



Nevada Public Health Survey

**Conducted by:
The Cannon Survey Center
UNLV School of Public Health**

Summary of Results

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Awareness

	Yes	No	Not Sure	Yes	No	Not Sure	N
Unprompted Awareness	93.8%	5.8%	0.5%	375	23		2 400
Prompted awareness	4.5%	1.8%	N/A	18	7	N/A	25
Total	98.3%	1.8%	N/A	393	393	N/A	400

- When asked “Are you aware of a recent public health crisis affecting Southern Nevada” 93.8 percent of respondents said yes.
- We then prompted the remaining 25 respondents with a brief description of the crisis from the health district’s web page. When asked “have you heard of this before” 18 said yes.
- Total awareness of the crisis was 98.3% We feel this indicates a very high state of awareness in the study population.

After asking about general awareness, respondents that did not need prompting were asked a series of questions about the exact circumstances of the crisis. The others were not asked because the prompt paragraph contained most of the information we asked about. We did not read the responses to any of these questions, and more than one response could be recorded for each.

“What disease or diseases were involved?”

	Yes	No	Yes	No	N
Hepatitis C	90.4%	9.6%	339	36	375
Hepatitis B	57.3%	42.7%	215	160	375
HIV/AIDS	74.4%	25.6%	279	96	375
Other	2.7%	97.3%	10	365	375
DK	3.2%	96.8%	12	363	375

- Over 90% of people asked this question included Hepatitis C in their replies.
- More respondents mentioned HIV/AIDS than hepatitis B.
- Other responses were rare.

Based on what you have heard, how was the disease spread to those involved?

	Yes	No	Yes	No	N
Re-Use of needles	61.3%	38.7%	230	145	375
Re-Use of syringes	40.0%	60.0%	150	225	375
Re-Use of medicine vials	25.1%	74.9%	94	281	375
Other	9.3%	90.7%	35	340	375
Don't Know	2.7%	97.3%	10	365	375

- The most common response, “re-use of needles” at 61%, was incorrect.
- The correct responses were in the minority.

Who was at risk of getting the disease or diseases?

	Yes	No	Yes	No	N
Patients of a certain clinic/clinics	76.5%	23.5%	287	88	375
People who got a colonoscopy	32.5%	67.5%	122	253	375
People who had anesthesia	14.7%	85.3%	55	320	375
Unable to specify	4.5%	95.5%	17	358	375
Other	10.4%	89.6%	39	336	375

- The majority of respondents recognized “patients of a certain clinic or clinics” as at risk.
- Mentions of the procedure involved and anesthesia were much less common

How did you hear about this crisis?

	Yes	No	Yes	No	N
Television	78.7%	21.3%	295	80	375
Newspaper	42.4%	57.6%	159	216	375
Radio	14.7%	85.3%	55	320	375
Word of mouth/friends family	14.7%	85.3%	55	320	375
Letter from the Health District	5.3%	94.7%	20	355	375
Other	7.5%	92.5%	28	347	375
Not sure	0.3%	99.7%	1	374	375

- We read the responses to this question.
- Television was the most often chosen at about 79 percent.
- Newspaper was the next most common choice at about 42 percent.
- Word of mouth and radio were both uncommon at about 15 percent.

Involvement in the crisis

Involvement	%	N
No involvement	54.5%	218
Know an affected person	33.8%	135
A household member is affected	5.5%	22
Respondent is affected	6.3%	25
Total	100.0%	400

- We asked 3 questions about direct involvement in the crisis
- Respondents were asked if they had received a letter from the health district, someone in their household had received one, or if someone they had received a letter.
- We have categorized them by their highest level of involvement, from no involvement, to knowing someone, to having a household member involved and finally being involved themselves.
- We calculated from 2006 census estimates that about 3.7 percent of the population over 18 was involved.
- Our estimate is higher but is on the edge of the margin of error for that question.

Distrust In the Health Care System

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not Sure	Agree	Strongly Agree	N
The health care system does its best to make patients health better	6.3%	30.9%	9.5%	49.2%	4.0%	398
The health care system covers up its mistakes	1.3%	9.3%	18.3%	53.3%	18.0%	400
Patients receive high quality medical care from the health care system	9.0%	37.6%	17.0%	32.8%	3.5%	399
The health care system makes too many mistakes	1.0%	22.3%	19.0%	45.9%	11.8%	399
The health care system puts making money above patients' needs	1.3%	12.8%	7.8%	48.1%	30.1%	399
The health care system gives excellent medical care	9.8%	40.0%	16.8%	31.8%	1.8%	400
Patients get the same medical treatment from the health care system no matter what the patients race or ethnicity	9.3%	31.1%	22.6%	33.6%	3.5%	399
The health care system lies to make money	2.3%	22.6%	19.5%	45.9%	9.8%	399
The health care system experiments on patients without them knowing	4.5%	33.3%	38.0%	20.5%	3.8%	400

- We asked these questions before all the others to avoid introducing any bias by talking about current events.
- We defined the health care system as "...hospitals, community clinics and labs as well as organizations involved in health such as insurance companies and drug companies."
- About 70 percent of respondents agreed with the statement "the health care system puts making money above patient's needs" and more agreed strongly with this statement than any other.
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Willingness to Get Medical Treatment

	Much Less Likely	Less Likely	More Likely	Much more Likely	N
Receive health care (in general) in Las Vegas	4.8%	21.6%	62.8%	10.7%	393
Receive health care (in general) outside of Las Vegas	19.3%	38.9%	31.6%	10.2%	383
Donate blood	39.0%	27.6%	28.7%	4.6%	369
Receive a blood transfusion	37.3%	29.2%	30.3%	3.2%	370
Get treated at a walk-in or day surgery clinic in Las Vegas	31.4%	31.4%	33.2%	3.9%	382
Get treated at a walk-in or day surgery clinic outside of Las Vegas	25.7%	35.8%	33.2%	5.3%	377
Get a colonoscopy in Las Vegas	33.6%	23.7%	37.6%	5.1%	372
Get a colonoscopy outside of Las Vegas	26.5%	31.0%	31.7%	10.8%	378

- The strongest feelings in this group of questions were directed at blood-related activities. About 67 percent of respondents replied less likely or much less likely to both questions.

Responsibility for the crisis

	1 = Least Responsible	2	3	4	5 = Most Responsible	N
Nurses and other clinicians	6.3%	4.6%	21.3%	22.3%	45.4%	394
Doctors working at the clinic	1.3%	1.3%	4.8%	9.6%	83.0%	394
Clinic owners	2.6%	2.8%	3.9%	6.5%	84.2%	386
State Inspectors	3.9%	5.9%	17.0%	16.5%	56.8%	389
State Health Agencies	4.9%	4.7%	21.8%	17.9%	50.6%	385
Local Health agencies	5.5%	5.7%	20.1%	20.4%	48.3%	383

- Doctors working at the clinic and the clinic owners had the most '5' responses, at 83 and 84 percent respectively.
- State inspectors, State health agencies and local health agencies followed in that order.
- Nurses and other clinicians were the least responsible in the eyes of our respondents, but 45 percent still listed them as having the most responsibility.

What should be done about the crisis.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not Sure	Agree	Strongly Agree	N
The state should develop tougher infection control standards for these clinics	1.0%	3.8%	4.0%	34.6%	56.6%	399
The state should inspect these clinics more often	0.3%	2.8%	2.3%	30.8%	64.0%	400
The state should make inspection results for these clinics available to the public	0.3%	1.8%	0.8%	35.5%	61.8%	400
The state should require these clinics to be accredited by an independent professional organization	1.0%	6.8%	11.3%	42.0%	39.0%	400
The licenses of involved nurses should be revoked	1.0%	13.3%	16.5%	31.8%	37.5%	400
The licenses of involved doctors should be revoked	0.8%	5.5%	5.5%	29.0%	59.3%	400
The business licenses of the involved center(s) should be revoked	0.5%	2.5%	6.3%	30.8%	60.0%	400
Criminal charges should be filed against the nurses involved	3.0%	21.3%	17.5%	29.0%	29.0%	400
Criminal charges should be filed against the doctors involved	1.3%	6.5%	7.3%	31.5%	53.5%	400
Criminal charges should be filed against the clinic owners	0.3%	3.0%	7.8%	32.0%	57.0%	400
The doctors should be sued for malpractice	0.5%	6.8%	6.8%	33.0%	52.5%	400
The clinic inspectors responsible should be fired	0.8%	12.8%	15.8%	31.5%	38.8%	400

- In general, the majority of respondents favored all of the actions we listed by at least 58%
- Over 90 percent favored regulatory action by the state, and 97% favored making inspection results public.
- Accreditation was favored by 81percent, but far fewer favored it strongly compared to the more direct government actions.
- Every punitive action against the clinic, it's owners and the doctors involved was favored by at least 85% of respondents.
- Punitive action against the nurses was less popular, with 69% favoring removing their licenses and 58% favoring criminal charges.
- About 70% felt that the clinic inspectors responsible should be fired.

State funding

	Yes	No	Refuse or Not Sure	
Should the State of Nevada allocate more funds to the regulation of walk-in surgery clinics	69.50%	13.00%	17.50%	400
Would you be willing to pay higher/taxes to ensure stricter regulation of walk-in surgery clinics	73.02%	21.22%	5.76%	278

- About 70% of respondents favored allocating more funds to regulating walk-in surgery clinics.
- 73% of those respondents would be willing to pay more or higher taxes for stricter regulation.
- They represented about half of the sample.

Demographics

	Male	Female						N
Gender	39.0%	61.0%						400
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+		
Age	9.1%	10.9%	19.4%	19.9%	21.0%	19.7%	396	
	<30,000\$	30,000- 39,000	40,000 - 59,000	60,000 - 79	80,000- 99,000	100,000 - 150,000\$	150,000\$+	
Income	15.2%	9.6%	16.7%	18.4%	12.6%	16.4%	11.1%	342
	Native American	Asian	Black/ African American	Hawaiian/Pacific islander	White/ Caucasian	Hispanic/ Latino		
Race	2.8%	3.3%	8.8%	0.8%	78.0%	5.8%	400	
	< High School	High School	Some College	Two year degree	Four year degree	Post graduate work	Post Graduate Degree	
Education	1.8%	21.4%	20.9%	13.3%	24.1%	4.3%	14.3%	398