

## Re: Apollo 11 baby

**Source:** <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.space.history/2004-07/4527.html>

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**From:** Andrew Gray ([andrew.gray\\_at\\_dunelm.org.uk](mailto:andrew.gray_at_dunelm.org.uk))

**Date:** 07/30/04

Date: 30 Jul 2004 19:15:45 GMT

On 2004-07-30, Mary Shafer <[miliff@qnet.com](mailto:miliff@qnet.com)> wrote:

> On 23 Jul 2004 21:35:18 GMT, Andrew Gray <[andrew.gray@dunelm.org.uk](mailto:andrew.gray@dunelm.org.uk)>

> wrote:

>

>> People may like to know that the Social Security Death Index lists  
>> twenty-six people with the first name Lunar. The most recent one listed  
>> was born in 1923, one Lunar Street. (Stop laughing in the back there.)  
>> 24 of them did live to see Apollo 11... no Modules, though. 44 called  
>> Apollo, but that's a little less surprising (good Greek name).

>

> Try the Census Bureau, then. Some government agency lists all the  
> names anyone reported, by incidence frequency.

There was a selective study done after the 1990 census to check for systematic errors; the data from this, some 7.2m people, was used to produce a file on the distribution of names which is online through [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

However, errors or incomplete data knocked this down to about 6.3 million names, and then a decision was taken to:

"For purposes of both confidentiality and elimination of data noise we restricted the number of unique names available at this internet site to the minimum number of entries that contain 90 percent of the population in that data file. There is an extremely small chance that an individual with a truly "unique" name could have been captured in sample, and is far more likely for surnames than for first names."

[http://www.census.gov/genealogy/names/nam\\_meth.txt](http://www.census.gov/genealogy/names/nam_meth.txt)

So... chances are you wouldn't expect a forename with only a few extant people to show up, as indeed they don't.

There may be a more complete list, but I'm not aware of one.

(Incidentally, it notes that 2.629% of the female population are called Mary, or variants...)

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-Andrew Gray  
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