



Department of Children and Youth Affairs

Inventory of Data Sources on Children's Lives

A49 Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance (EARS-Net)

Data owner	Health Protection Surveillance Centre (www.hpsc.ie). Reporting by Microbiology Laboratories (including laboratories of Health Service Executive (www.hse.ie)).
Brief description	National system of surveillance of the antimicrobial resistance profiles of <i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> , <i>Enterococcus faecium</i> , <i>Escherichia coli</i> , <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> , <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> , <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> and <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> . Case-based reporting of the antimicrobial susceptibility testing data on these 7 important bacterial pathogens forms the basis to the European Antimicrobial Surveillance Network (EARS-Net) in Ireland. These data are forwarded by laboratories to the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC), where the national dataset is collated.
Primary function of data	EARS-Net data serve as a surveillance system to measure national levels of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and as a result to monitor the impact of interventions, such as improved infection control and antibiotic stewardship programmes.
Key classificatory variables	ID Other; Sex; DOB
Themes/domains	Health
Unit of observation	First isolate in each quarter
Start date of data collection	1999 (<i>S. aureus</i> and <i>S. pneumoniae</i>) 2002 (<i>E. faecalis</i> , <i>E. faecium</i> and <i>E. coli</i>) 2006 (<i>K. pneumoniae</i> and <i>P. aeruginosa</i>)
Frequency of data collection	Quarterly
Data format	Separate record for each case
Method of data collection	Electronic (Whonet database)
Access/further information	Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC): www.hpsc.ie Publications available at: http://www.hpsc.ie/hpsc/Publications/
Note	Data are internationally comparable since Ireland is one of 31 countries that contribute to the European Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System (EARSS). This surveillance system aims to provide comparable data on the prevalence and spread of major invasive bacteria with clinically and epidemiologically relevant antimicrobial resistance in Europe.