# NATFAN: Infants State Agency Report <br> Pre-Food Package Rollout Questionnaire Fall 2009 

State: Connecticut

Total number of participants who completed the questionnaire: 466
Number of participants who completed the English version: 376
Number of participants who completed the Spanish version: 90
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## Notes for WIC agencies in reading and interpreting the NATFAN Pre-Food Package Rollout Questionnaire Results:

The NATFAN pre-rollout questionnaire was administered to over 71,000 WIC participants in 52 programs representing 39 states, 11 ITOs, Washington DC, and one US Territory. WIC programs distributed this questionnaire between November 2008 and September 2009, prior to the implementation of the new WIC food package.

The results in this report capture a "snapshot" of the consumption and food frequency patterns of WIC participants prior to the new food package rollout based on a sample, not every participant. You may want to compare the questionnaire responses with the most recent certification reports to make sure that the sample group is similar to the overall participant makeup.

These results reflect all of the completed questionnaires for your program (please see sample sizes on page 1). Blank or refused surveys were not included in these results.

The totals for each question may not match the number shown on page 1. Not every participant who completed the questionnaire responded to all questions, so the results for each item reflect only those who answered that question. The letter " $n$ "denotes the total number of participants who answered the question.

This report is designed to help you evaluate the impact of the new WIC foods on your WIC program and to help you plan and provide the best possible nutrition education services for your participants. You may be interested in comparing your program's results with the aggregate, national data. If you have any questions about this report, please contact Rachel Condie at rcondie@tamu.edu or 979-458-2679, or Asha Girimaji at asha.g@tamu.edu or 979-862-2213.

We appreciate your participation in this project!

## Parent/Caregiver Demographic Information

## Participant Status

WIC participants reported the following information about their infants:

1. $74.1 \%$ of 398 participants had an infant in the household who received WIC foods or formula.
2. $74.6 \%$ of 342 participants had an infant who received WIC foods or formula in the past 30 days.
3. $98.2 \%$ of 400 participants were the primary caregiver for the infant.

| 4. What is your age? | \# of <br> participants | $\%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 17 or younger | 11 | 3.0 |
| $18-23$ | 133 | 36.8 |
| $24-29$ | 125 | 34.6 |
| $30-34$ | 54 | 15.0 |
| 35 or older | 38 | 10.5 |

n=361

| 5. What is the highest level of education you <br> have completed? | \# of <br> participants | $\%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| $1^{\text {st }}$ to $6^{\text {th }}$ grade | 13 | 3.4 |
| $7^{\text {th }}$ to $9^{\text {th }}$ grade | 27 | 7.0 |
| $10^{\text {th }}$ to $12^{\text {th }}$ grade | 74 | 19.1 |
| High School graduate / GED | 127 | 32.7 |
| At least some college | 147 | 37.9 |

n=388

| 6. What is your race? | \# of <br> participants | \% |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| White, non-Hispanic | 114 | 24.5 |
| White, Hispanic | 94 | 20.2 |
| Black, non-Hispanic | 82 | 17.6 |
| Black, Hispanic | 16 | 3.4 |
| Native American, non-Hispanic | 5 | 1.1 |
| Native American, Hispanic | 14 | 3.0 |
| Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic | 1 | 0.2 |
| Pacific Islander, Hispanic | 7 | 1.5 |
| Asian, non-Hispanic | 12 | 2.6 |
| Asian, Hispanic | 3 | 0.6 |
| Other | 16 | 7.7 |
| I do not want to answer |  | 3.4 |
| n=466 |  |  |


| 7. What language is spoken most often at <br> home? | \# of <br> participants | \% |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| English | 229 | 60.1 |
| Both Spanish and English | 81 | 21.3 |
| Spanish | 61 | 16.0 |
| Other | 10 | 2.6 |
| n=381 |  |  |

## Infant Information

| 8. How old is your infant? | \# of <br> participants | \% |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Less than 1 month old | 66 | 16.5 |  |
| 1 to 2 months old | 68 | 17.0 |  |
| 3 to 4 months old | 61 | 15.3 |  |
| 5 months old | 16 | 4.0 |  |
| 6 months old | 54 | 13.5 |  |
| 7 to 8 months old | 66 | 13.8 |  |
| 9 to 10 months old | 13 | 16.5 |  |
| 11 months old |  |  |  |
| n=399 |  |  |  |

9. $48.8 \%$ of 408 participants have an infant who is a boy.
10. $51.2 \%$ of 408 participants have an infant who is a girl.

## Breastfeeding Status

The percentages of participants who answered questions about their breastfeeding status are shown below:
11. $29.8 \%$ of 416 participants had an infant who was currently breastfed or given breast milk.
12. $71.0 \%$ of 417 participants had an infant who was breastfed at least one time.

Participants were asked the following question about breastfeeding cessation. The results are shown in Chart 1.
13. What was the age of your infant when you stopped breastfeeding?

$\mathrm{n}=332$

## Formula Feeding

Participants were asked about formula feeding. One of the questions is listed below with the results in Chart 2.
14. At what age did you first feed your infant formula?

$\mathrm{n}=388$

| 15. How many ounces of formula does your <br> infant drink per feeding? | \# of <br> participants | \% |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| My infant does not drink formula | 30 | 7.4 |
| 1-2 ounces | 31 | 7.7 |
| 3-4 ounces | 99 | 24.4 |
| 5-6 ounces | 120 | 29.6 |
| $7-8$ ounces | 114 | 28.1 |
| 9 or more ounces | 11 | 2.7 |
| n=405 |  |  |


| 16. When you run out of WIC formula, what do <br> you usually do? | \# of <br> participants | \% |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Formula does not usually run out | 74 | 18.6 |
| I buy or am given additional formula | 254 | 63.8 |
| I add extra milk to the formula | 0 | 0.0 |
| I add extra cereal to the formula | 10 | 2.5 |
| I add extra water to the formula | 1 | 0.3 |
| I try to give more breast milk | 17 | 4.3 |
| I breastfeed my infant | 24 | 4.5 |
| My infant does not drink formula |  | 6.0 |
| n=398 |  |  |

Participants were asked about the frequency of formula feeding with the question below. The results are shown in Chart 3.
17. How often does your infant drink formula?

$\mathrm{n}=404$

## Milk, Juice, and Sweetened Drinks

| 18. How often does your infant do the following? | Never or less than once per week | 1 to 3 times per week | 4 to 6 times per week | 1 time per day | 2 times per day | 3 times per day | 4 or more times per day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number (\%) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Drink milk other than breast milk or formula. $\mathrm{n}=398$ | $\begin{gathered} 319 \\ (80.2 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 16 \\ (4.0 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5 \\ (1.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 7 \\ (1.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 11 \\ (2.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5 \\ (1.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 35 \\ (8.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ |
| Drink soy milk. $\mathrm{n}=391$ | $\begin{gathered} 369 \\ (94.4 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1 \\ (0.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2 \\ (0.5 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0 \\ (0.0 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0 \\ (0.0 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 3 \\ (0.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 16 \\ (4.1 \%) \end{gathered}$ |


| 19. The age at which the following fluids were first fed to | My infant does not eat this | Less than 4 months old | 4 to 5 months old | 6 months old | 7 to 8 months old | 9 to 11 months old |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| your infant: | Number <br> (\%) |  |  |  |  |  |


| 100\% juice such as <br> apple, orange, or <br> tomato. <br> $\mathrm{n}=396$ | 214 <br> $(54.0 \%)$ | 33 <br> $(8.3 \%)$ | 67 <br> $(16.9 \%)$ | 52 <br> $(13.1 \%)$ | $(5.1 \%)$ | $(2.5 \%)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Regular milk. n=388 | 348 <br> $(89.7 \%)$ | 6 <br> $(1.5 \%)$ | 4 <br> $(1.0 \%)$ | 2 <br> $(0.5 \%)$ | $(0.5 \%)$ | $(6.7 \%)$ |
| All other drinks <br> such as Kool-Aid, <br> soda, cola, sport <br> drinks, tea, sugar <br> water, or diet <br> drinks. n=395 | 363 | 3 <br> $(91.9 \%)$ | $(0.8 \%)$ | $(1.5 \%)$ | $(1.5 \%)$ | $(2.0 \%)$ |

Participants were asked the following two questions about the frequency of their infant consuming different beverages. The results are shown in Chart 4.
20. How often does your infant drink $100 \%$ juice such as apple, orange, or tomato juice?
21. How often does your infant drink other drinks such as Kool-Aid, sugar water, soda, cola, sports drinks, or sweet tea?

## Chart 4. Frequency of Infant Consuming 100\% Juice and Other Drinks


$\mathrm{n}=400$ for question 20 and $\mathrm{n}=394$ for question 21

## Baby Food

| 22. What kinds of baby food do you feed your <br> infant? | \# of <br> participants | \% |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| I do not feed my infant jars/containers of baby food | 145 | 31.1 |
| Fruits | 209 | 44.8 |
| Vegetables | 184 | 39.5 |
| Cereal | 203 | 43.6 |
| Meats | 64 | 13.7 |
| Dinners | 63 | 13.5 |
| Dessert | 65 | 13.9 |
| Others | 18 | 3.9 |
| n=466 |  |  |

Participants were asked about the amount of baby food fed to their infant weekly. The question is stated below. The results are shown in Chart 5.
23. How many jars/containers of baby food do you feed your infant in an average week?

$\mathrm{n}=273$

Participants were asked about the age at which they first fed their infant certain types of food. The questions are stated above Chart 6 and Chart 7.
24. At what age did you first feed your infant meats?
25. At what age did you first feed your infant cereal?
26. At what age did you first feed your infant desserts?

$\mathrm{n}=386$ for question $24, \mathrm{n}=401$ for question 25 , and $\mathrm{n}=374$ for question 26.
27. At what age did you first feed your infant fruit?
28. At what age did you first feed your infant vegetables?


[^0]| 29. How often does your infant do the following? | Never or less than once per week | 1 to 3 times per week | 4 to 6 times per week | 1 time per day | 2 times per day | 3 times per day | 4 or more times per day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number (\%) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eat cereal. n=397 | $\begin{gathered} 181 \\ (45.6 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 47 \\ (11.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 21 \\ (5.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 75 \\ (18.9 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 38 \\ (9.6 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 23 \\ (5.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 12 \\ (3.0 \%) \end{gathered}$ |
| Eat fruits. $\mathrm{n}=399$ | $\begin{gathered} 189 \\ (47.4 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 43 \\ (10.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 23 \\ (5.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 57 \\ (14.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 59 \\ (14.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 19 \\ (4.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 9 \\ (2.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ |
| Eat vegetables. $\mathrm{n}=399$ | $\begin{gathered} 196 \\ (49.1 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 39 \\ (9.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 22 \\ (5.5 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 73 \\ (18.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 45 \\ (11.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 19 \\ (4.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5 \\ (1.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ |
| Eat meat. $\mathrm{n}=393$ | $\begin{gathered} 300 \\ (76.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 20 \\ (5.1 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 9 \\ (2.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 48 \\ (12.2 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 13 \\ (3.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1 \\ (0.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2 \\ (0.5 \%) \end{gathered}$ |
| Eat desserts. $\mathrm{n}=393$ | $\begin{gathered} 295 \\ (75.1 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 38 \\ (9.7 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 11 \\ (2.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 34 \\ (8.7 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 7 \\ (1.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5 \\ (1.3 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 3 \\ (0.8 \%) \end{gathered}$ |


[^0]:    $\mathrm{n}=395$ for question 27 and $\mathrm{n}=400$ for question 28

