

# Lead concentration in soil surrounding Whiteman Airport

## Background

Whiteman airport is a general aviation airport located in the city of Pacoima, CA. The cessnas used at this airport operate on lead-based fuel. Soil samples were taken in the areas surrounding the airport to measure the levels of lead.

## Methodology

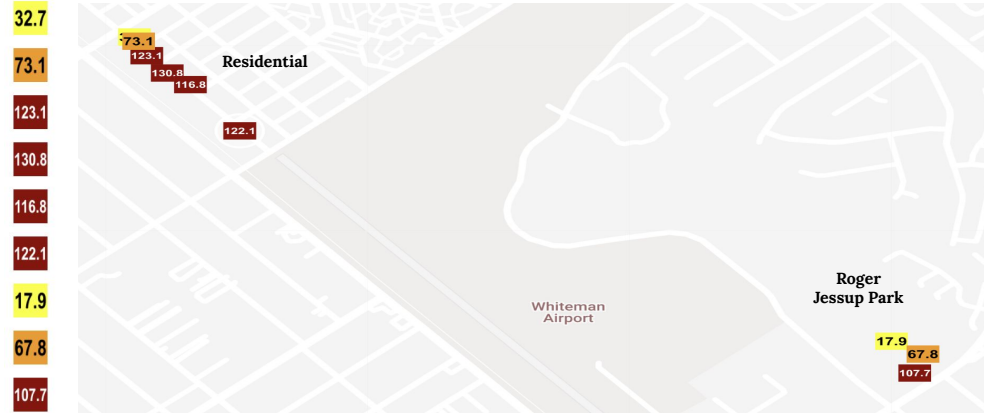
The sample locations were chosen based on their proximity to plane landing and takeoff paths. Soil was collected with plastic spoons and left to dry before being analyzed. Each sample was tested for lead three times, and the average ppm (parts per million) of Pb was assigned to the respective sample.



## Question

How much lead contamination is there in the soil surrounding Whiteman airport?

## Data



Although the California residential lead threshold is 80 ppm, there is no safe level of lead.

## Analysis

The lead samples revealed Pb levels ranging from 17.9 ppm to 130.8 ppm. The contamination seemed to be higher in the residential areas.

## Moving Forward

Next steps could include collecting more data, comparing this data to Pb levels in other parts of Pacoima, or adding this data to already existing databases.