

LATVIA



Update: May 9th 2024



Geography

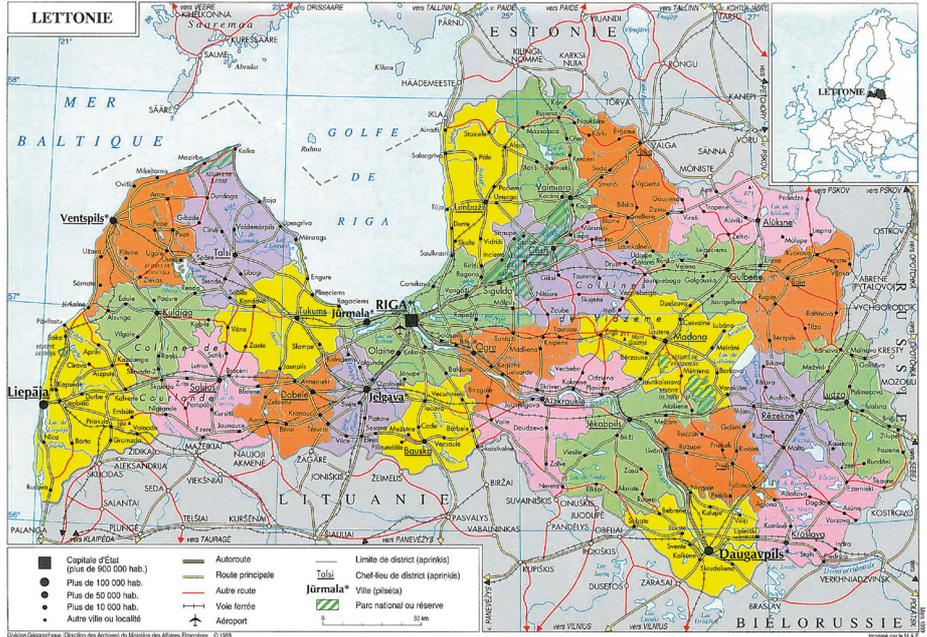
Area: 64.589 km²

Borders: 1,348 km: Belarus (141 km), Estonia (343 km), Lithuania (588 km), Russia (276 km)

Coastline: 498 km

Capital: Riga

Official language: Latvian



Population

Population: 1,821,750 inhabitants (2023)

Crude natural change rate: -7,9‰ (2022)

Population repartition: 14.9% under 15 years old, 21.7% over 65 years old (2023 est.)

Foreign residents : 0% EU nationals, 13% extra-EU nationals (2021)

Crude migration rate: -5.1% (2023 est.)

First time asylum applicants: 620 (2022)

Life expectancy: men 71.8 years, women 80.8 years (2023 est.)

Ethnic groups: Latvian 62.7%, Russian 24.5%, Belarusian 3.1%, Ukrainian 2.2%, Polish 2%, Lithuanian 1.1%, other 1.8%, non specified 2.6% (est. 2021)

Source : Eurostat, The World Factbook



Economy

Currency: Euro (since January 1st 2014)

GDP: € 40,348 million (2023)

GDP per capita (PPP): € 13,220 (2023)

GDP growth: -0.3% (2023)

Unemployment: 6.9% (May 2024)

Inflation: 0% (May 2024)

Public debt: 40.8% of GDP (December 2022)

Budget balance: -1.4% of GDP (Q3 2023)

Stock of foreign direct investment from the entire world: 60.7% of GDP (2022)

Source : Eurostat, Trading Economics, World Bank



Political System

Republic, parliamentary democracy (Constitution of August 21st 1991) since it regained its independence - Latvia was annexed by the USSR in 1944.

Head of state: Egils Levits has been President of the Republic since July 8th 2019. On May 31st 2023, Edgars Rinkevics was elected President of the Republic by the deputies of the Saeima. It is a 4 years renewable once. He is due to take office on July 8th 2023.

Prime minister: Evika Siliņa (New Unity) since September 15th 2023. She leads a coalition government of three parties: New Unity (JV), Progressives (P) and the Union of Greens and Farmers (ZZS).

Unicameral parliamentary system:

The Saeima (the Parliament) comprises 100 seats. Representatives are elected for a 4-year mandate through direct universal suffrage by proportional representation (threshold of 5%).



Political Representation

Composition of the Saeima (in July 2024):

- 25 seats New Unity (JV)
- 16 seats Green and Farmers Union (ZZS) - 14 seats United List (AS)
- 12 seats National Alliance (AN)
- 10 seats For Stability (S !)
- 9 seats The Progressives (P)
- 8 seats Latvia First (LPV)
- 6 seats Non-affiliated members

Female representation:

- in the government: 6/15
- in the parliament: 31/100

Next elections: general in 2026 and presidential in 2027