



Civil registration means governments know that their citizens exist, when they were born and when they have died. Without functioning Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) systems people who are left behind will remain invisible and uncoun-  
ted.

# CIVIL REGISTRATION

Globally, around 65% of all births are registered. According to household survey data, only 33% of births are registered for people in the P20.

A functioning Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) system that records vital events in citizens' lives such as birth, death and marriage is a bellwether of progress for people in the P20. The poorest people who are on the margins of society are also the ones who are largely unregistered.

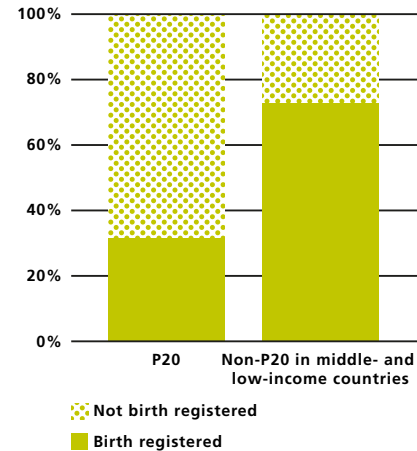
- People who have evidence of their legal identity are better equipped to access education, health services, social protection and employment, to open a bank account and buy or sell assets such as land.
- Civil registration is fundamental to women's empowerment, increasing independent control over property, inheritance and family relationships.

- Children who have been registered are better protected from early marriage, child labour and exploitation.
- If a child's birth is not registered, their death is unlikely to be recorded in the CRVS system, leading to underestimation of progress on infant mortality.

Furthermore, without improved CRVS systems, countries are limited in their ability to deliver on Agenda 2030 as vital statistics are impossible to track accurately.

The P20 Initiative will monitor the expansion of CRVS systems in support of Sustainable Development Goal target 16.9, to provide legal identity for all including birth registration.

**IN THE P20 ONLY ONE THIRD OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE HAD THEIR BIRTHS REGISTERED**



CIVIL REGISTRATION



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**THE P20 ARE THE PEOPLE IN THE POOREST 20% OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION**

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