

Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 193

Page 1 of 4

Area: *Na Garbh Chrìochan Pheairt (Highland Perthshire): Dail nan Ceàrdaich, Dail na Mèinn, Dail an Spideil, Trian a'Phùir & An Sruthan*

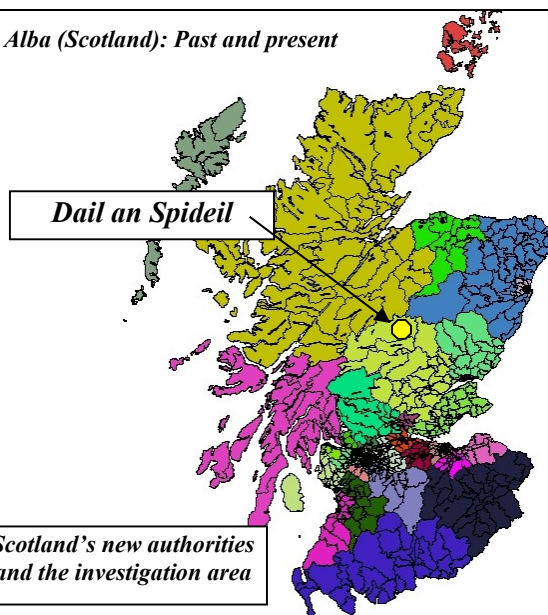
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Clunes Lodge, Auchless Farm, Dall Farm, Dalreach, Dalnamean, Ruidcall, Dalnacardoch, Sron Phadruig, Edington Toll Bar, Garry Bridge, Aldchaorach, Dalnaspidal, County March Cottage, Bochonie, Blairfattie, Auchleeks, Trinafour, Struan, Kindrochit, Invervack, Tomban)

Number of households: 82 **Population present at census night:** 359

Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig: 63.9 %

| County | Civil parish | Registration district | Enumeration district number | Census form pages |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Perthshire</i> | <i>Blair Atholl</i> | Blair Atholl | 1 2 5 | 1 - 7 1 - 5 1 - 7 |

Alba (Scotland): Past and present



State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

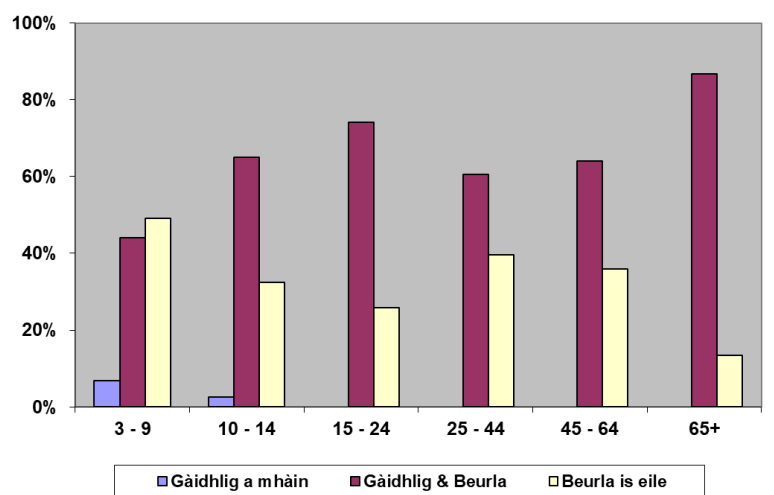
Despite the relatively low percentage of Gàidhlig-speaking (at least compared with neighbouring Highland districts) the language was still in a good health. Even at young age Gàidhlig was spoken by most children.

A remarkable census result was obtained from the upper part of the glen around *Dail na Spideil* (Dalnaspidal). Here the land was entirely given to gamekeepers and shepherds, who often originated from non-Gàidhlig-speaking areas. Accordingly, the part of the population knowing the traditional language was very low.

Area description:

This report covers the very thinly populated *Gleann Gàraidh* (Glen Garry) in northern *Siorrachd Pheairt* (Perthshire). The Highland Main Line runs through this glen and provided some railway jobs locally.

After the “Highland Clearances” this land was almost entirely used for sheep grazing and game sports for the estate owners. The few remaining “indigenous” inhabitants were occupied with some crofting and servicing their landlords.



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. 193

Page 2 of 4

Area: *Na Garbh Chrìochan Pheairt (Highland Perthshire): Dail nan Ceàrdaich, Dail na Mèinn, Dail an Spideil, Trian a'Phùir & An Sruthan*

| | Population enumerated | | | | Usually resident population (3+) | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| | Total | Aged 0-2 | Deaf & dumb | Visitors etc. ³ | Total ⁴ | Gàidhlig | Gàidhlig & English | Gàidhlig speakers (%) |
| Age | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 359 | 23 | 0 | 23 | 313 | 5 | 195 | 63.9 % |
| 3-4 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 3 | 3 | 37.5 % |
| 5-9 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 43 | 1 | 23 | 55.8 % |
| 10-14 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40 | 1 | 26 | 67.5 % |
| 15-24 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 54 | 0 | 40 | 74.1 % |
| 25-44 | 91 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 81 | 0 | 49 | 60.5 % |
| 45-64 | 68 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 64 | 0 | 41 | 64.1 % |
| 65+ | 17 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 15 | 0 | 13 | 86.7 % |
| Gender | | | | | | | | |
| Female | 179 | 11 | 0 | 6 | 162 | 4 | 91 | 58.6 % |
| Male | 180 | 12 | 0 | 17 | 151 | 1 | 104 | 69.5 % |
| Place of birth | | | | | | | | |
| Born in parish | 168 | 20 | 0 | 8 | 140 | 5 | 99 | 93.5 % |
| In neighbouring parish¹ | 57 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 54 | 0 | 34 | 91.9 % |
| Gaidhealtachd elsewhere² | 79 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 72 | 0 | 10 | 41.7 % |
| Other places | 55 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 47 | 0 | 1 | 2.2 % |

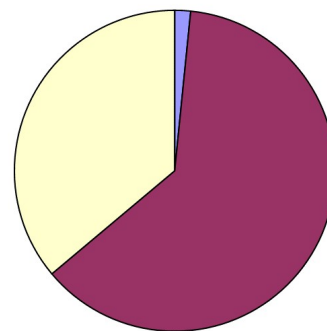
Notes:

¹ Parishes of Moulin, Fortingall, Kirkmichael, Dull (all Perthshire), Laggan, Kingussie & Insh, Alvie (all Inverness-shire), or Crathie & Braemar (Aberdeenshire).

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.

Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

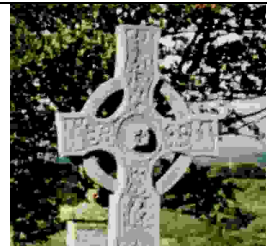
No. 193

Page 3 of 4

Area: *Na Garbh Chrìochan Pheairt (Highland Perthshire): Dail nan Ceàrdaich, Dail na Mèinn, Dail an Spideil, Trian a'Phùir & An Sruthan*

| | Households | Usually resident population (3+) | | | |
|---|------------|----------------------------------|----------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Total | Gàidhlig | Gàidhlig & English | Gàidhlig speakers (%) |
| <i>Dail an Spideil & An Sruthan</i> | 82 | 313 | 5 | 195 | 63.9 % |
| Individual communities | | | | | |
| <i>Dail an Spideil & Dail nan Ceàrdaich</i> (Dalnaspidal & Dalnacardoch) | 30 | 115 | 0 | 37 | 32.2 % |
| <i>Trian a'Phùir</i> (Trinafour) | 29 | 106 | 2 | 79 | 76.4 % |
| <i>An Sruthan</i> (Struthan) | 23 | 92 | 3 | 79 | 89.1 % |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Language of parents | | | | | |
| Both parents Gàidhlig speaking | 18 | 107 | 5 | 95 | 93.5 % |
| Single parent Gàidhlig speaking | 8 | 37 | 0 | 34 | 91.9 % |
| One parent Gàidhlig speaking | 7 | 24 | 0 | 10 | 41.7 % |
| No Gàidhlig speaking parent | 8 | 45 | 0 | 1 | 2.2 % |
| Households with no children (0-14) | 41 | 100 | 0 | 55 | 55.0 % |
| | | | | | |
| Occupation of head of household | | | | | |
| Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc. | 10 | 53 | 1 | 49 | 94.3 % |
| Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar | 21 | 80 | 0 | 44 | 55.0 % |
| Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc. | 7 | 24 | 0 | 8 | 33.3 % |
| Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc. | 7 | 23 | 2 | 20 | 95.7 % |
| Living on private means | 1 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 83.3 % |
| Manager, coachman, cook, etc. | 2 | 12 | 0 | 2 | 16.7 % |
| Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc. | 30 | 108 | 2 | 65 | 62.0 % |
| Remaining occupations | 4 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 28.6 % |

© Text and statistics: Copyright Kurt C. Duwe. All rights reserved except private and non-commercial use. Any other use has to be cleared by the author Kurt C. Duwe, Jägerstr. 120a, 21079 Hamburg, Germany (duwe@linguae-celticae.de) and it may also fall under restrictions of the Crown Copyright of census data. Statistics have been derived from 1891 census returns published by the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS). The use of this material here is permitted under Licence No. C02W0003665. Crown Copyright of census data is acknowledged. The digital boundaries shown on the Scotland map are courtesy of Ordnance Survey as part of the Geography Products provided by GROS. Additional individual profiles may be downloaded from a special page on the Linguae Celticae website: http://www.linguae-celticae.de/GLP_english.htm



Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 193

Page 4 of 4

Area: *Na Garbh Chrìochan Pheairt (Highland Perthshire): Dail nan Ceàrdaich, Dail na Mèinn, Dail an Spideil, Trian a'Phùir & An Sruthan*

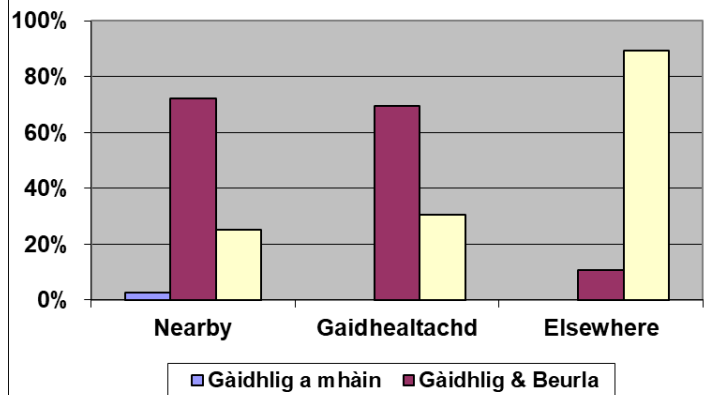
Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

The language was spoken by almost everyone who was born nearby or in the wider *Gaidhealtachd*.

Notes:

¹ Born either in Blair Atholl or in the adjacent parishes of Moulin, Fortingall, Kirkmichael, Dull (all Perthshire), Laggan, Kingussie & Insh, Alvie (all Inverness-shire), or Crathie & Braemar (Aberdeenshire).

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 208 bilingual inhabitants and eight monolingual *Gàidhlig*-speakers out of a total population of 359 persons (60.2 %). The usually resident population of 313 persons, however, consisted of 195 *Gàidhlig*-speakers (93.9%) including five inhabitants “with no English”.
2. All five monolingual *Gàidhlig*-speakers were very young.