Hi Michael - below is a summary of our findings to date.

Blood lead testing in East Chicago is ongoing. We have reviewed preliminary results for children under the age of 6 currently living in the West Calumet Housing Complex (WCHC). Out of 94 children tested, who are under age 6 residing in WCHC, 18 (19%) have an initial result above 5 ug/dL (with no child under the age 6 above 10 ug/dL). For comparison, the 2015 rate of elevated blood lead was 4% in all of Indiana and 6% in Lake County. (These rates are based on statistics provided by Indiana State Department of Health, which includes children under the age of 7.)

Note: The blood sampling method used for most of the current testing is the “capillary or fingerstick” draw, with has the potential to overestimate the actual blood lead level. For anyone with a capillary blood lead reading greater than 5 ug/dL the East Chicago Health Department is now taking a confirmation sample using the “venous draw” method to confirm the blood lead measurement.