

IMPORTANT RECORD TYPES FOR SPAIN REGION RESEARCH		
Must Know Very Well	Good Working Knowledge	Some Familiarity
Civil Registration Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nacimientos • Matrimonios • Defunciones Parish Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bautismos • Matrimonios • Entierros • Confirmaciones • Informaciones o Expedientes Matrimoniales Census Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Padrones • Catastro de Ensenada Maps, Gazetteers, and Historical Geography	Immigration and Migration Records Municipal Records History & Jurisdictions Military Events Notarial Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testamentos • Cartas de Dote • Contratos de Matrimonio • Inventarios de Dote • Inventarios de Muerte Military Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quintas • Hojas de Servicio • Expedientes Personales • Expedientes Matrimoniales 	Hidalguías Manuscript Collections Military Religious Orders Pleitos Published Genealogies Cofradía Memberships Ethnic Groups

STRATEGIES & RESOURCES SPECIFIC TO SPAIN REGION RESEARCH

- Know where to find and how to use the records needed to solve the client's research problem. To learn about resources for the SPAIN REGION see the following:
 - [Cyndi's List](#) see categories for SPAIN
 - [Facebook](#) genealogy pages for the SPAIN region, use search field to locate specific titles
 - [FamilySearch](#) Wiki article "[SPAIN GENEALOGY](#)"
 - Your favorite search engine
- Use original records, whenever possible, created at the time of the event. These might be found at various jurisdictional levels (such as town, county, state/province, federal/national).

Many records are available online. See FamilySearch Research Wiki page, [SPAIN ONLINE GENEALOGY RECORDS](#) for suggestions.

- Applicants for accreditation in the SPAIN region, must demonstrate their language ability as part of the exam by accurately transcribing and translating documents of genealogical significance into English. Refer to the [Paleography Language Ability Table](#) to determine your language ability.
- Be familiar with the dates of commencement of civil registration and their availability in each jurisdiction for SPAIN. For example: “Spanish civil registration records (births, marriages, and deaths) began in 1871. Some municipals may have civil registration records beginning as early as 1837. These births, marriages, and deaths are normally found in the municipal archive. Some of them have been microfilmed and/or digitized by FamilySearch.”¹ See FamilySearch Family History Research Wiki article, [Spain Civil Registration - Vital Records](#) to learn more.
- Be familiar with key repositories used for SPAIN genealogical research. See FamilySearch Family History Research Wiki article, [SPAIN Archives](#) for suggestions.
- Prominent reference works for SPAIN are discussed in FamilySearch Family History Research Wiki, article [“Spain for Further Reading.”](#)

ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES

- Search all applicable Civil Registration records for birth, marriage & death information. In addition, search all Parish Records for baptism, marriage & burial information. These records regularly contain 2 or 3 generations of familial information.
- Evaluate each record. Correlate findings with multiple records. Be aware of name variations used in the records.
- Source each event in each person’s life. Capture the information about each source to facilitate proper citation when writing the report.

¹ FamilySearch Family History Research Wiki article, Spain Civil Registration - Vital Records, https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Spain_Civil_Registration.

- Keep a research log of all records searched, including any searches for which nothing was found.
- Don't assume relationships. Exhaust research efforts to make connections and contact other family historians via indexed family trees, mailing lists and bulletin boards.
- Verify generational links by using multiple records to prove the linkage.
- If indirect evidence is used, assemble it correctly to support your conclusions. Source each event in each person's life. Capture the information about each source to facilitate proper citation when writing the report.
- Verify generational links.
- Watch for persons with the same name (e.g. parents with the same name on a parish or other record). Consider all variants of spelling for the name.
- Understand your family in historical context, including wars and jurisdictional boundary changes.
- Understand applicable economics, religion, ethnicity, prejudices, and laws.
- If indirect evidence is used, assemble it correctly to support your conclusions.
- Substitute records might be used when there is a lack of records or record loss. An event might be recorded in multiple ways. For example, a marriage might be recorded civilly, by the church, or in a newspaper. Each should be check.

This is an overview of some resources, record types, and strategies that may be covered on the ICAPGen regional exams. Although not a complete list, it is offered as a guide to build upon in your preparation for testing and to maintain your professional-level skills.