Ministry of Justice

Births, Deaths and Marriages (‘BDM’) Office
Introduction

• The Births, Deaths and Marriages (BDM) Office registers births, deaths and marriages in Fiji in accordance with BDM Registration Act 1975.

• The birth Registration is the process of recording a child’s birth. It is a permanent and official record of a child’s existence and it provides legal recognition of a child’s identity.

• We have 21 BDM offices around Fiji.
• Births – BDM collects the birth data by receiving the Notification of Birth from the informant, which is issued by the health facility where the child was born.

• Deaths – BDM collects the death data by receiving MCDC issued from the health facility where the person is identified as deceased. We note details such as name, date of birth, Gender, Parents Name, Occupation, Residential Address of the deceased, Date of Death, Cause of Death, Place of Death, Medical officer’s name, marital status, children’s details, spouse details, date and place of burial, witness details, informants details.
We collect the following data during birth registration:

- Date of birth
- Date of registration
- Geography – Residential Address or physical address of the informant
- Sex of baby
- Wealth quintile – we do not collect this information
- Mother’s education – we do not collect this information
- Mother’s age
- Father’s occupation
- Mother’s occupation
- Ethnicity – we do not collect this information.
Challenges

• We do face some challenges while collecting data at the time of registration.
• Illegible writings on NOB and MCDC
• Connectivity and application issues
• Remote areas
Are there any challenges in sharing this data with other ministries?

- Digital security risks of more data openness
- Increasing impact of (personal) data breaches
- Higher Risk of data being shared Publicly
Do you have any challenges in using this data to inform policy?

• Double birth registrations
• Incomplete death registrations
• Inconsistent data
Future

• Are there any future plans for updates, changes, or improvements we should be aware of?
• Create more community awareness
• Reaching to unreachable (integrated outreach programme with other stakeholders)
• Working with DGTO