HOW WIC HELPS TENNESSEE

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
Tennessee WIC received at least 9 waivers, including physical presence and larger package sizes for whole grains and canned fish.

53% of infants born in Tennessee participated in WIC in 2017

43% of eligible individuals in Tennessee participated in WIC in 2017

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC?

156,119 WIC PARTICIPANTS

- Pregnant women: 16,126
- Breastfeeding women: 10,848
- Postpartum women: 13,790
- Infants: 42,884
- Children: 72,471

BREASTFEEDING IN WIC

Tennessee WIC breastfeeding initiation rates increased by 13 percentage points between 1998 and 2018.

- 2018: 35%
- 1998: 22%

Among WIC infants who initiated breastfeeding in Tennessee in 2018, 11 percent continued breastfeeding at 6 months.

CHILDHOOD OBESITY IN WIC IN TENNESSEE

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

- Obesity rate among WIC toddlers, 2016: 15%
- Obesity rate among WIC toddlers, 2010: 16%

MORTALITY AND BIRTH OUTCOMES IN TENNESSEE

- Maternal mortality per 100,000 births, 2010–2015: 23.3
- Infant mortality per 1,000 live births, 2017: 7.3
- Preterm birth rates, 2017: 11%

TENNESSEE WIC PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

- $18,901 average family income in 2018
- 67% received Medicaid in 2018
- $36.41 average monthly food cost in FY 2019

HOW WIC SUPPORTED THE TENNESSEE ECONOMY IN FY 2019

- $49.0M to spend at food retailers
- $39.9M formula rebates received
- $42.5M nutrition, breastfeeding services & admin


FEBRUARY 2021

Please direct all questions to NWA at 202.232.5492
visit nwica.org

Alesha Reeves
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