

Lung Cancer Prevention through Partnerships



THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
CANCER CENTER



March 3, 2026
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Objectives

- Understand lung cancer rates in EPA Region 7
- Describe a program to distribute and encourage return of short-term radon test kits
- Consider strategies to improve radon test kit return rates, including a text messaging program

Partnership

Funder

- Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Subject Matter Expert

- Kansas Radon Program

Project Lead

- Masonic Cancer Alliance

Other Partners

- Extension Agents
- Cancer Centers
- FQHCs
- Health Departments
- HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America)

What to Do:

TEST your home
for radon.

FIX your home
if needed.

SAVE a life!

MCA
MASONIC CANCER ALLIANCE

Kansas
Cancer
Partnership

RAOON
Kansas Radon Program

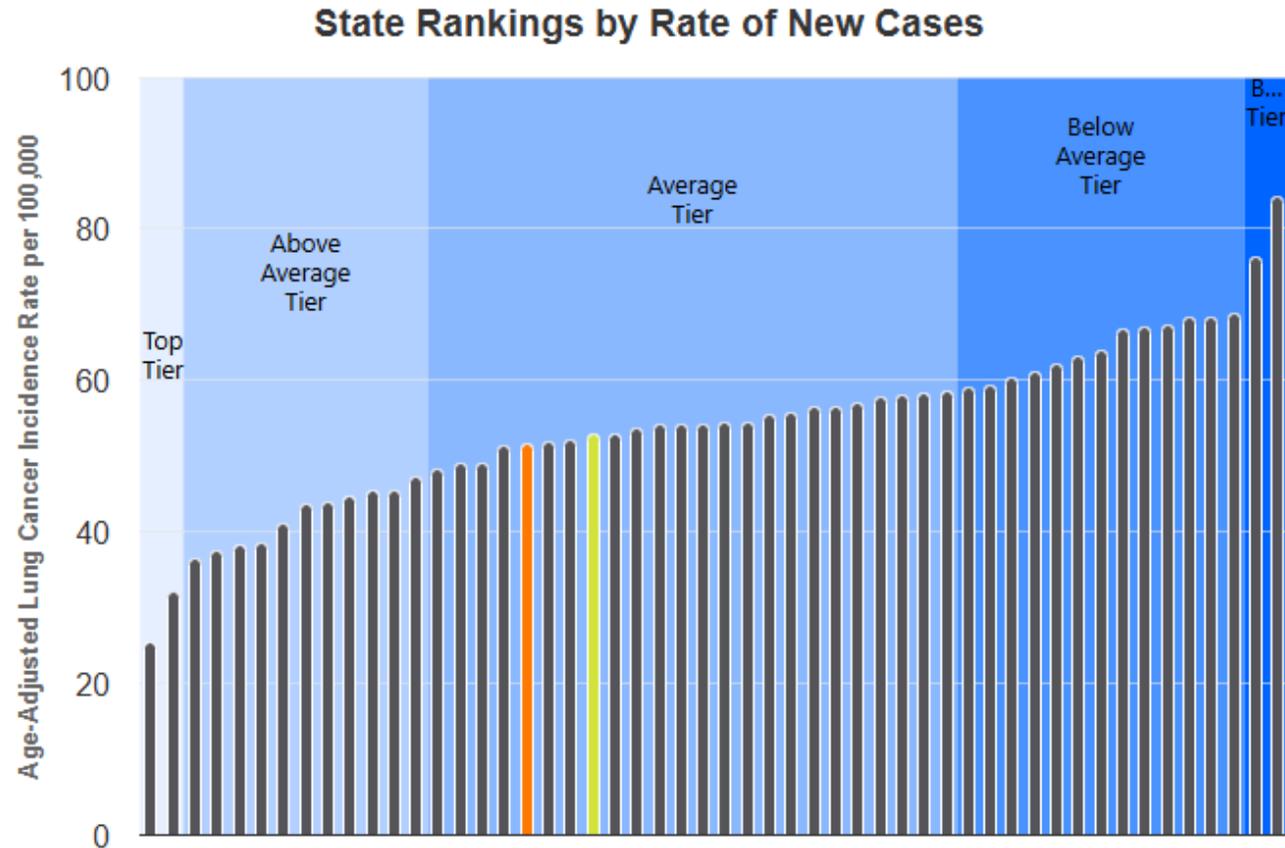
Radon is a gas you can't taste, see, or smell. Long-term exposure to radon increases your risk for lung cancer.

Testing your home for radon is inexpensive, easy, and quick.

Scan the code for a **FREE** radon test kit while supplies last.

SCAN ME!

Lung Cancer



- Kansas: Red bar, 51.5 cases per 100,000
- Nebraska: Just to the right at 51.9
- Iowa: 60.3
- Missouri: 68.2

Project Planning

Project

- **Funding received summer 2025**
- **Included:**
 - 400 radon kits
 - 200 to distribute through screening events
 - 200 to distribute through the mail
 - Funding to add texting software and print bookmarks to promote

Kits Distributed:

- MCA screenings
- Bookmarks
- HOSA students
- Other community partners



Follow up

- **Texts sent to:**
 - Remind to test and retest
 - Remind to mitigate
 - Two-way texting to answer questions
- **Calls made:**
 - When results ≥ 20
 - To remind about mitigation



Program Data Overview

September 2025 – January 15, 2026

Distribution & Return of First Test Kits

Method of Kit Distribution	# Distributed	# Returned	% Returned
Provided at a screening	193	54	28%
Mailed	88	17	19%
Total	281	71	25%

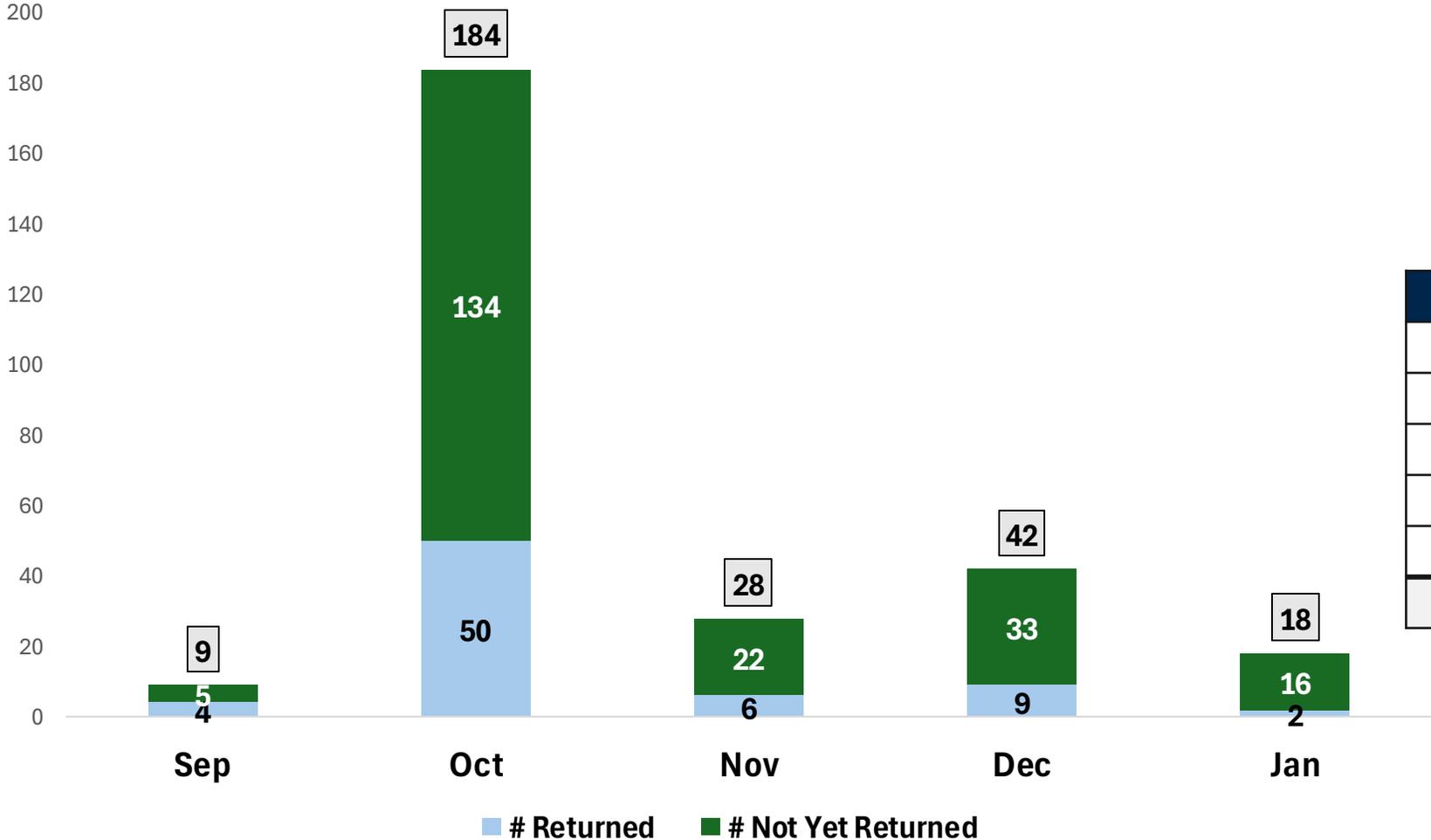
Distribution & Return of First Test Kits with Results

Method of Kit Distribution	# Distributed	# Returned	% Returned
Provided at a screening	193	54	28%
Mailed	88	17	19%
Total	281	71	25%

Returned First Kit?	Counts	Percents
No	210	75%
Yes	71	25%
Four or above	46	65%
Below four	19	27%
Invalid	6	8%
Total	281	--



Distribution & Return of First Kits by Month



Month	Return % by Month
Sep	44
Oct	27
Nov	21
Dec	21
Jan	11
Overall Return %	25

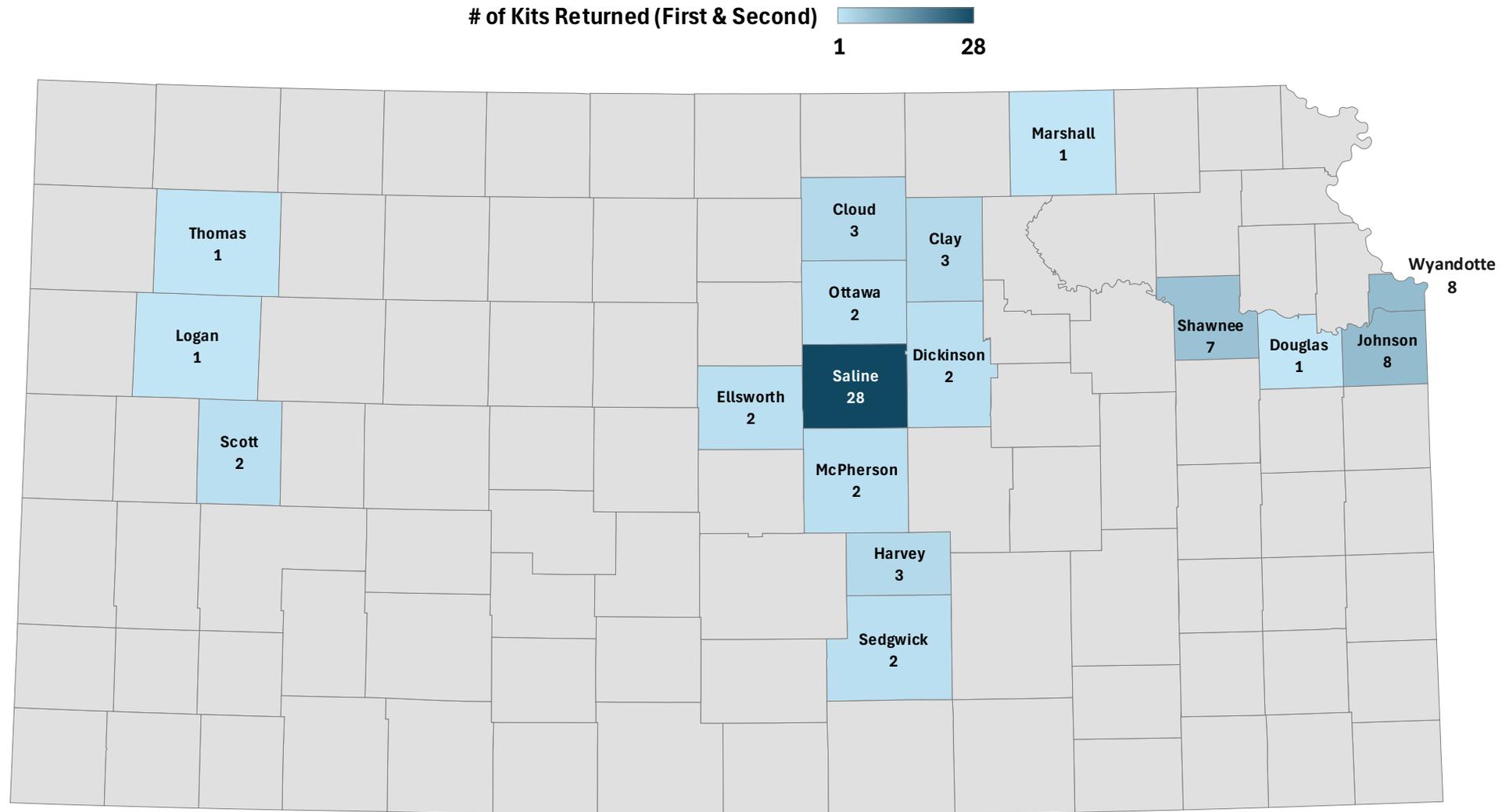
Distribution & Return of Second Test Kits with Results

Method of Second Kit Distribution	# Distributed	# Returned	% Returned
All mailed	26	5	19%

Second Kit Results	Counts
Four or above	4
Below four	1
Invalid	0
Totals	5



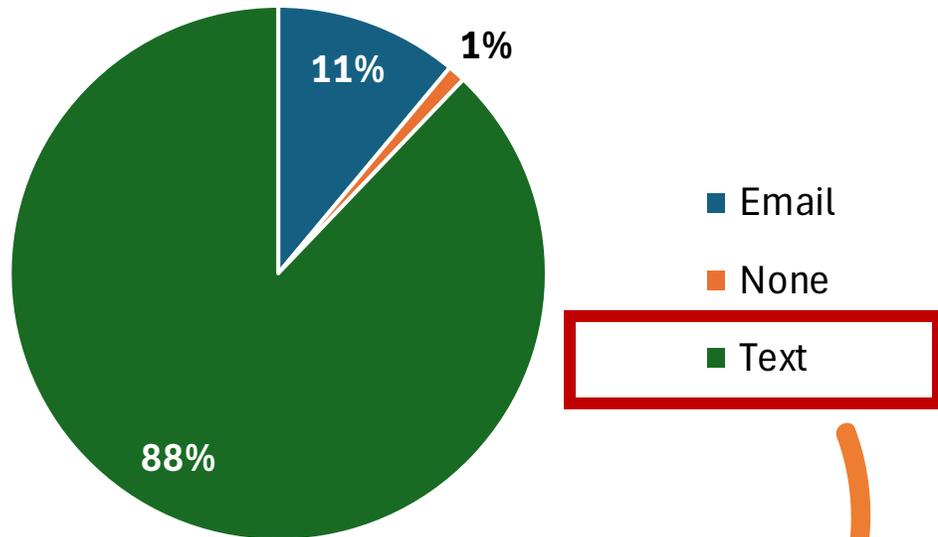
Number of Kits Returned by County



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Communications & Reminders

Preferred Method of Communication
(All Participants)



12% of text participants have opted-out/texted "STOP"

Majority of participants who have returned first kits received text message reminders (66 participants)

Next Steps



- Exploring new partners and relationships to help with distribution and returns
- Translation of materials into Spanish
- Postcards to improve return rates
- Funding for mitigation
- Additional funding to distribute at screening events

Questions?



Let's Stay in Touch!

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