

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS): Central African Republic

Background on CRVS

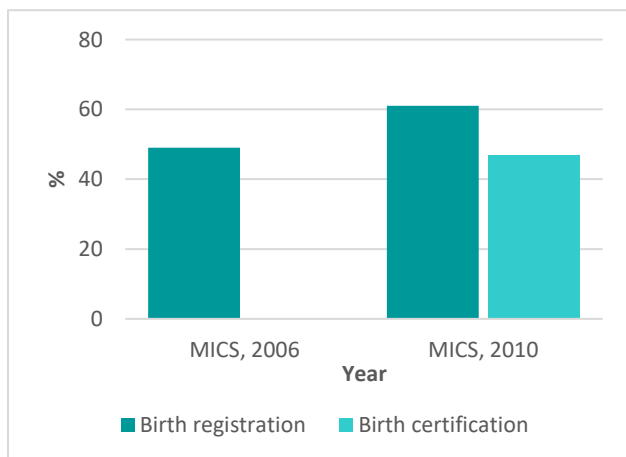
- The registration of births, marriages and deaths in Central African Republic is governed by Law No. 97-013 of the Family Code of 1997.
- The Ministry of, Ministry of the Interior and Territorial Administration, through the Directorate General of Decentralization and Local Development, is responsible for registration.
- Registration is free and compulsory. It is mandated to take place within one month of occurrence for both births and deaths.
- Issuance of birth certificates is free for births but fees are charged for death certificates.
- Registration is undertaken manually.

Status of CRVS

Birth registration

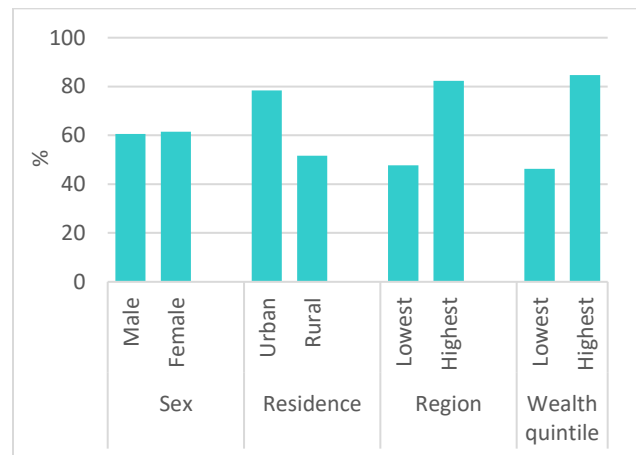
- About 61% of children aged below five years in Burkina Faso were registered in 2010, having increased from 49% in 2006 (Figure 1).
- Birth registration was higher than birth certification (47%) in 2010, indicating that nearly a quarter of children registered received did not receive birth certificates.

Figure 1: Birth registration and certification, Central African Republic: 2006 and 2010



- In 2010, there were virtually no differences in birth registration by sex; but wide differences are observed by type of residence, region and wealth quintile.
- Birth registration in urban areas (78%) was 50% more than in rural areas (52%).
- For the regions, Ouham Pende had the lowest birth registration (47%) and Bangui the highest (83%).
- Children from poorest households had the lowest birth registration (46%) while those from the wealthiest had the highest (85%).

Figure 2: Birth registration by background characteristics, Central African Republic, 2010



Death registration and causes of death

- There is no information on coverage of death registration and on recording of causes of death.

Registration of marriages

- There is no information on the coverage of marriage registration.
- About 68% of women aged 20–24 got married before they reached 18 years, making Central African Republic one of the leading countries with high rates of child marriage internationally.
- Legal age at marriage is 18 years, but can be allowed from 13 years by courts or if the girl gets pregnant.

Vital statistics

- No vital statistics are produced from the civil registration system.

Areas of improvement in CRVS

- Improve and scale-up the registration system for births and deaths at community level.

CRVS stakeholders

- Ministry of the Interior and Territorial Administration
- UNFPA, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNHCR