

Radon Brochure–A

Action Guidelines

RED: These levels are very high risks. You should act to reduce these levels, preferably within several months.

ORANGE: Living in these levels for many years presents a high risk. You should act within the next few years to reduce these levels.

YELLOW: Living in these levels for many years still has some risk. You should see if it is feasible to reduce these levels.

GREEN: These are low levels and have lower risk. The average outdoor level is about 0.4 picocuries per liter. The average indoor level is about 1.3 picocuries per liter.

Because radon risk is cumulative, it usually is given as lifetime risk. This risk is based on two factors:

- ▶ How long you are exposed to your radon level: Lifetime risk calculations assume an average “lifetime” of 74 years in a house with a particular radon level.
- ▶ Hours at home each day: Lifetime risk calculations usually assume you spend about three-quarters of your time, or 18 hours, at home each day.

These assumptions will not fit you exactly, but you should use lifetime risk as a benchmark in making any decisions.

Smokers and former smokers exposed to radon are at especially high risk for lung cancer.

Should I have additional radon tests?

If your risks are in the red or orange areas of the colored chart, you should have more than one test to verify the results.