

<http://www.mn.gov/bah>

AT A GLANCE

Our activities help to keep these animals disease-free:

- 33,000 cattle herds
- 7,200 swine herds
- 12,000 poultry flocks
- 600 dog or cat breeders
- 150 kennels and/or dog or cat rescues
- 460 deer and elk herds
- Horses on 16,500 farms
- 125,000 sheep and 34,500 goats

PURPOSE

The mission of the Board of Animal Health is to protect the health of the state’s domestic animals. Our partners in this mission include:

- Veterinarians
- Livestock farmers
- Small animal enthusiasts
- Numerous state and federal agencies

Together that team serves Minnesota by:

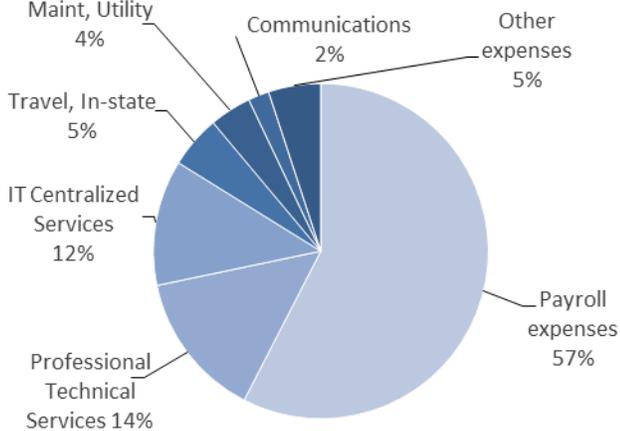
- Assuring an abundant and wholesome food supply
- Supporting the business of animal agriculture
- Protecting public health

Through those activities we support the following statewide outcomes:

- **All Minnesotans have optimal health**
- **A thriving economy that encourages business growth and employment opportunities**
- **People in Minnesota are safe**

BUDGET

**Spending by Category
FY 15 Actual**

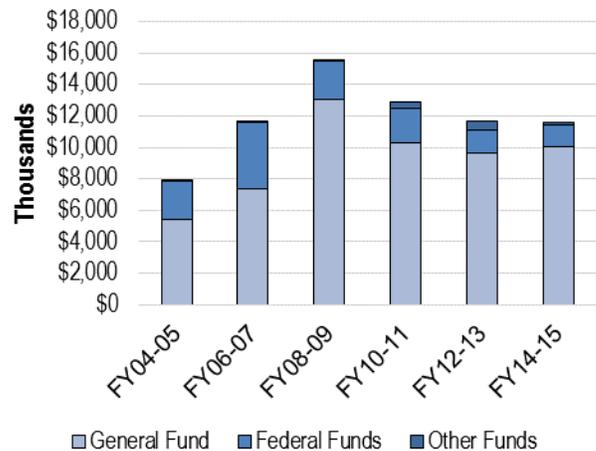


**Total expenditures for FY15 = \$6.221 million.
We use our funding for three main activities:**

1. **Disease surveillance, control and eradication**
2. **Inspections**
3. **Education and outreach**

Source: BPAS

Historical Spending



We have three funding sources:

1. **General funds appropriation**
2. **Federal cooperative agreements**
3. **Other sources, e.g. licensing and inspection fees**

Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

STRATEGIES

Many animals move into and out of Minnesota. One of our biggest tasks is to ensure that those animals are disease-free. We also work to make sure that if an outbreak does occur, our animals can be traced and the diseases contained. We have a system in place to detect, control and in some cases eliminate domestic animal diseases.

Along with detection and containment of diseases, another important role we play is in enforcement. Our staff makes regular visits to farms, livestock sales, livestock exhibitions and kennels to assure that all rules and laws governing animal health and safety are being followed.

Finally, we put an emphasis on ensuring Minnesota’s livestock remain free of certain diseases of national and international importance to allow for free trade of animals and animal products with other states and countries.

As an example of implementing one of our strategies, in December 2014 highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) was detected in the United States for the first time in 10 years. The first case of the HPAI outbreak in Minnesota was announced on March 5, 2015. Throughout the outbreak, poultry on 108 farms spanning 23 counties were infected with HPAI in Minnesota. Over nine million birds were depopulated or died due to the virus, including commercial turkeys, commercial layers and one backyard flock. The last case of HPAI in Minnesota was confirmed on June 5, 2015.

The Board is the lead response agency for HPAI events in Minnesota. However, it took a large team of people from across the country to help us minimize and eventually stop the spread of the virus. When Minnesota experienced its first case a small state Incident Management Team (IMT) was activated. The purpose of an IMT is to organize a response and maximize efforts of personnel working on the event. In this case, the state IMT consisted of staff members from the Board, Minnesota Department of Agriculture and Minnesota-based USDA.

At the height of the incident, over 600 people were working on the ground in Minnesota. The Board continues to work together with Minnesota’s poultry industry and other state and federal agencies to prepare for and respond to introductions of influenza in poultry. The state’s voluntary cooperative control plan includes education, monitoring, reporting, and response. Testing for influenza in poultry is conducted at the Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory in Willmar. Commercial and non-commercial poultry flocks are routinely monitored for influenza.

RESULTS

<i>Type of Measure</i>	<i>Name of Measure</i>	<i>Previous-2014</i>	<i>Current-2015</i>
Quantity	Livestock producers, livestock auction markets and other stakeholders visits and education	8600+	4550
Quality	Ability to track animals based on length of reporting period to USDA*	12 Hours	14 hours
Results	Freedom of movement of livestock across state and international borders due to continuing disease free status	Disease free	Poultry restrictions

*One of the goals of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is to test each state’s ability to trace animals. It is very important that we are able to do so quickly - every minute counts when it comes to containing contagious diseases of livestock and poultry.

To test our ability to trace animals:

- The USDA sent us numbers from official ear tags that were applied to Minnesota livestock
- Each state was required to report back on whether the tag was applied to an animal and where it was applied

The results:

Minnesota reported the information back to USDA within 14 hours. The national average was 87.6 hours

M.S. 35 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=35>) provides the legal authority for the Board of Animal Health.