

**DFWBGH Media Contact:**  
Cary Conway  
cary@conwaycommunication.com  
972.649.4707

## North Texas Fall 2018 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades Announced

**DALLAS – Nov. 8, 2018 –** [The Leapfrog Group](#), a national nonprofit aiming to improve health care quality for consumers, employers and purchasers, announced today the fall 2018 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades. The independent grading system assigns A, B, C, D and F letter grades to general acute-care hospitals in the US based on their ability to protect patients from avoidable errors, injuries, accidents and infections.

Texas jumped to the fifth spot nationally up from 14<sup>th</sup> place in spring 2018 due to a nearly 20% increase in A graded hospitals. In the Dallas-Fort Worth region and north Texas (Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Fannin, Grayson, Henderson, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant and Wise counties) 53 hospitals were graded, and 26 earned an A, 14 a B and 13 a C.

The non-profit [Dallas-Fort Worth Business Group on Health](#) (DFWBGH) serves as the Leapfrog Group's Regional Leader for the Dallas-Fort Worth region, representing employer purchasers of health care.

“We’re very proud of the impressive progress DFW area hospitals are making to ensure the quality and safety of their patients,” said Marianne Fazen, PhD, DFWBGH executive director. “The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades offer employers, health plans and patients’ critical information on the safest hospitals in our community. The publicly reported Safety Grades serve as a valuable guide for local employers as they consider which hospitals to include in provider networks available to their north Texas employees.”

In the wake of the high stakes midterm election, neither party can claim victory in addressing preventable errors and infection in hospitals. The fall 2018 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades show that 33 percent of hospitals in traditionally blue states and 32 percent of hospitals in traditionally red states earned A’s. As recently as September 2018, The Leapfrog Group testified at a hearing of the United States’ Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pension (HELP) Committee, offering guidance for a bipartisan approach to improving transparency of patient safety data and making progress on safety.

“The Hospital Safety Grades give the American public information they need and deserve about the safety of their hospitals. Avoidable medical errors and infections in hospitals are still the third leading cause of death in the nation, and that’s not a partisan issue,” said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. “We commend DFWBGH and its members for making this a priority.”

Developed under the guidance of a National Expert Panel, the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade uses 28 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to assign the grades to more than 2,600 U.S. hospitals

twice per year. The Hospital Safety Grade's methodology is peer-reviewed and fully transparent, and the results are free to the public.

For more information about the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, as well as individual grades and state rankings please visit [www.hospitalsafetygrade.org](http://www.hospitalsafetygrade.org) and follow The Leapfrog Group on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

### **About The Leapfrog Group**

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, The Leapfrog Group is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps forward in the quality and safety of American health care. The flagship Leapfrog Hospital Survey collects and transparently reports hospital performance, empowering purchasers to find the highest-value care and giving consumers the lifesaving information they need to make informed decisions. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, Leapfrog's other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents and infections.

### **About DFWBGH**

The [Dallas-Fort Worth Business Group on Health](#) (DFWBGH) is a regional coalition of Dallas and Fort Worth employers dedicated to improving health care quality, cost-effectiveness, transparency and accountability. Representing over 93 allied and 75 corporate members with 750,000 local individuals spending over \$4 billion in healthcare annually, members include American Airlines, Brinker International, City of Fort Worth, Dallas Area Rapid Transit, DynCorp International, Greyhound Lines, Inc., JC Penney, The Neiman Marcus Group, Sabre, Southwest Airlines, Texas Instruments and Vistra Energy. A member of the Texas Business Group on Health and the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions, DFWBGH's goals are to educate and empower employers and their employees to make informed health care-related decisions and to encourage health care providers to continuously improve their performance. Follow on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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