

***Emergencies relevant to California tribes and the prevalence of cross-jurisdictional sharing between tribes and counties for emergency management.***

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This study examined the types of emergencies relevant to tribal communities in California and the prevalence of cross-jurisdictional sharing (CJS) for emergency management (i.e., preparedness, mitigation, response, recovery) between California tribal and county governments. This study also explored whether tribes and county jurisdictions are in agreement about whether they have CJS functions.

Tribal and county representatives completed a mixed-methods survey adapted from the Center for Sharing Public Health Services (CSPHS). Survey data were collected from representatives from 83 California tribal jurisdictions and 29 corresponding county jurisdictions and were coded to create five CJS spectrum categories representing the sharing arrangement functions outlined by CSPHS: formal, informal or customary, service-related, shared functions with joint oversight, and regionalization-related arrangements.

Tribes reported being concerned about many types of emergencies, from natural disasters (e.g., wildfires, floods, earthquakes) to non-natural emergencies (e.g., shootings, medical pandemics, closure of single access road). Informal or customary CJS arrangements were most frequently reported for both tribes (41%) and counties (55%). Formal CJS arrangements were reported by 15% of tribes and 28% of counties, while 45% of tribes and 17% of counties reported having no CJS functions. A total of 55% of tribe-county dyads were in accordance about having no or any level of CJS functions for emergency management.

Findings provide novel information about emergencies relevant to California tribes and the current state of CJSs for emergency management between tribes and counties in California. Limitations, implications for practice and policy, and directions for future research will be discussed.