

BABY NAMES AUSTRALIA 2019



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Baby Names 2019

Each year, the states and territories around Australia reveal the top names given to babies in the previous year.

Analysing baby names at any point in history paints an interesting picture of that era. The Builders generation (born before 1945) chose traditional names such as Peter, Paul, John, Karen, Jennifer or Sharon.

Jump to the 1980's, when the Baby Boomers began to be more creative with their names. This was around the time when baby name books started to emerge.

Today's parents have more access to information than any other time in history. Parents are inundated with options, research and meaning, all impacting the names they choose for their children.

A name today is more than what teachers will call you at school. It is your digital real estate in an increasingly technological world.

In 2018, there were just over 300,000 babies born in Australia. Around one in ten Australian newborns were given one of the top ten baby names.

Charlotte and Oliver maintain their reign

Charlotte, the name given to 1,673 Australian baby girls in 2018, has been crowned the number one baby name since overtaking **Olivia** in 2015.

Top 10 girls' names

Rank	Name	Occurrences
1	Charlotte	1673
2	Olivia	1454
3	Amelia	1437
4	Ava	1436
5	Mia	1391
6	Isla	1253
7	Grace	1102
8	Harper	1037
9	Chloe	1027
10	Willow	1009



Oliver, the name given to 2,134 Australian baby boys in 2018, has enjoyed an uninterrupted six years at the top spot since overtaking **Jack** in 2013.

Top 10 boys' names

Rank	Name	Occurrences
1	Oliver	2134
2	Jack	1778
3	William	1768
4	Noah	1622
5	Henry	1313
6	Thomas	1272
7	Leo	1223
8	Lucas	1131
9	James	1103
10	Liam	1069

Compared across Australia



Oliver topped the list across Australia again in 2018. The only exception is in the Northern Territory, where **Jack** took first place and, in the ACT, where **William** took first place.

The top five boy names were more varied across the states and territories in 2018. **Harrison** and **Charlie** only appeared in the top five in South Australia. **Leo** only appeared in the Western Australian top five. **Mason** only appeared in



the Tasmanian top five, while **Alexander** and **Michael** only appeared in the top five in the Northern Territory.

The top five girl names were also more varied in 2018. **Charlotte** only topped the list on five of the eight states and territories. **Olivia** topped the Victorian list for the first time since 2015, **Ava** topped the Western Australian list and **Amelia** topped the ACT list.

Top boys' names by state

Rank	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT
1	Oliver	Oliver	Oliver	Oliver	Oliver	Oliver	Jack	William
2	William	Jack	William	Jack	Jack	Henry	Oliver	Noah
3	Noah	William	Jack	William	Noah	William	Michael	Oliver
4	Jack	Noah	Noah	Harrison	William	Noah	Noah	Henry
5	Henry	Thomas	Henry	Charlie	Leo	Mason	Alexander	Jack

Top girls' names by state

Rank	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT
1	Charlotte	Olivia	Charlotte	Charlotte	Ava	Charlotte	Charlotte	Amelia
2	Amelia	Charlotte	Ava	Amelia	Charlotte	Matilda	Evelyn	Ella
3	Olivia	Amelia	Isla	Ava	Mia	Ava	Isla	Olivia
4	Mia	Mia	Olivia	Mia	Olivia	Olivia	Olivia	Ava
5	Ava	Ava	Amelia	Isla	Amelia	Grace	Amelia	Evelyn

How does Australia compare to the rest of the world?

Top names globally

#	Australia	NZ	USA	UK	Canada	Australia	NZ	USA	UK	Canada
1	Oliver	Oliver	Liam	Oliver	Liam	Charlotte	Charlotte	Emma	Olivia	Ava
2	Jack	Jack	Noah	Harry	Jackson	Olivia	Isla	Olivia	Amelia	Mia
3	William	Noah	William	George	Noah	Amelia	Olivia	Ava	Isla	Ivy
4	Noah	Leo	James	Noah	Lucas	Ava	Amelia	Isabella	Ava	Zoe
5	Henry	Hunter	Logan	Jack	Logan	Mia	Ella	Sophia	Emily	Eva

When comparing the top five Australian baby names with other English-speaking countries around the globe, each Australian name in the top five is also on the New Zealand, USA, UK and Canadian lists. The only exception is [Henry](#), who is not featured on the international top five lists.

The Australian top five list is most like the UK list (England and Wales). Four out of the five girls' names feature on both the Australian and UK list, and three out of the five boys' names feature on both lists.

Entries and exits into the Top 100

→ Entered	Current Rank
Nathan	84
Maxwell	85
Christian	92
Phoenix	93
Leonardo	96
Theo	99

← Exited	Previous Rank
Felix	90
Fletcher	91
Nathaniel	95
Dominic	96
Aaron	98
Harley	99

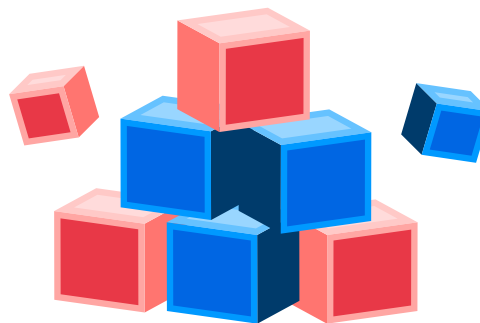
→ Entered	Current Rank
Thea	77
Adeline	82
Alyssa	94
Hayley	96
Pippa	98
Clara	100

← Exited	Previous Rank
Lilly	73
Holly	78
Isabel	93
Peyton	95
Madeline	97
Jessica	99

For boys, [Leonardo](#) (96th) made its first entrance into the top 100 in the modern era. Other traditional boy names also entered the 2018 Top 100 such as [Maxwell](#) (85th) and [Christian](#) (92nd).

For girls, [Adeline](#) (82nd) also made a grand entrance into the top 100 in the modern era. [Thea](#) (77th) also entered the 2018 list, following a more traditional theme.

The rise and fall of baby names



Biggest rise 2017-2018

Name	Rank increase	Name	Rank increase
Carter	↑ 17	Emilia	↑ 27
Asher	↑ 15	Florence	↑ 26
Louis	↑ 14	Daisy	↑ 25
Theodore	↑ 14	Luna	↑ 21
Arthur	↑ 11	Olive	↑ 21

Over the last two years, the boy's name **Carter** experienced the biggest boost up the list, climbing 17 places, now at 52nd position. Carter's boost in popularity could be attributed to American pop-culture royalty, Jay Z (Shaun Carter) and Beyoncé Knowles-Carter.

Biggest fall 2017-2018

Name	Rank decrease	Name	Rank decrease
Zachary	↓ 19	Addison	↓ 28
Caleb	↓ 16	Annabelle	↓ 23
Harvey	↓ 13	Maddison	↓ 21
Matthew	↓ 12	Piper	↓ 15
Jake	↓ 12	Mackenzie	↓ 12

Louis jumped 14 places since the birth of Prince Louis in 2018, now at 59th position.

Luna has experienced an unprecedented boost in popularity. Luna entered the top 100 for the first time in 2017, debuting at 83rd and jumped another 21 spots in 2018 to 62nd position.

Biggest rise 2010-2018

Name	Rank increase	Name	Rank increase
Leo	↑ 84	Willow	↑ 64
Hugo	↑ 53	Violet	↑ 53
Hunter	↑ 48	Audrey	↑ 42
Mason	↑ 47	Ivy	↑ 49
George	↑ 44	Sofia	↑ 41

As we approach the end of the 2010s, we can see the names that stood the test of time.

Since 2010, **Leo** jumped an incredible 84 positions. Currently at 7th position, Leo has now entered the top ten for the first time in the modern era.

Biggest fall 2010-2018

Name	Rank decrease	Rank increase	Rank decrease
Blake	↓ 61	Hayley	↓ 68
Jake	↓ 60	Chelsea	↓ 68
Nicholas	↓ 52	Alyssa	↓ 56
Matthew	↓ 48	Sarah	↓ 50
Riley	↓ 42	Lara	↓ 49

George jumped 44 positions between 2010 – 2018, now at 34th position. This could be attributed to Prince George's birth in 2013, who is third in line to the British throne.

Sofia jumped 41 positions between 2010 – 2018, now at 46th position. This could be attributed to Sofia Vergara, a famous American-Colombian actress whose popularity spiked when Modern Family first aired in September 2009.

Top names in recent decades

Jessica

Jessica was Australia's most popular girls name for 16 years from the mid 1980's to the early 2000's. In the mid 1990's, approximately one in every 30 girls born in Australia was named Jessica.

Less than 20 years after it was at number one, Jessica did not even make it into the top 100 in 2018.

Joshua

From the mid 1990's until 2003, **Joshua** was the most popular boys' name in Australia.

Not since the dominance of **David** in the 1960's or **Michael** in the 1970's has a boy name had such a popular run. However, since then, the popularity of Joshua has been consistently falling. In 2018, Joshua was ranked at 34th.

60 years of change

Baby name analysis tells a fascinating story about times in history. Below is analysis of the top baby names over twenty-year increments.

Rank	Boys' Names				Girls' Names			
	1950s	1970s	1990s	2010s	1950s	1970s	1990s	2010s
1	John	Matthew	Matthew	Oliver	Susan	Michelle	Jessica	Charlotte
2	Peter	Andrew	Daniel	William	Margaret	Catherine	Sarah	Olivia
3	Michael	David	Michael	Jack	Anne	Kylie	Emma	Mia
4	David	Michael	Thomas	Noah	Elizabeth	Nicole	Lauren	Chloe
5	Robert	Paul	Benjamin	Thomas	Christine	Rebecca	Rebecca	Ava
6	Stephen	Adam	James	James	Jennifer	Melissa	Ashleigh	Amelia
7	Paul	Christopher	Samuel	Ethan	Judith	Lisa	Amy	Emily
8	Phillip	Daniel	Nicholas	Lucas	Patricia	Belinda	Emily	Sophie
9	Christopher	Mark	Joshua	Jackson/Jaxon	Catherine	Rachel	Kate	Ruby
10	Ian	Scott	Christopher	Lachlan	Helen	Sarah	Katherine	Grace

The royal influence

The British Royal Family continue to capture the hearts of Australians. From the moment Kate Middleton stepped out of the carriage on her wedding day onto the steps of Westminster Abbey, the 'Kate Effect' was born.

Beyond Kate, the extended royal family are not just influencing the fashion and hairstyle choices of modern Australians, but also their choice of baby names.

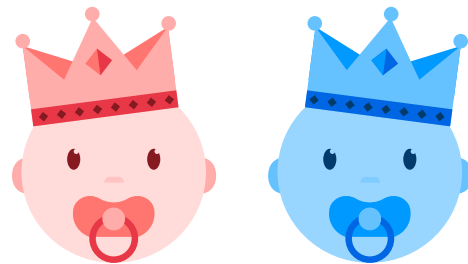
Prince George (born 2013) and Princess Charlotte (born 2015) have significantly contributed to the popularity of these names.

In the five years since Prince George was born, **George's** rank in the baby name list jumped 37 places. George now sits at 34th position.

When Princess **Charlotte** was born in 2015, her name overtook **Olivia** as the most popular baby name, it has remained undefeated to this day.

Unsurprisingly, since the birth of Prince **Louis** in 2018, his name has gained a boost in popularity. Louis has jumped 14 places since 2017, now at 59th position.

Before the birth of Harry and Meghan's baby in May 2019, **Archie** was already a popular name (29th), up four places since 2017 and **Harrison** was even more popular (12th), up one place on the previous year. Not only will these names see a boost, but **Harry** (16th, and 2nd in the UK) and **Meghan** (yet to enter the Top 100), are also likely to rise in the years ahead.



Parents opting for uniqueness

Compared to previous decades, parents in the 2010s have been opting for more creative choices for their children's name. This is evident when looking back just one generation, when the first-time mothers of today (average 31 years old) were born.

In 1987, 22% of babies born in NSW were given one of the top 10 baby names. Today, just 10% of babies were given one of the top 10 baby names. This is more significant when

considering there were over 5,000 more babies born in NSW in 2018 compared to 1987, yet fewer occurrences of the top 10 names.

When looking back another 30 years, in 1957, 30% of babies born in NSW were given one of the top ten baby names. This means, just over sixty years ago, there were almost 12,000 less babies born annually in NSW, but parents were three times more likely to give their baby a name in the top 10.

Year	Births in NSW	# babies given top 10 name in NSW	% babies given top 10 name in NSW
1957	79,456	23,910	30%
1987	86,093	18,544	22%
2018	91,411	8,696	10%

Parents today have far more access to names compared to those of previous generations. It was in the 1980s when baby name books started to emerge, and baby name lists were compiled. Prior to this, baby names were influenced by family traditions and religious persuasion.

Since the internet emerged, there has been an explosion of blogs, websites and even baby naming apps. Baby name websites include not only baby name lists, but also baby

name search engines. Such websites allow you to not only find a name but search the history of that name and suitable sibling name options. They often include a comment section where people around the globe can share their opinion or experience of that name.

We are now aware of more than just the names we grew up with. Beyond just Australian names, baby names today are increasingly global.

What drives this desire to be unique?

The average first-time-parents of today were born in or approaching the early 1990s. These parents are likely to have grown up with several Matthew's, Chris', Sarah's and Jessica's in their class. In today's digitally connected world, your name is more than what your teacher calls you. Your name is now your social media handle, your personal brand and your web domain.

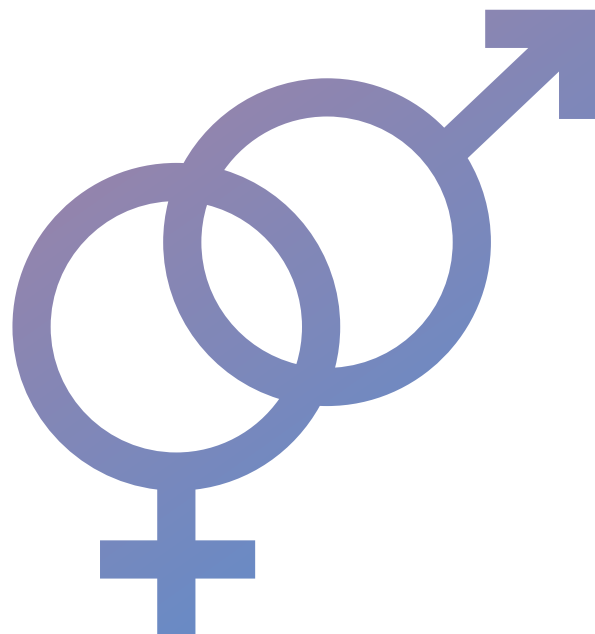
Increasingly, there is a trend to name one's child something that won't end up as SarahSmith205 on social media. Names are now considered as digital real estate in an increasingly global era.

Gendered names

Only one name in the Top 100 appears on both the girls' and boys' list in its unchanged form – **Charlie**. (85th for girls and 14th for boys).

While most names on the top 100 are more distinctly boys' or girls' names, several girls' names from the top 100 can be interchanged for boys' names. Some examples of these names include **Harper** (8th), **Frankie** (44th), **Billie** (66th), and **Mackenzie** (54th).

In similar fashion, parents are increasingly using popular boys' names when naming their daughters – names such as **Riley**, **Dylan**, **Jordan**, **Luca**, **Ashton**, **Kai**, **Bailey** and **Jesse**.



A botanical flare

Parents continue to use the botanical theme as a source of naming. This can be seen in names like **Willow** (10th), **Ivy** (18th), **Lily** (22nd), **Violet** (39th), **Poppy** (41st), **Daisy** (47th), **Rose** (56th), **Jasmine** (63rd), and **Olive** (79th).

Of the top five girls' names that most significantly increased in popularity in the 2010s, three had a botanical theme. From 2010 to 2018, **Willow** increased 64 positions, now sitting at 10th position. **Violet** increased 53 positions (now at 39th position) and **Ivy** increased 43 positions (now at 18th position).

In contrast, no Top 100 boys' names have botanic influences.

quirky

Quirky trends

There is **Adam** (75th) but no **Eve**, although there is **Eva** (37th).

There is a **Bonnie** (84th) but no **Clyde**.

Levi (20th) and **Zara** (31st) are some of the famous brands who also made the list.

Victoria was ranked 67th in New South Wales, yet ranked 89th in the state of Victoria.

Celebrities with both names on the list

Alice (36th) **Cooper** (26th)

Ruby (16th) **Rose** (56th)

Hamish (79th) **Blake** (90th) has both of his names on the top 100, with his wife **Zoe** (11th) and child, **Sonny** (80th) also featuring in the Top 100. Blake and Zoe's daughter's name Rudy didn't make it into the top 100 list.

Biblical names in the Top 50

Just 2 names in the girls list:
Chloe (9th) and **Abigail** (33rd)

But 14 names in the boys list:
Noah (4th), **Thomas** (6th), **James** (9th), **Ethan** (11th), **Alexander** (13th), **Elijah** (19th), **Levi** (20th), **Isaac** (27th), **Samuel** (28th), **Jacob** (32nd), **Benjamin** (33th), **Joshua** (36th), **Eli** (49th) and **Daniel** (50th).

Single Syllable names in the Top 100

Only 4 names in the girls list:
Grace (7th), **Rose** (56th), **Claire** (76th) and **Quinn** (78th).

But 14 names in the boys list:
Jack (2nd), **James** (9th), **Max** (21st), **George** (34th), **Finn** (41st), **Kai** (53rd), **Flynn** (64th), **Nate** (67th), **Luke** (68th), **Charles** (74th), **Beau** (78th), **Jake** (86th), **Blake** (90th) and **Jude** (95th).

Names ending in a vowel or 'y' in the Top 20

17 of the 20 names in the girls list:
Charlotte (1st), **Olivia** (2nd), **Amelia** (3rd), **Ava** (4th), **Mia** (5th), **Isla** (6th), **Grace** (7th), **Chloe** (9th), **Zoe** (11th), **Ella** (12th), **Matilda** (13th), **Emily** (14th), **Sophie** (15th), **Ruby** (16th), **Isabella** (17th), **Ivy** (18th) and **Evie** (19th).

Only 5 of the 20 names in the boys list:
Henry (5th), **Leo** (7th), **Charlie** (14th), **Harry** (16th) and **Levi** (20th).

Top 100 boys' names

Change in rank
from previous year
↓

Occurrences
↓

1	Oliver	0	2134	26	Cooper	2	801	51	Connor	-3	499	76	Zachary	-19	337
2	Jack	1	1778	27	Isaac	0	794	52	Carter	17	498	77	Spencer	10	334
3	William	-1	1768	28	Samuel	-10	777	53	Kai	2	494	78	Beau	2	326
4	Noah	0	1622	29	Archie	4	766	54	Joseph	9	491	79	Hamish	-7	316
5	Henry	3	1313	30	Xavier	-4	764	55	Austin	3	485	80	Sonny	6	314
6	Thomas	-1	1272	31	Logan	-2	744	56	Jasper	10	470	81	Toby	-4	293
7	Leo	5	1223	32	Jacob	-2	735	57	Jordan	-4	464	82	Asher	15	290
8	Lucas	-1	1131	33	Benjamin	-2	710	58	Ashton	3	455	83	Caleb	-16	268
9	James	-3	1103	34	George	1	708	59	Louis	14	453	84	Nathan	-	268
10	Liam	4	1069	35	Ryan	1	705	60	Jayden	2	450	85	Maxwell	-	250
11	Ethan	-2	1065	36	Joshua	-4	697	61	Michael	-5	441	86	Jake	-12	243
12	Harrison	1	1061	37	Harvey	-13	687	62	Aiden	2	436	87	Ali	-2	239
13	Alexander	2	1053	38	Sebastian	-1	670	63	Tyler	-11	430	88	Gabriel	-6	231
14	Charlie	-3	1044	39	Arlo	1	643	64	Flynn	-10	423	89	Nicholas	-5	231
15	Mason	-5	1010	40	Lincoln	-1	634	65	Angus	6	408	90	Blake	-12	213
16	Harry	5	984	41	Finn	2	631	66	Darcy	-6	407	91	Leon	9	208
17	Hunter	-1	968	42	Jackson	-1	595	67	Nate	-2	368	92	Christian	-	207
18	Hudson	1	956	43	Luca	7	590	68	Luke	2	364	93	Phoenix	-	205
19	Elijah	6	936	44	Hugo	3	588	69	Dylan	-1	362	94	Ryder	-6	198
20	Levi	0	909	45	Edward	6	574	70	Owen	6	357	95	Jude	-1	196
21	Max	1	884	46	Patrick	-1	567	71	Matthew	-12	351	96	Leonardo	-	192
22	Oscar	1	852	47	Jaxon	2	564	72	Arthur	11	348	97	Vincent	-5	192
23	Lachlan	-6	844	48	Riley	-4	555	73	Muhammad	8	343	98	Parker	-9	180
24	Theodore	14	844	49	Eli	-7	551	74	Charles	1	342	99	Theo	-	178
25	Archer	9	836	50	Daniel	-4	536	75	Adam	4	337	100	Bodhi	-7	172

Top 100 girls' names

Change in rank
from previous year
↓
Occurrences
↓

1	Charlotte	0	1673	26	Mila	9	717	51	Penelope	-3	370	76	Claire	-8	262
2	Olivia	0	1454	27	Hannah	1	712	52	Savannah	-5	370	77	Thea	-	252
3	Amelia	1	1437	28	Sienna	-2	674	53	Elizabeth	-1	365	78	Quinn	11	249
4	Ava	-1	1436	29	Scarlett	-2	663	54	Mackenzie	-12	364	79	Olive	21	245
5	Mia	0	1391	30	Layla	4	638	55	Piper	-15	364	80	Elena	14	239
6	Isla	0	1253	31	Zara	-1	618	56	Rose	13	357	81	Eden	-6	238
7	Grace	0	1102	32	Isabelle	0	590	57	Phoebe	-3	356	82	Adeline	-	234
8	Harper	2	1037	33	Abigail	-2	588	58	Maya	-12	351	83	Bella	-3	222
9	Chloe	0	1027	34	Emma	-5	582	59	Ayla	3	350	84	Bonnie	4	222
10	Willow	10	1009	35	Audrey	-2	561	60	Freya	6	343	85	Charlie	13	222
11	Zoe	0	960	36	Alice	2	543	61	Imogen	-5	342	86	Ariana	-5	219
12	Ella	-4	928	37	Eva	-1	543	62	Luna	21	340	87	Eliza	-10	198
13	Matilda	8	922	38	Hazel	1	509	63	Jasmine	-12	333	88	Addison	-28	193
14	Emily	3	912	39	Violet	-2	502	64	Summer	-5	332	89	Lara	-7	175
15	Sophie	-3	901	40	Ellie	1	432	65	Harriet	-4	331	90	Victoria	2	172
16	Ruby	0	899	41	Poppy	2	430	66	Billie	-9	324	91	Aaliyah	-1	171
17	Isabella	-2	894	42	Stella	11	427	67	Annabelle	-23	312	92	Chelsea	-5	169
18	Ivy	0	886	43	Emilia	27	419	68	Lola	11	312	93	Heidi	-2	168
19	Evie	-6	880	44	Frankie	5	415	69	Alexis	-11	306	94	Alyssa	-	166
20	Evelyn	-6	866	45	Florence	26	411	70	Madison	-5	301	95	Harlow	-10	159
21	Sophia	2	809	46	Sofia	-1	405	71	Maddison	-21	287	96	Hayley	-	157
22	Lily	-3	770	47	Daisy	25	390	72	Sarah	2	284	97	Madeleine	-11	157
23	Georgia	2	759	48	Elsie	19	389	73	Anna	3	283	98	Pippa	-	151
24	Aria	0	756	49	Aurora	6	383	74	Indiana	10	272	99	Millie	-3	149
25	Lucy	-3	750	50	Eleanor	13	375	75	Eloise	-11	267	100	Clara	-	146

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