

Introduction to Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

Workshop on Vital Statistics for North and Central Asian Countries

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What is CRVS?

- **Civil Registration (CR)** is the *recording* of vital events:
 - Live births
 - Deaths
 - Marriages and divorces
 - Causes of death (?)
- **Vital Statistics (VS)** constitute the collection, analysis, and publication of *statistics* on vital events
- Source: *Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System*, UN Statistics Division, 2014
- **Migration** is not considered a vital event
 - Immigrations
 - Emigrations
 - Internal moves *to* an area
 - Internal moves *from* an area

Principles of a Vital Statistics System

- Universal coverage
- Continuity
- Confidentiality of personal information
- Regular dissemination

Why is CRVS important?

- Human rights
- Administrative use
- Population registers
- Statistics for monitoring, planning, health, local administration

Why Civil Registration?

- **Legal, human rights**

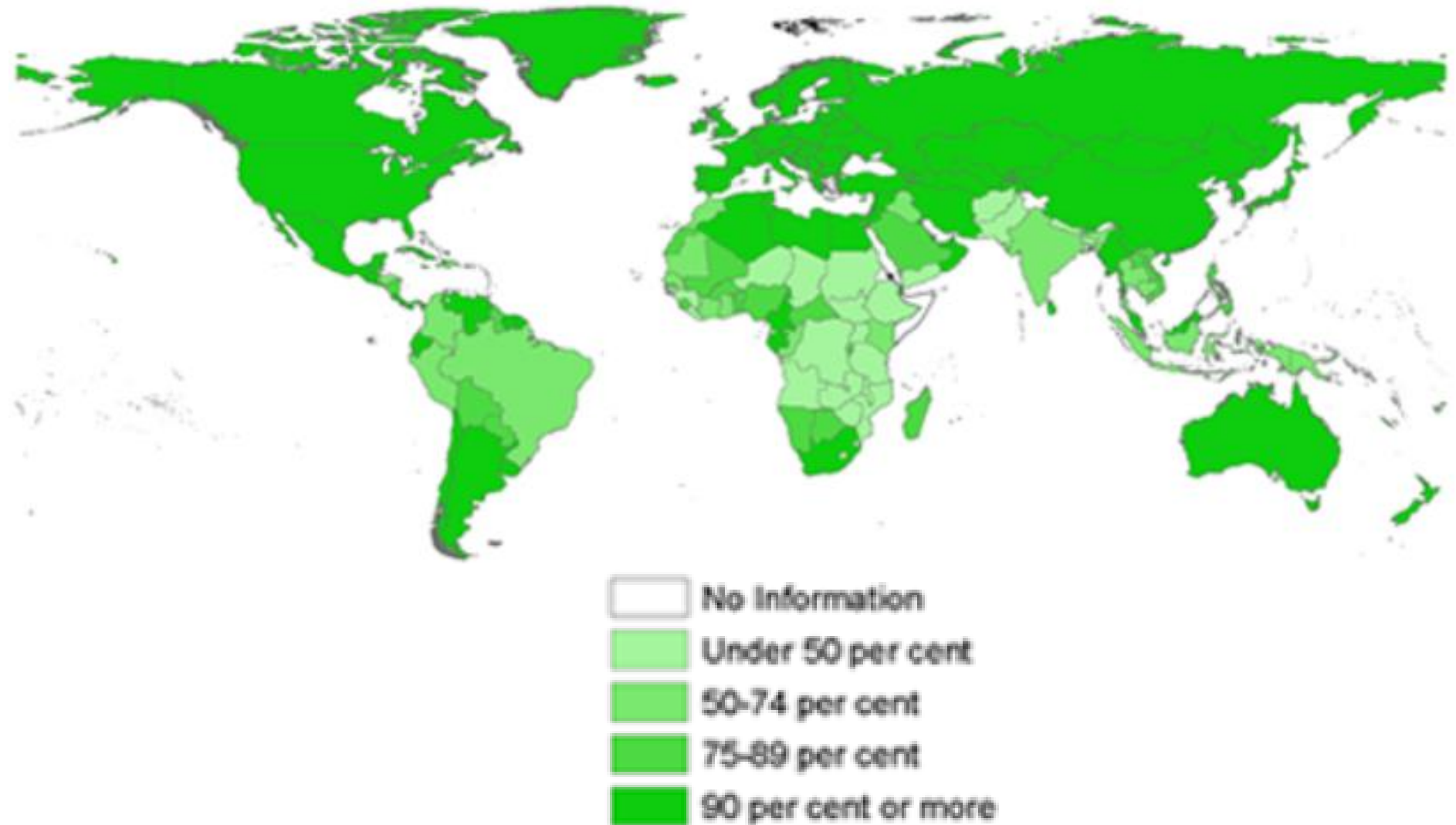
- The recording of a birth is usually accompanied by the issuance of a birth certificate
- To prove age, name, parents, nationality, country of birth ...
- To obtain a passport and other identification documents
- To fight child labour, under-age marriage, health, human trafficking, child prostitution ...
- To obtain health and education services, voting rights ...
- Death certificates also needed for legal reasons (burial rights, inheritance, remarriage ...)

- **Statistical, administrative**

- To produce Vital Statistics
- To establish population registers for administrative and statistical purposes

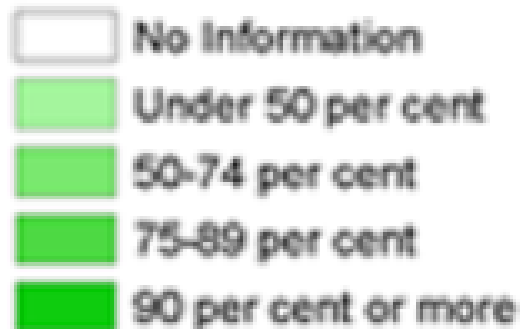
CRVS: Births

- 62% of countries register at least 90% of births



CRVS: Deaths

- 57% of countries register at least 90% of deaths
- 85 countries produce high-quality COD data



CRVS Subprocesses

Notification of vital event (VE)



Validation of VE



Registration of VE



Certification of VE



Storage and archiving of VE



Compilation of VS



Quality control of VS



Generation of VS



Dissemination of VS

Vital statistics (VS)

Why Vital Statistics?

- Essential for setting targets and evaluating social and economic plans and programmes (UNSD 2014)
- To derive fundamental demographic and epidemiological measures needed in national planning for health, education, labor ... (WHO 2010)
- For government activities (population registers and other administrative registers ...)
- For commercial enterprises (life insurance, marketing of products ...)
- Core of a country's health information system (HIS)

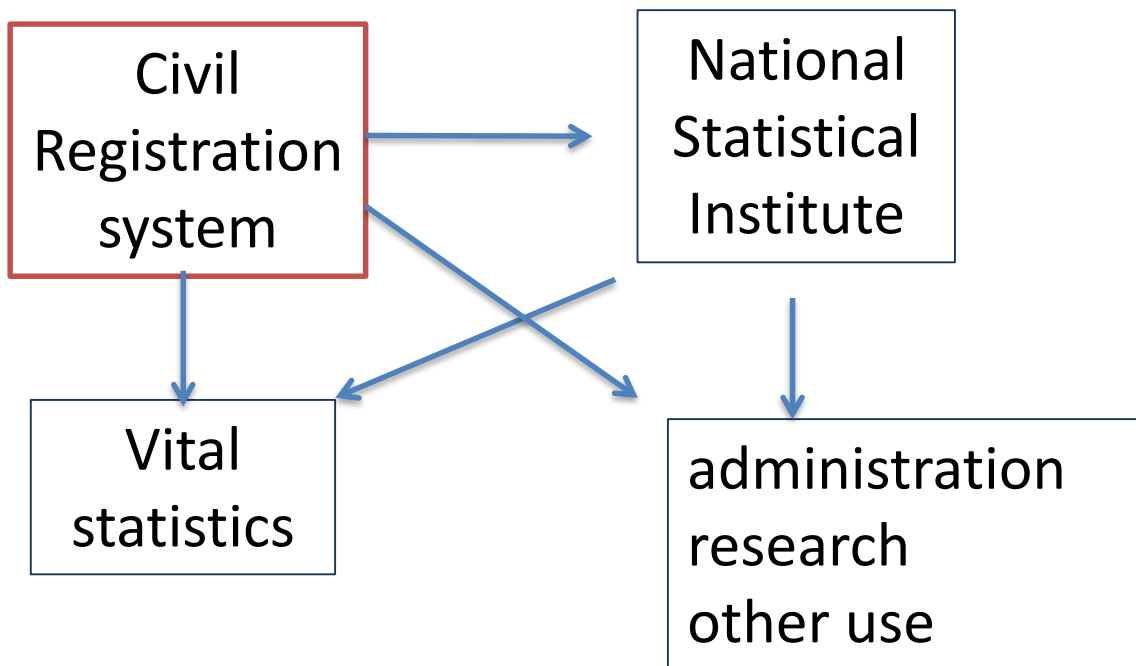
Vital Statistics

- Produced by the national statistical office in most countries
- Produced by the national CR agency in some countries
- The two national institutions are combined in a few countries
- The third related institution is the national Identity management office (ID cards)

Data flows on vital events

Micro data or
Aggregate data

National
Identity
Management



Sustainable Development Goals

17 SDGs with 169 targets and over 230 global indicators

Examples

Indicator 3.7.2 : “Adolescent birth rate (10-14 years; 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group”

Target 16.9: “By 2030 provide legal identity for all, including birth registration”

- CRVS usually the best data source to estimate the SDG indicators
- 40 per cent of all SDGs may be estimated in full or in part using data originating from a well-functioning CRVS system