

Leapfrog Group Hospital Safety Grade 2016

Methodology

The Leapfrog Group created the [Hospital Safety Grade](#) to assess hospital safety and encourage patients to choose a facility accordingly. Safety grades are released annually in April and updated in October as hospitals report newer data. The grades are based on 30 performance metrics divided into two categories—“outcome” and “process and structural”. After aggregating individual metrics into these two categories, a category score is calculated for each and averaged together for an overall hospital safety score. Each score is given a percentile rank and then converted to a letter grade using the following scale:

- A = 68th – 100th percentile
- B = 44th – 68th percentile
- C = 44th – 7th percentile
- D = 7th – 1st percentile
- F = 1st – 0th percentile.

Data from the 2016 Hospital Safety grade is from the Leapfrog Hospital Survey, which hospitals fill out voluntarily, and CMS¹ datasets. For the 2016 ranking, CMS data reporting periods range from 2013 to 2015, depending on the metric and a hospital’s reporting ability.

For more information about The Leapfrog Group’s Hospital Safety Grade methodology, click [here](#).

Categories Used to Calculate the Leapfrog Group Hospital Safety Grade

Category	Category Weight	Examples of Included Metrics	Number of Metrics
Process and Structural	50%	Use of computerized physician order entry Patient’s perception of information communicated by doctors and nurses.	15
Outcome	50%	Catheter-associated urinary tract infection rate Overall <i>Clostridium difficile</i> infection rate	15

1) CMS is the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

2) The National Quality Forum lists 34 Safe Practice areas in the publication [here](#). The Hospital Safety Grade only uses only the eight mentioned above.

The Leapfrog Group., “Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade Scoring Methodology.” (2016); Physician Executive Council interviews and analysis.