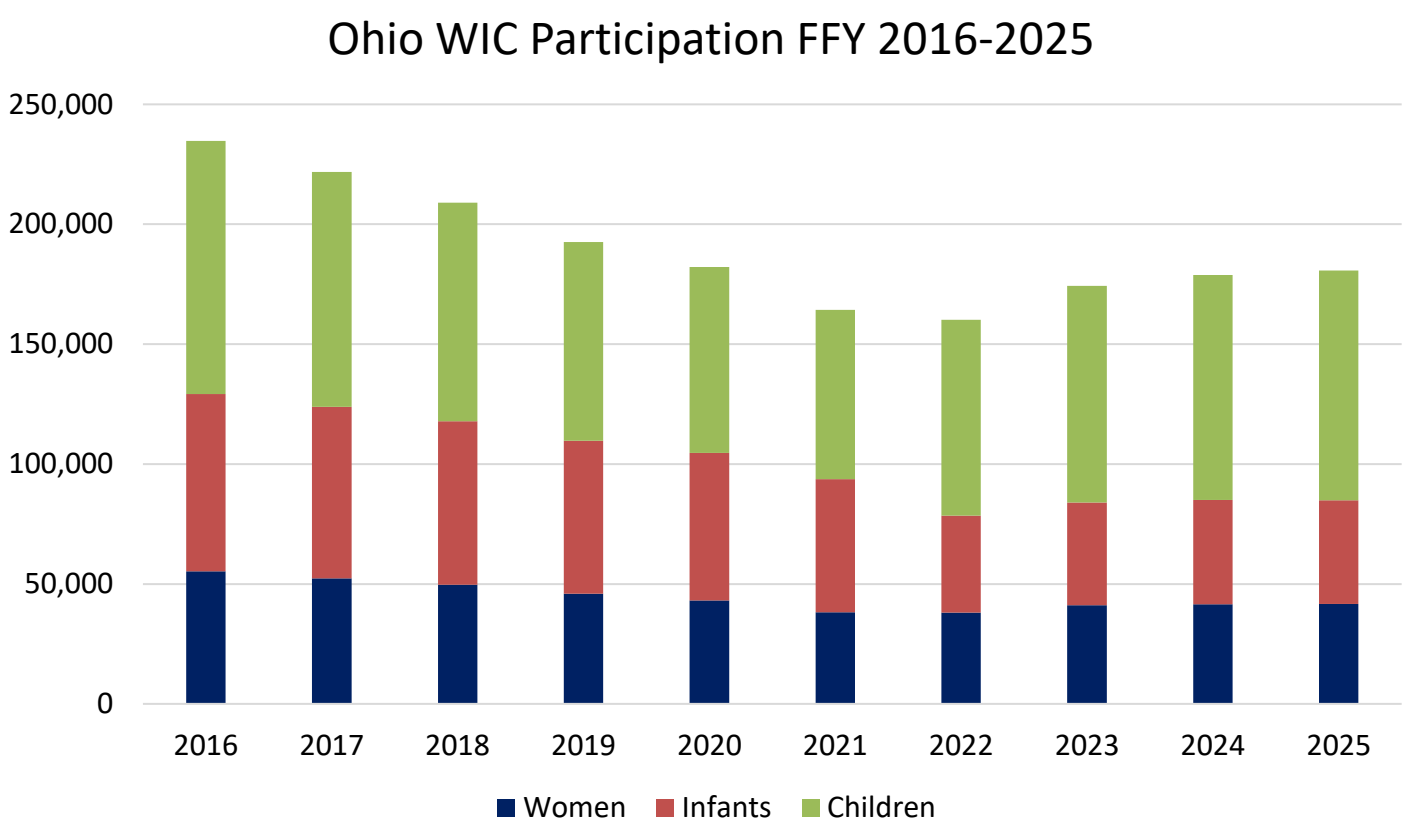
Participation in Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) continues to increase in FFY 2025



Source: United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service

- The number of Ohio WIC participants declined from 234,700 in FFY 2016 to 160,100 in FFY 2022 (31.8%). However, participation increased from a seven-year low in FFY 2022 to 180,700 in FFY 2025 (12.8%).
- WIC eligibility includes pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants, and children up to five years of age with household income up to 185% FPL ($49,300 for a family of three).
  - On average, WIC participation was 24% women, 29% infants, and 47% children from FFY 2016 to FFY 2025.
- The average monthly benefit per person ranged from a high of $64.20 in FFY 2025 to a low of $30.37 in FFY 2017. In FFY 2025, total WIC food costs were $139.2 million.
- Approved foods include whole grains, cereal, eggs, iron-fortified infant formula, and milk.
- WIC improves pregnancy outcomes, reduces infant mortality, and provides infants and children with a healthy start.