

Leapfrog Group Hospital Safety Grade 2018

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 every six months, first in the spring, then updated in the fall as hospitals report newer data. The grades are based on 27 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.

Grade	Safety Grade Criteria (at or above cut-point)	Count of Hospitals	Percentage of Hospitals
A	≥ 3.159	750	30%
B	≥ 2.971	683	28%
C	≥ 2.502	879	35%
D	≥ 2.043	145	6%
F	< 2.043	22	1%

Data from the 2018 Hospital Safety grade is from the Leapfrog Hospital Survey, which hospitals fill out voluntarily, CMS¹ datasets, and secondary data sources such as the American Hospital Association’s Annual Survey and HIT Supplement. For the 2018 ranking, CMS data reporting periods range from 2014 to 2017, 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.	12
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.” (2018); Physician Executive Council interviews and analysis. http://www.hospitalandsafetygrade.org/media/file/12HospitalSafetyGrade_ScoringMethodology_Spring2018_FINAL.pdf