

Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 185

Page 1 of 4

Area: Nàrann (Nairn): Geadais, Ràt, Urchanaidh, Am Blàr Mòr, Tom a'Phìobair, Cnoc a'Bhealaidh & Cùl a'Chàrra

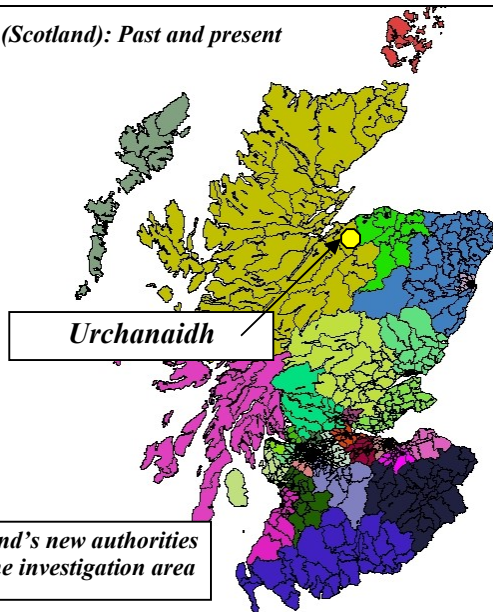
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Auchnacloich, Camperdown, Balmakeith, Alnaha, Geddes Village, Righoul, Rait, Lyne, Urchany, Lynebeg, Meikle Urchany, Piperhill, Blairmore, Broomhill, Coulcharry, Balnarait, Welltown, Knockard, Newlands of Broomhill, Newlands of Torrich, Torrich)

Number of households: 111 Population present at census night: 515

Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig: 33.4 %

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
Nairnshire	Cawdor / Nairn	Cawdor	3	1 - 11
		Nairn	14	1 - 15

Alba (Scotland): Past and present



State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

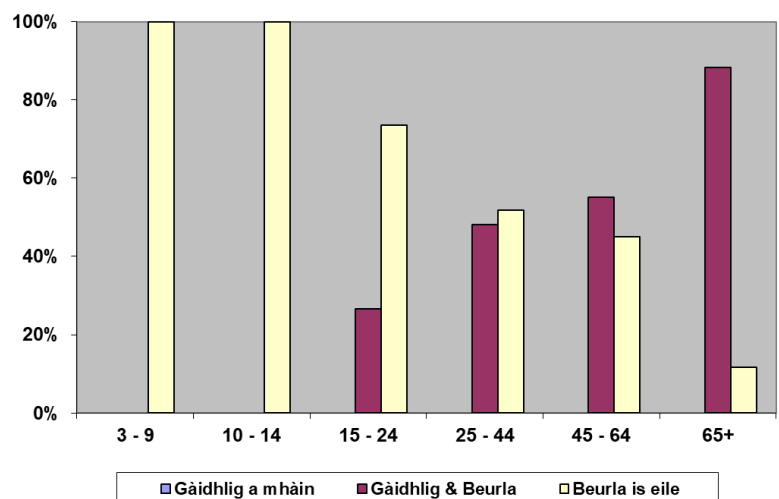
There was still a substantial proportion of locally born people who spoke Gàidhlig. However, this was mainly confined to the older generations. For example, those older than 64 years were almost exclusively speaking the local tongue. On the other hand, there were no children brought up in the traditional language at the time of this census.

The highest percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers was identified in the settlements around the mansion of *Urchanaidh* (Urchany) with almost 40%.

Area description:

This factsheet is concerned with the people living south of the town of *Inbhir Nàrann* (Nairn). As such the area was part of the ancient county of *Siorrachd Nàrann* (Nairnshire) in 1891.

In 1891 the land was mainly owned by three estate owners and the local people were mainly subject to their interests. At the time the local economy was heavily dependent on farming activities and most households earned their living with agriculture related occupations.



Age profile: Share of population speaking (1) Gàidhlig, (2) Gàidhlig & English, or (3) no Gàidhlig at all

Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 185

Page 2 of 4

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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	515	34	0	11	470	0	157	33.4 %
3-4	27	0	0	0	27	0	0	0.0 %
5-9	56	0	0	0	56	0	0	0.0 %
10-14	58	0	0	0	58	0	0	0.0 %
15-24	100	0	0	2	98	0	26	26.5 %
25-44	113	0	0	5	108	0	52	48.1 %
45-64	92	0	0	3	89	0	49	55.1 %
65+	35	0	0	1	34	0	30	88.2 %
Gender								
Female	253	15	0	2	236	0	78	33.1 %
Male	262	19	0	9	234	0	79	33.8 %
Place of birth								
Born in parish	226	30	0	1	195	0	44	22.6 %
In neighbouring parish¹	72	2	0	2	68	0	26	38.2 %
Gaidhealtachd elsewhere²	92	1	0	4	87	0	68	78.2 %
Other places	125	1	0	4	120	0	19	15.8 %

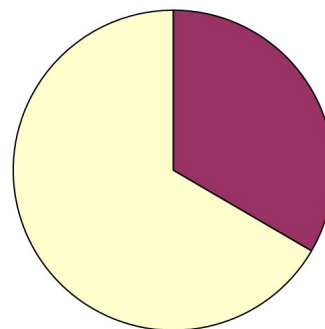
Notes:

¹ Parishes of Cawdor, Nairn, Auldearn (all Nairn), Cromdale, Inverallan & Advie (Moray), Abernethy & Kincardine, Alvie, Moy & Dalarossie (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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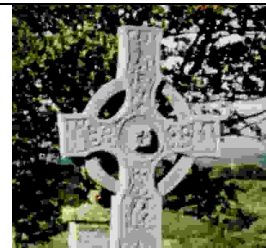
No. 185

Page 3 of 4

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	House-holds	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<i>Urchanadh & Cùl a'Chàrra</i>	111	470	0	157	33.4 %
Individual communities					
<i>Geadais (Geddes)</i>	33	141	0	41	29.1 %
<i>Urchanaidh (Urchany)</i>	28	116	0	45	38.8 %
<i>Cùl a'Chàrra (Culcharry)</i>	50	213	0	71	33.3 %
Language of parents					
Both parents Gàidhlig speaking	16	96	0	36	37.5 %
Single parent Gàidhlig speaking	14	75	0	30	40.0 %
One parent Gàidhlig speaking	7	39	0	7	17.9 %
No Gàidhlig speaking parent	20	99	0	6	6.1 %
Households with no children (0-14)	54	161	0	78	48.4 %
Occupation of head of household					
Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.	30	159	0	56	35.2 %
Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar	3	14	0	7	50.0 %
Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.	5	13	0	4	30.8 %
Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.	29	120	0	36	30.0 %
Living on private means	1	4	0	1	25.0 %
Manager, coachman, cook, etc.	2	5	0	2	40.0 %
Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.	34	141	0	44	31.2 %
Remaining occupations	7	14	0	7	50.0 %

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Page 4 of 4

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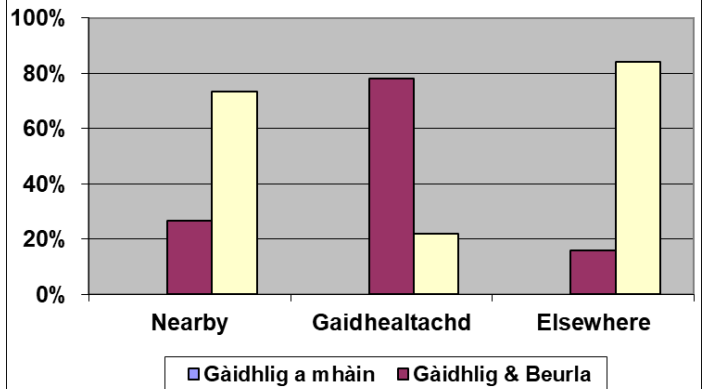
Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

The language was still spoken by a part of the locally born inhabitants – overwhelmingly by elderly persons.

Notes:

¹ Born either in Ardelach or in the adjacent parishes of Cawdor, Nairn, Auldearn (all Nairn), Cromdale, Inverallan & Advie (Moray), Abernethy & Kincardine, Alvie, Moy & Dalarossie (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. Official census figures reported 161 bilingual inhabitants out of a total population of 515 persons (31.3%). The usually resident population of 470 inhabitants, however, consisted of 157 Gàidhlig-speakers (33.4%).
2. There were no monolingual Gàidhlig-speakers recorded.