

[Free Websites for Vital Records: They Do Exist!!!](#)

With substantial costs of in obtaining civil vital records, are free vital records online as good? If it has the information you need, that's the best answer. If you should still have challenges in finding vital records for your American genealogy ancestors, don't despair because every year, the better state-focused websites for genealogy are turning up new databases and indexes. In addition, some of them also offer digitized records, photographs, newspapers and books. And many of these state sites keep expanding. For example since last year, the California Digital Newspaper Collection has added 5 million articles. The Washington State's Digital Archives grew by 5 million records. And much more is being updated regularly across the country.

Here's Where To Search For Free Vital Records

All of these-sites below are free and fun to browse. No matter where your-family lived in the United States, your family history is just waiting to be discovered in some of these state sites.

Alabama

Alabama Mosaic

www.alabamamosaic.org

Alaska

Alaska State Library

library.alaska.gov

Arizona

Arizona Genealogy Birth and Death Certificates

genealogy.az.gov

Arkansas

- **Arkansas State Archives**
archives.arkansas.gov
- **Arkansas Gravestones**
arkansasgravestones.org

California

- **California Digital Newspaper Collection**
cdnc.ucr.edu
- **Online Archive of California**
www.oac.cdlib.org

Colorado

- **Colorado State Archives**
www.colorado.gov/pacific/
- **Denver Public Library Genealogy, Western History and African-American Resources**
<https://history.denverlibrary.org/research/genealogy-collection>

Connecticut

- **Connecticut Digital Archive**
collections.ctdigitalarchive.org
- **Connecticut Index**
http://dunhamwilcox.net/0_ct-index.htm
- **Connecticut State Library Digital Collections**
<http://cslib.cdmhost.com/>

Delaware

- **Delaware Public Archives**
archives.delaware.gov

Florida

- **Florida Memory**
www.floridamemory.com

Georgia

- **Digital Library of Georgia**
dig.usg.edu
- **Georgia Archives**
www.georgiaarchives.org

Hawaii

- **Hawaii State Archives**
ags.hawaii.gov/archives

Idaho

- **Idaho State Historical Society: Searchable Indexes**
history.idaho.gov/
- **Idaho Searchable Indexes**
history.idaho.gov/searchable-indexes

Illinois

- **Illinois Digital Archives**
www.idaillinois.org

Indiana

- **Indiana Digital Archives**
www.indianadigitalarchives.org
- **Indiana Legacy**
digital.statelib.lib.in.us/legacy
- **Indiana State Library: Genealogy Collection**
www.in.gov/library/genealogy.htm

Iowa

- **The Iowa Heritage Digital Collections**
www.iowaheritage.org>

Kansas

- **Kansas Historical Society**
www.kshs.org/18943
- **Kansas Memory**
www.kansasmemory.org

Kentucky

- **Kentucky Digital Library**
kdl.kyvl.org

Louisiana

- **Louisiana State Archives**
www.sos.la.gov/HistoricalResources/ResearchHistoricalRecords

Maine

- **Digital Maine Repository**
digitalmaine.com
- **Maine Genealogy**
www.maine-genealogy.net
- **Maine Memory Network**
www.mainememory.net

Maryland

- **Digital Maryland**
www.digitalmaryland.org

Massachusetts

- **Digital Commonwealth**
www.digitalcommonwealth.org

Michigan

- **Seeking Michigan**
seekingmichigan.org
- **Western Michigan Genealogical Society**
data.wmgs.org

Minnesota

- **Minnesota Historical Society**
www.mnhs.org/research

Mississippi

- **Mississippi Digital Library**
www.ms-diglib.org/search
- **Missouri Digital Heritage**
sos.mo.gov/mdh

Missouri

- **The State Historical Society of Missouri Digital Collections**
digital.shsmo.org

Montana

- **Montana Memory Project**
montanamemory.org

Nebraska

- **History Nebraska**
history.nebraska.gov

Nevada

- **Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records: Digital Collections**
www.nsladigitalcollections.org

New Hampshire

- **New Hampshire Genealogy & History**
www.nh.searchroots.com
- **University of New Hampshire Library**
archive.org/details/University_of_New_Hampshire_Library

New Jersey

- **New Jersey State Archives**
nj.gov/state/archives/search.html

New Mexico

- **New Mexico Digital Collections**
econtent.unm.edu

New York

- **German Genealogy Group**
www.germangenealogygroup.com
- **Italian Genealogical Group**
www.italianguen.org
- **New York Heritage Digital Collections**
www.nyheritage.org
- **Old Fulton NY Post Cards**
fultonbistory.com

North Carolina

- **DigitalINC**
www.digitalinc.org
- **North Carolina Digital Collections**
digital.ncdcr.gov

North Dakota

- **Digital Horizons**
digitalhorizonsonline.org

Ohio

- **Ohio Memory**
www.ohiomemory.org

Oklahoma

- **The University of Oklahoma Western History Collections**
digital.libraries.ou.edu/homehistory.php

Oregon

- **Archival Records: Guides, Records and Indexes**
<https://sos.oregon.gov/archives/Pages/records.aspx>

Pennsylvania

- **State Library of Pennsylvania**
<https://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/GeneralPublic/Collections/Pages/default.aspx>

Rhode Island

- **Rhode Island Historical Cemetery Commission**
www.rihistoriccemeteries.org

South Carolina

- **South Carolina Department of Archives and History**
archives.sc.gov
- **South Carolina Digital Library**
scmemory.org

South Dakota

- **South Dakota State Historical Society**
history.sd.gov/archives/genealogists.aspx

Tennessee

- **Tennessee Virtual Archive**
teva.contentdm.ocic.org
- **Volunteer Voices**
digital.lib.utk.edu/collections/volvoices

Texas

- **The Portal to Texas History**
texashistory.unt.edu

Utah

- **Utah State Archives Name Indexes**
archives.utah.gov/research/indexes
- **Utah State Cemeteries and Burials Database**
heritage.utah.gov/history/cemeteries

Vermont

- **Vermont Historical Society**
vermonthistory.org

Virginia

- **Library of Virginia**
www.lva.virginia.gov

Washington

- **Washington Rural Heritage**
wrh.statelib.lib.wa.us/cdm
- **Washington State Archives Digital Archives**
digitalarchives.wa.gov

West Virginia

- **West Virginia Archives and History**
www.wvculture.org/history/archivesindex.aspx

Wisconsin

- **Recollection Wisconsin**
recollectionwisconsin.org

- **Wisconsin Historical Society**
www.wisconsinhistory.org/genealogy

Wyoming

- **Wyoming Newspapers**
newspapers.wyo.gov

Closing Comments

If you are still confused on where to search for vital records in the USA, there's not a single more comprehensive resource than the National Archives at: <https://www.archives.gov/research/vital-records>. Everything possible is categorized for specific resources at your finger tips with just one mouse click. It's a must-see compilation of information containing nearly every vital record source available by our government. Don't hesitate to explore it as the topics are alphabetized for your convenience and is very user-friendly besides being highly informative.

Part 3 in this series of postings will cover vital records that could possibly be escalating significantly in cost as being pursued with outrageous increases in fees by our government for obtaining genealogical vital records and you'll be pleased that parts 1 and 2 were published first to possibly eliminate the need of seeking these documents with their proposed fee changes presently in Congress.

Part 4 in this series of postings will cover the basics for searching vital records internationally.

Regardless of where your ancestors lived in the United States, your family history is just waiting to be discovered in some of these state sites because there are records available but finding them can be a frustrating challenge. With more resources available, you have better opportunities of meeting your family history needs with success. Good luck in your searches and hope these first two postings on locating American vital records are helpful.