



**General Register Office**  
*for*  
**SCOTLAND**  
*information about Scotland's people*

---

**The Most Popular Names in Scotland  
2007**

Published on 19 December 2007

---

## **Contents**

Main Points	3
Birth forenames in 2007	4
Boys' Names - Commentary	5
Girls' Names - Commentary	6
Changing Trends in Naming Babies	7
Number of Forenames	7
Regional variations	8
Notes	9
Notes on statistical publications	10

## **List of tables and figures**

Table 1 Birth forenames in 2007, Scotland

Table 2 Top ten names, as a percentage of all names, selected years, Scotland

Table 3 Most popular second forenames, Scotland, 2007

Figure 1 Number of forenames, Scotland 2007

## Main Points

The key points in this publication are:

- After dropping to second place last year, Lewis has returned to number one, replacing **Jack** as the most popular boys' name for new babies. **Jack** falls to a very close second place whilst **Ryan** climbs one place to third.
- For the third year, **Sophie** is the most popular girls' name for new babies. **Emma** remains in second place whilst **Lucy** climbs to third.
- The top 50 boys' names accounted for 49 per cent of all boys' names registered and the top 50 girls' names accounted for 44 per cent of the registrations.
- Around 2,700 different boys names and 3,700 different girls names were registered.

## THE MOST POPULAR NAMES IN SCOTLAND, 2007

### Birth forenames in 2007

The table below gives information on the top 20 boys' and girls' birth names in 2007.

Boys				Girls			
Rank	Name	Count	Change in Ranking 2006-2007	Rank	Name	Count	Change in Ranking 2006-2007
1	Lewis	687	+1	1	Sophie	613	No change
2	Jack	676	-1	2	Emma	479	No change
3	Ryan	476	+1	3	Lucy	417	+2
4	James	456	+1	4	Katie	410	No change
5	Callum	411	-2	5	Erin	401	-2
6	Cameron	396	No change	6	Ellie	392	+1
7	Daniel	391	+1	7	Amy	369	+1
8	Liam	375	+9	8	Emily	364	+2
9=	Jamie	350	-2	9	Chloe	363	-3
9=	Kyle	350	+1	10	Olivia	357	-1
9=	Matthew	350	No change	11	Hannah	346	No change
12	Logan	346	+2	12	Jessica	296	+1
13	Finlay	339	+8	13	Grace	279	+1
14	Adam	323	-3	14	Ava	254	+14
15	Alexander	299	+5	15	Rebecca	251	-3
16	Dylan	293	+1	16	Isla	232	+7
17	Aiden	289	+8	17	Brooke	219	+15
18	Andrew	288	-3	18	Megan	204	-3
19	Ben	286	-7	19	Niamh	203	+5
20=	Aaron	279	-7	20	Eilidh	200	+16
20=	Connor	279	-4				

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

1. the top 100 boys' and girls' birth names in 2007, together with changes since 2006:
  - 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 local authority areas;
3. a full list of all first names registered in Scotland in 2007.

## Commentary

### Boys' Names

After dropping to second place last year, Lewis has returned to number one, replacing **Jack** as the most popular boys' name for new babies. **Jack** falls to a very close second place whilst **Ryan** climbs one place to third. There are two new entrants to the top 20 - **Finlay** (up 8 places to 13<sup>th</sup>) and **Aiden** (up 8 places to 17<sup>th</sup>).

**Christopher** (up 11 places to 46<sup>th</sup>), **Kai** (up 9 places to 49<sup>th</sup>) and **Jay** (up 2 places to 50<sup>th</sup>) are new entrants in the top 50. Other names making significant advances in the top 50 include **Ethan** (up 10 places to 29<sup>th</sup>), **Fraser** (up 7 places to 38<sup>th</sup>) and **Oliver** (up 9 places to 40<sup>th</sup>). Lower down the top 100, **Lucas** (up 12 places to 52<sup>nd</sup>), **Evan** (up 13 places to 63<sup>rd</sup>), **Alfie** (up 21 places to 66<sup>th</sup>) and **George** (up 16 places to 80<sup>th</sup>) also make advances. New names reaching the top 100 include **Jayden** (up 83 places to 53<sup>rd</sup>), **Zak** (up 34 places to 73<sup>rd</sup>), **Alex** (up 36 places to 86<sup>th</sup>) and **Caleb** (up 38 to 89<sup>th</sup>). **Mohammed** (up 34 places to 91<sup>st</sup>) and **Joe** (up 10 places to 100<sup>th</sup>) have re-entered the top 100 after falling to 104<sup>th</sup> and 110<sup>th</sup> respectively last year.

There have been reductions in popularity for **Scott** (down 7 places to 34<sup>th</sup>), **Sean** (down 9 places to 42<sup>nd</sup>), **Robert** (down 7 places to 48<sup>th</sup>) and **Robbie** (down 19 places to 57<sup>th</sup>). Names dropping out of the top 100 are **Brodie, Bailey, Corey, Hamish, Steven, Charles, Peter, Harvey and Patrick**.

By early-December 2007, around 27,600 boys had been registered, with over 2,700 different first names being used. The top 50 names accounted for 49 per cent of the total. Over 1700 boys were given unique (for 2007) first names.

A full list of all first names registered in 2007 may be downloaded from our website.

## Girls' Names

For the third year, **Sophie** is the most popular girls' name for new babies. **Emma** remains in second place whilst **Lucy** climbs to third. The top ten names are the same as last year with only minor changes to the rankings. There are five new entrants in the top twenty - **Ava** (up 14 places to 14<sup>th</sup>), **Isla** (up 7 places to 16<sup>th</sup>), **Brooke** (up 15 places to 17<sup>th</sup>), **Niamh** (up 5 places to 19<sup>th</sup>) and **Eilidh** (up 16 places to 20<sup>th</sup>).

**Evie** (up 18 places to 47<sup>th</sup>) and **Jenna** (up 12 places to 50<sup>th</sup>) are new entrants in the top 50 whilst **Eva** (up 8 places to 21<sup>st</sup>), **Skye** (up 11 places to 23<sup>rd</sup>), **Ruby** (up 19 places to 26<sup>th</sup>), **Lily** (up 14 places to 33<sup>rd</sup>), and **Kayla** (up 8 places to 41<sup>st</sup>) also make significant advances.

**Amelia** (up 40 places to 57<sup>th</sup>) and **Abi** (up 20 places to 61<sup>st</sup>) climb within the top 100 whilst **Summer** (up 75 places to 52<sup>nd</sup>), **Sophia** (up 66 places to 64<sup>th</sup>), **Casey** (up 60 places to 70<sup>th</sup>), **Kaitlyn** (up 32 places to 70<sup>th</sup>), **Charley** (up 44 places to 86<sup>th</sup>) and **Rhianna** (up 35 places to 98<sup>th</sup>) are among the new entrants. **Natalie** (up 13 places to 52<sup>nd</sup>), **Elise** (up 24 places to 83<sup>rd</sup>), **Rachael** (up 27 places to 88<sup>th</sup>) and **Alice** (up 26 places to 97<sup>th</sup>) also make significant advances after dropping out of the top 100 last year.

Fallers within the top 50 were **Rachel** (down 13 places to 29<sup>th</sup>) and **Leah** (down 17 places to 35<sup>th</sup>). Further down the top 100 **Paige** (down 11 places to 34<sup>th</sup>), **Amber** (down 14 places to 60<sup>th</sup>) **Shannon** (down 11 places to 63<sup>rd</sup>), **Laura** (down 13 places to 77<sup>th</sup>) and **Rosie** (down 11 places to 98<sup>th</sup>) were also less popular than last year.

**Demi, Maisie, Cerys, Natasha, Alisha, Naomi, Charlie, Alexandra and Jodie** have all dropped out of the top 100.

By early-December 2007, nearly 26,200 girls had been registered, with over 3,700 different names being used. The top 50 girls' names accounted for 44 per cent of the registrations, and nearly 2,400 girls in Scotland were given unique (for 2007) first names.

A full list of all first names registered in 2007 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.

### Top ten names, as a percentage of all names, selected years, Scotland

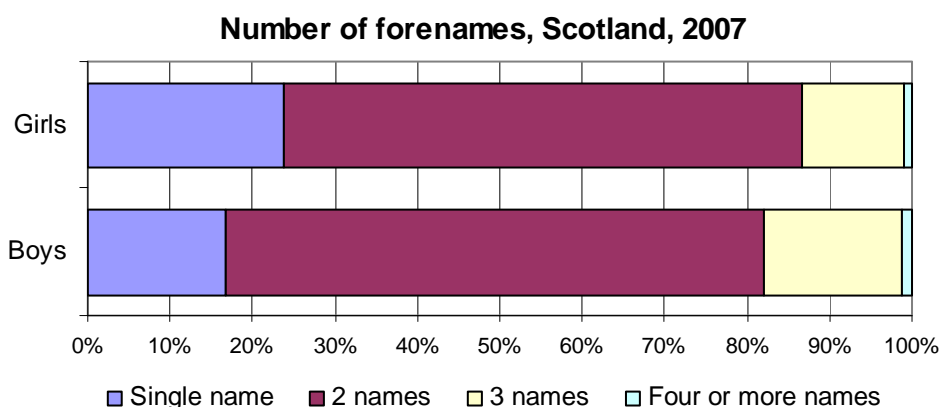
	Boys	Girls
<b>1900</b>	68.4	58.1
<b>1950</b>	53.3	36.3
<b>1975</b>	32.6	20.2
<b>2000</b>	21.7	20.4
<b>2007</b>	17.8	15.9

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 third place and **Aimee/Amy** would be second.

## Number of Forenames

### Additional names

The number of forenames given in 2007 is summarised in the chart below. Eighty-three per cent of boys and seventy-six per cent of girls registered in 2007 have more than one forename.



The following table shows the relative popularity of second names:

### Most popular second forenames, Scotland, 2007

Boys			Girls		
Rank	Name	Count	Rank	Name	Count
1	James	2015	1	Elizabeth	1001
2	John	1469	2	Louise	956
3	William	1033	3	Jane	607
4	Alexander	839	4	Rose	535
5	David	834	5	Margaret	532
6	Thomas	693	6	Anne	502
7	Robert	665	7	Grace	429
8	Andrew	545	8	Mary	425
9	George	411	9	Ann	424
10	Michael	376	10	Catherine	387
11	Joseph	283	11	Marie	313
12	Scott	278	12	May	252
13	Peter	228	13	Jean	212
14	Daniel	206	14	Helen	195
15	Paul	205	15	Sarah	187
16	Patrick	199	16	Isabella	164
17	Alan	196	17	Leigh	124
18	Jack	191	18	Anna	120
19	Ian	189	19	Nicole	116
20	Stephen	178	20	Mae	111

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 2007 the top ten second names for boys and girls are the same as last year with just a few minor changes in ranking.

### Regional variations

**Lewis** was the top boys’ name in 14 council areas, whilst **Jack** was top in 9 areas. **Sophie** was the most popular girls’ name in 18 council areas, whilst **Emma** was top in 6 areas.

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

### Elsewhere in the UK

An analysis by the Office for National Statistics covering England and Wales has shown that Jack and Grace were the most popular names there in 2007. Further details can be found on the ONS website: [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk)

The most popular names in Northern Ireland were Jack and Katie. Further details may be found at [www.nisra.gov.uk](http://www.nisra.gov.uk)

## Notes

- All births have, by law, to be registered, and the records sent in by local registrars to the General Register Office for Scotland. This allows 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 2007 contained in these tables is provisional. It is based on births registered up to early-December 2007. The information for 2006 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 ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION** Enquiries should be addressed to: Statistics Customer Services, General Register Office for Scotland, Ladywell House, Edinburgh, EH12 7TF Telephone: (0131) 314 4299, Fax: (0131) 314 4696, E-mail: [customer@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:customer@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk).

**THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE FOR SCOTLAND (GROS)** GROS is the devolved Government department in Scotland 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. Our website is [www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/](http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/).

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

Information about future publications is provided on the GROS website ([www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/futurepb.html](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's ScotStat web site at [www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/scotstat/Intro](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/scotstat/Intro).

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

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

### RELATED ORGANISATIONS

ORGANISATION	CONTACT
THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT (SG): The SG is responsible for a wide range of devolved functions. 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	Ryan Stewart, Office of the Chief Statistician, The Scottish Government, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor West Rear, St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG Telephone: (0131) 244 0442 Fax: (0131) 244 0335 E-mail: <a href="mailto:statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk">statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics">www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics</a>
The OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS (ONS) is responsible for producing a wide range of economic and social statistics. It also, for England and Wales, registers life events and holds the Census of Population.	Customer Contact Centre, Room 1.015, Office for National Statistics, Cardiff Road, Newport, NP10 8XG Telephone: 0845 601 3034 Minicom: 01633 812399 Fax: 01633 652747 E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@statistics.gsi.gov.uk">info@statistics.gsi.gov.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.statistics.gov.uk">www.statistics.gov.uk</a>
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.	Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, McAuley House, 2-14 Castle Street, Belfast, BT1 1SA Telephone 028 9034 8100 Fax 028 9034 8106 Website: <a href="http://www.nisra.gov.uk">www.nisra.gov.uk</a>

© Crown Copyright. Brief extracts from the Crown Copyright material in General Register Office for Scotland publications may be reproduced provided the source is fully acknowledged.