HOW WIC HELPS THE OLD LINE STATE

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

IN OCTOBER 2018, MARYLAND WIC INTRODUCED ONLINE NUTRITION EDUCATION AS AN OPTION FOR PARTICIPANTS.

THE FRENCH CAMEL WAS A PLANT. THE CRAB IS A SEA ANIMAL.

FROM OUR PARTICIPANTS

“The nutrition education, as well as, the foods are a big help to many families. But for me the most important thing was the breastfeeding support I received. I had no immediate family members or friends that were able to help me with some breastfeeding issues I had. I can truly say that if it wasn’t for the WIC program and their peer counselor I would not have been able to breastfeed my children as long as I did.”

WIC PARTICIPANT, MARYLAND

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC?
Maryland WIC Participation FY 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant Women</td>
<td>13,011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully Breastfeeding Women</td>
<td>3,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Breastfeeding Women</td>
<td>10,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postpartum Women</td>
<td>7,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infants</td>
<td>31,598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>69,707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>132,843</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coverage (% eligible) 59.80%

WIC IS EFFICIENT
Maryland WIC Food and Nutrition Services Benefits FY 2017

**Average monthly food value per participant**
$41.71

**Net federal food cost**
$66,489,138

**Competitive bidding savings**
$29,081,003

**Nutrition, client services, and program management**
$33,959,699

**Total funds to state**
$129,529,850

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

BREASTFEEDING

Maryland WIC Participant Breastfeeding Initiation Rates

1998 2016

National WIC Participant Breastfeeding Initiation Rates

Maryland WIC Participant Breastfeeding Initiation Rates

1998 2016

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

Maryland has implemented 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

Maryland WIC supports the military by authorizing WIC in seven commissaries. These were among the first in the nation to fully integrate for WIC EBT. WIC also provides outreach to Andrew’s Air Force Base, Fort Meade, Aberdeen Proving Ground, and Fort Detrick.

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