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## **Public Health Foundation Enterprises (PHFE) WIC Data Mining Project**

### **General Description**

“The primary goal of the Data Mining Project is to provide comprehensive data about the low-income 0-5 population in Los Angeles County. PHFE WIC collaborates with the California State WIC Program and the six other Local Agency WIC Programs in Los Angeles County to collect and analyze WIC data. Funded by First 5 LA, the project examines WIC administrative data and administers periodic surveys of WIC families in order to examine and address the needs of the low-income community.”<sup>1</sup>

### **Background**

“The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) serves over 69% of all infants born in Los Angeles County. According to Federal guidelines, pregnant and postpartum women (up to 12 months) and children under age 5 are eligible for WIC services if their family income falls below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level. In Los Angeles County, 7 local agency WIC programs provide services to WIC participants.

Since 1996, the California Department of Public Health Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Program has electronically collected WIC participants data via a statewide data collection system (ISIS). Thanks to a research partnership funded by First 5 LA and the support of the California State WIC Division, WIC data from all 7 local agency WIC programs in Los Angeles County have been aggregated to allow for examination of county-wide trends.”<sup>1</sup>

### **Data Collection**

Both WIC Administrative Data and WIC Survey Data are collected.

Concerning Administrative Data, “California WIC operates a statewide WIC certification and benefits tracking system. As part of the operation of that system, WIC captures an array of demographic data on WIC participants. Some of these data are available in aggregate form.”<sup>1</sup>

In regards to Survey Data, “The Los Angeles County WIC Survey commenced in 2005 and is scheduled every three years. Surveys were completed in 2005, 2008 and 2011. The survey is conducted with a random sample of 5000 - 6000 Los Angeles County WIC families, with the purpose of gathering health and behavioral information that is not available in the WIC Administrative Data.”<sup>1</sup>

### **Data Coverage**

The data cover Los Angeles County and are reported by the Data Mining Project by county, zip code and city.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.phfewic.org/Projects/DataMining.aspx>

**Accessibility**

A data request form must be submitted. Information regarding this can be found at <http://www.phfewic.org/Projects/DataSharing.aspx>

**Data Link**

<http://www.phfewic.org/Projects/DataMining.aspx>

**Funding**

The Project is funded by First 5 LA.

**Comments**

WIC data can also be accessed at [www.healthycity.org](http://www.healthycity.org)

**Contact**

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