

Over the next six months, California WIC Association will be working on a community-based research effort that explores how various stakeholders participate in the WIC Program and how we can increase the level of engagement of different ethnic and racial groups. We are especially interested in finding out what helps and what prevents African-American eligible women from participating in the WIC Program. This survey is just one component of our Action Research Project.

Please note that all responses are confidential and will be used only for research purposes and to inform a report with recommendations for outreach, service, and engagement of WIC eligible African Americans.

It should take you 20-30 minutes to answer these questions. Thank you for your participation!

Survey for WIC Participants

Please mark your answers.

1. Are you currently employed by WIC?

Yes

No

2. Please check all that apply. I am a:

WIC Participant - Currently

WIC Participant - Past, but no longer receiving WIC benefits

WIC vendor - Currently

WIC vendor - Past, but no longer participating in program

Community Member/I live in the community

Community Advocate/I work on community issues

Other (please specify in the box below):

Other (please specify)

3. What role, if any, do you play with other organizations that support women, infants, and children? (Check all that apply.)

- Black Infant Health Program staff member
- Adolescent Family Life Program staff member
- Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Program staff member
- CalFresh staff member
- Nutrition Education Obesity Prevention Programs staff member
- Community Non-profit Organization
- I am not affiliated with any of the above programs
- Member of another organization that supports women, infants and children (please specify in box below):

Other (please specify)

4. Please check all that apply. I am a current or past participant in the:

- CalFresh Program
- Black Infant Health Program
- Adolescent Family Life Program
- I am not a current or past participant in any of these programs

5. If you have been a participant in WIC, how long have you participated in the WIC program? If there have been breaks, provide an estimate of total participation time. (Check only one answer.)

- Less than six months
- 6 months - 1 year
- 1+ to 2 years
- 2+ to 3 years
- 3+ to 5 years
- 5+ years
- I have not been a participant in WIC

6. Are you Hispanic/Latino/a?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

7. What is your race? (Please check all that apply.)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- Bi-Racial
- I prefer not to answer
- I consider myself some other race (please specify in the box below):

Other (please specify)

8. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Intersex
- Transgender
- I prefer not to answer

9. How well do you speak English?

- Very well
- Well
- Somewhat well
- Not very well
- I prefer not to answer

10. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

Circle 'agree,' 'disagree,' or 'not sure.'

	Agree	Disagree	Not Sure
I see a lot of different types of people at WIC.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel that WIC meets the needs of people who are different races/ethnicities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel that WIC meets a wide variety of different needs for young families.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel that WIC is aware of my cultural customs and practices.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel that WIC is sensitive to my cultural customs and practices.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
At my local WIC site, I have experienced what I feel is discrimination based on my being African-American.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
At my local WIC site, I have experienced other forms of discrimination.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I often wonder why there are not more WIC staff members who look like me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I often wonder why there are not more families who look like me at WIC clinics.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel comfortable and included at my WIC clinic.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel that the racial/ethnic diversity of my local WIC office staff reflects the diversity of my community.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel that the racial/ethnic diversity of State WIC staff reflects the diversity of California.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My local WIC office needs to improve how it works with African-American women and families.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
California State WIC needs to improve how it works with African-American women and families.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Agree

Disagree

Not Sure

11. Please indicate how satisfied (happy) you are with the following aspects of WIC. Check 'satisfied,' 'not satisfied,' or 'not sure.'

	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	Not Sure
overall ethnic and racial diversity of my local WIC office staff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Overall ethnic and racial diversity of State WIC staff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The awareness and understanding WIC staff display for my culture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
WIC materials include images of people who look like me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
WIC has developed classes and activities that are interesting to me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
WIC conducts culturally appropriate activities that are attractive to me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. Do you think there are things that get in the way of WIC being more accepting, respectful, and/or inclusive of African Americans?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

13. (If you answered 'No' or 'Prefer not to answer' to question 12, please skip to next question)

If you answered YES to previous question, please mark the items you think keep WIC from being more accepting and respectful of African-Americans. Please check your answer for each item.

	Yes, this is a barrier	No, not a barrier	Not sure
Lack of African American staff at local WIC offices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of African American staff at State WIC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
WIC staff not understanding how African Americans might think or feel about using WIC benefits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Inability of WIC to conduct effective outreach into the African American community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of transportation to WIC clinics or transportation difficulties	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
WIC clinics are not well located for the African American community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of information or knowledge on where to go to get WIC Program benefits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Not feeling comfortable participating in the WIC program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Feeling ashamed or shy to be seen going to a WIC program clinic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Inconvenient hours/days that the WIC clinic is open	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Waiting for and getting services takes too much time	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Waiting space at the WIC clinic is limited	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Child care is not offered at WIC clinics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language barriers or immigration concerns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Difficulties qualifying for benefits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
WIC food selection is not desirable	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Yes, this is a barrier	No, not a barrier	Not sure
WIC food stores are not well located for the African American community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
WIC foods are hard to find on the shelves in stores	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of paper checks, rather than debit/EBT cards	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Not enough use of technology or convenient options (like cell phone reminders/text messages, or online class options).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other barriers (please describe in box below)

14. Please mark the items that you feel currently help WIC to be accepting, respectful and/or inclusive of African-Americans.

- Location of WIC food stores
- Types of food in WIC are known to me
- I have built a connection with WIC staff
- The welcoming behavior of Breastfeeding peer counselors
- The quality of information that I receive from WIC
- That fathers are encouraged to participate in some WIC programs
- Breastfeeding peer counselors who are African American
- My local church/religious home encourages me to participate in WIC programs
- I feel that WIC staff respect and understand me

15. Please indicate whether you think the following suggestions would help WIC to be more accepting, respective and/or inclusive of African-Americans. Please mark 'yes,' 'no,' or 'not sure.'

	Yes	No	Not Sure
More staff who are African American	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Posters and materials that include images of African American mothers and families	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Location of sites near to neighborhoods where African Americans live	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Food selections and recipes that are familiar to African Americans	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More breastfeeding peer counselors who are African American	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Inclusion of fathers and other family members	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Relationships with local churches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of debit cards or EBT in place of paper checks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of texting for reminders or messages	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Option for online classes, in addition to classes in the clinic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Yes

No

Not Sure

Other suggestions (please describe in box below):

You have now completed the survey. Thank you so much for your participation!