Monarchs of Britain and England

Following her death on September 8th 2022, Queen Elizabeth II became the longest reigning monarch of Britain and England, and King Charles III became the oldest person to become monarch. A steady increase in lifespan among the royals suggests that these records may both be broken soon, if only the monarchy survives that long.

Birth — Beginning of reign — End of reign — Death
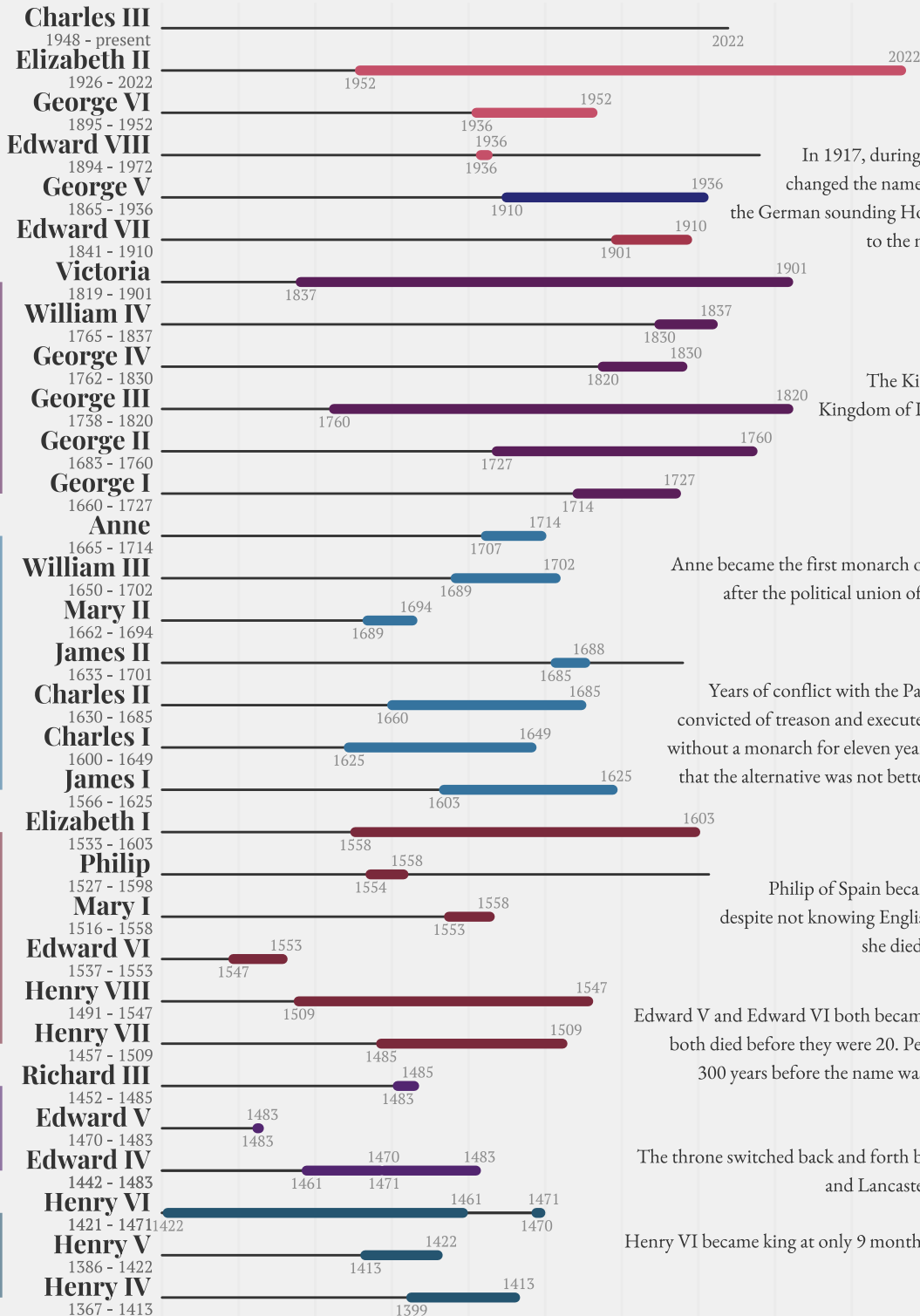
Saxe-Coburg and Gotha

Windsor

Charles III
1948 - present — 2022

Elizabeth II
1926 - 2022 — 1952 — 2022

George VI
1895 - 1952 — 1936 — 1952

Edward VIII
1894 - 1972 — 1936 — 1936

George V
1865 - 1936 — 1910 — 1936

Edward VII
1841 - 1910 — 1901 — 1910

In 1917, during the First World War, George V changed the name of the British royal house from the German sounding House of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha to the more British House of Windsor.

Hanover

Victoria
1819 - 1901 — 1837 — 1901

William IV
1765 - 1837 — 1830 — 1837

George IV
1762 - 1830 — 1820 — 1830

George III
1738 - 1820 — 1760 — 1820

George II
1683 - 1760 — 1727 — 1760

George I
1660 - 1727 — 1714 — 1727

The Kingdom of Great Britain and the Kingdom of Ireland merged into The United Kingdom in 1801.

Stuart

Anne
1665 - 1714 — 1707 — 1714

William III
1650 - 1702 — 1689 — 1702

Mary II
1662 - 1694 — 1689 — 1694

James II
1633 - 1701 — 1685 — 1688

Charles II
1630 - 1685 — 1660 — 1685

Charles I
1600 - 1649 — 1625 — 1649

James I
1566 - 1625 — 1603 — 1625

Anne became the first monarch of the Kingdom of Great Britain after the political union of England and Scotland in 1707.

Years of conflict with the Parliament lead to Charles I being convicted of treason and executed. After his death, England was without a monarch for eleven years, until they eventually decided that the alternative was not better, and made his son, Charles II, the new king.

Tudor

Elizabeth I
1533 - 1603 — 1558 — 1603

Philip
1527 - 1598 — 1554 — 1558

Mary I
1516 - 1558 — 1553 — 1558

Edward VI
1537 - 1553 — 1547 — 1553

Henry VIII
1491 - 1547 — 1509 — 1547

Henry VII
1457 - 1509 — 1485 — 1509

Philip of Spain became king upon marrying Mary I, despite not knowing English. He only remained king until she died, four years after their wedding.

Edward V and Edward VI both became kings at a very young age, and both died before they were 20. Perhaps that is why it took almost 300 years before the name was chosen for a future king again.

York

Richard III
1452 - 1485 — 1483 — 1485

Edward V
1470 - 1483 — 1483 — 1483

Edward IV
1442 - 1483 — 1461 — 1470 — 1471 — 1483

The throne switched back and forth between the rival houses of York and Lancaster during the Wars of the Roses.

Lancaster

Henry VI
1421 - 1471 — 1422 — 1461 — 1470 — 1471

Henry V
1386 - 1422 — 1413 — 1422

Henry IV
1367 - 1413 — 1399 — 1413

Henry VI became king at only 9 months old, following the death of his father, Henry V.

Age
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Visualization by Emma Skarstein