Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) are infections patients can get while receiving medical treatment in a healthcare facility. Working toward the elimination of HAIs is a CDC priority. The standardized infection ratio (SIR) is a summary statistic that can be used to track HAI prevention progress over time; lower SIRs are better. The infection data are reported to CDC’s National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). HAI data for nearly all U.S. hospitals are published on the Hospital Compare website. This report is based on 2014 data, published in 2016.

**CLABSIs**

**CENTRAL LINE-ASSOCIATED BLOODSTREAM INFECTIONS**

When a tube is placed in a large vein and not put in correctly or kept clean, it can become a way for germs to enter the body and cause deadly infections in the blood.

- Arizona hospitals reported a significant decrease in CLABSIs between 2013 and 2014.
- Among the 46 hospitals in Arizona with enough data to calculate an SIR, 7% had an SIR significantly higher (worse) than 0.50, the value of the national SIR.

**CAUTIs**

**CATHETER-ASSOCIATED URINARY TRACT INFECTIONS**

When a urinary catheter is not put in correctly, not kept clean, or left in a patient for too long, germs can travel through the catheter and infect the bladder and kidneys.

- Arizona hospitals reported no significant change in CAUTIs between 2013 and 2014.
- Among the 48 hospitals in Arizona with enough data to calculate an SIR, 13% had an SIR significantly higher (worse) than 1.00, the value of the national SIR.

**MRSA Bacteremia**

**LABORATORY IDENTIFIED HOSPITAL-ONSET BLOODSTREAM INFECTIONS**

Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) is bacteria usually spread by contaminated hands. In a healthcare setting, such as a hospital, MRSA can cause serious bloodstream infections.

- Arizona hospitals reported no significant change in MRSA bacteremia between 2013 and 2014.
- Among the 34 hospitals in Arizona with enough data to calculate an SIR, 12% had an SIR significantly higher (worse) than 0.87, the value of the national SIR.

**SSIs**

**SURGICAL SITE INFECTIONS**

When germs get into an area where surgery is or was performed, patients can get a surgical site infection. Sometimes these infections involve only the skin. Other SSIs can involve tissues under the skin, organs, or implanted material.

- **SSI: Abdominal Hysterectomy**
  - Arizona hospitals reported no significant change in SSIs related to abdominal hysterectomy surgery between 2013 and 2014.
  - Among the 19 hospitals in Arizona with enough data to calculate an SIR, 0% had an SIR significantly higher (worse) than 0.83, the value of the national SIR.

- **SSI: Colon Surgery**
  - Arizona hospitals reported no significant change in SSIs related to colon surgery between 2013 and 2014.
  - Among the 39 hospitals in Arizona with enough data to calculate an SIR, 15% had an SIR significantly higher (worse) than 0.98, the value of the national SIR.

**C. difficile Infections**

**LABORATORY IDENTIFIED HOSPITAL-ONSET C. DIFFICILE INFECTIONS**

When a person takes antibiotics, good bacteria that protect against infection are destroyed for several months. During this time, patients can get sick from *Clostridium difficile* (*C. difficile*), bacteria that cause potentially deadly diarrhea, which can be spread in healthcare settings.

- Arizona hospitals reported a significant decrease in *C. difficile* infections between 2013 and 2014.
- Among the 57 hospitals in Arizona with enough data to calculate an SIR, 12% had an SIR significantly higher (worse) than 0.92, the value of the national SIR.

* Statistically significant
Healthcare-associated infection (HAI) data give healthcare facilities and public health agencies knowledge to design, implement, and evaluate HAI prevention efforts.

### Standardized Infection Ratio (SIR)

The **standardized infection ratio** (SIR) is a summary statistic that can be used to track HAI prevention progress over time; lower SIRs are better. The SIR for a facility or state is adjusted to account for factors that might cause infection rates to be higher or lower, such as hospital size, teaching status, the type of patients a hospital serves, and surgery and patient characteristics.

### Arizona Acute Care Hospitals

Healthcare-associated infection (HAI) data from Arizona acute care hospitals give healthcare facilities and public health agencies knowledge to design, implement, and evaluate HAI prevention efforts.

#### Healthcare-associated infection data

Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) are infections acquired in hospitals. HAIs can be prevented by implementing evidence-based interventions and practices. Data from Arizona acute care hospitals are used to monitor and evaluate progress of prevention efforts and to determine if infection rates are better or worse than expected.

### What is the Standardized Infection Ratio (SIR)?

The SIR is a summary statistic that can be used to track HAI prevention progress over time; lower SIRs are better. The SIR for a facility or state is adjusted to account for factors that might cause infection rates to be higher or lower, such as hospital size, teaching status, the type of patients a hospital serves, and surgery and patient characteristics.

### What is Arizona doing to prevent healthcare-associated infections?

Prevention efforts to reduce specific HAIs:

- Central line-associated bloodstream infections
- Catheter-associated urinary tract infections
- Surgical site infections
- Multidrug-resistant infections (MRSA, C. difficile, other)

- Long-term care facilities
- Hand hygiene
- Antibiotic stewardship
- Healthcare personnel influenza vaccination

For prevention effort details, see glossary.