

The Skull



Axial Skeleton



- 80 bones
- Three major regions
 - Skull
 - Vertebral Column
 - Thoracic Cage
- Supports the head, neck, and trunk
- Protects the brain, spinal cord and the organs of the thorax

The Skull



- 22 bones
- Divided into the cranium and face
- Most of the bones are flat with the exception of the mandible (jaw bone)

Cranium



- **Cranium-**
 - Encloses and protects the brain
 - Provides attachment sites for head and neck muscles

 - There are 8 bones that make up the cranium
 - ✦ Frontal
 - ✦ Parietal (2)
 - ✦ Temporal (2)
 - ✦ Occipital
 - ✦ Sphenoid
 - ✦ Ethmoid

 - These bones are held together by interlocking joints called sutures. They have a saw-toothed or serrated appearance.

Face



- Face-
 - Form the framework of the face
 - Contain cavities for the special sense organs of sight, taste, and smell
 - Provide openings for air and food passage
 - Secure the teeth
 - Anchor facial muscles

Face

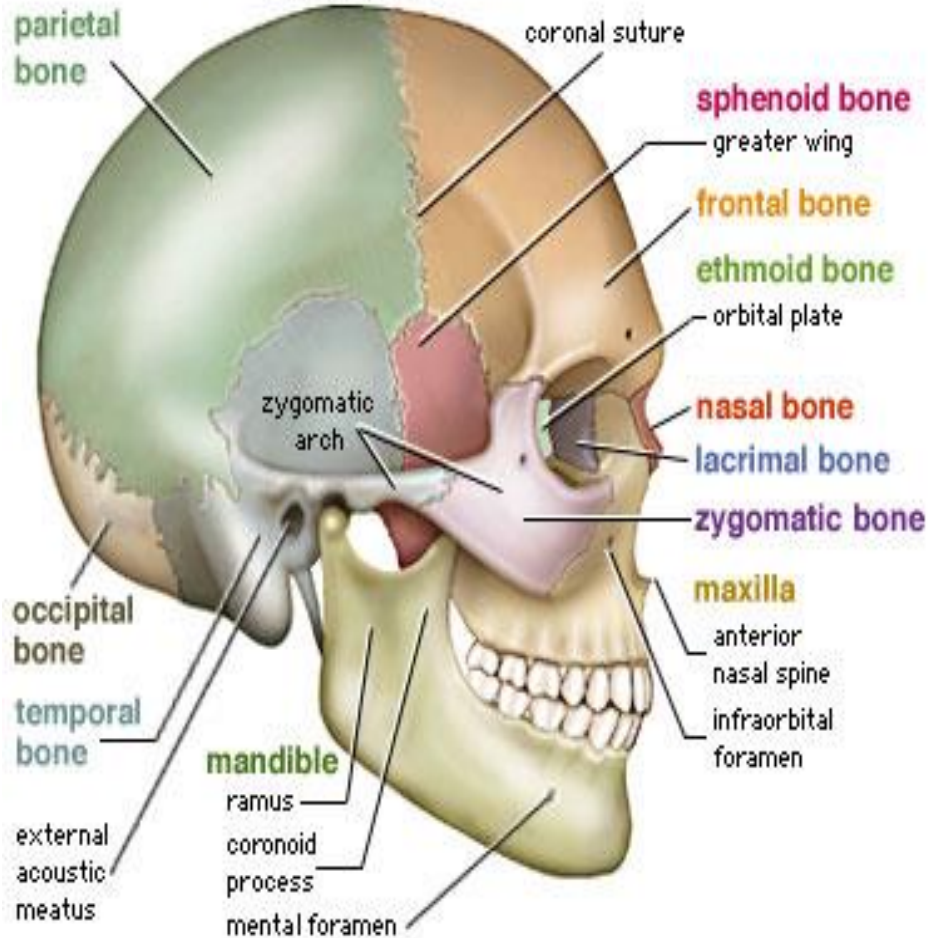


- Made up of 14 bones
 - Mandible-largest and strongest bone in the face
 - Maxilla (2)-all facial bones except mandible articulate with maxillae; considered keystone bones of face
 - Zygomatic (2)
 - Nasal (2)
 - Lacrimal (2)
 - Palatine (2)
 - Vomer
 - Inferior Nasal Conchae (2)

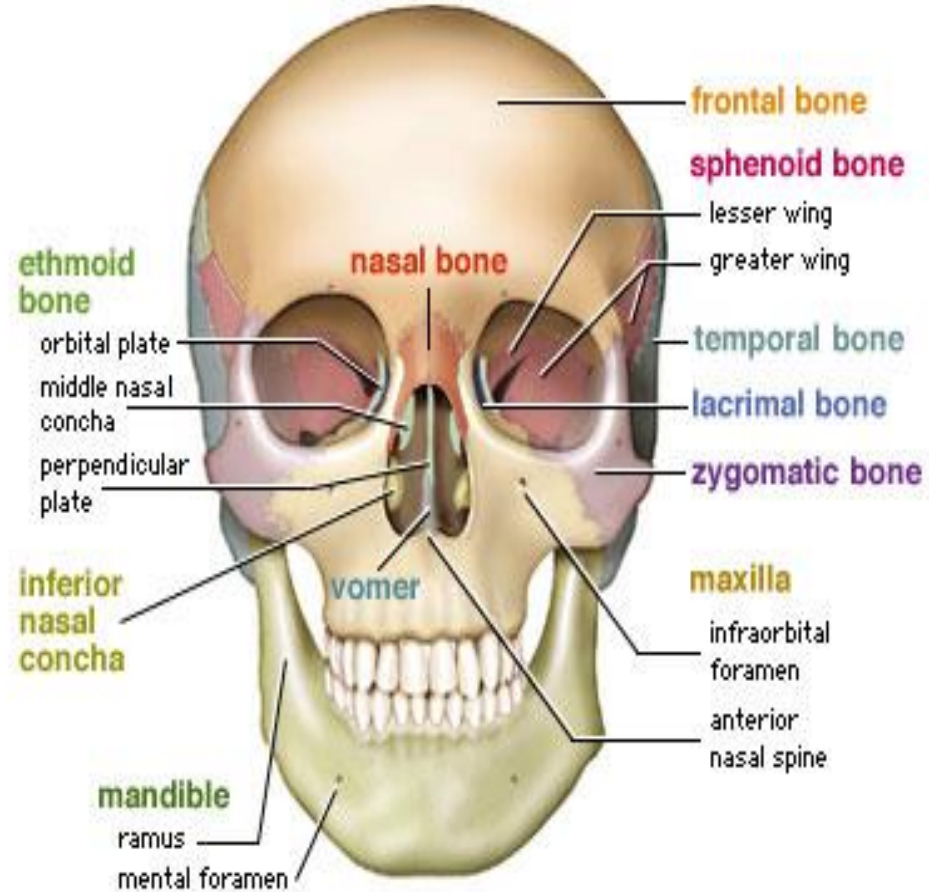
Cranium



Lateral view



Frontal view



Hyoid Bone



- Not really part of the skull
- Lies inferior to mandible in anterior neck
- Only bone that does not articulate directly with another bone
- Anchored to temporal bones
- Functions
 - Acts as a movable base for the tongue
 - Attachment points for neck muscles that raise and lower the larynx during swallowing and speech