

FY27 Legislative Request:

Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory Operations (\$600,000)

AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS

Impact of ISU VDL on State Tax Revenue

NORMAL YEAR
\$31.79M
(8:1 ROI)

EMERGENCY YEAR
\$124.15M
(31:1 ROI)

The annual operating expenses for Iowa State University's Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (ISU VDL) are projected to increase by \$3 million, following completion of phase 2 of the facility in 2026. These costs are essential to occupying, maintaining and running an advanced Biosafety Level 2 facility. The ISU VDL anticipates covering approximately two-thirds of the increase in operating costs by continuing to innovate, expanding services provided and increasing testing fees. A \$600,000 increase to the VDL line item would complement the \$300,000 increase received in FY26, helping to sustain advanced operations and preparedness while keeping testing fees affordable for producers.

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 AAVLD Survey).

- ISU VDL receives 13% of its budget from state appropriations.
- 90% of all state VDLs receive in excess of 20%
- Average funding level is 48% of budget
- 12 labs receive more than 60%



About the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

The Iowa State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (ISU VDL) serves a critical role in protecting animal and human health while advancing Iowa's \$32.5 billion animal agriculture economy. The largest diagnostic laboratory in the country, the ISU VDL conducts more than 1.7 million tests each year and handles more than 130,000 cases. The ISU VDL utilizes the latest technologies in veterinary diagnostic medicine to keep diseases from entering the food animal system and provides immediate response to disease outbreaks when they occur. The ISU VDL has been at the forefront of outbreak response, including highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), foot-and-mouth disease virus (FMDV) and African swine fever virus (ASFV).

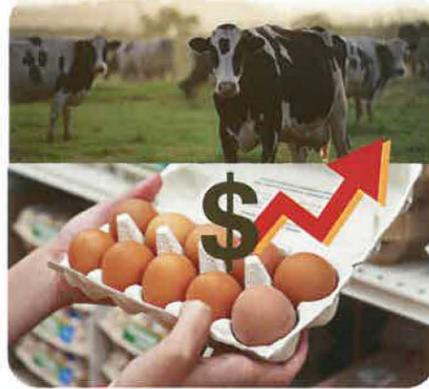
Iowa State University Veterinary Diagnostic Lab **HIGHLIGHTS 2025**

Onboarded Phase 1 and Initiated Two-site Operations



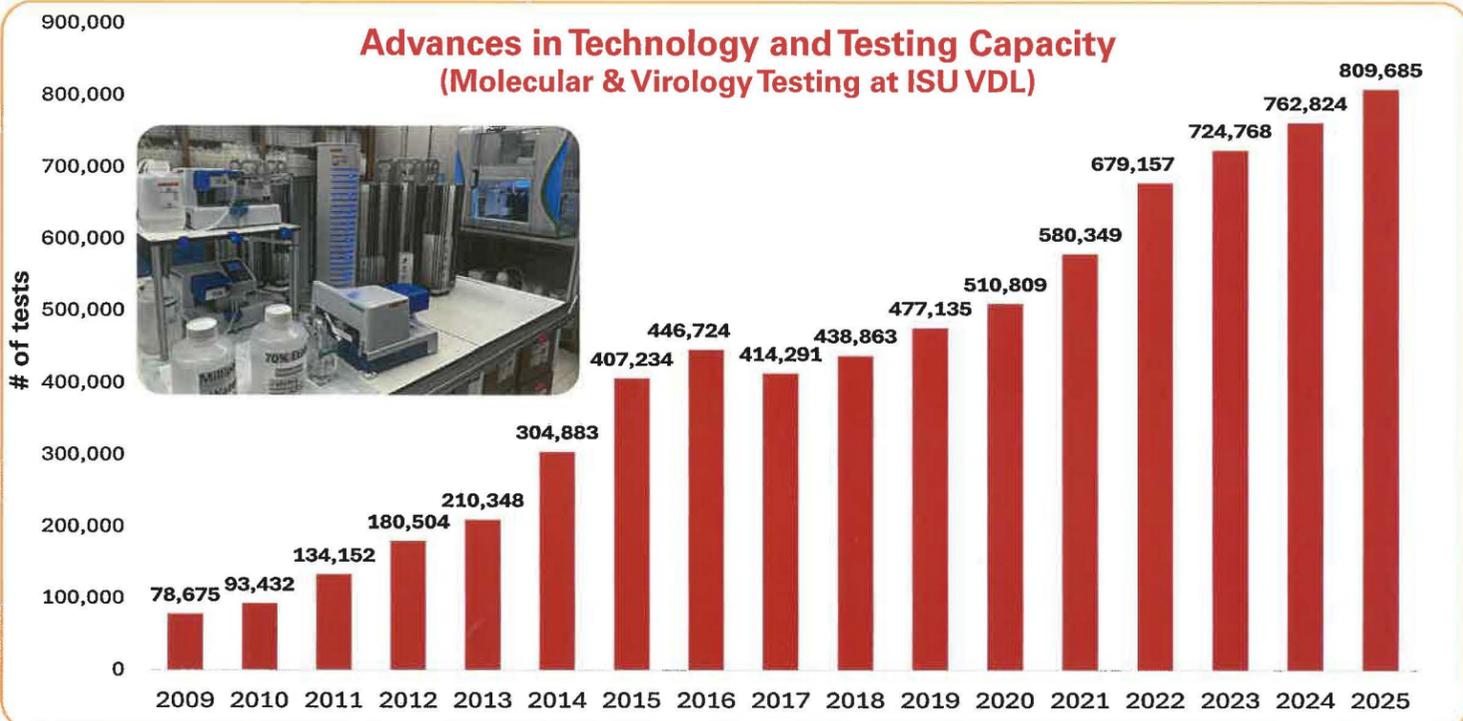
More than 80% of testing remains in legacy VDL spaces

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)



ISU VDL conducted ~ 70,000 avian influenza tests on dairy, poultry, wild birds, and cats in 2025.

Advances in Technology and Testing Capacity (Molecular & Virology Testing at ISU VDL)



Leadership in Animal Health on a National Scale

- US Swine Health Improvement Plan



- Swine Disease Reporting System



- HPAI Response (Dairy and Poultry)

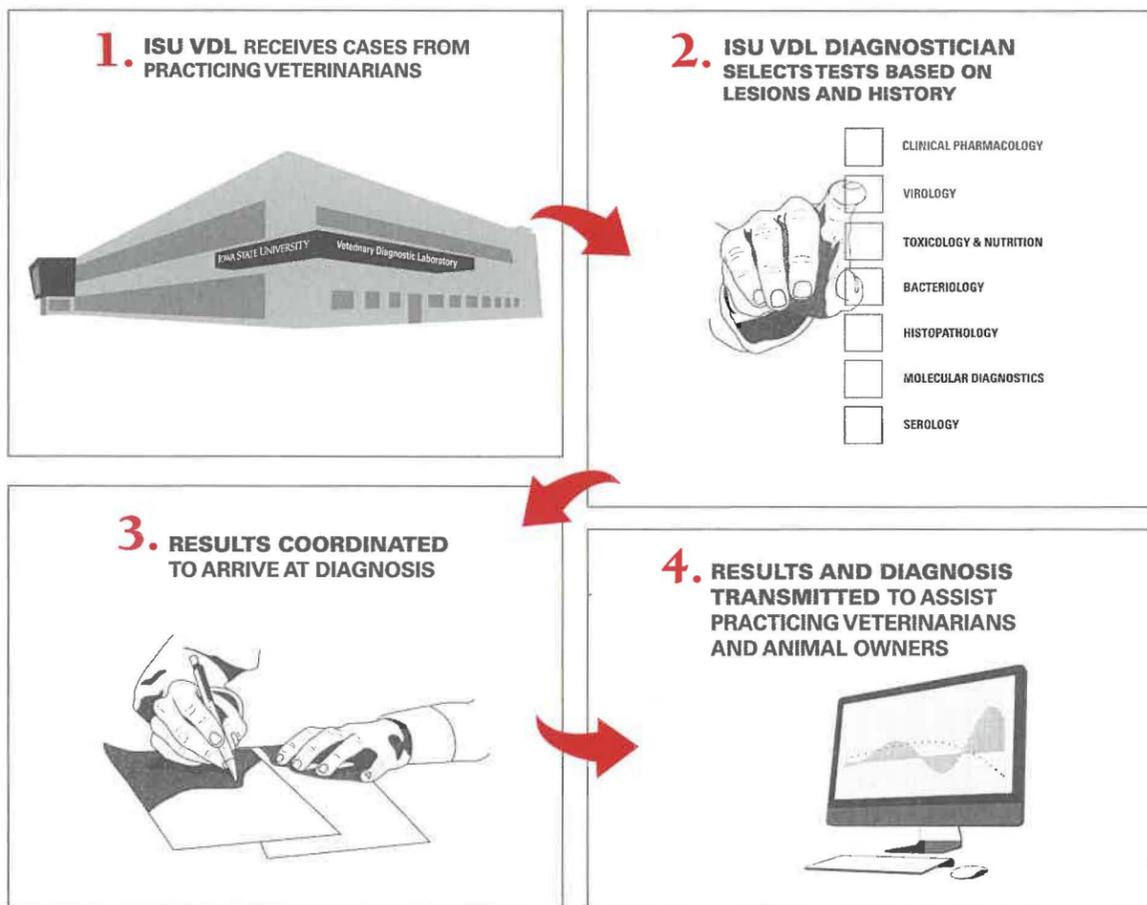


Avian Metapneumovirus (AMPV)

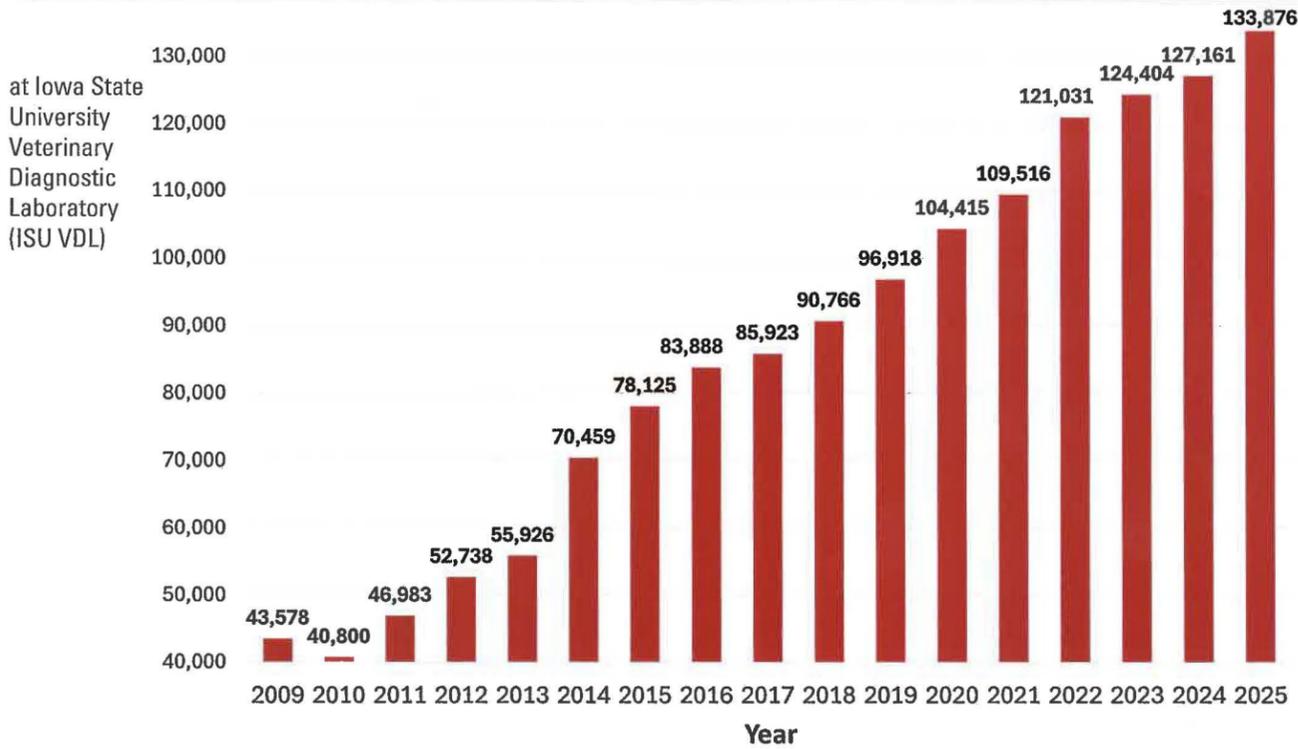
- Transboundary introduction of AMPV Type A and AMPV Type B into US in 2024.
- Among first to onboard full suite of AMPV diagnostic tests
- Successfully isolated both AMPV Type A & B in cell culture
- Passing isolates in cell culture to aid in vaccine development



MODEL OF SERVICE, TEACHING, AND RESEARCH



CASES SUBMITTED AND PROCESSED



PHASE II

PHASE I

Phase II Construction Begins
April 2024

Phase II Anticipated Completion
Fall 2026

Phase I Construction Begins
March 2021

Phase I Construction Complete
March 2024

PHASE II

NOW MOVING FORWARD

\$66.5 million project

- ▶ Molecular diagnostics
- ▶ Genetic sequencing
- ▶ Virology
- ▶ Serology
- ▶ Analytical Chemistry/Toxicology
- ▶ BSL-3 (High biosecurity diagnostics)
- ▶ Diagnostic Research and Development
- ▶ Information Technology and Quality Assurance
- ▶ VDL Administration

Start Date: April 2024
Estimated Completion: Fall 2026

Source of Funds:

State of IA (RIIF)
\$18M

Federal (ARPA)
\$40M

Donors + ISU
\$8.5M

Space Summary:

Program Space
78.5K gsf

PHASE I

COMPLETED

\$75 million project

- ▶ Client services
- ▶ Receiving/Accessioning
- ▶ Sample processing
- ▶ Necropsy (Autopsy)
- ▶ Pathology
- ▶ Histopathology
- ▶ Bacteriology
- ▶ Incinerator

Started: March 2021
Completed: March 2024

Source of Funds:

State of IA (RIIF)
\$63.5M

Donors + ISU
\$11.5M

Space Summary:

Program Space
90K gsf

Basement
11K gsf

Building a World-Class Facility for a Best-in-Class Veterinary Diagnostic Lab

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- Will replace a 50 year old facility with **serious deficiencies in biosafety, biocontainment, quality and amount of suitable space**
- **Largest food animal caseload in the U.S.** serving the most progressive livestock and poultry producers in the world
- **Tremendous growth in demand for services**

1976	2025
10 faculty, 20 staff, 16,000 cases, 35,000 tests conducted	30 faculty, 155 staff, 130,000 cases, 1.7 million tests conducted

- Critical for protecting the health of Iowa's wildlife resources
- Plays a substantial role in protecting and advancing human health
- Living laboratory for training the next generation of veterinarians and scientists
- Cutting edge research to answer critical questions for Iowa and U.S. animal health

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Veterinary Medicine
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
vetmed.iastate.edu/vdl