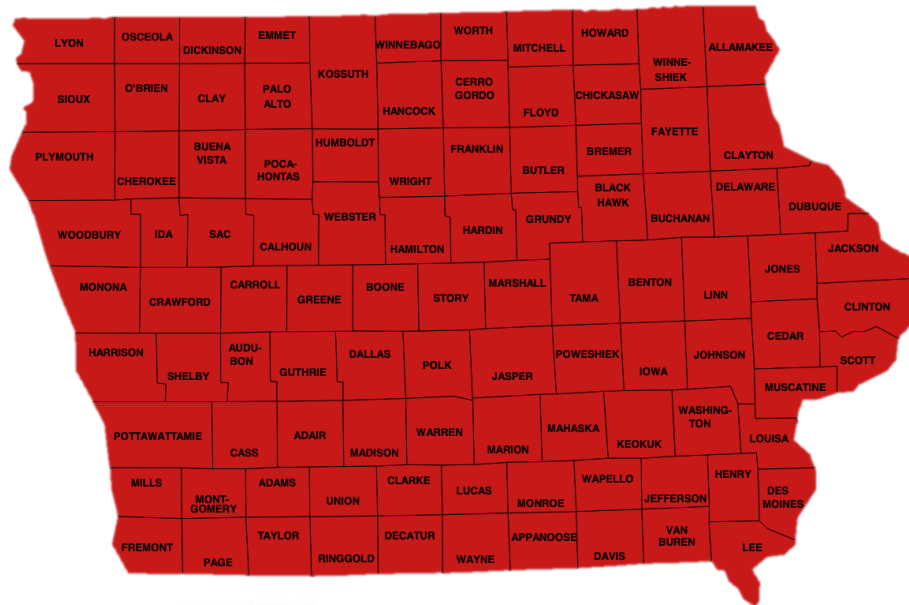


Iowa Radon Fact Sheet



Legend

- Zone 1 *Highest Potential (greater than 4 pCi/L)*
- Zone 2 *Moderate Potential (from 2 to 4 pCi/L)*
- Zone 3 *Low Potential (less than 2 pCi/L)*

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Radon Facts

- An estimated 400 deaths per year in Iowa are caused by radon-induced lung cancer.
 - That is approximately the same number of people who die in traffic accidents each year.
 - (United States Environmental Protection Agency, US EPA, and Iowa Department of Transportation)
- U.S. EPA surveys in Iowa have found that 7 in 10 homes contain radon concentrations above the U.S. EPA's radon action level of 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/L).
- Iowa leads the nation in the percent of homes over the 4 pCi/L as well as percent of homes over 20 pCi/L.
- The average indoor radon concentration in Iowa is more than six times the national average.

Iowa Radon Fact Sheet

Iowa Cancer Control Plan (2018 – 2022)

Goal #7: Decrease exposure to radon and other environmental substances linked to cancer.

- A. Increase the percentage of Iowans who test their homes for radon and mitigate when needed.*
- B. Educate the public, health care providers, public health officials, schools, property owners and managers and policy makers about radon and other environmental substances linked to cancer.
- C. Collaborate with cities and housing departments to develop initiatives that provide financial assistance for radon testing and mitigation.
- D. Develop and support cross-sector initiatives that increase home radon testing and mitigation.
- E. Require radon testing and mitigation in schools, multi-housing units, rental housing and new construction.
- F. Require newly constructed homes and buildings to be built using passive radon control methods according to the 2015 International Residential Building Code.
- G. Support research and funding to increase the evidence for environmental cancer risks.
- H. Support initiatives that reduce environmental exposures to substances or chemicals linked to cancer.

*EPA strongly recommends that you fix your home if your test shows 4 picocuries (pCi/L) or more. If your test shows between 2 and 4 pCi/L, consider fixing.

Iowa Enacted Legislation

Code of Iowa Code Chapter 136B "Radon Testing" became statute in 1988. Iowa Administrative Code 641—Chapter 43, "Minimum Requirements for Radon Testing and Analysis," was also adopted in 1988 and established requirements for the certification of radon measurement specialists and radon measurement laboratories. Code of Iowa Chapter 136B was amended in 1989 and Iowa Administrative Code 641—Chapter 44 "Minimum Requirements for Radon Mitigation" was adopted and implemented to establish requirements for the credentialing of radon mitigation specialists. These provisions obligate the IDPH to credential and regulate the radon measurement and mitigation industry in Iowa.

Iowa Administrative Code 441-109 "Child Care Centers" requires testing of licensed child care centers and Preschools within one year of opening and retested every 2 years. If radon test results are above 4.0 pCi/L mitigation must be installed. (IAC 441-109.11(7) d.)

Iowa Administrative Code 193E-14 "Seller Property Condition Disclosure" requires disclosure of radon testing by a home seller at time of closure and to provide the buyer with the "Iowa Home-Buyers and Sellers Fact Sheet"

New section added to Iowa Code Chapter 280 UNIFORM SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS; Section 280.32 Radon testing and mitigation

Effective July 1, 2022, each public school district shall establish a radon plan and schedule for short-term tests for radon gas to be performed at each attendance center under its control at least once by July 1, 2027, and at least once every five years thereafter. Testing shall be conducted by an Iowa certified radon measurement specialist or by district employees that have completed an approved school radon testing training program. Testing shall be based on recognized national standards that outline school radon testing practices. If testing indicates radon levels at or above 4.0 pCi/L the public school district shall retain or employ an Iowa credentialed radon mitigation specialist to develop a radon mitigation plan. All new school construction shall incorporate radon resistant construction techniques.