

JULY 17, 2024

Annual Membership Meeting
Filter First Approach
(Introduction)

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LEAD-FREE



Overview:

- Lead Service lines vs Indoor Lead Plumbing
- Testing Standard/ Why Filtration Matters
- Requirements for Schools / Testing is not enough
- Model Approach
- Michigan's Example

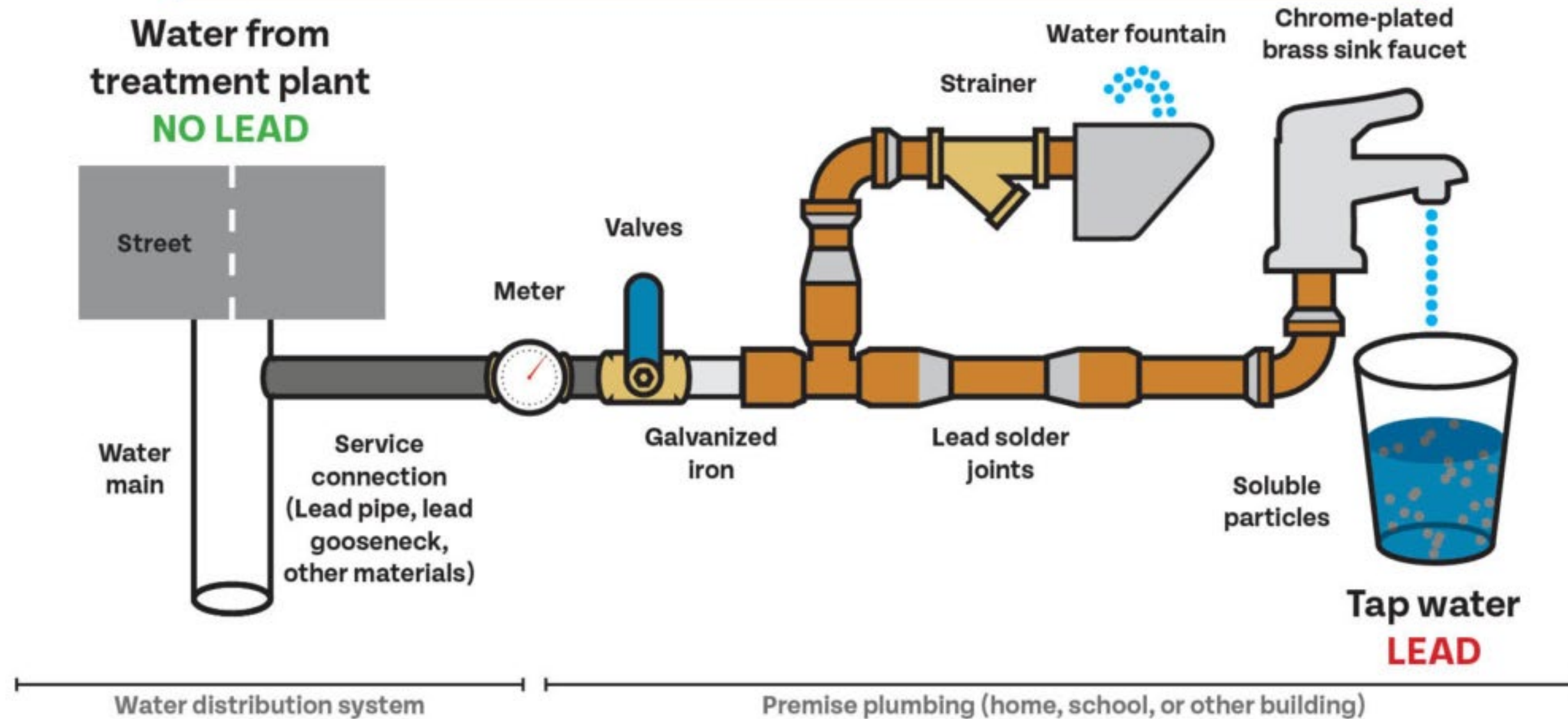
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Lead Pipes vs Lead Plumbing

Potential sources of lead contamination in tap water of homes, schools and other buildings



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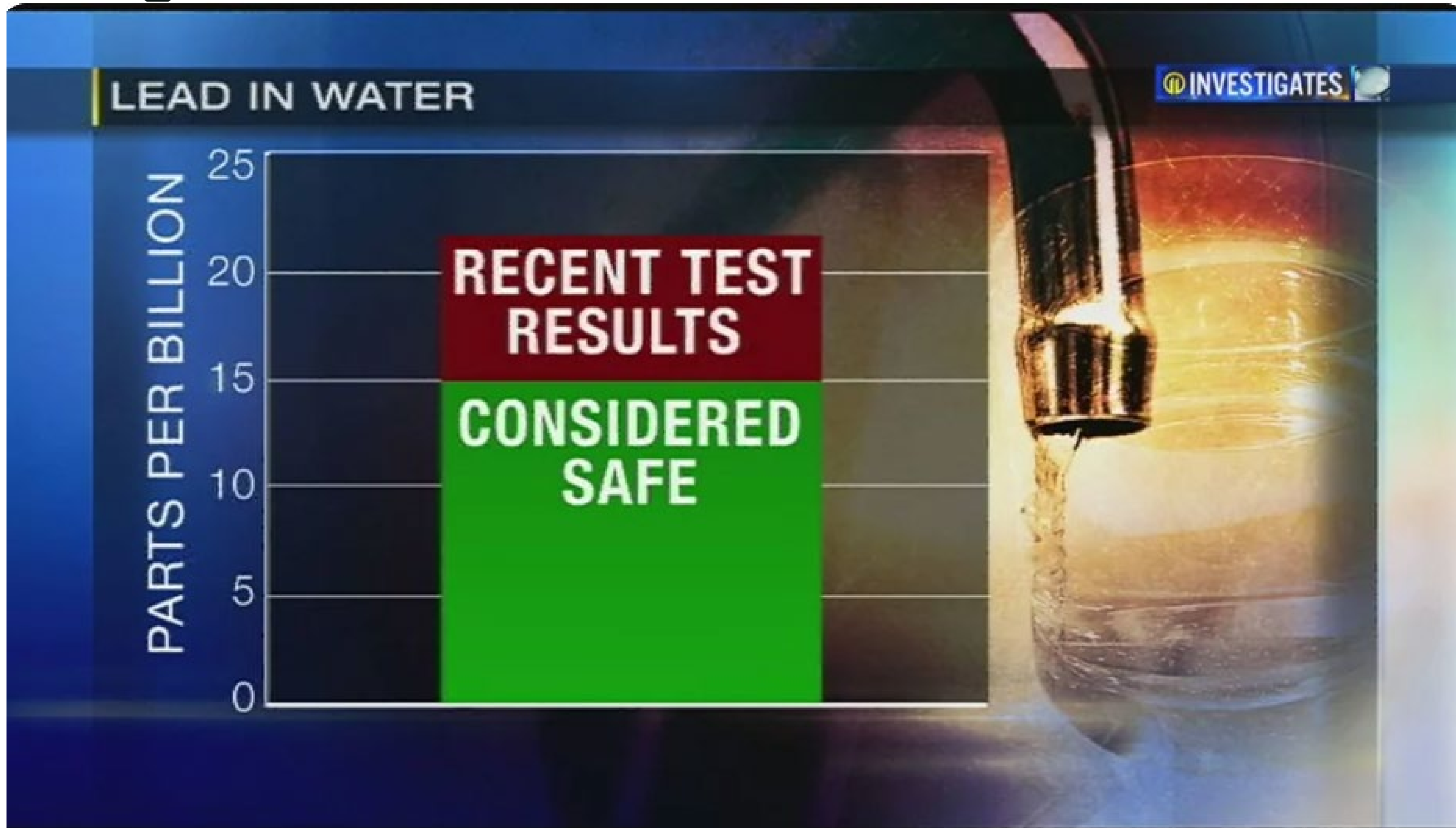


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Testing standards



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Testing Is Not Enough!

- The federal government doesn't require schools to test for lead
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency only requires that public water systems take action to address lead contamination when they find lead levels of **15 parts per billion or more.**
- In NJ, Schools are on a 3 year testing schedule
- No remediation required

There is no safe level of Lead !

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FILTRATION IS A MUST

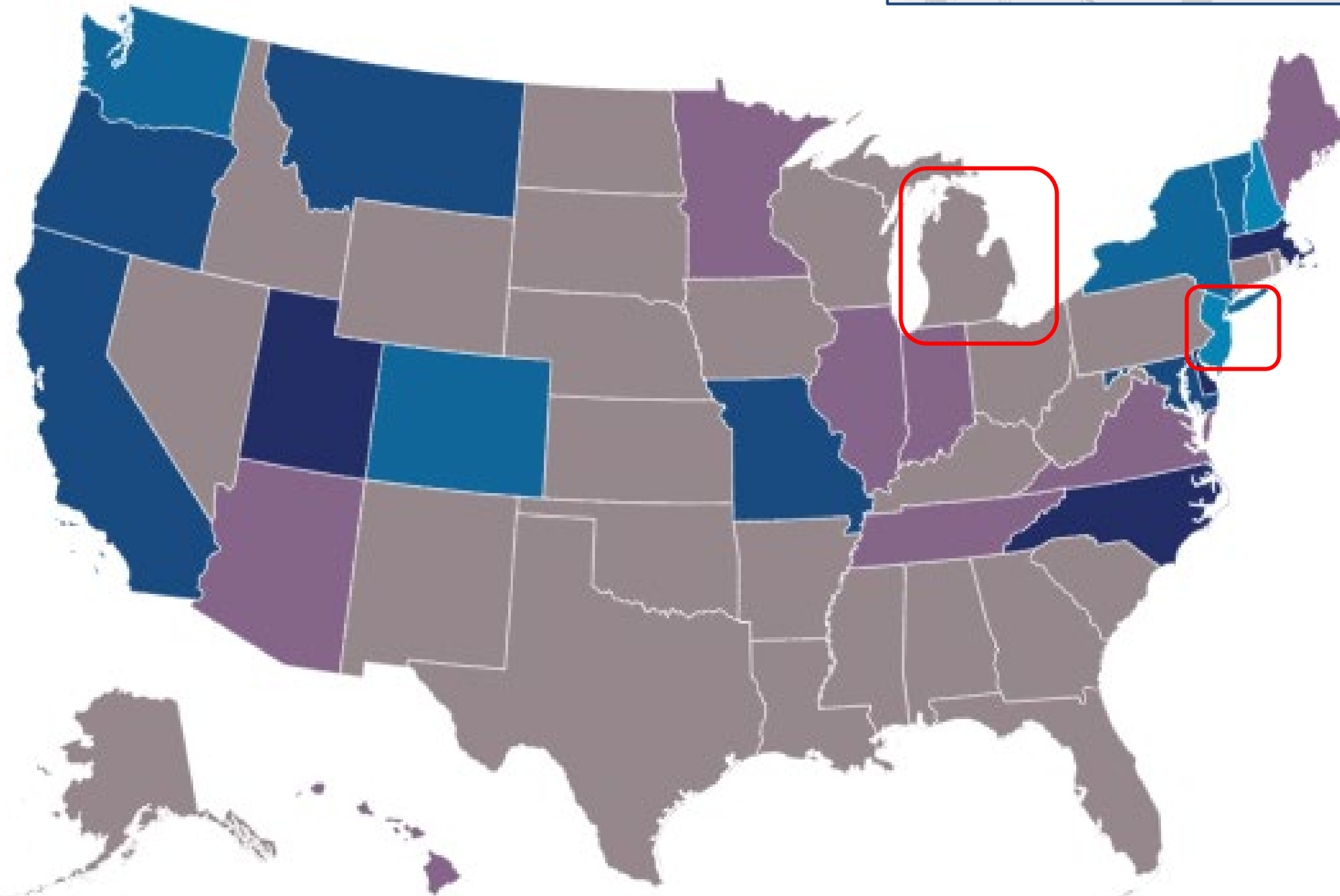
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Lead in schools' water

Grade: F D C- C C+ B- B+



Michigan: F 20/200 ✕

Nearly a decade after the advent of the Flint water crisis, Michigan still has no law or regulation to stop lead contamination of schools' drinking water. The state has set a 20 year deadline for replacement of all lead service lines, for which we

New Jersey: B- 112/200 ✕

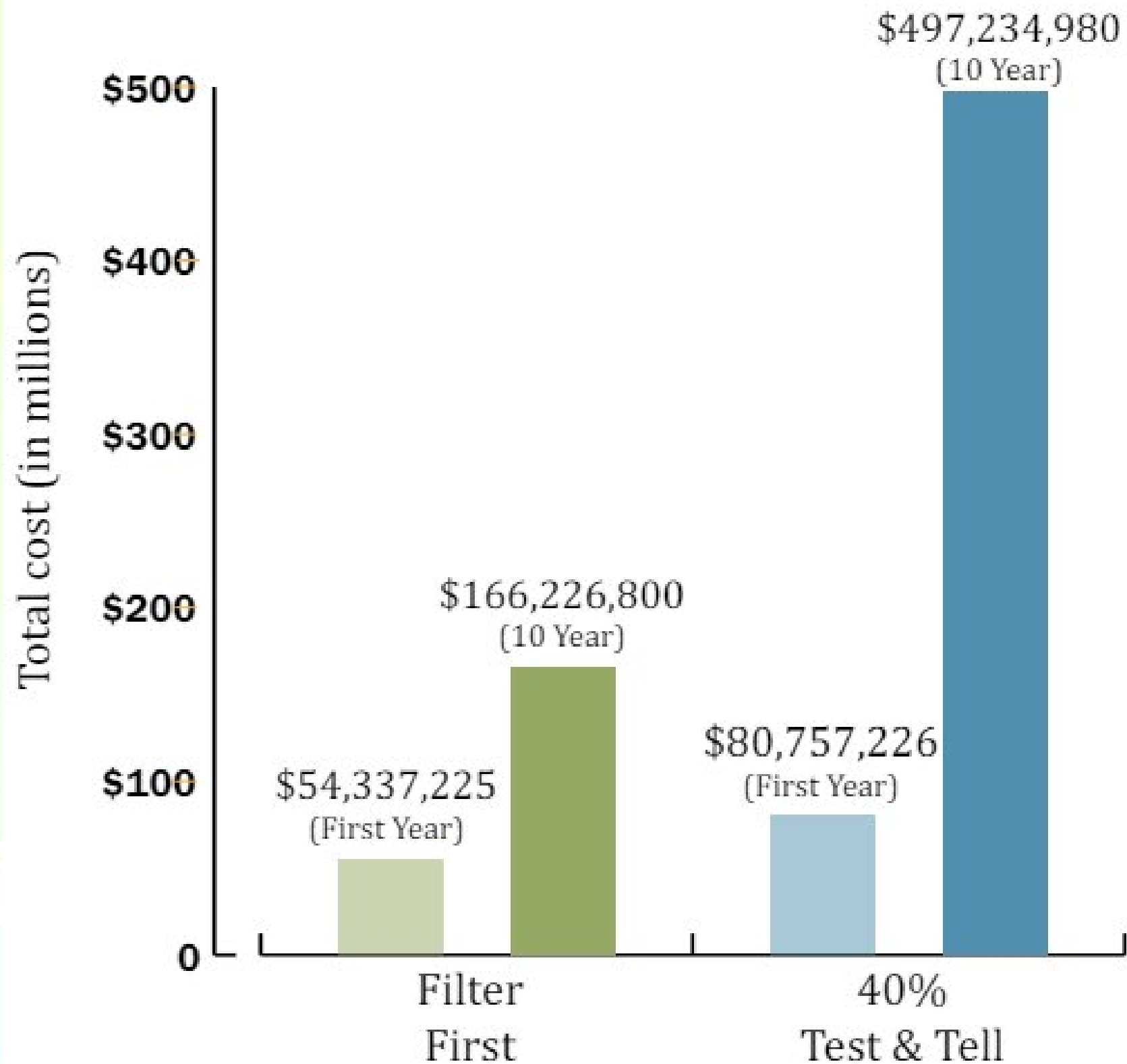
New Jersey has fairly weak "test and fix" rules on lead in water at schools and child care that only limit lead to the federal action level (currently 15 ppb). (Testing is every 3 years and online disclosure of test results and remediation is required.) In

The graph shows that both the first year and the 10-year costs of the Filter First are significantly lower than the Test and Tell costs. The 10-year cost savings may be as much as \$331 million.



Michigan Projected Costs

Filter First versus Test & Partial Fixture Replacement



Model Approach to Lead -Free Drinking Water in Schools

NRDC Model law available for States -Here's how it works:

First , the schools and child care centers must inventory and map their water taps.

Second, the schools and child care centers must install signs on taps that cannot be used as drinking water, (such as a sink in a janitor's closet or in a classroom) stating that it is not to be used for drinking water.

Third , for the taps that will be used for drinking water, schools and child care centers must install **certified filters**.

Fourth , each designated drinking water tap, which will already have a filter on it as required by this model law, will then be tested for lead.

- <https://www.nrdc.org/bio/joan-leary-matthews/get-lead-out-drinking-water-schools-model-law>
- <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/get-lead-out-school-drinking-water-act-model-legislation.pdf>

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Example: Michigan's Filter First Requirements

(Public Acts 154, 155, and 173 of 2023)

- Schools and child care centers must complete Drinking Water Management Plans by 1.24.25.
- Child care centers ensure that water furnished to children is from a filtered source by 10.24.25.
- Schools have approved filters on all designated fixtures by the end of the 2025 -2026 school year.
- Schools and child care centers must do ongoing sampling and certify compliance with requirements once filters are installed.

Schools must sample annually, and child care centers must sample every two years .