

Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

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Area: *Srath Spè* (Strathspey): *An Leatach, Dail a'Phùir, Blàr Mòr, Ràta, Baile na Claise, Achadh an Arbha, Uachdar Gorm, An Lag, An Doire Roid, Achadh a'Bhàthaich & Am Port*

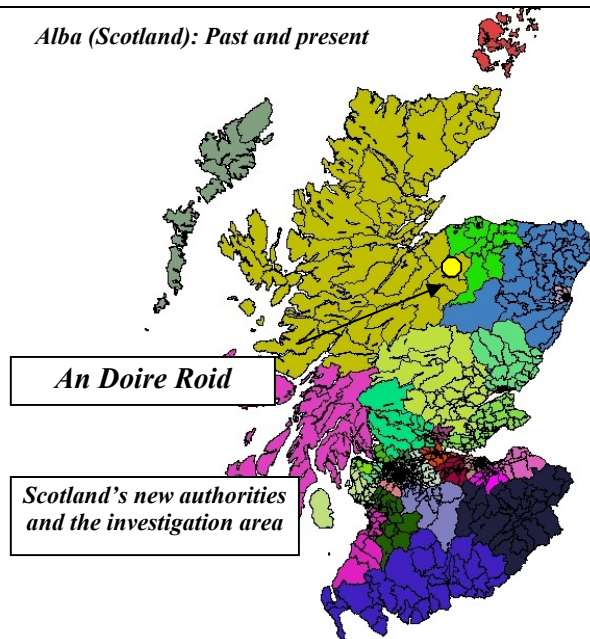
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Lettoch, Delliefure, Blairmore, Tomvaich, Mid Port, East Port, Rait, Balnaclash, Achnarrow, Ochtogorm, Lagg, Clashenghoukle, Tombain, Culter, Derraid, Burnside, Craigbeg, Craigdhu, Ochtobegg, Castle Grant Mills, Upper Port, Nether Port, Anagach, Cherry Grove & West Port)

Number of households: 51 Population present at census night: 249

Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig: 52.1 %

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
Moray	Inverallan, Cromdale & Advie	Cromdale	5	5 - 8
			6	1 - 11

Alba (Scotland): Past and present



State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

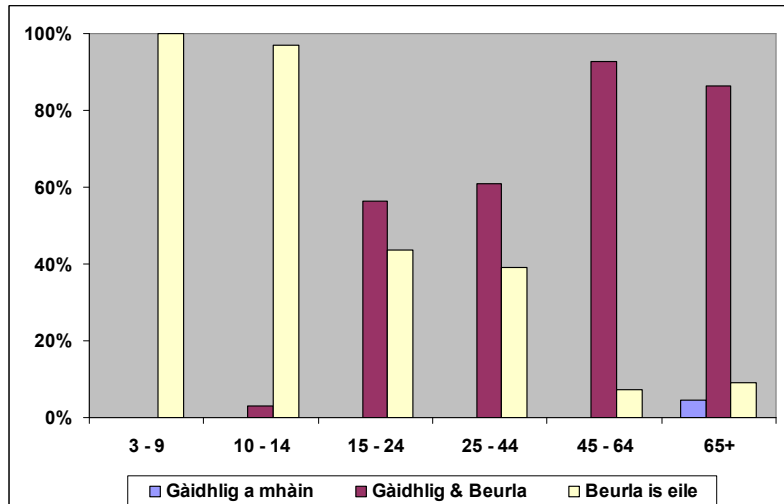
At this time the language was still in use by most of the usually resident population. English monolingualism was only dominant among children at or below school age. On the other hand, nearly everyone beyond the age of 44 spoke the traditional tongue. Language knowledge was more common among women than men.

Gàidhlig presence was most strongly in the hillside settlements around *An Doire Roid* (Derraid) and *Achadh an Arbha* (Auchnarrow) where almost two thirds of the local folk spoke the language in 1891.

Area description:

The district investigated is situated in the middle reaches of *Uisge Spè* (River Spey) on the outskirts of *Baile Grannda* (Grantown-on-Spey) in the south-western corner of the old county of *Siorrachd Mhoireibh* (Morayshire).

People in those days were mainly engaged in activities related to farming. The inhabitants lived in a scattered patchwork of tiny groups of houses and farms.



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	249	21	0	11	217	1	112	52.1 %
3-4	7		0	0	7	0	0	0.0 %
5-9	27		0	3	24	0	0	0.0 %
10-14	34		0	2	32	0	1	3.1 %
15-24	40		0	1	39	0	22	56.4 %
25-44	53		0	2	51	0	31	60.8 %
45-64	45		0	3	42	0	39	92.9 %
65+	22		0	0	22	1	19	90.9 %
Gender								
Female	125	12	0	3	110	1	59	54.5 %
Male	124	9	0	8	107	0	53	49.5 %
Place of birth								
Born in parish	199	19	0	2	178	1	89	50.6 %
In neighbouring parish¹	20	0	0	3	17	0	13	76.5 %
Gaidhealtachd elsewhere²	11	1	0	1	9	0	6	66.7 %
Other places	19	1	0	5	13	0	4	30.8 %

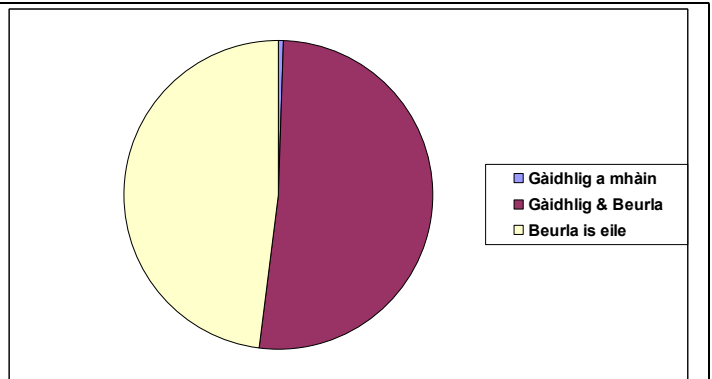
Notes:

¹ Parishes of Knockando, Dyke, Edinkillie (all Moray); Ardlach (Nairn), Kirkmichael (Banff); Abernethy & Kincardine, Alvie (all 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 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.

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	House-holds	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<i>An Doire Roid & Dail a'Phùir</i>	51	217	1	112	52.1 %
Individual communities					
<i>Dail a'Phùir & Am Blàr Mòr</i> (Delliefure & Blairmore)	14	48	0	25	52.1 %
<i>Achadh an Arbha & An Doire Roid</i> (Auchnarrow & Derraid)	19	92	1	58	64.1 %
<i>Am Port & Tom a'Bhàthaich</i> (Port & Tomvaich)	12	58	0	18	31.0 %
<i>Aonagach & Creag Ruadh</i> (Anagach & Craigroy)	6	19	0	11	57.9 %
Language of parents					
Both parents Gàidhlig speaking	10	59	0	33	55.9 %
Single parent Gàidhlig speaking	9	47	0	20	42.6 %
One parent Gàidhlig speaking	3	15	0	4	26.7 %
No Gàidhlig speaking parent	3	21	0	1	4.8 %
Households with no children (0-14)	26	75	1	54	73.3 %
Occupation of head of household					
Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.	27	134	1	71	53.7 %
Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar	2	5	0	2	40.0 %
Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.	1	2	0	2	100 %
Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.	7	37	0	18	48.6 %
Living on private means	0	0	0	0	-
Manager, coachman, cook, etc.	1	3	0	3	100 %
Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.	13	36	0	16	44.4 %
Remaining occupations	0	0	0	0	-

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Additional individual profiles may be downloaded from a special page on the Linguae Celticae website:
http://www.linguae-celticae.de/GLP_english.htm



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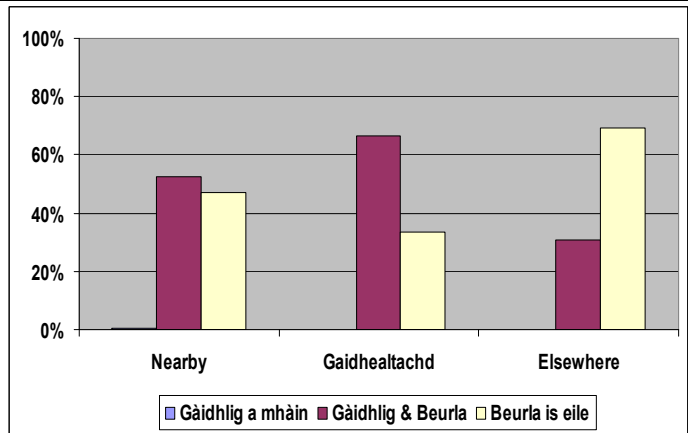
Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

Gàidhlig was spoken by the majority of locally born persons. There were even several speakers reported among those born outside the *Gaidhealtachd*.

Notes:

¹ Born either in Edinkillie or Cromdale, Inverallan & Advie (both Moray) or in the adjacent parishes of Knockando, Dyke (both Moray); Ardclach (Nairn), Kirkmichael (Banff); Abernethy & Kincardine, Alvie (all 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. There was one monolingual *Gàidhlig* speaker registered in the area in 1891: A 84-year-old deaf annuitant in *Creag Dubh* (Craigdhu). She was born locally.
2. In original census report terms, the district had a population of 249 persons of all ages. 113 enumerated inhabitants spoke “Gaelic and English” and in addition one person spoke “Gaelic only”. The “official” share of *Gàidhlig* speakers accordingly was 45.8 %. This was a substantial under-estimate of 6.3 % compared with the realistic figures considering only the usually resident population.