

Archives of Ontario

Understanding Vital Statistic Indexes

203 Research Guide

Most Recent Update: November 2015

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.

- 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, *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: *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:

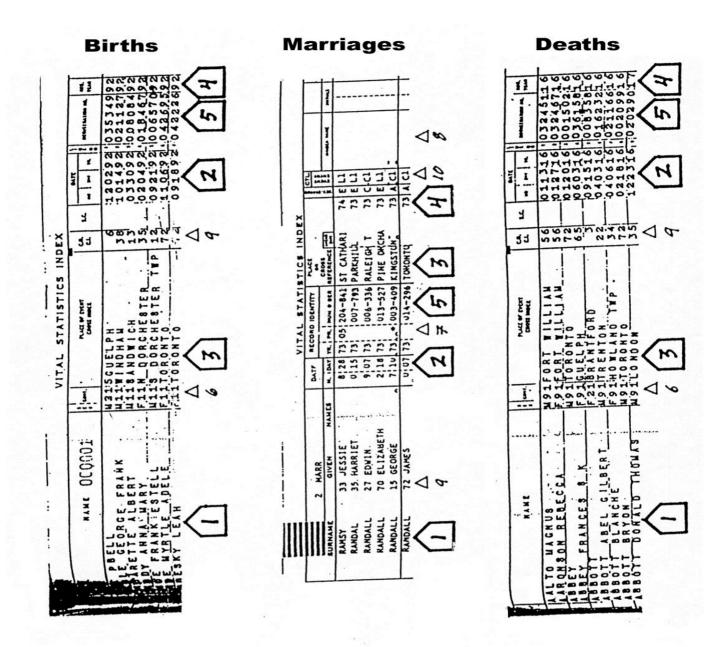
91 = Death Registration / Original unchanged entry14 = Birth Registration / Re-registered under guardian's name

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



Archives of Ontario, 134 Ian Macdonald Blvd., Toronto, ON M7A 2C5 Tel: 416-327-1600 Toll free (Ontario): 1-800-668-9933 Fax: 416- 327-1999 e-mail: reference@ontario.ca website: www.ontario.ca/archives

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