



Death registration coverage

Abbreviated name	Death registration coverage
Indicator name	Death registration coverage
Domain	Health systems
Subdomain	HSS
Associated terms	Health information
Definition	Percentage of deaths that are registered (with age and sex).
Numerator	Number of deaths registered.
Denominator	Total number of deaths.
Disaggregation/ additional dimension	Place of residence <i>Also: registered with cause (ICD)</i>
Method of measurement	Questions about presence of a death certificate are asked for all recent deaths (e.g. in the last year).
Method of estimation	WHO estimates coverage by taking the total number of deaths that have been registered with cause-of-death information in the vital registration system for a country and year and then dividing it by the total estimated deaths for that year for the national population. Administrative data sources could be used to obtain the number of death certificates issued and link those to the estimated number of deaths in a given time period.
Measurement frequency	
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).