

EL SALVADOR

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A. Regulation on sources

Source of lead	Relevant legislation/regulation	Government agencies	Data source
1. Remediation of lead contamination	1. Decree Number 171, October 25 th , 2012: Coordinate actions to remediate lead contamination. 2. No other standards found at this time for lead.	a. Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources b. Ministry of Treasury	1. Decree Number 171 , El Salvador

B. International Agreements

Agreement	Year Ratified
1. Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal	1991
2. Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for certain hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in international trade	1999
3. Minamata Convention on Mercury	2017 (a) ¹
4. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants	2008

¹ Accession (a)

C. Blood lead-level monitoring programs

Details	Data source
1. No details of a national or regional level structured program for blood lead level testing found. However, published studies point to some presence of testing programs at the local level.	1. Refer to section E on scientific papers that perform blood lead-level sampling

D. Inventory of toxic sites (Toxic Sites Identification Program (TSIP), Pure Earth)

Site	Province/Region	Details (all data comes from the TSIP website)
Grupo Record Facility, Sitio Del Nino, Opico, La Libertad	La Libertad	Remaining products from the closed Grip Record lead-acid battery facility have contaminated the soil and air of Sitio Del Nino with lead. Residents are exposed through dust, and tests show lead in their blood.
Canton Sitio Del Niño, En San Juan Opico	La Libertad	No details.
Rancho La Concha	Puerto de La Libertad	No details.
AGROGELL	San Miguel	No details.

E. Scientific papers on lead exposure (Please contact info@gahp.net for information on studies not in the public domain)

Topic	Authors	Year	Title	Abstract/ description
Lead exposure	Romieu, Isabelle; Lacassana, Marina; McConnell, Rob; Lead Research	1997	Lead Exposure in Latin America and the Caribbean	Abstract: As a result of the rapid industrialization of Latin America and the Caribbean during the second half of this century, exposure to lead has become an increasingly important problem. To obtain an estimate of the magnitude of lead exposure in the region, we carried out a survey and a literature search on potential sources of lead exposure and on blood lead concentrations. Sixteen out of 18 Latin American and 2 out of 10 Caribbean

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	Group of the Pan-American Health Organization			countries responded to this survey. Lead in gasoline remains a major problem, although the lead content has decreased in many countries in the last few years. The impact of leaded fuel is more important in urban settings, given their high vehicular density. Seventy-five percent of the population of the region lives in urban areas, and children younger than 15 years of age, the most susceptible group, comprise 30% of the population. Other sources of lead exposure identified in the region included industrial emissions, battery recycling, paint and vanishes, and contaminated food and water. Lead is recognized as a priority problem by national authorities in 72% of the countries that responded to the survey, and in 50% of the countries some legislation exists to regulate the lead content in certain products. However, compliance is low. There is an urgent need for a broad-based coalition between policy makers, industry, workers, unions, health care providers, and the community to take actions to reduce environmental and occupational lead exposures in all the Latin American and Caribbean countries.
Lead poisoning	De Burgos, Hugo	2015	The Site of Lead: Social Poisoning in El Salvador	Abstract: This article explores lead contamination, or plumbism, as both an illness and a symptom of social suffering caused by unscrupulous corporations operating with the complicity of corrupt governments and backed up by medical bad faith in El Salvador. I explore how the biomedical model of disease (as a quantifiable phenomenon) is used politically to contest and delegitimize victims of plumbism, privileging economic progress over human welfare. I examine the tensions between official narratives and people's narratives of illness and their relationship to an ideology of industrial development and economic prosperity in El Salvador.
	Leffert, Mike	2007	Large Population, Many Children Suffer Lead Poisoning; El Salvador Shuts Down Major Battery Factory	Abstract: In El Salvador, high levels of lead have sickened significant numbers of children, students at the Centro Escolar Comunidad Rural Sitio del Nino in San Juan Opico. Since May, more than 40 children from the school have left the school after tests showed blood levels of lead higher than 30 micrograms per deciliter (mcg/dl), where anything over 10 mcg/dl is considered toxic. The center is 400 meters from a battery plant, Baterias de El Salvador, lead recyclers and makers of Record Batteries. School officials have repeatedly asked that the school be moved but to no avail. After months of dawdling, Minister of Education Darlyn Meza said in August, "The

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				<p>safest thing is that the school should not function another year. We have to see about putting more classrooms in other places and talk with the teachers about how to relocate." The response was clearly inadequate and prompted San Juan Opico residents to demonstrate at the city hall for cancellation of the battery company's permit to operate. They collected signatures for compensation for the affected children. They have formed the Movimiento Sin Plomo from seven nearby communities and asked for blood testing of all residents. After some weeks without an adequate response to the protesting communities, the Fundacionde Estudios para la Aplicacion del Derecho (FESPAD) stepped in and announced in September it would launch an international lawsuit with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights(IACHR) in Washington. This would be a first step toward a trial before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR)in Costa Rica. "We expect to coordinate the suit against the state with other organizations, like the Procuraduria para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos and locally affected organizations," said FESPAD coordinator Danilo Flores. He said a decision to go to the international authorities rather than exhaust local remedies was based on the need to get some awareness of the situation. "The motive is to sound an alarm about something irreparable that is happening." The government had no immediate response to the announcement.</p>

F. Blood testing in National Health Surveys

National Health Survey	Non-Communicable Diseases Risk-Factors Surveillance	Source
Purpose	To provide updated information; to assess the situation of boys and girls and women; to generate data necessary for monitoring the progress made in various fields and make greater efforts in the areas that require more attention to favor the well-being of children and women, etc.	Encuesta Nacional de Salud , El Salvador

Sample size	20 households in each of the 708 areas, including women from 15 to 49 years old; children younger than 5 years old.	
Blood sample testing	HIV/AIDS testing.	
Latest round	2014 (published in 2016)	
Next round	-	