

Birth Records

Information in birth records may include name, date and place of birth, parent's names and birthplaces. Often the individual's name is not included so the parent's names may need to be known.

Birth records in Utah can be organized into four distinct categories:

1. Pre-1898
2. 1898-1905
3. 1905-1917
4. 1918-present

Notes on these records:

This list is not the complete holdings for the Utah State Archives. If researchers have questions, they should contact the Research Center and speak with one of our reference archivists.

Birth certificates are private for **100 years** from the date of birth. For records that have not reached that point, only the Office of Vital Records and Statistics may issue certified copies to subjects of the record or their immediate family.

Native Americans living on or near reservations sometimes had birth certificates maintained separately during the early 20th century.

Delayed Birth Certificates

People found they needed a birth certificate when they were born before statewide registration, or if they did not have their birth registered within the allowed time limit. Starting informally around 1916 and codified into Utah law in 1941, delayed birth certificates were issued a year or more after the birth and provide all the same rights as a birth certificate.

The Utah State Archives houses these permanent records (Series 81445). The earliest birth in Utah in this series is from 1862.

Pre-1898 records

No governmental agencies were required by law to record births prior to 1898. Though not required to do so, Salt Lake City and Ogden began registering births in 1890 and Park City began registering births in 1892.

The Salt Lake Valley Health Department holds records for Salt Lake City from 1890-1950. More information on contacting them can be found at www.slvhealth.org.

The Salt Lake County Archives has made their Birth Records from 1890-1911 available online at: <https://slco.org/archives/vital-records/Birth.aspx>

The birth registers for both **Parks City** (Series 27190) and **Ogden City** (Series 27190) are available at the Utah State Archives.

1898-1905

Beginning in 1898, physicians and midwives were required to keep record of each birth in which they assisted professionally. In their absence, parents were required to complete a report. They then reported quarterly to the county clerk or in the case of incorporated cities, to the local board of health who would forward the report to the county clerk (Revised Statutes of Utah 1898, Title 57, p. 474-475).

The Utah State Archives holds the following records series:

Beaver County

Birth registers, 1897-1905
Series 83773

Box Elder County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 84098

Cache County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 83781

Carbon County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 83869

Davis County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 11802

Emery County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 84038

Garfield County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 84073

Grand County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 83886

Iron County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 83761

Juab County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 84175

1898-1905, cont.

Kane County

Birth registers, 1900-1905
Series 83801

Morgan County

Birth registers, 1897-1905
Series 83806

Piute County

Birth registers, 1898
Series 19502

Rich County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 20947

Salt Lake County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 3922

San Juan County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 84239

Sanpete County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 84106

Sevier County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 84238

Summit County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 83862

Tooele County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 84240

Uintah County

Birth registers, 1895-1904
Series 84029

Utah County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 84185

Wasatch County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 83881

Washington County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 3166

Wayne County

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 84084

Weber County [excluding Ogden]

Birth registers, 1898-1905
Series 5107

1905-1917

In late 1904, the Utah Dept. of Health assumed responsibility for creating birth certificates for all individuals who were born in Utah. In 1905, the state passed a law requiring each county to file a uniform certificate with the State Bureau of Vital Statistics. The Utah State Archives houses the records that are over 100 years old (Series 81443) In 1905 the certificates documented the newborn child's full name, sex, date and place of birth, whether a single or multiple births took place, the parents' names, race, ages, birthplaces, occupations, marital status, and the number of children born to the mother. Later certificates also document the length of the pregnancy, the child's weight and length at birth, the date of the serological test, a description of any complications, and a description of any congenital malformations or birth injuries.

1918-Present

As previously noted, records less than 100 years old are considered private. According to Utah's laws these records can be retrieved for "a direct, tangible and legitimate interest in a vital record" by one of the following:

1. the subject [of the record];
2. a member of the subject's immediate family;
3. the guardian of the subject; [or]
4. a designated legal representative of the subject;

Utah Code 26-2-22 (2)(a) (2015)

Any questions about these records should be directed to:

Office of Vital Statistics (Utah Department of Health)

Phone: (801) 538-6105 (recorded message)

<https://vitalrecords.utah.gov/> (information and online request)

Native American Birth Certificates

The Utah State Archives, preserves paper copies (Series 81444) of the birth certificates issued to Native Americans in Utah outside of the regular birth registration process that began in 1905. Most, if not all, of these individuals were born on one of the reservations in Utah, with one or both parents being considered "Indian" as a race. Some certificates indicate the specific tribe, and a few also document the individual's "Indian blood" status in quarters, such as 1/4 or 4/4.

The information on certificates includes the child's name, place of birth, date of birth, sex, and if child is part of a multiple birth; the parents' name, race, age, birthplace, occupation, and marital status; a record of children previously born to the mother; the length of the pregnancy; the child's weight and length at birth; the date of the serological test; a description of any complications; and a description of any congenital malformations or birth injuries.

Death Records

Information in death records may include name, date and place of birth, cause of death, parent's names and birthplaces, spouse and burial location.

Death records in Utah can be organized into four distinct categories:

1. Pre-1898
2. 1898-1905
3. 1904-1967
4. 1968-present

Notes on these records:

This list is not the complete holdings for the Utah State Archives. If researchers have questions, they should contact the Research Center and speak with one of our reference archivists.

Death certificates are private for **50 years** from the date of death. For records that have not reached that point, only the Office of Vital Records and Statistics may issue certified copies to subjects of the record or their immediate family.

Military Death Certificates

Death certificates for United States soldiers killed overseas during World War II and the Korean War and whose bodies were sent to Utah for reburial, were not originally issued a Utah death certificate. Yet, when the bodies were brought to Utah for burial a Utah death certificate was required. For a short period of time these records were housed separately from the other Utah death certificates.

The certificates in this series (3769) include the following information: place of death; usual residence; name of deceased; date of death; sex; color; marital status; birth date; age; birthplace; usual occupation; citizen status; name of father and mother; name of spouse; social security number; name of informant; health permit number; indication as to whether this was a burial, cremation, or removal; date certificate was filed; name of cemetery; registrar's signature, and funeral director's signature.

Although there is a place to indicate cause of death, most informants do not detail the actual cause but have written instead the name of the war in which the deceased had served.

Pre-1898 records

No governmental agencies were required by law to record deaths prior to 1898. Though not required to do so, some cities registered deaths prior to 1898. For other areas of Utah, try cemetery and burial records, newspaper obituaries, or private family and church records.

The **Bear River Health Department** holds records for Logan City, beginning in 1863. They can be reached at : Bear River Health Department (BRHD), Vital Records 655 East 1300 North Logan, UT 84321 Phone: (435) 792-6492, www.brhd.org

Utah State Archives preserves the following records for deaths prior to 1898:

Salt Lake City (Utah). City Recorder

Death and burial register, 1848-1933. Series 21866

Beaver County Clerk

Death record, 1881-1949.
Series 27396

Ogden City Recorder

Death register, 1890-1905.
Series 27191

1898-1905

Beginning in 1898, each physician, clergyman, justice of the peace, and undertaker was required to keep a registry of the name, age, residence, and time of death of the decedent. Each person registering deaths filed quarterly with the county clerk or the local board of health in the case of incorporated cities. (Revised Statutes of Utah 1898, Title 57, p. 474-475)

A name index to all counties prepared by the Utah Genealogical Society is available in the Research Center.

The Utah State Archives holds the following records series:

Beaver County

Death register, 1900-1905
Series 83774

Box Elder County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 84099

Brigham City

Death register, 1898-1941
Series 23382

Cache County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 83782

Carbon County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 83870

Davis County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 84244

1898-1905, cont.

Emery County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 84040

Garfield County

Death register, 1896-1905
Series 20231

Grand County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 83887

Iron County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 83762

Juab County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 84176

Kane County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 83802

Morgan County

Death register, 1897-1905
Series 83806

Piute County

Death register, 1898,1904
Series 19503

Rich County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 20948

Salt Lake County

Death register, 1897-1905
Series 3864

San Juan County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 84246

Sanpete County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 15842

Sevier County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 84245

Summit County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 83863

Tooele County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 84247

Uintah County

Death register, 1900-1901, 1904-1905
Series 84030

Utah County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 24144

Wasatch County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 20903

Washington County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 23520

Wayne County

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 84085

Weber County [excluding Ogden]

Death register, 1898-1905
Series 84248

1905-1967

The Utah Office of Vital Records and Statistics began issuing death certificates in 1905, when the Utah legislature passed a law that required uniform death certificates to be filed with the local registrar who in turn filed with the state. The Utah State Archives houses the records that are over 50 years old (Series 81448).

Each death certificate includes the decedent's full name, date of death, county where death occurred, decedent's race and gender, place and date of birth, marital status, occupation, permanent residence, place and date of burial, time of death, chief cause and contributory factors of death, and if applicable, where illness was contracted and duration of illness. Death certificates also include the names and birthplaces of parents.

After 1919 death certificates indicated whether an autopsy had been performed and provided immediate surgical history prior to death. After 1935 state law required the inclusion of information about violent deaths, including accidents, homicides, and suicides. Certificates indicate whether death occurred at home, in a public place, or in the workplace. In 1940 the certificates began including Social Security numbers and information about the decedent's veteran status. Prior to 1910 permits relating to the transport of corpses were included with death certificates.

1968-Present

As previously noted, records less than 50 years old are considered private. According to Utah's laws these records can be retrieved for "a direct, tangible and legitimate interest in a vital record" by one of the following:

1. the subject [of the record];
2. a member of the subject's immediate family;
3. the guardian of the subject; [or]
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