
Understanding the Vital Statistics Indexes

203 Research GuideMost Recent Update: April 2009

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 Bulletin**.

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 a single digit for the months and **O**, **N**, and **D** for **O**ctober, **N**ovember and **D**ecember.
- 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:

- 6** **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).
- 7** **"*":** 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.
- 8** **MAIDEN NAME:** the names of women remarrying were indexed under their previous married surname. The maiden surname is listed here as a cross-reference.
- 9** **"C.O.":** IGNORE. These are early data processing codes for locations in Ontario (e.g., Toronto = **72**, Waterloo Township = **61**, etc.).
- 10** **"Sex Status" & "Event":** IGNORE. These may be encoding checks done during the transcribing of 1873-1881 Marriages.

Figure 1

Indexes

Births

NAME	OCCASION	PLACE OF BIRTH	C.A.	C.L.	DATE		REGISTRATION NO.	SEX
					MO	DA		
PBELL		M91SCUELPH	6		12	02	103534992	M
LE GEORGE FRANK		M11WINDHAM	38		10	14	102112792	M
RETTE ALBERT		M118ANDWICH	13		03	30	00808492	M
ODY ANNA MARY		F11M DORCHESTER	35		02	04	01846792	F
BE FRANK ESTELL		M11S DORCHESTER TWP	12		09	21	100657092	M
BE MYRTLE ADELE		F11TORONTO	72		11	06	04226252	F
RESKY LEAH		M11TORONTO	74		09	18	042222692	F

Marriages

SURNAME	MARR	GIVEN	NAMES	DATE	RECORD IDENTITY		PLACE OF BIRTH	CROSS REFERENCE	SEX	
					NO.	DAY				
RAMSY	33	JESSIE		8:28	73	05	204-841	ST CATHARI	74	E
RANDAL	35	HARRIET		9:15	73		007-793	PARKHILL	73	E
RANDALL	27	EDWIN		9:07	73		006-336	RALEIGH T	73	C
RANDALL	70	ELIZABETH		2:18	73		013-527	PIRE OKCHA	73	E
RANDALL	15	GEORGE		7:11	73		003-409	KINGSTON	73	A
RANDALL	72	JAMES		0:07	73		014-296	TORONTO	73	A

Deaths

NAME	OCCASION	PLACE OF BIRTH	C.A.	C.L.	DATE		REGISTRATION NO.	SEX
					MO	DA		
MALTO WAGNUS		M91FORT WILLIAM	56		01	13	03245116	M
MARONSON REBECCA		F91FORT WILLIAM	56		01	27	03246716	F
ABBOTT		M91TORONTO	72		02	01	00150216	M
ABBOTT		F91SCUELPH	65		06	03	03615816	F
ABBOTT		F21BRANTFORD	35		09	15	00835816	F
ABBOTT		M91TRENTON	22		04	03	01623216	M
ABBOTT		F91HOWLAND TWP	34		04	06	02116616	F
ABBOTT		M91TORONTO	72		02	18	00209916	M
ABBOTT		M91TORONTO	35		12	23	0102029016	M

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