

“Kaapor Sign Language [uks] (A language of Brazil)

- **Alternate Names:** Urubú Sign Language (pej.), Ka'apor Sign Language
- **Population:** 7 (Kakumasu 1968). Deaf users are monolingual. L2 users: 500.
- **Location:** Maranhlo and Para states.
- **Language Status:** 6a (Vigorous).
- **Typology:** OSV.
- **Language Use:** Urubu hearing children grow up knowing both spoken and sign systems. Linguist Jim Kakumasu observed in 1968 that the number of deaf people in the community was 7 out of a population of 500. This relatively high ratio of deafness (1 in 75) has led to both hearing and deaf members of the community using the language, and most hearing children grow up bilingual in the spoken and signed languages. Other Indigenous tribes in the region have also been reported to use sign languages, and to communicate between themselves using sign language pidgins.”

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>.

Related Research

Ferreira-Brito, Lucinda

1984 Similarities & Differences in Two Brazilian Sign Languages. Sign Language Studies. 45.

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