

Date: May 20, 2024
To: State Board of Health Members
From: Chad Kingsley, MD MBA
Northern Nevada Public Health District Health Officer
Subject: June 2024 Northern Nevada Public Health Officer Report

Office of the District Health Officer

New District Health Officer – On May 13, 2024, Dr. Chad Kingsley, M.D. MBA joined Northern Nevada Public Health as the new District Health Officer. Former District Health Officer, Kevin Dick remains on staff to assist with orientations, onboarding, and a smooth transition for Dr. Kingsley.

Health District Communications Update

We kicked off April with National Public Health Week, which included a press release in English and Spanish about the importance of investing in public health. We also ran daily social media posts about the importance of public health week and why it matters. Other press releases included the official announcement of Chad Kingsley as the new District Health Officer, National Bike Month, public comment request on our air quality PM10 Maintenance Plan and a new process of obtaining temporary food establishment permits.

In addition, communications participated in an emergency response exercise regarding a ricin outbreak. NNPH comms led the Joint Information Center, and also organized media and coordinated interviews with Washoe County Sheriff's Office and NNPH about the exercise, to demonstrate working together regionally and to show how we respond to chemical scenarios.

NNPH comms participated in the local prescription take back day with two interviews in Spanish, a Biketopia event to promote Bike Month and facilitated the bi-weekly restaurant inspection report from the Reno Gazette-Journal.

Accreditation – Efforts continue to prepare NNPH for reaccreditation in July 2024. The PHAB committee has made significant progress within the last month. In addition, a draft of the Access to Health Care Assessment is being circulated for review. The last portion of the assessment will include information from stakeholder interviews with primary and behavioral health care experts which are scheduled in May.



Quality Improvement - Agency-wide results from the QI survey have been shared with all staff, along with analyses on what general areas scored highly and where there are opportunities for growth. Division-specific results were shared with each DD with guidance to have more individualized conversations with their supervisors and teammates as one avenue to improve our QI culture. The QI council (Q-Team) is assembled and scheduled to meet May 13th. This is a body of individuals comprised of members from all divisions, and they will serve as the chief advisors and advocates for QI initiatives throughout the organization. One of their first projects will be creating a revamped QI plan for NNPH. Additionally, we are planning an in-person, “advanced” QI training delivered by a renowned outside consultant for the QI council. We anticipate this training taking place in June.

Workforce Development – The Workforce Development Team is expanding the new employee onboarding program with videos and webinars for staff members who must miss their employee onboarding workshops to ensure they continue to receive important information about the organization and the culture of NNPH. The primary method of delivering the program will continue to be supported through cohorts as it fosters relationship building with colleagues and provides them an opportunity to learn about improving the health of the community through different programs in public health.

CHIP – The first Family Health Festival of 2024 is taking place Wednesday 5/22 from 4-7 PM at the Neil Road Rec. Center. More information is included in the flyer attached.

Aca Entre Nos is focused on increasing collaborative opportunities with the Washoe County School District to reducing stigmatization of Spanish-speaking students and families seeking mental health services. A presentation about the program was delivered to the Washoe County School District’s Counseling Department on April 25th. The presentation generated interest among school counselors and the AEN team will be meeting with Clayton and Incline middle schools for potential Aca Entre Nos sessions.

Equity Projects/Collaborations

- The health equity team met with Washoe County Human Resources to receive a demonstration on Wordly which is a transcription-translation tool that offers approximately 50 different languages including the most commonly spoken languages in Washoe County. The implementation of Wordly is part of Washoe County’s and NNPH’s language accessibility efforts to enhance language accessibility in service delivery, public meetings, and public interactions.
- NNPH is partnering with Washoe County to help promote a survey focused on the most impactful and feasible ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, in support of the development of a Climate Action Plan. The health equity team will be promoting this survey to diverse audiences specifically communities residing in low air quality areas to help gather robust feedback.

Community Events

- The Asian Community Development Council invited NNPH to participate in their Thai New Year Community Resource Fair on April 21st. NNPH’s COVID outreach team provided COVID



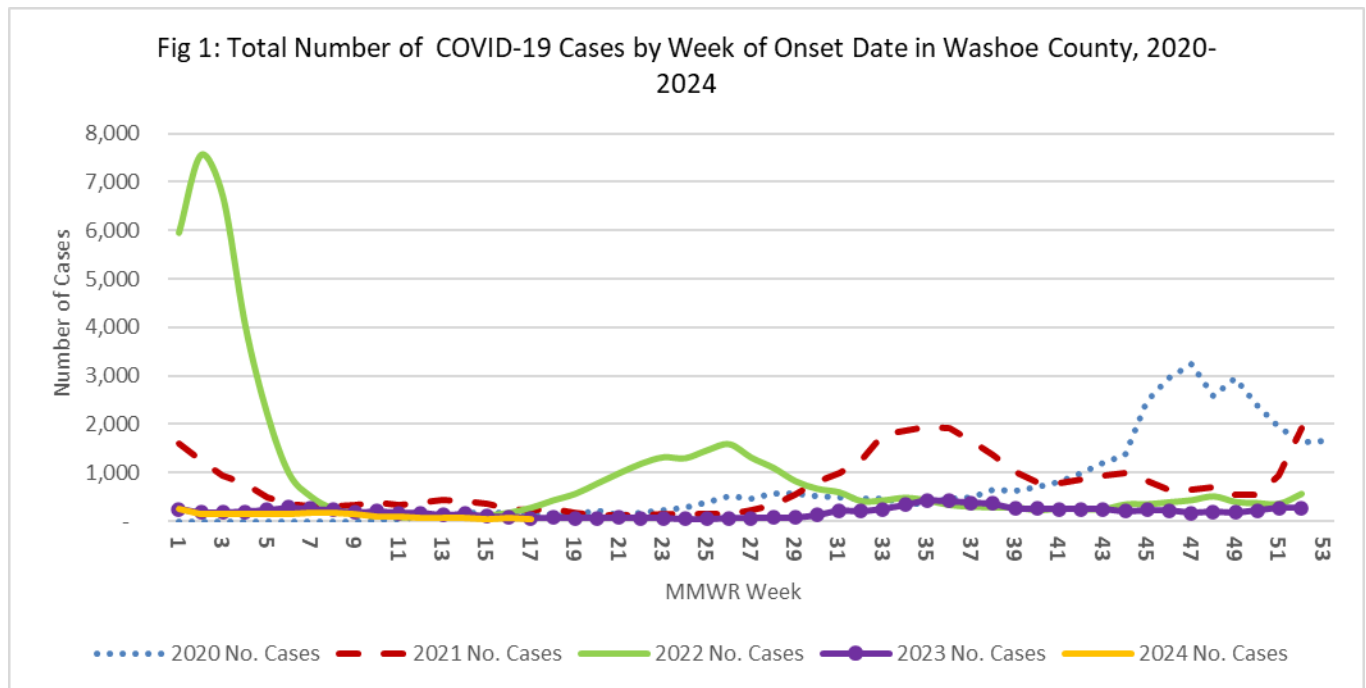
and Flu vaccines, and the Community organizers helped host a table to connect community members to NNPH services.

- The team attended the Older American’s Fair hosted by Washoe County’s Health and Human Services and connected with 118 seniors about fall prevention tips, clinical and immunization information, and physical activity classes in collaboration with Sanford Center for Aging at UNR.

Epidemiology Program and COVID Epidemiology Branch

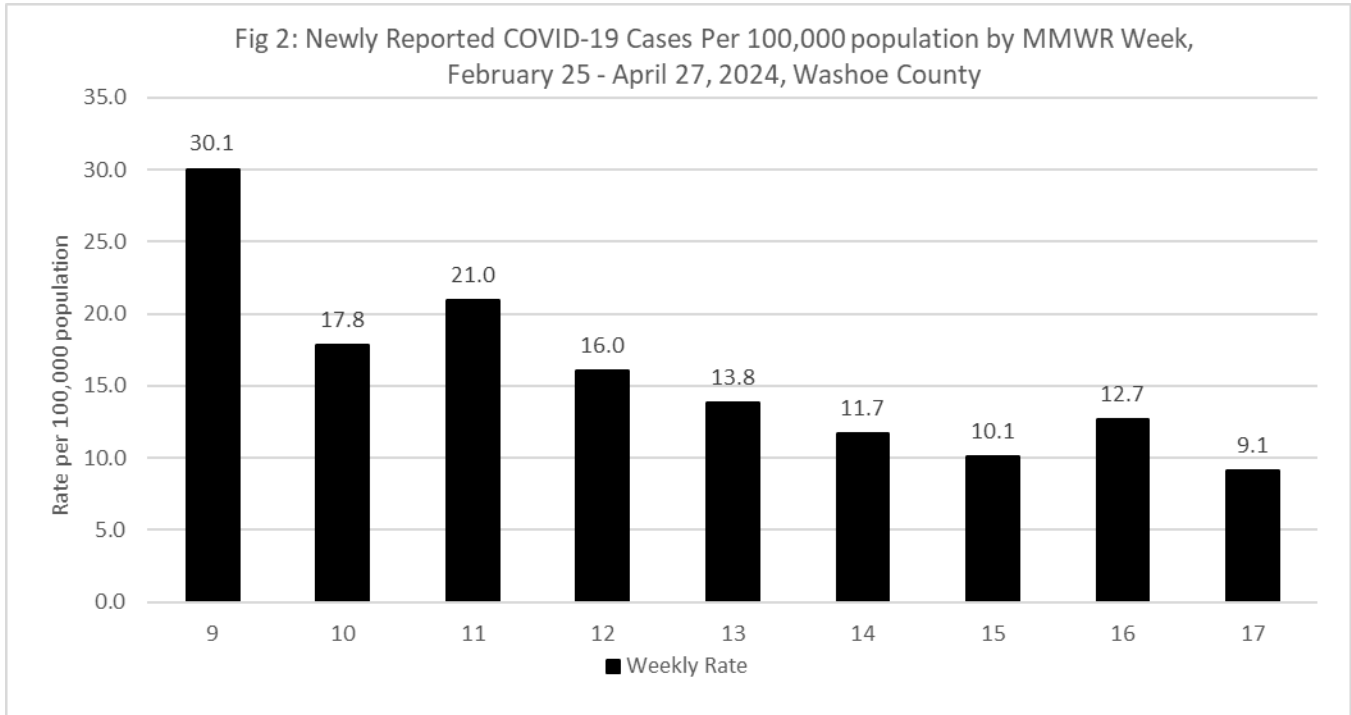
SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)– During April, 265 new COVID-19 cases were reported among Washoe County residents. Figure 1 provides an overview of the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases reported to Washoe County to date by MMWR week from 2020 through the end of April 2024.

Figure 1 provides an overview of the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases reported to Washoe County to date by MMWR week from 2020 through the end of April 2023. Case numbers are currently level with previous years during late winter, early spring.



Note: there is no MMWR week 53 in 2021, 2022, or 2023
 *If illness onset date is missing or unknown, specimen collection date is used

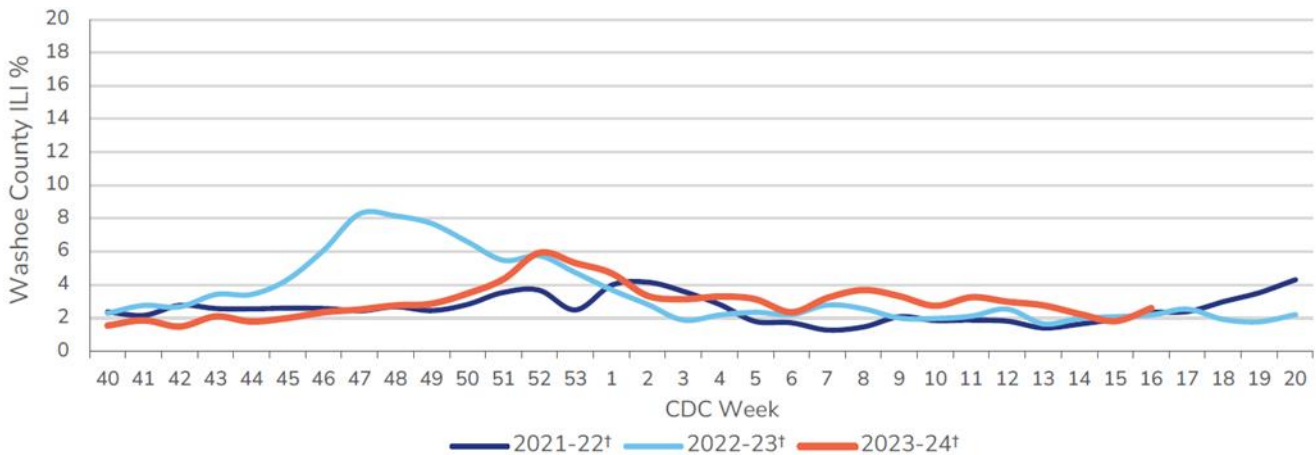
Figure 2 illustrates the number of new cases by either illness onset or specimen collection date (if onset date is unknown or case was asymptomatic) per 100,000 population over the course of a nine-week period, from the last week in February 2024 through April 29, 2024. As of MMWR week 17, Washoe County received reports of 9.1 new cases per 100,000 population.



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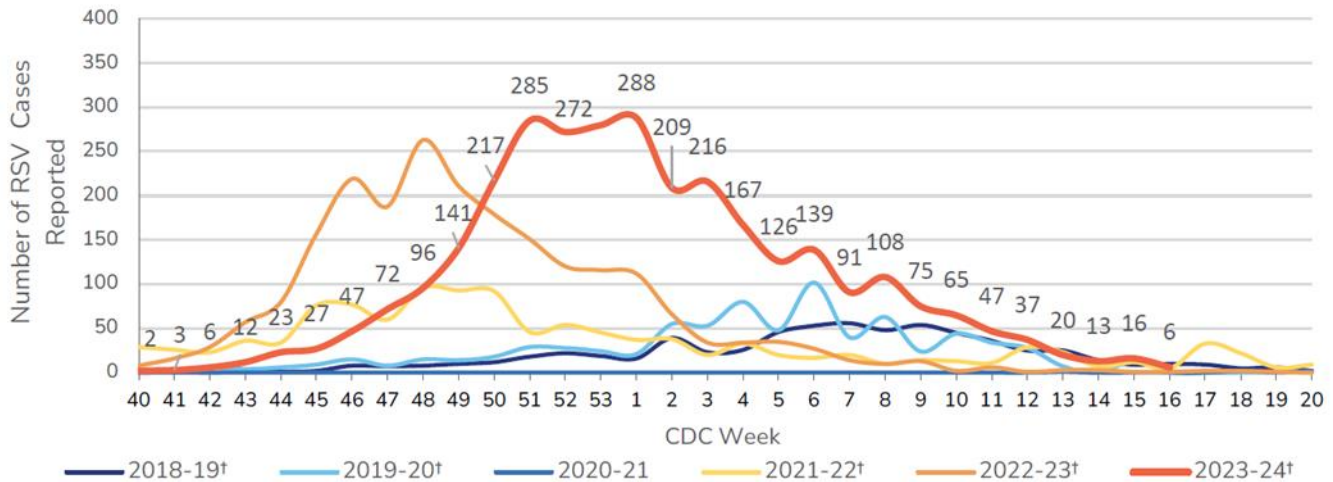
Influenza-like Illness – Influenza season officially began in MMWR week 40, October 1, 2023. Figure 3 provides a snapshot of the percent of patients presenting to sentinel surveillance providers with influenza-like illness (ILI) defined as fever ($\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ [37.8°C]) and cough and/or sore throat. Figure 4 illustrates RSV cases reported by week. The recent two seasons are notably higher in RSV cases reported than the 10 seasons prior. Since the peak in RSV numbers in MMWR week 1, weekly cases reported has been decreasing.

Fig 3. ILI Activity Reported by Sentinel Providers, Washoe County, 2021-2023 Seasons†



† Does not have a week 53, so the week 53 value is an average of week 52 and week 1.

Fig 4. Number of RSV Cases Reported by Week, Washoe County, 2018-2023 Seasons†



† Does not have a week 53, so the week 53 value is an average of week 52 and week 1.

Outbreaks – There were five (5) newly declared outbreaks in April. Two (2) respiratory outbreaks, one (1) gastrointestinal (GI), one (1) COVID confirmed, and one (1) rash outbreak.

Type	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Gastrointestinal Illness	3	6	1	1								
Respiratory Illness	3	5	2	2								
Influenza Confirmed	6	0	3	0								
COVID Confirmed	1	3	1	1								
Rash Illness	0	0	2	1								
Other	7	1	0	0								
Total	20	15	9	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Epi News – Epi News is a brief (1-3 page) newsletter that has been produced and disseminated by the Epidemiology Program since 1997. Epi News publications are emailed and faxed to 700-800 subscribers, are topic dependent, and are available at <https://www.nnph.org/programs-and-services/ephp/communicable-diseases-and-epidemiology/epi-news/index.php>.

In April, there was three (3) Epi News newsletter published:

- **Candida auris:**
- **CDC HAN Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A(H5N1) Virus Identification of Human Infection and Recommendations for Investigations and Response: CDC HAN Adverse Effects Linked to Counterfeit or Mishandled Botulinum Toxin Injections:**

Other Reports – The monthly COVID Report was published April 12, 2024. The report includes data for COVID cases reported over the past month including case counts by demographic variables, hospitalizations, and deaths among Washoe County residents. <https://www.nnph.org/programs-and-services/ephp/communicable-diseases-and-epidemiology/educational-materials/COVID-19.php>

The 2024 Quarter 1 CPO Report was also published April 12, 2024. The newly revised report includes data for antibiotic resistant organisms reported to the Epidemiology Program related to patient demographics, number of cases reported each month by type of organism, and the proportion resistant to different classes of

antibiotics. <https://www.nnph.org/programs-and-services/ephp/communicable-diseases-and-epidemiology/healthcare-professionals/CPO.php>

General Communicable Diseases – The Epidemiology Program Manager attends a weekly meeting with state partners for the implementation of EpiTrax as challenges are addressed. Several validation processes are in place to verify reporting is accurate. During the month of April, there were 202 positive labs reported, with 50% resulting in a confirmed, probable, or suspect case.

Epidemiology Program Cross Divisional Projects

Extensively Drug Resistant Organisms (XDRO) database:

The Epidemiology Program is working with Tech Services to build a database for storing and tracking cases reported with carbapenem producing organisms (CPO) or *Candida auris* infections, both of which are now recognized as chronic infectious diseases and have the potential to spread from patients to clinicians as well as surfaces and are highly resistant to antimicrobial treatments. These types of infections are on close watch from the CDC as emergent infections and NNPH has built a strong Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI) prevention program to work to coordinate, detect, and mitigate spread once these cases are identified. Tech Services has built the front end, secure login portal, and will be testing prior to migrating existing data NNPH's Epidemiology Program has tracked since 2018.

Foodborne Disease Detection Database (FD3) – The Epidemiology Program is building a database to detect and track foodborne, waterborne, and other enteric illnesses. This database will house both lab-confirmed cases received and interviewed by epidemiologists as well as food-establishment complaints received by the Environmental Health Services Division staff. The multiple data inputs into a single database should assist in earlier detection of potential outbreaks and trends in enteric conditions and illness. Due to complex coding requirements, Epidemiology Program staff have been working with the CDC to help design and implement the database. This database is currently loaded to a server and being tested for multi-user functionality.

Public Health Preparedness (PHP) Program

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)

Two trainings were provided by the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program in the month of April. Stop the Bleed training was provided on April 16, 2024, by the MRC Program in coordination with Washoe County School District Emergency Management. There were 23 attendees from MRC, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and NNPH staff. The second training offered was an Active Assailant Training, provided by the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) on April 25, 2024. There were 16 attendees at this training. PHEP is working actively with the Division of Community and Clinical Health Services (CCHS) and WCSO to provide active assailant training specific to their division in the coming months.

The PHEP program continues to coordinate with Washoe County schools (public, private and charter) to assist in developing emergency planning processes for their Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs) based on [Nevada Revised Statute \(NRS\) 388.241](#). To date, PHP has attended six school EOP meetings since October 2023. Another school EOP meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2024. The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) has created an EOP Workgroup to review the applicable NRS requirements, NDE guidance documents, and school



EOP submissions. A representative from PHEP is a member of the workgroup and attends the bi-weekly meetings.

Washoe County Emergency Management hosted a “Coordinated Special Events Management – Your Problem is My Problem and My Problem is Yours” presentation on April 17, 2024. This was a special presentation from South By Southwest and the City of Austin on special events management, a topic relevant to local event owners, planners, response agencies, jurisdictions, and partners. This provided an opportunity to learn about events similar to the scope and scale of many larger special events in Washoe County.

PHP hosted a Command Staff Activation Drill tabletop internal to NNPH Division Directors and Supervisors. The activity was conducted to meet PHEP grant and PHAB requirements. Additionally, NNPH has adopted plans such as the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) that set forth certain expectations that must be met. The Command Staff Activation Drill reviewed a potential public health response scenario, which asked participants to:

- A. Identify which plans would be activated and what NNPH operations would be continued as staff are diverted to the response
- B. Decide which Incident Command Structure (ICS) positions would be filled and which NNPH staff positions would fill them
- C. Draft a two-week rotational schedule for Command Staff
- D. Identify which modes of communication would be implemented to notify staff of activation.

The activity took place on April 19, 2024, and was limited to 50 minutes over the lunch hour. A total of 12 representatives from AHS, AQM, CCHS, EHS, EPHP, and ODHO participated. Notes from the tabletop were taken and will be inserted into a shareable document with actionable items.

NNPH Public Health Preparedness (PHP) coordinated and hosted a combination tabletop (TTX) and full-scale exercise over a two-day period from April 9 -10, 2024. Planning for the exercise started approximately eight months ago in August 2023. The inclusive planning process included many community partners and subject matter experts with a goal to create an exercise to test response capabilities to a chemical incident in the jurisdiction of Washoe County.

Participating agencies that attended the exercise included:

Federal	State	Local	Other
Veterans Administration	Nevada National Guard 92 nd Civil Support Team	NNPH (EHS, AQM, PHP, Communications)	Nevada County Department of Public Health
	Nevada Division of Emergency Management	Reno Police Department	
	Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health	Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO)	



	Nevada State Public Health Laboratory	Reno Fire Department (RFD)	
		Truckee Meadows Fire	
		REMSA	
		Northern Nevada Sierra Medical Center	
		Northern Nevada Medical Center	
		St. Mary's Regional Medical Center	
		Incline Village Community Hospital	
		VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System	
		Renown Regional Medical Center	
		Renown South Meadows Medical Center	
		University of Nevada, Reno Organizational Resilience Training and Exercise	
		Unitek College	
		NNPH Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)	
		WCSO Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)	
		Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office	
		Washoe County Emergency Management (WCEM)	
		Washoe County School District (WCSD)	

Day 1 was a TTX held at the Washoe County Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC) and included approximately 62 participants from partnering organizations and approximately 30 nursing students from Unitek who primarily observed. The TTX primarily set forth the exercise scenario and facilitated group



discussions regarding immediate response steps as the simulated incident unfolded. The conversations provided an opportunity for the various responders to share processes, discuss their respective responses, and identify gaps that may be improved to enhance overall response capabilities. The last portion of Day 1 was dedicated to standing-up a Unified Command according to Incident Command Structure (ICS) within the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Day 2 was conducted at the NNPH drive-through outdoor vaccination area and Reno Livestock Events Center (RLEC) adjacent outdoor property. Through simulated scenarios, law enforcement and fire response agencies engaged in joint decision-making processes, communication drills, and resource allocation strategies to effectively contain chemical hazards, evacuate affected areas, and maintain public safety. By integrating tactical expertise from both sectors, the exercise aims to optimize response efforts and minimize the risk of escalation during chemical emergencies. A key component of the response included exercising decontamination procedures to swiftly and safely remove a hazardous substance from affected individuals, equipment, and infrastructure.

Vital aspects of the exercise also included the evaluation and enhancement of laboratory capabilities and hospital preparedness in handling chemical exposures and contamination cases. Through simulated scenarios involving sample analysis, diagnosis, and treatment protocols, laboratory personnel and healthcare professionals refine their skills in identifying chemical agents, administering appropriate medical interventions, and ensuring the safety of both patients and healthcare providers. By strengthening collaboration between laboratories and healthcare facilities, the exercise aims to bolster the region's capacity to respond to chemical incidents and mitigate health risks effectively.

Over 60 volunteers played a variety of roles including perpetrators of the crime, by-standers, employees, general public, and patients. Hospitals received these patients with various healthcare and decontamination requirements. Volunteers from MRC, CERT, Unitek, and Reno Police Department (RPD) Junior Cadets acted the role of patients. The engagement of volunteers was critical to the success of the simulation as it provided all responders the opportunity to engage with real-life people.

Other participants included the NNPH Public Information Officer (PIO) who focused on effective and culturally appropriate communication regarding the exercise. Additionally, the Medical Examiner's Office exercised their processes for collection of the deceased with possible contamination within a crime scene. Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) played a supporting role and supplied buses to transport volunteer actors to the hospitals.

An After-Action Report (AAR) is in the process of being developed post-exercise. There will be a meeting on May 9 with all partners to review the draft AAR and it will include feedback from evaluators, agencies, and observers. Performance evaluation will include what was done well, areas for improvement, and actionable items to address those improvement areas.

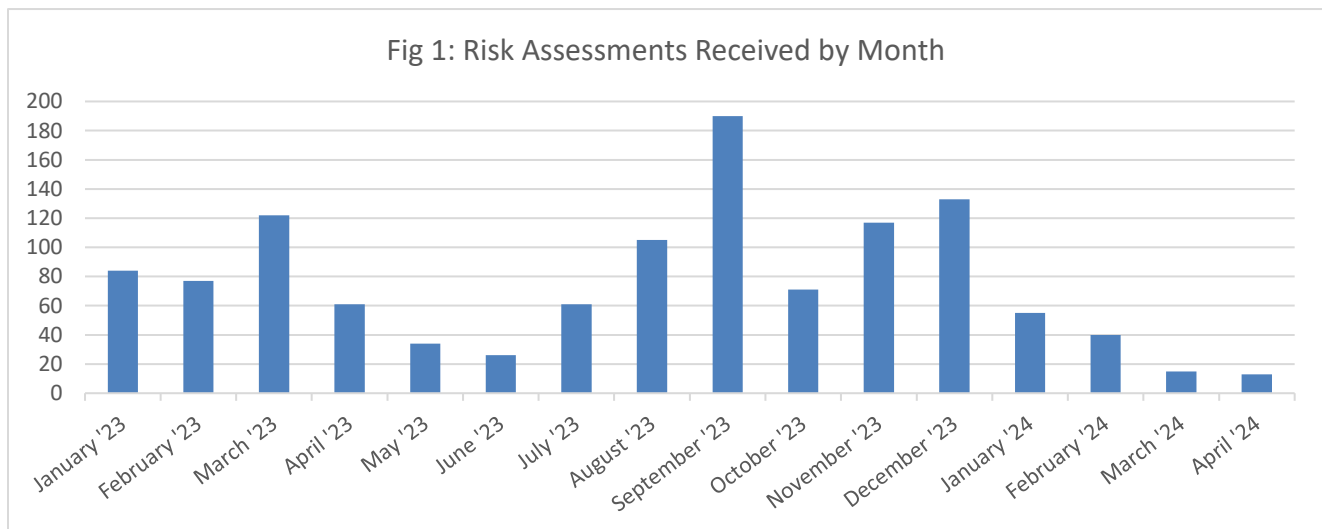
The multi-disciplinary regional chemical exercise was a comprehensive initiative aimed at strengthening the collective response capabilities of various stakeholders in addressing chemical incidents. Focused primarily on fire and law enforcement coordinated response, decontamination procedures, laboratory capabilities, and hospital preparedness, this exercise serves as a crucial platform for enhancing collaboration, refining protocols, and mitigating the impacts of chemical emergencies within the region.



COVID-19 Response

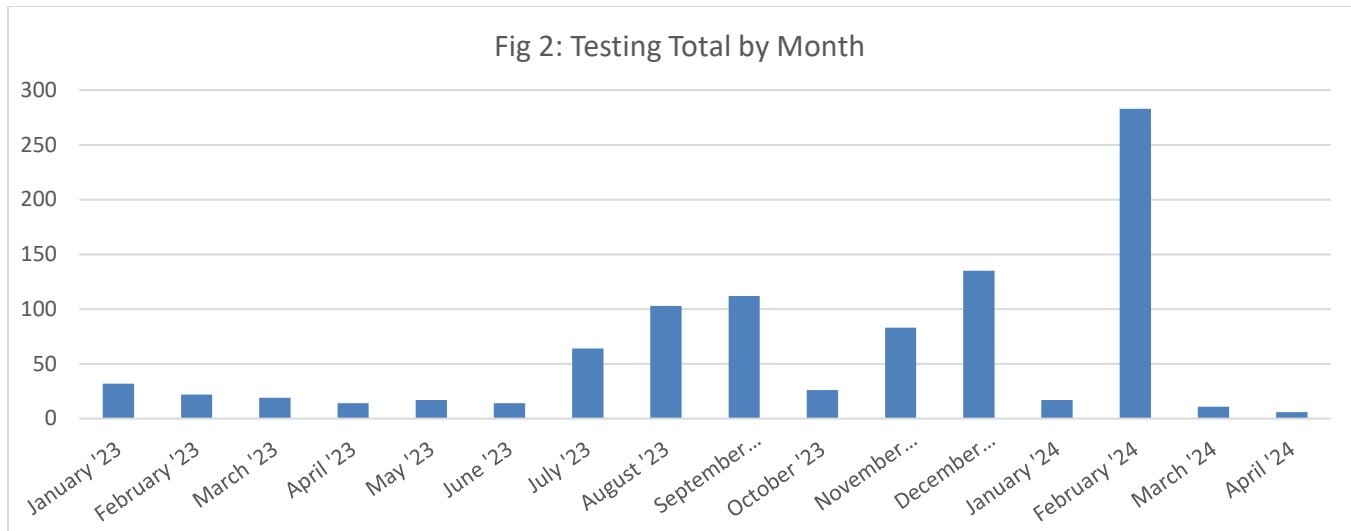
Risk Assessments and Tests Performed – The Call Center received 13 Risk Assessments for the month of April 2024, a decrease of 13% over March 2024. Some Risk Assessments were entered by end-users through the web portal, and others were entered by the Call Center staff. Table 1 summarizes COVID-19 Risk Assessments received since the beginning of 2021, while Figure 1 graphs the data since January 2023.

Table 1. Total Risk Assessments		
Month Reported	Risk Assessments	Inc/Dec
2021 Totals	55,371	
2022 Totals	26,871	
2023 Totals	1,081	
January 2024	55	-59%
February 2024	40	-27%
March 2024	15	-63%
April 2024	13	-13%



Testing continues to be offered at intervals two days per week via home visits. A total of 6 tests were conducted through the end of April 2024, which indicates continued decrease in testing demand. Table 2 summarizes the number of tests performed to date since the beginning of 2021, while Figure 2 graphs the data since January 2023.

Table 2. Number of Tests Performed		
Month Reported	Tests Performed	Inc/Dec
2021 Totals	30,996	
2022 Totals	7,892	
2023 Totals	641	
January 2024	17	-87%
February 2024	283	1565%
March 2024	11	-96%
April 2024	6	-45%



Healthcare Preparedness Planning (HPP)/Inter-Hospital Coordinating Council (IHCC)

HPP staff and IHCC members attended the Truckee Wildfire Exercise on April 25, 2024. The exercise incorporated topics discussed during a workshop held by Nevada County in March on an education presentation for hospital evacuation process. Topics included fire safety, hospital evacuation across state lines, and resource requesting.

Skilled nursing, memory care, and assisted living facilities requested that a 10-15 minute video be created on the Mutual Aid Evacuation Agreement (MAEA) with the purpose of training staff members and incorporating the video into the onboarding process. Filming of the video has concluded, and the footage is being compiled to share with partners.

Planning continues for the full-scale MCI Exercise scheduled for May 14, 2024. The objectives of the exercise are to exercise the MCI plan, specifically focusing on the self-transport component and surge of the emergency departments. The NNPH PHP team has contacted UNR, MRC, CERT, TMCC, Unitek, WCSD, and Northern Nevada Infection Control to recruit volunteers for the exercise. Feedback and lessons learned from the full-scale exercise will be incorporated into the MCI Plan.

HPP staff held an alternate care site (ACS) tabletop exercise (TTX) on April 11, 2024, with emergency managers, licensing agencies, legal representatives, and hospital executive leadership to exercise updates made to the ACS plan. The plan updates implement lessons learned from COVID-19. During the TTX, multiple areas of improvement were identified and will be worked on and incorporated into the plan before being brought to the Inter-Hospital Coordinating Council for review and approval.

The HPP staff continues to participate in the weekly Hospital Net, a Ham Radio communications drill among hospitals in Northern Nevada and Eastern California. The purpose of the Net is to improve redundant communications during a disaster.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Oversight Program



EMS Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) - The JAC continues to discuss the best practices in response to the volume of calls related to behavioral health that will include assuring a safe environment for first responders. Collaborative efforts between law enforcement and Fire/EMS to achieve safety for all providers are being worked on. Also being reviewed at the JAC are the Medical Priority Dispatch System report, Priority 2 calls for cold call responses data, and implementation of data sharing and standardization amongst all EMS agencies. Progress on the Washoe County EMS Strategic Plan 2023 – 2028 is ongoing.

EMS Data Standardization Development Project – As outlined in the Interlocal Agreement under duties of the EMS Oversight Program, monitoring response and performance of each agency providing EMS, systems characteristics, data and outcomes of the EMS in the City of Reno, City of Sparks, Washoe County, Fire Districts and REMSA has become increasingly more complex since 2014. For nearly a decade, reporting of computer aid dispatch data and responses have been disparate in format submissions to the EMS Oversight Program. The EMS Data Standardization Development Project is a proposal to modernize, be on the same platform, and reduce the complexities of disparate reporting elements to a standardized format that can be easily understood and analyzed regardless of jurisdictional boundaries. The goal for uniformity for data across all EMS providers aims to significantly improve information gathering and quality assurance processes. The project’s proposal was introduced to the JAC for continuous feedback and discussions amongst the EMS agencies.

Community Services Department (CSD) – Memo Review - Memo Review - The EMS Oversight Program staff reviews and analyzes project applications received from the City of Reno Housing and Neighborhood Development and the Planning and Building Division of the Washoe County Community Services Department and provides feedback. Program staff reviewed six (6) applications during the month of April and did not have any concerns that would affect EMS response.

Mass Gatherings/Special Events – The EMS Oversight Program received two (2) applications for Mass Gatherings/Special Events in the month of April.

Vital Statistics

Vital Statistics has continued to serve the public through the mail, online and in-person. During the month of April, Vital Statistics staff registered 474 deaths and 481 births; 12 death and 64 birth corrections were made. Program staff also submit weekly records on decedent information for HIV/AIDS and a monthly update to senior services.

Table 1: Number of Processed Death and Birth Records

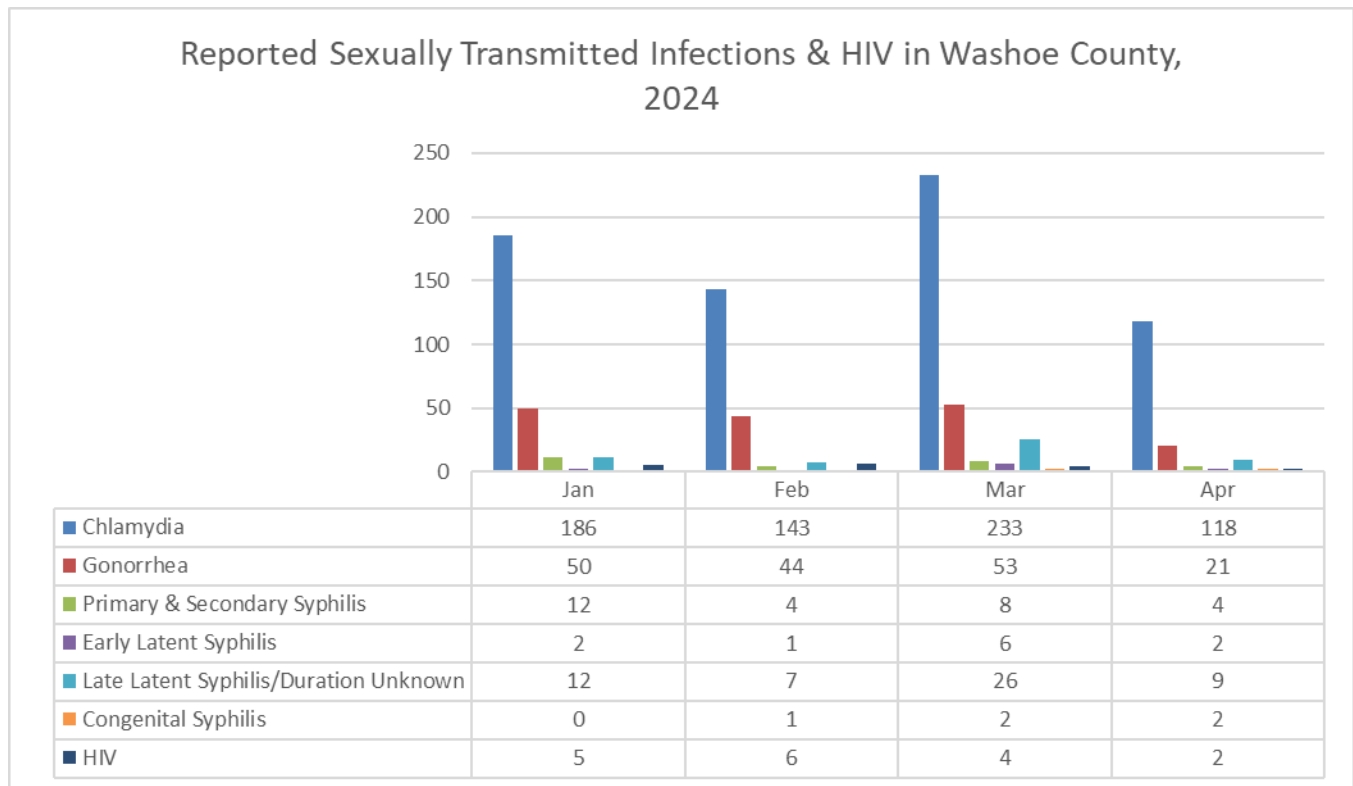
April	In Person	Mail	Online	Total
Death	1551	30	532	2113
Birth	766	27	425	1218
Total	2317	57	957	3331

Sexual Health (Outreach and Disease Investigation) – Gonorrhea has progressively developed resistance to the antibiotic drugs prescribed to treat it. Following the spread of gonococcal fluoroquinolone resistance, the



cephalosporin antibiotics have been the foundation of recommended treatment for gonorrhea. The emergence of cephalosporin-resistant gonorrhea would significantly complicate the ability of providers to treat gonorrhea successfully, since we have few antibiotic options left that are simple, well-studied, well-tolerated and highly effective. It is critical to continuously monitor resistance and encourage research and development of new treatment regimens. The Sexual Health team is working with CDC and the Nevada State Public Health Laboratory on a possible case of drug resistant gonorrhea.

Preliminary data for year to date and April case counts are available below. This data is subject to change and will be updated for next month’s report.



Immunizations – The immunization team continues to focus on providing vaccines to individuals who are uninsured or underinsured that may not be able to receive vaccines elsewhere. Clinic staff vaccinated 275 clients while providing a total of 791 routine vaccinations in April. The clinic is still providing both flu and COVID-19 vaccines, with a total of 59 flu vaccines and 28 COVID-19 vaccines administered in April. Walk-ins continue to be accepted daily. Staff offer community provider education regarding vaccine storage and handling and inventory, in addition to addressing special medical and employee vaccine cases.

In April, offsite staff provided a total of 24 COVID vaccines and 24 flu vaccines. In addition, there were five community COVID and flu events. Staff continue to participate in the Mobile Harvest – Food Bank, held the first Tuesday of every month to offer COVID and flu vaccines and vaccine information to the community. In addition, staff joined two other Mobile Harvest locations and the ACDC Thai New Year event. The final community event was the kick-off for Back-To-School vaccination efforts at Dillworth Middle School orientation. Staff vaccinated 10 students with 37 doses of vaccines provided. There are three events planned

for May; to include an additional middle school, a high school, and the Family Health Festival. Planning activities have also commenced for June, July, and August Back-To-School events.

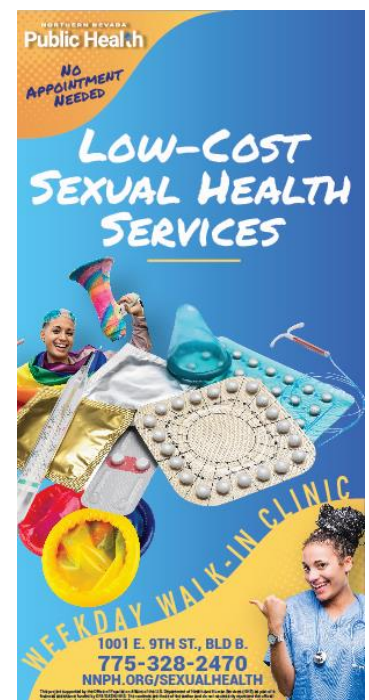
VFC (Vaccines for Children) Compliance and IQIP (Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers) visits continue. Site reviewer staff recognize the recent addition of BRIDGE/317- funded compliance activities for the remainder of the year, to address the federally funded adult populations, with state-led directives pending. One compliance visit and seven follow-up visits were completed in April, with several scheduled through the remainder of the fiscal year. The team is on target to meet NSIP required activities and plan to conduct visits and/or trainings with five new provider sites in Washoe County. The team attended the NSIP Statewide Meeting on April 29, 2024, to obtain updates and plans for the coming year, network with other jurisdictions, and collaborate on activities and funding.

The program plans to conclude a quality improvement project in May, which has focused on increasing vaccine communication and completion rates for adolescent immunizations, namely Meningococcal B and HPV vaccines. In addition, program staff continue the development, case management, and reporting activities for the Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program (PHBPP) with twelve cases currently under management.

Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program – The TB program currently has five cases of active TB. Two cases of extra-pulmonary TB and three cases of pulmonary TB. In the month of April, the clinic assumed care for one newly diagnosed case of pulmonary TB. This case is medically complex and will require a large amount of work to get them stable and fully recovered from TB. The clinic is working to get the patient established with primary care. Establishing a newly diagnosed TB patient with primary care is a critical piece to managing TB disease effectively. In addition to the five active cases, the clinic is also managing medication and care for thirty-four cases of LTBI.

Reproductive and Sexual Health Services – The Family Planning Sexual Health Program is excited to announce the addition of Doxy-PEP to the sexual health prevention services offered in the clinic. Doxy-PEP or, doxycycline as post-exposure prophylaxis, has been shown to significantly reduce acquisition of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis in men who have sex with men and transgender women. Clients using Doxy-PEP take 200mg of doxycycline within 72 hours of condomless sex to reduce their risk of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis. Clinic APRNs have had multiple clients asking about Doxy-PEP who have been unable to obtain it from other providers, so we are pleased to fill this need in the community. Unfortunately, Doxy-PEP has not been shown to be effective in cisgender women so this intervention will not be used to reduce the risk of congenital syphilis.

In order to increase communication, clinic staff have implemented weekly huddles to communicate new changes or updates. Staff have also made changes to how information is communicated via Teams to ensure intermittent hourly staff stay up to date.



Due to staffing and a lack of utilization of services, the decision has been made to discontinue offering birth control services at the Washoe County Detention Center.

During the month of March, a public service announcement campaign ran to promote the low-cost sexual health services and availability of daily walk-in appointments at NNPH. The campaign consisted of radio spots, digital billboards/posters, and online/digital media spots. During the campaign there were a total of 3.2 million impressions (the number of times the ad is displayed) and 7,361 clicks (measurable interaction with an advertisement or key word that links to the advertiser's intended website) on multiple digital/online platforms. Radio spots ran on a wide variety of stations and formats. In total there were 378 radio spots and 328 bonus spots.

Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention (CDIP) Program – Staff attended the Society for Advancement of Violence and Injury Research (SAVIR) conference, held April 15-17th, 2024. The conference highlighted ways in which researchers are engaging communities in a meaningful way to advance injury and violence prevention. This included exploring methods, strategies, and the role of working with community partners, community leaders and others to conduct research, outreach, and training activities.

Staff coordinated the Washoe Suicide Prevention Alliance (WSPA) Advisory Group meeting, where Advisory members were informed of the project progress and helped make decisions on next steps for the project.

Staff helped coordinate, promote, and staff the bi-annual Washoe County Rx Drug Take Back event on April 27th. This included helping expand an additional site, community-based, online, and local media promotion, and managing one collection site.

Staff organized the Biketopia event on April 28th in partnership with Reno Public Market and Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance. The event kicked off Bike Month which is celebrated during the entire month of May. Fifteen community organizations participated to share information and resources for residents to safely take part in Bike Month, the event attracted about 100 attendees.

Implementation of Power Up Kids launched in 11 classrooms at Peavine, Elmcrest, Loder and Juniper elementary schools. Staff are providing weekly nutrition education and physical activity programming from April until the end of the school year.

Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) – Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health activities include Lead Screening, Newborn Screening, Cribs for Kids, and Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR).

The NNPH Lead team works with the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Lead Program Specialist. The NNPH Lead team is currently following fourteen open cases.

Public Health Nurses and Community Health Workers (CHWs) continue to follow-up and provide coordination education and resources on referrals from the Nevada Newborn Screening Program to ensure all infants receive the second newborn screening.

NNPH CHW's held one Cribs for Kids classes in April. CHWs are Baby and Me Tobacco Free facilitators and promote PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System), Nevada 211 and Nevada Medical Home Portal.



The Fetal Infant Mortality Review Board (FIMR) meets monthly, except for June and December. The FIMR Board met on April 18, 2024, and reviewed three cases. One interview was scheduled. Data cleaning is progressing for 2022-2023 information. Staff attended the webinar “At a Crossroads: The Syndemic of Syphilis, Substance Use and Child Welfare During Pregnancy” on April 16, 2024, “Our Future Belongs to Us: Amplifying Innovations in Black Maternal Health” on April 11, 2024, “Gender Inclusion in the Fatality Review” on April 11, 2024 and “Perinatal Loss: Improving Care for Families” on April 17, 2024. Staff promoted Black Maternal Health Week working with the communications team for social media posts on LinkedIn, and the NNPH Facebook page. Staff submitted a donation application to United Health Care Health Plan of Nevada. Maricruz Schaefer presented to UNR and Unitek Nursing Students.

Staff continue to provide updates on fetal and infant deaths at the Washoe County Community Child Death Review as requested. The last Child Death Review meeting was held on March 31, 2024. Child Death Review Meetings are held every other month.

The Northern Nevada Maternal Child Health Coalition (NNMCHC) met on April 11, 2024. The Coalition is currently co-chaired by NNPH FIMR staff members Rebecca Gonzalez and Kelcie Atkin and Maricruz Schaefer as treasurer. The NNMCHC hosted a speaker from Silver Summit Health Plan on benefits available to members.

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) – WIC leadership and a Community Health Worker met with a team from the University of Nevada, School of Medicine Family Medicine Center, operated by Renown. Collaboration and partnership ideas were discussed related to their Centering Program for pregnant women and infants and could provide opportunities to enroll clients into WIC during pregnancy or at their initial 2-month checkups.

The first round of interviews took place for the vacant Human Services Support Specialist position. A second round and hiring for that position is expected in May.

Community Health Workers (CHWs) – The CHWs assisted 112 clients in April with access to health care and social service resources. The number of clients continues to increase each month due to more streamlined processes for referrals and cross training of CHWs to assist in all CCHS programs. CHWs also conducted 8 outreach activities. The CHWs continue to partner with the Immunizations Program to attend Mobile Harvest events. At these events, the Immunizations Program provides vaccines and the CHW connects with people waiting in line for food to provide resources and information offered at NNPH. In addition to the Mobile Harvest events the CHWs conducted outreach at TMCC’s Take Back the Night event, the North Valleys Family Resource Center, and the Silver Summit Community Baby Shower.

The CHWs are currently in the process of developing a billing protocol to bill Medicaid for CHW services provided in the Family Planning Sexual Health Clinic. The CHW team is evaluating services currently provided and ensuring they are billable under Medicaid rules. The CHWs have a goal to begin billing Medicaid for CHW services by June 1st. Additionally, the CHWs are also evaluating current responsibilities within CCHS programs to ensure they fall within the role of the CHW.

On Saturday, April 20th the CHWs partnered with Planned Parenthood Mar Monte to provide LiFT – Linking Families and Teens. There were nine teen participants along with their seven supportive adults.



Feedback from the program has been positive with adults enjoying time to connect with other adults and teens learning strategies for having difficult conversations as well as their rights around sexual health. The CHWs are hoping to continue this collaboration with Planned Parenthood and offer the next LiFT program for bilingual participants in the fall or winter

Food Safety – Staff presented virtually for the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Retail Program Standards Symposium. The title of their presentation was “Food Safety Resources: Create Once, Use Many Times” and focused on the development and evolution of the Active Managerial Control Program.

The team approved the final iterations of 6 food safety educational videos for food establishment operators. The creation of the food safety videos is a deliverable for the 3-year capacity building plan for the Active Managerial Control (AMC) Program. The food safety videos provide basic instruction in food safety practices for critical risk factor violations that are commonly observed during routine inspections.

Food Safety Plan Review –

Staff have been compiling a list of issues that have been found at Washoe County Schools during inspections and will be meeting with Washoe County School District staff on Friday, May 10 to discuss and find possible solutions.

Temp Foods/Special Events – In April, we had our first large event of the year with Earth Day. EHS staff reviewed the food vendor list, which contained over 20 food vendors, to ensure food came from safe and approved sources, conducted temporary food booth inspections on site and worked with the event promoter to ensure that adequate infrastructure to support the attendees and vendors was in place. The event was a success with thousands of people in attendance, and no major issues from an EHS standpoint.

Foodborne Disease Program

Epidemiology	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
Foodborne Disease Complaints	7	9	7	14	37	107	51	98
Foodborne Disease Interviews	4	7	12	6	29	102	47	59
Foodborne Disease Investigations	1	1	1	0	3	7	4	12
CD Referrals Reviewed	2	2	8	2	14	45	81	178
Product Recalls Reviewed	29	35	14	19	97	268	250	251

Commercial Development – Commercial plan submittals are back to exceeding the previous year at this time.

The Commercial plans team continues to work on measures to ensure consistency with review.

- Environmental Health averaged 8 business days for all reviews that were submitted and completed in April 2024
- EHS is averaging 9 business days for all reviews completed that have been submitted for calendar year 2024.
- 80% of reviews were completed within 2 weeks of submittal.

Development reviews are decreasing and are currently 28% below year-over-year submittals compared to April 2023.



Commercial Plans & Development Reviews		JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
Development Reviews		42	17	27	24	111	449	494	400
Commercial Plan Review Submittals		152	152	122	170	596	1,814	1,555	1,169
Total Reviews Conducted		188	184	161	187	720	2,270		
% Plan Review meeting Regional Goal		76%	78%	88%	77%	79%			
Review Type Breakdown	Engineering	107	111	89	98	405	1,568		
	Food	40	27	32	44	143	400		
	Pool/Spa	3	4	7	7	21	84		
	Vector	30	39	29	28	126	278		
	Hotel/Motel	2	0	1	3	6	19		
	Environmental	4	3	1	2	10	78		
	UST / WM	2	0	2	5	9	7		

Permitted Facilities – The permitted facilities team is meeting with the Washoe County Business License group to begin discussions on transition planning for childcare permitting and inspections. Responsibilities for childcare licensing are being assumed by DPBH and the Washoe County Code requirements will be removed in July. NNPH will continue to provide environmental health childcare inspections for compliance with NAC requirements and will be working to develop NNPH regulations similar to SNHD regulations for our future use.

The permitted facilities team is working with VIP to continue testing and working on Accela permitting software upgrades to all permitting types.

Residential Septic & Well Plan Reviews - Well and septic construction inspections numbers remained consistent with March numbers. The team continues to struggle with inadequate plan submittal and are brainstorming ways to communicate minimum requirements to industry.

The team is also experiencing an increased number of inquiries regarding parceling larger lots down and building Accessory Dwelling Units. Each property is unique in what is possible regarding these inquiries, and it can take staff members a significant amount of time to research each property to provide proper guidance. Team leadership is brainstorming ways to streamline the requests and ensure consistency across all requests.

Safe Drinking Water (SDW) - Rosemount Water Company continues to receive violations and NNPH staff have officially requested that Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (BSDW) begin formal enforcement activities. Staff participated in a meeting with BSDW management to highlight the outstanding issues: monitoring continues to be missed and point-of-use treatment units are exceeding the Maximum Contaminant Level for Uranium due to lack of an operator and no ownership.

One sanitary survey was conducted during the month of April.

Staff reviewed and processed missing 2023 water quality monitoring requirements for 23 different public water systems. BSDW staff run the reports quarterly and NNPH staff review the missing items. NNPH works to contact water system operators to follow up on the discrepancies and fix data entry errors or issue monitoring violations where appropriate. Twenty-six monitoring violations were issued to four separate public water systems. Rosemount Water Company received 22 separate monitoring violations.



Land Development	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
Plans Received (Residential/Septic)	76	80	78	84	318	828	999	918
Residential Septic/Well Inspections	114	87	95	105	401	1,004	1,436	1,282
Well Permits	13	11	10	10	44	90	141	150
Water Projects Received	1	1	1	2	5	12	25	40

Vector-Borne Diseases (VBD) - Staff conducted preliminary flights with the Agras T40 treatment drone in Southern Washoe County. Treatment swath widths and calibration flights were conducted to set treatment parameters for future flights.

Treatment flights with the Agras T40 will be scheduled throughout May and will focus on rural areas of public land.

An aerial larvicide treatment with a contracted helicopter service occurred on May 16th. Public notification was provided prior to the aerial larvicide.

Staff has identified the areas of Davis Creek Campground, Galena Creek Park, and Sand Harbor for burrow dusting for flea/plague control in ground squirrels scheduled for the week of May 20th

Vector	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
Total Service Requests	1	0	0	7	8	99	65	59
Mosquito Pools Tested	0	0	0	0	0	948	506	385
Mosquito Surveys and Treatments	0	0	0	0	0	242	791	821

Waste Management (WM)/Underground Storage Tanks (UST) - The UST team inspected 22 sites for April.

UST staff attended fuel system monitor training to better understand programming and become more familiar with new monitor technology and capabilities.

Staff are working with Washoe County Tech Services staff and a contractor on new permitting process and upgrades to Accela for the UST program.

Staff helped coordinate and organize a Sun Valley Community Clean Up on April 27th with KTMB and Washoe County. Residents were notified that old appliances, tires and household hazardous waste could be dropped off at various locations around the community to ensure these items were properly disposed of.

Inspections:

EHS Inspections	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
Child Care	14	11	11	11	47	133	128	118
Food/Exempt Food	323	329	305	386	1,343	3,576	4,419	4,959
Schools/Institutions	14	29	34	13	90	300	292	291
Tattoo/Permanent Make-Up (IBD)	10	15	9	13	47	110	130	134
Temporary IBD Events	2	0	0	0	2	36	5	0
Liquid Waste Trucks	6	27	26	4	63	113	111	111
Mobile Home/RV Parks	0	4	0	21	25	108	121	117
Public Accommodations	14	12	17	3	46	68	139	151
Aquatic Facilities/Pool/Spas	51	45	44	88	228	739	712	1,128
RV Dump Station	0	0	0	0	0	14	21	19
Underground Storage Tanks	17	18	17	22	74	202	161	4
Waste Management	14	17	15	15	61	166	132	146
Temporary Foods/Special Events	24	15	12	54	105	1,358	1,174	766
Complaints	33	39	37	45	154	760	613	689
TOTAL	522	561	527	675	2,285	7,683	8,158	8,633



EHS Public Record Requests	323	329	305	386	1,332	4,962	5,707	4,769
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Complaints:

Complaint Breakdown	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
Food	18	23	24	26	91	336		
Permitted Facilities	2	1	2	1	6	41		
General	2	2	3	4	11	115		
Liquid Waste	0	4	3	1	8	67		
Solid Waste	11	9	5	13	38	201		

New Permits/Change of Ownership Inspections:

New Openings*	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
Child Care	1	1	1	1	4	8	8	8
Food/Exempt Food	23	24	30	39	116	524	486	479
Schools/Institutions	0	0	1	0	1	3	6	3
Tattoo/Permanent Make-Up	6	4	0	5	15	38	32	50
Liquid Waste Trucks	3	2	0	1	6	21	17	11
Mobile Home/RV Parks	0	3	0	0	3	42	8	5
Public Accommodations	2	0	0	0	2	19	9	9
Aquatic Facilities/Pool/Spas	0	4	3	2	9	48	28	41
RV Dump Station	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2
Waste Management	1	1	0	0	2	13	8	6
TOTAL	36	39	35	48	158	716	605	614

*This table identifies new business opening inspections but does not include re-inspections during the opening process.