

Table 1
The Time It Takes to Register a Fetal Death Has Generally Increased in Recent Years

YEAR	AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS		MEDIAN NUMBER OF DAYS	
2017	21.77		13.36	
2018	23.96		13.47	
2019	22.50		13.63	
2020	25.94		15.41	
2021	31.24		18.70	
2022	30.05		18.51	
Total	25.86		14.52	
STATE LAW ALLOWS 8 DAYS FOR THE ENTIRE PROCESS	8.00		8.00	

Source: CDPH's Fetal Death Registration System and state law.

Note: We also examined unattended fetal deaths and found that about one percent, or 181 of all fetal deaths statewide from 2017 through 2022, were likely unattended. According to CDPH's data, registering unattended fetal deaths at the local registration districts took an average of 44 days. We determined a fetal death was likely unattended by a physician at delivery, based on the location where the fetal death occurred as recorded in FDRS data, such as in a vehicle.