

# Oxford Reference

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

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## Rose

**Variants:** ROYS, ROYSE, ROYCE, ROWES, ROSS

- **Current frequencies:** GB 35356, Ireland 459
- **GB frequency 1881:** 21950
- **Main GB location 1881:** widespread in England and Scotland
- **Main Irish location 1847–64:** Limerick; Carlow; Donegal; Monaghan

**1** English: relationship name from the Middle English female personal name *Rohese*, *Roese*, later *Rose*, *Royse* (Continental Germanic *Hrodohaidis*, *Rothaid*). Some of the following examples of *Ros(e)* may alternatively belong with (2) or (3).

### Early bearers:

#### given names:

Rothais, 1086 in Domesday Book (Herts); Rohesia, Roes' de Killum, 1219 in Assize Rolls (Yorks); Rosa Weuere, 1327 in Subsidy Rolls (Sussex); Roysia Cobbe, 1379 in Poll Tax (Ranworth, Norfolk); Rosa Kemester', 1379 in Poll Tax (Pitminster, Somerset); Rosa atte Yatte, 1379 in Poll Tax (Barmby on the Marsh, ER Yorks); Rosa Whyt, 1379 in Poll Tax (Bilton, Warwicks); Rosa Norice, 1381 in Poll Tax (Little Haseley, Oxon); Rosea Hosbond, 1381 in Poll Tax (Creting Saint Peter, Suffolk).

**surnames, SE England:** Thomas filius Rose, 1279 in Hundred Rolls (Cambs); Robert Rose, 1302 in London Court Rolls; Richard Roys, 1327 in Subsidy Rolls (Suffolk); Simon Roys, 1377 in Poll Tax (Dunstall Green and Dalham, Suffolk); Robertus Roys, 1381 in Poll Tax (Finchingfield, Essex); Willelmus Ros, 1381 in Poll Tax (Hadleigh, Suffolk); Joan Rose, 1538, Susan Ross, 1578 in IGI (Sandwich, Kent); Edmond Rose, 1540 in IGI (Norwich, Norfolk); Margaret Rose, 1542 in IGI (Worlingham, Suffolk); Willimus Rose, 1543, Thomas Royce, 1576 in IGI (Chislet, Kent); Joan Rose, 1554, Aaron Roys, 1616, Moses Royce,

1647, Aaron Royse, 1680 in IGI (Terling, Essex); Willm Royce, 1578 in IGI (Bosham, Sussex); Maudlene Royce, 1609 in IGI (Cheshunt, Herts); Mary Royce, 1626 in IGI (Chertsey, Surrey).

**surnames, N Midlands:** Willelmo Rose, 1379 in Poll Tax (Hoby, Leics); Hugo Ros', 1381 in Poll Tax (Stonton Wyville, Leics); Thome Rose, 1538 in IGI (Pickworth, Lincs); Robt. Rose, 1545 in IGI (Grimsby, Lincs); Richard Roys, 1633, Sarah Rose, 1701 in IGI (Thurlby near Bourne, Lincs); Robert Royce, 1672 in IGI (Langtoft, Lincs); Allin Royce, 1734, William Rose, 1736 in IGI (Oakham, Rutland); Joseph Roys, 1790 in IGI (South Leverton, Notts).

**surnames, W England:** Peter Rose, 1327 in Subsidy Rolls (Worcs); Hugo Roys, 1377 in Poll Tax (Toot Baldon, Oxon); Katerina Ros', 1379 in Poll Tax (Chadnor, Herefs); Margeria Ros, 1379 in Poll Tax (Calne borough, Wilts); Maria Rose, 1539 in IGI (Highworth, Wilts); Thomas Rose, 1541 in IGI (Kidderminster, Worcs); Elizabeth Royse, 1549 in IGI (East Hendred, Berks).

**surnames, N England:** Willelmo filio Rose, 1379 in Poll Tax (Blacktoft, ER Yorks); Cecilia filia Rose, 1379 in Poll Tax (Sheffield, WR Yorks); Johannes Roys, 1379 in Poll Tax (Horbury, WR Yorks); Margrett Rose, 1560 in IGI (Snaith, WR Yorks); Anna Rose, 1562, Henricus Roose, 1565 in IGI (Sheffield, WR Yorks); Mary Rose, 1582 in IGI (Hedon, ER Yorks); Richard Royse, 1604, Richard Rose, 1609 in Sheffield Jackson Catalogue; Mary Rose, 1741, Frederick Royse, 1817 in IGI (Manchester, Lancs).

**2** English: locative name from Middle English *rose* 'rose', for someone living at the sign of The Rose (an inn name).

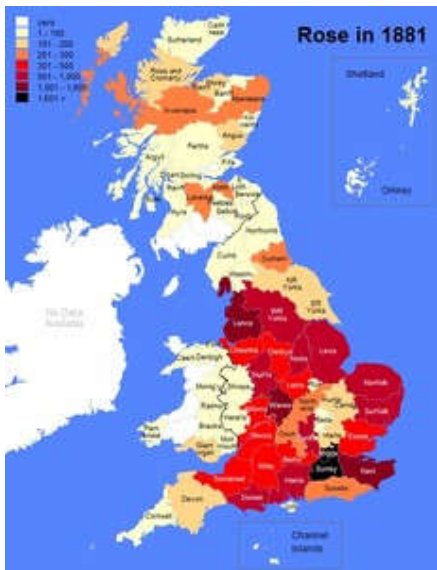
**Early bearers:**

Robert de la Rose, 1242 in Book of Fees (Oxon); Adam atte Rose, 1305 in London Court Rolls.

**3** English, Scottish: see Ross, where the English variant is illustrated under various senses. The Scottish name exemplified below belongs to a small Nairnshire clan.

**Early bearers:**

William Rose, about 1360 in Chiefs of Grant (Inverness); Andrew de Rose, 1440 in Papal Letters (Inneraferayn, Ross and Cromarty); Hugh Rose, 1526 in Treasurer Accounts (Kilravock, Ross and Cromarty); Agnes Rose, 1689 in IGI (Dingwall, Ross and Cromarty).



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Rose, 1881 frequency.

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