

Deflection Limits

Civil Engineering

Indicative serviceability limits.

Indicative only. The governing figure is the one in your code.

Case	Order of limit
Beam, total load	$\text{span} \div 250$
Beam, imposed load only	$\text{span} \div 360$
Beam under brittle finishes	$\text{span} \div 500$
Cantilever	$\text{length} \div 180$
Building sway	$\text{height} \div 500$ under wind
Floor vibration	Frequency check, not deflection

Educational reference. These figures vary by code and country, and never replace the limits in the governing standard.