Babies' First Names 2018

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Preserving the past **|** Recording the present **|** Informing the future

Jack was the most popular first forename for boys whose births were registered in 2018

Jack has been the top boys' name for eleven years running.

Three boys' names have each been top in at least five of the years from 1974 to 2018: David, Ryan and Jack.

David was top for many years, then its popularity declined rapidly; Ryan rose swiftly, peaked, and subsequently fell away.

Jack climbed quickly, and has been first or second for many years - but for how much longer?

Names which have been top in at least five of the years from 1974 to 2018 for boys
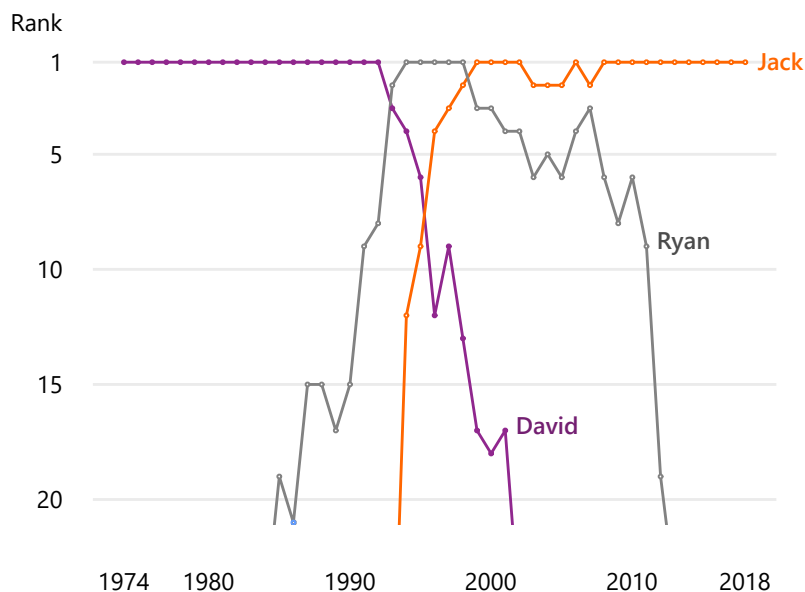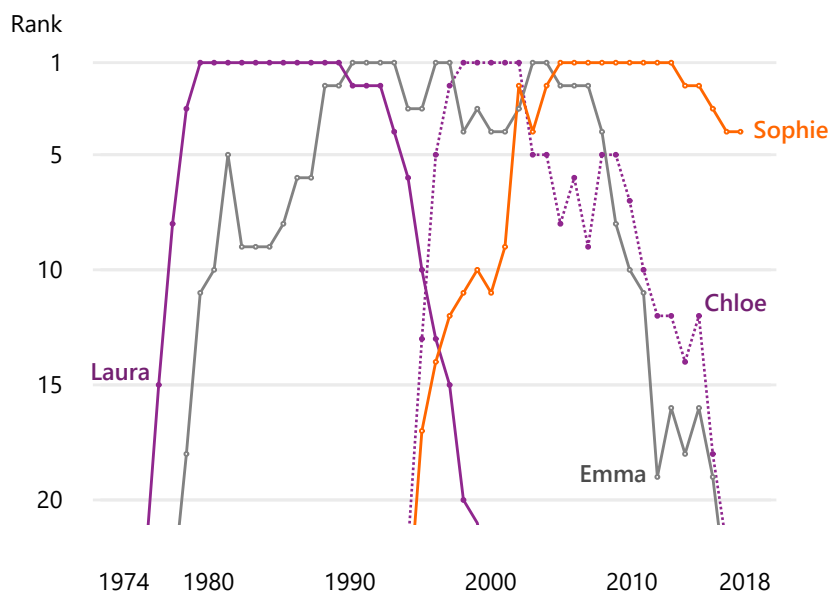

Olivia was the most popular first forename for girls whose births were registered in 2018

Olivia has been the top girls' name for three years running.

Four girls' names have each been top in at least five of the years from 1974 to 2018: Laura, Emma, Chloe and Sophie.

In all cases, their popularity has tended to rise rapidly, be around the top for a number of years, and then fall away quite quickly. It seems likely that the same will happen for Olivia.

Names which have been top in at least five of the years from 1974 to 2018 for girls

Contents

List of Tables

List of Figures

Main points

The main points from the statistics in this publication are:

- **Jack** remained the most popular first forename for baby boys, for an eleventh consecutive year. Two names were tied in second place: **Oliver**, which was second last year, and **James**, which was third. **Logan** rose one place to fourth.
- The rest of the boys' Top Ten were **Lewis** (down one place to fifth), **Leo** (up three places to sixth), **Alexander** (up one place to seventh) jointly with **Harris** (which remained seventh), **Rory** (up eight places to ninth) and **Noah** (down four places to tenth). Rory was the only entrant to the boys' Top Ten; **Harry** (down two places to twelfth) dropped out of it.
- The fastest climbers within the boys' Top Twenty were Rory, **Lucas** (up five places to eleventh) and **Thomas** (up five places to fourteenth). There were two entrants to the boys' Top Twenty: **Max** (up five places to nineteenth) and **Finn** (up five places to twentieth).

- **Olivia** was the top girls' name for the third year running. **Emily** remained second, **Isla** remained third, **Sophie** remained fourth and **Amelia** remained fifth.
- The rest of the girls' Top Ten were **Ella** (up two places to sixth), **Ava** (remained seventh), **Grace** (up five places to eighth), **Aria** (up one place to ninth) and **Jessica** (down four places to tenth).Grace was the only entrant to the girls' Top Ten; **Charlotte** (down two places to eleventh) dropped out of it.
- Grace and **Sophia** (up four places to twelfth) were the fastest climbers within the girls' Top Twenty. There were two entrants to the girls' Top Twenty: **Eilidh** (up two places to nineteenth) and **Mia** (up three places to twentieth).

- Other big climbers within the 2018 baby name Top Fifty charts included (for boys) **Jaxon** (up 10 places to joint 33rd), **Liam** (up 9 places to joint 33rd) and **Freddie** (up nine places to 36th), and (for girls) **Georgia** (up 13 places to 24th), **Rosie** (up 13 places to 27th) and **Willow** (up 11 places to joint 34th). Particularly fast-rising entrants to the Top Fifties were (for boys) **Hunter** (up 38 places to 30th), **Arthur** (up 43 places to 46th), **Luca** (up 55 places to joint 47th) and **Robert** (up 17 places to 50th), and (for girls) **Mila** (up 16 places to 36th) and **Ivy** (up 20 places to joint 38th).

- National Records of Scotland registered the births of 24,532 boys and 23,253 girls in the period covered by these figures. In total, 3,322 different boys' first forenames and 4,130 different girls' first forenames were registered; 2,085 boys and 2,635 girls were given names that were unique (within the period). The numbers of different names, and of unique names, were well above the levels of 10 and, much more so, 40 years ago. For example, the number of boys with unique first forenames was greater this year (2,085 in the period covered by these figures) than in the whole of 2008 (1,932) or 1978 (843).
- Jack was the first forename of only 1.6% of the boys, and Olivia was the first forename of just 1.8% of the girls. Of all the boys' births that were registered, 39% had a first forename that was in their Top Fifty, and 37% of all girls had a Top Fifty first forename.

The most popular first forenames in Scotland, 2018 (provisional: up to 1 December)

All the information for 2018 in this publication is provisional, being based on data for **births which were registered in (roughly) the first eleven months of the year** (refer to Note 2 on page 11). The statistics for 2017 are based on data for all the births registered in that year, and so supersede the provisional figures that appeared in the previous edition.

Table A (below) shows the Top Twenty boys' and girls' first forenames for 2018. The following more detailed information may be found on our website:
• the Top 100 boys' and girls' first forenames in 2018, showing changes since the previous year:
    a) in order of popularity (Table 1); and
    b) in alphabetical order (Table 2);
• the Top Ten boys' and girls' first forenames for each council area (Table 3).

Full lists of all the first forenames which were given to babies in Scotland in 2017 (including those registered too late to be counted in the previous edition of this publication) are available from the 'Babies' First Names' pages of the website. Similar lists covering all births registered in Scotland in 2018 will be published in mid-March 2019.

Table A - First forenames: Scotland, 2018 (provisional: up to 1 December)

Boys			Change in rank: 2017 -	Girls			Change in rank: 2017 -
Rank	Name	Number	2018 (prov.)	Rank	Name	Number	2018 (prov.)
1	Jack	395	no change	1	Olivia	413	no change
2=	James	299	1	2	Emily	395	no change
2=	Oliver	299	no change	3	Isla	355	no change
4	Logan	291	1	4	Sophie	315	no change
5	Lewis	279	-1	5	Amelia	299	no change
6	Leo	278	3	6	Ella	280	2
7=	Alexander	275	1	7	Ava	272	no change
7=	Harris	275	no change	8	Grace	261	5
9	Rory	261	8	9	Aria	260	1
10	Noah	259	-4	10	Jessica	252	-4
11	Lucas	247	5	11	Charlotte	232	-2
12	Harry	246	-2	12	Sophia	211	4
13	Charlie	242	1	13	Lily	208	-1
14	Thomas	236	5	14	Lucy	207	-3
15	Jacob	234	-2	15	Freya	201	-1
16	Alfie	233	-5	16	Evie	198	no change
17	Archie	229	3	17	Harper	177	1
18	Finlay	212	-6	18	Ellie	174	-3
19	Max	203	5	19	Eilidh	172	2
20	Finn	193	5	20	Mia	163	3

Commentary

Boys' names

Jack remained the most popular first forename for baby boys, for an eleventh consecutive year. Two names were tied jointly in second place: **Oliver**, which had also been second in 2017, and **James**, which was third in that year. **Logan** rose one place to fourth.

Lewis slipped one place to fifth, **Leo** climbed from ninth to sixth, **Alexander** was up one place at seventh jointly with **Harris** which was seventh in 2017. However, it should be noted that there was little difference between the numbers in fifth, sixth and joint seventh places.

Rory rose eight places to ninth, and **Noah** fell four places to tenth. Rory was the only entrant to the boys' Top Ten; **Harry** (down two places to twelfth) dropped out of the Top Ten.

Rory was the fastest climber within the boys' Top Twenty. **Lucas** was up five places to eleventh and **Thomas** rose five places to fourteenth. **Max** (up five places to 19th) and **Finn** (up five places to 20th) entered the boys' Top Twenty.

Rory, **Jaxon** (up 10 places to joint 33rd), **Liam** (up 9 places to joint 33rd) and **Freddie** (up 9 places to 36th) were the big climbers within the boys' Top Fifty. **Hunter** (up 38 places to 30th), **Arthur** (up 43 places to 46th), **Luca** (up 55 places to joint 47th), **Arran** (up 12 places to joint 47th) and **Robert** (up 17 places to 50th) entered the boys' Top Fifty.

A little further down the boys' Top 100, **Carter** (up 18 places to joint 51st), **Leon** (up 10 places to joint 66th), **Aidan** (up 15 places to joint 68th) and **Jake** (up 11 places to 80th) were also moving upwards. By this stage, a relatively small change in numbers could make a marked difference to the ranking - for example, Hamish (joint 56th) was the first forename of only 14 more babies than Benjamin (who was joint 73rd). **Alex**, **Callan, Elijah, Gabriel, Grayson, Louis,** Luca, **Lyle, Sebastian** and **Tommy** all entered the Top 100.

Names with clear falls in their popularity included Noah, **Alfie** (down 5 places to 16th), **Finlay** (down 6 places to 18th), **Aaron** (down 17 places to 32nd), **Matthew** (down 13 places to 40th), **Nathan** (down 14 places to 43rd), **Muhammad** (down 9 places to 45th) **Andrew** (down 14 places to 64th), **Samuel** (down 24 places to joint 62nd), **Isaac** (down 20 places to 65th), **Benjamin** (down 18 places to joint 73rd) and **Riley** (down 26 places to joint 73rd).

Aaron and **Mason** (down 5 places to 23rd) dropped out of the boys' Top Twenty; Andrew, **Angus** (down 7 places to 54th), Isaac, Riley and Samuel dropped out of the Top Fifty; **Calvin, Cody, Conor, Kyle, Lachlan, Mohammed, Ruairidh, Sonny, Struan** and **Zac** were no longer in the Top 100.

By the 'cut-off' date, 24,532 boys' births had been registered. Jack was the first forename of only 1.6% of the boys. Of all the boys' births, 39% had a first forename that was in their Top Fifty.

Girls' names

Olivia was the top girls' first forename for the third year running. **Emily** remained in second place, having been top in 2014 and 2015. **Isla** remained third, **Sophie** remained fourth (having been the top girls' name in every year from 2005 to 2013) and **Amelia** remained fifth.

Ella climbed two places to sixth, **Ava** remained seventh, **Grace** rose five places to eighth, **Aria** was up one place to ninth and **Jessica** fell four places to tenth. Grace was the only entrant to the girls' Top Ten; **Charlotte** (down two places to eleventh) dropped out of it.

Grace and **Sophia** (up four places to twelfth) were the fastest climbers within the girls' Top Twenty. **Eilidh** (up two places to 19th) and **Mia** (up 3 places to 20th) entered the girls' Top Twenty.

Georgia (up 13 places to 24th), **Rosie** (up 13 places to 27th) and **Willow** (up 11 places to joint 34th) were the fastest climbers within the girls' Top Fifty. **Mila** (up 16 places to 36th) and **Ivy** (up 20 places to joint 38th) entered the girls' Top Fifty.

A little further down the girls' Top 100, **Rose** (up 12 places to 53rd), **Iona** (up 25 places to 57th), **Hallie** (up 10 places to joint 60th), **Imogen** (up 17 places to 63rd) and **Cara** (up 30 to 64th) were also moving upwards. By this stage, a relatively small change in numbers could make a marked difference to the ranking - for example, Lilly (joint 60th) was the first forename of only 21 more babies than Rebecca (joint 83rd). **Ada**, **Aila**, **Amelie**, **Ariana**, **Bonnie**, **Cora**, **Darcy**, **Eden**, **Florence**, **Hope, Kayla, Lena, Myla, Piper, Quinn** and **Rowan** were all entrants to the Top 100.

Names with clear falls in their popularity included **Hannah** (down 13 places to 32nd), **Sienna** (down 9 places to joint 42nd), **Zara** (down 9 places to 45th), **Katie** (down 10 places to 50th), **Amber** (down 13 places to joint 51st), **Lilly** (down 10 places to joint 60th), **Phoebe** (down 11 places to joint 68th) and **Lexi** (down 30 places to joint 83rd).

Hannah and **Millie** (down 1 place to 21st) dropped out of the girls' Top Twenty; Amber, Lilly and **Zoe** (down 7 places to 55th) dropped out of the Top Fifty; **Abbie**, **Amy**, **Arya**, **Harley**, **Heidi**, **Lacey**, **Lillie**, **Megan**, **Mya, Paige, Rachel** and **Sarah** were no longer in the Top 100.

By the 'cut-off' date, 23,253 girls' births had been registered. Olivia was the first forename of just 1.8% of the girls. Of all the girls' births, 37% had a first forename that was in their Top Fifty.

Changing trends in naming babies

For both boys and girls, the range of names used has widened greatly over the last 100 or more years. Parents are increasingly selecting names which are different. The next three tables illustrate this trend. Table B shows that, in 1900, over 68% of boys were given a first forename that was in their Top Ten, as were 58% of girls – whereas the corresponding figures for 2018 were both under 15%.

Table B - Top Ten first forenames, percent of all births, selected years, Scotland

	Boys	Girls
1900	68.4	58.1
1950	53.3	36.3
1975	32.6	20.2
2000	21.7	20.4
2018 (prov.)	11.9	13.3

Note: refer to Note 9 regarding the definition of the 'Top Ten' for the purpose of this table

Table C shows the number of different first forenames that were given to babies of each sex. For births registered by the 'cut-off' date in 2018, 3,322 different first forenames had been given to boys (equivalent to 13.5 different names per 100 baby boys) and 4,130 to girls (17.8 per 100 baby girls). These figures are well above the levels of 10 years ago (boys: 3,085 or 10.1 per 100; girls: 4,228, or 14.3 per 100) and, much more so, 40 years ago (boys: 1,338, or 4.0 per 100; girls: 2,079, or 6.7 per 100).

Table C – Number of different first forenames, selected years, Scotland

	Numbers		Per 100 births	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1978	1,338	2,079	4.0	6.7
1988	1,462	2,583	4.3	8.0
1998	1,851	2,914	6.3	10.5
2008	3,085	4,228	10.1	14.3
2013	3,409	4,396	11.8	16.2
2014	3,359	4,427	11.6	16.0
2015	3,359	4,474	11.8	16.7
2016	3,465	4,330	12.3	16.5
2017	3,476	4,408	12.8	17.2
2018 (prov.)	3,322	4,130	13.5	17.8

Note: break between 2017 and 2018, as the latter covers only 11 months

The number of babies with 'unique' (refer to Note 10) first forenames has generally been rising over the past 40 or so years, with an occasional year not following that trend. Table D shows that, for births registered by the 'cut-off' date in 2018, 2,085 boys (8.5%) and 2,635 girls (11.3%) had unique first forenames. These figures are above the levels of 10 years ago (boys: 1,932, or 6.3%; girls: 2,739, or 9.3%) and, much more so, 40 years ago (boys: 843, or 2.5%; girls: 1,239, or 4.0%).

Table D – Unique first forenames, selected years, Scotland

	Numbers		Percent of all births	
	Boys	**Girls**	**Boys**	**Girls**
1978	843	1,239	2.5	4.0
1988	900	1,579	2.6	4.9
1998	1,130	1,766	3.8	6.3
2008	1,932	2,739	6.3	9.3
2013	2,195	2,872	7.6	10.6
2014	2,102	2,894	7.2	10.5
2015	2,126	2,891	7.5	10.8
2016	2,158	2,781	7.6	10.6
2017	2,176	2,872	8.0	11.2
2018 (prov.)	2,085	2,635	8.5	11.3

NB: Note 10 regarding the definition of 'unique' for the purpose of these figures.
Break in series between 2017 and 2018, as the latter covers only 11 months or so.

Finally, an aspect of the changing range of names is an increasing variation in spelling. All these statistics count different spellings separately. If combined, **Aidan/Aiden** (joint 68th and joint 96th, respectively) would be in joint 31st place and **Holly/Hollie** (joint 34th and joint 65th, respectively) would be joint 18th. That assumes, of course, that they would not be overtaken by other combinations of different spellings of names that, some might consider, might be counted together (for example, 'Ben' and 'Benjamin', 'Charles' and 'Charlie', and so forth).

Number of forenames

The number of forenames given in the births counted in the statistics for 2018 is summarised in the chart below. Eighty-three per cent of boys and seventy-eight per cent of girls whose births were registered in 2018 had more than one forename.

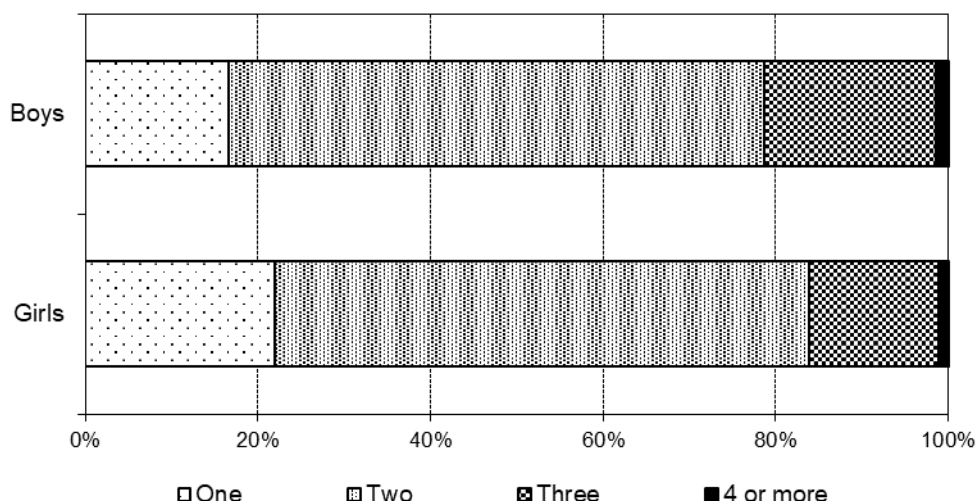**Figure 1 – Number of forenames, Scotland 2018 (provisional: up to 1 Dec)**

Table E shows the relative popularity of second forenames. It is clear that second forenames are more 'traditional', reflecting the names of previous generations in many cases. There are few changes in the lists of second forenames from year to year, with **James** and **Rose** being consistently popular (the latter overtook **Elizabeth** in 2012). In the

statistics for 2006 to 2012, inclusive, there were no changes to the names which appeared in the two Top Tens, and just a few minor alterations in some of their rankings. However, recent years have seen changes at the foot of the Top Ten for girls' second names: in 2013, **May** replaced **Mary** in the Top Ten; in 2014, Mary was back, and **Ann** fell out of the Top Ten; in 2015, Ann returned to the Top Ten and May dropped out; in 2016, May was back in the Top Ten again and Ann fell out again; in 2017, Ann returned to the Top Ten, displacing Mary; in 2018, Mary was back again, and Ann was out again. There have also been entrants to, and leavers from, both Top Twenties.

Table E – Most popular second forenames, Scotland, 2018 (provisional: up to 1 Dec)

Boys			**Girls**		
Rank	**Name**	**Number**	**Rank**	**Name**	**Number**
1	James	1,642	1	Rose	1,006
2	John	1,107	2	Elizabeth	794
3	William	788	3	Grace	584
4	Alexander	756	4	Margaret	412
5	David	648	5	Louise	362
6	Robert	606	6	Jane	359
7	Thomas	533	7	Anne	322
8	Andrew	435	8	Catherine	284
9	George	403	9	Mary	265
10	Michael	323	10	May	251
11	Joseph	225	11	Ann	242
12	Peter	206	12	Marie	193
13	Ian	192	13	Jean	183
14	Scott	180	14	Isabella	170
15	Jack	170	15	Mae	142
16	Alan	167	16	Helen	141
17	Daniel	163	17	Maria	126
18	Edward	156	18	Sarah	112
19	Stephen	154	19	Lily	109
20	Christopher	153	20	Anna	99

Regional variations

The Top Ten first forenames in each council area are given in Table 3, which can be downloaded from our website.

Jack was the top boys' first forename in 10 council areas, **James** was top in four areas, **Lewis** and **Logan** were each top in three, and **Archie, Harris, Leo, Oliver** and **Rory** were each top in two areas. Sometimes names were top jointly with other names. Several other names were top (or joint top) in one council area. **Emily** was the most popular girls' first forename in 10 council areas, **Isla** was also top in ten, **Olivia** was top in eight, **Sophie** in four and **Amelia** and **Ella** were each top in two areas. Again, sometimes, names were joint top; again, several other names were top (or joint top) in one council area.

Notes

1. By law, all births have to be registered, and the details are sent by local registrars to the National Records of Scotland (NRS). These data allow the production of tables showing the most popular first forenames, not just for a section of the population or for those births that were announced in a particular newspaper, but for all babies born in Scotland.

2. All of the information for 2018 contained in this publication and its accompanying tables is provisional. It is based on births which were registered up to and including Saturday 1 December 2018 (unless their details had not been entered into the computer system by that date, which could have happened in a few cases - for example, if the registrar did not have access to the computer system, and the details were not keyed in until after this 'cut-off' date).

3. The figures for 2017 cover all births that were registered in the whole year, and therefore differ from those given in the previous edition of this publication.

4. These figures do not include any names that were given to babies who were stillborn.

5. The rankings were based on the first name that was identified as having been recorded in the 'child's forename(s)' part of the entry of the registration of the birth. NRS identifies the names automatically, by using a computer program function which extracts (from the text in the 'child's forename(s)' field) sequences of characters which are 'delimited' by spaces (or by the start and end of the field). The computer function will count a sequence of characters which contains a hyphen (for example 'Mary-Frances') as a single name. However, it will count as two separate names any name that consists of two words, with a space between them. As a result, in the statistics in previous years, NRS has counted 'Da Silva' as two separate names ('Da' and 'Silva'), and likewise 'St Clair'. Similarly, for the purposes of these statistics, NRS would count 'J' as the first forename of a child whose forenames were recorded as 'J Arthur', and NRS would count 'JK' as the first forename if those two letters (with no intervening space) were all that was recorded in the 'child's forename(s)' field. It follows that the full lists of all the first forenames may include some entries which are not actually babies' names, and that there could be some tiny percentage errors in the analysis of the numbers of forenames given to babies. It is simply not feasible for NRS to scrutinise carefully all the babies' names that are given in a year, in order to identify those names (like 'Da Silva') that consist of two (or more) separate words, with the aim of counting them correctly for the purpose of these statistics.

6. Variants based on the same name were counted separately – for example, in these statistics, 'Ben' and 'Benjamin' are different names, likewise 'Agnes' and 'Senga', and 'Tony' and 'Anthony'. Different spellings (for example Stephen, Steven; Holly, Hollie; Callum, Calum) were counted separately.

7. Accents were ignored, so (for example) 'Chloe', 'Chloé', 'Chloë'. 'Chloè' and 'Chlöe' are all counted as the same name: 'Chloe'.

8. The amount of information about forenames that is held in the NRS birth statistics database depends upon in which of three periods the birth was registered. For births that were registered from 1974 to 1995, the 'child's forename(s)' field in the original version of that database could hold only 15 characters (including spaces between different forenames). Therefore, if a child was given several forenames, or some long forenames, the 'child's forename(s)' field might not have room for all of them: when that happened, the statistical database's list of that child's forenames was 'truncated' after the 15th character. In 1996, a new statistical computer system and birth statistics database were introduced, with a 'child's forename(s)' field that

could hold 30 characters (including spaces) - so, for births registered from the start of 1996 to part way through 2016, a list of forenames was truncated (in the statistical database) only if there was a total of more than 30 characters (including spaces). The current statistical computer system and birth statistics database were introduced during 2016. Now, up to 200 characters are allowed in the 'child's forename(s)' field, so it should be able to hold all the forenames for every birth that has been registered since then. Because the previous versions of the birth statistics database could hold only a truncated list of forenames, any remaining forenames (or parts thereof) for 'pre-2016' birth registrations are unavailable for the production of statistics. This could cause small percentage errors in the analysis of the numbers of forenames given to babies whose births were registered in 2016 and earlier years. In addition, the changes in the size of the 'child's forenames' field would cause breaks, (i) between 1995 and 1996 and (ii) between 2015, 2016 and 2017, in any time-series of the number of forenames that were given when births were registered. Please note that the administrative computer system's record of birth registrations was designed to hold all the names that were given, so they would all appear in full in any further copies of a child's birth certificate that may be produced.

9. For the purpose of Table B, the 'Top Ten names' should consist of exactly ten names. For example, if two or more names were tied in tenth place, only one of them should be counted when the percentage given in Table B is calculated; similarly, if three or more names were tied in ninth place, only two of them should be counted for the calculation; and so on. This differs from the approach which is used for the other tables (both in this publication and on the website): other tables will show more than (say) 20 names in the 'Top Twenty' if (for example) two names are tied in twentieth place, or three names are tied in nineteenth place.

10. For the purpose of Table D, a first forename is counted as being 'unique' if only one birth of that sex, registered in that year, had that first forename. (Note: 'year' refers to the period up to the 'cut-off' date, in the case of the provisional figures for the latest year.) Therefore, a first forename may not be truly unique within a year. For example, a boy called Sue might have a first forename that was unique for boys in a given year - but there could be several girls for whom Sue was their first forename. Or, a particular year might have two babies with the same 'unique' first forename: one being the only boy with that first forename, the other being the only girl. It should also be remembered that, for the purpose of these figures, a name is 'unique' if no other birth, of the same sex, registered in the same year, has the same name as the first forename: no account is taken of whether or not the name was given to other babies (of that sex, in that year) as, say, their second forename. Finally, in the case of the latest year, a first forename which was 'unique' in the period up to the 'cut-off' date may turn out not to be unique in the year as a whole, because it may have been given to another baby of the same sex whose birth was registered after the 'cut-off' date. On the other hand, some of the babies whose births were registered after the 'cut-off' date may be given first forenames that were not given to any of the babies whose births were registered earlier in the year – so further 'unique' names may be added later in the year.

11. The lists of the Top Ten first forenames for each council area do not show any first forenames which were given to fewer than three babies in that area.

12. Prior to the introduction of the current statistical computer system during 2016, the NRS birth statistics database held the information that had been recorded when the birth was first registered. It did not take account of any changes that were made if a birth was re-registered (for example, to add the father's details). However, for data obtained following the introduction of the current system, in those cases where a

birth was re-registered in the same calendar year as it was first registered, NRS's birth statistics database holds the information that was provided when the birth was re-registered (rather than the original registration record). This could affect the comparability of the pre- and post-2016 statistics of the numbers of forenames that were given when births were registered, if (for example) some re-registrations involve the child being given additional forenames.

13. In all the records that were in the NRS birth statistics database before the current statistical computer system was introduced during 2016, names were held in upper-case format (for example 'Mary-Frances' would be held as 'MARY-FRANCES', and both 'McKenzie' and 'Mckenzie' would be held as 'MCKENZIE'). In all the records that were added thereafter, names are held in the database in the same format as they were typed into the computer by the registrar. Therefore, to ensure that the pre- and post-2016 data are formatted in the same way, NRS's computer programs that extract information from the database to produce statistics of baby names use a computer function to ensure that the programs process all the names in upper case format. Then, when NRS produces the tables and lists of names, it uses another computer function to convert the names that will appear in the tables and lists into so-called 'proper case' format (so that they will be more 'readable'). The method used by the latter function produces the correct result in almost all cases (for example it will convert 'MARY-FRANCES' to 'Mary-Frances'). However, in a very small percentage of cases, it cannot return a name to its exact original format. For example, all names that the programs have processed as 'MCKENZIE' will be converted to 'Mckenzie': the function will not convert some of them to 'Mckenzie' and others to 'McKenzie'. As a result, a few names in the full lists will have a lower-case letter where there should be an upper-case letter (as another example, a first forename of 'JK' would appear in those lists as 'Jk'). Please note that this issue affects only a tiny proportion of the names which appear in lists that have been produced from the statistical copy of the data, and that the administrative computer system's record of every birth registration (from which any further copies of birth certificates will be produced) has the names exactly as they were recorded by the registrar (for example, with upper-case letters only where the original entry has upper-case letters).

Notes on statistical publications

National Statistics

The UK Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in line with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics (available on the UK Statistics Authority website).

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is National Records of Scotland's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

Information on background and source data

Further details on data source(s), timeframe of data and timeliness, continuity of data, accuracy, can be found in the About this Publication document that is published alongside this publication on the NRS website.

National Records of Scotland

We, the National Records of Scotland, are a non-ministerial department of the devolved Scottish Administration. Our purpose is to collect, preserve and produce information about Scotland's people and history and make it available to inform current and future generations. We do this as follows:

- Preserving the past – We look after Scotland's national archives so that they are available for current and future generations, and we make available important information for family history.

- Recording the present – At our network of local offices, we register births, marriages, civil partnerships, deaths, divorces and adoptions in Scotland.

- Informing the future – We are responsible for the Census of Population in Scotland which we use, with other sources of information, to produce statistics on the population and households.

You can get other detailed statistics that we have produced from the Statistics section of our website. Scottish Census statistics are available on the Scotland's Census website.

We also provide information about future publications on our website. If you would like us to tell you about future statistical publications, you can register your interest on the Scottish Government ScotStat website.

You can also follow us on twitter @NatRecordsScot

Revisions and Corrections
We, the National Records of Scotland, label any revisions and corrections that we have applied to any of our statistics. These revisions and corrections are clearly marked on the webpage of the publication as well on our revisions and corrections page available on the NRS website.

Where applicable, revisions will also be carried out in accordance with the revisions policy for population, migration and life events statistics available on the ONS website.

Enquiries and suggestions

Please contact our Statistics Customer Services if you need any further information.
Email: statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk

If you have comments or suggestions that would help us improve our standards of service, please contact:

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Related organisations

Organisation	Contact
The Scottish Government (SG) forms the bulk of the devolved Scottish Administration. The aim of the statistical service in the SG is to provide relevant and reliable statistical information, analysis and advice that meets the needs of government, business and the people of Scotland.	Office of the Chief Statistician and Strategic Analysis Scottish Government 2W, St Andrews House Edinburgh EH1 3DG Phone: 0131 244 0442 Email: statistics.enquiries@gov.scot Website: http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics
The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is responsible for producing a wide range of economic and social statistics. It also carries out the Census of Population for England and Wales	Customer Contact Centre Office for National Statistics Room 1.101 Government Buildings Cardiff Road Newport NP10 8XG Phone: 0845 601 3034 Minicom: 01633 815044 Email: info@statistics.gsi.gov.uk Website: www.ons.gov.uk/
The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) is Northern Ireland's official statistics organisation. The agency is also responsible for registering births, marriages, adoptions and deaths in Northern Ireland, and the Census of Population.	Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency McAuley House 2-14 Castle Street Belfast BT1 1SA Phone: 028 9034 8100 Email: info.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk Website: www.nisra.gov.uk