

# Led by the Triangle, NC earns top spot in hospital safety rankings

May 10, 2022, 3:08pm EDT



TBJ FILE PHOTO

Duke University Medical Center in Durham.

Collectively, hospitals in North Carolina are among the safest in the country, according to the latest report from a nonprofit focused on health care consumers.

Nearly 60 percent of hospitals in the state – the highest percentage of all states in the U.S. – earned the highest marks possible in Leapfrog's spring 2022 report released Tuesday. The organization measures hospital performance and issues biannual safety grades.

This also represents an improvement from the group's 2021 fall rankings, when 55.1 percent of hospitals in North Carolina earned an "A" grade, ranking No. 2 behind Virginia. The two states have now flipped, with Virginia just below North Carolina at 59.2 percent in the latest report.

Rounding out the top five states with the highest percentages of "A" grade hospitals are Utah at 55.6 percent, Colorado at 55.3 percent and Michigan at 50.6 percent. A handful of states – Wyoming, West Virginia, Washington, D.C. and North Dakota – did not have a single hospital that received an "A" grade.

North Carolina's strong performance in this report is reflected in the Triangle, where nearly every hospital earned an "A" safety grade, other than UNC Medical Center in Chapel Hill, which earned a "C" grade for the second-straight report.

In this latest report, Leapfrog assigned letter grades to nearly 3,000 general hospitals throughout the country. The group uses more than 30 measures of patient safety that focus on a hospital's ability to "protect patients from preventable errors, accidents, injuries and infections," according to the organization.

Of the nearly 3,000 hospitals that Leapfrog rated, 33 percent received "A" grades, 24 percent received "B" grades, 36 percent received "C" grades, 7 percent received "D" grades and less than 1 percent received "F" grades.

Here's a full list of hospitals in the Triangle and their most recent grades:

### **Duke Raleigh Hospital**

- Spring 2020: A
- Fall 2020: A
- Spring 2021: A
- Fall 2021: A
- Spring 2022: A

### **Duke Regional Hospital (Durham)**

- Spring 2020: A
- Fall 2020: A
- Spring 2021: A
- Fall 2021: A
- Spring 2022: A

### **Duke University Hospital (Durham)**

- Spring 2020: A
- Fall 2020: A
- Spring 2021: A
- Fall 2021: A
- Spring 2022: A

### **UNC Medical Center (Chapel Hill)**

- Spring 2020: A
- Fall 2020: A
- Spring 2021: A
- Fall 2021: C
- Spring 2022: C

### **UNC Rex Hospital (Raleigh)**

- Spring 2020: A
- Fall 2020: A
- Spring 2021: A
- Fall 2021: A
- Spring 2022: A

### **WakeMed Cary Hospital**

- Spring 2020: C
- Fall 2020: C
- Spring 2021: C
- Fall 2021: A
- Spring 2022: A

### **WakeMed Raleigh Hospital**

- Spring 2020: B
- Fall 2020: B
- Spring 2021: B
- Fall 2021: A
- Spring 2022: A

### **WakeMed North Hospital** (previously included in the grade for WakeMed Raleigh)

- Fall 2021: A
- Spring 2022: A



**Zac Ezzone**

Staff writer

*Triangle Business Journal*