

VENTILATION

TABLE 401.6
OPENING SIZES IN LOUVERS, GRILLES AND SCREENS
PROTECTING OUTDOOR EXHAUST AND AIR INTAKE
OPENINGS

OUTDOOR OPENING TYPE	MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM OPENING SIZES IN LOUVERS, GRILLES AND SCREENS MEASURED IN ANY DIRECTION
Exhaust openings	Not < 1/4 inch and not > 1/2 inch
Intake openings in residential occupancies	Not < 1/4 inch and not > 1/2 inch
Intake openings in other than residential occupancies	> 1/4 inch and not > 1 inch

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

401.7 Contaminant sources. Stationary local sources producing air-borne particulates, heat, odors, fumes, spray, vapors, smoke or gases in such quantities as to be irritating or injurious to health shall be provided with an exhaust system in accordance with Chapter 5 or a means of collection and removal of the contaminants. Such exhaust shall discharge directly to an approved location at the exterior of the building.

[B] SECTION 402 NATURAL VENTILATION

402.1 Natural ventilation. Natural ventilation of an occupied space shall be designed to occur through windows, doors, louvers or other openings to the outdoors. The operating mechanism for such openings shall be provided with ready access so that the openings are readily controllable by the building occupants.

Exception: Automatically controlled natural ventilation systems do not require ready access and control by building occupants.

402.2 Ventilation area required. The minimum openable area to the outdoors shall be 4 percent of the floor area being ventilated.

402.3 Adjoining spaces. Where rooms and spaces without openings to the outdoors are ventilated through an adjoining room, the opening to the adjoining rooms shall be unobstructed and shall have an area not less than 8 percent of the floor area of the interior room or space, but not less than 25 square feet (2.3 m²). The minimum openable area to the outdoors shall be based on the total floor area being ventilated.

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.

Ventilation supply systems shall be designed to deliver the required rate of supply air to the occupied zone within an occupied

space. The occupied zone shall have boundaries measured at 3 inches (76 mm) and 72 inches (1829 mm) above the floor and 24 inches (610 mm) from the enclosing walls.

403.2 Outdoor air required. The minimum ventilation rate of required outdoor air shall be determined in accordance with Section 403.3.

403.2.1 Recirculation of air. The 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 unit 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.
3. Where mechanical exhaust is required by 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. Building HVAC air used as transfer air for heat removal may be recirculated.

403.2.2 Transfer air. Except where recirculation from such spaces is prohibited by Table 403.3, air transferred from occupied 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 Sections 403.3 and 403.3.1. The required outdoor air 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.

403.2.3 Outdoor air delivery. The outdoor air shall be ducted in a fully enclosed path directly to every air handling unit in each zone not provided with sufficient operable opening area for natural ventilation to occur.

Exception: Ducts may terminate within 12 inches of the intake to an HVAC unit provided they are physically fastened so that the outside air duct is directed into the unit intake.

403.3 Ventilation rate. Ventilation systems shall be designed to have the capacity to supply the minimum outdoor airflow rate determined in accordance with Table 403.3 based on the occupancy of the space and the occupant load or other parameter as stated therein. 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 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.

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. Where occupancy density is known and documented in the plans, the outside air rate may be based on the design occupant density. Under no circumstance shall the occupancies used result in outside air less than one-half that resulting from application of Table 403.3 estimated maximum occupancy rates.

403.3.1 System operation. The minimum flow rate of outdoor air that the ventilation system must be capable of supplying during its operation shall be permitted to be based on the rate per person indicated in Table 403.3 and the actual number of occupants present.

403.3.2 Common ventilation system. Where spaces having different ventilation rate requirements are served by a common ventilation system, the ratio of outdoor air to total supply air for the system shall be determined based on the space having the largest outdoor air requirement or shall be determined in accordance with the following formula:

$$Y = \frac{X}{(1 + X - Z)} \quad \text{(Equation 4-1)}$$

Where

$Y = V_{oi}/V_{st}$ = Corrected fraction of outdoor air in system supply.

$X = V_{on}/V_{st}$ = Uncorrected fraction of outdoor air in system supply

$Z = V_{oc}/V_{sc}$ = Fraction of outdoor air in critical space. The critical space is that space with the greatest required fraction of outdoor air in the supply to this space.

V_{oi} = Corrected total outdoor airflow rate.

V_{st} = Total supply flow rate, i.e., the sum of all supply for all branches of the system.

V_{on} = Sum of outdoor airflow rates for all branches on system.

V_{oc} = Outdoor airflow rate required in critical spaces.

V_{sc} = Supply flow rate in critical space.

TABLE 403.3
REQUIRED OUTDOOR VENTILATION AIR

OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION	ESTIMATED MAXIMUM OCCUPANT LOAD, PERSONS PER 1,000 SQUARE FEET ^a	OUTDOOR AIR (Cubic feet per minute (cfm) Per person) UNLESS NOTED ^b
Correctional facilities		
Cells		
without plumbing fixtures	20	20
with plumbing fixtures	20	20
Dining halls	100	15
Guard stations	40	15
Dry Cleaners, laundries		
Coin-operated dry cleaner	20	15
Coin-operated laundries	20	15
Commercial dry cleaner	30	30
Commercial laundry	10	25
Storage, pick up	30	35
Education		
Auditoriums	150	15
Classrooms	50	15
Corridors	—	0.10 cfm/ft ²
Laboratories	30	20
Libraries	20	15
Locker rooms ^b	—	0.50 cfm/ft ²
Music rooms	50	15
Smoking lounges ^{b,c}	70	60
Training shops	30	20
Food and beverage service		
Bars, cocktail lounges	100	30
Cafeteria, fast food	100	20
Dining rooms	70	20
Kitchens (cooking) ^{c,d}	20	15
Hospitals, nursing and convalescent homes		
Autopsy rooms ^b	—	0.50 cfm/ft ²
Medical procedure rooms	20	15
Operating rooms	20	30
Patient rooms	10	25
Physical therapy	20	15
Recovery and ICU	20	15
Hotels, motels, resorts and dormitories		
Assembly rooms	120	15
Bathrooms ^{b,e}	—	35 cfm per room
Bedrooms	—	30 cfm per room
Conference rooms	50	20
Dormitory sleeping areas	20	15
Gambling casinos	120	30
Living rooms	—	30 cfm per room
Lobbies	30	15
Offices		
Conference rooms	50	20
Office spaces	7	20
Reception areas	60	15
Telecommunication centers and data entry	60	20

(continued)

VENTILATION

TABLE 403.3—continued
REQUIRED OUTDOOR VENTILATION AIR

OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION	ESTIMATED MAXIMUM OCCUPANT LOAD, PERSONS PER 1,000 SQUARE FEET ^a	OUTDOOR AIR (Cubic feet per minute (cfm) Per person) UNLESS NOTED ^b
Private dwellings, single and Multiple		
Garages, common for multiple units ^b	—	1.5 1.0 cfm/ft ²
Garages, separate for each dwelling	—	100 cfm per car
Kitchens ^b	—	100 cfm intermittent or 25 cfm continuous
Living areas ^c	Based upon number of bedrooms. first bedroom: 2; each additional bedroom: 1	0.35 air changes per hour ^d or 15 cfm per person, whichever is greater
Toilet rooms and bathrooms ^b	—	mechanical exhaust capacity of 50 cfm intermittent or 20 cfm continuous
Public spaces		
Corridors and utilities	—	0.05 cfm/ft ²
Elevators ^e	—	1.00 cfm/ft ²
Locker rooms ^b	—	0.5 cfm/ft ²
Shower room (per shower head) ^{b,e}	—	50 cfm intermediate or 20 cfm continuous
Smoking lounges ^{b,e}	70	60
Toilet rooms ^{b,e}	—	75 cfm per water closet or urinal
Retail stores, sales floors and Showroom floors		
Basement and street	—	0.30 cfm/ft ²
Dressing rooms	—	0.20 cfm/ft ²
Malls and arcades	—	0.20 cfm/ft ²
Shipping and receiving	—	0.15 cfm/ft ²
Smoking lounges ^b	70	60
Storage rooms	—	0.15 cfm/ft ²
Upper floors	—	0.20 cfm/ft ²
Warehouses	—	0.05 cfm/ft ²
Specialty shops		
Automotive service stations	—	1.5 cfm/ft ²
Barber	25	15
Beauty	25	25
Clothiers, furniture	—	0.30 cfm/ft ²
Florists	8	15
Hardware, drugs, fabrics	8	15
Nail salon ^b	—	25
Pet shops	—	1.00 cfm/ft ²
Reducing salons	20	15
Supermarkets	8	15

TABLE 403.3—continued
REQUIRED OUTDOOR VENTILATION AIR

OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION	ESTIMATED MAXIMUM OCCUPANT LOAD, PERSONS PER 1,000 SQUARE FEET ^a	OUTDOOR AIR (Cubic feet per minute (cfm) Per person) UNLESS NOTED ^b
Sports and amusement		
Ballrooms and discos	100	25
Bowling alleys (seating areas)	70	25
Game rooms	70	25
Ice arenas	—	0.50 cfm/ft ²
Playing floors (gymnasiums)	30	20
Spectator areas	150	15
Swimming pools (pool and deck area)	—	0.50 cfm/ft ²
Storage		
Repair garages;	—	1.5 cfm/ft ²
Loading docks	—	1.5 cfm/ft ²
Enclosed parking garages ^d	—	1.0 cfm/ft ²
Warehouses	—	0.05 cfm/ft ²
Theaters		
Auditoriums	150	15
Lobbies	150	20
Stages, studios	70	15
Ticket booths	60	20
Transportation		
Platforms	100	15
Vehicles	150	15
Waiting rooms	100	15
Workrooms		
Bank vaults	5	15
Darkrooms	—	0.50 cfm/ft ²
Duplicating, printing	—	0.50 cfm/ft ²
Meat processing ^c	10	15
Pharmacy	20	15
Photo studios	10	15

For SI: 1 cubic foot per minute = 0.0004719 m³/s, 1 ton = 908 kg,
1 cubic foot per minute per square foot = 0.00508 m³/(s • m²),
°C = [(°F) - 32]/1.8, 1 square foot = 0.0929 m².

- a. Based upon net floor area.
- b. Mechanical exhaust required and the recirculation of air from such spaces as permitted by Section 403.2.1 is prohibited (see Section 403.2.1).
- 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. A mechanical ventilation system shall not be required in garages having a floor area not exceeding 850 square feet and used for the storage of not more than four vehicles or trucks of 1 ton maximum capacity.
- e. Where the ventilation rate is expressed in cfm/ft², such rate is based upon cubic feet per minute per square foot of the floor area being ventilated.
- f. The sum of the outdoor and transfer air from adjacent spaces shall be sufficient to provide an exhaust rate of not less than 1.5 cfm/ft².
- g. Transfer air permitted in accordance with Section 403.2.2.

403.3.3 Variable air volume system control. Variable air volume air distribution systems, other than those designed to supply only 100-percent outdoor air, shall be provided with controls to regulate the flow of outdoor air. Such control system shall be designed to maintain the flow of outdoor air at a rate of not less than that required by Section 403 over the entire range of supply air operating rates.