# **HOW WIC HELPS**

# WASHINGTON

#### 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.



#### State WIC Director

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OF INFANTS BORN 34% IN WASHINGTON **PARTICIPATE IN WIC** 



53%

OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS IN WASHINGTON PARTICIPATE IN WIC

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#### WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC IN WASHINGTON?

134,631

**PARTICIPANTS** 

Pregnant women	11,663
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Breastfeeding women... 9,966

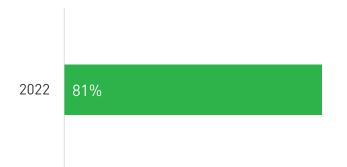
Postpartum women..... 7.519

Infants..... 25.592

Children..... 79,891

### **BREASTFEEDING IN WIC**

In 2022, 81 percent of 6- to 13-month-old infants and children in Washington initiated breastfeeding.



## MORTALITY AND BIRTH OUTCOMES

Maternal mortality per 100,000 births, 2018-2022... 18.0

Infant mortality per 1,000 live births, 2022..... 4.3

Preterm birth rate, 2022..... 9% Among WIC infants who initiated breastfeeding in Washington in 2022, 29 percent continued breastfeeding at 6 months.



Online Shopping: Washington WIC and Massachusetts WIC and WIC EBT (eWIC) processor FIS/CDP are partnering with Walmart to bring online shopping to WIC participants in both States. Ultimately, this will help nearly 40,000 WIC families in Washington who shop at Walmart access their WIC benefits safely and efficiently beginning early this year.

## WASHINGTON **WIC PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS**

\$28,075 \$54.00

62%

**AVERAGE FAMILY** INCOME

**AVERAGE MONTHLY FOOD COST IN 2024** 

**RECEIVED MEDICAID** 

**HOW WIC SUPPORTED THE WASHINGTON ECONOMY IN FY 2024** 

\$87.2M

S23.1M

S56.6M

TO SPEND AT FOOD

**FORMULA REBATES** 

NUTRITION, **BREASTFEEDING SERVICES & ADMIN** 

Sources: WIC eligible individuals participating from USDA WIC Eligibility Estimates report for 2022 (https://www.fns.usda.gov/research/wic/eer-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). Online shopping from Center for Nutrition and Health Impact (https://www.wicshopplus.org/projects).