

4. Capacity of Means of Egress

4.1. The Occupant Load

- 4.1.1.** The Occupant Load is the total number of people or occupants that might occupy a building or portion thereof at any one time.
- 4.1.2.** The occupant load in any building or portion thereof shall be not less than the number of persons determined by dividing the floor area assigned to that use by the occupant load factor for that use as specified in **Table 3.13**. All areas mentioned in table are “gross” unless mentioned as “net”.
- 4.1.3.** Where an exit serves more than one storey, only the occupant load of each storey considered individually shall be used in computing the required capacity of the exit at that storey, provided that the required egress capacity of the exit is not decreased in the direction of egress travel.

4.2. Egress Capacity

- 4.2.1.** The total capacity of the means of egress for any storey, balcony, tier, or other occupied space shall be sufficient for the occupant load thereof.
- 4.2.2.** Where more than one means of egress exist in a building, the means of egress shall be of such width and capacity that the loss of any one means of egress leaves available not less than 50% of the required capacity.
- 4.2.3.** Where means of egress from a storey above and a storey below converge at an intermediate storey, the capacity of the means of egress from the point of convergence shall be not less than the sum of the required capacity of the two means of egress.
- 4.2.4.** The required capacity of a corridor shall be based on the occupant load that utilizes the corridor for exit access divided by the required number of exits to which the corridor connects, but the corridor capacity shall be not less than the required capacity of the exit to which the corridor leads.
- 4.2.5.** Where a single exit access leads to an exit, its capacity in terms of width shall be not less than the required capacity of the exit to which it leads.
- 4.2.6.** Where more than one exit access leads to an exit, each exit shall have a width adequate for the number of persons it accommodates.