



University of Nevada, Reno  
School of Medicine

# NEVADA STATE PUBLIC HEALTH LAB

*Protecting, maintaining and improving the health of our citizens and visitors since 1909.*



## Public Health at Work for Nevadans

### DISEASE SURVEILLANCE



Public health labs rapidly respond to infectious diseases, including West Nile Virus, whooping cough, mumps, statewide antimicrobial resistance monitoring and global threats. » In Nevada, the NSPHL categorized a resistant, untreatable "super bug" in our community (2017).

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE



Public health labs respond to intentional chemical- and bio-terrorist attacks, natural disasters and disease outbreaks. » In Nevada, the NSPHL rapidly implemented Zika testing (2016).

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



Public health labs ensure the safety of our water by testing for chemical or biological agents and other contaminants. » In Nevada, the NSPHL tested 296 schools' drinking fountains, recommending several fountains be replaced due to lead (2018).

### FOOD SAFETY



Through a national network, public health labs constantly monitor and identify outbreaks of foodborne diseases, connecting cases to halt outbreaks quickly. » In Nevada, the NSPHL was the first agency in the country to identify Salmonella Poona in contaminated cucumbers (2015).

### NEWBORN SCREENING



Public health labs screen 97% of the four million babies born each year to identify genetic and metabolic disorders that must be treated quickly to prevent lifelong disability or death. » In Nevada, the NSPHL has screened 155,170 newborns since the program began in July 2014, identifying 217 critical conditions.

 **586,718**

TESTS PERFORMED ANNUALLY

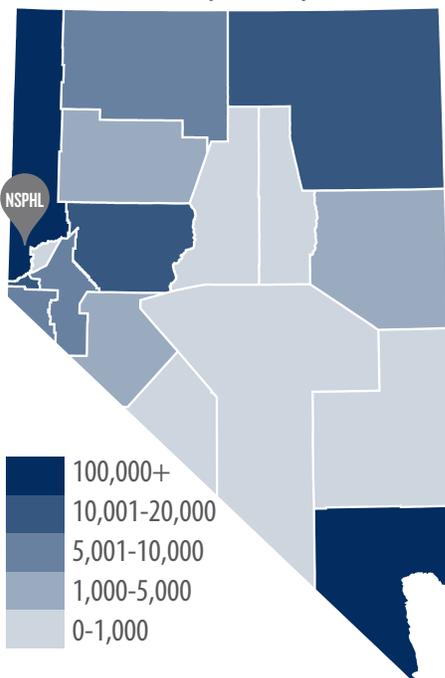
ALL IN A DAY'S WORK:

 **2,257**  
tests performed daily



## 17 COUNTIES SERVED

Tests Performed by County in FY 2018



# 24/7

### RAPID RESPONSE

Available 24/7 to handle food-, disease- and terrorism-related emergencies statewide. A real-time electronic connection to local, state and federal agencies guarantees a rapid response.



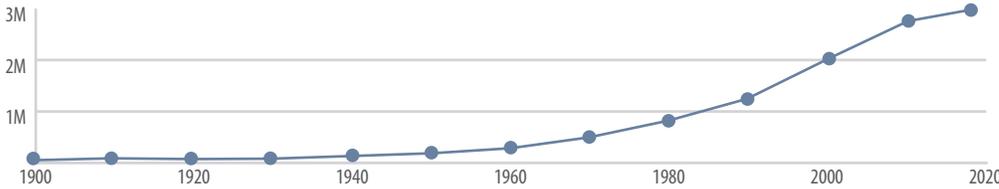
# KEEPING NEVADA HEALTHY

*Established in 1909, the Nevada State Public Health Lab (NSPHL) is located on the University of Nevada, Reno campus. The NSPHL serves as Nevada's centralized lab, representing a first line of defense in the rapid detection of a public health threat.*

*Over the last 20 years, Nevada's population more than doubled. During this time, the NSPHL has grown grants and contracts by more than \$2.5M and its skilled workforce by 16%.*

## SERVING A GROWING POPULATION

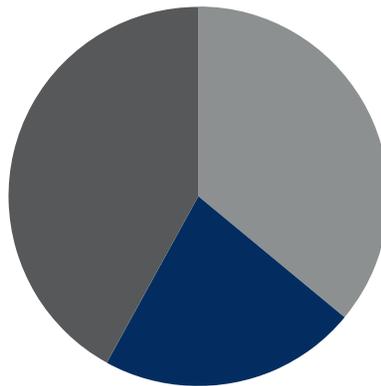
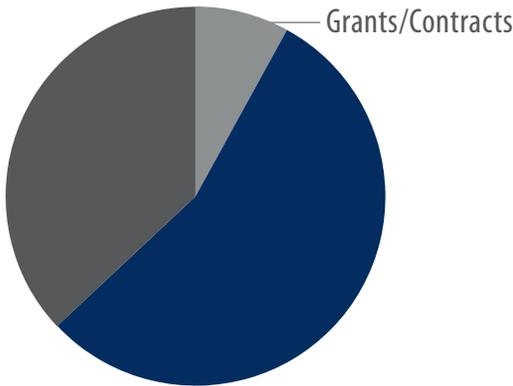
*Nevada's population in millions, according to the U.S. Census data*



## FINANCIAL HEALTH: DIVERSITY AND GROWTH

*FY 1998 Budget: \$2,124,787*

*FY 2018 Budget: \$7,558,821*



*State funding per 1,000 Nevada residents: \$644 in 1998 and \$564 in 2018*

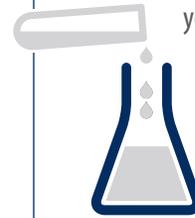
## AN UNMATCHED RETURN ON INVESTMENT

*Working at the federal, state and local level, the NSPHL is a unique institution that monitors and detects health threats ranging from Tuberculosis to chemical contaminants, genetic disorders in newborns and terrorist agents. Equipped with sophisticated instrumentation and staffed by highly trained scientists, the NSPHL delivers services that are unavailable or cost-prohibitive elsewhere.*

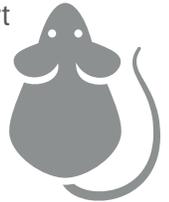


## IN A SINGLE DAY AT THE NEVADA STATE PUBLIC HEALTH LAB,

*you never know what might arrive for analysis—from a food or water sample to a human blood sample. Testing must be completed promptly, so health officials and health care providers can make life-saving decisions.*



*Is a Las Vegas food sample part of a national outbreak? Is it safe to swim in the Truckee River? Is the child who played in a mouse infested area in danger of hantavirus? Has the West Nile virus come to Nevada? The NSPHL will deliver the answers.*



*And when Nevada is hit by a natural disaster or disease outbreak, the NSPHL will shift into emergency response mode, working long hours, often under difficult conditions, to handle a surge in testing while also maintaining regular laboratory services.*



*After all, newborns won't wait to be born, even during wildfire season.*

### Partners in Public Health

The NSPHL protects, maintains and improves the health of Nevada's citizens and visitors through partnerships with the Center for Disease Control, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, state and federal agencies, hospitals, state and county health districts and departments and future collaboration with the UNLV School of Medicine.



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