

# HOW WIC HELPS THE CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA



## State WIC Director

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## 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

Choctaw Nation WIC received at least 4 waivers, including physical presence and vendor-related flexibilities.



# 45%

of infants born in the United States participated in WIC in 2017



# 51%

of eligible individuals in the United States participated in WIC in 2017

## WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC?

# 3,921

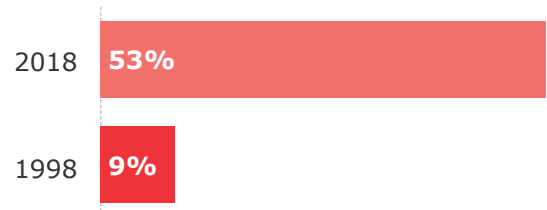
## WIC PARTICIPANTS

Pregnant women	295
Breastfeeding women	196
Postpartum women	350
Infants	984
Children	2,096

Choctaw WIC participation in 2018

## BREASTFEEDING IN WIC

Choctaw WIC breastfeeding initiation rates increased by **44 percentage points** between 1998 and 2018.



Among WIC infants who initiated breastfeeding in Choctaw in 2018, **14 percent** continued breastfeeding at 6 months.

## CHOCTAW WIC PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

**\$19,068**  
average family income in 2018

**77%**  
received Medicaid in 2018

**\$29.64**  
average monthly food cost in FY 2019

## HOW WIC SUPPORTED THE CHOCTAW ECONOMY IN FY 2019

**\$1.5M**  
to spend at food retailers

**\$1.3M**  
formula rebates received

**\$1.5M**  
nutrition, breastfeeding services & admin

Sources: USDA 2017 WIC Eligibility Estimates report (fns.usda.gov/wic/national-and-state-level-estimates-wic-eligibility-and-wic-program-reach-2017) for percent of eligible individuals participating. USDA FNS WIC Program Data FY 2019 (fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program) as of January 19, 2021. USDA WIC Participant and Program Characteristics reports for years displayed.

