NEW JERSEY CHILD CARE CENTERS

# Staff-to-child ratios at a glance

New Jersey'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** | under 18 months | **1 : 4** | **12** |
| **Toddlers** | 18 months up to 2½ years | **1 : 6** | **20** |
| **Preschool** | 2½ years up to 4 years | **1 : 10** | **20** |
| **Four-year-olds** | 4 years | **1 : 12** | **20** |
| **Five and older** | 5 years and older, in an early childhood program | **1 : 15** | **20** |
| **School age** | school-age program (children in school, under 13) | **1 : 15** | **30** |

- **Mixed ages:** work out the staff needed for each age group separately, to the nearest tenth, and add them; any fraction above a whole number means one more staff member.
- **Infants and toddlers:** each primary caregiver has a group of 4 infants or 6 toddlers, and a room with more than 12 infants or 20 toddlers must be divided into areas of no more than that.
- **Rest time:** the ratio may be 1:10 under 18 months, 1:12 from 18 months to 2½ years and 1:20 from 2½ years, but only once every child is resting (those under 18 months asleep), one staff member stays in the room and enough staff are in the building to meet the awake ratios.

Source: N.J.A.C. 3A:52-4.3, 3A:52-4.4 (readopted effective December 20, 2023 (expires December 20, 2030)), read on November 24, 2026. This sheet is a summary, not legal advice: always check the current regulation and your licensing consultant.