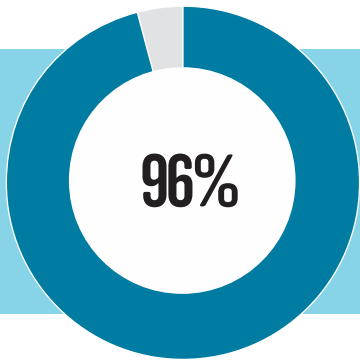


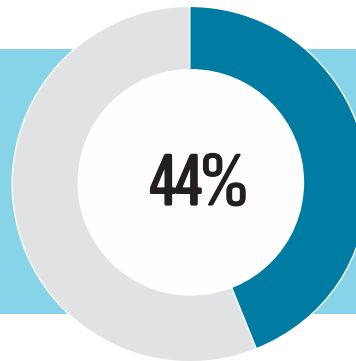
The Working Families Tax Credit is a Smart Investment in a Healthier New Mexico

SUPPORT HB 23 AND SB 183

INCREASING THE WORKING FAMILIES TAX CREDIT WOULD PUT ANOTHER \$52 MILLION¹ BACK INTO THE HANDS OF NEW MEXICO'S HARD-WORKING FAMILIES – AND THE BUSINESSES WHERE THEY WILL SPEND IT.

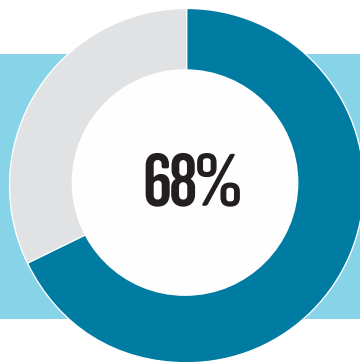


96% of the money returned from the two credits goes to families with children²

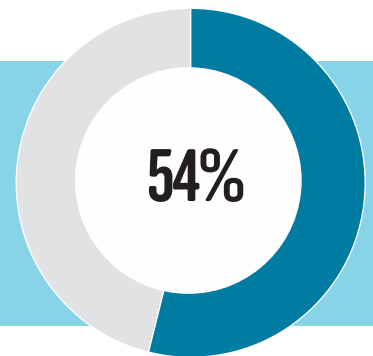


Nearly 225,000 children benefit – that's about 44% of all NM kids³

68% of claimants are people of color⁴



54% of claimants have at least some college education -- they simply aren't earning family-sustaining wages⁵



BENEFITS OF THE WFTC

- This tax credit is proven to incentivize work and allow families to purchase:
 - reliable transportation
 - child care
 - healthier food
- Businesses benefit too as the refunds are spent quickly and locally
- It's a common sense, bi-partisan solution to improve health and well-being for New Mexico families



“As governor, I will build women's economic security and opportunities by increasing the Working Families Tax Credit.”

-Michelle Lujan Grisham, New Mexicans for Michelle Website, December 2018

A growing body of research shows that tax policies like the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC) improve the health and well-being of the families and children who receive them. **By expanding the WFTC, we could further improve health, address disparities, and help families thrive.**

CREDITS LIKE THE EITC AND THE WFTC ARE LINKED TO IMPROVEMENTS IN:

PARENTS' HEALTH

- Better mental health among mothers⁶
- Better overall health and decreased physical and mental stress among mothers with a high school diploma or less⁷
- Better physical health among men and women (ages 21 to 50)⁸ due to increased fruit consumption, decreased meat consumption, improved cholesterol, fewer colds, and more

MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH

- Better pre- and post-pregnancy health⁹
- Fewer babies born at an unhealthy low weight^{10, 11}

CHILDREN'S HEALTH

- Increased insurance coverage rates among children (ages 6 to 14)¹²
- Better child health status as reported by mothers¹³
- Children have access to more regular meals¹⁴

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

- Improved test scores, particularly in math¹⁵
- Boosted high school graduation rates¹⁶
- Improved academic achievement that's equivalent to getting two extra months of schooling¹⁷

COLLEGE ATTENDANCE

- Boosted college enrollment rates¹⁸
- Increased college graduation rates as well as total years of education completed¹⁹

EARNINGS IN WORKFORCE

- Higher long-term growth in earnings for single mothers (a mean increase of 17 percent in average annual earnings)²⁰
- Increased hours worked and wages earned in women with children²¹

RETIREMENT BENEFITS

- Increased retirement benefits earned through social security²²

1 NMVC analysis of 2015 IRS income tax data provided by the Brookings Institute

2 *Ibid*

3-5 NM Voices for Children analysis of IRS 2015 tax year data from the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Interactive Database provided by the Tax Policy Center, a collaborative effort of the Urban Institute and Brookings Institution

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