



Abbreviated name	Birth registration coverage
Indicator name	Birth registration coverage
Domain	Health systems
Subdomain	HSS
Associated terms	Health information
Definition	Percentage of births that are registered within one month of age in a civil registration system.
Numerator	Number of births registered.
Denominator	Total number of births.
Disaggregation/ additional dimension	Place of residence, sex, socioeconomic status
Method of measurement	Questions are asked about registration status in household surveys. The numerator of this indicator includes children whose birth certificate was seen by the interviewer or whose mother or care-taker says the birth has been registered. Data are also often presented for other age groups such as infants or children under 5 years of age. Civil registration administrative data are another source of data that could be linked to estimates of the expected number of newborns.
Method of estimation	Estimates of coverage are taken from two sources: (i) the United Nations Demographic Yearbook and (ii) United Nations statistics and UNICEF.
Measurement frequency	Annual
Monitoring and evaluation framework	Input
Preferred data sources	Household surveys
Other possible data sources	Civil registration and vital statistics systems
Further information and related links	Monitoring the building blocks of health systems: a handbook of indicators and their measurement strategies. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2010 (http://www.who.int/healthinfo/systems/WHO_MBHSS_2010_full_web.pdf?ua=1 , accessed 29 March 2015).