

INTRODUCTION TO MAY 2019 WIPE SAMPLING REPORTS

The following reports are from a sampling event in May 2019 where wipe samples were collected at representative interior locations throughout the Goodfellow Federal Center. A total of 179 wipe samples, plus 22 blanks, were collected from within 17 buildings. Samples were analyzed for seven target metals: arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium (Total), lead, selenium, and silver. The testing was part of GSA's continual check for surface levels of heavy metals inside tenant spaces.

The sample results were compared to the recommended surface wipe criteria established by the Brookhaven National Laboratory (June 23, 2017). These guidelines are for arsenic, cadmium, chromium, and lead. None of the wipe samples exceeded the criteria levels for arsenic, cadmium and chromium.

The Brookhaven National Laboratory recommends different criteria for lead on surface levels depending on the type of environment, with the lowest being 40 micrograms per square foot of surface. Three wipe samples were found to exceed this criterion level. These samples were from areas that tenants do not occupy on a continual basis. GSA is working with the housekeeping and industrial hygiene contractors to clean the areas and continue monitoring.

Of the 179 samples taken, two resulted in elevated levels of barium. Brookhaven does not provide guidance on surface levels for barium. GSA is working with the housekeeping and industrial hygiene contractors to clean the areas and continue monitoring.

If you have any questions concerning these data, please email r6environmental@gsa.gov and GSA will provide responses from the appropriate experts.