Dermatology Fact Sheet from the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey

ABOUT NAMCS
The National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) produces statistics that are representative of people in the United States who visit office-based physicians. The survey provides information on office visits by physician practice characteristics, patient characteristics, and visit characteristics.

DERMATOLOGY
In 2015–2016, there were an estimated 44 million visits per year to nonfederally employed, office-based providers specializing in dermatology in the United States.

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301–458–4600
https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/namcs_participant.htm
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MAJOR REASON FOR VISIT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHRONIC PROBLEM, ROUTINE</td>
<td>37.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW PROBLEM¹</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREVENTIVE CARE</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRONIC PROBLEM, FLARE-UP</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSTSURGERY</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRESURGERY</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Having only self-pay, no charge, or charity as source of payment.
²Includes workers’ compensation, other sources of payment, unknown, and blank data.
³CHIP is Children’s Health Insurance Program; SCHIP is State CHIP.

PATIENTS’ TOP 5 PRINCIPAL REASONS FOR VISIT

- SKIN LESION
- PROGRESS VISIT
- ACNE OR PIMPLES
- SKIN RASH
- DISCOLORATION OR PIGMENTATION

TOP 5 SERVICES, ORDERED OR PROVIDED

- SKIN EXAMINATION
- BIOPSY
- CRYOSURGERY/DESTRUCTION OF TISSUE
- EXCISION OF TISSUE
- WOUND CARE


- Under 15: 4.5%
- 15–24: 7.9%
- 25–44: 17.6%
- 45–64: 29.6%
- 65–74: 22.3%
- 75 and over: 18.1%

PRIMARY EXPECTED SOURCE OF PAYMENT

- PRIVATE INSURANCE: 55.3%
- MEDICARE: 33.2%
- MEDICAID OR CHIP/SCHIP: 4.6%
- OTHER: 4.8%
- NO INSURANCE: 2.1%

TOP 5 ACTIVE INGREDIENTS

- NITROGEN
- ASPIRIN
- LIDOCAINE
- TRIAMCINOLONE TOPICAL
- MISCELLANEOUS TOPICAL AGENTS

MEDICATIONS WERE PRESCRIBED OR CONTINUED AT 70.8% OF OFFICE VISITS.

CDCNCHS @NCHStats
https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/namcs_participant.htm
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PERCENT OF VISITS


- Under 15: 4.5%
- 15–24: 7.9%
- 25–44: 17.6%
- 45–64: 29.6%
- 65–74: 22.3%
- 75 and over: 18.1%
NAMCS data are widely used in research studies appearing in nationally recognized medical journals. 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: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/ahcd_products.htm.