

Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 146

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Area: *Gleann Garadh (Glengarry): Manndalaigh, Àrdachaigh, Inbhir Garadh, Faicheam, Innis Lagain, An Tom Donn, Achadh Luachrach & Gleann Chuaich*

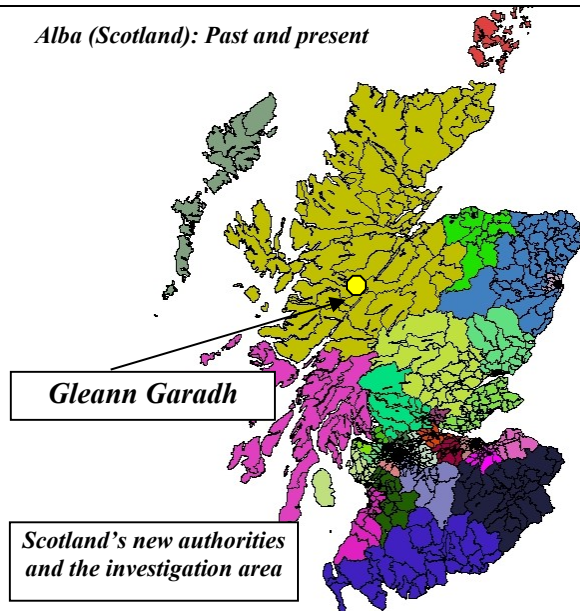
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Invergarry House, Glenluie, Mandally, Polnachan, Achluachrach, Daingean, Garryualach, Ardochy, Invergarry, Faichem, Inchlaggan, Tomdoun, Glen Quoich, Durrylvorgyle, Bunchully)

Number of households: 92 **Population present at census night:** 392

Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig: 76.5 %

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
Inverness	Kilmonivaig	Glengarry	3	1 – 4
			4	1 – 2
			5	1 – 12
			6	1 – 2
			7	1 - 2

Alba (Scotland): Past and present



State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

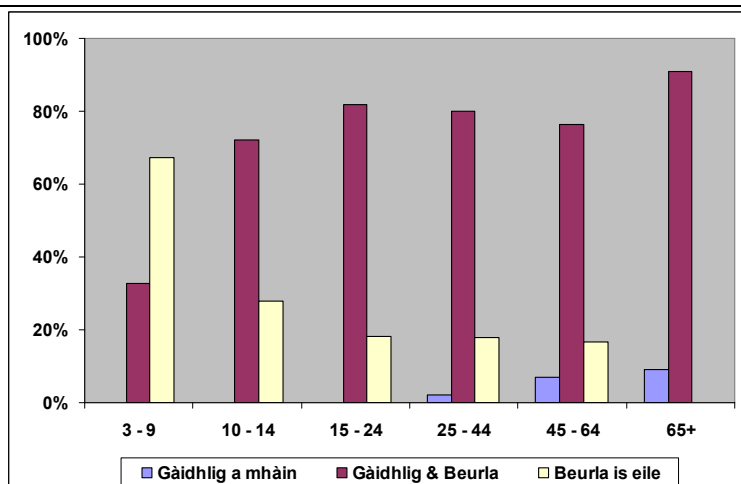
The Gàidhlig language was still widely used in this Highland glen at the time of the census. Apart from the relatively large number of people originating from outside the *Gaidhealtachd* the vast majority was speaking the traditional tongue. Only among the very young the language had already retreated in favour of English monolingualism.

Geographically English monolingual people were mostly confined to the village of *Inbhir Garadh* (Invergarry) and the remote shepherd huts in *Gleann Chuaich* (Glen Quoich) further west. All Gàidhlig monolingual persons found were females and older than 24 years of age.

Area description:

The area constitutes the north-western part of the old district of *Loch Abar* (Lochaber). As such it was incorporated in the vast ancient county of *Inbhirnis* (Inverness) in 1891. Apart from the village of *Inbhir Garadh* (Invergarry) settlements were tiny and far between.

The Highland glens to the west including *Gleann Chuaich* (Glen Quoich) were already cleared and only home to a few shepherds and gamekeepers at the time.



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	392	21	0	22	349	10	257	76.5 %
3-4	19		0	1	18	0	2	11.1 %
5-9	28		0	0	28	0	13	46.4 %
10-14	38		0	2	36	0	26	72.2 %
15-24	76		0	4	72	0	59	81.9 %
25-44	94		0	4	90	2	72	82.2 %
45-64	81		0	9	72	5	55	83.3 %
65+	35		0	2	33	3	30	100 %
Gender								
Female	202	9	0	5	188	10	135	77.1 %
Male	190	12	0	17	161	0	122	75.8 %
Place of birth								
Born in parish	187	20	0	2	165	3	128	79.4 %
In neighbouring parish¹	88	1	0	8	79	6	67	92.4 %
Gaidhealtachd elsewhere²	48	0	0	3	45	1	40	91.1 %
Other places	69	0	0	9	60	0	22	36.7 %

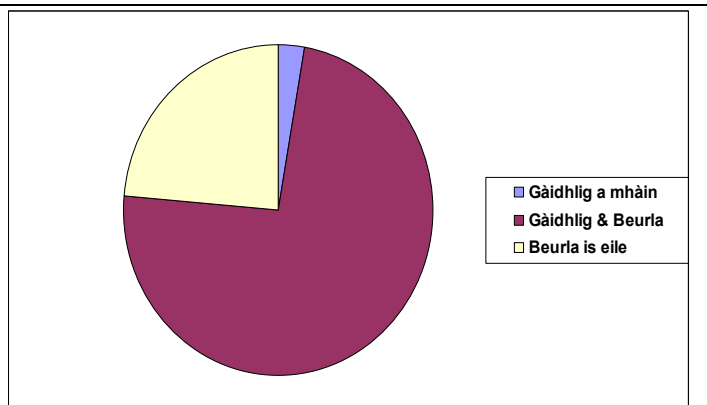
Notes:

¹ Parishes of Urquhart & Glenmoriston, Kilmallie, Glenelg, Laggan, Boleskine & Abertarff (all Inverness), Glenshiel (Ross & Cromarty), Lismore & Appin (Argyll) or Fortingall (Perth).

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 & Beurla, 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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	Households	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
Glenn Garadh	92	349	10	257	76.5 %
Individual communities					
Inbhir Garadh (Invergarry)	42	174	4	114	67.8 %
Faicheam (Faichem)	9	22	0	22	100 %
Achadh Luachrach (Achluachrach)	5	19	0	14	73.7 %
Àrdachaigh (Ardochy)	3	11	0	11	100 %
An Tom Donn & Innis Lagain (Tomdoun & Inchlaggan)	6	22	0	22	100 %
Glenn Chuaich (Glenquoich)	10	39	1	22	59.0 %
Garadh Ualach (Garryualach)	7	24	0	20	83.3 %
Manndalaigh & Pollnachan (Mandally & Polnachan)	10	38	5	32	97.4 %
Language of parents					
Both parents Gàidhlig speaking	19	113	5	84	78.8 %
Single parent Gàidhlig speaking	7	24	1	18	79.2 %
One parent Gàidhlig speaking	4	22	0	8	36.4 %
No Gàidhlig speaking parent	4	16	0	0	0.0 %
Households with no children (0-14)	58	174	4	147	86.8 %
Occupation of head of household					
Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.	15	56	3	48	91.1 %
Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar	12	50	0	38	76.0 %
Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.	7	32	0	21	65.6 %
Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.	13	63	3	46	77.8 %
Living on private means	0	0	0	0	-
Manager, coachman, cook, etc.	9	32	0	13	40.6 %
Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.	36	116	4	91	81.9 %
Remaining occupations	0	0	0	0	-

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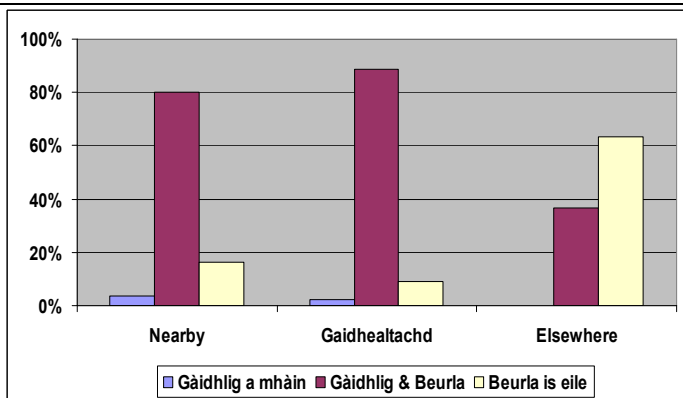
Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

Most persons from outside the *Gaidhealtachd* did not speak *Gàidhlig*. On the other hand, only a tiny minority of the “locals” was ignorant of the traditional language.

Notes:

¹ Born either in Kilmonivaig or in the adjacent parishes of Urquhart & Glenmoriston, Kilmallie, Glenelg, Laggan, Boleskine & Abertarff (all Inverness), Glenshiel (Ross & Cromarty), Lismore & Appin (Argyll) or Fortingall (Perth).

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. Ten persons of the usually resident population were reported as not speaking *Gàidhlig*. They were all older than 24 years of age, born within the *Gaidhealtachd* and all were women.
2. In original census report terms, the enumeration district in total had a population of 392 persons of all ages. 272 enumerated inhabitants spoke “Gaelic and English” and 10 persons were reported as monolingual *Gàidhlig* speakers. These figures led to an “official” share of *Gàidhlig* speakers of 71.9 %. A comparison with the more realistic statistics of this factsheet reveals that this percentage was a slight under-estimate of 4.6 % mainly caused by the inclusion of under-three olds and visitors in the official population base.