

## EPIDEMIOLOGICAL RESPONSE TEAM

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	The Epidemiological Response Team identifies, monitors, and investigates disease outbreaks, injuries or other conditions of public health importance following an incident or declared disaster
<b>RESOURCE CATEGORY</b>	Medical and Public Health
<b>RESOURCE KIND</b>	Team
<b>OVERALL FUNCTION</b>	<p>The Epidemiological Response Team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Supports public health authorities in the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) in incident epidemiological tasks</li> <li>2. Performs epidemiological tasks, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Designing and conducting data collection related to the target disease or injury agent</li> <li>b. Conducting data analysis</li> <li>c. Developing and presenting qualitative and quantitative data describing the affected and at-risk populations, the methods of agent spread or transmission and other insights that inform decision-making, policy and actions to control the incident impact</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Manages, implements and monitors ordered control measures, including isolation and quarantine</li> <li>4. Supports contact tracing</li> <li>5. Augments in-place epidemiological functions</li> <li>6. Interfaces and coordinates with public health agencies, jurisdictional Emergency Support Function (ESF) #8 - Public Health and Medical, health care coalitions, public health assessment teams, environmental health teams or other public health disciplines and laboratories</li> </ol>
<b>COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss logistics for deploying this team, such as working conditions, length of deployment, security, lodging, transportation and meals, prior to deployment</li> <li>2. This team works up to 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours and is deployable for up to 14 days</li> <li>3. The requestor provides support to the team, such as security, fuel and power for recharging phones, computers and other rechargeable devices</li> <li>4. Requestor may order additional Epidemiology Interviewers within the span of control</li> <li>5. Acquire additional specialized personnel appropriate to the incident, such as microbiologists, medical entomologists, bioinformaticians and Environmental Health Specialists separately</li> <li>6. Requestor may order a National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 1 Epidemiologist for specific subject areas, such as injury epidemiology, environmental epidemiology, foodborne disease or infectious disease epidemiology or any NIMS Type Epidemiologist for disaster epidemiology</li> <li>7. Requestor may order Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Specialists separately to support the team</li> </ol>

Each type of resource builds on the qualifications of the type below it. For example, Type 1 qualifications include the qualifications in Type 2, plus an increase in capability. Type 1 is the highest qualification level.

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	NOTES
<b>MINIMUM PERSONNEL PER TEAM</b>	6	5	Not Specified
<b>MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT PERSONNEL PER TEAM</b>	1 - NIMS Type 2 Epidemiologist	1 - NIMS Type 3 Epidemiologist	Not Specified
<b>SUPPORT PERSONNEL PER TEAM</b>	Same as Type 2, PLUS: 1 - NIMS Type 3 Epidemiologist	3 - NIMS Public Health Interviewer 1 - NIMS Public Health Data Science Specialist	Not Specified

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	NOTES
<b>EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INFORMATION GATHERING CAPABILITY PER TEAM</b>	1. Enhanced information gathering and analysis for human disease and injury 2. Capable of taking clinical specimens of patients through qualified medical professionals for laboratory analysis	Basic epidemiology information gathering and analysis for human disease and injury	Not Specified
<b>EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE AND INVESTIGATION EQUIPMENT PER TEAM</b>	Same as Type 2, PLUS: 1. Clinical specimen collection supplies	1. Epidemiological surveillance and investigation forms 2. Epidemiologic database and analysis software	Specimen collection supplies (such as urine catch cups, culture swabs, sterile applicators, vacutainer tubes and needles) may be necessary to collect clinical specimens
<b>ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM</b>	Same as Type 2	Computers (one per team member)	Not Specified
<b>PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) EQUIPMENT PER TEAM MEMBER</b>	Same as Type 2	PPE is mission-specific and may include: 1. Respirators 2. Eye protection 3. Protective footwear 4. Protective clothing 5. Hearing protection 6. Masks 7. Disposable gloves	The following standard addresses PPE: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.1030: Bloodborne Pathogens
<b>COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM</b>	Same as Type 2	1. Cell phones (one per team member) 2. Two-way portable radios (one per team member)	Not Specified



## NOTES

Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.

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## REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 509: Epidemiologist
2. FEMA, NIMS 509: Public Health Data Science Specialist
3. FEMA, NIMS 509: Public Health Interviewer
4. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
5. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.1030: Bloodborne Pathogens, latest edition adopted