

PFAS in Firefighters of Michigan Surveillance (PFOMS) Project

How to Read Your PFAS Blood Test Results

This sheet may help you understand your blood test results for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS are a large group of individual chemicals that can impact human health. Your test results are shown in a separate document. Your results table will include 39 types of PFAS. An example results table is provided below with an explanation for each column.

Table 1. Example of PFAS Blood Test Results and NHANES Comparison Ranges

Name: Doe, John

Collection Date: 01/01/2020

1 Name of PFAS	2 Your Result (µg/L)	3 NHANES Reference Range 50th – 95th Percentile (µg/L)
PFOA – total Perfluorooctanoic Acid	1.35	1.47-3.87
n-PFOA – <i>linear isomers of PFOA</i>	1.35	1.40-3.80
Sb-PFOA – <i>serum branched isomers of PFOA</i>	ND	<LOD-0.200

NAME OF PFAS

1

This column includes the name of each PFAS your blood was tested for.

- Certain PFAS have two different isomers (physical shapes) that are measured: linear and branched. These isomers are listed separately in the results, beneath a row for the total of both types of isomers.

YOUR RESULT (µg/L)

2

This column includes the results for each PFAS measured in micrograms per liter (µg/L)

- If you see **ND** (Not Detected) where your results should be, this means that particular PFAS was not found in your blood.
- If you see **<** next to where your results should be, this means that particular PFAS was found in your blood, but your result was below the amount that the laboratory equipment can accurately report. When this happens, the laboratory can only report that the amount was less than the reporting limit that is shown.

NHANES REFERENCE RANGE (µg/L)



Your blood test results table shows the most recent PFAS blood levels of people in the U.S. who were part of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES). Your blood test result is compared to the 50th and 95th percentile result from NHANES. NHANES results are only available for some PFAS types. Percentiles are a way to compare one person's results to the results of a group of people.

- The NHANES **50th percentile** is a result that 50% of results are below and 50% are above.
- The NHANES **95th percentile** range a result that 95% of results are below and 5% of results are above.
- The **50th to 95th percentile range** tells you the span of NHANES results between these two percentiles.
 - **Not available** means that particular PFAS was not measured in NHANES.
 - **<LOD**, or less than the Limit of Detection, means NHANES didn't detect enough of that PFAS among their participants to accurately measure.

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR RESULTS?



If you have any questions, please call the PFOMS project team at 844-464-7323 or visit Michigan.gov/DEHbio.

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT PFOMS OR OTHER MDHHS PROJECTS?

Visit Michigan.gov/DEHbio or call 844-464-7327.

