



The Leapfrog Group's September Market Insights Report

More than half of U.S. surgeries now take place in ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs) rather than hospitals, yet until the launch of Leapfrog's new [ASC Public Reporting Program](#), little information was available on ASC patient safety and quality of care to allow for direct comparisons. This month, we are highlighting the first findings from the redesigned program, with a particular focus on the CMS patient safety measures and how participation in the Leapfrog ASC Survey 2.0 appears to indicate stronger performance on those CMS measures. We are also highlighting the capabilities of our new **AI Research Tool** to help data licensees perform similar analysis and develop similar reports.

Leapfrog opened the Leapfrog ASC Survey 2.0 for submissions on April 1, 2026. As of August 31, 137 ASCs had completed the Survey, already surpassing 2025 cycle, with the submission window open through November 30, 2026.

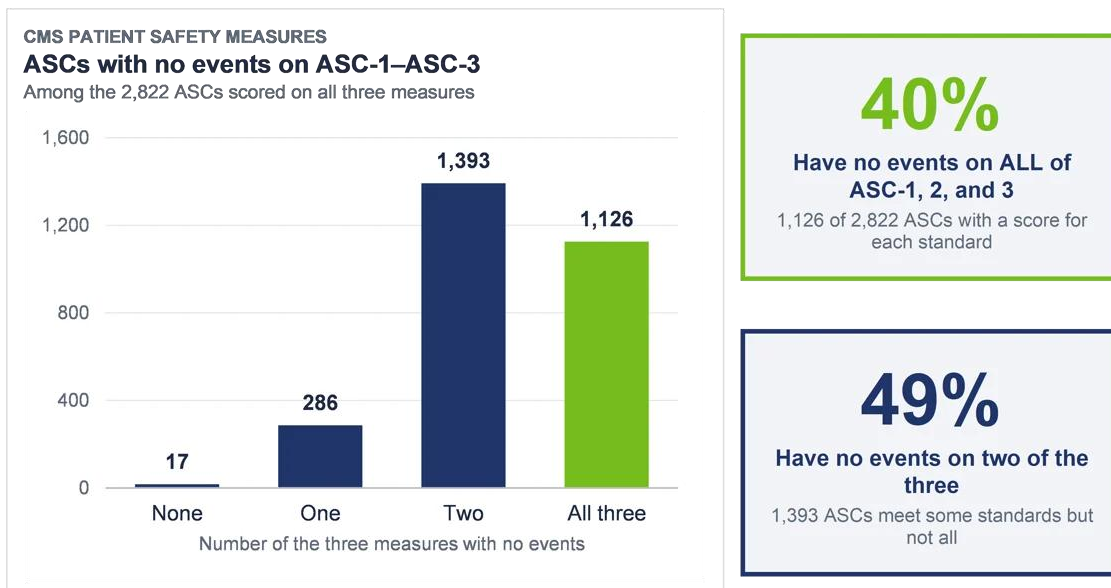
New in 2026: A National ASC Public Reporting Program

Leapfrog redesigned its ASC program in 2026 so that, for the first time, nearly every Medicare-certified ASC in the country has safety and quality information available for the public to search and compare. The program now has three components:

Component	Measures
CMS Public Reporting 13 measures <i>From the CMS Ambulatory Surgery Center Quality Reporting (ASCQR) Program; scored for most ASCs nationwide, regardless of Survey participation</i>	ASC-1: Patient Burn ASC-2: Patient Fall ASC-3: Wrong Site, Wrong Side, Wrong Patient, Wrong Procedure, or Wrong Implant ASC-4: All Cause Transfer/Admission ASC-12: Facility 7-Day Risk-Standardized Hospital Visit Rate after Outpatient Colonoscopy ASC-14: Unplanned Anterior Vitrectomy ASC-17: Hospital Visits after Orthopedic Ambulatory Surgical Center Procedures ASC-18: Hospital Visits after Urology Ambulatory Surgical Center Procedures ASC-19: Facility-Level 7-Day Hospital Visits after General Surgery Procedures at Ambulatory Surgical Centers Four OAS CAHPS patient experience domains: Facilities and Staff; Communication About Your Procedure; Patient's Rating of the Facility; and Patients Recommending the Facility
Accreditation Standards 5 measures <i>Scored for ASCs with active AAAHC or Joint Commission accreditation</i>	Clinicians Certified in Adult Advanced Life Support Always Present Use of a Safe Surgery Checklist Medication and Allergy Documentation Effective Leadership to Prevent Errors Identification and Mitigation of Risks and Hazards
Leapfrog ASC Survey 2.0 8 measures <i>Scored for ASCs that voluntarily submit the Leapfrog ASC Survey 2.0</i>	Billing Ethics Health Care Equity Informed Consent Taking Responsibility for Never Events Infection Surveillance for ASCs Performing Breast Surgeries, Laminectomies, Herniorrhaphies, or Knee Prosthesis Procedures Hand Hygiene Culture of Safety National Volume Standards for Total Knee Replacement, Total Hip Replacement, and Bariatric Surgery for Weight Loss Facility Volume for Select Procedures (optional)

Significant Variation: Just 40% of ASCs Have No Harm Events

As of August 31, **just 40% of ASCs had no harm events on all three** of the core CMS patient safety measures that apply to every ASC: ASC-1 (patient burns), ASC-2 (patient falls), and ASC-3 (wrong site, side, patient, procedure, or implant). Among the 2,822 ASCs scored on all three, 1,126 had no events on every measure, while nearly half (1,393 ASCs, or 49%) had no events on two of the three.



ASCs Earn Credit for Meeting National Accreditation Standards

ASCs with active accreditation through the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) or The Joint Commission are scored and publicly reported as Achieved the Standard (the best score) on five patient safety measures. This component significantly reduces reporting burden for accredited facilities. These measures previously required separate data collection through the Leapfrog ASC Survey and are still collected from hospitals through the Leapfrog Hospital Survey. To receive credit, ASCs upload proof of AAAHC or Joint Commission accreditation on the ASC Dashboard.

To date, 212 ASCs in 34 states have uploaded accreditation. New Jersey leads with 34, followed by Florida (24) and Connecticut (22).

ASC Survey Participation Is a Mark of Better Performance — and Participants Improve Over Time

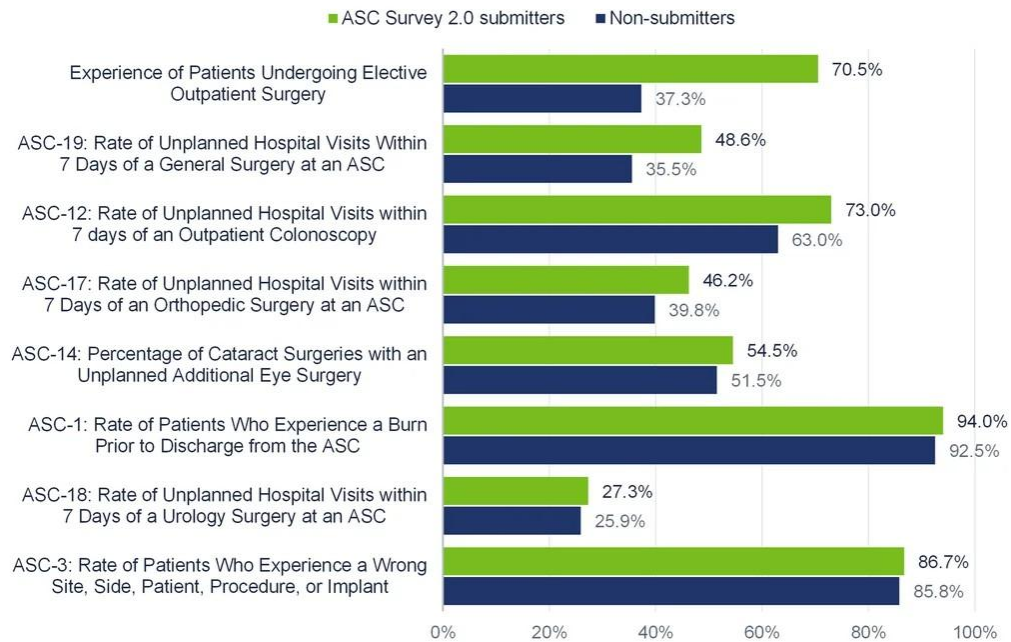
Leapfrog's annual voluntary Survey, the ASC Survey 2.0, includes eight evidence-based measures unavailable from any other national source and critical to consumers and purchasers.

Survey participants generally outperform non-participants on CMS Public Reporting measures, especially on patient experience: **70.5% of submitters Achieved the Standard on Experience of Patients Undergoing Elective Outpatient Surgery, nearly double the 37.3% rate among non-submitters.** Submitters also led on every other CMS measure shown, with the next-largest gaps on ASC-19 (general surgery) and ASC-12 (colonoscopy).

CMS PUBLIC REPORTING MEASURES

ASC Survey 2.0 submitters vs. non-submitters

Percent of ASCs that Achieved the Standard; sorted by size of gap

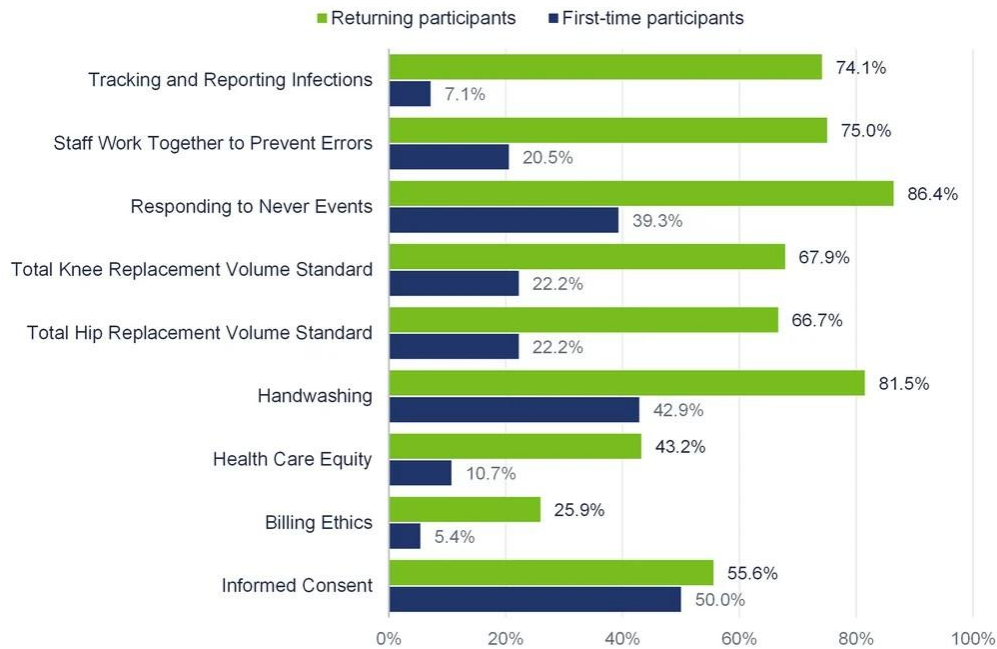


Returning participants outperform first-time participants on every ASC Survey 2.0 standard shown, with the narrowest margin on Informed Consent (55.6% vs. 50.0%). The largest gap is on Tracking and Reporting Infections, where 74.1% of returning participants Achieved the Standard, compared with 7.1% of first-time participants. Details on how these scores are calculated are available in the [ASC Public Reporting Program Scoring Algorithms](#).

ASC SURVEY 2.0 MEASURES

Returning vs. first-time Survey participants

Percent of submitting ASCs that Achieved the Standard; sorted by size of gap



FROM THE HOPPER

Try It Yourself: Approximate Hopper Prompts

Each finding above follows the same pattern: choose the measures, set aside ASCs without a score, count the facilities that Achieved the Standard, and group the results by state or by Survey participation. The prompts below are an approximate starting point for the AI Research Assistant.

Finding	Approximate AI Research Assistant prompt
ASCs with no events on ASC-1 through ASC-3	"Among ASCs with a score on all three of ASC-1, ASC-2, and ASC-3, count how many Achieved the Standard (no events) on none, one, two, and all three measures. Show the counts as a column chart."
Accreditation uploads by state	"Count ASCs scored on the accreditation standards measures by state. Rank the top 10 states and show the results on a map."
Submitters vs. non-submitters	"For each CMS measure and the OAS CAHPS patient experience measure, compare the percentage of ASCs that Achieved the Standard for ASC Survey 2.0 submitters versus non-submitters. Show as a bar chart."
Returning vs. first-time participants	"Among 2026 ASC Survey 2.0 submitters, compare the percentage that Achieved the Standard on each Survey measure for ASCs that also submitted in 2025 versus first-time submitters."

Explore Full Results

To view the complete 2026 Leapfrog Hospital Survey results, visit Leapfrog's ratings website:

[Leapfrog Ratings Website](#)

[Contact Leapfrog](#) for information about licensing this data.

The Hopper

New Tools to Navigate Leapfrog Data

We've launched new features to make exploring Leapfrog data even easier!

The **Hopper AI Research Assistant** lets users ask questions and explore Leapfrog Survey data and Safety Grades. The AI tool lets users analyze data and create Excel files, PDFs, and PowerPoint presentations. Current data licensees have one complimentary seat available until December 31.

To claim your free seat for the Hopper AI Research Assistant, contact [Leapfrog](#) with the name of the user you would like to have access.

The HOPPER
Where Leapfrog Data Comes Alive

THE LEAPFROG GROUP
Giant Leaps for Patient Safety

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