

STAFF -TO-CHILD RATIOS

The license to operate as a childcare home or center must be on display for the public to see. It will state the provider's *capacity* (how many children are allowed to be cared for in that setting).

The amount of staff required, based on the number of children present, is called the *staff-to-child ratio*. The number of staff required in a childcare home or center depends not only on the *number* of children in that setting but also on the *ages* of the children. If you have questions about a provider's capacity or the number of assistants required in a setting, check with your local CCR&R.

The following charts show staff-to-child ratios in different settings. Providers, and all the lead or approved assistants must have a certain amount of training and continuing education in order to be licensed by the Department of Early Education & Care (EEC). Check with your local CCR&R for more information on what kind of training is required.

Staff-To-Child Ratios in Family Child Care Programs

Program Type	Family Child Care (Provider's home)	Large Family Child Care (Provider's home)	Family Child Care Plus (6+2) (Provider's home)
Ages	6 weeks to 12.9 yrs.	6 weeks to 12.9 yrs.	6 weeks to 12.9 yrs.
Staff per children	1:6 children One caregiver may care for up to 6 children. Of these 6 children, three may be under 2 yrs. Of those three, 2 may be infants and one may be 15 months old if he or she is walking. In this case, the other three children must be over 2 yrs.	2:10 children Whenever there are seven or more children present, a second approved caregiver must be present and actively involved in care. No more than six of 10 children can be under the age of 15 months.	1:6 children The provider may care for up to 6 children. During the school year, the provider may care for up to 2 school-age children during after-school hours or during holidays. In the summer, the school-age children may be present all day. In this arrangement, the provider may care for one infant without an extra staff person *

- However, anytime a provider has more than 6 children in care for more than 3 consecutive hours, there may be no more than one infant in care, unless an EEC -approved assistant is present.

Staff-To-Child Ratios in Center-Based Programs (Child Care Centers, Preschools, Nursery Schools)

Age Group/ Full or Half Day Program	Maximum Group Size	Teacher/Child Ratio
Infants 1 mo. - 15 mos. Full/Half	No larger than 7	1 to 3 1 additional teacher or assistant for 4-7 infants
Toddlers 15 mos. - 2.9 yrs. Full/Half	No larger than 9	1 to 4 1 additional teacher or assistant for 5-9 toddlers
Infants and Toddlers 1 mo. - 2.9 yrs. Full/Half	No larger than 9 No more than 3 infants	1 to 3 1 additional teacher or assistant for 6-9 children
Toddlers/Preschoolers 2.9 - 7 yrs. Full/Half	No larger than 9 At least one preschooler in group	1 to 5 1 additional teacher or assistant for 6-9 children
Preschoolers 2.9 - 7 yrs. Full	No larger than 20	1 to 10 1 additional teacher or assistant for 11-20 children
Preschoolers 2.9 - 7 yrs. Half	No larger than 24	1 to 12 1 additional teacher or assistant for 13-24 children
Kindergarten 4.9 - 7 yrs. Full/Half	No larger than 30	1 to 15 1 additional teacher or assistant for 16-30 children
School-Age Care 6 (by Sept.) to 14 yrs. Full/Half	Varies	1 to 13