Medicaid Enrollees Receiving Care by Nurse Practitioners (NPs) in Washington State

- NPs are recognized as primary care providers in Washington State. They may independently assess, diagnose and manage a patient’s care without the supervision of a physician.
- About 740,701 Medicaid enrollees with full coverage were served by NPs as their primary providers during July 2018-June 2019.¹ This translates roughly into one out of two Medicaid enrollees served by NPs.
- Based on the NP sub-specialty information shown in the chart below,² a large number of Medicaid enrollees receive care from NPs for primary care specialties including family practice, pediatrics, and women’s health. NPs are an integral part of primary care services received by Medicaid enrollees.

¹ This report is created using Medicaid claims data for Medicaid only enrollees with full coverage excluding those who have dual eligibility with Medicare or third party liability. Medicaid enrollees with one or more claims during Jun 2018-Jul 2019 were included in this report if an NP was a billing or a servicing provider in one or more claims generated by the enrollee.

² Not all claims serviced or billed by NPs contain a sub-specialty for the provider. Medicaid enrollees served by NPs without sub-specialties were grouped under a generic Nurse Practitioner category.