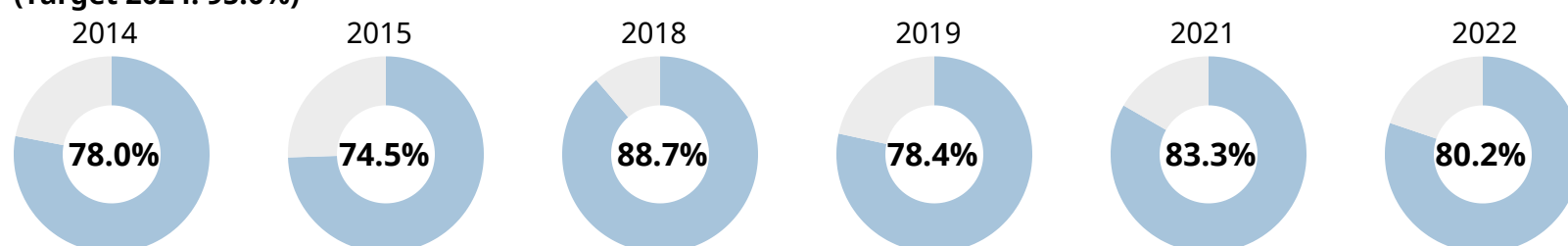


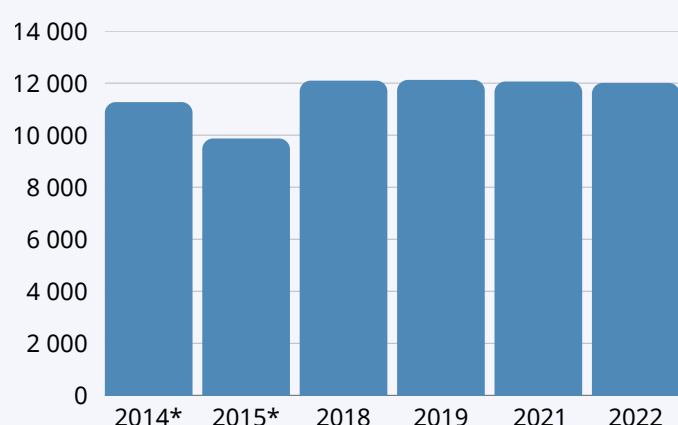
BIRTH REGISTRATION

1A. Percentage of births in the territory and jurisdiction that are registered within one year of occurrence (Target 2024: 95.0%)



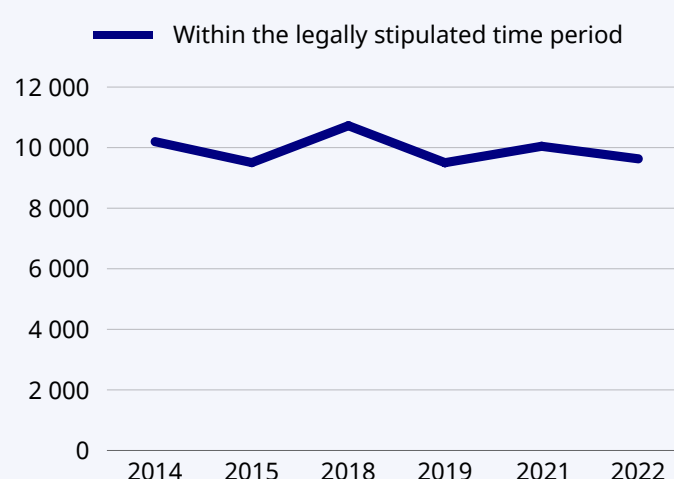
As per the Multi-Sectoral National Strategic Action Plan (MNSAP 2021-2024), by 2025, more than 95% of all births in the country must be registered. Registrations delayed beyond one year is considered 'delayed registration'. Although delayed registration requires LG endorsement and is somewhat cumbersome, these birth are ultimately registered.

Total number of births in the territory and jurisdiction of the country or area



*United Nations Population Division World Population Prospect 2022 Estimates

Number of births registered by the civil registration system



2A. Percentage of births registered accompanied with the issuance of an official birth certificate with minimum information* within one year of occurrence (Target 2024: --)

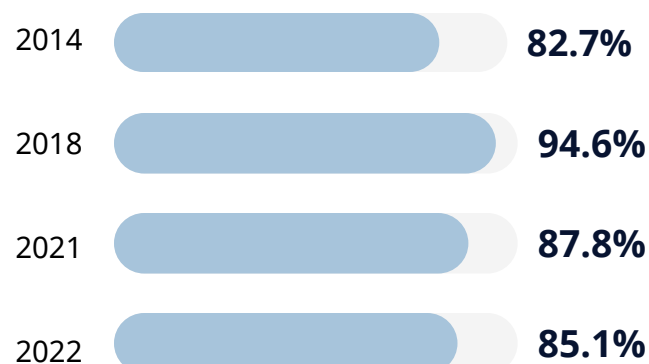
Birth notification is provided for all births in Bhutan using the Mother and Child Health handbook. This serves as bases for civil registration.

However, birth certificates are issued only upon parental request, typically for purposes such as travel or visa processing.

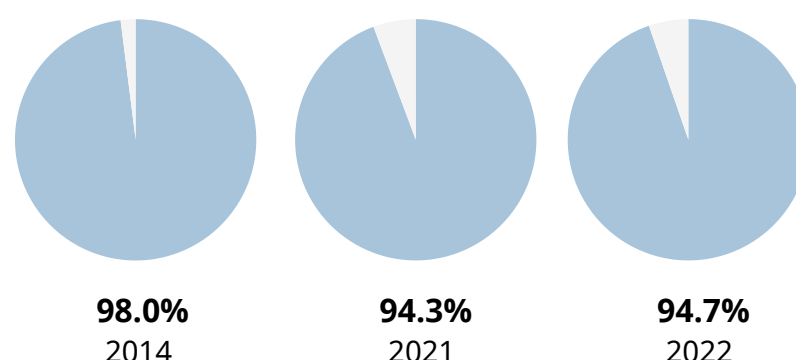
Birth Certificates are not widely availed, and are issued by Ministry of Health (MoH).

*Minimum information includes the individual's name, sex, date, place of birth and name of parent(s) where known.

1B. Percentage of children under 5 years who have had their birth registered (Target 2024: 95.0%)

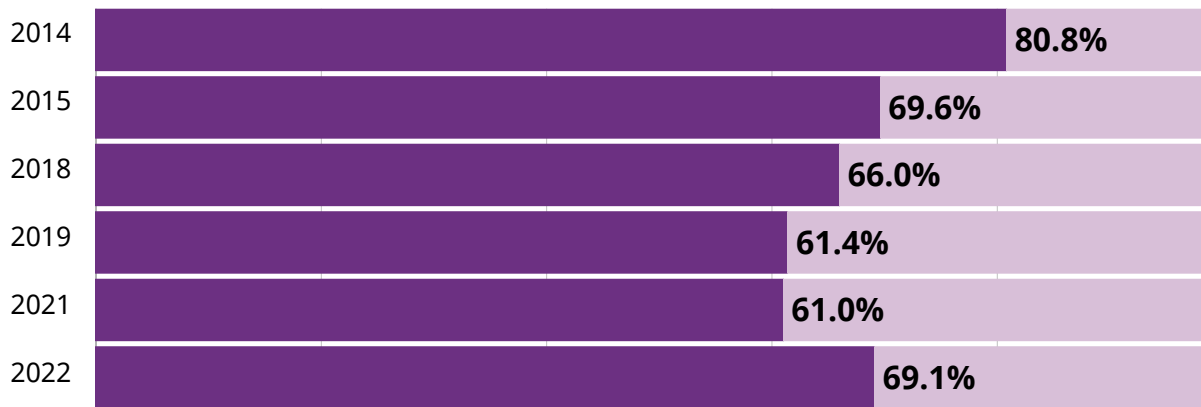


1C. Percentage of individuals who have had their birth registered (Target 2024: 99.0%)



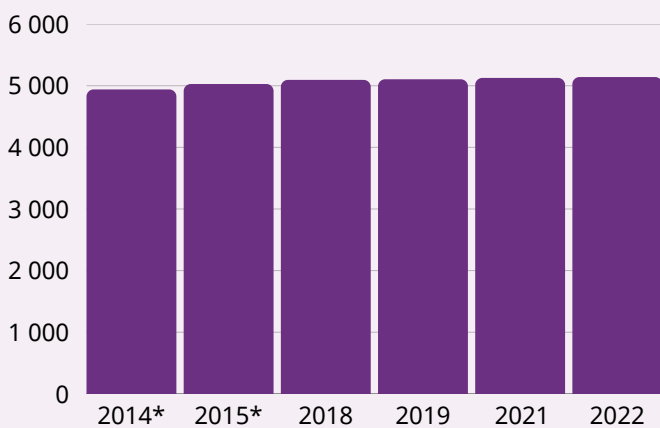
DEATH REGISTRATION

1D. Percentage of all deaths that are registered within one year of occurrence (**Target 2024: 90%**)



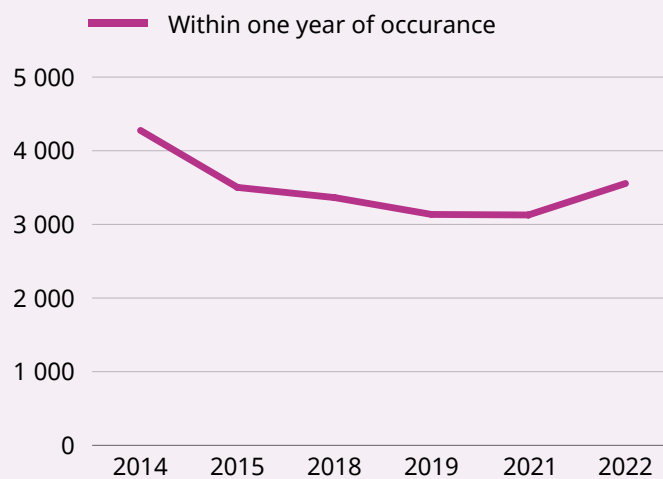
For death registration, there is no fixed timeline. Registration Points register death when reported by the family/next of kin of the deceased.

Number of deaths registered by the civil registration system

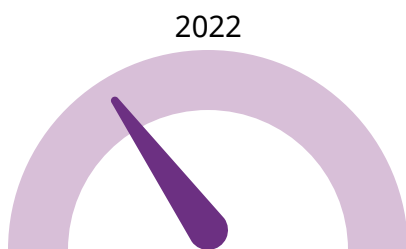


*United Nations Population Division World Population Prospect 2022 Estimates

Number of deaths registered by the civil registration system



2B. Percentage of deaths registered accompanied with the issuance of an official death certificate with minimum information* within one year of occurrence (**Target 2024: 100%**)

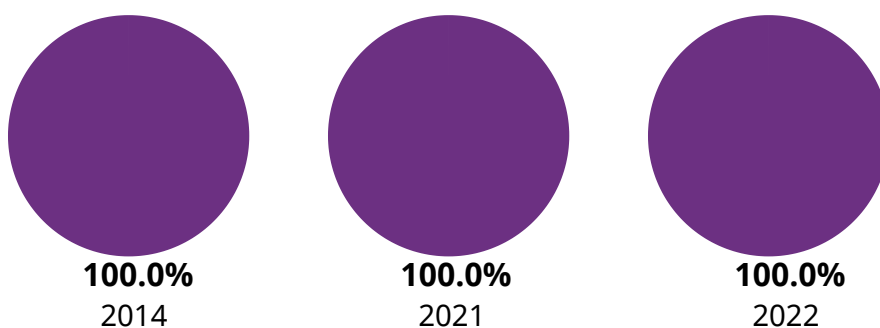


Currently, the civil registration authority does not issue death certificates. Instead, the Ministry of Health (MoH) issues a notification of death for deaths occurring in health facilities.

For deaths occurring outside health facilities, a statement of death is issued by the local government official.

*Minimum information includes the deceased's name, date of death, sex and age.

1E (adjusted). Percentage of all deaths occurring in health facilities or with the attention of a medical practitioner that have a medically certified cause of death recorded using the international form of the death certificate (**Target 2024: 85%**)



VITAL STATISTICS

● YES ● NO ● NOT REPORTED

Variable	Baseline (2015)	Mid-term (2019)	2025 review (2024)
Target 3A. Production of birth statistics			
Nationally representative statistics on births are produced from registration records or other valid administrative data sources (Target year: 2020 Target achieved in 2020)	●	●	●
Age of mother	●	●	●
Sex of child	●	●	●
Geographic area/administrative subdivision for place of birth (occurrence)	●	●	●
Geographic area/administrative subdivision for place of usual residence of the mother	●	●	●
Target 3B. Production of death statistics			
Nationally representative statistics on deaths are produced from registration records or other valid administrative data sources (Target year: 2020 Target achieved in 2020)	●	●	●
Age	●	●	●
Sex	●	●	●
Geographic area/administrative subdivision for place of death (occurrence)	●	●	●
Geographic area/administrative subdivision for place of usual residence of the deceased	●	●	●
Cause of death as defined by ICD	●	●	●
Target 3F. Dissemination of birth and death statistics			
Key summary tabulations of vital statistics on births and deaths using registration or other administrative records as the primary source, are made available in the public domain in electronic format annually, and within one calendar year (Target year: 2022)	●	●	●
Registration records are used as the primary source	●	●	●
Tabulations are produced annually	●	●	●
Tabulations are disseminated electronically	●	●	●
Tabulations are available within one calendar year	●	●	●
Target 3G. Dissemination of statistics on causes of death			
Key summary tabulations of vital statistics on causes of death using registration or other administrative records as the primary source, are made available in the public domain in electronic format annually, and within two calendar years (Target year: 2022)	●	●	●
Registration records are used as the primary source	●	●	●
Tabulations are produced annually	●	●	●
Tabulations are disseminated electronically	●	●	●
Tabulations are available within two calendar year	●	●	●
Target 3H. Reporting of birth and death statistics			
An accurate, complete and timely vital statistics report for the previous two years, using registration records or other routine administrative sources as the primary source, is made available in the public domain (Target year: 2024)	●	●	●
Registration records are used as the primary source	●	●	●
Information is available for the previous two years	●	●	●
Tabulations are available in the public domain	●	●	●

ACTION AREAS

(REGIONAL ACTION FRAMEWORK)

POLITICAL COMMITMENT

Bhutan demonstrates strong political commitment to strengthening its CRVS system, as reflected in several national strategies and policy frameworks. CRVS has been explicitly prioritized in Bhutan's 13th Five Year Plan (2024–2029), which outlines the country's aim to develop a world-class CRVS system. This strategic direction is further supported by the Multi-Sectoral National Strategic Action Plan (MNSAP 2022–2026), which underscores a coordinated approach to improving CRVS through cross-sectoral collaboration. Additionally, Bhutan has allocated a sectoral or governmentwide budget to support the implementation of its national CRVS strategy, ensuring that the necessary financial resources are in place. Civil registration is also recognized as an essential service in the country, including during crises, reflecting its critical role in governance, service delivery and safeguarding individual rights.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, PARTICIPATION AND GENERATING DEMAND

Bhutan's CRVS strategy demonstrates a focus on public engagement, with gender inclusivity explicitly addressed. Health sector staff support the registration process by providing birth notifications and medical certificate of cause of death (MCCD). National and subnational campaigns have been undertaken to encourage registration of vital events. However, Bhutan has not introduced incentives or penalties – either routinely or during crises – to improve registration rates, nor does it currently engage nongovernmental groups in supporting registration efforts.

COORDINATION

In Bhutan, civil registration data are systematically shared with the National Statistics Office (NSO) and other government entities through established protocols. The civil registration database is also integrated with other administrative databases, such as those used by the health ministry and national identification systems, via the Bhutan Civil Registration System (BCRS). This enables streamlined service delivery through the Government-to-Citizen (G2C) portal.

POLICIES, LEGISLATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATIONS

Bhutan has not formally reviewed or updated its CRVS legal framework since 2015, but key implementation improvements have been made. A national identity system links birth and death records to the issuance and retirement of unique IDs, assigned at birth. Timely birth and death registrations are free, with no penalties for delays; however, a fee applies for birth certificates. Registration requirements are the same for citizens and non-citizens and include birth/death notifications and a marriage certificate. Services have been adapted for persons with disabilities through Integrated Citizenship Services (ICS), enabling online registration. A 2020 business process review using Business Process Mapping (BPM), CRVS-SAR, and multisectoral consultations informed the National Strategic Action Plan (2022–2026), introducing ICS and the National Digital Identity (NDI) app. Bhutan also revised the medical certificate of cause of death (MCCD) to align with WHO standards and became one of the first countries to implement ICD-11 nationwide.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESOURCES

Bhutan has strengthened its CRVS infrastructure with a focus on accessibility and innovation. While registration information is not available in non-official languages, the ICS allow users, including persons with disabilities, to complete civil registration remotely via smartphone or computer. A comprehensive CRVS business process review in 2020, using tools like BPM and multisectoral consultations, informed the country's first Multi-Sectoral National Strategic Action Plan (2022–2026). This led to integrating systems such as the electronic population information system (ePIS) and judiciary services under the ICS, accessible through the NDI app, a pioneering self-sovereign identity platform.

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES, PRACTICES AND INNOVATIONS

Since 2015, Bhutan has updated registration forms to enhance service delivery and expanded access through mobile registration and online vital event registration via the NDI app within the ICS platform. The country has a strong data protection framework covering data collection, handling, sharing and storage, with civil registration data securely stored at multiple and offsite locations. Bhutan also implements cybersecurity and business continuity plans to protect personal data and ensure service resilience. While studies have identified gender gaps in CRVS, no targeted measures have been introduced yet. Additionally, Bhutan has launched special initiatives to register hard-to-reach and vulnerable populations, further strengthening its operational procedures and innovations.

PRODUCTION, DISSEMINATION AND USE OF VITAL STATISTICS

Bhutan has received training on the production, analysis and dissemination of vital statistics, enhancing their capacity to manage and utilize these data effectively. The country has actively promoted the use of vital statistics to inform and improve policies and programmes, ensuring that data-driven decision-making supports national development goals.