

Chronology of Birth, Marriage and Death Records in Pennsylvania

1682-1790 - Official births and deaths were not registered. Some marriage license records have survived - see Volume 2 of Second Series and Volume 6 of Sixth Series of the printed Pennsylvania Archives [check local library]. *None for Union/Snyder County.*

1790-1851 - No official state or county records were required to be kept.

1852-1855 - The Register of Wills in each county was required to record birth, death and marriages, but only some counties complied and what records do exist are incomplete.

1856-1884 - Again, no official records were required from 1856-1884 (although some large cities kept some records).

1885-present - Marriage licenses required for individual counties, by the Clerk of Orphans Court (Prothonotary).

1893-1905 - Birth and death records were required to be kept by the counties, by the Clerk of Orphans Court (Prothonotary).

From 1906 - Birth and death records are kept by the state (contact: Division of Vital Records, PO Box 1528, 101 South Mercer Street, New Castle PA 16101. Phone 724-656-3100; website www.dsf.health.state.pa.us/health).

- Source: *Pennsylvania Line: A Research Guide to Pennsylvania Genealogy and Local History*, published by the Southwest PA Genealogical Services, Laughlintown, PA, 1990.