

The National Vital Statistics
System:
Getting from Good to Great

National Vital Statistics System

- 57 Vital Registration jurisdictions in the US
- 50 States
- 5 territories (Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands)
- District of Columbia
- New York City

States' responsibilities

- Registration of births, deaths, pregnancy terminations, marriages, divorces
- Issuance of certified copies
- Public health data collection and analysis
 - Timeliness
 - Quality
- Fraud prevention

What's wrong with the system?

- Not timely
 - Data
 - Reports
- Not a single dataset
 - 1989 v. 2003 revisions, esp. births
- Not high enough quality
- Not enough resources

Getting from good to great

- Improving the national system
- Establishing achievable goals
- Working through
 - VSCP contracts
 - NAPHSIS
 - NCHS
 - The states

What's going to change?

- More timely data for births, deaths, fetal deaths
- Faster data releases and publications by NCHS
- Improved quality

How will this happen?

- Stronger partnership between NCHS and NAPHSIS
- NCHS will improve its systems
- VSCP contract will help states improve realistically
- Joint data quality studies
- Commitment by NCHS, NAPHSIS, states
- New Model Law and Regulations

- More effective monitoring of state performance
- Stronger and faster action to identify problem states
- Corrective Action Plans
- More funding for system and special projects
- Complete implementation of EBR, EDR

- NCHS will provide cause of death coding for all states
- All states on 2003 certificate revision by 2013
- States sending and exchanging data faster
- NCHS will review and process faster
- More training tools to improve quality
- **More resources**

What it means for you

- More timely, cleaner data
- More uniform data across states
- Better electronic systems
- Better fraud prevention
- More informed policy and decision making

When?

- Five year VSCP contract period
- New model Law draft in 2011
- New projects, system starting in 2011
- All states on uniform dataset in 2013
- Stronger partnership between NCHS and the states: NOW