



HealthCareTN
Trinette Small, Regional Leader
www.HospitalSafetyGrade.org

31 Hospitals in the Tennessee region Earn an “A” on the Spring 2026 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade

Leapfrog Reports Improvements Nationally in Healthcare-Associated Infections, Medication Safety and Patient Experience

The Leapfrog Group recently released its spring 2026 Hospital Safety Grade, a biannual “A,” “B,” “C,” “D” or “F” assigned to most general hospitals in the United States based on their ability to protect patients from medical errors, accidents, injuries and infections. Driven in Tennessee by HealthCareTN, the Safety Grades give the community critical insight about local hospitals. Hospital Safety Grades are updated twice per year by The Leapfrog Group, an independent national nonprofit watchdog.

31 hospitals in the Tennessee region earned an A, and our state ranked 15th in the country overall for percentage of A hospitals for spring 2026.

National data from the Spring 2026 Safety Grade shows significant improvement in 17 measures of errors and infections. This includes healthcare-associated infections, barcode medication administration, computerized physician order entry and five patient experience measures.

“Preventable medical errors remain far too common in hospitals across the country, including in our own community,” said Trinette Small. “This latest round of the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade shows encouraging progress in patient safety nationwide. The employers and purchasers in our coalition believe transparency is essential, and by working together, we can continue reducing preventable harm and making care safer for everyone.”

In the Tennessee region, 76 hospitals were graded, and 31 earned an A, 19 earned a B, 22 earned a C, 4 earned a D, and no hospitals earned an F. Additionally, there were 19 Straight A hospitals, who have earned an A for the last two years.

“The progress we’re seeing nationally and among hospitals in Tennessee is encouraging and deserves recognition, but there is still more work ahead to keep improving patient safety,” said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. “We applaud the hospitals in [the Tennessee region] that are making patient safety and transparency a clear priority—an effort that requires deep commitment from clinicians, leaders, board and staff at every level of the organization.”

Why Some Hospitals Are Reported as “Grade Not Assigned”

For spring 2026, due to a ruling by a federal court in South Florida, Leapfrog is not assigning Safety Grades to 450 hospitals that did not participate in the 2024 or 2025 Leapfrog Hospital Survey. These hospitals are reported as Grade Not Assigned (GNA). Although the court ruling only applied to five hospitals, Leapfrog does not apply programmatic changes to individual hospitals because the Hospital Safety Grade is a national program. Leapfrog is pursuing an appeal



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and reviewing the Safety Grade methodology with its National Expert Panel to ensure the Hospital Safety Grade continues to be useful for consumers. Any proposed methodology changes will be announced and made available for public comment.

About The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, The Leapfrog Group is an independent national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps for patient safety. Among its initiatives, the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade was launched in 2012 and assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents and infections. It is the only hospital ratings program based exclusively on hospital prevention of medical errors and harm to patients. It is fully transparent and free to the public, and grades are updated biannually in the fall and in the spring. To look up your hospital's Safety Grade, please visit [HospitalSafetyGrade.org](https://www.hospital-safety-grade.org). For more from Leapfrog, follow us on [X \(Formerly Twitter\)](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and [sign up for our newsletter](#).

About HealthCareTN

HealthCareTN (HCTN) is an employer-led business coalition, serving and supporting employers across Tennessee. As the Tennessee Regional leader for The Leapfrog Group, HCTN and our members work across the state to collect, analyze, and publicly report performance of healthcare providers. Employers need this information to purchase high-value services for their benefit plans and employees need this information as they seek care. Since Leapfrog's work started in 2001, there have been significant decreases in costly, and often deadly, adverse events and it is estimated that over 50,000 lives could be saved nationally if all hospitals earned an A on the Hospital Safety Grade.