

NORTHERN NEVADA  
**Public Health**

# **Public Health Preparedness Report**

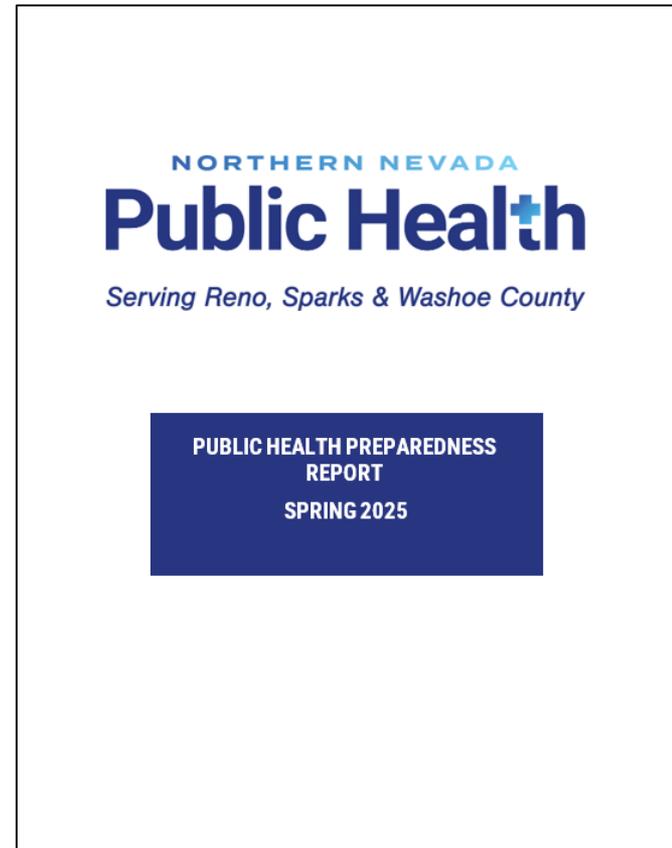
**District Board of Health - May 2025**

**Presentation by: Anastasia Gunawan, MPH**

**Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness Division**

# Purpose

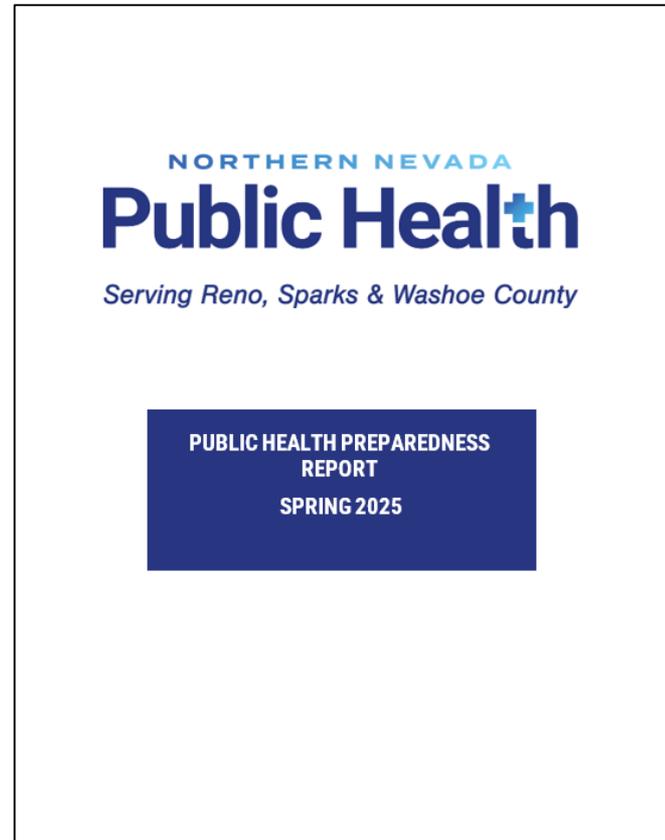
- Transparency of preparedness and collaboration
- Building community resilience
- Provide evidence-based recommendation for internal planning
- Every three years publication



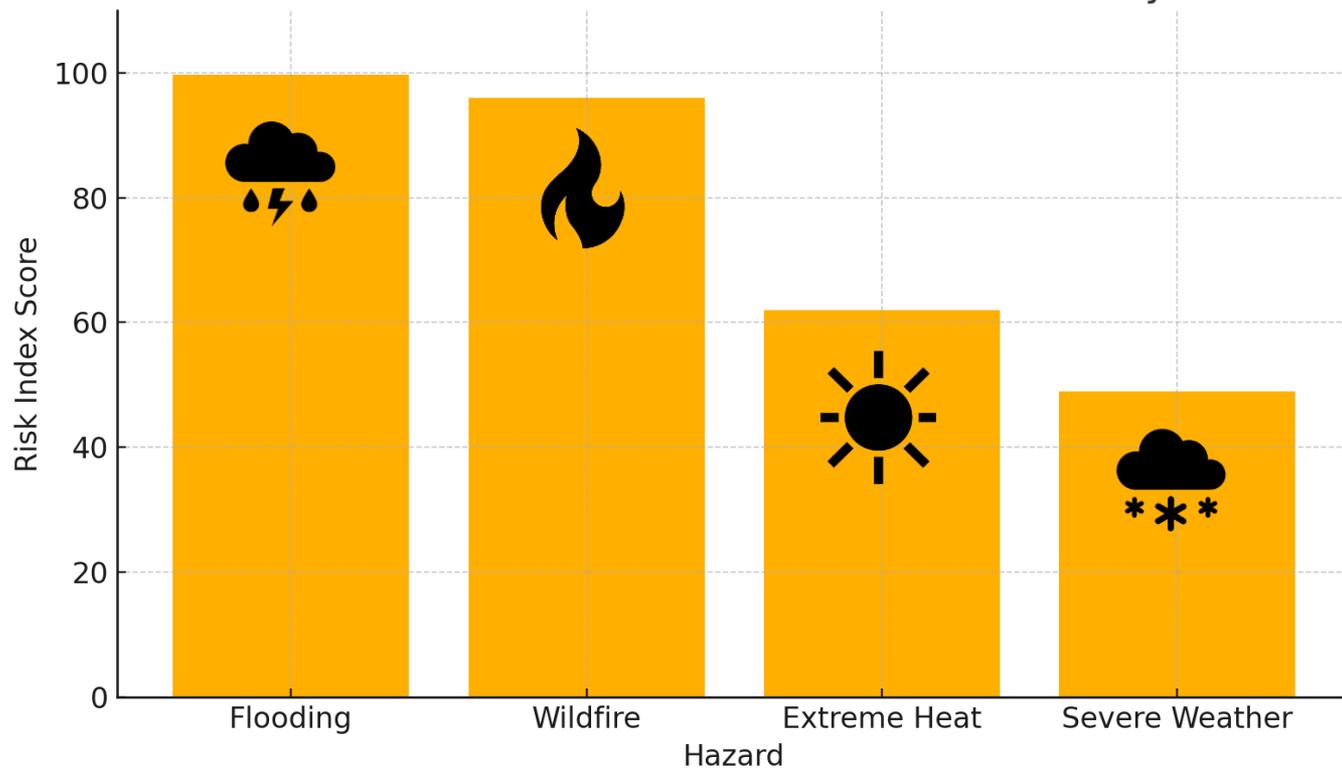
# Sections

What goes into this report?

- Legal authority (NRS 439/414)
- Environmental risk data that integrate social determinants of health
- Technical capabilities overview (real-time surveillance systems for population health NSSP/ESSENCE, emPOWER)
- Stories in the field = stories of building climate resilient communities



### Hazard Risk Index Scores for Washoe County



Source: FEMA, National Risk Index for Natural Hazards, County View (Washoe County, NV). Available at <https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/>.

# Severe Weather (RS:49) & Flooding (RS:99.7)

## Historical Events

- Record breaking precipitation and snowfall (November 2023) in Washoe County
- Flash floods affected 100+ homes (July 2024)

SOURCE: FEMA. NATIONAL  
RISK INDEX. NORTHERN  
NEVADA PUBLIC HEALTH.



# Wildfire (RS:97)

## Historical Events

- Verdi Fire (2023, 2024)
- Davis Fire (2024)
- Callahan Fire (2024)
- Growing urban wildland interfaces in Washoe County

SOURCE: FEMA. NATIONAL  
RISK INDEX. NORTHERN  
NEVADA PUBLIC HEALTH.



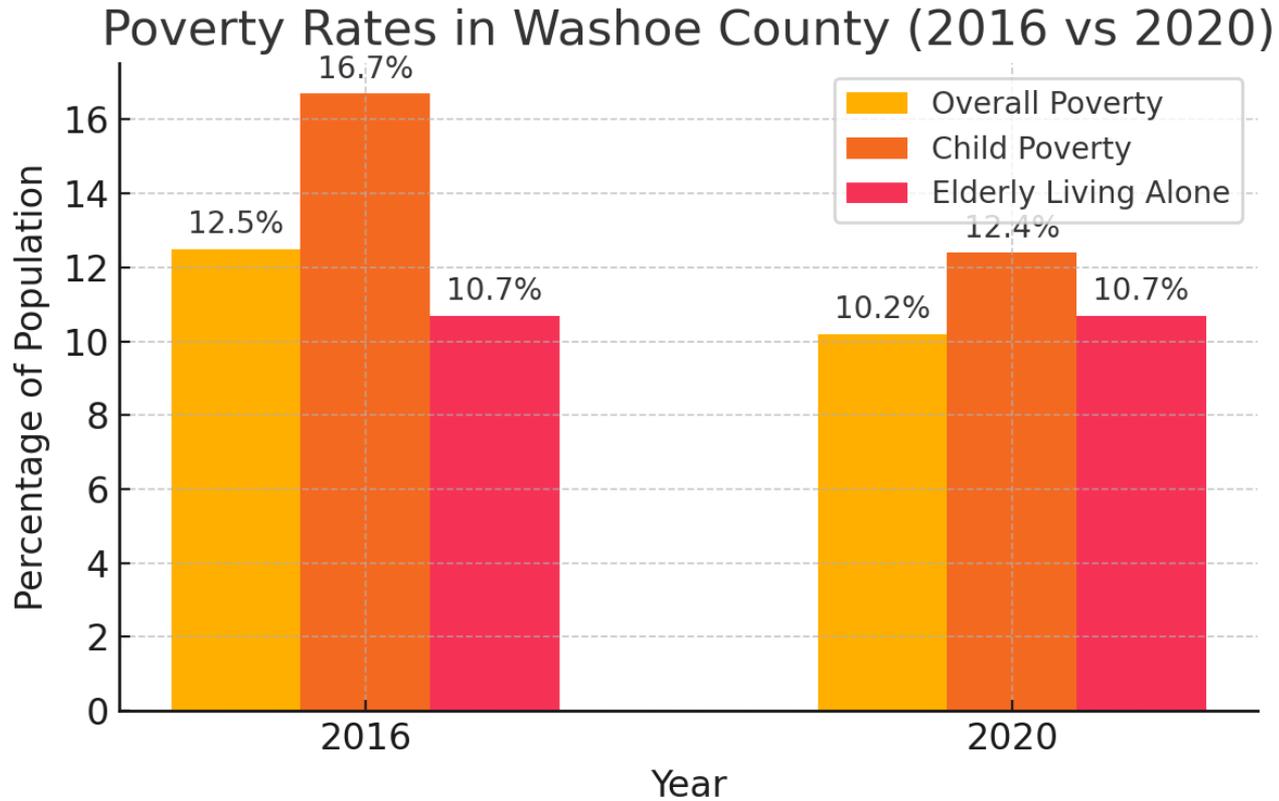
# Extreme Heat (RS:62)

## Historical Events

- Days above 90°F projected to double from 16 days to 34 days (1 month)
- Cooling centers for vulnerable population

SOURCE: FEMA. NATIONAL RISK INDEX. NORTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC HEALTH.





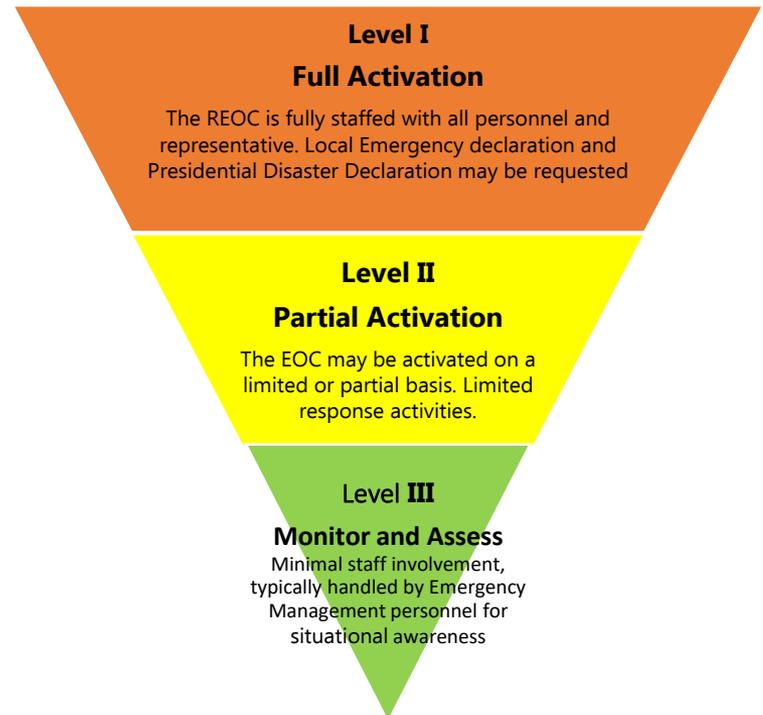
Source: National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network, "HEAT & HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS (HRI) | VULNERABILITY & PREPAREDNESS: HEAT," Washoe County, NV.

# Emergency Operations Framework

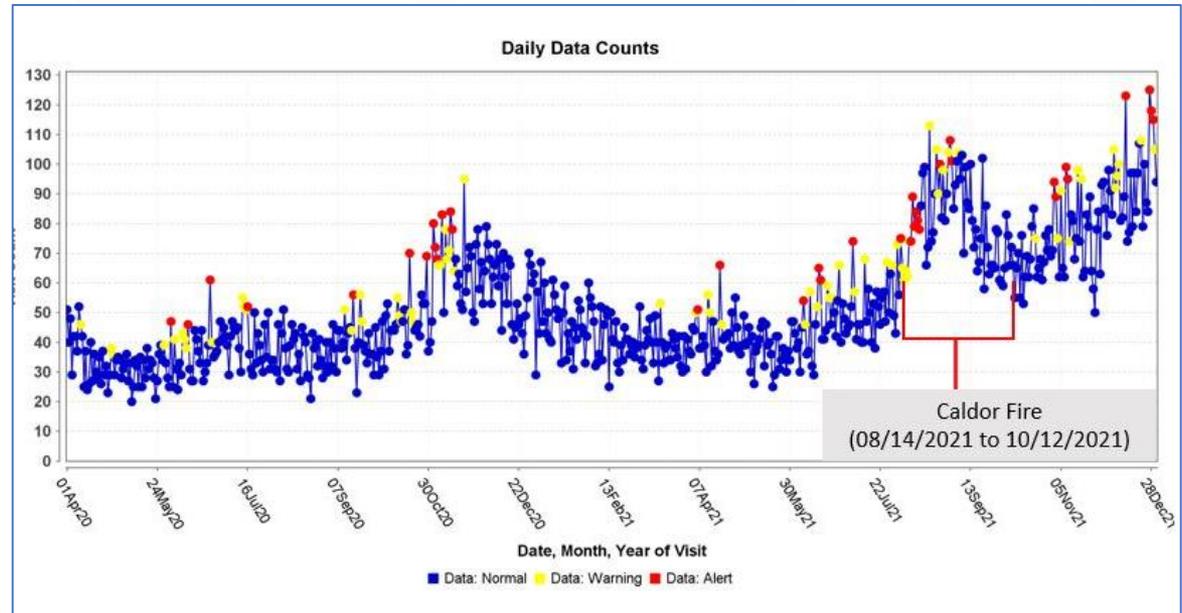
## Response Guide

- Northern Nevada Public Health Emergency Operation Plan (EOP)
- Incident Command System (ICS)
- Regional Partnership(s)
  - Nevada Division of Emergency Management
  - Washoe Emergency Management
  - Washoe Regional Emergency Information Center

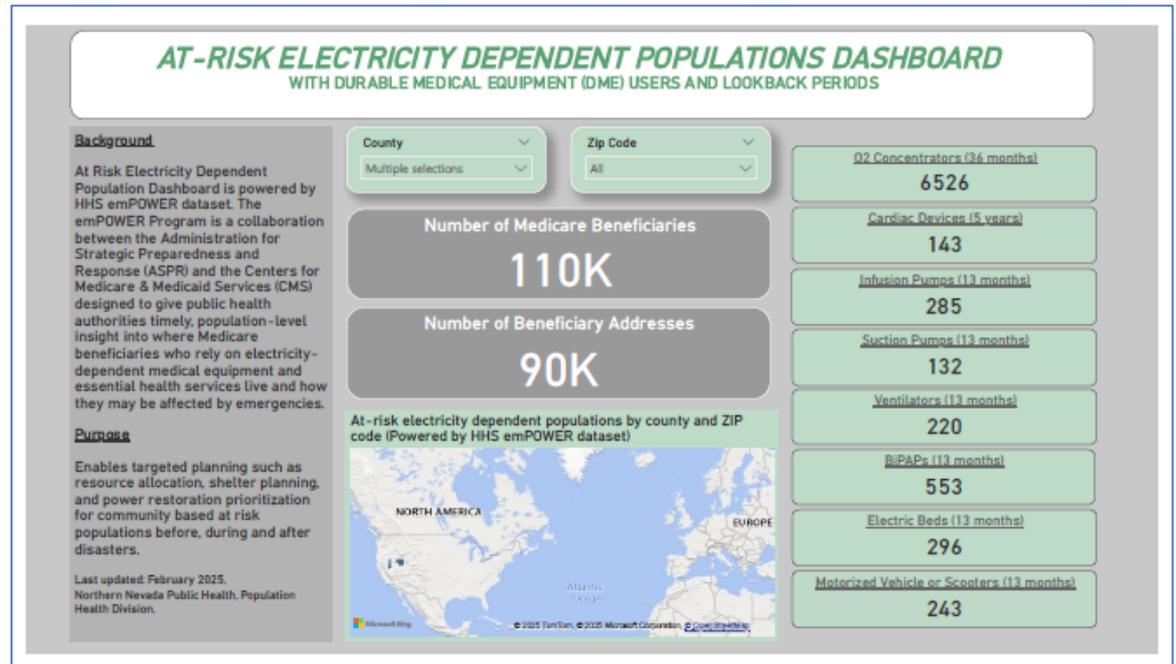
## LEVELS OF ACTIVATION



# CDC ESSENCE/ NSSP



# HHS emPOWER



PHP/CDC  
Exercise  
Training



# Ongoing Initiative(s)

## Public Health Preparedness

- **Enhanced Training** - Expand POD & Mass Casualty Incident exercises with climate disaster scenarios
  - Earthquake workshop and exercise (May 2025)
- **Community Outreach** - Urban heat island mapping and cooling centers for vulnerable populations
- **Infrastructure Investments** - Urban wildland fire prevention efforts
  - Defensible space inspections for high-risk areas
  - Curbside yard debris recycling
  - Ongoing fuel reduction projects



**THANK YOU**



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**Public Health+**