Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCHP</td>
<td>di-cyclohexyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td></td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DDT</td>
<td>4,4’-DDT</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEET</td>
<td>diethyltoluamide</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEHA</td>
<td>bis-2-ethylhexyl adipate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEHP</td>
<td>bis-2-ethylhexyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>42</td>
<td></td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEHP related chemicals</td>
<td>mono-2-ethyl-5-carboxypentyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mono-2-ethyl-5-hydroxyhexyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mono-2-ethyl-5-oxohexyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mono-2-ethylhexyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deltamethrin/tralomethrin</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEP</td>
<td>diethyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>260</td>
<td></td>
<td>Asthma, Fragrance Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>monoethyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Asthma, Fragrance Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEMICAL</td>
<td>FULL NAME</td>
<td>VISIT</td>
<td>DUST (µg/wipe)</td>
<td>AIR (ng/m³)</td>
<td>URINE (µg/L)</td>
<td>CATEGORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diazinon</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DINP</td>
<td>diisononyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mono carboxyisooctyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EH-TBB</td>
<td>2-ethylhexyl 2,3,4,5-tetrabromobenzoate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fipronil</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHCB</td>
<td>1,3,4,6,7,8-hexahydro-4,6,6,7,8,8-hexamethylocyclopenta-γ-2-benzopyran</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>130</td>
<td></td>
<td>Asthma, Fragrance Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lindane</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mCNP</td>
<td>mono carboxyisononyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mCPP</td>
<td>mono-3-carboxypropyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>Personal Care Product Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>methoxychlor</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>methyl paraben</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHINCH</td>
<td>cyclohexane-1 2-dicarboxylic acid monohydroxy isononyl ester</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>not detected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MiBP</td>
<td>mono-isobutyl phthalate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEMICAL</td>
<td>FULL NAME</td>
<td>VISIT</td>
<td>DUST</td>
<td>AIR</td>
<td>URINE</td>
<td>CATEGORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MK</td>
<td>musk ketone</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>Asthma, Fragrance Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MX</td>
<td>musk xylene</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>Asthma, Fragrance Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>naphthalene</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.0089</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Combustion Byproducts - PAHs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NP</td>
<td>4-t-nonylphenol</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCB 105</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Banned Industrial Chemicals - PCBs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCB 11</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td></td>
<td>Banned Industrial Chemicals - PCBs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCB 153</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td></td>
<td>Banned Industrial Chemicals - PCBs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCB 52</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td></td>
<td>Banned Industrial Chemicals - PCBs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCB 95</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Banned Industrial Chemicals - PCBs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>phenanthrene</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Combustion Byproducts - PAHs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEMICAL</td>
<td>FULL NAME</td>
<td>VISIT</td>
<td>DUST (µg/wipe)</td>
<td>AIR (ng/m³)</td>
<td>URINE (µg/L)</td>
<td>CATEGORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>piperonyl butoxide</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>propoxur</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>propyl paraben</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Personal Care Product Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pyrene</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Combustion Byproducts - PAHs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBOEP</td>
<td>tris(2-butoxyethyl) phosphate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBOPP</td>
<td>tri (4-t-butoxyphenol) phosphate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBPP</td>
<td>tris(4-tert-butylphenyl) phosphate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCEP</td>
<td>tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCIPP</td>
<td>tris(1-chloro-2-propyl) phosphate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDCIPP</td>
<td>tris(1,3-dichloro-isopropyl) phosphate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDCIPP related compound</td>
<td>1,3-dichloro-2-propanol</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TMPP</td>
<td>tricresyl phosphate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPHP</td>
<td>triphenyl phosphate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Flame Retardants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trans-permethrin</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Pesticides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEMICAL</td>
<td>FULL NAME</td>
<td>VISIT</td>
<td>DUST (µg/wipe)</td>
<td>AIR (ng/m³)</td>
<td>URINE (µg/L)</td>
<td>CATEGORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>triclosan</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>Asthma, Personal Care Product Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TXIB</td>
<td>2,2,4-trimethyl-1,3-pentanediol di-isobutyrate</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>not detected</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Plastics Chemicals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>