

Oxford Reference

The Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland

Patrick Hanks, Richard Coates, and Peter McClure

Publisher: Oxford University Press

Print Publication Date: 2016

Print ISBN-13: 9780199677764

Published online: 2016

Current Online Version: 2016

eISBN: 9780191781797

McGowan

Variants: MCGOWEN, MCGOWN, MAGOWAN, MACKOWN, MCGOVAN, GOW

- **Current frequencies:** GB 10794, Ireland 3723
- **GB frequency 1881:** 3894
- **Main GB location 1881:** Scotland: esp. Glasgow; also Lancs
- **Main Irish location 1847–64:** widespread: esp. Leitrim and Sligo; Donegal

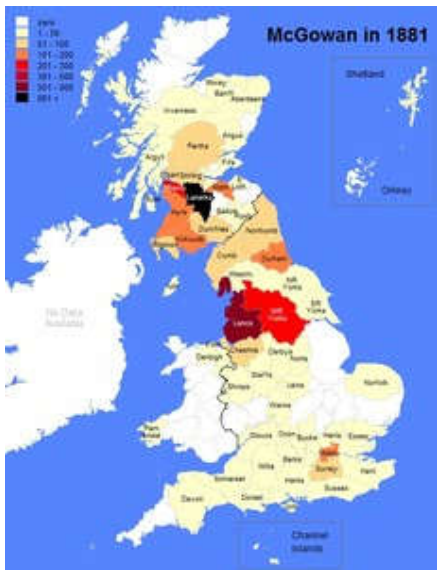
Irish: from **Mac (an) Ghabhann** or Scottish Gaelic **Mac (a') Ghobhainn** or **Mac Gobhann** 'son of (the) smith'. This name has also been anglicized as SMITH and SMITHSON.

Early bearers:

Ireland:

Mael Brigte m. in Gobann, fer leiginn Aird Macha (learned man of Armagh), 1012 in AU; Gilla Geimridh Mac in Ghaband, chief of Fer Darcacha, 1171 in AU; Muircertach Mac in Ghabhann, abbot of Clochair (Clogher), 1338 in AU; John Smith alias Mclgoyne, 1577 in Fiants Elizabeth §3139; Gillarneue McEn Gawne, 1578 in Fiants Elizabeth §3351; Connor ne Kyle Magowan, kern, 1585 in Fiants Elizabeth §4799; Fargenneglye MmcHue Magawn, 1585 in Fiants Elizabeth §4799; Connor ne Kyllie Magowne, 1585 in Fiants Elizabeth §4799; Owen Magowen, 1585 in Fiants Elizabeth §4799; Marcus Magowin, 1602 in Fiants Elizabeth §6618 (Cloghan); Edmund McGaone, 1599 in Fiants Elizabeth §6323.

Scotland: Gilcallum McGoun, 1503 in Privy Seal of Scotland Register (Cupar); Gilbert Makgowin, 1526 in Privy Seal of Scotland Register; John McAgoune, 1609 in Poltalloch Writs (Auchinbreck-Glendaruel); John Moir McAgowne, 1609 in Privy Council of Scotland Register (Inruglas).



[Click to view larger](#)

McGowan, 1881 frequency.

© Archer Software

Copyright © 2020. All rights reserved.