

Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

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Area: *Inbhirnis (Inverness): Am Bog Bàn, Mucamhaigh, Baile Mhonaidh & Baile Mhuilinn an Leighis*

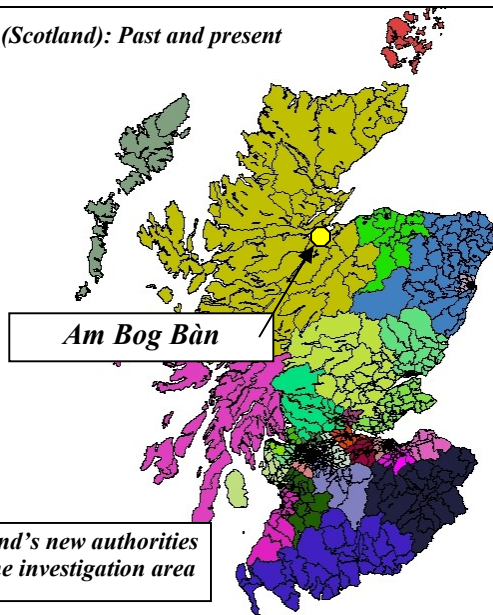
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Kinvey, Babraid, Bogbain, Castlehill, Muckovie, Old Leanach, Balavonie, Insh, Milton of Leys, Grange Leys, Leys Castle, Braetown, Welltown, Balmonie of Leys)

Number of households: 67 **Population present at census night:** 310

Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig: 64.0 %

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
<i>Inverness-shire</i>	<i>Croy & Dalcross</i>	Croy	6	1 – 8
			7	1 - 6

Alba (Scotland): Past and present



State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

Gàidhlig-speaking was still widespread in the population except for the very young. Women were more likely to use the language than men.

The data about the birthplace of speakers clearly shows that the language was not imported by migrants from the wider *Gaidhealtachd* but truly locally embedded.

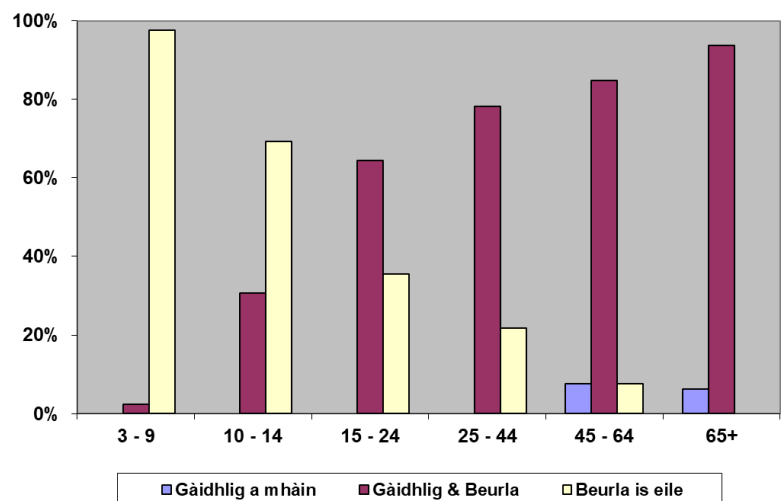
A slightly higher percentage of speakers was enumerated in the settlements nearer to the town of *Inbhirnis* (Inverness) than in the farmlands of *Am Bog Bàn* (Bogbain).

Area description:

The investigation area lies a few miles southeast of the town of *Inbhirnis* (Inverness) on the northern slopes of the hills of *Druim Athaisaidh* (Drumossie).

Nowadays the communities of *Am Bog Bàn* (Bogbain) and *Baile Mhuilinn an Leighis* (Milton of Leys) are suburbs of the ever-spreading city.

In 1891 these were small hamlets on agricultural lands with the associated employment opportunities for the local population.



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	310	22	1	9	278	6	172	64.0 %
3-4	14	0	0	0	14	0	0	0.0 %
5-9	28	0	0	0	28	0	1	3.6 %
10-14	27	0	1	0	26	0	8	30.8 %
15-24	60	0	0	1	59	0	38	64.4 %
25-44	72	0	0	3	69	0	54	78.3 %
45-64	69	0	0	3	66	5	56	92.4 %
65+	18	0	0	2	16	1	15	100.0 %
Gender								
Female	160	14	1	2	143	4	92	67.1 %
Male	150	8	0	7	135	2	80	60.7 %
Place of birth								
Born in parish	99	15	0	0	84	0	30	35.7 %
In neighbouring parish¹	36	2	0	1	33	0	30	90.9 %
Gaidhealtachd elsewhere²	89	1	0	7	81	6	65	87.7 %
Other places	86	4	1	1	80	0	47	58.8 %

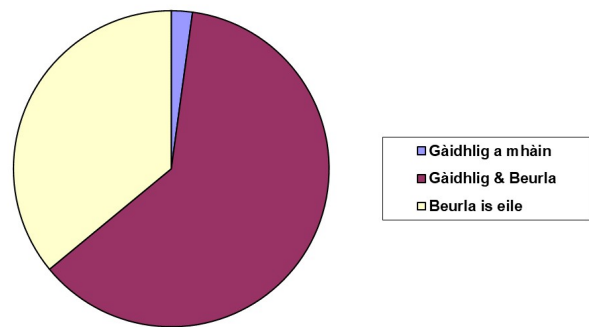
Notes:

¹ Parishes of Petty, Daviot & Dunlichity, Moy & Dalarossie, Inverness (all Inverness-shire), or Cawdor (Nairnshire).

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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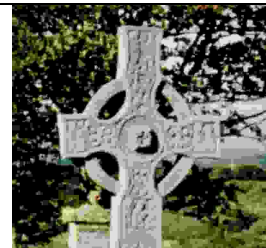
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Area: *Inbhirnis (Inverness): Am Bog Bàn, Mucamhaigh, Baile Mhonaidh & Baile Mhuilinn an Leigheis*

	Households	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<i>Am Bog Bàn & Leigheis</i>	67	278	6	172	64.0 %
Individual communities					
<i>Am Bog Bàn (Bogbain)</i>	35	153	5	87	60.1 %
<i>Baile Mhuilinn an Leigheis (Milton of Leys)</i>	32	125	1	85	68.8 %
<i>Included in the above:</i>					
<i>Siorrachd Inbhirnis (Parish of Croy & Dalcross after 1891)</i>	4	16	0	7	0.0 %
<i>Siorrachd Inbhirnis (Parish of Inverness after 1891)</i>	63	262	6	165	0.0 %
Language of parents					
Both parents Gàidhlig speaking	25	157	3	81	53.5 %
Single parent Gàidhlig speaking	3	9	0	6	66.7 %
One parent Gàidhlig speaking	1	9	1	5	66.7 %
No Gàidhlig speaking parent	1	6	0	0	0.0 %
Households with no children (0-14)	36	97	2	80	84.5 %
Occupation of head of household					
Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.	16	102	0	60	58.8 %
Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar	5	13	0	8	61.5 %
Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.	0	0	0	0	-
Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.	5	24	1	13	58.3 %
Living on private means	1	3	0	3	100.0 %
Manager, coachman, cook, etc.	3	13	1	8	69.2 %
Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.	30	105	4	62	62.9 %
Remaining occupations	6	18	0	18	100.0 %

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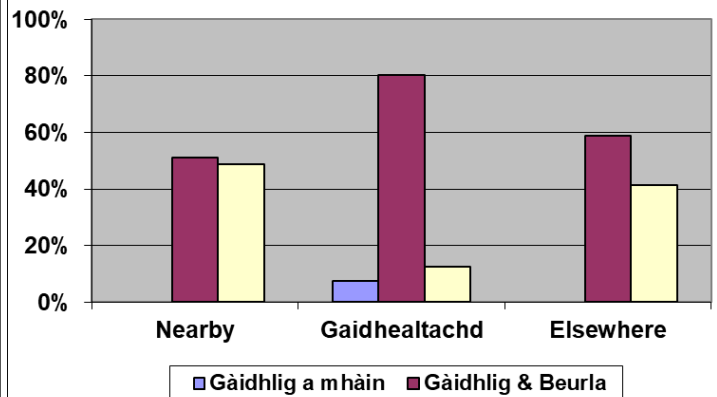
Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

The language was spoken by more than half of the inhabitants born nearby and by almost all people originating from the wider *Gaidhealtachd*.

Notes:

¹ Born either in Croy & Dalcross or in the adjacent parishes of Petty, Daviot & Dunlichity, Moy & Dalarossie, Inverness (all Inverness-shire), or Cawdor (Nairnshire).

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 179 bilingual inhabitants and seven monolingual *Gàidhlig*-speakers out of a total population of 310 persons (60.0%). The usually resident population of 278 inhabitants, however, consisted of 178 *Gàidhlig*-speakers (64.0%) including six persons “with no English”.
2. The six monolingual *Gàidhlig*-speakers recorded were all older than 45-years-of-age and originated from stronger *Gàidhlig*-speaking parts of the *Gaidhealtachd*, especially from the West Coast or even the Hebrides.