VERMONT CHILD CARE CENTERS

Staff-to-child ratios at a glance

Vermont'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	birth to 18 months	**1 : 4**	**8**
Toddlers	18 to 30 months	**1 : 4**	**10**
Older toddlers	24 to 36 months	**1 : 5**	**10**
Young preschoolers	32 to 42 months	**1 : 6**	**15**
Preschoolers	36 months to kindergarten	**1 : 10**	**20**
School age	1st grade and up	**1 : 13**	**26**

- **Mixed ages:** the youngest child's ratio and group size apply to the whole group. The age bands overlap as the rule writes them; ask your licensor which row applies to a child.
- **Nap time:** when children 24 months and older are napping, one staff member may supervise each sleeping group in view, with the other required staff within direct hearing.
- **Seven or more children:** a second adult who could help in an emergency must be within direct hearing of the licensed space at all times.
- The Child Development Division shared draft replacement rules in November 2025 that would change these age bands; they have not yet been formally proposed. Afterschool programs are licensed under separate regulations.

Source: Vermont Licensing Regulations for Center Based Child Care and Preschool Programs, rule 6.2.1.3 (effective April 17, 2022), read on November 24, 2026. This sheet is a summary, not legal advice: always check the current regulation and your licensing consultant.