



GETTING TO KNOW NHSN ANTIMICROBIAL USE DATA

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Learning Objectives

1

Identify types of
Antimicrobial Use metrics
available in NHSN

2

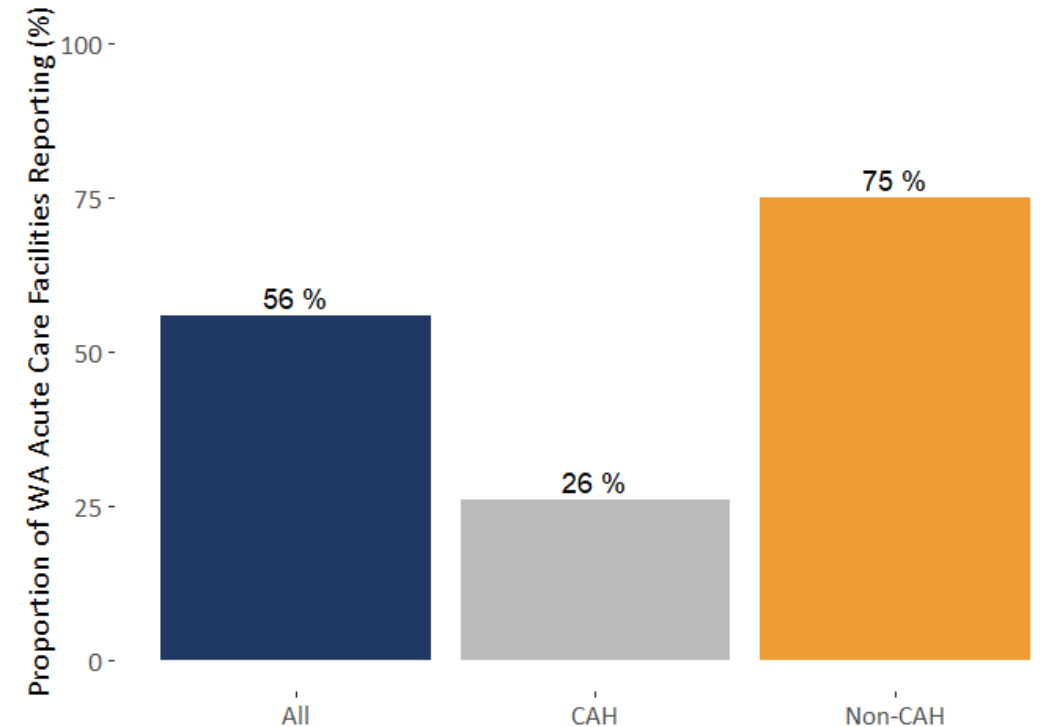
Recognize Advantages
and Disadvantages to
NHSN AU metrics

Background

Starting in 2024 hospitals that participate in the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program will be required to be in **active engagement** or claim an applicable exclusion with NHSN AUR module.

For questions and resources on implementation:

- Visit [WA DOH's NHSN Antimicrobial Use and Resistance Resources](#) page
- Check out [CDC's NHSN AUR Promoting Interoperability Guidance](#) and [FAQs page](#)



How do you get access to NHSN AU Data?



Getting NHSN Access

- Be added to NHSN by your facility's NHSN Administrator
- Sign-up for a [SAMS Account](#)
- Complete registration and identity proofing steps
- Access NHSN through the SAMS portal



Viewing Data in NHSN

- Select “Patient Safety” Component
- Click Analysis -> Generate Datasets
- Click Analysis -> Reports -> Antimicrobial Use and Resistance Module

What data can go into the NHSN AU Module?

What data is in NHSN

- Facility Wide Inpatient Antibiotic Use data
 - All inpatient locations and inpatient procedural areas from which the numerator and denominator can be accurately captured.
- Antibiotic Use data from NHSN-defined* inpatient locations
- Antibiotic Use data from select outpatient settings
 - Emergency Department
 - Pediatric Emergency Department
 - 24-Hour observation area

What data is NOT in NHSN

- Antibiotic Use data from Outpatient Clinics

**How do you know what your units are classified in NHSN as? Check your facility's reporting plan!*

[NHSN Antimicrobial Use and Resistance \(AUR\) Module Protocol](#)

Who can view your AU data



Your Facility



Facilities in your
Network



Who can't view your data



Standardized Antimicrobial Administration Ratio (SAAR)

A summary measure of antimicrobial use developed by CDC.

A quantitative tool for hospitals to make comparisons of antimicrobial use.

$$\textbf{SAAR} = \frac{\textit{Observed antimicrobial days}}{\textit{Predicted antimicrobial days}}$$

What is the SAAR?

$$\text{SAAR} = \frac{\text{Observed antimicrobial days}}{\text{Predicted antimicrobial days}}$$

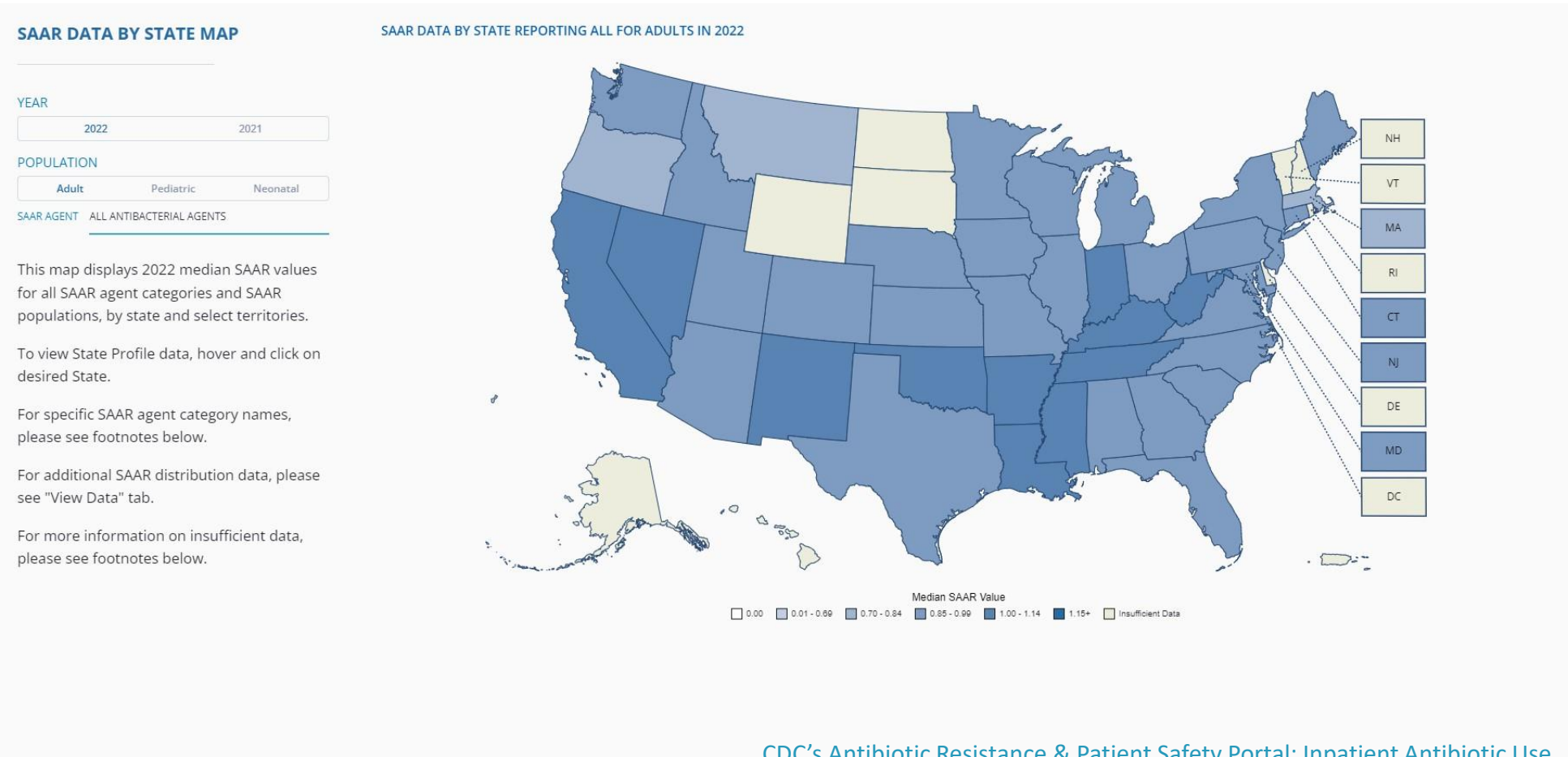
Interpretation

A **SAAR > 1.0** indicates antimicrobial use was greater than predicted.

A **SAAR = 1.0** indicates antimicrobial use was equivalent to predicted use.

A **SAAR < 1.0** indicates antimicrobial use was less than predicted.

A SAAR of 1.0 may not be your specific goal.... Antibiotic Prescribing Rates vary significantly by State and Region.



How are predicted days calculated?

NHSN uses a model based on national aggregated antibiotic use data and the following factors:

Facility Level

- Hospital Bedsize
- ICU beds
- Percent of ICU beds
- Average Facility Length of Stay
- Teaching Status

Location Level

- Location Bedsize
- ICU Status
- Ward Types

[NHSN's Guide to the SAAR: The SAAR predictive model development process](#)

SAAR Report Options



Location

- Specific Units
- Ward Types
- Facility Wide*



Antimicrobial Agent Categories



Time Periods

- Annual
- Monthly
- Bimonthly
- Quarterly
- Biannually

SAAR Antimicrobial Agent Categories

| Adult SAAR Types | NHSN Prefix Outputs |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| All antibacterial agents | Adult_All-Antibacterial |
| Broad spectrum antibacterial agents predominantly used for hospital-onset infections | Adult_BSHO |
| Broad spectrum antibacterial agents predominantly used for community-acquired infections | Adult_BSCA |
| Antibacterial agents predominantly used for resistant Gram-positive infections (e.g., MRSA) | Adult_GramPos |
| Narrow spectrum beta-lactam agents | Adult_NSBL |
| Antibacterial agents posing the highest risk for CDI (not mutually exclusive, agents may overlap with other categories) | Adult_CDI |
| Antifungal agents predominantly used for invasive candidiasis | Adult_Antifungal |

What does a SAAR report look like?

All Antibacterial Agents used in adult SAAR ICUs, wards, step down units and oncology units

| orgID | SAARType_2017 | location | summaryYr | locCDC | antimicrobialDays | numAUDaysPredicted | numDaysPresent | SAAR | SAAR_pval | SAAR95CI | SAAR_pctl |
|-------|------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| | Adult_All-Antibacterial_2017 | | 2022 | IN:ACUTE:WARD | 2856 | 3631.318 | 5654 | 0.786 | 0.0000 | 0.758, 0.816 | 16 |
| | Adult_All-Antibacterial_2017 | | 2023 | IN:ACUTE:WARD | 1723 | 2090.544 | 3255 | 0.824 | 0.0000 | 0.786, 0.864 | 19 |
| | Adult_All-Antibacterial_2017 | | 2022 | IN:ACUTE:WARD | 2337 | 4055.717 | 6593 | 0.576 | 0.0000 | 0.553, 0.600 | 9 |
| | Adult_All-Antibacterial_2017 | | 2023 | IN:ACUTE:WARD | 1585 | 2373.886 | 3859 | 0.668 | 0.0000 | 0.635, 0.701 | 15 |
| | Adult_All-Antibacterial_2017 | | 2022 | IN:ACUTE:WARD | 8240 | 8631.245 | 14031 | 0.955 | 0.0000 | 0.934, 0.975 | 58 |
| | Adult_All-Antibacterial_2017 | | 2023 | IN:ACUTE:WARD | 5576 | 5047.965 | 8206 | 1.105 | 0.0000 | 1.076, 1.134 | 80 |
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SAAR 2017 National Baseline is 1.0, 1 = AU
was as expected per CDC modeling

[Keys to Success with the SAAR](#)

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The SAAR p-value is a statistical measure that indicates if reported antimicrobial use is statistically significantly different from predicted antimicrobial use. If the p-value ≤ 0.05 , then the reported antimicrobial days are statistically significantly different from predicted antimicrobial days.

[Keys to Success with the SAAR](#)

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The 50th percentile is the median location-specific SAAR value. For example, a SAAR for a medical ICU location with a SAAR percentile of 90 indicates 89% of SAAR values reported from medical ICU locations are less than that SAAR and 10% of SAAR values reported from medical ICU locations are higher than it based on data reported into the AU Option.

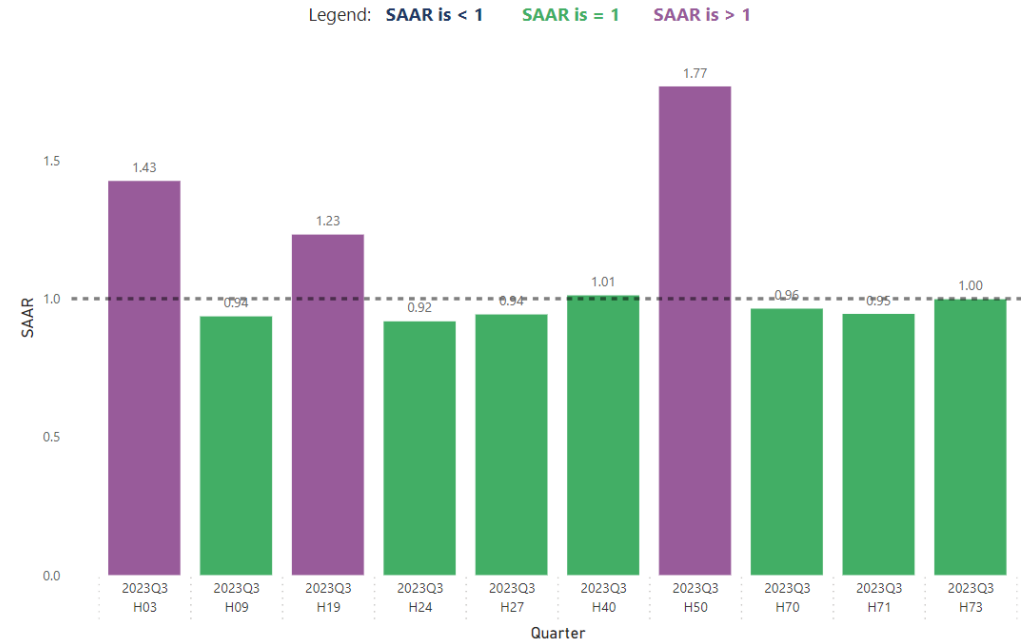
[Keys to Success with the SAAR](#)

What can I do with SAAR data?

Inter-Facility Benchmarking



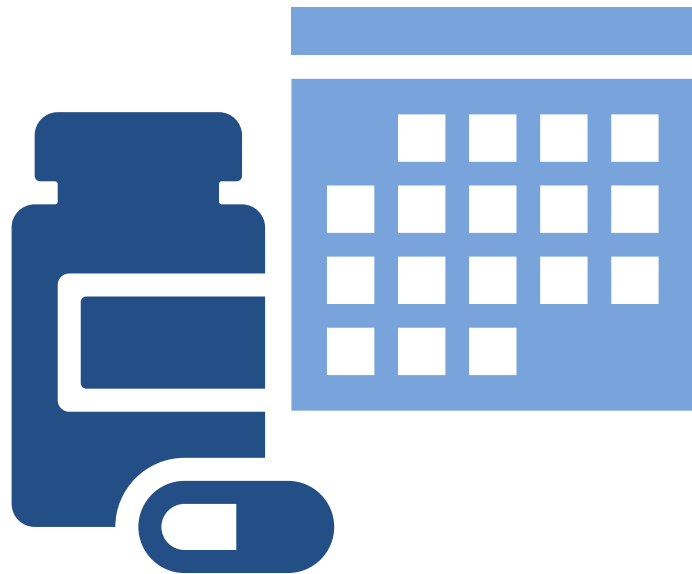
Intra-Facility Benchmarking



Standardized Antimicrobial Administration Ratio (SAAR)

| Advantages | Disadvantages |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Risk Adjusted | Not risk adjusted for patient level or clinical factors |
| Inter-facility Benchmarking | Does not measure appropriateness! |
| Intra-facility Benchmarking | |

Exploring NHSN data beyond the SAAR...



Antimicrobial
Days per 1,000
Days Present!

What are Antimicrobial Days per 1,000 Days Present?

Antimicrobial Day

Defined as the aggregate sum of days for which any amount of a specific antimicrobial agent was administered to individual patients as documented eMAR and/or BCMA.

Days Present

Days present are defined as the aggregate number of patients housed in a patient care location or facility anytime throughout a day during a calendar month.

X 1,000 = Antimicrobial Days per 1,000 Days Present

Similar to but not equivalent to Days of Therapy...

“Patient days and days present were compared to directly measured person time to quantify how choice of different denominator metrics may affect antimicrobial use rates. Overall, days present were approximately one-third higher than patient days. This difference varied among hospitals and units and was influenced by short length of stay.”

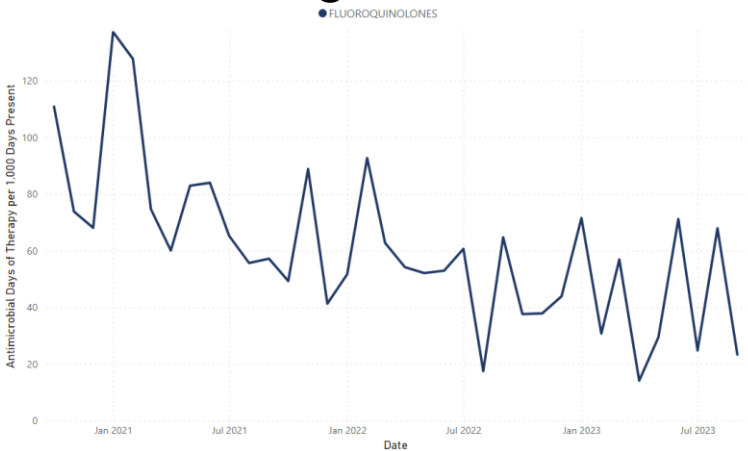
- Denominator Matters in Estimating Antimicrobial Use: A Comparison of Days Present and Patient Days

What can I do with Antimicrobial Days data?

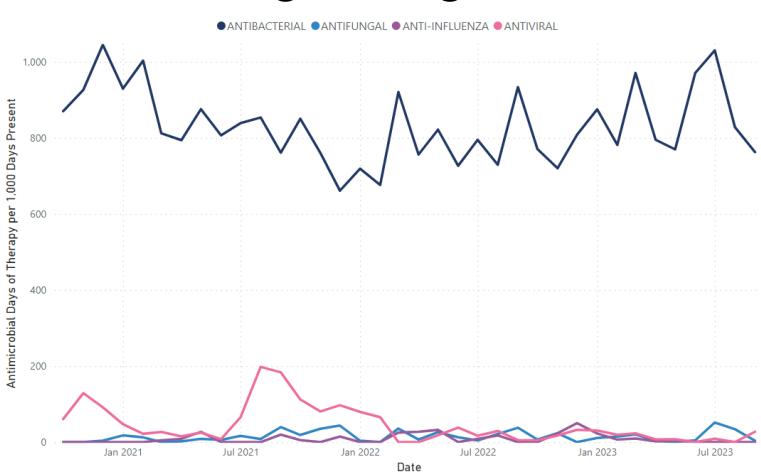
Selected Drug Agents



Drug Classes



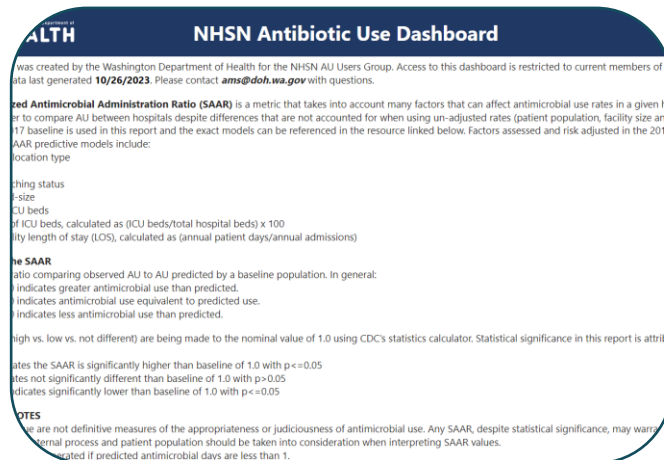
Drug Categories



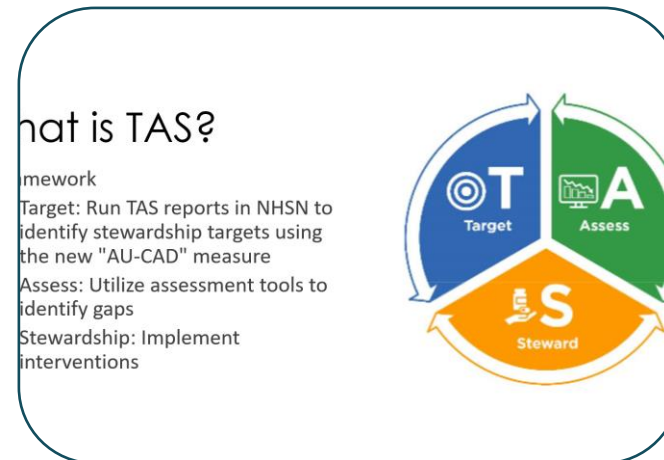
Antimicrobial Days per 1,000 days present

| Advantages | Disadvantages |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Easy to assess magnitude of changes in prescribing rates for select antimicrobial agents and classes over time! | NOT a measure of appropriateness - Measures QUANTITY of prescribing not QUALITY |
| Can investigate potential balloon effects of AMS interventions | |
| Conceptually straightforward – easier to communicate to stakeholders | |
| Can track at Facility Wide Level or Individual Unit Level | |

Washington Department of Health's NHSN AU Users Group




AU Dashboard



Quarterly
Didactics

Office Hours



For help with pulling reports from NHSN and understanding your data we will be hosting regular Office Hours on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 12-1pm

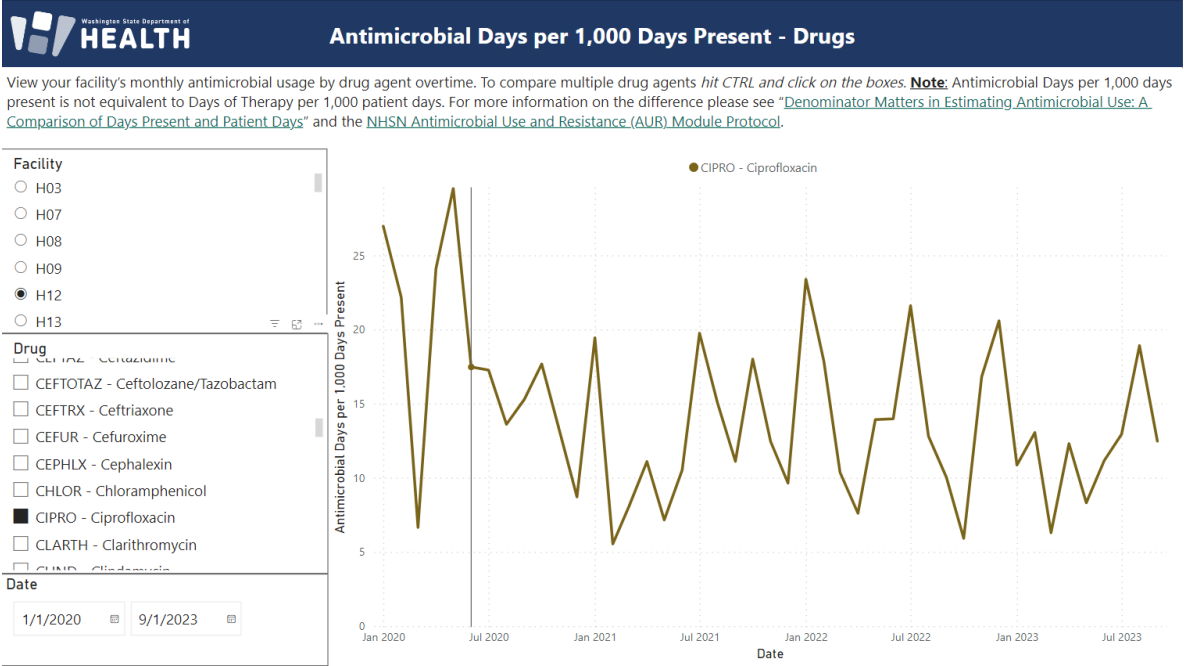
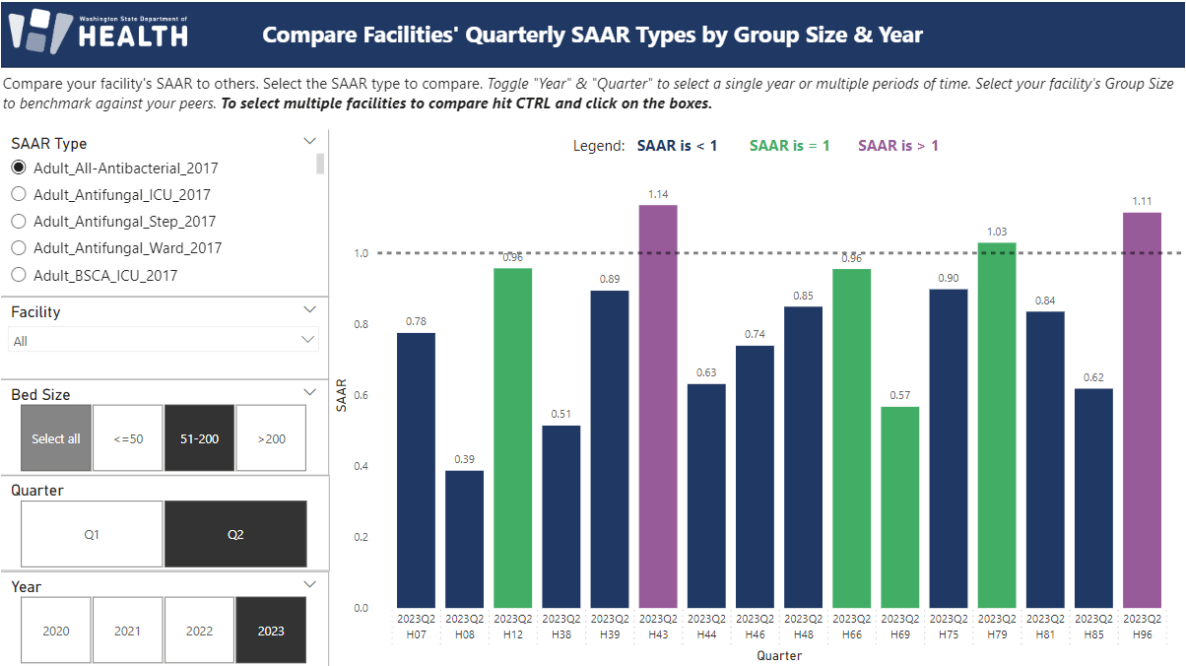
AND

You can schedule a time with Jessica & Katarina that works for your calendar!

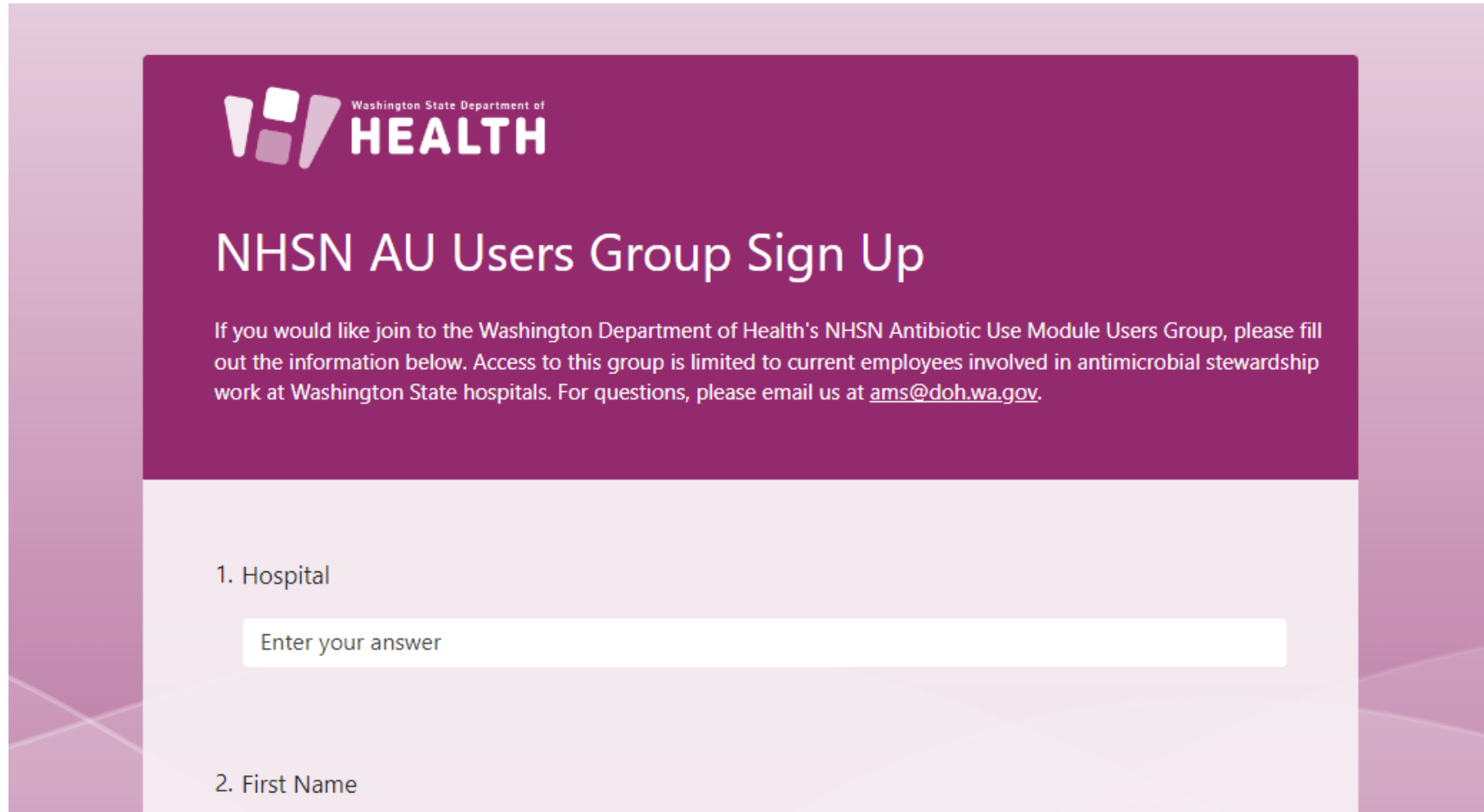
Washington State Department of Health | 41

Office Hours


NHSN Antibiotic Use Dashboard



Register for NHSN AU Users Group



The screenshot shows a sign-up form for the NHSN AU Users Group. At the top, there is a purple header with the Washington State Department of Health logo and the text "NHSN AU Users Group Sign Up". Below the header, a paragraph explains that the group is for current employees involved in antimicrobial stewardship work at Washington State hospitals, and provides the email ams@doh.wa.gov for questions. The form itself is on a light purple background and contains two numbered questions: "1. Hospital" and "2. First Name". The first question has a text input field with the placeholder "Enter your answer".

 Washington State Department of
HEALTH

NHSN AU Users Group Sign Up

If you would like join to the Washington Department of Health's NHSN Antibiotic Use Module Users Group, please fill out the information below. Access to this group is limited to current employees involved in antimicrobial stewardship work at Washington State hospitals. For questions, please email us at ams@doh.wa.gov.

1. Hospital

2. First Name

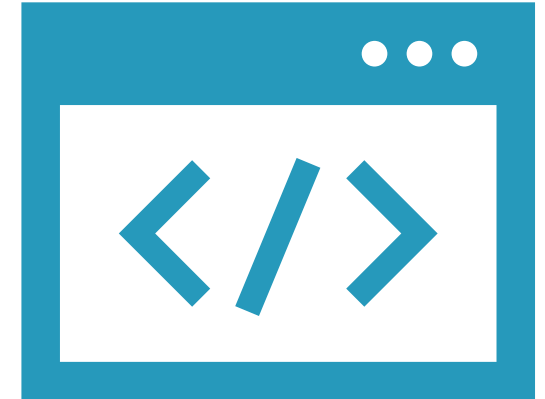
NHSN AU Funding Opportunity

To help offset the cost of implementing reporting to the NHSN-AUR module, the Washington Department of Health is offering a ***\$5,000 financial reimbursement***.

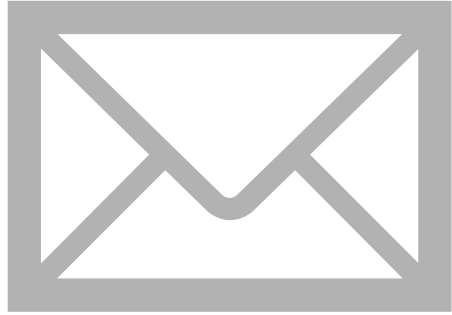
Eligibility Requirements:

- Acute Care Hospitals within the State of Washington that are not yet reporting to the NHSN AU module or started reporting after ***August 1st, 2022***.
- Facilities can not have received funding from WA DOH for this purpose in the past.

Deadline to apply is and submit paperwork is ***March 1st, 2024***.



[Learn more and apply here.](#)



Questions? Comments?

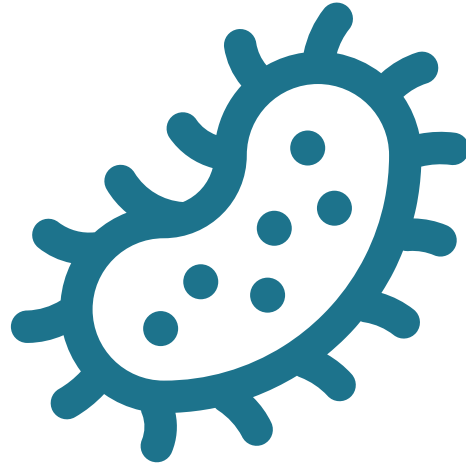
Reach our team at ams@doh.wa.gov

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Additional NHSN AU Resources

- [NHSN's Guide to the SAAR](#)
- [NHSN Antimicrobial Use and Resistance \(AUR\) Module Protocol](#)
- [Tennessee Department of Health's NHSN AUR Reporting and SAAR Interpretation Presentation](#)
- [2022 NHSN Training - Antimicrobial Use \(AU\) Option: Beginner Analysis](#)
- [CDC's Antibiotic Resistance & Patient Safety Portal: Inpatient Antibiotic Use](#)



To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email civil.rights@doh.wa.gov.