

Sign Languages in the World

Africa

Language	Origin	Notes
Adamorobe Sign Language	village sign	(ADS) (Ghana)
Algerian Sign Language	French	
Bamako Sign Language	local deaf community	used by adult men. Threatened by ASL.
Berbey Sign Language	family	Dogon region, Mali
Bouakako Sign Language	village	Ivory Coast
Bura Sign Language	village	in Nigeria
Burkina Sign Language	local	Ouagadougou (<i>Langue des Signes Mossi</i>)
Chadian Sign Language	ASL:Nigerian?	

Douentza Sign Language	local? village?	Dogon region, Mali
Eritrean Sign Language	artificial	
Eswatini Sign Language	Irish, British, & local	
Ethiopian sign languages		1 million signers of an unknown number of languages
Francophone African Sign Language	ASL & spoken French	The development of ASL in Francophone West Africa
Gambian Sign Language	ASL	
Ghanaian Sign Language	ASL	(GSE)
Guinean Sign Language	ASL	
Guinea-Bissau Sign Language	local	incipient/basic

Hausa Sign Language	local	"Maganar Hannu" (HSL) – Northern Nigeria (Kano State)
Kenyan Sign Language	local?	(KSL or LAK)
Lesotho Sign Language	BANZL	
Libyan Sign Language	Arab?	
Malagasy Sign Language	French:Danish:Norwegian	(or "Madagascan Sign Language") May be a dialect of Norwegian SL
Maroua Sign Language	local	Cameroon
Mauritian Sign Language	isolate	
Moroccan Sign Language	ASL	
Mozambican Sign Language		

Mbour Sign Language	local	M'Bour, Senegal
Namibian Sign Language	Paget-Gorman	
Nanabin Sign Language	village	a deaf family in Nanabin, Ghana
Nigerian Sign Language	ASL	
Rwandan Sign Language	?	
Sao Tome and Principe Sign Language	rural	
Sierra Leonean Sign Language	ASL	
Somali Sign Language	Kenyan SL	
South African Sign Language	Irish & British	(SASL)

Sudanese sign languages	village & local?	Government proposal to unify local languages
Tanzanian sign languages	local	(seven independent languages, one for each deaf school in Tanzania, with little mutual influence)
Tebul Sign Language	village	(Tebul Ure SL) Mopti, Mali (village of Tebul Ure)
Tunisian Sign Language	French:Italian	
Ugandan Sign Language	local?	(USL)
Yoruba Sign Language	local	(YSL)
Zambian Sign Language		(ZASL)

Zimbabwean sign languages		"sign language" is an official language
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Americas

Americas		
American Sign Language	United States and Canada	ASL is also officially recognized as a language in Canada due to the passage of Bill C-81, the Accessible Canada Act. Black American Sign Language is a dialect of ASL.
Argentine Sign Language	Spain and Italy	(Lengua de Señas Argentina – LSA)
Bay Islands Sign Language	village	Honduras. Deaf-blind. French Harbour Sign Language
Bolivian Sign Language	ASL/Andean	"Lenguaje de Señas Bolivianas" (LSB)

Brazilian Sign Language	French	Libras (Lingua Brasileira de Sinais)
		Recognized legally as a means of communication among the Brazilian Deaf community.
Bribri Sign Language	village?	
Brunca Sign Language	village?	
Carhuahuaran Sign Language	family	Peru
Chatino Sign Language	family	
Chilean Sign Language	French?	<i>Lenguaje de Señas Chileno</i> (LSCH)
Colombian Sign Language	Andean	(CSN) / <i>Lengua de Señas Colombiana</i> (LSC)
Costa Rican Sign Language		at least four languages in Costa Rica (Woodward 1991)
Old Costa Rican Sign Language		

Cuban Sign Language		
Dominican Sign Language	ASL	
Ecuadorian Sign Language	Andean	
Greenlandic Sign Language	Danish	"Kalaallisut Ussersuutit" (DTS)
Guatemalan Sign Language		
Guyanese Sign Language	?	
Haitian Sign Language	ASL	
Honduras Sign Language	Mexican?	"Lengua de señas hondureña" (LESHO)
Inmaculada Sign Language	Peruvian	Lima, Peru. Inmaculada is a school for the deaf. (see ref under Sivia SL)

Inuit Sign Language	village	"Inuit Uqausiqatigiit Uukturausiq Uqajittunut (General Inuit Sign Language for deaf)"[citation needed] also known as Iniuuk (Δ <u>o</u> Δ <u>i</u> ▷ ^b)
		There may be more than one. The indigenous languages is an isolate.
Jamaican Sign Language	ASL	(JSL)
Jamaican Country Sign Language	local	(JCSL)
Kajana Sign Language	village	<i>Kajana Gebarentaal</i>
Keresan Sign Language	village	(KPISL)
Macushi Sign Language	?	Brazil [no data]
Marajo Sign Language	home sign?	Brazil

Maritime Sign Language	British	
Maxakali Sign Language	home sign?	if not home sign, at least a young language. Brazil
Mayan Sign Language	village	
Mexican Sign Language	French	"Lengua de señas mexicana" (LSM)
Navajo Sign Language		
Nicaraguan Sign Language	local	"Idioma de señas nicaragüense" (ISN)
Old Cayman Sign Language	village	gave rise to Providence Island SL?
Panamanian Sign Language	ASL, some Salvadoran influence	"Lengua de señas panameñas"
Paraguayan Sign Language	related to Uruguayan, Old-French Sign Language	"Lengua de Señas Paraguaya" (LSPy)
Papiu Yanomama Sign Language	?	Brazil [no data]
Peruvian Sign Language	Andean[13]	"Lengua de señas peruana"

Plains Sign Language	historically a trade pidgin distinct from national norms	national forms maintained by some Plains nations
Puerto Rican Sign Language	ASL	"Lengua de señas puertorriqueña"
Providence Island Sign Language	village	
Quebec Sign Language	French-ASL mix	"Langue des Signes Québécoise" (LSQ)
Salvadoran Sign Language	isolate	
Sivia Sign Language	village	Peru
South Rupununi Sign Language	village?	Guyana
Terena Sign Language	village	Brazil
Trinidad and Tobago Sign Language	isolate?	ASL taught in schools; most deaf bilingual
Uruguayan Sign Language	Old French Sign Language	"Lengua de Señas Uruguaya"
Ka'apor Sign Language	village	(a.k.a. Urubu Sign Language, although this name is pejorative)

Venezuelan Sign Language	isolate	"Lengua de señas venezolana" (LSV)
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Asia-Pacific

Asia-Pacific		
Afghan Sign Language	indig, or ASL creole?	
Alipur Sign Language	village	
Amami Oshima Sign Language	village or idioglossia	Japan
Auslan	British	(Australian Sign Language)
Ban Khor Sign Language	village	(Plaa Pag is a dialect)
Bhutanese Sign Language	?	
Burmese sign language	ASL	may be two languages
Cambodian Sign Language	#NAME?	

Chinese Sign Language	Chinese	"中國手語" (ZGS)
Enga Sign Language	village	PNG
Ghandruk Sign Language	village	(Nepal)
Hawai'i Sign Language	?	
Hong Kong Sign Language	Shanghai Sign Language	"香港手語" (HKSL). Derives from the southern dialect of CSL.
Huay Hai Sign Language	village	(Thailand) [no data]
Indo-Pakistani Sign Language	Indian	conflicting reports on whether Indian and Pakistani SL are one language or two.
Jakarta Sign Language	ASL:Malaysian?:Indonesian	a variety of Indonesian Sign Language

Japanese Sign Language	Japanese	" <i>Nihon Shuwa</i> (日本手話)" (JSL)
Jhankot Sign Language	village	(Nepal)
Jumla Sign Language	village	(Nepal)
Kailge Sign Language	village, perhaps related to SSSL	PNG
Kata Kolok	village	(a.k.a. Bali Sign Language, Benkala Sign Language)
Laotian Sign Language		(related to Vietnamese languages; may be more than one SL)
Korean Sign Language (KSDSL)		"한국수어 (or 한국수화)" / "Hanguk Soo-hwa"

		Korean standard sign language – manually coded spoken Korean
Macau Sign Language		"澳門手語"[citation needed]
Malaysian Sign Language	ASL	"Bahasa Isyarat Malaysia" (BIM)
Maunabudhuk–Bodhe Sign Language	village	Nepal
Mehek Sign Language	home sign? incipient?	PNG
Miyakubo Sign Language	village	Japan
Mongolian Sign Language	?	"Монгол дохионы хэл"
Mount Avejaha Sign Language	village	PNG
Na Sai Sign Language	village	(Thailand) [no data]

Naga Sign Language	village?	(India) last reported in 1921
Nepali Sign Language	Indian	Indigenous sign language with inputs from Indian Sign Language, American Sign Language, International Sign, and others
New Zealand Sign Language	British	(NZSL)
Old Bangkok Sign Language	local (or village?)	
Old Chiangmai Sign Language	local (or village?)	
Papua New Guinean Sign Language	British	

Penang Sign Language	local	(Malaysia)
Philippine Sign Language	French	(PSP)
Rennellese Sign Language	home sign, not a full language	(Solomon Islands)
Rossel Island Sign Language village	PNG	
Samoan Sign Language	Auslan	
Selangor Sign Language	ASL?	(Malaysia)
Sinasina Sign Language	village?	PNG, not clear if developed
Singapore Sign Language	local	A blend of ASL, SEE2, SSL and locally-developed signs.
Solomon Islands Sign Language		

Sri Lankan sign languages	local	(14 deaf schools with different languages)
Taiwanese Sign Language	Japanese	臺灣手語 / Taiwan Ziran Shouyu
Tibetan Sign Language	local	
Thai Sign Language	ASL	(TSL) "แบบสะกดนิ้วมือไทย" (incl. Hai Yai)
Vietnamese sign languages	local	(Hanoi Sign Language, Ho Chi Minh Sign Language, Haiphong Sign Language; some may be related to some of the Thai languages)

Wanib Sign Language	village	PNG
Yogyakarta Sign Language	ASL:Malaysian?:Indonesian	a variety of Indonesian Sign Language
Yolŋu Sign Language	local	

Europe

Language	Origin	Notes
Albanian Sign Language		"Gjuha e Shenjave Shqipe"
Armenian Sign Language	isolate	
Azerbaijani Sign Language	French:Austro-Hungarian	"Azərbaycan işarət dili" (AİD)
Austrian Sign Language	French:Austro-Hungarian	"Österreichische Gebärdensprache" (ÖGS)
British Sign Language	British	(BSL)

Bulgarian Sign Language	French:Austro-Hungarian:Russian	
Catalan Sign Language	French?	(or "Catalonian Sign Language") "Llengua de Signes Catalana" (LSC)
Croatian Sign Language	French:Austro-Hungarian:Yugoslav	(Croslan) "Hrvatski Znakovni Jezik" (HZJ)[14]
Czech Sign Language	French:Austro-Hungarian	"Český znakový jazyk" (ČZJ)
Cypriot Sign Language	ASLxGSL	"Κυπριακή Νοηματική Γλώσσα" (CSL)
Danish Sign Language	French	"Dansk Tegnsprog" (DTS)
Dutch Sign Language	French	"Nederlandse Gebarentaal" (NGT)
Estonian Sign Language		"Eesti viipekeel"

Finnish Sign Language	Swedish	"Suomalainen viittomakieli" (SVK)
Finland-Swedish Sign Language	Swedish	"finlandssvenskt teckenspråk" (Swedish) or "suomenruotsalainen viittomakieli" (Finnish). A single Swedish school in Finland, now closed.
Flemish Sign Language	Belgian	"Vlaamse Gebarentaal" (VGT)
French Sign Language		"Langues des Signes Française" (LSF)
Georgian Sign Language	?	
German Sign Language	German	"Deutsche Gebärdensprache" (DGS)

Greek Sign Language	French-ASL mix	"Ελληνική Νοηματική Γλώσσα" (GSL)
Hungarian Sign Language		"Magyar jelnyelv"
Icelandic Sign Language	French:Danish	"Íslenskt Táknmál"
Irish Sign Language	French	"Teanga Chomharthaíochta na hÉireann" (ISL/ISG and TCÉ)
Italian Sign Language	French	"Lingua dei Segni Italiana" (LIS)
Kosovar Sign Language	French:Austro-Hungarian:Yugoslav	"Gjuha e Shenjave Kosovare" (GjShK)
Latvian Sign Language	French	"Latviešu zīmju valoda"
Lithuanian Sign Language		"Lietuvių gestų kalba"
Macedonian Sign Language	?	<i>Македонски знаковен јазик / Makedonski znakovlen jazik</i>

Maltese Sign Language		"Lingwi tas-Sinjali Maltin" (LSM)
Northern Ireland Sign Language	British (mixed)	
Norwegian Sign Language	French:Danish	"Tegnspråk" (NSL)
Polish Sign Language	Old-French, German	"Polski Język Migowy" (PJM)
Portuguese Sign Language	Swedish	"Língua Gestual Portuguesa" (LGP)
Romanian Sign Language	French	"Limbaj Mimico-Gestual Românesc" (LMG)
Russian Sign Language	French:Austro-Hungarian	"Russkiy zhestovyj jazyk" / русский жестовый язык
Slovakian Sign Language		"Slovenský posunkový jazyk"
Slovenian Sign Language	French:Austro-Hungarian:Yugoslav	"Slovenski znakovni jezik" (SZJ)

Spanish Sign Language	isolate	"Lengua de signos española" (LSE)
Swedish Sign Language	Swedish	"Svenskt teckenspråk" (TSP)
Swiss-French Sign Language	French?	"Langage Gestuelle"
Swiss-German Sign Language	French?	"Deutschschweizer Gebärdensprache" (DSGS)
Swiss-Italian Sign Language	French?	
Turkish Sign Language	Isolate	"Türk İşaret Dili" (TİD)
Ukrainian Sign Language	French	"Українська жестова мова (УЖМ)"
Valencian Sign Language		"Llengua de Signes en la Comunitat Valenciana" (LSCV)

Walloon Sign Language	Belgian	"Langue des Signes de Belgique Francophone" (LSFB)
Yugoslav Sign Language	French:Austro-Hungarian	

Middle East

Language	Origin	Notes
Al-Sayyid Bedouin Sign Language	village	(ABSL), Negev
Central Taurus Sign Language	village	Turkey
Egyptian Sign Language	Arab	
Emirati Sign Language	Arab	
Ghardaia Sign Language	village	(Algerian Jewish Sign Language) deaf & hearing, Algeria → Israel

Iraqi Sign Language	Arab	لغة الاشارة العراقية .Perhaps close to Levantine
Israeli Sign Language	Large lexical base from DGS	שפת סימנים ישראליות (SSHAI)
Jordanian Sign Language	Arab, Levantine	Lughat il-Ishaarah il-Urduniah / الأردنية (LIU)
Kafr Qasem Sign Language	Arab, village	Kafr Qasim
Kurdish Sign Language	local	ZHK
Kuwaiti Sign Language	Arab	لغة الاشارة الكويتية
Lebanese Sign Language	Arab, Levantine	Lughat al-Isharat al-Lubnaniya / اللبنانيّة

Mardin Sign Language	family	one extended family in Turkey
Omani Sign Language	Arab?	
Palestinian Sign Language	Arab, Levantine	"الفلسطينية لغة الاشارات"
Persian Sign Language	Persian	زبان اشاره پارسي
Qahvehkhaneh Sign Language	urban	Tehran. Moribund.

Qatari Unified Sign Language	Artificial/Arab	Unclear what the Qatari deaf community actually uses. An artificial attempt to standardize all Arab sign languages has resulted in a variety used mainly by hearing Qatari interpreters.
Saudi Sign Language	isolate	"لغة الإشارة السعودية"
Seraglio Sign Language		Ottoman court
Syrian Sign Language	Arab, Levantine	
Yemeni Sign Language	Arab	"لغة الإشارة اليمنية"

Source: Wikipedia