

## INTRODUCTION TO DECEMBER 2020

### AIR SAMPLING REPORTS

The following reports are from a sampling event conducted from November 30 through December 11, 2020, where air samples were collected at random interior locations throughout the Goodfellow Federal Center. A total of 157 air samples, plus 22 blanks, were collected from within 14 buildings. Samples were analyzed for seven target metals: arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, selenium, and silver, resulting in 1,099 data points. The testing was part of GSA's continual check for airborne levels of heavy metals by taking air samples inside tenant spaces at least twice a year.

Most sample results (99.6%) were at levels less than the reporting limit for the analytical methods. There were four (4) samples that resulted in reportable levels of lead. One of the samples also resulted in a reportable level of barium. GSA Region 6 uses 1.0 microgram of lead in a cubic meter of air ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) as its action level, which conforms to [World Health Organization guidelines](#). Although non-occupational guidelines for barium in air are not available, [studies](#) have found that levels of barium in air rarely exceed 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The results are as follows:

- In Building 103, a sample resulted in a lead level of 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The sample was collected in the pipe chase closet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor by column H33. This area is accessed by contractors only and was added to the list of restricted areas, which require an accepted Site-Specific Safety Plan prior to being allowed access.
- In Building 105, reportable levels of lead were found in 2 samples from two laboratory rooms on the second floor, 320 and 358. These resulted in concentrations of 0.63 and 0.36  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  of lead, respectively. The sample from 320 also resulted in a concentration of 1.9  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  of barium. Since the levels were below the action levels, no further action is required at this time.
- In Building 107, a sample resulted in a lead level of 1.4  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The sample was collected in the DCD Conference Room. The room was recleaned and another air sample was collected. This resulted in levels less than the reporting limit for the analytical methods. Routine cleaning of this room will be continued.
- No reportable levels were found of arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, selenium, or silver in the remaining 153 samples (1,094 data points).

The Point of Contact for each tenant agency is being notified of the results for the building they occupy. If you have any questions concerning these data, please email [r6environmental@gsa.gov](mailto:r6environmental@gsa.gov) and GSA will provide responses from the appropriate experts.