

S. aureus bacteraemia surveillance

Quarterly report

January – March 2025

Key points

- Overall *S. aureus* (SA) rates for Northern Ireland (MRSA plus MSSA bacteraemias) decreased by approximately 6% during January-March 2025 compared to October-December 2024.
- MRSA rates decreased by approximately 17% during January-March 2025 compared to October-December 2024.
- MRSA reports during 2024/25 decreased by 8% compared to 2023/24.
- MSSA rates decreased by approximately 5% during January-March 2025 compared to October-December 2024.
- MSSA reports during 2024/25 decreased by 2% compared to 2023/24.
- Bed day data were not available for NHST and South Tyrone hospital (SHST) and provisional figures were used this quarter (figures taken from Jan-Mar 2024).

For further information or clarification on HCAI definitions, please refer to previous reports or contact hcaini@hscni.net

***S. aureus* bacteraemia surveillance**

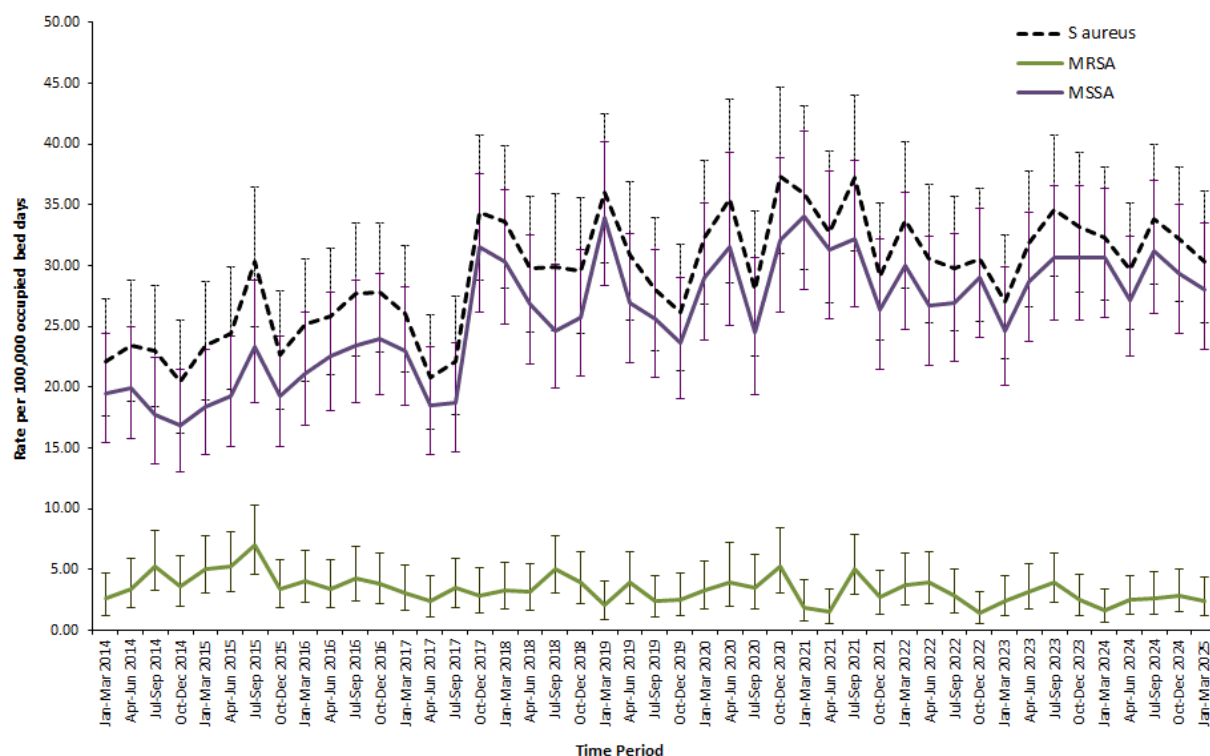


Figure 1: MSSA, MRSA and *S. aureus* rates in Northern Ireland by quarter, with 95% confidence intervals, Jan 2014 – Mar 2025 (see Appendix 3)

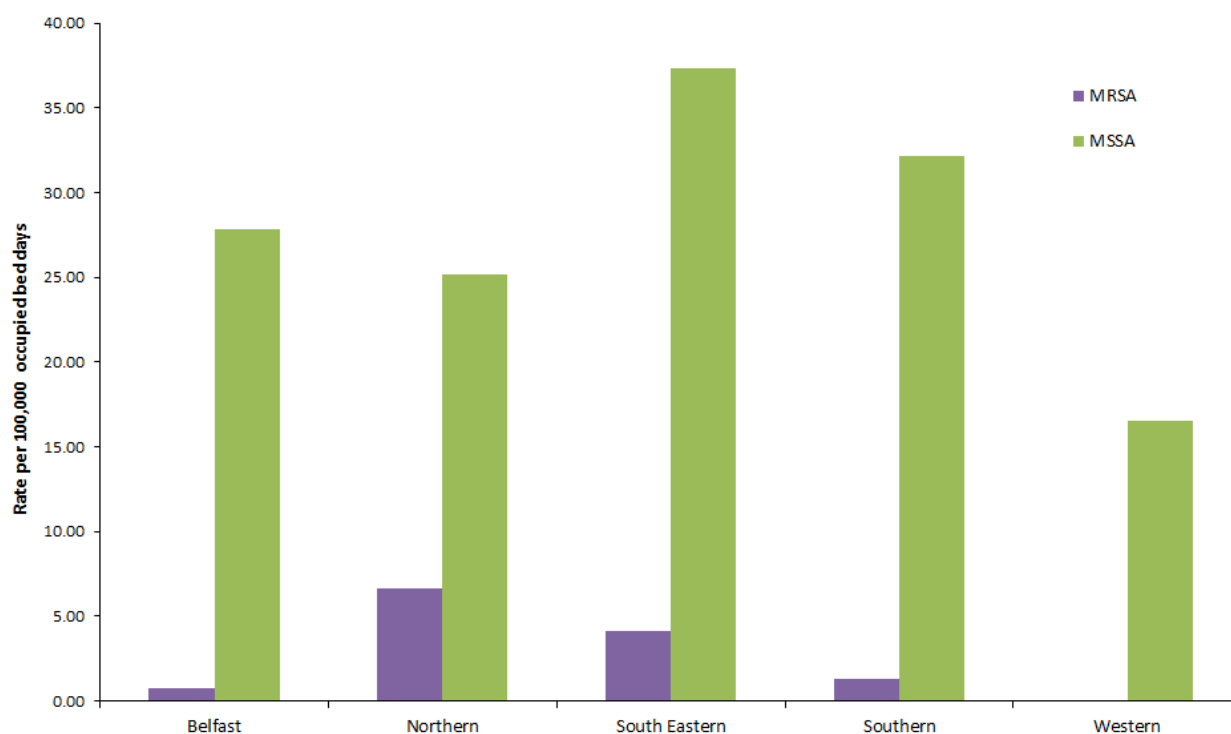


Figure 2: MRSA and MSSA rates per 100,000 occupied bed days, by HSCT, Jan-Mar 2025.

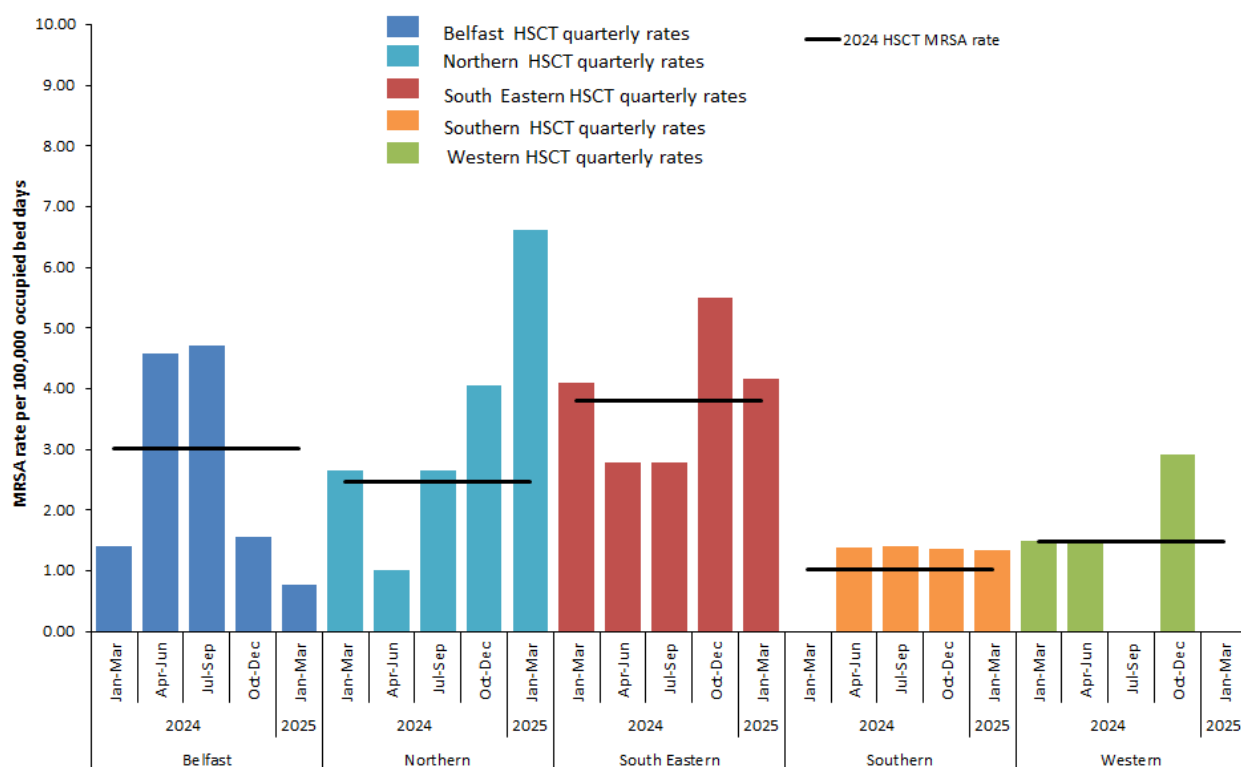


Figure 3: MRSA quarterly rate Jan 2024 – Mar 2025, by HSCT, with 2024 HSCT MRSA rate

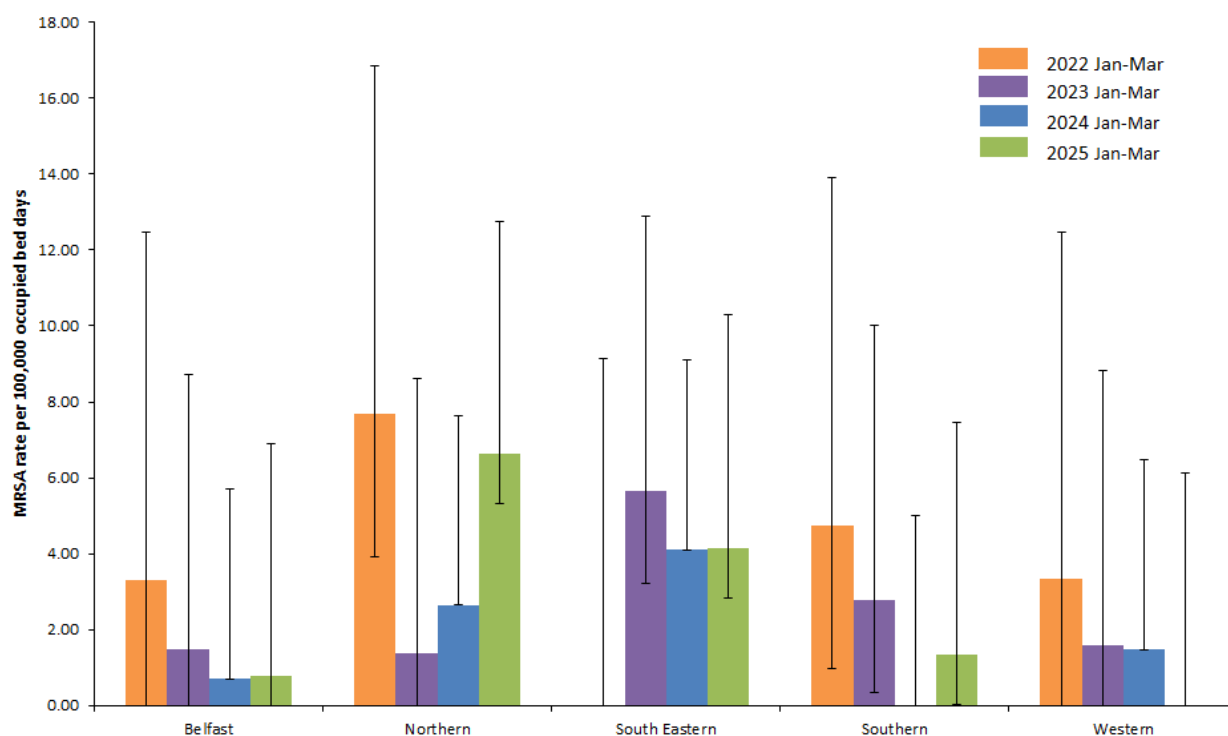


Figure 4: MRSA rate during Jan-Mar, by HSCT, from 2022–2025, with 95% confidence intervals

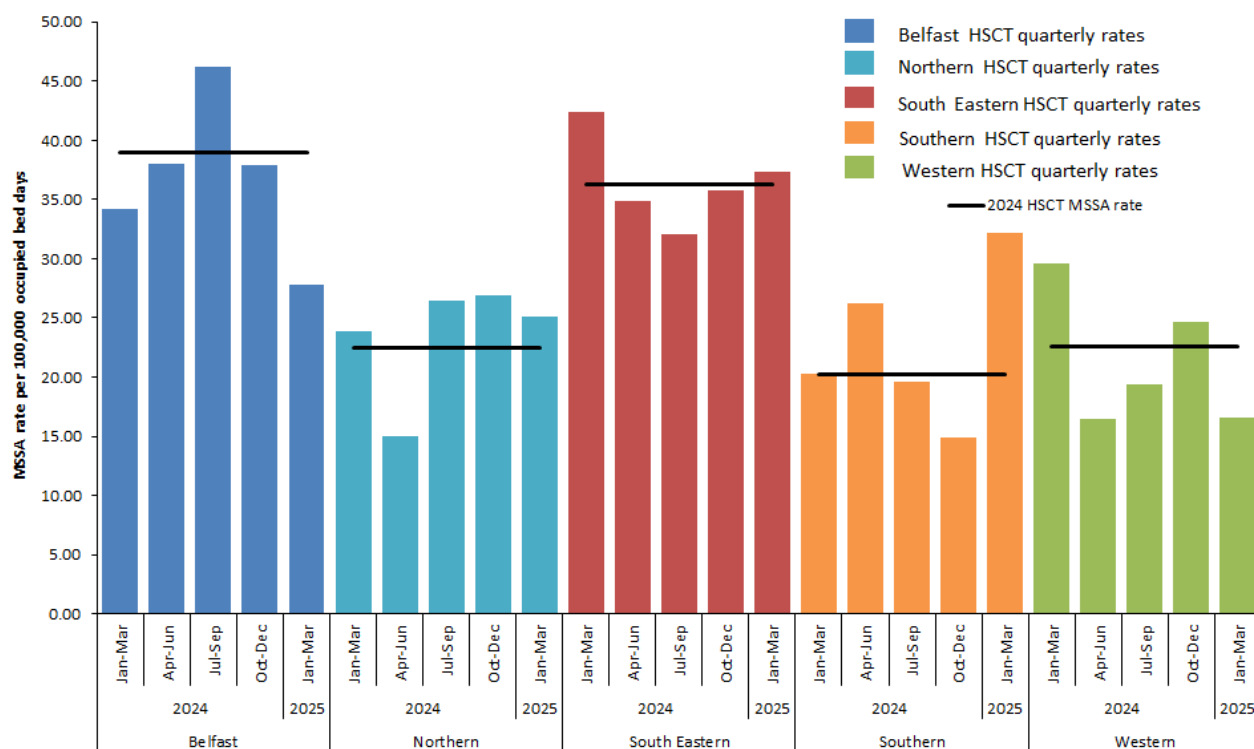


Figure 5: MSSA quarterly rate Jan 2024 – Mar 2025, by HSCT, with 2024 HSCT MSSA rate

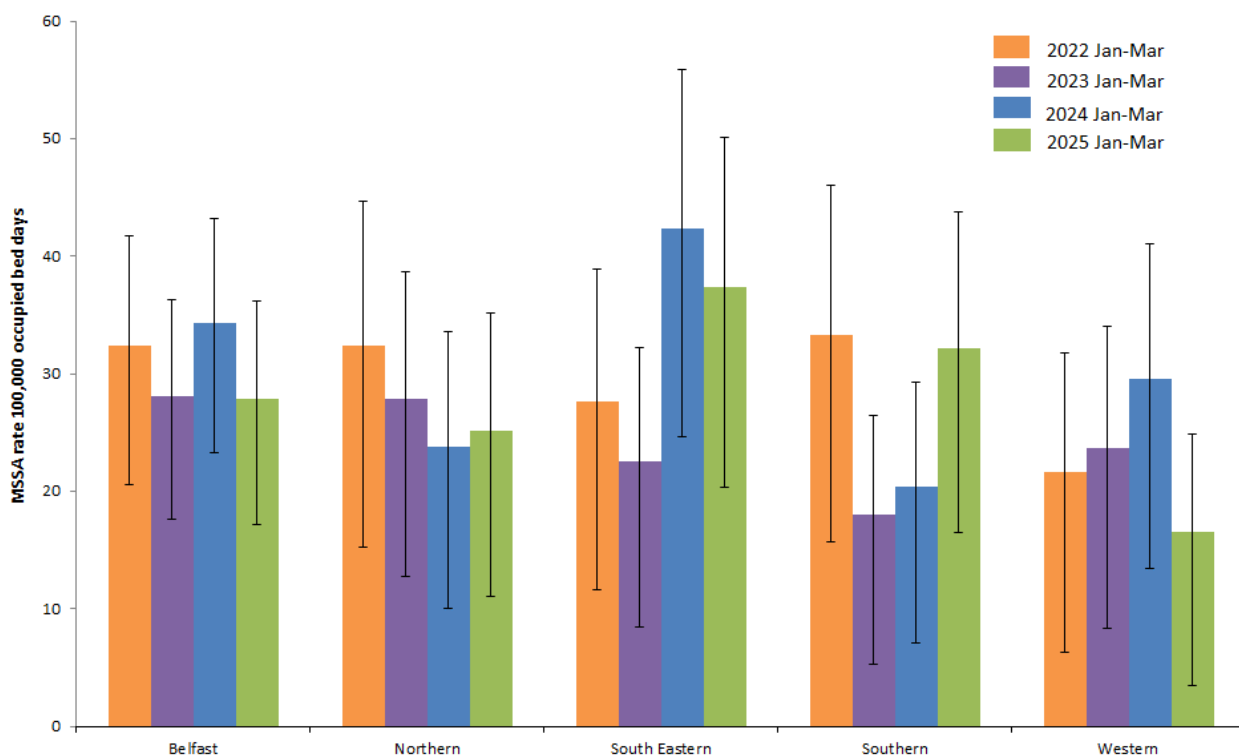


Figure 6: MSSA rate during Jan-Mar, by HSCT, from 2022–2025, with 95% confidence interval

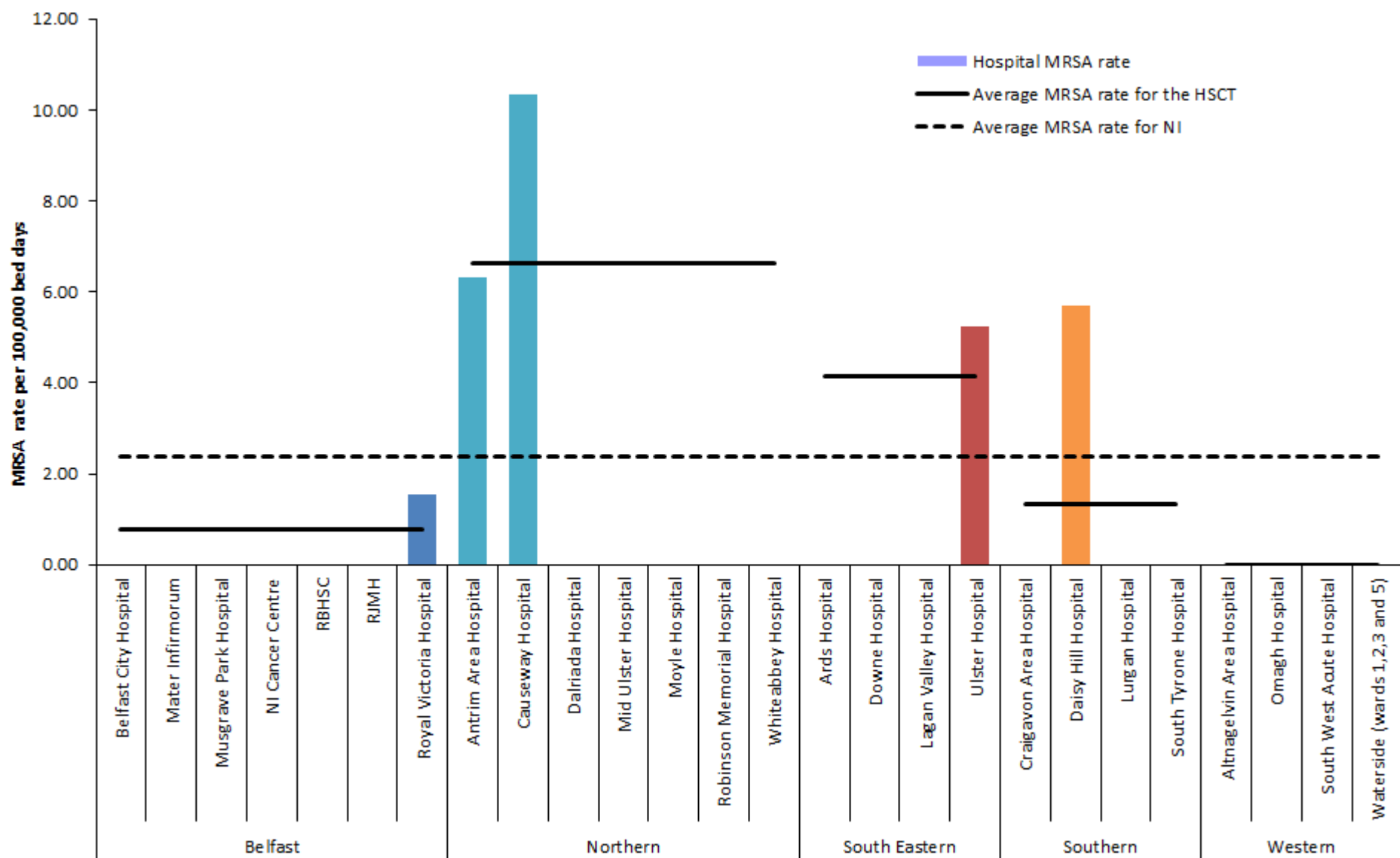


Figure 7: Rates of MRSA, January-March 2025 by individual hospitals, (gaps represent zero episodes), compared to January-March 2025 average rates for Northern Ireland and HSCTs

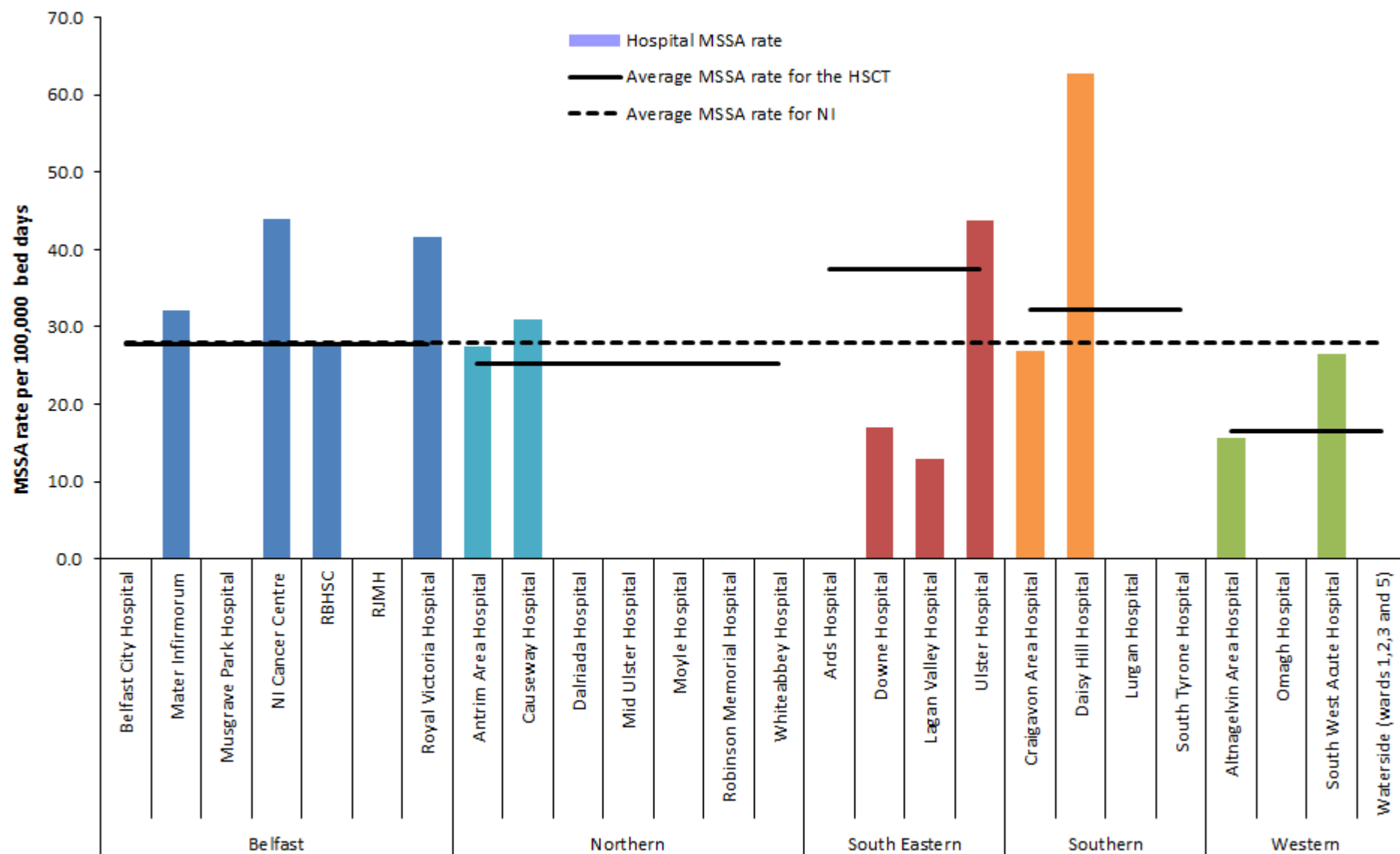


Figure 8: Rates of MSSA, January-March 2025 by individual hospitals, (gaps represent zero episodes), compared to January-March 2025 average rates for Northern Ireland and HSCT

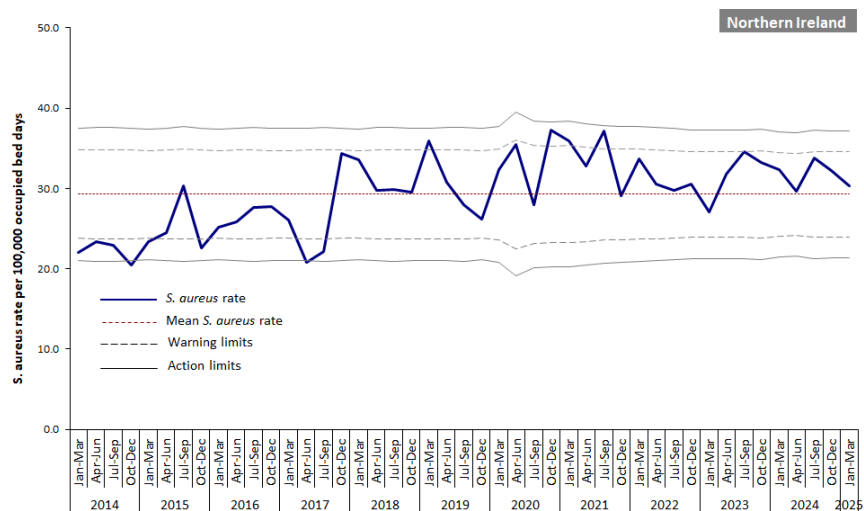


Figure 9a: Statistical process control chart for quarterly *S. aureus* rates in Northern Ireland

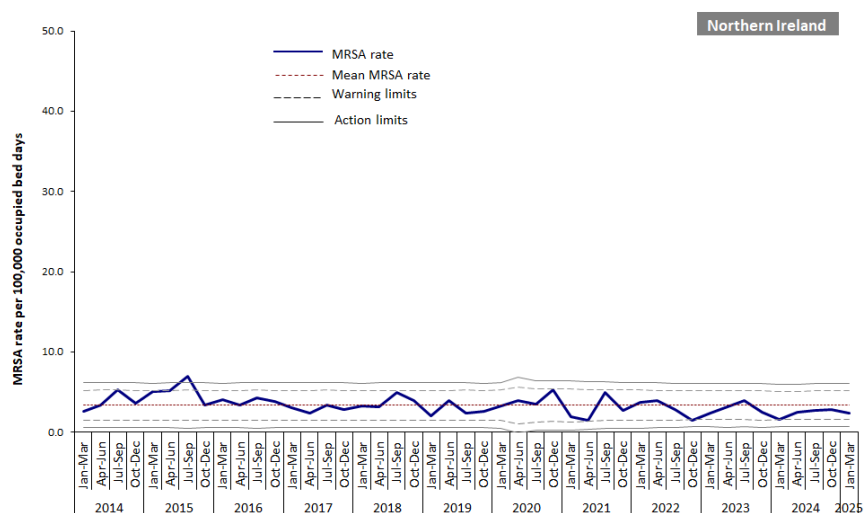


Figure 9b: Statistical process control chart for quarterly MRSA rates in Northern Ireland

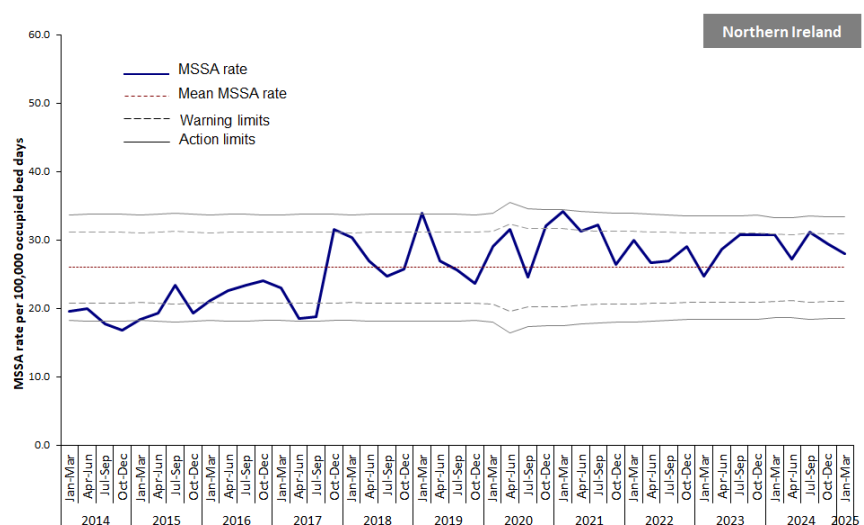


Figure 9c: Statistical process control chart for quarterly MSSA rates in Northern Ireland

Appendix 1

Table 1: Quarterly rates* of MRSA patient episodes, by hospital, Apr 2024 – Mar 2025

Hospital	Apr - Jun 2024	Jul - Sep 2024	Oct - Dec 2024	Jan - Mar 2025
Belfast City Hospital	0.00	7.67	0.00	0.00
Mater Infirmorum	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Musgrave Park Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NICCO	23.01	21.70	0.00	0.00
RBHSC	13.63	0.00	0.00	0.00
RJMH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Royal Group of Hospitals	6.00	6.14	3.10	1.54
Belfast Health & Social Care Trust	4.57	4.70	1.55	0.77
Antrim Area Hospital	1.56	2.08	6.44	6.33
Causeway Hospital	0.00	5.20	0.00	10.35
Dalriada Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mid Ulster Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Moyle Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Robinson Memorial Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whiteabbey Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Northern Health & Social Care Trust	1.00	2.64	4.04	6.62
Ards Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Downe Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lagan Valley Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ulster Hospital	3.45	3.47	6.93	5.25
South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust	2.79	2.79	5.51	4.15
Craigavon Area Hospital	2.10	0.00	2.06	0.00
Daisy Hill Hospital	0.00	6.40	0.00	5.70
Lurgan Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Tyrone Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Southern Health & Social Care Trust	1.40	1.40	1.35	1.34
Altnagelvin Area Hospital	2.59	0.00	0.00	0.00
Omagh Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South West Acute Hospital	0.00	0.00	10.57	0.00
Waterside Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Western Health & Social Care Trust	1.50	0.00	2.91	0.00
NI TOTAL	2.49	2.66	2.87	2.39

Table 2: Quarterly MRSA patient episodes, by HSCT, Apr 2024 – Mar 2025

Trust	Apr - Jun 2024 Episodes	Jul - Sep 2024 Episodes	Oct - Dec 2024 Episodes	Jan - Mar 2025 Episodes
Belfast Health & Social Care Trust	6	6	2	1
Northern Health & Social Care Trust	1	2	3	5
South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust	2	2	4	3
Southern Health & Social Care Trust	1	1	1	1
Western Health & Social Care Trust	1	0	2	0
NI TOTAL	11	11	12	10

Bed day data were not available for NHSCT and South Tyrone hospital (SHSCT) – provisional figures were used this quarter (figures taken from Jan-Mar 2024).

Appendix 1

Table 3: Quarterly rates* of MSSA patient episodes, by hospital, Apr 2024 – Mar 2025

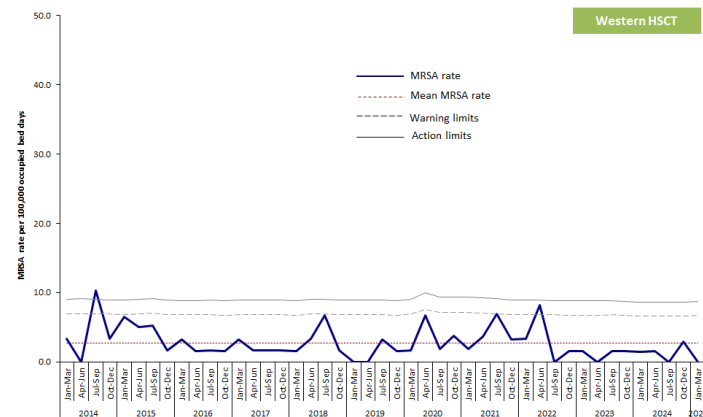
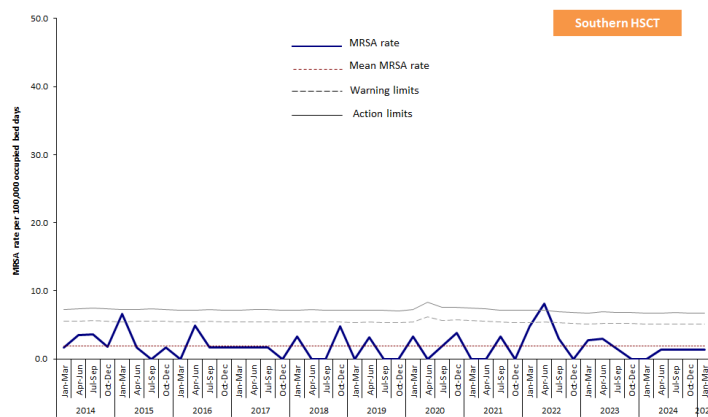
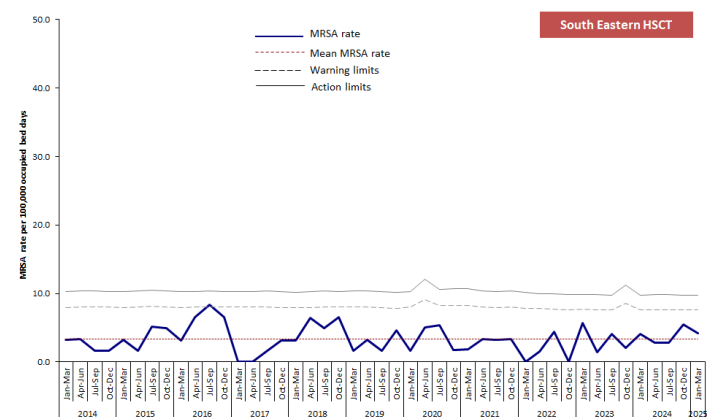
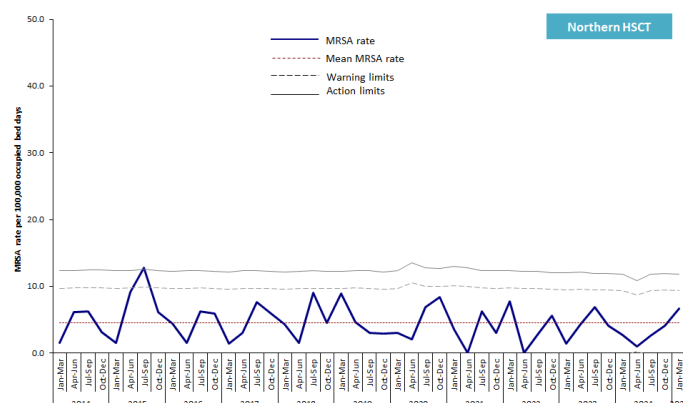
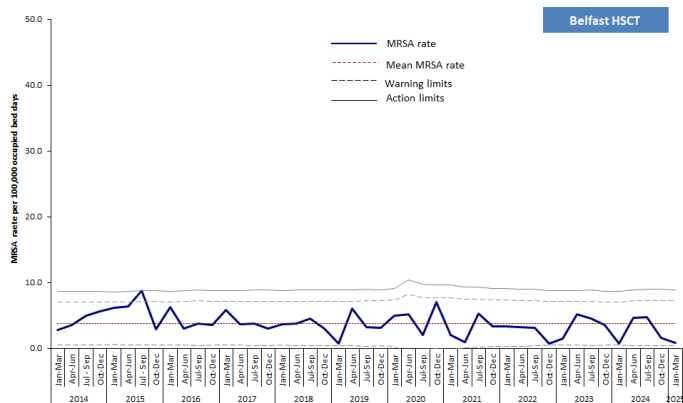
Hospital	Apr - Jun 2024	Jul - Sep 2024	Oct - Dec 2024	Jan - Mar 2025
Belfast City Hospital	23.13	61.37	31.00	0.00
Mater Infirmorum	30.35	65.30	12.76	32.13
Musgrave Park Hospital	11.84	0.00	16.61	0.00
NICCO	46.03	43.40	129.65	44.01
RBHSC	27.27	104.62	39.58	27.47
RJMH	15.00	49.96	0.00	0.00
Royal Group of Hospitals	52.48	44.52	48.00	41.62
Belfast Health & Social Care Trust	38.06	46.21	37.96	27.83
Antrim Area Hospital	17.18	37.42	32.20	27.45
Causeway Hospital	16.13	10.41	25.77	31.04
Dalriada Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mid Ulster Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Moyle Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Robinson Memorial Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whiteabbey Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Northern Health & Social Care Trust	15.01	26.40	26.94	25.15
Ards Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Downe Hospital	0.00	0.00	35.12	17.06
Lagan Valley Hospital	13.16	38.67	0.00	12.97
Ulster Hospital	41.37	34.68	41.56	43.77
South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust	34.83	32.09	35.79	37.37
Craigavon Area Hospital	23.10	14.75	20.61	26.85
Daisy Hill Hospital	48.89	38.41	5.82	62.68
Lurgan Hospital	0.00	20.69	0.00	0.00
South Tyrone Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Southern Health & Social Care Trust	26.26	19.60	14.86	32.17
Altnagelvin Area Hospital	23.32	26.63	39.05	15.69
Omagh Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South West Acute Hospital	10.95	16.15	10.57	26.51
Waterside Hospital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Western Health & Social Care Trust	16.45	19.34	24.71	16.55
NI TOTAL	27.13	31.18	29.37	27.97

Table 4: Quarterly MSSA patient episodes, by HSCT, Apr 2024 – Mar 2025

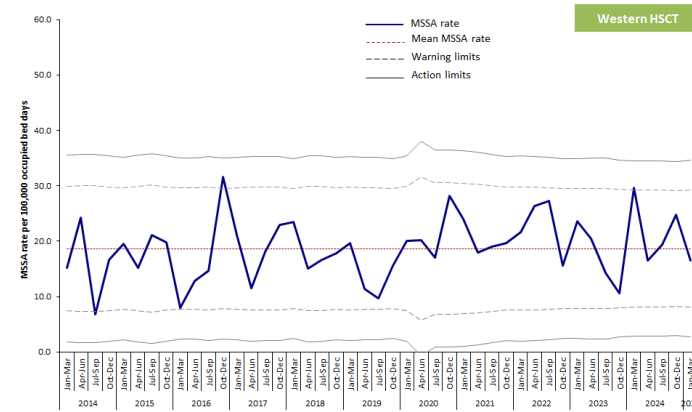
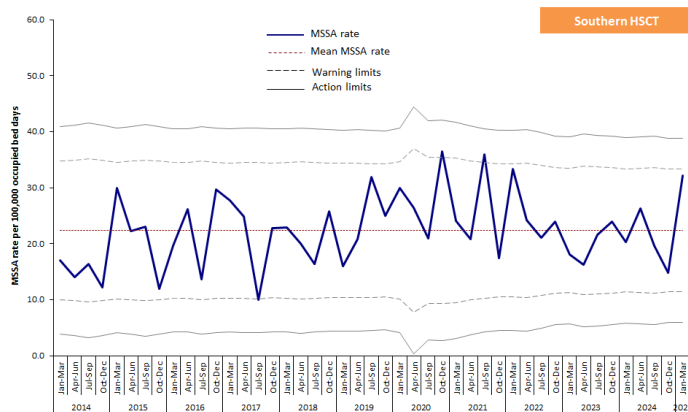
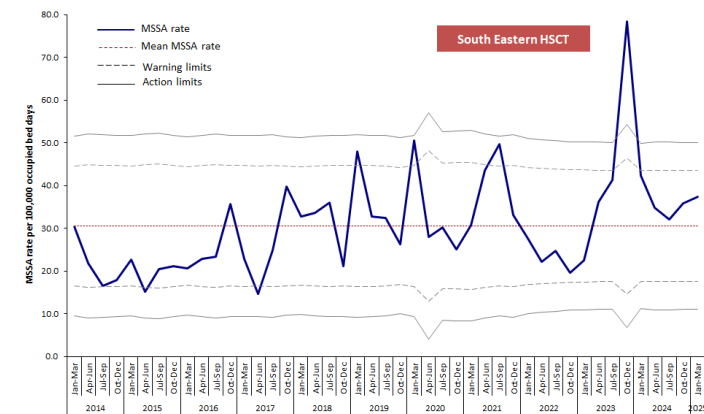
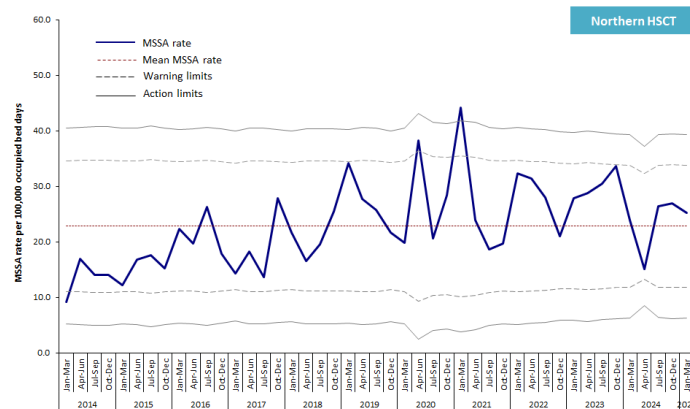
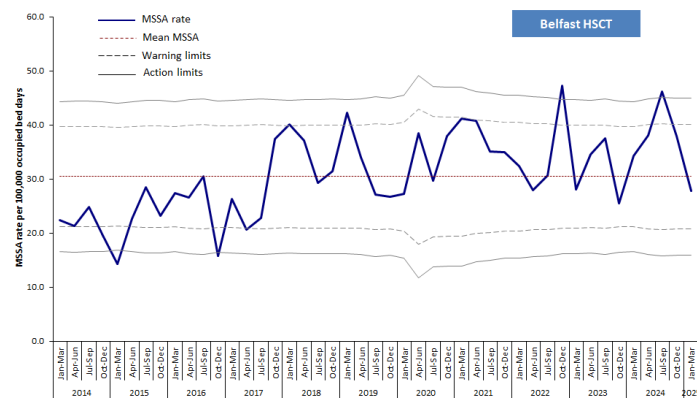
Trust	Apr - Jun 2024 Episodes	Jul - Sep 2024 Episodes	Oct - Dec 2024 Episodes	Jan - Mar 2025 Episodes
Belfast Health & Social Care Trust	50	59	49	36
Northern Health & Social Care Trust	15	20	20	19
South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust	25	23	26	27
Southern Health & Social Care Trust	19	14	11	24
Western Health & Social Care Trust	11	13	17	11
NI TOTAL	120	129	123	117

Bed day data were not available for NHSCT and South Tyrone hospital (SHSCT) – provisional figures were used this quarter (figures taken from Jan-Mar 2024).

Appendix 2: Trends in MRSA rates, by HSCT and quarter, Jan 2014 – Mar 2025



Appendix 2: Trends in MSSA rates, by HSCT and quarter, Jan 2014 – Mar 2025



Appendix 3

Table 5: MSSA, MRSA and total *S. aureus* patient episode rates, and the percentage of *S. aureus* reported as MRSA, in Northern Ireland, Jan 2021 – Mar 2025.

Quarter	MSSA rate	MRSA rate	All <i>S. aureus</i> rate	% MRSA
Jan-Mar 2021	34.09	1.88	35.96	5.2
Apr-Jun 2021	31.29	1.46	32.75	4.5
Jul-Sep 2021	32.21	5.00	37.21	13.4
Oct-Dec 2021	26.42	2.70	29.12	9.3
Jan-Mar 2022	29.98	3.75	33.73	11.1
Apr-Jun 2022	26.66	3.92	30.58	12.8
Jul-Sep 2022	26.96	2.80	29.75	9.4
Oct-Dec 2022	29.06	1.45	30.51	4.8
Jan-Mar 2023	24.64	2.42	27.06	8.9
Apr-June 2023	28.66	3.18	31.84	10.0
Jul-Sep 2023	30.68	3.90	34.57	11.3
Oct-Dec 2023	29.61	2.65	32.02	8.3
Jan-Mar 2024	30.70	1.85	32.32	5.7
Apr-Jun 2024	27.13	2.49	29.62	8.4
Jul-Sep 2024	31.18	2.66	33.84	7.9
Oct-Dec 2024	29.37	2.87	32.23	8.9
Jan-Mar 2025	27.97	2.39	30.36	7.9

Appendix 4

Table 6: MRSA patient episodes for each financial year, by HSCT

HSCT	Financial Year						
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Belfast	16	22	15	15	11	21	15
Northern	16	9	12	11	7	13	11
South Eastern	12	7	7	6	8	8	11
Southern	3	4	3	5	9	3	4
Western	7	4	7	10	7	3	3
Northern Ireland	54	46	44	47	42	48	44

Table 7: MSSA patient episodes for each financial year, by HSCT

HSCT	Financial Year						
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Belfast	189	147	138	166	176	182	194
Northern	64	63	73	60	75	85	74
South Eastern	85	88	59	95	62	125	101
Southern	48	67	54	66	59	58	68
Western	42	35	46	46	58	49	52
Northern Ireland	428	400	370	433	430	499	489