

Pathfinder to
Birth Registrations

Last Updated: August 2024

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: 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](#). Ancestry can be accessed without a membership at the Archives of Ontario and many public libraries at [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](#).

Person’s Name:

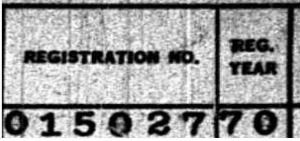
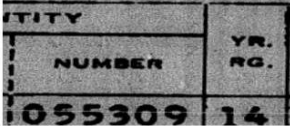
Birth Date:

Step 1: When did the birth occur?

Before July 1869	Between July 1869 and December 1917	Between July 1869 and December 1918	After 1919
<p>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.</p> <p>For other possible sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">click here to consult Research Guide 204 (Sources for Births, Marriages and Deaths records).Consult the “Related Records” and “Associated Materials” sections in the <i>Deaths Binder</i>.	<p>See: Registration Indexes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Click here to view the microfilm list for the Indexes to Births and Stillbirths or view A4 in the <i>Births Binder</i> 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.	<p>1869-1917: These records are available on the ancestry.ca website. Click here to access ancestry.ca</p> <p>1918: These records are closed for digitization and will be available on ancestry.ca when complete. Contact us if you require a copy for legal or humanitarian purposes.</p>	<p>These records are located at the Office of the Registrar General:</p> <p>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</p> <p>Click here to access the Service Ontario website</p>

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

Yes	No
<p>Write down:</p> <p>Six-Digit Registration Number (ignore any hyphens):</p>	<p>Consult Original Indexes, 1869-1910:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">For July-Dec. 1869, retrieve MS 938, reel 1

Yes	No
<p>Two-Digit Registration year (not the birth year):</p> <p>Examples of the registration number and year entry from the Indexes to Births and Stillbirths:</p>  <p>Example from the 1870 Index</p>  <p>Example from the 1914 Index</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For 1869-1910, Click here to view the microfilm list for the Original Index Books to Birth Registrations or view A9 in the <i>Births Binder</i> to identify the microfilm reel you need to consult from MS 939 <p>If you find the person's name:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) or view B1 in the <i>Births Binder</i> to identify the microfilm reel matching the Registration Year, volume number or letter, and folio number. <p>If the person's name is not on these reels, the birth was probably NOT registered with the Government of Ontario.</p>

Step 3: What is the Registration Number?

Between 0-199999	Between 200000-499999	Between 500000-599999	Between 600000-699999	Between 900000-999999
<p>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 or view A2 in the <i>Births Binder</i> to identify the microfilm reel matching the Registration Year and Registration Number.</p> <p>Look up the Registration number on the microfilm.</p>	<p>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 or view A2 in the <i>Births Binder</i> to identify the microfilm reel matching the Registration Year and Registration Number.</p> <p>Look up the Registration number on the microfilm.</p>	<p>Click here to view the microfilm list for the Delayed Registrations of Births and Stillbirths “50” Series or view A3 in the <i>Births Binder</i> to identify the microfilm reel matching the Birth Year and Registration Number.</p> <p>Look up the Registration number on the microfilm.</p>	<p>For the years 1869-1899, use the <i>Corrections Book</i> 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</p>	<p>Click here to view the microfilm list for the Delayed Registrations of Births and Stillbirths “90” Series or view A15 in the <i>Births Binder</i> to identify the microfilm reel matching the Birth Year and Registration Number.</p> <p>Look up the Registration number on the microfilm.</p>