HOW WIC HELPS THE VOLUNTEER 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

BREASTFEEDING INITIATION RATES HAVE IMPROVED FROM 65.7% IN 2013 TO 73.5% IN 2017.

TN WIC BEGAN ISSUING EWIC BENEFITS TO HOUSEHOLDS.

TN WIC SERVES 52% OF ALL BABIES BORN IN TN-80,000 BIRTHS PER YEAR.

FROM OUR PARTICIPANTS

“This new eWIC card is really great! I am so happy that I can shop for what I need and not have to get so much at once. WIC helps my child have good foods to grow.”

WIC PARTICIPANT, TENNESSEE

“The breastfeeding peer counselor was a breastfeeding lifesaver. She worked with me to help me continue breastfeeding my baby and the choices of foods and recipes that WIC provides has helped me to eat better.”

WIC PARTICIPANT, TENNESSEE

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC?

Tennessee WIC Participation FY 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant Women</td>
<td>16,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully Breastfeeding Women</td>
<td>3,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Breastfeeding Women</td>
<td>8,722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postpartum Women</td>
<td>11,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infants</td>
<td>39,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>60,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>136,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coverage (% eligible)</td>
<td>43.30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EBT STATUS

Tennessee is 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

Part of the military base (Fort Campbell) is in TN and we serve a large number of military families at the local county health department near the base. Immunizations and child health services are co-located.

CONTACT DETAILS

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Average monthly food value per participant
$39.19

Net federal food cost
$64,102,132

Competitive bidding savings
$41,492,331

Nutrition, client services, and program management
$41,565,088

Total funds to state
$147,159,551

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

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