

WIC Participant and Program Characteristics 2012 (PC2012) and 2014 (PC2014)

Client: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service

Project Overview

The purpose of this 4-year contract is to collect and compile data on participant and program characteristics to support the management, evaluation, and improvement of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).



The study includes 3 key components:

1. Collect and compile data generated from the WIC State Management Information Systems (MIS).
2. Create a nationally descriptive data file on a census of WIC program participants representing 90 WIC agencies, to consist of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, 5 territories, and 34 Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs).
3. Produce summary reports of participant and program characteristics.

WIC Participant and Program Characteristics 2012 (PC2012) and 2014 (PC2014) will continue the compilation of data on current participants and program characteristics that began in 1984 and became biennial starting in 1988, making these the latest such reports to help the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) address the need for program information on WIC. Major topics of the reports include demographic characteristics of WIC participants, income and nutrition risk characteristics of WIC participants, national estimates of breastfeeding initiation for infants, and food package data.



The results of these efforts will support FNS's management, evaluation, and improvement of WIC. These data help in budget estimation, research needs, and reporting requirements, and provide data that drives policy and procedural changes over time. The resultant data and analysis also is used nationally by researchers and policymakers addressing the needs of women, infants, and children under WIC.

Core Activities

Literature Reviews and Environmental Scans; Data Collection; Complex Data Analysis; Database Development; Public Use Files; Report Development and Presentation

Products

Insight developed a final report for WIC PC2012 that included the final tabulations and a Food Package Report in September 2014.

The final report for WIC PC2014 is scheduled to be released in September 2015.