

Ethnologue: Languages of Guyana

Twenty-sixth edition data

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List of Abbreviations

A	Agent in constituent word order
<i>alt.</i>	alternate name for
<i>alt. dial.</i>	alternate dialect name for
AOV	Agent-Object-Verb
C	Consonant in canonical syllable patterns
<i>Class</i>	Language classification
CPPDCE	Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005)
DBS	Deaf Bible Society
<i>dial.</i>	primary dialect name for
DOOR	Deaf Opportunity Outreach
FUNASA	Fundação Nacional do Saude
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)
km	kilometer(s)
L1 / L2	first language / second (or other additional) language
<i>Lg Dev</i>	Language development
<i>Lg Use</i>	Language use
m	meter(s)
P	Patient in constituent word order
PARADISEC	Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources In Endangered Cultures
<i>pej.</i>	pejorative
pl.	plural
S	Subject in constituent word order
sg.	singular
SIL	SIL International
SVO	Subject-Verb-Object
<i>Type</i>	Typological information
UNCRPD	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006)
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007)
V	Vowel in canonical syllable patterns

How to Use This Digest

This *Ethnologue* country digest provides an extract of the information about the language situation in Guyana that is published in the 26th edition of *Ethnologue: Languages of the World* (see <http://www.ethnologue.com>), including some ways of presenting the information that are not available in the online version. The digest begins with a “Country Overview” (page 6) and “Statistical Summaries” (page 8) of languages and number of speakers by language size, by language status, and by language family.

The “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) provides detailed information on the 21 languages listed in the *Ethnologue* for the country of Guyana. This includes languages that are indigenous to the country, languages that have developed well-established multigenerational speaker communities after immigrating in the past, and languages that have a significant presence in the country but are not established (that is, not being transmitted to the next generation within the country). A complete language entry has the following form and content:

Primary language name [ISO 639-3 code] (Alternate names). Autonym. *Users*: Country user population. Population stability comment. Population remarks. Monolingual population. Ethnic population. *Location*: Location. *Status*: EGIDS level. Special cases. Language function in country. *Class*: Linguistic classification. Macrolanguage membership. *Dialects*: Dialect names. Intelligibility and dialect relations. Lexical similarity. *Type*: Linguistic typology information. *Lg Use*: Remarks on use of the language. Domains of use. User age range. Language attitudes. Bilingualism remarks. Use as second language. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rates. Literacy remarks. Use in education. Publications and use in media. Revitalization efforts. Language development agencies. *DLS*: Digital support. *Writing*: Scripts used. *Other*: Non-indigenous. General remarks. Religion. *Map*: Map page. *Worldwide*: Total population in all countries. Other countries where used.

See <http://www.ethnologue.com/methodology/#languagePages> for a full description of these information elements. If the autonym contains the “?” character, this indicates a complex non-Roman character that the PDF-creating software we are using is not able to render. We regret the inconvenience.

The “Language Map” (page 17) shows the locations of the listed languages. If the location of a language is given on a map, the *Map* element of the language entry indicates the page number of the map. If the language is identified on a map by name, but that name differs from the primary name in the language entry, the name on the map is given in parentheses. If the language is represented on the map by an index number, rather than by its name, the index number is given following the page number (with a colon as separator).

Many ways of finding languages are provided. “Languages by Population” (page 18) lists the languages in order of their first-language speaker populations. “Languages by Status” (page 20) lists the languages by their level of development or endangerment as measured on EGIDS, the Expanded Graded Intergenerational Disruption Scale (Lewis and Simons 2010). “Languages by

Region” (page 23) lists the top-level administrative subdivisions of Guyana and the languages located within each. “Languages by Family” (page 24) lists the languages by their linguistic classifications. “Language Code Index” (page 26) gives an alphabetical listing of all the three-letter codes from ISO 639-3 that are used in this digest to uniquely identify languages. “Language Name Index” (page 27) lists every name that appears in the language listings as a primary or alternate name of a language or dialect. A total of 96 unique names are associated with the 21 languages described in this digest.

Finally, a listing of all the published sources cited within this digest is found in “Bibliography” (page 30). The published sources are cited using standard in-text citations enclosed in parentheses, consisting of the author’s or editor’s surname followed by the year of publication. Unpublished sources including personal communications and unpublished reports are also acknowledged when specific statements or facts are attributed to them. They are identified using in-text citations enclosed in parentheses in which the year of the communication is given first, followed by the source’s first initial and surname. In such a case, there is no corresponding entry in the bibliography.

This digest is designed for use in both digital and print formats. The cross-references are thus rendered as page numbers that are hyperlinks. When using the document in printed form, simply turn to the referenced page by number. When using it in digital form, click on the blue text to jump to the cross-referenced location.

If you believe any of the information about a language in this digest is in error or if you are able to supply missing information, please send your proposed change to the editor using one of the means given below. Provide as much information as possible about the source of your information. Full bibliographic details of published sources are especially helpful.

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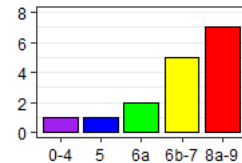
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Country Overview

Name of country	Guyana
Population	790,000 (2022 World Factbook)
Principal language	English
Literacy rate	89% (2015 World Factbook)
Deaf population	754–8,000
International conventions	CPPDCE (2009), ICCPR (1977), UNCRPD (2014), UNDRIP (2007)
General references	Campbell 1997, Crevels 2007, Forte 1990

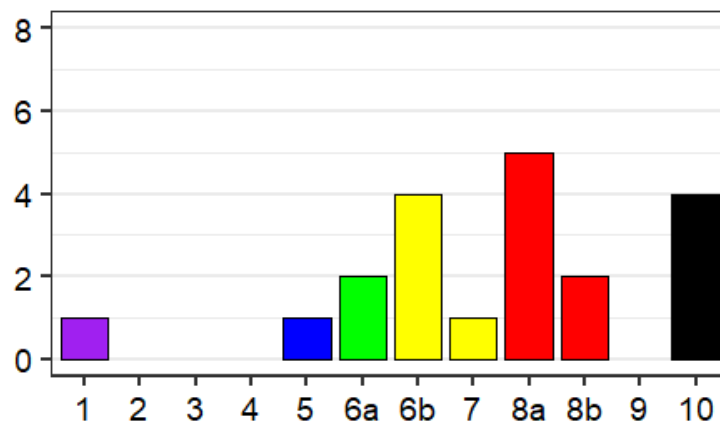
Language counts	<p>The number of established languages listed for Guyana is 20. Of these, 16 are living and 4 are extinct. Of the living languages, 11 are indigenous and 5 are non-indigenous. Furthermore, 1 is institutional, 1 is developing, 2 are vigorous, 5 are in trouble, and 7 are dying. Also listed is 1 unestablished language.</p>
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See the next page for an explanation of the summary categories for language vitality used in the above counts and graph.

Language Status Profile

The following histogram gives a graphic profile of the established languages in Guyana with respect to their status of language development versus language endangerment. This includes all of the languages appearing in the “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) that report an EGIDS level after *Status*; macrolanguages and unestablished languages are not included in the profile. The horizontal axis plots the estimated level of development or endangerment as measured on the EGIDS scale (Lewis and Simons 2010). The height of each bar indicates the number of languages that are estimated to be at the given level. Consult “Languages by Status” (page 20) in order to see the specific languages for each level.



The color coding of the bars in the histogram above matches the color scheme used in the summary profile graph on the preceding page. In this scheme, the EGIDS levels are grouped as follows:

- Purple = Institutional (EGIDS 0–4) — The language has been developed to the point that it is used and sustained by institutions beyond the home and community.
- Blue = Developing (EGIDS 5) — The language is in vigorous use, with literature in a standardized form being used by some though this is not yet widespread or sustainable.
- Green = Vigorous (EGIDS 6a) — The language is in vigorous use among all generations and remains unstandardized.
- Yellow = In trouble (EGIDS 6b–7) — Intergenerational transmission is in the process of being broken, but the child-bearing generation can still use the language so it is possible that revitalization efforts could restore transmission of the language in the home.
- Red = Dying (EGIDS 8a–9) — The only fluent users (if any) are older than child-bearing age, so it is too late to restore natural intergenerational transmission through the home; a mechanism outside the home would need to be developed.
- Black = Extinct (EGIDS 10) — The language is no longer used and no one retains a sense of ethnic identity associated with the language.

Statistical Summaries

The “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) provides a detailed listing of all the languages of Guyana. This section steps back from the detail to offer a summary view of the language situation in the country. Specifically, it offers three numerical tabulations of the living established languages of Guyana and their users: by language size, by language status, and by language family.

Summary by language size

Table 1 summarizes the distribution of living established languages in Guyana by number of L1 speakers. The *Population range* column categorizes the sizes of the languages by order of magnitude (in terms of the number of digits in the population of first-language speakers). Consult “Languages by Population” (page 18) for a listing of the specific languages in each range category.

The *Count* column gives the number of living established languages within the specified population range. The *Percent* column gives the share of the count for that population range as a percentage of the total number of languages given at the bottom of the Count column. The *Cumulative* column gives the cumulative sum of the percentage of languages going from top to bottom in the column.

The *Total* column gives the total L1 population of all the languages in the given range category. The second *Percent* column gives the percentage of the total country population as estimated at the bottom of the Total column. Note that if the table has a row for Unknown, representing languages for which the *Ethnologue* does not have a population estimate, the calculation of population percentage is not able to take those languages into account. The final *Cumulative* column gives the cumulative sums of the population percentages going from top to bottom in the column.

Table 1: Distribution of languages by number of first-language speakers

Population range	Living languages			Number of speakers		
	Count	Percent	Cumulative	Total	Percent	Cumulative
100,000 to 999,999	1	6.2	6.2%	643,000	86.90469	86.90469%
10,000 to 99,999	1	6.2	12.5%	72,000	9.73116	96.63586%
1,000 to 9,999	6	37.5	50.0%	22,800	3.08153	99.71739%
100 to 999	4	25.0	75.0%	2,090	0.28247	99.99986%
1 to 9	1	6.2	81.2%	1	0.00014	100.00000%
Unknown	3	18.8	100.0%			
<i>Totals</i>	16	100.0		739,891	100.00000	

Summary by language status

Table 2 summarizes the distribution of living established languages in Guyana by their status in terms of language development or language endangerment. The *EGIDS* column categorizes the languages by their level on the EGIDS scale. Consult “Languages by Status” (page 20) for a listing of the specific languages that have been assigned to each level. Note that the EGIDS level reported here is for the status of the language in Guyana. Languages that are also used in other countries may be assigned to a different EGIDS level in those countries.

The next six columns are as in Table 1. In addition, the *Mean* column gives the average L1 population of all the languages with the given EGIDS level and the *Median* column gives the median L1 population for the languages at that level, that is, half of the languages at that level have a higher population and half have a lower population. If there are any languages with an unknown population, these are ignored in the calculation of the mean and the median.

Table 2: Distribution of languages by vitality status

EGIDS	Living languages			Number of speakers			Mean	Median
	Count	Percent	Cumulative	Total	Percent	Cumulative		
1	1	6.2	6.2%	72,000	9.7312	9.7312%	72,000	72,000
5	1	6.2	12.5%	643,000	86.9047	96.6359%	643,000	643,000
6a	2	12.5	25.0%	2,480	0.3352	96.9710%	1,240	1,240
6b	4	25.0	50.0%	15,680	2.1192	99.0903%	3,920	4,600
7	1	6.2	56.2%	930	0.1257	99.2160%	930	930
8a	5	31.2	87.5%	5,800	0.7839	99.9999%	1,160	1,500
8b	2	12.5	100.0%	1	0.0001	100.0000%		1
<i>Totals</i>	16	100.0		739,891	100.0000			

Summary by language family

The genealogical classifications given in the language entries of the “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) name 6 different top-level groups. Table 3 summarizes the distribution of living established languages and their L1 populations within these families. The columns are as for table 2, with the exception that *Cumulative* is excluded since there is no inherent ordering of the families.

Table 3: Distribution of languages by language family

Language family	Living languages		Number of speakers			
	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Median</i>
Cariban	6	37.5	11,290	1.5	1,882	705
Creole	1	6.2	643,000	86.9	643,000	643,000
Indo-European	3	18.8	76,100	10.3	25,367	38,050
Language isolate	2	12.5	1	0.0		1
Maipurean	3	18.8	7,500	1.0	2,500	3,750
Sign language	1	6.2	2,000	0.3	2,000	2,000
<i>Totals</i>	16	100.0	739,891	100.0		

Alphabetical Listing of Languages

Akawaio [ake] (Acahuayo, Acewaio, Akawai, Akawayo, Ingariko, Kapóng). Autonym: Kapon.

Users: 4,500 in Guyana (2002 SIL). Ethnic population: 5,000 (Crevels 2007). *Location:* Cuyuni-Mazaruni region: Mazaruni river basin, north of Patamona. *Status:* 6b* (Threatened). *Class:* Cariban, North Amazonian, Pemón, Pemón proper, Kapong. *Dialects:* Reportedly similar to Macushi [mbc]; marginally intelligible with Arecuna dialect of Pemon [aoc]. *Type:* 10 consonants and 11 vowels, including 4 long vowels. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 2010. *DLS:* Emerging (0.02). *Writing:* Latin script. *Other:* Important differences in vocabulary from Patamona [pbc]. Traditional religion, Christian. *Map:* 17. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 6,380. Global EGIDS level: 5 (Developing). Also indigenous in: Brazil (Ingarikó), Venezuela.

Arawak [arw] (Arowak, Lokono, Lokono Dian). Autonym: Lokono Dian. *Users:* 1,500 in Guyana (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 15,500. The ethnic group represents 33% of the Amerindians in Guyana. *Location:* Widespread. West coast and northeast along Corantyne river. *Status:* 8a (Moribund). *Class:* Maipurean, Northern, Maritime, Ta-Maipurean. *Type:* 17 consonants and 10 vowels (5 short, 5 long). *Lg Use:* Older adults only. Shifted to Guyanese English Creole [gyn]. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Grammar. Bible portions: 1850–1978. *Writing:* Latin script. *Other:* Non-indigenous. *Map:* 17. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,510. Indigenous in: French Guiana, Suriname. Also established in: Venezuela.

Atorada [aox] (Ator'ti, Atorai, Dauri). *Users:* Few in Guyana. *Location:* Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo region: Southwest, near Wapishana [wap] language area. *Status:* 8a (Moribund). *Class:* Maipurean, Northern, Maritime, Wapixana. *Dialects:* None known. Lexical similarity: 50% with Wapishana [wap], 20% with Mapidian [mpw]. *Lg Use:* Older adults only. Shifted to Wapishana [wap]. *DLS:* Still. *Writing:* Unwritten. *Other:* Traditional religion, Christian. *Map:* 17. *Worldwide:* Also indigenous in: Brazil.

Berbice Dutch Creole [brc]. *Users:* No known L1 speakers. Last speaker, Princess Sauers, died in 2015. *Location:* East Berbice-Corentyne and Upper Demerara-Berbice regions. *Status:* 10 (Extinct). *Class:* Creole, Dutch based. *Dialects:* May not be inherently intelligible with Skepi Dutch Creole [skw] or the Rupununi dialect of Guyanese English Creole [gyn]. About one-third of the basic lexicon and most of the productive morphology is from Izon [ijc] in Nigeria; most of the rest of the lexicon is from Dutch [nld], 10% loans from Arawak [arw] and Guyanese English Creole. *Type:* SVO. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Grammar. *DLS:* Emerging (0.01). *Writing:* Unwritten.

Carib [car] (Caribe, Cariña, Galibi, Kalihna, Kalinya, Kari'nja, Kari'nya, Kari'ña, Kariña, Karina, Karina auran). Autonym: Karina auran. *Users:* 480 in Guyana (1991). Ethnic population: 3,000 (2000 J. Forte). The ethnic group represents 6% of the Amerindians in Guyana. *Location:* Barima-Waini and Pomeroon-Supenaam regions: Northwest, coastal river heads and coastal lowland forests. *Status:* 6b* (Threatened). *Class:* Cariban. *Dialects:* Murato (Myrato,

Western Carib), Areytyry. *Type*: SOV; postpositions; 11 consonants and 6 vowels. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 2003. *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 17. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 8,558. Also indigenous in: Venezuela. Also established in: Brazil (Galibi), French Guiana, Suriname.

English [eng]. Autonym: English. *Users*: 102,000 in Guyana, all users. L1 users: 72,000 in Guyana (2021 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. L2 users: 30,000 (Crystal 2003a). *Status*: 1 (National). De facto national language. *Class*: Indo-European, Germanic, West, English. *Dialect*: Guyanese English. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; genitives after noun heads; articles, adjectives, numerals before noun heads; question word initial; word order distinguishes subject, object, indirect objects, given and new information, topic and comment; active and passive; causative; comparative; consonant and vowel clusters; 24 consonants, 13 vowels, 8 diphthongs; non-tonal; free stress; phrasal verbs. *Lg Dev*: Taught in all primary and secondary schools. Taught in all tertiary schools. Fully developed. Bible: 1382–2002. *Writing*: Braille script. Deseret Alphabet, developed in 1854 with limited usage until 1877. Duployan shorthand. Latin script, primary usage. Shavian (Shaw) script, no longer in use. *Other*: Non-indigenous. When Creole languages exist alongside their lexifier language, as in Guyana, a continuum forms of variations between the Creole and the lexifier language. It is therefore difficult to substantiate the number of Creole speakers and English speakers. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 1,456,448,320 (as L1: 379,682,200; as L2: 1076,766,120). Global EGIDS level: 0 (International). Indigenous in: Ireland, United Kingdom. Also established in 167 other countries and unestablished in 16 more.

Guyanese ASL [ase] (ASL, American Sign Language). *Users*: 2,000 in Guyana (2021 DBS/DOOR/SIL). Estimated 1,500–3,000 deaf signers, assuming 0.2%–0.4% of the total population. *Location*: Scattered. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Sign language, Deaf community sign language. *Type*: One-handed fingerspelling system derived from French Sign Language [fsl]. SVO, topic comment structures; adjectives, numerals, genitives, question word initial or final, relative clause after noun head. *Lg Use*: In three special education schools in Guyana, basic American Sign Language was introduced in the 1990s. Each school has continued its use creating their own adaptations (2010 L. Hallahan and M. Hallahan, International Disability Network 2004). Frequent code-mixing between ASL and a variety of signing that could be called Guyanese Sign Language, but which hasn't been adequately described nor recognized as distinct by ISO 639-3. *Lg Dev*: TV. Videos. Dictionary. Grammar. Bible: 2020. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 989,605 (as L1: 858,605; as L2: 131,000). Global EGIDS level: 5 (Developing). Indigenous in: United States (American Sign Language). Also established in 23 other countries and unestablished in 12 more.

Guyanese English Creole [gyn] (Creolese, Guyanese, Guyanese Creole, Kriiyliiz, Kriiyoliiz). Autonym: Gaiyniiz. *Users*: 643,000 in Guyana (2021 Joshua Project). 324,000 Afro-Guyanese Creole and 319,000 Indo-Guyanese Creole (2021 JoshuaProject). *Location*: Widespread. Possibly also in French Guiana. *Status*: 5* (Developing). De facto language of national identity. *Class*: Creole, English based, Atlantic, Eastern, Southern. *Dialects*: Afro-Guyanese

Creole, Rupununi, Indo-Guyanese Creole. Most similar to creoles of Saint Vincent and Tobago (Holbrook). Rupununi dialect may be a separate language. Rupununi claim they are not mutually inherently intelligible. *Lg Use*: The first or second language of most, but it has no official status. Home. Neutral attitudes. Used as L2 by Arawak [arw], Sarnami Hindustani [hns], Urdu [urd], Waiwai [waw], Warao [wba]. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Radio. TV. Videos. Grammar. Texts. *DLS*: Emerging (0.06). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: There is a continuum of variation from basilectal Creole to acrolectal English of the educated. *Map*: 17. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 715,200. Also established in: Suriname. Unestablished in: French Guiana, United States.

Hindustani, Sarnami [hns] (Aili Gaili, Caribbean Hindustani, Guyanese Hindustani, Sarnaanie Hiendoestaanie). Autonym: Sarnaanie Hiendoestaanie. *Users*: Ethnic population: 539,000. *Location*: Barima-Waini and Pomeroon-Supenaam regions. *Status*: 8b (Nearly extinct). *Class*: Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Outer Languages, Eastern, Bihari. *Lg Use*: Elderly only. Shifted to Guyanese English Creole [gyn]. Also use English [eng]. Also use Hindi [hin], especially for religious purposes. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Newspapers. Periodicals. Radio. TV. Videos. Dictionary. Texts. NT: 1997–2010. *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Non-indigenous. Hindu. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 304,800. Global EGIDS level: 5 (Developing). Indigenous in: Suriname. Also established in: Trinidad and Tobago. Unestablished in: French Guiana, Netherlands.

Macushi [mbc] (Macusi, Macussi, Makushi, Makusi, Makuxi, Teueia, Teweya). Autonym: Makusi. *Users*: 930 in Guyana (2001 FUNASA). Ethnic population: 7,750 (Crevels 2007). *Location*: Potaro-Siparuni and Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo regions: Southwest border area, Rupununi north savannahs, 20 small settlements up to Pakaraima mountain foothills. *Status*: 7 (Shifting). *Class*: Cariban, North Amazonian, Pemón, Pemón proper. *Type*: OVS; 10 consonants and 12 vowels (6 short, 6 long). *Lg Use*: Weak language use. Shifting to English [eng]. *Lg Dev*: NT: 1996. *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 17. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 15,930. Global EGIDS level: 6b (Threatened). Also indigenous in: Brazil, Venezuela.

Mapidian [mpw] (Maiopitian, Maopidian, Maopityan, Mapidi, Mapidiana, Mawayana). *Users*: No known L1 speakers in Guyana. The last speakers either died or moved to Brazil by the 1960s. *Location*: Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo region. *Status*: 10 (Extinct). *Class*: Maipurean, Northern, Maritime, Wapixana. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Waiwai [waw]. *Writing*: Unwritten. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 10. Global EGIDS level: 8b (Nearly extinct). Also indigenous in: Brazil.

Mawayana [mzx] (Mahuayana). *Users*: No known L1 speakers in Guyana. The last speakers in Guyana survived into the 1960s and either moved to Suriname or shifted to Waiwai [waw] (Carlin and Mans 2015). *Location*: Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo region: southwest, among the Waiwai [waw] language group. *Status*: 10 (Extinct). *Class*: Maipurean, Unclassified. *Dialects*: None known. No semantic similarity with and not related to Wapishana [wap], Atorada [aox], or Mapidian [mpw] (2002 R. Hicks). *Type*: 15 consonants and 12 vowels (6

oral, 6 nasal). *Lg Use*: Shifted to Waiwai [waw]. *DLS*: Still. *Writing*: Unwritten. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 2. Global EGIDS level: 8b (Nearly extinct). Also established in: Suriname.

Patamona [pbc] (Eremagok, Ingariko, Kapon). *Users*: 4,700 in Guyana (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 5,000 (2000 J. Forte). *Location*: Potaro-Siparuni and Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo regions: west central, upland savanna in Pakaraima mountains, about 13 villages. *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Class*: Cariban, North Amazonian, Pemón, Pemón proper, Kapong. *Dialects*: Reportedly similar to Macushi [mbc] but not inherently intelligible. Marginally intelligible of the Arecuna dialect of Pemon [aoc]. Reportedly most similar to Akawaio [ake], but vocabulary differences and language attitudes separate them. *Lg Dev*: People in Paramakatoi village are literate in English and Patamona. Some in other villages only literate in English. NT: 1974–2019. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: The Akawaio [ake] are less acculturated than Patamona. Ingariko is the Macushi term for bush people. *Map*: 17. *Worldwide*: Global EGIDS level: 6a (Vigorous). Also established in: Brazil, Venezuela.

Pemon [aoc] (Kamarakotos, Pemong). Autonym: Kamarakotos. *Users*: 480 in Guyana (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 500 (Crevels 2007). *Location*: Cuyuni-Mazaruni region: Paruima and Kaikan on upland savannah. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Cariban, North Amazonian, Pemón, Pemón proper. *Dialects*: Camaracoto, Taurepan (Taulipang, Taurepa, Taurepang), Arecuna (Arekuna, Aricuna, Jaricuna). *Type*: SOV; postpositions; 10 consonants and 7 vowels. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. Bible portions: 1990. *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 17. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 24,080. Also indigenous in: Brazil, Venezuela.

Portuguese [por]. Autonym: Português. *Users*: 1,600 in Guyana (2022 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Indo-European, Italic, Romance, Italo-Western, Western, Gallo-Iberian, Ibero-Romance, West Iberian, Portuguese-Galician. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; gender (masculine/feminine); definite and indefinite articles; verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense; comparatives; 21 consonants, 13 vowels, 11 diphthongs; non-tonal. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. Bible: 1751–2017. *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 263,638,850 (as L1: 236,266,650; as L2: 27,372,200). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Portugal, Spain. Also established in 14 other countries and unestablished in 38 more.

Skepi Dutch Creole [skw]. *Users*: No known L1 speakers. Last speakers survived into the 1990s (Holm 1989). *Location*: Essequibo Islands-West Demerara region. *Status*: 10 (Extinct). *Class*: Creole, Dutch based. *Dialect*: Essequibo. Not inherently intelligible with Berbice Dutch Creole [brc] or the Rupununi dialect of Guyanese English Creole [gyn]. Lexical similarity: 52% with Berbice Dutch Creole [brc]. *Lg Use*: By 1998 had no remaining speakers. *DLS*: Emerging (0.01).

Taruma [tdm] (Aroaqui, Charuma, Saloema, Saluma, Taruamá). *Users*: 1 (2015). *Location*: Southern East Berbice-Corentyne and Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo regions, Guyana-Brazil border area, in the Wapishana [wap] language area. *Status*: 8b (Nearly extinct). *Class*: Language isolate. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Wapishana [wap]. *DLS*: Still. *Other*: Live among the

Wapishanas [wap].

Urdu [urd]. *Users*: 4,100 in Guyana (2022 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. *Location*: Scattered. *Status*: 8a (Moribund). *Class*: Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Western Hindi, Hindustani. *Type*: SOV; postposition; noun head final; gender (masculine/feminine); no articles; direct and oblique cases; verb affixes mark person, number, gender of subject; passives; tense and aspect; causatives; 35 consonants, 21 vowels; non-tonal; stress on penultimate syllable. *Lg Use*: Older adults only. Shifted to Guyanese English Creole [gyn]. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. Bible: 1843–1998. *Writing*: Arabic script, Naskh variant. Arabic script, Nastaliq variant, primary usage. Braille script. Devanagari script, used in India (Ahmad 2011). *Other*: Non-indigenous. Muslim. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 231,717,940 (as L1: 70,555,140; as L2: 161,162,800). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: India, Pakistan. Also established in: Bangladesh (Bihari), Fiji, Mauritius, Nepal, South Africa. Unestablished in: Afghanistan, Australia, Bahrain, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States.

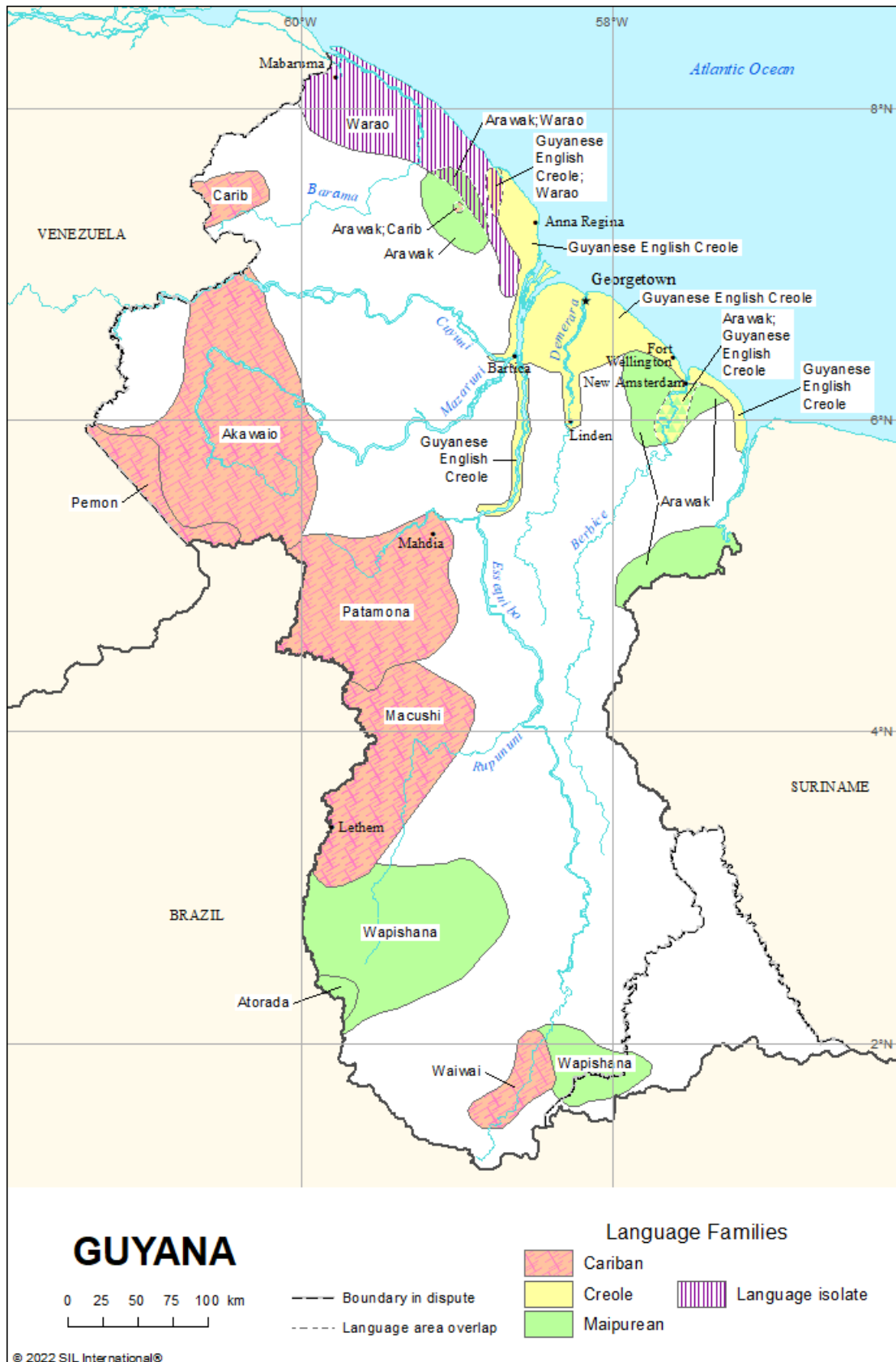
Waiwai [waw] (Ouayeone, Parukota, Uaieue, Uaiuai, Wai Wai). Autonym: UaiUai. *Users*: 200 in Guyana (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 240 (Crevels 2007). *Location*: Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo region: southwest, headwaters of Essequibo river. *Status*: 8a (Moribund). *Class*: Cariban, Waiwai. *Dialect*: Katawian (Katawina, Katwena). *Type*: 14 consonants and 6 vowels. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Guyanese English Creole [gyn]. Used as L2 by Mapidian [mpw], Mawayana [mzx]. *Lg Dev*: Grammar. Bible: 2002. *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 17. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 2,230. Global EGIDS level: 5 (Developing). Also indigenous in: Brazil. Also established in: Suriname.

Wapishana [wap] (Uapixana, Vapidiana, Wapichana, Wapisana, Wapishshiana, Wapisiana, Wapitxana, Wapixana). Autonym: Wapichan, Wapichan paradan. *Users*: 6,000 in Guyana (2000 J. Forte). Ethnic population: 6,900 (Crevels 2007). *Location*: East Berbice-Corentyne and Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo regions: southwest, south of the Kanuku mountains, a few villages northwest of the Waiwai [waw] language area. *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Class*: Maipurean, Northern, Maritime, Wapixana. *Dialect*: Amariba. Lexical similarity: 10% with Mapidian [mpw]. *Type*: 18 consonants and 4 vowels. *Lg Use*: Amariba dialect may have no remaining speakers. Also use English [eng]. Used as L2 by Atorada [aox], Taruma [tdm]. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 2012. *DLS*: Emerging (0.04). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Traditional religion, Christian. *Map*: 17. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 12,500. Also indigenous in: Brazil.

Warao [wba] (Guarao, Guarauno, Warau, Warrau). *Users*: Few speakers (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 5,000 (2000 J. Forte). *Location*: Barima-Waini, Pomeroon-Supenaam, and Essequibo Islands-West Demerara regions: near the coast, mixed with Arawak [ake] and Carib [car] speakers. *Status*: 8a (Moribund). *Class*: Language isolate. *Type*: 11 consonants and 5 vowels. *Lg Use*: Those who live in closer contact to coastal society are more acculturated than

those residing close to the border areas with Venezuela and, therefore, face more threat of the loss of their native language. But there is no immediate threat of extinction (Crevels 2007). Older adults only. Shifted to Guyanese English Creole [[gyn](#)]. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 1974–2004. *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 17. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 32,900. Global EGIDS level: 6a (Vigorous). Also indigenous in: Venezuela. Also established in: Suriname.

Language Map



Languages by Population

In this section the languages of Guyana are listed in order of their population of first-language speakers within the country, from highest to lowest. The entries report just the population and status elements.

100,000 to 999,999

Guyanese English Creole [[gyn](#)] *Users:* 643,000 in Guyana (2021 Joshua Project). 324,000 Afro-Guyanese Creole and 319,000 Indo-Guyanese Creole (2021 JoshuaProject). *Status:* 5* (Developing). De facto language of national identity. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 715,200.

10,000 to 99,999

English [[eng](#)] *Users:* 72,000 in Guyana (2021 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. 102,000 in Guyana, all users. L2 users: 30,000 (Crystal 2003a). *Status:* 1 (National). De facto national language. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 1,456,448,320 (as L1: 379,682,200; as L2: 1076,766,120).

1,000 to 9,999

Wapishana [[wap](#)] *Users:* 6,000 in Guyana (2000 J. Forte). Ethnic population: 6,900 (Crevels 2007). *Status:* 6b* (Threatened). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 12,500.

Patamona [[pbc](#)] *Users:* 4,700 in Guyana (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 5,000 (2000 J. Forte). *Status:* 6b* (Threatened).

Akawaio [[ake](#)] *Users:* 4,500 in Guyana (2002 SIL). Ethnic population: 5,000 (Crevels 2007). *Status:* 6b* (Threatened). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 6,380.

Urdu [[urd](#)] *Users:* 4,100 in Guyana (2022 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. *Status:* 8a (Moribund). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 231,717,940 (as L1: 70,555,140; as L2: 161,162,800).

Guyanese ASL [[ase](#)] *Users:* 2,000 in Guyana (2021 DBS/DOOR/SIL). Estimated 1,500–3,000 deaf signers, assuming 0.2%–0.4% of the total population. *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 989,605 (as L1: 858,605; as L2: 131,000).

Portuguese [[por](#)] *Users:* 1,600 in Guyana (2022 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. *Status:* Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 263,638,850 (as L1: 236,266,650; as L2: 27,372,200).

Arawak [[arw](#)] *Users:* 1,500 in Guyana (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 15,500. The ethnic group represents 33% of the Amerindians in Guyana. *Status:* 8a (Moribund). *Worldwide:* Total users

in all countries: 2,510.

100 to 999

Macushi [[mbc](#)] *Users:* 930 in Guyana (2001 FUNASA). Ethnic population: 7,750 (Crevels 2007). *Status:* 7 (Shifting). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 15,930.

Carib [[car](#)] *Users:* 480 in Guyana (1991). Ethnic population: 3,000 (2000 J. Forte). The ethnic group represents 6% of the Amerindians in Guyana. *Status:* 6b* (Threatened). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 8,558.

Pemon [[aoc](#)] *Users:* 480 in Guyana (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 500 (Crevels 2007). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 24,080.

Waiwai [[waw](#)] *Users:* 200 in Guyana (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 240 (Crevels 2007). *Status:* 8a (Moribund). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,230.

1 to 9

Taruma [[tdm](#)] *Users:* 1 (2015). *Status:* 8b (Nearly extinct).

0

Berbice Dutch Creole [[brc](#)] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. Last speaker, Princess Sauers, died in 2015. *Status:* 10 (Extinct).

Mapidian [[mpw](#)] *Users:* No known L1 speakers in Guyana. The last speakers either died or moved to Brazil by the 1960s. *Status:* 10 (Extinct). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 10.

Mawayana [[mzx](#)] *Users:* No known L1 speakers in Guyana. The last speakers in Guyana survived into the 1960s and either moved to Suriname or shifted to Waiwai [[waw](#)] (Carlin and Mans 2015). *Status:* 10 (Extinct). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2.

Skepi Dutch Creole [[skw](#)] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. Last speakers survived into the 1990s (Holm 1989). *Status:* 10 (Extinct).

Unknown

Atorada [[aox](#)] *Users:* Few in Guyana. *Status:* 8a (Moribund).

Warao [[wba](#)] *Users:* Few speakers (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 5,000 (2000 J. Forte). *Status:* 8a (Moribund). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 32,900.

Hindustani, Sarnami [[hns](#)] *Users:* Ethnic population: 539,000. *Status:* 8b (Nearly extinct). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 304,800.

Languages by Status

In this section the languages of Guyana are listed in order of their status within the country as represented by their level on the EGIDs scale (Lewis and Simons 2010). The language entries are reduced to just the information elements that are relevant to assessing the EGIDS level: population, status, language use, language development, and writing.

1 (National)

English [eng] *Users:* 102,000 in Guyana, all users. L1 users: 72,000 in Guyana (2021 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. L2 users: 30,000 (Crystal 2003a). *Status:* De facto national language. *Writing:* Braille script. Deseret Alphabet, developed in 1854 with limited usage until 1877. Duployan shorthand. Latin script, primary usage. Shavian (Shaw) script, no longer in use. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 1,456,448,320 (as L1: 379,682,200; as L2: 1076,766,120).

5 (Developing)

Guyanese English Creole [gyn] *Users:* 643,000 in Guyana (2021 Joshua Project). 324,000 Afro-Guyanese Creole and 319,000 Indo-Guyanese Creole (2021 JoshuaProject). *Status:* De facto language of national identity. *Lg Use:* The first or second language of most, but it has no official status. Home. Neutral attitudes. Used as L2 by Arawak [arw], Sarnami Hindustani [hns], Urdu [urd], Waiwai [waw], Warao [wba]. *Lg Dev:* Literature. Radio. TV. Videos. Grammar. Texts. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 715,200.

6a (Vigorous)

Guyanese ASL [ase] *Users:* 2,000 in Guyana (2021 DBS/DOOR/SIL). Estimated 1,500–3,000 deaf signers, assuming 0.2%–0.4% of the total population. *Lg Use:* In three special education schools in Guyana, basic American Sign Language was introduced in the 1990s. Each school has continued its use creating their own adaptations (2010 L. Hallahan and M. Hallahan, International Disability Network 2004). Frequent code-mixing between ASL and a variety of signing that could be called Guyanese Sign Language, but which hasn't been adequately described nor recognized as distinct by ISO 639-3. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 989,605 (as L1: 858,605; as L2: 131,000).

Pemon [aoc] *Users:* 480 in Guyana (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 500 (Crevels 2007). *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 24,080.

6b (Threatened)

Akawaio [ake] *Users:* 4,500 in Guyana (2002 SIL). Ethnic population: 5,000 (Crevels 2007). *Lg*

Dev: Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 2010. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 6,380.

Carib [[car](#)] *Users:* 480 in Guyana (1991). Ethnic population: 3,000 (2000 J. Forte). The ethnic group represents 6% of the Amerindians in Guyana. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 8,558.

Patamona [[pbc](#)] *Users:* 4,700 in Guyana (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 5,000 (2000 J. Forte). *Lg Dev:* NT: 1974–2019. *Writing:* Latin script.

Wapishana [[wap](#)] *Users:* 6,000 in Guyana (2000 J. Forte). Ethnic population: 6,900 (Crevels 2007). *Lg Use:* Amariba dialect may have no remaining speakers. Also use English [[eng](#)]. Used as L2 by Atorada [[aox](#)], Taruma [[tdm](#)]. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 2012. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 12,500.

7 (Shifting)

Macushi [[mbc](#)] *Users:* 930 in Guyana (2001 FUNASA). Ethnic population: 7,750 (Crevels 2007). *Lg Use:* Weak language use. Shifting to English [[eng](#)]. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 15,930.

8a (Moribund)

Arawak [[arw](#)] *Users:* 1,500 in Guyana (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 15,500. The ethnic group represents 33% of the Amerindians in Guyana. *Lg Use:* Older adults only. Shifted to Guyanese English Creole [[gyn](#)]. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,510.

Atorada [[aox](#)] *Users:* Few in Guyana. *Lg Use:* Older adults only. Shifted to Wapishana [[wap](#)]. *Writing:* Unwritten.

Urdu [[urd](#)] *Users:* 4,100 in Guyana (2022 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. *Lg Use:* Older adults only. Shifted to Guyanese English Creole [[gyn](#)]. *Writing:* Arabic script, Naskh variant. Arabic script, Nastaliq variant, primary usage. Braille script. Devanagari script, used in India (Ahmad 2011). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 231,717,940 (as L1: 70,555,140; as L2: 161,162,800).

Waiwai [[waw](#)] *Users:* 200 in Guyana (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 240 (Crevels 2007). *Lg Use:* Shifted to Guyanese English Creole [[gyn](#)]. Used as L2 by Mapidian [[mpw](#)], Mawayana [[mzx](#)]. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,230.

Warao [[wba](#)] *Users:* Few speakers (Forte 1990). Ethnic population: 5,000 (2000 J. Forte). *Lg Use:* Those who live in closer contact to coastal society are more acculturated than those residing close to the border areas with Venezuela and, therefore, face more threat of the loss of their native language. But there is no immediate threat of extinction (Crevels 2007). Older adults only. Shifted to Guyanese English Creole [[gyn](#)]. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 32,900.

8b (Nearly extinct)

Hindustani, Sarnami [hns] *Users:* Ethnic population: 539,000. *Lg Use:* Elderly only. Shifted to Guyanese English Creole [gyn]. Also use English [eng]. Also use Hindi [hin], especially for religious purposes. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 304,800.

Taruma [tdm] *Users:* 1 (2015). *Lg Use:* Shifted to Wapishana [wap].

10 (Extinct)

Berbice Dutch Creole [brc] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. Last speaker, Princess Sauers, died in 2015. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Grammar. *Writing:* Unwritten.

Mapidian [mpw] *Users:* No known L1 speakers in Guyana. The last speakers either died or moved to Brazil by the 1960s. *Lg Use:* Shifted to Waiwai [waw]. *Writing:* Unwritten. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 10.

Mawayana [mzx] *Users:* No known L1 speakers in Guyana. The last speakers in Guyana survived into the 1960s and either moved to Suriname or shifted to Waiwai [waw] (Carlin and Mans 2015). *Lg Use:* Shifted to Waiwai [waw]. *Writing:* Unwritten. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2.

Skepi Dutch Creole [skw] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. Last speakers survived into the 1990s (Holm 1989). *Lg Use:* By 1998 had no remaining speakers.

Unestablished

Portuguese [por] *Users:* 1,600 in Guyana (2022 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. *Writing:* Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 263,638,850 (as L1: 236,266,650; as L2: 27,372,200).

Languages by Region

This index gives an alphabetical listing of the top-level administrative subdivisions within Guyana. Under the name of each region is a list of the language communities that are located within its area.

Barima-Waini

- Carib [car], 11
- Hindustani, Sarnami [hns], 13
- Warao [wba], 15

Cuyuni-Mazaruni

- Akawaio [ake], 11
- Pemon [aoc], 14

East Berbice-Corentyne

- Berbice Dutch Creole [brc], 11
- Taruma [tdm], 14
- Wapishana [wap], 15

Essequibo Islands-West Demerara

- Skepi Dutch Creole [skw], 14
- Warao [wba], 15

Pomeroon-Supenaam

- Carib [car], 11

Hindustani, Sarnami [hns], 13

Warao [wba], 15

Potaro-Siparuni

- Macushi [mbc], 13
- Patamona [pbc], 14

Upper Demerara-Berbice

Berbice Dutch Creole [brc], 11

Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo

- Atorada [aox], 11
- Macushi [mbc], 13
- Mapidian [mpw], 13
- Mawayana [mzx], 13
- Patamona [pbc], 14
- Taruma [tdm], 14
- Waiwai [waw], 15
- Wapishana [wap], 15

Languages by Family

This index gives an alphabetical listing of the linguistic classifications used for the established languages of Guyana. The entries in this index represent the full path in the linguistic family tree from the highest level grouping down to the lowest. All the languages listed in the same entry are members of the same lowest-level subgroup. The referenced page contains the main entry that describes the language.

Cariban

Carib [car], [11](#)

Cariban, North Amazonian, Pemón, Pemón proper

Macushi [mbc], [13](#)

Pemon [aoc], [14](#)

Cariban, North Amazonian, Pemón, Pemón proper, Kapong

Akawaio [ake], [11](#)

Patamona [pbc], [14](#)

Cariban, Waiwai

Waiwai [waw], [15](#)

Creole, Dutch based

Berbice Dutch Creole [brc], [11](#)

Skepi Dutch Creole [skw], [14](#)

Creole, English based, Atlantic, Eastern, Southern

Guyanese English Creole [gyn], [12](#)

Indo-European, Germanic, West, English

English [eng], [12](#)

Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Outer Languages, Eastern, Bihari

Hindustani, Sarnami [hns], [13](#)

Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Western Hindi, Hindustani

Urdu [urd], [15](#)

Language isolate

Taruma [tdm], [14](#)

Warao [wba], [15](#)

Maipurean, Northern, Maritime, Ta-Maipurean

Arawak [arw], [11](#)

Maipurean, Northern, Maritime, Wapixana

Atorada [aox], [11](#)

Mapidian [mpw], [13](#)

Wapishana [wap], [15](#)

Maipurean, Unclassified

Mawayana [mzx], [13](#)

Sign language, Deaf community sign language

American Sign Language [ase], [12](#)

Language Code Index

This index gives an alphabetical listing of all 21 three-letter codes that are used in this work to uniquely identify languages. The referenced page contains the main entry that describes the language. All codes listed are part of the ISO 639-3 standard; see <http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/>.

ake	Akawaio, 11	mpw	Mapidian, 13
aoc	Pemon, 14	mzx	Mawayana, 13
aox	Atorada, 11	pbc	Patamona, 14
arw	Arawak, 11	por	Portuguese, 14
ase	American Sign Language, 12	skw	Skepi Dutch Creole, 14
brc	Berbice Dutch Creole, 11	tdm	Taruma, 14
car	Carib, 11	urd	Urdu, 15
eng	English, 12	wap	Wapishana, 15
gyn	Guyanese English Creole, 12	waw	Waiwai, 15
hns	Hindustani, Sarnami, 13	wba	Warao, 15
mbc	Macushi, 13		

Language Name Index

This index lists every name that appears in the language listings as a primary or alternate name of a language or dialect. The following abbreviations are used in the index entries: *alt.* ‘alternate name for’; *alt. dial.* ‘alternate name for a dialect of’; *dial.* ‘primary name for a dialect of’; *pej. alt.* ‘pejorative alternate name for’; and *pej. alt. dial.* ‘pejorative alternate name for a dialect of’. Each index entry resolves to the primary name for the language with which the indexed name is associated, followed by square brackets containing the unique three-letter language code from ISO 639-3. The referenced page contains the main entry that describes the language. If the language appears on a map, the entry for the primary name also lists page numbers for the maps on which the language occurs.

- Acahuayo**, *alt.* Akawaio [ake], 11
- Acewaio**, *alt.* Akawaio [ake], 11
- Afro-Guyanese Creole**, *dial.* Guyanese English Creole [gyn], 12
- Aili Gaili**, *alt.* Hindustani, Sarnami [hns], 13
- Akawai**, *alt.* Akawaio [ake], 11
- Akawaio** [ake], 11, 17
- Akawayo**, *alt.* Akawaio [ake], 11
- Amariba**, *dial.* Wapishana [wap], 15
- American Sign Language**, *alt.* American Sign Language [ase], 12
- Arawak** [arw], 11, 17
- Arecuna**, *dial.* Pemon [aoc], 14
- Arekuna**, *alt. dial.* Pemon [aoc], 14
- Aretyry**, *dial.* Carib [car], 11
- Aricuna**, *alt. dial.* Pemon [aoc], 14
- Aroaqui**, *alt.* Taruma [tdm], 14
- Arowak**, *alt.* Arawak [arw], 11
- ASL**, *alt.* American Sign Language [ase], 12
- Atorada** [aox], 11, 17
- Atorai**, *alt.* Atorada [aox], 11
- Ator'ti**, *alt.* Atorada [aox], 11
- Berbice Dutch Creole** [brc], 11
- Camaracoto**, *dial.* Pemon [aoc], 14
- Carib** [car], 11, 17
- Caribbean Hindustani**, *alt.* Hindustani, Sarnami [hns], 13
- Caribe**, *alt.* Carib [car], 11
- Cariña**, *alt.* Carib [car], 11
- Charuma**, *alt.* Taruma [tdm], 14
- Creolese**, *alt.* Guyanese English Creole [gyn], 12
- Dauri**, *alt.* Atorada [aox], 11
- English** [eng], 12
- Eremagok**, *alt.* Patamona [pbc], 14
- Essequibo**, *dial.* Skepi Dutch Creole [skw], 14
- Gaiyniiz**, *alt.* Guyanese English Creole [gyn], 12
- Galibi**, *alt.* Carib [car], 11
- Guarao**, *alt.* Warao [wba], 15
- Guarauno**, *alt.* Warao [wba], 15
- Guyanese**, *alt.* Guyanese English Creole [gyn], 12
- Guyanese ASL** [ase], 12, 0
- Guyanese Creole**, *alt.* Guyanese English Creole [gyn], 12
- Guyanese English**, *dial.* English [eng], 12
- Guyanese English Creole** [gyn], 12, 17
- Guyanese Hindustani**, *alt.* Hindustani, Sarnami [hns], 13
- Hindustani**, **Sarnami** [hns], 13
see Hindustani, Sarnami [hns], 13

- Indo-Guyanese Creole**, *dial.* Guyanese English Creole [gyn], 12
- Ingariko**, *alt.* Akawaio [ake], 11
alt. Patamona [pbc], 14
- Jaricuna**, *alt. dial.* Pemon [aoc], 14
- Kalihna**, *alt.* Carib [car], 11
- Kalinya**, *alt.* Carib [car], 11
- Kamarakotos**, *alt.* Pemon [aoc], 14
- Kapon**, *alt.* Akawaio [ake], 11
alt. Patamona [pbc], 14
- Kapóng**, *alt.* Akawaio [ake], 11
- Kariña**, *alt.* Carib [car], 11
- Kari'ña**, *alt.* Carib [car], 11
- Karina**, *alt.* Carib [car], 11
- Karina auran**, *alt.* Carib [car], 11
- Kari'nja**, *alt.* Carib [car], 11
- Kari'nya**, *alt.* Carib [car], 11
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