

# Person with cancer—number of regional lymph nodes examined, total code N[N]

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2024

This product, excluding the AIHW logo, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 4.0 (CC BY 4.0) licence. Excluded material owned by third parties may include, for example, design and layout, images obtained under licence from third parties and signatures. We have made all reasonable efforts to identify and label material owned by third parties.

You may distribute, remix and build on this website's material but must attribute the AIHW as the copyright holder, in line with our attribution policy. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

Enquiries relating to copyright should be addressed to [info@aihw.gov.au](mailto:info@aihw.gov.au).

Enquiries or comments on the METEOR metadata or download should be directed to the METEOR team at [meteor@aihw.gov.au](mailto:meteor@aihw.gov.au).

# Person with cancer—number of regional lymph nodes examined, total code N[N]

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Number of regional lymph nodes examined
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	370032
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Health!</a> , Superseded 07/12/2011
<b>Definition:</b>	The total number of a person's regional lymph nodes examined by the pathologist.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Person with cancer—number of regional lymph nodes examined</a>
<b>Value Domain:</b>	<a href="#">Total lymph nodes code N[NN]</a>

## Value domain attributes

## Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Total				
<b>Data type:</b>	Number				
<b>Format:</b>	N[NN]				
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	3				
<b>Supplementary values:</b>	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>997</td><td>Number of lymph nodes unknown</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	997	Number of lymph nodes unknown
Value	Meaning				
997	Number of lymph nodes unknown				

## Data element attributes

## Collection and usage attributes

<b>Guide for use:</b>	<p>A list of which lymph nodes are defined as regional lymph nodes for each cancer site may be found in the TNM Classification of Tumours, 6th Edition, UICC.</p> <p>The number includes all nodes examined regardless of whether removed/examined at a single or multiple procedures e.g. for breast cancer, record the sum of regional lymph nodes examined from node sampling/sentinel node biopsy and axillary clearance.</p> <p>The number of regional lymph nodes is cumulative from all procedures that removed lymph nodes through the completion of surgeries for the treatment of the cancer.</p> <p><b>Breast cancer:</b></p> <p>Regional lymph nodes include all ipsilateral axillary, ipsilateral infraclavicular/subclavicular, ipsilateral internal mammary and ipsilateral supraclavicular nodes. All other nodes (including contralateral internal mammary nodes) are considered to be distant metastases and should not be recorded in this data item. Definitions from UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours 6th Edition.</p>
<b>Collection methods:</b>	For cancer registries, collection of this data item should only be from notification and pathology reports relating to initial diagnosis and not for recurrent or metastatic disease.

## Source and reference attributes

**Origin:** Australian Cancer Network

Commission on Cancer American College of Surgeons

**Reference documents:** Australian Cancer Network The pathology reporting of breast cancer. A guide for pathologists, surgeons and radiologists Second Edition Sydney (2001)

Commission on Cancer, Standards of the Commission on Cancer Registry Operations and Data Standards (ROADS) Volume II (1998)

Johnson CH, Adamo M (eds.), SEER Program Coding and Staging Manual 2007. National Cancer Institute, NIH Publication number 07-5581, Bethesda, MD 2007.

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Person with cancer—number of regional lymph nodes examined, total N\[N\]](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 06/03/2009

Has been superseded by [Person with cancer—number of regional lymph nodes examined, total N\[N\]](#)  
[Health!](#), Standard 07/12/2011

See also [Person with cancer—number of positive regional lymph nodes, total N\[N\]](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 06/03/2009

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:** [Breast cancer \(Cancer registries\) DSS](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 01/09/2012

### ***DSS specific information:***

Breast cancer:

Regional lymph nodes include all ipsilateral axillary, ipsilateral infraclavicular/subclavicular, ipsilateral internal mammary and ipsilateral supraclavicular nodes. All other nodes (including contralateral internal mammary nodes) are considered to be distant metastases and should not be recorded in this data item. Definitions from UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours 6th Edition.

[Cancer \(clinical\) DSS](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 22/12/2009

[Cancer \(clinical\) DSS](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 07/12/2011