

Deaths Stats Brief 2020



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Preface

This brief presents data on deaths based on registered deaths from vital records. The data are based on Civil and National Registration (CNR) records of deaths that occurred during the 2020 calendar year. The data was received and processed by the Vital Statistics unit of Statistics Botswana. The analysed data represents about 80 percent of the deaths that occurred in the country in 2020.

This brief provides the distribution of all deaths that were registered in 2020 by age, sex, marital status, educational level, place or institution of death occurrence, district of usual residence of the deceased and center of registration

There has been an increase in death registration from 69.7 percent in 2014 to 80.1 percent in 2019. This is indicative to the fact that births and deaths registration campaigns held by the department of CNR across the country are bearing fruit.

Statistics Botswana acknowledges and extends gratitude to the Departments of Civil and National Registration (CNR) for providing data for this publication



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Statistician General
July 2022

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Introduction

Registration of deaths is an ongoing process that allows for registration of all deaths that occurred in the country whether in the past or in the current year. Upon registration of a death, the informant is issued with a death certificate, which is normally a requisite in settling the deceased estate.

Data collection includes all registered deaths in a given year irrespective of the year of occurrence. The analysis, however, focuses more on deaths that occurred in the reference year for calculation of key demographic indicators such as Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), Crude Death Rate (CDR) etc.

Summary Table

		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Population	Number	2,149,255	2,185,903	2,219,732	2,254,021	2,288,656	2,323,493	2,358,445
Total deaths (projected)	Number	17,463	17,079	16,780	16,619	16,506	16,461	16,214
All current deaths (registered)	Number	12,177	13,030	12,825	12,386	12,609	13,185	12,219
Death Registration	Percent	69.7	76.3	76.4	74.5	76.4	80.1	75.4
Infants Deaths	Number	1,045	1,012	1,041	998	891	1,096	968
CDR (a) (Registered deaths)	Rate	5.7	6.0	5.8	5.5	5.5	5.7	5.2
CDR (projected deaths)	Rate	8.1	7.8	7.6	7.3	7.2	7.1	6.9

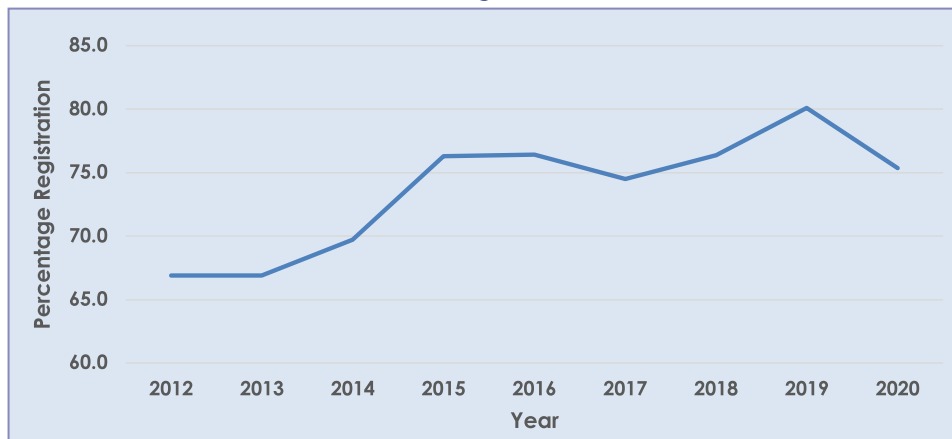
(a)Deaths per 1,000 population

There were 12,219 deaths registered in 2020, a 966 decrease from the previous year. Infant deaths have also declined from 1,096 to 968 (7.4 percent) in 2020. It should be noted that 2020 is the year in which the first discovery of COVID19 and its spread occurred.. Botswana like many other countries put in place restrictions and protocols to curb the spread of the virus. Movement restrictions (curfew and lockdowns), wearing of masks, frequent washing or sanitizing of hands were enforced and all these have positively improved the health of the population and minimized the occurrence of morbidity resulting in deaths. The country experienced few COVID deaths cases during the year 2020.

Death Registration

Chart 1 shows a decline in death registration from 80.1 in 2019 to 75.4 percent. However, the decline should be interpreted with caution as it may reflect the general decline in the number of deaths and a projected number of deaths which still remains high.

Chart 1: Percent Death Registration 2012-2020



Deaths by Sex of the Deceased

In the year 2020 there were more male deaths (6,224) than female deaths (5,995), resulting in a sex ratio of 103.8 male deaths for every 100 female deaths. Male deaths accounted for 51 percent of all deaths.

Chart 2: Deaths by Sex of Deceased-2020

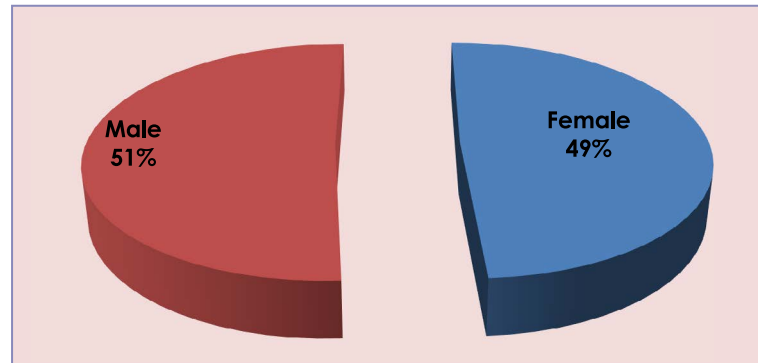
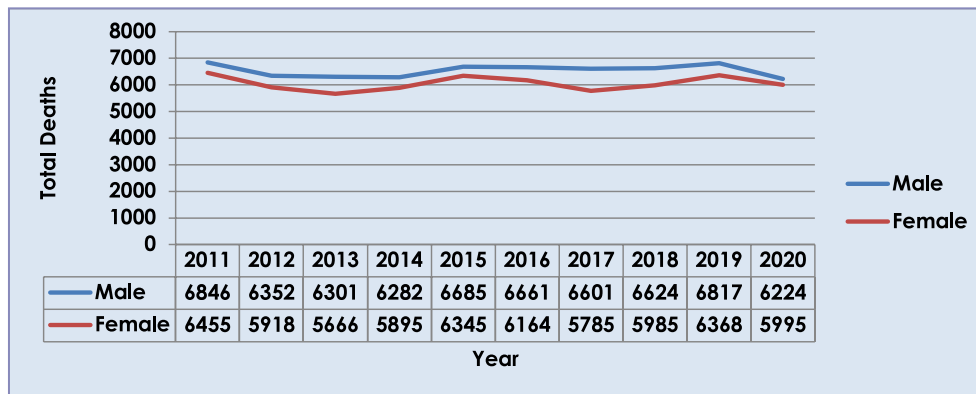


Chart 3 shows a trend in total deaths by sex. Even though the sex ratio at birth indicates that, there are more males than females born every year, the sex ratio at death shows even higher male deaths than females. As a result, females continue to dominate the population.

The total female deaths registered decreased from 6,368 in 2019 to 5995 while the total male deaths also decreased from 6,817 in 2019 to 6224 in 2020.

Chart 3: Deaths by Sex 2011-2019



Deaths by Age and Sex

Chart 4 illustrates the distribution of deaths by age and sex. Throughout the age groups, the proportion of male deaths is higher than that of females. It is only at ages 75 and above that, there were more female deaths, probably of the higher number of females within that age category. The 10-14 age group registered the lowest percentage of deaths recording 0.8 percent males and 0.5 percent female deaths.

Chart 4: Percent Distribution of Deaths by Age And Sex-2020

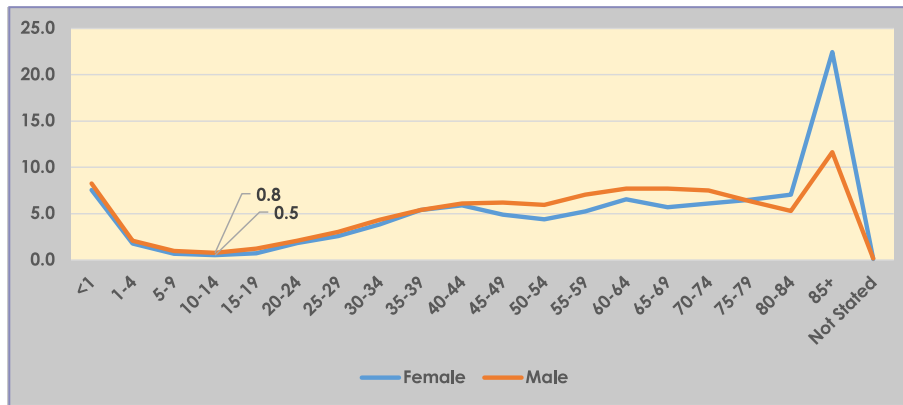
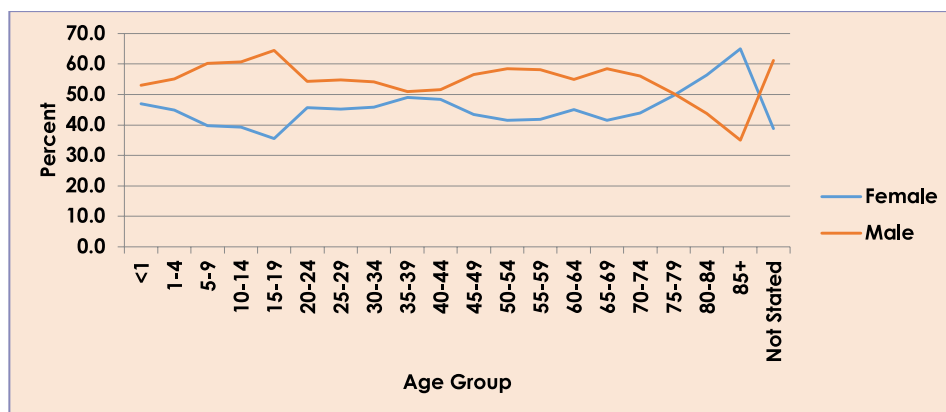


Chart 5 illustrates a distribution of deaths by age group for the year 2020. It is evident that males are leading with higher percentage of deaths than females throughout all the age groups. From ages 75 and above female proportions are higher, probably due to the accumulated females because of lower deaths in the earlier years.

Chart 5: Percent Distribution of Deaths Within Age Groups by Sex-2020

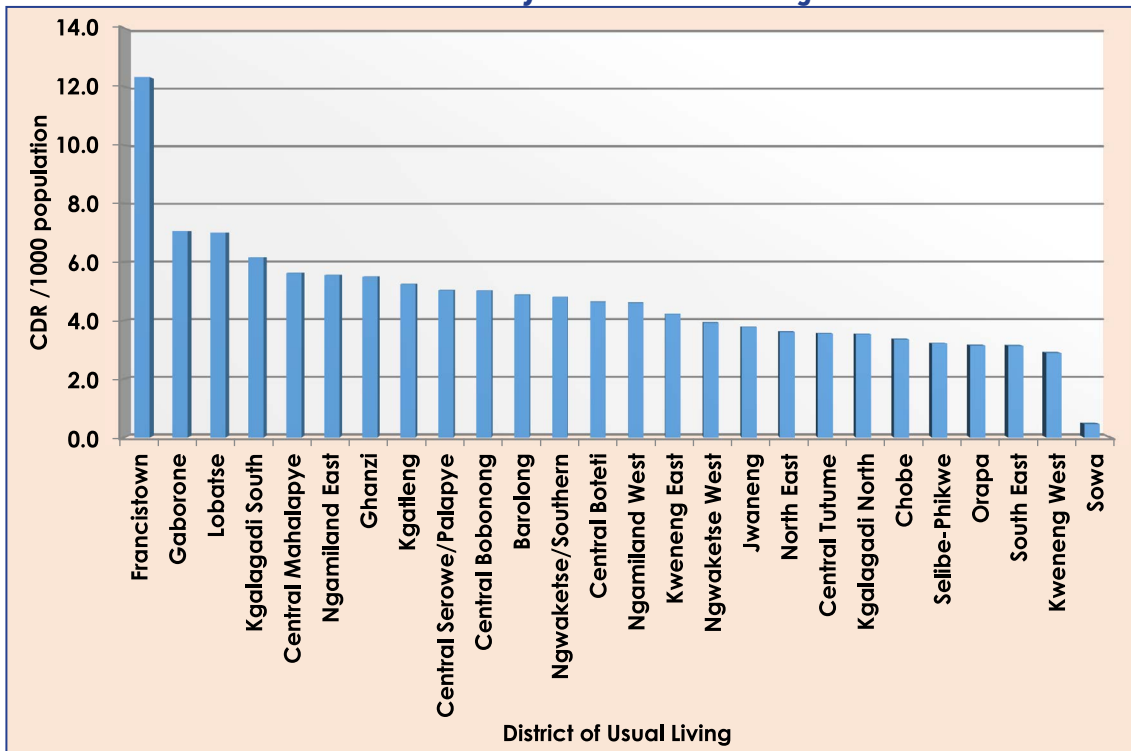


Crude Death Rates by District of Usual Living

The Crude Death Rate (CDR) shows levels of mortality in an entire population. It is one of the key determinants of population growth.

The crude death rate declined from 5.7 to 5.2 per a thousand population from 2019 to 2020, a decrease that can be attributed to the COVID 19 protocols discussed earlier on. Francistown had the highest crude death rate out of all the districts at a rate of 12.3 deaths per thousand population. The district with the lowest crude death rate is Sowa Town with a CDR of about 0.5 deaths per thousand, probably due to its age structure (**Chart 6**). Comparing CDR of different areas might be misleading as it is influenced by the age structure of the population. A population with an ageing population will have higher levels of CDR than a young age structure population.

Chart 6: Crude Death Rates by District Of Usual Living-2020



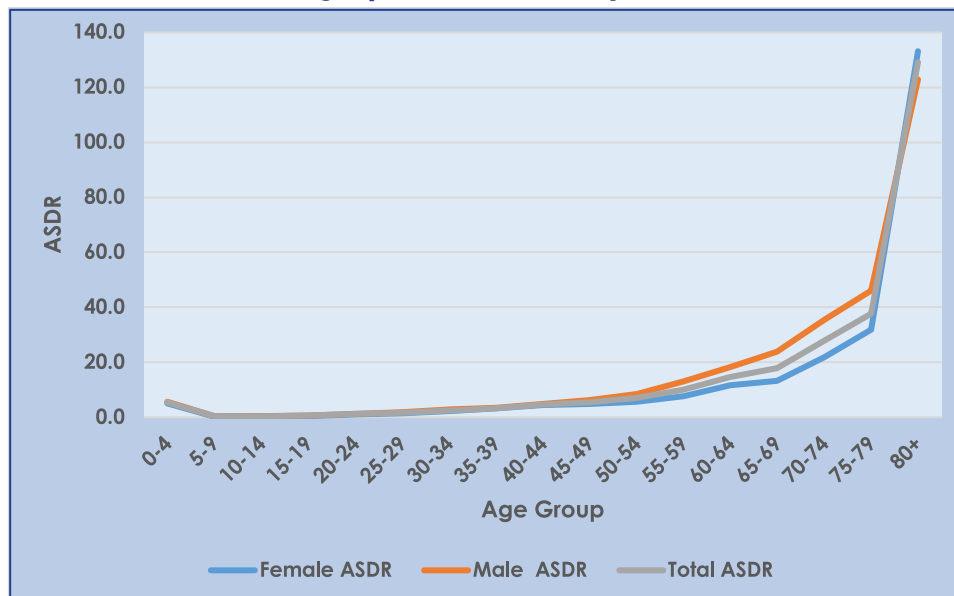
Age Specific Death Rates

The Age Specific Death Rate (ASDR) is defined as the number of deaths per year per 1000 population of a given age group. Unlike the CDR it is not influenced by the age structure of the population.

The distribution of deaths by age shows that the levels of mortality between males and females are almost the same up to age 49 with females experiencing slightly lower mortality.

Chart 7 shows a decline in the death rate of 0.6 among the age group 0-4 from the 6 deaths per a thousand population in the previous year to 5.4 deaths per a thousand in 2020. The death rate remain low at ages 5-9 to 15-19 age group and begin to increase steadily from age 20-24 to older ages. The gap between the sexes increase from age group 50-54 with higher deaths rates for males than females.

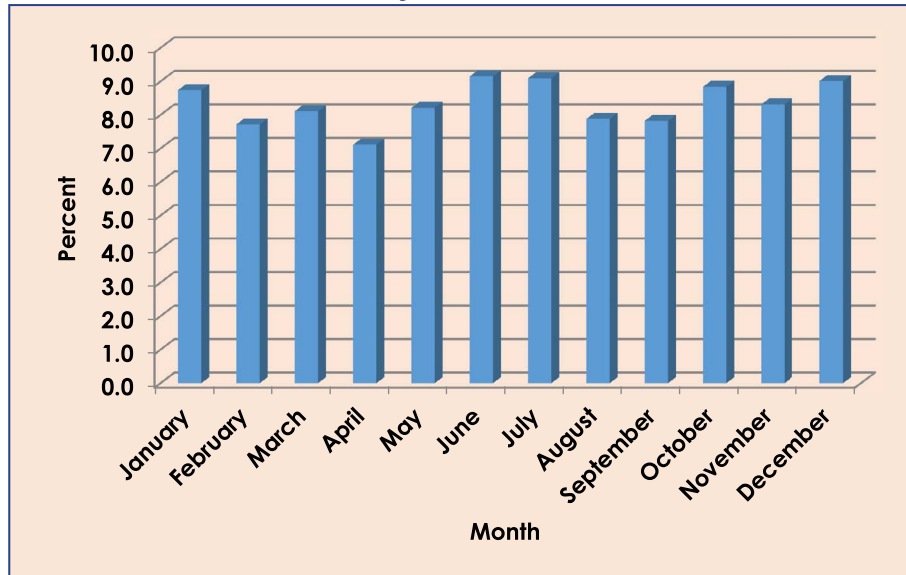
Chart 7: Age Specific Death Rates by Sex - 2020



Deaths by Month of Occurrence

Chart 8 shows the percentage of deaths that were registered by month of occurrence. A higher percentage of deaths was observed during the winter months, June and July recording slightly more than 9 percent each of the total registered deaths.

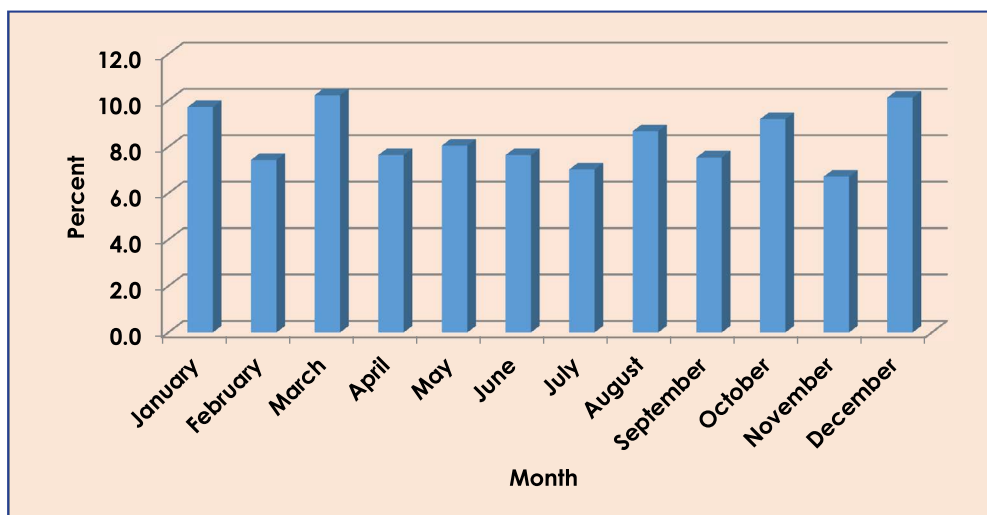
Chart 8: Deaths by Month Of Occurrence-2020



Infant Deaths by Month of Occurrence

Infant deaths by month depicted by **chart 8b** show a different pattern from that for all. The percentage of infant deaths was lowest in November and July recording 6.7 and 7.0 percent respectively and highest in March and December accounting for slightly more than 10 percent of deaths each.

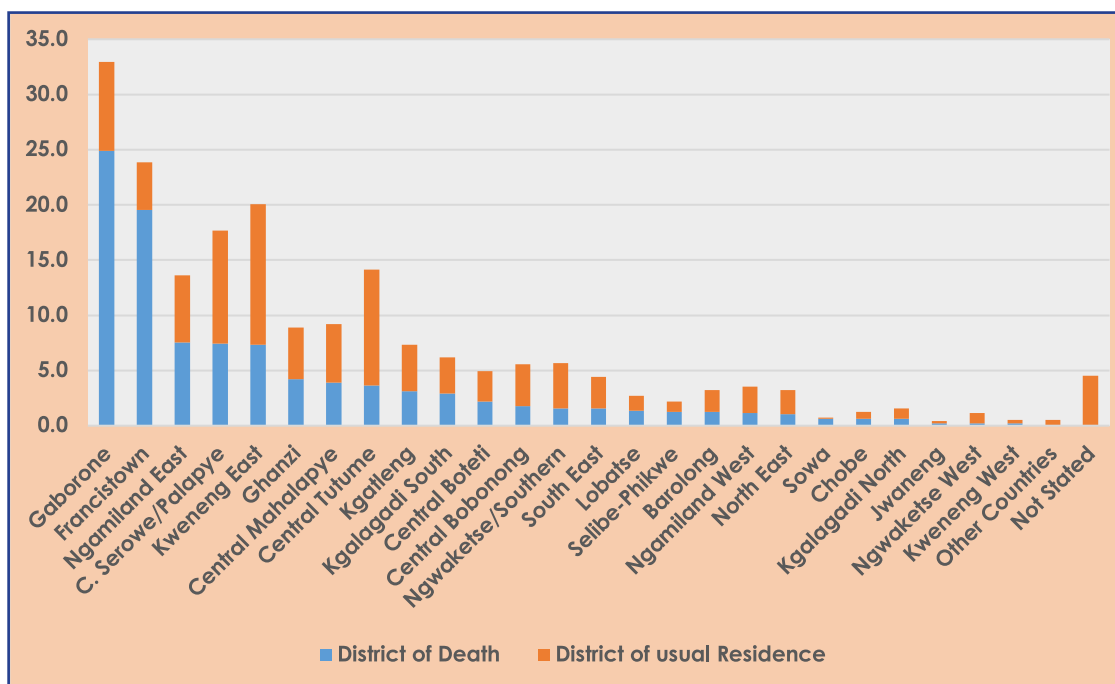
Chart 8 (b): Infant Deaths by Month Of Occurrence-2020



Infant Deaths by District of Usual Residence

Chart 9 below shows the percentage of infant deaths registered by the district of death and district of usual residence. Gaborone experienced more infant's deaths that were not usual residents followed by Francistown registering 24.9 and 19.5 percent respectively. A higher percentage of infants usually residing in Kweneng East, Central Tutume and Serowe Palapye died accounting for more than 30 percent of all infants' deaths that occurred in 2020

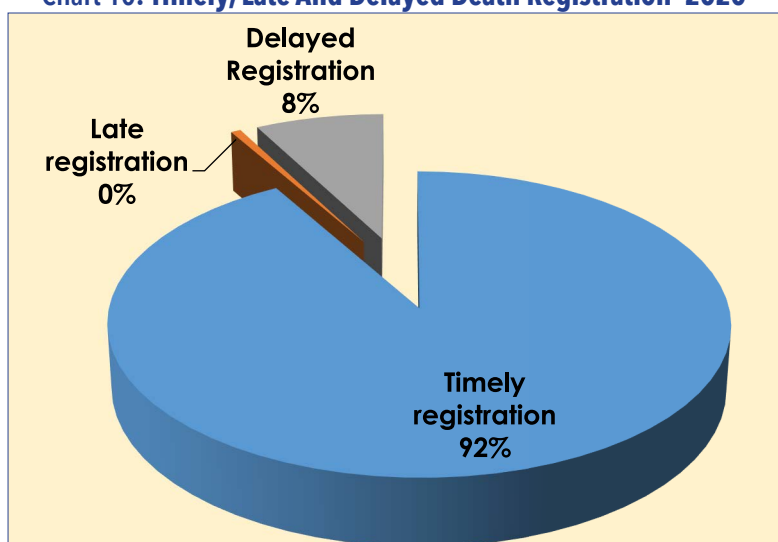
Chart 9: Percent Distribution Of Infant Deaths By The District Of Death And District Of Usual Residence-2020



Timely, Late and Delayed Deaths Registration

According to the Births and Deaths Act of Civil and National registration (CNR), deaths are considered to be late if they are registered after the expiry of thirty days from the date of occurrence. Delayed registration refers to all deaths that were registered after the 30 days but within the twelve (12) months of occurrence. Late registration is one that occurred in the past years. **Chart 10** below shows that of all the deaths registered in 2020 about 92 percent were registered on time i.e. before a lapse of 30 days.

Chart 10: Timely, Late And Delayed Death Registration -2020



Place of Death Occurrence, Marital Status and Educational Level

Table 1.1 shows that 51.3 percent of all registered deaths occurred in health facilities. About 57 percent were reported to have been single at the time of death (children included). About three quarters (73.4 percent) of the deaths were for people who had none or primary education as their highest level of education (children included).

Table 1.1: Registered Current Deaths By Place Of Death, Marital Status And Level Of Education -2020

	2020 Deaths	Percent
Place of Death		
Health Facility	6,267	51.3
Home	5,952	48.7
Total	12,219	100.0
Marital Status		
Single	6,987	57.2
Married	3,124	25.6
Divorced	258	2.1
Widowed	1,850	15.1
Total	12,219	100.0
Level of Education		
None	4,790	39.2
Primary	4,174	34.2
Secondary	2,060	16.9
Post-Secondary	449	3.7
Higher	746	6.1
Total	12,219	100.0

Appendix

Table D1: Deaths by Time of Occurrence and District of Death-2020

	CURRENT			NON-CURRENT			TOTAL		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Gaborone	969	988	1,957	21	25	46	990	1,013	2,003
Francistown	706	700	1,406	21	27	48	727	727	1,454
Lobatse	88	99	187	3	4	7	91	103	194
Selibe-Phikwe	88	61	149	9	6	15	97	67	164
Orapa	18	12	30	1	2	3	19	14	33
Jwaneng	34	44	78	1	1	2	35	45	80
Sowa	2	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	2
Southern	325	359	684	33	36	69	358	395	753
Barolong	147	152	299	27	18	45	174	170	344
Ngwaketse West	27	40	67	7	5	12	34	45	79
South East	166	184	350	13	16	29	179	200	379
Kweneng East	663	722	1,385	68	95	163	731	817	1,548
Kweneng West	75	83	158	28	12	40	103	95	198
Kgatleng	283	293	576	23	21	44	306	314	620
Central Serowe/Palapye	514	525	1,039	39	55	94	553	580	1,133
Central Mahalapye	347	353	700	47	38	85	394	391	785
Central Bobonong	182	193	375	28	37	65	210	230	440
Central Boteti	139	168	307	11	5	16	150	173	323
Central Tutume	310	295	605	56	58	114	366	353	719
North East	144	112	256	16	13	29	160	125	285
Ngamiland East	292	310	602	23	24	47	315	334	649
Ngamiland West	170	147	317	15	24	39	185	171	356
Chobe	32	64	96	11	18	29	43	82	125
Ghanzi	132	167	299	15	16	31	147	183	330
Kgalagadi South	97	110	207	4	4	8	101	114	215
Kgalagadi North	45	42	87	4	1	5	49	43	92
Not Stated	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Total	5,995	6,224	12,219	524	561	1,085	6,519	6,785	13,304

Table D2: Deaths by Time of Occurrence and District of Usual Residence-2020

	CURRENT			NON-CURRENT			TOTAL		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Gaborone	319	389	708	6	14	20	325	403	728
Francistown	200	165	365	9	9	18	209	174	383
Lobatse	56	66	122	2	-	2	58	66	124
Selibe-Phikwe	66	50	116	6	8	14	72	58	130
Orapa	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	3	3
Jwaneng	7	8	15	-	2	2	7	10	17
Sowa	4	2	6	-	-	-	4	2	6
Southern	488	494	982	45	44	89	533	538	1,071
Barolong	209	229	438	27	24	51	236	253	489
Ngwaketse West	40	53	93	4	2	6	44	55	99
South East	225	232	457	12	17	29	237	249	486
Kweneng East	770	841	1,611	71	98	169	841	939	1,780
Kweneng West	102	118	220	24	11	35	126	129	255
Kgatleng	370	348	718	26	22	48	396	370	766
Central Serowe/Palapye	631	619	1,250	43	54	97	674	673	1,347
Central Mahalapye	434	432	866	44	42	86	478	474	952
Central Bobonong	266	249	515	30	34	64	296	283	579
Central Boteti	178	211	389	11	7	18	189	218	407
Central Tutume	534	527	1,061	61	63	124	595	590	1,185
North East	205	185	390	21	17	38	226	202	428
Ngamiland East	287	293	580	24	23	47	311	316	627
Ngamiland West	187	182	369	14	23	37	201	205	406
Chobe	35	62	97	13	18	31	48	80	128
Ghanzi	155	190	345	16	15	31	171	205	376
Kgalagadi South	99	114	213	4	3	7	103	117	220
Kgalagadi North	65	77	142	5	4	9	70	81	151
Other Countries	18	49	67	-	3	3	18	52	70
Not Stated	45	36	81	6	4	10	51	40	91
Total	5,995	6,224	12,219	524	561	1,085	6,519	6,785	13,304

Table D3: Registered Current Deaths by Age and Sex - 2020

	Current Deaths		
	Female	Male	Total
Neonatal (<7days)	203	249	452
Late Neonatal (7-28 days)	74	72	146
Post Neonatal(28-365 days)	177	193	370
<1	454	514	968
1-4	106	130	236
5-9	41	62	103
10-14	31	48	79
15-19	43	78	121
20-24	110	131	241
25-29	156	189	345
30-34	230	271	501
35-39	324	336	660
40-44	355	379	734
45-49	295	385	680
50-54	264	371	635
55-59	316	440	756
60-64	394	481	875
65-69	342	481	823
70-74	366	467	833
75-79	391	396	787
80-84	424	329	753
85+	1,346	725	2,071
Not Stated	7	11	18
Total	5,995	6,224	12,219

Table D4: Deaths by District of Usual Residence and District Of Death - 2020

Usual residence	Same Districts	Other Districts	Total
Gaborone	600	108	708
Francistown	337	28	365
Lobatse	97	25	122
Selibe-Phikwe	81	35	116
Orapa	2	1	3
Jwaneng	11	4	15
Sowa	1	5	6
Southern	647	335	982
Barolong	278	160	438
Ngwaketse West	52	41	93
South East	295	162	457
Kweneng East	1,114	497	1,611
Kweneng West	128	92	220
Kgatleng	544	174	718
Central Serowe/Palapye	942	308	1,250
Central Mahalapye	620	246	866
Central Bobonong	358	157	515
Central Boteti	258	131	389
Central Tutume	565	496	1,061
North East	216	174	390
Ngamiland East	497	83	580
Ngamiland West	300	69	369
Chobe	79	18	97
Ghanzi	293	52	345
Kgalagadi South	171	42	213
Kgalagadi North	81	61	142
Other Countries	-	67	67
Not Stated	-	81	81
Total	8,567	3,652	12,219

Table D5: Age Specific Death Rates - 2020

Age Group	2020 Population	Deaths	ASDR
<1	46,134	968	21
1-4	177,954	236	1
5-9	247,518	103	0
10-14	228,373	79	0
15-19	212,883	121	1
20-24	207,227	241	1
25-29	208,219	345	2
30-34	200,485	501	2
35-39	200,666	660	3
40-44	159,578	734	5
45-49	123,921	680	5
50-54	91,165	635	7
55-59	75,617	756	10
60-64	60,020	875	15
65-69	46,008	823	18
70-74	29,825	833	28
75-79	20,843	787	38
80+	22,010	2,842	129
Total	2,358,446	12,219	5

Table D6: Registered Deaths by Place of Death, Sex and Age - 2020

	Health Facility	Percent	Home	Percent	Total
Female	3,042	51	2,953	49	5,995
Male	3,225	52	2,999	48	6,224
Total	6,267	51	5,952	49	12,219
<1	653	67	315	33	968
1-4	109	46	127	54	236
5-9	40	39	63	61	103
10-14	35	44	44	56	79
15-19	51	42	70	58	121
20-24	106	44	135	56	241
25-29	150	43	195	57	345
30-34	252	50	249	50	501
35-39	366	55	294	45	660
40-44	418	57	316	43	734
45-49	390	57	290	43	680
50-54	396	62	239	38	635
55-59	445	59	311	41	756
60-64	523	60	352	40	875
65-69	456	55	367	45	823
70-74	461	55	372	45	833
75-79	385	49	402	51	787
80-84	347	46	406	54	753
85+	672	32	1,399	68	2,071
Not Stated	12	67	6	33	18
Total	6,267	1,032	5,952	968	12,219

Table D7: Infant Deaths by Month of Occurrence and Age of Child -2020

	<7days	7-28 days	28-365 days	Total	Percent
January	37	20	37	94	9.7
February	32	11	29	72	7.4
March	39	19	41	99	10.2
April	38	11	25	74	7.6
May	40	10	28	78	8.1
June	46	7	21	74	7.6
July	39	8	21	68	7.0
August	33	17	34	84	8.7
September	35	7	31	73	7.5
October	35	9	45	89	9.2
November	28	8	29	65	6.7
December	50	19	29	98	10.1
Total	452	146	370	968	100

Table D8: Infant Deaths by District of Usual Residence- 2020

	1-28 days	1-11 Months	Total	Percent
Gaborone	50	28	78	8.1
Francistown	24	18	42	4.3
Lobatse	9	4	13	1.3
Selibe-Phikwe	3	6	9	0.9
Jwaneng	1	1	2	0.2
Sowa	1		1	0.1
Ngwaketse/Southern	24	16	40	4.1
Barolong	7	12	19	2.0
Ngwaketse West	6	3	9	0.9
South East	19	9	28	2.9
Kweneng East	83	40	123	12.7
Kweneng West	2	1	3	0.3
Kgatleng	28	13	41	4.2
Central Serowe/Palapye	64	35	99	10.2
Central Mahalapye	28	23	51	5.3
Central Bobonong	23	14	37	3.8
Central Boteti	9	18	27	2.8
Central Tutume	69	33	102	10.5
North East	14	7	21	2.2
Ngamiland East	27	32	59	6.1
Ngamiland West	9	14	23	2.4
Chobe	3	3	6	0.6
Ghanzi	22	23	45	4.6
Kgalagadi South	20	12	32	3.3
Kgalagadi North	8	1	9	0.9
Other Countries	5		5	0.5
Not Stated	40	4	44	4.5
Total	598	370	968	100

Table D9 : Deaths By Usual Place of Residence and Time Lapsed Before Registration - 2020

District of Usual Residence	Time lapsed			Total
	<1 Month	1-12 Months	More than 1 Year	
Gaborone	706	8	14	728
Francistown	366	3	14	383
Lobatse	122	-	2	124
Selibe-Phikwe	116	1	13	130
Orapa	3	-	-	3
Jwaneng	15	-	2	17
Sowa	6	-	-	6
Ngwaketse/Southern	983	5	83	1,071
Barolong	438	2	49	489
Ngwaketse West	92	-	7	99
South East	456	3	27	486
Kweneng East	1,609	6	165	1,780
Kweneng West	221	1	33	255
Kgatleng	716	4	46	766
Central Serowe/Palapye	1,251	6	90	1,347
Central Mahalapye	864	5	83	952
Central Bobonong	510	5	64	579
Central Boteti	389	3	15	407
Central Tutume	1,058	7	120	1,185
North East	390	2	36	428
Ngamiland East	581	-	46	627
Ngamiland West	370	1	35	406
Chobe	97	1	30	128
Ghanzi	345	3	28	376
Kgalagadi South	211	2	7	220
Kgalagadi North	142	-	9	151
Other Countries	62	8	-	70
Not Stated	80	3	8	91
Total	12,199	79	1,026	13,304

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