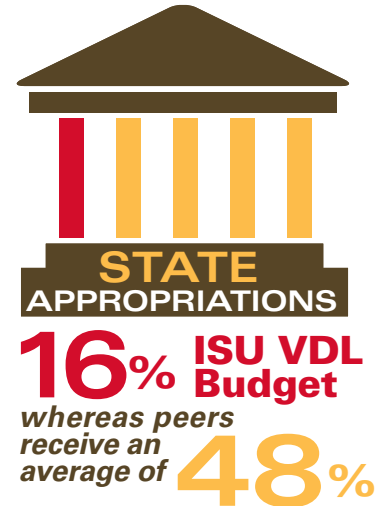# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

The Iowa State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (ISU VDL) serves to protect animal and human health while advancing Iowa's $32.5 billion animal agriculture economy.

$4.52M
Currently the ISU VDL receives an annual $4.52 million appropriation, approximately 16% of the overall budget for the lab.

- Compared to peer labs, **the percentage of budget the ISU VDL derives from fees** charged to clients is among the highest in the nation. *(2022 AAVDL Survey)*
  - > ISU VDL receives 16% of its budget from state appropriations.
  - > 90% of all state VDL's receive in excess of 20%.
  - > Average funding level is 48% of budget.
  - > 12 labs receive more than 60%.

- Baseline funding is critical to sustain a level of preparedness.
  - > To respond to disease outbreaks such as Avian Influenza, African Swine Fever, and Foot and Mouth Disease.
  - > To recruit and retain the quality and level of staffing for appropriate response.
  - > To keep tests affordable and encourage routine testing. Increased utilization of the lab facilitates early detection of disease and decreased "spillover" to neighbors.

- A recently published study estimated that $31.79 million in state taxes are generated from the lab in normal years and $124.15 million in state taxes are generated in times of an animal health emergency. This equates to a 8:1 return on investment during normal years and a 31:1 return on investment during times of an animal health emergency. **vetmed.iastate.edu/article/economic-contribution-isu-vdl**

STATE APPROPRIATIONS
16% **ISU VDL Budget**
whereas peers receive an average of **48%**

updated 1-29-24

The $4.52 million direct appropriation through Agriculture and Natural Resources allows the VDL to:

- Continue to provide unbiased, critical diagnostic services to meet the needs of Iowa animal owners and the public.

- Position Iowa to continue to participate in national animal health networks and surveillance programs for important diseases.

- Serve as 1 of 24 Level 1 labs in the U.S. National Animal Health Laboratory Network.

- Detect and capably respond to the introduction of transboundary (porcine epidemic diarrhea virus 2013-14), foreign animal diseases (highly pathogenic avian influenza virus 2015, 2022-3), and emerging diseases of animals (Senecavirus A 2015-16, CWD 2019) and humans (COVID-19).

- Provide the research infrastructure to be the nation's leader in food-animal diagnostic medicine.

- Preserve and continue to grow Iowa's access to export markets: ~27% of U.S. pork, ~11% of U.S. beef, ~16% of U.S. chicken is exported.

IMPACT: A 1% increase (or decrease) in Iowa's $32.5 billion animal agriculture economy = $325 million impact on Iowa

vetmed.iastate.edu/vdl