

Icelandic Heritage - of data

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The Icelandic heritage of data is in some aspects unique. In this small country we are very proud of our well documented history, with genealogical information, dating some 1200 years back, and also the first ever national census (1703) including every inhabitant of Iceland with name, age and status.

The 1703 Icelandic census is now registered as UNESCO World Memory, and our Icelandic Sagas are somewhat famous and though probably mostly fiction based on traditional storytelling the genealogical information seems to be relatively sound.

There are some on-going projects in making this data easily available and there are also some commercial projects using this data, including a research company in the field of medical genetics. The National Archives and other institutions are making the 1703 census (and also others from the 18th and 19th century) available.

In the presentation I will introduce some of these projects and plans for further publications and presentation of this data.