

Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 064

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Area: *Bràghad Albainn (Breadalbane): Inbhir Bharra, Carn Bàn, Baile an t-Saoir, Seasdal, Ceann na Coille, Tulach a'Mhuilinn, Baile nan Allt & Fartairchill*

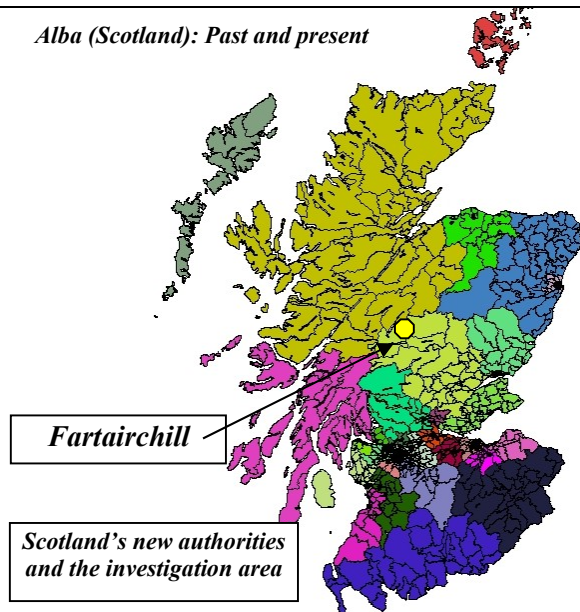
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Dericambus, Invervar, Carnbaan, Balintyre, Chesthill, Woodend, Artrasgairt, Tullichvullin, Balnald, Fortingall & Kirkton)

Number of households: 55 **Population present at census night:** 213

Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig: 83.4 %

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
Perth	Fortingall	Fortingall	3	1 - 9

Alba (Scotland): Past and present



State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

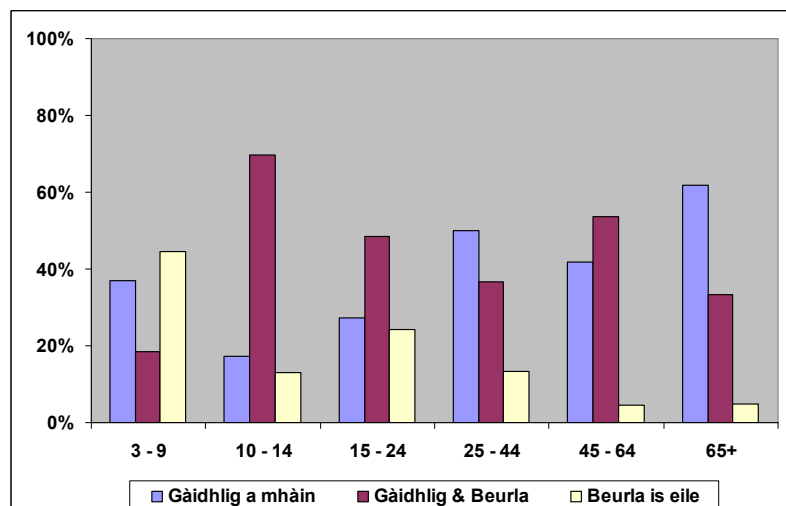
More than four fifths of the usually resident population spoke the traditional language. Almost 50 % of all Gàidhlig speakers were reported as not speaking English. Bilingual persons were mainly found in the generation between 10 and 24 years of age.

The strongest language community in this area had been *Tulach a'Mhuilinn* (Tullichvullin) with more than 92 % of inhabitants speaking Gàidhlig. Even in the village of *Fartairchill* itself three out of four inhabitants spoke Gàidhlig although there already some children were reported as speaking only English.

Area description:

The district is situated in the heart of *Na Garbh Chrìochan Pheairt* (Highland Perthshire) and encompasses the lower part of *Gleann Liobhuinn* (Glen Lyon) as well as the village of *Fartairchill* (Fortingall).

Occupations were rather diversified with a special emphasis of course on work supplied by the estates and the number of farms around the village where the usual blacksmith and tailor served the basically rural community.



Age profile: Share of population speaking (1) Gàidhlig, (2) Gàidhlig & English, or (3) no Gàidhlig at all

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	Population enumerated				Usually resident population (3+)			
	Total	Aged 0-2	Deaf & dumb	Visitors etc. ³	Total ⁴	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
Age								
Total	213	9	0	5	199	80	86	83.4 %
3-4	8	0	0	0	8	3	0	37.5 %
5-9	19	0	0	0	19	7	5	63.2 %
10-14	23	0	0	0	23	4	16	87.0 %
15-24	33	0	0	0	33	9	16	75.8 %
25-44	55	0	0	3	52	26	19	86.5 %
45-64	43	0	0	0	43	18	23	95.3 %
65+	23	0	0	2	21	13	7	95.2 %
Gender								
Female	112	5	0	0	107	46	39	78.5 %
Male	101	4	0	5	92	34	48	89.1 %
Place of birth								
Born in parish	130	9	0	0	121	58	48	87.6 %
In neighbouring parish¹	34	0	0	2	32	11	19	93.8 %
Gaidhealtachd elsewhere²	27	0	0	1	26	10	14	92.3 %
Other places	22	0	0	2	20	1	5	30.0 %

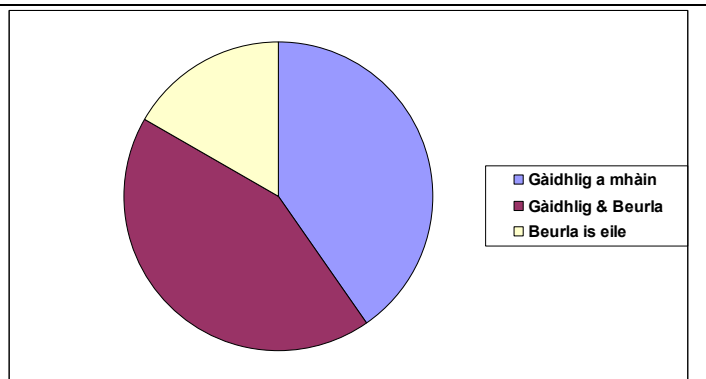
Notes:

¹ Parishes of Blair Atholl, Dull, Kenmore and Killin (all Perth), Lismore & Appin or Glenorchy & Inishail (both Argyll) and Kilmonivaig or Laggan (both Inverness).

² Other parishes in Scotland with more than 50 % Gàidhlig speakers in the 1891 census.

³ People described as visitors, boarders, lodgers or other similar terms.

⁴ Number of enumerated persons who were (1) older than 2 years of age, who were (2) not deaf & dumb and who (3) did not live only temporarily in the area.



Share of population speaking (1) Gàidhlig, (2) Gàidhlig & English, or (3) no Gàidhlig at all

Background of Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profiles:

The 1891 census was the first such enumeration exercise with an unequivocal language question. After more than 100 years the original census forms are publicly available for detailed analysis. During research concerned with the “Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Studies” a vast number of such local statistics have been gathered about the Gàidhlig speaking population of Scotland in that year. As many of these results could not be included in the reports these concise fact-sheets are a welcome way to publish some of the “local gems”. More information is provided at http://www.linguae-celticae.de/GLP_english.htm.

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	House-holds	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<i>Fartairchill & Inbhir Bharra</i>	55	199	80	86	83.4 %
Individual communities					
<i>Inbhir Bharra</i> (Invervar)	8	25	18	4	88.0 %
<i>Carn Bàn & Seasdal</i> (Carnbaan & Chesthill)	10	47	18	21	83.0 %
<i>Tulach a'Mhuilinn</i> (Tulichvullin)	7	27	19	6	92.6 %
<i>Baile nan Allt</i> (Balnald)	15	43	20	18	88.4 %
<i>Fartairchill</i> (Fortingall Village)	15	55	5	37	73.7 %
Language of parents					
Both parents Gàidhlig speaking	13	69	24	34	84.1 %
Single parent Gàidhlig speaking	8	45	14	27	91.1 %
One parent Gàidhlig speaking	2	8	0	3	37.5 %
No Gàidhlig speaking parent	0	0	0	0	-
Households with no children (0-14)	32	77	42	22	83.1 %
Occupation of head of household					
Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.	10	43	18	24	97.7 %
Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar	5	12	7	3	83.3 %
Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.	4	10	0	7	70.0 %
Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.	13	56	22	26	85.7 %
Living on private means	1	7	1	4	71.4 %
Manager, coachman, cook, etc.	3	2	2	6	80.0 %
Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.	18	27	27	16	76.8 %
Remaining occupations	1	3	3	0	60.0 %

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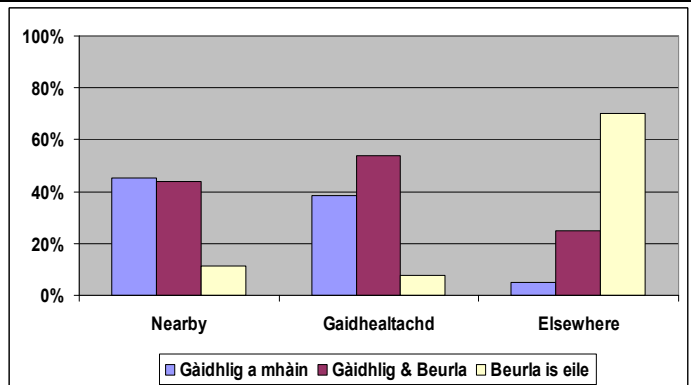
Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

Four fifths of residents born in the *Gaidhealtachd* spoke Gàidhlig. Almost 50 % of locally born people spoke no English. Even a few persons born in the Lowlands spoke Gàidhlig in this district.

Notes:

¹ Born either in Fortingall or in the adjacent parishes of Blair Atholl, Dull, Kenmore and Killin (all Perth), Lismore & Appin or Glenorchy & Inishail (both Argyll) and Kilmonivaig or Laggan (both Inverness).

² Born in other parishes of Scotland with more than 50 % Gàidhlig speakers in the 1891 census.



Speakers according to place of birth (1) nearby¹ (2) in remaining *Gaidhealtachd*², or (3) elsewhere

Remarks

1. Thirty-three residents of the area were returned as speaking “English only”. 14 of these monolingual returns were supplied by people born outside the *Gaidhealtachd*. The remainder was distributed rather randomly over all generations.
2. Official census figures reported 88 bilingual inhabitants and 83 monolingual Gàidhlig-speakers out of a total population of 213 persons (80.3 %). The usually resident population, however, consisted of 166 Gàidhlig-speakers (83.4 %) including 80 persons “with no English”.