

Prop 65 Improves Health

Tracey Woodruff, MPH, PhD



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Prop 65

- Not a Ban
- Makes potential exposures to toxic chemicals visible
- Through warnings and legal remedies it incentivizes a switch to safer alternatives



SILENT SPRING INSTITUTE

Researching the Environment and Women's Health

Research

Trends in NHANES Biomonitored Exposures in California and the United States following Enactment of California's Proposition 65

Kristin E. Knox,¹  Megan R. Schwarzman,² Ruthann A. Rudel,¹ Claudia Polsky,³  and Robin E. Dodson¹

¹Silent Spring Institute, Newton, Massachusetts, USA

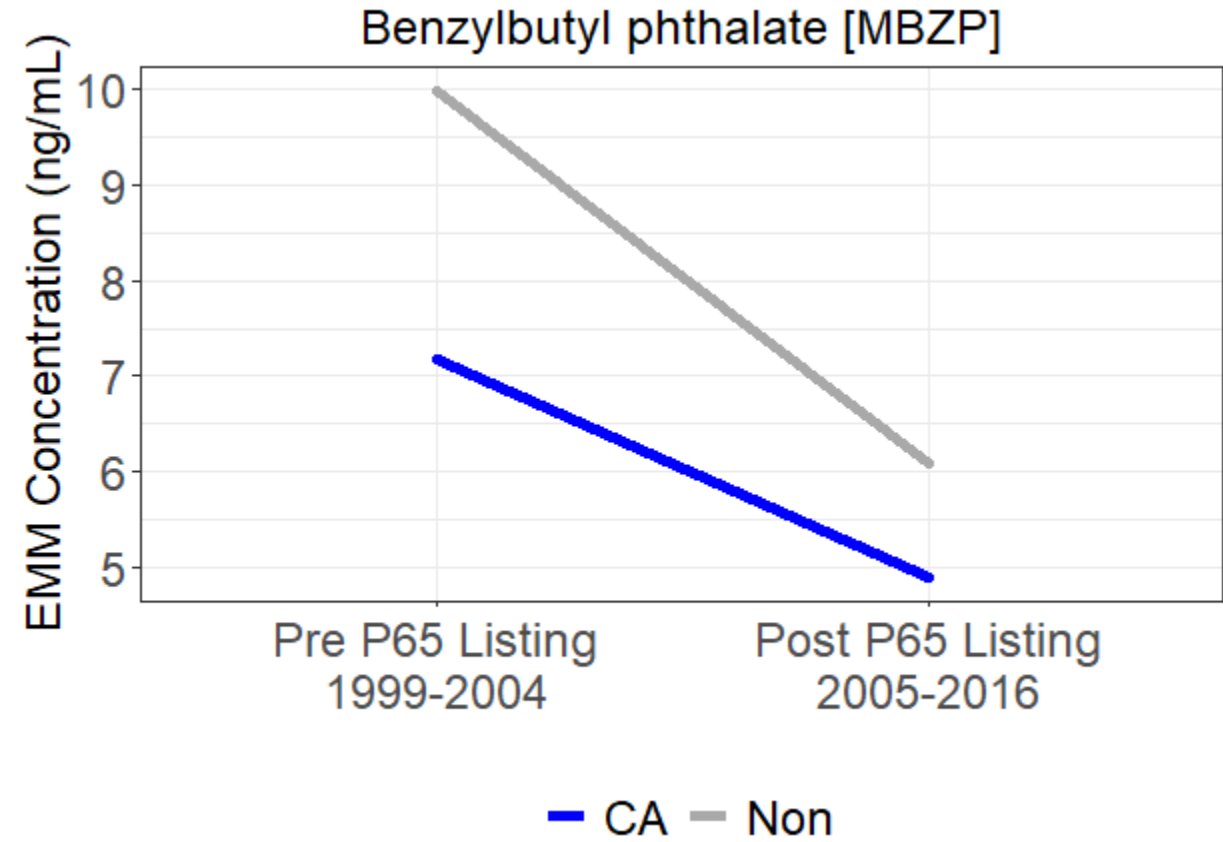
²School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley, California, USA

³School of Law, University of California, Berkeley, California USA

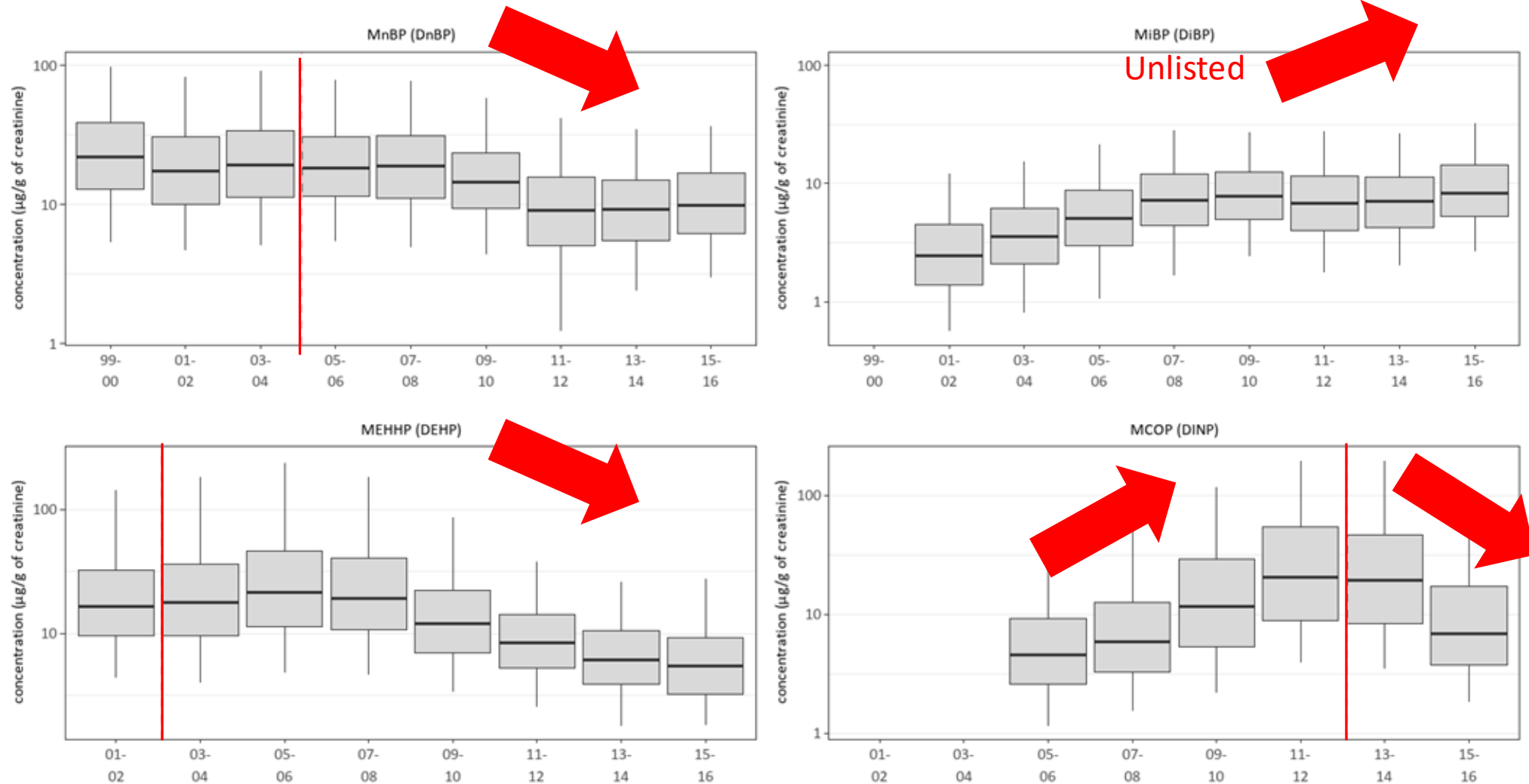
Biomonitoring levels generally lower in CA, decrease over time

37 chemicals (including phthalates, phenols, VOCs, metals, PAHs, and PFAS)

- **18 significantly lower in CA compared to the rest of the US, while only 4 significantly higher**
- **25 significantly decreased over time (or before/after Prop 65 listing)**



Evidence of chemical substitution - phthalates

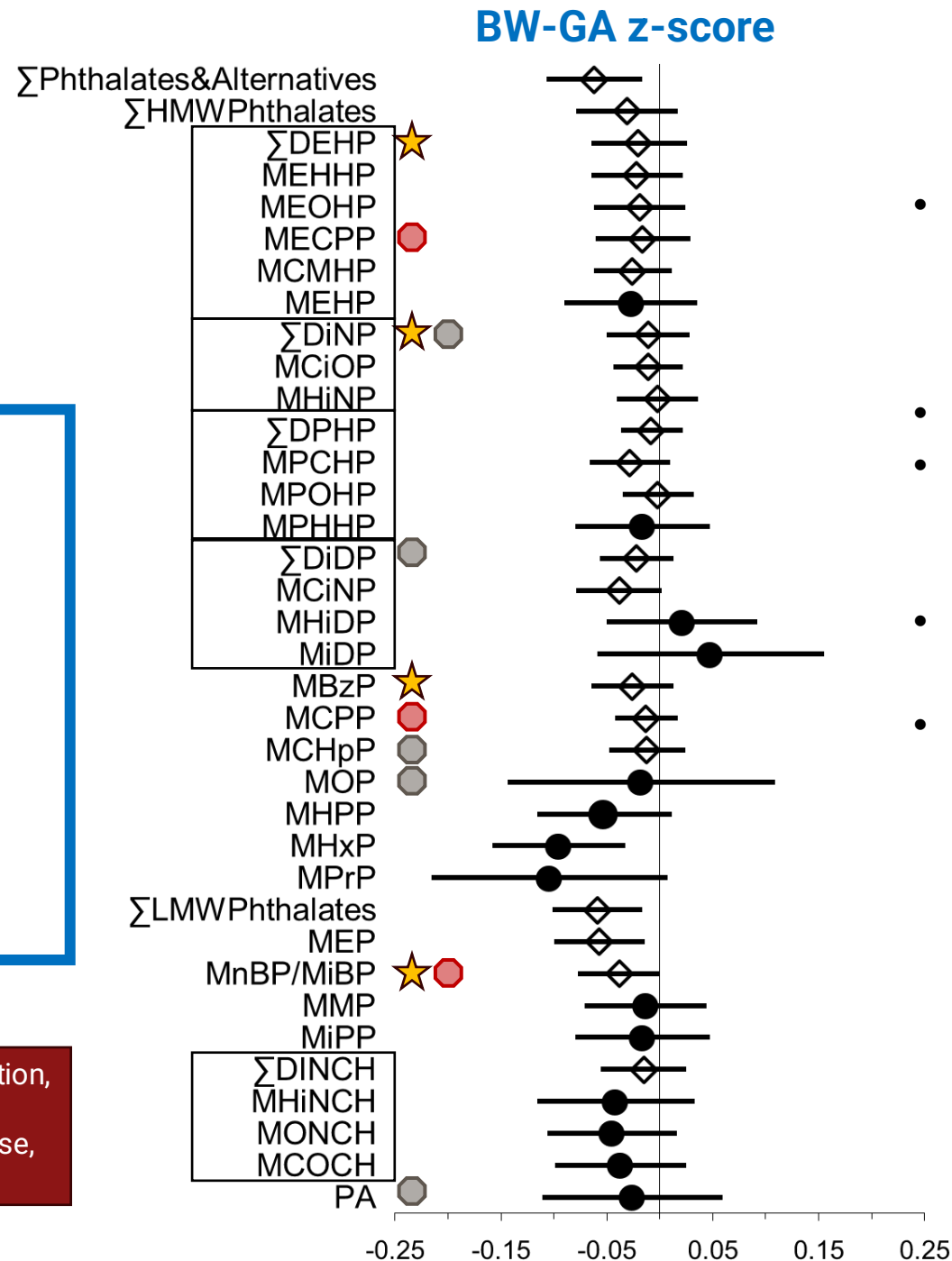


Phthalates increase risk of low birthweight

LEGEND

- $\geq$ LOD vs $<$ LOD
- ◇ Per IQR increase
- ★ EPA cumulative risk analysis
- ◼ Welch et al. 2022
- ◼ Trasande et al. 2024

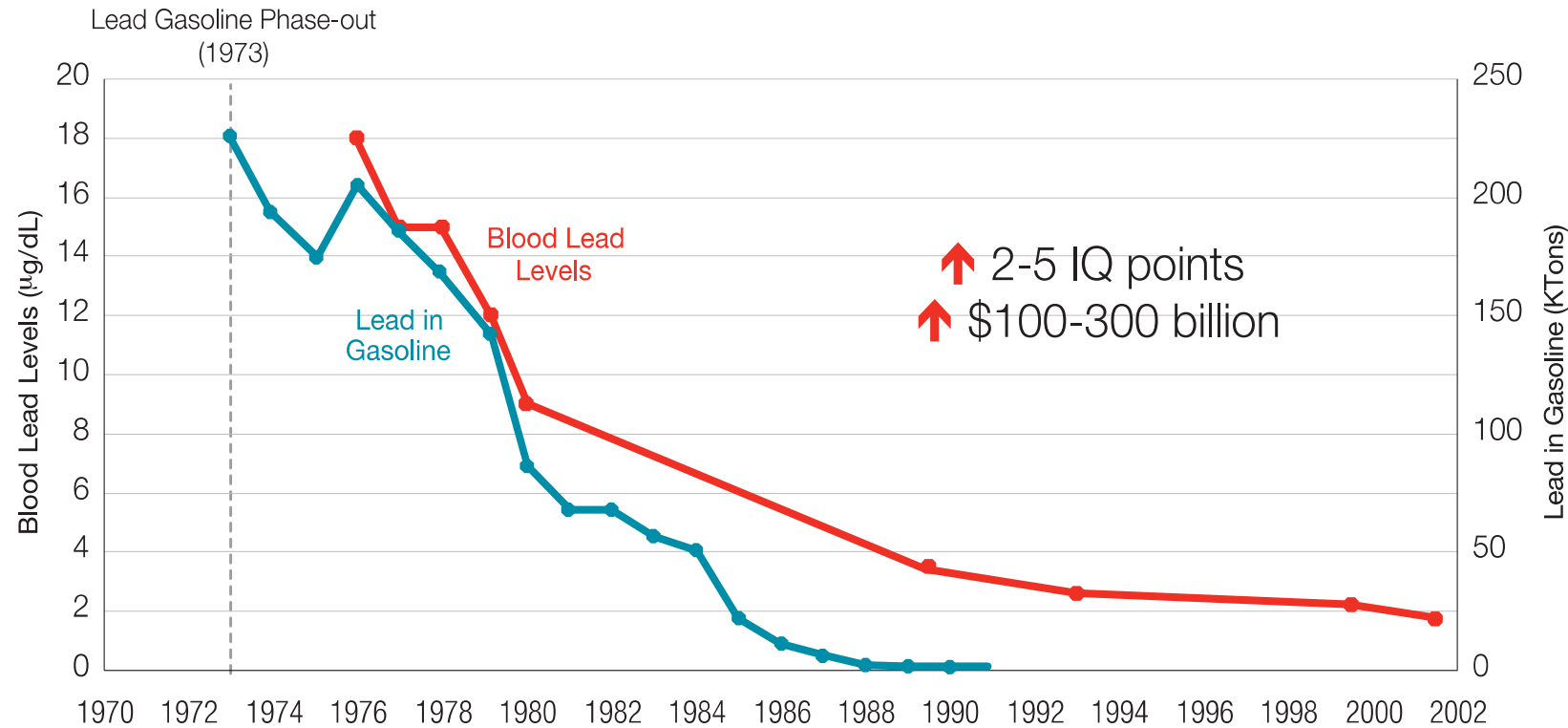
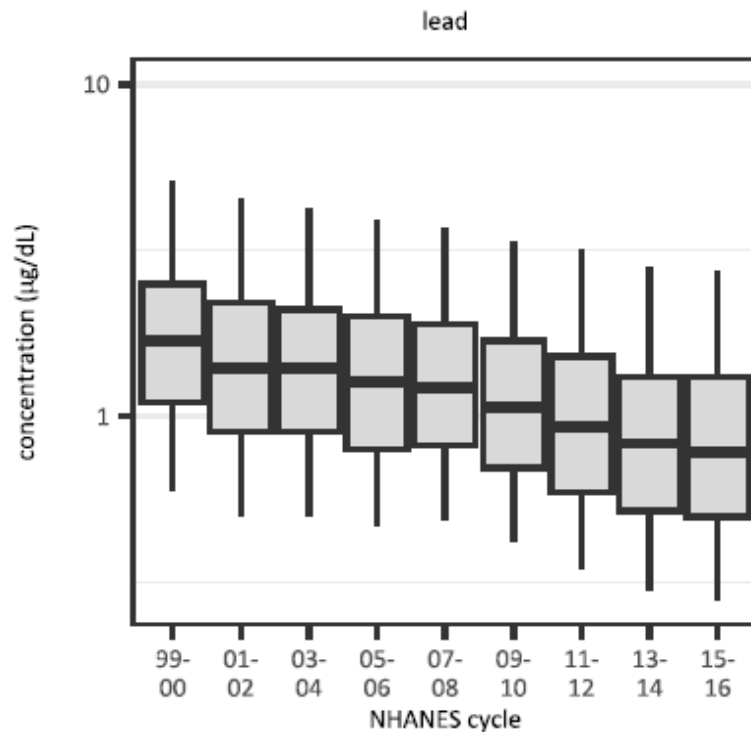
Difference per IQR increase in molar sum or concentration, adjusted for maternal age, education, parity, specimen collection season, specimen collection year, tobacco use, and maternal pre-pregnancy BMI



- Exposures to both Prop 65 phthalates and those not listed increase risk of low birthweight
- 5,000 births across the US
- Affirmed by an ORD scientist systematic review
- Low birthweight increases the risk of infant mortality
- Leads to increase risk of other chronic diseases and cardiovascular disease later in life

Lead

The Relationship of Lead in Gasoline and Lead Levels Found in the Bloodstream (1972-2002)



SOURCE: Grosse et al., 2002

California Decline - -0:1 (-0:1, -0:08)

Rest of the US Decline -0:05 (-0:05, -0:05)

Conclusions

- People are healthier because of Prop 65
- Prop 65 forces visibility of toxic chemicals and has an incentive for lack of disclosure
- Burden is on downstream manufacturers/sellers and this should be pressure on chemical companies
- Designations for chemical class toxicity be more efficient, avoids toxic substitution



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Our team

Dan Axelrad
Daniel Akselrad
Abena BakenRa
Nicholas Chartres
Rashmi Joglekar
Susan Lamontagne
Emily Lasher
Allison Rozema
Tracey J. Woodruff

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Thank You!