



# Pollution in People



## PARTICIPANT PROFILE: Senator Lisa Brown

**Place of residence:** Spokane, Washington

**Birthplace:** Robinson, Illinois

**Lived in Washington since:** 1981

**Occupation:** state senator, professor

**Age:** 49

**Known specific exposures to toxic chemicals:** none

**Special diet:** none

**Estimated proportion of diet organic:** 15%

**Home pesticide use:** yes

## Senator Lisa Brown's Chemical Profile

- \* 37 chemicals detected
- \* mercury above EPA "safe" level
- \* level of metabolite of phthalate DEHP greater than 75% of the U.S. population on average
- \* level of metabolite of phthalate DBP greater than 95% of the U.S. population on average

Chemical Class	Found In	Potential Health Effects	Found in Participant	
			(Yes)	(No)
Phthalates (plasticizers and fragrance carriers)	PVC (vinyl) flooring, toys, shower curtains, personal-care products	harm to reproductive development	✓	
PBDEs (toxic flame retardants)	televisions, mattresses, furniture	learning deficits, hormone disruption	✓	
Lead	PVC (vinyl), drinking water, paint & dust in older homes, hobby products	learning deficits		✓
Mercury	thermostats, fluorescent light bulbs	learning deficits	✓	
Arsenic	treated wood, herbicides, contaminated soil	cancer	✓	
PFCs ("Teflon chemicals")	coated food packaging such as french fry boxes; stain-protection treatments for carpeting and clothing	cancer, organ damage, reproductive effects	✓	
Pesticides	weed and pest sprays for farming and home and garden	cancer, nervous system harm, developmental effects, potential acute effects	✓	
DDT (pesticide)/PCBs (industrial coolant); banned but persistent toxic chemicals	present in many food sources, especially animal and fish fats	nervous system harm, hormone disruption, learning deficits,	✓	