

# 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 4 years old

**BUT**



**NO MORE THAN 3**  
children under 2 years old

**FOR EXAMPLE:**



OR



OR



## UNLICENSED CHILD CARE



**MAXIMUM OF 5**  
children under 13 years old,  
including the provider's **own**  
children under 4 years old

**BUT**



**NO MORE THAN 3**  
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 and medical needs.

**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 MORE INFORMATION**

**VISIT [ontario.ca/childcareproviders](http://ontario.ca/childcareproviders)**

**or call 1-800-387-5514 (TTY: 1-800-268-7095)**