

HOW WIC HELPS THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS



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

CNMI WIC received at least 5 waivers, including physical presence and extended certification periods for children.



89%

of infants born in CNMI participated in WIC in 2017



51%

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

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC?

3,087

WIC PARTICIPANTS

Pregnant women **278**

Breastfeeding women **171**

Postpartum women **111**

Infants **322**

Children **2,205**

CNMI WIC participation in 2018

BREASTFEEDING IN WIC

CNMI WIC breastfeeding initiation rates increased by **30 percentage points** between 2010 and 2018.



Among WIC infants who initiated breastfeeding in CNMI in 2018, **37 percent** continued breastfeeding at 6 months.

CHILDHOOD OBESITY IN WIC IN CNMI

The obesity rate among WIC toddlers in CNMI decreased by **6 percentage points** between 2010 and 2016.

Obesity rate among WIC toddlers, 2016 **8%**

CNMI WIC PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

\$18,270
average family income in 2018

79%
received Medicaid in 2018

\$60.63
average monthly food cost in FY 2019

\$2.2M
to spend at food retailers

\$0.6M
formula rebates received

\$1.4M
nutrition, breastfeeding services & admin

HOW WIC SUPPORTED THE CNMI ECONOMY IN FY 2019

Sources: CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 2019;68:1057-1061 (cdc.gov/mmwr/) for childhood obesity in WIC. 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.

