

About this publication	Description
Publication title	Babies' First Names
Description	Tables and commentary on the most popular first names given to babies whose births were registered during the first eleven months of the current year. Includes breakdowns by Council areas and a full list of all names registered in Scotland.
Theme	Population and Migration
Topic	Population and Migration
Format	Tables available in Excel, CSV and PDF
Data source(s)	Birth registrations
Date that data is acquired	Throughout the calendar year. Publication date is towards the end of December. The figures for the current year cover births registered between 1 January and around the end of November.
Release date	Around 20 <sup>th</sup> December
Frequency	Annual
Timeframe of data and timeliness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Birth registration records received throughout the year, a week or so after registration.</li> </ul>
Continuity of data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are no breaks in the series for the total number of births.</li> <li>• The name of the publication was changed in 2009 to 'Babies' first names'. It was previously 'Popular forenames'. There was no change to the content of the publication.</li> </ul>
Revisions statement	<p>Because the figures for the latest year are based on births registered by about the end of November, the results are provisional. The numbers of babies for many names (and, in some cases, the relative ranking of the names) will change when the final figures for the year are produced, from the data for births registered in all twelve months, for inclusion in the next edition of the publication. This is explained in the publication. Thereafter, there will be no further revisions, because National Records of Scotland (NRS) freezes its statistical data on births by the middle of the calendar year following the year of registration.</p> <p>NRS deals with <a href="#">revisions and corrections</a> to previously published statistics in accordance with the Scottish Government Statistician Group Revisions Policy - see</p>
Concepts and definitions	Definitions are contained in the publication - for example, explaining that different spellings of a name (e.g., Steven, Stephen, etc) are counted separately.
Relevance and key uses of the statistics	This is a light-hearted publication of general interest which usually attracts considerable media attention.
Accuracy	There is very little error in the final figures for the previous year, as few (if any) births are not registered. However, as mentioned earlier, because the figures for the current year

	are based only on registrations up to about the end of November, the counts for many names, and the ranks of some names, will be revised when final figures for that year are published in the next edition.
Completeness:	The published statistics cover Scotland as a whole, and include figures for each local authority.
Comparability	NRS is the only source of information on all births. Some baby product websites produce similar lists but (we assume) compile their lists from less-comprehensive information provided by people who choose to tell them the name of their baby, or by using birth announcements in some newspapers, etc.
Accessibility	It is the policy of NRS to make its <a href="#">web site and products accessible</a> according to published guidelines. Further information is available via the following link:
Coherence and clarity	The statistics are provided in Excel, PDF and CSV formats. They are designed to be consistent, and incorporate comparable historical data where appropriate.  Coherence: the statistics in the tables have been on the same standard basis for a number of years.
Value type and unit of measure	The statistics are simply the numbers of registrations of each first name broken down in various ways (e.g. by sex and area). The tables also show the rank assigned to each name, for comparison with previous years. A small table on second names is also provided.
Official Statistics designation	National Statistics
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	Assessed by UK Statistics Authority: <a href="#">Assessment Report</a> published in March 2011.
Help email	<a href="mailto:customer@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk">customer@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk</a>  There is also a <a href="#">contact form</a> on the NRS website.
Date this form was published	20 December 2011