Throughout a story in a Group I-2 occupancy, any change in elevation in portions of the *exit access* that serve nonambulatory persons shall be by means of a *ramp* or sloped walkway.

1003.5.1 Accessibility. For accessibility provisions related to changes in levels, see the *Florida Building Code, Accessibility.*

1003.6 Means of egress continuity. The path of egress travel along a *means of egress* shall not be interrupted by any building element other than a *means of egress* component as specified in this chapter. Obstructions shall not be placed in the required width of a *means of egress* except projections permitted by this chapter. The required capacity of a *means of egress* system shall not be diminished along the path of egress travel.

1003.7 Elevators, escalators and moving walks. Elevators, escalators and moving walks shall not be used as a component of a required *means of egress* from any other part of the building.

Exception: Elevators used as an *accessible means of egress* in accordance with Section 1007.1.

SECTION 1004
OCCUPANT LOAD

1004.1 Design occupant load. In determining *means of egress* requirements, the number of occupants for whom *means of egress* facilities shall be provided shall be determined in accordance with this section. Where occupants from accessory areas egress through a primary space, the calculated *occupant load* for the primary space shall include the total *occupant load* of the primary space plus the number of occupants egressing through it from the accessory area.

Exceptions:

1. In a special purpose factory-industrial occupancy, the occupant load shall be the maximum number of persons to occupy the area under any probable conditions.
2. The occupant load for towers shall be the number of persons expected to occupy the space, with spaces not subject to human occupancy because of machinery or equipment excluded from the gross area calculation.

1004.1.1 Areas without fixed seating. The number of occupants shall be computed at the rate of one occupant per unit of area as prescribed in Table 1004.1.1. For areas without fixed seating, the *occupant load* shall not be less than that number determined by dividing the floor area under consideration by the occupant per unit of area factor assigned to the occupancy as set forth in Table 1004.1.1. Where an intended use is not listed in Table 1004.1.1, the *building official* shall establish a use based on a listed use that most nearly resembles the intended use.

Exception: Where *approved* by the *building official*, the actual number of occupants for whom each occupied space, floor or building is designed, although less than those determined by calculation, shall be permitted to be used in the determination of the design *occupant load.*

TABLE 1004.1.1
MAXIMUM FLOOR AREA ALLOWANCES PER OCCUPANT

FUNCTION OF SPACE	FLOOR AREA IN SQ. FT. PER OCCUPANT
Accessory storage areas, mechanical equipment room	300 gross
Agricultural building	300 gross
Aircraft hangars	500 gross
Airport terminal	
Baggage claim	20 gross
Baggage handling	300 gross
Concourse	100 gross
Waiting areas	15 gross
Assembly	
Gaming floors (keno, slots, etc.)	11 gross
Assembly with fixed seats	See Section 1004.7
Assembly without fixed seats	
Concentrated (chairs only—not fixed)	7 net
Standing space	5 net
Unconcentrated (tables and chairs)	15 net
Bowling centers, allow 5 persons for each lane including 15 feet of runway, and for additional areas	7 net
Business areas	100 gross
Courtrooms—other than fixed seating areas	40 net
Day care	20 net
Dormitories	50 gross
Educational	
Classroom area	20 net
Shops and other vocational room areas	50 net
Exercise rooms with equipment	50 gross
Exercise rooms without equipment	15 gross
H-5 Fabrication and manufacturing areas	200 gross
Industrial areas	100 gross
Institutional areas	
Inpatient treatment areas	240 gross
Outpatient areas	100 gross
Sleeping areas	120 gross
Kitchens, commercial	200 gross
Library	
Reading rooms	50 net
Stack area	100 gross
Locker rooms	50 gross

(continued)

TABLE 1004.1.1—continued
MAXIMUM FLOOR AREA ALLOWANCES PER OCCUPANT

FUNCTION OF SPACE	FLOOR AREA IN SQ. FT. PER OCCUPANT
Mercantile	
Areas on other floors	60 gross
Basement and grade floor areas	30 gross
Multiple street floors–each (Note 1)	40 gross
Storage, stock, shipping areas	300 gross
Parking garages	200 gross
Residential	200 gross
Skating rinks, swimming pools	
Rink and pool	50 gross
Swimming pool deck	30 gross
Swimming pool water surface	50 gross
Decks	15 gross
Stages and platforms	15 net
Warehouses	500 gross

For SI: 1 square foot = 0.0929 m².

1. For the purpose of determining occupant load in mercantile occupancies where, due to differences in grade of streets on different sides, two or more floors directly accessible from streets exist, each such floor shall be considered a street floor. The occupant load factor shall be one person for each 40 square feet (3.7 m²) of gross floor area of sales space.
2. For any food court or other assembly use areas located in the mall that are not included as a portion of the gross leasable area of the mall buildings, the occupant load is calculated based on the occupant load factor for that use as specified in Table 1004.1.2. The remaining mall area is not required to be assigned an occupant load.

1004.2 Increased occupant load. The *occupant load* permitted in any building, or portion thereof, is permitted to be increased from that number established for the occupancies in Table 1004.1.1, provided that all other requirements of the code are also met based on such modified number and the *occupant load* does not exceed one occupant per 7 square feet (0.65 m²) of occupiable floor space. Where required by the *building official*, an *approved aisle*, seating or fixed equipment diagram substantiating any increase in *occupant load* shall be submitted. Where required by the *building official*, such diagram shall be posted.

1004.3 Posting of occupant load. Every room or space that is an assembly occupancy shall have the *occupant load* of the room or space posted in a conspicuous place, near the main *exit* or *exit access doorway* from the room or space. Posted signs shall be of an *approved* legible permanent design and shall be maintained by the owner or authorized agent.

1004.4 Exiting from multiple levels. Where *exits* serve more than one floor, only the *occupant load* of each floor considered individually shall be used in computing the required capacity of the *exits* at that floor, provided that the *exit* capacity shall not decrease in the direction of egress travel.

1004.5 Egress convergence. Where *means of egress* from floors above and below converge at an intermediate level, the capacity of the *means of egress* from the point of convergence shall not be less than the sum of the two floors.

1004.6 Mezzanine levels. The *occupant load* of a *mezzanine* level with egress onto a room or area below shall be added to that room or area's *occupant load*, and the capacity of the exits shall be designed for the total *occupant load* thus established.

1004.7 Fixed seating. For areas having fixed seats and *aisles*, the *occupant load* shall be determined by the number of fixed seats installed therein. The *occupant load* for areas in which fixed seating is not installed, such as waiting spaces and *wheelchair spaces*, shall be determined in accordance with Section 1004.1.1 and added to the number of fixed seats.

For areas having fixed seating without dividing arms, the *occupant load* shall not be less than the number of seats based on one person for each 18 inches (457 mm) of seating length.

The *occupant load* of seating booths shall be based on one person for each 24 inches (610 mm) of booth seat length measured at the backrest of the seating booth.

1004.8 Outdoor areas. Yards, patios, courts and similar outdoor areas accessible to and usable by the building occupants shall be provided with *means of egress* as required by this chapter. The *occupant load* of such outdoor areas shall be assigned by the *building official* in accordance with the anticipated use. Where outdoor areas are to be used by persons in addition to the occupants of the building, and the path of egress travel from the outdoor areas passes through the building, *means of egress* requirements for the building shall be based on the sum of the *occupant loads* of the building plus the outdoor areas.

Exceptions:

1. Outdoor areas used exclusively for service of the building need only have one *means of egress*.
2. Both outdoor areas associated with Group R-3 and individual dwelling units of Group R-2.

1004.9 Multiple occupancies. Where a building contains two or more occupancies, the *means of egress* requirements shall apply to each portion of the building based on the occupancy of that space. Where two or more occupancies utilize portions of the same *means of egress* system, those egress components shall meet the more stringent requirements of all occupancies that are served.

SECTION 1005
EGRESS WIDTH

1005.1 Minimum required egress width. The *means of egress* width shall not be less than required by this section. The total width of *means of egress* in inches (mm) shall not be less than the total *occupant load* served by the *means of egress* multiplied by 0.3 inch (7.62 mm) per occupant for stairways and by 0.2 inch (5.08 mm) per occupant for other egress components. The width shall not be less than specified elsewhere in this code. Multiple *means of egress* shall be sized such that the loss of any one *means of egress* shall not reduce the available capac-