

# Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 151

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**Area:** *Taobh Siar Rois (Wester Ross): An Dòrnaidh, Càrr, A'Cheapaich, Inbhir Ìonaid, Camas Luinge, Dorus Duan*

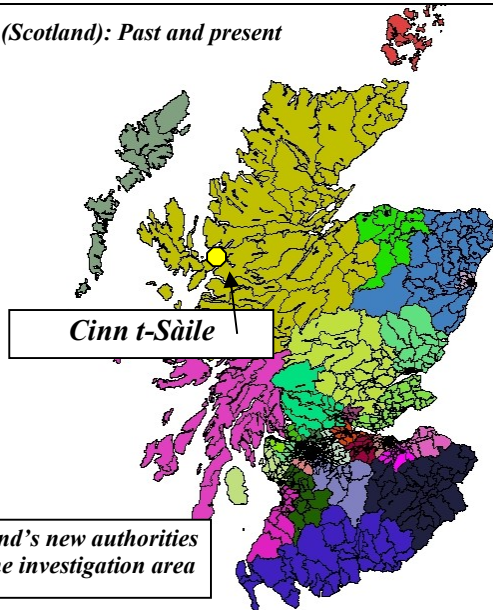
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Dornie, Carr, Keppoch, Inverinate, Camusluinie, Dorusduan)

**Number of households:** 93      **Population present at census night:** 334

**Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig:** 96.9 %

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
<i>Ross &amp; Cromarty</i>	<i>Kintail</i>	Kintail	5	1 - 7
			6	1 - 2
			7	1 - 9
			8	1 - 3

*Alba (Scotland): Past and present*



## State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

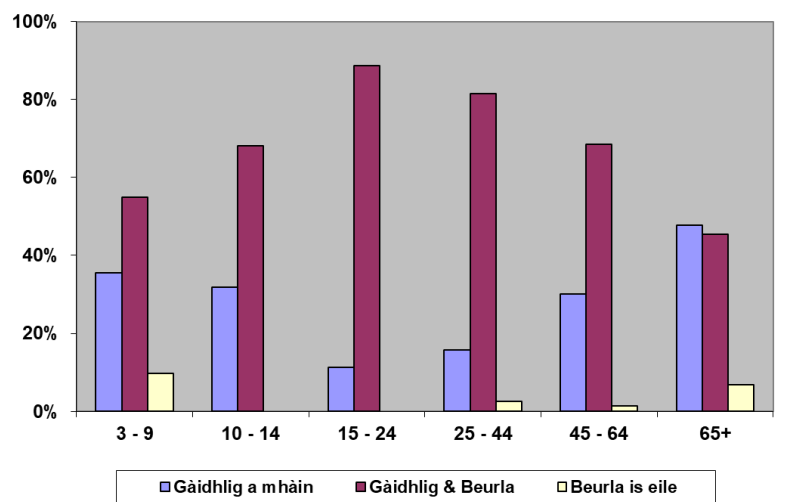
In this location the Gàidhlig language was used by all generations all the time.

Around a third of the populace spoke Gàidhlig alone. This was especially the case in the small village of *Inbhir Ìonaid* (Inverinate) where almost 50% were monolingual Gàidhlig-speakers.

## Area description:

This part of the parish of Cinn t-Sàile (Kintail) is the seafront of the world-famous *Caisteal Eilean Donain* (Eilean Donan Castle) on the sheltered *Loch Dubhthaich* (Loch Duich).

At the time of the census the glens and mountains were reigned by landlords and their gamekeepers and shepherds. Near the shore, however, the local crofters tried to make a living from animal husbandry and some coastal fishing. *An Dòrnaidh* (Dornie) and *Inbhir Ìonaid* (Inverinate) were the only settlements in this area.



**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>334</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>96.9 %</b>
<b>3-4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>70.0 %</b>
<b>5-9</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>
<b>10-14</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>
<b>15-24</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>
<b>25-44</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>97.4 %</b>
<b>45-64</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>98.6 %</b>
<b>65+</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>93.2 %</b>
<b>Gender</b>								
<b>Female</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>97.4 %</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>96.3 %</b>
<b>Place of birth</b>								
<b>Born in parish</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>99.0 %</b>
<b>In neighbouring parish<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>60</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>
<b>Gaidhealtachd elsewhere<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>
<b>Other places</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>41.7 %</b>

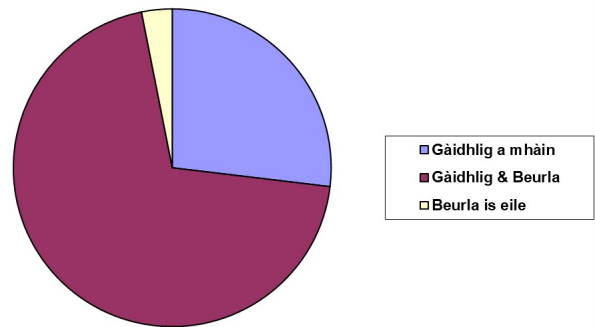
## Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Parishes of Glenshiel, Lochalsh (both Ross & Cromarty) or Kilmorack (Inverness-shire).

<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 & 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](http://www.linguae-celticae.de/GLP_english.htm).

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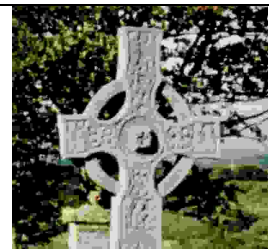
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	House-holds	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<i>An Dòrnaidh &amp; Inbhir Ìonaid</i>	93	290	78	203	96.9 %
<b>Individual communities</b>					
<i>An Dòrnaidh (Dornie)</i>	34	99	12	85	98.0 %
<i>Càrr &amp; A'Cheapaich (Carr &amp; Keppoch)</i>	7	18	6	12	100.0 %
<i>Inbhir Ìonaid (Inverinate)</i>	30	95	40	51	95.8 %
<i>Camas Luinge (Camusluinie)</i>	22	78	20	55	96.2 %
<b>Language of parents</b>					
<b>Both parents Gàidhlig speaking</b>	15	69	11	58	100.0 %
<b>Single parent Gàidhlig speaking</b>	11	47	19	25	93.6 %
<b>One parent Gàidhlig speaking</b>	0	0	0	0	-
<b>No Gàidhlig speaking parent</b>	1	6	0	5	83.3 %
<b>Households with no children (0-14)</b>	66	168	48	115	97.0 %
<b>Occupation of head of household</b>					
<b>Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.</b>	31	112	36	74	98.2 %
<b>Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar</b>	7	30	4	24	93.3 %
<b>Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.</b>	7	16	1	14	93.8 %
<b>Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.</b>	9	31	4	27	100.0 %
<b>Living on private means</b>	2	8	2	6	100.0 %
<b>Manager, coachman, cook, etc.</b>	7	26	4	18	84.6 %
<b>Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.</b>	23	48	16	32	100.0 %
<b>Remaining occupations</b>	7	19	11	8	100.0 %

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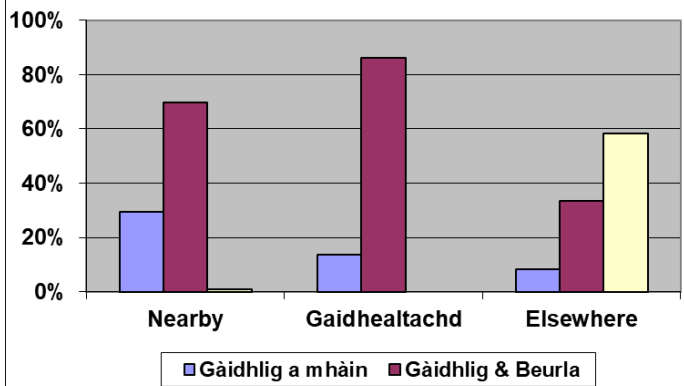
### Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

The language was spoken by everyone except a handful of persons (see remarks below).

#### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Born either in Kintail or in the adjacent parishes of Glenshiel, Lochalsh (both Ross & Cromarty) or Kilmorack (Inverness-shire).

<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:

- Official census figures reported 162 bilingual inhabitants and 68 monolingual Gàidhlig-speakers out of a total population of 260 persons (96.2 %). The usually resident population, however, consisted of 229 Gàidhlig-speakers (97.9 %) including 63 inhabitants “with no English”.
- The nine inhabitants recorded as “having no Gaelic” could be described as follows:
  - *An Dòrnaidh*: A farmer from Keith in Banffshire, and a 4-year-old niece of the innkeeper who had been born in Glasgow.
  - *Inbhir Ìonaid*: The family (three members) of a gardener’s family from the anglicised eastern part of the Black Isle. Added to this was a ministers’ wife from Linlithgow.
  - *Camas Luinge*: Two very young children (3 and 4 years of age) of the gamekeeper at Dorusduan Lodge. Last but not least a farmers’ wife who had been born in Peeblesshire.