

INDIVIDUAL USES OF BIRTH CERTIFICATES

- I. Establishing date of birth and age:
 - School registration
 - Obtaining drivers license
 - Proving age of majority/minority in court
 - Qualifying for pensions, social security or health insurance
 - Obtaining work permits
 - Voting
 - Entering military service
 - Obtaining a social security number
 - Playing sports

- II. Establishing birthplace to prove citizenship:
 - Obtaining a passport
 - Entering employment limited to citizens
 - Obtaining licenses limited to citizens

- III. Establishing family relationships:
 - Proving legal dependency
 - Obtaining inheritance benefits
 - Receiving insurance benefits
 - Conducting genealogical research

INDIVIDUAL USES OF DEATH CERTIFICATES

- I. Establishing the fact and date of death:
 - Claiming life insurance benefits
 - Claiming pensions
 - Settling estates

- II. Establishing certain facts about decedent:
 - Cause and circumstances of death
 - Death and place of interment
 - Evidence of age, gender, and race
 - Genealogical information

USES OF VITAL STATISTICS DATA

- Health research and epidemiology
- Identifying important health issues and targeting problem areas
- Planning and evaluating new types of health services
- Making funding decisions and prioritizing the allocation of resources
- Supporting and passing new legislation
- Obtaining government grants and funding from private foundations
- Reducing fraud in pension and benefit programs

PUBLIC HEALTH USES OF BIRTH AND DEATH DATA

I. Birth Data

- Evaluating prenatal care
- Immunizing children
- Caring for children with congenital anomalies
- Monitoring risk factors causing poor pregnancy outcomes
- Evaluating the need for health facilities
- Estimating school enrollment and planning new schools
- Planning and evaluating effectiveness of family planning programs

II. Death Data

- Measuring life expectancy
- Monitoring infant deaths
- Determining incidence of specific causes of death
- Planning the control of communicable disease
- Monitoring risk factors that cause premature death
- Investigating nature and place of occurrence of fatal accidents
- Assessing environmental and occupational health hazards