In 2010, there were an estimated 39 million visits to nonfederally employed, office-based dermatologists in the United States. Over one-third of these visits were made by persons 45-64 years of age.

Percent distribution of office visits by patient’s age: 2010

The visit rate was highest for persons 75 years and over. The visit rate increased with age.

Annual office visit rates by patient’s age and sex: 2010

The major reason for visit was:
- New problem — 38%
- Chronic problem, routine — 31%
- Chronic problem, flare-up — 12%
- Preventative care — 10%
- Pre- or post-surgery/injury follow-up — 9%

The top 4 reasons given by patients for visiting dermatologists were:
- Acne or pimples
- Discoloration or pigmentation
- Special examination
- Skin lesion

The top 5 diagnoses were:
- Acne
- Actinic and seborrheic keratosis
- Unspecified cause
- Benign neoplasm
- Malignant neoplasms

Medications were provided or prescribed at 66 percent of office visits. The top 4 generic substances utilized were:
- Aspirin
- Clobetasol Topical
- Simvastatin
- Tretinoin Topical

For more information, contact the Ambulatory and Hospital Care Statistics Branch at 301-458-4600 or visit our Web site at <www.cdc.gov/namcs>.
THE IMPORTANCE OF NAMCS DATA

NAMCS data are widely used in research studies appearing in nationally recognized medical journals, including *JAMA, Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*, and *Archives of Dermatology*. Here are a few recent publications using NAMCS data:


A complete list of publications using NAMCS data, which includes articles and reports, can be found at our Web site: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/ahcd_products.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/ahcd_products.htm)