

Ethnologue: Languages of Slovenia

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 and Minority Languages
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)
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
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)
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 Slovenia 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 10) provides detailed information on the 15 languages listed in the *Ethnologue* for the country of Slovenia. 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. *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.

Many ways of finding languages are provided. “Languages by Population” (page 16) lists the languages in order of their first-language speaker populations. “Languages by Status” (page 18) 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 Family” (page 21) lists the languages by their linguistic classifications. “Language Code Index” (page 22) 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 23) lists every name that appears in the language listings as a primary or alternate name of a language or dialect. A total of 30 unique names are associated with the 15 languages described in this digest.

Finally, a listing of all the published sources cited within this digest is found in “Bibliography”

(page 24). 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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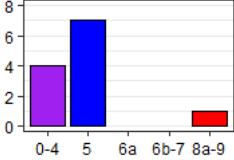
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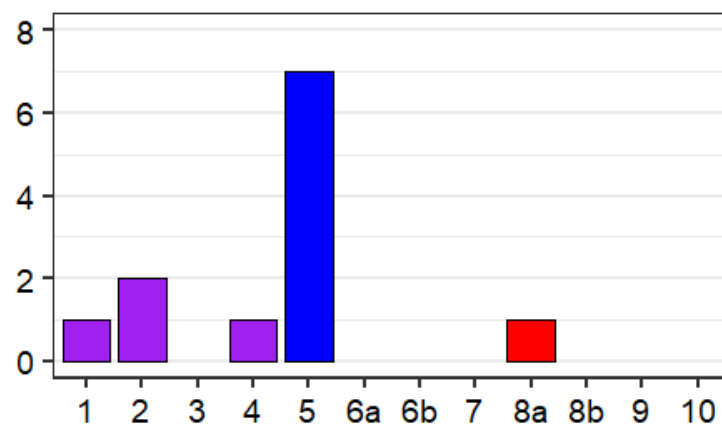
Country Overview

Name of country	Slovenia
Other names	Republic of Slovenia
Population	2,101,000 (2022 World Factbook)
Principal language	Slovene
Literacy rate	100% (2015 World Factbook)
Deaf population	1,500 (2014 Association of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Slovenia)
International conventions	CDE (1992), CPPDCE (2006), CSICH (2008), ECRML (2000), FCPNM (1998), ICCPR (1992), UNCRPD (2008), UNDRIP (2007)
General references	Browne et al 1997, Campbell and King 2011, Comrie 1987, Comrie and Corbet 1993, Priestly 1993, Stephens 1976
Language counts	<p>The number of established languages listed for Slovenia is 12. All are living languages. Of these, 3 are indigenous and 9 are non-indigenous. Furthermore, 4 are institutional, 7 are developing, and 1 is dying. Also listed are 3 unestablished languages.</p> 

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 Slovenia 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 10) 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 18) 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 10) provides a detailed listing of all the languages of Slovenia. 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 Slovenia 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 Slovenia 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 16) 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	8.3	8.3%	1,950,000	91.23874	91.23874%
10,000 to 99,999	3	25.0	33.3%	164,200	7.68277	98.92151%
1,000 to 9,999	5	41.7	75.0%	23,050	1.07849	100.00000%
Unknown	3	25.0	100.0%			
<i>Totals</i>	12	100.0		2,137,250	100.00000	

Summary by language status

Table 2 summarizes the distribution of living established languages in Slovenia 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 18) 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 Slovenia. 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				
	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Median</i>
1	1	8.3	8.3%	1,950,000	91.2387	91.2387%	1,950,000	1,950,000
2	2	16.7	25.0%	12,700	0.5942	91.8330%	6,350	6,350
4	1	8.3	33.3%	Unknown				
5	7	58.3	91.7%	174,550	8.1670	100.0000%	24,936	19,575
8a	1	8.3	100.0%	Unknown				
<i>Totals</i>	12	100.0		2,137,250	100.0000			

Summary by language family

The genealogical classifications given in the language entries of the “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 10) 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				
	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Median</i>	
Indo-European	10	83.3	2,127,550	99.5	212,755	33,900	
Sign language	1	8.3	1,000	0.0	1,000	1,000	
Uralic	1	8.3	8,700	0.4	8,700	8,700	
<i>Totals</i>	12	100.0	2,137,250	100.0			

Alphabetical Listing of Languages

- Albanian, Gheg** [aln]. Autonym: Gegnisht. *Users*: 7,680 in Slovenia (2022). *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Indo-European, Albanian, Gheg. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head initial; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); definite article affix; case-marking (4 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense; 29 consonant and 7 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; stress on penultimate syllable. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Newspapers. Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 1869–1990. *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 4,239,280. Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia. Also established in: Romania, Turkey. Unestablished in: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States.
- Bosnian** [bos]. *Users*: 33,900 in Slovenia (2022). *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). Recognized language (2000, Slovenian Ratification, ECRML). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, South, Western. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); vestiges of dual number; case-marking (7 cases); verb affixes mark person, number, gender of subject (in past tense); passives; tense and aspect; 25 consonant and 5 vowel phonemes; pitch stress. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Bible: 2013–2021. *Writing*: Arabic script, Naskh variant, no longer in use. Cyrillic script. Latin script. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 2,618,390 (as L1: 2,608,490; as L2: 9,900). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro. Also established in: Croatia, North Macedonia, Serbia. Unestablished in: Australia, Austria, Canada, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States.
- Croatian** [hrv] (Hrvatski, Serbo-Croatian). Autonym: Hrvatski. *Users*: 1,337,300 in Slovenia, all users. L1 users: 77,300 in Slovenia (2022). L2 users: 1,260,000 (European Commission 2012). *Location*: Widespread. *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). Recognized language (2000, Slovenian Ratification, ECRML). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, South, Western. *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; causatives; comparatives; 25 consonants, 5 vowels, 2 diphthongs; tonal (4 tones), stress is connected with tone. *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Slovene [slv], Venetian [vec]. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. Bible: 1831–1999. *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 6,758,610 (as L1: 5,474,510; as L2: 1,284,100). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Austria, Croatia, Montenegro. Also established in: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Romania, Serbia. Unestablished in: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, North Macedonia, Norway, Spain, Sweden, United States.
- English** [eng] (Angleščina). Autonym: English. *Users*: 1,230,000 in Slovenia (European Commission 2012), L2 users. *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 Use*: Used as L2 by Slovene [slv]. *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: 1076,766,120). 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*: 50,000 in Slovenia (Marcoux et al 2022), L2 users. *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). *Class*: Indo-European, Italic, Romance, Italo-Western, Western, Gallo-Iberian, Gallo-Romance, Gallo-Rhaetian, Oïl, 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). Autonym: Deutsch. *Users*: 879,250 in Slovenia, all users. L1 users: 5,250 in Slovenia (2022 Eurostat). L2 users: 874,000 (2019). *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). Recognized language (2000, Slovenian Ratification, ECRML). *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*: Used as L2 by Slovene [slv]. *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. *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] (Madžarski, Magyar). Autonym: Magyar. *Users*: 8,700 in Slovenia (Laakso et al 2013). *Location*: Hungary border area. *Status*: 2 (Provincial). Recognized language (1991, Constitution, Article 64). *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 Dev*: Taught in primary and secondary schools in Hungarian-speaking

areas. Fully developed. Bible: 1590–1991. *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. Acknowledged as autochthonous (indigenous) communities and protected by the constitution. *Map*: 15:6. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 12,617,790 (as L1: 12,610,690; as L2: 7,100). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Austria, Hungary, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Ukraine. Also established in: Croatia, Israel. 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.

Italian [ita] (Italiano, Italijanski). Autonym: Italiano. *Users*: 4,000 in Slovenia (2022). *Location*: Izola and Piran municipalities. *Status*: 2 (Provincial). Recognized language (1991, Constitution, Article 64). *Class*: Indo-European, Italic, Romance, Italo-Western, Italo-Dalmatian. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; gender (masculine/feminine); definite and indefinite articles; verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense; comparatives; 23 consonant and 7 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; stress mostly on penultimate syllable. *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Venetian [vec]. *Lg Dev*: Taught in primary and secondary schools in Italian-speaking areas. Fully developed. Bible: 1471–1985. *Writing*: Braille script, used since 1974. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Acknowledged as autochthonous communities and protected by the constitution. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 67,935,480 (as L1: 64,647,380; as L2: 3,288,100). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Also indigenous in: Croatia, Italy, San Marino, Switzerland. Also established in 12 other countries and unestablished in 35 more.

Macedonian [mkd]. *Users*: 5,100 in Slovenia (2022). *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, South, Eastern. *Type*: SVO; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); definite article suffix; verb affixes mark person, number; passives (active, middle, passive); 26 consonant and 5 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; stress on antepenultimate syllable. *Lg Dev*: Newspapers. Radio. Grammar. Bible: 1990–2006. *Writing*: Cyrillic script, used since 1944. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 1,738,250 (as L1: 1,732,750; as L2: 5,500). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Bulgaria, Greece (Slavic), North Macedonia. Also established in: Albania, Romania. Unestablished in: Australia, Austria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Germany, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Serbia, Sweden, Turkey, United States.

Romani, Carpathian [rnc] (Romanes). Autonym: Romanes. *Users*: 4,100 in Slovenia (2022). *Location*: Maribor, Murska Sobota, and Novo Mesto municipalities. *Status*: 5* (Developing). Recognized language (1991, Constitution, Article 65). *Class*: Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Intermediate Divisions, Western, Romani, Northern. *Dialect*: Prekmurski Romani. *Lg Use*: Also use Slovene [slv]. *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. *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Map*: 15:2. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 171,500. Indigenous in: Czechia. Also established in: Austria, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Ukraine.

Russian [rus]. *Users*: 30,000 in Slovenia (Arefyev 2012), all users. *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.

Serbian [srp]. *Users*: 53,000 in Slovenia (2022). *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). Recognized language (2000, Slovenian Ratification, ECRML). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, South, Western. *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; causatives; comparatives; 25 consonant and 5 vowel phonemes, the ‘r’ also functioning as a vocalic (or syllabic) consonant; nontonal. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. Bible: 1804–1868. *Writing*: Braille script. Cyrillic script, primary usage. Latin script. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 10,213,776 (as L1: 10,193,976; as L2: 19,800). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia. Also established in: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Hungary, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey. Unestablished in: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Italy, Libya, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States, Zambia.

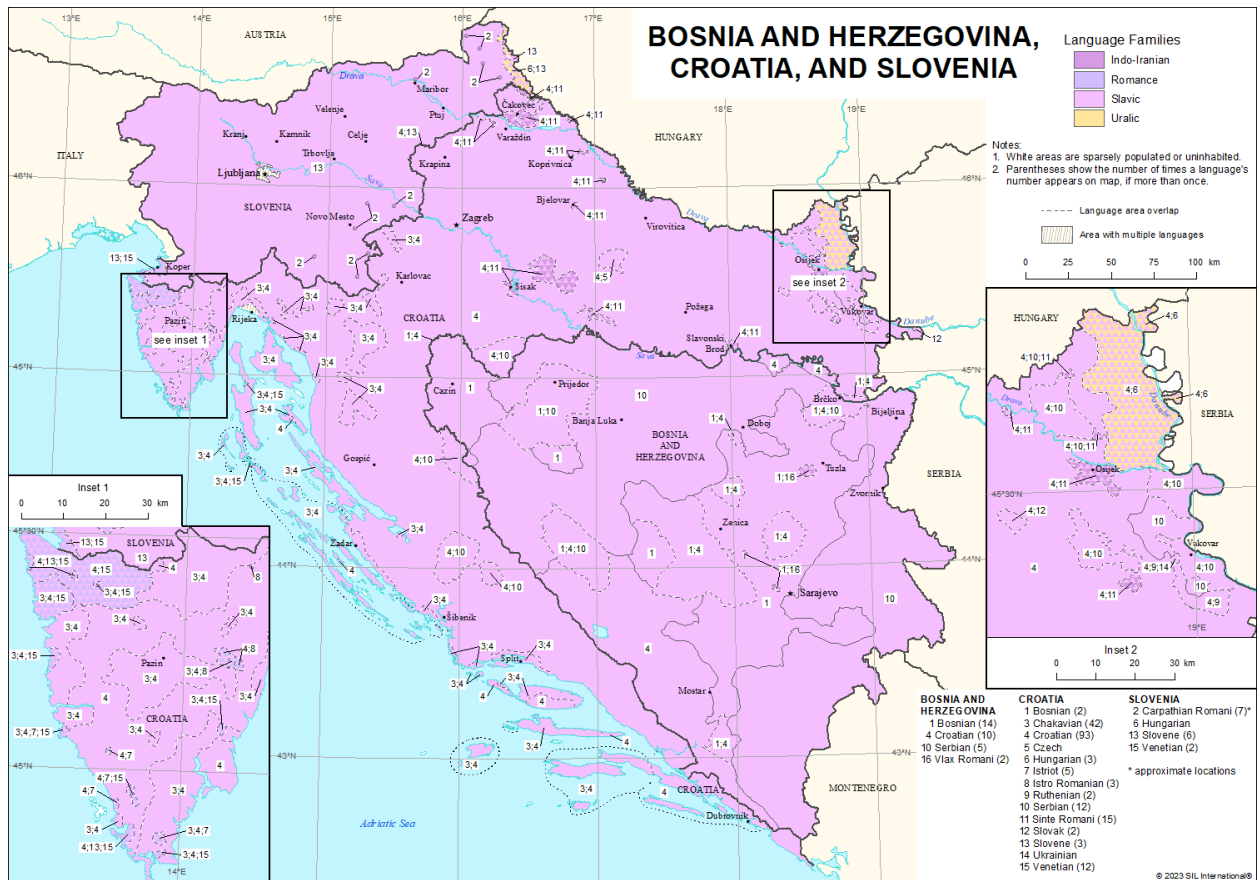
Slovene [slv] (Slovenian). Autonym: Slovenski jezik, Slovenščina. *Users*: 2,026,700 in Slovenia, all users. L1 users: 1,950,000 in Slovenia (European Commission 2012). L2 users: 76,700 (European Commission 2012). *Location*: Widespread. *Status*: 1 (National). Statutory national language (1991, Constitution, Article 11). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, South, Western. *Dialects*: Lower Carniola, Upper Carniola, Stajerski, Primorski, Prekmurski. The literary dialect between the 2 main dialects is based on Dolenjsko. Dialects diverse. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); dual number; no articles; case-marking (6 cases); verb affixes mark number, person; passives; tense and aspect; comparatives; 21 consonants, 8 vowels, 2 diphthongs; tonal (in some dialects); free stress. *Lg Use*: Many also use Croatian [hrv] (European Commission 2006). Many also use English [eng] (European Commission 2006). Many also use Standard German [deu] (European Commission 2006). *Lg Dev*: Taught in all primary and secondary schools. Fully developed. Bible: 1584–2017. *DLS*: Vital (0.82). *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Map*: 15:13. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 2,263,350 (as L1: 2,075,890; as L2: 187,460). Also indigenous in: Austria, Hungary, Italy. Also established in: Croatia. Unestablished in: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Germany, Serbia, Spain, United Kingdom, United States.

Slovenian Sign Language [ysl] (SZJ, Slovene Sign Language, Slovenski Znakovni Jezik, YSL, Yugoslav Sign Language, Yugoslavian Sign Language). *Users*: 1,000 in Slovenia (2014

Association of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Slovenia). About 0.05% of total population. Other estimates: 863 (2021 EUD); 2,500–3,000 (2004 M. Debecv et al). *Location*: Scattered. *Status*: 5 (Developing). Recognized language (2002, Law 96/02, Law on the Use of Slovenian Sign Language, ZUSZJ). *Class*: Sign language, Deaf community sign language. *Dialects*: None known. Degree of variation with other former Yugoslavian countries is unknown, but reportedly minor. Fingerspelling alphabets vary considerably throughout the Balkans (one- vs. two-handed, Latin vs. Cyrillic, 2020 B. van der Louw). *Type*: Fingerspelling alphabet based on French Sign Language [fsl]. *Lg Use*: Deaf schools. Deaf associations. Used by all. Also use Slovene [slv], in written form, which is taught in deaf schools. *Lg Dev*: TV. Theater. Videos. Dictionary. Agency: Slovenian Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ZDGNS). *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Origin from deaf schools in Austria and Hungary. Since the breakup of Yugoslavia, each area has tended to distinguish its variety from the others, with its own name. The ISO 639-3 standard has not yet been adjusted to reflect these changes, treating all sign languages in the former Yugoslavia (with the exception of Croatian Sign Language [csq]) as dialects of Yugoslavian Sign Language [ysl]. 46 registered sign language interpreters (2019 EUD). Christian. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 25,000. Also indigenous in: Bosnia and Herzegovina (Bosnian Sign Language), Montenegro (Montenegrin Sign Language), North Macedonia (Macedonian Sign Language), Serbia (Serbian Sign Language).

Venetian [vec]. Autonym: Veneto. *Location*: Izola, Koper, and Piran. *Status*: 8a (Moribund). *Class*: Indo-European, Italic, Romance, Italo-Western, Western, Gallo-Iberian, Gallo-Romance, Gallo-Italian. *Dialects*: Istrian, Venetian Proper. *Lg Use*: Younger generation is switching to Croatian [hrv] and Italian [ita]. Audio programs, publications and events are being organised in the last years to defend and promote the language (2015 A. Lunardon). Older adults only. Many shifted to Croatian [hrv]. Many shifted to Italian [ita]. *Lg Dev*: Newspapers. Periodicals. Radio. TV. Bible portions: 1859. *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Map*: 15:15. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 3,852,500. Global EGIDS level: 5 (Developing). Indigenous in: Italy. Also established in: Brazil (Talian), Croatia, Mexico. Unestablished in: Albania, Greece, Montenegro.

Language Map



Languages by Population

In this section the languages of Slovenia 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

Slovene [slv] *Users:* 1,950,000 in Slovenia (European Commission 2012). 2,026,700 in Slovenia, all users. L2 users: 76,700 (European Commission 2012). *Status:* 1 (National). Statutory national language (1991, Constitution, Article 11). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,263,350 (as L1: 2,075,890; as L2: 187,460).

10,000 to 99,999

Croatian [hrv] *Users:* 77,300 in Slovenia (2022). 1,337,300 in Slovenia, all users. L2 users: 1,260,000 (European Commission 2012). *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). Recognized language (2000, Slovenian Ratification, ECRML). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 6,758,610 (as L1: 5,474,510; as L2: 1,284,100).

Serbian [srp] *Users:* 53,000 in Slovenia (2022). *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). Recognized language (2000, Slovenian Ratification, ECRML). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 10,213,776 (as L1: 10,193,976; as L2: 19,800).

Bosnian [bos] *Users:* 33,900 in Slovenia (2022). *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). Recognized language (2000, Slovenian Ratification, ECRML). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,618,390 (as L1: 2,608,490; as L2: 9,900).

1,000 to 9,999

Hungarian [hun] *Users:* 8,700 in Slovenia (Laakso et al 2013). *Status:* 2 (Provincial). Recognized language (1991, Constitution, Article 64). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 12,617,790 (as L1: 12,610,690; as L2: 7,100).

Albanian, Gheg [aln] *Users:* 7,680 in Slovenia (2022). *Status:* Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 4,239,280.

German, Standard [deu] *Users:* 5,250 in Slovenia (2022 Eurostat). 879,250 in Slovenia, all users. L2 users: 874,000 (2019). *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). Recognized language (2000, Slovenian Ratification, ECRML). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 133,245,880 (as L1: 75,282,080; as L2: 57,963,800).

Macedonian [mkd] *Users:* 5,100 in Slovenia (2022). *Status:* Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 1,738,250 (as L1: 1,732,750; as L2: 5,500).

Romani, Carpathian [rmc] *Users:* 4,100 in Slovenia (2022). *Status:* 5* (Developing). Recognized language (1991, Constitution, Article 65). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 171,500.

Italian [ita] *Users:* 4,000 in Slovenia (2022). *Status:* 2 (Provincial). Recognized language (1991, Constitution, Article 64). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 67,935,480 (as L1: 64,647,380; as L2: 3,288,100).

Slovenian Sign Language [ysl] *Users:* 1,000 in Slovenia (2014 Association of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Slovenia). About 0.05% of total population. Other estimates: 863 (2021 EUD); 2,500–3,000 (2004 M. Debecv et al). *Status:* 5 (Developing). Recognized language (2002, Law 96/02, Law on the Use of Slovenian Sign Language, ZUSZJ). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 25,000.

Unknown

English [eng] *Users:* L2 users: 1,230,000 in Slovenia (European Commission 2012), L2 users. *Status:* 4 (Educational). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 1,456,448,320 (as L1: 379,682,200; as L2: 1076,766,120).

French [fra] *Users:* L2 users: 50,000 in Slovenia (Marcoux et al 2022), L2 users. *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 309,804,220 (as L1: 80,770,190; as L2: 229,034,030).

Russian [rus] *Users:* 30,000 in Slovenia (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).

Venetian [vec] *Status:* 8a (Moribund). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 3,852,500.

Languages by Status

In this section the languages of Slovenia 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)

Slovene [[slv](#)] *Users:* 2,026,700 in Slovenia, all users. L1 users: 1,950,000 in Slovenia (European Commission 2012). L2 users: 76,700 (European Commission 2012). *Status:* Statutory national language (1991, Constitution, Article 11). *Lg Use:* Many also use Croatian [[hrv](#)] (European Commission 2006). Many also use English [[eng](#)] (European Commission 2006). Many also use Standard German [[deu](#)] (European Commission 2006). *Lg Dev:* Fully developed. *Bible:* 1584–2017. *Writing:* Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,263,350 (as L1: 2,075,890; as L2: 187,460).

2 (Provincial)

Hungarian [[hun](#)] *Users:* 8,700 in Slovenia (Laakso et al 2013). *Status:* Recognized language (1991, Constitution, Article 64). *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).

Italian [[ita](#)] *Users:* 4,000 in Slovenia (2022). *Status:* Recognized language (1991, Constitution, Article 64). *Lg Use:* Used as L2 by Venetian [[vec](#)]. *Writing:* Braille script, used since 1974. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 67,935,480 (as L1: 64,647,380; as L2: 3,288,100).

4 (Educational)

English [[eng](#)] *Users:* 1,230,000 in Slovenia (European Commission 2012), L2 users. *Lg Use:* Used as L2 by Slovene [[slv](#)]. *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 [[rnc](#)] *Users:* 4,100 in Slovenia (2022). *Status:* Recognized language (1991, Constitution, Article 65). *Lg Use:* Also use Slovene [[slv](#)]. *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 171,500.

Slovenian Sign Language [[ysl](#)] *Users:* 1,000 in Slovenia (2014 Association of Deaf and Hard of

Hearing Slovenia). About 0.05% of total population. Other estimates: 863 (2021 EUD); 2,500–3,000 (2004 M. Debecv et al). *Status*: Recognized language (2002, Law 96/02, Law on the Use of Slovenian Sign Language, ZUSZJ). *Lg Use*: Deaf schools. Deaf associations. Used by all. Also use Slovene [slv], in written form, which is taught in deaf schools. *Lg Dev*: TV. Theater. Videos. Dictionary. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 25,000.

5 (Dispersed)

Bosnian [bos] *Users*: 33,900 in Slovenia (2022). *Status*: Recognized language (2000, Slovenian Ratification, ECRML). *Writing*: Arabic script, Naskh variant, no longer in use. Cyrillic script. Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 2,618,390 (as L1: 2,608,490; as L2: 9,900).

Croatian [hrv] *Users*: 1,337,300 in Slovenia, all users. L1 users: 77,300 in Slovenia (2022). L2 users: 1,260,000 (European Commission 2012). *Status*: Recognized language (2000, Slovenian Ratification, ECRML). *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Slovene [slv], Venetian [vec]. *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 6,758,610 (as L1: 5,474,510; as L2: 1,284,100).

French [fra] *Users*: 50,000 in Slovenia (Marcoux et al 2022), L2 users. *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*: 879,250 in Slovenia, all users. L1 users: 5,250 in Slovenia (2022 Eurostat). L2 users: 874,000 (2019). *Status*: Recognized language (2000, Slovenian Ratification, ECRML). *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Slovene [slv]. *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).

Serbian [srp] *Users*: 53,000 in Slovenia (2022). *Status*: Recognized language (2000, Slovenian Ratification, ECRML). *Writing*: Braille script. Cyrillic script, primary usage. Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 10,213,776 (as L1: 10,193,976; as L2: 19,800).

8a (Moribund)

Venetian [vec] *Lg Use*: Younger generation is switching to Croatian [hrv] and Italian [ita]. Audio programs, publications and events are being organised in the last years to defend and promote the language (2015 A. Lunardon). Older adults only. Many shifted to Croatian [hrv]. Many shifted to Italian [ita]. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 3,852,500.

Unestablished

Albanian, Gheg [aln] *Users*: 7,680 in Slovenia (2022). *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 4,239,280.

Macedonian [[mkd](#)] *Users:* 5,100 in Slovenia (2022). *Writing:* Cyrillic script, used since 1944.
Worldwide: Total users in all countries: 1,738,250 (as L1: 1,732,750; as L2: 5,500).

Russian [[rus](#)] *Users:* 30,000 in Slovenia (Arefyev 2012), all users. *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 Family

This index gives an alphabetical listing of the linguistic classifications used for the established languages of Slovenia. 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, South, Western

Bosnian [bos], [10](#)

Croatian [hrv], [10](#)

Serbian [srp], [13](#)

Slovene [slv], [13](#)

Indo-European, Germanic, West, English

English [eng], [10](#)

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

German, Standard [deu], [11](#)

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

Romani, Carpathian [rmc], [12](#)

Indo-European, Italic, Romance, Italo-Western, Italo-Dalmatian

Italian [ita], [12](#)

Indo-European, Italic, Romance, Italo-Western, Western, Gallo-Iberian, Gallo-Romance, Gallo-Italian

Venetian [vec], [14](#)

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

French [fra], [11](#)

Sign language, Deaf community sign language

Slovenian Sign Language [ysl], [13](#)

Uralic

Hungarian [hun], [11](#)

Language Code Index

This index gives an alphabetical listing of all 15 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/>.

aln	Albanian, Gheg, 10	mkd	Macedonian, 12
bos	Bosnian, 10	rmc	Romani, Carpathian, 12
deu	German, Standard, 11	rus	Russian, 12
eng	English, 10	slv	Slovene, 13
fra	French, 11	srp	Serbian, 13
hrv	Croatian, 10	vec	Venetian, 14
hun	Hungarian, 11	ysl	Slovenian Sign Language, 13
ita	Italian, 12		

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.

- Gheg Albanian**, *see* Albanian, Gheg [aln], 10
- Angleščina**, *alt.* English [eng], 10
- Bosnian** [bos], 10
- Croatian** [hrv], 10
- Deutsch**, *alt.* German, Standard [deu], 11
- English** [eng], 10
- French** [fra], 11
- German, Standard** [deu], 11
see German, Standard [deu], 11
- Hrvatski**, *alt.* Croatian [hrv], 10
- Hungarian** [hun], 11, 15
- Istrian**, *dial.* Venetian [vec], 14
- Italian** [ita], 12
- Italiano**, *alt.* Italian [ita], 12
- Italijanski**, *alt.* Italian [ita], 12
- Lower Carniola**, *dial.* Slovene [slv], 13
- Madžarski**, *alt.* Hungarian [hun], 11
- Magyar**, *alt.* Hungarian [hun], 11
- Prekmurski**, *dial.* Slovene [slv], 13
- Prekmurski Romani**, *dial.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 12
- Primorski**, *dial.* Slovene [slv], 13
- Romanes**, *alt.* Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 12
- Romani, Carpathian** [rmc], 12, 15
see Romani, Carpathian [rmc], 12
- Serbian** [srp], 13
- Serbo-Croatian**, *alt.* Croatian [hrv], 10
- Slovene** [slv], 13, 15
- Slovene Sign Language**, *alt.* Slovenian Sign Language [ysl], 13
- Slovenian**, *alt.* Slovene [slv], 13
- Slovenian Sign Language** [ysl], 13, 0
- Slovenščina**, *alt.* Slovene [slv], 13
- Slovenski jezik**, *alt.* Slovene [slv], 13
- Slovenski Znakovni Jezik**, *alt.* Slovenian Sign Language [ysl], 13
- Stajerski**, *dial.* Slovene [slv], 13
- SZJ**, *alt.* Slovenian Sign Language [ysl], 13
- Upper Carniola**, *dial.* Slovene [slv], 13
- Venetian** [vec], 14, 15
- Venetian Proper**, *dial.* Venetian [vec], 14
- YSL**, *alt.* Slovenian Sign Language [ysl], 13
- Yugoslav Sign Language**, *alt.* Slovenian Sign Language [ysl], 13
- Yugoslavian Sign Language**, *alt.* Slovenian Sign Language [ysl], 13

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