



# **SCORING METHODOLOGY**

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# HOSPITAL SAFETY SCORE

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## What is the Hospital Safety Score?

The nation's healthcare system is undergoing rapid and dramatic change. There is now a cacophony of data and information in the public domain about hospital performance, but few healthcare consumers can interpret its significance.

The Hospital Safety Score grades general acute care hospitals on how safe they are for patients. The score includes data that patient safety experts use to compare hospitals. Publicly available data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Leapfrog Hospital Survey, and secondary data sources are weighted and then combined to produce a single, consumer-friendly composite score that is published as an A, B, C, D or F letter grade.

With the Hospital Safety Score, The Leapfrog Group aims to educate and encourage consumers to consider safety when selecting a hospital for themselves or their families. In addition, we believe the score will foster strong market incentives for hospitals to make safety a priority.

## Who is The Leapfrog Group?

The Leapfrog Group ([www.leapfroggroup.org](http://www.leapfroggroup.org)) is a national not-for-profit organization that was founded over a decade ago by the nation's leading employers and private healthcare purchasers. The organization strives to make giant "leaps" forward in the safety, quality, and affordability of healthcare in the U.S. by promoting transparency and value-based hospital incentives. To that end, Leapfrog has focused on measuring and publicly reporting on hospital performance through the annual Leapfrog Hospital Survey. The survey is a trusted, transparent, and evidence-based national tool that more than 1500 hospitals voluntarily participate in free of charge. For more information on The Leapfrog Hospital Survey visit <http://leapfroghospitalsurvey.org/>.

## Eligible and Excluded Hospitals

The Leapfrog Group calculates a Hospital Safety Score for about 2500 hospitals for which there is sufficient publicly available data. Because publicly available data is limited for a variety of reasons, Leapfrog is not able to calculate a score for every hospital in the U.S.

The Leapfrog Group is not able to calculate a Safety Score for the following types of hospitals due to missing data:

- Critical access hospitals (CAH)
- Long-term care and rehabilitation facilities
- Mental health facilities
- Federal hospitals (e.g., Veterans Affairs, Indian Health Services, etc.)

- Specialty hospitals, including surgical centers and cancer hospitals
- Free-standing pediatric hospitals
- Hospitals in U.S. territories
- Maryland hospitals, as they do not participate in the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS)
- Hospitals that are missing data for **more than nine** process/structural measures or **more than four** outcome measures

## Scoring Methodology

The Hospital Safety Score utilizes national performance measures from the Leapfrog Hospital Survey, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to produce a single composite score that represents a hospital's overall performance in keeping patients safe from preventable harm and medical errors. In addition, secondary data from the American Hospital Association's Annual Survey<sup>i</sup> was used to give hospitals as much credit as possible towards their safety scores. The Hospital Safety Score includes 28 measures, which are all publicly available by hospital. The measure set is divided into two domains: (1) Process/Structural Measures and (2) Outcome Measures. Each domain represents 50% of the Hospital Safety Score.

For Process/Structural Measures, a higher score is always better because these are measures of compliance with best practices in patient care (e.g., SCIP-INF-1: Prophylactic antibiotic received within 1-hour prior to surgical incision). For Outcome Measures, a lower score is always better because these are measures of the incidence of adverse events for patients (e.g., Foreign Object Left In after Surgery).

This document describes, in detail and through examples, how a hospital's Safety Score is calculated. Hospitals and others can use this document to verify Hospital Safety Score calculations. If you have additional questions about the scoring methodology or the Hospital Safety Score, please contact <https://leapfrogscore.zendesk.com>.

## Measures

The following table lists the 28 measures included in the Hospital Safety Score, and the source of hospitals' measure scores. In some cases where a hospital's information is not available for a certain measure, Leapfrog uses a secondary data source (as indicated in the table). In cases where a hospital's information is not available from any data source, Leapfrog has outlined a methodology for dealing with the missing data. This methodology is described later in the document, in the [Dealing with Missing Data](#) section.

Measure Name	Primary Data Source	Data Collection Period	Secondary Data Source	Data Collection Period
<b>Process and Structural Measures (15)</b>				
Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE)	2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey	01/01/2013 – 06/30/2014	HIT Supplement <sup>ii</sup>	2013
ICU Physician Staffing (IPS)	2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey	01/01/2013 – 06/30/2014	AHA Annual Survey <sup>i</sup>	2013
Safe Practice 1: Leadership Structures and Systems	2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey	01/01/2013 – 06/30/2014	N/A	N/A
Safe Practice 2: Culture Measurement, Feedback & Intervention	2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey	01/01/2013 – 06/30/2014	N/A	N/A
Safe Practice 3: Teamwork Training and Skill Building	2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey	01/01/2013 – 06/30/2014	N/A	N/A
Safe Practice 4: Identification and Mitigation of Risks and Hazards	2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey	01/01/2013 – 06/30/2014	N/A	N/A
Safe Practice 9: Nursing Workforce	2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey	01/01/2013 – 06/30/2014	N/A	N/A
Safe Practice 17: Medication Reconciliation	2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey	01/01/2013 – 06/30/2014	N/A	N/A
Safe Practice 19: Hand Hygiene	2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey	01/01/2013 – 06/30/2014	N/A	N/A
Safe Practice 23: Care of the Ventilated Patient	2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey	01/01/2013 – 06/30/2014	N/A	N/A
SCIP INF 1: Antibiotic within 1 Hour	CMS Hospital Compare	04/01/2013 - 03/31/2014	N/A	N/A
SCIP INF 2: Antibiotic Selection	CMS Hospital Compare	04/01/2013 - 03/31/2014	N/A	N/A
SCIP INF 3: Antibiotic Discontinued After 24 Hours	CMS Hospital Compare	04/01/2013 - 03/31/2014	N/A	N/A
SCIP INF 9: Catheter Removal	CMS Hospital Compare	04/01/2013 - 03/31/2014	N/A	N/A
SCIP VTE 2: VTE Prophylaxis	CMS Hospital Compare	04/01/2013 - 03/31/2014	N/A	N/A

Measure Name	Primary Data Source	Data Collection Period	Secondary Data Source	Data Collection Period
<b>Outcome Measures (13)</b>				
Foreign Object Retained	Data.cms.gov	07/01/2010 – 06/30/2012	N/A	N/A
Air Embolism	Data.cms.gov	07/01/2010 – 06/30/2012	N/A	N/A
Pressure Ulcer – Stages 3 and 4	Data.cms.gov	07/01/2010 – 06/30/2012	N/A	N/A
Falls and Trauma	Data.cms.gov	07/01/2010 – 06/30/2012	N/A	N/A
CLABSI	2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey	01/01/2013 – 06/30/2014	CMS Hospital Compare	01/01/2013 – 12/31/2013
CAUTI	2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey	01/01/2013 – 06/30/2014	CMS Hospital Compare	01/01/2013 – 12/31/2013
SSI: Colon	CMS Hospital Compare	01/01/2013 – 12/31/2013	N/A	N/A
PSI 4: Death Among Surgical Inpatients	CMS Hospital Compare	07/01/2011 – 06/30/2013	N/A	N/A
PSI 6: Iatrogenic Pneumothorax	CMS Hospital Compare	07/01/2011 – 06/30/2013	N/A	N/A
PSI 11: Postoperative Respiratory Failure	Data.cms.gov	07/01/2010 – 06/30/2012	N/A	N/A
PSI 12: Postoperative PE/DVT	CMS Hospital Compare	07/01/2011 – 06/30/2013	N/A	N/A
PSI 14: Postoperative Wound Dehiscence	CMS Hospital Compare	07/01/2011 – 06/30/2013	N/A	N/A
PSI 15: Accidental Puncture or Laceration	CMS Hospital Compare	07/01/2011 – 06/30/2013	N/A	N/A

### *How Measures are Scored*

**Categorical Measures** A categorical measure is one that measures a hospital’s performance by performance categories or by categorical statements. Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE) is an example of a categorical measure. A hospital’s performance is reported in the following way: “fully meets the standard,” “substantial progress,” “some progress,” “willing to report,” or “declined to report.” These



performance categories correspond to a hospital’s ability to meet the CPOE standard (see examples at [www.leapfroggroup.org/cp](http://www.leapfroggroup.org/cp)). For the Hospital Safety Score Methodology, these performance categories (e.g., “fully meets the standard,” “substantial progress,” etc.) are converted into numerical values so the measure can be scored and included in the overall Hospital Safety Score. The following image depicts a categorical scale, with the diamond representing a hospital’s potential score on a categorical measure. You can see that a hospital can only fall into one (1) of the five (5) categories, and cannot fall in between the categories.



**Continuous Measures** A continuous measure is one that measures a hospital’s performance by a counting process or by an interval continuum. A score on a continuous measure can assume an infinite number of values. The SCIP measures are examples of continuous measures. A hospital’s rates for this measure may fall anywhere along a continuum between 0 and 100 (e.g., 97, 98.4, etc.). The following image depicts a continuous scale, with the diamonds representing two potential scores a hospital could receive on a continuous measure:



**“Not Available” Results** “Not Available” means that the hospital does not have data for this measure. This could be because the measure is related to a service the hospital does not provide. For example, a hospital that does not have an ICU would not be able to report data about ICUs. It could also be because the hospital had too few patients or cases to report data for a particular condition or procedure. A “Not Available” result does not mean that the hospital withheld information from the public.

**“Declined To Report”** If a hospital is targeted to submit a Leapfrog Hospital Survey and does not, the hospital is indicated as “Declined To Report” for that measure. For example, if a hospital did not report on its progress in implementing the Safe Practices, it will receive a score of “Declined to Report.” Measures scored as “Declined to Report” will not be used in calculating the overall score. As a result, the remainder of a hospital’s applicable measures will receive higher weights, because the weights from measures that the hospital did not report are allocated across the other measures.

## Measure Descriptions

### *Process/Structural Measures*

The following measures are classified as Process/Structural Measures in the Hospital Safety Score. For Process/Structural Measures, a higher score is always better because these are measures of compliance with best practices in patient care (e.g., SCIP-INF-1: Prophylactic antibiotic received within 1-hour prior to surgical incision).

**Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE)** The CPOE measure is collected by The Leapfrog Group on the Leapfrog Hospital Survey. It measures a hospital's progress toward implementing a CPOE system and the efficacy of that system in alerting prescribers to common medication errors such as drug-drug interactions and drug-allergy interactions. CPOE systems can reduce medication errors by up to 88%. CPOE is a categorical measure—hospitals receive either “fully meets standard,” “substantial progress,” “some progress,” “willing to report,” or “declined to report” based on the information they report to Leapfrog. A numerical score is assigned to each performance category from the Leapfrog Hospital Survey in the following way:

- “Fully meets standard” = 100 points
- “Substantial progress” = 50 points
- “Some progress” = 15 points
- “Willing to report” = 5 points
- “Declined to report” = refer to *Uses of Secondary Data*

This Scoring Methodology translates a hospital's CPOE score (e.g., 100, 50, 15, or 5) into a Z-Score (see [Calculating Z-Scores](#) for more information), then multiplies the Z-Score by 5.2% and adds this calculation to the remaining Process/Structural Measures to derive the Process Score. Please note that this standard weight may differ if your hospital has other Process/Structural Measures that are not available.

Please see the [Dealing with Missing Data](#) section for detailed information on assigning a CPOE score to hospitals using the 2013 HIT Supplement as a secondary data source.

**ICU Physician Staffing (IPS)** The IPS measure is collected by The Leapfrog Group on the Leapfrog Hospital Survey. It measures a hospital's intensivist coverage in ICU's, which significantly reduces mortality rates when implemented. IPS is a categorical measure—hospitals receive either “fully meets standards,” “substantial progress,” “some progress,” “willing to report,” or “declined to report” based on the information they report to Leapfrog. A numerical score is assigned to each performance category from the Leapfrog Hospital Survey in the following way:

- “Fully meets” = 100 points
- “Substantial progress” = 50 points
- “Some progress” = 15 points
- “Willing to report” = 5 points
- “Declined to report” = refer to **Uses of Secondary Data**
- “Does not apply” = Not Available (this measure will not be included)

This Scoring Methodology translates a hospital’s score (from above) into a Z-Score (see [Calculating Z-Scores](#) for more information), then multiplies the Z-Score by 6.7% and adds this calculation to the remaining Process/Structural Measures to derive the Process Score. Please note that this standard weight may differ if your hospital has other Process/Structural Measures that are not available.

Please see the [Dealing with Missing Data](#) section for detailed information on assigning an IPS score to hospitals using the 2013 AHA Annual Survey as a secondary data source.

**NQF Safe Practices** NQF Safe Practice measures are collected by The Leapfrog Group on the Leapfrog Hospital Survey. They measure a hospital’s progress in implementing processes and protocols that promote safe patient care. The Hospital Safety Score contains eight (8) NQF Safe Practice measures that are classified as Process/Structural Measures in the Scoring Methodology. This Scoring Methodology translates a hospital’s score on each Safe Practice into a Z-Score (see [Calculating Z-Scores](#) for more information), then multiplies the Z-Score by the standard safe practice weight, and adds this calculation to the remaining Process/Structural Measures to derive the Process Score. The following Safe Practices are included in the Hospital Safety Score, along with their assigned weights. Please note that this standard weight may differ if your hospital has other Process/Structural Measures that are not available.

Safe Practice	Weight
SP 1: Leadership Structures and Systems	2.5%
SP 2: Culture Measurement, Feedback and Intervention	2.7%
SP 3: Teamwork Training and Skill Building	2.7%
SP 4: Identification and Mitigation of Risks and Hazards	2.6%
SP 9: Nursing Workforce	3.5%
SP 17: Medication Reconciliation	2.6%
SP 19: Hand Hygiene	3.4%
SP 23: Care of the Ventilated Patient	2.6%

Please see the [Dealing with Missing Data](#) section for detailed information on assigning a Safe Practices score to hospitals that do not report to Leapfrog.

**Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP) Measures** The Hospital Safety Score includes five (5) SCIP measures that are classified as Process/Structural measures in the Scoring Methodology. Hospitals report on their progress on these measures through CMS’ Inpatient Quality Reporting Program. The SCIP measures are all reported as a percentage on a scale from 0 to 100%. This Scoring Methodology translates a hospital’s score on each SCIP measure into a Z-Score (see [Calculating Z-Scores](#) for more information), then multiplies the Z-Score by a standard weight, and adds this calculation to the remaining Process/Structural Measures to derive the Process Score. The following SCIP process measures are included in the Hospital Safety Score, along with their assigned weights. Please note that this standard weight may differ if your hospital has other Process/Structural Measures that are not available.

SCIP Measure	Weight
SCIP-INF-1: Prophylactic antibiotic received within 1-hour prior to surgical incision	3.2%
SCIP-INF-2: Prophylactic antibiotic selection for surgical patients	2.4%
SCIP-INF-3: Prophylactic antibiotics discontinued within 24 hours after surgery end time	2.4%
SCIP-INF-9: Urinary catheter removed on postoperative day 1 or 2	3.2%
SCIP-VTE-2: Surgery patients who received appropriate venous thromboembolism (VTE)	4.0%

### *Outcome Measures*

The following measures are classified as Outcome Measures in the Hospital Safety Score. For Outcome Measures, a lower score is always better because these are measures of the incidence of adverse events for patients (e.g., Foreign Object Retained after Surgery).

**Central-Line Associated Bloodstream Infection (CLABSI) Standardized Infection Ratios** The CLABSI measure is collected by The Leapfrog Group on the Leapfrog Hospital Survey. The measure assesses a hospital’s incidence rate of hospital-acquired central-line associated bloodstream infections in ICUs. The score for this measure is based on the hospital’s [Standardized Infection Ratio \(SIR\)](#) for CLABSI. A SIR is identical in concept to a standardized mortality ratio, and can be used as an indirect standardization method for summarizing HAI experience across any number of stratified groups of data.

This Scoring Methodology translates a hospital's CLABSI SIR into a Z-Score (see [Calculating Z-Scores](#) for more information), then multiplies the Z-Score by 5.3%, and adds this calculation to the remaining Outcome Measures to derive the Outcome Score. Please note that this standard weight may differ if your hospital has other Outcome Measures that are not available.

Please see the [Dealing with Missing Data](#) section for detailed information on assigning a CLABSI score to hospitals using the CMS Hospital Compare database as a secondary data source.

**Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI) Standardized Infection Ratios** The CAUTI measure is collected by The Leapfrog Group on the Leapfrog Hospital Survey. The measure assesses a hospital's incidence rate of catheter-associated urinary tract infections in ICUs. The score for this measure is based on the hospital's [Standardized Infection Ratio \(SIR\)](#) for CAUTI. A SIR is identical in concept to a standardized mortality ratio, and can be used as an indirect standardization method for summarizing HAI experience across any number of stratified groups of data

This Scoring Methodology translates a hospital's CAUTI SIR into a Z-Score (see [Calculating Z-Scores](#) for more information), then multiplies the Z-Score by 5.0%, and adds this calculation to the remaining Outcome Measures to derive the Outcome Score. Please note that this standard weight may differ if your hospital has other Outcome Measures that are not available.

Please see the [Dealing with Missing Data](#) section for detailed information on assigning a CAUTI score to hospitals using the CMS Hospital Compare database as a secondary data source.

**Surgical Site Infections: Colorectal Surgery (SSI: Colon) Standardized Infection Ratios** The Hospital Safety Score contains the SSI: Colon measure, which is classified as an Outcome measure in the Scoring Methodology. Hospitals can report on their progress on this measure through CMS' Inpatient Quality Reporting Program. The measure assesses a hospital's incidence rate of surgical site infections in colorectal surgery patients. The score for this measure is based on the hospital's [Standardized Infection Ratio \(SIR\)](#) for SSI: Colon. A SIR is identical in concept to a standardized mortality ratio, and can be used as an indirect standardization method for summarizing HAI experience across any number of stratified groups of data.

This Scoring Methodology translates a hospital's SSI: Colon SIR into a Z-Score (see [Calculating Z-Scores](#) for more information), then multiplies the Z-Score by 3.8%, and adds this calculation to the remaining Outcome Measures to derive the Outcome Score. Please note that this standard weight may differ if your hospital has other Outcome Measures that are not available.

**Hospital Acquired Conditions (HACs)** The Hospital Safety Score contains four (4) measures of Hospital Acquired Conditions that are classified as Outcome measures in the Scoring Methodology. CMS calculates rates of these four conditions based on claims it receives from

hospitals that participate in the Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS). The HAC measures are reported as a rate per 1,000 inpatient discharges. This Scoring Methodology translates a hospital’s score on each of the HAC measures into a Z-Score (see [Calculating Z-Scores](#) for more information), then multiplies the Z-Score by the standard weight, and adds this calculation to the remaining Outcome Measures to derive the Outcome Score. The following HAC measures are included in the Hospital Safety Score, along with their assigned weights. Please note that this standard weight may differ if your hospital has other Outcome Measures that are not available.

HAC Measure	Weight
Foreign Object Retained After Surgery	4.7%
Air Embolism	4.7%
Stage III and IV Pressure Ulcers	6.2%
Falls and Trauma	5.0%

**AHRQ Patient Safety Indicators (PSIs)** The Hospital Safety Score contains six (6) Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Patient Safety Indicators that are classified as Outcome measures in the Scoring Methodology. Hospitals can report on their progress on these measures through CMS’ Inpatient Quality Reporting Program. The PSIs are reported as a rate per 1,000 patient discharges. This Scoring Methodology translates a hospital’s score on each AHRQ PSI into a Z-Score (see [Calculating Z-Scores](#) for more information), then multiplies the Z-Score by the standard weight, and adds this calculation to the remaining Outcome Measures to derive the Outcome Score. The following PSIs are included in the Hospital Safety Score, along with their assigned weights. Please note that this standard weight may differ if your hospital has other Outcome Measures that are not available.

AHRQ PSIs	Weight
PSI 4: Death among Surgical Inpatients with Serious Treatable Complications	2.2%
PSI 6: Iatrogenic Pneumothorax	2.3%
PSI 11: Postoperative Respiratory Failure	2.4%
PSI 12: Postoperative Pulmonary Embolism (PE) or Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)	2.6%
PSI 14: Postoperative Wound Dehiscence	2.3%
PSI 15: Accidental Puncture or Laceration	3.4%

## Using Secondary Data Sources and Dealing with Missing Data

Twelve (12) of the 28 measures that make up the Hospital Safety Score are derived from hospitals' responses to the 2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey. As the Leapfrog Hospital Survey is a voluntary survey, many hospitals choose not to submit a survey. To address this gap, a methodology was developed to allow scoring of all hospitals in the country, including those that did not report to Leapfrog's annual survey. This section describes the methods developed for using secondary data sources and dealing with missing data. For information on how to complete a free Leapfrog Hospital Survey, visit [www.leapfroghospitalsurvey.org](http://www.leapfroghospitalsurvey.org).

### *Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE)*

The Leapfrog Hospital Survey data is the **primary data source** for CPOE. Hospitals that report their progress in meeting the CPOE Standard in the 2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014, will receive points based on their Leapfrog score for the CPOE measure.

The 2013 HIT Supplement is a **secondary data source** for CPOE (this applies to hospitals that did not report to the 2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014). A hospital's response to the 2013 HIT Supplement question "*Does your hospital have a CPOE system that allows for medication orders?*" is used to assign the following score (refer to table 1.1).

**TABLE 1.1 Points Earned for CPOE for Hospitals That Did Not Submit a Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014**

2013 HIT Supplement	Points Earned	Notes
1 – fully implemented across all units	65	Score was imputed based on an analysis comparing hospital performance on Leapfrog and AHA surveys
2 – fully implemented in at least one unit	20	Score was imputed based on an analysis comparing hospital performance on Leapfrog and AHA surveys
3 – beginning to implement in at least one inpatient unit	20	Score was imputed based on an analysis comparing hospital performance on Leapfrog and AHA surveys
4, 5, or 6	5	

If a hospital did not report to the Leapfrog or AHA survey on their CPOE implementation, the hospital receives a score of, and is publicly reported as, "Did Not Report." This measure is then **not included** in calculating the Hospital Safety Score.

### ICU Physician Staffing (IPS)

The Leapfrog Hospital Survey data is the **primary data source** for IPS. Hospitals that report their progress in meeting the IPS Standard in the 2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014, will receive points based on their Leapfrog score for the IPS measure.

The 2013 AHA Annual Survey is a **secondary data source** for IPS (this applies to hospitals that did not report to the 2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014). A hospital's responses to the 2013 AHA Annual Survey questions on the number of Med/Surg and/or Pediatric ICU beds, the closed/open status of the Med/Surg ICU and/or Pediatric ICUs, and number of FTEs of intensivists in Med/Surg and/or Pediatric ICUs are used to assign the following score (refer to Table 2.1).

Note 1: If a hospital reported zero (0) Med/Surg **AND** zero (0) Pediatric ICU beds, the hospital will receive a score of "Not Available" and this measure will not be included in calculating the Hospital Safety Score.

Note 2: If a hospital reported greater than zero (0) Med/Surg ICU Beds **AND/OR** greater than zero (0) Pediatric ICU beds, the hospital's Med/Surg ICU and Pediatric ICU scores will be calculated based on the table below, and then averaged together (see table 2.1).

**Table 2.1 Points Earned for IPS for Hospitals That Did Not Submit a Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014**

2012 AHA Annual Survey Response	Points Earned	Notes
If Med/Surg ICU is "Closed" and the number of intensivist FTEs is >6	85	Score was imputed based on an analysis comparing hospital performance on Leapfrog and AHA surveys
If Med/Surg ICU is "Closed" and the number of intensivist FTEs is <=6 and >0	65	Score was imputed based on an analysis comparing hospital performance on Leapfrog and AHA surveys
If Med/Surg ICU is "Closed" and the number of intensivist FTEs is zero (0) or if the Med/Surg ICU is "Open"	5	
If Pediatric ICU is "Closed" and the number of intensivist FTEs is >6	85	Score was imputed based on an analysis comparing hospital performance on Leapfrog and AHA surveys
If Pediatric ICU is "Closed" and the number of intensivist FTEs is <=6 and >0	65	Score was imputed based on an analysis comparing hospital performance on Leapfrog and AHA surveys



2012 AHA Annual Survey Response	Points Earned	Notes
If Pediatric ICU is “Closed” and the number of intensivist FTEs is zero (0) or if the Med/Surg ICU is “Open”	5	

***EXAMPLE 1:***

*Med/Surg ICU is closed and staffed with 10 FTEs = 85*

*Pediatric ICU is open and staffed with 6 FTEs = 5*

*Overall IPS Score calculation:  $85 + 5 = 90 / 2 = 45$*

***Overall IPS Score used to calculate Hospital Safety Score = 45***

***EXAMPLE 2:***

*Med/Surg ICU is closed and staffed with 20 FTEs = 85*

*Pediatric ICU is closed and staffed with 5 FTEs = 65*

*Overall IPS Score calculation:  $85 + 65 = 150 / 2 = 75$*

***Overall IPS Score used to calculate Hospital Safety Score = 75***

If a hospital did not report to Leapfrog or AHA on ICU Physician Staffing, the hospital receives a score of, and is publicly reported as, “Did Not Report.” This measure is **not included** in calculating the Hospital Safety Score.

***Central-Line Associated Bloodstream Infection (CLABSI) Standardized Infection Ratios***

The Leapfrog Hospital Survey data is the **primary data source** for CLABSI. Hospitals that report their progress in meeting the CLABSI Standard in the 2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014, will be assigned the standardized infection ratio calculated by Leapfrog. If a hospital does not meet Leapfrog’s minimum reporting requirements for this measure, CMS Hospital Compare data will be used as a secondary data source.

When using data from CMS Hospital Compare as a **secondary data source** for CLABSI (this applies to hospitals that did not report to the 2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014 AND to hospitals that did not meet Leapfrog’s minimum reporting requirements for this measure), refer to table 3.1:

**TABLE 3.1 Hospitals That Did Not Submit a 2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014 or Did Not Meet Leapfrog’s Minimum Reporting Requirements**

As Reported by CMS on Hospital Compare	Score Used to Calculate Hospital Safety Score and for Public Reporting	Notes
N/A (no ICU locations or small case size)	N/A	Measure is <b>not included</b> in calculating the Hospital Safety Score.
Standard Infection Ratio (SIR)	SIR	Measure is <b>included</b> in calculating the Hospital Safety Score.

*Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI) Standardized Infection Ratios*

The Leapfrog Hospital Survey data is the **primary data source** for CAUTI. Hospitals that report their progress in meeting the CAUTI Standard in the 2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014, will be assigned the standardized infection ratio calculated by Leapfrog. If a hospital does not meet Leapfrog’s minimum reporting requirements for this measure, CMS Hospital Compare data will be used as a secondary data source.

When using data from CMS Hospital Compare as a **secondary data source** for CAUTI (this applies to hospitals did not report to the 2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014 AND to hospitals that did not meet Leapfrog’s minimum reporting requirements for this measure), refer to table 4.1:

**TABLE 4.1 Hospitals That Did Not Submit a 2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014 or Did Not Meet Leapfrog’s Minimum Reporting Requirements**

As Reported by CMS on Hospital Compare	Score Used to Calculate Hospital Safety Score and for Public Reporting	Notes
N/A (no ICU locations or small case size)	N/A	Measure is <b>not included</b> in calculating the Hospital Safety Score.
Standard Infection Ratio (SIR)	SIR	Measure is <b>included</b> in calculating the Hospital Safety Score.

### *NQF Safe Practices*

When using data from the 2014 Leapfrog Hospital Survey as the **primary data source**, (this only applies to hospitals that submitted a survey by December 31, 2014), refer to the individual Safe Practice Points for each of the eight practices. If a hospital is scored as “Declined to Report” for any of the practices, that measure will not be included in calculating the Hospital Safety Score.

There is no secondary data source for the NQF Safe Practices. Therefore, if a hospital did not submit a Leapfrog Hospital Survey by December 31, 2014, the following will apply:

1. Hospitals will be publicly reported as “Declined to Report” for each of the eight practices and these measures will not be included in calculating the Hospital Safety Score.

### **Information for Hospitals that Share a Medicare Provider Number with another Hospital**

All hospitals that share a Medicare Provider Number (MPN) will be assigned the same source data as reported on CMS’s Hospital Compare. Affected measures include the SCIP process measures, Hospital Acquired Conditions, PSIs, CLABSI, CAUTI, and SSI: Colon, when applicable.

### **A Note About Extreme Values**

For hospitals that have an “extreme” value for a particular measure (e.g. a value that exceeds the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile) Leapfrog “trims” the reported value to the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile. For example, if CMS has reported a rate of 0.50 per 1,000 patient discharges for the Foreign Object Retained measure for your hospital, Leapfrog has “trimmed” this rate to 0.397 (e.g. the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile). Therefore, on the Hospital Safety Score website, you’ll see the measure score for Foreign Object Retained displayed as 0.397. Please see the table below for a list of the “trim” values for the Spring 2015 Hospital Safety Score.

<b>Measure</b>	<b>99<sup>th</sup> Percentile</b>
Foreign Object Retained	0.388
Air Embolism	0.104
Pressure Ulcer – Stages 3 and 4	0.909
Falls and Trauma	1.874
CLABSI	2.157
CAUTI	3.819
SSI: Colon	3.319

Measure	99 <sup>th</sup> Percentile
PSI 4: Death Among Surgical Inpatients	168.47
PSI 6: Iatrogenic Pneumothorax	0.67
PSI 11: Postoperative Respiratory Failure	21.27
PSI 12: Postoperative PE/DVT	11.08
PSI 14: Postoperative Wound Dehiscence	3.12
PSI 15: Accidental Puncture or Laceration	4.18

### A Note About Minimum Sample Size

The Hospital Safety Score uses different types of measures (process, structural, and outcome) from different sources (Leapfrog Hospital Survey, CMS Hospital Compare, and American Hospital Association). In an effort to align the minimum reporting requirements for different types of measures from different sources, when a measure’s denominator is publicly available, Leapfrog applies the following minimum reporting requirement for using the measure in the Safety Score: the number of cases in the denominator must be  $\geq 30$ .

This minimum reporting requirement was identified from the literature, which suggests that 30 cases is generally the point at which a non-normal distribution begins to approximate a *normal distribution*, which is important given the Safety Score’s use of z-scores for standardizing data across disparate data sets.<sup>1,2</sup> The minimum sample size of 30 has also been used by other organizations that are engaged in evidence-based public reporting of health care performance data (e.g., reporting surgeon performance on CABG surgeries by Pennsylvania Healthcare Cost Containment).

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<sup>1</sup> Gingrich P. Introductory Statistics for the Social Sciences. Chapter 7: Sampling Distributions.

<http://uregina.ca/~gingrich/ch7.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Khamis HJ. Statistics Refresher II: Choice of Sample Size. Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography. 1988; 4:176.

## Weighting Individual Measures

Each individual measure included in the Hospital Safety Score is assigned a weight. The methodology to assign weights includes three criteria that reflect the quality of the measure. These criteria are: (1) Impact, (2) Evidence, and (3) Opportunity. These three (3) criteria are then combined using the following equation to compute a relative importance score for each measure: **[Evidence + (Opportunity x Impact)]**. The score computed from this calculation is then used to calculate an overall weight for each measure.

### *Evidence*

The Evidence Score for each individual measure is assigned a value of one (1) or two (2) using the following criteria:

- 1 = Supported by either suggestive clinical or epidemiological studies or theoretical rationale
- 2 = Supported by experimental, clinical, or epidemiological studies and strong theoretical rationale

### *Opportunity*

The Opportunity Score for each individual measure is based on the Coefficient of Variation (Standard Deviation/Mean) of that measure, using the following formula: **[1 + (Standard Deviation/Mean)]**. The Opportunity Score is on a continuous scale that is capped at three (3). Any measure with an Opportunity Score above three (3) is assigned a three (3).

### *Impact*

The Impact Score for each individual measure is comprised of two (2) parts, each of which is assigned a value from one (1) to three (3):

1. Number of patients affected
2. Severity of harm

The *number of patients affected* score is determined by the following:

- 1 = Rare event (e.g., Foreign Object Retained After Surgery)
- 2 = Some patients in hospital affected (e.g., ICU Physician Staffing)
- 3 = All patients in hospital affected (e.g., Hand Hygiene Safe Practice)

The *severity of harm* score is determined by the following:

- 1 = No direct evidence of harm or harm reduction (e.g., Hand Hygiene Safe Practice)
- 2 = Clear documentation of harm or harm reduction; adverse events (e.g., Foreign Object Retained After Surgery)

- 3 = Significant mortality reduction (more than 1,000 deaths or a 10% reduction in hospital wide mortality) (e.g., ICU Physician Staffing)

The values from each part are then added together to arrive at the overall Impact Score using the following criteria:

- 1 = Score of 2 (Low Impact)
- 2 = Score of 3-4 (Medium Impact) (e.g., Foreign Object Retained After Surgery; Hand Hygiene Safe Practice)
- 3 = Score of 5-6 (High Impact) (e.g., ICU Physician Staffing)

## Scoring Methodology

Once all data elements have been collected for a given hospital and all missing data have been scored appropriately, the Hospital Safety Score can be calculated using the methodology described below.

### *Calculating Z-Scores*

Z-Scores are used to standardize data from individual measures with different scales. This allows for the comparison of individual scores from different types of data. For example, a raw score of 97% on SCIP-INF-1 cannot be compared to a CLABSI SIR rate of 0.87, as they are reported on different scales. Z-Scores can tell a hospital whether their score on a particular measure is above, below, or equal to the mean.

In the Scoring Methodology, a Z-Score is calculated for each measure that is applicable to a hospital. A Z-Score is calculated using a hospital’s actual (raw) measure score, the national mean, and the standard deviation for that measure. The Z-Score for each measure is calculated using the following formulas:

- **For Process/Structural Measures:  $[\text{Hospital Score} - \text{Mean}] / \text{Standard Deviation}$**
- **For Outcome Measures:  $[(\text{Mean} - \text{Hospital Score}) / \text{Standard Deviation}]$**

The following table includes the national mean and standard deviation for each measure. These values are used to calculate your hospital’s Z-Score using the formulas above.

Measure Name	Mean	Standard Deviation
<b>Process and Structural Measures</b>		
Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE)	62.89	33.51
ICU Physician Staffing (IPS)	35.21	40.33
Safe Practice 1: Leadership Structures and Systems	113.26	11.41
Safe Practice 2: Culture Measurement, Feedback and Intervention	18.59	4.06

Safe Practice 3: Teamwork Training and Skill Building	36.58	7.63
Safe Practice 4: Identification and Mitigation of Risks and Hazards	112.94	16.01
Safe Practice 9: Nursing Workforce	93.76	13.21
Safe Practice 17: Medication Reconciliation	32.53	4.80
Safe Practice 19: Hand Hygiene	28.14	4.52
Safe Practice 23: Care of the Ventilated Patient	18.65	2.98
SCIP INF 1: Antibiotic within 1 Hour	98.94	1.57
SCIP INF 2: Antibiotic Selection	98.91	1.46
SCIP INF 3: Antibiotic Discontinued After 24 Hours	98.05	2.47
SCIP INF 9: Catheter Removal	97.43	3.96
SCIP VTE 2: VTE Prophylaxis	98.59	1.89
<b>Outcomes Measures</b>		
Foreign Object Retained	0.03	0.07
Air Embolism	0.002	0.01
Pressure Ulcer – Stages 3 and 4	0.10	0.18
Falls and Trauma	0.48	0.37
CLABSI	0.50	0.46
CAUTI	1.04	0.84
SSI: Colon	0.90	0.74
PSI 4: Death Among Surgical Inpatients	119.16	19.09
PSI 6: Iatrogenic Pneumothorax	0.41	0.08
PSI 11: Postoperative Respiratory Failure	11.70	3.06
PSI 12: Postoperative PE/DVT	4.50	1.73
PSI 14: Postoperative Wound Dehiscence	1.91	0.36
PSI 15: Accidental Puncture or Laceration	1.94	0.71

### *A Note About Negative Z-Scores*

To ensure that a single measure does not dominate a hospital's overall score in an unintended way, Leapfrog truncates negative Z-scores at -5.00. Hospitals that have a calculated Z-score below -5.00 on a measure will receive a modified Z-score of -5.00 on that measure.

### *Calculating Weighted Measure Scores*

**Weighted Process Score** First multiply the Z-Score of each process measure by the weight assigned for that measure to get the weighted process measure score. (Remember, if your hospital had other process measures that were not available, your hospital's weight on any given process or structural measure may differ from the standard weight). Then, find the total process score by adding the weighted process measure scores of each process measure together. This is your hospital's overall weighted process score.

**Weighted Outcome Score** First multiply the Z-Score of each outcome measure by the weight assigned to that measure to get the weighted outcome measure score. (Remember, if your hospital had other outcome measures that were not available, your hospital's weight on any given measure may differ from the standard weight). Then, find the total outcome score by adding the weighted outcome measure scores of each outcome measure together. This is your hospital's overall weighted outcome score.

### *Calculating Overall Patient Safety Score*

To calculate the overall Hospital Safety Score for your hospital, add the overall weighted process score and the overall weighted outcome score calculated in the previous step. Add 3.0 to your score; this is done to normalize scores to a positive distribution. This is your final Hospital Safety Score.



## Appendix A. Scoring Worksheet

Measure Category	Overall Category Weight	Measure	Your Hospital's Score	Mean	Standard Deviation	Your Hospital's Z-Score	Standard Weight	Your Weight	Weighted Measure Score
Process/Structural	50%	CPOE		62.89	33.51		5.2%		
		IPS		35.21	40.33		6.7%		
		SP 1		113.26	11.41		2.5%		
		SP 2		18.59	4.06		2.7%		
		SP 3		36.58	7.63		2.7%		
		SP 4		112.94	16.01		2.6%		
		SP 9		93.76	13.21		3.5%		
		SP 17		32.53	4.80		2.6%		
		SP 19		28.14	4.52		3.4%		
		SP 23		18.65	2.98		2.6%		
		SCIP-INF-1		98.94	1.57		3.2%		
		SCIP-INF-2		98.91	1.46		2.4%		
		SCIP-INF-3		98.05	2.47		2.4%		
		SCIP-INF-9		97.43	3.96		3.2%		
		SCIP-VTE-2		98.59	1.89		4.0%		
Outcome	50%	HAC: Foreign Object Retained		0.03	0.07		4.7%		
		HAC: Air Embolism		0.002	0.01		4.7%		
		HAC: Pressure Ulcers		0.10	0.18		6.2%		
		HAC: Falls and Trauma		0.48	0.37		5.0%		
		CLABSI		0.50	0.46		5.3%		
		CAUTI		1.04	0.84		5.0%		
		SSI: Colon		0.90	0.74		3.8%		
		PSI 4		119.16	19.09		2.2%		
		PSI 6		0.41	0.08		2.3%		
		PSI 11		11.70	3.06		2.4%		
		PSI 12		4.50	1.73		2.6%		
		PSI 14		1.91	0.36		2.3%		
PSI 15		1.94	0.71		3.4%				
<b>Process Measure Score</b> (Sum of all Process/Structural Measures):									
<b>Outcome Measure Score</b> (Sum of all Outcome Measures):									
<b>Numerical Safety Score</b> (add 3.0 to normalize score)									

## Appendix B. Hospital Safety Score Measures and Weights

Measure Category	Overall Category Weight	Measure	Evidence Score	Opportunity Score	Impact Score	Measure Weight
Process/Structural	50%	CPOE	2	1.53	3	5.2%
		IPS	2	2.15	3	6.7%
		SP 1	1	1.10	2	2.5%
		SP 2	1	1.22	2	2.7%
		SP 3	1	1.21	2	2.7%
		SP 4	1	1.14	2	2.6%
		SP 9	1	1.14	3	3.5%
		SP 17	1	1.15	2	2.6%
		SP 19	2	1.16	2	3.4%
		SP 23	1	1.16	2	2.6%
		SCIP-INF-1	2	1.02	2	3.2%
		SCIP-INF-2	1	1.01	2	2.4%
		SCIP-INF-3	1	1.03	2	2.4%
		SCIP-INF-9	2	1.04	2	3.2%
		SCIP-VTE-2	2	1.02	3	4.0%
Outcome	50%	HAC: Foreign Object Retained	1	3.00	2	4.7%
		HAC: Air Embolism	1	3.00	2	4.7%
		HAC: Pressure Ulcers	1	2.75	3	6.2%
		HAC: Falls and Trauma	2	1.78	3	5.0%
		CLABSI	2	1.92	3	5.3%
		CAUTI	2	1.81	3	5.0%
		SSI: Colon	2	1.82	2	3.8%
		PSI 4	1	1.16	2	2.2%
		PSI 6	1	1.20	2	2.3%
		PSI 11	1	1.26	2	2.4%
		PSI 12	1	1.39	2	2.6%
		PSI 14	1	1.19	2	2.3%
		PSI 15	1	1.37	3	3.4%

## Safety Score Help Desk

If you have any questions regarding the scoring methodology, please contact the Help Desk at <https://leapfrogscore.zendesk.com>.

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<sup>i</sup> Source AHA Annual Survey, Health Forum, LLC, a subsidiary of the American Hospital Association

<sup>ii</sup> AHA Annual Survey © 2013 Health Forum, LLC