

What is background radiation?

Background Radiation is the normal radiation that is present in the environment from natural sources. These sources include radiation from the sun, cosmic rays, radiation from naturally occurring elements in the soil and rocks, and some building materials. The majority comes from soil and rocks. The elements that contribute most to this are uranium, thorium, radium, and radon. In Ohio, the background radiation average ranges from 10 to 30 micro roentgens per hour.