

## Ratio Compliance: Centers

**Table 1: Single Age Groups  
Caregiver-to-Child Ratio and Group Sizes**

Ages of Children	# of Caregivers	# of Children	Group Size with two Caregivers
Infant (0 - 11 months)	1	4	8
Toddler A (12-17 Months)	1	4	8
Toddler B (18-23 Months)	1	5	10
2 years old	1	7	14
3 years old	1	12	24
4 years old	1	15	30
School - age	1	20	40

**Table 2: Mixed Age Groups  
Caregiver-to-Child Ratio and Group Sizes**

Ages of Children	# of Caregivers	# of Children	# of Children Allowed in a Mixed Age Group
0 - 17 Months	1	4	2
18-23 Months (Toddler B)	1	5	3
2 years old	1	7	6
3 years old	1	12	11
4 years old	1	15	14
School - age	1	20	19

### Guidance for mixed age groups:

- Infants, toddlers A, and toddlers B may be combined with older children as long as there are not more than 8 children in the group and there are not more than 2 children under 18 months old in the group, and no more than 3 children under the age of two.
- Once a group of children meets their single-age group ratio limit in mixed-aged group situation, they must be removed from the mixed-aged group and cared for in a single-age group.
- Unless infants and toddlers are in the group, the maximum allowed group size for mixed age groups defaults to the group size specified for the oldest age group represented minus one.

Example of a classroom with children ages two - 12 years old with one caregiver.

- The maximum allowed group size for mixed age groups is set by the oldest children in the group unless infants and toddlers are in the group. In this example there are no infants or toddlers, so the group size is set by the oldest child in the group.
- For just school age children with one caregiver the group size is 20. If other age groups will be mixed in with school age children, the group size is  $20-1=19$ .
- There can be no more than 6 two year olds, because once they reach their single age ratio they need to be separated.
- There can be no more than 11 three year olds, because once they reach their single age ratio they need to be separated.
- There can be no more than 14 four year olds, because once they reach their single age ratio they need to be separated.
- There are no infants or toddlers in the scenario, because once they reach their single age ratio they need to be separated.

Demonstrating the example above: below are different combinations of children that would be allowed with one caregiver, when the oldest child in the group is a school age child

	2 year olds	3 year olds	4 year olds	School Age (5-12 year olds)	Group Size Total Children
	Maximum of 6	Maximum of 11	Maximum of 14	Maximum of 18	19
Example 1	1	1	1	16	19
Example 2	6	10	2	1	19
Example 3	5	5	5	4	19
Example 4	2	3	13	1	19

\*These are just a few examples of how many children could be present from each age group as a demonstration

### Guidance for mixed age groups including infants and toddlers:

- Infants and toddlers may be included in mixed-age groups only when eight or fewer children are present in the group.
- Infants, toddlers A, and toddlers B may be combined with older children as long as there are not more than 8 children in the group and there are not more than 2 children under 18 months old in the group, and no more than 3 children under the age of two in the group.
- This rule applies to the provider’s and caregivers’ own children as well as other children in care.
- Any room or area where infants and/or toddlers are being cared for (even in a group with older children) must meet the requirements for an infant/toddler room.
- Infants and toddlers may be with older children for occasional special visitors and programs but not for regularly scheduled activities.

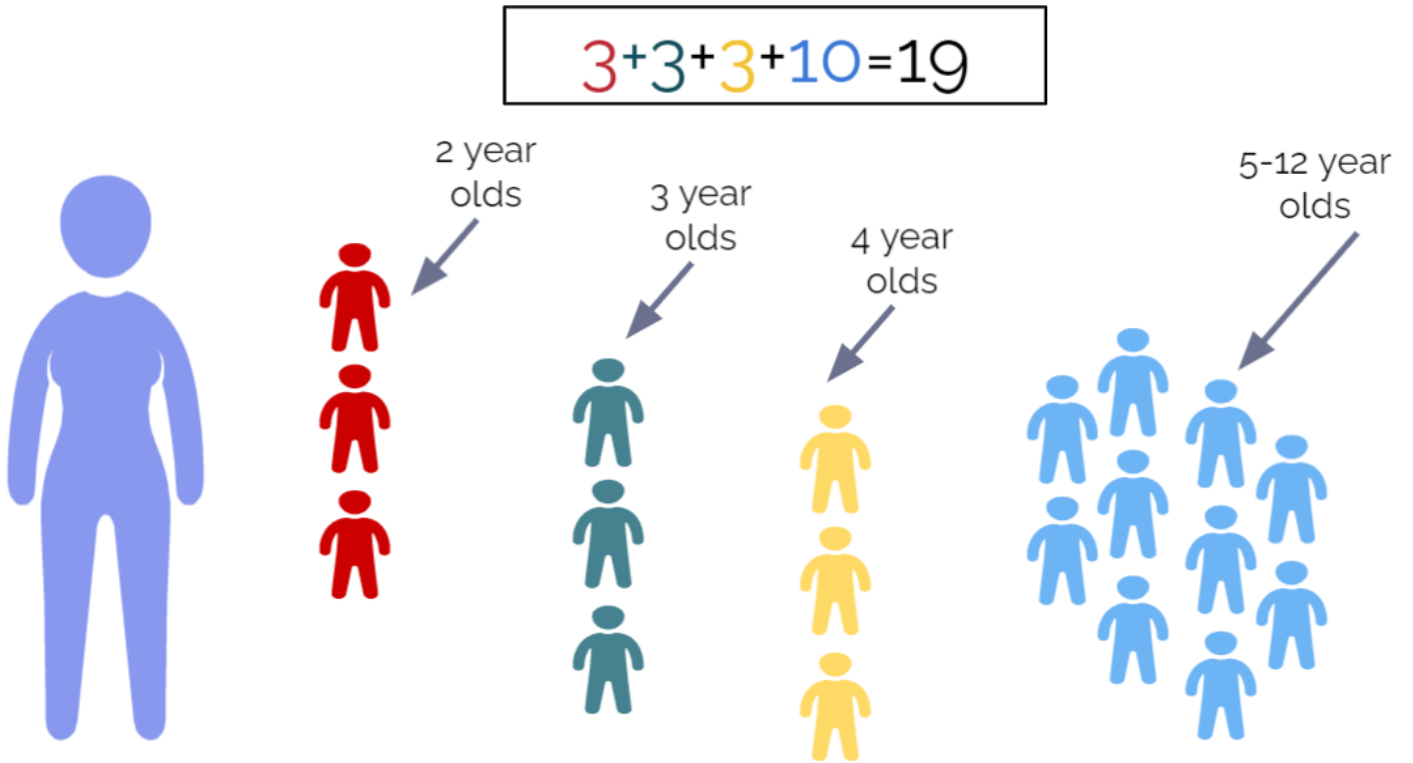
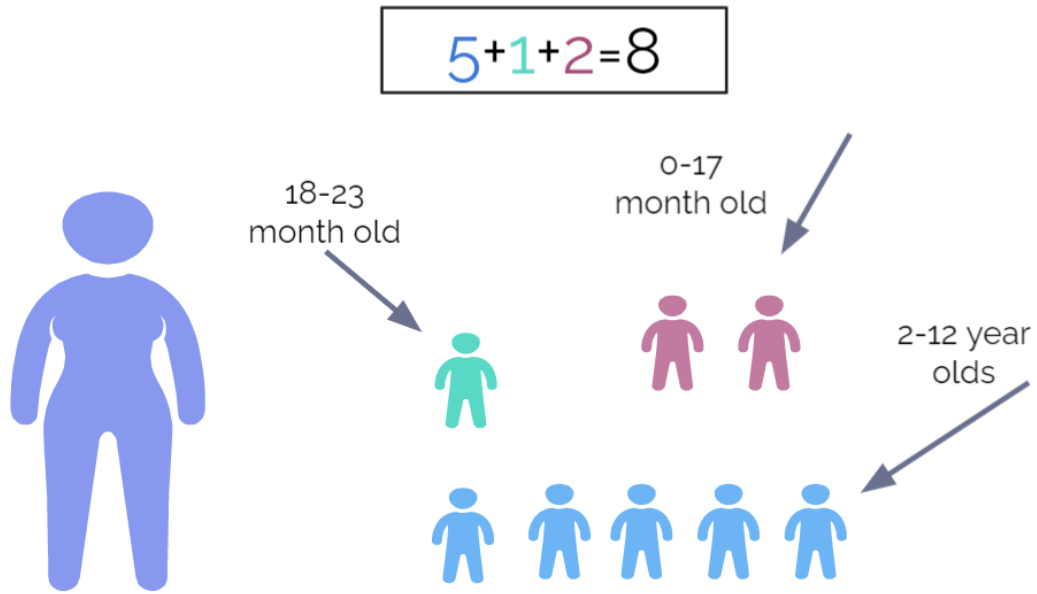
Example of possible group of children 0 - 12 years old with one caregiver.

- The maximum allowed group size for mixed age groups is set by the oldest children in the group unless infants and toddlers are in the group.
- Since there are infants and toddlers in this group, children ages 0 - 23 months, there can be no more than 8 children in the group, so the group size is 8.
- There can be no more than 3 children under the age of two years old in a group, and no more than 2 of those children can be under the age of 18 months.

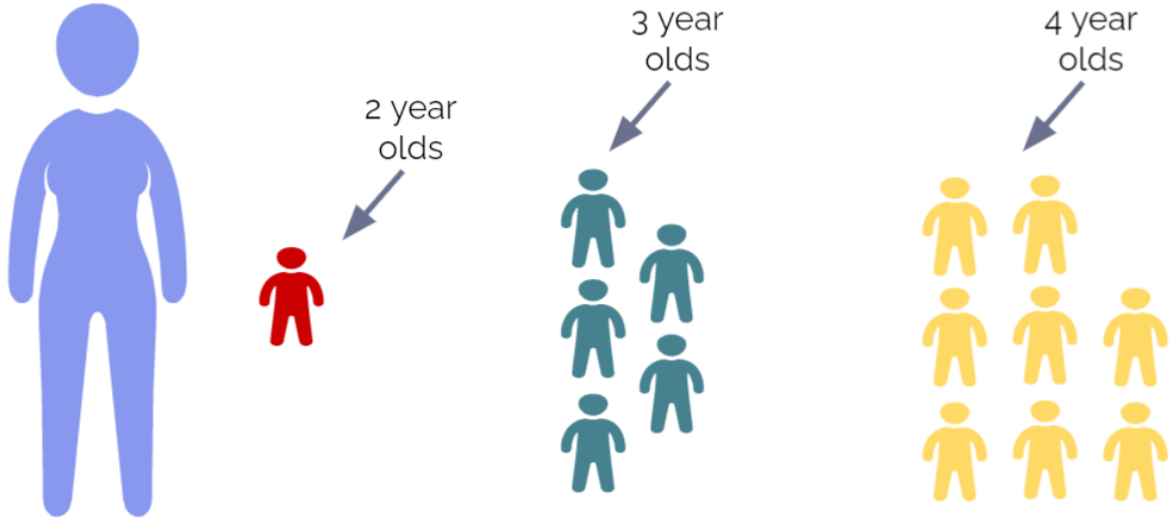
	Infants 0-11 months	Toddler A 12-17 months	Toddler B 18-23 months	Children 2 -12 year olds	Group Size Total Children
Example 1	1	1	1	5	8
Example 2	0	0	3	5	8
Example 3	0	2	1	5	8
Example 4	2	0	1	5	8
Example 5	2	0	0	6	8

\*These are just a few examples of how many children could be present from each age group as a demonstration

# Image Examples of Ratio Possibilities



$$1+5+8=14$$



$$6+5=11$$

