Patient—number of teeth surfaces affected by caries, total N[N]

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# Patient—number of teeth surfaces affected by caries, total N[N]

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Data Element |
| Short name: | Number of teeth surfaces affected by caries (total) |
| METEOR identifier: | 500164 |
| Registration status: | [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Standard 08/10/2014 |
| Definition: | The total number of a patient's teeth surfaces that are affected by  [**caries**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/551229) as identified by a dental practitioner. |
| Data Element Concept: | [Patient—number of teeth surfaces affected by caries](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/502912) |
| Value Domain: | [Total number N[N]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/347205) |

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| Value domain attributes | | |
| Representational attributes | | |
| Representation class: | Total | |
| Data type: | Number | |
| Format: | N[N] | |
| Maximum character length: | 2 | |
|  | **Value** | **Meaning** |
| Supplementary values: | 99 | Not stated/inadequately described |



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| Data element attributes | |
| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Guide for use: | In order to identify specific locations on a tooth it is divided into surfaces.    The number of teeth surfaces affected by caries is used to determine the [**caries**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/551229) experience. |
| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. |
| Steward: | [Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/246013) |
| Relational attributes | |
| Implementation in Data Set Specifications: | [Decayed, missing and filled teeth cluster](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/553034)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Standard 08/10/2014  ***Conditional obligation:*** First occurrence is for the total of deciduous teeth surfaces (dmfs) and the second occurrence is for the total of permanent teeth surfaces (DMFS). |