



Explanation of Hospital Safety Grades

FALL 2017

EXPLANATION OF HOSPITAL SAFETY GRADES

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Using 27 evidence-based measures of patient safety, The Leapfrog Group calculated a numerical score for all eligible hospitals in the U.S. (For a list of exclusion criteria, download a copy of the scoring methodology at www.HospitalSafetyGrade.org). The numerical score was then converted into one of five letter grades. "A" represents the best Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, followed in order by "B," "C," "D," and "F." Letter grade cut-points have been reset since Spring 2017.

Hospitals with a numerical score 0.6 standard deviations or more above the mean earn an "A." Hospitals with a numerical score at the mean and up to 0.6 standard deviations above the mean earn a "B." Hospitals with a numerical score between the mean and 1.5 standard deviations below the mean earn a "C." Hospitals with a numerical score between 1.5 standard deviations and 3.0 standard deviations below the mean earn a "D," and hospitals with a numerical score more than 3.0 standard deviations below the mean earn an "F."

This fall, the numerical scores ranged between approximately 1.1 and 4.0 with an average score of approximately 3.0. The numerical cut-points are adjusted down by three standard errors. For a detailed explanation of the scoring methodology, please visit www.HospitalSafetyGrade.org.

In implementing this letter grade methodology, the distribution of letter grades is detailed below:

Grade	Safety Grade Criteria (at or above cut-point)	Cut-point Methodology	Count of Hospitals	Percentage of Hospitals
A	≥ 3.159	0.6 SDs Above Mean	832	32%
B	≥ 2.971	0.0 SDs Above Mean	662	25%
C	≥ 2.502	1.5 SDs Below Mean	964	37%
D	≥ 2.033	3.0 SDs Below Mean	159	6%
F	< 2.033	More than 3.0 SDs Below Mean	15	<1%

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