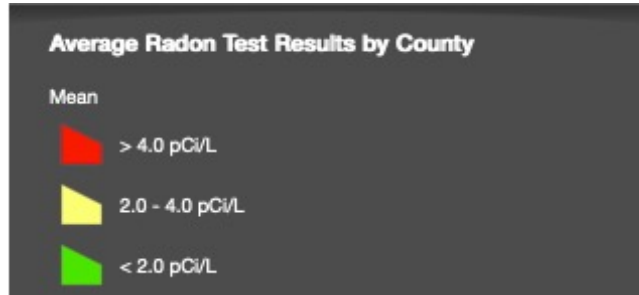


# Tennessee Radon Fact Sheet



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## Radon Facts

- One in four homes in Tennessee test high for radon.
- Tennessee recommends testing every couple of years for radon.
  - These results must be disclosed when a home has been tested for a real estate transaction.

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## State of Tennessee Cancer Plan (2018 - 2022)

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas produced by the breakdown of uranium in rocks and soils. Radon gas is tasteless, colorless and odorless. The only way to know if it is in your home is to test for it. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation considers radon to be a serious problem in our state. Tennessee does have higher than the national average of radon in homes. No matter where you live in Tennessee, there is the potential for radon to enter your home. Regardless of your zone designation or geographic location, all homes should be tested for radon. Radon gas has been identified as the second leading cause of lung cancer, second only to cigarette smoking. For more information or to order a free test kit for your home, go to [tn.gov](http://tn.gov) and type "Tennessee radon program" in the search box.

Objective: Increase the number of homes tested annually for radon by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Radon Program from 1,410 in 2018 to 2,500 by 2022.

### Strategies

- Policy, Systems and Environmental Changes
  1. Require radon testing every two years and mitigation policies for public places including: worksites, local schools and school districts, day care centers and licensed home day care providers and city, county and state-owned public buildings.
  2. Require radon disclosures tested in last two years as part of single or multifamily homes or apartment sales.
  3. Require home mortgage lending sources to require radon testing and mitigation.
  4. Require new homebuilders to use radon-resistant techniques as outlined in the International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings.
- Provider Training and Professional Development
  1. Educate K-12 teachers through a Radon Teacher Workshop with continuing education credits.
  2. Educate radon professionals through training for large building measurement and mitigation.
  3. Reduce the incidence of radon-induced lung cancer by increasing radon education for certified professionals to better serve the citizens of Tennessee.
  4. Support professional training classes to increase radon awareness consultation during real estate transactions and home inspections.
- Patient Access, Education and Programming
  1. Educate realtors on the dangers of radon.
  2. Educate home inspectors on the dangers of radon.
  3. Provide free or reduced-cost radon test kits.
  4. Promote National Radon Action Month in January of each year.
  5. Promote citizen resolutions to test homes.
- Progress and Evaluation
  1. Promote citizen science in testing for radon to increase data.
  2. Support the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention mapping project for states.
  3. Support a mapping project with layovers of tobacco use, lung cancer incidence and radon levels.

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## Tennessee Enacted Legislation

**Tennessee Code § 49-2-121** Encourages local education agencies to implement an IAQ inspection and evaluation program, such as EPA's IAQ Tools for Schools program, which may address ventilation, radon, relative humidity, separation of students and staff from construction, and reduced use of cleaning and maintenance products. Directs the state Department of Education to compile a statewide survey of IAQ in public schools by 2006.

**Tennessee Code §§ 66-5-201 et seq.** Requires sellers of residential real property containing 1-4 dwelling units to provide purchasers with a residential property disclaimer statement or a disclosure form that discloses knowledge of any environmental hazards on the property, including radon gas, asbestos, and lead-based paint.