

# HOW WIC HELPS CONNECTICUT



## State WIC Director

Marjorie Chambers  
410 Capitol Avenue S, MS #11WIC,  
Hartford, CT 06134

Phone: 800-741-2142

Email: marjorie.chambers@ct.gov

## 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

Connecticut WIC received at least 6 waivers, including physical presence and larger package sizes for whole grains.



# 37%

of infants born in Connecticut participated in WIC in 2017



# 49%

of eligible individuals in Connecticut participated in WIC in 2017

## WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC?

# 54,509

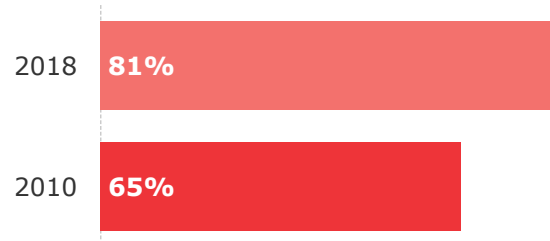
## WIC PARTICIPANTS

Pregnant women	5,123
Breastfeeding women	3,753
Postpartum women	2,592
Infants	12,962
Children	30,079

Connecticut WIC participation in 2018

## BREASTFEEDING IN WIC

Connecticut WIC breastfeeding initiation rates increased by **16 percentage points** between 2010 and 2018.



## CHILDHOOD OBESITY IN WIC IN CONNECTICUT

The obesity rate among WIC toddlers in Connecticut decreased by **3 percentage points** between 2010 and 2016.

Obesity rate among WIC toddlers, 2016 **14%**

## MORTALITY AND BIRTH OUTCOMES IN CONNECTICUT

Maternal mortality per 100,000 births, 2010–2015 **13.2**

Infant mortality per 1,000 live births, 2017 **4.7**

Preterm birth rates, 2017 **10%**

## CONNECTICUT WIC PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

**\$18,558**  
average family income in 2018

**86%**  
received Medicaid in 2018

**\$44.56**  
average monthly food cost in FY 2019

## HOW WIC SUPPORTED THE CONNECTICUT ECONOMY IN FY 2019

**\$24.5M**  
to spend at food retailers

**\$13.4M**  
formula rebates received

**\$14.8M**  
nutrition, breastfeeding services & admin

Sources: CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 2019;68:1057-1061 (cdc.gov/mmwr/) for childhood obesity in WIC. CDC WONDER (wonder.cdc.gov) for mortality and birth outcomes. National WIC Association (nwica.org) for total infants participating in state. 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.

