



Republic
of Rwanda



nlsr
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
STATISTICS OF RWANDA

VITAL STATISTICS

Executive Summary

2025

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1. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Since 2019, the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda has been collaborating with other government stakeholder institutions and development partners to release the annual vital statistics report, consistently.

The Rwanda vital statistics report 2025 is the 7th vital statistics report published to complement official statistics derived from surveys and censuses, following the ones published using data collected in 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and in 2024. It was compiled using data collected through NCI-CRVS across all registration offices, to monitor progress toward attainment of the targets outlined in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), National strategy for transformation (NST2) and Sector Strategic Plans. The report provides information regarding the status of registration of the 9 events provided for by the law n° 71/2024 of 26/06/2024 governing persons and family, with major emphasis on births, deaths and cause of death, marriages and divorces statistics.

This booklet is an extract of the Rwanda Vital statistics report 2025. It showcases the key highlights of vital events and cause of deaths registered in 2025, with a trend analysis for some indicators. The purpose of the booklet is to facilitate the users of the Rwanda vital statistics report 2025 to scan through the report and have a general picture of the report content in a while. We expect it to be a handy and a valuable resource document that will help the users to easily understand the content of Rwanda vital statistics report and what it serves.

2. RECAPITULATION

Table 1: Time series of events occurred and registered in the reporting year, from 2019 to 2025

Year	Births	Deaths	Marriages
2019	313,398	23,791	48,526
2020	312,678	22,634	30,859
2021	310,249	19,797	33,809
2022	341,122	25,567	35,529
2023	334,018	32,853	57,880
2024	341,029	36,021	52,878
2025	356,838	39,378	50,256

Table 2: Time series of vital rates from 2019 to 2025

Year	Total Fertility Rate (TFR)	General Fertility Rate (GFR)	Crude Birth Rate (CBR)	Crude Death Rate (CDR)	Neonatal mortality rate	Infant mortality rate	Under five mortality rate	Crude Marriage rate	Mid-year Population
2019	3.7	110.8	29.1	5.9	23.5	31.5	38.5	3.9	12,374,398
2020	3.7	108.7	28.8	6	23	30	37.1	2	12,663,116
2021	3.5	106	28.4	5.8	23.7	31.6	37.4	3	12,955,763
2022	3.7	106.6	27.7	5.8	25.4	34.3	40.9	3	13,246,394
2023	3.6	104.9	27.5	5.8	20.3	30	38.6	4	13,499,066
2024	3.6	103.85	27.4	5.8	19.2	28.2	39.4	4	13,798,561
2025	3.5	103	27.2	5.5	18.7	28.3	35.7	3.6	14,108,217

3. BIRTH STATISTICS

Status at a glance

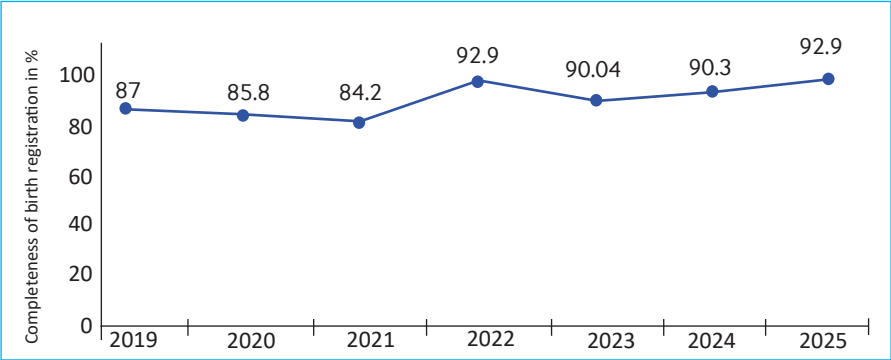
Table 3: Summary statistics on births (2019-2025)

Indicator	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Registered live births (number)	313,398	312,678	310,249	341,122	334,018	341,029	356,838
Males	158,826	158,450	157,615	172,540	168,750	172,460	195,629
Females	154,572	154,228	152,634	168,582	165,268	168,569	176,043
Expected live births (number)	360,388	364,342	368,251	367,312	370,964	377,548	384,279
Males	182,857	184,863	186,847	187,873	188,851	192,203	195,630
Females	177,531	179,479	181,404	179,439	182,113	185,345	188,650
Registration completeness (%)	87	85.8	84.2	92.9	90	90.3	92.9
Males	86.9	85.7	84.4	91.8	89.4	89.7	92.4
Females	87.1	85.9	84.1	93.9	90.8	90.9	93.3
Sex ratio of registered births	102.8	102.7	103.3	102.4	102.1	102.3	102.7

Completeness of birth registration

The completeness of birth registration has been undergoing variations since 2019. The 2025 findings show 2.6 percentage points increase in birth registration completeness rate, indicating a remarkable improvement when compared to the results of the previous year.

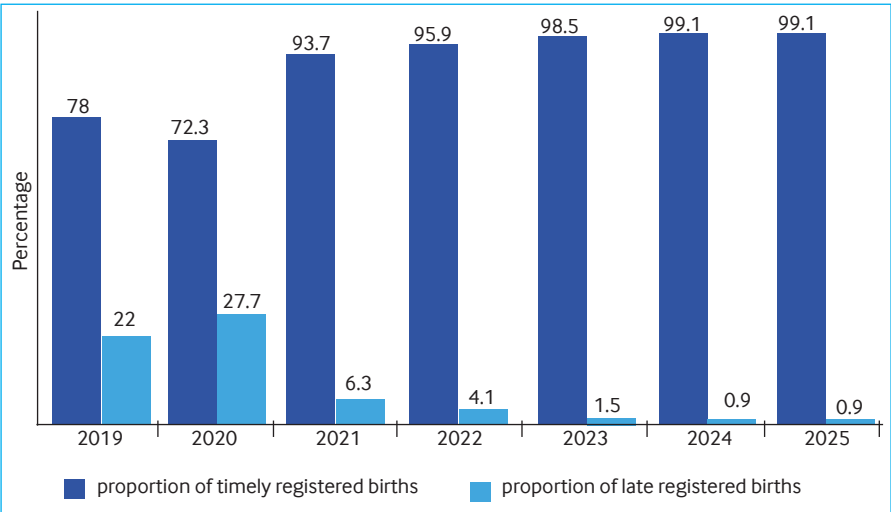
Figure 1: Trend of birth registration completeness in %, 2019-2025



Timeliness of birth registration

The proportion of births registered within 30 days of their occurrence (timely registered births) has been persistently increasing since 2019, with exception to the 2020 results. The 2025 findings show a steady state in the proportion of timely registered births when compared to the previous year.

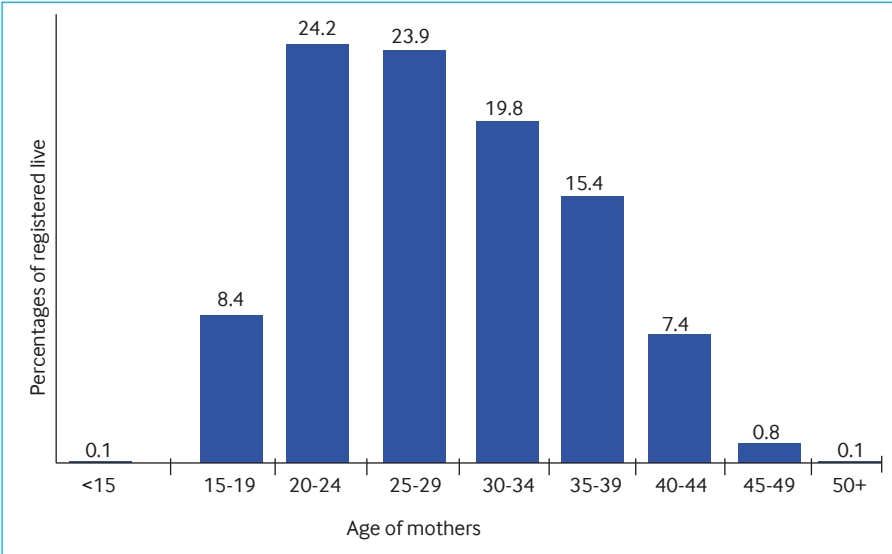
Figure 2: Proportions of timely registered births in %, from 2019 to 2025



Registered live births by age of mothers

Mothers' age groups with the largest share of registered births are 20-24 which recorded 24.2% of total registered live births, followed closely by those aged 25-29 that recorded 23.9%. The shares of registered births from others aged below 15 or above 50 are relatively small.

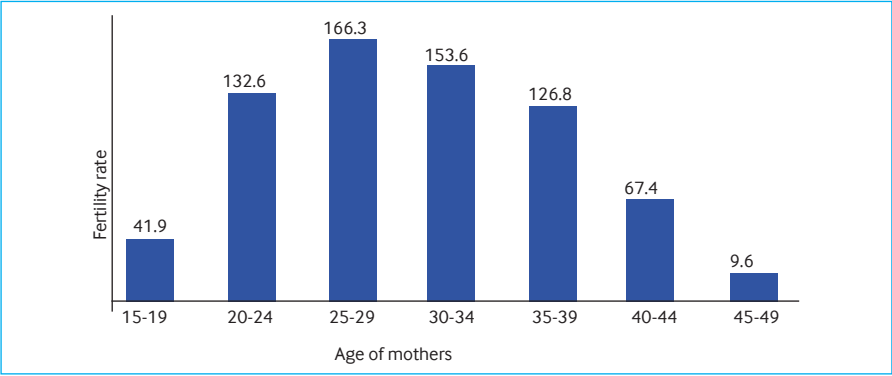
Figure 3: Proportions of timely registered births in %, from 2019 to 2025



Age Specific Fertility Rates

The data indicate that fertility rates are highest among women aged 20–34, with a peak in the 25–29 age group (166.3 per 1,000).

Figure 4: Age Specific Fertility Rates



Other useful information on live births

Among females, Ineza and Ishimwe are the most frequent names for girls born in 2025, while for boys, the most frequent names were Ishimwe and Iganze.

Table 4: Top 20 most preferred babies' surname in 2025 by sex

Rank	Male	Counts	Female	Counts
1	ISHIMWE	8,407	INEZA	8,216
2	IGANZE	5,070	ISHIMWE	5,875
3	MUGISHA	3,780	UWASE	5,449
4	HIRWA	3,380	IRAKOZE	3,079
5	IRAKOZE	2,637	IGIRANEZA	2,859
6	IGIRANEZA	2,386	IGANZE	2,763
7	INEZA	2,184	INEZAYIMANA	2,160
8	IZIBYOSE	2,168	UWINEZA	2,153
9	IRADUKUNDA	1,928	IRADUKUNDA	1,964
10	IRASUBIZA	1,889	KUNDWA	1,855
11	GANZA	1,730	UMUTONIWASE	1,754
12	KWIZERA	1,569	IRASUBIZA	1,604
13	GWIZA	1,470	UMUKUNDWA	1,436
14	MPANO	1,325	AGWIZE	1,318
15	NIYOGISUBIZO	1,307	NISHIMWE	1,255
16	BYISHIMO	1,234	ISIMBI	1,153
17	IGABE	1,200	IZIBYOSE	1,153
18	IRANZI	1,107	IGIHOZO	1,115
19	IMPANO	1,096	NIYOGISUBIZO	1,074
20	BIGWI	1,090	NIYOGUSHIMWA	1,066

4. DEATH STATISTICS

Status at a glance

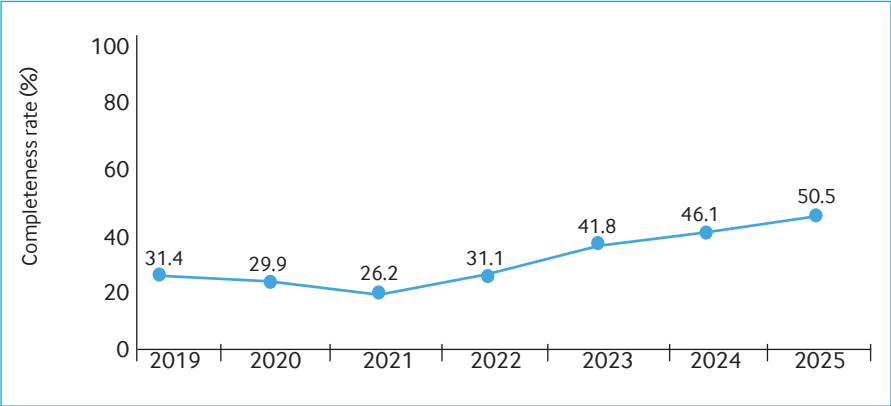
Table 5: Summary on mortality statistics

Indicator	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Registered deaths (number)	23,791	22,634	19,797	25,536	32,853	36,021	39,355
Male	13,188	12,659	10,792	14,041	17,996	19,843	22,051
Female	10,603	9,975	9,005	11,495	14,857	16,178	17,304
Expected number of deaths	75,712	75,624	75,653	82,241	78,561	78,121	77,876
Male	38,760	38,803	38,774	39,291	38,213	38,200	38,262
Female	36,952	36,821	36,879	42,950	40,348	39,921	39,614
Death registration completeness (%)	31.4	29.9	26.2	31.1	41.8	46.1	50.5
Male	34	32.6	27.8	35.7	47.1	51.9	57.6
Female	28.7	27.1	24.4	26.8	36.8	40.5	43.7
Crude death rate per 1,000 (Adjusted)	5.9	6	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.5
Under-5 mortality rate per 1,000 live births (Adjusted)	38.5	37.1	39.8	43.9	37.9	39.4	32.67
Sex-ratio at death	124	124.1	119.8	122.1	121.1	122.7	127.4

Completeness of death registration

The completeness of death registration has been undergoing variations across years since 2019, recording an increasing on average. The 2025 findings show 4.4 percentage points in completeness of death registration when compared to the 2024 results.

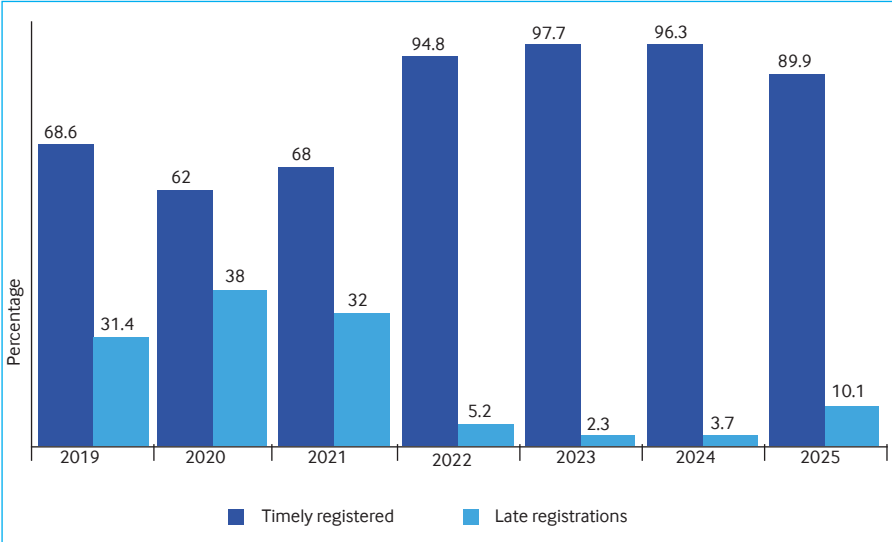
Figure 5: Trend of Death Registration Completeness Rate 2019–2025



Timeliness of death registration

The proportion of deaths registered within 30 days of their occurrence (timely registered deaths) has been generally increasing since 2019, with remarkable exceptions to the 2020 and 2021 results. The 2025 findings show a 7.4 percentage points decrease in the proportion of timely registered deaths when compared to the previous year.

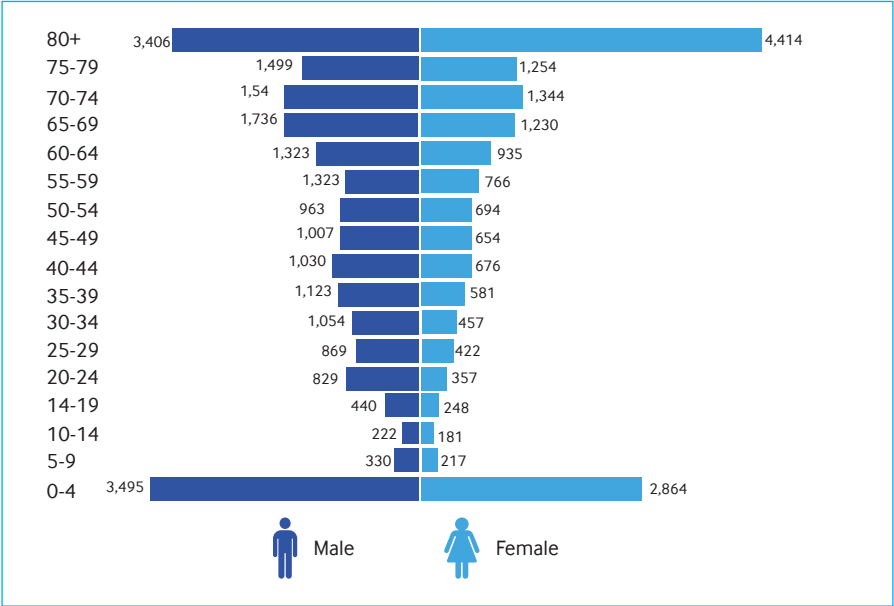
Figure 6: Proportion of timely registered deaths in %, 2019 to 2025



Registered deaths by age and sex

The number of registered deaths was high among males, totaling 22,027, compared to 17,294 for females. At early stages of life (0-4), registered males outweigh females while at old age (80+), registered females outweigh males.

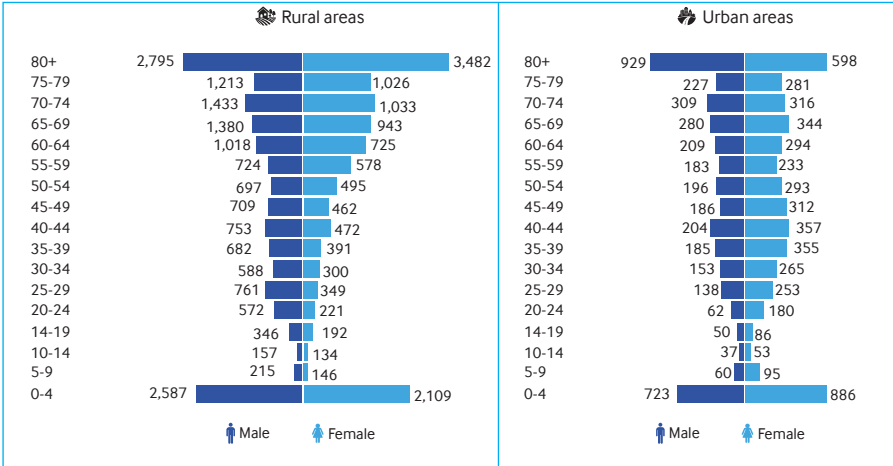
Figure 7: Age-Sex structure of all registered deaths (counts), 2025



The age-sex distribution patterns across age groups displays slight variations between urban and rural areas. However, in both urban and rural areas, registered males outweigh females while at old age (80+), registered females outweigh males.

Age-sex distribution of registered deaths in rural and urban areas

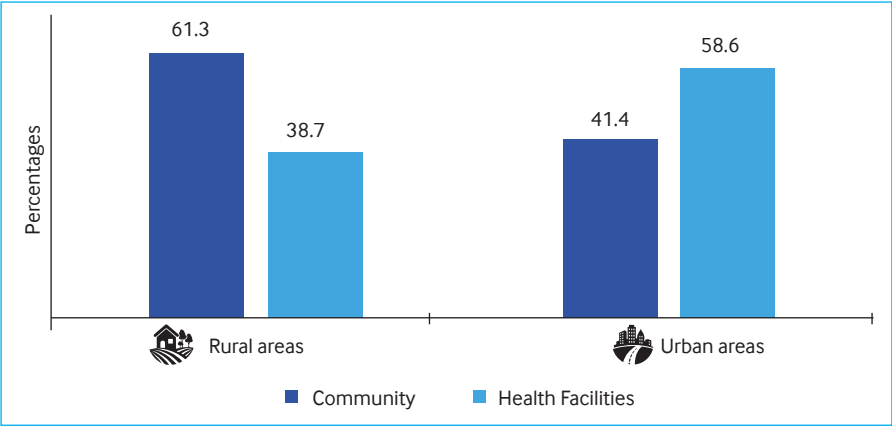
figure 8: Age-sex distribution of registered deaths in rural and urban areas



Registered deaths by place of occurrence

The CRVS system generated data in 2025 show high proportion of registered community deaths (55.9%) compared to facility deaths (44.1%). Among registered deaths in Rural areas, a high proportion occurred outside health facilities or in community (61.3%) compared to facility deaths (38.7%) while in urban areas, health facility deaths represent 58.6% compared to the 41.4% occurring in community.

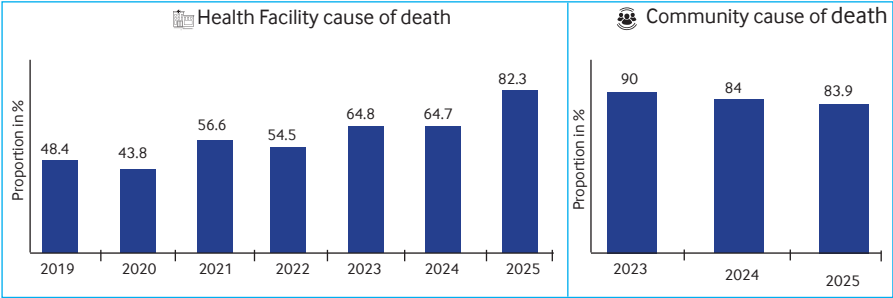
Figure 9: Proportion of death registered by place of residence (Urban and Rural) and place of occurrence



5. CAUSE OF DEATH STATISTICS

The proportion of usable cause of death at health facilities is less than the same proportion for community deaths. However, the quality of facility causes of death recorded average increase overtime while community causes of death reflect a continuous decrease in the quality.

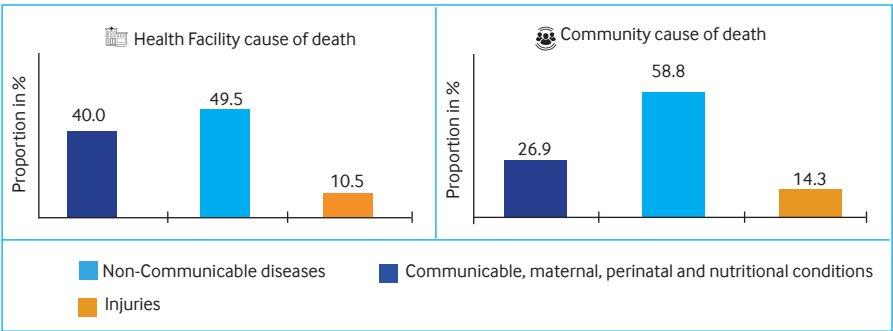
Figure 10: Trends of usable cause of death in health facilities and community (in %)



Registered causes of death by 3 broad categories

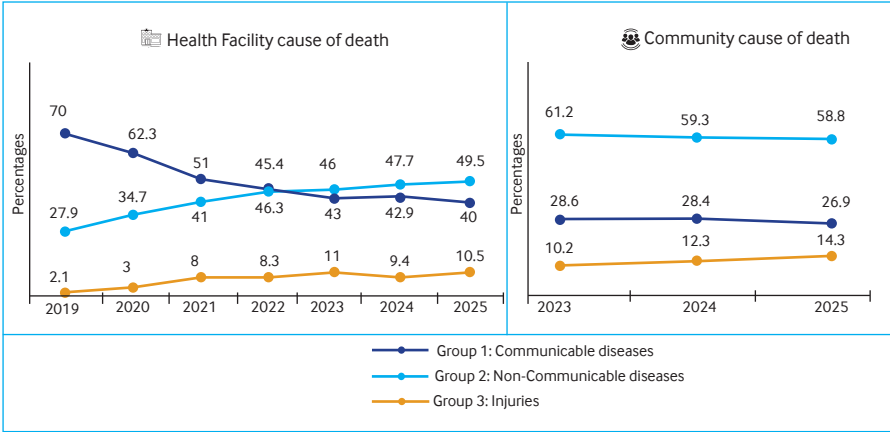
Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) accounted for the largest proportion of usable causes of death at both health facilities and in the community.

Figure 11: Distribution of usable death causes at health facilities and community by three main broad groups



The trend analysis shows that in health facilities, the proportion of communicable diseases has been decreasing overtime while non-communicable diseases and injuries have been increasing. In the community, the shape of diseases patterns remained relatively stable, with the proportion of injuries slightly increasing overtime compared to the remaining groups.

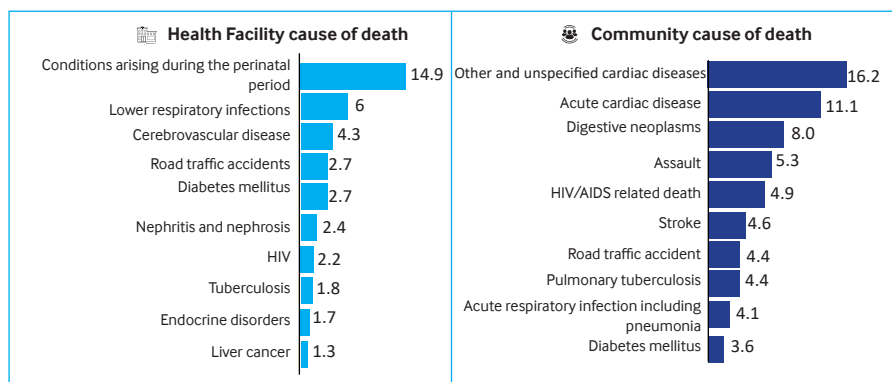
Figure 12: Trends of usable cause of death in health facilities and the community by three broad groups



Leading causes of death

The top leading cause of death recorded in health facilities was conditions originating in the perinatal period while in community, the leading cause was other and unspecified cardiac diseases.

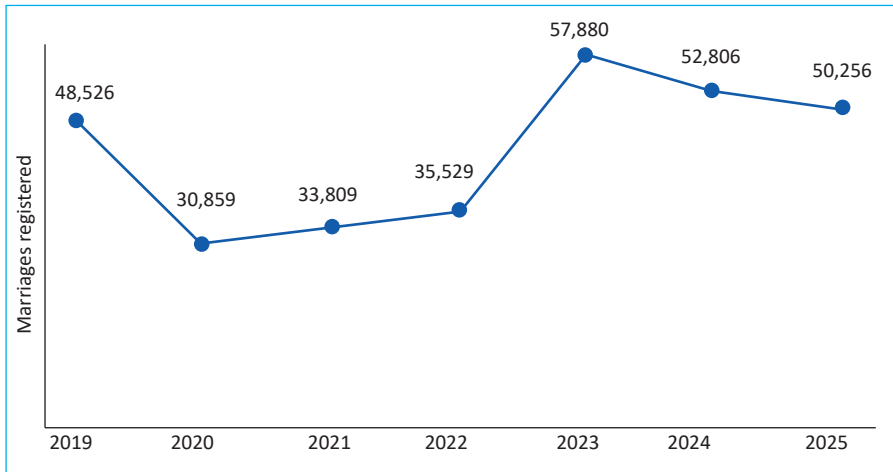
Figure 13: Top 10 Leading Cause of Death at Health Facilities & Community



6. MARRIAGE STATISTICS

The number of registered marriages underwent a fluctuating trend over the years. Highest number was observed in 2023 while the lowest was observed in 2020.

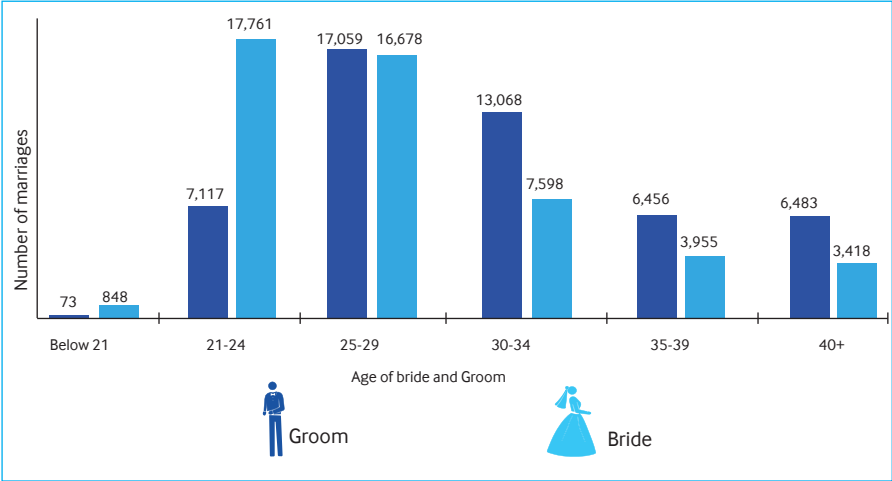
Figure 14: Trends of marriages registered over the years



Marriages registered in 2025 by age of bride and groom

The data generated by the NCI-CRVS system shows variations in marriage registrations based on the ages of brides and grooms at the time of marriage. Specifically, within the age interval of 21 to 24 years, the number of brides exceeds the number of grooms.

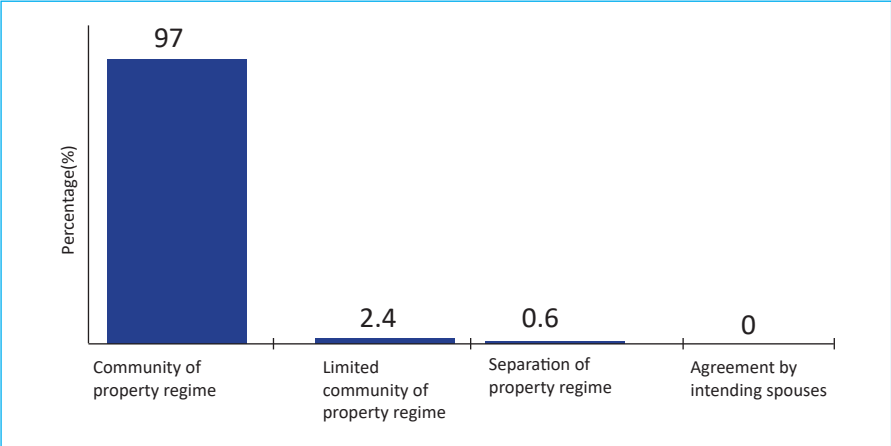
Figure 15: Registered marriages by age of bride and groom, 2025



Marriage regimes

Community of property regime was the most frequently preferred matrimonial regime in 2025, accounting for 97.0% all of registered marriages.

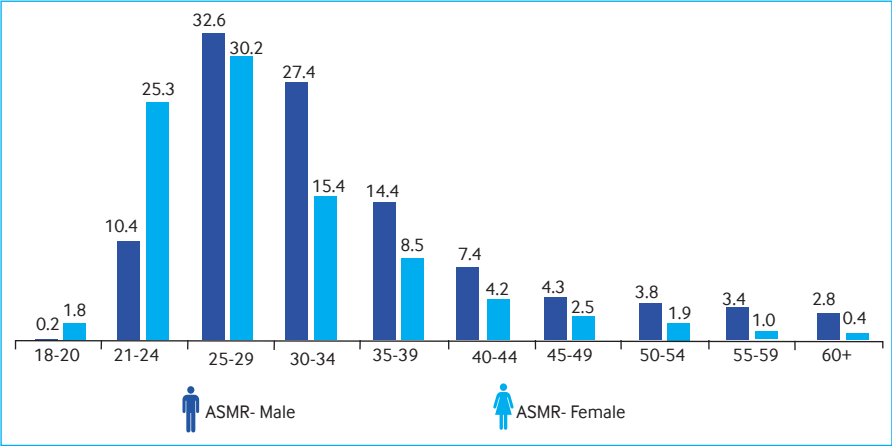
Figure 16: Registered marriages by matrimonial regime



Age specific marriage rates

The marriage is most prevalent in the 25-29 age group for both genders. The marriage rate for 18-20 age group is almost negligible for both grooms and brides.

Figure 17: Age specific marriage rates for marriages registered in 2025



7. DIVORCE STATISTICS

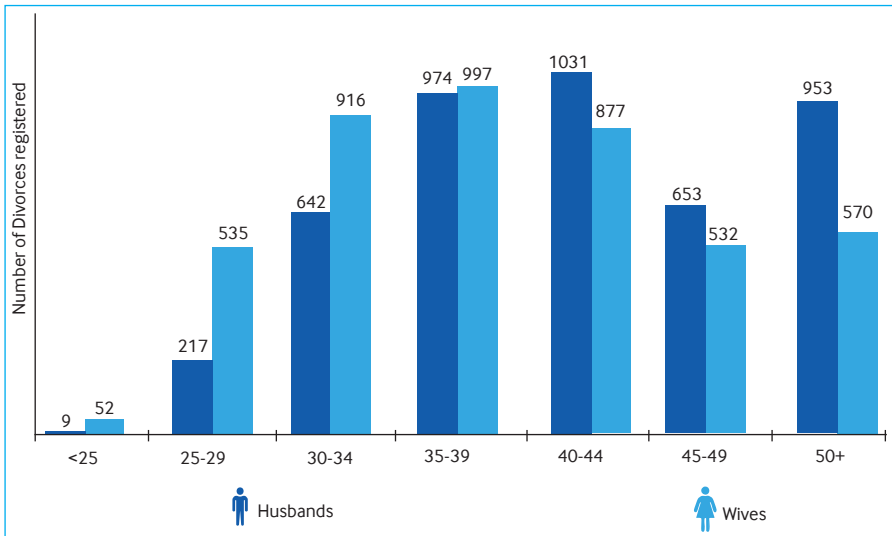
Divorces registered in 2025 by period of occurrence

Total of 4,479 divorces were registered in CRVS system of which, only 2,629 were legally granted by the courts in 2025 while the remaining were granted before 2025, though registered in 2025.

Registered divorces by age of divorcees

The majority of divorce registrations are scattered between the ages of 30 and 44, with minimal occurrences under 25 years.

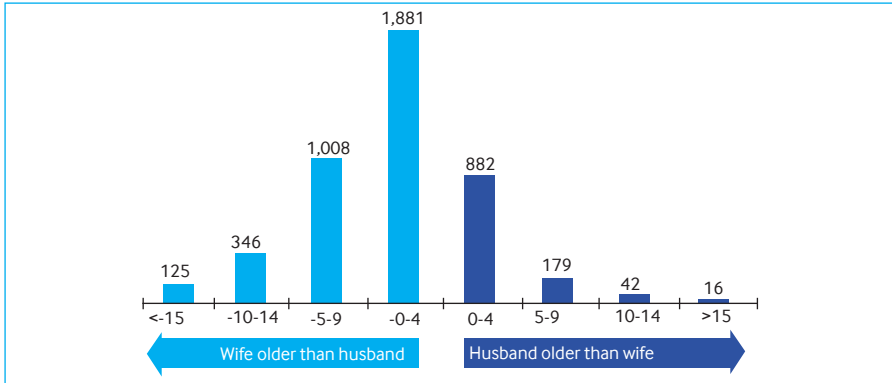
Figure 18: Number of registered divorces by age of divorcees



Divorces by differences in age of wife and husband

The high numbers of divorces occurred among couples where the wife is older than the husband when compared to couples where the husband is older than the wife.

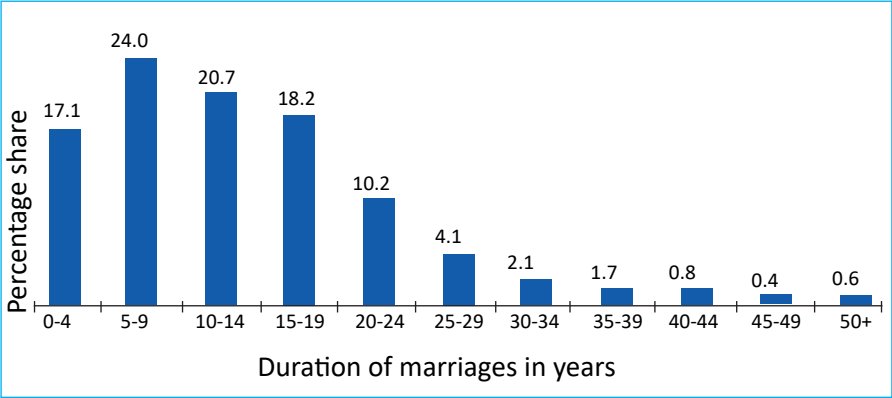
Figure 19: Divorces by differences in age of wife and husband



Divorces by duration of marriage

The findings show that 61.1% of registered divorces occurred within 15 years of marriage. Generally, divorce rates are high among couples whose marriage duration is below 25 years and low thereafter.

Figure 20: Registered divorces by duration of marriage



8. OTHER REGISTERED VITAL EVENTS

The law No 71/2024 of 26/06/2024 governing persons and family provides for registration of 9 events: birth, death, marriage, divorce, child recognition, guardianship, annulment of marriage, and legitimation. This specific chapter describes registered events other than events narrated in the previous chapters.

In 2025, NCI-CRVS system showed 4,058 registered legitimations, 87 adoptions, 27,788 recognitions and 21 annulments of marriage. No guardianship case was registered in 2025.

Table 6: Numbers of other vital events registered in 2025

No	Names of Events	Number registered in 2025
1	Legitimization	4,058
2	Adoption	87
3	Recognition	27,788
4	Annulment	21
5	Guardianship	0

