2026 Radon & Vapor Intrusion Symposium

October 5, 2026

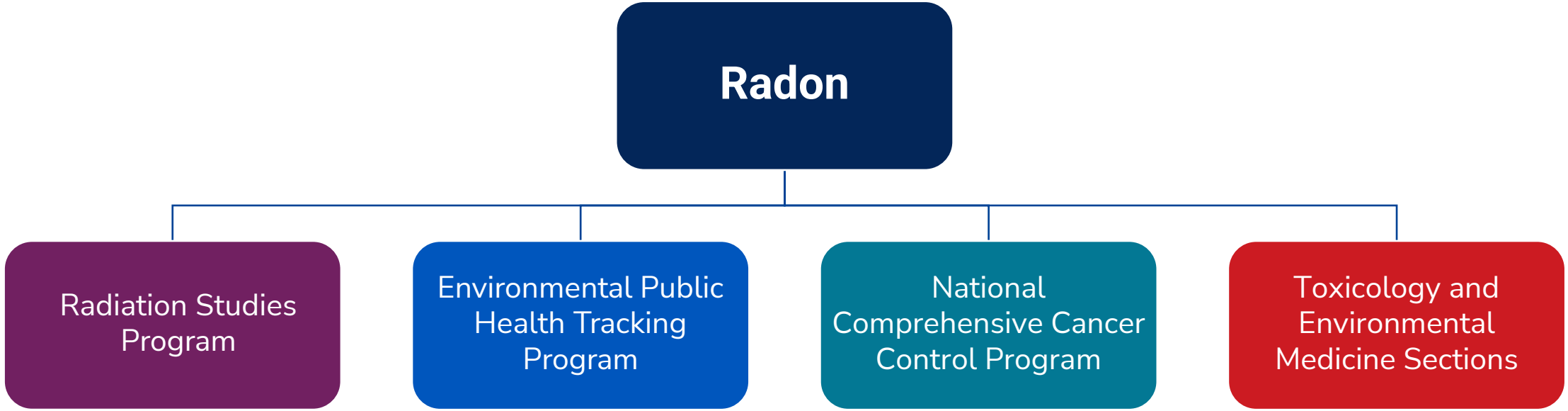
# CDC Update



**Germaine Vázquez**
Health Communication Specialist
Division of Environmental Health Science and Practice
National Center for Environmental Health



# CDC and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) Radon Initiatives



# CDC'S RADIATION STUDIES PROGRAM

## Our Mission

Review and analyze scientific advances, educate the public, and build public health capacity to reduce morbidity and mortality from unnecessary exposures to all forms of radiation.



# Program Priorities

CDC’s Radiation Studies Program works to protect the public from harmful radiation exposures.




PREPAREDNESS

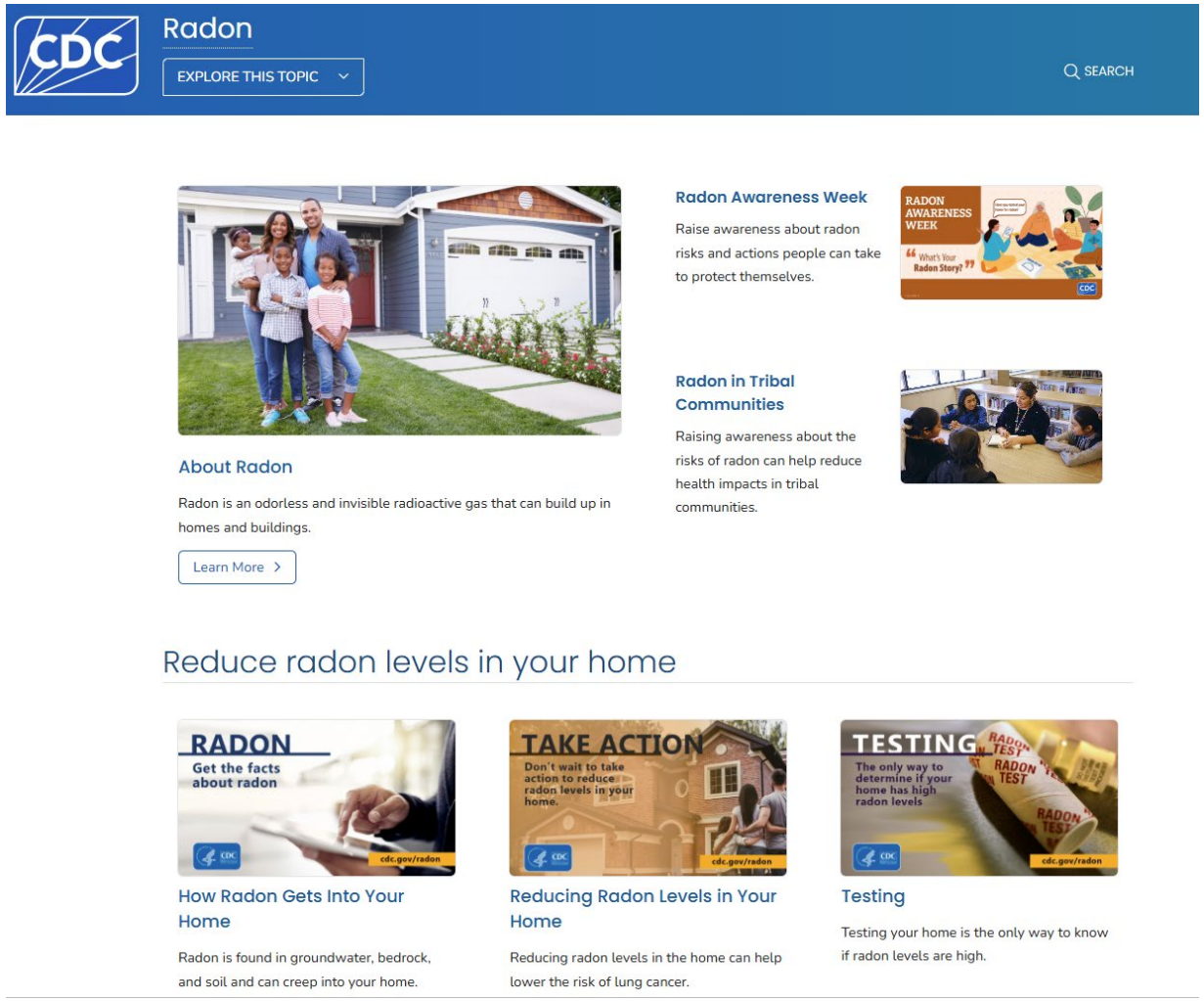
Strengthen state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) preparedness for radiation emergencies.




RADON

Pursue reduction of morbidity/mortality from radon exposure through delivery of health education and communication initiatives.

# CDC Website Redesign

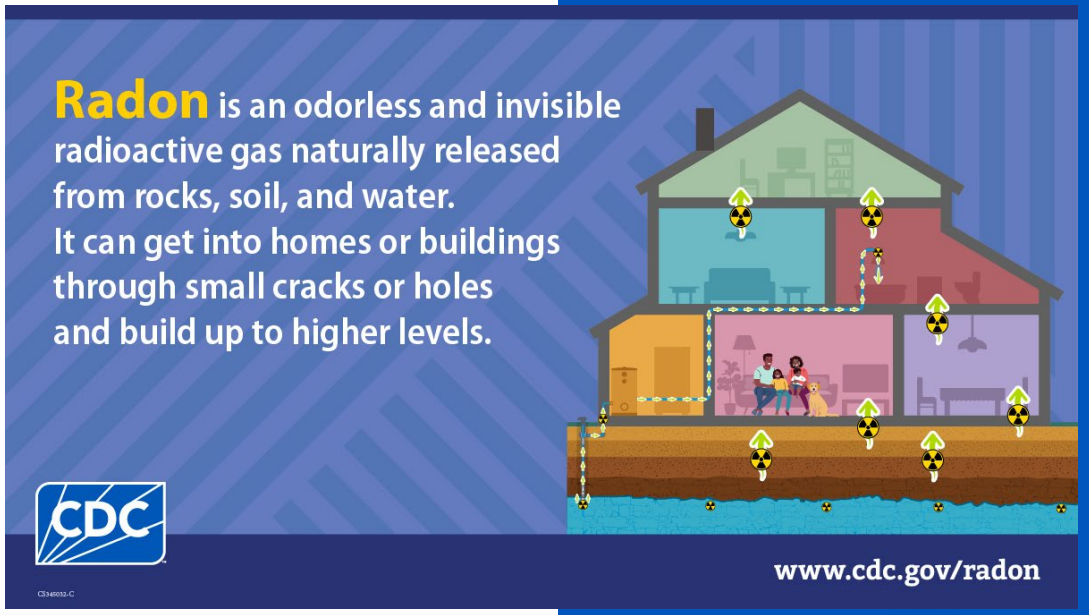


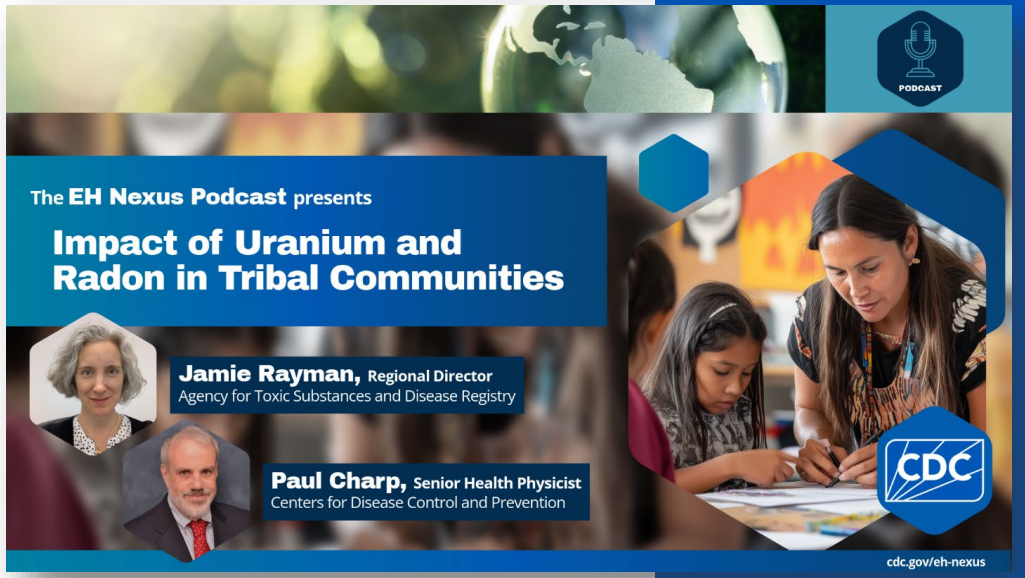

SCAN ME

www.cdc.gov/radon

# Communication Resources

- Available on CDC's Radon website
  - Testimonials
  - Social media messages
  - Videos
  - Graphics
  - Podcasts
  - Activity book
  - Other resources



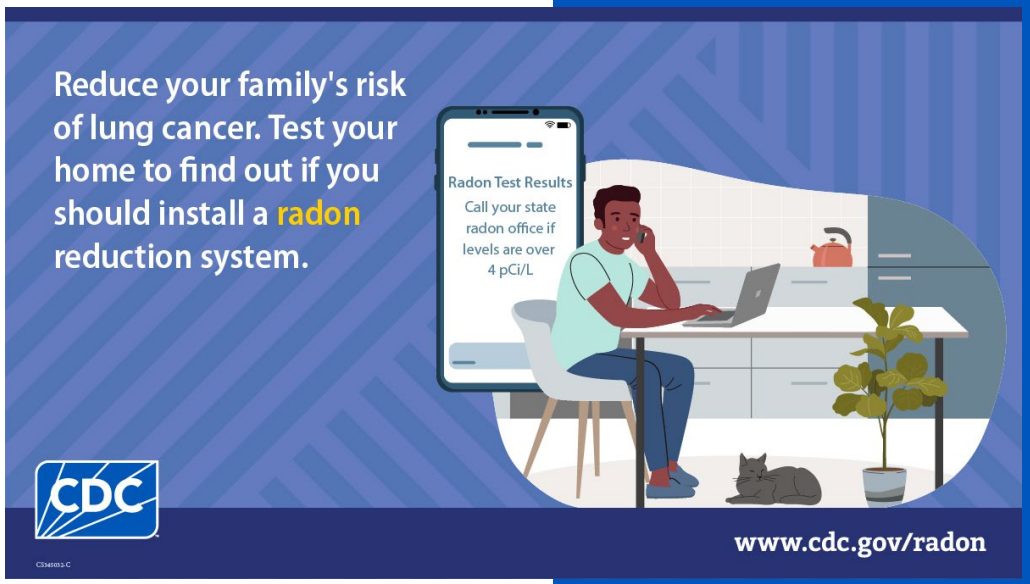



[Radon Toolkit | Radon | CDC]

# Radon Observances

- January is National Radon Action Month. Over the last few years, CDC's Radiation Studies Program has chosen the last week of January to observe Radon Awareness Week.
- Partners and jurisdictions can use these resources to expand their outreach efforts to raise awareness about radon.





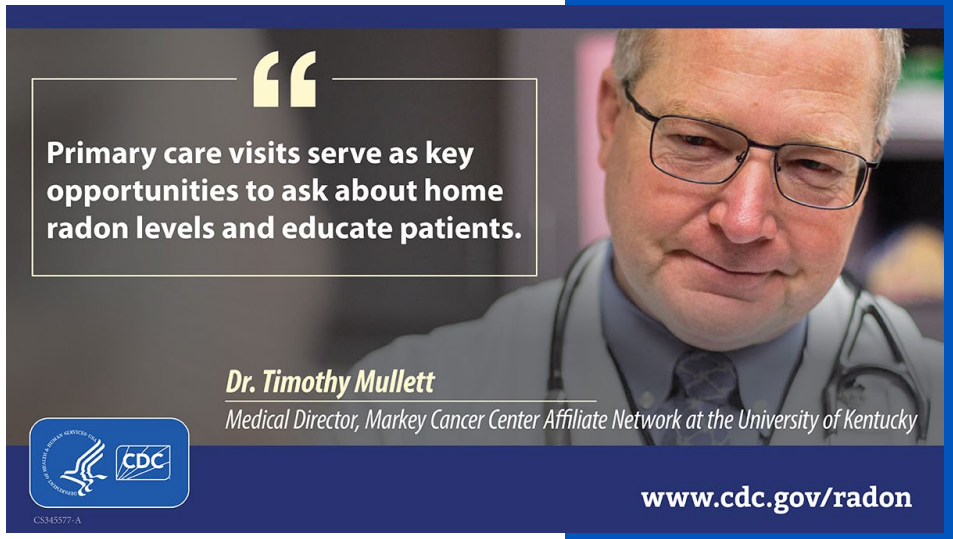

[Radon Awareness Week | Radon | CDC]

# Outreach

NRAP brings together federal, non-federal and other non-profit partners together to address radon prevention.

- Reach various audiences through new and established partnerships
  - healthcare providers
  - tribal communities

- Share resources
  - Guidance
  - Communication materials
  - Decision tree





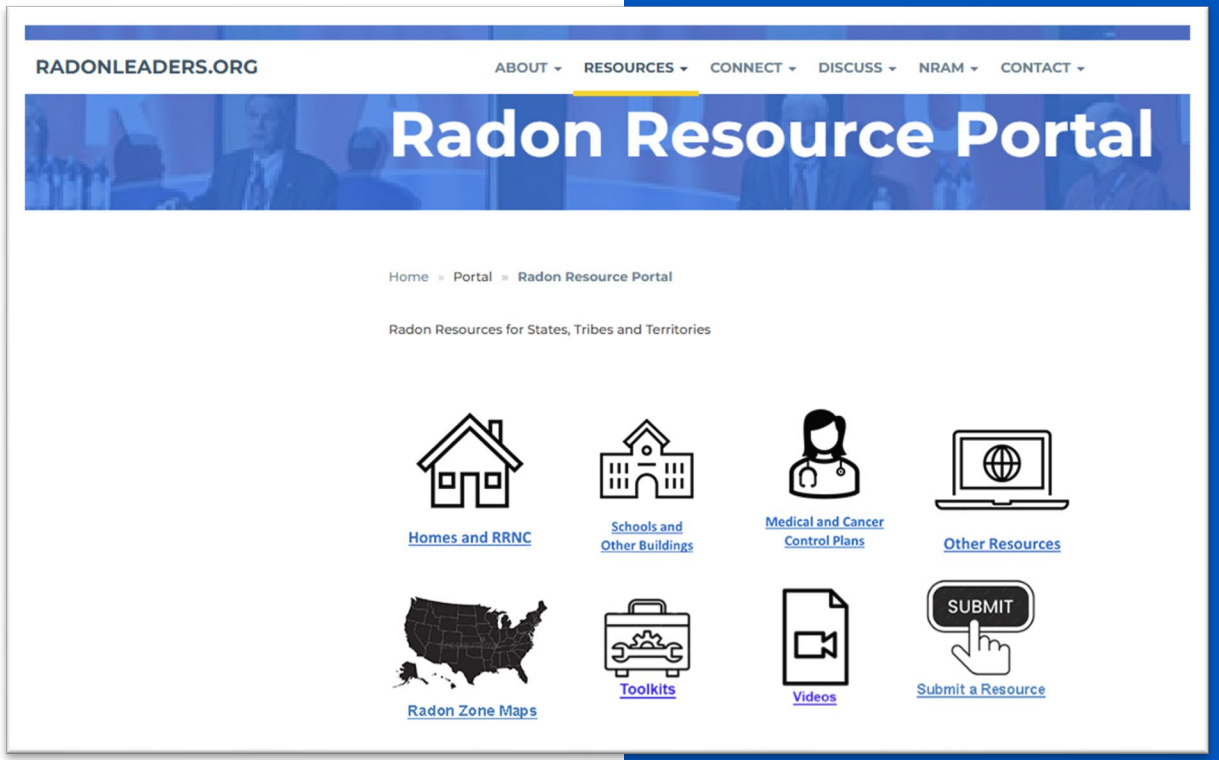




National Radon Action Plan | American Lung Association

# Radon Resource Library

- Radon Resources for States, Tribes, and Territories
  - Homes and RRNC (Radon-Resistant New Construction)
  - Schools and Other Buildings
  - Medical and Cancer Control Plans
  - Radon Zone Maps
  - Toolkits
  - Videos
- NRAP's Workgroup 4
  - Contribute resources
  - Review materials
  - Keep up-to-date



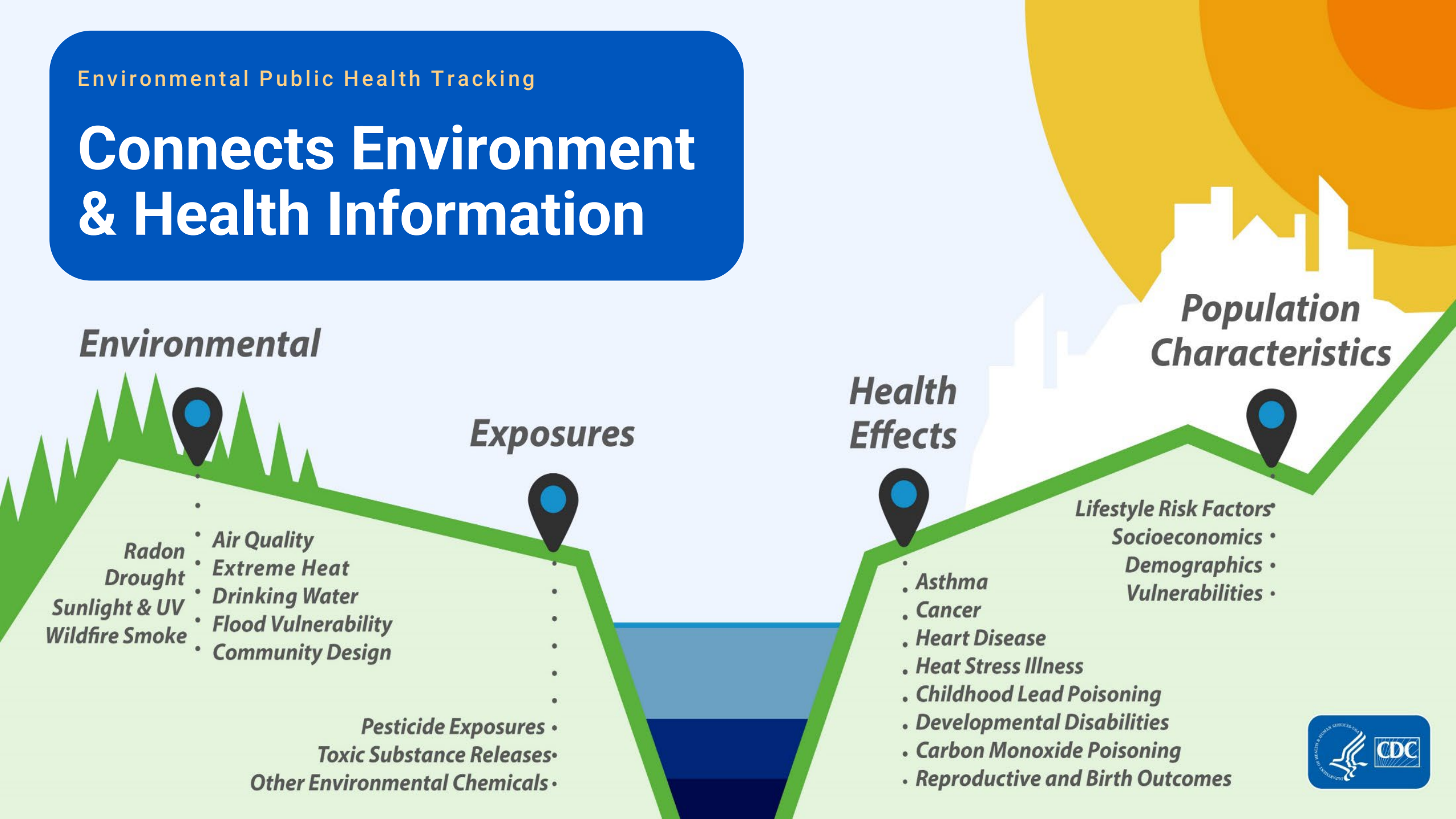

SCAN ME



Radon Resource Portal | RADONLEADERS.ORG

Environmental Public Health Tracking

# Connects Environment & Health Information

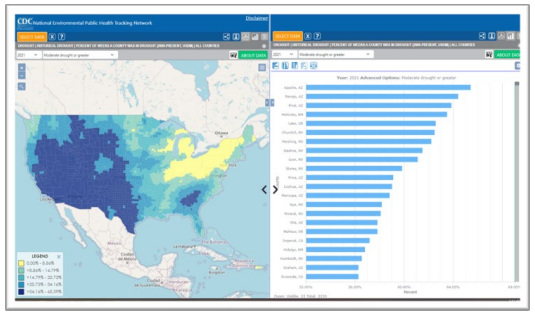


Environmental Public Health Tracking

# Delivers Data Relevant to Your Needs

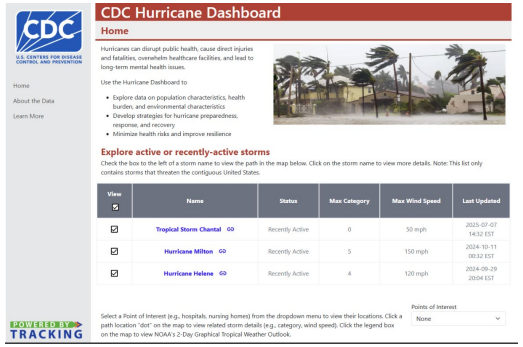
**Tracking makes standardized data easier to use.**

## Interactive Data Explorer (maps, charts, and tables)



- 700+ measures
- Data visualizations
- Downloadable data
- Export images
- Data visualization embedding

## Dashboards




- Curated, location-specific data
- Interactive
- Contextual information

## Application Program Interface (API)

- Developers can use Tracking data in their own tools and products



Environmental Public Health Tracking

# Radon Testing

The Tracking Network has radon testing data at the state and county level for most of the continental United States. The data on the Tracking Network come from some Tracking Program-funded states and several national radon testing laboratories.





Radon Testing | Tracking Program | CDC

TYPES OF DATA

# Radon Testing Data from Labs

This indicator provides radon testing data from labs at the state and county level for most of the continental United States. National radon testing laboratories provide these data to the Tracking Network.

**Data available**

- Number of buildings tested
- Number and percent of pre-mitigation tests by radon level
- Median pre-mitigation radon levels in tested buildings
- Maximum pre-mitigation radon levels in tested buildings

# Radon Testing Data from States

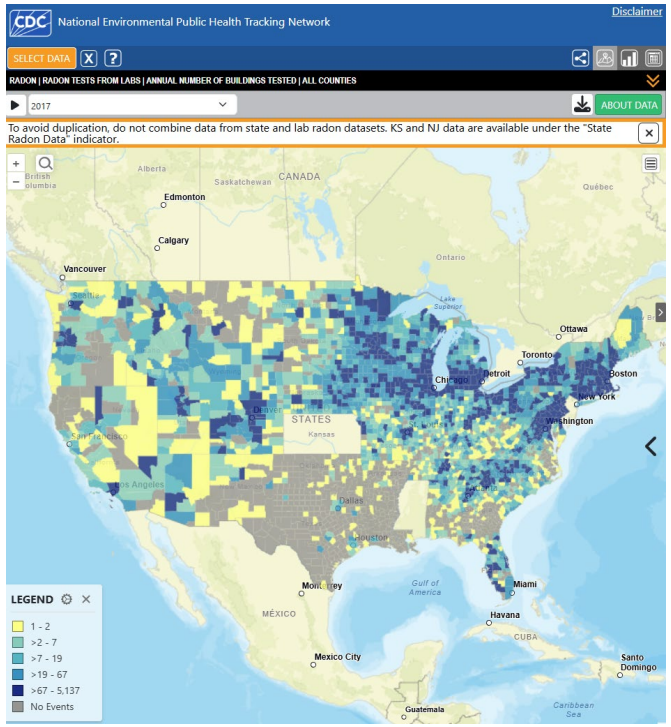
This indicator provides radon testing data at the state and county level for some Tracking Program-funded states. Individual states provide these data to the Tracking Network.

**Data available**

- Number of buildings tested
- Number and percent of pre-mitigation tests by radon level
- Number and percent of post-mitigation tests by radon level
- Median pre-mitigation test levels of radon
- Maximum pre-mitigation test levels of radon

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH TRACKING

# Access Radon Testing Data




Use the Data Explorer to create custom maps, tables, and charts.

## Quick Reports

**You Are Here:** Content Areas > Radon

| Indicator | Measure |
|---|---|
| Radon Tests from States | Annual Number of Buildings Tested |
| Radon Tests from States | Annual Number of Pre-mitigation Radon Tests by Radon Level |
| Radon Tests from States | Annual Number of Post-mitigation Radon Tests by Radon Level |
| Radon Tests from States | Percent of Pre-mitigation Radon Tests by Radon Level |
| Radon Tests from States | Percent of Post-mitigation Radon Tests by Radon Level |
| Radon Tests from States | Annual Median Pre-mitigation Radon Level in Tested Buildings |
| Radon Tests from States | Annual Maximum Pre-mitigation Radon Level in Tested Buildings |
| Radon Tests from Labs | Annual Number of Buildings Tested |
| Radon Tests from Labs | Number of Buildings Tested over a 10-year Period |
| Radon Tests from Labs | Rate of Housing Units Tested per 10,000 Units |
| Radon Tests from Labs | Number of Pre-mitigation Radon Tests by Radon Level over a 10-year Period |
| Radon Tests from Labs | Number of Post-mitigation Radon Tests by Radon Level over a 10-year Period |
| Radon Tests from Labs | Percent of Pre-mitigation Radon Tests by Radon Level over a 10-year Period |
| Radon Tests from Labs | Percent of Post-mitigation Radon Tests by Radon Level over a 10-year Period |
| Radon Tests from Labs | Median Pre-mitigation Radon Level in Tested Buildings over a 10-year Period |
| Radon Tests from Labs | Maximum Pre-mitigation Radon Level in Tested Buildings over a 10-year Period |
| Radon Tests from Labs | Mean Pre-mitigation Radon Level in Tested Buildings over a 10-year Period |
| Radon Tests from States | Annual Mean Pre-Mitigation Radon Measurement in Tested Buildings |

View data in simple Quick Reports.

# Radon Testing Data In Action

Analyzing, collecting, and disseminating radon testing information is the first step to developing policies and educational resources that can help prevent the harmful health effects related to elevated radon exposures.

**Supporting Legislation for Low Income Radon Mitigation Assistance in Colorado**

- Half of Colorado homes have unsafe radon levels. For low-income families, fixing their homes (mitigation) costs too much money, leaving them at a much higher risk for lung cancer.
- The Colorado Tracking Program provided radon data to support a legislative bill, HB 16-1141. This bill established the Low-Income Radon Mitigation Assistance (LIRMA) program. It provides financial support for testing and mitigating radon in low-income homes.



About Colorado Tracking Program | Tracking Program | CDC

# CDC Tracking Program Radon Updates

- Test data collection is still a priority
  - Annual test data collection from state programs has been paused since Spring 2025
  - Test data collection from partners is still a goal
    - Please contact Aaron Vinson (dvinson@cdc.gov) to be added to the contact list if your group is interested in participating and have not been in communication before
- Data collection activities tentatively planned to resume in 2027






Track or Treat | Tracking Program | CDC

# Radon and Lung Cancer

- Radon is the 2nd leading cause of lung cancer deaths after cigarette smoking
- 21,000 estimated lung cancer deaths due to radon each year (EPA estimate)
  - About 2,900 (~13%) of these are estimated among non-smokers
- The risk of lung cancer from radon exposure is higher for people who smoke than for people who don't smoke
- But radon can cause lung cancer in people who have never smoked cigarettes









Saving Lives from Lung Cancer | Radon | CDC

# National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program (NCCCP)

- Provides funds, guidance, and technical assistance to help cancer coalitions implement effective and sustainable plans to prevent and control cancer
- 66 funded entities (All 50 States, DC, 8 US territories and freely associated states, and 7 tribes or tribal organizations )

- CDC's priorities for funded programs are:
  - Primary prevention
  - Early detection
  - Support needs of cancer survivors
  - Provide proven cancer control strategies for states, health care networks, and others
  - Promote access to good health care for everyone
  - Monitoring and evaluation



About the National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program | NCCCP | CDC

# NCCCP Partnerships and Primary Populations

## Partnerships

- State radon and environmental health programs
- Tobacco control and lung cancer networks
- Tribes and tribal organizations
- Academic cancer centers and universities
- Health systems and health care providers
- Radon professional associations

## Populations reached

- People with high lung cancer risk
  - Adults who are eligible for lung cancer screening
  - Adults who are not eligible for lung cancer screening but either smoke now or smoked in the past
- Homeowners and households in counties with elevated radon levels
- Tribes and tribal organizations
- Rural and low-income populations
- Low-income populations
- Populations with limited English proficiency

# Leveraging Partners to Address Indoor Radon

- National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program (NCCCP) leverages existing and new multisectoral partnerships to address indoor radon via:
  - Awareness and education
  - Testing
  - Provider training
  - Referral and access to mitigation
  - Workforce capacity building
  - Integration with clinical care and screening
  - Outreach to tribes and tribal organizations
  - Efforts to address barriers
  - Surveillance




Real Estate Agents in North Carolina Help Reduce Lung Cancer Through Radon Testing | NCCCP | CDC



About the National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program | NCCCP | CDC

# Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

**Toxicological Resources**

- ATSDR's Toxic Substances Portal page for Radon
- Toxicological Profile for Radon
  - ToxGuide for Radon
  - ToxFAQs for Radon

**Resources for Healthcare Providers**

- Clinician Overview: Radon
- Clinician Brief: Radon
- Toxicologic Information For Providers (TIPs): Radon




For information about these products, contact ATSDR's Environmental Medicine and Health Systems Intervention Section at envmed@cdc.gov.

# Moving Forward

**Continue to**

- Provide support to STLT jurisdictions
- Support NRAP in pursuing agenda to continue health education around radon
- Work with partners to further build on and expand resources available
- Radon testing data collection activities
- Leveraging existing and new multisectoral partnerships to address indoor radon

# Contact Info:



**Germaine Vázquez**

Health Communication Specialist

Division of Environmental Health Science and Practice

National Center for Environmental Health

kdx1@cdc.gov

# Thank you.

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 https://www.cdc.gov/
Follow us on social **@CDCgov**

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.