Connecticut WIC Program
Infant Formula Recall & Shortages Response

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State WIC Director
June 10, 2022
WHAT IS THE WIC PROGRAM?
WHAT DOES WIC PROVIDE?

- Nutrition Assessment and Education
- Breastfeeding education and support
- Referrals to health & social service programs
- eWIC card for nutritious foods
WHO DOES WIC SERVE?

Low & moderate income:
- Pregnant
- Breastfeeding
- Postpartum
- Infants
- Children
HOW DOES WIC OPERATE?

Connecticut’s 10 local WIC agencies are located in:
- 23 full-time offices
- 35 part-time satellite locations
- covering all 169 Connecticut towns

There are 157 staff at the local agencies:
- 10 Program Coordinators
- 77 Nutrition staff
- 57 Support staff
- 13 Breastfeeding Peer Counselors
STATE OF CONNECTICUT WIC PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Map Legend: *

🌟 State WIC Office
🌟 Full-time WIC Sites (23)
Region 1: Bristol / New Britain / Torrington (5,097)
Region 2: Hartford (4,805)
Region 3: East Hartford (3,502)
Region 4: Windham / Putnam (1,677)
Region 5: Danbury (2,354)
Region 6: Waterbury / Seymour (4,321)
Region 7: Middletown (3,174)
Region 8: Norwich / New London (3,060)
Region 9: Bridgeport / Stamford (8,591)
Region 10: New Haven (6,669)

* (Monthly average WIC participation, 2021); 2021 total average WIC population = 43,251

Connecticut WIC Regions & Full-Time WIC Sites
June 2022

Data Sources: CT-WIC Management Information System & Local Agency MS Access Database, May 2022; Town boundaries: CT DEPv05 file
Map Projection: NAD83 / Connecticut (ftUS)

Manisha Juthani, MD
DPH Commissioner
June 2022
Connecticut WIC Participation

2021 Participation: 44,356 Monthly Average

- Pregnant
  - 4,102, 9.2%
- Breastfeeding (BF)
  - 3,028, 6.8%
- Postpartum (non-BF)
  - 2,209, 5.0%
- Breastfed Infants
  - 3,977, 9.0%
- Formula-fed Infants
  - 7,000, 15.8%

Children: 24,040
54.2% of Total
[5.9% increase across 2021]

Child Age 1
- 7,914, 17.8%

Child Age 2
- 6,172, 13.9%

Child Age 3
- 5,261, 11.9%

Child Age 4
- 4,693, 10.6%

Women: 9,339
21.1% of Total
[5.5% increase across 2021]

Infants: 10,977
24.7% of Total
[3.0% increase across 2021]
WIC Participants by Race/Ethnicity *
Total = 46,350 Participants

NH Other Race, 3,097, 6.7%
NH White, 8,463, 18.3%
NH Black, 9,150, 19.7%
Hispanic, 25,640, 55.3%

* Data source: CT-WIC Management Information System; NH = non-Hispanic.
Other Race includes American Indian or Alaska Native. Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and Participants of More than 1 Race.
CONNECTICUT INFANTS

Connecticut infants < 1 year = 34,259¹

Connecticut WIC Infants²

Total served = 11,317

On a full or partial formula package = 7,038

²CT-WIC Management Information System, February 2022
FORMULA
RECALL &
SHORTAGES
RESPONSE
## INFANT FORMULA REDEMPTION RATES*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>RATE (STATEWIDE)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 2021</td>
<td>90.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2021</td>
<td>89.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2022</td>
<td>90.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2022</td>
<td>87.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2022</td>
<td>70.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2022</td>
<td>75.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2022</td>
<td>76.0%</td>
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*Standard contract brand formulas and their comparable alternatives only

SOURCE: CT-WIC Management Information System
INITIAL RESPONSE: FEBRUARY 2022

✓ Applied for and received USDA waivers
✓ Worked with Abbott to receive approval to offer non-contract products
✓ Added alternate products to formulary
✓ Frequent communication with USDA, Abbott, local agencies, vendors, partners, and participants
✓ Regular website updates
✓ Monitoring of redemption data
✓ Providing support to WIC families
RECENT RESPONSE: APRIL-JUNE 2022

- New USDA waivers
- New formula products added
- Imported formula
- Regular website updates
- Increased coordination with state agencies and partners
- Increased communication with partners and stakeholders
- Continued and increased support for WIC families
IMPORTANT RESOURCES

✓ CT WIC Website: https://portal.ct.gov/dph/WIC/WIC
✓ HHS: https://www.hhs.gov/formula/index.html
✓ FDA: https://www.fda.gov/food/infant-formula-guidance-documents-regulatory-information/enforcement-discretion-manufacturers-increase-infant-formula-supplies