

THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE BUILDING CODE

10.00. Obstructions shall not be placed in the required width of a means of egress except projections permitted by 780 CMR 10.00. The required capacity of a means of egress system shall not be diminished along the path of egress travel.

1003.7 Elevators, Escalators and Moving Walks. Elevators, escalators and moving walks shall not be used as a component of a required means of egress from any other part of the building.

Exception. Elevators used as an accessible means of egress in accordance with 780 CMR 1007.4.

780 CMR 1004.0 OCCUPANT LOAD

1004.1 Design Occupant Load. In determining means of egress requirements, the number of occupants for whom means of egress facilities shall be provided shall be established by the largest number computed in accordance with 780 CMR 1004.1.1 through 1004.1.3.

Exception. For A-2nc uses also note the prescriptive egress requirements of 780 CMR 1024.0 and 780 CMR 3403.0.

1004.1.1 Actual Number. The actual number of occupants for whom each occupied space, floor or building is designed.

1004.1.2 Number by Table 1004.1.2. The number of occupants computed at the rate of one occupant per unit of area as prescribed in Table 1004.1.2.

TABLE 1004.1.2 MAXIMUM FLOOR AREA ALLOWANCES PER OCCUPANT

OCCUPANCY	FLOOR AREA IN SQ. FT. PER OCCUPANT
Agricultural building	300 gross
Aircraft hangars	500 gross
Airport terminal	
Baggage claim	20 gross
Baggage handling	300 gross
Concourse	100 gross
Waiting areas	15 gross
Assembly	
Gaming floors (keno, slots, etc.)	11 gross
Assembly with fixed seats	See 780 CMR 1003.2.2.9
Assembly without fixed seats	
Concentrated (chairs only—not fixed) Standing space	7 net
Unconcentrated (tables and chairs)	5 net
	15 net
<i>For A-2nc uses also note the prescriptive egress requirements of 780 CMR 1024 and 780 CMR 3400.3.</i>	
Bowling centers, allow five persons for each lane including 15 feet of runway, and for additional areas	7 net
Business areas	100 gross
Courtrooms - other than fixed seating areas	40 net
Dormitories	50 gross
Educational	
Classroom area	20 net
Shops and other vocational room areas	50 net

OCCUPANCY	FLOOR AREA IN SQ. FT. PER OCCUPANT
Exercise rooms	50 gross
H-5 Fabrication and manufacturing areas	200 gross
Industrial areas	100 gross
Institutional areas	
Inpatient treatment areas	240 gross
Outpatient areas	100 gross
Sleeping areas	120 gross
Kitchens, commercial	200 gross
Library	
Reading rooms	50 net
Stack area	100 gross
Locker rooms	50 gross
Mercantile	
Areas on other floors	60 gross
Basement and grade floor areas	30 gross
Storage, stock, shipping areas	300 gross
Parking garages	200 gross
Residential	200 gross
Skating rinks, swimming pools	
Rink and pool	50 gross
Decks	15 gross
Stages and platforms	15 net
Accessory storage areas, mechanical equipment room	300 gross
Warehouses	500 gross

For SI: 1 square foot - 0.0929 m²

1004.1.3 Number by Combination. Where occupants from accessory spaces egress through a primary area, the calculated occupant load for the primary space shall include the total occupant load of the primary space plus the number of occupants egressing through it from the accessory space.

1004.2 Increased Occupant Load. The occupant load permitted in any building or portion thereof is permitted to be increased from that number established for the occupancies in Table 1004.1.2 provided that all other requirements of the code are also met based on such modified number and the occupant load shall not exceed one occupant per 5 square feet (0.47 m²) of occupiable floor space. Where required by the building official, an approved aisle, seating or fixed equipment diagram substantiating any increase in occupant load shall be submitted. Where required by the building official, such diagram shall be posted.

1004.3 Posting of Occupant Load. Every room or space that is an assembly occupancy shall have the occupant load of the room or space posted in a conspicuous place, near the main exit or exit access doorway from the room or space. Posted signs shall be of an approved legible permanent design and shall be maintained by the owner or authorized agent.

1004.4 Exiting from Multiple Levels. Where exits serve more than one floor, only the occupant load of each floor considered individually shall be used in computing the required capacity of the exits at that floor, provided that the exit capacity shall not decrease in the direction of egress travel.

1004.5 Egress Convergence. Where means of egress from floors above and below converge at an