

# Oxford Reference

## The Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland

Patrick Hanks, Richard Coates, and Peter McClure

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## Hunter

- **Current frequencies:** GB 42923, Ireland 3558
- **GB frequency 1881:** 30635
- **Main GB location 1881:** widespread: esp. N England and Scotland
- **Main Irish location 1847–64:** Ulster: esp. Antrim and Derry

**1** English, Scottish: occupational name from Middle English *hunter(e)* 'hunter'.

### Further information:

A Scottish family of this name have been established at Hunterston (Ayr) since the 13th century.

### Early bearers:

#### England:

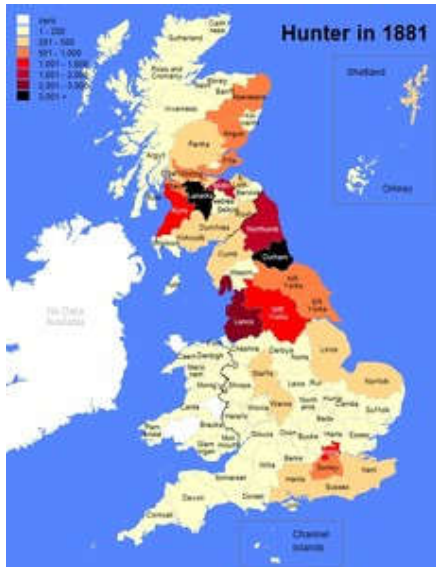
Simon Huntere, 1220 in Curia Regis Rolls (Beds); Juliana la Hunter, 1312 in Colchester Court Rolls; Adam Hunter, 1377 in Poll Tax (Headingley, WR Yorks); William Hunter, 1544 in PROB 11 (Kingston upon Thames, Surrey).

**Scotland:** Adam Hunter, 1259 in Black (Newbattle, Midlothian); Thomas le Huntere, 1269 in Scotland Calendar; Archibald Hunter, 1564 in IGI (Edinburgh, Midlothian).

**2** Irish: in Ireland, adopted for **Ó Fiaich** (see FEE) because of confusion with the word *fiadhach* 'hunt'. Many of the early bearers below may belong with sense (1) above.

### Early bearers:

Widdow Hunter, 1664 in Hearth Money Rolls, Ireland (Cordroman, Armagh); William Hunter, 1665 in Hearth Money Rolls, Ireland (Skreene, Sligo); John Hunter, 1796 in Flaxgrowers Ireland (Knockbreda, Down); John Hunter, 1796 in Flaxgrowers Ireland (Cappagh, Tyrone); James Hunter, 1796 in Flaxgrowers Ireland (Drumcliff, Sligo); Robert Hunter, 1796 in Flaxgrowers Ireland (Mullaghbrack, Armagh); Elizabeth Hunter, 1796 in Flaxgrowers Ireland (Kilmacrenan, Donegal); William Hunter, 1796 in Flaxgrowers Ireland (Templemore, Derry); John Hunter, 1796 in Flaxgrowers Ireland (Kiltoghert, Leitrim).



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Hunter, 1881 frequency.

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