ANSI/ASHRAE Addendum c to
ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 55-2010

Thermal Environmental Conditions for Human Occupancy

Approved by the ASHRAE Standards Committee on January 21, 2012; by the ASHRAE Board of Directors on January 25, 2012; and by the American National Standards Institute on January 26, 2012.

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FOREWORD

This addendum represents an evolution of the description and definition of the average outdoor temperature to be used in the adaptive comfort model. The original term – monthly average – did not fully capture the methodology used in defining the adaptive approach nor was it clear in describing how to apply it. The change to prevailing mean as well as the addition of the daily outdoor temperature definition provides much clearer direction on the application of the adaptive comfort model. This addendum allows a range of options for calculating the prevailing mean outdoor air temperature to accommodate different sources of outdoor weather data and different comfort applications.

Note: In this addendum, changes to the current standard are indicated in the text by underlining (for additions) and strikethrough (for deletions) unless the instructions specifically mention some other means of indicating the changes.

Addendum to 55-2010

[Modify the following definition in Section 3:]
[The line added above \( T_{\text{d,out}} \) was corrected in the latest published errata sheet for Standard 55-2010 available for free download from the ASHRAE website at http://www.ashrae.org/technology/page/120.]

\[ T_{\text{d,out}} \]

\[ T_{\text{d,out}} = \text{prevailing mean monthly outdoor air temperature during some period of days as permitted in Section 5.3.} \]

[Add the following new definition to Section 3:]

**temperature, mean daily outdoor air \( T_{\text{d,out}} \):** Any arithmetic mean for a 24-hour period permitted in Section 5.3. **Mean daily outdoor air temperature** is used to calculate prevailing mean outdoor air temperature.

[Modify the Section 5.3 as follows:]

[Proposed changes to Section 5.3 below include those changes from published Addendum a to Standard 55-2010 available for free download from the ASHRAE website at http://www.ashrae.org/technology/page/132.]

5.3 Optional Method for Determining Acceptable Thermal Conditions in Naturally Conditioned Spaces. For the purposes of this standard, occupant-controlled naturally conditioned spaces are those spaces where the thermal conditions of the space are regulated primarily by the occupants through opening and closing of windows. Field experiments have shown that occupants’ thermal responses in such spaces depend in part on the outdoor climate and may differ from thermal responses in buildings with centralized HVAC systems primarily because of the different thermal experiences, changes in clothing, availability of control, and shifts in occupant expectations. This optional method is intended for such spaces.

5.3.1 In order for this optional method to apply, the space in question must be equipped with operable windows that open to the outdoors and can be readily opened and adjusted by the occupants of the space. There must be no mechanical cooling system for the space (e.g., refrigerated air conditioning, radiant cooling, or desiccant cooling). It is permissible to use mechanical ventilation with unconditioned air, but opening and closing of windows must be the primary means of regulating the thermal conditions in the space. It is permissible for the space to be provided with a heating system, but this optional method does not apply when the heating system is in operation. It applies only to spaces where the occupants are engaged in near-sedentary physical activities, with metabolic rates ranging from 1.0 to 1.3 met. See Normative Appendix A for estimation of metabolic rates. This optional method applies only to spaces where the occupants are free to adapt their clothing to the indoor and/or outdoor thermal conditions.

5.3.2 For spaces that meet these criteria, it is acceptable to determine the allowable indoor operative temperatures from Figure 5.3 for any day in question using the **prevailing mean outdoor air temperature** determined in accordance with all of the following.

5.3.2.1 It shall be based on no fewer than 7 and no more than 30 sequential days prior to the day in question.

5.3.2.2 It shall be a simple arithmetic mean of all the **mean daily outdoor air temperatures** of all the sequential days in Section 5.3.2.1.

**Exception to 5.3.2.2:** Weighting methods are permitted provided that the weighting curve continually decreases toward the more distant days such that the weight applied to a day is between 0.6 and 0.9 of that applied to the subsequent day. For this option, the upper limit on the number of days in the sequence does not apply.

5.3.2.3 **Mean daily outdoor air temperature** for each of the sequential days in Section 5.3.2.1 shall be the simple arithmetic mean of all the outdoor dry-bulb temperature observations for the 24-hour day. The quantity of measurements shall be no less than two and, in that case, shall be the minimum and maximum for the day. When using three or more measurements, the time periods shall be evenly spaced.

5.3.2.4 Observations in Section 5.3.2 shall be from the nearest approved meteorological station, public or private, or TMY (Typical Meteorological Year) weather file.

**Exception to 5.3.2.1, 5.3.2.2, 5.3.2.3:** When weather data to calculate the **prevailing mean outdoor air temperature** are not available, it is permitted to use as the prevailing mean the published meteorological monthly means for each calendar month. It is permitted to interpolate between monthly means.
5.3.3 This figure includes two sets of operative temperature limits—one for 80% acceptability and one for 90% acceptability. The 80% acceptability limits are for typical applications and shall be used when other information is not available. It is acceptable to use the 90% acceptability limits when a higher standard of thermal comfort is desired. Figure 5.3 is based on an adaptive model of thermal comfort that is derived from a global database of 21,000 measurements taken primarily in office buildings.

The equations corresponding to the acceptable operative temperature ranges in Figure 5.3 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Upper 80% acceptability limit (°C)</th>
<th>0.31 ( \text{prevailing mean outdoor monthly air temperature} ) +21.3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upper 80% acceptability limit (°F)</td>
<td>0.31 ( \text{prevailing mean outdoor monthly air temperature} ) +60.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper 90% acceptability limit (°C)</td>
<td>0.31 ( \text{prevailing mean outdoor monthly air temperature} ) +20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper 90% acceptability limit (°F)</td>
<td>0.31 ( \text{prevailing mean outdoor monthly air temperature} ) +58.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower 80% acceptability limit (°C)</td>
<td>0.31 ( \text{prevailing mean outdoor monthly air temperature} ) +14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower 80% acceptability limit (°F)</td>
<td>0.31 ( \text{prevailing mean outdoor monthly air temperature} ) +47.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower 90% acceptability limit (°C)</td>
<td>0.31 ( \text{prevailing mean outdoor monthly air temperature} ) +15.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower 90% acceptability limit (°F)</td>
<td>0.31 ( \text{prevailing mean outdoor monthly air temperature} ) +49.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.3.4 The allowable operative temperature limits in Figure 5.3 may not be extrapolated to outdoor temperatures above and below the end points of the curves in this figure. If the \( \text{prevailing mean monthly outdoor air temperature} \) is less than 10°C (50°F) or greater than 33.5°C (92.3°F), this option may not be used, and no specific guidance for naturally conditioned spaces is included in this standard.

Figure 5.3 accounts for local thermal discomfort effects in typical buildings, so it is not necessary to address these factors when using this option. If there is reason to believe that local thermal comfort is a problem, it is acceptable to apply the criteria in Section 5.2.4.

Figure 5.3 also accounts for people’s clothing adaptation in naturally conditioned spaces by relating the acceptable range of indoor temperatures to the outdoor climate, so it is not necessary to estimate the clothing values for the space.

No humidity or air-speed limits are required when this option is used.

Figure 5.3 includes the effects of people’s indoor air speed adaptation in warm climates, up to 0.3 m/s (59 fpm) in operative temperatures warmer than 25°C (77°F). In naturally conditioned spaces where air speeds within the occupied zone exceed 0.3 m/s (59 fpm), the upper acceptability temperature limits in Figure 5.3 are increased by the corresponding \( \Delta t_0 \) in Table 5.3, which is based on equal SET values as illustrated in Section 5.2.3.2. For example, increasing air speed within the occupied zone from 0.3 m/s (59 fpm) to 0.6 m/s (118 fpm) increases the upper acceptable temperature limits in Figure 5.3 by a \( \Delta t_0 \) of 1.2°C (2.2°F). These adjustments to the upper acceptability temperature limits apply only at \( t_0 > 25°C (77°F) \) in which the occupants are engaged in near-sedentary physical activity (with metabolic rates between 1.0 met and 1.3 met).

| TABLE 5.3 Increases in Acceptable Operative Temperature Limits (\( \Delta t_0 \)) in the Adaptive Comfort Standard (Figure 5.3) Resulting from Increasing Air Speed above 0.3 m/s (59 fpm) |
|---|---|---|
| Air Speed 0.6 m/s (118 fpm) | Air Speed 0.9 m/s (177 fpm) | Air Speed 1.2 m/s (236 fpm) |
| 1.2°C (2.2°F) | 1.8°C (3.2°F) | 2.2°C (4.0°F) |
[Change the horizontal axis of Figure 5.3 as follows:]

![Figure 5.3 Acceptable operative temperature ranges for naturally conditioned spaces.](image)

[Delete the following text from Section 5.4. The remainder of the text in Section 5.4 remains unchanged.]

*Mean monthly outdoor temperature* is the arithmetic average of the mean daily minimum and mean daily maximum outdoor (dry-bulb) temperature for the month in question.
POLICY STATEMENT DEFINING ASHRAE’S CONCERN
FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF ITS ACTIVITIES

ASHRAE is concerned with the impact of its members’ activities on both the indoor and outdoor environment. ASHRAE’s members will strive to minimize any possible deleterious effect on the indoor and outdoor environment of the systems and components in their responsibility while maximizing the beneficial effects these systems provide, consistent with accepted standards and the practical state of the art.

ASHRAE’s short-range goal is to ensure that the systems and components within its scope do not impact the indoor and outdoor environment to a greater extent than specified by the standards and guidelines as established by itself and other responsible bodies.

As an ongoing goal, ASHRAE will, through its Standards Committee and extensive technical committee structure, continue to generate up-to-date standards and guidelines where appropriate and adopt, recommend, and promote those new and revised standards developed by other responsible organizations.

Through its Handbook, appropriate chapters will contain up-to-date standards and design considerations as the material is systematically revised.

ASHRAE will take the lead with respect to dissemination of environmental information of its primary interest and will seek out and disseminate information from other responsible organizations that is pertinent, as guides to updating standards and guidelines.

The effects of the design and selection of equipment and systems will be considered within the scope of the system’s intended use and expected misuse. The disposal of hazardous materials, if any, will also be considered.

ASHRAE’s primary concern for environmental impact will be at the site where equipment within ASHRAE’s scope operates. However, energy source selection and the possible environmental impact due to the energy source and energy transportation will be considered where possible. Recommendations concerning energy source selection should be made by its members.