

Item 10.3.1

LUNGENSPEI

RADON AWARENESS

2024



WHO WE ARE

LungNSPEI is a leading lung health charity in Atlantic Canada.

We are a charitable health organization dedicated to improving quality of life by preventing and managing lung disease through advocacy, patient services, education & research.

For most of us, breathing is so natural that we don't even think about it. For the 1 in 5 Nova Scotians and Islanders who struggle with lung disease, it can be their only thought. They know that when you can't breathe... nothing else matters.

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RADON AWARENESS

What is Radon Gas & How to
Protect our Lung Health

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WHAT IS RADON

Radon is an invisible radioactive gas that is odorless, colorless, and tasteless.

It is caused by the breakdown of uranium in the soil, rock and water.

It seeps into homes undetected. The only way to know the level of radon in a home is to test for it.

There are no radon free homes.

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HOW RADON ENTERS A HOME

It can enter any home, old or new, through cracks in the floor, walls, foundation, spaces around pipes, anywhere a home contacts the soil.

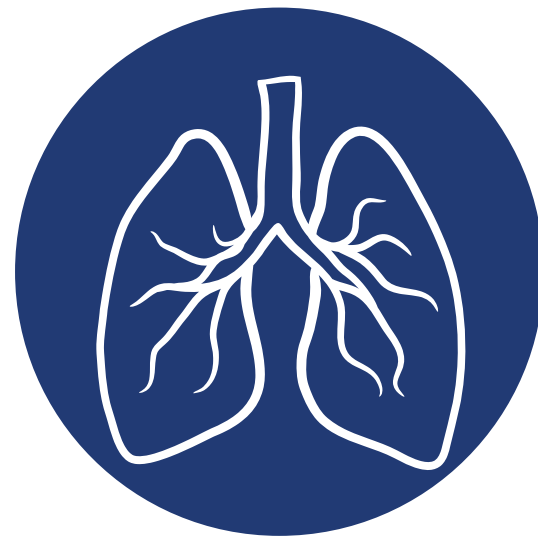
In outdoor air, radon gas dilutes and does not pose a health risk.

When in an enclosed space such as a home, it can build up to high concentrations, which can become a health risk.

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HEALTH RISKS & PREVALENCE



Long-term exposure to high levels of radon gas is the 2nd leading cause of lung cancer in Canada.

It is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers.



It is estimated that 30% radon induced lung cancer cases are non-smokers.

It is estimated ~3,000 Canadians die each year from radon induced lung cancer.



It is estimated 1 in 4 homes in Atlantic Canada have radon levels above Health Canada guidelines.

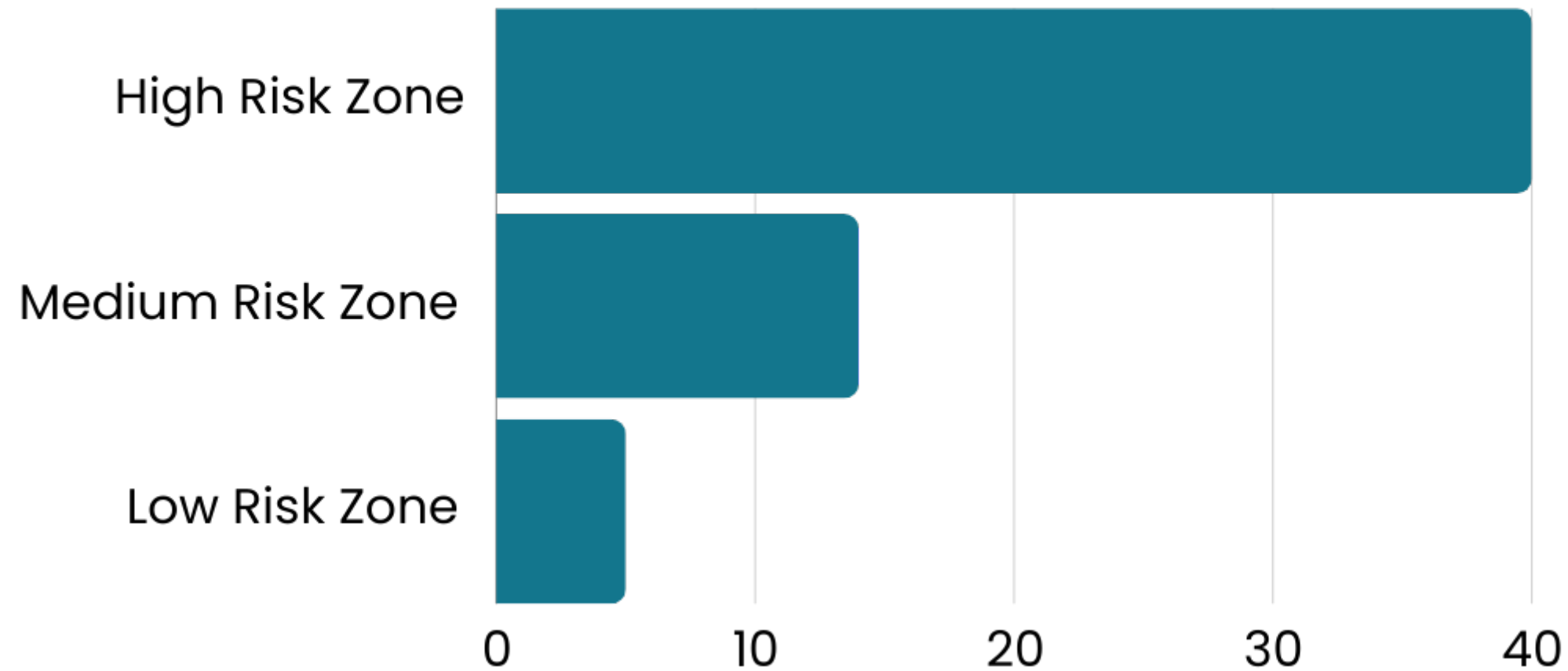
Atlantic Canada has the 4th highest average radon levels in the world.

https://takeactiononradon.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/27-23-3456-Radon-Health-Risk-Postcards_HC_06_PRESS-1.pdf

<https://evictradon.org/radon/radon-in-canada/>

NOVA SCOTIA

■ NS Homes over radon guidelines



Nova Scotia Radon Risk Map from DNR:
<https://fletcher.novascotia.ca/DNRViewer/?viewer=Radon>



TESTING FOR RADON

- Testing a home for radon gas is simple and relatively inexpensive.
 - DIY test kits are available at provincial lung health organizations ranging from \$50 - \$70.
 - Or, you can hire a certified radon measurement professional.
- Testing should be done using C-NRPP certified long-term radon detectors for a minimum of 91 days.



REMEDIATING A HOME

- Typically the most effective way to reduce radon is installing an active soil depressurization system.
- Cost typically range between \$1,500 – \$3,000.
- Health Canada recommends taking action within:
 - 2-year for homes with levels between 200 Bq/m³ – 600 Bq/m³.
 - 1-year for homes above 600 Bq/m³.



LUNGNSPEI RADON AWARENESS

- Radon Reduction Grant Program
 - Free Radon Test Kits
 - Radon Mitigation Grants
- Library Radon Test Kit Loan Program
- MLA Radon Test Kit Loan Program
- Radon Awareness Course for Real Estate Agents
- Daycare Radon Testing Pilot Project
- Virtual Atlantic Radon Workshop






OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD RADON AWARENESS






- Test all HRM owned building for radon and remediate, if necessary.
- Participate in Radon Action Month (November).
- Support increasing radon awareness among key stakeholders.



THANK YOU JOINING US!

 www.lungnspei.ca
 info@lungnspei.ca
 1-888-566-5864

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    @LungNSPEI
 @nspei_lung

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