

■ scorecard

Area9's Top Hospitals

Perhaps the most well-known independent ratings of hospitals are those done by U.S. News & World Report, which publishes an issue annually on the subject, and by Healthgrades Inc. The two analyses differ in their approach: U.S. News focuses on the treating of very difficult cases while Healthgrades focuses on the broad spectrum of cases that hospital face.

HealthGrades Inc. is a publicly traded firm based in Colorado that analyzes millions of medical records that are required to be submitted by non-federal hospitals to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services for of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Using the data, the firm compiles ratings for risk-adjusted mortality and complication rates for certain medical procedures and maladies. For more information, including the option to

order highly detailed reports on the hospital of your choice, visit healthgrades.com.

U.S. News' ratings are focused on 16 specialties. Four of those rely on nominations by specialists in those fields, while the other dozen are evaluated based on hard data. For detailed information on the methodology, visit <http://health.usnews.com/articles/health/best-hospitals/2008/07/10/a-look-inside-the-hospital-rankings.html>.

In addition, one organization focuses on patient safety: Leapfrog. Unfortunately, Leapfrog ratings are entirely voluntary and only five Inland area hospitals participate: Kaiser hospitals, San Antonio, Pomona Valley, St. Bernardine and Riverside Community Hospital. To check out the ratings, visit leapfroggroup.org.

Top Rated Hospitals By HealthGrades Inc.

Listed are those hospitals that were rated 'Best' by Healthgrades for the specified malady in the Inland Empire (listed first) as well as Orange County and northern San Diego County.

Pulmonary Embolism

Inhospital Survival

Mission Hospital Medical Center (Orange County)
Cedars-Sinani Medical Center (LA County)

Inhospital + 1 month

Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian (OC)

Inhospital survival + 6 months

Saddleback Memorial Hospital Medical Center (OC)

Sepsis

Inhospital Survival

Chino Valley Medical Center
West Anaheim Medical Center (OC)
Anaheim Memorial Hospital (OC)
St. Jude Medical Center (OC)
Anaheim General Medical Center (OC)
Saddleback Memorial Medical Center (OC)
Fountain Valley Regional Medical Center (OC)
Garden Grove Hospital and Medical Center (OC)
Huntington Beach Hospital (OC)
Orange Coast Memorial Medical Center (OC)
Scripps Mercy Hospital (SD)
Scripps Memorial Hospital (SD)
UCSD Medical Center (SD)

Inhospital + 1 month Survival

Riverside Community Hospital
West Anaheim Medical Center (OC)
Anaheim Memorial Hospital (OC)

Saddleback Memorial Medical Center (OC)
Fountain Valley Regional Medical Center (OC)
Garden Grove Hospital and Medical Center (OC)
Mission Hospital Medical Center (Orange County)
Scripps Mercy Hospital (SD)
Scripps Memorial Hospital (SD)
UCSD Medical Center (SD)
Kaiser Foundation Hospital (SD)

Inhospital + 6 month Survival

Riverside Community Hospital
West Anaheim Medical Center (OC)
Anaheim Memorial Hospital (OC)
St. Jude Medical Center (OC)
Saddleback Memorial Medical Center (OC)
Mission Hospital Medical Center (Orange County)
Scripps Mercy Hospital (SD)
Scripps Memorial Hospital (SD)
UCSD Medical Center (SD)
Kaiser Foundation Hospital (SD)

Back and Neck Surgery except Spinal Fusion

Southwest Healthcare System
Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian (OC)
Alvarado Hospital (SD)
Scripps Green Hospital (SD)

Maternity Care

Moreno Valley Medical Center
Antelope Valley Medical Center
Community Hospital of San Bernardino

Western Medical Center – Anaheim (OC)
 Anaheim General Hospital (OC)
 Garden Grove Hospital and Medical Center (OC)
 Coastal Communities Hospital (OC)
 South Coast Medical Center (OC)
 Palomar Medical Center (SD)
 Scripps Memorial Hospital (SD)
 Grossmont Hospital (SD)

Women's Health

Riverside Community Hospital
 Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center (OC)
 St. Joseph Hospital (OC)
 Anaheim Memorial Hospital (OC)
 Scripps Memorial Hospital (SD)

Heart Failure

Inhospital Survival

Southwest Healthcare System
 Montclair Hospital Medical Center
 Saddleback Memorial Medical Center (OC)
 St. Joseph Hospital (OC)
 LaPalma Intercommunity Hospital (OC)
 Fountain Valley Regional Hospital (OC)
 Orange Coast Memorial Medical Center (OC)
 Scripps Mercy Hospital (SD)

Inhospital + 6 months survival

Southwest Healthcare System
 UCI Medical Center (OC)
 Saddleback Memorial Medical Center (OC)
 Fountain Valley Regional Hospital (OC)
 Irvine Regional Medical Center (OC)
 Scripps Mercy Hospital (SD)
 Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla (SD)

Coronary Bypass Surgery

Inhospital Mortality

UCSD (SD)

Inhospital +6 months Survival

Anaheim Memorial Hospital (OC)
 Saddleback Memorial (OC)
 Sharp Memorial Hospital (SD)

Respiratory Failure

Inhospital Mortality
 Chino Valley Medical Center
 Montclair Hospital Medical Center
 San Antonio Community Hospital
 West Anaheim Medical Center (OC)
 Fountain Valley Regional Hospital (OC)
 Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian (OC)
 Scripps Mercy Hospital (SD)

Inhospital +1 Month

Montclair Hospital Medical Center
 Fountain Valley Regional Hospital (OC)
 Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian (OC)
 Scripps Mercy Hospital (SD)

Inhospital +6 Month

Fountain Valley Regional Hospital (OC)
 Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian (OC)
 Scripps Mercy Hospital (SD)
 Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas (SD)
 West Anaheim Medical Center (OC)

Coronary Interventional Procedures

Inhospital Survival

None

Inhospital + 1 Month Survival

None

Inhospital +6 Months Survival

Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian (OC)

Pneumonia

Inhospital Survival

Chino Valley Medical Center
 Montclair Hospital Medical Center
 Desert Valley Hospital
 San Antonio Community Hospital
 Barstow Community Hospital
 Fountain Valley Regional Hospital (OC)
 Saddleback Memorial Medical Center (OC)
 Scripps Mercy Hospital (SD)
 Scripps Memorial Hospital (SD)
 UCSD Medical Center (SD)

Inhospital + 1 Month Survival

Anaheim Memorial Hospital
 Fountain Valley Regional Hospital (OC)
 Mission Hospital Medical Center (OC)
 Scripps Mercy Hospital (SD)
 Scripps Memorial Hospital (SD)
 UCSD Medical Center (SD)

Inhospital +6 Months Survival

Anaheim Memorial Hospital (OC)
 West Anaheim Medical Center (OC)
 UCI Medical Center (OC)
 St. Jude Medical Center (OC)
 Fountain Valley Regional Hospital (OC)
 Mission Hospital Medical Center (OC)
 Scripps Mercy Hospital (SD)
 Scripps Memorial Hospital (SD)