

# YESpbj

## Star Rating Predictor

User Guide

[yespbj.com](https://yespbj.com)

### What does this tool do?

The Star Rating Predictor estimates your facility's CMS Staffing Star Rating based on your current schedule. Enter your shift counts and turnover data, and the tool instantly shows your predicted star rating and score — no waiting, no spreadsheets.

*Use it to: [see where you stand today](#) · [model staffing changes](#) · [plan your path to a higher star rating](#)*

## Getting Oriented

When you open the tool, you'll see two panels side by side:

<b>LEFT PANEL</b>	<b>Staffing Inputs — where you enter your data</b>
<b>RIGHT PANEL</b>	Results — your predicted rating, score, metrics, and recommendations

### Tip

The results update automatically every time you change a number. You don't need to press any button.

## Step-by-Step Instructions

### 1 Sync Your Facility Data (Fastest Way to Start)

If you have your facility's CCN (6-digit CMS Certification Number), you can skip manual data entry for most fields.

1. Find the CCN field at the top of the left panel, labeled "CMS Data Sync."
2. Type your 6-digit CCN into the box (example: 365730).

3. Click the  Sync button.
4. The tool will look up your facility in the CMS database and automatically fill in your Case-Mix values, National Averages, and Turnover data.
5. You'll see a green confirmation message and your facility name will appear at the top of the results panel.

 **Tip**

Your CCN is printed on your CMS correspondence and is also visible in Care Compare at [medicare.gov](http://medicare.gov). It's always 6 digits.

 **Note**

Sync requires an internet connection. The data comes directly from CMS and is updated each quarter. If sync fails, enter the values manually (see Step 3).

## 2 Set Your Census

In the Facility section, enter your current average daily census — the number of residents in your facility.

- Find the "Census (residents)" field
- Enter your average daily resident count (e.g., 85)
- This is used to calculate Hours Per Resident Per Day (HPPD), which is how CMS measures staffing levels

 **Note**

Use your average daily census for the quarter, not just today's count. A higher census with the same staff = lower HPPD = lower score.

## 3 Enter Your Staffing Schedule

This is the heart of the tool. You'll enter how many staff you have scheduled per shift, for each role, separately for Weekdays and Weekends.

### How to Read the Staffing Grid

Each row is a staff role. Each column is a shift: Day, Eve (Evening), and Ngt (Night). Enter the number of staff on that shift.

Row	What to enter
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<b>Supervisor / DON (RN hrs)</b>	The number of DON or supervisory RNs on duty each shift. These count toward RN hours only, not LPN hours.
<b>RN (excl. Sup.)</b>	Staff RNs not including the supervisor. Combined with the DON/Supervisor row for your total RN HPPD.
<b>LPN</b>	Licensed Practical Nurses on each shift. Count toward total nursing hours but not RN hours.
<b>CNA / GNA</b>	Certified or Geriatric Nursing Assistants per shift. Typically your largest group.

You can enter decimals. For example, if you have one RN who splits shifts — enter 0.5.

### Hrs/Day and 1:Ratio Columns

These columns calculate automatically as you type:

- Hrs/Day — total nursing hours for that role per day (shifts × hours per shift)
- 1:Ratio — roughly how many residents per staff member on that role (e.g., 1:8 means one CNA per 8 residents)

### Do This for Both Weekday and Weekend

Scroll down in the left panel to find the Weekend Staffing grid. Many facilities run leaner on weekends — make sure this reflects your actual weekend schedule, as CMS scores weekends separately.

#### Tip

You can enter partial shifts (0.5, 1.5, etc.) if your scheduling doesn't work in whole numbers. The tool handles decimals.

## 4 Enter Turnover Data

Scroll down to the "Turnover (%)" section. Turnover makes up 130 of the 380 possible points, so it has a meaningful impact on your star rating.

Field	What to enter
<b>Total Nurse Turnover</b>	The percentage of all nursing staff (RN + LPN + CNA) who left your facility in the past 12 months. Example: if 20 of your 50 nurses left, enter 40.
<b>RN Turnover</b>	The percentage of RNs specifically who left in the past 12 months.
<b>Administrator Turnover</b>	The number of administrators who left in the past 12 months. Enter 0, 1, or 2 (anything 2 or above is scored the same).

To temporarily remove turnover from the score and see what your rating would be based on staffing hours alone, flip the "Include turnover in score" toggle to Off in the Turnover Score section.

 **Tip**

If you synced your CCN, turnover data was pulled automatically from CMS and you may not need to enter it manually.

## 5 Read Your Results

The right panel updates instantly as you enter data. Here's what each section tells you:

### ★ Star Rating Hero (top of results panel)

- Your predicted star rating (1–5 stars) based on CMS methodology
- Your total score out of 380 points
- A progress bar showing where your score falls relative to the star cutoffs
- A one-line description of your rating level

### HPPD Metric Cards (middle section)

Three cards show your case-mix adjusted Hours Per Resident Per Day for:

- Total Nursing HPPD — all staff combined (worth up to 100 pts)
- RN HPPD — RNs and supervisor only (worth up to 100 pts)
- Weekend HPPD — all staff on weekends only (worth up to 50 pts)

Each card also shows your point score for that metric (e.g., "60 / 100 pts") and a badge indicating whether your performance is Strong, Moderate, or Low.

### Turnover Cards (below HPPD cards)

- Shows your turnover rates and point scores for all three turnover metrics
- Badges indicate Good, Fair, or High Turnover performance

### Star Rating Cutoff Table (bottom of results)

A reference table showing the point range required for each star level. Your current star rating is highlighted in navy.

## 6 Use the Target Star Analysis

This section answers the question: "What would it take to reach a higher star rating?"

6. In the left panel, find the "Target Star Rating" buttons.
7. Click the star level you're aiming for (1–5).
8. The Target Star Analysis section in the results panel will update to show:
  - Whether your Total Nursing HPPD, RN HPPD, and Weekend HPPD are already at the required level
  - If not, how many additional hours per day are needed on weekends and weekdays
  - A recommendation box with specific steps (e.g., "Add 12.5 hrs/day on weekends via CNA")

#### **Important**

Reaching the HPPD thresholds for a star level doesn't automatically guarantee that star rating — your total point score must also cross the cutoff (e.g., 320 pts for 5-star). If your turnover scores are dragging you down, the tool will warn you.

#### **Tip**

Try setting your target to one star above your current rating and read the recommendations. This is the most practical way to use the Target Analysis — incremental improvement is more actionable than a big jump.

## **7 Adjust Settings (Optional)**

At the bottom of the left panel are two sections you generally won't need to change, but can if your facility is different from the defaults:

### **Hours Per Shift**

- RN / LPN hrs per shift — defaults to 8 hours. Change this if your facility uses different shift lengths (e.g., 12-hour shifts).
- CNA hrs per shift — defaults to 7.5 hours.

### **CMS National Averages**

- These are the national average HPPD figures CMS uses for the case-mix adjustment.
- They are updated by CMS quarterly (January, April, July, October).
- If you synced your CCN, these are already correct. If entering manually, use the most recent CMS published values.
- Click RESET to restore the built-in defaults at any time.

When you're ready to share your results, click the "🖨️ Print / Save PDF" button in the bottom-right corner of the screen.

- In your browser's print dialog, choose "Save as PDF" to create a shareable file
- The printed version shows your results full-width on Page 1
- Page 2 shows your Weekday and Weekend staffing schedules in a clean table format
- The print layout removes the input sidebar to maximize space

 **Tip**

Share the PDF with your DON, compliance team, or administrator to show your current rating and what staffing changes are needed to improve it.

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## Common Questions

### My CCN sync shows the wrong facility name. What do I do?

Double-check your CCN — it must be exactly 6 digits. If the name is still wrong, enter your Case-Mix and National Average values manually using your most recent CMS data.

### Why is my predicted rating different from my actual CMS rating?

This tool only models the Staffing domain of the Five-Star rating. Your official CMS rating also includes Health Inspections and Quality Measures, which are not predicted here. Additionally, the tool uses your scheduled shifts — not actual PBJ-submitted hours. Variances between your schedule and actual payroll data will affect accuracy.

### How often should I update the numbers?

Run a fresh analysis at the start of each quarter using your updated schedule. Also re-sync your CCN each quarter after CMS releases new national averages (January, April, July, October).

### What if my turnover data isn't updated yet?

Use the "Include turnover in score" toggle to turn turnover off temporarily. This shows your predicted rating based on staffing hours alone, which can be useful for mid-quarter planning before your annual turnover figures are finalized.

### Can I use this tool for multiple facilities?

Yes — just reload the page and enter a different CCN for each facility. Each session is independent.

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**Need help? We're happy to walk you through it.**

[Book a free consultation at yespbj.com](https://yespbj.com)

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