

**INTERPRETATION IC 62.1-2022-2 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 62.1-2022
VENTILATION AND ACCEPTABLE INDOOR AIR QUALITY**

Approved: June 24, 2023

Request from: Darrel Kieckhafer, NV5, 5155 West Patrick Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89118.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2022, Section 6.2.1.1.7, regarding the definition of Design Zone Population (P_z).

Background: Exact Definition of P_z : the definition within the Standard is ambiguous and therefore plans examiners in some jurisdictions want to define this as the Occupant Egress Calculations from the IBC. ASHRAE Standard 62.1 never mentions to use egress but defines the zone population as “people expected to occupy the ventilation zone during typical use”. Egress is for Life Safety for exiting and other items in the IBC and would be a most extreme case of occupant load and not typical usage as defined in Section 6.2.1.1.7.

Interpretation: Based on the definition for Zone Population, actual zone population during typical usage could only be calculated if the architect has specified the seating within the zone. If the seating or furniture is not shown, then the default densities found within Table 6-1 should be used. Egress occupancy is not intended to be used as the actual zone population.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: No

Comments: This standard does not require egress occupancy to be used as the actual zone population. The designer may specify the zone population in a form other than the number of seats. If the designer has not specified the zone population then the default densities found within Table 6-1 are permitted to be used.