

Nursing Home Violations: ProPublica Report

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Looking for the right nursing home? ProPublica's database of over 90,000 inspection reports exposes serious violations and helps you make an informed decision.

By Samantha Dorger

There were over 1.25 million nursing home residents in the U.S. in 2024 and 14,827 certified nursing facilities, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation.

At a recent congressional hearing, there was a general consensus that proposed \$880 billion cuts to Medicaid could jeopardize the care of vulnerable populations, including seniors and disabled people, according to industry publication Skilled Nursing News.

If you're trying to advocate for an aging parent, how do you find the right facility?

One [database](#) of over 90,000 nursing home inspection reports at [Propublica.org](#) provides a window into some of the worst nursing home violations around the country, and the scope of their impact.

- Some facilities failed to protect residents from abuse, such as physical, mental and sexual abuse, physical punishment, and neglect.
- The most serious violations present immediate jeopardy to resident health and safety, meaning residents affected are at risk of serious injury, harm, impairment or death.
- Violations include failure to honor a resident's right to refuse to participate in experimental research.

Here are some of the findings by ProPublica:

These states had the most nursing homes with at least one serious deficiency over three years:

1. Texas: 53%
2. Rhode Island: 48%
3. New Mexico: 47%
4. Minnesota: 44%
5. Kansas: 42%
6. North Carolina: 42%
7. South Carolina: 42%
8. Delaware: 41%

Learn more, or [search nursing homes by state](#) or individually at ProPublica.

Source: ProPublica's Nursing Home Inspect, updated November 2024, uses data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Information on deficiencies comes from a home's last three inspection cycles, or roughly three years in total.