



UN Statistics  
Division



Organization of  
American States



NACIONES UNIDAS  
UNITED NATIONS



# SESSION 5. TOPICS AND THEMES TO BE COVERED IN A VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM

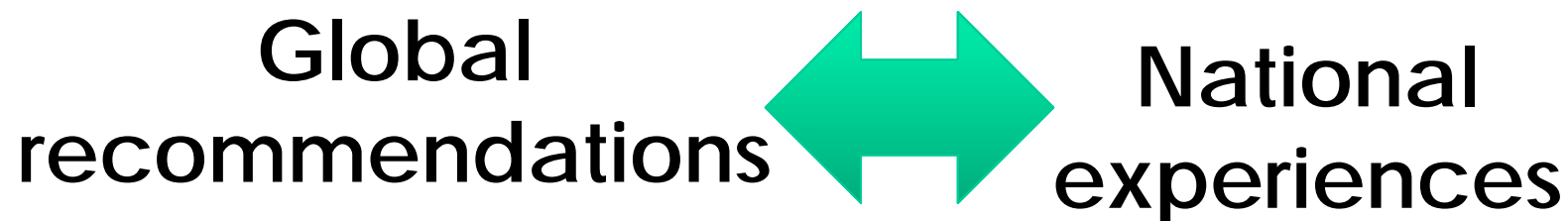
## UNITED NATIONS STATISTICS DIVISION

Workshop on the Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics  
System, Revision 3 for Central American and Caribbean countries

Guatemala City, 30 August - 2 September 2016



# Selection of topics and themes



**Topics are included or excluded based on:**

- Expected quality of data**
- Sensitivity of topic**



# What is a topic?



Topics are statistical variables describing information on:

- the vital event
- the persons involved in the vital event

Vital events:  
live births, deaths, foetal deaths, marriages and divorces

Two levels of priority:

- Core topics
- Additional topics

Another distinction:

- Direct topics 
- Derived topics 



# Tabulations are based on topics



## Absolute numbers

### Costa Rica, 2015: Live births by sex and urban/rural residence

	<b>Both Sexes</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
<b>Total</b>	71,819	36,880	34,939
<b>Urban</b>	49,744	25,576	24,168
<b>Rural</b>	22,075	11,304	10,771

## Relative indicators

### Costa Rica, 2015: total fertility rate by urban/rural residence

	<b>Both Sexes</b>
<b>Total</b>	1.75
<b>Urban</b>	--
<b>Rural</b>	--

Source: UNSD Database, 15 August 2016



# Topics and themes for vital statistics from the civil registration system

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# Topics and themes for vital statistics from the CR system



## Live births

### On the event

- Date of occurrence
- Date of registration
- Place of occurrence
  - Locality of occurrence
  - Urban/rural
- Place of registration
- Type of birth (single, twin, triplet...)
- Attendant at birth

### On the newborn

- Sex
- Weight at birth



# Topics and themes for vital statistics from the CR system



## Live births

### On the mother

- Date of birth

  - Age

- Marital status

  - Child born in wedlock

- Educational attainment

- Place of usual residence

  - Locality of residence

  - Urban/rural residence

- Duration of residence at usual place

- Place/country of birth

  - Migrant status

- Children born alive to mother during her entire lifetime

  - Birth order or parity

- Foetal deaths to mother during her entire lifetime

- Date of last previous live birth

  - Interval since previous live birth

- Date of marriage

  - Duration of marriage



# Topics and themes for vital statistics from the CR system



## Live births

### On the father

- Date of birth
  - Age
- Marital status
- Educational attainment
- Place of usual residence
  - Locality of residence
  - Urban/rural residence





# Topics and themes for vital statistics from the CR system



## Deaths

### On the event

- Date of occurrence
- Date of registration
- Place of occurrence
  - Locality of occurrence
  - Urban/rural
- Place of registration
- Cause of death
- Certifier
  - Type of certification

### On the decedent

- Date of birth
  - Age
- Sex
- Marital status
- Place of usual residence
- Place of usual residence of the mother (for deaths under 1 year of age)
  - Locality of residence
  - Urban/rural residence



# Topics and themes for vital statistics from the CR system



## Foetal deaths

### On the event

- Date of occurrence (of foetal delivery)
- Date of registration
- Place of occurrence
  - Locality of occurrence
  - Urban/rural
- Place of registration

### On the foetus

- Sex



## Foetal deaths

### On the mother

- Date of birth

Age

- Children born alive to mother during her entire lifetime

Birth order or parity

- Foetal deaths to mother during her entire lifetime

- Date of last previous live birth

Interval since previous live birth

- Date of marriage

Duration of marriage

- Place of usual residence

Locality of residence

Urban/rural residence



# Topics and themes for vital statistics from the CR system



## Foetal deaths

### On the father

- Date of birth

Age

- Place of usual residence

Locality of residence

Urban/rural residence



# Topics and themes for vital statistics from the CR system



## Marriages

### On the event

- Date of occurrence
- Date of registration
- Place of occurrence
  - Locality of occurrence
  - Urban/rural
- Place of registration

### On the bride and groom (separately)

- Date of birth
  - Age
- Place of usual residence
  - Locality of residence
  - Urban/rural residence



# Topics and themes for vital statistics from the CR system



## Divorces

### On the event

- Date of occurrence
- Date of registration
- Place of occurrence
  - Locality of occurrence
  - Urban/rural
- Place of registration

### On the divorcees (husband and wife separately)

- Date of birth
  - Age
- Date of marriage
  - Duration of marriage
- Place of usual residence
  - Locality of residence
  - Urban/rural residence



Gracias Thank You  
Merci Спасибо  
شكرا 谢谢

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# Topics and themes for vital statistics from censuses and surveys

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**There is no substitute for a well-designed and well-maintained civil registration system as a source of data for the production of vital statistics**



# Topics and themes for vital statistics from censuses and surveys

## For all members of the household

- Relationship to the head
- If mother lives in the same household, identify line number of the questionnaire
- Date of birth
- Survival of parents
- Marital status

## For households

- Number of deaths during the previous 12 months
- For each deceased:
  - Name
  - Sex
  - Date of birth
  - Date of death
  - Cause of deaths, whether during pregnancy, childbirth or puerperium



# Topics and themes for vital statistics from censuses and surveys

## For women aged 15+

- Total number of children ever born alive, by sex
- Total number of children still living, by sex
- Date of birth and sex of last child born alive
- Survival of last child born alive
- Date of death of last child born alive
- Age at first marriage
- Age at first birth
- Duration of marriage