



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

Standard 62.1

ANSI/ASHRAE 62.1, Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality

Purpose

Specifies minimum ventilation rates and other measures intended to provide indoor air quality that is acceptable to human occupants and minimizes adverse health effects, such as breathing difficulties and sick building syndrome due to poor indoor air quality.

Significance

Standard 62.1 plays an important role in building occupants' wellbeing by helping to ensure the acceptability of indoor air quality. It provides requirements for the design and operation of ventilation systems for a range of commercial building types and functions. The standard is the basis for ventilation-related requirements in the International Code Council's International Mechanical Code and the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials' Uniform Mechanical Code as well as federal, state and local regulations addressing building ventilation. It also has been developed as an international standard, and its compliance is a prerequisite for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) certification.

Scope

Applies to all indoor or enclosed spaces that people may occupy, except where other applicable standards and requirements dictate larger amounts of ventilation. The standard does not apply to dwelling units (e.g. homes, apartments, condos), which are covered by ASHRAE Standard 62.2, *Ventilation and Acceptable Indoor Air Quality in Residential Buildings*, or healthcare occupancies, which are addressed by Standard 170, *Ventilation of Health Care Facilities*, nor is it intended to be applied retroactively to existing buildings.

Facts

- Includes minimum requirements to help maintain a safe, healthy and comfortable indoor environment for building occupants.
- Provides minimum ventilation requirements to achieve acceptable indoor air quality in a wide range of different indoor spaces.
- Provides additional requirements for operations and maintenance practices, to reduce indoor pollution sources.
- A national voluntary consensus standard developed under the auspices of ASHRAE. Consensus is defined by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), of which ASHRAE is a member and which has approved this standard as an American National Standard. It is revised through publication of addenda using a continuous maintenance process that includes public review of each proposed addendum.
- Written in code-compatible language, allowing for easier adoption by standards development organizations as well as federal, state and local agencies.