Residential Radon and Thoron Survey in Metropolitan Areas Data Dictionary

-- Definitions --

N/A

Results were not available due to various reasons such as missing, lost or damaged detectors.

Becquerel (Bq)

The SI unit for radioactive decay. One becquerel is defined as one radioactive decay per second.

Bq/m3

Becquerels per cubic metre. The SI units used to report radon concentration in air.

-- Columns --

Average Radon (Rn-222) Concentration (averageRadonConcentrationInBqPerM3)

The average radon (Rn-222) concentration during the test period in Bq/m3.

Average Thoron (Rn-220) Concentration (averageThoronConcentrationInBqPerM3)

The average thoron (Rn-220) concentration during the test period in Bq/m3.

Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) (censusMetropolitanArea)

The Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) where the house was located. CMAs are areas of Canada where the population exceeds 100,000, with at least 50,000 living in the urban core. There were 33 CMAs in Canada at the time of the survey.

Forward Sortation Area (FSA)\* (forwardSortationAreaCodes)

The FSA is the first 3 characters of the postal code. The average number of homes within a FSA is around 8000, but can range from 0 to more than 60,000. In FSAs where the number of homes was less than 100, the population was less than 500, or only a single entry exists in the FSA, the FSA was redacted to protect the anonymity of the survey participants. In total, 250 FSAs were suppressed from the dataset.

\* - Some data has been removed in order to protect the identity of study participants.

Province (province)

The province in which the house was located.

Result Number (resultNumber)

An arbitrary incrementing value for the 3190 homes where long-term radon measurement results were obtained in the study. The data in the .csv file is sorted alphabetically beginning with province, then by CMA name.

Test Duration (testDurationInDays)

The length of the test period, in days. Radon (Rn-222) and thoron (Rn-220) were tested simultaneously during this test period. This dataset includes tests of a known duration which ran for at least 30 days. 97% of these tests ran for at least 90 days, and 99.8% of these results ran for at least 60 days.