

Irish Civil Registration

Irish Civil Registration started in 1864. It is the registration of births, marriages, and deaths. Unlike the United States, it is nationwide. The government has provided a web site to access this information. It provides free access to birth, marriage, and death certificate images. This web site is [Irish Genealogy](#).

Birth Certificates. The information in birth certificates is the name of the individual, sex, birthdate and place, the father's name, mother's maiden name, and the father's occupation. Birth Certificates from Irish Genealogy are from 1864 to 1921.

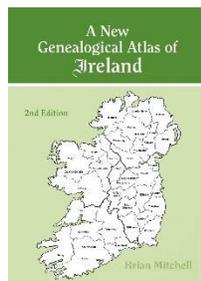
Marriage Certificates. Marriage certificates contain the names of the bride and groom, the date and location of their marriage, their ages, condition (single, widow, etc.), and their father's occupation. Marriage certificates are available from 1845 to 1946. Marriage certificates from 1945 to 1963 are for Protestant marriages only. Starting in 1864 they include all Irish marriages.

Death Certificates. Death certificates include the individual's name, date and place of death, sex, age, occupation, and the informant's name. No relationship information is given, although sometimes the relationship of the informant is given.

Death certificates are from 1878 to 1971. Irish Genealogy is a work in progress as they are working on extending death certificates back to 1864. No Northern Ireland birth, marriage, and death certificates are available after 1921.

Research Strategies

Usually, the name of a Civil Registration District is required for a Civil Registration Search.



This information can be obtained from an index to civil registration. Alternatively, it can be obtained from a book, *A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland*, 2nd Edition, by Brian Mitchell. If the townland or parish is known, it can be found by accessing the [IreAtlas Townland Database](#).

A less common name e.g., Hercules Kerr, or an actual date of an event make the name of the Civil Registration District less important in a search.

[Ancestry](#), [Findmypast](#), and [FamilySearch](#) can frequently be used as indexes to Civil Registration.

Case Study—Birth: Bridget Talty. For our case study we will use Bridget Talty, born about 1871 in County Clare. We will use Findmypast as our index source.

Access [Findmypast](#), enter Bridget Talty, 1871 +or- 2years, and County Clare. The result is Bridget Talty born in 1871. Clicking on the transcription icon shows the civil registration of her birth as Kilrush.

Next, we access [Irish Genealogy](#), irishgenealogy.ie. Click on *Welcome To Irish Genealogy*. On the home page click on *Civil Records*. Enter Bridget Talty, Kilrush as the Civil Registration District, and 1871. Click on *Search*.

Irish Genealogy requires clicking on I'm not a robot, and then entering your name before displaying the result. Click on the result - Birth of Bridget Talty in 1871 to display the transcription and then click on image to display the Birth Certificate.

The Birth Certificate shows her birth on 1 February 1871, her father, Hugh Talty, the location, Lispeen, Kilrush, Clare, her mother, Mary Bunfield, and her father's occupation as farmer.

Case Study—Marriage Daniel Garvey and Johanna Walker. Our next case study is a marriage of Daniel Garvey and Johanna Walker in 1867 in County Kerry. Again, we will use [Findmypast](#) to find the registration district. Enter Daniel Garvey, 1867 + or - 2 yrs, and County Kerry. The result shows the registration district as Dingle.

In [Irish Genealogy](#) we enter Daniel Garvey, Dingle, and 1867. The result shows a marriage of Daniel Garvey and Johanna Walker on 2 March 1867 in the Registration District of Dingle. Click on the name to go to the next screen. Click on the image. The marriage certificate shows their names, age, condition, occupation, place of residence, and their father's occupation.

[John Grenham](#). Next, we access [John Grenham's](#) web site. John Grenham is a well-known Irish Genealogist. His website is a subscription site although incidental use is free.

Case Study—Talty. The home page is titled Irish Ancestors. Enter the surname of Talty. The result is a map which shows the location of the Talty surname in Ireland. Click on Talty births mapped 1864 - 1913.

Next we click on Ennistimon. The result is the Irish Genealogy display of 215 births in Civil Registration Ennistimon. We arbitrarily select Susan Talty born on 21 October 1912. Clicking on her name and the image shows her birth certificate.

What did we learn? Susan Talty was born on 21 October 1912, her father was Michael Talty, a farmer, and her mother, Mary Talty. She was born in Tooreen, Ennistymon, Clare, Ireland.

Civil Registration Records on Film

Family Search has extensive Civil Registration records on film. These include birth, marriage, and death indexes from 1922 – March 1958. Perhaps of greater interest are Birth Certificate images from 1930 to March 1955.

These records are restricted and are unavailable online or at Family History Centers. They are available to patrons at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City or at the BYU Family History Library in Provo. Patrons who are unable to make in-person visits may request assistance.

To find these records go to the Family Search Catalog and select – search. Enter Ireland as the place. Find Ireland- Civil Registration (16) and click on this entry. Next find Quarterly returns of births in Ireland, 1864 – 1955 and click on this entry.

Under Notes – Click on Ireland Civil Registration Indexes are available online, click here. A yellow data entry form is the result. To demonstrate this index, we will use a case study: Mary O’Grady, born in County Cork, 1942. Enter this data and click on search.

On page 2 of the results, we find Mary E. O’Grady born in County Cork, April 1942, and her mother’s maiden name is Kelleher. Clicking on Mary O’Grady gives us a result. Down lower on the page is additional information. This shows that Mary O’Grady, County Cork, Apr- Jun quarter, 1942, Volume 5, and page 235.

The film with the Birth Certificate Image is found under the Quarterly returns entry. Using the data obtained from the index we select a film.

In searching for births remember that Civil Registration records reflect the date a birth was registered not when it occurred. Mary O’Grady was born in March but was registered in the April- June quarter.

Northern Ireland has a totally separate Civil Registration system. Family Search has birth, marriage, death indexes and certificates from 1922 to 1959. These records are also restricted films.

To find these records do a search for Ireland in the Library Catalog. Select Civil Registration (16). The first alternative is Birth Records of Northern Ireland 1922-1959. This entry includes index films and certificate images organized by quarter and year.