

# Digestive system: chart: 1

08.031

Body part	Blood supply	Nerve supply	Function(s)
Teeth	Inferior (alveolar) dental artery; superior dental arteries; superior and inferior alveolar veins	Alveolar nerves	Biting and chewing food
Palate	Palatine branches of maxillary, facial, and ascending pharyngeal arteries; veins end in pterygoid and tonsillar plexuses	Greater and lesser palatine nerves; nasopalatine nerve; glossopharyngeal nerve	Forms roof of mouth; separates mouth from nasal cavity
Tongue	Lingual branch of external carotid artery; lingual veins	Lingual branch of 5th cranial nerve; 10th and 12th cranial nerves	Organ of taste; used in chewing, swallowing, and speech
Parotid gland	Branches of external carotid artery; veins drain into external jugular vein	Auriculotemporal nerve; sympathetic plexus	Salivary gland
Submandibular glands	Branches of facial and lingual arteries; branches of facial and lingual veins	Submandibular ganglion	Salivary glands
Esophagus	Inferior thyroid arteries; descending thoracic aorta; left gastric artery; inferior thyroid veins; azygos vein; left gastric vein	Recurrent laryngeal nerve; vagus nerve; esophageal plexus; greater splanchnic nerve	Muscular tube that relays food from pharynx to stomach
Stomach	Gastric arteries; gastropiploic arteries; short gastric arteries; gastric veins; gastropiploic veins; short gastric veins	Sympathetic: celiac plexus Parasympathetic: vagus nerves	Breakdown of food, especially by action of stomach acids
Liver	Hepatic artery; right, central, and left hepatic veins	Sympathetic: celiac plexus Parasympathetic: vagus nerve	Multiple functions connected with metabolism and breakdown of substances
Gall bladder	Cystic artery; cystic veins	Sympathetic: celiac plexus Parasympathetic: celiac plexus	Storage and concentration of bile; exact function uncertain