

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1202
919-661-5880**

Maximum Occupant Load for a Day Care Facility

Code: 2012 Building Code
Section: 305.2, 308.5 and 310.1

Date: July 17, 2012

Question:

What is the maximum occupant load for a Day Care Facility?

Answer:

The maximum occupant load for a Day Care Facility is based on the age of the clients and the occupancy type of the facility.

- Residential Group R-3:
 - Adult Care facilities – five or fewer persons of any age, excluding staff
 - Child Care facilities – eight or fewer persons with no more than five that are of preschool age, excluding staff. (Section 310.1)
- Residential Group R-4 (Any age):
 - More than five but not more than 16 occupants, excluding staff. (Section 310.1)
- Education Group E:
 - 6 to 100 children preschool aged 2¹/₂ years or less (Section 310.1)
 - More than 5 children 2¹/₂ years through 12th Grade (Section 305.2)
- Institutional Group I-4:
 - Adult Care facilities – six or more (Section 308.5.1).
 - Child Care facilities – six or more (Section 308.5.2).

Keywords:

Day Care, Occupant Load, Age