



2024 IMPACT REPORT

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CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



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The paired challenges of promoting Nevada’s continued economic growth while facing calls for improved education, health care, and transportation assets, among others, pose an opportunity as we imagine a future in Nevada.

Current demographic projections show Nevada’s population reaching nearly 3.9 million by 2040, eclipsing the 3.2 million 2024 population figures. As one of the country’s fastest-growing states in the last 30 years, the ability to respond to that growth with modernized services that sustain and encourage population growth remains a simultaneous warning and opportunity. Nevada is no longer a ‘small’ state, ranking 32nd in population nationally. The COVID-19 pandemic sent many of Nevada’s systems and services further into stress experienced by natural growth, and they have yet to recover. We are working to create new models that are scalable and can be replicated so Nevada remains a top choice for people to live, work, and play.

EDUCATION

We believe in providing the ability to receive an accessible and quality education. According to National Assessment of Educational Progress data, the pandemic wiped out 20 years of student gains in English and math. Achievement gaps

between students also worsened, a challenge ever present in Nevada well before COVID-19. The governance of Nevada’s educational establishment remains a top priority in our work. The appointment of additional CCSD Trustees reflected positive returns, and despite the failure to pass Question 1, we will continue to pursue reform of the higher education system. Creating models that increase transparency and accountability and that understand the needs of educators and students alike will remain a cornerstone issue.

HEALTH

As our public safety professionals pledge to ‘serve and protect,’ they simultaneously experience significantly higher levels of mental & physical health concerns compared with the general population. We partnered with the Las Vegas Metro Police Department (LVMPD) to launch its Wellness Bureau, an entity for police officers and administrators dedicated to providing vital direct mental health services to those in need. The establishment of Metro’s Wellness Bureau has, to date, repaired and saved lives while reducing the stigma of seeking mental health assistance within the law enforcement community.

MODERNIZATION

Governance matters, and the systems by which Nevada delivers vital services to its citizens are struggling to keep pace with population growth and innovation. Nevadans, along with those who work to provide these services, deserve a responsive and relevant government that can perform and adapt as circumstances and needs evolve. The passage of 2023’s SB431 established a precedent for systems modernization; we were pleased to see the Governor’s Office of Business & Industry advance one of the bill’s elements: the long-overdue reform of the state’s Boards and Commissions structure and governance. Nevada has no shortage of talented, innovative, and committed individuals. What we lack are current systems that recognize and utilize those essential resources for the benefit of all Nevadans.

Our work and successes collectively reflect our partnerships with other organizations. We are open to collaborating with anyone who seeks a better quality of life for all Nevadans. We hope our ideas and optimism for Nevada’s future inspire others because together we will fulfill the promise of Nevada for all our citizens.

DR. HUGH BASSEWITZ, CHAIRMAN



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MISSION STATEMENT



The Council for a Better Nevada is an organization of concerned citizens who seek to improve the quality of life in Nevada. Our intention is to identify and engage in community issues whose outcomes will greatly affect the lives of Nevadans. By bringing together talent, resources and leadership from private, public and non-profit sectors, our goal is to assist in developing solutions to issues which will create a sustainable, healthy and prosperous Nevada community.



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MODERNIZATION

MODERNIZATION OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Modernization of public administration refers to the process of updating and improving government systems and practices to become more:

Efficient / Effective / Transparent and Responsive to Citizen Needs.

THIS OFTEN INVOLVES:

Adopting New Technologies

Performance-Based Management

Citizen-Centric Approaches to Service Delivery

All while maintaining accountability and ethical standards. Essentially, modernization aims to make government operations more relevant and adaptable to contemporary challenges.



BOARDS & COMMISSIONS BILL

IN 2024, AN EXTENSIVE REVIEW OF THE STATE'S BOARDS & COMMISSIONS GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE OCCURRED, UNCOVERING KEY ISSUES:

Many Entities Lacked Strong Governance
Unnecessary Costs Were Incurred
Entities Were Out of Compliance with Required Regulations

NEVADA'S GROWTH AND REFORMS

Nevada continues to experience exponential growth, and the passage of SB431 in the 2023 legislative session provided critical updates to:

FINANCE POLICY

STAFFING LEVELS

REFORM OF EXISTING SERVICE AGENCIES



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MODERNIZATION

Nevada is actively driving this transformation with key initiatives, including:

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS BILL

Streamlining governance structures and eliminating inefficiencies.

NEVADA PUBLIC FINANCE SYSTEM REFORMS

Enhancing financial oversight and accountability.

Governments today face increasing pressure to modernize, ensuring transparency, efficiency, and responsiveness.



PGR can cover a wide range of public governance areas



GRAPH 1

MODERNIZING PUBLIC GOVERNANCE

Modernizing public governance can help address contemporary challenges.

Governments worldwide are adopting reforms to enhance:

Transparency
Increase Public Participation
improve institutional Effectiveness

These efforts strengthen democratic governance and ensure responsiveness to evolving societal needs.



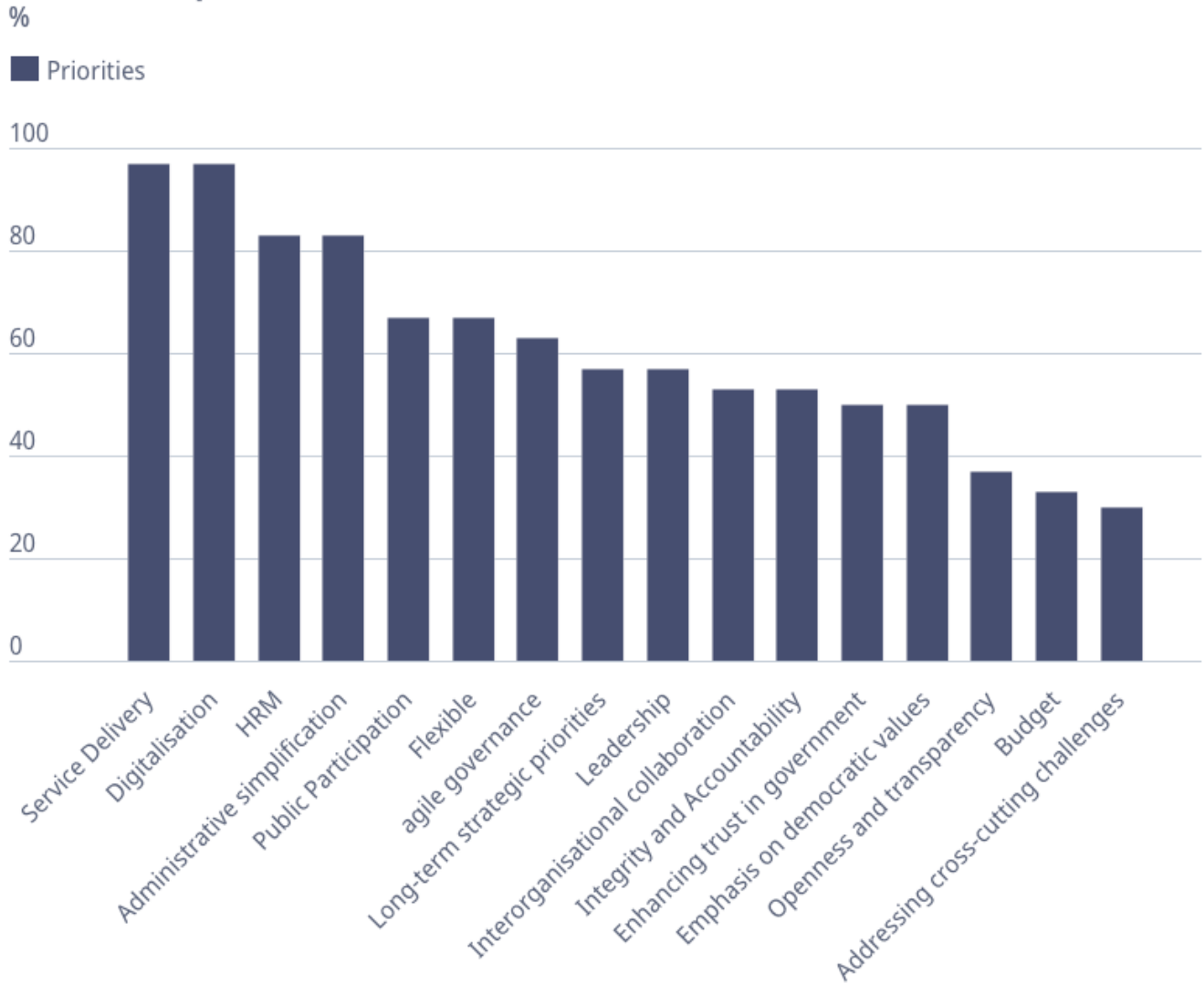
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MODERNIZATION

Priorities for public administration reform



GRAPH 2

OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES MODERNIZING PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIONS

OECD Member countries are modernizing their public administrations.

With declining public trust and rising expectations for transparency and efficiency, governments are implementing modernization strategies.

These Reforms Aim to Streamline:

- Decision-Making
- Improve Service Delivery
- Build More Resilient Governance Structures



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SJR7

The Council supported the Legislature's passing of SJR7 to appear on the ballot as Question

1 to address greater transparency and improved outcomes in Nevada's Higher Education system.

The voter's failed to pass by a 45.44% - 54.55% margin.

2024 Ballot Question 1

Shall the Nevada Constitution be amended to remove certain provisions governing the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education and its administration of the State University and certain federal land grant funds and to provide additional legislative oversight of public institutions of higher education through regular independent audits, without repealing the current statutory election process or other existing statutory provisions relating to the Board of Regents.

Voting in favor of Question 1 would have allowed for additional legislative oversight and accountability of the Board of Regents to improve public higher education in Nevada. Question 1 would have mandated that the Legislature provide for the governance of the State University, giving the Legislature the ability to change the policies and procedures of the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) to be more responsive to the higher education needs of the State. Passage of Question 1 would have required an audit of NSHE every two years, improving accountability and transparency in the fiscal management of NSHE.



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HIGHER EDUCATION GOVERNANCE

STATE PROFILE: NEVADA

Higher education is the 3rd largest general fund budget category in Nevada. State and local government funding for higher education totaled \$793 million in the fiscal year of 2023. In addition, public institutions in Nevada received \$276 million in tuition revenue. These two revenue sources serve 75,330 total FTE students at public institutions.

State and Local Funding

\$793 million

Total Tuition Revenue

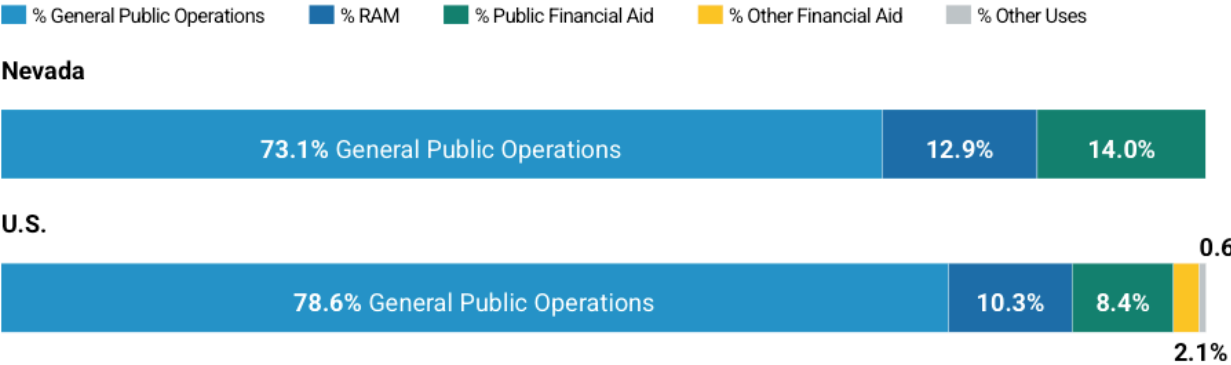
\$267 million

Total FTE Enrollment

75,330

HOW IS THE FUNDING USED?

In almost every state, the primary use of the state and local funds for higher education is for general operations at the public institutions. Nevada allocates 73.1% of all funding for this purpose. Nevada allocates 12.9% of all funds for research, agriculture, and medical (RAM) purposes, which is above average.





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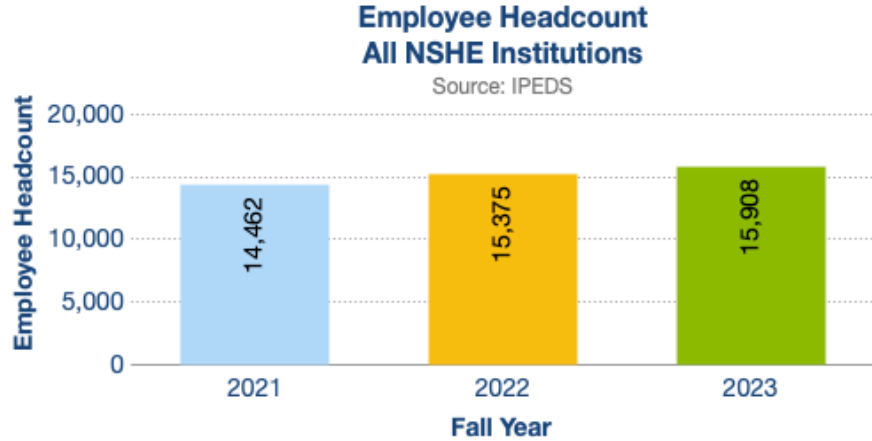
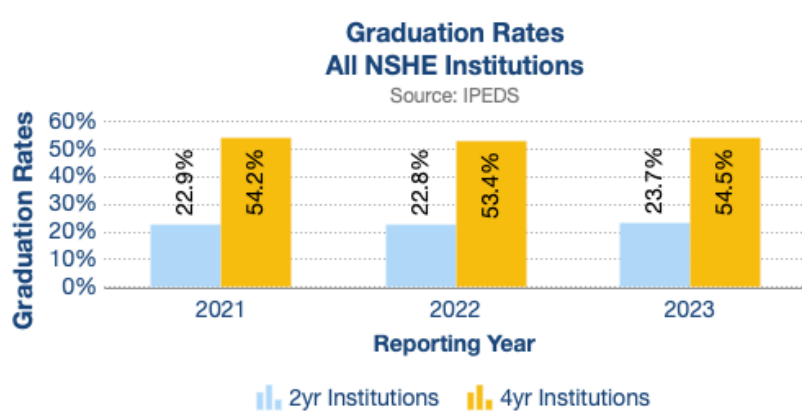
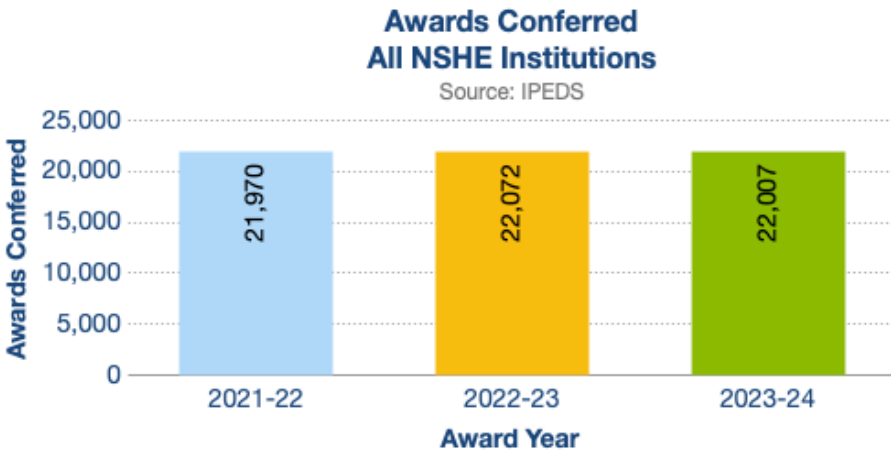
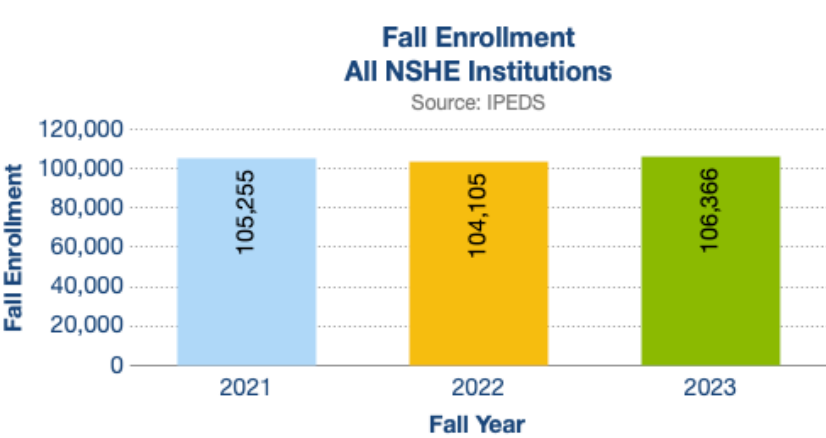
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HIGHER EDUCATION GOVERNANCE

NSHE INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH OFFICE

The Institutional Research Office is dedicated to providing accurate research and analytical studies that support informed decision-making, policy decisions and evaluation, funding, planning, and accountability efforts on behalf of the Board of Regents, Chancellor, System Administration and the Legislature





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APPOINTED TRUSTEES

AB175 (2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION)

Enabled the appointment of 4 non-voting CCSD Trustees through local government.

These appointments joined the existing all-elected member board.

KEY OUTCOMES

Elevated Trustee interactions.

Greater ability to provide information during issue debates.

Increased community engagement and awareness.

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH

Efforts are underway to search for and appoint a new superintendent.

The selection process aims to find a leader who can continue improving educational outcomes in Nevada's K-12 system.



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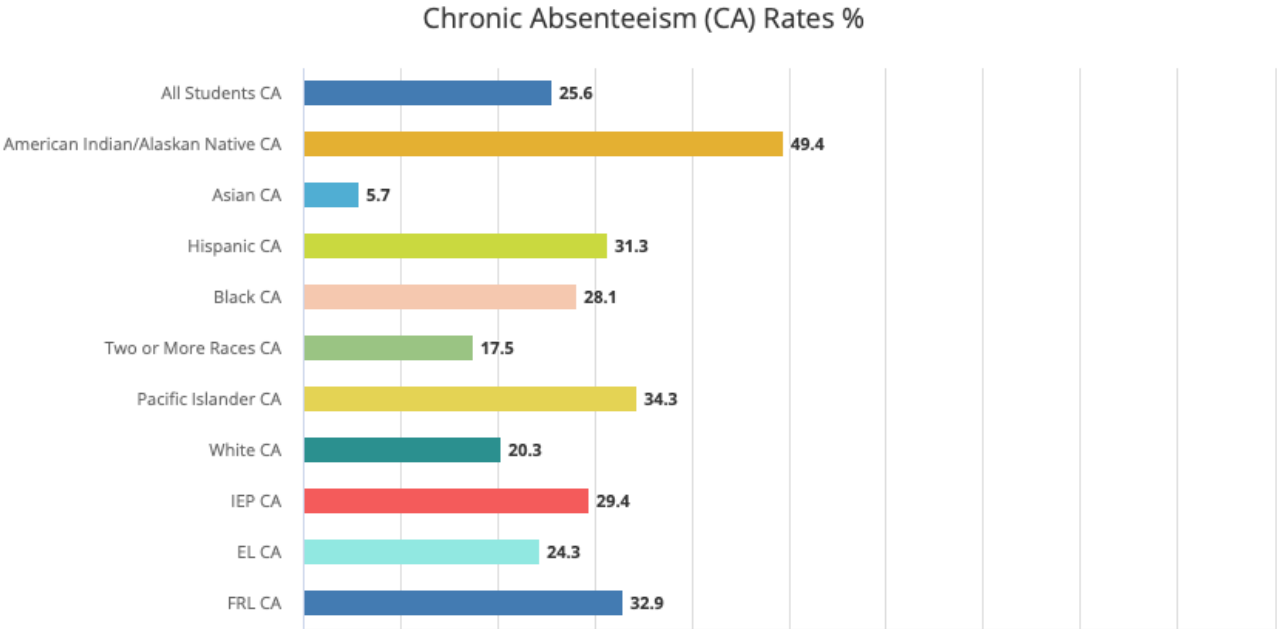
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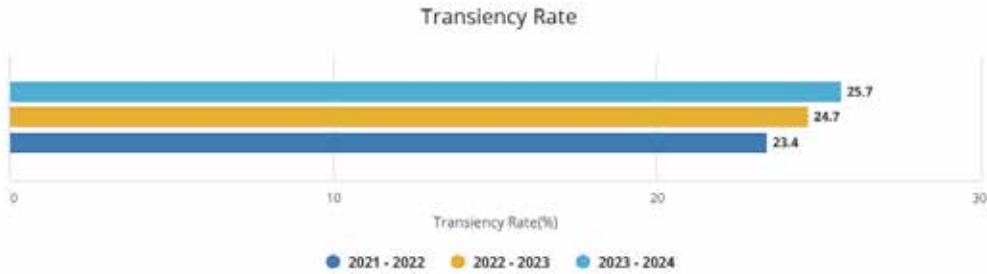
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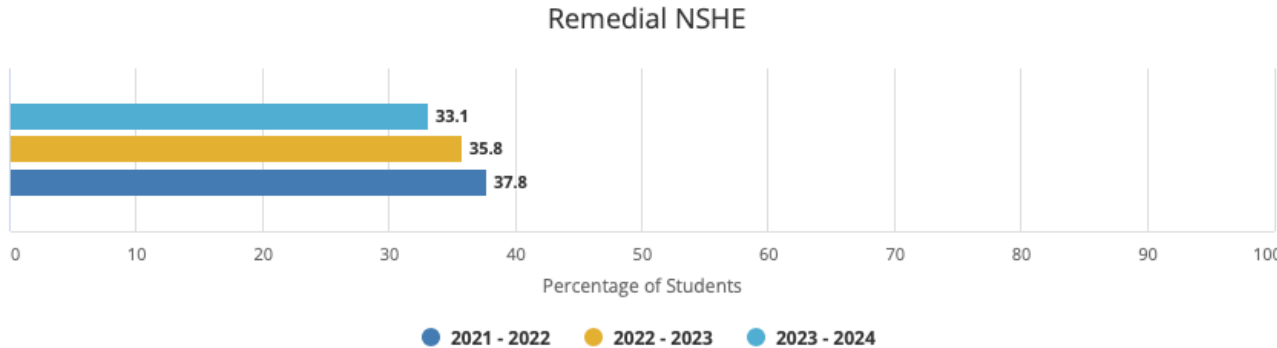
This graph shows the chronic absenteeism rate which is the percentage of students who miss 10% percent or more of enrolled school days per year either with or without a valid excuse.



This graph shows the student transiency rate which reflects the percentage of students who are not enrolled in the school for the entire reporting school year.



This graph shows the percentage of students who graduated from a high school in the immediately preceding school year and enrolled in remedial courses in reading, writing or mathematics within the Nevada System of Higher Education.





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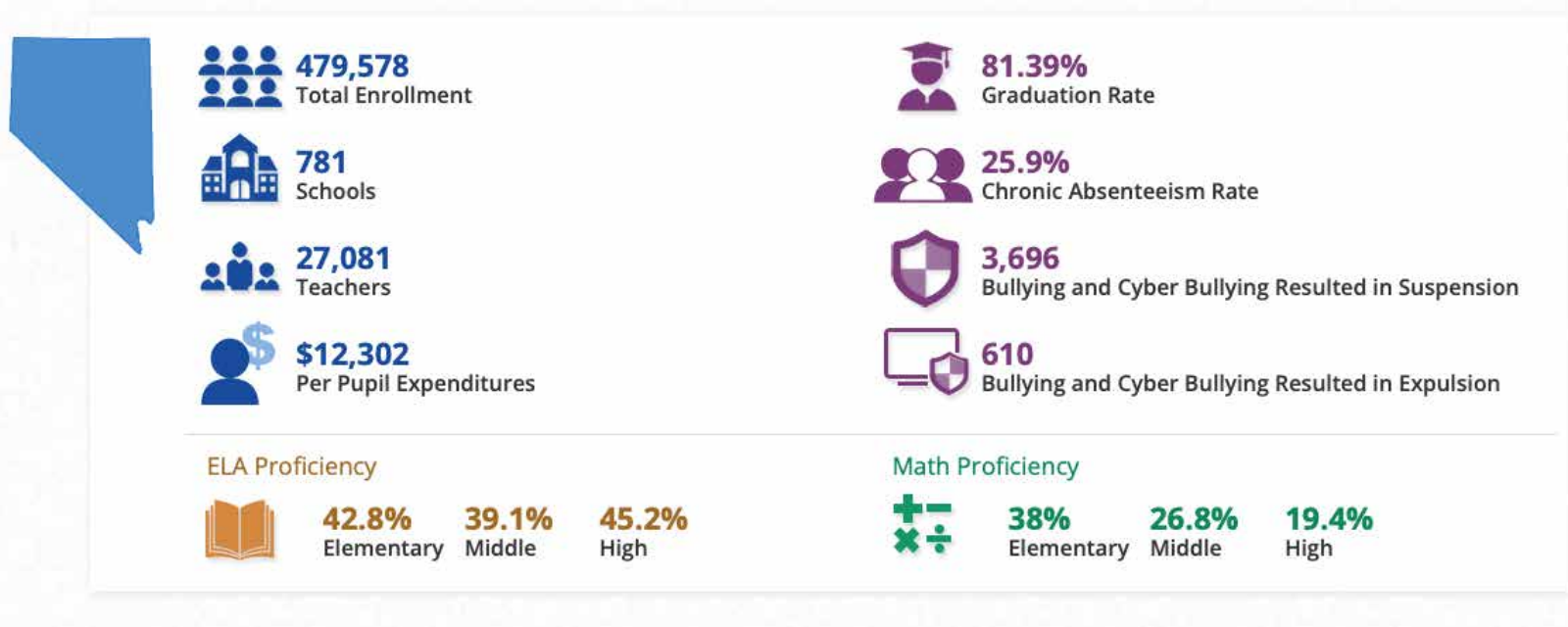
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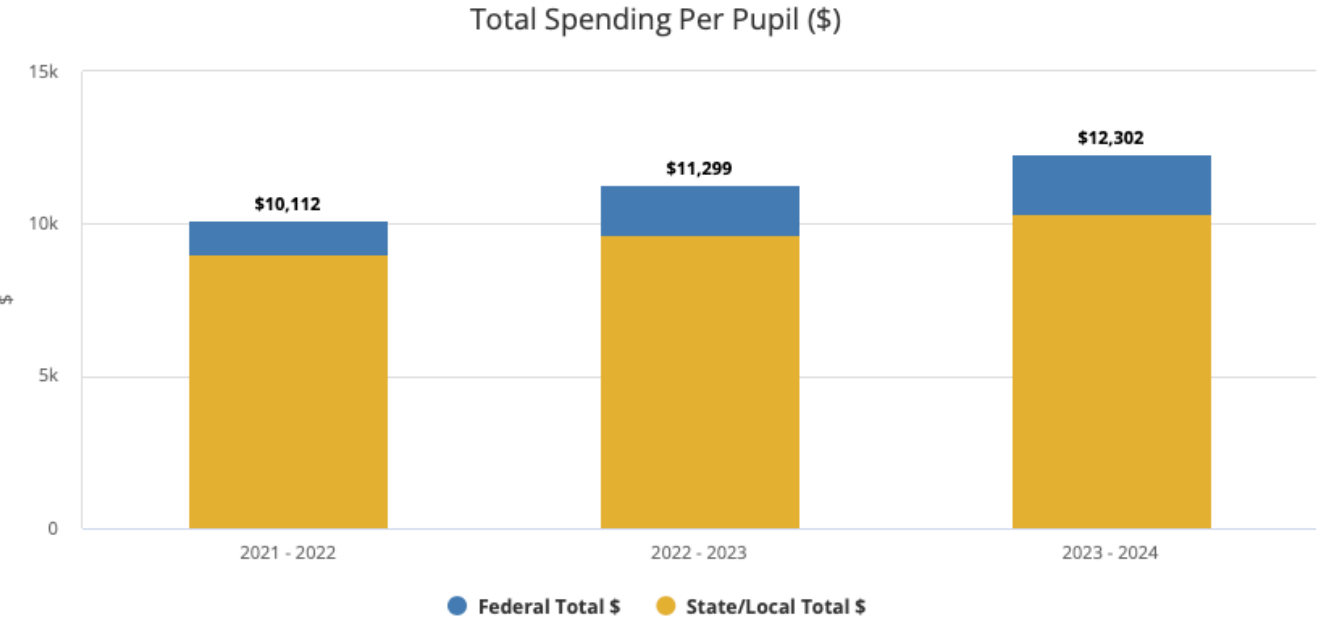
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2023-2024 Nevada Data Details. Nevada at a Glance.



This entity spends the amount shown below per student.
Some of that spending comes from Federal funds
and some comes from the State/Local funds.





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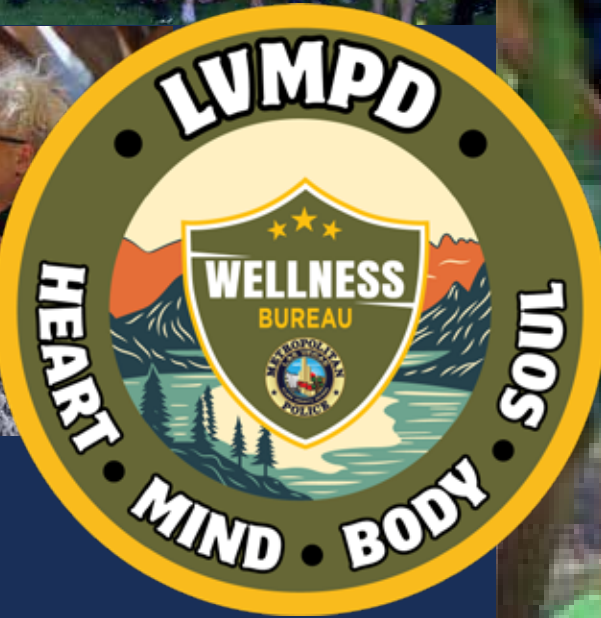
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LVMPD WELLNESS BUREAU: A COMMITMENT TO MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The LVMPD Wellness Bureau is dedicated to the well-being of over 6,000 employees, families, and retirees. With a team of highly qualified clinicians and a strong partnership with Behind the Blue, we continue to support our workforce in navigating the unique challenges of law enforcement culture.

OUR TEAM

CLINICIANS

Experts in trauma, stress, depression, anxiety, addiction, and family issues.

DR. JAMES TENNEY

DIRECTOR OF WELLNESS

Psychologist with over a decade of experience in law enforcement and corrections.

PEER SUPPORT LIAISONS

Extensive law enforcement backgrounds, providing crisis management and connecting employees to essential resources.

PEER SUPPORT CADRE

Specially trained department members working alongside their peers in the field.



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KEY PROGRAMS

PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

Offers confidential, timely support to employees facing personal or work-related stress, grief, or critical incidents
Helps resolve issues in the least restrictive and most convenient manner

CLINICIAN TEAM

7 full-time licensed clinicians providing over 400 therapy sessions per month
Specializes in multiple therapeutic modalities tailored to law enforcement professionals

OUTREACH & TRAINING

Regular visits to all Area Commands and specialized units: Homicide, Criminalistics, Sexual Assault, Dispatch, and Traffic
Peer Support provides wellness checks for new recruits and family night sessions
Training courses include Death & Grief, Suicide Awareness/Prevention, and Surviving a Career in Law Enforcement
Clinicians lead courses on PTSD, sleep management, stress reduction, and burnout prevention

WELLNESS EVENTS & PARTNERSHIPS

Behind the Blue non-profit partnership provides wellness initiatives and hardship support
Donation of twenty FDA-cleared Alpha Stim devices for treating agitation and sleep disturbances
Pro Team Tactical partnership provides physical therapy services for department members



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ACCOMPLISHMENTS

500+ NEW PEER SUPPORT CONTACTS

Q4 2024 for stress, grief, critical incidents, and work-related challenges

FIRST-EVER LVMPD WELLNESS RETREAT

Torino Ranch in September 2024

SECOND ANNUAL SUICIDE AWARENESS WALK

Held the same month with strong participation

3-4 DAILY TOURS OF THE NEW WELLNESS BUILDING

Department members, city officials, and law enforcement agencies nationwide

ZERO ACTIVE MEMBER SUICIDES IN 2024

First time since 2012

EXPANSION OF WELLNESS EFFORTS TO CIVILIAN SECTIONS

Including Communications, CSI, and Forensics





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Senior Vice President
Government & Industry Affairs Boyd Gaming



JOHN BAILEY

Managing Partner
Bailey Kennedy, LLP



DR. HUGH BASSEWITZ

President
Desert Orthopaedic Center
Chairman
CBN



KERRY BUBOLZ

President and CEO
Las Vegas Golden Knights



RANDY GARCIA

CEO
The Investment Counsel Company



PETER GUZMAN

President Opa Group
President Latin Chamber of Commerce



Wolfgang Puck
FINE DINING GROUP

TOM KAPLAN

Senior Managing Partner
Wolfgang Puck Fine Dining Group



Strengthen
our Community

MIKE KAZMIERSKI

Executive Director
Strengthen Our Community



WINDOM KIMSEY

Owner
Blue Skye Development, LLC



DUNCAN LEE

President
RDL Investments, Inc



ROBERT E. LEWIS

President of the Nevada Division
Lewis Operating Corp.



JENNA MORTON

Principal
Morton Group
Executive Committee
CBN



CURTIS L MYLES III

President and CEO
Western Management Company



DR. JAMES NAVE

CEO
Tropicana Animal Hospital



PAUL SCHMITT

Senior Vice President
Whiting Turner Construction Company
Executive Committee
CBN



TERRY SHIREY

President and CEO
Nevada State Bank
Executive Committee
CBN



TODD SKLAMBERG

CEO
Sunrise Hospital & Children's Hospital
Executive Committee
CBN



KEITH SMITH

President and CEO
Boyd Gaming Corporation



MAUREEN SCHAFER

Executive Director
CBN

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MR. TERRI LANNI • MR. JIM ROGERS • MR. DAN TOWBIN



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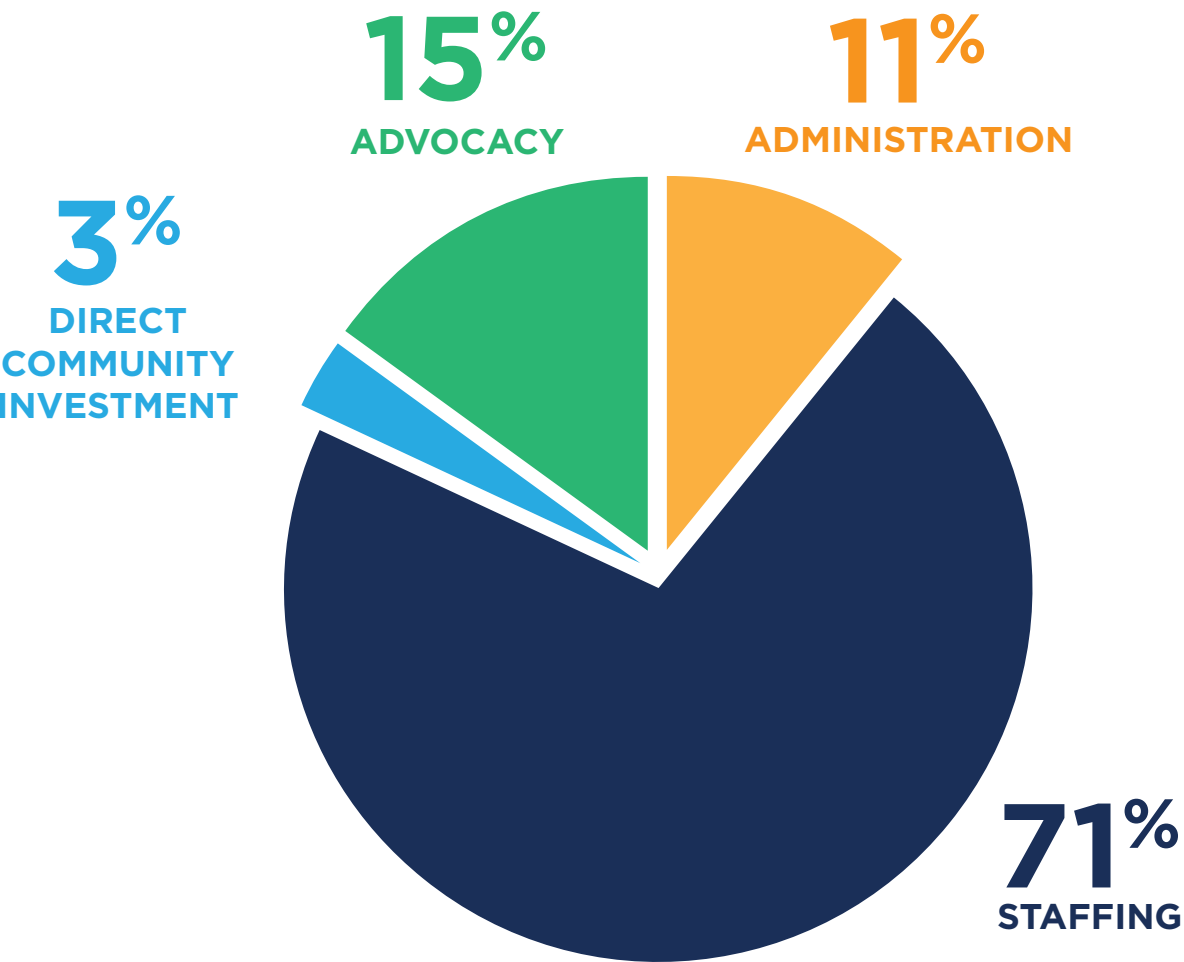
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- 71% STAFFING
- 15% ADVOCACY
- 11% ADMINISTRATION
- 3% DIRECT COMMUNITY INVESTMENT



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IMPOSSIBLE... UNTIL IS ISN'T.

- Harry Baker

I'm finding it too easy to tell myself it is too hard, when facing the end that it's too late to even make a start.

But if we take impossible to mean that we don't have a chance, we have lost sight of how unlikely it was we would get this far.

The way the single fish outwits a shark by sticking with its school.

The way the crescent moon out spins its dark to once again be full.

Even winter, given long enough, begins to lose its cool.

That which was once exceptional now barely registers at all.

Flamingos and giraffes look like they were drawn by a child.

We can't begin to comprehend all of the ways this world is wild.

None of them asked if they were possible before they came to be.

None of them have ceased to exist by being told they make believe.

The bug who finds it all too much and tries to shut off everything.

To have recovered and then summoned up the strength to stretch its wings.

The snake so full of itself that it cannot help but shed its skin.

Or how instead of death the hedgehog went to bed and slept till spring.

To think that earth exists at this specific distance from the sun.

Down to the angle of the axis on which everything is spun. The fact that trees happen to breathe that which we need inside our lungs.

It would all seem impossible had it not already been done.

We are impossible, to everyone who's ever gone before.

And everyone who's yet to come will push impossible some more.

Just as indeed the do's we did outdo the don'ts we didn't.

So everything's impossible, until it isn't.

The thought of rivers changing course before somebody gave a damn, or that a tide might turn from shore before a line's drawn in the sand.

We cannot know how far our actions go, the impact they might have. Sometimes,

The only thing that we can do is to do all we can.

Just as the night is at its darkest when it's introduced today.

Just as the dry is at its harshest in the breath before it rains.

It's easy enough to believe in something when it's all okay, but it's when times are at their hardest that it's hardest to have faith.

Yet when the light begins to fade, that's when we need it the most.

It's by surviving day to day that we see seasons evolve.

If there was never any doubt, there'd be no reason for hope.

It could be too late to do anything.

It sure as hell is if we don't.

And I am tired of that doom and gloom and self fulfilling prophecy.

I'm trying to find room to bloom and self fulfill the opposite.

When it's an act of revolution to try to stay remotely positive, there's nothing wishy washy about opting to be optimists.

Whether a brighter future's possible, we may not truly

know. But the first step towards that future is imagining it so.

And so, as indeed, the do's we did outdo the don'ts we didn't.

It only stays impossible. Until it isn't,

and when it's over, and we're no more than old bones within the ground.

Still the soil knows to sow its seed from what is broken down, what is lost, is always lost, until the moment it is found.

And these things only ever go one way, unless we turn them round.

We are so constantly surrounded that it's easy to forget.

This world was built upon impossible that has not stopped us yet.

So yes, indeed, the do's we did outdo the don'ts we didn't.

So it remains impossible until it isn't.