



## SWEDEN REGIONAL RESOURCES

*This region covers Sweden.*

This is a non-comprehensive overview of some record types, resources, and strategies that may be covered on the ICAPGen regional exams. Use it as a starting point to direct your studies and to compile research reference guides.

### IMPORTANT RECORD TYPES

Must Know Very Well	Good Working Knowledge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arkivdigital</li><li>• Feast Day Calendars</li><li>• Household Examination Books (Husförhörslängder)</li><li>• Mantalslängder</li><li>• Dictionaries</li><li>• Gazetteers</li><li>• Military Records</li><li>• Passenger Lists</li><li>• Police Departure Records</li><li>• Probate Records/Estate Inventories</li><li>• Passenger Lists</li><li>• Birth, Marriage and Death Records</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bänklängder</li><li>• Guild and Citizenship Records</li><li>• Herdaminne</li><li>• Jordeböcker</li><li>• Riksarkivet</li><li>• Centrala Soldatregistret</li><li>• Emigration Resources and Databases</li><li>• Gravestone Indexes</li><li>• Sveriges Befolkning</li><li>• Statistiska Centralbyrån</li><li>• Ancestry</li><li>• MyHeritage</li><li>• Confirmation Records</li><li>• Kommunionlängder</li></ul>

## LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

For Sweden some basic language skills are required. It is important to be able to identify a Swedish document (birth, baptismal record, marriage, or death/burial record) and be able to abstract important genealogical data such as name, parent's names, dates, places, etc.

## RESOURCES

### Repositories

Some repositories important for Sweden genealogical research are shown. You will also want to be familiar with repositories specific to smaller local areas where you do most of your research.

- Archives & Libraries: See FamilySearch Research Wiki <https://bit.ly/2zJRzZ6>. Search terms Sweden Archives and Libraries.
- Genealogical and historical societies (state, regional, county, and local)
- Cyndi's List – [Sweden/Sverige](#)

### Dictionaries

- [The Swedish Genealogy Guide 1788 Historical Dictionary](#)
- [SHDD – Swedish Historical Dictionary Database](#)
- [Svensk Engelsk Hand Ordbok](#)
- [Swedish and English Pocket Dictionary](#)

### Websites

Many repositories have websites that include record indexes and/or images. Volunteer groups and individuals also place useful content online. The following are good starting points.

- Arkivdigital
- Riksarkivet
- [CentralaSoldatregistret](#)
- [NAD \(National Archives Database\)](#)
- [Stockholm City Archive](#)
- [SVAR](#)
- [Swenson Swedish Emigration Center](#)
- [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America \(E.L.C.A\)](#)
- [The Swedish Genealogy Guide](#)
- Facebook genealogy pages for the region, use search field to locate specific groups
- FamilySearch Research Wiki articles for your region <https://bit.ly/2zJRzZ6>

### Finding Aids

Finding aids listing the sources that repositories hold is often available online, but not always.

Knowledge of such collections not listed online can often be obtained through local experience, visits to repositories, and conversations with local experts.

- [FamilySearch Wiki - Sweden Genealogy](#)
- [Rosenberg's Geografiska Lexikon](#)

### **Book-Length Research Guides**

It is recommended that you study some guides on topics such as genealogical research, analysis, writing, and record types. Whether you are an expert or a beginner, reading research guides for your states, repositories, record types, and topics of interest, will help advance your region-specific knowledge. General guides are so plentiful that any list could quickly go out-of-date and would risk overlooking some. The following guides are examples helpful for all regions.

Becoming an Excellent Genealogist: Essays on Professional Research Skills. ICAPGen, 2012.

Mastering Genealogical Proof. National Genealogical Society, 2015.

Clemensson, Per and Andersson, Kjell. [Släktforska! Steg för Steg](#) [Family Research! Step by Step]. Stockholm: LTs förlag, 1983.

Edin, K. Arvid. "The Swedish Church Registers and the Demographic Science." in The Swedish Nation in Word and Picture. Stockholm: Hasse W. Tullberg, 1921.

Furtenbach, Börge. Släktforskning för alla [Family Research for All]. Västerås: ICA Forlaget, 1976.

Haugen, Einar. The Scandinavian Languages: An Introduction to Their History. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1976.

Hildebrand, Bengt. Handbok i Släkt- och Personforskning [Handbook of Family and Personal Research]. Stockholm: Walström & Widstrand, 1961.

Jenson, Andrew. History of the Scandinavian Mission. Salt Lake City: Deseret News Press, 1927.

Johansson, Carl Erik. Cradled in Sweden, a Practical Help to Genealogical Research in Swedish Records. Logan, UT: Everton Publishers, Inc., revised ed. 1995.

Scobbie, Irene. Historical Dictionary of Sweden. Metuchen, N.J.: The Scarecrow Press. 1995.

Svensk Arkiv-Guide [Swedish Archive Guide]. Uppsala: Institutet för Ortshistoria, 1991.

Den Svenska Historien [The History of Sweden]. Stockholm: Albert Bonniers Förlag, 1967.

Thorsell, Elisabeth. Släktforskning – Vägen til din egen historia [Family Research – the Way to Your Own History]. Västerås: ICA, 1993.

## **STRATEGIES SPECIFIC FOR SWEDISH RESEARCH**

Know the date vital statistics were first recorded for each state in the region and the laws that affected their recording. For example, the Church Law of 1686 (which went into effect in 1688), stated that the parish priest was to keep a record of all births and christenings, engagements and marriages, deaths and burials, as well as maintaining the household examinations and moving in/moving out records.

### **FOR GENERAL RESEARCH**

In addition to the strategies specific to this region discussed above the strategies below apply to all regions.

- Search all applicable records to find complete families.
- Use original records, when possible, created at the time of the event. These might be found at various jurisdictional levels (such as parish, county, court, province, national).
- Understand your family in historical context, including wars and jurisdictional boundary changes.
- If indirect evidence is used, assemble it correctly to support your conclusions.
- Evaluate each record. Resolve any conflicting information. Correlate findings.
- 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 checked.
- Source each event in each person's life. Capture the information about each source to facilitate proper citation when writing the report.
- Keep a research log of all records searched, including any searches for which nothing was found.
- Verify generational links.
- Understand applicable economics, religion, ethnicity, prejudices, and laws. For example: Know availability of records for major religious denominations in each state.
- Watch for persons with the same name (e.g. parents with the same name on a census or other record). Consider all variants of spelling for the name along with ways a name could be misspelled when searching indexes and online resources.

**NOTE:** The exams are open book, including the Internet. Paper and/or digital research reference guides may be used during the test. Digital research reference guides on USB drives will be copied to the facility computer and deleted from that computer at the end of the test session. Research reference guides may also be accessed through a cloud account such as Dropbox, Google, OneDrive, etc.