

Quick Facts: Highlights of the ASAPS 1999 Statistics on Cosmetic Surgery

- There were over 4.6 million cosmetic surgical and nonsurgical procedures performed in 1999, according to the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ASAPS).
- There was a 66% increase in the total number of procedures performed between 1998 and 1999. There was a 16% increase in surgical procedures and a 98% increase in nonsurgical procedures.
- In 1999, 89% of cosmetic procedures were performed on females (compared to 90% in 1998) and 11% on males (compared to 10% in 1998).
- Chemical peel was the number one procedure overall, up 114% to 841,777. Botox injections were second, rising 216% to 498,204, and laser hair removal was third, increasing 340% to 481,978.
- Lipoplasty (liposuction), in sixth place overall, was the most popular surgical procedure, increasing 32% from the previous year to 287,150. Breast augmentation ranked second among surgical procedures, up 51% to 191,583. Cosmetic eyelid surgery was third, rising 1% to 183,580.
- Male cosmetic surgery: select two-year comparisons between 1997 and 1999 – lipoplasty (liposuction) up 87%, cosmetic eyelid surgery up 15%, facelift up 15% and treatment of gynecomastia (male breast reduction) up 47%.
- Female cosmetic surgery: select two-year comparisons between 1997 and 1999 -- lipoplasty (liposuction) up 58%, breast augmentation up 89%, tummy tuck up 74% and breast reduction up 88%.
- Baby boomers between the ages of 35 and 50 had the most cosmetic procedures (43% of total), followed by 19-34 year olds (26%) and 51-64 year olds (22%).

- People 18 years of age and younger accounted for less than 4% of the total procedures (up less than 1% from 1998). Most common among this age group were chemical peels (sometimes recommended for acne-prone skin), laser hair removal and rhinoplasty (nose reshaping).
- Cosmetic procedures by race or ethnicity (% of total procedures): Caucasians, 85%; Hispanics, 6%; African-Americans, 4%; Asian-Americans, 3%; other, 1%.
- Where cosmetic procedures were performed: office facility, 49%; hospital, 27%; free-standing surgicenter, 24%; and other, 1%.
- Where cosmetic procedures are performed (% of total procedures): office-based surgical facility, 53%; hospital, 25%; free-standing surgicenter, 21%; other, 1%.