

# Geographic disparities seen in distribution of dermatologists

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(HealthDay)—There are substantial disparities in the geographic distribution of dermatologists that are worsening with time, according to a study published online Sept. 5 in *JAMA Dermatology*.

Hao Feng, M.D., from New York University in New York City, and colleagues analyzed county-level data (1995 to 2013) from the Area Health Resources File to evaluate the longitudinal trends and demographic and environmental factors associated with the [geographic distribution](#) of dermatologists.

The researchers found that over the study period, [dermatologist](#) density increased by 21 percent. However, the gap between the density of dermatologists in urban and other areas increased from 2.63 to 3.06 per 100,000 people in non-metropolitan areas and from 3.41 to 4.03 in [rural areas](#). In non-metropolitan and rural areas, the ratio of dermatologists >55 years to

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