California WIC Participant Food Shopping and Consumption Habits Survey

## Purpose of the Participant Survey

- Obtain information about food shopping and consumption habits, preferences, and likely choices if some new foods are offered through WIC checks
- Help determine food package policy, food package designs, and preparation of education materials to use upon implementation
- Provide baseline information for future assessment of change in participant habits and preferences


## Factors Considered

Location

- Rural
- Micropolitan
- Metropolitan

Language spoken at home

- Spanish

- English
- Vietnamese
- Chinese

Families with infants and children 1-5 years
Ethnicity
Available time frame

## Definitions

## Rural - no urban cluster $>10,000$

Micropolitan - at least one urban cluster $>10,000$ and none > 50,000

Metropolitan - at least one urban cluster > 50,000

## Local Agency Locations



| $\square$ Rural |
| :--- |
| $\square$ Micropolitan |
| $\square$ Metropolitan |

## Sampling Scheme

- We wanted a large enough sample of each target group that we could later make comparisons between subcomponents of the group
- Example: Compare the percentage of whole milk consumption among the English surveys in the rural clinics to the consumption among the English surveys in the Metropolitan clinics


## The Solution

Over sample all target groups with small relative percentages

- Rural sites
- Micropolitan sites
- Chinese language
- Vietnamese language
- Black/African Americans
- Caucasians


## Selecting Sites

- Reviewed WIC agency and site census data
- Examined target group characteristics of each site
- Selected sites with largest populations of each target group
- Considered broad geographical range to account for regional variation in responses


## Metropolitan Agency Recruitment

| Agency (\# clinics) | Total Participants |
| :--- | :---: |
| PHFE (17) | 1275 |
| Sacramento County DHHS (3) | 291 |
| Fresno County EOC (3) | 207 |
| American Red Cross (5) | 167 |
| Santa Clara County DPH (1) | 122 |
| Alameda County Health Care Service (2) | 112 |
| Ventura County Health Care Agency (1) | 110 |
| Monterey County WIC (2) | 105 |
| City/County San Francisco DPH (3) | 103 |

## Metropolitan Agency Recruitment

## (Continued)

| Agency (\# clinics) | Total Participants |
| :--- | :---: |
| San Diego State University (2) | 101 |
| Gardner Family Care Corp (1) | 72 |
| San Bernardino County DPH (1) | 61 |
| Community Resource Project (1) | 44 |
| Antelope Valley Hospital (1) | 24 |
| Orange/San Bernardino Co (1) | 18 |
| County of Orange Health Care Agency (1) | 18 |
| Northeast Valley Health Corp (1) | 7 |

## Micropolitan Agency Recruitment

Agency (\# clinics) Total ParticipantsGlenn County Health Services (2) 35Del Norte (1)34
Human Resources Council, Inc (1)34

## Rural Agency Recruitment

| Agency (\# clinics) | Total Participants |
| :--- | :---: |
| Tehama County Health Services (2) | 58 |
| Humboldt Co DPH (1) | 29 |
| County of Mendocino (2) | 20 |

## Language Spoken At Elone

Vietnamese 5.8\%Other 2.5\%
Chinese 5.6\%

English 39.8\%

Spanish 46.3\%

## Preferred Language of Families

 with Infants

## Race and Ethnicity Reported by Participants



## Age of Survey Participants

## Education Level of Participants



## Household Characteristics

- Average household size: 4.5 individuals
- Range: 1-20 people
- Average of 2 adults in each household
- Less than $25 \%$ reported only 1 adult
- $25 \%$ reported 3 or more adults in the household
- Average of 1.35 kids under 6 years per household
- Range: 0-17 kids
- Average of 1 child ages 6-18 per household
- $50 \%$ of households did not have any children ages 6-18

The average interviewee buys groceries for 4 people

- Range: 0-20 people


## Persons Interviewed

- Moms (95.7\%)
- Fathers (2.8\%)
- Other (1.5\%)- mostly grandmothers



## The Survey Tool

## Vanguard Vista (www.vanguardsw.com)

Vanguard Software ${ }^{m}$<br>co APORATION

- English and Spanish on-line
- Skip patterns
- Database is updated after each survey is submitted
- Remote access to survey results
- Laptops with air cards-wireless internet
- Simple reports easy to generate


## The Survey

Consisted of 74 questions
Lasted 10-20 minutes depending on family makeup and food habits

Conducted by 16 bi-lingual university students in July and August, 2007

Main topics included:

- Baby foods
- Cow's milk, soy milk, cheese, tofu
- Fruits and vegetables
- Whole grains
- Canned beans


## Additional Questions

- Organic food
- Child juice consumption
- Eggs
- Makeup of household
- Language spoken at home
- Preferred method of education
- Internet access

Welcome - Survey Introduction

1) Ask questions below.

Family ID
Including yourself, how many people currently live in your household? How many are adults age 18 and older?

How many are children between the ages of 6 and 18 years?
How many are children under six years of age?
2) When you shop for groceries, how many people do you shop for?
3) Please tell me how many people are currently on WIC in your household? (Enter a number. If no individuals in category, you must enter 0 .)

Pregnant woman
Breastfeeding woman
Non-breastfeeding PP woman Infant or baby ( $0-12 \mathrm{mo}$ )
Child (1-2yr)
Child (2-5yr)


Click "next" when finished with each section of questions. Requirements for each question are built into the survey.

Transition: The next few questions will ask about the fruits and vegetables you buy for your family

## Transitions

35) How often do you buy
(Read the options and select one for every form):

|  | Every week | Every month | Rarely | Never | Don't know | Refused |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fresh fruits | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Canned <br> fruits | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Frozen fruits | $\bigcirc$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

36) If WIC offered you fruit, would you use your wIC checks to buy


If Other, please specify: $\square$
iii) Transition: First I would like to ask you some questions about what you feed your baby (NAME).

## Skip Pattern

Write-in boxes Survey Tool

Design
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

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I
D es
-
5)* How old is your baby (NAME)?

Number of Months
0-3
4-6
7-11
6)* Does your baby (NAME) eat or drink anything other than breastmilk, formula or water?

```
O Yes (go to Q7)
No (go to Q17)
Refused
No (go to Q17)
Refused
Refused
```

7)* Do you buy infant cereal for your baby?

Page Break
Ask if $Q 6$ is $Y$ es ( $g \circ$ to $Q 7$ )
$\bigcirc$ Yes
No
路




Refused
8)* Do you buy baby foods for your baby (NAME)?

Ask if Q 6 is $Y$ Yes ( $g \circ$ to $Q 7$ )
O Yes (go to Q10)
O No (go to Q9)
Refused
9)* Why don't you buy baby foods?
(Do not read the options. Select all that apply)
$\square$ my baby is too young
$\square$ too expensive
$\square$ not healthy
$\square$ not fresh
$\square$ my baby does not like them
$\square$ my baby won't eat them
$\square$ make my own food for the baby
$\square$ don't know
$\square$ refused
$\square$ other
Ask if Qs is No ( $g \circ$ to $Q 9$ )

If Other, please specify: $\qquad$
10)* If WIC offered baby foods as part of the food package, which of the
following baby foods would you like to buy with the WIC. checks?
10)* If WIC offered baby foods as part of the food package, which of the
following baby foods would you like to buy with the WIC. checks?

## Ask if Q 8 is $Y$ es

 (go to Q10)(Read the options and select all that apply.)
$\square$ I would not buy ready made baby foods
$\square$ Fruits
$\square$ I would not buy ready made baby foods
$\square$ Fruits
$\square$ Vegetables
$\square$ Meats
$\square$ Dinners

Page Break



9)* Why don't you buy baby foods? Page Break

(Do not read the options. Select all that apply) (go to Q10)


$\qquad$
$\square$ my baby is too young
$\square$ too expensive
$\square$ not healthy
$\square$ not fresh
$\square$ my baby does not like them
$\square$ my baby won't eat them
$\square$ make my own food for the b




20 2
town baby foods wo ul you tie to buy
$\square$



$\qquad$






EMultiple Choice - Windows Internet Explorer


## Vanguard Software

Edit Format Security Launch Results FAQ WiC Participant Survey July 6
Results Close

## Save

Save As
Preview
Test
Logic
Sample
Report
Print

Return to
Survey
Manager
1577 people have responded to this survey.
Task: Choose the task you want to perform:
() Generate an analysis report

Examine each completed questionnaire
Download raw data (Change Settings)
Dates: Include questionnaires completed in the date range:
© All dates
Only dates between: $06 / 21 / 2007$ and Choose Start... Choose End... (inclusive) Choose End...

## Gefting Results

# Survey Results \& Analysis 

for

# Spanish WiC Participant Survey July 11, 2007 1033amKT 

Account: mpunia<br>Friday, September 21, 2007 12:52:10 PM<br>Vista ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ Survey System

## Results Analysis

44) How many times a day does your child (NAME) drink the kind of juice you get from WIC?

| My child does not drink juice | (35) | - ${ }_{\text {H }}$ 3.6\% |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | (178) | - |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | (308) | $\square \mid 31.4 \%$ |  |  |  |  |
| 3 | (240) | $\square$ - $+24.5 \%$ |  |  |  |  |
| 4 | (127) | - 납 $13.0 \%$ |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | (54) | 맵 5.5\% |  |  |  |  |
| 6 | (20) | IIH $2.0 \%$ |  |  |  |  |
| 7 | (6) | \||1| $0.6 \%$ |  |  |  |  |
| 8 | (5) | \||| $0.5 \%$ |  |  |  |  |
| 9 |  | \||| $0.1 \%$ |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | (5) | \||1| 0.5\% |  |  |  |  |
| Don't know | (1) | \||| $0.1 \%$ |  |  |  |  |
| Refused |  | \||1 0.0\% |  |  |  |  |
| Other | (0) | III $0.0 \%$ |  |  |  |  |
| Total | (980) | 0 10 1 1 1 1 | $\frac{1}{60} \quad \frac{1}{70}$ | $\frac{1}{80}$ |  | $\stackrel{-100 \%}{ }$ |

This question is asked if the answer to question 41 is $Y$ es .

## 44a) If Other, please specify:

- $1 / 2$ water $1 / 2$ juice

An answer to this question is not required and 979 of 980 respondents chose not to answer.


Confidence: $+/-3.2 \%$

This question is asked if the answer to question 44 is 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 .
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My Computer

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8＝＇Fresno County EOC＇
9－＇Sacramento County DHHS＇
10＊＇Human Resources Counci1，Inc＇ Pregnant Uosen
Breastieeding Wemen

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$16{ }^{-\prime}$ Northeast Valley Healch Corp＇
17＝＇County of Orange Health Care Agcy
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100＇5 Ocean－Park Healch Ger＇
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# Expanded <br> Analyses 




## Progress Towards Coals

## Survey Progression: 7/12/07 (~1 week)

| Target Group | Percent of Goal |
| :--- | :---: |
| English Infants | $28 \%$ |
| Spanish Infants | $13 \%$ |
| Vietnamese | $35 \%$ |
| Chinese | $36 \%$ |
| Black/African <br> American | $51 \%$ |
| Caucasian | $1 \% \%$ |
| Rural | $0 \%$ |
| Micropolitan | $33 \%$ |
| Total Interviews |  |

## Survey Progression: 7/19/07 ( $\sim 2$ weeks)

| Target Group | Percent of <br> Goal |
| :--- | :---: |
| English Infants | $56 \%$ |
| Spanish Infants | $28 \%$ |
| Vietnamese | $79 \%$ |
| Chinese | $59 \%$ |
| Black/African American | $128 \%$ |
| Caucasian | $114 \%$ |
| Rural | $65 \%$ |
| Micropolitan | $49 \%$ |
| Total Interviews | $76 \%$ |

## Survey Progression: 7/27/07 ( ${ }^{\circ} 3$ weeks)

| Target Group | Percent of Goal |
| :--- | :---: |
| English Infants | $85 \%$ |
| Spanish Infants | $33 \%$ |
| Vietnamese | $115 \%$ |
| Chinese | $70 \%$ |
| Black/African American | $169 \%$ |
| Caucasian | $135 \%$ |
| Rural | $65 \%$ |
| Micropolitan | $49 \%$ |
| Total Interviews | $154 \%$ |

## Survey Progression: 8/2/07 (~4 weeks)

| Target Group | Percent of Goal |
| :--- | :---: |
| English Infants | $96 \%$ |
| Spanish Infants | $37 \%$ |
| Vietnamese | $116 \%$ |
| Chinese | $89 \%$ |
| Black/African American | $189 \%$ |
| Caucasian | $154 \%$ |
| Rural | $79 \%$ |
| Micropolitan | $57 \%$ |
| Total Interviews | $172 \%$ |

## Survey Progression: 8/81/07 (~8 weeks)

| Target Group | Final Numbers | Percent of Goal |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| English Infants | 731 | $176 \%$ |
| Spanish Infants | 502 | $126 \%$ |
| Vietnamese | 151 | $151 \%$ |
| Chinese | 156 | $156 \%$ |
| Black/African American | 296 | $296 \%$ |
| Caucasian | 251 | $251 \%$ |
| Rural | 105 | $103 \%$ |
| Micropolitan | 107 | $107 \%$ |
| Total Interviews | 3085 | $220 \%$ |

## Interviews Completed

- Total interviews completed:3,085
- Represented 4,559 participants
- Pregnant women 562
- Breastfeeding women 459
- Postpartum women 281
- Infants (0-12 months) 1,311
- Children (1-5 years) 1,946


## Quality Control

The Students:

- practiced interviewing each other and local agency employees
- were periodically observed and evaluated

The Epidemiologist:

- ran weekly summary reports
- checked data for consistency
- obtained clarification on questionable responses
- created reports of interviewer responses and appropriate coding choice


## In-Depth Analyses

Decided what to do with write-in responses
Looked for trends

- Language groups
- Family type (i.e. infant vs. child)
- Education level

Analyzed for associations between question items

- Preferences and Type of product purchased
- Cow's milk and soy products

Consumption of multiple products (i.e. rice and whole wheat tortillas)

## Digging Deeper Into the Data

## Other things we would like to know:

- Is there a difference between participants in rural, micropolitan and metropolitan in the form (fresh or processed) of fruits and vegetables they purchase?
- Who is currently buying brown rice?
- Are organic foods more popular in certain counties?
- Who is making their own baby foods?


## Survey Results

Main topics included:

- Baby foods
- Cow's milk, soy milk, cheese, tofu
- Fruits and vegetables
- Whole grains
- Canned beans

Main topics considered:

- Food shopping trends
- Consumption habits
- Food preferences
- Choices of new foods if offered by WIC


## Families with Infants

$79 \%$ of families with infants purchase baby foods

Those who don't purchase baby foods reported that...

- Baby too young: 57\%
- Make their own: 28\%
- Baby does not like: $20 \%$
- Baby will not eat baby food: $9 \%$
- Too expensive: $4 \%$
- Baby food is not healthy: $3 \%$



## Baby Foods Currently Purchased



## If WIC checks included baby food, participants would purchase...



## Infants Consuming Table Foods



## Infant Beverages

$78 \%$ of infants are consuming beverages other than water, breastmilk, or formula


Age infants first consumed anything other than water, breastmilk, or formula


## Family Milk Purchasing Trends



## Adult Milk Consumption Trends

Type of milk

- Whole milk (41.1\%)
- 2\% (39.3\%)
- $1 \%$ (7.5\%)
- Skim (3.5\%)
- Lactaid (1.8\%)
- Soy (2.2\%)


## Choose this type because...

- Best for me (healthier) (50.1\%)
- Like the taste (31.4\%)
- My family prefers it (22.0\%)


## Reason for Choosing Whole Millk - Aclult



## Child Milk Consumption Trends

## Type of milk

- Whole milk (52.1\%)
- $2 \%$ (36.6\%)
- $1 \%$ (5.5\%)
- Skim (1.4\%)
- Lactaid (1.6\%)
- Soy (1.5\%)


## Choose this type because...

- Best for child (healthier) (64.4\%)
- Child likes the taste (20.3\%)
- My family prefers it (21.4\%)



## Opinion on Mrilk Quantity



## Milk Preference Trends

When asked what they would do if they could only purchase lower fat milk with WIC checks, they responded that they would buy:

- $2 \%$ milk (77.7\%)
- $1 \%$ milk ( $15.5 \%$ )
- Skim milk (5.6\%)
- Whole milk with own money (7.4\%)



## Soy Millk Trends

Of those who ever purchase soy milk, they buy it:

- Only occasionally: 19\%
- 1 qt/week: $8 \%$
- 1/2 gal/week: $29 \%$
- 1 gal/week: $21 \%$
- 1-2 gal/week: $18 \%$
- More than 2 gal/week: $5 \%$

Type of soy milk purchased:


- Refrigerated soy milk: $86 \%$
- Shelf-stable soy milk: $20 \%$


## Flavors of Soy Millk Purchased

| Survey <br> Language | Plain | Vanilla | Chocolate |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| English | $55 \%$ | $72 \%$ | $18 \%$ |
| Spanish | $60 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $20 \%$ |
| Chinese | $86 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $3 \%$ |
| Vietnamese | $92 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $0 \%$ |

## Reasons for Drinking Soy Mrilk

## Adult

- Like the taste of soy milk: 53\%
- Lactose intolerance: 30\%
- It's good for health: $26 \%$
- Doesn't like regular milk: $12 \%$


## Child

- Lactose intolerance: $45 \%$
- It's good for health: 31\%
- Likes the taste of soy milk: $24 \%$
- Doesn't like regular milk: 7\%
- Another person in the family drinks it: 3\%


## If WIC offered soy milk in place of all or some cow's milk they would buy...

## Don't know <br> 4.7\%



Only soy milk
$3.5 \%$

## Cheese Trends

$95 \%$ of participants ever eat cheese

- Spanish (99\%)
- English (98\%)
- Chinese (75\%)
- Vietnamese (43\%)



## Opinion on Cheese Quantity



## Tofu Trends

## $21 \%$ of participants ever buy tofu

- English (16\%)
- Spanish (8\%)
- Chinese (99\%)
- Vietnamese (100\%)



## New Combo Check Opinions

Mostly cow's milk (73\%) with...

- Cheese (49\%)
- Soy milk and cheese ( $21 \%$ )
- Tofu, soymilk, and cheese ( $21 \%$ )
- Tofu and soy milk (5\%)
- Tofu and cheese ( $4 \%$ )
- Soy milk (1\%)

All cow's milk (15\%)


## New Combo Check Opinions cont.

Mostly soy milk ( $10 \%$ ) with...

- Cheese and cow's milk (22\%)
- Tofu, cow's milk, and cheese (22\%)
- Tofu and cow's milk (18\%)
- Cheese (16\%)
- Tofu and cheese ( $6 \%$ )
- Cow's milk (6\%)

All soy milk (2\%)


## Fruit Purchasing Trends

- Most families buy fresh fruit weekly (88\%)
- Most families rarely or never buy frozen fruit (86\%)
- Most families rarely or never buy canned fruit (65\%)
- Nearly $100 \%$ of families would use WIC checks to buy fresh fruits
- $60 \%$ of families would use WIC checks to buy canned fruits
- $47 \%$ of families would use WIC checks to buy frozen fruits


## Vegetable Purchasing Trends

Most families buy fresh vegetables weekly (87\%)
They buy canned vegetables

- Never (31\%)
- Monthly (29\%)
- Weekly (23\%)
- Rarely (15\%)

They buy frozen vegetables

- Never (44\%)
- Monthly (24\%)
- Weekly (17\%)
- Rarely ( $15 \%$ )

They would use WIC checks to buy

- Fresh (99\%)
- Canned $(64 \%)$
- Frozen (61\%)


## Children's Juice Consumption

- No juice
- 1x per day
$2 \%$
- 2-3x per day $58 \%$
- 4x per day
$13 \%$
- $5 x$ per day
$6 \%$



## Typical Amount Per Serving

- Up to 4 oz. $43 \%$
- 5-7 ozs. $27 \%$
- 8-11 ozs.

26\%

## Opinion on Juice Quantity



## Grain Purchasing Trends



## Whole Grain Consumption Trends



## Reasons Whole Grain Items Aren't Chosen

| Reason | WW Bread | Corn <br> Tortillas | WW <br> Tortillas | Brown <br> Rice |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Don't know what they are | $4.5 \%$ | $18.5 \%$ | $8.8 \%$ | $3.6 \%$ |
| Never tasted | $12.9 \%$ | $14.4 \%$ | $38.9 \%$ | $39.7 \%$ |
| Don't like the taste | $45.9 \%$ | $34.6 \%$ | $21.3 \%$ | $19.8 \%$ |
| Family doesn't like it | $28.5 \%$ | $19.3 \%$ | $16.3 \%$ | $13.7 \%$ |
| No specific reason | $10.8 \%$ | $16.1 \%$ | $13.6 \%$ | $14.5 \%$ |
| Don't know how to cook it | - | - | - | $6.0 \%$ |
| Make my own | - | $0.5 \%$ | $0.6 \%$ |  |

## Whole Grains and WIC Checks

If WIC offered whole grain products, participants would use their checks to buy...

- Whole wheat bread (94.6\%)
- Oatmeal (87.1\%)
- Corn tortillas (83.8\%)
- Brown rice (63.0\%)
- Barley (22.4\%)



## Canned Beans Trends

Participants and their families reported consuming beans:

- Never (56.8\%)
- Occasionally (15.2\%)
- Often (15.5\%)
- Rarely (12.4\%)


Those who never consume canned beans don't because...

- They purchase dried (72.3\%)
- Their family doesn't like them (33.8\%)


## Canned Beans and Brand Loyalty

- $33.4 \%$ of participants have a favorite brand of canned beans.
- $83.6 \%$ of those individuals would purchase another brand if offered by WIC checks.



## Beans and WVIC Checks

If participants could create their own WIC checks with a combination of canned beans, dried beans, and peanut butter, they would choose:

- Dried beans (73.7\%)
- Peanut butter (72.1\%)
- Canned beans (37.2\%)
- None (0.8\%)
- Don't know (0.1\%)



## Opinions On Egg Quantity

## Organic Foods Trends

$33.7 \%$ ever buy organic foods

Opinions about organic foods

- $34.6 \%$ feel organic is better for them
- $27.8 \%$ don't know anything about organic foods
- $24.2 \%$ have no strong opinion about organic foods
- $12.5 \%$ feel organic foods are too expensive
- $6.2 \%$ feel organic is no different from regular

E
Only $2.0 \%$ stated that WIC should offer organic foods

## Education Trends

## Preferred information format

- Handouts (53.5\%)
- One-on-one contact (35.9\%)
- Classes (35.6\%)
- E-mail (12.3\%)
- Internet (10.1\%)
- Video (10.6\%)

- Interactive computer programs (2.5\%)
$44.7 \%$ regularly access the internet outside of work


## Access to Our Findings

- You can contact Erika.Trainer@cdph.ca.gov or Laurie.Green@cdph.ca.gov if you have any questions or to request more information about survey procedures or our findings.


