

Ethnologue: Languages of Slovakia

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
CDE	Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960)
<i>Class</i>	Language classification
CPPDCE	Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005)
CSICH	Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003)
<i>dial.</i>	primary dialect name for
ECRML	European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (1992)
EUD	European Union of the Deaf
FCPNM	Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (1998)
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)
IMB	International Mission Board
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
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)
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
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 Slovakia 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 14 languages listed in the *Ethnologue* for the country of Slovakia. 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 16) 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 17) lists the languages in order of their first-language speaker populations. “Languages by Status” (page 19) 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 22) lists the top-level administrative subdivisions of Slovakia and the languages located within each. “Languages by Family” (page 23) lists the languages by their linguistic classifications. “Language Code Index” (page 24) 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 25) lists every name that appears in the language listings as a primary or alternate name of a language or dialect. A total of 41 unique names are associated with the 14 languages described in this digest.

Finally, a listing of all the published sources cited within this digest is found in “Bibliography” (page 27). 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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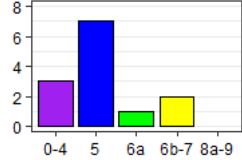
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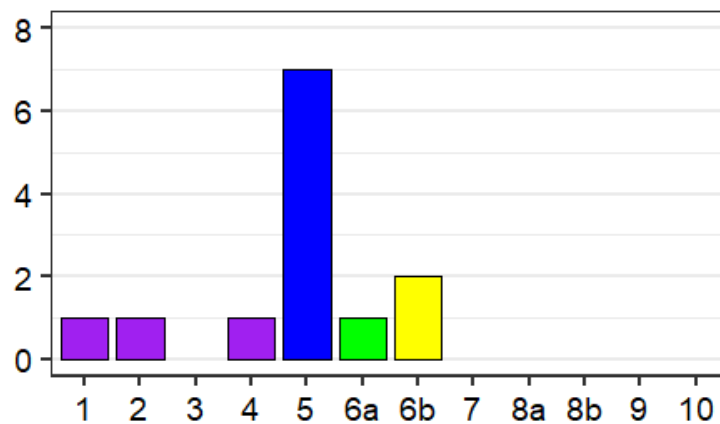
Country Overview

Name of country	Slovakia												
Other names	Slovak Republic												
Population	5,431,000 (2022 World Factbook)												
Principal language	Slovak												
Literacy rate	100% (Roser and Ortiz-Ospina 2018)												
International conventions	CDE (1993), CPPDCE (2006), CSICH (2006), ECRML (2001), FCPNM (1995), ICCPR (1993), UNCRPD (2010), UNDRIP (2007)												
General references	Campbell and King 2011, Comrie 1987, Hancock 1990a												
Language counts	<p>The number of established languages listed for Slovakia is 13. All are living languages. Of these, 6 are indigenous and 7 are non-indigenous. Furthermore, 3 are institutional, 7 are developing, 1 is vigorous, and 2 are in trouble. Also listed is 1 unestablished language.</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>Language Vitality Counts for Slovakia</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Vitality Category</th> <th>Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0-4</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6a</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6b-7</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8a-9</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Vitality Category	Count	0-4	3	5	7	6a	1	6b-7	2	8a-9	0
Vitality Category	Count												
0-4	3												
5	7												
6a	1												
6b-7	2												
8a-9	0												

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 Slovakia 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 19) 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 Slovakia. 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 Slovakia 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 Slovakia 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 17) 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
1,000,000 to 9,999,999	1	7.7	7.7%	4,770,000	86.30204	86.30204%
100,000 to 999,999	2	15.4	23.1%	632,000	11.43457	97.73661%
10,000 to 99,999	3	23.1	46.2%	105,700	1.91240	99.64900%
1,000 to 9,999	5	38.5	84.6%	18,600	0.33652	99.98553%
100 to 999	1	7.7	92.3%	800	0.01447	100.00000%
Unknown	1	7.7	100.0%			
<i>Totals</i>	13	100.0		5,527,100	100.00000	

Summary by language status

Table 2 summarizes the distribution of living established languages in Slovakia 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 19) 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 Slovakia. 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	7.7	7.7%	4,770,000	86.3020	86.3020%	4,770,000	4,770,000
2	1	7.7	15.4%	509,000	9.2092	95.5112%	509,000	509,000
4	1	7.7	23.1%	800	0.0145	95.5257%	800	800
5	7	53.8	76.9%	185,680	3.3594	98.8851%	26,526	10,345
6a	1	7.7	84.6%	55,500	1.0041	99.8893%	55,500	55,500
6b	2	15.4	100.0%	6,120	0.1107	100.0000%	3,060	3,060
<i>Totals</i>	13	100.0		5,527,100	100.0000			

Summary by language family

The genealogical classifications given in the language entries of the “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) name 3 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			
	Count	Percent	Total	Percent	Mean	Median
Indo-European	11	84.6	5,003,100	90.5	454,827	5,440

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>
Sign language	1	7.7	15,000	0.3	15,000	15,000
Uralic	1	7.7	509,000	9.2	509,000	509,000
<i>Totals</i>	13	100.0	5,527,100	100.0		

Alphabetical Listing of Languages

Chakavian [ckm] (Gradišćanskohrvatski jezik). Autonym: Čakavski. *Users*: 3,000 in Slovakia (2021 K. Tyran). *Location*: Bratislavsky region: Cunovo, Chorvatsky Grob, Devinska Nova Ves, Jarovice. *Status*: 6b (Threatened). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, South, Western. *Dialects*: None known. Closely related to Croatian [hrv]. *Lg Use*: Some young people, all adults. All also use Slovak [slk]. *Lg Dev*: Newspapers. Periodicals. TV. Grammar. *Writing*: Glagolitic script, used until 17th century. Latin script. *Map*: 16. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 86,600. Also indigenous in: Austria (Burgenland Croatian), Croatia, Hungary.

Czech [ces] (Čeština, Český jazyk). Autonym: Český jazyk, Čeština. *Users*: 2,585,200 in Slovakia, all users. L1 users: 35,200 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). L2 users: 2,550,000 (European Commission 2012). *Location*: Widespread. *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, West, Czech-Slovak. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); no articles; case-marking (7 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense and aspect; comparatives; 26 consonant and 9 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; stress on first syllable. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. Bible: 1380–1980. *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 12,257,160 (as L1: 9,568,660; as L2: 2,688,500). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Czechia. Also established in: Austria, Croatia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, United States. Unestablished in: Argentina, Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Kazakhstan, New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

English [eng] (Angličtina). Autonym: English. *Users*: 1,420,800 in Slovakia, all users. L1 users: 800 in Slovakia (2020 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. L2 users: 1,420,000 (European Commission 2012). *Status*: 4 (Educational). *Class*: Indo-European, Germanic, West, 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 as subject in primary and secondary schools from grade 4. 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. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 1,456,448,320 (as L1: 379,682,200; as L2: 1,076,766,120). Global EGIDS level: 0 (International). Indigenous in: Ireland, United Kingdom. Also established in 167 other countries and unestablished in 16 more.

French [fra]. Autonym: français. *Users*: 115,600 in Slovakia, all users. L1 users: 1,600 in Slovakia (2022 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. L2 users: 114,000 (Marcoux et al 2022). *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). *Class*: Indo-European, Italic, Romance, Italo-Western, Western, Gallo-

Iberian, Gallo-Romance, Gallo-Rhaetian, Oil, French. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final for common adjectives, numbers, possessives, but most attributive adjectives come after the noun; gender (masculine/feminine); definite and indefinite articles; verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense; comparatives; 20 consonant and 14 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; syllable-timed stress. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. *Bible*: 1530–2000. *Writing*: Braille script. Duployan shorthand. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 309,804,220 (as L1: 80,770,190; as L2: 229,034,030). Global EGIDS level: 0 (International). Indigenous in: Andorra, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Monaco, Switzerland. Also established in 95 other countries and unestablished in 24 more.

German, Standard [deu] (Deutsch, Nemeč). Autonym: Deutsch. *Users*: 1,205,190 in Slovakia, all users. L1 users: 5,190 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). L2 users: 1,200,000 (2019). *Location*: Scattered. *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). *Class*: Indo-European, Germanic, West, High German, German, Middle German, East Middle German. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); definite and indefinite articles; case-marking (4 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense; comparatives; 22 consonants, 22 vowels, 3 diphthongs; non-tonal; stress on first syllable of the root. *Lg Use*: Also use Hungarian [hun]. Also use Slovak [slk]. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. *Bible*: 1466–2016. *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. Latin script, Fraktur variant, used until 1940. Runic script, no longer in use. *Other*: Non-indigenous. Christian. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 133,245,880 (as L1: 75,282,080; as L2: 57,963,800). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Austria, Belgium, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy. Also established in 39 other countries and unestablished in 23 more.

Hungarian [hun] (Maďarský, Magyar). Autonym: Magyar. *Users*: 509,000 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Location*: Banskobystrický, Bratislavský, Kosický, Nitrianský, and Trnavský regions; mainly near southern border. *Status*: 2 (Provincial). Statutory provincial language in southeast, south (1999, National Minority Language Use Act, Article 2). *Class*: Uralic. *Type*: SVO; postpositions; noun head final; definite article; case-marking (18 cases); verb affixes mark person, number, object; no passives; tense; comparatives; 25 consonants, 14 vowels, no diphthongs; non-tonal; stress on first syllable; vowel harmony. *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Standard German [deu]. *Lg Dev*: Taught in primary schools in early grades and as subject thereafter in minority schools, usually 1 class each day. Fully developed. *Bible*: 1590–1991. *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Map*: 16. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 12,617,790 (as L1: 12,610,690; as L2: 7,100). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Also indigenous in: Austria, Hungary, Romania, Serbia, Ukraine. Also established in: Croatia, Israel, Slovenia. Unestablished in: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Moldova, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States.

Polish [pol]. *Users*: 3,120 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Location*: Scattered. *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, West, Lechitic. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); no articles; case-marking (7 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; aspect; comparatives; 30 consonant and

8 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; stress on penultimate syllable. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. *Bible*: 1561–2018. *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. Christian. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 40,589,930 (as L1: 39,896,930; as L2: 693,000). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Czechia, Poland, Ukraine. Also established in: Germany, Hungary, Israel, Lithuania, Romania, Russian Federation. Unestablished in: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States, Uzbekistan.

Romani, Carpathian [rmc] (Bashaldo, Central Romani, Hungarian-Slovak Romani, Karpacki Roma, Sárвика Romá, Ungrike Romá). Autonym: Romanes. *Users*: 123,000 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Location*: Banskobystrický region: Brezno, Krupina, and Rimavská Sobota districts; Kosický region: Krompachy area (East Slovak Romani dialect); Nitriansky region: Šal'a district; Presovský region: Bardejov district; Trnavský region: Senica district (West Slovak Romani dialect). *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Intermediate Divisions, Western, Romani, Northern. A member of macrolanguage Romany [rom] (Romania). *Dialects*: Moravian Romani, East Slovak Romani (Servika Romani), West Slovak Romani, Romungro. *Lg Use*: Also use Slovak [slk]. *Lg Dev*: Printed or pre-recorded Romani language materials may not be understandable outside the country (or context of surrounding languages) in which they were produced. *Dictionary*. *Grammar*. NT: 2014. *DLS*: Emerging (0.11). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Non-indigenous. Christian. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 171,500. Indigenous in: Czechia. Also established in: Austria, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Ukraine.

Romani, Vlax [rmy] (Rom). Autonym: Romani. *Location*: Scattered. *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). *Class*: Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Intermediate Divisions, Western, Romani, Vlax. *Dialects*: Lovari, Kalderash (Kaldarári), Slovak Bougesti. *Lg Use*: Also use Slovak [slk]. *Lg Dev*: Printed or pre-recorded Romani language materials may not be understandable outside the country (or context of surrounding languages) in which they were produced. *Grammar*. *Bible*: 2008. *Writing*: Cyrillic script, used by Kalderash dialect. Latin script. *Other*: Non-indigenous. Christian. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 551,000. Global EGIDS level: 4 (Educational). Indigenous in: Romania. Also established in 17 other countries and unestablished in 10 more.

Russian [rus]. *Users*: 1,300,000 in Slovakia (Arefyev 2012), all users. L1 users: 3,180 (2013 UNSD). *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, East. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; genitives after noun heads; adjectives, numerals before noun heads; question word initial; 1 prefix on a word; recursive addition of suffixes allowed; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); no articles; case-marking (6 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense and aspect; comparatives; 32 consonants, 5 vowels, 4 diphthongs; non-tonal; free stress. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. *Bible*: 1876–2011. *Writing*: Braille script. Cyrillic script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 254,997,130 (as L1: 146,954,150; as L2: 107,987,980). Global EGIDS level: 0 (International). Indigenous

in: Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Ukraine. Also established in 17 other countries and unestablished in 29 more.

Rusyn [rue] (Carpathian, Carpatho-Rusyn, Rusinskiy yazyk, Ruthenian). *Users*: 55,500 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Location*: Presovsky region: far northeast corner. *Status*: 6a* (Vigorous). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, East. *Dialect*: Lemko. *Lg Use*: Nearly 60% assimilated culturally and linguistically with Slovaks. Declared normative, codified language in 1995 in Slovakia; can formally be taught in schools, used for publications, school textbooks. *Lg Dev*: Radio. TV. Dictionary. Bible portions: 2009. *Writing*: Cyrillic script. Latin script, used in Slovakia. *Other*: Christian. *Map*: 16. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 70,190. Also indigenous in: Ukraine. Also established in: Czechia, Hungary, Poland.

Slovak [slk] (Slovakian). Autonym: Slovenský Jazyk, Slovenčina. *Users*: 5,115,000 in Slovakia, all users. L1 users: 4,770,000 in Slovakia (European Commission 2012). L2 users: 345,000 (European Commission 2012). *Location*: Widespread. *Status*: 1 (National). Statutory national language (1992, Constitution, Article 6(1)). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, West, Czech-Slovak. *Dialects*: None known. Slovaks in western and central parts of the speech community can understand Czech [ces]. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); no articles; case-marking (6 cases); verb affixes mark number, person; passives; tense and aspect; comparatives; 27 consonants, 10 vowels, 4 diphthongs; non-tonal; stress on first syllable. *Lg Dev*: Taught in all primary and secondary schools. Fully developed. Bible: 1832–1999. *DLS*: Thriving (0.84). *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Christian. *Map*: 16. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 7,330,420 (as L1: 5,281,620; as L2: 2,048,800). Also indigenous in: Hungary. Also established in: Austria, Croatia, Czechia, Romania, Serbia, Ukraine. Unestablished in: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States.

Slovakian Sign Language [svk] (Slovak Republic Sign Language, Slovak Sign Language, Slovník Posunkovej Reči, Slovník Posunkovej Reči). *Users*: 15,000 (2021 EUD). About 0.3% of total population. Another estimate: 27,000 (2014 IMB). *Location*: Scattered. *Status*: 5 (Developing). Recognized language (1995, Law on the Sign Language of the Deaf 149). *Class*: Sign language, Deaf community sign language. *Dialects*: None known. Lexical similarity: approximately 50% with Czech Sign Language [cse] (Bickford 2005). *Type*: One-handed fingerspelling. *Lg Use*: Deaf schools, associations, athletic clubs, theater group. Used by all. *Lg Dev*: TV. Dictionary. Agency: Slovak Association of the Deaf (ANEPS). *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Fingerspelling system similar to French Sign Language [fsl]. 35 working sign language interpreters (2019 EUD). Courses for hearing people. Christian.

Ukrainian [ukr]. *Users*: 5,690 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Location*: Scattered, mainly in larger towns in eastern Slovakia. *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, East. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); no articles; case-marking (7 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense and aspect; comparatives; 32 consonant and 6 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; free stress. *Lg Dev*: Fully

developed. Bible: 1903–2020. *Writing*: Cyrillic script. Latin script, used in the 19th century, limited usage. *Other*: Christian. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 33,026,920 (as L1: 26,862,920; as L2: 6,164,000). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Also indigenous in: Romania, Ukraine. Also established in: Brazil, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland. Unestablished in: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom, United States, Uzbekistan.

Languages by Population

In this section the languages of Slovakia 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.

1,000,000 to 9,999,999

Slovak [slk] *Users:* 4,770,000 in Slovakia (European Commission 2012). 5,115,000 in Slovakia, all users. L2 users: 345,000 (European Commission 2012). *Status:* 1 (National). Statutory national language (1992, Constitution, Article 6(1)). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 7,330,420 (as L1: 5,281,620; as L2: 2,048,800).

100,000 to 999,999

Hungarian [hun] *Users:* 509,000 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Status:* 2 (Provincial). Statutory provincial language in southeast, south (1999, National Minority Language Use Act, Article 2). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 12,617,790 (as L1: 12,610,690; as L2: 7,100).

Romani, Carpathian [rmc] *Users:* 123,000 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 171,500.

10,000 to 99,999

Rusyn [rue] *Users:* 55,500 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Status:* 6a* (Vigorous). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 70,190.

Czech [ces] *Users:* 35,200 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). 2,585,200 in Slovakia, all users. L2 users: 2,550,000 (European Commission 2012). *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 12,257,160 (as L1: 9,568,660; as L2: 2,688,500).

Slovakian Sign Language [svk] *Users:* 15,000 (2021 EUD). About 0.3% of total population. Another estimate: 27,000 (2014 IMB). *Status:* 5 (Developing). Recognized language (1995, Law on the Sign Language of the Deaf 149).

1,000 to 9,999

Ukrainian [ukr] *Users:* 5,690 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 33,026,920 (as L1: 26,862,920; as L2: 6,164,000).

German, Standard [deu] *Users:* 5,190 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). 1,205,190 in Slovakia, all users. L2 users: 1,200,000 (2019). *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 133,245,880 (as L1: 75,282,080; as L2: 57,963,800).

Russian [rus] *Users:* 3,180 (2013 UNSD). 1,300,000 in Slovakia (Arefyev 2012), all users.

Status: Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 254,997,130 (as L1: 146,954,150; as L2: 107,987,980).

Polish [pol] *Users:* 3,120 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Status:* 6b* (Threatened). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 40,589,930 (as L1: 39,896,930; as L2: 693,000).

Chakavian [ckm] *Users:* 3,000 in Slovakia (2021 K. Tyran). *Status:* 6b (Threatened). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 86,600.

French [fra] *Users:* 1,600 in Slovakia (2022 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. 115,600 in Slovakia, all users. L2 users: 114,000 (Marcoux et al 2022). *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 309,804,220 (as L1: 80,770,190; as L2: 229,034,030).

100 to 999

English [eng] *Users:* 800 in Slovakia (2020 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. 1,420,800 in Slovakia, all users. L2 users: 1,420,000 (European Commission 2012). *Status:* 4 (Educational). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 1,456,448,320 (as L1: 379,682,200; as L2: 1076,766,120).

Unknown

Romani, Vlax [rmy] *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 551,000.

Languages by Status

In this section the languages of Slovakia 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)

Slovak [slk] *Users:* 5,115,000 in Slovakia, all users. L1 users: 4,770,000 in Slovakia (European Commission 2012). L2 users: 345,000 (European Commission 2012). *Status:* Statutory national language (1992, Constitution, Article 6(1)). *Lg Dev:* Fully developed. *Bible:* 1832–1999. *Writing:* Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 7,330,420 (as L1: 5,281,620; as L2: 2,048,800).

2 (Provincial)

Hungarian [hun] *Users:* 509,000 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Status:* Statutory provincial language in southeast, south (1999, National Minority Language Use Act, Article 2). *Lg Use:* Used as L2 by Standard German [deu]. *Writing:* Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 12,617,790 (as L1: 12,610,690; as L2: 7,100).

4 (Educational)

English [eng] *Users:* 1,420,800 in Slovakia, all users. L1 users: 800 in Slovakia (2020 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. L2 users: 1,420,000 (European Commission 2012). *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)

Romani, Carpathian [rmc] *Users:* 123,000 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Lg Use:* Also use Slovak [slk]. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 2014. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 171,500.

Slovakian Sign Language [svk] *Users:* 15,000 (2021 EUD). About 0.3% of total population. Another estimate: 27,000 (2014 IMB). *Status:* Recognized language (1995, Law on the Sign Language of the Deaf 149). *Lg Use:* Deaf schools, associations, athletic clubs, theater group. Used by all. *Lg Dev:* TV. Dictionary.

5 (Dispersed)

Czech [ces] *Users:* 2,585,200 in Slovakia, all users. L1 users: 35,200 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). L2 users: 2,550,000 (European Commission 2012). *Writing:* Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 12,257,160 (as L1: 9,568,660; as L2: 2,688,500).

French [fra] *Users:* 115,600 in Slovakia, all users. L1 users: 1,600 in Slovakia (2022 Joshua Project), based on ethnicity. L2 users: 114,000 (Marcoux et al 2022). *Writing:* Braille script. Duployan shorthand. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 309,804,220 (as L1: 80,770,190; as L2: 229,034,030).

German, Standard [deu] *Users:* 1,205,190 in Slovakia, all users. L1 users: 5,190 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). L2 users: 1,200,000 (2019). *Lg Use:* Also use Hungarian [hun]. Also use Slovak [slk]. *Writing:* Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. Latin script, Fraktur variant, used until 1940. Runic script, no longer in use. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 133,245,880 (as L1: 75,282,080; as L2: 57,963,800).

Romani, Vlax [rmy] *Lg Use:* Also use Slovak [slk]. *Writing:* Cyrillic script, used by Kalderash dialect. Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 551,000.

Ukrainian [ukr] *Users:* 5,690 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Writing:* Cyrillic script. Latin script, used in the 19th century, limited usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 33,026,920 (as L1: 26,862,920; as L2: 6,164,000).

6a (Vigorous)

Rusyn [rue] *Users:* 55,500 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Lg Use:* Nearly 60% assimilated culturally and linguistically with Slovaks. Declared normative, codified language in 1995 in Slovakia; can formally be taught in schools, used for publications, school textbooks. *Writing:* Cyrillic script. Latin script, used in Slovakia. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 70,190.

6b (Threatened)

Chakavian [ckm] *Users:* 3,000 in Slovakia (2021 K. Tyran). *Lg Use:* Some young people, all adults. All also use Slovak [slk]. *Writing:* Glagolitic script, used until 17th century. Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 86,600.

Polish [pol] *Users:* 3,120 in Slovakia (2013 UNSD). *Writing:* Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 40,589,930 (as L1: 39,896,930; as L2: 693,000).

Unestablished

Russian [rus] *Users:* 1,300,000 in Slovakia (Arefyev 2012), all users. L1 users: 3,180 (2013 UNSD). *Writing:* Braille script. Cyrillic script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all

countries: 254,997,130 (as L1: 146,954,150; as L2: 107,987,980).

Languages by Region

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

Banskobystricky

- Hungarian [hun], [12](#)
- Romani, Carpathian [rnc], [13](#)

Bratislavsky

- Chakavian [ckm], [11](#)
- German, Standard [deu], [12](#)
- Hungarian [hun], [12](#)

Kosicky

- German, Standard [deu], [12](#)
- Hungarian [hun], [12](#)
- Romani, Carpathian [rnc], [13](#)

Nitriansky

- Hungarian [hun], [12](#)
- Romani, Carpathian [rnc], [13](#)

Presovsky

- Romani, Carpathian [rnc], [13](#)
- Rusyn [rue], [14](#)

Trnavsky

- Hungarian [hun], [12](#)
- Romani, Carpathian [rnc], [13](#)

Languages by Family

This index gives an alphabetical listing of the linguistic classifications used for the established languages of Slovakia. 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.

Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, East

Rusyn [rue], [14](#)

Ukrainian [ukr], [14](#)

Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, South, Western

Chakavian [ckm], [11](#)

Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, West, Czech-Slovak

Czech [ces], [11](#)

Slovak [slk], [14](#)

Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, West, Lechitic

Polish [pol], [12](#)

Indo-European, Germanic, West, English

English [eng], [11](#)

Indo-European, Germanic, West, High German, German, Middle German, East Middle German

German, Standard [deu], [12](#)

Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Intermediate Divisions, Western, Romani, Northern

Romani, Carpathian [rmc], [13](#)

Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Intermediate Divisions, Western, Romani, Vlax

Romani, Vlax [rmy], [13](#)

Indo-European, Italic, Romance, Italo-Western, Western, Gallo-Iberian, Gallo-Romance, Gallo-Rhaetian, Oil, French

French [fra], [11](#)

Sign language, Deaf community sign language

Slovakian Sign Language [svk], [14](#)

Uralic

Hungarian [hun], [12](#)

Language Code Index

This index gives an alphabetical listing of all 14 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/>.

ces	Czech, 11	rmc	Romani, Carpathian, 13
ckm	Chakavian, 11	rmy	Romani, Vlax, 13
deu	German, Standard, 12	rue	Rusyn, 14
eng	English, 11	rus	Russian, 13
fra	French, 11	slk	Slovak, 14
hun	Hungarian, 12	svk	Slovakian Sign Language, 14
pol	Polish, 12	ukr	Ukrainian, 14

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.

- Angličtina**, *alt.* English [eng], 11
- Bashaldo**, *alt.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 13
- Carpathian**, *alt.* Rusyn [rue], 14
- Carpatho-Rusyn**, *alt.* Rusyn [rue], 14
- Central Romani**, *alt.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 13
- Český jazyk**, *alt.* Czech [ces], 11
- Čeština**, *alt.* Czech [ces], 11
- Chakavian** [ckm], 11, 16
- Czech** [ces], 11
- Deutsch**, *alt.* German, Standard [deu], 12
- East Slovak Romani**, *dial.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 13
- English** [eng], 11
- French** [fra], 11
- German, Standard** [deu], 12
see German, Standard [deu], 12
- Gradišćanskohrvatski jezik**, *alt.* Chakavian [ckm], 11
- Hungarian** [hun], 12, 16
- Hungarian-Slovak Romani**, *alt.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 13
- Kaldarári**, *alt. dial.* Romani, Vlax [rmy], 13
- Kalderash**, *dial.* Romani, Vlax [rmy], 13
- Karpacki Roma**, *alt.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 13
- Lemko**, *dial.* Rusyn [rue], 14
- Lovari**, *dial.* Romani, Vlax [rmy], 13
- Maďarský**, *alt.* Hungarian [hun], 12
- Magyar**, *alt.* Hungarian [hun], 12
- Moravian Romani**, *dial.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 13
- Nemec**, *alt.* German, Standard [deu], 12
- Polish** [pol], 12
- Rom**, *alt.* Romani, Vlax [rmy], 13
- Romanes**, *alt.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 13
- Romani, Carpathian** [rmc], 13
see Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 13
- Romani, Vlax** [rmy], 13
see Romani, Vlax [rmy], 13
- Romungro**, *dial.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 13
- Rusinskiy yazyk**, *alt.* Rusyn [rue], 14
- Rusyn** [rue], 14, 16
- Ruthenian**, *alt.* Rusyn [rue], 14
- Sárvika Romá**, *alt.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 13
- Servika Romani**, *alt. dial.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 13
- Slovak** [slk], 14, 16
- Slovak Bougesti**, *dial.* Romani, Vlax [rmy], 13
- Slovak Republic Sign Language**, *alt.* Slovakian Sign Language [svk], 14

Slovak Sign Language, *alt.* Slovakian Sign Language [svk], [14](#)

Slovakian, *alt.* Slovak [slk], [14](#)

Slovakian Sign Language [svk], [14](#), [0](#)

Slovenčina, *alt.* Slovak [slk], [14](#)

Slovenský Jazyk, *alt.* Slovak [slk], [14](#)

Slovník Posunkovej Reči, *alt.* Slovakian Sign Language [svk], [14](#)

Slovník Posunkovej Reči, *alt.* Slovakian Sign Language [svk], [14](#)

Ukrainian [ukr], [14](#)

Ungrike Romá, *alt.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], [13](#)

West Slovak Romani, *dial.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], [13](#)

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