

Date	Event
1st July 1837	Civil Registration in England and Wales begins
1852	GRO References change from Roman Numerals (XVI) to Arabic numbers and letters (6d)
1866	GRO indexes include age at death
1875	Birth and Death Act 1874: a) Compulsory registration of births (parents/guardians responsible for registration), b) Fines for non-registration of births/penalties for late registration (42 days to register), c) For illegitimate births, father must be present at the birth registration for his name to appear on a birth entry in the register, d) Deaths to be registered within 5 days, instead of 8 as previous, e) Medical certification in respect of cause of death required.
1898	Non Conformist and Catholic Churches can appoint an "Authorised Person" to register marriages, removing the need for a Registrar to be present.
Sept Qtr. 1911	GRO Indexes include Mothers Maiden Name
Mar Qtr. 1912	GRO Marriage Indexes include Spouses Surname
Oct. Qtr. 1912	Beoley and Wythall move from Kings Norton to Bromsgrove Registration District. Curdworth, Minworth, Wishaw and Water Orton move from Aston to Meriden District.
1st Sept 1924	Birmingham, Aston and Kings Norton Registration Districts amalgamated to form Birmingham North and Birmingham South Districts.
1st July 1927	Introduction of the Register of Still Births
1927	a) Introduction of the Adopted Childrens Register, b) Re-registration of illegitimate births allowed if parents subsequently marry each other, c) Registrars certificate / coroners order required before a burial / cremation of a body.
1929	a) Legal age for marriage increased from 14 (males) and 12 (females) to 16 for both (parental consent still required up to age 21), b) Functions of civil registration transferred to Local Authorities, c) Newly appointed Registration Officers paid salaries.
1st Oct 1932	Birmingham North and South Registration Districts amalgamate to form Birmingham Registration District (includes Handsworth sub-district from West Bromwich).
1946	GRO Volume Numbers re-organised (6d became 9c).
1947	Short Birth Certificates introduced.
1969	a) Format of Birth and Death Certificates changed, to portrait instead of landscape, b) Age of majority reduced from 21 to 18, c) Re-registration of births of illegitimate children to include name of father allowed, irrespective of whether the parents marry.
June Qtr. 1969	Death Indexes show date of Birth instead of age at Death
1974	GRO Volume Numbers re-organised (9c became 32).
June Qtr. 1974	Birmingham and Sutton Coldfield Registration Districts amalgamate.
1975	Adult adopted people allowed access to information on original birth entry.
1984	GRO Indexes changed to annual compilations.