

HOW WIC HELPS

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



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.



36%

OF INFANTS BORN
IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PARTICIPATE IN WIC



59%

OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS
IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PARTICIPATE IN WIC

WHO PARTICIPATES IN WIC IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA?

11,184

WIC PARTICIPANTS

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Pregnant women..... | 888 |
| Breastfeeding women..... | 1,291 |
| Postpartum women..... | 649 |
| Infants..... | 2,945 |
| Children..... | 5,411 |

BREASTFEEDING IN WIC

The District of Columbia WIC breastfeeding initiation rates increased by **67 percent** between 2010 and 2020.



Fruit and Vegetable Benefit: Congress enhanced WIC's fruit and vegetable benefit to align with scientific recommendations. Current monthly benefit amounts are \$26 for children, \$47 for pregnant and postpartum participants, and \$52 for breastfeeding participants. In FY 2023, WIC provided an estimated **\$3.2M** in fruit and vegetable benefits to **8,239** participants in DC.

CHILDHOOD OBESITY IN WIC IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

There was no significant change in the obesity rate among WIC toddlers in DC between 2010 and 2020.

Childhood obesity rate, WIC toddlers, 2020..... **13%**

MORTALITY AND BIRTH OUTCOMES IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Maternal mortality per 100,000 births, 2017-2021... **24.2**

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WIC PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

\$13,417

AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME

\$39.57

AVERAGE MONTHLY FOOD COST IN FY 2023

HOW WIC SUPPORTED THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ECONOMY IN FY 2023

\$5.3M

TO SPEND AT FOOD RETAILERS

\$3.4M

FORMULA REBATES RECEIVED

\$5.2M

NUTRITION, BREASTFEEDING SERVICES & ADMIN

Sources: WIC eligible individuals participating from USDA WIC Eligibility Estimates report for 2021 (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/eligibility-and-program-reach-estimates-2021>). WIC participants and economic impact from USDA WIC Data Tables for fiscal year (FY) 2023 (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program>) as of June 20, 2024. 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>). WIC fruit and vegetable benefit calculated as the sum of FY 2023 issuance rates multiplied by average participation rates for each participant category from USDA WIC Data Tables. 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). Obesity outcomes from CDC (<https://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/obesity-among-WIC-enrolled-young-children>).