

Mac Aodhagáin

The most common spelling of our family name is now Egan both in Ireland and in the rest of the world. However, in the past Eagan was very often used in Ireland as it sounded closer to the original Aodhagáin. Many who emigrated from Ireland in Famine times, and earlier, used this spelling and this version is still often found in the USA.

The following is an attempt to list the most frequently used surnames that descendants of MacAodhagáin have used over time:-

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|----------------|-------|---------|-----------|---------|
| • Eagan | Agin | McEgan | Keegan | Hagan |
| • Eagen | Agins | MacEgan | Kigan | Hagen |
| • Eagin | Agan | | MacKeigan | O'Hagan |
| • Eagon | Agon | | MacKeegan | O'Hagen |
| • Eegan | Egen | | Keagan | |
| • Egan | Egin | | Keeghan | |
| • Eighan | | | Keggan | |
| • MacAogáin | | | Keigan | |
| • MacAodhagáin | | | | |

Many of the above variations have occurred when names were being listed for one purpose or another after the person being recorded had arrived at some foreign destination such as USA/Canada or Australia/New Zealand. Very often the emigrant did not speak English and could not read or write their name so the recorder wrote down what he thought was phonetically correct. To give you some idea of the spread of variants of the name the following data was extracted from the USA Census for the year 2000:-

	<u>Persons</u>
Egan	22,491
Keegan	9,662
Eagan	5,420
Eagen	1,105
Agin	1,067
McKeegan	350
Agins	<u>288</u>
Total	40,383

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