

**New York City  
Department of Health & Mental Hygiene  
Bureau of Environmental Disease Prevention**

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**Promoting IPM and the Reduction  
of Pesticide Use in NYC:  
Programmatic and Policy Initiatives**

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# Why Tie IPM to Health Promotion?

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- Cockroach and rodent infestation linked conclusively to asthma morbidity
- Epidemiological risks from professionally applied pesticides, personal use of off-the-shelf and illegal pesticides
- Structural solutions to infestations overlap with solutions to other housing problems associated with negative health outcomes
- Poor pest control shifts costs from housing system to health care system
- A public health approach may achieve some things advocates of safer pest control cannot

# Presentation Outline

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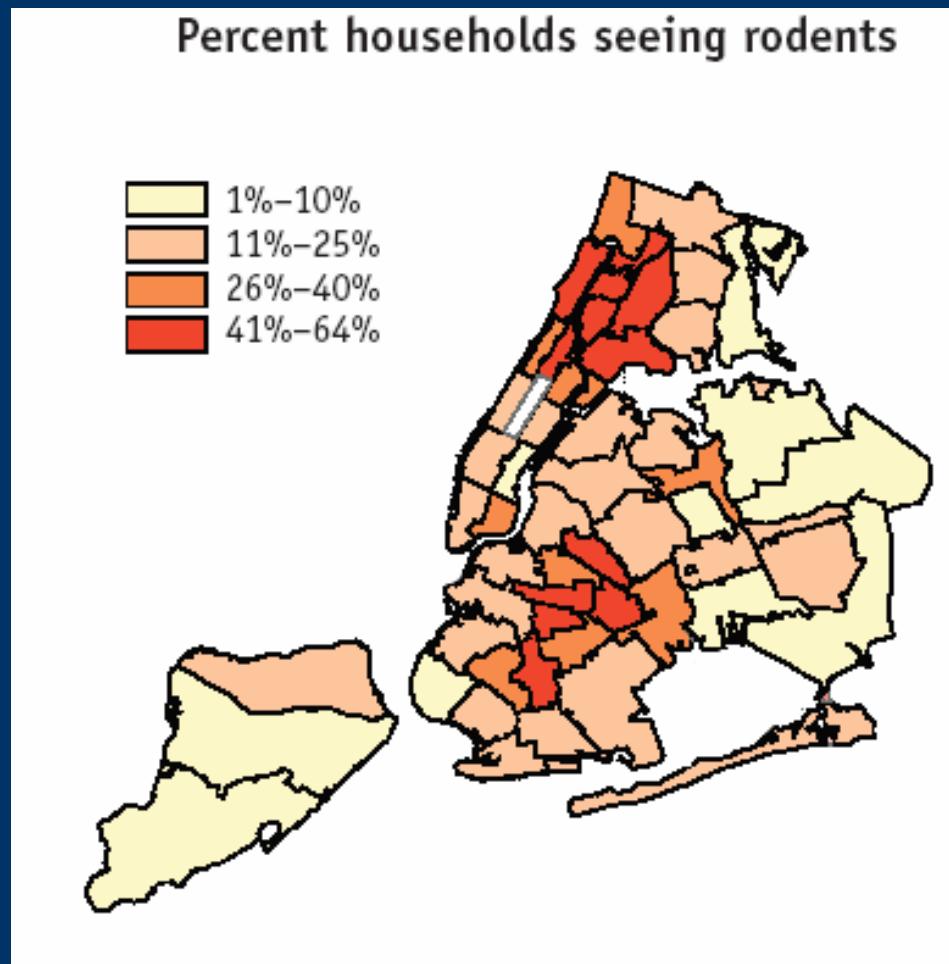
- Pest and pesticide surveillance in NYC
- A health department promotes IPM
  - IPM in public and private rental housing
  - IPM and rodent control
  - Policy Initiatives
- Discussion, collaboration

# Pest and Pesticide Surveillance

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- CDC Environmental Public Health Tracking has supported hazard, exposure and health outcome surveillance in NYC
- Local behavioral risk factor surveys (n=11,000) to determine pest and pesticide use prevalence
- Exposure survey (n=2000) of representative New Yorkers

# Rodents in NYC Residences

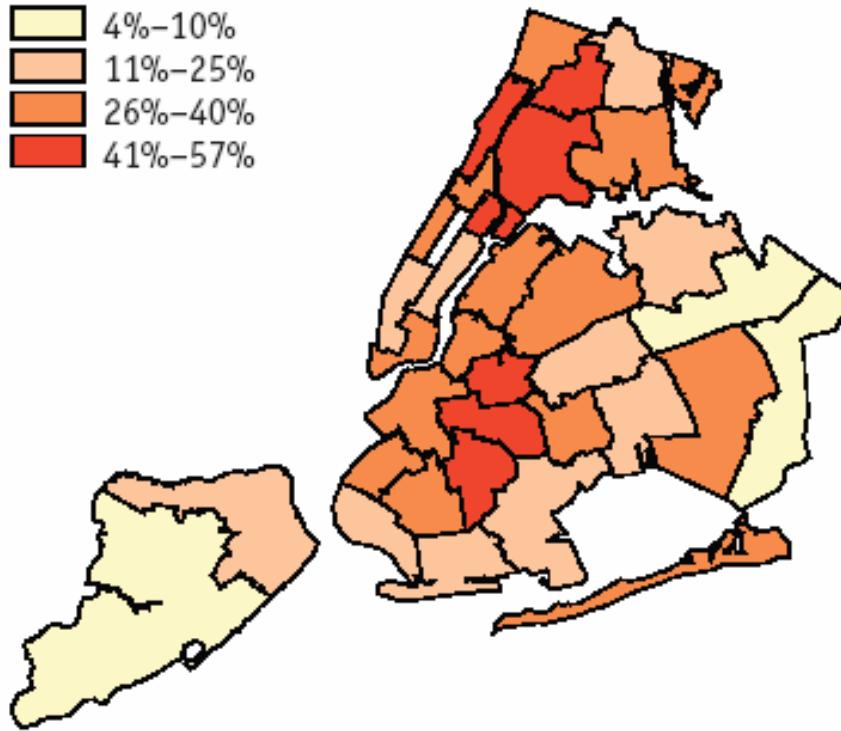


Source: Housing & Vacancy Survey 2002

# Cockroaches in NYC Residences

Percent households with cockroaches

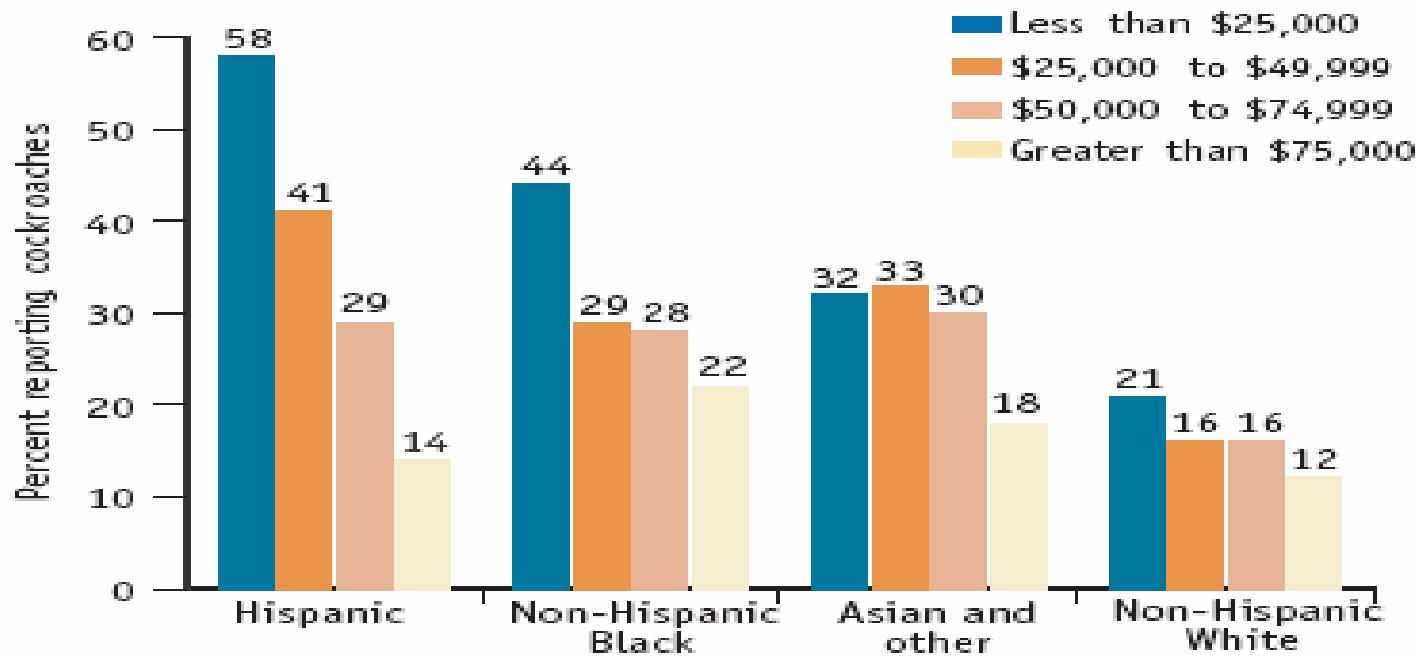
- 4%-10%
- 11%-25%
- 26%-40%
- 41%-57%



Source: Community Health Survey 2003

# Racial and Income Disparities in Infestation

**Percent of households in NYC reporting cockroaches, by race/ethnicity and household income**



Source: Community Health Survey 2003

# Infestation and Housing Disrepair are Associated with Asthma

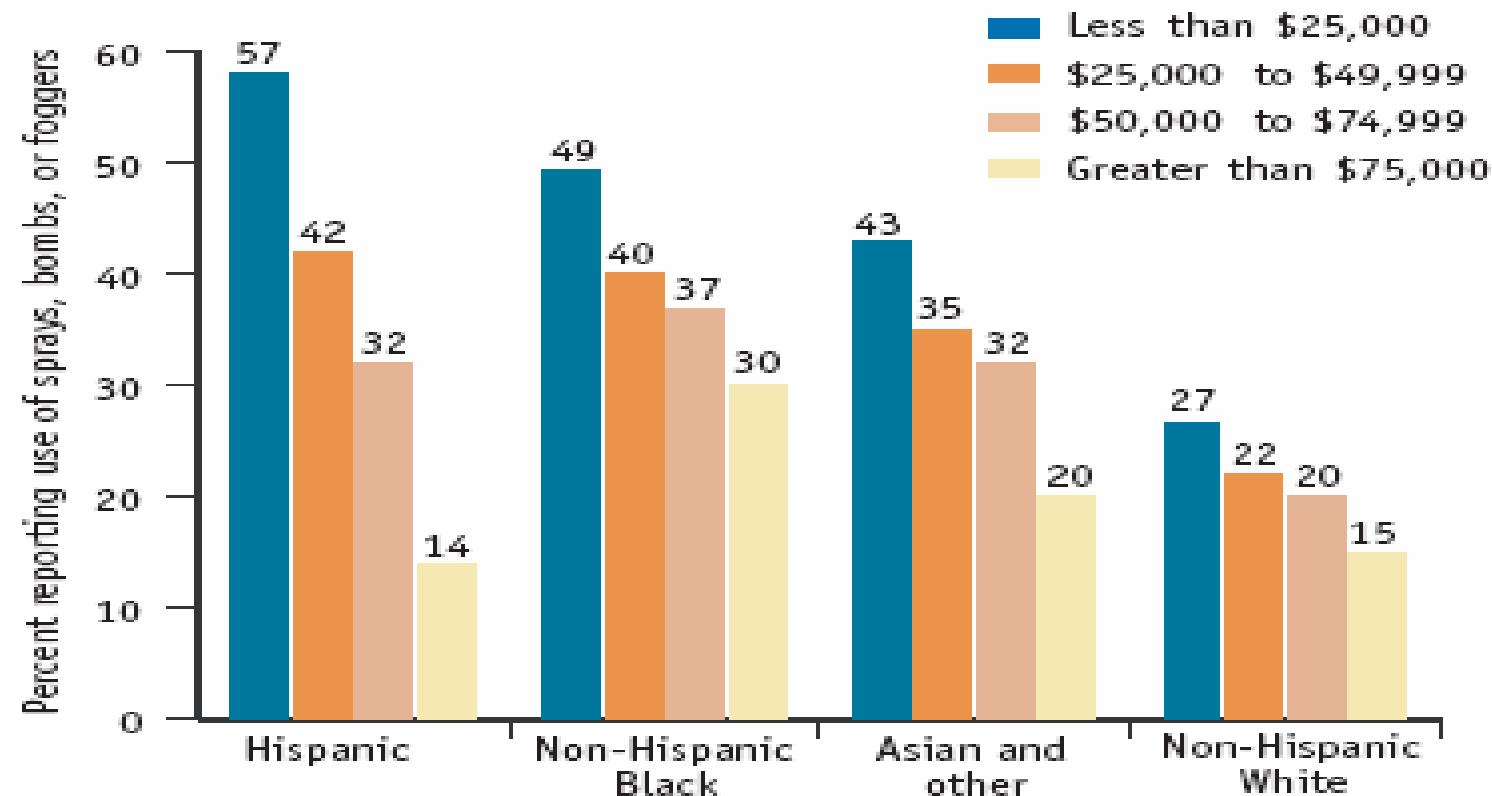
## Asthma, infestation and disrepair

	% reporting recent symptoms of asthma
Cockroaches in household	
Yes	6.2
No	4.0
Rodents in building	
Yes	12.5
No	6.0
Cracks or holes in walls of apartment	
Yes	12.9
No	6.6

Source: Community Health Survey 2003

# And Infestation Leads People to Use Pesticides Unsafely

Percent of households in NYC that use sprays, bombs or foggers, by race/ethnicity and household income



Source: Community Health Survey 2003

# Promotion of IPM In Rental Housing

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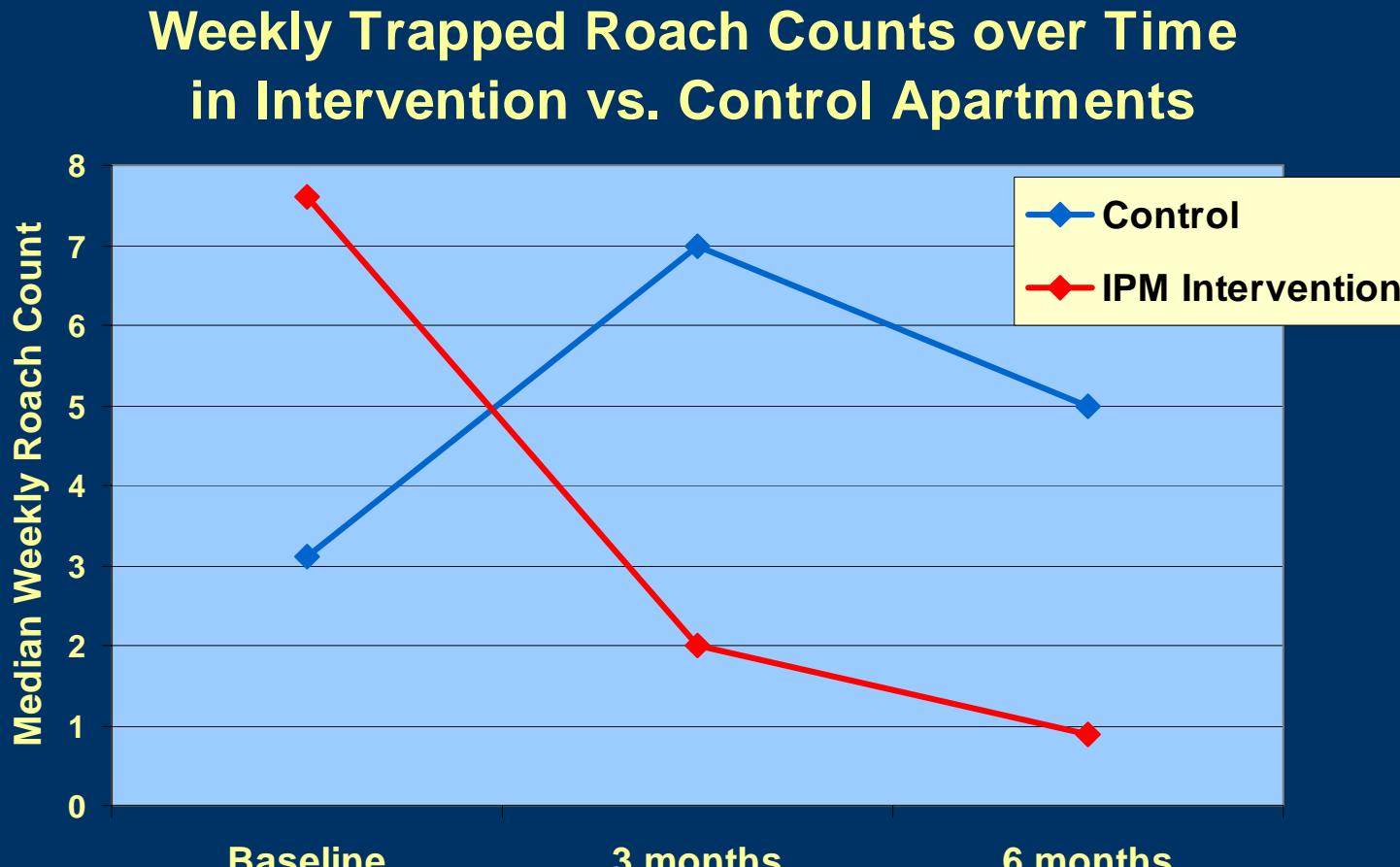
- 1999 Pilot Program in New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Development
- NYCHA Expansion – Whole Building Approach
  - Creation of NYCHA IPM Unit
  - Implementation and Evaluation of IPM in 5 NYCHA Developments (2,300 apartments)
  - System-wide changes to pest control practice
- NYC Childhood Asthma Initiative Adoption of IPM as Official Environmental Intervention

# Our Simple Approach to IPM

- Professional cleaning to remove food sources, cockroach and rodent traces in kitchen and bathrooms
- Caulking and sealing kitchen cabinets and other points of entry
- Use of gels & bait stations, boric acid powder, diatomaceous earth
- Suspension of all commercial spray pesticide use
- Residents receive a garbage can with a lid, food storage containers, and cleaning supplies.

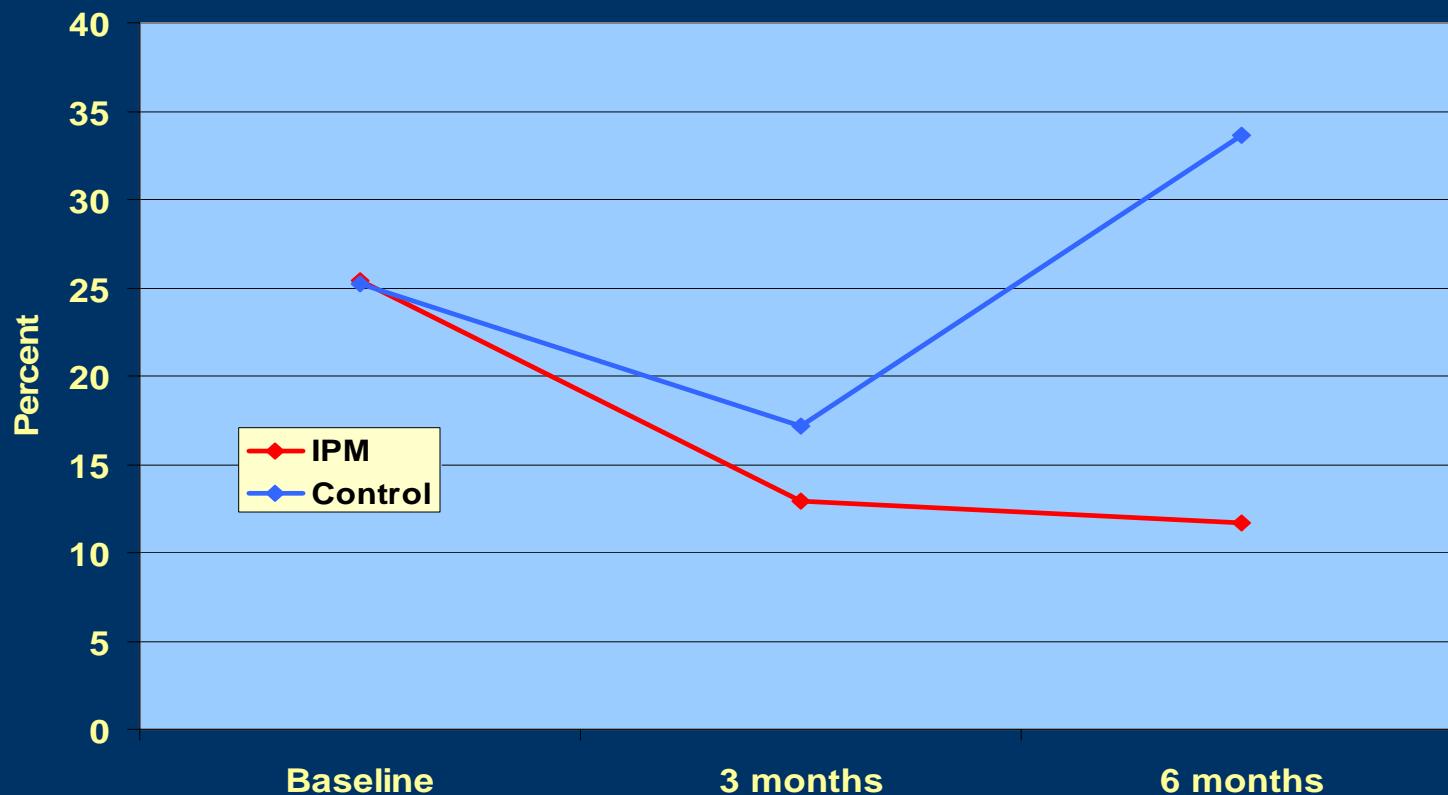


# Evaluation Highlights: Cockroaches

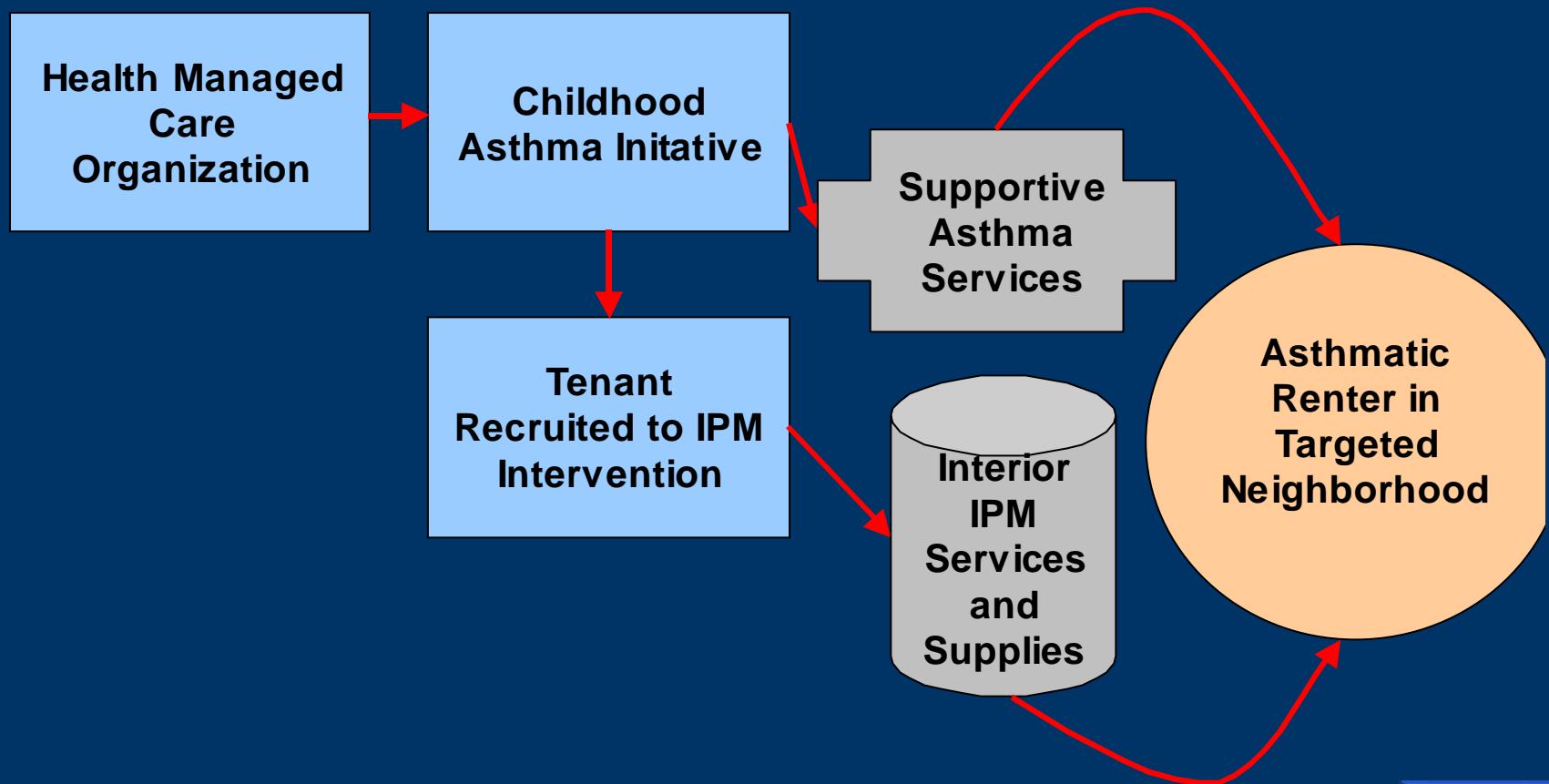


# Evaluation Highlights: Rodents

Percent of Households Seeing at Least One Mouse per Week over Time



# Childhood Asthma Initiative Approach



# IPM and Exterior Rodents

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- Problem: governmental response to urban rats is typically reactive
- IPM Approaches in NYC:
  - Retraining all municipal pest control and building maintenance leadership in 3-day Rodent Academy
  - Mining administrative data to evaluate community factors and risks for rodents
  - Initiating rodent indexing

# Promoting IPM via Outreach and Policy

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- Consumers and retailers
- Landlords and tenants
- Municipal government

# Hardware Store Campaign



**HEALTHY HOMES**

**Pests**

Pests - including roaches and mice - are common asthma triggers in the home. Using pesticides may also be unhealthy. Use safer pest control in the home.

**Things You Can Do**

**Deny pests food and water**

- Keep your home clean and dry.
- Store food in sealed containers.
- Fix leaks and dripping faucets quickly.
- Wash and dry dishes after each use.
- Empty your kitchen garbage every day.

**Deny pests entry and shelter**

- Use caulk and plaster to seal holes and cracks in walls, floors, and ceilings.
- Reduce clutter, cardboard and newspapers.

**Use safer products: avoid foggers, bombs and sprays.**  
**Never use products called "Tempo", "Tres Pasitos"**

# Reports to Policy Makers and Media

A report from the New York City Community Health Survey

## NYC Vital Signs

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene      December 2005      Volume 4, No. 3

### Pests Can Be Controlled ... Safely

**M**any Yorkers live with or near cockroaches, rodents, and other pests. Insects and rodents in the home contribute to illness and reduce the quality of life. For example, people with asthma who live in infested homes are more likely to have an asthma attack. And, many people with pests in their homes overuse hazardous pesticides that can cause poisonings and other health problems.

Some pesticides that are illegal for sale in New York City are still used in the homes of many New Yorkers trying to eradicate pests. Each year, about 1,000 people report accidental hazardous exposures to pest control products, and the long-term effects of being regularly exposed to many commonly used products have not been studied. No one should have to live in homes infested with pests. Fortunately, pests can be controlled safely.

#### Too many New Yorkers live with cockroaches and rodents

- Adults in nearly 30% of households (880,000 households) report having cockroaches in their home, and nearly 25% (680,000 households) report seeing mice or rats, or signs of mice or rats, in their home or residential building.
- Cockroach and rodent infestations are most common in Northern Manhattan, Southern and Central Bronx, and Central Brooklyn.

Percent households with cockroaches

Percentage	Number of Households
4%-10%	~220,000
11%-25%	~300,000
26%-40%	~300,000
41%-57%	~360,000

Percent households seeing rodents

Percentage	Number of Households
1%-10%	~150,000
11%-25%	~200,000
26%-40%	~200,000
41%-64%	~330,000



NYC Health

# NYC Adopted Municipal Use Reduction Bill in 2005

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- Phase-out of certain pesticides
- Prior notification for pesticide applications
- Recordkeeping & reporting requirements to City Council & DOHMH
- Inter-agency pest management committee and IPM planning

# Phase-Out Schedule

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- November 9, 2005: EPA-classified **Toxicity Category I** (“Danger”)
- G May 9, 2006:  
**EPA-classified known, probable, likely, possible carcinogens**
- G November 9, 2006:  
**California-classified developmental and reproductive toxins**

# Local Law 37 Home Page

[www.nyc.gov/health/ll37](http://www.nyc.gov/health/ll37)

**NYC Health** THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT of HEALTH and MENTAL HYGIENE  [Sign up for Health Emails](#)

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**Local Law 37**  
**Pesticide Use by City Agencies**

Local Law 37 of 2005 amends the administrative code of the City of New York to promote the reduction of pesticide use by  Municipal agencies. Municipal agencies are now phasing out the use of certain pesticides, instituting new recordkeeping and reporting procedures, and providing prior notice to the public before many pesticide applications.

For more information about Local Law 37, click on one of the fact sheets to the right. To determine whether a pesticide is prohibited under Local Law 37, click on "Search for Product Prohibition Status."

**Search for Product Prohibition Status**

**Fact Sheets**

- ▶ [General Summary](#)
- ▶ [Prohibitions](#)
- ▶ [Waiver](#)
- ▶ [Reporting and Recordkeeping](#)
- ▶ [Notification](#)
- ▶ [Contracts](#)
- ▶ [Glossary](#)

**Forms and Templates**

- ▶ [Waiver Form](#)
- ▶ [Notification Sign](#)
- ▶ [Reporting Form](#)

**Other Resources**

- ▶ [Text of Local Law 37](#)
- ▶ [New York State Department of Environmental Conservation](#)
- ▶ [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)
- ▶ [New York State Pesticide Product, Ingredient, and Manufacturer System](#)
- ▶ [New York State Pesticide Sales and Use Reporting Database Group](#)

**NYC health**

# Product Prohibition Search

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**Pesticide Product Search**  
Prohibition Status under Local Law 37

Local Law 37 prohibits the use of certain pesticide products based on their toxicity and potential to cause cancer and/or reproductive effects.

The tool below can be used to evaluate whether any product registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is prohibited for use on New York City owned or leased property.

YOU MUST ENTER EITHER THE EPA PRODUCT REGISTRATION NUMBER\* **OR** THE PRODUCT NAME

Company Code      Product Code  
 -

PRODUCT NAME LOOKUP - Enter the Full Name or Any Part of the Product Name.  
 

\*Certain EPA product registration numbers contain an additional distributor number (XXXXXX-XXXXX-XXXXX). Please exclude the distributor number when performing a product search. Products with a distributor number will have a different name but the same formulation as the primary registered product displayed here.

**NYC Health**

# Product Prohibition Results

**1805 - 2005**  
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THE NEW YORK CITY  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
and MENTAL HYGIENE

**Pesticide Product Search Result**  
**Prohibition Status under Local Law 37**

**Date of Search: 1/6/2006**

**Product Name: CYNOFF EC INSECTICIDE**  
**EPA Registration: 000279-03081**  
**Local Law 37 Prohibition Status\***

PROHIBITED: Use of this product on New York City property is prohibited by the provisions of Local Law 37, effective May 9, 2006. See below for specific reason (s) for the prohibition.

**CRITERIA CONSIDERED IN DETERMINING PROHIBITION STATUS**

**Toxicity Category**

NOT PROHIBITED: This product is not classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as Toxicity Category 1.

**Carcinogenicity**

PROHIBITED: Use of this product is prohibited on New York City property due to one or more of its active ingredients being classified as a possible, probable or known carcinogen by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, effective May 9, 2006.\*\*

**Active ingredients prohibited by Local Law 37 on the basis of their carcinogenicity status**

Active Ingredient	EPA No.	EPA Carcinogenicity Status
Cypermethrin	0052315078	Group C--Possible Human Carcinogen

The logo for the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, featuring the words "NYC" and "Health" in a blue and white color scheme.

# Features of the IPM DOHMH-NYCHA Collaboration

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- Environmental area of intervention outside the direct regulatory control of Health Department
- Targets of change are institutional *and* individual
- Lessons have broad applicability to entire city, general public
- Health Department able to play significant role without significant staff resources

# Inter-Agency Environmental Collaboration: Roles for a Health Department

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1. Technical advisory capacity
2. Secure health-based funding for environmental goals
  - IPM
  - Environmental Public Health Tracking
  - Healthy Homes
3. Create flexible staffing and collaborative work environments promoting innovation
4. Design and conduct evaluations, research
5. Assemble constituencies, allies
6. Shift or accelerate secular trends
7. Exert scientific leverage

# Acknowledgements

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