

U.S. News & World Report

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Cover Story

America's Best Children's Hospitals

CENTERS WHERE THE EXTRAORDINARY IS ROUTINE

When a trio of reporters went out to find examples of the best that pediatric medicine has to offer, they returned bearing tales of wondrous feats. Top children's centers take on daunting challenges—babies that fit in the palm of the hand, tangled viscera, mangled hearts. A team of specialists somewhere just might have a workable fix.

But the parents of the children on the next pages also talked about a different kind of caring: the busy doctor who was never impatient with their worries. The nurses who played with two little girls so their mom could be with their older sister during a procedure. The palliative-care staff member who took a dispirited mother to get her hair done.

How can caregivers be other than sensitive and sympathetic? These centers get the toughest cases, children often rejected elsewhere as hopeless. Their parents have gone through hell. But consider the unceasing professional and emotional demands of caring for these vulnerable young patients. Erecting a shell to keep from burning out would be understandable. This does happen.

Not, however, to the caregivers in these accounts. The stories represent the highest level of skill in the half-dozen specialties added to this year's "America's Best Children's Hospitals" rankings: cancer, digestive disorders, heart and heart surgery, neonatal care, neurology and neurosurgery, and respiratory disorders. How the rankings were determined is explained on Page 52.

Behind the Rankings

By Avery Comarow

For routine ailments and procedures, hometown care is fine. For a child like Steven McDonough, who developed a rare spinal cord tumor (Page 48), or Celli Sears, who needed new lungs because of an unusual condition (Page 50), only a stand-alone children's hospital or a large multispecialty pediatric service in a medical center will do.

Good luck finding out which ones truly excel. Children's facilities are way behind their adult counterparts in weighing individual performance against consensus benchmarks. Experts can't agree on how to do it. That is why *U.S. News* is now gathering data to rank children's hospitals by specialty, as adult institutions are in "America's Best Hospitals."

Last year, in a first step, the top 30 pediatric centers overall were ranked using death rates, information about technology in place, and other data supplied by the hospitals, as well as a survey of board-certified pediatricians. Now the 30 top-ranked hospitals in cancer, digestive disorders, heart and heart surgery, neonatal care, neurology and neurosurgery, and respiratory disorders are highlighted along with

the top 30 in general pediatrics.

For advice on the information to get and how to use it, we turned to a roster of nearly 50 experts—medical directors, department chairs, and quality-assessment specialists at top U.S. children's hospitals. They were divided into specialty panels and about two months later had developed recommendations for each specialty. The proposals were reviewed by RTI International, which oversees the Best Hospitals methodology and collects the data for the rankings, and an online survey was prepared.

Hospitals were asked for information that ranged from volume of cystic fibrosis patients (in respiratory disorders) to the number of children who had moderately to very difficult heart surgery. Responses were received from 113 of the 143 hospitals invited to complete the survey. Most are members of the National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions, although several non-NACHRI members were added because of known expertise or other factors.

The basis for all of the rankings is a blend of reputation, outcome (where available), and care-related measures such as volume, nursing, and credentialing. (Terms are defined on Page

54; a complete methodology report is available at health.usnews.com/pediatrics.) A quick overview:

Reputation. A total of 1,100 pediatricians were surveyed by mail and asked to name up to five centers they believe to be most successful with difficult cases in their specialty. They were chosen at random from the database of the American Board of Medical Specialties, 200 for general pediatrics and 150 for each of the six specialties. In cancer, for example, only pediatric oncologists and hematologists were surveyed. Slightly more than half responded. Depending on specialty, reputation counted for 50 or 60 percent of the final score.

Outcome. Inpatient death rate is employed in heart and heart surgery and in neurology and neurosurgery. It does not work for specialties that focus on outpatients—cancer, digestive disorders, and respiratory disorders. Neonatal measures are in progress. Where available, outcome counted for 10 percent of the final score.

Care-related measures. Examples include nurse staffing, the availability of important technologies, and patient volume. These measures counted for 40 percent of a hospital's score. ●

2008 Pediatrics Rankings

General Pediatrics

Rank	Hospital	U.S. News Score	Reputation (%)	Readmission rate (1 is best)	Daily inpatient volume	Nurse staffing	Nurse Magnet hospital	Advanced technologies (of 8)	Patient & family services (of 9)
1	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	100.0	50.0	3	338	3.2	Yes	7	9
2	Children's Hospital Boston	94.0	43.6	2	291	3.6	Yes	8	9
3	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center	67.5	24.9	3	228	3.7	No	8	9
4	Johns Hopkins Children's Center, Baltimore	60.8	19.5	2	153	2.5	Yes	8	8
5	Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, Cleveland	60.2	18.0	1	153	2.2	Yes	8	9
6	Texas Children's Hospital, Houston	57.9	18.2	3	396	3.4	Yes	8	9
7	Children's Hospital, Denver	52.6	14.0	3	187	2.4	Yes	8	9
8	Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center, Seattle	51.8	13.5	2	191	2.6	No	6	8
9	Children's Hospital Los Angeles	50.0	9.9	1	248	1.9	Yes	7	9
10	Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC	49.3	11.4	3	210	2.7	No	7	8
11	New York-Presbyterian Medical Center	48.7	9.8	2	260	3.2	No	8	9
12	Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford, Palo Alto, Calif.	48.2	9.0	1	174	2.3	No	7	8
13	Children's National Medical Center, Washington, D.C.	46.8	8.9	3	202	2.5	No	8	9
14	Children's Hospital Cleveland Clinic	46.7	6.3	1	224	2.4	Yes	8	9
15	Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio	45.1	6.0	2	289	2.0	Yes	8	9
16	Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, Los Angeles	44.3	5.0	1	145	2.5	Yes	8	9
17	St. Louis Children's Hospital	44.3	7.6	3	190	2.9	Yes	7	9
18	Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago	44.0	7.6	3	184	3.0	Yes	7	9
19	Children's Healthcare of Atlanta	41.9	4.6	2	373	2.9	No	8	9
20	UCSF Children's Hospital, San Francisco	41.6	5.7	2	124	3.3	No	6	8
21	Massachusetts General Hospital for Children, Boston	40.1	4.6	2	79	1.9	Yes	8	9
22	Primary Children's Medical Center, Salt Lake City	39.8	3.2	2	194	4.0	No	8	9
23	Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Nashville	39.4	3.1	3	206	3.1	Yes	7	9
24	Arkansas Children's Hospital, Little Rock	39.3	4.5	3	234	3.1	No	7	9
25	Children's Medical Center Dallas	39.2	1.9	2	241	2.1	No	7	9
26	C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, Ann Arbor	39.2	3.0	2	165	2.6	No	7	9
27	Duke Children's Hospital and Health Center, Durham, N.C.	38.0	3.2	3	135	2.4	Yes	7	8
28	Children's Hospital at Montefiore, New York	37.9	1.3	1	94	2.1	No	8	9
29	Schneider Children's Hospital, North Shore-LIJ, New Hyde Park, N.Y.	37.9	1.7	2	201	1.8	No	8	9
30	Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	37.7	1.7	3	226	2.5	Yes	6	9

Apparent ties are due to rounding. Volume and other data are based on specifically defined patients, procedures, and conditions. Definitions appear below.

CANCER

After 27 Months of Chemo and Complications, It's Over

Growing pains" was the initial diagnosis Breanna Atwell's pediatrician gave for the 11-year-old's throbbing joints and bones, which often hurt so badly she wouldn't go to school. "Her primary doctor said Breanna needed to tough it out," says her mother, Melissa Hernandez of Shelton, Wash. She didn't buy it. For months, Hernandez pressed doctors to take her daughter's pain seriously. Suspecting rheumatoid arthritis or lupus, a physician at a children's hospital in Tacoma finally sent Breanna to Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Seattle, which treats 230 new cancer cases a year and provides follow-up care to some 3,000 kids and adolescents. She was diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia, a blood cancer. Malignant cells had spilled from Breanna's bone marrow into her bloodstream.

Within hours, she was on chemotherapy. For eight months, she had chemo several times a week: pills, an IV drip, and injections into muscle tissue and spinal fluid. Along with her mother and infant sister—born four months after Breanna's diagnosis—she stayed at the nearby Ronald McDonald House at no cost, avoiding a two-hour commute from home.

Luckily, Breanna was a "rapid responder." Just two weeks into her chemotherapy, the leukemia cells had plummeted from 70 percent

of her bone marrow cells to 3 percent, and by the fourth week, no cancerous cells could be found.

But the war wasn't over. Breanna had to return regularly for more than two years of chemotherapy that dulled her memory and weakened her body. She had six transfusions because her platelet and red blood cell counts took a dive. She had blood clots and bloodstream infections. The steroids in her chemotherapy regimen ate away at the cartilage in her joints.

Kindnesses. Yet Hernandez trusted her daughter's caregivers and was grateful for their humanity. "Children's has been wonderful," she says, beginning with oncologist Elisabeth Villavicencio's careful explanation of Breanna's diagnosis to Hernandez, Breanna's grandmother, and her stepfather. Nurses played with Breanna's two younger sisters so Hernandez could stay to hold her hand during chemo sessions. And when Hernandez was pressed, financially and emotionally, at Christmastime, staff arranged gifts for the family through a volunteer group.

Two years and three months of treatment finally came to a close last month with one last intravenous chemo, removal of the central line from Breanna's chest, and a ceremonious disposal of her leftover chemo pills. She will get hometown care from now on—delivered by a pediatrician who sees former Seattle cancer patients and has a solid relationship with Karyn Brundige, Breanna's nurse practitioner at Children's. He also cared for Hernandez when she was a child.

But Breanna will need to return to Children's periodically for at least 10 years, says Villavicencio: "From her growth and development to how she's doing in school and getting along with her family—we're interested in absolutely everything." —Sarah Baldauf

Breanna Atwell, 13

A playful celebration is in order at Children's Hospital in Seattle.

Breanna has just had her chemotherapy line removed, and her blood cancer is gone.



Best Children's Hospitals

Cancer

Rank	Hospital	U.S. News Score	Reputation (%)	Volume	Nurse staffing	Nurse Magnet hospital	Clinical support services (of 5)	Advanced technologies (of 13)	Palliative care	Patient & family services (of 9)
1	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	100.0	71.3	1,070	3.2	Yes	5	12	Yes	9
2	Children's Hospital Boston	93.4	64.7	262	3.6	Yes	5	13	Yes	9
3	Texas Children's Hospital, Houston	66.6	35.5	464	3.4	Yes	5	12	No	9
4	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center	63.7	31.9	366	3.7	No	5	13	Yes	9
5	Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center, Seattle	58.5	27.8	2,253	2.6	No	5	10	Yes	8
6	St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis	58.4	58.8	*	*	No	*	*	*	*
7	Johns Hopkins Children's Center, Baltimore	51.2	19.9	577	2.5	Yes	5	13	Yes	8
8	Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York	48.2	19.2	1,553	2.1	No	5	13	No	7
9	Children's Hospital Los Angeles	45.2	13.9	1,864	1.9	Yes	5	12	No	9
10	Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford, Palo Alto, Calif.	41.7	10.9	929	2.3	No	5	12	Yes	8
11	Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago	41.6	8.5	1,365	3.0	Yes	5	12	Yes	9
12	Children's Hospital, Denver	40.6	8.3	164	2.4	Yes	5	13	Yes	9
13	Children's Healthcare of Atlanta	40.2	10.2	3,281	2.9	No	4	12	No	9
14	Duke Children's Hospital and Health Center, Durham, N.C.	37.4	7.2	227	2.4	Yes	5	11	Yes	8
15	Children's Medical Center Dallas	36.7	4.8	7,226	2.1	No	5	11	Yes	9
16	Children's National Medical Center, Washington, D.C.	36.1	4.7	935	2.5	No	5	11	Yes	9
17	St. Louis Children's Hospital	35.3	1.2	536	2.9	Yes	5	11	Yes	9
18	Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, Los Angeles	35.3	2.4	3,382	2.5	Yes	5	13	Yes	9
19	University of Minnesota Children's Hospital, Fairview	35.0	3.6	477	2.0	Yes	5	13	Yes	9
20	UCSF Children's Hospital, San Francisco	35.0	4.9	297	3.3	No	5	10	Yes	8
21	Children's Cancer Hospital at M.D. Anderson, Houston	34.7	4.8	280	1.8	Yes	3	13	Yes	8
22	Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio	34.6	1.4	557	2.0	Yes	5	12	Yes	9
23	Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, Cleveland	34.5	2.3	486	2.2	Yes	4	13	Yes	9
24	Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC	34.1	2.7	269	2.7	No	5	12	Yes	8
25	Riley Hospital for Children Clarian Health Partners, Indianapolis	33.9	0.0	1,837	2.5	Yes	5	12	Yes	8
26	Primary Children's Medical Center, Salt Lake City	33.4	0.0	857	4.0	No	5	13	Yes	9
27	C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, Ann Arbor	33.3	2.3	213	2.6	No	5	12	Yes	9
28	Children's Hospital Cleveland Clinic	33.2	1.2	177	2.4	Yes	5	13	Yes	9
29	Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit	33.1	1.2	212	2.1	Yes	5	12	Yes	8
30	New York-Presbyterian Medical Center	32.8	1.2	396	3.2	No	5	13	No	9

* Did not complete survey. Apparent ties are due to rounding. Volume and other data are based on specifically defined patients, procedures, and conditions. Definitions appear on Page 54.

Best Children's Hospitals

Neurology & Neurosurgery

Rank	Hospital	U.S. News Score	Reputation (%)	Mortality (1 is best)	Volume	Nurse staffing	Nurse Magnet hospital	Advanced technologies (of 10)	Patient & family services (of 9)
1	Johns Hopkins Children's Center, Baltimore	100.0	55.8	2	1,137	2.5	Yes	9	8
2	Children's Hospital Boston	95.0	47.7	1	2,965	3.6	Yes	10	9
3	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	93.3	46.4	1	3,427	3.2	Yes	9	9
4	Children's Hospital Cleveland Clinic	72.7	27.2	1	2,983	2.4	Yes	10	9
5	Texas Children's Hospital, Houston	67.7	21.5	1	2,098	3.4	Yes	10	9
6	St. Louis Children's Hospital	63.4	18.3	1	2,378	2.9	Yes	9	9
7	Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.	56.7	16.9	1	1,008	3.4	Yes	9	6
8	Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center, Seattle	56.5	14.1	1	1,499	2.6	No	7	8
9	Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, Cleveland	54.8	14.7	2	987	2.2	Yes	10	9
10	Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC	54.0	9.4	1	3,443	2.7	No	9	8
11	New York-Presbyterian Medical Center	53.6	10.6	2	1,802	3.2	No	10	9
12	Children's National Medical Center, Washington, D.C.	51.8	6.7	1	1,952	2.5	No	10	9
13	Children's Hospital Los Angeles	50.3	7.7	1	1,570	1.9	Yes	9	9
14	Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, Los Angeles	50.2	8.0	1	1,393	2.5	Yes	10	9
15	Children's Hospital, Denver	49.7	5.7	2	2,190	2.4	Yes	9	9
16	Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago	49.0	4.3	1	3,671	3.0	Yes	9	9
17	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center	48.9	4.4	1	1,694	3.7	No	10	9
18	Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford, Palo Alto, Calif.	48.4	11.0	1	711	2.3	No	9	8
19	UCSF Children's Hospital, San Francisco	48.2	12.5	2	394	3.3	No	8	8
20	Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Nashville	45.9	3.0	1	1,318	3.1	Yes	9	9
21	Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit	45.1	1.5	1	2,164	2.1	Yes	8	8
22	Miami Children's Hospital	44.7	4.9	1	1,574	1.8	Yes	6	9
23	Children's Medical Center Dallas	44.6	1.5	1	2,127	2.1	No	8	9
24	Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio	44.5	3.3	1	842	2.0	Yes	9	9
25	Schneider Children's Hospital, North Shore-LIJ, New Hyde Park, N.Y.	44.4	0.0	1	2,599	1.8	No	10	9
26	Riley Hospital for Children Clarian Health Partners, Indianapolis	43.9	1.5	2	2,534	2.5	Yes	8	8
27	Children's Healthcare of Atlanta	43.8	0.0	1	2,997	2.9	No	9	9
28	Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	43.8	2.9	2	1,655	2.5	Yes	8	9
29	C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, Ann Arbor	43.0	1.4	1	1,184	2.6	No	8	9
30	Primary Children's Medical Center, Salt Lake City	42.9	0.0	1	3,893	4.0	No	10	9

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Best Children's Hospitals

Respiratory Disorders

Rank	Hospital	U.S. News Score	Reputation (%)	Cystic fibrosis outcomes (6 is best)	Cystic fibrosis volume	Nurse staffing	Nurse Magnet hospital	Clinical support services (of 4)	Patient & family services (of 9)
1	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	100.0	58.1	5	300	3.2	Yes	4	9
2	Texas Children's Hospital, Houston	92.7	53.3	2	281	3.4	Yes	4	9
3	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center	85.3	44.0	5	190	3.7	No	4	9
4	Children's Hospital Boston	83.9	40.0	6	371	3.6	Yes	4	9
5	Children's Hospital, Denver	72.5	31.3	4	401	2.4	Yes	4	9
6	Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC	63.4	20.2	5	254	2.7	No	4	8
7	University of North Carolina Children's Hospital, Chapel Hill	63.2	22.6	3	263	2.6	No	4	9
8	Johns Hopkins Children's Center, Baltimore	62.2	19.6	4	259	2.5	Yes	4	8
9	Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center, Seattle	61.0	20.1	4	356	2.6	No	4	8
10	Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, Cleveland	59.0	18.4	2	335	2.2	Yes	4	9
11	Children's Hospital Los Angeles	55.6	16.8	1	200	1.9	Yes	4	9
12	St. Louis Children's Hospital	53.3	10.1	3	387	2.9	Yes	4	9
13	National Jewish Medical and Research Center, Denver	51.5	26.2	0	0	4.0	No	2	6
14	Riley Hospital for Children Clarian Health Partners, Indianapolis	48.0	4.6	4	320	2.5	Yes	4	8
15	Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford, Palo Alto, Calif.	47.8	6.4	3	264	2.3	No	4	8
16	C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, Ann Arbor	47.5	1.1	6	326	2.6	No	4	9
17	Massachusetts General Hospital for Children, Boston	47.4	3.7	5	325	1.9	Yes	4	9
18	University of Minnesota Children's Hospital, Fairview	46.0	0.0	6	200	2.0	Yes	4	9
19	Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, Minneapolis	45.8	1.6	6	127	4.0	Yes	4	9
20	New York-Presbyterian Medical Center	45.5	2.9	6	130	3.2	No	3	9
21	Children's Healthcare of Atlanta	45.2	1.6	5	612	2.9	No	4	9
22	Children's National Medical Center, Washington, D.C.	44.7	2.2	6	121	2.5	No	4	9
23	Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago	44.6	1.1	4	190	3.0	Yes	4	9
24	Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio	44.4	0.0	4	346	2.0	Yes	4	9
25	UCSF Children's Hospital, San Francisco	43.6	1.8	4	82	3.3	No	4	8
26	Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	43.5	0.0	4	197	2.5	Yes	4	9
27	Primary Children's Medical Center, Salt Lake City	43.1	0.0	5	228	4.0	No	4	9
28	Duke Children's Hospital and Health Center, Durham, N.C.	43.0	1.9	4	95	2.4	Yes	4	8
29	Cook Children's Medical Center, Fort Worth	42.1	1.6	2	252	3.1	Yes	4	9
30	Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital, Hershey, Pa.	42.1	0.0	5	285	2.0	Yes	3	9

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Best Children's Hospitals

Neonatal Care

Rank	Hospital	U.S. News Score	Reputation (%)	Volume	NICU nurse staffing	Nurse Magnet hospital	Clinical support services (of 7)	Advanced technologies (of 6)	Patient & family services (of 9)
1	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	100.0	45.3	977	3.3	Yes	7	6	9
2	Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, Cleveland	90.2	38.9	91	3.0	Yes	6	6	9
3	Children's Hospital Boston	82.2	33.4	194	4.0	Yes	7	6	9
4	New York-Presbyterian Medical Center	71.7	26.9	681	2.2	No	6	6	9
5	Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford, Palo Alto, Calif.	60.2	20.8	101	2.8	No	7	6	8
6	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center	58.8	18.5	102	3.6	No	7	6	9
7	Children's Hospital, Denver	54.9	16.3	267	2.7	Yes	7	6	9
8	Texas Children's Hospital, Houston	54.9	15.9	359	2.4	Yes	7	6	9
9	Children's National Medical Center, Washington, D.C.	47.6	11.0	236	3.1	No	7	6	9
10	UCSF Children's Hospital, San Francisco	46.5	12.4	136	3.0	No	7	5	8
11	St. Louis Children's Hospital	43.8	9.4	187	2.6	Yes	7	6	9
12	Riley Hospital for Children Clarian Health Partners, Indianapolis	43.5	8.1	369	2.7	Yes	7	6	8
13	Johns Hopkins Children's Center, Baltimore	43.0	9.2	224	2.5	Yes	7	6	8
14	Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Nashville	40.7	6.7	207	3.4	Yes	7	6	9
15	C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, Ann Arbor	39.9	5.7	264	2.7	No	7	6	9
16	Massachusetts General Hospital for Children, Boston	39.2	6.5	119	3.3	Yes	7	6	9
17	Miami Children's Hospital	38.3	7.9	155	2.3	Yes	6	5	9
18	Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago	38.2	5.6	258	2.4	Yes	7	6	9
19	Duke Children's Hospital and Health Center, Durham, N.C.	37.7	4.3	290	2.7	Yes	7	6	8
20	University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital	37.6	4.3	192	2.5	Yes	7	6	9
21	Children's Hospital Los Angeles	36.5	2.8	183	3.8	Yes	7	6	9
22	Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC	36.0	3.8	121	3.5	No	7	6	8
23	Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center, Seattle	35.3	4.1	146	4.0	No	7	6	8
24	Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio	35.2	4.1	110	2.0	Yes	7	6	9
25	Children's Hospital Cleveland Clinic	35.1	3.9	68	3.1	Yes	7	6	9
26	Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics, Kansas City, Mo.	34.7	4.1	264	2.4	Yes	7	4	9
27	Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, Minneapolis	34.7	2.9	470	3.5	Yes	7	6	9
28	Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego	34.7	2.8	335	2.7	No	6	6	8
29	Children's Hospital at Montefiore, New York	34.4	2.6	208	1.9	No	7	6	9
30	Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	33.7	1.4	298	2.6	Yes	7	6	9

Apparent ties are due to rounding. Volume and other data are based on specifically defined patients, procedures, and conditions. Definitions appear on Page 54.

Best Children's Hospitals

Heart & Heart Surgery

Rank	Hospital	U.S. News Score	Reputation (%)	Surgical mortality (1 is best)	Surgical volume	Catheter procedure volume	Cardiovascular services (of 11)	Nurse staffing	Nurse Magnet hospital	Patient & family services (of 9)
1	Children's Hospital Boston	100.0	87.2	2	376	959	11	3.6	Yes	9
2	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	99.3	85.2	2	241	386	11	3.2	Yes	9
3	Texas Children's Hospital, Houston	80.8	58.7	2	292	62	11	3.4	Yes	9
4	C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, Ann Arbor	75.2	49.8	2	391	445	11	2.6	No	9
5	Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford, Palo Alto, Calif.	63.7	34.9	2	268	72	11	2.3	No	8
6	New York-Presbyterian Medical Center	56.4	17.7	1	307	370	11	3.2	No	9
7	Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	51.2	12.3	2	209	221	11	2.5	Yes	9
8	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center	50.4	12.3	3	123	192	11	3.7	No	9
9	Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio	48.5	5.6	1	133	174	11	2.0	Yes	9
10	Children's Healthcare of Atlanta	47.8	9.1	3	308	348	11	2.9	No	9
11	Childrens Hospital Los Angeles	47.2	6.6	2	212	197	11	1.9	Yes	9
12	Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago	46.9	7.9	3	133	256	11	3.0	Yes	9
13	Miami Children's Hospital	46.7	6.3	1	67	220	10	1.8	Yes	9
14	Children's National Medical Center, Washington, D.C.	46.6	7.7	3	163	336	10	2.5	No	9
15	Primary Children's Medical Center, Salt Lake City	46.1	3.0	2	196	317	11	4.0	No	9
16	Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC	45.4	4.1	2	133	129	11	2.7	No	8
17	St. Louis Children's Hospital	45.2	1.8	2	155	361	11	2.9	Yes	9
18	UCSF Children's Hospital, San Francisco	45.2	3.4	1	153	364	11	3.3	No	8
19	Medical University of South Carolina Children's Hospital, Charleston	45.0	0.0	1	148	212	11	2.9	No	7
20	Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, Los Angeles	44.8	2.9	1	71	186	11	2.5	Yes	9
21	Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.	44.6	5.6	2	104	124	11	3.4	Yes	6
22	Children's Medical Center Dallas	44.4	4.8	2	169	128	11	2.1	No	9
23	Duke Children's Hospital and Health Center, Durham, N.C.	43.9	3.7	3	139	236	11	2.4	Yes	8
24	Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, Cleveland	43.6	1.8	1	69	62	11	2.2	Yes	9
25	Cook Children's Medical Center, Fort Worth	43.2	0.0	1	120	70	11	3.1	Yes	9
26	Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children, Orlando	43.2	0.0	1	56	169	11	2.5	No	9
27	Children's Hospital, Denver	42.8	2.9	3	126	262	9	2.4	Yes	9
28	Arkansas Children's Hospital, Little Rock	42.6	1.8	3	130	216	11	3.1	No	9
29	Johns Hopkins Children's Center, Baltimore	42.6	0.0	2	158	188	10	2.5	Yes	8
30	Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center, Seattle	42.6	1.1	2	77	280	11	2.6	No	8

Apparent ties are due to rounding. Volume and other data are based on specifically defined patients, procedures, and conditions. Definitions appear on Page 54.

