

# Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 202

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**Area:** *Aodann na Coille (Edinkillie): Ruigh Lùgais, Conn a'Chabhail, An Lagan, A'Chàrnaich & Dùn Fàil*

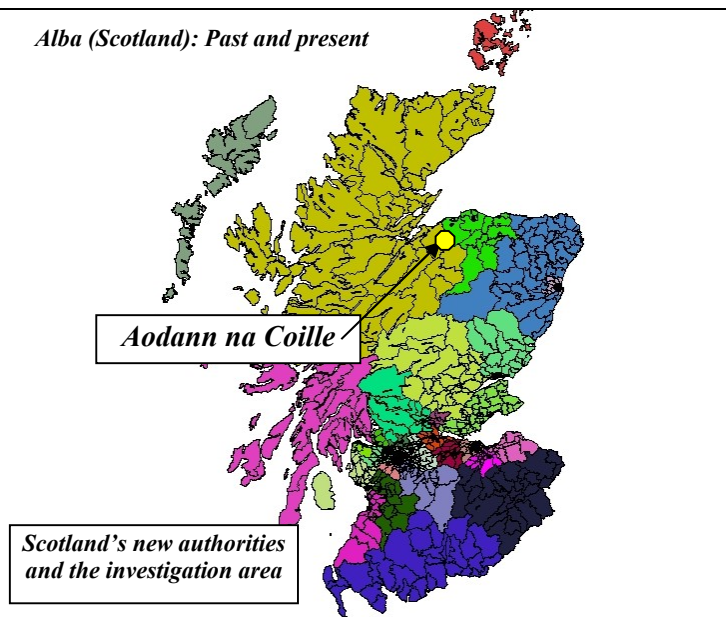
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Relugas House, Relugas Village, Newton of Darnaway, Conicavel, Downtuff, Sluie, Drumine, Logie, Carnoch, Balvlair, Greens, Phaebuie, Dunphail)

**Number of households:** 195    **Population present at census night:** 910

**Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig:** 10.4 %

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
Morayshire	Edinkillie	Edinkillie	1	1 – 9
			2	1 – 9
			3	1 – 11
			4	1 – 10
			5	1 - 5

Alba (Scotland): Past and present



## State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

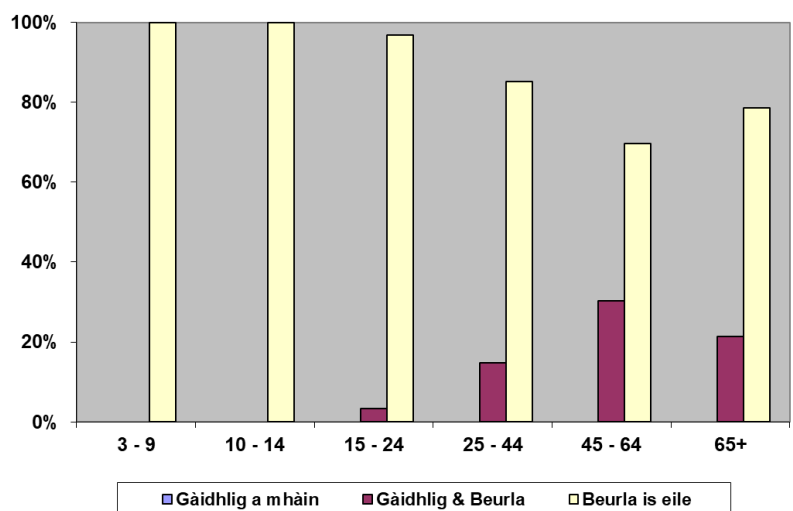
The area considered was situated clearly beyond the Gàidhlig heartlands of Scotland at the time of this census. But still a notable part of the population spoke the traditional language. These enumerated Gàidhlig speakers, however, were almost entirely born in the *Gaidhealtachd* further west. Locally born Gàidhlig-speakers were a very tiny minority.

The “language frontier” was only a few miles away towards the *Bràighean Mhoireibh* (Braes of Moray) in the south and *Gleann Fùrnais* (Glenferness) in the west.

## Area description:

The area of investigation lies on the western border of the county of *Moireabh* (Moray) on the eastern edges of the valley of *Abhainn Èir* (River Findhorn).

An important factor of economic development had been the erection of the Highland Main Line between *Farais* (Forres) and *Baile Grannda* (Grantown-on-Spey) through this valley in 1863. Major employment factors were related to farming and forestry.



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>910</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>10.4 %</b>
<b>3-4</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0 %</b>
<b>5-9</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0 %</b>
<b>10-14</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0 %</b>
<b>15-24</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3.2 %</b>
<b>25-44</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>14.7 %</b>
<b>45-64</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>30.3 %</b>
<b>65+</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21.4 %</b>
<b>Gender</b>								
<b>Female</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>10.3 %</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>10.5 %</b>
<b>Place of birth</b>								
<b>Born in parish</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.6 %</b>
<b>In neighbouring parish<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>169</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5.6 %</b>
<b>Gaidhealtachd elsewhere<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>87</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>72.4 %</b>
<b>Other places</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5.2 %</b>

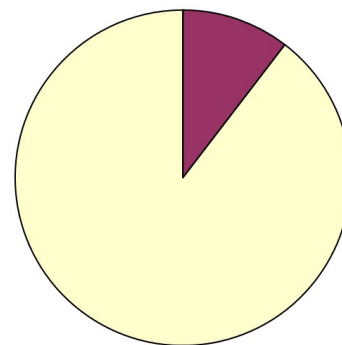
## Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Parishes of Dyke & Moy, Forres, Rafford, Dallas, Knockando, Cromdale, Inverallan & Advie (all Morayshire) or Ardclach (Nairnshire).

<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.



■ Gàidhlig a mhàin  
■ Gàidhlig & Beurla  
■ Beurla is eile

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

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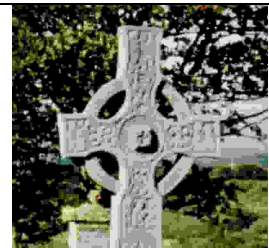
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	House-holds	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<i>Aodann na Coille</i>	195	826	0	86	10.4 %
<b>Individual communities</b>					
<i>Ruigh Lùgais</i> (Reluas)	43	164	0	16	9.8 %
<i>Conn a'Chabhail</i> (Conicavel)	36	159	0	19	11.9 %
<i>An Lagan</i> (Logie)	56	226	0	33	14.6 %
<i>A'Chàrnaich</i> (Carnoch)	37	178	0	11	6.2 %
<i>Dùn Fàil</i> (Dunphail)	23	99	0	7	7.1 %
<b>Language of parents</b>					
Both parents Gàidhlig speaking	3	18	0	6	33.3 %
Single parent Gàidhlig speaking	4	23	0	5	21.7 %
One parent Gàidhlig speaking	9	62	0	9	14.5 %
No Gàidhlig speaking parent	73	399	0	3	0.8 %
Households with no children (0-14)	106	324	0	63	19.4 %
<b>Occupation of head of household</b>					
Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.	41	204	0	9	4.4 %
Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar	6	33	0	8	24.2 %
Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.	5	23	0	0	0.0 %
Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.	22	105	0	9	8.6 %
Living on private means	3	27	0	1	3.7 %
Manager, coachman, cook, etc.	8	29	0	1	3.4 %
Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.	69	326	0	39	12.0 %
Remaining occupations	41	79	0	19	24.1 %

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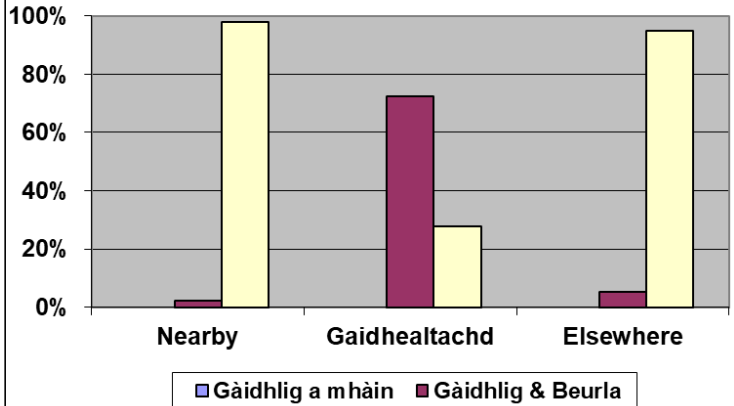
## Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

The language was spoken almost exclusively by inhabitants born in *Gaidhealtachd* areas.

### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Born either in Edinkillie or in the adjacent parishes of Dyke & Moy, Forres, Rafford, Dallas, Knockando, Cromdale, Inverallan & Advie (all Morayshire) or Ardlach (Nairnshire).

<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:

1. Official census figures reported 86 bilingual inhabitants and no monolingual *Gàidhlig*-speakers out of a total population of 910 persons (9.5 %). The usually resident population of 826 persons, however, consisted of 86 *Gàidhlig*-speakers (10.4%).
2. None of the *Gàidhlig*-speaking persons were reported as “not speaking English”.