ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE $300
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
EPA-335

Environmental News

Haughton (202) 755-0344
O'Neill (202) 755-0344

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1976

PCBS REPORTED IN MILK OF NURSING MOTHERS

The Environmental Protection Agency today released initial findings of a sampling of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the milk of nursing mothers.

The findings are based on analysis of 67 samples representing the first results of the study that involves about 1,000 samples. These 67 samples were collected nine months or more ago. Analysis of all 1,000 samples, plus confirmatory analysis on selected samples, is expected to be completed early next year.

Detectable levels have been found in 65 of the 67 samples analyzed to date. The average level is about 1.7 parts per million (ppm) in the fat of the mothers milk.

The samples analyzed to date are from Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

The findings were reported by investigators at Colorado State University under contract to EPA.

Initial results of the sampling have been transmitted to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for consideration of the human health implications. HEW and EPA are jointly sponsoring a meeting with representatives of appropriate organizations to review and evaluate these results. The mothers are being informed of their particular levels.

(more)

Return this sheet if you do NOT wish to receive this material ☐, or if change of address is needed ☐ (indicate change, including zip code).

EPA FORM 1510-1 (REV. 8-72)

R-245

MONS 037030

During the past year, EPA has initiated a large number of programs under currently available regulatory authorities to reduce environmental discharges of PCBs into the environment. These activities, being carried out in cooperation with Federal and State agencies and with the scientific and industrial communities, are directed primarily to limiting discharges from manufacturing facilities, reducing the likelihood of accidental discharges, and encouraging rapid introduction of replacements of PCBs.

Attached are the results of the 67 samples and a map showing the States and number of samples remaining to be analyzed.

# # #

MONS 037031

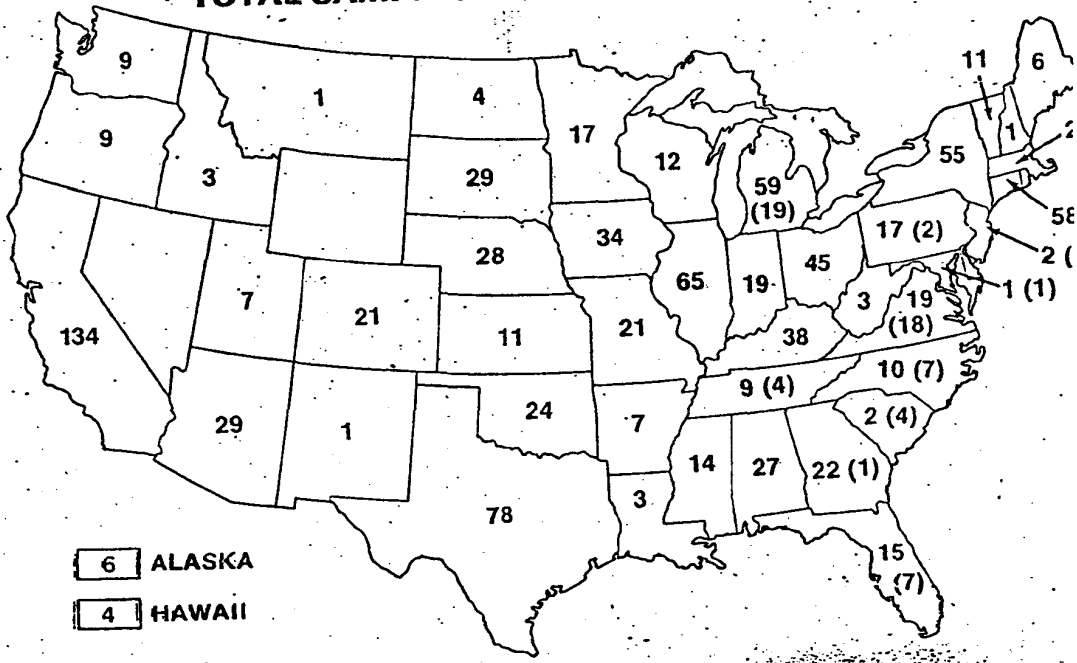
PCBs (parts per million on a fat basis) In Milk of Nursing Mothers By State

Florida	4.1	North Carolina	3.2
	1.9		2.4
	2.8		3.1
	1.2		4.4
	.4		1.7
	.2		2.5
	1.8		1.2
Georgia	.5	Pennsylvania	1.5
			1.1
Maryland	2.5		
		South Carolina	1.8
Michigan	10.6		2.3
	1.2		1.3
	2.2		.2
	1.7		
	.9	Tennessee	2.4
	.7		.7
	1.3		2.2
	1.3		1.7
	.7		
	.8		
	1.8	Virginia	1.1
	1.3		3.9
	1.0		1.8
	.9		1.0
	.5		2.3
	2.7		1.5
	1.6		3.1
	.7		.9
	1.0		1.6
			.4
			1.2
New Jersey	2.9		1.5
	4.0		.3
	.4		0.0
	1.8		2.3
			0.0
			.5
			2.2

MOTHERS' MILK SAMPLE PLAN

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

TOTAL SAMPLES 1015 (7ml OF MILK OR MORE)



MONS 037033