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Laboratory Component: Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers

Survey Years: 2003 to 2004

SAS Export File: L28PBE_C.XPT



First Release: June 2007 Last Revised: August 2007

NHANES 2003–2004 Data Documentation

Laboratory Asse Years of Coverage:	Ssment: Lab 28 Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE)2003–2004First Published: June 2007Last Revised: August 2007
Component Description	Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) included in the group of chemicals known as Brominated Flame Retardants (BFRs), have been and are still used as additive chemicals in polymers and textiles ^{1, 2} . Hence humans may be exposed though food and/or though contact with flame retarded products. ^{3,4,5}
Eligible Sample	Participants aged 12 years and older who met the subsample requirements.
Description of Laboratory Methodology	The method described in this manual assesses human body burden of BFRs, specifically PBDEs in serum and/or plasma. This is done by measuring the concentration in serum/plasma through the use of solid- phase extraction (SPE) and subsequent sample clean-up. Final determination of target analytes is performed by isotope dilution gas chromatography high-resolution mass spectrometry GC/IDHRMS.
	Concentrations of target analytes are reported on two different bases, i.e., (i) fresh weight basis (i.e., pg/g serum) and (ii) lipid weight basis (i.e., ng/g lipid). Lipid adjusted concentration values are preferable because (i) organohalogen compounds are lipophilic and hence distribute in the body mainly according to the tissues lipid content. Lipid adjusted concentrations correlates with the adipose tissue concentrations of the chemical. Normalization according to lipid content further reduces variability since differences in individuals serum lipid concentrations are cancelled out.
	The samples are extracted using SPE, employing an automated SPE workstation (Rapid Trace®, Caliper Life Sciences). Required sample pretreatment prior to extraction is performed on the Gilson 215 liquid handler, including automated addition of (i) internal standards, (ii) formic acid (denaturant) and (iii) water (diluent) with mixing in-between each addition by rotation. Formic acid is added to denature proteins in the sample enabling extraction of target compounds. During the extraction step the target analytes are transferred from a water medium to an organic solvent.
	Sample cleanup, i.e., removal of co-extracted lipids, is obtained by elution (hexane; 8 mL) of the extract through a column containing from

the top 0.1 g of silica and 1 g of silica/sulfuric acid (33% by weight). During this procedure serum lipids are degraded in the sulfuric acid layer while cholesterol is removed in the top layer consisting of activated silica gel. Without the activated silica gel layer cholesterol would eliminate water forming cholestene when coming in contact with the sulfuric acid. Cholestene would not be removed in the silica gel/sulfuric acid layer and interfere in the final HR-MS analyses, i.e., causing an ion suppression in the region of 2,2',4,4',5 pentabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-99) and 2,2',4,4',6pentabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-100).

This sample cleanup is automated using the Rapid Trace® (Caliper Life Sciences) also used for sample extraction. The samples are evaporated and transferred to GC vials. Evaporization is performed on the RapidVap® (LabConco), using vacuum, increased temperature and vortex action to aid the evaporization.

Serum concentrations are determined using gas chromatography isotope dilution high resolution mass spectrometry (GC/IDHRMS), which minimizes or eliminates many interferences associated with lowresolution measurement of organohalogen compounds. Splitless injection is used employing a short GC column (DB-5HT; 15 m length, 0.1 µm film thickness, 0.25 mm ID) enabling the determination of high molecular weight compounds such as decabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-209) having a molecular weight close to 1000 amu. Electron impact ionization (EI) is used. The two most abundant ions in the isotopic cluster (fragment or molecular ion) are monitored for the target analyte as well as for the 13C-labeled internal-surrogate standard. Quantification is made against a calibration curve covering the full concentration range of the target analytes.

Laboratory Quality Control and Monitoring

Serum specimens are processed, stored, and shipped to the Division of Environmental Health Laboratory Sciences, National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for analysis.

Detailed specimen collection and processing instructions are discussed in the NHANES Laboratory/Medical Technologists Procedures Manual (LPM). Vials are stored under appropriate frozen (–20°C) conditions until they are shipped to National Center for Environmental Health for testing.

Mobile Examination Centers (MECs)

Laboratory team performance is monitored using several techniques. NCHS and contract consultants use a structured quality assurance evaluation during unscheduled visits to evaluate both the quality of the laboratory work and the quality-control procedures. Each laboratory staff person is observed for equipment operation, specimen collection and preparation; testing procedures and constructive feedback is given to each staff. Formal retraining sessions are conducted annually to ensure that required skill levels were maintained.

The NHANES QA/QC protocols meet the 1988 Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act mandates. Detailed QA/QC instructions are discussed in the NHANES LPM.

Analytical Laboratories

NHANES uses several methods to monitor the quality of the analyses performed by the contract laboratories. In the MEC, these methods include performing blind split samples collected on "dry run" sessions. In addition, contract laboratories randomly perform repeat testing on 2.0% of all specimens.

NCHS developed and distributed a quality control protocol for all the contract laboratories which outlined the Westgard rules used when running NHANES specimens. Progress reports containing any problems encountered during shipping or receipt of specimens, summary statistics for each control pool, QC graphs, instrument calibration, reagents, and any special considerations are submitted to NCHS and Westat quarterly. The reports are reviewed for trends or shifts in the data. The laboratories are required to explain any identified areas of concern.

All QC procedures recommended by the manufacturers were followed. Reported results for all assays meet the Division of Laboratory Science's quality control and quality assurance performance criteria for accuracy and precision (similar to specifications outlined by Westgard (1981).

Analytic Subsample weights

Notes

Measures of serum polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE) were measured in a one third subsample of persons 12 years and over. Special sample weights are required to analyze these data properly. Specific sample weights for this subsample are included in this data file and should be used when analyzing these data.

Variance estimation

The analysis of NHANES 2003-2004 laboratory data must be conducted with the key survey design and basic demographic variables. The NHANES 2003-2004 Demographic Data File contains demographic and sample design variables. The recommended procedure for variance estimation requires use of stratum and PSU variables (SDMVSTRA and SDMVPSU, respectively) in the demographic data file.

Links to NHANES Data Files

This laboratory data file can be linked to the other NHANES 2003-2004 data files using the unique survey participant identifier SEQN.

Detection Limits

The detection limits were variable for all of the analytes in the data set. Two variables are provided for each of these analytes. The variable named LBD___LC indicates whether the result was below the limit of detection. There are two values: "0" and "1"". "0" means that the result was at or above the limit of detection. "1" indicates that the result was below the limit of detection.

The other variable named LBX____ provides the analytic result for that analyte.

Please refer to the Analytic Guidelines for further details on the use of sample weights and other analytic issues..

References

- A. Sjödin, L. Hagmar, E. Klasson-Wehler, J. Björk and Å. Bergman, Influence of the consumption of fatty Baltic Sea fish on plasma 1. WHO, Environmental Health Criteria 162. Brominated diphenyl ethers. International Program on Chemical Safety, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland (1994).
 - 2. WHO, Environmental Health Criteria 192. Flame retardants: A general introduction. International Program on Chemical Safety, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland (1997).
 - A. Sjödin, L. Hagmar, E. Klasson-Wehler, K. Kronholm-Diab, E. Jakobsson and A. Bergman, Flame retardant exposure: Polybrominated diphenyl ethers in blood from Swedish workers, Environ Health Perspect 107, pp. 643-648 (1999).
 - A. Sjödin, H. Carlsson, K. Thuresson, S. Sjölin, Å. Bergman and C. Östman, Flame retardants in indoor air at an electronics recycling plant and at other work environments, Environ Sci Technol 35, pp. 448-454 (2001).
 - 5. A. Sjödin, L. Hagmar, E. Klasson-Wehler, J. Björk and Å. Bergman,

Influence of the consumption of fatty Baltic Sea fish on plasma levels of halogenated environmental contaminants in Latvian and Swedish men, Environ Health Perspect 108, pp. 1035-1041 (2000).

Locator Fields

Title: Polybrominated diphenyl ethers

Contact Number: 1-866-441-NCHS

Years of Content: 2003–2004

First Published: June 2007

Revised: August 2007

Access Constraints: None

Use Constraints: None

Geographic Coverage: National

Subject: Polybrominated diphenyl ethers

Record Source: NHANES 2003–2004

Survey Methodology: NHANES 2003–2004 is a stratified multistage probability sample of the civilian

non-institutionalized population of the U.S.

Medium: NHANES Web site; SAS transport files

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey Codebook for Data Production (2003-2004)

Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers(PBDE) (L28PBE_C) Person Level Data

First Published: June 2007 Last Revised: August 2007



SEQN	Target	
522	B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)	
Hard Edits	SAS Label	
	Respondent sequence number	
English Text: Respondent sequ	ence number.	
English Instructions:		

WTSB2YR		Target B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.) SAS Label				
W 16 D2 1K						
Hard Edits						
	П 1	Two-year MEC weights of subsample B				
English Text: Two-year	MEC weights of subsample	В				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0 to 435025.30254	Range of Values	2337	2337			
•	Missing	0	2337			

LBXBB1		Target B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
		2,2',4,4',5,5'-hexabromobiphenyl				
English Text: 2,2',4,4',5	,5'-hexabromobiphenyl (pg/g	j)				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
1.2 to 2943.1	Range of Values	2032	2032			
	Missing	305	2337			

LBXBB1LA Hard Edits		TargetB(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
				2,2',4,4',5,5'-hexbrombiphenyl lipid adj		
English Text: 2,2',4,4',5	5,5'-hexabi	romobiphenyl lipid a	adjusted (ng/g)			
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Γ	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item	
0.1 to 225	Rai	nge of Values	2032	2032		
		Missing	305	2337		

LBDBB1L	C	Target B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.) SAS Label				
Hard Edit	ts					
	2,2',4	,4',5,5'-hexabr	omobiphenyl comm	ent		
English Text: 2,2',4,	4',5,5'-hexabromobiphenyl comment	t code				
English Instructions	:					
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0	At or above the detection limit	1485	1485			
1	Below lower detection limit	547	2032			
•	Missing	305	2337			

LBXBR1		TargetB(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
		2,2',4-tribromodiphenyl ether				
English Text: 2,2',4-trib	romodiphenyl ether (pg/g)					
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
1.2 to 87.4	Range of Values	1992	1992			
· ·	Missing	345	2337			

LBXBR1LA		TargetB(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
		2,2',4-tribromodiphenyl ether lipid adj				
English Text: 2,2',4-trib	romodiphenyl ether lipid adju	isted (ng/g)				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0.1 to 20.6	Range of Values	1992	1992			
	Missing	345	2337			

LBDBR1L	C	Target				
		B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
Hard Edit	5	SAS Label				
		2,2',4-tribromodiphenyl ether comment			nt	
English Text: 2,2',4-	ribromodiphenyl ether c	comment coc	de			
English Instructions	:					
Code or Value Description			Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item	
0	At or above the detect	tion limit	100	100		
1	Below lower detection	on limit	1892	1992		
•	Missing		345	2337		

LBXBR2		Target B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.) SAS Label				
Hard Edits						
		2,4,4'-tribromodiphenyl ether				
English Text: 2,4,4'-trib	romodiphenyl ether (pg/g)					
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
1.2 to 465.8	Range of Values	1987	1987			
•	Missing	350	2337			

LBXBR2LA		T	arget			
		B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
		2,4,4'-tribromodiphenyl ether lipid adj				
English Text: 2,4,4'-trib	romodphenyl ether lipid adjus	sted (ng/g)				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0.1 to 65.2	Range of Values	1987	1987			
	Missing	350	2337			

LBDBR2L	C	Target B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.) SAS Label				
LDDDR2L						
Hard Edit	s					
	2,4,-	4'-tribromodip	henyl ether comme	nt		
English Text: 2,4,4'-	tribromodiphenyl ether comment co	de				
English Instructions	:					
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0	At or above the detection limit	1601	1601			
1	Below lower detection limit	386	1987			
	Missing	350	2337			

LBXBR3	LRXRR3		Target				
Hard Edits		B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.) SAS Label					
English Text: 2,2',4,4'-t	etrabromo	diphenyl ether (pg/g	g)				
English Instructions:							
Code or Value	Ι	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
9.8 to 13346.5	Ra	nge of Values	2016	2016			
		Missing	321	2337			

LBXBR3LA		Target B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.) SAS Label				
Hard Edits						
		2,2',4,4'-tetrabromphenyl ether lipid ad				
English Text: 2,2',4,4'-te	etrabromodiphenyl ether lipid	adjusted (ng/g)				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
1.1 to 2350	Range of Values	2016	2016			
	Missing	321	2337			

LBDBR3L	С	Target				
		B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.) SAS Label				
Hard Edit	s					
	2,2',	2,2',4,4'-tetrabromphenyl ether comment				
English Text: 2,2',4,4	4'-tetrabromodiphenyl ether comme	nt code				
English Instructions	:					
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0	At or above the detection limit	1975	1975			
1	Below lower detection limit	41	2016			
•	Missing	321	2337			

LBXBR4		Target B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.) SAS Label				
Hard Edits						
		2,2',3,4,4'-pentabromodiphenyl ether				
English Text: 2,2',3,4,4'	-pentabromodiphenyl ether (p	og/g)				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
3 to 450	Range of Values	2000	2000			
	Missing	337	2337			

LBXBR4LA		Target B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.) SAS Label				
Hard Edits						
		2,2',3,4,4'-pentabromphenyl lipid adj				
English Text: 2,2',3,4,4'	-pentabromodiphenyl ether l	ipid adjusted (ng/g	g)			
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0.2 to 66.9	Range of Values	2000	2000			
· ·	Missing	337	2337			

LBDBR4L	C	TargetB(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
	C					
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
	2,2'	2,2',3,4,4'-pentabromphenyl ether comt				
English Text: 2,2',3,4	4,4'-pentabromodiphenyl ether com	nent code				
English Instructions	:					
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0	At or above the detection limit	512	512			
1	Below lower detection limit	1488	2000			
•	Missing	337	2337			

LBXBR5		Target B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.) SAS Label				
Hard Edits						
		2,2',4,4',5-pentabromodiphenyl ether				
English Text: 2,2',4	,4',5-pentabromodipheny	l ether (pg/g)				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
7.3 to 5620.3	Range of Values	1985	1985			
	Missing	352	2337			

LBXBR5LA		Target				
		B(12 Yrs	. to 150 Yrs.)			
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
		2,2',4,4',5-pentabromphenyl lipid adj				
English Text: 2,2',4,4',5	-pentabromodiphenyl ether lip	pid adjusted (ng/g	g)			
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0.8 to 692	Range of Values	1985	1985			
	Missing	352	2337			

LBDBR5L	C	Target					
			B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
Hard Edits			SAS Label				
		2,2',4,4',5-pentabromphenyl ether comt					
English Text: 2,2',4,4	4',5-pentabromo	diphenyl ether comn	nent code				
English Instructions	:						
Code or Value	Des	cription	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0	At or above t	he detection limit	1395	1395			
1	Below lowe	r detection limit	590	1985			
•	M	lissing	352	2337			

LBXBR6		TargetB(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
		2,2',4,4',6-pentabromodiphenyl ether				
English Text: 2,2',4,4',6	-pentabromodiphenyl ether (p	og/g)				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
2.8 to 3185.8	Range of Values	2040	2040			
	Missing	297	2337			

LBXBR6LA Hard Edits		Target				
		B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
		SAS Label				
		2,2',4,4',6-pentabromdphenyl lipid adj				
English Text: 2,2',4,4',6	-pentabro	modiphenyl ether lij	pid adjusted (ng/g)		
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	D	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item	
0.4 to 365	Rar	nge of Values	2040	2040		
		Missing	297	2337		

LBDBR6L	C	Target				
LDDDRUL		B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
2,2',4,4',6-per			pentabromdphenyl ether comt			
English Text: 2,2',4,	4',6-pentabromodiphenyl ether com	ment code				
English Instructions	:					
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0	At or above the detection limit	1918	1918			
1	Below lower detection limit	122	2040			
	Missing	297	2337			

LBXBR7		Target B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
LDADK/						
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
		2,2',4,4',5,5'-hexabromodiphenyl ether				
English Text: 2,2',4,4',5	,5'-hexabromodiphenyl ether	(pg/g)				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
4.2 to 5432.5	Range of Values	2039	2039			
	Missing	298	2337			

LBXBR7LA		Target B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
		2,2',4,4',5,5'-hexabromphenyl lipid adj				
English Text: 2,2',4,4',5	,5'-hexabromodiphenyl ether	lipid adjusted (ng	/g)			
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0.4 to 821	Range of Values	2039	2039			
•	Missing	298	2337			

LBDBR7L	C	Target				
LDDDRIL			B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)			
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
	2,2',4	2,2',4,4',5,5'-hexabromphenyl ether comt				
English Text: 2,2',4,4	4',5,5'-hexabromodiphenyl ether con	nment code				
English Instructions	:					
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0	At or above the detection limit	1915	1915			
1	Below lower detection limit	124	2039			
•	Missing	298	2337			

LBXBR8		TargetB(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
		2,2',4,4',5,6'-hexabromodiphenyl ether				
English Text: 2,2',4,4',5	,6'-hexabromodiphenyl ether	(pg/g)				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
1.2 to 428.6	Range of Values	2014	2014			
•	Missing	323	2337			

LBXBR8LA	LBXBR&LA		Target				
Hard Edits		B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)					
		SAS Label					
		2,2',4,4',5,6'-hexabromphenyl lipid adj					
English Text: 2,2',4,4',5	,6'-hexabi	romodiphenyl ether	lipid adjusted (ng/	/g)			
English Instructions:							
Code or Value	Γ	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0.1 to 40.5	Rai	nge of Values	2014	2014			
· ·		Missing	323	2337			

LBDBR8L	C	Target				
		B(12 Yrs	. to 150 Yrs.)			
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
	2,2',4	2,2',4,4',5,6'-hexabromphenyl ether comt				
English Text: 2,2',4,	4',5,6'-hexabromodiphenyl ether con	nment code				
English Instructions	:					
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0	At or above the detection limit	1110	1110			
1	Below lower detection limit	904	2014			
	Missing	323	2337			

LBXBR9		Target B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.) SAS Label				
Hard Edits						
	2	2,2',3,4,4',5',6-heptabromodiphenyl ethr				
English Text: 2,2',3,4,4'	,5',6-heptabromodiphenyl eth	er (pg/g)				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
2.2 to 125	Range of Values	1993	1993			
	Missing	344	2337			

LBXBR9LA		Target				
		B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
		2,2',3,4,4',5',6-heptabrophenl lipid adj				
English Text: 2,2',3,4,4'	,5',6-heptabromodiphenyl lipi	d adjusted (ng/g)				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0.1 to 21.1	Range of Values	1993	1993			
•	Missing	344	2337			

LBDBR9L	С	Target				
			B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)			
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
	2,2	2,2',3,4,4',5',6-heptabrophenl ether cmt				
English Text: 2,2',3,4	4,4',5',6-heptabromodiphenyl ether	comment code				
English Instructions	:					
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0	At or above the detection limit	319	319			
1	Below lower detection limit	1674	1993			
•	Missing	344	2337			

LBXBR66		TargetB(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
		2,3',4,4'-tetrabromodiphenyl ether				
English Text: 2,3',4,4'-te	etrabromodiphenyl ether (pg/g	g)				
English Instructions:						
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
1.2 to 109.8	Range of Values	1999	1999			
•	Missing	338	2337			

LBXBR66L Hard Edits		Target					
			B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)				
		SAS Label					
		2,3',4,4'-tetrabromodiphenyl lipid adj					
English Text: 2,3',4,4'-	tetrabrom	odiphenyl ether lipid	adjusted (ng/g)				
English Instructions:							
Code or Value	Ι	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0.1 to 17.4	Ra	nge of Values	1999	1999			
		Missing	338	2337			

LBDBR66	C	Target				
LDDDR00			B(12 Yrs. to 150 Yrs.)			
Hard Edits		SAS Label				
	2,3',4,4'-tetrabromodiphenyl ether comt			nt		
English Text: 2,3',4,	4'-tetrabromodiphenyl ether commer	nt code				
English Instructions	:					
Code or Value	Description	Count	Cumulative	Skip to Item		
0	At or above the detection limit	449	449			
1	Below lower detection limit	1550	1999			
•	Missing	338	2337			