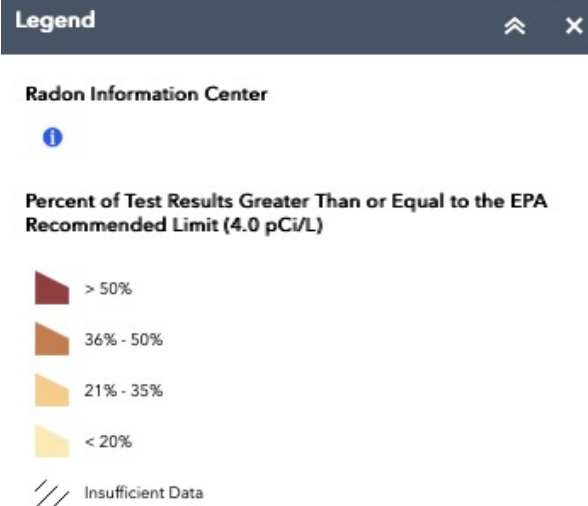
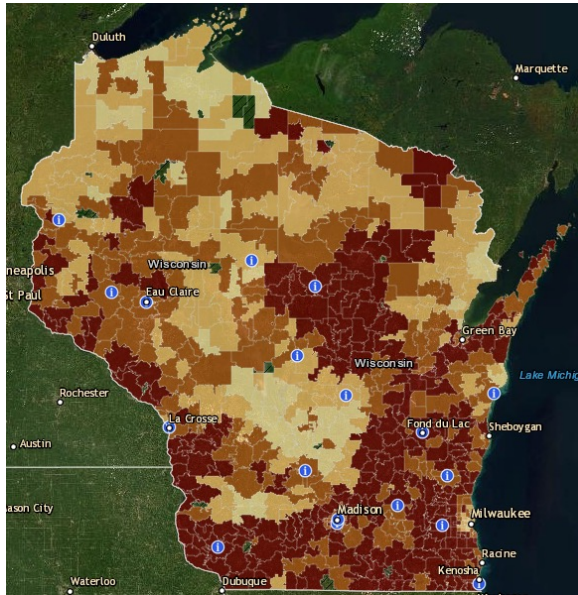


# Wisconsin Radon Fact Sheet



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## Wisconsin Radon Program

The Wisconsin Radon Program is operated by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services in the Wisconsin Division of Public Health. Radon is a naturally occurring gas that is radioactive and can cause lung cancer. The Wisconsin Radon Program is funded by the EPA State Indoor Radon Grant (SIRG). Wisconsin meets the SIRG 40% matching funds requirement. Wisconsin has a unique program model, which effectively distributes SIRG funding to all corners of the state through collaboration with local health departments. Radon Information Centers are located across the state, staffed with experts to help answer questions and sell low cost radon test kits to residents. SIRG funding is used to support local health departments with outreach and education efforts to various audiences including realtors, health professionals and residents. Through the use of SIRG funds, Wisconsin is able to provide residents with access to health professionals that have been trained to help them understand the health risks of radon when they find elevated levels in their homes. Wisconsin supports private sector contractors by providing training which allows professionals to maintain certification to perform testing and mitigations for residents.

# Wisconsin Radon Fact Sheet

## Cancer Control Plan 2020-2030:

### Priority #6: Decrease Exposure to Radon

#### Strategy A: Increase Awareness of the connection between radon and cancer risk

- Educate the public, health care providers, public health officials, schools, property owners, property managers, and policymakers about radon and other environmental substances linked to cancer.
- Create and tailor educational and awareness materials on the link between radon and cancer risk.
- Promote educational materials in health care facilities, schools, and at home shows.
- Integrate educational materials into real estate and rental documents.
- Establish requirements to inform homeowners and tenants of radon and its risk for lung cancer.
- Track and monitor the number of policies introduced and passed to reduce radon exposure.

#### Strategy B: Increase the testing for and mitigation of radon in homes and other buildings

- Increase the percentage of Wisconsinites who test their homes for radon and mitigate when needed.
- Increase accessibility and availability of radon testing and mitigation services.
- Collaborate with cities and housing departments to develop initiatives that provide financial assistance for radon testing and mitigation.
- Tailor outreach and awareness efforts for radon testing and mitigation services.
- Develop data collection standards to monitor testing and mitigation of homes and buildings in Wisconsin.
- Require radon testing and mitigation in schools, multi-unit housing, rental housing, and new construction projects.
- Require radon tests be performed prior to the sale of single-family homes.
- Establish a plan to provide equitable access to radon testing and mitigation services during public health emergencies.

#### Strategy C: Increase the number of residential buildings built or remodeled using radon reducing methods.

- Develop an awareness campaign about radon-resistant construction techniques and methods.
- Develop data collection standards to monitor radon-resistant construction.
- Support building codes that require newly constructed homes and buildings to use passive radon control methods.
- Increase qualified radon mitigation professionals in Wisconsin.

# Wisconsin Radon Fact Sheet

## Wisconsin Enacted Legislation

### **Wisconsin Statutes § 254.34**

Establishes the Department of Health Services as the state radiation control agency and requires the department to: develop and disseminate radon information; coordinate a radon measurement program; work with local health departments to perform radon measurement and mitigation in homes; develop training materials and conduct training in radon diagnosis and mitigation methods; and determine performance standards and funding allocations for regional radon centers.

### **Wisconsin Statutes §§ 709.001 et seq**

Requires sellers of property containing up to four dwelling units to provide buyers with a residential real estate condition disclosure report, including the existence of potentially hazardous substances, including radon, lead-based paint, or asbestos.

### **DCF 250, Family Child Care Centers and DCF 251, Group Child Care Centers**

The proposed rules revise chs. DCF 250 and 251 to do the following:

- Require centers to be *tested for radon gas levels* within 6 months after the rule's effective date or 6 months prior to providing care for children. If the radon gas levels exceed 4 picocuries per liter of air in the lowest level of a center that is used by children in care for at least 7 hours per week, a radon *mitigation* system must be installed.
- *Funding* for activities related to radon mitigation is available under Payment Program A of the Child Care Counts: Stabilization Payment Program, which will provide monthly payments to eligible regulated child care providers through January 2024 to support costs to remain in regulatory compliance, enhance health and safety practices, and promote continuous quality improvement.
- After the initial tests, centers in residential buildings will be required to test for radon every 2 years and centers in commercial buildings will be required to test for radon every 5 years.