In Nepal, only 77% of children have had their birth registered. Registering children at birth is the first step in securing children's recognition before the law, safeguarding their rights, and ensuring that any violation of these rights does not go unnoticed. Children who are not registered may not be able to access services such as education, health care, labor market and social security.

- Of children below five years of age whose births were registered, 6% do not have a birth certificate, which is a required document for accessing services.
- Despite the legal requirement that requires newborns to be registered within 35 days of birth, only 59% of children had their birth registered before their first birthday.
- Sudurpaschim and Karnali standout amongst the provinces for having higher rates of birth registration.
- Interestingly, children from the poorest households are more likely to be registered than are children from richest households.
- Although most mothers/caretakers know how to register a child's birth, among children who are not registered, mothers/caretakers from the poorest households or have no education are less likely to know how to register their child's birth.
The Nepal Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) was carried out in 2019 by the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) as part of the global MICS programme. Technical support was provided by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), UNICEF and Government of Nepal provided financial support.

The objective of this snapshot is to disseminate selected findings from the Nepal MICS 2019 related to Birth Registration. Data from this snapshot can be found in table PR.1.1 in the Survey Findings Report.

Further statistical snapshots and the Survey Findings Report for this and other surveys are available on mics.unicef.org/surveys.