

## Vital Statistics Births



**Date range: January 1, 1986 onward**

An extract of the births registration files provided by the British Columbia Vital Statistics Agency. Includes all births registered in the province of BC. Note: ICD-9 codes were used from 1986 to 1999, and ICD-10 codes are used from 2000 onwards.

### Core vs. Non-Core Data

**Core Data:** Some BC Ministry of Health data sets available through PopData and HDPBC are called 'Core Data'. A Core Data set is a standardized 'bundle' of commonly requested variables. A Core Data set may not include ALL the variables available in the data set. For example, some Core Data variables, such as geography or organisational codes, are suppressed to meet privacy legislation requirements.

**Non-Core Data:** Non-Core Data are variables that are **NOT** included in the standardized Core Data set. Non-Core Data is available for request **as an addition** to the Core Data set.

For the majority of DARs, requesting access to Core Data ONLY may make the data access approval process quicker and may expedite data provision. Data requests that include Non-Core Data will be subject to regular rather than expedited processes, both for application review and data provisioning.

### ALL AVAILABLE VARIABLES

Name	Core vs Non-Core	Description
Registration number*	Core	Registration Number. The registration number relating to the event. The first 4 digits are the year of event. This field is needed to link the stillbirths record to the stillbirths ICD record. NUMBERS IN THIS FIELD HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY PROJECT-SPECIFIC ID NUMBERS ASSIGNED BY POPDATA
Registration Date	Core	
Mother Study ID	Core	
Father/parent Study ID	Core	
Year of birth	Core	Year of Birth. Year portion of date of event, as recorded on the Event Document.
Month of birth	Core	Month of Birth. Month portion of date of event, as recorded on the Event Document.
Day of birth	Non-Core	Day of Birth. Day portion of date of event, as recorded on the Event Document.
Time of birth	Core	Time of Birth. Time of event, as recorded on the Event Document.
Place of birth/occurrence - City	Non-Core	Place of Birth/Occurrence - City. Name of city, town or other place (by name) in which the birth occurred.
Place of birth/occurrence - First 3 characters of postal code	Core	Place of Birth/Occurrence - Postal Code (3 Character). Indicates the 3-digit Postal code of the birth place.
Place of birth/occurrence - 6-digit postal code	Non-Core	Place of Birth/Occurrence - Postal Code (Full - 6 Character). Indicates the Full Postal code of the birth place.
Birth place type	Core	Birth Place Type. Code indicating the locality where the birth occurred.
Hospital code *	Core	Hospital Code. ID of Hospital where birth occurred. CODES IN THIS FIELD HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY PROJECT-SPECIFIC ID NUMBERS ASSIGNED BY POPDATA.
Hospital code	Non-Core	Hospital Code. ID of Hospital where birth occurred. UNENCRYPTED. Research rationale describing why this field is required must be supplied before it will be considered for release.
Sex	Core	Sex of Child.
Parent's marital status	Core	Parents' Marital Status. Code indicating whether the father and mother of the child are married to each other.
Mother's total live births	Core	Mother's total live births. Total number of children ever liveborn to this mother, previous to and including this birth event.
Mother's total stillbirths	Core	Mother's total stillbirths. Total number of stillborn children ever stillborn to this mother, previous to and including this birth event.
Mother's other pregnancies	Core	Mother's total pregnancies. Indicates total number of pregnancies.
Birthplace of mother - City	Non-Core	Birthplace of Mother (City).
Birthplace of mother - Province/territory	Core	Birthplace of mother (province/territory/state).
Birthplace of mother - Country	Core	Birthplace of Mother (Country).
Marital status of mother	Core	Marital Status of Mother. Identifies the current marital status of the mother if parents are not married to each other.
Mother's year of birth	Core	Mother's Year of Birth. Year portion of date of birth of mother.
Mother's month of birth	Core	Mother's Month of Birth. Month portion of date of birth of mother.
Mother's day of birth	Non-Core	Mother's Day of Birth. Day portion of date of birth of mother.
Age of mother	Core	Age of Mother. Age of mother in years, as reported on the registration document.
Mother's Aboriginal status	Non-Core	Mother's Aboriginal Status Flag.
Mother lives on reserve	Non-Core	Mother lives on reserve. Field indicates if the mother lives on a reserve or not.
Usual residence of mother - City	Non-Core	Usual Residence of Mother - City. City name of usual address of mother.
Usual residence of mother - Province/territory	Core	Usual Residence of Mother - Province/Territory. Province (or state or territory) of usual address of mother.
Usual residence of mother - Country	Core	Usual Residence of Mother - Country. Country of usual address of mother.
Usual residence of mother - First 3 characters of postal code	Core	Canadian Postal Code of usual address of mother (First 3 characters only).

Usual residence of mother - 6-digit postal code	Non-Core	Canadian Postal Code of usual address of mother (Full 6 character Postal Code).
Usual residence of mother - Foreign postal code	Non-Core	Foreign Postal Code of the usual address of the mother.
Father/parent's year of birth	Core	Father/Parent's Year of Birth. The year portion of the date the father/parent was born.
Father/parent's month of birth	Core	Father/parent's Month of Birth. The month portion of the date the father/parent was born.
Father/parent's day of birth	Non-Core	Father/parent's Day of Birth. The day portion of the date the father/parent was born.
Age of father/parent	Core	Age of Father/Parent. Age of father/parent in years, as reported on the registration document.
Sex of father/parent	Core	Sex of Father/Parent. Identifies the sex of the father/parent.
Birthplace of father/parent - City	Non-Core	Birthplace of Father/Parent - City
Birthplace of father/parent - Province/Territory	Core	Birthplace of Father/Parent - Province (or Territory or State).
Birthplace of father/parent - Country	Core	Birthplace of Father/Parent - Country.
Father/parent's Aboriginal status	Non-Core	Father/Parent Aboriginal Status Flag.
Father/parent lives on reserve	Non-Core	Father/Parent Live on Reserve Flag.
Attendant type code	Core	Attendant Type Code. Role type of the designated attendant.
Attendant MSC number *	Core	Attendant/Physician's Medical Services Commission (MSC) billing number. NUMBERS IN THIS FIELD HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY PROJECT-SPECIFIC ID NUMBERS ASSIGNED BY POPDATA.
Child born alive	Core	Child Born Alive. Flag indicating if child was born alive or not.
Total number of children in this event, i.e. kind of birth (single, twin...)	Core	The total number of children born in this birth event (live born plus stillborn).
Multiple birth - Birth order	Core	Multiple Birth - Birth Order. Order of birth in the case of multiple births.
Duration of pregnancy (gestation period)	Core	Duration of Pregnancy (Gestation Period). The gestation period of pregnancy, in completed number of weeks.
APGAR score (1 minute and 5 minute) (activity, pulse, grimace, appearance, respiration)	Core	APGAR score 5 minute from 1 to 10 (activity, pulse, grimace, appearance, respiration).
Birth weight	Core	Birth Weight. Number indicating the weight of the child at birth, in grams.
Head circumference	Core	Head Circumference (in centimetres).
Body length	Core	Body Length (in centimetres).
Mode of delivery	Core	Mode of Delivery.

### Diagnostic ICD-related codes (1985 onward)

Name	Core vs Non-Core	Description
ICD codes (including ICD version number)	Core	ICD Codes (International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems codes). Up to 10 ICD codes may be recorded (ICD1-10) and these will correspond with a given ICD type.
ICD type codes(flag to indicate complications or abnormalities in the birth)	Core	ICD Type Code. Code indicating whether the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) type is related to 1) complications or 2) abnormalities in the birth.

last updated: January 23rd 2024