

## “Hawaii Sign Language [hps] (A language of [United States](#))

- **Alternate Names:** Hawai'i Pidgin Sign Language, Hawaiian Sign Language, HPS
- **Location:** Hawaii.
- **Language Status:** 8b (Nearly extinct).
- **Dialects:** None known. Not related to American Sign Language [ase] or any other known sign language, less than 20% probable cognates with ASL (2013 J. Woodward).
- **Typology:** SOV, noun-first in noun phrase, verb precedes negative, sentence-final question words.
- **Language Use:** Largely replaced by American Sign Language [ase], starting about 1950. A few users from about 6,000 profoundly deaf people in Hawaii (1987 Honolulu Star-Bulletin), 72,000 deaf or hard-of-hearing people in Hawaii (1998 Honolulu Advertiser). Elderly only. Also use American Sign Language [ase], English [eng].”

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>.

Last Updated: May 11, 2015