

Workshop on the Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, Revision 3, Caribbean Countries

Coverage and Accuracy of Civil Registration & Vital Statistics Jamaica

Obstacles and Strategies

Core topics not captured by Civil Registration System for Births

- * Urban/ rural
- * Weight at birth
- * Date of birth of mother
- * Educational attainment
- * Urban/rural(as it relates to mother's residence)
- * Duration of residence
- * Migrant status
- * Date of previous life birth
- * Interval since last previous life birth

Core topics not captured by Civil Registration System for Births

- * Date of marriage
- * Duration of marriage
- * Date of birth of father
- * Marital status of father
- * Educational attainment
- * Place of residence
- * Locality of residence
- * Urban/rural

Core topics not captured by Civil Registration System for Deaths

- * Urban/rural
- * Date of birth of the decedent
- * Urban/rural residence of mother

Core topics not captured by Civil Registration System for Foetal Deaths

- * Urban/rural occurrence
- * Date of birth of mother
- * Children born alive to mother during lifetime
- * Date of last previous live birth
- * Interval since last previous live birth
- * Date of Marriage (mother)
- * Duration of Marriage (mother)

Core topics not captured by CR for Foetal Deaths cont'd

- * Urban/rural residence of mother
- * Date of Birth (father)
- * Urban/rural residence of father

Core topics not captured by CR for Marriages

- * Urban/rural occurrence
- * Date of Birth – bride and groom
- * Urban/rural residence – bride and groom

Divorces

Divorces are not registered by the Civil Registration System.

STATIN collects these records directly from the Supreme Court.

All core topics are collected except: urban/rural occurrence/residence and date of births of parties.

Obstacles for achieving complete coverage of vital events registration

- * Current civil registration forms need revision. The forms are a part of the Registration (Births & Deaths) and Marriage Acts as opposed to the regulations – process of revision is lengthy.
- * Delay in certification of deaths for some sudden/violent deaths – causes under-coverage of these death registrations and also undue delay.

Obstacles for achieving complete coverage of vital events registration

- * RGD is self-funded – reduced financial and human resources to effect necessary actions to improve coverage and timeliness further
- * Legislation currently does not stipulate that divorces must be registered by the RGD
- * The Ministry of Health staff does not have an appreciation of the importance of vital data
(statistics becomes important when there is a crisis)

Assessment of Quality

- * Birth validation study 2005- direct matching of births registered in the CR database against hospitals, birthing centres log books, mid-wives' reports of community births and monthly clinic report from the Ministry of Health (*done to measure the registration of birth under coverage*)
- * Parish totals from the census database of newborns were matched against the parish occurrences, registration and the late registration of birth totals.

Assessment of Quality cont'd

- * No direct matching of mother's name or child's name is done with the census data and CR database
- * Death validation studies 1998 and 2008- direct matching of deaths registered in the CR database against hospitals, police records, coroner's court and forensic pathologist's records
- * Parish totals from the census database of deaths were matched against the parish occurrences, registration and the late registration of death totals.

Strategies for improvement in completeness and improve data quality

- * A draft concept paper for amendments to the registration of births and deaths and marriage acts has been submitted to the Ministry of Health for review before submission to Cabinet.
- * Increase the number of personnel used to actively retrieve coroner's certificates from the police and coroner's courts
- * Sensitization of the police and pathologists to the importance of mortality data for planning and international reporting

Strategies for improvement in completeness and improve data quality

- * Apply the recommended demographic methods to assess data quality on a *annual* basis rather than the validation studies
- * Seek approval from the Ministry of Finance to increase staff compliment for social statistics

Strategies for improvement in completeness and improve data quality

- * Continuous training for CR to ensure that new staff can be competent in coding and aware of updates in the cause of death classification
- * Continuous training of doctors and pathologists in proper completion of the MCCD and Post mortem forms



THANK YOU!

Friday, December 4, 2015