



HOW WIC HELPS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

MISSION OF WIC

To assure healthy pregnancies, healthy birth outcomes and healthy growth and development for women, infants and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk, by providing nutritious supplemental foods, breastfeeding promotion and support, education on healthy eating, and referrals to healthcare and critical social services.

FUN FACTS

ACROSS AMERICA, THERE ARE 90 STATE WIC AGENCIES, 1,900 LOCAL AGENCIES, AND 10,000 WIC CLINICS

WIC SUPPORTS 53% OF ALL INFANTS BORN IN THE US

FROM OUR PARTICIPANTS

"I just wanted to write a quick note and thank you for the care and service my son and I received today at your office. Our family is usually on the giving, not receiving end, and have not needed help before (and hopefully we won't for long!). I was unsure of what the process would be like. Everyone we saw today at our WIC appointment was so helpful and genuinely cared about my family. Thank you for the work you do and for being there in our community."

WIC Participant, Vermont

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC?

United States WIC Participation
FY 2016



Pregnant Women	721,975
Fully Breastfeeding Women	[247,436]
Total Breastfeeding Women	592,384
Postpartum Women	523,934
Infants	1,875,706
Children	3,982,440
Total	7,696,439
Coverage (% eligible)	54.8%

Source: USDA FNS WIC Program Data FY2016 <https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program>



WIC IS EFFICIENT

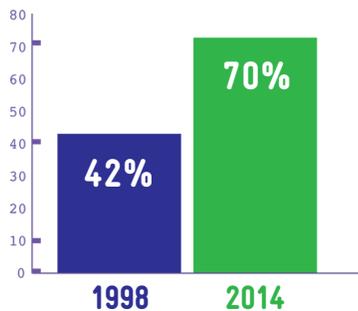
United States Food and Nutrition Services Benefits FY 2016

**NATIONWIDE,
APPROXIMATELY 9% OF
WIC'S BUDGET IS SPENT ON
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS**

Average monthly food value per participant	\$42.76
Net federal food cost	\$3,949,338,425
Competitive bidding savings	\$1,712,525,664
Nutrition, Client Services, and Program Management	\$1,945,987,830
Total funds to state	\$7,607,851,919

Source: USDA FNS WIC Program Data FY2016 <https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program>

BREASTFEEDING



**MATERNAL WIC
PARTICIPATION HAS BEEN
SHOWN TO IMPROVE
BREASTFEEDING RATES**

**BREASTFEEDING INITIATION
RATES IN WIC HAVE
INCREASED FROM 42% IN
1998 TO 70% IN 2014**

Source: USDA 2014 WIC Participant and Program Characteristics (PC) Report. PC data allows for standardized comparisons to demonstrate overall progress. Some states collect more data than required by the PC Report and may yield different and more current results than shown.

EBT STATUS

As of January 2018, all 90 WIC state agencies either have transitioned to, or are in the process of transitioning to, EBT/eWIC. USDA released a 2018 EBT status report stating:

- 35 WIC state agencies have implemented WIC EBT/eWIC statewide
- 25 state agencies are in the process of planning EBT/eWIC implementation statewide.
- 30 states are in the process of implementing EBT/eWIC.

All state WIC programs must transition from paper vouchers to electronic benefit transfer cards (EBT) by 2020.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (2018) WIC EBT Detail Status Report. Accessed online: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/wic/WIC-detailabtstatusreport.pdf>.

WIC SUPPORTS MILITARY FAMILIES

"I would tell everybody WIC is a good program. I had never heard of WIC while I was pregnant. I was in the military and was under the impression that maybe I made too much money or it was something for really underprivileged people. It's not that type of program at all. I was just glad when I heard about it. They give you information on nutrition for your baby and for yourself when you're pregnant which is a very important thing. Every little bit helps. When you go to WIC and they say eat this, this is good for your baby, so you know. I'm just glad I've heard about it now, so if I ever get pregnant again, I know."

WIC Military Mom, Navajo Nation