

*Ablahadson, Arielleson, Starwarson and Nallesdotter*  
Newly created surnames in *-son* and *-dotter*, 1995–2006

By Sonja Entzenberg

Summary

Surnames in *-son* ‘-son’ are one of the commonest types of surname (family name) in Sweden. New surnames in *-son* are still being created, as are – since the passing of the 1982 Names Act – new names in *-dotter* ‘-daughter’. Over the period 1995–2006 a total of 229 newly formed surnames in *-son* or *-dotter* were approved. Of these, 218 were formed with *-son*, the commonest type of first element being a forename (e.g. *Ablahadson*) or a surname (e.g. *Shamosson*), often originating in a foreign culture. This cross-linguistic influence contributes to creativity and dynamism in the surname system. First elements that are morphologically difficult to place can also be noted (e.g. *Starwarson*). Since the 1980s, interest in surnames in *-dotter* has declined, and only 11 applications for such names were approved during the period studied. These *-dotter* names include as their first element either a forename, often of a pet-name character (*Nallesdotter*, cf. *nalle* ‘teddy’), or a surname (*Ahlsdotter*).

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