



Explanation of Hospital Safety Grades

FALL 2018

EXPLANATION OF HOSPITAL SAFETY GRADES

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Using 28 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 2018.

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 1.5 and 3.9 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)	Count of Hospitals	Percentage of Hospitals
A	≥ 3.151	855	32%
B	≥ 2.965	638	24%
C	≥ 2.502	976	37%
D	≥ 2.039	164	6%
F	< 2.039	17	1%

Higher is Better

