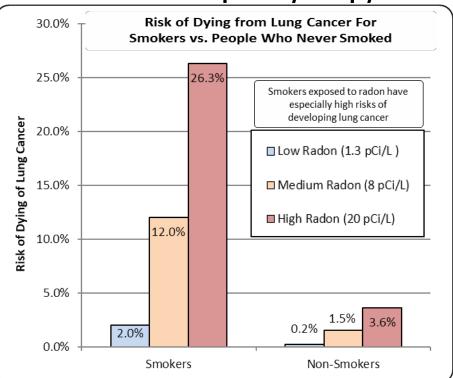
# **Radon and Smoking: A Risky Combination**



# Radon & Smoking: Lung Cancer Risks Don't Add Up...They Multiply



Based on Lifetime risk from EPA Assessment of Risks from Radon in Homes (EPA 402-R-03-003)

If you smoke and your home has high levels of radon, your risk of getting lung cancer is especially high.\*

The EPA estimates that 86% of radon-related lung cancer deaths occur among current or former smokers.<sup>†</sup>

The risk of lung cancer to nonsmokers increases drastically as radon levels in the home increase.

\*Source: US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), A Citizen's Guide to Radon, 2016; 'Source: US EPA. EPA Assessment of Risks From Radon in Homes. 2003.

### **Take Action**

Lung cancer due to smoking and radon *can* be prevented.

- Quitting smoking is the best way to reduce your risk of lung cancer.
- ✓ Test your home for radon.

# Lung Cancer: The #1 Cause of Cancer Death

Lung cancer kills more people in New Jersey than any other kind of cancer.

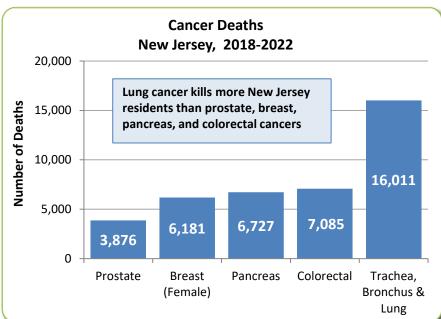
Nearly 90% of lung cancer cases are due to smoking.<sup>†</sup>

Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers.†

Each year, there are an estimated 500 radon related deaths among New Jersey residents.

Cancer is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death after heart disease in New Jersey.

<sup>†</sup>Source: US EPA. *EPA Assessment of Risks From Radon in Homes*. 2003.

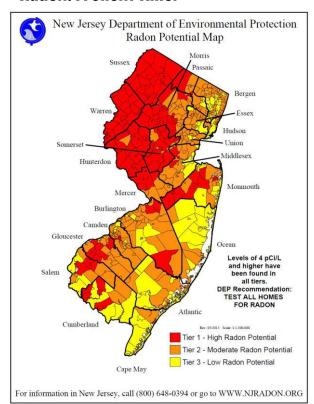


# Radon and Smoking: A Risky Combination



Page 2

# Radon: A Silent Killer



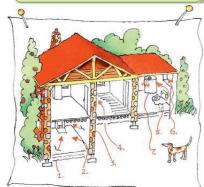
### 1 in 8 New Jersey homes has an elevated level of radon\*

\*From: ephtracking.cdc.gov/DataExplorer. Accessed on 12/18/2023

- 67% of New Jersey homes have never been tested for radon as of 2021.
- Testing your home is the only way to know your home's radon level is high.
- All homes should be tested for radon.
- Radon problems can be fixed by installing a radon mitigation system.

### What is radon?

Radon is a naturally occurring, cancer-causing radioactive gas with no color, odor or taste.



Radon moves from the soil and into your home through cracks and openings in the foundation.

### Resources

## New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Information on radon in New Jersey can be found at: nj.gov/dep/rpp/radon/

A listing of radon testing and mitigation businesses in New Jersey can be found at: bit.ly/NJDEPCertRadonList

or call: 1-800-648-0394

# Lung Cancer Risk by Radon Level and Smoking

Radon Level (pCi/L)	Odds for non-smokers*	Odds for smokers*
	of developing lung	of developing lung
	cancer due to radon if	cancer due to radon if
	exposed to this level	exposed to this level
	over a lifetime	over a lifetime**
20	1 in 28	1 in 4
8	1 in 56	1 in 8
4	1 in 143	1 in 16
2	1 in 250	1 in 31
0.4***	1 in 1,350	1 in 260

<sup>\*</sup>Smokers are defined as individuals who have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in a lifetime; non-smokers have never smoked or smoked less than 100 cigarettes in a lifetime

Source: US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), A Citizen's Guide to Radon, 2016.

New Jersey's Quitline offers free services to help you quit smoking. <a href="mailto:njquitline.org/">njquitline.org/</a>
1-866-NJSTOPS (657-8677)

<sup>\*\*</sup>In addition to the risk of lung cancer from smoking itself.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Average outdoor radon concentration.