

# A PROFILE OF MEDICAID IN NEW YORK STATE

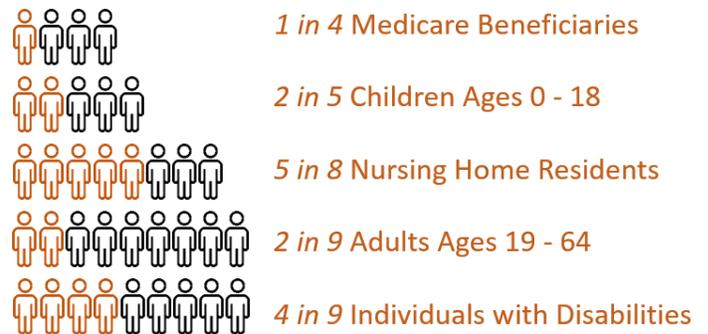


**Medicaid enables over 6 million vulnerable New Yorkers to access life-saving medical treatments and vital preventive care services.**

## Medicaid is the foundation of New York's children's health care system.

Medicaid provides comprehensive, affordable health care coverage to nearly 50 percent of our State's children – over two million of the youngest New Yorkers. Medicaid is especially critical for children under the age of three in New York, with 60 percent of this demographic receiving needed coverage under the program. And children are certainly not the only New Yorkers who Medicaid serves – about one out of every three of our State's residents, or 6.3 million people, are Medicaid beneficiaries, including individuals with disabilities and seniors (FIGURE 1).

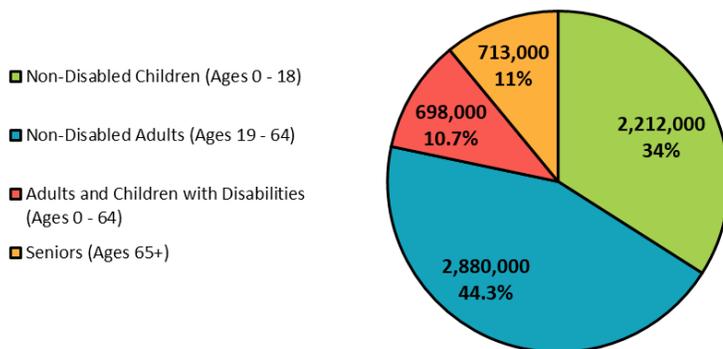
In New York State, Medicaid covers...



**FIGURE 1.** Scope of Medicaid in New York State

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation New York State Medicaid Fact Sheet, Oct. 2019

**FIGURE 2.** New York State Medicaid Enrollment by Eligibility Group, FY 2014



Source: MACPAC Medicaid and CHIP Data Book, Dec. 2019

## Non-disabled children and adults comprise over 75 percent of New York's Medicaid enrollees (FIGURE 2).

Medicaid provides our State's children and adults with access to critical health and mental health services, thereby reducing or eliminating entirely the effects and costs of many health conditions. Without Medicaid's strong protections, millions of our State's residents would be uninsured or underinsured, thereby jeopardizing their well-being and substantially increasing both short and long-term costs for our State and its counties. And without a strong Medicaid program, New York's hospitals will struggle to stay open and obtain needed supplies, such as personal protective equipment (PPE).

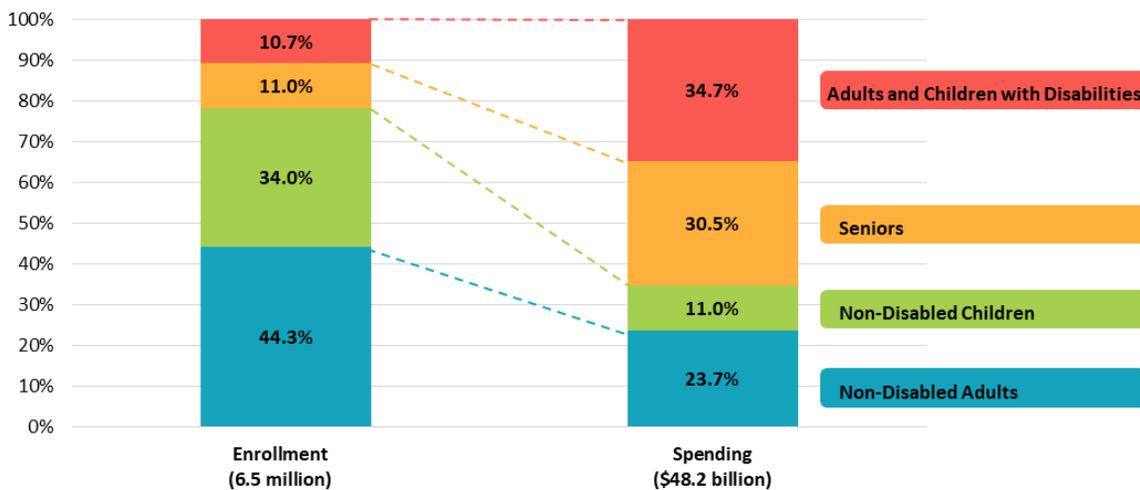
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**Enrollment versus Spending.** While non-disabled children and adults represent over 75 percent of New York’s Medicaid enrollees, they account for a relatively small share of overall program spending. Seniors and disabled individuals, by contrast, comprise a much smaller proportion of enrollees but were responsible for approximately 65 percent of our State’s Medicaid spending in Fiscal Year 2014 (FIGURE 3).

**FIGURE 3.** Distribution of New York State Medicaid Enrollment and Spending by Eligibility Group, FY 2014

Source: MACPAC Medicaid and CHIP Data Book, Dec. 2019



**Medicaid enrollees are among the most vulnerable New Yorkers.** Many of our State’s Medicaid enrollees are low-income individuals who are financially eligible for the program in varying percentages of the federal poverty level (FIGURE 4). Most children served by Medicaid in New York live in low-income households earning less than 154 percent of the federal poverty level, which translates to less than \$40,348 for a family of four in 2020. For these and other vulnerable New Yorkers, Medicaid functions as a lifeline, connecting them to necessary medical treatments and important preventive care services. As New York continues to grapple with coronavirus-fueled rises in unemployment and loss of health insurance, Medicaid’s important role as a safety-net has never been more apparent.

**FIGURE 4.** New York State Medicaid Income Eligibility Levels

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation New York State Medicaid Fact Sheet, Oct. 2019

