

# TAKE ACTION ON RADON

## HALIFAX, NS

### 100 Radon Test Kit Challenge



## 76 HOMES

participated by testing for radon gas during the winter of 2019. This represents less than 3% of the community dwellings.

**37%** of homes tested above Health Canada's guideline of  $200 \text{ Bq/m}^3$ .



Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes from the ground.



Exposure to elevated levels of radon is linked to increased chances of developing lung cancer.



UNDER  $100 \text{ Bq/m}^3$   
(47%)

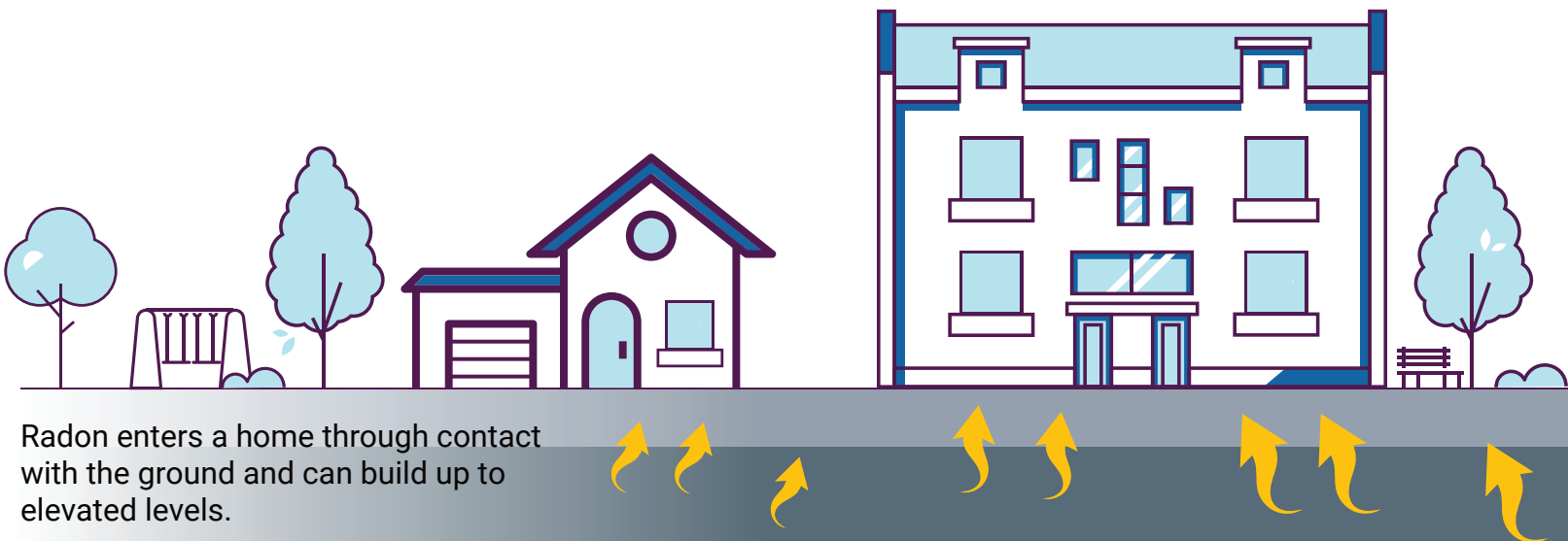


100-200  $\text{Bq/m}^3$   
(14%)

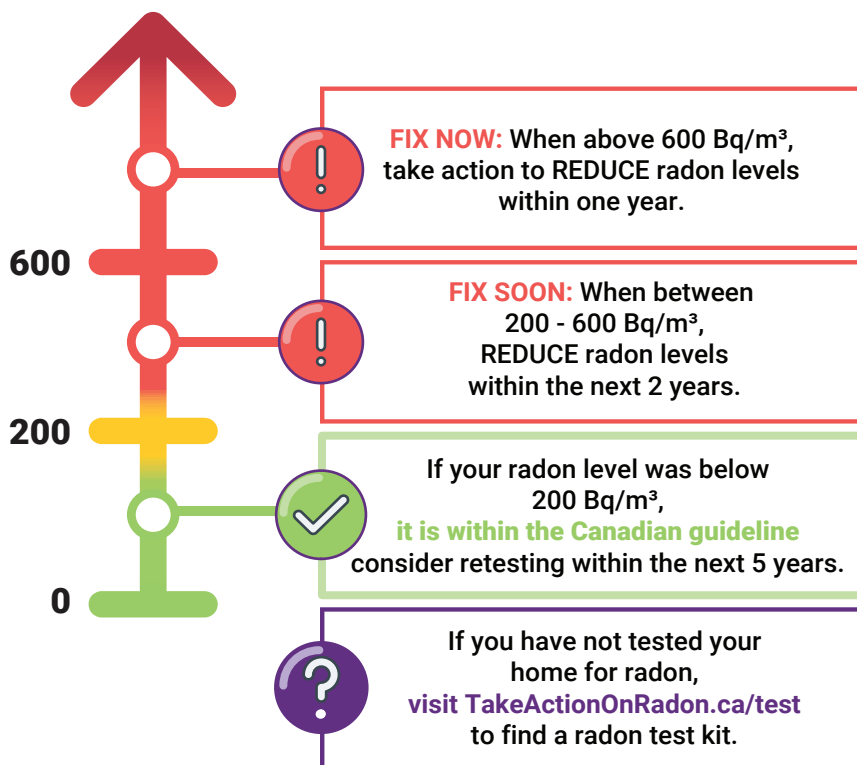


OVER  $200 \text{ Bq/m}^3$   
(37%)

Levels can vary between neighbouring houses. The only way to know your radon level is to test.

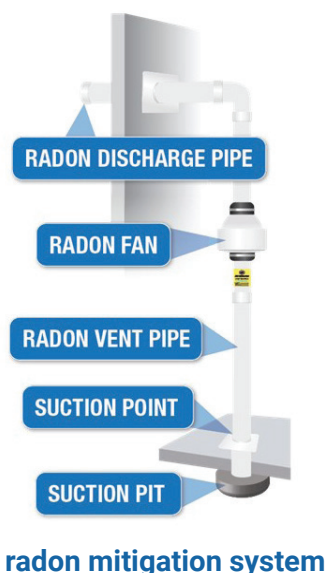


Radon enters a home through contact with the ground and can build up to elevated levels.



Radon gas levels are reduced the most by installing a **radon mitigation system**. Research shows that **certified radon professionals** can reduce levels by over 90%. Other steps, such as increasing ventilation and sealing cracks, can help in the short-term but are less effective.

For more information, go to:  
[www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/publications/health-risks-safety/residential-radon-mitigation-actions-follow-up-study.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/publications/health-risks-safety/residential-radon-mitigation-actions-follow-up-study.html)



## HOW TO FIND A CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL

Certified radon mitigation professionals are trained to properly assess your home, and design systems to efficiently and effectively reduce your radon level.

**Go to:**

[TakeActionOnRadon.ca/test/find-a-radon-mitigation-professional/](https://TakeActionOnRadon.ca/test/find-a-radon-mitigation-professional/)

A **radon mitigation system** is installed with a fan that draws air (and radon) up from beneath the foundation and discharges the radon to the outdoors. This system reduces radon levels by preventing radon from entering your home.

The Nova Scotia building code requires the installation of a short “radon stub pipe” through the basement floor of new houses. This is not a complete radon mitigation system; it is simply the connection point if a system is required. Every home needs to be tested for radon for at least 91 days, during the heating season to determine if a mitigation system is required.

### Missed your chance to test?

Check out Take Action on Radon’s website for more information on how to access a long-term (91-day) test kit in your region and how to properly test your home.

[TakeActionOnRadon.ca/test](https://TakeActionOnRadon.ca/test)



### Already tested and want to help?

If you are willing to share your data to help us better understand radon in your community, submit your information to our online radon depository.

[TakeActionOnRadon.ca/share](https://TakeActionOnRadon.ca/share)



Take Action on Radon is a national initiative funded by Health Canada with a mandate to bring together stakeholders and raise awareness on radon across Canada. The current advisory team is made up of the Canadian Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (CARST), CAREX Canada and the Canadian Cancer Society.