

The impact of COVID-19 on healthcare-associated infections in 2020: A summary of data reported to the National Healthcare Safety Network

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Figure 1. Changes in the 2020 national healthcare-associated infection (HAI) Standardized Infection Ratios (SIRs) for acute-care hospitals, compared to respective 2019 quarters

	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4
CLABSI	↓ -11.8%	↑ 27.9%	↑ 46.4%	↑ 47.0%
CAUTI	↓ -21.3%	No Change ¹	↑ 12.7%	↑ 18.8%
VAE	↑ 11.3%	↑ 33.7%	↑ 29.0%	↑ 44.8%
SSI: Colon surgery	↓ -9.1%	No Change ¹	↓ -6.9%	↓ -8.3%
SSI: Abdominal hysterectomy	↓ -16.0%	No Change ¹	No Change ¹	↓ -13.1%
Laboratory-identified MRSA bacteremia	↓ -7.2%	↑ 12.2%	↑ 22.5%	↑ 33.8%
Laboratory-identified CDI	↓ -17.5%	↓ -10.3%	↓ -8.8%	↓ -5.5%

Note: CLABSI, central-line–associated bloodstream infection; CAUTI, catheter-associated urinary tract infection; VAE, ventilator-associated event; SSI, surgical site infection; MRSA, methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*; CDI, *Clostridioides difficile* infection. **Interpretation:** Unless otherwise noted, the results of the significance tests comparing consecutive annual pairs of quarterly SIRs are based on a two-tailed test $p\text{-value} \leq 0.05$; however, the directional percent change is based on the relative change in magnitude. An arrow pointing down, and a negative percent change value, indicate that the 2020 SIR is lower than the 2019 SIR for the same quarter. An arrow pointing up, and a positive percent change value, indicate that the 2020 SIR is higher than the 2019 SIR for the same quarter.

¹ “No change” signifies that the change in SIR was not statistically significant.

