



FACT SHEET

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2026 Medicare Advantage and Part D Star Ratings

Note: The information included in this Fact Sheet is based on the 2026 Star Ratings published on the Medicare Plan Finder on October 9, 2025. For details on the Medicare Advantage (MA) and Part D Star Ratings, please refer to the 2026 Part C & D Star Ratings Technical Notes available at <http://go.cms.gov/partcanddstarratings>.

Ensuring that Medicare works for seniors and people with disabilities and that people with Medicare have access to robust, stable, high-quality, and affordable options for the coverage they need are top priorities for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). As part of this, CMS is focused on continuing to improve the quality of the MA and Part D programs. As the results for the 2026 Star Ratings demonstrate, CMS continues to implement enhancements to the MA and Part D Star Ratings program to incentivize plans to continue to strive for continual quality improvement and to help ensure that Medicare enrollees receive high quality care.

CMS publishes the Medicare Advantage (Medicare Part C) and Medicare Part D Star Ratings each year to measure the quality of health and prescription drug services received by consumers enrolled in MA and Part D prescription drug plans (PDPs or Part D plans). An important component of the Star Ratings is to provide people with Medicare and their caregivers with meaningful information about quality alongside information about benefits and costs to assist them in comparing Medicare health and drug plans and choosing the Medicare coverage option that best fits their health needs.

The 2026 Star Ratings appear on Medicare Plan Finder for 2026 Open Enrollment and will impact 2027 MA quality bonus payments.

Highlights of Contract Performance in 2026 Star Ratings

Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug (MA-PD) contracts are rated on up to 43 unique quality and performance measures; MA-only contracts (without Part D coverage) are rated on up to 33 measures; and PDP contracts are rated on up to 12 measures. For each measure, CMS establishes thresholds called “cut points” that are used to determine whether each contract’s performance for that measure receives a one, two, three, four, or five-star rating.

Changes in the Methodology for the 2026 Star Ratings

CMS made changes to the methodology for the 2026 Star Ratings through previous notice and comment rulemaking. The weight of patient experience/complaints and access measures decreased from four to two beginning with the 2026 Star Ratings.ⁱ There is one new measure added beginning with the 2026 Star Ratings: Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes.ⁱ There are also two measures, Improving or Maintaining Physical Health and Improving or Maintaining Mental Health, returning to the 2026 Star Ratings after substantive specification changes.ⁱⁱ The Improving or Maintaining Physical Health and Improving or Maintaining Mental Health measures have a weight of one for the 2026 Star Ratings and then a weight of three beginning with the 2027 Star Ratings. Additionally, starting with the 2026 Star Ratings we are no longer removing the numeric values for affected contracts with 60% or more of their enrollees in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated Individual Assistance areas at the time of an extreme and uncontrollable circumstance from the cut points clustering algorithm for non-Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) measures and from the reward factor calculations.ⁱ

Rating Distributionⁱⁱⁱ

The last row in Table 1 shows the trend in the average overall Star Ratings weighted by enrollment for MA-PDs from 2023-2026 after any adjustments for extreme and uncontrollable circumstances.^{iv}

- Approximately 40% of MA-PDs (207 contracts) that will be offered in 2026 earned four stars or higher for their 2026 overall rating.
- Weighted by enrollment, approximately 64% of MA-PD enrollees are currently in contracts that will have four or more stars in 2026.

Changes in Star Ratings year-over-year are normal and expected and vary by measure. Star Ratings are intended to capture a contract's performance during the measurement period, with some contracts performing better or worse in different years. The cut points are recalculated each year based on performance during the measurement period.

Table 1: Overall Star Rating Distribution for MA-PD Contracts (2023 – 2026)

Overall Rating	2023			2024			2025			2026		
	# ^a	%	Weighted by Enrollment	# ^a	%	Weighted by Enrollment	# ^a	%	Weighted by Enrollment	# ^a	%	Weighted by Enrollment
5 stars	57	11.24	21.87	38	6.97	7.64	9	1.73	1.98	18	3.49	2.36
4.5 stars	67	13.21	25.92	81	14.86	31.76	85	16.31	29.73	73	14.15	35.75
4 stars	136	26.82	24.26	123	22.57	36.94	120	23.03	32.15	116	22.48	26.25
3.5 stars	116	22.88	18.71	141	25.87	15.89	170	32.63	29.19	175	33.91	28.09
3 stars	90	17.75	6.73	126	23.12	6.77	115	22.07	5.96	111	21.51	7.04
2.5 stars	37	7.30	2.39	32	5.87	0.96	21	4.03	0.99	21	4.07	0.48
2 stars	4	0.79	0.12	4	0.73	0.03	1	0.19	0.01	2	0.39	0.04
Total Rated Contracts	507			545			521			516		
Average Star Rating ^b	4.14			4.07			3.95			3.98		

^a Number of contracts

^b The average overall MA-PD Star Rating is weighted by enrollment. The overall rating is a weighted average of the Part C and D measure stars.

The last row in Table 2 shows the average Part D Ratings weighted by enrollment for stand-alone PDPs from 2023-2026 after any adjustments for extreme and uncontrollable circumstances.^{iv}

- Approximately 23% of PDPs (9 contracts) that will be active in 2026 received four or more stars for their 2026 Part D Rating.
- Weighted by enrollment, approximately 2% of PDP enrollees are currently in contracts that will have four or more stars in 2026.

Table 2: Part D Rating Distribution for PDPs (2023 – 2026)

Part D Rating	2023			2024			2025			2026		
	# ^c	%	Weighted by Enrollment	# ^c	%	Weighted by Enrollment	# ^c	%	Weighted by Enrollment	# ^c	%	Weighted by Enrollment
5 stars	2	3.85	0.06	2	4.17	0.04	2	4.88	0.04	2	5	0.04
4.5 stars	7	13.46	0.90	4	8.33	0.60	6	14.63	0.94	5	12.5	0.87
4 stars	7	13.46	7.89	12	25.00	22.82	3	7.32	3.60	2	5	0.94
3.5 stars	11	21.15	36.89	10	20.83	24.45	11	26.83	53.61	6	15	35.65
3 stars	16	30.77	49.10	14	29.17	49.56	10	24.39	4.04	18	45	36.54
2.5 stars	4	7.69	3.18	2	4.17	0.04	8	19.51	36.23	5	12.5	13.9
2 stars	4	7.69	0.58	4	8.33	2.48	1	2.44	1.54	2	5	12.07
1.5 stars	1	1.92	1.39	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
Total Rated Contracts	52			48			41			40		
Average Star Rating ^d	3.25			3.34			3.12			3.01		

^c Number of contracts^d The average Star Rating is weighted by enrollment.***Five-Star Contracts***

A total of 21 contracts are highlighted on the Medicare Plan Finder with a high performing icon^v indicating they earned five stars: 18 are MA-PD contracts (Table A1 in Appendix), one is a section 1876 Cost contract (Table A2 in Appendix), and two are PDPs (Table A3 in Appendix). For 2026, five of the contracts receiving the high performing icon also received it in 2025.

Consistently Low Performers

There are four MA-PD contracts identified on the Medicare Plan Finder with a low performing icon (LPI)^{vi} for 2026 for consistently low-quality ratings (Table A4 in Appendix). Last year, six contracts received this icon.

Tax Status and Performance

Organizations that are non-profit more frequently earn higher ratings than organizations that are for-profit. For MA-PDs, approximately 50% of non-profit contracts received four or more stars compared to 36% of for-profit MA-PDs. Similarly, for PDPs, approximately 28% of non-profit PDPs received four or more stars compared to 14% of for-profit PDPs.

Below are the ratings distributions by tax status for MA-PD (Table 3) and PDP (Table 4) contracts after any adjustments for extreme and uncontrollable circumstances.^{iv}

Table 3: Distribution of 2026 Overall Star Ratings for For-profit and Non-profit MA-PDs

2026 Overall Rating	Number of For-Profit Contracts	% For-Profit	Weighted By Enrollment For-Profit	Number of Non-Profit Contracts	% Non-Profit	Weighted By Enrollment Non-Profit
5 stars	17	4.74	2.82	1	0.64	0.81
4.5 stars	42	11.70	31.75	31	19.75	49.18
4 stars	69	19.22	25.40	47	29.94	29.12
3.5 stars	124	34.54	31.84	51	32.48	15.47
3 stars	86	23.96	7.61	25	15.92	5.11
2.5 stars	19	5.29	0.53	2	1.27	0.31
2 stars	2	0.56	0.05	0	0	0
Total Rated Contracts	359			157		

Table 4: Distribution of 2026 Part D Ratings for For-profit and Non-profit PDPs^e

2026 Part D Rating	Number of For-Profit Contracts	% For-Profit	Weighted By Enrollment For-Profit	Number of Non-Profit Contracts	% Non-Profit	Weighted By Enrollment Non-Profit
5 stars	1	4.76	0.01	1	5.56	0.48
4.5 stars	2	9.52	0.46	3	16.67	6.98
4 stars	0	0	0	1	5.56	0.21
3.5 stars	4	19.05	37.35	2	11.11	16.10
3 stars	10	47.62	34.88	8	44.44	65.92
2.5 stars	2	9.52	14.29	3	16.67	10.30
2 stars	2	9.52	13.02	0	0	0
Total Rated Contracts	21			18		

^e One PDP is missing information about tax status.

Length of Time in Program and Performance

Generally, higher overall Star Ratings are associated with contracts that have more experience in the MA program. MA-PDs with 10 or more years in the program are more likely to have four or more stars compared to MA-PDs with less than five years in the program. There are very few PDPs with less than 10 years of experience in the program so the relationship is not as clear. There are only two PDPs with less than 10 years of experience, and they both earned 3 stars. The tables below show the distribution of ratings by the number of years in the program (MA-PDs are shown in Table 5 and PDPs in Table 6 after adjustments for extreme and uncontrollable circumstances).^{iv}

Table 5: Distribution of 2026 Overall Star Ratings by Length of Time in Program for MA-PDs

2026 Overall Rating	Number of Contracts with Less than 5 Years	% Less than 5 Years	Number of Contracts with 5 years to Less than 10 Years	% 5 Years to Less than 10 Years	Number of Contracts with 10 or More Years	% 10 or More Years
5 stars	6	5.50	6	4.88	6	2.11
4.5 stars	7	6.42	11	8.94	55	19.37
4 stars	20	18.35	29	23.58	67	23.59
3.5 stars	39	35.78	41	33.33	95	33.45
3 stars	29	26.61	30	24.39	52	18.31
2.5 stars	8	7.34	6	4.88	7	2.46
2 stars	0	0	0	0	2	0.7
Total Rated Contracts	109		123		284	

Table 6: Distribution of 2026 Part D Ratings by Length of Time in Program for PDPs

2026 Part D Rating	Number of Contracts with Less than 5 Years	% Less than 5 Years	Number of Contracts with 5 years to Less than 10 Years	% 5 Years to Less than 10 Years	Number of Contracts with 10 or More Years	% 10 or More Years
5 stars	0	0	0	0	2	5.26
4.5 stars	0	0	0	0	5	13.16
4 stars	0	0	0	0	2	5.26
3.5 stars	0	0	0	0	6	15.79
3 stars	1	100	1	100	16	42.11
2.5 stars	0	0	0	0	5	13.16
2 stars	0	0	0	0	2	5.26
Total Rated Contracts	1		1		38	

Average Star Rating for Each Measure

Below we list the average Star Ratings for 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 Part C and D measures (Tables 7, 8, and 9) using all measure scores for contracts that are publicly reported in a given year. All Star Ratings referenced in Tables 7-9 are after adjustments for extreme and uncontrollable circumstances have been applied.^{iv}

Table 7: Average Star Rating by Part C Measure (2023 – 2026)

Measure	2023	2024	2025	2026
Breast Cancer Screening	3.7	3.7	3.4	3.2
Colorectal Cancer Screening	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.8
Annual Flu Vaccine	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.2
Improving or Maintaining Physical Health	-	-	-	3.2
Improving or Maintaining Mental Health	-	-	-	3.2
Monitoring Physical Activity	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.1
Special Needs Plan (SNP) Care Management	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.5
Care for Older Adults – Medication Review	4.4	4.1	4.1	4.2
Care for Older Adults – Pain Assessment	4.3	4.0	4.2	3.9
Osteoporosis Management in Women who had a Fracture	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.8
Diabetes Care – Eye Exam	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.4
Diabetes Care – Blood Sugar Controlled	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.6
Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes	-	-	-	3.5
Controlling Blood Pressure	3.5	3.4	3.0	3.4
Reducing the Risk of Falling	2.9	2.9	2.6	2.7
Improving Bladder Control	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.7
Medication Reconciliation Post-Discharge	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.8
Plan All-Cause Readmissions	NA	2.9	3.1	2.9
Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease	3.5	3.3	3.0	3.3
Transitions of Care	NA	2.5	3.0	3.1
Follow-up after Emergency Department Visit for People with Multiple High-Risk Chronic Conditions	NA	3.0	3.2	2.8
Getting Needed Care	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.4
Getting Appointments and Care Quickly	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Customer Service	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.5
Rating of Health Care Quality	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.4
Rating of Health Plan	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.4
Care Coordination	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.5

Measure	2023	2024	2025	2026
Complaints about the Plan	4.3	4.1	4.2	4.1
Members Choosing to Leave the Plan	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7
Health Plan Quality Improvement	2.6	2.9	3.6	3.5
Plan Makes Timely Decisions about Appeals	4.6.	4.3	4.2	4.1
Reviewing Appeals Decisions	4.4	3.7	3.7	3.7
Call Center – Foreign Language Interpreter and TTY Availability	4.3	4.5	4.0	4.2

Table 8: Average Star Rating by Part D Measure for MA-PDs (2023 – 2026)

Measure	2023	2024	2025	2026
Call Center – Foreign Language Interpreter and TTY Availability	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.4
Complaints about the Plan	4.3	4.1	4.2	4.1
Members Choosing to Leave the Plan	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7
Drug Plan Quality Improvement	2.7	3.4	3.3	3.4
Rating of Drug Plan	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.3
Getting Needed Prescription Drugs	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.5
MPF Price Accuracy	4.2	3.6	3.4	4.6
Medication Adherence for Diabetes Medications	3.0	3.3	3.2	3.1
Medication Adherence for Hypertension (RAS antagonists)	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3
Medication Adherence for Cholesterol (Statins)	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.2
MTM Program Completion Rate for CMR	3.9	3.6	3.7	3.7
Statin Use in Persons with Diabetes (SUPD)	3.1	2.7	2.8	3.3

Table 9: Average Star Rating by Part D Measure for PDPs (2023 – 2026)

Measure	2023	2024	2025	2026
Call Center – Foreign Language Interpreter and TTY Availability	4.1	3.6	3.8	4.2
Complaints about the Plan	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.5
Members Choosing to Leave the Plan	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.5
Drug Plan Quality Improvement	2.2	3.0	3.0	3.2
Rating of Drug Plan	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.5
Getting Needed Prescription Drugs	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.6
MPF Price Accuracy	3.5	3.6	3.1	4.7
Medication Adherence for Diabetes Medications	2.9	2.6	2.4	2.7
Medication Adherence for Hypertension (RAS antagonists)	2.7	2.6	2.9	2.6
Medication Adherence for Cholesterol (Statins)	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.7
MTM Program Completion Rate for CMR	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.4
Statin Use in Persons with Diabetes (SUPD)	2.9	2.4	2.7	3.3

APPENDIX

Table A1: MA-PD Contracts Receiving the 2026 High Performing Icon

Contract ID	Contract Name	Parent Organization	10/2025 Enrollment	Five Stars Last Year
H1290	Devoted Health Plan of Florida, Inc.	Devoted Health, Inc.	30,164	No
H3256	Care Improvement plus South-Central Insurance Co.	UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	69,229	No
H3362	Independent Health Association, Inc.	Independent Health Association, Inc.	64,624	No
H4003	MMM Healthcare, LLC	Elevance Health, Inc.	101,252	No
H4004	MMM Healthcare, LLC	Elevance Health, Inc.	113,406	No
H4172	NHC Advantage, LLC	Missouri Healthcare Advisors, LLC	1,302	No
H4286	Leon Health, Inc.	LMC Family Holdings, LLC	39,450	Yes
H5015	Texas Independence Health Plan, Inc.	Regency ISNP Holdings LLC	2,586	No
H5296	Alignment Health Plan of North Carolina, Inc.	Alignment Healthcare USA, LLC	21,389	Yes
H5299	Devoted Health Plan of North Carolina, Inc.	Devoted Health, Inc.	3,812	No
H5374	Longevity Health Plan of North Carolina, Inc.	Longevity Health Founders, LLC	1,164	No
H5577	MCS Advantage, Inc.	MHH Healthcare, L.P.	332,942	Yes
H5652	Sierra Health and Life Insurance Company, Inc.	UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	6,942	Yes
H6988	Anthem HP, LLC	Elevance Health, Inc.	2,984	No
H7993	Devoted Health Plan of Texas, Inc.	Devoted Health, Inc.	24,613	No
H8093	Georgia Assurance, Inc.	Mitchell Family Office	1,855	No
H9590	Longevity Health Plan of Illinois, Inc.	Longevity Health Founders, LLC	1,099	No
H9686	Alignment Health Plan of Nevada, Inc.	Alignment Healthcare USA, LLC	2,020	No

Table A2: 1876 Cost Contract Receiving the 2026 High Performing Icon

Contract ID	Contract Name	Parent Organization	10/2025 Enrollment	Five Stars Last Year
H1651	Medical Associated Health Plan, Inc.	Medical Associates Clinic, P.C.	14,759	No

Table A3: PDP Contracts Receiving the 2026 High Performing Icon

Contract ID	Contract Name	Parent Organization	10/2025 Enrollment	Five Stars Last Year
S4501	Independent Health Benefits Corporation	Independent Health Association, Inc.	7,253	Yes
S8067	Avalon Insurance Company	Capital Blue Cross	1,199	No

Table A4: Contracts Receiving the Low Performing Icon for the 2026 Star Ratings

Contract ID	Contract Name	Parent Organization	Reason for Low Performance Warning	10/2025 Enrollment
H4982	Aetna Better Health of California, Inc.	CVS Health Corporation	Part C or D	19,157
H5965	Wellcare Health Insurance Company of Washington	Centene Corporation	Part C or D	16,271
H6891	American Health Plan of Texas, Inc.	Mitchell Family Office	Part D	541
H7389	HealthSpring Life & Health Insurance Company, Inc.	Health Care Service Corporation	Part C or D	4,976

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ⁱ Contract Year 2024 Policy and Technical Changes to the Medicare Advantage Program, Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program, Medicare Cost Plan Program, and Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly. <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/04/12/2023-07115/medicare-program-contract-year-2024-policy-and-technical-changes-to-the-medicare-advantage-program>

ⁱⁱ Contract Year 2022 Policy and Technical Changes to the Medicare Advantage Program, Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program, Medicaid Program, Medicare Cost Plan Program, and Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly. <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/01/19/2021-00538/medicare-and-medicaid-programs-contract-year-2022-policy-and-technical-changes-to-the-medicare>

ⁱⁱⁱ Percentages in the tables may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

^{iv} The qualifying extreme and uncontrollable circumstances for the 2024 performance period include Hurricane Beryl in Texas; Hurricane Debby in Florida and Georgia; Hurricane Francine in Louisiana, Hurricane/Tropical Storm Helene in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and South Carolina; and Hurricane Milton in Florida. Further, the January 2025 Los Angeles County wildfires were also a qualifying extreme and uncontrollable circumstance for CAHPS measures in the 2026 Star Ratings. See the 2026 Rate Announcement at [announcement-of-calendar-year-cy-2026-medicare-advantage-ma-capitation-rates-and-part-c-and-part-d-payment-policies_0.pdf](#).

^v 42 C.F.R. §§ 422.166(h)(1)(i), 423.186(h)(1)(i).

^{vi} 42 C.F.R. §§ 422.166(h)(1)(ii), 423.186(h)(1)(ii).