

## Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Studies<sup>1</sup>

### Vol. 21: *Bàideanach, Srath Spè, Nàrann & Bràighean Mhàrr* (Badenoch, Strathspey, Nairn & Braes of Mar)

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#### Executive Summary

This publication is part of a series dealing with local communities which were predominantly Gaelic-speaking at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Based mainly (but not exclusively) on local population census information the reports strive to examine the state of the language through the ages from 1881 until today. The most relevant information is gathered comprehensively for the smallest geographical unit possible and provided area by area – a very useful reference for people with interest in their own community. Furthermore the impact of recent developments in education (namely teaching in Gaelic medium and Gaelic as a second language) is analysed for primary school catchments.

The report does not only cover the traditional “Highland” districts of Badenoch and Nairn, but it also describes the situation in a *terra incognita* of Gaelic speech: The north-eastern fringe. Right until the First World War it was common place to hear Gaelic on the streets of Grantown-on-Spey, Tomintoul and even Braemar in Aberdeenshire. Equally unknown in many circles is the fact that the last “native speaker” of Aberdeenshire Gaelic died as late as the early 1980s. In Badenoch Gaelic still survived as a community language until the Second World War. Today the language is still being held up in the area by a very small number of speakers. Newtonmore in western Badenoch is the only community where Gaelic still shows some flickering light with Gaelic-medium nursery and primary school education in the local school. Parental demand on the contrary is high but so far only a Gaelic-medium nursery in Nairn has been realised. Essentially arrived at rock bottom ironically the situation of Gaelic can only improve in this district.

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<sup>1</sup> Original census data shown or used were supplied and/or published by the General Register Office for Scotland. The use of this material in this study is permitted under Licence No. C02W0003665. Crown Copyright of census data is acknowledged.



## Foreword to the Series

Since 1881 every decennial population census in Scotland included a question about the “Gaelic-speaking” population. Despite some difficulty in interpreting this data (what really means to tick a box being able to speak Gaelic) this long-term data set holds a wealth of sociological and historical information. It highlights the circumstances in which people speaking this Celtic language have lived and still live today. In most cases this data has been used only either for very problem-specific socio-linguistic studies or they were the basis of regional or Scotland wide analysis. However, it proved very difficult for people who were interested in their own local area to have a comprehensive overview of the number and distribution of Gaelic-speaking people right on their doorstep. This series is planned to cover all regions of Scotland where Scottish Gaelic (*A’Ghàidhlig* to be correct in its own words) was still spoken by a substantial part of the population at the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century<sup>2</sup>. Accordingly besides the main “Highland counties” of Sutherland, Ross & Cromarty, Inverness and Argyll the fringe areas of Bute (including the Isle of Arran), western Caithness, Nairn, North Dunbartonshire and more particularly Highland Perthshire will be covered. It is hoped that these small reports will be of interest not only to science people but also to those who have to cope with opinions like “Gaelic was never spoken here” in their own local community.

**Important note:** Although this text is written in the modern lingua franca for the purpose of maximum readership the object has to take its rightful place. Therefore *Gàidhlig* place-names or expressions are preferred and the so-called English version is mentioned in brackets where appropriate. For those unfamiliar with the language: Every Gaelic expression is written in *italics* and the other place-names are mainly examples of anglicisation efforts of early cartographers.

## Acknowledgements

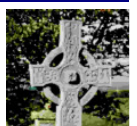
The author is indebted to many organisations which have been very kind in providing information about the subject. I am very grateful for this active encouragement. Very special thanks go of course to the General Register Office for Scotland for the opportunity to use the census material in this study. The team at the Demographic Dissemination Branch have been very supportive – Mrs. Anne Blackwood should be mentioned here especially. Crown Copyright on the census data is acknowledged gratefully. Very worthwhile was also the relentless assistance of Mrs. Melissa Barlow of the University of Texas and Mrs. Liz Mackie of the University of Aberdeen who both proved to be very successful in unearthing rare material of more than a century ago. And last but not least thank is also due to the many individuals with whom I spent endless hours of discussion witnessing true Highland hospitality. *Tapadh leibh a h-uile duine!*

Wedel, *An Dàmhar* 2003

Kurt C. Duwe

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<sup>2</sup> A road-map of the planned publication schedule is provided at the end of this publication.



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## 1 Introduction

The North East Grampians with their straths and glens of Spey, Dee and Findhorn are the object of this study. Quite a number of county boundaries meet here on the hilltops of the Cairngorms in a sort of transition country between *Gàidhlig* and Doric tradition. Until 1974 the counties of Nairn, Moray, Banff, Aberdeen and Inverness all had their share of these Highland parishes. The population is concentrated in a few towns and villages in the lower parts of the straths with *An Aghaidh Mhòr* (Aviemore), *Inbhir Nàrainn* (Nairn) and *Baile Grannda* (Grantown-on-Spey) being the most important ones. Occupations today are mainly related to agriculture, whisky distilling and, of course, tourism.

Without doubt the most famous son of this area has been James Macpherson, who was the “father” of the Ossianic legends and tales. Traditionally *Gàidhlig* speaking this district experienced a dramatic decline of the language during the last century. Whereas in the 19<sup>th</sup> century *Gàidhlig* was still the main vernacular in *Bàideanach* (Badenoch) and could be heard frequently in *Inbhir Nàrainn* (Nairn) and even *Bràigh Mhàrr* (Braemar), the language today is confined to a few enthusiasts and a small bunch of fortunate *Gàidhlig* medium pupils. This report strives to explain how this development came about and where (if any) reasons for hope of language revival exist today.

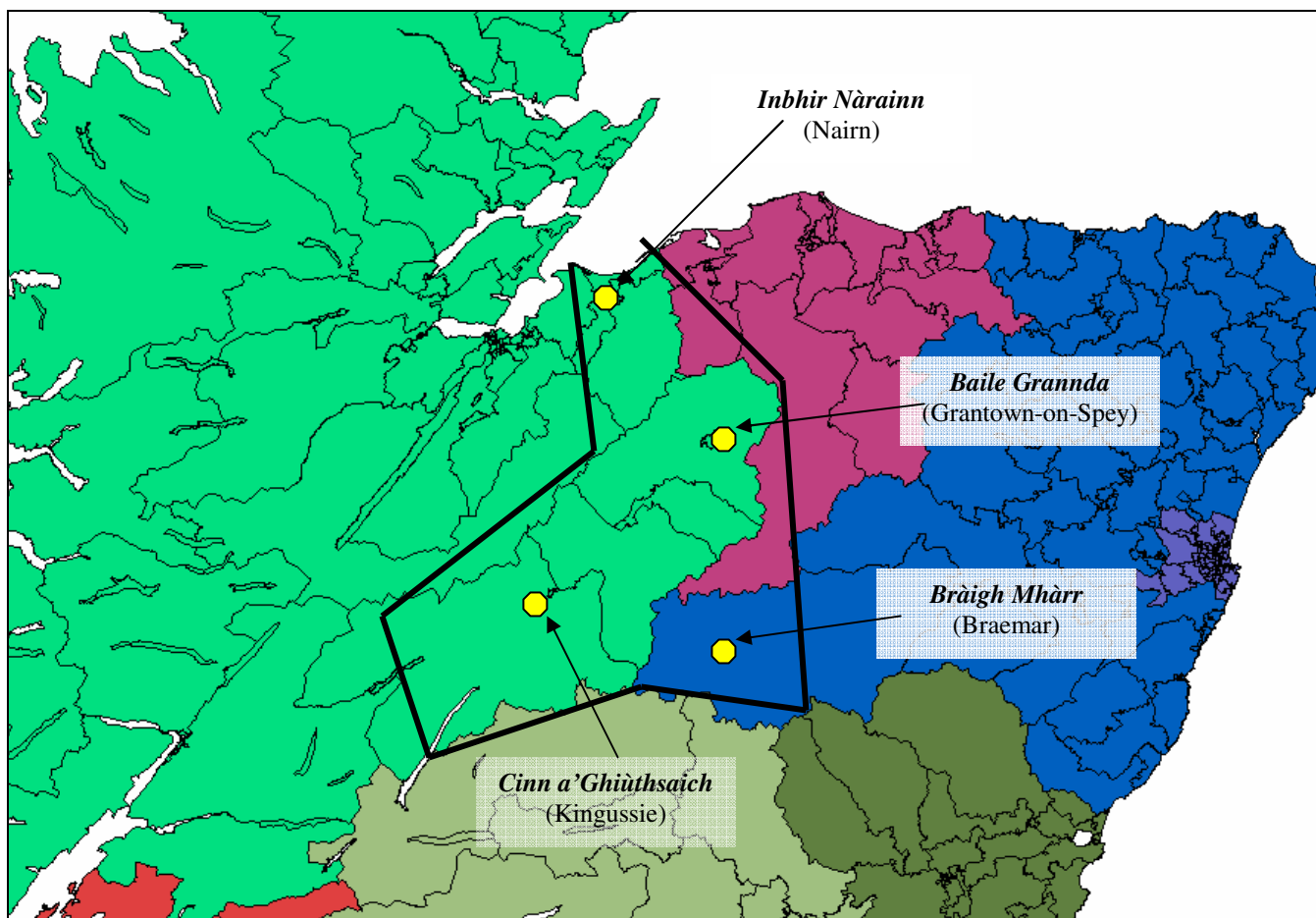


Fig. 1: Overview map of the investigation areas<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Digital boundaries courtesy of Ordnance Survey as part of the Geography Products by GROS for the 2001 census.



## 2 The Historical Background

Between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries the “language frontier” in north-eastern Scotland remained rather static; *Gàidhlig* only marginally giving ground to Doric speech in the lower stretches of Deeside and Strathspey. The last speakers of Angus Gaelic were reported in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. At the time of the first Gaelic census enumerations in 1881 the “bilingual corridor” ran from the coastal plain of Nairnshire south-eastwards towards the upland villages of *Tom an t-Sabhail* (Tomintoul) in Banffshire, then via *Bràigh Mhàrr* (Braemar) in Aberdeenshire to *Gleann Sìth* (Glen Shee) in Perthshire. Conditions for survival were not favourable at all in these marginal *Gàidhlig* communities as for example the Old Statistical Account of Scotland in 1842 reported for the parish of *Cill Mhìcheil* (Kirkmichael) in Upper Banffshire: “*The language generally spoken is the Gaelic, but it has decreased very considerably within the last forty years. There is not an individual between twelve and forty years who cannot speak English. They all read English, and there are many of the rising generation who cannot speak Gaelic.*” This report is concerned with the north-eastern 19<sup>th</sup> century *Gaidhealtachd* of *Bàideanach* (Badenoch), *Nàrann* (Nairn) and some neighbouring parishes in the counties of Moray, Banff and Aberdeen. Within a century the language was destined to total collapse in this area as fig. 2 illustrates clearly.

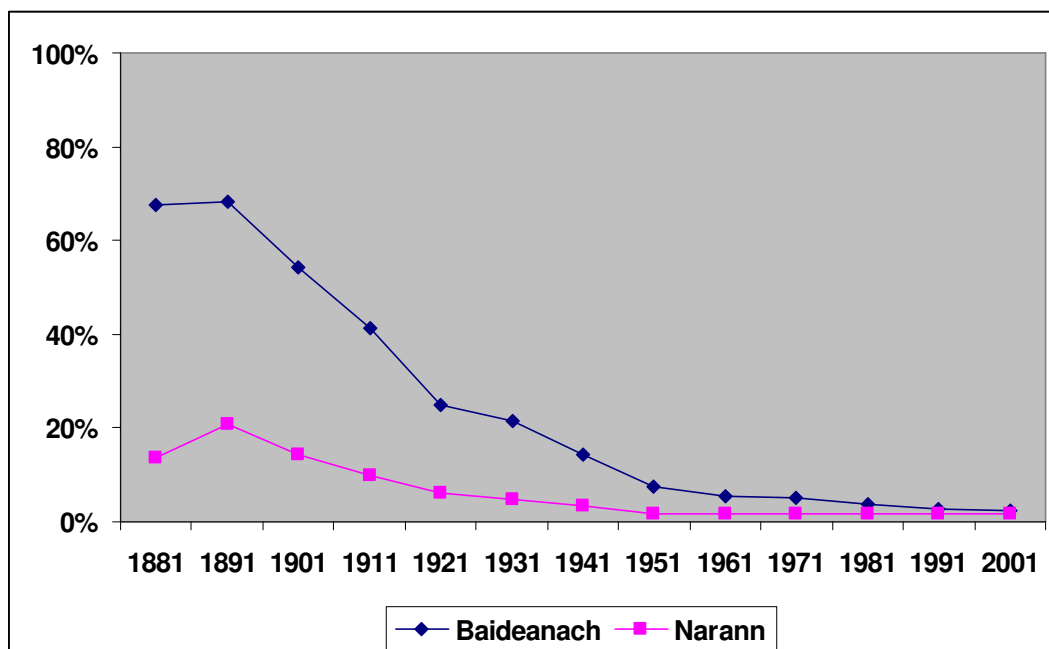


Fig. 2: *Gàidhlig*-speakers (aged 3 years and over) as percentage of total population between 1881 and 2001 in *Bàideanach* (Badenoch) in comparison with *Nàrann* (Nairn)<sup>4</sup>

### 2.1 From Victorian times until the Second World War (Census 1881-1931)

At this time most of the *Gàidhlig*-speakers in the area were beyond their prime age and only a few children were fortunate enough to learn the language of their forebears as a mother tongue. There were of course large geographical variations of the strength of *Gàidhlig* and these were documented in great detail in the early census results of 1881, 1891 and 1901. The first census questions in 1881 were concerned with those who were “habitually” speaking *Gàidhlig* and more than a third of the population of *Bàideanach* and *Nàrann* were still reported as using the language intensively. The vast majority of speakers was bilingual, a mere hundred were reported to speak “only” *Gàidhlig* in 1891 (tables 16-18). Until 1931 the number of speakers was to dwindle to just below 2,000 people in the district (see table 1).

<sup>4</sup> There was no census taken in 1941 because of World War II – values are therefore interpolated between 1931 and 1951.



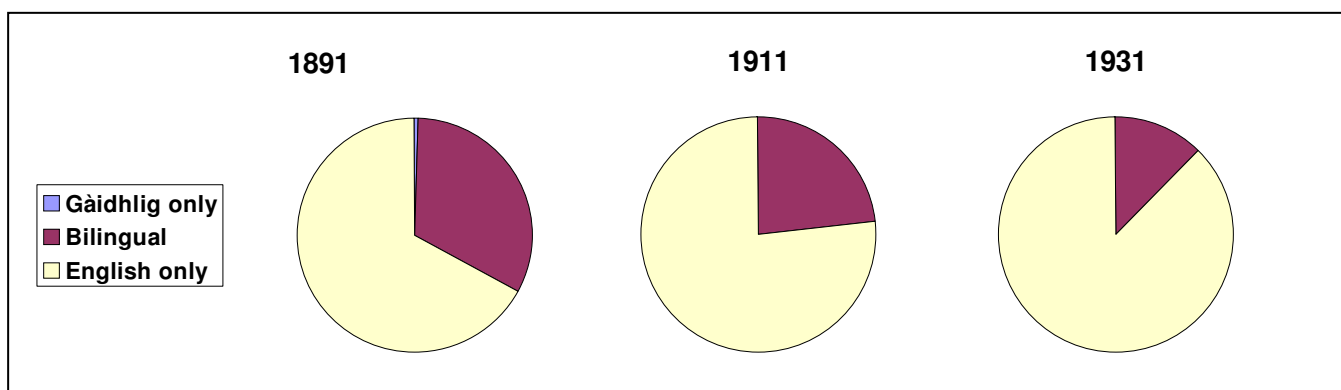


Fig. 3: Share of population speaking Gàidhlig and/or English in the study area according to census results in 1891, 1911 and 1931

The upper straths and glens of **Bàideanach (Badenoch)** were of course as strongly Gàidhlig as most of the Highlands in those days (see table 2). Remote *Lagan* reported the highest percentage with 88.3 % “habitual” Gàidhlig-speakers in 1881 but then all rural parts of the district had respectable figures, too. *Albhaidh* (Alvie) and *Obar Neithich* (Abernethy) had two-thirds of their population speaking the language in 1891. Even in villages like *Bail’ Ùr an t-Slèibh* (Newtonmore) Gàidhlig was still predominant. The only exception from this rule was the small town of *Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh* (Kingussie) where English monoglots were already in the majority at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Gradually the local language retreated, however, with the fastest erosion taking place in the villages and townships of the eastern parishes. In 1921 the western parish of *Lagan* (Laggan) was the last area in *Bàideanach* where Gàidhlig-speaking eventually became a minority issue. The last census before World War II in 1931 saw 36.4 % of the population of this remote parish able to speak the local tongue (table 15).

<i>Bàideanach &amp; Nàrann</i> <sup>5</sup>						
Subject \ Census	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1931
Gàidhlig-speakers (3 years +)	5,883	6,654	4,990	3,808	2,516	1,867
% of total population	36.1 %	41.1 %	31.1 %	23.4 %	15.1 %	12.4 %

Table 1: Number of Gàidhlig-speakers (3 years and over) in *Bàideanach & Nàrann* (Badenoch & Nairn) and percentage of total population speaking Gàidhlig during 1881-1931

Further east the flat and fertile land of *Nàrann (Nairn)* and *Moireabh (Moray)* had already seen its Gàidhlig tradition weakened before the first census information on Gàidhlig-speaking was collected. Tradition has it that “*Gaelic is spoken on the western banks of the River Nairn, English on the eastern ...*” This statement may have had some merits a few decades before the 1881 census date. But notably roughly a third of inhabitants still spoke Gàidhlig in 1891 (see table 3) – especially in the western parishes of *Nàrann* bordering Inverness-shire. Nonetheless many local Gàidhlig-speakers were elderly and the demographic time bomb was ticking; In Nairnshire only 27 out of a total of 929 Gàidhlig-speakers were younger than 20 years; in Morayshire just 17 out of 1,214 were under 20 years of age. Even in those days, however, not all Gàidhlig-speakers in those counties were immigrants from stronger Gàidhlig-speaking areas. Quoting official census reports: “*Of those so returned (in Nairnshire) at this census, all except three were born in Scotland – 156 being born in the County of Nairn; 410 in the County of Inverness; and 263 in the County of Ross and Cromarty....Of the Gaelic speakers (in Morayshire or Elgin), 470 were born in Inverness, 280 in Ross and Cromarty, 287 in the County of Elgin itself, and 45 in Sutherland*“. Naturally

<sup>5</sup> For the purpose of historic continuity only areas in the former counties of Inverness and Nairn are considered in this table. There are no local census data available for Morayshire, Banffshire and Aberdeenshire for the period of 1911-1971.



enough most of these locally born Gàidhlig-speakers would have come from places like *Crothaigh* (Croy) and *Inbhir Ailean* (Inverallan). The fate of the language in both counties was predictable – without any official support and encouragement the number of Gàidhlig-speakers fell sharply until 1931 when only 410 (5.2 %) were recorded in Nairnshire and 533 (1.4 %) in the County of Moray.

Number of persons and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers in selected districts of Bàideanach – 1881 - 1901					
Area <sup>6</sup>	All persons speaking Gàidhlig <sup>7</sup>			Monolingual share of all Gàidhlig-speakers <sup>8</sup>	
	1881 <sup>9</sup>	1891	1901	1891	1901
<i>An Lagan</i> (Laggan)	810 <b>88.3 %</b>	660 <b>77.6 %</b>	540 <b>73.2 %</b>	20 3.0 %	8 1.5 %
<i>Cinn a’Ghiuthsaich</i> (Kingussie)	301 46.7 %	399 <b>53.9 %</b>	401 41.4 %	5 1.3 %	2 0.5 %
<i>Cinn a’Ghiuthsaich Dùthaich</i> (Kingussie Rural)	489 <b>76.5 %</b>	352 <b>70.1 %</b>	243 <b>54.2 %</b>	3 0.9 %	3 1.2 %
<i>Baile Ùr an t-Slèibh</i> (Newtonmore)	254 <b>83.0 %</b>	267 <b>73.4 %</b>	324 <b>67.8 %</b>	2 0.7 %	–
<i>Baile Ùr Sgìre Innis</i> (Insh)	379 <b>83.3 %</b>	309 <b>79.2 %</b>	227 <b>71.6 %</b>	3 1.0 %	2 0.9 %
<i>Albhaidh</i> (Alvie)	452 <b>69.6 %</b>	398 <b>65.5 %</b>	302 <b>58.6 %</b>	8 2.0 %	1 0.3 %
<i>Ràta Mhurchais</i> (Rothiemurchus)	221 <b>75.4 %</b>	206 <b>78.9 %</b>	117 <b>56.5 %</b>	8 3.9 %	1 0.9 %
<i>Drochaid Charra</i> (Carrbridge)	917 <b>66.9 %</b>	215	132	5	–
<i>Daothal</i> (Duthil)		781 <b>56.1 %</b>	546 49.1 %	39 5.0 %	6 1.1 %
<i>Obar Neithich</i> (Abernethy)	780 <b>51.0 %</b>	838 <b>61.9 %</b>	651 <b>50.9 %</b>	12 1.4 %	7 1.1 %

**Table 2: Number of persons speaking Gàidhlig and all Gàidhlig-speakers as share of population in Bàideanach according to local census data from 1881 to 1901**

Although widely considered as staunch Doric heartlands the counties of Banffshire and Aberdeenshire still boasted some Gàidhlig communities in their mountainous parts in the Grampian Mountains. In table 4 it can clearly be seen that the districts around *Tom an t-Sabhail* (Tomintoul) and *Bràigh Mhàrr* (Braemar) still had respectable Gàidhlig-speaking communities at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Largely ignored by the county administrations in Banff and Aberdeen a few local folks still withstood the trend and stubbornly refused being assimilated in the culture of “Gods own Country”. This fact was described very vividly by Ian Mitchell (1994) in his report “How the North’s Linguistic Frontier Was Re-drawn”: “The

<sup>6</sup> Ecclesiastical sub-division/registration district/burgh/town/village/island or part thereof.

<sup>7</sup> Percentages of Gàidhlig-speakers above 50 % are denoted in bold figures.

<sup>8</sup> Percentages of persons speaking “Gaelic only” which exceed 20 % are shown in bold figures.

<sup>9</sup> Speaking “habitually” Gàidhlig.



more mountainous areas around Braemar were cleared to make sporting estates, 40 families were cleared from Glen Ey in the 1840s for example. But from the families of gamekeepers children were still coming to school in Inverey around the turn of the century, with no English. ... Inverey itself was formed largely from those cleared from surrounding glens, and in 1881 about 85% of its population of 100 had Gaelic as their first language.” During the next decades, however, the last pockets of Gàidhlig-speaking communities were disappearing, partly because tenants had no legal protection to stay on their land in contrast to the neighbouring “crofting counties”. The last “native speakers of Aberdeenshire Gaelic” were to die only after World War II – the end of a century old saga.

Number of persons and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers in selected districts of Nàrann & Srath Spè – 1881 - 1901					
Area <sup>10</sup>	All persons speaking Gàidhlig <sup>11</sup>			Monolingual share of all Gàidhlig-speakers <sup>12</sup>	
	1881 <sup>13</sup>	1891	1901	1891	1901
<i>Inbhir Narainn (Baile Beag)</i> (Nairn (Small Burgh))	300 7.2 %	506 12.6 %	652 11.4 %	4 0.8 %	3 0.5 %
<i>Crothaigh</i> (Croy)	708 41.4 %	741 48.9 %	565 39.6 %	26 3.5 %	6 1.1 %
<i>Caladar</i> (Cawdor)	239 22.3 %	314 30.6 %	205 21.9 %	1 0.3 %	1 0.5 %
<i>Àird Chlach</i> (Ardclach)	199 17.8 %	227 22.9 %	141 18.3 %	1 0.4 %	1 0.7 %
<i>Allt Èireann</i> (Auldearn)	60 4.6 %	247 18.8 %	156 12.1 %	3 1.2 %	2 1.3 %
<i>Baile Grannda</i> (Grantown-on-Spey)	183 13.3 %	468 32.9 %	338 21.6 %	4 0.9 %	–
<i>Inbhir Ailein</i> (Inverallan)	556 22.3 %	481 45.8 %	355 34.8 %	–	2 0.6 %
<i>Crombail</i> (Cromdale)	310 27.1 %	229 34.7 %	190 27.3 %	3 1.3 %	–
<i>Àbhaidh</i> (Advie)		59 17.9 %	47 14.6 %	–	–
<i>Dìg &amp; A' Mhòigh</i> (Dyke & Moy)	53 4.1 %	103 9.9 %	81 7.7 %	–	–
<i>Aodann na Coille</i> (Edinkillie)	28 2.4 %	118 12.0 %	91 10.5 %	–	–

Table 3: Number of persons speaking Gàidhlig and all Gàidhlig-speakers as share of population in Nàrann & Srath Spè according to local census data from 1881 to 1901

<sup>10</sup> Ecclesiastical sub-division/registration district/burgh/town/village/island or part thereof.

<sup>11</sup> Percentages of Gàidhlig-speakers above 50 % are denoted in bold figures.

<sup>12</sup> Percentages of persons speaking “Gaelic only” which exceed 20 % are shown in bold figures.

<sup>13</sup> Speaking “habitually” Gàidhlig.





Number of persons and percentage of <i>Gàidhlig</i> -speakers in selected districts of <i>Banbh &amp; Bràighean Mhàrr</i> – 1881 - 1901					
Area <sup>14</sup>	All persons speaking <i>Gàidhlig</i> <sup>15</sup>			Monolingual share of all <i>Gàidhlig</i> -speakers <sup>16</sup>	
	1881 <sup>17</sup>	1891	1901	1891	1901
<i>Tom an t-Sabhail</i> (Tomintoul)	138 20.1 %	150 21.6 %	126 18.5 %	2 1.3 %	–
<i>Cille Mhìcheil</i> (Kirkmichael)	122 31.5 %	98 28.2 %	58 16.4 %	1 1.0 %	–
<i>Bràigh Mhàrr</i> (Braemar)	234 27.2 %	110 22.8 %	80 15.5 %	–	–
<i>Inbhir Eìdh &amp; Bràighean Mhàrr</i> (Inverey & Braes o' Mar)		163 46.4 %	84 25.5 %	–	–
<i>Craichidh</i> (Crathie)	25 3.4 %	45 6.5 %	33 5.5 %	–	–

**Table 4: Number of persons speaking *Gàidhlig* and all *Gàidhlig*-speakers as share of population in selected areas of *Banbh & Bràighean Mhàrr* according to local census data from 1881 to 1901**

<sup>14</sup> Ecclesiastical sub-division/registration district/ burgh/town/village/island or part thereof.

<sup>15</sup> Percentages of *Gàidhlig*-speakers above 50 % are denoted in bold figures.

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<sup>17</sup> Speaking “habitually” *Gàidhlig*.



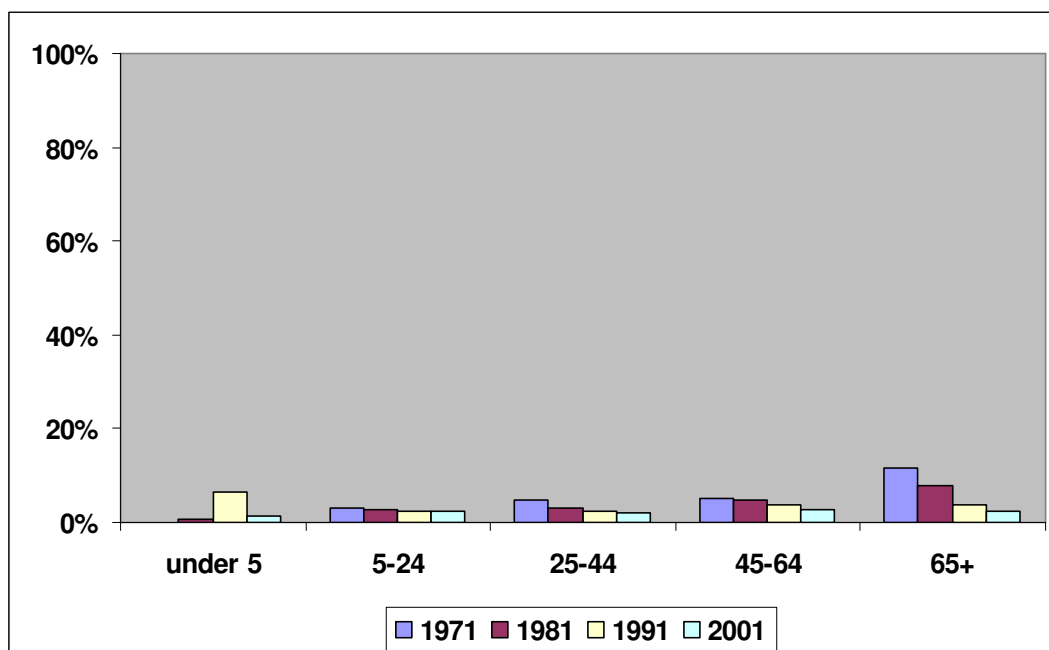
## 2.2 Developments in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century (Census 1951–2001)

World War II was a major watershed for *Gàidhlig* in the Highlands. Around the Grampian Mountains figures proved even more disastrous in the 1951 census. Essentially the language had disappeared as a community language in all districts of *Bàideanach* – in the remaining area only a *Gàidhlig* Diaspora was left. Between 1931 and 1951 the population share of *Gàidhlig*-speakers in *Bàideanach* & *Nàrann* was almost cut by three from 12.4 % to 4.3 % (table 5).

<i>Bàideanach &amp; Nàrann</i>						
Subject \ Census	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001
<i>Gàidhlig</i> -speakers (3 years +)	652	489	520	421	430	396
% of total population	4.3 %	3.3 %	2.9 %	2.5 %	2.3 %	2.0 %

**Table 5: Number of *Gàidhlig*-speakers (3 years and over) in *Bàideanach* & *Nàrann* (Badenoch & Nairn) and percentage of total population speaking *Gàidhlig* during 1951-2001**

Developments in later decades were non-dramatic and secretive. Figure 4 presents the overall decrease of *Gàidhlig* speaking in different age groups until 2001. There was nothing really happening to raise the profile of the language – even the second language provision at Kingussie High School stopped in the 1970s. There was only one notable exception in the late 1980s: *Cròileagan* were founded in the small town of *Bail' Ùr an t-Slèibh* (Newtonmore) in eastern *Bàideanach* and in the harbour town of *Inbhir Nàrainn* (Nairn). Parental pressure meant that even a *Gàidhlig*-medium unit was opened in Newtonmore Primary School in the 1990/91 school year.



**Fig. 4: Percentage of *Gàidhlig*-speakers in different age groups between 1971 and 2001 – Area of *Baideanach* (Badenoch)<sup>18</sup>**

<sup>18</sup> Under 5: *Gàidhlig* abilities in the age group 3-4 until 1991, in 2001 in all age groups 0-4.



### 2.3 Development of literacy in Gàidhlig between 1971 and 2001

From 1971 onwards census information became available on Gàidhlig literacy in local detail. Due to the relatively high proportion of Gàidhlig learners in the small language community the proportion of people able to read or write Gàidhlig were “relatively” high in 1971. During the next decades literacy increased considerably with a slightly better result in Bàideanach than in Nàrann & Srath Spè (tables 6 and 7).

	Number of Gàidhlig-speakers with ability to read Gàidhlig				Percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers with ability to read Gàidhlig			
	1971	1981	1991	2001	1971	1981	1991	2001
<i>Bàideanach</i> (Badenoch)	150	133	135	143	44.8 %	53.0 %	56.0 %	69.1 %
<i>Nàrann &amp; Srath Spè</i> (Nairn)	106	114	117	144	48.2 %	53.3 %	47.8 %	57.1 %

Table 6: Number of people able to read Gàidhlig and Gàidhlig readers as a percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers for both areas (1971-2001)

	Number of Gàidhlig-speakers with ability to write Gàidhlig				Percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers with ability to write Gàidhlig			
	1971	1981	1991	2001	1971	1981	1991	2001
<i>Bàideanach</i> (Badenoch & Strathspey)	110	98	105	120	32.8 %	39.0 %	43.6 %	58.0 %
<i>Nàrann &amp; Srath Spè</i> (Nairn & Strathspey)	72	82	107	111	32.7 %	38.3 %	43.7 %	44.0 %

Table 7: Number of people able to write Gàidhlig and Gàidhlig writers as a percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers for both areas (1971-2001)



### 3 The Situation of 2001 in Focus

Census results for 2001 were the most comprehensive and detailed information base ever provided for Scotland. This was also true for the inclusion of questions on *Gàidhlig* language knowledge. Two new aspects were introduced:

1. Persons were asked whether they were “able to understand spoken Gaelic”.
2. Children under the age of 3 were enumerated regarding their language abilities.

The following sections describe generally the distribution of language abilities (inter-generational and community by community) and the specific conditions of the younger age groups in local school catchments.

#### 3.1 General overview: *Gàidhlig* language capabilities in 2001

In both areas – *Bàideanach* and *Nàrann & Srath Spè* – the very low incidence of *Gàidhlig* knowledge is obvious. There are only marginal differences between the two.

In *Bàideanach* (**Badenoch**) in general the following conclusions may be drawn from the 2001 census information (special consideration is given to educational aspects in section 3.2 dealing with the young generation in school catchments):

- Language incidence in all age groups is very low. Just nine pre-school children knew some aspects of the language in 2001.
- A slight decrease in *Gàidhlig*-speaking has occurred since 1991 (table 7). In the age cohort of 3-24 the percentage of *Gàidhlig*-speakers is down by just 0.2 %.
- Of course results are not the same over the whole area. The local detail of census output areas show those being able to speak the language ranging from a share of almost zero per cent in a few eastern districts to some 7.4 % in *Bail Ùr ant-Slèibh* (Newtonmore). The corresponding figures for the „understands spoken Gaelic” category vary between around 1.4 % in *Ceann na Creige* (Kincraig) and almost 10 % in *Bail Ùr ant-Slèibh*.
- Literacy in the language is still improving with 69.1 % of speakers being able to read and a respectable 58.0 % of speakers able to write the language.
- In the new category of children aged less than 3 years three children were able to speak *Gàidhlig* and five children were able to understand spoken *Gàidhlig*.
- In addition to those able to speak *Gàidhlig* (2.4 % of the population) 140 inhabitants (1.6 %) were at least able to understand, read or write the language.
- The only location with any significant *Gàidhlig* presence is *Bail Ùr an t-Slèibh*.



Age group	2001						1991		Diff. 2001 – 1991
	Knowing <sup>19</sup> Gàidhlig		Able to speak & read Gàidhlig		Able to speak Gàidhlig		Able to speak Gàidhlig		
0-2	5	1.8 %	-	-	3	1.1 %	-	-	-
3-4	4	2.0 %	1	0.5 %	3	1.5 %	12	6.5 %	- 5.0 %
5-11	25	3.5 %	18	2.5 %	24	3.3 %	6	0.8 %	+ 2.5 %
12-15	16	3.6 %	14	3.1 %	15	3.3 %	12	3.1 %	+ 0.2 %
16-24	18	2.6 %	8	1.1 %	8	1.1 %	33	3.0 %	- 1.9 %
3-24	63	3.0 %	41	2.0 %	50	2.4 %	63	2.6 %	- 0.2 %
All ages	348	4.0 %	144	1.6 %	207	2.4 %	237	3.1 %	- 0.7 %
Difference		- 1.0 %		+ 0.4 %		+/- 0.0 %		- 0.5 %	

Table 8: Knowledge of Gàidhlig in younger age groups in Bàideanach (Badenoch) in 2001 and 1991

Age group	2001						1991		Diff. 2001 – 1991
	Knowing Gàidhlig		Able to speak & read Gàidhlig		Able to speak Gàidhlig		Able to speak Gàidhlig		
0-2	3	0.7 %	-	-	1	0.2 %	-	-	-
3-4	11	3.4 %	1	0.3 %	9	2.8 %	6	1.9 %	+ 0.9 %
5-11	18	1.4 %	8	0.6 %	13	1.0 %	14	1.2 %	- 0.2 %
12-15	4	0.5 %	1	0.1 %	3	0.4 %	6	0.8 %	- 0.4 %
16-24	22	1.8 %	8	0.7 %	13	1.1 %	19	1.2 %	- 0.1 %
3-24	55	1.5 %	18	0.5 %	38	1.1 %	45	1.2 %	- 0.1 %
All ages	392	2.7 %	142	1.0 %	251	1.8 %	248	1.9 %	- 0.1 %
Diff.		- 1.2 %		- 0.5 %		- 0.7 %		- 0.7 %	

Table 9: Knowledge of Gàidhlig in younger age groups in Nàrann & Srath Spè (Nairn & Strathspey) in 2001 and 1991

The area of Nàrann & Srath Spè (Nairn & Strathspey) presented the following main characteristics according to 2001 census results:

- Generally and in all age groups language incidence is on a negligible level.
- A remarkable number of 14 pre-school children know at least some aspects of the language.
- Numbers and percentages of Gàidhlig speaking have essentially stayed the same between 1991 and 2001.
- Literacy in the language has improved since 1991 with 57.1 % of speakers being able to read and 44.0 % of speakers able to write the language.

<sup>19</sup> Persons able to understand spoken Gàidhlig and/or able to speak, read or write Gàidhlig.



- In the new category of children aged less than 3 years only one child was able to speak Gàidhlig and three understood spoken Gàidhlig.
- In addition to those able to speak Gàidhlig (1.8 % of the population) 141 inhabitants (0.9 %) were at least able to understand, read or write the language.

In general Bàideanach, Nàrann and Srath Spè could only be considered as part of the Gàidhlig Diaspora in 2001 showing only slightly higher language incidence than the national mean.

### 3.2 Children with knowledge of Gàidhlig in school catchments

The 2001 census data provide small area statistics where the knowledge of Gàidhlig can be traced in the smallest statistical units – this enables the compilation of “Gàidhlig knowledge vs. age” tabulations for the catchment areas of local primary schools. It is possible to calculate numbers and percentages for different age groups and for the purpose of this investigation they have been attributed to pre-school age (0-4), primary school age (5-11) and secondary school age (12-15). Additionally a column is provided in table 10 with the age group of 24-35 which may be representative of the language abilities of possible parents.

Knowledge of Gàidhlig (Census 2001) in Selected Primary/Secondary School Catchment Areas								
Primary / Secondary School(s)	“Pre-School” Age 0-4		“Primary” Age 5-11		“Secondary” Age 12-15		“Parents” Age 25-34	
	<i>Dail Chuinnidh</i> (Dalwhinnie)	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
<i>Garbhghaisg</i> (Gergask)	1	6.3 %	-	-	2	15.9 %	1	2.7 %
<i>Bail Ùr an t-Slèibh</i> (Newtonmore)	4	7.7 %	17	21.0 %	11	21.1 %	7	6.9 %
<i>Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh</i> (Kingussie)	1	1.1 %	2	1.5 %	-	-	4	2.1 %
<i>An Aghaidh Mhòr</i> (Aviemore)	1	0.7 %	1	0.5 %	2	1.7 %	9	2.4 %
<i>Albhaidh</i> (Alvie)	-	-	1	3.4 %	1	5.9 %	4	6.3 %
<i>Drochaid Charra</i> (Carrbridge)	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3.0 %
<i>Obar Neithich</i> (Abernethy)	1	2.7 %	-	-	-	-	2	2.8 %
<i>Deisear</i> (Deshar)	1	3.2 %	-	-	-	-	2	2.7 %
<i>Baile Grannda</i> (Grantown-on-Spey)	1	0.7 %	6	2.4 %	2	1.4 %	4	1.2 %
<i>Inbhir Nàrainn</i> (Nairn)	13	2.1 %	12	1.1 %	2	0.3 %	28	2.2 %

**Table 10: Number and percentage of people with knowledge of Gàidhlig in selected age groups for school catchment areas according to census 2001**



Looking at the different age groups the following statements can be provided:

- Pre-school children: In 2000/2001 a few children attended *cròileagan* and *Gàidhlig* nursery education in *Bail Ùr an t-Slèibh* and *Inbhir Nàrainn*. This is clearly visible in the census results. The remaining territory is a “no man’s land” as far as *Gàidhlig*-speaking children are concerned.
- Primary school children: In 2000/2001 some 17 GME children attended primary classes in *Bail Ùr an t-Slèibh*. Obviously *Gàidhlig* was not taught widely (or at all) in other primary schools.
- Secondary school children: In 2000/2001 some 11 children learned *Gàidhlig* as fluent speakers at Kingussie High School. These pupils had previously attended GME in their local primary school in Newtonmore. Apparently the language was not considered as useful subject to other pupils.
- Parents: A small proportion of parents still had some knowledge of *Gàidhlig* in every school catchment in the area.

In conclusion: Apart from the *Gàidhlig* medium provision in *Bail’ Ùr an t-Slèibh* (Newtonmore) and – partially – in *Inbhir Nàrainn* (Nairn), the language did not play any role in the educational provision in 2001. The share of pupils in GME even in *Bàideanach* (Badenoch) is modest (fig. 5) and has stayed at this level almost since its introduction in the early 1990s.

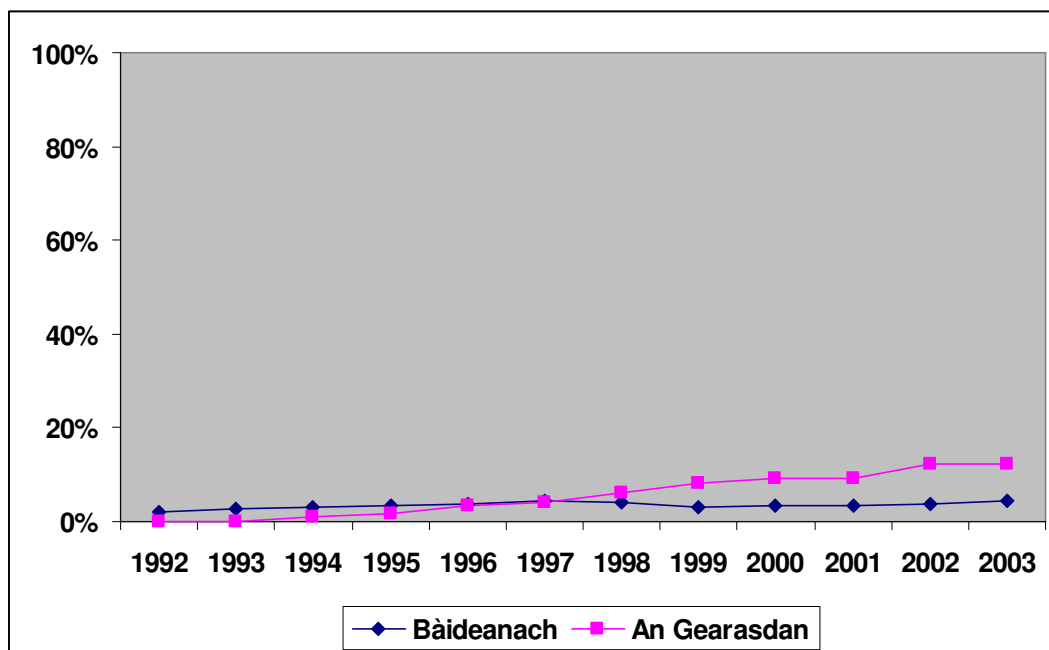


Fig. 5: Share of primary school children attending *Gàidhlig*-medium classes in *Bàideanach* (Badenoch) in comparison with neighbouring *An Gearasdan* (Fort William) (September 1992 – September 2003)<sup>20</sup>

<sup>20</sup> Gaelic Dept, University of Strathclyde.



## 4 Future Perspectives

Some 4 % of Scottish-born residents in the area have still some knowledge of *Gàidhlig*. The language community indicator (LCI<sup>21</sup>) is on a comparable (very low) level in both areas. Even here the language viability indicator (LVI<sup>22</sup>) still points to poor intergenerational language-maintenance (table 11) which is due to a comparatively low language intensity in younger age groups.

Area	Knowledge of <i>Gàidhlig</i> in 2001					
	Young age (0-24)		All ages		Difference (Language viability indicator)	Born in Scotland (Language community indicator)
<b>Bàideanach (Badenoch)</b>	68	2.9 %	348	4.0 %	<b>- 1.1 %</b>	<b>4.6 %</b>
<b>Nàrann &amp; Srath Spè (Nairn &amp; Strathspey)</b>	58	1.4 %	392	2.7 %	<b>- 1.3 %</b>	<b>3.1 %</b>
<i>In comparison:</i> <b>Gaidhealtachd (Highland)</b>	7.0 %		8.9 %		<b>- 1.9 %</b>	<b>10.0 %</b>

**Table 11: Intergenerational viability and *Gàidhlig*-speakers born in Scotland in *Bàideanach* (Badenoch) and *Nàrann & Srath Spè* (Nairn & Strathspey) in comparison with the *Gaidhealtachd* (Highland) local authority according to census data of 2001**

Locally the LVI is negative except around *Bail Ùr an t-Slèibh* (Newtonmore) due to the impact of GME in the local primary school (table 23). Intergenerational viability is only maintained in this township with positive LVI values between + 4 % and + 9 %. The LCI locally is small everywhere with maximum values of 11.7 % at *Bail Ùr an t-Slèibh* (Newtonmore) and 10.0 % at *An Lagan* (Laggan) further west. The knowledge of *Gàidhlig* in younger age-groups (tables 23 and 24) is negligible except in *Bail Ùr an t-Slèibh* (Newtonmore).

Currently (2005) educational provision is still unsatisfactory. No second language teaching of *Gàidhlig* is provided in any school. Still *Bail' Ùr an t-Slèibh* and *Inbhir Nàrainn* are the sole locations where parents can look for *Gàidhlig* education in the whole district. A planned GMU in *Inbhir Nàrainn* is still waiting to be opened because of lack of suitable accommodation for the class.

**In conclusion:** Today the language is still being held up in the area by a very small number of speakers. *Bail Ùr an t-Slèibh* (Newtonmore) in western *Bàideanach* is the only community where *Gàidhlig* still shows some flickering light with Gaelic-medium nursery and primary school education in the local school. Parental demand on the contrary is high but so far only a Gaelic-medium nursery in *Inbhir Nàrainn* (Nairn) has been realised. Essentially arrived at rock bottom ironically the situation of *Gàidhlig* can only improve in this district.

<sup>21</sup> LCI: The "Language Community Indicator" is a measure of the relative strength of the language in the "local" population. It is calculated here by taking the values for *Gàidhlig* knowledge only for those who were born in Scotland. This is a rough estimation as many who are born in Scotland come from English speaking homes but nevertheless it is a better approximation of language strength than looking simply at the resident population.

<sup>22</sup> LVI: The "Language Viability Indicator" is a measure of the prospective reproductivity of language speakers in a community. It is here defined on the basis of knowledge of *Gàidhlig* in the census and is calculated by the difference of percentages between the age group below 25 years of age and the total population.





## I. Supplementary Tables

Census	Civil Parish						
	<i>Inbhir Nàrainn</i> (Nairn)	<i>Crothaigh &amp; Dail Chrois</i> <sup>23</sup> (Croy & Dalcross)	<i>Caladar</i> (Cawdor)	<i>Àllt Eireann</i> (Auldearn)	<i>Àird Chlach</i> (Ardclach)	<i>Cill Mhìcheil</i> (Kilmichael)	<i>Creichidh &amp; Bràigh Mhàrr</i> (Crathie & Braemar)
1881 <sup>24</sup>	570	212	239	60	199	260	259
1891	857	265	314	247	227	248	319
1901	652	182	204	156	141	184	198
1961	77	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1971	110	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1981	127	5	22	8	4	9	6
1991	162	10	6	15	0	2	9
2001	150	11	13	18	7	9	5

**Table 12: Number of Gàidhlig-speakers (aged 3 years and over) for selected civil parishes in Nàrann, Banbh & Bràighean Mhàrr according to available census data from 1881 to 2001<sup>25</sup>**

Census	Civil Parish						
	<i>Inbhir Nàrainn</i> (Nairn)	<i>Crothaigh &amp; Dail Chrois</i> (Croy & Dalcross)	<i>Caladar</i> (Cawdor)	<i>Àllt Eireann</i> (Auldearn)	<i>Àird Chlach</i> (Ardclach)	<i>Cill Mhìcheil</i> (Kirkmichael)	<i>Creichidh &amp; Bràigh Mhàrr</i> (Crathie & Braemar)
1881	10.6 %	33.4 %	22.3 %	4.6 %	17.8 %	24.2 %	16.1 %
1891	16.4 %	45.8 %	30.6 %	18.8 %	22.9 %	23.8 %	20.8 %
1901	11.4 %	31.9 %	22.1 %	12.1 %	18.3 %	17.8 %	13.6 %
1961	1.6 %	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1971	1.4 %	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1981	1.7 %	1.9 %	3.6 %	0.9 %	1.6 %	2.0 %	0.8 %
1991	2.1 %	3.1 %	0.8 %	1.4 %	-	0.4 %	1.1 %
2001	1.7 %	2.4 %	2.1 %	1.6 %	1.6 %	1.7 %	0.6 %

**Table 13: Gàidhlig-speakers as percentage of total population for selected civil parishes in Nàrann, Banbh & Bràighean Mhàrr according to available census data from 1881 to 2001**

<sup>23</sup> The remainder of this civil parish was part of Inverness-shire (see Vol. 23 of this series).

<sup>24</sup> The 1881 census question was concerned with “habitually” speaking Gaelic.

<sup>25</sup> Census information with local detail between 1911 and 1951 in particular was restricted to the “main” Gàidhlig-speaking counties. Therefore figures are not available for some of the “peripheral” civil parishes of the *Gaidhealtachd* for all years.



Census	Civil Parish					
	<i>Obar Neithich &amp; Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Abernethy & Kincardine)	<i>Albhaidh</i> (Alvie)	<i>Daothal &amp; Ràta Mhurchais</i> (Duthil & Rothiemurchus)	<i>Cinn a' Ghiùthsaidh &amp; Innis</i> (Kingussie & Insh)	<i>Lagan</i> (Laggan)	<i>Crombail, Inbhir Ailein &amp; Àlbhaidh</i> (Cromdale, Inverallan & Advie) <sup>26</sup>
1881	780	504	1,138	1,371	810	866
1891	838	439	1,416	1,280	666	1,237
1901	651	319	947	1,198	540	778
1911	487	243	667	1,046	436	n/a
1921	330	174	451	742	282	n/a
1931	204	131	297	599	226	n/a
1951	56	29	113	224	90	n/a
1961	40	22	67	159	57	n/a
1971	30	20	115	150	30	45
1981	25	19	76	106	25	48
1991	16	12	83	99	27	55
2001	20	6	50	119	9	52

Table 14: Number of Gàidhlig-speakers (aged 3 years and over) for the six civil parishes in Bàideanach & Srath Spè according to census data from 1881 to 2001

Census	Civil Parish					
	<i>Obar Neithich &amp; Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Abernethy & Kincardine)	<i>Albhaidh</i> (Alvie)	<i>Daothal &amp; Ràta Mhurchais</i> (Duthil & Rothiemurchus)	<i>Cinn a' Ghiùthsaidh &amp; Innis</i> (Kingussie & Insh)	<i>Lagan</i> (Laggan)	<i>Crombail, Inbhir Ailein &amp; Àlbhaidh</i> (Cromdale, Inverallan & Advie)
1881	51.0 %	71.3 %	68.4 %	69.0 %	88.3 %	23.8 %
1891	61.9 %	66.9 %	58.2 %	65.9 %	77.7 %	35.7 %
1901	50.9 %	59.8 %	47.5 %	54.6 %	73.2 %	24.1 %
1911	39.7 %	41.2 %	34.3 %	42.5 %	57.8 %	n/a
1921	23.3 %	26.0 %	18.3 %	27.3 %	42.5 %	n/a
1931	18.2 %	24.2 %	13.9 %	25.3 %	36.4 %	n/a
1951	5.1 %	5.9 %	5.0 %	9.4 %	16.0 %	n/a
1961	4.0 %	4.8 %	3.1 %	7.0 %	10.3 %	n/a
1971	3.4 %	5.0 %	4.0 %	6.5 %	7.6 %	1.8 %
1981	3.5 %	4.4 %	2.5 %	4.7 %	6.9 %	1.9 %
1991	1.8 %	2.3 %	2.2 %	3.9 %	5.8 %	1.9 %
2001	1.9 %	1.4 %	1.3 %	4.2 %	3.2 %	1.7 %

Table 15: Gàidhlig-speakers as percentage of total population for the six civil parishes in Bàideanach & Srath Spè according to census data from 1881 to 2001

<sup>26</sup> This civil parish was part of Morayshire until 1974. Information on Gàidhlig-speaking for census returns in 1911-1961 was not published in local detail for this county.



<b>Gaelic and Gaelic only between 1881 and 1971: Bàideanach</b>	Total Popula- tion	Gàidhlig and Eng- lish	Gàidhlig but no English
Census/Selected Area			
<b>1881 (Speaking “habitually” Gaelic) Bàideanach</b>	<b>6,805</b>	<b>4,603</b>	
<i>Obar Neithich &amp; Cinn Chàrdainn (Abernethy &amp; Kincardine) CP</i>	<i>1,530</i>	<i>780</i>	
<i>Albhaidh (Alvie) CP</i>	<i>707</i>	<i>504</i>	
<i>Daothal &amp; Ràta Mhurchais (Duthil &amp; Rothiemurchus) CP</i>	<i>1,664</i>	<i>1,138</i>	
<i>Lagan (Laggan) CP</i>	<i>917</i>	<i>810</i>	
<i>Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh &amp; Innis (Kingussie &amp; Insh) CP</i>	<i>1,987</i>	<i>1,371</i>	
----- <i>included in the above</i> -----			
<i>Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh (Kingussie) Vi</i>	<i>645</i>	<i>301</i>	
<i>Bail’ Ùr an t-Slèibh (Newtonmore) Vi</i>	<i>306</i>	<i>254</i>	
<b>1891 Bàideanach</b>	<b>6,802</b>	<b>4,318</b>	<b>105</b>
<i>Obar Neithich &amp; Cinn Chàrdainn (Abernethy &amp; Kincardine) CP</i>	<i>1,354</i>	<i>826</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Albhaidh (Alvie) CP</i>	<i>656</i>	<i>431</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Daothal &amp; Ràta Mhurchais (Duthil &amp; Rothiemurchus) CP</i>	<i>1,994</i>	<i>1,148</i>	<i>52</i>
<i>Lagan (Laggan) CP</i>	<i>850</i>	<i>640</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh &amp; Innis (Kingussie &amp; Insh) CP</i>	<i>1,948</i>	<i>1,273</i>	<i>13</i>
----- <i>included in the above</i> -----			
<i>Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh (Kingussie) Vi</i>	<i>740</i>	<i>394</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Bail’ Ùr an t-Slèibh (Newtonmore) Vi</i>	<i>364</i>	<i>265</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Drochaid Charra (Carrbridge) Vi</i>	<i>335</i>	<i>208</i>	<i>5</i>
<b>1901 Bàideanach</b>	<b>6,739</b>	<b>3,623</b>	<b>32</b>
<i>Obar Neithich &amp; Cinn Chàrdainn (Abernethy &amp; Kincardine) CP</i>	<i>1,279</i>	<i>644</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Albhaidh (Alvie) CP</i>	<i>533</i>	<i>318</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Daothal &amp; Ràta Mhurchais (Duthil &amp; Rothiemurchus) CP</i>	<i>1,995</i>	<i>938</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Lagan (Laggan) CP</i>	<i>738</i>	<i>532</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh &amp; Innis (Kingussie &amp; Insh) CP</i>	<i>2,194</i>	<i>1,191</i>	<i>7</i>
----- <i>included in the above</i> -----			
<i>Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh (Kingussie) Vi</i>	<i>969</i>	<i>399</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Bail’ Ùr an t-Slèibh (Newtonmore) Vi</i>	<i>478</i>	<i>324</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Drochaid Charra (Carrbridge) Vi</i>	<i>303</i>	<i>132</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh a Tuath (Kingussie North) CCED</i>	<i>628</i>	<i>435</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh a Deas (Kingussie South) CCED</i>	<i>577</i>	<i>357</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh (Baile Beag) (Kingussie Burgh) CCED</i>	<i>989</i>	<i>399</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Lagan a Tuath (Laggan North) CCED</i>	<i>429</i>	<i>326</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Lagan a Deas (Laggan South) CCED</i>	<i>309</i>	<i>206</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Albhaidh (Alvie) CCED</i>	<i>533</i>	<i>318</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Obar Neithich (Abernethy) CCED</i>	<i>1,279</i>	<i>644</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Daothal (Duthil) CCED</i>	<i>1,788</i>	<i>822</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Ràta Mhurchais (Rothiemurchus) CCED</i>	<i>207</i>	<i>116</i>	<i>1</i>
<b>1911 Bàideanach</b>	<b>6,979</b>	<b>2,870</b>	<b>9</b>
<i>Obar Neithich &amp; Cinn Chàrdainn (Abernethy &amp; Kincardine) CP</i>	<i>1,228</i>	<i>486</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Albhaidh (Alvie) CP</i>	<i>590</i>	<i>241</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Daothal &amp; Ràta Mhurchais (Duthil &amp; Rothiemurchus) CP</i>	<i>1,943</i>	<i>666</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Lagan (Laggan) CP</i>	<i>754</i>	<i>434</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh &amp; Innis (Kingussie &amp; Insh) CP</i>	<i>2,464</i>	<i>1,043</i>	<i>3</i>
<b>1921 Bàideanach</b>	<b>7,926</b>	<b>1,977</b>	<b>2</b>
<i>Obar Neithich &amp; Cinn Chàrdainn (Abernethy &amp; Kincardine) CP</i>	<i>1,416</i>	<i>330</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Albhaidh (Alvie) CP</i>	<i>670</i>	<i>173</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Daothal &amp; Ràta Mhurchais (Duthil &amp; Rothiemurchus) CP</i>	<i>2,458</i>	<i>451</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Lagan (Laggan) CP</i>	<i>664</i>	<i>281</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Cinn a’Ghiùthsaidh &amp; Innis (Kingussie &amp; Insh) CP</i>	<i>2,718</i>	<i>742</i>	<i>-</i>
<b>1931 Bàideanach</b>	<b>6,784</b>	<b>1,457</b>	<b>-</b>
<i>Obar Neithich &amp; Cinn Chàrdainn (Abernethy &amp; Kincardine) CP</i>	<i>1,123</i>	<i>204</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Albhaidh (Alvie) CP</i>	<i>541</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>-</i>



<i>Daothal &amp; Ràta Mhurchais</i> (Duthil & Rothiemurchus) CP	2,136	297	-
<i>Lagan</i> (Laggan) CP	621	226	-
<i>Cinn a'Ghiùthsaidh &amp; Innis</i> (Kingussie & Insh) CP	2,363	599	-
----- included in the above-----			
<i>Cinn a'Ghiùthsaidh (Baile Beag)</i> (Kingussie Small Burgh)	1,067	204	-
<b>1951 Bàideanach</b>	<b>6,814</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>5</b>
<i>Obar Neithich &amp; Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Abernethy & Kincardine) CP	1,099	56	-
<i>Albhaidh</i> (Alvie) CP	488	29	-
<i>Daothal &amp; Ràta Mhurchais</i> (Duthil & Rothiemurchus) CP	2,272	112	1
<i>Lagan</i> (Laggan) CP	562	90	-
<i>Cinn a'Ghiùthsaidh &amp; Innis</i> (Kingussie & Insh) CP	2,393	220	4
----- included in the above-----			
<i>Cinn a'Ghiùthsaidh (Baile Beag)</i> (Kingussie Small Burgh)	1,075	68	4
<b>1961 Bàideanach</b>	<b>6,472</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>4</b>
<i>Obar Neithich &amp; Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Abernethy & Kincardine) CP	1,008	40	-
<i>Albhaidh</i> (Alvie) CP	454	22	-
<i>Daothal &amp; Ràta Mhurchais</i> (Duthil & Rothiemurchus) CP	2,191	65	2
<i>Lagan</i> (Laggan) CP	551	57	-
<i>Cinn a'Ghiùthsaidh &amp; Innis</i> (Kingussie & Insh) CP	2,268	157	2
----- included in the above-----			
<i>Cinn a'Ghiùthsaidh (Baile Beag)</i> (Kingussie Small Burgh)	1,079	57	-
<b>1971 Bàideanach</b>	<b>6,850</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>*</b>

**Table 16: Number of persons speaking *Gàidhlig* between 1881 to 1971 – selected areas (civil parishes, electoral divisions, burghs) with significant numbers of "Gaelic only" census returns in *Bàideanach*.**



<b>Gaelic and Gaelic only between 1881 and 1901: Nàrann, Srath Spè, Banbh &amp; Bràighean Mhàrr</b>	Total Popula- tion	Gàidhlig and Eng- lish	Gàidhlig but no English
Census/Selected Area			
<b>1881 (Speaking “habitually” Gaelic) Nàrann</b> <i>Inbhir Nàrainn (Nairn) CP -</i> <i>Crothaigh (Croy) CP -- (Nairnshire Part)</i> <i>Caladar (Cawdor) CP</i> <i>Àllt Eireann (Auldearn) CP</i> <i>Àird Chlach (Ardclach) CP</i> ----- <i>Siorrachd Mhoirbheidh (Morayshire) -----</i> <i>Crombail, Inbhir Ailein &amp; Àlbhaidh (Cromdale, Inverallan &amp; Advie) CP</i> ----- <i>Siorrachd Bhanbh (Banffshire) -----</i> <i>Cill Mhìcheil (Kirkmichael) CP</i> ----- <i>Siorrachd Obar Dheathain (Aberdeenshire) -----</i> <i>Creichidh &amp; Bràigh Mhàrr (Crathie &amp; Braemar) CP</i> ----- <i>included in the above-----</i> <i>Inbhir Nàrainn (Baile Beag) (Nairn Small Burgh)</i> <i>Àllt Eireann (Auldearn) Vi</i> <i>Tom an t-Sabhail (Tomintoul) Vi</i> <i>Baile Grannda (Grantown-on-Spey) Vi</i>	9,481 5,368 634 1,070 1,292 1,117  3,642  1,073  1,611  4,165 363 478 1,374	1,280 570 212 239 60 199  866  260  259  300 44 79 183	
<b>1891 Nàrann</b> <i>Inbhir Nàrainn (Nairn) CP -</i> <i>Crothaigh (Croy) CP -- (Nairnshire Part)</i> <i>Caladar (Cawdor) CP</i> <i>Àllt Eireann (Auldearn) CP</i> <i>Àird Chlach (Ardclach) CP</i> ----- <i>Siorrachd Mhoirbheidh (Morayshire) -----</i> <i>Crombail, Inbhir Ailein &amp; Àlbhaidh (Cromdale, Inverallan &amp; Advie) CP</i> ----- <i>Siorrachd Bhanbh (Banffshire) -----</i> <i>Cill Mhìcheil (Kirkmichael) CP</i> ----- <i>Siorrachd Obar Dheathain (Aberdeenshire) -----</i> <i>Creichidh &amp; Bràigh Mhàrr (Crathie &amp; Braemar) CP</i> ----- <i>included in the above-----</i> <i>Inbhir Nàrainn (Baile Beag) (Nairn Small Burgh)</i> <i>Àllt Eireann (Auldearn) Vi</i> <i>Tom an t-Sabhail (Tomintoul) Vi</i> <i>Bràigh Mhàrr (Braemar) Vi</i> <i>Baile Grannda (Grantown-on-Spey) Vi</i>	9,133 5,222 579 1,026 1,315 991  3,463  1,043  1,534  4,014 364 506 482 1,423	1,894 852 259 313 244 226  1,230  245  319  503 66 103 111 464	16 5 6 1 3 1  7  3  -  4 1 1 - 4
<b>1901 Nàrann</b> <i>Inbhir Nàrainn (Nairn) CP -</i> <i>Crothaigh (Croy) CP -- (Nairnshire Part)</i> <i>Caladar (Cawdor) CP</i> <i>Àllt Eireann (Auldearn) CP</i> <i>Àird Chlach (Ardclach) CP</i> ----- <i>Siorrachd Mhoirbheidh (Morayshire) -----</i> <i>Crombail, Inbhir Ailein &amp; Àlbhaidh (Cromdale, Inverallan &amp; Advie) CP</i> ----- <i>Siorrachd Bhanbh (Banffshire) -----</i> <i>Cill Mhìcheil (Kirkmichael) CP</i> ----- <i>Siorrachd Obar Dheathain (Aberdeenshire) -----</i> <i>Creichidh &amp; Bràigh Mhàrr (Crathie &amp; Braemar) CP</i> ----- <i>included in the above-----</i> <i>Inbhir Nàrainn (Baile Beag) (Nairn Small Burgh)</i> <i>Àllt Eireann (Auldearn) Vi</i> <i>Tom an t-Sabhail (Tomintoul) Vi</i> <i>Bràigh Mhàrr (Braemar) Vi</i> <i>Baile Grannda (Grantown-on-Spey) Vi</i> <i>Caladar (Cawdor) CCED</i>	9,291 5,732 570 925 1,292 772  3,229  1,035  1,452  4,487 313 515 516 1,568 371	1,325 649 179 203 154 140  778  184  198  391 38 90 80 338 82	10 3 3 1 2 1  -  -  -  - 1 - - - 1



<i>Àlt Eireann (Auldearn) CCED</i>	313	38	1
<i>Àird Chlach (Ardclach) CCED</i>	214	44	-
<i>Gleann Fùirneis (Glenferness) CCED</i>	222	24	1
<i>Allt Mhìgeil (Meikle Burn) CCED</i>	336	72	-
<i>Muighnis (Moyness) CCED</i>	446	60	-
<i>Bràghaid (Brodie) CCED</i>	533	56	1
<i>A' Bhraclaich (Brackla) CCED</i>	318	50	-
<i>Cluanais (Clunas) CCED</i>	262	80	-
<i>Cill Ràthaig (Kilravock) CCED</i>	290	94	4
<i>Cantra (Cantray) CCED</i>	254	76	1
<i>Geadais (Geddes) CCED</i>	351	82	-
<i>Cill Droma (Kildrummie) CCED</i>	455	105	2
<i>Inbhir Nàrainn (Nairn) CCED</i>	439	71	1
<i>Crombail (Cromdale) CCED</i>	1,488	382	-
<i>Baile Grannda (Grantown-on-Spey) CCED</i>	1,741	396	-
<b>1911 Nàrann</b>	9,319	929	-
<b>1921 Nàrann</b>	8,790	537	-
<b>1931 Nàrann</b>	8,294	410	-
<b>1951 Nàrann</b>	8,284	140	-
<b>1961 Nàrann</b>	8,423	144	-
<b>1971 Nàrann</b>	11,050	175	*

**Table 17: Number of persons speaking *Gàidhlig* between 1881 to 1971 – selected areas with significant numbers of "Gaelic only" census returns in *Nàrann, Srath Spè, Banbh & Bràighean Mhàrr*.**



Number of persons and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers in former County Council Electoral Divisions (Inverness-shire) and the County of Nairn (Population aged 3 years and over)						
Area	1961/71 Code	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001
<i>Cinn a'Ghiuthsaich (Baile Beag)</i> (Kingussie (Small Burgh))	KI	57 5.5 %	80 7.5 %	44 3.7 %	40 3.3 %	34 2.3 %
<i>Lagan a Tuath</i> (Laggan (North) CCED)	LN	33 11.7 %	20 8.7 %	13 5.7 %	18 7.4 %	13 4.5 %
<i>Lagan a Deas</i> (Laggan (South) CCED)	LS	24 10.4 %	10 7.4 %	12 11.9 %	9 6.4 %	6 3.1 %
<i>Cinn a'Ghiuthsaich Tuath</i> (Kingussie (North) CCED)	KN	66 7.7 %	50 5.5 %	23 4.7 %	12 2.4 %	19 2.7 %
<i>Cinn a'Ghiuthsaich Deas</i> (Kingussie (South) CCED)	KS	36 13.2 %	20 7.7 %	60 6.6 %	56 5.8 %	62 6.5 %
<i>Albhaidh</i> (Alvie CCED)	AL	22 5.0 %	20 5.3 %	14 3.4 %	13 3.2 %	7 1.6 %
<i>Ràta Mhurchais</i> (Rothiemurchus CCED)	RM	28 2.8 %	65 4.1 %	41 2.8 %	43 2.6 %	30 1.3 %
<i>Coit a'Ghartain</i> (Boat of Garten CCED)	BG	4 0.9 %	20 4.2 %	6 3.4 %	11 3.2 %	5 1.6 %
<i>Daothal</i> (Duthil CCED)	DU	37 5.0 %	30 3.9 %	13 1.4 %	22 2.0 %	16 1.4 %
<i>Obar Neithich</i> (Abernethy CCED)	AN	38 4.5 %	30 4.1 %	25 4.4 %	13 2.6 %	18 2.6 %
<i>Baile Grannda (Baile Beag)</i> (Grantown-on-Spey (Small Burgh))	GS	n/a	30 2.0 %	42 2.6 %	46 2.1 %	51 2.4 %
<i>Crombail (Sgìreachd)</i> (Cromdale (District))	CR	n/a	15 1.8 %	11 1.8 %	6 0.9 %	3 0.4 %
<i>Inbhir Nàrainn (Baile Beag)</i> (Nairn (Small Burgh))	NB	77 1.6 %	110 1.4 %	123 1.8 %	163 2.2 %	151 1.8 %
<i>Nàrann Duthaich</i> (Nairn Rural)	NR	67 2.0 %	70 2.4 %	38 1.9 %	33 1.3 %	49 1.9 %

**Table 18: Number of persons speaking Gàidhlig and all Gàidhlig-speakers as share of population (aged three years and over) for pre-1975 county council electoral divisions according to census data from 1961 to 2001**



Number and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers <i>Bàideanach</i>							
Map No	Census output areas	1981		1991		2001	
01	<i>Dail Chuinnidh</i> (Dalwhinnie)	12	11.6 %	9	6.2 %	6	3.0 %
02	<i>An Lagan</i> (Laggan)	13	5.5 %	18	7.2 %	13	4.3 %
03	<i>Bail' Ùr an t-Slèibh</i> (Newtonmore) a	19	7.4 %	10	3.2 %	22	6.9 %
04	<i>Bail' Ùr an t-Slèibh</i> (Newtonmore) b	19	5.1 %	28	6.0 %	29	5.6 %
05	<i>Bail' Ùr an t-Slèibh</i> (Newtonmore) c	22	7.2 %	18	8.6 %	11	7.4 %
06	<i>Gleann Tromaidh</i> (Glentromie)	7	4.4 %	6	2.8 %	15	5.2 %
07	<i>Cinn a'Ghiùthsaidh</i> (Kingussie) a	18	2.5 %	19	2.9 %	16	2.4 %
08	<i>Cinn a'Ghiùthsaidh</i> (Kingussie) b	26	5.1 %	21	3.5 %	18	2.1 %
09	<i>Ceann na Creige</i> (Kincaig)	16	5.0 %	6	2.0 %	4	1.2 %
10	<i>An Aghaidh Mhòr</i> (Aviemore) a	34	3.0 %	34	3.0 %	22	1.8 %
11	<i>An Aghaidh Mhòr</i> (Aviemore) b	7	1.9 %	9	1.5 %	8	0.7 %
12	<i>Albhaidh</i> (Alvie)	14	3.3 %	13	3.1 %	7	1.6 %
13	<i>Drochaid Charra</i> (Carrbridge)	12	2.8 %	19	3.3 %	11	1.5 %
14	<i>Coit a'Ghartain</i> (Boat of Garten)	6	1.4 %	11	2.3 %	5	0.8 %
15	<i>Cinn Drochaid</i> (Nethy Bridge)	25	4.4 %	13	2.5 %	18	2.5 %
16	<i>Drochaid Thulnain</i> (Dulnain Bridge)	1	0.2 %	3	0.7 %	5	1.1 %

Table 19: Number and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers for census output areas in *Bàideanach* (Badenoch) according to data from 1981 to 2001

<i>Bàideanach: Gàidhlig-speaking in Age Groups (1971-2001)</i>								
Age group	1971 <sup>27</sup>		1981		1991		2001	
<b>0-2</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	1.1 %
<b>3-4</b>	-	-	1	0.8 %	12	6.5 %	3	1.5 %
<b>5-24</b>	65	3.2 %	51	2.6 %	51	2.3 %	47	2.5 %
<b>25-44</b>	80	4.8 %	56	3.2 %	54	2.3 %	50	2.1 %
<b>45-64</b>	80	5.0 %	68	4.8 %	72	3.7 %	65	2.6 %
<b>65 +</b>	120	11.7 %	75	7.8 %	48	3.9 %	39	2.5 %
<b>Total (3 years and over)</b>	345	5.3 %	251	4.0 %	237	3.1 %	204	2.4 %
<b>Born in Scotland</b>	n/a	n/a	239	4.4 %	218	3.6 %	187	2.9 %

Table 20: Number and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers in different age groups in *Bàideanach* (Badenoch) between 1971 and 2001

<sup>27</sup> Numbers in 1971 were rounded to the nearest 0 or 5.





Number and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers <sup>28</sup> Nàrann & Srath Spè							
Map No	Civil parish	1981		1991		2001	
51	<i>Crothaigh</i> (Croy)	5	1.9 %	11	3.1 %	11	2.4 %
52	<i>Caladar</i> (Cawdor)	21	3.6 %	6	0.8 %	13	2.1 %
53	<i>Allt Eireann</i> (Auldearn)	8	0.9 %	16	1.4 %	18	1.6 %
54	<i>Àird Chlach</i> (Ardclach)	4	1.6 %	-	-	7	1.6 %
55	<i>Inbhir Nàrainn</i> (Nairn)	123	1.7 %	163	2.1 %	151	1.7 %
56	<i>Baile Grannda</i> (Grantown-on-Spey) a	15	2.1 %	20	2.0 %	26	2.8 %
57	<i>Baile Grannda</i> (Grantown-on-Spey) b	15	3.5 %	12	1.7 %	12	1.9 %
58	<i>Baile Grannda</i> (Grantown-on-Spey) c	12	2.3 %	14	2.4 %	13	2.2 %
59	<i>Crombail</i> (Cromdale)	11	1.7 %	6	0.9 %	3	0.4 %

Table 21: Number and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers for selected areas in Nàrann (Nairn) and Srath Spè (Strathspey) between 1981 and 2001

Nàrann & Srath Spè: Gàidhlig-speaking in Age Groups (1971-2001)								
Age group	1971 <sup>29</sup>		1981		1991		2001	
<b>0-2</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	0.2 %
<b>3-4</b>	1	0.2 %	-	-	6	1.9 %	9	2.8 %
<b>5-24</b>	49	1.0 %	33	0.9 %	39	1.1 %	29	0.9 %
<b>25-44</b>	68	1.9 %	75	2.4 %	70	1.9 %	57	1.6 %
<b>45-64</b>	59	2.3 %	61	2.3 %	75	2.4 %	75	1.9 %
<b>65 +</b>	43	2.5 %	45	2.1 %	58	2.3 %	80	2.9 %
<b>Total (3 years and over)</b>	220	1.7 %	214	1.8 %	248	1.9 %	250	1.8 %
<b>Born in Scotland</b>	n/a	n/a	197	2.0 %	229	2.1 %	227	2.0 %

Table 22: Number and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers in different age groups in Nàrann & Srath Spè (Nairn & Strathspey) according to data from 1971 to 2001

<sup>28</sup> Statistical base is the population aged 3 years and over for 1981 and 1991 and the total population in 2001.

<sup>29</sup> Numbers in 1971 were rounded to the nearest 0 or 5. The \* for the age group between 3 and 4 means less than three Gàidhlig-speaking children and possibly zero. Distribution in age groups was calculated on the basis of county-wide data about Nairnshire and Morayshire – no local census information was published for these counties in 1971.



Map No.	Output Area	Knowledge of Gàidhlig in 2001					
		Young age (0-24)		All ages		Difference (Language viability indicator)	Born in Scotland (Language community indicator)
01	<i>Dail Chuinnidh</i> (Dalwhinnie)	-	-	9	4.6 %	- 4.6 %	4.4 %
02	<i>An Lagan</i> (Laggan)	4	5.9 %	22	7.3 %	- 1.4 %	10.0 %
03	<i>Bail' Ùr an t-Slèibh a</i> (Newtonmore) a	12	18.5 %	31	9.7 %	+ 8.8 %	11.7 %
04	<i>Bail' Ùr an t-Slèibh b</i> (Newtonmore) b	17	12.1 %	40	7.8 %	+ 4.3 %	8.3 %
05	<i>Bail' Ùr an t-Slèibh c</i> (Newtonmore) c	5	17.2 %	12	8.1 %	+ 9.1 %	8.9 %
06	<i>Gleann Tromaidh</i> (Glentromie)	6	9.2 %	19	6.6 %	+ 2.6 %	8.6 %
07	<i>Cinn a'Ghiuthsaich a</i> (Kingussie) a	3	1.7 %	23	3.4 %	- 1.7 %	4.4 %
08	<i>Cinn a'Ghiuthsaich b</i> (Kingussie) b	3	1.4 %	32	4.4 %	- 3.0 %	5.4 %
09	<i>Ceann na Creige</i> (Kincraig)	-	-	5	1.4 %	- 1.4 %	2.2 %
10	<i>An Aghaidh Mhòr a</i> (Aviemore) a	7	2.0 %	45	3.8 %	- 1.8 %	4.0 %
11	<i>An Aghaidh Mhòr b</i> (Aviemore) b	3	1.1 %	19	1.9 %	- 0.8 %	1.8 %
12	<i>Albhaidh</i> (Alvie)	2	1.4 %	15	3.3 %	- 1.9 %	4.7 %
13	<i>Drochaid Charra</i> (Carrbridge)	-	-	21	2.8 %	- 2.8 %	3.5 %
14	<i>Coit a'Ghartain</i> (Boat of Garten)	1	0.7 %	19	3.1 %	- 2.4 %	3.6 %
15	<i>Cinn Drochaid</i> (Nethy Bridge)	3	1.9 %	24	3.6 %	- 1.7 %	4.4 %
16	<i>Drochaid Thulnain</i> (Dulnain Bridge)	1	0.9 %	8	1.7 %	- 0.8 %	1.5 %

Table 23: Intergenerational viability and Gàidhlig-speakers born in Scotland in Bàideanach (Badenoch) according to census data of 2001



Map No.	Output Area	Knowledge of Gàidhlig in 2001					
		Young age (0-24)		All ages		Difference (Language viability indicator)	Born in Scotland (Language community indicator)
51	<i>Crothaigh</i> (Croy)	5	3.7 %	17	3.0 %	+ 0.7 %	4.3 %
52	<i>Caladar</i> (Cawdor)	4	2.0 %	20	3.2 %	- 1.2 %	3.0 %
53	<i>Àlt Eireann</i> (Auldearn)	4	1.2 %	28	2.5 %	- 1.3 %	3.0 %
54	<i>Àird Chlach</i> (Ardclach)	2	1.6 %	16	3.8 %	- 2.2 %	4.4 %
55	<i>Inbhir Nàrainn</i> (Nairn)	28	1.1 %	233	2.6 %	- 1.5 %	3.0 %
56	<i>Baile Grannda</i> (Grantown-on-Spey) a	6	2.1 %	31	3.3 %	- 1.2 %	3.7 %
57	<i>Baile Grannda</i> (Grantown-on-Spey) b	4	2.5 %	22	3.4 %	- 0.9 %	4.0 %
58	<i>Baile Grannda</i> (Grantown-on-Spey) c	3	2.3 %	16	2.7 %	- 0.4 %	3.5 %
59	<i>Crombail</i> (Cromdale)	2	1.0 %	11	1.4 %	- 0.4 %	1.6 %

**Table 24: Intergenerational viability and Gàidhlig-speakers born in Scotland in Nàrann & Srath Spè (Nairn & Strathspey) according to census data of 2001**



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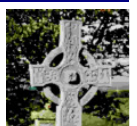
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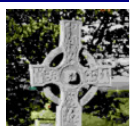
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### III. Some Valuable Comments about Census Information

The interpretation of census figures (derived statistics in particular) is not as straightforward as the pure numbers might suggest. The author has taken great pains to compare like with like and the calculated tables with greatest geographical detail and age group information as possible. But the differences of census questions, enumeration districts and information details between years are quite substantial. It is therefore very important to notice the following facts:

1. Questions on *Gàidhlig* have been raised in census enumerations in Scotland since 1881. In this first instance, however, it was asked whether the person "speaks Gaelic habitually" and the information was provided by the enumerator. From 1891 onwards this wording was changed into "speaks Gaelic" and the information was given by the head of the household. Accordingly direct comparison of the results of 1881 and later years is not possible.
2. Until 1971 it was asked whether the person "speaks Gaelic and English" or "speaks Gaelic but not English" (Gaelic only). Due to the simple necessity to survive in an English dominated society and the considerable impact of the school system in fact all *Gàidhlig*-speaking people were forced to become bilingual – with the notable exceptions of pre-school children and very old people. **These "Gaelic only" persons did not, however, present those who had *Gàidhlig* as their natural and preferred language nor were they the only mother tongue speakers.** This was already highlighted after the census 1911 by comments given by the then registrar general and the superintendent of statistics in the county report on Inverness (Census Office, Scotland (1912): "*When discussing the statistics of the Gaelic-speakers of Argyll we expressed an opinion that the reduction in the number of persons speaking Gaelic but unable to speak English should not be taken as a proof that the use of the language was being discontinued, and after making a similar study of statistics of the Gaelic-speakers of the islands of Inverness, we are in a position to repeat that opinion. One fact alone seems to justify such an expression, and that is that fully three-fourths of the children of less than school age, more than three but less than five, speak Gaelic exclusively. Such a condition seems possible only when Gaelic is the language habitually spoken in the homes, and this seems conclusive evidence of its wide and habitual use.*" Due to the ever increasing presence of English in the *Gàidhlig* community (mixed language marriages, in-migration of English only speakers, radio and television) more and more children under the age of 5 became bilingual and the census question proved to be irrelevant after the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. Because of the very small numbers involved and the ambiguity of the question no census enumeration took place after 1971 on persons who spoke *Gàidhlig* but no English.
3. No data are available on persons speaking *Gàidhlig* outside Scotland in the rest of the United Kingdom. Census returns are, however, recorded in Canada where the *Gàidhlig* language survived as a community language in a few locations of the province of *Alba Nuadh* (Nova Scotia) well into the 1940s.
4. During World War II no census was taken. Therefore no figures are available for 1941.
5. In 1971 the wording was changed from "speaks Gaelic" into "is able to speak Gaelic". This resulted in areas with low density of speakers in a substantial increase of *Gàidhlig*-speakers counted compared with 1961. These were essentially those who could speak *Gàidhlig* but did not have the opportunity to use it. In strongly *Gàidhlig*-speaking areas those who were able to speak *Gàidhlig* were also using the language. So in the islands and on the western seaboard the figures should have remained comparable with previous censuses.
6. In 1981 the population basis was changed from persons present on census night to usually resident persons. In the light of increased mobility of the population this change was inevitable.
7. From 1971 onwards additional questions were asked on the ability of people to read *Gàidhlig* or to write *Gàidhlig*.



8. In 2001 another question was introduced on the ability of a person to understand spoken *Gàidhlig*. This may have had an influence on some people with only a small command of the language to record themselves as being able to understand rather than able to speak the language. Without this choice some of them might have enlisted themselves or their children as *Gàidhlig*-speaking in order to be counted at all. This may explain the small decrease of speakers in the age group of 3 to 4 despite the strong efforts by the *cròileagan* movement in the preceding decade.
9. Additionally in 2001 for the first time all children under the age of 3 were recorded with their knowledge of *Gàidhlig*. In previous enumerations these children were not counted or (in 1891 and 1901) only a few children were enumerated in this age group. In many census publications percentages were calculated by using the enumerated *Gàidhlig*-speaking population (aged 3 years and over) on the basis of the total population. This led to slightly lower percentages than actually existed.
10. Census counts are not strictly exact. Apart from inevitable small enumeration errors the census authorities have introduced measures to keep returns anonymous. For example in 1971 figures in tables were rounded to the nearest 0 or 5. This fact represented a major obstacle in using small area statistics for further evaluation because of the small numbers involved. Comparable measures were taken in later censuses but with smaller overall “uncertainties” of +/- 1 in general.
11. All census material used and reproduced in this study is Crown Copyright. The use of this material in this study has been allowed under the licence no. C02W0003665.
12. Further information may be obtained by contacting the General Register Office for Scotland at <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk>.



## IV. List of Census Output Areas with Numbers and Placenames

The following lists provides detailed information on all postcode names included in individual census output areas and shows the abbreviations/numbers defining output areas in census statistics between 1961 and 2001.

Census Output Areas in <i>Bàideanach</i>				
	Census output area	Area Codes		
		1961 1971	1981 1991	2001
<b>01</b>	<i>Dail Chuinnidh</i> (Dalwhinnie), <i>Srath Mhathaisidh</i> (Strath-mashie), <i>Loidse Beinn Eallair</i> (Ben Alder Lodge), <i>Loidse Obar Ardair</i> (Aberarder Lodge), <i>Ceann Loch an Lagain</i> (Kinlochlaggan)	LS	20AA01 20AB01	60QT001225 60QT001314
<b>02</b>	<i>An Lagan</i> (Laggan), <i>Siorraith Mòr</i> (Sherramore), <i>Garbhghaisg</i> (Gergask), <i>Caisteal Cluanaidh</i> (Cluny Castle), <i>Bail' Ailean</i> (Balallan), <i>Caitleag</i> (Catlodge), <i>Gleann Truim</i> (Glen Truim)	LN	20AC06 20AC01B 20AC05 20AC07 20AC08	60QT001366 60QT001411 60QT001412
<b>03</b>	<i>Bail' Ùr an t-Slèibh</i> (Newtonmore)	KS	20AC01	60QT001547 60QT001548 60QT000470
<b>04</b>	<i>Bail' Ùr an t-Slèibh</i> (Newtonmore)	KS	20AC02	60QT000471 60QT001549 60QT000472
<b>05</b>	<i>Bail' Ùr an t-Slèibh</i> (Newtonmore)	KS	20AC03 20AC04	60QT000473
<b>06</b>	<i>Gleann Tromaidh</i> (Glentromie), <i>Soillearaidh</i> (Soillerie), <i>Baile Ùr Sgìre Innis</i> (Insch), <i>Inbhir Dhùghlais</i> (Inveruglass), <i>Lainn Ach' Lagain</i> (Lynachlaggan), <i>Toll a' Bhàthaidh</i> (Tolvah), <i>Coille Chunndainn</i> (Killiehuntly), <i>Druim a' Ghiuthsaich</i> (Drumguish)	KN	20AD09 20AD10	60QT000001 60QT000002
<b>07</b>	<i>Cinn a' Ghiuthsaich</i> (Kingussie)	KI	20AD01 20AD02	60QT000474 60QT001375 60QT000475 60QT000476 60QT000477
<b>08</b>	<i>Cinn a' Ghiuthsaich</i> (Kingussie)	KI	20AD03 20AD04 20AD05 20AD06	60QT001376 60QT000478 60QT000479 60QT000480 60QT001550
<b>09</b>	<i>Ceann na Creige</i> (Kincraig), <i>Drochaid Fhèisidh</i> (Feshie-bridge), <i>Bruach Spè</i> (Speybank), <i>Loidse Dùnachdain</i> (Dunachton Lodge), <i>Leth Allt</i> (Leault), <i>Lainn a' Chait</i> (Lynchat), <i>Baile Bhile</i> (Balavil)	KN	20AD07 20AD08	60QT001414 60QT001228 60QT001413 60QT001258





<b>10</b>	<i>An Aghaidh Mhòr</i> (Aviemore)	RM	20AE02 20AE03 20AE04	60QT000484 60QT000485 60QT000486 60QT000487 60QT000488 60QT000489 60QT001378 60QT001380 60QT001551 60QT001552 60QT001553 60QT001554
<b>11</b>	<i>An Aghaidh Mhòr</i> (Aviemore), <i>Creag Eileachaidh</i> (Craigel-lachie), <i>Slugan Grèanais</i> (Slugganranish), <i>Baile Mhuilinn</i> (Milton)	RM	20AE05 20AE06 20AE07	60QT000004 60QT000490 60QT000491 60QT000492 60QT000493 60QT001379 60QT001381 60QT001748 60QT001749
<b>12</b>	<i>Albhaidh</i> (Alvie), <i>Innis Riabhach</i> (Inshriach), <i>Drochaid na Cuingleum</i> (Coylumbridge), <i>Bad a'Ghiuthsaich</i> (Badaguish), <i>Baile Gheallais</i> (Pityoulish), <i>Inbhir Dhrùidh</i> (Inverdruie)	AL	20AE01 20AE08A 20AE08B 20AE09 20AE10 20AE11	60QT000003 60QT001382 60QT000005 60QT000006
<b>13</b>	<i>Drochaid Charra</i> (Carrbridge), <i>Fèith Mhòr</i> , <i>Uachdar Blàir</i> (Auchterblair), <i>Slochd</i> , <i>Uachdar Teanga</i> (Auchterteang), <i>Daothal</i> (Duthil)	DU	20AF01 20AF02 20AF03	60QT000007 60QT000008 60QT000009 60QT000010 60QT000011
<b>14</b>	<i>Coit a'Ghartain</i> (Boat of Garten), <i>An Rath Breac</i> (Raebreck), <i>Gartan Beag</i> (Gartenbeg), <i>Druim Òllaidh</i> (Drumollie)	BG	20AG01 20AG02 20AG03	60QT000012 60QT000013 60QT000014 60QT001415 60QT001416 60QT001417
<b>15</b>	<i>Cinn Drochaid</i> (Nethy Bridge), <i>Clachaig</i> , <i>An Tulach</i> (Tulloch), <i>Loch Gartain</i> (Loch Garten)	AN	20AH01 20AH02 20AH03	60QT000015 60QT000016 60QT000494 60QT000495 60QT000496 60QT001383 60QT001384



16	<i>Drochaid Thulnain</i> (Dulnain Bridge), <i>Gealaghaidh an Ear</i> (Easter Gallovie), <i>Sgiath Churr</i> (Skye of Curr), <i>Croit na h-Aibhne</i> (Croftnahaven), <i>Creagan an Iar</i> (Wester Craggan), <i>Inbhir Ailein</i> (Inverallan), <i>Mucarach</i> (Muckrach), <i>Creagan Uarach</i> (Upper Craggan), <i>Lagan an Iar</i> (Wester Laggan), <i>Achadh na h-Annaid</i> (Achnahannet)	DU	20AJ07 20AJ08	60QT000017 60QT000018 60QT000019
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**Table A-1: List of locations within individual census output areas and official numbers for different census dates for *Bàideanach* (Badenoch) – 1961-2001**



Census Output Areas in <i>Nàrann &amp; Srath Spè</i>				
	Census output area	Area Codes		
		1961 1971	1981 1991	2001
51	<i>Crothaigh</i> (Croy), <i>Cill Ràthaig</i> (Kilravock), <i>Baile a'Ghlaic an Ear</i> (Easter Glackton), <i>Ceann Locha an Ear</i> (Easter Lochend), <i>Fèith Caladair</i> (Bog of Cawdor)	NR	24AA03 24AC09	60QT000169 60QT000170 60QT001467 60QT001468
52	<i>Caladar</i> (Cawdor), <i>A'Bhraclaich</i> (Brackla), <i>Baile Ùr</i> (Newton), <i>Urchanaidh</i> (Urchany), <i>Gall Cantra</i> (Galcantray), <i>Am Blàr Mòr</i> (Blairmore), <i>Geadais</i> (Geddes), <i>Cnoc a'Phiobair</i> (Piperhill)	NR	24AC11 24AC12 24AC17	60QT000172 60QT000174 60QT001469
53	<i>Àllt Eireann</i> (Auldearn), <i>Muileann Ùr</i> (Newmill), <i>Baile an Ear</i> (Easterton), <i>Bruach an Fhraoich</i> (Muirside), <i>Bràghaid</i> (Brodie), <i>Achadh na Cloiche</i> (Auchnacloiche), <i>Cnoc a'Bhealaidh</i> (Broombank), <i>Muighnis</i> (Moyness)	NR	24AC16 24AC18 24AC19 24AC20A 24AC20B 24AC21	60QT000178 60QT000179 60QT000180 60QT000181 60QT000951 60QT000952 60QT000953 60QT000954 60QT001471
54	<i>Àird Chlach</i> (Ardclach), <i>Cnoc an Eòrna</i> (Knockaneorn), <i>Lainn an Tobair</i> (Lynethobair), <i>Achadh na Tobhaire</i> (Achnatore), <i>Muileann Beag</i> (Littlemill), <i>Slug a 'Choire</i> (Sluga-chorrie), <i>Òrd Breac</i> (Ordbreck), <i>Mìgeil Urchanaidh</i> (Meikle Urchany), <i>Achadh Ghoididh</i> (Fortnighty), <i>Flionais Mòr</i> (Fleenasmore), <i>Tir fo Grèine</i> (Tirfogrean), <i>Loidse Droighneachain</i> (Drynachan Lodge), <i>An Druim Mòr</i> (Drumore), <i>Dùn Eireann</i> (Dunearn), <i>Baile Bhlàir</i> (Balblair)	NR	24AC13 24AC14 24AC15	60QT000175 60QT000176 60QT000177
55	<i>Inbhir Nàrainn</i> (Nairn)	NB	24AC01 24AC02 24AC03 24AC04 24AC05 24AC06 24AC07 24AC08 24AC09 24AC10 24AC20A 24AC20B	60QT000171 60QT000173 60QT000892 up to 60QT000950 60QT001260 60QT001327 60QT001470 60QT001658 up to 60QT001664 60QT001732 up to 60QT001735



56	<i>Baile Grannda</i> (Grantown-on-Spey), <i>Allt Ruadh</i> (Redburn), <i>Carn Glas</i> (Cairnglass), <i>Buail Fhiodhaid</i> (Belivat), <i>Lagaidh</i> (Logie), <i>Ruigh Lugais</i> (Relugas)	GS	20AJ01 20AJ02	60QT000502 60QT000503 60QT000504 60QT000505 60QT000506 60QT001386 60QT001555 60QT001556
57	<i>Baile Grannda</i> (Grantown-on-Spey)	GS	20AJ03 20AJ04	60QT000507 60QT000508 60QT000509 60QT000510 60QT000511 60QT001387
58	<i>Baile Grannda</i> (Grantown-on-Spey)	GS	20AJ05 20AJ06	60QT000512 60QT000513 60QT000514 60QT001388 60QT001557 60QT001558
59	<i>Crombail</i> (Cromdale), <i>Àlbhaidh</i> (Advie), <i>Achadh a'Chroisg</i> (Auchroisk), <i>An Tòrr Mòr</i> (Tormore), <i>Dail a'Chapaill</i> (Dal-lachaple), <i>Leathandaidh</i> (Lethendry), <i>Baile Coiteir</i> (Cottar-town), <i>An Doire Roid Iarach</i> (Lower Derraid), <i>An Damhath</i> (Dava), <i>Loch nan Doirb</i> (Lochindorb), <i>Loidse Tulachain</i> (Tulchan Lodge), <i>Both Chrombail</i> (Boat of Cromdale), <i>Achadh na h-Annaid</i> (Achnahannet), <i>Drochaid Bhruthainn</i> (Bridge of Brown), <i>Drochaid Spè</i> (Speybridge), <i>Baile an Luig</i> (Ballinluig), <i>Tir Dubh</i> (Dirdhu), <i>Sliabhclachd</i>	CR	20AJ09 20AJ10 20AJ11 20AJ12 20AJ13 20AK01	60QT000020 60QT000021 60QT000025 60QT001339 60QT000022 60QT000023 60QT000024 60QT000025

**Table A-2: List of locations within individual census output areas and official numbers for different census dates for Nàrann & Srath Spè (Nairn & Strathspey) – 1961-2001**



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## VII. List of Abbreviations

There are a number of abbreviations used in the text which might not be known by every reader. Therefore this short list intends to facilitate better understanding:

CCED	County council electoral division
CP	Civil parish
CNSA	<i>Comhairle nan Sgoiltean Araich</i> : Gaelic playgroup association
<i>Comhairle nan Eilean</i> (CNE) – later: <i>Comhairle nan Eilean Siar</i> (CNES)	Official name of the Western Isles Council, the local government body of the Outer Hebrides (with abbreviations)
<i>Cròileagan</i>	Gaelic speaking playgroup
Fèis	Local art festival with normally some Gaelic courses
GLPS	“Gaelic Language for the Primary School”: Course as introduction of Gaelic as second language
GME	<i>Gàidhlig</i> -medium education
GMU	<i>Gàidhlig</i> -medium unit: Class(es) with <i>Gàidhlig</i> -medium education but as part of an English medium school
GROS	General Register Office for Scotland
LVI	Language viability indicator
LCI	Language community indicator
<i>Mòd</i>	Gaelic language gathering (conversation, song and music) comparable to the Welsh Eisteddfod
n/a	Information is not available
OA	(Census) output area: the smallest enumeration unit on which census data are available
P1	Primary school year 1
P2	Primary school year 2
S1	Secondary school year 1
S2	Secondary school year 2
<i>Sgoil Araich</i>	Gaelic speaking nursery school
<i>Sràdagan</i>	Gaelic speaking clubs for primary school children
Vi	Village according to census definition in 1881, 1891 and 1901





<b>Publication Schedule of the <i>Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Studies</i></b>		<u>Scheduled</u>	<u>Published</u>
<b>Vol. 01</b>	<b><i>Aird nam Murchan &amp; Loch Abar an Iar</i></b> (Ardnamurchan & West Lochaber)	October 2003	October 2003
<b>Vol. 02</b>	<b><i>Eilean Bharraigh</i></b> (Isle of Barra)	December 2003	November 2003
<b>Vol. 03</b>	<b><i>Uibhist a Deas &amp; Beinn a’Bhaoghla</i></b> (South Uist & Benbecula)	December 2003	December 2003
<b>Vol. 04</b>	<b><i>Iar Thuath Chataibh</i></b> (North-West Sutherland)	December 2003	January 2004
<b>Vol. 05</b>	<b><i>Uibhist a Tuath</i></b> (North Uist)	February 2004	January 2004
<b>Vol. 06</b>	<b><i>Na Hearadh</i></b> (Harris)	February 2004	February 2004
<b>Vol. 07</b>	<b><i>Eilean Leodhais: Na Lochan</i></b> (Isle of Lewis: Lochs)	March 2004	March 2004
<b>Vol. 08</b>	<b><i>Eilean Leodhais: Uig &amp; Carlabhagh</i></b> (Isle of Lewis: Uig & Carloway)	March 2004	April 2004
<b>Vol. 09</b>	<b><i>Taobh Siar Rois: Loch Bhraoin &amp; Gearrloch</i></b> (Wester Ross: Lochbroom & Gairloch)	May 2004	June 2004
<b>Vol. 10</b>	<b><i>Taobh Siar Rois: A’Chomraich, Loch Carrann &amp; Loch Aillse</i></b> (Wester Ross: Applecross, Lochcarron & Lochalsh)	May 2004	July 2004
<b>Vol. 11</b>	<b><i>An t-Eilean Sgùtheanach: Trondairnis, Diùirinis &amp; Minginis</i></b> (Isle of Skye: Trotternish, Duirinish & Minginish)	May 2004	July 2004
<b>Vol. 12</b>	<b><i>An t-Eilean Sgùtheanach: Port Rìgh, An Srath &amp; Slèite</i></b> (Isle of Skye: Portree, Strath & Sleat)	May 2004	August 2004
<b>Vol. 13</b>	<b><i>Eilean Leòdhais: An Taobh Siar &amp; Nis</i></b> (Isle of Lewis: Westside & Ness)	April 2004	April 2004
<b>Vol. 14</b>	<b><i>Eilean Leòdhais: Am Bac &amp; An Rubha</i></b> (Isle of Lewis: Back & Point)	April 2004	May 2004
<b>Vol. 15</b>	<b><i>Eilean Leòdhais: Steòrnabhagh</i></b> (Isle of Lewis: Stornoway)	April 2004	May 2004
<b>Vol. 16</b>	<b><i>Ile, Diùra &amp; Colbhasa</i></b> (Islay, Jura & Colonsay)	June 2004	August 2004
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<b>Vol. 18</b>	<b><i>An t-Oban &amp; Latharna a Deas</i></b> (Oban & South Lorn)	October 2004	October 2004
<b>Vol. 19</b>	<b><i>An Gearasdan &amp; Loch Abar an Ear</i></b> (Fort William & East Lochaber)	October 2004	October 2004
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<b>Vol. 21</b>	<b><i>Bàideanach, Srath Spè, Nàrann &amp; Bràighean Mhàrr</i></b> (Badenoch, Strathspey, Nairn & Braes of Mar)	November 2004	January 2005
<b>Vol. 22</b>	<b><i>Cataibh an Ear &amp; Gallaibh</i></b> (East Sutherland & Caithness)	March 2005	In preparation
<b>Vol. 23</b>	<b><i>Inbhirnis &amp; Loch Nis</i></b> (Inverness & Loch Ness)	April 2005	In preparation
<b>Vol. 24</b>	<b><i>Taobh Sear Rois &amp; An t-Eilean Dubh</i></b> (Easter Ross & Black Isle)	February 2005	In preparation
<b>Vol. 25</b>	<b><i>Dal Riada &amp; Cinn Tìre</i></b> (Mid Argyll & Kintyre)	May 2005	In preparation
<b>Vol. 26</b>	<b><i>Comhal, Siorrachd Bhòid &amp; Dùn Breatainn</i></b> (Cowal, County of Bute & Dumbarton)	June 2005	In preparation
<b>Vol. 27</b>	<b><i>Siorrachd Pheairt &amp; Sruighlea</i></b> (Perthshire & Stirling)	July 2005	In preparation

