

Civil Registration & Vital Statistics in Population Health

An e-Learning Coursera course on using civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems to accurately track trends, implement disease surveillance, plan interventions, and improve public health programming and policies.

Course Overview

In this course, you will learn about the role and importance of CRVS systems for tracking birth, death, and life events in a population. Experts from around the world will explain what CRVS systems are, how they are used, the legal bases for registering vital events, and how to mitigate CRVS system challenges experienced. You will learn how to obtain and assess CRVS data quality, including specific methods such as medical certification of cause of death (MCCOD) and verbal autopsy. The overarching goal is to enable learners to apply CRVS data to public health programming and policymaking.

Who is this course for?

- Global public health professionals who are interested in, or responsible for, the management of population-level data
- Professionals who will benefit from learning the fundamentals of CRVS and their use in global public health
- Digital health specialists, technology industry professionals, and MPH-degree holders who need to expand their knowledge base

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tinyurl.com/yakfk7ax

For info on more courses in this series:

tinyurl.com/ykxwv2ey

Course Modules:

1. Using Data Systems to Count Births, Deaths, and Causes of Death (i.e., medical certification of cause of death, verbal autopsy, data use)
2. Challenges in Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (i.e., data quality, equity and gender considerations)

Course Objectives:

- Define the importance of CRVS and the challenges associated with collecting data on birth, death, and cause of death
- Explain the core functions of CRVS, as well as the formats in which they are implemented
- Consider how to strengthen CRVS systems and address data quality issues, using cause of death interventions as an example
- Understand the importance of using equity and gender-transformative approaches to CRVS, to ensure everyone is counted and no one is left behind

Launched by Johns Hopkins Center for Global Digital Health Innovation with support from Bloomberg Philanthropies' Data for Health Initiative, this course resulted from a collaboration of many global health experts. Multiple partners contributed to its content, including Vital Strategies, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Foundation, Global Health Advocacy Incubator, University of New South Wales, Sydney, and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Bloomberg Philanthropies funded this course, with co-funding from the Australian government and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.