

Did you know?

- In 2006 there were 23,765 births registered in Northern Ireland
- there were 12,278 male and 11,487 female babies registered
- the top boy's names for 2006 were Jack (1st), Matthew (2nd) and Ryan (3rd)
- the top girl's names for 2006 were Katie (1st), Grace (2nd) and Sophie (3rd)
- there were 1,330 different boy's names and 1,868 different girl's names used in 2006
- the highest climbing boy's names in the top 100 were Carter (up 63 places to 56), Rory (up 44 places to 35) and Aodhan (up 42 places to 95)
- the highest climbing girl's names in the top 100 were Kayleigh (up 89 places to 70), Lucie (up 81 places to 88) and Poppy (up 67 places to 81)
- the greatest drops from the top 100 in 2005 were Jordan (down 40 places to 131) and Chantelle (down 85 places to 184) for boy's and girl's names respectively

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Table 1 Most popular boy's names, 1975 to 2006

Rank	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2004	2005	2006
1	David	David	David	Christopher	Ryan	Jack	Jack	Jack
2	Paul	Paul	Christopher	Michael	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew
3	John	John	Stephen	David	James	James	Adam	Ryan
4	Mark	Mark	Mark	Stephen	Conor	Adam	James	James
5	Stephen	Stephen	John	Matthew	Michael	Daniel	Daniel	Daniel
6	Michael	Michael	Paul	Mark	Andrew	Ben	Ryan	Adam
7	William	Jonathan	Michael	Ryan	Christopher	Ryan	Joshua	Joshua
8	James	Andrew	Andrew	Andrew	Daniel	Dylan	Jamie	Callum
9	Jonathan	Gareth	James	James	Mark	Jamie	Ben	Ben
10	Robert	James	Jonathan	Jonathan	Jordan	Conor	Conor	Ethan

Table 2 Most popular girl's names, 1975 to 2006

Rank	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2004	2005	2006
1	Joanne	Emma	Laura	Emma	Shannon	Katie	Katie	Katie
2	Karen	Lisa	Emma	Sarah	Lauren	Emma	Emma	Grace
3	Catherine	Claire	Claire	Laura	Emma	Sophie	Ellie	Sophie
4	Julie	Joanne	Sarah	Rachel	Sarah	Ellie	Sophie	Emma
5	Sharon	Laura	Catherine	Rebecca	Rebecca	Amy	Niamh	Ellie
6	Mary	Catherine	Michelle	Danielle	Hannah	Sarah	Hannah	Lucy
7	Claire	Karen	Nicola	Claire	Rachel	Niamh	Amy	Sarah
8	Lisa	Nicola	Lisa	Lauren	Amy	Chloe	Sarah	Hannah
9	Michelle	Sarah	Jennifer	Catherine	Laura	Aimee	Anna	Jessica
10	Nicola	Michelle	Danielle	Ciara	Megan	Rachel	Leah	Erin

Table 3 Most popular 100 boy's names in 2006, listed with count and rank in 2005 and 2006 and change in position

Name	2005 Count	2005 Rank	2006 Count	2006 Rank	Change 2005 to 2006	Name	2005 Count	2005 Rank	2006 Count	2006 Rank	Change 2005 to 2006
Jack	346	1	312	1	No change	Oliver	50	64	60	53	Up
Matthew	294	2	280	2	No change	Kyle	80	35	58	54	Down
Ryan	228	5	269	3	Up	Owen	50	64	56	55	Up
James	238	4	256	4	No change	Aidan	47	68	55	56	Up
Daniel	228	5	225	5	No change	Carter	20	119	55	56	Up
Adam	241	3	216	6	Down	Tiernan	50	64	55	56	Up
Joshua	193	7	207	7	No change	Ciaran	60	53	54	59	Down
Callum	130	16	198	8	Up	Jude	58	56	54	59	Down
Ben	182	9	192	9	No change	Jacob	53	62	53	61	Up
Ethan	177	11	184	10	Up	Shane	47	68	53	61	Up
Jamie	189	8	170	11	Down	Jonathan	58	56	52	63	Down
Conor	178	10	169	12	Down	Niall	67	42	52	63	Down
Luke	153	13	165	13	No change	Alex	42	75	51	65	Up
Thomas	157	12	165	13	Down	Cormac	77	37	51	65	Down
Dylan	144	15	164	15	No change	Alexander	56	60	50	67	Down
Sean	120	18	153	16	Up	Connor	46	70	50	67	Up
Michael	122	17	137	17	No change	Liam	56	60	50	67	Down
Aaron	147	14	131	18	Down	Max	40	77	49	70	Up
Jake	120	18	125	19	Down	Oran	43	73	45	71	Up
Charlie	90	28	116	20	Up	Paul	51	63	45	71	Down
Calum	63	47	115	21	Up	Ruairi	44	71	44	73	Down
Harry	85	32	111	22	Up	Robert	62	49	43	74	Down
Lewis	112	21	104	23	Down	Tyler	62	49	43	74	Down
Eoin	101	24	103	24	No change	Bradley	43	73	42	76	Down
Patrick	102	23	103	24	Down	Josh	74	38	42	76	Down
Nathan	113	20	102	26	Down	Caleb	22	113	40	78	Up
Shea	94	27	99	27	No change	Harvey	40	77	40	78	Down
David	83	34	97	28	Up	Lorcan	33	89	39	80	Up
Oisin	89	30	95	29	Up	Stephen	67	42	38	81	Down
Andrew	88	31	93	30	Up	Tom	29	97	38	81	Up
John	103	22	93	30	Down	Lee	41	76	37	83	Down
Joseph	74	38	93	30	Up	Logan	32	91	37	83	Up
Benjamin	90	28	92	33	Down	Eoghan	34	85	35	85	No change
William	85	32	92	33	Down	Ross	37	80	35	85	Down
Rory	38	79	81	35	Up	Finn	34	85	34	87	Down
Samuel	97	25	80	36	Down	Reuben	26	105	34	87	Up
Corey	69	41	78	37	Up	Tiarnan	36	82	33	89	Down
Reece	66	44	77	38	Up	Anthony	25	107	32	90	Up
Odhran	61	52	76	39	Up	Bailey	30	96	32	90	Up
Rhys	44	71	74	40	Up	Taylor	37	80	32	90	Down
Ronan	65	46	74	40	Up	Fionn	21	116	31	93	Up
Cameron	63	47	73	42	Up	Leo	35	83	31	93	Down
Christopher	95	26	73	42	Down	Aodhan	16	137	30	95	Up
Peter	58	56	72	44	Up	Conall	35	83	30	95	Down
Sam	66	44	70	45	Down	Brandon	33	89	29	97	Down
Mark	79	36	69	46	Down	Jason	26	105	29	97	Up
Noah	59	55	67	47	Up	Padraig	27	101	29	97	Up
Caolan	58	56	66	48	Up	Charles	28	99	28	100	Down
Scott	48	67	64	49	Up	Daire	34	85	28	100	Down
Darragh	74	38	62	50	Down	Gerard	16	137	28	100	Up
Jay	62	49	62	50	Down	Kevin	34	85	28	100	Down
Joel	60	53	62	50	Up						

Table 4 Top 5 boy's names by Health Board, 2006

Eastern Board			Northern Board			Southern Board			Western Board		
Name	Count	Rank	Name	Count	Rank	Name	Count	Rank	Name	Count	Rank
Jack	103	1	Jack	88	1	Jack	73	1	Callum	50	1
Daniel	101	2	Matthew	73	2	Matthew	69	2	Jack	48	2
Matthew	97	3	Ryan	71	3	James	67	3	Conor	47	3
Joshua	94	4	James	66	4	Ryan	65	4	Adam	44	4
James	93	5	Ben/Callum	59	5=	Daniel	48	5	Ben	44	4

Table 5 Most popular 100 girl's names in 2006, listed with count and rank in 2005 and 2006 and change in position

Name	2005 Count	2005 Rank	2006 Count	2006 Rank	Change 2005 to 2006	Name	2005 Count	2005 Rank	2006 Count	2006 Rank	Change 2005 to 2006
Katie	290	1	297	1	No change	Lily	17	114	38	52	Up
Grace	125	22	231	2	Up	Cora	27	74	37	53	Up
Sophie	196	4	221	3	Up	Aine	44	45	36	54	Down
Emma	220	2	213	4	Down	Evie	33	62	36	54	Up
Ellie	217	3	194	5	Down	Jasmine	24	86	35	56	Up
Lucy	156	12	193	6	Up	Orla	38	49	35	56	Down
Sarah	173	8	171	7	Up	Tara	28	72	35	56	Up
Hannah	185	6	169	8	Down	Brooke	35	57	34	59	Down
Jessica	143	19	164	9	Up	Sophia	23	89	34	59	Up
Erin	149	16	159	10	Up	Alex	27	74	33	61	Up
Chloe	160	11	158	11	No change	Annie	22	92	33	61	Up
Niamh	189	5	151	12	Down	Georgia	27	74	33	61	Up
Caitlin	156	12	149	13	Down	Hollie	28	72	33	61	Up
Amy	181	7	143	14	Down	Jodie	51	42	33	61	Down
Aoife	156	12	143	14	Down	Lara	26	80	33	61	Up
Leah	163	10	142	16	Down	Orlaith	34	59	33	61	Down
Emily	128	20	139	17	Up	Cliodhna	35	57	32	68	Down
Rebecca	148	17	135	18	Down	Faith	34	59	32	68	Down
Aimee	146	18	131	19	Down	Alisha	20	99	31	70	Up
Anna	165	9	130	20	Down	Amber	29	70	31	70	No change
Molly	114	23	117	21	Up	Clara	17	114	31	70	Up
Megan	128	20	115	22	Down	Clodagh	37	51	31	70	Down
Olivia	72	35	101	23	Up	Kayleigh	12	159	31	70	Up
Cara	96	25	100	24	Up	Naomi	37	51	31	70	Down
Ella	93	26	96	25	Up	Paige	31	65	31	70	Down
Mia	66	40	95	26	Up	Alicia	37	51	30	77	Down
Rachel	151	15	89	27	Down	Kayla	23	89	30	77	Up
Lauren	109	24	87	28	Down	Maria	30	66	29	79	Down
Holly	90	27	85	29	Down	Alexandra	29	70	28	80	Down
Abbie	74	33	81	30	Up	Ava	30	66	27	81	Down
Eva	76	29	80	31	Down	Mollie	33	62	27	81	Down
Caoimhe	70	37	74	32	Up	Poppy	13	148	27	81	Up
Eimear	75	32	70	33	Down	Mary	30	66	26	84	Down
Ciara	73	34	67	34	No change	Saoirse	19	106	26	84	Up
Zara	46	44	67	34	Up	Mya	17	114	25	86	Up
Eve	69	39	60	36	Up	Natasha	26	80	25	86	Down
Madison	53	41	59	37	Up	Elizabeth	32	64	24	88	Down
Nicole	80	28	58	38	Down	Louise	25	83	24	88	Down
Rhianna	27	74	58	38	Up	Lucie	11	169	24	88	Up
Shannon	76	29	58	38	Down	Rachael	26	80	24	88	Down
Abigail	76	29	57	41	Down	Rebekah	34	59	24	88	Down
Catherine	36	55	57	41	Up	Abi	22	92	22	93	Down
Laura	51	42	55	43	Down	Alana	16	126	22	93	Up
Zoe	38	49	55	43	Up	Isabella	25	83	22	93	Down
Beth	39	48	54	45	Up	Jenna	27	74	22	93	Down
Ellen	70	37	54	45	Down	Kara	12	159	22	93	Up
Ruby	37	51	54	45	Up	Casey	19	106	21	98	Up
Charlotte	72	35	52	48	Down	Katelyn	25	83	21	98	Down
Kate	40	47	44	49	Down	Meabh	18	109	21	98	Up
Bethany	43	46	41	50	Down						
Courtney	36	55	40	51	Up						

Table 6 Top 5 girl's names by Health Board, 2006

Eastern Board			Northern Board			Southern Board			Western Board		
Name	Count	Rank	Name	Count	Rank	Name	Count	Rank	Name	Count	Rank
Sophie	110	1	Katie	77	1	Katie	81	1	Ellie	44	1
Katie	102	2	Emma	58	2	Grace	63	2	Aoife	41	2
Grace	82	3	Grace	57	3	Emma	60	3	Niamh	40	3
Lucy	74	4	Sophie	52	4	Ellie	54	4	Katie	37	4
Emma	65	5	Ellie	50	5	Sarah	50	5	Erin	33	5

Table 7 Most popular 100 boy's and girl's names in 2006, listed with 2005 and 2006 rank in alphabetical order

BOY'S NAMES						GIRL'S NAMES					
Name	2005 Rank	2006 Rank	Name	2005 Rank	2006 Rank	Name	2005 Rank	2006 Rank	Name	2005 Rank	2006 Rank
Aaron	14	18	Josh	38	76	Abbie	33	30	Jasmine	86	56
Adam	3	6	Joshua	7	7	Abi	92	93	Jenna	74	93
Aidan	68	56	Jude	56	59	Abigail	29	41	Jessica	19	9
Alex	75	65	Kevin	85	100	Aimee	18	19	Jodie	42	61
Alexander	60	67	Kyle	35	54	Aine	45	54	Kara	159	93
Andrew	31	30	Lee	76	83	Alana	126	93	Kate	47	49
Anthony	107	90	Leo	83	93	Alex	74	61	Katelyn	83	98
Aodhan	137	95	Lewis	21	23	Alexandra	70	80	Katie	1	1
Bailey	96	90	Liam	60	67	Alicia	51	77	Kayla	89	77
Ben	9	9	Logan	91	83	Alisha	99	70	Kayleigh	159	70
Benjamin	28	33	Lorcan	89	80	Amber	70	70	Lara	80	61
Bradley	73	76	Luke	13	13	Amy	7	14	Laura	42	43
Brandon	89	97	Mark	36	46	Anna	9	20	Lauren	24	28
Caleb	113	78	Matthew	2	2	Annie	92	61	Leah	10	16
Callum	16	8	Max	77	70	Aoife	12	14	Lily	114	52
Calum	47	21	Michael	17	17	Ava	66	81	Louise	83	88
Cameron	47	42	Nathan	20	26	Beth	48	45	Lucie	169	88
Caolan	56	48	Niall	42	63	Bethany	46	50	Lucy	12	6
Carter	119	56	Noah	55	47	Brooke	57	59	Madison	41	37
Charles	99	100	Odhran	52	39	Caitlin	12	13	Maria	66	79
Charlie	28	20	Oisin	30	29	Caoimhe	37	32	Mary	66	84
Christopher	26	42	Oliver	64	53	Cara	25	24	Meabh	109	98
Ciaran	53	59	Oran	73	71	Casey	106	98	Megan	20	22
Conall	83	95	Owen	64	55	Catherine	55	41	Mia	40	26
Connor	70	67	Padraig	101	97	Charlotte	35	48	Mollie	62	81
Conor	10	12	Patrick	23	24	Chloe	11	11	Molly	23	21
Corey	41	37	Paul	63	71	Ciara	34	34	Mya	114	86
Cormac	37	65	Peter	56	44	Clara	114	70	Naomi	51	70
Daire	85	100	Reece	44	38	Clíodhna	57	68	Natasha	80	86
Daniel	5	5	Reuben	105	87	Clodagh	51	70	Niamh	5	12
Darragh	38	50	Rhys	71	40	Cora	74	53	Nicole	28	38
David	34	28	Robert	49	74	Courtney	55	51	Olivia	35	23
Dylan	15	15	Ronan	46	40	Eimear	32	33	Orla	49	56
Eoghan	85	85	Rory	79	35	Elizabeth	64	88	Orlaith	59	61
Eoin	24	24	Ross	80	85	Ella	26	25	Paige	65	70
Ethan	11	10	Ruairi	71	73	Ellen	37	45	Poppy	148	81
Finn	85	87	Ryan	5	3	Ellie	3	5	Rachael	80	88
Fionn	116	93	Sam	44	45	Emily	20	17	Rachel	15	27
Gerard	137	100	Samuel	25	36	Emma	2	4	Rebecca	17	18
Harry	32	22	Scott	67	49	Erin	16	10	Rebekah	59	88
Harvey	77	78	Sean	18	16	Eva	29	31	Rhianna	74	38
Jack	1	1	Shane	68	61	Eve	39	36	Ruby	51	45
Jacob	62	61	Shea	27	27	Evie	62	54	Saoirse	106	84
Jake	18	19	Stephen	42	81	Faith	59	68	Sarah	8	7
James	4	4	Taylor	80	90	Georgia	74	61	Shannon	29	38
Jamie	8	11	Thomas	12	13	Grace	22	2	Sophia	89	59
Jason	105	97	Tiarnan	82	89	Hannah	6	8	Sophie	4	3
Jay	49	50	Tiernan	64	56	Hollie	72	61	Tara	72	56
Joel	53	50	Tom	97	81	Holly	27	29	Zara	44	34
John	22	30	Tyler	49	74	Isabella	83	93	Zoe	49	43
Jonathan	56	63	William	32	33						
Joseph	38	30									

These results are based on an analysis of the first names recorded on birth registrations. Only the first name is used in this analysis. Different spellings of a name have been treated as separate names, e.g. while there were 169 boys named Conor (ranked 12th), another 50 boys had the alternate spelling Connor which was ranked 67th. Names containing accents have been recorded without those accents, e.g. Séan was recorded as Sean. Names of equal rank have been placed in alphabetical order in Tables 3 through 6.

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