

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Five-Star Quality Measure Rating at a Glance

- The set of quality measures (QMs) located on [Nursing Home Compare](#) describe the quality of care provided in nursing homes.
- The QMs used in the five-star quality measure rating calculation are based on performance on 15 QMs posted on the Nursing Home Compare website. See Table 1.
- The measures are calculated using the four most recent quarters for which data are available.
- Minimum Data Set (MDS)-based measures are reported if the measure can be calculated for at least 20 residents' assessment for both the long- and short-stay QMs.
- The short-stay and long-stay claims-based measures are reported if the measure can be calculated for at least 20 nursing home stays over the course of the year.
- For facilities with missing data or an inadequate denominator size for one or more QMs all available data from the nursing home are used. The remaining assessments (or stays) are imputed using the state average to get the nursing home to the minimum required sample size of 20.
- While values are imputed for the purposes of assigning points for the QM score, data for QMs that use imputed data are not reported on the Nursing Home Compare.
- Two sets of weights are used for assigning QM points to individual QMs. Some measures have a maximum score of 150 points while the maximum number of points for other measures is 100.
- For measures that have a maximum score of 150 points, points are determined based on deciles. (Nursing homes in the lowest performing decile receive 15 points for the measure. Points increase in 15-point intervals for each decile so nursing homes in the highest performing decile receive 150 points.)
- For measures that have a maximum score of 100 points, points are determined in quintiles. (20 points for the lowest performing quintile, 100 points for the highest performing quintile and 40, 60 or 80 points for the second, third and fourth quintiles respectively.)
- Points are calculated based on performance relative to the national distribution of the measure.
- Points are summed across all of the long-stay QMs, all of short-stay QMs, as well as across all QMs to create a long-stay QM score, a short-stay QM score and a total QM score for each nursing home. Star ratings are assigned using point thresholds. See Table 2.
- The total overall QM score, which sums the total long-stay score and the total adjusted short-stay score, ranges between 299 and 2,300.
- Every six months the QM thresholds are increased by half of the average rate of improvement in QM scores to incentivize continuous quality improvement.
- The overall QM star rating has this effect on the overall star rating: One star is added to the health inspection/staffing rating if the quality measure rating is five star and one star is subtracted if the quality measure rating is one star.

Quality Measures Used in the Five-Star Quality Measure Rating Calculation

Measure	Type	Data Source	Risk Adjusted	Maximum Points
Percent of residents whose need for help with activities of daily living has increased	Long-Stay	MDS	No	150
Percent of residents whose ability to move independently worsened	Long-Stay	MDS	Yes	150
Percent of high-risk residents with pressure ulcers	Long-Stay	MDS	No	100
Percent of residents who have/had a catheter inserted and left in their bladder	Long-Stay	MDS	Yes	100
Percent of residents with a urinary tract infection	Long-Stay	MDS	No	100
Percent of residents experiencing one or more falls with major injury	Long-Stay	MDS	No	100
Percent of residents who received an antipsychotic medication	Long-Stay	MDS	No	150
Number of hospitalizations per 1,000 long-stay resident days	Long-Stay	Claims	Yes	150
Number of outpatient emergency department (ED) visits per 1,000 long-stay resident days	Long-Stay	Claims	Yes	150
Percent of residents who made improvement in function	Short-Stay	MDS	Yes	150
Percent of skilled nursing facility (SNF) residents with pressure ulcers that are new or worsened	Short-Stay	MDS	Yes	100
Percent of residents who newly received an antipsychotic medication	Short-Stay	MDS	No	100
Percent of short-stay residents who were re-hospitalized after a nursing home admission	Short-Stay	Claims	Yes	150
Percent of short-stay residents who have had an outpatient emergency department (ED) visit	Short-Stay	Claims	Yes	150
Rate of successful return to home and community from a SNF	Short-Stay	Claims	No	150

Table 1.

Point Ranges for the QM Ratings (as of October 2019)

QM Rating	Long-stay QM Rating Thresholds	Short-stay QM Rating Thresholds	Overall QM Rating Thresholds
★	155 – 469	144 – 473	299 – 943
★★	470 – 564	474 – 567	944 – 1,132
★★★	565 – 644	568 – 6583	1,133 – 1,298
★★★★	645 – 734	654 – 739	1,299 – 1,474
★★★★★	735 – 1,150	740 – 1,150	1,475 – 2,300

Table 2.

Refer to the [Five Star Quality Rating System Technical Users' Guide](#) for technical specifications for all of the measures and more detailed information about the CMS Star Rating System.