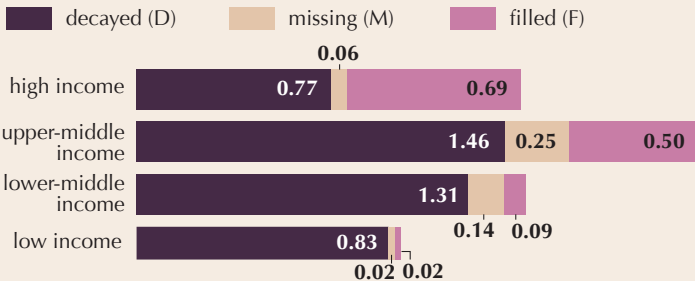


GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION OF TOOTH DECAY

Average number of affected teeth for 12-year-olds
by country income group
2000 or latest available data



The DMFT Index

The DMFT index is generally used to report tooth decay in epidemiological studies. It records the number of decayed (D), missing (M) and filled (F) teeth (T). While DMFT is not the only measure and has limitations, the oral health status of populations is often summarized as a DMFT score (usually of 12-year-olds). A DMFT score of 1.0 means that 1 of the 32 adult teeth is either decayed, missing or filled. Scores for individuals are full numbers, for populations they can have decimal values.