

SUBJECT: WIND SPEED VS. PRESSURE

The building codes have set forth minimum design criteria that must be met in the structural design of a building. These criteria are for both gravity and lateral loading. The purpose of this technical bulletin is to touch on the requirements for designing structures to resist wind loads.

Both the IRC and the IBC reference ASCE 7 to determine design wind pressures for a structure. ASCE 7 has three methods for determining wind loads on structures. This technical bulletin uses the simplified procedure to create the following chart as an aide in estimating a structure's design wind load requirement. This chart is not intended to be used for the final structural design of the structure. Your design professional will need to determine the final design for your specific project.

