

## What is the Danish Demographic Database?

The Danish Demographic Database is an on-going project of the Danish government to create a searchable database of the Danish census, emigration records, and probate records. Much has been done, but it is far from finished. The **Census** records from 1787 to 1845 have been done for most counties and many have the 1880 census done, also. The **Emigrant** records cover the period from 1868 to 1908. The **Probate** records are currently done only for Thisted, Viborg, Aalborg & Randers counties. Additional searches are available only in Danish – **Dannebrogsmænd from 1864, Øders efter 1771**, and **St. Croix census records until 1911**. These searches are found by clicking on **Andre Kilder**.

## Accessing the Danish Demographic Database

- Go to <http://www.ddd.dda.dk>.
- Click on the British flag to have the English version of this web page.
- Click on the desired database to search – **Censuses, Probate Index, Emigrants** or **Andre Kilder**. (Andre Kilder opens the searches discussed above as available in Danish only.)

## Censuses

- Click on **Censuses**.
- To determine if the census you have want to search has been done, click on **What's in the database?**
  - Select the **County** from the drop-down menu.
  - If you know the **District** and or **Parish**, you may fill those in.
  - Fill in the **Year** of the census.
  - Click on **Search**.
  - Click the **Back** button on your browser to return to the main **Censuses** page.
- To search the census, on the main **Censuses** page, click on **Search for individuals**.  
Realize that names may be spelled many ways. For instance, Mads may also be spelled Mats or Matz. A female may be listed with the -sen ending or -datter or some abbreviated form of -datter. To maximize the possibility of finding the person that you are looking for, follow these guidelines for entering the name.
  - Enter the name in first name first, then last name order.
  - Use the wild card characters: % for one or more characters, \_ for one letter and a <space> at the beginning or end to keep from getting Hans, Hansine, Johansen, etc if Hans is entered. For example, Lars Jorgensen: La% J\_rgensen; Ane Madsdatter: An% Ma% (because it could be Madsen, Madsdatter, Matzdatter, Matzsen, etc. Also, use the if you do not have the Danish alphabet set to be able to use the \_ for the Danish letters ø, æ, and å. Jorgensen is really Jørgensen, for instance. This simple thing can affect whether or not you get results. (See your operating system for instructions to change Language sets.)
  - Enter birthplace if it is known and you are searching a census after 1840.
  - Select an age range from the **Age** drop-down menu or use **All ages** if the age is unknown.
  - Select a county from the **County** drop-down menu. You may also enter a District or Parish if you wish to further limit the search.
  - Select a **Sort** method (Note: additional search methods are available if you use **Advanced** search instead of the basic search.)
  - Click on **Search**.
  - When the results appear, select the one you want to view, then select **Show household** to see the family with whom that individual is listed.

NOTE: The differences between the **Search for individuals** and the **Expanded search for individuals** are:

  - You may select more than one year and/or county to search.
    - For a range, click on the first one, then hold down the **<shift>** key and click on the last one.
    - To select years or counties that are not consecutive in the list, click on the first one desired, then holding down the **<ctrl>** key, click on all others desired.
  - You may also order the results by **Age**.
- To see a map of a county showing the districts and parishes within the county, on the main **Censuses** page, click on **Search for individuals**.
  - Select the county desired from the **County** drop-down menu.
  - Click on the **Map** link to the right of the **County** drop-down menu.

# Using the Danish Demographic Database

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### Emigrants

Emigration lists were compiled by the Copenhagen Police from 1869 to 1940. These lists give the name, last residence, age, year of emigration and first destination of the emigrant from Denmark; however, the records are made available for the years 1869 to 1908 (394.000 emigrants)

Following a number of scandals in which unsuspecting emigrants were conned by Danish emigration agents, The Danish parliament passed more stringent regulations on May 1, 1868. According to the new law, The Copenhagen Chief of Police was to approve and monitor all emigration agents in Denmark and authorize all overseas tickets made out in Denmark. This was to be done whether an emigrant would be traveling directly from Copenhagen to the United States or indirectly via another European harbor for destinations overseas. As an extra measure of control, all the information from each ticket was copied down in ledgers, and thus became the Copenhagen Police Records of Emigrants. Unfortunately, not all people's records can be found in this file. For instance, they may have traveled to Germany by land and then sailed from there.

These records have been compiled by the Danish Emigration Archives and the City Archives of Aalborg.

To search the emigration records:

- Follow the directions for accessing the web page and changing to English.
- Click on **Emigrants**.
- Fill in name in **Last name first, first name** order. See the example given after the field.  
NOTE: You must use the Danish alphabet characters **ø**, **æ**, and **å**. See your operating system for changing your keyboard to have the Danish alphabet characters.
- Fill in the rest of the fields if you know the information or leave them blank to get more hits.
- Click on **Start søgning**.

### Probate Index

The Probate Index is available only for four counties – Thisted, Viborg, Randers and Aalborg. Not much information is given, but enough is that you can then find the record on microfilm at the Family History Library.

- Click on **Probate Index**.
- Click on **Search the Index**.
- Read the information at the top of the window that tells you how to best use the search criteria fields.
- Fill in the information. Sometimes, it is better to use less information to get more. For instance, Mad in the **Deceased's Surname** field will enable you to get both Madsen and Madsdatter.
- Select the **Sort** method.
- Click on **Begin Search**.
- When the results list appears, you will see the name, death or probate date, residence, film information, additional notes, spouse(s) or parents' names. Record this information.

### Search Immigrants (Note: This search is only available in Danish, but the terms are not too difficult to understand.)

- From the English window, click on the Danish flag on the left side of the window where it says **Databases with Immigrants**.
- Click on **Indvandrede**.
- The first list is **Arbejdsofhold 1812**. This is essentially like an index of workers coming into the country, like our green cards. The second is **Indfodsretstildeling** or native Danes returning to Denmark.
- Select the desired database.
- Enter the search criteria. **Efternavn** is Last Name. **Fornavn** is Given or First Name. Remember, you can use just part of a last name such as Malm for Malmqvist.
- Click **Start søgning** (Start Searching).
- Copy down the information and the field names if you do not read Danish so they can be translated for you. Remember Fød means birth fodår is birth year. Ankomst is came.