

**Table 1 Comparison of children within the SiC index range (i.e. 5+ dmft) with children outside the SiC index (i.e. dmft < 5), by age, sex, family income, mother's education, number of siblings and toothbrushing**

Variable	dmft 5+		dmft < 5		$\chi^2$ value
	No.	%	No.	%	
<i>Age (years)</i>					
5	92	35.2	169	64.8	0.007
6	100	35.6	181	64.4	
<i>Sex</i>					
Male	117	37.5	195	62.5	1.39
Female	75	32.6	155	67.4	
<i>Family income</i>					
Low	97	39.1	151	60.9	2.72*
High	95	32.3	99	67.7	
<i>Mother's education (years)</i>					
0–7	154	39.7	234	60.3	10.87*
8+	38	24.7	116	75.3	
<i>No. of siblings</i>					
0	101	31.9	216	68.1	4.27
1	78	40.2	116	59.8	
2+	13	41.9	18	58.1	
<i>Toothbrushing</i>					
Irregularly	67	37.6	111	62.4	8.89*
Once a day	131	38.9	205	61.1	
Twice a day or more	3	10.7	25	89.3	

\* $P < 0.05$ .