

METHODOLOGY

America's Best Nursing Homes **2027**

statista  **Newsweek**



Methodology – America's Best Nursing Homes 2027

Summary of the ranking

The eighth edition of **America's Best Nursing Homes** ranking awards the nation's leading nursing homes.

Nursing homes are recognized in three size categories: **large** (150+ certified beds), **medium** (100–149 certified beds), and **small** (50–99 certified beds). Within each category, the top nursing homes per state (or region) were awarded. The number of awarded facilities is based on the total number in that state or region.

The evaluation is based on **four data sources**:

- **Quality metrics** data published by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) were used to assess safety and service quality in nursing homes.
- **National online survey**: From June to August 2026, thousands of qualified professionals working in nursing homes were invited to an online survey in cooperation with Newsweek to recommend and assess nursing home quality.
- **Accreditation data** on nursing homes provided by The Joint Commission (TJC) and Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).
- **Google reviews** as a proxy for resident, family, and visitor satisfaction.

The 2027 edition achieves nationwide coverage for nursing homes

Changes made since the previous edition and eligibility for inclusion in the awards

The following list provides a brief overview of the major changes in this year's edition compared to the America's Best Nursing Homes 2026 ranking:

- **Increased number of states covered:** This year, nursing homes from **all states (plus the District of Columbia)** were eligible for inclusion in the ranking.
- **Expansion of the ranking:** Due to a wider geographic scope, a total of **1,325 nursing homes** nationwide are being recognized. The small size category was increased to 400 (previous year: 325) and the medium size category was increased to 425 (previously 375). The large size category remained at 500.

Nursing homes were required to meet certain **criteria for eligibility** to be awarded:

- Nursing homes were required to have a minimum of a 3-star CMS rating.
- Nursing homes that were included in the Specialty Focus Facility (SFF) program were not considered.
- A minimum performance threshold was required to be reached for inclusion in the awards.

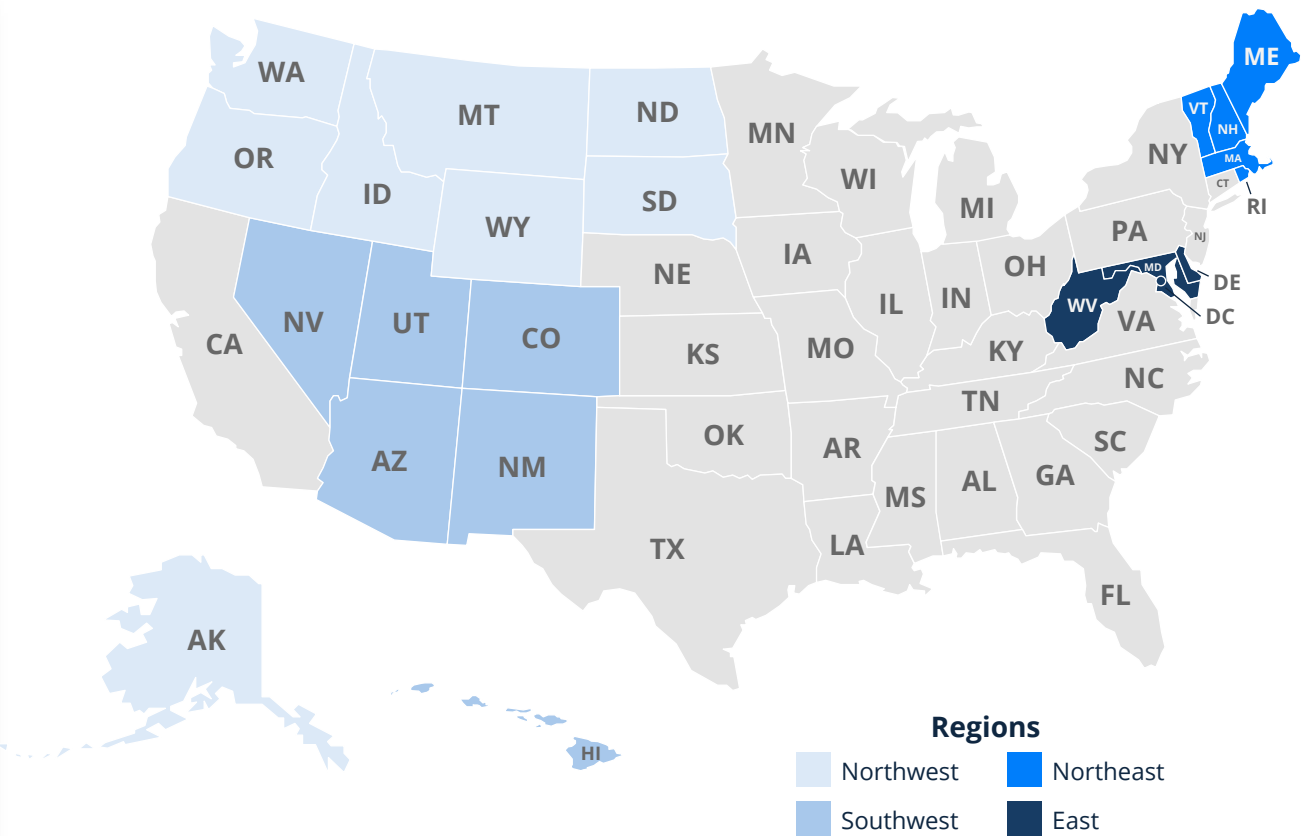
Nursing homes from all US states were eligible for the ranking

Geographical distribution

Twenty-eight of the states with the **highest number of facilities**⁽¹⁾ were ranked on a per-state basis:

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- California
- Connecticut
- Florida
- Iowa
- Georgia
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- New Jersey
- New York
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Virginia
- Wisconsin

The remaining states (plus D.C.) were included as “regions” composed of geographically associated state sets. Within each region, all eligible facilities are ranked compared to nursing homes in their region.



4 Source: (1) U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service (CMS): <https://www.cms.gov>

Regions: **Northwest** (Alaska, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington), **Southwest** (Hawaii, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado), **East** (West Virginia, District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland), **Northeast** (Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Massachusetts)

Nursing home evaluations are based on four data pillars

Data sources



Three performance data domains were evaluated to identify leading nursing homes

Performance data score

1 Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility criteria ensure that only nursing homes meeting **quality and capacity standards** are considered for the award.

- Awarded nursing homes in all size categories must have an **average of 6** out of a maximum of 10 points **across** all three measures
- Only nursing homes with a CMS star rating of **at least 3 stars** were considered.

1 Performance Data

CMS data was considered for the following domains:

- **Staffing** (e.g., registered nurse (RN) hours per resident per day, turnover rates for registered nurse and total staff)
- **Quality measures** (e.g., number of hospitalizations, discharge to community rate)
- **Health inspections** (cited deficiencies by inspectors, including scope and severity)

Performance was assessed using an **adapted 10-point scale** instead of 5 stars to permit more detailed analysis.

PERFORMANCE DATA CONSTITUTES 55% OF THE OVERALL SCORE

Medical professionals were surveyed about their top recommended facilities

2 Recommendations for Nursing Homes from professionals

From June to August 2026, professionals in the field of nursing care (registered nurses, nursing home managers and administrators, licensed practical nurses & vocational nurses, nursing assistants, therapists and physicians) from across the United States were invited to an online survey. The survey was also promoted on newsweek.com. Additionally, participants were invited via e-mail.



Online survey by state or region among medical professionals and managers/administrators working in nursing homes.

Participants were asked to recommend the leading nursing homes **from their respective state/region and in other states/regions** by considering the quality of care offered, quality of services, staffing, and accommodation and amenities.

The number of state and national recommendations were weighted equally. A **score was assigned to each nursing home based on the number of recommendations**. Additionally, the professional experience of the participant was taken into account.

A quality score was calculated for each recommended nursing home

Quality score based on quality dimensions

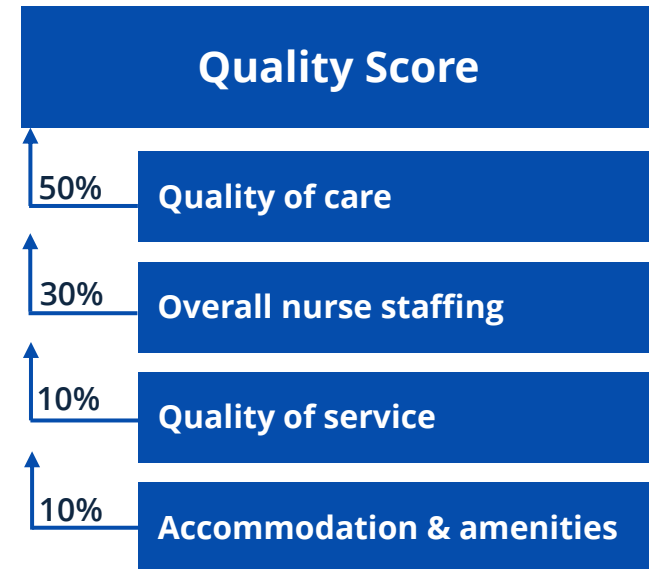
2 Calculation of Quality Rating

For each recommended nursing home participants were asked to assess **four quality dimensions** on a scale from 1 ("Poor") to 10 ("Excellent"):

- **Quality of care** (e.g., treatments/therapies, consultation with doctor/therapist)
- **Overall nurse staffing** (e.g., qualifications, experience, number of courses)
- **Quality of service** (e.g., meals, leisure activities)
- **Accommodation & amenities** (e.g., size of room, quality of furnishing)

A quality score was assigned to each facility based on the **weighted average** of these ratings.

2 Quality Rating Weights



THE QUALITY RATING SCORE CONSTITUTES 20% OF THE REPUTATION SCORE

Accreditations and satisfaction were included in the scoring model

Accreditation score & Satisfaction score

3 Accreditation

Accreditations reflect a range of structural and/or quality requirements which are relevant to the nursing homes ranking.

The Joint Commission⁽¹⁾ (TJC) nursing care center accreditation accounts for **60%** of the accreditation score.

The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities International⁽²⁾ (CARF) is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services. The following specialty programs were included in the scoring model: **Assisted Living, Person-Centered Long-Term Care, and Inpatient Rehabilitation**. CARF accreditations in total accounted for **40%** of the accreditation score, with each accreditation worth 13.3%.

4 Satisfaction

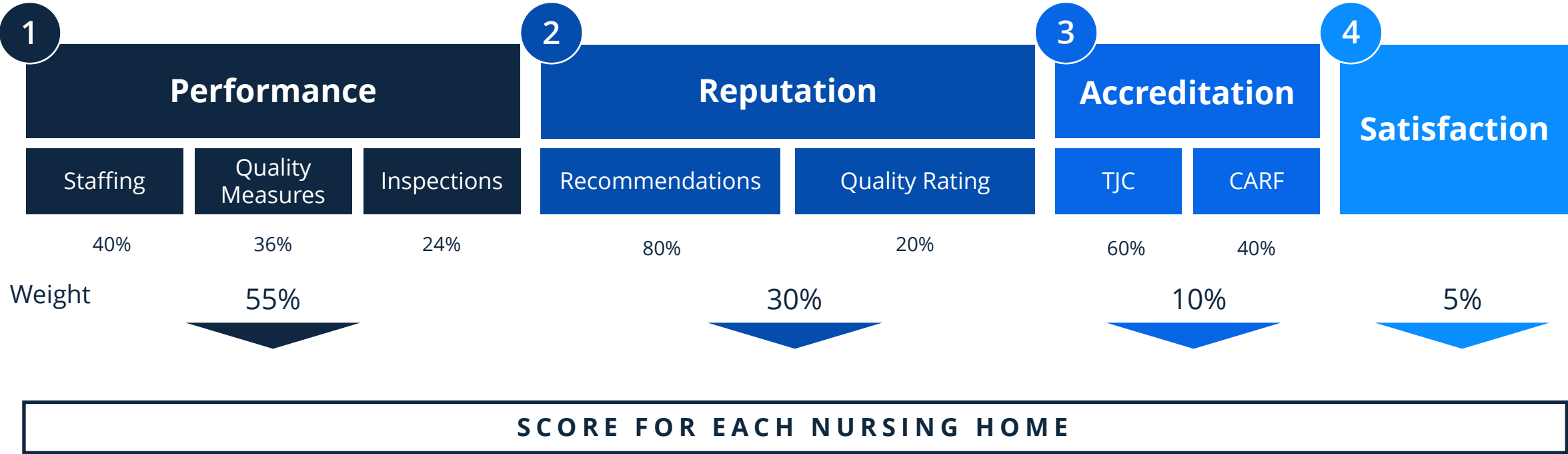
As an additional pillar of the scoring, **public evaluations of nursing home quality** were collected from Google for each nursing home.

Based on available data, nursing homes received a satisfaction score between **1 and 5**. Google star scores were adjusted using the number of reviews to reduce variability for facilities with fewer reviews. Facilities with more reviews received ratings closer to their public star score, while those with fewer reviews were drawn toward the observed median.

ACCREDITATIONS ARE 10% AND SATISFACTION 5% OF THE OVERALL SCORE

A score was calculated for each nursing home

Scoring model



Result tables of the best nursing homes

Example tables of the awarded nursing homes in two states

California

Rank	Nursing Home	City
1	Mission View Health Center	San Luis Obispo
2	Alden Terrace Convalescent	Los Angeles
3	Crestwood Manor Stockton	Stockton
4	Escondido Post Acute	Escondido
5	El Encanto Healthcare & Habilitation Center	City of Industry

[...]

Texas

Rank	Nursing Home	City
1	Texhoma Christian Care Center	Wichita Falls
2	Beacon Hill	Denison
3	Windsor Gardens	Lancaster
4	AVIR at Heritage Oaks	Lubbock
5	AVIR at Bowie	Bowie

[...]

LEADING NURSING HOMES WERE AWARDED BY STATE/REGION

America's Best Nursing Homes partner network

Overview of involved parties

Newsweek

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://www.newsweek.com)



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Disclaimer

The rankings are comprised exclusively of nursing homes that are eligible regarding the scope described in this document. A mention in the ranking is a positive recognition based on quality metrics, peer recommendations, accreditations and resident satisfaction. 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 12 months only. Furthermore, any events preceding and following the period August 19th, 2025 – August 19th, 2026, and/or pertaining to individual persons affiliated/associated to the facilities were not considered 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 nursing homes or, if possible, accompanied by a visit to the facility. The quality of nursing homes that are not included in the rankings is not disputed.