

IMPORTANT RECORD TYPES FOR MID-ATLANTIC STATES RESEARCH

This region covers the states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

Must Know Very Well	Good Working Knowledge	Some Familiarity
<p>Cemetery Records</p> <p>Census Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal • State • Special (i.e. Military, Mortality, Agriculture, etc.) <p>Church Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baptism or Christening • Marriage • Death or Burial • Membership • Meeting <p>Land and Property Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County • State <p>Military Records</p> <p>Naturalization Records</p> <p>Probate Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intestate (Administrator Bonds, Inventories, Settlement, etc.) • Testate (Executor Bonds, Wills, Codicils, Settlement, etc.) <p>Town Records</p> <p>Vital Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth • Marriage • Death • Divorce 	<p>Biographies</p> <p>City Directories</p> <p>Court Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil • Criminal • Guardianship <p>Emigration, Immigration, and Migration</p> <p>Histories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local (town or city) • County • Family • State <p>Maps, Gazetteers and Historical Geography</p> <p>Obituaries</p> <p>Tax Records</p>	<p>Adoption Records</p> <p>Bible Records</p> <p>Business/Commerce Records</p> <p>Ethnic and Minority Records</p> <p>Funeral Home Records</p> <p>Manuscript Collections</p> <p>Newspaper</p> <p>Periodicals</p> <p>Voting Records</p>

STRATEGIES & RESOURCES SPECIFIC TO MID-ATLANTIC STATES 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 MID-ATLANTIC REGION see the following:
 - [Cyndi’s List](#) see categories for each of the states in the MID-ATLANTIC REGION
 - [Facebook](#) genealogy pages for the region, use search field to locate specific titles
 - *FamilySearch* Family History Research Wiki article “[United States Genealogy](#)” and its links to each state in the MID- ATLANTIC REGION
 - Your favorite search engine
- Use original records, when 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 of which are online. familiar with online databases available for the MID-ATLANTIC REGION which might include images of original sources, state sources used, or provide clues for further research. *FamilySearch* Family History Research Wiki [United States Online Genealogy Records](#) links to suggestions for each state in the MID-ATLANTIC REGION.
- Know the date vital statistics were first recorded for each state in the region and the laws that affected their recording. In Delaware for example: In the state of Delaware, statewide registration of births began in 1861 but was discontinued in 1863. Statewide registration was resumed in 1881 and was generally complied with by 1921. ¹
- Understand your family in historical context, including wars and jurisdictional boundary changes. To learn about these important elements, see *FamilySearch* Family History Research Wiki article [United States History](#) and the state links for each state in the MID-ATLANTIC REGION.
- Consider downloading the printed *FamilySearch* Library Research Outlines for each state in the MID-ATLANTIC REGION. Even though these Research Guides were taken out of print in 2009, some researchers still use the outlines as they contain valuable information about genealogy and records that are applicable to today’s research. See *FamilySearch* Family History Research Wiki article [Research Outlines](#) to download them.

¹ Delaware Vital Records, Birth Records section, https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Delaware_Vital_Records.

- Be familiar with key repositories used for MID-ATLANTIC REGION genealogical research. See *FamilySearch* Family History Research Wiki article [United States Archives and Libraries](#) for suggested repositories. Be sure to check the state links at the bottom of the article.
- Prominent reference works for the MID-ATLANTIC STATES REGION are discussed in *FamilySearch* Family History Research Wiki articles and can be accessed by searching “[name of state] for Further Reading.”

ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES

- Search all applicable census records to find complete families.
- If indirect evidence is used, assemble it correctly to support your conclusions. If needed use the *FamilySearch* Family History Research Wiki article, [United States Record Selection Table](#) for further research suggestions to locate other records and evidence that might aid your research and form 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. See *FamilySearch* Family History Research Wiki article [Name Variations in United States Indexes and Records](#) for suggestions.

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.