

# **Environmental Radiation Surveillance Gamma Radiation Readings: Beginning 1995 Research Questions**

**Center for Environmental Health  
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**Health Data NY**

## Research Information

1. A researcher might use this dataset to evaluate environmental radiation data at locations associated with a facility.
2. Alternatively, a research might use this dataset to do inter-comparisons with facility monitoring data. Providing facility monitoring data is beyond the scope of the New York State Department of Health. However, the facilities may make this environmental data available.
3. This dataset could be used to determine how the TLD levels compare between facilities throughout the state.

## What should this dataset not be used for?

The dataset would not be used to create cancer incident maps, since the data is not representative of any individual's radiation exposure.

## Additional Information

Information can be determined from the data. Normal background radiation level range is approximately 0.008 mrem per hour. (Source: NCRP Report No. 94, Exposure of the Population in the United States and Canada from Natural Background Radiation). On a quarterly basis this would convert to 17.5 mrem per quarter ( $\text{mrem/hr} \times 2190 \text{ hr/calendar quarter} @ 24 \text{ hr/day} \times 91.25 \text{ day/quarter}$ ). This is an average value. There will be geographic variations based on concentration of naturally occurring radioactive materials.