

Chances are that you'll spend countless hours and weeks batting names around with your partner before settling on a name for the baby-to-be. Whether you decide to try a fun new funky name or stick with a classic name, the choice will be part of an arduous selection process. This article was compiled to give some stats on today's most popular names for boys.

Most Popular Baby Boy's Names in 2006

The most popular baby names of 2006 were recently released by the Social Security Administration. Each year the government tracks the statistics for baby names across the United States by tallying the number of times a particular name shows up on the social security number applications submitted to their office. Then each spring, they release that tabulated data to the public which can be viewed online at the Social Security website.

This year there weren't any real surprises on the list of the most popular boy's names in the United States. The most interesting trends showed up in the state by state analysis which clearly showed naming trends reflect the ethnic, local and cultural backgrounds of the parents. Across the U.S as a whole, the top 10 baby boy names of 2006 were as follows (in order of popularity): Jacob, Michael, Joshua, Ethan, Matthew, Daniel, Christopher, Andrew, Anthony and William. The top five names on this list have been the top 5 names for boys for the last 3 years running.

As for the state by state tallies, the boys name Angel was ranked number 1 in Arizona, number 3 in California and Nevada. However, it ranked as the 17th most popular name in the US overall. Two of the top five names in Hawaii are Dylan and Elijah. Yet these names rank 26th and 29th respectively in the overall U.S.

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Choosing a name for the baby boy-to-be can be as stressful as it is fun. After all, you want to make sure that he'll like and be proud of the name you choose for him. Boy's name selections haven't changed nearly as much as girls names over the years, so feel free to choose a classic – they never go out of style.

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Just for fun, you should visit the Social Security Administration's website to see where the names of your children show up. Better yet, look up your name and your spouse's name to see just how popular your names were in the year you were born. You might be surprised to see just how popular your name was back then.