HOW WIC HELPS ALASKA

MISSION OF WIC
Assuring healthy pregnancies, birth outcomes, growth and development for mothers, babies, and young children to age 5 who are at nutritional risk. Providing nutritious supplemental foods, breastfeeding promotion and support, education on healthy eating, and referrals to healthcare and critical social services.

COVID-19 Response
Alaska WIC received at least 10 waivers, including physical presence and flexibility for mailed food packages.

39% of infants born in Alaska participated in WIC in 2017

39% of eligible individuals in Alaska participated in WIC in 2017

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC?

18,963 WIC PARTICIPANTS

Pregnant women 1,591
Breastfeeding women 1,988
Postpartum women 813
Infants 4,037
Children 10,534

BREASTFEEDING IN WIC

Alaska WIC breastfeeding initiation rates increased by 15 percentage points between 1998 and 2018.

2018 82%
1998 67%

Among WIC infants who initiated breastfeeding in Alaska in 2018, 7 percent continued breastfeeding at 6 months.

CHILDHOOD OBESITY IN WIC IN ALASKA

The obesity rate among WIC toddlers in Alaska decreased by 1 percentage point between 2010 and 2016.

Obesity rate among WIC toddlers, 2016 20%

MORTALITY AND BIRTH OUTCOMES IN ALASKA

Infant mortality per 1,000 live births, 2017 5.5
Preterm birth rates, 2017 9%

ALASKA WIC PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

$26,638 average family income in 2018
$54.52 average monthly food cost in FY 2019

HOW WIC SUPPORTED THE ALASKA ECONOMY IN FY 2019

$10.5M to spend at food retailers
$2.5M formula rebates received
$7.5M nutrition, breastfeeding services & admin