

BELIZE

1. The main differences with core topics in our registration form when compared with that of core topics in the Principles and Recommendation system

1. **Live Birth (Counter Blotter.**

1. The 4 digit not specifically stated on the form but the database requires it
2. Difference- time of birth not required hence not on form provided by hospital or registration form
3. Time of registration not on form but the time entered into database is captured.
4. Date of birth not capture for mother
5. Duration of residency at a particular address is not captured
6. Date of last live birth not captured
- 7.

2. **Still Birth.**

1. Birth date of mother not captured (nc)
2. Number of children born alive by mother, nc
3. Order of the birth of mother's children, nc
4. Usual place of residence in relation to period of time residing there, nc

1. **Death**

1. Marital status not on form but in system (obtain from medical certificate)
2. Usual place of residence of the deceased-not on form but captured in database from med certificate
3. Usu place of mother-not in relation to the recommended time of residence

1. **Marriage**

1. Date of birth of parties, nc

2. Place of usu residence -not in relation to the recommended time of residence

1. **Divorce**

1. Current place of residence -only captured in petition not in database at Supreme Court Registry.
2. Duration of marriage not captured

1. Identify the major obstacles for achieving complete coverage of vital events registration and for compiling vital statistics based on CR data.

LIVE BIRTHS

Registration

Currently we have less than 5% under of children registration. The major obstacle to complete registration is:-

- a. Access in rural areas- parents not able to attend at registration office especially when child born outside of a hospital

Compilation of VS base on CR

This a problem I obviously can only speak about in a limited manner. But I do believe the Statistical Institute of Belize encounters problems using our data. The main reason for this is

- a. That sufficient efforts have not been made by them to obtain these data and to communicate with us what is required and how we may assist I addressing the shortfalls. Since 2013 we have complemented our VS database with an application which allows us to be able to generate reports which prior to that the system was not able to do or only able to do to a very limited extent. (interface)

- b. Data integrity which makes statistics less reliable. Mostly in older age group data.

STILL BIRTHS

Registration obstacles

- a. Receiving accurate info which may be due to lack of understanding by medical officers mainly in rural as to what is still birth.
- b. Obtaining info when such occurs outside of a medical facility

Compilation obstacle

- a. Reliability of data as so comparison done by MOH with CR

DEATH

Registration

- a. Obtaining information when such event occurs outside of a hospital and in remote and rural.

Compilation

- a. Obtaining all the required info to be able to provide the quality and type of statistics required.
- b. Lack of verification/comparing of our data by the Ministry of Health who compiles such data as well.
- c. Non- existence of coding for diseases so statistics can be accurate

MARRIAGE

Registration

- a. No major obstacle exist. Do not encounter under-registration in this area but need to work more closely with churches and marriage officers.

Compilation

- a. Obtaining all the required info to be able to provide the quality and type of statistics required.

DIVORCE

Registration

- a. No major obstacle exist save and except the data is not recorded at the VS Office but at the General Registry as this event can only take place at the SC.
SC has all the data.

Compilation

- a. Obtaining from one place all the required info to be able to provide the type of statistics required.

1. What efforts have been done to assess quality.

- a. We have recently reestablished discussions with our local software developer to advise on the costs of providing a report identifying certain glaring errors so that those can be immediately addressed. (e.g date of birth of 2017 or 3016 or a place which does not exist in Belize).

1. Outline the strategies that should be adopted to achieve completeness and improve data quality.

a. Completeness

Births and Deaths

We intend to examine some of the recommendations put forward In a recent study done to assist us in reaching complete registration by closing the small gap which exist. Such would include introducing consistent ways of reaching

and registering children in the remote rural areas by the following methods:

* introducing frequent and structured visit by Registration clerks

- training and having more contact with Appointed Deputy Registrars (local registrars) and increase stipend which is currently \$1.00 per registration.
- Strengthen relationships with Min of Health (MoU)
- Engaged in a more structured manner with heads of community to assist in providing info on births and deaths so we can take steps to have such registered.

Still births

Completeness and Quality

Encouraging the MOH to conducting the required training etc. and to compare and share data.

Marriages

Auditing

We intend to establish a closer working relationship with churches and marriage officers to ensure complete registration in a timely manner. Maybe we can get them to provide a monthly report or a list of all marriages performed which we can check against our database or visa versa.

DIVORCES

We can consider having this statistics entered into the VS database so the required info by the Statistical institute is in one place and complete.

Final

Over all it is acknowledged that we have to revamp our forms or electronic system to incorporate those core topics as set out in the P&R which are missing to ensure improvement in the quality of data and that we meet universal standard.

Additionally, more structured auditing needs to be put in place. Currently before a certificate is issued it is verified by an officer who compares the information in the database against the register. Once information is corrected then we know that data is reliable. But the ideal situation is for the data to be verified immediately after it is enter into the database.