LEAPFROG
HOSPITAL
SAFETY GRADE

Explanation of Hospital Safety Grades

FALL 2020

EXPLANATION OF HOSPITAL SAFETY GRADES

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Using up to 27 evidence-based measures of patient safety, The Leapfrog Group calculated a numerical score for all eligible hospitals in the U.S. 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."

The letter grade cut-points have been reset for the first time since Fall 2018, using the same methodology that was used in Fall 2018 but with the current mean and standard deviations. Hospitals with a numerical score of 0.6 standard deviations or more above the mean (3.159) earn an "A." Hospitals with a numerical score at the mean and up to 0.6 standard deviations above the mean (2.972) earn a "B." Hospitals with a numerical score between the mean and 1.5 standard deviations below the mean (2.506) earn a "C." Hospitals with a numerical score between 1.5 standard deviations and 3.0 standard deviations below the mean (2.040) earn a "D," and hospitals with a numerical score more than 3.0 standard deviations below the mean (2.040) earn an "F." All cut-points were adjusted down by three standard errors.

Numerical scores range between approximately 1.6 and 3.8, with an average score of approximately 3.0.

For information on exclusion criteria and a detailed explanation of the scoring methodology, please visit www.HospitalSafetyGrade.org.

Please note: Numerical scores are displayed for hospitals on the Safety Grade Review Website to four decimal places (i.e. n.nnnn). For the purposes of assigning a letter grade, the numerical score is not rounded. For example, a numerical score displayed as 3.1589 would be assigned a B.

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	≥ 3.159	895	34%
B	≥ 2.972	631	24%
C	≥ 2.506	910	35%
D	≥ 2.040	170	7%
F	< 2.040	16	<1%

Higher is Better

1.581   2.040   2.506   2.972   3.159   3.834

| F | D | C | B | A |