

Best Hospitals 2013-14: Overview and Honor Roll

Johns Hopkins Hospital reclaims No. 1 ranking

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Some hospitals have more expertise than others when it comes to caring for patients with life-threatening or rare conditions. And people facing such health challenges need every bit of help they can get. That's why U.S. News & World Report publishes annual rankings of the nation's Best Hospitals.

[See the Complete Rankings: [Best Hospitals 2013-14](#)]

The rankings, now in their 24th year, cover nearly 5,000 medical centers across the country and span [16 medical specialties](#), from cancer to neurology & neurosurgery. Hospitals that rank near the top of at least six specialties earn a spot on the Honor Roll. Just 18 distinguished hospitals made this year's list.

[See [Pictures of the 18 Honor Roll Hospitals](#)]

Baltimore's [Johns Hopkins Hospital](#) reclaimed the No. 1 spot after last year losing a 21-year reign to Boston's [Massachusetts General Hospital](#). In order of rank, the Honor Roll hospitals are:



Rank	Hospital	Points	Specialties
1	Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	30	15
2	Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	29	16
3	Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.	29	15
4	Cleveland Clinic	27	14
5	UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles	19	13
6	Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago	17	12
7	New York-Presbyterian University Hospital of Columbia and Cornell, N.Y.	17	10
7	UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco	17	10
9	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston	16	10
10	UPMC-University of Pittsburgh Medical Center	15	10
11	Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia	12	11
12	Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C.	12	9
13	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles	12	8
14	NYU Langone Medical Center, New York	11	8
15	Barnes-Jewish Hospital/Washington University, St. Louis	10	9

16	IU Health Academic Health Center, Indianapolis	7	7
17	Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia	7	6
18	University Hospitals Case Medical Center, Cleveland	6	6

In most specialties, U.S. News ranks the top 50 hospitals nationwide. This year, 147 different hospitals earned a ranking in at least one specialty. The [University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center](#) in Houston, for example, ranked first in [Cancer](#). The [Cleveland Clinic](#) topped the [Cardiology & Heart Surgery](#) rankings. And the [Hospital for Special Surgery](#) in New York, N.Y., snagged No. 1 in [Orthopedics](#). Hospitals that ranked nationally in any specialty have the skill and experience to treat the most complex and demanding cases that can arise in that area of medicine.

Some patients might be unable to travel far for care -- or may not need to because their condition is more straight-forward. To help them find care close to home, U.S. News ranks more than 700 hospitals by state, region and metro area. These [Best Regional Hospitals](#) are highly proficient in serving the needs of the majority of patients in at least one specialty.

[See [Best Regional Hospitals by Metro Area and State](#)]

Just five metropolitan areas have more than one Honor Roll hospital. [New York City](#) and [Boston](#) achieved this feat last year as well, and were joined this year by [Los Angeles](#), [Philadelphia](#) and [Cleveland](#), due to the additions of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital (which landed on the coveted list for the first time), and University Hospitals Case Medical Center respectively.

[Read [5 Cities with Tons of Top Hospitals](#)]

Chicago's [Northwestern Memorial Hospital](#) jumped the highest in Honor Roll rankings from last year, from 12th to sixth place, while [Barnes-Jewish Hospital/Washington University](#) in St. Louis dropped the furthest down the list, from sixth place to 15th place. [Mount Sinai Medical Center](#) in New York, N.Y., and [University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers](#) in Ann Arbor fell off the Honor Roll but remain nationally ranked in multiple specialties.

To make the Honor Roll, a hospital had to score near the top in at least six out of 16 medical specialties.

U.S. News bases the rankings mostly on objective data on hospital performance, such as patient survival rates, and structural resources, such as nurse staffing levels. Each hospital's reputation, as determined by a survey of physician specialists, is also a factor determining each hospital's rankings.

[Read [How We Ranked the Best Hospitals 2013-14: An FAQ](#)]

For patients under 18 and their caregivers, U.S. News in June published a separate Best Children's Hospitals [Honor Roll](#) and [rankings](#) in 10 pediatric specialties.