

BIENNIAL REPORT 2023



Nevada Department
of Agriculture





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LEGEND



Funding for programs with this icon was secured from the federal level of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).



Funding for programs with this icon was secured from the state level of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).



Funding for programs with this icon was secured from the federal level U.S Department of Agriculture (USDA).

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AT A GLANCE NEVADA

\$5.21 BILLION

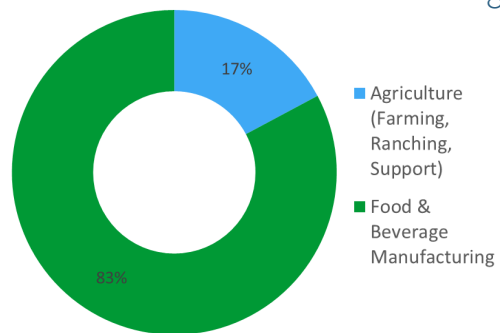
Nevada's economic
output in 2020

\$895.7 M

Agriculture

\$4.31 B

Food and Bev.
Manufacturing



From 2019 to 2020, there was a 5% increase in economic output for the agricultural sector. This growth was due to increased output in food and beverage manufacturing (8% increase), while traditional agriculture saw a decrease of 5% in economic output. In 2021, the industry in traditional agriculture with the largest output was beef cattle ranching and farming (\$302.0 million). Food and beverage manufacturing was bottled and canned soft drinks and water (\$492.8 million). The losses in traditional agriculture are likely due to disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing drought in the state.

Source: Implan Group, LLC. Implan (2020)

18,908 JOBS

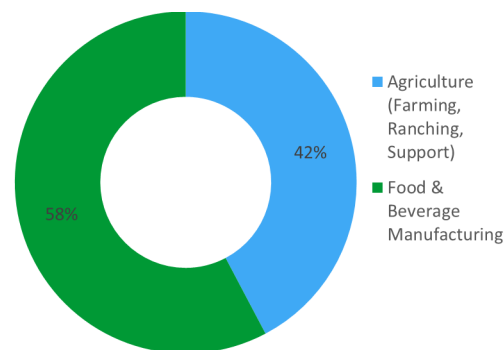
Nevada Food and Agriculture
Jobs in 2020

7,992

Agriculture

10,916

Food and Bev.
Manufacturing



From 2019 to 2020, agricultural sector employment increased by 3%. During that period there was a loss of 200 jobs in food and beverage manufacturing and a gain of 724 jobs in the traditional agricultural sector. Commercial fishing had the largest industry job gain (104% increase) from 2019 to 2020, totaling 996 jobs in 2020.

Source: Implan Group, LLC. Implan (2020)

\$359 MILLION

EXPORTED FROM NV



South Korea

\$67,208,800



Canada

\$60,510,595



Peru

\$42,533,394

Consistent annual growth has been seen in Nevada's agricultural exports. During 2021 Nevada's top export commodities were coffee, tea, mate & spices (\$105 million) and dairy products (\$81 million). These two commodities account for over half of Nevada's total exports for the year.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2021)



INTRODUCTION

Since the last biennial report, the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) has made strides to improve the vitality of our growing food and agriculture industries and promote food security for communities throughout our state. From the farm to the table, the NDA has focused on identifying gaps in our food systems and developing solutions to better serve our agriculture industries and communities.

While Nevada was not alone in seeing these gaps come to light and exasperated by the pandemic, the root of our many challenges is unique. With a large rural community, Nevada lacks the necessary infrastructure to bridge connections between different parts of the state. Since much of our agriculture is in rural communities, Nevada requires improved systems to move agricultural products to its customers or food insecure communities.

The NDA has been working to close food system gaps by introducing programs like the State Meat and Poultry Inspection program and Home Feeds Nevada. The State Meat and Poultry Inspection program will allow Nevada ranchers to have their meat products harvested and processed and sold within Nevada, rather than sending it out of state for processing, saving ranchers from the increased costs of transporting their products out of state. In addition, the NDA implemented the Home Feeds Nevada Agricultural Purchase program to buy local food from Nevada producers at competitive rates to distribute to food-insecure populations. Programs like these provide new economic opportunities for farmers, ranchers, producers and processors, keeping food within Nevada while also reducing food waste.

The NDA is fortunate to have dedicated and innovative staff to develop these programs and work with community partners to address these issues and help close the gaps. This benefits not only our farmers and ranchers, but also those who may be food insecure and needing assistance. We give our sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone who has helped and continues the work to strengthen Nevada's food systems.

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NEVADA'S FOOD SYSTEM

GAPS NDA IDENTIFIED IN THE FOOD SYSTEM

Nevada's food supply chain does not offer retail in-state meat processing and inspections. This requires livestock producers to send livestock out of state for finishing, processing and packaging, preventing products from remaining in-state and contributing to Nevada's food and agriculture economy.

Nevada agriculture consists of many small- to medium-sized farms and ranches. These types of operations have more difficulty selling products to food stores as the quantity of food produced does not meet the continued and consistent need of product required for retailers. These types of operations tend to sell directly to consumers.

Between food deserts and an extensive rural community making up Nevada's population, current infrastructure makes food accessibility difficult for many.



IMPROVEMENTS FROM THE NDA

The State Meat and Poultry Inspection program will diversify market opportunities, strengthen local supply chains and ensure an adequate and safe meat supply. Through a cooperative agreement with the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service, the state will implement the inspection program to expand inspection services to facilities wishing to sell meat and poultry products within Nevada, including smaller establishments in rural locations.



In an effort to support Nevada agriculture and improve food availability for food-insecure Nevadans, the Home Feeds Nevada Agriculture Food Purchase program was established through Senate Bill 370 of 81st Legislative Session in 2021. Through this program, the NDA is purchasing foods that are grown, produced or processed in Nevada and distributing them through designated food banks to populations in need. With funding for the program made available in January of 2022, the NDA developed and implemented the program in nine months, with the first food delivery on Sept. 21, 2022, from Blue Lizard Farms.



The NDA distributed \$9.5 million to improve infrastructure and food accessibility throughout Nevada. Funded projects include:

- » Northern Nevada Dream Center received \$600,000 to increase food storage space, which will in turn increase distribution capacity. They will be collaborating with partners to increase food availability in rural counties.
- » Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada received \$750,000 to establish a food pantry in Humboldt County and purchase foods for distributions.
- » Fallon Food Hub received \$633,000 to source food for distributions from local small- and medium-sized farms to be distributed in Churchill County and the Fallon Paiute Shoshone reservation.
- » Food Bank of Northern Nevada received more than \$500,000 to expand food access and support smaller neighborhood needs with mobile food distributions.
- » Lutheran Social Services of Nevada received more than \$285,000 to expand their existing food pantry site at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church and launch a new food distribution site.
- » Healthy Communities Coalition of Lyon & Storey Counties received \$620,000 to increase the capacity and food available at the Dayton Food Pantry.

- » Helping Hands of Vegas Valley, Inc. received \$400,000 to expand current food services and deliveries and increase food availability.
- » Soulful Seeds received more than \$134,000 to expand infrastructure and scale up operations of the Garden at Our Place Campus.
- » The Just One Project received more than \$664,000 to expand and increase home delivered meals to an additional 200 homebound seniors in southern Nevada.
- » Eddy House received more than \$94,000 to improve infrastructure and supplies to better meet needs for food distributions.
- » Jewish Family Service Agency received more than \$453,000 to enhance existing food pantry and expand distributions to better serve the community.
- » Storey County Senior Services received \$270,000 to establish a food pantry and provide food delivery in Lockwood.
- » Keystone Enrichment Foundation received more than \$435,000 to expand their food pantry and purchase foods for additional distributions.
- » Women and Children's Center of the Sierra received nearly \$140,000 to expand food storage capacity for food distribution in southeast Reno.
- » Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada received nearly \$100,000 to serve food to an increased number of food-insecure Nevadans. Funds will be used to scale up food purchases, including purchasing local food from Nevada farmers, and distribute through 42 food pantries in rural, Tribal and underserved urban communities. In addition to current food distributions, a new distribution site will be established in Golden Valley to serve a previously underserved area of 640 households per month.
- » Fallon Food Hub received \$94,000 to increase food assistance across Churchill County and the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe. Produce will be sourced from Nevada farmers to keep funds in the state's agriculture industry while providing fresh produce and hot meals for those who need it.
- » Food Bank of Northern Nevada received nearly \$62,000 to purchase food to address the increased need for food assistance in the state. Food will be distributed by leveraging their network of partner agencies throughout northern Nevada to provide more than 100,000 meals to food-insecure residents and address hunger in the state.
- » Nevada Partnerships for Homeless Youth received \$54,000 to increase their ability to meet the varied and growing needs of underserved at-risk and homeless youth in southern Nevada. Funds will be used to improve infrastructure for better food storage capabilities and to expand service delivery of basic needs, providing vital services to Nevadans who need it.
- » Three Square received \$95,000 to partner with organizations and expand services to food-insecure individuals in rural Clark, Lincoln, Nye and Esmeralda counties. Funds will be used to help partner organizations develop infrastructure and provide food for more frequent distribution in more remote southern Nevada communities.
- » Walker River Paiute Tribe received nearly \$95,000 to expand healthy food access and fill the gap for 1,200 residents living in a food desert on the Walker River Paiute Reservation. Funds will be used to improve infrastructure to hold and distribute more food, enabling them to better support their communities in the future.
- » Food Bank of Northern Nevada received \$3 million to address food security challenges in rural and Tribal communities. Through their extensive network spanning northern Nevada, FBNN will conduct a study to determine where funds will have the most impact and develop a community-based approach to improve capacity and reach.





DIVISION OF FOOD AND NUTRITION



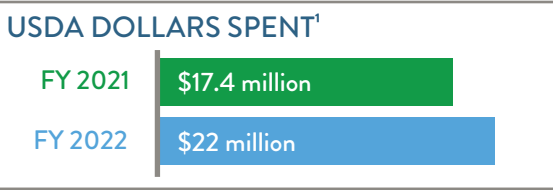
FREE SCHOOL MEALS AVAILABLE THROUGH 2024

The State of Nevada has invested \$103 million for free school meals in Nevada schools operating the National School Lunch program for the 2022-23 academic year. American Rescue Plan Act funds were used to continue pandemic recovery and ensure students have food to eat by providing free school breakfast and lunch. School meals have been free since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020 through U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) waivers. Prior to the pandemic, the only meals provided free or at a reduced rate were at schools operating the National School Lunch program to students whose families met eligibility requirements. As the U.S. transitioned to pandemic recovery efforts, the waivers were not renewed at a national level for all students. The NDA recognized this gap and worked to build a program that would ensure students receive free school meals through the 2023-24 academic year.

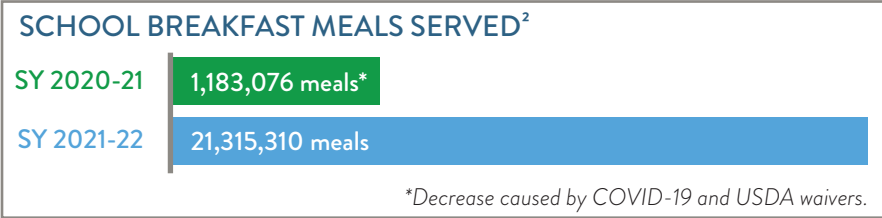
The NDA’s Division of Food and Nutrition provides access to nutritious food for Nevada children, seniors and other food insecure populations.

The Division of Food and Nutrition offers child nutrition support through the following programs:

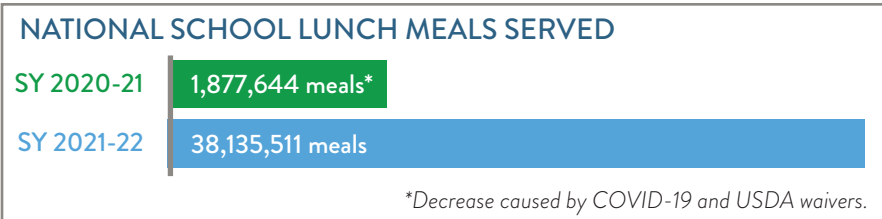
The **Child Nutrition Commodity Support** program provides USDA purchased foods for the Child and Adult Care Food program, the National School Lunch program and the Summer Food Service program.



The **School Breakfast** program provides nutritious breakfasts to promote learning readiness and healthy eating behaviors.



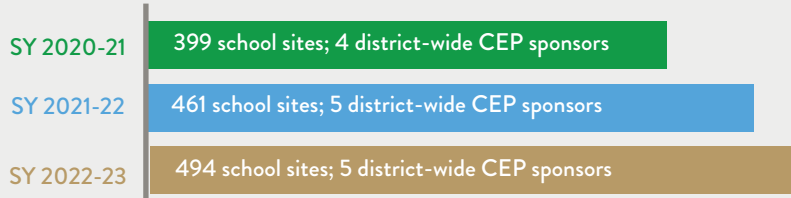
The **National School Lunch** program (NSLP) provides students with nutritious lunches. Participants are encouraged to select fresh fruits and/or vegetables, whole grain rich choices and low-fat or non-fat dairy with the NSLP meal patterns.



INCREASING FOOD ACCESS IN SCHOOLS

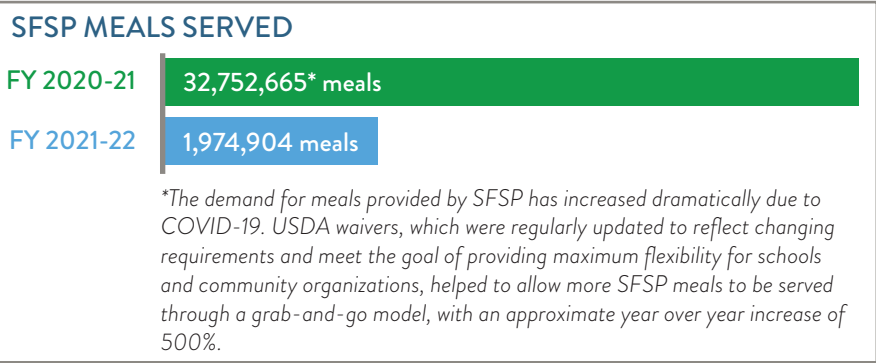
The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is a federal meal service option that allows schools with high populations of food-insecure students to serve breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students. The NDA has been working with qualifying schools and school districts in the state to elect CEP and increase access to nutritious school meals throughout Nevada.

ANNUAL INCREASES IN CEP SCHOOL SITES



DIVISION OF FOOD AND NUTRITION

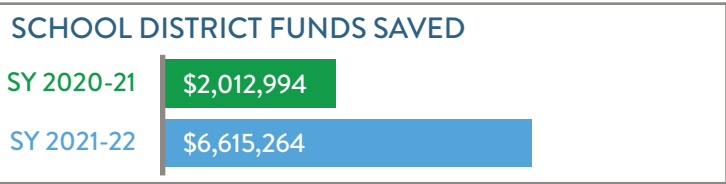
The **Summer Food Service** program (SFSP) provides free, nutritious meals to children 18 and younger when school is not in session.



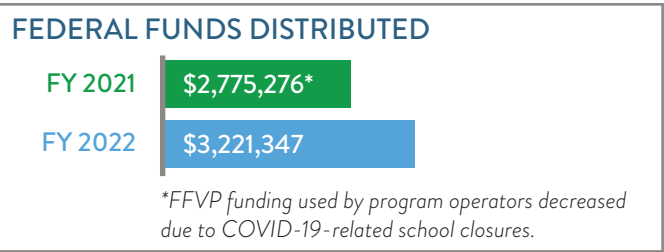
The **Farm-to-School** program connects students to Nevada farmers and fresh, healthy local foods. It provides resources and training to get local foods into classrooms and lunchrooms through farmer-classroom connections and school gardens.

- The 2020 USDA Farm-to-School grant ends in June 2023. This grant has enabled the NDA to gather information from Nevada farmers and schools through quarterly surveys and has connected schools with local farmers to hold tasting events. Two tasting events were held at schools in the fall and eight more are scheduled for spring 2023.
- The NDA is receiving \$1,666,705 in funding from USDA through a Local Foods in Schools grant. This grant will be subawarded to school nutrition programs to purchase local and regional foods.
- The NDA is receiving \$850,015 from USDA through a noncompetitive Farm-to-School (F2S) State Agency Formula grant. This grant will enable the NDA to hire a full-time F2S coordinator to help to grow the F2S network in Nevada, as well as lead the way in developing a strategic plan. Additionally, this funding will be used for subawards to partnering agencies that want to do projects related to F2S and agriculture literacy in Nevada.

The **State Processing** program works with commercial food processors to convert raw bulk USDA foods into more convenient end products like applesauce or string cheese.



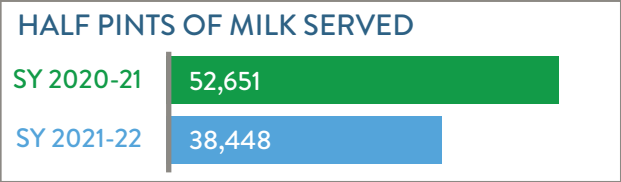
The **Fresh Fruit and Vegetable** program (FFVP) increases the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables in elementary schools, leading to increased consumption of fruits and vegetables in the cafeteria.



1. Yearly data qualified as “FY” is defined by “fiscal year.”
2. Yearly data qualified as “SY” is defined by “school year.”

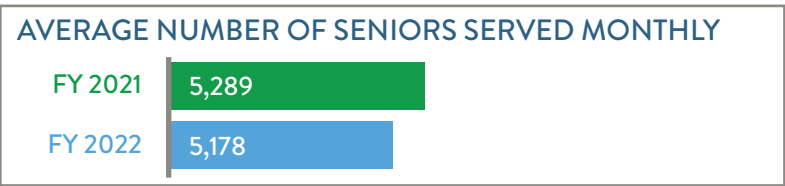
DIVISION OF FOOD AND NUTRITION

The **Special Milk** program provides milk to children, who do not participate in other federal meal service programs, in schools and childcare centers.

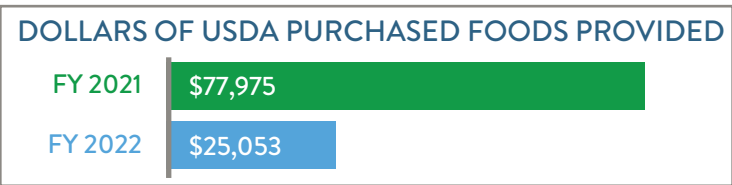


The Division of Food and Nutrition provides support to food-insecure seniors through the following programs:

The **Senior Nutrition and Wellness** program, previously the Commodity Supplemental Food program as it is referred to by the USDA, offers monthly food packages for seniors 60 years of age and older with incomes at or below 130% of poverty levels. Beginning Nov. 1, 2022, monthly food packages included additional food items such as fresh produce, frozen proteins and dairy, made available through \$400,050 of American Rescue Plan Act funds. The NDA implements this program at the state level through partners throughout Nevada. To better serve the community, the NDA changed the name of the program at the state level to the Senior Nutrition and Wellness program. Food boxes are distributed through the Just One Project in Las Vegas, Food Bank of Northern Nevada in Reno and Friends in Service Helping in Elko.



The **Nutrition Services Incentive** program offers USDA purchased foods as an alternative to cash in senior citizen centers throughout the state as part of the federal Older Americans Act.

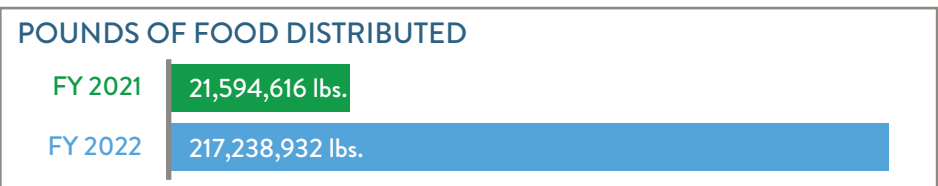


The **Senior Farmers Market Nutrition** program provides low-income seniors coupon books to use as cash at Nevada farmers markets, increasing consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables.

- May 2022 to Sept. 2022: Served more than 4,650 seniors and provided Nevada farmers with an additional \$128,581 in income.

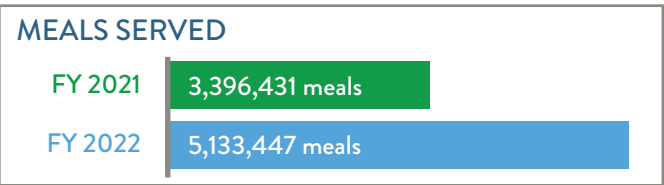
The Division of Food and Nutrition offers support to community members facing food insecurity through the following programs:

The **Emergency Food Assistance** program provides USDA foods to food banks, food pantries and soup kitchens for distribution to low-income families.

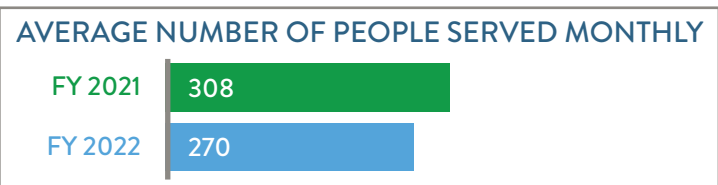


DIVISION OF FOOD AND NUTRITION

The **Child and Adult Care Food** program uses USDA funds to provide nutritious meals and snacks to children in daycare and afterschool programs as well as adults in daycare centers.



The **Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations** delivers foods to low-income individuals in 10 different tribes, colonies and reservations in Nevada using USDA funds.



NEWLY FUNDED PROGRAMS



The **Nevada Community Food Access Grant** (Phase I) sought to increase food access in underserved communities throughout Nevada with emphasis on food distribution infrastructure enhancement. Through this grant, the NDA awarded \$500,000 to the following six community organizations:

- Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada
- Food Bank of Northern Nevada
- Fallon Food Hub
- Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth
- Three Square Food Bank
- Walker River Paiute Tribe



Through the **Nevada Community Food Access Grant** (Phase II) the NDA expanded funding to 14 projects aimed at improving food access and security throughout the state. A total of \$6,000,000 was awarded to the following partners:

- Northern Nevada Dream Center
- Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada
- Fallon Food Hub
- Food Bank of Northern Nevada
- Lutheran Social Services of Nevada
- Healthy Communities Coalition of Lyon and Storey Counties
- Helping Hands of Vegas Valley, Inc
- Soulful Seeds
- The Just One project
- Eddy House
- Jewish Family Service Agency
- Keystone Enrichment Foundation
- Women and Children's Center of the Sierra

RELEVANT REGULATIONS

NRS	NAC
• 385.080	• 387
• 387.0693	
• 387.0695	
• 387.070	
• 387.073	
• 387.075	
• 387.080	
• 387.090	
• 387.100	
• 387.105	
• 387.114	
• 387.1145	
• 387.1151	
• 387.1155	
• 387.116	
• 387.1165	
• 387.117	
• 387.1175	
• 561.485	
• 561.489	
• 561.495	

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

28 full-time
3 contracted full-time

CONTACT



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DIVISION OF FOOD AND NUTRITION

NEWLY FUNDED PROGRAMS CONT.



The **Senior Nutrition and Wellness** program, previously the Commodity Supplemental Food program as it is referred to by the USDA, offers monthly food packages for seniors 60 years of age and older with incomes at or below 130% of poverty levels. Beginning Nov. 1, 2022, monthly food packages included additional food items such as fresh produce, frozen proteins and dairy, made available through \$400,050 of American Rescue Plan Act funds. The NDA implements this program at the state level through partners throughout Nevada. To better serve the community, the NDA changed the name of the program at the state level to the Senior Nutrition and Wellness program. Food boxes are distributed through the Just One Project in Las Vegas, Food Bank of Northern Nevada in Reno and Friends in Service Helping in Elko.



The NDA is seeking a partner for **Nevada Food Insecurity Data Collection and Reporting**. \$500,000 will be used by a Nevada-based organization to develop a data collection methodology to track overall food security in Nevada and identify outstanding gaps.



The NDA awarded \$3,000,000 to the Food Bank of Northern Nevada for the **Nevada Rural Food Hub** to increase food storage and distribution capacity for rural Nevada. The goal is to establish a food storage and distribution center location in rural Nevada that can store and distribute up to 100,000 meals per month to communities facing food access barriers due to their proximity to the urban areas.



The NDA received \$652,983 through the **USDA Reach and Resiliency Grant** to implement a two-phased project to expand the Emergency Food Assistant program's reach within Nevada, focusing on rural and Tribal communities.



The NDA was allocated \$5,494,836 from the **Build Back Better Bill** to assist food banks in response to COVID-19. The fund was used to purchase food and items such as freezer trucks or repairs and replacements.



The NDA was allocated \$4,150,99 through the **Local Food Purchase Grant** to help establish a state-supported food purchase and distribution program that will benefit local farmers and producers and families who need it.



The NDA was allocated \$12,401,795 of **USDA Emergency Operational Costs** to be distributed to program operators that struggled financially due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. This fund was intended to provide financial relief to the National School Lunch program, School Breakfast program and Child and Adult Care Food program.



The NDA was allocated \$8,333,527 of **USDA Supply Chain Assistance** funds to distribute to School Food Authorities to assist school districts experiencing supply chain disruptions. These funds must be used exclusively for the purchase of domestic food products that are unprocessed or minimally processed.



The NDA received \$1,666,705 through the **USDA Local Food in Schools Grant** to establish additional funding for school nutrition programs to spend on local and regional foods. This program will benefit local regional farmers and socially disadvantaged farmers while providing schools with another avenue to procure food.



The NDA received \$850,015 from the **USDA Farm-to-School Formula Grant** to improve program implementation through capacity building and coordination of local food procurement in child nutrition programs and provide funds to partner organizations to conduct educational training.



The State of Nevada allocated \$75,900,000 for **Free School Meals** in Nevada schools operating National School Lunch program to continue pandemic recovery and ensure students have access to free school breakfast and lunch.



DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

The NDA's Division of Animal Industry is responsible for animal disease detection and prevention, food safety protection, livestock identification, livestock theft prevention, agricultural products dealer licensing, commercial feed, natural resources protection and Predatory Animal and Rodent Control to protect public safety and agricultural resources. The division also oversees and regulates the state's animal import requirements.

The **Livestock Identification** program protects livestock producers, performs and records transfer of ownership, and monitors the movement of livestock across Nevada and between states to prevent loss or theft of livestock, aid in recovery of livestock, and assists in the monitoring and prevention of diseases through brand recording and inspections.

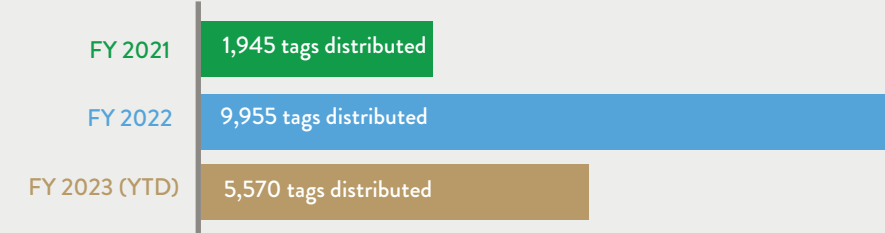
The **Animal Disease Laboratory** protects human health through its monitoring of diseases like rabies and West Nile Virus that can be transmitted from animals to humans. The lab is also responsible for diagnosis and control of any animal diseases of economic significance to the agriculture industry.

- Testing for diseases, which cannot be spread to humans, but do pose a threat to the agriculture industry, such as trichomoniasis and equine infectious anemia (EIA).

RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION

Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) and Official Calfhood Vaccination tags continue to be issued by the NDA, in coordination with USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to support Animal Disease Traceability and herd management.

NUMBER OF TAGS DISTRIBUTED



An additional allocation of tags has been approved for Nevada, and tags will be issued at no charge to veterinarians and producers upon request, while supplies last.

REBUILDING OF THE LIVESTOCK INSPECTION PROGRAM

The NDA's rebuilding of the Livestock Inspection program, in accordance with the Livestock Inspection Program Business Plan approved in 2021, continues to progress:

- May 1, 2022 - Program fee structure revisions implemented.
- Nov. 1, 2022 - 2023 brand renewal process initiated.
- 30 state employed intermittent brand inspectors have been hired.
- 20 contracted brand inspector positions were retained for hiring and program inspection needs.
- 3 full-time brand inspector positions were approved and the hiring process has begun.
- 33 Surface Pro tablets were secured to replace aging iPads and distribution to inspectors has begun.
- Brand inspector printers have been replaced.
- NDA staff are investigating possible electronic programs to replace outdated paper processes at the public livestock auctions.



DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

RELEVANT REGULATIONS

NRS	NAC
• 561.035	• 441A.410-445
• 569	• 561
• 571	• 565
• 574	• 566
• 576.129-131	• 567.010-.090
• 577	• 569
• 587	• 571
• 583	• 573
• 584	• 575
	• 576
	• 587
	• 583
	• 584

UPDATED REGULATIONS

REG. NUMBER	STATUS
NAC 564	ADOPTED
NAC 565	ADOPTED
NAC 571	WORKSHOP

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

36 full-time
21 contracted part-time

CONTACT



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The **Agriculture Enforcement** program is comprised of Nevada Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) certified sworn peace officers who serve the NDA, as well as the general public. The Agricultural Police Officers serve the NDA with expertise in agricultural laws and crimes. The department’s police officers’ primary focus is the protection of public health and safety and enforcement of all agricultural laws through road interdiction to prevent agricultural products that have not met the mandated requirements of plant or animal health and livestock identification from exiting or entering the state.

- The NDA currently has five Agriculture Police Officer positions located in Sparks, Winnemucca, Elko, Ely and Las Vegas.

The **Dairy and Food Safety** programs consist of **Laboratory Services** and **Dairy Inspection**.

- The Food Safety program inspects, licenses and regulates all steps involved in the production and sale of dairy products to Nevada consumers.
- The Food Safety Laboratory is accredited by the Food and Drug Administration’s Laboratory Proficiency Evaluation Team as the state’s central milk laboratory, serving a significant role in the FDA Grade “A” Milk Safety program. The laboratory offers a variety of tests to the dairy and milk processing industry to ensure the quality and safety of milk entering the market.

The **Predatory Animal and Rodent Control** program protects Nevada’s agriculture, natural resources, property and public safety from the threat of injury, diseases, damage or economic loss due to predatory animals, rodents or other wildlife.

- The program addressed thousands of predatory animals across Nevada in the last biennium, including coyotes, mountain lions, ravens and starlings.

NEWLY FUNDED PROGRAMS



The **Nevada Virginia Range Feral/Estray Horse Management Earmark** will conduct a population count and tracking to verify current feral/estray horse populations in the Virginia Range and develop long-term management solutions including establishing fencing in high traffic areas.



The **State Meat and Poultry Inspection** program will diversify market opportunities, strengthen local supply chains and ensure an adequate and safe meat supply. Through a cooperative agreement with the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service, the state will implement the inspection program to expand inspection services to facilities wishing to sell meat and poultry products within Nevada, including smaller establishments in rural locations.

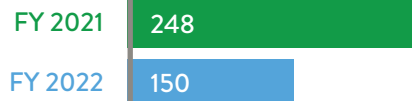
DIVISION OF PLANT HEALTH AND COMPLIANCE

The NDA’s Division of Plant Health and Compliance protects Nevada agriculture, the public and environment through services that include plant and range health, pest identification and mitigation, export inspection, pesticide compliance, drought response, and farm worker and food safety programs. The division operates under cooperative programs with the USDA, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and state, county and city government.

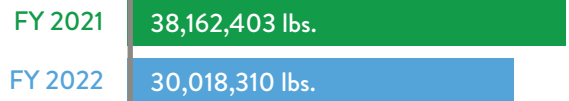
The **Division of Plant Health and Compliance** promotes viable crop production through the following programs:

The **Export Certification** program assists Nevada farmers and exporters by providing mandatory inspection and certification for plants and plant products exported out of the state. Inspections help prevent the spread of invasive pests and diseases from one part of the world to another.

NUMBER OF EXPORT AND PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATES ISSUED



AGRICULTURE PRODUCT POUNDS APPLIED FOR EXPORT



The **Produce Safety Education and Compliance** program works to facilitate federal compliance to the Food Safety Modernization Act, which is aimed at mitigating contamination when growing and handling crops commonly consumed raw. This program provides education, technical assistance and state inspection services to farms and employees to mitigate potential contamination commonly attributed to worker sanitation, water sources and animal intrusion.

The **Hemp** program ensures hemp growers, seed producers and handlers (processors of raw hemp products) follow state and federal registration and testing requirements to prevent psychoactive materials from entering the stream of commerce. This requires the sampling and testing of all hemp crops produced in Nevada for THC (the psychoactive cannabinoid associated with marijuana), as hemp is legally defined by its low THC content.

HEMP CERTIFICATES³

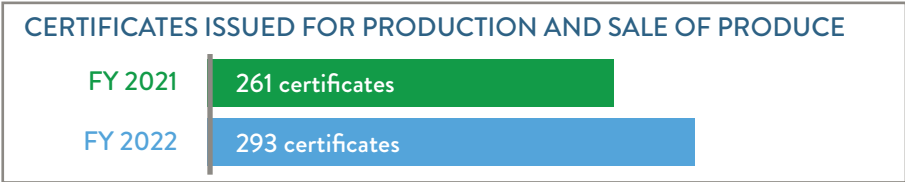
	Growers	Producers	Handlers	Acres	Indoor Sq. Ft.
CY 2021	61	5	29	446	188,852
CY 2022	32	2	27	14	97,392

Data updated as of 11/30/2022

3. Yearly data qualified as “CY” is defined by “calendar year.”

DIVISION OF PLANT HEALTH AND COMPLIANCE

The **Producer and Produce Vendor Certification** program performs site inspections to verify the quantity and variety of crops grown in the state. Certificates are tracked through a farmer registration system to provide traceability and consumer protection, and to capture Nevada crop production data.



The **Specialty Crop Block Grant** program enhances the competitiveness of Nevada’s specialty crops (fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture and nursery crops) through education, research and promotional projects. The NDA conducts an annual competitive application process to award USDA sponsored grant funds to candidates who will contribute to the success of the specialty crop industry.

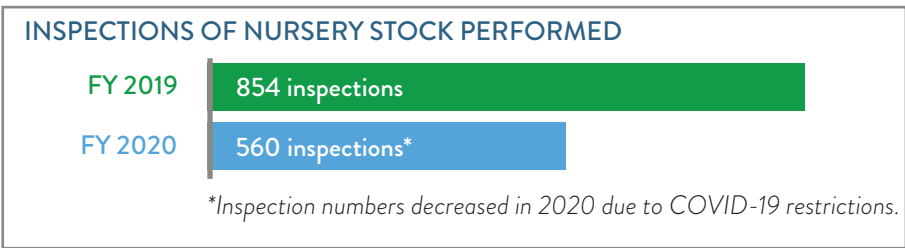
- A one-time allocation of approximately \$364,000 was received to support the specialty crop industry in responding to challenges experienced due to COVID-19.
- Approximately \$914,134 was awarded in FY 2021 and 2022.
 - » FY 2021: 13 projects awarded
 - » FY2022: 3 projects awarded

The **Division of Plant Health and Compliance** protects plant health by monitoring for disease and invasive species through the following programs:

The **Noxious Weeds** program collaborates with federal, state and local government agencies, in addition to various weed mitigation entities to be proactive in the prevention, control and management of invasive weed species. This collaborative effort includes targeting invasive weeds on public and private property in Nevada for the protection of Nevada lands, native plants, fire mitigation, wildlife habitat, property values, agricultural products and water sources.

- EDDMapS is a critical digital application tool used by the public and state/federal partners to report noxious weed infestation locations which allows staff to prioritize action on particularly critical species. In the last biennium, 1,236 EDDMapS reports were verified through coordination with NDA staff and state and federal partners.

The **Nursery** program monitors, intercepts and prevents the spread of pests and disease on plant nursery stock, ensuring pest-free, disease-free and healthy plant material for sale to the public.



DIVISION OF PLANT HEALTH AND COMPLIANCE

The **Entomology** program prevents the entry and spread of harmful pests through pest identification, field surveys and enforcing applicable state quarantines and regulations. To further pest monitoring, rapid response and the implementation of effective treatment options, staff coordinate with federal partners, industry and the public.

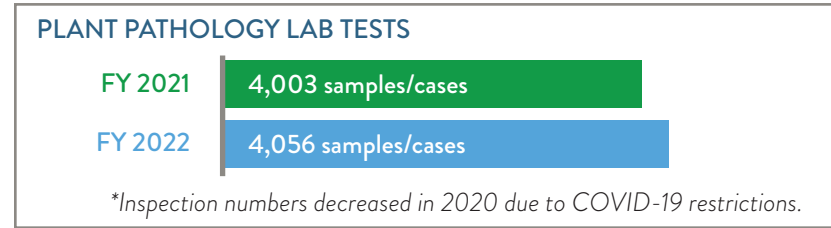
- FY 2022: 6,916 survey traps were placed and monitored for early detection and rapid response activities. Over 98,846 identifications were made by entomology personnel during survey activities to screen for target species.
- Critical pests detected include Red Imported Fire Ants which are a public safety issue and Gypsy Moth which is a significant threat to forestlands, especially those stressed from drought and fire.

The **Entomology Laboratory** offers the following services:

- Identification and surveying for native and exotic invertebrate pests
- Identification of pests and recommended treatment options for industry and the public

The **Plant Pathology** program works with other states and the USDA to identify and prevent potential plant disease threats from coming into Nevada. This includes inspecting transport trucks and airline shipments from other countries.

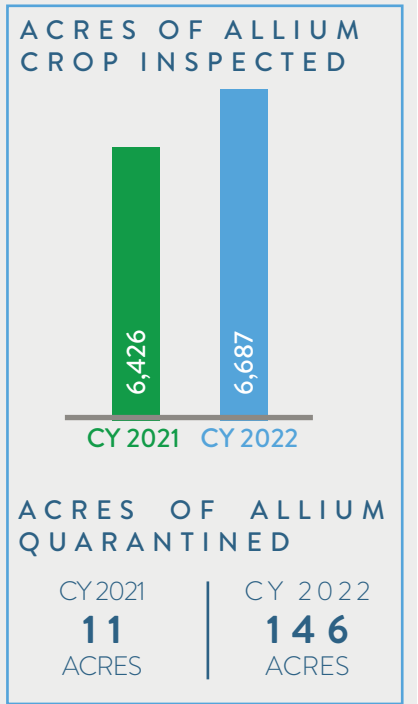
The **Plant Pathology Laboratory** is nationally accredited and provides diagnostic and testing services to the state and federal plant health programs and statewide clientele. Services include identification of plant disease and recommended treatment options for industry and the public.



The **Seed Certification** program provides regulatory support to seed growers and other business entities by offering seed certification services, conducting phytosanitary inspection of crops destined for export and enforcing state and federal seed laws intended to protect the interests of Nevada’s seed industry. Through this program, the Seed Laboratory provides testing services for seed identity, viability, purity and seed-borne diseases.

ALLIUM INSPECTIONS PROTECT AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY

NDA staff inspect allium (garlic, onion, etc.) fields for Stem and Bulb Nematode (*Ditylenchus dipsaci*) and White Rot (*Sclerotium cepivorum*). Stem and Bulb Nematode and White Rot come with significant impacts to the allium industry as fields must remain out of production for a minimum of two years after Stem and Bulb Nematode detection or indefinitely after White Rot detection. If seeds infected with Stem and Bulb Nematode or White Rot enter the stream of commerce, it could infect agricultural areas outside of Nevada and negatively impact the allium crop creating a shortage in crops resulting in economic consequences.



RELEVANT REGULATIONS

NRS	NAC
• 453a	• 453a
• 552	• 552
• 554	• 554
• 555	• 555
• 556	• 556
• 557	• 557
• 576	• 576
• 583	• 583
• 586	• 586
• 587	• 587
• 588	• 588

UPDATED REGULATIONS

REG. NUMBER	STATUS
NAC 555	ADOPTED
NAC 586	ADOPTED
NAC 552	ADOPTED
NAC 554	ADOPTED
NAC 587	ADOPTED

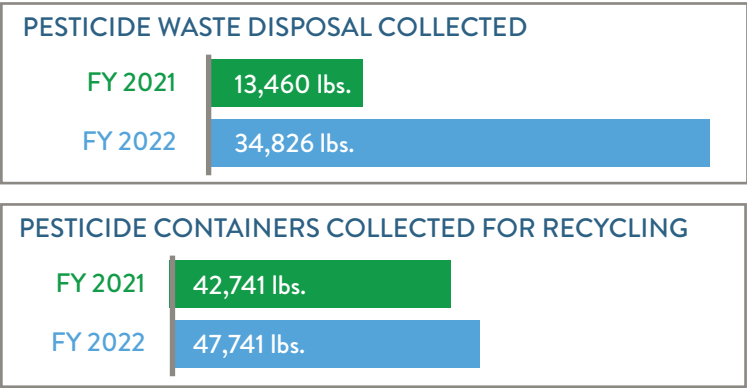
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

45 full-time
11 seasonal
1 contracted full-time

The Division of Plant Health and Compliance protects the environment through the following programs:

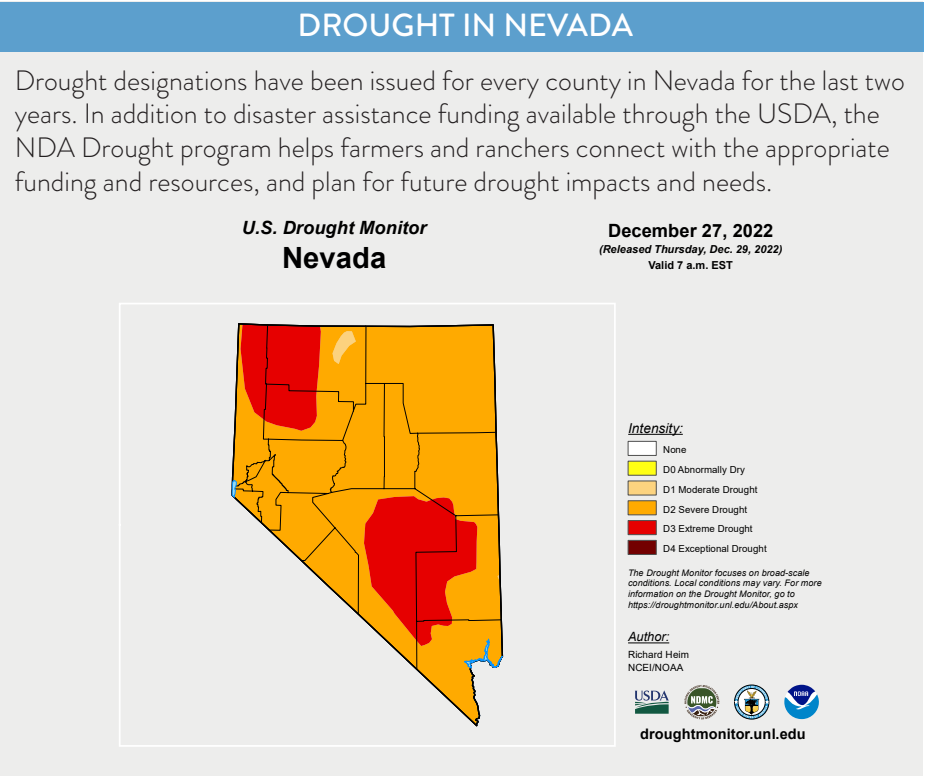
- The **Chemistry Laboratory** provides the following services to industry:
- Registration and analytical verification of fertilizer and pesticide products ensuring labeling guidelines and EPA standards are met.
 - Regulatory testing of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) content in hemp.
 - Testing verification for marijuana products that fail third party pesticide residue analysis testing.

The **Environmental Services** program maintains comprehensive pesticide enforcement, surveillance and laboratory analysis to protect human health and the environment from adverse effects of pesticides. Through this program, the NDA offers pesticide and pesticide container recycling to keep chemicals out of Nevada waterways.



- The **Pest Control** program licenses and monitors all pest control companies and individuals statewide for compliance with state and federal laws. The program is responsible for the testing of all pest control operators and principles, tracking continuing education, performing operator inspections, investigating pesticide misuse complaints and reporting to the EPA.
- Between calendar years 2021 and 2022, the NDA administered approximately 4,967 exams.

The **Drought** program provides proactive, long-term strategies that will make Nevada’s agricultural and ranching resources more resilient to the impacts of prolonged drought. The intent is to promote water conservation, technology and practices to achieve drought resilience that is consistent and sustainable in Nevada for generations to come.



NEWLY FUNDED PROGRAMS

The NDA has established a Foundation Seed program to provide free quality native seeds to growers to cultivate for use in future restoration efforts. The goal of this program is to provide source-verified seeds that are in high demand across different markets and to help growers transition or diversify cultivation by providing free seed.

CONTACT



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DIVISION OF MEASUREMENT STANDARDS

The NDA’s Division of Measurement Standards ensures quality of motor fuel and lubricants, as well as accuracy and consistency in all commercial transactions by regulating weight and volume for the protection of Nevada’s citizens and businesses.

The **Weights and Measures** program promotes fair trade based on accurate weight and volume, protecting the economic interests of Nevada consumers while also supporting an equitable marketplace for Nevada businesses.

NUMBER OF LICENSED DEVICES TESTED

FY 2021	38,386 devices tested
FY 2022	36,087 devices tested

The **Metrology** program maintains traceability of the State’s primary weight and volume standards to the national standards. The Metrology program staff compare and calibrate secondary and field standards to these primary standards, ensuring consistency in the weights and volume standards used to confirm the accuracy of weighing and measuring devices across Nevada. The Metrology Laboratory is recognized by the National Institute of Standards and Technology for traceability of measurement standards to the national standards of mass and volume. The lab calibrates weights and volume test measures for NDA staff and industry.

NUMBER OF WEIGHTS AND VOLUME STANDARDS TESTED AND CALIBRATED

FY 2021	1,794
FY 2022	1,691



DIVISION OF MEASUREMENT STANDARDS

The **Petroleum Technology** program ensures fuel sold at retail facilities meets regulations and acts on consumer complaints, confirming compliance with quality standards. The **Petroleum Technology Laboratories** test samples of motor vehicle fuels, aviation gasoline, lubricating and heating oils, and antifreeze collected in response to consumer complaints and at random on a regular basis from retailers across the state. Analysis is performed on the samples to confirm the product meets or exceeds performance and environmental quality standards adopted by the State Board of Agriculture.

PERCENT OF COMPLIANT OIL, FUEL AND ANTIFREEZE TESTS

FY 2021	2,508 of 2,578 of tests conducted were compliant	97%
FY 2022	2,923 of 3,005 of tests conducted were compliant	97%

RELEVANT REGULATIONS

NRS	NAC
• 445B.830	• 561
• 561	• 581
• 581	• 582
• 582	• 590
• 590	

UPDATED REGULATIONS

REG. NUMBER	STATUS
NAC 581 (R070-22)	DEVELOPMENT
NAC 581 (R026-21)	ADOPTED
NAC 590 (R027-21)	ADOPTED
NAC 590 (R037-21)	ADOPTED
NAC 590 (R038-21)	ADOPTED

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

26 full-time
2 seasonal

CONTACT



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DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

RELEVANT REGULATIONS

NRS	NAC
• 561	• 561

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

37 full-time
9 contract

CONTACT



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The NDA’s Division of Administrative Services provides oversight and assistance to the department through fiscal matters, grant management, information technology support and management, personnel, and communications. The Division of Administrative Services also provides information to the public and supports industry through education, outreach, economic development and trade.

- In the last biennium, the NDA began implementation of a new laboratory information management system. This new system will create efficient processes, improve quality control, meet accreditation requirements and provide for better customer service to Nevadans. The system is expected to go live in FY 2024.
- The NDA designed, developed and implemented a web-based National School Lunch program application to improve program integrity with increased functionality and reduced administrative burden.

HIGHLIGHTS OF NEVADA AGRICULTURE TRADE ACTIVITIES

The NDA has represented Nevada agriculture, food and beverage industries through trade missions with Canada, Mexico, China, South Korea and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region.

TRADE ACTIVITIES	
CY 2021	CY 2022
10 TRADE MISSIONS & TRADE SHOWS	6 TRADE MISSIONS & TRADE SHOWS
19 PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES	27 PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES

NEVADA CRAFT BEVERAGE PASSPORT

In 2022, the NDA launched the first Nevada Craft Beverage Passport to support and promote the Nevada agriculture and craft beverage industry. This passport featured more than 35 Nevada craft beverage makers throughout the state and encouraged individuals over 21 years of age to visit and support participating locations.

The Nevada Craft Beverage Passport is a guide to a fun, educational and rewarding time exploring Nevada’s craft beverage establishments. All participants in the Nevada Craft Beverage Passport make their brewed, distilled or fermented beverages locally, and locations using locally sourced agriculture ingredients are highlighted.



ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) preserves, protects and promotes Nevada agriculture. The NDA was established in 1915 by Chapter 561 of the Nevada Revised Statutes. The state department of agriculture as it exists today was created in 1961.

Headquartered in Sparks, Nev., the NDA also has offices in Las Vegas and Elko. It includes the divisions of Administrative Services, Animal Industry, Measurement Standards, Food and Nutrition, and Plant Health and Compliance. The bulk of the NDA’s funding comes from fees and federal programs.

AGENCY HISTORY

The State Board of Agriculture was created by the 1885 Nevada Legislature. Chapter 268 of the Nevada Revised Statutes (later changed to NRS 561) established the State Board of Stock Commissioners in 1915, consisting of three members, all experienced stockmen, appointed by the governor. The board had control of all matters pertaining to the cattle, horse and hog industries. Sheep were regulated by the State Board of Sheep Commissioners.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

Appointed by the governor, the current Board of Agriculture is comprised of 13 community leaders who establish NDA policy and represent industry groups to provide knowledge, input background as to the activity of the department, verify laws and programs administered by the Department are carried out.

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Nevada Department
of Agriculture