

METHODOLOGY

# America's Best Ambulatory Surgery Centers **2027**

statista  **Newsweek**



# Methodology – America's Best Ambulatory Surgery Centers 2027

## Summary of the project

- The 7<sup>th</sup> edition of **America's Best Ambulatory Surgery Centers** awards the leading 750 ambulatory surgery centers (ASC) in the U.S. based on quality of care, performance data, patient experience, and peer recommendations, relative to in-state competition.
- Ambulatory surgery centers included operate exclusively for the purpose of providing surgical services to patients not requiring hospitalization and in which expected duration of services would not exceed 24 hours following an admission<sup>(1)(2)</sup>.
- Over 5,000 ambulatory surgery centers were analyzed. The highest-ranked centers are presented in **state-specific lists**. A state list is published where at least one center from that state qualifies for the final ranking, resulting in a varying number of ASCs awarded per state: California had 125 ambulatory surgery centers awarded, while Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, North Dakota, Rhode Island and Vermont are represented with 1 ASC each. Additionally, **standout specialties** were highlighted.
- The list is based on **four data sources**:
  1. Quality metrics
  2. Evaluation from peers via a national online survey – Recommendations and quality assessment from peers
  3. Results from patient experience survey
  4. Accreditation data

2 | **Note:** (1) An unanticipated medical circumstance may arise that would require an ASC patient to stay in the ASC longer than 24 hours, but such situations should be rare

**Source:** (2) [U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services](#)

# New features and changes in the 2027 edition

## Major updates

- The following list provides a brief overview of all **major updates in this year's edition** compared to the 2026 ranking:
  - **Inclusion of additional quality metric data source:** This year, results from the 2026 Leapfrog ASC Survey (v2.0) were incorporated as a new data source<sup>(1)</sup>.
  - **Increased patient experience weighting:** This year the weighting of the patient experience pillar was increased from 7.5% to 10% to reflect the growing number of ASCs reporting this data.
  - **Adjusted standout specialties:** The standout categories were refined to better align with the included data sources. The standout categories are:
    - Bariatrics (e.g., gastric bypass, sleeve gastrectomy)
    - Gastroenterology (e.g., colonoscopy)
    - Ophthalmology (e.g., anterior segment eye procedures, vitrectomy)
    - Orthopedics (e.g., arthroscopy procedures, ligament and tendon repairs, hip and knee replacement)
    - Urology (e.g., endoscopic procedures, stone management procedures)
  - **State-specific presentation of results:** The regional lists used in previous editions have been discontinued. Centers included in the final ranking are now presented in lists for their respective states. A state list is published only if at least one center from that state is included in the final ranking; centers in other states are no longer grouped into regional lists.
  - **Inclusion of previous editions recommendation data:** To account for reputational continuity, recommendations from the last two editions were factored into the reputation pillar.

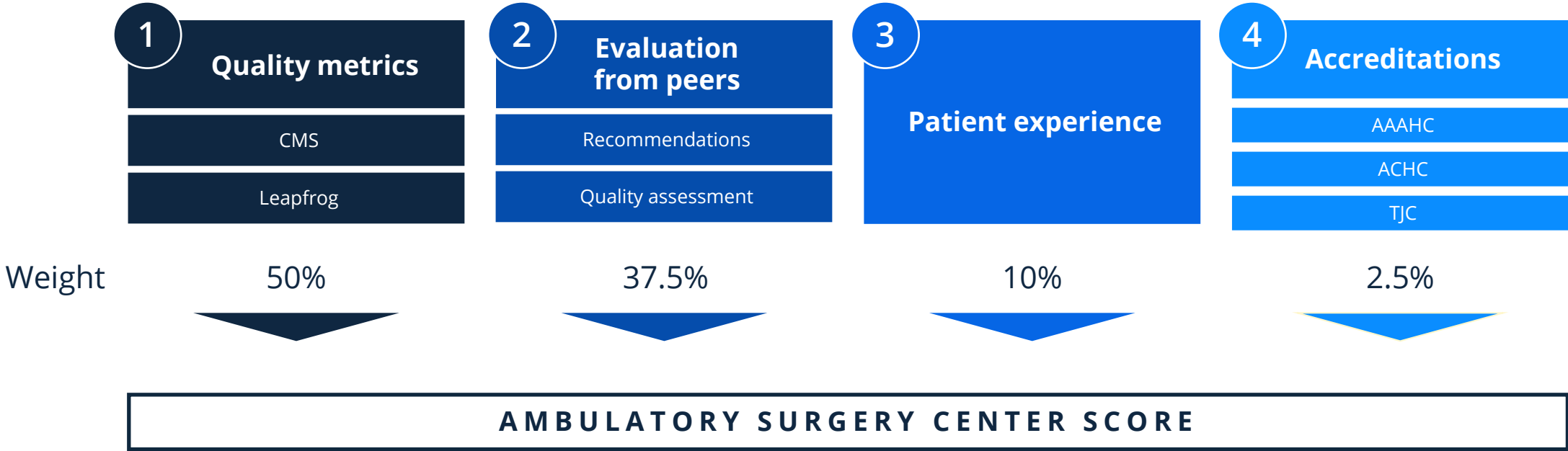
# Ambulatory surgery center evaluation is based on four pillars, ranging from quality metrics and peer evaluations to patient experience and accreditations

Data sources



# A score was calculated for each ambulatory surgery center

Scoring model



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

# Available data on ambulatory surgery centers was analyzed

## Quality metrics – Part 1

### 1 Quality metrics – CMS

- The U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provides data on ASCs in the **Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting**<sup>(1,2)</sup>
- The following measures were included:
  - ASC-1: Number of patients who experience a burn prior to discharge from the ASC
  - ASC-2: Number of patients who experience a fall within the ASC
  - ASC-3: Number of patients who experience a wrong site, side, patient, procedure, or implant
  - ASC-4: Percentage of ASC patients who are transferred or admitted to a hospital upon discharge from the ASC
  - ASC-9: Endoscopy/Polyp Surveillance: Appropriate Follow-up Interval for Normal Colonoscopy in Average Risk Patients
  - ASC-11: Improvement in Patient's Visual Function within 90 Days Following Cataract Surgery
  - ASC-12: Rate of unplanned hospital visits after an outpatient colonoscopy
  - ASC-13: Normothermia
  - ASC-14: Unplanned Anterior Vitrectomy
  - ASC-17: Hospital Visits after Orthopedic Ambulatory Surgical Center Procedures
  - ASC-18: Hospital Visits after Urology Ambulatory Surgical Center Procedures
  - ASC-19: Hospital Visits after General Surgery Procedures Performed

**THE CMS MEASURES SCORE CONSTITUTES 80% OF THE QUALITY METRICS SCORE**

# Available data on ambulatory surgery centers was analyzed

## Quality metrics – Part 2

### 1 Quality metrics – Leapfrog<sup>(1)</sup>

- Hospital quality metrics from the **2026 Leapfrog ASC Survey 2.0** cover a broad range of safety and quality measures.
- Data was available for the following groups<sup>(2)</sup>:
  - Informed Consent
  - Taking Responsibility for Never Events
  - Infection Surveillance following Breast Surgeries, Laminectomies, Herniorrhaphies, or Knee Prosthesis
  - Hand Hygiene
  - Total Knee Replacement, Total Hip Replacement, and Bariatric Surgery for Weight Loss

**THE LEAPFROG SCORE CONSTITUTES 20% OF THE QUALITY METRICS SCORE**

Medical experts with knowledge about ambulatory surgery centers were surveyed about the best facilities in their state

## 2 Recommendations as part of the peer evaluation score

From July to August 2026, Statista invited medical professionals (medical doctors/surgeons, registered nurses, nursing assistants, therapists) and managers / administrators working in ambulatory surgery centers to an online survey.



**Online survey by state** among health care professionals working in ambulatory surgery centers. Participants were invited via e-mail. The survey was also promoted on newsweek.com.



Participants were asked to **recommend notable ambulatory surgery centers** in their respective state and could nominate a **standout category**<sup>(1)</sup>. Recommendations for own employer / ASC were not allowed.



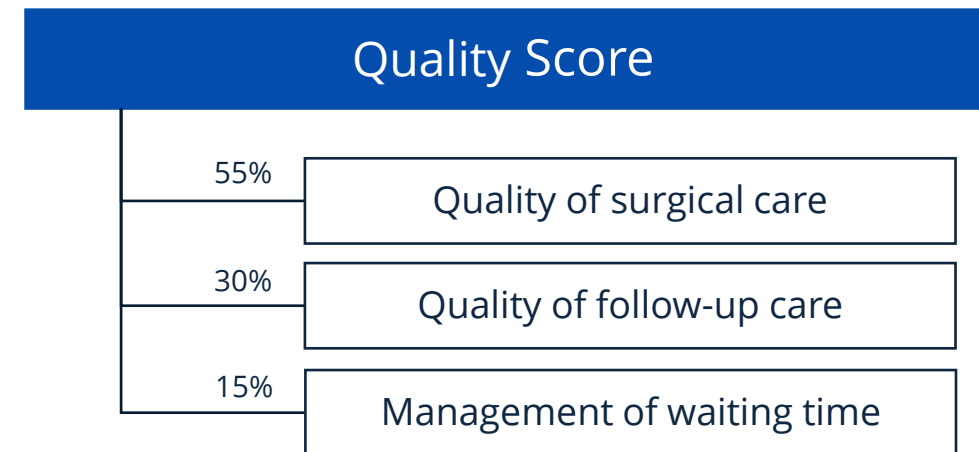
The **recommendations part of the peer evaluation score** was based on the number of weighted recommendations. Recommendations from two previous survey editions were incorporated, with more recent data given higher weights. Additionally, the **professional experience** of the participant was considered.

**THE RECOMMENDATION SCORE CONSTITUTES 80% OF THE PEER EVALUATION SCORE**

A quality score was calculated for each recommended ambulatory surgery center

## 2 ★★★ Quality assessment as part of the peer evaluation score

- For each recommended ambulatory surgery center participants were asked to rate **three quality dimensions** on a scale from 1 ("Poor") to 10 ("Excellent"):
  - Quality of surgical care
  - Quality of follow-up care
  - Management of waiting time
- A quality score was assigned to each facility based on the **weighted average** of these ratings



THE QUALITY SCORE CONSTITUTES 20% OF THE PEER EVALUATION SCORE

Publicly available patient experience data was used as an additional element of the scoring model

### 3 Patient Experience

- Publicly available data from the **Outpatient and Ambulatory Surgery Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (OAS CAHPS)** survey was used to analyze patient experience<sup>(1,2)</sup>
- Survey topics associated to patient care and satisfaction included:
  - Facilities and staff
  - Communication about your procedure
  - Patients' rating of the facility
  - Patients recommending the facility

**THE PATIENT EXPERIENCE SCORE CONSTITUTES 10% OF THE TOTAL SCORE**

Additionally, available accreditations were included in the scoring model

## 4 Accreditations

- The following accreditation/certification programs from the **Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAHC)**<sup>(1)</sup> were included:
  - Ambulatory Accreditation
  - Medicare Deemed Status Accreditation
  - Advanced Orthopaedic Certification
- The following program type from the **Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC)**<sup>(2)</sup> was considered:
  - Ambulatory Surgery Center
- The **Joint Commission (TJC)**<sup>(3)</sup> data was available for:
  - Ambulatory Care

THE ACCREDITATION SCORE CONSTITUTES 2.5% OF THE TOTAL SCORE

# As a result, the leading 750 ambulatory surgery centers were awarded

Final ranking by state

## California

| Rank | Center                                              | City          | Standout Specialties                                  |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1    | Cedars-Sinai - Beverly Hills Surgery Medical Center | Beverly Hills | Orthopedics, Gastroenterology, Ophthalmology, Urology |
| 2    | Hoag Orthopedic Institute Surgery Center Orange     | Orange        | Orthopedics                                           |
| 3    | Hoag Endoscopy Center - Irvine                      | Irvine        | Gastroenterology                                      |
| 4    | Cedars-Sinai - Endoscopy Center - Beverly Hills     | Beverly Hills | Gastroenterology                                      |
| 5    | Hoag Endoscopy Center - Newport Beach               | Newport Beach | Gastroenterology                                      |

[...]

## Florida

| Rank | Center                                                                    | City          | Standout Specialties |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 1    | Baptist Health South Florida - Baptist Health Surgery Center Coral Gables | Coral Gables  | Orthopedics          |
| 2    | Baptist Health South Florida - Endoscopy Center - Coral Springs           | Coral Springs | Gastroenterology     |
| 3    | Mayo Clinic - Mayo Building & Hospital - Florida                          | Jacksonville  | Gastroenterology     |
| 4    | TGH Surgery Center at Morsani                                             | Tampa         |                      |
| 5    | Baptist Health South Florida - Endoscopy Center - Galloway South          | Miami         | Gastroenterology     |

[...]

LEADING AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTERS WERE AWARDED PER STATE

# Statista R, and Newsweek comprise the strong partner network behind the America's Best Ambulatory Surgery Centers ranking

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 [r.statista.com](https://www.statista.com).

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

## 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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## 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 America's Best Ambulatory Surgery Centers

## Disclaimer

The rankings are comprised exclusively of ambulatory surgery centers 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 August 02, 2025 – August 02, 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 ambulatory surgery centers or, if possible, accompanied by a visit to a facility. The quality of ambulatory surgery centers that are not included in the rankings is not disputed.