LEAPFROG
HOSPITAL
SAFETY GRADE

Explanation of Hospital Safety Grades

FALL 2021

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Using up to 22 evidence-based measures of patient safety, including CMS Medicare PSI 90 Patient Safety and Adverse Events composite which includes 10 component measures, 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 using the same methodology that was used in Fall 2020 but with the current mean (3.011) and standard deviations. Hospitals with a numerical score of 0.6 standard deviations or more above the mean (3.202) earn an "A." Hospitals with a numerical score at the mean and up to 0.6 standard deviations above the mean (2.991) earn a "B." Hospitals with a numerical score between the mean and 1.5 standard deviations below the mean (2.464) earn a "C." Hospitals with a numerical score between 1.5 standard deviations and 3.0 standard deviations below the mean (1.938) earn a "D," and hospitals with a numerical score more than 3.0 standard deviations below the mean (1.938) earn an "F." All cut-points were adjusted down by three standard errors. Numerical scores range between approximately 1.1 and 3.9, with an average score of approximately 3.0.

For more information about the Hospital Safety Grade 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 3.2019 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	≥ 3.202	928	32%
B	≥ 2.991	757	26%
C	≥ 2.464	1007	35%
D	≥ 1.938	190	7%
F	< 1.938	19	<1%

Higher is Better