













# Minnesota hospitals as national quality leaders

-  Minnesota ranks first in the nation in overall health care quality performance. In addition, Minnesota hospitals rank in the top quartile in every measure gauged, and they improved in half of them. *(2007 National Healthcare Quality Report, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality)*
-  Minnesota tied for first place in the nation of hospitals achieving 2009 Distinguished Hospitals for Clinical Excellence status. Of eligible hospitals, 44 percent, or seven Minnesota hospitals, made the list. *(HealthGrades)*
-  Minnesota has the lowest heart disease death rate of any state in the nation. Experts say healthy living and a top-rate medical system have helped the state's death rate drop by 45 percent since the mid-1990s. *(American Heart Association, 2007)*
-  Minnesota is the fourth healthiest state in the nation. *(United Health Foundation)*
-  Minnesota was the first state in the nation in 2003 to pass mandatory Adverse Health Event Reporting based on National Quality Forum standards. The ground-breaking law created a reporting system that allows hospitals to learn from each reported event to prevent future errors.
-  Three of the 13 "Highest Value" hospitals in the nation are in Minnesota. The study by Leapfrog Group combines quality and efficiency measures. *(Leapfrog, January 2009)*
-  The Minnesota Hospital Association developed groundbreaking, statewide patient-safety campaigns that specifically address issues identified through events reported under the state adverse health events reporting law. The campaigns combat the top four most-reported adverse health events: pressure ulcers, falls, retained foreign objects and wrong-site procedures. *(Minnesota Hospital Association 2009)*
-  Minnesota hospitals experienced a 25 percent drop the number of reported stage 3 and 4 pressure ulcers, the most serious types, between October 2006 and October 2008. Nationally, the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality reported a 78.9 percent increase in pressure ulcers from 1993 to 2006. *(Statistical Brief #64, Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, December 2008)*
-  Without compromising quality of care, Minnesota had the fifth-lowest spending on hospital care provided to patients who were in their last two years of life. *(Dartmouth Atlas of Healthcare 2008)*
-  Minnesota ranks among the top states in the nation in a health and well-being index sponsored by polling firm Gallup, health management company Healthways and America's Health Insurance Plans. On overall well-being, Minnesota ranks fifth. For basic access to health care, it ranks second; and for physical health, it ranks first. *(March 16, 2009 Minnesota Physician Medfax)*

