



DATE: March 22, 2017
TO: Southern Nevada District Board of Health Members
FROM: Joseph Iser, MD, DrPH, MSc, Chief Health Officer
SUBJECT: Chief Health Officer Report

2018 County Health Rankings

Each year, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute (UWPHI) release the County Health Rankings, local health data that demonstrates where you live influences how well and how long you live. Good health is influenced by more than just good medical care. The Rankings allow each state to see how its counties compare on a range of factors that influence health including education, housing, jobs, smoking, access to healthy foods, and more. The Southern Nevada Health District hosted a briefing to share this county-specific data with community partners on March 14, 2018. The briefing provided an opportunity to explore the report for Nevada and to delve into the indicators for Clark County. Health outcomes in the Rankings model represent how healthy a county is and were measured by two types of health outcomes: how long people live (length of life) and how healthy people feel (quality of life).

2018 Clark County Health Outcomes

Overall Rank: 10 (down from 6 in 2017)
Length of Life: 3 (up from 4 in 2017)
Quality of Life: 12 (no change from 2017)

According to the Rankings, the five healthiest counties in Nevada are Pershing, followed by Douglas, Lincoln, Elko, and Storey County. The five counties ranked as least healthy are Carson City, Lyon, White Pine, Mineral, and Nye. Esmeralda County was not ranked this year. Health factors are the second aspect of the model and represent what influences the health of a county, and include four factors: health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic, and physical environment factors. Each of these factors includes its own set of measures.

Clark County Health Factors

Overall Rank: 12 (no change from 2017)
Health Behaviors: 12 (down from 8 in 2017)
Clinical Care: 7 (no change from 2017)
Social & Economic Factors: 11 (up from 12 in 2017)

Physical Environment: 16 (ranked last at 17 in 2017 – Esmeralda County not included in the Rankings this year)

The Health District briefing included a summary of the 2018 Rankings, an update on community health improvement efforts in urban and rural regions of Southern Nevada, a session on utilizing the data for public health advocacy and action, and a presentation by State Senator Pat Spearman, Chair of Legislative Committee on Healthcare on lawmakers' perspectives on policies for local health improvement. The County Health Rankings are available on their [website](#). Available information includes measures, descriptions and data sources. Reports can be downloaded, and information for counties can be compared using tools available on the website. The Health District briefing and presentations are available on its website at www.SNHD.info.

Influenza Update

During week 9, influenza activity decreased in the United States and in Nevada. As of March 3, 2018, a total of 1137 confirmed cases of influenza and 26 deaths have been reported in Clark County. The proportion of emergency room visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) decreased from 4.6 percent in week 8 to 4.1 percent in week 9. Approximately 50 percent of area ER visits for ILI were children under 18 years of age. Influenza B was the dominant type circulating in Week 9. Up to date local flu information is available on the Health District's website at www.snhd.info/flustats. The Health District continues to encourage everyone 6 months and older to receive a flu vaccine if they have not already done so.

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

Clark County was one of 15 counties selected to be part of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), the most comprehensive survey of the health and nutritional status of the U.S. population. The process began in Clark County on February 22. Participants are selected using a random sampling method. Information is gathered during a home interview and through a health examination. Participants answer questions about their health status, disease history, and diet. The exam portion is performed in a mobile unit that travels across the country with a trained medical team. No invasive procedures are performed. Participants are informed that the exam is not a substitute for a regular health examination by their health care provider. All findings are shared with the participants. The data gathered have been used to remove lead from gasoline, create and update pediatric growth charts, establish baselines for cholesterol and blood pressure, and to develop many other important health policies, programs, and baselines used today in health care offices and institutions throughout the country. More information on the NHANES program is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [website](#).

Accreditation Update

Following the January 31 submission of documents to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), the Health District was advised that a review for completeness of the submission had been finalized. This review focused on superficial details such as document dates and draft vs. final documents, not the content or the quality of the submission. Of the 335 documents

submitted to PHAB, 35 were identified as in need of revision. Once the revisions are complete, a site visit team will be assigned. During the site visit, the documents will be reviewed more thoroughly by the team with representatives from each domain. The site visit is expected in three to six months. With the document submission process finished, the Health District is now in the second phase of the accreditation process. This includes a District-wide education and awareness campaign about accreditation and site visit expectations. Small accreditation domain teams have been formed to meet regularly in preparation for the site visit. The teams are discussing standards and measures that directly impact their respective departments, how these cross over into other departments, and they are preparing for questions or concerns that may arise during the site visit.

Community Meetings

Week of February 26

- Attended the NACCHO/Big Cities Health Coalition Winter meeting in Washington, DC
- Met with CDC's Office of State, Tribal, Local, Territorial Services in Washington, DC
- Met with the staff of Senator Cortez-Masto, as well as Congresswoman Titus, and Congresswoman Rosen.

Week of February 19

- Presented "Health Services for Rural Nevada" to Mineral County Commission
- Participated in County Health Rankings and Roadmaps meeting
- Participated in Trauma Needs Assessment Taskforce (TNAT) meeting
- Participated in NACCHO Finance Committee meeting
- Provided media interviews as required
- Met with Joelle Gutman, Frontier Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator, to discuss potential rural Nevada health collaborative

Week of February 12

- Met with Holly O'Brien, Programs Chair for the Nevada Chapter of American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) regarding future collaborative project
- Presented "Health Services for Rural Nevada" to the Nye County Board of Health
- Met with Richard Whitley, Director, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Julie Kotchevar, Acting Administrator, and Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator, both from the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH), to discuss Federally Qualified Health Center options and medical residency program
- Met with John Packham Director of Health Policy Research, University of Nevada School of Medicine, regarding issues related to SNHD
- Met with Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health staff regarding Public Health Primary Care integration and capacity building.
- Presented "Health Services for Rural Nevada" to Tonopah County Commission
- Participated in monthly Nevada Public Health Association (NPHA) Advocacy & Policy Committee call
- Participated in 2018 County Health Rankings Release - First Planning Call
- Provided media interviews as required

Week of February 5

- Presented “Health Services for Rural Nevada” at the Lincoln County (Pioche) Commission meeting
- Met with Leah Sussman, Immunize Nevada’s Healthy Future Project Coordinator, regarding providing expert testimony
- Provided media interviews as required
- Met with Allison Zednicek, new CEO at Desert Parkway Behavioral Health Center
- Participated in the California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) Health Equity Committee meeting
- Participated in the Trauma Needs Assessment Taskforce meeting
- Participated in the Southern Nevada Behavioral Health Policy Board meeting
- Participated in the Nevada Association of Local Health Officers (NALHO) meeting