

(Effective until July 1, 2023)

**WAC 51-50-2900 Chapter 29—Plumbing systems.**

**SECTION 2901—GENERAL.**

**2901.1 Scope.** The provisions of this chapter and the state plumbing code shall govern the erection, installation, *alteration*, repairs, relocation, replacement, *addition* to, use or maintenance of plumbing equipment and systems. Toilet and bathing rooms shall be constructed in accordance with Section 1210. Plumbing systems and equipment shall be constructed, installed and maintained in accordance with the state plumbing code.

**2901.2 Health codes.** In food preparation, serving and related storage areas, additional fixture requirements may be dictated by health codes.

**2901.3 Fixed guideway transit and passenger rail systems.** In construction of a fixed guideway and passenger rail system, subject to Section 3114, public plumbing fixtures are not required.

**SECTION 2902—MINIMUM PLUMBING FACILITIES.**

**2902.1 Minimum number of fixtures.** Plumbing fixtures shall be provided in the minimum number shown in Table 2902.1. Uses not shown in Table 2902.1 shall be determined individually by the *building official* based on the occupancy which most nearly resembles the proposed occupancy. The number of occupants shall be determined by this code. Plumbing fixtures need not be provided for unoccupied buildings or facilities.

**2902.1.1 Fixture calculations.** To determine the *occupant load* of each sex, the total *occupant load* shall be divided in half. To determine the required number of fixtures, the fixture ratio or ratios for each fixture type shall be applied to the *occupant load* of each sex in accordance with Table 2902.1. Fractional numbers resulting from applying the fixture ratios of Table 2902.1 shall be rounded up to the next whole number. For calculations involving multiple occupancies, such fractional numbers for each occupancy shall first be summed and then rounded up to the next whole number.

EXCEPTION: The total *occupant load* shall not be required to be divided in half where *approved* statistical data indicate a distribution of the sexes of other than 50 percent of each sex.

**2902.1.1.1 Private offices.** Fixtures only accessible to private offices shall not be counted to determine compliance with this section.

**2902.1.1.2 Urinals in men's facilities.** Where urinals in men's facilities are provided, one water closet less than the number specified may be provided for each urinal installed, except the number of water closets in such cases shall not be reduced to less than one quarter (25%) of the minimum specified. For men's facilities serving 26 or more persons, not less than one urinal shall be provided.

**2902.1.1.3 Urinals.** Where urinals are provided in gender-neutral facilities, one water closet less than the number specified may be provided for each urinal installed, except the number of water closets in such cases shall not be reduced less than one quarter (25 percent) of the minimum specified. Facilities serving 26 or more persons, not less than one urinal shall be provided.

**2902.1.4 Family or assisted-use toilet and bath fixtures.** Fixtures located within family or assisted-use toilet and bathing rooms required

by Section 1109.2.1 are permitted to be included in the number of required fixtures for either the male or female occupants in assembly and mercantile occupancies.

**2902.2 Separate facilities.** Where plumbing fixtures are required, separate facilities shall be provided for each sex.

EXCEPTIONS:

1. Separate facilities shall not be required for *dwelling units* and *sleeping units*.
2. Separate facilities shall not be required in structures or tenant spaces with a total *occupant load*, including both employees and customers, of 15 or less.
3. Separate facilities shall not be required in mercantile occupancies in which the maximum occupant load is 100 or less.
4. Separate facilities shall not be required in spaces primarily used for drinking or dining with a total occupant load, including both employees and customers, of 30 or fewer.
5. Separate facilities shall not be required when gender-neutral facilities are provided in accordance with Section 2902.2.2.

**2902.2.1 Family or assisted-use toilet facilities serving as separate facilities.** Where a building or tenant space requires a separate toilet facility for each sex and each toilet facility is required to have only one water closet, two family or assisted-use toilet facilities shall be permitted to serve as the required separate facilities. Family or assisted-use toilet facilities shall not be required to be identified for exclusive use by either sex as required by Section 2902.4.

**2902.2.2 Gender-neutral facilities.** Gender-neutral toilet facilities, when provided, shall be in accordance with the following:

1. There is no reduction in the number of fixtures required to be provided for male and female in the type of occupancy and in the minimum number shown in Table 2902.1.

2. Gender-neutral multiuser toilet rooms shall have water closets and urinals located in toilet compartments in accordance with ICC A117.1.

3. Gender-neutral multiuser toilet room water closet and urinal compartments shall have full-height walls and a door enclosing the fixture to ensure privacy.

4. Gender-neutral toilet room water closet and urinal compartment doors shall be securable from within the compartment.

5. Gender-neutral toilet rooms provided for the use of multiple occupants, the egress door from the room shall not be lockable from the inside of the room.

6. Compartments shall not be required in a single-occupant toilet room with a lockable door.

**2902.3 Employee and public toilet facilities.** Customers, patrons and visitors shall be provided with public toilet facilities in structures and tenant spaces intended for public utilization. The number of plumbing fixtures located within the required toilet facilities shall be provided in accordance with Section 2902.1 for all users. Employees shall be provided with toilet facilities in all occupancies. Employee toilet facilities shall either be separate or combined employee and public toilet facilities.

EXCEPTION:

Public toilet facilities shall not be required in:

1. Open or enclosed parking garages where there are no parking attendants.
2. Structures and tenant spaces intended for quick transactions, including takeout, pickup and drop-off, having a public access area less than or equal to 300 square feet (28 m<sup>2</sup>).
3. Fixed guideway transit and passenger rail systems constructed in accordance with Section 3112.

**2902.3.3 Location of toilet facilities in occupancies other than malls.** In occupancies other than covered and open mall buildings, the required *public* and *employee* toilet facilities shall be located in each building not more than one story above or below the space required to be provided with toilet facilities, or conveniently in a building adjacent thereto on the same property, and the path of travel to such facilities shall not exceed a distance of 500 feet (152 m).

EXCEPTION: The location and maximum distances of travel to required employee facilities in factory and industrial occupancies are permitted to exceed that required by this section, provided that the location and maximum distance of travel are *approved*.

**2902.5 Drinking fountain location.** Drinking fountains shall not be required to be located in individual tenant spaces provided that public drinking fountains are located within a distance of travel of 500 feet of the most remote location in the tenant space and not more than one story above or below the tenant space. Where the tenant space is in a covered or open mall, such distance shall not exceed 300 feet. Drinking fountains shall be located on an accessible route. Drinking fountains shall not be located in toilet rooms.

**2902.5.1 Drinking fountain number.** Occupant loads over 30 shall have one drinking fountain for the first 150 occupants, then one per each additional 500 occupants.

EXCEPTIONS: 1. Sporting facilities with concessions serving drinks shall have one drinking fountain for each 1000 occupants.  
2. A drinking fountain need not be provided in a drinking or dining establishment.

**2902.5.2 Multistory buildings.** Drinking fountains shall be provided on each floor having more than 30 occupants in schools, dormitories, auditoriums, theaters, offices and public buildings.

**2902.5.3 Penal institutions.** Penal institutions shall have one drinking fountain on each cell block floor and one on each exercise floor.

**2902.5.4 Bottle filling stations.** Bottle filling stations shall be provided in accordance with Sections 2902.5.4.1 through 2902.5.4.3.

**2902.5.4.1 Group E occupancies.** In Group E occupancies with an occupant load over 30, a minimum of one bottle filling station shall be provided on each floor. This bottle filling station may be integral to a drinking fountain.

**2902.5.4.2 Substitution.** In all occupancies that require more than two drinking fountains per floor or secured area, *bottle filling stations* shall be permitted to be substituted for up to 50 percent of the required number of drinking fountains.

**2902.5.4.3 Accessibility.** At least one of the required bottle filling stations shall be located in accordance with Section 309 ICC A117.1.

**2902.7 Dwelling units.** Dwelling units shall be provided with a kitchen sink.

**2902.8 Water.** Each required sink, lavatory, bathtub and shower stall shall be equipped with hot and cold running water necessary for its normal operation.

SECTION 2903—RESERVED.

SECTION 2904—RESERVED.

**Table 2902.1**  
**Minimum Number of Required Plumbing Fixtures<sup>a</sup>**  
(See Sections 2902.2 and 2902.3)

No.	Classification	Occupancy	Description	Water Closets		Lavatories		Bathtubs/ Showers
				Male	Female	Male	Female	
1	Assembly	A-1 <sup>d</sup>	Theaters and other buildings for the performing arts and motion pictures	1 per 125	1 per 65	1 per 200		—
		A-2 <sup>d</sup>	Nightclubs, bars, taverns, dance halls and buildings for similar purposes	1 per 40	1 per 40	1 per 75		—

No.	Classification	Occupancy	Description	Water Closets		Lavatories		Bathubs/ Showers	
				Male	Female	Male	Female		
			Restaurants, banquet halls and food courts	1 per 75	1 per 75	1 per 200		—	
		A-3 <sup>d</sup>	Auditoriums without permanent seating, art galleries, exhibition halls, museums, lecture halls, libraries, arcades and gymnasiums	1 per 125	1 per 65	1 per 200		—	
			Passenger terminals and transportation facilities	1 per 500	1 per 500	1 per 750		—	
			Places of worship and other religious services	1 per 150	1 per 75	1 per 200		—	
		A-4	Coliseums, arenas, skating rinks, pools, and tennis courts for indoor sporting events and activities	1 per 75 for first 1,500 and 1 per 120 for remainder exceeding 1,500	1 per 40 for first 1,520 and 1 per 60 for remainder exceeding 1,520	1 per 200	1 per 150		—
		A-5	Stadiums amusement parks, bleachers and grandstands for outdoor sporting events and activities	1 per 75 for first 1,500 and 1 per 120 for remainder exceeding 1,500	1 per 40 for first 1,520 and 1 per 60 for remainder exceeding 1,520	1 per 200	1 per 150		—
2	Business	B	Buildings for the transaction of business, professional services, other services involving merchandise, office buildings, banks, light industrial and similar uses	1 per 25 for first 50 and 1 per 50 for the remainder exceeding 50		1 per 40 for first 80 and 1 per 80 for remainder exceeding 80		—	
3	Educational	E <sup>c</sup>	Educational facilities	1 per 35	1 per 25	1 per 85	1 per 50	—	
4	Factory and industrial	F-1 and F-2	Structures in which occupants are engaged in work fabricating, assembly or processing of products or materials	1 per 100		1 per 100		Check State (UPC)	
5	Institutional	I-1	Residential care	1 per 10		1 per 10		1 per 8	
		I-2	Hospitals, ambulatory nursing home care recipient <sup>b</sup>	1 per room <sup>c</sup>		1 per room <sup>c</sup>		1 per 15	
			Employees, other than residential care <sup>b</sup>	1 per 25		1 per 35		—	
			Visitors other than residential care	1 per 75		1 per 100		—	
		I-3	Prisons <sup>b</sup>	1 per cell		1 per cell		1 per 15	
			Reformatories, detention centers and correctional centers <sup>b</sup>	1 per 15		1 per 15		1 per 15	
			Employees <sup>b</sup>	1 per 25		1 per 35		—	
I-4	Adult day care and child day care	1 per 15		1 per 15		1			
6	Mercantile	M	Retail stores, service stations, shops, salesrooms, markets and shopping centers	1 per 500		1 per 750		—	
7	Residential	R-1	Hotels, motels, boarding houses (transient)	1 per sleeping unit		1 per sleeping unit		1 per sleeping unit	
		R-2	Dormitories, fraternities, sororities and boarding houses (not transient)	1 per 10		1 per 10		1 per 8	
			Apartment house	1 per dwelling unit		1 per dwelling unit		1 per dwelling unit	
		R-3	One- and two-family dwellings	1 per dwelling unit		1 per 10		1 per dwelling unit	

No.	Classification	Occupancy	Description	Water Closets		Lavatories		Bathubs/ Showers
				Male	Female	Male	Female	
			Congregate living facilities with 16 or fewer persons	1 per 10		1 per 10		1 per 8
		R-4	Congregate living facilities with 16 or fewer persons	1 per 10		1 per 10		1 per 8
8	Storage	S-1 S-2	Structures for the storage of goods, warehouses, storehouses and freight depots, low and moderate hazard	1 per 100		1 per 100		Check State (UPC)

- a. The fixtures shown are based on one fixture being the minimum required for the number of persons indicated or any fraction of the number of persons indicated. The number of occupants shall be determined by this code, except with respect to Group E occupancies the provisions of note "e" shall apply.
- b. Toilet facilities for employees shall be separate from facilities for inmates or care recipients.
- c. A single-occupant toilet room with one water closet and one lavatory serving not more than two adjacent patient sleeping units shall be permitted where such room is provided with direct access from each patient sleeping unit and with provisions for privacy.
- d. The occupant load for seasonal outdoor seating and entertainment areas shall be included when determining the minimum number of facilities required.
- e. For Group E occupancies: The number of occupants shall be determined by using a calculation of 100 square feet gross building area per student for the minimum number of plumbing fixtures.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27.031 and 19.27.074. WSR 21-06-035, § 51-50-2900, filed 2/23/21, effective 3/26/21; WSR 20-21-021, § 51-50-2900, filed 10/9/20, effective 11/9/20; WSR 20-01-090, § 51-50-2900, filed 12/12/19, effective 7/1/20; WSR 19-02-038, § 51-50-2900, filed 12/26/18, effective 7/1/19; WSR 16-03-064, § 51-50-2900, filed 1/19/16, effective 7/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27.074, 19.27.020, and 19.27.031. WSR 14-24-087, § 51-50-2900, filed 12/1/14, effective 5/1/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27.031 and chapters 19.27 and 34.05 RCW. WSR 13-04-067, § 51-50-2900, filed 2/1/13, effective 7/1/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27.031 and 19.27.074. WSR 10-03-097, § 51-50-2900, filed 1/20/10, effective 7/1/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27.074, 19.27.020, and chapters 70.92, 19.27, and 34.05 RCW. WSR 07-01-091, § 51-50-2900, filed 12/19/06, effective 7/1/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27.020, 19.27.031, 19.27.074 and chapters 19.27 and 34.05 RCW. WSR 05-01-014, § 51-50-2900, filed 12/2/04, effective 7/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27.031 and 19.27.074. WSR 04-01-108, § 51-50-2900, filed 12/17/03, effective 7/1/04.]

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**WAC 51-50-2900 Reserved.**

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