

LONG TERM CARE COMMUNITY COALITION

Advancing Quality, Dignity & Justice

The following are provided to assist with understanding and using Nursing Home Compare data on nursing home deficiencies, including the lists facilities in each state with chronic deficiencies posted on our website at <http://nursinghome411.org/nursing-homes-with-chronic-deficiencies/>. Below are descriptions of some of the titles used by CMS in the Nursing Home Compare data followed, on the next page, with the Scope and Severity grid which surveyors use when rating a deficiency (copied from, www.in.gov, the website of the State of Indiana).

Short Descriptions of the Data Columns

Following are the titles of the headings for each column of nursing home information in the deficiency data published on our website. For more information go to <https://data.medicare.gov/data/nursing-home-compare>.

PROV NUM: The federal provider number assigned to each nursing home.

PROV NAME: The name of the nursing home.

SURVEY DATE: The date the survey (inspection) was conducted.

SURVEY TYPE: Health surveys and Fire & Safety surveys are parts of the annual inspections of nursing homes; a Complaint survey is one resulting from a complaint about care.

DEF PREF: Deficiency Prefix is the type of deficiency cited: "F" for a health standard or "K" for fire and safety standard.

TAG: The number assigned to each regulatory requirement for surveying purposes.

TAG_DESC: A brief description of the regulatory requirement.

SCOPE: The rating given to the violation's scope and severity (i.e., extent to which residents were affected or harmed).

DEFSTAT: The status of the deficiency as of the report date.

STATDATE: Date deficiency was reported to be corrected. [Note: Facilities *must* correct deficiencies in order to continue in the Medicaid/Medicare programs. However, correction does not necessarily mean that a facility has taken the steps necessary to ensure that the same problem does not recur.]

CYCLE: NH Compare provides information for three years, referred to as "Cycles."

STANDARD/COMPLAINT: Indicating whether a standard or complaint deficiency.

FILEDATE: Date information posted to NH Compare.

Scope and Severity

Scope and Severity is a system of rating the seriousness of deficiencies. A "deficiency" is a regulatory requirement that a survey finds is not being met. Scope and Severity is a national system used by all state survey agencies and the Health Care Financing Administration when conducting nursing home Medicare and Medicaid certification surveys. For each deficiency, the surveyor determines the level of harm to the resident or resident(s) involved and the scope of the problem within the nursing home. The surveyor then assigns an alphabetical scope and severity value, A through L, to the deficiency. "A" is the least serious and "L" is the most serious rating. The scope and severity matrix is an integral part of how nursing home scores are calculated in the scoring system.

	<i>Scope of the Deficiency</i>		
<i>Severity of the Deficiency</i>	<u>Isolated</u>	<u>Pattern</u>	<u>Widespread</u>
Immediate jeopardy to resident health or safety	<u>J</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>L</u>
Actual harm that is not immediate jeopardy	<u>G</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>I</u>
No actual harm with potential for more than minimal harm that is not immediate jeopardy	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>
No actual harm with potential for minimal harm	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>

Shaded boxes within the grid denote deficiency ratings which constitute [Substandard Quality of Care](#) if the requirement which is not met is one that falls under the following federal regulations:

- 42 CFR 483.13 Resident behavior and facility practices
- 42 CFR 483.15 Quality of life
- 42 CFR 483.25 Quality of care