Kansas Radon Facts

- **U.S. Surgeon General Health Advisory** (January 2005)
  - Indoor radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and breathing it over prolonged periods can represent a significant health risk to families all over the country. It’s important to know that this threat is completely preventable. Radon can be detected with a simple test and fixed through well-established venting techniques.

- **Lung Cancer Incidence for Kansas**
  - 1869 new lung cancer cases (approximate) each year in Kansas
    - Kansas Cancer Registry
  - 200 new radon-induced lung cancer cases (approximate) each year in Kansas
    - American Lung Association (ALA)

- **How Many Homes in Kansas Have High Radon Levels?**
  - The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that 1 in 4 homes in Kansas will test for radon concentrations above the EPA recommended reduction level of 4.0 pCi/L
    - Kansas has approximately 858,000 single family residences
    - Using EPA numbers it is estimated then that approximately 214,000 single family residences will test at or above 4.0 pCi/L
  
  *Actual Kansas radon data indicates that the rate of elevated radon levels is higher than 1 in 4.*

- **How Many Radon Tests Have Been Conducted in Kansas?**
  - 112,791 total radon tests have been reported to date
    - Gross average indoor radon level for Kansas is 4.9 pCi/L
  - 46,268 tests reported above 4.0 pCi/L (~ 41% or 2 out of every 5 homes tested)
    - 2,708 tests reported above 20.0 pCi/L
    - Very high radon levels which have been reported include:
      - 743.6 pCi/L reported in Manhattan, February 2008
      - 470.1 pCi/L reported in Ellsworth, February 2012
      - 317.8 pCi/L reported in Manhattan, March 2014
      - 309.0 pCi/L reported in Olathe, May 2015
Who Provides Testing and Fixing Services in Kansas?

There are currently:
- 194 Kansas (KDHE) certified radon measurement technicians working in Kansas
- 67 Kansas (KDHE) certified radon mitigation technicians working in Kansas
- The list of Kansas certified radon professionals can be found at http://www.kdheks.gov/radiation/download/Certified_Contractor_List.pdf

How Many Homes With High Radon Levels Have Been Mitigated Since 2005 in Kansas?
- 25,987 homes (estimated) had radon mitigation systems installed since 2005
- 2,872 homes had mitigation systems installed between October 2015 and June 2016
- Average starting radon value for homes mitigated: 9.4 pCi/L
- Average ending radon value post mitigation: 1.4 pCi/L

How Many Homes in Kansas Have Been Built “Radon Resistant” with Passive Radon Control Systems?
- 5,423 homes (estimated) had passive radon control systems installed during construction since 2005

Are There Any State Level Requirements or Laws Regarding Radon in Kansas?
- As of July 1, 2009, all residential real property contracts must contain a specific paragraph recommending radon testing in real estate transactions and disclosure of radon test results. There are currently no legal requirements to test or to reduce elevated indoor radon levels
- As of July 1, 2011, all professionals offering radon services (measurement, mitigation or laboratory services) must be certified by KDHE, and follow KDHE-adopted standards of practice
  - If radon testing is being conducted in conjunction with a real estate contract, ONLY KDHE-certified measurement professionals can perform those tests

Are There Any Local Laws Regarding Radon in Kansas?
- Manhattan (2001), Topeka (2006), Lawrence (2007), Salina (2013) and Junction City (2015) have passed building code ordinances requiring the use of radon-resistive techniques in new one and two family residential construction

### 2016 Kansas Radon Average Values by County

![Radon Level Map](image)

**RADON**
- 0.0 – 1.9 pCi/L
- 2.0 – 3.9 pCi/L
- 4.0 pCi/L or more
- No Data

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