



2.7.3 Children without civil documentation

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Practical obstacles to birth registration, particularly in areas with underdeveloped administrative systems or affected by armed conflict, have resulted in an estimated 45 000 children lacking civil documentation, subsequently excluding them from rights and services.⁸⁷⁴ Some hospitals allowed women to give birth in their facilities but did not automatically issue birth certificates for the children when the identity documents of both parents were not submitted.⁸⁷⁵ Children without birth certificates are at a risk of statelessness.⁸⁷⁶ Moreover, they cannot obtain other civil documentation and face difficulties when enrolling to school, or when accessing services and are at a bigger risk of child labour.⁸⁷⁷ Children can be denied access to healthcare and vaccinations if they are not able to produce civil documentation, including the ID and marriage certificate of the mother.⁸⁷⁸

Among particularly affected children due to lack of documentation are displaced children, children perceived as associated with ISIL,⁸⁷⁹ and children born from unregistered marriages.⁸⁸⁰ For children born out of ISIL sexual violence, obtaining civil documentation is 'exceptionally difficult'.⁸⁸¹ In such cases, women may not know the father's identity or may not want to disclose it, which can as a result in the children becoming stateless.⁸⁸² See also [Children with perceived affiliation to ISIL](#).

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