

**VITAL EVENTS
REGISTRATION AND VITAL
STATISTICS**

THE CASE OF

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GRENADINES**

OUTLINE

- Comparison of core topics recommended by the Principles and Recommendations of Vital Statistics with topics in SVG's registration forms, data collected and published by Statistical Office
- Major obstacles for achieving complete coverage of vital events registration and efforts carried out for assessing data quality
- Strategies that should be adopted to achieve completeness and improve data quality

CORE TOPICS, DATA COLLECTED & PUBLISHED

MARRIAGE

Core Topics - Principles and Recommendation for Vital Statistics Systems	Topics Covered on Registration Forms	Data Collected by Statistical Office	Data Published
Characteristics of Event: <i>Date of Occurrence</i> <i>Date of Registration</i> <i>Place of Occurrence</i> <i>Place of Registration</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ x x x	✓ x x x
Characteristics of Bride and Groom (Separately) Date of Birth/Age <i>Place of Usual Residence</i> <i>Marital Status (Previous)</i>	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ x ✓	✓ x ✓

CORE TOPICS, DATA COLLECTED & PUBLISHED

DIVORCE

Event Not Registered - However Data Can Be Obtained From the High Court

Core Topics - Principles and Recommendation for Vital Statistics Systems	Data Available at High Court	Data Collected by Statistical Office	Data Published
Characteristics of Event: <i>Date of Occurrence</i> <i>Date of Registration</i> <i>Place of Occurrence</i> <i>Place of Registration</i>	✓ X X X	✓ 	Count Only
Characteristics of Divorcees <i>Date of Birth</i> <i>Date of Marriage</i> <i>Place of Usual Residence</i>	✓ ✓ ✓	X X X	

CORE TOPICS, DATA COLLECTED & PUBLISHED

FOETAL DEATHS

Core Topics - Principles and Recommendation for Vital Statistics Systems	Topics Covered on Registration Forms	Data Collected by Statistical Office	Data Published
Characteristics of Event:			
<i>Date of Occurrence</i>	✓	✓	✓
<i>Date of Registration</i>	✓		
<i>Place of Occurrence</i>	✓		
<i>Place of Registration</i>	✓		
Characteristics of Foetal			
<i>Sex</i>	✓	✓	✓
Characteristics of Mother			
<i>Date fo Birth</i>	x		
<i>Children born alive to mother during her entire lifetime</i>	x		
<i>Foetal deaths to mother during her entire lifetime</i>	x		
<i>Date of Last Previous Live Birth</i>	x		
<i>Date of Marriage</i>	x		
<i>Place of Usual Residence</i>	✓	x	x
Characteristics of Father			
<i>Date of Birth</i>	x		
<i>Place of Usual Residence</i>	x		

CORE TOPICS, DATA COLLECTED & PUBLISHED

DEATHS

Core Topics - Principles and Recommendation for Vital Statistics Systems	Topics Covered on Registration Forms	Data Collected by Statistical Office	Data Published
Characteristics of Event:			
<i>Date of Occurrence</i>	✓	✓	X
<i>Date of Registration</i>	✓	X	
<i>Place of Occurrence</i>	✓	✓	X
<i>Place of Registration</i>	✓	✓	X
<i>Cause of Death</i>	✓	✓	✓
Characteristics of Decedent/Deceased:			
<i>Date of Birth (Age)</i>	✓	✓	✓
<i>Sex</i>	✓	✓	✓
<i>Marital Status</i>	X		
<i>Place of Usual Residence</i>			
<i>Place of usual residence of mother (death < 1 year old)</i>	X		
-	<i>Complexion</i>	X	
-	<i>Burial Place</i>	X	
<i>Occupation</i>	✓	✓	X

CORE TOPICS, DATA COLLECTED & PUBLISHED BIRTHS

Core Topics - Principles and Recommendation for Vital Statistics Systems	Topics Covered on	Data Collected by	Data Published
Characteristics of Event:			
<i>Date of Occurrence</i>	✓	✓	✓
<i>Date of Registration</i>	✓	x	x
<i>Place of Occurrence</i>	✓	✓	x
<i>Place of Registration</i>	✓	x	x
<i>Type of Birth</i>	✓	✓	x
<i>Attendant at births</i>	✓	x	x
Characteristics of New Born:			
<i>Sex</i>	✓	✓	✓
<i>Weight at birth</i>	x		
Characteristics of Mother			
<i>Occupation</i>	✓	✓	✓
<i>Date of Birth</i>	✓	✓	✓
<i>Marital Status (Child Born in Wedlock)</i>	✓	✓	✓
<i>Educational Attainment</i>	x		
<i>Place of Usual Residence</i>	✓	✓	✓
<i>Duration of Residence in Usual Place</i>	x		
<i>Place/Country of Birth</i>	x		
<i>Children Born Alive to Mother During her Entire Lifetime</i>	x		
<i>Foetal Deaths to Mother During her Entire Lifetime</i>	x		
<i>Birth Order</i>	✓	✓	✓
<i>Date of Marriage</i>	x		
Characteristics of Father			
<i>Date of Birth</i>	?		
<i>Marital Status</i>	✓	x	
<i>Educational Attainment</i>	x		
<i>Place of Usual Residence</i>	✓	x	

OBSTACLES IN ACHIEVING COMPLETE COVERAGE

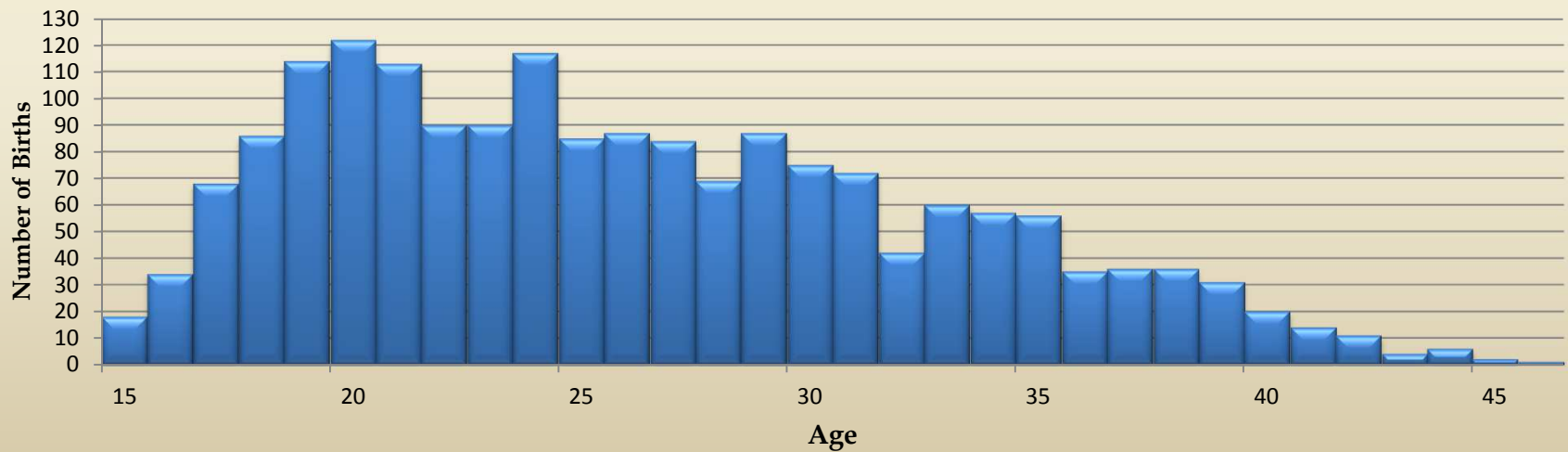
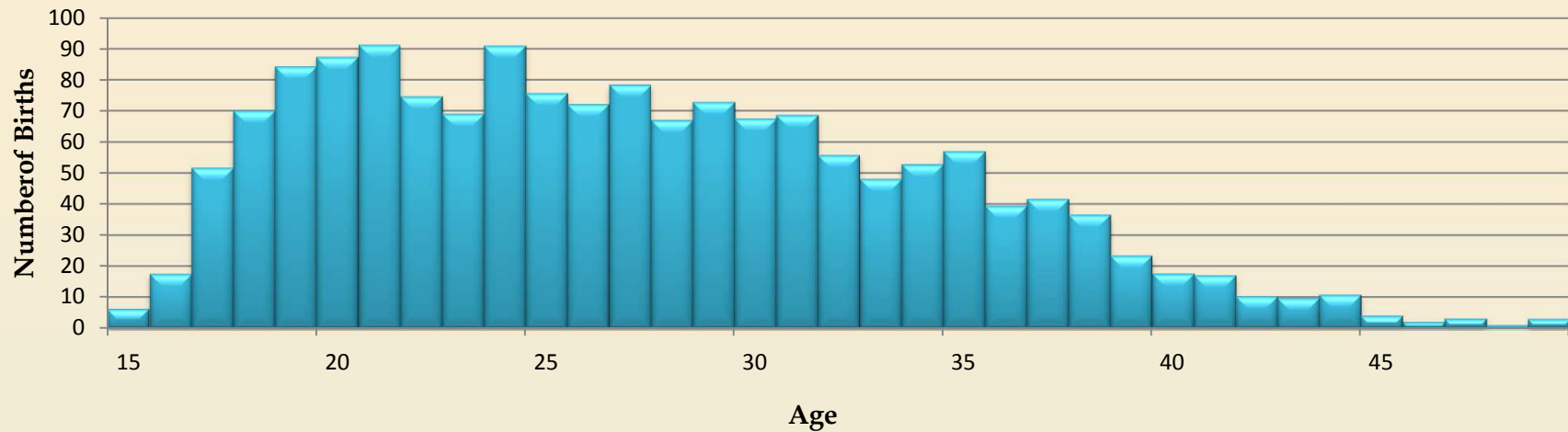
Birth Registration Evidence of Complete Coverage

Number of Births for a given year reported by the Ministry of Health equal registered births of the same year. This suggests complete coverage in births registration. This was the case for the last 4 years (2011 – 2014).

Number of Births generated from Census Records - Lower than registered births. Same 1 year duration but evidence of under-reporting in the census (see next slide).

Birth data obtained from civil registry is deemed to be the best source of birth statistics.

Under-reporting of Births in Population Census: Top Graph – Census Data Bottom Graph – Birth Registration Data



OBSTACLES IN ACHIEVING COMPLETE COVERAGE

Registration of Deaths Evidence of Excellent Coverage

In the case of death of any person who has been attended during his/her last illness by a registered medical practitioner, that practitioner shall issue a death certificate for the deceased.

Any person to whom a death certificate is given, must deliver the certificate to the registrar, or he or she will be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine.

Where a coroner's inquest shall have been held on the body of any deceased person, a certificate of the finding of the jury is sufficient for registration (this is sent directly to the registrar).

Where a report of a post-mortem examination is sent to the coroner, and no inquest is subsequently held, the coroner is required to send a copy of such report, to the registrar and such report is treated by registrar as equivalent to the certificate.

OBSTACLES IN ACHIEVING COMPLETE COVERAGE

Registration of Deaths Evidence of Excellent Coverage Con't.

Burial of the dead is not allowed unless a medical certificate is produced and the death registered.

There are very few cases where persons are missing for an extended period of time. After 7 years, the relatives of the deceased are allowed to register the death of that individual if death is their suspicion.

In essence, the current system allows for the timely registration of deaths

OBSTACLES IN ACHIEVING COMPLETE COVERAGE

Registration of Deaths Evidence of Excellent Coverage con't

The Health Information unit collects every medical certificate (of the deceased) submitted to the registry for death registration and generate a data base of deaths for the given year.

The Statistical Office, at the beginning of a new year, collects an electronic database of registered deaths from the Registry Department. The Health Information Unit also submit to the Statistical Office an electronic file of death records generated from medical certificates.

The information in both data bases are matched for consistency (see table on next slide for a summary of the 2013 data)

SUMMARY of 2013 DEATHS

MOH DATA VS. REGISTERED DEATHS

(Difference in overall count is as a result of non-resident deaths (2 for 2013)
and one duplicate in the data file submitted by the MOH)

MOH Deaths Data (Deaths of Residents only)	Gender	<1y	1-4y	5-14y	15-24y	25-44y	45-64y	65y+	Unk.	TOTAL
	Male	20	1	6	14	61	131	277	4	514
	Female	12	0	1	6	45	76	273	0	413
	TOTAL	32	1	7	20	106	207	550 <small>(1 duplicate)</small>	4	927
Registered Deaths (Includes non-resident deaths)	Gender	<1y	1-4y	5-14y	15-24y	25-44y	45-64y	65y+	Unk.	TOTAL
	Male	20	1	6	14	62	131	276	2	512
	Female	12	1	1	6	45	76	273	2	416
	TOTAL	32	2 <small>(1 Foreigner)</small>	7	20	107 <small>(1 Foreigner)</small>	207	549	4	928

OBSTACLES IN ACHIEVING COMPLETE COVERAGE

Foetal Deaths

Registration of foetal deaths in practice is not treated with the same care and attention as registration of other deaths. As a result, foetal death statistics obtained from the registry seems inadequate.

Divorces

Divorces are not registered. However, when an individual files a divorce, he/she is required to fill a form requesting certain information about the parties involved. This information can be capture by the Statistical Office only when a Decree Absolute is granted. Unfortunately, some couples do not continue the process after a Decree Nici is obtained.

OTHER EFFORTS FOR ASSESSING DATA QUALITY

- Data collected from other sources including other administrative sources are used to judge the quality of the data obtained from Civil Registration
 - Census data on births, deaths and marriages are checked against that obtained from civil registration record.

STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE COMPLETENESS AND IMPROVE DATA QUALITY

- **FOETAL DEATHS:** Begin the process of collecting monthly foetal death statistics from hospital records. Communicate with data entry clerk at the Registry Depart to encourage data entry of foetal deaths registered. Match data obtained from hospital records with that registered on a quarterly basis.
- **DEATHS:** Collect and verify mortality data quarterly, resolve any issues as that surface.
- **BIRTHS:** Begin the process of collecting birth statistics from hospital Medical Records. This way, data on birth weight can be captured and information inserted in the data base of registered births.

THANK YOU!

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