



RESTORING HOPE TO A PEOPLE.
PROVIDING HELP TO THE PLANET.

In Pursuit of Environmental Justice

American Public Health Association
November 17, 2020
Donele Wilkins



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Mission

- The Green Door Initiative (GDI) works to ensure that every person is environmentally literate capable of practicing and promoting a sustainable lifestyle.



Defining the Environment

- Where We Live
- Where We Work
- Where We Play
- Where We Learn
- Physical and Natural World





Xavier Joe- 10 Years Old

- September 28, 2012
- Another senseless death-
- Young African American Youth
- Die to Asthma

Flint

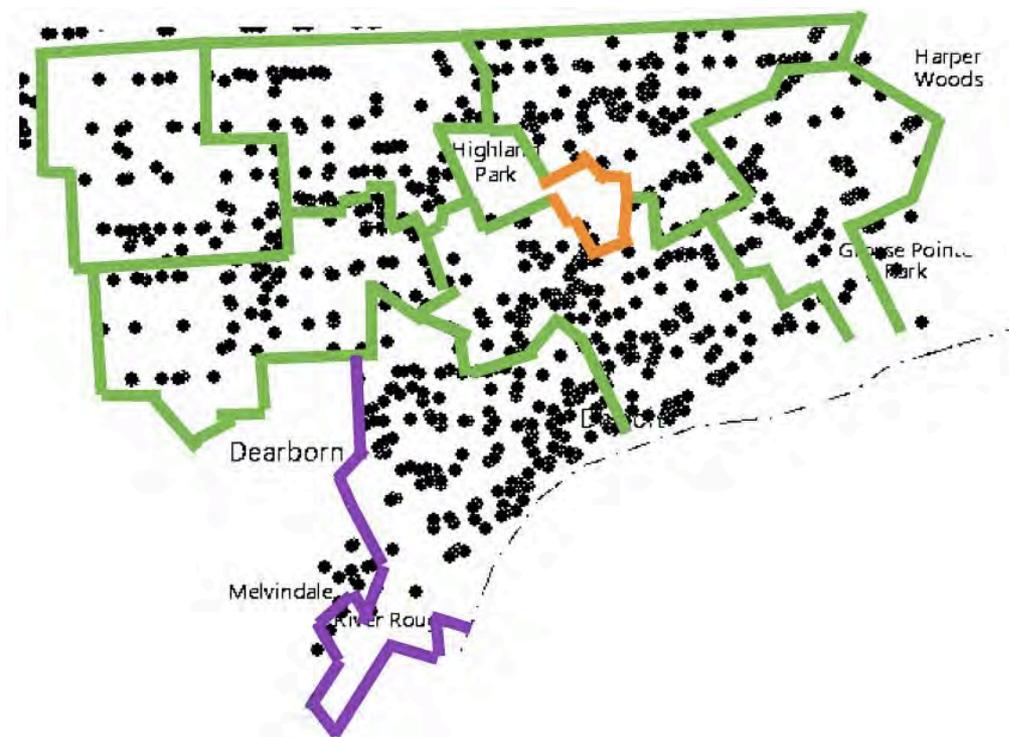


Up to 12,000 children poisoned

Detroit

Is one of the **most polluted** cities in the U.S.

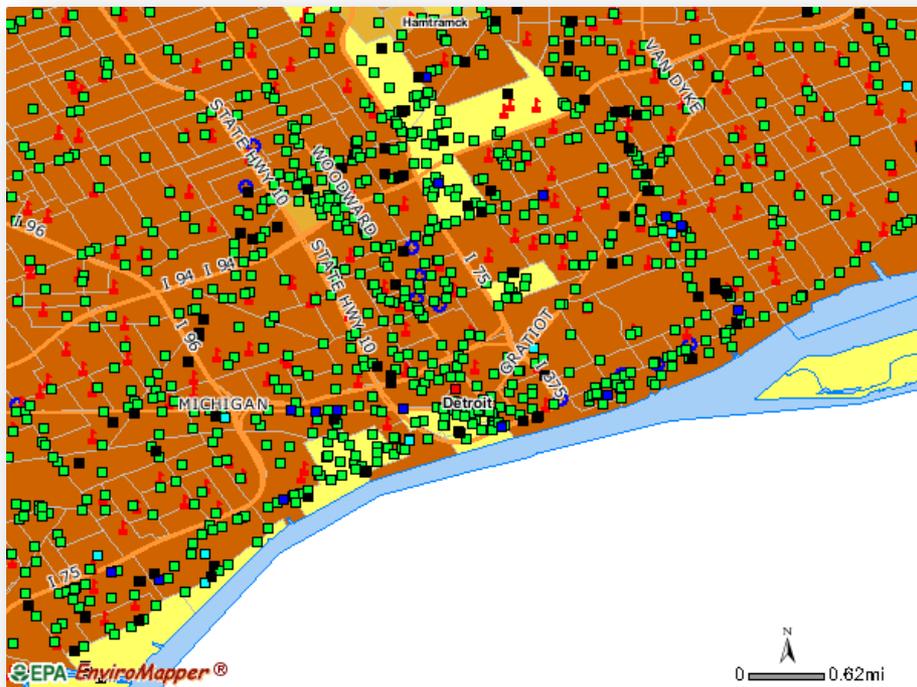
65,000
contaminated
sites



Only **250**
cleaned up

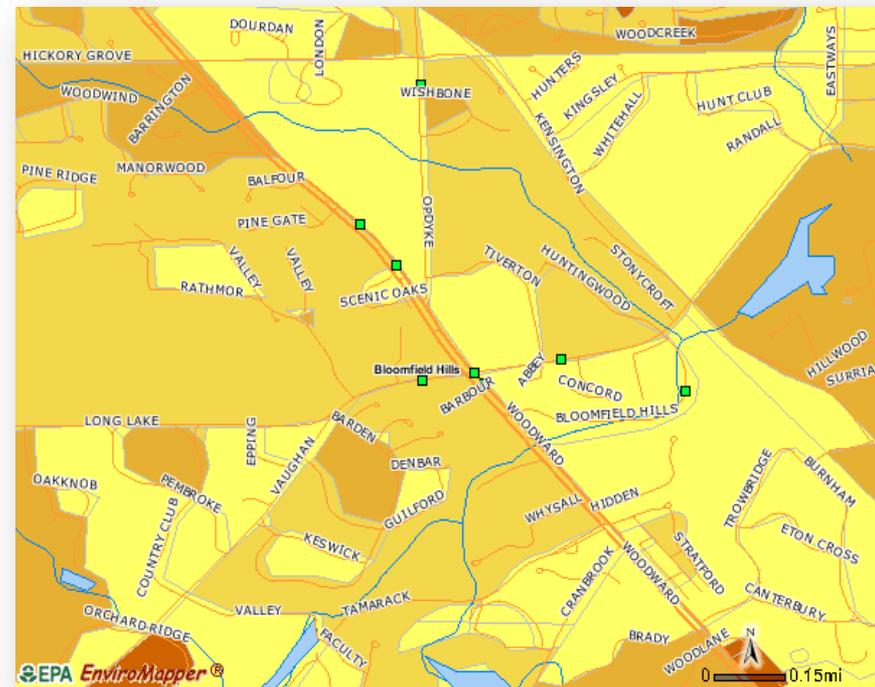
History of Injustice: Toxic Releases

Detroit



EPA EnviroMapper®
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West Bloomfield



EPA EnviroMapper®

Detroit EJ Examples



Who is most likely to get asthma?

- **Children**
 - (5 -14 years old)
- **Urban poor**
 - At or below poverty level
- **Certain ethnic minorities**



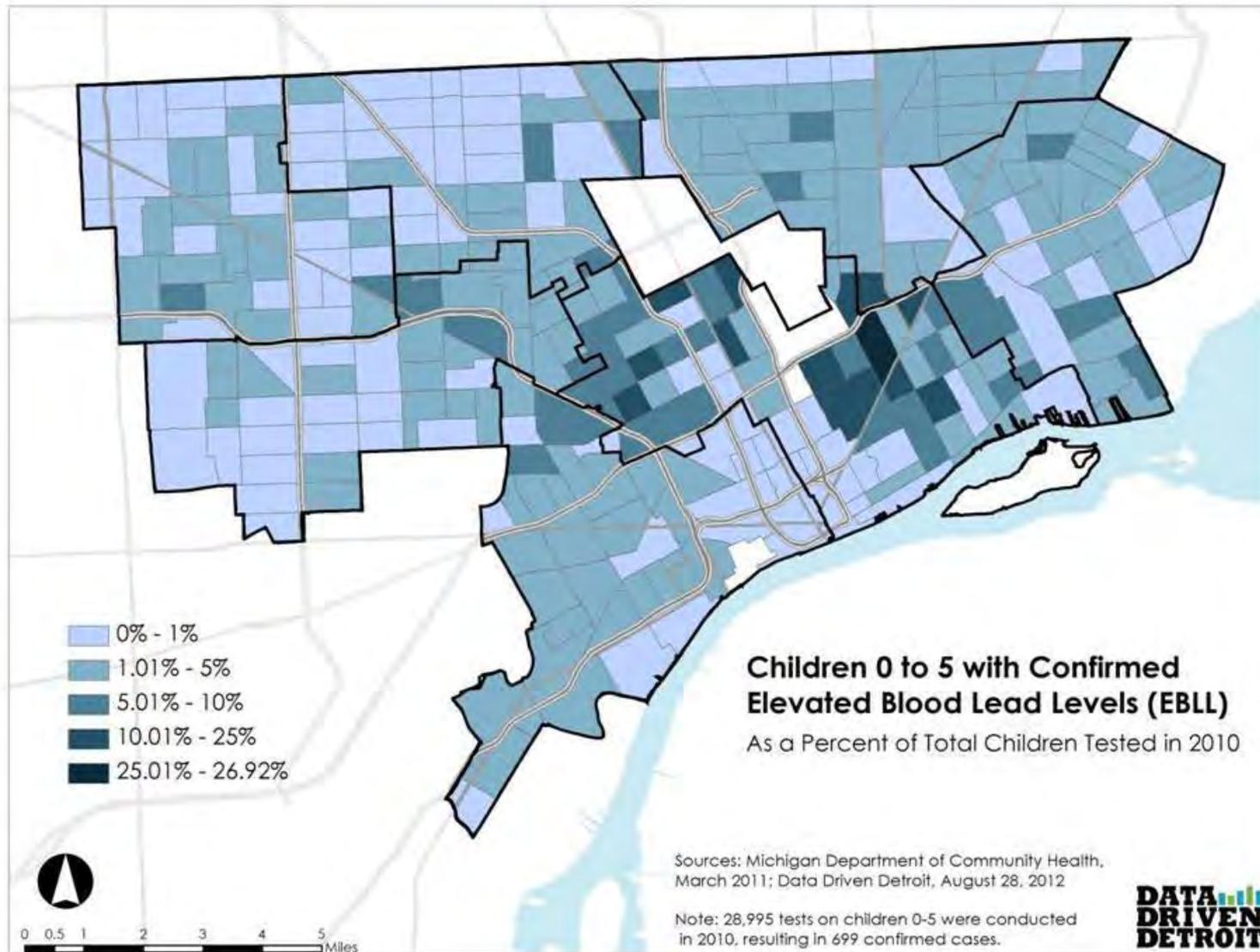
Detroit Asthma Stats

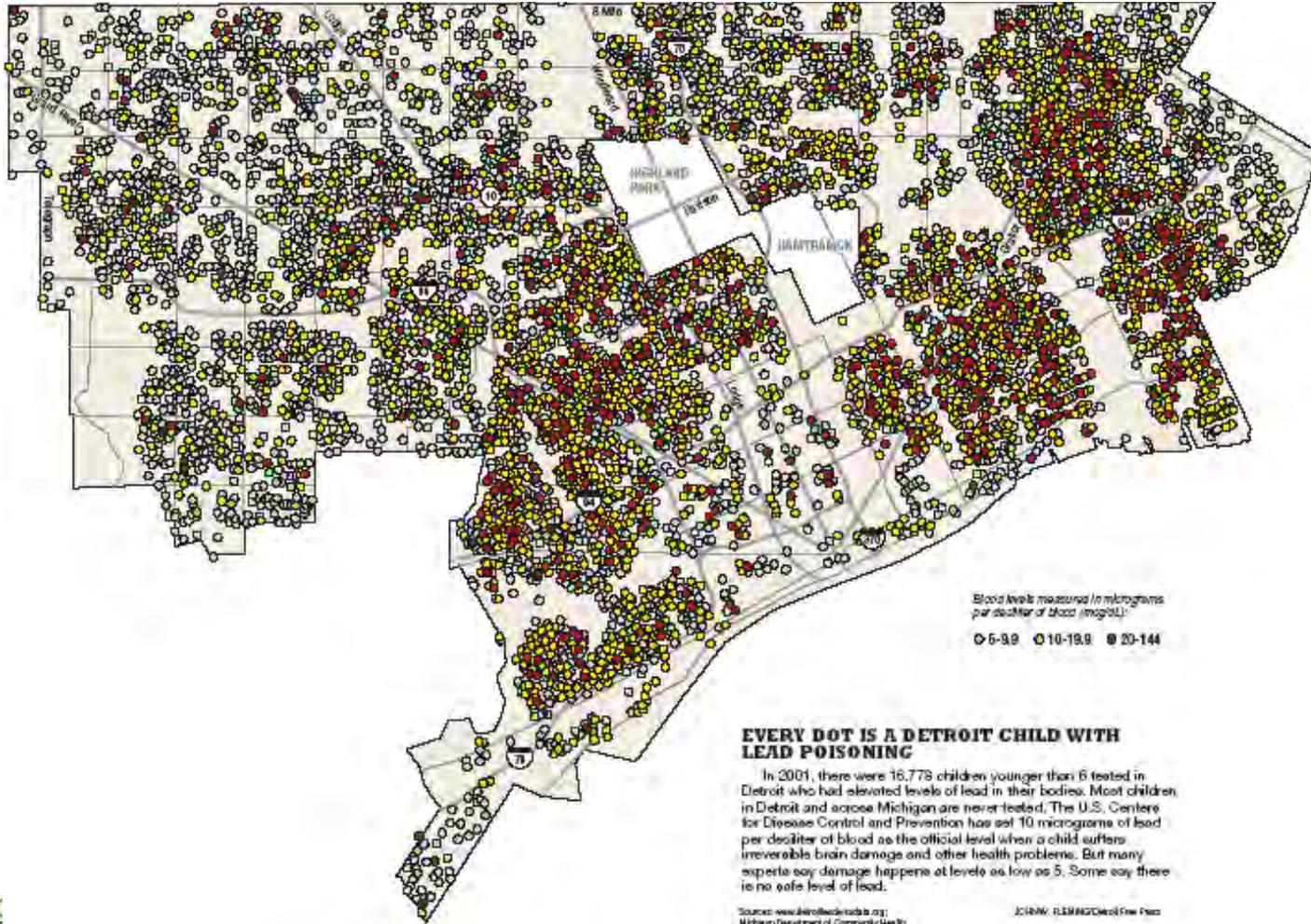
- Approximately 18% of the Detroit Population has asthma
- Third most common cause of preventable hospitalizations in Detroit (leading cause in Detroit Children)
- Pediatric hospitalization for Detroit is **3 times** the rate for the state of Michigan

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EVERY DOT IS A DETROIT CHILD WITH LEAD POISONING

In 2001, there were 16,778 children younger than 6 tested in Detroit who had elevated levels of lead in their bodies. Most children in Detroit and across Michigan are never tested. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has set 10 micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood as the official level when a child suffers irreversible brain damage and other health problems. But many experts say damage happens at levels as low as 5. Some say there is no safe level of lead.

Source: www.leadinroads.org; Michigan Department of Community Health

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