



BABY NAMES
AUSTRALIA 2015

BABY NAMES AUSTRALIA 2015

TOP 10 BABY NAMES

Around 1 in 10 Australian babies last year were given one of the Top 10 baby names; a total of 30,581 babies. There were 2,189 boys named **Oliver** and 1,796 girls named **Olivia** last year.

Rank	♂ BOYS	♀ GIRLS
1	Oliver	Olivia
2	William	Charlotte
3	Jack	Mia
4	Noah	Ava
5	Jackson/Jaxon/Jaxson	Amelia
6	Thomas	Emily
7	Lucas	Sofia/Sophia
8	James	Sophie
9	Alex/Alexander	Chloe
10	Ethan	Ruby

Oliver most popular in the States but William more popular in the Territories.

Keeping the top spot from 2013 is **Oliver**, the top boy baby name in Australia for 2014 having overtaken **Jack** and **William** which were 1st in 2011 and 2012 respectively.

Oliver was the top boys' name in all 6 states (NSW, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, TAS) while **William** was the top boy baby name in the 2 territories (NT, ACT).

There were 230 more instances of **Oliver** than **William**, an increase on the margin of 37 from 2013. In 2014, there were 2,189 boys named **Oliver**, 1,959 named **William** and 1,841 named **Jack** which is a decrease for both William and Jack on 2013.

Olivia takes top spot after Charlotte's 3 year reign



Olivia, with 1,796 occurrences is the top girl baby name in Australia for 2014, taking the top spot from **Charlotte** which is now in 2nd place.

Charlotte was the most popular girls' name from 2011-2013 but has now fallen behind by 123 occurrences.

Olivia was the most popular baby girls' name in the three most populous states (NSW, VIC, QLD) while **Charlotte** was top in SA, TAS and NT with the names **Emily** and **Amelia** being the most popular in WA and the ACT respectively.

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Top 10 Boys' Name Trends and Insights

Although **Jack** is no longer the top boy baby name, it still holds in 3rd place and sitting in 5th place is **Jackson/Jaxon/Jaxson**. This underlines popularity of the name combining these names would put it in 1st place, almost 1,200 occurrences more than **Oliver**.

9 out of the top 10 boys' names held onto their top 10 ranking with **Cooper** falling 7 spots from 10th in 2013 down to 17th in 2014 and **Alex/Alexander** rising from 15th to 9th during the same time period. None of top 5 names changed positions but **James** and **Ethan** both dropped 2 places with **Thomas** and **Lucas** both rising up the chart.

Top 10 Girls' Name Trends and Insights

All of the top 10 girls' names from 2013 have held on to a top 10 ranking in 2014. **Olivia, Mia, Amelia, Sofia/Sophia** and **Sophie** all improved on their 2013 ranking with **Charlotte, Ava, Emily** and **Ruby** being the ones which have dropped. **Chloe** was the only name to retain the same ranking.

8 New Boys' and 9 New Girls' Names Enter the Top 100

In 2014, 8 new boys' names and 9 new girls' names have entered the top 100 list. The names **Harvey, Gabriel, Muhammad, Phoenix, Theodore, Maxwell, Carter** and **Fletcher** have entered the list for the boys' at the expense of **Jesse, Seth, Parker, Darcy, Jett, Lewis** and **Jonathan**.

As for the girls; **Frankie, Eleanor, Emilia, Hazel, Lexi, Elise, Sadie, Natalie** and **Lacey** have entered the top 100 with; **Samantha, Eve, Daisy, Nevaeh, Skye, Indigo, Caitlin, Leah** and **Mikayla** dropping out of the list.

Significant Leaps and Declines

Within the boys' top 100 list, there are 18 names which have bettered their 2013 rank by 10 or more spots, 11 which have dropped 10 or more spots and 8 which have been unchanged.

Maxwell was the most improved boys' name, climbing 41 spots to 97th followed by **Fletcher**, up 26 spots to 99th and **Harvey**, up 20 spots to 84th. The biggest declines were **Braxton**, falling 31 spots down to 77th followed by **Mitchell**, down 22 spots to 83rd and **Nathaniel**, down 21 spots to squeeze into the list in 100th position.

Biggest Rises (10+)			Biggest Declines (-10 or more)		
Rank	Name	Change	Rank	Name	Change
97	Maxwell	+41	77	Braxton	-31
99	Fletcher	+26	83	Mitchell	-22
84	Harvey	+20	100	Nathaniel	-21
86	Gabriel	+19	60	Connor	-17
61	Austin	+19	80	Beau	-16
42	George	+18	68	Nicholas	-14
72	Hamish	+17	52	Jake	-11
58	Kai	+17	22	Joshua	-10
54	Jordan	+15	55	Zachary	-10
40	Archer	+15	57	Luke	-10
96	Theodore	+14	73	Nathan	-10
39	Patrick	+13			
47	Edward	+12			
90	Muhammad	+11			
59	Luca	+11			
98	Carter	+10			
43	Nate	+10			
34	Archie	+10			

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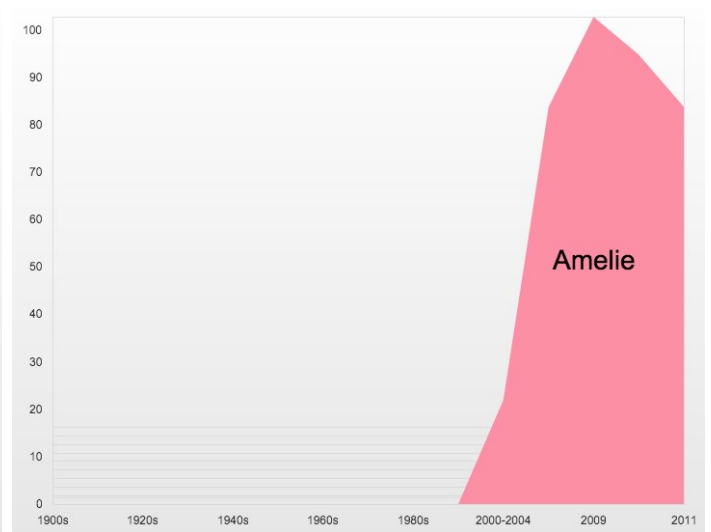
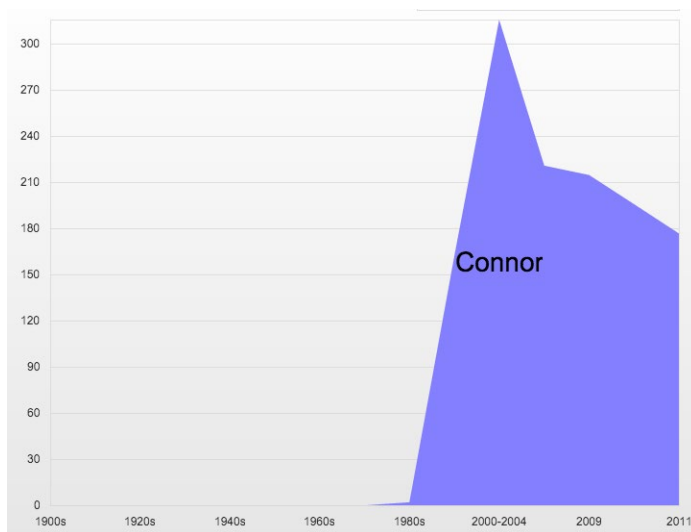
In the Top 100 girls' names, there were only 8 names which lost 10 or more spots and 13 which gained 10 or more with 10 keeping their position from 2013. **Hazel** gained 63 spots to be 88th followed by **Eleanor** which increased 31 places to be 84th and **Ariana**, up 27 spots to 73rd. **Chelsea** and **Amelie** both dropped 15 places to be 64th and 95th respectively and **Mackenzie** and **Eliza** both dropped 14 places to be 56th and 81st respectively.

Biggest Rises (10+)			Biggest Declines (-10 or more)		
Rank	Name	Change	Rank	Name	Change
33	Evelyn	+10	64	Chelsea	-15
77	Ayla	+10	95	Amelie	-15
78	Lacey	+32	56	Mackenzie	-14
44	Ellie	+12	81	Eliza	-14
51	Maya	+12	54	Sarah	-13
90	Lexi	+13	49	Jessica	-11
41	Aria	+16	47	Summer	-10
97	Elise	+19	96	Amber	-10
85	Emilia	+21			
65	Elsie	+26			
73	Ariana	+27			
84	Eleanor	+31			
88	Hazel	+63			

Peaked Names

A number of the names which have dropped significantly have also been on the decline for a number of years, having reached peak popularity a few years back.

Some of the boys' peak names include **Connor**, which peaked in the early 2000s, **Cooper** (2009) and **Riley** (2009). For girls, **Chelsea** (2009), **Amelie** (2009) and **Hayley** (2008) have peaked.



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The 'Hundred-Year Return'

Baby-naming in Australia is influenced by the traditional over the trendy.

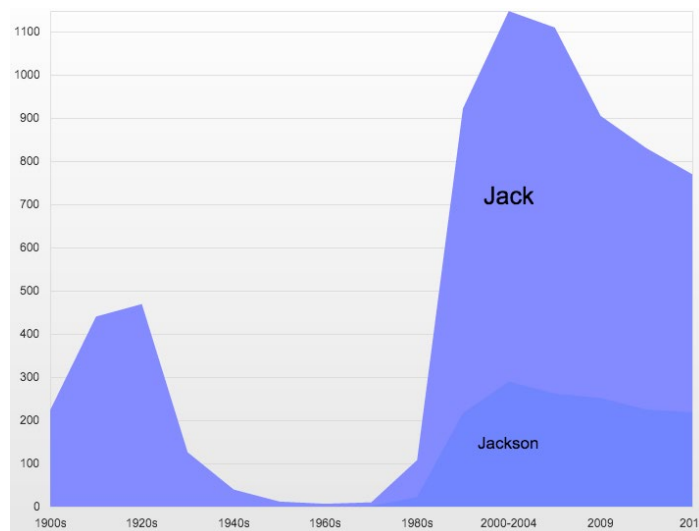
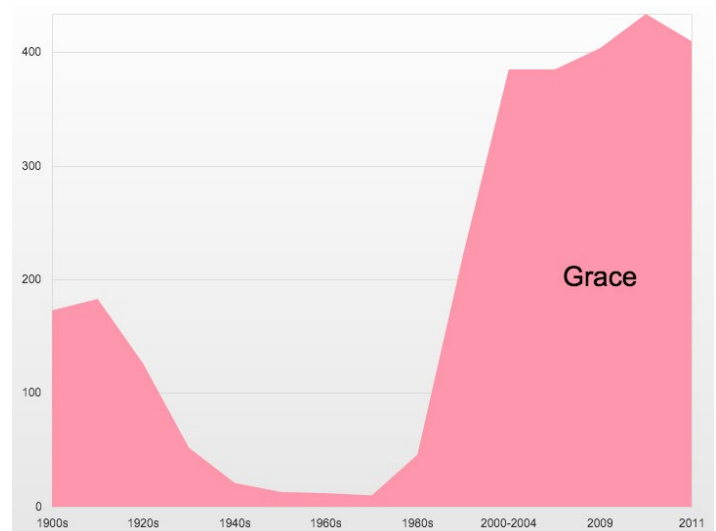
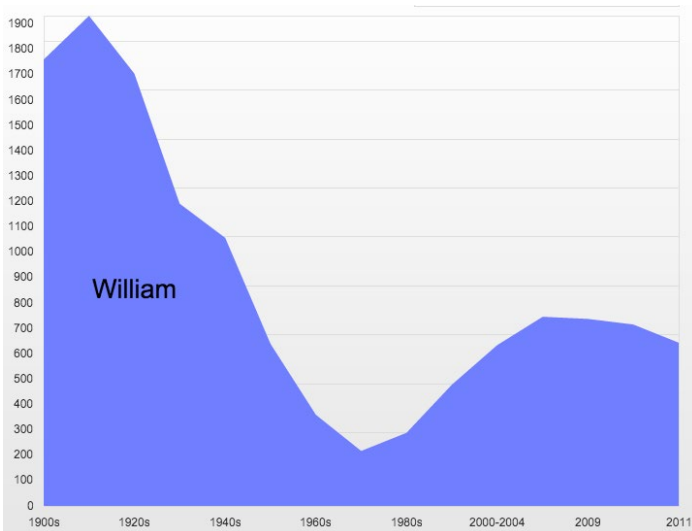
There is a 'Hundred-Year Return' theme taking place, with many of the top names of today also amongst the top names a century ago, while names of a few decades ago have fallen out of favour.

Many of today's most common baby names were popular in the early 20th century and have seen a significant resurgence in the early 21st century. This is illustrated by the NSW Government in an interactive baby names data visualisation. (<http://www.nsw.gov.au/about-nsw/popular-baby-names>)

William is an example of the 'hundred-year' return, having ranked 2nd overall in NSW in the 1910s and ranking in top place again in NSW from 2009 onwards.

Jack climbed up to 5th place in the 1920s before seeing a steep decline from the 1940s to 1970s, with a marked resurgence between the year 2000 and 2004.

Grace was a moderately popular girls' name at the turn of the 20th century, coming to a near decline from the 1910s to 1970s but climbing significantly in popularity since the 1980s.



(<http://www.nsw.gov.au/about-nsw/popular-baby-names>)

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It's all in the ending (and the beginning)

The rise of gentle, softer-sounding names for girls and firmer sounding names for boys is an ongoing trend with baby names in Australia.

90% of the girls' names (18) in the Top 20 list end with a vowel or 'y', with half (10) of these ending with the letter 'a', producing the gentle 'ah' finish. Only 2 of the Top 20 names ends with a consonant – **Maddison/Madison** and **Scarlett**.

On the boy's list, however, 90% of the top 20 names end with a consonant sound! 'N' is most popular ending consonant for 4 names in the Top 20, with just two names in the Top 20 boys' list – **Noah and Henry** – featuring a soft ending.

Additionally, popular girls' names are not only most likely to end in a vowel but to begin with one too. 21 of the top 50 girls' names end in a vowel compared to just 11 of the top 50 boys' names.

Spelling it out

Not content in simply finding a distinctive name for their newborn, parents are often turning to the use of apostrophes, hyphens, or emphasised phonetic spellings to make their baby's name unique. In our Top 100 list, we have combined the occurrences of names which are phonetically identical but unique in their spelling.

Parents tend to take greater liberty in amending their baby girl's name than boys' name, featuring the following examples in the Top 100 list:

- **Sofia/Sophia** – 7th
- **Lily/Lilly** – 11th
- **Madison/Maddison** – 16th
- **Isabel/Isabelle** – 22nd
- **Mila/Milla** – 38th
- **Madeleine/Madeline** – 50th

The presence of double letters is also more frequent in popular girls' names, with 29 girls' names containing double letters compared to 12 boys' names in the Top 100.

Girls – Charlotte, Lilly, Ella, Isabella, Maddison, Sienna, Scarlett, Isabelle, Emma, Hannah, Willow, Annabelle, Milla, Savannah, Ellie, Stella, Summer, Poppy, Jessica, Holly, Addison, Bella, Anna, Alyssa, Molly, Aaliyah, Lillian, Harriet and Pippa,

Boys – William, Harrison, Cooper, Isaac, Harry, Flynn, Matthew, Connor, Finn, Mitchell, Muhammad and Maxwell.

Gendered Names Triumph Once Again

Only one name in the Top 100 appears on both the girls' and boys' list in its unchanged form – **Charlie** (18th on the boys' list and 74th on the girls' list). **Charlie** is commonly considered to be interchangeable between the two sexes.

While all of the names except Charlie are most often distinctly boys' or girls' names, a number of girls' names from the Top 100 can be interchanged for boys' names – these include **Harper, Jade,** and **Mackenzie**. In similar fashion, parents are increasingly using popular boys' names when naming their daughters – names such as **Riley, Jayden, Tyler, Leo, Dylan, Hayden, Jordan, Luca, Ashton, Kai, Bailey** and **Alex** are often used for girls.

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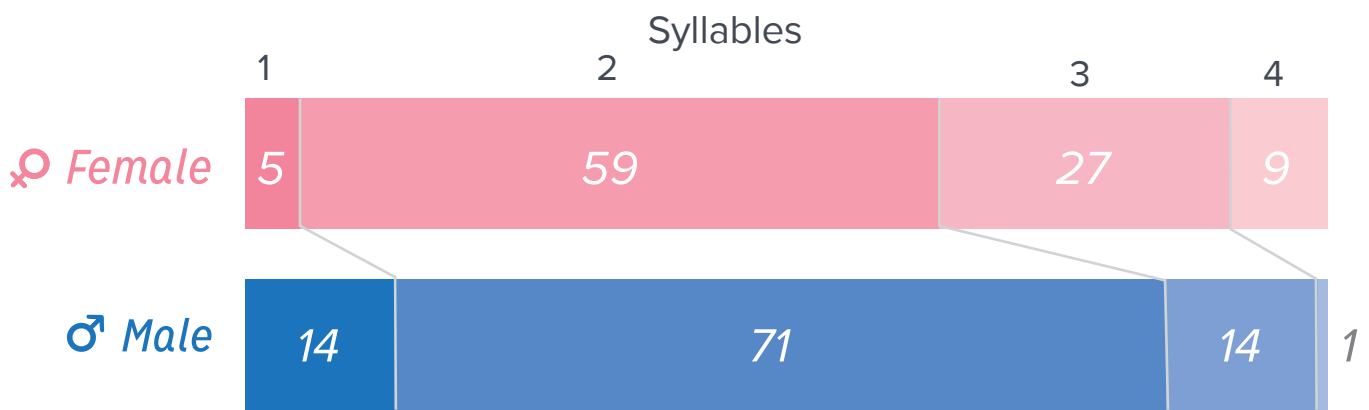
Boys' Names Feature less Syllables

Parents are choosing longer, more flowing names for their daughters and shorter, more solid-sounding names for their sons.

A total of 9 girls' names have 4 syllables in them while only **Alexander** has 4 syllables in the boys' top 100 list.

Boys are almost three times as likely as girls to have a single-syllable name and girls are twice as likely to have three syllables in their names.

There are 9 girls' names in the Top 100 with 4 syllables (Amelia, Isabella, Elizabeth, Indiana, Ariana, Alexandra, Penelope, Victoria and Emilia) compared to just one for boys (Alexander).



Shorter names win out

Jack (3rd) beats out **Jackson** (5th) just as it beats out **John** (93rd). **Archie** (34th) beats **Archer** (40th) and **Max** (16th) is more popular than **Maxwell** (97th). Even for girls currently **Lily** (11th) is more popular than **Lillian** (86th) and **Ella** (13th) outranks **Isabella** (14th) and **Isabelle** (22nd).

Australia – State versus State

Oliver topped the list in all 6 states with **William** coming out on top in the two territories. **Jack** was placed 2nd in 6 states and territories. Within all the states and territories, the top three places were taken by the names; **Oliver, William, Jack** or **Noah**.

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT
Oliver	Oliver	Oliver	Oliver	Oliver	Oliver	William	William
William	Jack	William	Jack	Jack	Jack	Noah	Jack
Noah	William	Jack	William	Noah	William	Jack	Oliver
Jack	Noah	Noah	Lucas	William	Mason	Thomas	Lachlan
James	Thomas	Harrison	Noah	Lucas	Thomas	Hunter	James

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Olivia was placed 1st in 3 states; New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland with **Charlotte** topping the list in 3 states and territories as well. There were no names which placed in the top 5 across all the states and territories.

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT
Olivia	Olivia	Olivia	Charlotte	Emily	Charlotte	Charlotte	Amelia
Mia	Charlotte	Charlotte	Grace	Ava	Sophie	Sophie	Olivia
Charlotte	Mia	Mia	Chloe	Charlotte	Ruby	Olivia	Charlotte
Amelia	Ava	Ruby	Olivia	Olivia	Mia	Lily	Chloe
Ava	Chloe	Sophie	Emily	Amelia	Isla	Amelia	Sophie

Celebrity Influences

Actors, actresses, sports and music stars continue to significantly influence the popularity of babies within Australia.

- **Penelope** (rising from 81st to 79th) is one of the children of reality TV star Kourtney Kardashian (born 2012).
- **Harper** (rising to 24th from 27th) is the daughter of David and Victoria Beckham (2011).
- **Willow** (steady at 29th) is the daughter of pop musician Pink (2011) and the name of Will Smith's 13-year-old daughter.
- **Noah** (remaining strong in 4th place) was born to Michael Bublé in 2013.
- **Elijah** was chosen by Elton John for his second son in 2013 (rising to 30th from 36th) and Lincoln (rising to 48th up from 50th) was born to actress Kristen Bell (2013).
- **Olive** (rising to 76th from 77th) is the daughter of Drew Barrymore (2012)
- **Liam, Harry** and **Louis** (rising up to 11th from 14th, 27th from 28th and 71st from 74th) who are 3 of the 4 members of the popular boy band One Direction.
- **Ariana** (rising up to 73rd from 100th) is the name of a popular pop singer, Ariana Grande.

Influences from popular culture are seen among Australia's most popular baby names, with characters such as **Emily** and **Jack** from the television series *Revenge* making it to the Top 10 list, **Braxton** from *Home and Away* in 46th place.

Popular movies such as **Ruby** Sparks (2012) and **Noah** (2014) also feature some of today's Top 10 names.

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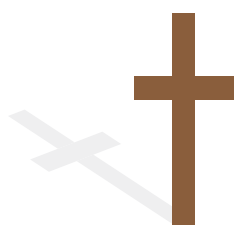
Place names



Place names are still a source of inspiration and while Australian places are rising the ranks, many (such as **Bronte**, **Avalon**, **Brighton** and **Arcadia**) are yet to enter the Top 100, and others like **Adelaide** are now out of the Top 100.

Indeed **Maddison** (16th) outranks **Victoria** (80th) and **Georgia** (31st) and **Indiana** (60th) are ahead of **Eden** (68th). For boys overseas locations still dominate with **Jordan** (54th), **Austin** (61st) and **Phoenix** (94th) outranking Australian locations (with the exception of **Hunter**, 21st).

Religious influences remain strong and ongoing



While Australia has seen an increase of baby names that are creatively spelled pronounced, the Top 100 list also shows a strong pull towards more traditional names with Biblical origins, especially in the boys' list.

More than 1 in every 4 boys' names (27) in the Top 100 list are derived from the Bible, including four of the Top 10 names – **Noah** (4th), **Thomas** (6th), **James** (8th) and **Ethan** (10th). Less common Biblical names such as **Caleb**, **Eli**, **Levi**, **Nathaniel**, **Felix**, **Jesse**, **Abigail**, **Phoebe**, and **Chloe** are also present on the list.

The following Biblical names have increased in popularity since 2013: **Thomas** (6th up from 7th), **Samuel** (15th up from 16th), **Levi** (28th up from 29th), **Aaron** (92nd up from 94th), **David** (91st up from 95th), **Caleb** (67th up from 72nd), **Alexander** (9th up from 15th), **Elijah** (30th up from 36th) and **Gabriel** (86th up from 105th).

Arabic names also feature on the list, with **Layla** at 32nd (down from 30th) and **Ali** rose to 87th place (up from 93rd). **Muhammad** also re-entered the list this year, coming in at 90th, up from 101st in 2013.

A Royal Influence



The original category of celebrities – the royals – have not only captured the loyalty and affections of modern Australians but continue to significantly influence their choice in baby names.

Prince William's popularity first placed **William** in the Top 10 in 2001 and the name's popularity has grown significantly since then. In 2011, the year of the royal wedding, **William** became the most popular boy's name Australia-wide and maintained this position until 2012 when **Oliver** took the top spot. While William is the 2nd most popular name overall, it is still the most popular boy's name in the ACT, and the NT.

The birth of Prince George (George Alexander Louis) in July 2013 has positively impacted the use of **George** by Australian parents, increasing **George's** rank from 71st in 2012 to 60th in 2013 and 42nd in 2014 – its highest ranking since the 1950s. **Alexander's** popularity has also been impacted with an increase in rank from 15th to 9th in 2014.

Despite having only influenced parents for a period of less than 18 months to the end of the 2014 calendar year, the number of baby boys named **George** has dramatically increased, from 364 in 2012 to 640 in 2014.

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George and Charlotte; A Royal Influence

The birth of the Royal Princess in May (**Charlotte Elizabeth Diana**) will also contribute to the royal baby name trend. Like George's rank, which increased from 71st in 2012 to 42nd in 2014, we are likely to see a resurgence of the name **Charlotte**, and see her regain first position in 2016. Because **Olivia** had only 123 more occurrences than **Charlotte**, it is likely that **Charlotte** will achieve the top spot next year, and maintain that top spot for a few years to come.

While **Elizabeth** is ranked 53rd on the Top 100 list, we can also expect that name to rise in prevalence. And **Eliza** (currently ranked 81st) may also see a rise due to the influence of the Royal Princess. **Diana**, a name which peaked in the 1940s and again in the 60's is also due for a resurgence, and with the influence of the Royal Princess is likely to achieve it as well as an increase in rank in the years to come.

A Royal Influence

Rank	Name	Royal Heritage	Rank	Name	Royal Heritage
2	Charlotte	Prince Charles	2	William	Prince William
53	Elizabeth	Queen Elizabeth	20	Henry	King Henry I - VII
74	Charlie (Charles)	Prince Charles	42	George	King George I - VII
75	Alexandra	Princess Alexandra	47	Edward	Prince Edward
80	Victoria	Queen Victoria	81	Charles	Prince Charles

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17 of 21 current royal names are top baby names too

Of the 21 members of the current British royal family, 17 have names which are in the Top 100 lists. Indeed the number of royal names in the Top 100 is an indication of the influence the British royals still have on baby naming trends, and this trend is looking strong, particularly with the influence of the next generation of royals.

Queen Elizabeth	Elizabeth Alexandra Mary
Prince of Wales	Charles Phillip Arthur George
Princess Anne	Anne Elizabeth Alice Louise
Prince Andrew	Andrew Albert Christian Edward
Prince Edward	Edward Antony Richard Louis
Prince William	William Arthur Philip Louis
Duchess of Cambridge	Catherine Elizabeth
Prince Harry	Henry Charles Albert David
Prince George	George Alexander Louis
Princess Beatrice	Beatrice Elizabeth Mary
Princess Eugenie	Eugenie Victoria Helena

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Sources

Baby Names Australia is profuced from a comprehensive analysis of all of the registered baby names across the 8 Births, Deaths and Marriages offices in Australia and in New Zealand. The data which we have analysed has been provided by the following government departments:

NSW Registry of Births, Deaths, & Marriages

NSW Government ('Hundred-Year Return' Graphs)

<http://www.nsw.gov.au/about-nsw/popular-baby-names> ACT Births, Deaths, & Marriages

Births, Deaths, Marriages Victoria

SA Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Office

QLD Births, Deaths, and Marriages

WA Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages


TAS Births, Deaths, and Marriages

NT Registry of Births, Deaths, and Marriages



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TOP 100 GIRLS' NAMES

AUSTRALIA 2015

Rank	Name	Occurrences	Rank	Name	Occurrences	Rank	Name	Occurrences
1	Olivia	1796	34	Eva	595	67	Rose	268
2	Charlotte	1673	35	Imogen	556	68	Eden	256
3	Mia	1551	36	Jasmine	541	69	Hayley	251
4	Ava	1488	37	Annabelle	537	70	Claire	254
5	Amelia	1450	38	Mila/Milla	528	71	Eloise	241
6	Emily	1395	39	Alexis	501	72	Molly	236
7	Sofia/Sophia	1357	40	Savannah	479	73	Ariana	234
8	Sophie	1349	41	Aria	470	74	Charlie	230
9	Chloe	1341	42	Alice	449	75	Alexandra	222
10	Ruby	1283	43	Audrey	440	76	Olive	209
11	Lily/Lilly	1252	44	Elle	430	77	Ayla	191
12	Grace	1213	45	Violet	430	78	Frankie	188
13	Ella	1185	46	Stella	425	79	Penelope	182
14	Isabella	1177	47	Summer	420	80	Victoria	182
15	Isla	1066	48	Poppy	419	81	Eliza	159
16	Madison/Maddison	964	49	Jessica	418	82	Lara	159
17	Sienna	943	50	Madelaine/ Madeline	417	83	Aallyah	151
18	Zoe	942	51	Maya	410	84	Eleanor	151
19	Scarlett	873	52	Holly	392	85	Emillia	151
20	Matilda	864	53	Elizabeth	391	86	Lillian	149
21	Ivy	863	54	Sarah	379	87	Harriet	141
22	Isabel/Isabelle	845	55	Addison	358	88	Hazel	141
23	Evie	836	56	Mackenzie	355	89	Heidi	131
24	Harper	794	57	Bella	323	90	Lexi	130
25	Lucy	792	58	Anna	317	91	Jade	128
26	Emma	781	59	Phoebe	311	92	Indie	125
27	Hannah	755	60	Indiana	306	93	Pippa	116
28	Zara	703	61	Paige	306	94	Peyton	111
29	Willow	681	62	Alyssa	298	95	Amelie	110
30	Abigail	668	63	Lola	298	96	Amber	97
31	Georgie	664	64	Chelsea	286	97	Elise	81
32	Layla	619	65	Elsie	283	98	Sadie	77
33	Evelyn	611	66	Piper	281	99	Natalie	71
						100	Lacey	65

TOP 100 BOYS' NAMES

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Rank	Name	Occurences	Rank	Name	Occurences	Rank	Name	Occurences
1	Oliver	2189	34	Archie	755	67	Caleb	392
2	William	1959	35	Riley	745	68	Nicholas	388
3	Jack	1841	36	Logan	735	69	Angus	371
4	Noah	1668	37	Sebastian	714	70	Ryder	324
5	Jackson/Jaxon/ Jaxson	1536	38	Jayden	704	71	Louis	316
6	Thomas	1447	39	Patrick	664	72	Hamish	302
7	Lucas	1402	40	Archer	650	73	Nathan	298
8	James	1401	41	Tyler	642	74	Jasper	294
9	Alex/Alexander	1349	42	George	640	75	Toby	293
10	Ethan	1257	43	Nate	625	76	Bailey	291
11	Liam	1188	44	Flynn	619	77	Braxton	284
12	Lachlan	1187	45	Blake	600	78	Owen	284
13	Harrison	1158	46	Aiden	554	79	Adam	279
14	Mason	1139	47	Edward	550	80	Beau	263
15	Samuel	1104	48	Lincoln	549	81	Charles	263
16	Max	1083	49	Eli	520	82	Marcus	242
17	Cooper	1055	50	Michael	510	83	Mitchell	226
18	Charlie	1054	51	Matthew	497	84	Harvey	220
19	Jacob	1041	52	Jake	489	85	Christian	217
20	Henry	1038	53	Dylan	481	86	Gabriel	216
21	Hunter	992	54	Jordan	480	87	Ali	214
22	Joshua	988	55	Zachary	480	88	Dominic	213
23	Isaac	963	56	Chase	478	89	Felix	213
24	Benjamin	939	57	Luke	466	90	Muhammad	204
25	Xavier	906	58	Kai	461	91	David	196
26	Oscar	884	59	Luca	453	92	Aaron	193
27	Harry	874	60	Connor	447	93	John	186
28	Levi	867	61	Austin	440	94	Phoenix	182
29	Ryan	815	62	Finn	437	95	Anthony	180
30	Elijah	792	63	Hugo	432	96	Theodore	179
31	Hudson	786	64	Joseph	401	97	Maxwell	173
32	Leo	783	65	Ashton	394	98	Carter	156
33	Daniel	763	66	Hayden	394	99	Fletcher	155
						100	Nathaniel	151