

Oxford Reference

The Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland

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Matthews

Variants: MATHEWS, MATHEWES, MATTHEWES, MATTEWS

- **Current frequencies:** GB 50240, Ireland 3410
- **GB frequency 1881:** 25858
- **Main GB location 1881:** widespread throughout England; also S Wales
- **Main Irish location 1847–64:** Louth and Down

English, Irish: variant of MATTHEW, with genitival or excrescent -s. Compare the following case in the 1438 Patent Rolls: 'Pardon of Thomas Mathewe of Tamworth, Warwick, baker, of his outlawry by the name of Thomas Mathewes of Tamworth, Stafford, carpenter'.

Further information:

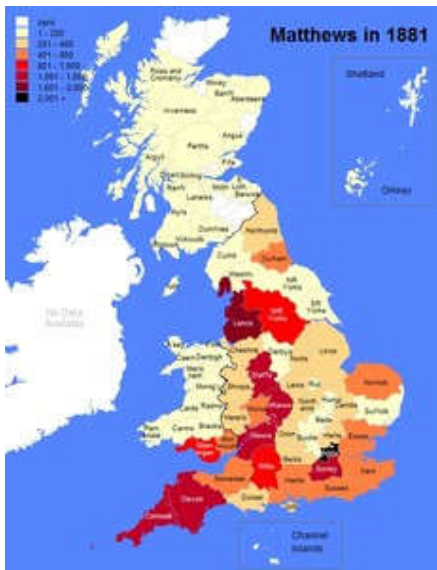
In Ireland, the English name is common in Ulster and Louth. It has also been adopted for Irish **Mac Mathghamhna** (see MCMAHON).

Early bearers:

England:

John Mathows, 1395 in Whitby Chartulary (Yorks); Anna Mathewes, 1548 in IGI (Burrington, Herefs).

Ireland: Henry Mathewe (or Mathewes), gent., 1586 in Fiants Elizabeth §4930.



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Matthews, 1881 frequency.

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