

Civil Registration in Ireland

- **Births:** Records older than 100 years
- **Marriages:** Records older than 75 years
- **Deaths:** Records older than 50 years

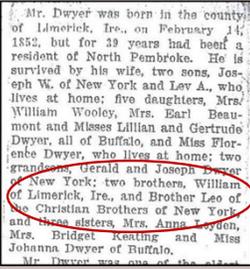


Mary Hogan and Patrick Lucey on their wedding day, 1901

Who should use it?

- Researchers whose ancestors left Ireland later in the 19th or 20th centuries
- Researchers who may have a line of the family that never left Ireland

1916 obituary of Patrick Dwyer



Need to know



Where in Ireland



Surname variant spellings



Frequency of names in one area



Administrative Division Names



How are the records organized

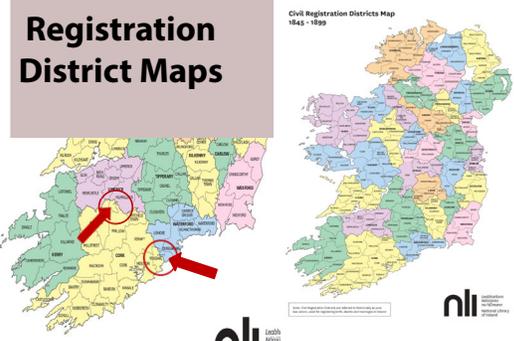
 Registration originally organized around Poor Law Unions (PLU).

 These (PLU) served as Superintendent Registrar's District.

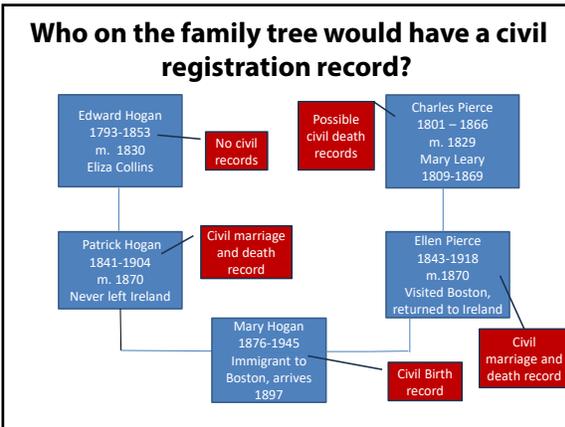
 Local registrars were often the medical officers of dispensary districts. Therefore, local registrar names can sometimes be different from Superintendent Registrar District name.

Registration District Maps

Civil Registration Districts Map 1845 - 1999



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Birth Records

Birth record information

- The date and place of birth
 - In large cities will usually have a street address
 - In rural areas the name of the Townland
- Child's name and gender
- Father's name and occupation
- Mother's maiden name
- Registration details
 - Informant, their signature, and date of registration

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Early registrations of
BMD's from
1864–1884 were
Under reported!

Why??

Financial Penalties for Late Registration:

- Had to register within three months of birth
- If not, had to pay stiff fines
- Often lied about birth date or failed to record it if too much time passed

Administrative and Geographical Barriers:

- Travel from **remote or rural areas** resulted in lower compliance rates
- Administrative improvements were made around 1880.

Cultural Resistance:

- Population was partly illiterate and often **hostile toward the state's authority**.

More reasons why...

Clerical Errors in Copying

- Was a manual process!
- Some births accidentally excluded and missing from the National Master Index

Lack of Incentive to report

- Later with old-age pensions and new employment laws needed proof of birth



Baptism record for MARY (HORGAN) on 01 September 1876
 Area - CORK & ROSS (RC), Parish/Church/Congregation - KILMURLE

Name: Mary Hogan
 Address: Dowdurris
 Father: Patrick Hogan
 Mother: Ellen Pearce

Further details in the record

Child Denomination:
 Sponsor 1: John Keohane
 Sponsor 2: Mary Saunders
 Priest:

About the record

Book Number:
 Page:
 Entry Number:
 Record Identifier: CR-RC-BA-21178

Baptism Mary Hogan 01 Sep 1876, birthdate 31 Aug 1876

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND
 An tAisling de Mun na hAisling an Chláir Sárblátha 2004 Issued in pursuance of the Civil Registration Act 2004

Eire Ireland

Civil Status Registration Number: 9374078
 Birth is Christian (if Roman Catholic) Registered in the district of: Kilmurle
 or in the County of: Co. Cork

Uimh No.	Dáta Breithe Date of Birth	Ainm Name	Giolla Sex	Ainm, Ainm- agair agus Ainm- agair na Máthar Name and Surname and Dwellling Place of Father	Ainm agus Ainm- agair na Máthar Name and Surname and Maiden name of Mother	Cóim- ráil Rank or Profession of Father	Síne, Cúiteacht agus Ionad Chónaithe an Athair Occupation, Rank and Place of Birth	An Dáta a Cháirdeadh When Registered	Síne an Cháirdeadh Signature of Registrar	Ainm Breithe agair Name of child as Breithe agair after Registration Birth and I.
57	14 Sept 1877	Mary Anne	F	Patrick Hogan Dunderron Horse	Ellen Hogan Horse		Patrick & Hogan Dunderron Horse	14 Sept 1877	Patrick Hogan	Mary Anne Hogan

Official Birth, 14 Sept 1877, Mary Hogan





Civil Records	Births	Marriages	Deaths
City Streets			
Limerick No. 1	1864 - 1912	1864 - 1912	1864 - 1912
Limerick No. 2	1864 - 1912	1864 - 1911	1864 - 1912 & 1912 - 1948 (Limerick County Infirmary)
Limerick No. 3	1864 - 1913	1864 - 1913	1864 - 1912
Limerick No. 4	1864 - 1912	1864 - 1899	1864 - 1911
County Streets		Marriages	Deaths
Aburghfeola	1864 - 1869	1864 - 1912	1864 - 1912
Adra	.....	1864 - 1911	1864 - 1912
Annacotty	1864 - 1916	1864 - 1919	1864 - 1915
Ardlagh	.....	1864 - 1912	1864 - 1911
Askeaton	.....	1864 - 1924	1864 - 1919
Broadford	.....	1864 - 1914	1864 - 1920 & 1913 - 1912
Bruff	1864 - 1915	1864 - 1925	1864 - 1921
Bruree	1864 - 1916	1864 - 1917	1864 - 1918
Cahercordish	1864 - 1913	1864 - 1928	1864 - 1914
Castletown	.....	1864 - 1912	1864 - 1920
Clarta	.....	1864 - 1928	1864 - 1913
Croom	.....	1864 - 1913	1864 - 1914
Fennagh	.....	1864 - 1921	1864 - 1917
Lahally	1864 - 1917	1864 - 1916	1864 - 1916
Clay/Talbert No. 2	.....	1868 - 1919	1868 - 1919

County Limerick Civil Registration records on rootsireland.ie





Civil Marriages in Ireland

- 6,114 marriages recorded in 1845
 - 4118 marriages from the Established Church
 - 1586 in Presbyterian Meeting Houses
 - 348 in Registrar's Office
- Catholic marriages in first year (1864)
 - 27, 373 recorded by the Catholic Church

Marriage records contain

- Full name of Bride and Groom
 - Sometimes their ages are provided
 - Or it may just say "Full Age" (over 21)
- Their places of residence (at the time of the marriage)
- Father's names and occupation
- Whether the parent was deceased at time of marriage
- Witnesses' names, name of clergy, name of chapel and location

Civil Marriage Certificate of Ellen Pierce and Patrick Hogan, 1870

1870 Parish of Salsburgh
 Marriage Submitted at the Catholic Chapel of Kinsale in the Registrar's District of Kinsale
 in the Superintendent Registrar's District of Kinsale in the County of Cork

Class. No.	Date as Published When Married	Asks age as Bride	Asks age as Groom	Age	Sex	State	Rank of Profession	Rank of Profession	Rank of Profession	Rank of Profession	Rank of Profession	Rank of Profession
34	October 6th 1870	Patrick Hogan	Ellen Pierce	29	27	widower	labourer	Shippool 1 ringehannon Dunderrow Kinsale	Edward Hogan dec	Charles Pierce	labourer	labourer

Anna M'Neish
 Married in the Catholic Chapel of Kinsale according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Catholic Church by me.

Solicitors as Witnesses on this Marriage were Submitted between us
 Patrick Hogan Esq. and Ellen Pierce Esq. in the Presence of us Edward Hogan dec. Denis Dunlea Esq. and Charles Pierce Esq. Esq.

In the city of Dublin and in the County of Dublin
 Twenty seventh day of September 1870

Example of marriage in Registrar's Office

First Page. 05921645

Registrar's District of Widewater in the County of Down

Class. No.	Date as Published	Name of Bride	Name of Groom	Age	Sex	State	Rank of Profession					
11	16 Oct 1889	Alfred Saul	Catherine Lucey	21	21	Bachelor	Soldier	Buttevant Barracks	George Saul	Jeremiah Lucey	labourer	labourer

Witnessed in the Registrar's Office by me Walter M'Neish Registrar

16 Oct 1889
 Alfred Saul, "full age", Bachelor, Soldier 1st Middlesex, Buttevant Barracks,
 George Saul, Tailor
 Catherine Lucey, "full age", Spinster, Domestic Servant, Buttevant,
 Jeremiah Lucey, Laborer

Death Records

What do they contain?

- Name of deceased, occupation
- Age, place of death
- Cause of death
- Who reported the event
- Date of death, date reported to civil authorities

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Maiden name of
married female not
recorded!

Example of Death record

1919 death record of Norah Lucey, wife of Jeremiah,
residence New Street, Buttevant, Co. Cork

Registrar's District		Registrar's District										
Mallow		Buttevant										
DEATHS Registered in the District of <u>Buttevant</u> in the Union of <u>Mallow</u> in the County of <u>Cork</u>												
No.	Date and Hour of Death	Name and Residence	Age	Qualification	Sex	Religion	Birth, Date, Place, or Country	Married	Married Name	Signature, Occupation, and Address of Informant	When Registered	Signature of Registrar
17	1919	Norah Lucey, New Street, Buttevant	55	Wife of a	F	Roman Catholic	Jeremiah Lucey, Buttevant	Married	Jeremiah Lucey	Jeremiah Lucey, Buttevant	1919	[Signature]

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑

Example of death in a Workhouse or Hospital

Death record of Jeremiah "Jerry" Lucey died at the
Workhouse in Mallow, Co. Cork, on
19 Nov 1923 at the age of 83 years

Registrar's District		Registrar's District										
Mallow		Mallow										
DEATHS Registered in the District of <u>Mallow</u> in the Union of <u>Mallow</u> in the County of <u>Cork</u>												
No.	Date and Hour of Death	Name and Residence	Age	Qualification	Sex	Religion	Birth, Date, Place, or Country	Married	Married Name	Signature, Occupation, and Address of Informant	When Registered	Signature of Registrar
17	1923	Jeremiah Lucey, Workhouse, Mallow	83	Widower	M	Roman Catholic	Jeremiah Lucey, Mallow	Married	Jeremiah Lucey	John O'Donovan, Occupier at the Workhouse	1923	[Signature]

Informant John O'Donovan, Occupier at the Workhouse

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Father's name sometimes listed for deceased adult daughter (Northern Counties)

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In the Republic of Ireland
parents' names do not
appear on death records
until 2005

Civil Marriage Certificate of Ellen Pierce and Patrick Hogan, 1870

1870 Parish of Kinsale Catholic chapel in the Parish of Kinsale in the County of Cork

Dist.	Date of Marriage	When Married	Age	State	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at the Time of Marriage	Rank or Profession
34	October 6 th 1870	Patrick Hogan	29	widower	labourer	Shippool Inneshannon Dunderrow Kinsale	Edward Hogan dec	labourer
		Ellen Pierce	27	widow			Charles Pierce	labourer

Anna M'Phaugh I Married in the Catholic chapel in Kinsale do the Third ages Certified as follows: Catholice according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Catholic Church by me John Dunlea Parish Priest of Kinsale in the Parish of Kinsale in the County of Cork in the Presence of us Patrick Hogan Ellen Pierce John Dunlea Mary Pierce

Twenty Seventh day of September 1870

Using Griffiths Valuation records for possible dates of death

The image shows a snippet of Griffiths Valuation records for HOBBSVILLE MOOR. It lists various properties with details such as the name of the occupier, the type of property, and the value. A red arrow points to a specific entry for 'John Dunlea'.

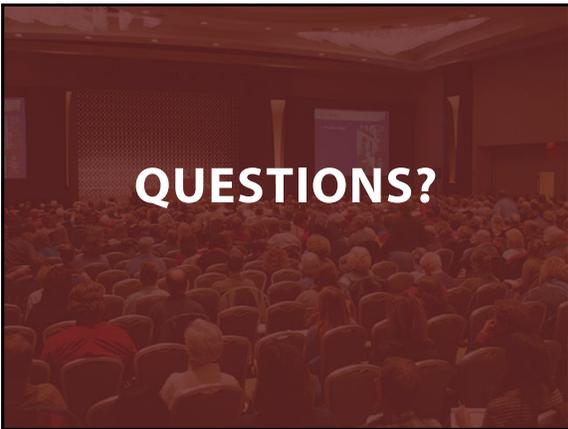
Used Revised Valuations (tracing properties forward)

Charles Pierce 1866 death record in index

Death registers in workhouse records

- Edward Hogan died at the Kinsale Workhouse on 21 Feb 1853 "Friends brought coffin"

Purchased in Dublin at
Hodges and Figgis
bookstore on Dawson St.







What's online at irishgenealogy.ie

- Birth register records – 1864 to 1925
- Marriage register records – 1845 to 1950
- Death register records – 1871 to 1975 (1864-1870 not online)
- Non-Roman Catholic Marriages are recorded from 1845 and Roman Catholic Marriages are recorded from 1864.

Helpful tips for searching

- Do not use a middle name with given name
– Will receive negative results
- Be mindful of variant spellings
- Try FamilySearch.org index as an alternative if not finding your ancestor's name

The screenshot shows the FamilySearch.org website interface. At the top, the logo "FamilySearch.org" is displayed. Below it, there is a navigation menu with links for "Home", "Family Tree", "Search", "Members", "Get Involved", and "About Us". The main content area features a search form for "Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958". The form includes fields for "First Name", "Last Name", "Birth Place", and "Birth or Death Year". A "SEARCH" button and a "MORE OPTIONS" link are also visible. Below the search form, there is a section titled "How to Use This Collection" with a small icon of a stack of books and a magnifying glass.

General Registrar Office for the Republic of Ireland

- Government Offices
 - Convent Road, County Roscommon
- For research:
 - You can email GRO at ResearchRoom@welfare.ie
 - Visit the Research Room at The Guild, Cork Street, Dublin 8





General Register Office

The General Register Office is the central repository for records relating to births, stillbirths, adoptions, marriages, civil partnerships and deaths in Ireland.

We operate a research facility at the General Register Office (GRO) Research Room, 2nd floor, The Guild, Cork Street, Dublin 8, D08 H090, where members of the public, involved in family research, may search the indexes to the registers held by GRO and purchase photocopies of entries in the registers. This service is available by emailing us at: GRO@researchroom@welfare.ie

It is also possible to attend in person at the Research Room, The Guild, Cork Street, Dublin 8, D08 H090. Opening times are limited. [Opening Hours for Research Room, The Guild, Cork Street, Dublin](#).

Certificates of birth, death, marriage or civil partnership can be obtained from the links below, from the local civil registration offices or online at [Order a Certificate](#).

Certificates of adoption and stillbirth can be obtained from The General Register Office from the links below.


[Births](#)


[Deaths](#)


[Marriages](#)

gov.ie/en/department-of-social-protection/campaigns/general-register-office/



General Register Office (Northern Ireland)

Purchasing credits

Once you have registered your account and logged in, you may purchase credits and view your account details by selecting your name in the top right hand corner of the screen.

Please note, credits cannot be used to purchase certificates, they are for searching our records only.

For data protection reasons, if you are using the internet to search the register, some of the records will not be available to view. You will be able to access the following records:

- birth records over 100 years old
- marriage records over 75 years old
- death records (including World War II death records) over 50 years old

You cannot access civil partnership and adoption records online. If you want to view these records, or view recent records, you must book an appointment at the public search room or, if you know the details, you can apply online for certificates.

Search registrations

If you want to search registrations use the following links:

[Search for a birth registration](#)
[Search for a death registration](#)
[Search for a marriage registration](#)
[Research for a WWI registration](#)

Free search

You do not need to register or log in to use the free name search. If you use the free name search it will return the number of matches in each registration type. You may search a five year range e.g. 1888 to 1892.

geni.nidirect.gov.uk/#

Civil registration type	Date span	What can I view for these records?
Birth	1 January 1864 to 31 December 1996	an image and index information
Birth	1 January 1997 to current	information recorded in text format only
Death	1 January 1864 to 31 December 1996	an image and index information
Death	1 January 1997 to current	information recorded in text format only
World War II deaths	1939 to 1954*	an image and index information
Marriages	1 April 1843 to first quarter 2004	an image and index information
Marriages	second quarter 2004 to current	information recorded in text format only
Adoptions	1 January 1931 to December 2002	an image and index information
Adoptions	January 2003 to current	information recorded in text format only
Civil partnerships	December 2005 to current	information recorded in text format only

* Although the war ended in 1945, World War II death records extend to 1954 to include deaths from injuries sustained during the war.

What you can view at GRONI in Belfast

nidirect.gov.uk/articles/introduction-groni-and-its-records

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Can also view GRONI records online at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI)

Final thoughts

- Identify the associated administrative divisions where your ancestor lived
 - Use online maps and databases
- Most comprehensive record set for all of Ireland is Irishgenealogy.ie
- Use rootsireland.ie to supplement Irishgenealogy.ie
 - Has transcriptions of original local registrar records for some counties



