



General Register Office
for
SCOTLAND
information about Scotland's people

Babies' First Names 2010

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Main Points

The key points in this publication are:

- **Jack** has stayed in first place as the most popular boys' name for new babies. **Lewis** and James keep their second and third places.
- For the sixth year, **Sophie** is the most popular girls' name for new babies. **Olivia** climbs from third place to second whilst **Ava** falls one place to third.
- The top 50 boys' names accounted for 46 per cent of all boys' names registered and the top 50 girls' names accounted for 42 per cent of the registrations.
- Around 3,000 different boys' names and 4,000 different girls' names were registered.

Table 1 Birth forenames in 2010, Scotland

The table below gives information on the top 20 boys' and girls' birth names in 2010.

Boys				Girls			
Rank	Name	Count	Change in Ranking 2009-2010	Rank	Name	Count	Change in Ranking 2009-2010
1	Jack	602	no change	1	Sophie	720	no change
2	Lewis	525	no change	2	Olivia	481	1
3	James	434	no change	3	Ava	454	-1
4	Logan	421	no change	4	Emily	436	no change
5=	Daniel	381	1	5	Isla	409	6
5=	Ryan	381	3	6	Lucy	375	-1
7	Aaron	356	no change	7	Chloe	370	-2
8	Oliver	350	16	8	Lily	333	7
9	Liam	345	-4	9	Ellie	332	3
10	Jamie	329	2	10	Emma	322	-2
11	Cameron	309	-2	11	Jessica	310	2
12	Alexander	307	-1	12	Erin	279	-3
13	Ethan	306	9	13	Katie	266	-6
14	Finlay	292	-1	14	Amy	244	-4
15	Matthew	286	3	15	Grace	232	1
16	Kyle	285	-1	16	Hannah	229	-2
17	Lucas	282	-2	17	Eva	218	no change
18	Adam	281	1	18	Mia	213	3
19	Harry	276	11	19	Freya	210	5
20	Aiden	275	-6	20	Holly	209	-1

The following more detailed information may be downloaded from our website.

1. The top 100 boys' and girls' birth names in 2010, together with changes since 2009:
 - a) in order of popularity; and
 - b) in alphabetic order.
2. A set of tables giving the top ten boys' and girls' names for each of the 32 Scottish Council areas.
3. A full list of all first names registered in Scotland in 2010.

Commentary

Boys' Names

Jack has stayed in first place as the most popular boys' name for new babies. **Lewis**, **James** and **Logan** remain in second, third and fourth places respectively. **Oliver** (up 16 places to 8th) and **Jamie** (up 2 places to 10th) are new entrants to the top 10. **Ethan** (up 9 places to 13th) and **Harry** (up 11 places to 19th) are the only other new entrants in the top 20. Between them, Jack and Lewis have been the top two boys' names for the past twelve consecutive years. Jack has been number one (with Lewis second) in eight of those years, with Lewis top (and Jack second) for the other four.

Noah and **Riley** (up 27 and 18 places respectively to joint 41st), **Cole** (up 17 places to 45th), **Jacob** (both up 16 places to joint 46th) and **Fraser** (up 6 places to 48th) are new entrants in the top 50. Other names making significant advances in the top 50 include **Alfie** (up 8 places to 27th), **Kai** (up 14 places to 31st), **Luke** (up 10 places to 36th) and **Rory** (up 7 places to 37th). Lower down the top 100, **Mason** (up 21 places to 54th), **Robbie** (up 14 places to 61st) and **Murray** (up 15 places to 66th) also make advances. New names reaching the top 100 include **Ollie** (up 90 places to 85th) and **Kaiden** (up 11 places to 91st).

There have been reductions in popularity for **Owen** (down 22 places to 55th), **Aidan** (down 20 places to 71st) and **Kenzie** (down 15 places to 89th). Names dropping out of the top 100 are **Paul**, **Brandon**, **Hamish**, **Gregor**, **Harvey** and **Isaac**.

By the end of November 2010, nearly 28,000 boys had been registered, with almost 3,000 different first names being used. The top 50 names accounted for 46 per cent of the total. Nearly 1,900 boys were given unique (for 2010) first names.

A full list of all first names registered in 2010 may be downloaded from our website.

Girls' Names

For the sixth year in a row, **Sophie** is the most popular girls' name for new babies. **Olivia** climbs one place to second place whilst **Ava** falls one place to third. There is one new entrant to the top ten – **Isla** (up 6 places to 5th). There are two new entrants in the top twenty - **Mia** (up 3 places to 18th) and **Freya** (up 5 places to 19th).

Maisie (up 23 places to 36th), **Sophia** (up 13 places to 42nd), **Lexi** (up 21 places to 46th) and **Poppy** (up 13 places to 47th) and **Layla** (up 10 places to 50th) are new entrants in the top 50 whilst **Eilidh** (up 9 places to 21st) and **Kayla** (up 9 places to 28th) also make significant advances.

Isabella (up 23 places to 51st) and **Lucie** (up 19 places to 66th) are among the climbers within the top 100 whilst **Lacey** (up 55 places to 53rd), **Lilly** (up 33 places to 70th) **Alicia** (up 99 places to 81st), **Naomi** and **Alice** (up 45 and 39 places respectively to joint 82nd) and **Nieve** (up 55 places to 95th) are among the new entrants.

Fallers within the top 50 include **Sarah** (down 16 places to 47th) and **Lauren** (down 6 places to 40th). Further down the top 100 **Madison** (down 21 places to 72nd), **Morgan** (down 27 places to 82nd) **Melissa** (down 17 places to 97th) were also less popular than last year.

Hayley, Jasmine, Kirsty, Libby and Miley (a big climber last year) are among those dropping out of the top 100 in 2010.

By the end of November 2010, nearly 27,000 girls had been registered, with more than 4,000 different names being used. The top 50 girls' names accounted for 42 per cent of the registrations, and nearly 2,700 girls in Scotland were given unique (for 2010) first names.

A full list of all first names registered in 2010 may be downloaded from our website.

Changing Trends in Naming Babies

For both boys and girls, the range of names used has been consistently widening over the last 100 years. Parents are increasingly selecting names which are different. The following table illustrates this trend.

Table 2 Top ten names, as a percentage of all names, 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
2010	14.8	15.7

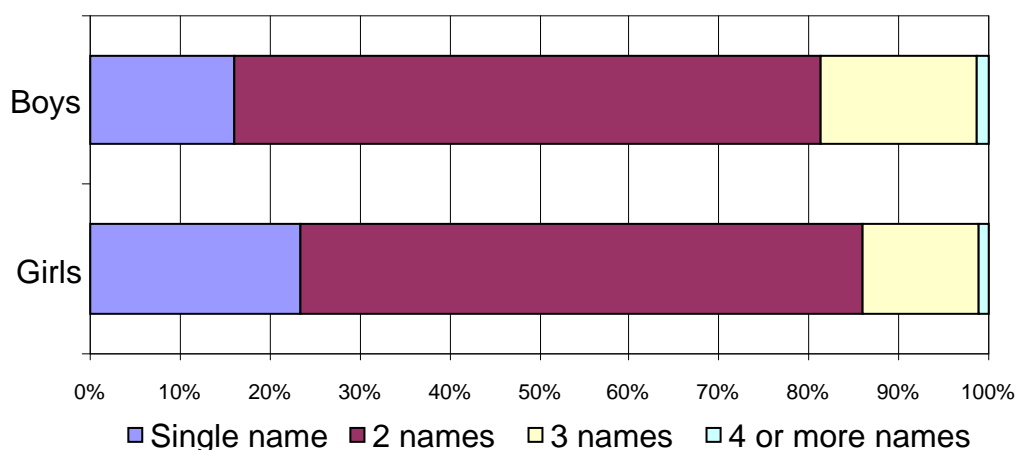
Another aspect of the changing range of names is an increasing variation in spelling. The tables presented here count different spellings separately. If combined, **Callum/Calum** would be in fifth place as would **Aimee/Amy**.

Number of Forenames

Additional names

The number of forenames given in 2010 is summarised in the chart below. Eighty-four per cent of boys and seventy-seven per cent of girls registered in 2010 have more than one forename.

Figure 1 Number of forenames, Scotland 2010



The following table shows the relative popularity of second names:

Table 3 Most popular second forenames, Scotland, 2010

Boys			Girls		
Rank	Name	Count	Rank	Name	Count
1	James	2086	1	Elizabeth	893
2	John	1390	2	Louise	793
3	William	1030	3	Rose	774
4	Alexander	880	4	Grace	549
5	David	807	5	Jane	522
6	Robert	704	6	Anne	480
7	Thomas	677	7	Margaret	474
8	Andrew	556	8	Mary	382
9	Michael	409	9	Ann	364
10	George	406	10	Catherine	359
11	Joseph	317	11	May	294
12	Peter	237	12	Marie	293
13	Scott	235	13	Jean	203
14	Paul	206	14	Isabella	198
15	Ian	200	15	Helen	183
16	Jack	182	16	Sarah	170
17=	Daniel	181	17	Mae	151
17=	Patrick	181	18	Christina	139
19	Christopher	176	19	Lily	136
20	Alan	167	20	Maria	124

It is clear that second names are more “traditional”, reflecting the names of previous generations in many cases. There are few changes in the lists of second names from year to year, with **James** and **John**, and **Elizabeth** and **Louise** being consistently popular. In 2010 the top ten second names for boys and girls are the same as the previous five years with just a few minor changes in ranking.

Regional variations

Jack was the top boys’ name in 16 council areas, whilst **Lewis** and **James** were each top in 5 areas. **Sophie** was the most popular girls’ name in 20 council areas, whilst **Isla** was top in 4 areas.

The top ten names in each Council area can be downloaded from our website.

Notes

- By law, all births have to be registered, and the records sent in by local registrars to the General Register Office for Scotland. These records allow the production of tables showing the most popular first forenames, not just for a section of the population or those announced in a particular newspaper, but for all new babies born in Scotland.
- All of the information for 2010 contained in these tables is provisional. It is based on most births registered up to the end of November 2010. The information for 2009 contained in this paper is for the full year, and therefore varies from that contained in last year's paper.
- The rankings were based on the first forename recorded on the birth register.
- Different spellings, e.g. Stephen, Steven, were counted separately.
- Accents were ignored.

Notes on statistical publications

Enquiries

Enquiries about this publication should be addressed to:

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General Register Office for Scotland

The General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) is the department of the devolved Scottish Administration responsible for the registration of births, marriages, civil partnerships, deaths, divorces and adoptions in Scotland. We are responsible for the Census of Population in Scotland which we use, with other sources of information, to produce population and household statistics. We make available important information for family history. The GROS website is <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk>.

Our aim is to provide relevant and reliable information, analysis and advice that meet the needs of government, business and the people of Scotland.

Further detailed statistics produced by GROS are available from the Statistics section on the GROS website (<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/index.html>). Statistics from the 2001 Census are on Scotland's Census Results On-Line website (<http://www.scrol.gov.uk>) and on the Census section of the GROS website (<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/census/index.html>).

Information about future publications is provided on the GROS website (<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/futurepb.html>). If you would like to receive notification of forthcoming statistical publications, you can register your interest on the Scottish Government ScotStat website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/scotstat>.

Comments and complaints

If you are not satisfied with our service, please write to Kirsty MacLachlan, Head of Demography Division, General Register Office for Scotland, Room 1/2/7, Ladywell House, Ladywell Road, Edinburgh EH12 7TF. Telephone: (0131) 314 4242,
E-mail: kirsty.maclachlan@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

We also welcome any comments or suggestion that would help us to improve our standards of service.

Related organisations

Organisation	Contact
<p>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.</p>	<p>Office of the Chief Statistician, Scottish Government, 1.N04, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG.</p> <p>Telephone: (0131) 244 0442</p> <p>E-mail: statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk</p> <p>Website: http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Statistics</p>
<p>The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is responsible for producing a wide range of economic and social statistics. It also holds the Census of Population for England and Wales.</p>	<p>Customer Contact Centre, Room 1.015, Office for National Statistics, Cardiff Road, Newport, NP10 8XG.</p> <p>Telephone: 0845 601 3034</p> <p>Minicom: 01633 812399</p> <p>E-mail: info@statistics.gsi.gov.uk</p> <p>Website: http://www.ons.gov.uk</p>
<p>The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) is Northern Ireland's official statistics organisation. The Agency also has responsibility, in Northern Ireland, for the registration of births, marriages, adoptions and deaths and the Census of Population.</p>	<p>Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, McAuley House, 2-14 Castle Street, Belfast, BT1 1SA.</p> <p>Telephone: 028 9034 8100</p> <p>Website: http://www.nisra.gov.uk</p>

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