**Introduction**

Why is birth, marriage & death registration important?

For decision-makers to:
- Fulfill their obligation to protect
- Fulfill their administrative obligation to register all vital events and issue certificates
- Produce, compile and use vital statistics for improved development planning and implementation

For individuals:
- Have their vital events legally registered and certified
- Facilitate their access to public services
- Be protected

State of civil registration in Burkina Faso in 2017

- National birth registration rate within a two-month statutory deadline estimated at 49.4%
- 34.3% of deaths in health facilities were registered within two months statutory deadline
- No statistics on marriage registration

**Research Design**

NHDSS location

![Nouna Map](image)

**Data & methods**

**Demand side:** random and representative sampling among 3523 births, 561 marriages & 832 deaths occurred in Nouna observatory in 2015

**Demand side sample:** 495 births, 155 marriages & 332 deaths

**Supply side:** 4 interviews in health centres & 10 in civil registration offices. All delay births registered between January-February 2019 (736) & all delay death registered between June 2018-July 2019 [47]

**Ethics:** approved by IDRC & Nouna ethics committees. Informed consent obtained from all respondents

**Quantitative and qualitative data collected**

Electronic data collection (19 June - 20 July 2019): 10 fieldworkers & 2 supervisors

**Statistical methods:** Independent sample ratio tests & logistics methods

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**Results**

**Birth Registration**

- Possession of birth certificate
  - No document 41%
  - Birth certificate 99%
  - Don’t know 8%

- White 95% of births occurred in health facilities, only 37% were registered within the two-month statutory period

**Reasons for Lacking Birth Certificates**

- Negligence 50%
- Illiteracy 37%
- Acquisition difficulty 8%
- Death certificate 6%
- No birth certificate 6%

**Age at Birth Registration**

Most births registered between January-February 2019 were for ages 10-15 years. Birth certificates are necessary to register for school exams

**Marriage Registration**

- Type of union
  - Religious 57.8%
  - Civil 18.7%
  - Free union 2.0%
  - Other 5.9%

Only 2% of marriages were registered

**Death registration**

- Possession of death certificate
  - No document 94.8%
  - Death certificate 5.2%

- Only 3% of deaths were registered

**Place of death**

- Home 88%
- Hospital 17%
- Primary health centre 19%

30% of deaths occurred in health facilities

**Delayed Death Registration**

Most deaths registered between June 2018-July 2019 were male, mainly for reasons of inheritance

**Policy Implications**

- Secondary birth and death registration centres need to be embedded in health facilities:
  - Birth registrations level could improve from 37% to 95%
  - Death registrations level could improve from 3% to 30%
  - Child and women death under-registration will be reduced

- Legally recognized religious marriages could improve from 2% to 79%