

Abate

Current frequencies: GB: 76, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname, occupational name, relationship name: from Italian *abate* 'priest' (from Late Latin *abbas*, genitive *abbatis*), perhaps given to someone who behaved in a priest-like manner, or to a priest's servant, or to the illegitimate son of a priest.

Early Bearers: Italian: Carlo *Abate*, born in Switzerland, in **Census 1881** (Paddington, Middx); Pietro *Abate*, born in Turin, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Westminster, Middx); Lorenzo *Abba*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Westminster, Middx); Francesco *Abate*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Marylebone, Middx); Luigi *Abate*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Kent).

Abela

Current frequencies: GB: 339, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 4

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Maltese

Locative name: most probably from Avella in Campania (*Abella* in Latin), though other origins are possible.

Early Bearers: Guiseppe *Abela* (born in Malta) in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy).

References:

Cassar

Adamo

Current frequencies: GB: 129, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Adamo*, Italian form of [Adam](#).

Agostini

Current frequencies: GB: 138, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 6

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: based on the personal name *Agostino*, a pet form of *Agosto* (Augustus).

Aiello

Current frequencies: GB: 123, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from any of several places in southern Italy called *Aiello*.

Albanese

Current frequencies: GB: 173, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Ethnic name: from Italian *albanese* 'Albanian'. Historically, there were several Albanian settlements in Italy, mainly in Abruzzo, Apulia, Campania, and Sicily.

Alfano

Current frequencies: GB: 116, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from Alfano in Salerno province, Campania.

Alfonso

Current frequencies: GB: 209, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Alonso](#).

language/culture: Spanish, Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Alfonso* (Visigothic *Adelfonsus* 'war-ready'). Compare Portuguese [Afonso](#).

Algeo

Current frequencies: GB: 90, Ireland: 25.

GB frequency, 1881: 8

main GB location, 1881: Middx; Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64: Donegal and Leitrim

Variants: [Algie](#), [Alger](#).

language/culture: Scottish

Nickname: the early spellings *Awldioy*, *Aldjeo*, *Aldjo*, and *Aldgeo* suggest a term of affection from Scots *auld* 'old' + *joy*, *jo*, *joe* 'joy, sweetheart, darling, lover' (Old French *joi* Middle English *joi*, *jo*, which can also signify 'good fortune' and 'mirth, music, laughter, jesting'). Alternatively, if the *-d-* is intrusive, *Algeo* may be from a phrase 'all joy, all good fortune', used as a farewell. The *-ge-* in *Algeo* is another spelling of *j*, the additional *-e-* indicating that the *g* is soft.

Early Bearers: (i) Scotland: William *Awldioy*, 1518 in [Edinburgh Burgh Records](#) (Edinburgh, Midlothian); Peter *Algeo*, burgess, 1550 in [Protocol Books Glasgow](#) (Paisley, Renfrews); John *Algeo*, burgess, 1603 in [Laing Charters](#) (Paisley), Peter *Aldjeo*, advocate, 1628 in [Privy Council of Scotland Register](#) (Paisley); Thomas *Aldgeo*, 1628 in [Privy Council of Scotland Register](#) (Paisley); Peter *Algeo*, 1610 in [IGI](#) (Edinburgh, Midlothian); Williame *Algeo*, 1610, Johne *Aldjo*, 1626, John *Algeo*, 1733 in [IGI](#) (Glasgow, Lanarks);

Margrat *Aljo*, 1644 in **IGI** (Falkirk, Stirlings); John *Algeo*, 1675, Janet *Aljoe*, 1725 in **IGI** (Renfrew, Renfrews); Alexander *Algeo*, 1718 in **IGI** (Paisley, Renfrews); Katharine *Aljo*, 1728 in **IGI** (Falkland, Fife); David *Aljoy*, 1830 in **IGI** (Port Glasgow, Renfrews).

(ii) England: Mathew *Algeo*, 1653 in **IGI** (Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumb); John *Algeo*, 1734 in **IGI** (Peover, Cheshire); Robert *Algeo*, 1829 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); John *Algeo*, 1875 in **IGI** (Liverpool, Lancs).

Other info: The name has been traced back genealogically to Peter Algeo, a burgess of Paisley in 1550, whose family is associated with the estate of Inchinnan near Paisley. A history of Renfrew, cited by Black, affirms that the family was "of Italian origin, the first of them having come from Rome in the suite of one of the abbots of Paisley." However, this is mere speculation; the name is not Italian.

Amato

Current frequencies: GB: 487, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 23

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from a medieval personal name, *Amato*, Latin *Amatus* 'beloved', i.e. by God.

Amori

Current frequencies: GB: 7, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the medieval personal name *Amore*, literally 'love', sometimes bestowed on a foundling or 'love-child' born out of wedlock.

References: De Felice.

Anastasi

Current frequencies: GB: 250, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: S Italian

Relationship name: based on the personal name *Anastasio* (Latin *Anastasius*, from Greek *anastasis* 'resurrection'). See also [Anastasiou](#).

Andrea

Current frequencies: GB: 366, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 14

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Andrea*, Greek *Andreas* (see [Andrew](#)).

Early Bearers: Mosso Nicoto *Andrea*, born in Savona, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Glamorgan); Amello *Andrea*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Middx).

Andreoli

Current frequencies: GB: 39, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 20

main GB location, 1881: Midlothian

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a pet form of the Italian personal name *Andrea* (see [Andrew](#)).

Early Bearers: Mauro *Andreoli*, 1859, Jeovara Marie *Andreoli*, 1863 in **IGI** (Edinburgh, Midlothian).

Angela

Current frequencies: GB: 274, Ireland: 8.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

variant (feminine form) of [Angelo](#).

Angeli

Current frequencies: GB: 161, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: based on the personal name *Angelo*; see [Angelo](#).

Angelinetta

Current frequencies: GB: 38, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 24

main GB location, 1881: Wilts

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a pet form of the Italian personal name [Angelo](#).

Early Bearers: John *Angelinetta*, 1855, Lucy *Angelinetta*, 1860 in **IGI** (Wootton Bassett, Wilts); Louis *Angelinetta*, looking glass maker, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (London); John *Angelanetta*, furniture dealer, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Wilts).

Angelo

Current frequencies: GB: 131, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 48

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Angeli](#), [Angela](#).

1 language/culture: Italian

from the personal name *Angelo* (compare [Angel](#)).

Early Bearers: Francesco S. *Angelo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Lancs).

2 language/culture: Italian

see [Dangelo](#).

Antonelli

Current frequencies: GB: 125, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 9

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: based on the personal name *Antonello*, a diminutive of *Antonio* (see [Anthony](#)).

Antoni

Current frequencies: GB: 148, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 8

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: based on the personal name *Antonio* (see [Anthony](#)).

Early Bearers: Antonio *Antoni*, 1774 in **IGI** (Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumb); Gulielmus *Antoni*, 1803 in **IGI** (Bristol); Gamba *Antoni*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (London); Bertoni *Antoni*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Carlisle, Cumb).

2 language/culture: German, Dutch

Relationship name: humanist name from the genitive case of the Latin personal name *Antonius* (see [Anthony](#)).

Early Bearers: Karl *Antoni*, born in Germany, in **Census 1891** (Lancs).

3 language/culture: Greek

Relationship name: shortened form of **Antonis**, **Antoniadis**, or **Antonidakis**, all from the personal name *Antonios*.

Early Bearers: Demetre *Antoni*, born in Greece, in **Census 1891** (Monmouths).

Antoniazzi

Current frequencies: GB: 128, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 9

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a pejorative form of the given name *Antonio* (see [Anthony](#)).

Antonio

Current frequencies: GB: 714, Ireland: 11.

GB frequency, 1881: 65

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: ItalianPortuguese, Spanish

from the personal name *Antonio* (see [Anthony](#)).

Early Bearers: (i) Portuguese, Indian: Augustin Rogue [Roque] *Antonio*, 1706 in **IGI** (Kirk Merrington, Durham); Francis, son of Francisco *Antonio*, 1715 in **IGI** (Falmouth, Cornwall); Jaquin [Joaquin] *Antonio*, 1799 in **IGI** (Liverpool, Lancs); Manuel *Antonio*, 1816 in **IGI** (Chester le Street, Durham); Luis *Antonio*, born in India, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy).
(ii) Italian: Rolando *Antonio*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Shadwell, Middx).

Other info: As a Portuguese family name, this was probably brought to Britain, at least in part, via the Goa and other former Portuguese colonies.

Apicella

Current frequencies: GB: 188, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Southern Italian

Nickname, occupational name: from a diminutive of *apa`bee*, possibly given to an industrious person or perhaps to a beekeeper.

April

Current frequencies: GB: 31, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Aprile](#).

1 language/culture: Italian, Dutch, German

Nickname: anglicization of Italian or Dutch **Aprile** or German **April(I)**, derived from the name of the month.

Early Bearers: Joseph *Aprille*, silversmith, born in foreign parts, in **Census 1841** (Ballington, Essex); Henry *April*, born in Charlestown, America, in **Census 1881** (Liverpool, Lancs); Maria *April*, born in Paarl, South Africa, in **Census 1891** (Abercorn, W Lothian).

2 language/culture: English

Nickname: from Middle English *April*, the name of the month. Compare [Averill](#). There is no evidence for the use of *April* as a given name before the 19th century. It is unknown if the medieval surname survived into modern times.

Early Bearers: Robert *Aprill'*, 1301 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Harwood, in Hackness, NR Yorks).

Aquilina

Current frequencies: GB: 354, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Maltese

(i) **Nickname:** from a diminutive of *aquila* 'eagle' (rarely if ever used as a male personal name).

(ii) **Relationship name:** from the female personal name *Aquilina*.

Aquino

Current frequencies: GB: 233, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Spanish, Portuguese, Italian

(i) **Relationship name:** from a personal name bestowed in honour of the Christian theologian Saint Thomas Aquinas (*Tommaso d'Aquino* in Italian).

(ii) **Locative name:** as an Italian family name, it may be from Aquino, the place where the theologian was born.

Early Bearers: Juan Aquino, 1711 in **IGI** (Kirk Merrington, Durham); Pedro De Aquino, 1814 in **IGI**

Jose Aquino, 1849 in **IGI** (Redmarshall, Durham).

Arcari

Current frequencies: GB: 144, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 4

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

(i) **Occupational name:** based on the occupational term *arcaro* 'bow maker'.

(ii) **Occupational name:** based on the homonym *arcaro* (Latin *arcarius*), denoting the treasurer of a city, guild, or other institution.

Ardizzone

Current frequencies: GB: 19, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian (Sicilian)

from a medieval personal name of Germanic origin, from *Ardizon*, the oblique stem of *Ardizo*, a pet form of any of several personal names formed with the element *ard-* 'hard, tough, bold'. Compare English [Hardy](#).

Arpino

Current frequencies: GB: 179, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from Arpino in Frosinone province, Lazio.

Arrighi

Current frequencies: GB: 54, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 30

main GB location, 1881: Midlothian

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the Italian personal name *Arrigo*, a variant of *Enrico*, the Italian form of the Continental Germanic personal name *Haimric*, *Heinric*, *Henric*. Compare [Henry](#).

Early Bearers: Poldo Arrighi, 1857 in **IGI** (Edinburgh, Midlothian); Louis Arrighi, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Yorks).

Ascoli

Current frequencies: GB: 27, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 20

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from Ascoli Piceno (Marche) or Ascoli Satriano (Apulia).

Early Bearers: Jane *Ascoli*, scholar, in **Census 1851** (London).

Attard

Current frequencies: GB: 569, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese

Relationship name: from the medieval Italian personal name *Attardo*, which is of Germanic origin.

Early Bearers: Joseph *Attard*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Carucalo *Attard*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy).

References:

Cassar

Aubery

Current frequencies: GB: 29, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 95

main GB location, 1881: scattered

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: English, Italian

see [Aubrey](#).

Averillo

Current frequencies: GB: 20, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 33

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from a diminutive of Italian *avaro* 'miser, stingy person'.

Early Bearers: Zachariah *Avarillo*, 1758 in **IGI** (Portsea, Hants); Mary *Averillo*, 1793 in **IGI** (Clapham, Surrey); Francis Lloyd *Averillo*, 1795 in **IGI** (Guildford, Surrey).

Azzopardi

Current frequencies: GB: 492, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: southern Italian, Maltese

Ethnic name, occupational name: from the medieval Greek word *atsoupas* 'Mauritanian, Moor, Black person' (plural *atsoupadēs*), which also came to mean 'mercenary soldier'. The medieval Greek word probably derives ultimately from Old Persian *takhma spada* 'army', modern Persian *sipah*. The modern form seems to have been influenced by Italian (*gatto*)*pardo* 'serval' (a species of wild cat), which features on the arms of the Sicilian princely di Lampedusa family.

Early Bearers: Joseph *Azzopardi*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy).

Other info: There is no evidence to support the belief that the name is of Sephardic Jewish origin or that it means 'Sephardic'.

Baldacchino

Current frequencies: GB: 181, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Baldacchino*, a diminutive of *Baldaccio*, variant of *Baldo*, itself a pet form of any of various personal names formed with the Germanic element *bald* 'bold, brave', such as *Baldovino*, *Garibaldo*, and *Tebaldo*.

References:

De Felice

Barbara

Current frequencies: GB: 322, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 8

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish, Portuguese

Relationship name: from the female personal name *Barbara*, which was borne by a popular saint, whose life is the subject of legend rather than historical fact. Compare English [Barbary](#).

Early Bearers: (i) Giovanni *Barbara*, born in Switzerland, in **Census 1881** (Battersea, Surrey); Caroline *Barbara*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Sussex); Domenico *Barbara*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Lancs).

(ii) Malta: Carmelo *Barbara*, Jose *Barbara*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Carlo *Barbara*, Michael *Barbara*, born in Malta, in **Census 1901** (Royal Navy); Salvatore *Barbara*, Ricardo *Barbara*, Vincent *Barbara*, born in Malta, in **Census 1911** (Royal Navy).

Barbato

Current frequencies: GB: 143, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *barbato* 'bearded', from *barba* 'beard' (Latin *barba*).

Early Bearers: Mary *Barbato*, 1790 in **IGI** (Bethnal Green, Middx); Antonio *Barbato*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (London).

Barbieri

Current frequencies: GB: 229, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 13

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Occupational name: based on *barbiere* 'barber-surgeon', from Late Latin *barbarius*, a

derivative of *barba* 'beard'. Compare [Barber](#).

Early Bearers: Pietro *Barbieri*, in [Census 1851](#) (Middx); Jemocente *Barbieri*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Knockholt, Kent); Luigi *Barbieri*, born in Italy in [Census 1881](#) (Liverpool, Lancs); Guilo *Barbieri*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (London).

Barella

Current frequencies: GB: 149, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 9

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a derivative of the Germanic personal name *Baro*. Compare [Barone](#).

Early Bearers: Domnick *Barella*, [Census 1841](#) (Northumb); Pietro *Barella*, born in Italy, in [Census 1861](#) (Middx); Appollonia *Barella*, 1863 in [IGI](#) (Durham, Durham); Peter *Barella*, looking glass maker, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Westminster, Middx); Secondo *Barella*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Gloucs); Pauls *Barella*, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (London).

Bari

Current frequencies: GB: 650, Ireland: 26.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Arabic, Muslim

Relationship name: from an Arabic personal name based on *bāri* 'originator'.

Other info: *Al-Bāri* 'the Creator' is an attribute of Allah. The personal name '*Abd-al-Bāri*' means 'servant of the Creator'.

2 language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from the Adriatic port of Bari, chief city of Apulia.

Barone

Current frequencies: GB: 181, Ireland: 10.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Baron](#).

1 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the Germanic personal name *Baro*, or to a lesser extent the title *barone* 'baron', both derivatives of an unattested word *bara-* 'free man'.

Early Bearers: Adrian *Barone*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#); Battista *Barone*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#); Francesco *Barone*, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (London).

2 language/culture: English, Scottish

archaic variant of [Baron](#).

Early Bearers: (i) England: Robtus *Barone*, 1542 in [IGI](#) (Ugborough, Devon); Elizabetha *Barone*, 1575 in [IGI](#) (Netherseal, Leics); Thomas *Barone*, 1617 in [IGI](#) (Barnstaple, Devon).
(ii) Scotland: John *Barone*, 1717 in [IGI](#) (Dalgety, Fife).

Barretto

Current frequencies: GB: 153, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from *barretto* 'cap', presumably a nickname. Compare Spanish [Barreto](#).

Early Bearers: Serefius *Barretto*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Notts).

Bartolo

Current frequencies: GB: 167, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Maltese

Relationship name: from a short form of *Bartolomeo*, Italian form of [Bartholomew](#).

Early Bearers: Henrietta *Bartolo*, 1835 in [IGI](#) (Clifton, Gloucs); Lorenzo *Bartolo*, born in Malta, in [Census 1881](#) (Royal Navy); Giovanni *Bartolo*, born in Malta, in [Census 1881](#) (Royal Navy); Carmelo *Bartolo*, born in Malta, in [Census 1901](#) (Royal Navy); Giuseppe *Bartolo*, born in Malta, in [Census 1901](#) (Royal Navy).

Bassi

Current frequencies: GB: 1339, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881: 15

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Basi](#).

1 language/culture: Indian (Panjab)

Sikh, based on the name of a Jat clan.

2 language/culture: Italian

(i) **Nickname**: from the nickname *basso* 'low, thickset'.

(ii) **Relationship name**: from *Bassus*, a family name of the Republican period.

Early Bearers: Anthony *Bassi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Eccleston in Prescot, Lancs); Antonio *Bassi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Walthamstow, Essex); Francesco *Bassi*, itinerant musician, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Holborn, Middx); Angelo *Bassi*, ice cream seller, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Clerkenwell, Middx); Guiseppo *Bassi*, born in Switzerland, in [Census 1881](#) (Westminster, Middx); Antonio *Bassi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Lancs); Ernesto *Bassi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (London) Pietro *Bassi*, born in Switzerland, in [Census 1911](#) (London).

Battista

Current frequencies: GB: 194, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the medieval personal name (*Giovanni*) *Battista*, from the distinguishing epithet of Saint John the Baptist. Compare [Baptiste](#), *Baptista*, and [Batista](#).

Belli

Current frequencies: GB: 193, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 19

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: based on the nickname and personal name *Bello* 'handsome'.

Early Bearers: (i) Mark *Belli*, 1603 in **IGI** (Durham); Dorothea *Belli*, 1604, Perciuallus *Belli*, 1614 in **IGI** (Wensley, NR Yorks); Grace *Belli*, 1766 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx).

(ii) Giovanni Conte *Belli*, 1837 in **IGI** (Saint Pancras, Middx); Stefano *Belli*, 1867 in **IGI** (Edinburgh); Luigi *Belli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Middx); Enrico *Belli*, born in Rome, in **Census 1881** (Middx); Giuseppe *Belli*, born in Naples, in **Census 1881** (Middx).

Bellini

Current frequencies: GB: 180, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 14

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

based on the nickname *Bellino*, a diminutive of *Bello* (see *Bello*).

Early Bearers: Henry Ferdinand Napoleon Linari *Bellini*, 1860 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Pio *Bellini*, 1857 in **IGI** (Edinburgh); Antonio *Bellini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (London); Louis *Bellini*, born in Genoa, Italy, in **Census 1881** (East Molesey, Surrey).

Bello

Current frequencies: GB: 1140, Ireland: 21.

GB frequency, 1881: 7

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: English

variant of **Bellow**.

Early Bearers: Sarah *Bello*, 1604 in **IGI** (Bury Saint Edmunds, Suffolk); Sarah *Bello*, 1771 **IGI** (Dewsbury, WR Yorks); Alfred G. *Bello*, 1880 **IGI** (Croydon, Surrey).

2 language/culture: Italian, Spanish

(i) **Nickname:** from *bello* 'fair, handsome'.

(ii) **Relationship name:** from the same word used as given name in medieval Italian.

Early Bearers: Domingo *Bello*, 1807 **IGI** (Milton Bryant, Beds); Andrew Rucardo *Bello*, 1819 **IGI** (Southwark, Surrey); Maria de las Nieves *Bello*, 1843 **IGI** (Chalgrave, Beds).

3 language/culture: Nigerian

from the Fulani name *Bello* of unclear origin, well known as that of a leading administrator of the Fulani empire in Hausaland in the early 19th cent.

Bellotti

Current frequencies: GB: 110, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 13

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name, nickname: based on a diminutive of the nickname or personal name *Bello* (see *Bello*).

Early Bearers: Julius *Bellotti*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Hulme, Lancs); Antony *Bellotti*, born in Switzerland, in [Census 1881](#) (Middx).

Benedetti

Current frequencies: GB: 136, Ireland: 10.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: based on the personal name *Benedetto* ('blessed').

Early Bearers: Pietro *Bennedite*, sculptor moulder, born in Italy, in [Census 1861](#) (Saint Pancras, Middx); Amelia Martha Giovanna Anunziade Eugenie *Benedetti*, 1865 in [IGI](#) (Staveley, Derbys); Giacinto *Benedetti*, hall porter, born in Switzerland, in [Census 1881](#) (Westminster, Middx); Giuseppe *Benedetti*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (London); Giacomo *Benedetti*, traveller in furs, born in Leghorn, Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Westminster, Middx); Arturo Ugo *Benedetti*, born in Camberwell, Surrey, in [Census 1911](#) (Farnham, Surrey).

Bernardi

Current frequencies: GB: 147, Ireland: 11.

GB frequency, 1881: 7

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: based on the personal name *Bernardo* (see [Bernardo](#)).

Early Bearers: Nora *Bernardi*, 1578 in [IGI](#) (Landewednack, Cornwall); Prudentia *Bernardi*, 1639 in [IGI](#) (Croydon, Surrey); Thomas *Bernardi*, 1663 in [IGI](#) (Bulmer, Essex); Cristofolo *Bernardi*, 1774 in [IGI](#) (Westminster, Middx); Mary Ann *Bernardi*, 1813 in [IGI](#) (Yarmouth, Norfolk); Luigi *Bernardi*, 1800 in [IGI](#) (Westminster, Middx); John *Bernardi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Scarborough, ER Yorks); Giovanni *Bernardi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Birmingham, Warwicks).

Bernardo

Current frequencies: GB: 262, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish, Portuguese

Relationship name: from the personal name *Bernardo* (see [Bernard](#)).

Early Bearers: (i) Spanish: Pedro *Bernardo*, 1710 in [IGI](#) (Kirk Merrington, Durham); Aurilla *Bernardo*, born in Spain, in [Census 1891](#) (London).

(ii) Italian: Luize *Bernardo* and Dominico *Bernardo*, in [Census 1841](#) (Devon); Pangoni *Bernardo*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Camden, Middx); Alfred *Bernardo*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (London).

Bernasconi

Current frequencies: GB: 125, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 47

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: denoting someone from Bernasca (Como province).

Early Bearers: Francis *Bernasconi*, 1789 in **IGI** (Lichfield, Staffs); Innocente *Bernasconi*, 1834 in **IGI**; Beneditto *Bernasconi*, 1848 in **IGI** (Aldgate, Middx); Giuseppe *Bernasconi*, 1871 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Antonio *Bernasconi*, born in Milan, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Hinckley, Leics).

Berni

Current frequencies: GB: 127, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 6

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a pet form of the personal name *Bernardo*.

Early Bearers: Luigi *Berni*, **Census 1851** (Lancs); Octave *Berni*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (London); Antonio *Berni*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (London); Luiczi *Berni*, born in Piacenza, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Pimlico, Middx); Francisco *Berni*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Glamorgan).

Bertorelli

Current frequencies: GB: 121, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 15

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a diminutive of the medieval Italian personal name *Berto*, a pet form of any of several Germanic personal names formed with *bert* (from *beht* 'bright, famous').

Early Bearers: Antonio *Bertorelli*, **Census 1851** (Middx); Francesco *Bertorelli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (London); Domenico, Luigi, and Giuseppe *Bertorelli*, all born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Camden, Middx).

Other info: The bearers of this surname in the 1881 census all lived in Little Saffron Hill, London. According to www.zigguratonline.com, the area between Hatton Garden and Clerkenwell Road was known as Little Italy in the 19th century.

Beschizza

Current frequencies: GB: 95, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

unexplained.

Early Bearers: Antonio *Beschizza*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Camden, Middx); Sereno *Beschizza*, born in Italy **Census 1881** (Camden, Middx); Luigi *Beschizza*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London).

Bezzina

Current frequencies: GB: 144, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese

Relationship name: of probably Italian origin, and debatable etymology.

Early Bearers: Lorenzo *Bezzina*, born in Malta, and Giacomo *Bezzina*, born in Malta, in

Census 1881 (Royal Navy).

Other info: According to Cassar, despite a wide range of suggestions, "a legitimate interpretation is still elusive".

References: [Cassar](#), p. 36.

Biagioni

Current frequencies: GB: 108, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from an augmentative form of the personal name *Biagio*, from Latin *Blasius*.

Early Bearers: (i) Scotland: William Biagioni, in **Census 1851** (Lanarks); Giuseppe and Enrico *Biagioni*, in **Census 1901** (Lanarks).

(ii) England: Peter and John *Biagioni*, both born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London).

Bianchi

Current frequencies: GB: 498, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881: 134

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from Italian *bianchi*, plural or genitive singular of the nickname [Bianco](#) 'white'.

Early Bearers: Benedetto *Bianchi*, 1770 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Franciscus *Bianchi*, 1801 in **IGI** (Holborn, Middx); Gaetano *Bianchi*, 1814 in **IGI** (Ipswich, Suffolk); Giovanni *Bianchi*, in **Census 1841** (Suffolk); Isidore *Bianchi* in **Census 1871** (Somerset); Lorenzo *Bianchi*, in **Census 1881** (Sunderland, Durham); Benedetto *Bianchi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Tonbridge, Kent); Antonio *Bianchi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Cheshire).

Bianco

Current frequencies: GB: 250, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 16

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Bianchi](#).

language/culture: Italian, Jewish (Sephardic)

Nickname, relationship name: from Italian *bianco* 'white', originally a nickname for a man with white or fair hair or a pale complexion, or perhaps for someone who habitually wore white. This also became established as a personal name in Italian.

Early Bearers: (i) Italian: Franciso *Bianco*, in **Census 1851** (Devon); Giovanni *Bianco*, in **Census 1851** (Norfolk); Lorenzo *Bianco*, born in Italy, in **Census 1861** (Middx); Domenico *Bianco*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Marylebone, Middx); Antonio *Bianco*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Durham); Domenico *Bianco*, cabinet manufacturer, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Hampstead, Middx); Francesco *Bianco*, art dealer, born in Torino [Turin], in **Census 1911** (Westminster, Middx); Luca *Bianco*, confection, born in Cervaro, Italy, in **Census 1911** (Hartepool, Durham).
(ii) Jewish: Moses J. *Bianco*, born in Syria, in **Census 1881** (Chorlton on Medlock, Lancs); Adolphe *Bianco*, merchant shipper, born in Syria, in **Census 1901** (Prestwich, Lancs); Simha *Bianco*, restaurant keeper, born in Syria, (sons Solomon, Isaac, and Moses), in **Census 1901** (Manchester, Lancs).

Bloch

Current frequencies: GB: 284, Ireland: 9.

GB frequency, 1881: 8

main GB location, 1881: Warwicks

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Block](#).

language/culture: Jewish (Ashkenazic)

Locative name: regional name for someone in Eastern Europe originating from Italy, from Polish *włoch*, meaning 'Italian' (originally 'foreigner').

Early Bearers: Israel *Bloch*, jeweller, born in Moislings, Germany, in **Census 1861** (Norfolk); Nathan *Bloch*, born in Germany, in **Census 1881** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Regina *Bloch*, born in Germany, in **Census 1881** (Aston, Warwicks); Abraham *Bloch*, boot maker, born in Shoreditch, in **Census 1891** (Bethnal Green, Middx); Barnard *Bloch*, tailor, born in Russia, in **Census 1891** (Leeds, WR Yorks); Schwerl *Bloch*, rabbi, born in Russia, in **Census 1901** (Sunderland, Durham); Jacob *Bloch*, cabinet maker, born in Russia, in **Census 1901** (Prestwich, Lancs); Nathan *Bloch*, tailor, born in Poland, in **Census 1911** (Saint Pancras, Middx).

Bona

Current frequencies: GB: 159, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 53

main GB location, 1881: Carmarthens and Glamorgan

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

from the female personal name *Bona*, feminine form of the Late Latin name *Bonus* 'good'.

2 language/culture: Hungarian, Polish

Hungarian (**Bóna**) and Polish, from a pet form of the personal name *Bonifác* (Hungarian), *Bonifacy* (Polish) (see [Boniface](#)).

Bondi

Current frequencies: GB: 76, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

(i) **Relationship name:** from the personal name *Bondí*, an omen name from *buon di* 'good day'.

(ii) **Relationship name:** based on a reduced form of the personal name *Abbondio*, from the Latin personal name *Abundius*, from *abundus* 'abundant'.

(iii) **Relationship name:** Italian (Tuscany), based on a pet form of any of various personal names beginning with *Bond-*, for example *Bondelmonte*.

Early Bearers: Toni and *Bondi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (London); Oreste *Bondi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Sussex).

2 language/culture: Hungarian

Relationship name: from the Hungarian male personal name *Bond*.

Boni

Current frequencies: GB: 183, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 4

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a patronymic or plural form of the personal name *Bono*, meaning 'good'.

Early Bearers: Michell *Boni*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Manchester); Arestide *Boni*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (London).

2 language/culture: English

a variant of **Boney** (2) that may have died out in recent times.

Early Bearers: Thomas *Boni*, 1711 in **IGI** (Hail Weston, Hunts); Sarah *Boni*, 1788 in **IGI** (Wellington, Somerset).

Bonnici

Current frequencies: GB: 247, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese and Italian (Sicily)

from the personal name *Bennici*, which is said to be from an Arabic personal name *Abū 'n-nagā*.

Early Bearers: John *Bonnici*, born in Malta, in **Census 1861** (Royal Navy); Amabile *Bonnici*, born in Malta, in **Census 1861** (Royal Navy); Antonio *Bonnici*, born in Susa Barbary, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Lorenzo *Bonnici*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Francis *Bonnici*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy).

References:

Caracausi

Bono

Current frequencies: GB: 69, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 23

main GB location, 1881: N London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Maltese

see **Debono**.

Borrelli

Current frequencies: GB: 114, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Southern Italian

Locative name: from *Borrello*, which is either a topographic name from *borro* 'gully; hole; grave' or from either of two places in Sicily called Borrello.

Botto

Current frequencies: GB: 133, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 13

main GB location, 1881: Durham; Glamorgan

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: of Italian origin, ultimately from a Germanic personal name *Boddo* or *Bot(t)o*.

Early Bearers: John Baptist *Botto*, 1826 in **IGI** (Bristol, Gloucs); Bernardo *Botto*, in **Census 1841** (Middx); Sebastiano *Botto*, in **Census 1851** (Somerset); Bartholomew *Botto*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorgan); Michael *Botto*, born in Genoa, Italy, and his son, Joseph *Botto*, born in Anglesey, in **Census 1881** (Durham); Josephum *Botto*, 1884 in **IGI** (Jarrow, Durham).

Bove

Current frequencies: GB: 124, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: English

unexplained; perhaps an occasional variant of *Buff*, for **Bough**.

Early Bearers: Rupert *Bove*, 1586 in **IGI** (Salehurst, Sussex); Petter, Ishmaell *Bove*, 1711 in **IGI** (Stithians, Cornwall); Martha *Bove*, 1796 in **IGI** (Bideford, Devon).

2 language/culture: Italian

Nickname: Italian and Catalan (**Bové**), from Italian *bove*, Catalan **bové** 'ox' (from Latin *bos*, genitive *bovis*), used for a ploughman or herdsman or for someone thought to resemble an ox.

Early Bearers: Giuseppe *Bove*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Wilts); Angele *Bove*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Wilts); Jose *Bove*, in **Census 1891** (Warwicks).

Bregazzi

Current frequencies: GB: 62, Ireland: 16.

GB frequency, 1881: 26

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

unexplained, found in Stazzona, Como province, Lombardy, Italy, in the 18th century (also as *Bragazzi*).

Early Bearers: Samuel *Bregazzi*, 1810 in **Parish Registers** (All Saints, Derby, Derbys); Louisa *Bregazzi*, 1835 in **IGI** (Derby, Derbys); Dom *Bregazzi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1841** (Kingston upon Hull, ER Yorks); Carlo *Bregazzi*, carver and gilder, born in Italy, in **Census 1861** (Hanley, Staffs); Joseph *Bregazzi*, hawker, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Wotton

under Edge, Gloucs); Carlo *Bregazzi* born in Como, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Bethnal Green, Middx); Giuseppina *Bregazzi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Conchan, IoM).

Other info: In the UK the name is now found chiefly in the Isle of Man, but originally also in Ashbourne (Derbys). The first immigrants are found about 1830.

References: <http://www.isle-of-man.com/manxnotebook/famhist/families/bregazzi.htm>

Brincat

Current frequencies: GB: 177, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese

Relationship name: from a reduced form of the Italian personal name *Brincato*, from *Pancrazio* (Latin *Pancretius*).

Early Bearers: Alex *Brincott*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Well Saint Destitute Sailors' Asylum, Middx); Antonio *Brincat*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Raffaele *Brincat*, born in Zaute, Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy).

References:

Cassar

Bruno

Current frequencies: GB: 668, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 26

main GB location, 1881: Monmouths; Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Portuguese

(i) **Relationship name:** from the Germanic personal name *Bruno*.

(ii) **Nickname:** from *bruno* 'brown', referring to hair, complexion, or clothing.

(iii) **Locative name:** from any of several places named Bruno, for example in Asti province.

Early Bearers: Cesar *Bruno*, 1809 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Carlo Manrigio *Bruno*, 1861 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Stephen *Bruno*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871**, **Census 1881** (Cardiff, Glamorgan); Joseph *Bruno*, born in Salerno, Italy, in **Census 1891** (Monmouths); Pietro *Bruno*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Cumb); Votale *Bruno*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Warwicks).

Cabot

Current frequencies: GB: 108, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881: 225

main GB location, 1881: Jersey

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Channel Islands

Nickname: from Old French *cabot*, a diminutive of *cap* 'head', a word that was also used to denote a species of small fish with a disproportionately large head. The surname has been strongly associated with the island of Jersey from an early date.

Early Bearers: Marg' *Cabot*, 1381 in **Poll Tax** (Longford, Shrops); John *Cabot*, 1490 in **DNB** (Bristol); John *Cabot*, 1624 in **IGI** (Jersey, CI); Christian *Cabot*, 1664 in **IGI** (Saint Ives, Cornwall).

Other info: The explorer John Cabot (about 1450-98) is sometimes said to have been of

Italian origin. However, while he certainly had an association with Venice, under the name Giovanni *Caboto*, he was probably not of Italian origin.

Cabrelli

Current frequencies: GB: 92, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *caprello*, *cabrello*, a diminutive of *capra* 'female goat'.

Early Bearers: Andrew *Cabrelli*, born in Genoa, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Westminster, Middx).

Cachia

Current frequencies: GB: 178, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese

Nickname: from an altered spelling of the Italian word *caccia* 'hunting'.

Early Bearers: Salies *Cachia*, born in Malta, in **Census 1901** (Royal Navy); Losario *Cachia*, born in Malta, in **Census 1901** (Royal Navy); Albert *Cachia*, born in Malta, in **Census 1901** (Royal Navy).

Caesar

Current frequencies: GB: 547, Ireland: 28.

GB frequency, 1881: 200

main GB location, 1881: Surrey; also Middx, Hants, and Sussex

main Irish location, 1847-64: Tipperary and Cork

language/culture: Italian, English

Relationship name: from the personal name *Cesar*, rare in Middle English but found occasionally both as a first name and as a surname; see [Cayzer](#).

Early Bearers: (i) given names: *Cesar* clericus, 1185 in **Templars Records** (Yorks).

(ii) surnames: Henry *Sesare*, 1334 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Kent); Ricardus *Caiser*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (location unidentified); Edmund *Caeser*, 1633 in **PROB 11** (Dunton, Bucks); Robert *Caesar*, 1637 in **PROB 11** (Saint Martin in the Fields, Middx).

Other info: The chief family of the name with modern descendants is that of Sir Julius *Caesar* (1558–1636), who was of Italian extraction. His grandfather, Pietro Marie *Adelmare*, married Paola, daughter of Giovanni Pietro *Caesarini*, and one of his sons, Cesare *Adelmare*, emigrated to England in about 1550 and became physician to Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth. He died in 1569 and his children adopted *Caesar* as their surname.

References:

DNB

Caira

Current frequencies: GB: 235, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

unexplained.

Early Bearers: Vincent *Caira*, born in Naples, Italy, in **Census 1891** (Holborn, Middx); Antonino *Caira*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Southwark, Surrey); Fortunato *Caira*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Clerkenwell, Middx); Antonio *Caira*, born in London, in **Census 1901** (Fulham, Middx); Filippi *Caira*, piano organ maker, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Holborn, Middx).

Callegari

Current frequencies: GB: 120, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 14

main GB location, 1881: Kent

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Occupational namw: from an agent derivative of *callega* 'shoe' (Latin *caliga* 'military boot'), for a maker of footwear and leggings.

Early Bearers: Andrew S. *Callegari*, born in Clerkenwell, in **Census 1861** (Islington, Middx); Andrew *Callegari*, born in Florence, Italy, in **Census 1871** (Shoreditch, Middx).

Other info: Census records suggest there may have been some confusion with Calaghar.

Callus

Current frequencies: GB: 175, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese

Nickname: reduced form of Italian **Calluso**, corresponding to standard Italian *calloso*, literally 'having a hard skin', figuratively 'callous, unfeeling'.

References: **Cassar**.

Calvo

Current frequencies: GB: 122, Ireland: 10.

GB frequency, 1881: 11

main GB location, 1881: Sussex

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Portuguese

Nickname: from *calvo* 'bald'.

Early Bearers: Maria *Calvo*, 1671 in **IGI** (Sedgefield, Durham); Thomas *Calvo*, 1809 in **IGI** (South Leith, Midlothian); Isabella *Calvo*, 1822 in **IGI** (Portsea, Hants); Juan Escudero *Calvo*, 1830, in **IGI** (Horsmonden, Kent); Gregorio *Calvo*, 1863 in **IGI** (Leighton Buzzard, Beds).

Camilleri

Current frequencies: GB: 936, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian (Sicilian)

Occupational name: for a camel driver, from medieval Latin *camelarius*, medieval Greek

kamelarios.

Early Bearers: Seraphino *Camilleri*, 1913 in **IGI** (Durham).

Canale

Current frequencies: GB: 172, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 10

main GB location, 1881: Surrey

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from any of the numerous places in Italy called Canale, named with Latin *canalis* 'channel, conduit'.

Early Bearers: Elizabeth *Canale*, 1663 in **IGI** (Kent); Antonia *Canale*, 1837 in **IGI** (Kent); Giuseppe *Canale*, 1881 in **Census 1881** (Surrey).

Capaldi

Current frequencies: GB: 504, Ireland: 9.

GB frequency, 1881: 4

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: of uncertain origin, perhaps meaning 'headstrong, obstinate', from a derivative of *capo* 'head'.

Early Bearers: Vincenzo and Antonio *Capaldi*, born in Cassino, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Antonio *Capaldi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Kingston upon Thames, Surrey); Luigi *Capaldi*, 1887 **IGI** (Glasgow, Lanarks).

Capocci

Current frequencies: GB: 182, Ireland: 23.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: Southern Italian, from a derivative of *capo* 'head'.

Early Bearers: Phillippo *Capocci*, born in Naples, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Mddx); Maria *Capocci*, 1887 in **IGI** (Clifton, Gloucs).

Carlin

Current frequencies: GB: 3240, Ireland: 1167.

GB frequency, 1881: 1516

main GB location, 1881: Glasgow; Lancs; Notts and Derbys

main Irish location, 1847-64: N Ulster: esp. Down

Variants: [Carline](#), [Carland](#), [Carlan](#), [Caroline](#).

1 language/culture: Irish

from **Ó Cearbhalláin**, see [Carolan](#).

2 language/culture: English

see [Carling](#).

3 language/culture: Huguenot

Nickname: from French *carlin*, denoting a coin of Italian origin; the surname is typically Corsican.

Early Bearers: Pierre *Carlin*, 1641 in **IGI** (Threadneedle Street French Huguenot Church, London).

Carlo

Current frequencies: **GB:** 208, **Ireland:** 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 70

main GB location, 1881: London; Essex

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Carlo*, Italian form of *Charles*.

Early Bearers: Thea *Carlo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Kensington, Middx); Joseph

Carlo, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Swansea, Glamorgan); *Silvano Carlo*, born in Italy, in

Census 1881 (Westminster, Middx).

Carnevale

Current frequencies: **GB:** 157, **Ireland:** 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *carnevale* 'festival', perhaps given to someone born during one of the carnivals which customarily preceded a period of fasting such as Lent, or for an exuberant reveller.

Early Bearers: Andrea *Carnevale*, 1784 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Joseph *Carnevale*, born in Naples, Italy, in **Census 1881** (York).

Caro

Current frequencies: **GB:** 171, **Ireland:** 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 71

main GB location, 1881: Middx; also Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Carro](#), [Carrow](#), [Caroe](#).

1 language/culture: English

(i) **Locative name:** from either of two places called *Carrow* (in Norfolk and Notts) or from *Carrow* (Northumb).

(ii) **Locative name:** from *Kerrow*, a minor place-name in five west Cornish parishes, as suggested by the existence in the same parish of John *Carowe*, 1569 in **Cornwall Muster**, and William *Kerrow*, 1543 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Saint Agnes, Cornwall).

Early Bearers: Robert *de Carov*, 1159 in **Pipe Rolls** (Yorks); Alice *de Carrow*, 1275 in **Hundred Rolls** (Cambs); Umfrey *Carow*, 1524 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Suffolk); Joanna *Carrow*, 1543 in **IGI** (Cherry Hinton, Cambs); William *Carrow*, 1552 in **IGI** (Saint Gerrans, Cornwall); Agnes *Carro*, 1563 in **IGI** (Swanton Morley, Norfolk); John *Caroe*, 1588 in **PROB 11** (Saint Stephen Gloucester, Gloucs); Florella *Carro*, 1597 in **IGI**, Nicolas *Carro*, 1605 in **IGI** (Botusfleming, Cornwall); Samuel *Carro*, 1673 in **IGI** (Downham, Cambs); Margery *Carrow*, 1685 in **IGI** (Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumb); Mary *Caro*, 1700 in **IGI** (Crowan, Cornwall); Wm. *Carrah*, 1703 in **IGI** (Bywell, Northumb); James *Carro*, 1777 in **IGI** (Sampford Arundel, Somerset); Thomas *Caro*, 1825 in **IGI** (Camborne, Cornwall).

2 language/culture: English

in Cornwall, probably also a variant of [Carew](#). Compare Connar *Carowe*, 1525, and

Edmond *Carew*, 1543, both in **Subsidy Rolls** (Golant, Cornwall).

3 language/culture: Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Jewish (Sephardic)

Nickname: from Spanish or Portuguese *caro* 'dear'.

Early Bearers: (i) Simon *Caro*, reader in synagogue, born in Poznan, in **Census 1851** (Norwich, Norfolk); Myer *Caro*, born in Clechchovia [Kleczew in Poland], in **Census 1881** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Benjamin *Caro*, furrier, born in Poland, in **Census 1881** (Whitechapel, Middx); Esther *Caro*, born in Germany, in **Census 1881** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Barnett *Caro*, traveller, born in Birmingham, in **Census 1891** (Kings Norton, Worcs); Hyman *Caro*, boot finisher, born in Russia Poland, in **Census 1891** (Whitechapel, Middx); Lipman *Caro*, glazier, born in Germany, in **Census 1901** (Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumb).

(ii) Faustino *Caro*, apprentice electrical engineer, born in Spain, in **Census 1911** (Barton upon Irwell, Lancs).

Other info: The Sephardic name was established among the Ashkenazim in Poland before being brought to Britain.

Carpanini

Current frequencies: GB: 153, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from a derivative of southern Italian **Carpani**, from Sicilian dialect *carpano* 'white hornbeam'.

Early Bearers: Angelo *Carpanini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Middx); Giovanni *Carpanini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Middx).

References:

Caracausi

Carro

Current frequencies: GB: 69, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 14

main GB location, 1881: Somerset; Surrey

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: English

see **Caro**.

2 language/culture: Italian, Spanish

Nickname: from *carro* 'wagon, cart', denoting a carter or cartwright.

Early Bearers: Charles *Carro*, born in Piedmont, Italy, in **Census 1851**; G. *Carro*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Westminster, Middx); Jesusa Rosa *Carro*, 1882 in **IGI** (Oakley, Beds).

Caruso

Current frequencies: GB: 297, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *caruso* 'close-cropped', denoting a bald or boyish man. In the Girgenti area of Sicily it was also used to denote a worker in the sulphur pits, where short hair was a requirement.

Early Bearers: Maria *Caruesew*, 1640 in **IGI** (Saint Kew, Cornwall); Francis *Caruso*, 1761 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Anna Bellamira *Caruso*, 1781 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Guiseppe *Caruso*, born in Turin, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Middx).

Casali

Current frequencies: GB: 116, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from a place in Sicily named Casali.

Early Bearers: Catherine *Casali*, 1778 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Rosalinda *Casali*, 1780 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Picre *Casali*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Middx).

Cascarino

Current frequencies: GB: 128, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

unexplained; possibly a derivative of *casco* 'helmet'.

Early Bearers: Antonia *Cascareno*, in **Census 1891** (Worcs); Antonio *Cascarino*, in **Census 1901** (Islington, Middx).

Cassar

Current frequencies: GB: 674, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 12

main GB location, 1881: Surrey

main Irish location, 1847-64:

3 language/culture: English

unexplained.

Early Bearers: John *Casour*, 1493 in **PROB 11** (Thorrington, Essex); James *Cassar*, 1653 in **IGI** (Channelkirk, Berwicks).

2 language/culture: Huguenot

Relationship name: possibly an English spelling of French *Cassart*.

Early Bearers: Françoise *Cassart*, 1738 in **IGI** (Threadneedle Street French Huguenot, London).

1 language/culture: Maltese

(i) **Occupational name:** from Arabic *qaṣṣār* 'fuller'.

(ii) **Locative name:** from Arabic *qaṣr* 'fortress'.

(iii) **Occupational name:** for a box-maker, from a derivative of Italian *cassa* 'box'.

Early Bearers: Lawrence *Cassar*, born in Malta, in **Census 1871** (Royal Navy); Giacinte *Cassar*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Andrew *Cassar*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy).

References: **Cassar**, pp. 72-73.

Castello

Current frequencies: GB: 190, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 117

main GB location, 1881: Yorks

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Irish

from **Mac Oisdealbhaigh**, see [Costello](#).

Early Bearers: Margaret *Castello*, waste picker, born in Ireland, in **Census 1851** (Manchester, Lancs); Mary *Castello*, born in Ireland, in **Census 1861** (Dewsbury, WR Yorks); Thos. *Castello*, iron works labourer, born in Ireland, **Census 1871** (Birkenhead, Cheshire); John *Castello*, farm servant, born in Ireland, in **Census 1881** (Uttoxeter, Staffs).

2 language/culture: English

see [Castlehow](#).

3 language/culture: Italian

Locative name, nickname: from *castello* 'castle, fortified building' (from Late Latin *castellum*), used to denote someone who lived by a castle or in any of numerous places named with this word. Alternatively, it may denote a servant who lived and worked at a castle.

Early Bearers: Antonio *Castello*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Vergilio *Castello*, in **Census 1881** (Wortley, WR Yorks); Paolo *Castello*, copper labourer, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (West Ham, Essex).

Castiglione

Current frequencies: GB: 136, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 12

main GB location, 1881: WR Yorks

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from any of numerous places in Italy named with this word (from medieval Latin *castellio*, *-ionis* 'fortification').

Early Bearers: James Louis *Castiglione*, 1806 in **IGI** (Doncaster, WR Yorks); Mary Ann *Castiglione*, 1829 in **IGI** (Whitby, NR Yorks); James Laurence *Castiglione*, 1848 in **IGI** (Beverley, ER Yorks); Luigi G. *Castiglione*, born in Clerkenwell, in **Census 1881** (Middx).

Castro

Current frequencies: GB: 946, Ireland: 27.

GB frequency, 1881: 56

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

Variants: [De Castro](#).

language/culture: Portuguese, Galician, Italian, Jewish (Sephardic)

Locative name: from any of the many places in Portugal, Galicia, and Italy named with *castro* 'castle, fortress'.

Early Bearers: (i) Fernando *Castro*, 1796 in **IGI** (London); Mercedes *Castro*, born in New Granada, in **Census 1851** (Kensington, Middx); Antinio [sic] *Castro*, wine merchant, born in Portugal, in **Census 1881** (Liverpool, Lancs); Henriqe *Castro*, born in Brazil, in **Census 1881** (Isleworth, Middx); Joacquirn *Castro*, born in Portugal, in **Census 1891** (Stretford, Lancs); Jose *Castro*, born in Spain, in **Census 1911** (Lancs); Arnolfo *Castro*, divinity student, born in Mexico, in **Census 1911** (Hastings, Sussex); Placido *Castro*, born in Spain,

in **Census 1911** (Cardiff, Glamorgan).

(ii) Jewish: Samuel *de Castro*, 1725 in **Bevis Marks Records** (London).

Catalano

Current frequencies: GB: 141, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Regional name: denoting someone from Catalonia in Spain.

Cataldo

Current frequencies: GB: 155, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Southern Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Cataldo*.

Cattini

Current frequencies: GB: 182, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 4

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: probably from Latin *cattinus* 'of a cat', denoting someone with yellowish green eyes.

Early Bearers: J. *Cattini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Clerkenwell, Middx); L. *Cattini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Middx).

References:

Caracausi

Cauchi

Current frequencies: GB: 184, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese, S Italian

(i) **Nickname:** apparently a variant of Italian **Calchi**, from the plural of *calco* 'tracing, rubbing', perhaps denoting an engraver.

(ii) **Locative name:** possibly from the Greek island of *Chalki*, *Halki* (Italian name *Calchi*) in the Aegean near Rhodes.

Early Bearers: Michael *Cauchi*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Surrey); Baptist *Cauchi*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy).

References:

Cassar

Cavaciuti

Current frequencies: GB: 85, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

-: unexplained.

Early Bearers: Giovanni *Cavaciutti*, born abt 1871 in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Clerkenwell, London).

Cavaliere

Current frequencies: GB: 135, Ireland: 14.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Occupational name: from *cavaliere* 'knight, horseman'.

Early Bearers: Antonio *Cavaliere* in **Census 1841** (Holborn, Middx); Antonio *Cavaliere*, born in Italy, Giogeppe [sic] *Cavaliere*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Birmingham); Edward T. *Cavaliere* in **Census 1901** (Camberwell, London); Luviggi [sic] *Cavaliere*, born in Italy in **Census 1901** (Poplar, Middx).

Cavalli

Current frequencies: GB: 126, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 14

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *cavalli*, genitive or plural form of *cavallo* 'horse', used to denote either someone who looked after horses or possibly someone thought to resemble a horse.

Early Bearers: Henry *Cavalli* in **Census 1851** (London); John *Cavalli*, born in Zante, Greece, in **Census 1861** (Islington); Giuffre *Cavalli*, born in Florence, Italy, in **Census 1871** (Clerkenwell, London); Luigi *Cavalli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Finsbury, London); Andrew F. *Cavalli*, born in London, in **Census 1871** (London).

Cavanna

Current frequencies: GB: 94, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 40

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Irish

from **Mac an Mhanaigh**, see [McCavana](#) and compare [Cavana](#).

2 language/culture: Italian

Locative name: denoting someone who lived in a rough or temporary dwelling, from *capanna* 'hut, shelter'.

Early Bearers: Bernardo *Cavanna*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Liverpool, Lancs); Luigi *Cavanna*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Stepney, Middx); Angelo *Cavanna*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Croydon, Surrey).

Cella

Current frequencies: GB: 137, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from any of numerous minor places called Cella or Celle (from *cella* `cell'), because they were once the locations of hermits' cells.

Early Bearers: Domenico *Cella*, born in Italy, in **Census 1861** (Middx); Luiji [sic] *Cella*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Lincs); Francisco *Cella*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Lincs); Giuliano *Cella*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Gloucs); Giovanni *Cella*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Gloucs).

Cerrone

Current frequencies: GB: 139, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: augmentative form of **Cerro**, from *cerro* `turkey oak, cerris' (*Quercus cerris*).

Early Bearers: Angelo *Cerrone*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Lincoln, Lincs); Vincenzo *Cerrone*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Yorks).

Cervi

Current frequencies: GB: 112, Ireland: 21.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

(i) **Nickname:** from *cervo* `stag' (Latin *cervus*), given with reference to the presumed lustiness of the creature, or conversely to the horns, supposed to be a sign of a cuckold.

(ii) **Relationship name:** from the personal name *Acerbo*, with loss of the first syllable.

Early Bearers: Leandro *Cervi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Greenford, Middx); Orazio *Cervi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London); Lorenzo *Cervi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Lancs).

Christofoli

Current frequencies: GB: 4, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

see [Cristofoli](#).

Ciardi

Current frequencies: GB: 15, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Southern Italian, from the medieval personal name *Ciardo*, a pet form of names such as *Acciardo*, *Guicciardo*, or *Ricciardo*.

Other info: This name is rare in Britain but is thriving in the USA.

Cilia

Current frequencies: GB: 143, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: S Italian, Maltese

Nickname: from an Italian dialect word, *cilia*, derived from Greek *koilia* 'stomach', denoting a man with a fat stomach.

2 language/culture: Spanish

perhaps from a reduced form of the female personal name *Cecilia*.

Cini

Current frequencies: GB: 142, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of *Cino*, from the personal name, a short form of any of the personal names ending with the hypocoristic suffix *-cino*, such as *Baroncino*, *Leoncino*, *Pacino*, and *Simoncino*.

Early Bearers:

Cioffi

Current frequencies: GB: 143, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

(i) **Nickname:** probably from Sicilian *cioffu* 'lock of hair', Italian *ciuffo*.

(ii) from *Joff*, a French personal name of Germanic origin.

Early Bearers: Clementina Louisa *Cioffi*, 1850 in IGI (Westminster, Middx); Francisco *Cioffi*, born in Naples, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy).

Cirillo

Current frequencies: GB: 156, Ireland: 13.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: S Italian

Relationship name: from the Greek personal name *Kyrillos*, a diminutive of *kyrios* 'lord'.

Citrine

Current frequencies: GB: 121, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 14

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Jewish

from *citrine*, a semi-precious yellow variety of quartz, or from a related word or name. A possible source is the surname *Tsitrin*, from Yiddish *tsitrin* 'lemon', used either literally or in allusion to the gem, perhaps filtered through a Romance language.

Early Bearers: Antonio *Citrine*, 1840 in **IGI** (Whitechapel, Middx); John Francis *Citrine*, 1872 in **IGI** (Liverpool, Lancs); Richard *Citrine*, 1894 in **IGI** (Liverpool, Lancs); Emily Catherine *Citrine*, 1903 in **IGI** (Liscard, Cheshire); Alfred Citrine, ships rigger, born in Liverpool, in **Census 1911** (Birkenhead, Cheshire).

Other info: The trade unionist Sir Walter (later Baron) Citrine (1887-1983) was born in Liverpool. His biographies state that his father may have been an Italian immigrant.

Cocozza

Current frequencies: GB: 183, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *cocuzza* 'gourd, pumpkin', used either to denote a rotund individual or a grower or seller of gourds.

Early Bearers: Benedetto *Cocozza*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London); Nicandro *Cocozza*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Yorks); Pasqual *Cocozza*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (IoM); Guiseppe *Cocozza*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Sussex).

Coia

Current frequencies: GB: 350, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian (Apulia and Abruzzo)

unexplained.

Early Bearers: Lilomena *Coia*, born in Atina, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Liverpool, Lancs); Gaitano *Coia*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Southampton, Hants); Giuseppe *Coia*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Fulham, Middx).

Colella

Current frequencies: GB: 172, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a diminutive of the personal name *Cola*, a pet form of *Nicola*, Italian equivalent of *Nicholas*.

Early Bearers: Francisco and Giovanni *Colella*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (London); Panfilo *Colella*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Northumb).

Coleman

Current frequencies: GB: 24764, Ireland: 4858.

GB frequency, 1881: 14618

main GB location, 1881: widespread in England

main Irish location, 1847-64: widespread: esp. Cork

Variants: [Colman](#), [Coulman](#), [Collman](#), [Coalman](#), [Coldman](#).

1 language/culture: Irish, English

Relationship name: from the Middle English personal name *Col(e)man*. The main source is Old Irish *Colmán*, earlier *Columbán*, adopted as Old Scandinavian *Kalman*. It was introduced into Cumb, Westm, and Yorks by Norwegians from Ireland (compare 2 below) and probably spread widely across England. A less common source is an Old French form of Continental Germanic *Col(e)man*, as is likely in the case of the **Domesday Book** examples.

Early Bearers: (i) given names: *Coleman*, 1086 in **Domesday Book**; *Colemannus* de Eston', 1176 in **Pipe Rolls** (Bucks).

(ii) surnames: Hervicus *Coleman*, 1166 in **Red Book of the Exchequer** (Yorks); Richard *Coleman*, 1176 in **Pipe Rolls** (Surrey); William *Coleman*, 1296 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Aldsworth, Sussex); Roger *Coleman*, 1332 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Pett, Sussex); Jordan *Coleman*, 1332 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Sutton Rauf, in Plymouth, Devon); Walterus *Colman*, 1377 in **Poll Tax** (Little Abington, Cambs); Willelmus *Coleman*, 1377 in **Poll Tax** (Finchingfield, Essex); Ricardus *Colman*, 1377 in **Poll Tax** (Blackthorn and Ambrosden, Oxon); Alexandre *Coleman*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (Weston Turville, Bucks); Johannes *Colman*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (Lonsdale wapentake, Lancs); Roberto *Colman*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (Walcote, Leics); Willelmus *Coleman*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (North Walsham, Norfolk); Johannes *Coleman*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (Brighton, Sussex); Johannes *Coleman*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (Stoke and Biggin, Warwicks); Willelmo *Coleman*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (Badbury, Wilts); Matilda *Colman*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (Allerton Gledhow, WR Yorks); Henricus *Colman*, 1381 in **Poll Tax** (Whaplode, Lincs); Joan *Colman*, 1538 in **IGI** (Stoke Hammond, Bucks); Ann *Coleman*, 1538 in **IGI** (Saint Lawrence Pountney, London); Henrye *Coleman*, 1539 in **IGI** (Great Warley, Essex); Agnete *Colman*, 1542 in **IGI** (Ugborough, Devon); Bettres *Colman*, 1543 in **IGI** (Sandwich, Kent); Joane *Coleman*, 1547 in **IGI** (Woodford, Wilts); Katherin *Coleman*, 1547 in **IGI** (Stixwould, Lincs); Margery *Coleman*, 1550 in **IGI** (Dickleburgh, Norfolk); Thomas *Coleman*, 1564 in **IGI** (Rye, Sussex); Richard *Coleman*, 1589 in **IGI** (Mollington, Oxon); Rachell *Coleman*, 1598 in **IGI** (Coventry, Warwicks); Jo. *Coleman*, 1690 in **IGI** (Garstang, Lancs).

Other info: There is no evidence to support Reaney's view that in Sussex the surname was occupational for a charcoal burner; see **Surnames of Sussex**, p. 345.

Ó Colmáin ('descendant of *Colmán*') was the name of an Irish missionary to Europe, also known as Saint *Columban* (c.540-615), who founded the monastery of Bobbio in northern Italy in 614. With his companion Saint Gall, he enjoyed a considerable cult throughout central Europe, so that forms of his name were adopted as personal names in Italian (*Columbano*), French (*Colombain*), Czech (*Kollman*), and Hungarian (*Kálmán*), all of which gave rise to surnames. In Irish and English, the name of this saint is identical with diminutives of the name of the 6th-century missionary known in English as Saint *Columba* (521-97), who converted the Picts to Christianity, and who was known in Scandinavian languages as *Kalman*.

2 language/culture: Irish

from **Mac Colmáin** or **Ó Colmáin** 'son (or descendant) of *Colmán*'.

Early Bearers: Carbry *McColman*, kern, 1570 in **Fiants Elizabeth** §1602 (Row, Westmeath); Walthasar *McColman*, 1574 in **Fiants Elizabeth** §2497; Hugh duffe *McCullman*, 1601 in **Fiants Elizabeth** §6512 (Carne, Westmeath).

Coletta

Current frequencies: GB: 199, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from a diminutive of the personal name *Cola*, a short form of *Nicola*, Italian equivalent of *Nicholas*.

Early Bearers: Bennetta *Coletta*, 1706 in **IGI** (London); Dominecio *Coletta*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (London); Pasquale *Coletta*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (West Ham, Essex); Antonio *Coletta*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Leeds, WR Yorks).

Colombo

Current frequencies: GB: 186, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 52

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

(i) **Relationship name**: from the personal name *Colombo*, from Latin *Colombus*, *Colomba* meaning 'dove', a personal name favored by early Christians because the dove was considered to be a symbol of the Holy Spirit.

(ii) **Nickname**: from *colombo* 'dove' (Latin *columbus*), for a gentle, mild-mannered person or for a keeper of doves.

Early Bearers: Andrew *Colombo*, born in Genova, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Deptford, Kent); Joseph *Colombo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Devon); Orlando *Colombo*, born in Devon, in **Census 1891** (Monmouths); Giovanni *Colombo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Middx).

Columbine

Current frequencies: GB: 96, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 83

main GB location, 1881: WR Yorks and Notts

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Cullumbine](#).

1 language/culture: English

(i) **Nickname**: probably a variant of [Collumbell](#), altered by folk etymology through association with the plant name *columbine*. Compare the Notts and Staffs examples of both names.

(ii) **Nickname**: alternatively perhaps from Middle English (Old French) *columbine* 'dove-like', or from Middle English *columbine*, *colombine*, *colibin* 'columbine, aquilegia', a plant which was thought to be efficacious in the treatment of various ailments including 'sore throte', 'quinsy', and 'swellynge in þe throte' (**MED**). However, until some medieval surnames with this form have been found, it must remain a doubtful hypothesis.

Early Bearers: Isabell *Columbine*, 1541 in **IGI** (Solihull, Warwicks); Homfrey *Collumbyne* or *Columbine*, 1591 in **PROB 11** (Alvechurch, Worcs); Thomas *Columbyne*, 1593 in **IGI** (Manchester, Lancs); Richard *Cullimbinne*, 1611 in **IGI** (Bromsgrove, Worcs); Godolyne *Collumbine*, 1613 in **IGI** (Sevington, Kent); John *Colambyne* or *Colombine*, 1619 in **PROB 11** (Enville, Staffs); Thomas *Cullabine*, 1636 in **IGI** (Ebony, Kent); Benjamin *Cullumbine*, 1687 in **IGI** (Enfield, Middx); Thomas *Cullabine*, 1735 in **IGI** (Edwinstowe, Notts); Jonathan *Columbine*, 1747 in **IGI** (Sutton in Ashfield, Notts); John *Cullabine*, 1750 in **IGI** (Sheffield,

WR Yorks); Elizabeth *Cullobine*, 1775 in **IGI** (Sheffield, WR Yorks); William *Columbine*, 1823 in **IGI** (Silkstone, WR Yorks); William *Cullumbine*, 1839 in **IGI** (Worsborough, WR Yorks).

2 language/culture: Huguenot

(i) **Nickname:** French **Colombin**, from Old French *colombin* 'dove-like'.

(ii) **Relationship name:** French **Colombin**, from the Old French personal name *Colomban* (altered to *Colombin*), from Latin *Colombanus*, a derivative of *colombus* 'dove'.

Early Bearers: Pierre *Colombine*, 1721, Francois *Colombine*, 1723 **IGI** (Walloon church, Norwich, Norfolk).

Other info: The personal name *Colomban* has not been found in medieval England except as the name of a foreigner, such as the (Italian?) *Columbanus* Lercarius, master or patron of *The Ship of St. John*, apparently of Genoa, 1345 in **Patent Rolls**.

References: Morlet, *Dictionnaire*.

Constanti

Current frequencies: GB: 174, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 4

main GB location, 1881: Glamorgan

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Greek, Italian

Relationship name: from the genitive case of the Greek personal name *Constantis*, *Konstantis*, a shortened version of *Kōnstantinos* (Latin *Constantinus*; see [Constantine](#)).

Conte

Current frequencies: GB: 278, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 11

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname, relationship name: from the title of rank *conte* 'count', from Latin *comes* 'companion'. Probably in this latter sense, it was a medieval personal name. As a title it was probably used as a nickname in the same way as [Count](#).

Early Bearers: Pietro *Conte*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London); Guiseppe *Conte*, born in Bardi, Italy, in **Census 1891** (London).

Conti

Current frequencies: GB: 371, Ireland: 9.

GB frequency, 1881: 21

main GB location, 1881: Sussex

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of [Conte](#).

Early Bearers: Luigi *Conti*, 1873 in **IGI** (Southampton); Joseph *Conti*, born in Naples, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Middx); Antoni *Conti*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Norfolk); Onorati *Conti*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Sussex); Esquelo *Conti*, born in Parma, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Middx).

Coppola

Current frequencies: GB: 320, Ireland: 30.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: S Italian, Maltese

Nickname: from Neapolitan dialect *coppola*, denoting a type of beret characteristic of the region, used for a habitual wearer or maker of such berets.

Early Bearers: Francisco *Coppola*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (London); Domino *Coppola*, born in Naples, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Fulham, Middx); Natale *Coppola*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Domenico *Coppola*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Manchester, Lancs); Leonard *Coppola*, born in Naples, Italy, in **Census 1891** (Berkeley, Gloucs); Achille *Coppola*, born in Abina, Italy, in **Census 1901** (Glasgow).

Corsi

Current frequencies: GB: 111, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Corso*, a short form of *Accorso* or *Bonaccorso*, from a phrase meaning 'good help'.

Early Bearers: Pedro *Corso*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (London); Marco *Corso*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London).

Corsini

Current frequencies: GB: 119, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Corsino*, a diminutive of *Corso* (see [Corsi](#)).

Early Bearers: Peter *Corsini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Lincs); Anselmo *Corsini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (London); Antonio *Corsini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (London).

Costa

Current frequencies: GB: 2149, Ireland: 49.

GB frequency, 1881: 194

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Dacosta](#).

language/culture: Italian, Portuguese, Catalan, Occitan, Spanish

(i) **Locative name:** denoting someone who lived on the coast or on a slope or river bank (ultimately from Latin *costa* 'rib', 'flank'), or from any of the many places named with this word.

(ii) possibly in some instances a respelling of [Coster](#).

Early Bearers: Richard *Costa* in **IGI** (Great Ponton, Lincs); An *Costa*, 1627 in **IGI** (Bucknall, Lincs); Taresa Catherina Llusia *Costa*, 1719 in **IGI** (Mitford, Northumb); Joao *da Costa*,

1721 in **IGI** (Lewannick, Cornwall); Vericimo *da Costa*, 1760 in **IGI** (Blewbury, Berks); Gabriel Raphael *Costa*, 1760-84 in **IGI** (London).

Costella

Current frequencies: GB: 73, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 113

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Irish

from **Mac Oisdealbhaigh**, see [Costello](#).

Costi

Current frequencies: GB: 252, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

unexplained.

Early Bearers: Eliza *Costi* in **Census 1881** (Market Weighton, Yorks); Jane E. *Costi* in **Census 1881** (Kingston upon Hull, Yorks); Satneo *Costi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London).

Cristofoli

Current frequencies: GB: 111, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: Middx; Durham

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Christofoli](#).

language/culture: S Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Cristofolo*, a variant of *Cristoforo*, see [Christopher](#).

Early Bearers: Giovanni *Cristofoli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Clerkenwell, Middx); Felice *Cristofoli*, in **Census 1881** (Darlington, Durham); Ambrogio *Cristofoli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London); Frances *Cristofoli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Hants).

References:

De Felice

Croce

Current frequencies: GB: 63, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name, locative name, nickname: from *croce* 'cross' (Latin *crux*, genitive *crucis*), applied as a Christian religious personal name, a topographical name for someone who lived by a roadside cross, or a name for someone who carried the cross in religious processions. Compare English [Cross](#).

Early Bearers: Savario Samuel *Croce*, 1847 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Carlo *Croce*, born

in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (London); *Andrea Croce*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (London).

Crolla

Current frequencies: GB: 623, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 24

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: perhaps a reduced form of **Corolla**, from Italian *corolla* 'corolla', 'petals of a flower', or directly from Latin *corolla* 'garland, wreath, coronet' **Caracausi**.

Early Bearers: Emmidio *Crolla*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Lancs); Antonio *Crolla*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Middx); Guiseppe *Crolla*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Leeds, WR Yorks); Franciso *Crolla*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Knaresborough, WR Yorks); Domenico *Crolla*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Aberdeen, Aberdeens).

Cura

Current frequencies: GB: 119, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 16

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *cura* 'care, concern, solicitude'.

Early Bearers: Agostingo *Cura*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (London); F. *Cura*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (London); Sozaro *Cura*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (London); Giovanni *Cura*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (London).

Dagostino

Current frequencies: GB: 146, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: Southern Italian, patronymic from the personal name *Agostino*, a diminutive of *Augusto* (Latin *Augustus*).

Early Bearers: Pasquale E. *D'Agostino*, born in Naples, Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Marylebone, Middx); Domenico *Dagostino*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Keighley, WR Yorks); Gerardo *Dagostino*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Manchester, Lancs); Angelo *Dagostino*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Islington, Middx); Marco *Dagostino*, born in Italy in [Census 1911](#) (Brighton, Sussex).

References:

De Felice

Dalli

Current frequencies: GB: 91, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian (Sicilian) and Maltese

(i) **Relationship name:** perhaps from Arabic *dalli* 'faulty, mistaken'.

(ii) **Nickname:** alternatively, perhaps, from the plural or genitive form of the Italian personal name *Dallo*, which is of Germanic origin.

Early Bearers: Mary *Dalli* and Manora *Dalli*, born in Greece, in **Census 1861** (Middx); Pieter *Dalli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Gloucs); Nazzareno Joseph Anthony *Dalli*, 1899, born in Malta, in **Civil Service**.

References: **Cassar**.

Dambrosio

Current frequencies: GB: 80, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: **D'Ambrosio**, patronymic from the personal name *Ambrosio*, from Latin *Ambrosius*.

Early Bearers: Francesco *Dambrosio*, born in Picinisco, Italy, in **Census 1891** (Croydon, Surrey); Antony *Dambrosio*, born in Manchester, in **Census 1891** (Manchester, Lancs); Joseph *Dambrosio*, 1894 in **IGI** (Sunderland, Durham); Antonio *Dambrosio*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Rickergate, Cumb); Francesco *Dambrosio*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Hamilton, Lanarks); Vincenzo *Dambrosio*, born in Slamannan, Stirlings, in **Census 1901** (Hamilton, Lanarks).

Damico

Current frequencies: GB: 45, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic from the personal name *Amico*.

Early Bearers: Nathaniel *Damico*, in **Census 1841** (Leics); Samuel *Damico*, born in Glastonbury, in **Census 1891** (Saint Mellons, Monmouths); Annie *Damico*, born in Prestatyn, in **Census 1901** (Saint Asaph, Flints); Jane *Damico*, born in Liverpool, in **Census 1901** (Saint Asaph, Flints); Francesco *Damico*, in **Census 1911** (Warwicks); Giuseppe *D'Amico*, in **Census 1911** (Lancs).

Dangelo

Current frequencies: GB: 86, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Angelo](#).

language/culture: Italian (D'Angelo)

Relationship name: patronymic from the personal name *Angelo* (see [Angelo](#)).

Early Bearers: (i) Elizabeth *Dangelo*, 1775 in **IGI** (Bath Somerset); Henry *D'Angelo*, 1845 in **IGI** (Glasgow, Lanarks); Charles *Dengeloe*, born in Bridport, Dorset, in **Census 1881** (Axminster, Devon).

(ii) George *D'Angelo*, born in Switzerland, in **Census 1881** (Liverpool, Lancs); Pietro

D'Angelo, born in Sicily, in **Census 1911** (Cardiff, Glamorgan); Gaetano *D'Angelo*, born in Palermo, Sicily, in **Census 1911** (Chelsea, Middx).

Darmanin

Current frequencies: GB: 133, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Maltese, from Italian **D'Armanno**, a patronymic from the personal name *Armanno*.

Early Bearers: Salvo *Darmanin*, born in Malta, in **Census 1871** (Royal Navy); Lorenzo *Darmanin*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Fortonato *Darmanin*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Salvo *Darmanin*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Guiseppe *Darmanin*, born in Malta, in **Census 1891** (Hants); Antonio *Darmanin*, born in Malta, in **Census 1891** (Royal Navy).

References:

Cassar

De Angelis

Current frequencies: GB: 150, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Angelo*, probably in the sense '(a member) of the Angeli family'. Alternatively, in some instances the name may have been bestowed on a founding 'from the angels', from the vocabulary word *angelo* 'angel'.

Early Bearers: Angelo *Deangelis*, 1735 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Carlo *Deangelis*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Westminster, Middx); Sidney *Deangelis*, in **Census 1881** (Tower Hamlets, Middx); Angelo *De Angelis*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Thanet, Kent); Lorenzo *De Angelis*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Westminster, Middx).

De Luca

Current frequencies: GB: 304, Ireland: 19.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Deluca](#), [Luke](#).

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic from the personal name *Luca*, from Latin *Lucas* (see [Luke](#)).

Early Bearers: William *De Luca*, born in Warrington, Lancs, in **Census 1861** (Wigan, Lancs); Guiseppe *De Luca*, born in Naples, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Finsbury, Middlesex); August *DeLuca*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Westminster, Middx); Pasquale *Deluca*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Halifax, WR Yorks); Loreto *Diluca*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Hartlepool, Durham); Benedetto *Deluca*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Plymouth, Devon); Antonio *Deluca*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Halifax, WR Yorks).

De Marco

Current frequencies: GB: 178, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Dimarco](#), [Demarco](#), [Marchi](#).

language/culture: Italian, Maltese

Relationship name: patronymic from the Italian personal name *Marco*, Latin *Marcus* (see [Mark](#)).

Early Bearers: Dominic J. *Demarco*, 1866 in **BMD** (Holborn, Middx); Gutaino *De Marco*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Clerkenwell, Middx); Beniomino *Dimarco*, in **Census 1871** (London); Francesco *Demarco*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Giovanni *Dimarco*, born in Query, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Saint Agnes, Cornwall); Raffaele *Demarco*, 1882 in **BMD** (Greenwich, Kent); Oswald *Demarco*, born in Venice, Italy, in **Census 1891** (Nuneaton, Warwicks); Luigi *Demarco*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Liverpool, Lancs); Luigi *Dimarco*, in **Census 1901** (Midlothian); Francesco *Di Marco*, born in Picinisco, Italy, in **Census 1911** (Swansea, Glamorgan); Sererino *De Marco*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Bristol, Gloucs).

References:

De Felice

De Mello

Current frequencies: GB: 165, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Portuguese

Locative name: from Melo (Porto).

Early Bearers: Mathew Roque *Demello*, 1855 in **IGI** (Merton, Surrey); Joao *De Mello*, 1872 in **BMD** (Chorlton, Lancs); Anguestino *de Mello*, fireman, born in Goa, India, in **Census 1901** (West Ham, Essex); Bernard *de Mello*, born in Goa, India, in **Census 1901** (Southampton, Hants); Antonio *De Mello*, Ignacio M. *De Mello*, Calano *De Mello*, born in India, in **Census 1911** (West Ham, Essex); Roque *de Mello*, university student, born in Karachi, India, in **Census 1911** (Holborn, Middx).

Other info: This name is also found in western India, where it was taken by Portuguese colonists.

2 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic from a short form of *Giacomello*, a pet form of *Giacomo*, from Late Latin *Jac(o)mus* (see [James](#)).

De Rosa

Current frequencies: GB: 252, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Derosa](#).

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: metronymic from the female personal name *Rosa*, from *rosa* 'rose'.

Early Bearers: John *De Rosa*, 1697 in **IGI** (London); Julia *DeRosa*, 1850 in **IGI** (Liverpool),

Lancs); Palmerino *De Rosa*, 1891 in **BMD** (Croydon, Surrey); Antonio *De Rosa*, organ grinder, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Croydon, Surrey); Leopoldo Salvatore *De Rosa*, 1899 in **BMD** (Westminster, Middx); Antonio and Vincenzo *Derosa*, baker, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Holborn, Middx); Antonio *De Rosa*, musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Chapel en le Frith, Derbys); Giuseppe *De Rosa*, boot maker, born in Caserta Nola, Italy, in **Census 1911** (Fulham, Middx).

Other info: Under the influence of the cults of various saints, particularly Rosa, patron saint of Viterbo, this was a popular personal name in medieval Italy.

References: , **De Felice**

Debono

Current frequencies: GB: 378, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 7

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Bono](#).

language/culture: Italian, Maltese

Relationship name: patronymic from the medieval personal name *Bono* (based on Latin *bonus* 'good').

Early Bearers: John *Debono*, born in Malta, in **Census 1861** (Royal Navy); Guriennis *Debono*, born in Albie, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Middx); Luiggie *Debono*, born in Albie, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Middx); Salvo *Debono*, born in Malta, **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Rosario *Debono*, born in Malta, in **Census 1901** (Royal Navy).

Delicata

Current frequencies: GB: 135, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian (Sicily), Maltese

Locative name: for someone from (*de*) Licata (Agrigento, Sicily). Some of the examples may belong under (2).

Early Bearers: Carmelo *Delicata*, born in Malta, in **Census 1861** (Royal Navy); Pasqua *Delicata*, born in **Census 1891** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Giovanni *Delicata*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Warwicks); Giovanni *Delicata*, 1898 in **BMD** (Saint Pancras, Middx); Dominick *Delicata*, organ grinder, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Chester, Cheshire); Fortunato *Delicata*, tailor, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Clerkenwell, Middx).

References:

Cassar

2 language/culture: Italian, Maltese

Nickname: from Italian *delicata* 'delicate, fragile' (from Latin *delicatus* 'delightful, tender').

References:

Cassar

Delmonte

Current frequencies: GB: 75, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 34

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Spanish, Italian, Jewish (Sephardic)

Locative name: denoting someone 'from the mountain'. In the case of the Jewish name, it may be an ornamental name.

Early Bearers: (i) William *Delmonte*, 1770 in **IGI** (Bethnal Green, Middx); James *Delmonte*, 1773 in **IGI** (Bishopsgate, London); Frederick *Delmonte*, 1780 in **Parish Registers** (Saint Martin in the Fields, Westminster, Middx); August *Delmonte*, 1820 in **IGI** (Bermondsey, Surrey).

(ii) Leon *del Monte*, born in Cuba, in **Census 1911** (Fulham, Middx).

(iii) Jewish: Judah *Delmonte*, 1792 in **Bevis Marks Records** (London); Abm *Delmonte*, cigar maker, born in Amsterdam, in **Census 1861** (Whitechapel, Middx); Moses *Delmonte*, born in Middx, in **Census 1871** (Whitechapel, Middx); Isaac and Joseph *Delmonte*, cigar makers, born in The Netherlands, in **Census 1881** (Spitalfields, Middx); Judah *Delmonte*, born in Amsterdam, Netherlands, in **Census 1881** (Whitechapel, Middx); Emanuel *Delmonte*, slipper maker, born in Amsterdam, in **Census 1891** (Mile End Old Town, Middx); Joseph *Delmonte*, cigar maker, born in Holland, in **Census 1901** (Spitalfields, Middx); Solomon *Delmonte*, cigar maker, born in Middx, in **Census 1911** (Poplar, Middx).

Deluca

Current frequencies: GB: 118, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

see [De Luca](#).

Demarco

Current frequencies: GB: 217, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Maltese

see [De Marco](#).

Demello

Current frequencies: GB: 67, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Dmello](#).

1 language/culture: Portuguese

Locative name: (Portuguese **De Melo**), denoting someone 'from Melo' (another name for the city of Porto).

Early Bearers: Matthew Roque *Demello*, 1855 in **IGI** (Merton, Surrey).

Other info: this name is also found in western India, where it was taken by Portuguese colonists.

2 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic from a shortened form of **Giacomello**, a pet form of *Giacomo*, from Late Latin *Jac(o)mus* (see [James](#)).

Deo

Current frequencies: GB: 214, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Deb](#), [Dev](#).

language/culture: Indian (northern states)

Hindu and Sikh, from Sanskrit *deva* `god, lord'.

Other info: This was a title used by ruling families in northern India, and the name is found in several communities. There is a Jat tribe called Deo; in the northeast the name is found among Kayasths, pronounced *deb*; and in Maharashtra Konkanasth Brahmans have a clan called Dev.

Derosa

Current frequencies: GB: 122, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

see [De Rosa](#).

Devito

Current frequencies: GB: 89, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

see [Divito](#).

Dimambro

Current frequencies: GB: 160, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from **Di Mambro**, a southern name of uncertain derivation. It may be locative, from a lost place called Mambro, or perhaps a relationship name from a reduced form of the medieval personal names *Mambrino* or *Mambretto*.

Early Bearers: Angelo *Dimambro*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Gloucs); Gaetano *Dimambro*, born in Italy, Salvatore *Dimambro*, born in Italy, Guisepe *Dimambro*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Durham); Maria *Dimambro*, born in Italy in **Census 1911** (Bristol, Gloucs); Francesco *Dimambro*, born in Cassino, Italy, in **Census 1911** (Middlesbrough, NR Yorks).

Dimarco

Current frequencies: GB: 108, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

see [De Marco](#).

Dimascio

Current frequencies: GB: 89, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Occupational name, , status name: (Di Mascio) denoting a servant or member of the household of a master craftsman, from a dialect form of *mastro* 'master'.

Early Bearers: Giovanni *Dimascio*, 1881 in **IGI** (Holborn, Middx); Nunziata *Dimascio*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Lancs); Domenico Antonio *Dimascio*, 1900 in **IGI** (Bournemouth, Dorset); Salvatore *Dimascio*, in **Census 1901** (Staffs); Diamente *Di Mascio*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Manchester, Lancs); Giagendo *Dimascio*, born in Casino, Italy, in **Census 1911** (Huddersfield, WR Yorks).

References:

De Felice

Dimech

Current frequencies: GB: 125, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese

- (i) **Relationship name:** patronymic from a pet form of the Italian personal name *Domenico*.
- (ii) **Locative name:** denoting someone from Mega (Tuscany, Italy) or Meca (Huelva, Spain).
- (iii) **Locative name:** apocopated form of **Dimecca** (Italian **di Mecca**), denoting someone 'from Mecca'.

Early Bearers: Michael *Dimech*, born in Malta, in **Census 1901** (Royal Navy).

References: [Cassar](#).

Divito

Current frequencies: GB: 128, Ireland: 27.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Devito](#).

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic from the personal name [Vito](#).

Early Bearers: Domenico *Divito*, in **Census 1901** (Warwicks); Cosimo *Devito*, in **Census 1901** (Lancs); Antonio *Divito*, in **Census 1901** (Stirlings); Melia *Devito*, in **Census 1901** (Lancs); Saverio *Divito*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Glamorgan); Pasquale *Divito*, born

in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Glamorgan); Maria *Devito*, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (London).

Domini

Current frequencies: GB: 16, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Domino*, from Latin *dominus* `master, lord', also used to mean 'teacher'.

Early Bearers: Francois *Domini*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Westminster, Middx);

Guiseppe *Domini*, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Chorlton, Lancs).

Donati

Current frequencies: GB: 102, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 25

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural from the medieval personal name *Donato* (Latin *Donatus*, past participle of *donare*, frequentative of *dare* 'to give'). Compare Anthony *Donato*, 1570 in [PROB 11](#) (City of London). See also [Donat](#).

Early Bearers: James, Thorisianus, and Hugh *Donati*, fellows, citizens, and marchants of Florence, 1282 in [Patent Rolls](#) (Dublin, Ireland); Constantine *Donati*, born in Rome, Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Lambeth, Surrey); Peter *Donati*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Wolverhampton, Staffs); Costello *Donati*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Clerkenwell, Middx); Luigi *Donati*, in [Census 1881](#) (Haltwhistle, Northumb); Luigi *Donati*, 1885 in [IGI](#) (Walkern, Herts).

Donno

Current frequencies: GB: 129, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: French, Huguenot

see [Dono](#).

Ducat

Current frequencies: GB: 95, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 111

main GB location, 1881: Angus

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Scottish

probably a variant of [Duguid](#).

Early Bearers: David *Ducat*, 1642 in [IGI](#) (Edinburgh, Midlothian); William *Dowcat*, [Melrose Records](#) (Melrose, Roxburghs); Thomas *Ducat*, 1642 in [IGI](#) (Errol, Perth); John *Ducat*, 1702 in [IGI](#) (Errol, Perth); Katharine *Ducat*, 1766 in [IGI](#) (Liberton, Midlothian); Jean *Ducat*, 1811 in [IGI](#) (Dundee, Angus).

2 language/culture: English
post-medieval spelling of [Duckett](#).

3 language/culture: English

Nickname: possibly from Middle English *ducat*, *duket*, *doket* (Old French *ducat*, Italian *ducato*), the name of various gold or silver coins in different European countries. However, there is no evidence that this survived as a modern surname.

Early Bearers: Wolveva, Alice, William *Dukat*, 1314 in [Feet of Fines](#) (Suffolk); Mary *Ducat*, 1727 in [IGI](#) (Westminster, Middx); John *Ducat*, 1748 in [IGI](#) (Fenny Compton, Warwicks); Martha *Ducat*, 1766 in [IGI](#) (Catmore, Berks); Richard *Ducat*, 1769 in [IGI](#) (Giggleswick, WR Yorks); Sarah *Ducat*, 1804 in [IGI](#) (Holme upon Spalding Moor, ER Yorks).

Other info: When first minted, about 1140, in the Duchy of Apulia, the coins bore the legend 'sit tibi, Christe, datus, quem tu regis, iste *ducatus*', hence their name, from late Latin *ducatus* 'duchy'.

Durante

Current frequencies: GB: 90, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from the medieval Italian personal name *Durante*, which is from a vocabulary word meaning 'enduring', ultimately from the Latin verb *durare* 'to last or endure'. Like the English cognate [Durrant](#), the name may also originally have had the sense 'stubborn, obstinate'.

Durso

Current frequencies: GB: 63, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Orsi](#).

language/culture: Italian

from **D'Urso** 'son or kinsman of *Urso*', a variant of [Orsi](#), with the patronymic marker *D'*.

Early Bearers: Alfonso *D'Urso*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (London).

Elia

Current frequencies: GB: 365, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 6

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish

Relationship name: from the personal name *Elia*, Italian and Spanish equivalent of [Elias](#).

Early Bearers: Guiseppi A. *Elia*, born in Naples, Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Sussex).

Esposito

Current frequencies: GB: 795, Ireland: 12.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from Italian *esposito* 'exposed' (Latin *expositus*, past participle of *exponere* 'to place outside'), typically a surname bestowed on a foundling.

Early Bearers: Rosa Maria *Esposito*, 1877 in **IGI** (Clifton, Gloucs); Agastino *Esposito*, born in Naples, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy).

Other info: This is currently the commonest surname in Naples and fourth in Italy as a whole.

Evangelista

Current frequencies: GB: 228, Ireland: 22.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: S Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Evangelista* 'evangelist' (a derivative of Greek *euangelos* 'bringer of good news', from *eu* 'well' + *angelos* 'messenger'), bestowed in honour of the four gospel writers of the New Testament (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), in particular Saint John the Evangelist.

Early Bearers: Miguel *Evangelista*, 1836 in **IGI** (Chalgrave, Beds).

References:

De Felice

Fabian

Current frequencies: GB: 604, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 212

main GB location, 1881: Hants; London; also Glamorgan

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Fabien](#).

1 language/culture: English

Relationship name: from the Middle English personal name *Fabian* (Latin *Fabianus* 'of Fabius').

Early Bearers: (i) given names: *Fabianus* de Cam, 1184 in **Pipe Rolls** (Hants); *Fabianus* de Hulmo, 1191 in **Pipe Rolls** (Norfolk).

(ii) surnames: Willelmus *filius Fabiani*, identical with William *Fabian*, 1220 in **Curia Regis Rolls** (Essex); William *Fabien*, 1231–53 in **Ramsey Cartulary** (Norfolk); Johannes *Fabyon*, 1377 in **Poll Tax** (Little Coggeshall, Essex); Johannes *Fabyone*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (Swaffham, Norfolk); Johannes *Fabyan*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (Bloxham, Oxon); John *Fabyynn*, 1478, Thomas *Fabian* or *Fabyan*, 1488 in **PROB 11** (London); Thomas *Fabyan*, 1542 in **PROB 11** (Polstead, Suffolk); Johis. *Fabian*, 1565 in **Parish Registers** (Therfield, Herts); Georgii *Fabien*, 1625 in **IGI** (Buckfastleigh, Devon); Alexander *Fabian*, 1642 in **IGI** (East Tytherley, Hants).

2 language/culture: French, German, Italian (Venetian), Polish, Czech, Slovak, and Hungarian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Fabian*, as in (1).

Early Bearers: Harry *Fabian*, born in Germany, in **Census 1881** (Tottenham, Middx); Gasser *Fabien*, born in Switzerland, in **Census 1881** (Soho, Middx); .

3 language/culture: Jewish

adoption of the non-Jewish surname under the influence of the Yiddish personal name *Fayvish*.

Early Bearers: Harris *Fabian*, bootmaker, born in Poland, in **Census 1891** (Saint George in the East, Middx).

Fabien

Current frequencies: GB: 42, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Jewish, French, German, Italian (Venetian), Polish, Czech, Slovak, and Hungarian

see [Fabian](#).

Faccenda

Current frequencies: GB: 97, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

apparently from *faccenda* 'business'.

Falco

Current frequencies: GB: 278, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Catalan

Falcó, from *falco* 'falcon'. generally a nickname for a falconer or for someone thought to resemble a hawk in some way, but in some instances a relationship name from a Germanic byname with the same meaning. Compare [Fawkes](#).

Falcone

Current frequencies: GB: 164, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from *falcone* 'falcon', either a personal name, or a nickname for a falconer.

Falzon

Current frequencies: GB: 358, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from an augmentative of *falso* 'false, fake', for a deceiver.

2 language/culture: Italian

possibly a northern equivalent of *falcione* a type of weapon derived from an agricultural sickle, and hence a nickname for someone who used or made these.

Faria

Current frequencies: GB: 407, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Portuguese

Locative name: from either of two places in Portugal called Faria (in Braga and Aveiro).

Early Bearers: Jose Francisco *Faria*, 1846 in **IGI** (Chalgrave, Beds); Alfred *De Faria*, born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in **Census 1881** (Tottenham, Middx).

2 language/culture: Greek, S Italian

Locative name: from Greek *pharias* 'lighthouse keeper', a derivative of *pharos* 'beacon, lighthouse'.

Farina

Current frequencies: GB: 226, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881: 20

main GB location, 1881: Durham and Northumb; Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *farina* 'wheat flour' (Latin *farina*), applied to a miller or flour merchant, or in some cases to someone with a pale complexion.

Early Bearers: Joseph *Farina*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Paddington, Middx);

Alexander *Farina*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Bishopwearmouth, Durham); Achille

Farina, born in Italy in **Census 1891** (Fulham, Middx); Alfonso *Farina*, musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Warwick, Warwicks); Ormando *Farina*, clerk, born in Italy, in

Census 1901 (Cardiff, Glamorgan); Pelagia *Farina*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Edmonton, Middx).

Faro

Current frequencies: GB: 60, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 34

main GB location, 1881: Hants and Sussex

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: English

see [Farrar](#) and compare [Pharoah](#)

2 language/culture: Portuguese, Italian

Locative name: from any of several places named with *faro* 'beacon, lighthouse' (Greek *pharos*).

Federico

Current frequencies: GB: 130, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from the personal name *Federico*, of Germanic origin (see [Frederick](#)).

References:

Ahmed

Felice

Current frequencies: GB: 86, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 12

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Felice*, from the Roman family name *Felix* (see [Felix](#)).

Early Bearers: Michael *Felice*, born in Italy, in **Census 1861** (Saint Pancras, London);

Antonio *Felice*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Wandsworth, Surrey).

2 language/culture: English

see [Felix](#).

Fella

Current frequencies: GB: 188, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 14

main GB location, 1881: London; also Suffolk

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

of unexplained origin, probably a locative name from Fellà, Calabria.

Early Bearers: Giuseppe *Fella*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Portsmouth, Hants).

2 language/culture: English

unexplained. Perhaps an occasional variant of [Feller](#) or [Fellow](#); for the latter, compare Hugo *Fela*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (Burnham Overy, Norfolk) with Nicholas *Fellow*, 1553 in **IGI** (Cley next the Sea, Norfolk).

Early Bearers: Suesan *Fella*, 1580 in **IGI** (Bramfield, Suffolk); Edward *Fella*, 1833 in **IGI** (Eye, Suffolk).

Ferrara

Current frequencies: GB: 288, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Southern Italian

Locative name: from *ferrara* 'forge, iron workings' (Latin *ferraria*), for someone who lived by a forge or iron workings, or for someone from a place so named, such as the provincial capital of Ferrara, in Emilia-Romagna.

Early Bearers: Michele *Ferrara*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Gloucester, Gloucs).

Ferrari

Current frequencies: GB: 991, Ireland: 22.

GB frequency, 1881: 50

main GB location, 1881: London; also WR Yorks

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Patronymic or plural form of [Ferraro](#).

Early Bearers: Adolphus Angelies *Ferrari*, 1849 in **IGI** (Saint Marylebone, Middx); Pietro *Ferrari*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Holdenhurst, Hants).

Ferraro

Current frequencies: GB: 237, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 18

main GB location, 1881: Middx; also Devon

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Ferrari](#).

language/culture: Italian

Occupational name: from Old Italian (*fabbro*) *ferraro* 'blacksmith, ironworker' (a derivative of *ferro* 'iron').

Early Bearers: James *Ferraro*, 1822 in **IGI** (Saint Marylebone, Middx); Giovanni *Ferraro*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Cardiff, Glamorgan).

Ferretti

Current frequencies: GB: 109, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: Argyll

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a pet form of the personal name *Ferro*, see [Ferro](#).

Early Bearers: Salvatora *Ferretti*, born in Italy, in **Census 1861** (Kensington, Middx).

Ferri

Current frequencies: GB: 220, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 15

main GB location, 1881: Midlothian

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Patronymic or plural form of [Ferro](#).

Early Bearers: Giovanni T. *Ferri*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Newton, Lancs).

2 language/culture: English, Scottish

see [Ferry](#).

Ferro

Current frequencies: GB: 224, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 17

main GB location, 1881: Lancs and WR Yorks

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Ferri](#).

1 language/culture: English

see [Farrar](#).

2 language/culture: Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Maltese, Jewish (Sephardic)

Nickname: from *ferro* 'iron' (Latin *ferrum*), denoting someone who was strong or who produced or worked iron.

Early Bearers: Abraham *Ferro*, 1756, Elias Furtado *Ferro*, 1804 in **Bevis Marks Records** (London); Abraham *Ferro*, 1858 in **BMD** (Mile End Old Town, Middx); Rebecca *Ferro*, 1860 in **BMD** (Whitechapel, Middx); Ramon de Silva *Ferro*, Chilean consul, born in Galicia, Spain, in **Census 1861** (Marylebone, Middx); Pedro Jose *Ferro*, 1876 in **BMD** (Islington, Middx); William H. *Ferro*, born in Germany, in **Census 1871** (Leeds, WR Yorks); Jefferino *Ferro*, born in Goa, India, in **Census 1901** (Royal Navy).

3 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a medieval personal name, preserved in the modern pet form *Ferruccio*. Compare *Ferretti*. Some of the examples below may belong under (1) above.

Early Bearers: Pio *Ferro*, naval architect and engineer, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Blythswood, Lanarks); Alfred *Ferro*, merchant, born in Malta, in **Census 1891** (Fulham, Middx); William *Ferro*, cashier, born in Malta, in **Census 1911** (Liverpool, Lancs); Ceresio *Ferro*, teacher, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Marylebone, Middx); Gabriel *Ferro*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Mile End Old Town, Middx).

Festa

Current frequencies: GB: 116, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: S Italian

Nickname: most likely from *fiesta* 'festival', 'holiday', but possibly from a short form of an omen-name such as *Carafesta* or *Cattafesta*.

Early Bearers: Giovanni Battista *Festa*, 1880 in **IGI** (Brighton, Sussex); Giovanni Paolo *Festa*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Westminster, Middx).

2 language/culture: Spanish, Portuguese

Nickname: from *fiesta* 'festival, holiday'.

Finamore

Current frequencies: GB: 19, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 16

main GB location, 1881: Devon; Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: English

see [Finnemore](#).

Fionda

Current frequencies: GB: 170, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

of uncertain origin, but widespread in the Lazio and Molise regions.

Early Bearers: Angeli Antonii *Fionda*, 1890 in **IGI** (Clifton, Gloucs).

Fiore

Current frequencies: GB: 233, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 9

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the medieval male and female personal name *Fiore*, in part a continuation of a Late Latin personal name from *flos* 'flower' (genitive *floris*), in part a later coinage from *fiore* 'flower', modelled on similar names in medieval French chivalric epic poetry.

Early Bearers: Maria *Fiore*, 1810 in **IGI** (Roche, Cornwall); John Jermore *Fiore*, 1840 in **IGI** (Upton cum Chalvey, Bucks); Pietro *Fiore*, born in Naples, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Westminster, Middx); Vincenzo *Fiore*, born in Naples, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Westminster, Middx); Ettore *Fiore*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London); Marcello *Fiore*, born in **Census 1891** (London).

References:

De Felice

Fiori

Current frequencies: GB: 142, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic from [Fiore](#).

Flora

Current frequencies: GB: 492, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Spanish, Portuguese, Italian

Relationship name: from the female personal name *Flora*.

2 language/culture: Czech, Austrian, Polish

Relationship name: from a vernacular form of the Latin personal name *Florianus*.

3 language/culture: Hungarian

Relationship name: Flóra, from the female personal name *Flóra*.

Fontana

Current frequencies: GB: 277, Ireland: 11.

GB frequency, 1881: 25

main GB location, 1881: London; WR Yorks

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish, and Catalan

Locative name: denoting someone who lived near a spring, from Romance descendants of Late Latin *fontana*, a derivative of classical Latin *fons*. In Italy the name may also be toponymic, from any of the numerous minor places named with this word.

Early Bearers: Rosa Angelina *Fontana*, 1836 in **IGI** (Halifax, WR Yorks); Stefano Ventura *Fontana*, 1839 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Dominico *Fontana*, 1865 in **IGI** (Saint Pancras, Middx); John *Fontana*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Chelsea, Middx); Charles *Fontana*, born in Como, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Wycombe, Bucks); Aristide *Fontana*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Westminster, Middx).

Other info: The surname is also established in Portugal, where it seems to have been imported from Italy.

Formosa

Current frequencies: GB: 281, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Maltese

Nickname: from Italian *formoso* 'well-formed, shapely, beautiful'.

Early Bearers: Paolo *Formosa*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Frederick *Formosa*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy); Angelo *Formosa*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Royal Navy); Anita Girolama *Formosa*, born in New York, US, in **Census 1911** (Westminster, Middx).

References: **Cassar**.

Franchi

Current frequencies: GB: 220, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 6

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Italian, patronymic or plural form of the personal name *Franco* (see [Franco](#)).

Franco

Current frequencies: GB: 572, Ireland: 10.

GB frequency, 1881: 27

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Spanish, Italian

(i) **Relationship name:** from the personal name *Franco*, in origin an ethnic name for a Frank, i.e. a member of the Germanic people who inhabited the lands around the river Rhine in Roman times. Compare [Frank](#). The personal name was popularized by the cult of San Franco di Assergi.

(ii) **Nickname, status name:** from *franco* 'free', usually denoting a freed slave.

Early Bearers: Francis *Franco*, born in Jamaica, in **Census 1851** (Islington, Middx); Giuseppe *Franco*, musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Holborn, Middx); Felipe *Franco*, publican, born in Spain, in **Census 1891** (Westminster, Middx); Rosario *Franco*, ice cream vendor, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Kingston on Hull, ER Yorks).

2 language/culture: Jewish (Sephardic)

(i) ornamental adoption of the Spanish surname, see (1).

(ii) Moses *Franco*, cigar maker, born in Amsterdam, in **Census 1881** (Whitechapel, Middx); Haim *Franco*, dress presser, born in Turkey, in **Census 1891** (Manchester, Lancs); Aaron *Franco*, traveller in oriental embroidery, born in Turkey, in **Census 1901** (Manchester, Lancs).

Fulgoni

Current frequencies: GB: 111, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

probably a regional variant of **Fulconi**, said by **De Felice** to be a derivative of *Folchi* or *Folco*, from a Germanic personal name whose stem was **Fulk-*. This name can also be seen in [Fowke](#), which has come to English from Continental Germanic via Norman French.

Early Bearers: Guiseppe *Fulgoni*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (London); Antony *Fulgoni*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Essex); Carlo *Fulgoni*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (London).

Other info: Note an individual surnamed *Fulgoni*, "also known as Fulconi", reported in the *London Gazette*, 13 January 1981, p. 501.

Fusco

Current frequencies: GB: 398, Ireland: 185.

GB frequency, 1881: 6

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

language/culture: Italian

Italian: nickname for someone with dark hair or a swarthy complexion, from Italian *fusco* 'dark' (Latin *fuscus*); in some cases it may be from a medieval personal name derived from the Roman family name *Fuscus*, originally of the same meaning.

Gabriele

Current frequencies: GB: 141, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from personal name *Gabriele*, Italian form of the biblical name meaning 'man of God' in Hebrew.

Early Bearers: Giovanni *Gabriele*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Llanfiangel y Croyddn, Cardigans); Benedict *Gabriele*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Domenico *Gabriele*, born in Sora, Italy, in **Census 1911** (Pontefract, WR Yorks); Pascuale and Angelo *Gabriele*, born in Italy in **Census 1911** (Newarks, Notts); Beneditto *Gabriele*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumb).

Galea

Current frequencies: GB: 657, Ireland: 10.

GB frequency, 1881: 7

main GB location, 1881: IoW

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese

possibly from Italian *galea* 'helmet' or 'galley (type of ship)', though the possibility of descent from a Spanish, specifically Aragonese, personal name, appearing in a Maltese 14th-century record, has been suggested.

Early Bearers: Francesco *Galea*, born in Malta, in **Census 1861** (Royal Navy); Charles *Galea*, born in Malta, **Census 1861** (Royal Navy); Salvatore *Galea*, born in Malta, **Census 1881** (Ryde, IoW); Carlo *Galea*, born in Malta, in **Census 1891** (Flints); Joseph *Galea*, born in Malta, in **Census 1901** (Royal Navy); Lorenzo *Galea*, born in Malta, in **Census 1911** (Royal Navy).

References: Cassar.

Galli

Current frequencies: GB: 196, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 31

main GB location, 1881: WR Yorks; Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic from the personal name *Gallo* (from Latin *Gallus*).

Early Bearers: Gregory *Galli*, 1760 in **IGI** (Durham, Durham); Giuseppe *Gallo*, in **Census 1841** (Westminster, Middx); Ludigi *Galli*, in **Census 1851** (Holborn, Middx); Harriet Julia *Galli*, 1860 in **IGI** (Saint Marylebone, Middx); Antony *Galli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1861** (Thanet, Kent); Ferdinando *Galli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Sculcoates, ER Yorks); Luigi *Galli*, born in Lancaster in **Census 1881** (Preston, Lancs); Joseph *Galli*, born in Leeds, in **Census 1881** (Potternewton, WR Yorks); Dominic *Galli*, born in Lombardy, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Leeds, WR Yorks); Luigi *Galli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Holborn, Middx); Andrew *Galli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Brentford, Middx); Pio *Galli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Westminster, Middx); Hilda *Galli*, born in Leeds, in **Census 1901** (Leeds, WR Yorks); Eggelino *Galli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Wandsworth, Surrey); Tito *Galli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Jersey); Benito Jose *Galli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Southampton, Hants).

Other info: The personal name *Gallo* and its cognates in other European languages were widely used in Europe during the Middle Ages, due to the cult of Saint Gall, a 7th-century Irish monk and missionary who established a Christian settlement to the south of Lake Constance, which became the monastery later known as Saint Gallen. His name was taken into Czech as *Havel* and into Polish as *Gawel*, the extra syllable being introduced by analogy with Latin *Paulus*, which yielded Czech *Pavel* and Polish *Pawel*.

Gallo

Current frequencies: GB: 375, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 16

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

(i) **Nickname:** from *gallo* 'cockerell' (Latin *gallus*).

(ii) **Relationship name:** from the medieval personal name *Gallo* (see [Gall](#)).

(iii) **Ethnic name:** for someone from France or Gaul (Latin *Gallus*).

(iv) **Locative name:** from any of numerous places named with this word, especially in southern Italy, as for example Gallo Matese (Caserta province).

Early Bearers: Mathurin *Gallo*, 1809 in **Parish Registers** (Plymouth, Devon); Eladio *Gallo*, in **Census 1841** (Shoreditch, Middx); Antonio *Gallo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Saint Pancras, Middx); Joseph *Gallo*, born in Turin, Italy, Frank *Gallo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Camberwell, Surrey); Antonio *Gallo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Saint George the Martyr, Southwark, Surrey); Francis *Gallo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Norwich, Norfolk); Paulo *Gallo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Swansea, Glamorgan); Carmino *Gallo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (West Ham, Essex); Vincent *Gallo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Norwich, Norfolk); Raphael *Gallo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Saint Pancras, Middx); Giuseppe *Gallo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Saint Marylebone, Middx).

Garofalo

Current frequencies: GB: 140, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Southern Italian

Locative name, nickname: from *garofalo* `carnation', from Greek *karyophyllon*, presumably denoting someone who lived where carnations grew or who grew or sold them. De Felice notes that the Calabrese and Sicilian dialect forms, *garofalu* and *garofolo*, denote other species of plant, as well as a whirlwind or vortex, senses which could also have contributed to the surname.

Early Bearers: Agata *Garofalo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Eastbourne, Sussex);

Giovanni *Garofalo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London).

Gatti

Current frequencies: GB: 165, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 39

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of *Gatto*.

Early Bearers: Giuseppe *Gatti*, in **Census 1841** (Holborn, Middx); Carlo *Gatti*, in **Census 1861** (Westminster, Middx); Luca *Gatti*, born in Switzerland, in **Census 1881**

(Westminster, Middx); Giuseppina *Gatti*, born in Genova, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Chirton, Northumb); Carlo *Gatti*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Joseph *Gatti*, born in Switzerland, in **Census 1911** (Kinver, Staffs); Charles Lewis *Gatti*, born in Rome, in **Census 1911** (London); Angelo *Gatti*, born in London, in **Census 1911** (Islington, Middx).

Gatto

Current frequencies: GB: 73, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881:

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from Italian *gatto* `(tom) cat', Late Latin *cattus*.

Other info: Serafino *Gatto*, born in Turin, Italy, in **Census 1911** (Westminster, Middx);

Mine *Gatto*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Saint Pancras, Middx).

Gauci

Current frequencies: GB: 376, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese and Italian (Sicily)

Regional name: from Arabic *al-gawdisi*, denoting a native of the island of Gozo.

Early Bearers: Maxime *Gauci*, "foreign", in **Census 1841** (Bloomsbury, Middx); William *Gauci*, born in France, in **Census 1861** (Saint Pancras, Middx); Loretto *Gauci*, born in Malta, in **Census 1901** (Royal Navy); Giuseppe *Gauci*, born in Malta, in **Census 1901** (Royal Navy); Mich *Gauci*, born in Malta, in **Census 1901** (Royal Navy).

References:

Cassar

Genovese

Current frequencies: GB: 159, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: (southern) denoting someone from Genoa in Liguria. In medieval times the Genoese were regarded as clever individuals, and it is possible that the surname was derived in some instances from a nickname with this sense.

Early Bearers: Dago *Genovese*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Lancs); Andrea *Genovese*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Glamorgan).

Giannini

Current frequencies: GB: 154, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a patronymic or plural form of the personal name *Giannino*, a pet form of *Gianni* 'John'.

Early Bearers: Andrea *Giannini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (London); Dominick *Giannini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Beckenham, Kent); Riccardo *Giannini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London); Salvatore *Giannini*, born in Switzerland, **Census 1901** (London); Ottavio *Giannini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Penge, Surrey).

Giordano

Current frequencies: GB: 219, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Giordano*, Italian equivalent of *Jordan* (see [Jordan](#)).

Early Bearers: Adolfo *Giordano*, born in Formia, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Cambridge, Cambs); Francesco *Giordano*, born in Corino, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Clerkenwell, Middx); Romolo *Giordano*, born in Florence, Italy, in **Census 1891** (Cambs); Costantino *Giordano*, born in Rome, in **Census 1911** (Camden, Middx); Alexandra *Giordano*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Elswick, Northumb).

Gizzi

Current frequencies: GB: 204, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 10

main GB location, 1881: Warwicks; Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: probably a patronymic from *Gizio*, a reduced form of the personal name *Egizio*, which is from an ethnic name denoting (supposed) association with Egypt.

Early Bearers: Daniel *Gizzi*, born in Italy in **Census 1881** (Saffron Hill, Middx); Luigi *Gizzi*, born in San Guiseppe, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Dominic

Gizzi, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Gloucs); Andrew *Gizzi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Gloucs); Angelo *Gizzi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Norfolk).

Gonnella

Current frequencies: GB: 118, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 7

main GB location, 1881: Angus

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from Italian *gonnella* 'tunic, cloak, mantel', probably used to denote a maker or a habitual wearer of such garments.

Early Bearers: Louis *Gonnella*, 1861 in [IGI](#) (Edinburgh, Midlothian); Antonio *Gonnella*, born in Lucca, Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Chester, Cheshire); Emico *Gonnella*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Holborn, Middx); Luis *Gonnella*, in [Census 1881](#) (Forfar, Angus); Palmiro *Gonnella*, 1891 in [IGI](#) (Glasgow, Lanarks); Giovanni *Gonnella*, in [Census 1891](#) (Hutchesontown, Lanarks); Francesco *Gonnella*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Brighton, Sussex); Raffaello *Gonnella*, in [Census 1911](#) (Portsmouth, Hants); Adelno *Gonnella*, born in Bargo, Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Millom, Cumb); Giovani *Gonnella*, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Newport, Monmouths).

Grassi

Current frequencies: GB: 115, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 9

main GB location, 1881: Surrey

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of [Grasso](#).

Early Bearers: Haman *Grassi*, 1770 in [IGI](#) (London); Stephen *Grassi*, born in Switzerland, in [Census 1881](#) (Wolverhampton, Staffs); Pietro *Grassi*, born in Milan, Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Putney, Surrey); Carlo *Grassi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Westminster, Middx); Carlo *Grassi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Saint George Hanover Square, Middx); Paolo *Grassi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Holborn, Middx).

Grasso

Current frequencies: GB: 158, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *grasso* 'fat' (Latin *crassus*).

Early Bearers: Pietro *Grasso*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Lambeth, Surrey); Luigi *Grasso*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Westminster, Middx).

Graziano

Current frequencies: GB: 128, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Graziano*, Latin *Gratianus*, a derivative of *gratus* 'welcome, pleasing'.

Early Bearers: Bertus *Graziano*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Nottingham, Notts).

Grech

Current frequencies: GB: 662, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881: 7

main GB location, 1881: Shrops

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Welsh

from *grach*, the lenited form of *crach* 'scabs, skin blemishes'.

Early Bearers: Wales: Griffith *Grach*, Thlewelyn *Grach* 1344 in **Patent Rolls** (Merioneths); Mereduk *Grach* ap Thlaward, 1344 in **Patent Rolls** (Caernarvons); Ros *Grach*, 1344 in **Patent Rolls** (Cardigans).

References: Morgan and Morgan, p. 75.

2 language/culture: English

unexplained.

Early Bearers: Johannes *Grech*', 1379 in **Poll Tax** (Besthorpe, Norfolk); Robert *Gredg*, 1558 in **IGI** (East Hanningfield, Essex); Andrew *Greech*, 1732 in **IGI** (Bunbury, Cheshire); John *Gratdgc*, 1786 in **IGI** (Scropton, Derbys); Joseph *Grech*, 1837 in **IGI** (Leicester, Leics).

3 language/culture: Maltese

from Italian *Greco* 'Greek'.

References: Cassar, p. 185.

4 language/culture: Polish, German

Relationship name: from the Polish or Sorbian personal name *Grech*, a vernacular pet form (in Silesia and elsewhere) of the Latin personal name *Gregorius*, see [Gregory](#).

Greco

Current frequencies: GB: 400, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 7

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Ethnic name: from *Greco* 'Greek' (Latin *Graecus*).

Early Bearers: Francis *Greco*, born in Naples, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Newport, Monmouths); Raselo *Greco*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Kensington, Middx); Palma *Greco*, in **Census 1911** (Hamilton, Lanarks).

Grego

Current frequencies: GB: 102, Ireland: 38.

GB frequency, 1881: 11

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish, Portuguese

Ethnic name: from *Grego*, *Greco* 'Greek'.

Early Bearers: Antonio *Grego*, in **Census 1841** (Holborn, Middx); Legulas *Greco*, in **Census 1841** (Holborn, Middx); Nevo *Grego*, in **Census 1871** (Perth, Perth); Andrew *Grego*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Shoreditch, Middx); Angelo *Grego*, in **Census 1911**

(Swansea, Glamorgan); Feluccia *Grego*, in **Census 1911** (Watford, Herts); Benedetto *Grego*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Swansea, Glamorgan).

Gregori

Current frequencies: GB: 86, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from a patronymic or plural form of the personal name *Gregorio* (see [Gregory](#)).

Early Bearers: L. *Gregori*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Holborn, Middx); Agostino *De Gregori*, born in Italy, Guisepppe *De Gregori*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Cardiff, Glamorgan); Giovanni *Gregori*, born in Italy, Carlo *Gregori*, in **Census 1911** (Camberwell, Surrey).

Grilli

Current frequencies: GB: 110, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

(i) **Relationship name**: patronymic or plural form of [Grillo](#).

(ii) **Nickname**: possibly a reduced form of the compound name **Mazzagrilli**, meaning 'kill the crickets', i.e. an ironic nickname for a idler.

Early Bearers: Atiglio *Grilli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Holborn, Middx); Donato *Grilli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Holborn, Middx); Domenico *Grilli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Dover, Kent); Pompeo *Grilli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Lambeth, Surrey); Maria *Grilli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Fulham, Middx); Antonio *Grilli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Pontypridd, Glamorgan).

Grillo

Current frequencies: GB: 164, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *grillo* 'cricket' (Late Latin *grillus*) denoting a cheerful person.

Early Bearers: Francesco *Grillo*, born in Malta, in **Census 1861** (Royal Navy); Mattia *Grillo*, organ grinder, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Clerkenwell, Middx); Giuseppe *Grillo*, shoemaker, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Holborn, Middx).

Grima

Current frequencies: GB: 270, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian and Maltese

Relationship name: from the Germanic female personal name *Grima* (from *grīm* 'mask,

helmet').

Early Bearers: Emanuel *Grima*, born in Malta, in **Census 1881** (Royal Navy).

Grimaldi

Current frequencies: GB: 152, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 73

main GB location, 1881: London; also Cornwall and Devon

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of the personal name *Grimaldo*.

Early Bearers: Ricardo *Grimaldi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Woolwich, Kent);

Constantine *Grimaldi*, born in Greece, in **Census 1891** (Paddington, Middx); Julius

Grimaldi, born in Spain, in **Census 1891** (Holborn, Middx); Hypotia *Grimaldi*, born in

Turkey, in **Census 1891** (Paddington, Middx); Angelo *Grimaldi*, in **Census 1901**

(Brighton, Sussex); Umberto *Grimaldi*, in **Census 1911** (Bridgend, Glamorgan).

Other info: This name is also found in Greece, Corsica, and elsewhere. It is the name of the ruling family of the principality of Monaco, who went to Monaco from Genoa in the 13th century.

Grizzle

Current frequencies: GB: 135, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 23

main GB location, 1881: Herts

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Grizzell](#), [Grissell](#).

language/culture: English

(i) **Nickname:** generally from Middle English (Old French) *grisel* 'grey(-haired)', also used as a term for an old man.

(ii) **Relationship name:** occasionally perhaps from the Middle English female personal name *Grisil(d)* (perhaps of Continental Germanic origin), but it is attested very rarely in medieval England and probably too late to be the source of a surname in the English Midlands. It was made familiar through the heroine of Chaucer's *Clerk's Tale*, a re-writing of an Italian folk tale in versions by Boccaccio and Petrarch, but the given name below is earlier than the publication of Chaucer's work.

Early Bearers: (i) given names: John de Wyntercote and *Grisil* his wife, 1364 in **Patent Rolls** (Leominster, Herefs).

(ii) Alan *Grissell* of Lancaster, 1319 in **Patent Rolls**; Henry *Grisell'* 1364 in **Feet of Fines** (Beds); William *Gresele*, clerk, 1399 in **Feet of Fines** (Oxon); John *Grysell'*, 1430 in **Feet of Fines** (Bucks); Silvester *Grysell*, 1545 in **IGI** (Saint Benet Fink, London); William *Grissill*, 1667 in **IGI** (Cambridge, Cambs); George *Grissel*, 1691 in **IGI** (Holborn, Middx); Joh. *Grizzle*, 1745 in **IGI** (Inkberrow, Worcs); Mark *Grizzel*, 1752 in **IGI** (Alcester, Warwicks).

Other info: The following examples attest to a locative name, of uncertain origin, but there is no evidence that this gave rise to an English surname: John *de Griscel*, 1276 in **Patent Rolls**; Bernardus *de Grisil*, merchant of Bayonne, 1300 in **Patent Rolls**.

Grossi

Current frequencies: GB: 137, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 16

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of the nickname *Grosso*, from Italian *grosso* 'big, large' (Late Latin *grossus*).

Early Bearers: Anthony *Grossi*, in **Census 1851** (Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumb); William John Thomas *Grossi*, 1855 in **IGI** (Over, Cheshire); Maria *Grossi*, in **Census 1861** (Chelsea Middx); Antonio *Grossi*, Peetro [sic] *Grossi*, born in Belmonte, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Liverpool, Lancs); Carlo *Grossi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Saint George Hanover Square, Middx); Biagio *Grossi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Nantwich, Cheshire); Ferdinando *Grossi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Saint Pancras, Middx); Angelo *Grossi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Kidderminster, Worcs); Spiridiona *Grossi*, in **Census 1911** (Saint Giles Cripplegate, London).

Guarino

Current frequencies: GB: 107, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Guarino*, derived from the Germanic element *war(n)* 'guard, protect'.

Early Bearers: Maria *Guarino*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Westminster, Middx).

Guerra

Current frequencies: GB: 245, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Spanish, Portuguese, Italian

Nickname: from *guerra* 'war', perhaps a nickname for a soldier or a belligerent person. In some cases the Italian name may represent a short form of various compound personal names containing this element, for example **Vinciguèrra**, while the Iberian name may in some cases reflect a misinterpretation of the Basque base *ezquerra*, *esquerra*, from *esker* 'left-handed'.

Early Bearers: (i) Antonio *Guerra*, in **Census 1841** (Westminster, Middx); Joas Evangelista *Guerra*, born in Spain, in **Census 1851** (Saint Pancras, Middx); Joas E. *Guerra*, born in Portugal, in **Census 1871** (Hampstead, Middx); Giuseppe *Guerra*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Falmouth, Cornwall); Angelo *Guerra*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Westminster, Middx); Edgardo *Guerra*, born in Brazil, in **Census 1911** (Paddington, Middx).

(ii) Alexandro *del Guerra*, and Menoth *del Guerra*, both born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Cardiff, Glamorgan); Oreste *del Guerra*, born in Wales, in **Census 1881** (Sculcoates, ER Yorks); Genoeffa *de la Guerra*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Westminster, Middx).

2 language/culture: Basque

Locative name: denoting someone who lived in a break or depression in a range of hills, from Basque *guerri* 'waist'.

Early Bearers: Fernando *de la Guerra*, born in Cuba, in **Census 1911** (Macclesfield, Cheshire).

Guerrero

Current frequencies: GB: 211, Ireland: 10.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Spanish, Portuguese, Italian

Nickname: for a bellicose person or a soldier, from an agent derivative of *guerra* 'war'.

Compare [Guerra](#).

Early Bearers: Joseph *Guerrero*, in [Census 1841](#) (Saint George in the East, Middx); Manuel *Guerrero*, in [Census 1841](#) (Basingstoke, Hants); Maria *Guerrero*, born in Sapin, in [Census 1901](#) (Kensington, Middx); Virginia *Guerrero*, born in Spain, in [Census 1911](#) (Liverpool, Lancs); Julian *Guerrero*, born in Spain, in [Census 1911](#) (Edmonton, Middx); Juan *Guerrero*, born in Spain, [Census 1911](#) (Newport, Monmouths).

Guidera

Current frequencies: GB: 82, Ireland: 169.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64: Tipperary

Variants: [Guider](#).

language/culture: Irish

of uncertain origin. It has been suggested that it may be from Irish **Mac Giodaire**, a personal name or byname based on *giodar* 'haste'. It has also been suggested (MacLysaght, [Supplement to Irish Families](#), 84), that it may derive from **Mag Fhuadaire**, a personal name meaning 'wanderer'. However, it seems more likely that it is an immigrant name from Sicily, of Albanian origin. There is a large Albanian community in Sicily, and according to [Caracausi](#) *Guidera* is recorded in documents relating to the Albanian-speaking community of Sicily from the 18th century onwards.

Early Bearers: Ireland: Eliza *Guidera*, 1842 in [IGI](#)(Parsontown, Kings county [Offaly]); Honoria *Guidera* in [Census 1901, Ireland](#) (Ushers Quay, Dublin); Daniel *Guidera* in [Census 1901, Ireland](#) (Kildellig, Queen's county [Laois]); Kate *Guidera*, in [Census 1901, Ireland](#) (Timoney, Tipperary); Patrick *Guider* in [Census 1901, Ireland](#) (Mountrath, Queen's county [Laois]); Johanna *Guider* in [Census 1901, Ireland](#) (Templetouhy, Tipperary).

Guidi

Current frequencies: GB: 151, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of the personal name *Guido*.

Early Bearers: Giuseppe *Guidi*, in [Census 1861](#) (Middx); Samuel *Guidi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Leicester, Leics); Carlo *Guidi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Saint Pancras, Middx); Medes *Guidi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Bethnal Green, Middx); Raffaello *Guidi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Holborn, Middx); Rinaldo *Guidi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Sheffield, WR Yorks); Scipione *Guidi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Westminster, Middx).

Hannibal

Current frequencies: GB: 234, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 63

main GB location, 1881: Lancs; also Staffs and Leics

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Honeyball](#), [Honniball](#), [Hunnibal](#), [Hunneyball](#), [Hunnibell](#), [Hunneybell](#), [Hunnable](#).

language/culture: English

(i) **Relationship name:** a post-medieval variant of [Annable](#), from Middle English *Amabil*, *Annabel*. See [Amable](#). This female personal name fell out of fashion in the late Middle Ages, and the source of the surname was no longer recognized. It was re-interpreted in the 16th century by classically educated gentlemen as being the name of the Carthaginian general, Hannibal (247-182 BC). The surname was later sometimes re-etymologized as *honey* + *ball* or *bell*, hence spellings such as [Honeyball](#) and [Hunnibell](#). In this new guise, it coincided with an established variant of *Annable* with initial *H-*: compare Johannes *Hanable*, 1377 in [Poll Tax](#) (Langford Budville, Somerset), and note Henrico *Hanabulsone*, 1379 in [Poll Tax](#) (Thringstone, Leics).

(ii) there is no evidence for the use of *Hannibal* as a given name in England before 1619, when *Hannibal* Gammon was rector of Mawgan in Pyder, Cornwall ([Withycombe](#)). As a medieval surname, it was borne by Matthew *Hanibal* (1255, [Close Rolls](#)) and Peter *Haniballus* ([Bardsley](#), quoting from an undated Patent Roll), both described as ‘civis Romanus’, and obviously Italians. A Roman surname from the Carthaginian Hannibal is somewhat surprising, but in any case it is unlikely that either of these Italian merchants or moneylenders founded an English family.

Early Bearers: Johannes *Hanable*, 1377 in [Poll Tax](#) (Langford Budville, Somerset); Thomas *Hannyball*, 1513 in [Oxford University Register](#); John *Anyable*, 1568 in [Subsidy Rolls](#) (Suffolk); John *Hunnyball*, 1588 in [IGI](#) (Lavenham, Suffolk); Moses *Hunnibal*, 1590 in [IGI](#) (Polstead, Suffolk); Sara *Hanniball*, 1635 in [IGI](#) (Groton, Suffolk); Thomas *Honniball*, 1674 in [IGI](#) (Great Burstead, Essex); Benjamin *Hanniball*, 1747 in [IGI](#) (Loughborough, Leics); Thomas *Hannibal*, 1759 in [IGI](#) (Kegworth, Leics); Simon *Honeyball*, 1792 in [Parish Registers](#) (Suffolk); Thomas *Hannibal*, 1799 in [IGI](#) (Lancaster, Lancs); Elizabeth *Hunnibal(d)*, 1821, 1824 in [Parish Registers](#) (Shotley, Suffolk); Elizah *Honeybill*, 1845 in [IGI](#) (Brereton cum Smethwick, Cheshire).

Hippolyte

Current frequencies: GB: 180, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: French

Relationship name: from the personal name *Hippolyte*, from Greek *Ippolytos*. See also Italian *Ippolito*.

Early Bearers: Lesoun Hyppolyte, born in France, in [Census 1901](#) (Sussex); Darren Hyppolyte, born in France, in [Census 1901](#) (Devon).

Other info: This name occurs frequently in slave registers as a sole or first name, esp. in Mauritius, suggesting that it may sometimes have a French colonial origin.

Iacono

Current frequencies: GB: 146, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -
main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Nickname: Southern Italian, from *iacono*, southern dialect form of *diacono* `deacon', hence a nickname for someone in the service of a deacon or a nickname for someone thought to resemble a deacon in some way.

References:

Caracausi

2 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: Southern Italian, possibly from an augmentative of *Giacco*, a short form of the personal name *Giacomo*.

Inglese

Current frequencies: GB: 30, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Ethnic name: meaning 'Englishman'.

Ippolito

Current frequencies: GB: 52, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from the personal name *Ippolito* (classical Greek *Hippolytos*, composed of the elements *hippos* `horse' + *lyein* `loose, release'). Compare English *Pollitt*.

Other info: This was the name of various minor early Christian saints. (In classical mythology Hippolytos was a young man who rejected the incestuous advances of his stepmother Phaedra.)

Jaconelli

Current frequencies: GB: 260, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from a diminutive of *Iacono*.

Jannetta

Current frequencies: GB: 145, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from a feminine diminutive of *Gianni*, a contracted form of *Giovanni* 'John'. The name gave rise to a word *giannetta*, used to translate (*spinning*) *jenny* (a machine invented in England in

the 1760s), but it is not clear whether such a late adaptation of a name as a word influenced the development of an Italian surname.

Early Bearers: Giovanni *Janetta* in [Census 1861](#) (Warwicks); Fred *Jannetta*, in [Census 1881](#) (Bedwardine, Worcs); Isabella *Janetta*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Devon); Giuseppe *Jannetta*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Devon); Eugenio *Jannetta*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Devon).

Other info: The name has been reinforced numerically by recent immigration.

Jerome

Current frequencies: GB: 1067, Ireland: 8.

GB frequency, 1881: 541

main GB location, 1881: S England: esp. Hants and Berks

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Jerrome](#), [Jerrom](#), [Jerram](#), [Jerrim](#), [Jearum](#), [Jeram](#), [Jaram](#), [Jarram](#).

language/culture: English

Relationship name: from either of two distinct personal names which became confused in Middle English: Continental Germanic *Ger(r)am* (*Gerrannus*) and Greek *Ierōnymos*. The latter is the source of Italian *Geronimo*, French *Jérôme*, English *Jerome*, and other cognates. The former would certainly be assumed to be the forename of *Geram* de Curzun were it not for the fact that he is also recorded as *Jeronimus* and *Geronimus*. The name *Gerrannus* may also have become *Gerrans*; see also [Gerring](#).

Early Bearers: (i) given names: *Geram*, 1154–89 [Danelaw Documents](#) (Lincs); *Geram* de Curzun, 1206 in [Fine Rolls](#) (Bucks); *Jeronimus*, *Geronimus*, *Gerarmus* de Curzun, 1206–11 in [Curia Regis Rolls](#) (Berks, Staffs); *Jerom'* de Ponte Burgi, 1219 in [Assize Rolls](#) (Yorks); *Jeronimus* de Normaneby, 1230 in [Pipe Rolls](#) (Lincs).

(ii) surnames: William *Geran'*, 1194 in [Curia Regis Rolls](#) (Shrops); Roger *Geram*, 1333 in [Ancient Deeds](#) ii (Leics); Peter *Jerrome*, 1604 in [York Freeman's Register](#); Joseph *Jerram*, 1729 in [Bardsley](#).

Keep

Current frequencies: GB: 1365, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 972

main GB location, 1881: Berks; Beds; London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: English

Locative name, occupational name: from Middle English *kepe*, possibly in the sense 'keep of a castle' though this is not otherwise recorded until the late 16th century (perhaps a translation of Italian *tenazza* 'that which keeps'), or in the sense 'look-out place' (Old English **cēpe*, from *cēpan* 'to watch, look out for').

Early Bearers: Petr' *de la Koype* (read *Keype*), 1296, Thom' *ate Kepe*, 1327, Thom' *atte Kepe*, 1332 in [Subsidy Rolls](#) (Woolbeding, Sussex); Robert *de Kepe*, 1332 in [Subsidy Rolls](#) (Cumb); Johannes *atte Kepe*, 1379 in [Poll Tax](#) (Woolbeding, Sussex); Ricardo *Kepe*, 1381 in [Poll Tax](#) (Grove, Berks); Johannes *Kepe*, 1381 in [Poll Tax](#) (Fratton, Hants); Ralph *de Kepe*, 1384, John *Kepe*, 1424 in [Feet of Fines](#) (Northants); Jane *Keepe*, 1540 in [IGI](#) (Wantage, Berks); Ayles *Keepe*, 1555 in [IGI](#) (Dunton, Beds); Alce *Keepe*, 1558 in [IGI](#) (Claypole, Lincs); John *Keep*, 1632 in [IGI](#) (Peasmore, Berks); Robert *Keep*, 1653 in [IGI](#) (Northill, Beds); George *Keep*, 1676 in [IGI](#) (Doddington, Lincs).

References: [OED](#), s.v. *keep* n.; [Löfvenberg](#), pp. 31-2; [Vocabulary of English Place-Names](#), s.v. **cape*.

Koumi

Current frequencies: GB: 136, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Greek

Relationship name: probably from a reduced form of the personal name *Yiakoumis*, Greek form of the Italian name *Giacomo* (Late Latin *Iacomus*; see [James](#)).

Lama

Current frequencies: GB: 300, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 6

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Jewish (Sephardic)

Locative name: denoting someone who lived by a marsh, *lama*. The Italian and Spanish names may also be from any of numerous places named with this word.

Early Bearers: Ester, daughter of Moses *Lama*, 1696 in [Parish Registers](#) (Canterbury, Kent); John *Lama*, 1703 in [IGI](#) (Canterbury, Kent); Hannah *Lama*, in [Census 1841](#) (Adlington, Cheshire); John *Lamma*, warehouseman, in [Census 1841](#) (Southwark, Surrey); Dominic *Lama*, 1858 in [IGI](#) (Saint Pancras, Middx), probably identical with Domenico *Lama*, photographer, born in Italy, in [Census 1861](#) (Marylebone, Middx); Robert *Lama*, in [Census 1861](#) (Drypool, ER Yorks); Joseph *Lama*, born in Italy, in [Census 1861](#) (Cheshire).

2 language/culture: Tibetan, Nepali

Buddhist, from Tibetan *blama* 'priest, monk'.

Landi

Current frequencies: GB: 133, Ireland: 8.

GB frequency, 1881: 15

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of the personal name Lando *Lando*, a short form of *Orlando* or similar.

Lanni

Current frequencies: GB: 185, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: Southern Italian, variant of **Landi**, which is a patronymic or plural from the personal name *Lando*, a reduced form of *Orlando* or *Rolando*.

Early Bearers: Lorenzo *Lanni*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Middx); Paolo *Lanni*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Liverpool, Lancs).

Lanza

Current frequencies: GB: 147, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian (variant of Lancia)

Relationship name, nickname: or Spanish, from *lancia*, *lanza* 'lance', a nickname, perhaps from some fancied resemblance to a lance or an occupational nickname for a lancer (a cavalry soldier armed with a lance) or a lance maker.

Early Bearers: Guesualdo *Lanza*, 1810 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Aurora and Amelia *Lanza*, 1812 in **IGI** (Rottingdean, Sussex); Rosalia *Lanze* in **Census 1881** (Weston super Mare, Somerset); Lorenzo *Lanza*, 1884 in **IGI** (Oakley, Beds).

Lazzari

Current frequencies: GB: 157, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 25

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: Southern Italian, from the personal name *Lazzaro*, see [Lazar](#).

Leonardi

Current frequencies: GB: 227, Ireland: 14.

GB frequency, 1881: 10

main GB location, 1881: Notts

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the male given name *Leonardo*.

Leone

Current frequencies: GB: 311, Ireland: 13.

GB frequency, 1881: 17

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

language/culture: Italian

from Italian *leone* 'lion'.

Early Bearers: John *Leone*, 1804 in **IGI** (Buxton, Norfolk).

Licata

Current frequencies: GB: 139, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian (Sicilian)

Locative name: from Licata (Agrigento province).

Loi

Current frequencies: GB: 310, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Chinese

Cantonese form of the Chinese surname 呂, see [Lu](#) (6).

2 language/culture: Chinese

Cantonese form of the Chinese surname 雷, see [Lui](#) (1).

3 language/culture: Vietnamese

unexplained; probably from one of the Chinese names above.

4 language/culture: Indian (Panjab)

from Manipuri *loi*, a term meaning 'outcast' or 'member of a scheduled caste'. Manipuri is a language spoken in the state of Manipur in the far northeast of India, on the border with Burma. *Loi* is a term in Manipur used to denote villages that refused to convert to Hinduism when this became the state religion in Manipur.

Lombardi

Current frequencies: GB: 353, Ireland: 10.

GB frequency, 1881: 9

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of [Lombardo](#).

Early Bearers: Lorenzo *Lombardi*, 1760 in [IGI](#) (Westminster, Middx); Domenico *Lombardi*, 1838 in [IGI](#) (Westminster, Middx); Salvatore *Lombardi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Camden, Middx); Pablo *Lombardi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Saint James, Middx); Ferdinando *Lombardi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Westminster, Middx); Francesco *Lombardi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (London); Alfonso *Lombardi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (London).

Lombardo

Current frequencies: GB: 215, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Lombardi](#).

language/culture: Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese

Ethnic name: ethnic name specifically denoting someone from Lombardy (see [Lombard](#)), or more generally for someone from northern Italy, as opposed to the south (i.e. the area once under Byzantine rule).

Early Bearers: (i) Italian: Nicolo *Lombardo* in [Census 1861](#) (Royal Navy); Antonio *Lombardo* in [Census 1861](#) (Northumb); Guiseppe *Lombardo*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (London).

(ii) Spanish: Luis Andres De Los Santos *Lombardo*, 1875 in [IGI](#) (Meppershall, Beds).

(iii) John *Lombardo*, born in Constantinople [Istanbul], in [Census 1881](#) (Westminster, Middx) Demetrius *Lombardo*, born in Constantinople, in [Census 1881](#) (Westminster, Middx).

Other info: In the form **Lombardos** it is also found as a Greek family name.

Longo

Current frequencies: GB: 135, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese

Nickname: from *lóngo* 'tall, lanky', a dialect variant of *lungo* (from Latin *longus*). In some cases the surname may be Spanish or Portuguese, of the same derivation and meaning.

Early Bearers: (i) Rophael *Longo*, 1810 in **IGI** (Alverstoke, Hants); Giuseppe *Longo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Westminster, Middx); Battista *Longo*, pantryman, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Lambeth, Surrey); Lorenzo *Longo*, tailor, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Paddington, Middx).

(ii) Corgan [sic] *Longo*, born in Spain, in **Census 1881** (Liverpool, Lancs); Jose *Longo*, 1883 in **IGI** (Oakley, Beds); Mig[uel] *Longo*, born in Spain, in **Census 1891** (London).

Lorenzo

Current frequencies: GB: 235, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 16

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Spanish and Italian, patronymic from the personal name *Lorenzo*, a derivative of Latin *Laurentius* (see [Lawrence](#)).

Early Bearers: Pedro *Lorenzo*, 1667 in **IGI** (Sedgefield, Durham); Domingo *Lorenzo*, 1789 in **IGI** (Chester le Street); Segundo *Lorenzo*, 1861 in **IGI** (Leighton Buzzard, Beds).

Lui

Current frequencies: GB: 460, Ireland: 14.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Lui](#), [Lew](#), [Lai](#), [Lei](#), [Lee](#), [Lay](#), [Lue](#), [Loy](#).

1 language/culture: Chinese

Cantonese form of the Chinese surname 雷 (**Lei** in Mandarin pinyin, **Loi** in Cantonese romanization), meaning 'thunder' in Chinese:

(i) from the second element of Fang *Lei* (方雷), the name of an ancient state prior to the Xia dynasty (2070-1600 BC). The state is said to have been named for Fang *Lei* Shi, son of the legendary king Yu Wang (traditional dates: 4561-4494 BC), associated with a fief called Fangshan (perhaps in present-day Yuzhou or Songshan in Henan province). Some of the people from the state acquired 雷 as their surname, while others acquired 方 ([Fang](#)) as their surname.

(ii) said to be traced back to *Lei* Gong (雷公), a famous doctor during the reign of the legendary Huang Di, the Yellow Emperor (traditional dates: 2697-2599 BC).

2 language/culture: Chinese

Cantonese form of the Chinese surname 呂, see [Lu](#) (6).

Luke

Current frequencies: GB: 3886, Ireland: 147.

GB frequency, 1881: 2889

main GB location, 1881: Cornwall and Devon; also London; Durham and Northumb; Lancs; Hants; central Scotland

main Irish location, 1847-64: Antrim

Variants: [Look](#), [Luck](#), [Luk](#), [Lukes](#).

1 language/culture: English

(i) **Relationship name:** from the Middle English personal name *Luke* or *Luck*, popular forms of *Lucas*. See [Lucas](#).

(ii) **Relationship name:** from the Middle English personal name *Louke*, a reduced form of *Lovecok*, an English pet form of the Anglo-Norman French personal name *Lou*, *Leu*, *Love*. *Luke* de Nettelton, 1308 is identical with *Lovecok* de Nettelton, 1309 in [Wakefield Court Rolls](#) (Rastrick). See [Love](#) and compare [Lovekin](#).

Early Bearers: (i) given names: *Luke*, 1277 in [Inquisitiones post Mortem](#) (Notts).

(ii) surnames, England: William *Lucke*, 1279 in [Hundred Rolls](#) (Cambs); Thomas *Lucke*, 1332 in [Subsidy Rolls](#) (Staffs); Simon *Luk*, 1286 in [Inquisitiones post Mortem](#) (Suffolk); Godfrey *Lukke*, 1327 in [Subsidy Rolls](#) (Suffolk); John *Lukke*, 1381 in [Archaeologia Cantiana](#) iii; John *Louk*, 1327 in [Subsidy Rolls](#) (Suffolk); John *Look*, 1379 in [Colchester Court Rolls](#) (Essex); Margery *Luke*, 1541 in [IGI](#) (Bluntisham cum Earith, Hunts); John *Luke*, 1550 in [IGI](#) (Saint Just in Roseland, Cornwall); Johana *Luke*, 1560 in [IGI](#) (Ingatestone, Essex); Thoms *Luk*, 1562 in [IGI](#) (Ipswich, Suffolk); Joan *Luke*, 1563 in [IGI](#) (Boughton under Blean, Kent); John *Luke*, 1567 in [IGI](#) (Bishops Tawton, Devon); Henry *Luke*, 1620 in [IGI](#) (Jarrow, Durham); Edward *Luke*, 1633 in [IGI](#) (Tynemouth, Northumb).

(iii) Scotland: Margaret *Luke*, 1609 in [IGI](#) (Edinburgh, Midlothian); Elspet *Luke*, 1622 in [IGI](#) (Glasgow, Lanarks); Helene *Luke*, 1656 in [IGI](#) (Dundee, Angus); Patrick *Luke*, 1691 in [IGI](#) (Huntly, Aberdeens); Donald *Luke*, 1737 in [IGI](#) (Lochgoilhead and Kilmorich, Argyll).

References: [Redmonds, Surnames and Genealogy](#), pp. 47-9; [McClure, Jack I](#), p. 103.

2 language/culture: Belgian

Locative name : from Luick (Flemish name of Liège, Belgium).

Early Bearers: Lucas *de Luk'*, *de Lukes*, 1274 in [Hundred Rolls](#) (London); Richard *Luike*, 1279 in [Hundred Rolls](#) (Cambs); Thomas *Luke*, 1564 in [IGI](#) (Saint Olave Old Jewry, London); Susannah *Luke*, 1656 in [IGI](#) (Haddenham, Cambs).

3 language/culture: Italian

see [De Luca](#).

4 language/culture: English

reduced form of [Levick](#).

5 language/culture: Chinese

romanization of the Chinese surname 陸, based on its Cantonese pronunciation. See [Lu](#) (5).

Lupino

Current frequencies: GB: 18, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a pet form of the personal name *Lupo*, which is in part a direct continuation of the Latin personal name *Lupus*, from a word meaning 'wolf', and in part a medieval revival under the influence of Germanic personal names formed with *wulf* 'wolf'. Compare the English surnames [Lovell](#) and [Lovett](#), which go back to the same root.

Early Bearers: Venantia *Lupino*, 1780 in [IGI](#) (Westminster, Middx).

Other info: According to Reaney, this is the name of a theatrical family of Italian origin, established in England since 1642.

Lusardi

Current frequencies: GB: 106, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a Genoese form of the Sardinian personal name *Luxorio*, *Lussorio*, according to **Caracausi**.

Early Bearers: Bernard *Lusardi*, 1791 in **IGI** (Liverpool, Lancs); Petro *Lusardi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Clerkenwell, Middx); Guiseppe *Lusardi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London); Pietro *Lusardi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (London).

Other info: *Lussorio* was a Christian soldier martyred during the persecutions of Diocletian (AD 284-305). San Lussorio is the patron saint of several places in the provinces of Nuoro and Oristano in Sardinia.

Macari

Current frequencies: GB: 242, Ireland: 105.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: S Italian

(i) **Relationship name:** a patronymic from the personal name *Macario*, from Greek *makarios* 'blessed'.

(ii) It may also be a locative name, from a place in Italy called Maccari or an Italianized version of *Maqqarah* in Algeria.

Early Bearers: Rafael *Macari*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (London).

Maffei

Current frequencies: GB: 122, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from the personal name *Maffeo*, a medieval variant of *Matteo* (see [Matthew](#)).

Magri

Current frequencies: GB: 140, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of *Magro*, from Italian *magro* 'thin, lean' (Latin *macer*).

2 language/culture: Catalan

Nickname: **Magrí**, from a diminutive of *magre* 'lean'.

Other info:

DAFN

Maina

Current frequencies: GB: 219, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian
unexplained.

2 language/culture: Nigerian
unexplained.

3 language/culture: Nepalese
unexplained.

Maini

Current frequencies: GB: 290, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Northern Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of **Maino**, from a personal name of Germanic origin, recorded as *Mainold* in Siena in AD 715 and as *Mainulus* in Farfa in Sabina (Rieti).

References:

De Felice

Mamo

Current frequencies: GB: 138, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian and Maltese

Occupational name: from modern Greek *mam(m)os* 'obstetrician'.

References: Cassar.

2 language/culture: Maltese

Relationship name: from a Sicilian-Arabic personal name *Mamo*, possibly a reduced latinized form of [Mohamed](#) or [Mahmood](#)

References: Cassar.

3 language/culture: Ethiopian
unexplained.

Mancini

Current frequencies: GB: 679, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 12

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from Italian *mancino* 'left-handed'.

Manfred

Current frequencies: GB: 22, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 12

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: German, Dutch

Relationship name: from the German personal name *Manfred*. This is popular as a given name in N Germany, although as a German surname it is comparatively rare. It was popular among the Lombards, who dominated N Italy from the 6th century onwards, and whose influence spread to other parts of Italy and Sicily. See [Manfredi](#). According to German sources, it is composed of the elements *man* 'man' + *frid* 'peace'; Italian sources derive the first element from *magin* 'strength'.

Manfredi

Current frequencies: GB: 273, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 9

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the Germanic (Lombard) personal name *Maginfrid*, composed of the elements *mag(in)* 'strength, might' + *frid* 'peace'. Compare [Manfred](#).

Other info: The name was most famously borne in Italian history by Manfredo (c.1232-66), king of Sicily 1258-66, son of the Holy Roman emperor Frederick II.

Mangion

Current frequencies: GB: 157, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese

Nickname: reduced form of the Italian surname **Mangione**, from a nickname for a glutton, *mangione* 'big eater', a derivative of *mangiare* 'to eat'.

References: [Cassar](#), [De Felice](#)

Mansi

Current frequencies: GB: 348, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

patronymic or plural form of **Manso**, a nickname for a mild, inoffensive person, from *manso* 'tame, docile' (Late Latin *mansus*, classical Latin *mansuetus* 'tamed', literally 'accustomed to the hand'). Compare [Manzi](#).

Early Bearers:

Manzi

Current frequencies: GB: 326, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 19

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

(i) **Nickname:** from *manzo* 'ox' (a derivative of Late Latin *mansus* 'tame', in the particular sense of an ox tamed to draw a plough).

(ii) **Nickname:** from *manso* 'gentle, mild'.

(iii) **Relationship name:** from *Manso*, a Germanic personal name based on *magin* 'strength, might'. Compare [Main](#), [Manfred](#), [Manfredi](#).

Marandola

Current frequencies: GB: 94, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from *Marandolo*, a Lombard personal name of Germanic origin.

Marcantonio

Current frequencies: GB: 183, Ireland: 12.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a composite personal name formed with *Marco* + *Antonio*.

Early Bearers:

Marchese

Current frequencies: GB: 147, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name, nickname: from the title of rank *marchése* 'marquis' (in Italy the rank immediately below that of duke), probably applied as a nickname for someone who behaved like a marquis or for a servant in the household of a marquis. However, 13th- and 14th-century documents show that the term was also in use as a personal name at that time.

Marchetti

Current frequencies: GB: 193, Ireland: 15.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural of *Marchetto*, a pet form of the personal name *Marco* (see [Mark](#)).

Marchi

Current frequencies: GB: 144, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian
plural or genitival variant of *Marco*, see [De Marco](#).

Marco

Current frequencies: GB: 240, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 12

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Spanish, Catalan, Italian

Relationship name: Spanish, Catalan, and Italian, from the personal name *Marco* (see [Mark](#)).

Marenghi

Current frequencies: GB: 185, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from Marengo, near Alessandria, Piedmont, Italy.

Margiotta

Current frequencies: GB: 174, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Southern Italian

Locative name: from medieval Italian *mariciotta*, diminutive of *maricio* 'salt marsh' (Latin *maricius*).

Maria

Current frequencies: GB: 431, Ireland: 20.

GB frequency, 1881: 10

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Huguenot

Relationship name: from the female personal name, Latin *Maria* (see [Marie](#)).

Early Bearers: Anne Maria, 1677 in IGI (Threadneedle Street French Huguenot church, London).

2 language/culture: Spanish, Italian, Portuguese

Relationship name: from the female personal name, Latin *Maria* (see [Marie](#)).

Mariani

Current frequencies: GB: 146, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

(i) **Relationship name:** patronymic or plural form of the personal name *Mariano*, from the Latin family name *Marianus*, a derivative of the ancient personal name *Marius*, of Etruscan

origin.

(ii) **Locative name:** in some cases, a toponymic from *Mariano* (Bergamo; Mariano Comense in Como).

Early Bearers:

Marini

Current frequencies: GB: 178, Ireland: 25.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

plural or possessive of [Marino](#).

Marino

Current frequencies: GB: 459, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 21

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Marini](#).

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of the personal name *Marino*, Latin *Marinus*.

Marsella

Current frequencies: GB: 94, Ireland: 42.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: variant of **Marsella**, a feminine pet form of [Marzo](#).

Martinelli

Current frequencies: GB: 210, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 20

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from a pet form of the personal name *Martino*, Italian form of [Martin](#).

Martini

Current frequencies: GB: 241, Ireland: 12.

GB frequency, 1881: 55

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

2 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a patronymic or plural form of the personal name <i>Martino</i>, Italian equivalent of [Martin](#).

Early Bearers: Dominico *Martini*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (London, Middx).

1 language/culture: German

Relationship name: German humanistic name, from the genitive singular or genitive plural

form of Latin *Martinus*, see [Martin](#).

Early Bearers: Spes *Martini*, 1625, and Maria Euphrosyna *Martini*, 1655 in [IGI](#) (Greystoke, Cumb).

Other info: Latin *Martini* is also quite often found as a form of the English surname *Martin* in early registers written in Latin.

Martino

Current frequencies: GB: 201, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 8

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the Italian personal name *Martino*, Italian equivalent of [Martin](#).

Marzo

Current frequencies: GB: 14, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a personal name derived from Latin *Martius*, adjectival derivative of *Mars*, name of the Roman god of war. *Martius (mensis)* denotes the month of March; in some cases this word was bestowed as a given name on someone born or converted to Christianity in this month.

Massa

Current frequencies: GB: 173, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 48

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from any of the many places in Italy called Massa. In Latin *massa* denoted an estate.

Early Bearers: William *Massa*, 1702 in [IGI](#) (Saint James, Westminster, Middx); Mary *Massa*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (York).

Massarella

Current frequencies: GB: 190, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 7

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Occupational name, status name: from a diminutive of *massaro*, from medieval Latin *massarius*, a derivative of *massa* 'farm, estate'. In northern Italy this word denoted a tenant farmer or share cropper; in central and southern Italy it also denote an agent or steward of a country estate.

Matta

Current frequencies: GB: 195, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 48

main GB location, 1881: Cornwall

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Cornish, English

Nickname: from Middle Cornish *mata* 'mate, friend, companion' (from Middle English *mate*).

Early Bearers: John *Mate*, 1524 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Wendron, Cornwall); John, Pedrac *Mata*, 1543 **Subsidy Rolls** (Saint Just in Roseland, Cornwall); Solomon *Matta*, 1587 in **IGI** (Newlyn by Penzance, Cornwall); Mawd *Matta*, 1625 in **IGI** (Saint Just in Roseland, Cornwall).

2 language/culture: Italian

(i) **Relationship name:** from the personal name *Matto*.

(ii) **Nickname:** from *matto*, a dialect variant of Italian *pazzo* 'crazy, eccentric'.

Mauro

Current frequencies: GB: 156, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name, nickname, ethnic name: from the personal name *Mauro*, derived from the Latin personal and ethnic name *Maurus*, meaning 'Moor, North African'; or from the same word, *mauro*, used as a nickname or ethnic name. Compare [Moore](#).

Mazza

Current frequencies: GB: 170, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 9

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

(i) **Nickname:** from *mazza* 'club, mace, sledgehammer', used to denote a mace bearer, but also for a violent and destructive individual.

(ii) It may alternatively be from a reduced form of *Giacomo*, Italian form of [James](#) with the pejorative suffix *-azzo*. Compare [Mazzone](#).

Mazzone

Current frequencies: GB: 131, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

augmentative derivative of [Mazza](#) or reduced form of *Giacomazzo*, a derivative of the personal name *Giacomo*, Italian form of [James](#). *-azzo* is an augmentative suffix and *-one* is pejorative, so the implication is something like 'big bad James'.

Mazzotta

Current frequencies: GB: 159, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from a diminutive of the personal names *Mazzo* or *Mazzeo*.

Early Bearers:

Meli

Current frequencies: GB: 139, Ireland: 37.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Southern Italian

(i) **Relationship name:** patronymic or plural form of the personal name *Melo*, a reduced form of *Carmelo* or some other personal name ending in *-melo*.

(ii) **Relationship name, nickname:** from a medieval Greek personal name, *Melis*, or an affectionate nickname from Sicilian *meli* 'honey'.

Early Bearers:

Mercieca

Current frequencies: GB: 163, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese

(i) **Locative name:** perhaps from Marsica or Marseca, a region of Abruzzo, Italy,

(ii) **Locative name:** possibly from Italian *merceria* 'haberdashery'.

References: [Cassar](#).

Messina

Current frequencies: GB: 223, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: Southern Italian, from Messina (Sicily), which was named *Messana* in the 5th century BC when it was captured by Anaxilaos of Rhegium; previously it had been known as *Zancle*.

Other info: This is a very common surname in Sicily, especially in Palermo and Catania.

Miele

Current frequencies: GB: 164, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: Southern Italian, from a personal name or affectionate nickname from *miele* 'honey'.

2 language/culture: French

Nickname: French, for a producer of honey, from a feminine form of *miel* 'honey'.

3 language/culture: Dutch

Relationship name: Dutch, from a personal name, perhaps of Germanic origin, or from a reduced form of the personal names *Amilius*, *Amelis*, or *Emilia*.

Milazzo

Current frequencies: GB: 99, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from Milazzo in Messina province, Sicily.

Minchella

Current frequencies: GB: 215, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

of unexplained etymology.

Early Bearers: Francesco *Minchella*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Hants).

Other info: Giuseppe *Minchella* came from Cassino in Lazio, Italy, in 1905 and set up an ice-cream business in Sunderland.

Mizzi

Current frequencies: GB: 177, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from **Mizio**, probably a reduced form of the personal name *Domizio* (Latin *Domitius*).

2 language/culture: S Italian

Nickname: from medieval Greek *micéo* 'small'.

Molinari

Current frequencies: GB: 133, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 14

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Occupational name: from *molinaro* 'miller', an agent derivative of *molino* 'mill'.

Monaco

Current frequencies: GB: 141, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian (Mònaco)

Nickname: from Italian *monaco* 'monk' (from Greek *monakhos* 'monk, solitary'), used to

denote someone of monkish habits or appearance, or for a servant employed at a monastery.

Early Bearers:

Other info: *Monachos* is also found as a Greek family name. Compare English [Monk](#).

Montefiore

Current frequencies: GB: 14, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 24

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Jewish (Italy)

from Italian *monte* 'hill' + *fiore* 'flower', either an ornamental adoption, or a locative name from an unidentified place

Early Bearers: Abigail *Montefiore*, 1871 in [Cemetery Scribes](#) (Hackney Jewish Cemetery, Middx); Joseph Levi *Montefiore*, born in Bridgetown, Barbados, in [Census 1881](#) (Croydon, Surrey); Joseph Barrow *Montefiore*, 1893 in [Cemetery Scribes](#) (Balls Pond Road Jewish Cemetery, Dalston, Middx); Moses Haim *Montefiore*, born in Livorno, Italy, 1885 in [Cemetery Scribes](#) (Ramsgate, Kent).

Other info: The distinguished family of Italian Jewish descent who bear this name include amongst their members Hugh Montefiore, a former Bishop of Birmingham.

Monti

Current frequencies: GB: 157, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 28

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Jewish (Sephardic)

Locative name: from the plural or genitive of Italian *monte* 'mountain' (Latin *mons*, genitive *montis*), either a topographic name for someone who lived by or on a mountain or a toponym from any of the many places named with this word.

Early Bearers: Antonio *Monti*, dealer, born in Italy, in [Census 1851](#) (Canterbury, Kent); Michael *Monti*, sculptor, born in Italy, in [Census 1871](#) (Saint Pancras, Middx); Saverio *Monti*, footman, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Chelsea, Middx); Jivonanni [sic] *Monti*, cook, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Farringdon, London); Amielo *Monti*, rug hawker, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Liverpool, Lancs); Francis *Monti*, labourer, born in Naples, Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Barrow in Furness, Lancs); Colombo *Monti*, asphalter, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Holborn, Middx).

Morelli

Current frequencies: GB: 298, Ireland: 97.

GB frequency, 1881: 20

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: a patronymic or plural form of *Morello*. *Morello* has two possible origins: (1) a pet form or diminutive of *Moro* (which is either a variant of the Italian personal name *Mauro*, from the Latin personal and ethnic name *Maurus*, meaning 'Moor, North African', or the same word, *mauro*, applied as a nickname or ethnic name); or (2) a reduced form of *Amorello*, from a pet form of the personal name *Amore* (from a term of endearment

meaning `love'). Compare [Moretti](#).
Early Bearers: John *Morelli*, 1806 in [IGI](#) (Holborn, Middx).

Moretti

Current frequencies: GB: 208, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 17

main GB location, 1881:

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: a patronymic or plural form of *Moretto*. *Moretto* derives from a pet form or diminutive of *Moro*, which is either a variant of the medieval Italian personal name *Mauro*, from the Latin personal and ethnic name *Maurus*, meaning `Moor, North African', or the same word, *mauro*, applied as a nickname or ethnic name. Compare [Morelli](#).

Early Bearers: Joseph Ferdinand Jasperrine Vincent *Moretti*, 1833 in [IGI](#) (Lambeth, Surrey).

Mori

Current frequencies: GB: 190, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 17

main GB location, 1881: Norfolk; Stirlings

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: a patronymic form of the personal name *Moro*, which is a variant of *Mauro* (see [Mauro](#)).

2 language/culture: English, Scottish
perhaps occasionally a variant of [Morey](#).

Morpurgo

Current frequencies: GB: 32, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 6

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Jewish

Locative name: from Marburg, the German name of Maribor in Slovenia.

Early Bearers: Isaac *Morpurgo*, 1857 in [Bevis Marks Records](#) (London); Elias *Morpurgo*, 1858 in [BMD](#) (Whitechapel, Middx); Morris *Morpurgo*, commercial traveller, born in Amsterdam, Holland, in [Census 1881](#) (Whitechapel, Middx); Abraham *Morpurgo*, cigar maker, born in Amsterdam, in [Census 1891](#) (Hackney, Middx); Mordecai *Morpurgo*, railway porter, born in Holland, in [Census 1901](#) (Mile End Old Town, Middx); Esther *Morpurgo*, born in Holland, in [Census 1911](#) (Whitechapel, Middx).

Other info: During the days of the Austrian Empire, Maribor (Marburg or Marchburg) had a large Jewish community. In 1624 Moses *Marpurger* of Gradisca and Jacob *Marpurger* of Tapogliano were accorded the title 'Court Jews' by Emperor Ferdinand II. This was a family of rich bankers came to be associated particularly with Trieste (now part of NE Italy), where their name was Italianized to *Morpurgo*: Samson ben Joshua Moses *Morpurgo*, rabbi, born 1681 in Gradisca d'Isonzo, died 1740 in Gorizia; Giuseppe Lazzaro *Morpurgo*, poet, financier, and businessman, born c. 1759 in Trieste, died before 1835 in Venice; Carlo Marco *Morpurgo*, banker, born 1827 in Gorizia, died 1899 in Trieste; Gioacchino (Giachino, Joachim)*Morpurgo*, born 1834 in Trieste, died 1886 in Vienna. Note also Emma *Marburger*, 1883 in [IGI](#) (Bywell, Northumb), who may be of German stock, named from Marburg in the

state of Hesse.

References:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~prohel/names/misc/morpurgo.html>;
accessed 3 October 2011.

Morreale

Current frequencies: GB: 151, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian (Sicily)

Locative name: from Monreale near Palermo, Sicily, so named from *monte regale* 'regal mountain'.

Early Bearers:

Moruzzi

Current frequencies: GB: 158, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: .

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: probably from a pet form of the medieval Italian personal name *Morus*.

Musa

Current frequencies: GB: 1556, Ireland: 11.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Moussa](#), [Mussa](#), [Moosa](#).

1 language/culture: Arabic, Muslim

from the Arabic personal name *Musa* (the Biblical *Moses*). The Qur'an says (19:51): 'He was specially chosen, and he was a Messenger and a Prophet'.

2 language/culture: Southern Italian

Locative name: from any of the places called Musa, particularly the one in Melito di Porto Salvo (Reggio Calabria), and the one in Nissoria (Enna province, Sicily).

Muscat

Current frequencies: GB: 487, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 7

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese, Italian

Relationship name: Maltese and Italian variant of Italian **Muscato**, from the personal name *Muscato*, ultimately a derivative of Latin *muscus* 'moss'.

References: [DAFN](#).

Naples

Current frequencies: GB: 61, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 55

main GB location, 1881: Midlothian; London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, English

Locative name: from Naples in Italy.

Early Bearers: William *de Naples*, 1311 in **Patent Rolls** (Minster in Thanet, Kent); William *de Naples*, 1360 in **London Letter Books G** (London); Louis *de Naples*, alien, pouchmaker, 1483 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Langbourn ward, London); Antony *Naples*, stranger, 1541 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Tower ward, London); John *Naples*, 1568 in **IGI** (Margate, Kent); Anne *Naples*, 1627 in **IGI** (Little Stretton, Leics); Charles *Napples*, 1788 in **IGI** (Edinburgh, Midlothian); Agness *Naples*, 1795 in **IGI** (Dalkeith, Midlothian).

Napolitano

Current frequencies: GB: 224, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: Southern Italian, habitation name denoting someone from Naples, perhaps from Neapolitan dialect *Napulitanë*, an adjectival derivative of Napoli. Compare standard Italian *Napoletano*.

Nardini

Current frequencies: GB: 119, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from *Nardino*, a diminutive of the personal name *Nardo*, originally a pet form of any of the various personal names (of Germanic origin) ending with *-nardo*, such as *Bernardo*, *Leonardo*.

Early Bearers:

Nardone

Current frequencies: GB: 214, Ireland: 42.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from an augmentative of the personal name *Nardo*, originally a pet form of any of the various personal names (of Germanic origin) ending with *-nardo*, such as *Bernardo*, *Leonardo*.

Early Bearers:

Navarro

Current frequencies: GB: 532, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Nabarro](#).

language/culture: Spanish, Italian, Jewish

Spanish, Italian, and Jewish (Sephardic) (of Basque origin), regional name denoting someone from Navarre.

Early Bearers: Caytano Navarro, born in Spain, in [Census 1871](#) (London); Emilio Navarro, born in Spain, in [Census 1891](#) (Lancs); Juan Navarro, in [Census 1911](#) (Lancs); Alberto Navarro, born in Spain, in [Census 1911](#) (London).

Negri

Current frequencies: GB: 122, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

typically north-central Italian (Lombardy, Emilia Romagna) surname from an ancestral form of modern *nero* 'black'.

Neri

Current frequencies: GB: 174, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Spanish

Spanish, from a personal name, from the name of a 16th-century Italian saint, Filippo *Neri* (see 2).

2 language/culture: Italian (Tuscany)

from a pet form of the personal name *Raineri*, *Ran(i)eri*, or *Rin(i)eri*, or in some cases from later personal names such as *Guarniero*, *Falconiere*, *Soldaniero*.

Nicola

Current frequencies: GB: 796, Ireland: 29.

GB frequency, 1881: 6

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the male personal name *Nicola* (see [Nicholas](#)). Compare [Nicoletti](#).

Nicoletti

Current frequencies: GB: 117, Ireland: 21.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a diminutive of the male personal name *Nicola* (see [Nicola](#)).

Early Bearers:

Nota

Current frequencies: GB: 142, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Indian (Panjab)

Sikh, unexplained.

2 language/culture: Italian

unexplained.

Early Bearers: Ghilielmo *Nota*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Shoreditch, Middx);

Giovanni *Nota*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Brentford, Middx); Luigi *Nota*, organ

grinder, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Keighley, WR Yorks).

Noto

Current frequencies: GB: 143, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian (Sicily)

Locative name: toponymic from Noto (Siracusa province).

Early Bearers:

Obertelli

Current frequencies: GB: 128, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a diminutive of the personal name *Oberto*, of Germanic origin (**Audhalberht* 'possession, wealth' + 'bright, famous').

Early Bearers:

References:

De Felice

Oliva

Current frequencies: GB: 193, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 12

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Spanish, Portuguese, Italian

Locative name: from Spanish, Portuguese, Italian *oliva* 'olive tree'; in many cases, via a place named with this word.

Orlando

Current frequencies: GB: 222, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from the personal name *Orlando*, earlier *Rolando* (see [Rowland](#)).

Orsi

Current frequencies: GB: 147, Ireland: 11.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Durso](#).

1 language/culture: Italian

(i) **Relationship name:** patronymic or plural form of **Orso**, from the personal name or nickname meaning 'bear' (from Latin *ursus*).

(ii) possibly also be an italianized form of Slovenian *Uršič*, a relationship name from either the female personal name *Urša*, a reduced form of *Uršula* (Latin *Ursula*), or the male personal name *Urh*, Slovenian vernacular form of *Ulrik*, German *Udalrich*.

Early Bearers: Gusseppe [sic] *Orsi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Southampton, Hants); Angelo Carlo *Orsi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Hastings, Sussex); Gino *Orsi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Hendon, Middx); Raphael *Orsi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Marylebone, Middx); Paolo *Orsi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (West Ham, Essex); Domenico *Orsi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Chelsea, Middx).

2 language/culture: Hungarian (Örsi)

Locative name: denoting someone from any of several places in Hungary called Örs.

3 language/culture: Italian

see [Durso](#).

Ottolanguì

Current frequencies: GB: 52, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Ottolenghi](#).

language/culture: Jewish

Locative name: from Ettlingen in Baden-Württemberg, Germany. *Ottolanguì* is a folk italianization of the German place-name, altered to resemble Italian *otto* 'eight' + *lingue* 'tongues'. The name was taken to northern Italy, in particular Piedmonte and Lombardy, by Jewish refugees in the 16th century.

Early Bearers: Emilia *Ottolengui*, 1842 in **BMD** (Whitechapel, Middx); Mordecai *Ottolengui*, 1846 in **BMD** (Whitechapel, Middx); Miriam *Ottolengui*, 1847 in **BMD** (Whitechapel, Middx); Abraham *Ottolengui*, 1847 in **BMD** (London); Joshua *Ottolengui*, 1848 in **BMD** (Whitechapel, Middx); Israel *Ottolengui*, 1856 **BMD** (London); Aaron *Ottolanguè*, born in Middx, in **Census 1861** (Spitalfields, Middx); Emanuel *Ottolanguì*, born in England, in **Census 1871** (Mile End Old Town, Middx); Monte *Ottolanguè*, fishmonger, born in Aldgate, in **Census 1891** (London); Judah *Ottolanguì*, auctioneer, born in Stepney, in **Census 1911** (Whitechapel, Middx).

References:

De Felice

Pacitti

Current frequencies: GB: 378, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 10

main GB location, 1881: Midlothian

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a patronymic or plural form of *Pacitto*.

Early Bearers: Tresi *Pacitti*, 1874 in **BMD** (Chesterfield, Derbys); Giuseppe *Pacitti*, ice cream maker, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Holborn, Middx); Alfonso *Pacitti*, ice cream dealer, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Barony, Lanarks); Galtano *Pacitti*, piano grinder, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Kingston upon Hull, ER Yorks); Giovanni *Pacitti*, itinerant musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Newport, Isle of Wight).

Pacitto

Current frequencies: GB: 108, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a diminutive of the Italian personal name *Pace*, a reduced form of *Pasquale*.

Early Bearers: Francesco *Pacitto*, 1877 in **BMD** (Manchester, Lancs); Alfonso *Pacitto*, musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Cockermouth, Cumb); Juan Battsti *Pacitto*, 1883 in **IGI** (Wolverhampton, Staffs); Stefano *Pacitto*, musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Wolverhampton, Staffs); Vittoria *Pacitto*, ice cream vendor, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Middlesbrough, NR Yorks); Gaetano *Pacitto*, ice cream maker, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Kingston upon Hull, ER Yorks).

Pagano

Current frequencies: GB: 145, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 16

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Pagano* (from Latin *paganus* 'villager, rustic').

Early Bearers: Santiago *Pagano*, 1845 in **Census 1861** (Tradeston, Lanarks); Angelo *Pagano*, 1866 in **BMD** (West Derby, Lancs); Stephano *Pagano*, musician, born in Palermo, Sicily, in **Census 1881** (Liverpool, Lancs); Michele *Pagano*, ice cream vendor, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Greenwich, Kent); Antonio *Pagano*, cabinet maker, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Clerkenwell, Middx); Salvo *Pagano*, born in Palermo, Sicily, in **Census 1911** (Fylde, Lancs).

Pala

Current frequencies: GB: 337, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Indian (Gujarat)

Hindu, unexplained.

2 language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from *pala* 'upland meadow'.

3 language/culture: Catalan

(i) **Locative name:** from a place called Palà (Barcelona province).

(ii) **Nickname:** Catalan, also in some instances possibly from Catalan *pala* 'shovel' (Latin

pala), denoting someone who made or used this implement.

4 language/culture: Polish, Czech

Relationship name: from the Polish personal name *Paweł*, Czech *Pala*, vernacular forms of [Paul](#).

5 language/culture: Czech

Nickname: from the Moravian dialect word *pala* 'head', used as a nickname for an obstinate person.

Paladino

Current frequencies: GB: 31, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian (mainly southern)

see [Palladino](#).

Palermo

Current frequencies: GB: 115, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from the city of Palermo in Sicily, the Greek name of which is *Panormos*, from *pan* 'all' + *ormos* 'gulf, bay', probably in the sense 'wide gulf', but possibly 'well-protected bay'.

Early Bearers: (i) Amedie *Palermo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1861** (Middx).

(ii) Cassandra *Palermo*, 1703 in **IGI** (Marylebone, Middx); Louis *Palermo*, 1808 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx).

Palladino

Current frequencies: GB: 105, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Paladino](#).

language/culture: Italian

from the 12th-century personal name *Paladino*, derived from tales of the Frankish king Charlemagne's legendary knights or paladins (from Latin *palatinus* 'of or pertaining to the palace').

Early Bearers: Andrea *Paladino*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Saint Giles, London);

Francis Peter *Palladino*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Nuneaton, Warwicks);

Cosimo *Paladino*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Holborn, Middx).

Palma

Current frequencies: GB: 214, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 7

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish, Portuguese

(i) **Locative name:** from any of various places called Palma (from Latin *palma* 'palm').

(ii) **Locative name:** from Parma in Italy.

Early Bearers: Frances *Palma* in **Census 1841** (Thingoe, Suffolk); Francis *Palma* in **Census 1841** (Saint Pancras, Middx); James *Palma*, 1836 in **IGI** (Leicester, Leics); Micaela Maria *Palma*, 1875 in **IGI** (Meppershall, Beds); Andrea *Di Palma* in Italy, in **Census 1911** (London).

Palmieri

Current frequencies: GB: 222, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of **Palmiere**, which is from *palmiere* 'palmer, pilgrim', an agent derivative of *palma* 'palm', influenced by Old French *palmiere* (see [Palmer](#)).

Palombo

Current frequencies: GB: 172, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 8

main GB location, 1881: Inverness

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Palombo*, from *palombo* 'dove' (Late Latin *palumbus*).

Palumbo

Current frequencies: GB: 224, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 4

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name, nickname: Southern Italian (especially Neapolitan), dialect variant of **Palombo**, from the medieval personal name *Palombo*, from *palombo* 'dove' (Late Latin *palumbus*). The surname can also derive directly from the vocabulary word, applied as a nickname for a mild individual or for a keeper of pigeons, which were a valuable source of food in the medieval period.

Paolo

Current frequencies: GB: 54, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Paolo*, Italian form of [Paul](#). See [Poli](#).

Parisi

Current frequencies: GB: 191, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a patronymic or plural form of the personal name *Parise*.

Early Bearers: Giacomo *Parisi* in **Census 1861** (Holborn, Middx); Michael *Parisi*, born in Italy, 1881 in **Census 1881** (Liverpool, Lancs).

Pasquale

Current frequencies: GB: 141, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Pasquale*.

Pattani

Current frequencies: GB: 230, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Indian

see [Pattni](#).

Pellegrini

Current frequencies: GB: 259, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of **Pellegrino**, from *pellegrino* 'pilgrim', which was used both as a nickname for someone who had been on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land or other important holy site and as a personal name.

Pelosi

Current frequencies: GB: 279, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of **Peloso**, from *peloso* 'hairy, shaggy', applied as a nickname for someone with long or unkempt hair or beard.

Penna

Current frequencies: GB: 262, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 205

main GB location, 1881: Cornwall

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Cornish

Locative name: unexplained; perhaps a shortened form of a Cornish surname of locative

origin such as *Penare* or *Panarth*.

Early Bearers: Edward *Penna*, 1584 in [Parish Registers](#) (Westminster, Middx); Sampson *Penna*, 1630 in [Parish Registers](#) (Constantine, Cornwall); Peter *Penna*, 1757 in [IGI](#) (Feock, Cornwall); Thomas *Penna*, 1773 in [IGI](#) (Perranzabuloe, Cornwall).

2 language/culture: Southern Italian

probably a locative name for someone who lived on a hill, peak, or elevated location, from *penna* (from Latin *pinnus* 'pointed'), a common element of place names.

Early Bearers: Francesco *Penna*, ice-cream vendor, born in Catona, Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Kingston upon Hull, ER Yorks); Guiseppe [la?] *Penna*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Grimsby, Lincs); Alfred *Penna*, french polisher, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Holborn, Middx); Placido *Penna*, grocer, born in Messina, Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Kingston upon Hull, ER Yorks).

Pepe

Current frequencies: GB: 143, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 12

main GB location, 1881: Essex; Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a pet form of the Italian personal name *Giuseppe* (from the biblical name *Joseph*).

2 language/culture: English

from Middle English *pepe*, a variant of *pipe* ([OED](#)). See [Pipe](#).

Early Bearers: John *Pepe*, 1282 in [Patent Rolls](#) (Devon); Ricardus *Pepe*, 1379 in [Poll Tax](#) (Daventry, Northants); Johannes *Pepe*, 1381 in [Poll Tax](#) (Navestock, Essex); Thomas *Pepe*, 1585 in [PROB 11](#) (Martock, Somerset);

Pesticcio

Current frequencies: GB: 131, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from a variant of Italian **Pasticcio**, from *pasticcio*, which in medieval Italian meant 'pie' or 'pastry', then 'jam', and more recently 'tangle, muddle'. Any of these senses could have given rise to the surname.

Early Bearers: Vita *Pesticcio*, marine dealer, born in Naples, in [Census 1901](#), identical with Vido *Pesticcio*, marine store dealer, in [Census 1911](#) in (Cardiff, Glamorgan); Vingenzo *Pastico*, 1904 in [BMD](#) (Glamorgan); Raffles *Pesticcio*, born in Elbole, in [Census 1911](#) in (Cardiff, Glamorgan); Cossimo Antonio *Pesticcio*, 1906 in [BMD](#) (Cardiff, Glamorgan).

Petri

Current frequencies: GB: 167, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 27

main GB location, 1881: London; Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: German, Dutch

Relationship name: from a patronymic from a Latinized form of *Peter*, often also written as *Petre* in the records. See [Peter](#).

Early Bearers: Ludwig *Petri*, born in Germany **Census 1861** (Clerkenwall, Middx); John *Petri*, born in Germany **Census 1871** (Mile End Old Town, Middx).

2 language/culture: Scottish

variant of [Petrie](#).

Petrucci

Current frequencies: GB: 191, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Pietro](#).

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic from a pet form of the personal name *Pietro*, Italian equivalent of [Peter](#).

Early Bearers:

Phillippo

Current frequencies: GB: 111, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 48

main GB location, 1881: Norfolk

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, English

probably an anglicization of the Italian name *Filippo*, from a 17th- or early 18th-century immigrant.

Early Bearers: Robert *Philippoe*, 1715 in **IGI** (Sparham, Norfolk); Thomas *Phillippo*, 1733 in **IGI** (Norwich, Norfolk); Thomas *Phillippo*, 1769 in **IGI** (Cley next the Sea, Norfolk); John *Philliphoe*, 1778 in **IGI** (Hackney, Middx); John Matthias Buscall *Phillipo*, 1815 in **IGI** (Colkirk, Norfolk).

Pia

Current frequencies: GB: 129, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian (Piedmont)

Relationship name: from the female personal name *Pia*.

2 language/culture: Catalan (Pià)

Locative name: from Pià, in the Rosselló area, eastern Pyrenees, named with the Latin personal name *Appius* + suffix *-anum*.

Piazza

Current frequencies: GB: 182, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 6

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from Italian *piazza* 'town square', or from a town named with this word, in particular Piazza Armerina in Enna province, Sicily.

Pieri

Current frequencies: GB: 341, Ireland: 8.

GB frequency, 1881: 18

main GB location, 1881: London and Surrey

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the Tuscan personal name *Piero*, a variant of *Pietro* (see [Peter](#)).

Pieroni

Current frequencies: GB: 114, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a derivative of the personal name *Piero*, Italian equivalent of [Peter](#).

Pietro

Current frequencies: GB: 24, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 19

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

see [Petrucci](#).

Pini

Current frequencies: GB: 181, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic from **Pino**, itself from a short form of the personal name *Giuseppino* (from *Giuseppe*), *Filippino* (from *Filippo*), or some other diminutive formed with this suffix.

Early Bearers:

Pinto

Current frequencies: GB: 1730, Ireland: 22.

GB frequency, 1881: 54

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

language/culture: Spanish, Italian

(i) **Nickname:** from Spanish *pinto* 'coloured, painted'.

(ii) **Nickname:** from Italian *pinto* 'mottled, spotted' (late Latin *pinctus*), presumably referring to an aspect of someone's appearance.

Early Bearers: Juana *Pinto*, 1700 in **IGI** (Kirk Merrington, Durham); Nazario *Pinto*, 1761 in **IGI** (Wilton, Somerset); Charles *Pinto*, 1763 in **IGI** (Soho, Middx); James *Pinto*, 1810 in **IGI** (Saint Clement Danes, Middx).

Pisani

Current frequencies: GB: 206, Ireland: 5.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

a patronymic or plural form of [Pisano](#).

Pisano

Current frequencies: GB: 135, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Pisani](#).

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: denoting someone from the city of Pisa in Tuscany.

Pleasance

Current frequencies: GB: 443, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 389

main GB location, 1881: Suffolk and Cambs; also Middx; WR Yorks

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Pleasence](#), [Pleasants](#), [Pleasant](#).

1 language/culture: Italian, English

Locative name: from Piacenza in Italy, earlier *Placentia*. Examples without 'de' may belong under 2.

Early Bearers: Reginald *de Pleisauns*, *de Plesence*, 1275 in [Hundred Rolls](#) (Lincs); Andrew *de Plesancia*, 1297 in [Patent Rolls](#); John *de Plesaunce*, 1319 in [Subsidy Rolls](#) (London); John *de Plesancia* of Lumbardy, 1339 in [London Pleas](#); Thomas *Plesaunce*, 1441 in [Patent Rolls](#) (Berks); George *Plesannce* or *Pleaseannce*, 1540 in [PROB 11](#) (City of London); John *Plesannce*, 1559 in [PROB 11](#) (Tuddenham, Suffolk); Clement *Pleasance*, 1619 in [PROB 11](#) (Herringswell, Suffolk).

2 language/culture: Norman, English

Relationship name: from the female personal names *Plaisance* (Old French *plaisance* 'pleasure') or *Plaisant* (Old French *plaisant* 'pleasing').

Early Bearers: (i) given names: *Plesantia* West, 1275 in [Hundred Rolls](#) (Norfolk); *Pleasant* Tarlton, 1681 in [Bardsley](#).

(ii) surnames: Alicia *filia Plesance*, 1279 in [Hundred Rolls](#) (Oxon); Richard *Pleysant*, 1281 in [Patent Rolls](#); John *Pleasants*, 1594 in [IGI](#) (Attleborough, Norfolk); Bartholomew *Pleasants*, 1628 in [IGI](#) (Greenwich, Kent).

Podesta

Current frequencies: GB: 192, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 73

main GB location, 1881: scattered in England: esp. Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Occupational name: from *podestà* 'mayor, administrator, magistrate'.

Early Bearers: Francis *Podesta*, in **Census 1841** (Holburn, Middx); John *Podesta*, 1842 in **IGI** (Liverpool, Lancs).

Poli

Current frequencies: GB: 206, Ireland: 10.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form **Polo**, from the personal name *Polo*, a variant of *Paolo*, Italian equivalent of [Paul](#).

2 language/culture: French

Nickname: from Old French *poli* 'agreeable, polite' (literally 'polished'), past participle of *polir* 'to polish'.

3 language/culture: Hungarian

Locative name: from **Pólyi**, denoting someone from Póly (Abaúj county).

Pooley

Current frequencies: GB: 3079, Ireland: 20.

GB frequency, 1881: 2377

main GB location, 1881: London; E Anglia; SW England

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

Variants: [Polley](#), [Poley](#), [Polly](#).

1 language/culture: English

Locative name: from Middle English *pol(e)* 'pool, pond' + *hei(i)* 'enclosure' (Old English *pōl* + (*ge*)*hæg*), or perhaps from *pol(e)* + *ei* 'island, habitable land among marshes' (Old English *ēg*). The name may be topographic, for someone who lived near an enclosure by a pool or low-lying land, or toponymic, for someone from a place so named, such as *Pooley* (now Hunt's Hall) in Pebmarsh (Essex) or Polly Shaw in Eynsford (Kent). Some examples may belong under 2 or 3.

Early Bearers: Walter *de Polhey*, 1248 in **Feet of Fines** (Essex); William *de Poleye*, 1273 in **Hundred Rolls** (Bucks); Elias *de Polye, de Polee*, 1275 in **Hundred Rolls** (Norfolk); William *de Polleye*, 1275 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Worcs); Robert *de Poley*, 1328 in **Patent Rolls**; William *de Poley*, 1345 in **Patent Rolls** (Pebmarsh, Essex); William *Polleye*, 1346 in **Colchester Court Rolls** (Essex); John *Poley*, 1379 in **Assize Rolls** (Essex); Johannes *Poley*, 1381 in **Poll Tax** (Saddington, Leics); Thomas *Poley*, 1416 in **Feet of Fines** (Baldock, Herts); Robert *Poley*, 1439 in **Patent Rolls** (Ipswich, Suffolk); John *Polley*, 1488 in **Feet of Fines** (Tonbridge, Kent); Richard *Poley*, 1508 in **Feet of Fines** (Suffolk); John *Poley*, 1545 in **Parish Registers** (Offenham, Worcs); Richard *Poley*, 1547 in **PROB 11** (Boxted, Suffolk); Thomas *Polley*, 1561 in **IGI** (Earls Colne, Essex); William *Poley* or *Paley*, 1588 in **PROB 11** (Boxted, Suffolk); Thomas *Polley*, 1722 in **IGI** (Toot Baldon, Oxon); Wm *Poley*, 1766 in **Parish Registers** (Cadoxton, Glamorgan).

References: **Place-Names of Essex**, p. 450; **Kent Place-Names**, p. 40.

2 language/culture: Norman, English

Locative name: from Poilley (Manche).

Early Bearers: Willelmi *de Poillgi*, 1086 in **Domesday Book** (Devon); William *de Polleio*, 1093 in **Documents in France**; Margeria *Pooley*, 1562 in **IGI** (Arley, Warwicks); Gyles *Pooley*, 1568 in **IGI** (Euston, Suffolk); Alice *Pooley*, 1570 in **IGI** (Dover, Kent); Richarde *Pooley*, 1584 in **IGI** (Saint Giles Cripplegate, London); Johane *Pooley*, 1587 in **IGI** (Lewes,

Sussex).

3 language/culture: Italian, English
see [Pulley](#).

Portelli

Current frequencies: GB: 266, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from *portello*, a diminutive of *porta* 'gate', for someone who lived by the gates of a fortified town.

Other info: This is also found as a family name in Greece.

Pouch

Current frequencies: GB: 26, Ireland: 19.

GB frequency, 1881: 17

main GB location, 1881: Worcs

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

1 language/culture: English

Nickname: from Middle English *pouche* 'bag, pouch, purse', probably used for one who made or sold such items. Compare [Poucher](#).

Early Bearers: John *Pouch* the elder, 1305 in **Patent Rolls**; Simon, Thomas *Poche*, 1327 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Worcs); Simon *Poche*, 1358 in **Patent Rolls** (Worcester, Worcs); Walterus *Pouch'*, 1379 in **Poll Tax** (Warwicks); John *Pauche*, 1489 in **Feet of Fines** (Norfolk); William *Pouch*, 1646 in **IGI** (Pocklington, ER Yorks); James *Pouch*, 1776 in **IGI** (Deerhurst, Gloucs).

2 language/culture: Italian, English

Nickname: sometimes used to denote a member of the Society of *Pulci* or *Pouche* of Florence, who were regular traders with medieval London.

Early Bearers: Bernard *de la Pouche*, 1319 in **Subsidy Rolls** (London); Bernard *de Pouches* of Florence, 1330 in **Close Rolls**; [...] *Pouche* of Lombardia, 1343 in **Close Rolls**; Arnold *de Puche*, merchant, 1345 in **Patent Rolls**; Edward *Pouch*, 1699 in **IGI** (Tewkesbury, Gloucs); Elizth. *Pouch*, 1717 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Robert *Pouch*, 1737 in **IGI** (New Malton, NR Yorks); Robt. *Pouch*, 1742 in **IGI** (Kings Lynn, Norfolk).

Pozzi

Current frequencies: GB: 123, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 71

main GB location, 1881: Lancs; Caernarvons; Morays; London

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from *pozzo* 'well'. The name may be toponymic, for someone from any of various places in Italy named Pozzi or Pozzo, such as Pozzi (Calabria), or topographic, for someone who lived near a well.

Early Bearers: Constantine *Pozzi*, 1723 in **IGI** (Westminster, Middx); Charles *Pozzi*, 1822 in **IGI** (Chester, Cheshire); Charles *Pozzi*, 1839 in **Parish Registers** (Welshpool, Montgomerys).

Proto

Current frequencies: GB: 103, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

from Greek *prōtos* 'first', hence a name bestowed on the first-born (male) child, or in some cases a short form of an occupational or status name formed with this element, for example *Protonotaro*, literally 'first notary'.

2 language/culture: French

altered spelling of French **Proteau** or **Protot**, from a diminutive of the Latin personal name *Protasius*.

Psaila

Current frequencies: GB: 136, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese

(i) **Relationship name:** from the Italian family name **Basilia**, from the personal name *Basilio*, Italian equivalent of *Basil*.

(ii) **Locative name:** from Busala in Sicily.

(iii) **Nickname:** from Arabic *buṣaila*, a diminutive of *baṣl* 'onion', used either with reference to a person's occupation or some physical characteristic.

Early Bearers:

References:

Cassar

Pulley

Current frequencies: GB: 484, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 466

main GB location, 1881: Surrey and Middx; Worcs, Northants, and Warwicks

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Poile](#), [Poyle](#), [Pooley](#).

1 language/culture: Italian, English

Ethnic name: from Middle English *Poille*, *Poyle*, *Apuelle*, which are representations of Apulia (Italy) and denote someone from there; *Pulleis* denotes 'man of Apulia'.

Early Bearers: William *le Pulleis*, 1191, *de Puilleio*, 1192 in **Pipe Rolls** (Norfolk); Walter *de la Poille*, 1221 in **Curia Regis Rolls** (Herefs); John *de Apuelle*, 1275 in **Hundred Rolls** (Cambs); Walter *de la Poyle*, 1279 in **Hundred Rolls** (Oxon); John *de la Poille*, 1315 in **Patent Rolls** (Surrey); Robert *de la Poylle*, 1355 in **Feet of Fines** (Norton in Freshwater, Hants); Thomas *Poylle*, 1450 in **Feet of Fines** (Seaton, Devon); Robert *Poyle*, 1502 in **PROB 11** (Tregony, Cornwall); Thomas *Pullye*, 1548 in **IGI** (Sandwich, Kent); William *Poyle*, 1574 in **IGI** (Brenchley, Kent); Moises *Poile*, 1599 in **IGI** (Marden, Kent); George *Pullie*, 1619 in **IGI** (Canterbury, Kent); Thomas *Poille*, 1781 in **IGI** (Tenterden, Kent).

Other info: Compare Poyle House in Seale (Surrey), named from the family of *de la Poille*, *Puyle*, *Pully*, which held the manor from 1299, and Poyle in Stanwell (Middx), named from *de l'Apulie*.

2 language/culture: English

Locative name: from Pulley (Shrops).

Early Bearers: Warin *de Pulileg'*, 1221 in **Assize Rolls** (Shrops); William *de Poleleye*, 1378 in **Patent Rolls** (Shrops); Ricardus *de Polyleye*, 1381 in **Poll Tax** (Shrops); Galfridus *de Pullay*, 1381 in **Poll Tax** (Sutton, Shrops); Joyse *Pulley*, 1545 in **Subsidy Rolls** (Wilts); John *Pulley*, 1583 in **PROB 11** (Bridgnorth, Shrops); Walter *Pulley*, 1642 in **Protestation Returns** (Devon).

Rabaiotti

Current frequencies: GB: 136, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

unexplained.

Radice

Current frequencies: GB: 81, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *radice* 'root'; denoting a grower or seller of root vegetables or a tenacious and stubborn man.

Early Bearers: DAFN

Raffo

Current frequencies: GB: 132, Ireland: 26.

GB frequency, 1881: 15

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

(i) **Relationship name:** from the Continental Germanic personal name *Raffo*.

(ii) **Locative name:** from Raffo in Petralia Soprana, Palermo (Sicily).

Ricci

Current frequencies: GB: 381, Ireland: 10.

GB frequency, 1881: 9

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of [Riccio](#).

Early Bearers: Luigi *Ricci*, musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1861** (Holborn, Middx); Giusto *Ricci*, plaster image maker, born in Italy, in **Census 1861** (Warwick, Warwicks); Felice *Ricci*, general dealer, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Holborn, Middx); Placido *Ricci*, plaster figure maker, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Holborn, Middx); Valentine *Ricci*, mosaic worker, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Lambeth, Surrey); Amateo *Ricci*, barrel

organist, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Bristol, Gloucs); Lazzaro *Ricci*, ice cream vendor, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Bridgend, Glamorgan).

Riccio

Current frequencies: GB: 214, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Ricci](#).

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *riccio* 'curly'.

Early Bearers: A. *Riccio*, ice cream vendor, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Holborn, Middx); Rosina Aida *Riccio*, 1905 in **BMD** (Westminster, Middx); Giovanni *Riccio*, wine merchant, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Saint Pancras, Middx); Angelo *Riccio*, confectioner, born in Turin, Italy, in **Census 1911** (Shoreditch, Middx).

Rinaldi

Current frequencies: GB: 388, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Rinaldo*, of Germanic origin, composed of the elements *ragin* 'advice, counsel' + *wald* 'rule'.

Riva

Current frequencies: GB: 197, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 31

main GB location, 1881: Anglesey; Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from *riva* 'river bank' (Latin *ripa*), for someone who lived on the bank of a river.

Early Bearers: Maria Del Carmen *Riva*, 1813 in **IGI** (Milton Bryant, Beds).

2 language/culture: Spanish, Catalan

Locative name: from *riba* 'river', for someone who lived on the bank of a river, or for someone who came from a place so named, such as La Riba, a town in Tarragona, Catalonia (Spain).

Early Bearers: Manuel *Riva* (born in Chile) in **Census 1881** (Kent, Beds); Manario *Riva* (born in Spain) in **Census 1881** (Lancs, Beds).

Rivelli

Current frequencies: GB: 7, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: denoting someone from Rivello (Potenza).

Other info: This name is rare in Britain but is thriving in the USA.

Rivera

Current frequencies: GB: 346, Ireland: 15.

GB frequency, 1881: 14

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

1 language/culture: Catalan, Spanish

Locative name: from *ribera* 'bank, shore' (Late Latin *riparia*), for someone who lived on a river bank, or for someone from any of the numerous places named Ribera.

2 language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from a northern variant of the southern (especially Sicily) topographic name *Ribera*, with the same meaning and explanation as (1).

Rizza

Current frequencies: GB: 114, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: Southern Italian, from the feminine form of *rizzo* 'curly'. See [Rizzo](#).

Rizzo

Current frequencies: GB: 363, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 7

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Rizza](#).

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *rizzo*, a southern dialect variant of Italian *riccio* 'curly-headed'. Compare [Riccio](#).

Rocca

Current frequencies: GB: 195, Ireland: 34.

GB frequency, 1881: 39

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from any of the numerous places throughout Italy named or named with *rocca* 'fortress, stronghold'.

Early Bearers: Mary Ann Della *Rocca*, 1804 in **IGI** (Manchester). John *Rocca* (born in Italy) in **Census 1881** (Lancs); Andrea *Rocca* (born in Italy) in **Census 1881** (Middx, Lancs).

Romano

Current frequencies: GB: 684, Ireland: 12.

GB frequency, 1881: 22

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish

(i) **Relationship name, locative name:** from the personal name *Romano* (Latin *Romanus*), borne by several saints and martyrs. This was originally a byname for someone from Rome or

for a Roman citizen, from *Roma* 'Rome'. See also [Roman](#).

(ii) **Locative name:** in Calabria a term for someone from *Nea Rhōmē* 'New Rome', the medieval Greek name for Constantinople.

Early Bearers: Manuel *Romano*, 1825 in [IGI](#) (Lewisham, Kent). Alphonso *Romano* (born in Italy) in [Census 1881](#) (Middx, Kent); Mondolin *Romano* (born in Corfu) in [Census 1881](#) (Lancs, Kent).

Rome

Current frequencies: GB: 590, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 552

main GB location, 1881: Lancs, Cumb, Dumfriess, and Ayr

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Roome](#), [Room](#), [Rooms](#).

language/culture: English

Locative name, nickname: from Rome (Italy), either for someone from Rome or Italy in general, or for someone who had a connection with Rome, perhaps having been there on a pilgrimage. Compare [Roman](#), [Romer](#).

Early Bearers: (i) England: William *Rome*, 1296 in [Subsidy Rolls](#) (Sussex); Willelmus *de Rome*, 1377 in [Poll Tax](#) (Caldewgate, Cumb); Thomas *de Rome*, 1377 in [Poll Tax](#) (Hambleton, Rutland); Ricardo *de Rome*, 1379 in [Poll Tax](#) (North Duffield, ER Yorks); Johanne *Rome*, 1379 in [Poll Tax](#) (Asfordby, Leics); Robertus *Rome*, 1379 in [Poll Tax](#) (Gooderstone, Norfolk); Magota *Rome*, 1379 in [Poll Tax](#) (Leigh Delamere, Wilts); Willelmus *de Rome*, 1379 in [Poll Tax](#) (Monk Fryston, WR Yorks); Willelmus *Rome*, 1381 in [Poll Tax](#) (King's Cliffe, Northants); Jeffery *Roome*, 1556 in [IGI](#) (Paston, Norfolk); Anne *Rome*, 1559 in [IGI](#) (Great Yarmouth, Norfolk); Willi. *Roome*, 1563 in [IGI](#) (Giggleswick, WR Yorks); Elisabeth *Rome*, 1564 in [IGI](#) (Frampton Cotterell, Gloucs); Alexander *Rome*, 1573 in [IGI](#) (Stixwould, Lincs); Robert *Rome*, 1585 in [IGI](#) (Leeds, WR Yorks); Sarah *Rome*, 1604 in [IGI](#) (Cranbrook, Kent); Thome *Roome*, 1605 in [IGI](#) (Penn, Bucks); Wm. *Roome*, 1615 in [IGI](#) (Mickleover, Derbys); Maria *Roome*, 1631 in [IGI](#) (Saint Bees, Cumb); Arthur *Room*, 1664 in [IGI](#) (Eaton Bray, Beds); William *Room*, 1687 in [IGI](#) (Stillingfleet, ER Yorks); George *Rome*, 1720 in [IGI](#) (Carlisle, Cumb); William *Rome*, 1775 in [IGI](#) (Liverpool, Lancs).

(ii) Scotland: Mary *Rome*, 1775 in [IGI](#) (Annan, Dumfriess);

Other info: The Italian city was commonly pronounced and spelled *Room(e)* in English until the 19th century: see [Place-Names of WR Yorks](#) 6, p. 144.

Romeo

Current frequencies: GB: 272, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 8

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Romeo*.

Ronchetti

Current frequencies: GB: 182, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 35

main GB location, 1881: Middx; Devon; Durham

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from a diminutive form of **Ronco**, from *ronco* 'cultivated land on a terraced slope; hillside vineyard', denoting someone who lived on or by such land, or for someone from any of the numerous places named with this word.

Early Bearers: Thomas *Ronchetti*, 1819 in **IGI** (Exeter, Devon); Andrea *Ronchetti* (born in Italy) in **Census 1881** (Middx, Devon).

Rosa

Current frequencies: GB: 563, Ireland: 8.

GB frequency, 1881: 70

main GB location, 1881: Middx; Midlothian

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish, Catalan, Portuguese

(i) from *rosa* 'rose' (Latin *rosa*), applied in part as a topographic name for someone who lived where wild roses grew, in part as a habitational name for someone who lived at a house distinguished by the sign of a rose, and in part as a nickname for someone with a pink, rosy complexion.

(ii) in some cases also, from the female personal name *Rosa*.

Early Bearers: Guiseppo *Rosa* (born in Italy) in **Census 1881** (Middx); Francisco *Rosa* (born in Brazil) in **Census 1881** (Warwicks).

Rosario

Current frequencies: GB: 350, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Rozario](#).

1 language/culture: Spanish, Portuguese

Relationship name: Spanish and Portuguese, mostly from a short form of Spanish (*del Rosario*, Portuguese (*do Rosá*), from *rosario* 'rosary'; or from the Marian name *María del Rosario*, given in particular to a girl who was born on the festival of Our Lady of the Rosary, celebrated on the first Sunday in October.

Other info: The word derives from Late Latin *rosarium* 'rose garden', and was transferred to a set of devotions dedicated to the Virgin Mary as the result of the medieval symbolism which constantly compared her to a rose.

2 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Rosario*, of the same origin as above.

Rosato

Current frequencies: GB: 108, Ireland: 26.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the medieval personal name *Rosato*, ultimately derived from *rosa* 'rose'.

Rossetti

Current frequencies: GB: 215, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 9

main GB location, 1881: -
main Irish location, 1847-64:
language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of **Rossetto**, a nickname from *rosetto*, a diminutive of the adjective *rosso* 'red', denoting someone with red hair or a ruddy complexion.

Early Bearers:

Other info: Gabriele *Rossetti* (1783-1854), father of Dante Gabriel and Christina *Rossetti*, was an Italian writer and political activist, born in Vasto, Abruzzo, who took refuge first in Malta and subsequently in London, where in 1831 he became professor of Italian at King's College, London.

Rossi

Current frequencies: GB: 1809, Ireland: 69.

GB frequency, 1881: 91
main GB location, 1881: -
main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Rosso](#).

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: from *rosso*, denoting someone with red hair, a red beard, or a ruddy complexion. Compare [Russo](#).

Rosso

Current frequencies: GB: 111, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 1
main GB location, 1881: -
main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

see [Rossi](#).

Ruggiero

Current frequencies: GB: 246, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881:
main GB location, 1881: -
main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Ruggiero*, equivalent to English [Roger](#).

Ruocco

Current frequencies: GB: 184, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881:
main GB location, 1881: -
main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: Southern Italian variant of **Rocco**, from the Continental Germanic personal name *Rocco*, which was borne by a 14th-century saint from Montpellier remembered for his miraculous healings during an outbreak of the plague in northern Italy.

References: , [De Felice](#)

Russo

Current frequencies: GB: 1044, Ireland: 15.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name, nickname: Southern Italian, from the personal name *Russo*, which was originally a nickname for someone with red hair, a red beard, or a ruddy complexion.

Saba

Current frequencies: GB: 213, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: French

anglicization of either **Sabbat**, a surname from Artois deriving from *sab(b)at* 'loud noise', applied as a nickname, or of **Sabas**, from the name of an early Cappadocian abbot-saint popular in early French Christianity.

Early Bearers: Fernand *Saba*, born in Belgium, in **Census 1901** (Warwick, Warwicks);

Germaine *Saba*, born in France, in **Census 1911** (Tottenham, Middx).

References: Morlet, *Dictionnaire*.

2 language/culture: Muslim, Arabic

perhaps from a personal name based on Arabic *ṣabāḥ* 'morning'.

Early Bearers: John *Saba*, Arabian [sic], in **Census 1851** (Haverfordwest, Pembrokes);

George *Saba*, merchant, born in Beirut, Lebanon, in **Census 1871** (Chorlton, Lancs)

3 language/culture: Italian

unexplained.

Sacco

Current frequencies: GB: 246, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

(i) **Relationship name:** from an old Tuscan personal name, *Saccus*, a reduced form of the Old Testament name *Isaccus* (see [Isaac](#)).

(ii) **Nickname:** from *sacco* 'sack', probably denoting a maker of sacks or bags.

(iii) **Locative name:** toponymic from Sacco (Salerno province).

Sala

Current frequencies: GB: 204, Ireland: 11.

GB frequency, 1881: 15

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian, Catalan, Spanish, Portuguese, southern French (Occitan), Romanian

(i) **Locative name, nickname:** from *sala* 'hall', denoting someone who lived or worked at a hall or manor house.

(ii) **Locative name:** The Italian, Spanish, and Catalan names may also be toponymic in

origin: in the case of Italian, from (amongst others) Sala Biellese (Biella province), Sala Consilina (Salerno province), and Sala Monferrato (Alessandria), and in the case of Catalan from places called *Sala* or *La Sala*. This name is very common in Catalonia. Sala (Asturias and Aragón) and La Sala (Asturias) may also contribute.

Early Bearers: Augustus George Anthony Joseph *Sala*, 1786 in **IGI** (Saint Martin in the Fields, Middx); Catina *Sala*, 1799 in **IGI** (Holborn, Middx); Francisca Jinesa Romualda *Sala*, 1800 in **IGI** (Grindon by Stockton on Tees, Durham).

Other info: The well-known journalist George Augustus Henry Sala (1828-1895) was of Italian extraction.

2 language/culture: Hungarian

from a short form of the Biblical name *Salamon* (see [Solomon](#)).

Salamone

Current frequencies: GB: 118, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the biblical personal name *Salomone* (see [Solomon](#)).

Salerno

Current frequencies: GB: 184, Ireland: 9.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: toponymic from Salerno in Campania (Italy).

Early Bearers:

Salvatore

Current frequencies: GB: 137, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 6

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Salvatore*, meaning 'Saviour'.

Salvi

Current frequencies: GB: 125, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

(i) **Relationship name**: patronymic from the personal name *Salvo*.

(ii) from a short form of the old Italian surname *Diotisalvi* 'God save you'.

Early Bearers: Giovanni Batista *Salvi*, 1841 in **IGI** (London); Frank *Salvi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Essex); Peter *Salvi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Middx); Francesco *Salvi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (London); Giuseppe *Salvi*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Hants).

2 language/culture: Indian (Maharashtra)
Hindu (Maratha), unexplained.

Santi

Current frequencies: GB: 155, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Santi*, the plural form of *Santo*, a short form of the devotional name *Ognisanti*, probably bestowed on a child born on All Saints' Day (1 November).

Santo

Current frequencies: GB: 143, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 36

main GB location, 1881: Cornwall

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese

Relationship name, nickname: from the male personal name *Santo*, from *santo* 'holy'. In some instances the surname may have arisen from a nickname for a pious individual.

Early Bearers: John *Santo*, 1615 in **IGI** (Ticehurst, Sussex); Katherine *Santo*, 1625 in **IGI** (Goudhurst, Kent); Philip *Santo*, 1773 in **IGI** (Sheviock, Cornwall); William *Santo*, 1828 in **IGI** (Saint Winnow, Cornwall); Orate *Santo*, 1843 in **IGI** (Wapping, Middx); Greoco *Santo*, ice cream vendor and piano player, in **Census 1901** (Italian subject, Italy).

Other info: The name appears first in E England. Early bearers there and in Cornwall may testify to continental immigration, and in Cornwall more probably be variants of *Sandow* (see *Sandry*). Completely convincing examples of early immigrant *Santo* are rare, and examples are also found of *Del Santo* (Catherine *Del Santo*, in **Census 1861** (London), born in Staffs), and *Le Santo* (Charles H *Le Santo*, in **Census 1901**, Painter in H M Dockyard, Devonport, Devonshire).

Santoro

Current frequencies: GB: 242, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: Southern Italian, from the personal name *Santoro*, from Late Latin *sanctorum* (*omnium dies festus*) '(feast day of all) the saints', originally bestowed on someone who was born on All Saints' Day (1 November). The Spanish connection in the 1901 record is unexplained, perhaps a clerk's error.

Early Bearers: Thomas *Santoro*, pupil, 1901 in **Census 1901** (London), Foreign Subject, Spain; Isabella *Santoro*, dressmaker, in **Census 1911** (South Shields, Durham).

Sartori

Current frequencies: GB: 194, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 9

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Occupational name: Northern Italian, from *sartore*, an old and regional (central Italian) form of *sartor* 'tailor'.

Early Bearers: Giovanni *Sartori* (born in Italy) in **Census 1881** (Berks); Luigi *Sartori* (born in Italy) in **Census 1881** (Middx).

Schembri

Current frequencies: GB: 335, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese

from the Maltese word *xkembri*, denoting a kind of lemon, or perhaps from Italian *schembro* 'mackerel'.

Other info: A range of other suggestions is put forward by **Cassar**.

Scicluna

Current frequencies: GB: 216, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese

(i) **Nickname:** from Old Sicilian *chachaluni* (Italian **Scichilone**), probably denoting someone with black hair.

(ii) **Locative name:** from either of two places in Sicily: Scicli (Ragusa) or Siculiana (Agrigento).

References:

Cassar

Scotto

Current frequencies: GB: 41, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 23

main GB location, 1881: Middx and Surrey; Staffs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: English

see [Scottow](#).

2 language/culture: Italian

(i) **Ethnic name:** from medieval Italian *scot(t)o* 'Scot', denoting someone from Scotland or Ireland.

(ii) **Relationship name:** from a reduced form of personal names such as *Marescotto*, a pet form of *Maresco*, or *Francescotto*, a pet form of *Francesco*.

Early Bearers: Domenico *Scotto* (born in Italy) in **Census 1881** (Gloucs).

Serra

Current frequencies: GB: 263, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 8

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: Portuguese, and Catalan, from Italian, Portuguese, Catalan, *serra* 'ridge or chain of hills or mountains' (Latin *serra* 'saw'). The surname may be topographic, for someone who lived in or by a ridge, or toponymic, for someone from any of various places so named, such as Serra d'Aniello, Serra Pedace, Serra San Bruno, and Serracapriola (Italy), and Serra d'Almos and Serra d'en Galceran (Spain).

Early Bearers: Claudius *Serra* (born in Brazil) in **Census 1881** (Lancs); Jose *Serra* (born in Spain) in **Census 1881** (Middx).

Sidoli

Current frequencies: GB: 212, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

unexplained.

Early Bearers: Guilio *Sidoli*, born in Caybello, Italy, in **Census 1871** (Holborn, London); Peteri *Sidoli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (London).

Silvestri

Current frequencies: GB: 152, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic or plural form of **Silvestro**, which is from the personal name *Silvestro* (Latin *Silvester*, a derivative of *silva* 'wood').

Simeone

Current frequencies: GB: 166, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: Southern Italian, from the personal name *Sim(e)one*, the Italian equivalent of [Simon](#).

Early Bearers: Nicole *Simeone* (born in Italy) in **Census 1881** (Middx).

Simone

Current frequencies: GB: 180, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 7

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Jewish (Sephardic)

Relationship name: from the personal name *Simone*, the Italian equivalent of *Simon* (see [Simon](#)).

Early Bearers: (i) Francesco *Simone*, in **Census 1861** (Glamorgan); Alessandro *Simone*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Holborn, Middx); Emiglia *Simone*, born in Italy, in **Census**

1901 (WR Yorks); Luigi *Simone*, ice cream vendor, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Plymouth, Devon); Filomena *Simone*, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Holborn, Middx).
(ii) Simon *Simone*, silk agent., born in Holland, in [Census 1861](#) (Aldgate, London); Jacob *Simone*, in [Census 1881](#) (Saint Pancras, Middx); Harris *Simone*, born in Poland, in [Census 1891](#) (Yorks); Malke *Simone*, born in Poland, in [Census 1891](#) (Yorks); Jessy *Simone*, born in Poland, in [Census 1891](#) (London); Morris *Simone*, born in Poland, in [Census 1891](#) (Yorks).

Soave

Current frequencies: GB: 184, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Ethnic name, locative name: from *Soave* 'Swabia' or possibly from one of the towns in N Italy of this name, notably one near Verona.

Early Bearers: John *Soave*, in [Census 1841](#) (Westminster, Middx); Charles *Soave*, born in Italy, in [Census 1871](#) (Marylebone, Middx); Bernardo *Soave*, Maria *Soave*, in [Census 1891](#) (Kirkcaldy, Fife); Rocco and Antonio *Soave*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Manchester, Lancs); Alfonso *Soave*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Forfar, Angus); Antonio *Soave*, ice cream maker, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Burnley, Lancs); Francesco *Soave*, floor worker, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Cardiff, Glamorgan).

Solari

Current frequencies: GB: 234, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 37

main GB location, 1881: Staffs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian (northern)

Locative name: from any of various places called Solaro or Solara, from *solaro* 'site, plot, meadow', literally 'land exposed to the sun'.

Early Bearers: John *Solari* (born in Italy) in [Census 1881](#) (Warwicks); Giovanni *Solari* (born in Italy) in [Census 1881](#) (Middx).

Sorrentino

Current frequencies: GB: 164, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: Southern Italian, for someone from Sorrento, from an adjectival derivative of the place name.

Spiteri

Current frequencies: GB: 789, Ireland: 6.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese, S Italian

from medieval Greek **Spiteris**, occupational name from a derivative of medieval Latin *hospitarius*, denoting someone who ran a lodging house.

Sultana

Current frequencies: GB: 2287, Ireland: 8.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Maltese, Italian

Nickname: for someone who behaved in an autocratic manner, from Arabic *sulṭāna* 'queen, wife of a sultan'.

2 language/culture: Muslim

from the feminine form of [Sultan](#).

References:

Ahmed

Tabone

Current frequencies: GB: 163, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese and Italian (Sicily)

(i) **Nickname:** from Sicilian and Maltese *tabbuni* 'silly, foolish'.

(ii) **Nickname:** alternatively, it may from Arabic *tābūna*, denoting a kind of hollowed-out hearth in which a fire was kept alight.

Early Bearers: Antonio *Tabone*, born in Malta, in **IGI** (Royal Navy).

Tambini

Current frequencies: GB: 103, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

perhaps a reduced form of [Tamburrini](#).

Tamburrini

Current frequencies: GB: 158, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Tambini](#).

language/culture: Italian

Occupational name, nickname: for a drummer or a drum maker, from Italian *tamburino* 'drum, drummer'.

References:

De Felice

Tanti

Current frequencies: GB: 152, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Maltese

Relationship name: from a short form of a compound Italian personal name such as the old Tuscan name *Tantobene*, or possibly from the Germanic personal name *Tanto*.

References:

Cassar

2 language/culture: Greek (Cypriot)

Relationship name: from *Tantis*, a medieval Greek personal name of uncertain origin.

Taroni

Current frequencies: GB: 155, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 28

main GB location, 1881: Northumb and Durham

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

unexplained.

Early Bearers: John *Taronie*, 1825 in **IGI** (Edinburgh, Midlothian); Francis *Taroni*, 1830, Mary Ann *Taronie*, 1853 in **IGI** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Gaetano *Taroni* (born in Italy) in **Census 1881** (North Shields, Northumb).

Tartaglia

Current frequencies: GB: 160, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 3

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: denoting a stammerer, from Italian *tartagliare* 'to stutter'. This is the name of a stock character in the *Commedia del'Arte*.

Early Bearers: Antonio, Arcangelo, and Pietro *Tartaglia*, all born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Lowestoft, Suffolk); Loranzo *Tartaglia*, born in Italy, **Census 1891** (Norfolk); Cesidio *Tartaglia*, born in Italy, **Census 1891** (Suffolk).

Tedesco

Current frequencies: GB: 110, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Jewish (Ashkenazic), Italian

Ethnic name: from Italian *tedesco* 'German'. As a Jewish name, it was given to or taken by Ashkenazic Jews in Italy. Compare *Deutsch*.

Early Bearers: Mordecai *Tedesco*, 1798 in **Bevis Marks Records** (London); Flora *Todesco*, 1804 in **Bevis Marks Records** (London); Louis *Tedesco*, born in Austria, in **Census 1861** (New Forest, Hampshire); Louis A.L. *Tedesco*, clerk, born in Vienna, Austria, in **Census 1881** (Reigate, Surrey); Antonio, Achillo, Bernadetta *Tedesco*, born in Italy, in **Census**

1901 (Darlington, Durham); Angelo *Tedesco*, 1906 in **BMD** (Camberwell, Surrey); Lorenzo *Tedesco*, fruit seller, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Bristol, Gloucs).

Testa

Current frequencies: GB: 248, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 9

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

from *testa* 'head' (Late Latin *testa*, originally used to denote an earthenware pot); hence a nickname for someone who was exceptionally learned or intelligent or for someone had a large or otherwise remarkable head.

Early Bearers: **DAFN**

.

2 language/culture: Galician, Portuguese

Galician and Portuguese, possibly a nickname from Galician and Portuguese *testa* 'forehead, brow'.

Early Bearers: **DAFN**

.

Tiso

Current frequencies: GB: 130, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 23

main GB location, 1881: Staffs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: English

see [Tysoe](#).

2 language/culture: Italian

said to be from a personal name of Germanic origin, but in some cases at least more likely to be a locative name from Tiso in Bolzano province.

Togneri

Current frequencies: GB: 145, Ireland: 7.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

unexplained.

Toma

Current frequencies: GB: 194, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 4

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Arabic, Muslim

from *Tūma*, Arabic form of *Thomas*.

2 language/culture: Italian, Spanish, French (Huguenot)

from the New Testament personal name *Thomas*.

Early Bearers: Messio *Toma*, 1596 in **IGI** (Walloon church, Norwich); Mary *Toma*, 1700 in

IGI (North Hill, Cornwall); Petrona *Toma*, 1815 in IGI (Milton Bryant, Beds); Manuela *Toma*, 1820 in IGI (Milton Bryant, Beds).

Tomaso

Current frequencies: GB: 6, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

see [Tomasso](#).

Tomasso

Current frequencies: GB: 95, Ireland: 4.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: Jersey

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Tommaso](#), [Tomaso](#).

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Tommaso*, equivalent to *Thomas*.

Tommaso

Current frequencies: GB: 15, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

see [Tomasso](#).

Torre

Current frequencies: GB: 93, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881: 25

main GB location, 1881: London; also Devon

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: English

see [Torr](#).

2 language/culture: Italian, Galician, Catalan, Aragonese, Spanish, and Portuguese

(i) **Locative name:** from Italian *torre* 'tower' (Latin *turris*), either for someone who lived in or near a tower, or for someone from a place so named, such as Torre Annunziata or Torre del Greco in Naples province, Torre de' Passeri (Pescara, Abruzzo), or Torre di Ruggiero (Catanzaro, Calabria).

(ii) **Locative name:** Galician, Catalan, Aragonese, Spanish, and Portuguese, from *torre* 'tower' (Latin *turris*), either for someone who lived in or near a tower, or for someone from any of the numerous places so named in Galicia (often in the form **De la Torre**), in Catalonia and Aragon (as for example La Torre de Fontalbella, La Torre del Compte, La Torre de Fluvià), or from any of the many places in Spain and Portugal named Torre or La Torre.

Early Bearers: Bennerdine *Torre*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Chester, Cheshire);

Manuel Gdela *Torre*, born in Spain, in **Census 1881** (Tottenham, Middx).

Torres

Current frequencies: GB: 745, Ireland: 16.

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

1 language/culture: Galician, Catalan, Spanish, Portuguese, Jewish (Sephardic)

(i) from any of the numerous places named Torres, all named with the plural of *torre* 'tower' (see [Torre](#)).

(ii) David *Torres*, shipping merchant, born in Salonica, in **Census 1881** (Manchester, Lancs); Eugenio *Torres*, born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in **Census 1891** (Saint Peter Port, Guernsey); Solomon *Torres*, born in Salonica, Turkey, in **Census 1891** (Salford, Lancs); Antonio *Torres*, outfitter's assistant, born in Cardiff, in **Census 1901** (Cardiff, Glamorgan); Joseph *Torres*, calico printer, born in Salonica, in **Census 1901** (Manchester, Lancs); Manuel *Torres*, foreign correspondent, born in Corunna, Spain, in **Census 1901** (Dudley, Staffs); Elia David *Torres*, calico printer, born in Turkey, in **Census 1911** (Salford, Lancs); Fernando *Torres*, born in Bogota, Colombia, in **Census 1911** (Huddersfield, WR Yorks); Carlos *Torres*, importer, born in Spain, in **Census 1911** (Saint Pancras, Middx).

2 language/culture: Italian

from Torres in Belluno or Porto Torres in Sassari. In southern Italy the surname is sometimes a borrowing from Spanish (see i).

Tortolano

Current frequencies: GB: 121, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

language/culture: Italian

unexplained.

Ugo

Current frequencies: GB: 50, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

language/culture: Italian

from the personal name *Ugo*, Italian equivalent of [Hugh](#).

Early Bearers: Domenico *Ugo*, Giovanni *Ugo*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Saint Giles Cripplegate, London).

Uniacke

Current frequencies: GB: 114, Ireland: 42.

GB frequency, 1881: 36

main GB location, 1881: Staffs; Devon; Hants

main Irish location, 1847-64: Cork

Variants: [Uniack](#).

language/culture: Norman, English, Irish

Locative name: probably from Saint-Uniac in Ille-et-Vilaine département, Brittany, France (*Sant-Tewiniav* in Breton).

Early Bearers: (i) Ireland: Bernardus *Unak*, 13th cent., Thomas *Unak*, 1386 in **More Irish Families** (Youghal, Cork); Maurice *Uniacke*, 1649 in **IGI** (Ballyvergin); John Manwaring

Uniack, 1762 in **IGI** (Cork).

(ii) England: Bartholomew *Uniacke*, 1770 in **IGI** (Dover, Kent); Mary Magdalene *Uniack*, 1774, Mary *Uneck*, 1780 in **IGI** (Canterbury, Kent).

Other info: in Ireland, where this name has been established since the 13th century, families bearing it are called **Doinggeard** in Irish. MacLysaght in MIF quotes Richard Foley: "Father Woulfe says it is taken from their place of residence -- not their Irish place, however, as this is Baile Uí Mhirgin.... The reference may apply to some place of theirs in England." The unidentified place of residence could equally well be in France or Wales.

Vaccaro

Current frequencies: GB: 172, Ireland: 8.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Occupational name: from *vaccaro* 'cowherd' (Late Latin *vaccarius*, a derivative of *vacca* 'cow').

Early Bearers: Dominico *Vaccaro*, organ grinder, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Bedford, Beds).

Valente

Current frequencies: GB: 739, Ireland: 59.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian; also Portuguese

(i) **Nickname:** from the vocabulary word *valente* 'brave, valient'.

(ii) **Relationship name:** from the Italian personal name *Valente* (of the same origin and meaning as 1), which was especially popular in medieval Italy, having been borne by a 6th-century bishop of Verona.

Early Bearers: Antonio *Valente*, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Dudley, Worcs); Damiano *Valente*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Glamorgan, Wales); Filomena *Valente*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Warwicks); Mingo *Valente*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Leeds, WR Yorks); Angelo *Valente*, lodging house keeper, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Wrexham, Denbighs).

Valenti

Current frequencies: GB: 199, Ireland: 2.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from the personal name *Valente* (see [Valente](#)).

Early Bearers: Vittore *Valenti*, born in "foreign parts", in **Census 1841** (Shoreditch, Middx); Pietro *Valenti*, organ grinder, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Manchester, Lancs); Guiseppe *Valenti*, street musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Edinburgh, Midlothian); Joseph *Valenti*, ice cream vendor, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Sunderland, Northumb); Lorenzo *Valenti*, artist of singing, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Paddington, Middx); Rasato *Valenti*, itinerant musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Wolverhampton, Staffs).

2 language/culture: Catalan

Relationship name: from the Catalan personal name *Valentí*.

Valentino

Current frequencies: GB: 154, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish

Relationship name: from the personal name *Valentino*, a pet form of *Valente*.

Early Bearers: Mary *Valentino*, 1706 in **Parish Registers** (Eastham, Cheshire); Joseph *Valentino*, cotton weaver, in **Census 1861** (Blackburn, Lancs); George *Valentino*, collier, in **Census 1871** (Wolstanton, Staffs); Bernardo *Valentino*, ice cream vendor, born in England, in **Census 1901** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Columba *Valentino*, domestic servant, born in England, in **Census 1901** (Peterborough, Northants); Rigozzi *Valentino*, waiter, born in Switzerland, in **Census 1901** (Saint Pancras, Middx); Antoinette *Valentino*, nurse, born in Valletta, Malta, in **Census 1911** (Chertsey, Surrey); Guisepe *Valentino*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Wandsworth, Surrey).

Valerio

Current frequencies: GB: 252, Ireland: 9.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish

Relationship name: from the personal name *Valerio* (Latin *Valerius*, a Roman family name ultimately derived from Latin *valere* 'to flourish, to be strong and healthy').

Early Bearers: Charlotte *Valerio*, born in Norfolk, in **Census 1851** (Shoreditch, Middx); George *Valerio*, 1885 in **Parish Registers** (Derby, Derbys); Mariette *Valerio*, born in Liverpool, in **Census 1891** (Liverpool, Lancs); Salvatore *Valerio*, ice cream dealer, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Huddersfield, WR Yorks); Guilio *Valerio*, confectioner, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Glasgow, Lanarks); Carmine *Valerio*, organ player, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Wrexham, Denbighs); Gaetano *Valerio*, ice cream hawker, born in Naples, Italy, in **Census 1901** (Portsmouth, Hants); Erminto *Valerio*, confectioner, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Glasgow, Lanarks); Celestino *Valerio*, fried fish vendor, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Liverpool, Lancs); Gallo *Valerio*, waiter, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Westminster, Middx).

Other info: The name was borne by several minor Christian saints, among them 4th-century bishops of Trier and Zaragoza and 5th-century bishops of Sorrento and of Antibes in southern France.

Valle

Current frequencies: GB: 161, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 39

main GB location, 1881: London; Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian, Spanish

Locative name: from any of the many places named with *valle* 'valley', or topographic for someone who lived in a valley (Latin *vallis*).

Early Bearers: Jos Marquis *de la Valle*, 1816 in [Parish Registers](#) (Saint James Piccadilly, Westminster, Middx); Luigi *Valle*, valet, born in Switzerland, in [Census 1851](#) (Westminster, Middx); Manuel *del Valle*, West India merchant, born in Mexico, in [Census 1871](#) (Kensington, Middx); Francesco *Valle*, waiter, born in France, in [Census 1891](#) (Hammersmith, Middx); Frank *Valle*, chandler, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Cardiff, Glamorgan); Antonio *Valle*, kitchen man, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Westminster, Middx).

2 language/culture: English
see [Vale](#).

Valli

Current frequencies: GB: 439, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian, Spanish

Locative name: from Spanish *valle* 'valley' or from the Italian equivalent or its plural *valli*, or from a place named with this word in either language; see also [Valle](#).

Early Bearers: Domenico *Valli*, born in Italy, in [Census 1861](#) (Clerkenwell, Middx); Noah *Valli*, born in Bergamo, Italy, in [Census 1871](#) (Clerkenwell, London); Elias *Valli*, RC priest, born in Italy [Census 1871](#) (Finsbury, Middx); Vermondo *Valli*, waiter, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Islington, Middx); Andrea *Valli*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Birmingham, Warwicks); Ariodante *Valli*, hatter, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Southwark, Middx); Guido *Valli*, improver, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Brentford, Middx).

2 language/culture: Muslim, Turkish, Iranian
see [Vali](#), [Wali](#).

3 language/culture: Hungarian

Locative name: from the surname **Váli**, denoting someone from Vál (Fehér county) or Vály (Gömör county), now in Slovakia.

Vassallo

Current frequencies: GB: 416, Ireland: 3.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Status name: from *vassallo* 'vassal'. Compare [Vassall](#).

Early Bearers: Lorenzo *Vassallo*, 1829 in [Parish Registers](#) (Saint John, Smith Square, Westminster, Middx); Peter Thomas *Vassallo*, 1837 in [Parish Registers](#) (Saint Andrew, Holborn, Middx); Louis *Vassallo*, 1860 in [Parish Registers](#) (Saint Botolph, Northfleet, Kent); Michael *Vassallo*, born in Malta, in [Census 1881](#) (Royal Navy); Emanuel *Vassallo*, interpreter, born in Malta, in [Census 1901](#) (South Leith, Midlothian); Lewis *Vassallo*, musician, born in Malta, in [Census 1901](#) (Royal Navy); Alberto *Vassallo*, wardroom cook, born in Malta, in [Census 1911](#) (Devonport, Devon).

Vella

Current frequencies: GB: 1094, Ireland: 35.

GB frequency, 1881: 11

main GB location, 1881: scattered

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Maltese, Italian

possibly a form of the Italian surname **Bella**, a feminine form of [Bello](#). **Cassar** points out that in Malta **Bellucci** also appears as **Vellucci**.

Early Bearers: Antonio *Vella*, born in Malta, in **Census 1861** (Royal Navy); Philip *Vella*, born in Malta, in **Census 1871** (Wandsworth, Surrey); Cornelia *Vella*, 1883 in **Parish Registers** (Saint Paul, Newport, Monmouths); Eugene *Vella*, born in Malta, in **Census 1891** (Fulham, Middx); Frank *Vella*, born in Malta, in **Census 1891** (Newport, Monmouths); Tommaso *Vella*, ice-cream maker born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Holborn, Middx); Antonio *Vella*, mosaic worker, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Headington, Oxon).

Venni

Current frequencies: GB: 107, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 14

main GB location, 1881: Norfolk and Cambs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

probably of Italian origin, from Brescia province in Lombardy.

Early Bearers: Judeth *Venni*, 1683 in **IGI** (Norwich, Norfolk); Robert *Venni*, 1705 in **Parish Registers** (Stoke Damerel, Devon); Abraham *Venney*, 1749 in **IGI** (Wisbech, Cambs); Peter *Venny*, 1780 in **IGI** (Hilgay, Norfolk); Jacob *Venny*, 1820 in **IGI** (Denver, Norfolk); Abraham *Venni*, 1858 in **Parish Registers** (Downham, Norfolk); John *Venni*, agricultural labourer, in **Census 1881** (Ely, Cambs); Jacob *Venni*, farmer, in **Census 1911** (Downham West, Norfolk).

Ventre

Current frequencies: GB: 233, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Venter](#).

1 language/culture: French, Italian

Nickname: for a man with a large paunch, from Old French, Italian *ventre* 'belly' (Latin *venter*).

Early Bearers: Maurice *Ventre*, priest, born in France, in **Census 1861** (Peckham, Surrey).

2 language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: probably from a pet form of the personal names *Bonventre* or *Brazzaventre*. Some examples may belong under (1).

Early Bearers: Lorenzo *Ventre*, organ grinder, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Liverpool, Lancs); Giovanni *Ventre*, itinerant musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Plymouth, Devon); Anselmo *Ventre*, street musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Liverpool, Lancs); Benedetto *Ventre*, organ grinder, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Torquay, Devon).

3 language/culture: English

variant of [Venture](#).

Ventura

Current frequencies: GB: 288, Ireland: 8.

GB frequency, 1881: 37

main GB location, 1881: Middx

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Spanish, Catalan, Portuguese, Jewish (Sephardic)

Relationship name, nickname: from a short form of *Bonaventura* or *Buenaventura*, meaning 'good fortune'. The Italian name may alternatively derive from *ventura* 'fortune, luck', applied as a nickname.

Early Bearers: Juliana *Ventura*, 1809 in **IGI** (Gosport, Hants); Angelo Benedetto *Ventura*, 1836 in **Parish Registers** (Saint Mary le Strand, Westminster, Middx); Alegro *Ventura*, corn cutter, born in "foreign parts", in **Census 1841** (Ipswich, Suffolk); Abraham *Ventura*, cigar maker, born in Holland, in **Census 1871** (Whitechapel, Middx); Miguel *Ventura*, merchant, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Westminster, Middx); Samuel *Ventura*, cigar maker, born in Holland, in **Census 1881** (Whitechapel, Middx); Armando *Ventura*, merchant, born in Saint Domingo, West Indies, in **Census 1891** (Kensington, Middx); Joseph *Ventura*, plasterer's labourer, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Huddersfield, WR Yorks); John *Ventura*, boot maker, born in Spain, in **Census 1901** (Saint Pancras, Middx); Angelo *Ventura*, waiter, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Westminster, Middx); Sisto *Ventura*, furniture repairer, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Ipswich, Suffolk); Abram *Ventura*, born in Canea, Crete, in **Census 1911** (Manchester, Lancs).

Other info: The name *Bonaventura* was borne in honor of a saint (1221-74) who was given this nickname by Saint Francis of Assisi when he cured him miraculously as a child.

Vera

Current frequencies: GB: 133, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 8

main GB location, 1881: Warwicks

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Spanish

Locative name: from any of various places called Vera or La Vera, named with *vera* 'river bank'.

Early Bearers: Avillina *Vera*, nurse, born Chile, in **Census 1871** (Marylebone, Middx); Angel Sanchez *Vera*, Spanish Vice Consul, born in Spain, in **Census 1901** (Glasgow, Lanarks).

2 language/culture: Italian

of uncertain origin. The Italian adjective *vera* is the feminine of *vero* 'true, genuine'; the noun *vera*, on the other hand, denotes a well-head or parapet round a well, though neither may lie behind the family name, which is rare in Italy.

Early Bearers: Carmino *Vera*, organ grinder, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Halifax, WR Yorks); Joseph *Vera*, waiter, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Holborn, Middx); Loreto *Vera*, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Huddersfield, WR Yorks).

3 language/culture: English

possibly a variant of [Verey](#).

Verdi

Current frequencies: GB: 145, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 11

main GB location, 1881: Hants

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: patronymic from the medieval personal name *Verde*, literally 'green'.

Early Bearers: Carlos *Verdi*, traveller, born in "foreign parts", in [Census 1841](#) (Birmingham, Warwicks), apparently identical with Carlo *Verdi*, professor of music and Italian, born in Sardinia, in [Census 1861](#) (Kensington, Middx); Gregory *Verdi*, steward R.N., born in Greece, in [Census 1871](#) (Portsea, Hants); Calo *Verdi*, compositor, born in Italy, in [Census 1871](#) (Middlesbrough, NR Yorks); Dennis *Verdi*, born in Corfu, Greece, in [Census 1881](#) (Royal Navy); Spero *Verdi*, born in Malta, in [Census 1881](#) (Portsea, Hants); Antonio *Verdi*, born in Glasgow, in [Census 1901](#) (Glasgow, Lanarks); William *Verdi*, teacher of singing, born in United States, in [Census 1911](#) (Hammersmith, Middx).

Vernazza

Current frequencies: GB: 108, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Locative name: from Vernazza (La Spezia).

Early Bearers: Thomas *Vernazzi*, born in Cheshire, in [Census 1841](#) (Cheshire); Pietro *Vernazzi*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Clerkenwell, London); Max *Vernazzi*, waiter and shopman, born in Switzerland, in [Census 1881](#) (London).

Verrecchia

Current frequencies: GB: 153, Ireland: 10.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Verrechia](#).

language/culture: Italian

unexplained.

Early Bearers: Bernardo *Verrechia*, musician, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Birmingham, Warwicks); Carmino *Verechia*, street musician, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Bath, Somerset); Antonio *Verrechia*, musician, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Bradford, WR Yorks); Luigia *Verecchia*, organ grinder, born in Santo Elia, Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Newark, Notts); Saverio *Verrecchia*, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Greenwich, Kent); Grevorno *Verrecchia*, boot maker, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Wolverhampton, Staffs); Nicolas *Verrechia*, ice cream vendor, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Hamilton, Lanarks); Bartolomeo *Verrecchia*, ice cream vendor, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Glasgow, Lanarks); Pasquale *Verrecchia*, ice cream maker, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Birmingham, Warwicks); Clorinda *Verrecchia*, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (West Ham, Essex); Filippo *Verrechia*, musician, born in Cardito, Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Dewsbury, WR Yorks); Antonio *Verechia*, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Manchester, Lancs).

Verrechia

Current frequencies: GB: 65, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 5

main GB location, 1881: Warwicks

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

see [Verrecchia](#).

Vettese

Current frequencies: GB: 133, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881:

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

unexplained.

Early Bearers: Petro *Vettese*, street musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Canterbury, Kent); Giuseppe *Vettese*, confectioner and ice cream vendor, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Coupar, Angus); Libero *Vettese*, organ player, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Reading, Berks); Michelangelo *Vettese*, ice cream vendor, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Walsall, Staffs); Pasquale *Vettese*, ice cream vendor, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Middlesbrough, NR Yorks); Antonio *Vettese*, street organ player, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Windsor, Berks).

Other info: In Italy the name is now most frequent in Lazio.

Villa

Current frequencies: GB: 246, Ireland: 45.

GB frequency, 1881: 19

main GB location, 1881: London

main Irish location, 1847-64: -

1 language/culture: Spanish

from any of several places in Spain (mainly in Asturia), so named from *villa* 'outlying farmstead'.

Early Bearers: Anna *Villa*, 1638 in **Parish Registers** (Saint Mary the Virgin, Sandwich, Kent); Anty. *Villa*, born in "foreign parts", in **Census 1841** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Jose Benito *de Villa*, butler, born in Madrid, in **Census 1861** (Marylebone, Middx); Manuel *Villa*, born in Huelva, Spain, in **Census 1911** (Plymouth, Devon).

2 language/culture: Italian

Locative name: for someone who lived in a village as opposed to an isolated farmhouse, or in a town as opposed to the countryside, from Latin *villa* 'country house, estate', or from any of various places named with this word.

Early Bearers: Giacomo *Villa*, 1832 in **Parish Registers** (Saint Andrew, Holborn, Middx); Francesco *Villa*, asphalter, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Holborn, Middx); Emilio *Villa*, merchant, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Westminster, Middx); Giuseppe *Villa*, professor of singing, born in Milan, Italy, in **Census 1891** (Saint Pancras, Middx); Santiago *Villa*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Bethnal Green, Middx); Leopoldo *Villa*, wine steward, born in Lugano, Switzerland, in **Census 1911** (Westminster, Middx).

Viola

Current frequencies: GB: 247, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from the female personal name *Viola*, from *viola* 'violet' (Latin *viola*).

Early Bearers: Pietro *de Viola*, foreign correspondent, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** (Everton, Lancs); Eugene *Viola*, felt hatter, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Stockport, Cheshire); Angelo *Viola*, confectioner, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Glasgow, Lanarks);

Alexandre *Viola*, ice cream vendor and musician, born in Saint Elia, Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Walsall, Staffs).

Vitale

Current frequencies: GB: 154, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian, Jewish

Relationship name: from the medieval Italian personal name *Vitale* (Latin *Vitalis*, a derivative of *vita* 'life').

Early Bearers: Thomas *Vitale*, in [Census 1871](#) (Pembrokes); Gavazzurni *Vitale*, born in Italy, in [Census 1881](#) (Camberwell, Surrey); Egidio *Vitali*, merchant, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) (Bromley, Kent); Vitantonio *Vitale*, street organ grinder, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Chichester, Sussex); Angelo *Vitale*, industrial designer, born in Alexandria, Egypt, in [Census 1901](#) (Manchester, Lancs); Oswaldo *Vitale*, waiter, born in Italy, in [Census 1911](#) (Brighton, Sussex).

Other info: The personal name was popular among Christians as a symbol of their belief in eternal life, and was borne by a dozen early saints; it became especially popular in Emilia-Romagna because of two saints, San Vitale of Bologna and San Vitale of Ravenna. As a Jewish personal name it represents a calque of the Hebrew personal name *Chayim* 'life' (compare [Hyam](#)).

Vito

Current frequencies: GB: 18, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

from the personal name *Vito*, Latin *Vitus*, related to *vita* 'life'.

Early Bearers: Angelo *Vito*, musician, born in Italy, in [Census 1891](#) Antonia *Vito*, born in Italy, in [Census 1901](#) (Nantwich, Cheshire); Casolino *Vito*, barber, born in Naples, in [Census 1911](#) (Poplar, Middx).

Other info: The name was popular in the Middle Ages as the result of the cult of an early Christian martyr in southern Italy, about whom very little is known. He was regarded as a patron against epilepsy and the nervous tremor named after him, 'Saint Vitus's dance'. It may also derive in part from the Lombardic name *Wido* or Frankish *Wit(t)o*.

Vlach

Current frequencies: GB: 5, Ireland: .

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

Variants: [Vlachos](#).

language/culture: Czech

Ethnic name: from *Vlach*, a word that originally meant 'Wallachian' but that was subsequently broadened in sense to denote an Italian or Romanian.

Volante

Current frequencies: GB: 161, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 2

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Nickname: apparently from Italian *volante* 'flying'.

Early Bearers: Gaitana *Volante*, born in Atina, Italy, in **Census 1881** (Liverpool, Lancs); Andrew *Volante*, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Siciedo *Volante*, organ grinder, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Ardivino *Volante*, street musician, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (East Stonehouse, Devon); Francesco *Volante*, tube work labourer, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Glasgow, Lanarks); Thomas *Valente*, organ grinder, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Aston, Warwicks); Guilio *Volante*, boot maker, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Clerkenwell, Middx).

Volpe

Current frequencies: GB: 196, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 1

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

1 language/culture: Italian

Nickname: for a crafty person, from *volpe* 'fox' (Latin *vulpes*).

Early Bearers: Louis *Volpe*, born in "foreign parts", in **Census 1841** (Birmingham, Warwicks); Gironalmo *Volpe*, professor of Italian literature, born in Venice, in **Census 1861** (Marylebone, Middx); Vincenzo *Volpe*, ice cream maker, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Deptford, Kent); Tore *Volpe*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Fulham, Middx); Lorenzo *Volpe*, cook, born in Italy, in **Census 1911** (Westminster, Middx).

2 language/culture: Jewish (eastern Ashkenazic)

Locative name: from a place in Belarus, southeast of Grodno, the Yiddish name of which is *Volp(e)* (Belorussian, Russian *Volpa*, Polish *Wolpa*).

Early Bearers: Robert and Rachel *Volpe*, born in Russia, in **Census 1901** (London).

Yiangou

Current frequencies: GB: 135, Ireland: 1.

GB frequency, 1881: 0

main GB location, 1881: -

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Greek, Cypriot

Relationship name: from the old genitive case of the Greek personal name *Yiangos*, which may derive either from a colloquial version of *Ioannes* (see [John](#)) or from the Italian or Spanish name *Iago*. It is a common name in Cyprus.

Zanelli

Current frequencies: GB: 178, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 30

main GB location, 1881: Middx; WR Yorks

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a pet form of the personal name *Zanni*, a northeastern (Venetian) form of *Gianni*, *Giovanni*, Italian equivalent of [John](#).

Early Bearers: Giovanni *Zanelli*, musician, born in Parma, Italy, in **Census 1861** (Holborn, Middx); Antonio *Zanelli*, 1862, in **BMD** (Sheffield, WR Yorks); Rosanna *Zanelli*, 1869 in **IGI** (Sheffield, WR Yorks); Francesco *Zanelli*, looking glass manufacturer, born in Lombardy, Italy, in **Census 1871** (Spitalfields, Middx); Walter *Zanelli*, 1884 in **IGI** (Carbrook, WR Yorks); Domenico *Zanelli*, looking glass frame maker, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Clerkenwell, Middx); Giovanni *Zanelli*, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Chatham, Kent).

Zanetti

Current frequencies: GB: 115, Ireland: 0.

GB frequency, 1881: 18

main GB location, 1881: WR Yorks and Lancs

main Irish location, 1847-64:

language/culture: Italian

Relationship name: from a pet form of the personal name *Zanni*, a northeastern (Venetian) form of *Gianni*, *Giovanni*, Italian equivalent of [John](#). Compare [Zanelli](#).

Early Bearers: Celestino *Zanetti*, looking glass frame maker, born in Italy, in **Census 1871** (Leeds, WR Yorks); Daniel *Zanetti*, born in Italy, in **Census 1881** ; Maria *Zanetti*, in **Census 1881** (Leeds, WR Yorks); Charles *Zanetti*, commercial traveller, born in Italy, in **Census 1891** (Manchester, Lancs); Eduardo *Zanetti*, mosaic worker, born in Italy, in **Census 1901** (Holborn, Middx); Giovanni *Zanetti*, violin maker, born in Italy in **Census 1911** (Bournemouth, Hants).