



PUBLIC HEALTH

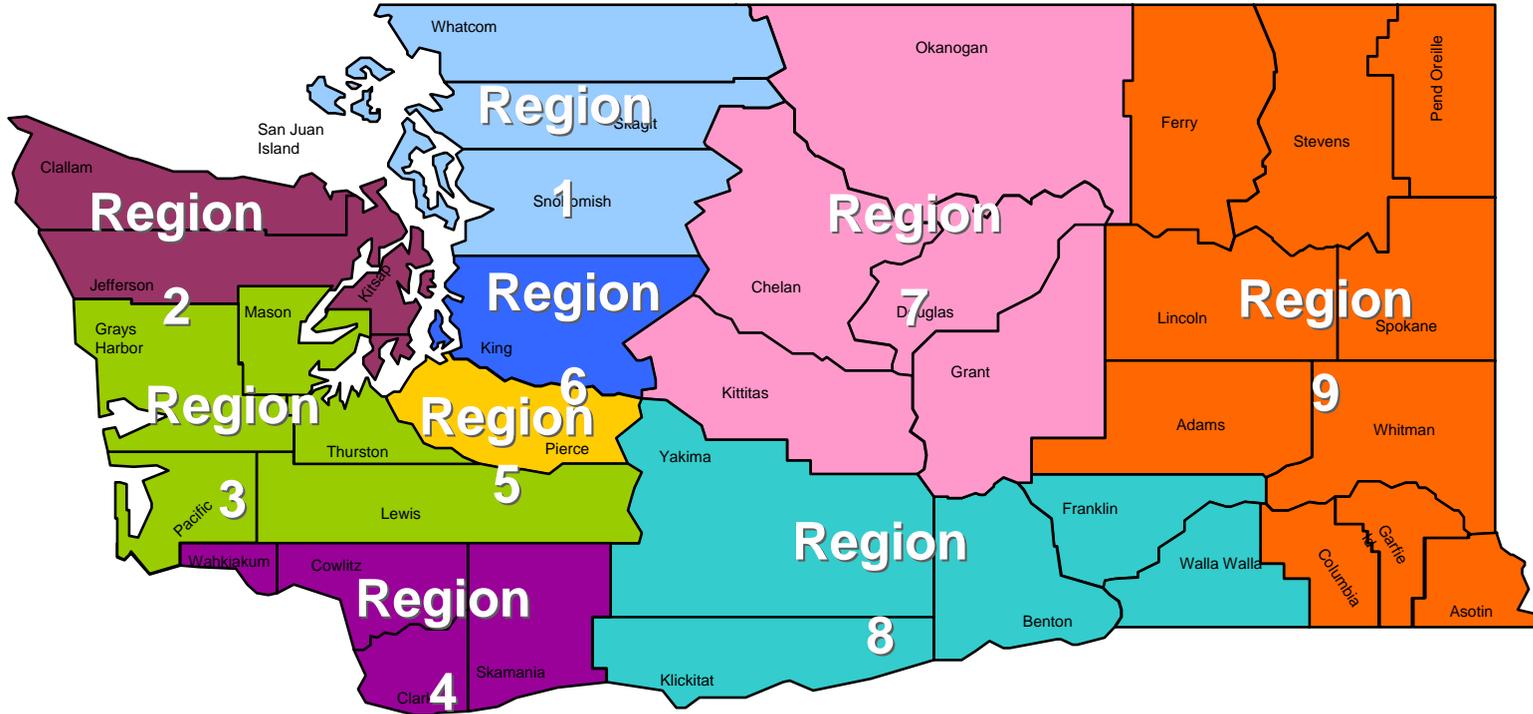
**ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND
HEALTHIER WASHINGTON**

“PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WITH WASHINGTON STATE TRIBES”

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Public Health Regions



Overview

- **Twenty-nine federally recognized tribes**

- 2002 Indian Health Services User Population:

Total 55,038

Smallest 35

Largest 11,837

The three largest tribes represent 51% the total population

Government-to-Government

- **Centennial Accord**

- Developed in 1989 between the State of Washington and federally recognized tribes in Washington
- Formalized implementation of government-to-government policies and responsibilities to improve relations.
- To promote the development of innovative methods of obtaining consultation on issues from tribal representatives and involving representatives in agency decision making processes.
- A living document reviewed annually and updated as needed.

Cooperative Process

- Tribal organizations
 - American Indian Health Commission of Washington State
 - Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board
 - Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
- Meeting presentations
 - Tribal Preparedness Conference
 - Tribal Leader Health Summit
 - Regularly scheduled conference calls

PHEPR Tribal Activities

- **Performance-Based Contracts**
 - Participate in tribal organizational level assessment for public health emergency preparedness
 - Participate in a tribal training needs survey for public health staff
 - Participate in regional and local preparedness activities

Tribal Capacity Assessment

- Twenty-nine assessments
- Instrument: Developed by WA-DOH as a modification of our Hospital & Public Health Assessments
- Assessments still underway
- Goal: establish a baseline level of general public health preparedness

Tribal Training Needs Survey

- Cooperative effort between WA-DOH, NPAIHB, NWCPHP-UW
- Instrument: based on the Columbia University School of Nursing Bioterrorism Emergency Readiness Competencies
- 135 surveys
- 19 of 25 tribes (not all 29 tribes have public health staff)

Tribal Training Needs Survey Results

- Suggested training topics based on the reported top 25 **core** competences included:
 - Working with Partners in Emergency Response
 - Emergency Response Laws, Regulations, & Ordinances
 - Emergency Response Protocols & Procedures
 - Your Role in an Emergency Response

Tribal Training Needs Survey Results

- Suggested training topics based on the reported top 25 ***supplemental*** competences included:
 - Emergency Response Protocols & Procedures
 - Surveillance & Epidemiology
 - Mental Health Training for Emergency Response
 - Laboratory Systems/Practice

Future Activities

- Completion of tribal organizational-level assessment
- Continued local and regional participation planning, exercises, & training
- Funding for identified needs in equipment and training

Recommendations

- Begin working with tribal representative organizations early in the process
- Seek assistance and recommendations from tribe
- Understand tribal processes and timelines
- Initiate or participate in government-to-government training



? QUESTIONS ?

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