| **Archives of Ontario** |  |
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| Pathfinder to  Birth Registrations  Last Updated: August 2024 | |

This Pathfinder will guide you through the **Indexes** to the **Registration Number** andthen 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)*** *o*r follow the links below. The microfilm is available in the Archives Reading Room and through interlibrary loan.

Please note: Births are no longer microfilmed as of 1918 and can only be accessed through ancestry.ca, which holds digital birth records from 1869-1918; [click here to access the ancestry.ca website](http://www.ancestry.ca). Ancestry can be accessed without a membership at the Archives of Ontario and many public libraries at [ancestryinstitution.ca](https://ancestryinstitution.ca). The registrations for 1869-1912 are also available for free (with registration) on the Family Search website; [click here to access the Family Search website](http://www.familysearch.org).

**Person’s Name: Birth Date:**

## Step 1: When did the birth occur?

| **Before July 1869** | **Between July 1869 and December 1917** | **Between July 1869 and December 1918** | **After 1919** |
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| 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](http://www.familysearch.org).  For other possible sources:   * [click here to consult Research Guide 204 (Sources for Births, Marriages and Deaths records).](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/access/documents/research_guide_204_birth_marriage_death.pdf) * Consult the “Related Records” and “Associated Materials” sections in the ***Deaths Binder***. | See: Registration Indexes   * [Click here to view the microfilm list for the Indexes to Births and Stillbirths](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/microfilm/v_bi_t.aspx)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. | **1869-1917:** These records are available on the ancestry.ca website. [Click here to access ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca/)  **1918:** These records are closed for digitization and will be available on [ancestry.ca](file:///C:\Users\VanWagDa\Downloads\ancestry.ca) when complete. Contact us if you require a copy for legal or humanitarian purposes. | 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](http://www.serviceontario.ca) |

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

| **Yes** | **No** |
| --- | --- |
| **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 of the registration number and year from the 1870 birth registration index.  Example from the 1870 Index  Example of the registration number and year from the 1914 birth registration index.  Example from the 1914 Index | **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](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/microfilm/v_boi_t.aspx) 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)](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/microfilm/v_bgeo_t.aspx) or view B1 in the ***Births Binder*** to identify the microfilm reel matching the **Registration Year**, **volume number or letter**, and **folio number**.   If the person’s name is not on these reels, the birth was probably NOT registered with the Government of Ontario. |

## Step 3: What is the Registration Number?

| **Between  0-199999** | **Between  200000-499999** | **Between  500000-599999** | **Between  600000-699999** | **Between 900000-999999** |
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| Remove the “0” or “00” at the start of the Registration Number.  [Click here to view the microfilm list for the Registrations of Births and Stillbirths](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/microfilm/v_br_t.aspx) or view A2 in the ***Births Binder*** to identify the microfilm reel matching the **Registration Year** and **Registration Number**.  Look up the Registration number on the microfilm. | Remove the “2” or “3” or “4” at the start of the Registration Number.  [Click here to view the microfilm list for the Registrations of Births and Stillbirths](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/microfilm/v_br_t.aspx)  or view A2 in the ***Births Binder*** to identify the microfilm reel matching the **Registration Year** and **Registration Number**.  Look up the Registration number on the microfilm. | [Click here to view the microfilm list for the Delayed Registrations of Births and Stillbirths “50” Series](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/microfilm/v_br50_t.aspx) or view A3 in the ***Births Binder*** to identify the microfilm reel matching the **Birth Year** and **Registration Number**.  Look up the Registration number on the microfilm. | For the years **1869-1899**, use the ***Corrections Book*** 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: www.serviceontario.ca | [Click here to view the microfilm list for the Delayed Registrations of Births and Stillbirths “90” Series](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/microfilm/v_br90_t.aspx) or view A15 in the ***Births Binder*** to identify the microfilm reel matching the **Birth** **Year** and **Registration** **Number**.  Look up the Registration number on the microfilm. |