

Kansas Radon Program Newsletter

Serving individuals certified in radon measurement, mitigation and laboratory services in Kansas.



Kansas Radon Program

January 2016

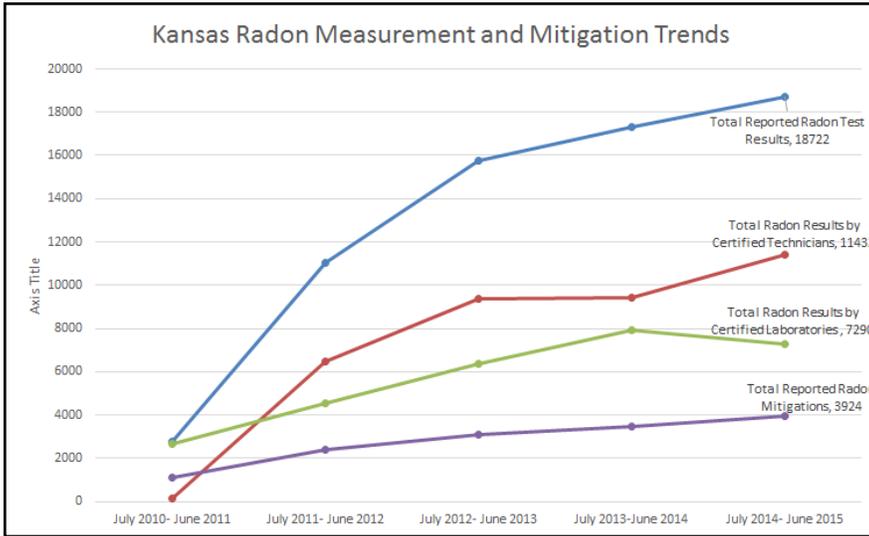
Sharing information of value with all participants. We plan periodic issues, and we welcome your suggestions, questions and requests in order to meet your needs and help us all provide quality radon risk-reduction services to the people of Kansas.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- ✓ Industry Performance: How Are We Doing?
- ✓ Radon Mitigation Standards: Deviation
- ✓ Training Opportunities
- ✓ Post Mitigation Testing Requirements
- ✓ Kansas Radon Action Month

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

How are we doing?

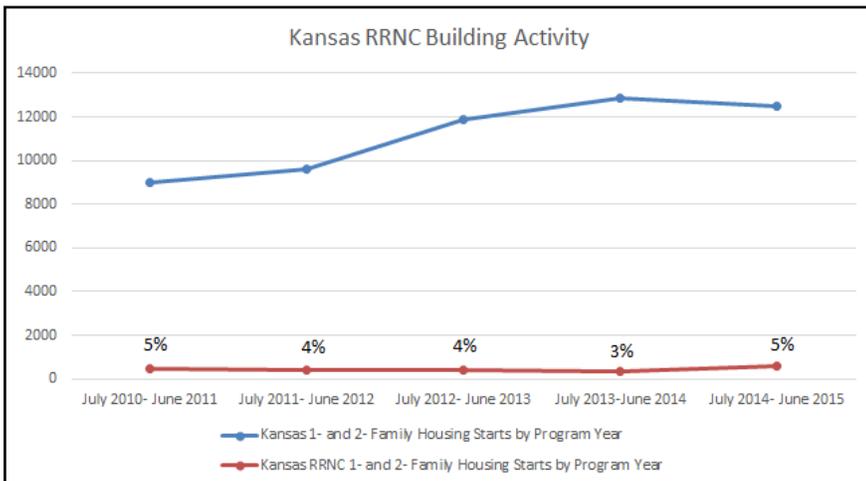


The state has seen an increase in overall testing and more of those tests are being performed by certified contractors.

The certified community is achieving risk reduction by doing about 10,000 radon tests a year as part of a home sale. From Kansas radon database statistics, approximately 33% of houses sold are likely to test high. In contrast, 10% of houses sold are fixed.

Total Kansas Home Sales with Radon Tests and Mitigations

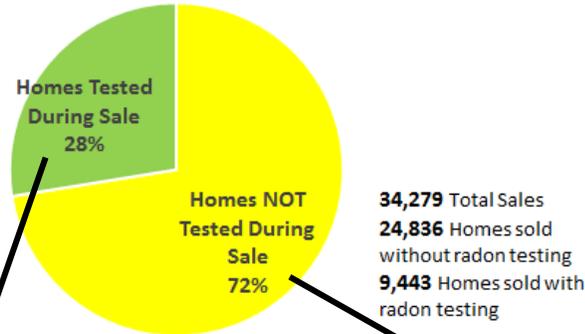
	FY 2014: July 2013- June 2014	FY 2015: July 2014- June 2015
Number of Homes Sold	34,279	35,893
Number of Homes Tested	9,443	11,432
Number of Homes Fixed	3,483	3,924
Percent of Homes Sold & Fixed	10%	11%



There is tremendous potential for an increase in Radon Resistant New Construction built homes. If RRNC were adopted into building codes in Johnson and Sedgwick counties, the state would see a dramatic improvement in RRNC numbers. Currently, Junction City, Lawrence, Manhattan, Salina, and Topeka have RRNC building codes in place.

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE: 2014

Radon Testing During Kansas Home Sales
July 2013-June 2014



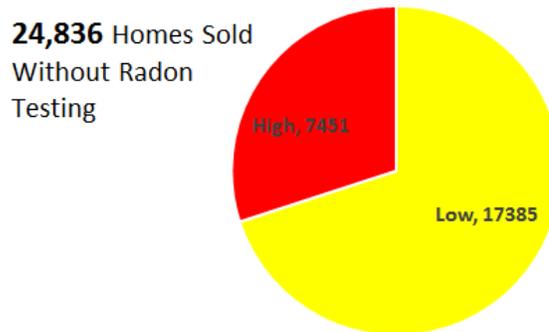
LESS THAN 1/3 of homes sold were tested.

Many of the homes **not tested** would **likely test high**.

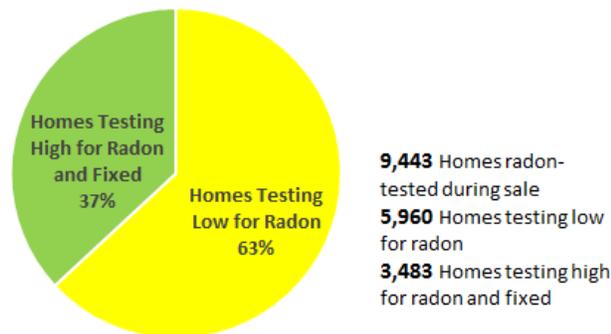
Opportunities exist for increased radon risk reduction.

1 in 3 homes would likely test high based on Kansas radon data. Of the **24,836 homes not tested for radon**, we are likely missing **7,451 homes** which **would test high AND are not tested during sale**.

Estimated Radon Levels in Kansas Homes Sold Without Radon Tests
July 2013- June 2014



Radon Mitigations in Kansas Homes Tested During Sale
July 2013-June 2014

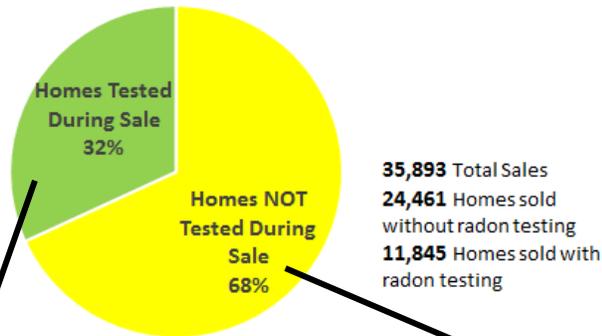


Of the **9,443 homes tested for radon** during a home sale, **37% test high and were fixed**.

This recent data **confirms the 1 in 3 estimate** of homes likely to test high shown by the Kansas radon database.

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE: 2015

Radon Testing During Kansas Home Sales
July 2014-June 2015



1/3 of homes sold were tested.

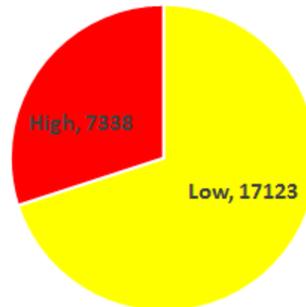
Many of the homes not tested would likely test high.

Opportunities exist for increased radon risk reduction.

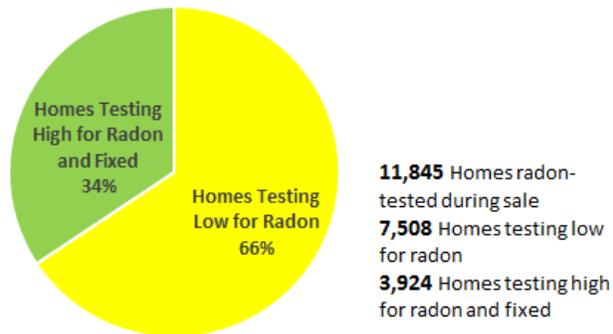
1 in 3 homes would likely test high based on Kansas radon data. Of the **24,461 homes not tested for radon**, we are likely missing **7,338 homes** which **would test high AND are not tested during sale.**

Homes Sold in Kansas Not Tested for Radon
July 2014-June 2015

24,461 Homes Sold Without Radon Testing



Radon Mitigations in Kansas Homes Tested During Sale
July 2014-June 2015



Of the **11,845 homes tested for radon** during a home sale, **34% test high and were fixed.**

This recent data **confirms the 1 in 3 estimate** of homes likely to test high shown by the Kansas radon database.

Radon Mitigation Standards: Deviation



COMPLIANCE with the requirements of the Radon Mitigation Standards (RMS) is **MANDATORY**.

The following considerations should be observed:

IF

- The **homeowner** may **insist on non-RMS compliant features** for cosmetic reasons, such as routing of exhaust pipe, use of downspout or other non-compliant material for exhaust

OR

- If **standard techniques** are **not working** and you **want to try a different** radon reduction **method** such as active soil pressurization,

THEN

- ✓ **Contact** the Kansas Radon Program at Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to **obtain permission** prior to installation.
- ✓ If KDHE does **not provide prior approval**, the deviation **could result in a citation**.
- ✓ **Inform homeowner** that the installation requested will not comply with the radon mitigation standards, and of the potential pitfalls of such an installation.
- ✓ **Document the non-compliances** in the client information package (RMS section 18.5).
- ✓ **Ensure** with post-mitigation radon testing that radon **levels below 4.0 pCi/L** have been achieved.

Give us a call at **785-296-1560** or contact us by email at **radon@kdheks.gov** if you are in doubt or have questions about RMS compliance.

Upcoming Training:

(more info on all of these at www.kansasradonprogram.org)

10th Annual Region 7 Radon Stakeholder Meeting Tuesday March 8, 2016

Lied Lodge and Conference Center
2700 Sylvan Road
Nebraska City, NE 68410

Meeting Registration: There is **no cost** and registration is not required, but **space is limited**. For planning purposes, we ask that you register for the meeting by **February 23, 2016**, at the following website: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R7_2016radonmeeting.

Separate training scheduled for March 7, 2016 will be announced soon and will have an independent registration.

This meeting has been approved for NRPP, NRSB, Nebraska, Kansas & Iowa continuing education credits. Dress is casual.

For reservations, please call the **hotel** directly at 800-546-5433. Please refer to the "Region 7 Radon Stakeholders' Meeting" to get the group rate of \$103 per night plus 12% tax. Reservations must be made by **February 13, 2016**. The hotel website is www.liedlodge.org.

Post-Mitigation Testing Requirements

Kansas law adopts, by reference, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Radon Mitigation Standards (RMS).

The EPA RMS, section 17.4, states that “**upon completion** of radon mitigation work, a **test of mitigation system effectiveness shall** be conducted...”

Certified radon mitigation technicians have the following options for fulfilling this requirement:

- To avoid conflict of interest with the test result, the **preferred option** is to recommend **another certified measurement professional conduct the test**.
- If you are measurement certified **you can conduct the test**, as long as you recommend an independent test, and the client is willing to accept your test.
- You **may provide a short-term test kit from a Kansas-certified laboratory** to the client and monitor the test kit results online using the kit serial number. Follow up with the client to ensure the kit is used. This option is **NOT AVAILABLE AS A POST MITIGATION TEST IN A REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION**.

Be sure to include the post-mitigation radon measurement result on your quarterly data submission and in the client information package (RMS section 18.5) you provide to the customer. The Kansas law and EPA RMS are available on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment webpage at <http://www.kdheks.gov/radiation/radon.htm>.

The post-mitigation radon test data is required to be submitted by the mitigation technician with the data submitted each quarter.

Kansas Radon Action Month Activities

JANUARY 2016 is both **Kansas Radon Action Month (KRAM)** (sponsored by the Kansas Radon Program (KRP) and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)) and **National Radon Action Month (NRAM)** (sponsored nationally by the EPA).

The KRP **will be airing both television and radio public service messages** localized with the state radon hotline and website. The PSA's are scheduled to air **January 15 through March 15, 2016** in association with the Kansas Association of Broadcasters (KAB). *These television and radio spots lead to increased interest in residential radon testing by Kansas residents.* The KRP produced 2 new radon tv spots (a 30-sec English and a 30-sec Spanish spot) in 2015, which can be viewed at www.kansasradonprogram.org.

The KRP will provide in-person or remote public education by request across Kansas during KRAM. For example, radon professionals who are members of local social groups such as a Rotary Club can request KRP personnel to speak at monthly meetings.

Additionally, KRP personnel will be *conducting a round of radon resistant new construction (RRNC) new home evaluations in Salina, Kansas during January.* The results of the evaluation will be reported to the public in Spring 2016.

The KRP encourages all Kansas Radon Professionals to include a newspaper column, radio show, newsletter article, or other awareness efforts about radon in January activities.

If you would like to have us on a radio call in show or other program please contact Brian Hanson (785.532.4996 or bhanson@ksu.edu).