ASHRAE 170 Revision Tracking: Edition-to-Edition Changes (2017 to 2021 to 2025)

Field Sheet — New Room Categories, Filtration Tables, Unoccupied Turndown & Exhaust Allowances

Direct Answer (Practitioner Reference): ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2025 is the current edition (incorporated into the 2026 FGI Codes), following ASHRAE 170-2021 (which absorbed 17 addenda to the 2017 edition). Key edition-to-edition shifts cover: (1) split Inpatient (Table 7-1), Outpatient (Tables 8-1/8-2), and Residential (Table 9-1) tables plus 2025 Behavioral/Mental Health and Class 2/3 imaging updates; (2) filtration MERV columns integrated directly into space tables with 2025 alternative filter-testing clarity; (3) unoccupied turndown formalized in 2021 and clarified for outpatient spaces in 2025; and (4) AII exhaust exceptions and mixed 170/62.1 outdoor-air rules.

Revision Area	2017 Edition Baseline	2021 Edition Shift (17 Addenda)	2025 Edition Update (FGI 2026 Aligned)
Space Table Structure	Combined space tables; limited outpatient granularity	Split into Table 7-1 (Inpatient), Tables 8-1/8-2 (Outpatient), Table 9-1 (Residential)	Aligned with FGI 2026; updated Class 2/3 imaging, nuclear med & behavioral health (EmPATH)
Filtration Rules	Referenced in separate text/section rules	MERV minimums integrated as columns inside Tables 7-1, 8-1, 8-2, 9-1	Added equivalent acceptable alternative filtration testing methodologies
Unoccupied Turndown	Limited / inconsistent project-by-project use	Formalized column/rules: turndown allowed if pressure relationship stays intact & full ACH restores pre-occupancy	Explicit clarifications for outpatient spaces (ambulatory/day-surgery setbacks)
Exhaust Allowances	Direct outdoor exhaust required for AII without general-exhaust tie-in	Added conditional exception allowing AII exhaust into general/central exhaust with safeguards	Maintained safeguards; clarified system-level outdoor air for mixed 170 + 62.1 systems

Project Edition Verification & Turndown Compliance Checklist

Check	What to Verify Against State AHJ & FGI Adoption	Governing Source
1. Enforced Edition	[ ] Confirm which FGI / ASHRAE 170 edition your state AHJ enforces (2013, 2017, 2021, or 2025) — never assume newest edition applies	State AHJ / FGI Adoption Map
2. Table Lookup	[ ] Use Table 7-1 (Inpatient), 8-1 (Specialized Outpatient), or 8-2 (General Outpatient) matching the adopted edition	ASHRAE 170-2021 / 2025
3. Unoccupied Turndown	[ ] Verify BAS maintains continuous positive/negative pressure relationship during setback and restores full ACH before occupancy	ASHRAE 170-2021 / 2025
4. Exhaust Exceptions	[ ] Confirm direct outdoor exhaust for AII/decontam/bronchoscopy unless engineered backflow & filtration safeguards are AHJ-approved	ASHRAE 170-2021 / 2025

Practitioner prep/reference tool based on ASHRAE / ASHE public summaries of Standard 170-2017, 170-2021, and 170-2025. Consult the licensed text of your state-adopted edition for exact numeric table parameters.