

Oxford Reference

The Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland

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Aitchison

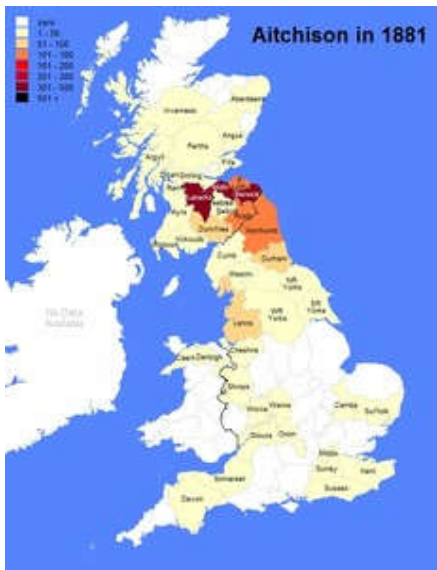
Variants: ACHESON, ATCHESON, AITCHESON, AITCHESON, AICHESON, ATCHINSON, ATCHISON

- **Current frequencies:** GB 3409, Ireland 18
- **GB frequency 1881:** 2099
- **Main GB location 1881:** S Scotland and Northumb

Scottish, English: relationship name, Scottish and N English form of ATKINSON, recorded in Scotland as *Atzinson*, 1475, *Achesoun*, 1497, *Atyesoun*, 1540, and *Aicheson*, 1590 (Black) and in Cumb as *Attchison*, 1596 (Cumb and Westm Transactions viii). The z, representing the Old English letter *ȝ*, was pronounced y and *Atyeson* became *Acheson* in the same way as the colloquial 'got you' became 'gotcha'.

Early bearers:

John Aichinson, 1571 in IGI (Greatham, Durham); Archibald Acheson, 1579 in IGI (Edinburgh); Agneta Atcheson, 1584 in IGI (Morpeth, Northumb); Marc Aichesone, 1590 in Exchequer Rolls of Scotland (E Lothian); Janet Aicheson, 1631 in IGI (Liberton, Midlothian); James Achisone, 1676 in Retours, Scotland (Dumfriess).



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Aitchison, 1881 frequency.

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