


Home Child Care and Unlicensed Child Care: How Many Children Are Allowed?*

HOME CHILD CARE (LICENSED)

 **MAXIMUM OF 6**
children under 13 years old,
including the provider's **own**
children under 6 years old

BUT

 **NO MORE THAN 2**
children under 2 years old

FOR EXAMPLE:



OR




OR



To promote the safety and well-being of children, licensed home care agencies also consider the following before placing a child:

- the ages of the other children in the group;
- the child's ability to evacuate independently in an emergency;
- ◆ the experience and qualifications of the child care provider;
- ▲ the physical environment of the home; and
- any special needs.

UNLICENSED CHILD CARE

 **MAXIMUM OF 5**
children under 13 years old,
including the provider's **own**
children under 6 years old

BUT

 **NO MORE THAN 2**
children under 2 years old

FOR EXAMPLE:



OR



OR



Unlicensed child care providers are also now required to:

- Provide receipts for payment of services upon request and free of charge.
- Inform parents/guardians in writing that they are an unlicensed provider. This notification should say: "This child care program is not licensed by the Government of Ontario." Providers must keep a copy on file for two years.
- ◆ Allow the parent/guardian access to the premises and their child (with specific exceptions).

FOR BOTH HOME CHILD CARE (LICENSED) AND UNLICENSED CHILD CARE

THE FOLLOWING APPLIES:

CHILDREN AGES 4 AND 5

Providers must include all of their **own children** under the age of 6 who are on the premises in the total number of children in their care. However, during the school year,** between the hours of 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on weekdays, providers can exclude their own 4- and 5-year old children from the total number allowed **ONLY IF**:

- Those children are attending full-day kindergarten in a publicly-funded school.
- The provider cares for no more than one child under the age of 2.
- ◆ The provider has no record of convictions under the *Day Nurseries Act* or the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*.

CHILDREN AGES 10, 11, or 12

Providers do not need to count children who are 10, 11, or 12 years old in their maximum group size until August 31, 2017.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

VISIT ontario.ca/childcareproviders

OR CALL 1-800-387-5514 (TTY: 1-800-268-7095)

* Number of children permitted under Ontario law (*Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* and Ontario Regulation 137/15)

**Including PA days, winter break and March break.