

# Types of Health Data

Assess utility of data – consider nature of data, availability, representativeness, completeness

## Vital Statistics

### ■ Mortality Statistics

#### Advantages

Complete

Cause of death, contributing factors

#### Limitations

No certification of cause

Lack of standardization of diagnostic criteria

Stigma

International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10)

# Birth Certificates

- Calculate birth rates, birth conditions, studies of environmental influences on congenital malformation

## Advantages

complete

includes other information

## Limitations

Some data unreliable

Some conditions undetected at birth

# Reportable Disease Statistics



- Usually infectious and communicable diseases

## Advantage

track outbreaks of infectious diseases

## Limitations

incompleteness of population coverage

physician failure to fill out reporting forms

unaware

unwilling to risk compromising confidentiality