

BASIC RADON FACTS

The U.S. Surgeon General recommends ALL homes be tested for radon gas.

Breathing radon in your home can cause lung cancer

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas released in rock, soil and water that can build up to dangerous levels inside any home; this means new and old homes, well sealed and drafty homes, and homes with or without a basement. Radon gas is odorless and invisible and the only way to know if your home has a radon problem is to test for it.

Breathing radon can increase your risk of lung cancer. Radon is the number one cause of lung cancer among people who do not smoke. It is the second leading cause of lung cancer for people who do. EPA estimates that radon causes more than 20,000 deaths from lung cancer each year in the U.S. If you smoke and your home has a high radon level, your risk of lung cancer can increase even more.

Radon has been found in every state

Homes with high levels of radon have been found in every state. In fact, radon levels can vary greatly from home to home--even levels next door can be very different.

Radon is measured in picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L), a measurement of radioactivity. In the United States, the average indoor radon level is about 1.3 pCi/L. The average outdoor level is about 0.4 pCi/L. The U.S. Surgeon General and EPA recommend fixing homes with radon levels at or above 4 pCi/L. EPA also recommends that people think about fixing their homes for radon levels between 2 pCi/L and 4 pCi/L.

You should test for radon

Testing your house for radon is easy. If your house has a radon problem, it can be fixed. Fixing a radon problem reduces the risk of lung cancer for you and your family.

A simple test will tell you if your home has a high radon level. Most radon tests last between 2 and 7 days. It's as easy as opening a package, and putting the test kit in the right place. After sending the test kit back to the address in the package, the company will send your radon test results in about 2 weeks.

Radon is a serious health risk. It can be reduced easily and cost-effectively. Take action today. Encourage your friends and family members to do the same!

Many local home improvement or hardware stores sell test kits. Test kits can be ordered online too. Sometimes you can get a test kit from your state radon office. You also can hire a qualified tester to do a radon test for you. Your state radon program may keep a list of these professionals.

Kansas State University, under a cooperative agreement with EPA, provides national radon program services, including selling radon test kits and answering toll-free radon hotlines. For more information about radon testing call 1-800-SOS-RADON (1-800-767-7236) or visit www.epa.gov/radon/radontest.html

You can fix a radon problem

Help is available to fix a radon problem. You can call your state radon office to find qualified radon mitigators in your area. Also local companies with radon mitigators are in the phone book or online. The cost to reduce radon depends on how your home was built and how you use it. Most homes can be fixed for about the same cost as other common home repairs.

New homes can be built with radon-resistant features

Building new homes with simple and cost-effective radon-resistant features can reduce radon entry. Contact your builder or visit www.epa.gov/radon/rrenc/index.html for more information.

Every home should be tested before, or soon after, you move in. Even homes built with radon-resistant construction features should be tested. If high radon levels are found, it is easier and costs less to reduce radon levels in homes that are built radon-resistant.

How to Get Radon Test Kits

To get an easy-to-use radon test kit, you can:

- ☒ Buy a test kit online or at your local home improvement or hardware store. Many kits are priced under \$25.00.
- ☒ Order a test kit at www.sosradon.org or by calling 1-800-SOS-RADON (1-800-767-7236); customizable radon test kit coupons are available too.
- ☒ Request a test kit from your state radon program, which also has information on radon testing companies and laboratories in your area. Visit www.epa.gov/radon/whereyoulive.html.

The space below can be used for local contact or business information.

	Place Logo Here
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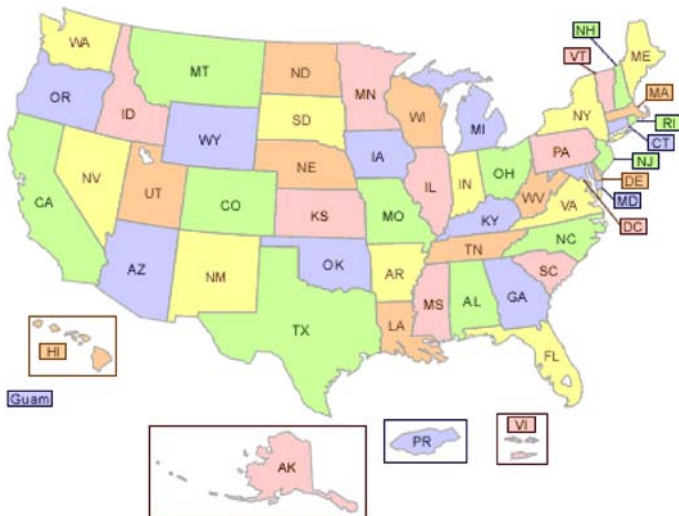
Radon (Rn) Where You Live

Find local information related to [radon](#), including your state radon program, with contact information, EPA Regional contacts, the [EPA Map of Radon Zones](#) (including full size state maps), [National Radon Action Month](#) Events, and the Directory of Builders Using [Radon-Resistant New Construction](#). Native Americans living on Tribal Lands should contact their Tribal Health Department or Housing Authority for assistance (see also www.epa.gov/iaqtribal/directory.html).

Some states "regulate" or "qualify" providers of radon measurement and mitigation services by requiring registration, certification, or licensing; some issue identification cards. Your state can provide you with more information. To date, the following states have some form of radon requirements for radon service providers ([CA](#), [DE](#), [FL](#), [IL](#), [IN](#), [IA](#), [KY](#), [ME](#), [NE](#), [NJ](#), [OH](#), [PA](#), [RI](#), [VA](#) and [WV](#)).

Click on your state in the map below, or choose your state in the pull-down menu below and click on "Go" to find your state information.

Select your state/district/territory



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[State Radon Contacts](#)

[State Indoor Radon Grants](#)
[Test or Fix Your Home](#)
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EPA Regions

Find general contact information at the regional level.

[Region 1, Boston](#) | [Region 2, New York](#) | [Region 3, Philadelphia](#) | [Region 4, Atlanta](#) | [Region 5, Chicago](#) | [Region 6, Dallas](#) | [Region 7, Kansas City](#) | [Region 8, Denver](#) | [Region 9, San Francisco](#) | [Region 10, Seattle](#)

Additional EPA Resources

[Regional Radon Training Centers](#) | [IED's Tribal Resources](#) | [EPA's State Environmental Agencies List](#) | [EPA's MyEnvironment](#)

Radon Where You Live

Washington

Radon Program

Washington State Department of Health

Website: www.doh.wa.gov [EXIT Disclaimer](#)

Community and Environment: Radon

Website: www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/Contaminants/Radon.aspx

[EXIT Disclaimer](#)

General questions about public health: (800) 525-0127

Radon Contact: [Mike Brennan](#), Mike.Brennan@doh.wa.gov, (360) 236-3253

Additional Resources

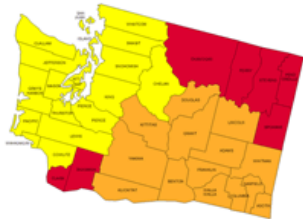
Access Washington: access.wa.gov [EXIT Disclaimer](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Indoor Air Quality Information by state - www.cdc.gov/nceh/airpollution/indoor_air.htm

EPA Resources

National Radon Action Month is in January - Browse Current & Past Events National Radon Action Month Events at www.radonleaders.org/nram/events [EXIT Disclaimer](#)

Map of Radon Zones for Washington



The purpose of this map is to assist National, State, and local organizations to target their resources and to implement radon-resistant building codes. This map is not intended to be used to determine if a home in a given zone should be tested for radon. Homes with elevated levels of radon have been found in all three zones. All homes should be tested regardless of geographic location. [Learn more](#)

Click on the image for a larger version | [What do the colors mean?](#) |

Need a full page version? ([PDE](#), 1 page, 30 K, [about PDF](#))

Directory of Builders Using Radon-Resistant New Construction

EPA offers the [Directory of Builders](#) as a one-stop service to home buyers who are looking for

builders that use radon-resistant construction techniques in new homes. The Directory contains the names of builders using RRNC who have voluntarily registered with EPA. EPA encourages all builders that use the recommended radon-resistant techniques to be listed in the Directory. Read more about [Radon-Resistant New Construction](#)

[See a Listing of States and Jurisdictions with RRNC Codes](#) | [Go to a listing of State Building Code Associations](#) | [Find Builders offering services in Washington](#)

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EPA Region 10 (Pacific Northwest)

States Covered: [AK](#) | [ID](#) | [OR](#) | [WA](#)

Regional Contacts:

Radon: [Davis Zhen](#)
zhen.davis@epa.gov
(206) 553-7660

Tribal Coordinator:

[Sally Thomas](#) thomas.sally@epa.gov (206) 553-2102

Featured Links

- [Indoor Air page](#)
- [Tribal Office](#)

EPA Resources

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