

Health data from the revised birth certificate: Was it worth the wait?



National Conference on Health Statistics

August 8, 2012
Washington, DC

Primary goal of the 2003 revision

IMPROVE DATA QUALITY

- Separate worksheets to encourage collection of data from the best sources
 - One worksheet for the mom to complete (legal, demographic data)
 - Second worksheet (medical/health data) for facility staff to complete using medical records
- Standardized and improved data collection:
 - Detailed specifications for new electronic birth systems.
 - Guidebook for completing the facility worksheet with detailed definitions and instructions, recommendations for preferred sources and key words

A few bumps along the revision road...



- ❑ Staggered implementation of 2003 revised birth certificates across country
- ❑ Limited and constantly changing reporting areas for many key items (e.g., education, prenatal care, tobacco use)
- ❑ Many health items not comparable between revisions (e.g., primary cesarean delivery)
- ❑ No NCHS release (as of yet) of many new data items (i.e., infertility therapy, source of payment, breastfeeding.)

=

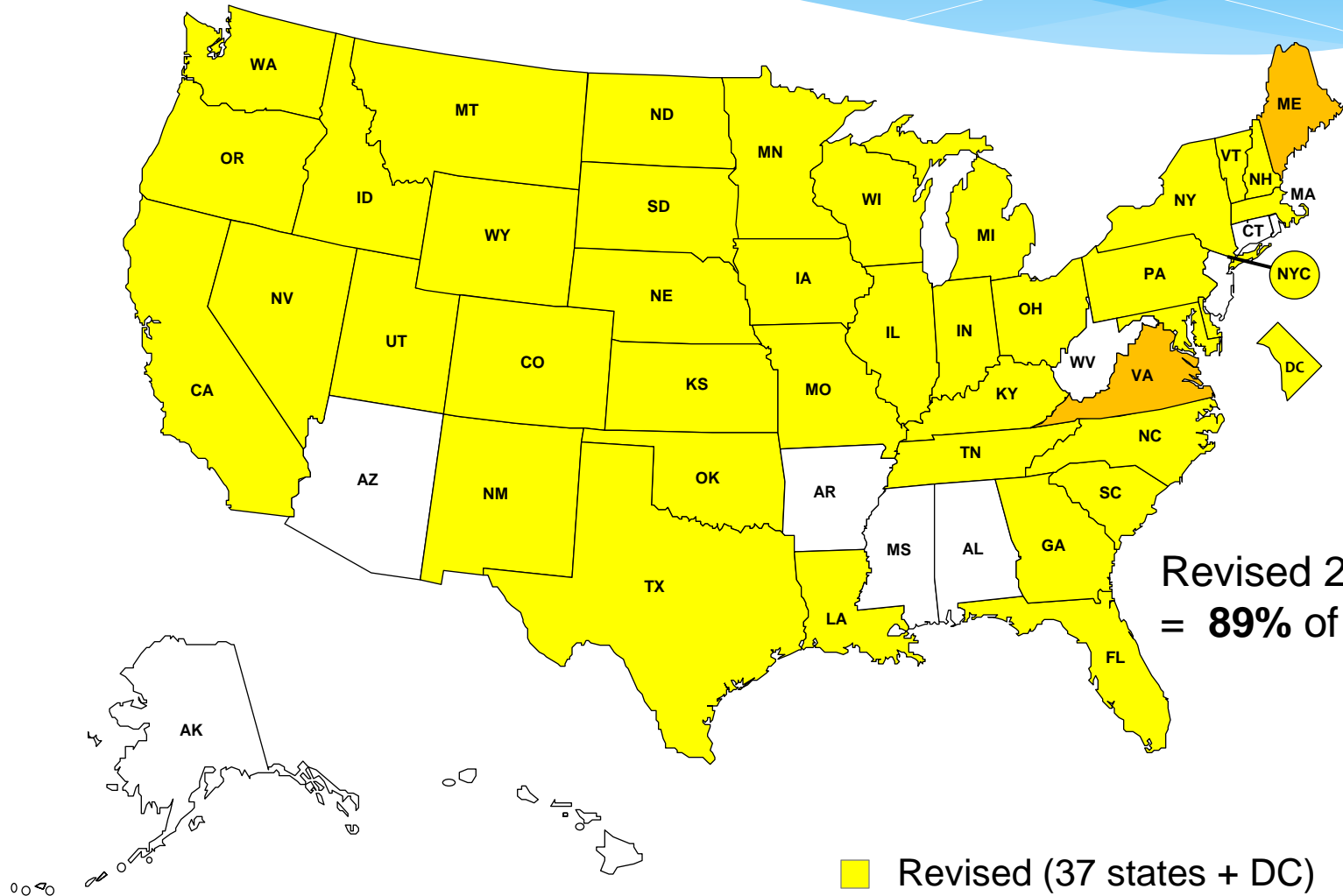
Limited and confusing birth data set 2003---?

Times they are a –changing...



- * Upcoming release of new/new data items (e.g., breastfeeding) with 2009 data file
- * All states will soon be on the 2003 revision

2012 revised states

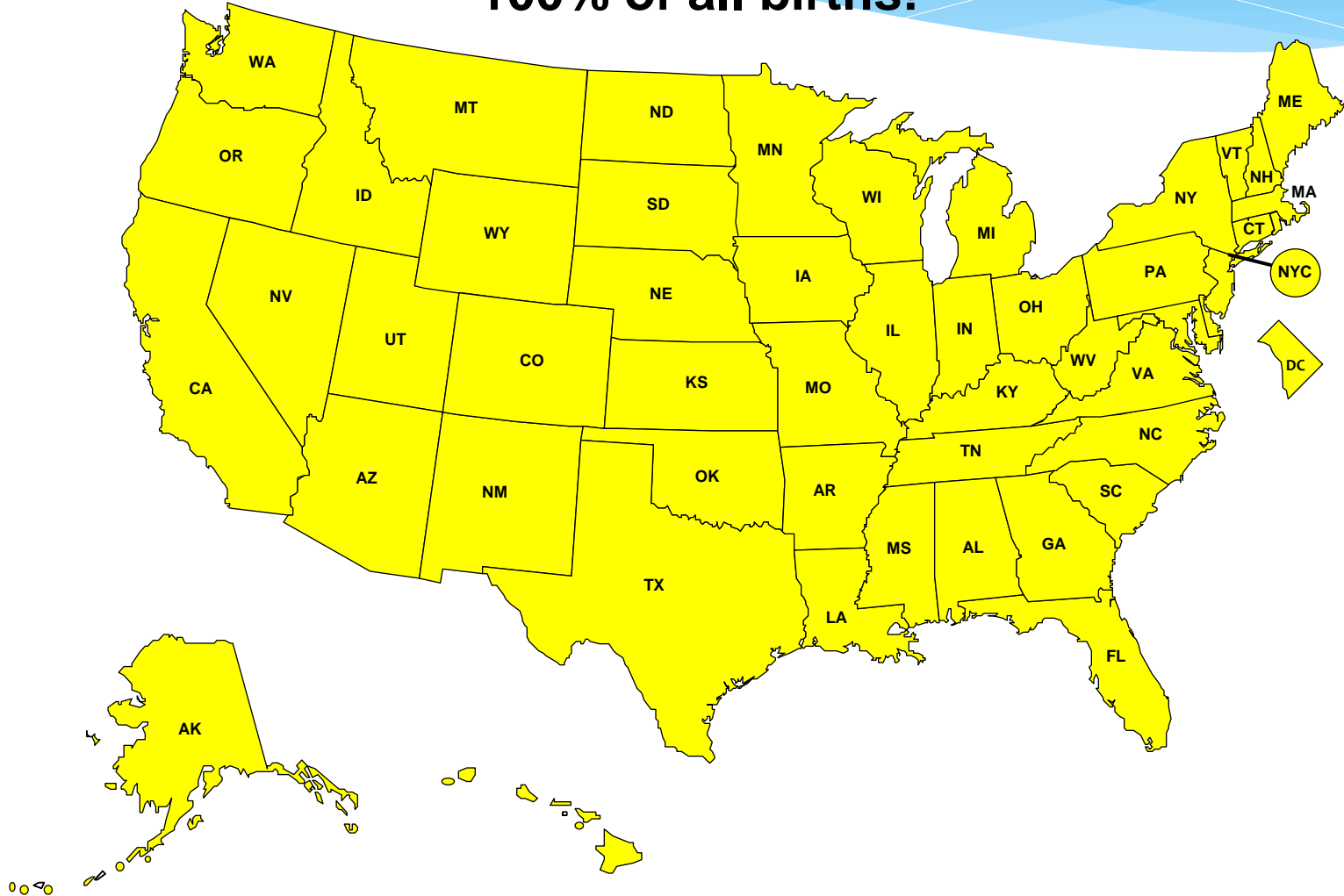


Revised 2012 area
= **89%** of births)

- Revised (37 states + DC)
- Mid year / rolling / partial
- Unrevised

2014 revised states

100% of all births!





National birth certificate data – most items
Improved medical/health data quality

Shae Sutton, Ph.D.; Director, Division of Biostatistics, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Patricia Dietz, Ph.D.; Team Leader, Reproductive Health and Chronic Disease Prevention Team, Maternal and Infant Health Branch, Division of Reproductive Health, NCCDPHD/CDC

Michelle Osterman, M.H.S.; Health Statistician, Reproductive Statistics Branch, Division of Vital Statistics, NCHS/CDC

Isabelle Horon, Ph.D.; Director, Vital Statistics Administration, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene