

# New York Ranks #1 in the Nation for Childhood Lead Exposure



## *Now is the Time to End New York's Immoral Childhood Lead Crisis*

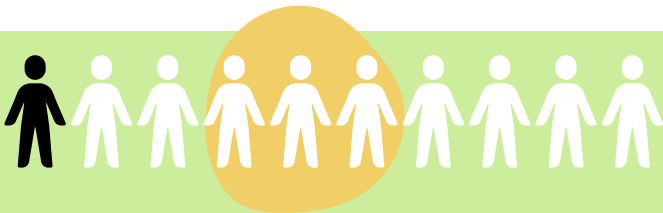
New York has no statewide system of mandatory proactive inspections of old housing likely to contain lead hazards. Instead, the state inspects homes for lead **after children have already tested positive for lead poisoning**, and relies on landlords to repair lead-poisoned housing – an often underfunded and inadequately enforced method. **Governor Hochul** and **Attorney General James** have recently voiced their commitment to tackle this crisis, so now is the time to take action to end lead exposure in New York once and for all.



Lead disproportionately impacts children of color and low-income children. The distribution of lead poisoned children along racial and socioeconomic lines affirms lead poisoning as a racial and environmental injustice



In 2017, 25 upstate counties had higher percentages of children testing positive for lead poisoning than in Flint, Michigan at the height of its crisis



In Syracuse, **one out of ten children** have elevated blood lead levels



In Buffalo, children in predominantly Black and Latino neighborhoods are **12x more likely** to get lead poisoning than children in white neighborhoods



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# 2024 Budget & Legislative Priorities



New York has the oldest housing stock in the United States. Nearly 78% of our State's housing stock was built before lead paint was banned. As a result, childhood lead exposure rates for communities across our state and in New York City are 5 to 6 times higher than those in Flint, Michigan at the peak of its water crisis.

## Budget Priorities

### Lead Poisoning Prevention Programming Increase

County health departments are in vital need of additional funding to implement existing state-mandated lead poisoning primary and secondary prevention programs. Although their budgets have remained relatively static, their caseloads have increased significantly over the last few years. It is vital that the State increase the line item for county health department lead programs by at least \$50M and restore funding to NYS Children's Health Centers (NYSHECK)

### Implementing Rental Registry (PHL 1377) and Proactive Lead Inspection Program

As part of this program, the State last year allocated \$20M to services and expenses of a lead abatement program to be administered through the housing trust fund corporation all over the state.

## Legislative Priorities

### Lead Paint Right to Know Act – S.2353 (Kavanagh) / A.4820 (Rivera)

Requires sellers or lessors of pre-1978 housing to disclose to buyers or renters any knowledge of lead-based paint in residence. It will require the NYS Department of Health to track and address homes that have lead present.

Currently, federal law only requires sellers to disclose what they know about lead in paint, which creates a disincentive to investigate. As a matter of social equality and public health, this bill confronts one of the primary avenues for lead exposure without placing an unfair financial burden on any of the parties involved in the sale or purchase of a property.

### Energy Retrofitting and Green Renovations that Address Lead Abatement

1. Ensure that contractors who undertake renovations and repairs to upgrade buildings for energy efficiency and electrification be trained in and use lead-safe work practices.
2. Leverage existing funds and programs to intertwine hazard abatement with these "green" improvements.

### Green Affordable Pre-Electrification (Gap) Funding for Low-to-Moderate Income Households

The GAP Fund will direct funding to help households address deferred maintenance issues and eliminate legacy environmental hazards like lead, mold, old roofs, and poor ventilation.

### Clean Water and Infrastructure Funding

We support at least \$100 million of Clean Water Infrastructure Act funding dedicated to lead service line replacement. We need an additional \$4.5B or \$450M over 10 years in the budget through a combination of existing state funding streams

### Landlord Insurance For Lead Based Paint – S.88 (Ryan) / A.1687 (J.D. Rivera)

### The Renovation, Repair and Painting Act – S.2191 (Bailey) / A.434A (Bronson)