# Civil Registration and Vital Statistics In Sultanate of Oman

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### Introduction

- A modern state started with the Omani Renaissance in 1970
- Interests to document births and deaths started gradually after 1970
- During early 80's age estimation for public employees
- Age may not be accurate for a considerable proportion of people above the age of 25 years
- Vital Registration was implemented in may 2004



### Birth & Death Certificates

- Before May 2004
  - Ministry of Health (MOH) and other public hospitals issues certificates
  - Private Health Institutions: Notification of event to MOH
  - Home events: Notification of event by community leader (Sheikh – Wali) to MOH
  - Age estimation by MOH
- Royal Decree (66/99): Civil Status Law
  - October 1999
  - Implementation in May 2004



#### **Civil Status Law**

- October 1999
- Establishment of Directorate General of Civil Status (DGCS) at Royal Oman Police (ROP)
  - Develop the implementing regulations of the Law
  - Register civil status events
    - Events: birth, death, marriage, divorce, citizenship, residence
  - Issue certificates
  - Issue ID Cards



- Committee to instituted by "The Inspector General of Police and Customs"
  - Chaired by Director General of Civil status
  - Members represent the following ministries:
    - Ministry of National economy
    - Ministry of Interior
    - Ministry of Foreign Affairs
    - Ministry of Health
    - Ministry of Social Affairs, Labour & Vocational Training
    - Ministry of Justice
    - Ministry of education
  - Streamline the course of work in the Civil Register and contribute to its development

Civil Status Law ... cont



 Birth and Death Notification forms to be developed by a body established by Minister of Health



#### **Chapter 3: Births**

- Notification of all births.
- Notification should be made to registrar in the Sultanate (or the Omani Mission in the country if outside the Sultanate)
- Notification within 2 weeks (if inside the Sultanate or after arrival) or 3 months if births takes place outside the Sultanate
- Informants with legal responsibility to notify birth (in order)
  - Father if he was present
  - Any adult (relative closest) present at delivery
  - Any adult occupant of the same house as the mother of the newborn
  - The doctor or authorized person who delivered the baby
  - Directors of institutions (e.g. hospitals, maternity centers, prisons, quarantines, others) where birth takes place
  - Community leader (headman or chief of district Sheikh wali)
  - Mother

#### Birth and Death Certificates ... Cont

Civil Status Law ... cont

Chapter 3: Births ... cont



- Notification of birth should include the following:
  - Day, date both Georgian and Hijri (in numbers and alphabetical), time and place
  - Sex of newborn (male female) and name
  - Both parents: name, civil number, tribe, nationality, religion, address, occupation
- In case of twins each should have an individual notification

#### Birth and Death Certificates ... Cont

Civil Status Law ... cont

Chapter 3: Births ... cont



#### **Health related data**

- Minimal set of health related data for births (not required by law)
  - Live birth or Still birth
  - Age of mother and father
  - Cause of death for stillbirth; in fetus and in mother
  - Mode of Delivery
  - Birth weight
  - Consanguinity
  - Gestational period
  - Number of twins, order among twins
  - Educational level of mother
  - Delivery (birth) attendant
  - Birth interval
  - Gravidity, previous stillbirths, previous live births, still living

Civil Status Law ... cont



#### **Chapter 5: Deaths**

- Notification of all deaths
- Notification should be made to registrar in the Sultanate (or the Omani Mission in the country if outside the Sultanate)
- Notification within 7 days (if inside the Sultanate or after arrival) or one month if death takes place outside the Sultanate
- Informants with legal responsibility to notify death (in order)
  - Ascendants, Descendants or spouse of deceased
  - Any adult (relative closest) present at death
  - Any adult occupant of the same house as the deceased
  - Community leader (headman or chief of district Sheikh wali)
  - The doctor who checked the deceased
  - Directors of institutions (e.g. hospitals, maternity centers, prisons, quarantines, others) where death takes place

#### Birth and Death Certificates ... Cont

Civil Status Law ... cont

Chapter 5: Deaths ... cont



- Notification of birth should include the following:
  - Place, time, day, date both Georgian and Hijri (in number and alphabetical)
  - Deceased: name, tribe, sex (male female), nationality, religion, address & occupation
  - Deceased: age, place & date of birth, civil number, place of registration if known
  - Name and tribe of father and mother, if known
  - Informant: name, address and relation to deceased
- Unidentified dead bodies are to be notified by ROP describing age, sex, description of deceased and cause of death
- General Prosecution should notify death of persons executed within 24 hours of the execution
- Permission of burial only if criminal or suspected death

Birth and Death Certificates ... Cont

Civil Status Law ... cont

Chapter 5: Deaths ... cont



#### **Health related data**

- Minimal set of health related data (not required by law)
  - Cause of death (underlying, direct, other diseases)
  - Maternal death



### **Notification of Births and Deaths**

- Establishment of a System of notification of vital events
  - Identification of all possible sources of notifications
  - One notification system
    - Birth & Death Notification Forms : Consider requirements of CS Law and health sector
    - Notification path



### **Possible sources of Notifications**

Place of birth or death	Source of notifications
MOH Hospitals & HC	MOH health institutions
AFMS Hospitals and dispensaries	AFMS health institutions
ROP Hospitals and dispensaries	ROP health institutions
SQU hospital & HC	SQU hospital
Private hospitals & clinics	Private health institution
Home	Community leader (Sheikh – Wali)
Factors, companies, roads, transportation	Nearest health institution –with ROP
Outside Oman	Omani mission in country where event

#### Notification of Births and Deaths ... cont



- A Notification of birth form was developed
  - Satisfying law requirements
  - Adding health related data

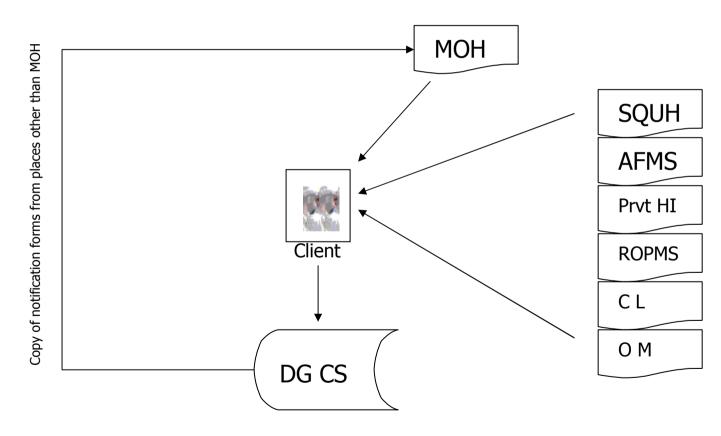
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#### **Notification of Death**

- A Notification of death form was developed
  - Satisfying law requirements
  - Adding health related data



### **Flow of Notifications**



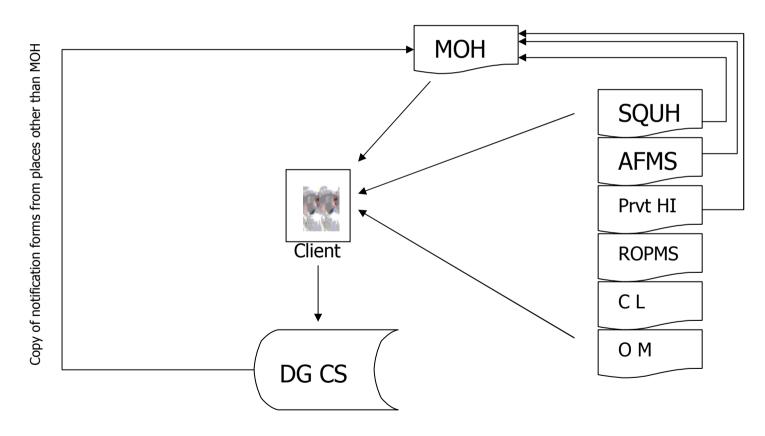
MOH: Ministry of Health; AFMS: Armed Forces Medical Services; Prvt HI: Private Health Institutions; ROPMS: Royal Oman Police Medical Services; CL: community leaders; OM: Omani Missions



#### **Notification database**

- MOH has a database parallel to that of DGCS
- MOH database was installed in SQUH, AFMS, and major private health institutions
  - Send data electronically directly to MOH database

### **Flow of Notifications**



MOH: Ministry of Health; AFMS: Armed Forces Medical Services; Prvt HI: Private Health Institutions; ROPMS: Royal Oman Police Medical Services; CL: community leaders; OM: Omani Missions

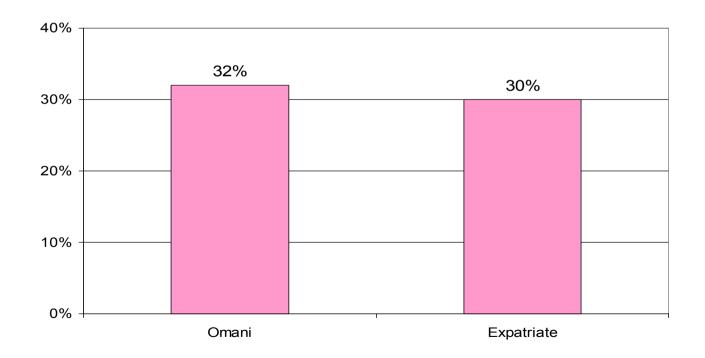


- Missing segregation information
- Pattern according to age
- Completeness (coverage)



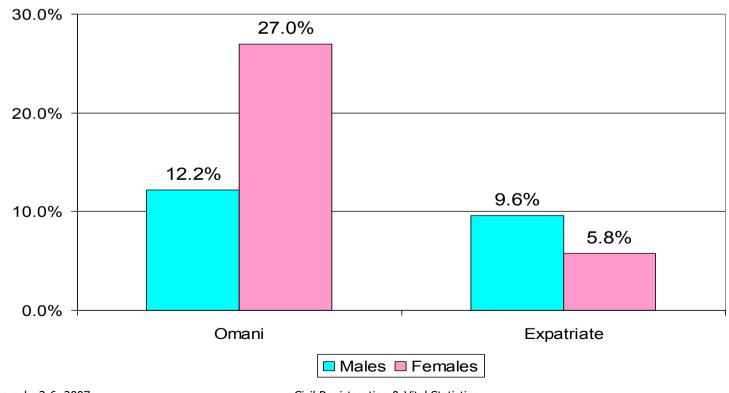
### **Segregation of information**

#### Gender unknown for 30% of notified deaths





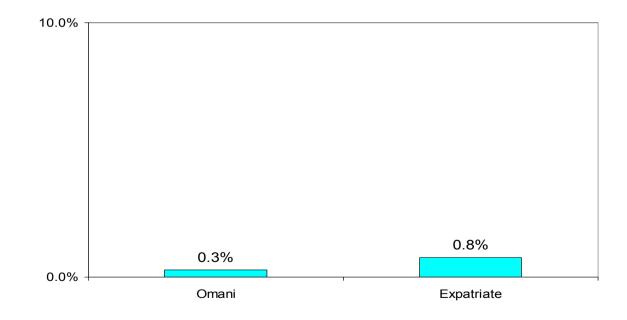
#### Unknown age of notified deaths



Segregation information ... cont



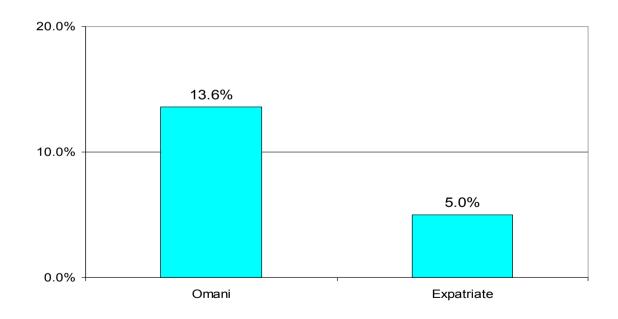
#### Sex of newly born un reported



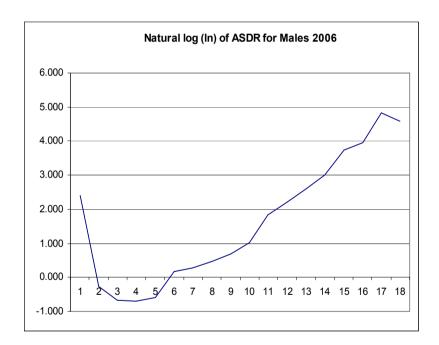
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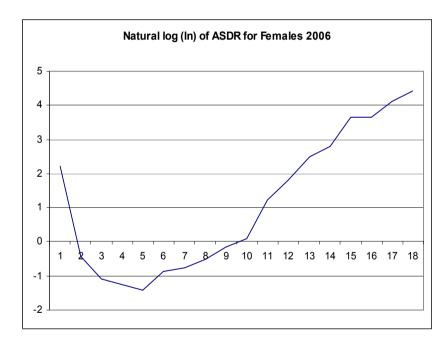


#### Un-reporting age of mother for newly born





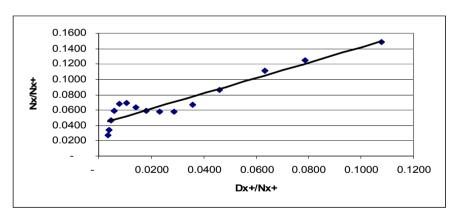


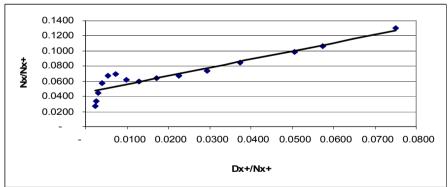




### **Completeness or Coverage**

### Using Brass's Growth Balance Method (preliminary analysis)





Males Coverage 98% Females Coverage 97%



		Omanis		Expatriates			
	Males	Females	Overall	Males	Females	Overall	
CDR (/1000 pop)	3.4	2.3	2.9	1.2	1.1	1.2	
IMR (/1000 lb)	11	9.2	10.1	9	7.1	8.1	
U5MR (/1000 lb)	13.8	11.8	12.8	13.5	6	12.9	
<b>e<sub>0</sub></b> years	70.4	74.9	72.6	81.9	81.2	81.6	

CDR: Crude Death Rate, IMR: Infant Mortality Rate, U5MR: Under 5 Mortality Rate, e<sub>0</sub>: Life expectancy at birth

## **Fertility Estimates**

		Omanis		Expatriates			
	Males	Females	Overall	Males	Females	Overall	
CBR (/1000 pop)	24.6	23.7	24.2	3.7	13.4	5.7	
Sex ratio (/100 females)			105.8			101.7	
<b>TFR</b> (/women 15-49)			3.19			1.03	
<b>GRR</b> (/women 15-49)			1.55			0.51	
NRR (/women 15-49)			1.51			0.50	

CBR: Crude Birth Rate, TFR: Total Fertility Rate, GRR: Gross Reproduction Rate, NRR: Net reproduction Rate



### **Obstacles and challenges**

- Notifications by Community Leaders
  - Need to assess completeness
  - Data on notification forms need to be completed especially health related data
  - Cause of death is an issue to consider
- Burial permit
  - No burial permit is required
  - Can affect completeness of death registration



- Cultural believes and attitudes for registration
  - Age estimation has been practice for a long time
  - Changes in believes about importance for registration
- Cause of death data
  - Physician and coders need training
  - Deaths outside health facilities: DOA, A&ED, Notified by CL