

METHODOLOGY

# World's Best Hospitals 2026

Scope, Data Collection, Evaluation, and Results

statista 

**Newsweek**



# Methodology – World's Best Hospitals 2026

## Summary of the project

- The **World's Best Hospitals 2026** ranking lists the top hospitals in 32 countries: **Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America**. The countries were selected based on multiple comparability factors, such as standard of living/life expectancy, population size, number of hospitals, and data availability.
- The lists are based on **four data sources**:
  - **Hospital quality metrics**
  - **Recommendations from medical experts** (doctors, hospitals managers, & healthcare professionals)
  - **Results from patient surveys**
  - **Statista PROMs Implementation Survey**
- The number of hospitals awarded in each country varies based on the number of hospitals and data availability in the respective country. The United States has the most hospitals awarded, with 420, while Israel and Singapore are represented with 10 hospitals each. In total, 2,530 hospitals are ranked for this eighth edition of the ranking.
- Every hospital in each country is rated with a score. **Scores are comparable only within the same country**, since each country relies on different sources for patient experience and hospital quality metrics. These structural differences prevent a meaningful standardization of the data across countries. Therefore, scores cannot be compared between countries (example: a score of 90 in country A does not necessarily reflect higher performance than a score of 87 in country B).
- Specialized hospitals, such as cardiology or oncology hospitals, differ in scope and service profiles from general hospitals and are therefore displayed separately. As their clinical focus and case mix vary substantially, meaningful comparisons across specialties are not possible, which is why these lists are sorted alphabetically."
- In addition to the country-specific lists, the project includes a global list of the **Top 250 hospitals worldwide**.

# New features and changes in the 2026 edition

- The following list provides a brief overview of all **major changes in this year's edition** compared to the World's Best Hospitals 2025 ranking:
  - **Increased quality metrics & PROMs implementation weighting:** This year, the weighting of the hospital quality metrics pillar was increased within the scoring model to reflect the emphasis on hospital quality indicators. In addition, the weighting of the PROMs implementation pillar was increased.
  - **Inclusion of additional accreditations,** for example: American Accreditation Commission International (AACI) (for India, Thailand, Turkey), Europe Qualicore (for the Netherlands), Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) (for the Philippines) and Türkiye Health Care Quality and Accreditation Institute (TÜSKA) (for Turkey).
  - **Featuring two new countries:** the Philippines and Turkey. One goal of this project is to increase the global coverage to provide the reader with the most comprehensive ranking of the World's Best Hospitals. The additional country was primarily chosen based on data availability and comparability of high-quality health care systems.
  - **Updated Statista PROMs Implementation Survey:** The survey, eligibility thresholds, and ribbon display of participating hospitals have been updated.
  - **New hospital quality metrics data sources:** The Observatorio de resultados del Servicio Madrileño de Salud and Agència de Qualitat i Avaluació Sanitàries de Catalunya (AQuAS) for Spain and from the Department of Health - Abu Dhabi (DOH) for the United Arab Emirates.
  - **New patient experience data sources:** The Observatorio de resultados del Servicio Madrileño de Salud and Agència de Qualitat i Avaluació Sanitàries de Catalunya (AQuAS) for Spain and the Ministry for Health for Saudi Arabia.
  - **New quality metrics for the USA ranking:** Leapfrog Hospital Safety and Quality Data have been included, as well as additional metrics from CMS relevant to hospital harm, and to venous thromboembolism and antithrombotic care.

# 32 countries are included in the eighth edition of the ranking

Overview of countries and number of awarded hospitals (I/III)

## Americas



United States:  
Top 420 Hospitals



Brazil:  
Top 120 Hospitals



Canada:  
Top 80 Hospitals



Mexico:  
Top 60 Hospitals



Colombia:  
Top 60 Hospitals

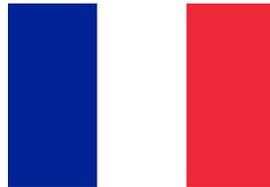


Chile:  
Top 50 Hospitals

## Europe



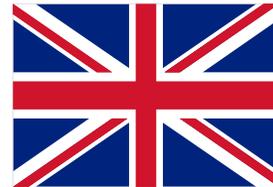
Germany:  
Top 220 Hospitals



France:  
Top 150 Hospitals



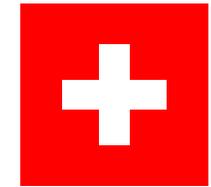
Italy:  
Top 140 Hospitals



United Kingdom:  
Top 140 Hospitals



Spain:  
Top 100 Hospitals



Switzerland:  
Top 35 Hospitals

# 32 countries are included in the eighth edition of the ranking

Overview of countries and number of awarded hospitals (II/III)

## Europe (cont'd.)



Netherlands:  
Top 35 Hospitals



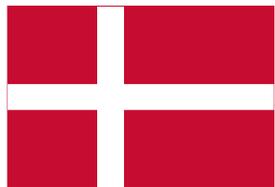
Austria:  
Top 30 Hospitals



Belgium:  
Top 30 Hospitals



Sweden:  
Top 20 Hospitals



Denmark:  
Top 15 Hospitals



Finland:  
Top 15 Hospitals



Norway:  
Top 15 Hospitals

## Oceania

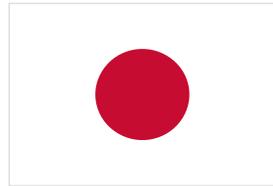


Australia:  
Top 70 Hospitals

# 32 countries are included in the eighth edition of the ranking

Overview of countries and number of awarded hospitals (III/III)

## Asia



Japan:  
Top 200 Hospitals



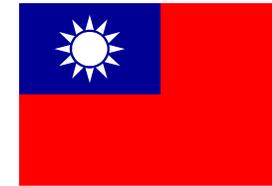
South Korea:  
Top 135 Hospitals



India:  
Top 100 Hospitals



Saudi Arabia:  
Top 50 Hospitals



Taiwan:  
Top 35 Hospitals



Philippines:  
Top 35 Hospitals



United Arab Emirates:  
Top 35 Hospitals



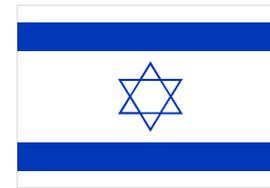
Turkey:  
Top 35 Hospitals



Malaysia:  
Top 50 Hospitals



Thailand:  
Top 30 Hospitals



Israel:  
Top 10 Hospitals



Singapore:  
Top 10 Hospitals

# Hospital evaluation is based on four pillars, ranging from peer evaluations and patient experience to quality metrics and PROMS implementation

Data sources



# Publicly available data on hospital quality metrics was collected

Hospital quality metrics data

## 1 Hospital quality metrics

- Hospital quality metrics from a variety of public sources were collected for most countries<sup>(1,2)</sup>
- The metrics differ between the countries. Examples of included data:
  - Data on quality of care for specific treatments
  - Data on hygiene measures and patient safety
  - Data on number of patients per doctors/per nurse
- An overview of the hospital quality metrics used in each country is provided in chapter 3 of the extended methodology document.
- The data sources were identified through an extensive research process in each country and through consultation with local experts.
- Some publicly available data sources were excluded for reasons mostly related to data quality and/or availability (e.g., certain data was available only for a small number of hospitals in a given country or the number of missing values in regard to the hospital quality metrics was too high to perform a valid analysis).

### SCORE FOR HOSPITAL QUALITY METRICS

# Over 100,000 medical experts were invited to the survey

## 2 Hospital recommendations from peers

From September to November 2025, Statista invited over 100,000 of medical professionals (doctors, hospital managers, and other healthcare professionals, such as nurses) in the 32 selected countries to an online survey. The survey was also promoted on newsweek.com.



International online survey among medical professionals in 32 countries



Participants were asked to recommend hospitals in **their own country**<sup>(1)</sup> as well as **in other countries**<sup>(2)</sup>. Recommendations for own employer/hospital were not allowed.



Analysis of national and international recommendations<sup>(3)</sup> for every hospital in each country.

(1) Original question: *If the hospital you work for cannot accept a patient for medical treatment (e.g., due to capacity limits, geographical distance, insurance reasons), would there be one or more other hospitals in your country that you would recommend for the patient based exclusively on quality and service?*  
(2) Original question: *Based on quality and service, are there one or more international hospitals (in another country) that you would recommend?*  
(3) This year, the recommendations from the past three years were taken into account. Recommendations from the 2023 and 2024 survey period were given less weight compared to those from 2025.

# Publicly available data on patient experience data was collected

Patient experience data

## 3 Patient experience

- Publicly available data from existing patient surveys was used to analyze patient experience
- Patient surveys are typically conducted by insurance companies among patients after hospitalization
- Examples of survey topics:
  - General satisfaction with hospital
  - Recommendation of hospital
  - Satisfaction with medical care
  - Satisfaction with service and organization

**SCORE FOR PATIENT EXPERIENCE**

## 3 Google reviews

- For countries where data on patient experience from an official source was not available<sup>(1)</sup>, Google reviews serve as a substitute but were considered with a lower weight in the scoring model
- Based on the publicly available data, each hospital was assigned a satisfaction rating score on a scale from 0 to 5 stars
  - To receive a score for the Google reviews pillar the facility must have met a minimum threshold of at least 10 published reviews
  - To enable comparability across facilities with differing review volumes, facility scores were adjusted using a Bayesian weighted scoring approach that accounts for variation in the number of reviews.

**SCORE FOR PATIENT EXPERIENCE**

# The Statista PROMs Implementation Survey collects data directly from hospitals

PROMs Implementation Survey

## 4 Statista PROMs Implementation Survey

- **Patient-Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs)** are defined as standardized, validated questionnaires completed by patients to measure their perception of their functional well-being and quality of life.
- **Survey cycle:** In fall/winter of each year, Newsweek and Statista conduct the **PROMs Implementation Survey**<sup>(1)</sup> to determine the status quo of PROMs implementation in hospitals, the auditing and reporting of their PROMs data, and whether the data is used to optimize care processes and support therapeutic decisions in real-time.
- Statista has partnered with the **International Consortium for Health Outcomes Measurement (ICHOM)** as a knowledge partner. ICHOM is the world's leading non-profit organization dedicated to the development of standardized measurement of patient-important outcomes. ICHOM promotes the development of the PROMs Implementation Survey, as well as the use of the data from PROMs (and other patient-important outcomes), towards the advancement of value-based healthcare.
- This year, the survey was updated to more comprehensively assess PROMs implementation across several domains and now requires extensive proof documentation<sup>(2)</sup>.
- A grading system<sup>(3)</sup> assigning specific weights to all survey questions is used to determine the PROMs implementation score for each participating hospital. The PROMs score, if available, contributes up to 6.5% towards a hospital's total score.
- Additionally, each participating hospital is assigned 1-5 ribbons<sup>(2)</sup> for their level of PROMs implementation, which is displayed in the published lists.
- Future survey cycles will be announced on [rankings.statista.com](https://rankings.statista.com) and [newsweek.com](https://newsweek.com), as well as sent via e-mail to registered participants. Registrations can be submitted to: [hospitals@statista.com](mailto:hospitals@statista.com) or [here](#).

### SCORE FOR PROMS IMPLEMENTATION

11 (1) For an overview of the specific questions, a PDF version of the PROMs Implementation Survey can be accessed [here](#).

(2) Please note that the survey methodology underwent substantial revision this survey cycle, including stricter proof requirements and a transition from a 3-ribbon to a 5-ribbon scoring scale. As a result, ribbon allocations may differ from previous years even in cases where hospitals have maintained comparable levels of PROMs implementation, as performance is now assessed across a broader and more detailed set of criteria. Please see the *World's Best Hospitals* extended methodology for further information.

(3) A detailed breakdown of the PROMs Implementation Survey methodology, including scoring model, weighting, and ribbon assignment is available in the *World's Best Hospitals* extended methodology.

# A score was calculated for each hospital

Scoring model



The total hospital score is based on the four pillars and their respective weights listed above.

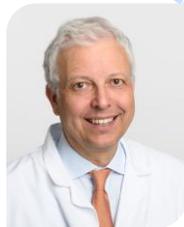
# A global board of renowned experts supports the continuous development of the methodology



**Prof. Dr. David Bates**  
Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, USA



**Dr. Gary Kaplan**  
CEO Emeritus, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health, CommonSpirit Board of Trustees, USA



**Prof. Dr. med. Christoph Meier**  
Director, Department of Internal Medicine, University Hospital Zürich, Switzerland

**Prof. Dr. med. Jens Deerberg-Wittram**  
CEO and CMO of a public, non-profit hospital group, Founding President ICHOM, Senior Fellow, Executive Director, Germany



**Prof. Gregory Katz**  
Chair of Value-Based Health Care, Université Paris Cité School of Medicine. President of PromTime, France



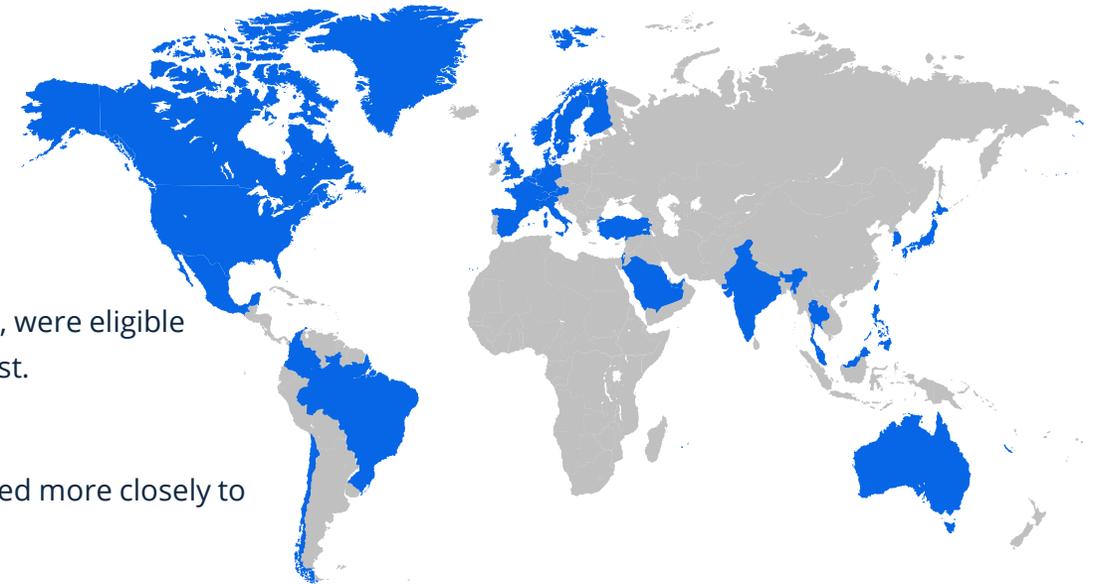
**Prof Dr. Eyal Zimlichman**  
Chief Transformation, Innovation and AI Officer, Sheba Medical Center, Israel



# The global list of the top 250 hospitals provides an aggregated overview of the leading hospitals in the world

## Methodology of the Global Top 250 List

- In addition to the country-specific lists, the project provides a list of the Top 250 best hospitals worldwide.
- The global top hospitals were determined mainly based on **the number of international recommendations** received in the survey and their national rank.
- Additionally, the following **metrics** were taken into account:
  - Quality metrics excellence & patient experience excellence
    - ✓ Hospitals whose performance in quality metrics and/or patient experience was in the top 20% of the respective country were eligible.
  - PROMs implementation excellence
    - ✓ As with the country rankings, hospitals which meet the grading threshold, were eligible for the PROMs implementation excellence pillar within the international list.
  - Bibliometric scores<sup>(1)</sup>
    - ✓ This pillar was incorporated as a proxy for reputation based on metrics tied more closely to research output rather than expert opinion.
- The global list does **not** include specialized hospitals.



# Result tables of the best hospitals in each country



## World's Best Hospitals – United States

Rank	Hospital	Score	City
1	Mayo Clinic - Rochester	96.28%	Rochester
2	Cleveland Clinic	92.13%	Cleveland
3	Massachusetts General Hospital	91.96%	Boston
4	The Johns Hopkins Hospital	89.77%	Baltimore
5	Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center	89.68%	Los Angeles

[...]



## World's Best Hospitals - Germany

Rank	Hospital	Score	City
1	Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin	92,59%	Berlin
2	Universitätsklinikum Heidelberg	86,90%	Heidelberg
3	LMU Klinikum	83,15%	Munich
4	Klinikum rechts der Isar der Technischen Universität München	81,44%	Munich
5	Universitätsklinikum Hamburg-Eppendorf	80,27%	Hamburg

[...]

**HOSPITALS WITH THE HIGHEST SCORE IN EACH COUNTRY WERE AWARDED**

# US only: Two special awards for US hospitals

Infection Prevention Award and Patient Experience Award



## Infection Prevention

- The Infection Prevention Award identifies which of the U.S. hospitals featured in the national ranking **performed above the nationwide level** based on **CDC infection measures** and **Leapfrog hand hygiene criteria**.
- For the award, hospitals had to meet the following criteria:
  - At least **4 of the 6 CDC healthcare associated infection** measures<sup>(1)</sup> need to be available for the time period of 2024. **None** of the measures can be valued **“below the national average”** and at least **one available** measure must be valued **“above the national average”**.
  - **Hand hygiene** domains<sup>(2)</sup> must be reported to **Leapfrog**, and at least **2 out of 5** domains must be assessed as **meeting Leapfrog’s requirements** for the respective area.

**259 HOSPITALS WERE AWARDED**



## Patient Experience

- The patient experience award recognizes hospitals with an **outstanding performance** based on the ratings across the 10 composite measures of the HCAHPS survey.<sup>(3)</sup>
- For the award, hospitals had to meet the following criteria:
  - Only hospitals that **reported all 10 HCAHPS** measures and are within the **top 40%** per measure were eligible, ensuring a solid baseline of care quality.
  - At least **3 of the 10 measures** must be rated in the **top 15%**, highlighting areas of outstanding achievement.
  - In addition to the above, hospitals must also rank within the **top 10%** on at least **4 of the 10 measures**, underscoring the hospital's commitment to excellence in critical performance areas.

**132 HOSPITALS WERE AWARDED**

(1) The six measures reported to CMS and evaluated for the award are: catheter-associated urinary tract infections, central line-associated bloodstream infections, laboratory-identified events for *Clostridium difficile* and MRSA bacteremia, and surgical site infections for abdominal hysterectomy and colon surgery  
(2) The five domains reported by Leapfrog are: Monitoring, Feedback, Training and Education, Infrastructure, and Culture.  
(3) The Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey data reports 10 metrics for the patient experience star rating. More details available here: <https://hcahpsonline.org/en/>

# Statista R and Newsweek comprise the strong partner network behind the World's Best Hospitals

Partner Network



## About Statista R

Statista R is a world leader in the creation of company, brand, and product rankings and top lists, based on comprehensive market research and data analysis: Statista R recognizes the best. With a team of over 100 expert analysts and in cooperation with more than 40 high profile media brands across all continents, Statista R creates transparency for consumers and business decision makers and helps companies build trust and recognition across a plethora of industries and product categories. Visit [rankings.statista.com](https://rankings.statista.com).

Statista R is a division of **statista** . The leading data and business intelligence portal provides an extensive collection of statistics, reports, and insights on over 80,000 topics from 22,500 sources in 170 industries. Find out more at [statista.com](https://statista.com).

The Newsweek logo, consisting of the word "Newsweek" in a white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a solid red rectangular background.

## About Newsweek

Newsweek is a premier news magazine and website that has been bringing high-quality journalism to readers around the globe for over 80 years.

Newsweek provides the latest news, in-depth analysis and ideas about international issues, technology, business, culture and politics. In addition to its online and mobile presence, Newsweek publishes weekly English print editions in the United States, Europe/Middle East/Africa and Asia as well as editions in Japanese, Korean, Polish, Serbian and Spanish.

[newsweek.com](https://newsweek.com)

# ICHOM and Leapfrog as core knowledge and data partners behind the World's Best Hospitals ranking

Partner Network

## ICHOM

### About ICHOM

The International Consortium for Health Outcomes Measurement (ICHOM, [www.ichom.org](http://www.ichom.org)) is the leading non-profit dedicated to transforming healthcare by focusing on what truly matters to patients.

They accomplish this by empowering patient and clinical leaders to standardize important clinical, quality of life, function and experience results for health care, and enabling transparent large-scale use to achieve patient-centric health system transformation.

ICHOM's standardized 'sets' of patient-centred outcomes measures help all actors in healthcare design, deliver and evaluate care based on outcomes that matter to patients. To date, ICHOM has developed 45 outcome measure sets for conditions. The sets are available in IT-ready interoperable formats and have been implemented in 500+ care settings in 42+ countries.



## THE LEAPFROGGROUP

### About The Leapfrog Group

The Leapfrog Hospital Survey was created and is administered by The Leapfrog Group (<https://www.leapfroggroup.org/>), a leading independent, national not-for-profit organization advocating for hospital transparency.

They strive to make giant "leaps" forward in the U.S. by promoting transparency through their data collection and public reporting initiatives.

With their goal of saving lives by reducing errors, injuries, accidents, and infections, The Leapfrog Group focuses on measuring and publicly reporting hospital performance through the annual Leapfrog Hospital Survey. The survey is a trusted, transparent and evidence-based national tool in which over 2,400 hospitals voluntarily participate free of charge.

The Leapfrog Group advocates for public access to quality and safety data from all U.S. hospitals.

# Legal disclaimer for the ranking World's Best Hospitals

## Disclaimer

The rankings are comprised exclusively of hospitals that are eligible regarding the scope described in this document. A mention in the ranking is a positive recognition based on peer recommendations and publicly available data sources at the time. The ranking is the result of an elaborate process which, due to the interval of data-collection and analysis, is a reflection of the last calendar year. Furthermore, events preceding or following the period 01/01/2025-31/12/2025 and/or pertaining to individual persons affiliated/associated to the facilities were not included in the metrics. As such, the results of this ranking should not be used as the sole source of information for future deliberations.

The information provided in this ranking should be considered in conjunction with other available information about hospitals or, if possible, accompanied by a visit to a facility. The quality of hospitals that are not included in the rankings is not disputed.