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Agency of Human Services

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Bennington, VT 05201

Dear:

Thank you for taking part in the perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) blood testing conducted by the Vermont Department of Health. Your blood test result is provided on the back of this page. There you will also find information about PFOA blood levels in the general U.S. population, and a chart showing results of other people who participated in blood testing for the Bennington/North Bennington PFOA investigation.

What does my test result mean? Almost everyone in the U.S. has PFOA in their blood. The result of your blood test can tell if the level of PFOA in your blood is lower than, similar to, or higher than blood levels found in the general population. If your drinking water is contaminated with PFOA, and it was your main source of drinking water, you will have more PFOA in your blood than most people in the U.S. The higher the concentration of PFOA in your drinking water, the higher the level of PFOA will likely be in your blood.

PFOA will gradually leave your body. It takes about two to four years for PFOA blood levels to reduce by half.

It's important to know what your test result cannot tell you. Your test result cannot tell you if your exposure to PFOA will cause you health problems in the future, or if a condition you have now was caused by this exposure.

Studies have shown a link between levels of PFOA in the blood and health problems such as high cholesterol, thyroid disease, kidney cancer and testicular cancer. We recommend that you consult with your health care provider if you have specific concerns about your health as it relates to your test result. The information can become part of your medical history, and may help inform discussions about your health with your doctor. If you gave your consent, a copy has also been sent to the health care provider you named.

A full report on the project findings will be available on our website in a few months. This report will include information from the questionnaire and drinking water test results. Your individual test result will be kept private. Only a summary of all the results, without names or identifying information, will be made public.

If you have any questions about your test result, please call us at 1-800-439-8550.



PFOA Blood Test Result

Your test result:
XXX µg/L
µg /L = micrograms of PFOA per liter of blood

***Most people in the U.S. have less than 5.7 µg/L of PFOA in their blood.**

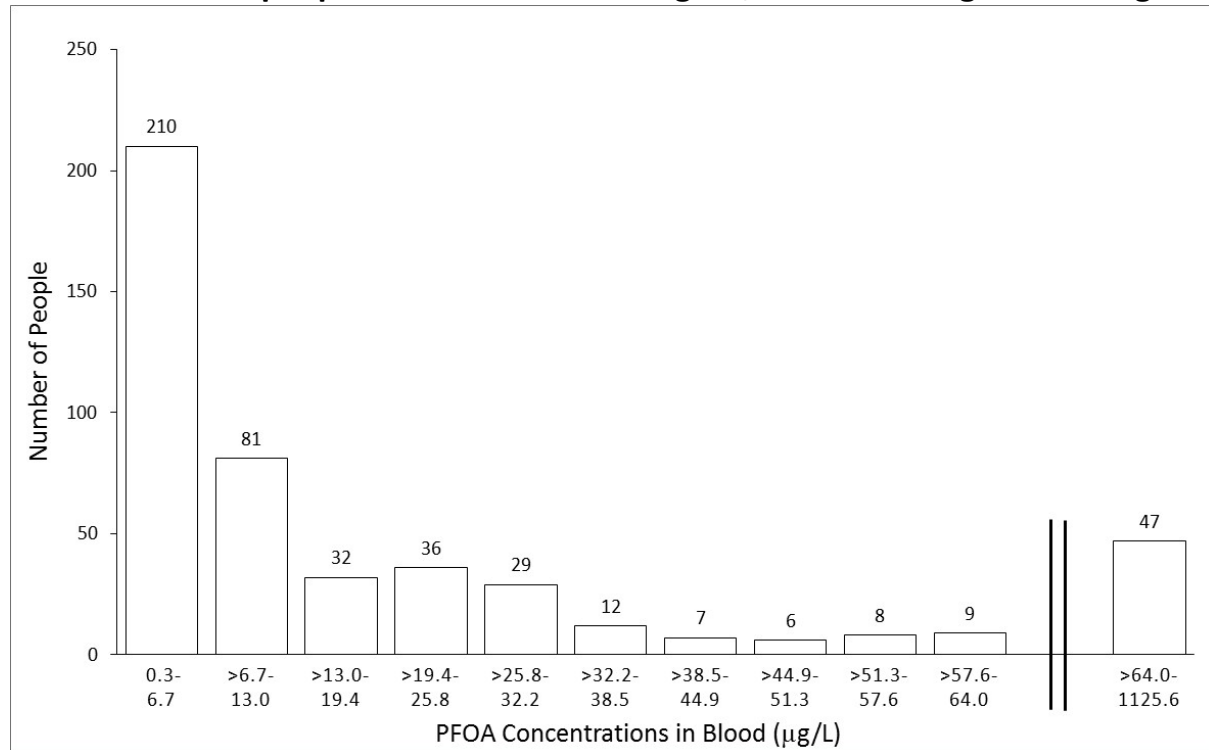
PFOA blood levels for the U.S. population are based on results from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES). NHANES results are from a random sample of the U.S. population (age 12 and older) taken in 2011-2012.

*“Most” represents the 95th percentile for the U.S. population. In other words, 95% of the people sampled had results below 5.7 µg/L.

For the Bennington/North Bennington investigation, 477 PFOA blood results were received. The results range from 0.3 to 1125.6 µg/L. The geometric mean - a type of average - is 10.0 µg/L compared to 2.1 µg/L for the U.S. population. The 95th percentile is 158.8 µg/L.

Your result falls into the 0.3 to 6.7 µg/L category shown below.

PFOA results for people tested in the Bennington/North Bennington investigation



Note: The double black line (||) signifies a change in the PFOA concentration interval width in order to present all of the results on one chart – the range of test results represented in the bar on the far right is greater than the others presented. There is no clinical significance to this distinction.