

*Presented to the NJHCQI*

# What's New for 2026

*February 2026*

25 YEARS  
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# 2025 Recap

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# 2025 Leapfrog Hospital Survey Participation

**2,488** hospitals participated in the 2025 Leapfrog Hospital Survey nation-wide.

- Hospitals report on over 25 million annual admissions and over 480,000 total inpatient beds
- Hospitals range in size from less than 10 inpatient beds to over 1,300 inpatient beds

## Area

Rural	Urban	N/A
17%	82%	1%

## Type

Critical Access	Pediatric	Other
2%	1%	97%

# 2025 Leapfrog ASC Survey Participation

**105** ASCs participated in the 2025 Leapfrog ASC Survey nationwide.

## Area

Rural	Urban
2%	98%

## Type

Single Specialty	Multi-Specialty
2%	1%



# Looking Ahead to 2026 for Hospitals

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# Continued Refinements to Nursing Workforce

- Leapfrog will add a reporting option for hospitals that operate single and mixed acuity medical, surgical and/or med-surg units.
- Hospitals will continue to ONLY be scored on the single acuity units.
- Hospitals can optionally report on their mixed acuity unit(s).
  - Based on an analysis of the data collected in 2026 and anticipated key informant interviews with Survey participants, additional updates to scoring and public reporting may be proposed for 2027.

# Nursing Workforce (cont.)

- Leapfrog will temporarily **pause public reporting of the Nursing Skill Mix measure** (the proportion of total nursing hours worked by registered nurses), as the Nursing Workforce Expert Panel further examines the relationship between this measure and the Total Nursing Care Hours Per Patient Day and Total RN Hours Per Patient Day measures.

# Nursing Workforce (cont.)

Leapfrog will add a new optional fact-finding question to assess hospital's use of virtual nursing models, which will not be scored or publicly reported in 2026:

1) Does your hospital currently engage in virtual nursing?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
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## What is the definition of virtual nursing?

Virtual nursing is defined using the American Nursing Association (ANA)'s definition: leveraging remote technology and tools to provide safe and quality patient care through application of the nursing process by emphasizing communication, compassion, and collaboration throughout the continuum of care.

# Closer to Publicly Reporting on Diagnostic Excellence

- Subsection will be required in 2026, but responses will not be scored or publicly reported.
- Removing several questions in this subsection to focus on the most effective evidence-based practices to reduce diagnostic errors.

# Continued Focus on Hospital Boarding in the ED

- Another year of optional, fact-finding
- Continued standardization of data collection and greater clarity for reporting
- Four included measures:
  - Percentage of ED patients that are admitted to the hospital or for observation that had a boarding time greater than four hours
  - Median length of stay in the ED for patients admitted to the hospital or for observation
  - 90th percentile length of stay in the ED for patients admitted to the hospital or for observation
  - *NEW – Total boarding time in the ED for patients admitted to the hospital or for observation*

# New Rebaselined SIRs possible for Healthcare-Associated Infections

- Starting in fall 2026, CMS plans to calculate HAI measures using NHSN's new 2022 Baseline for data publicly reported on the Care Compare website.
- Once CMS begins calculating and publicly reporting HAI measures on Care Compare using the 2022 Baseline, Leapfrog will also transition to using data calculated with the 2022 Baseline in a reasonable and feasible timeframe.
- Leapfrog anticipates downloading and using 2015 Baseline CMS IPPS Reports in the first two NHSN data downloads (June and August), then 2022 Baseline CMS IPPS Reports in the next two NHSN data downloads (October and December). However, this plan is subject to CMS' actual rollout of the new baseline on Care Compare.
- Once the 2022 Baseline CMS IPPS Reports are downloaded by Leapfrog, Leapfrog will reestablish cut-points used for the performance categories in Section 7B: Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAIs).

# More Pediatric Data

- Requiring pediatric hospitals to include responses on their pediatric care (Patient Experience and CT Radiation Dose) when submitting their Leapfrog Hospital Survey

# Outpatient Procedures

- Leapfrog will obtain OAS CAHPS domain scores directly from the CMS Provider Directory for hospitals and ASCs
- Outpatient volume reporting, which has never been scored but publicly reported, will be optional in 2026



# Looking ahead to 2026 for ASCs

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# ASC Program Redesign: Building from Stakeholder Feedback

- **Leapfrog ASC Advisory Committee**
- Our research partners at **Johns Hopkins Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety and Quality**, with guidance from **our national expert panels**
- Colleagues at **Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC)** and **Joint Commission (JC)**
- **Our Regional Leaders**



**Leapfrog's ASC Public Reporting Program:**  
A Journey of Progressive Transparency to Improve Patient Outcomes

**CMS Public Reporting**

As a starting point, ASCs that participate in the CMS ASCQR program can point to Leapfrog's public reporting website for patients, employers, purchasers, and health plans who have questions about their safety and quality.

**Submit the Leapfrog ASC Survey 2.0**

Finally, ASCs that commit to voluntary reporting on evidence-based measures of critical importance to consumers and purchasers, can demonstrate their commitment to full transparency and earn recognition on Leapfrog's public reporting website and through Leapfrog's Top ASC designation.

**Upload Accreditation Certificate for Public Reporting**

Next, ASCs that upload documentation of their AAAHC or The Joint Commission Deemed Status can additionally build trust by having even more patient safety information on Leapfrog's public reporting website.

# Make CMS ASCQR Data More Accessible to Consumers and Purchasers

- Beginning in 2026, Leapfrog will score and publicly report 13 measures from the CMS Ambulatory Surgery Center Quality Reporting (ASCQR) Program on our Public Reporting website to ensure that patients and family caregivers have a place to easily search for and compare facilities.
- ASCs will be scored using benchmarks established in previous years of the Leapfrog ASC Survey and their progress will be publicly reported on a four-level scale ranging from Achieved the Standard (best score) to Limited Achievement (worst score).
- Visitors to Leapfrog's public reporting website will be able to select up to three facilities to compare side-by-side.

# The CMS Provider Data Catalog

Data has been available – but now will be scored against Leapfrog’s benchmarks, publicly reported, searchable and comparable!

## Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Measures - Facility

A list of ambulatory surgical centers participating in the Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting (ASCQR) Program and their performance rates.

Last Modified: October 1, 2025 <sup>i</sup> • Released: November 26, 2025 <sup>i</sup>

[Data Table](#) [Overview](#) [API](#) [Data Dictionary](#)

Viewing 1 - 20 of 5,627 rows [Filter dataset](#) [Manage columns](#) [Display settings](#) [Fullscreen](#)

[Download full dataset \(CSV\) 2 MB](#)

# Highlight National Accreditation Standards

- ASCs with active accreditation through the AAAHC or JC's Deemed Status programs will be scored and publicly reported as Achieved the Standard (best score) for five (5) measures:
  - Clinicians Certified in Advanced Life Support Always Present
  - Use of a Safe Surgery Checklist
  - Medication and Allergy Documentation
  - Leadership Structures and Systems to Support Patient Safety
  - Identification and Mitigation of Patient Safety Risks
- ASCs will be required to provide basic demographic information and upload proof on AAAHC or JC's Deemed Status on Leapfrog's ASC Dashboard.
- Visitors to our website will be able to see achievement of these important patient safety standards that ASCs have earned through their rigorous accreditation process.

# Maintain Measures of Utmost Importance to Consumers and Purchasers

- The ASC Survey 2.0 maintains 8 measures not available from any other source:
  - **Patients' Rights and Ethics:** Billing Ethics, Health Care Equity, Informed Consent, Taking Responsibility for Never Events
  - **Patient Safety Practices:** Infection Surveillance, Hand Hygiene, Culture of Safety
  - **Volume of Procedures:** National Volume Standards for Total Knee Replacement, Total Hip Replacement, and Bariatric Surgery for Weight Loss; OPTIONAL Facility Volume for Select Procedures
- Ensures purchasers, employers, and the health plans they work with have the information they need to drive value-based purchasing strategies including direct contracting and preferred networks, and consumers have critical information unavailable elsewhere.
- We anticipate that ASCs will need to commit about 10 hours of staff time for data collection and reporting; this is a 50% reduction from previous years.

# Leapfrog Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Public Reporting Program

A journey of progressive transparency through Leapfrog

## The Leapfrog ASC Scoring and Public Reporting Tutorial

This website is designed to help ASCs understand Leapfrog's approach to scoring and publicly reporting data from the CMS ASCQR Program, national accreditation standards, and data collected via Leapfrog's ASC Survey 2.0. Beginning in July 2026, these scoring algorithms will be used to publicly report performance on these measures for all eligible ASCs on Leapfrog's [Ratings Website](#)

### CMS ASCQR Measures

12 Measures

Scored and Publicly Reported for All Eligible ASCs (regardless of Leapfrog ASC Survey 2.0 submission)

### Accreditation Standards

5 Measures

Scored and Publicly Reported for ASCs that Upload Certificate

### Leapfrog ASC Survey 2.0 Measures

8 Measures

Scored and Publicly Reported for ASCs that Voluntarily Submit

Scoring

CMS ASCQR Measures

Accreditation Standards

Leapfrog Measures for ASCs

Program Overview

# More Information

- **Leapfrog ASC Public Reporting Program webpage:**
- <https://www.leapfroggroup.org/new-asc-public-reporting-program>
- **Scoring Tutorial website:**
- <https://ascscoringtutorial.leapfroggroup.org/>

# Contact

**Leapfrog Help Desk**

<https://LeapfrogHelpDesk.Zendesk.com>