

Both the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) maintain information on nursing homes that includes performance on quality measures, complaints, inspection results, and citations and enforcement actions, as well as any penalties imposed on the nursing home. CMS has created a tool called Care Compare (<https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare/>) to help consumers search for and select nursing homes and other health care providers. Via this website, you can enter the name of the specific nursing home in the search box and view the facility specific ratings.

The overall star rating for nursing homes lets you compare nursing homes on topics you consider most important and gives you a “snapshot” of the quality of each nursing home. The rating, between 1 to 5 stars, combines results and data from 3 important sources, including: health inspections, staffing and quality measures. A star rating is calculated for each of these 3 sources, along with an overall rating.

#### **How should I use the nursing home star ratings?**

Star ratings can give you important information and help you compare nursing homes but aren't a substitute for visiting the nursing home. Use the star ratings together with other sources of information, and review the [Guide to Choosing a Nursing Home](#) and the [Nursing Home Checklist](#) to help you think of questions to ask when you visit the nursing home and determine whether a nursing home fits you or your family members' needs.

According to CMS, the information it maintains on nursing homes should be used with other information you gather about providers and facilities in your area. In addition to reviewing the Care Compare information, you should talk to your doctor, social worker, or other health care providers when choosing a provider. Additional tips for selecting a nursing home can be found in CMS's guide to selecting a nursing home:

<https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare/en/assets/resources/nursing-home/02174-nursing-home-other-long-term-services.pdf?redirect=true>.

The following web addresses can provide quality and compliance information.

[https://profiles.health.ny.gov/nursing\\_home/index](https://profiles.health.ny.gov/nursing_home/index)

- On the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) site, select the nursing home by name after selecting the appropriate Region/County from the dropdown menu, and open the Inspections tab to view facility specific information.

<https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare/?providerType=NursingHome&redirect=true>

- On the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Care Compare site, enter the name of the nursing home in the search box. Click on the name of the nursing home to view Inspection results as well as any facility specific information.

The facility's current CMS star rating: Staffing (1 stars); Quality Measures (4 star); Health Inspections (3 star); and Overall CMS rating (2 star).