

the outdoors shall be based on the total floor area being ventilated.

[B] **402.4 Openings below grade.** Where openings below grade provide required *natural ventilation*, the outside horizontal clear space measured perpendicular to the opening shall be one and one-half times the depth of the opening. The depth of the opening shall be measured from the average adjoining ground level to the bottom of the opening.

### SECTION 403 MECHANICAL VENTILATION

**403.1 Ventilation system.** Mechanical ventilation shall be provided by a method of supply air and return or *exhaust air*. The amount of supply air shall be approximately equal to the amount of return and *exhaust air*. The system shall not be prohibited from producing negative or positive pressure. The system to convey *ventilation air* shall be designed and installed in accordance with Chapter 6.

**403.2 Outdoor air required.** The minimum outdoor airflow rate shall be determined in accordance with Section 403.3. Ventilation supply systems shall be designed to deliver the required rate of outdoor airflow to the *breathing zone* within each *occupiable space*.

**Exception:** Where the *registered design professional* demonstrates that an engineered ventilation system design will prevent the maximum concentration of contaminants from exceeding that obtainable by the rate of outdoor air ventilation determined in accordance with Section 403.3, the minimum required rate of outdoor air shall be reduced in accordance with such engineered system design.

**403.2.1 Recirculation of air.** The outdoor air required by Section 403.3 shall not be recirculated. Air in excess of that required by Section 403.3 shall not be prohibited from being recirculated as a component of supply air to building spaces, except that:

1. Ventilation air shall not be recirculated from one *dwelling* to another or to dissimilar occupancies.
2. Supply air to a swimming pool and associated deck areas shall not be recirculated unless such air is dehumidified to maintain the relative humidity of the area at 60 percent or less. Air from this area shall not be recirculated to other spaces where more than 10 percent of the resulting supply airstream consists of air recirculated from these spaces.
3. Where mechanical exhaust is required by Note b in Table 403.3, recirculation of air from such spaces shall be prohibited. All air supplied to such spaces

shall be exhausted, including any air in excess of that required by Table 403.3.

4. Where mechanical exhaust is required by Note g in Table 403.3, mechanical exhaust is required and recirculation is prohibited where more than 10 percent of the resulting supply airstream consists of air recirculated from these spaces.

**403.2.2 Transfer air.** Except where recirculation from such spaces is prohibited by Table 403.3, air transferred from occupiable spaces is not prohibited from serving as *makeup air* for required exhaust systems in such spaces as kitchens, baths, toilet rooms, elevators and smoking lounges. The amount of transfer air and *exhaust air* shall be sufficient to provide the flow rates as specified in Section 403.3. The required outdoor airflow rates specified in Table 403.3 shall be introduced directly into such spaces or into the occupied spaces from which air is transferred or a combination of both.

**403.3 Outdoor airflow rate.** Ventilation systems shall be designed to have the capacity to supply the minimum outdoor airflow rate determined in accordance with this section. The occupant load utilized for design of the ventilation system shall not be less than the number determined from the estimated maximum occupant load rate indicated in Table 403.3. Ventilation rates for occupancies not represented in Table 403.3 shall be those for a listed *occupancy* classification that is most similar in terms of occupant density, activities and building construction; or shall be determined by an *approved* engineering analysis. The ventilation system shall be designed to supply the required rate of *ventilation air* continuously during the period the building is occupied, except as otherwise stated in other provisions of the code.

With the exception of smoking lounges, the ventilation rates in Table 403.3 are based on the absence of smoking in occupiable spaces. Where smoking is anticipated in a space other than a smoking lounge, the ventilation system serving the space shall be designed to provide ventilation over and above that required by Table 403.3 in accordance with accepted engineering practice.

**Exception:** The occupant load is not required to be determined based on the estimated maximum occupant load rate indicated in Table 403.3 where *approved* statistical data document the accuracy of an alternate anticipated occupant density.

**403.3.1 Zone outdoor airflow.** The minimum outdoor airflow required to be supplied to each zone shall be determined as a function of *occupancy* classification and space air distribution effectiveness in accordance with Sections 403.3.1.1 through 403.3.1.3.

TABLE 403.3  
MINIMUM VENTILATION RATES

OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION	OCCUPANT DENSITY #/1000 FT <sup>2</sup> <sup>a</sup>	PEOPLE OUTDOOR AIRFLOW RATE IN BREATHING ZONE, R <sub>p</sub> CFM/PERSON	AREA OUTDOOR AIRFLOW RATE IN BREATHING ZONE, R <sub>a</sub> CFM/FT <sup>2</sup> <sup>a</sup>	EXHAUST AIRFLOW RATE CFM/FT <sup>2</sup> <sup>a</sup>
<b>Correctional facilities</b>				
Cells				
without plumbing fixtures	25	5	0.12	—
with plumbing fixtures <sup>g</sup>	25	5	0.12	1.0
Dining halls (see food and beverage service)	—	—	—	—
Guard stations	15	5	0.06	—
Day room	30	5	0.06	—
Booking/waiting	50	7.5	0.06	—
<b>Dry cleaners, laundries</b>				
Coin-operated dry cleaner	20	15	—	—
Coin-operated laundries	20	7.5	0.06	—
Commercial dry cleaner	30	30	—	—
Commercial laundry	10	25	—	—
Storage, pick up	30	7.5	0.12	—
<b>Education</b>				
Auditoriums	150	5	0.06	—
Corridors (see public spaces)	—	—	—	—
Media center	25	10	0.12	—
Sports locker rooms <sup>g</sup>	—	—	—	0.5
Music/theater/dance	35	10	0.06	—
Smoking lounges <sup>b</sup>	70	60	—	—
Day care (through age 4)	25	10	0.18	—
Classrooms (ages 5-8)	25	10	0.12	—
Classrooms (age 9 plus)	35	10	0.12	—
Lecture classroom	65	7.5	0.06	—
Lecture hall (fixed seats)	150	7.5	0.06	—
Art classroom <sup>g</sup>	20	10	0.18	0.7
Science laboratories <sup>g</sup>	25	10	0.18	1.0
Wood/metal shops <sup>g</sup>	20	10	0.18	0.5
Computer lab	25	10	0.12	—
Multiuse assembly	100	7.5	0.06	—
Locker/dressing rooms <sup>g</sup>	—	—	—	0.25
<b>Food and beverage service</b>				
Bars, cocktail lounges	100	7.5	0.18	—
Cafeteria, fast food	100	7.5	0.18	—
Dining rooms	70	7.5	0.18	—
Kitchens (cooking) <sup>b</sup>	—	—	—	0.7
<b>Hospitals, nursing and convalescent homes</b>				
Autopsy rooms <sup>b</sup>	—	—	—	0.5
Medical procedure rooms	20	15	—	—
Operating rooms	20	30	—	—
Patient rooms	10	25	—	—
Physical therapy	20	15	—	—
Recovery and ICU	20	15	—	—

(continued)

VENTILATION

TABLE 403.3—continued  
MINIMUM VENTILATION RATES

OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION	OCCUPANT DENSITY #/1000 FT <sup>2</sup> <sup>a</sup>	PEOPLE OUTDOOR AIRFLOW RATE IN BREATHING ZONE, R <sub>p</sub> , CFM/PERSON	AREA OUTDOOR AIRFLOW RATE IN BREATHING ZONE, R <sub>a</sub> , CFM/FT <sup>2</sup> <sup>a</sup>	EXHAUST AIRFLOW RATE CFM/FT <sup>2</sup> <sup>a</sup>
<b>Hotels, motels, resorts and dormitories</b>				
Multipurpose assembly	120 (old)	5	0.06	—
Bathrooms/toilet—private <sup>g</sup>	—	—	—	25/50 <sup>f</sup>
Bedroom/living room	5 (old)	5	0.06	—
Conference/meeting	50 (old)	5	0.06	—
Dormitory sleeping areas	20 (old)	5	0.06	—
Gambling casinos	120 (old)	7.5	0.18	—
Lobbies/prefunction	30 (old)	7.5	0.06	—
<b>Offices</b>				
Conference rooms	50	5	0.06	—
Office spaces	5	5	0.06	—
Reception areas	30	5	0.06	—
Telephone/data entry	60	5	0.06	—
Main entry lobbies	10	5	0.06	—
<b>Private dwellings, single and multiple</b>				
Garages, common for multiple units <sup>b</sup>	—	—	—	0.75
Garages, separate for each dwelling <sup>b</sup>	—	—	—	100 cfm per car
Kitchens <sup>b</sup>	—	—	—	25/100 <sup>f</sup>
Living areas <sup>c</sup>	Based upon number of bedrooms. First bedroom, 2; each additional bedroom, 1	0.35 ACH but not less than 15 cfm/person	—	—
Toilet rooms and bathrooms <sup>g</sup>	—	—	—	20/50 <sup>f</sup>
<b>Public spaces</b>				
Corridors	—	—	0.06	—
Elevator car	—	—	—	1.0
Shower room (per shower head) <sup>g</sup>	—	—	—	50/20 <sup>f</sup>
Smoking lounges <sup>b</sup>	70	60	—	—
Toilet rooms — public <sup>g</sup>	—	—	—	50/70 <sup>e</sup>
Places of religious worship	120	5	0.06	—
Courtrooms	70	5	0.06	—
Legislative chambers	50	5	0.06	—
Libraries	10	5	0.12	—
Museums (children's)	40	7.5	0.12	—
Museums/galleries	40	7.5	0.06	—
<b>Retail stores, sales floors and showroom floors</b>				
Sales (except as below)	15	7.5	0.12	—
Dressing rooms	—	—	—	0.25
Mall common areas	40	7.5	0.06	—
Shipping and receiving	—	—	0.12	—
Smoking lounges <sup>b</sup>	70	60	—	—
Storage rooms	—	—	0.12	—
Warehouses (see storage)	—	—	—	—

(continued)

TABLE 403.3—continued  
MINIMUM VENTILATION RATES

OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION	OCCUPANT DENSITY #/1000 FT <sup>2</sup> <sup>a</sup>	PEOPLE OUTDOOR AIRFLOW RATE IN BREATHING ZONE, R <sub>p</sub> , CFM/PERSON	AREA OUTDOOR AIRFLOW RATE IN BREATHING ZONE, R <sub>a</sub> , CFM/FT <sup>2</sup> <sup>a</sup>	EXHAUST AIRFLOW RATE CFM/FT <sup>2</sup> <sup>a</sup>
<b>Specialty shops</b>				
Automotive motor-fuel dispensing stations <sup>b</sup>	—	—	—	1.5
Barber	25	7.5	0.06	0.5
Beauty salons <sup>b</sup>	25	20	0.12	0.6
Nail salons <sup>b, h</sup>	25	20	0.12	0.6
Embalming room <sup>b</sup>	—	—	—	2.0
Pet shops (animal areas) <sup>b</sup>	10	7.5	0.18	0.9
Supermarkets	8	7.5	0.06	—
<b>Sports and amusement</b>				
Disco/dance floors	100	20	0.06	—
Bowling alleys (seating areas)	40	10	0.12	—
Game arcades	20	7.5	0.18	—
Ice arenas without combustion engines	—	—	0.30	0.5
Gym, stadium, arena (play area)	—	—	0.30	—
Spectator areas	150	7.5	0.06	—
Swimming pools (pool and deck area)	—	—	0.48	—
Health club/aerobics room	40	20	0.06	—
Health club/weight room	10	20	0.06	—
<b>Storage</b>				
Repair garages, enclosed parking garages <sup>b, d</sup>	—	—	—	0.75
Warehouses	—	—	0.06	—
<b>Theaters</b>				
Auditoriums (see education)	—	—	—	—
Lobbies	150	5	0.06	—
Stages, studios	70	10	0.06	—
Ticket booths	60	5	0.06	—
<b>Transportation</b>				
Platforms	100	7.5	0.06	—
Transportation waiting	100	7.5	0.06	—
<b>Workrooms</b>				
Bank vaults/safe deposit	5	5	0.06	—
Darkrooms	—	—	—	1.0
Copy, printing rooms	4	5	0.06	0.5
Meat processing <sup>c</sup>	10	15	—	—
Pharmacy (prep. area)	10	5	0.18	—
Photo studios	10	5	0.12	—
Computer (without printing)	4	5	0.06	—

For SI: 1 cubic foot per minute = 0.0004719 m<sup>3</sup>/s, 1 ton = 908 kg, 1 cubic foot per minute per square foot = 0.00508 m<sup>3</sup>/(s · m<sup>2</sup>),  
°C = [(°F) - 32]/1.8, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>.

- a. Based upon *net occupiable floor area*.
- b. Mechanical exhaust required and the recirculation of air from such spaces is prohibited (see Section 403.2.1, Item 3).
- c. Spaces unheated or maintained below 50°F are not covered by these requirements unless the occupancy is continuous.
- d. Ventilation systems in enclosed parking garages shall comply with Section 404.
- e. Rates are per water closet or urinal. The higher rate shall be provided where the exhaust system is designed to operate intermittently. The lower rate shall be permitted only where the exhaust system is designed to operate continuously while occupied.
- f. Rates are per room unless otherwise indicated. The higher rate shall be provided where the exhaust system is designed to operate intermittently. The lower rate shall be permitted only where the exhaust system is designed to operate continuously while occupied.
- g. Mechanical exhaust is required and recirculation is prohibited except that recirculation shall be permitted where the resulting supply airstream consists of not more than 10 percent air recirculated from these spaces (see Section 403.2.1, Items 2 and 4).
- h. For nail salons, each nail station shall be provided with a *source capture system* capable of exhausting not less than 50 cfm per station.