

---

# HSWMR

---

## Hazardous Substance & Waste Management Research, Inc.

2976 Wellington Circle West  
Tallahassee, Florida 32309  
Phone: (850) 681-6894  
Fax: (850) 906-9777  
www.hswmr.com

**FROM:** Dr. Christopher M. Teaf  
President & Director of Toxicology

**TO:** Laymon Gray  
Associate Director  
Environmental Health & Safety  
Florida State University

**DATE:** 02 March 2023

**SUBJECT:** Laboratory Building A - Radon Evaluation

Laboratory Building A (Lab Building A) at Florida State University (FSU) has been evaluated for radon content due to indoor air quality questions that have been raised regarding other buildings on the FSU campus. From February 6 to 8, 2023, radon measurements were collected at six (6) locations at Lab Building A. The 48-hour charcoal-liquid scintillation vial measurements were collected by a state-certified radon contractor, in accordance with standard protocols of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Florida Department of Health (FDOH). None of the radon values at any location were greater than the 4 picoCurie/liter (pCi/L) USEPA Action Level (range 1.7 to 2.6 pCi/L). Results for the February 2023 sampling event are summarized in the attached table.

Detectable radon levels are ubiquitous throughout the state, with most areas of Florida exhibiting low radon. Outdoor levels typically are in the 0.4 to 0.5 pCi/L range, and indoor levels regularly range from 1 to 2 pCi/L. Radon comes from decay of natural radium, and elevated indoor radon is related to local geology. Radon often is present in clays, phosphate rock, and igneous rocks, like granite, and can originate from bedrock far below land surface. Because it is a naturally occurring substance, exposure is common and unavoidable.

The data summarized herein reflect a condition that is consistent with many buildings in Florida and throughout the United States, and the radon conditions at Laboratory Building A do not represent a health concern. Further investigation regarding radon is not recommended at this time.

**RADON MEASUREMENTS - Laboratory Building A, Florida State University**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Sampling Dates</b>	<b>Number of Samples</b>	<b>Min <i>pCi/L</i></b>	<b>Max <i>pCi/L</i></b>	<b>Notes</b>
First Floor	06 to 08 February 2023	6	1.7	2.6	No results > 4 pCi/L

pCi/L = picocuries per liter