

2024 WHI Participant Webinar, January 24 @ 2:00 PM EST

WHI Risk It?
**The Women's Health
Initiative Radon Risk
Investigation**

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What is Radon?

Radon is...

- a gas at room temperature
- colorless, odorless & tasteless
- ubiquitous in rock & soil



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Why Should We Care?

Radon is...

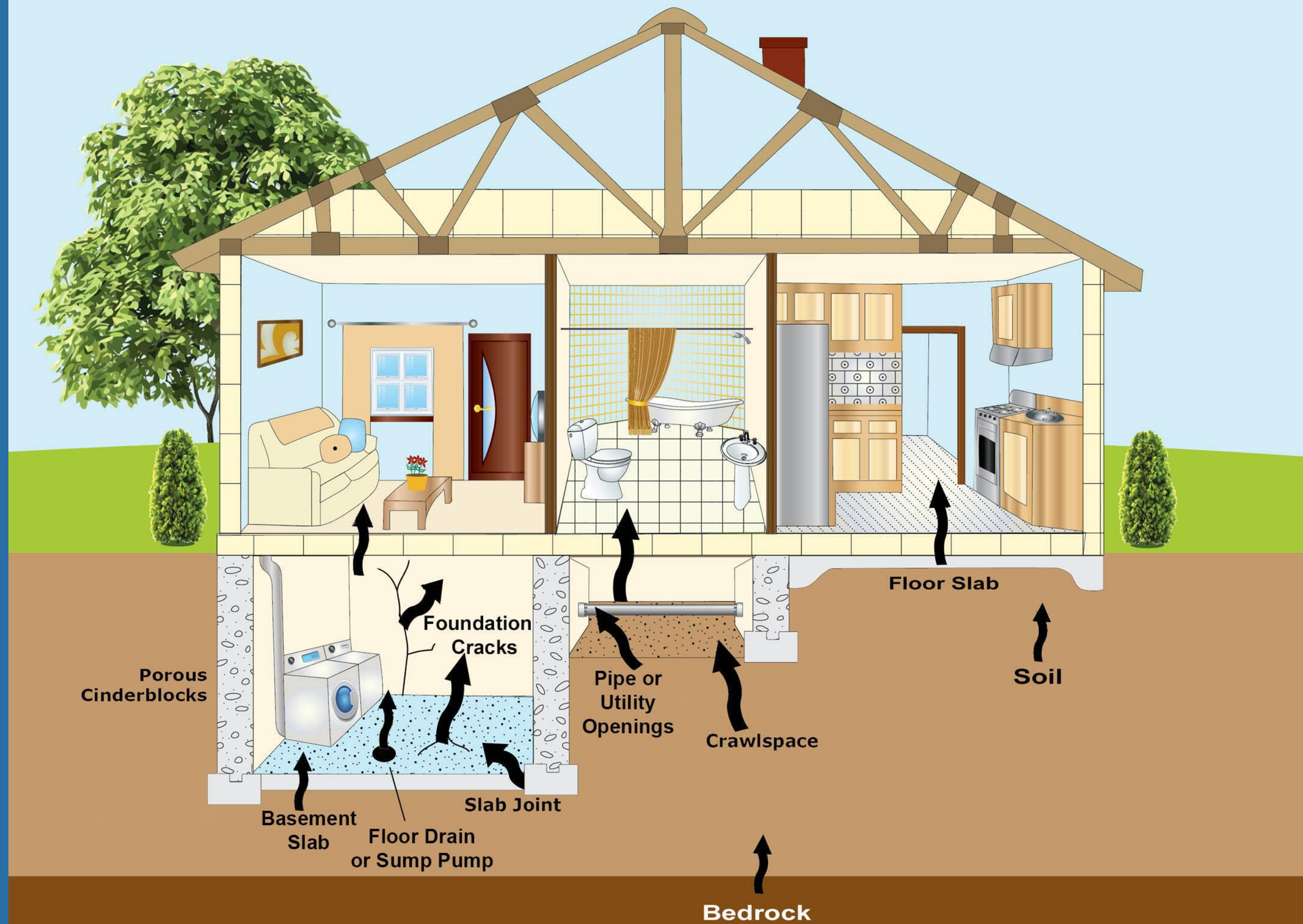
- a gas at room temperature
- colorless, odorless & tasteless
- ubiquitous in rock & soil

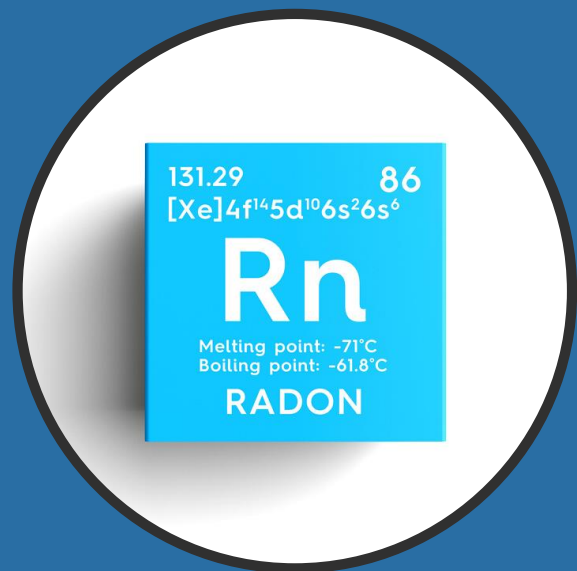


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Radon Enters Homes

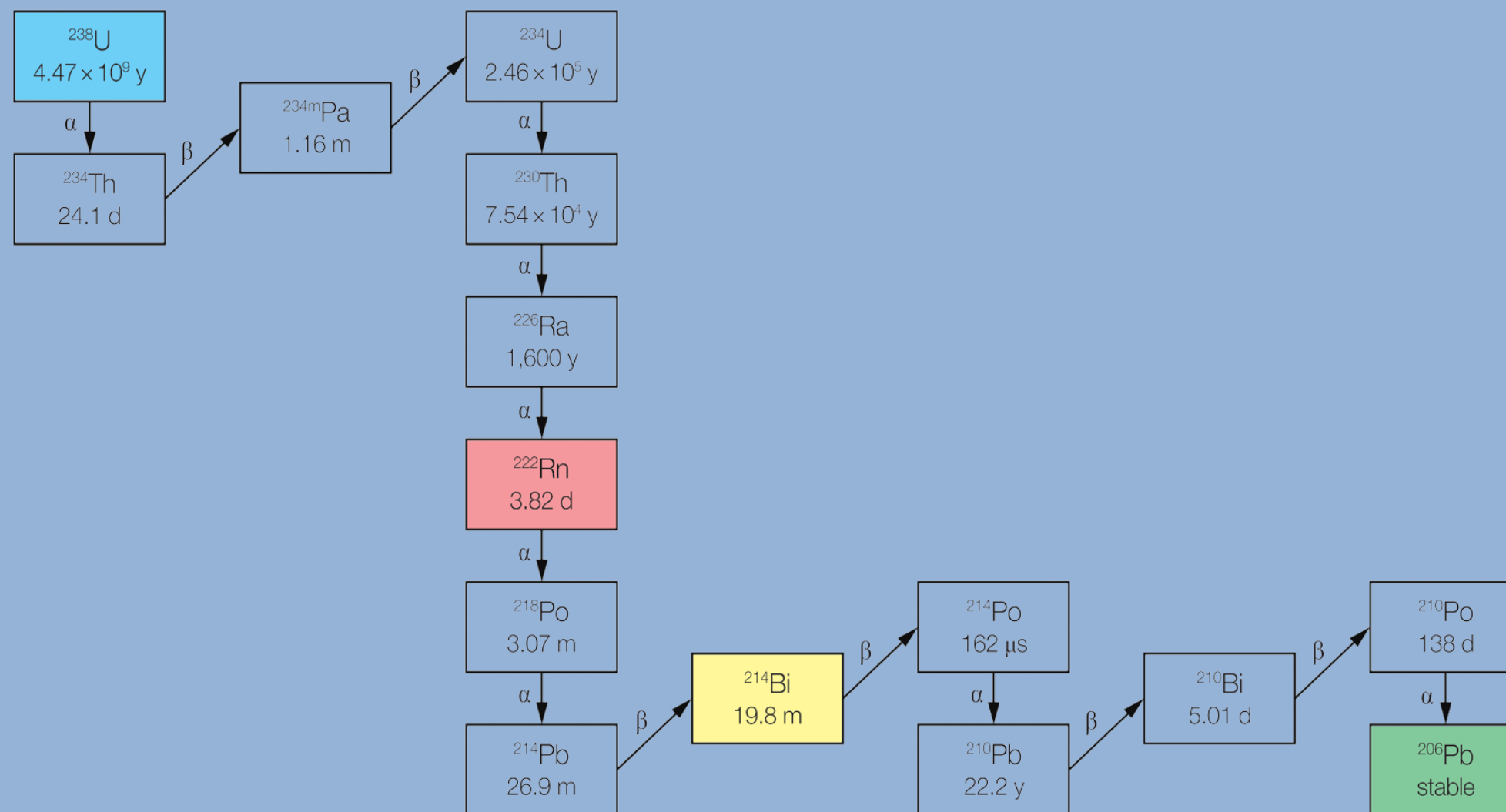




Radon Is Harmful

Radon also is...

- a product of uranium decay



- radioactive & mutagenic





Radon Is Harmful

Radon has been recognized by...

- WHO as unsafe
- EPA as an indoor air pollutant
- USSG as a significant health risk
- IOM as increasing w/ climate change
- IARC as a cause of cancer
- NAS as a cause of lung cancer



WHO = World Health Organization
EPA = U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USSG = U.S. Surgeon General
IOM = Institute of Medicine
IARC = International Agency for Research on Cancer
NAS = National Academies of Science

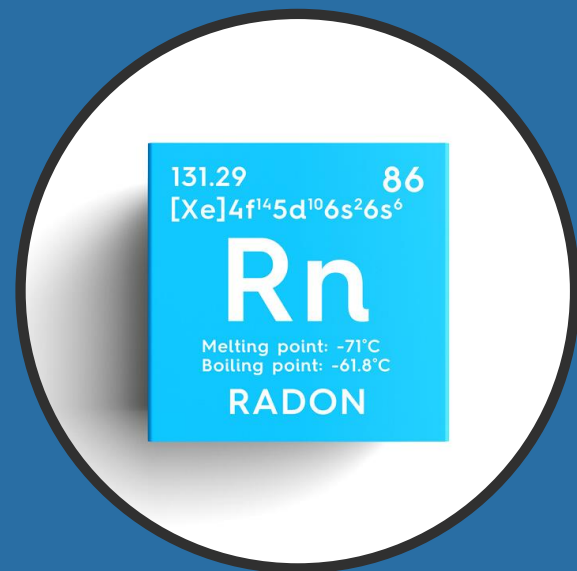


The Problem

We know far less about radon's role in other diseases of the...

- Brain
- Heart
- Lung
- Blood





The Good News!

Radon...

- Measurements: easy, cheap & accurate
- Action Levels: set @ > 4.0 pCi/L by EPA
2.7 pCi/L by WHO
- Home Fixes: available, useful & advised
- Home Levels: often ↓ to 2 pCi/L
- Health Risks: also ↓



pCi/L = picoCuries per liter of air
1 pCi/L = 2.2 radioactive disintegrations per minute per liter of air
WHO = World Health Organization
EPA = U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



WHI Risk It?

The Women's Health Initiative Radon Risk Investigation *(WHI Risk It?)*



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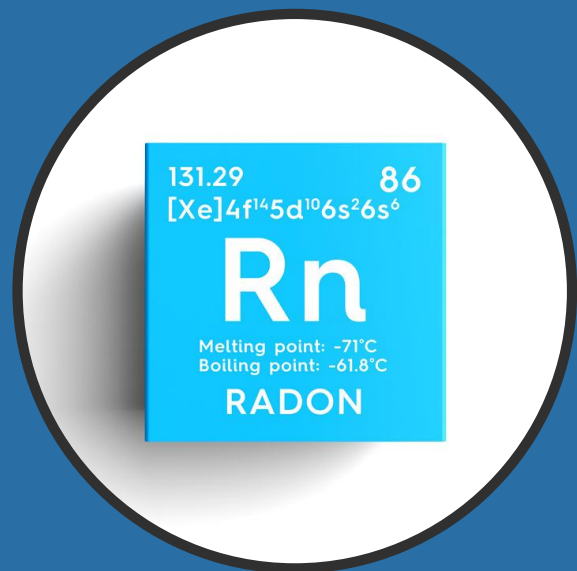


What Are Its Goals?

To estimate:

- 1) Home radon levels
- 2) Associations between home radon levels & health



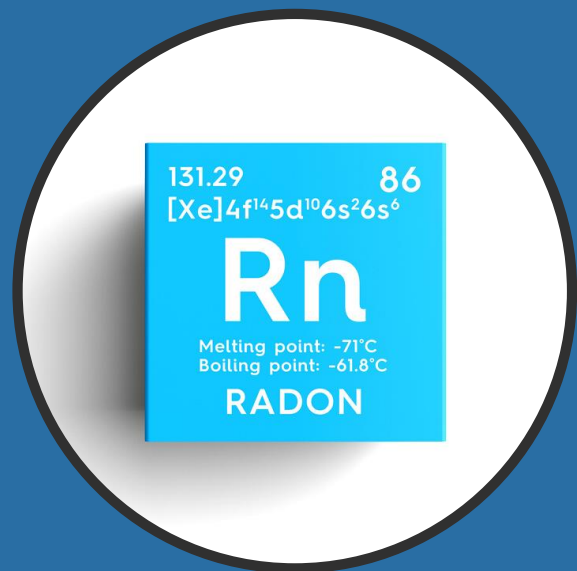


How Will That Be Done?

Steps 1-6

- 1) Randomly sample 4,032
- 2) Mail a study invitation & brochure
- 3) Phone, consent & enroll 1,008
- 4) Ask ~20 WHI Risk It? survey questions
- 5) Mail AirChek™ radon test kit
- 6) Test:

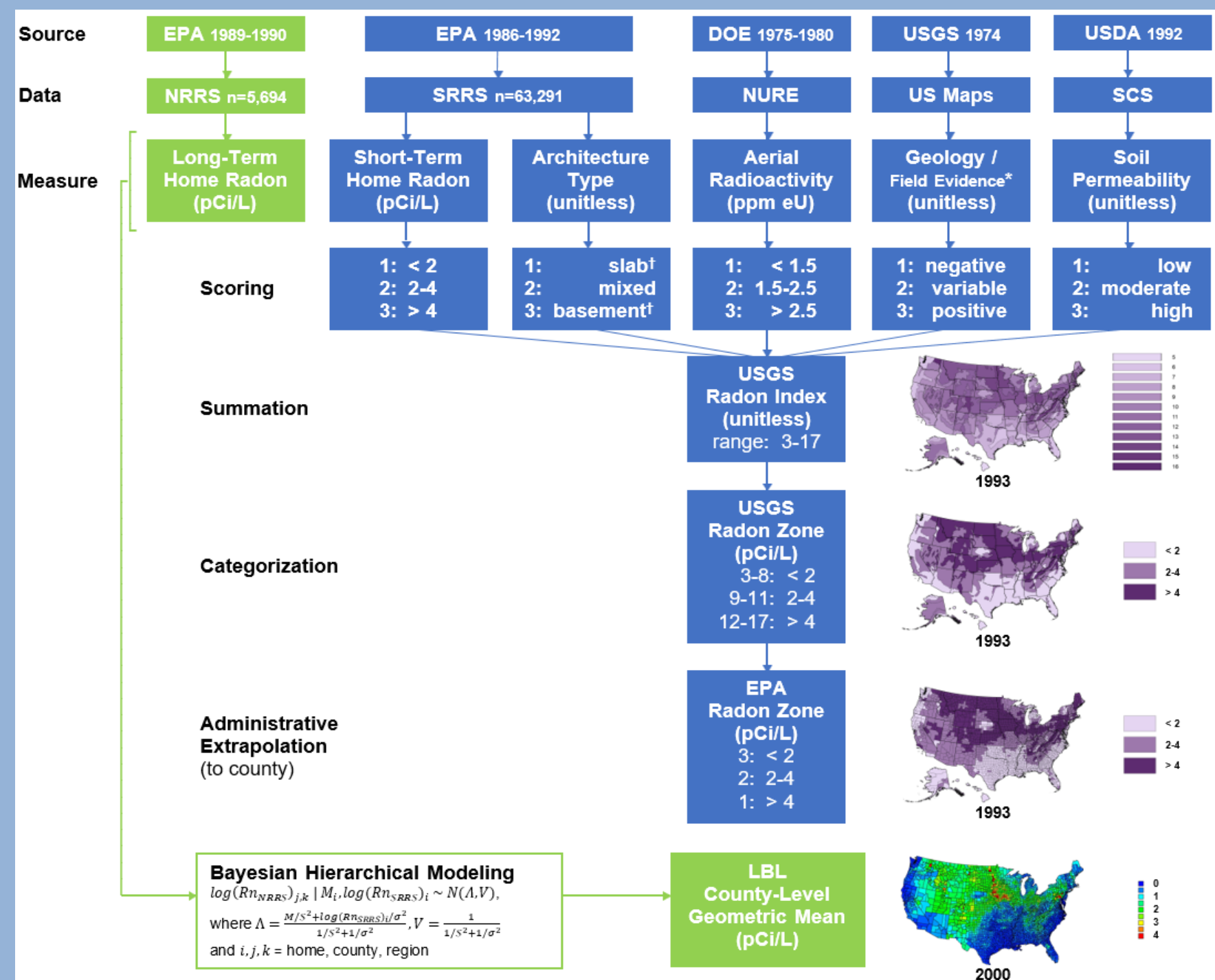


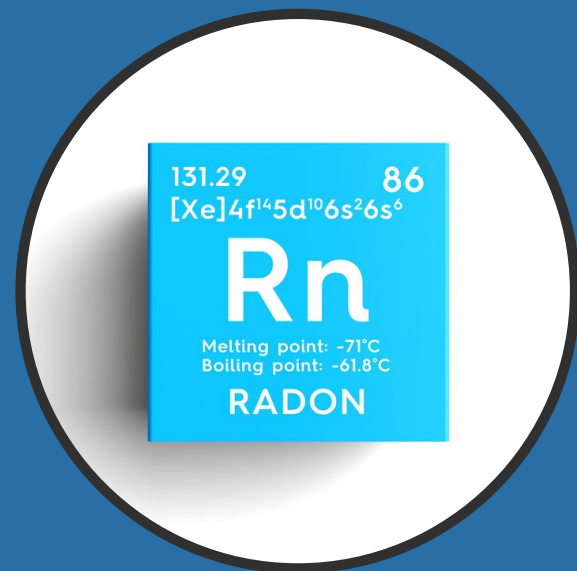


Steps 7-9

- 7) FedEx radon test kit to lab for analysis
- 8) Return test results & recommendations
- 9) Compare results w/ other measures:

How Will That Be Done?





Reassuring Facts

*AirChek*TM Radon Test Kit & Lab

- Test Kit
 - Activated charcoal-based foil bag device
 - EPA proficiency tested
 - NRSB-licensed
 - Maximizes sample collection
 - Minimizes spurious environmental effects
 - Unbiased
 - Accurate
 - Errors < 0.1 pCi/L
- Laboratory
 - NRPP-certified
 - NELAP-accredited

NRSB = National Radon Safety Board

pCi/L = picoCuries per liter of air

NRPP = National Radon Proficiency Program

NELAP = National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program





What Do We Expect to Find?

Lower home radon levels will be associated with ↓ risk of diseases

- Brain
- Heart
- Lung
- Blood



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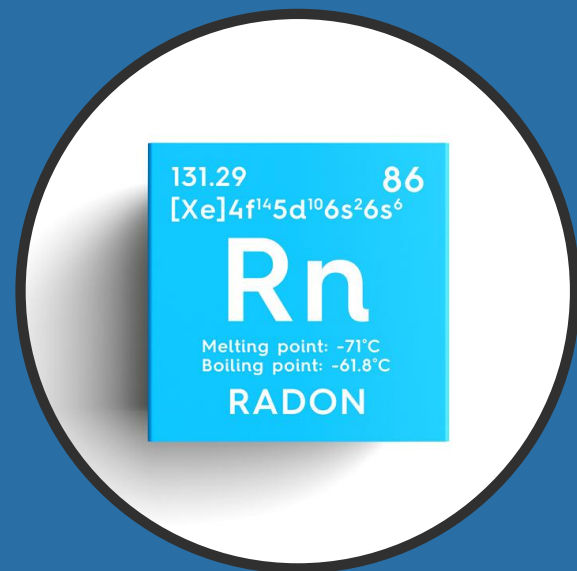


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Reminder

January is Radon Action Month!
So please...

Look for our study invitation & brochure!
Consider participating in *WHI Risk It?*
Help us learn about radon & women's health!
much more!

*** Thank You ***



Acknowledgments

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Questions?

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<https://www.epa.gov/radon/radon-hotlines-and-information-resources>

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