Latvian Geospatial Information Agency

Place Names Database of Latvia

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Overview of the Presentation

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1. Brief intro on the Place Names Database

2. Private vs. Public version

3. Usage and contents

4. Future development

LGIA Place Names Database

Latvia's main electronic place names resource for state cartography

Established in 1998 by Laboratory of Toponymy

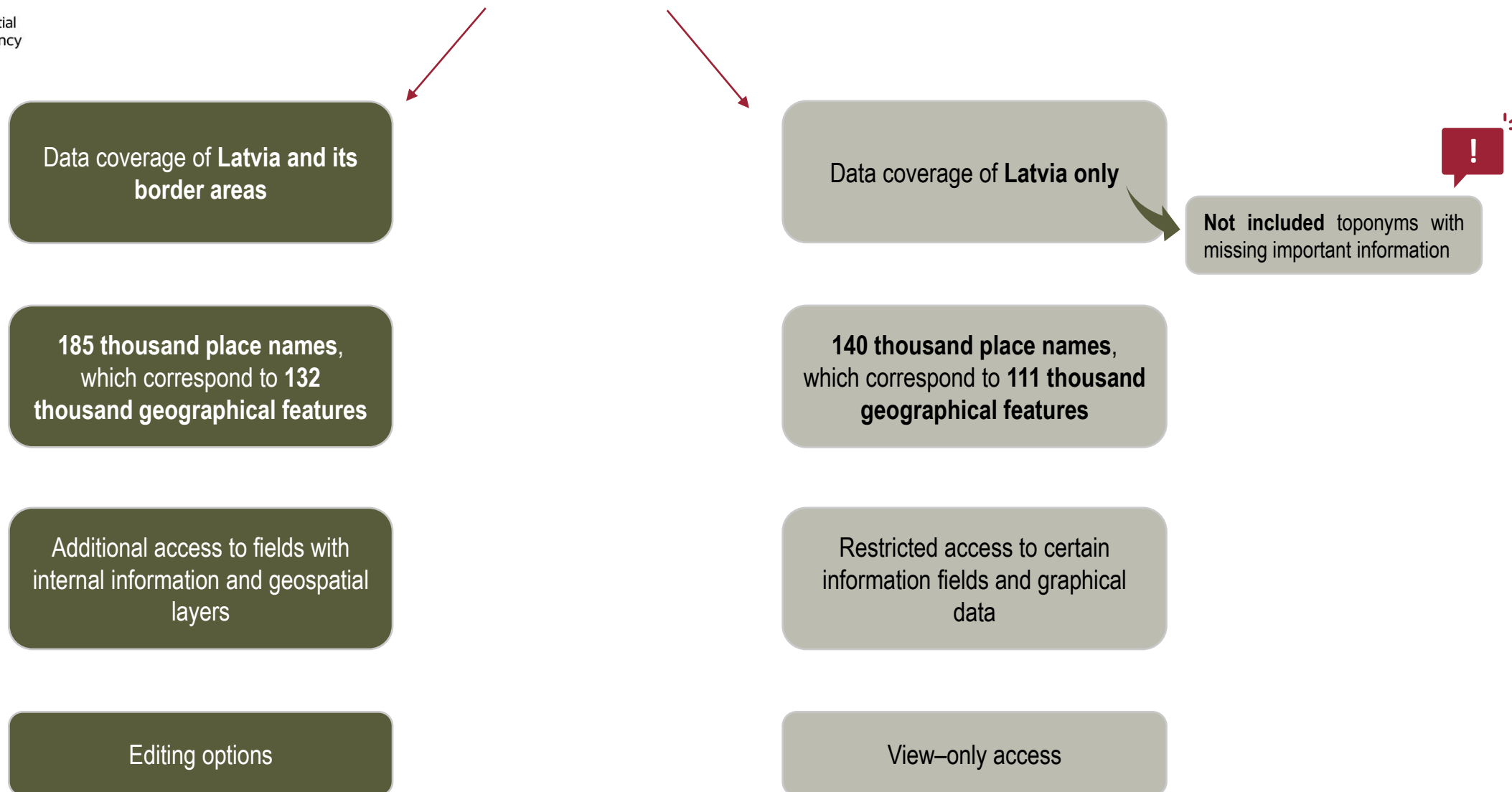Contains information about place names and their corresponding geographical objects

Main tasks include providing data for:
- cartographic and geodetic work;
- standardization of geographical names;
- wide range of users (state institutions, local governments, educators…)

Private vs Public version of Database

Data coverage of **Latvia and its border areas**

Data coverage of **Latvia only**

Not included toponyms with missing important information

185 thousand place names, which correspond to **132 thousand geographical features**

140 thousand place names, which correspond to **111 thousand geographical features**

Additional access to fields with internal information and geospatial layers

Restricted access to certain information fields and graphical data

Editing options

View–only access

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Database entry contents: textual data

- Data about the name and its corresponding feature
- Textual and graphical data

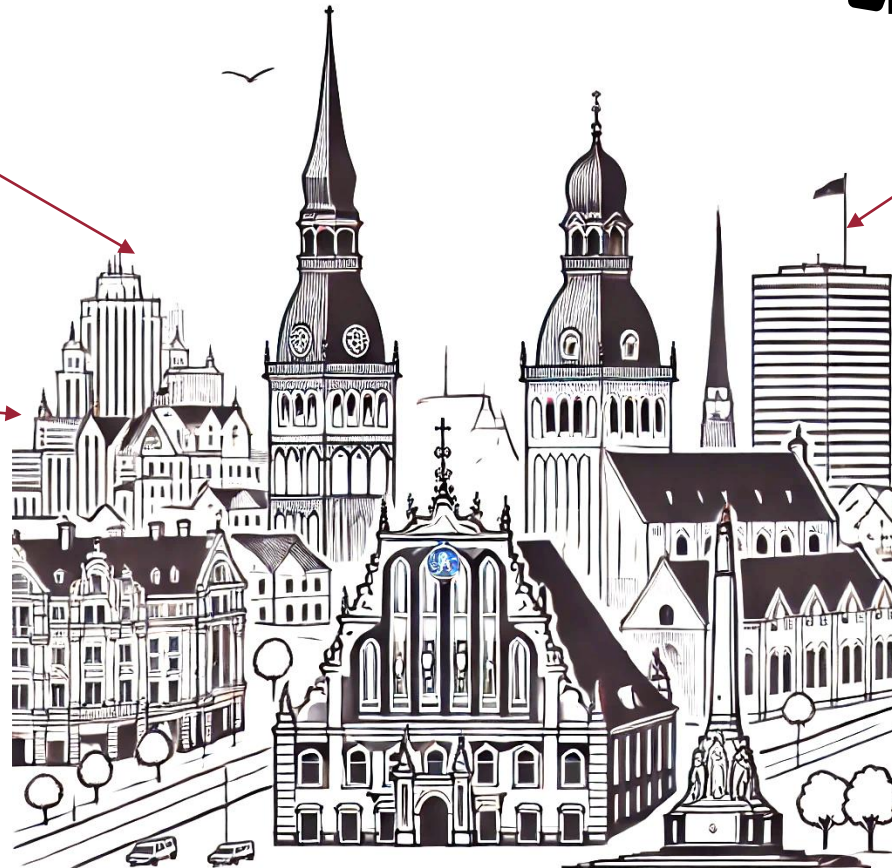What is found in it?

city
(geographical feature type)

geographical coordinates, ability to view location on maps

(other names)

Riga, Latvia, EU
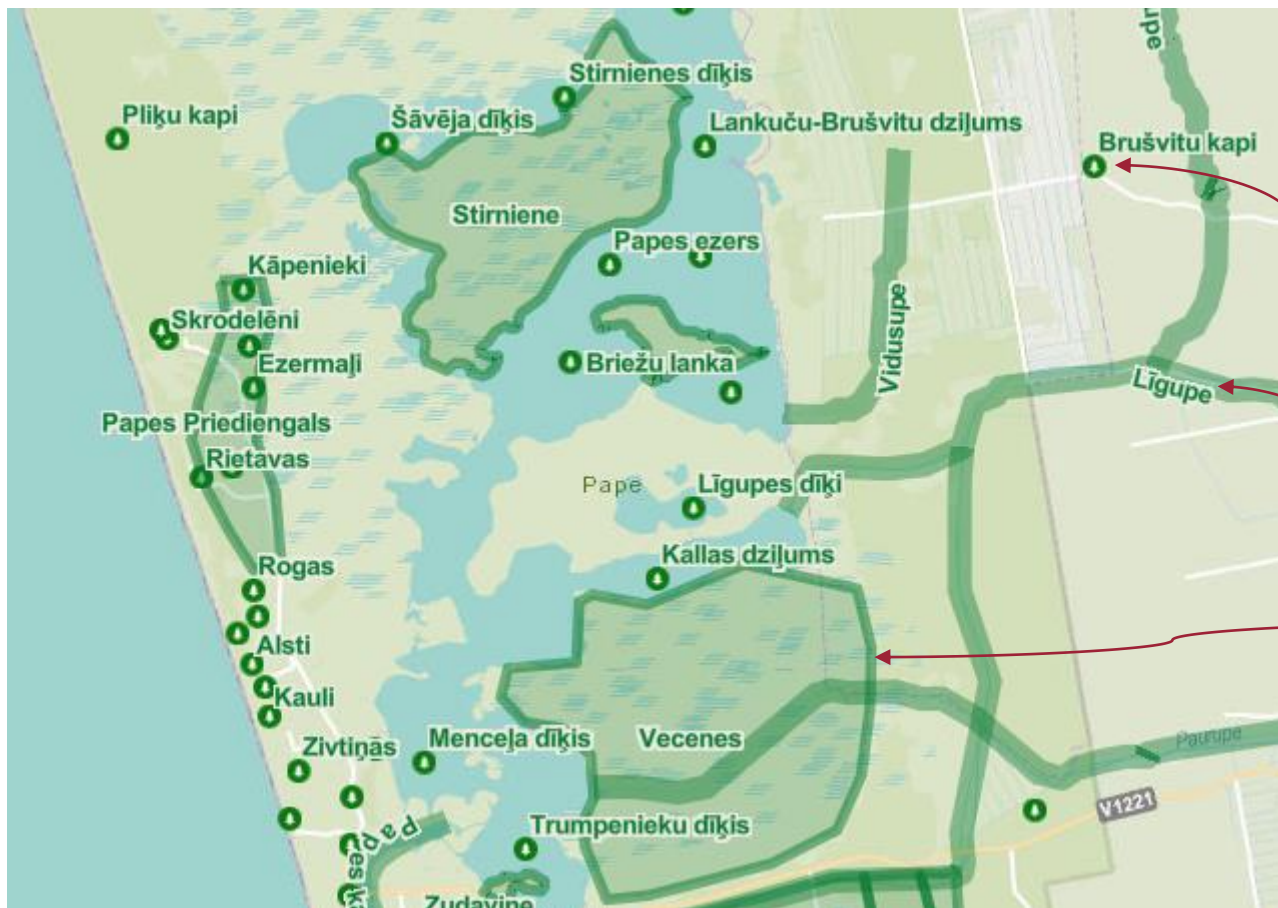(administrative affiliation – parish, city, county…)

Rīga
(main or preferred name)

other information about the place and its names

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Database entry contents: graphical data

Each feature is accessible in the map window with feature's graphical data displayed:

- **points** – point features (like homestead) and area features with clearly defined or visible on the map boundaries (lake, city..);

- **schematic lines** – watercourses;

- **schematic polygons** – area features without clearly defined external boundaries on the map (small village, swamp, forest, lake bay, meadow..)

Public version of the Place Names Database

New Public version from 2024

vietvardi.lgia.gov.lv

State city: Riga ✕

Information about the feature	Numerical characterization	Administrative or territorial affiliation structure	Geographic coordinates

Object ID: Population Longitude

—————————————— SOURCES (4) ——————————————

Type of source	Source abbreviation	Full name of the source	Quote from the
Earlier normative legal act	ATVK-2		
Earlier normative legal act	AT Law		
Earlier normative legal act	AT Law 2015		
Official source	AT Law 2021		

—————————————— EARLIER POPULATION DATA (9) ——————————————

ObjectID	Name in State Address Register	Number of inhabitants	The date	Administrative or territorial affiliation	Source
29779	Riga	638749	01.01.2016.	Latvia	Central Statistical Bureau of the Republic of Latvia
29779	Riga	682829	04.07.2016	Latvia	Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs
29779	Riga				
29779	Riga				
29779	Riga				
29779	Riga				
29779	Riga				
29779	Riga				
29779	Riga				

—————————————— INCLUDED OBJECTS (6) ——————————————

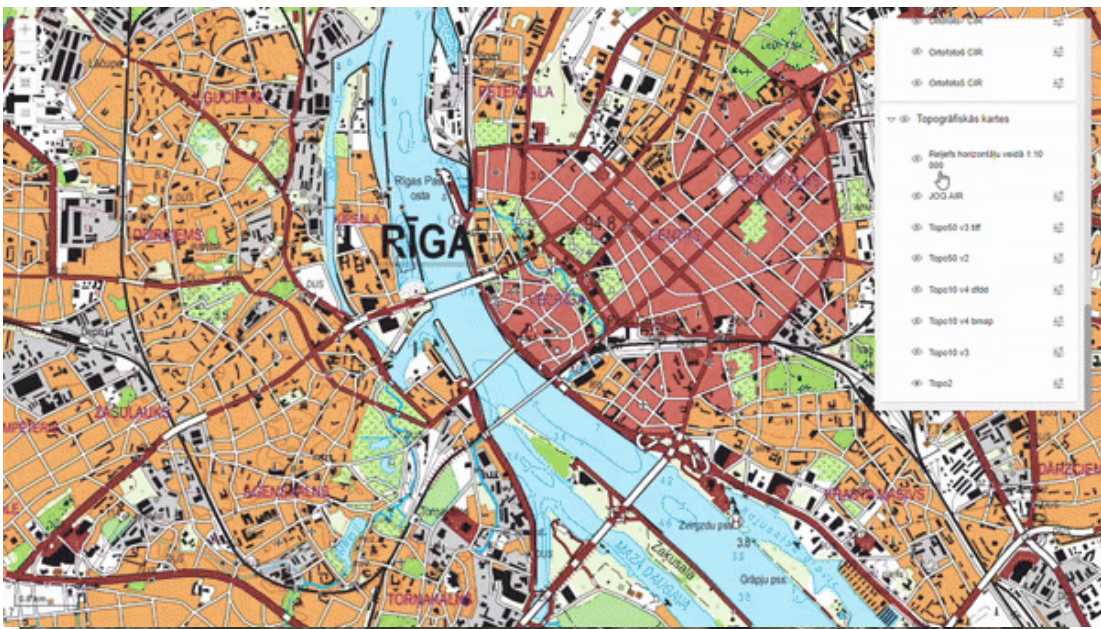| Object ID	Official name	Feature type	Status	Administrative or territorial unit	Latitude	Longitude
76396	Kurzeme district	part of the city	existing	Latvia	56.94840645407308	24.072246844581116
76397	Suburb of Latgale	part of the city	existing	Latvia	56.94440743631744	24.14107830996432
76398	Suburb of Vidzeme	part of the city	existing	Latvia	56.976172594887885	24.17621746928345
76399	Suburb of Zemgale	part of the city	existing	Latvia	56.93675516569488	24.079746112800226
76400	Northern district	part of the city	existing	Latvia	56.956629038646334	24.107899214666325
137478	Juglasciems	part of the city	existing	Latvia	56.9703	24.3159

Private version of the Place Names Database

Future development

o Continue implementing the INSPIRE data specification requirements for geographical names

o Expand geometries, especially orographic features

o Increase quality and amount of geographical feature entries

o Automate data input from LGIA decisions on official name approvals and the State Language Center opinions on official name proposals

o Add English language to user interface

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follow

vietvardi.lgia.gov.lv/en

lgia.gov.lv/en/place-names-database

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