

## Chapter Ind 57

APARTMENT BUILDINGS, HOTELS AND PLACES  
OF DETENTION

Ind 57.001	Scope (p. 199)	Ind 57.12	Steps, stairs and shafts (p. 203)
Ind 57.01	Class of construction (p. 199)	Ind 57.13	Sanitary facilities (p. 204)
Ind 57.02	First floor fire-resistive (p. 200)	Ind 57.15	Repairs (p. 204)
Ind 57.03	Garage and business separation (p. 200)	Ind 57.16	Cleanliness (p. 205)
Ind 57.04	Corridor and dividing partitions, 3 story places of abode (p. 200)	Ind 57.17	Size of rooms (p. 205)
Ind 57.05	Court walls (p. 201)	Ind 57.18	Habitable rooms-floors below grade (p. 205)
Ind 57.06	Yards (p. 201)	Ind 57.19	Windows (p. 207)
Ind 57.07	Number, location and type of exits (p. 201)	Ind 57.20	Isolation of fire hazards (p. 207)
Ind 57.08	Required exit width (p. 202)	Ind 57.21	Standpipes (p. 207)
Ind 57.09	Exit doors (p. 203)	Ind 57.22	Fire alarms (p. 208)
Ind 57.10	Passageways (p. 203)	Ind 57.24	Directions for escape (p. 208)
Ind 57.11	Illumination and exit lights (p. 203)	Ind 57.25	Row house (p. 208)
		Ind 57.26	Residential health care facilities (p. 209)
		Ind 57.27	Smoke detection (p. 210)

**Ind 57.001 Scope.** (1) The requirements of this chapter shall apply to all apartment buildings, row houses, rooming houses, hotels, dormitories, convents, monasteries, hospitals, children's homes, homes for the aged and infirm, nursing homes, convalescent hospitals, convalescent homes, asylums, mental hospitals, jails, and other places of abode or detention, except as provided in section Ind 57.25 (2).

(2) By *place of abode* is meant a building or part of a building, such as apartment building, row house, rooming house, hotel, dormitory, convent, hospital, as follows:

(a) Occupied as a residence of 3 or more families living independently or occupied by 2 such families and used also for business purposes, or

(b) Occupied for sleeping or lodging purposes by 3 or more persons not members of the same family.

(3) By *place of detention* is meant a building or part of a building used as a place of abode and wherein persons are forcibly confined, such as asylums, mental hospitals, and jails.

**Note 1:** The attorney general has ruled that all persons committed to an insane asylum by court order come within the meaning of the words "forcibly confined". Also that the words "forcibly confined" apply to all persons confined without their consent.

**Note 2:** For requirements regarding migrant labor camps see Wis. Adm. Code chapter Ind 49.

**Ind 57.01 Class of construction.** (1) All places of abode which are more than 3 stories in height shall be of type No. 1 or No. 2 construction as specified as in section Ind 51.03.

(2) All 3-story places of abode, other than hospitals and places of detention, shall be at least type No. 6 construction as specified in section Ind 51.03.

(3) All places of detention shall be of type No. 1 or No. 2 construction as specified in section Ind 51.03. All hospitals, convalescent hospitals, and nursing homes 3 or more stories in height shall be of type No. 1 or No. 2 construction as specified in section Ind 51.03.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. (3), Register, September, 1959, No. 45, eff. 10-1-59; am. (1), (2) and (3), Register, June, 1972, No. 198, eff. 1-1-73.

**Ind 57.02 First floor fire-resistive.** (1) In 3 story buildings, except those having not more than one family on each floor, the first floor and its supports shall be of not less than 3-hour fire-resistive construction as specified in section Ind 51.04, except that in a 3 story apartment house which will accommodate not more than four families, or a 3 story hotel or rooming house which will accommodate not more than 30 persons, above the first story, the basement ceiling shall be of not less than 1-hour fire-resistive construction as specified in section Ind 51.04 or shall be protected by automatic sprinklers as specified in section Ind 51.23.

(2) Spaces between floor joists, below or above stud partitions where the studs extend through one or more stories, shall be fire-stopped.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. (1), Register, February, 1971, No. 182, eff. 7-1-71; r. and recr. (1) eff. 8-1-71 and exp. 1-1-72, and cr. (1) eff. 1-1-72, Register, July, 1971, No. 187.

**Ind 57.03 Garage and business separation.** (1) In every building in which a lower story is used for garage purposes, the ceiling over the garage shall be of unpierced 4-hour fire-resistive construction as specified in section Ind 51.043. All stairways and shafts from garages leading to the upper stories shall be separated from the garage area with walls of 4-hour fire-resistive construction as specified in section Ind 51.043, with openings protected as specified for special occupancy separation, section Ind 51.08.

(2) In a building more than 2 stories in height where the lower story is used for business purposes, other than the hazards listed in chapter Ind 57 of this code, the ceiling over the lower story shall be of not less than 1-hour fire-resistive construction as specified in section Ind 51.04.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, February, 1971, No. 182, eff. 7-1-71; r. and recr. eff. 8-1-71 and exp. 1-1-72; cr. eff. 1-1-72, Register, July, 1971, No. 187; am. (1), Register, December, 1975, No. 240, eff. 1-1-76.

**Ind 57.04 Corridor and dividing partitions—3-story places of abode.** (1) The public passageways shall be enclosed with partitions of not less than one-hour fire-resistive construction as specified in section Ind 51.04 and shall have all living units separated by such partitions, except as follows:

(a) Apartment buildings having one living unit on each floor.

(b) Hotels, motels, hospitals, nursing homes and other similar buildings having not more than 8 habitable rooms on each floor.

(2) Hotels, motels, hospitals, nursing homes and other similar buildings having more than 8 habitable rooms on each floor shall be divided into groups of not more than 8 habitable rooms each, with partitions of not less than one-hour fire-resistive construction as specified in section Ind 51.04.

Register, December, 1978, No. 276  
Building and heating, ventilating  
and air conditioning code

DEPT. OF INDUSTRY, LABOR & HUMAN RELATIONS 201  
Apartment buildings, hotels, places of detention

(3) Corridor and specified dividing partitions shall be provided with 20-minute fire door assemblies, or equivalent.

Note: See Ind 51.047 for standards of 20-minute door assemblies or equivalent.

History: 1-2-56; am. (1), Register, February, 1971, No. 182, eff. 7-1-71; r. and recr. (1) eff. 8-1-71 and exp. 1-1-72; cr. (1) eff. 1-1-72; Register, July, 1971, No. 187; r. and recr. Register, September, 1973, No. 213, eff. 10-1-73; am. (3), Register, December, 1974, No. 228, eff. 1-1-76.

**Ind 57.05 Court walls.** For walls of courts and similar interior shafts for light and air, see table 51.03-A.

History: 1-2-56; am. Register, February, 1971, No. 182, eff. 7-1-71; r. and recr. eff. 8-1-71 and exp. 1-1-72; cr. eff. 1-1-72, Register, July, 1971, No. 187; am. Register, June, 1972, No. 198, eff. 1-1-73.

**Ind 57.06 Yards.** (1) Behind every apartment house, the rear of which does not abut on an alley or street, there shall be a yard across the entire width of the lot, open and unobstructed from the ground to the sky. The width of the yard behind a 2 story building shall be either:

(a) At least 5 feet of unobstructed width; or

(b) At least 10 feet from the rear lot line to the building line, of which at least 3 feet shall be unobstructed, and the remainder may be occupied by an open (or screened) porch.

(2) For apartment houses of more than 2 stories, the unobstructed width of the entire yard shall be increased one foot for each additional story, except in the case of corner lots.

(3) No apartment house shall be placed behind any other building unless there is at least 50 feet between the buildings.

**Ind 57.07 Number, location and type of exits.** (1) There shall be at least 2 exits accessible from each living unit by means of stairways, ramps or horizontal exits. The number and location of such exits shall be such that in case any exit or passageway is blocked at any point, some other exit will still be accessible through public passageways from every living unit.

(a) In type No. 1 and No. 2 buildings a total area of not more than 1,200 square feet may be placed between an exit and the end of the building.

(2) Exits shall be distributed so that the entrance to each living unit will be not more than 50 feet distant from an exit, measuring along public passageways, if in a building of less than type No. 1 or No. 2 construction, or 75 feet in a type No. 1 or No. 2 building.

(3) At least one-half of the required exits, in buildings of more than one story, shall be stairways as specified in section Ind 51.16. The remaining exits shall be either stairways, or horizontal exits; or fire escapes may be used as exits from floors which are not more than 40 feet above grade if they are placed against blank walls. Every building which accommodates more than one family, or 8 persons, above the second story shall have at least 2 stairways.

(a) *Exception.* A rescue platform (exterior balcony) of combustible construction may be used as a required second exit for 2-story buildings

Register, December, 1978, No. 276  
Building and heating, ventilating  
and air conditioning code

of type 5 through type 8 construction, provided the following conditions are satisfied:

1. The exit serves a single living unit;
2. The exit platform is located not more than 10 feet above the adjacent exit discharge grade;
3. The platform area is at least 14 square feet, with a minimum dimension of 3 feet;
4. The platform is designed for 80 pounds per square foot live load plus dead load;
5. Railings are provided in accordance with the provisions of section Ind 51.16 (5);
6. Platforms having solid floors are provided with a roof equal in area to that of the platform;
7. The building is not a hospital, nursing home, residential care institution, group foster home or home for the elderly.

(4) Apartment buildings 3 stories or less in height whose floors and supporting members are of not less than 2-hour fire-resistive construction as specified in section Ind 51.04, and which have a plan so arranged that not more than 2 living units on any floor make use of a common stairway, may be constructed with one common stairway as a single exit, provided the walls between units and those enclosing the stairway are of 2-hour fire-resistive construction as specified in section Ind 51.04. In this case, the stairways must be of not less than 2-hour fire-resistive construction, must lead directly to the outside and have all interior openings protected by approved fire-resistive doors as specified in section Ind 51.047.

(5) Where a jail or other place of detention wherein persons are forcibly confined is located on the upper floors of a court house or office building, at least one of the exits from the jail shall be a separate smoke-proof stair tower leading directly from the jail section to the outside at street grade. This stairway shall serve only the jail area and there shall be no doors opening into it from the office or court house section of the building.

(6) Exits serving portions of buildings without sleeping rooms or living units (i.e., hospital and nursing home ancillary areas, basements of apartment buildings, and similar areas) shall comply with the requirements of sections Ind 54.02 through 54.07.

**History:** 1-2-56; r. and recr. (1), Register, December, 1970, No. 180, eff. 1-1-71; am. (4), Register, February, 1971, No. 182, eff. 7-1-71; r. and recr. (4) eff. 8-1-71 and exp. 1-1-72; cr. (4) eff. 1-1-72, Register, July, 1971, No. 187; am. (1) and (2), Register, June, 1972, No. 198, eff. 1-1-73; am. (1) (intro.), (2) and (4), Register, September, 1973, No. 213, eff. 10-1-73; cr. (3) (a), Register, December, 1977, No. 264, eff. 1-1-78; cr. (6), Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79.

**Ind 57.08 Required exit width.** The total required exit width from a building level shall be in accordance with the requirements of sections Ind 51.15 (6) and Ind 51.16 (3).

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, December, 1974, No. 228, eff. 1-1-75.

Register, December, 1978, No. 276  
Building and heating, ventilating  
and air conditioning code

DEPT. OF INDUSTRY, LABOR & HUMAN RELATIONS 203  
Apartment buildings, hotels, places of detention

**Ind 57.09 Exit doors.** (1) Exit doors shall be as specified in section Ind 51.15, except that a door which is used by not more than 25 persons shall be not less than 3 feet wide and shall not be required to open outward.

(a) *Exception.* Sliding glazed patio-type doors may serve as the second exit from individual living units. The operable leaf of the door shall be located on the interior side of the track. A means to prevent accumulation of snow and ice in the door track or freezing of the door shall be provided.

**History:** 1-2-56; r. and recr., Register, December, 1977, No. 264, eff. 1-1-78; cr. (1) (a), Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79.

**Ind 57.10 Passageways.** Every public passageway leading from an exit shall be at least as wide as the required width of such exit. Every public passageway leading to an exit shall be at least 3 feet wide. The required width shall be kept clear and unobstructed at all times.

**Ind 57.11 Illumination and exit lights.** (1) **ILLUMINATION.** (a) Buildings having more than 4 living units accommodating more than 30 persons or accommodating transients shall have public passageways, stairways and exit doors illuminated from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise.

(b) The illumination requirements specified in (a) shall be provided at all intersections of passageways, at all exits and at the head, foot and landing of every stairway.

(2) **EXIT LIGHTS.** Every required exit, other than those within private living units, from each floor shall be indicated by an approved illuminated, red exit sign bearing the word EXIT or OUT in plain letters not less than 5 inches in height.

**History:** 1-2-56; r. and recr. Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79.

**Ind 57.12 Steps, stairs and shafts.** (1) **EXTERIOR STAIRS.** Exterior stairs shall conform to the requirements of section Ind 51.16, except that less than 3 steps may be provided between exterior platforms and grade for apartments, row houses and town houses, and the platforms or treads between such risers do not exceed 5 feet 0 inches in length in the direction of travel.

(2) **INTERIOR STAIRS.** Interior stairs shall conform to the requirements of section Ind 51.16, except that stairs which are used by not more than 25 persons shall be not less than 3 feet wide.

(a) *Exception.* A spiral stairway, as described in section Ind 51.16 (10), may be used as the only exit from a mezzanine within an individual living unit provided the mezzanine does not exceed 400 square feet in area.

(3) **CHANGES OF ELEVATION WITHIN INDIVIDUAL LIVING UNITS.** Changes in elevation shall be overcome by means of step (s), stairs or ramps.

(4) **ENCLOSURE OF INTERIOR STAIRWAYS AND SHAFTS.** (a) All stairways and shafts shall be enclosed as specified in Table 51.03-A and in section

Register, December, 1978, No. 276  
Building and heating, ventilating  
and air conditioning code

Ind 51.02 (11), except that in all buildings of 3 or more stories, all basement stairways shall be enclosed with 2-hour fire-resistive partitions as specified in section Ind 51.04.

(b) In buildings of more than 3 stories, all stairways shall be enclosed with 2-hour fire-resistive partitions as specified in section Ind 51.04.

(c) In all buildings of 3 or more stories in which the first story is used for business purposes, at least one stairway shall be enclosed in the first story with an unpierced wall of 2-hour fire-resistive construction, as specified in section Ind 51.04, and such stairway shall not connect with the basement.

(d) Every elevator shaft, dumbwaiter shaft, clothes chute, wastepaper chute, pipe shafts and other similar vertical shafts in buildings of 3 or more stories shall be enclosed with at least 2-hour fire-resistive partitions as described in section Ind 51.043.

**Note:** See section Ind 57.03 for stairs and shafts leading to garage areas.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, February, 1971, No. 182, eff. 7-1-71; r. and recr. eff. 8-1-71 and exp. 1-1-72; cr. eff. 1-1-72, Register, July, 1971, No. 187; r. and recr. (1), Register, June, 1972, No. 198, eff. 1-1-73; am. (4), Register, December, 1975, No. 240, eff. 1-1-76; r. and recr. Register, December, 1977, No. 264, eff. 1-1-78.

**Ind 57.13 Sanitary facilities.** (1) **TOILET ROOMS.** Every building included under the scope of this chapter shall be provided with separate toilet rooms for each sex, except that a common toilet room may be provided in individual living or sleeping units.

(2) **SANITARY FIXTURES.** The number of sanitary fixtures required for each sex shall be determined in accordance with the ratios established in Table 57.13.

(3) **EMPLOYEES.** Sanitary facilities for employes who do not sleep in the building shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of Table 54.12, unless the employes have access to the facilities provided for the residents.

(4) **GENERAL PUBLIC.** Sanitary facilities for the general public shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of Table 54.12-A or 54.12-B, unless the general public has access to the facilities provided for the residents.

(5) **KITCHEN SINK.** One kitchen sink, equipped with hot and cold running water, shall be provided in living units equipped for food preparation.

**Note:** See chapter H 24 — general and special hospitals, and chapter H 32 — nursing homes, rules of the department of health and social services, for special requirements and locations for water closets, lavatories and bathing facilities.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. (1), (2) and (3), Register, June, 1956, No. 6, eff. 7-1-56; cr. (4), Register, July, 1967, No. 139, eff. 8-1-67; r. and recr., Register, December, 1970, No. 180, eff. 1-1-71; r. and recr. Register, December, 1976, No. 252, eff. 1-1-77.

**Ind 57.15 Repairs.** Every building of this classification, and all parts thereof, shall be kept in good repair and the roof shall be maintained to prevent leakage. All rainwater shall be so drained and conveyed therefrom to prevent dampness in the walls and ceilings.

Register, December, 1978, No. 276  
Building and heating, ventilating  
and air conditioning code

TABLE 57.13

Type of Occupancy	Type of Fixture					
	Water Closets (WC)		Urinals (U)	Lavatories (L)	Bathtubs or Showers	Drinking Facilities (DF)
	Males (M)	Females (F)	Males (M)			
Occupancies having individual unit toilet rooms, such as hotels, motels, apartments, row houses, town houses, condominiums	One (WC) for each living unit		0	One (L) for each living unit	One for each living unit	0
Occupancies requiring communal use of sanitary facilities, such as dormitories, camps, rooming houses, jails, hospitals, nursing homes, foster care homes	One (WC) for each 10 (M), or fraction	One (WC) for each 10 (F), or fraction	Urinals may be substituted for up to 2/3 of the required no. of (WC)	One (L) for each 10 persons	One for each 20 persons	One (DF) for each 100 persons

**Ind 57.16 Cleanliness.** Every building shall be kept clean, and shall also be kept free from any accumulation of dirt, filth, rubbish, garbage, or other matter in or on the same or in the yards, courts, passages, areas or alleys connected with or belonging to the same.

**Ind 57.17 Size of rooms.** Every habitable room used for sleeping shall be of sufficient size to afford at least 400 cubic feet of air space for each occupant over 12 years of age and 200 cubic feet for each occupant under 12 years, except that a minimum of 150 cubic feet may be provided for infants in hospital nurseries. No greater number of occupants than the number thus established shall be permitted in any such rooms.

**History:** 1-2-56; r. and recr. Register, June, 1967, No. 138, eff. 7-1-67; r. and recr. (2), Register, July, 1967, No. 139, eff. 8-1-67; r. (2), Register, December, 1970, No. 180, eff. 1-1-71; am. Register, September, 1973, No. 213, eff. 10-1-73.

**Ind 57.18 Habitable rooms—floors below grade.\*** (1) Any building or part of a building used or occupied as a hospital, home for the aged and infirm, nursing home, convalescent hospital or home, asylum, mental hospital, jail or place of detention shall not have any living units located below grade (at building) except:

(a) In ground-story living units, habitable rooms shall have at least one exterior wall with a full exterior exposure from the ground floor level to the ceiling. The exterior exposure shall not be made by the construction of an areaway.

(2) Living units, other than those in (1) above, having habitable rooms, or parts thereof, on floor levels below grade (at building) shall comply with the requirements of this section.

(a) The grade (at building) does not include the grade level within the perimeter of an areaway.

(3) Every habitable room shall have at least one exterior wall adjoining an areaway or court.

\*See Appendix A for further explanatory material.

(4) Every habitable room shall have at least one outside window which can be opened from the inside without the use of tools to provide a clear opening of not less than 22 inches in least dimension and not less than 5 square feet in area, with the bottom of the opening not more than 4 feet above the floor.

(a) Windows having sills below grade (at building) shall be provided with an areaway as described in (5) of this section.

(b) All windows shall comply with the requirements of Ind 52.02 and 57.19 in addition to this subsection.

(c) Window assemblies of a type which, when open, obstruct emergency egress shall not be used.

(5) Areaways used for compliance with this section shall:

(a) Have a minimum width of 3 feet measured perpendicular to the building wall;

**Note:** For further restrictions, see Ind 64.07.

(b) Have, when used as a required means of egress, exits complying with sections Ind 51.16 and 52.21.

(6) \* All living units with floors below grade (at building) shall have access to 2 exits complying with all applicable sections of this code except as listed below.

(a) Exception: Living units having one exit door leading directly outside (not to an areaway) need not have access to a second exit.

(7) All buildings having living units below grade (at building) shall be designed and constructed to prevent undue collection of moisture in all stories below grade.

**Note #1:** Surface and subsoil draining systems for areaways and foundation walls are regulated under the requirements of the Wis. Adm. Plumbing Code Chapter H-62, administered by the department of health and social services.

**Note #2:** See Ind 50.07 (2) "Note #3" for reference to flood plain requirements.

(a) All foundation walls shall be thoroughly dampproofed prior to backfilling of soil.

(b) Provisions shall be made to prevent the accumulation of moisture due to condensation of high humidity so as to prevent slippery floors and to prevent conditions susceptible to mildew or other undesirable fungi or bacteria.

**Note #1:** The inside design conditions for cooling or dehumidification will be accepted on the basis of a dry bulb temperature of 75° F and a relative humidity not greater than 50%.

**Note #2:** See Ind 50.12 (4) (c) 2 "Note" for the acceptance of nationally recognized association methods and standards as a basis for calculations and design data.

**Note #3:** The standards for winter heating are found in chapter Ind 64 of this code.

**History:** 1-2-56; r. and recr., Register, September, 1973, No. 213, eff. 10-1-73.

\*See Appendix A for further explanatory material.

Register, December, 1978, No. 276  
Building and heating, ventilating  
and air conditioning code



**Ind 57.19 Windows.** The outside windows in every habitable room shall have a total sash area of at least one-tenth of the floor area of the room but not less than 12 square feet. The openable area of such windows shall be equal to not less than 5% of the floor area of the room served.

**Note:** Also see Ind 52.02 and Ind 64.07.

**History:** 1-2-56; r. and recr. Register, September, 1959, No. 45, eff. 10-1-59; r. and recr. Register, June, 1967, No. 138, eff. 7-1-67; r. and recr. (2) Register, July, 1967, No. 139, eff. 8-1-67; r. (2), Register, December, 1970, No. 180, eff. 1-1-71; am. Register, September, 1973, No. 213, eff. 10-1-73.

**Ind 57.20 Isolation of fire hazards.** (1) All boiler and furnace rooms, including fuel rooms and breeching, all laundries, drying rooms, carpenter shops, paint shops, and other hazardous work rooms and storage rooms in hospitals and buildings accommodating transients which are more than 3 stories in height and in all asylums and other places of detention shall be enclosed with a 4-hour fire-resistive enclosure as specified in section Ind 51.04. All openings shall be protected by self-closing fire-resistive doors as specified in section Ind 51.047.

(2) In all other buildings under this classification, such rooms shall be enclosed with a 2-hour fire-resistive enclosure as provided in section Ind 51.04, or better, except as otherwise provided in this section.

(3) In apartment buildings not more than 2 stories in height, such rooms shall be enclosed with a 1-hour fire-resistive enclosure as specified in section Ind 51.04, or better, except as provided in subsection (5).

(4) In one-story buildings having a floor area of not more than 3,000 square feet and two-story buildings having a floor area of not more than 1,500 square feet per floor which are used for business purposes and also accommodate not more than 2 families, such rooms shall be enclosed with a 1-hour fire-resistive enclosure, as specified in section Ind 51.04, or better.

(5) The enclosure for the heating plant may be omitted in apartment buildings not more than 2 stories in height and having not more than 2 living units on a floor, and in rooming houses not more than 2 stories in height and having not more than 8 habitable rooms on a floor, provided no part of the building is used for business purposes and all interior basement stairways are enclosed with a one-hour fire-resistive enclosure as specified in section Ind 51.04, or better. See section Ind 57.25 for exception to row house installations.

(a) Exception: Gas-fired space heaters may be used within living units of apartment buildings and within habitable rooms of motels or tourist courts without an enclosure if approved by the department. Space heaters fired with liquid fuel may be used without an enclosure in motels and apartment buildings not more than one story in height.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. (1), Register, September, 1959, No. 45, eff. 10-1-59; am. Register, February, 1971, eff. 7-1-71; r. and recr. eff. 8-1-71 and exp. 1-1-72; cr. eff. 1-1-72, Register, July, 1971, No. 187; am. (5), Register, September, 1973, No. 213, eff. 10-1-73.

**Ind 57.21 Standpipes.** (1) FIRE DEPARTMENT STANDPIPES. Fire department standpipes shall be provided in all buildings exceeding 60 feet in height.

Register, December, 1978, No. 276  
Building and heating, ventilating  
and air conditioning code

(2) **FIRST-AID STANDPIPES.** (a) *Institutional occupancies.* First-aid standpipes shall be provided in all buildings used as hospitals, homes for the aged, nursing homes, asylums, places of detention, and buildings with similar uses, unless an approved automatic sprinkler system is installed.

(b) *Residential occupancies.* First-aid standpipes shall be provided in all apartment buildings, rooming houses, hotels, motels, and buildings with similar uses, 3 stories or more in height which accommodate more than 20 occupants, unless an approved automatic sprinkler system is installed.

**History:** 1-2-56; r. and recr. Register, December, 1976, No. 252, eff. 1-1-77.

**Ind 57.22 Fire alarms.** (1) Every building which accommodates 20 or more persons except hospitals, places of detention, and motels not more than one story in height in which each unit has an outside door at grade level, shall be provided with a fire alarm system complying with section Ind 51.24.

(2) Every hospital which accommodates 20 or more persons shall be provided with a fire alarm complying with section Ind 51.24 except that chimes or other approved sounding devices shall be used when within hearing distance of the patients. Visual attention compelling devices may be used in hospitals where approved by the department of industry, labor and human relations.

(a) A presignal fire alarm system may be installed in hospitals or hotels when not less than 4 employees are on duty at all times to respond to fire alarms.

(b) Where presignal systems are installed, it is recommended that the fire department be called immediately after the pre-alarm signal is received.

(3) This section applies to buildings now in existence and to buildings hereafter constructed.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1958, No. 34, eff. 11-1-58.

**Ind 57.24 Directions for escape.** (1) In every habitable room likely to be used by transients, a notice shall be conspicuously posted giving complete and plain directions for reaching at least 2 exits.

(2) In addition to this, a red exit light shall be provided over each exit on every floor.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. (1), Register, September, 1973, No. 213, eff. 10-1-73.

**Ind 57.25 Row house.** (1) **DEFINITION.** A row house is a place of abode not more than 2 stories in height, arranged to accommodate 3 or more attached row living units in which each living unit is separated from the adjoining unit by an unpierced vertical occupancy separation of not less than one-hour fire-resistive construction, extending from the basement or lowest floor to the under side of the roof boards.

**Note:** The intent of this section is to allow the piercing of vertical occupancy separation by plumbing and electrical system components.

Register, December, 1978, No. 276  
Building and heating, ventilating  
and air conditioning code

DEPT. OF INDUSTRY, LABOR & HUMAN RELATIONS 209  
Apartment buildings, hotels, places of detention

(2) REQUIREMENTS. (a) Each living unit shall have separate entrances and exits leading directly to the outside.

(b) Heating ducts may be installed in the space between studs in the occupancy separation wall provided all such ducts are covered with 1/4 inch corrugated asbestos or the equivalent protection. Heating ducts shall not be installed back to back in the occupancy separation wall.

(c) Where each living unit has a separate heating system, the requirements of sections Ind 57.20 and 57.22 need not be complied with.

(d) Each living unit shall have attic access as specified in section Ind 51.02 (18) (a). The other provisions of Ind 51.02 (18) (b) need not be complied with.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. (1) and (2) (a), Register, September, 1973, No. 213, eff. 10-1-73; am. (2) (d), Register, December, 1975, No. 240, eff. 1-1-76.

**Ind 57.26 Residential health care facilities.** All new residential health care facilities, including hospitals and nursing homes, shall be provided with access to a primary floor, interior circulation and toilet facilities in accordance with section Ind 52.04 and the following requirements:

(1) INTERIOR CIRCULATION. Twenty percent of all rooms designated for patient use, and the toilet rooms provided for these rooms, shall be accessible to the physically disabled. The accessible rooms shall be integrated throughout all in-patient and out-patient areas. If an isolation facility is provided, at least one of the required accessible patient rooms shall be located in such facility.

(2) TOILET FACILITIES. The accessible patient toilet facilities shall be designed to permit unimpeded use by persons using standard wheelchairs. Fixture configuration, door swing and open space will determine the minimum size of accessible toilet rooms.

**Note:** See Appendix for examples of acceptable fixture layouts and door location and swing. In all cases where the toilet room door swings into the room, a 60-inch diameter turning space, with the door closed, is required.

(3) BATHING FACILITIES. Where bathing facilities are required, the bathtub and shower designs shall comply with the following requirements:

(a) *Single accessible bathing facility.* If accessible bathing facilities are not provided in all of the required accessible patient toilet rooms, at least one centrally located accessible bathing facility shall be provided near each nursing station on each floor. The bathing facility shall be available to both sexes and shall be accessible from a public corridor or public area.

**Note:** Shower stalls are preferred to bathtubs. See Appendix for examples of accessible bathing facilities.

(b) *Bathtubs.* The bathtub shall be equipped with a hand shower with a flexible hose not less than 6 feet in length. A seat of nonabsorbent material shall be provided and shall be mounted 17 to 20 inches above the floor of the bathtub, and may be either folding, retractable or fixed, unless an alternate method, such as a lift, is provided. Grab bars shall be

Register, December, 1978, No. 276  
Building and heating, ventilating  
and air conditioning code

mounted on 2 sides of the bathtub and shall comply with the requirements of section Ind 52.04 (8) (c) 4. (See Appendix for examples of accessible bathroom arrangements.)

**Note:** Refer to Wis. Adm. Code chapter H 62—Design, Construction, Installation, Supervision and Inspection of Plumbing, for requirements pertaining to the plumbing system, including the use of vacuum breakers.

(c) *Showers.* The shower stalls shall be equipped with lever water controls. A seat of nonabsorbent material shall be provided and located 17 to 20 inches from the floor of the shower, and may be folding, retractable or fixed. Grab bars shall be mounted on 2 sides of the shower stall and shall comply with the requirements of section Ind 52.04 (8) (c) 4. (If a special wheelchair is provided for use in the shower, the grab bars and seat are not required.) The threshold to the shower stall shall be no more than ½-inch and the edges shall be beveled to provide a smooth, unbroken surface to accommodate a wheelchair. (See Appendix for examples of accessible shower room arrangements.)

(4) **EXISTING CONSTRUCTION (REMODELED OR ADDITIONS).** Remodeling, additions, or both, to existing ancillary areas shall comply with the requirements of sections Ind 52.04 (6), Ind 57.26 and Table 57.26. Remodeling, additions, or both, to existing patient room areas shall comply with the requirements established in section Ind 57.26 and Table 57.26. The maximum number of required accessible patient sleeping rooms having toilet rooms in or for these rooms is 20% of the total number of patient sleeping rooms.

TABLE 57.26

Remodeling, additions, or both, to existing facilities	Gross Interior Area of Entire Building		
	Less than 25%	25-50%	More than 50%
Remodeling, additions, or both, to existing patient sleeping rooms.	Entrances or toilet facilities being remodeled, added to, or both, shall be accessible and comply with Ind 52.04 (4).	20% of the patient sleeping rooms being remodeled, added to, or both, shall be accessible and comply with Ind 52.04 (4).	20% of the total number of patient sleeping rooms shall be accessible and comply with Ind 52.04 (4).
Remodeling, additions, or both, to ancillary areas (such as surgery, labs or similar areas), but no physical remodeling, additions, or both, to patient sleeping rooms.	25% or less		More than 25%
	Entrances or toilet facilities being remodeled, added to, or both, shall be accessible and comply with Ind 52.04 (4).		At least one toilet room per 50 patients, but not less than one toilet room per nursing station, shall be available to both sexes and shall be accessible from a public corridor or public area.

**History:** Cr. Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79.

**Ind 57.27 Smoke detection.** (1) **DEFINITIONS.** (a) *Smoke detector.* Smoke detector means a device which detects particles or products of combustion other than heat.

Register, December, 1978, No. 276  
Building and heating, ventilating  
and air conditioning code

(b) *Sleeping area.* Sleeping area means the area(s) in which bedrooms or sleeping rooms are located. Bedrooms or sleeping rooms separated by other use areas such as kitchens or living rooms, but not bathrooms, are considered as separate sleeping areas for the purposes of this section. Each individual room or suite of rooms in hotels or motels is considered a separate sleeping area.

(2) **NUMBER OF DETECTORS REQUIRED AND LOCATION.** All buildings within the scope of this chapter, except hospitals and nursing homes, shall be provided with approved smoke detectors. At least one detector shall be provided at the head of every open stair and at the door leading to every enclosed stair on each floor level, including the basement, and in each sleeping area.

**Note:** The department recognizes smoke detectors listed by Underwriters' Laboratories (UL).

(3) **INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE.** Smoke detectors shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's directions and specifications and shall be maintained in good working order.

**Note:** The department recommends Underwriters' Laboratories standards UL No. 167 and 168 for testing of smoke detectors and National Fire Protection Association standards NFPA No. 72E and No. 74 for maintenance of smoke detectors.

**History:** Cr. Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79.