

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

MISSION STATEMENT

The Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners protects the public and serves the State of Nevada by ensuring that only well-qualified, competent physicians, physician assistants, practitioners of respiratory care and perfusionists receive licenses to practice in Nevada. The Board responds with expediency to complaints against our licensees by conducting fair, complete investigations that result in appropriate action. In all Board activities, the Board shall place the interests of the public before the interests of the medical profession and encourage public input and involvement to help educate the public as we improve the quality of medical practice in Nevada.

THE BOARD

The Board is the oldest occupational licensing board in the state, having recently celebrated 122 years of service to the patients of Nevada (March 15, 1899 – March 15, 2021). The Board is composed of nine members, six of whom are actively practicing physicians and three of whom are public members. By statute, all of the members of the Board must be selected without regard to their individual political beliefs. All members are appointed by the Governor for a period of four years. Board members may also be appointed by the Governor to a second four-year term.

Pursuant to statute, the Board has two Investigative Committees. Each Committee is composed of two physician Board members and one public Board member. The committees are charged with administering the investigative functions of the Board.

The Board's main office is located at 9600 Gateway Drive in Reno, and it has a satellite office at 325 E. Warm Springs Road, Suite 225, in Las Vegas.

BOARD MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Rachakonda D. Prabhu, M.D., *President*

Dr. Prabhu was appointed to the Board effective October 1, 2013, and was reappointed to a second term commencing August 31, 2017. He has been a practicing physician in Nevada for over three decades and founded Red Rock Medical Group, Eldorado Medical Center and Sleep Center of Nevada, specializing in Internal Medicine, Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine. Dr. Prabhu is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Pulmonary Medicine, Sleep Medicine and Critical Care Medicine, and is a graduate of the prestigious Calcutta University, Calcutta, India. He is currently serving as a Clinical Professor of Medicine with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Medicine. Dr. Prabhu has held several critical positions, such as Medical Director of the ICU at Valley Hospital and Medical Co-Director of the ICU at University Medical Center. He served as the Pulmonary Consultant to Veterans Services in Las Vegas and as the Medical Director of the Veterans Nursing Home in Boulder City. Dr. Prabhu is a distinguished Nevadan and President of the Board.

M. Neil Duxbury, *Public Member, Vice President*

Mr. Duxbury is a public member of the Board, appointed to the Board effective December 11, 2015. He was reappointed to a second term commencing July 1, 2017. Mr. Duxbury holds a Bachelor's Degree in Biology from the University of Nevada, Reno. During his college and post-college careers, he worked for the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, and the Veterans Administration Medical Center, assisting with various medical research projects. He later assisted in medical research at the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, Sweden. Mr. Duxbury is active in the community and supports such organizations as the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows, the University of Nevada, Reno, Bishop Manogue Catholic High School and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. He has served as a member of the YMCA Capital Campaign Committee, completed the Reno Chamber of Commerce Executive Training Program and was an active member of the Executive Association of Reno. Mr. Duxbury is the Vice President of the Board and Chairman of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees.

April Mastroluca, *Public Member, Secretary-Treasurer*

Ms. Mastroluca is a public member of the Board, appointed to the Board effective December 11, 2015. She was reappointed to a second term commencing July 1, 2017. Ms. Mastroluca has worked in the nonprofit sector for 19 years and is currently the Executive Director for the ALS Association, Nevada Chapter. In addition, she served as a Nevada State Assemblywoman from 2008 to 2012, where she chaired the Health and Human Services Committee. Volunteerism has always been important to Ms. Mastroluca, and she currently serves on the Advisory Board of Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth. She was the 2016 President of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Las Vegas Chapter, and is a member of Leadership Henderson, class of 2016. She previously was a member of Junior League, served as a Girl Scout and Boy Scout Troop Leader, served as President of Kesterson Elementary PTA and was on the Nevada PTA State Board. She holds a Certificate of Nonprofit Board Education from Boardsource. Previously, she completed the Emerging State Leaders Program at the Darden School of Business and the Western Legislative Academy from the Council of State Governments, West. Ms. Mastroluca is the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board and a member of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees.

Victor M. Muro, M.D.

Dr. Muro was appointed to the Board effective September 28, 2015. He was reappointed to a second term commencing August 31, 2019. He is the Medical Director of Optum Care Neighborhood Program. Dr. Muro holds a medical degree from the UCLA School of Medicine and is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine. He is currently an appointee by the State Board of Health as a physician member of the Medical Laboratory Advisory Committee. Dr. Muro is Chairman of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees.

Aury Nagy, M.D.

Dr. Nagy was appointed to the Board effective August 31, 2016. He was reappointed to a second term commencing August 31, 2020. He is a neurosurgeon and is currently a partner in Nevada Brain & Spine Care. Dr. Nagy is a Las Vegas native, holds a medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine, and is certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery. He served as Spine Committee Chair and

Neurosurgery Section Chief for Spring Valley Hospital, and has been a clinical faculty member for Touro University. Dr. Nagy also served as Chairman of the Department of Neurosurgery at the University Medical Center of Southern Nevada. He was a product development consultant and Speakers Bureau clinical lecturer and educator for Integra, a speaker for NeuroSciences, Inc., and a speaker for LDR regarding its artificial cervical disc, as well as for Deep Brain Stimulator technology. Dr. Nagy is a frequent author on the subject of back pain and has participated in several research programs regarding spine and brain injuries. He was the first neurosurgeon in Nevada to place an artificial cervical disc in a patient and is one of a few surgeons in the state to perform deep brain stimulation procedures for Parkinson's patients. He has served in the White House Medical Corps as a neurosurgeon and is a member of the Southern Nevada Medical Reserve Corps, as well as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Clark County Medical Society. Dr. Nagy is an active member of the Southern Nevada business community, a supporter of renewable energy, and has been involved in numerous medical and community organizations. He previously held a position as Board Chairman for a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Southern Nevada. Dr. Nagy has also served on the Governor's Workforce Board Health Sector Committee, as well as on the Federal Health Information Advisory Committee to U.S. Congress. Dr. Nagy is currently involved in medical research on suppressing the overactive immune response in COVID-19 patients. The work has been well received by academic physicians and scientists across the nation and internationally. Dr. Nagy is a member of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees.

Michael C. Edwards, M.D., FACS

Dr. Edwards was appointed to the Board effective July 1, 2017. He is a board-certified plastic and reconstructive surgeon at Plastic Surgery Vegas in Las Vegas with over 24 years of clinical experience. He holds a medical degree from the F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine and is Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Medicine, Department of Plastic Surgery. Dr. Edwards is a past-president of the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, past-president of the Rocky Mountain Association of Plastic Surgeons, and past-president of the Clark County Medical Society. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons (ACS), currently serving as a Governor of the ACS. He is a member of many professional organizations, including the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, American Association of Plastic Surgery, the Clark County Medical Society and the Nevada State Medical Association, among others. Dr. Edwards is a veteran of the United States Air Force, having served 19 years active duty, achieving the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Throughout his military career, he served as Chief of Surgery, Chief of Plastic Surgery and Chief of Staff. Dr. Edwards is a member of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees.

Weldon Havins, M.D., J.D.

Dr. Havins was appointed to the Board effective August 31, 2017. He holds a medical degree from Wake Forest University School of Medicine, a Master's degree in Management from the Claremont Graduate University, and a Juris Doctor degree and a Master of Laws degree in Health Law from the University of San Diego. Dr. Havins was the Executive Director and legal counsel for the Clark County Medical Society from 2001 to 2008. Following a stint as Executive Director of the Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, he received a full-time appointment to the faculty at Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He has retired from the College of Osteopathic Medicine and has been awarded Professor Emeritus. He continues as adjunct professor in Medical Jurisprudence and Ophthalmology at Touro University Nevada. Dr. Havins practices General Ophthalmology part-time.

He is a member of the State Bar of Nevada. He is certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology and the American Board of Legal Medicine. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons, and the American College of Legal Medicine. Dr. Havins is a past-president of the Nevada State Medical Association. He has numerous publications in medical journals and law reviews. He is a veteran of the United States Navy. Dr. Havins is a member of one of the Board's two Investigative Committees.

Maggie Arias-Petrel, *Public Member*

Ms. Arias-Petrel is a public member of the Board, appointed to the Board effective August 1, 2019. She was born in Quito, Ecuador, and holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Universidad Central of Quito-Ecuador. Ms. Arias-Petrel specializes in the areas of marketing, business development, strategic partnerships, non-profit organizations, events, and community outreach – local, national, and international. She has over twenty years of medical practice management, marketing and consulting experience. She served as a practice administrator for several multispecialty practices in Las Vegas, including the Women's Health Center of Southern Nevada, during three decades. Ms. Arias-Petrel truly understands the needs of a comprehensive healthcare service and access to the underserved communities in Nevada. She is actively involved at a local and national level. She serves as the Nevada representative on the White House Committee on Aging, the Congressional Hispanic Leadership Summits, the U.S. Hispanic Chamber Summits, and most recently, with The Latino Coalition. She was also invited by former U.S. Senator Harry Reid to participate on the Democratic Hispanic Task Force on Healthcare in Washington, D.C. Ms. Arias-Petrel is the past Chairwoman of the Board of the Latin Chamber of Commerce, Nevada, has been newly appointed to the Board of Directors of Rebuild Nevada, and also serves on many other boards, such as Dignity Health, the American Red Cross and Workforce Connections, among others.

Bret W. Frey, M.D.

Dr. Frey was appointed to the Board effective August 31, 2019. He is a longtime Nevadan with a passion for emergency and aero-medical medicine. Earning a Bachelor of Science from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1989, he published numerous scientific articles during a seven-year research career thereafter. Dr. Frey holds a medical degree from the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, and is certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine. He has served Nevadans in a multitude of capacities to improve statewide medical care, and has practiced in many emergency departments statewide. Dr. Frey serves on the Board for the Nevada Chapter of the American College of Emergency Medicine, is a member of the Government Affairs Commission of the Nevada State Medical Association, is the Nevada Medical Director for Reach Air Medical Services, and is President of Northern Nevada Emergency Physicians – the largest emergency physician group in Northern Nevada.

CURRENT BOARD STAFF

Executive Staff:

Edward O. Cousineau, J.D., Executive Director
Sarah A. Bradley, J.D., MBA, Deputy Executive Director
Donya Jenkins, Finance Manager

Administrative Staff:

Laurie L. Munson, Chief of Administration and Information Systems
Linda Lang, Finance Assistant
Julie M. Espinoza, Credentialing and Consumer Assistance Specialist

Legal Division Staff:

Robert Kilroy, J.D., Senior Deputy General Counsel
Aaron Bart Fricke, J.D., Senior Deputy General Counsel, Las Vegas office
Donald K. White, J.D., Deputy General Counsel
Brandee Mooneyhan, J.D., Deputy General Counsel
Dawn DeHaven Gordillo, Legal Assistant
Mercedes Fuentes, Legal Assistant
Meg Byrd, Legal Assistant

Investigative Staff:

Ernesto Diaz, Chief of Investigations
George J. Tuioti, Deputy Chief of Investigations, Las Vegas office
Trent S. Hiatt, CMBI, Senior Investigator
Donald A. Andreas, CMBI, Senior Investigator, Las Vegas office
Monica C. Gustafson, CMBI, Senior Investigator
Kim Friedman, CMBI, Senior Investigator, Las Vegas office
Johnna S. LaRue, CMBI, Senior Investigator
Libi Anders, Investigator
Samantha M. Hendricks, Investigator
Ryan Swank, Investigator, Las Vegas office
Norma Perkins, Administrative Assistant
Debra A. Foster, Administrative Assistant, Las Vegas office
Holly J. Rincon, Administrative Assistant
Michael Jacobs, M.D., PhD, Medical Reviewer, Las Vegas office
Wayne Hardwick, M.D., Medical Reviewer

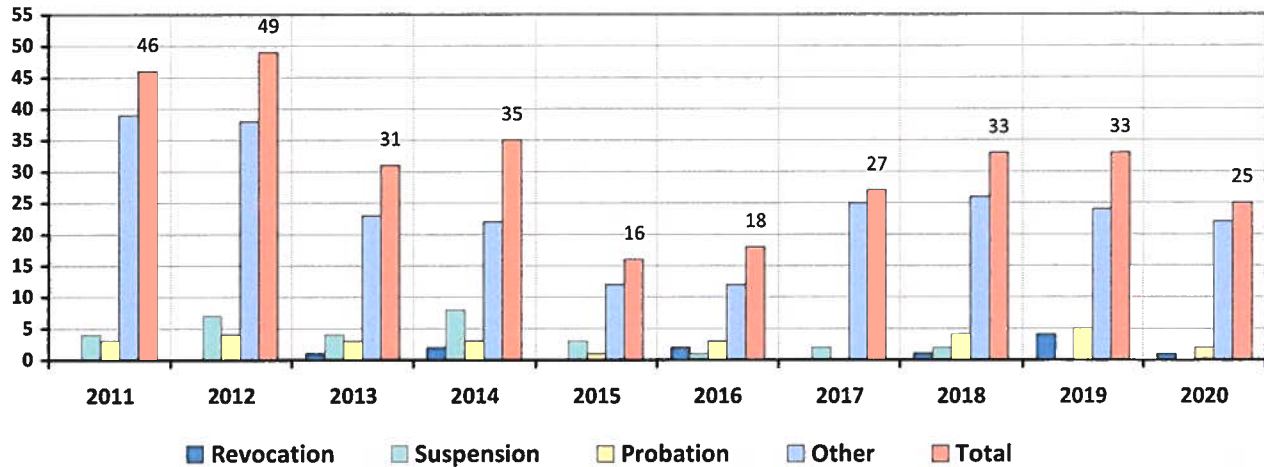
Licensing Staff:

Lynnette Daniels, Chief of Licensing
Curtis Worden, Deputy Chief of Licensing
Alexandra D. Lucas, Senior License Specialist
Tara Bailey, License Specialist
Kristin Penley, License Specialist
Christina Hall, License Specialist
Brenda Riviera, License Specialist
Jami Land, License Specialist
Summer Jacobsen, License Specialist
Kory Linn, License Specialist
Leah Hall, License Specialist
Caitlin E. McClurg, B.A., Licensing Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Krum, Licensing Administrative Assistant

COMPLAINTS, INVESTIGATIONS AND DISCIPLINE

In 2020, the Board opened 501 investigations, closed 620 investigations (many of which, of course, originated in preceding years) and imposed 25 disciplinary actions against physicians. The graph below shows the number and types of discipline imposed by the Board regarding physicians for the last ten years.

Disciplinary Actions Taken Against Medical Doctors*

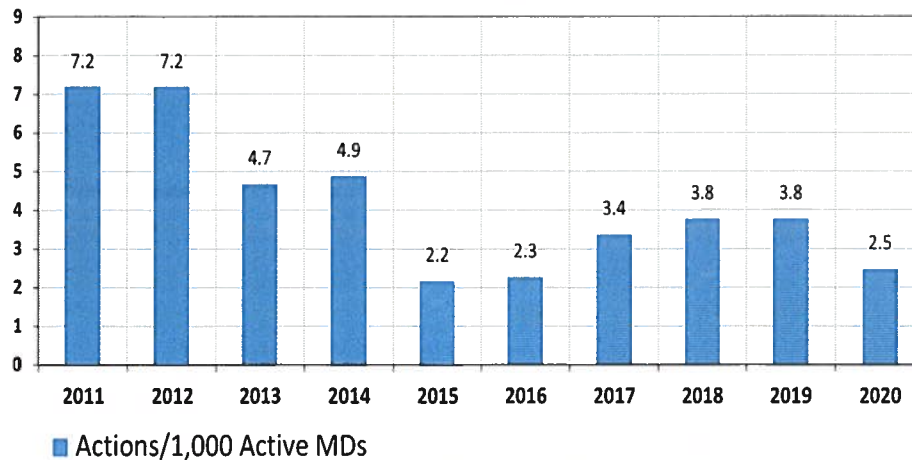


Note: "Other" actions include: Voluntary Surrender of License While Under Investigation, License Restriction, Public Reprimand, Licensure Denial, CME Ordered, Fine, Drug or Alcohol Treatment Program Ordered, and Competency Exam Ordered.

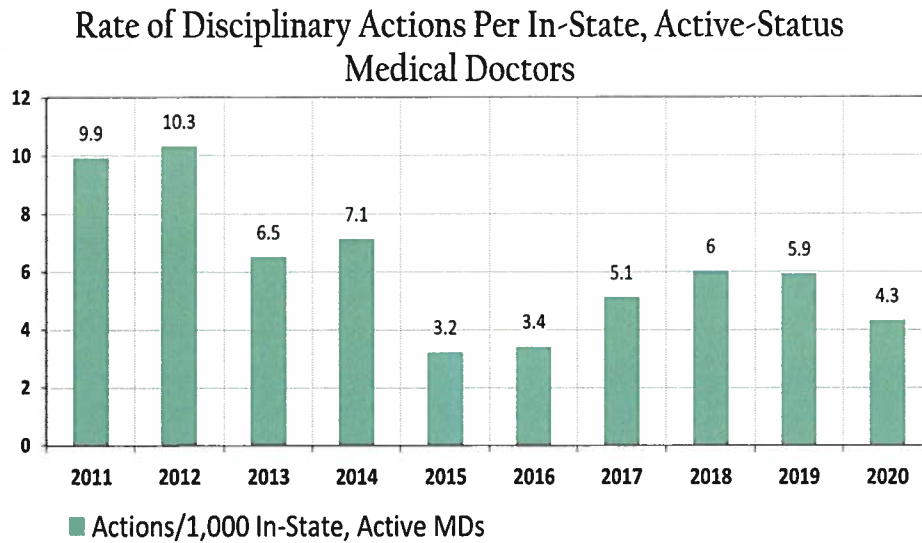
*Any discrepancy in these numbers from a report published by any other source is due to: (1) differences in verbiage or categorization; or (2) differences in the number of actions taken per practitioner.

The graph below shows the rate of disciplinary actions taken by the Board per 1,000 active-status licensed physicians for the last ten years.

Rate of Disciplinary Actions Per All Licensed Active-Status Medical Doctors



The graph below shows the rate of disciplinary actions taken by the Board per 1,000 in-state, active-status licensed physicians for the last ten years.



LICENSING

The Board licenses physicians, physician assistants, practitioners of respiratory care, perfusionists, and limited licenses for residency training. In 2020, the Board issued the following new licenses:

Practice	
Physicians*	1173
Physician Assistants	162
Practitioners of Respiratory Care	133
Perfusionists	7
Residency Training Licenses	173

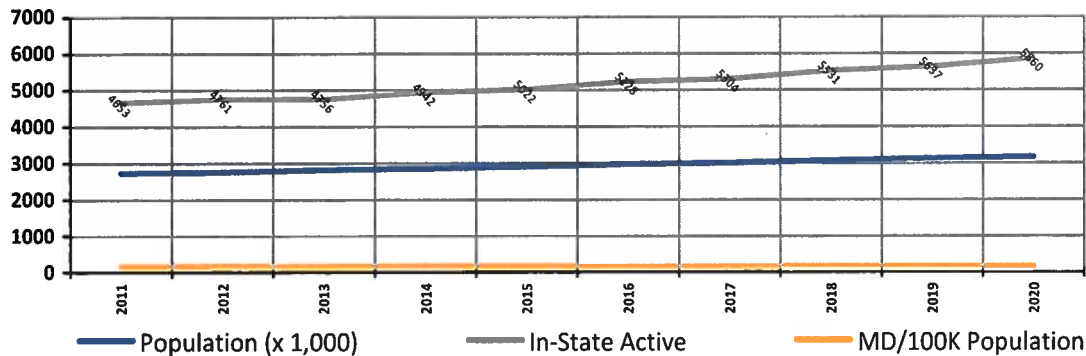
*441 of these physicians were licensed via the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC).

Average licensing times in 2020 were as follows (these times include weekends and holidays):

Practice	Average Time to License	Fastest Time to License
Physicians (Non-IMLC)	50 days	same day
Physicians (IMLC)	3 days	same day
Physician Assistants	76 days	27 days
Practitioners of Respiratory Care	81 days	28 days
Perfusionists	9 days	7 days

In 2020, the ratio of physicians to 100,000 population* increased over the previous year. The following graph shows the growth of the state’s population (measured in thousands so that the trend line will fit on the graph, and last reported at 3,145,184), the state’s active, in-state physician population (in absolute numbers), and the ratio of physicians to population (measured as physicians per 100,000 population). From 2011 through 2015, the ratio averaged between 170 and 174. In 2016, the ratio increased to 177; in 2017, the ratio increased to 178; in 2018 and 2019, the ratio was 181, and in 2020, the ratio increased to 186.

Comparison of Population With In-State, Active Physicians



*Population statistics provided by the Nevada State Demographer, Nevada Department of Taxation.

The physician licensure for active, in-state physicians increased by 4% in 2020. The following table is a county-by-county breakdown of physician licenses for the last ten years. In 2020, Carson City, Clark, Douglas, Humboldt, Lander, Nye, Pershing and Washoe Counties showed growth in their physician populations; Lyon and White Pine Counties showed a decrease; and the remaining seven counties remained static in their physician populations.

Physician Licensure Counts (2011-2020)

County	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Carson City	158	152	164	168	171	177	173	173	155	157
Churchill	22	23	27	29	24	24	25	27	21	21
Clark	3207	3305	3277	3403	3460	3605	3674	3845	3943	4080
Douglas	87	89	80	86	79	79	85	87	97	101
Elko	48	41	40	40	43	42	39	39	42	42
Esmeralda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eureka	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Humboldt	10	11	12	11	11	12	9	9	9	10
Lander	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	5
Lincoln	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Lyon	15	16	15	16	12	13	14	13	11	9
Mineral	5	6	5	5	6	4	2	2	3	3
Nye	16	14	13	16	15	13	12	13	10	11
Pershing	2	1	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	2
Storey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washoe	1069	1088	1110	1155	1186	1246	1254	1306	1327	1407
White Pine	10	10	9	9	9	8	11	11	11	10
In-State Active Status	4653	4761	4756	4942	5022	5228	5304	5531	5637	5860
Out-of-State Active Status	1757	2084	1868	2251	2116	2561	2523	3229	3066	4030
TOTAL ACTIVE STATUS	6410	6845	6624	7193	7138	7789	7827	8760	8703	9890
Inactive Status	758	748	818	801	806	802	772	763	772	762
TOTAL LICENSED (Active and Inactive Statuses)	7168	7593	7442	7994	7944	8591	8599	9523	9475	10652

The number of physician assistants increased significantly by 9.8% in 2020. In 2020, there was growth in Carson City, Clark, Douglas, Elko, Humboldt, Lyon, Washoe and White Pine Counties; Nye County showed a decrease; and the remaining eight counties remained static.

Physician Assistant Licensure Counts (2011-2020)

County	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Carson City	16	17	14	18	17	18	28	28	32	33
Churchill	6	9	10	9	9	10	7	6	5	5
Clark	342	386	398	452	479	533	559	618	655	709
Douglas	9	12	16	17	15	19	19	18	21	26
Elko	5	7	9	10	13	14	15	17	18	22
Esmeralda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eureka	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Humboldt	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	2
Lander	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lincoln	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4
Lyon	6	4	5	6	7	9	9	9	8	9
Mineral	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	4	5	5
Nye	4	4	2	2	5	4	3	5	4	3
Pershing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Storey	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2
Washoe	91	104	109	121	138	149	156	183	195	222
White Pine	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
TOTAL ACTIVE STATUS	488	553	574	645	694	767	806	896	953	1046

The number of practitioners of respiratory care increased by 6.5% in 2020. In 2020, Churchill, Clark, Mineral, Storey and Washoe Counties showed increases; White Pine County showed a decrease; and the remaining 11 counties remained static.

Practitioner of Respiratory Care Licensure Counts (2011-2020)

County	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Carson City	12	13	12	13	11	14	12	14	12	12
Churchill	4	5	4	4	5	6	8	9	8	9
Clark	920	1006	982	1069	1079	1167	1158	1246	1231	1311
Douglas	18	15	16	16	13	13	14	16	15	15
Elko	8	9	7	8	9	10	12	13	9	9
Esmeralda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eureka	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Humboldt	5	5	4	4	2	2	2	4	3	3
Lander	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1
Lincoln	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lyon	15	16	15	16	15	14	14	17	15	15
Mineral	2	2	2	2	2	4	1	2	2	4
Nye	13	12	13	15	13	14	15	14	10	10
Pershing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Storey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Washoe	192	197	186	202	191	207	193	199	180	194
White Pine	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2
TOTAL ACTIVE STATUS	1193	1284	1246	1354	1346	1457	1435	1539	1490	1587

The number of perfusionists increased by 6.7% in 2020, with growth in Clark County and all other counties remaining static.

Perfusionist Licensure Counts (2011-2020)

County	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Carson City	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
Churchill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clark	19	25	20	23	20	24	19	24	25	27
Douglas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elko	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Esmeralda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eureka	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Humboldt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lyon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mineral	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nye	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pershing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Storey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washoe	5	5	4	5	4	4	6	5	4	4
White Pine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ACTIVE STATUS	25	31	25	29	24	28	26	30	30	32

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions or comments regarding this Annual Report should be directed to:

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