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

ABOUT 97% OF CURRENT WIC PARTICIPANTS RATED NUTRITION EDUCATION AND STAFF SUPPORT AS SOMEWHAT OR VERY IMPORTANT IN A RECENT SURVEY.

98% OF WIC PARTICIPANTS SURVEYED SAID THEY LIKED USING EWIC!

99.5% OF CURRENT WIC PARTICIPANTS SURVEYED SAID THEY WOULD RECOMMEND WIC TO A FRIEND.

FROM OUR PARTICIPANTS

“When my daughter was three, we were finally making enough money that we were not eligible for the WIC program. At the start of this summer, however, surprisingly my husband lost his job that he had been doing for two years. So, we again qualify for the WIC program. Although she will be five in November, I feel like we’ve learned so much about nutrition over the years and the supplement food every month and the additional farmers’ market coupons in the summer are an important component to our household.”

WIC PARTICIPANT, MONTANA

“‘The nutritional education has been so helpful in learning how to best feed my children and the food benefits give me added security when supplying food for my children.’

WIC PARTICIPANT, MONTANA

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC?

Montana WIC Participation FY 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant Women</td>
<td>1,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully Breastfeeding Women</td>
<td>918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Breastfeeding Women</td>
<td>1,374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postpartum Women</td>
<td>1,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infants</td>
<td>4,367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>9,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>17,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coverage (% eligible)</td>
<td>39.30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


HOW WIC HELPS THE TREASURE STATE
WIC IS EFFICIENT

**Montana WIC Food and Nutrition Services Benefits FY 2017**

- Average monthly food value per participant: $41.66
- Net federal food cost: $8,720,977
- Competitive bidding savings: $3,222,032
- Nutrition, client services, and program management: $6,100,129
- Total funds to state: $18,043,138

**Source:** USDA FNS WIC Program Data FY2017 [https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program](https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program)

BREASTFEEDING

- **1998**
  - National WIC Participant Breastfeeding Initiation Rates: 42%
  - Montana WIC Participant Breastfeeding Initiation Rates: 71%

- **2000**
  - WIC Participant Breastfeeding Initiation Rates: 60%
  - Montana WIC Participant Breastfeeding Initiation Rates: 79%

**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

Montana 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

Montana WIC has one clinic on Malstrom Air Force base to serve participants living there. The Cascade County Clinic serves this site one day per week. The Air Force base has a commissary for participants to shop at on the base.

CONTACT DETAILS

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