

# TOP NURSING HOMES EARN THEIR A'S

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One-hundred and fifty-one long term care facilities have received "AAA" status on a list of the nation's top-performing nursing homes, according to the list's creator, CareScout.

According to the privately owned nursing home rating company based in Wellesley Hills, Mass., a total of 16,400 government certified nursing home facilities were reviewed. The company's rating designations range from "D" to "AAA."

To achieve a "AAA" current state rating, nursing homes must meet exceptional quality of life and care requirements, maintaining full compliance with all eldercare laws and regulations, and be free of any health deficiencies as noted by state and federal officials during the nursing home's most recent unannounced inspection survey, according to CareScout President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Bua.

Pennsylvania had the most facilities on the list, with 19; Massachusetts, Virginia and Wisconsin had 14 each.

"We don't hear enough about the nursing homes who are doing a great job delivering care," Bua said. "These nursing homes have demonstrably outperformed their peers on almost 200 specific quality of care and quality of life benchmarks."

Bua said CareScout uses government survey inspection data and distills it into a meaningful format for consumers, which makes it easier for them to decide about long term care.

CareScout, formed in 1977, is the first private company to ever rate nursing homes, Bua said. Although the company uses much of the same data as the government, it also uses different criteria to evaluate data.

"When the government evaluates resident characteristics, [such as] for example, if there is a high percentage of residents with bedsores, the assumption is that it's a bad facility," Bua said. "But these facilities could have the same high level of quality care as

those with low percentages of bedsores."

CareScout also uses information such as a facility's violations, resident profiles and medical modalities to evaluate a facility's standing. "We have more of an objective viewpoint (than the government)," Bua said.

For more information on the CareScout nursing home ratings report, call 800-571-1918 or visit [www.carescout.com](http://www.carescout.com). **CLTC**

## STRAIGHT A'S

Nursing homes receiving a Triple-A rating in CareScout's 2003 survey included:

**Connecticut:** Holy Spirit Health Care Inc. (Putnam)

Memorial Hospital (Woodbury); Kennedy Transitional Care Unit-Stratford (Stratford)

**Florida:** Lisenby Nursing Home (Panama City)

**New Mexico:** Montebello on Academy Healthcare Center (Albuquerque)

**Georgia:** Hutcheson Medical Center Subacute Care Unit (Fort Oglethorpe)

**New York:** Little Flower Nursing Home (East Islip); Petite Fleur Nursing Home (Sayville); Westhampton Care Center (Westhampton); Elmhurst Care Center (East Elmhurst)

**Iowa:** Belmond Health Care Center (Belmond); Kingsley Nursing and Rehab Center (Kingsley); Emmetsburg Care Center (Emmetsburg); Ruthven Community Care Center (Ruthven)

**North Carolina:** Wilkes Regional Medical Center Skilled Nursing Unit (North Wilkesboro); White Oak Manor- Rutherfordton (Rutherfordton); Annie Penn Memorial Hospital Skilled Nursing Facility (Reidsville); Wesley Pines Retirement Community (Lumberton)

**Illinois:** Parkway Manor (Marion); Lake Forest Place (Lake Forest); Windsor Park Manor (Carol Stream); Resurrection Life Center (Chicago)

**Ohio:** Summa Health System-TCU (Akron); Sumner on Merrima (Akron); St. Luke's Transitional Care Center (Maumee); Kendal at Oberlin (Oberlin)

**Indiana:** Union Hospital Transitional Care Unit (Terre Haute); George Davis Manor (W. Lafayette); Prairie Village Living Center (Washington); Arbor of Memorial Hospital (Logansport)

**Oklahoma:** Medical Centers Hospital Skilled Nursing Facility (Oklahoma City)

**Kentucky:** Loretto Motherhouse Infirmary (Nerinx)

**Louisiana:** Chalmette Medical Center Skilled Nursing Facility (Chalmette); Mary Joseph Residence for the Elderly (New Orleans); Touro Infirmary (New Orleans); Subacute Care United of Meadowcrest Hospital (Gretna)

**Pennsylvania:** Graduate Skilled Nursing Facility (Philadelphia); Parkview Skilled Nursing Facility (Philadelphia); Emily A. Markle Health Center (Philadelphia); Germantown Home (Philadelphia)

**Massachusetts:** Heywood Transitional Care Center (Gardner); Greenery Extended Care Center (Worcester); South Cove Manor Nursing Home (Boston); Jordan Rehabilitation & Nursing Center (Roxbury)

**Rhode Island:** Mt. St. Rita Health Center (Cumberland); St. Antoine Residence (N. Smithfield); Roger Williams Hospital Skilled Nursing Facility (Providence); Vanderbilt Rehabilitation Center (Newport)

**Maryland:** Hillhaven Nursing Center (Adelphi); Subacute Care Center at Southern MD Hospital (Clinton); Greater Baltimore Medical Center Subacute Unit (Baltimore); St. Joseph's Nursing Home (Catonsville)

**Texas:** Navarro Regional Hospital Transitional Care Unit (Corsicana); Hermann Hospital (Houston); Metroplex Hospital (Killeen); Kings Daughters Hospital Skilled Nursing Facility (Temple)

**Minnesota:** Central Todd County Care Center (Clarissa); Parkview Home (Belview); Lake Region Skilled Nursing Facility (Fergus Falls); Henning Health Care Center (Henning)

**Utah:** American Fork Hospital-Transitional Care (American Fork); Columbia Lakeview Hospital Transitional Care Unit (Bountiful); Castleview Hospital Transitional Care (Center Price); Logan Regional Hospital Transitional Care Unit (Logan)

**Missouri:** Frene Valley Health Center (Hermann); Ozark Riverview Manor (Ozark)

**Virginia:** Shenandoah Valley Westminster-Cantebury (Winchester); Summit Square Retirement Community (Waynesboro); Snyder Nursing Home (Salem); Pulaski Community Hospital (Pulaski)

**Nebraska:** Utica Care Center (Utica); Faith Regional Health Service/East Campus (Norfolk); Holmes Lake Manor (Lincoln); Belle Terrace (Tecumseh)

**Vermont:** Belaire Quality Care Center (Newport)

**New Hampshire:** Harborside Healthcare-Applewood (Winchester)

**Washington:** Northwoods Lodge (Silverdale)

**New Jersey:** McCauley Hall Health Care Center (Watchung); Manchester Manor Nursing Facility (Lakehurst); Transitional Care Unit at Underwood

**Wisconsin:** Iola Nursing Home (Iola); Linden Grove (Waukesha); Willowfield Nursing & Rehab Center (Delavan); Kiwanis Manor (East Troy)