

# 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 antimicrobial-resistant (AR) infections



**179,000+**

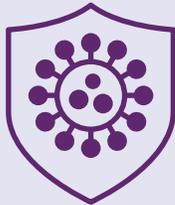
HAI cases were reported to NHSN by acute care hospitals in 2021 for six common HAI types<sup>1,2</sup>

**4 out of 6**

types of HAI rates were reported as significantly higher in U.S. hospitals during the COVID-19 pandemic following years of steady decline<sup>3</sup>

**3 million+**

nursing home residents and staff COVID-19 vaccination data collected and analyzed



38,000+ facilities use NHSN to track and stop infections.



During the COVID-19 pandemic, CDC leveraged actionable data reported to NHSN from hospitals and nursing homes to inform U.S. response efforts.



NHSN will support the National Biodefense Strategy by providing the platform for hospital bed occupancy and capacity data for all U.S. hospitals.<sup>4</sup>

## NHSN is the cornerstone of U.S. infectious disease tracking in healthcare facilities

- **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 **38,000 U.S. healthcare facilities** - nearly all hospitals, nursing homes, dialysis facilities, and ambulatory surgery centers.
- Saving lives by **preventing tens of thousands of infections** through reliable, actionable 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

- To sustain this essential work, **the FY24 President's budget proposes a \$26 million increase to \$50 million.**
- **Annual appropriations were stable from FY16-22 at \$21 million.** In FY23, there was an increase of \$3 million.
- **From FY22-26, CDC is investing approximately \$60 million annually** from COVID-19 supplemental appropriations **to modernize and expand NHSN and support health department use of NHSN.**
- **When supplemental funds end, CDC will not be able to continue supporting this important work at the current level.**

## 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 nursing homes and all 5,300 hospitals, covering millions of patients and healthcare workers.**
- **Healthcare facilities, health departments, and federal agencies rely on NHSN** to inform rapid, tailored infection prevention, to monitor healthcare system capacity, **to track vaccination uptake in healthcare settings**, and to stop the spread of emerging and enduring threats, such as COVID-19, HAIs, and resistant 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

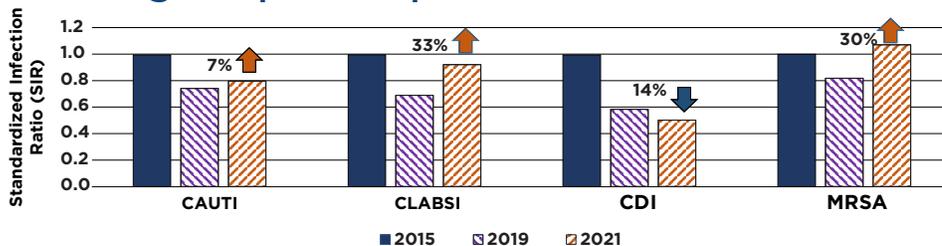
CDC continues to improve NHSN through concrete actions:

- Funding pilot projects in states to automate pathogen-agnostic hospital bed capacity reporting to provide more timely, actionable reporting data while reducing reporting burden.
- Requiring 4,500 hospitals to report antimicrobial use and resistance data through NHSN via automated mechanisms under the CMS 2023 Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) rule in 2024.
- Expanding the use of electronic health records and rapidly emerging health data standards.

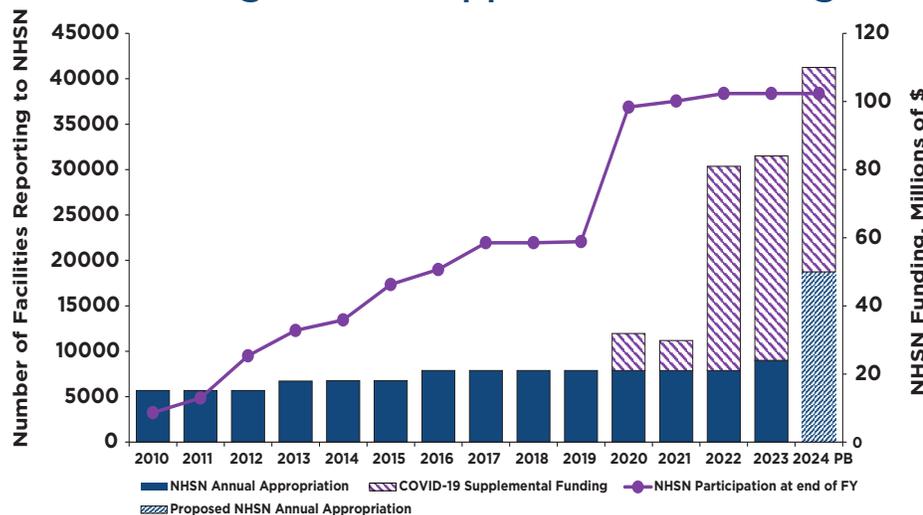
### For more information

- 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) [@CDC\\_AR](https://twitter.com/CDC_AR)

## HAI Data, NHSN, 2015-2021: Some gains prior to pandemic have been reversed



## Flat Annual Appropriations, Rapid Growth, and Significant Supplemental Funding



### References:

- <sup>1</sup> CDC. 2021 National and State Healthcare-Associated Infections Progress Report. <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/data/portal/progress-report.html>
- <sup>2</sup> 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).
- <sup>3</sup> Weiner-Lastinger, L.M., et al. (2022). doi:10.1017/ice.2021.362 <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34473013/>
- <sup>4</sup> National Biodefense Strategy: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/National-Biodefense-Strategy-and-Implementation-Plan-Final.pdf>

