

Hello,

Vital records registration started in New York State outside of New York City in 1881. And while the law was passed requiring the filing of these records, it still wasn't uniformly or consistently followed until well into the 1900's.

The records include:

- Birth certificates - if on file for at least 75 years and the person whose name is on the birth certificate is known to be deceased.
- Death certificates - if on file for at least 50 years.
- Marriage certificates - if on file for at least 50 years and the bride and groom are both known to be deceased.
- The New York State Department of Health does not file records of birth, death and marriage from the Cities of Albany, Buffalo and Yonkers prior to January 1, 1914.

For more information on the NYS Vital Records index:

http://www.health.state.ny.us/vital_records/genealogy.htm

You might want to contact a library/historical association/town historian in the locale where your ancestors lived. They may be of more assistance.

Holly Sammons, Librarian