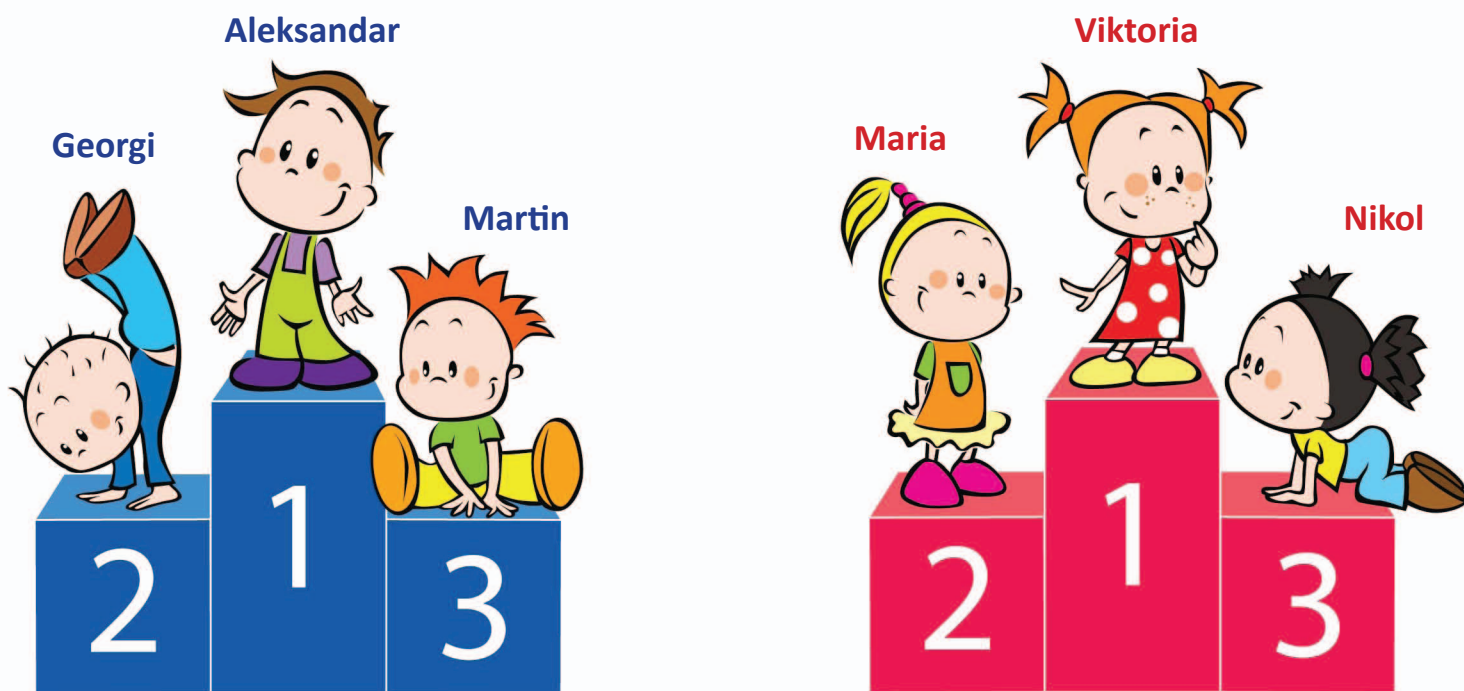




## Aleksandar and Viktoria – the most preferred names for new-born babies in Bulgaria in 2016



In new-borns in 2016, the trend for greater diversity is preserved more in the names of girls (3 033 names) than the names of boys (2 518 names).

Since the beginning of the 21st century, more and more names chosen are often those popular around the world – Aleksandar, Martin, Viktor, Nikolay, Viktoria, Maria, Nikol, Sofia.

By 2015, the name Georgi led the ranking of the most popular names for new-born boys in Bulgaria. In 2016 it lost first place to Aleksandar. Viktoria continues to lead the chart for new-born girls, although the number with that name decreased in 2016 (775) compared to 2015 (847).

When choosing a name some parents are influenced by celebrities and films characters – e.g. Krisia was chosen for 222 new-born girls in 2015 and for 169 in 2016.

The number of children with dual names has dropped from 1 174 in 2007 to 831 in 2016. In 2016, a double name was given to 248 boys and 583 girls, the most popular being Kristiyan Aleksandar and Anna-Maria.

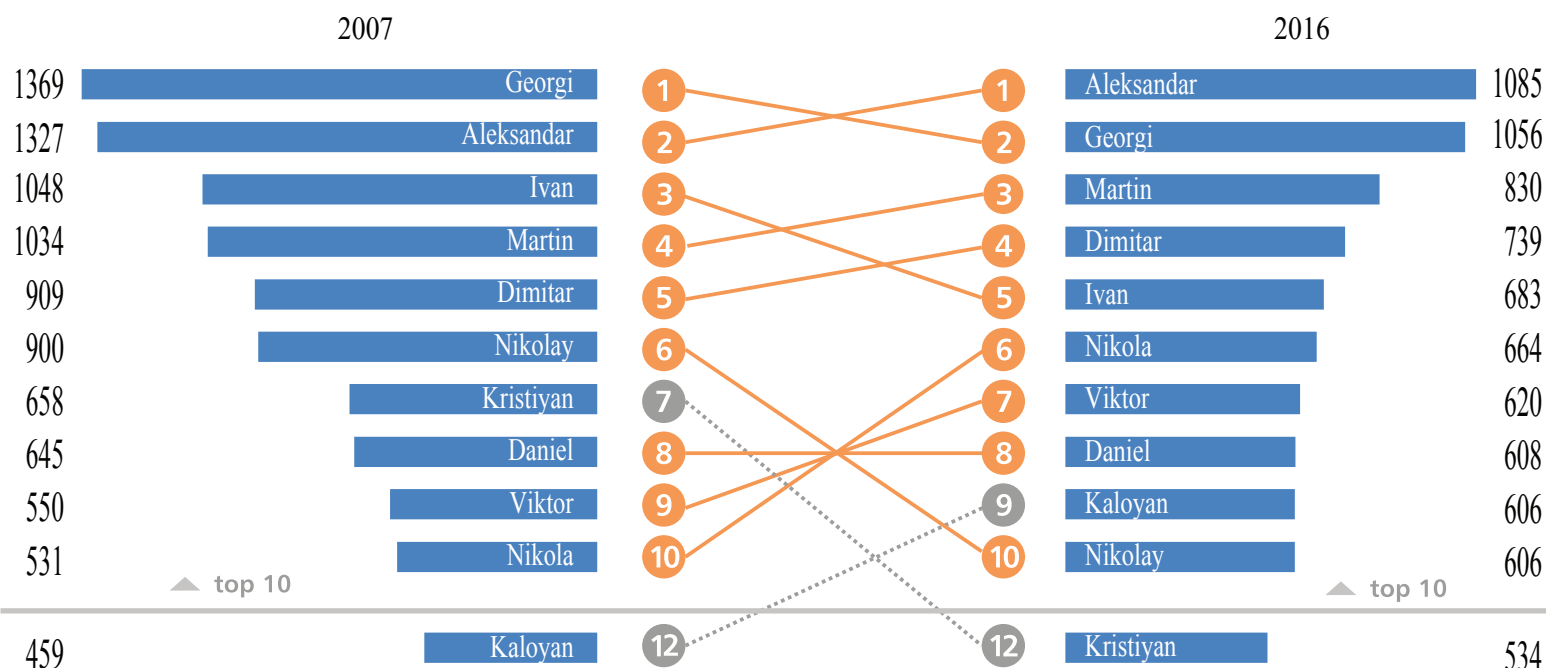
Among the 10 most common names for new-born boys, along with Dimitar, Ivan, Nikolay and Nikola, some names which are unusual for Bulgarian tradition, like Martin, Daniel and Viktor, also dominate. However, Yordan, Vasil, Todor, Stoyan, Atanas are missing, which are among the most common names in men as a whole.

The number of new-borns with names of khans and the kings of the First and Second Bulgarian Kingdom has increased, for example Asparuh, Tervel, Simeon, Samuil, Kaloyan.

The most common Muslim names for boys in 2016 are Emir (182) and Mert (115).



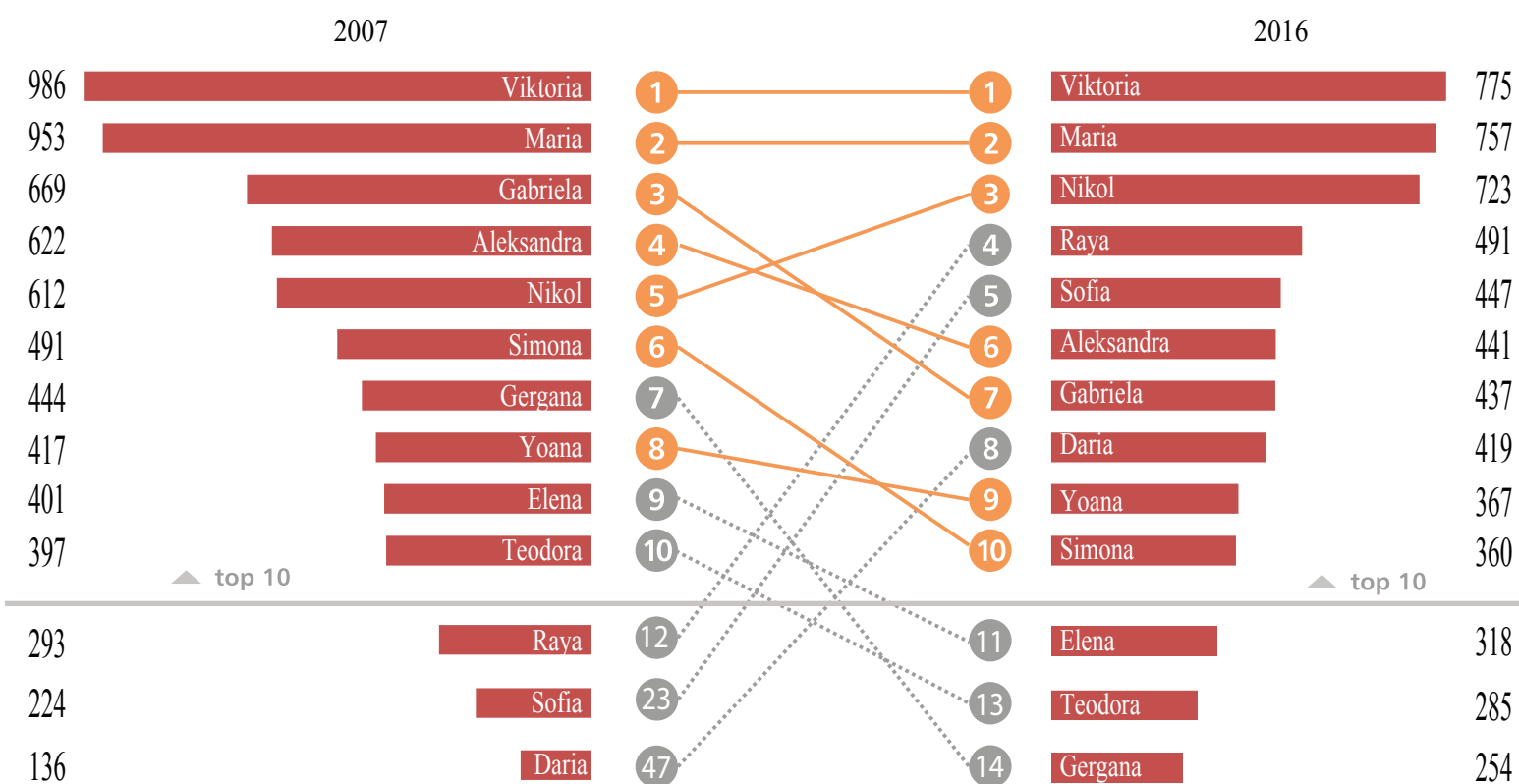
## Top 10 names of the boys born in 2007 and 2016



The top three among the ten most common names for girls (Viktoria, Maria and Nikol) remains unchanged compared to 2015, while the name Raya and Sofia respectively move from seventh to fourth and from ninth to fifth place. It is curious that the name Daria in 2007 was on the 47th place in popularity while in the last three years it is in the top 10 names for new-born girls.

The most common Muslim names for girls are Elif (144) and Melek (70).

## Top 10 names of the girls born in 2007 and 2016





## Nearly 70 000 personal names of persons permanently living in Bulgaria by the end of 2016

The diversity of female names remains greater than males. There are nearly 31 000 personal male names and just over 39 000 female names.

Though their number has decreased compared to the previous year, the most prevalent names among men are still **Georgi – 166 000, Ivan – 158 000 and Dimitar – 123 000**, followed by Nikolay – 94 000, Petar – 74 000, Hristo – 60 000, and Aleksandar, Stefan, Yordan – more than 50 000. Of all the men in the country 1 297 000 have the 20 most common forenames.

The most common Muslim male names are Mehmed – 15 000, Ahmed – 13 000 and Mustafa – 12 000.

In women, nearly 700 000 have the 20 most common female names in the country. **The most common name among women continues to be Maria – 116 000**, followed by Ivanka – 60 000, Elena – 53 000 and Yordanka – 39 000. Also in the twenty most popular female names are, among others, Penka – 32 000, Daniela – 30 000, Rositsa, Desislava, Petya, and Gergana.

In women the most common Muslim names are Fatme – 17 000, Ayshe – 15 000 and Emine – 9 000.

## The most common names in Bulgaria by the end of 2016

№	Men		Women	
	Name	Number	Name	Number
1	Georgi	166017	Maria	116477
2	Ivan	157707	Ivanka	60339
3	Dimitar	122649	Elena	53399
4	Nikolay	93933	Yordanka	38753
5	Petar	73932	Penka	31698
6	Hristo	60161	Daniela	30408
7	Aleksandar	58165	Rositsa	29694
8	Stefan	52247	Desislava	29399
9	Yordan	51211	Petya	29386
10	Vasil	49478	Gergana	28143
11	Todor	47711	Mariyka	27687
12	Stoyan	47529	Violeta	26489
13	Atanas	45525	Margarita	26265
14	Angel	45095	Nadezhda	25212
15	Krasimir	44479	Viktoria	25062
16	Plamen	40837	Silvia	24666
17	Nikola	38069	Radka	24652
18	Ivaylo	36013	Emilia	24522
19	Valentin	33410	Rumyana	24466
20	Martin	33210	Milena	23122



### Most name days are celebrated in December, but the most people have a name day in January

December is the month with the most name days. Every second day someone has the opportunity to pay the drinks in order to glorify their name.

January has the most people with a name day. Nearly one million Bulgarians celebrate Vasilyovden, Yordanovden (Epiphany), Ivanovden, Antonovden and Atanasovden. In January, name day is celebrated by Teodosiy (11/01), Tatyana (12/01), Evtim (20/01), Maksim (21/01) and Grigoriy (25/01).

But the largest number celebrate a name day on Tsvetnitsa (Palm Sunday) - 378 000 women and men.

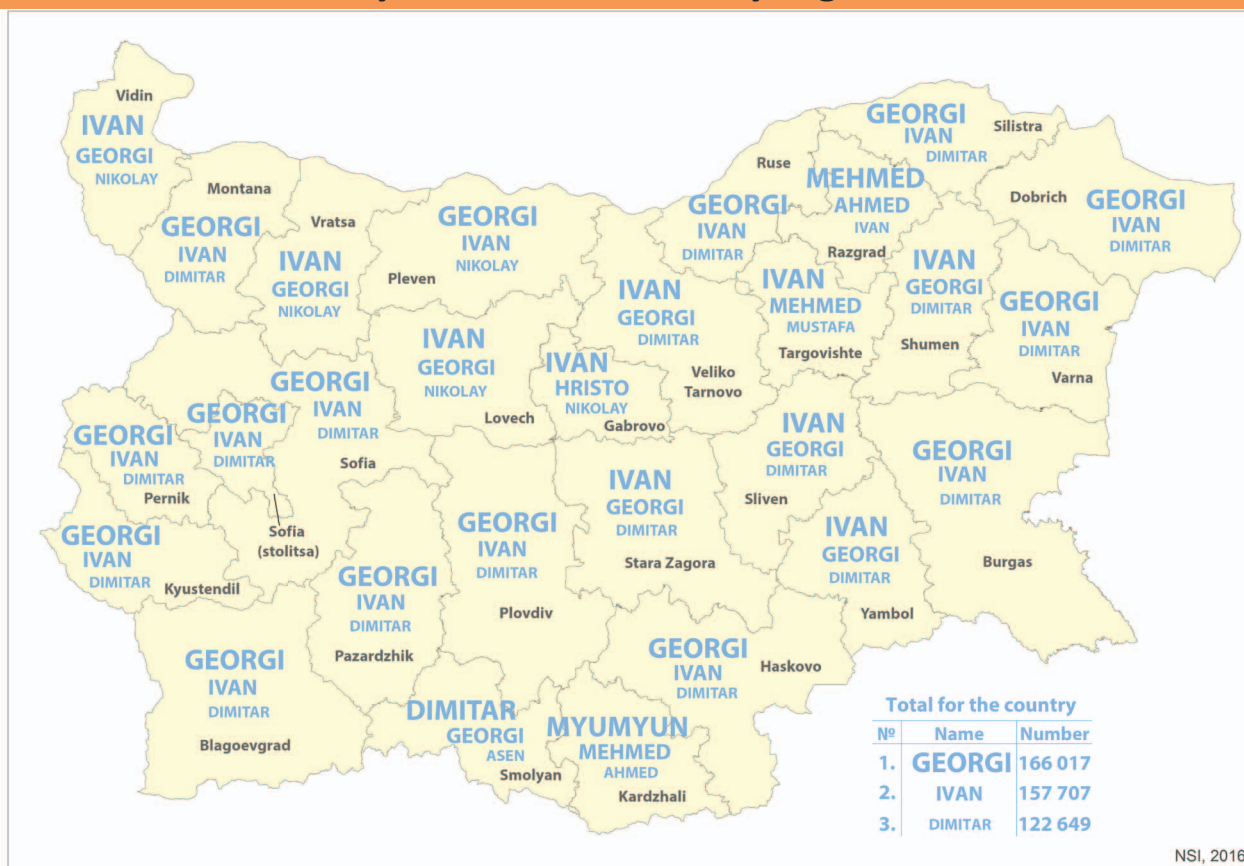
### Number of persons by name days by the end of 2016

Dates in 2017	Name days	Total	Male	Female
1.01.	Vasilyovden (the day of St. Vasiliy)	137035	81718	55317
6.01.	Yordanovden (Epiphany)	149348	78253	71095
7.01.	Ivanovden (the day of St. Ioan)	367397	236136	131261
17.01.	Antonovden (the day of St. Antonii)	84564	33850	50714
18.01.	Atanasovden (the day of St. Atanasii)	63843	49444	14399
4.03.	Todorovden (the day of St. Theodor)	130937	77038	53899
25.03.	Blagoveshtenie (Annunciation)	21099	10361	10738
8.04.	Lazarovden (the day of the name Lazar)	6842	4962	1880
9.04.	Tsvetnitsa (Palm Sunday)	378312	86570	291742
16.04.	Velikden (Easter day)	41491	13564	27927
6.05.	Gergyovden (the day of St. George)	239062	178442	60620
11.05.	St. St. Kiril and Metodi	43407	41112	2295
21.05.	St. St. Konstantin and Elena	118463	41409	77054
25.05.	Spasovden (Ascension day)	12932	7310	5622
24.06.	Enyovden	52928	22054	30874
29.06.	Petrovden (the day of St. Petar)	179257	108011	71246
20.07.	Ilinden (the day of Profit Ilia)	64818	48457	16361
15.08.	Uspenie Bogorodichno (Assumption)	208076	18467	189609
14.09.	Krastovden (the day of Holy Cross)	13881	8533	5348
17.09.	Sofia, Vyara, Nadezhda i Lyubov	113425	33244	80181
14.10.	Petkovden (the day of St. Petka)	31744	25949	5795
26.10.	Dimitrovden (the day of St. Dimitar)	172045	147485	24560
8.11.	Arhangelovden (Michaelmas day)	269333	166804	102529
6.12.	Nikulden (the day of St. Nikolay)	199827	146729	53098
9.12.	St. Ana	77861	-	77861
25.12.	Rozhdestvo Hristovo (Christmas day)	137790	91259	46531
27.12.	Stefanovden (the day of St. Stephan)	267982	163504	104478



**Georgi is the most popular male name in 15 districts of the country.**

**Top 3 male names in Bulgaria by the end of 2016, by regions**



NSI, 2016

**Maria is the most preferred female name in 19 districts of the country.**

**Top 3 female names in Bulgaria by the end of 2016, by regions**



NSI, 2016