

**2024**

**VITAL STATISTICS  
REPORT  
BHUTAN**

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# FOREWORD

The term “vital statistics” refers to the gathering and examination of data concerning births, deaths, marriages, and divorces. Accurate information on these events is vital for monitoring public health policies, tracking population growth and health trends, and supporting research endeavors.

This report is based on data recorded in 2023, aiming to demonstrate Bhutan’s progress in enhancing its Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) system. It also seeks to evaluate the extent to which the goals outlined in the CRVS Strategic Action Plan (SAP) of 2020 have been achieved.

Published by the National Statistics Bureau (NSB), this is the **fourth in** series of the Vital Statistics Report of Bhutan. It presents findings on vital events such as births, deaths for the latest available year. Data is drawn from the Bhutan Civil Registration System (BCRS) maintained by the Department of Civil Registration and Census (DCRC) under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA).

The primary objective of this report is to assess the completeness of vital events, particularly live births and deaths. A high level of completeness

enables us to generate up-to-date indicators, surpassing the reliance on Population and Housing Census (PHC) data. Civil registration serves as a crucial source of population data, recognized by the United Nations as the most reliable source of vital statistics (UN Statistics Division; 2001).

Additionally, this initiative led by the Social Statistics Division (SSD) allows us to leverage administrative data to produce official statistics, aligning with NSB’s overarching objective. We anticipate that this report will offer valuable insights into socio-demographic indicators and become more valid, relevant, regular, and accessible over time. Your feedback will be instrumental in enhancing future iterations of the vital statistics report.

(Sonam Tenzin)  
Director General  
National Statistics Bureau

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The completion of this report represents a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) and the National Statistics Bureau (NSB), both of which have demonstrated keen interest in its production. We extend our gratitude to the dedicated project team whose collaborative efforts have been instrumental in the success of this endeavor.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Mr. Thinley Wangchuk (Director) and Mr. Pema Letho (Chief Civil Registration and Census Officer) of the Department of Civil Registration and Census for granting us access to the BCRS

dataset. The report was meticulously prepared by a team of officers led by Tashi Dorjee (Chief Statistical Officer) and Jigme Choden (Statistical Officer) from NSB, along with Jambay Chozom (Assistant Civil Registration and Census Officer) from MoHA. Their dedication and diligence have greatly contributed to the quality of this report.

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# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ASDR	Age Specific Death Rates
ASFR	Age Specific Fertility Rate
BCRS	Bhutan Civil Registration System
BHU	Basic Health Unit
CBR	Crude Birth Rate
CSC	Community Service Centre
CDR	Crude Death Rate
CID	Citizenship Identity Card
CMC	Court Marriage Certificate
CoD	Cause of Death
CRC	Civil Registration and Census
CRVS	Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
DCRC	Department of Civil Registration and Census
DCRCO	Dzongkhag/District Civil Registration and Census Office
DoI	Department of Immigration
G2C	Government to Citizen
G2G	Government to Government
HMIS	Health Management and Information System
HQ	Head Quarter
ICD	International Classification of Disease
IIMS	Immigration Information Monitoring System
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
NSB	National Statistics Bureau
NDI	National Digital Identity
PGR	Population Growth Rate
PHCB	Population and Housing Census of Bhutan
SoP	Standard Operating Procedures
SRB	Sex Ratio at Birth
SR	Special Residence
TAT	Turn Around Time
TCRCO	Thromde Civil Registration and Census Officer
UN	United Nations
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
VSR	Vital Statistics Report
WHO	World Health Organization

# DEFINITIONS

**Dzongkhag:** Second in administrative hierarchy in Bhutan equivalent to district

**Dungkhag:** Sub-District

**Gewog:** Block

**Thromde:** Municipality

**Gup:** Village Headman at block level

**Tshogpa:** Member of the Census Committee in the village

**Approver:** Officer at DCRC HQ

**Verifier:** Civil Registration & Census Officer at *Dzongkhag* level. Present also at Thromde and DCRC HQ

**Operator:** Computer Operator at Community Service Centre (CSC) level. Present also at DCRCO or Thromde or DCRC HQ

**Applicant:** Concerned Individual/Person

**Community Service Centre:** Registration points at block level

**Health Facility:** Any health facility operating under the purview of Ministry of Health in the Kingdom of Bhutan

**Requestor:** Parent or Guardian or Relative or Next of kin of the deceased

**Agency:** Labour Recruitment agency or travel agent who is responsible for looking after the welfare of the foreigners or non-Bhutanese while they are in the country

**Foreign National:** Person(s) other than Bhutanese residing temporarily in Bhutan

**Marriage Case:** Marriage case between Bhutanese and non-Bhutanese that occurred after 1985

**Identification:** Citizenship Card/Special Resident Card for Bhutanese Documents and SR holders, Permits issued by DCRC, MoHA, Permits for MC After 1985, Permits issued by the Department of Immigration and Passport copy for non-Bhutanese

**Immigration Card:** Stay permit issued to the foreigners married to Bhutanese after 10th June 1985 and their children.

**Special Resident Card:** Resident card issued to the foreigners married to Bhutanese before 10th June 1985 and their children.

**Annual Census:** Total count of the citizens and resident permit holders carried out in the Dzongkhags /Thromdes/Drungkhags by the respective Civil Registration and Census Officials (CRCO) between November and January annually.

**Region:** Statistical boundary of the country  
(**West:** Thimphu, Punakha, Gasa, Paro, Haa, Wangdue Phodrang, Samtse, Chhukha.

**Central:** Trongsa, Bumthang, Zhemgang, Tsirang, Dagana, Sarpang.

**East:** Trashigang, Trashy Yangtse, Monggar, Lhuentse, Samdrup Jongkhar, Pema Gatsel).

**BCRS-BR-01:** Bhutan Civil Registration System Birth Registration Form

**BCRS-BR-SG-01:** Bhutan Civil Registration System Statement of Guarantor for Birth Registration

**BCRS-DR-01:** Bhutan Civil Registration System Death Reporting Form

**BCRS-DR-SD-01:** Bhutan Civil Registration System Statement of Death

**BCRS-IB-01:** Bhutan Civil Registration System Information on Birth

**MoH-NB-01:** Bhutan Civil Registration System Notification of Birth

**BCRS-SD-01:** Bhutan Civil Registration System Statement of Death

**MoH-ND-01:** Notification of Death

**Civil Registration (CR):** The continuous, permanent, compulsory, and universal recording of the occurrence and characteristics of vital events pertaining to the population, as provided through decree or regulation in accordance with the legal requirements in each country.<sup>1</sup>

**Vital Statistics (VS):** A collection of statistics on vital events in a lifetime of a person as well as relevant characteristics of the events themselves and of the person and person concerned.<sup>1</sup>

**Age:** The population age is calculated and shows the number of completed years based on date of birth.

**Completeness of Registration:** The proportion of vital events that are registered. It is the number of registered vital events divided by an estimate of the 'actual' number of vital events that occurred in the same population during a specific time.

**Timely Registration:** The registration of a vital event within the legally specified period (within one year).

**Delayed Registration:** The registration of a vital event after one year.

**Live Birth:** 'The complete expulsion or extraction from the mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached; each product of such a birth is considered live born (all live-born infants should be registered and counted as such, irrespective of gestational age or whether alive or dead at the time of registration, and if they die at any time following birth, they should also be registered and counted as deaths).'<sup>1</sup>

**Death:** The permanent disappearance of all evidence of life at any time after live birth has taken place (postnatal cessation of vital functions without capability of resuscitation). This definition excludes fetal deaths, which are defined separately.

**Crude Birth Rate (CBR):** The number of live births relative to the size of that population during a given period, usually one year. It is expressed as the number of live births per 1,000 population (mid-year) per year.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations (2014). Principles and recommendations for a vital statistics system. Revision 3. Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division Statistical Papers, Series M No. 19/Rev.3, New York.



**Crude Death Rate (CDR):** The number of deaths relative to the size of that population during a given period, usually one year. It is expressed as the number of deaths per 1,000 population (mid-year) per year.

**Sex Ratio at Birth:** The number of male births for a specific area during a specified period divided by the number of female births for the same area and period. The sex ratio is an important demographic indicator of the distribution of boys and girls at birth.

**Age-Specific Fertility Rate (ASFR):** The annual number of births to women of a specified age or age group per 1,000 women (mid-year) in that age group.

**Age-Specific Death rate (ASDR):** A mortality rate limited to a particular age group. The numerator is the number of deaths in that age group; the denominator is the number of persons in that age group per 1,000 population (mid-year).

**Cause-of-Death:** 'All those diseases, morbid conditions or injuries which either resulted in or contributed to death and the circumstances of the accident or violence which produced any such injuries.<sup>2</sup> Symptoms and modes of dying, such as heart failure or respiratory failure, are not considered to be causes-of-death for statistical purposes (see 'ill-defined cause-of-death').

**Infant Deaths:** The death of a live-born child under 1 year of age.

**Rate of Natural Increase:** Rate at which a population grows (increase/decrease) during a given year, as the result of a surplus/deficit of births over deaths; expressed as a percentage of the base population.

**Low Birthweight (LBW):** The weight at birth of fewer than 2,500 grams as per World Health Organization definition.

**Place of Occurrence:** The place where the vital event took place.

**Place of Usual Residence:** The place where the person usually resides.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Statistics Bureau is dedicated to enhancing the utilization of administrative data, including Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS), in Bhutan, complementing traditional official statistics obtained from surveys and censuses. In pursuit of this goal, a web-based CRVS system was launched in 2012 to streamline the collection, storage, and utilization of vital statistics data.

This report is based on birth and death events that occurred in 2023 and were registered with the **BCSR** till the end of 2024. Comprising six chapters, it provides a comprehensive analysis. The initial chapter offers an introduction and background to the report's scope. The second chapter delves into the Bhutan Civil Registration System (BCRS), elucidating its structure and functionality. The third chapter presents an in-depth analysis of data quality, registration timeliness, and completeness. Chapters four and five expound upon birth and death statistics, respectively, offering detailed insights. Finally, the sixth chapter presents concise summary tables encapsulating key findings and trends.

## Birth Statistics:

In 2023, the comparison between registered births and estimated live births revealed a registration completeness rate of 73.9%. Specifically, 8,988 births were registered, resulting in a Crude Birth Rate (CBR) of 11.7 per thousand population. Male births outnumbered female births, with 4,622 males and 4,366 females, yielding a sex ratio of 106.

The majority of births in 2023 occurred at health facilities (99.2%), indicating increased access to medical care, while home births accounted for only around 1%. Regarding birth weight, the

average recorded weight was 3,159 grams, with 8.3% of live births classified as low birthweight.

First-borns comprised the largest proportion of births (42.1%), followed by second-order births (32.1%). The number of births decreases with increasing birth orders. Births beyond the ninth or tenth order are rare. Most births (36.4%) occurred after a gap of 5 to 9 years since the previous birth, followed by those occurring after a gap of 10+ years (18.9%). A small percentage (1.4%) of births happened within less than 12 months of the previous birth.

## Death Statistics:

In 2023, vital statistics pertaining to deaths revealed a total of 3,579 recorded deaths, marking a decrease compared to the 3,605 deaths in 2022. The calculated Crude Death Rate (CDR) based on observed BCRS data was approximately 5 deaths per 1000 population, indicating a relatively low level of completeness in death registration (69.2%). The CDR saw decrease from 4.7 to 4.6 deaths per thousand population.

By age group and sex, the highest proportion of death is registered in the age group 45-49 with the completeness rate of 92.4% and the lowest registration is observed in age group 0-4 with 9.8%. The death registration completeness for age group less than 8 years is 11.5% and registration completeness is better for person aged 8 years and above with 74.7%. Overall, the death registration is better among females than males

Regarding the site of death occurrence, 47.9% of deaths happened at health facilities, while 47.1% occurred at home.



# INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

Vital statistics is the collection of statistics on vital events of a person as well as the relevant characteristics of the events themselves and of the person and persons concerned (UN, 2014). The United Nations acknowledges ten primary vital events for registration, yet this report focuses on live births and deaths due to data availability.

Administrative data sources furnish vital statistics, offering a continuous overview of fertility and mortality trends within a nation. These metrics serve as foundational elements for national planning across various sectors. Health planners and policymakers rely on them to monitor progress regarding key health indicators and to assess the efficacy of interventions aimed at enhancing population health and well-being.

Furthermore, birth-related vital statistics aid the education sector in estimating and planning necessary facilities to accommodate the nation's changing child population. They also assist in monitoring school enrollment and completion rates. Similarly, agencies involved in infrastructure planning, including transportation, housing, water, and land resources, rely on accurate population data to plan for current and future demographic trends.

Vital statistics can be sourced from periodic endeavors such as population censuses and household surveys, as well as from administrative sources such as health information and civil registration systems. Administrative sources offer a crucial advantage by providing data continuously. The United Nations particularly emphasizes civil registration as the most dependable source of vital statistics, highlighting its enduring nature, mandatory adherence, universal applicability, and legal backing. Strengthening these data systems is imperative to ensure they operate optimally.

## 1.2 BACKGROUND

There is evidence that Bhutan was inhabited since time immemorial, however, there is no official record of the population count that pre-dates the 18th century and very little is known about the population dynamics in Bhutan. The development of demographic calculations started only in the beginning of the 18th century. These records were maintained by different regions for taxation purposes. However, with the start of the first five-year development plans in the country, the importance of the statistics was critically felt by the government. The systematic registration of annual births and deaths started in the late 1980s. While the vital events ideally include live births, deaths, fetal deaths,

marriages, divorces, judicial separations, adoptions, legitimations, and recognitions, but in the absence of comprehensive data on all these events, the focus of this report is restricted only to births and deaths. The data on births and deaths are maintained by the DCRC under the MoHA. Since these data have never been used to produce vital statistics the censuses and household surveys conducted by the NSB and MoH were the only sources of data for vital statistics in the country. The annual vital statistics report presents a great opportunity to learn from experience in terms of the registration of births, deaths and causes of death and evaluate the quality of the available data in the country.

### 1.3 RATIONALE

Without reliable vital statistics, effective monitoring of social and health initiatives by governments, donor agencies, and multilateral organizations becomes challenging. Vital statistics serve as the foundation of a country's health information system. Lacking data on births, deaths, and causes of death impedes progress toward the primary goal of any health system.

Civil registration records stand as the premier source of vital statistics. They consistently generate data nationwide, offering crucial insights for both national and local levels. This information is indispensable for regional planning and the judicious allocation of resources in sectors such as education, health, and social security at appropriate administrative tiers.

Furthermore, vital statistics aid in producing population estimates and projections, leveraging the natural rate of increase gleaned from civil registration records. They are integral to informed decision-making and sustainable development initiatives.

## 1.4 OBJECTIVES, SCOPE, AND ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT

### 1.4.1 General Objective

The primary aim of this report is to provide an up-to-date overview of vital event statistics, facilitating informed decision-making.

Additionally, it seeks to identify any existing gaps and monitor progress toward the goals outlined in the CRVS Strategic Action Plan developed in 2021.

### 1.4.2 Specific objectives

The specific objectives include:

- i. To assess the level of completeness in birth and death registration.
- ii. To gauge the reliability of demographic indicators derived from BCRS data, a comparison will be conducted with indicators obtained from alternative sources.
- iii. To assess the data in terms of coverage, quality, and timeliness for registration of vital event.

### 1.4.3 Scope of the Report

The United Nations recommends that countries should register and collect information on the vital events such as the: birth; death; fetal death; marriage; divorce; annulment; judicial separation; adoption; legitimation (acknowledgment); and recognition (judicial declarations of paternity) (UN, 2014). However, since Bhutan does not maintain records on most of these vital events as recommended by the UN, the scope of this report is limited to only events related to births and deaths that were registered in 2022.

### 1.4.4 Organization of the Report

The report is organized in six chapters namely (1) Introduction and background; (2) Bhutan civil

registration system; (3) Data quality, timeliness, and completeness of registration (4) Birth statistics (5) Death statistics, and (6) Summary statistics.

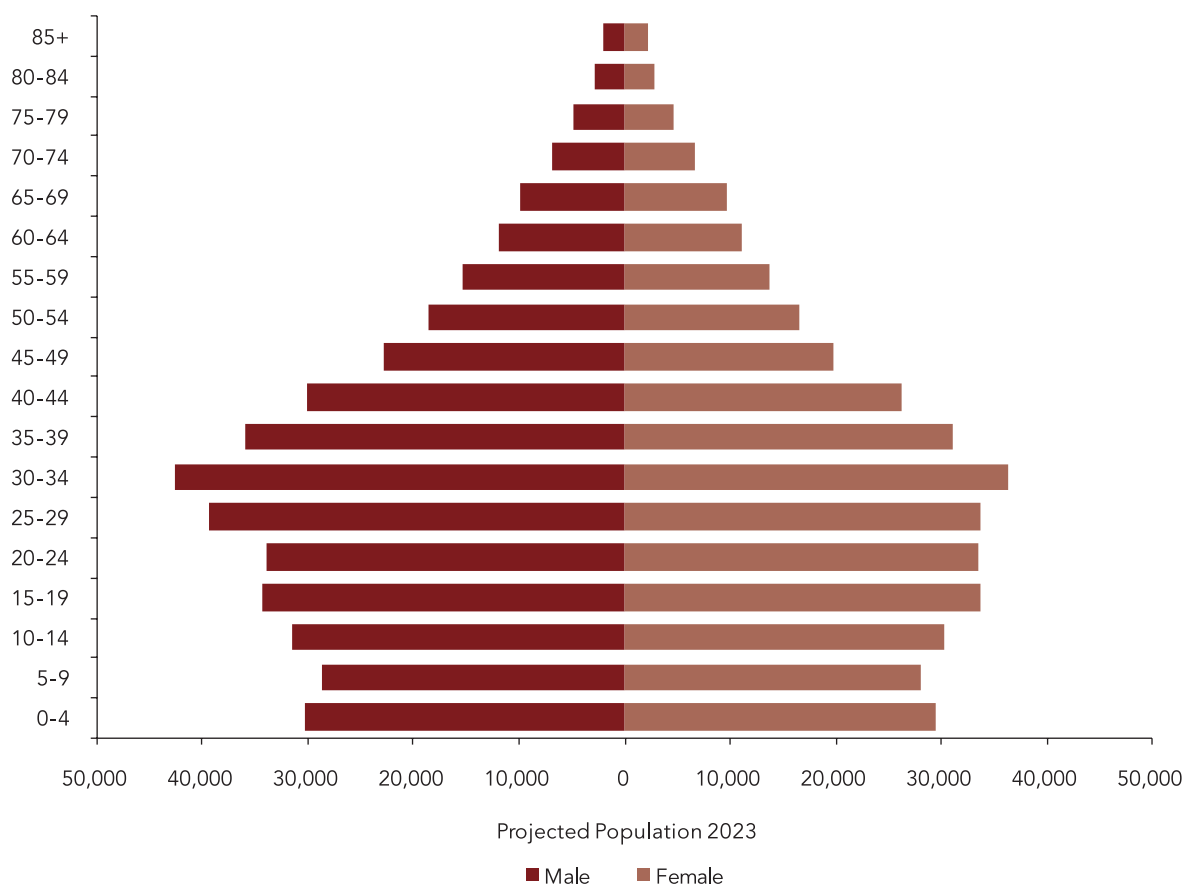
- Chapter 1 presents the introduction and the general overview of the role of vital statistics, objectives, and scope of the report.
- Chapter 2 describes the Bhutan Civil Registration System including history, legal background, administrative structure; organizational structure, registration process and the flows of information; organization of vital statistics production and dissemination plan; incentives and disincentives for civil registration.
- Chapter 3 describes the quality and completeness of civil registration data.
- Chapter 4 presents the statistics on births disaggregated by various aspects.
- Chapter 5 outlines the disaggregated statistics on deaths.
- Chapter 6 provides the summary statistics on births and deaths with explanatory narratives and finally, the annexure I presents the statistical tables, annexure II presents the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), annexure III presents the birth and death registration flow chart and annexure IV presents other forms and documents related to birth and death registration in Bhutan.

## 1.5 POPULATION STRUCTURE

The 2017 Population and Housing Census of Bhutan (PHCB) highlighted that 52 percent of the total population were males, with females comprising 48 percent. This population was projected to reach 770,276 individuals by 2023, reflecting about six-percentage point increase compared to 2017.

The Population Pyramid serves as a vital demographic tool, enabling the analysis of population distribution across various age groups. It unveils shifts in age structures and emerging demographic trends within a country. A narrowing base of the population pyramid indicates declining fertility rates, while mortality levels dictate its height.

Additionally, migration patterns by age and sex influence the pyramid's shape. The diminishing size of younger generations has been observed for approximately 25 years due to decreased fertility rates.



**Figure 1.1** Population Pyramid by Age Group and Sex, Bhutan 2023

Source: Population Projection Report, 2017-2047 (NSB)

# BHUTAN CIVIL REGISTRATION SYSTEM

The Department of Civil Registration and Census (DCRC) under the Ministry of Home Affairs is mandated to maintain the comprehensive registry of the population of Bhutan and deliver civil registration and census services through online and offline platforms. Beginning late 1980's, the DCRC has started recording all the vital events such as the births and deaths in the country. The registration system is at its infancy stage, yet the country has achieved 100 percent geographic coverage in terms of registration, while the completeness rate is steadily improving.

## 2.1 HISTORY

In Bhutan, the civil registry was maintained manually in the paper-based register known as Family Diary until 2002. This family diary was maintained with the respective administration [Dzongkhag (District), Drungkhag (Sub-district), and Gewog (block)]. The system of recording the births and deaths could be done only once a year.

Beginning 2003, the DCRC initiated the computerization of all records from the Family Diaries. Both births and deaths taking place in the country were directly recorded into the computer database. In the following year, a more comprehensive database called Bhutan Civil Registration System (BCRS) was developed.

The focus of this system was the issuance of Citizenship Card, but the system for recording births, deaths, move-in and move-out records of family members, and household details were also integrated.

In 2004, considering the importance of civil registration in the country, the MoHA bifurcated the then Department of Immigration and Census (Earlier Department of Registration) into Department of Civil Registration and Census and Department of Immigration. Accordingly, Dzongkhag Civil Registration and Census Offices (DCRCO) were established and institutionalized in all 20 Dzongkhags with the mandate to oversee the civil registration related activities in the dzongkhag. In 2009, the DCRC developed guidelines for DCRCO, and in 2016 Standard Operating Procedure to guide registration of all births and deaths in their jurisdiction. Further, the timeline, mode of record compilation and transmission of records from Dzongkhag/Drungkhag/Thromde to central office and vice versa were also specified in these documents.

In 2011, under the auspices of Government to Citizen (G2C) Project initiatives, the BCRS was made into a web-based system enabling birth and death registration of the citizens online. Under the G2C project, community centers were

**Table 2.1** Document Required for Registration of Vital Events

Vital Events	Practice
Birth	<p>Must be reported to any of the Civil Registration Points within one year after delivery of the child. The birth can be registered from two service access points: -</p> <p><b>1. Registration from current place of residence</b> Documents required: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Duly completed application form: BCRS-BR-01;</li> <li>b. Notification of Birth/Birth Document for birth occurring inside health facility OR Information on Birth form. BCRS-IB-01 for birth occurring outside health facility;</li> <li>c. Parents' Court Marriage Certificate; and</li> <li>d. Statement of Guarantor (BCRS-BR-SG-01).</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Registration from permanent address as per civil registration and census record</b> Documents required: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Duly completed application form: BCRS-BR-01;</li> <li>b. Notification of Birth/Birth Document for birth occurring inside health facility OR Information on Birth form. BCRS-IB-01 for birth occurring outside health facility; and</li> <li>c. Parents' Court Marriage Certificate; OR Statement of Tshogpa.</li> </ul>
Death	<p>Must be reported to any of the Civil Registration Points within one year after death of the person. The death can be registered from two service access points: -</p> <p><b>1. Registration from current place of residence</b> Documents required: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Duly completed application form: BCRS-DR-01;</li> <li>b. Original CID/SR card of the deceased; and</li> <li>c. Notification of Death OR Statement of Death (BCRS-DR-SD-01) issued by a guarantor and a witness.</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Registration from permanent address as per civil registration and census record</b> Documents required: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Duly completed application form: BCRS-DR-01;</li> <li>b. Original CID/SR card of the deceased; and</li> <li>c. Notification of Death; OR Statement of Death (BCRS-DR-SD-01) issued by the Tshogpa.</li> </ul>

also established at gewog (block) level taking the registration points closer to the people.

Subsequently, in 2021 to enhance public service delivery, the Department through the Public Service Delivery revised the registration procedure, enabling individuals to register births and deaths at their current place of residence or their designated permanent address as indicated in the civil registration system.

In addition, the government-initiated birth and death registration through the Integrated Citizen Services (ICS). The ICS system was developed to reduce administrative burden and enhance service delivery by integrating BCRS with the electronic Patient Information System (ePIS) of the Ministry of Health and the Judiciary

System of the Royal Court of Justice. With ICS, individuals have convenience of registering births and deaths using their smartphones or computers, eliminating the need for in-person visits to the registration points.

Currently, DCRC has successfully implemented birth and death registration through ICS in 14 Dzongkhags - Bumthang, Trongsa, Trashigang, Punakha, Zhemgang, Paro, Haa, Chhukha, Thimphu, Gasa, Dagana, Tsirang, Wangdue Phodrang and Pema Gatsel, with plans for a nationwide rollout in the coming months, ensuring seamless transition from the existing manual registration processes to a fully automated registration system.



In 2021, National Statistics Bureau in collaboration with MoHA had published its first Vital Statistics Report.

## 2.2 LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

### 2.2.1 Registration of Birth for Citizen

The Bhutan Citizenship Act, 1985 Clause 2 states

*"A person whose parents are both citizens of Bhutan shall be deemed to be a citizen of Bhutan by birth."*

Under the provision of the Citizen Act, 1985, all children of Bhutanese parentage irrespective of whether born inside or outside Bhutan must be registered into the civil registration system within one year of birth. If the child is not registered in the civil registration system within the stipulated time, the child's civil status becomes "dropout". Then the process to register the child lengthier as it involves the need for endorsement by the local government officials justifying their inability to register the births within the stipulated time. However, there is no penalty or late fees for such late registration.

The civil registration officials of the respective Dzongkhags, Drungkhags, and Thromdes, and Community Service Executive (CSE) in the Gewogs register the birth and death as and when reported as well as during the annual census program carried out between November and January each year. The annual census program is an event where the census officials update the vital events such as births, deaths, move-in & move-out, etc. The information compiled is submitted online for verification by the Civil Registration and Census officials (CRCO) at various stages. Once these documents are verified, the child gets registered into the civil registration system and a unique citizenship identity (CID) number against the child is

generated by the system. This unique number is later used in issuing the CID card to the child upon reaching 15 years of age.

For the initial registration, there is a minimum requirement of vital information to be collected in addition to the CID card number of the parents.

### 2.2.2 Registration of Birth for Foreign National and Non-Bhutanese Spouse (Registration of an Immigrant Child)

The Immigration Rules and Regulations of the Kingdom of Bhutan 2015, Section 57 states

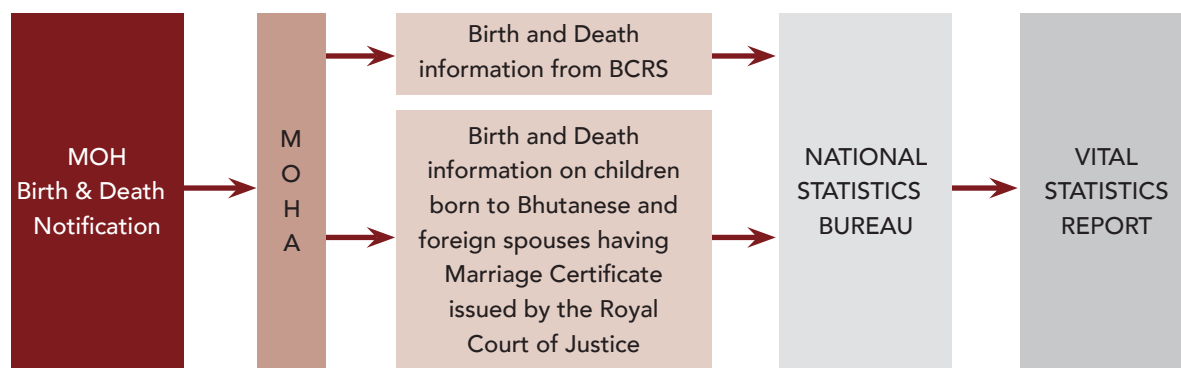
*"The parents of children born to Bhutanese and foreign spouse holding Immigration Card shall register their child with the department within one year of child's birth along with birth certificate and relevant identity documents of the parents. Certificate of Registration may be issued for one year to facilitate permit and visa."*

In accordance with the provision of immigration rules and regulations 2015, the department of immigration records all births occurring to foreign nationals and non-Bhutanese spouse in Bhutan within one year.

If the child is not registered within one year of birth, verification of report by the respective dzongkhag needs be done to carry out the registration as per the prescribed rules and regulations. However, no penalty or fine being imposed for such late reporting of births for registration.

### 2.2.3 Registration of Death for Citizens

The Citizen Act does not specify a prescribed timeline by which the death of a citizen should be registered. However, most of the family members register the death of a person (above 8 years of age) within one year after the event has



**Figure 2.1** Organizational chart presenting information flows for developing VS Report

occurred. This is done mainly to claim rural life insurance from the relevant agencies to facilitate the funeral rites. The deaths that remain unregistered are mostly of those deaths that occur to persons below 8 years of age. Without any incentives, these deaths remain unregistered leading to low rate of completeness in death registration. However, efforts are being made to capture and update these events during the annual census.

## 2.2.4 Registration of Death for Foreign National and Non-Bhutanese Spouse

There is no specific provision in the immigration law requiring the registration of such events occurring among the foreigners or to non-Bhutanese spouse in Bhutan. However, an attempt has been made by the Department of Immigration to maintain records of all reported deaths that occur to foreign nationals including non-Bhutanese spouse in Bhutan.

## 2.3 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, REGISTRATION PROCESS AND INFORMATION FLOWS

Figure 2.1 presents the organizational structure of information flows for developing the vital statistics report. To ensure there is a continuous and timely flow of data from the data provider (MoHA) to the data recipient (NSB) and to enable

the timely publication of annual vital statistics report, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the MoHA and NSB on 9 October 2020 (annexure II). The MoH and Department of Immigration also share information related to vital statistics.

### 2.3.1 Registration Process for Births and Deaths

#### 2.3.1.1 Birth Registration Process for Citizen

To register a birth into BCRS, the doctor issues a Notification of Birth for those births occurring inside health facility. For those births occurring outside health facility, the tshogpa/thromde tshogpa issues Information on Birth (BCRS-IB-01) which is submitted to hospital for obtaining the birth notification/certificate. The applicant completes birth registration forms and gets the endorsement of the local government officials of their respective gewogs if the parents have no Court Marriage Certificate (CMC) issued by the Royal Court of Justice. However, if the parents have CMC, they can register birth from their current place of residence by submitting a Statement of Guarantor (BCRS-BR-SG-01) supported by the CMC. The completed documents are submitted to the operator located at any of the registration points.

The operator scans the documents and enters

the vital information of the child including parent's details into the computer system through online DCRC framework (Annexure III Figure 1 & 2) and submits the application online to verifier (L1) located at Dzongkhag/Thromde level. The verifier (L1) verifies the submitted application and further submits it to verifier level (L2) located at DCRC HQ or returns it to the operator. The verifier L2 verifies the application and submits it to the approving authority located at DCRC HQ or re-submits it to the L1 verifier. The approving authority either approves or returns the application to L2. The online resubmissions of application to the preceding levels occur when the information is wrong or incomplete. Upon approval of the application by the approving authority, the name of the child is registered into the BCRS, and a unique CID number is generated by the system.

### 2.3.1.2 Birth Registration Process for Citizen through ISC system

The process of registering a birth in the ICS system begins with the mother logging into the National Digital Identity (NDI) app through the Citizen Services Portal. If the parents have CMC issued by the Royal Court of Justice, their information is automatically populated from the Judiciary System. Otherwise, the mother will need to enter the father's CID number to retrieve his details.

After filling in the newborn's information and attaching birth documents, the mother submits the application. An SMS notification is sent to the father, who must then log in via his NDI app on the Citizen Services Portal to approve or reject the application. If the child is to be registered in a household other than that of the parents, the Head of Household (HoH) of the new household receives an SMS notification to verify and either approve or reject the application through the NDI app.

For birth registration with parents holding CMC, a Guarantor verifies and confirms the parentage by logging in with the NDI app. In the absence of CMC, the application is forwarded to the respective local government officials (Tshogpa and Gup) for verification and approval. The final verification is done by the DCRC Approver, who determines whether to approve, resubmit or reject the application based on accuracy and completeness of formality.

Any resubmitted or rejected applications are displayed on the mother's dashboard and she is notified via SMS alerts to take actions, such as reapplying or resubmitting with the required information. Resubmission and rejection of applications occur when there are inaccuracies or incomplete information in the application.

### 2.3.1.3 Death Registration Process for Citizen

To register a death into the BCRS, doctor issues Notification of Death for those deaths occurring inside health facility. For those death occurring outside health facility, the tshogpa/thromde tshogpa or guarantor & witness issues Statement of Death (BCRS-DR-SD-01). The applicant then completes death registration forms and gets the endorsement of the local government officials if he/she is registering death from the deceased's permanent address as per DCRC record. However, if the applicant prefers to register death from his/her current place of residence, he/she can submit the Statement of Death signed by the guarantor and witness. The completed documents are submitted to the operator located at any of the registration points.

The operator scans the documents and updates the information in the online DCRC framework (Annexure III Figure 3 & 4) and submits the application online to the verifier (L1) located at Dzongkhag/Thromde level. The verifier (L1) verifies the submitted application and submits

it to the approval level located at DCRC HQ. The approving authority verifies the submitted application and either approves or re-submits the application. Upon approval of the application, the name of the person is marked as “Deceased” in the BCRS.

#### 2.3.1.4 Death Registration Process for Citizen through ICS

The process of registering a death in the ICS system begins with the Requestor, typically a family member or next of kin to the deceased, logging into the National Digital Identity (NDI) app through the Citizen Services Portal. After entering the deceased’s information and attaching the required death documents, the requestor submits the application. If the death has occurred overseas or outside Health Facility in Bhutan, the application is forwarded to the respective local government officials (Tshogpa and Gup) for verification and approval upon submission by the requestor.

However, if the death has occurred within a Health Facility in Bhutan, the requestor needs to attach death document issued by the Health Facility. The application is then forwarded to the DCRC Approver for final verification, who determines whether to approve, resubmit or reject the application based on accuracy and completeness of the information. Any resubmitted or rejected applications are displayed on the requestor’s dashboard and they are notified via SMS alerts to take actions, such as reapplying or resubmitting with the required information. Resubmission and rejection of applications occur when there are inaccuracies or incomplete information provided.

#### 2.3.1.5 Death Registration Process for Foreign Nationals and Non-Bhutanese Spouse

To register death into IIMS, doctors issue death notifications for deaths occurring inside health facility. For those deaths occurring outside

health facility, the tshogpa/thromde tshogpa issue statement of death. The applicant then completes death registration forms. The completed documents are submitted to the operator located at the immigration head office.

The operator verifies the documents and updates the information in the online IIMS and submits the application online to the immigration officer. The officer verifies the submitted application and either approves or re-submits the application. Upon approval of the application, the deceased is marked as “Cancelled” in the IIMS.

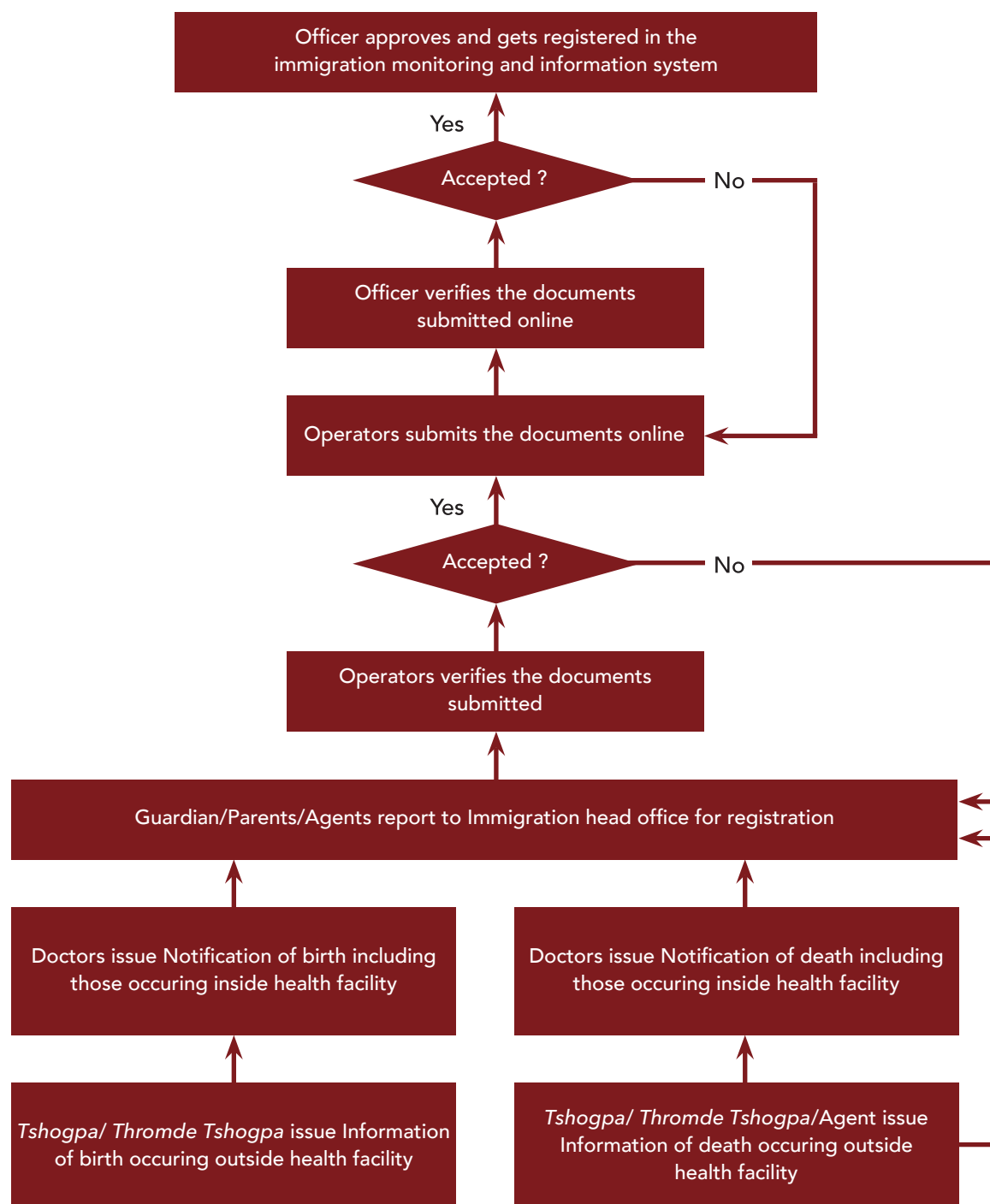
#### 2.3.1.6 Birth Registration Process for Foreign Nationals and Non-Bhutanese Spouse

To register the births into IIMS, doctors issue birth notification for births occurring inside health facility. For those births occurring outside health facility, the tshogpa/thromde tshogpa issue information on birth and this information is delivered to hospital for obtaining the birth notification/certificate. The applicant then completes birth registration forms, and the completed documents are submitted to the operator located at the immigration head office.

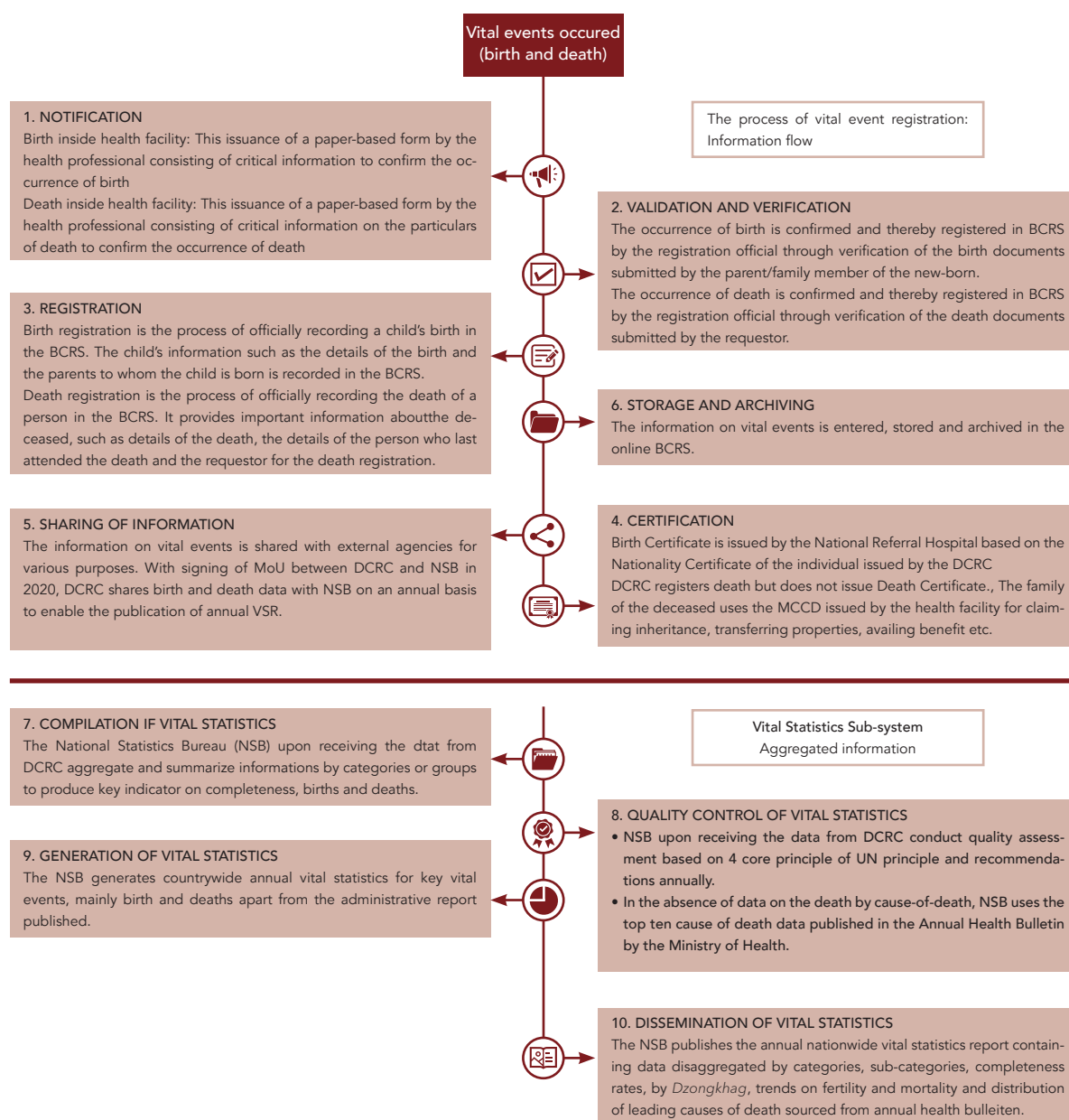
The operator physically verifies the completed documents and then enters the birth information of the child including parent’s details into the computer system through the online IIMS and submits the application online to the immigration officer. The officer verifies the submitted application online and approves if it is in order or re-submits to operator. Upon approval of the application by the officer, the name of the child is registered into the IIMS.

#### 2.3.1.7 Registration process and information flows

Figure 2.3 summarizes the registration process and information flow, taking into consideration the 10 milestones (refer to: <https://gh.bmj.com/content/bmjgh/3/2/e000673.full.pdf>). The ‘Ten



**Figure 2.2** Birth and Death Registration for children born to Bhutanese and foreign spouses having Marriage Certificate issued by the Royal Court of Justice

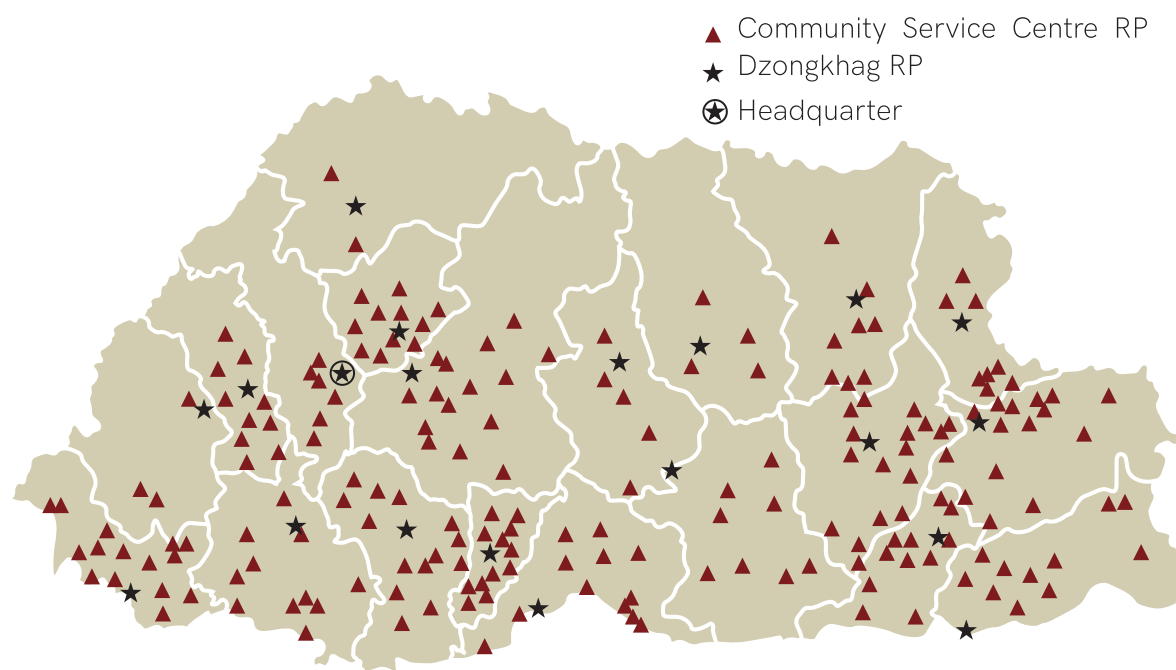


**Figure 2.3** Ten CRVS Milestones' framework with a working definition of each milestone

CRVS Milestones' framework is designed to help CRVS stakeholders better understand how CRVS systems function as a whole, from end-to-end, by describing the key processes that must be accomplished in any CRVS system.

## 2.3.2 Registration Points

Bhutan has a total of 230 registration points (200 Gewogs, 4 Dungkhags, 4 *Thromde* offices, 20 Dzongkhags, and department head office for citizen's registration and immigration head office for children born to Bhutanese and foreign



**Figure 2.4** Map showing the Registration Points (not geo-coded), Bhutan 2023

spouses having Marriage Certificate issued by the Royal

Court of Justice). The applicant/individual can report the birth and death to any of these registration points with the complete set of documents and duly signed birth/death registration forms for registration. Upon receipt of these documents, the officials located at these registration points issue the acknowledgement receipt, particularly for births confirming the receipt of the registration forms to initiate the process.

### 2.3.3 Time Allowed for Registration

Another subject of civil registration procedure relates to determining the time within which a vital event (births and deaths) must be registered. The SOPs allow a duration of one year to register an event.

### 2.3.4 2.3.4 Live Births by Place of Occurrence and Place of Registration

This report is based on 8,988 registered births. By place of occurrence, 3,537 births occurred in Thimphu, 803 births in Sarpang and 727 in Chhukha dzongkhags. Trashigang dzongkhag has the highest number of registered births (903) followed by Samtse (853) and Monggar 680 live births. While Gasa Dzongkhag has registered the lowest number both in terms of occurrence (4) as well as in registration (88) in 2023.

**Table 2.2** Number of Births by Place of Occurrence and Place of Registration, Bhutan 2023

Place of Occurrence	Place of Registration																				Total
	Bumthang	Chhukha	Dagana	Gasa	Haa	Lhuentse	Monggar	Paro	Pema Gatsel	Punakha	Samdrup Jongkhar	Samtse	Sarpang	Thimphu	Trashigang	Trashi Yangtse	Trongsa	Tsirang	Wangdue Phodrang	Zhemgang	
Bumthang	99	0	5	1	1	5	6	0	3	4	8	2	6	0	12	1	7	2	4	3	169
Chhukha	6	260	41	2	6	13	27	19	28	6	32	140	32	3	45	13	4	22	7	21	727
Dagana	0	3	49	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	61
Gasa	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Haa	1	2	1	0	23	2	3	2	2	1	5	5	0	0	5	5	0	0	1	2	60
Lhuentse	0	0	0	0	0	44	3	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	54
Monggar	8	5	3	0	1	89	298	4	33	2	15	5	9	1	43	17	6	5	3	10	557
Paro	3	12	5	0	4	4	14	46	13	6	8	22	3	3	17	6	4	8	6	4	188
Pema Gatsel	0	0	3	0	0	0	7	0	72	0	10	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	99
Punakha	0	0	7	5	1	0	1	2	4	57	1	3	1	0	4	1	3	4	8	3	105
Samdrup Jongkhar	2	5	3	0	0	8	21	0	39	3	233	5	10	1	54	5	2	5	4	6	406
Samtse	3	20	8	0	7	6	7	0	8	6	20	336	13	2	13	8	5	8	4	8	482
Sarpang	11	14	48	0	3	9	14	4	49	8	46	31	371	3	27	12	15	56	10	72	803
Thimphu	79	227	271	23	79	101	192	269	161	175	183	245	157	242	308	117	117	213	231	147	3,537
Trashigang	0	5	5	0	0	8	54	2	27	3	27	3	5	1	321	89	2	8	1	7	568
Trashi Yangtse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	8	55	1	0	0	0	66
Trongsa	0	0	2	0	0	1	2	0	3	1	1	1	1	0	2	0	41	2	1	3	61
Tsirang	0	1	11	0	0	2	2	1	3	1	5	9	8	1	2	2	2	88	0	6	144
Wangdue Phodrang	12	16	32	13	2	16	20	6	16	79	16	18	17	4	21	13	15	51	159	17	543
Zhemgang	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	1	43	55
Outside Bhutan	18	9	9	0	16	10	8	23	12	12	17	24	20	56	18	8	3	9	21	6	299
Total	243	580	504	48	143	318	680	378	479	365	629	853	657	317	903	354	232	485	462	358	8,988



## **2.4 INCENTIVES AND DISINCENTIVES FOR REGISTRATION**

The following are some of the factors that influenced the registration of vital events either positively or negatively (incentives and/or disincentives):

### **2.4.1 Incentives:**

1. Birth  
One doesn't need to have a nationality certificate or birth certificate to avail of health services. However, a nationality/ birth certificate (proof of child being registered with the civil registration) is required for a child to get school admission and for processing passport and other travel-related documents.
2. Death  
One of the main reasons for registering the death by the family members within a year of death is to claim rural life insurance against the name of the deceased. The amount claimed from insurance facilitates the family members to perform funeral rites for the deceased person.

### **2.4.2 Disincentives**

1. Birth  
The factor that negatively affect the registration of births on time is the difficulty in collecting official documents from the local authorities.
2. Death  
The rural life insurance could be claimed only for those persons aged 8 years and above. Therefore, the reporting of incidence of death below 8 years of age is low.

# DATA QUALITY, TIMELINESS AND COMPLETENESS OF REGISTRATION

## 3.1 QUALITY OF DATA

The DCRC whose main function is to maintain the comprehensive registry of the population of Bhutan is supported by a computerized system called Bhutan Civil Registration System (BCRS). BCRS is a highly secured system and provides up-to-date and a continuous, real-time, and dynamic flow of information on all vital events occurring in the country.

Of the 14 web-based civil registration and census services, registration of new birth and registration of death are the core services the department performs. Birth and death can be registered at any time of the year at any registration point. It can also be registered during the Annual Census Program which is carried out between November and January. The accuracy and completeness of birth information collected are verified at different stages identified as Operator Level, Level 1, Level 2, and Approval Level. The registration of death however has three phases identified as Operator Level, Level 1, and Approval Level. The information is captured online into the BCRS.

The DCRC stores and manages the citizenship database and is the sole custodian of the BCRS. However, the department also shares data stored in its system with external agencies

like G2G, G2C, and corporate agencies through area network interlinking agencies for multifold purposes. This network is known as the Application Programming Interface (API) and is managed centrally by the Government Technology (GovTech) Agency.

### 3.1.1 Data Source

The dataset on live births and deaths were acquired separately from the DCRC and the data on total population figure was sourced from the population projection (2017-2047) report published by NSB. In the absence of cause-of-death data based on ICD coding, the information on the top leading cause of death is sourced from the annual health bulletin published by the Ministry of Health (MoH).

### 3.1.2 Data Quality Assessment

According to United Nations Principles and Recommendations, "The quality of vital statistics is measured according to completeness, correctness or accuracy, availability and timeliness" (UN, 2014). Therefore, quality control measures must be put in place in terms of four quality dimensions mentioned above. To ensure that the data acquired is error-free, each of the variables in the dataset were studied carefully and wherever required, data cleaning was

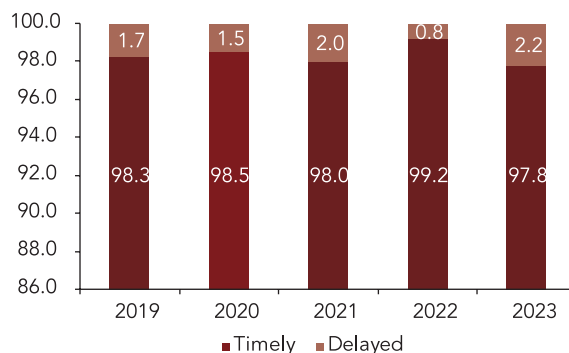
performed. The main thrust of the data quality assessment was to check for data inconsistency, its duplicates, erroneous recording on date of occurrence vis-à-vis the date of registration, duration of registration, missing information, and inconsistent values. Perhaps, it is obvious to have some duplicate entries which were cleaned, while some needed queries with civil registration officials to correct it. All erroneous entries were dealt following the nature of the error.

### 3.2 TIMELINESS OF REGISTRATION

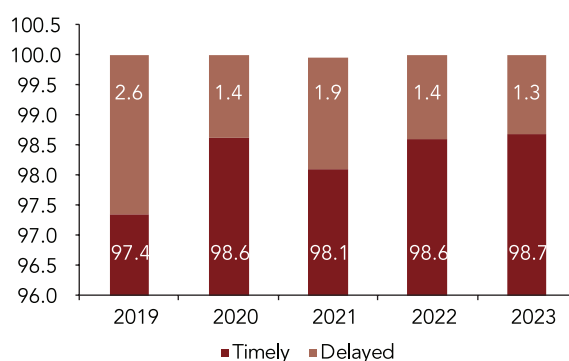
The Citizen Act requires all births in Bhutan to be registered within one year after the event has occurred. For reporting purposes, delayed registration is considered to be an event (birth and death) registered after one year from the date of occurrence. As a result of these requirements, the registration trend has been increasing over the years. Of the total (8,988) registered births that occurred in 2023, 8,794 or 97.8% were registered within one year period, while only 2.2% live births were registered after one year period (delayed registration). The term registration here would mean the initiation of submitting the required forms/documents to the competent civil registry authority to register either the birth or the death / initiation of application online and not necessarily the end product (the approval of the registration).

Similarly, 98.7% of registered deaths (3,532) that occurred in 2023 were registered within one year period (Figure 3.2). Only 50 (1.3%) deaths were registered after one year of occurrence.

The mean number of days taken to register an event (live births) was 156 days in 2023, while it took around 162 days in 2019. The mean duration taken to register an event has decreased in 2023 by about 2 days compared to 2022 (158 days). The pattern in the past five years indicates that for the registered deaths, there is a



**Figure 3.1** Timeliness of Registration of Births, [Bhutan, 2019-2023]



**Figure 3.2** Timeliness of Registration of Deaths, [Bhutan, 2019-2023]

**Table 3.1** Mean Duration of Registration, [Bhutan 2019-2023]

Year	Live births	Deaths
	Mean number of days	Mean number of days
2019	162	65
2020	180	48
2021	183	49
2022	158	49
2023	156	40

drastic improvement in terms of duration taken to register the event with the average days being 40 in 2023.

### 3.3 COVERAGE AND REGISTRATION COMPLETENESS

In terms of geographic coverage, Bhutan has reached 100% for both birth and death registration. However, when it comes to its completeness rate, it remains comparatively low. Completeness is defined as a measure of the extent to which births and deaths that occur in the country each year are registered by the civil registration system.

The completeness of events can be used to monitor the performance of the civil registration system. It is computed by taking the registered events (births and deaths) from the BCRS as the numerator and expected events (births and deaths) estimated by NSB as the denominator.

$$\text{Completeness} = \frac{\text{Number of registered vital events within the year of occurrence}}{\text{Estimated number of vital events within the year}} \times 100$$

The table 3.2 presents the completeness rate for birth and death registration in Bhutan for the year 2023. Compared to death registration completeness, birth registration is better with 73.9% as against 69.2% for deaths in 2023.

**Table 3.2** Birth and Death Registration Completeness Rates, Bhutan 2023

	Births	Deaths
Registered	8,988	3,579
Estimate *	12,162	5,170
Completeness rate	73.9	69.2

\*Source: Population projection

#### 3.3.1 Matrix of the Births by Year of Occurrence and Year of Registration

Generally, it is observed that most of the births that occur in a year are registered within the same year. However, there are instances where some births are registered in the following year.

Table 3.3 presents the matrix of births by year of occurrence and year of registration for the period 2019-2023. Out of the total registered births (8,988), 5214 births were registered in the same year while 3,774 were registered in the following year (2024).

#### 3.3.2 Matrix of the Deaths by Year of Occurrence and Year of Registration

Table 3.4 presents the matrix of deaths by year of occurrence and year of registration for the years 2019-2023. Out of the total registered deaths that occurred in the year 2023 (3,579), a majority (3,193) of them were registered in the

**Table 3.3** Matrix of the Births by Year of Occurrence and Year of Registration, 2019-2023

	Year of registration								Total
	Years	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Not stated	
Occurrence (Births)	2019	5,420	4,152	72	56	88	49	548	10,385
	2020	0	4,487	5,399	125	142	77	419	10,649
	2021	0	0	5,176	5,394	266	82	189	11,107
	2022	0	0	0	5,635	4,417	110	69	10,231
	2023	0	0	0	0	5,214	3,774	0	8,988
	Total	5,420	8,639	10,648	11,210	10,127	4,077	1,240	51,360

**Table 3.4** Matrix of the Births by Year of Occurrence and Year of Registration, 2019-2023

Occurrence (Deaths)	Year of registration							Total
	Years	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
	2019	2,649	568	53	93	65	33	3,461
	2020	0	2,649	454	76	51	48	3,278
	2021	0	0	2,769	412	56	46	3,283
	2022	0	0	0	3,206	405	58	3,669
	2023	0	0	0	0	3,193	386	3,579
	Total	2,649	3,218	3,277	3,786	3,769	571	17,270

**Table 3.5** Birth and Death Registration Completeness over time

Year	Registered Births	Estimated birth	Completeness (%)	Registered deaths	Estimated death	Completeness (%)
2016	10,605	12,359	85.8	3,551	5,185	68.5
2017	10,754	12,342	87.1	3,402	5,178	65.7
2018	11,519	12,390	93.0	3,389	5,095	66.5
2019	10,384	12,407	83.7	3,271	5,105	64.1
2020	10,416	12,331	84.5	3,109	5,115	60.8
2021	10,755	12,306	87.4	3,187	5,127	62.2
2022	10157	12204	83.2	3,605	5,141	70.1

Source: Estimated birth and death from Population projection (2017-2047), NSB

same year and only 386 deaths were registered in the following year (2024).

### 3.3.3 Completeness Rates over Time

The data on number of vital events that occurred has been updated *till 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024*. The completeness rate for both birth and death registration has remained steady over the years (table 3.5). The completeness rate for birth registration in 2021 was comparatively high (90.3%). The subpopulations that are most likely to be undercounted in vital registration are fetal and infant deaths and deaths below 8 years of age.

# LIVE BIRTHS

In 2023, there were a total of 8,988 registered births which is a decrease of 11.5 % compared to 10,157 live births in 2022. The Crude Birth Rate in 2023 is 11.7 per thousand population.

There were more males than females. Out of the total live births in 2023, 4,622 were males and 4,366 were females giving a sex ratio of 106. The sex ratio at birth is calculated as the number of males per 100 females. The number usually ranges between 103-107 males per 100 females. Numbers very different from this range may indicate errors in registration procedures since Bhutan does not have preference for male births over female births. In all the years, the number of registered live births for males is higher than for females.

## 4.1 COMPLETENESS OF BIRTH REGISTRATION

Completeness is defined as the proportion of actual vital events in a population that are registered, divided by the estimated number of vital events that occurred in the same year. For this report, the births registered by BCRS (numerator) were compared with the projected number of live births from the 2017 PHCB (denominator). As shown in table 4.2, birth registration completeness rate was found to be 73.9% at the national level with an insignificant difference between males and females (74.5% and 73.2%, respectively).

**Table 4.1** Summary Statistics on Fertility by Year of Occurrence

Indicator	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Registered live births (number)	10,186	10,240	10,755	10,157	8,988
Males	5,191	5,266	5,452	5,144	4,622
Females	4,995	4,974	5,303	5,013	4,366
Sex ratio at birth	104	106	103	103	106
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population)	13.7	13.7	14.2	13.3	11.7
Population*	741,672	748,931	756,129	763,249	770,276

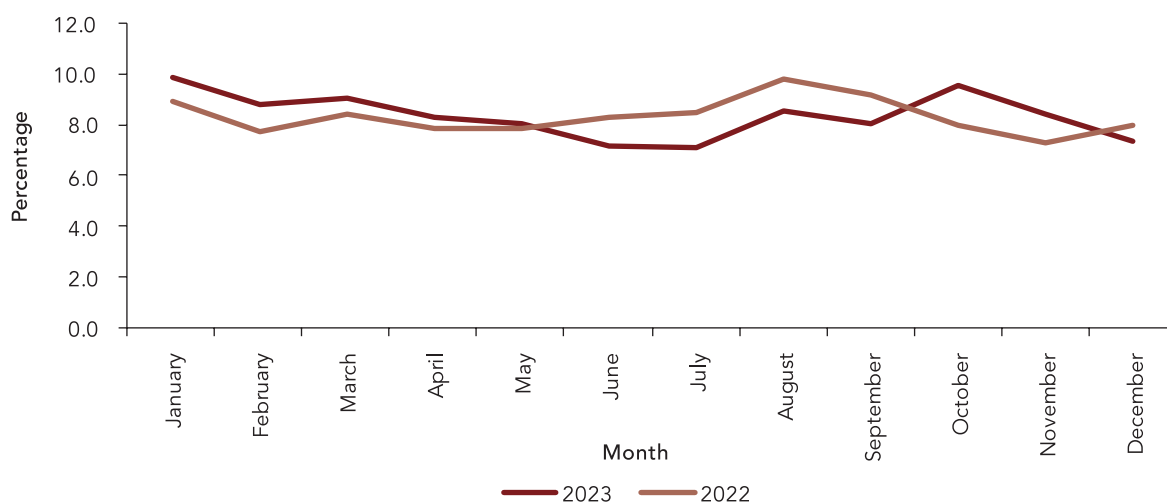
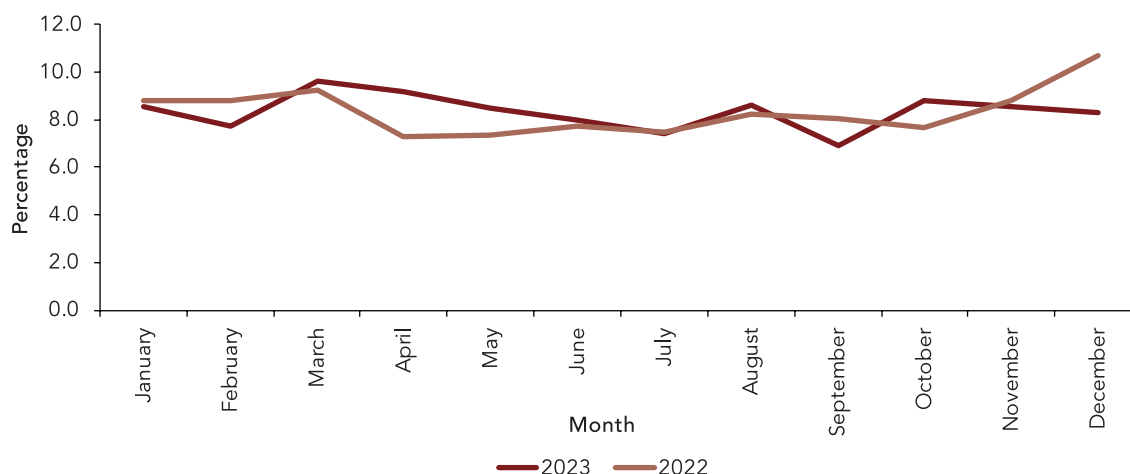
\* National Population Projection Report 2017-2047

**Table 4.2** Birth Registration Completeness, Bhutan 2022

Live Births	Registered Number	Expected Number	Registration Completeness
Total	10,157	12,204	83.2
Male	5,144	6,222	82.7
Female	5,013	5,982	83.8

## 4.2 BIRTHS BY MONTH OF OCCURRENCE

The number of births varied seasonally with a peak observed during the winter months in all the years under study. In 2023, the maximum number of births was observed in January (9.8%). The lowest rate was observed in the month of June and July with 7.1%.

**Figure 4.1** Percentage of Births by Month of Occurrence, Bhutan 2022-2023**Figure 4.2** Percentage of Births by Month of Registration, Bhutan 2022-2023

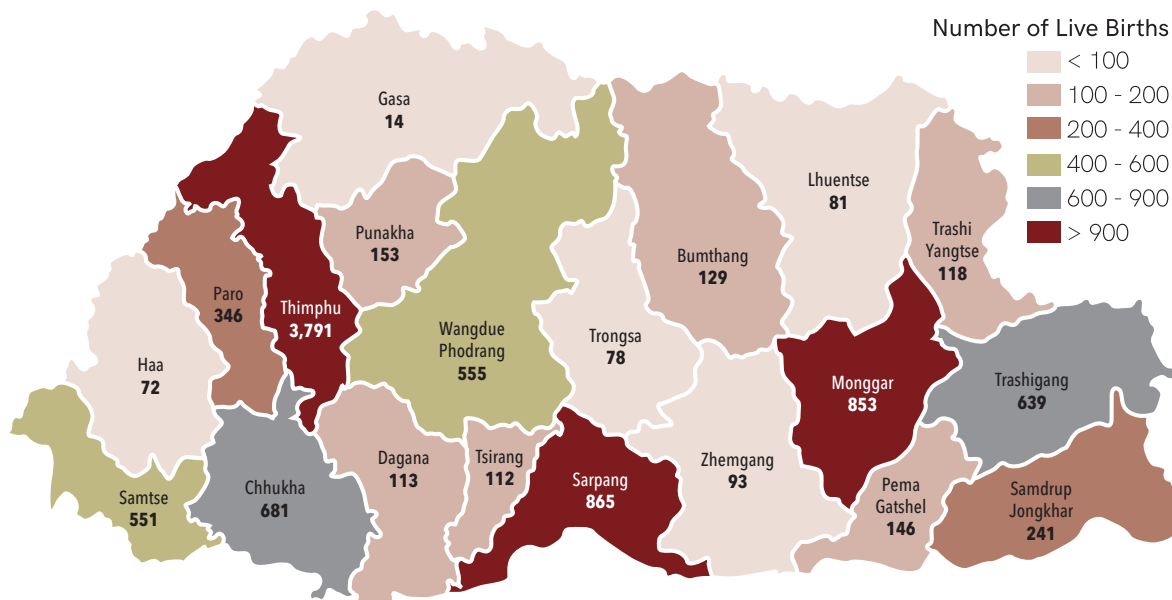
## 4.3 BIRTHS BY MONTH OF REGISTRATION

Of the total births (8,988) that occurred in 2023, most of them were registered in the months of March (9.6%) followed by April (9.2%). The lowest birth registration was recorded in the month of September with 6.9%.

## 4.4 BIRTHS BY PLACE OF OCCURRENCE

The figure 4.3 presents the map of the distribution of live births by dzongkhag for 2023. There were 299 births occurred outside Bhutan.

Of the total births occurred in Bhutan, it was observed that the two highest births have



**Figure 4.3** Number of Births by Place of Occurrence, Bhutan 2023

occurred in the dzongkhags where the tertiary hospitals are located: Thimphu (3,537), Sarpang (803). On the other hand, the lowest birth has occurred in Gasa with only 4 births in 2023.

In 2023, a total of 4,622 male births and 4,366 female births were recorded. Thimphu reported the highest number of births for both sexes, whereas Gasa recorded the lowest number of births. The majority of Dzongkhags reported a higher number of male births compared to female births.

#### 4.5 BIRTHS BY PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE OF MOTHER

Looking at the births by place of mother's place of usual residence, it is observed that most of the mothers who gave birth usually resides in Thimphu (24.4%) followed by in Chhukha (8.9%), Samtse (6.9%) Dzongkhags. About 0.5% of mother resides outside Bhutan and 0.6% lives in Gasa Dzongkhag.

**Table 4.3** Number of Births by Place of Occurrence and Sex, Bhutan 2023

Place of Occurrence	Sex		
	Male	Female	Total
Bumthang	96	73	169
Chhukha	386	341	727
Dagana	26	35	61
Gasa	3	1	4
Haa	27	33	60
Lhuentse	31	23	54
Monggar	290	267	557
Paro	95	93	188
Pema Gatshel	44	55	99
Punakha	52	53	105
Samdrup Jongkhar	198	208	406
Samtse	263	219	482
Sarpang	390	413	803
Thimphu	1,816	1,721	3,537
Trashigang	296	272	568
Trashy Yangtse	40	26	66
Trongsa	35	26	61
Tsirang	73	71	144
Wangdue Phodrang	291	252	543
Zhemgang	24	31	55
Outside Bhutan	146	153	299
Bhutan	4,622	4,366	8,988



**Table 4.4** Number of Births by Place of Usual Residence of Mother, Bhutan 2023

Place of Usual Residence of Mother	Sex			Percent
	Male	Female	Total	
Bumthang	109	101	210	2.3
Chhukha	404	393	797	8.9
Dagana	141	132	273	3.0
Gasa	23	28	51	0.6
Haa	62	61	123	1.4
Lhuentse	114	93	207	2.3
Monggar	259	214	473	5.3
Paro	255	223	478	5.3
Pema Gatshel	141	130	271	3.0
Punakha	152	160	312	3.5
Samdrup Jongkhar	247	252	499	5.6
Samtse	326	292	618	6.9
Sarpang	273	284	557	6.2
Thimphu	1,118	1,071	2,189	24.4
Trashigang	284	250	534	5.9
Trashi Yangtse	114	107	221	2.5
Trongsa	115	78	193	2.1
Tsirang	109	131	240	2.7
Wangdue Phodrang	246	243	489	5.4
Zhemgang	109	96	205	2.3
Outside Bhutan	21	27	48	0.5
Bhutan	4,622	4,366	8,988	100.0

#### 4.6 SEX RATIO AT BIRTH

Table 4.5 presents sex ratio at birth by region. In 2023, the sex ratio at birth is 106 males per 100 females. In the western region, the sex ratio at birth is 108 males per 100 females, compared to 106 males per 100 females in eastern region and 99 males per 100 females in the central region. The sex ratio for births taking place outside Bhutan is 95. Unlike in some other countries where the sex ratio is greatly influenced by the preference of male births over female births, Bhutan does not have any such preferences and higher/lower sex ratio in any dzongkhag is a natural phenomenon.

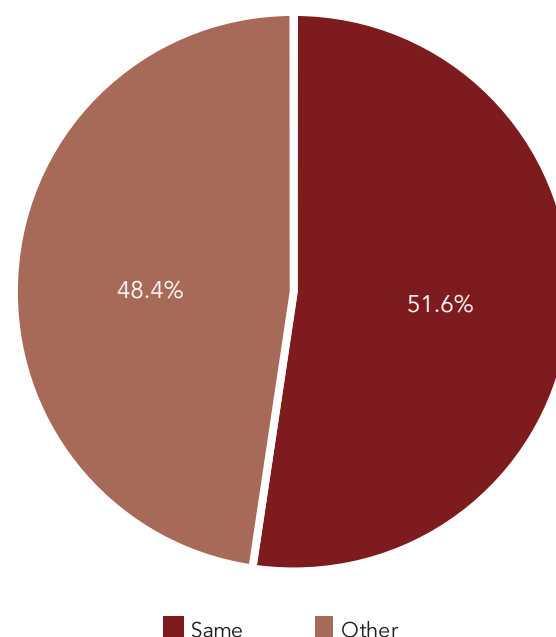
**Table 4.5** Sex Ratio at Birth, Bhutan 2023

Place of Occurrence	Sex			Sex Ratio at Birth
	Male	Female	Total Births	
West	2,933	2,713	5,646	108
Central	644	649	1,293	99
East	899	851	1,750	106
Outside Bhutan	146	153	299	95
Total	4,622	4,366	8,988	106

#### 4.7 BIRTHS BY PLACE OF OCCURRENCE AND PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE OF MOTHER

The number of births by place of occurrence and mother's usual place of residence is used to obtain information on whether mothers gave birth in the same place of residence where they usually resided or whether it was in another place.

It is observed that about 51.6% of mothers gave birth in the place where they usually reside, while almost 48.4% of mothers travelled to another place for delivery (Figure 4.4).

**Figure 4.4** Percentage of Births by Place of Occurrence and Place of Usual Residence of Mother, Bhutan 2023

**Table 4.6** Number of Births by Age of Mother, Bhutan 2023

Mother's Age	Sex			Percent
	Male	Female	Total	
<=19	76	71	147	1.6
20-24	978	899	1,877	20.9
25-29	1,460	1,409	2,869	31.9
30-34	1,302	1,197	2,499	27.8
35-39	631	621	1,252	13.9
40-44	157	151	308	3.4
45+	18	18	36	0.4
Total	4,622	4,366	8,988	100.0

In 2023, a total of 1,887 mothers gave birth in Thimphu where it was not their usual place of residence. Likewise, Sarpang (406) and Wangdue Phodrang (319) Dzongkhags also observed the similar pattern. However, there were also large number of births that occurred in the same dzongkhag where the mother usually resides (Table B2). There is a substantial number of births taking place outside Bhutan (262) where it is not their usual place of residence.

#### 4.8 BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER

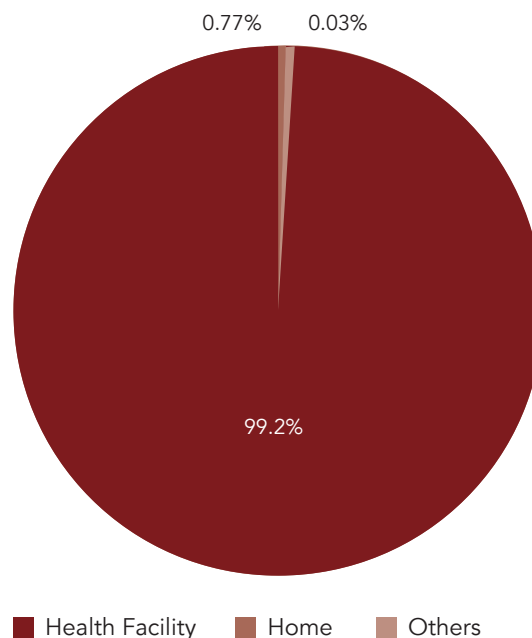
Table 4.6 presents the distribution of registered births that occurred in 2023 by age of mother. The highest percentage (31.9%) of births have occurred among the mothers whose age ranges between 25 and 29 years, followed by 27.8% in the ages 30-34 years.

#### 4.9 BIRTHS BY SITE OF OCCURRENCE

With increased accessibility to medical facilities, the majority of the births in 2023 took place at a health facility (99.2%) followed by some births taking place at home (0.77%). Almost negligible births took place at other places, which includes births on the way to health facility and elsewhere

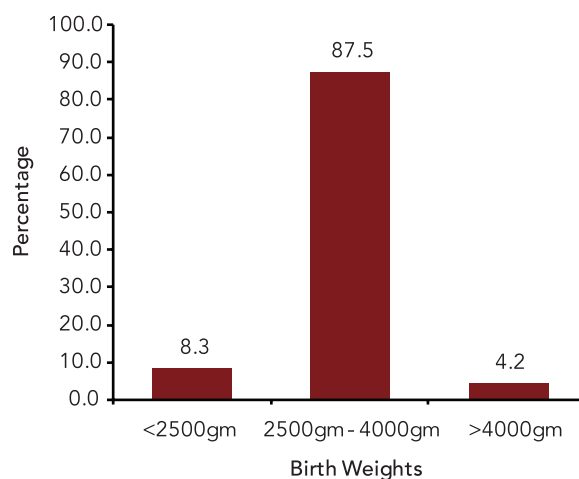
#### 4.10 BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT

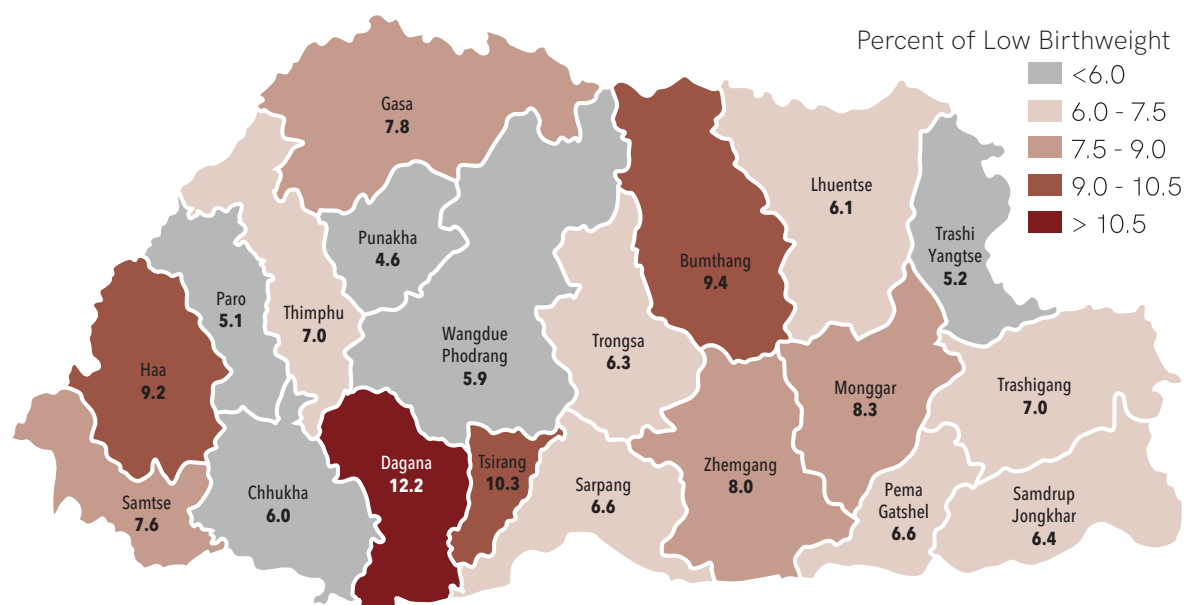
As per the UN *Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System*, birth weight is

**Figure 4.5** Percentage of Births by Site of Occurrence, Bhutan 2023

the first weight of a fetus or newborn obtained immediately after birth, preferably within the first hour of life.

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines low birthweight as the weight of a newborn lower than 2,500 grams. In 2023, of the total (8,988) births, 91.7% weighed above the low birthweight

**Figure 4.6** Percentage Distribution of Births by Birth Weight, Bhutan 2023



**Figure 4.7** Percentage of Low Birthweight and Place of Usual Residence of Mother, Bhutan 2023

**Table 4.7** Percentage of Births by Site of Occurrence and Birth Weight, Bhutan 2023

Site of Occurrence	<2500gm		2500gm-4000gm		>4000gm		Total	
	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent
Health Facility	734	8.2	7,803	87.5	379	4.3	8,916	100.0
Home	6	8.7	61	88.4	2	2.9	69	100.0
Others	2	66.7	1	33.3	0	0.0	3	100.0
Total	742	8.3	7,865	87.5	381	4.2	8,988	100.0

cut-off recommended by WHO, while about 8.3% of the births fall in the low birthweight category (Figure 4.6).

#### 4.10.1 Birth Weight by Place of Usual Residence of Mother

Of the total births within dzongkhags, most of the mother who gave low birthweight birth resides in Tsirang (11.2%) followed by Haa (9.7%) Dzongkhags. On the contrary, mothers residing in Punakha (3.8%) Dzongkhag had the lowest percentage of low-birth-weight births in 2023. Of the total births that occurred outside Bhutan, 6.2% were recorded as low birthweight.

#### 4.10.2 Birth Weight by Site of Occurrence

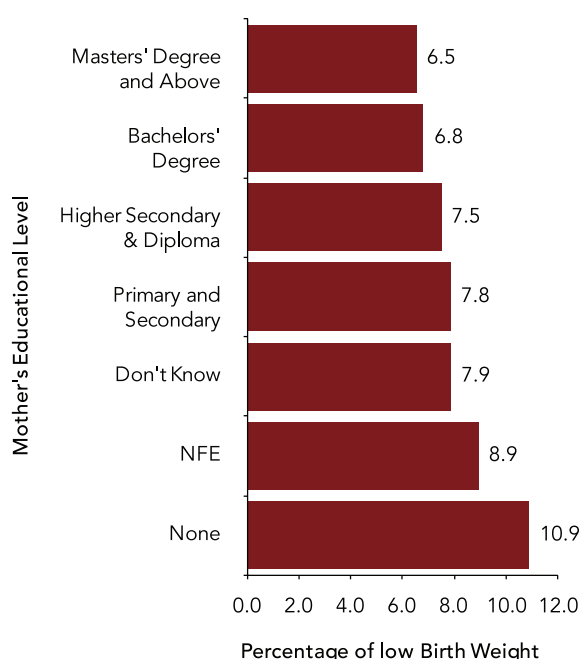
In 2023, most of the birth have occurred at a health facility (99.2%) while 0.77% of the births have occurred at home. About 66.7% of births occurring at other site are low birth weight while about 8.2% (734) of birth occurring in the health facility are low birth weight.

#### 4.10.3 Birth Weight by Age of Mother

Most (80.6%) of the mothers are between ages 20 and 34. Table 4.8 presents the age of the mother and the birth weights. Around 19.4% of the births in the 45+ years of age of mother are

**Table 4.8** Birth Weight by Age of Mother, Bhutan 2023

Mother's Age Group	<2500gm		2500gm-4000gm		>4000gm		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<=19	15	10.2	131	89.1	1	0.7	147	100.0
20-24	163	8.7	1,667	88.8	47	2.5	1,877	100.0
25-29	201	7.0	2,556	89.1	112	3.9	2,869	100.0
30-34	213	8.5	2,147	85.9	139	5.6	2,499	100.0
35-39	111	8.9	1,077	86.0	64	5.1	1,252	100.0
40-44	32	10.4	259	84.1	17	5.5	308	100.0
45+	7	19.4	28	77.8	1	2.8	36	100.0
Total	742	8.3	7,865	87.5	381	4.2	8,988	100.0

**Figure 4.8** Percentage of Low Birthweight by Mother's Level of Education, Bhutan 2023

low birthweight as compared to about 7.0% of births for mothers in the age group 25-29 years. Similarly, the births to mothers below 19 years of age also had a high percent (10.2%) of low weight births.

#### 4.10.4 Birth Weight by Mothers Level of Education

Figure 4.8 presents the percentage of births with low birthweight and mother's level of education.

**Table 4.9** Birth Type by Mother's Age, Bhutan 2023

Mother's Age	Single	Twin	Triplet	Total
<=19	145	2	0	147
20-24	1,861	16	0	1,877
25-29	2,827	42	0	2,869
30-34	2,455	44	0	2,499
35-39	1,229	20	3	1,252
40-44	302	6	0	308
45+	34	2	0	36
Total	8,853	132	3	8,988

Out of the 8,988 births, 742 children were born with low birth weight. Among them, 203 were born to mothers with no formal education, representing approximately 10.9% of all mothers in that education category.

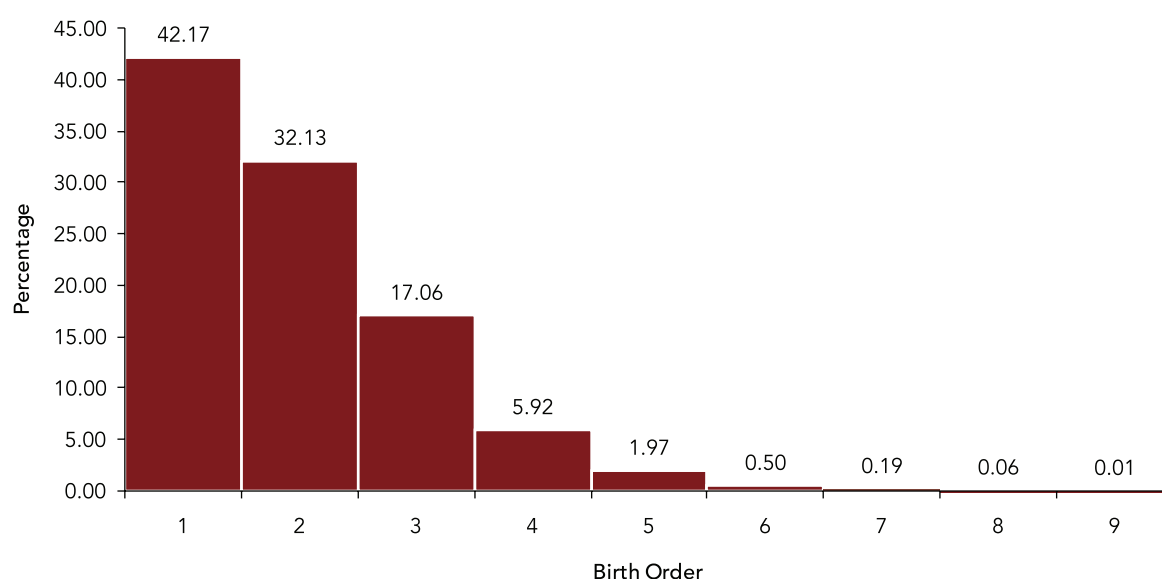
#### 4.11 BIRTHS BY TYPE OF BIRTH

Of the total of 8,988 births in 2023, 8,853 birth were single births, while 132 are twin births. Most of the twin births were to the mothers of age 20-39 years.

All the triplet born in 2023 have low birth weight. About 59.8% of twin births were with low birthweight, while only about 7.5% of the single births fall under the low-birthweight category. (Table 4.10).

**Table 4.10** Percentage of Births by Birth Type and Birth Weight, Bhutan 2023

Birth Type	<2500 gm		2500-4000 gm		>4000 gm		Total	
	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent
Single	660	7.5	7,812	88.2	381	4.3	8,853	100.0
Twin	79	59.8	53	40.2	0	0.0	132	100.0
Triplet	3	100	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	100.0
Total	742	8.3	7,865	87.5	381	4.2	8,988	100.0

**Figure 4.9** Percentage of Births by Birth Order, Bhutan 2023

## 4.12 BIRTHS BY BIRTH ORDER

About 42% of the births in 2023 were of first (child) order birth followed by 32.1% second order birth. With the increasing birth order, the number of births reduces. There were 1 birth with birth order 9 in 2023.

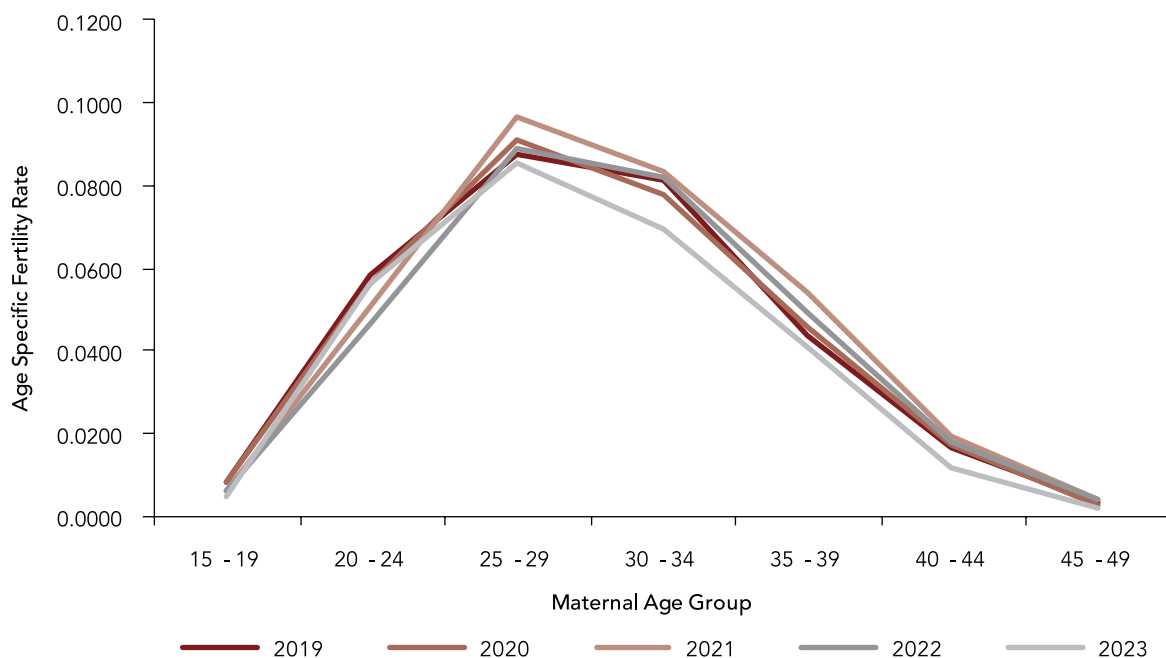
## 4.13 BIRTH INTERVAL

The birth interval is the time in months between the last delivery of a live birth and the previous date of delivery. Information on birth interval may be collected directly or calculated using the data. For this report, the birth interval was calculated based on the date of birth of the last birth and the previous birth of the same mother.

**Table 4.11** Interval between Last Birth and Previous Live Birth, Bhutan 2023

Birth Interval	Numbers	Percent
Less than 12 months	72	1.4
12-17 months	86	1.7
18-23 months	199	3.8
24-29 months	257	4.9
30-35 months	308	5.9
3 years	695	13.4
4 years	706	13.6
5-9 years	1,892	36.4
>10 years	983	18.9
Total	5,198	100.0

In 2023, out of the total 8,988 live births 3,790 births are of the first order. The birth interval of the rest of the 5,198 births are presented in table 4.11.



**Figure 4.10** Age Specific Fertility Rates, Bhutan 2019-2023

About 36% of the births occurred between 5 to 9 years after the previous birth, followed by after 10 years (18.9%) of the previous birth. There were only few births that have occurred within 12 months (1.4%) of the previous birth.

The figure 4.10 presents ASFR for 2019-2023. It is observed that the highest fertility rate was among mothers of age group 25-29 and 30-34 years and thereafter it declines gradually. It also indicates the delay in giving births as well as the increase in age at marriage.

#### 4.14 AGE SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATE

The Age Specific Fertility Rates (ASFR) is computed using the births from the BCRS and the total number of mothers in the age range 15-49 years from the population estimates of the NSB. Within the range of 15-49 years, there are marked differences in the fertility of women of different ages. For this reason, it is customary to calculate fertility rates for each age group. Typically, the age specific rates are low or moderate in the 15-19 age group, highest in the twenties, and then decline to moderate levels for women in their thirties. Rates after 39 years are usually low.

# DEATHS

The number of deaths in 2023 was 3,579, which is a decrease of 0.7% as compared to 3,605 in 2022. There were more deaths among males than females. Out of the total deaths, 1,937 were males and 1,642 were females. The Crude Death Rate (CDR) has decreased from 4.7 in 2022 to 4.6 in 2023 per 1,000 population. The calculated CDR using the observed data from CRVS was about 5 deaths per 1000 population in 2023.

## 5.1 COMPLETENESS OF DEATH REGISTRATION

Completeness is defined as the proportion of actual vital events in a population that are registered, divided by the estimated number of vital events that occurred in the same year. For this report, deaths registered by BCRS (numerator) were compared with the projected number of deaths from the 2017 PHCB (denominator). As shown in table 5.2, death registration completeness rate was found to be 69.2% at the national level. The completeness rate for male (67.8%) is lesser than their counterpart (71.0 %).

**Table 5.1** Summary Statistics on Mortality by Year of Occurrence

Indicator	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Registered deaths (number)	3,220	3,109	3,187	3,605	3,579
Males	1,770	1,729	1,747	1,938	1,937
Females	1,450	1,380	1,440	1,667	1,642
Population*	741,672	748,931	756,129	763,249	770,276
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population)	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.7	4.6

\* Population projection Report 2017-2047

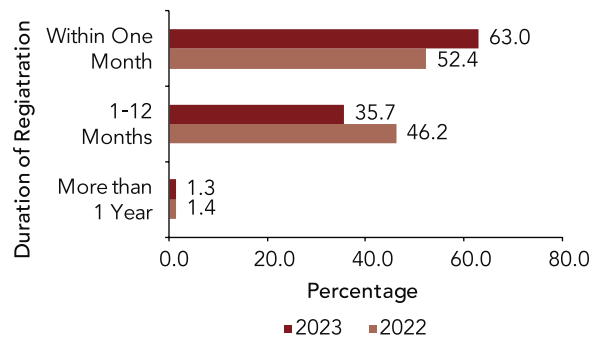
**Table 5.2** Death Registration Completeness, Bhutan 2023

Deaths	Registered Number	Expected Number	Registration Completeness
Total	3,579	5,170	69.2
Males	1,937	2,858	67.8
Females	1,642	2,312	71.0



**Figure 5.1** Death Registration Completeness by Age Group and Sex, Bhutan 2023

By age group and sex, the highest proportion of death is registered in the age group 45-49 with a completeness rate of 92.4%, and the lowest registration is observed in age group 0-4 with 9.8%. The death registration completeness for age group less than 8 years is 11.5% and registration completeness is better for person aged 8 years and above with 74.7%. Overall, the death registration is better among females than males (Figure 5.1).



**Figure 5.2** Duration of Registration between Date of Occurrence and Date of Registration, Bhutan 2022-2023

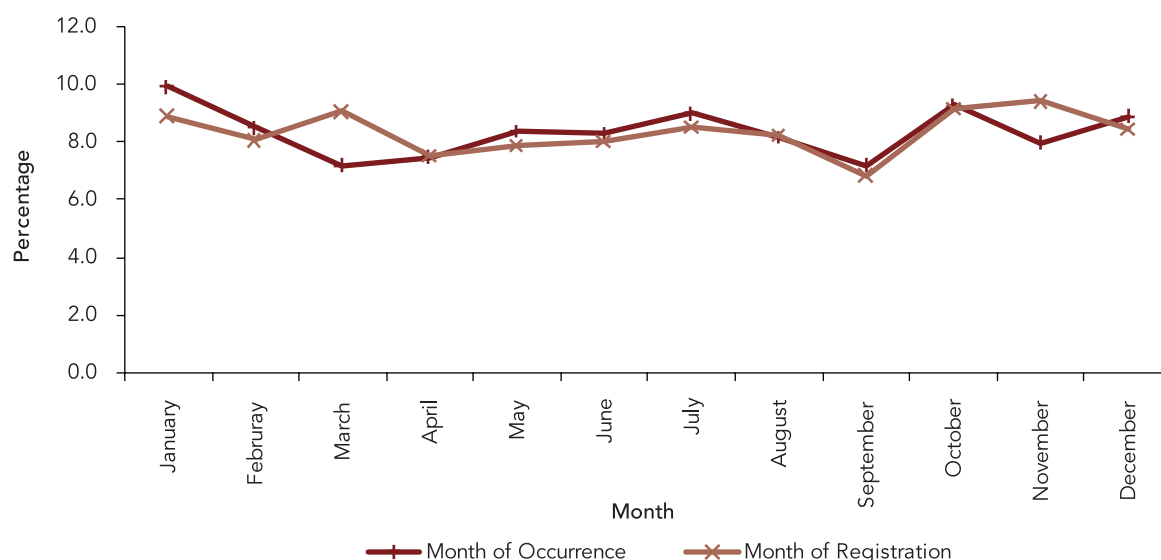
## 5.2 TIMELINESS OF DEATH REGISTRATION

The Citizen Act does not specify a prescribed timeline by which the death of a citizen should be registered. However, most of the family members register the death of a person within one year after the event has occurred. By duration of registration between the date of occurrence and date of registration, it was observed that most deaths were registered within one month after the occurrence of the event. However, there are also deaths that are registered even after one year of the occurrence of the event with 1.3% in 2023.

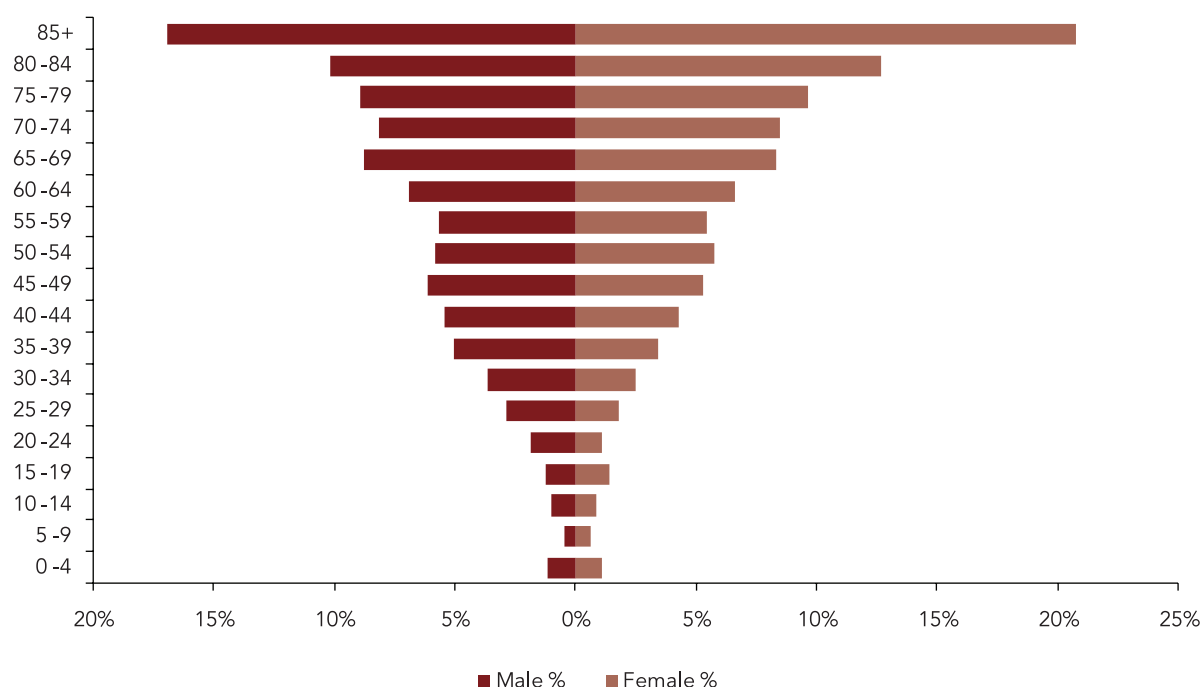
## 5.3 DEATHS BY MONTH OF OCCURRENCE AND MONTH OF REGISTRATION

Figure 5.3 presents the percentage of deaths by month of occurrence and month of registration for 2023. The distribution of death registrations by month shows relatively consistent trends throughout the year, with slight fluctuations. The highest percentages were recorded in November (9.4%), followed by October (9.2%), and March





**Figure 5.3** Percentage of Deaths by Month of Occurrence and Month of Registration, Bhutan 2023

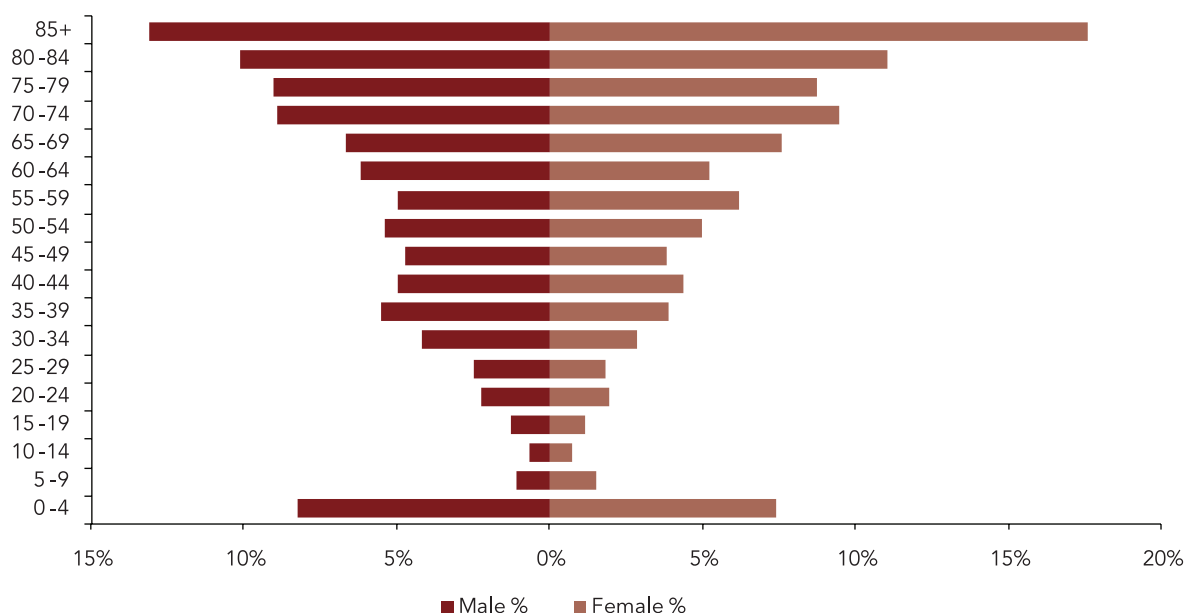


**Figure 5.4** Pyramid of Registered Deaths by Age Group and Sex, Bhutan 2023

(9.1%), suggesting a peak in registrations during these months. In contrast, September (6.8%) had the lowest share, indicating a noticeable dip.

The monthly distribution of death occurrences shows the highest proportions in January (9.9%), October (9.3%), and December (8.9%). The

lowest proportions were recorded in March (7.2%) and September (7.2%). Other months such as July (9.0%), February (8.5%), and May (8.4%) showed moderate levels, indicating some variation across the year with more noticeable peaks at the beginning and end.



**Figure 5.5** Pyramids of Estimated Deaths by Age Group and Sex, Bhutan 2023

#### 5.4 DEATHS BY AGE AND SEX

Figure 5.4 presents the registered deaths by age group and sex of the decedent for the year 2023. Of the registered deaths that occurred in 2023, 1,937 were males and 1,642 females.

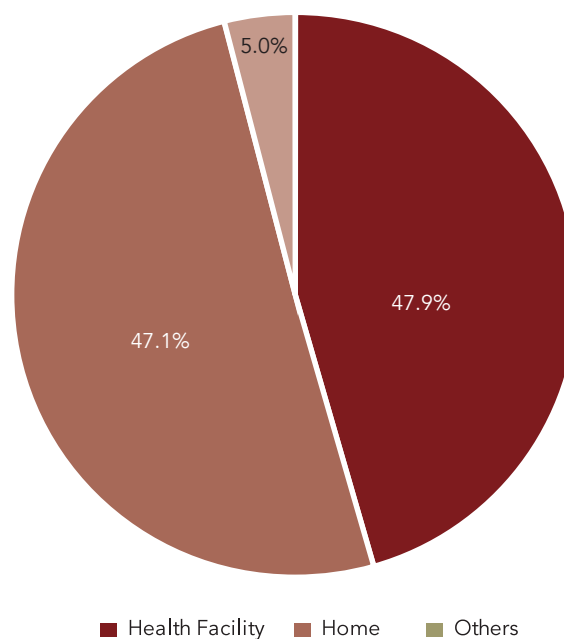
In most of the age groups the proportion of deaths is higher for males than females. The death registered for the age group less than 8 years is very low in comparison (figure 5.5).

#### 5.5 DEATHS BY SITE OF OCCURENCE

Figure 5.6 presents the percentage of deaths by site of occurrence for the year 2023. It indicates that more deaths occurred at hospitals (47.9%) than at home (47.1%), while about 5.0% of the deaths occurred elsewhere (on the way to hospital, unknown places, etc).

#### 5.6 DEATHS BY SITE OF OCCURENCE AND PLACE OF OCCURENCE

Across most *Dzongkhags*, a higher proportion of deaths were reported to have occurred at home. However, in Thimphu (85.5%), and among



**Figure 5.6** Percentage of Deaths by Site of Occurrence, Bhutan 2023

deaths occurring outside of Bhutan (74.1%), the majority occurred at health facilities (Table 5.3)

## 5.7 AGE SPECIFIC DEATH RATE

The percent distribution of deaths by age group is affected by a population's age structure. Different age groups in population are exposed to different risk of dying because of their occupation or their age or some other characteristic. Because of these differentials in exposure to the risk of dying, age specific death is computed to understand this.

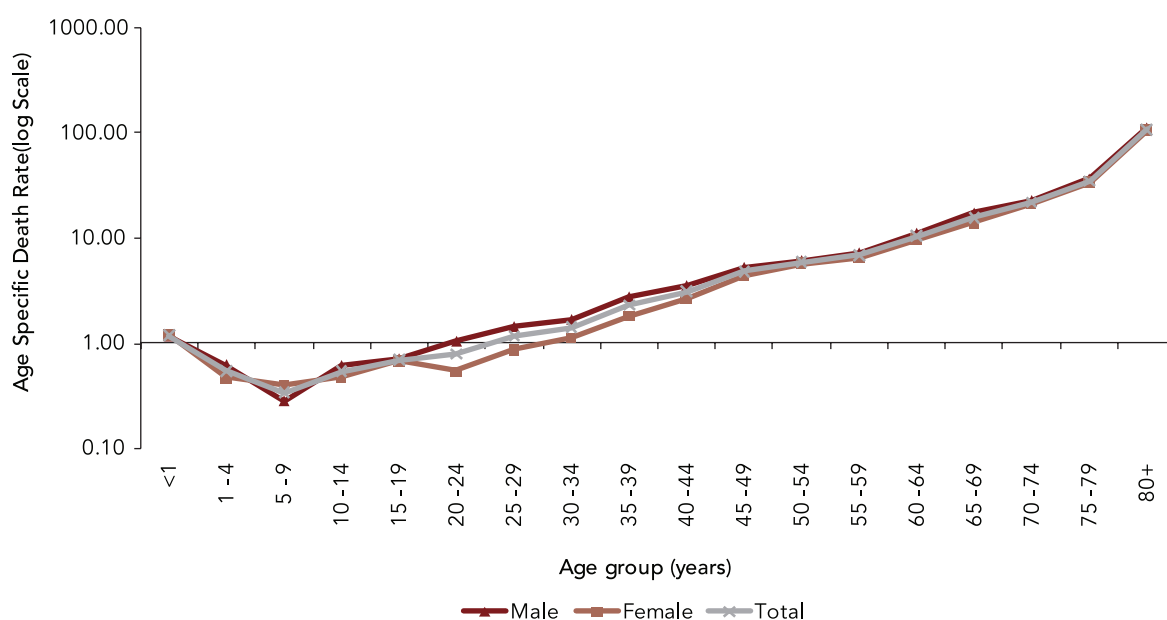
Figure 5.7 presents the pattern of age specific death rates for Bhutan in 2023. Since there is a great variability in the number of deaths, the graph is presented on a log scale. Generally, the mortality rate is little high at infancy, low during childhood, stable during the adulthood and then it increases gradually for all ages in both the sexes. It is also a common phenomenon to have a higher death rate for males compared to their female counterparts.

## 5.8 TOP TEN CAUSES OF DEATH

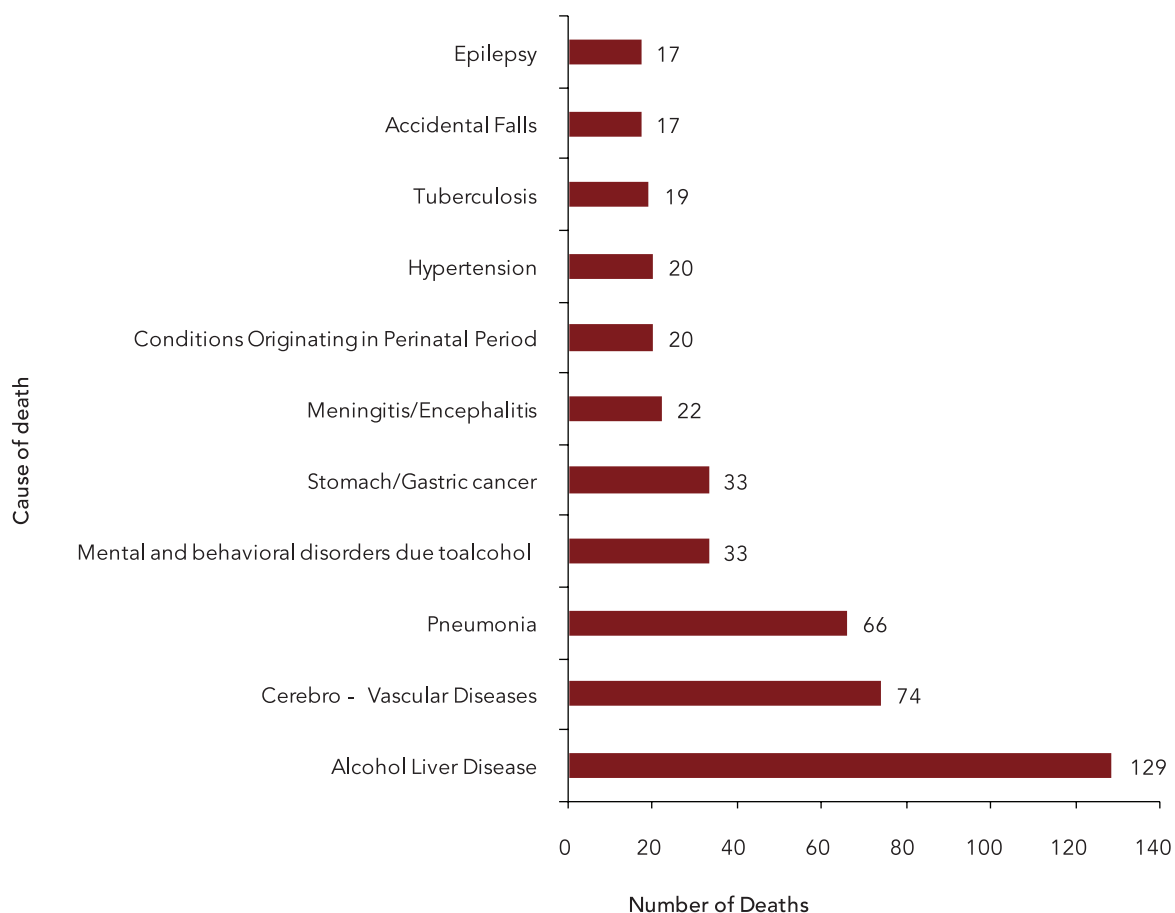
According to Annual Health Bulletin 2024 (AHB), Alcohol Liver Diseases (129) is the leading cause of death in 2023 followed by Cerebro-vascular

**Table 5.3** Percentage of Deaths by Place of Occurrence and Site of Occurrence, Bhutan 2023

Place of Occurrence	Site of Occurrence			Total
	Health Facility	Home	Other	
Bumthang	30.5	67.8	1.7	100.0
Chhukha	47.3	48.6	4.1	100.0
Dagana	28.6	61.6	9.8	100.0
Gasa	5.9	76.5	17.7	100.0
Haa	26.9	67.3	5.8	100.0
Lhuentse	16.8	61.1	22.1	100.0
Monggar	33.2	59.5	7.3	100.0
Paro	39.6	56.1	4.3	100.0
Pema Gatshel	17.2	78.5	4.3	100.0
Punakha	32.8	57.3	9.9	100.0
Samdrup Jongkhar	39.2	56.6	4.2	100.0
Samtse	37.2	60.2	2.7	100.0
Sarpang	61.0	33.6	5.5	100.0
Thimphu	85.5	13.6	0.9	100.0
Trashigang	28.1	68.9	3.1	100.0
Trashi Yangtse	23.2	71.0	5.8	100.0
Trongsa	16.4	76.1	7.5	100.0
Tsirang	40.4	56.4	3.2	100.0
Wangdue Phodrang	28.9	63.3	7.8	100.0
Zhemgang	21.1	71.6	7.4	100.0
Outside Bhutan	74.1	14.1	11.8	100.0
Bhutan	47.9	47.1	5.0	100.0



**Figure 5.7** Age Specific Death Rates, Bhutan 2023



**Figure 5.8** Top Causes of Death as Reported by the Health Facilities, Bhutan 2023

Source: Annual Health Bulletin, 2024

Diseases (74), and Pneumonia (66). The data was collected from health facilities in the country.

The data suggests that liver disease is the most significant contributor to mortality in 2023. It is important for health authorities to prioritize measures that reduce alcohol-related mortality.

# SUMMARY TABLES

Table 6.1 presents the number of vital events by place of occurrence for the year 2023. In 2023, more births have occurred in dzongkhags Thimphu (3,537), Sarpang (803) and Chhukha (727). In terms of death by place of occurrence, Thimphu (856) still recorded the highest number followed by Sarpang (274) and Trashigang (260) dzongkhags. More infant deaths were observed in Thimphu and Zhemgang.

**Table 6. 1 Number of Vital Events, Bhutan 2023**

## 6.1 VITAL EVENTS

Table 6.2 shows the CBR, CDR and population growth rates for years 2019-2023. Although, the crude birth rate is not a refined measure of fertility, most other fertility measures show this pattern. The indicator is widely used to indicate the overall effect of fertility and it could be estimated with minimum data requirements. The difference of CBR and CDR indicates the tempo of how much our population is increasing or decreasing. This can help guide our policy makers and planner in planning socio-economic development to make population related policies. The CBR showed an increase from 2019 to 2021, followed by decrease in 2022.

**Table 6.1 Number of Vital Events, Bhutan 2022**

Place of Occurrence	2023		
	Live Births	Deaths	Infant Deaths
Bumthang	169	59	0
Chhukha	727	218	0
Dagana	61	112	0
Gasa	4	17	0
Haa	60	52	0
Lhuentse	54	95	0
Monggar	557	259	1
Paro	188	139	0
Pema Gatshel	99	116	0
Punakha	105	131	2
Samdrup Jongkhar	406	189	0
Samtse	482	226	0
Sarpang	803	274	0
Thimphu	3,537	856	4
Trashigang	568	260	0
Trashy Yangtse	66	69	1
Trongsa	61	67	0
Tsirang	144	94	0
Wangdue Phodrang	543	166	1
Zhemgang	55	95	4
Outside Bhutan	299	85	1
Bhutan	8,988	3,579	14

The estimated population growth rate for the year 2023 is 0.77 which is a decrease 18.2% from 2022.

**Table 6.3** Vital Rates, Bhutan 2019-2023

Year	CBR	CDR	Population	PGR
2019	13.7	4.3	741,672	0.94
2020	13.7	4.2	748,931	0.95
2021	14.2	4.2	756,129	1.00
2022	13.3	4.7	763,249	0.86
2023	11.7	4.6	770,276	0.70

## 6.2 BIRTHS BY PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE OF MOTHER

The place of usual residence is the place where the person usually resides. The number of births by place of residence is useful for planning services such as the health, education, and housing.

Most of the mother who have given birth in the year 2019-2023 usually resides in Thimphu followed by Chhukha, Samtse and Trashigang Dzongkhag. Around 0.5% of the mother resides in Gasa Dzongkhag.

**Table 6.2** Number of Births by Place of Usual Residence of Mother, Bhutan 2019-2023

Place of Usual Residence of Mother	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Bumthang	235	235	245	229	210	1,154
Chhukha	727	782	885	791	797	3,982
Dagana	350	337	348	307	273	1,615
Gasa	62	51	53	37	51	254
Haa	133	142	153	127	123	678
Lhuentse	238	229	199	225	207	1,098
Monggar	623	580	576	613	473	2,865
Paro	522	590	604	587	478	2,781
Pema Gatshel	304	273	321	278	271	1,447
Punakha	315	351	363	335	312	1,676
Samdrup Jongkhar	503	481	505	450	499	2,438
Samtse	632	659	723	635	618	3,267
Sarpang	472	482	554	528	557	2,593
Thimphu	1,909	2,111	2,475	2,324	2,189	11,008
Trashigang	668	657	605	586	534	3,050
Trashy Yangtse	257	289	255	254	221	1,276
Trongsa	228	237	261	189	193	1,108
Tsirang	242	273	276	237	240	1,268
Wangdue Phodrang	528	524	585	558	489	2,684
Zhemgang	265	301	225	253	205	1,249
Not Stated	454	185	37	168	48	892
Bhutan	9,667	9,769	10,248	9,711	8,988	48,383

# ANNEXURE I: LIST OF STATISTICAL TABLES

**Table B1** Births by Month of Occurrence and Month of Registration, Bhutan 2023

Month of Occurrence	Month of Registration												Total
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
January	40	53	129	110	128	105	75	72	51	60	33	29	885
February	43	21	80	98	104	103	77	94	39	60	41	32	792
March	31	15	34	76	110	125	107	99	72	53	57	31	810
April	46	34	27	32	70	104	88	89	78	70	60	46	744
May	42	30	35	31	26	58	86	123	72	92	69	56	720
June	48	42	34	20	21	12	51	92	78	94	84	66	642
July	61	47	43	32	28	14	21	48	87	93	101	62	637
August	88	68	64	49	40	30	19	29	56	103	119	100	765
September	89	72	83	66	40	29	28	16	23	84	76	116	722
October	112	105	115	108	56	42	28	36	19	30	92	113	856
November	110	110	112	93	73	44	49	34	27	22	14	68	756
December	59	97	108	110	66	50	38	41	18	27	21	24	659
Total	769	694	864	825	762	716	667	773	620	788	878	743	8,988

**Table B2** Births by Place of Occurrence and Place of Usual Residence of Mother, Bhutan 2023

Place of Occurrence	Place of Usual Residence of Mother																					Total
	Bumthang	Chhukha	Dagana	Gasa	Haa	Lhuentse	Monggar	Paro	Pema Gatsel	Punakha	Samdrup Jongkhar	Samtse	Sarpang	Thimphu	Trashigang	Trashigang Yangtse	Trongsa	Tsirang	Wangdue Phodrang	Zhemgang	Outside Bhutan	
Bumthang	111	1	3	0	1	2	5	1	1	3	3	2	1	11	4	2	9	1	3	5	0	169
Chhukha	3	438	20	1	5	3	10	20	11	4	17	95	16	41	14	3	2	6	8	8	2	727
Dagana	0	3	36	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	12	0	1	2	0	2	1	0	61
Gasa	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Haa	0	4	1	1	33	0	1	3	1	1	0	4	1	4	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	60
Lhuentse	1	0	0	0	0	45	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	54
Monggar	8	14	2	0	1	89	293	13	28	0	9	7	3	30	32	17	4	2	3	2	0	557
Paro	3	10	4	0	4	3	6	87	8	1	5	11	2	23	10	2	3	3	3	0	0	188
Pema Gatsel	0	1	1	0	0	0	4	0	79	0	2	1	0	6	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	99
Punakha	0	2	3	4	0	1	1	2	0	61	1	1	1	12	2	1	2	2	7	2	0	105
Samdrup Jongkhar	1	7	1	0	2	1	13	4	26	1	284	6	6	19	25	3	2	1	0	4	0	406
Samtse	0	25	9	1	5	4	3	13	1	2	10	325	16	45	7	0	2	5	6	3	0	482
Sarpang	7	23	24	0	1	5	9	10	35	8	37	26	397	81	16	2	11	46	5	59	1	803
Thimphu	53	221	135	21	63	34	67	289	51	128	83	119	75	1,650	84	39	83	65	207	65	5	3,537
Trashigang	2	7	1	1	1	10	45	2	19	3	24	2	3	35	313	86	1	3	6	4	0	568
Trashigang Yangtse	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	3	53	1	0	1	0	0	66
Trongsa	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	7	1	0	43	0	0	2	0	61
Tsirang	1	5	9	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	5	11	13	1	0	1	88	2	2	0	144
Wangdue Phodrang	9	20	21	17	1	5	6	14	3	94	10	10	11	36	13	7	18	13	224	9	2	543
Zhemgang	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	7	0	0	3	0	0	37	0	55
Outside Bhutan	10	16	2	1	5	1	4	17	1	4	9	3	9	155	4	3	5	4	8	1	37	299
Bhutan	210	797	273	51	123	207	473	478	271	312	499	618	557	2189	534	221	193	240	489	205	48	8,988



**Table B3** Births by Place of Usual Residence, Age and Mothers Level of Education, Bhutan 2023

Place of Usual Residence and Age of Mother	Mother's Level of Education											Total
	None	Primary	Secondary	Higher Secondary	Diploma	Bachelors' Degree	Masters' Degree and Above	Monastic Education	NFE	Others	Don't Know	
Age Group												
<19	22	58	103	92	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	279
20-24	104	200	587	810	4	16	1	1	6	7	9	1,745
25-29	376	212	590	1193	67	300	7	0	36	9	79	2,869
30-34	607	208	340	726	67	415	14	1	97	12	12	2,499
35-39	523	80	110	286	10	152	19	0	62	8	2	1,252
40-44	203	15	16	43	1	12	5	0	12	0	1	308
45+	28	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	36
Total	1,863	776	1,748	3,152	149	895	46	2	215	37	105	8,988
Place of Occurrence												
Bumthang	36	26	23	101	7	11	0	0	4	0	2	210
Chhukha	195	66	191	252	13	51	2	0	10	1	16	797
Dagana	60	25	91	76	1	11	0	0	5	1	3	273
Gasa	20	3	12	8	2	4	0	0	0	0	2	51
Haa	22	6	38	40	0	14	0	0	1	1	1	123
Lhuentse	40	20	69	52	3	7	0	0	12	2	2	207
Monggar	133	57	81	142	4	20	5	1	18	1	11	473
Paro	79	42	72	204	6	54	2	1	9	3	6	478
Pema Gatshel	52	32	52	101	4	13	0	0	12	1	4	271
Punakha	60	35	67	110	6	12	2	0	6	6	8	312
Samdrup Jongkhar	114	30	69	230	7	28	2	0	11	3	5	499
Samtse	198	79	102	180	7	32	2	0	14	1	3	618
Sarpang	122	48	105	214	9	32	2	0	19	1	5	557
Thimphu	268	111	347	858	63	461	26	0	28	14	13	2,189
Trashigang	132	48	148	120	6	32	0	0	38	0	10	534
Trashigang Yangtse	42	23	33	95	2	18	0	0	6	0	2	221
Trongsa	43	24	54	43	2	13	1	0	8	1	4	193
Tsirang	65	22	35	88	1	20	0	0	4	0	5	240
Wangdue Phodrang	131	63	114	143	4	23	0	0	8	0	3	489
Zhemgang	50	15	38	88	1	10	0	0	2	1	0	205
Outside Bhutan	1	1	7	7	1	29	2	0	0	0	0	48
Bhutan	1,863	776	1,748	3,152	149	895	46	2	215	37	105	8,988

**Table B4** Births by Place of Occurrence and Site of Occurrence, Bhutan 2023

Place of Occurrence	Health Facility	Home	Others	Total
Bumthang	168	1	0	169
Chhukha	725	2	0	727
Dagana	61	0	0	61
Gasa	3	1	0	4
Haa	60	0	0	60
Lhuentse	52	2	0	54
Monggar	551	6	0	557
Paro	185	3	0	188
Pema Gatshel	97	2	0	99
Punakha	105	0	0	105
Samdrup Jongkhar	400	6	0	406
Samtse	476	6	0	482
Sarpang	801	2	0	803
Thimphu	3525	12	0	3537
Trashigang	549	18	1	568
Trashy Yangtse	66	0	0	66
Trongsa	59	2	0	61
Tsirang	142	1	1	144
Wangdue Phodrang	538	4	1	543
Zhemgang	55	0	0	55
Outside Bhutan	298	1	0	299
Bhutan	8916	69	3	8988

**Table B5** Births by Place of Usual Residence of Mother and Birth Weight, Bhutan 2023

Place of Usual Residence of Mother	Numbers			Total
	Birthweight <2500gm	Birthweight 2500gm-4000gm	Birthweight >4000gm	
Bumthang	18	177	15	210
Chhukha	61	693	43	797
Dagana	19	243	11	273
Gasa	3	46	2	51
Haa	12	102	9	123
Lhuentse	15	184	8	207
Monggar	38	425	10	473
Paro	41	407	30	478
Pema Gatshel	23	239	9	271
Punakha	12	287	13	312
Samdrup Jongkhar	44	442	13	499
Samtse	55	540	23	618
Sarpang	47	490	20	557
Thimphu	209	1,880	100	2,189
Trashigang	51	467	16	534
Trashi Yangtse	13	197	11	221
Trongsa	14	170	9	193
Tsirang	27	207	6	240
Wangdue Phodrang	24	445	20	489
Zhemgang	13	183	9	205
Outside Bhutan	3	41	4	48
Bhutan	742	7,865	381	8,988

**Table B6** Births by Birth Weight and Place of Usual Residence and Mothers Level of Education, Bhutan 2023

Mothers Level of Education	Birthweight <2500gm	Birthweight 2500gm-4000gm	Birthweight >4000gm	Total
None	203	1,606	54	2105
Primary	64	686	26	875
Secondary	134	1,534	80	1661
Higher secondary	239	2,781	132	3134
Diploma	8	133	8	1046
Bachelor degree	61	767	67	62
Master degree and above	3	38	5	205
Monastic education	0	1	1	58
NFE	19	191	5	565
Others	2	34	1	9711
Don't know	9	94	2	48
Total	742	7,865	381	8,988

**Table B7** Birth Order by Birth Interval, Bhutan 2023

Birth Interval	Birth order 1		<12 months		12-17 months		18-23 months		24-29 months		30-35 months		3 years		4 years		5-9 years		>10 years		Total	
	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent
1	3,790	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3,790	100.0
2	0	0.0	27	0.9	54	1.9	101	3.5	164	5.7	182	6.3	419	14.5	470	16.3	1,016	35.2	455	15.8	2,888	100.0
3	0	0.0	22	1.4	26	1.7	58	3.8	60	3.9	71	4.6	172	11.2	157	10.2	624	40.7	343	22.4	1,533	100.0
4	0	0.0	16	3.0	4	0.8	25	4.7	18	3.4	38	7.1	60	11.3	54	10.2	183	34.4	134	25.2	532	100.0
5	0	0.0	7	4.0	1	0.6	12	6.8	10	5.6	11	6.2	27	15.3	15	8.5	50	28.2	44	24.9	177	100.0
6	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	2.2	2	4.4	3	6.7	4	8.9	10	22.2	9	20.0	11	24.4	5	11.1	45	100.0
7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.9	1	5.9	2	11.8	4	23.5	1	5.9	7	41.2	1	5.9	17	100.0
8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	0	0.0	3	60.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	5	100.0
9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Total	3,790	42.2	72	0.8	86	1.0	199	2.2	257	2.9	308	3.4	695	7.7	706	7.9	1,892	21.1	983	10.9	8,988	100.0

**Table B8** Birth Interval by Birth Weight, Bhutan 2023

Birth Weight	<2500gm		2500gm-4000gm		>4000gm		Total	
	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent	Numbers	Percent
Birth order 1	335	8.8	3325	87.7	130	3.4	3790	100.0
<12 months	41	56.9	31	43.1	0	0.0	72	100.0
12-17 months	6	7.0	78	90.7	2	2.3	86	100.0
18-23 months	9	4.5	176	88.4	14	7.0	199	100.0
24-29 months	17	6.6	222	86.4	18	7.0	257	100.0
30-35 months	18	5.8	274	89.0	16	5.2	308	100.0
3 years	35	5.0	620	89.2	40	5.8	695	100.0
4 years	44	6.2	628	89.0	34	4.8	706	100.0
5-9 years	135	7.1	1,669	88.2	88	4.7	1,892	100.0
>10 years	102	10.4	842	85.7	39	4.0	983	100.0
Total	742	8.3	7,865	87.5	381	4.2	8,988	100.0

**Table D1** Deaths by Place and Duration of Registration, Bhutan 2023

Place of Registration	Time of Registration			Total
	Within One Month	1-12 months	More than 1 year	
Bumthang	48	21	1	70
Chhukha	96	97	9	202
Dagana	121	74	5	200
Gasa	0	18	0	18
Haa	43	23	0	66
Lhuentse	74	58	0	132
Monggar	169	118	7	294
Paro	99	43	2	144
Pema Gatshel	120	62	1	183
Punakha	135	32	0	167
Samdrup Jongkhar	166	61	4	231
Samtse	248	136	4	388
Sarpang	151	91	5	247
Thimphu	56	58	0	114
Trashigang	258	131	1	390
Trashi Yangtse	81	63	3	147
Trongsa	61	33	1	95
Tsirang	118	45	3	166
Wangdue Phodrang	135	36	1	172
Zhemgang	76	77	0	153
Bhutan	2,255	1,277	47	3,579

**Table D2** Deaths by Month of Occurrence and Month of Registration, Bhutan 2023

Month	Occurrence	Registration	Occurrence (%)	Registration (%)
January	355	318	9.9	8.9
February	303	288	8.5	8.1
March	256	324	7.2	9.1
April	267	269	7.5	7.5
May	299	282	8.4	7.9
June	296	287	8.3	8.0
July	321	305	9.0	8.5
August	291	295	8.1	8.2
September	257	244	7.2	6.8
October	331	328	9.3	9.2
November	285	337	8.0	9.4
December	318	302	8.9	8.4
Total	3,579	3,579	100.0	100.0

**Table D3** Deaths by Place of Occurrence and Sex of Decedent, Bhutan 2023

Place of Occurrence	Sex of Decedent		Total
	Male	Female	
Bumthang	28	31	59
Chhukha	118	100	218
Dagana	62	50	112
Gasa	11	6	17
Haa	32	20	52
Lhuentse	49	46	95
Monggar	125	134	259
Paro	71	68	139
Pema Gatshel	71	45	116
Punakha	68	63	131
Samdrup Jongkhar	95	94	189
Samtse	134	92	226
Sarpang	165	109	274
Thimphu	468	388	856
Trashigang	131	129	260
Trashy Yangtse	36	33	69
Trongsa	36	31	67
Tsirang	57	37	94
Wangdue Phodrang	78	88	166
Zhemgang	54	41	95
Outside Bhutan	48	37	85
Bhutan	1,937	1,642	3,579

**Table D4** Deaths by Place of Registration and Sex of Decedent, Bhutan 2023

Place of Regsitration	Sex of Decedent		Total
	Male	Female	
Bumthang	39	31	70
Chhukha	109	93	202
Dagana	113	87	200
Gasa	12	6	18
Haa	37	29	66
Lhuentse	67	65	132
Monggar	136	158	294
Paro	85	59	144
Pema Gatshel	104	79	183
Punakha	87	80	167
Samdrup Jongkhar	122	109	231
Samtse	229	159	388
Sarpang	145	102	247
Thimphu	55	59	114
Trashigang	203	187	390
Trashy Yangtse	80	67	147
Trongsa	51	44	95
Tsirang	96	70	166
Wangdue Phodrang	87	85	172
Zhemgang	80	73	153
Bhutan	1,937	1,642	3,579

**Table D5** Deaths by Age Group and Sex, Bhutan 2023

Age Group	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
<1	7	7	14
1-4	15	11	26
5-9	8	11	19
10-14	19	14	33
15-19	24	23	47
20-24	35	18	53
25-29	56	29	85
30-34	71	41	112
35-39	98	56	154
40-44	105	70	175
45-49	119	87	206
50-54	113	94	207
55-59	110	89	199
60-64	133	109	242
65-69	170	137	307
70-74	157	139	296
75-79	173	158	331
80-84	197	208	405
85+	327	341	668
Total	1,937	1,642	3,579

**Table D6** Age Specific Death Rates, Bhutan 2023

Age at death	Number of deaths		Total	Age at death	Population		Total	Age group	ASDR		Total
	Male	Female			Male	Female			Male	Female	
0 years	7	7	14	0 years	6,069	5,876	11,945	<1	1.15	1.19	1.17
1-4 years	15	11	26	1-4 years	24,246	23,539	47,785	1-4	0.62	0.47	0.54
5-9 years	8	11	19	5-9 years	28,698	27,971	56,669	5-9	0.28	0.39	0.34
10-14 years	19	14	33	10-14 years	31,357	30,146	61,503	10-14	0.61	0.46	0.54
15-19 years	24	23	47	15-19 years	34,192	33,748	67,940	15-19	0.70	0.68	0.69
20-24 years	35	18	53	20-24 years	33,931	33,543	67,474	20-24	1.03	0.54	0.79
25-29 years	56	29	85	25-29 years	39,343	33,645	72,988	25-29	1.42	0.86	1.16
30-34 years	71	41	112	30-34 years	42,639	36,260	78,899	30-34	1.67	1.13	1.42
35-39 years	98	56	154	35-39 years	35,826	30,980	66,806	35-39	2.74	1.81	2.31
40-44 years	105	70	175	40-44 years	29,954	26,274	56,228	40-44	3.51	2.66	3.11
45-49 years	119	87	206	45-49 years	22,752	19,805	42,557	45-49	5.23	4.39	4.84
50-54 years	113	94	207	50-54 years	18,602	16,506	35,108	50-54	6.07	5.69	5.90
55-59 years	110	89	199	55-59 years	15,277	13,678	28,955	55-59	7.20	6.51	6.87
60-64 years	133	109	242	60-64 years	11,995	11,116	23,111	60-64	11.09	9.81	10.47
65-69 years	170	137	307	65-69 years	9,864	9,723	19,587	65-69	17.23	14.09	15.67
70-74 years	157	139	296	70-74 years	6,911	6,589	13,500	70-74	22.72	21.10	21.93
75-79 years	173	158	331	75-79 years	4,754	4,667	9,421	75-79	36.39	33.85	35.13
80+ years	524	549	1073	80+ years	4,682	5,118	9,800	80+	111.92	107.27	109.49

# ANNEXURE II: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE NATIONAL STATISTICS BUREAU AND DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL REGISTRATION AND CENSUS, MINISTRY OF HOME AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS



### I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The National Statistics Bureau, hereinafter referred to as "the recipient", in its effort towards supporting evidence-based decision making intends to publish annual Vital Statistics Report (VSR) based on the vital events data compiled by the Department of Civil Registration and Census, under Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs, hereinafter referred to as "the provider", in accordance with the provisions of this agreement, the provider shall share data from the Bhutan Civil Registration System, hereinafter referred to as BCRS, to the recipient. The data will be published only at the aggregated level for vital statistics analysis.

### II. OBJECTIVES

The objective of this MoU is to ensure that there is continuous and timely flow of BCRS data from the provider to the recipient to enable the publication of annual VSR.

### III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE RECIPIENT

- A. The recipient promises to comply with all provisions of this agreement to ensure the annual publication of VSR;
- B. The recipient agrees that the BCRS data provided under this agreement shall be strictly restricted to officials assigned with the analysis and publication of the VSR;
- C. Authorized officials shall sign a non-disclosure form with the Chief of Social Statistics Division to ensure the confidentiality of the data;
- D. Authorized officials designated pursuant to this agreement shall not use the BCRS data for any other purpose other than the publication of VSR;
- E. The VSR intended for release or publication must not include or reveal the characteristics of an individual respondent and ensure that the information will be published only at the aggregated level;
- F. The recipient shall share a copy of all the signed non-disclosure form with the focal person of the provider annually; and
- G. The recipient may provide recommendation to the provider for the improvement of BCRS data collection.

### IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PROVIDER

- A. The provider promises to comply with all provisions of this agreement to ensure the annual publication of the VSR;
- B. The provider agrees to share the micro data of the BCRS;
- C. The provider shall share the BCRS data by 15<sup>th</sup> January of every year;



D. The provider shall identify a focal for the same; and

E. The provider may act on the recommendations made by the recipient on improving the data collection for the BCRS.

#### V. DURATION OF THIS AGREEMENT

All agreed clauses herein are effective from the date of signing of this MoU. This MoU shall be amended on mutual agreement between the recipient and the provider at any time.

#### VI. TERMINATION OF MOU

This MoU may be terminated on mutual agreement between the recipient and the provider at any time.

#### VII. EFFECTIVE DATE AND SIGNATURE IN WITNESS WHEREOF,

The recipient and the provider hereby have executed this MoU on the **09<sup>th</sup> October 2020** corresponding to **22<sup>nd</sup> day 08<sup>th</sup> month** of lunar calendar. On behalf of the National Statistics Bureau and on behalf of the Department of Civil Registration and Census, Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs.



(Signature)

Mr. Chhime Tshering

**DIRECTOR**

**National Statistics Bureau**



(Signature)

Mr. Tashi Tobgye

**DIRECTOR GENERAL**

**Department of Civil Registration and Census**

**WITNESSED BY:**

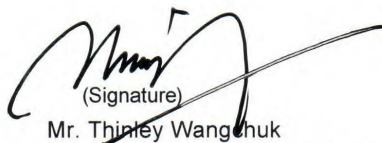


(Signature)

Mr. Tashi Dorjee

**Chief Statistical Officer**

**National Statistics Bureau**



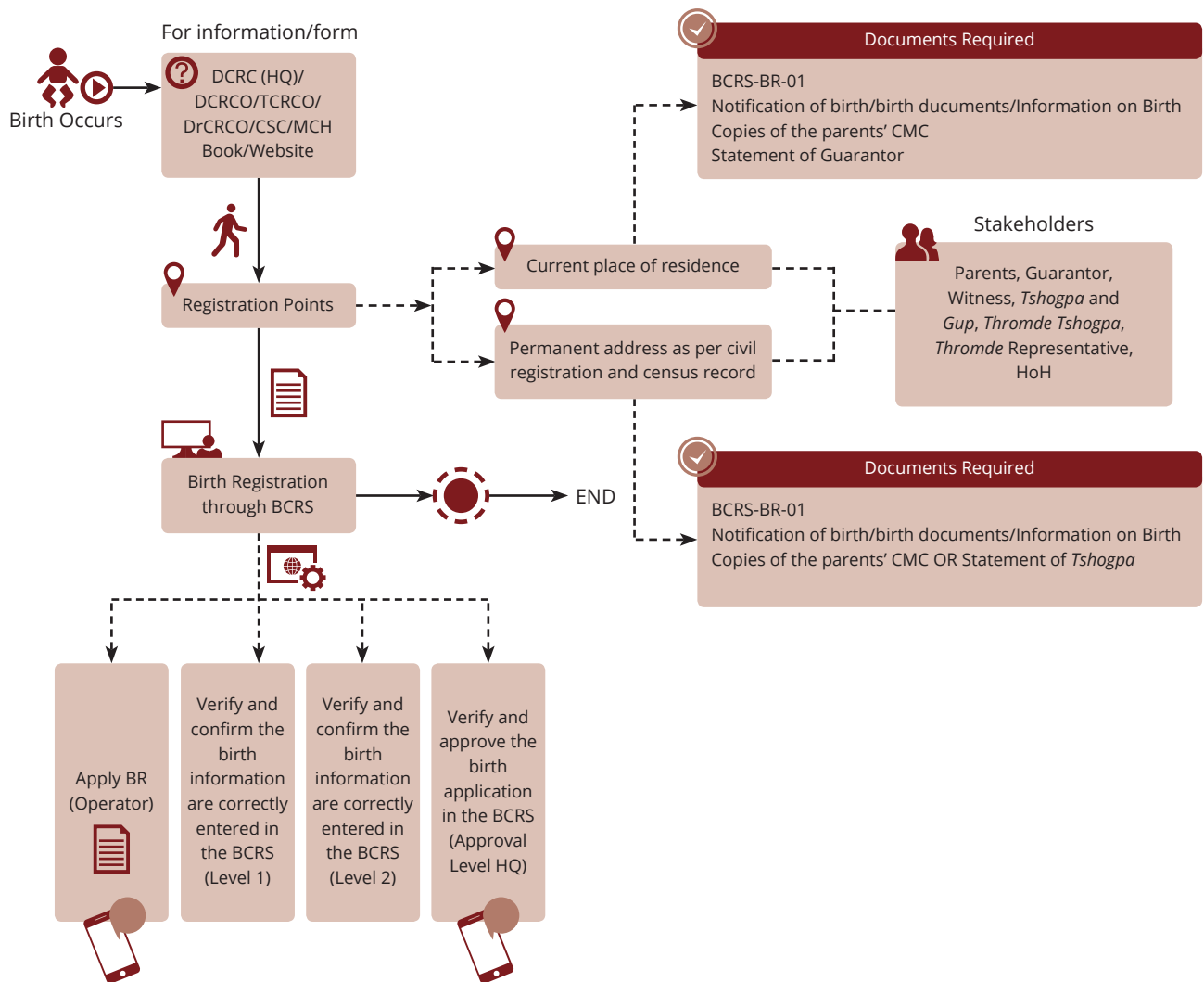
(Signature)

Mr. Thinley Wangchuk

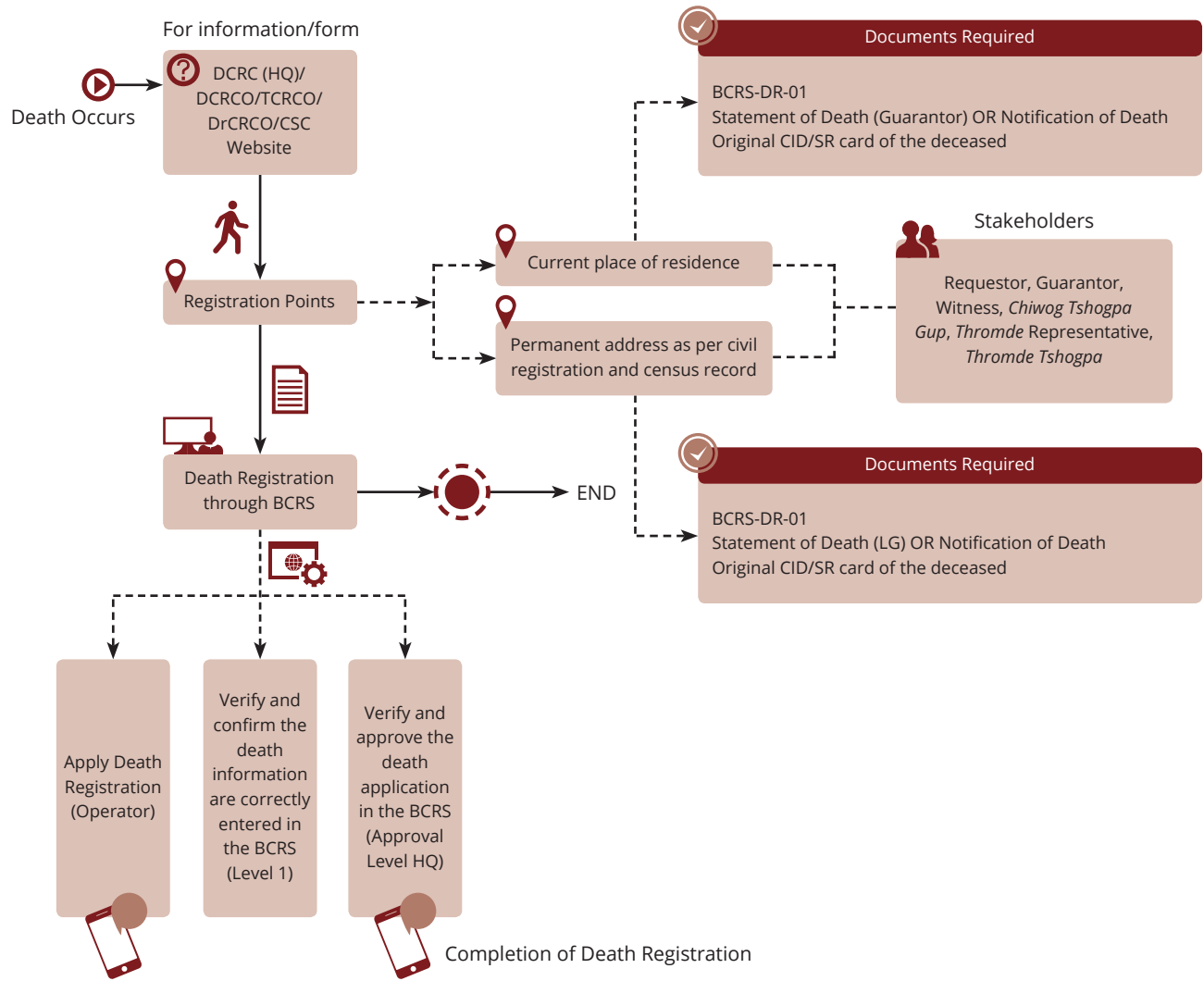
**Chief Civil Registration and Census Officer**

**Department of Civil Registration and Census**

## ANNEXURE III: REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR BIRTHS AND DEATHS



**Figure A1** Process of Birth Registration




**Figure A2** Process of Death Registration

# ANNEXURE IV: FORMS RELATED TO BIRTH AND DEATH REGISTRATION

## Form 1 Birth Registration Form

ཨོ་ཤོ་གཞུང་གི་འཕྲིད་པ་ལྟར་བཞག་ / Form No. BCRS-BR-01

ཤོག་ཁང་མ་ཕེད་ ༡ / Page 1 of 2

	<b>འཕྲིད་པ་དང་སྐྱེལ་འཛིན་རྒྱུ་གཞི། / MINISTRY OF HOME AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS</b> <b>ཞི་བའི་ཚོ་བོད་དང་མི་ཕྱི་སྐད་ལུང་སྐད། / DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL REGISTRATION AND CENSUS</b>								
<b>ཨོ་ཤོ་གཞུང་གི་སྐྱེལ་འཛིན་ལཱ་གཞི། / BIRTH REGISTRATION FORM</b>									
༡.	<b>ཨོ་ཤོ་གཞུང་གི་སྐྱེལ་འཛིན་ལཱ་གཞི། / Particulars of Newborn</b> མིང་/Name: _____ ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་/Date of birth (ཚེས་/DD/ཁྱིམ་/MM/ལོ་/YYYY): <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> ཕ་མོའི་ཕྱི་ལོ་/Sex: <input type="radio"/> རྒྱུ་/Male <input type="radio"/> རྒྱུ་/Female ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་/Time of Birth: _____ ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་/Birth Weight: _____ སྐྱེལ་འཛིན་གནས་ཁང་/Place of Birth: ཕྱི་ལོ་/Country: _____ མིང་ལག་/Dzongkhag _____ མིང་ལག་/ཁྱིམ་ཁྱེ་/Gewog/Thromde _____ ལུང་སྐད་/Village _____ སྐྱེལ་འཛིན་གནས་ཁང་/Place of Delivery: <input type="radio"/> མིང་ལག་ཁྱེ་/Hospital <input type="radio"/> མིང་ལག་ཁྱེ་/BHU <input type="radio"/> ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་/Home <input type="radio"/> ལུང་སྐད་/Others ཕ་མོའི་ལྟ་སྐད་/Mother Tongue: _____ མིང་ལག་/Religion: _____ ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་/Astrological Sign: _____ ད་ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་/Present Address: _____								
༢.	<b>ཨོ་ཤོ་གཞུང་གི་སྐྱེལ་འཛིན་ལཱ་གཞི། / Details of Father:</b> མིང་ལག་ཁྱེ་ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་/ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་ལྟར་ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་ལྟར་ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་ལྟར་/CID/SR/Permit No.: _____ མིང་/Name.: _____ མིང་ལག་/Nationality: _____								
༣.	<b>ཨོ་ཤོ་གཞུང་གི་སྐྱེལ་འཛིན་ལཱ་གཞི། / Details of Mother:</b> མིང་ལག་ཁྱེ་ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་/ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་ལྟར་ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་ལྟར་ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་ལྟར་/CID/SR/Permit No.: _____ མིང་/Name.: _____ མིང་ལག་/Nationality: _____								
༤.	<b>ཨོ་ཤོ་གཞུང་གི་སྐྱེལ་འཛིན་ལཱ་གཞི། / With whom the newborn is to be registered</b> མིང་ལག་ཁྱེ་ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་/ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་ལྟར་ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་ལྟར་ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་ལྟར་/CID/SR/Permit No.: _____ མིང་/Name.: _____ ཨོ་ཤོ་གཞུང་གི་སྐྱེལ་འཛིན་ལཱ་གཞི་དང་ཕྱི་ལོ་ཚེས་/Relation to newborn: _____								

..... ✂ .....

### Birth Registration Form Acknowledgement Receipt

Received duly completed Birth Registration form along with supporting documents from \_\_\_\_\_  
dated \_\_\_\_\_ for registration of \_\_\_\_\_ with the above person in sl.  
No. 4 holding CID/SR/Permit no. \_\_\_\_\_

Seal & Signature of Official

Retain this acknowledgement receipt until you receive confirmation of your child's registration

<p><b>ཕ.</b></p>	<b>རྒྱ་སྐད་ཡིག་ཚང་ / Supporting Documents</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> རྟེན་བཞི་གསལ་བསྐྲུག་སྤོངས་ / Notification of Birth/Birth Documents</li> <li><input type="radio"/> དཔམ་གྱི་གཉིན་ཅམས་ / Court Marriage Certificate of parents</li> <li><input type="radio"/> ཁྱུང་མི་གི་དག་བཛྭ་ / Statement of Guarantor    <input type="radio"/> ཇོག་མའི་གི་དག་བཛྭ་ / Statement of Tshogpa</li> </ul>
<p><b>༦.</b></p>	<b>ཆ་ཙཀ་འབཏ་ཡེན་ / Undertaking</b> ང་གིས་ཧོང་ཕུ་བོ་དྲི་མི་གནས་ཚུལ་ཚུ་བློ་བཟད་པ་དེ་ན་སྟེ་ལྷན་ཞིག་གི་གཤམ་ཨ་བཟོན་ལ་ཐུག་ཅིང་། གསལ་འབཏ་བྱེད་མཁའ་ལྟར་དུ་ཉེས་ཐུག་བྱེད་ཀྱི་ཁུ་བྱི་ཡིན་། <i>I hereby declare that all the information provided herein above is true and correct. If proved to be false, I shall be liable for punishment as per the Law of the Land.</i>  <div style="margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">             Legal stamp           </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-end; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>(Signature)</i></p> <p>ཨ་པའི་མིང་རྟགས་། Sign. of Father</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">ཕྱི་རྩིས་།/Date:</p> </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>(Signature)</i></p> <p>ཨ་པའི་གི་མིང་རྟགས་། Sign. of Mother</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">ཕྱི་རྩིས་།/Date:</p> </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>(Signature)</i></p> <p>ནང་མི་གཙོ་ཚན་གྱི་མིང་རྟགས་། Sign. of Head of Household <i>(Mandatory for newborn registering in a household other than the parents)</i></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">ཕྱི་རྩིས་།/Date:</p> </div> </div>
<p><b>༧.</b></p>	<div style="display: flex;"> <div style="flex: 1; border-right: 1px dashed black; padding-right: 10px;"> <p><b>༧.༡ བཞུགས་ཁུངས་འགྲོ་མཆི་མཆོག་དྲན་འཕྲིལ་། འཇོག་མཁར་རྟེན་འཛིན་གྱི་ཚུ་གོ་དོན་ལ། /For registration of birth from permanent address as per civil registration and census record</b></p>   <p>ཕྱི་འོག་ཇོག་སྤུངས་པ་གི་ཁུ་བྱི་འཛིན་པའི་རྟགས་། Seal &amp; Sign. of Chiwog Tshogpa</p> <p>མི་ཁྲུངས་ངོ་སྟོན་ལག་ཁྱེར་ཨང་། CID No.: _____</p> <p>འཇུག་འཕྲིན་ཨང་། Mobile No: _____</p> <p>ཕྱི་རྩིས་། Date: _____</p>   <p>རྫོང་གི་རྒྱུ་འཛིན་པ་གི་རྟགས་པ་མཆོག་གི་ཁུ་བྱི་འཛིན་པའི་རྟགས་། Seal &amp; Sign. of Gup/Thromde Representative/Thromde Tshogpa</p> <p>མི་ཁྲུངས་ངོ་སྟོན་ལག་ཁྱེར་ཨང་། CID No.: _____</p> <p>འཇུག་འཕྲིན་ཨང་། Mobile No: _____</p> <p>ཕྱི་རྩིས་། Date: _____</p> </div> <div style="flex: 1; padding-left: 10px;"> <p><b>༧.༢ ་ལྗོངས་འགྲོ་མཆི་མཆོག་དྲན་འཕྲིལ་། འཇོག་མཁར་རྟེན་འཛིན་གྱི་ཚུ་གོ་དོན་ལ། /For registration of birth from the Current Place of Residence</b></p>   <p>ཁྱུང་མི་གི་ལག་ཁུ་བྱི་ Thumb impression of Guarantor: _____</p> <p>མི་ཁྲུངས་ངོ་སྟོན་ལག་ཁྱེར་ཨང་། CID No.: _____</p> <p>འཇུག་འཕྲིན་ཨང་། Mobile No: _____</p> <p>ཕྱི་རྩིས་། Date: _____</p>   <p>དཔར་པ་ལྗོངས་འགྲོ་མཆི་ Thumb impression of Witness: _____</p> <p>མི་ཁྲུངས་ངོ་སྟོན་ལག་ཁྱེར་ཨང་། CID No.: _____</p> <p>འཇུག་འཕྲིན་ཨང་། Mobile No: _____</p> <p>ཕྱི་རྩིས་། Date: _____</p> </div> </div>
<p><b>༨.</b></p>	<p><b>འཇུག་ཁྱིམ་པའི་ཚུ་གོ་དོན་ལ་འཇུག་ཁྱིམ་པའི་ཚུ་གོ་དོན་ལ་འཇུག་ཁྱིམ་པའི་ཚུ་གོ་དོན་ལ། Person to be notified after completion of registration in the Bhutan Civil Registration System (BCRS).</b></p> <p>མིང་། Name: _____ གློག་འཕྲིན་ཨང་། email ID: _____</p> <p>འཇུག་འཕྲིན་ཨང་། Mobile No: _____</p>
<p><b>༩.</b></p>	<p><b>གསལ་བཏ་འཇུག་ཡེན་ / For Official Use</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>གསལ་བཏ་ཡེན་ Application No.: _____</span> <span>མི་ཁྲུངས་འཇུག་ཁྱིམ་པའི་ཚུ་གོ་དོན་ལ་འཇུག་ཁྱིམ་པའི་ཚུ་གོ་དོན་ལ་འཇུག་ཁྱིམ་པའི་ཚུ་གོ་དོན་ལ། Seal &amp; Sign. of CSC/DCRCO/TRCRO/DCRC HQ</span> </div> <p style="text-align: right;">ཕྱི་རྩིས་། Date: _____</p>

**Note:**

Version: December 2021

**For Citizens and Special Resident card holders:** Visit nearest Civil Registration and Census Office within **30 days/One Year** of birth occurrence to ensure timely birth registration and to avoid their census drop-out case.

**For MC After 1985 (Children of Marriage Cases between Bhutanese and non-Bhutanese after 1985):** Visit Department of Immigration Head Office, Thimphu within One Year of birth occurrence.

- འབྲུག་པའི་མི་ལུངས་ སྤྱི་ལོ་ ༡༨ ལས་ ༦༥ ལོ་བར་གྱི་ཕོ་མོ་ / a Bhutanese citizen aged 18 to 65 years
- རང་སྐད་ཀྱི་ཕུང་མཚན་ལོ་ ༡ ལོ་ལོན་གྱི་ཕུང་མཚན་ལོ་ ༡ ལོ་ལོན་གྱི་ཕུང་མཚན་ / someone who has known the parents of the newborn for not less than 1 year;
- བཟའ་ཚང་ནང་མི་མཉམ་པའི་ཕུང་མཚན་ / someone from the different household
- ཞིབ་པའི་ཐོབ་ཁོངས་ནང་མི་ཅིས་ཀྱི་ཞིག་ལོག་པ་མཉམ་པའི་ཕུང་མཚན་ / someone other than the employees of Civil Registration and Census



## Form 3 Death Reporting Form

વૈધિગત રીતે સંચાલન / Form No. BCRRS-DR-01

મેળવણી, પૃષ્ઠ ૨ /Page 1 of 2

[illegible]





# Form 4 Statement Form for Death that occur Outside Health Facility in Bhutan

འཕྲིན་ཤོད་ལྟེང་ བེམ་ཡང་ཨེས་འི་ཨང་-07/Form No. BCRS-DR-SD-01

ཤོད་ཁང་སྟེང་ 7 པའི་ 7/ Page 1 of 1



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་། ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN  
ནང་ཁྱིམ་དང་ཕྱི་ལོ་ལྷན་ཁག་། MINISTRY OF HOME AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
ཞི་བའི་ཐོ་གཏོར་དང་མི་ཕྱི་མ་ལས་ཁུངས་། DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL REGISTRATION AND CENSUS

## འབྲུག་ཁྱུ་ལ་ཁབ་ནང་ གསོ་བའི་མཐུན་ཞུན་མེད་མང་ ཤི་ཞུན་བྱུང་བའི་རྒྱུ་བཞིན། STATEMENT OF DEATH THAT OCCUR OUTSIDE HEALTH FACILITY IN BHUTAN

1. ཆེ་འདས་ཤི་མིང་/NAME OF DECEASED	2. ཟླ་པ་ལོ་/AGE (ཆོས་/DD/ཟླ་/ MM/ལོ་/YYYY)	3. རྩ་མོའི་དུང་གི་ཕྱོད་/GENDER	4. ཤི་བའི་ཆོས་ཁུངས་/DATE OF DEATH	5. ཤི་བའི་དུས་ཚོད་/TIME OF DEATH
6. མི་ཁུངས་རྒྱུན་ལག་ཁྱེར་/དམིགས་བསམ་ཀན་མ་སྤྲོད་ཆོག་ཐམས་/ཡམས་འབྲུལ་ཆོག་ཐམས་/CID/SR/PERMIT NO.....				
7. ཤི་བའི་མ་གནས་/Place of Death: རྫོང་ཁག་/Dzongkhag: ..... བྱོད་ལོག་/ཁྲོམ་ཁྱེ་/Gewog/Thromde: ..... ཀུལ་སྟེང་/Village: .....				
8. ཨ་པའི་མིང་/FATHER'S NAME		9. ཨ་པའི་མིང་/MOTHER'S NAME		
10. ཤི་བའི་རྒྱུ་ཞུན་/ཤེས་པ་ཅིན་/PROBABLE CAUSE OF DEATH				
11. ཆེ་འདས་འདི་ མ་ཤི་བའི་རྒྱུ་མ་ རྩ་མོ་ གནས་སྤངས་ཆུ་ཤི་སྤངས་ལས་ མཛོད་བསྐྱེད་ཅིག་བཞིན་/NOTE DOWN BRIEFLY THE DECEASED'S ILLNESS OR CIRCUMSTANCES PRECEDING DEATH				
12(a). གཏན་འཇགས་ཤི་མི་ཕྱི་མ་ཐོ་གཏོར་དང་འཕྲིན་ཤོད་ ཆེ་འདས་ཐོ་གཏོར་འབད་མི་ཆུ་གི་དོན་ལུ་ ཁྱེད་ཀྱི་ཕྱི་མ་ཐོ་གཏོར་དང་འཕྲིན་ཤོད་ མིང་/Only for death reporting from permanent address as per civil registration and census record རྫོང་ཁག་པ་ལོ་ཁྲོམ་ཁྱེ་རྫོང་ཁག་པ་ལོ་ཁྲོམ་ཁྱེ་ཆོག་ཐམས་པའི་མིང་/NAME OF TSHOGPA/THROMDE REPRESENTATIVE/THROMDE TSHOGPA མི་ཁུངས་རྒྱུན་ལག་ཁྱེར་/CID No.: འབྲུལ་འཕྲིན་ལང་/Mobile No.: བེལ་མེད་ཀྱི་ཕྱི་མ་ཐོ་གཏོར་/SEAL/SIGNATURE ཟླ་ཆོས་/Date:		13(a). གཏན་འཇགས་ཤི་མི་ཕྱི་མ་ཐོ་གཏོར་དང་འཕྲིན་ཤོད་ ཆེ་འདས་སྤངས་ཀྱི་ཕྱི་མ་ཐོ་གཏོར་དང་འཕྲིན་ཤོད་ མིང་/Only for death reporting from the Current Place of Residence མིང་/Name: མི་ཁུངས་རྒྱུན་ལག་ཁྱེར་/CID No.: འབྲུལ་འཕྲིན་ལང་/Mobile No.: Present Address: ཀུལ་སྟེང་/Village: བྱོད་ལོག་/ཁྲོམ་ཁྱེ་/Gewog/Thromde: རྫོང་ཁག་/Dzongkhag: རྩ་མོ་མེད་ལག་ཁྱེ་/Thumb impression of GUARANTOR ཟླ་ཆོས་/Date:		
12(b). བྱོད་ལོག་མིང་/NAME OF GUP: མི་ཁུངས་རྒྱུན་ལག་ཁྱེར་/CID No.: འབྲུལ་འཕྲིན་ལང་/Mobile No.: བེལ་མེད་ཀྱི་ཕྱི་མ་ཐོ་གཏོར་/SEAL/SIGNATURE ཟླ་ཆོས་/Date:		13(b). མིང་/Name: མི་ཁུངས་རྒྱུན་ལག་ཁྱེར་/CID No.: འབྲུལ་འཕྲིན་ལང་/Mobile No.: རྩ་མོ་མེད་ལག་ཁྱེ་/Thumb impression of WITNESS ཟླ་ཆོས་/Date:		

ཁྲིམས་ཁྱད་གསལ་  
Legal  
Stamp

## Form 5 Information of Birth that Occur Outside Health Facility in Bhutan

འབྲི་གྲག་ཨང་ བི་མི་ཨང་ཨེ་མ་-༠༡/ Form No. BCRS-IB-01



དཔ་ལ་ཕྱན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།  
ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN  
ནང་མི་ད་དང་སློལ་འཛིན་ཕྱན་ཁག།  
MINISTRY OF HOME AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
ཞི་བའི་ཐོ་བཀོད་དང་མི་ཕྱིས་ལས་ཁུངས།  
DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL REGISTRATION AND CENSUS

འབྲུག་རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ནང་གསེབ་འཕུན་ཁྱེན་མེད་སར་ལུ་ ཨ་ལུ་སྤྱི་བའི་ཁ་གསལ།  
INFORMATION ON BIRTH THAT OCCUR OUTSIDE HEALTH FACILITY IN BHUTAN

ཞིང་ཁོག་/ཁྲོམ་ཁྲིེ་/GEWOG/THROMDE: \_\_\_\_\_ རྫོང་ཁག་/DZONGKHAAG: \_\_\_\_\_

1. ཨ་ལུ་གི་མིང་/NAME OF THE CHILD		2. བོ་མོ་འི་དུའབ་/GENDER		3. སྤྱི་ཚེས་/Date of Birth (ཚེས་/DD/ཟླ་/MM/ལོ་/YYYY)	
4. ཨ་ལུ་འདི་འི་(ཨ་འི་གི་མིང་)/BABY OF (MOTHER' NAME)		5. ཨ་འི་གི་མི་ཁུངས་འཛིན་ཕྱན་ཁག་ཁྱེན་མེད་སར་ལུ་དམིགས་བསལ་གནས་སྤྱོད་ཚུགས་ཐུང་/ལས་འགྲུལ་ཚུགས་ཐུང་/ལས་ཡིག་ཨང་/ MOTHER'S CID/ SRP/ PERMIT/PASSPORT No.			
6. བུང་ཨང་/HOUSE NO.	7. ཁུམ་ཨང་/THRAM NO.	8. གཡུས་/VILLAGE		9. ཞིང་ཁོག་/ཁྲོམ་ཁྲིེ་/GEWOG/THROM-DE	
10. རྫོང་ཁག་/ཕྱི་མི་ཨིན་པ་ཅིན་ཁ་བྱང་བཀོད་/DZONGKHAG/ADDRESS IN CASE OF FOREIGNERS					
11. ཨ་པའི་མིང་/FATHER'S NAME:					
12. ཨ་པའི་མི་ཁུངས་འཛིན་ཕྱན་ཁག་ཁྱེན་མེད་སར་ལུ་དམིགས་བསལ་གནས་སྤྱོད་ཚུགས་ཐུང་/ལས་འགྲུལ་ཚུགས་ཐུང་/ལས་ཡིག་ཨང་/FATHER'S CID/SRP/PERMIT/PASSPORT No.:					
13. བུང་ཨང་/HOUSE NO.	14. ཁུམ་ཨང་/THRAM NO.	15. གཡུས་/VILLAGE		16. ཞིང་ཁོག་/ཁྲོམ་ཁྲིེ་/GEWOG/THROM-DE	
17. རྫོང་ཁག་/ཕྱི་མི་ཨིན་པ་ཅིན་ཁ་བྱང་བཀོད་/DZONGKHAG/ADDRESS IN CASE OF FOREIGNERS					
<p>ང་གིས་གོང་ལུ་བཀོད་སྤྲོད་པའི་གནས་ཚུལ་ཚུ་བྱང་བཀོད་ཀྱི་ཕྱི་ཕྱོད་ཨིན། གཡུས་ཁྱིམ་ ཨ་བཤེན་པའི་གནད་ཁུངས་ལེ་འཛིན་པ་ཅིན་ རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཀྱི་ཁྲིམས་ལུགས་དང་འཁྲིལ་ ཉེས་ཁྲིམས་ཕྱག་ཕྱིད་ཀྱི་ཨིན།</p> <p>I declare that all the information provided above is true and correct. If proved to be false, I shall be liable for punishment as per the Law of the Land.</p>					
18(a). ཚོགས་པ་/ཁྲོམ་ཁྲིེ་འོ་ཚབ་/ཁྲོམ་ཁྲིེ་ཚོགས་པ་གི་མིང་/NAME OF TSHOGPA/THROM-DE REPRESENTATIVE/THROMDE TSHOGPA			19(a). ཁྲོམ་གི་མིང་/NAME OF GUP		
18(b). རིན་མེད་མིང་ཕྱག་པ་དང་སྤྱི་ཚུལ་/SEAL/SIGNATURE & DATE			19(b). རིན་མེད་མིང་ཕྱག་པ་དང་སྤྱི་ཚུལ་/SEAL, SIGNATURE & DATE		

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