CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES: FEDERAL PERSPECTIVE

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CHALLENGES AND BARRIERS

Death Records

- Timeliness
  - ~18 month lag between end of data collection and availability of raw data
- Quality
  - Under-reporting of underlying causes of death
  - “Chain of events”
- Accuracy
  - Race/ethnicity
CHALLENGES AND BARRIERS

Birth Records

• Insufficient information on maternal/paternal characteristics
• Use agreements may limit data access
• Many stakeholders
  • States, locals, associations, federal government, users
  • Takes work to reach agreement, get solutions
System largely works well, but...

- Incorporate routine linkages with variety of data systems
  - Census, Indian Health Service
- More resources, training and accountability for state and local personnel
- More collaboration
  - Across the system
  - Across users
CONSEQUENCES OF INACTION

• The system may be unable to keep pace with new or innovative uses
• Data quality may deteriorate as the system becomes overwhelmed
The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.