

**1881 Census of Scotland**; Number 539/2; District: Colonsay & Oronsay; County: Argyll

District No 1: Northern Division from Balnahard to Mulbuie 74 families  
Enumerator, Mr John McNeill

Table I: Persons temporarily absent: Total 2, females, visiting

Table II: Persons not inhabitants temporarily present: Total 2, males, visiting

Table III: Houses: Inhabited 71; Uninhabited 3; Building 1 [at Riskbuie]

Persons: Males 158; Females 162; Total 320

Gaelic: 297

Windowed rooms: 235

The enumerator signed on 15 April 1881

District No. 2: Island of Oronsay and to Mulbuie in Colonsay  
Enumerator, Mr Angus McMillan [former Parochial schoolteacher]

Table I: Persons temporarily absent: Total Nil

Table II: Persons not inhabitants temporarily present: Total 1, male, Preaching

Table III: Houses: Inhabited 14; Uninhabited 1; Building Nil

Persons: Males 40; Females 35; Total 75

Gaelic: 48

Windowed rooms: 38

The enumerator signed on 15 April 1881

Therefore, in summary the grand totals in 1881 are:

85 inhabited houses, 4 uninhabited houses and one being built (at Riasgbuidh)

196 permanent male inhabitants, plus 199 females, Total 395 inhabitants

345 persons spoke Gaelic and 273 rooms had one or more windows.

This document transcribed by Kevin Byrne, January 1998 for private study. Please notify any errors and please note that any specific entry should be checked in the original before use in genealogical charts etc. Kevin Byrne, Isle of Colonsay, Argyll PA61 7YP or [genealogist@colonsay.org.uk](mailto:genealogist@colonsay.org.uk)