Archives of Ontario
Pathfinder to
Birth Registrations

This Pathfinder will guide you through the **Indexes** to the **Registration Number** and then to the **Registration**. To find the matching microfilm reel numbers for the Indexes and the Registrations, consult the appendix listings in the *Births Binder* for **Inventory 80 (Records of the Office of the Registrar General)** or follow the links below. The microfilm is available in the Archives Reading Room and through interlibrary loan.

**Please note:** The registrations are also available on the ancestry.ca, for 1869-1914; [click here to access the ancestry.ca website](https://www.ancestry.ca). The registrations are also available on the Family Search Website for 1869-1912; [click here to access the Family Search website](https://familysearch.org).

**Person’s Name:**

**Birth Date:**

### Step 1: When did the birth occur?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before July 1869</th>
<th>Between July 1869 and December 1917</th>
<th>After 1917</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| A small number of births were registered after 1869, as delayed registrations. These registrations are available online on the Family Search website. [Click here to access the Family Search website](https://familysearch.org). | See: Registration Indexes  
- [Click here to view the microfilm list for the Indexes to Births and Stillbirths](https://familysearch.org) or view A4 in the *Births Binder* to match the year and first initial of the surname to the corresponding MS 931 microfilm reel.  
- The reels are in the **Self Service Microfilm Area**.  
- If you find the name of the person, go to Step 2 below. | These records are located at the **Office of the Registrar General**:  
189 Red River Road  
P.O. Box 4600  
Thunder Bay, Ontario  
P7B 6L8  
Phone: 416-325-8305  
Toll-free in Ontario: 1-800-461-2156  
[Click here to access the Service Ontario website](https://www.serviceontario.ca). |

For other possible sources:  
- [click here to consult Research Guide 204 (Sources for Births, Marriages and Deaths records)](https://www.ontarioarchives.gov.on.ca).  
- Consult the “Related Records” and “Associated Materials” sections in the **Deaths Binder**.

### Step 2: Did you find the Person’s Name on the Indexes to Births and Stillbirths?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Write down:**  
Six-Digit Registration Number (ignore any hyphens):  
Two-Digit Registration year (not the birth year):  
Examples of the registration number and year entry from the Indexes to Births and Stillbirths:  
[![Example from the 1870 Index](https://example.com)](https://example.com) | **Consult Original Indexes, 1869-1910:**  
- For July-Dec. 1869, retrieve MS 938, reel 1  
- For 1869-1910, [Click here to view the microfilm list for the Original Index Books to Birth Registrations](https://familysearch.org) or view A9 in the *Births Binder* to identify the microfilm reel you need to consult from MS 939  
If you find the person’s name:  
- Write down the registration year, county or district, volume number or letter, and folio (page) number.  
- [Click here to view the microfilm list for the Registrations of Births (listed geographically)](https://familysearch.org) or view B1 in the *Births Binder* to identify the microfilm reel matching the Registration Year, volume number or letter, and folio number. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Example from the 1914 Index</strong></th>
<th><strong>If the person’s name is not on these reels, the birth was probably NOT registered with the Government of Ontario.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Step 3: What is the Registration Number?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Between 0-199999</strong></th>
<th><strong>Between 200000-499999</strong></th>
<th><strong>Between 500000-599999</strong></th>
<th><strong>Between 600000-699999</strong></th>
<th><strong>Between 900000-999999</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Remove the “0” or “00” at the start of the Registration Number. <strong>Click here to view the microfilm list for the Registrations of Births and Stillbirths</strong> or view A2 in the <em>Births Binder</em> to identify the microfilm reel matching the Registration Year and Registration Number. Look up the Registration number on the microfilm.</td>
<td>Remove the “2” or “3” or “4” at the start of the Registration Number. <strong>Click here to view the microfilm list for the Registrations of Births and Stillbirths</strong>, or view A2 in the <em>Births Binder</em> to identify the microfilm reel matching the Registration Year and Registration Number. Look up the Registration number on the microfilm.</td>
<td><strong>Click here to view the microfilm list for the Delayed Registrations of Births and Stillbirths “50” Series</strong> or view A3 in the <em>Births Binder</em> to identify the microfilm reel matching the Birth Year and Registration Number. Look up the Registration number on the microfilm.</td>
<td>For the years 1869-1899, use the <em>Corrections Book</em> found on MS 931, reel 11 to get a revised registration number. For 1900 and later, contact the Office of the Registrar General. 189 Red River Road P.O. Box 4600 Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 6L8 Phone: 416-325-8305 Toll-free in Ontario: 1-800-461-2156 Website: <a href="http://www.serviceontario.ca">www.serviceontario.ca</a> <strong>Click here to view the microfilm list for the Delayed Registrations of Births and Stillbirths “90” Series</strong> or view A15 in the <em>Births Binder</em> to identify the microfilm reel matching the Birth Year and Registration Number. Look up the Registration number on the microfilm.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>