

HOW WIC HELPS

PENNSYLVANIA



State WIC Director

Sally Zubairu-Cofield
625 Forster Street, 7th Floor West
Harrisburg, PA 17120

717.547.3300
szubairuco@pa.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.



35%

OF INFANTS BORN
IN PENNSYLVANIA
PARTICIPATE IN WIC



41%

OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS
IN PENNSYLVANIA
PARTICIPATE IN WIC

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC IN PENNSYLVANIA?

182,385

WIC PARTICIPANTS

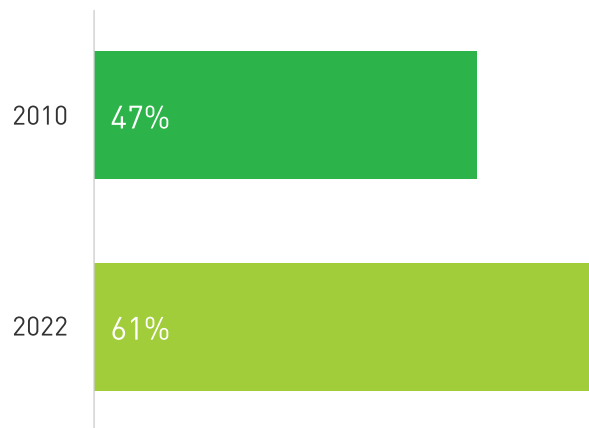
Pregnant women.....	13,152
Breastfeeding women...	11,299
Postpartum women.....	15,378
Infants.....	41,178
Children.....	101,377

MORTALITY AND BIRTH OUTCOMES

Maternal mortality per 100,000 births, 2018-2022...	17.5
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births, 2022.....	5.7
Preterm birth rate, 2022.....	10%

BREASTFEEDING IN WIC

Pennsylvania WIC breastfeeding initiation rates increased by **30 percent** between 2010 and 2022.



Among WIC infants who initiated breastfeeding in Pennsylvania in 2022, **14 percent** continued breastfeeding at 6 months.

PENNSYLVANIA WIC PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

\$24,966 \$68.80 74%

AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME AVERAGE MONTHLY FOOD COST IN 2024 RECEIVED MEDICAID

HOW WIC SUPPORTED THE PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMY IN FY 2024

\$150.6M \$38.0M \$63.4M

TO SPEND AT FOOD RETAILERS FORMULA REBATES RECEIVED 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).