LEAPFROG HOSPITAL SAFETY GRADE

EXPLANATION OF HOSPITAL SAFETY GRADES

OCTOBER 2016

Using 30 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."

The letter grade methodology established in Spring 2016 will be used again this fall. Hospitals with a numerical score greater than or equal to 3.164 earn an "A." Hospitals with a numerical score less than 3.164, but greater than or equal to 2.972 earn a "B." Hospitals with a numerical score less than 2.972 but greater than or equal to 2.493 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 score more than 3.0 standard deviations below the mean earn an "F."

This fall, the numerical scores ranged between approximately 1.5 and 4.0 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	≥ 3.164	844	32%
B	≥ 2.972	658	25%
C	≥ 2.493	954	36%
D	≥2.006	157	6%
F	<2.006	20	1%

Higher is Better

1.500   *4.000*

	2.006	2.493		2.972	3.164
F	D	C		B	A