

# URBAN VS RURAL CHALLENGES

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100  
YEARS  
EST. 1921



## A UNIQUELY LAS VEGAS EXPERIENCE

- The problem of Alzheimer disease
- Alzheimer disease in rural communities
- A little about Nevada
- Understand and elevate

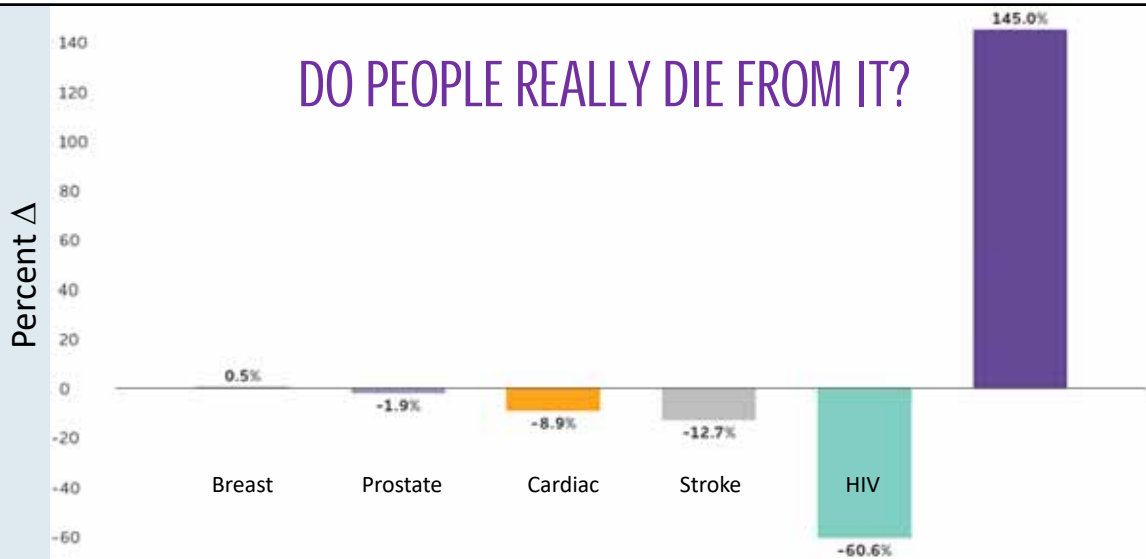


## THE PROBLEM OF DEMENTIA

- 6 million people with Alzheimer and related dementias (ADRD)
- \$300 billion per year in care for people with dementia
- 5<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death
- No disease-modifying treatments or cures
- Increasing elderly population → increasing prevalence



## DO PEOPLE REALLY DIE FROM IT?



## ALZHEIMER DISEASE IN RURAL AMERICA

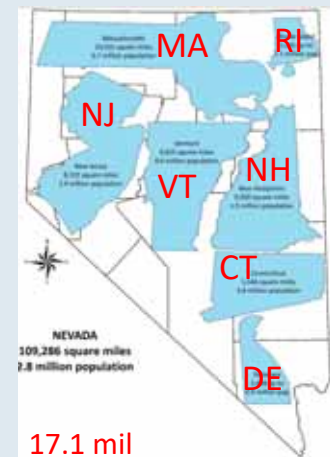
- Limited specialist access
- Higher prevalence of AD, or maybe lower
- More ER use
- Higher mortality
- Limited study and understanding

Abner et al 2016 *J Rural Health*  
Wang 2020 *J Rural Health*



## AND THEN THERE'S NEVADA

- 109, 286 mi<sup>2</sup> (OH=45K, FL=66K)
- 3 million people
- 40 geriatricians (160 more to meet need)
- 84 neurologists (78 more to reach average)
- 183 psychiatrists (156 more to average)



## NEVADA—A TERRIFIC PLACE TO GAMBLE . . . WITH YOUR LIFE

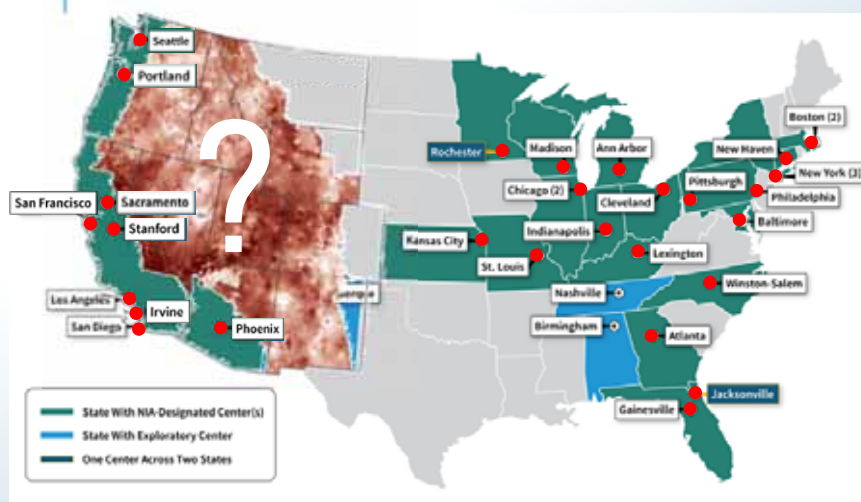
- 49<sup>th</sup>—government health expenditures per capita
- 47<sup>th</sup>—physicians per 100K population (49<sup>th</sup> PCP)
- 49<sup>th</sup>—primary care per 100K population
- 51<sup>st</sup>—RN's per 100K population

### Winning in:

- #1—percent obese
- #5—per capita EtOH
- #6—suicide rate
- #6—percent uninsured
- #3—children uninsured



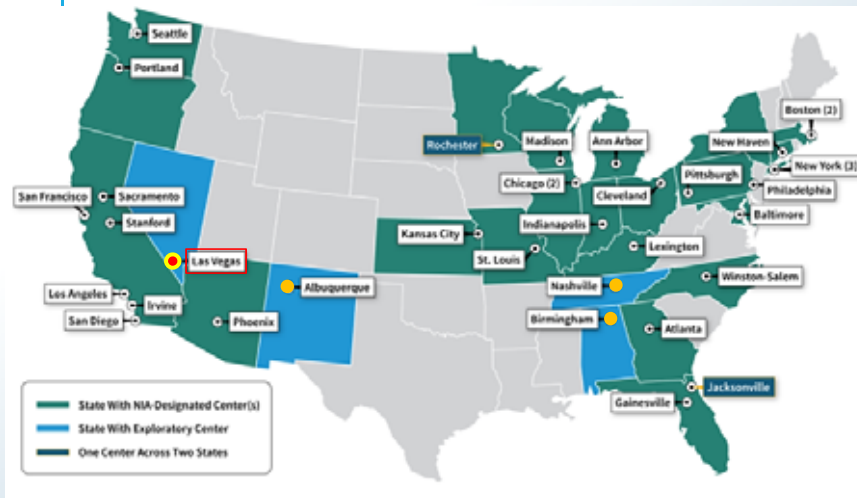
## NIA ALZHEIMER DISEASE RESEARCH CENTER SYSTEM



### 20 states

- 17 coastal/Great Lakes
- 17 w/ population > 5 mil
- **No Intermountain West**
- Minimal attention to small-town USA
  - 97% of US land mass
  - 20% of US population

## OUR ATTEMPT TO DO BETTER



### NV eADRC

- One of four eADRC
- Funding for three years
- Exclusively for rural Nevada
- Clinical assessments
- Caregiver support
- Provider education
- Referral network

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 Cleveland Clinic