

Understanding the Vital Statistics Indexes

203 Research Guide

Most Recent Update: Jan. 2008

The same basic data is given in the Vital Statistics Indexes (see examples on opposite side):

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1

NAME: copied from the original *handwritten* Registration. Women remarrying were indexed under their previous <u>married</u> surname. Check every variation, including phonetic spellings and typographical errors.

DATE OF EVENT: e.g. 06 12 01 = June 12^{th} 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.

PLACE OF REGISTRATION: the town or township where the event was registered. In the case of rural births and deaths, this may vary from where the actual event took place.

REGISTRATION YEAR: <u>compare with #2 in case it is a Delayed Registration</u>, not all of which are at the Archives of Ontario. Many births and some marriages were not registered until decades after the event.

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REGISTRATION NUMBER: refers to the numbered entry in the Registration Book that contains the full record.

Depending on the type of event, additional information may be given, including:

- 6 CONTROL CODES: first digit refers to the nature of the Registration; 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 "*": shows an altered Registration, as in a surname being correctly respelled or changed due to a guardianship. If altered before the creation of the Indexes in the late 1950s, only the corrected version is listed.
- 8 MAIDEN NAME: 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.

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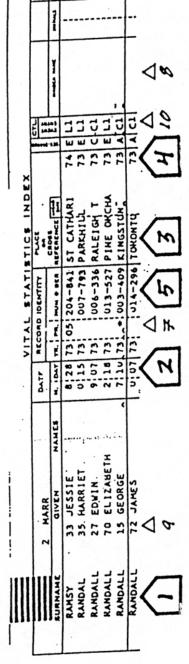
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Indexes

Births





Deaths

