

Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Studies¹

Vol. 22: *Cataibh an Ear & Gallaibh* (East Sutherland & Caithness)

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1st Edition

April, 2005

Executive Summary

This publication is part of a series dealing with local communities which were predominantly Gaelic-speaking at the end of the 19th 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.

Gaelic once was the dominant means of conversation in East Sutherland and the western districts of Caithness. Since the end of the 19th century the language was on a relentless decline caused both by official ignorance and the low self-confidence of its speakers. A century later Gaelic is only spoken by a very tiny minority of inhabitants, most of them born well before the Second World War. Signs for the future still look not promising. Gaelic is still being sidelined officially in the whole area. Local councilors even object to bilingual road-signs. Educational provision is either derisory or non-existent. Only constant parental pressure has achieved the introduction of Gaelic medium nurseries in Thurso and Bonar Bridge. The language would already be dead in northern Scotland without such grassroots support for the once dominant tongue.

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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 20th century². 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

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



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1 Introduction

The eastern part of *Cataibh* (Sutherland) and the former county of Caithness (in Gàidhlig: *Gallaibh* = Land of Strangers) are objects of this study. Whereas *Cataibh* is traditionally seen as belonging to the “Highlands” Caithness is widely considered as thorough “Lowland county” in speech and tradition. This is but only part of the truth as its western half had been part of the *Gaidhealtachd* for centuries – the dominance of Gàidhlig place-names there are ample testimony of this fact. The New Statistical Account of Scotland (1845) for example remarked: “Gaelic is spoken only in the higher parts of the county; in the other parts, the inhabitants, comprising three-fourths of the population, speak the ordinary language of the country, and their manners and habits are those of the lowland Scots.” The rural communities west of Thurso and Wick retained their Gàidhlig speech right until the 20th century. In the coastal villages and towns of *Cataibh an Ear* the language lingered on even after World War 1.

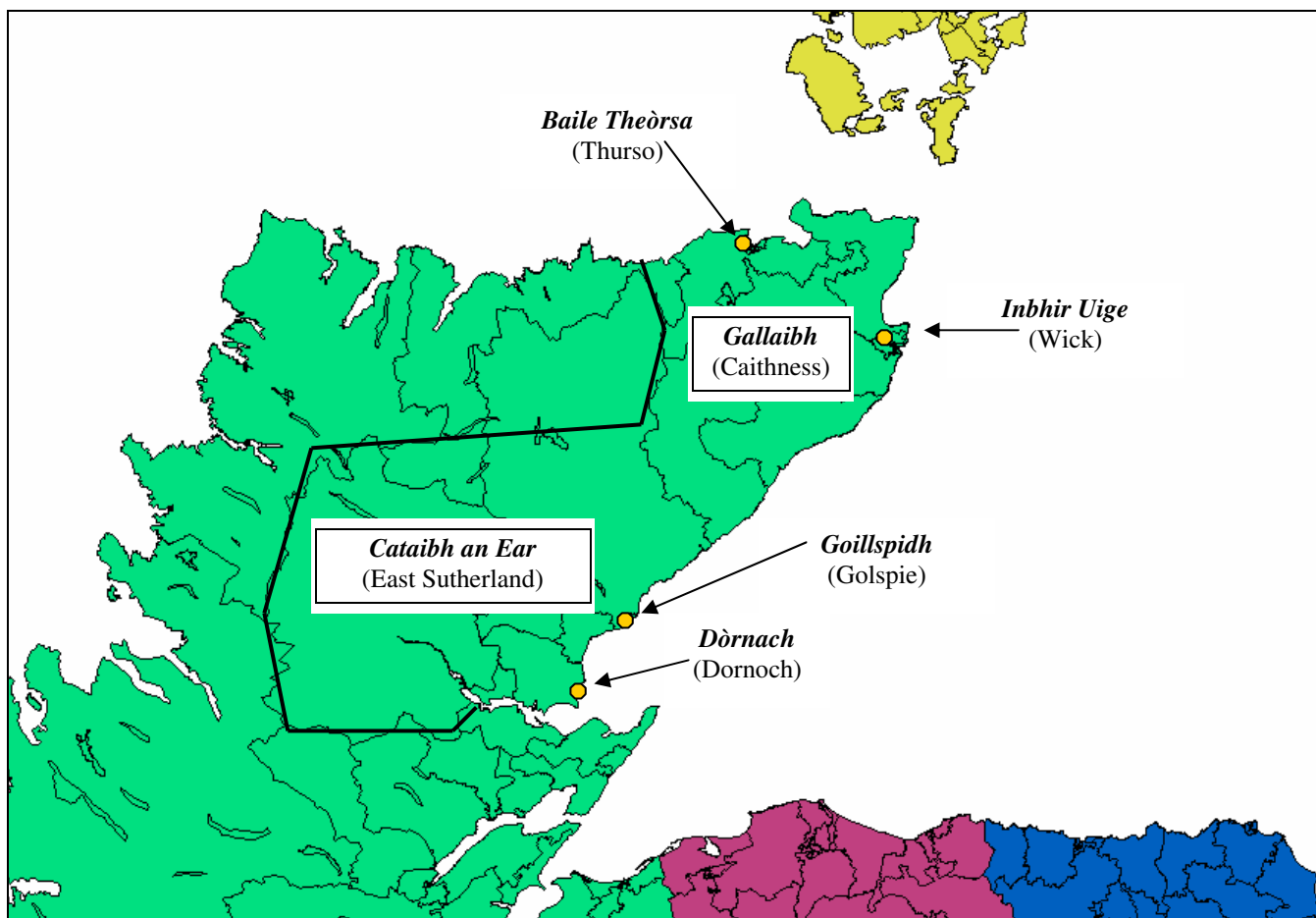
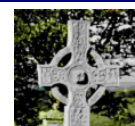


Fig. 1: Overview map of the investigation areas³

Geographically both areas comprise vast areas of open hill and moorland with a rather sparse population – in sharp contrast to the chain of small villages and towns in the agriculturally privileged coastal stretches on the North Sea. The population in 2001 was rather unevenly distributed over a land area of over 380,000 hectares. Some 10,000 people each lived in *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) and rural parts of *Gallaibh* (Caithness). The remaining 15,000 inhabitants lived in the two main Caithness towns of *Inbhir Theòrsa* (Thurso) and *Inbhir Uige* (Wick). In the not too distant past the economy was heavily relying on agriculture and fisheries. During the last decades a thorough economic restructuring took place with light industry and tourism emphasis in places like *Dòrnach* (Dornoch) and *Golspie* (Goill-

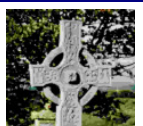
³ Digital boundaries courtesy of Ordnance Survey as part of the Geography Products by GROS for the 2001 census.



spidh) as well as construction and engineering industry in Wick and Thurso. Very prominent of course were the developments of the nuclear power installation at *Dùnraith* (Dounreay) on the north coast.

Historically Caithness and Sutherland had been counties on their own until local government reorganisation in 1974 merged them into the vast Highland Region administered in Inverness. At that time the parish of *Cinn Chàrdainn* (Kincardine) was transferred from the then Ross & Cromarty District to Sutherland District. In order to enable a consistent comparison between censuses this parish is considered as part of *Cataibh an Ear* for the purpose of this study.

So far progress for the *Gàidhlig* language in the areas covered by this study has been painstakingly low – in contrast to other parts of the local authority like for example *Taobh Sear Rois* (Easter Ross). The following short chapters will look into the historical development of the use of *Gàidhlig* in the area from the end of the 19th century until today – mainly highlighted by references to and analysis of population census results in local detail.



2 The Historical Background

The eastern part of *Cataibh* (Sutherland) and the western parishes of *Gallaibh* (Caithness) retained their *Gàidhlig* traditions until very recently. Whereas English got a foothold in larger townships like *Dòrnach* (Dornoch) and *Goillspidh* (Golspie) in the early 19th century *Gàidhlig* still remained dominant in most of the country. Official reports of parish ministers were, however, in most cases biased by their English convictions. A report about Dornoch Parish in 1834 for example tells us “*The vernacular language is still the Gaelic ... This language has, however, lost ground considerably during the last twenty-five years, owing to the influx to the parish, from various parts of the kingdom, of persons who speak the English language, but especially to the introduction of schools, first Gaelic and then English... The predilection for the Gaelic language is, however, still manifest .. the common people prefer to use it in their ordinary intercourse, and that larger congregations attend public worship during the Gaelic services ... Nevertheless the English is making rapid encroachments on our ancient language; and it is not improbable that, in the course of sixty or seventy years, the latter may be extinct*” (New Statistical Account of Scotland, 1845). This forecast proved to be not exactly precise but, unfortunately, pointed in the right direction (fig. 2 shows the temporal evolution of *Gàidhlig* speaking in the areas since 1881).

The same account gave also some hints about the “language boundary” between *Gàidhlig* and English in *Gallaibh* (Caithness) in the south-western parish of *Latharan* (Latheron) in 1840: “*The Gaelic language is generally spoken by the lower class of people throughout the greater part of the parish It is a singular circumstance that, for a long period, the burn of East Clyth seems to have formed the boundary between the Gaelic and English languages. On the east side of it, scarcely a word of Gaelic was either spoken or understood, and on the west side the English shared the same fate*” The 1881 census results proved that this division between language communities still existed half a century later.

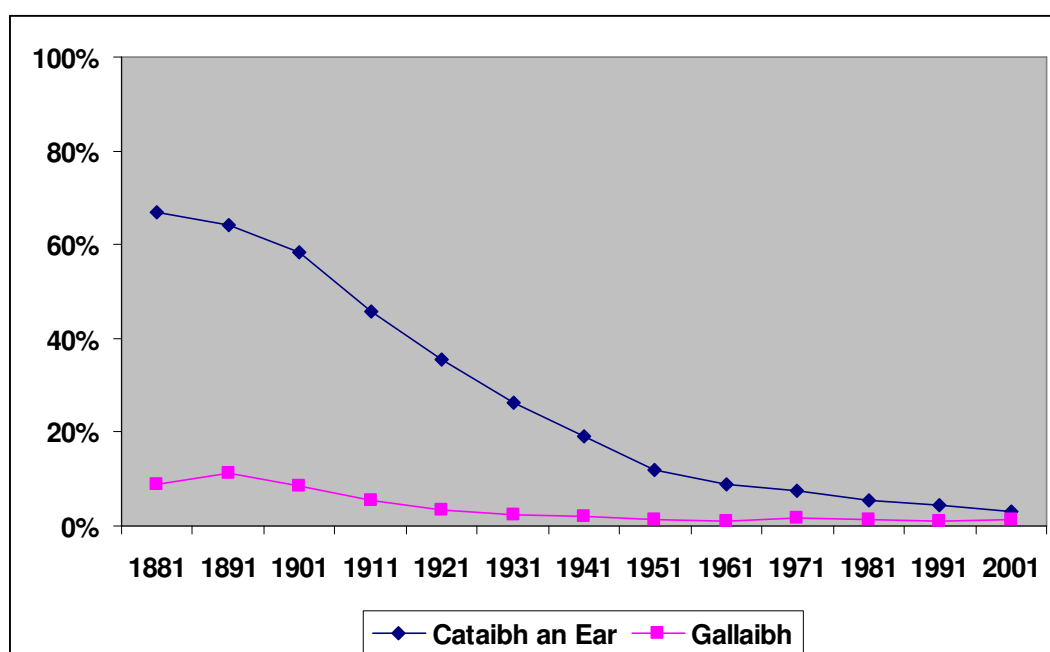


Fig. 2: *Gàidhlig*-speakers (aged 3 years and over) as percentage of total population between 1881 and 2001 in *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) in comparison with *Gallaibh* (Caithness)⁴

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



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

Within a period of just fifty years (1881-1931) *Gàidhlig* was to retreat at a very substantial speed in the whole investigation area. The number of speakers was to shrink to a quarter of its 1881 base (table 1). This was mainly caused by the failure of parents to pass the language over to their children and of course by an ignorant, sometimes openly hostile education policy. Details provided below are given separately for the two areas because circumstances were very different indeed in both counties.

<i>Cataibh an Ear & Gallaibh</i>						
Subject \ Census	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1931
<i>Gàidhlig</i> -speakers (3 years +)	13,262	12,968	10,862	7,693	5,209	3,582
% of total population ⁵	24.8 %	25.5 %	22.8 %	17.1 %	13.0 %	9.7 %

Table 1: Number of *Gàidhlig*-speakers (3 years and over) in *Cataibh an Ear & Gallaibh* (East Sutherland & Caithness) and percentage of total population speaking *Gàidhlig* during 1881-1931

***Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland):** The County of Sutherland had the honour to emerge as the most *Gàidhlig*-speaking county of all Scottish counties at the 1881 and 1891 censuses – well ahead of Ross & Cromarty, Argyll and Inverness-shire. This, however, was not due to strong enthusiasm by the large majority of *Gàidhlig* speakers or even an enlightened education policy by the county council. It is very worthwhile to remember the words of the then Inspector of Schools for Ross, Caithness and Sutherland Mr. D. Sime in 1878: “*I should regard the teaching of Gaelic in schools in any shape or form as a most serious misfortune*” (Campbell, 1945). In effect the first meaningful introduction of *Gàidhlig* in the school curriculum in this district was to be realised in the late 1990s!

Figure 3 illustrates the fate of *Gàidhlig* as community language in *Cataibh an Ear* from 1891 (some 75 % of the population spoke *Gàidhlig*) to 1931 when only about 20 % of the population spoke the language. Monolingual *Gàidhlig* speakers (pre-school children or elderly people) counted 306 in 1891; in 1931 just 4 were reported as speaking “Gaelic only” (see tables 19 to 21).

The local information in the census reports of 1881, 1891 and 1901 was very detailed. It is therefore worthwhile to look at the distribution of *Gàidhlig* speakers in the area starting in the north (table 2) with the fishing communities around *Bun Ilidh* (Helmsdale). It can clearly be seen that individual communities differed very much in their “Gaelic-ness” in this period. The difference between the north-eastern part of *Bun Ilidh* and its south-western communities is striking. Such high local variation in *Gàidhlig* speaking is repeated also further south. Relatively high proportions were recorded in the town of *Brùra* (Brora), its rural hinterland of *Clìn* (Clyne) and the inland parish of *Raoghard* (Rogart). On the other hand English had already made strong inroads in the town of *Goillspidh* (Golspie) and *Srath Ilidh* (Strath of Kildonan) whose *Gàidhlig* population had been effectively “cleared” from its land decades earlier. At the turn of the 19th century monolingual speakers of *Gàidhlig* were already a negligible quantity except perhaps in the town of *Brùra*.

⁵ The somehow low percentages are due to the fact that the more populous eastern parts of Caithness with the two major towns of Wick and Thurso were almost entirely English speaking.



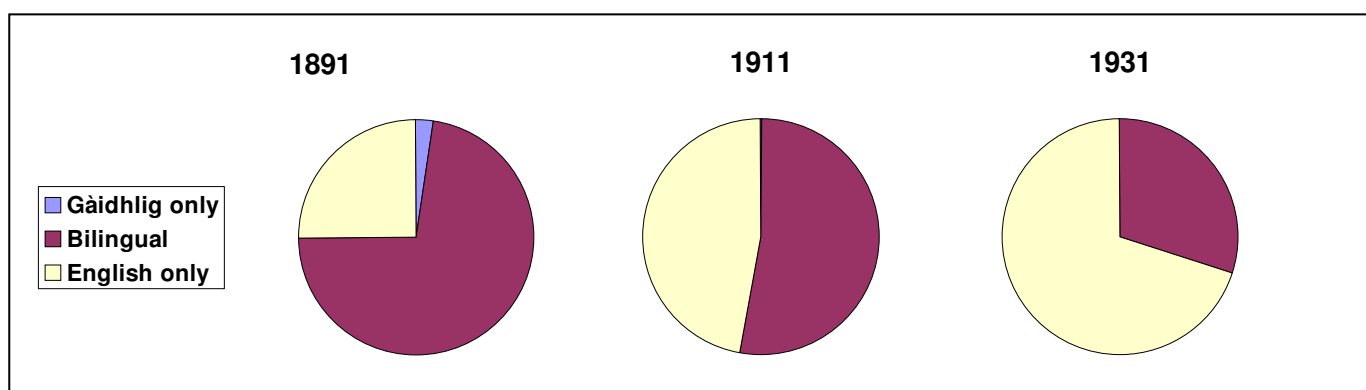


Fig. 3: Share of population speaking Gàidhlig and/or English in *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) according to census results in 1891, 1911 and 1931

Number of persons and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers in selected districts of <i>Cataibh an Ear</i> (<i>Taobh Tuath</i>) – 1881 - 1901					
Area ⁶	All persons speaking Gàidhlig ⁷			Monolingual share of all Gàidhlig-speakers	
	1881 ⁸	1891	1901	1891	1901
<i>Bun Ilidh an Ear</i> (East Helmsdale)	327 48.4 %	283 38.1 %	214 27.5 %	2 0.7 %	-
<i>Bun Ilidh an Iar</i> (West Helmsdale)	486 73.7 %	382 65.9 %	289 60.2 %	8 2.1 %	4 1.4 %
<i>Srath Ilidh</i> (Strath of Kildonan)	333 54.8 %	231 45.7 %	223 43.5 %	1 0.4 %	-
<i>Loth</i> (Loth)	213 36.5 %	269 50.9 %	183 40.8 %	1 0.3 %	1 0.5 %
<i>Brùra</i> (Brora)	404 75.9 %	367 68.0 %	423 77.2 %	26 7.1 %	13 3.1 %
<i>Clìn</i> (Clyne)	935 72.5 %	815 69.5 %	767 65.2 %	14 1.7 %	-
<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie)	465 48.6 %	469 50.2 %	517 50.5 %	5 1.1 %	21 4.1 %
<i>Goillspidh Dùthaich</i> (Golspie Rural)	277 46.2 %	244 47.3 %	207 32.3 %	1 0.4 %	-
<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart)	1,063 86.6 %	907 75.9 %	775 73.9 %	23 2.5 %	15 1.9 %

Table 2: Number and proportion of Gàidhlig-speakers including monolingual persons according to census data in northern parts of *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) for 1881, 1891 and 1901

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

⁷ Percentages of Gàidhlig-speakers above 50 % are denoted in bold figures.

⁸ Speaking “habitually” Gàidhlig.



Number of persons and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers in selected districts of <i>Cataibh an Ear (Taobh Deas)</i> – 1881 - 1901					
Area ⁹	All persons speaking Gàidhlig ¹⁰			Monolingual share of all Gàidhlig-speakers	
	1881 ¹¹	1891	1901	1891	1901
<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg)	931 68.7 %	799 68.3 %	718 66.4 %	21 2.6 %	3 0.4 %
<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch)	32 6.4 %	274 53.3 %	255 40.9 %	2 0.7 %	0 0.0 %
<i>Eurabol</i> (Embo)	383 96.7 %	427 90.7 %	483 88.5 %	48 11.2 %	24 5.0 %
<i>Dòrnach Dùthaich</i> (Dornoch Rural)	1,242 76.1 %	939 66.2 %	883 52.6 %	52 5.5 %	38 4.3 %
<i>Craoich</i> (Creich)	1,185 75.4 %	947 65.9 %	710 71.9 %	34 3.6 %	30 4.2 %
<i>Drochaid a' Bhanna</i> (Bonar)	210 67.1 %	184 51.7 %	188 51.2 %	–	2 1.1 %
<i>A' Chròic</i> (Croick)	179 82.9 %	161 83.9 %	131 69.7 %	12 7.5 %	1 0.8 %
<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine)	677 72.6 %	640 72.2 %	545 66.7 %	30 4.7 %	3 0.6 %
<i>Innis nan Lìon</i> (Rosehall)	448 68.7 %	318 55.1 %	252 52.4 %	5 1.6 %	–
<i>Srath Uachaill</i> (Strath Oykell)	260 80.2 %	280 82.6 %	208 80.0 %	21 7.5 %	3 1.4 %

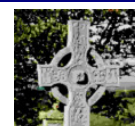
Table 3: Number and proportion of Gàidhlig-speakers including monolingual persons according to census data in southern parts of *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) for 1881, 1891 and 1901

In the southern part of *Cataibh an Ear* the language was even stronger during this period (table 3). Here also the 1881 census results appear in a new light considering the peculiar census question at the time. The county capital of *Dòrnach* (Dornoch) then reported only 6.4 % of its inhabitants speaking “habitually Gaelic”, whereas two miles away 96.7 % of villagers in *Eurabol* (Embo) did so! Data in 1891 corrected this picture substantially as *Dòrnach* then had a majority of townspeople “speaking Gaelic”. The decline of the language was everywhere apparent but locally very different. Some towns switched very swiftly to English (*Dòrnach*, *Drochaid a' Bhanna*) whereas in upland places like *Srath Uachaill* (Strath Oykell) or *Luirg* (Lairg) Gàidhlig still held its own until 1901. Here the education policy since 1872 took its toll only after the first generation of victims of “English only” education had learned the lesson and stopped speaking Gàidhlig to their offspring.

⁹ Ecclesiastical sub-division/registration district/ burgh/town/village/island or part thereof.

¹⁰ Percentages of Gàidhlig-speakers above 50 % are denoted in bold figures.

¹¹ Speaking “habitually” Gàidhlig.



Most of the last “native” speakers in *Cataibh an Ear* were born in close-knit fishing communities on the North Sea coast, notably of course in *Eurabol* (Embo). According to Nancy Dorian (1978) these speakers belonged to the generation born shortly after the 1st World War. Census results for civil parishes between 1911 and 1931 (tables 20 and 21) testify the decline of the language even in rural areas. In 1921 no parish was left with a *Gàidhlig* speaking majority. The highest percentages still were found in *Raoghard* (48.3 %), *Cinn Chàrdainn* (43.0 %) and *Luirg* (42.1 %). Separate figures for the small burgh of *Dòrnach* became available in 1931 showing just 83 out of 725 inhabitants speaking *Gàidhlig* in the county town. On the other hand 43.4 % of inhabitants still spoke *Gàidhlig* in the remaining part of the civil parish at the dawn of World War II. This included of course the fishing village of *Eurabol* (Embo).

Gallaibh (Caithness): Most of the inhabitants of Caithness considered (and still consider) themselves as “lowland Scots” having really nothing in common with “Highland” i.e. *Gàidhlig* speaking tradition. The *Gàidhlig* language of course has never been (or reportedly has never been) spoken to a considerable extent east of a line drawn from *Baile Theòrsa* (Thurso) to *Inbhir Uige* (Wick). But the language frontier divided the county into a *Gàidhlig* speaking area in the west and an English speaking (formerly Norse speaking) part to the east. The people living in the vast and sparsely populated parishes of *Meaghrath* (Reay), *Hacraig* (Halkirk) and *Latharan* (Latheron) had been described in various publications in the mid 19th century as overwhelmingly *Gàidhlig*-speaking. Based on John Murray’s “*Dialect of the Southern Counties of Scotland*” (1873) it was claimed that “*the language boundary emerges from the North Sea at Clyth Ness, Caithness. It proceeds overland to Harpsdale, through Halkirk to the river Forss, which it follows to the sea*” (Warrack, 1911).

The local detail of census results in 1881-1901 proved beyond doubt that parts of *Gallaibh* (Caithness) were still part of the *Gaidhealtachd* (table 4). The parishes of *Latharan* (Latheron) in the south and *Meaghrath* (Reay) in the north still delivered percentages of *Gàidhlig*-speakers well beyond the 30 % mark. The district of *Bearghdal* (Berriedale) on the south-western border towards *Cataibh* (Sutherland) had even 45 % of inhabitants “speaking habitually Gaelic” in 1881. The areas around *Liabost* (Lybster) and *Hacraig* (Halkirk) were in an intermediate state in this period – language “death” had not yet been accomplished. On the other hand the people in the towns and in all eastern Caithness did speak nothing but their Scots dialect. Because of the large population of the anglicised towns Wick and Thurso the county-wide percentage of *Gàidhlig* speakers did look comparatively low. It stood at 11 % with still 76 people speaking “Gaelic only” in 1891 (table 22). The vast majority of these (61) were counted in the south-western parish of *Latharan* (Latheron).

The number of speakers, however, was shrinking very rapidly census after census. The reason for this was highlighted by J. Patten MacDougall, the Registrar General of the 1911 Census (Scotland, Census Office, 1912): “*Persons with knowledge of Gaelic in the County of Caithness are found to number 1,685 ... Of these 1,248 were born in Caithness, 273 in Sutherland, 77 in Ross and Cromarty, and 87 elsewhere. Of the 1,685 Gaelic speakers, all but three are returned as able to speak English in addition to Gaelic. By an examination of the age distribution of the Gaelic speakers, it is found that only 22 of them are less than 20 years of age, which suggests that the Gaelic language cannot be in habitual use, for if such were the case large numbers of the younger generation would be found to have a knowledge of it*”. This meant that almost all *Gàidhlig* speakers in the county were born before 1891 and inter-generational transmission of the language had effectively seized well before. With the subsequent passing of generation after generation *Gàidhlig* was destined to disappear swiftly in the area. Census enumerations afterwards confirmed only the inevitable decline of the language in *Gallaibh* (Caithness) with just 633 speakers returned in 1931 (table 23). From this time onwards *Gàidhlig* place-names were the only relics of cultural diversity in Caithness.



Number of persons and percentage of <i>Gàidhlig</i> -speakers in selected districts of <i>Gallaibh</i> – 1881 - 1901					
Area ¹²	All persons speaking <i>Gàidhlig</i> ¹³			Monolingual share of all <i>Gàidhlig</i> -speakers	
	1881 ¹⁴	1891	1901	1891	1901
<i>Meaghrath</i> (Reay)	477 39.8 %	409 34.6 %	269 27.6 %	6 1.5 %	–
<i>Inbhir Theòrsa</i> (Thurso)	216 5.3 %	445 7.6 %	384 7.1 %	1 2.2 %	2 0.5 %
<i>Hacraig</i> (Halkirk)	253 9.4 %	507 19.8 %	360 15.5 %	3 0.6 %	4 1.1 %
<i>A'Bhatan</i> (Watten)	167 11.9 %	118 8.5 %	71 5.8 %	–	–
<i>Bearghdal</i> (Berriedale)	534 45.0 %	473 42.5 %	339 34.0 %	8 1.7 %	6 1.8 %
<i>Latharan</i> (Latheron)	1,387 29.8 %	876 43.2 %	610 33.3 %	48 5.5 %	3 0.5 %
<i>Liabost</i> (Lybster)	23 2.8 %	730 26.5 %	423 17.7 %	5 0.7 %	2 0.5 %
<i>Inbhir Uige</i> (Wick)	27 1.0 %	233 3.6 %	182 2.9 %	1 0.4 %	1 0.5 %
<i>Baile Phulteney</i> (Pulteneytown)	50 1.0 %	156 2.8 %	128 2.5 %	2 1.3 %	1 0.8 %

Table 4: Number and proportion of *Gàidhlig*-speakers including monolingual persons according to census data in western parts of *Gallaibh* (Caithness) for 1881, 1891 and 1901

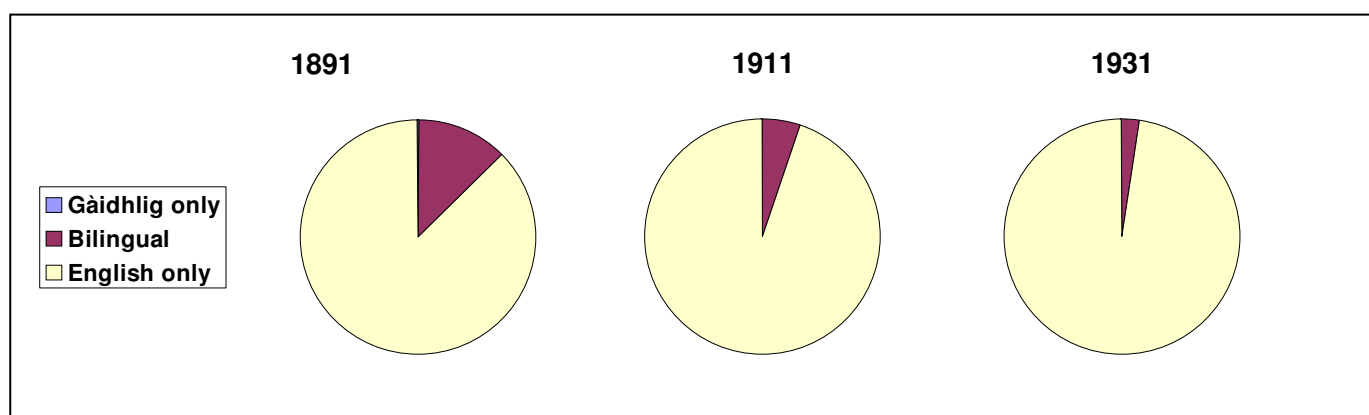


Fig. 4: Share of population speaking *Gàidhlig* and/or English in *Gallaibh* (Caithness) according to census results in 1891, 1911 and 1931

¹² Ecclesiastical sub-division/registration district/ burgh/town/village/island or part thereof.

¹³ Percentages of *Gàidhlig*-speakers above 50 % are denoted in bold figures.

¹⁴ Speaking “habitually” *Gàidhlig*.



2.2 Developments in the late 20th century (Census 1951–2001)

Between 1931 and 1951 the number of Gàidhlig-speakers in the combined area was cut by almost 60 %; the population share fell from 9.7 % to 4.7 % in the area. The history of indifference and neglect was to repeat itself in *Cataibh an Ear* in the coming decades – even worse: ignorance towards Gàidhlig prevailed in the “lowland county” of *Gallaibh* (Caithness).

***Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland):** The language strength differed of course from parish to parish in the first census after the war (tables 12 to 15). Main strongholds in 1951 were the rural parts of *Dòrnach* (including *Eurabol* (Embo) village) with 23.5 % of Gàidhlig speakers; *Raoghard* (18.4 %) and *Cinn Chàrdainn* (16.7 %) followed in this ranking. Most of these speakers belonged to the older generation, however, and almost no children were raised in Gàidhlig speaking families. A report on Gàidhlig-speaking schoolchildren (Scottish Council for Research in Education, 1961) failed to find a single primary school pupil with Gàidhlig as first or preferred language in the eastern part of the County of Sutherland. This was a worrying result especially considering that some parents still spoke Gàidhlig at home. 275 primary pupils attended the first primary stages P1 and P2 in east coast schools in 1957/58. 6 pupils had both parents speaking Gàidhlig; further 26 lived in families where either the father or the mother spoke Gàidhlig! In the two secondary schools (*Dòrnach* and *Goillspidh*) some 28 first year students of 231 had some knowledge of Gàidhlig: Four were classified as Gàidhlig first language speakers and further 6 could hold simple conversations in the language. It is highly probable that the majority (maybe all) of these originated from the communities on the west coast. So the future of Gàidhlig in these locations looked very bleak indeed.

In 1961 the picture became even gloomier (as expected) with census percentages running in single figures in almost the whole area. A slight exception was the 22.1 % figure of Gàidhlig speakers in the CCED (County Council Electoral Division) of Dornoch East (table 24) incorporating *Eurabol* (Embo). Later a special scientific report (Dorian, 1978) mentioned substantial numbers of “native” Gàidhlig speakers in the traditional fishing villages of *Brùra* (Brora), *Goillspidh* (Golspie) and *Eurabol* (Embo) in the 1960s. Whereas the language was only spoken by a small number of older inhabitants in *Brùra* and *Goillspidh*, *Eurabol* (Embo) still was a partly Gàidhlig-speaking community. In 1963-64 Nancy Dorian took a personal census of local bilingual Gàidhlig speakers in these three locations. In *Brùra* she counted 43 speakers (3.6 %) and in *Goillspidh* 54 (4.6 %) with an average age of about 60. In the case of *Eurabol* on the other hand 105 speakers were counted (38.2 %) which meant nearly half of the adult population was Gàidhlig-speaking in 1963-64. “Only in Embo was Gaelic regularly heard in the streets and in the shops, and only the Embo population still had Gaelic church services” (Dorian, 1978).

<i>Cataibh an Ear</i>: Administrative Areas in 1971 Census (Gàidhlig Speaking at Different Ages)	Age groups			
	3 – 14		65 +	
	Pop.	G. Sp.	Pop.	G. Sp.
<i>Dòrnach</i> (<i>Baile Beag</i>) (Dornoch Small Burgh)	165	-	155	10
<i>Dòrnach & Craoich</i> (Dornoch & Creich District)	360	5	425	95
<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine County Council Electoral Division)	180	-	125	20
<i>Goillspidh, Raoghard & Luirg</i> (Golspie, Rogart & Lairg District)	685	5	455	90
<i>Srath Ilidh, Loth & Clìn</i> (Kildonan, Loth & Clyne District)	710	20	450	40

Table 5: Population and number of Gàidhlig-speakers in the age groups 3-14 and 65+ for administrative areas in *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) in 1971



Generally, however, nothing really happened in the years to come. Accordingly the census 1971 saw the number of speakers plummeting to a new record low. The fact of an ageing language group was clearly verified in the results for different age groups (tables 5 and 25).

In the 1970s at last the changing attitudes towards the language were also reaching *Cataibh* (Sutherland). A private initiative launched a series of school interviews (*Gairm*, 1978) where parents were asked whether or not they were in favour of having Gàidhlig lessons for their children. An overwhelming majority came out in favour. In *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland)¹⁵ this meant a staggering figure of 328 parents of 494 families (66.4 %) were in favour of Gàidhlig as part of the curriculum in their local primary school! Afterwards some token teaching of Gàidhlig started in north-western parts of the county; *Cataibh an Ear*, however, was left out in the cold again.

<i>Cataibh an Ear & Gallaibh</i>						
Subject \ Census	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001
Gàidhlig-speakers (3 years +)	1,492	1,148	1,070	856	708	583
% of total population	4.7 %	3.1 %	3.1 %	2.4 %	2.2 %	1.6 %

Table 6: Number of Gàidhlig-speakers (3 years and over) in *Cataibh an Ear & Gallaibh* (East Sutherland & Caithness) and percentage of total population speaking Gàidhlig during 1951-2001

From 1981 onwards census information became more and more detailed. Accordingly the picture of the Gàidhlig presence in different locations shed more light on the state of the language which Highland Region inherited from Sutherland County after local government reorganisation in 1974. Census output areas (table 25) varied in their incidence of Gàidhlig speakers quite considerably. Not unexpected *Eurabol* had the highest percentage of speakers at 24.1 %. Looking at the age group distribution (fig. 5 and table 26), however, it was clear, that only a handful of speakers was aged below 25.

The next decade was also a lost decade as far as Gàidhlig in *Cataibh an Ear* was concerned. The start of the “Gaelic Renaissance” with the first *cròileagan* and Gàidhlig medium classes did bypass the area without any lasting impact. The census 1991 recorded just 405 Gàidhlig speakers; a century ago 8,822 people had been returned as speaking the local tongue! Even worse: The “generation of the future” (those aged below 25) consisted of only 32 youngsters. Predicting the fate of Gàidhlig in the area was a simple task indeed! Results for census output areas were again depressing (table 25). It is, however, worth noting that both enumeration areas in *Eurabol* (Embo) had still impressive numbers of speakers with 31.0 % and 16.4 % as share of population.

In the 1990s a few activities commenced at last to improve the state of Gàidhlig in eastern parts of *Cataibh*. In 1993 a “Gaelic Development Plan for South-East Sutherland” was outlined by a local working group. A commercial highlight at that time was the return of the *Mòd Nàiseanta* (National Mod) to Golspie in 1995. It did not, however, have a lasting impact apart from a few bilingual street-signs in the town. On the contrary, Gàidhlig second language provision at Golspie High School seized when pupils from the west coast started to receive their secondary education in *Ulapul* (Ullapool) or *Ceann Loch Biorbhaidh* (Kinlochbervie). This had not been a very successful offer anyway. For example just 4 pupils received tuition as Gàidhlig learners in the school year 1995/96! Proud Dornoch Academy, of course, had never bothered to think of introducing the local language in the curriculum.

¹⁵ All local primary schools took part in this survey apart from *Bun Ilidh* (Helmsdale).



Nonetheless grassroots activities began to show effects in *Cataibh an Ear*. Adult classes for learners became increasingly popular, especially in the new Gaelic college of *An Ceathramh* in *A'Mhuigh* (Muie) and the last remaining *Gàidhlig* stronghold of *Eurabol* (Embo). In the latter a few local children became active in a *sràdagan* group which appeared successfully in a number of local and national mods. Further cultural evidence of a growing interest in local music was the founding of *Fèis Chataibh*, which annually provided tuition in traditional music and *Gàidhlig* singing. Local authority support, however, remained very lukewarm and inefficient. The introduction of half-hourly lessons (per week!) in the small primary schools of *Innis Lìon* (Rosehall) and *Raoghard* (Rogart) was prevented by the inability of Highland Council to find a travel expense budget for the itinerant teacher! Notwithstanding parents were still content to find some *Gàidhlig* education for their offspring. A *cròileagan* was founded in *Raoghard* (Rogart) and especially parents in *Luirg* (Lairg) and *Drochaid a'Bhanna* (Bonar Bridge) began to campaign for a *Gàidhlig* medium nursery (and eventually a GMU at Bonar primary school) in the late 1990s. In the meantime some parents decided not to wait any longer: They sent their children across the Dornoch Firth instead to attend the GMU in nearby *Baile Dhubhthaich* (Tain).

All these small initiatives could not prevent a further reduction in the number of speakers until 2001. The whole district showed no signs of recovery in the census returns. The generation of “native” speakers dwindled by the day and a significant replacement was not in sight. In figure 5 the temporal evolution of the population share of *Gàidhlig* speakers is clearly outlined. More details of the 2001 census results are provided in chapter 2 of this study.

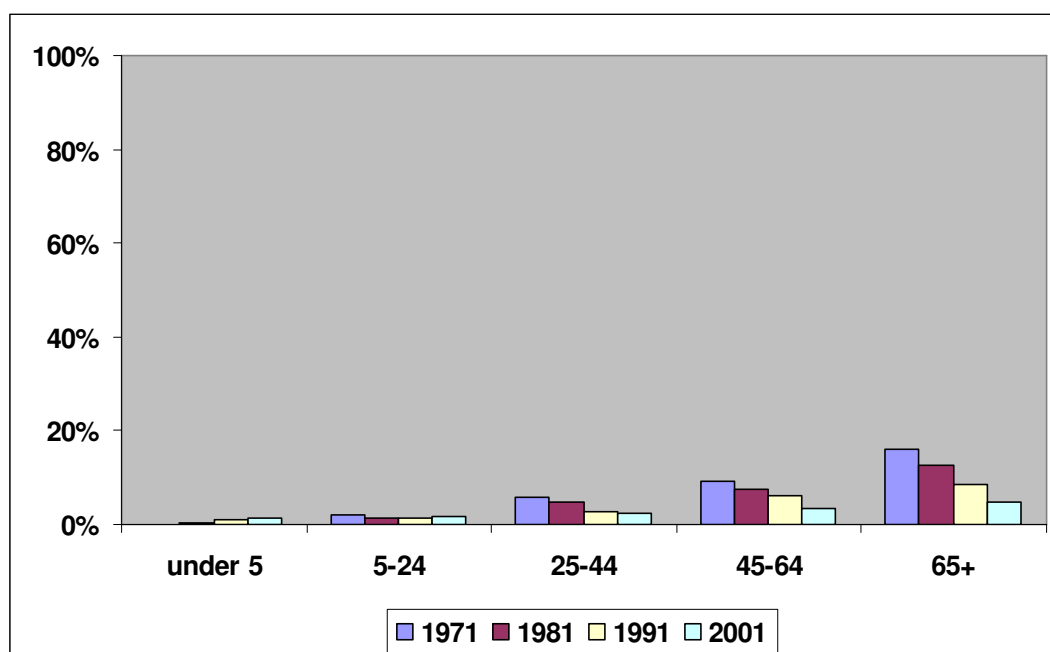


Fig. 5: Percentage of *Gàidhlig*-speakers in different age groups between 1971 and 2001 – *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland)¹⁶

¹⁶ Under 5: *Gàidhlig* abilities in the age group 3-4 until 1991, in 2001 in all age groups 0-4.



Gallaibh (Caithness): The temporal evolution of events in Caithness since World War II can be described in simple terms: There was virtually none. Census results between 1951 and 2001 across the board reported almost negligible numbers of *Gàidhlig* speakers in *Gallaibh* (Caithness). No locality (table 26) had any number of speakers worth mentioning and the age distribution (table 27) equally showed no surprises.

In reality the first significant activities started as late as 1996 when the first *cròileagan* opened in *Baile Theòrsa* (Thurso). In 1998 Thurso parents visited the GMU in *Tunga* (Tongue) on the northern coast of *Cataibh* (Sutherland) to see for themselves whether this kind of education was best for their children. In the same year a local authority *Gàidhlig* nursery opened its doors in the town! Since 1999 parents were waiting for the GMU to start but sadly no suitable teacher applied for the post so far. So welcome depression in Scotland's northern province again!

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

As could be expected in areas with no tradition of formal *Gàidhlig* education speakers of the language were overwhelmingly not accustomed to read or even write in their mother tongue. The census in 1971 for the first time sought information about the ability of *Gàidhlig* speakers to read or write the language. Results (tables 7 and 8) found just 30 % of speakers able to read and around 20 % able to write *Gàidhlig* in both areas. The ability to write *Gàidhlig* was least common in the older generation who had acquired the language naturally at their mothers' knees – percentages just reached 10 % in this age group. No wonder when *Gàidhlig* at school would have been an alien experience in their younger days.

	Number of <i>Gàidhlig</i> -speakers with ability to read <i>Gàidhlig</i>				Percentage of <i>Gàidhlig</i> -speakers with ability to read <i>Gàidhlig</i>			
	1971	1981	1991	2001	1971	1981	1991	2001
<i>Cataibh an Ear</i> (East Sutherland)	205	165	157	166	31.1 %	32.6 %	37.1 %	58.0 %
<i>Gallaibh</i> (Caithness)	125	135	133	191	30.5 %	38.6 %	46.7 %	63.2 %

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

	Number of <i>Gàidhlig</i> -speakers with ability to write <i>Gàidhlig</i>				Percentage of <i>Gàidhlig</i> -speakers with ability to write <i>Gàidhlig</i>			
	1971	1981	1991	2001	1971	1981	1991	2001
<i>Cataibh an Ear</i> (East Sutherland)	110	114	111	129	16.7 %	22.5 %	26.2 %	45.1 %
<i>Gallaibh</i> (Caithness)	85	106	84	161	20.7 %	30.3 %	29.5 %	53.3 %

Table 8: Number of people able to write *Gàidhlig* and *Gàidhlig* writers as a percentage of *Gàidhlig*-speakers for both areas (1971-2001)



Over the years slight improvements in literacy could be detected in later censuses (fig. 6 and 7). This was mainly due to the passing of the old “semi-literate” generation. The few “new” speakers were mainly learners who acquired literacy in *Gàidhlig* naturally during their study. At least school education was no relevant factor in improving literacy of *Gàidhlig* speakers – there was simply none.

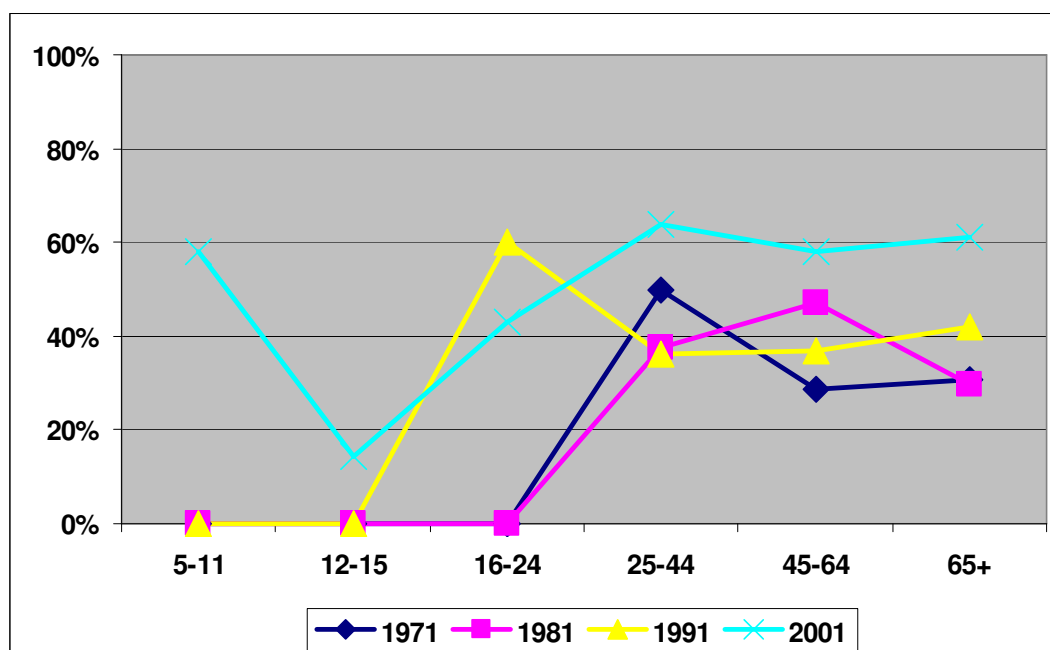


Fig. 6: Persons able to read *Gàidhlig* as a percentage of *Gàidhlig*-speakers in different age groups (1971-2001): *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland)

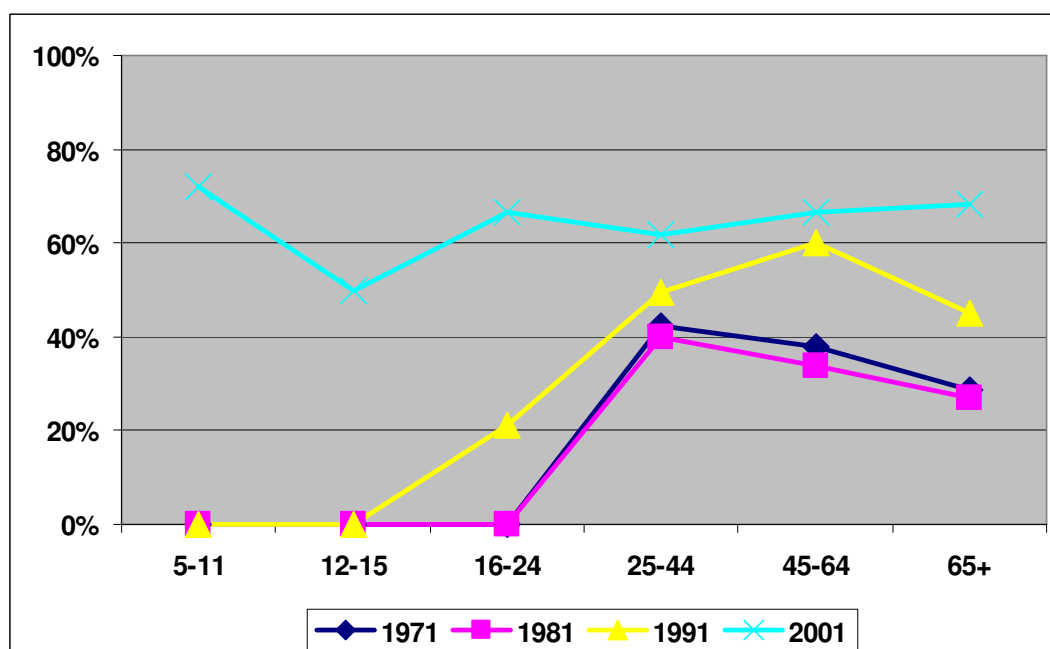


Fig. 7: Persons able to read *Gàidhlig* as a percentage of *Gàidhlig*-speakers in different age groups (1971-2001): *Gallaibh* (Caithness)



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

3.1 General overview: *Gàidhlig* language capabilities in 2001

Comparing both areas – *Cataibh an Ear* and *Gallaibh* – the picture was bleak in all but one respect: The activities in the pre-school sector around *Drochaid a’ Bhanna* (Bonar Bridge) and *Baile Theòrsa* (Thurso) did show a first effect.

In *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) the following conclusions may be drawn generally from the 2001 census information (special consideration is given to educational aspects in section 3.2 dealing with the young generation in school catchments):

- There is a constant decrease in *Gàidhlig* language abilities (fig. 8) from older to younger generations with significant percentages only in generations born before 1955. Some 9 pre-school children at least understood the language.
- A further strong decrease in *Gàidhlig*-speaking by 1.6 % has occurred since 1991 (table 9) except in younger age groups. In the age cohort of 3-24 the percentage of *Gàidhlig*-speakers, however, is still very low at 1.7 %.
- There is some local variation in the ability of the population to speak *Gàidhlig*. The returns of census output areas show those being able to speak the language ranging from roughly 1 % in many areas including *Dòrnach* (Dornoch) to some 10 % in *Eurabol* (Embo). The corresponding figures for the „understands spoken Gaelic” category (tables 29 and 30) varied between around 2 % in *Dòrnach* and a considerable 19 % in *Eurabol*.
- Literacy in the language was still improving (compared to 1991) with 58.0 % of speakers being able to read and 45.1 % of speakers able to write the language.
- In the new category of children aged less than 3 years only two were able to speak *Gàidhlig* and 5 could understand spoken *Gàidhlig*.
- In addition to those able to speak *Gàidhlig* (3.0 % of the population) 228 inhabitants (2.3 %) were at least able to understand, read or write the language.

Compared with census results in neighbouring *Taobh Sear Rois* (Easter Ross) the situation of *Gàidhlig* in *Cataibh an Ear* can aptly be described as in a state of neglect and ignorance. Time will tell whether circumstances may turn to the better.



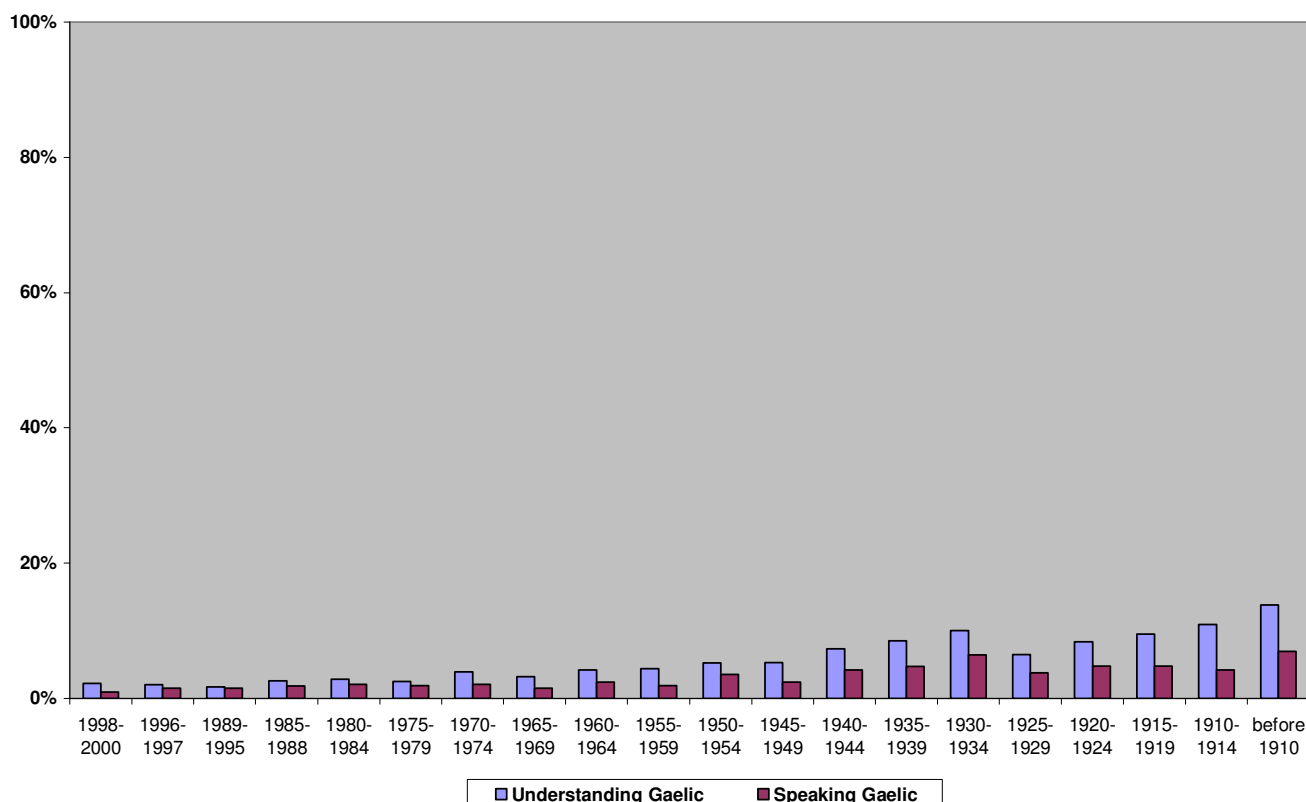


Fig. 8: Percentage of population able to understand or speak *Gàidhlig* and year of birth – area of *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) according to Census 2001

Age group	2001						1991		Diff. 2001 – 1991
	Knowing ¹⁷ <i>Gàidhlig</i>		Able to speak & read <i>Gàidhlig</i>		Able to speak <i>Gàidhlig</i>		Able to speak <i>Gàidhlig</i>		
0-2	5	2.2 %	1	0.4 %	2	0.9 %	n/a	n/a	-
3-4	4	2.1 %	1	0.5 %	3	1.6 %	2	0.9 %	+ 0.7 %
5-11	13	1.7 %	7	0.9 %	12	1.6 %	13	1.5 %	+ 0.1 %
12-15	10	2.0 %	1	0.2 %	7	1.4 %	7	1.5 %	- 0.1 %
16-24	19	2.7 %	6	0.9 %	14	2.0 %	10	1.1 %	+ 0.9 %
3-24	46	2.1 %	15	0.7 %	36	1.7 %	32	1.3 %	+ 0.4 %
All ages	504	5.3 %	166	1.8 %	286	3.0 %	405	4.6 %	- 1.6 %
Difference	- 3.2 %		- 1.1 %		- 1.3 %		- 3.3 %		

Table 9: Knowledge of *Gàidhlig* in younger age groups in *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) in 2001 and 1991

¹⁷ Persons able to understand spoken *Gàidhlig* and/or able to speak, read or write *Gàidhlig*.



In **Gallaibh (Caithness)** the number of *Gàidhlig* speakers remained insignificant also in the 2001 census. The only remarkable positive feature was the considerable improvement among pre-school aged children. 13 children were found to be able to speak and even 26 could understand spoken *Gàidhlig*. The majority of these young Gaels were of course present in *Baile Theòrsa* (Thurso) where a *Gàidhlig* nursery was operating since a few years. Worth mentioning is also the high proportion of “passive Gaels” (those who had at least one ability in the language but did not speak it) accounting for 250 persons in addition to the 302 (or 263, see below) speakers in the district in 2001.

The overall increase of speakers in *Gallaibh*, however, was only due to a peculiar census result in an output area in *Inbhir Uige* (Wick)¹⁸. Discarding this unique result the number of speakers had declined still further compared with previous censuses.

Age group	2001						1991		Diff. 2001 – 1991
	Knowing ¹⁹ <i>Gàidhlig</i>		Able to speak & read <i>Gàidhlig</i>		Able to speak <i>Gàidhlig</i>		Able to speak <i>Gàidhlig</i>		
0-2	9	1.2 %	-	-	3	0.4 %	n/a	n/a	-
3-4	17	3.2 %	1	0.2 %	10	1.9 %	1	0.1 %	+ 1.8 %
5-11	21	0.9 %	8	0.3 %	11	0.5 %	12	0.4 %	+ 0.1 %
12-15	11	0.8 %	3	0.2 %	6	0.4 %	3	0.2 %	+ 0.2 %
16-24	25	1.0 %	8	0.3 %	12	0.5 %	19	0.6 %	- 0.1 %
3-24	74	1.1 %	20	0.3 %	39	0.6 %	35	0.4 %	+ 0.2 %
All ages	552	2.2 %	191	0.8 %	302	1.2 %	285	1.1 %	+ 0.1 %
Diff.	- 1.1 %		- 0.5 %		- 0.6 %		- 0.7 %		

Table 10: Knowledge of *Gàidhlig* in younger age groups in *Gallaibh* (Caithness) in 2001 and 1991

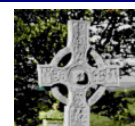
3.2 Children with knowledge of *Gàidhlig* in school catchments

The 2001 census data provide small area statistics – this enables the compilation of “*Gàidhlig* knowledge vs. age” tabulations for the catchment areas of local primary or secondary 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 11 with the age group of 24-35 which may be roughly representative of the language abilities of possible parents. Looking at different age groups the general (dismal) state of *Gàidhlig* in the younger generation in the district has to be realised:

- **Pre-school children:** In 2000/2001 13 children attended the *Gàidhlig* medium nursery in *Baile Theòrsa* (Thurso). In addition there were activities in *cròileagan* based in *Raoghard* (Rogart) and *Drochaid a’ Bhanna* (Bonar Bridge). Census figures highlight clearly that no other significant factor had any impact on the *Gàidhlig* pre-school population.

¹⁸ **Important notice:** In the 2001 census figures an official result for a singular output area in Wick distorts the picture significantly. The output area 60QT001119 (including postcode KW1 4JP) was reported to boast 39 *Gàidhlig* speakers (out of a total of 155). This would have meant 25.3 % of all people could speak, read and write the language! A closer inspection of the information revealed that all speakers belonged to the older generation and lived perhaps in a communal establishment. The reason for this single census result, however, is very unclear and therefore Caithness figures should be taken with a certain pinch of salt. Without this output area Caithness would have reported only 263 speakers and 1.1 % of the population as *Gàidhlig* speaking.

¹⁹ Persons able to understand spoken *Gàidhlig*, or able to speak, read or write *Gàidhlig*.



- Primary school children: In 2000/2001 four children were enrolled for the *Gàidhlig* medium unit in *Baile Theòrsa* which, however, did not commence eventually! In addition a handful of children from Southeast Sutherland commuted to the *Gàidhlig* medium unit at the primary school of *Baile Dhubhthaich* (Tain). Generally there was no second language tuition in any primary school in the district and census returns were negligible in this age group.
- Secondary school children: There was also no second language provision in any secondary school (Golspie, Dornoch, Thurso and Wick). The census revealed once again the educational ignorance towards *Gàidhlig* in this part of northern Scotland.
- Parents: *Gàidhlig* speaking ability is also very rare in the “parental” generation. The language is nonetheless very popular among parents as their campaigns for *Gàidhlig* medium education testified.

In conclusion: *Gàidhlig* has still a mountain to climb to achieve at least a foothold in the schools of once thoroughly *Gàidhlig*-speaking *Cataibh*. Apart from the activities in Thurso Caithness is a no man’s land as far as *Gàidhlig* in education is concerned – even in the once *Gàidhlig* speaking part in the west.

Knowledge of <i>Gàidhlig</i> (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>Leth Chlamhaig</i> (Gledfield, Ardgay)	1	5.3 %	2	4.9 %	-	-	2	4.9 %
<i>Drochaid a’ Bhanna</i> (Bonar Bridge)	1	2.9 %	2	2.5 %	2	4.4 %	2	3.2 %
<i>Innis nan Lion</i> (Rosehall)	2	25.0 %	-	-	-	-	1	4.5 %
<i>An Luirg</i> (Lairg)	2	4.5 %	1	1.2 %	-	-	1	1.2 %
<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart)	-	-	2	7.1 %	-	-	4	14.8 %
<i>Eurabol</i> (Embo)	1	5.0 %	3	6.3 %	2	7.7 %	2	4.7 %
<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch)	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1.4 %
<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie)	1	1.1 %	-	-	2	2.1 %	7	4.8 %
<i>Brùra</i> (Brora)	1	1.5 %	1	0.8 %	2	2.2 %	2	1.4 %
<i>Bun Ilidh & Ceann a’ Bhràist</i> (Helmsdale & Kinbrace)	-	-	2	3.2 %	2	4.3 %	3	4.6 %
<i>Baile Theòrsa</i> (Thurso)	19	2.7 %	12	1.0 %	4	0.6 %	34	2.2 %
<i>Inbhir Uige</i> (Wick)	7	1.2 %	9	0.8 %	7	1.0 %	32	2.1 %

Table 11: Number and percentage of people with knowledge of *Gàidhlig* in selected age groups for primary/secondary school catchment areas according to the census 2001



4 Future Perspectives

The base for language resurrection is already very thin in northern Scotland. Just around 6 % of Scottish-born residents in *Cataibh an Ear* have still some knowledge of *Gàidhlig*. Of course the language community indicator (LCI²⁰) is even far less in *Gallaibh*. The language viability indicator (LVI²¹) still points to poor intergenerational language-maintenance (table 12) which is due to very 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)
<i>Cataibh an Ear</i> (East Sutherland)	51	2.2 %	504	5.3 %	- 3.1 %	6.1 %
<i>Gallaibh</i> (Caithness)	83	1.1 %	552	2.2 %	- 1.1 %	2.3 %
<i>In comparison:</i> <i>Gaidhealtachd</i> (Highland)	7.0 %		8.9 %		- 1.9 %	10.0 %

Table 12: Intergenerational viability and *Gàidhlig*-speakers born in Scotland in *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) and *Gallaibh* (Caithness) in comparison with the *Gaidhealtachd* (Highland) local authority according to census data of 2001

Locally the LVI is consistently negative with a few statistically irrelevant exceptions (tables 29 to 31). Intergenerational viability is negative, especially so in the last remaining “stronghold” of *Eurabol* (LVI value of -15.0 %). The LCI is generally small with still exceptional values of 23.4 % and 14.7 % in parts of *Eurabol* (Embo) and 11.2 % at *Srath Uachaill* (Strath Oyckell) and 11.3 % in *Raoghard* (Rogart). The knowledge of *Gàidhlig* in younger age-groups is, however, everywhere at very low levels.

Since 2001 developments have turned slightly more positive. The newly opened *Gàidhlig* nursery at *Drochaid a’ Bhanna* and the slightly older one in *Baile Theòrsa* (Thurso) are going from strength to strength. For example 6 and 20 children respectively were enrolled in the school year 2003/2004. The *Gàidhlig* medium unit at *Drochaid a’ Bhanna* (Bonar Bridge) primary school eventually commenced in the 2004/05 school year. On the other hand *Baile Theòrsa* still awaits the opening of its GMU which normally should have opened in 2000. Progress is very low key still – even in secondary education. But actually (in theory) all secondary school children could now opt for a *Gàidhlig* distance learning course from S3 onwards.

In conclusion: Signs for the future still look not promising. *Gàidhlig* is still being sidelined officially in the whole area. Local councillors even object to bilingual road-signs. Educational provision of *Gàidhlig* is either derisory or non-existent. Only constant parental pressure has achieved the introduction of *Gàidhlig* medium nurseries in two locations. The language would already be dead in northern Scotland without this grassroots support for the once dominant tongue.

²⁰ 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.

²¹ 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.



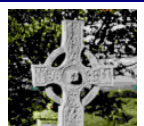
I. Supplementary Tables

Census	Civil Parish				
	<i>Cill Donain</i> (Kildonan)	<i>Loth</i> (Loth)	<i>Clin</i> (Clyne)	<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie)	<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart)
1881	1,146	213	1,339	742	1,063
1891	896	269	1,196	713	955
1901	726	183	1,190	724	817
1911	536	144	862	572	587
1921	297	71	669	375	388
1931	209	33	428	306	260
1951	94	13	156	150	105
1961	59	14	119	149	56
1971	45	10	70	130	35
1981	30	4	57	93	20
1991	26	4	38	69	13
2001	14	6	33	50	15

Table 13: Number of Gàidhlig-speakers (aged 3 years and over) for the civil parishes in the northern part of *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) according to census data from 1881 to 2001

Census	Civil Parish				
	<i>Cill Donain</i> (Kildonan)	<i>Loth</i> (Loth)	<i>Clin</i> (Clyne)	<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie)	<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart)
1881	59.0 %	36.5 %	73.9 %	47.7 %	86.6 %
1891	49.0 %	50.9 %	69.8 %	49.1 %	75.3 %
1901	41.0 %	40.8 %	69.0 %	43.5 %	73.9 %
1911	30.0 %	39.2 %	49.3 %	33.9 %	62.1 %
1921	19.6 %	22.1 %	41.4 %	24.7 %	48.3 %
1931	14.4 %	9.6 %	24.8 %	22.1 %	35.5 %
1951	7.0 %	5.2 %	9.0 %	11.3 %	18.4 %
1961	4.4 %	6.8 %	6.7 %	9.2 %	12.1 %
1971	4.1 %	5.0 %	3.9 %	7.2 %	8.5 %
1981	3.5 %	3.0 %	3.0 %	5.7 %	5.5 %
1991	3.1 %	2.7 %	2.1 %	4.2 %	3.1 %
2001	1.8 %	4.4 %	2.0 %	3.0 %	3.6 %

Table 14: Gàidhlig-speakers as percentage of total population for the civil parishes in the northern part of *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) according to census data from 1881 to 2001



Census	Civil Parish			
	<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch)	<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg)	<i>Craoich</i> (Creich)	<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine) ²²
1881	1,657	931	1,633	1,116
1891	1,644	799	1,267	1,085
1901	1,579	718	1,145	884
1911	1,204	561	836	706
1921	959	440	554	453
1931	673	357	378	303
1951	306	136	138	124
1961	223	116	117	66
1971	155	65	90	60
1981	139	50	86	39
1991	132	50	43	30
2001	79	24	41	22

Table 15: Number of Gàidhlig-speakers (aged 3 years and over) for the civil parishes in the southern part of *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) according to census data from 1881 to 2001

Census	Civil Parish			
	<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch)	<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg)	<i>Craoich</i> (Creich)	<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine)
1881	65.6 %	68.7 %	73.5 %	75.8 %
1891	70.5 %	68.3 %	62.9 %	76.6 %
1901	56.5 %	66.4 %	62.4 %	69.9 %
1911	45.1 %	56.4 %	48.8 %	58.9 %
1921	38.7 %	42.1 %	36.8 %	43.0 %
1931	32.3 %	33.5 %	25.0 %	31.5 %
1951	15.9 %	14.1 %	10.7 %	16.7 %
1961	11.1 %	11.1 %	9.6 %	9.4 %
1971	8.2 %	6.7 %	8.5 %	8.1 %
1981	7.2 %	5.3 %	7.9 %	6.2 %
1991	6.5 %	5.8 %	4.2 %	4.6 %
2001	3.4 %	3.0 %	4.0 %	3.3 %

Table 16: Gàidhlig-speakers as percentage of total population for the civil parishes in the southern part of *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) according to census data from 1881 to 2001

²² Until 1974 this civil parish was part of Ross & Cromarty.



Census	Civil Parish					
	<i>A'Bhatan</i> (Watten)	<i>Meaghrath</i> (Reay)	<i>Hacraig</i> (Halkirk)	<i>Latharan</i> (Latheron)	<i>Inbhir Theòrsa</i> (Thurso)	<i>Inbhir Uige</i> (Wick)
1881	167	477	253	1,914	331	134
1891	118	409	507	2,079	415	398
1901	71	269	365	1,372	379	317
1961	4	22	12	26	87	59
1971	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	155	85
1981	2	14	28	29	114	128
1991	2	4	26	16	124	89
2001	5	8	12	14	94	145

Table 17: Number of Gàidhlig-speakers (aged 3 years and over) for selected civil parishes in *Gallaibh* (Caithness) according to census data from 1881 to 2001²³

Census	Civil Parish					
	<i>A'Bhatan</i> (Watten)	<i>Meaghrath</i> (Reay)	<i>Hacraig</i> (Halkirk)	<i>Latharan</i> (Latheron)	<i>Inbhir Theòrsa</i> (Thurso)	<i>Inbhir Uige</i> (Wick)
1881	11.9 %	39.8 %	9.4 %	28.7 %	5.4 %	1.0 %
1891	8.5 %	34.6 %	19.8 %	35.4 %	7.1 %	3.0 %
1901	5.8 %	27.6 %	15.5 %	26.3 %	7.0 %	2.6 %
1961	0.6 %	2.7 %	0.9 %	1.2 %	1.1 %	0.7 %
1971	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.8 %	1.2 %
1981	0.3 %	2.2 %	1.6 %	1.8 %	1.3 %	1.4 %
1991	0.3 %	0.8 %	1.4 %	1.0 %	1.4 %	1.0 %
2001	0.7 %	1.4 %	0.9 %	0.8 %	1.1 %	1.5 %

Table 18: Gàidhlig-speakers as percentage of total population for selected civil parishes in *Gallaibh* (Caithness) according to census data from 1881 to 2001

²³ 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.



Gaelic and Gaelic only between 1881 and 1891: <i>Cataibh an Ear</i>	Total Popula- tion	<i>Gàidhlig</i> and Eng- lish	<i>Gàidhlig</i> but no English
Census/Selected Area			
1881 (Speaking “habitually” Gaelic)	14,696	9,840	
<i>Cill Donain</i> (Kildonan) CP	1,942	1,146	
<i>Loth</i> (Loth) CP	584	213	
<i>Clìn</i> (Clyne) CP	1,812	1,339	
<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie) CP	1,556	742	
<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart) CP	1,227	1,063	
<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg) CP	1,355	931	
<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch)	2,525	1,657	
<i>Craoich</i> (Creich) CP	2,223	1,633	
<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine) CP	1,472	1,116	
----- included in the above ---			
<i>Dòrnach (Baile Beag)</i> (Dornoch Small Burgh)	497	32	
<i>Drochaid a’ Bhanna</i> (Bonar) Vi	313	210	
<i>Brùra</i> (Brora) Vi	532	404	
<i>Eurabol</i> (Embo) Vi	396	383	
<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie) Vi	956	465	
<i>Bun Ilidh an Ear</i> (Helmsdale East) Vi	675	327	
<i>Bun Ilidh an Iar</i> (Helmsdale West) Vi ²⁴	659	486	
1891	13,718	8,516	306
<i>Cill Donain</i> (Kildonan) CP	1,828	885	11
<i>Loth</i> (Loth) CP	528	268	1
<i>Clìn</i> (Clyne) CP	1,713	1,156	40
<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie) CP	1,451	707	6
<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart) CP	1,195	884	23
<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg) CP	1,169	778	21
<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch)	2,404	1,590	102
<i>Craoich</i> (Creich) CP	2,013	1,228	39
<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine) CP	1,417	1,022	63
----- included in the above ---			
<i>Dòrnach (Baile Beag)</i> (Dornoch Small Burgh)	514	272	2
<i>Drochaid a’ Bhanna</i> (Bonar) Vi	356	184	-
<i>Brùra</i> (Brora) Vi	540	341	26
<i>Eurabol</i> (Embo) Vi	471	379	48
<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie) Vi	935	464	5
<i>Bun Ilidh an Ear</i> (Helmsdale East) Vi	743	281	2
<i>Bun Ilidh an Iar</i> (Helmsdale West) Vi	580	374	8

Table 19: Number of persons speaking *Gàidhlig* between 1881 and 1891 – selected areas (civil parishes, electoral divisions, burghs) with significant numbers of "Gaelic only" census returns in *Cataibh an Ear*

²⁴ Figures include *Maraill* (Marrel) and *Gartaidh Mòr* (Gartymore).



Gaelic and Gaelic only between 1901 and 1911: <i>Cataibh an Ear</i>	Total Popula- tion	Gàidhlig and Eng- lish	Gàidhlig but no English
Census/Selected Area			
1901	13,691	7,808	158
<i>Cill Donain</i> (Kildonan) CP	1,772	722	4
<i>Loth</i> (Loth) CP	449	182	1
<i>Clìn</i> (Clyne) CP	1,724	1,177	13
<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie) CP	1,665	703	21
<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart) CP	1,105	802	15
<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg) CP	1,081	715	3
<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch) CP	2,794	1,517	62
<i>Craoich</i> (Creich) CP	1,836	1,113	32
<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine) CP	1,265	877	7
----- included in the above ---			
<i>Dòrnach (Baile Beag)</i> (Dornoch Small Burgh)	624	255	-
<i>Drochaid a' Bhanna</i> (Bonar) Vi	367	186	2
<i>Brùra</i> (Brora) Vi	548	410	13
<i>Eurabol</i> (Embo) Vi	546	459	24
<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie) Vi	1,024	496	21
<i>Bun Ilidh an Ear</i> (Helmsdale East) Vi	779	214	-
<i>Bun Ilidh an Iar</i> (Helmsdale West) Vi ²⁵	480	285	4
----- Electoral divisions-----			
<i>Loth an Ear</i> (Loth East)	449	182	1
<i>Loth an Iar</i> (Loth West)	389	280	-
<i>Cill Donain a Tuath</i> (Kildonan North)	1,101	376	-
<i>Cill Donain a Deas</i> (Kildonan South)	671	346	4
<i>Goillspidh a Tuath</i> (Golspie North)	1,024	496	21
<i>Goillspidh a Deas</i> (Golspie South)	641	207	-
<i>Clìn</i> (Clyne)	1,335	897	13
<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart)	1,105	802	15
<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg)	1,081	715	3
<i>Dòrnach an Iar</i> (Dornoch West)	1,054	533	34
<i>Dòrnach an Ear</i> (Dornoch East)	1,116	729	28
<i>Craoich an Iar</i> (Creich West)	1,018	604	12
<i>Craoich an Ear</i> (Creich East)	818	509	20
<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine)	1,265	877	7
1911	13,109	5,972	36
<i>Cill Donain</i> (Kildonan) CP	1,786	536	-
<i>Loth</i> (Loth) CP	367	144	-
<i>Clìn</i> (Clyne) CP	1,749	862	-
<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie) CP	1,685	566	6
<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart) CP	946	587	-
<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg) CP	995	558	3
<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch) CP	2,670	1,194	10
<i>Craoich</i> (Creich) CP	1,713	819	17
<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine) CP	1,198	706	-

Table 20: Number of persons speaking Gàidhlig between 1901 and 1911 – selected areas (civil parishes, electoral divisions, burghs) with significant numbers of "Gaelic only" census returns in *Cataibh an Ear*

²⁵ Figures include *Maraill* (Marrel) and *Gartaidh Mòr* (Gartymore).



Gaelic and Gaelic only between 1921 and 1971: <i>Cataibh an Ear</i>	Total Popula- tion	<i>Gàidhlig</i> and Eng- lish	<i>Gàidhlig</i> but no English
Census/Selected Area			
1921	11,858	4,185	21
<i>Cill Donain</i> (Kildonan) CP	1,518	297	-
<i>Loth</i> (Loth) CP	321	71	-
<i>Clìn</i> (Clyne) CP	1,616	668	1
<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie) CP	1,518	375	-
<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart) CP	804	388	-
<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg) CP	1,046	440	-
<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch)	2,475	943	16
<i>Craoich</i> (Creich) CP	1,506	551	3
<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine) CP	1,054	452	1
1931	11,272	2,945	4
<i>Cill Donain</i> (Kildonan) CP	1,454	209	-
<i>Loth</i> (Loth) CP	343	33	-
<i>Clìn</i> (Clyne) CP	1,723	428	-
<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie) CP	1,392	308	-
<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart) CP	732	260	-
<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg) CP	1,065	356	1
<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch)	2,086	670	3
<i>Craoich</i> (Creich) CP	1,515	378	-
<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine) CP	962	303	-
----- included in the above ---			
<i>Dòrnach (Baile Beag)</i> (Dornoch Small Burgh)	725	83	-
1951	10,130	1,222	-
----- included in the above ---			
<i>Dòrnach (Baile Beag)</i> (Dornoch Small Burgh)	793	40	-
1961	10,242	913	-
----- included in the above ---			
<i>Dòrnach (Baile Beag)</i> (Dornoch Small Burgh)	933	51	-
1971²⁶	9,305	600	*
----- included in the above ---			
<i>Dòrnach (Baile Beag)</i> (Dornoch Small Burgh)	840	25	*

Table 21: Number of persons speaking *Gàidhlig* between 1921 and 1971 – selected areas (civil parishes, electoral divisions, burghs) with significant numbers of "Gaelic only" census returns in *Cataibh an Ear*

²⁶ Due to rounding of figures to the nearest 0 and 5 it is impossible to provide exact "Gaelic only" numbers in 1971.



Gaelic and Gaelic only between 1881 and 1891: <i>Gallaibh</i>	Total Popula- tion	Gàidhlig and Eng- lish	Gàidhlig but no English
Census/Selected Area			
1881 (Speaking “habitually” Gaelic)	38,865	3,422	
<i>Meaghrath</i> (Reay) CP	1,197	477	
<i>Hacraig</i> (Halkirk) CP	2,705	253	
<i>A`Bhatan</i> (Watten) CP	1,406	167	
<i>Latharan</i> (Latheron) CP	6,675	1,944	
<i>Bàgair</i> (Bower) CP	1,608	2	
<i>Dùnaid</i> (Dunnet) CP	1,607	63	
<i>Inbhir Uige</i> (Wick) CP	12,822	134	
<i>Baile Theòrsa</i> (Thurso) CP	6,217	331	
<i>An t-Òlach</i> (Olig) CP	2,002	50	
<i>Bàgh a`Chanais</i> (Canisbay) CP	2,626	1	
----- included in the above -----			
<i>Inbhir Theòrsa (Baile Beag)</i> (Thurso Small Burgh)	4,055	216	
<i>Inbhir Uige (Baile Beag)</i> (Wick Small Burgh)	8,053	77	
<i>Eilean Stròma</i> (Isle of Stròma)	341	1	
<i>Bail` a`Chaisteil</i> (Castletown) Vi	932	42	
<i>Hacraig</i> (Halkirk) Vi	372	47	
<i>Cèis</i> (Keiss) Vi	313	-	
<i>Liabost</i> (Lybster) Vi	831	23	
1891	37,177	4,068	76
<i>Meaghrath</i> (Reay) CP	1,182	403	6
<i>Hacraig</i> (Halkirk) CP	2,564	504	3
<i>A`Bhatan</i> (Watten) CP	1,390	118	-
<i>Latharan</i> (Latheron) CP	5,875	2,018	61
<i>Bàgair</i> (Bower) CP	1,506	49	-
<i>Dùnaid</i> (Dunnet) CP	1,488	45	-
<i>Inbhir Uige</i> (Wick) CP	13,105	395	3
<i>Baile Theòrsa</i> (Thurso) CP	5,838	414	1
<i>An t-Òlach</i> (Olig) CP	1,837	73	1
<i>Bàgh a`Chanais</i> (Canisbay) CP	2,392	18	1
----- included in the above -----			
<i>Inbhir Theòrsa (Baile Beag)</i> (Thurso Small Burgh)	3,936	299	-
<i>Inbhir Uige (Baile Beag)</i> (Wick Small Burgh)	8,512	244	2
<i>Eilean Stròma</i> (Isle of Stròma)	327	1	-
<i>Bail` a`Chaisteil</i> (Castletown) Vi	979	47	1
<i>Hacraig</i> (Halkirk) Vi	432	93	-
<i>Cèis</i> (Keiss) Vi	341	3	-
<i>Liabost</i> (Lybster) Vi	740	162	-

Table 22: Number of persons speaking Gàidhlig between 1881 and 1891 – selected areas (civil parishes, electoral divisions, islands, burghs) with significant numbers of "Gaelic only" census returns in Gallaibh



Gaelic and Gaelic only between 1901 and 1971: Gallaibh	Total Popula- tion	Gàidhlig and Eng- lish	Gàidhlig but no English
Census/Selected Area			
1901	33,870	2,876	20
<i>Meaghrath</i> (Reay) CP	974	269	-
<i>Hacraig</i> (Halkirk) CP	2,355	361	4
<i>A`Bhatan</i> (Watten) CP	1,230	71	-
<i>Latharan</i> (Latheron) CP	5,223	1,361	11
<i>Bàgair</i> (Bower) CP	1,453	34	-
<i>Dùnaid</i> (Dunnet) CP	1,232	17	-
<i>Inbhir Uige</i> (Wick) CP	12,250	315	2
<i>Baile Theòrsa</i> (Thurso) CP	5,406	377	2
<i>An t-Òlach</i> (Olrig) CP	1,555	54	-
<i>Bàgh a`Chanais</i> (Canisbay) CP	2,192	17	1
----- included in the above ---			
<i>Inbhir Theòrsa (Baile Beag)</i> (Thurso Small Burgh)	3,723	262	2
<i>Inbhir Uige (Baile Beag)</i> (Wick Small Burgh)	7,911	207	1
<i>Eilean Stròma</i> (Isle of Stròma)	375	-	-
<i>Bail' a`Chaisteil</i> (Castletown) Vi	767	24	-
<i>Hacraig</i> (Halkirk) Vi	471	86	1
<i>Liabost</i> (Lybster) Vi	609	118	-
----- Electoral divisions (selected areas only) -----			
<i>Meaghrath</i> (Reay)	974	269	-
<i>Hacraig a Deas</i> (Halkirk South)	885	128	-
<i>Hacraig Tuath an Ear</i> (Halkirk North-East)	609	95	1
<i>Hacraig Tuath an Iar</i> (Halkirk North-West)	861	138	3
<i>A`Bhatan</i> (Watten)	1,230	71	-
<i>Bearghdal</i> (Berriedale)	916	315	6
<i>Dùn Bèithe</i> (Dunbeath)	1,066	378	2
<i>Latharan</i> (Latheron)	1,121	277	1
<i>Liabost</i> (Lybster)	1,247	274	1
<i>Cliath</i> (Clyth)	866	114	1
1911	32,010	1,982	3
1921	28,285	1,003	-
1931	25,656	633	-
1951	21,600	270	-
1961	27,370	233	-
1971²⁷	27,780	410	*

Table 23: Number of persons speaking Gàidhlig between 1901 and 1971 – selected areas (civil parishes, electoral divisions, islands, burghs) with significant numbers of "Gaelic only" census returns in Gallaibh

²⁷ Due to rounding of figures to the nearest 0 and 5 it is impossible to provide exact "Gaelic only" numbers in 1971.



Number of persons and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers in former County Council Electoral Divisions (Sutherland) and the County of Caithness (Population aged 3 years and over)						
Area	1961/71 Code	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001
<i>Dòrnach (Baile Beag)</i> (Dornoch Small Burgh)	DO	51 5.6 %	25 3.1 %	37 4.6 %	34 3.7 %	19 1.9 %
<i>Cill Donain a Tuath</i> (Kildonan North)	KN	22 2.8 %	31 3.7 %	17 3.0 %	22 3.6 %	7 1.3 %
<i>Cill Donain a Deas</i> (Kildonan South)	KS	31 8.7 %	17 7.9 %	13 5.0 %	4 2.0 %	7 3.5 %
<i>Loth</i> (Loth)	LO	47 6.7 %	20 3.8 %	61 3.1 %	42 2.2 %	39 2.2 %
<i>Clìn</i> (Clyne)	CL	86 7.2 %	60 4.4 %			
<i>Goillspidh (Am Baile)</i> (Golspie Village)	GV	105 9.5 %	109 8.7 %	85 6.2 %	54 3.9 %	42 3.1 %
<i>Goillspidh Dùthaich</i> (Golspie Rural)	GR	44 10.4 %	19 4.1 %	8 3.6 %	15 6.7 %	8 3.3 %
<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart)	RO	56 12.6 %	35 8.8 %	20 5.7 %	13 3.2 %	15 3.7 %
<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg)	LA	116 11.7 %	65 7.0 %	50 5.5 %	50 6.0 %	24 3.2 %
<i>Dòrnach an Iar</i> (Dornoch West)	DW	40 9.6 %	18 5.4 %	22 6.2 %	24 6.2 %	15 4.7 %
<i>Dòrnach an Ear</i> (Dornoch East)	DE	132 22.1 %	111 15.8 %	80 11.1 %	74 10.1 %	45 5.0 %
<i>Craoich an Iar</i> (Creich West)	CW	77 11.3 %	46 8.2 %	59 7.3 %	21 2.9 %	29 4.3 %
<i>Craoich an Ear</i> (Creich East)	CE	40 8.4 %	45 9.7 %	29 11.5 %	22 8.4 %	12 3.7 %
<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine)	KI	66 10.1 %	60 8.3 %	39 6.4 %	30 4.7 %	22 3.4 %
<i>Gallaibh</i> (Caithness)	CA	233 0.9 %	410 1.6 %	342 1.3 %	285 1.1 %	299 1.2 %

Table 24: 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>Cataibh an Ear</i>							
Map No	Census output area(s)	1981		1991		2001	
01	<i>Drochaid a' Bhanna</i> (Bonar Bridge) a	17	9.2 %	9	5.1 %	12	6.4 %
02	<i>Drochaid a' Bhanna</i> (Bonar Bridge) b	19	7.0 %	10	3.9 %	9	3.3 %
03	<i>Srath Uachail</i> (Strath Oykell)	8	7.3 %	14	5.6 %	6	3.8 %
	<i>Innis nan Lìon</i> (Rosehall)	11	11.0 %	2	2.4 %	5	7.3 %
04	<i>Àird Ghaoithe</i> (Ardgay)	13	8.4 %	12	8.4 %	5	1.9 %
	<i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine)	8	4.5 %	10	4.6 %	7	6.9 %
	<i>A'Chròic</i> (Croick)	4	2.9 %	1	0.9 %	5	3.4 %
05	<i>Craoich</i> (Creich)	3	3.7 %	3	3.8 %	1	0.5 %
	<i>Migein</i> (Migdale)	25	15.4 %	19	10.0 %	11	8.8 %
06	<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch) a	17	3.3 %	13	2.5 %	10	1.8 %
07	<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch) b	20	7.0 %	21	5.3 %	9	1.8 %
08	<i>Eurabol</i> (Embo) a	66	24.1 %	35	31.0 %	15	11.0 %
09	<i>Eurabol</i> (Embo) b			33	16.4 %	20	8.5 %
10	<i>Clais Mòr</i> (Clashmore)	4	2.0 %	2	1.1 %	5	2.1 %
11	<i>Fliuch Airidh</i> (Fleuchary)	3	2.4 %	2	1.3 %	3	1.6 %
	<i>A'Mhùnd</i> (Mound)	18	13.0 %	5	4.8 %	2	1.7 %
12	<i>Baile Ghrùididh</i> (Pitgrudy)	17	6.6 %	21	9.0 %	10	4.0 %
	<i>Sràid Euraboil</i> (Embo Street)	5	5.2 %	3	3.7 %	5	6.9 %
13	<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg) a	19	4.4 %	23	5.5 %	11	2.8 %
14	<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg) b	8	4.7 %	8	3.7 %	4	1.8 %
15	<i>A'Chràisg</i> (Crask)	5	6.4 %	7	5.9 %	2	2.2 %
	<i>Ofarsgaig</i> (Overscaig)	14	9.2 %	6	5.8 %	8	7.3 %
16	<i>Inbhir Sin</i> (Invershin)	5	5.9 %	3	3.0 %	1	1.1 %
	<i>Inbhirean</i> (Inveran)	12	15.6 %	3	2.9 %	3	3.4 %
17	<i>A'Mhuigh</i> (Muie)	5	2.9 %	5	2.7 %	9	4.1 %
	<i>Baile nan Tràill</i> (Pittentrail)	7	10.3 %	1	1.2 %	1	1.4 %
	<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart)	7	6.2 %	7	5.2 %	5	3.8 %
18	<i>Brùra</i> (Brora) a	29	3.3 %	18	2.5 %	14	2.0 %
19	<i>Brùra</i> (Brora) b	21	3.0 %	11	1.5 %	12	1.8 %
20	<i>Clìn</i> (Clyne)	6	2.6 %	4	1.2 %	4	1.2 %
21	<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie) a	24	7.9 %	13	3.5 %	17	4.5 %
22	<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie) b	46	8.1 %	19	3.8 %	8	1.5 %
23	<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie) c	13	3.0 %	15	2.8 %	17	2.9 %
24	<i>Bacaidh</i> (Backies)	5	5.4 %	6	6.6 %	2	1.2 %
	<i>Druim Muighe</i> (Drumuie)	3	2.3 %	9	6.8 %	6	7.1 %
25	<i>Bun Ilidh</i> (Helmsdale) a	13	5.0 %	4	2.0 %	7	3.4 %
26	<i>Bun Ilidh</i> (Helmsdale) b	12	2.0 %	19	3.3 %	9	1.5 %
27	<i>Ceann a'Bhràist</i> (Kinbrace)	6	6.6 %	9	6.3 %	4	3.5 %

Table 25: Number and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers for the census output areas in *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) according to data from 1981 to 2001



<i>Cataibh an Ear: Gàidhlig-speaking in Age Groups (1971-2001)</i>								
Age group	1971		1981		1991		2001	
0-2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	0.9 %
3-4	-	-	1	0.4 %	2	0.9 %	3	1.6 %
5-24	60	1.9 %	34	1.2 %	30	1.3 %	33	1.7 %
25-44	130	5.8 %	101	4.8 %	68	2.9 %	52	2.4 %
45-64	215	9.1 %	164	7.4 %	147	6.1 %	93	3.4 %
65 +	255	15.9 %	218	12.5 %	158	8.7 %	103	4.7 %
Total (3 +)	660	7.6 %	518	5.6 %	405	4.6 %	284	3.1 %
Born in Scotland	n/a	n/a	497	6.3 %	377	6.0 %	257	3.6 %

Table 26: Number and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers in different age groups in *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) between 1971 and 2001

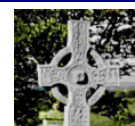
Number and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers ²⁸ <i>Gallaibh</i>							
Map No	Census output area(s)	1981		1991		2001	
51	<i>Meaghrath</i> (Reay)	14	2.3 %	4	0.8 %	8	1.4 %
52	<i>Baile Theòrsa</i> (Thurso) a	114	1.3 %	87	1.4 %	64	1.1 %
53	<i>Baile Theòrsa</i> (Thurso) b			37	1.4 %	32	1.3 %
54	<i>Hacraig</i> (Halkirk)	30	1.3 %	28	1.1 %	18	0.9 %
55	<i>Latharan</i> (Latheron)	29	1.9 %	16	1.0 %	14	0.8 %
56	<i>Inbhir Uige</i> (Wick)	128	1.4 %	89	1.0 %	145	1.5 %
57	<i>Gallaibh an Ear</i> (East Caithness)	27	0.9 %	24	0.8 %	21	0.6 %

Table 27: Number and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers for some census areas in *Gallaibh* (Caithness) between 1981 and 2001

<i>Gallaibh: Gàidhlig-speaking in Age Groups (1961-2001)</i>										
Age	1961		1971		1981		1991		2001	
0-2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	0.4 %
3-4	1	0.1 %	-	-	2	0.3 %	1	0.1 %	10	1.9 %
5-24	13	0.4 %	60	0.7 %	48	0.5 %	34	0.5 %	29	0.5 %
25-44	77	1.0 %	130	1.8 %	100	1.5 %	95	1.2 %	75	1.1 %
45-64	89	1.5 %	145	2.4 %	112	1.8 %	92	1.4 %	77	1.1 %
65 +	53	1.9 %	75	2.4 %	82	2.4 %	63	1.7 %	108	2.5 %
Total (3 +)	233	0.9 %	410	1.6 %	342	1.3 %	285	1.1 %	299	1.2 %
Born in Scotland	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	315	1.4 %	257	1.2 %	272	1.3 %

Table 28: Number and percentage of Gàidhlig-speakers in different age groups in *Gallaibh* (Caithness) according to data from 1961 to 2001

²⁸ Statistical base is the population aged 3 years and over for 1981 and 1991 and the total population in 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)
01	<i>Drochaid a'Bhanna a</i> (Bonar Bridge) a	2	3.8 %	14	7.5 %	- 3.7 %	7.0 %
02	<i>Drochaid a'Bhanna b</i> (Bonar Bridge) b	2	2.5 %	15	6.8 %	- 4.3 %	6.9 %
03	<i>Srath Uachail</i> (Strath Oykell)	2	4.3 %	20	8.7 %	- 4.4 %	11.2 %
04	<i>Àird Ghaoithe</i> (Ardgay)	3	2.2 %	22	4.3 %	- 2.1 %	3.9 %
05	<i>Craoich</i> (Creich)	3	4.1 %	23	7.2 %	- 3.1 %	8.1 %
06	<i>Dòrnach a</i> (Dornoch) a	-	-	14	2.5 %	- 2.5 %	3.4 %
07	<i>Dòrnach b</i> (Dornoch) b	-	-	20	4.0 %	- 4.0 %	4.3 %
08	<i>Eurabol a</i> (Embo) a	1	4.0 %	26	19.0 %	- 15.0 %	23.4 %
09	<i>Eurabol b</i> (Embo) b	6	8.1 %	33	14.0 %	- 5.9 %	14.7 %
10	<i>Clais Mòr</i> (Clashmore)	1	1.9 %	9	3.7 %	- 1.8 %	3.5 %
11	<i>Fliuch Airidh</i> (Fleuchary)	4	4.5 %	12	3.8 %	+ 0.7 %	3.8 %
12	<i>Baile Ghrùididh</i> (Pitgrudy)	3	3.9 %	25	7.8 %	- 3.9 %	9.0 %
13	<i>Luirg a</i> (Lairg) a	-	-	18	4.6 %	- 4.6 %	5.5 %
14	<i>Luirg b</i> (Lairg) b	1	1.5 %	12	5.5 %	- 4.0 %	6.7 %
15	<i>A'Chràisg</i> (Crask)	3	7.9 %	14	6.7 %	+ 1.2 %	6.8 %
16	<i>Inbhir Sin</i> (Invershin)	-	-	6	3.2 %	- 3.2 %	4.9 %
17	<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart)	2	2.4 %	40	9.5 %	- 7.1 %	11.3 %
18	<i>Brùra a</i> (Brora) a	-	-	22	3.2 %	- 3.2 %	3.8 %
19	<i>Brùra b</i> (Brora) b	1	0.6 %	20	3.1 %	- 2.5 %	3.5 %
20	<i>Clìn</i> (Clyne)	4	4.8 %	12	3.5 %	+ 1.3 %	4.6 %

Table 29: Intergenerational viability and Gàidhlig-speakers born in Scotland in Cataibh an Ear (East Sutherland) according to census data of 2001 – Part A



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)
21	<i>Goillspidh a</i> (Golspie) a	2	2.0 %	28	7.4 %	- 5.4 %	8.1 %
22	<i>Goillspidh b</i> (Golspie) b	1	1.0 %	26	5.9 %	- 4.9 %	5.4 %
23	<i>Goillspidh c</i> (Golspie) c	1	0.6 %	26	4.4 %	- 3.8 %	5.0 %
24	<i>Bacaidh</i> (Backies)	2	2.7 %	15	6.0 %	- 3.3 %	8.6 %
25	<i>Bun Ilidh a</i> (Helmsdale) a	2	5.4 %	10	4.9 %	+ 0.5 %	6.4 %
26	<i>Bun Ilidh b</i> (Helmsdale) b	4	3.2 %	22	3.8 %	- 0.6 %	2.8 %
27	<i>Ceann a'Bhràist</i> (Kinbrace)	1	3.1 %	6	5.2 %	- 2.1 %	7.0 %

Table 30: Intergenerational viability and Gàidhlig-speakers born in Scotland in *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) according to census data of 2001 – Part B

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>Meaghrath</i> (Reay)	-	-	15	2.6 %	- 2.6 %	2.8 %
52	<i>Baile Theòrsa a</i> (Thurso) a	19	1.0 %	136	2.2 %	- 1.2 %	2.3 %
53	<i>Baile Theòrsa b</i> (Thurso) b	19	2.7 %	55	2.2 %	+ 0.5 %	2.3 %
54	<i>Hacraig</i> (Halkirk)	4	0.7 %	33	1.6 %	- 0.9 %	1.7 %
55	<i>Latharan</i> (Latheron)	1	0.2 %	31	1.9 %	- 1.7 %	2.5 %
56	<i>Inbhir Uige</i> (Wick)	31	1.1 %	235	2.5 %	- 1.4 %	2.6 %
57	<i>Gallaibh an Ear</i> (East Caithness)	9	0.9 %	47	1.4 %	- 0.5 %	1.5 %

Table 31: Intergenerational viability and Gàidhlig-speakers born in Scotland in *Gallaibh* (Caithness) according to census data of 2001



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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 2nd 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 Word 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>.

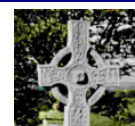


IV. List of Census Output Areas with Numbers and Placenames

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>Cataibh an Ear – Part A</i>				
	Census output area(s)	Area Codes		
		1961 1971	1981 1991	2001
01	<i>Drochaid a' Bhanna</i> (Bonar Bridge)	CW	27AA01	60QT001522 60QT001523
02	<i>Drochaid a' Bhanna</i> (Bonar Bridge)	CW	27AA02	60QT000328 60QT001524 60QT001525
03	<i>Srath Uachaill</i> (Strath Oykell), <i>Innis nan Lion</i> (Rosehall), <i>Loidse Aladail</i> (Alladale Lodge), <i>Àmait</i> (Amat), <i>Loidse Beinn Mhòir</i> (Benmore Lodge), <i>Cùl Ràthain</i> (Culrain), <i>Gleann Carsla</i> (Glen Cassley), <i>Cill Mo Cholmaig</i> (Kilmachalmack), <i>Langail</i> (Langwell), <i>An Lùb Chruaidh</i> (Lubcroy), <i>Drochaid Uachaill</i> (Oykell Bridge)	KI / CW	27AC09 27AA04 27AC11	60QT000329 60QT000348
04	<i>Àird Ghaoithe</i> (Ardgay), <i>Cinn Chàrdainn</i> (Kincardine), <i>Inbhir Chàrdainn</i> (Invercharron), <i>A' Chròic</i> (Croick), <i>Baile na Bruaiche</i> (Balnabruaich), <i>Gruinneard</i> (Gruinards)	KI	27AA06 27AA07 27AC05 27AA03	60QT000330 60QT000331 60QT001526 60QT001527
05	<i>Craoich</i> (Creich), <i>Migein</i> (Migdale), <i>Druim Lios</i> (Drumlish), <i>Spainnigeadal</i> (Spinningdale), <i>Druim Liath</i> (Drumliah), <i>Tulach</i> (Tulloch), <i>Na h-Àirdean</i> (Airdens)	CE	27AA10 27AA11	60QT000332 60QT001528 60QT001529
06	<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch), <i>Baile an Lòin</i> (Balloan)	DO	27AB01 27AB02	60QT001093 60QT001094 60QT001095 60QT001291 60QT001736 60QT001737
07	<i>Dòrnach</i> (Dornoch)	DO	27AB03	60QT001096 60QT001292 60QT001696
08	<i>Eurabol</i> (Embo)	DE	27AB09A	60QT000335
09	<i>Eurabol</i> (Embo), <i>Ceithir Peighinnean</i> (Fourpenny), <i>Monadh Sgeiraboil</i> (Skelbo Muir)	DE	27AB09B 27AB09C	60QT000336 60QT001355
10	<i>Clais Mòr</i> (Clashmore), <i>Lòn Mòr</i> (Lonemore), <i>Sgìobal</i> (Skibo), <i>Port a' Chultair</i> (Meikle Ferry)	DW	27AB04 27AB05	60QT001530 60QT001531

Table A-1: List of locations within individual census output areas and official numbers for different census dates for *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) – 1961-2001 – Part A



Census Output Areas in <i>Cataibh an Ear – Part B</i>				
	Census output area(s)	Area Codes		
		1961 1971	1981 1991	2001
11	<i>Fliuch Airidh</i> (Fleuchary), <i>A'Mhùnd</i> (Mound), <i>Ach' Bhàthaich</i> (Achvaich), <i>Sgeireabol</i> (Skelbo), <i>Achadh Anndra</i> (Achavandra), <i>Baile Bhràid</i> (Balvaird), <i>Dail na Mèinn</i> (Dalnamain)	DE	27AB06 27AB07	60QT000333 60QT000334
12	<i>Baile Ghrùididh</i> (Pitgrudy), <i>An Cadha Mòr</i> (Camore), <i>Baile an Lòin</i> (Balloan), <i>Eibhleag</i> (Evelix), <i>Prannsaidh Cruaidh</i> (Proncycroy)	DW	27AB08 27AB09 27AB10	60QT000337 60QT001097 60QT001354
13	<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg)	LA	27AC01 27AC02	60QT000338 60QT000339 60QT000340 60QT000341
14	<i>Luirg</i> (Lairg), <i>Monadh Luirg</i> (Lairg Muir)	LA	27AC03 27AC05	60QT000342 60QT000344
15	<i>A'Chràisg</i> (Crask), <i>Ofarsgaig</i> (Overscaig), <i>Àird na Sinnis</i> (Shinness), <i>Srath Tìridh</i> (Tirryside), <i>Dail Choirce</i> (Dalchork), <i>Achadh an Fheàrna</i> (Achnairn)	LA	27AC04 27AC08	60QT000343 60QT000346
16	<i>Inbhir Sin</i> (Invershin), <i>Inbhirean</i> (Inveran), <i>Tulach</i> (Tullich)	LA	27AC06 27AC07 27AC10	60QT000345 60QT000347
17	<i>Raoghard</i> (Rogart), <i>A'Mhuigh</i> (Muie), <i>Baile nan Tràill</i> (Pit-tentrail), <i>Ruigh an Lochain</i> (Rhilochan), <i>Àmait</i> (Amat), <i>Creag Mhòr</i> (Craggiemore), <i>Achadh nan Gearran</i> (Achnagarron), <i>Langail an Iar</i> (West Langwell), <i>Langail an Ear</i> (East Langwell), <i>Bruach Baile a' Mhuilinn</i> (Miltonbank), <i>Cnoc Artair</i> (Knockarthur), <i>Ròmhagh</i> (Rovie)	RO	27AD01 27AD02 27AD03 27AD04 27AD05	60QT000364 60QT000365 60QT000366 60QT000367
18	<i>Brùra</i> (Brora)	CL	27AF01 27AF02 27AF03	60QT001111 60QT001112 60QT001113 60QT001114 60QT001298 60QT001299 60QT001359
19	<i>Brùra</i> (Brora)	CL	27AF04 27AF05	60QT000375 60QT001115 60QT001116 60QT001117 60QT001300 60QT001301

Table A-2: List of locations within individual census output areas and official numbers for different census dates for *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) – 1961-2001 – Part B



Census Output Areas in <i>Cataibh an Ear – Part C</i>				
	Census output area(s)	Area Codes		
		1961 1971	1981 1991	2001
20	<i>Clin</i> (Clyne), <i>Dail</i> (Doll), <i>Dail Chàirn</i> (Dalcharn), <i>Clìn Trolla</i> (Kintradwell)	CL	27AF06 27AF07 27AF08 27AF09	60QT000376 60QT000377 60QT001360
21	<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie)	GV	27AG01 27AG02	60QT001105 60QT001295 60QT001296
22	<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie)	GV	27AG03 27AG04	60QT001106 60QT001107 60QT001108 60QT001297
23	<i>Goillspidh</i> (Golspie)	GV	27AG05	60QT001109 60QT001110 60QT001697 60QT001698
24	<i>Bacaidh</i> (Backies), <i>Druim Muighe</i> (Drumuie), <i>Cùil Mhàilidh</i> (Culmaily), <i>Dùn Robain</i> (Dunrobin), <i>Baile na h-Eaglaise</i> (Kirkton)	GR	27AG06 27AG07	60QT000378 60QT000379
25	<i>Bun Ilidh</i> (Helmsdale), <i>Loth Mòr</i> (Lothmore)	KS / LO	27AE01 27AE04	60QT000368 60QT000374 60QT001358
26	<i>Bun Ilidh</i> (Helmsdale)	KN	27AE02 27AE03	60QT000369 60QT000370 60QT000371 60QT000372 60QT000373
27	<i>Ceann a'Bhràist</i> (Kinbrace), <i>Srath Ilidh</i> (Strath of Kildonan), <i>Loidse Cill Donnain</i> (Kildonan Lodge), <i>Loch Choire</i> , <i>Bad nan Loch</i> (Badanloch)	KN	27AH03 27AE05	60QT000381

Table A-3: List of locations within individual census output areas and official numbers for different census dates for *Cataibh an Ear* (East Sutherland) – 1961-2001 – Part C



Census Output Areas in <i>Gallaibh – Part A</i>				
	Census output areas	Area Codes		
		61-71	1981-91	2001
51	<i>Meaghrath</i> (Reay), <i>Dùnraath</i> (Dounreay), <i>Innis Allt</i> (Isauld), <i>Achadh Bhàrasdail</i> (Achvarasdal), <i>Freasgail</i> (Fresgoe)	CA	21AJ14 21AJ15 21AJ16	60QT000068 to 60QT000072
52	<i>Baile Theòrsa</i> (Thurso) – western and central parts of town; <i>Fors</i> (Forss)	CA	21AJ01 to 21AJ13 21AJ17 21AJ18 21AJ20 21AJ21 21AK12 21AK13	60QT000062 60QT000063 60QT000066 60QT000067 60QT000073 60QT000074 60QT000075 60QT001160 to 60QT001195 60QT001217 60QT001218 60QT001219 60QT001306 60QT001307 60QT001308 60QT001425 60QT001426 60QT001427 60QT001716 60QT001717
53	<i>Baile Theòrsa</i> (Thurso) – eastern part of town	CA	21AK04 to 21AK11	60QT001196 to 60QT001216 60QT001309 60QT001310 60QT001718
54	<i>Hacraig</i> (Halkirk), <i>A'Bhatan</i> (Watten), <i>Allt nam Breac</i> (Alt-nabreac), <i>Srath Mòr</i> (Strathmore), <i>An Dail Shuas</i> (Westerdale), <i>Cal nan Gall</i> (Scotsalder), <i>Cnoc Dubh</i> (Knockdee), <i>Suardail</i> (Sordale)	CA	21AH01 to 21AH06 21AJ19 21AB14 to 21AB17	60QT001157 to 60QT001159 60QT000062 60QT000063 60QT001723 60QT001724 60QT000035 to 60QT000040

Table A-4: List of locations within individual census output areas and official numbers for different census dates for *Gallaibh* (Caithness) – 1961-2001 – Part A



Census Output Areas in <i>Gallaibh – Part B</i>				
	Census output areas	Area Codes		
		1961 1971	1981 1991	2001
55	<i>Latharan</i> (Latheron), <i>Bearghdal</i> (Berriedale), <i>Liabost</i> (Lybster), <i>Allt Bèithe</i> (Aultibea), <i>Am Bràigh Mòr</i> (Braemore), <i>Dùn Bèithe</i> (Dunbeath), <i>Borbh</i> (Borgue), <i>Latharan a'Phuill</i> (Latheronwheel), <i>Cliath</i> (Clythe), <i>Achadh a'Mhanaich</i> (Achavanich), <i>Langail</i> (Langwell)	CA	21AC01 21AD01 to 21AD05 21AE01 21AE02 21AF01 21AF02 21AF03 21AG01	60QT000050 to 60QT000061 60QT001392 60QT001423 60QT001424
56	<i>Inbhir Uige</i> (Wick)	CA	21AA01 to 21AA15 21AA18 21AA19 21AA21 21AB01 to 21AB13 21AB18 to 21AB21	60QT000041 to 60QT000049 60QT001118 to 60QT001156 60QT001302 to 60QT001305 60QT001353 60QT001699 to 60QT001715 60QT001418 60QT001419

Table A-5: List of locations within individual census output areas and official numbers for different census dates for *Gallaibh* (Caithness) – 1961-2001 – Part B



Census Output Areas in <i>Gallaibh – Part C</i>				
	Census output areas	Area Codes		
		1961 1971	1981 1991	2001
57	<i>Bàgair</i> (Bower), <i>Dùnaid</i> (Dunnet), <i>An t-Òlach</i> (Olrìg), <i>Bàgh a'Chanais</i> (Canisbay), <i>Eilean Stròma</i> (Isle of Stròma), <i>Bail' a'Chaisteil</i> (Castletown), <i>Cèis</i> (Keiss), <i>Dùn Gasbaith</i> (Duncansby), <i>Taigh Iain Ghròt</i> (John O'Groats), <i>Achadh a'Ghuil</i> (Auckengill), <i>Tobhtan</i> (Tofts), <i>A'Mhaigh</i> (Mey), <i>Sgarbh Sgeireidh</i> (Scarfskerry), <i>A'Bhruthach</i> (Brough), <i>Bàgair Mheadhain</i> (Bowermadden)	CA	21AA11 21AH07 21AH08 21AA16 21AA17 21AA20 21AK01 21AK02 21AK03 21AK14 21AK15 21AK17 21AK19 21AK20	60QT000026 to 60QT000033 60QT000034 60QT000064 60QT000065 60QT000076 to 60QT000079 60QT001220 to 60QT001224 60QT001243 60QT001311 60QT001420 60QT001421 60QT001422 60QT001428 60QT001429 to 60QT001434

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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



Publication Schedule of the <i>Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Studies</i>		<u>Scheduled</u>	<u>Published</u>
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