



# HOW WIC HELPS THE NATION'S CAPITAL

## 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

**WASHINGTON DC WIC'S BREASTFEEDING INITIATION RATE TRACKED RECENTLY SHOWED A 5% INCREASE OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR FROM 57% IN 2017 TO 62% IN 2018 DUE TO THE PEER COUNSELOR PROGRAM AND 24/7 ACCESS TO AN IBCLC FROM PACIFY.**

## FROM OUR PARTICIPANTS

*"Being part of the WIC program motivated and empowered me to continue making healthy changes for my family."*

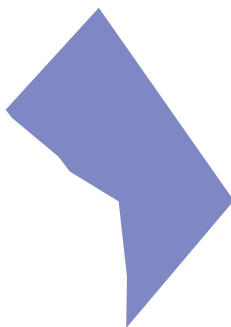
**WIC PARTICIPANT, DC**

*"The District of Columbia WIC program has played a very important role in the growth of our company. Over the past years we have seen an increase in referrals, sales and revenue which has aided us in the most positive way. We have also been able to establish a presence in the district and has been providing our services to other residents within the communities. We hope to continue doing this for as long as our services are needed."*

**WIC VENDOR, DC**

## WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC?

DC WIC Participation FY 2017



Pregnant Women	1,136
Fully Breastfeeding Women	606
Total Breastfeeding Women	1,486
Postpartum Women	954
Infants	4,099
Children	5,906
Total	13,580
Coverage (% eligible)	50.80%

Sources: USDA FNS WIC Program Data FY2017 <https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program>; U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Policy Support. National- and State-Level Estimates of (WIC) Eligibles and Program Reach in 2015. Note: The number of Fully Breastfeeding Women is included in the number of Total Breastfeeding Women.

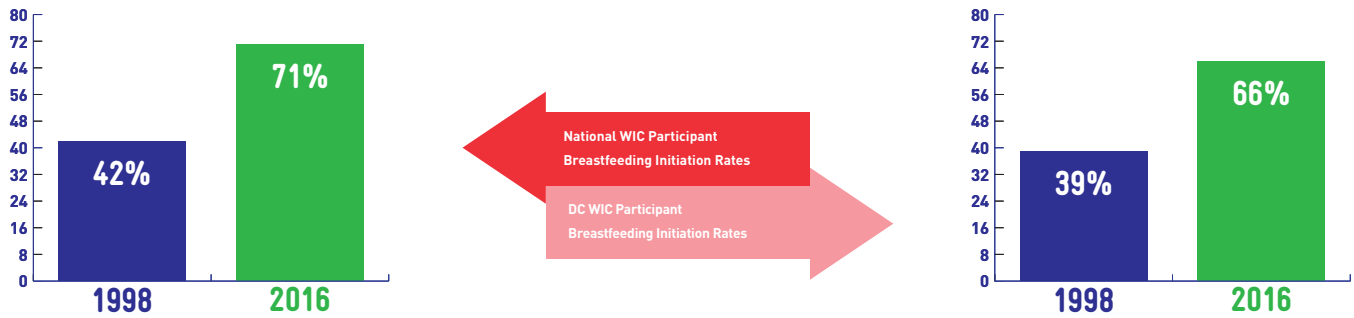
## WIC IS EFFICIENT

DC WIC Food and Nutrition Services Benefits FY 2017

Average monthly food value per participant	\$46.63
Net federal food cost	\$7,555,903
Competitive bidding savings	\$3,136,133
Nutrition, client services, and program management	\$5,681,769
Total funds to state	\$16,373,805

Source: USDA FNS WIC Program Data FY2017 <https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program>

## BREASTFEEDING



Source: USDA 2016 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

The District of Columbia is planning on implementing WIC EBT/eWIC statewide. All state WIC programs must transition from paper vouchers to electronic benefit transfer cards (EBT) by 2020.

## WIC SUPPORTS MILITARY FAMILIES

The District WIC Program has served Bolling Air Force Base military families for 12 years, beginning in 2005. Recently, services transferred from the WIC Mobile Unit which was stationed on the base twice a week to a permanent site at the New Parent Support Building on the base. WIC Staff work closely with the Family Advocacy Nurse to ensure mothers and their children are scheduled for WIC services.

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