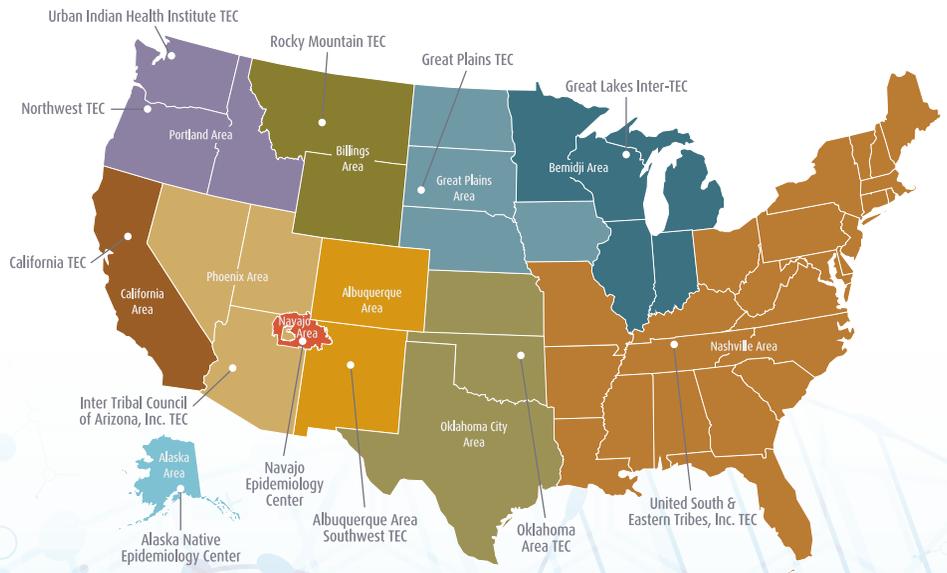


Tribal Epidemiology Centers Program

Tribal Epidemiology Centers (TECs) serve American Indian and Alaska Native communities. There are 12 geographic TECs throughout the United States.



7 Core Functions of TECs

TECs work with the Indian Health Service (IHS) and other partners to provide 7 Core Functions:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Collect data relating to, and monitor progress made toward meeting, each of the health status objectives of IHS, the Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and Urban Indian organizations in the Service Area.	Evaluate existing delivery systems, data systems, and other systems that impact the improvement of Indian health.	Assist Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and Urban Indian organizations in identifying highest-priority health status objectives and the services needed to achieve those objectives, based on epidemiological data.	Make recommendations for the targeting of services needed by the populations served.	Make recommendations to improve health care delivery systems for Indians and Urban Indians.	Provide requested technical assistance to Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and Urban Indian organizations in the development of local health service priorities and incidence and prevalence rates of disease and other illness in the community.	Provide disease surveillance and assist Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and Urban Indian communities to promote public health.



Aligning the 7 Core Functions with IHS Strategic Goals and Objectives

The IHS Strategic Plan was developed with the agency's partners to improve the health of American Indians and Alaska Natives through better management and administration of IHS. The functions provide legal authority for the TEC Program to support IHS Strategic Goals and Objectives in the following ways:

IHS Strategy	TEC Core Function						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Support cross-collaboration and partnerships among IHS, Tribal and Urban Indian (I/T/U) stakeholders.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Promote collaboration among IHS, federal agencies, Tribes, Tribal organizations, Urban Indian organizations, and states to expand services, streamline functions and funding, and advance health care goals and initiatives.	1				5		7
Reduce health disparities in the American Indians and Alaska Native population.	1				5		
Improve the transparency and the quality of data collected regarding health care services and program outcomes.	1						7
Promote collaboration among federal, state, Tribal, and local health programs to develop the necessary health care and public health infrastructure to effectively provide essential public health services.		2		4	5		7
Evaluate electronic health record needs of IHS and the ability for the health information systems to meet those needs, create seamless data linkages, and meet data access needs for I/T/U health information systems.		2			5		
Ensure a system of data sharing to solidify partnerships with Tribal and urban Epidemiology Centers and other Tribal programs and Urban Indian organizations.			3			6	7

Learn more about the TEC Program and the technical assistance it offers by visiting ihs.gov/epi/tecs.

