

# *S. aureus* bacteraemia surveillance

## Quarterly report

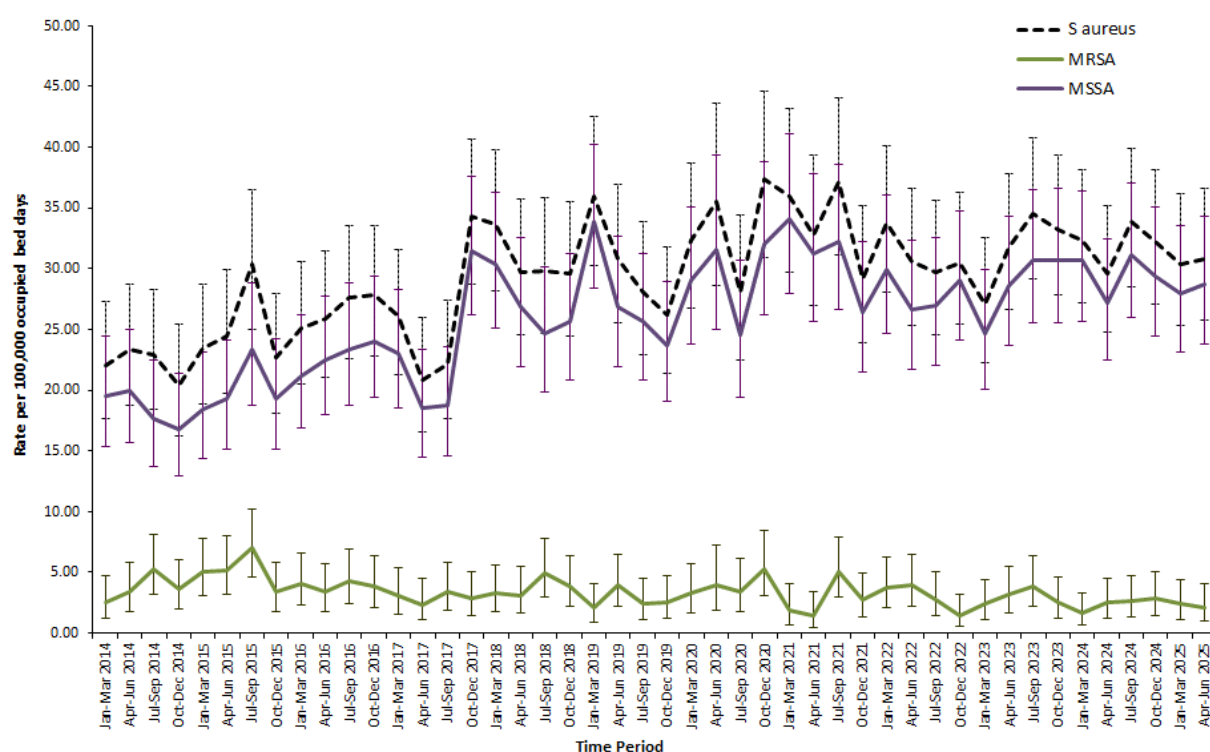
### April - June 2025

#### Key points

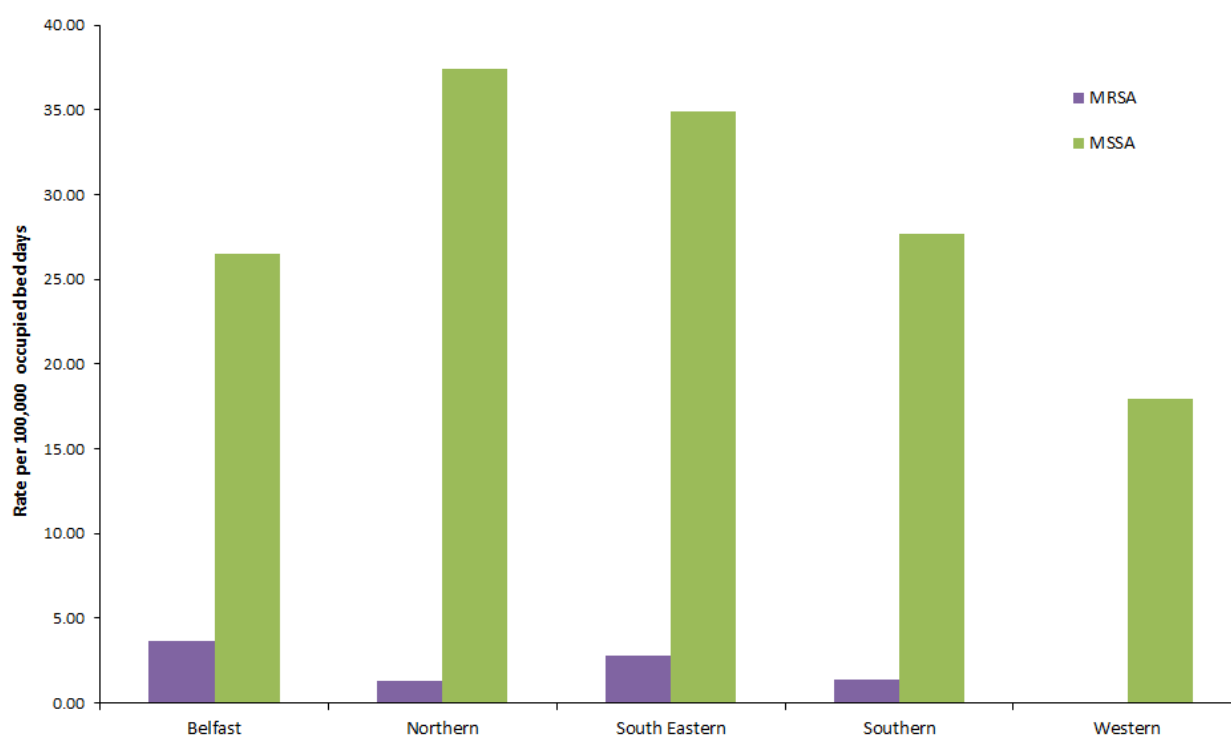
- Overall *S. aureus* (SA) rates for Northern Ireland (MRSA plus MSSA bacteraemias) increased by approximately 2% during April-June 2025 compared to January-March 2025.
- MRSA rates decreased by approximately 11% during April-June 2025 compared to January-March 2025.
- MRSA reports during 2024/25 decreased by 8% compared to 2023/24.
- MSSA rates increased by approximately 3% during April-June 2025 compared to January-March 2025.
- MSSA reports during 2024/25 decreased by 2% compared to 2023/24.
- Bed day data were not available for NHSCT, SHSCT and WHSCT and provisional figures were used this quarter (figures taken from Apr-Jun 2024).

For further information or clarification on HCAI definitions, please refer to previous reports or contact [hcaini@hscni.net](mailto: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 – Jun 2025 (see Appendix 3)**



**Figure 2: MRSA and MSSA rates per 100,000 occupied bed days, by HSCT, Apr-Jun 2025.**

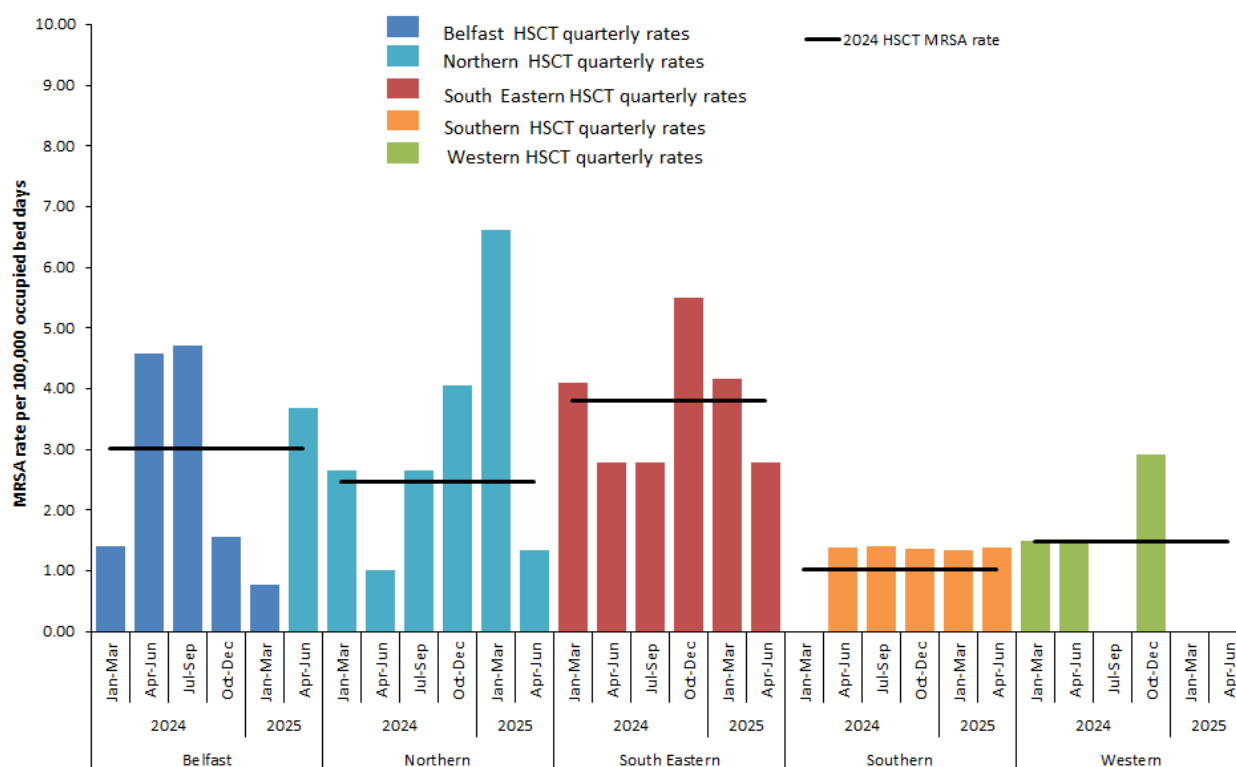


Figure 3: MRSA quarterly rate Jan 2024 – Jun 2025, by HSCT, with 2024 HSCT MRSA rate

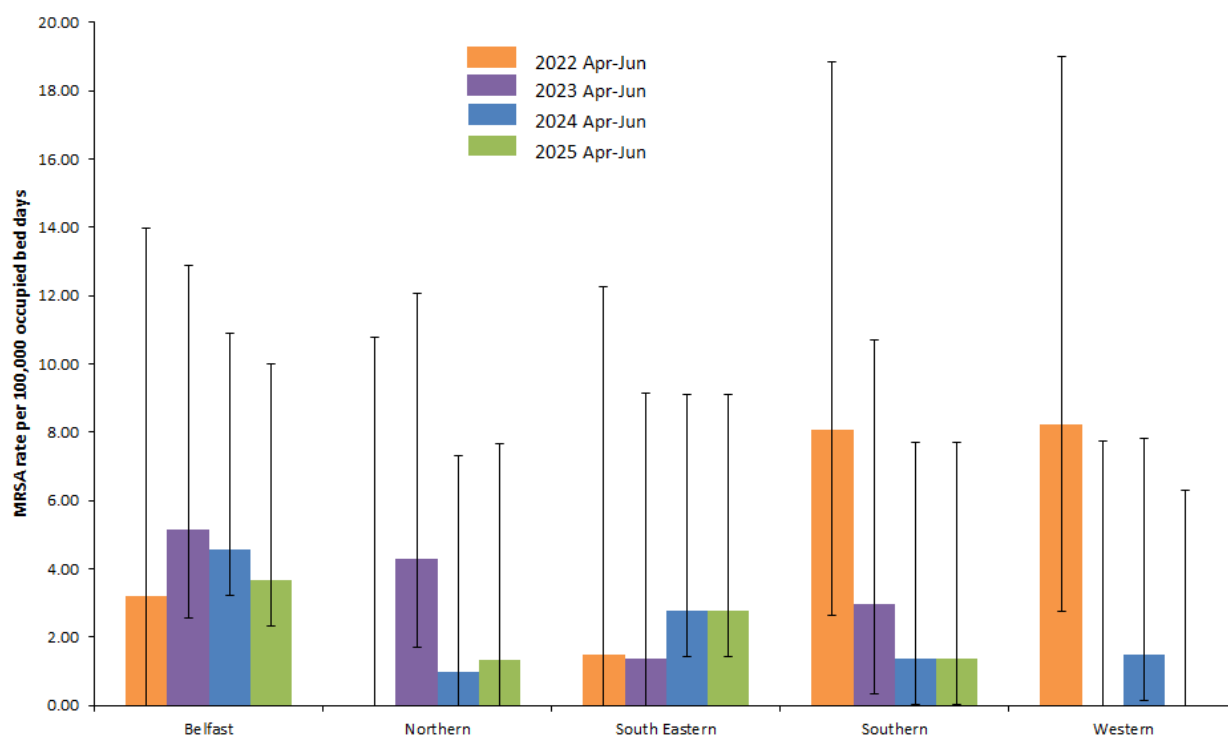


Figure 4: MRSA rate during Apr-Jun, by HSCT, from 2022–2025, with 95% confidence intervals

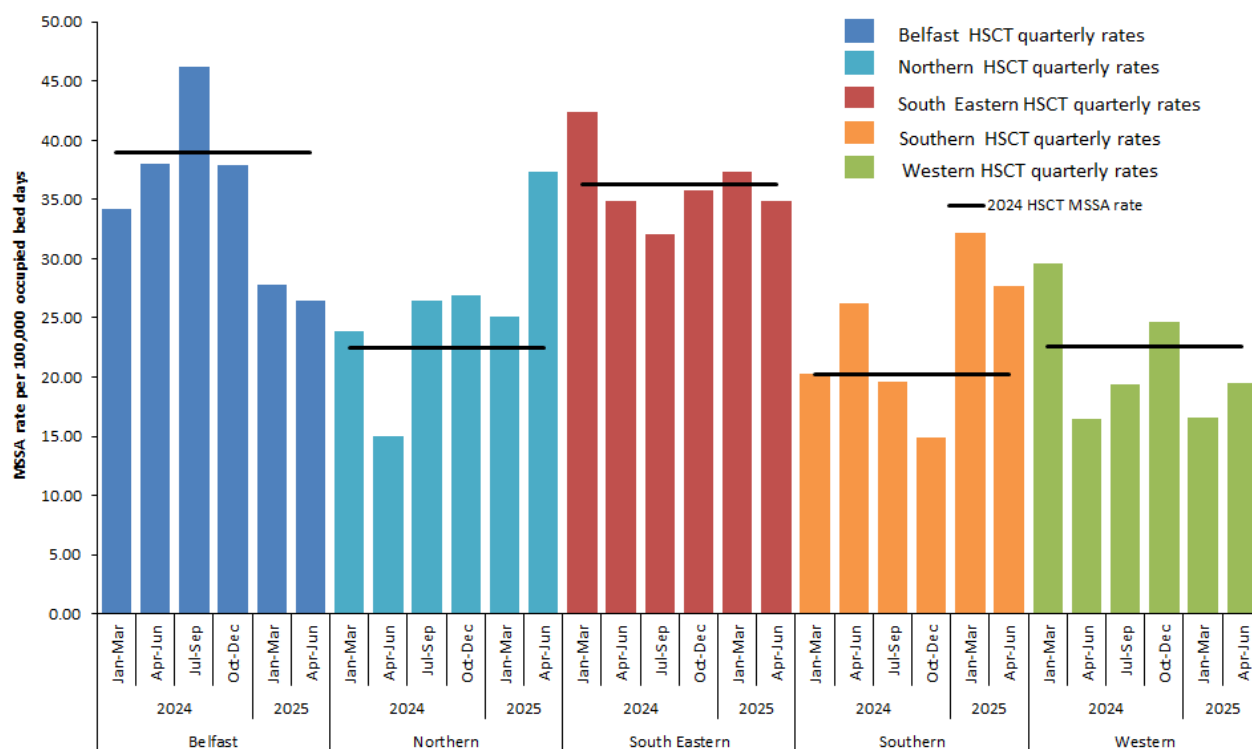


Figure 5: MSSA quarterly rate Jan 2024 – Jun 2025, by HSCT, with 2024 HSCT MSSA rate

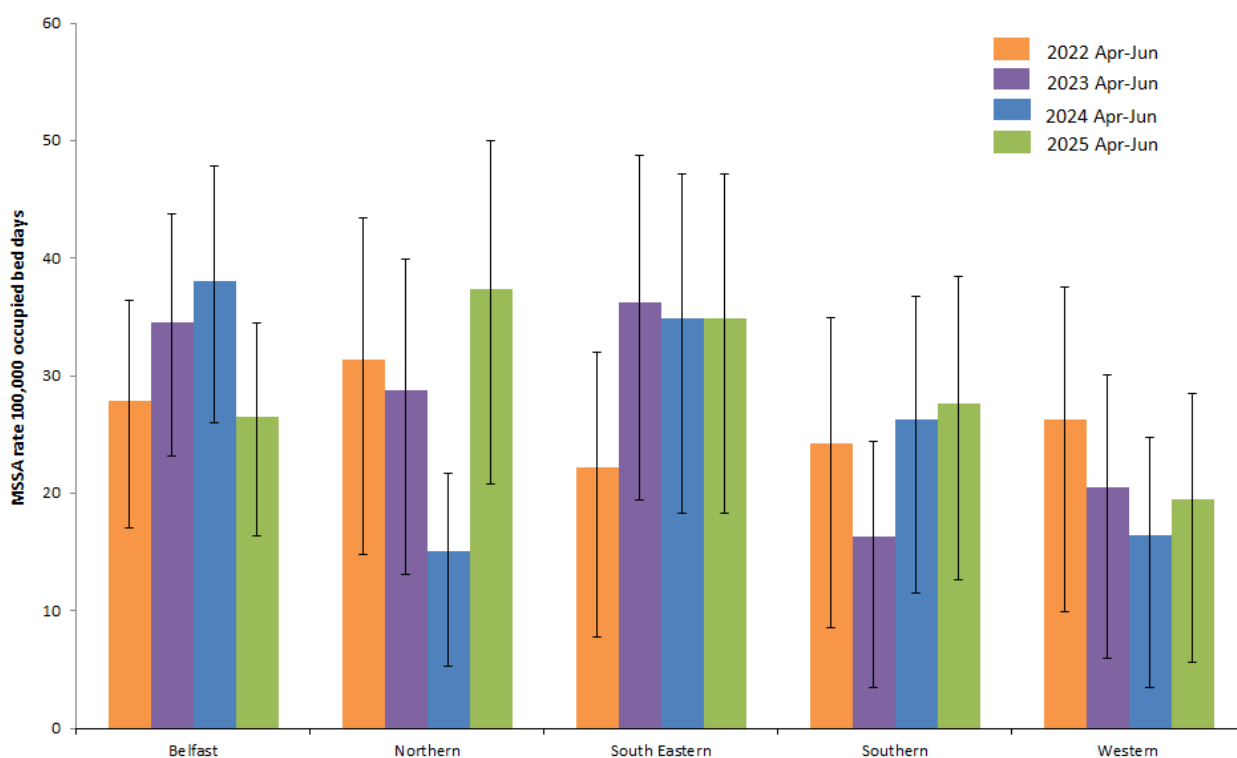


Figure 6: MSSA rate during Apr-Jun, by HSCT, from 2022–2025, with 95% confidence interval

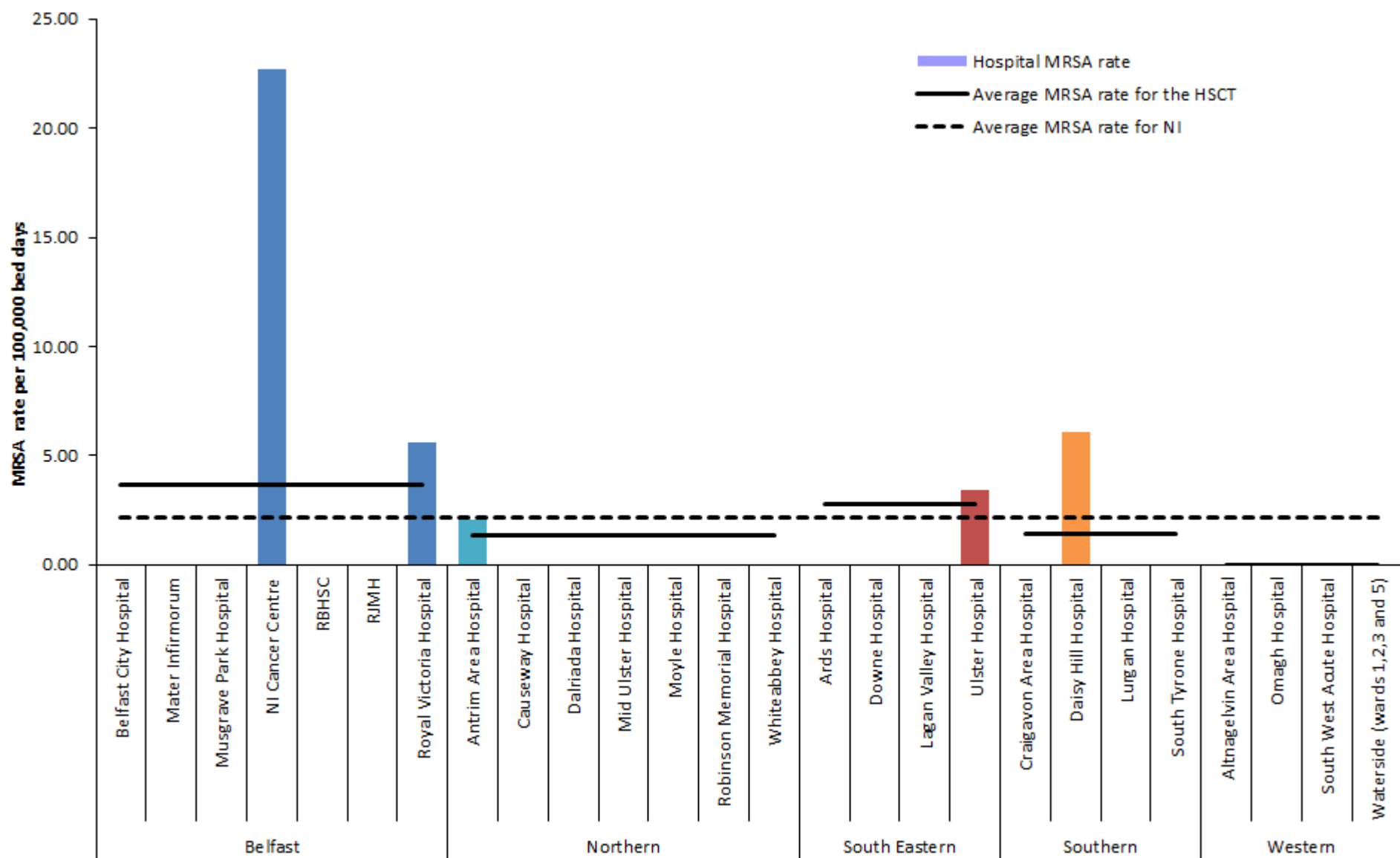


Figure 7: Rates of MRSA, April-June 2025 by individual hospitals, (gaps represent zero episodes), compared to April-June 2025 average rates for Northern Ireland and HSCTs

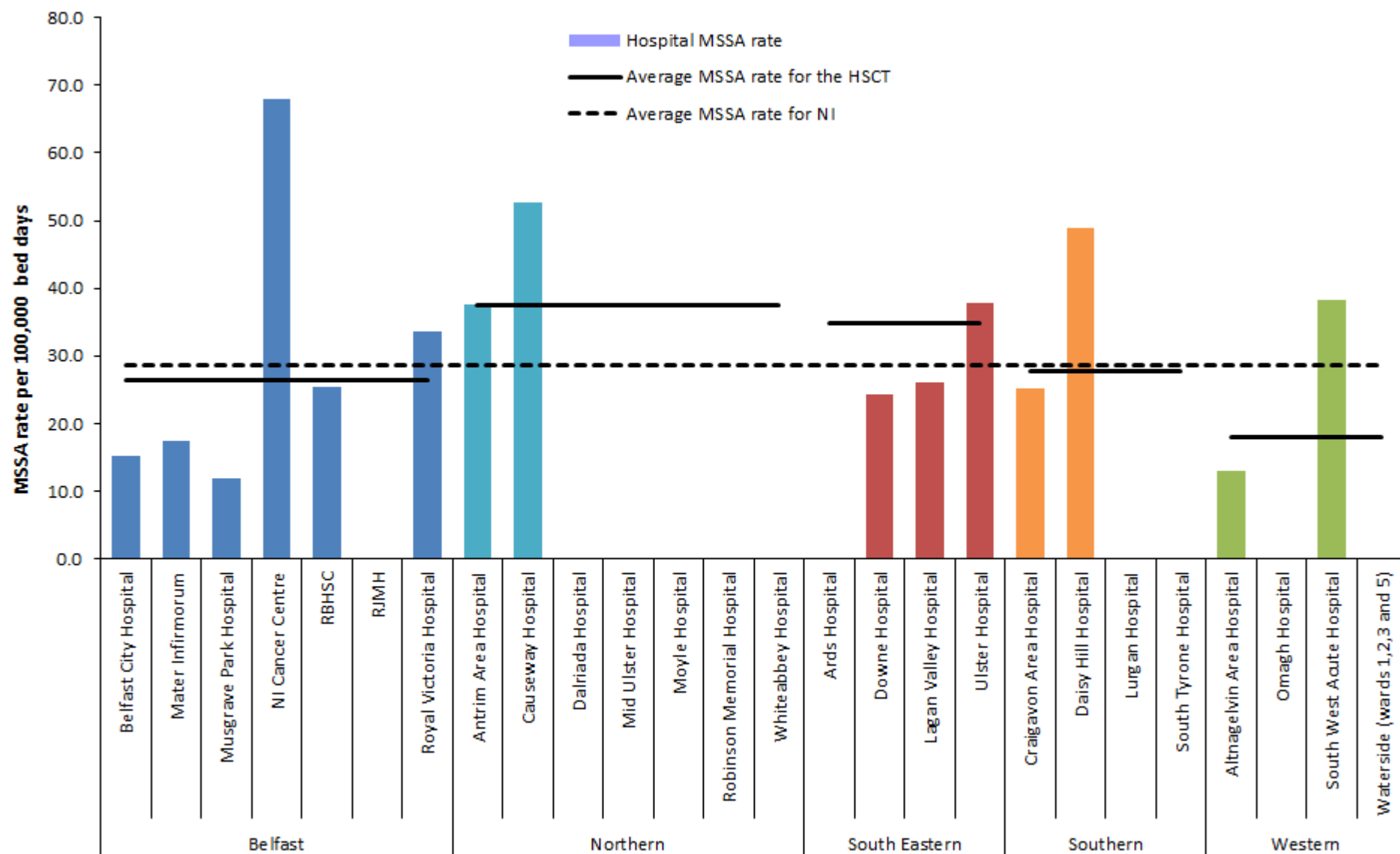


Figure 8: Rates of MSSA, April-June 2025 by individual hospitals, (gaps represent zero episodes), compared to April-June 2025 average rates for Northern Ireland and HSCT

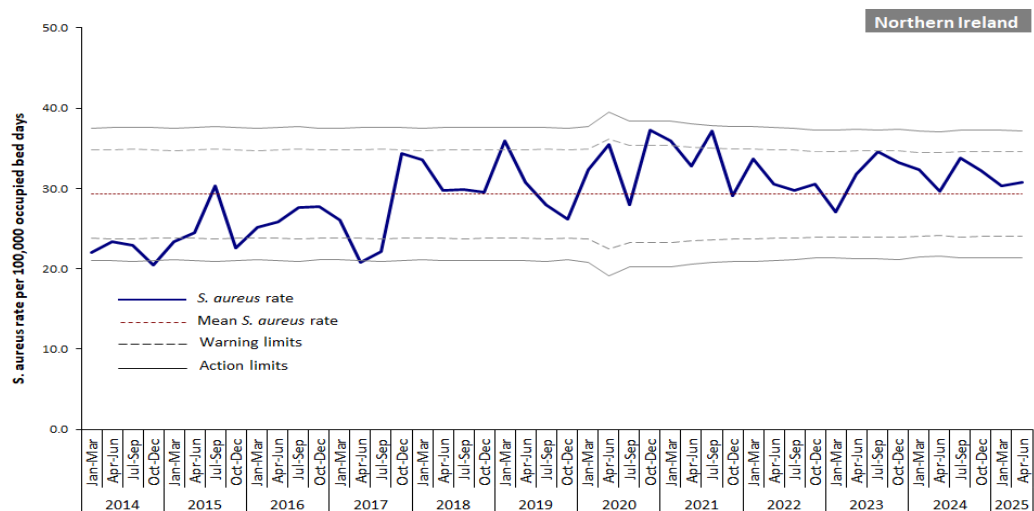


Figure 9a: Statistical process control chart for quarterly *S. aureus* rates in Northern Ireland

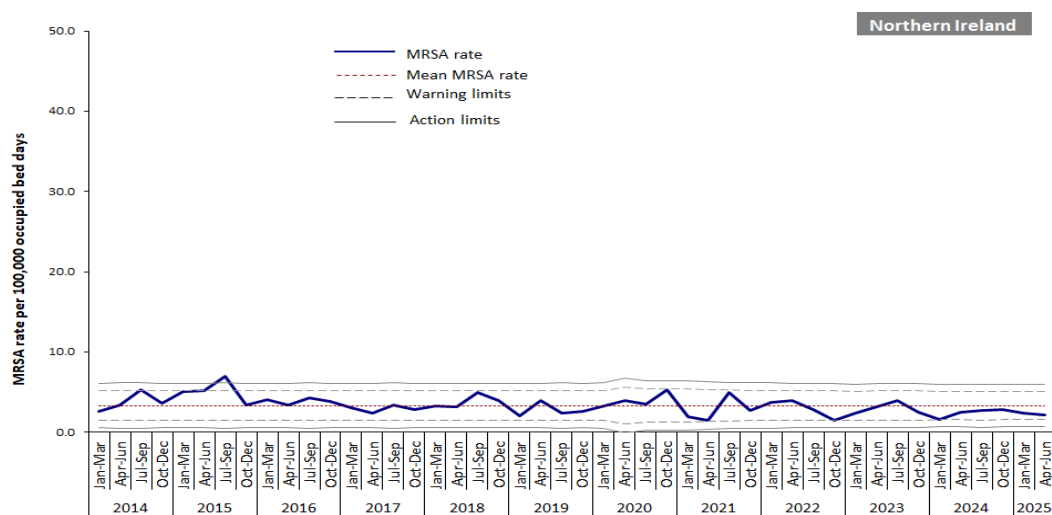


Figure 9b: Statistical process control chart for quarterly MRSA rates in Northern Ireland

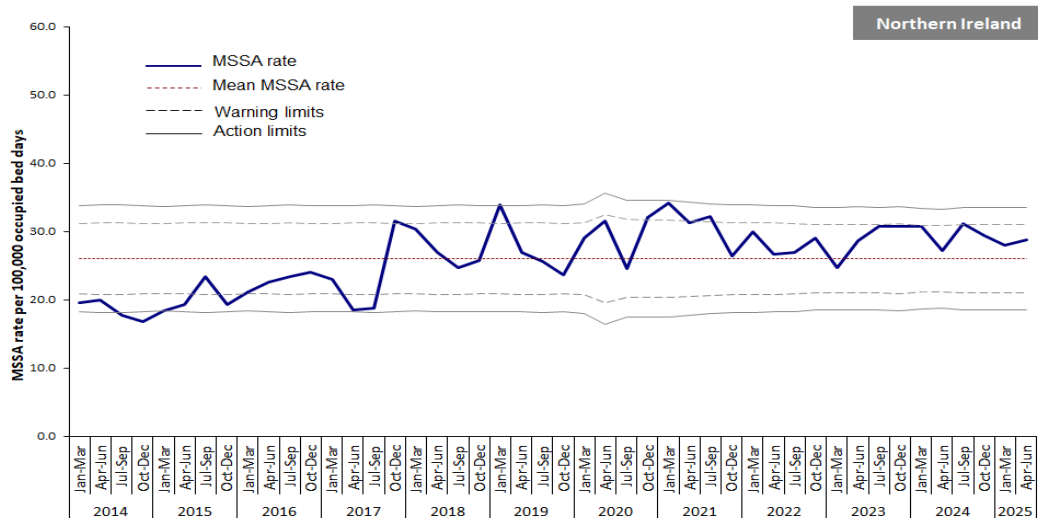


Figure 9c: Statistical process control chart for quarterly MSSA rates in Northern Ireland

## Appendix 1

**Table 1: Quarterly rates\* of MRSA patient episodes, by hospital, Jul 2024 – Jun 2025**

| Hospital                                            | Jul - Sep 2024 | Oct - Dec 2024 | Jan - Mar 2025 | Apr - Jun 2025 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Belfast City Hospital                               | 7.67           | 0.00           | 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                                               | 21.70          | 0.00           | 0.00           | 22.68          |
| RBHSC                                               | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| RJMH                                                | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| Royal Group of Hospitals                            | 6.14           | 3.10           | 1.54           | 5.62           |
| <b>Belfast Health &amp; Social Care Trust</b>       | <b>4.70</b>    | <b>1.55</b>    | <b>0.77</b>    | <b>3.68</b>    |
| Antrim Area Hospital                                | 2.08           | 6.44           | 6.33           | 2.09           |
| Causeway Hospital                                   | 5.20           | 0.00           | 10.35          | 0.00           |
| 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           |
| <b>Northern Health &amp; Social Care Trust</b>      | <b>2.64</b>    | <b>4.04</b>    | <b>6.62</b>    | <b>1.34</b>    |
| 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                                     | 3.47           | 6.93           | 5.25           | 3.43           |
| <b>South Eastern Health &amp; Social Care Trust</b> | <b>2.79</b>    | <b>5.51</b>    | <b>4.15</b>    | <b>2.79</b>    |
| Craigavon Area Hospital                             | 0.00           | 2.06           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| Daisy Hill Hospital                                 | 6.40           | 0.00           | 5.70           | 6.11           |
| Lurgan Hospital                                     | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| South Tyrone Hospital                               | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| <b>Southern Health &amp; Social Care Trust</b>      | <b>1.40</b>    | <b>1.35</b>    | <b>1.34</b>    | <b>1.38</b>    |
| Altnagelvin Area Hospital                           | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| Omagh Hospital                                      | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| South West Acute Hospital                           | 0.00           | 10.57          | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| Waterside Hospital                                  | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| <b>Western Health &amp; Social Care Trust</b>       | <b>0.00</b>    | <b>2.91</b>    | <b>0.00</b>    | <b>0.00</b>    |
| <b>NI TOTAL</b>                                     | <b>2.66</b>    | <b>2.87</b>    | <b>2.39</b>    | <b>2.13</b>    |

**Table 2: Quarterly MRSA patient episodes, by HSCT, Jul 2024 – Jun 2025**

| Trust                                    | Jul - Sep 2024<br>Episodes | Oct - Dec 2024<br>Episodes | Jan - Mar 2025<br>Episodes | Apr - Jun 2025<br>Episodes |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Belfast Health & Social Care Trust       | 6                          | 2                          | 1                          | 5                          |
| Northern Health & Social Care Trust      | 2                          | 3                          | 5                          | 1                          |
| South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust | 2                          | 4                          | 3                          | 2                          |
| Southern Health & Social Care Trust      | 1                          | 1                          | 1                          | 1                          |
| Western Health & Social Care Trust       | 0                          | 2                          | 0                          | 0                          |
| <b>NI TOTAL</b>                          | <b>11</b>                  | <b>12</b>                  | <b>10</b>                  | <b>9</b>                   |

Bed day data were not available for NHSCT, SHSCT and WHSCT – provisional figures were used this quarter (figures taken from Apr-Jun 2024).

## Appendix 1

**Table 3: Quarterly rates\* of MSSA patient episodes, by hospital, Jul 2024 – Jun 2025**

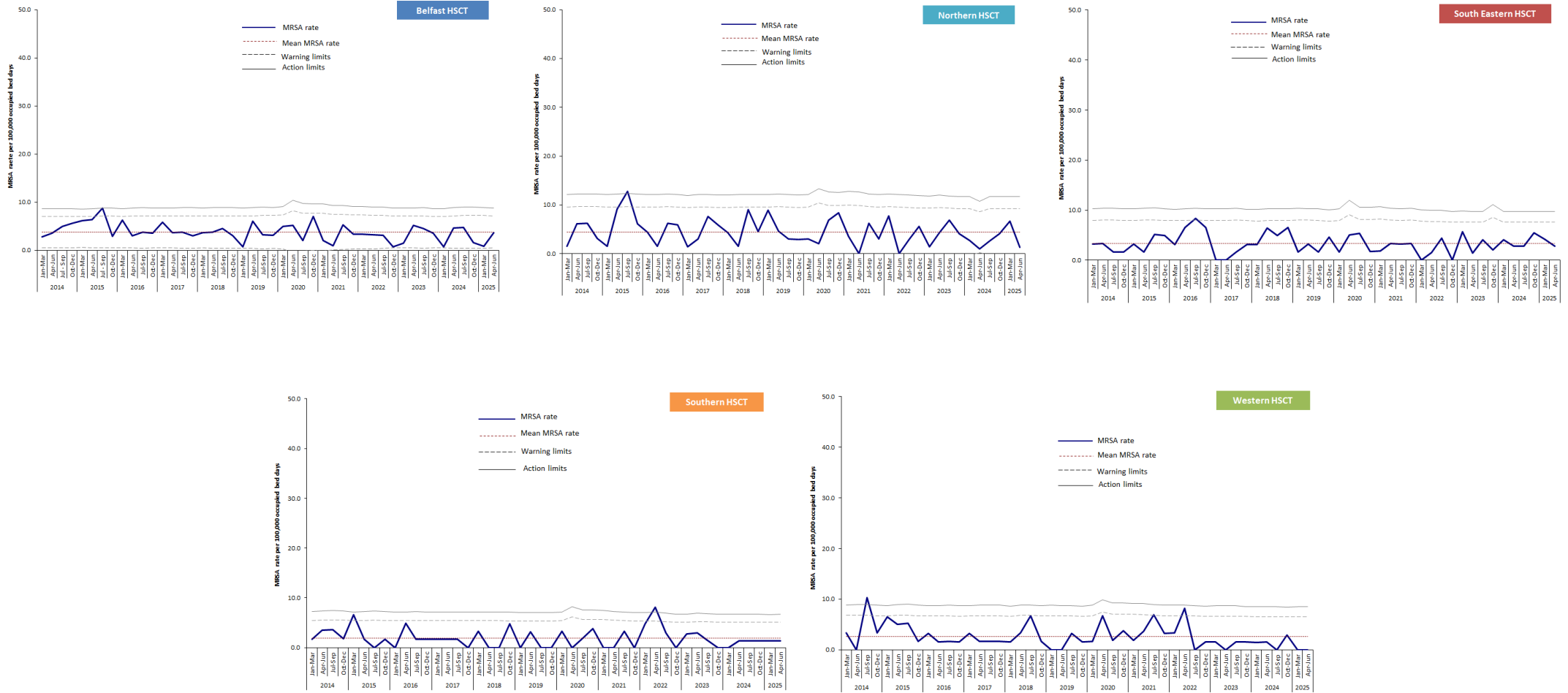
| Hospital                                            | Jul - Sep 2024 | Oct - Dec 2024 | Jan - Mar 2025 | Apr - Jun 2025 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Belfast City Hospital                               | 61.37          | 31.00          | 0.00           | 15.13          |
| Mater Infirmorum                                    | 65.30          | 12.76          | 32.13          | 17.49          |
| Musgrave Park Hospital                              | 0.00           | 16.61          | 0.00           | 11.94          |
| NICCO                                               | 43.40          | 129.65         | 44.01          | 68.03          |
| RBHSC                                               | 104.62         | 39.58          | 27.47          | 25.46          |
| RJMH                                                | 49.96          | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| Royal Group of Hospitals                            | 44.52          | 48.00          | 41.62          | 33.71          |
| <b>Belfast Health &amp; Social Care Trust</b>       | <b>46.21</b>   | <b>37.96</b>   | <b>27.83</b>   | <b>26.50</b>   |
| Antrim Area Hospital                                | 37.42          | 32.20          | 27.45          | 37.69          |
| Causeway Hospital                                   | 10.41          | 25.77          | 31.04          | 52.60          |
| 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           |
| <b>Northern Health &amp; Social Care Trust</b>      | <b>26.40</b>   | <b>26.94</b>   | <b>25.15</b>   | <b>37.40</b>   |
| Ards Hospital                                       | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| Downe Hospital                                      | 0.00           | 35.12          | 17.06          | 24.24          |
| Lagan Valley Hospital                               | 38.67          | 0.00           | 12.97          | 26.10          |
| Ulster Hospital                                     | 34.68          | 41.56          | 43.77          | 37.72          |
| <b>South Eastern Health &amp; Social Care Trust</b> | <b>32.09</b>   | <b>35.79</b>   | <b>37.37</b>   | <b>34.87</b>   |
| Craigavon Area Hospital                             | 14.75          | 20.61          | 26.85          | 25.20          |
| Daisy Hill Hospital                                 | 38.41          | 5.82           | 62.68          | 48.89          |
| Lurgan Hospital                                     | 20.69          | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| South Tyrone Hospital                               | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| <b>Southern Health &amp; Social Care Trust</b>      | <b>19.60</b>   | <b>14.86</b>   | <b>32.17</b>   | <b>27.65</b>   |
| Altnagelvin Area Hospital                           | 26.63          | 39.05          | 15.69          | 15.55          |
| Omagh Hospital                                      | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| South West Acute Hospital                           | 16.15          | 10.57          | 26.51          | 38.34          |
| Waterside Hospital                                  | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0.00           |
| <b>Western Health &amp; Social Care Trust</b>       | <b>19.34</b>   | <b>24.71</b>   | <b>16.55</b>   | <b>19.44</b>   |
| <b>NI TOTAL</b>                                     | <b>31.18</b>   | <b>29.37</b>   | <b>27.97</b>   | <b>31.07</b>   |

**Table 4: Quarterly MSSA patient episodes, by HSCT, Jul 2024 – Jun 2025**

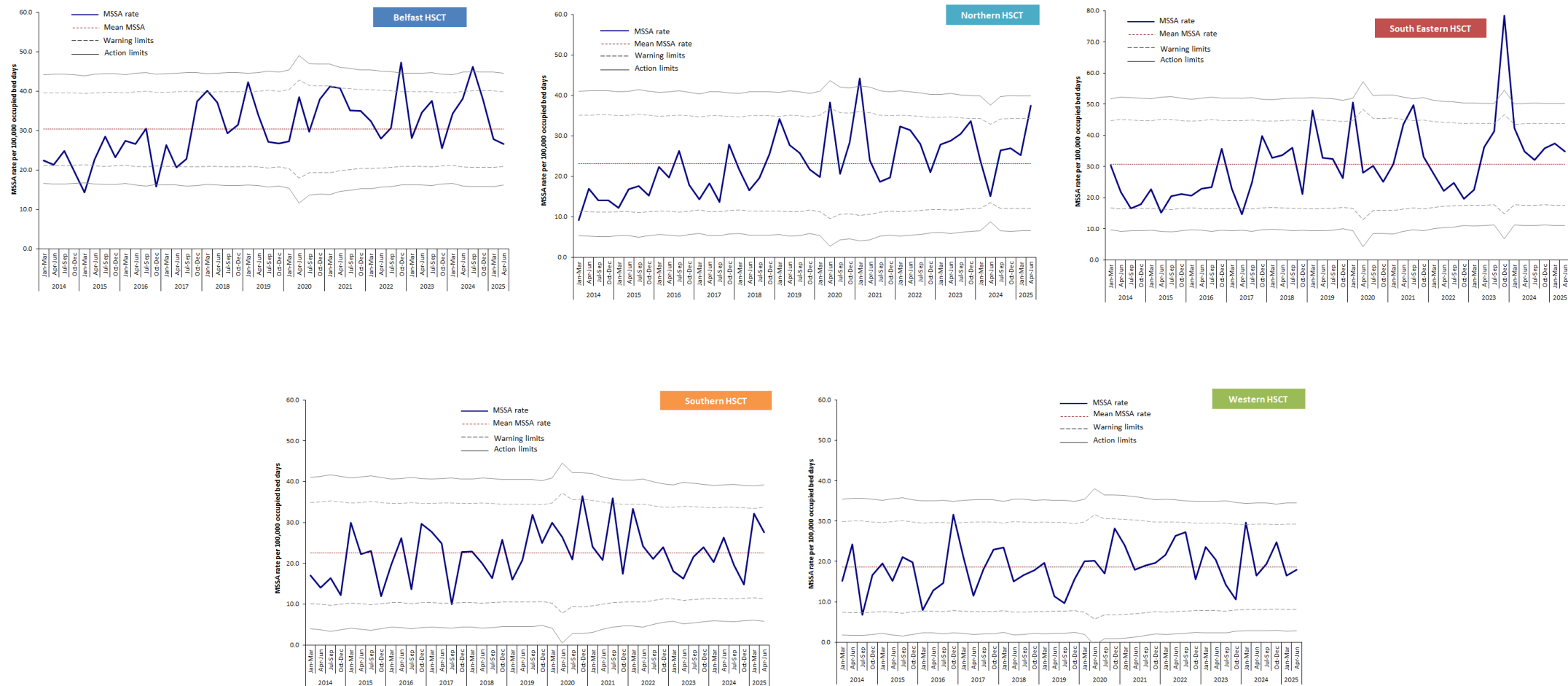
| Trust                                    | Jul - Sep 2024<br>Episodes | Oct - Dec 2024<br>Episodes | Jan - Mar 2025<br>Episodes | Apr - Jun 2025<br>Episodes |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Belfast Health & Social Care Trust       | 59                         | 49                         | 36                         | 36                         |
| Northern Health & Social Care Trust      | 20                         | 20                         | 19                         | 28                         |
| South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust | 23                         | 26                         | 27                         | 25                         |
| Southern Health & Social Care Trust      | 14                         | 11                         | 24                         | 20                         |
| Western Health & Social Care Trust       | 13                         | 17                         | 11                         | 13                         |
| <b>NI TOTAL</b>                          | <b>129</b>                 | <b>123</b>                 | <b>117</b>                 | <b>122</b>                 |

Bed day data were not available for NHSCT, SHSCT and WHSCT – provisional figures were used this quarter (figures taken from Apr-Jun 2024).

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



## Appendix 2: Trends in MSSA rates, by HSCT and quarter, Jan 2014 – Jun 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 – Jun 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    |
| Apr-Jun 2025  | 28.94     | 2.13      | 31.07                     | 6.9    |

## Appendix 4

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

| <b>HSCT</b>      | <b>Financial Year</b> |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|------------------|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                  | 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**

| <b>HSCT</b>      | <b>Financial Year</b> |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|------------------|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                  | 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     |