
Understanding Vital Statistic Indexes

203 Research Guide

Most Recent Update:
October 2020

This Research Guide explains the numerical codes that you will find when you use the Vital Statistics Indexes. Please use this guide with *Research Guide 202: Vital Statistics*.

All the Vital Statistic Indexes have the same basic data. See the *Examples* on page 2.

1. **NAME:** copied from the original *handwritten* Registration. Women remarrying were indexed under their previous *married* surname. Be sure to check every variation, including potential phonetic spellings, clerical and typographical errors.
2. **DATE OF EVENT:** e.g., 06 12 01 = June 12th 1901. Marriages for 1873-1881 were indexed with single digit for the months and *O*, *N*, and *D* for October, November and December.
3. **PLACE OF REGISTRATION:** the town or township where the event was registered. For rural births and deaths, this may vary from where the actual event took place.
4. **REGISTRATION YEAR:** *compare with DATE OF EVENT (2, above) in case it is a Delayed Registration.* Registrations that were not delayed are at the Archives of Ontario. Keep in mind that many births and some marriages were not registered until decades after the event.
5. **REGISTRATION NUMBER:** refers to the numbered entry in the Registration Book that has the full record.

An Index may have more information, depending on the type of event, including:

CONTROL CODES: The first digit refers to the nature of the Registration. The second digit to any alteration made to it (on the opposite side, see the "codes" sidebar on right). For example:

91 = Death Registration / Original unchanged entry

14 = Birth Registration / Re-registered under guardian's name

Births involving an act of guardianship may be listed twice: once as an "illegitimate" birth, often under the mother's surname (13 = birth / original registration), and again, under the guardian's surname (15 = birth / duplicate surname).

6. *: an altered Registration such as the correction of a misspelling of a surname or changed due to a guardianship. If the change was made before the Indexes were created in the late 1950s, only the corrected version is listed.
7. **MAIDEN NAME:** the names of women remarrying were indexed under their previous married surname. The maiden surname is listed here as a cross-reference.
8. **C.O.: IGNORE.** These are early data processing codes for locations in Ontario (e.g., Toronto = 72, Waterloo Township = 61, etc.).
9. **Sex Status and Event. IGNORE.** These may be encoding checks done during the transcribing of 1873-1881 Marriages.

Examples

Indexes

Births

VITAL STATISTICS INDEX										
NAME	OCCUPATION	SEX	AGE	DATE	PLACE OF EVENT	C.A. CL.	S.L.C.	DATE		REGISTRATION NO.
								MO	DA	
P BELL		M	35	120292	M21SQUELPH	6		12	02	03534992
LE GEORGE	FRANK	M	38	101492	M11WINDHAM	15		10	12	02112792
ARETTE	ALBERT	M	13	033092	M118ANDWICH	35		03	08	00808492
ADY ANNA	MARY	F	35	020492	F11M DORCHESTER	12		02	04	01846792
VE FRANK	E STELL	M	12	092192	M113 DORCHESTER TWP	72		09	21	00657092
BE MYRTLE	ADELE	F	12	110692	F11TORONTO	72		11	06	0422692
RESKY LEAH		F	2	091892	F11TORONTO	72		09	18	04222892

1 3 6 9 2 5 4

Marriages

VITAL STATISTICS INDEX											
SURNAME	2 MARR	GIVEN	NAMES	DATE	RECORD IDENTITY	PLACE OF EVENT	C.A. CL.	S.L.C.	DATE		REGISTRATION NO.
									MO	DA	
RAMSY	33	JESSIE		8:28 73	05 204-841	ST CATHARI	74		08	11	
RANDAL	35	HARRIET		0:15 73	007-793	PARKHILL	73		08	11	
RANDALL	27	EDWIN		9:07 73	006-336	RALEIGH T	73		08	11	
RANDALL	70	ELIZABETH		2:18 73	013-527	PINE OAKCHA	73		08	11	
RANDALL	15	GEORGE		7:10 73	003-409	KINGSTON	73		08	11	
RANDALL	72	JAMES		0:07 73	014-298	TORONTO	73		08	11	

1 2 7 5 3 4 10 8

Deaths

VITAL STATISTICS INDEX										
NAME	OCCUPATION	SEX	AGE	DATE	PLACE OF EVENT	C.A. CL.	S.L.C.	DATE		REGISTRATION NO.
								MO	DA	
MALTO MAGNUS		M	56	011336	M91FORT WILLIAM	56		01	13	03245116
MARQUSON REBECCA		F	56	012716	F91FORT WILLIAM	56		01	27	03246716
MAREY	FRANCES S K	F	72	012016	M91TORONTO	65		01	20	00150216
ABBOTT		F	65	060316	F91GUELPH	33		06	03	03615816
ABBOTT		F	33	091516	F21BRANTFORD	22		09	15	00835816
ABBOTT	ABEL GILBERT	M	34	040316	M91TRENTON	34		04	03	01623216
ABBOTT	BLANCHE	F	72	040616	F91HOWLAND TWP	34		04	06	02116616
ABBOTT	BYRON	M	72	021816	M91TORONTO	72		02	18	00209916
ABBOTT	DONALD THOMAS	M	35	122316	M91LONDON	35		12	23	02029017

1 3 6 9 2 5 4

Archives of Ontario, 134 Ian Macdonald Blvd., Toronto, ON M7A 2C5
 Tel: 416-327-1600 Toll free (Ontario): 1-800-668-9933
 e-mail: reference@ontario.ca website: www.ontario.ca/archives

© Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2009

This information is provided as a public service. Although we endeavour to ensure that the information is as current and accurate as possible, errors do occasionally occur. Therefore, we cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information. Readers should where possible verify the information before acting on it.