

Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

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Area: *Nàrann (Nairn): Cinn Iùdaidh, Seipeil Fhionain, Creagaidh, Breach-monadh, A'Chluain, Leathan & Muighnis*

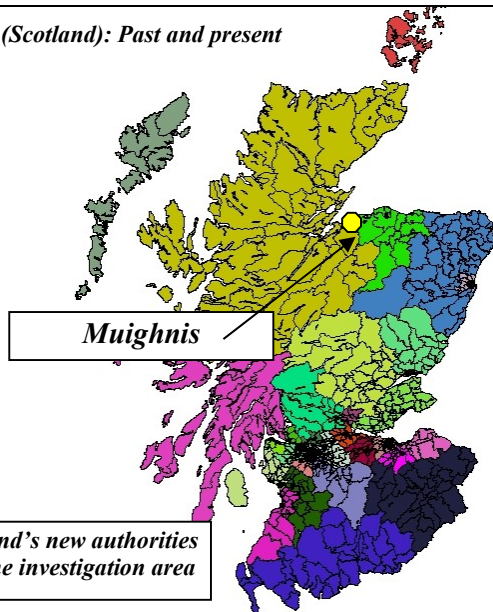
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Kinnudie, Blackpark, Skenepark, Foynesfield House, Park, Craggie, Brightmony, Clune, Lethen House, Newlands of Moyness, Burnside)

Number of households: 131 **Population present at census night:** 632

Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig: 21.1 %

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
<i>Nairnshire</i>	<i>Auldearn</i>	Auldearn	1	1 - 7
			4	1 - 10
			5	1 - 11

Alba (Scotland): Past and present



State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

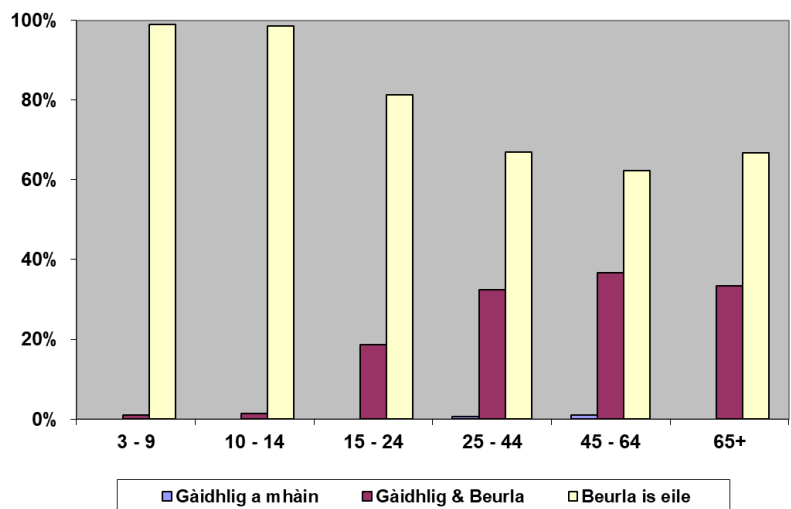
At the time of the census Gàidhlig was spoken in this region almost exclusively by people who had moved to the area from the wider *Gaidhealtachd* further west and south.

Therefore, it can be stated that all covered settlements were situated to the east of the "language frontier" and this had been the case for at least some decades.

Area description:

This factsheet is concerned with the people living in the hamlets and a few farms to the south of the village of *Allt Eireann* (Auldearn). As such the area was part of the ancient county of *Siorrachd Nairn* (Nairnshire) in 1891.

At the time the local economy was heavily dependent on farming activities and most households earned their living with agriculture related occupations. Major employers of course were also the estate owners who needed gardeners, gamekeepers, and the like.



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	632	39	1	13	579	2	120	21.1 %
3-4	29	0	0	1	28	0	0	0.0 %
5-9	72	0	0	1	71	0	1	1.4 %
10-14	73	0	0	0	73	0	1	1.4 %
15-24	141	0	0	7	134	0	25	18.7 %
25-44	144	0	0	2	142	1	46	33.1 %
45-64	103	0	0	2	101	1	37	37.6 %
65+	31	0	1	0	30	0	10	33.3 %
Gender								
Female	321	20	1	4	296	1	60	20.6 %
Male	311	19	0	9	283	1	60	21.6 %
Place of birth								
Born in parish	218	32	0	0	186	0	1	0.5 %
In neighbouring parish¹	92	1	1	2	88	0	10	11.4 %
Gaidhealtachd elsewhere²	125	1	0	6	118	2	89	77.1 %
Other places	197	5	0	5	187	0	20	10.7 %

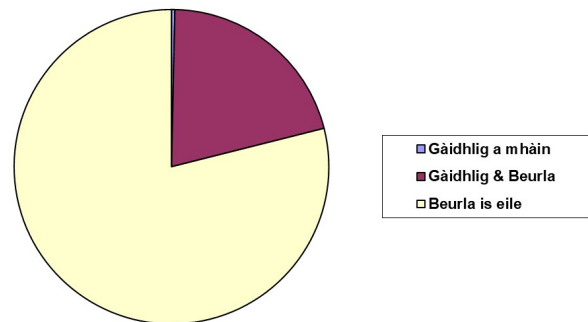
Notes:

¹ Parishes of Nairn, Ardclach (both Nairnshire), or Dyke & Moy (Morayshire).

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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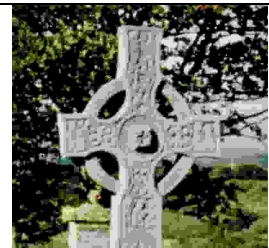
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	House-holds	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<i>Seipeil Fhionain & Muighnis</i>	131	578	2	120	21.1 %
Individual communities					
<i>Seipeil Fhionain</i> (Foynesfield)	34	155	2	31	21.3 %
<i>Leathan</i> (Lethen)	50	221	0	53	24.0 %
<i>Muighnis</i> (Moyness)	47	203	0	36	17.7 %
Language of parents					
Both parents Gàidhlig speaking	17	85	2	33	41.2 %
Single parent Gàidhlig speaking	3	12	0	8	66.7 %
One parent Gàidhlig speaking	19	90	0	20	22.2 %
No Gàidhlig speaking parent	36	213	0	13	6.1 %
Households with no children (0-14)	56	179	0	46	25.7 %
Occupation of head of household					
Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.	40	221	0	30	13.6 %
Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar	5	17	0	10	58.8 %
Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.	3	10	0	1	10.0 %
Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.	18	71	0	12	16.9 %
Living on private means	3	23	0	9	39.1 %
Manager, coachman, cook, etc.	8	31	2	11	41.9 %
Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.	47	193	0	45	23.3 %
Remaining occupations	7	13	0	2	15.4 %

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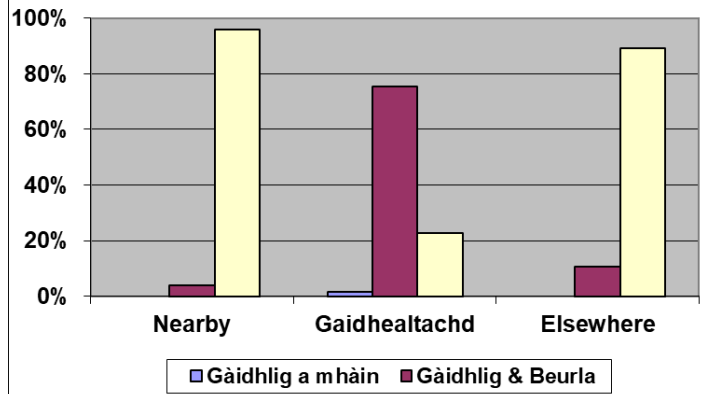
Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

The language was no longer spoken by a notable number of people born locally or in neighbouring places. Most of the Gàidhlig-speakers were originally from the wider *Gaidhealtachd*.

Notes:

¹ Born either in Auldearn or in the adjacent parishes of Nairn, Ardclach (both Nairnshire), or Dyke & Moy (Morayshire).

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 122 bilingual inhabitants and two monolingual Gàidhlig-speakers out of a total population of 632 persons (19.6%). The usually resident population of 579 persons, however, consisted of 122 Gàidhlig-speakers (21.1%) including two inhabitants “with no English”.
2. The two monolingual Gàidhlig-speakers recorded were a married couple of farm servants. They were born in the *Gaidhealtachd* in *Siorrachd Rois* (Ross-shire). Both were in their 40s and came originally from *Ulapul* (Ullapool) or *An Tòiseachd* (Ferintosh) respectively.