

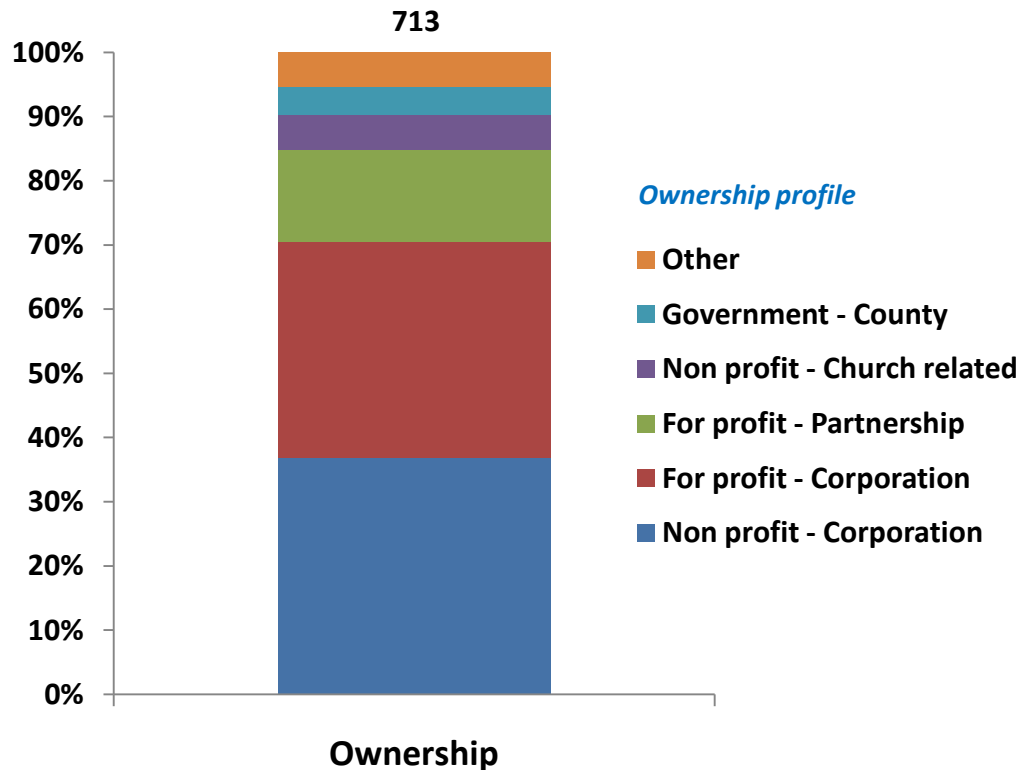


TM  
**Four  
Seasons**  
HEALTHCARE  
In-Home Care and Case Management

## **Does Bigger Mean Better?**

**An Analysis of Size and Medicare Ratings  
of Skilled Residential Nursing Facilities in  
Pennsylvania**

# THERE ARE 713 SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES IN PENNSYLVANIA CARING FOR 80,571 RESIDENTS<sup>1</sup>.

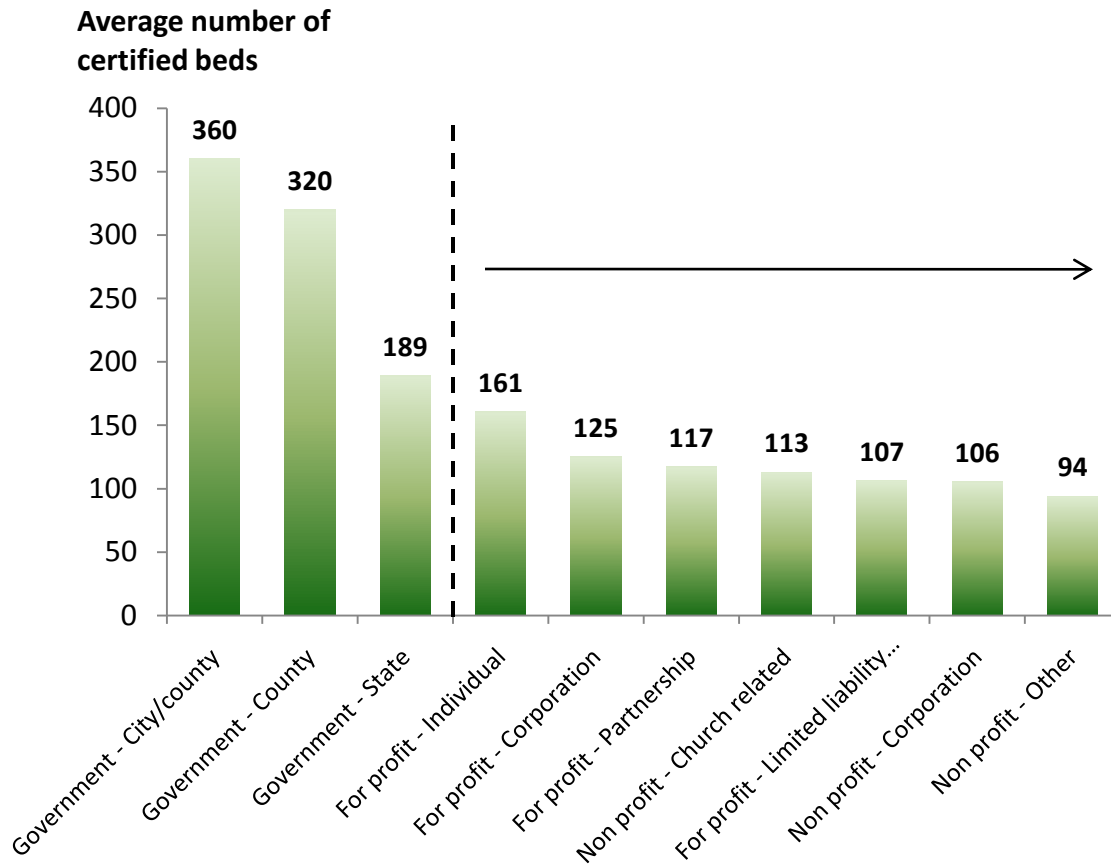


- Medicare regularly inspects and scores facilities on a scale of 1-5 where 5 is the best. A number of variables are rated along with an overall rating, which is used here.
- What can Medicare data tell us about overall standards and performance?

Source: medicare.gov. <sup>1</sup>Also includes skilled facilities in Assisted Living and Continuing Care Communities.



## FOR-PROFIT FACILITIES GENERALLY HAVE MORE CERTIFIED BEDS <sup>1</sup> THAN NON-PROFIT FACILITIES.



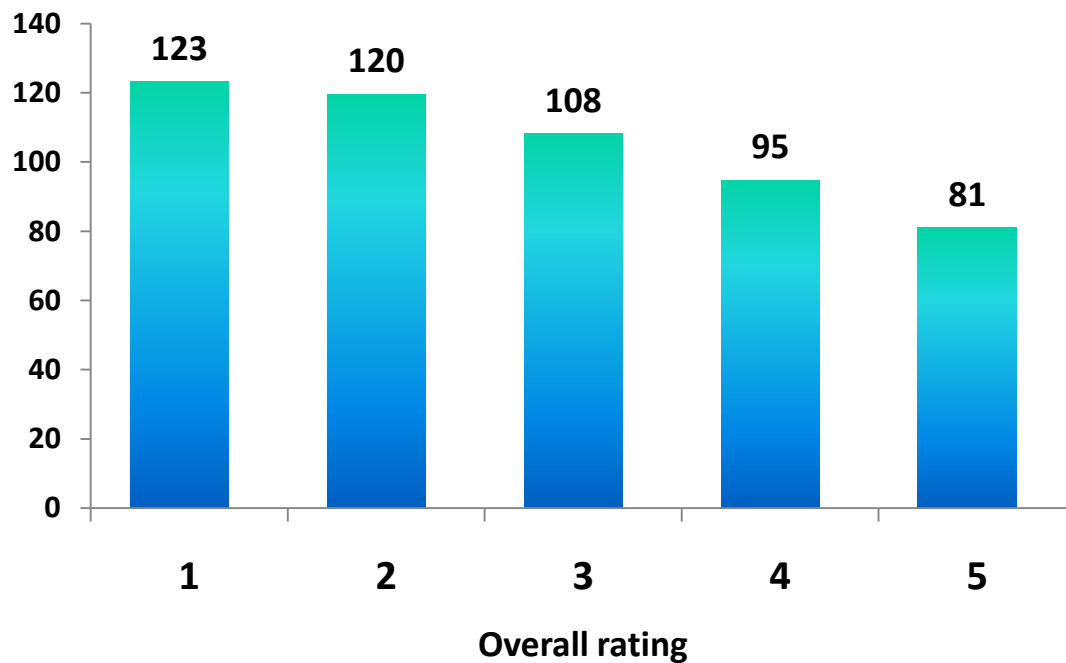
- **Government (County) Homes** are larger because they are serving the whole community
- For-profits have increased the size of their facilities over the years to accommodate lucrative shorter-stay rehabilitation patients

Source: medicare.gov. Includes skilled facilities in Assisted Living and Continuing Care Communities. <sup>1</sup> **Certified Beds:** A 'legal' bed in a health care facility approved by authorities for use by Patients on a permanent basis, and which the governing body—usually the state board of health—deemed to have sufficient staffing to support its unqualified use.



## SMALLER FACILITIES SCORE HIGHER RATINGS (REGARDLESS OF OWNERSHIP).

Certified number  
of beds (average)

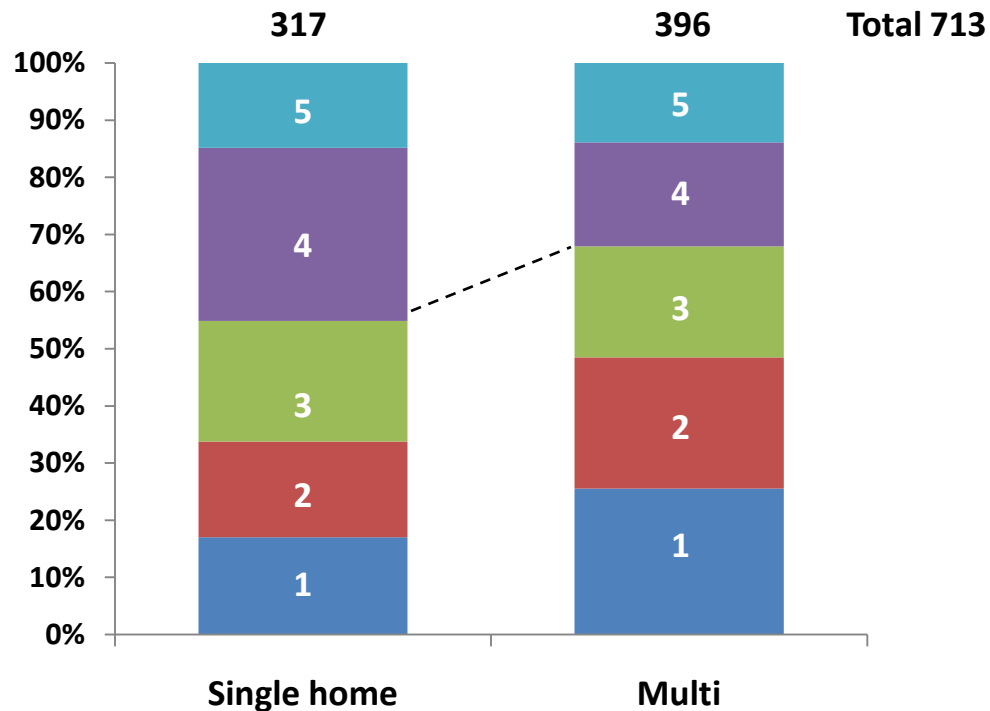


- How does ownership profile affect ratings?

Source: medicare.gov. 713 facilities. Includes skilled facilities in Assisted Living and Continuing Care Communities. Overall Rating combines Health, Quality Measures, RN and Nurse Staffing ratings. Occupancy gives the same results.



**45% OF NON-GROUP OWNED HOMES SCORE A RATING OF 4 AND ABOVE. ONLY 32% OF GROUP-OWNED HOMES ACHIEVE THESE RATINGS.**



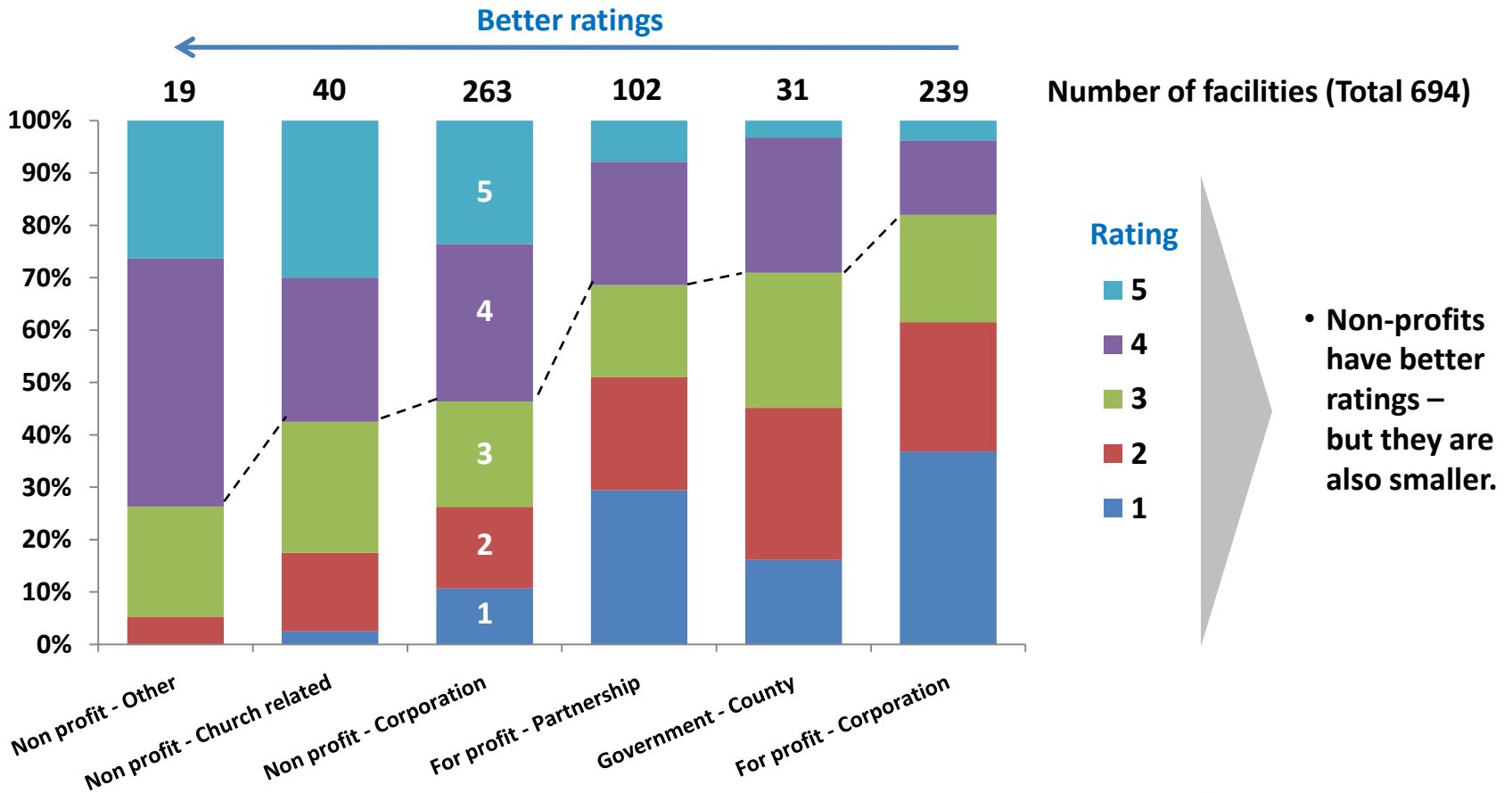
**Ownership**

- Single home operators, score , higher ratings than multi-home operators
- What about for-profit vs. non-profit homes?

Source: medicare.gov. Includes skilled facilities in Assisted Living and Continuing Care Communities. 713 Facilities.



# NON-PROFIT FACILITIES SCORE HIGHER RATINGS

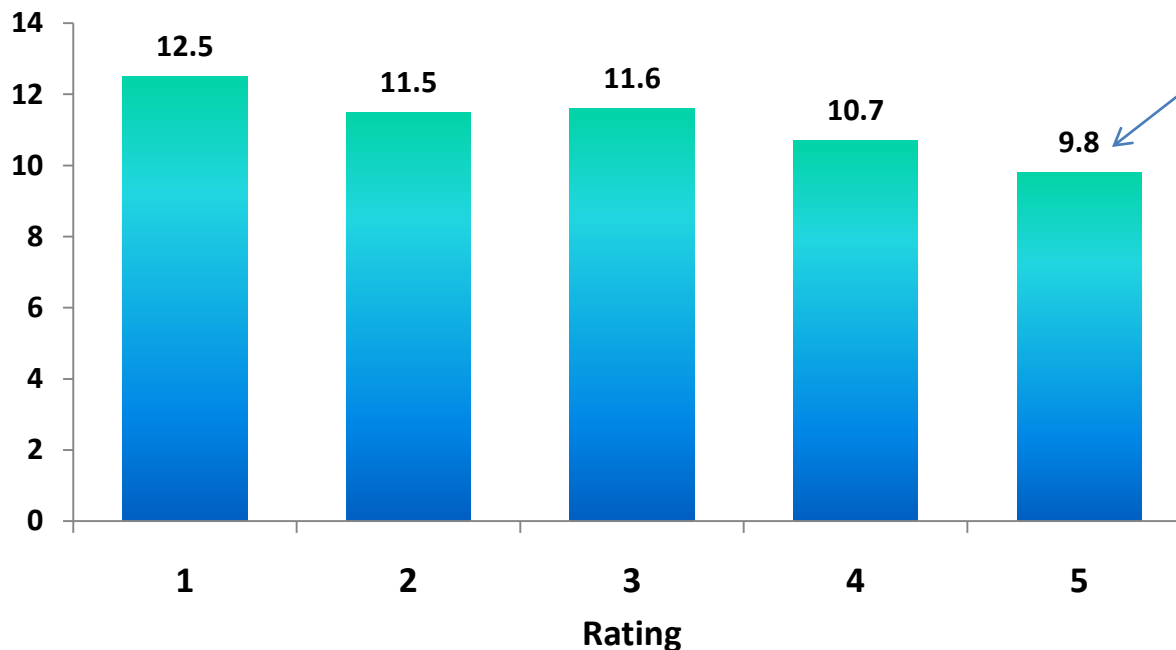


Source: medicare.gov. Includes skilled facilities in Assisted Living and Continuing Care Communities. 694 Facilities in this sample.



**BED SORES ARE A HUGE ISSUE FOR NURSING HOMES. AS DIABETES IN THE POPULATION INCREASES SO DO BED SORES. AND, IN TURN, LITIGATION! MEDICARE INSPECTIONS MEASURE THE PREVALENCE OF BED SORES IN EACH SKILLED FACILITY.**

Percent of long term high risk patients with sores



5 star facilities have, on average, the lowest level of bed sores, at 9.8%.

Source: medicare.gov. 713 facilities. Bed sores can happen to anyone with limited mobility, but those with diabetes are especially at risk for developing these pressure sores. Bed sores are caused by lying or sitting in one position, trapping skin and tissue between the bones and the bed or wheelchair. The blood pools in one spot and cannot flow properly, causing damage to the tissue. Diabetics are not only more prone to bed sores, they also have a more difficult time recovering from pressure sores. Although easily prevented and completely treatable if found early, bedsores are often fatal – even under the auspices of medical care. – and are one of the leading iatrogenic causes of death reported in developed countries, second only to adverse drug reactions. Prior to the 1950s, treatment was ineffective until Doreen Norton showed that the primary cure and treatment was to remove the pressure by turning the patient every two hours. Source: livestrong.com, Wikipedia




## SUMMARY

- Non-profit facilities are generally smaller.
- Non-profits , on average, score higher ratings.
- Size, however, has an equal influence on rating across ownership type.

*If you are considering Nursing Homes as an option you should:*

- Check the *latest* specific Medicare data for each facility.
- Visit the facility.
- Judge for yourself!

- 
- Size does matter!...
  - .....but other factors may matter more to you.

