

METHODOLOGY

Japan's Best Long-term Care Hospitals 2026

Scope, Data Collection, Evaluation, and Results

statista 

Newsweek



Methodology – Japan’s Best Long-term Care Hospitals 2026

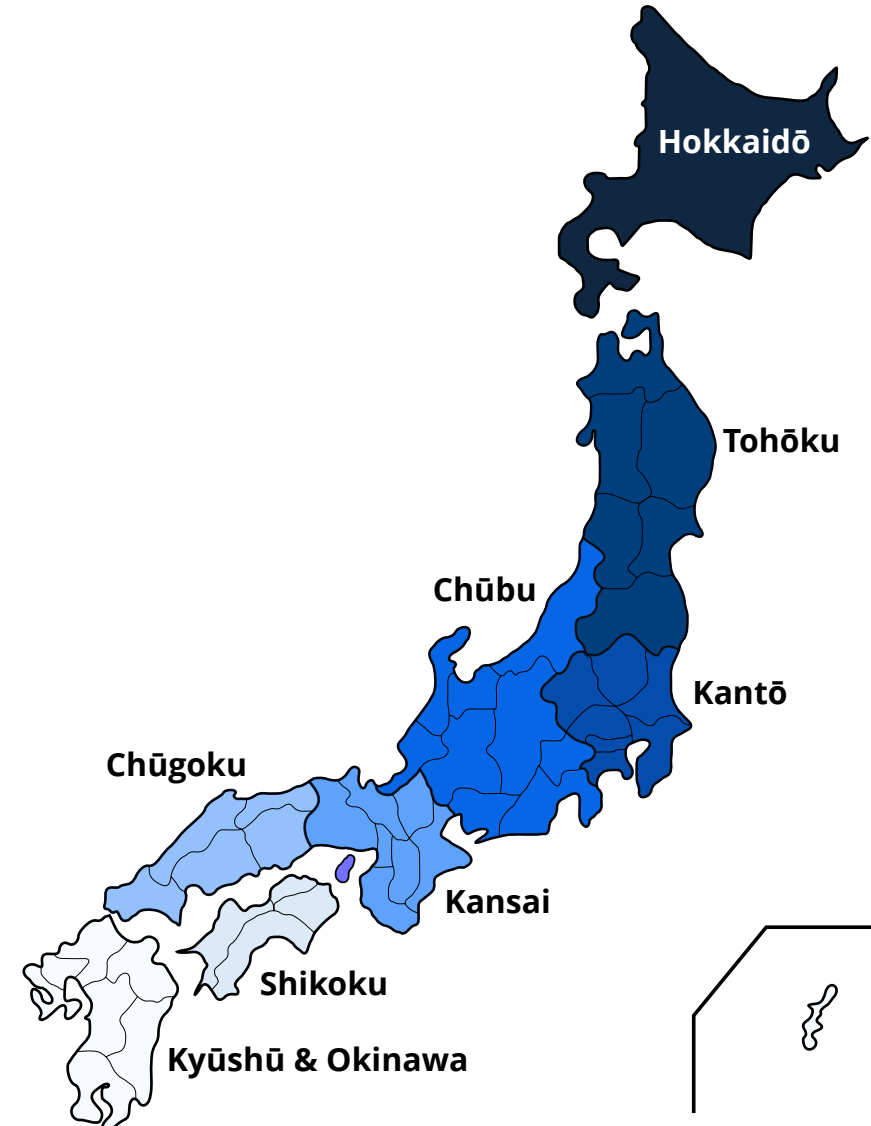
Summary of the project

- Japan has one of the world’s oldest populations (29.3% aged 65+)⁽¹⁾, driving strong demand for long-term care hospitals that provide ongoing medical treatment, rehabilitation, and nursing for elderly and chronically ill patients⁽²⁾.
- To provide patients with a comprehensive resource for informed decision making, Statista and Newsweek have partnered for the first time to award the **leading long-term care hospitals** in Japan.
- Hospitals with **long-term care capabilities** in Japan are defined as facilities that provide extended inpatient care through designated bed types, including long-term care beds (療養病床)⁽²⁾ and rehabilitation beds (回復期リハビリテーション病床). These beds are used for patients requiring prolonged medical treatment, nursing care, or structured rehabilitation following acute illness or injury, typically over several weeks to months, with the goal of recovery, stabilization, and eventual discharge—often to home or a community-based care setting.
- The underlying data analysis is based on **three data sources**:
 1. **Reputation Score**
 2. **Accreditation**
 3. **Patient satisfaction**

Long-term Care Hospitals from all regions were eligible for the ranking

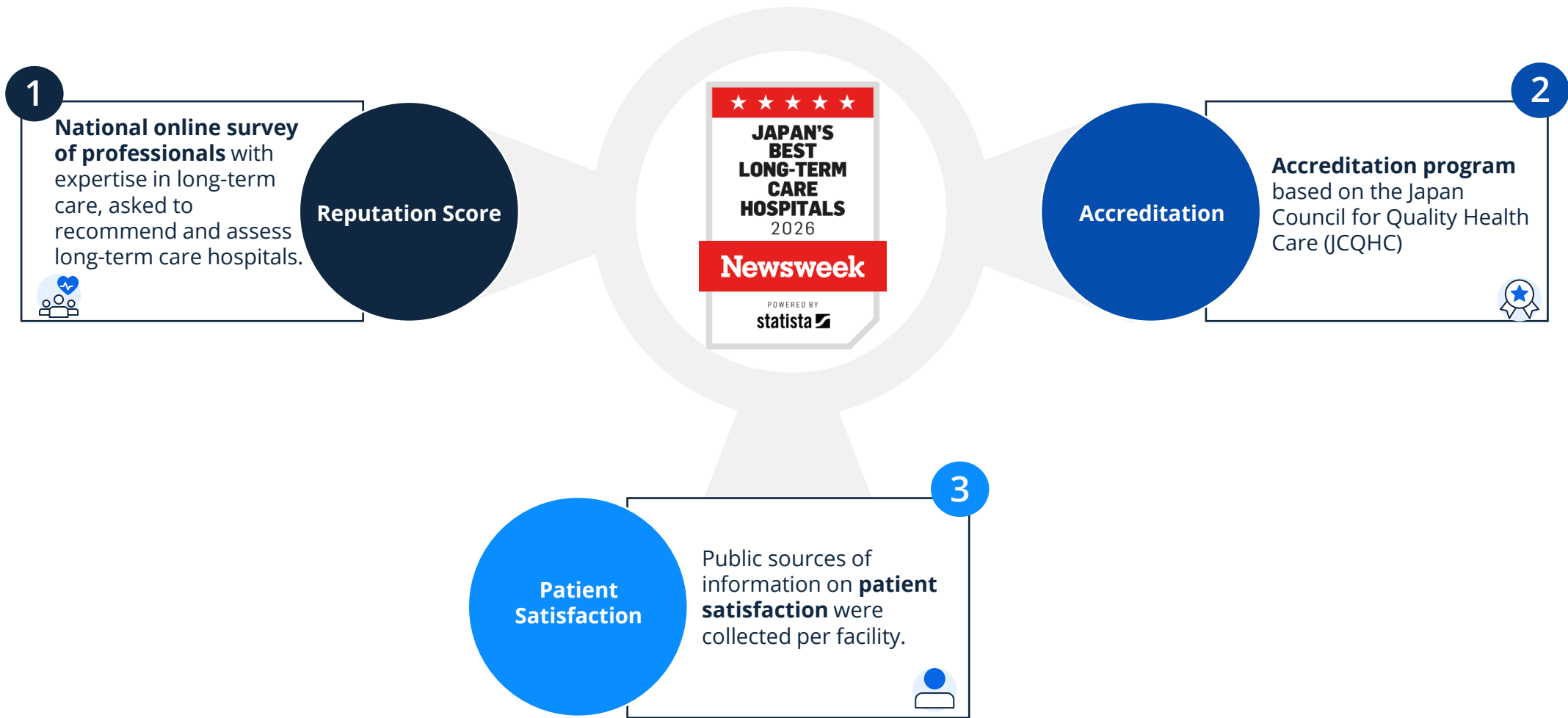
Eligibility criteria

- Long-term care hospitals from **all regions and prefectures** were eligible for inclusion in the ranking. Within the evaluation, hospitals were included from all prefectures across Japan.
- Hospitals were eligible for inclusion in the ranking if they operated inpatient beds designed for extended stays, including **long-term care beds (療養病床) as defined under the Medical Care Act (Article 7), as well as rehabilitation beds (回復期リハビリテーション病床)⁽¹⁾**. While rehabilitation beds are legally classified separately from long-term care beds, they have been included due to their comparable function in providing longer-duration inpatient care following the acute phase. Acute care beds (一般病床), as well as tuberculosis, infectious disease, and psychiatric beds, were excluded unless part of a broader care-mix model that includes long-term or rehabilitation services.



Long-term care hospital evaluations are based on three pillars ranging from peer evaluations to patient satisfaction and accreditations

Data pillars



Tens of thousands medical experts were invited to the survey

1 Reputation Score - Recommendation from peers

From March to April 2026, Statista conducted a nationwide online survey among medical professionals (e.g., physicians, therapists, nurses) and managers/administrators who work in long-term care hospitals. The survey was also available on [Newsweek.com](https://www.newsweek.com). Additionally, participants were invited via e-mail.



Nationwide online survey among medical professionals and managers/administrators working in long-term care hospitals.



Participants were asked to recommend the **top long-term care hospitals in Japan**. Recommendations for their own employer/hospital were not allowed.



The order of the recommendations and professional experience of the participant were taken into account. A **score was assigned** to each facility based on the number of weighted recommendations.

Quality assessments provide multi-dimensional assessment of the long-term care hospital

Quality Score

1 Reputation Score – Quality Assessment

- For each recommended long-term care hospital participants were asked to assess **five quality dimensions** on a scale from 1 (“Poor”) to 10 (“Excellent”), on which a quality score was calculated.
- The following quality dimensions with their respective weights were evaluated:
 - **Quality of care**
 - **Communication**
 - **Quality of service & accommodation**
 - **Overall nursing & care staff**
 - **Transition support**
- The quality score was assigned to each facility based on the **weighted average** of these ratings

1 Dimension Weights



QUALITY SCORE

Accreditation provides an external, system-level validation of care quality based on standardized criteria.

Key accreditation relevant to long-term care included in scoring model

2 Accreditation

- An Accreditation Score was included based on data provided by Japan Council for Quality Health Care (JCQHC)⁽¹⁾, reflecting compliance with nationally recognized standards for patient safety and care quality in Chronic Care setting.
- The JCQHC is Japan's national accreditation body for hospitals and healthcare facilities. It evaluates compliance with recognized safety, quality, and patient care standards.
- In our scoring methodology, JCQHC accreditation serves as a measure of structural quality, indicating that a facility meets nationally accepted chronic care benchmarks.

SCORE FOR ACCREDITATION

Patient satisfaction provides a user-level perspective of care quality

Public sources of information on patient satisfaction

3 Patient satisfaction

- Patient experience and satisfaction data were sourced from Caloo⁽¹⁾, a Japan-specific online platform that provides information on hospitals and medical clinics and allows patients to share and rate their experiences.
- Patient satisfaction is a key indicator of care quality from the patient's perspective, influencing both the expected quality of care for future patients and a facility's reputation and financial performance.
- For each facility, Caloo ratings were used as a proxy for patient satisfaction. These reviews offer standardized star ratings based on real patient feedback and enable the identification of satisfaction trends over time.
- A satisfaction score was assigned to each facility based on its star rating relative to all evaluated facilities. To ensure reliability, only facilities with a minimum of five reviews were included in the scoring.

SCORE FOR PATIENT EXPERIENCE

Performance ribbons recognize each long-term care hospital's overall performance and reputation

Calculation and display



Performance Ribbons

- Ribbons are assigned based on each center's relative overall performance and Reputation score:
 - **Five ribbons** are awarded to long-term care hospitals that rank **above the 90th percentile** in overall performance amongst all facilities and **above the 85th percentile** in the Reputation pillar.
 - **Four ribbons** are awarded to long-term care hospitals that meet the list's rigorous inclusion standards based on the overall scoring model but whose scores did not reach the percentile thresholds for five ribbons.
- This two-step system guarantees that the recognized centers perform well overall and in reputation, while highlighting differences within this high-performing group.



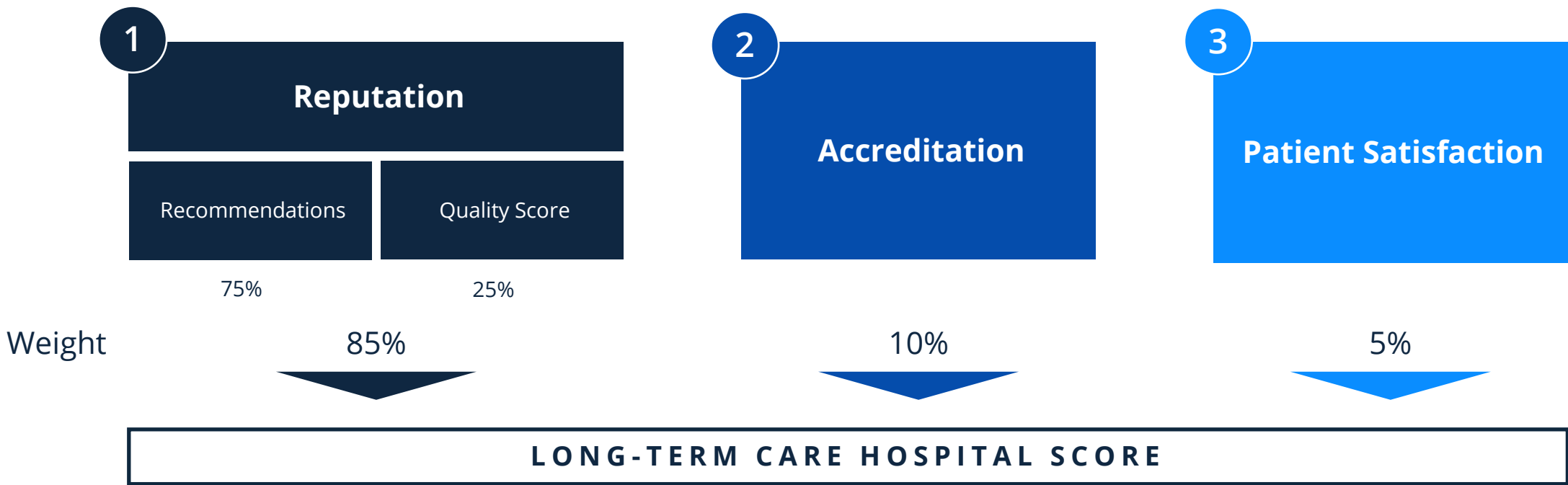
= 57 long-term care hospitals



= 143 long-term care hospitals

A score was calculated for each long-term care hospital

Scoring model



The total long-term care hospital score is based on the three pillars and their respective weights listed above.

As a result, 200 long-term care hospitals were awarded

Final long-term care hospitals ranking

Ribbons	Facility	City	Prefecture	Region
	Yokohama Denentoshi Hospital	Yokohama	Kanagawa	Kanto
	Yokohama Namiki Rehabilitation Hospital	Yokohama	Kanagawa	Kanto
	Yugawara Central Onsen Hospital	Yugawara	Kanagawa	Kanto
	Agape Kabutoyama Hospital	Nishinomiya	Hyogo	Kansai
	Ageo Central Second Hospital	Ageo	Saitama	Kanto

[...]

200 LEADING LONG-TERM CARE HOSPITALS WERE AWARDED

Japan's Best Long-term care hospitals partner network

Overview of involved parties



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.

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About Newsweek

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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.

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Legal disclaimer for the ranking *Japan's Best Long-term Care Hospitals*

Disclaimer

The rankings are comprised exclusively of long-term care hospitals that are eligible regarding the scope described in this document. A mention in the ranking is a positive recognition based on peer recommendations, public sources of patient experiences, and accreditations. The ranking is the result of an elaborate process which, due to the interval of data-collection and analysis, reflects the last 12 months only. Furthermore, any events preceding or following the period April 15th 2025 – April 14th, 2026, 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 long-term care hospitals or, if possible, accompanied by a visit to a facility. The quality of long-term care hospitals that are not included in the rankings is not disputed.