

Comparisons across surveys from the 1992 *Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS)* through the 2018 CBECS

Table 5. Uses of space

	1992	1995	1999	2003	2012	2018
Food preparation areas	Whether any space is used for commercial food preparation and serving, and if so, the percentage of floorspace	Same as 1992, except percentage not asked	Same as 1995	Whether any space is used for commercial food preparation and serving, and if so, which types of areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snack bar • Fast food/small restaurant • Cafeteria/large restaurant • Food preparation area • Small kitchen area • Other (specify) 	Same as 2003, plus category for <i>employee lounge, breakroom, or pantry</i> , and if so, whether it contains a full-size oven or stove. Also, total square footage for snack bar areas, fast food/small restaurant areas, cafeteria/large restaurant areas, and commercial kitchen/food preparation areas	Same as 2012, except removed question about whether the breakroom contains an oven. Also, the <i>snack bar</i> category was expanded to <i>snack bar, concession stand, coffee shop, or breakfast service</i>
Large amounts of hot water	Whether any space is used for activities requiring large amounts of hot water such as a commercial laundry room, heated pool, spa, sauna, or steam room, and if so, the percentage of floorspace	Same as 1992, except percentage not asked	Same as 1995	Same as 1995	Same as 1995	Same as 1995
Computer rooms	Whether any space is used as computer rooms with separate air-conditioning systems, and if so, the percentage of floorspace	Same as 1992, except percentage not asked	Not collected	Types of separate computer areas and the percentage of floorspace for all combined: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainframe computer room • <i>Server farm</i> • Computer-based training room • Student or public computer center • Other (specify) 	Types of separate computer areas and, for data centers and trading floors, the square footage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data center or <i>server farm</i> • Computer-based training room • Student or public computer center • Trading floor 	Same as 2012, plus category for <i>server closet</i> . Also, did not ask square footage for trading floors

	1992	1995	1999	2003	2012	2018
Data center characteristics	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	For data center buildings, the power usage effectiveness (PUE). For data center spaces, which characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised floor • Separate cooling system • Humidity control • Uninterruptible power supply (UPS) • Controlled access
Special ventilation areas	Whether any space is used for any use that requires special ventilation, such as laboratories or <i>clean rooms</i> , and if so, the percentage of floorspace	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected
Other space requiring large amounts of energy	Whether any space is used for any other function that requires large amounts of energy (specify), and if so, the percentage of floorspace	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected
Laundry on-site	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	For select building types, whether linens are primarily laundered in this building, in another building on-site, or by an off-site laundry service	Same as 2003	Same as 2003
Food court	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	For enclosed malls, whether there is a food court	Same as 2003	Same as 2003
Indoor swimming pool	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	For select building types, whether there is an indoor pool, and if so, whether it is heated and by which energy source	Same as 2003	Same as 2003
Ice skating rink	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	For select building types, whether there is an indoor ice-skating rink	Same as 2003	Same as 2003

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Open plan office space	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	For offices, whether any space is set up as open plan, and if so, the percentage range and whether most of the open plan is near the perimeter or in the core of the building	Not collected
Fire station spaces	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Whether any space is used for hall rental, police, government, or other non-fire station use, and if so, the percentage, and whether there are living quarters	Not collected
Conference or event space	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	In hotels/motels/inns, whether any space is used for conferences or social events, and if so, the percentage of floorspace	Same as 2012
Outpatient space	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	For inpatient health care buildings, the percentage of floorspace used for outpatient care	Same as 2012
Outpatient operating rooms	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	For outpatient health care, whether there are any operating rooms for outpatient surgery	Same as 2012
Drive-thru windows	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	Not collected	For certain types of food service buildings, whether there are any drive-thru windows