

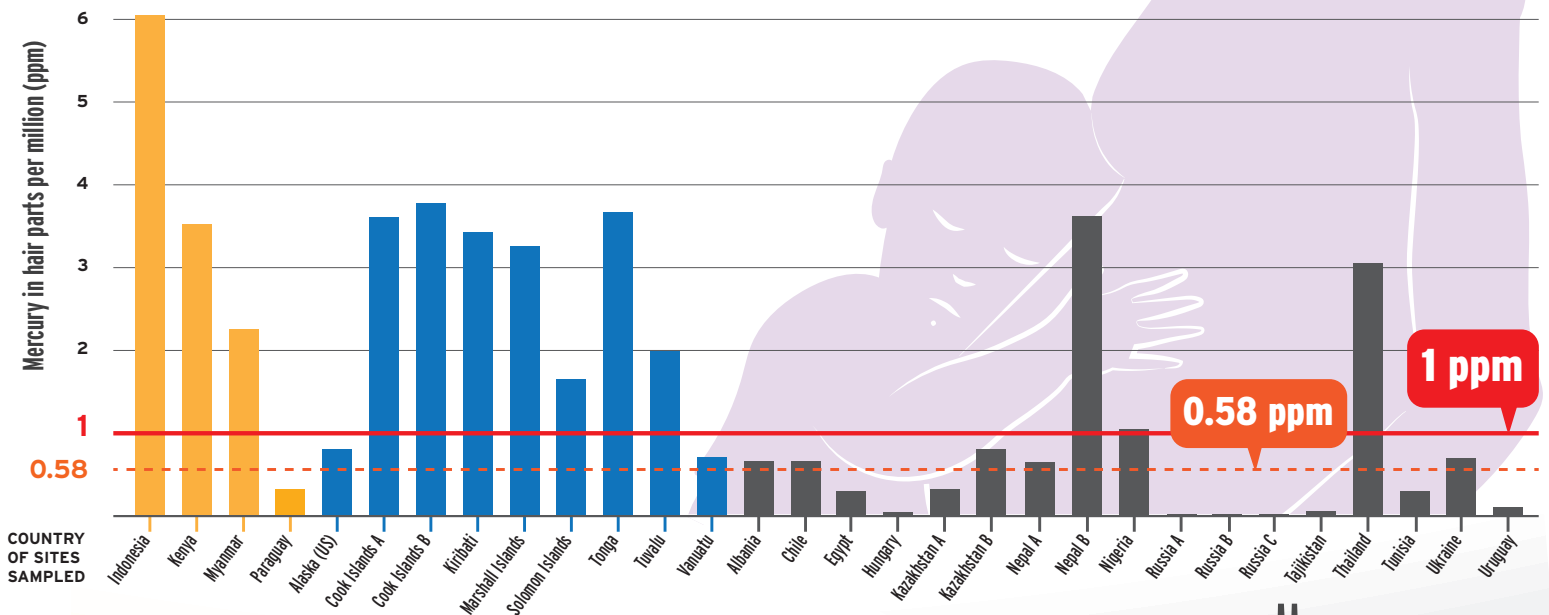
# HIGH MERCURY LEVELS IN WOMEN

GLOBAL STUDY SHOWS PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT TO WOMEN & CHILDREN

## MERCURY'S HARMFUL EFFECTS

Mercury levels above **1 ppm** can be linked to brain damage, IQ loss, and kidney and heart damage. Fetal neurological damage can begin at mercury levels greater than **0.58 ppm**.

(US EPA reference dose for mercury in human hair is equivalent to 1ppm.)



MERCURY POLLUTION SOURCES

### Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM)

Women and children in communities where mercury is used for gold mining are exposed to high levels of mercury pollution. Mercury releases into their local environments pollute fish, rice and local waterways, and contaminate local land and communities.

### Global Pollution

Mercury releases from numerous human-made sources in the air, water and soil are deposited in the oceans and contaminate fish and other food sources. Coal-fired power plants are one of the top global mercury pollution sources.

### Mixed Industrial

Many small- and large-scale industrial processes (e.g. chlor-alkali, cement kiln, waste incineration, pulp and paper plants) release mercury into the local environment, pollute waterways, contaminate food, sicken local populations, and create contaminated sites.

## SOLUTIONS

ELIMINATE THE MERCURY TRADE

PHASE OUT COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS

IDENTIFY AND CLEAN UP CONTAMINATED SITES

DOWNLOAD THE REPORT  
<http://ipen.org/mercury-and-women>