

Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

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Area: *Na Garbh Chrìochan Pheairt (Highland Perthshire): Loch Raineach, Na Creagan Odhar, Cille Chonain, Camas Eireachd, Drochaid Gamhar, Cam Ghobhran & Càraidh*

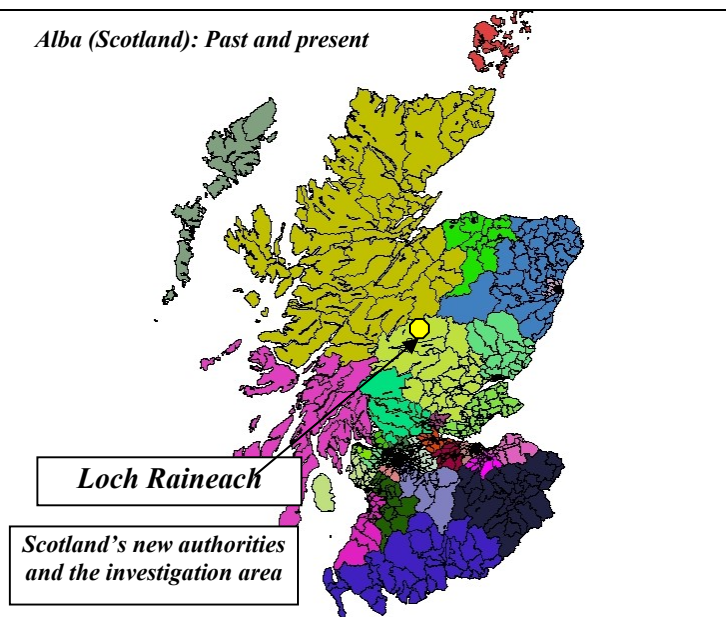
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Craiganour, Aulich, Kilchonon, Ardlarach, Camusericht, Bridge of Gaur, Camghouran, Dall, Carie)

Number of households: 115 **Population present at census night:** 464

Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig: 83.1 %

| County | Civil parish | Registration district | Enumeration district number | Census form pages |
|------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Perthshire | Fortingall | Kinloch Rannoch | 1 | 12 - 15 |
| | | | 2 | 1 - 9 |
| | | | 3 | 1 - 6 |
| | | | 4 | 1 - 3 (part) |

Alba (Scotland): Past and present



State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

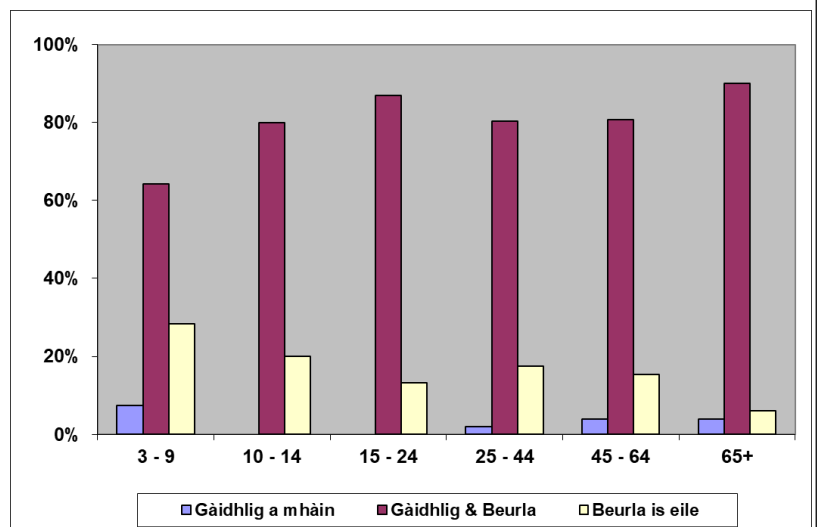
The Gàidhlig language was still very commonly used by most locals in all generations. Gàidhlig monolingualism, however, was on the way out with just twelve persons not speaking English, too.

The 1891 census data reveal two linguistically very separate communities: On the one hand the “local” Gàidhlig-speakers, on the other hand estate workers, gardeners, shepherds, or farmers with Lowland or even English backgrounds. Most of the latter remained English monoglots despite their contact with the “locals”.

Area description:

Loch Raineach (Loch Rannoch) lies almost in the centre of Scotland and as such is a secluded part of Na Garbh Chrìochan Pheairt (Highland Perthshire).

There were no villages on the shores of this deep and long inland loch. Besides some estates with shooting and shepherding interests, a few farms were working on the land (mainly animal husbandry).



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 | 464 | 27 | 0 | 24 | 413 | 12 | 331 | 83.1 % |
| 3-4 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 2 | 12 | 66.7 % |
| 5-9 | 47 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 46 | 3 | 31 | 73.9 % |
| 10-14 | 45 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 45 | 0 | 36 | 80.0 % |
| 15-24 | 81 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 76 | 0 | 66 | 86.8 % |
| 25-44 | 102 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 97 | 2 | 78 | 82.5 % |
| 45-64 | 88 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 78 | 3 | 63 | 84.6 % |
| 65+ | 53 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 50 | 2 | 45 | 94.0 % |
| Gender | | | | | | | | |
| Female | 235 | 16 | 0 | 8 | 211 | 6 | 166 | 81.5 % |
| Male | 229 | 11 | 0 | 16 | 202 | 6 | 165 | 84.7 % |
| Place of birth | | | | | | | | |
| Born in parish | 227 | 22 | 0 | 6 | 199 | 3 | 168 | 85.9 % |
| In neighbouring parish¹ | 71 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 69 | 2 | 63 | 94.2 % |
| Gaidhealtachd elsewhere² | 103 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 96 | 7 | 81 | 91.7 % |
| Other places | 63 | 1 | 0 | 13 | 49 | 0 | 19 | 38.8 % |

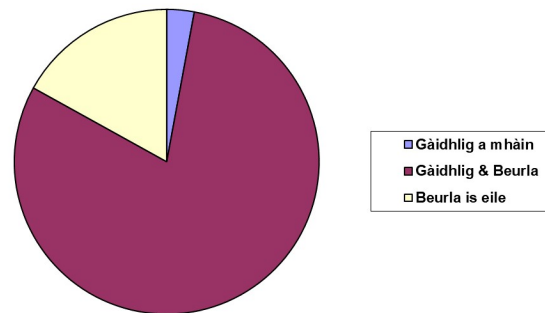
Notes:

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

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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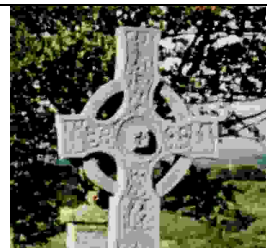
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| | House-holds | Usually resident population (3+) | | | |
|--|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Total | Gàidhlig | Gàidhlig & English | Gàidhlig speakers (%) |
| Loch Raineach (Loch Rannoch) | 115 | 413 | 12 | 331 | 83.1 % |
| Individual communities | | | | | |
| <i>Na Creagan Odhar</i> (Craiganour) | 16 | 56 | 1 | 43 | 78.6 % |
| <i>Cille Chonain</i> (Killichonan) | 30 | 112 | 2 | 97 | 88.4 % |
| <i>Drochaid Eireachd</i> (Bridge of Ericht) | 10 | 39 | 0 | 26 | 66.7 % |
| <i>Drochaid Gamhar</i> (Bridge of Gaur) | 26 | 95 | 4 | 71 | 78.9 % |
| <i>Cam Ghobhran</i> (Camghouran) | 16 | 53 | 0 | 48 | 90.6 % |
| <i>An Dail & Càraidh</i> (Dall & Carie) | 17 | 58 | 5 | 46 | 87.9 % |
| Language of parents | | | | | |
| Both parents Gàidhlig speaking | 35 | 192 | 6 | 177 | 95.3 % |
| Single parent Gàidhlig speaking | 13 | 50 | 1 | 48 | 98.0 % |
| One parent Gàidhlig speaking | 1 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 20.0 % |
| No Gàidhlig speaking parent | 1 | 37 | 0 | 4 | 10.8 % |
| Households with no children (0-14) | 59 | 129 | 5 | 101 | 82.2 % |
| Occupation of head of household | | | | | |
| Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc. | 22 | 110 | 1 | 99 | 90.9 % |
| Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar | 31 | 122 | 3 | 96 | 81.1 % |
| Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc. | 2 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 100.0 % |
| Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc. | 13 | 50 | 1 | 42 | 86.0 % |
| Living on private means | 2 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 42.9 % |
| Manager, coachman, cook, etc. | 7 | 27 | 0 | 9 | 33.3 % |
| Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc. | 19 | 66 | 4 | 58 | 93.9 % |
| Remaining occupations | 1 | 27 | 2 | 21 | 85.2 % |

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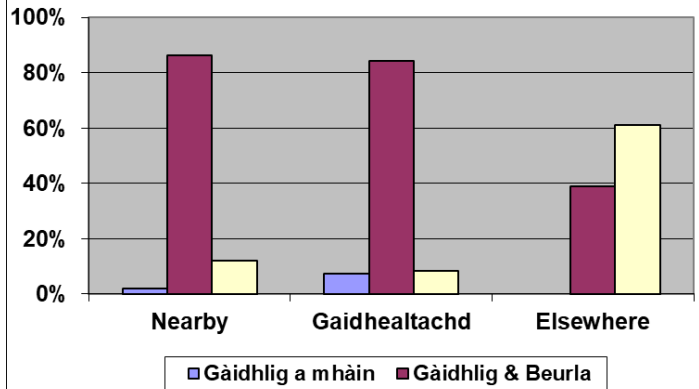
Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

The language was widely spoken by people born nearby or in the wider *Gaidhealtachd*. Many incomers, however, were brought in for secular work by local landlords – only some of them bothered to learn the local tongue.

Notes:

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

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. Official census figures reported 341 bilingual inhabitants and 16 monolingual *Gàidhlig*-speakers out of a total population of 466 persons (76.6 %). The usually resident population of 413 persons consisted of 334 *Gàidhlig*-speakers (83.1 %) including 12 inhabitants “with no English”.