

Nebraska Radon Fact Sheet

NEBRASKA RADON PROGRAM

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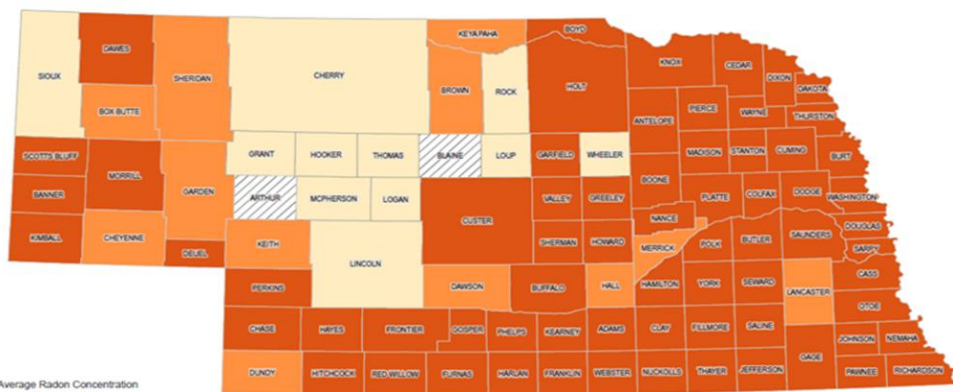
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https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Publications/Cancer/ccc/nebraska_ccc_plan-508.pdf

Average Radon Concentrations by County

Data Collections Reported to the Nebraska Radon Program
for October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2022



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DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Maps and tables are not intended to be used to determine if a home in a given area should be tested for radon. Homes with elevated levels of radon have been found in all areas of the state. All homes should be tested regardless of geographic location.

The Nebraska Radon Program has two primary functions: regulating the licensed industry and conducting education and awareness activities across the state. The regulatory authority comes from the Radiation Control Act and Title 180 NAC 11. These statutes and regulations govern the activities of individuals and business that measure and/or mitigate radon in homes other than those where they live. Regulatory functions include issuing licenses, conducting audits and inspections, collecting data, and general enforcement. The education and awareness activities include issuing sub grants to local organizations for local radon projects, providing for Public Service Announcements (PSAs) and training opportunities, conducting school testing and presentations, and offering technical assistance to the general public, partners, and licensees.

The Nebraska Radon Program is administered with a 60% funding grant through the EPA State Indoor Radon Grant (SIRG) Program and a 40% match through the Program. If SIRG funding were eliminated, the Programs would probably consist only of information that we could place on our web site. All other radon activities would discontinue.

Nebraska remains third in the country for prevalence of radon. 59% of homes tested are above the action level of 4.0 pCi/L, and the average radon level of those homes is 6.0 pCi/L (data from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Radon Program). See above map of Nebraska.

Nebraska Pending/Enacted Legislation

Radon Resistant New Construction (RRNC) Effective September 1, 2019, the Nebraska Legislature passed a bill that requires all new residential, commercial, educational and medical buildings in Nebraska to be constructed utilizing radon resistant techniques. These passive RRNC techniques prepare the building for easy and economical conversion to active radon mitigation systems when elevated radon levels are indicated. These standards have been incorporated into the state building code and require local building codes to adopt minimum standards. The regulation exempts projects designed by a licensed architect or engineer, non-residential buildings if a local building official deems radon resistant construction is unnecessary and projects in counties with an average radon concentration of less than 2.7 pCi/l of air.

Nebraska Revised Statutes §71-3501: Establishes a state policy to protect the public from radon by establishing requirements for persons providing radon measurement and mitigation services and radon mitigation system installation. Regulations adopted under the law (180 Neb. Admin. Code, Ch. 11, §§ 11-001 et seq.) provide for the licensure of radon measurement and mitigation specialists, technicians, and businesses. A separate law (Neb. Rev. Stat. 38-121) requires radon professionals to obtain a credential under the state's Uniform Credentialing Act.

Nebraska Revised Statutes § 76-2,120: Requires sellers of residential real property to submit a written disclosure statement to buyers during real estate transactions. Regulations establishing the disclosure form (302 Neb. Admin. Code, ch. 1, § 001) require the disclosure of sellers' knowledge of radon gas on the property and the provision of copies of any radon tests that have been conducted on the property. Disclosure form also requires sellers to report the presence of asbestos, lead-based paint, and toxic materials.

Radon in Nebraska Cancer Plan

The 2017-2021 State Cancer Plan addresses radon in the following strategies: Increase the number of Nebraska homes tested for radon; Support communities in adopting radon resistant new construction codes; Support local health department staff in being trained to test for radon; Create toolkit to outreach to child care providers and schools on radon testing; Support research on the cost-effectiveness of mitigation; Create toolkit to outreach to property owners of rentals on radon testing; Seek funding source for radon mitigation for low income Nebraskans; Support statewide coverage of radon resistant new construction codes.