

Staff/Child Ratios & Grouping of Children

Staff/Child Ratios	
Ages	Staff/Child Ratio
Under 18 months	1:4
18 months up to 2 ½ years	1:6
2 ½ years up to 4 years	1:10
4 years	1:12
5 years and older	1:15

Grouping of Children	
Ages	Maximum Group Size*
0 to 18 months	12
18 months to 4 years	20
5 years and older	30

*Except during meals, naptime, outdoor activities, specially scheduled events (for example, parties, community speakers, films, etc.), and daily information sharing sessions (for example, "circle time")

Staff/Child Ratios During Rest or Sleep		
Ages	Staff/Child Ratio	Required Criteria
Under 18 months	1:10	1. All children under 18 months shall be sleeping while all children over 18 months shall be resting or sleeping. 2. At least one staff member shall be physically present in the room or area in which children are napping and shall be able to summon other staff members without leaving the room or area 3. A sufficient number of staff members shall be in the facility and readily accessible to ensure compliance with staff/child ratios 4. Naptime preparations shall have been completed.
18 months up to 2 ½ years	1:12	
2 ½ years up to 4 years	1:20	

Mixed Ages Staff/Child Ratio Calculator

Ages:	0-18	18-2.5	2.5-3	4	5-13
Ratio:	1:4	1:6	1:10	1:12	1:15
1	0.25	0.17	0.10	0.08	0.07
2	0.50	0.33	0.20	0.17	0.13
3	0.75	0.50	0.30	0.25	0.20
4	1	0.67	0.40	0.33	0.27
5	1.25	0.83	0.50	0.42	0.33
6	1.50	1	0.60	0.50	0.40
7	1.75	1.17	0.70	0.58	0.47
8	2	1.33	0.80	0.67	0.53
9	2.25	1.50	0.90	0.75	0.60
10	2.50	1.67	1	0.83	0.67
11	2.75	1.83	1.10	0.92	0.73
12	3	2	1.20	1	0.80
13	3.25	2.17	1.30	1.08	0.87
14	3.50	2.33	1.40	1.17	0.93
15	3.75	2.50	1.50	1.25	1
16	4	2.67	1.60	1.33	1.06
17	4.25	2.83	1.70	1.42	1.13
18	4.5	3	1.80	1.50	1.20
19	4.75	3.16	1.90	1.67	1.33
20	5	3.33	2	1.75	1.40

Instructions:

- Select the number of children from the left column and the children's age from the top column.
- Follow the grid to where the two columns meet.
- The resulting value is the number of staff **required** for the given age and number of children within that group. Always round up to the next number, for example 3.2 would require 4 staff members.
- To calculate the staffing needs for a group of children larger than the chart you can add values together. Example: To determine the staff requirements for a group of 30 children age 4, add the values for a group of 10 (.8) plus one of 20 (.8 + 1.7) or 3 staff members (2.5 rounded up).
- For mixed age groups add the values together.
Example: A class of 15 children, made up of 8 children age 4 and 7 children ages 5 and 6. The ratio value for the 4-year-olds is .7 plus .5 for the 5 and 6-year-olds.

.7 + .5 = 1.2, or two staff members