

Peer Groups for Hospice PEPPER

Peer groups were created for hospices (HSPC) based on three different characteristics. Each Hospice with PEPPER statistics in the represented fiscal year was placed in the appropriate peer group based on information obtained from either the Provider of Services file or claims data. The Provider of Services file is available for download from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website. It contains data from the Online Survey, Certification and Reporting (OSCAR) system. The data are collected through the CMS Regional Offices, and the file is updated quarterly.

Percentiles (20th, 50th, and 80th) were calculated for each peer group for each target area for episodes ending in the fiscal year. Each characteristic was analyzed independently of the others. There had to be at least 11 providers in a peer group with reportable data for a target area in order to calculate percentiles. Bar charts were prepared to display the percentiles for each peer group. The following table provides details on how the peer groups were constructed.

Characteristic	Source of Information	Peer Group	How defined
Location	Provider of Services file: CBSA Urban Rural Indicator	Urban	U – County in which the provider is located is defined as Urban according to Core Based Statistical Area
		Rural	R – County in which the provider is located is defined as Rural according to Core Based Statistical Area
Ownership Type	Provider of Services file: Ownership Type Code [Note: Providers that fell into the category 13-Other, were not included in this analysis]	Nonprofit/Church	01 – Church 02 – Private 03 – Other
		For Profit/Physician Ownership	04 – Individual 05 – Partnership 06 – Corporation 07 – Other
		Government	08 – State 09 – County 10 – City 11 – City-County 12 – Combination Government and Nonprofit
Size	Claims for episodes ending in the current year	Smallest 1/3 number of Claims	1 – Smallest 1/3 of Hospices
		Middle 1/3 number of Claims	2 – Middle 1/3 of Hospices
		Largest 1/3 number of Claims	3 – Largest 1/3 of Hospices