INDIANA CHILD CARE CENTERS

Staff-to-child ratios at a glance

Indiana's ratios and maximum group sizes for licensed child care centers. Print it, pin it up by the door.

Group	Ages	Staff : children	Max group
Infants	6 weeks to 12 months	1 : 5	12
Young toddlers	12 to 17 months	1 : 5	12
Older toddlers	18 to 23 months	1 : 6	14
Two-year-olds	24 to 29 months	1 : 8	16
Two-and-a-half-year-olds	30 to 35 months	1 : 9	17
Three-year-olds	36 to 47 months	1 : 11	25
Four-year-olds	48 to 59 months	1 : 13	29
Five-year-olds	60 to 71 months	1 : 17	31
School age	6 years and older (72 months and older)	1 : 20	40

- **Mixed ages:** the youngest child in the group sets the ratio and the maximum group size. Children of 30 to 35 months may be combined only with three-year-olds.
- **Larger groups:** in an indoor or outdoor area with at least 75 square feet per child, the maximum group size is three times the figure shown; in a cafeteria it is the number of seats for children.
- **Student volunteers** aged 15 or older who are exploring a career in early childhood education count toward the ratio while an authorized adult supervises them at all times.
- FSSA publishes a new center ratio chart every December 1 (IC 12-17.2-4-14.5). The next one is due December 1, 2026 and applies for 2027. The ratio table in 470 IAC 3-4.7 is out of date.

Source: IC 12-17.2-4-14.5; FSSA Licensed Child Care Center Staff to Child Ratio Chart (chart effective December 1, 2025), read on November 24, 2026. This sheet is a summary, not legal advice: always check the current regulation and your licensing consultant.