Arsenic Levels in New Orleans Area Sediment Samples

EPA Standards
- 0.0 - 0.39 mg/kg: Below level of concern
- 0.4 - 7.0 mg/kg: Above soil screening level (1 in 1,000,000 cancer risk)
- 7.1 - 12.0 mg/kg: Above soil screening level
- 12.1 - 39.0 mg/kg: Above soil screening level
- 39.0 - 202.5 mg/kg: Above soil screening level (1 in 10,000 cancer risk)

LDEQ Standards
- Below statewide average concentration in soil
- Above statewide average concentration in soil
- Greater than statewide average concentration in soil
- Above residential evaluation/cleanup level

Units in milligrams per kilogram of soil (mg/kg)

*Arithmetic mean

Sources:
- Sediment samples, Environmental Protection Agency, Sept 10, 2005-Jan 15, 2006, <oaspub.epa.gov/storetkp/dw_home>
- Soil screening levels, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ)
- EPA's Region 6 Human Health Medium-Specific Screening Levels <www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6pd/rcra_c/pd-n/screen.htm>
- Planning districts & neighborhood boundaries, New Orleans City Planning; streets & water, Census TIGER; data analysis, NRDC.
Levels of Diesel-Range Organics in New Orleans Area Sediment Samples

- ≤ 65: Below LDEQ management or evaluation level
- 66 - 650: Above LDEQ screening level for management or evaluation
- 651 - 17,400.0: Above LDEQ level for more in-depth evaluation or management

Units in milligrams per kilogram soil (mg/kg)

Note: The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) has designated different levels of this contaminant as triggering different levels of review.

Note: Due to extremely high and variable limits of detection in the EPA sampling, the non-detections were excluded from this map.

Sources:
- Sediment samples, Environmental Protection Agency, Sept 10, 2005-Jan 15, 2006 <oaspub.epa.gov/storetkp/dw_home>
- Planning districts & neighborhood boundaries, New Orleans City Planning
- Streets & water, Census TIGER
- Data analysis, NRDC

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Benzo(a)pyrene Levels in New Orleans Area Sediment Samples

- ≤ 330: Below LDEQ evaluation or management level
- 331 - 35,500: Above LDEQ evaluation or management level

Units in micrograms per kilogram soil (μg/kg)

Note: Due to extremely high & variable limits of detection in the EPA sampling, the non-detections were excluded from this map.

Sources:
Lead Levels in New Orleans Area Sediment Samples

- 0 - 100 Below level that could qualify as hazardous waste by EPA RCRA criteria
- 101 - 400 Above level that could qualify as hazardous waste by EPA RCRA criteria
- 401 - 1370 Above LDEQ evaluation or management level & above EPA level of concern for residential soil

Units in milligrams per kilogram of soil (mg/kg)

Note: The U.S. EPA defines hazardous waste according to a test (TCLP) which can be estimated as a sediment lead level of 100 mg/kg

Sources: sediment samples, EPA, 9/10/05-1/15/06 <oaspub.epa.gov/storetkp/dw_home>; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) levels <www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/hazwaste.htm>; soil screening levels, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) Risk Evaluation/Corrective Action Program 2003 <www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/1569/Default.aspx> & EPA’s Region 6 Human Health Medium-Specific Screening Levels <www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6qtd/rcra_c/pd-n/screen.htm>; planning districts & neighborhood boundaries, New Orleans City Planning; streets & water, Census TIGER; data analysis, NRDC.