

Medicare.gov: Hospital Compare – User Guide

[Hospital Compare](#) is a consumer-oriented website that provides information on how well hospitals provide recommended care to their patients. This information can help consumers make informed decisions about where to go for health care. Hospital Compare allows consumers to select multiple hospitals and directly compare performance measure information related to heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, surgery and other conditions.

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Hospital Quality Initiative

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Hospital Compare

[Hospital Compare](#) is a consumer-oriented website that provides information on how well hospitals provide recommended care to their patients. This information can help consumers make informed decisions about where to go for health care. Hospital Compare allows consumers to select multiple hospitals and directly compare performance measure information related to heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, surgery and other conditions. These results are organized by:

- General information
- Survey of patients' experiences
- Timely & effective care
- Complications
- Readmissions & deaths
- Use of medical imaging
- Payment & value of care

Access the Hospital Compare Web site at www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare

Hospital Compare was created through the efforts of Medicare and the Hospital Quality Alliance (HQA). The HQA: Improving Care Through Information was created in December 2002. The HQA was a public-private collaboration established in December 2002 to promote reporting on hospital quality of care. The HQA consisted of organizations that represented consumers, hospitals, providers, employers, accrediting organizations, and federal agencies. The HQA effort was intended to make it easier for consumers to make informed health care decisions and to support efforts to improve quality in U.S. hospitals. Since its inception, many new measures and topics have been displayed in the site.

In 2005, the first set of 10 "core" process of care measures were displayed on such topics as heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia and surgical care.

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When the “Hospital Compare” link is selected, the following screen is displayed. To begin your search, type a location into the first box. You may elect to type a zip code, city, or state name. You may leave the second box labeled “Hospital name” blank or you can type a portion of a hospital name. Each time you enter information into a box, you will see a drop down listing showing options to select from. In the following example, “Missouri” was typed into the location box. From the drop-down listing, “MISSOURI” was selected

Find a hospital

A field with an asterisk (*) is required.

*** Location**
Example: 45802 or Lima, OH or Ohio

Missouri

City

- MISSOURI CITY, TX
- MISSOURI CITY, MO
- MISSOURI VALLEY, IA
- MISSOURI VLY, IA

State

- MISSOURI

Type a Zip code, City name or State name here.

In this example, I selected “MISSOURI”.

After selecting, “MISSOURI” from the drop-down listing, the “Search” button was then selected.

A field with an asterisk (*) is required.

*** Location**
Example: 45802 or Lima, OH or Ohio

MISSOURI

Hospital name (optional)

Full or Partial Hospital Name

Search

Click on the “Search” button.

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When the search button is selected, the following screen will display. As you can see from the screenshot below, there are multiple ways to filter the information. It is important to remember that each time you add an additional filter; the number of hospitals available in your view are reduced. If you want to see more hospitals in your listing, reduce the number of filters in your search—filters are optional. You also have the option to compare up to three hospitals.

In the example below, an additional filter was added where the listing was limited to show hospitals with an Overall Rating of 5 stars and then two hospitals were selected for comparison.

Hospital Results

6 hospitals in Missouri.

Choose up to 3 hospitals to compare. So far you've none selected.

Compare Now

Hospital Search Results

Viewing 1 - 6 of 6 results

Hospital Information	Overall rating	Emergency Services	Hospital Type
BOONE HOSPITAL CENTER 1600 E BROADWAY COLUMBIA, MO 65201 (573) 815-8000	★★★★★	Yes	Acute Care Hospitals
MERCY HOSPITAL SPRINGFIELD 1235 E CHEROKEE SPRINGFIELD, MO 65804 (417) 820-2000	★★★★★	Yes	Acute Care Hospitals

Modify your search

Location

ZIP code or City, State

Within 25 Miles

State

Missouri

County (Optional)

Select a County

Hospital name

Full or partial name

Update Search Results

Filter by:

Clear all filters

Overall rating Learn more

★★★★★ (6)

★★★★☆ (23)

★★★☆☆ (36)

★★☆☆☆ (17)

★☆☆☆☆ (7)

Hospital type

Add search criteria here.

To compare the two hospitals displayed in the screenshot above, click on the “Add to Compare” button for each hospital. When the button turns red, it means you have successfully selected the hospital for comparison. After making your selections, scroll toward the bottom of your screen, you can see which hospitals were selected for the comparison. To compare the hospitals listed, click on the button labeled, “Compare Now”.

Choose up to 3 hospitals to compare. So far you've selected:

BOONE HOSPITAL CENTER

MERCY HOSPITAL SPRINGFIELD

Compare Now



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When the “Compare Now” button is selected, the following screen will display. As you can see, there are multiple ways of comparing one hospital to another. Note: There are additional tabs located just above the hospital name.

Compare Hospitals

Back to Results

General information | Survey of patients' experiences | Timely & effective care | Complications & deaths | Unplanned hospital visits | Psychiatric unit services | Payment & value of care

	BOONE HOSPITAL CENTER 1800 E BROADWAY COLUMBIA, MO 65201 (573) 815-8000 	MERCY HOSPITAL SPRINGFIELD 1235 E CHEROKEE SPRINGFIELD, MO 65804 (417) 820-2000 
	Overall rating ⓘ: ★★★★★ Learn more View rating details Add to My Favorites Maps and directions	Overall rating ⓘ: ★★★★★ Learn more View rating details Add to My Favorites Maps and directions
Hospital type ⓘ	Acute Care Hospitals	Acute Care Hospitals
Provides emergency services ⓘ	Yes	Yes
Able to receive lab results electronically ⓘ	Yes	Yes
Able to track patients' lab results, tests, and referrals electronically between visits ⓘ	Yes	Yes
Uses outpatient safe surgery checklist ⓘ	Yes	Yes
Uses inpatient safe surgery checklist ⓘ	Yes	Yes
Uses hospital survey on patient safety culture ⓘ	Yes	Yes

If footnotes appear in the table, hover over the number to get more details. [View more footnote details.](#)

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If for example, you want to look at information related to surgical complications or infections, you would first select the tab labeled; “Complications & deaths” and then make additional selections.

The screenshot shows the Medicare.gov Hospital Compare interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Español', 'A A A', 'Print', 'About Us', 'Glossary', 'CMS.gov', 'Medicare.gov', and 'MyMedicare.gov Login'. The main header reads 'Medicare.gov | Hospital Compare' with the subtitle 'The Official U.S. Government Site for Medicare'. Below this is a navigation bar with buttons for 'Hospital Compare Home', 'About Hospital Compare', 'About the data', 'Resources', and 'Help'. A breadcrumb trail shows 'Home → Hospital Results → Compare Hospitals' with a 'Share' button. A 'Print all information' link is also present.

Compare Hospitals

[Back to Results](#)

- General information
- Survey of patients' experiences
- Timely & effective care
- Complications & deaths**
- Unplanned hospital visits
- Psychiatric unit services
- Payment & value of care

Complications & deaths







Patients who are admitted to the hospital for treatment of medical problems sometimes get other serious injuries, complications, or conditions, and may even die. Some patients may experience problems soon after they are discharged and need to be admitted to the hospital again. These events can often be prevented if hospitals follow best practices for treating patients.

- ▶ **Surgical complications**
- ▶ **Infections**
- ▶ **30-day death rates**

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When the “Surgical complications” tab is selected, the following screen is displayed.

	BOONE HOSPITAL CENTER 1600 E BROADWAY COLUMBIA, MO 65201 (573) 815-8000 	MERCY HOSPITAL SPRINGFIELD 1235 E CHEROKEE SPRINGFIELD, MO 65804 (417) 820-2000 	NATIONAL RESULT
	Overall rating  ★★★★★ Learn more Add to My Favorites Maps and directions	Overall rating  ★★★★★ Learn more Add to My Favorites Maps and directions	
Rate of complications for hip/knee replacement patients	No Different Than the National Rate	Better Than the National Rate	2.5%
Serious complications (From PSI )	No Different Than the National Value	No Different Than the National Value	1.00
Deaths among patients with serious treatable complications after surgery (From PSI )	No Different Than the National Rate	No Different Than the National Rate	163.01

When the “Infections” link is selected, the following screen is displayed. As you can see, there are multiple infection indicators.

Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI) in ICUs and select wards	No Different than National Benchmark	No Different than National Benchmark
Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) in ICUs and select wards	No Different than National Benchmark	No Different than National Benchmark
Surgical site infections (SSI) from colon surgery	No Different than National Benchmark	No Different than National Benchmark
Surgical site infections (SSI) from abdominal hysterectomy	No Different than National Benchmark	No Different than National Benchmark
Methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus Aureus</i> (MRSA) blood infections	No Different than National Benchmark	Better than the National Benchmark
<i>Clostridium difficile</i> (C.diff.) intestinal infections	Better than the National Benchmark	Better than the National Benchmark

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For more technical details about the information displayed on *Hospital Compare*, select the “About the data” tab at the top of the results screen.

The screenshot shows the Medicare.gov Hospital Compare interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Español', 'A A A', 'Print', 'About Us', 'Glossary', 'CMS.gov', 'Medicare.gov', and 'MyMedicare.gov Login'. The main header features the Medicare.gov logo and 'Hospital Compare' with the tagline 'The Official U.S. Government Site for Medicare'. Below this is a navigation bar with tabs: 'Hospital Compare Home', 'About Hospital Compare', 'About the data' (highlighted with a blue arrow), 'Resources', and 'Help'. A breadcrumb trail reads 'Home → Hospital Results → Compare Hospitals'. A 'Share' button is visible on the right. Below the navigation bar, the 'Compare Hospitals' section is active, with a 'Back to Results' button and several category tabs: 'General information', 'Survey of patients' experiences', 'Timely & effective care', 'Complications & deaths' (highlighted with a blue border), 'Unplanned hospital visits', 'Psychiatric unit services', and 'Payment & value of care'. The 'Complications & deaths' section is expanded, showing a title, a paragraph of text, and three sub-sections: 'Surgical complications', 'Infections', and '30-day death rates'. At the bottom of the screenshot, a note states: 'If footnotes appear in the table, hover over the number to get more details. View more footnote details.'

About using the Medicare.gov Hospital Compare data:

Works of the U.S. government are in the public domain, and permission is not required to use them. An attribution to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services as the source is appreciated. However, Hospital Compare data, including star ratings, should not be construed as an endorsement by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services of any health care provider's products or services. Conveying a false impression of government approval, endorsement or authorization of products or services is forbidden. See 42 U.S.C. 1320b-10.

The star ratings and all data on Hospital Compare are provided as a service to the public, and are not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. Star ratings are limited in scope to the data sources they are derived from. For details, click on [Hospital Compare data sources](#) and an explanation of the [Hospital Compare star ratings methodology](#). A provider's star rating on an individual measure or domain may not be reflective of that provider's overall star rating.