

Background on CRVS

- The registration of births and deaths in Mauritania is governed Law No. 2011-003.
- The National Agency for the Register of Population and Securities (ANRPTS) and the Citizens' Reception Centers (CRC) are responsible for the registration of births and deaths.
- Registration of vital events is centralized, and data are captured in a central database system.
- Registration of vital events is compulsory and mandated to take place within 60 days and 30 days of occurrence, respectively.
- The Ministry of Health is responsible for notification of events occurring in health facilities.
- Both the registrations of births and deaths are free of charge. Fees are charged for issuance of birth certificates but not for death certificates.
- Fees are charged for registering births and deaths later than the stipulated time and imprisonment may be imposed for late registration of death.

Status of CRVS

Birth registration

- About 66% of children aged below five years in Mauritania were registered in 2015, having increased moderately from 59% in 2011 and 56% in 2007 (Figure 1). In 2015, 58% of the children had been enrolled in the new civil registration system.
- Birth certification was 40% in 2015, which declined from 49% in 2011.
- In 2015, there were virtually no differences in birth registration by sex; but wide differences noted by rural-urban residence and wealth quintile (Figure 2).
- Birth registration was 81% in urban areas and 54% in rural areas.
- The proportion of children aged below five years from the richest households whose births were registered (91%) were nearly twice as high as that from the poorest household (46%).
- Four regions had over 80% birth registration (Nouadhibou, Inchiri and Tiris Zemour and Nouakchott and in two (Guidimagha and Hodh Echargui) it was less than 50% (see Figure 3).
- Children in Nouakchott had the highest birth registration (90%) while those from Guidimagha (44%) had the lowest.

Figure 1: Birth registration and certification, Mauritania, 2007–2015

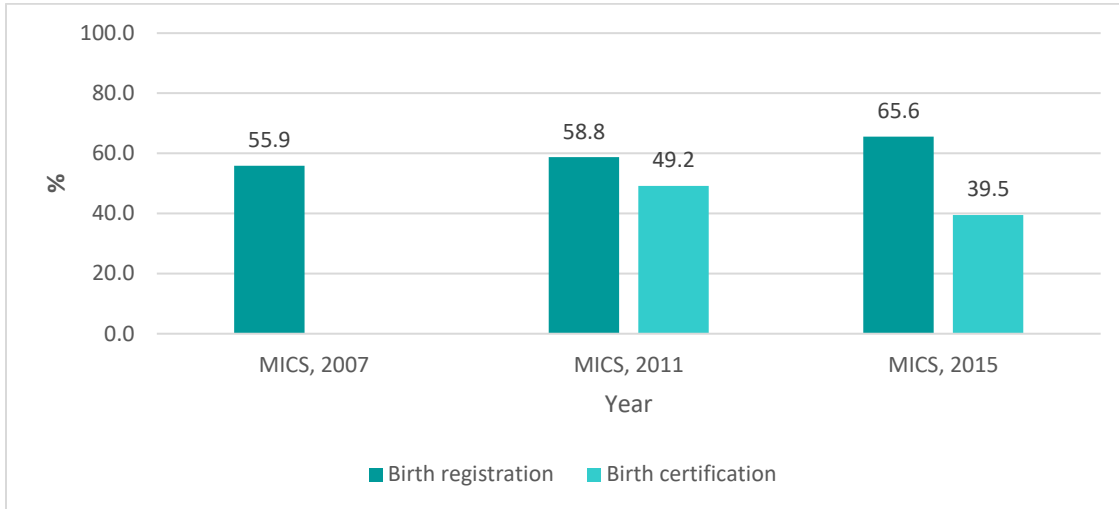


Figure 2: Birth registration by background characteristics: Mauritania, 2015

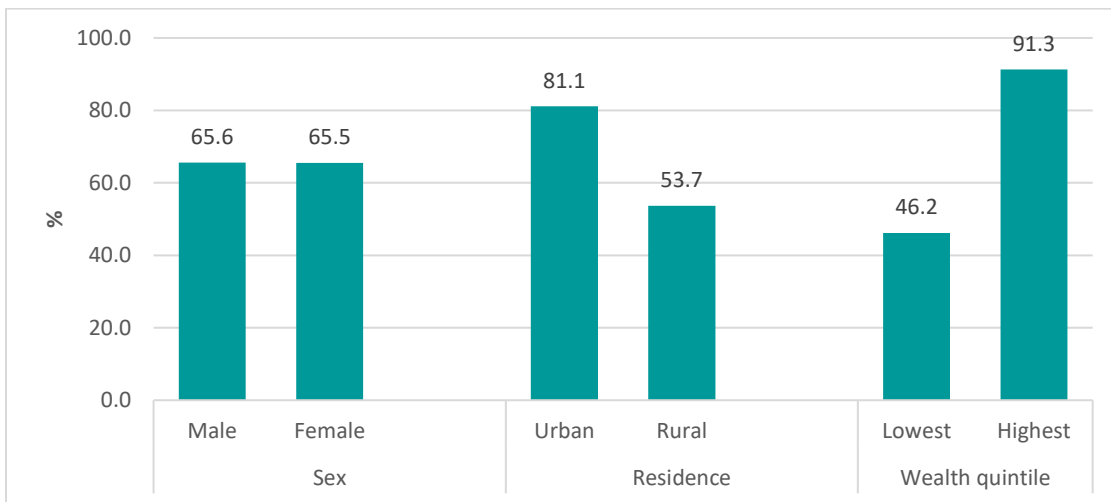
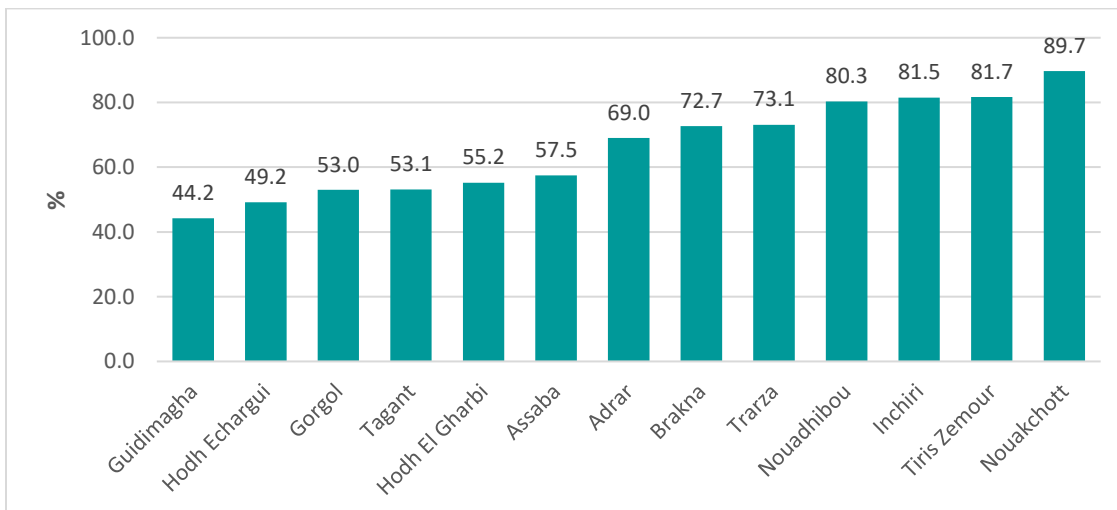


Figure 3: Birth registration by region: Mauritania, 2015



Uses of birth certificates

- Enrolment in school, use of health services
- Application for ID documents, registration of marriage and application for passport, duplication of birth certificate for a child

Death registration and causes of death

- There is no information about the coverage of death registration.
- Only 2% of deaths have their causes medically certified.

Registration of marriages

- There is no information about the coverage of marriage registration.
- About 35% of women aged 20–24 got married before they reached 18 years in 2015, compared to 4% of men.
- According to UNICEF, Mauritania has the 20th highest prevalence rate of child marriage in the world.
- Legal minimum age of marriage is 18 years.

Vital statistics

- Vital statistics is not produced from the civil registration system.

Registration methods

- Registration is undertaken electronically and linked with the national identification system as part of the National Population Register.
- A unique national identity number (NIN) is issued at the time of birth registration and used by the individuals throughout their lives.

CRVS priorities

- Comprehensive CRVS assessment and development of national CRVS strategic plan
- Review of the civil registration legislative framework
- Simplify the registration process, especially for late registrations
- Decentralize and expand civil registration services
- Improve services for hard-to-reach populations and other vulnerable population groups
- Intensify efforts to raise awareness among the population of the importance of birth registration and encourage parents to register their children timely
- Improve death registration and recording of information on causes of death
- Training and capacity building in different processes of the civil registration processes

CRVS stakeholders

- Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health
- UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR