# Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): 2022

By Adrianne R. Brown and Kelsey J. Drotning P70FS-198 July 2024

Survey of Income and Program Participation Snapshots

### **1 in 4** children aged 0 to 4 received WIC benefits.

Approximately 10 percent of households with at least one child aged 0 to 17 received WIC, and 21 percent of households with three or more children aged 0 to 17 received WIC.

## **4 in 5** WIC recipients had health insurance through Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

Other benefits commonly received by WIC recipients included the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, 45 percent) and energy assistance (13 percent).

### **1 in 2** adults who received WIC benefits had attended at least some college classes.

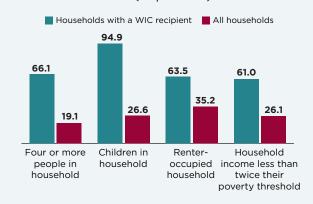
This ratio compares to 65 percent of all adults. Among adults who received WIC benefits, 84 percent had at least a high school degree, and 35 percent had an associate degree or higher, compared to 91 percent and 49 percent of all adults, respectively. All education results are restricted to adults aged 25 and over.

#### What Is WIC?

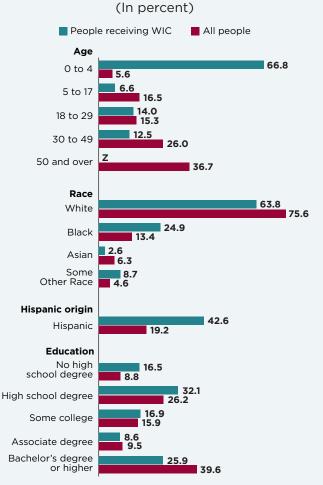
The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides participants with an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card for supplemental foods, nutrition education, and screening and referrals to other support services. Women (while pregnant and up to 1 year post-pregnancy) and children under the age of 5 can receive benefits.

**More information** on WIC and other social safety net programs is available in fact sheets, detailed program participation tables, interactive data visualizations, and reports.

#### Select Characteristics of Households With a WIC Recipient Compared to All Households: 2022 (In percent)



### Characteristics of WIC Recipients Compared to All People: 2022



Z Rounds to zero.

Note: Education results restricted to adults aged 25 and over.



U.S. Department of Commerce U.S. CENSUS BUREAU *census.gov*  Source: 2023 Survey of Income and Program Participation, public-use file, Data Management System number: P-7516454, <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp.html>.