

HOW WIC HELPS

THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS



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



54%

OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS IN THE UNITED STATES PARTICIPATE IN WIC

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC IN THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS?

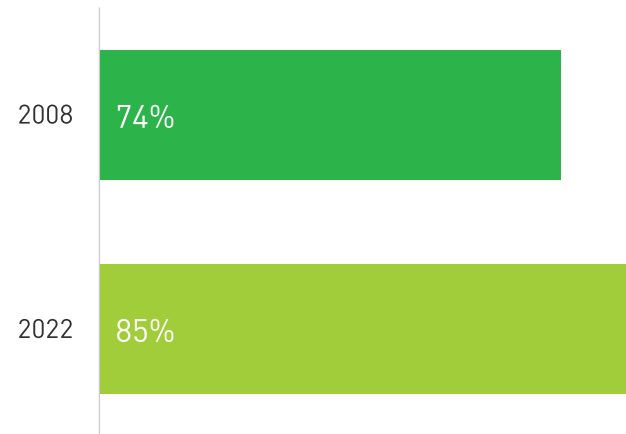
2,533

WIC PARTICIPANTS

Pregnant women.....	185
Breastfeeding women.....	376
Postpartum women.....	62
Infants.....	581
Children.....	1,329

BREASTFEEDING IN WIC

The U.S. Virgin Islands WIC breastfeeding initiation rates increased by **14 percent** between 2008 and 2022.



Among WIC infants who initiated breastfeeding in USVI in 2022, **61 percent** continued breastfeeding at 6 months.

THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS WIC PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

\$17,701

AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME

\$95.28

AVERAGE MONTHLY FOOD COST IN 2024

47%

RECEIVED MEDICAID

HOW WIC SUPPORTED THE USVI ECONOMY IN FY 2024

\$2.9M

TO SPEND AT FOOD RETAILERS

\$713,531

FORMULA REBATES RECEIVED

\$2.8M

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).