

HOW WIC HELPS PUERTO RICO



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.



45% OF INFANTS BORN IN THE UNITED STATES PARTICIPATE IN WIC



81% OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS IN PUERTO RICO PARTICIPATE IN WIC

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC IN PUERTO RICO?

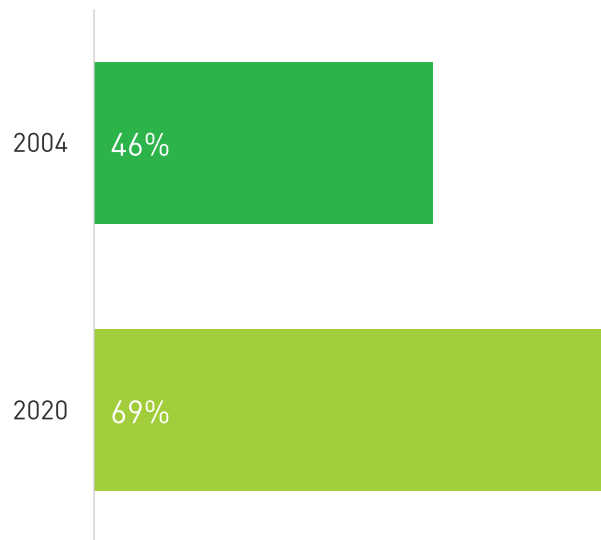
87,746

WIC PARTICIPANTS

Pregnant women.....	8,145
Breastfeeding women...	5,479
Postpartum women.....	5,127
Infants.....	14,738
Children.....	54,257

BREASTFEEDING IN WIC

Puerto Rico WIC breastfeeding initiation rates increased by **50 percent** between 2004 and 2020.



PUERTO RICO WIC PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

\$8,646

AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME

\$149.29

AVERAGE MONTHLY FOOD COST IN 2024

59%

RECEIVED MEDICAID

HOW WIC SUPPORTED THE PUERTO RICO ECONOMY IN FY 2024

\$157.2M

TO SPEND AT FOOD RETAILERS

\$4.5M

FORMULA REBATES RECEIVED

\$39.2M

NUTRITION, BREASTFEEDING SERVICES & ADMIN

Sources: WIC eligible individuals participating from USDA WIC Eligibility Estimates report for 2022 (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/research/wic/eeer-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_c1). Infant mortality and preterm birth rate from CDC (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/stats_of_the_states.htm).