

“Chilean Sign Language [csg] (A language of Chile)

- **Alternate Names:** Lengua de Señas Chilena, Lenguaje Chileno de Signos, Lenguaje de Señas, LENSE, LSCh
- **Population:** 21,000 (Parks, Parks, and Williams 2011). 292,700 people with some level of auditory deficiency (2005 Fondo Nacional de la Discapacidad); 66,500 people with total deafness (23,900 less than 60 years old) (2002 census).
- **Language Status:** 5 (Developing). Recognized language (2010, Article 26 of Law No. 20.422).
- **Dialects:** Variation based on region (northern, central, and southern), age, and educational background. Regional varieties are influenced by bordering countries. (Parks, Parks, and Williams 2011).
- **Language Use:** All domains. All ages. While Chilean Sign Language is the primary language of communication for most deaf people, widely varying degrees of bilingualism (spoken and written) in Spanish [spa] are common. Spanish literacy for access to mainstream society and employment is valued.
- **Language Development:** 37 Deaf teachers of Chilean sign language (2006 V. Castillo Martínez). Bilingual-bicultural approach to education. Approximately 15 sign language interpreters (2008 World Federation of the Deaf). TV. Dictionary.”

Lewis, M. Paul, Gary F. Simons, and Charles D. Fennig (eds.)
2015. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Eighteenth edition. Dallas, Texas: SIL International. Online version: <http://www.ethnologue.com>.

Related Research

Sepúlveda, Carolina Becerra

2014 Interculturality and Education Sciences in Chilean Sign Language: The Body as Culture’s Memory. *Cross-Cultural Communication* 10: 1-9.

Alvarado, Jesús M, Valeria Herrera, and Aníbal Puente

2008 Visual and Phonological Coding in Working Memory and Orthographic Skills of Deaf Children Using Chilean Sign Language. *American Annals of the Deaf* 152(5): 467-479.

Alvarado, Jesus M, Valeria Herrera, and Anibal Puente

2006 Fingerspelling and Sign Language as Alternative Codes for Reading and Writing Words for Chilean Deaf Signers. *American Annals of the Deaf* 151(3): 299-310.

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