



Preview:

Hearing on Next Generation Vital Statistics: Current Status and Issues Regarding the Vital Statistics System

September 11-12, 2017
Humphrey Building



Realizing the Potential of Vital Statistics

- Despite the essential role vital statistics and related administrative data play in protecting a broad range of needs, especially national security and population health, stakeholders at the state and national level have shared concerns that the vital statistics system faces serious structural and resource challenges.
- As currently constituted, national data are developed through a federated network of data collected by states and territories, with differing laws and parameters on data use, and then shared with the federal government for aggregation.



The Context

Vital Statistics:

- Foundational data source for understanding the US population, including identification of trends in disease and epidemics, e.g., the recent surge in opioid-related deaths.
- Depended on by health care providers, businesses, and government agencies at all levels as well as individual citizens, and for identity establishment and protection, and a host of other critical uses for research, finance, planning, public records and services.
- Infrastructure resources are dependent on ability of jurisdictions to issue records and assess fees, or secure the minimal funding available via contracts and data sharing agreements and support from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).



The Hearing

Vision & Guiding Question

How do we transform a vulnerable, federated data collection network into a robust timely integrated sustainable multipurpose information system that produces timely data and information flows?

Objectives

- Identify essential elements of the vital statistics system – the components and as a whole
- Assess current status and risks to system viability
- Consider what actions are needed both to protect and improve the system



Vitals Hearing Agenda

Agenda, Day 1:

Welcome and Introductions

Opening: Overview on the importance and need for vital records (local, state, federal) Steve Schwartz

FOCUS: Setting the stage, importance and needs. What is the Vital Statistics system? What are vital records, how are they collected, who is responsible for maintaining them, legal/law components. Why are they important – who uses them, how?



Vitals Hearing Agenda (cont)

Panel 1. Current status for vital records:

State/local data producers

FOCUS: Why do states collect vital records? How are they collected? How are they managed? How and why are they shared?

- Overall (NAPHSIS)
- Births (County registrar, Hospitals)
- Deaths (NFDA / Funeral director, NAME and ME, IAC&ME / coroner)
- State/jurisdictional IT Lead (State HIT lead, State IT lead)



Vitals Hearing Agenda (cont)

Panel 2. Current Status of Vital Records: Federal Perspective

FOCUS: Why do federal agencies need vital records? How are they managed? How and why are they shared and used?

- Federal Data steward: NCHS
- Federal Health Users (CMS, CDC)
- Other Federal Users (SSA, Census, DHS)



Vitals Hearing Agenda (cont)

Panel 3. Current Status of Vital Records: Other Users

FOCUS: Who are other users of vital statistics and records? What are these data needed for?

- **State users:** American Immunization Registry Association
 - Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs)
- **Commercial users:** Insurance Industry Organization, Health Insurance/life insurance, Pension institutions, Financial institutions, Systems developers, Vendors)
- **Research Users**

Discussion and Public Comment

Adjourn Day 1



Vitals Hearing Agenda (cont)

Panel 4. Challenges and Opportunities: Federal Level

FOCUS: What are the current challenges and issues for federal users, and how might they be addressed?

- NCHS, CMS, CDC, Census, DHS, SSA

Panel 5. Challenges and Barriers: State and Local level

FOCUS: What are the current challenges and issues for State and local users, and how might they be addressed?

- State registrars/NAPHSIS, Local registrar, Hospitals, Medical Examiner, Coroner, State HIT, State users (AIRA, AMCHP), Insurance Co., Pension Funds Co., Financial institution, Vendors/system developers, Researchers



Vitals Hearing Agenda (cont)

Panel 6. Future Directions

- John Lumpkin – Integrated data vision (Digital Bridge)
- Chesley Richards – From the federal public health perspective
- Calvin Yu (Kaiser) – From the clinical perspective

Discussion and Public Comment

Moving Forward: An Integrated Vision – Moderated Discussion

- Identify key points, key themes
- Integrate – discuss framework for synthesizing testimony

Next Steps & Adjourn



Current Status

1. Agenda is drafted
2. One page summary posted to NCVHS web
3. Key speakers identified
4. Reaching out to identify additional panelists and sending invitations