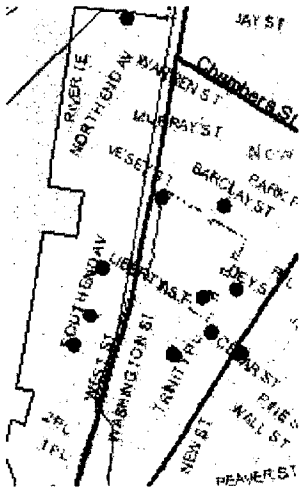
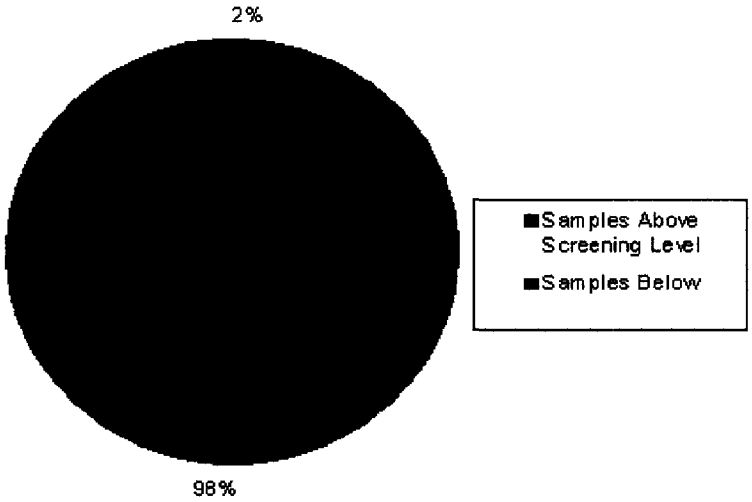
Lead Air Monitoring Data Summary for Lower Manhattan WTC Sampling

Totals (for sampling through 01/15/02, in ug/m3)

Total Samples	261
Samples Above Screening Level	5
% Above	1.92%
Samples Below	256
Maximum Value (09/23/01):	5.4
Minumum Value:	0.006
Screening Level*:	1.5
Average Alll	0.18





Most of the lead in our air used to come from vehicles using leaded gasoline. However, EPA eliminated the use of leaded gasoline and lead levels in outdoor air and in much of the population have declined dramatically. Today, metal processing, refining and recycling facilities are the major source of lead in the air. Children under the age of seven are at the greatest risk from lead poisoning and their primary exposure is from leaded-paint dust and chips in older housing.

EPA has established an air quality standard for lead of 1.5 ug/m3, averaged over a three month period. This is based primarily on how long-term exposure to lead affects the most sensitive population (including children). The values given below are for short-term (e.g., 12-hour) measurements. In the first weeks of the cleanup effort, some short-term lead measurements were higher than this standard; however, the standard is based on a three month average and we expect that the concentrations will continue to drop as the cleanup continues. EPA does not expect people to have increased risks of health problems due to lead exposure from the World Trade Center cleanup effort.