

Here are a few facts about our region. The Southern Plains Office of Native Americans (SPONAP) is made up of 48 federally recognized Tribes in four states: Kansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. The SPONAP also includes Arkansas and Missouri who do not have any federally recognized tribes. The members sizes of the tribes range from the very small, consisting of only a few hundred tribal members, to the second largest tribe in the United States. In fact, three of the four tribes with the largest memberships in the nation are reside in the Southern Plains region.

The tribes of this region are very culturally diverse: many of the tribes were forcibly brought to this area from many distant locations in the United States. The famous "Trail of Tears", that took place in the 1800s, tells the story of several of tribes being removed from their homelands in the Southeastern United States to Oklahoma as well as other parts of the country. One of SPONAP's goal is to respect the history and traditions of the tribes in this region and throughout the United States. Since the passage of NAHASDA, the Native American Housing and Self Determination Act of SPONAP has made every effort to interface with the Tribes and Housing Agencies in a manner that respects the true meaning of a Government-to-Government relationship.