

# SAMPLE OF FIRST NAMES FROM THE CENSUS OF 1911 OF IRELAND

Compiled by Frank O'Donovan

On the Table below I have listed 178 **First Names** which is over 90% of the First Names used in the Census of all 32 counties of Ireland in 1911.

**Mary** was the name with the most occurrences of over 10% in this sample followed by **John** with almost 8% occurrences. I should emphasise this is from the 178 First Names I selected.

This covers 4,001,654 of those included in the 1911 Census which is **91.268%** of the total population.

The Table is in descending order of occurrences or frequency of each name. It gives First Name, the frequency of occurrences of that First Name and that name as a percentage of the total population. So the First Name of Mary was used in 449,480 instances, or 10.252% of all the 4,384,519 people in the country. There was normally only one first name used in that era.

While I have counted the number of occurrences of each name we should remember that many names have more than one variation as examples in **Margaret, Maggie**, etc. Similarly, we have that with **Catherine, Kathleen, Kate**, etc. Again the same happens with **Patrick, Pat and Paddy** being variations used. Therefore we may need to consider this in looking at the overall popularity of first names in 1911. However, in this exercise I took the names as given without combining similar versions as in say Pat, Patrick, etc.

I must say I was surprised by the frequent occurrences of some names and equally the more infrequent use of others. As I said in my [Sample of Surnames from the Census of 1911 of Ireland](#) we each think of the popularly used names in our own local area. Some names are more popular in different parts of the country.

Because of the fact that I have covered over 90% of the population in the names listed below, I think we have a good impression of the popularity of First Names in 1911 throughout Ireland.

Some further examples of my breakdown of the use of First Names may be viewed on these links.

<http://bmdnotices.com/remembrance-garden-book/viewremembranceold.aspx?remembranceid=11>  
<http://bmdnotices.com/remembrance-garden-book/viewremembranceold.aspx?remembranceid=141>

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>% of total</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>% of total</b>
Mary	449,480	10.252%	Norah	16,974	0.387%
John	347,676	7.930%	Alexander	16,806	0.383%
James	231,455	5.279%	Susan	15,935	0.363%
Patrick	208,150	4.747%	Johanna	15,929	0.363%
Thomas	166,362	3.794%	Isabella	14,498	0.331%
William	158,861	3.623%	Jeremiah	13,624	0.311%
Bridget	140,539	3.205%	Josephine	12,356	0.282%
Michael	139,037	3.171%	Teresa	11,994	0.274%
Margaret	134,966	3.078%	Christopher	10,857	0.248%
Ellen	107,946	2.462%	Frances	10,843	0.247%
Annie	92,774	2.116%	Minnie	10,277	0.234%
Jane	90,168	2.057%	Anna	9,848	0.225%
Anne	86,956	1.983%	Pat	9,826	0.224%
Elizabeth	82,961	1.892%	Owen	9,569	0.218%
Catherine	80,183	1.829%	Arthur	9,547	0.218%
Joseph	77,309	1.763%	Emily	9,169	0.209%
Sarah	69,227	1.579%	Matthew	8,562	0.195%
Kate	64,206	1.464%	Florence	8,194	0.187%
Robert	59,169	1.349%	Cornelius	7,942	0.181%
Maggie	53,689	1.225%	Philip	7,856	0.179%
Edward	49,799	1.136%	Delia	7,345	0.168%
George	36,723	0.838%	Stephen	7,210	0.164%
Lizzie	36,189	0.825%	Nellie	7,048	0.161%
Daniel	35,497	0.810%	Matilda	6,896	0.157%
Peter	35,151	0.802%	Anthony	6,685	0.152%
Francis	34,051	0.777%	Albert	6,119	0.140%
Henry	30,492	0.695%	Winifred	6,062	0.138%
Julia	29,373	0.670%	Eileen	5,906	0.135%
Agnes	29,356	0.670%	Laurence	5,905	0.135%
Ann	28,941	0.660%	Nicholas	5,537	0.126%
Samuel	28,799	0.657%	Frank	5,388	0.123%
Charles	28,009	0.639%	Frederick	5,260	0.120%
Hugh	27,451	0.626%	Walter	5,200	0.119%
Martin	27,214	0.621%	Esther	5,134	0.117%
Rose	26,308	0.600%	Alfred	5,021	0.115%
David	25,394	0.579%	Helena	4,656	0.106%
Richard	25,085	0.572%	Rachel	4,505	0.103%
Alice	23,840	0.544%	Lawrence	4,448	0.101%
Kathleen	23,104	0.527%	Ethel	4,367	0.100%
Denis	22,804	0.520%	Brigid	4,288	0.098%
Hannah	21,375	0.488%	Herbert	4,055	0.092%
Timothy	18,466	0.421%	Gertrude	3,907	0.089%
Andrew	17,941	0.409%	Emma	3,605	0.082%
Martha	17,690	0.403%	Eleanor	3,598	0.082%
Bernard	17,341	0.396%	Eugene	3,551	0.081%

Name	Frequency	% of total	Name	Frequency	% of total
Joe	3,532	0.081%	Angela	917	0.021%
Terence	3,470	0.079%	Veronica	811	0.018%
Dan	3,459	0.079%	Percy	761	0.017%
Lucy	3,457	0.079%	Gordon	754	0.017%
Tom	2,911	0.066%	Marian	750	0.017%
Caroline	2,854	0.065%	Lillian	742	0.017%
Eva	2,851	0.065%	Mick	696	0.016%
Nancy	2,566	0.059%	Allen	688	0.016%
Luke	2,546	0.058%	Oliver	666	0.015%
Dorothy	2,464	0.056%	Brian	650	0.015%
Gerald	2,304	0.053%	Kieran	645	0.015%
Marion	2,144	0.049%	Eily	618	0.014%
Harriet	2,057	0.047%	Maureen	600	0.014%
Paul	2,037	0.046%	Ned	595	0.014%
Mark	1,966	0.045%	Kevin	577	0.013%
Vincent	1,941	0.044%	Leonard	570	0.013%
Leo	1,914	0.044%	Paddy	570	0.013%
Rosanna	1,913	0.044%	Gretta	542	0.012%
Anastatia	1,755	0.040%	Ambrose	524	0.012%
Marie	1,724	0.039%	Florance	507	0.012%
Benjamin	1,685	0.038%	Mildred	482	0.011%
Bridie	1,677	0.038%	Batt	479	0.011%
Jack	1,667	0.038%	Noel	457	0.010%
Winnie	1,652	0.038%	Geraldine	456	0.010%
Neil	1,639	0.037%	Eric	439	0.010%
Simon	1,612	0.037%	Sam	411	0.009%
Gerard	1,595	0.036%	Mortimer	400	0.009%
Beatrice	1,507	0.034%	Philomena	393	0.009%
Bartholomew	1,465	0.033%	Phil	377	0.009%
Norman	1,463	0.033%	Seamus	330	0.008%
Harold	1,431	0.033%	Jim	327	0.007%
Ruth	1,393	0.032%	Jonathan	319	0.007%
Cecilia	1,337	0.030%	Doreen	263	0.006%
Theresa	1,243	0.028%	Gabriel	253	0.006%
Tim	1,219	0.028%	Bob	178	0.004%
Clare	1,160	0.026%	Eoghan	152	0.003%
Irene	1,148	0.026%	Moira	134	0.003%
Harriett	1,136	0.026%	Oscar	119	0.003%
Victoria	1,136	0.026%	Joy	100	0.002%
Maude	1,135	0.026%	Hazel	81	0.002%
Hilda	1,106	0.025%	Noreen	59	0.001%
Janet	1,079	0.025%	Ferdinand	57	0.001%
Molly	1,016	0.023%	Niall	52	0.001%
Patricia	943	0.022%	Bernadette	35	0.001%

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