

What you can expect to see on an historical Australian BDM certificate

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BIRTH	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA
Start	Jan 1930	Mar 1856	Aug 1870	Mar 1856	Jun 1842	Dec 1838	Jul 1853	Sep 1841
Earlier records	NSW	-	SA	NSW	-	-	NSW	-
Name	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Place	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Father's name	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Father's occupation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Father's age	Yes	Yes	from 1949	Yes	from 1907	from 1902	Yes	from 1896
Father's birthplace	Yes	Yes	from 1908	Yes	from 1907	from 1902	Yes	from 1896
Mother's name	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Maiden name	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	from 1907	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mother's age	Yes	Yes	from 1949	Yes	from 1907	from 1902	Yes	from 1896
Mother's birthplace	Yes	Yes	from 1908	Yes	from 1907	from 1902	Yes	from 1896
Marriage date	Yes	Yes	from 1908	Yes	from 1907	from 1896	Yes	from 1896
Previous children	Yes	Yes	from 1908	Yes	from 1907	from 1919	Yes	from 1896
Available (Historical*)	aftr 100 yrs	aftr 100 yrs	aftr 80 yrs	aftr 100 yrs	aftr 75 yrs	aftr 100 yrs	prior 1908	aftr 75 yrs
Index avail on CD	No	to 1918	No	to 1914	to 1928	to 1919	to 1920	to 1905
Index online (f=fee)		to 1906		to 1914			to 1924 f	to 1931
Index avail on fiche/film	No	to 1905	to 1902	to 1914	to 1928	to 1905	to 1913	to 1905

It should be noted that availability of certificates may be reduced by the lack of an index.

A *Yes* in a column means that you can usually expect the entry to appear. There are many examples of early certificates where the item may be omitted despite provision in the certificate for that item of data.

* Historical certificates are those available outside the embargoed periods to the general public. Certificates within the embargoed period are usually available to the person named therein, their parents and their children under the age of 18 upon presentation of ID and proof. The exception to this rule is the ACT and NT where applicants for historical certificates must produce evidence of a family link.

NSW, QLD & TAS also offer pre-civil registration records. NSW from 1788, QLD from 1829, TAS from 1803.

Some indexes have more detail than others, but they should not be treated as primary sources but rather pointers.

MARRIAGE	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	
Start		Jan 1930	Mar 1856	Aug 1870	Mar 1856	Jun 1842	Dec 1838	Jul 1853	Sep 1841
Earlier records	NSW	-	SA	NSW	-	-	NSW	-	
Date	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Couple's names	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Couple's ages	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Couple's birthplaces	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		from 1907	from 1896	Yes	
Previous status	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Couple's occupations	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Couple's residences	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		from 1856	Yes	Yes	
Fathers' names	Yes	Yes		from 1949	Yes	from 1856	from 1896	Yes	
Fathers' occupations	Yes	Yes		from 1949	Yes	No	from 1896	Yes	
Groom's mothers name	Yes	Yes		from 1949	Yes	from 1964	from 1896	Yes	
Bride's mothers name	Yes	Yes		from 1949	Yes	No	from 1896	Yes	
Available (Historical*)		aftr 75 yrs	aftr 50 yrs	aftr 60 yrs	aftr 75 yrs	aftr 60 yrs	prior 1943	aftr 60 yrs	
Index avail on CD	No	to 1945	No	to 1914	to 1937	to 1930	to 1942	to 1905	
Index online (f=fee)		to 1956		to 1914			to 1942 f	to 1906	
Index avail on fiche/film	No	to 1905	to 1902	to 1939	to 1937	to 1919	to 1930	to 1965	

DEATH	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	
Start		Jan 1930	Mar 1856	Aug 1870	Mar 1856	Jun 1842	Dec 1838	Jul 1853	Sep 1841
Earlier records	NSW	-	SA	NSW	-	-	NSW	-	
Name	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Date	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Death place	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Age	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Occupation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Cause of death	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Parents' names	Yes	Yes	from 1949	Yes	No	from 1914	Yes	from 1896	
Spouse names	Yes	Yes	from 1949	Yes	from 1968	No	Yes	from 1896	
Marriage details	Yes	Yes	from 1949	Yes	from 1915 age at m.	No	Yes	from 1896	
Chns names	Yes	Yes	from 1949	Yes	No	No	Yes	from 1896	
No of chn	Yes	Yes	from 1949	Yes	from 1907	from 1914	Yes	from 1896	
Birthplace	Yes	Yes	from 1949	Yes	from 1907	from 1897	Yes	from 1896	
Residency	Yes	Yes	from 1949	Yes	from 1907	No	Yes	from 1896	
Burial place	Yes	Yes	from 1949	Yes	from 1948	No	Yes	from 1896	
Available (Historical*)	aftr 30 yrs	aftr 30 yrs	aftr 30 yrs	aftr 30 yrs	aftr 25 yrs	aftr 25 yrs	prior 1986	aftr 25 yrs	
Index avail on CD	No	to 1945	No	to 1914	to 1972	to 1930	to 1985	to 1905	
Index online (f=fee)		to 1976		to 1914			to 1985	f to 1931	
Index avail on fiche/film	No	to 1905	to 1902	to 1964	to 1970	to 1919	to 1985	to 1980	