

***Clostridioides difficile* infection, *Escherichia coli* bacteraemia, *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia and Surgical Site Infection in Scotland**

July to September (Q3) 2022

An Official Statistics publication for Scotland

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About this release

This release by Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection (ARHAI) Scotland provides data for common healthcare infections in Scotland. These are an important cause of severe illness, death, and higher treatment costs. The published data can be used to improve care of patients. *Clostridioides difficile* infection (CDI) can cause diarrhoeal illness, especially in vulnerable patients who have received antibiotics. *Escherichia coli* bacteraemia (ECB) and *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia (SAB) are both life-threatening bloodstream infections. Surgical site infections (SSI) are bacterial infections of surgical operation sites which can have serious outcomes for patients.

Main Points

Total cases for July to September (Q3) 2022

- There were 284 CDI cases, of which 71.1% (202) were healthcare infections. In the previous quarter there were 283 cases.
- There were 1,137 ECB cases, of which 49.3% (560) were healthcare infections. In the previous quarter there were 1,057 cases.
- There were 385 SAB cases, of which 68.6% (264) were healthcare infections. In the previous quarter there were 401 SAB cases.
- Epidemiological data for SSI are not included for this quarter due to the pausing of surveillance to support the COVID-19 response.

NHS Boards requiring further analysis

- These need to be looked at further as per the exception reporting process.
- The number of healthcare ECB cases in NHS Forth Valley, NHS Tayside, and NHS Western Isles was markedly higher than the average within Scotland in 2022 Q3.
- The number of community ECB cases in NHS Lanarkshire was markedly higher than the average within Scotland in 2022 Q3.
- The table shows NHS boards' rates for each healthcare and community infection in 2022 Q3.

Table: Quarterly rates for healthcare infections per 100,000 total occupied bed days and community infections per 100,000 population, 1 July to 30 September 2022.

NHS Board	Healthcare CDI	Healthcare ECB	Healthcare SAB	Community CDI	Community ECB	Community SAB
Ayrshire and Arran	15.5	37.1	12.9	8.6	46.3	14.0
Borders	15.9	41.3	12.7	3.4	58.1	13.7
Dumfries and Galloway	12.9	45.3	23.7	18.7	58.7	18.7
Fife	10.1	36.9	15.7	2.1	55.1	12.7
Forth Valley	13.0	+ 57.0	7.8	0.0	41.5	7.8
Golden Jubilee	15.8	15.8	31.6	-	-	-
Grampian	8.3	31.7	14.3	5.4	37.9	10.1
Greater Glasgow and Clyde	12.3	35.5	19.4	5.7	39.8	5.0
Highland	18.4	18.4	6.6	12.2	34.3	9.8
Lanarkshire	19.7	40.7	18.3	3.6	+ 56.2	5.4
Lothian	12.3	24.5	16.4	6.5	35.1	12.1
Orkney	29.5	29.5	59.0	0.0	70.4	17.6
Shetland	0.0	107.6	0.0	0.0	17.3	17.3
Tayside	10.8	+ 49.0	25.7	6.6	26.6	1.9
Western Isles	0.0	+ 139.1	15.5	14.9	0.0	0.0
Scotland	13.1	36.2	17.1	5.9	41.8	8.8

Key

+ Markedly higher than average infection rate, after accounting for NHS board population size/activity

Background

The data used for this report is part of the mandatory surveillance in Scotland. ARHAI Scotland supports NHS boards to analyse their data. Local monitoring in hospital and community settings is required to reduce these infections.

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Further Information

Find out more in the [full report](#). The data from this publication is available to download [from our web page](#) along with a background information and metadata document.

For more information on types of infections included in this report, please see the [CDI](#), [ECB](#), [SAB](#) and [SSI](#) pages.

The next release of this publication will be April 2023.



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