The American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ASAPS) was founded in 1967, when cosmetic surgery was only beginning to be recognized as an important subspecialty of plastic surgery. Since then, education and research in cosmetic surgery have been the focus of ASAPS’ mission, enabling its members to pioneer major advances in the field.

ASAPS’ membership in the United States is restricted to American Board of Plastic Surgery certified physicians who meet additional requirements for clinical experience and continuing education in cosmetic surgery. However, ASAPS recognizes the contributions of physicians in multiple specialties when compiling its national statistics on cosmetic surgery.

ABOUT ASAPS STATISTICS

The Cosmetic Surgery National Data Bank, sponsored by the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ASAPS), is the most comprehensive collection of data available on the number of cosmetic surgical and nonsurgical procedures performed in the United States.

ASAPS is the only plastic surgery organization providing 6-year multi-specialty data.

To collect the 2002 data, more than 14,000 surveys were mailed to board-certified plastic surgeons, otolaryngologists and dermatologists. Survey results were used to project national totals for the approximately 23,000 U.S. medical specialists most likely to perform several or more cosmetic procedures. The survey has a 95 percent level of confidence with a maximum error range of +/-4.04 percent.

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THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR AESTHETIC PLASTIC SURGERY
WHEN CITING STATISTICAL DATA.