

# National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN)

CDC's domestic tracking and response system to identify emerging and enduring threats across healthcare, such as COVID-19, healthcare-associated infections (HAIs), and antibiotic-resistant (AR) infections



**147,000+**

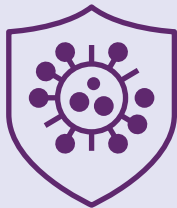
HAI cases were reported by acute care hospitals to NHSN in 2019 for six common HAI types<sup>1,2</sup>

**2020**

preliminary data indicate an increase in certain HAIs during the COVID-19 pandemic

**\$28 billion**

in direct medical costs from HAIs each year<sup>3</sup>



37,000+ facilities use NHSN to track and stop infections.



In 2020, CDC quickly adapted NHSN to track information for the U.S. COVID-19 pandemic response.



NHSN data contributes to CMS saving at least \$350 million in payments every year.<sup>4</sup>

## Precise and actionable data to identify and respond to emerging and enduring threats and save lives

- **The nation's most comprehensive and established system to capture and analyze infection data**, drive improvement in healthcare quality, and stop the spread of deadly pathogens.
- Used by **37,000 U.S. healthcare facilities** - nearly all hospitals, nursing homes, dialysis facilities, and ambulatory surgery centers.
- Saving lives by **driving action to prevent tens of thousands of infections** through reliable data.
- **Highly adaptable for emerging threats** and used for federal, state, local, and healthcare facility emergency response decision-making.
- **Backed by CDC experts in public health, healthcare, data science, epidemiology, and infection prevention and control.**

## NHSN is a best buy for public health, healthcare improvement, and emergency response

- Since 2005, NHSN enrollment has increased from 300 hospitals to more than **37,000 facilities in 2020.**
- Flat **annual appropriations of \$21 million, and \$11 million in one-time COVID-19 supplemental funding in FY20.**
- **The need for surveillance, further modernization, and data driven decision-making is ongoing.**



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## Comprehensive, transparent, publicly available data for federal agencies, health departments, healthcare facilities, and the public to take action

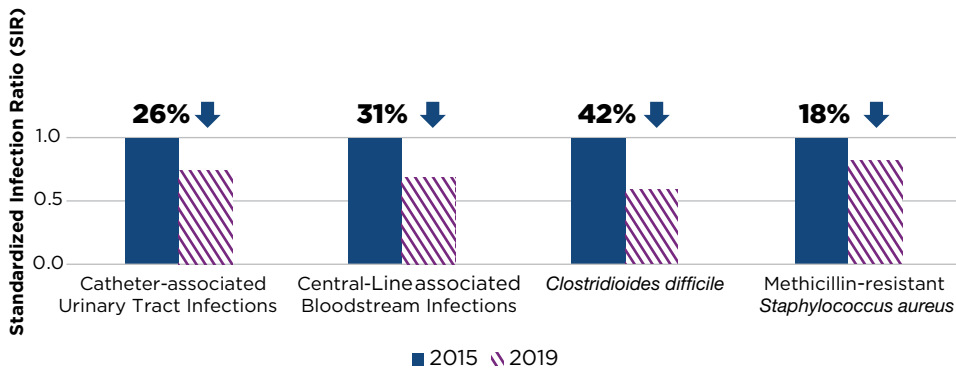
- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) relies on NHSN for regulatory functions, public reporting, and incentive payment programs, **including mandatory COVID-19 reporting from all 15,400 U.S. nursing homes.**
- **Healthcare facilities, health departments, and federal agencies rely on NHSN** to inform targeted, tailored infection prevention, to monitor healthcare system capacity, and to stop the spread of emerging and enduring threats, such as COVID-19, HAIs, and AR infections.
- **These targeted prevention and response activities—based on NHSN data and expert analysis—save lives and money at the local, state, and national levels.**

## Looking ahead: Faster data and reduced reporting burden

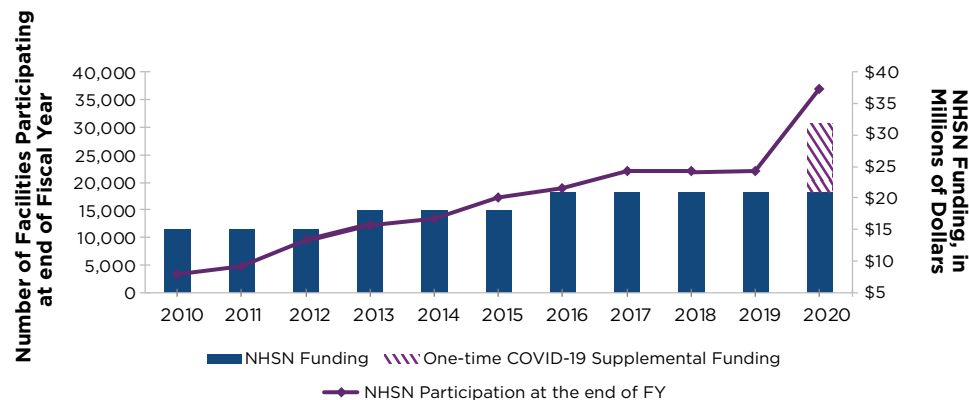
CDC continues to improve NHSN through concrete actions:

- Increasing NHSN reporting automation and decreasing burden for healthcare facilities.
- Expanding use of electronic health records and rapidly emerging health data standards by NHSN.
- Including more nursing homes and outpatient facilities for HAI and emerging threat tracking and prevention.
- Investing in NHSN data modernization efforts to get faster, actionable data.

### HAI Data, NHSN, 2015–2019



### CDC NHSN Expansion, FY 2010–2020



### For more information

- visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn>
- email: [CDC-INFO](mailto:CDC-INFO)
- call: 800-CDC-INFO
- Follow us on Twitter: [@CDC\\_NCEZID](https://twitter.com/CDC_NCEZID)



### References:

- 1 CDC. 2019 National and State Healthcare-Associated Infections Progress Report. <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/data/portal/progress-report.html>
- 2 Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI), Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI), *Clostridioides difficile* (CDI), Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), Surgical site infections (SSI), and Ventilator-associated events (VAE).
- 3 Scott RD II, et. al. The Direct Medical Costs of Healthcare-Associated Infections in U.S. Hospitals and the Benefits of Prevention. [https://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/hai/scott\\_costpaper.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/hai/scott_costpaper.pdf)
- 4 Through CMS HAC Reduction Program: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Value-Based-Programs/HAC/Hospital-Acquired-Conditions.html>