

# Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 087

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**Area:** *Bràghad Albainn (Breadalbane): Innis Garbh, Leiteagan, Blàrais, Blàr a'Chroic, Taigh an Daraich, Druim a'Chàraidh, Garbh, Tom na Croise, Baile na Crèige, Taigh Neimhidh, Uachdar, Cùl Dobhair & Allt Chailtnidh*

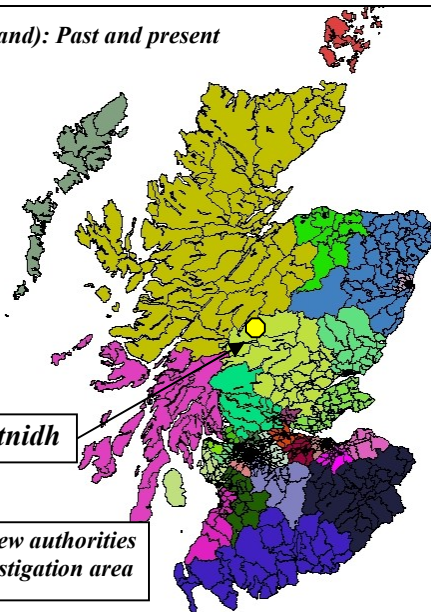
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Inch Garth, Lettigan, Upper Blarish, Blarchroich, Tynadalloch, Netherblarish, Drumcharry, Garth, Tomnacraish, Balnacraig, Auchloe, Duneave Lodge, Duneaves House, Tynayure, Milmount, Culdaremore, Lyon Bridge, Croft Garron, Auchtar, Culdarebeg & Keltneyburn)

**Number of households:** 62      **Population present at census night:** 263

**Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig:** 86.8 %

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
Perth	Fortingall	Fortingall	1	1 - 9
			2	1 - 4

*Alba (Scotland): Past and present*



### State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

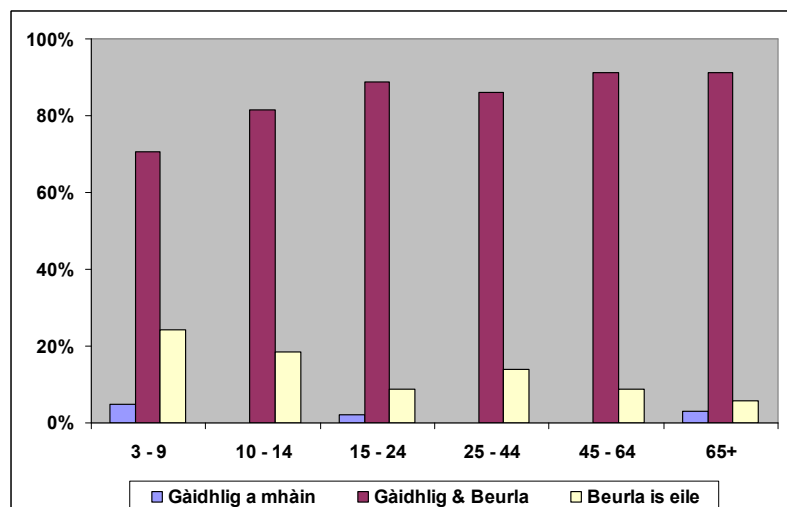
About 90 % of the usually resident population of this part of *Siorrachd Pheairt* (Perthshire) still spoke Gàidhlig at this period. Knowledge of the language was widespread even among the very young. Accordingly, this district of the county belonged to the heartland of Gaeldom in 1891. Almost every speaker, however, was bilingual with just a few inhabitants not speaking English as well.

Every small settlement was thoroughly Gàidhlig speaking with the area around *Blàrais Iochdarach* (Netherblarish) and *Druim a'Chàraidh* (Drumcharry) boasting an incredible 92.6% of Gàidhlig speakers.

### Area description:

The district is situated in *Bràghad Albainn* (Breadalbane) in the heart of *Na Garbh Chriochan Pheairt* (Highland Perthshire) between the village of *Fartairchill* (Fortingall) and the fertile *Apainn nam Meinnearach* (Appin of Dull).

Apart from the two landlord residences at *Garbh* (Garth) and *Taigh Deimhidh* (Duneaves) people were mostly engaged in farming this land on the lower reaches of *Abhainn Liobhainn* (River Lyon).



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. <sup>3</sup>	Total <sup>4</sup>	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<b>Age</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>86.8 %</b>
<b>3-4</b>	<b>11</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>72.7 %</b>
<b>5-9</b>	<b>30</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>76.7 %</b>
<b>10-14</b>	<b>27</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>81.5 %</b>
<b>15-24</b>	<b>48</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>91.1 %</b>
<b>25-44</b>	<b>55</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>86.0 %</b>
<b>45-64</b>	<b>47</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>91.1 %</b>
<b>65+</b>	<b>34</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>94.1 %</b>
<b>Gender</b>								
<b>Female</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>87.2 %</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>86.2 %</b>
<b>Place of birth</b>								
<b>Born in parish</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>94.7 %</b>
<b>In neighbouring parish<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>42</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>96.0 %</b>
<b>Gaidhealtachd elsewhere<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>84.0 %</b>
<b>Other places</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>33.3 %</b>

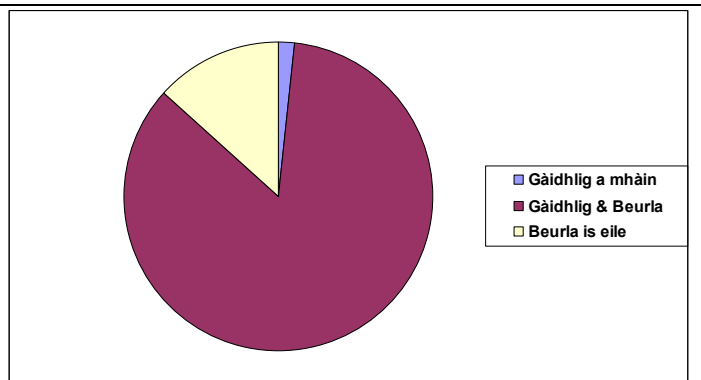
## Notes:

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

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

<sup>3</sup> People described as visitors, boarders, lodgers, or other similar terms.

<sup>4</sup> 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 factsheets are a welcome way to publish some of the "local gems". More information is provided at [http://www.linguae-celticae.de/GLP\\_english.htm](http://www.linguae-celticae.de/GLP_english.htm).

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	Households	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<i>Allt Chailtnidh &amp; Taigh Neimhidh</i>	62	242	4	206	86.8 %
<b>Individual communities</b>					
<i>Innis Garbh &amp; Leiteagan (Inch Garth &amp; Litigan)</i>	9	32	0	32	88.0 %
<i>Allt Chailtnidh (Keltneyburn)</i>	5	23	0	16	83.0 %
<i>Blàrais Iochdarach &amp; Druim a'Chàraidh (Nether Blarish &amp; Drumcharry)</i>	14	57	1	55	92.6 %
<i>Garbh (Garth)</i>	5	21	0	15	88.4 %
<i>Tom na Croise &amp; Baile na Crèige (Tomnacraich &amp; Balnacraig)</i>	10	33	0	25	73.7 %
<i>Achadh Lòin &amp; Taigh Neimhidh (Auchloa &amp; Duneaves)</i>	9	36	2	26	88.4 %
<i>Cùl Dobhair &amp; Uachdar (Culdare &amp; Auchtar)</i>	10	41	1	37	73.7 %
<b>Language of parents</b>					
<b>Both parents Gàidhlig speaking</b>	18	97	2	92	96.9 %
<b>Single parent Gàidhlig speaking</b>	8	38	0	36	94.7 %
<b>One parent Gàidhlig speaking</b>	5	31	0	14	45.2 %
<b>No Gàidhlig speaking parent</b>	1	4	0	0	0.0 %
<b>Households with no children (0-14)</b>	30	72	2	64	91.7 %
<b>Occupation of head of household</b>					
<b>Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.</b>	17	99	2	94	97.0 %
<b>Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar</b>	4	11	0	10	90.9 %
<b>Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.</b>	2	7	0	5	71.4 %
<b>Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.</b>	9	38	1	25	68.4 %
<b>Living on private means</b>	1	5	0	3	60.0 %
<b>Manager, coachman, cook, etc.</b>	2	8	0	7	87.5 %
<b>Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.</b>	25	71	1	59	84.5 %
<b>Remaining occupations</b>	2	3	0	3	100 %

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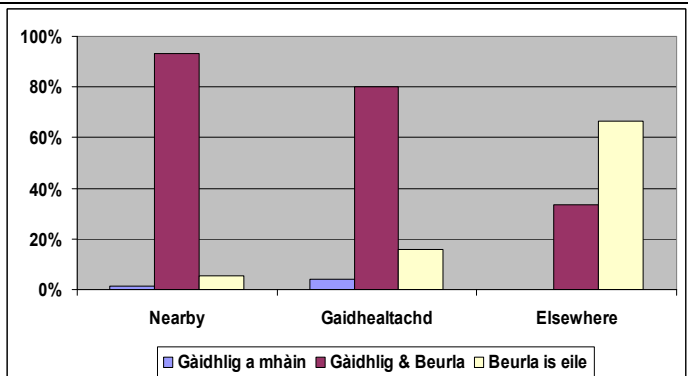
## Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

More than 90 % of usually resident persons born in the *Gaidhealtachd* spoke Gàidhlig in the area. Even a few persons born in the Lowlands spoke Gàidhlig in this district.

### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> 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).

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



Speakers according to place of birth (1) nearby<sup>1</sup>  
(2) in remaining *Gaidhealtachd*<sup>2</sup>, or (3) elsewhere

## Remarks

1. Thirty-two residents of the area were returned as speaking “English only”. 18 of these monolingual returns came from people born outside the *Gaidhealtachd*. The remainder was distributed rather randomly over all generations.
2. Four persons did not speak English but Gàidhlig only. A three-year-old boy at *Druim a'Chàraidh* (Drumcharry) belonged to this group as well as a three-year-old girl at *Loidse Taigh Neimhidh* (Duneaves Lodge). A 27-year-old dairymaid from *An t-Eilean Sgitheanach* (Isle of Skye) and a locally born 84-year-old woman completed these monolingual returns in this part of the country.
3. Official census figures reported 212 bilingual inhabitants and five monolingual Gàidhlig-speakers out of a total population of 263 persons (82.5 %). The usually resident population, however, consisted of 210 Gàidhlig-speakers (86.8 %) including four persons “with no Gaelic”.