
**Basic human body measurements for
technological design —**

**Part 3:
Worldwide and regional design ranges
for use in product standards**

*Définitions des mesures de base du corps humain pour la conception
technologique —*

*Partie 3: Gammes de conception régionales et mondiales pour
utilisation dans les normes de produits*

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 159, *Ergonomics*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Anthropometry and biomechanics*.

ISO 7250 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Basic human body measurements for technological design*:

- *Part 1: Body measurement definitions and landmarks*
- *Part 2: Statistical summaries of body measurements from national populations*
- *Part 3: Worldwide and regional design values for use in ISO equipment standards*

Basic human body measurements for technological design —

Part 3: Worldwide and regional design ranges for use in product standards

1 Scope

This part of ISO 7250 provides worldwide and regional tables of design ranges for use with product standards for equipment design and safety that require ISO 7250 body measurement data input.

Anthropometric data for technological design are used and presented in many standards. However, there is currently no systematic way to update and revise those values in a timely manner, as the body sizes and variation of member body populations change with time. Further, the schedule of member body anthropometric surveys varies widely. Many industrial products are developed for regional or worldwide markets without a clear presentation of regional and worldwide ISO 7250 design ranges. Users of standards require the most appropriate body measurement values for their intended applications.

Together with ISO/TR 7250-2, which serves as a continuously updated data source for most current anthropometric data from individual member bodies, this part of ISO 7250 provides a periodically updated data source for worldwide and regional design ranges, with guidance on sex differences. This part of ISO 7250 is intended as the single source of anthropometric data for equipment design guidance in standards.

While there are sources for individual member body data in ISO/TR 7250-2, most standards do not use individual member body data for technological specification. This part of ISO 7250 is to be used whenever worldwide or regional anthropometric data are needed. In cases when there are no suitable measurements in this part of ISO 7250, the methods and justifications used in arriving at regional and worldwide values from the body measurement data of individual populations can be used with suitable measurement data.

The scope of this part of ISO 7250 is limited to the presentation of univariate design ranges of the type currently utilized in product standards (e.g. P1, P5, P95, and P99) and does not address shortcomings of using those values in multivariate designs. A separate standard on multivariate design is in preparation. In addition, this part of ISO 7250 does not address body measurements used in product standards that are not defined in ISO 7250-1. The methods used in developing this part of ISO 7250 do not take into account the population size or sampling methodology of the member bodies, so statistical values from a sparsely populated member body could set regional or worldwide upper or lower limits. The reader is referred to ISO/TR 7250-2 for details on sampling methods used in national surveys.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 7250-1, *Basic human body measurements for technological design — Part 1: Body measurement definitions and landmarks*

ISO/TR 7250-2, *Basic human body measurements for technological design — Part 2: Statistical summaries of body measurements from national populations*

3 Worldwide and regional design ranges

Design ranges presented in this part of ISO 7250 are directly related to ISO/TR 7250-2.

Design ranges are specified as smallest to largest 1st to 99th and 5th to 95th percentile value observed in national populations. Each percentile value in a design range comes from a single member body. Typically, product design requirements specify a smallest to largest range of values to be accommodated. However, some product standards specify medium size or midrange values, so midrange estimates are also provided here.

The worldwide ranges specified in this part of ISO 7250 are normative for product standards. However, some users of this part of 7250 may be developing products designed for a more focused, regional market. For this reason, a method is presented for creating regional design ranges from individual member body data presented in ISO/TR 7250-2. Examples of this process are shown in informative [Annex A](#). For the anthropometric data used in deriving regional and worldwide ranges, the procedure and information for acquiring these data directly follow from the process described in ISO/TR 7250-2. The process of specifying design ranges defined in this part of ISO 7250 starts from the individual member body data presented in ISO/TR 7250-2.

Similarly, for many applications, user accommodation is maximized by considering male and female design dimensions separately. For example, maximum accommodation would be achieved by designing to a range that extends from the smallest 5th percentile value, male or female, to the largest 95th percentile value, male or female. [Annex B](#) shows the results of this procedure and should be used when the largest accommodation range is desired.

4 Procedures for establishing design ranges

4.1 Worldwide ranges

Anthropometric data are collected in many countries in the world. These anthropometric surveys vary markedly in quality, frequency, methodology, and purpose. In order to produce normative design ranges, it is critical to use anthropometric data that meet only the highest standards of representativeness and reliability. In addition, ISO standards are fundamentally a service for ISO member bodies. Therefore, the worldwide ranges presented in this part of ISO 7250 are derived from national populations of ISO member bodies presented in ISO/TR 7250-2. ISO/TR 7250-2 data are known to be consistent with ISO 7250-1 measurement definitions and protocols and ISO 15535 anthropometric database methods, and ISO/TR 7250-2 statistics have been reviewed and checked with member bodies for accuracy and reliability.

For some anthropometric dimensions, the population distribution is bi-modal by sex. This means that the male mean and female mean are separated. While the male and female distributions overlap, there are significant portions of the combined distribution that are totally male or totally female. Using a “total” 5th percentile value, therefore, may exclude 5 % of the total population but it may exclude 30 % of the female population. The effect is magnified when the sex distributions of the populations are significantly unequal, for example, in a military population which might be overwhelmingly male or in a nursing population which might be overwhelmingly female. When specific work forces are differentially male or differentially female, the “total” statistics may be significantly unrepresentative of a particular work force even if they accurately represent the national population. Using a pooled male–female population, P5 and P95 values for design for these situations will result in unequal burdens of disaccommodation between the sexes. In such cases, using separated male and female design values comes closer to achieving gender-parity in the final design.

The design ranges in [Clause 5](#) contain male values, female values and “total” values. The sample sizes are listed so it is clear that different numbers of males and females were measured in the anthropometric surveys that are found in ISO/TR 7250-2. The sex ratios in the sample may or may not represent the sex ratios in the working age population of the member bodies contributing data. Using “total” statistics as design values may be justified in certain specific cases but in general, male and female design values

should be used separately in product or workspace design in order to ensure that both men and women are equally accommodated.

In [Clause 5](#), the worldwide P1 value represents the smallest 1st percentile observed among all the member bodies with data presented in ISO/TR 7250-2. The worldwide P5 value represents the smallest 5th percentile observed among all the member bodies with data presented in ISO/TR 7250-2. The worldwide P95 value represents the largest 95th percentile observed among all the member bodies with data presented in ISO/TR 7250-2. The worldwide P99 value represents the largest 99th percentile observed among all the member bodies with data presented in ISO/TR 7250-2. Thus, the values in the tables are based on particular surveys and only provide estimates for particular populations. The statistical confidence in the more extreme percentiles, e.g. P1 and P99, is much lower than it is for percentiles closer to the mean.

In some cases, the smallest or largest percentile values in ISO/TR 7250-2 have been identified as either unusual or derived from body scan data not validated in accordance with ISO 20685. In such cases, a more reliable value may be chosen to set the worldwide design limit.

The midrange estimates in this part of ISO 7250 are calculated as the midpoints of the interval between the worldwide P5 and P95 estimates. The user is cautioned that these midrange estimates, while centrally located between the P5 and P95 estimates, are not equivalent to statistical medians. They may not represent medium-sized males or females in any particular population.

4.2 Regional ranges

Regional design ranges illustrated in [Annex A](#) are informative in nature. In general, regional ranges are derived from only the member body data presented in ISO/TR 7250-2. In the case of defining regional ranges for the European region, existing published CEN standards were used as a starting point and where individual European member body data in ISO/TR 7250-2 exceed the published CEN standard ranges, ISO/TR 7250-2 limits were used to form the new European regional ranges.

The regional P1 value represents the smallest 1st percentile observed among all the member bodies with data presented in ISO/TR 7250-2. The regional P5 value represents the smallest 5th percentile observed among all the member bodies with data presented in ISO/TR 7250-2. The regional P95 value represents the largest 95th percentile observed among all the member bodies with data presented in ISO/TR 7250-2. The regional P99 value represents the largest 99th percentile observed among all the member bodies with data presented in ISO/TR 7250-2.

5 Worldwide design ranges

5.1 Relationship between ISO/TR 7250-2 and this part of ISO 7250

ISO/TR 7250-2 can change at any time as new data emerge from member bodies. Unlike ISO/TR 7250-2, this part of ISO 7250 presents worldwide design ranges at a fixed point in time, reviewed periodically in accordance with ISO operating procedures. Member bodies with new anthropometric data are encouraged to submit their statistics to the Secretariat of ISO TC 159/SC 3 for inclusion in ISO/TR 7250-2.

5.2 Missing or sparse data

When suitable worldwide values are not available, the cell of the table is left blank. When data are available from only a single member body, this fact is noted in the table. When P1 and P99 values were unavailable, some member bodies have only submitted P5 and P95 values for ISO/TR 7250-2, from which the values in this part of ISO 7250 are set. Using the method described in [4.1](#), it is possible that the data from one member body set the P5 value, and data from another member body set the P1 value. This could occasionally cause the logical impossibility that the P1 value in this part of ISO 7250 is actually greater than the P5 value. Therefore, when such occasions arise, the P1 value has been eliminated from the design range table and noted on the table. The same situation can occur at the upper end of the distribution, with P95 and P99. In those cases also, the P99 value is eliminated.

5.3 Worldwide design range table (normative)

[Table 1](#) presents the normative worldwide design ranges for ISO 7250-1 body dimensions. The ranges in [Table 1](#) shall be used in product standards requiring anthropometric data.

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Table 1 — Worldwide design ranges

No.	ISO 7250 Measurement	MB	N	P1	MB	N	P5	MB	N	P95	MB	N	P99	Midrange
	Age	Male	2613/564	18	KR	2613	19	JP	2885	63	JP	2885	65	41
		Female	2614/698	18	IT/KR	2011/2614	19	JP	2476	63	JP	2476	65	41
		Total	5227	18	IT/KR	4021/5227	19	JP	5361	63	JP	5361	65	41
1	4.1.1 Body mass (weight) kg	Male	11164	44	CN	11164	48	NL	595	117	NL	595	143	83
		Female	11150	39	TH/CN	1170/11150	42	NL/US ^a	679/1261	103	US	1261	141	73
		Total	5338	41	JP	5338	44	KE	207	95	KE	207	108	70
2	4.1.2 Stature (body height)	Male	133	1536	TH	1246	1576	NL	563	1959	NL	563	2054	1768
		Female	2011	1443	TH	1170	1467	NL	679	1799	NL	679	1864	1633
		Total	4021/5342	1463	JP	5342	1501	KE	207	1837	KE	207	1869	1669
3	4.1.3 Eye height	Male	11164	1436	TH	1246	1462	NL	558	1842	NL	558	1916	1652
		Female	11150	1337	TH	1170	1353	NL	691	1689	NL	691	1749	1521
		Total	5337	1352	JP	5337	1392	KE	207	1729	KE	207	1769	1560
4	4.1.4 Shoulder height	Male	11164	1244	CN	11164	1281	NL	542	1625	NL	542	1682	1453
		Female	2463	1151	JP	2463	1182	KE	74	1480	NL	587	1529	1331
		Total	5342	1166	JP	5342	1201	KE	207	1540	KE	207	1587	1371
5	4.1.5 Elbow height	Male	11164	925	TH	1246	953	NL	562	1239	NL	562	1296	1096
		Female	74	811	JP	2459	889	NL	685	1126	NL	685	1181	1008
		Total	5332	874	JP	5332	903	IT	3997	1152	IT	3997	1195	1028
6	4.1.6 Iliospinal height	Male	132	780	KR	2606	832	KE	132	1027	KE	132	1101	929
		Female	2462	748	JP	2462	774	KE	73	970	KE	73	1017	872
		Total	5219	760	JP	5341	788	KE	205	1009	KE	205	1087	899
7	4.1.7 Crotch height	Male	2613	677	JP/KR	2878/2613	707	NL	588	933	NL	588	1014	820
		Female	2462	621	JP	2462	645	NL	674	876	NL	674	910	761
		Total	5340	632	KR	5224	659	IT	3967	899	IT	3967	935	779

CN = China; DE = Germany; IT = Italy; JP = Japan; KE = Kenya; KR = Republic of Korea; TH = Thailand; NL = Netherlands; US = United States

^a Definition is different from ISO 7250-1 or substituted.^b Scan-extracted.^c 1st or 99th percentile eliminated (see text in 5.2).