



Iowa Department of Public Health Sanitation Recommendations During Floods

All people should have access to appropriate, safe, clean, and reliable toilets during response and recovery to disasters and emergencies to reduce the spread of disease. The type of portable latrines selected should respect the rights of all people, including persons with disabilities, to safely access toileting facilities.

Latrine (portable toilet) ratios

Sanitation guidelines recommend 50 people per latrine for emergencies immediate term, decreasing to 20 - 25 people per latrine for longer term. Evaluate cleaning schedules for sanitation facilities based on capacity and the number of people using the facility. Evaluate facilities daily and clean at least once per week, adjusting accordingly based on need. Cleaning requirements would change in the event of a disease outbreak.

Workplace Guidelines

OSHA guidelines state an employer shall provide adequate and readily accessible sanitation facilities and shall establish and implement a schedule for servicing, cleaning, and supplying each facility to ensure it is maintained in a clean, sanitary, and serviceable condition. The table below displays the minimum number of toilets per worker.

Number of employees of each sex	Minimum number of toilets per sex
1 to 15	1
16 to 35	2
36 to 55	3
56 to 80	4
81 to 110	5
111 to 150	6
Over 150	1 additional toilet for each additional 40 employees.

Handwashing

Ensure that the sanitation facility allows for handwashing, including water and soap immediately after using toilets/latrines, and before eating and preparing food.

If you have additional questions contact:

- Visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/global/sanitation/sanitation-emergency-response.html>
- Visit: <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1915/1915.88>