

“Bolivian Sign Language [bvl] (A language of Bolivia)

- **Alternative Names:** Lenguaje de Señas Bolivianas, LSB
- **Population:** 350–400 (1988 E. Powlison).
- **Location:** Cochabamba, La Paz, and Santa Cruz departments; El Beni Department, Riberalta municipality.
- **Language Status:** 6a (Vigorous).
- **Dialects:** Based on American Sign Language [ase] with necessary changes for borrowed Spanish lexical items. Some groups in La Paz and Santa Cruz use the same signs with some dialect signs from their own areas. There is evidence that Bolivian Sign Language is no more divergent from ASL [ase] than some dialects of ASL (Morgan 2004).
- **Other Comments:** Originated by missionaries. Other deaf schools use only the oralist approach.”

Lewis, M. Paul, Gary F. Simons, and Charles D. Fennig (eds.)

2015. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Eighteenth edition. Dallas, Texas: SIL International. Online version: <http://www.ethnologue.com>.

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