

HOW WIC HELPS ALASKA



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.



37%

OF INFANTS BORN
IN ALASKA
PARTICIPATE IN WIC



53%

OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS
IN ALASKA
PARTICIPATE IN WIC

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC IN ALASKA?

14,319

WIC
PARTICIPANTS

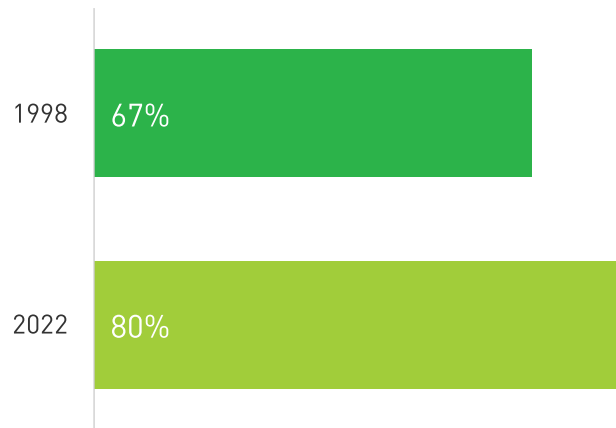
| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Pregnant women..... | 1,153 |
| Breastfeeding women... | 1,503 |
| Postpartum women..... | 414 |
| Infants..... | 2,986 |
| Children..... | 8,264 |

MORTALITY AND BIRTH OUTCOMES

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Maternal mortality per 100,000 births, 2018-2022... | 24.9 |
| Infant mortality per 1,000 live births, 2022..... | 6.6 |
| Preterm birth rate, 2022..... | 10% |

BREASTFEEDING IN WIC

Alaska WIC breastfeeding initiation rates increased by **20 percent** between 1998 and 2022.



Among WIC infants who initiated breastfeeding in Alaska in 2022, **39 percent** continued breastfeeding at 6 months.

ALASKA WIC PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

\$31,917

AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME

\$73.35

AVERAGE MONTHLY FOOD
COST IN 2024

HOW WIC SUPPORTED THE ALASKA ECONOMY IN FY 2024

\$12.6M

TO SPEND AT FOOD
RETAILERS

\$3.2M

FORMULA REBATES
RECEIVED

\$6.5M

NUTRITION,
BREASTFEEDING
SERVICES & ADMIN

Sources: WIC eligible individuals participating from USDA WIC Eligibility Estimates report for 2022 (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/research/wic/ee-2022>). WIC participants and economic impact from USDA WIC Data Tables for fiscal year (FY) 2024 (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program>) as of January 21, 2025. Participant characteristics for 2022 and WIC breastfeeding and rates for years displayed from USDA WIC Participant and Program Characteristics reports (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/research/wic/participant-program-characteristics-2022>). Maternal mortality from America's Health Rankings (https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/measures/maternal_mortality_c). Infant mortality and preterm birth rate from CDC (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/stats_of_the_states.htm).