



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF
NATIONAL REGISTRATION
PASSPORT AND CITIZENSHIP



BIRTH REGISTRATION
COVERAGE SURVEY 2017

“...it’s a small paper but it actually establishes who you are and gives access to the rights and privileges, and the obligations, of citizenship.”

(Archbishop Desmond Tutu,
February, 2005)



CRVS and the SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



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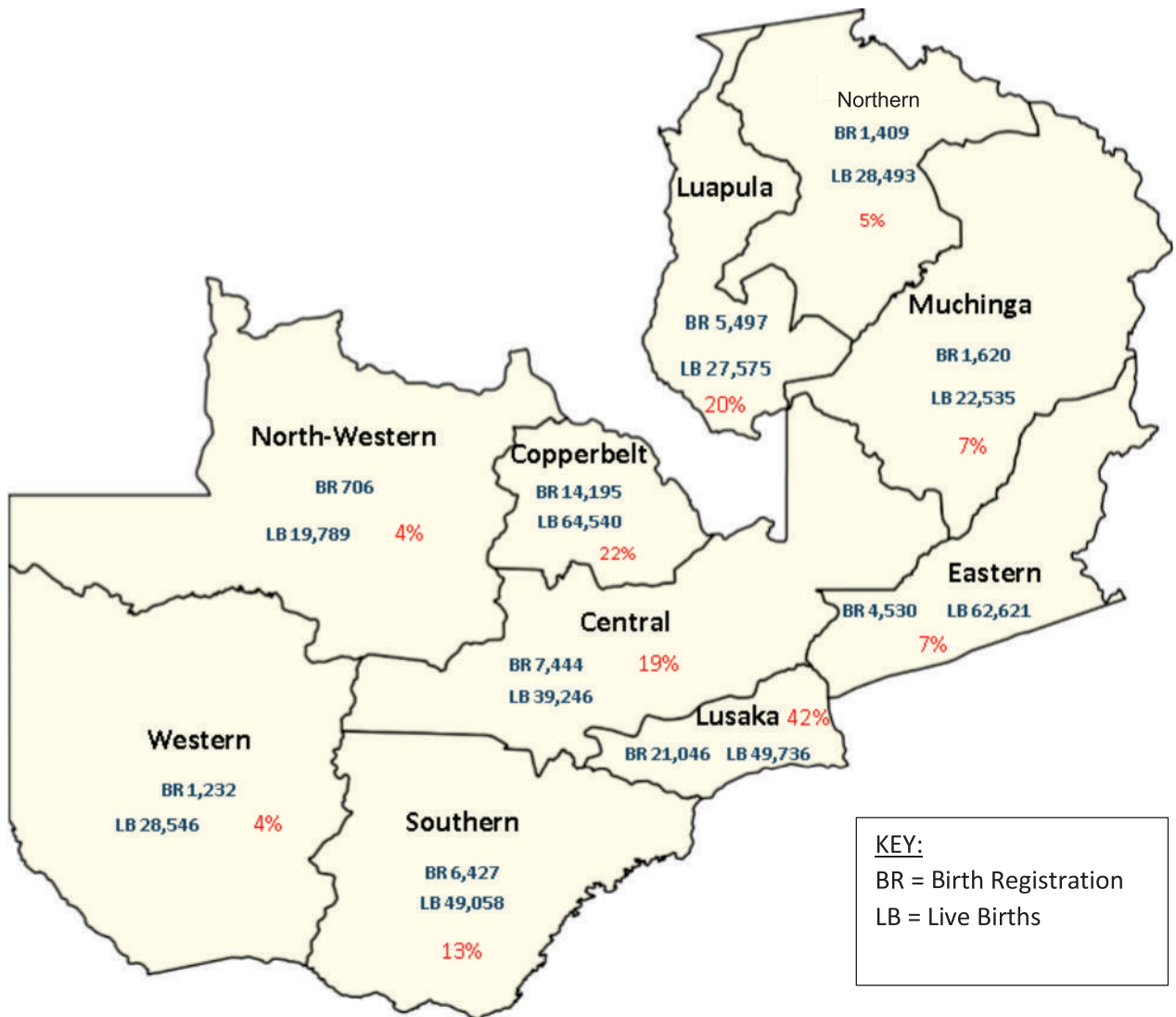


EUROPEAN UNION



EU – UNICEF SUPPORT TO BIRTH REGISTRATION IN ZAMBIA

@ DNRPC 2017



Live Births and Birth Registration Coverage by Province, 2016

PREFACE

The global concern for the need to have all births registered by 2030 is evident in targets of 16.9 and 17.19 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This is important given the need to protect all children because a child who is not registered is in danger of being shut out of society – denied the right to an official identity, a recognised name and a nationality (UNICEF, 2002). To this end, and arising from the road map to scale up birth registration in Zambia, as espoused in the 2015 – 2019 National Strategic Action Plan, and in view of the regional and global goals, the Department of National Registration, Passport and Citizenship (DNRPC) in collaboration with key stakeholders with support from development partners has intensified efforts to contribute to the realisation of the set goals.

One of the important projects which seeks to increase the registration of births in the country through robust interventions is the EU/UNICEF supported project dubbed, “towards universal birth registration in Africa”. This is a three year project which aims at contributing to an increase in the registration of children in Zambia, among other named countries.

In order to measure the impact of the interventions under the project, a survey was conducted to determine the baseline for birth registration and certification in all the ten Provinces of Zambia for children under the age of five. UNICEF provided financial support to the Department of National Registration, Passport and Citizenship (DNRPC) to conduct the Birth Registration Coverage Survey which included the following activities:

1. Questionnaire development –by the DNRPC Headquarters task team;
2. Orientation of District Registrars by Provincial Registrars on the data collection tools and processes of collecting birth registration data;
3. Collection of data from the District Registration and Health Officers; and
4. Data entry, analysis and report writing.

The information collected using the questionnaires on birth registration was extracted from the District Birth Registration Registers for 2013-2016. In addition, data on health facility based live births was obtained at district level and availed to District Registrars.

This report summarizes the findings for the 2017 ‘Birth Registration Coverage Survey’ carried out by the Department of National Registration, Passport and Citizenship (DNRPC) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH).

The Birth Registration Coverage Survey of 2017 was based on complete enumeration using administrative records and the findings are consistent with the other studies conducted in the Country.



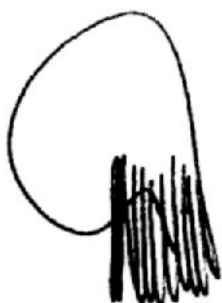
Pamela C. Kabamba
Permanent secretary (CRAIR)
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of National Registration Passports and Citizenship (DNRPC) is the civil registration authority which is responsible for birth and death registration among other things. The Department is implementing the 2015 – 2019 National Strategic Action Plan for Reforming and Improving Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in the Country. With support from UNICEF, the DNRPC in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and other stakeholders undertook a baseline survey to determine birth registration and certification coverage so that the findings can be used to measure the impact of current strategies being implemented.

Special gratitude goes to Ministry of Health for their cooperation and making administrative information available for the purpose of this study. My office further acknowledges all CRVS Technical Working Group members who were involved in their various capacities in coordinating and conducting various stages of the survey including the data collection, processing, analysis and writing of this report.

I further more wish to appreciate most sincerely the financial support from EU-UNICEF towards this undertaking which has brought out a clearer picture in terms of birth registration coverage for children under the age of five. It is hoped that, at the end of the implementation period for the EU/UNICEF supported project, it will be easier to measure the impact attributable to this particular intervention.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, loopy initial 'M' followed by several vertical, slightly wavy lines representing the surname 'Nyirongo'.

Mathews Nyirongo

Registrar General

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL REGISTRATION, PASSPORT AND CITIZENSHIP

Contents

| | |
|--|-----|
| PREFACE | iii |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENT | iv |
| LIST OF ACRONYMS | vi |
| Executive Summary | vii |
| CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION..... | 1 |
| 1.0 Introduction..... | 1 |
| 1.2 Problem Statement | 1 |
| 1.3 Rationale of the survey | 2 |
| 1.4 Overall objective..... | 2 |
| 1.4.1 Specific objectives | 2 |
| CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW AND SURVEY SCOPE | 3 |
| 2.1 Introduction to literature review..... | 3 |
| 2.2 Birth Registration Status | 3 |
| 2.3 Coverage of the baseline survey | 5 |
| CHAPTER 3: SURVEY METHODOLOGY..... | 6 |
| 3.1 Coverage | 6 |
| 3.2 Data collection | 6 |
| 3.3 Data processing | 6 |
| 3.4 Estimation | 6 |
| 4.0 CHAPTER FOUR: SURVEY RESULTS | 7 |
| 4.1 Birth registration coverage 2013 to 2016..... | 7 |
| 4.1.1 Birth registration for children under twelve months (2013 – 2016)..... | 7 |
| 4.1.2 Birth registration for children aged 1 – 4 years (2013 – 2016) | 9 |
| 4.1.3 Birth registration for children under five years (2013 – 2016) | 11 |
| 4.1.4 Birth registration for children aged 5 - 15 years (2013 – 2016)..... | 14 |
| 4.1.5 Birth registration for adults above 15 years (2013 – 2016)..... | 15 |
| 4.2 Recorded live births per Province..... | 15 |
| 5.0 DISCUSSION | 17 |
| 6.0 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY | 18 |
| 7.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS | 19 |
| REFERENCES | 20 |

LIST OF ACRONYMS

| | |
|---------------|---|
| BR | Birth Registration |
| BS | Baseline Survey |
| CRVS | Civil Registration and Vital Statistics |
| CSO | Central Statistical Office |
| DHIO | District Health Information Officer |
| NRPC | Department of National Registration, Passport & Citizenship |
| DR | District Registrar |
| EU | European Union |
| HIO | Health Information Officer |
| HFB | Health Facility Based |
| MoH | Ministry of Health |
| MoHA | Ministry of Home Affairs |
| NHFP | Non-health facility based |
| PR | Provincial Registrar |
| RB | Registered Births |
| SSA | Sub Sahara Africa |
| UNICEF | United Nations Development Fund |
| WHO | World Health Organisation |
| ZDHS | Zambia Demographic and Health Survey |

Executive Summary

The recent drive to push the civil registration agenda lies in the realization by countries on the importance of having a robust system that captures the occurrence of vital events. Registration of vital events is key to monitoring development goals and evaluating various health interventions. A birth is therefore one such vital event that needs to be captured as soon as it occurs. In addition to its statistical significance, birth Registration is the right for every child and it is crucial for the protection of children from age related abuses such as child marriage, child labor, illegal adoption, sexual exploitation and child trafficking. It further ensures that children in conflict with the law are not treated as adults in an event of asylum seeking and judicial proceedings. Regardless of these benefits, Birth Registration is very low in Zambia.

According to the 2013-14 Zambia Demographic Health Survey (ZDHS), birth registration coverage in Zambia for children under the age of five stands at eleven (11) Percent. In view of this low coverage, the Department of National Registration Passport and Citizenship (DNRPC) in collaboration with various stakeholders and with support from Cooperating partners has been working on reforming and improving Civil Registration.

There are a number of interventions that have been put in place to drive forward the birth registration agenda. Among these efforts, is the implementation of the EU/UNICEF supported project dubbed “towards universal birth registration in Zambia” for the period 2017 to 2019. In order to measure the impact of this project, the DNRPC in Conjunction with Ministry of Health (MoH) conducted baseline birth registration coverage survey to determine coverage at baseline (2016). The survey was successfully conducted and some of the major findings are as shown below:

| # | AGEGROUP | YEAR | COVERAGE |
|---|---------------------------|------|----------|
| 1 | Children below 12 Months | 2016 | 7.1 % |
| 2 | Children aged 1 – 4 years | 2016 | 9.2 % |
| 3 | Children under five years | 2016 | 16.3 % |

The table above shows that Birth Registration coverage for children under the age of five years is still low at 16 percent. The survey however was not able to measure certification due to none existence of records for issued certificates. The Department therefore needs to create mechanism to track issuance of certificates to registered children.

The report has brought out a number of issues and key among them is that birth registration coverage is increasing at a very low pace, largely due to centralized certification and lack of incentives for birth registration as explained in the National Strategic Action Plan (NSAP). It is therefore recommended that more effort needs to be directed towards resource mobilization to enable full implementation of activities in the NSAP.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

The United Nations defines Civil Registration as a Continuous, Permanent Compulsory and Universal recording of the occurrence and characteristics of vital events pertaining to the population in accordance with the legal requirements of a Country (UNESA, 2014). Adequate civil registration data which achieve a high level of coverage at the National level also helps Governments plan effectively for socio-economic services.

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Target 16.9 provides for legal identity for all by 2030 and emphasizes the need for every birth to be registered and certified. In Zambia birth registration is mandatory according to the Birth and Death Registration Act Chapter 51 of the Laws of Zambia. In spite of the above piece of legislation having been effected on 14th March, 1973, the coverage of birth registration is low. According to the 2013/14 Zambia Demographic Health Survey (ZDHS) Report, birth registration coverage in Zambia stands at 11.3 percent. In this regard, interventions have been put in place to scale up birth registration, among other vital events. One of these is scaling up birth registration through the ‘towards universal birth registration’ project supported by EU/UNICEF.

Emanating from the above, the Department of National Registration Passport and Citizenship (DNRPC) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH) conducted a birth registration survey in 2017 in order to establish a baseline on birth registration coverage countrywide. To achieve this, DNRPC designed a questionnaire which was distributed to District Registrars in all the ten Provinces. Through this questionnaire data was collected on birth registration of children below the age of five years to measure the extent of coverage and certification. The survey further collected data on children aged five (5) to fifteen (15) years and persons above the age of sixteen (16) years during the period 2013 to 2016 to understand delays in registration practices. Administrative records from the Ministry of Health (MoH) were used to collect data on live births and from DNRPC to determine registered births.

1.2 Problem Statement

Birth registration is both a fundamental human right and an essential means of protecting a child’s right to identity. Despite the imperative evident need for birth registration, most births in Zambia are not registered. The 2013/14 Zambia Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS) report showed that only 20.4 percent of urban and 6.7 percent of rural births were registered (CSO, 2015). Among those registered, 9.1 percent of children reported to have birth certificates were in urban areas and 1.5 percent in rural areas. This represents a drop in previous national data in the 2007 ZDHS with urban areas reporting 27.7 percent and rural areas 8.6 percent (CSO, 2009). Although notification is free, only few parents register their children early. The 2016 - 19 EU/UNICEF supported project is focused on scaling up birth registration in Zambia. In order to determine the impact of the interventions espoused in the project, the need for a baseline survey is inevitable.

1.3 Rationale of the survey

Accurate recording and reporting of births registered are public goods that enable the monitoring of progress towards achieving health related targets such as the 2030 United Nations SDGs (UNICEF, 2015). In order to effectively monitor the progress made towards the achievement of global and national targets, Zambia has embarked on the improvement of the CRVS system. Hence, the need to determine the success of interventions put in place to improve civil registration, especially birth registration, through the baseline cannot be over emphasized.

1.4 Overall objective

To determine the birth registration and certification coverage for children below the age of five years and delayed registration for children aged 5-15 years and persons aged 16 years and above registered during the period 2013 to 2016. Focus of analysis is on birth registration for the age group 0 – 4 years with a light touch on the other age groups.

1.4.1 Specific objectives

1. To determine the extent to which live births are registered.
2. To determine the extent to which births were certified.

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW AND SURVEY SCOPE

2.1 Introduction to literature review

The purpose of the survey was to estimate birth registration coverage using administrative records from 82 districts in 2017. A review of the literature explored the current global, regional and local status of birth registration. A CRVS system with high coverage and accurate coding of births and deaths remains the gold standard source of continuous registration data on births (UNECA/WB, 2014). Various sources of literature with focus on birth registration and coverage were reviewed. The documents reviewed include: the CRVS comprehensive assessment report (DNRPC, 2014), the survey assessing the feasibility of integrating birth and death registration in the community systems (DNRPC, 2012) conducted in Chief Mumena's Chiefdom, the 2013/2014 Zambia Demographic and Health Survey report and the 2015 SAVVY Baseline Census report (CSO/DNRPC, 2016).

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines birth registration as the official recording of the birth of a child by an administrative process of the state. It is a permanent and official record of a child's existence. Birth registration results in the issuance of a birth certificate which is defined as 'the first official acknowledgement of a child's existence by the State and is essential if they are to access other rights'. A birth certificate according to Desmond Tutu "...is a small paper but it actually establishes who you are and gives access to the rights and the privileges, and the obligations, of citizenship." It is therefore an important event that each country must direct resources to ensure births are registered by a functional administrative system supported by robust legal framework (PLAN, 2005).

2.2 Birth Registration Status

Globally, 230 million children under the age of five are not registered. Sub-Sahara Africa (SSA) is home to 85 million of these children, while 135 million live in Asia and the Pacific (UNICEF, 2012). This differs with the status of birth registration in developed countries with rates as high as 99.9%. In most developing countries; national averages mask disparities between regions and between urban and rural areas.

In Africa, regional improvement of civil registration coordinated by the Economic Commission for Africa under the Africa Program for Accelerated Improvement of civil registration and Vital Statistics (APAI-CRVS) has advised and guided member countries to conduct CRVS comprehensive assessments as part of efforts to strengthen the CRVS system. In Zambia, this assessment was conducted between December 2013 and January 2014. It was undertaken to understand the current status of the system whose results were used as inputs in the process of reviewing and finalizing the National Strategic Action Plan for reforming and improving Civil Registration and Vital Statistics.

The assessment evaluated the CRVS environment highlighting bottlenecks in birth registration. Lack of information on the importance of Civil Registration was identified during the assessment. For individuals that were aware, lack of birth registration services was a deterrent. Other challenges included lengthy certification process in the centralized system. This led to delays in the issuance of birth certificates hence a disincentive to birth registration. The

assessment was comprehensive as it highlighted most of the issues affecting CRVS in Zambia and made recommendations. It was proposed that a communication strategy be implemented to disseminate information on the importance of birth registration and also the review of the CRVS legal framework to provide for decentralised certification.

A survey on assessing the feasibility of the integration of birth and death registration in the community system was done in Chief Mumena's chiefdom in September 2012. The objectives of the survey was to understand from the traditional leadership's perspective the feasibility of a traditional organizational structure to support universal vital registration interventions and how the system could sustain vital registration activities. Based on the interaction with the chief, the report revealed that the use of community volunteers was feasible in conducting birth and death registration in communities using the traditional structures.

The ZDHS 2013/14 shows that only 11.3 percent of children below the age of five years are registered with the civil registration authority. It further shows that, only 4 percent of the under five children have birth certificates. According to the report, birth registration is higher in urban areas at 20 percent than in rural areas at 7 percent. Copperbelt Province had the highest coverage at 24 percent while Northern Province was the least with 2 percent.

One of the most recent surveys conducted is the Sample Vital Registration with Verbal Autopsy (SAVVY) baseline census, conducted in 2015 between April and June as part of the implementation of the SAVVY in Zambia. The SAVVY process focused on the collection of household information from sampled areas across the country. Among the information collected, was the demographic information about household members including information on birth registration. The sample was representative at national and provincial levels and collected information on all eligible age groups.

The baseline census report indicates that, the percentage of persons with birth certificates in the population 0-44 years old is 4.1 percent. It also showed that the percentage of registration varied by age group showing that only 14 percent were registered in the age group 5-9 years and 11.4 percent in the age group 0-4 years. While this was the case for registration coverage, the same age groups reported only 3.3 percent and 2.7 percent having received birth certificates respectively. The report further shows that, out of the 809,261 children born 16 months before the baseline census in Zambia, 71,215 representing 8.8 percent were registered. Further, registration across the Provinces varied with the lowest percentage having been reported in Eastern Province at 0.6 percent. Furthermore, the report shows that, lack of knowledge in the sampled population at 82.8 percent, was overwhelmingly the main reason why the children born 16 months before the SAVVY were not registered in Zambia.

The findings on birth registration coverage were similar to those in the 2013/14 ZDHS report showing to a larger extent an agreement with the findings in the comprehensive assessment which reported that lack of information as a major barrier to birth registration.

In conclusion, the table below provides a comparison of coverage estimates on birth registration between the SAVVY Baseline Census Report and the ZDHS 2013/14 survey report.

Table 1: Coverage estimates on birth registration

| Type of report | Category | Percent distribution of coverage in age groups | | |
|--|------------|--|-------------|-------------|
| | | 0-4 years | 5 – 9 years | 10-44 years |
| Zambia Demographic and Health Survey 2013/14 | Registered | 11 | N/A | N/A |
| | Certified | 4 | N/A | N/A |
| SAVVY Baseline Census Report 2015 | Registered | 11.4 | 14.0 | 4.1 |
| | Certified | 2.7 | 3.3 | 4.1 |

Table 1 above shows that, there is still a gap as the information provided by the two reports is not consistent across the age-groups thereby making it very difficult to determine the baseline to be used. This gap is what this survey hopes to bridge by providing accurate information on coverage by age groups using data from all children registered between 2013 and 2016. It will therefore show clearly coverage in each year for various categories in the under-five age group.

2.3 Coverage of the baseline survey

This survey was conducted over a period of one month (beginning 1st September to 30th September 2017) capturing all births entered in the district registers from 2013 to 2016. The birth registration survey was undertaken in all the 10 Provinces of Zambia covering all the 82 districts with an established DNRPC office as shown in appendix 3. The data collected on registered children included, number of births, sex, age and place of birth (district).

CHAPTER 3: SURVEY METHODOLOGY

3.0 Methodology

Presentation of methodology includes coverage, design, data collection and estimation.

3.1 Coverage

The study covered all districts. These were the 82 functional districts with registration offices. Data was collected for all births that were registered between 2013 and 2016.

3.2 Data collection

Questionnaires were distributed through the Provincial Registrars. The source of data were administrative records of registers at relevant district offices. Each questionnaire was completed by the District Registrars and District Health Information Officers.

3.3 Data processing

Microsoft Excel and SPSS (version 20) was used in processing the data.

3.4 Estimation

Estimates of coverage of birth registration were produced at District level.

The formula used is given below:

$$\frac{\textit{Births_registered}}{\textit{Live_births}} \times 100 = \textit{Coverage Rate}$$

Analysis domains were districts and the results were aggregated to the Provincial and National levels for presentation.

4.0 CHAPTER FOUR: SURVEY RESULTS

4.1 Birth registration coverage 2013 to 2016

Birth Registration coverage focused on collecting data on births registered according to age groups. The aim is to provide an understanding of coverage according to specific age groups with focus on under five children. Analysis in this chapter is based on the following broad age groups; less than one year (<1), 1-4 years, Less than five years (<5), five to fifteen years (5-15) and 16 years and older (>16). This is aimed at giving a clear picture on the number of people registered under each age group and also to provide detailed information on the age groups of interest under the sustainable development goals.

4.1.1 Birth registration for children under twelve months (2013 – 2016)

In Zambia, according to the Birth and Death Registration Act Cap 51 of the Laws of Zambia, births should be notified within one month for current registration and within two (2) to twelve (12) months for late registration. For Children registered after one year, reasons to support the delay must be furnished to the Registrar General. This section therefore shows registration for children below one year as shown in the Figure 1 and Table 2.

Figure 1: Number of births registered for children below 12 months, Zambia- 2013 - 2016

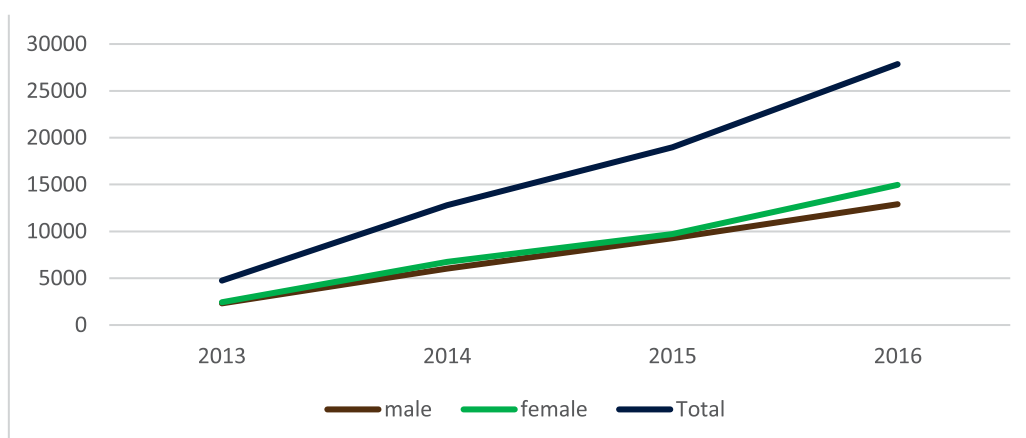


Figure 1 shows the trends in the number of registered children aged 0 – 12 months for the period 2013 to 2016. The figure shows coverage increased from 1.4 percent in 2013 to 7.1 percent in 2016. However, even if the graphical presentation in figure 1 shows an increase in the number of children registered from 4,745 in 2013 to 27,858 in 2016, the number of children registered in 2016 only accounts for 7.1 percent of children registered out of the total number of children born in that year.

Table 2: Percentage distribution of registered children aged 0-12 months by Province from 2013 - 2016

| Province | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Central | 1.2 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 7.5 |
| Copperbelt | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.7 | 7.9 |
| Eastern | 1.6 | 2.3 | 2.7 | 3.6 |
| Luapula | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.6 | 10.1 |
| Lusaka | 0.4 | 12.8 | 9.4 | 24.2 |
| Muchinga | 0.2 | 7.7 | 3.7 | 3.2 |
| North Western | 1.9 | 1.1 | 1.8 | 1.7 |
| Northern | 0.7 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 2.6 |
| Southern | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.9 |
| Western | 1.5 | 0.9 | 2.0 | 1.7 |
| National | 1.4 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 7.1 |

Table 2 shows the total number of births registered for children aged 0 – 12 months by year and Province for the period 2013 to 2014. The table shows that, in 2013 Copperbelt Province had the highest number of registered births (1,399) while Muchinga Province had the least (36). In 2016, however, Lusaka Province had the highest number of registered births (12,047) followed by Copperbelt Province (5,114). North Western Province had the least number of registered birth with only 329. There are no marked differences in the registration of births by sex of the child. Any such differences could be explained in terms of the differences in the number of male and female children under the age of twelve months in the population.

Table 3: Births registered for children under 12 months by sex and Province (2013 – 2016)

| PROVINCE | Births Registered 2013 | | | Births Registered 2014 | | | Births Registered 2015 | | | Births Registered 2016 | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | M | F | Total | M | F | Total | M | F | Total | M | F | Total |
| Central | 195 | 195 | 390 | 132 | 125 | 257 | 178 | 164 | 342 | 1,381 | 1,558 | 2,939 |
| Copperbelt | 676 | 723 | 1,399 | 802 | 992 | 1,794 | 1,617 | 1,949 | 3,566 | 2,569 | 2,545 | 5,114 |
| Eastern | 440 | 442 | 882 | 655 | 674 | 1,329 | 784 | 827 | 1,611 | 1,184 | 1,091 | 2,275 |
| Luapula | 386 | 449 | 835 | 429 | 555 | 984 | 765 | 516 | 1,281 | 1,221 | 1,552 | 2,773 |
| Lusaka | 86 | 78 | 164 | 2,776 | 2,909 | 5,685 | 4,202 | 4,186 | 8,388 | 5,263 | 6,784 | 12,047 |
| Muchinga | 19 | 17 | 36 | 730 | 808 | 1,538 | 653 | 763 | 1,416 | 364 | 359 | 723 |
| North Western | 179 | 185 | 364 | 37 | 185 | 222 | 80 | 281 | 361 | 116 | 213 | 329 |
| Northern | 90 | 85 | 175 | 188 | 229 | 417 | 182 | 201 | 383 | 360 | 394 | 754 |
| Southern | 37 | 57 | 94 | 148 | 172 | 320 | 232 | 269 | 501 | 189 | 228 | 417 |
| Western | 204 | 202 | 406 | 141 | 108 | 249 | 571 | 572 | 1,143 | 249 | 238 | 487 |
| National | 2,312 | 2,433 | 4,745 | 6,038 | 6,757 | 12,795 | 9,264 | 9,728 | 18,992 | 12,896 | 14,962 | 27,858 |

4.1.2 Birth registration for children aged 1 – 4 years (2013 – 2016)

This section analyses registration coverage for children aged 1 - 4 years. It shows the trend in numbers registered from 2013 to 2016, percent coverage and births registered by sex and Province.

Figure 2: Number of births registered for children aged 1-4 years, 2013 - 2016

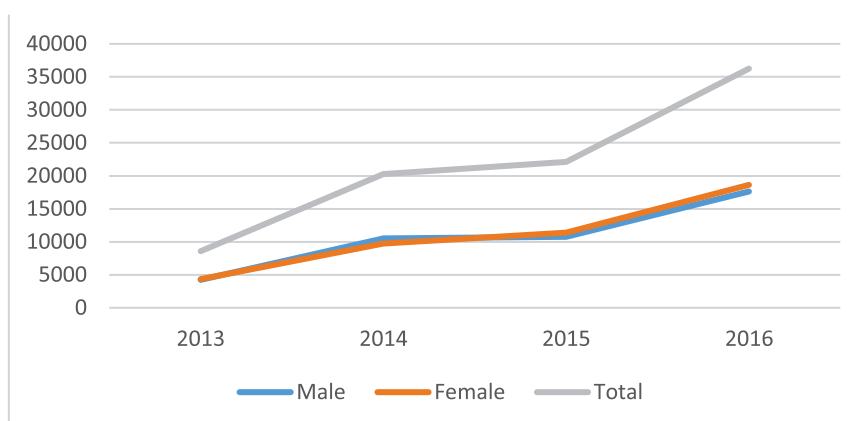


Figure 2 above shows the trends in the number of children aged 1 – 4 years registered for the period 2013 to 2016, whereas, Table 4 below shows the trends in the percentage of birth registration coverage for the same age group and in the same time period. Similar to the registration of children below one year, there has been a big increase in the number of registered children aged 1-4 years since 2013. Much of this increase was recorded in the years 2013 to 2014 and 2015 to 2016.

Table 4: Percent distribution of birth registration coverage for Children Aged 1-4 Years by Province from 2013 to 2016

| Province | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Central | 2.2 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 11.5 |
| Copperbelt | 4.8 | 5.5 | 5.1 | 14.1 |
| Eastern | 1.9 | 4.4 | 1.9 | 3.6 |
| Luapula | 3.0 | 5.5 | 4.9 | 9.9 |
| Lusaka | 0.5 | 12.5 | 6.4 | 18.1 |
| Muchinga | 0.4 | 15.0 | 4.7 | 4.0 |
| North Western | 3.8 | 1.5 | 2.4 | 1.9 |
| Northern | 0.4 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 2.3 |
| Southern | 3.1 | 4.2 | 2.6 | 12.3 |
| Western | 2.7 | 1.6 | 2.8 | 2.6 |
| National | 2.5 | 5.1 | 3.8 | 9.2 |

Table 4 above shows percentage distribution of registered births for children aged 1 – 4 years by Province. The table shows that the national registration coverage for the children aged 1-4 years for 2016 is 9.2 percent, which is 2.1 percentage points higher than that of children below one year of age for the same year.

Figure 3: Births registered for children aged 1 - 4 years by Province, 2016

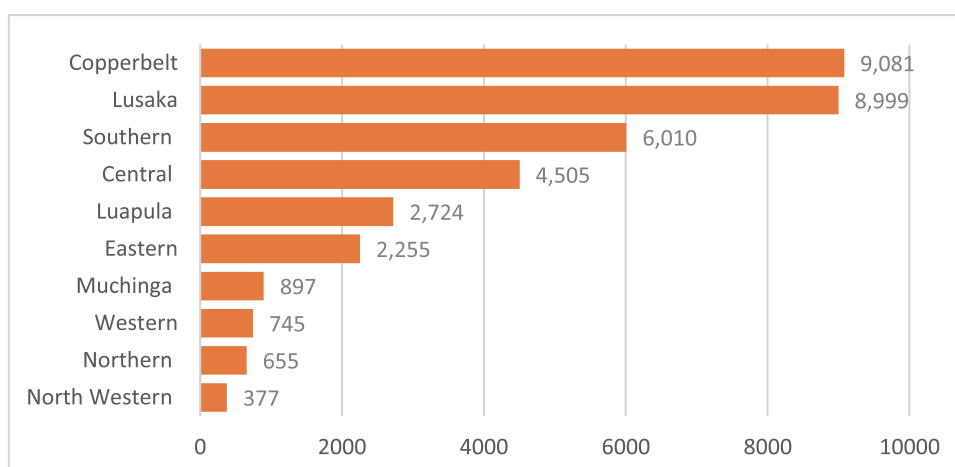


Figure 3 shows the total number of births registered for children aged 1 – 4 years by Province for the year 2016. Copperbelt Province has the highest number of children aged 1-4 that were registered (9,081), whereas North Western Province has the least at 377.

The numbers in figure 3 above are disaggregated by sex and year in table 5 below. The table shows the total number of births registered for children aged 1 – 4 years for the period 2013 to 2016. Copperbelt recorded the highest number of children registered in this age group across all the four years with Northern and North Western Provinces recording the lowest.

Table 5: Births registered for children aged 1-4 years by sex and Province (2013 – 2016)

| PROVINCE | <i>Births Registered 2013</i> | | | <i>Births Registered 2014</i> | | | <i>Births Registered 2015</i> | | | <i>Births Registered 2016</i> | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | <i>M</i> | <i>F</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>M</i> | <i>F</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>M</i> | <i>F</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>M</i> | <i>F</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| Central | 364 | 334 | 698 | 100 | 95 | 195 | 175 | 179 | 354 | 2,143 | 2,362 | 4,505 |
| Copperbelt | 1,404 | 1,421 | 2,825 | 1,855 | 2,127 | 3,982 | 2,885 | 3,845 | 6,730 | 3,912 | 5,169 | 9,081 |
| Eastern | 474 | 552 | 1,026 | 1,210 | 1,378 | 2,588 | 534 | 618 | 1,152 | 938 | 1,317 | 2,255 |
| Luapula | 482 | 462 | 944 | 971 | 909 | 1,880 | 958 | 800 | 1,758 | 1,413 | 1,311 | 2,724 |
| Lusaka | 109 | 110 | 219 | 3,336 | 2,203 | 5,539 | 2,869 | 2,872 | 5,741 | 4,790 | 4,209 | 8,999 |
| Muchinga | 31 | 35 | 66 | 1,420 | 1,599 | 3,019 | 1,011 | 784 | 1,795 | 454 | 443 | 897 |
| N/Western | 379 | 369 | 748 | 143 | 171 | 314 | 279 | 206 | 485 | 188 | 189 | 377 |
| Northern | 59 | 52 | 111 | 124 | 126 | 250 | 155 | 148 | 303 | 345 | 310 | 655 |
| Southern | 518 | 677 | 1,195 | 1,078 | 937 | 2,015 | 1,144 | 1,127 | 2,271 | 3,087 | 2,923 | 6,010 |
| Western | 415 | 330 | 745 | 263 | 206 | 469 | 742 | 801 | 1,543 | 353 | 392 | 745 |
| National | 4,235 | 4,342 | 8,577 | 10,500 | 9,751 | 20,251 | 10,752 | 11,380 | 22,132 | 17,623 | 18,625 | 36,248 |

Figure 4: Total number of registered births for children aged 1 - 4 years by sex and Province, 2016

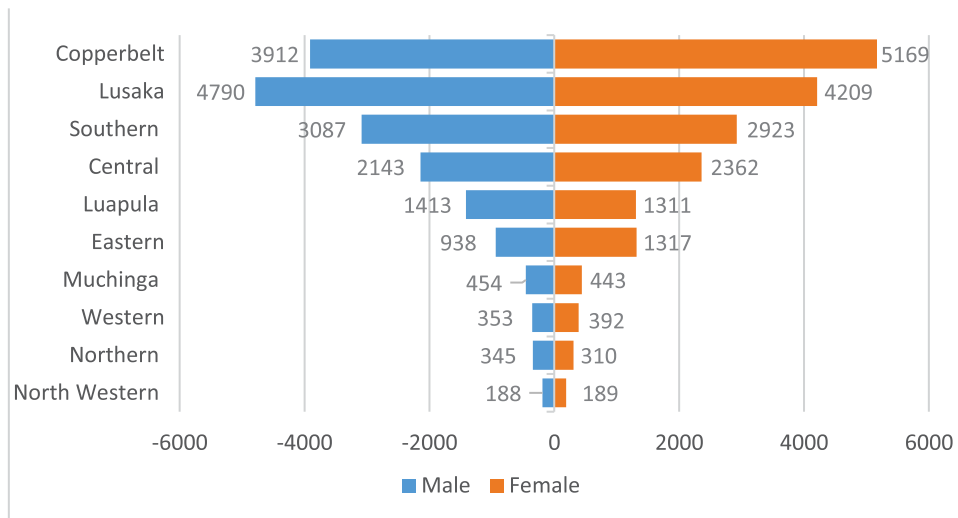


Figure 4 above shows sex comparison for the total number of births registered for children aged 1 – 4 years per Province. The figure shows that more female children aged 1- 4 years (5169) were registered compared to males (3,912), while in Lusaka more male children in the same age group (4,790) compared to females (4,209). Observed differences in the other Provinces was minimal.

4.1.3 Birth registration for children under five years (2013 – 2016)

The preceding two sections analyzed data for registered children aged 0-12 months and 1 – 4 years respectively, giving an indication of children who were registered within 12 months or afterwards. This section analyses data for registered children under five years of age, it combines the preceding two sections.

Figure 5: Number of births registered by sex for under 5 children from 2013 - 2016

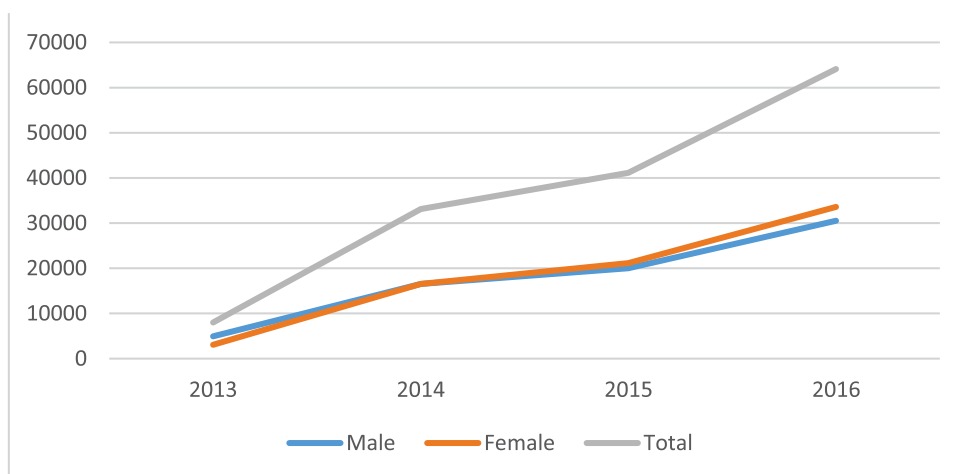


Figure 5 shows the total number of registered children aged 0 – 5 years by sex for the period 2013 – 2016. The graph shows an upward trend for births registered over a period of four years.

Table 6: Percent distribution of registered children aged 0 – 5 years by Province (2013-2016)

| PROVINCE | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Luapula | 2.7 | 8.3 | 8.5 | 19.9 |
| North Western | 1.9 | 2.6 | 4.2 | 3.6 |
| Eastern | 1.6 | 6.7 | 4.6 | 7.2 |
| Northern | 0.7 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 4.9 |
| Central | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 19.0 |
| Copperbelt | 2.4 | 8.0 | 7.8 | 22.0 |
| Western | 1.5 | 2.5 | 4.8 | 4.3 |
| Muchinga | 0.2 | 22.7 | 8.4 | 7.2 |
| Southern | 0.2 | 5.0 | 3.3 | 13.1 |
| Lusaka | 25.3 | 15.8 | 42.3 | 20.4 |
| National | 1.4 | 8.4 | 7.0 | 16.3 |

Table 6 shows percent distribution of birth registration coverage for under 5 children by Province for the period 2013 – 2016. Even though there is an upward trend in terms of number of under five children registered as shown in figure 5, birth registration coverage is still very low standing at 16.3 percent in 2016 from the 1.4 percent recorded in 2013. In comparison with other reports, there is an increase in the percentage of under five children registered from 11.3 percent shown in the 2013/14 ZDHS report (CSO, 2014) to 16.3 percent recorded in 2016. However, the implication is that, over 80 percent of under five children are not registered.

Figure 6: Total number of Births Registered for under five children by Province in 2016

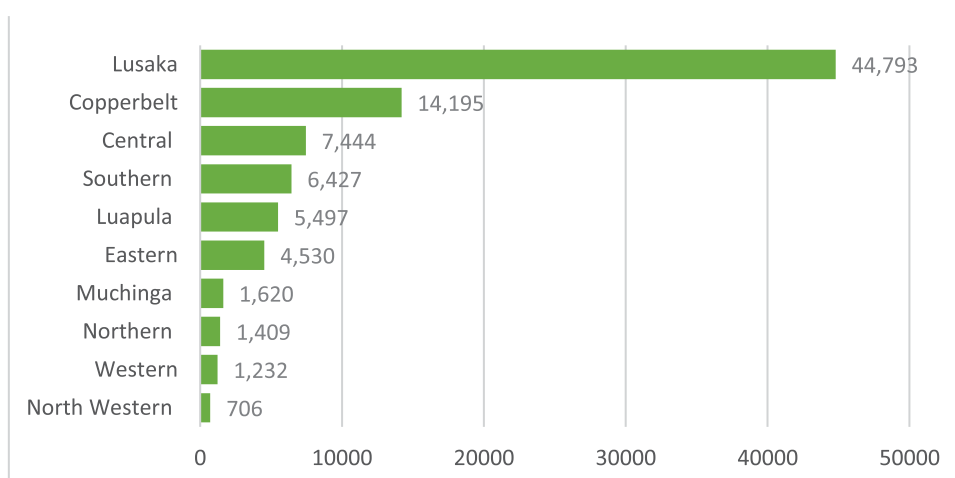


Figure 6 shows the total number of children aged 0 – 5 years registered in each Province in 2016. The figure shows that Lusaka Province (44,793) was leading followed by Copperbelt Province (14,195). North Western Province is least with only 706 under five children registered.

Table 7: Births registered for under five children by sex and Province (2013 – 2016)

| Province | Births Registered 2013 | | | Births Registered 2014 | | | Births Registered 2015 | | | Births Registered 2016 | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | M | F | Total | M | F | Total | M | F | Total | M | F | Total |
| Luapula | 386 | 449 | 835 | 1,400 | 1,464 | 2,864 | 1,723 | 1,316 | 3,039 | 2,634 | 2,863 | 5,497 |
| North Western | 179 | 185 | 364 | 180 | 356 | 536 | 359 | 487 | 846 | 304 | 402 | 706 |
| Eastern | 440 | 442 | 882 | 1,865 | 2,052 | 3,917 | 1,318 | 1,445 | 2,763 | 2,122 | 2,408 | 4,530 |
| Northern | 90 | 85 | 175 | 312 | 355 | 667 | 337 | 349 | 686 | 705 | 704 | 1,409 |
| Central | 195 | 195 | 390 | 232 | 220 | 452 | 353 | 343 | 696 | 3,524 | 3,920 | 7,444 |
| Copperbelt | 3,303 | 1,356 | 4,659 | 2,657 | 3,119 | 5,776 | 4,502 | 5,794 | 10,296 | 6,481 | 7,714 | 14,195 |
| Western | 204 | 202 | 406 | 404 | 314 | 718 | 1,313 | 1,373 | 2,686 | 602 | 630 | 1,232 |
| Muchinga | 19 | 17 | 36 | 2,150 | 2,407 | 4,557 | 1,664 | 1,547 | 3,211 | 818 | 802 | 1,620 |
| Southern | 37 | 57 | 94 | 1,246 | 1,135 | 2,381 | 1,388 | 1,403 | 2,791 | 3,276 | 3,151 | 6,427 |
| Lusaka | 86 | 78 | 164 | 6,112 | 5,112 | 11,224 | 7,071 | 7,058 | 14,129 | 10,053 | 10,993 | 21,046 |
| National | 4,939 | 3,066 | 8,005 | 16,558 | 16,534 | 33,092 | 20,028 | 21,115 | 41,143 | 30,519 | 33,587 | 64,106 |

Table 7 shows total number of registered children aged 0 – 4 years by sex and Province. The figure provides detailed disaggregation's on the number of births registered from 2013 to 2016 for all under-five children by sex for each Province.

Figure 7: Total number of registered births for children aged 1 - 4 years by sex and Province

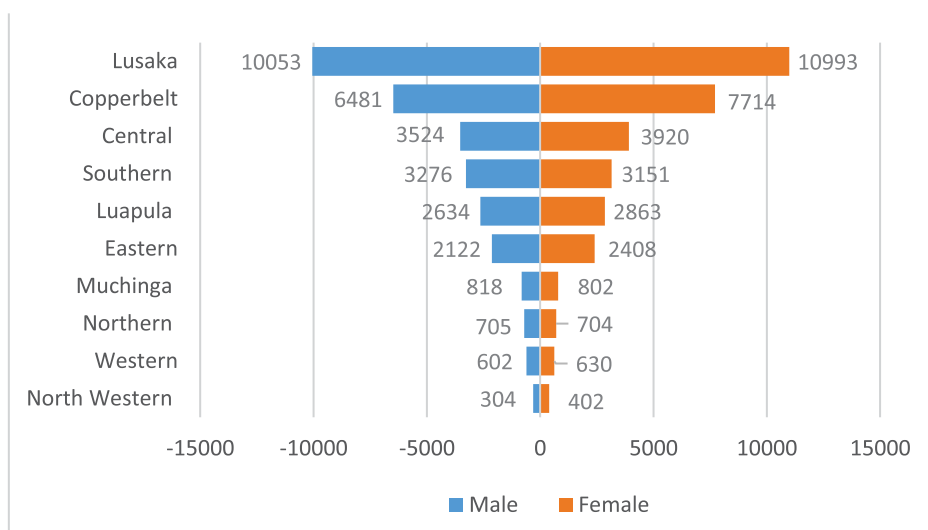


Figure 7 shows pyramidal comparison of sex distribution of births registered for children aged 0 – 4 years per Province. The figure shows that in Lusaka, more female children aged 0- 4 years (10,993) were registered compared to males (10,053). A similar pattern was observed for the Copperbelt Province, were 7,714 female children registered compared to 6,481 males. The pattern is the same for the other Provinces.

4.1.4 Birth registration for children aged 5 - 15 years (2013 – 2016)

This section presents information on the number of registered children aged 5 - 15 years for the period 2013 - 2016.

Table 8: Total number of registered children aged 5 - 15 years (2013 – 2016)

| Province | Male | Female | Total |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Central | 3,837 | 4,080 | 7,917 |
| Copperbelt | 9,576 | 10,338 | 19,914 |
| Eastern | 7,225 | 7,398 | 14,623 |
| Luapula | 4,720 | 4,059 | 8,779 |
| Lusaka | 8,944 | 6,653 | 15,597 |
| Muchinga | 2,022 | 1,648 | 3,670 |
| Northern | 783 | 734 | 1,517 |
| North Western | 1,091 | 1,033 | 2,124 |
| Southern | 5,827 | 5,664 | 11,491 |
| Western | 2,754 | 2,807 | 5,561 |
| Total | 46,779 | 44,414 | 91,193 |

The data presented in table 8 is not representative of all births registered for this age group. It only covers children in that age group who were registered from 2013 to 2016 leaving out all births registered before 2013 as this was outside the scope of the study whose focus is for under five children. As such, birth registration coverage will not be provided for this age group.

However, the table is presented to show delay practices as 91,193 children were registered when they were above five (5) years during the period 2013 to 2016.

4.1.5 Birth registration for adults above 15 years (2013 – 2016)

This section presents information on the number of registered persons aged 16 years and above during the period 2013 - 2016.

Table 9: Total number of births registered for Adults aged 16+ years by Province (2013 – 2016)

| Province | Male | Female | Total |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Central | 3,556 | 3,785 | 7,341 |
| Copperbelt | 10,441 | 11,525 | 21,966 |
| Eastern | 3,628 | 3,869 | 7,497 |
| Luapula | 2,543 | 2,260 | 4,803 |
| Lusaka | 4,447 | 3,518 | 7,965 |
| Muchinga | 1,075 | 903 | 1,978 |
| Northern | 418 | 359 | 777 |
| North Western | 583 | 357 | 940 |
| Southern | 3,074 | 2,886 | 5,960 |
| Western | 733 | 744 | 1,477 |
| Total | 30,498 | 30,206 | 60,704 |

The data presented in table 9 is not representative of all births registered for this age group. It only covers persons in that age group who were registered from 2013 to 2016 leaving out all births registered before 2013 as this was outside the scope of the study whose focus is for under five children. As such, birth registration coverage is not provided for this age group. However, the table is presented to show delay practices as 60,704 persons were registered when they were above 16 years during the period 2013 to 2016.

4.2 Recorded live births per Province

Table 10 shows the total number of recorded live births recorded per Province and year of occurrence. This information was used to compute birth registration coverage.

Table 10: Total number of live births recorded by Province 2013 - 2016

| Province | Recorded number of live births | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
| Luapula | 31,486 | 34,435 | 35,785 | 27,575 |
| North Western | 19,534 | 20,266 | 20,100 | 19,789 |
| Eastern | 54,333 | 58,198 | 59,686 | 62,621 |
| Northern | 24,870 | 32,415 | 30,217 | 28,493 |
| Central | 31,502 | 35,365 | 37,979 | 39,246 |
| Copperbelt | 59,194 | 72,647 | 131,841 | 64,540 |
| Western | 27,091 | 28,754 | 55,845 | 28,546 |
| Muchinga | 18,289 | 20,100 | 38,389 | 22,535 |
| Southern | 37,976 | 47,845 | 85,821 | 49,058 |
| Lusaka | 44,793 | 44,408 | 49,201 | 49,736 |
| National | 349,068 | 394,433 | 544,864 | 392,139 |

5.0 DISCUSSION

There is commitment, in Zambia, to improve the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics system (CRVS) in general and birth registration and certification in particular. This is partly demonstrated by the in-depth assessment of the Zambian CRVS system in 2013/14. The assessment brought out the challenges the system was encountering both on the supply and demand sides. The supply side bottlenecks included certification of births which was centralized, low staffing and limited representation of DNRPC in view of vastness of the country and sparse population especially in rural areas. On the demand side there was lack of information on the importance of birth registration, long distances to registration centers, and use of alternative documents instead of birth certificates in accessing services and socio-cultural factors that impeded birth registration.

In order to mitigate some of the above mentioned challenges the 2015-2019 National Strategic Action Plan to reform and improve CRVS was developed (DNRPC, 2015). The plan aims at addressing the challenges in a multi-sectoral fashion in order to develop an integrated CRVS system. While there may be some improvement in the system, much work still remains to be done. It will be essential to establish or implement a system that is continuous, permanent, compulsory and universal. Merits of comprehensive birth registration cannot be overemphasized (DNRPC, 2015).

Coverage of birth registration has been assessed through a number of studies, namely the 2013/14 ZDHS (CSO, 2015), SAVVY Baseline Census (DNRPC and CSO, 2015), and the Community Study (2012) which sought to explore the possibility of improving birth registration by tapping in to the traditional structures. Emanating from the community study, pilots have been implemented in selected districts where community volunteers, religious leaders and traditional leaders have been trained in birth registration.

In order to harmonize CRVS related laws, in particular birth registration, a legal review was done and recommendations were made to address legal deficiencies in the registration of births. Certification has been decentralized and is being implemented in a phased approach. And to improve birth registration coverage, more birth registration centres have been established in selected health facilities. Other efforts are being directed towards including birth registration in the education curriculum.

The 2013/14 ZDHS survey results presented a low birth registration rate of about 11 percent for children in the age group 0-4 years. The SAVVY coverage of birth registration was about the same as above (11 %) and the Birth Registration Coverage survey conducted in 2017 shows that the coverage rate for birth registration for under five children is about 16%. This shows an increase in coverage for birth registrations compared to the preceding studies. The increase can be attributed to increased awareness creation and Health Facility Based Birth Registration along the line of rail. However, this marginal increase is far below the required universal coverage. To reach this level Zambia has to make concerted efforts to increase the coverage rate and improve all the sectoral facets that are part of the Civil Registration system.

6.0 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The study did not highlight completeness of health facility records and the extent in omission of community births. The questionnaire did not capture all the relevant information, for example, child ages should have been disaggregated into neo-nates, infants, children and place of occurrence. Further, some districts submitted incomplete information with age categorization not being explicit. The age 16 years and above was an open ended class.

The study set out to determine the extent to which births were certified according to specific objective no 2. However, the study could not measure the extent to which births are certified due to lack of accurate records at District Registration Offices. Further, information on live births were not disaggregated by sex by some respondents making it difficult for analysis.

7.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Birth Registration Coverage Survey of 2017 was based on complete enumeration as all districts with established DNRPC offices were covered. The data on birth registration was extracted and collated from administrative records following guidelines which were in a form of a questionnaire. All the studies reviewed showed relatively low rates of birth registration only ranging from 11 to 16 percent.

In line with the rationale of the study, data was collected on coverage of birth registration although data on certification was not synchronized between districts and headquarters. All the studies reviewed in this report showed low levels of birth registration, in the age group 0-4 years, ranging between 11 to 16 percent. The marginal increase in the results of the above mentioned study of 2017 from 11 to 16 percent was below the UN recommended minimum level.

In view of the prevailing birth registration rates, a number of interventions need to be vigorously introduced and implemented in order to improve and increase the registration of births. There is need, therefore need to:

- Improve birth registration coverage, by establishing many birth registration and certification centers across the Country. This entails provision of adequate resources to support birth registration and certification.
- Involve stakeholders in designing the questionnaire for future surveys so that all relevant information pertinent to estimating birth coverage and certification would be available.

In addition, for future surveys or studies, manuals should be produced to guide the data collection process.

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Appendix 1: list of Technical Working Group Members involved in the Survey

| No. | Full Name | Organisation | Position |
|------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Martin Nyahoda | DNRPC | Deputy Registrar General |
| 2. | Peter Moyo | DNRPC | Principal Registrar |
| 3. | Lisuba Kabanda | DNRPC | Senior Registrar |
| 4. | Mwamba B. Mutunga | DNRPC | Assistant Registration Officer |
| 5. | Cynthia Mwango Kabasiya | DNRPC | Registrar |
| 6. | Dr Banda Jeremiah | BD4HI | Country Coordinator |
| 7. | Chomba Mwango | BD4HI | Country Manager |
| 8. | Brivine Sikapande | MOH | Principal M & E Officer |
| 9. | Mildred Tolosi | MOH | Senior M & E Officer |
| 10. | Palver Sikanyiti | CSO | Senior Demographer |
| 11. | Nene Bah | CSO | Demographer |

Appendix 2: List of Participating Districts

| PROVINCE | DISTRICT | PROVINCE | DISTRICT |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| LUAPULA | 1. Mansa | WESTERN | 46. Shang'ombo |
| | 2. Mwense | | 47. Mwandi |
| | 3. Chiengi | | 48. Sesheke |
| | 4. Nchelenge | | 49. Senanga |
| | 5. Kawambwa | | 50. kalabo |
| | 6. Milenge | | 51. Sioma |
| | 7. Samfya | | 52. Sikongo |
| N/WESTERN | 8. Mwinilunga | | 53. Limuunga |
| | 9. Mufumbwe | | 54. Kaoma |
| | 10. Solwezi | | 55. Nalolo |
| | 11. Kasempa | | 56. Mitete |
| | 12. Zambezi | | 57. Nkeyema |
| | 13. Kabompo | | 58. Lukulu |
| | 14. Chavuma | | 59. Luampa |
| EASTERN | 15. Chipata | 60. Mongu | |
| | 16. Petauke | 61. Mulobezi | |
| | 17. Lundazi | MUCHINGA | 62. Chinsali |
| | 18. Katete | | 63. Mpika |
| | 19. Chadiza | | 64. Isoka |
| | 20. Nyimba | | 65. Shiwanang'andu |
| 21. Mambwe | 66. Nakonde | | |
| 22. Mporokoso | 67. Chama | | |
| NORTHERN | 23. Luwingu | | SOUTHERN |
| | 24. Chilubi | 69. Monze | |
| | 25. Kasama | 70. Gwembe | |
| | 26. Mungwi | 71. Siavonga | |
| | 27. Mpulungu | 72. Namwala | |
| | 28. Mbala | 73. Livingstone | |
| CENTRAL | 29. Itezhi Tezhi | 74. Kazungula | |
| | 30. Kapiri Mposhi | 75. Choma | |
| | 31. Mkushi | 76. Sinazongwe | |
| | 32. Mumbwa | 77. Kalomo | |
| | 33. Serenje | LUSAKA | 78. Lusaka |
| | 34. Chibombo | | 79. Kafue |
| 35. Kabwe | 80. Chongwe | | |
| COPPERBELT | 36. Ndola | | 81. Rufunsa |
| | 37. Mufulira | | 82. Luangwa |
| | 38. Kitwe | | |
| | 39. Chingola | | |
| | 40. Chililabombwe | | |
| | 41. Luanshya | | |
| | 42. Kalulushi | | |
| | 43. Mpongwe | | |
| | 44. Masaiti | | |
| | 45. Lufwanyama | | |

Appendix 3: Birth Registration Coverage for <5 Children by District, 2013 – 2016.

| Province | District | Coverage of Birth Registration, > 5 Years | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---|------------|------------|-------------|
| | | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
| LUAPULA | MANSA | 2.3 | 11.4 | 6.0 | 8.7 |
| | MWENSE | 2.8 | 5.2 | 7.1 | 7.1 |
| | CHIENGI | 1.7 | 4.3 | 13.6 | 8.4 |
| | NCHELENGE | 1.6 | 6.2 | 14.4 | 35.9 |
| | KAWAMBWA | 7.2 | 26.5 | 12.5 | 48.3 |
| | MILENGE | 13.3 | 23.3 | 3.0 | 1.9 |
| | SAMFYA | 0.9 | 1.2 | 2.0 | 3.5 |
| | TOTAL | 2.7 | 8.3 | 8.5 | 19.9 |
| NORTH WESTERN | MWINILUNGA | 0.3 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 0.7 |
| | MUFUMBWE | 0.3 | 0.0 | 2.6 | 1.2 |
| | SOLWEZI | 4.6 | 7.1 | 8.9 | 6.2 |
| | KASEMPA | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 2.7 |
| | ZAMBEZI | 0.5 | 1.1 | 2.8 | 3.4 |
| | KABOMPO | 0.3 | 0.6 | 3.7 | 3.5 |
| | CHAVUMA | 1.5 | 3.1 | 4.6 | 6.4 |
| | TOTAL | 1.9 | 2.6 | 4.2 | 3.6 |
| EASTERN | CHIPATA | 2.9 | 3.8 | 5.5 | 3.3 |
| | PETAUKE | 0.9 | 12.2 | 1.9 | 4.1 |
| | LUNDAZI | 0.2 | 5.7 | 6.1 | 4.8 |
| | KATETE | 1.2 | 7.7 | 5.5 | 16.1 |
| | CHADIZA | 2.9 | 7.4 | 0.2 | 19.2 |
| | NYIMBA | 1.7 | 2.4 | 4.6 | 11.8 |
| | MAMBWE | 2.6 | 12.7 | 5.0 | 8.4 |
| | TOTAL | 1.6 | 6.7 | 4.6 | 7.2 |
| NORTHERN | MPOROKOSO | 1.6 | 0.6 | 7.3 | 10.2 |
| | LUWINGU | 0.6 | 0.7 | 3.9 | 0.7 |
| | CHILUBI | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| | KASAMA | 0.9 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 11.5 |
| | MUNGWI | 0.1 | 0.2 | 2.0 | 1.5 |
| | MPULUNGU | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.8 |
| | MBALA | 0.4 | 1.1 | 0.7 | 0.3 |
| | TOTAL | 0.7 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 4.9 |
| CENTRAL | Itezhi Tezhi | 1.5 | 0.7 | 3.3 | 92.1 |
| | Kapiri Mposhi | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 3.8 |
| | Mkushi | 0.5 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 68.7 |
| | Mumbwa | 2.3 | 1.8 | 1.0 | 2.6 |
| | Serenje | 0.0 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 11.8 |
| | Chibombo | 0.1 | 0.4 | 2.5 | 11.2 |
| | Kabwe | 2.3 | 2.4 | 4.1 | 10.0 |
| | Total | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 19.0 |

| Province | District | Coverage of Birth Registration, > 5 Years | | | |
|--------------|----------------|---|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
| COPPERBELT | Ndola | 1.2 | 5.9 | 20.0 | 7.8 |
| | Mufulira | 4.4 | 18.8 | 37.9 | 34.1 |
| | Kitwe | 4.3 | 17.6 | 22.0 | 53.2 |
| | Chingola | 3.1 | 4.2 | 11.1 | 9.9 |
| | Chililabombwe | 3.4 | 1.2 | 14.4 | 15.2 |
| | Luanshya | 0.8 | 3.8 | 4.3 | 23.4 |
| | Kalulushi | 0.7 | 1.5 | 3.7 | 3.6 |
| | Mpongwe | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.5 |
| | Masaiti | 0.1 | 2.0 | 7.6 | 12.5 |
| | Lufwanyama | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| | Total | 2.4 | 8.0 | 7.8 | 22.0 |
| WESTERN | Shang'ombo | 2.6 | 6.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| | Mwandi | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.4 | 3.5 |
| | Sesheke | 0.7 | 6.3 | 10.4 | 2.4 |
| | Senanga | 0.0 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 1.4 |
| | kalabo | 0.4 | 1.6 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| | Sioma | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| | Sikongo | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| | Limuunga | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| | Kaoma | 7.3 | 3.3 | 34.1 | 6.7 |
| | Nalolo | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| | Mitete | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| | Nkeyema | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| | Lukulu | 0.2 | 5.5 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| | Luampa | 0.0 | 0.0 | 45.7 | 5.6 |
| | Mongu | 2.5 | 4.4 | 5.4 | 14.0 |
| | Mulobezi | 0.0 | 4.7 | 9.4 | 4.7 |
| Total | 1.5 | 2.5 | 4.8 | 4.3 | |
| MUCHINGA | Chinsali | 0.2 | 9.5 | 4.3 | 4.7 |
| | Mpika | 0.3 | 7.5 | 37.5 | 13.2 |
| | Isoka | 0.1 | 36.5 | 0.6 | 5.3 |
| | Shiwanang'andu | 0.0 | 34.0 | 4.8 | 0.8 |
| | Nakonde | 0.3 | 19.5 | 12.7 | 11.3 |
| | Chama | 0.1 | 40.6 | 4.2 | 0.8 |
| | Total | 0.2 | 22.7 | 8.4 | 7.2 |

| Province | District | Coverage of Birth Registration, > 5 Years | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---|------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
| SOUTHERN | Mazabuka | 1.7 | 4.4 | 7.4 | 4.3 |
| | Monze | 0.0 | 3.4 | 1.7 | 4.4 |
| | Gwembe | 0.0 | 5.0 | 1.9 | 25.3 |
| | Siavonga | 0.0 | 17.6 | 5.6 | 5.3 |
| | Namwala | 0.0 | 8.6 | 9.2 | 7.7 |
| | Livingstone | 0.0 | 12.7 | 16.7 | 38.1 |
| | Kazungula | 0.0 | 9.2 | 6.6 | 76.6 |
| | Choma | 0.0 | 4.0 | 6.0 | 11.3 |
| | Sinazongwe | 0.0 | 1.6 | 3.2 | 6.6 |
| | Kalomo | 0.0 | 0.5 | 2.4 | 3.5 |
| | Total | 0.2 | 5.0 | 3.3 | 13.1 |
| LUSAKA | Lusaka | | 31.7 | 35.2 | 50.2 |
| | Kafue | 3.8 | 8.5 | 12.6 | 12.3 |
| | Chongwe | 1.1 | 1.0 | 3.8 | 20.7 |
| | Rufunsa | 0.0 | 0.0 | 16.8 | 10.7 |
| | Luangwa | 0.0 | 0.0 | 16.6 | 20.8 |
| | | Total | 0.4 | 25.3 | 15.8 |
| NATIONAL | | 1.4 | 8.4 | 7.0 | 16.3 |

What is Birth Registration?

Birth registration is the official recording of the birth of a child by an administrative process of the state and is coordinated by a particular branch of government. It is a permanent and official record of a child's existence.



**MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
AND
MINISTRY OF HEALTH**
Working together to improve Birth Registration in Zambia



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