

# Kansas Radon Program Newsletter

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



## Kansas Radon Program

**September 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.

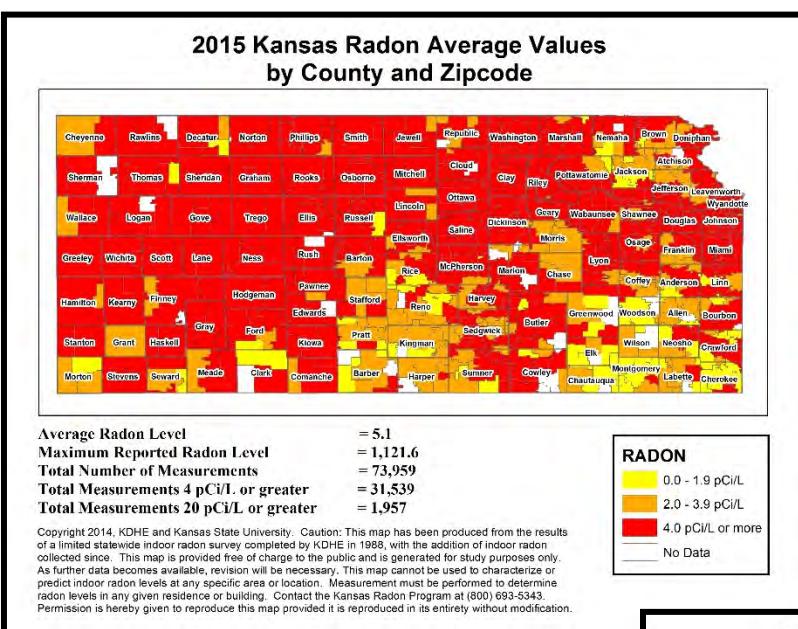
## IN THIS ISSUE:

- ✓ Understanding Radon Maps
- ✓ Risk Reduction Update
- ✓ How Long Should I Test?
- ✓ Testing in Home Sales Require Certified Measurement Technicians
- ✓ Training Opportunities
- ✓ Oversight Means Onsite
- ✓ K-State's New Training Space

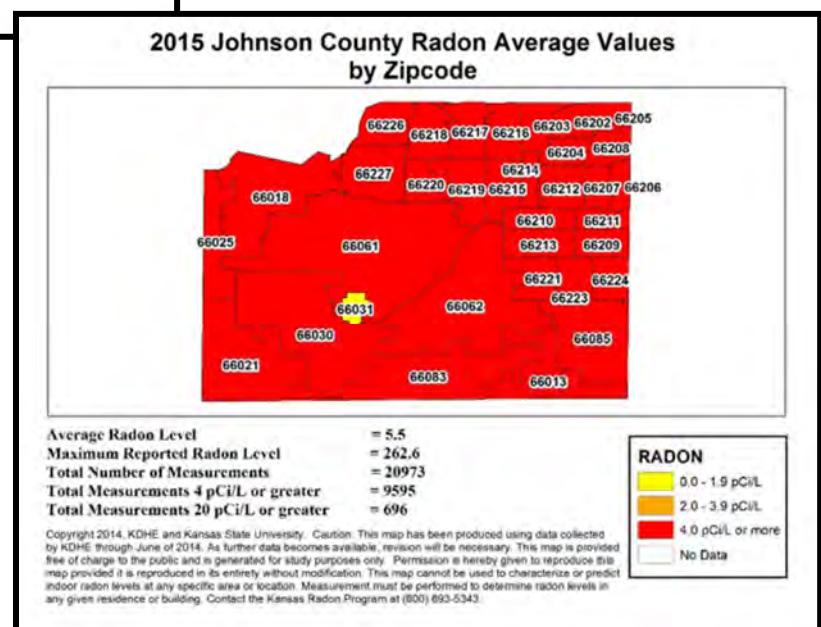
# Understanding and Talking About Radon Maps: A PRIMER

The Kansas Radon Program (KRP) produces, on a semi-annual basis, updated maps documenting radon measurement activity across the state and at the county levels for all counties. Updated maps with data current through June 2016 are expected to be available at [www.kansasradonprogram.org](http://www.kansasradonprogram.org) in October. It is important to understand what information these provide, and what information they do not.

The maps include state or county observed radon average, maximum reported radon value, total reported measurements, and the total reported measurements greater than or equal to 4 pCi/L and greater than or equal to 20 pCi/L.



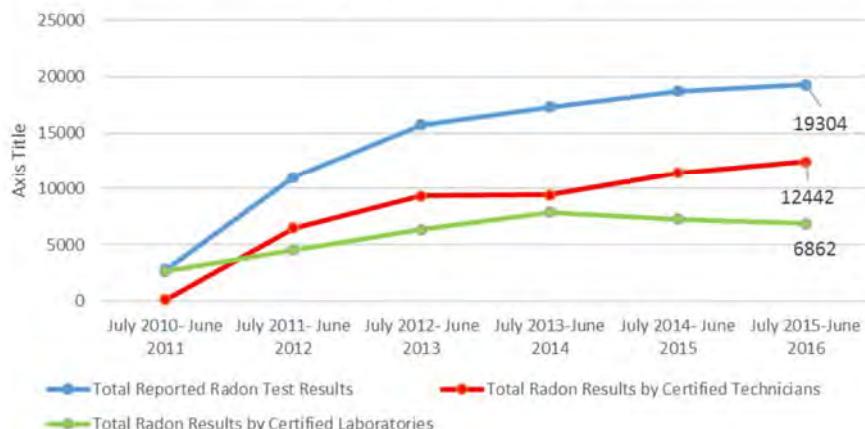
The data is descriptive and is not intended to be used for predictive purposes. The only way to determine the radon level is to test.



The intent and design of the maps is as a reporting tool to the radon industry and the Kansas public on radon measurement activity; the maps ARE NOT designed (or able) to tell a homeowner in Kansas what their radon value will be upon testing.

# UPDATE: RADON RISK REDUCTION ACTIVITY

Kansas Radon Measurement Trends  
July 2010-June 2016

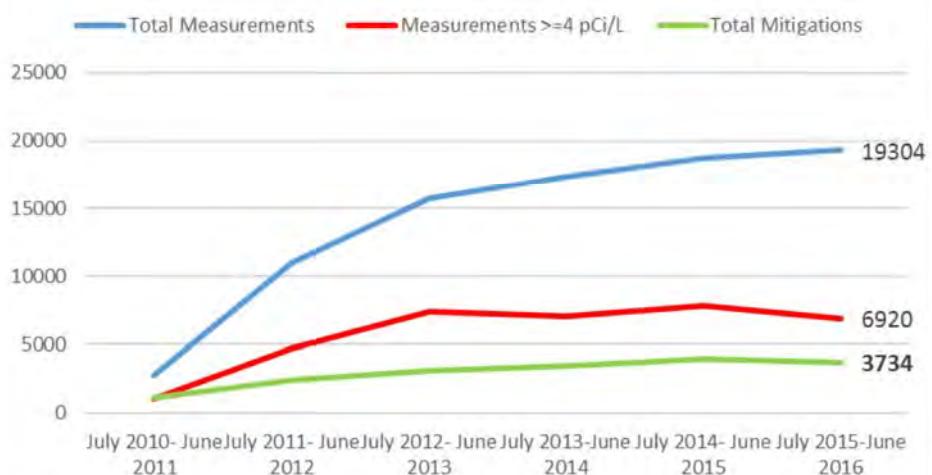


In the state fiscal period of July 2015-June 2016, a total of 19,304 radon measurements were reported to the Kansas Radon Program (KRP) at Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) by Kansas-certified radon technicians and radon laboratories. Of those measurements, 12,442 (64%) were reported by certified radon technicians and 6,862 (36%) were reported by certified radon laboratories.

Of the total 19,304 reported measurements, 6,920 measurements (36%) were 4 pCi/L or higher. Certified radon mitigation professionals reported 3,734 new mitigation system installations for the same period (July 2015-June 2016).

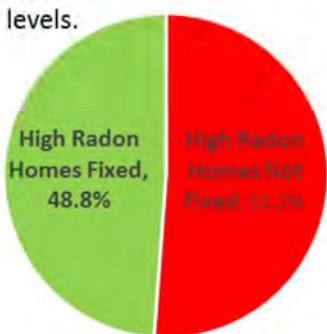
The reported mitigations indicate that approximately 54% of elevated homes identified in that period had their radon levels reduced.

Kansas Radon Risk Reduction Results  
July 2011-June 2016



Homes with High Radon in Kansas  
July 2011-June 2016

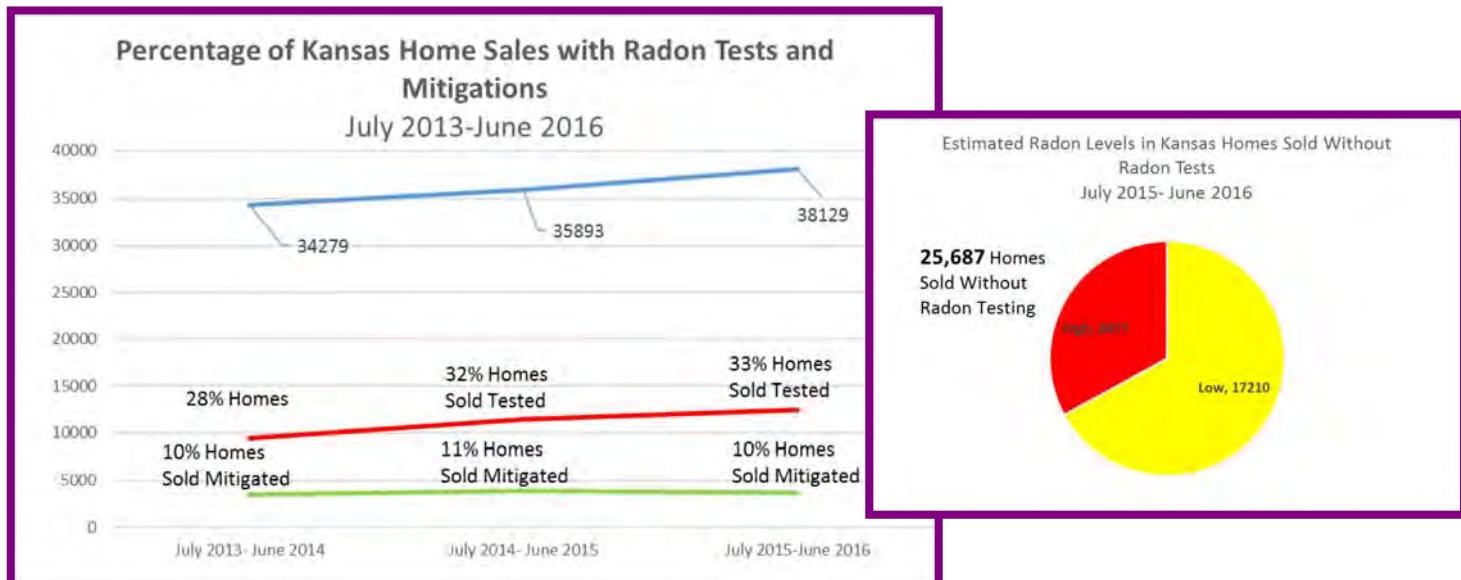
34,039 homes in Kansas were found with high radon levels.



Across the five years of Kansas Radon Certification Act's enforcement, 34,039 homes in Kansas were identified with elevated radon levels, of which approximately 49% had mitigation systems installed.

# UPDATE: RADON RISK REDUCTION ACTIVITY

During the state fiscal period of July 2015-June 2016, the Kansas Association of Realtors reported a total of 38,129 homes sales in Kansas. The KRP estimates that based on the reported number of measurements from certified radon technicians, approximately 33% of homes sold in that period included a radon test. The KRP also estimates that approximately 10% of all homes sold in this period had a radon mitigation system installed.



## Testing duration protocols: How long to test?

For a reproducible radon measurement, consider the length of time that the test is run. The Kansas Administrative Regulations adopts the EPA document *Protocols for radon and radon decay product measurements in homes*. The EPA protocol reads as follows:

*In addition to maintaining closed-building conditions during the measurement, closed-building conditions for 12 hours prior to the initiation of the measurement are a required condition for measurements lasting less than four days, and are recommended prior to measurements lasting up to a week in duration.*

2.3.2 Paragraph 2



When 12 hour closed-house conditions cannot be verified prior to placement of a radon test,

- **Continuous radon monitor (CRM)** test length should account for a 12-hour delayed start after closed house conditions are established or be run for at least four days after they are established
- **Non-CRM devices** should be deployed for the recommended period by the manufacturer, and if that period is less than four days, closed house conditions must be established 12 hours prior to starting the test. If the period can be 96 hours, the device can be deployed when the house has been put in closed house conditions

# Home Sales Require Certified Testers



The Radon Certification Law exempts homeowners or building owners from having to be certified for radon measurement to test their own residence or building. An additional exemption allows for a person to test without certification as long as they do not receive compensation (remuneration).

However, the law clearly states that during a sale or transfer of property those exemptions do not apply. During real-estate transactions, a certified radon measurement technician must perform the measurements.

K.S.A. 48-16a05(e)  
[http://www.kdheks.gov/radiation/download/Radon\\_Certification\\_Law\\_Statute\\_48\\_16a\\_1\\_12.pdf](http://www.kdheks.gov/radiation/download/Radon_Certification_Law_Statute_48_16a_1_12.pdf)

**Mitigators who are not measurement technicians, homeowners, and realtors cannot do the post-mitigation tests themselves. Leaving a charcoal kit is NOT an option.**

## Upcoming Training:

(more info on all of these at [www.kansasradonprogram.org](http://www.kansasradonprogram.org))

### Combined Radon Measurement and Mitigation Course and Exams

**October 3-8, 2016 - Manhattan, KS**

Serves all KS, NE, and NRPP Certification requirements. For content questions call Bruce Snead at 785-532-4992.

**Location:** Engineering Extension, 2323 Anderson Ave., Suite 300, Manhattan, KS 66502  
(enter from the circle drive at the back and take the elevator to the 3rd floor)

To register online, visit:  
<https://outreach.ksu.edu/etrakWebApp/Registration.aspx?MeetingCode=605097AS>

### Radon Measurement Course and Exam

**November 14-15, 2016 - Leavenworth, KS**

Serves all KS, NE, and NRPP Certification requirements. For content questions call Bruce Snead at 785-532-4992.

**Location:** Midwest Inspectors Institute, 512 Delaware St., Leavenworth, KS 66048  
(park in lot north of building on south side of Shawnee St and enter through white door on alley and head upstairs)

To register online, visit:  
<https://outreach.ksu.edu/etrakWebApp/Registration.aspx?MeetingCode=605097AT>

# On-site Supervision Means Certified technician required ON THE JOB SITE



Certified radon technicians in Kansas have asked about who needs to be present on the job site during a radon measurement or mitigation job.

The Radon Certification law specifies that radon measurement must be performed by a certified radon measurement technician. It is a violation to allow non-certified personnel to deploy or collect radon measurement devices as part of a radon measurement job.

Radon mitigation technicians can use non-certified laborers to assist with tasks for mitigation system installation, providing that the radon mitigation technician remains on-site and provides adequate supervision of the tasks. Mitigation work that is performed by a non-certified laborer without a certified radon mitigation technician on-site is a violation of the Radon Certification Law.

K.S.A. 48-16a05(a), 48-16a06(a), 48-16a06(e)(3)

[http://www.kdheks.gov/radiation/download/Radon\\_Certification\\_Law\\_Statute\\_48\\_16a\\_1\\_12.pdf](http://www.kdheks.gov/radiation/download/Radon_Certification_Law_Statute_48_16a_1_12.pdf)

## New Radon Training Facility at K-State

Engineering Extension is pleased to share that we now have a significant training facility which we will use for radon certification continuing education in Manhattan. We have a large training room with current AV and videoconferencing technology, with a capacity of up to 80 people. We also have a conference room with the same technology and capacity of up to 30 people. Our first offering is October 3-8 with a combined measurement/mitigation course and exams. Here is the web site for the course: <https://outreach.ksu.edu/etrakWebApp/Registration.aspx?MeetingCode=605097AR>

**We look forward to hosting the  
Region 7 radon CE courses  
In the facility on March 6, 2017!**

Kansas State University  
Engineering Extension  
2323 Anderson Ave  
Suite 300 (3rd floor)  
Manhattan, KS 66502

There is ample parking on site with parking meters for short visits, but longer visits will require a KSU parking permit at \$5 per day.

