



Explanation of Hospital Safety Grades

SPRING 2021

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."

All five letter grade cut-points used in the fall 2020 Safety Grade, for "A", "B", "C", "D", and "F", have been maintained for the spring 2021 Safety Grade.

Numerical scores range between approximately 1.7 and 3.9, with an average score of approximately 3.0. All cut-points were adjusted down by three standard errors.

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	906	33%
B	≥ 2.972	659	24%
C	≥ 2.506	968	35%
D	≥ 2.040	192	7%
F	< 2.040	10	<1%

