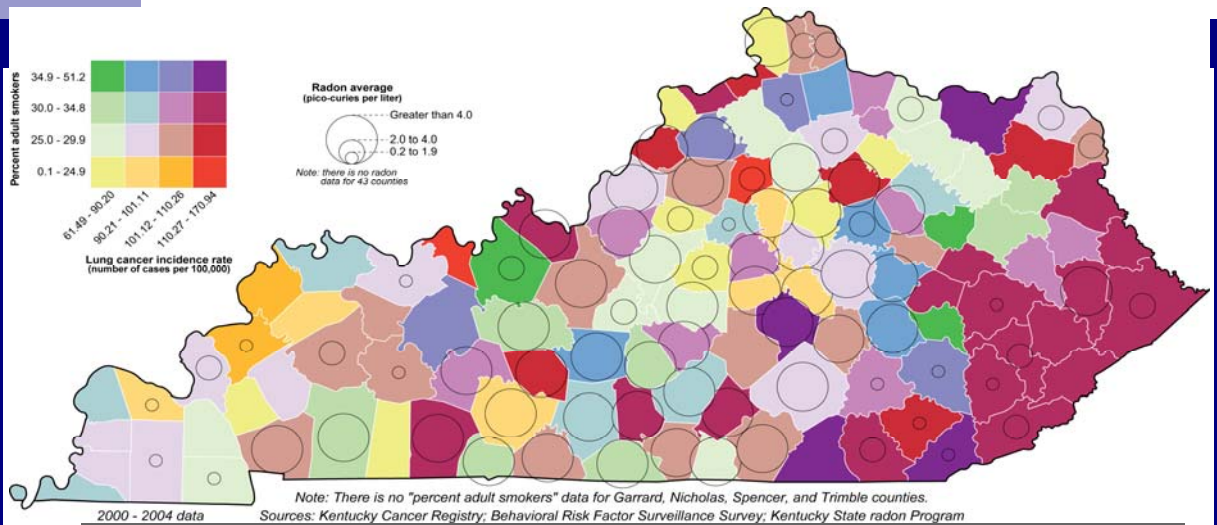


Tobacco Smoke, Radon, and Lung Cancer Incidence in Kentucky



Top Three Causes of Lung Cancer:

1) Smoking 2) Radon 3) Secondhand Smoke

- Kentucky leads the nation:
 - * In lung cancer incidence (101.1 vs. 64.5 per 100,000, 2000-2004)
 - * In adult smoking rates (27.8% vs. 20.5%, 2005)
- Kentucky has counties with predicted average indoor radon screening levels greater than 4 pCi/L (picocuries per liter), the action level designated by the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Radon exposure is an even greater risk for smokers than nonsmokers.

⇒ Eight of the top ten highest lung cancer counties have higher than average smoking rates.

⇒ Five of the top ten highest lung cancer counties lack radon testing data.

⇒ 43 of 120 counties had fewer than 10 radon values for 2000-2004.

NEXT STEPS:

1. Increase radon testing, especially in counties with the highest lung cancer rates
2. Increase collaboration between tobacco control and radon programs to decrease lung cancer risk

Top 10 Lung Cancer Incidence Rates in Kentucky: Percent Smoking and Average Radon Level by County, 2000-2004

County	Lung Ca Incidence	Radon Average	# Radon Values	Percent Smoking
Wolfe	170.94	Missing	7	32.50%
McCreary	161.56	Missing	3	42.30%
Perry	160.14	2.50	23	32.90%
Floyd	147.99	4.01	10	33.80%
Knott	147.04	Missing	7	31.20%
Carroll	146.40	Missing	4	32.10%
Leslie	136.54	1.53	16	30.80%
Martin	130.51	Missing	1	31.30%
Knox	129.41	1.28	10	29.30%
Edmonson	127.63	6.32	51	29.80%

For more information, contact the Radon Awareness Program at 859-323-4587.

Three variable overlay map created by Dick Gilbreath at the Gyula Pauer Center for Cartography and GIS.