

# Monitoring the Quality of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Grenada



# Structure of Presentation:

1. Overview of the CRVS System
2. Data Flow Charts
3. Strengths and Weaknesses in the System
4. General Procedures to ensure Data Quality
5. Strategies, Exercises and Practices utilize in the past and present to monitor the quality of the CRVS .



# OVERVIEW OF THE CRVS

- Centralized system at the national level
- The System is guided by a legal framework that guides its operations.
  - For Births and Deaths the title of the law is the **Registration of Births and Deaths Act 280**
  - For Marriage and Divorces it is **CAP 184**.



## OVERVIEW CONTINUED

- **The Registrar General Department** is the Agency with the primary responsibility for the collection, processing and Dissemination of Births, Deaths and Marriage.
- **The Supreme Court Registry** is the primary agency responsible for Divorces.
- **The Statistics Act of 1960** gives the CSO the authority to collect, compile, analyze and disseminate information from these departments.



# THE MAIN PURPOSE OF CIVIL REGISTRATION IN GRENADA

- Providing documentary evidence on which to base claims of identity, legal status and ensuing rights;
- Providing proof of age, and allowing access to rights based on age such as school entry, voting and pension rights;
- Establishing family relationships;
- Enabling the legal transmission of property, inheritance, social insurance and other benefits



# Components of the CRVS

- 1. Registration of events – focusing on the registering of births and deaths, marriage and Divorces;
- 2. Certification – issuing original Birth, Death Marriage and Divorce certificates, and providing copies to individuals when needed;
- 3. Vital statistics – compiling, analyzing and disseminating statistics resulting from registration and certification of Vital Events.

# FLOW CHART FOR BIRTHS

THE THREE HOSPITALS (which are the General Hospital, Princess Alice Hospital and Princess Royal Hospital) and all the Medical Stations throughout the Tri-Island State if a Birth occurred there and the rare Home deliveries.

DISTRICT OFFICES

Registrar General Department

Central Statistical Office collects information

## INFORMATION COLLECTED AS IT RELATES TO BIRTHS

- **CHILD** – Date, Place of Birth and Sex, Name, Weight of Child, Order of Birth, Single or Multiple Birth.
- **PARENT** – Name of Parents, Date of Registration, Profession of Father providing that the father's name is given, Usual residence of Mother, the mother's age is kept in the records but is not placed on Birth Certificate.
- **REGISTRAR'S NAME**





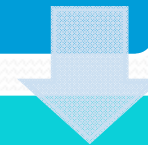
# FLOW CHART FOR DEATHS

Deaths occurring outside of the Hospitals  
and Deaths occurring at the Hospitals

District Office

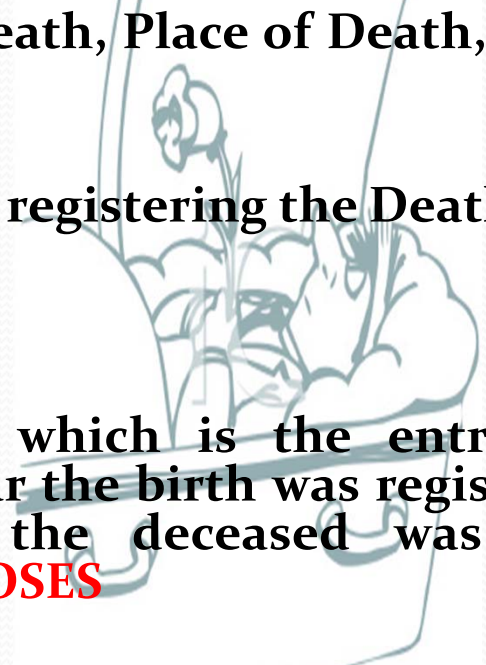
Registrar General Department

Central Statistical Office Collects  
Information



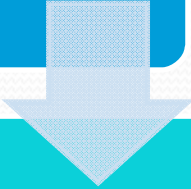


## INFORMATION COLLECTED AS IT RELATES TO DEATHS

- **DECEASED:** Date of Death, Place of Death, Name, Address, Sex, Age, Cause of Death
  - **INFORMANT** – Person registering the Death, Date of Registration
  - **Registrar**
  - **Birth information** – which is the entry number of the birth certificate and the year the birth was registered which often time is the year in which the deceased was born - **FOR CROSS REFERENCING PURPOSES**
  - **FOREIGNERS** – The letter “ F” is used as an identifier in the system and it is required that a Birth Certificate or a Passport be presented at the time of registration of the death.
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# FLOW CHART FOR MARRIAGES

Marriage officer or Bride/Groom and  
Marriage occurring at the Court House  
(mailed).



Registrar General Department



Central Statistical Office collects  
information

## INFORMATION COLLECTED AS IT RELATES TO MARRIAGES

- Entry number, Page Number, Place and Date of Marriage, Name of Bride and Groom, Their Status, Their Profession, Age and address of the time of marriage, Marriage Officer, Name of the Witnesses (two)



# FLOW CHART FOR DIVORCES

Lawyers

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graph TD; A[Lawyers] --> B[Supreme Court Registry]; B --> C[Central Statistical Office Collects Information];
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Supreme Court Registry

Central Statistical Office  
Collects Information

## INFORMATION COLLECTED AS IT RELATES TO DIVORCES

- Age of both partners at the time of marriage and Divorce, Duration of Marriage, Number of Children born during the Marriage, Reason for the Divorce





# STRENGTHS

- The system produces data on a continuous basis that is accurate, reliable and has assurances of integrity .
- Data produce are consistent with Internationally agreed definitions that can be compared with data from other countries regionally and internationally.
- The system covers information for the entire Tri-island state and has complete registration of all Vital Events.
- Statistics disseminated satisfies the needs of Data Users



## STRENGTHS CONTINUED

- Data collected is adequately stored and is easily accessible
- Data is easily transferred to Secondary users (eg. C.S.O)
- The Statistics produced is methodologically sound





## WEAKNESS IDENTIFIED

- Timeliness
- Human Resource Constraints
- Financial Constraints
- System for registering Births, Deaths and Marriage is manually driven



## PROCEDURES TO ENSURE HIGH QUALITY OF DATA IN THE CRVS .

- **Relevance** – data meet the needs of users at different levels.
- **Credibility** – users have confidence in the statistics and trust the objectivity of the data, which are professionally produced in accordance with appropriate standards and transparent policies and practice.
- **Accuracy** – data correctly describe the quantities or characteristics being measured; in other words that the values obtained are the true values.

## PROCEDURES UTILIZE TO ENSURE HIGH QUALITY OF DATA IN THE CRVS CONT:-

- **Accessibility** – data can be readily located
- **Confidentiality** – data-management practices are aligned with established confidentiality standards.
- **Disaggregation** – data can be stratified by sex, age and parish.
- **Representativeness** – data represents the whole population.
- **Periodicity** – vital statistics are shared regularly so that they serve the ongoing needs of all users.



## PROCEDURES TO ENSURE HIGH QUALITY OF DATA IN THE CRVS CONT:-

- **Timeliness** – delays between data collection and availability or publication are minimized, although not to the extent of compromising accuracy and reliability.
- **Coherence** – statistical definitions and methods are consistent at all times.



## Strategies, Exercises and Practices utilize in the past and present to monitor the quality of the CRVS .

- **BIRTHS:**

1. It is mandatory that the intake officers ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information contained in each record by reviewing each record completely.
2. Established seven districts (one in each of the seven parishes) to facilitate registration of events in the outer parishes to improve on the timeliness of the data and to ensure or limit under registration and misreporting of Births and Deaths.
3. Stipulated by law for the districts submit their data to the Registrar's office on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> of January, April, July and October which also addresses the issue of timeliness of the data and periodicity.
4. Training of Nurses and Midwives on the registration process to improve on the accuracy of the data.



## BIRTHS CONTINUES:

5. Implemented Bedside registration from the first of April 2014, thus ensuring all the required data is captured as the event occurs which improved on the timeliness of the registration
6. Training of Staff at the Registrar's Department in Good Data Management Practices which included quality assessment of the micro data which is essential for data completion and consistency checks
7. Ensuring that the information collected can be disaggregated in the format to meet the needs of the users
8. Data-management practices are aligned with established confidentiality standards for data storage, backup, transfer and retrieval.



# DEATHS:

- Cross referencing of Births with Deaths commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014
- Ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the information contained in each record
- Two training workshops were held for doctors in collaboration with CAREC/CARPHA – To sensitize them on the proper completion of death certificates
- An automated system for deaths was introduced in 2009 (MMDS)



## DEATHS CONTINUED:-

- Officer responsible for coding deaths attended many regional workshops – Ensuring data is coded in line with ICD Standards



# MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES

- Training was held for marriage officers to ensure that the forms are filled correctly
- Grenada has made efforts to harness the potential of technology by computerizing the divorce process using the Judicial Enforcement Management System (JEMS)





# FUTURE PLANS

- Fully computerize the Registrar's General Department to produce certificates electronically
- Ongoing educational campaign of the general population of the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System and its importance.



- THE END