

STATE OF NEVADA

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January 21, 2015

Dear Mandated NHSN Reporter,

On January 14, 2015, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released their annual Nation and State Healthcare-Associated Infection (HAI) Progress report, which provides and update to previous reports detailing progress toward the goal of eliminating HAIs. The report summarizes data submitted to CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) and provides a snapshot of how each state and the country are doing in eliminating six infection types that hospitals are required to report. This year's HAI progress report includes state-specific data about hospital lab-identified methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) bloodstream infections and *Clostridium difficile* (*C. difficile*) infections (deadly diarrhea).

All State Data

Per CDC, not all states reported or had enough data to calculate valid infection information on every infection in this report. The number of infections reported was compared to a national baseline. In the report, among 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico, 26 states performed better than the nation on at least two of the six infection types tracked by state (CLABSI, CAUTI, MRSA, *C. difficile*, and surgical site infections (SSI) after colon surgery and abdominal hysterectomy). Sixteen states performed better than the nation on three or more infections, including six states performing better on four infections. In addition, 19 states performed worse than the nation on two infections, with eight states performing worse on at least three infections.

Nevada Data

Attached is a copy of this recent report, which displays the progress Nevada has made to decrease infections within its healthcare facilities. The report also shows areas of improvement such as lowering *C. difficile* rates throughout Nevada, as our rates are significantly higher when compared to the national baseline. Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections and Surgical Site Infections: Colon Surgery neither had a significant change between 2012 and 2013, although there was an 8% and 7% increase respectively.

Decreasing *C. difficile* infections and other HAIs is a goal we continue to strive toward. HAIs can be prevented when hospitals use CDC-recommended infection prevention steps. Included are links to educational information of *C. difficile* prevention according to CDC guidelines. Also included in this email is the previous report to compare how our rates have changed. As always we thank you for your hard work toward making healthcare facilities in Nevada safer. If you have any questions and/or concerns or recommendations to training you would like to see the state host, please feel free to contact me by phone at 702-486-3568 or by email at kgriffin@health.nv.gov

Sincerely,
Kimisha Griffin, MPH
HAI Coordinator
Office of Public Health Informatics and Epidemiology

C. difficile FAQs http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/organisms/cdiff/Cdiff_faqs_HCP.html

Facilities/ Settings Education http://www.cdc.gov/hai/organisms/cdiff/Cdiff_settings.html