



Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia

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STATISTICS IN BRIEF

LATVIA 2020

LATVIA STATISTICS IN BRIEF 2020

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Central Statistical Bureau (CSB) has drawn up publication "Latvia. Statistics in Brief 2020". It summarises key statistics characterizing social and political situation in Latvia in 2019 and compares the data with previous years, as well as reflects latest trends in the socio-economic processes.

The publication introduces industry specialists, business partners, foreign guests and other interested parties to Latvia's socio-economic processes, economy and finance, population and social processes, sectors of national economy, as well as science and technology.

The statistics is compiled based on the data produced by the CSB as well as information of the Ministry of Culture, State Land Service, State Revenue Service, Latvian Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, as well as Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre. Information is presented in a form of short texts, tables, charts, and maps.

Latest statistics as well as data on longer periods are available in the CSB database csb.gov.lv/db.

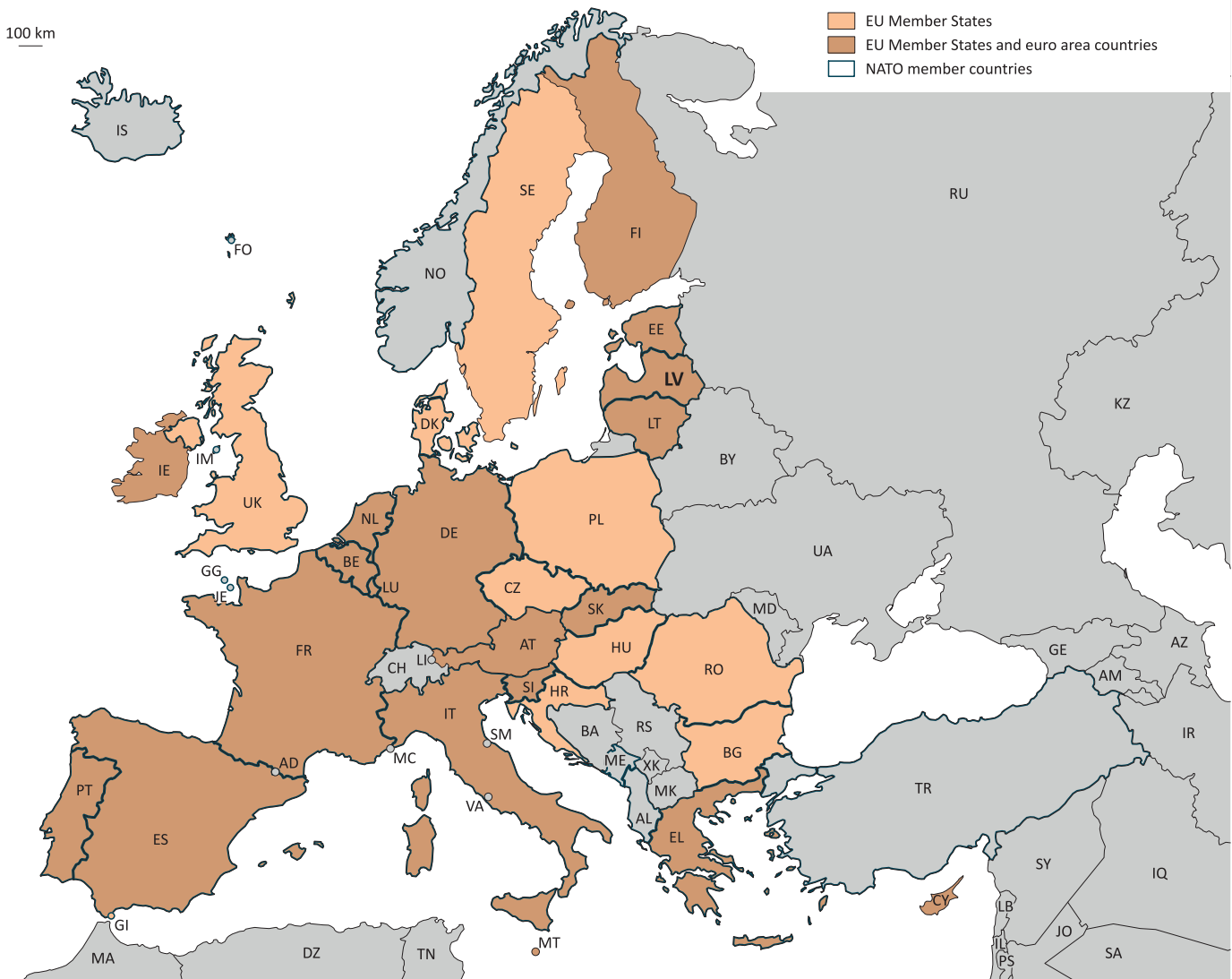
You can download the publication "Latvia. Statistics in Brief" from the CSB website csb.gov.lv.

Explanation of Symbols

-	magnitude zero
...	data are not available or too uncertain for presentation
pers.	persons
°C	degree Celsius
EUR	the official currency used in 19 Member States of the European Union (Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Spain).
Eurostat	Statistical Office of the European Union
ha	hectare
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
km	kilometre
km ²	square kilometre
quintile	one fifth (20 %) of the number of surveyed households grouped in increasing sequence according to the disposable income per one household member
m ³	cubic metre
GWh	gigawatt hour
NACE	Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (Rev. 2)
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States: Armenia (AM), Azerbaijan (AZ), Belarus (BY), Kazakhstan (KZ), Kyrgyzstan (KG), Moldova (MD), Russia (RU), Tajikistan (TJ), Turkmenistan (TM), Uzbekistan (UZ). Ukraine (UA) and Turkmenistan (TM) as associate members
PJ	peta joule
t	tonne
TJ	tera joule

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28 Member States of the European Union: Austria (AT), Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), Croatia (HR), Czechia (CZ), Cyprus (CY), Denmark (DK), Estonia (EE), Finland (FI), France (FR), Germany (DE), Greece (EL), Hungary (HU), Ireland (IE), Italy (IT), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Malta (MT), Netherlands (NL), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovakia (SK), Slovenia (SI), Spain (ES), Sweden (SE), United Kingdom (UK).

Territory of Latvia (64.6 thousand km²) is ten times smaller than that of France – the largest country of the European Union, slightly smaller than the territory of neighbouring Lithuania, but 1.4 times larger than that of Estonia.

Other European countries: Andorra (AD); Albania (AL); Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA); Belarus (BY); Switzerland (CH); Faroe Islands (FO); Guernsey (GG); Gibraltar (GI); Isle of Man (IM); Iceland (IS); Liechtenstein (LI); Monaco (MC); Moldova (MD); Montenegro (ME); Northern Macedonia (MK); Norway (NO); Serbia (RS); Russia (RU); Svalbard and Jan Mayen (SJ); San Marino (SM); Turkey (TR); Ukraine (UA); Vatican (Holy See) (VA); Kosovo (XK).

Territory

The total area of Latvia occupies 64.6 thousand km², of which 96 % are taken by dry land and 4 % by inland waters. Country has dry land border in total of 1 387 km and sea border in total of 513 km with Estonia, Russia, Belarus and Lithuania.

Administrative territories and statistical regions of Latvia at the beginning of 2020



Statistical regions: Rīga, Pierīga, Vidzeme, Kurzeme, Zemgale and Latgale.

Administrative division: country has 119 administrative territories – 9 cities and 110 municipalities.

Cities: there are 76 cities and towns in Latvia, nine of which have official city status: Rīga (the capital and the largest city) Daugavpils, Jēkabpils, Jelgava, Jūrmala, Liepāja, Rēzekne, Valmiera and Ventspils.

Cities, municipality towns and municipality rural territories at the beginning of 2020



Adr	Audriņi	Cds	Code	Inč	Inčukalns	KRS/Krs	KRĀSLAVA/Krāslava	Mzl	Mazozoli	SKR/Skr	SKRUNDA/Skrunda	Upm	Upmala
Ags	Augstkalne	Csv	Cesvaine	Ivn	Ivande	Krš	Krišjāņi	Mžt	Mežotne	Sks	Sakstagals	Vcs	Vecauce
Akl	Aizkalne	Črn	Čornaja	Jbr	Jaunbērze	Kzd	Kazdanga	Mžv	Mežvidi	SLD/Slđ	SALDUS/Saldus	Vdc	Vadadakste
AKR/Akr	AIZKRAUKLE/Aizkraukle	DBL/Dbļ	DOBELE/Dobeļe	Jgl	Jaungulbene	KGM	KEGUMS	Ndt	Naudīte	SMS/Slms	SALASPILS/Salaspils	VLD	VALDEMĀRPILS
And	Andrupene	Dbn	Dubna	JJL/Jļļ	JĀUNIELGAVA/Jaunielgava	LGS	Lielauce	Ngr	Nigrande	SLM/Slml	SMILTENE/Smiltene	VLM	VALMIERA
Ann	Annenieki	DGD/Dgd	DAGDA/Dagda	JKB	JĒKABPILS	Ldm	Lēdmane	Nvd	Novadnieki	Snp	Sņepēle	VĻN/Vļņ	VILĀNI/Vilāņi
APT/Apt	AIZPUTE/Aizpute	Dgl	Degole	Jlc	Jaunlaicene	LJZ	LUZDA	Ogr	Ogrsgals	Srn	Srēne	VNG	VANGAŽI
Asn	Ašīne	Dgm	Daugmale	JLG	JELGAVA	LĻ	Lazduleja	Omž	Ozolmuiža	Ssv	Sesava	Vpl	Vecpils
Bbr	Bebrene	Dgn	Dignāja	Jlt	Jaunlutriņi	Lmp	Leimani	Onk	Ozolnieki	Stb	Staburags	Vrc	Vircava
Bgl	Bērzgale	DGV	DAUGAVPILS	Jmp	Jaunprava	Lpl	Lielplatone	PLV	PLAVINAS	Stl	Stelpe	VRK/Vrk	VARAKĻI/Varakļāni
Bkl	Bērzkalne	Dks	Dekšāre	Jpb	Jaunpiebalga	LVN	Līvāni	Prnk	Penkule	Stj	Stoļerova	Vsl	Veselava
Bks	Bukaiši	DRB/Drb	DURBE/Durbe	Jst	Jaunsāti	LVR/Lvr	LIELVĀRDE/Lielvārde	PRK/Prk	PRIEKULE/Priekule	Strm	Strameriena	Vtn	Vitīni
Bkr	Biķernieki	Drv	Druviena	Jsv	Jaunsvirslauka	Lzd	Lazdona	PRL/Prļ	PRIEĻI/Priēļi	Stp	Stopiņi m.	Zbr	Zebrene
BLD	BALDONE	Glg	Gaļgauska	KLD	KULDĪGA	MDN	MADONA	Pšm	Pušmucova	Str	Strazde	Zik	Zilaiskalns
BLŽ	BALOŽI	Gln	Galēni	Klk	Kalkūne	Mln	Malnava	Rmb	Rembate	Svt	Svarīni	Zlt	Zeltiņi
BRC	BROCĒNI	Gļš	Gailiši	Kln	Kalnācempji	Mjn	Malinova	Rnc	Rencēni	Svr	Svitene	Zln	Zaļenieki
Brn	Brenģi	GRB/Grb	GROBINA/Grobiņa	Kmb	Kombuļi	Mņg	Mēngēle	Rnd	Rundāle	Škl	Šķeltova	Zvr	Zvirgzdene
Brs	Braslava	Grš	Griškāni	KND/Knd	KANDAVA/Kandava	Mrc	Mārciena	RZK	RĒZEKNE	Tdķ	Tadaiķi		
Brv	Brīvzemnieki	Grv	Grāveri	Kns	Konstantinova	Mrd	Mērdzene	RZk	Rožkalni	TKM	TUKUMS		
Brz	Bērzaine	IKš	IKŠKĪLE	Knt	Kantīnieki	Mrp	Mārupe m.	SGL/Sgl	SIGULDA/Sigulda	Tnž	Tinūži		
BSK	BAUSKA	ILK	ILŪKSTE	Kpr	Kuprava	Mrs	Mārsnēni	Skļ	Sokolki	Trk	Trikači		
Ccr	Ciecere	Ilz	Ilzeskalns	Krm	Krimūnas	MSL/Msl	MAZSALACA/Mazsalaca	Skņ	Skapkalne	Trv	Tērvete		

Economy and Finance

Gross Domestic Product

Economic growth continues

In 2019, GDP at current prices comprised EUR 30.5 billion, while at constant prices of 2015 – EUR 27.5 billion. The growth rate of the economy amounted to 2.2 % in comparison to the previous year.

Gross Domestic Product and its changes compared to the previous year
(at constant prices of 2015)



Gross Domestic Product at current and constant prices

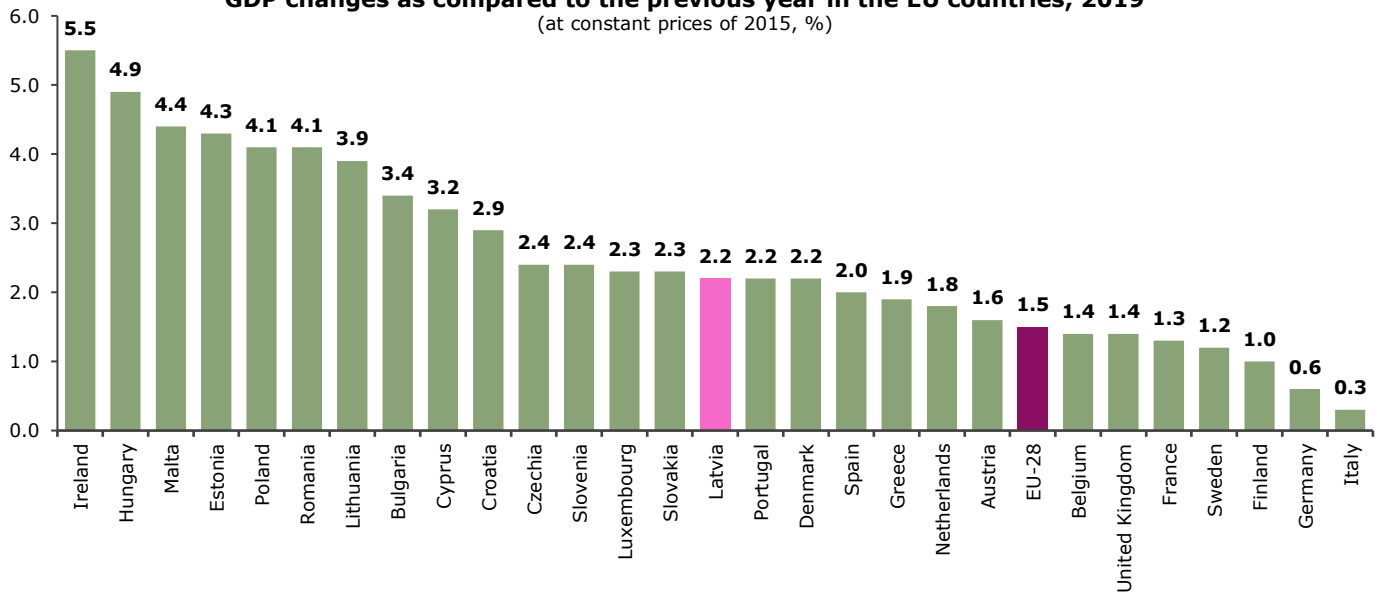
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total (thousand EUR)					
at current prices	24 425 959	25 072 638	26 797 833	29 056 050	30 476 087
at prices of the previous year	24 425 416	24 859 229	26 022 217	27 946 069	29 694 545
at constant prices of 2015	24 425 959	24 859 229	25 800 726	26 906 242	27 497 491
Per capita (EUR)					
at current prices	12 353	12 796	13 805	15 084	15 928
at prices of the previous year	12 353	12 688	13 405	14 508	15 519
at constant prices of 2015	12 353	12 688	13 291	13 968	14 371

Value added structure and changes by economic activity; 2019

	2019, at current prices	Changes, compared to 2018, at constant prices of 2015
(A-T) Total value added (%)	100	2.5
(A) Agriculture, forestry and fishing	4.3	12.8
(B, C, D, E) Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	15.2	1.0
(F) Construction	6.8	2.9
(G, H, I) Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storage; accommodation and food service activities	24.3	1.5
(J) Information and communication	5.8	2.0
(K) Financial and insurance activities	3.2	-8.8
(L) Real estate activities	12.4	1.4
(M, N) Professional, scientific and technical services; administrative and support service activities	8.3	7.1
(O, P, Q) Public administration and defence, compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities	16.6	3.9
(R, S, T) Arts, entertainment and recreation; other service activities; activities of households as employers	3.1	4.4

GDP changes as compared to the previous year in the EU countries, 2019

(at constant prices of 2015, %)



Data source: Eurostat [TEC00115] 25.03.2020.

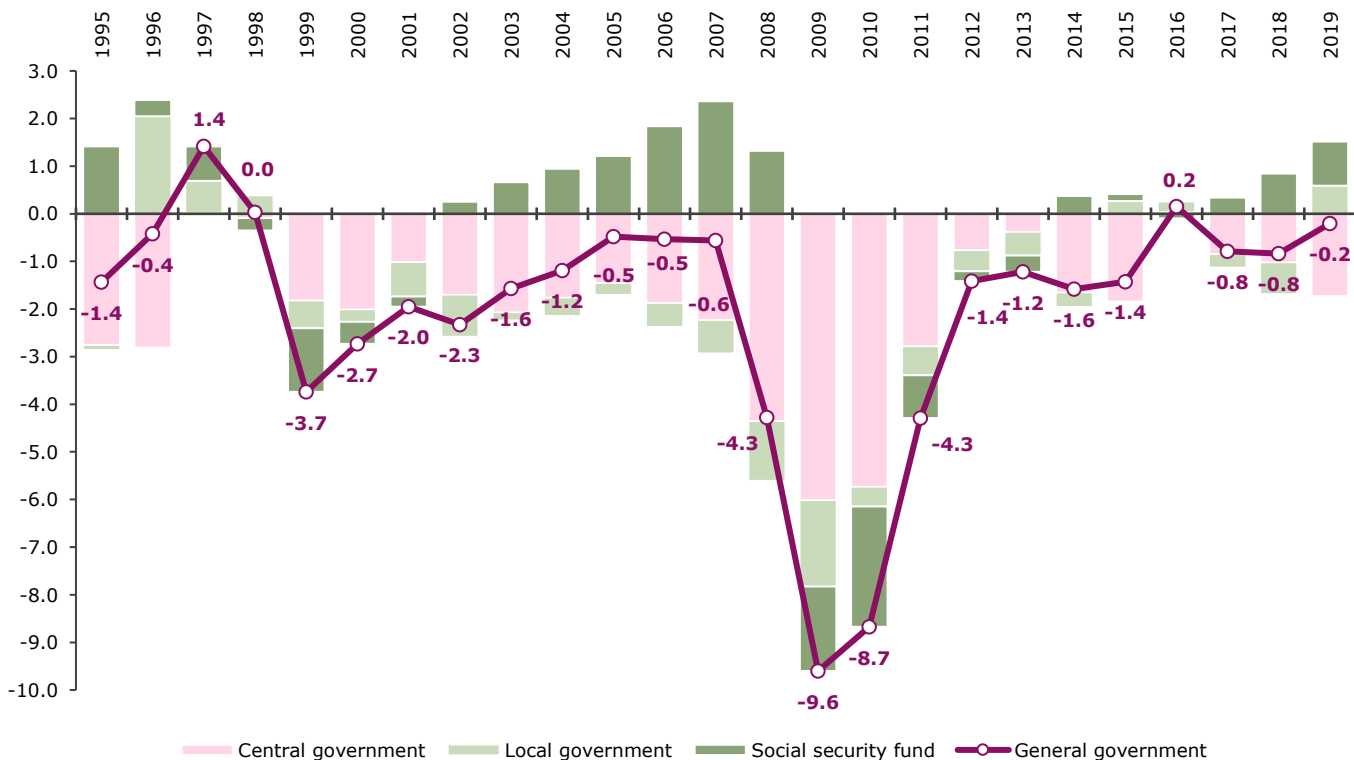
Government Finances

General government budget

As compared to 2018, in 2019 there was an increase of EUR 559.6 million in the general government sector budget revenue reaching EUR 11 790.1 million. Expenditure in 2019 comprised EUR 11 853.3 million, which is EUR 379.9 million more than in 2018. Tax revenue continues to increase every year, in 2019 reaching EUR 9 513.0 million or 31.2 % of GDP, which is more by EUR 428.7 million than in 2018.

General government sector deficit, surplus

(% over GDP)



General government budget deficit comprises EUR 63.2 million

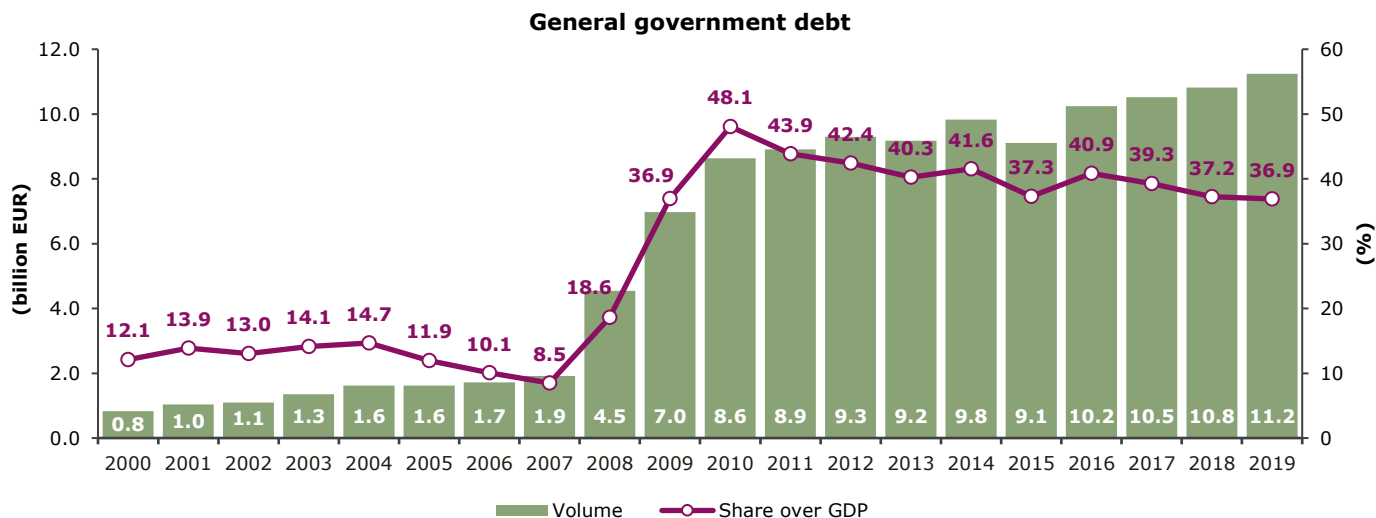
In 2019, general government budget surplus comprised EUR 8.2 million or 0.03 % of gross domestic product (GDP), and general government consolidated gross debt at the end of 2019 was EUR 11.2 billion or 36.9 % of GDP.

Key indicators of general government sector

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Budget deficit (-) / surplus (+) (million EUR)					
General government	-348.5	38.9	-210.8	-242.9	-63.2
Central government	-449.7	9.9	-227.1	-298.0	-526.5
Local governments	64.8	53.6	-74.2	-191.1	179.9
Social security fund	36.4	-24,6	90.5	246.2	283.4
General government consolidated gross debt at nominal value at the end of the year (million EUR)	9 105.2	10 245.0	10 518.7	10 815.9	11 244.5
Over GDP (%)					
General government budget deficit (-)	-1.4	0.2	-0.8	-0.8	0.2
General government consolidated gross debt at nominal value at the end of the year	37.3	40.9	39.3	37.2	36.9

General government debt

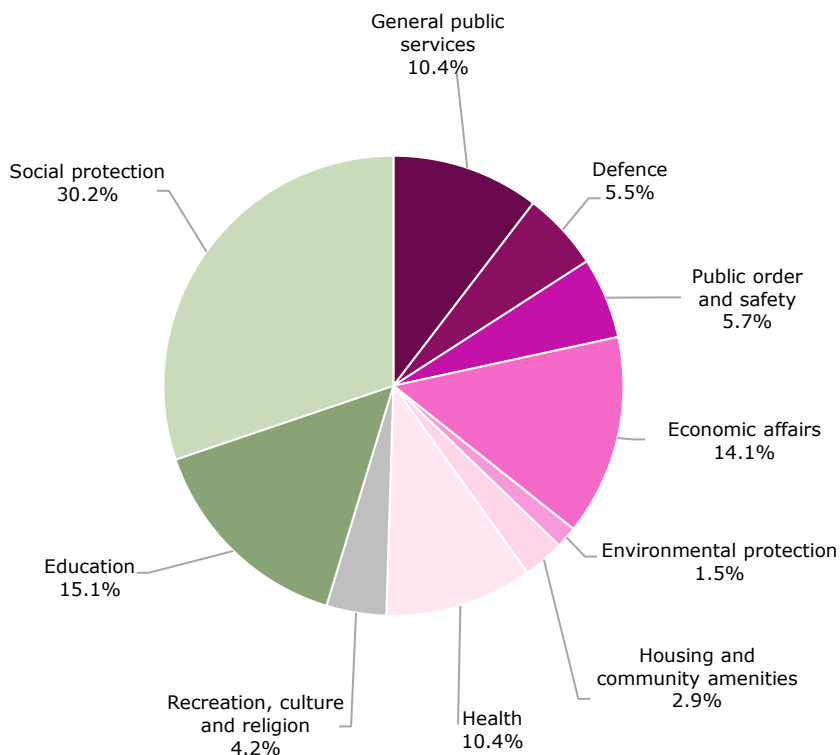
As compared to the end of the previous year, debt has increased by EUR 428.6 million or 4.0 % and comprised EUR 11.2 billion.



Structure of general government expenditure

In 2018, expenditure on social protection (pensions, benefits, and other forms of social support) accounted for almost one third (30.2 %) of the total expenditure of the general government sector, 15.1 % were allocated to education, while 14.1 % – to economic affairs. Expenditure on general public services and health sector accounted for 10.4% in each. The remaining share of expenditure (19.8 %) was directed towards public order and safety, defence, recreation, culture and religion, housing and community amenities and environmental protection.

Structure of general government sector expenditure in 2018



Price Statistics

Price changes

(as %, compared to the previous year)

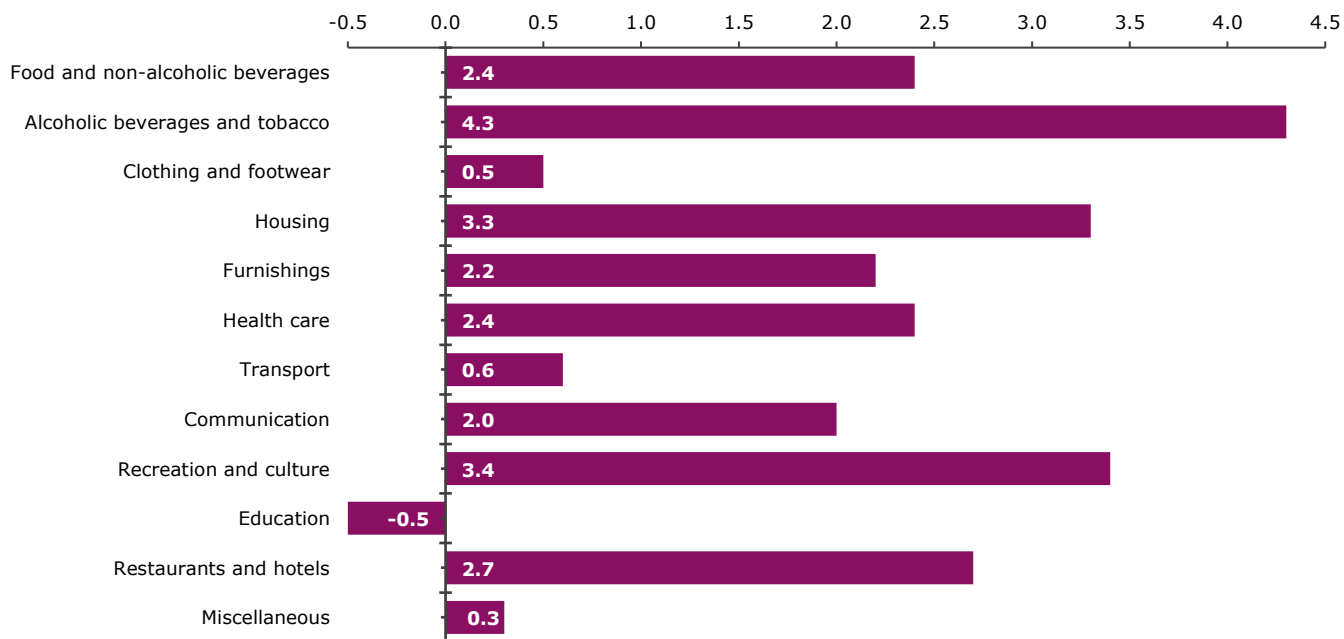
Year	Consumer prices	Producer prices in industry	Construction costs	Housing prices	Export unit value	Import unit value
2015	0.2	-1.0	0.1	-3.4	0.3	-2.0
2016	0.1	-2.4	-0.5	8.5	-2.7	-6.0
2017	2.9	2.6	1.9	8.8	4.2	3.3
2018	2.5	4.5	4.4	9.6	3.2	1.6
2019	2.8	1.9	4.1	...	-0.2	-1.1

Consumer prices rose by 2.3 % over the year

In December 2019, compared to December 2018, consumer prices grew by 2.3 %, of which prices of goods increased by 2.1 % and of services by 2.6 %.

Annual consumer price changes in 2019

(%)



Compared to December 2018, in December 2019 the average level of consumer prices was mainly influenced by the rise in prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages, goods and services related to housing, alcoholic beverages and tobacco products, goods and services related to recreation and culture, health care, as well as restaurant and hotel services.

Within the group of food and non-alcoholic beverages, prices went up by 2.4 % over the year. The most significant rise having notable influence on price changes over the whole 2019 was recorded in prices of meat and meat products. Upturn was also registered in prices of fresh fruit, bread, and sugar. Along with the price decline on global markets, reduction was observed in prices of coffee, milk, and fresh vegetables.

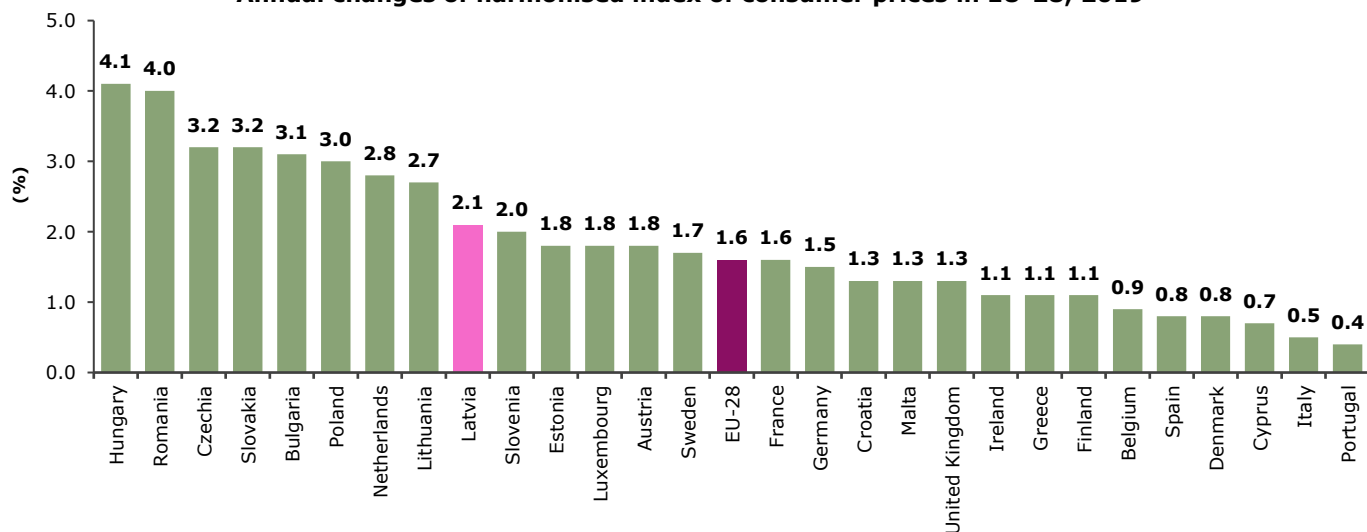
The average level of alcoholic beverage and tobacco product prices went up by 4.3 %. Prices of alcoholic beverages increased by 3.9 %. Due to the higher excise duty on cigarettes, prices of tobacco products increased on average by 4.9 %.

Increase in prices of several public utilities resulted in 3.3 % upturn in prices of goods and services related to housing. Growth in prices of dental services and prices in medical specialist practice led to 2.4 % price rise in health care group.

Prices of goods and services related to recreation and culture grew by 3.4 %. Over the year, rise was recorded in prices of package holidays, television subscription fee, as well as recreational and sporting services. Within the group of restaurant and hotel services, the average level of prices rose by 2.7 %, which was mainly due to the increase in prices of catering services.

The most significant upturns among other commodity groups were recorded in prices of petrol, maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment, telecommunication services, hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishment services, higher education, as well as garments. Downturn was registered in prices of diesel and motor vehicle insurance.

Annual changes of harmonised index of consumer prices in EU-28; 2019

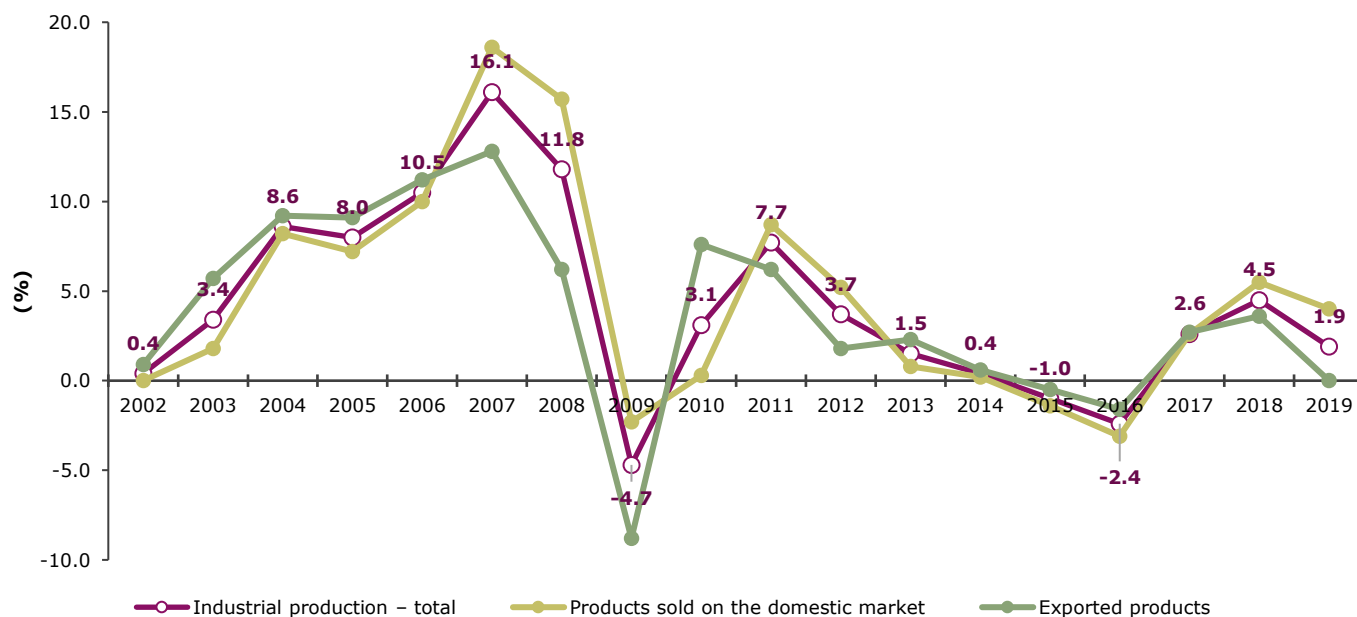


Data source: Eurostat [prc_hicp_manr] 01.03.2019.

Over a year producer prices grew by 1.9 %

In 2019, the average 12-month level of producer prices in Latvian industry increased by 1.9 %, compared to the average 12-month level of 2018. Prices of products sold on the domestic market rose by 4.0 %, of exported products remained the same, of which prices of exports to euro area countries grew by 0.4 %, but of exports to non-euro area countries – fell by 0.3 %. Production and trade of electricity, heat supply, manufacture of selected food products, as well as waste collection, treatment and disposal activities had the most significant upward impact on the producer price changes during the year. Manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture, had the most significant downward impact on the producer price changes during the year.

Producer price changes in industry



Producer price changes in industry in 2019, compared to the previous year

	<i>Industrial production, total</i>	<i>Products sold on the domestic market</i>	<i>Exported products</i>
Total (%)	1.9	4.0	0.0
Mining and quarrying	2.5	3.2	2.1
Manufacturing	0.7	2.1	0.0
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	5.9	5.9	-
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	7.4	9.9	-5.6

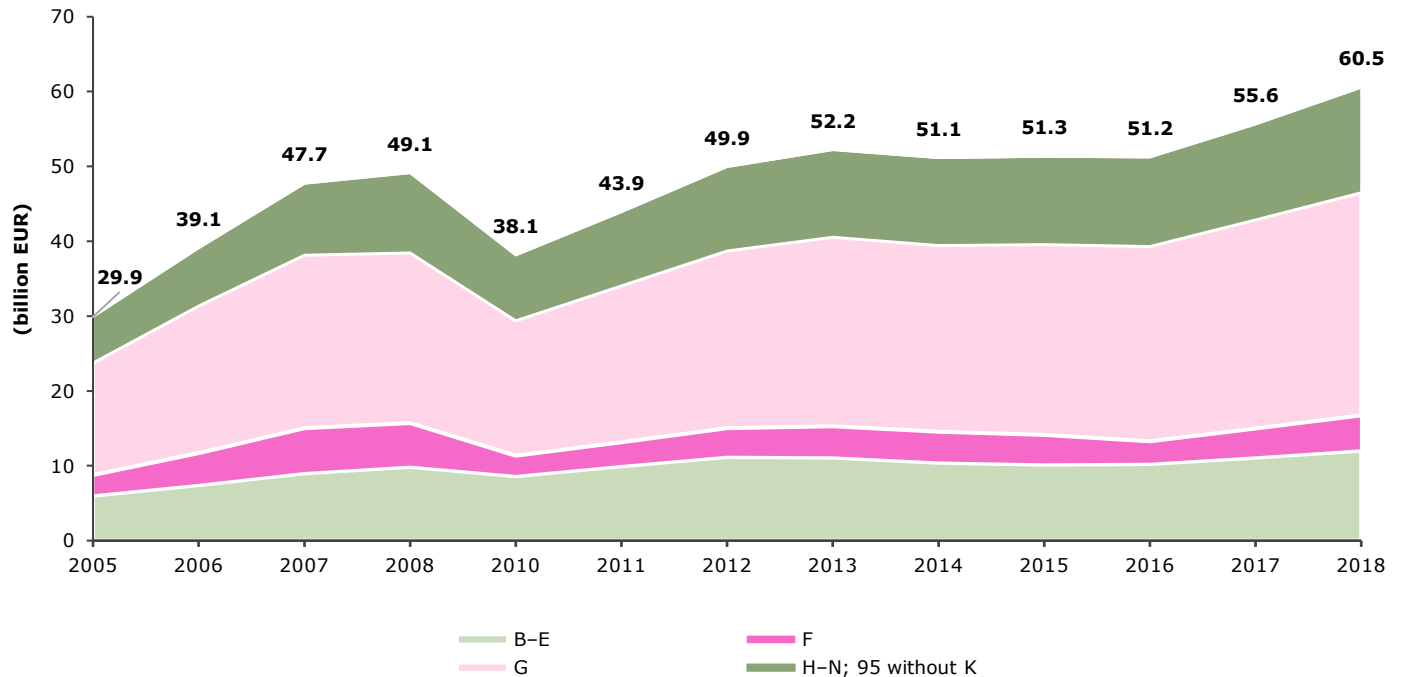
Financial Business Indicators

Key business statistics indicators by economic activity; 2018

(at current prices, million EUR)	Total (B-J; L-N; 95)	Industry (B-E)	Construction (F)	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (G)	Services (H-N; 95 without K)
Turnover	60 524.7	12 019.9	4 728.6	29 782.8	13 993.4
Production value	34 040.3	11 048.6	4 745.2	6 300.1	11 946.5
Value added	13 067.4	3 349.7	1 178.6	2 986.7	5 552.3
Purchase of goods and services	48 199.3	8 776.8	3 571.6	26 962.6	8 888.3
Personnel costs	7 233.0	1 786.0	717.5	1 626.7	3 102.8

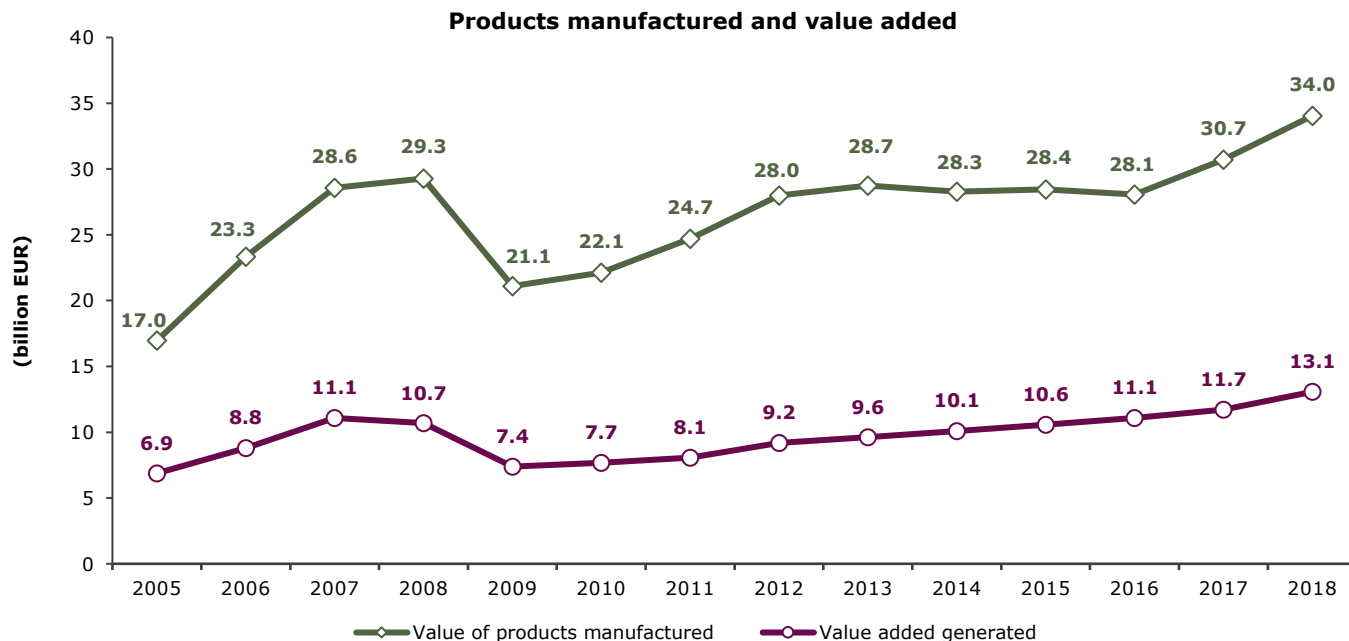
Half of the total turnover of goods and services is comprised by trade sector

In 2018, the total turnover of goods and services comprised EUR 60.5 billion; trade sector accounted for almost a half of it – EUR 29.8 billion or 49.2 %. In services and industry the respective indicator accounted for EUR 14.0 billion or 23.1 % and EUR 12.0 billion or 19.9 %, respectively, while in construction – for EUR 4.7 billion or 7.8 %. Compared to the previous year, the turnover increased in 2018, which was affected by rise in construction turnover by 21.5 %.



2018 indicates growth in the value of products manufactured

Compared to 2017, in 2018 the value of goods produced in enterprises increased by 10.8 %. In 2018, enterprises produced goods with the total value of EUR 34.0 billion (at current prices), the largest share of which was produced by enterprises operating in the services sectors (EUR 11.9 billion or 35.1 % of the total production value) and the industrial sector enterprises (EUR 11.0 billion or 32.5 %). The value of products manufactured by trade and construction enterprises comprised EUR 6.3 billion or 18.5 % and EUR 4.7 billion or 13.9 %, respectively.



Value added grows by 11.6 %

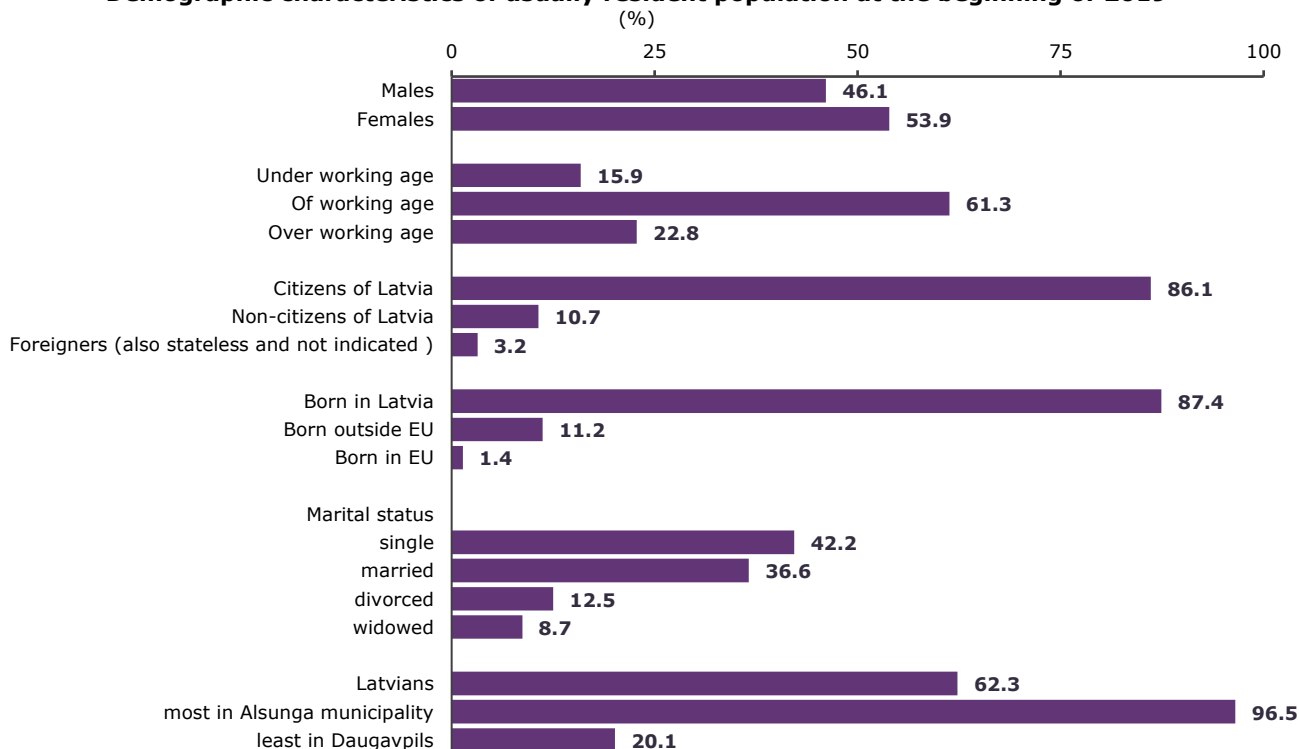
Compared to 2017, in 2018 value added generated by enterprises grew by 11.6 %. Just as in 2017, the highest value added at current prices was generated by enterprises of services sectors – EUR 5.6 billion or 42.5 % of the total value. Lower value was generated by enterprises of the industry and trade sectors – EUR 3.3 billion or 25.6 % and EUR 3.0 billion or 22.9 %, respectively. The value added generated by construction enterprises amounted to EUR 1.2 billion or 9.0 % of the total value. In 2018, the value added generated by one employed person reached EUR 19.7 thousand, and it grew by 7.7 % in comparison to 2017. The highest value added per one employed person was recorded in industry (EUR 23.4 thousand), followed by services sector (EUR 19.2 thousand), trade (EUR 18.8 thousand) and construction (EUR 16.1 thousand).

Population

Key vital statistics

	1950	1970	1990	2010	2018
Population at the beginning of the year	1 884 077	2 351 903	2 668 140	2 120 504	1 934 379
Marriages per 1 000 inhabitants	10.2	10.2	8.9	4.4	6.8
Divorces per 1 000 inhabitants	0.8	4.6	4.0	2.4	3.1
Live births per 1 000 inhabitants	17.6	14.6	14.2	9.4	10.0
Deaths per 1 000 inhabitants	12.9	11.3	13.1	14.3	15.0
Infant deaths per 1 000 live births	70.0	17.7	13.7	5.6	3.2
Population change per 1 000 inhabitants	3.1	6.2	-3.8	-21.7	-7.5
Natural increase per 1 000 inhabitants	4.7	3.3	1.1	-4.9	-5.0
Net migration per 1 000 inhabitants	-1.6	2.9	-4.9	-16.8	-2.5

Demographic characteristics of usually resident population at the beginning of 2019

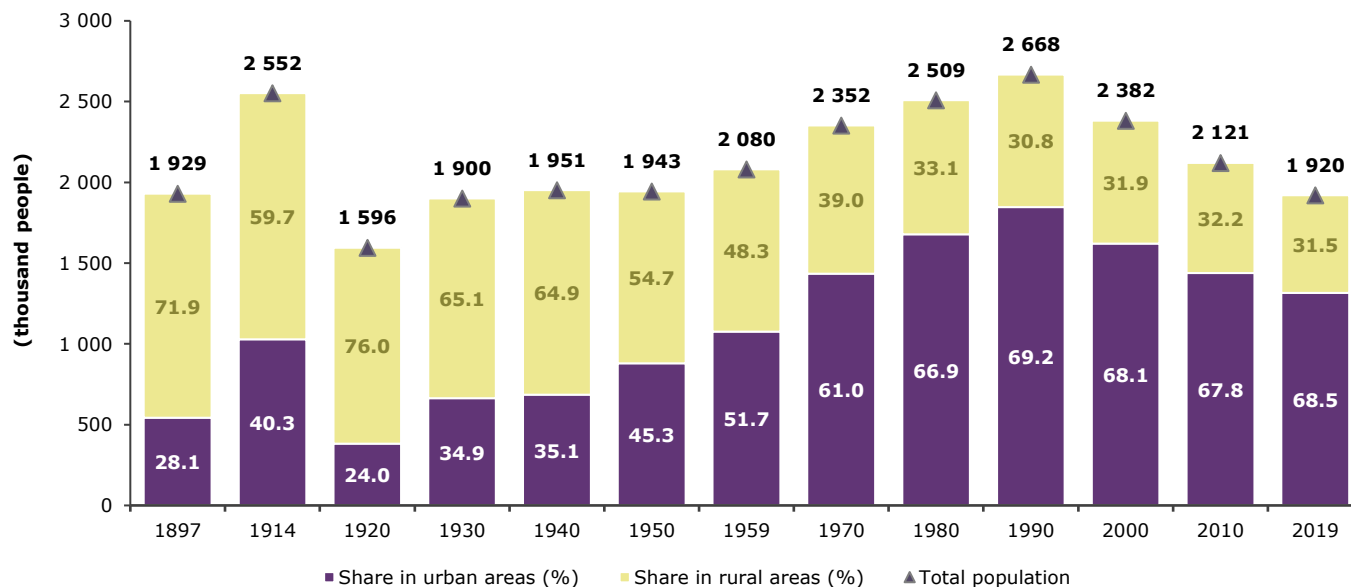


Population and population change

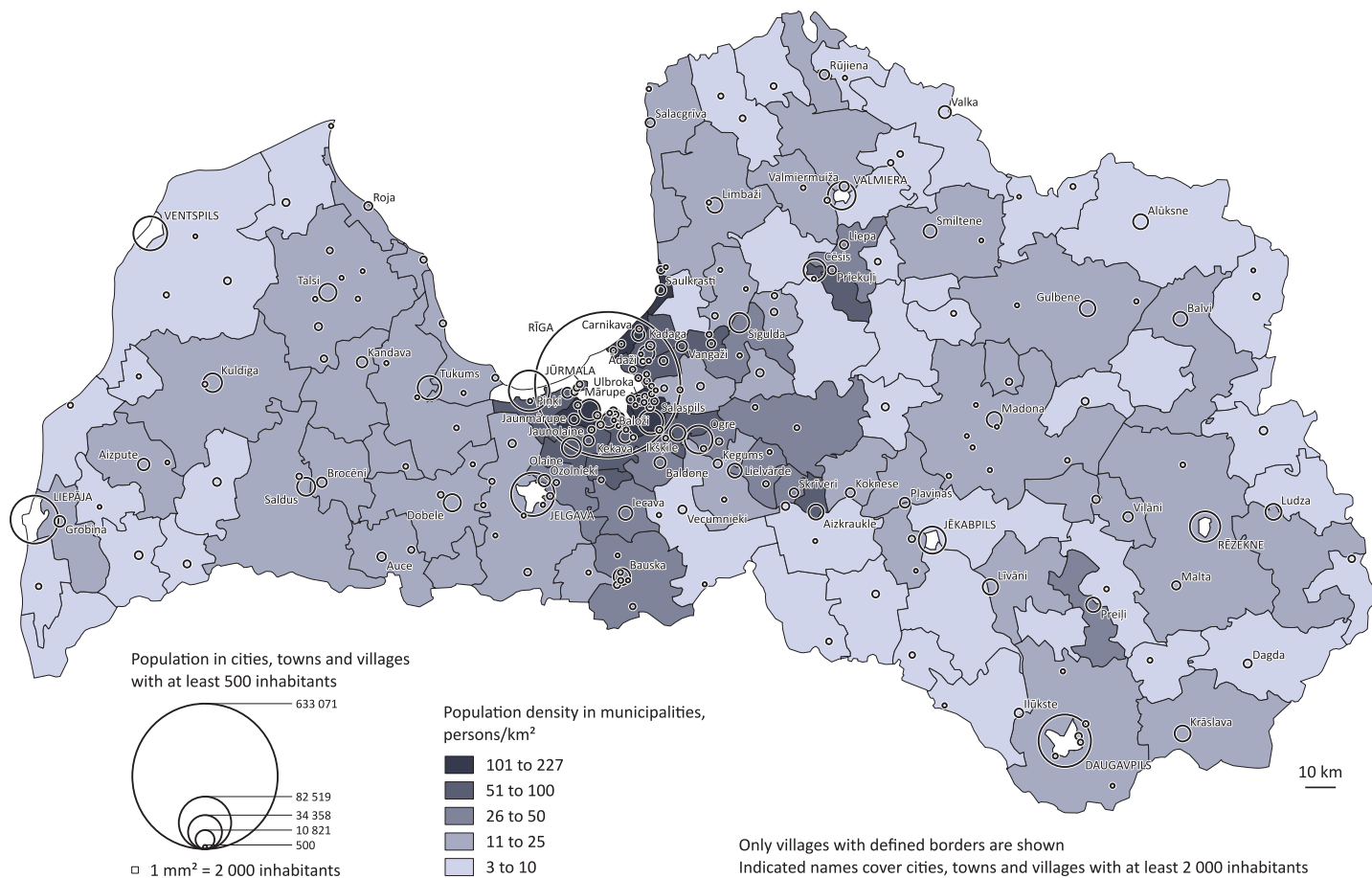
Population of Latvia keeps declining. Since the beginning of 2010, it has dropped by 200 thousand people, provisionally reaching 1 million 908 thousand at the beginning of 2020. During 2019, population reduced by 0.6 % (by 0.7 % over 2018).

In 1959, urban population of Latvia constituted 51.7 % and exceeded rural population for the first time. Urban population kept prevailing over the rural one and in 2019 it constituted already 68.5 %, of which approximately one third of the total population or almost half of the urban population (633 thousand people) lived in Riga.

Usually resident population and composition thereof in urban and rural areas



Usually resident population in cities and villages and population density in municipalities at the beginning of 2019



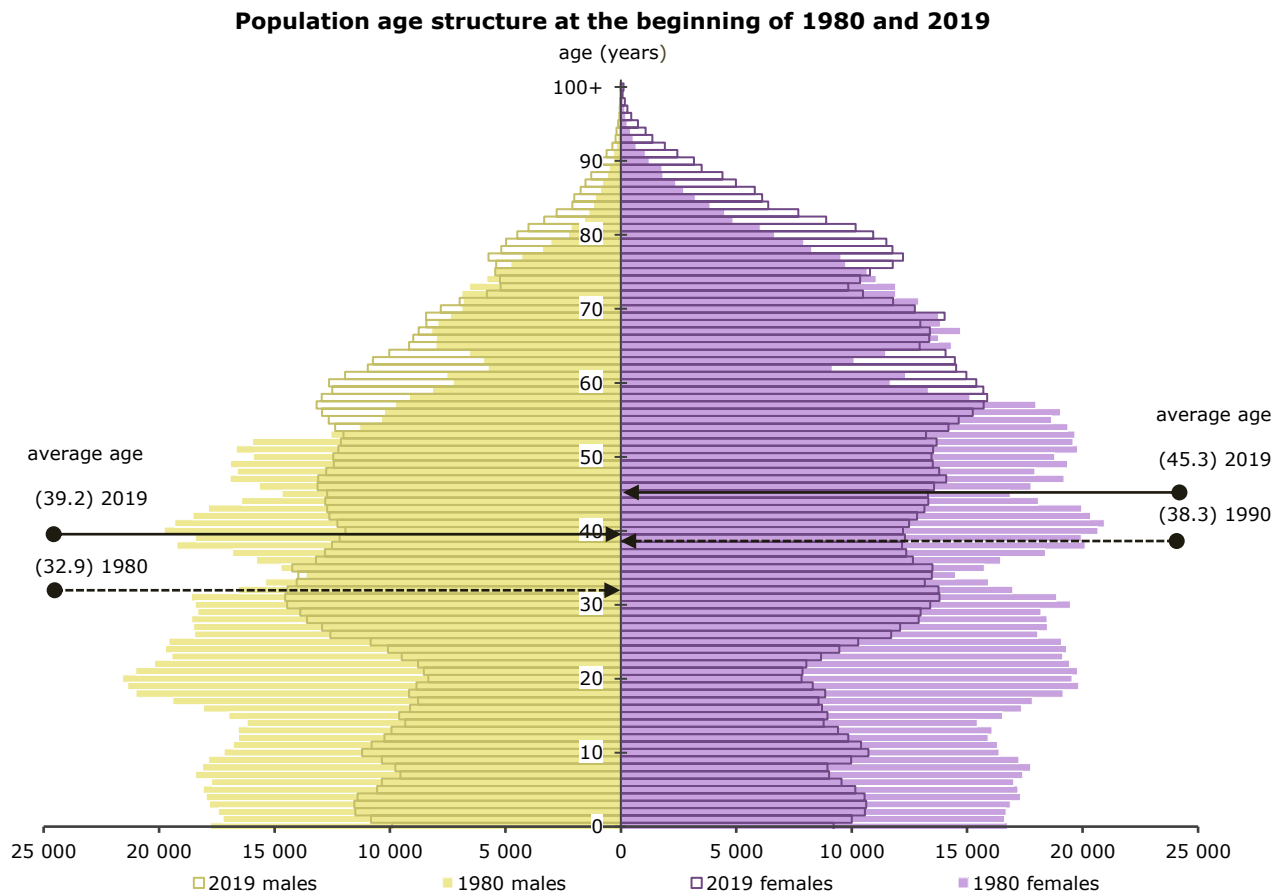
At the beginning of 2019, population density in Latvia constituted 31 person per km². The lowest population density was registered in Rucava municipality – 3 persons per km². The highest population density was recorded in the capital as well as cities and municipalities neighbouring it. Namely, population density in Riga constituted 2 500 persons per km², while in Stopiņi municipality (one of the smallest municipalities in terms of its area – 53 km²) those were 211 persons per km².

Age and gender structure of population

As indicated by age structure statistics, like in the great majority of the European Union countries, population of Latvia is ageing as well. At the beginning of 2019, out of 1 million 920 thousand people, children aged under 15 constituted 15.9 %, population of working age (aged 15–62) accounted for 61.3 %, and people over working age for 22.8 %. Per 1 000 inhabitants of working age there were 373 people at retirement age and 259 children aged under 15.

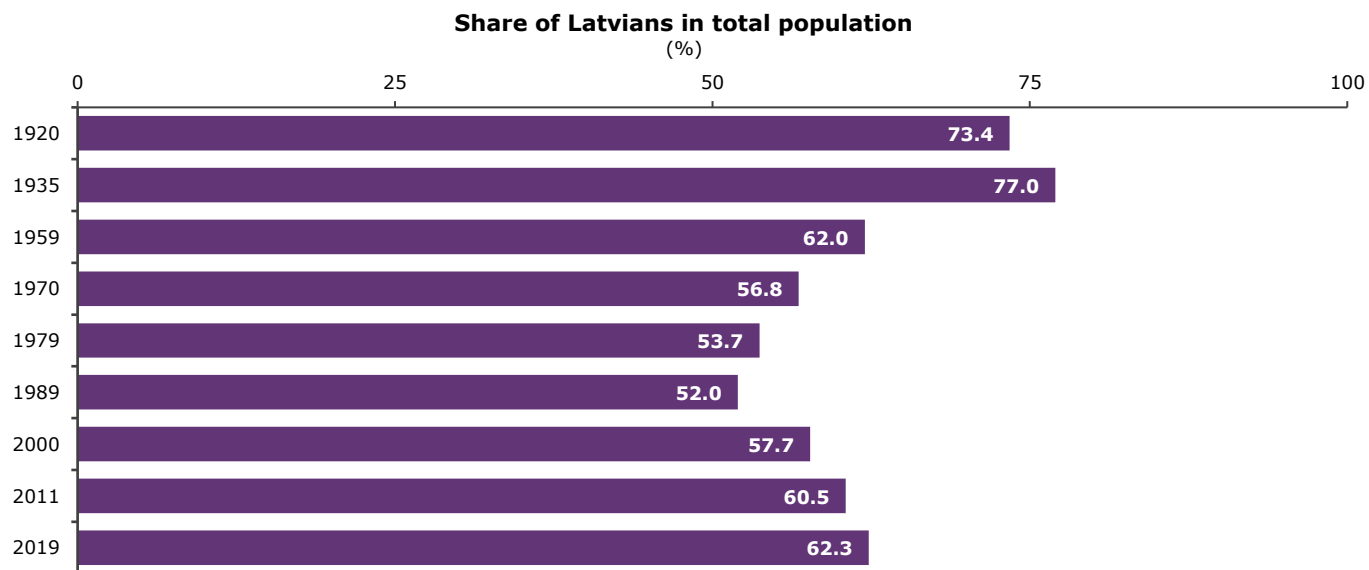
At the beginning of 2019, females accounted for 54 % of the population of Latvia. Males prevailed over females until the age of 38. Out of the total population at childbearing age (aged 15–49), the shares of both genders were equal – males constituted 50.6 % and females 49.4 %.

Just like in all EU countries, number of females exceeds the number of males – in 2019, per 100 males on average there were 105 females, moreover the greatest difference was observed in Latvia (117), Lithuania (116), and Estonia (112), whereas in Luxembourg, Malta, and Sweden number of males was slightly smaller than that of females.



Ethnic composition of population

During the recent years, the number of Latvians keeps reducing, meanwhile their share in the total population is increasing. At the beginning of 2019, Latvia was resided by 1 million 197 thousand Latvians, which is 62.3 % of the total population. Over the past eight years (since 2011), 117.4 thousand Latvians were born and 126.6 thousand Latvians died; due to natural increase their number diminished by 9.2 thousand.



Marriages and divorces

At the beginning of 2019, 41 % of the females of full age (aged 18 and over) and 50 % of the males of full age were married. Out of all full-age single adults of the respective gender, 65 % of males and 59 % of females were aged under 35.

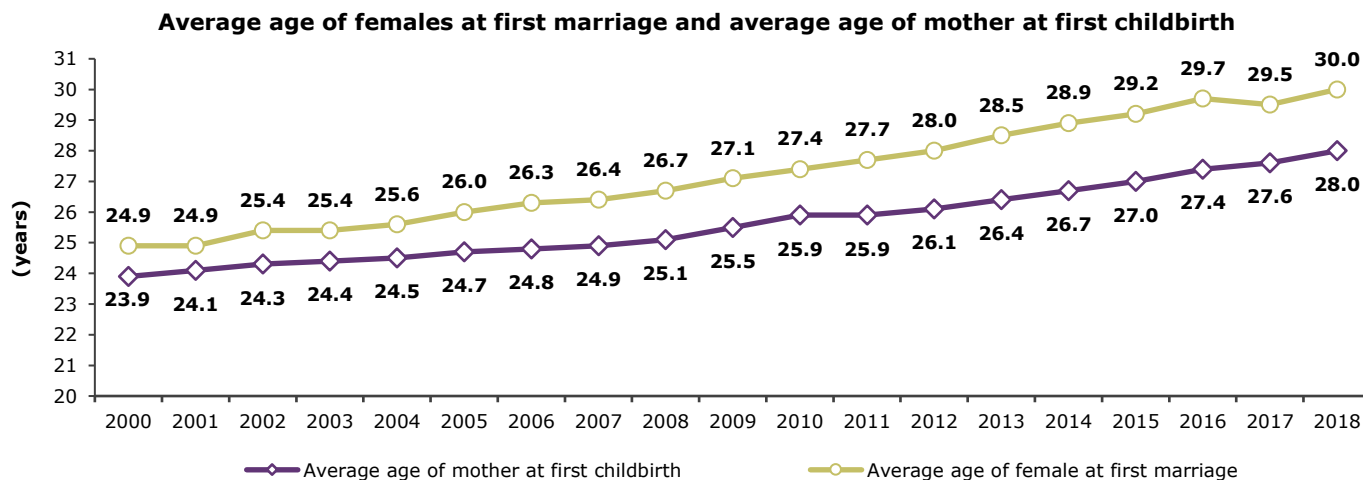
In 2018, 13 058 marriages were registered. Over the past three years, number of marriages has become more stable and on average 13 thousand marriages are concluded annually.

The average age at marriage constituted 38 years among males and 35 years among females, and, compared to 2010, it has increased by almost four years. Age at first marriage accounted for 32 years among males and for 30 years among females.

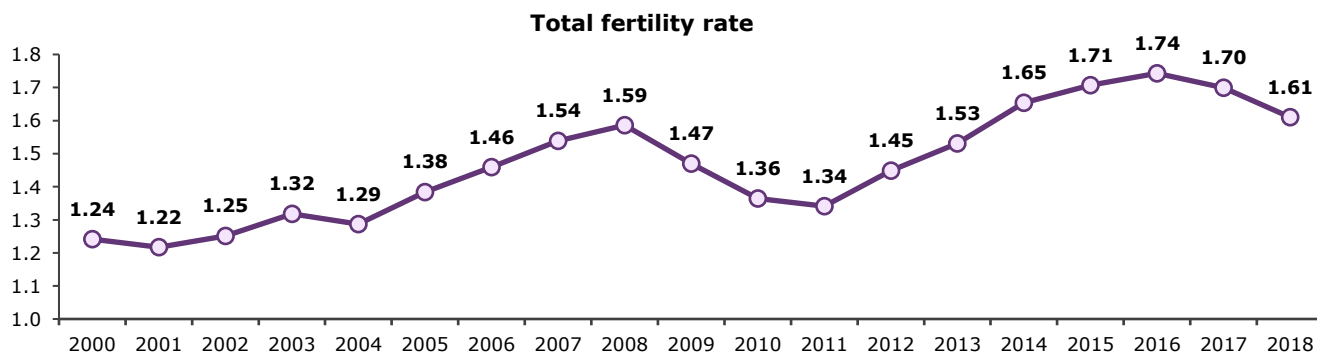
In 2018, 5 967 marriages were divorced. The average length of marriage has risen from 12.9 years in 2010 to 13.5 years in 2018. Out of all marriages divorced in 2018, more than a half (52.4 %) had minor children (2 877). The highest EU divorce rate per 1 000 inhabitants was recorded in Latvia and Lithuania – 3.1.

Birth rates

In 2018, 19 314 children were born in Latvia, which is one thousand children fewer than in 2017. The fertility rate per 1 000 inhabitants accounted for 10.0. The average age of mother at childbirth constituted 30.5 years, and since 2000 it has grown by two years. The average age of mother at first childbirth accounted for 28.0 years.



In 2018, Latvian total fertility rate constituted 1.6 (1.4 in 2010), which still is far behind the desired number of children needed for typical generation change (2.1–2.2). The total fertility rate constituting 2.2 in Latvia last time was recorded in 1986–1987 when 42 thousand children were born annually. The EU total fertility rate comprised 1.6 in 2018 (the indicator varied between 1.3 in Malta and 1.9 in France).

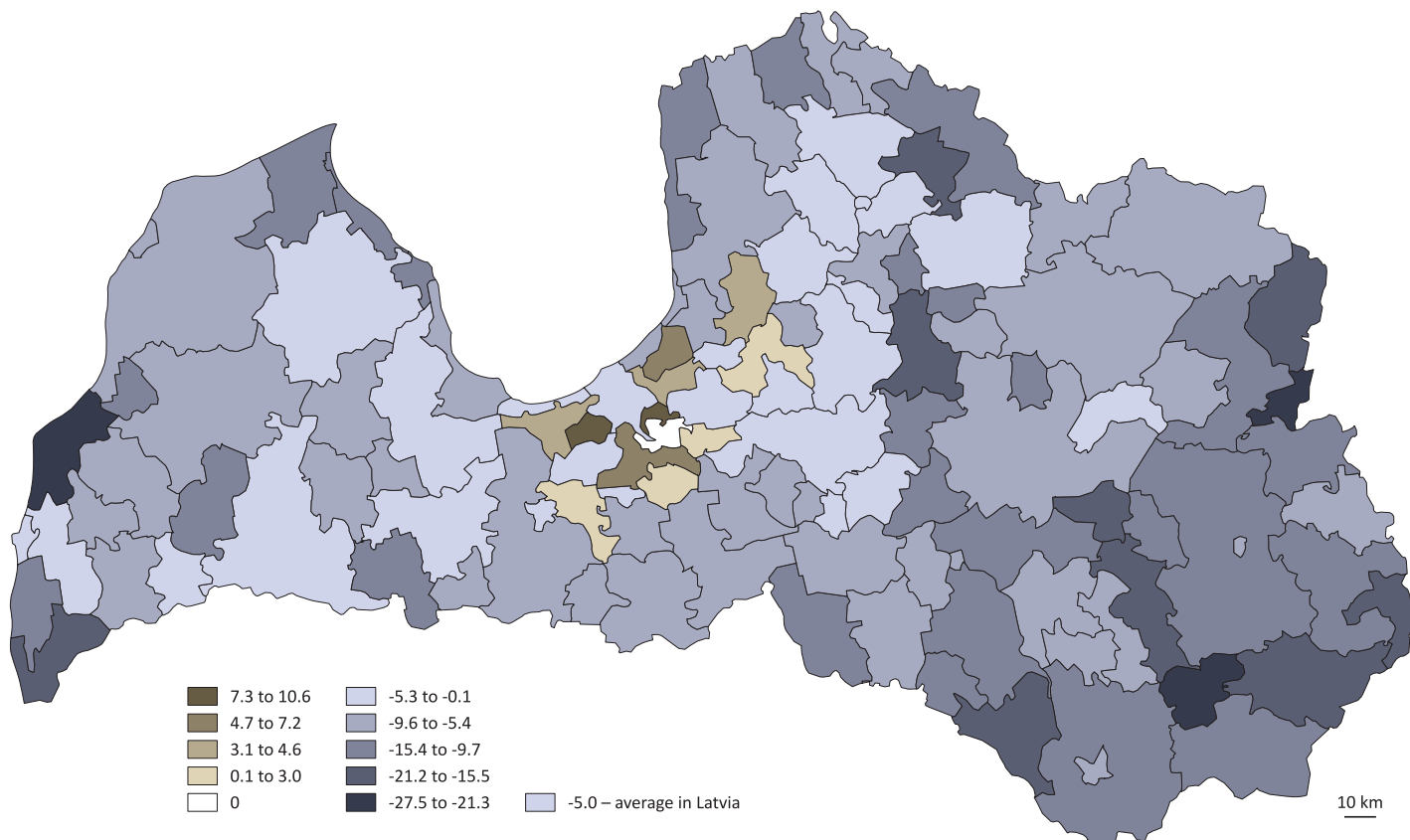


In 2018, 61 % of births were marital (56 % in 2010). Number of second, third and fourth children is also rising as is their share in the total number of newborn. In 2018, 38 % of the newborn were second children in their families (34 % in 2010), 16 % were third children (11 % in 2010) and 4 % were fourth children (3 % in 2010).

Mortality

In 2018, 28 820 deaths were registered (constituting 15.0 deaths per 1 000 inhabitants). The average age of males at death accounted for 69 years and that of females for 79 years.

Natural increase per 1 000 inhabitants by administrative territory; 2018



As living conditions improve, life expectancy is growing as well. In 1924, life expectancy in Latvia accounted for 50.7 years among males and for 56.9 years among females, whereas life expectancy of males born in 2018 constitutes 70.1 years and that of females 79.6 years.

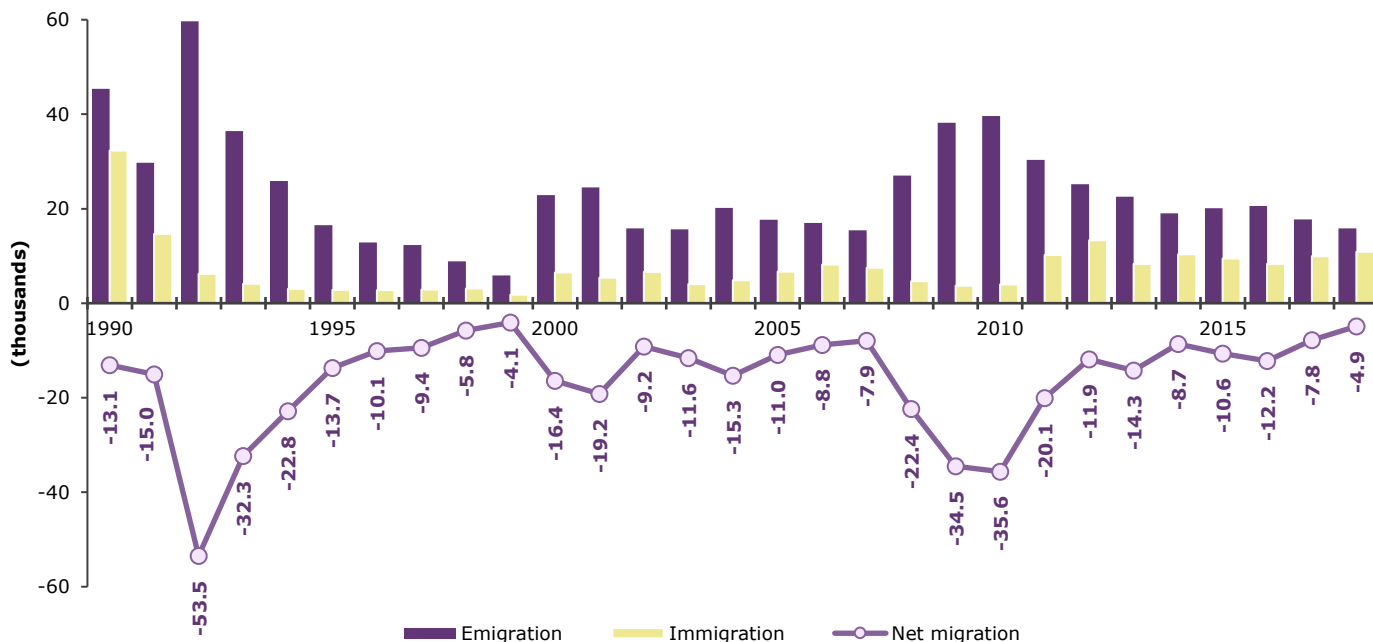
In 2018, Latvian male life expectancy was the lowest in the EU (Lithuanian indicator constituted 70.9 and Estonian 74.0). Also female life expectancy in both Latvia and Lithuania (79.6 and 80.7 in 2018, respectively) is amongst the lowest (82.7 in Estonia). Lower life expectancy is recorded only in Bulgaria and Romania.

Migration

Since 1991, population of Latvia due to the migration has dropped by 450 thousand people.

In 2018, 10.9 thousand people arrived in Latvia for permanent residence, whereas 15.8 thousand people left the country. International long-term migration has resulted in a population decline of 4.9 thousand people, compared to 7.8 thousand people in 2017. Out of the people who left the country, 13 thousand people were of working age (82 % of the emigrants). People aged 20–39 accounted for 8.7 thousand or 55 % of the emigrants. Half of the immigrants were at this age as well.

International long-term migration



In 2018, the share of males and females in the total emigrant number constituted 54 % and 46 %, respectively. Majority (70 %) of the female emigrants were at fertile age (aged 15–49).

Ethnic composition of immigrants shows that 26 % of the people were Latvians and 18 % were Russians, moreover 48 % of the emigrants were Latvians and 28 % were Russians. Latvian emigrants accounted for 0.6 % of the total Latvian population and Russian emigrants for 0.9 % of the total Russian population in Latvia at the beginning of 2019.

Out of the people immigrating in Latvia in 2018, 41 % came from the EU countries. Large share (37 %) thereof consisted of immigrants coming from CIS countries, e.g., Ukraine (13 %), Russia (8 %), and Uzbekistan (5 %). Out of the immigrants registered in 2018, citizens of Latvia – re-emigrants – constituted 45 %.

Out of the people emigrating the country in 2018, 84 % went to other EU countries and 7 % to CIS countries.

Social Processes

Earnings

Wages and salaries rose by 7.2 % over the year

In 2019, monthly average gross wages and salaries in the country reached EUR 1 076. Over the year, they rose by EUR 72 or 7.2 %. The average net wages and salaries calculated using labour taxes applicable at workplace constituted EUR 793 or 73.7 % of the gross wages. Over the year, net wages and salaries increased by 6.8 %, showing 0.4 percentage points lower rise than that of wages and salaries before taxes. In 2019, consumer price increase reduced purchasing power of employees by 2.8 % (real increase of net wages and salaries constituted 3.9 %)⁽¹⁾. In 2019, median monthly gross earnings constituted EUR 832 and net earnings EUR 613.

Change in average hourly net earnings
(as %, compared to the previous year)



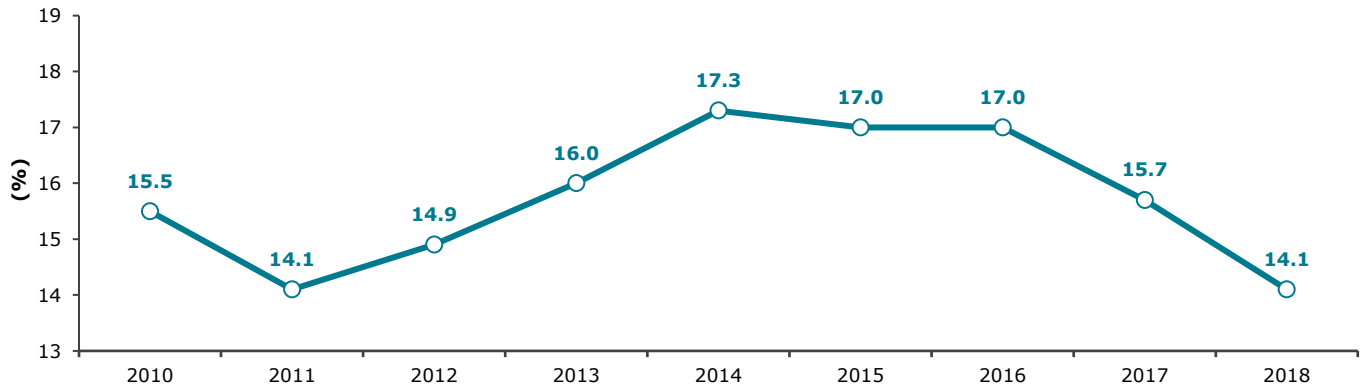
In 2019, the highest earnings were recorded in financial and IT services where average gross earnings amounted to EUR 2 083 and EUR 1 731 monthly, respectively. Average gross wages and salaries in agriculture (EUR 1 035), manufacturing (EUR 1 040), construction (EUR 1 048), as well as transportation and storage (EUR 1 071) were slightly below the national average (EUR 1 076). Increase from EUR 976 in 2018 to EUR 1 105 in 2019 resulted in a rise of average earnings in health care above national average.

Similarly to females in other EU countries, also employed Latvian women earn less than men. In 2018, gender gap in hourly gross earnings constituted 14.1 %, however it is the lowest indicator recorded since 2012.

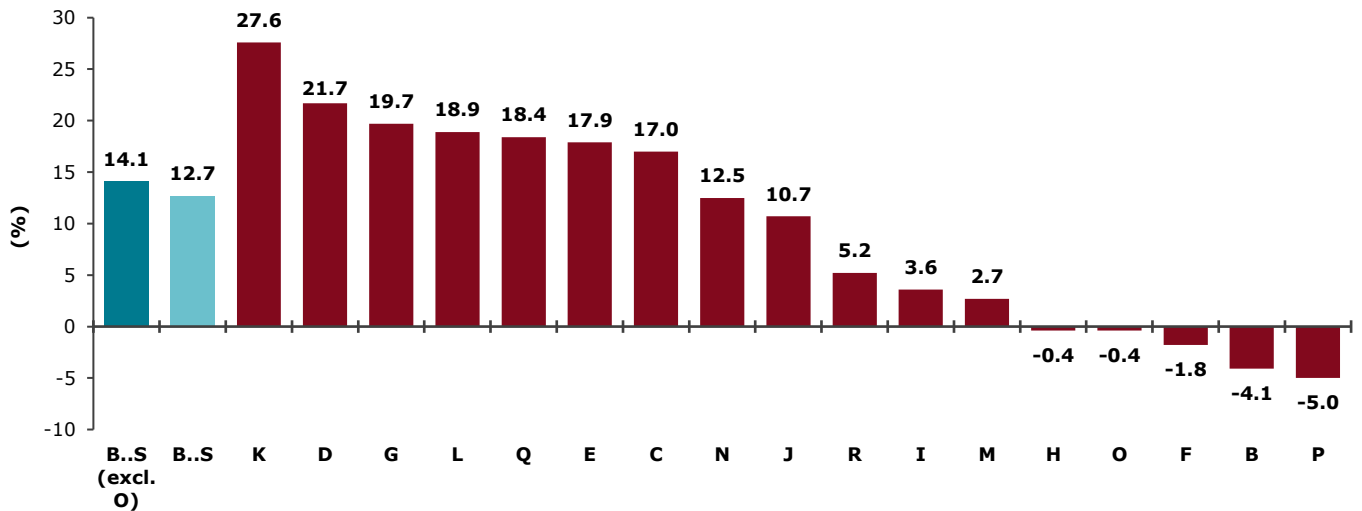
⁽¹⁾ Real wage index is calculated by attributing index of average net wages to the consumer price index.

Monthly gross earnings of males and females in October 2018

(sections B–S, excluding O)

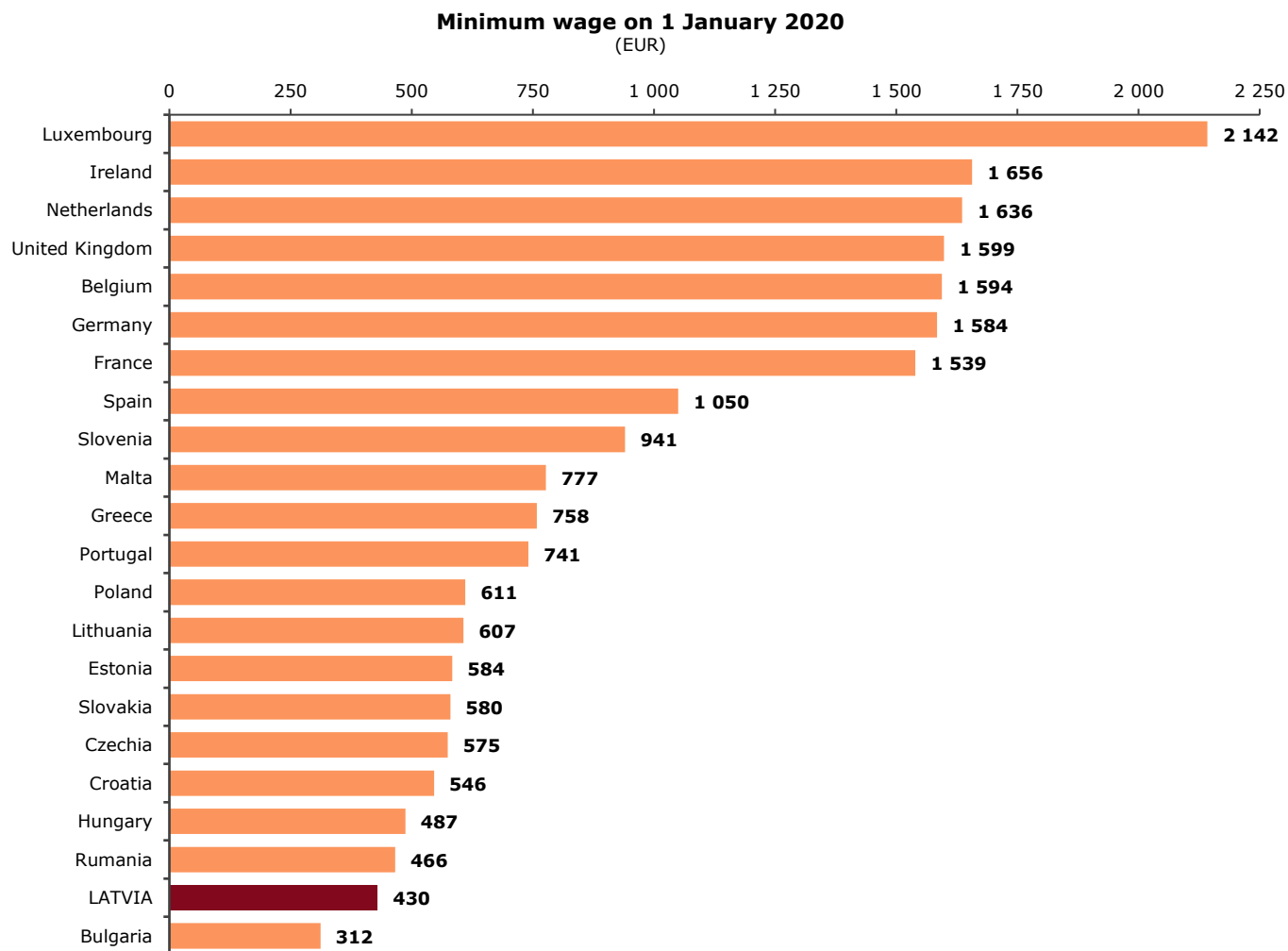


Average gross earnings of males and females by economic activity; October 2018



- | | |
|---|--|
| B Mining and quarrying | K Financial and insurance activities |
| C Manufacturing | L Real estate activities |
| D Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply | M Professional, scientific and technical activities |
| E Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities | N Administrative and support service activities |
| F Construction | O Public administration and defence; compulsory social security |
| G Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | P Education |
| H Transportation and storage | Q Human health and social work activities |
| I Accommodation and food service activities | R Arts, entertainment and recreation |
| J Information and communication | |

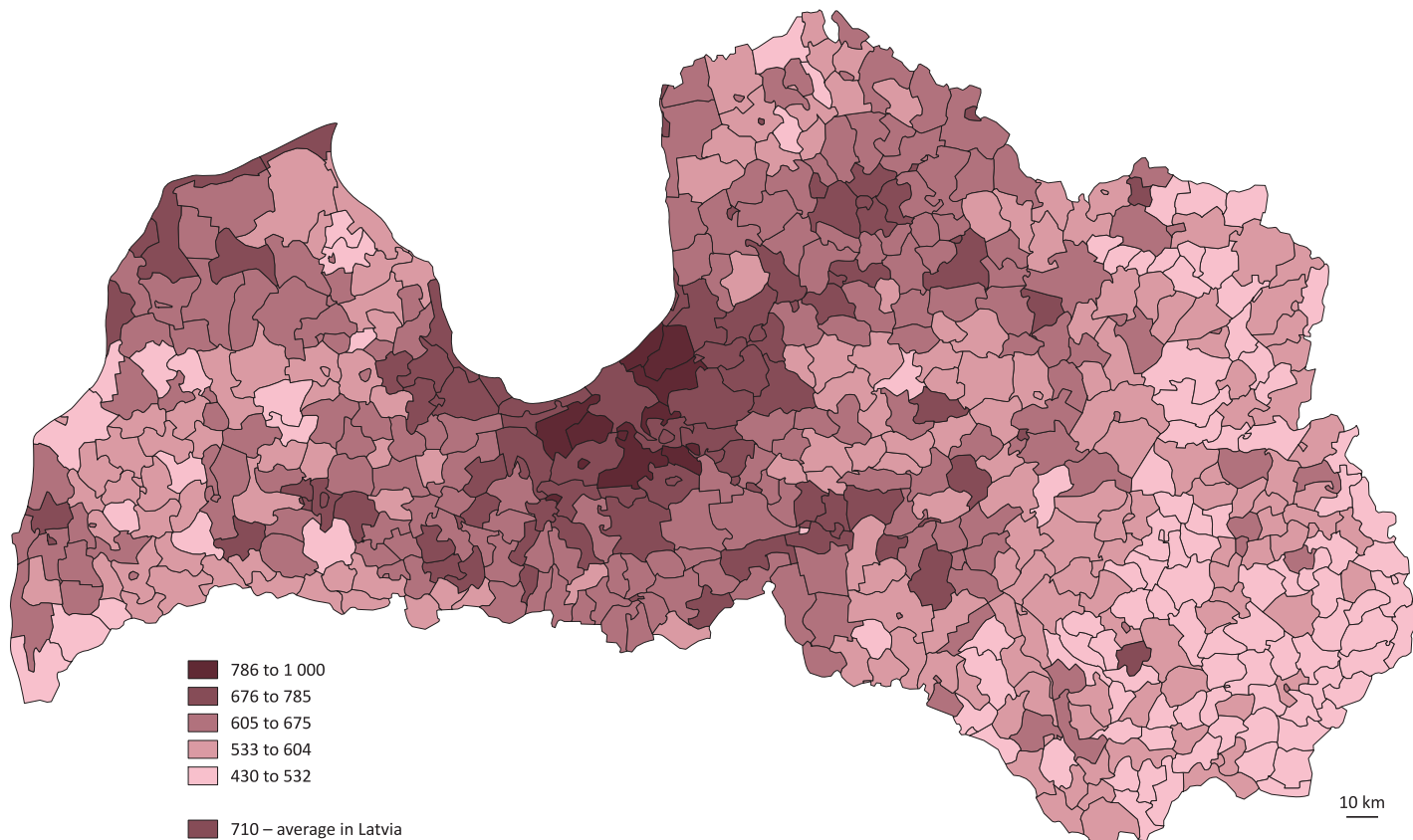
Compared to other EU countries having national minimum, minimum wage in Latvia is one of the smallest. At the beginning of 2020, lower minimum wage was recorded only in Bulgaria. Compared to 2019, at the beginning of 2020 minimum wage rose in all EU Member States, except for Latvia, Spain, Belgium and Ireland. The highest rise in the minimum wage in the EU was registered in Poland – 16.8 %, reaching EUR 611 at the beginning of 2019. Minimum wage in Lithuania grew up to EUR 607 (by 9.4 %), whereas in Estonia to EUR 584 (8.1 %).



Data source: Eurostat [earn_mw_cur] 03.02.2020.

Median monthly average gross earnings by territorial unit; 2019

(Employees are included in the territorial unit based on the actual residence. Monthly average income constitute at least EUR 55.) (EUR)

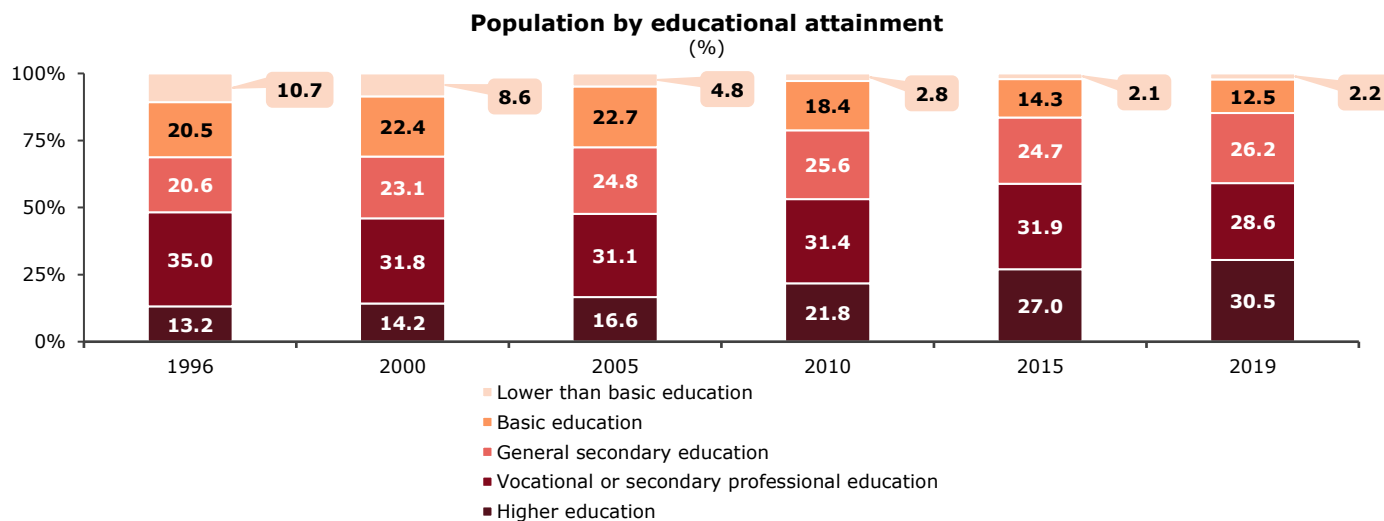


Data source: Data of the State Revenue Service. Median monthly gross earnings is an indicator located in the middle of a gross labour income sequence listed in increasing or descending order.

Education

Average level of educational attainment has increased

In 2019, 30.5 % of population aged 15–74 had acquired higher education, which is 1.5 times more than in 2000. Over the period, the share of population having basic education or lower has dropped from 31.0 % to 14.7 %. The share of population having vocational/ secondary professional and general secondary education has stayed stable – 28.6 % and 26.2 % in 2019, respectively.



The most notable gender gap may be observed among the population having higher education (incl. doctorate degree) – 36.6 % of females and 23.7 % of males have higher education, and professional secondary or vocational education – this level is acquired by 31.3 % of males and 26.1 % of females.

Enrolments by level of education (ISCED 2011)

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Enrolments (at the beginning of school year)	417 672	421 078	421 809	421 317
Pre-primary education (Level 0)	92 095	94 249	96 626	99 177
First stage of basic education (grades 1–6)	120 308	121 506	121 674	120 787
Second stage of basic education (grades 7–9 and vocational education)	56 128	56 282	56 501	57 009
(Upper) secondary education (grades 10–12 and secondary vocational education)	60 343	61 078	60 825	60 537
Post-secondary non-tertiary education	4 516	5 049	4 581	3 452
First stage of tertiary education (higher education)	81 972	80 623	79 406	78 229
Second stage of tertiary education (doctoral studies)	2 310	2 291	2 196	2 126

Pre-school education enrolments up by 2.6 %

Number of children aged 3–6 in pre-school education has increased – 93.0 % of children at this age acquired pre-school education in 2018 (93.1 % in 2017 and 88.4 % in 2010). In 2018, 99.2 thousand children attended pre-school education institutions, which is the highest indicator recorded during recent years. In the school year 2018/2019, 79.6 % of children attended schools having Latvian as a language of instruction, while 19.7 % attended schools teaching in Russian. Nevertheless majority of children attended pre-school education institutions of local governments, the number of children in private pre-school education institutions keeps growing – 10.0 thousand or 10.1 %. Since 2010, the number of private pre-school education institutions has grown twice and changes mainly have affected Riga.

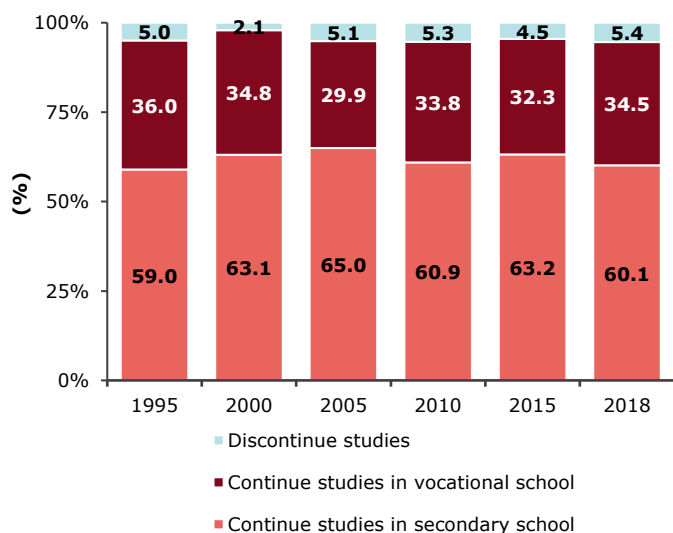
Downturn in number of general schools

At the beginning of the school year 2018/2019, there were 740 general schools (including 60 primary schools and 280 basic schools) educating 48 640 students, as well as 322 secondary schools educating 149 249 students. Training was organised also in 24 evening schools, extramural and distance-learning schools (9 552 students) and 54 special schools (7 183 students). In the school year 2018/2019, total enrolments in grades 1–6 accounted for 120 787, in grades 7–9 for 56 823, while in grades 10–12 for 37 014 students.

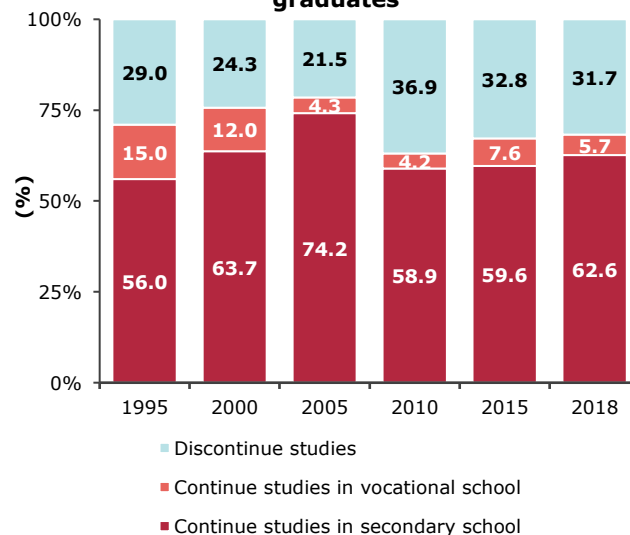
Further education after basic and secondary school

In 2018, share of basic school graduates which continue studies in vocational schools (34.5 %) has dropped by slightly more than one percentage point, while share of students discontinuing studies (5.4 %) has increased by 2.2 percentage points. Share of secondary school graduates who continue studies in higher education institutions and colleges (62.6 %) has risen by 3.9 percentage points, while 31.7 % of secondary school graduates discontinue studies.

Further education of basic school graduates



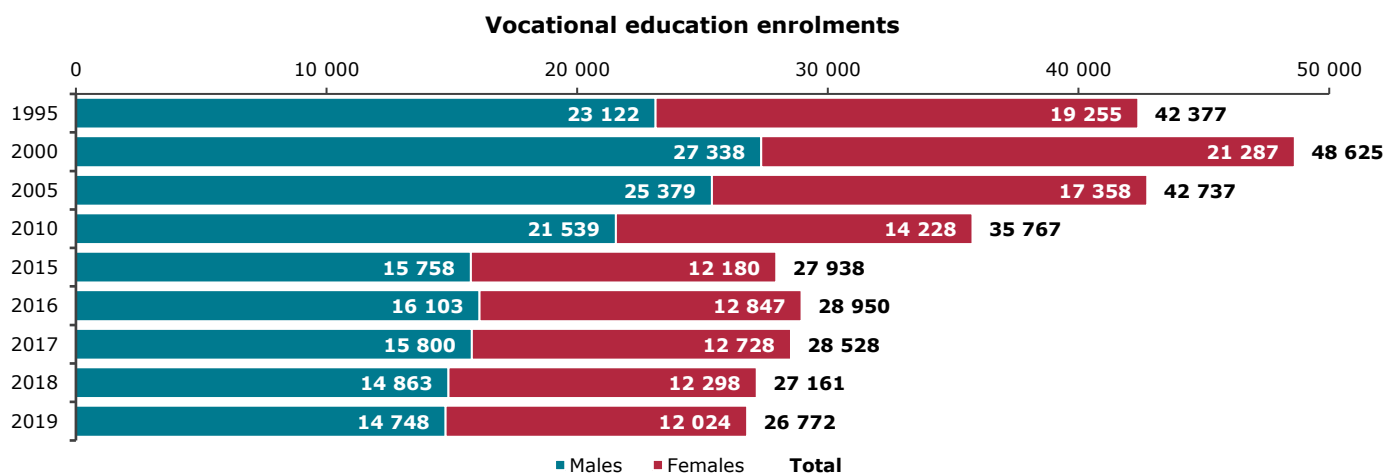
Further education of secondary school graduates



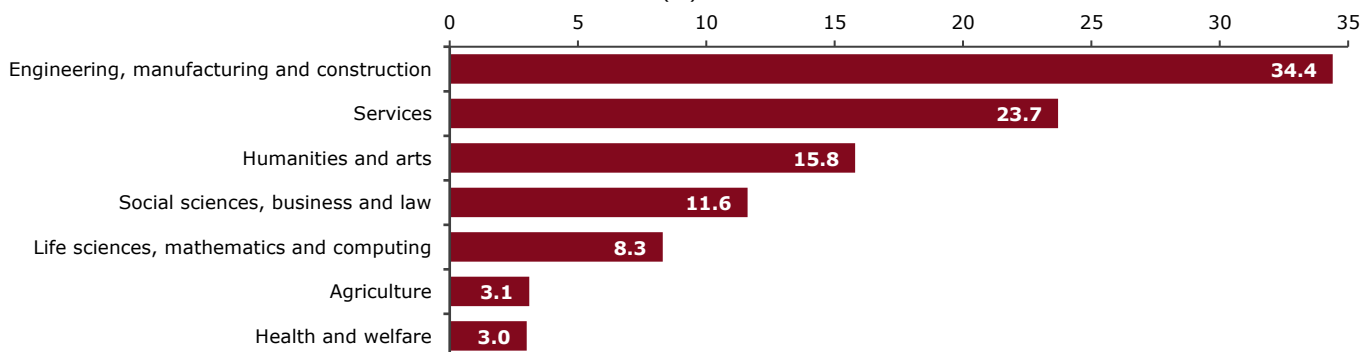
Decline in vocational school enrolments

At the beginning of the school year 2019/2020, 26.8 thousand students entered vocational education institutions, which is 1.4 % less than a year before. Regardless the fact that vocational education more commonly is chosen by males (55.1 % in school year 2019/2020), gender gap has been reducing over the past years (males accounted for 60.2 % at the beginning of the school year 2010/2011).

Majority of students choose engineering, manufacturing and construction (34.4 %) as well as services programmes (mainly hotel, restaurant and beauty services – 23.7 %). Compared to the previous period, the number of entrants has went down by 4.6 % – it accounted for 11.1 thousand students, and majority of them entered mentioned fields of education. In 2019, vocational education was acquired by 6.4 thousand students, and one third of them studied engineering, manufacturing and construction.

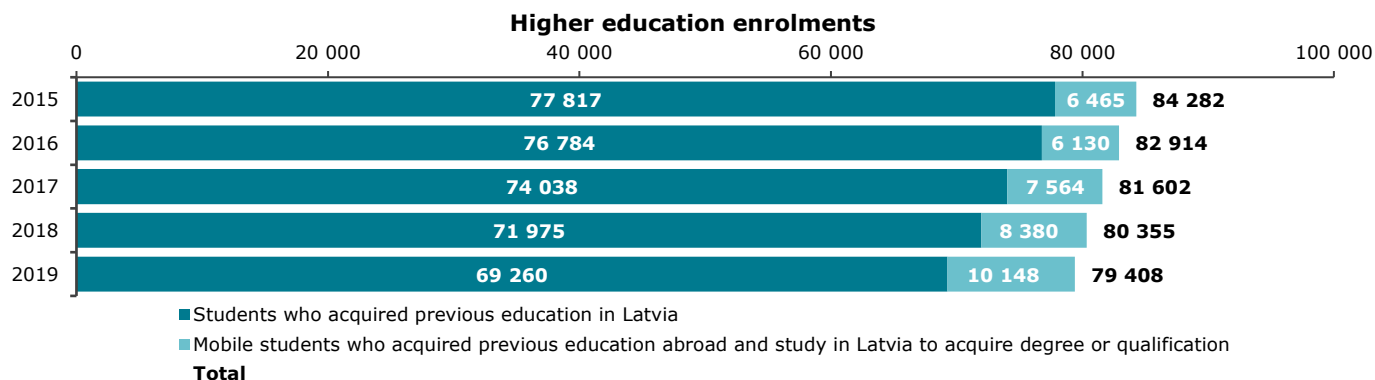


Vocational education enrolments by field of education; at the beginning of the school year 2019/2020 (%)



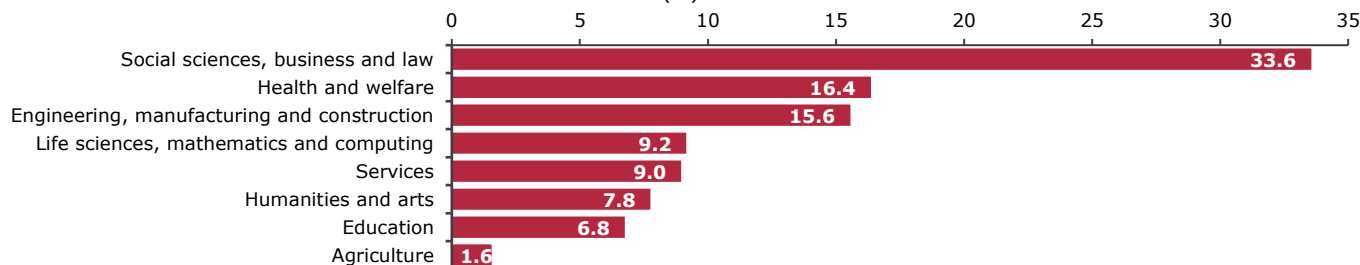
Rise in entrant number

In the academic year 2019/2020, number of higher education institutions has not changed and constitutes 54 (29 universities and 25 colleges). Higher education was acquired by 79.4 thousand students, which is 1.2 % less than a year ago. In this academic year, 29.4 thousand students entered Latvian higher education institutions, which is 6.3 % more than a year ago and is influenced by the upturn in mobile student number. More than a half of the first-year students (57.1 %) were non-subsidised, and studies of 42.9 % of the students were state-subsidised.

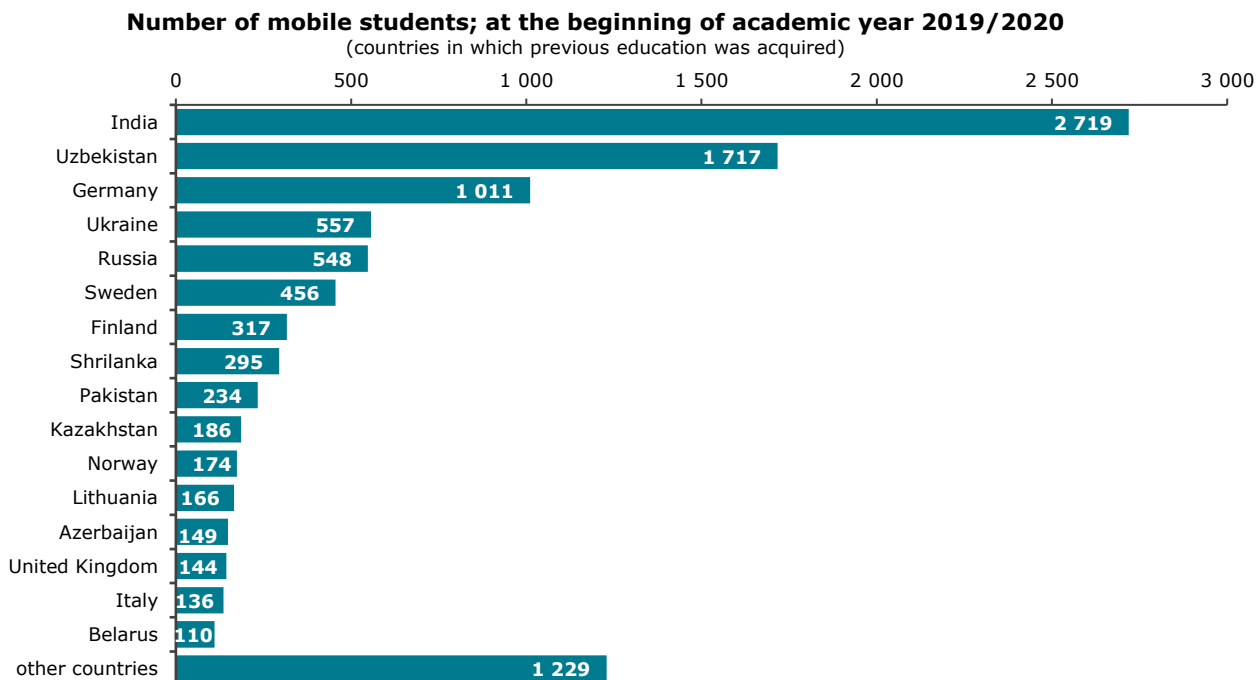


Similarly like in the previous years, also this year majority of the first-year students (10.7 thousand or 36.6 % of the entrants) entered programmes of social sciences, business and law. At the same time, higher popularity is gained by health and welfare as well as services programmes the number of entrants whereof has increased by 9.1 % over the year. In 2019, upturn in the entrant number was observed also in natural sciences, mathematics and IT programmes (of 9 %).

Higher education enrolments by field of education; at the beginning of academic year 2019/2020 (%)



The number of mobile students (those who acquired previous education abroad and study in Latvia with an aim to acquire degree or qualification) keeps growing significantly. Currently in Latvia there are 10.1 thousand mobile students, which is 21.1 % more than last year and 93.1 % more than in 2014 when such statistics was compiled for the first time. More than a half (53.7 %) of mobile students have acquired their previous education in India, Uzbekistan and Germany. Unlike the gender shares among Latvian students, majority of mobile students (67.8 %) are males. The largest share of mobile students (2.3 thousand) study in Rīga Stradiņš University.



Gradual increase in teaching staff earnings

As of 1 September 2019, the lowest monthly wage of general, pre-school, vocational, interest-related and professionally-oriented education teaching staff was risen from EUR 710 to EUR 750 per one rate or 30-hour working week. Additional funding for the wage increase in 2019 constitutes EUR 7 658 482, while the funding needed for 2020 and upcoming years comprises EUR 22 973 631. Until September 2022, it has been planned to increase minimum wage rate up to EUR 900 ⁽¹⁾.

Expenditure on education by source of funds

	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2016	⁽²⁾ 2017
Total (million EUR)	284.2	503.4	844.6	1 138.7	1 473.4	1 344.7	1 431.8
Government expenditure	225.7	381.4	651.7	911.5	1 298.0	1 181.7	1 188.5
Private expenditure	58.5	116.0	179.7	185.2	153.3	149.5	218.8
Foreign sources of finance	0.0	6.0	13.2	42.0	22.1	13.5	24.5
Government expenditure on education, as % of the GDP	6.2	5.6	5.1	5.0	5.3	4.7	4.4

⁽¹⁾ <https://mk.gov.lv/lv/aktualitates/pedagogu-algas-minimalo-likmi-no-1septembra-paaugstinas-lidz-750-eiro> (in Latvian)

⁽²⁾ Includes education of children aged 0–2 in pre-school education establishments.

Culture

Cultural institutions

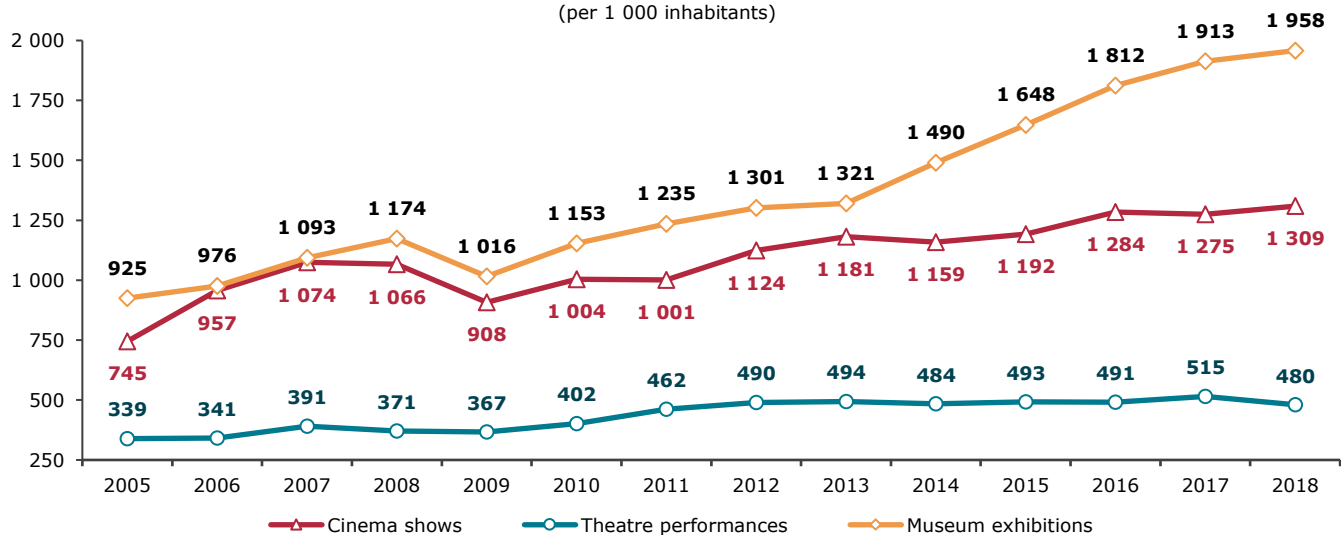
In 2018, there were nine state and municipal theatres in Latvia. In 2018, 30 documentary, 1 animated cartoon, 10 full-length and 7 short films were completed. Latvian movies in cinemas were seen by 556.8 thousand people. Data of the National Film Centre of Latvia show that the most popular full-length movie in 2019 seen by 227 thousand cinema visitors was "Dvēseļu putenis" (Blizzard of souls).

Activities of cultural institutions

	2005	2010	2015	2017	2018
Museums, incl. branches; at the end of the year	130	120	113	115	115
Theatre attendance; thousand	2 070	2 419	3 260	3 715	3 774
Attendance per 1 000 inhabitants	925	1 153	1 648	1 913	1 958
Cinemas, at the end of the year	17	17	16	18	20
Attendance in cinemas and cultural centres; thousands	1 667	2 106	2 358	2 477	2 524
Attendance per 1 000 inhabitants	745	1 004	1 192	1 275	1 309
State and municipal theatres, at the end of the year	9	9	9	9	9
Theatre performances	2 786	3 020	3 253	3 342	3 473
Theatre attendance; thousands	760	843	975	999	926
Attendance per 1 000 inhabitants	339	402	493	515	480

Attendance of museums, theatres and cinemas

(per 1 000 inhabitants)



Libraries

In 2018, there were 1 597 libraries in Latvia – on average one library per 1.2 thousand inhabitants. Compared to the year before, number of libraries has dropped by 52, whereas compared to 2010 – by 234.

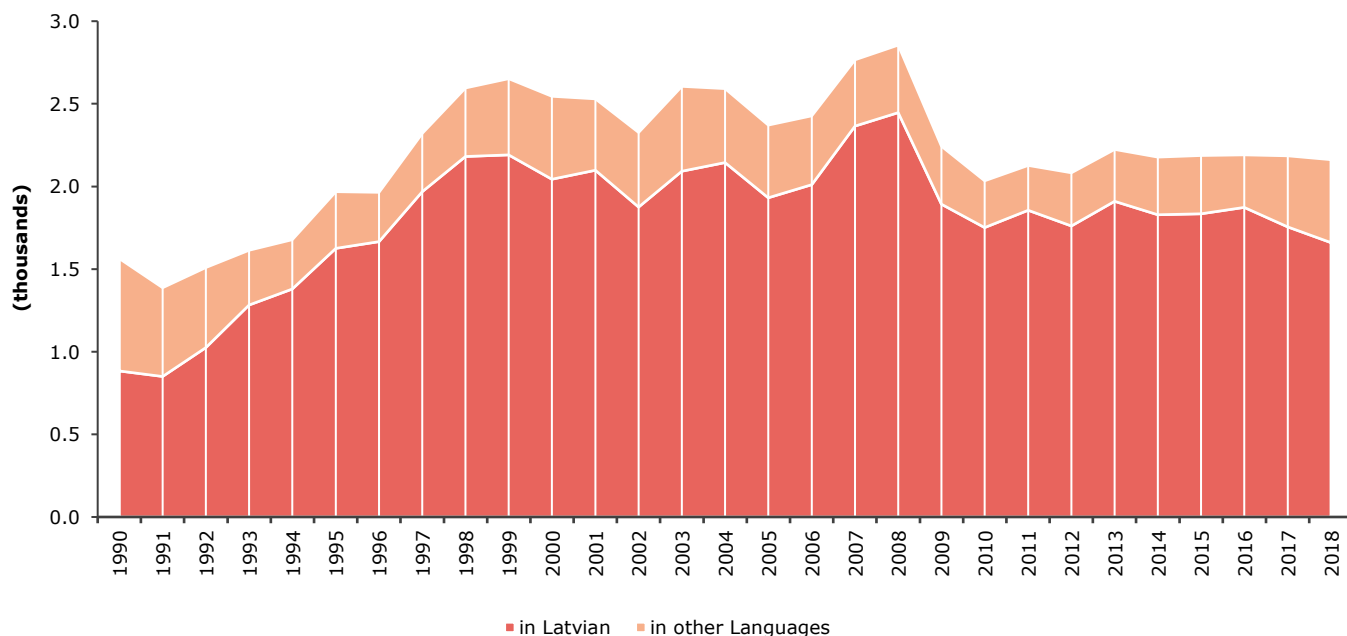
Library activities in 2018

	Number	Active users	Loans, million copies
Total	1 597	811 584	19.8
National Library of Latvia	1	26 218	0.4
Higher education institution libraries	48	99 984	2.3
Specialised libraries	27	8 873	0.2
Public libraries	789	415 949	11.0
General and vocational school libraries	732	260 560	5.9

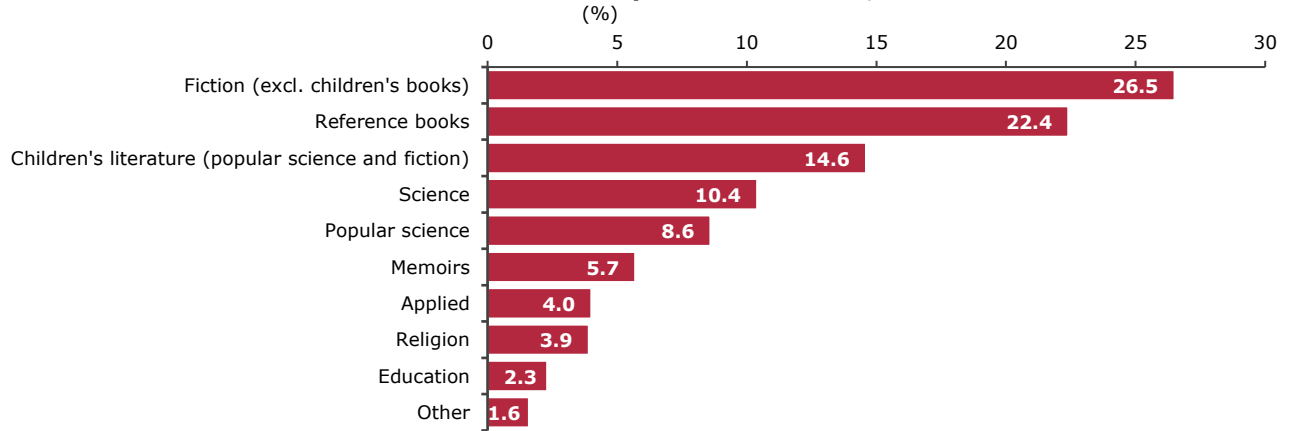
Printing and publishing

In 2018, out of 2 161 publications there were 1 578 original editions in total circulation of 1 347 thousand copies, 578 translated issues in total circulation of 779 thousand copies and 5 dictionaries in total circulation of 3.5 thousand copies.

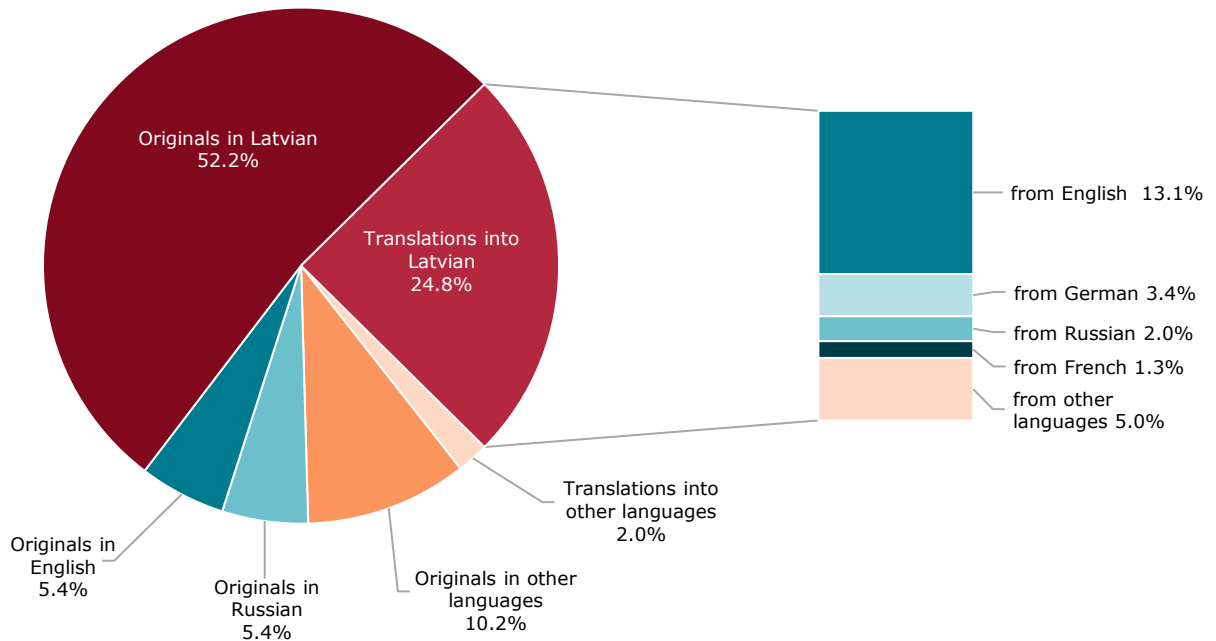
Number of books and brochures issued



Issued books and brochures by field of literature; 2018



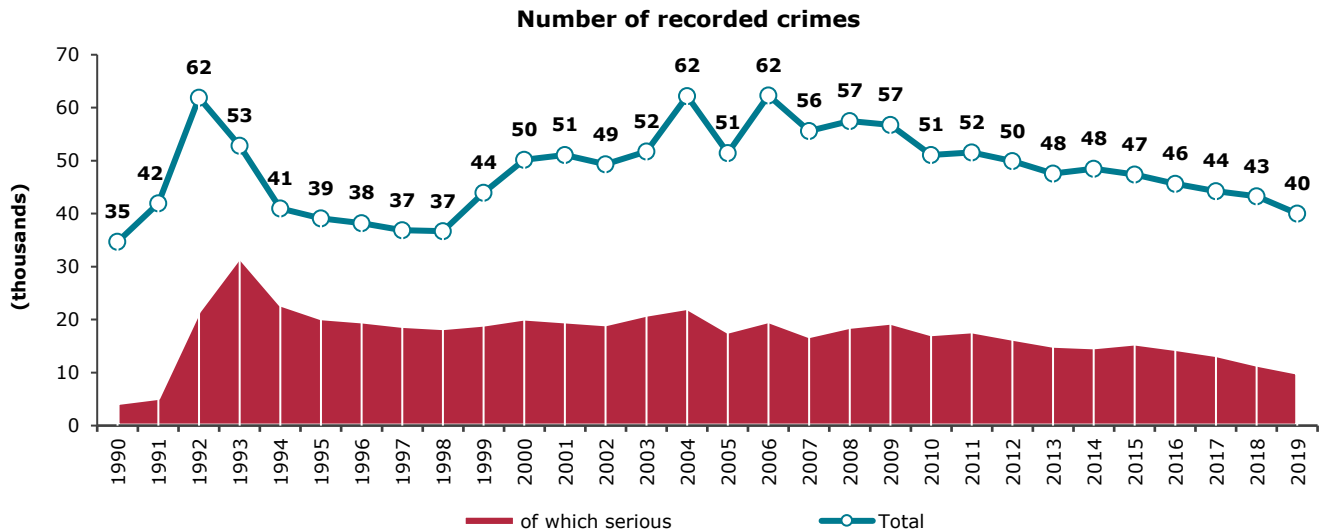
Issued books and brochures by language; 2018



Crime

Decline in recorded crimes

In 2019, 39 906 crimes were registered, which is 7.8 % less, compared to 2018 (43 260).



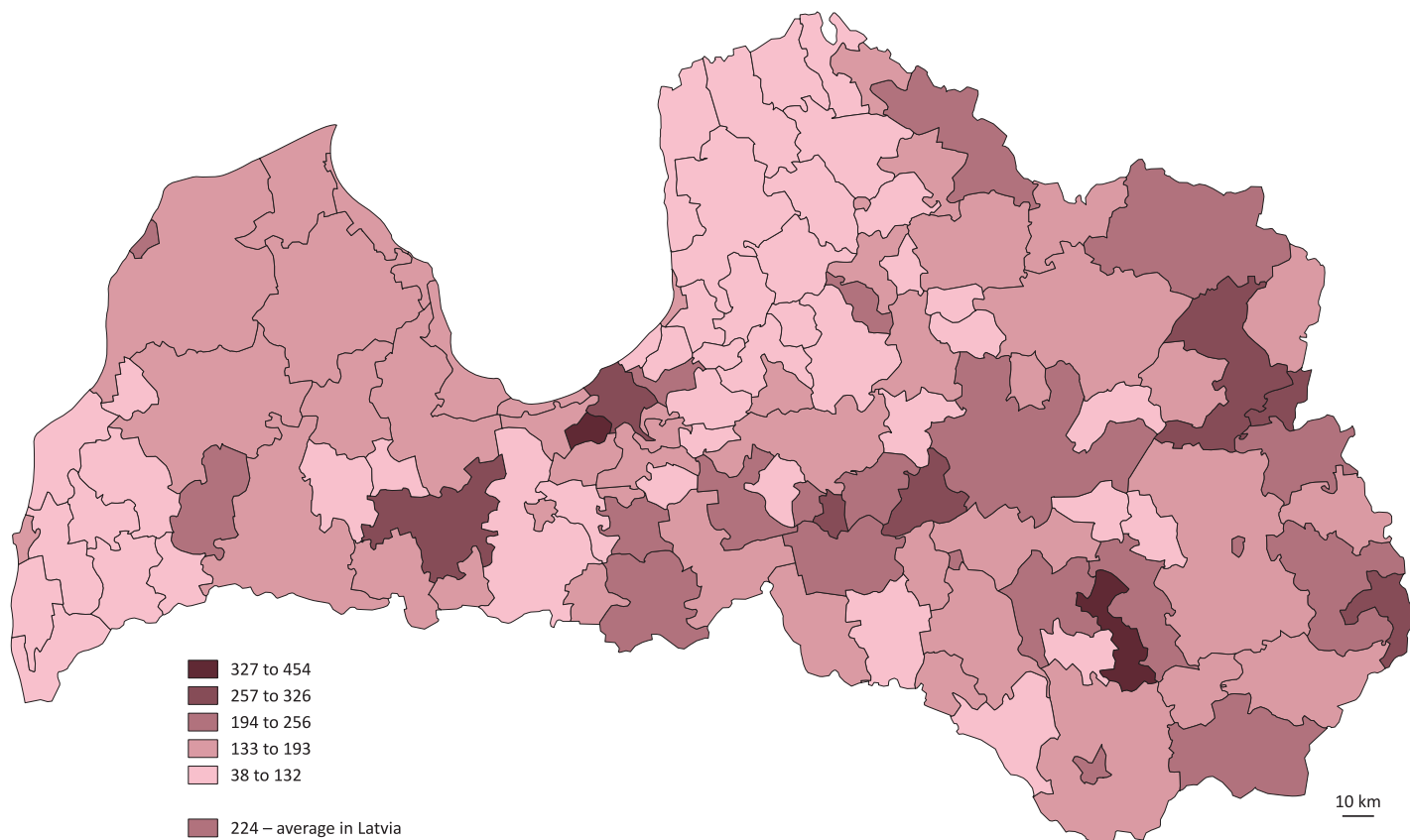
Recorded crimes

	2005	2010	2015	2018	2019
Total	51 435	51 108	47 406	43 260	39 906
Intentional homicide	127	82	87	78	75
Aggravated assault	336	181	178	178	158
Rape	242	79	60	71	85
Robbery	2 163	1 072	779	534	493
Property theft ⁽¹⁾	23 924	25 659	21 804	19 440	17 578
Hooliganism	1 014	429	225	116	119
Violation of traffic regulations resulting in serious injuries	1 529	603	689	583	539
Illicit preparation, storage, and selling of narcotics	1 049	2 189	3 529	3 606	3 159
Serious crimes in the total number of registered crimes	17 706	17 239	15 511	11 526	10 073
Per 10 000 inhabitants	230	244	240	225	...

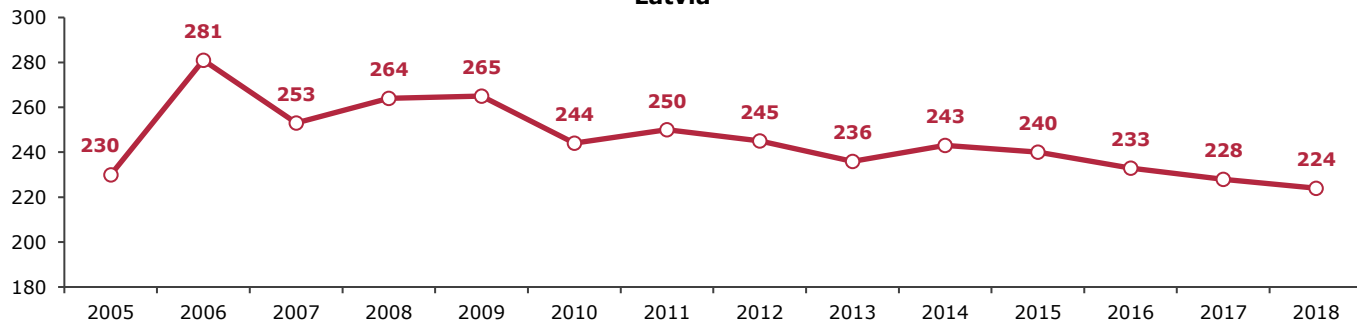
(¹) As of 2011, including fraud and misappropriation on a small scale.

Number of recorded crimes per 10 000 inhabitants by administrative territory; 2018

(including attempted crimes)



Latvia



Theft still is the most common crime

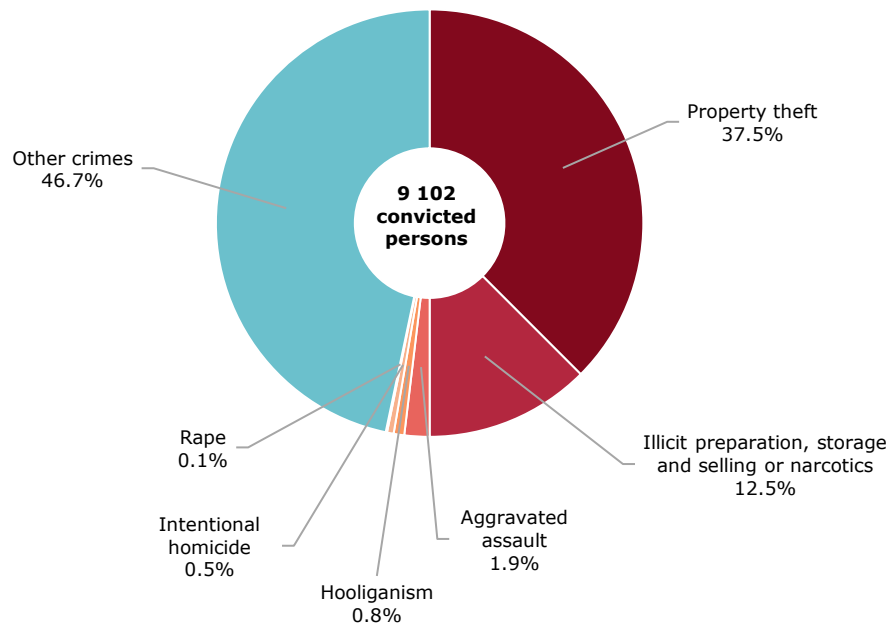
In 2019, 17 578 thefts (including fraud and misappropriation on a small scale) were recorded, comprising 44 % of all crimes recorded. However, number of thefts has been declining over the recent years: by 9.6 %, compared to 2018, and by 31.5 %, compared to 2010. Approximately one fourth of the recorded crimes were classified as serious (25.2 % in 2019 and 26.6 % in 2018). In 2019, number of intentional homicide went down by 4 % – 75 cases of homicide were recorded (78 in 2018). At the end of 2019, prison population of Latvia comprised 3.4 thousand people, which is 3.1 % less than in 2018.

The share of juveniles in the total number of offenders is comparatively small: juveniles constituted 4.7 % of offenders in 2019. The share of female offenders (13.1 %) almost has not changed, compared to 2018 when indicator constituted 13.7 %.

Number of offenders

	2005	2010	2015	2018	2019
Accused persons	17 025	15 848	10 060	9 375	9 408
As % of total number of offenders:					
females	11.2	14.6	14.4	13.7	13.1
juveniles	16.2	6.2	4.9	5.2	4.7

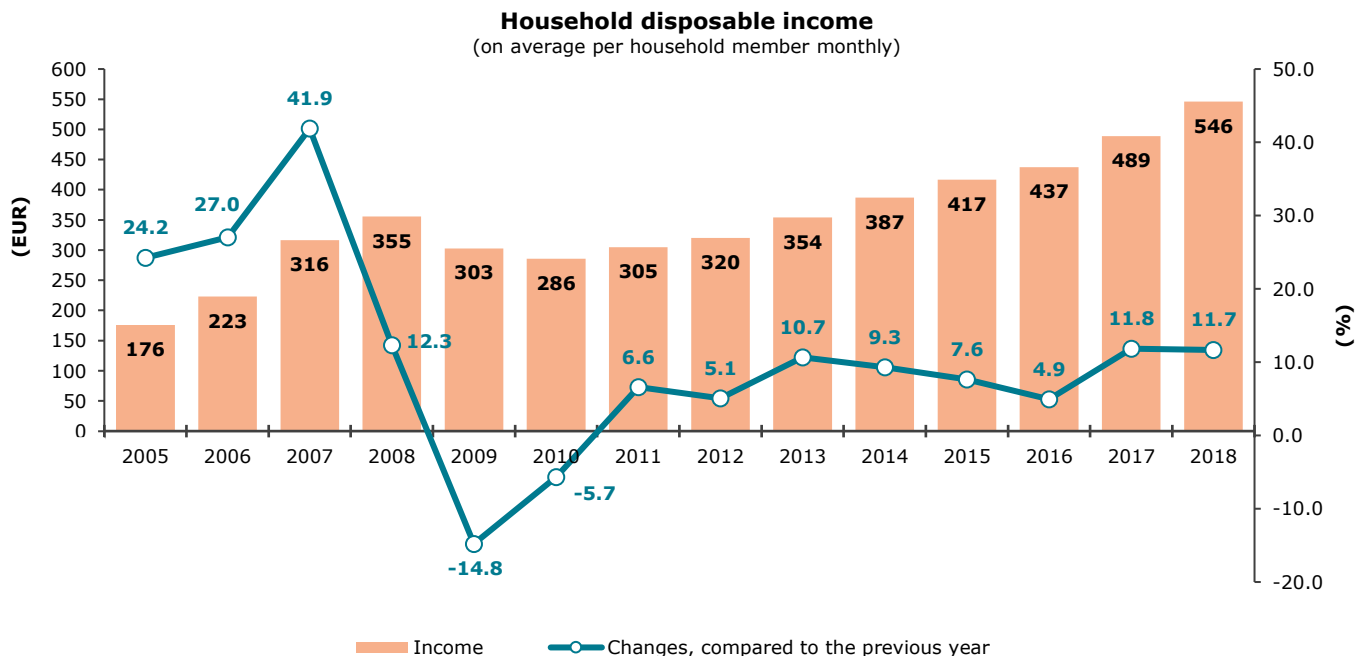
Convicted persons by type of crime; 2018



Household Income

Rise in household disposable income

In 2018, household disposable income reached EUR 546 per household member monthly. Compared to 2017, income grew by 11.7 % (rise recorded in 2017 constituted 11.8%, that registered in 2016 – 4.9 % and that in 2015 – 7.6 %).



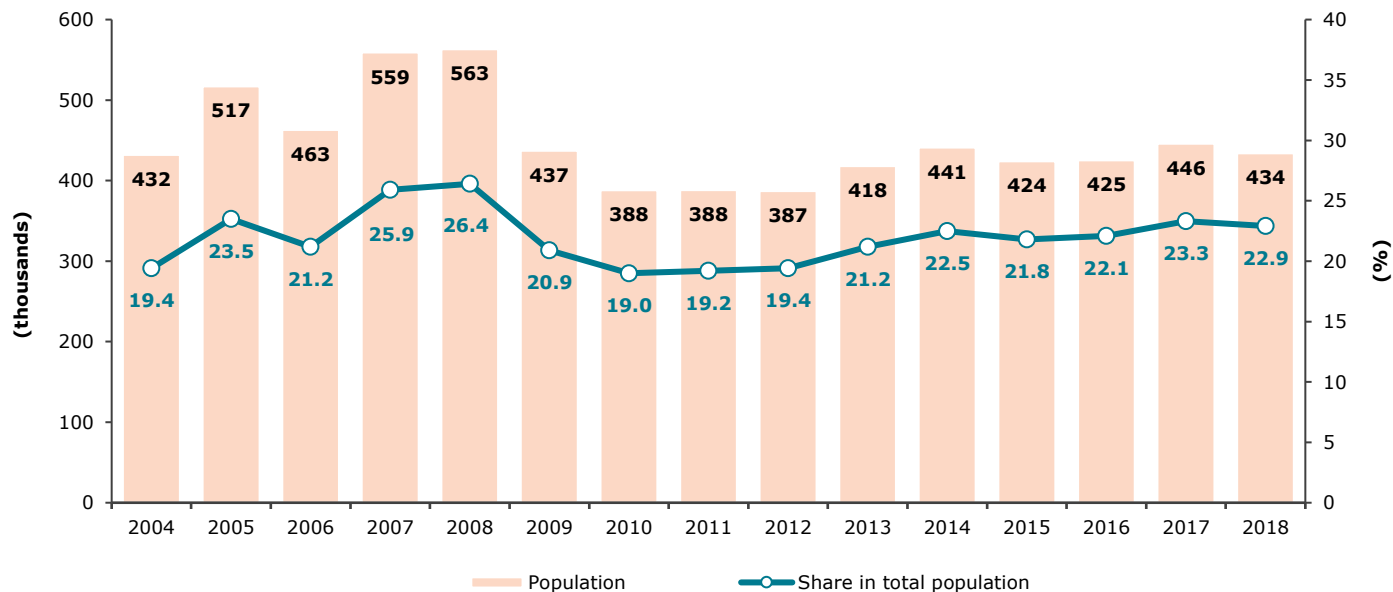
Decline in population at risk of poverty

In 2018, 434 thousand people or 22.9 % of the population were at risk of poverty ⁽¹⁾, which is 0.4 percentage points less than in 2017. Disposable income of these people were below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold.

Reduction of poverty risk was facilitated by the increase of minimum wage (from EUR 380 in 2017 to EUR 430 in 2018), changes in legislation regulating social benefits (recalculation of separate pensions, better support for foster families and families with two or more children), as well as changes in application of population income tax.

⁽¹⁾ At-risk-of-poverty rate – share of persons with equivalised disposable income below at-risk-of-poverty threshold. At-risk-of-poverty threshold – 60 % of the national median equivalised disposable income.

Population at risk of poverty



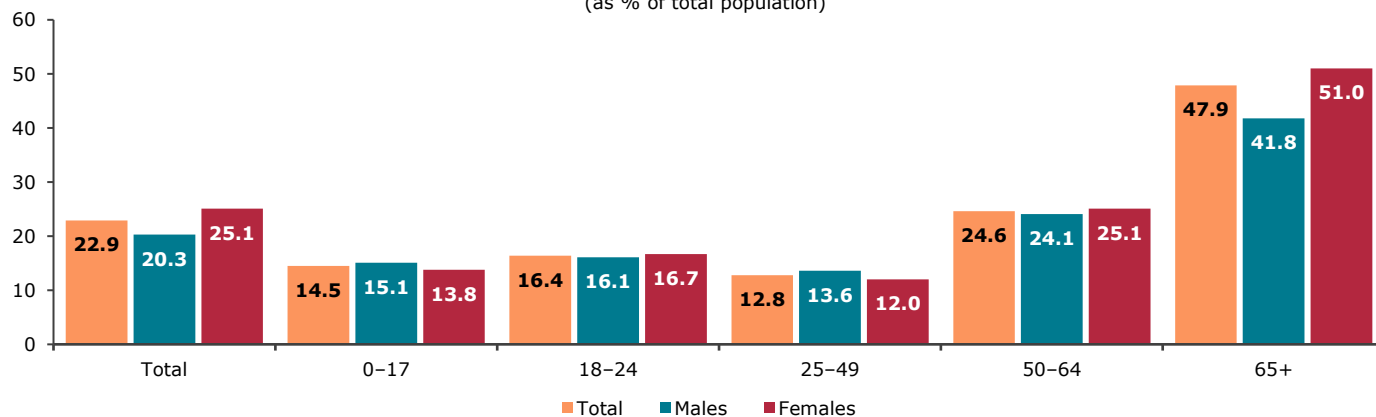
In 2018, as disposable income grew, at-risk-of-poverty threshold rose as well – to EUR 409 monthly in single-person households (EUR 367 monthly in 2017). In 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate in households consisting of two adults with two children aged 14 and younger reached EUR 860 monthly (EUR 770 monthly in 2017).

At-risk-of-poverty rate keeps declining among children, while among elderly population it still is high

For the fifth year in a row at-risk-of-poverty rate among children aged 17 and younger is reducing, and in 2018 it reached 14.5 % (17.5 % in 2017). The highest at-risk-of-poverty rate was recorded among population aged 65 and over – 47.9 %. Moreover, the highest rate was observed among single elderly people. In 2018, almost three fourths (74.9 %) of single elderly population were at risk of poverty, and over the recent years the share has been consistently high.

Share of population at-risk-of-poverty by age group; 2018

(as % of total population)

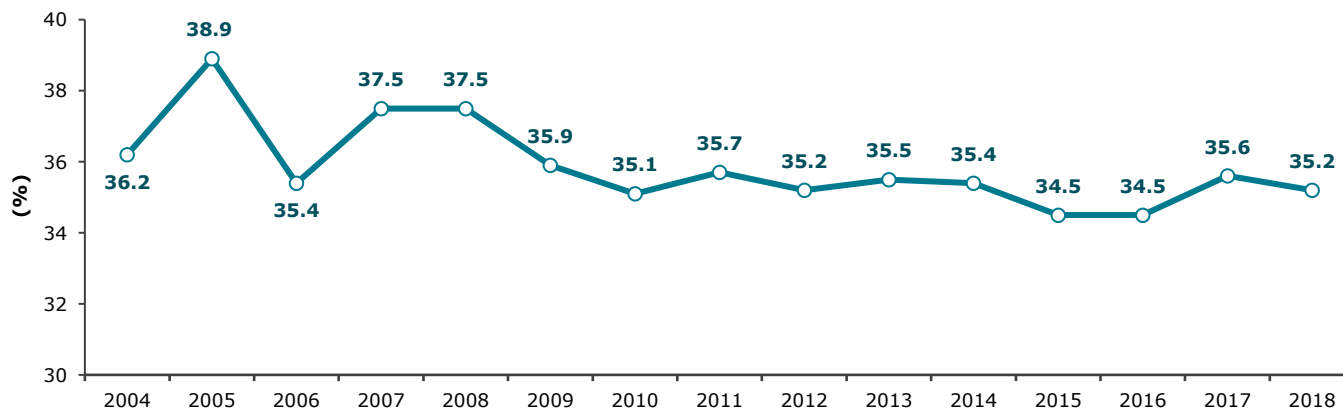


The smallest share of people at risk of poverty was observed among working population – 8.5 % in 2018 and 8.1 % in 2017. Significantly larger share was formed by unemployed people (57.7 % in 2018 and 59.5 % in 2017) and people in retirement (52.5 % in 2018 and 48.9 % in 2017).

Income inequality in Latvia still high

Income inequality in Latvia still remains high. The latest data show that Latvian Gini coefficient ⁽¹⁾ was the third highest among the EU Member States.

Gini coefficient



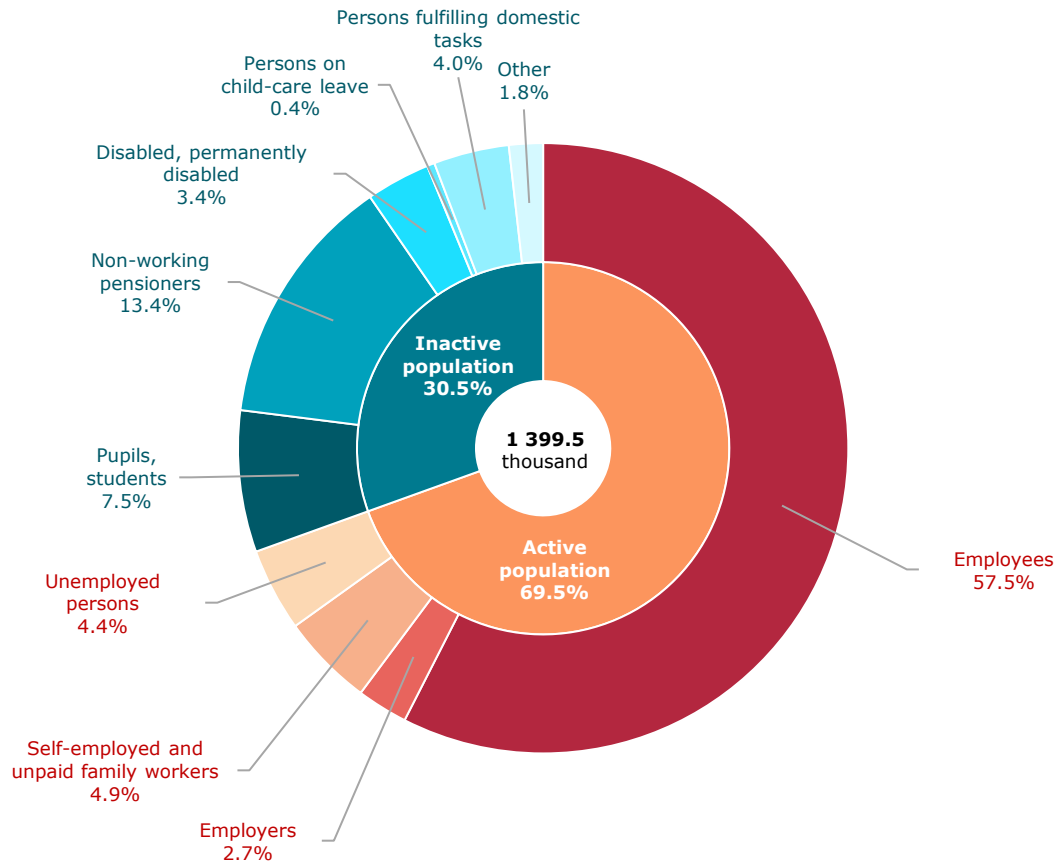
⁽¹⁾ Gini coefficient characterises inequality of income. It varies from 0 to 100. Gini coefficient is 0, if there is absolute equality of income (i.e., all population has the same income), but the closer it gets to 100, the greater is inequality of income.

Employment and Unemployment

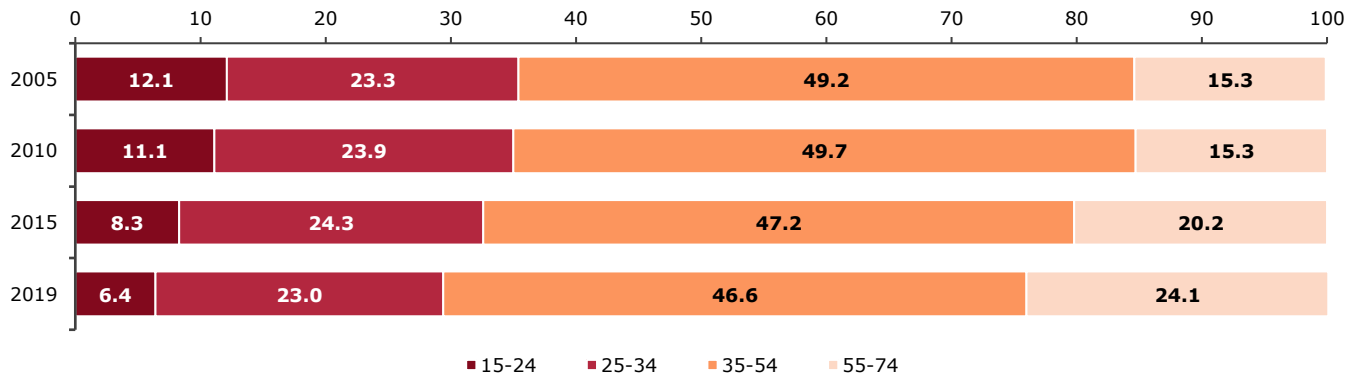
Labour status

Based on the labour status population is divided into two groups – active (employed and unemployed persons) and inactive population (pupils, students, non-working pensioners, etc.).

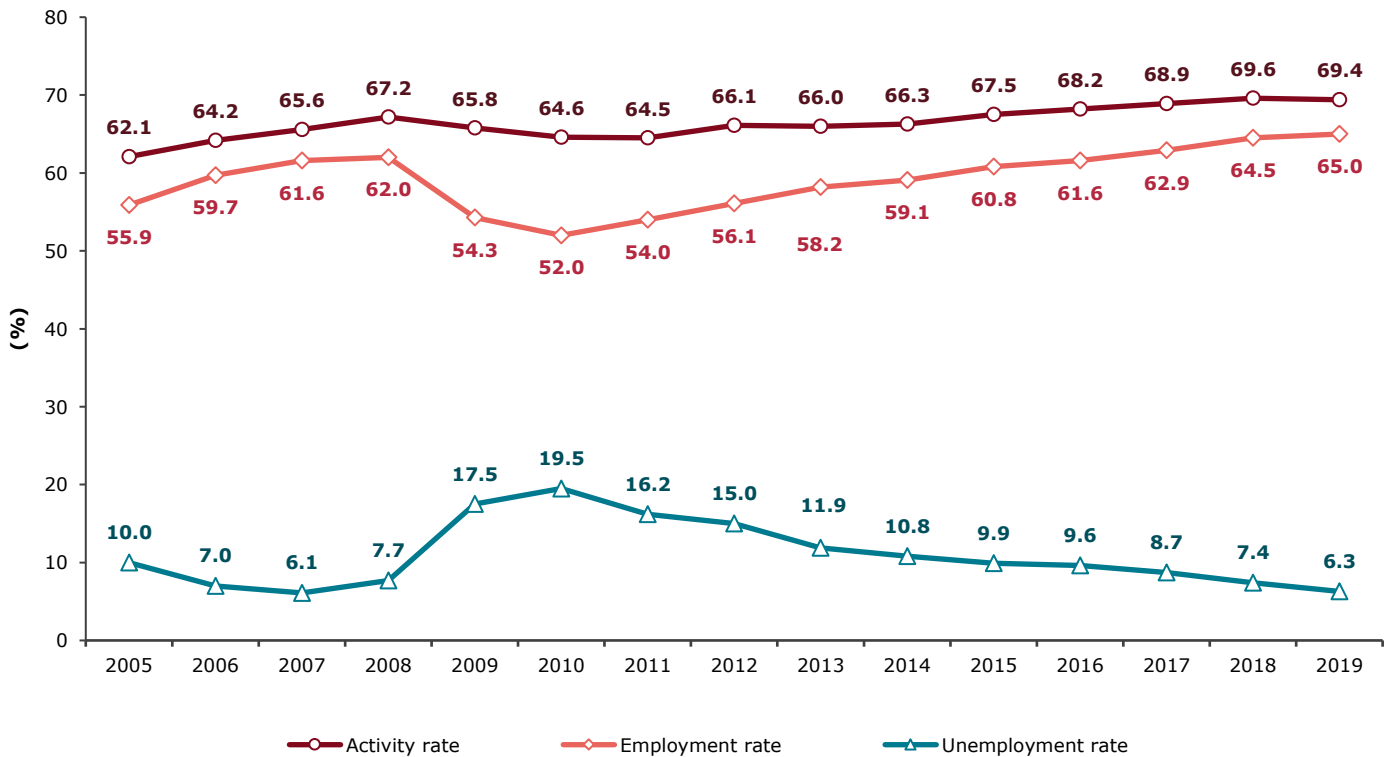
Labour status of population aged 15–74; 2019



Active population by age group



Activity, employment and unemployment rate of population aged 15–74



In 2019, 971.3 thousand people or 69.4 % of population aged 15–74 in Latvia were active. In 2019, compared to the year before, active population declined by 10.9 thousand people or 1.1 %, while activity rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points. Activity rate of males is higher than that of females – 73.4 % and 65.8 %, respectively.

In 2019, 910.0 thousand people or 65.0 % of population aged 15–74 were employed. Compared to the year before, in 2019 employment rate grew by 0.5 percentage points. In 2019, young people aged 15–24 constituted 6.0 % of all employed persons, slightly more than one fifth (22.9 %) were aged 25–34, almost half (46.9 %) aged 35–54, and 24.2 % aged 55–74.

In 2019, number of employed people increased in all economic activities, except for trade and services.

Employed population by economic activity

(NACE Rev. 2)	2010	2015	2018	2019
Total, thousand persons ⁽¹⁾	850.7	896.1	909.4	910.0
Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)	73.3	71.1	63.3	66.3
Manufacturing, energy, construction (B–F)	196.2	211.8	214.7	215.5
Trade and services (G–N)	347.9	372.7	386.2	376.8
Other services (O–U)	233.1	240.1	243.3	249.9

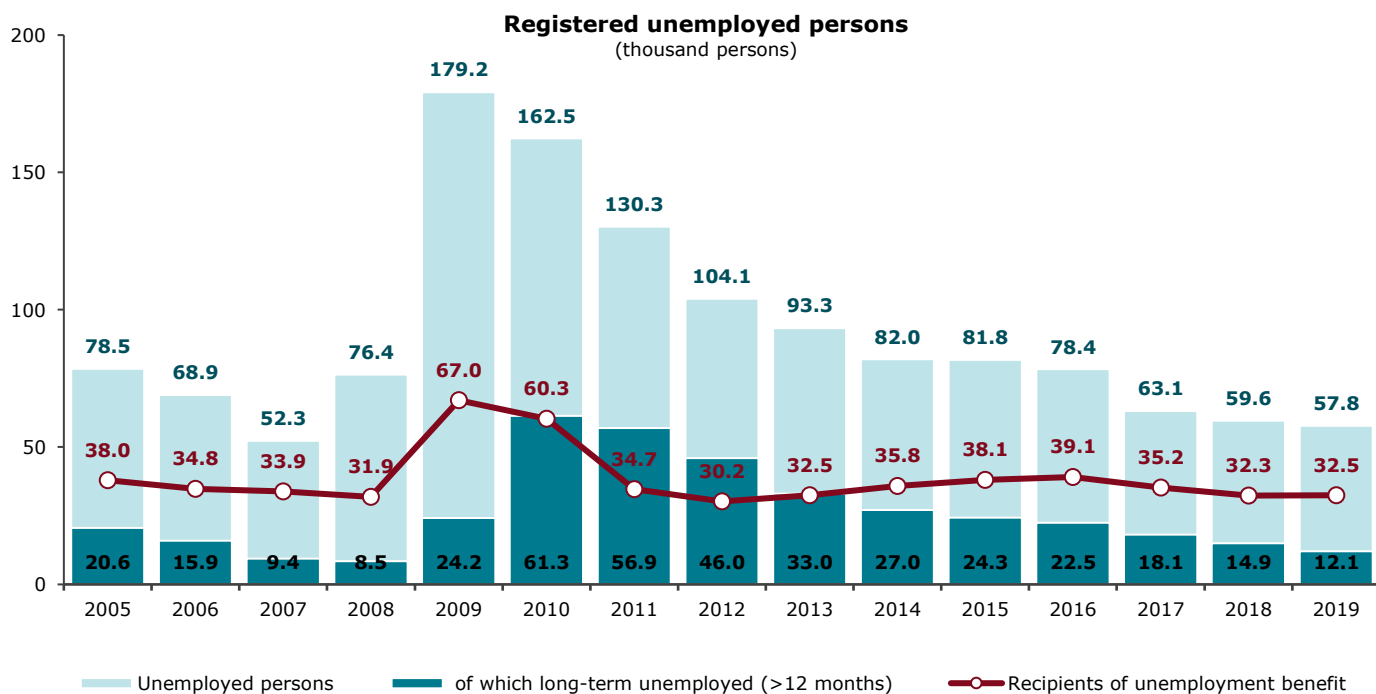
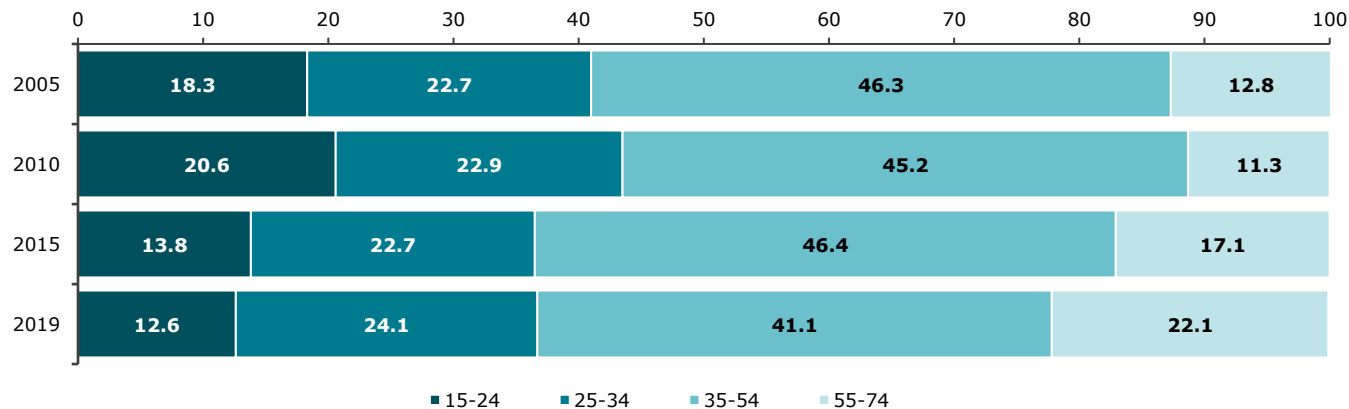
In 2019, there were 61.3 thousand unemployed persons in Latvia. Along with the economic recession, unemployment rate grew sharply in 2009, reaching the peak value (19.5 %) in 2010. Since 2011, unemployment rate has been declining gradually and constituted 6.3 % in 2019. Unemployment rate among females still was lower than among males – 5.4 % and 7.2 %, respectively. In 2019, Latvian youth (persons aged 15–24) unemployment rate still was the highest in the Baltic states – 12.4 %. The lowest youth unemployment rate was registered in Estonia (11.1 %), followed by Lithuania (11.9 %).

During the recent years, approximately one third of the population aged 15–74 consists of people neither employed, nor actively seeking work (30.6 % or 428.2 thousand people in 2019).

(¹) Number of employed persons includes also persons with unspecified economic activity.

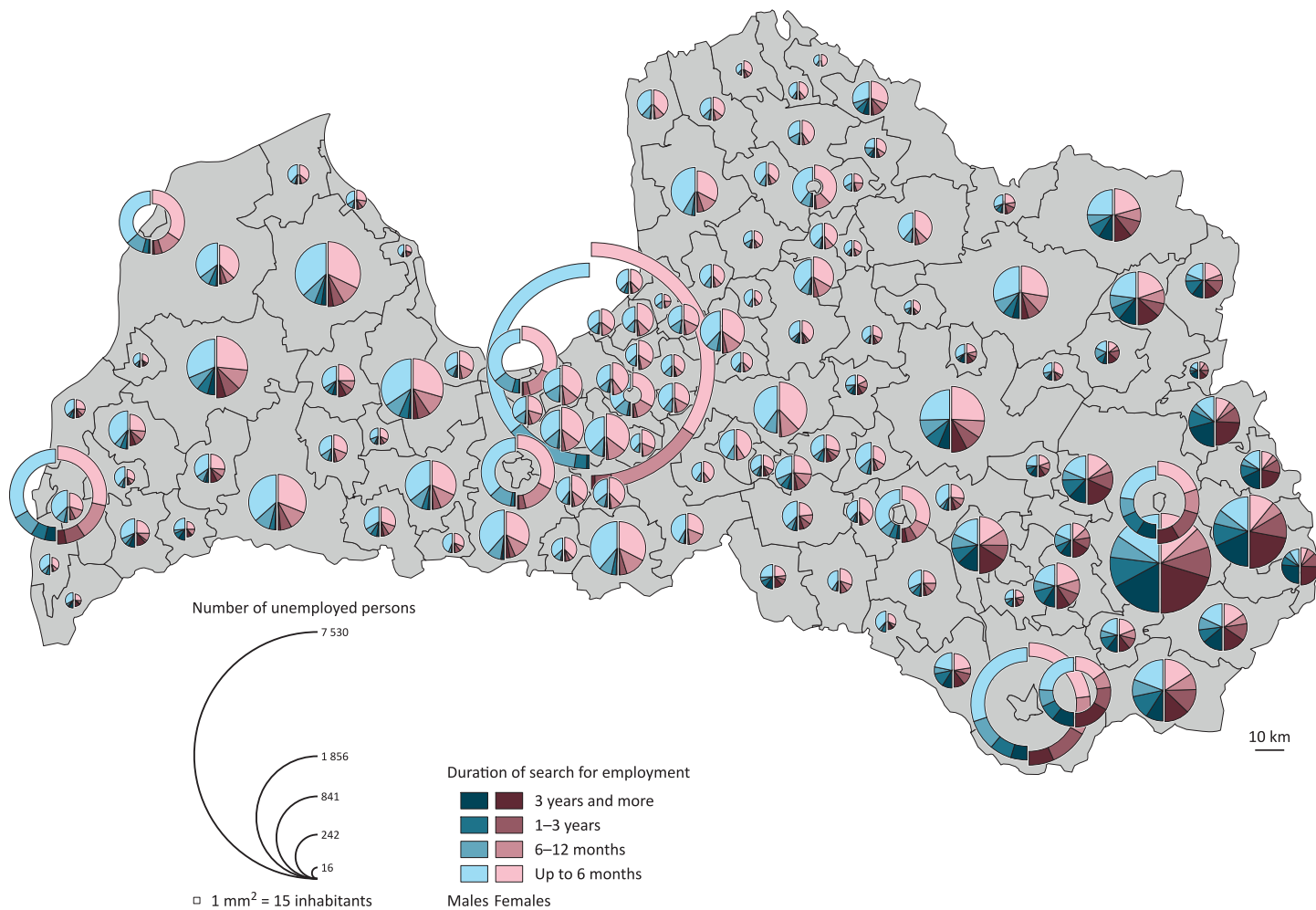
Unemployed persons by age group

(%)



Data source: Unemployed persons – data of the State Employment Agency. Recipients of unemployment benefit – State Social Insurance Agency data.

Registered unemployment by administrative territory; at the end of 2019



Data source: Data of the State Employment Agency.

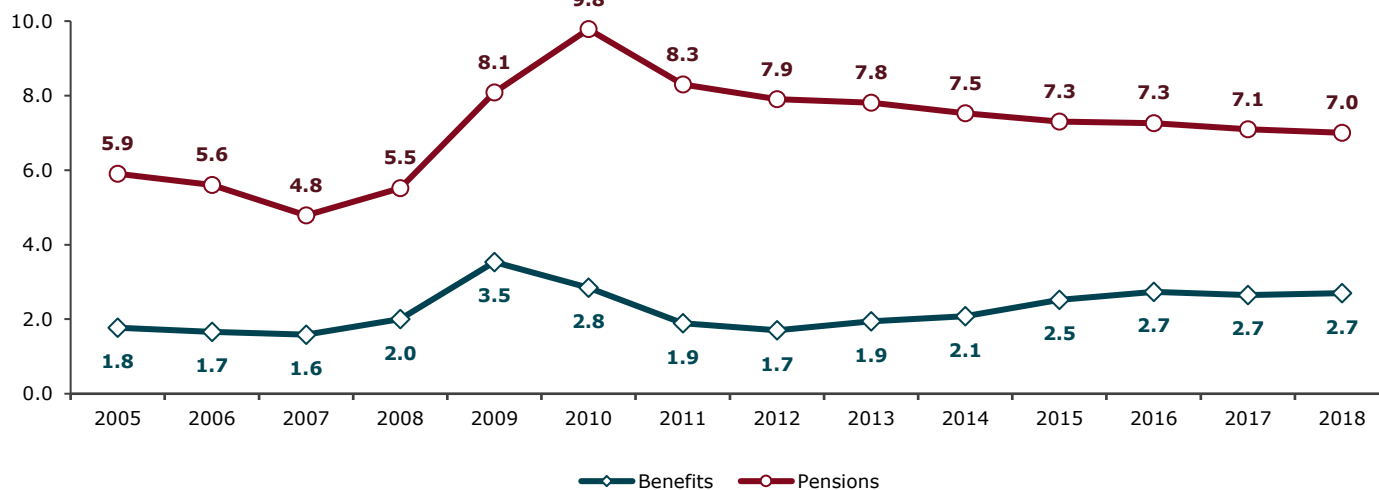
Social Security

Expenditure on pensions exceeds two billion euros

Data of the State Social Insurance Agency show that in 2018 the total expenditure on state pensions and social benefits comprised EUR 2 billion 832 million, which is EUR 219 million more than in 2017. State pensions accounted for the largest share of the expenditure (72.3 %), and the total expenditure on state pensions constituted EUR 2 billion 48 million (EUR 152 million more than in 2017).

Proportion of expenditure on benefits and pensions in GDP

(%)



In 2018, expenditure on pensions constituted 7.0 % of the GDP, which is 0.1 percentage point less than in 2017 (7.1 % of GDP). Expenditure on state social benefits, in turn, amounted to EUR 784 million, exceeding the expenditure of 2017 by 9.4 % or EUR 67 million. In 2018, expenditure on the state benefits comprised 2.7 % of the GDP, which the same amount spent in 2016 and 2017.

State social benefits

As of 1 March 2018, family allowance for raising two or more children was introduced. In 2019, allowance was granted for 225.4 thousand children⁽¹⁾. The total number of children for which family state allowance was paid in 2019 accounts for 345 thousand.

⁽¹⁾ The Law on State Social Allowances and Regulations of the Cabinet stipulate that family allowance for upbringing of two and more children aged 1–20 constitutes EUR 10 monthly for two children and EUR 66 monthly for three children. The allowance for each next child constitutes additional EUR 50 monthly to the sum for the last child.

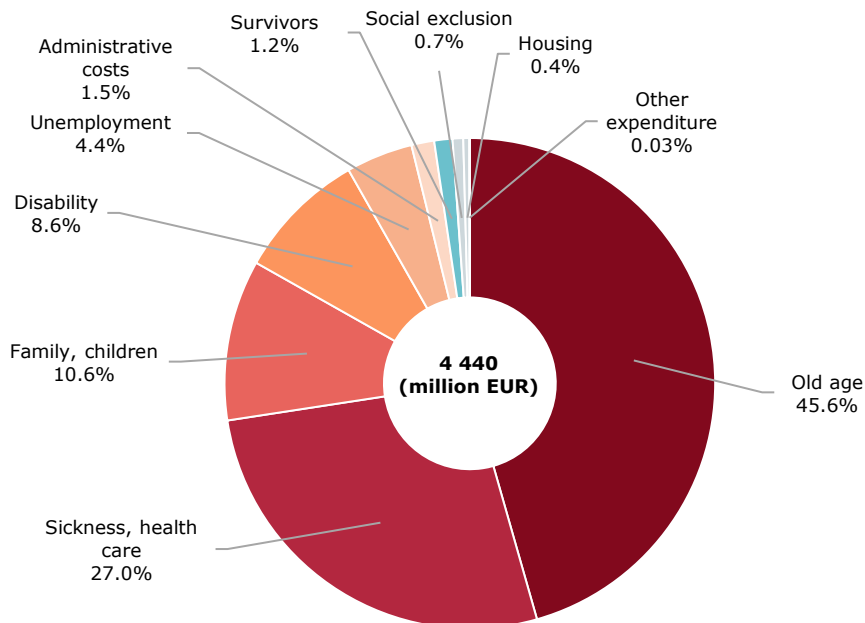
State pensions

Compared to 2018, in 2019 the number of pension recipients decreased by 0.5 %, while the size of monthly pension paid increased by 7.9 %, reaching on average EUR 314.72. In 2019, monthly old-age pensions paid on average were by EUR 25.94 higher than those paid in 2018 and reached on average EUR 339.69.

Pension recipients

	2000	2010	2015	2018	2019
Total (thousands)	638.3	574.4	570.1	556.7	554.1
Old-age pensions	513.7	475.9	466.7	452.9	450.5
Disability pensions	83.2	69.3	73.3	74.7	74.5
Survivor's pensions	36.2	26.9	19.8	18.5	18.3
Service pensions ⁽¹⁾	5.2	2.4	10.3	10.7	10.8
Statutory retirement age, years ⁽²⁾	62.00	62.00	62.50	63.25	63.50

Social protection expenditure by ESSPROS classification; 2018

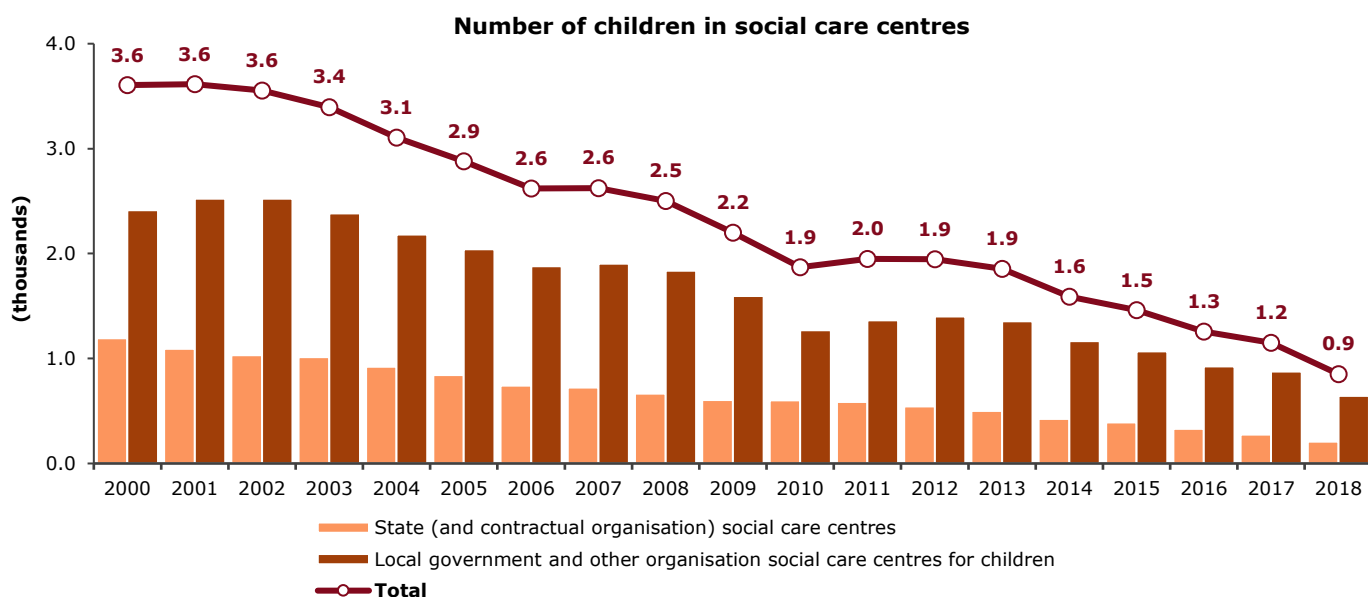
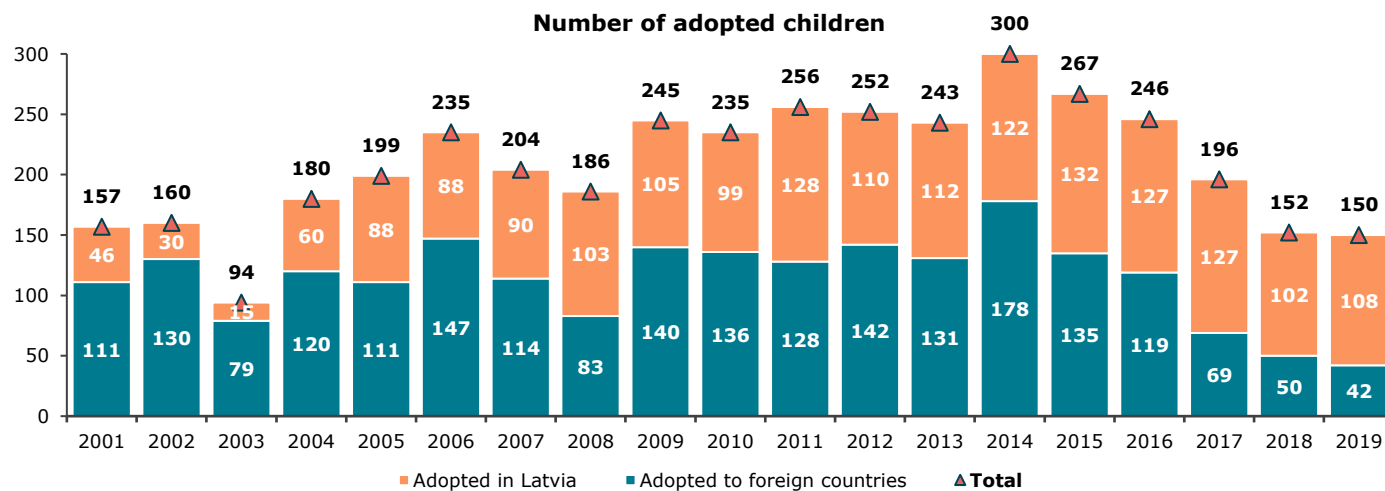


⁽¹⁾ As of 2011, the number of retirement pension recipients includes service pensions paid from the State Social Insurance Agency and State basic budget to the employees of the Ministry of the Interior, diplomats, prosecutors, etc.

⁽²⁾ The right to receive old-age pension is granted to women and men who have reached the age of 65 and whose insurance period accounts for at least 20 years. As of 1 January 2014, regulations on rise of the retirement age from 62 to 65 came into force.

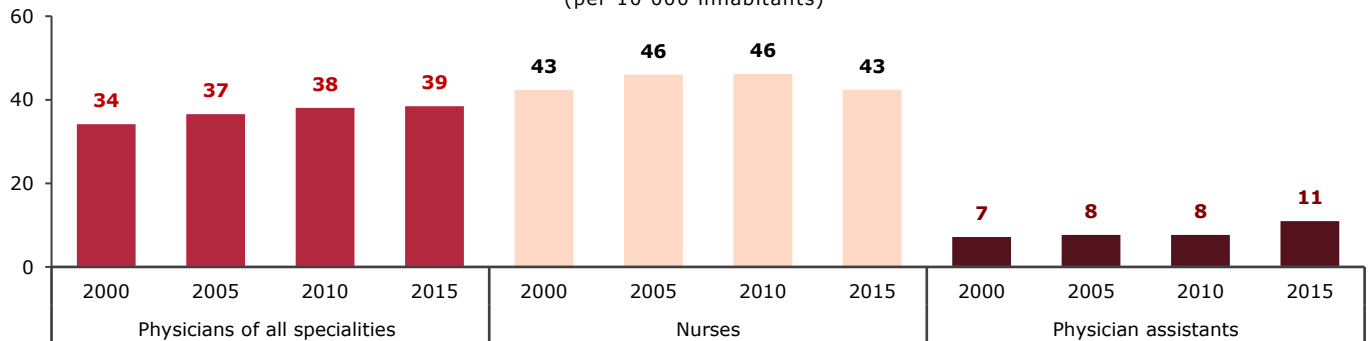
Decline in number of adopted children

In 2018, number of people in long-term social care institutions fell (from 13 310 people in 2017 to 13 013 people in 2018) as did the number of children under guardianship (from 4 459 children in 2017 to 4 398 children in 2018). Number of adopted children keeps reducing as well – in 2019, 150 children were adopted, which is twice less than in 2014 when 300 children were adopted.

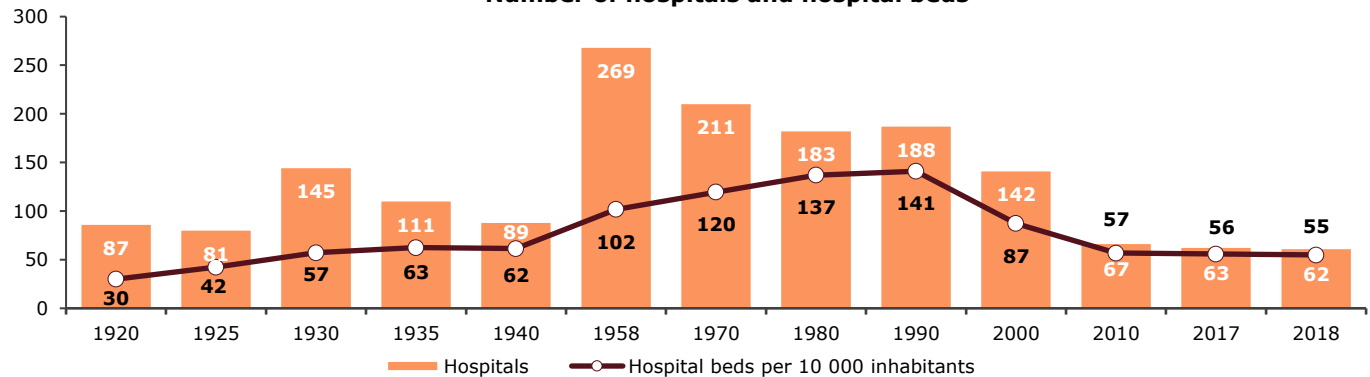


Health Care

Health care indicators
(per 10 000 inhabitants)



Number of hospitals and hospital beds



Key health care indicators at the end of the year

	2005	2010	2015	2017	2018
Physicians of all specialities (in main job)	8 207	7 951	7 626	7 289	7 101
Residents and physicians in service training	502	463	649	805	830
Specialists with higher medical professional education	299	519	980	1 078	1 093
Nurses with higher education	410	1 090	1 987	3 283	3 461
Health care professionals with secondary medical education	14 927	13 217	11 625	9 896	9 605
Hospitals	109	67	67	63	62
Hospital beds (annual average)	17 677	11 920	11 261	10 812	10 587

Number of medical practitioners keeps declining gradually

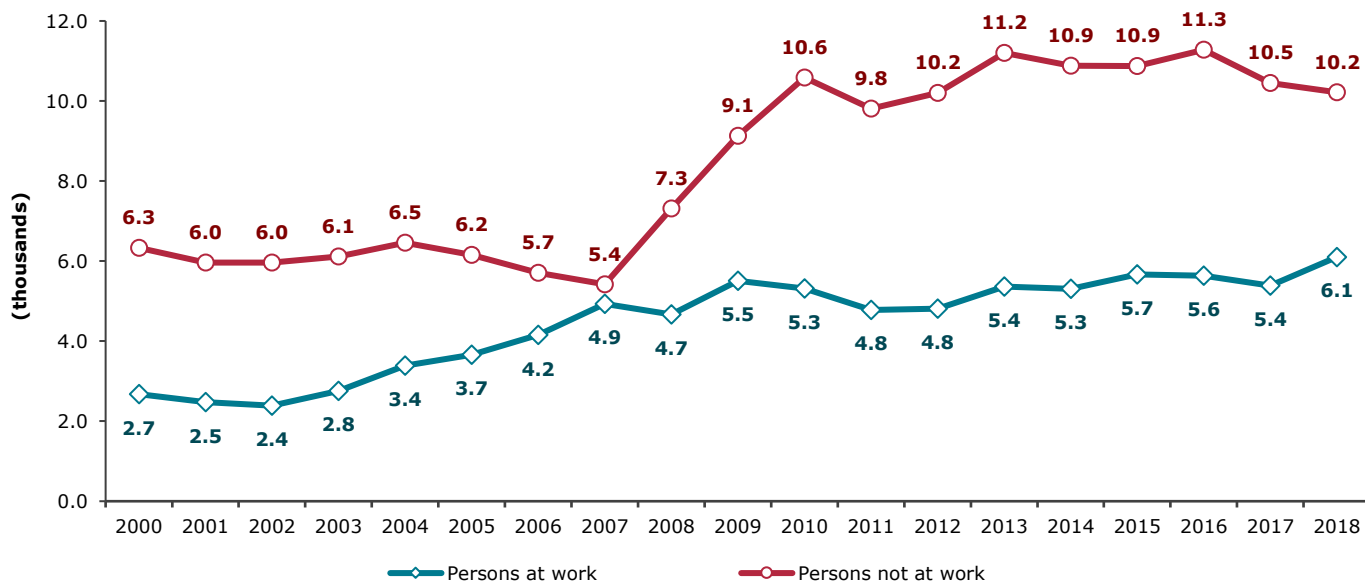
In 2018, 7 101 medical practitioners of all specialities were employed in Latvia, which is 188 physicians fewer than in 2017. The total number of physicians in main job has been declining gradually since 2009. Over the past ten years, the sharpest drop was recorded in the number of oncologists, therapists, paediatricians, otolaryngologists and gynaecologists/ obstetricians, while number of general practitioners has gone up. In 2018, in-service training in health care institutions was undertaken by 830 residents and physicians in service; during the past five years their number has gone up by 36.6 %.

Upturn in new cases of disability among persons at work

In 2018, 16 301 new cases of adult disability was registered, and out of the number 6 102 persons were at work. Malignant neoplasms (24.8 %), diseases of musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (23.8 %), and diseases of the circulatory system (15.8 %) were the most common causes of disability among working population. Each fourth non-working person (22.9 %) with newly registered disability suffered from a disease of the circulatory system.

In 2019, number of new and repeated cases of children (aged under 18) disability comprised 2 490. Data of the Ministry of Welfare information system LabIs show that in December 2019 in Latvia there were 196 159 disabled persons, including 2 545 persons with hearing disability, 9 880 persons with vision disability, 34 107 persons with movement disability, and 27 129 persons with mental and behavioural disability.

New cases of disability

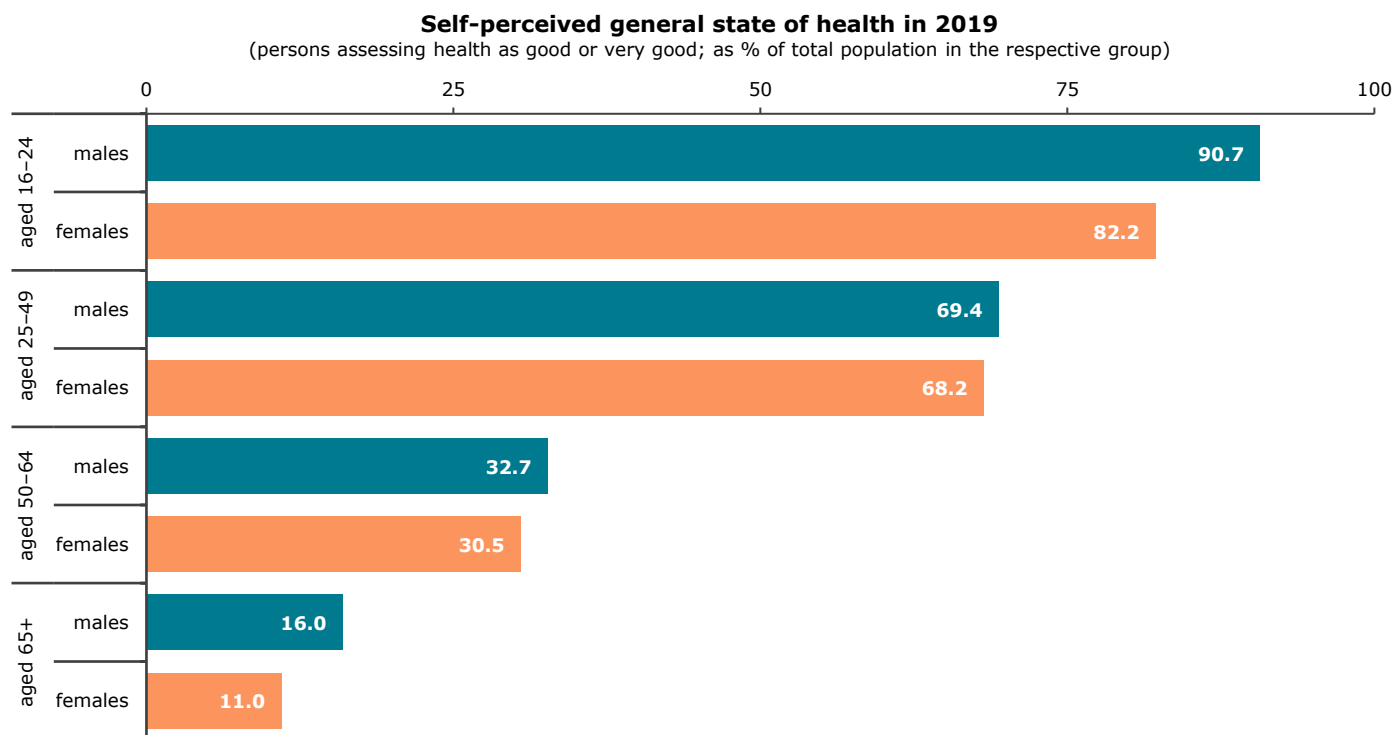


Healthy life expectancy

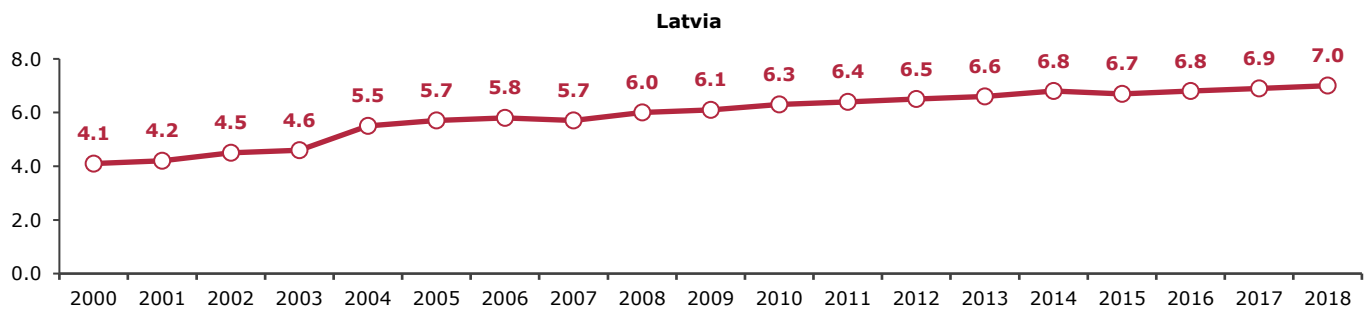
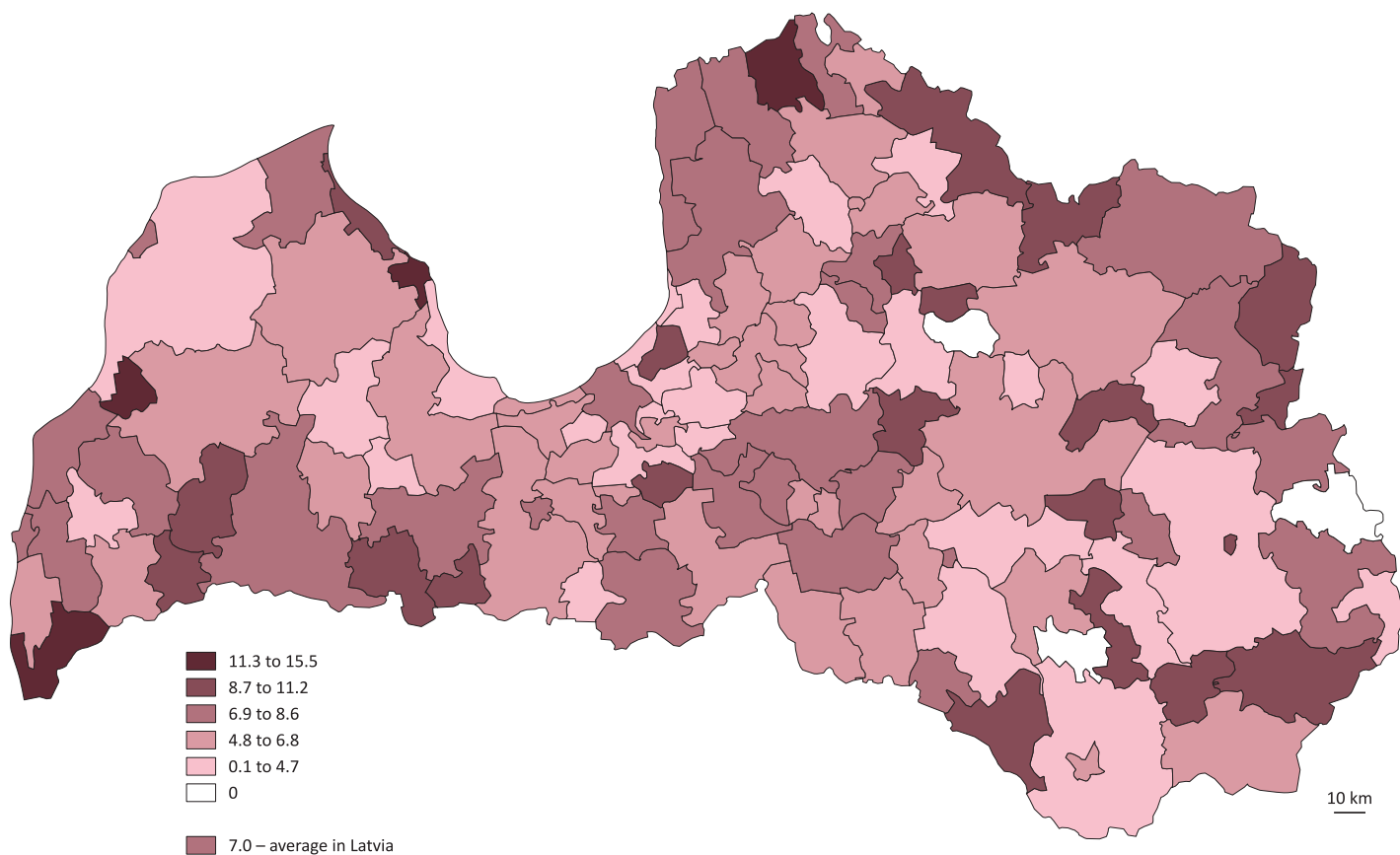
Healthy life expectancy indicators are acquired from information on chronic diseases and self-assessed state of health. In 2018, healthy life expectancy in Latvia constituted 51.0 years among males and 53.7 years among females. Latvian indicators are the lowest in the EU; the highest indicators are recorded in Sweden (73.7 years among males) and Malta (73.4 years among females). In Latvia, healthy life years comprise 72.8 % of male life expectancy and 67.4 % of female life expectancy, indicating that males tend to live greatest part of their lives without serious health problems. In 2018, the difference between male and female healthy life expectancy constituted 2.7 years.

Self-perceived general health

In 2019, 42.1 % of the population of Latvia aged 16 and over had suffered from a long-standing illness or health problem. Some differences may be observed in breakdown of indicators by gender – 46.2 % of females had long-standing illness, while the proportion of males indicating that have suffered from such health problems was smaller – 37.0 %. Out of the total population of Latvia, 13.5 % had unmet need for dental care, however the indicator varies among different income groups. Unmet need for dental care was reported by almost every fourth (23.8 %) person with low income (belonging to the 1st quintile group), compared to only 6.3 % of the population with the highest income (living in households of 5th quintile group).



Number of general practitioners in main job per 10 000 inhabitants by administrative territory; at the end of 2018



Data source: Data of the Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

Construction, Industry, Trade

Construction

Volume index of production in construction up by 2.9 %

Compared to 2018, construction output in 2019 increased by 2.9 %, according to calendar adjusted data at constant prices. Construction output rise was observed in all sectors – construction of buildings (of 7.8 %), civil engineering (1.0 %) and specialised construction activities (0.2 %).

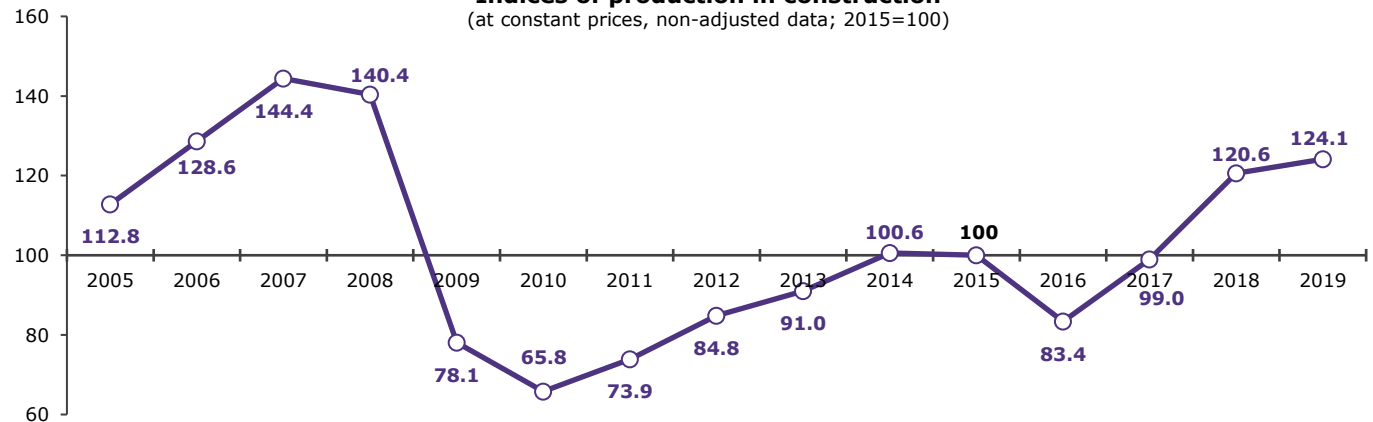
In civil engineering, the most notable upturn was recorded in construction of roads and railways (of 7.8 %), while the most significant downturn in construction of utility projects (6.6 %) and construction of other civil engineering projects (that includes waterways, port and river piers, industrial complexes, open-air sports grounds, etc.) (15.7 %).

In the field of specialised construction activities, increase was registered in electrical, plumbing and other construction installation activities (of 5.2 %) as well as other specialised construction activities (13.9 %), whereas reduction in building completion and finishing (plastering, floor and wall covering, painting and glazing, etc.) (6.2 %) and demolition and site preparation (29.0 %).

Changes in construction output (compared to previous year)

	2005	2010	2015	2018	2019
Total (non-adjusted data, %) (F)	14.3	-15.7	-0.6	21.9	2.9
Construction of buildings (F41)	19.3	-14.7	-8.2	25.6	7.8
Civil engineering (F42)	18.5	-13.3	0.4	11.6	1.0
Specialised construction activities (F43)	7.5	-18.8	5.9	27.8	0.2

Indices of production in construction (at constant prices, non-adjusted data; 2015=100)



Majority of building permits issued for construction of new one-dwelling buildings

In 2019, 3 401 building permit⁽¹⁾ were granted for construction, capital repairs, reconstruction and restoration of residential buildings with the total floor space of 844 thousand m² (2 511 permits with the intended floor space of 597 thousand m² for construction of new buildings). Out of the total number, 2 045 permits were granted for construction of one-dwelling buildings (with intended floor space of 411 thousand m²).

During the period, 1 583 building permits were granted for the construction, capital repairs, reconstruction and restoration of non-residential buildings with the total floor space of 1 770 thousand m² (1 056 permits with the intended floor space of 886 thousand m² for new non-residential buildings). In its turn, 316 building permits were granted for construction of industrial buildings and warehouses with the total intended floor space of 732 thousand m² (207 permits for construction of new buildings with floor space of 360 thousand m²).

Building permits granted for construction of new buildings

	2000	2005	2010	2015	2018	2019
One-dwelling houses	931	3 810	1 101	1 386	1 925	2 045
Two- and more dwelling houses	9	229	38	49	132	151
Hotels and similar buildings	24	136	27	52	10	72
Office buildings	28	38	19	11	24	16
Wholesale and retail trade buildings	210	122	35	36	43	41
Industrial buildings and warehouses	143	188	180	151	160	207

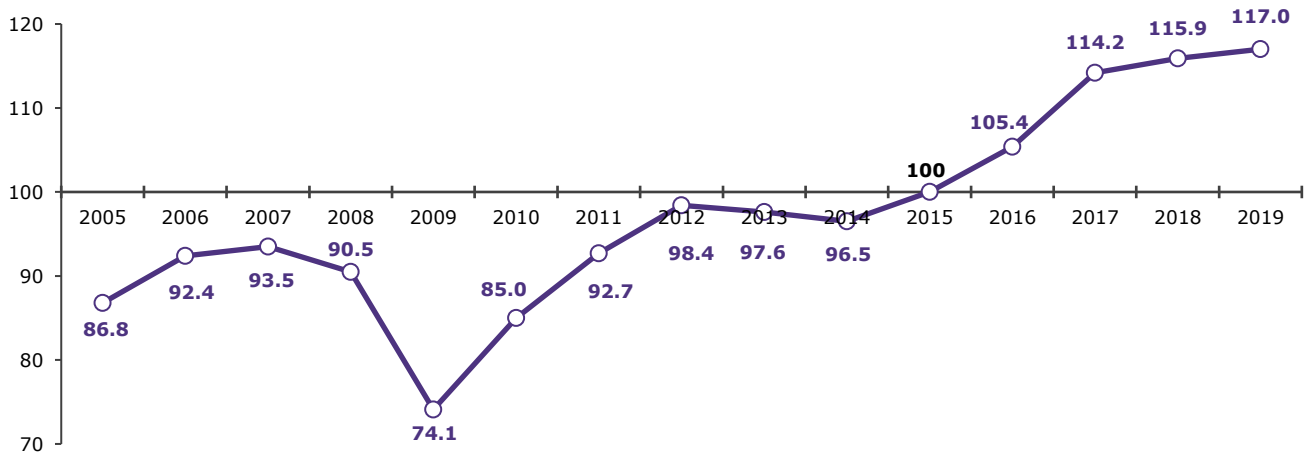
⁽¹⁾ Since the 4th quarter of 2014, the term *granted permits* in construction statistics characterises the number of records entered in the construction permit confirming that conditions for commencement of construction work have been met.

Industry

Upturn in industrial production output

Compared to 2018, industrial production output in 2019 increased by 0.8 %, according to calendar adjusted data at constant prices. Production output in manufacturing went up by 2.0 %, while in mining and quarrying as well as in electricity and gas supply it fell by 5.0 % and 4.4 %, respectively.

Volume indices of industrial production
(at constant prices, non-adjusted data; 2015=100)

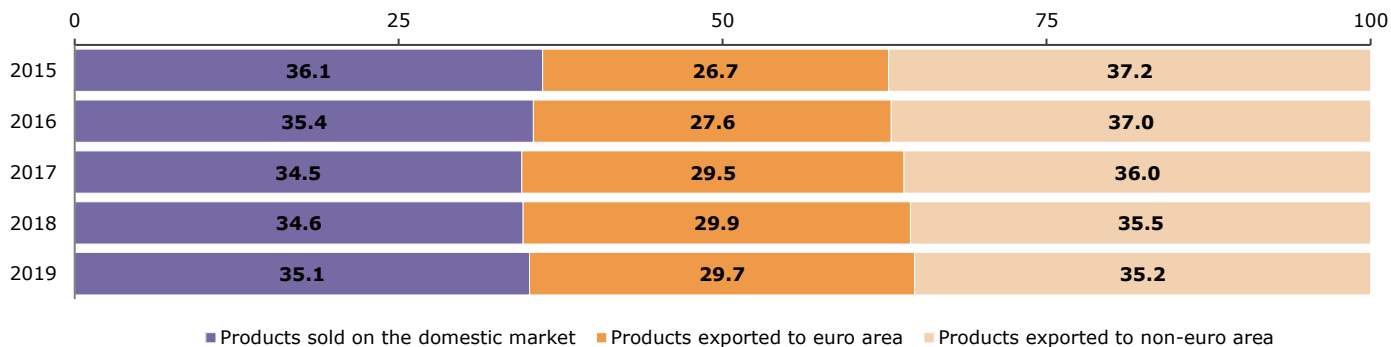


Compared to the year before, output rise in manufacture of electrical equipment (of 16.0 %), manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment (13.5 %), repair and installation of machinery and equipment (9.3 %), as well as manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products (8.8 %) had the most significant upward effect on manufacturing in 2019. The most notable output decline, in turn, was recorded in manufacture of wearing apparel (of 5.5%), manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers (3.7 %), as well as manufacture of furniture (2.8 %).

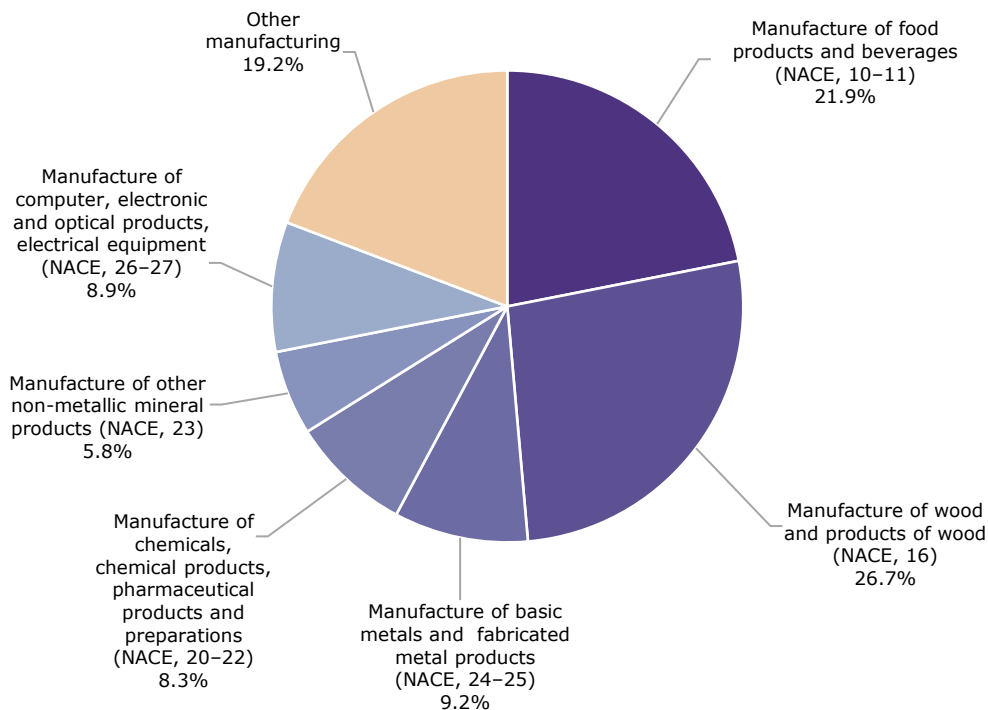
Compared to 2018, in 2019 manufacturing turnover increased by 3.4 %, according to calendar adjusted data at current prices. The rise was due to the turnover upturn on the domestic market of 4.5 % and of 2.8 % in export (of which by 2.9 % in euro area and 2.7 % in non-euro area). In 2019, 64.9 % of the sold manufacturing production were exported (65.4 % in 2018).

Manufacturing turnover by direction of production sales

(%)



Manufacturing output by economic activity; 2019



Retail Trade

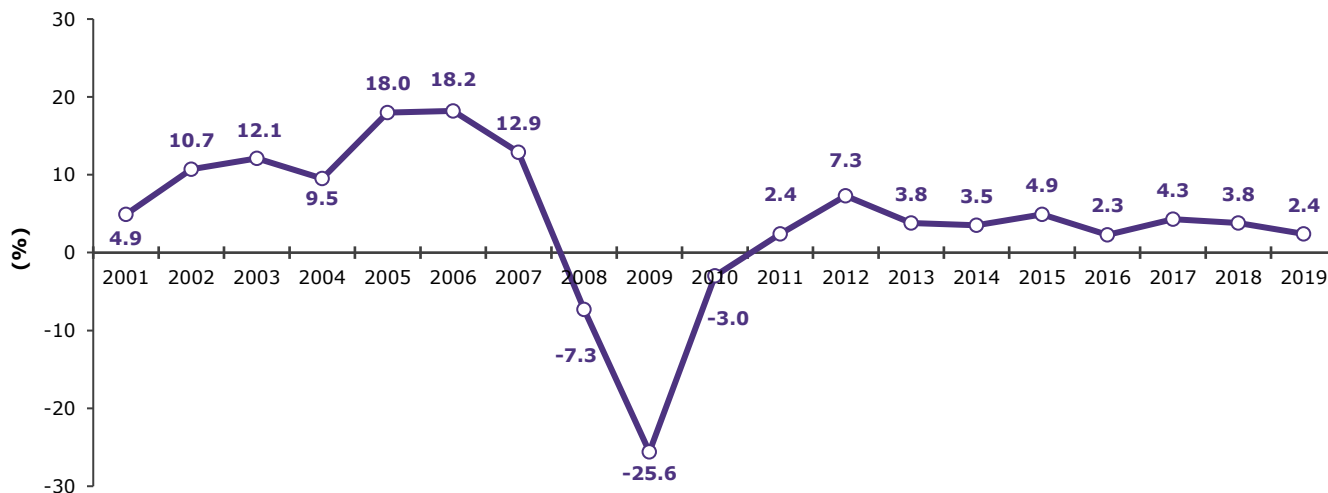
Retail trade turnover grew by 2.3 %

Compared to 2018, in 2019 retail trade turnover increased by 2.3%, retail sale of food products rose by 1.1 %, retail sale of non-food products, except of retail sale of automotive fuel, grew by 4.1 %, but retail sale of automotive fuel – by 0.4 %.

Changes in turnover of retail trade enterprises over the previous year

	2005	2010	2015	2018	2019
Retail trade – total (47) (at constant prices, %)	18.0	-3.0	4.9	3.8	2.3
Retail sale of food products (4711; 472)	15.7	-5.3	2.7	4.4	1.1
Retail sale of non-food products (4719; 474-479)	23.7	1.4	5.3	3.7	4.1
Retail sale of automotive fuel (4730)	13.3	-6.5	9.2	2.8	0.4

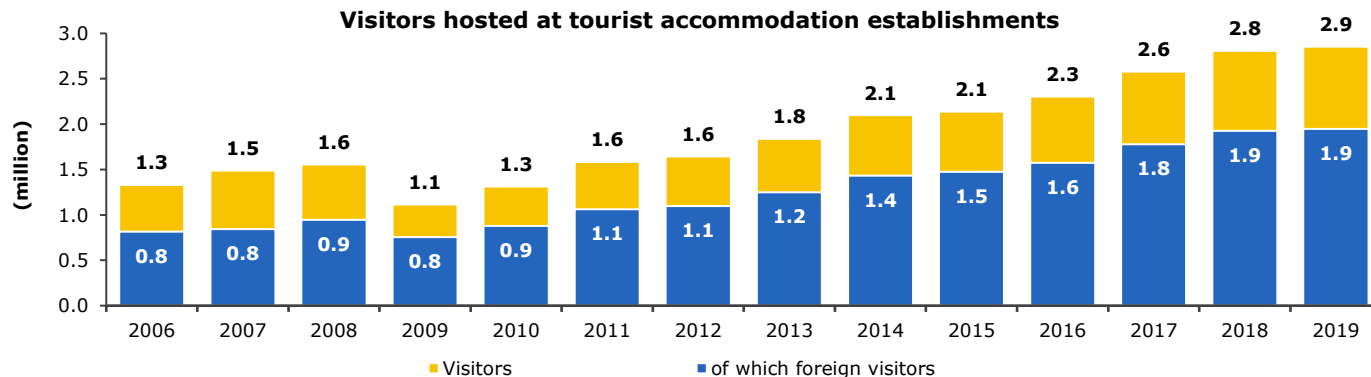
Changes in turnover of retail trade enterprises over the previous year (at constant prices)



Tourism

Number of visitors in Latvian tourist accommodation establishments gone up

2.85 million visitors stayed at Latvian tourist accommodation establishments in 2019, which is 1.6 % more than in 2018. Compared to the previous year, the number of nights spent by visitors increased by 2.6 %, reaching 5.51 million. The average length of stay comprised 1.9 nights.



In 2019, 907.4 thousand Latvian residents were hosted at tourist accommodation establishments, which is 2.7 % more than in 2018, whereas the number of nights spent increased by 2.0 %, constituting 1.66 million. Latvian residents stayed mostly in Riga (25.1 % of visitors), Jūrmala (9.3 %), Liepāja (7.3 %), Daugavpils (4.6 %), Ventspils (3.3 %), Sigulda county (2.8 %).

In 2019, 1.95 million foreign visitors were hosted, which is 1.1 % more than in the previous year, whereas the number of nights spent by them increased by 2.9 %, reaching 3.85 million. Out of all foreign visitors, majority (75 %) stayed in Riga, 8.9 % – in Jūrmala, 2 % – in Liepāja, 1.9 % – in Sigulda county, 1.5% – in Daugavpils and 1.4 % – in Ventspils.

Characteristics of hotels in 2019

	No category	One-star, two-stars	Three-stars	Four-stars	Five-stars
Number of hotels, at the end of the year	110	5	55	50	14
Number of rooms, at the end of the year	2 558	95	2 724	5 091	974
Number of beds, at the end of the year	5 713	192	5 503	9 609	1 817
Persons hosted	359 546	4 672	514 480	1 184 100	171 641
foreign visitors hosted	203 037	2 518	348 239	1 001 029	147 043
Nights spent	586 452	8 668	901 502	2 059 939	312 681
nights spent by foreign visitors	356 003	3 839	642 658	1 781 997	275 497

Agriculture

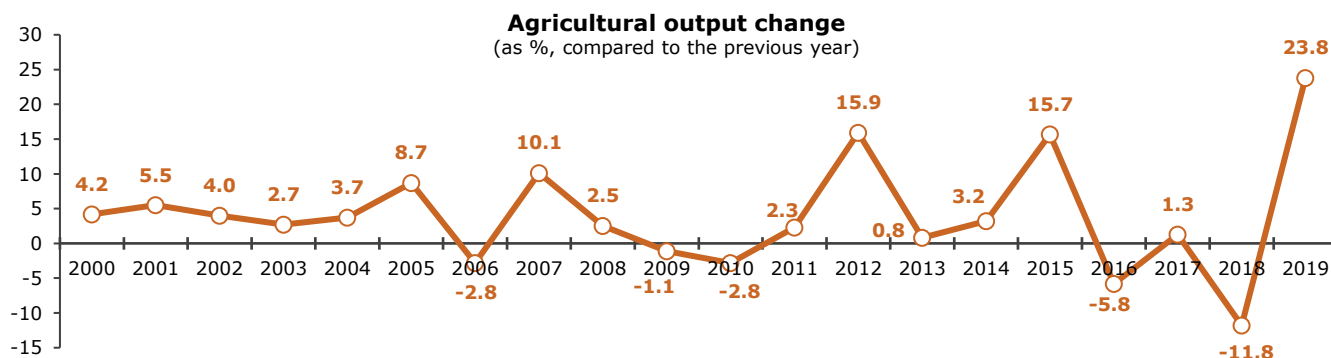
Agricultural output indices

(at constant prices, 2015=100)

	2016	2017	2018	2019
Agricultural output – total	94.2	95.4	84.2	104.2
Crop products	90.1	90.9	71.5	104.6
Livestock products	98.5	103.4	103.5	102.4

Slight increase in agricultural output

In 2019, compared to 2018, total agricultural output at constant prices grew by 23.8 %. The upturn was mainly affected by the rise in the output of crop products (of 46.4 %) which was influenced by the increase in harvested production of grain (of 53.8 %). Output of livestock products fell by 1.1 %.



Agricultural output per capita

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Grain (kg)	1 527	1 378	1 388	1 068	1 653
Potatoes (kg)	251	251	210	222	262
Vegetables (kg)	99	100	81	72	90
Fruit and berries (kg)	6	7	6	9	8
Meat, slaughter weight (kg)	43	44	47	47	49
Pork (kg)	18	19	20	20	21
Milk (kg)	495	503	515	510	513
Eggs (pcs.)	353	383	412	399	416

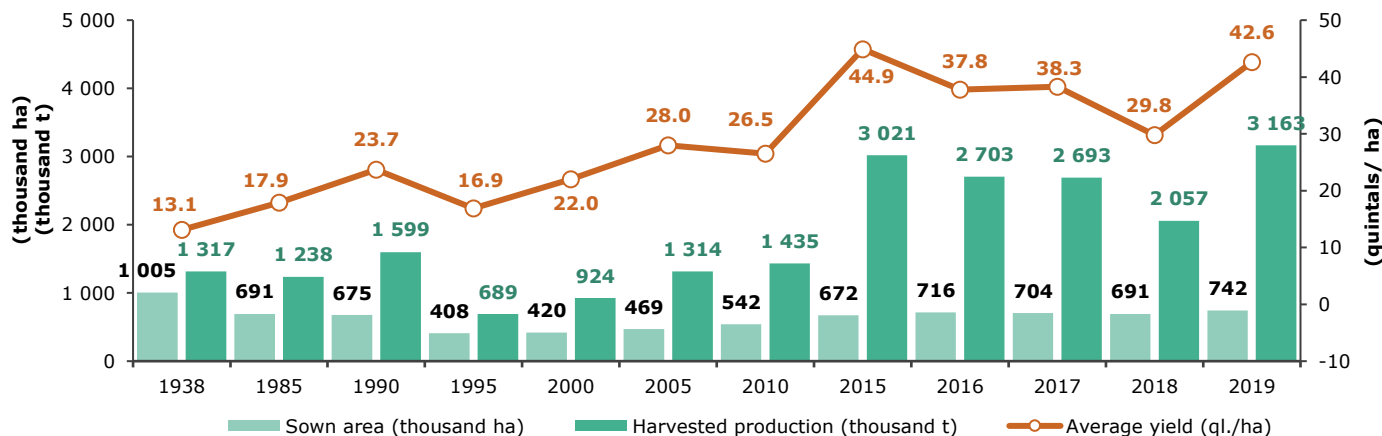
Sown area, harvested production and average yield of agricultural crops

In 2019, harvested production of grain constituted 3.2 million tonnes, which is 1.1 million tonnes or 1.5 times more than a year ago and the highest harvested production recorded. The average cereal yield per one hectare reached 42.6 quintals (29.8 ql./ha in 2018) being the second highest yield registered in the history of Latvia. In 2019, 742.3 thousand ha of land were covered with cereals, which is 51.4 thousand ha or 7.5 % more than a year before. Harvested production of cereals was significantly influenced by notable increase in the sown areas of winter cereals – of 192.1 thousand hectares or 78.6 % (of which rise of 164.1 thousand hectares or 76.2 % in winter wheat areas). Share of winter cereals in the harvested production of grain grew from 48.7 % in 2018 to 70.0 % in 2019.

Key crop production indicators

	Sown area, thousand ha		Average yield, ql./ha		Harvested production, thousand t	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
Cereals	690.9	742.3	29.8	42.6	2 057.3	3 163.2
Rape	123.6	140.1	18.6	29.0	229.6	405.6
Potatoes	22.3	22.4	191	224	426.9	501.8
Vegetables	8.2	172.9	155	192	139.1	172.9

Sown area, harvested production and average yield of cereals



Compared to the year before, in 2019 sown areas of rape increased by 16.5 thousand ha or 13.4 %. The average yield per one hectare increased from 18.6 quintals in 2018 to 29.0 quintals in 2019, and the total rape seed yield grew by 176.0 thousand tonnes or 76.7 %.

Compared to 2018, in 2019 potato plantation areas increased slightly – only by 0.1 thousand hectares or 0.7 %, while harvested production of potatoes rose by 17.6 %, reaching average yield per one hectare of 224 quintals (191 quintals in 2018).

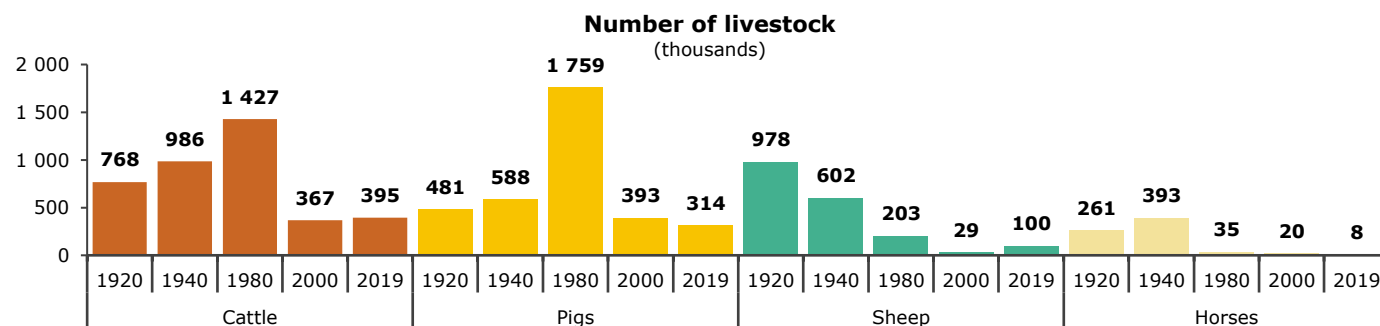
Last year, 172.9 thousand tonnes of vegetables were grown (including in greenhouses), and it is 33.8 thousand tonnes or 24.3 % more than in 2018. Upturn was affected by significant increase in the average yield of open field vegetables harvested per one hectare – from 155 quintals in 2018 to 192 quintals in 2019. The amount of vegetables produced in greenhouses constituted 11.2 thousand tonnes, which is a drop of 0.3 thousand tonnes.

In 2019, totally 2.4 million tonnes of grain were purchased, which is 699.2 thousand tonnes or 40.1 % more than a year ago, however average purchase price of grain fell by 7.3 % – from 168.34 EUR/t in 2018 to 155.97 EUR/t in 2019.

Wheat accounted for 81.4 % of the total volume of grain purchased (80.9 % in 2018); 85.5 % of the volume met food quality requirements (84.0 % in 2018). Share of food rye in the total volume of purchased rye grew from 70.0 % in 2018 to 82.9 % in 2019.

Number of livestock

At the end of 2019, agricultural holdings were breeding 395.3 thousand cattle heads, which is the same number recorded in 2018. Number of dairy cows dropped by 6.1 thousand heads or 4.2 %, of sheep by 7.5 thousand or 7.0 %, of goats by 0.5 thousand or 4.5 %, and of horses by 0.1 thousand or 1.5 %, while number of pigs grew by 9.3 thousand or 3.1 % and number of poultry by 287.3 thousand or 5.3 %.



Output of livestock products

In 2019, 94.0 thousand tonnes of meat were produced in Latvia, which is 2.7 thousand tonnes or 3.0 % more than in 2018. The largest increase was recorded in output of poultry and pork – of 6.3 % and 4.7 %, respectively. Production of beef and veal, in turn, fell by 7.3 %.

The average purchase price of meat went up from 1 458 EUR/t in 2018 to 1 577 EUR/t in 2019 or by 8.1 %. The sharpest increase was recorded in purchase price of pork (of 18.4 %, reaching 1 609 EUR/t), while decline was registered in purchase price of beef and veal (of 1.5 %, reaching 1 911 EUR/t) and mutton (of 4.2 %, reaching 3 299 EUR/t).

In 2019, 981.4 thousand tonnes of milk (incl. goat milk) were produced, which is 1.5 thousand tonnes or 0.2 % less than in 2018. The decline in the total volume of milk produced was influenced by the reduction in dairy cow number. Average milk yield per dairy cow rose by 277 kg or 4.2 % reaching 6 891 kg annually. The average purchase price of milk went up by 3.6 % – from 283 EUR/t in 2018 to 294 EUR/t in 2019.

Foreign Trade in Goods

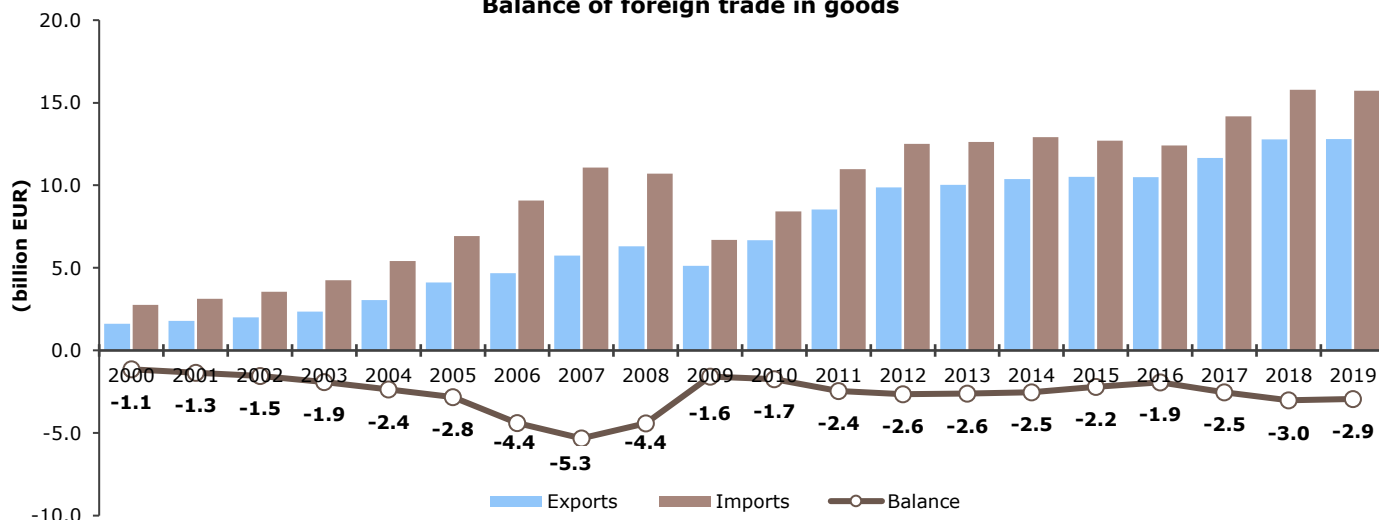
Turnover of foreign trade in goods

In 2019, the foreign trade turnover of Latvia at current prices comprised EUR 28 543.5 million – EUR 22.8 million or 0.1 % less than in 2018. In 2019, exports volume increased, but imports volume – slightly decreased. The exports value constituted EUR 12 794.4 million (a growth of EUR 21 million or 0.2 %), whereas the imports value comprised EUR 15.749.1 million (a drop of EUR 43.7 million or 0.3 %).

Exports and imports by country group

Year	Exports (million EUR)				Imports (million EUR)			
	total	EU-28	CIS	other	total	EU-28	CIS	other
2012	9 871.1	6 863.5	1 521.8	1 485.8	12 512.3	9 680.5	1 878.8	953.0
2013	10 021.3	7 121.5	1 603.2	1 296.6	12 635.1	10 074.3	1 553.7	1 007.1
2014	10 386.3	7 586.6	1 522.5	1 277.2	12 909.0	10 288.5	1 567.1	1 053.4
2015	10 504.6	7 674.4	1 234.2	1 596.0	12 710.1	9 994.1	1 561.6	1 154.4
2016	10 490.0	7 747.4	1 183.3	1 559.3	12 416.6	9 889.5	1 318.9	1 208.2
2017	11 647.3	8 275.5	1 502.5	1 869.3	14 176.7	11 000.4	1 512.6	1 663.7
2018	12 773.4	9 089.5	1 614.1	2 069.8	15 792.9	11 674.4	1 828.2	2 290.3
2019	12 794.4	9 255.6	1 700.0	1 838.8	15 749.1	12 078.7	1 618.0	2 052.4

Balance of foreign trade in goods



Changes in exports and imports of goods

In 2019, exports of vegetable products grew by EUR 230.5 million or 32.5 %, exports of prepared foodstuffs – by EUR 111.6 million or 9.8 % and exports of products of the chemical and allied industries – by EUR 82.5 million or 8.9 %. The exports value of machinery, mechanical appliances and electrical equipment reduced by EUR 243 million or 10.3 %, exports of mineral products fell by EUR 96.1 million or 13.0 %.

Imports of transport vehicles increased by EUR 140.1 million or 7.6 %, imports of products of the chemical and allied industries grew by EUR 126 million or 8.8 %, and imports of prepared foodstuffs – by EUR 88.9 million or 6.8 %. In turn, imports of machinery, mechanical appliances and electrical equipment dropped by EUR 266.8 million or 7.8 %, imports of mineral products – EUR 260.3 million or 15.1 %, and imports of base metals and articles of base metals – EUR 95.9 million or 7.2 %.

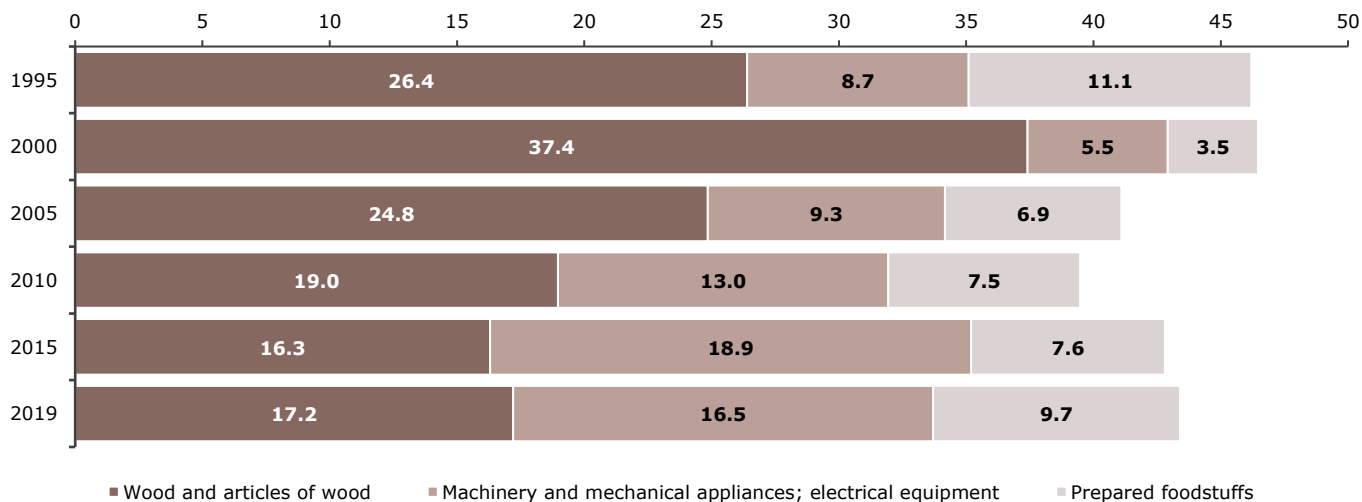
Principal exports and imports

In 2019, the largest share of Latvian exports was taken by wood and articles of wood – 17.2 % of total exports value, also machinery, mechanical appliances and electrical equipment (16.5 %) and prepared foodstuffs (9.7 %). Base metals and articles of base metals comprised 8.6 % of total exports.

The biggest share of imports was also formed by machinery, mechanical appliances and electrical equipment – 20.2 % of the total imports value, transport vehicles (12.6 %) and products of the chemical and allied industries (9.9 %).

Share of principal exports

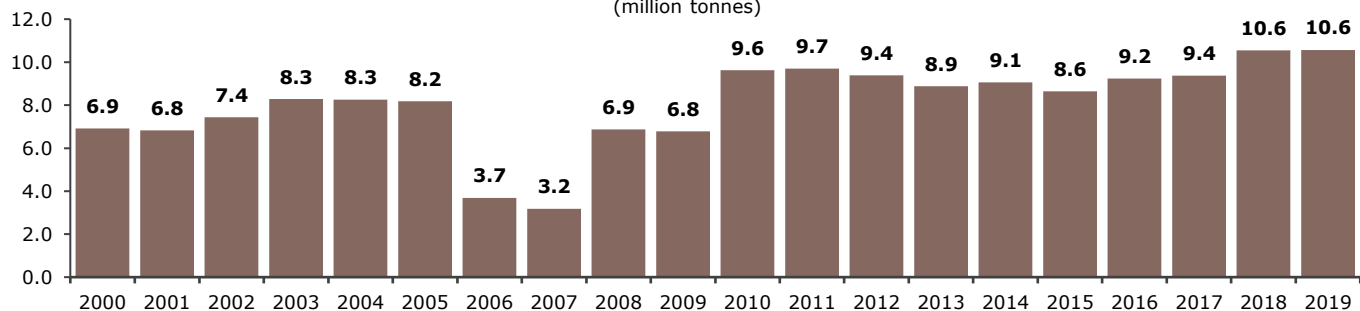
(%)



Principal goods in exports

	2018		2019	
	million EUR	%	million EUR	%
Total	12 773.4	100	12 794.4	100
Wood and articles of wood	2 274.4	17.8	2 203.6	17.2
Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	2 349.9	18.4	2 106.9	16.5
Prepared foodstuffs	1 134.9	8.9	1 246.6	9.7
Base metals and articles of base metals	1 151.3	9.0	1 095.7	8.6
Products of the chemical and allied industries	928.2	7.3	1 010.7	7.9
Vegetable products	708.8	5.5	939.3	7.3
Transport vehicles	835.2	6.5	769.9	6.0
Mineral products	742.0	5.8	645.9	5.0
Other goods	2 648.7	20.8	2 775.8	21.8

Exports of wood and articles of wood (million tonnes)



Principal goods in imports

	2018		2019	
	million EUR	%	million EUR	%
Total	15 792.9	100	15 749.1	100
Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	3 441.8	21.8	3 175.0	20.2
Transport vehicles	1 838.2	11.6	1 978.3	12.6
Products of the chemical and allied industries	1 436.1	9.1	1 562.1	9.9
Mineral products	1 721.6	10.9	1 461.3	9.3
Prepared foodstuffs	1 311.5	8.3	1 400.5	8.9
Base metals and articles of base metals	1 332.8	8.4	1 236.8	7.9
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	827.7	5.2	844.8	5.4
Vegetable products	683.2	4.3	696.9	4.4
Other goods	3 200.0	20.4	3 393.4	21.4

Main trade partners in exports and imports

In 2019, exports to countries of the European Union accounted for EUR 9 255.6 million or 72.3 % of the total exports value (an increase of 1.8 %), whereas exports to CIS countries comprised EUR 1 700 million or 13.3 % (a rise of 5.3 %). Exports to other countries amounted to EUR 1 838.8 million or 14.4 % (a drop of 11.2 %). The main exports partners were Lithuania (17.2 % of total exports), Estonia (11.7 %), Russia (9.2 %), Germany (7.2 %) and Sweden (6.6 %).

In 2019, imports from countries of the European Union in total imports of Latvia accounted for EUR 12 078.7 million or 76.7 % (an increase of 3.5 %), but imports from CIS countries comprised EUR 1 618 million or 10.3 % (a drop of 11.5 %). Imports from other countries comprised EUR 2 052.4 million or 13.0 % (a decrease of 10.4 %). The main imports partners were Lithuania (17.8 % of total imports), Germany (10.9 %), Poland (9.1 %), Estonia (8.5 %) and Russia (6.9 %).

Main partners in exports and imports of Latvia and principal goods in 2019

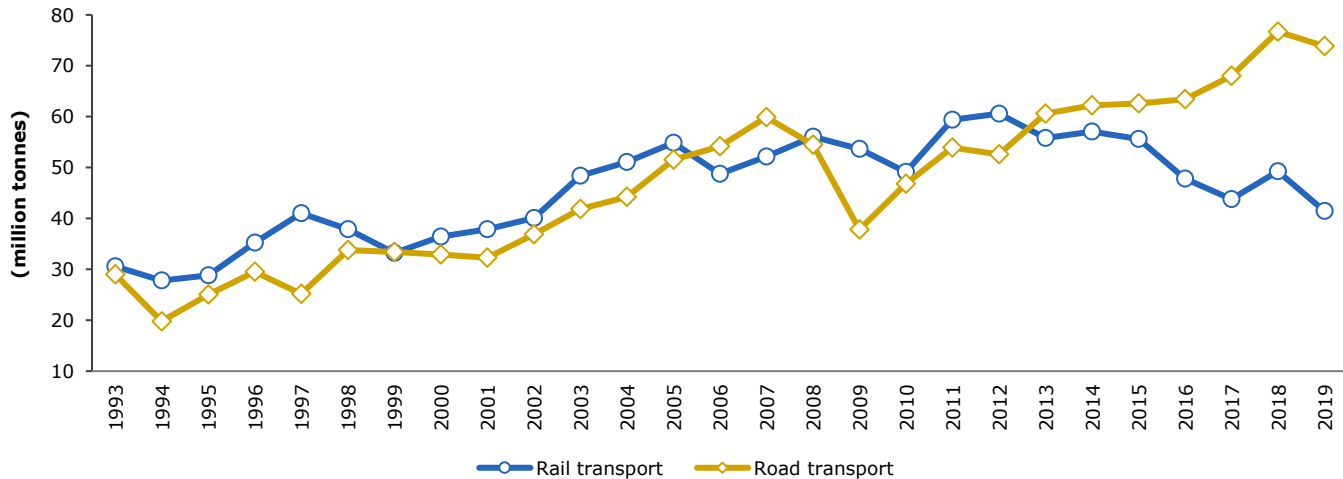
<i>Exports</i>	<i>(million EUR)</i>	<i>Imports</i>	<i>(million EUR)</i>
Lithuania – total	2 203.6	Lithuania – total	2 804.8
Agricultural and food products	500.5	Agricultural and food products	691.1
Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	427.1	Mineral products	618.1
Mineral products	278.5	Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	379.7
Estonia – total	1 499.6	Germany – total	1 713.0
Agricultural and food products	293.2	Transport vehicles	471.2
Wood and articles of wood	267.6	Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	398.5
Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	225.2	Products of the chemical and allied industries	154.5
Russia – total	1 182.1	Poland – total	1 432.0
Agricultural and food products	447.1	Agricultural and food products	272.9
Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	286.0	Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	251.7
Products of the chemical and allied industries	142.1	Products of the chemical and allied industries	170.6
Germany – total	921.0	Estonia – total	1 337.4
Agricultural and food products	178.1	Agricultural and food products	268.6
Wood and articles of wood	175.5	Transport vehicles	237.6
Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment	149.4	Mineral products	160.0
Sweden – total	842.4	Russia – total	1 080.7
Wood and articles of wood	254.7	Mineral products	358.6
Base metals and articles of base metals	106.1	Base metals and articles of base metals	249.6
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, glassware and ceramic products	84.4	Products of the chemical and allied industries	133.2

Transport

Freight transport by road is decreasing

In 2019, 73.8 million tonnes of the freight was carried by road, which is a drop of 3.8 % compared to 2018. National freights accounted for 55.8 million tonnes, which is 4.7 % less than in 2018. International freights accounted for 18.0 million tonnes – 1.0 % less, of which export freight transport rose by 0.7 %, but import freight transport and cross-trade and cabotage in international road freights fell by 1.5 %.

Freight traffic



Freight transport by rail has dropped immensely

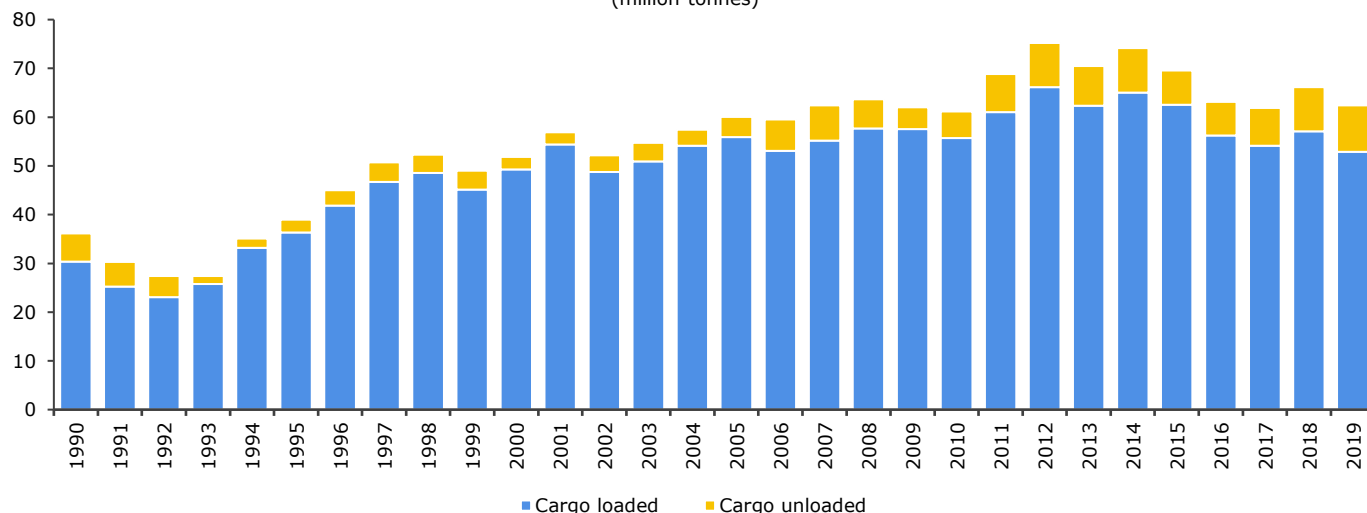
In 2019, 41.5 million tons of freights were carried in transport by rail, a decrease of 15.8 % compared to 2018. National freights by rail rose to 1.7 million tonnes – 25.2 % more. In international traffic the volume of freights carried by rail reduced by 8.1 million tonnes or 16.9 %. Freight traffic by rail to/from ports of Latvia fell by 19.7 %, their share in international traffic comprised 79.5 %.

Volume of freights carried at ports has reduced

In 2019, 62.4 million tons of cargoes were loaded and unloaded at ports, a decrease of 5.7 % compared to 2018. Freight turnover at Riga port was 32.8 million tonnes, 10.1 % less, 20.5 million tonnes or 0.6 % more – at Ventspils port, 7.3 million tonnes or 2.7 % less – at Liepāja port, but 1.8 million tonnes – at minor ports, which is 2.8 % less. 52.9 million tons of cargoes were loaded at ports, a decrease of 7.3 % compared to 2018. Volume of main freights shipped reduced. 31.9 % of cargoes loaded onto ships were comprised by coal. Its volume went down by 4.0 million tonnes (19.0 %). Oil products comprised 21.1 %

of freights shipped, which reduced by 0.8 million tonnes or 6.9 %. The volume of timber loaded decreased by 14.5 %, of freights in containers – by 2.8 %, of roll on/roll off – by 3.8 %, of mineral fertilisers – by 11.4 %, while shipping of grain and grain products rose by 14.4 %. The volume of cargoes unloaded at ports rose by 4.0 %. The volume of unloaded oil products grew by 19.4 %. Volume of loaded freights in containers and roll on/ roll off increased slightly – by 0.5 % and 0.6 %, respectively.

Cargoes loaded and unloaded at ports of Latvia
(million tonnes)



Passenger turnover at ports has increased slightly

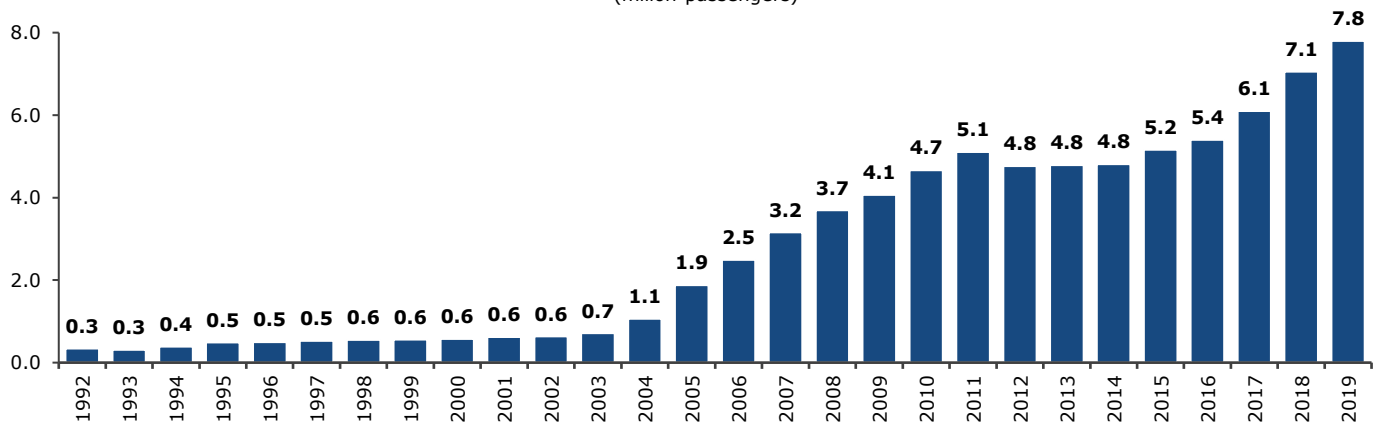
The number of passengers arrived at and departed from Latvian ports with ferries accounted for 1 071.7 thousand, which is 0.8 % more than in 2018. Passenger turnover at Riga Passenger Terminal comprised 799.4 thousand passengers, which is 0.4 % more, at Ventspils port – 232.3 thousand passengers or 4.9 % more, but at Liepāja port – 40.0 thousand passengers or 12.1 % less than in 2018. There were 69.2 thousand passengers who arrived at the Riga Passenger Terminal via cruise ships – 7.5 % less than in 2018. 1.2 thousand passengers arrived at Ventspils port via cruise ships.

In 2019, the number of passengers arrived at and departed from the Riga International Airport is close to 8 million

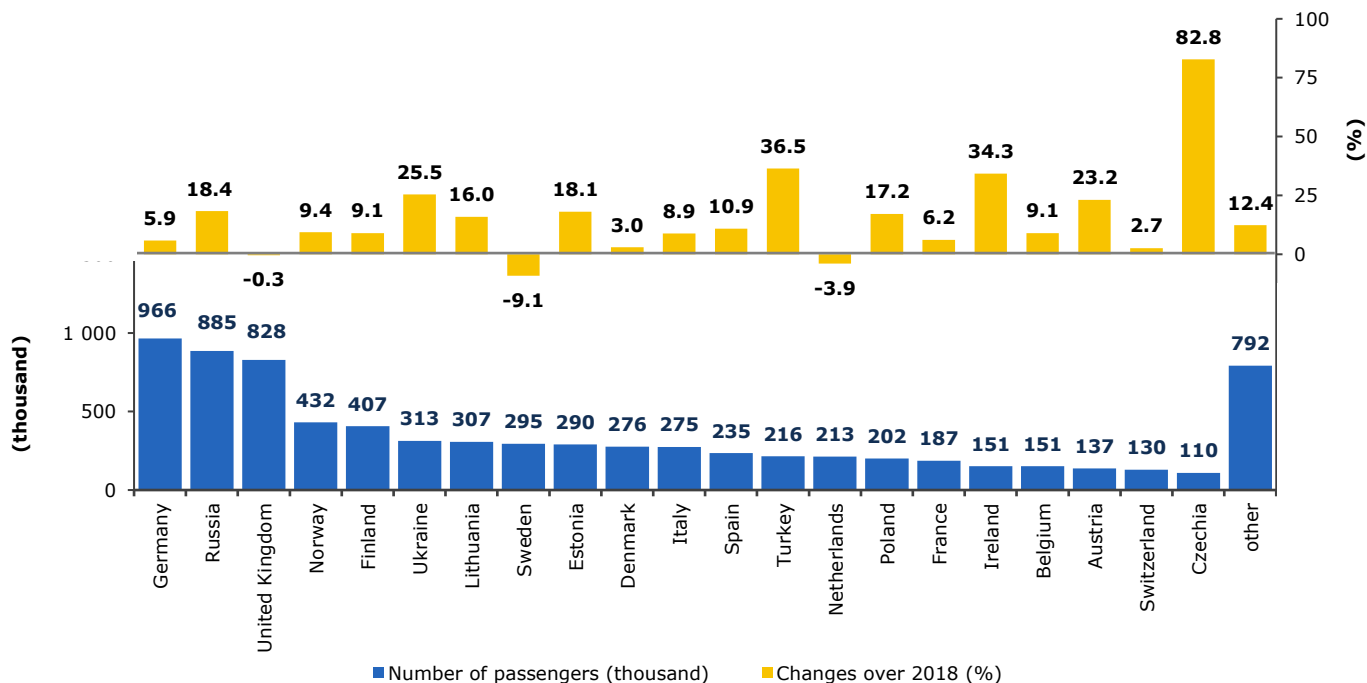
In 2019, 7.8 million passengers arrived at and departed from the Riga International Airport, which is 10.5 % more than in 2018. The largest passenger turnover at the Riga International Airport was with German airports – 1.0 million passengers or increase of 5.9 %, Russian airports – 0.9 million passengers or rise of 18.4 % and British airports – 0.8 million passengers or drop of 0.3 %.

Riga International Airport received and shipped 27.2 thousand tonnes of cargo, which was 3.6 % more than in 2018.

Passengers arriving at and departing from the Riga International Airport
(million passengers)



Passengers arriving at and departing from the Riga International Airport by countries in 2019

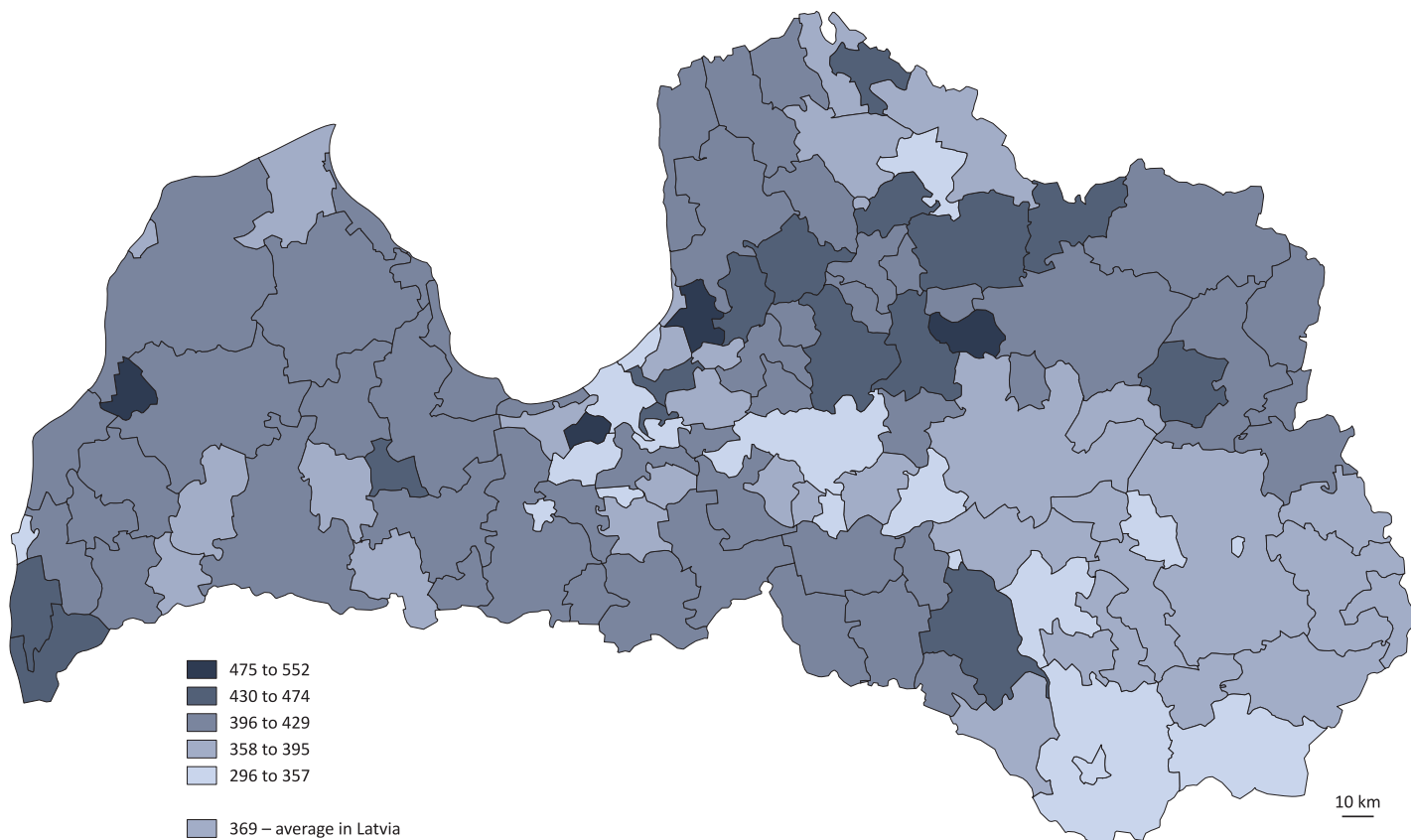


Passengers arriving at and departing from Riga International Airport in 2019

(Flows with at least 10 000 passengers. Records on passenger departures are maintained according to the first point of landing, whereas records on passenger arrivals – according to the last point of take-off.)



Number of registered passenger cars per 1.000 inhabitants by administrative territory at the end of 2018



Data source: Data of JSC "Road Traffic Safety Directorate".

Around 1925 there was one car in Latvia per 956 inhabitants, but at the end of 2019 – per 3 inhabitants. In 1925, there were 450 passenger cars in Latvia, compared to 3 824 passenger cars in 1940, 282 688 – in 1990, 556 771 – in 2000 and 727 164 – in 2019.

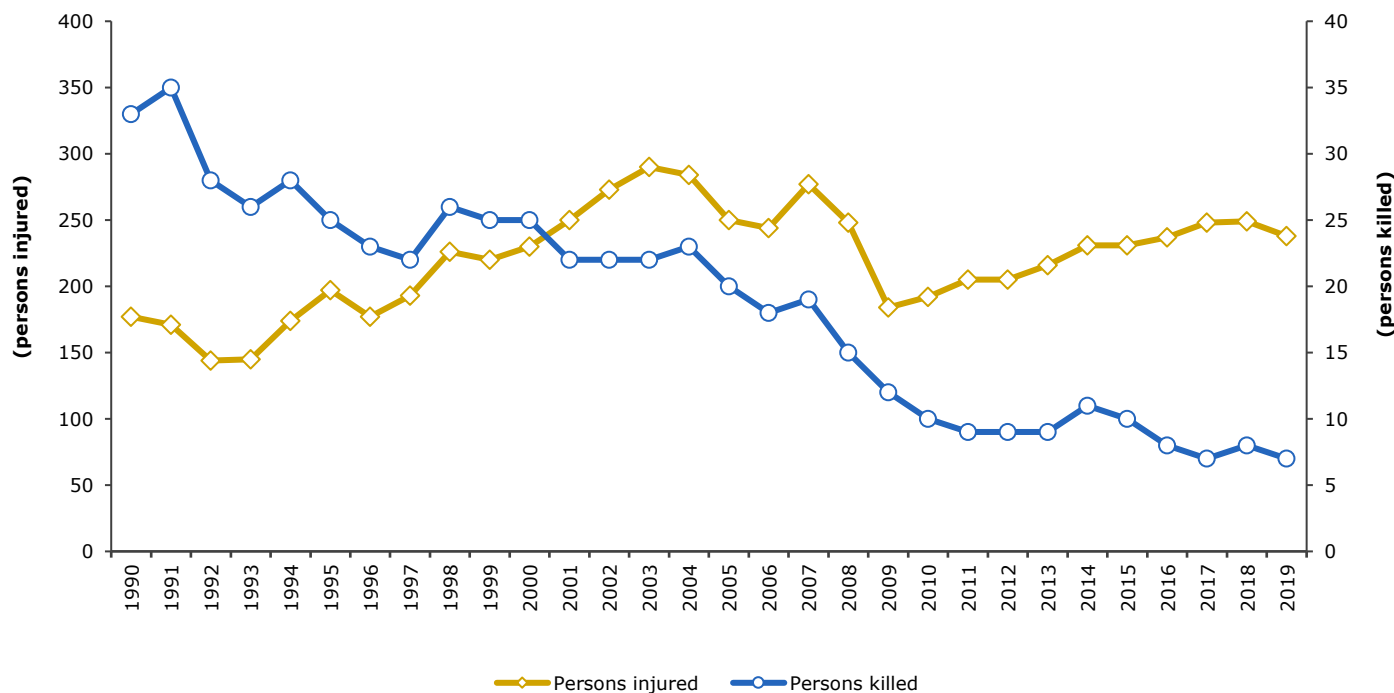
Number of vehicles at the end of the year

	1925	1930	1940	1990	2000	2010	2018	2019
Passenger cars	450	1 677	3 824	282 688	556 771	636 664	707 841	727 164
Buses	54	273	370	11 722	11 501	5 377	4 632	4 549
Lorries	184	1 025	3 071	59 965	97 081	71 575	89 211	91 311

Statistics on road traffic accidents is improving

In 2019, 3 729 road traffic accidents with injured were registered in Latvia, which is 6.2 % less than in 2018. The number of persons killed in road traffic accidents has dropped by 10.8 % (132 – in 2019, 148 – in 2018), and the number of persons injured has reduced by 5 % (4 559 – in 2019, 4 798 – in 2018).

Persons killed or injured in road traffic accidents per 100 000 inhabitants



Environment

2019 is the warmest year since meteorological observations are made in Latvia

With the mean air temperature reaching +8.2 °C, 2019 has become the warmest year in the history of meteorological observations of Latvia (made since 1924). Over the year, several records of maximum air temperature were beaten. Mean air temperature in the coldest month of the year – January – constituted +0.8 °C, while in the hottest month – June – it comprised +18.6 °C. The total precipitation recorded in 2019 was slightly under the normal.

Forest is one of the key natural resources of Latvia

Forests occupy 48 % of the territory of Latvia. Every year forest area and resources thereof keep increasing. On 1 January 2019, forest land of Latvia constituted 3 285 thousand ha, of which 46.2 % are owned by the state and 53.8 % by private owners. Largest share (45 %) of the state forests is occupied by coniferous trees. Out of the area, 26.3 % are taken by pine and 18.7 % by spruce. The rest of the forest land is occupied by deciduous trees, which are dominated by birch (27.5 %), asp (8.2 %) and black alder (6.0 %). Small areas are taken by white alder and other deciduous trees.

Wild animals are an integral natural resource in Latvia as well. Roe deer are the most common wild animals in Latvia (184 thousand), whereas beavers are the most often hunted ones (29.5 thousand out of 59.0 thousand).

Households generated 49.4 % of all municipal waste

Municipal waste, tonnes

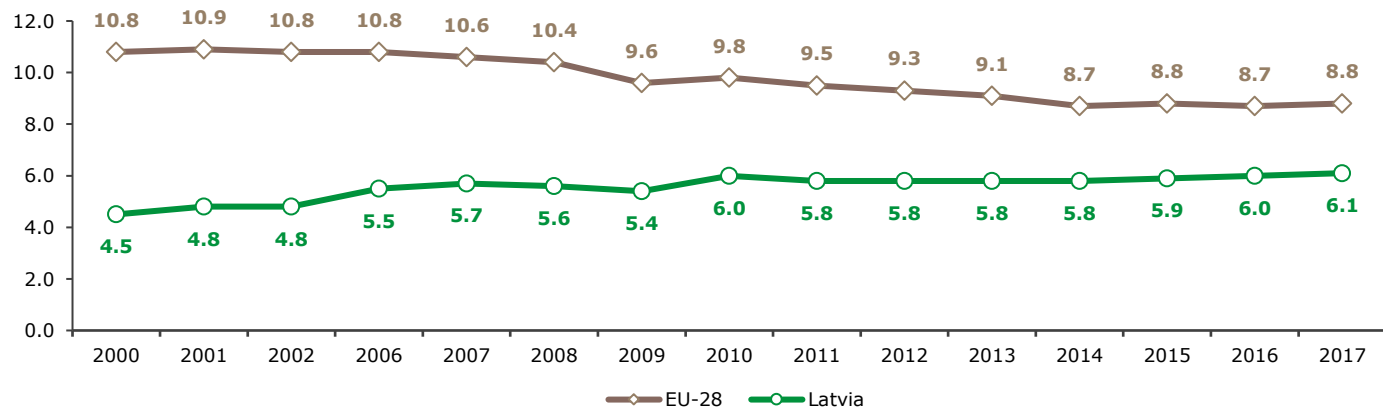
	2008	2016	2017	2018
Generated ⁽¹⁾	1 368 790	1 980 276	2 141 215	1 587 737
Collected	1 716 386	1 560 623	1 909 641	2 346 438
Processed	598 052	1 137 928	1 197 147	1 164 884

Air pollution

Energy sector emitting 7 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (64 % of total greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions in Latvia) is the greatest generator of GHG in Latvia. Over the ten years from 2008 to 2017, volume of CO₂ emissions in energy sector fell by 13.6 %.

⁽¹⁾ Estimate of the total amount of municipal waste generated calculated by subtracting types of waste not unambiguously classified as waste (manure, wood residues used as fuel, scrap metal) from the total amount of waste generated and collected.

Greenhouse gas emissions per capita (tonnes of CO₂ equivalent)



Environment quality and environmental protection

In 2018, EUR 170.7 million were spent on research and management of environmental quality. The greatest share of funding (EUR 96.9 million) was provided for waste treatment and disposal facilities. The volume of household waste generated per capita in Latvia is comparatively low – the indicator comprised 407 kg in 2018. The lowest municipal waste output per capita in the EU was recorded in Romania (272 kg) and Poland (329 kg), while the highest in Denmark (766 kg), Malta (640 kg), and Germany (615 kg).

The second greatest share of environmental protection funding (EUR 51.0 million) was spent on protection of water resources. The largest underground freshwater reserves come from the basins of river Daugava (223.2 million m³) and Gauja (41.5 million m³).

Funding for air protection and improvement of air quality (constituting EUR 4.0 million) has been priority of the whole world for many years. Emissions of GHG is the most important indicator of climate changes. In 2017, 11.32 million tonnes of GHG were emitted in Latvia. Energy and transport sectors were among the greatest GHG sources in 2017, emitting 64 % of the total GHG volume. Since 1995, agricultural sector has been emitting approximately 2.5 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent annually.

Environmental protection expenditure by environmental domain

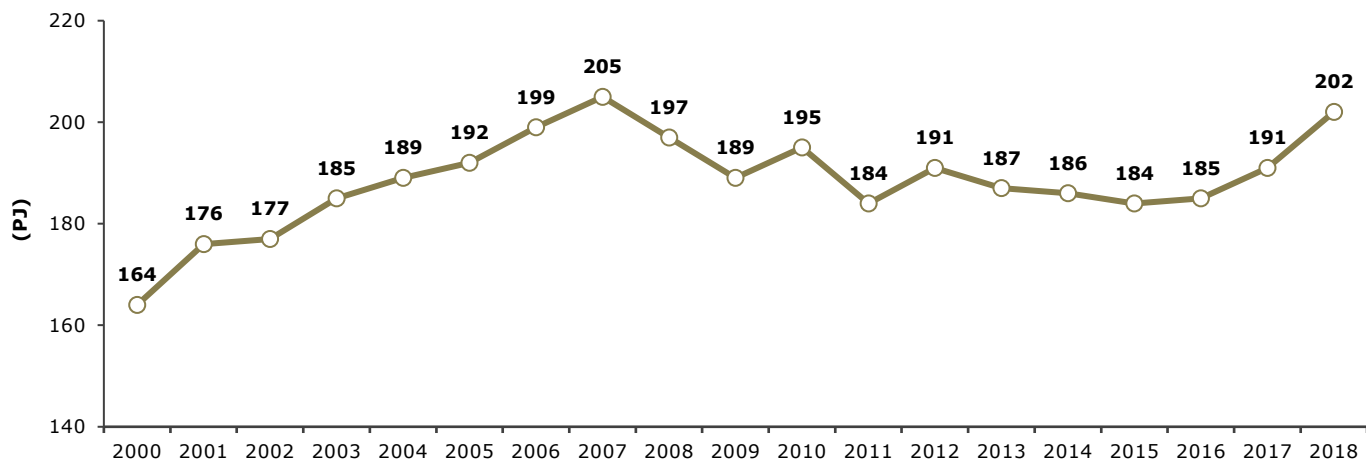
	2008	2016	2017	2018
Total (million EUR)	142.1	151.3	152.3	170.7
Protection of water resources	66.7	44.5	47.5	51.0
Air protection	2.0	3.9	3.6	4.0
Waste treatment and disposal facilities	45.6	86.8	86.3	96.9
Other	27.7	16.1	14.8	18.8

Energy

Energy consumption increase in both production and consumption

In 2018, final energy consumption constituted 201.5 petajoules (PJ), which is 5.5 % more than in 2017. Over the five years from 2014 to 2018, final energy consumption rose by 8.2 %.

Gross energy consumption



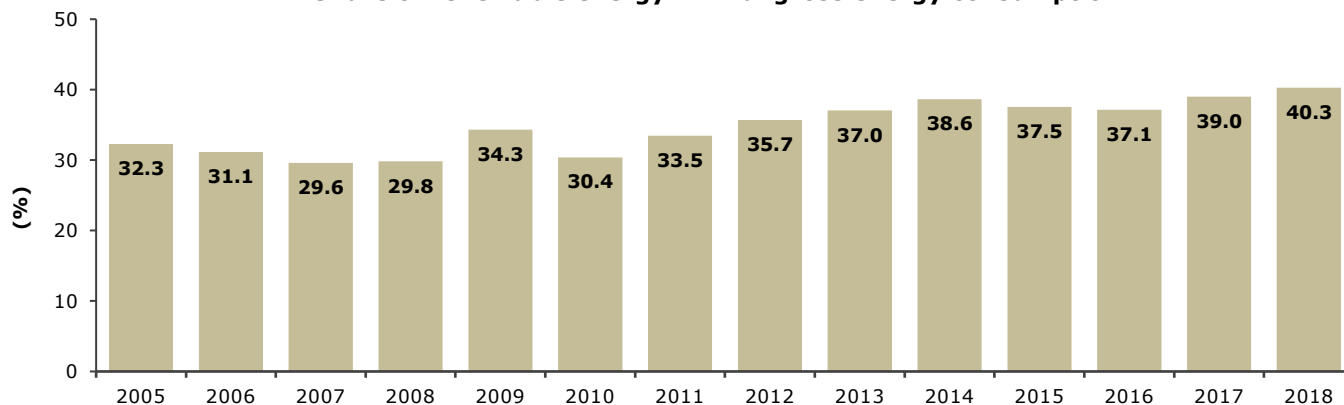
Gross energy consumption by resource

	2008	2010	2017	2018
Total (TJ)	196 517	194 840	191 042	201 503
Oil products	69 269	64 579	65 814	67 352
Solid fuels	4 473	4 564	1 729	2 029
Natural gas	55 814	61 313	41 670	49 024
Fuelwood	46 018	45 646	59 495	62 151
Electricity	20 477	15 991	16 079	12 470
Other fuels	466	2 747	6 255	8 477
Mean air temperature in autumn/ winter, °C	3.6	-0.8	3.0	2.0

Increase in share of renewable energy

During the ten years from 2009 to 2018, share of natural gas consumption dropped by 2.9 percentage points, constituting 24.3 % in 2018, while share of renewable energy reached 35.1 %. At the same time, the proportion of fuelwood consumption went up by 2.9 percentage points, constituting 30.8 % in 2018. Compared to 2017, in 2018 the amount of wood chips and firewood produced rose by 10.8 % and 22.2 %, respectively, and that of pelleted wood by 18.4 %. In 2018, 30.9 PJ of wood briquettes were exported, which is 9.9 % more than in 2017. As the gross consumption of renewables is growing, Latvian energy dependence ⁽¹⁾ reduced – from 60.4% in 2009 to 44.3% in 2018.

Share of renewable energy in final gross energy consumption



In 2018, in transformation sector ⁽²⁾ 58.0 PJ of energy resources were consumed for production of heat and electricity and 45.0 PJ of energy were produced (of which 29.7 PJ of heat and 15.0 PJ of electricity), which is 9.6 % more than the volume produced in 2017. Production of heat and electricity in Latvia mainly is based on fossil fuel – natural gas, the share whereof in transformation sector has been decreasing gradually: 81 % in 2010, 52.7 % in 2017, and 57.8 % in 2018. Over the five years from 2014 to 2018, the share of renewables consumed in transformation sector has risen by 6.5 percentage points, reaching 41.6 % in 2018.

Compared to 2017, in 2018 gross consumption of renewables went up by 7.4 %, whereas volume of produced renewables grew by 19.9 %. Significant upturn was observed in production of fuelwood (of 20.0 % or 17.0 PJ), production of primary electricity fell by 43.6 % or 7.1 PJ – by 44.5 % in hydro power plants and by 18.7 % in wind power plants. In 2018, hydro power and wind power plants together produced 2 554 GWh of energy (2 432 GWh and 122 GWh, respectively).

⁽¹⁾ Energy dependence is calculated as follows: net imports divided by gross energy consumption plus bunkering.

⁽²⁾ Transformation sector includes volume of energy resources consumed for production and sale of electricity and heat.

Electricity production

	1990	2000	2010	2017	2018
Total (GWh)	6 648	4 137	6 619	7 531	6 724
Hydropower plants	4 496	2 819	3 520	4 381	2 432
Combined heat and power plants (incl. electric power plants)	2 152	1 313	3 050	3 000	4 170
Wind power plants	-	5	49	150	122

In 2018, lower than usual electricity output from hydro power plants caused by unusually dry and long summer with low water level and low water inflow in river Daugava had the greatest downward effect on the amount of electricity produced.

As the gross consumption of renewables is increasing, Latvia is getting closer to the strategic objective aimed at reaching 40 % of the energy produced from renewables in the gross final energy consumption until 2020. Latvia has the fourth highest share of renewables in the final energy consumption in the EU; in 2018, the indicator constituted 40.3 % (EU average 18.0 %). EU Member States shall ensure that until 2020 the share of renewables consumed in transport sector accounts for 10 %. In 2018, Latvian share of renewables in transport constituted 4.7 % and EU average 8.0 %.

Final energy consumption up by 4.4 %

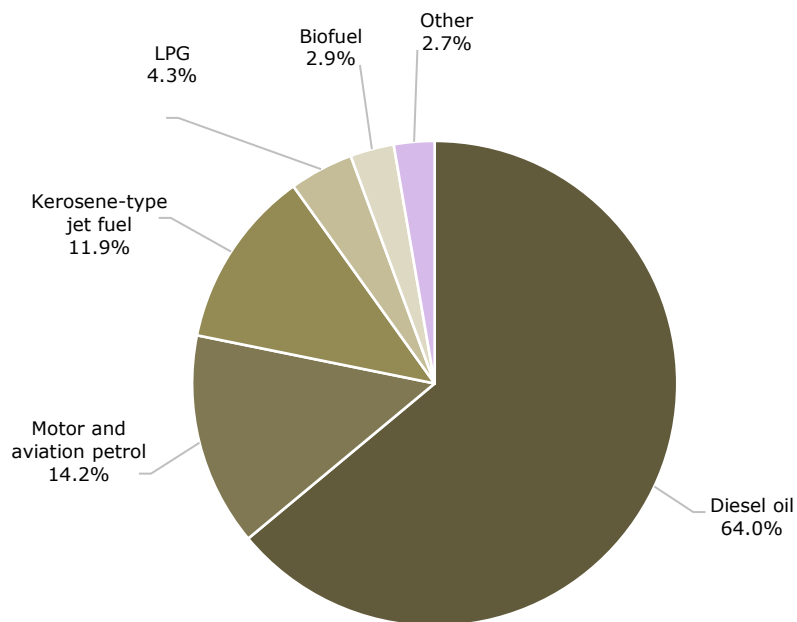
In 2018, final energy consumption constituted 179.1 PJ, which is 4.4 % more than in 2017. Over the past ten years, no notable changes were recorded in the final energy consumption. In 2018, transport sector consuming 30.3 % of the energy resources, households consuming 28.8 % and industry consuming 22.7 % were the largest energy consumers. Compared to 2016, rise in the final energy consumption was recorded in transport (of 4.3 %), industry (13.3 %), and households (2.8 %), whereas decline was registered in agriculture and forestry (of 3.3 %) as well as other consumers sector (2.7 %).

Over the five years from 2014 to 2018, energy consumption in transport has gone up by 17.1 %, reaching 54.2 PJ in 2018. This sector takes one third of the Latvian energy consumption and almost completely is based on oil imports, as the share of electricity and biofuel in transport is comparatively small. Diesel oil is the main energy resource used in the transport sector, and the share thereof constituted 64.0 % in 2018. During the recent years, significant increase in the share of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) consumed in transport may be observed. In 2010, the indicator constituted 1 PJ, whereas in 2018 – 2.3 PJ or 2.3 times more. Compared to 2017, consumption of LPG has dropped by 5.2 %. During the five years from 2014, consumption of gasoline in transport fell by 10.6 %, reaching 7.7 PJ in 2018, which is less than in 2017.

Final energy consumption by sector

	2008	2010	2015	2017	2018
Total (TJ)	178 845	175 617	163 498	171 642	179 117
Industry (incl. construction)	32 338	34 898	36 766	35 896	40 683
Transport	54 630	50 855	48 979	51 947	54 196
Households	60 772	58 160	46 296	50 119	51 547
Agriculture, forestry, hunting, fishing	5 523	6 547	6 826	8 222	7 924
Other consumers	25 582	25 157	24 631	25 458	24 767

Energy consumption in transport by resource; 2018



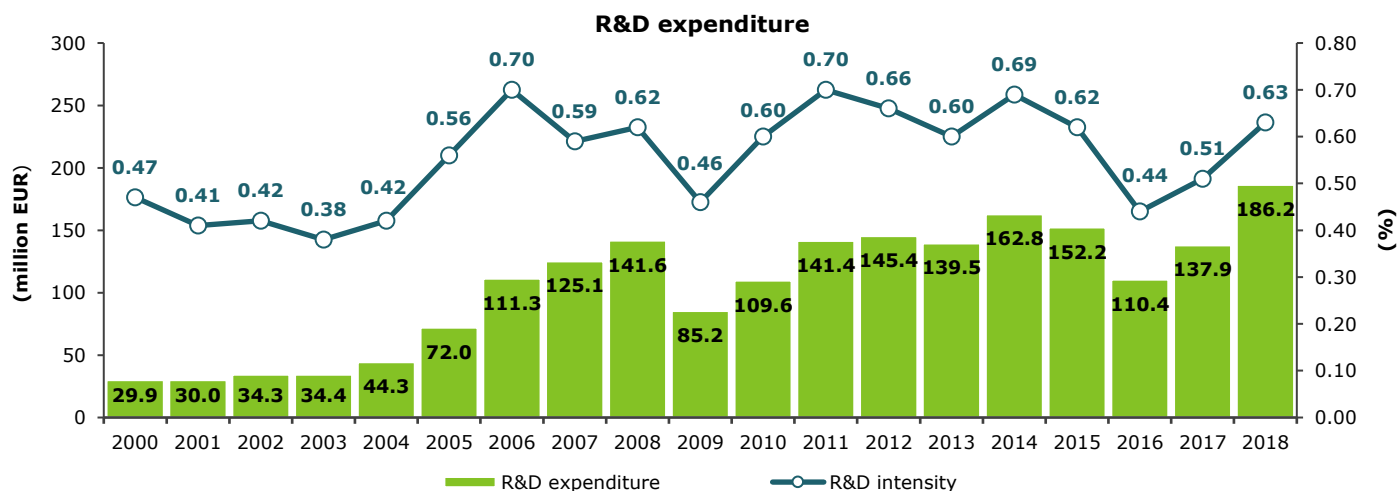
Over the past five years, energy consumption in industry has gone up by 11.7 %, reaching 40.7 PJ in 2018. Energy consumption in household sector constituted 51.5 PJ, which is 2.8 % more than in 2017. Structure of energy consumption in households has not changed significantly over the past years fuelwood still is the most common energy resource used. Compared to 2017, in household sector notable upturn was registered in natural gas consumption (7.0 %), whereas consumption of coal went down (32.7 %).

Science and Information Technologies

Research and Development

R&D funding in Latvia

Research and experimental development (R&D) intensity is the ratio of the gross domestic expenditure on the R&D to the gross domestic product (GDP). Expenditure on R&D in Latvia has been low for a long time. One of the Europe 2020 strategy headline targets states that 3 % of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D. Latvia has set a quantitative target of increasing R&D funding to 1.5 % of the GDP until 2020 and of 3 % until 2030.



Compared to 2017, in 2018 R&D intensity increased by 0.12 percentage points and comprised 0.63 %. In 2018, Lithuanian R&D expenditure constituted 0.88 % and Estonian 1.40 %. In 2018, the EU average R&D intensity accounted for 2.12 % of the GDP.

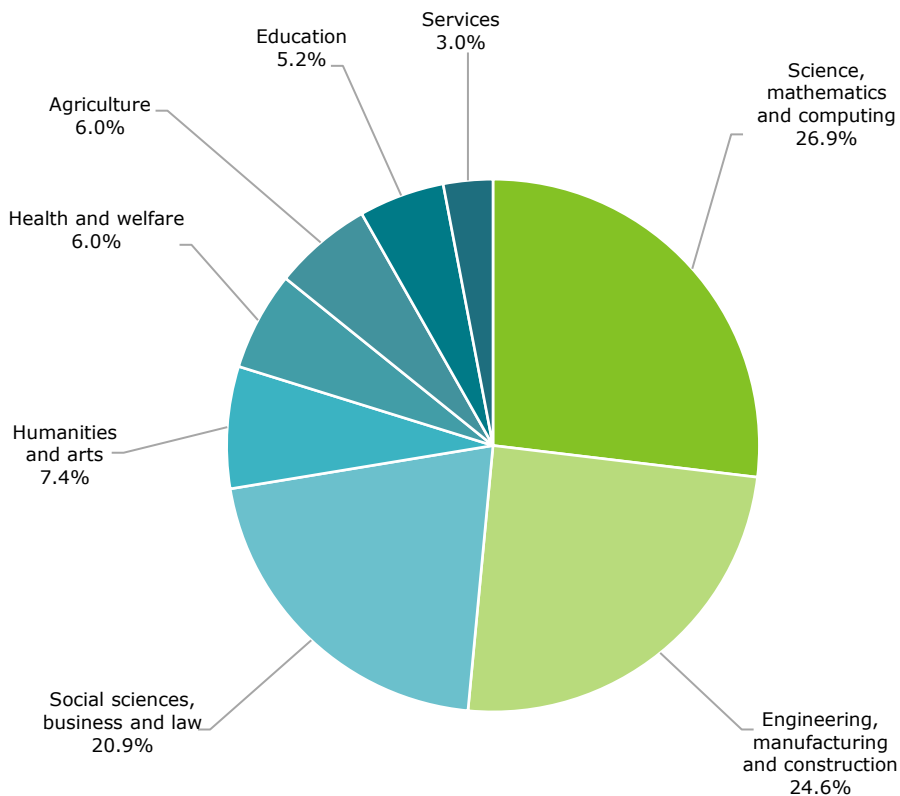
R&D funding in 2018

	Total (thousand EUR)	Share in GDP (%)	Funding by source of funds (million EUR):			
			business enterprise sector	government sector	higher education sector	foreign sources of finance
Funding	186 260	0.63	41.6	63.9	3.4	77.3
higher education sector	97 537	0.33	4.1	45.2	3.4	44.8
government sector	42 448	0.14	4.5	17.0	-	20.9
business enterprise sector	46 275	0.16	33.0	1.7	-	11.6
R&D intensity, % of GDP	0.63	x	0.14	0.22	0.01	0.26

R&D personnel

In 2018, 12 129 employees were engaged in R&D, of which researchers accounted for 7 439 (61.3 %). Two thirds (68.2 %) of the R&D personnel were employed in higher education sector. Number of young researchers is still relatively small; internal researchers aged 34 and younger constituted 26.2 % in 2018. However, share of R&D personnel at retirement age (aged over 65) is fairly large – 14.9 %. Women constitute more than a half of researchers – 50.7 %. In 2018, the greatest proportion of female researchers was recorded in higher education (52.4 %) and government (57.9 %) sector, while smallest in business enterprise sector – 37.9 %.

Graduates of doctoral studies by field of education; academic year 2018/2019

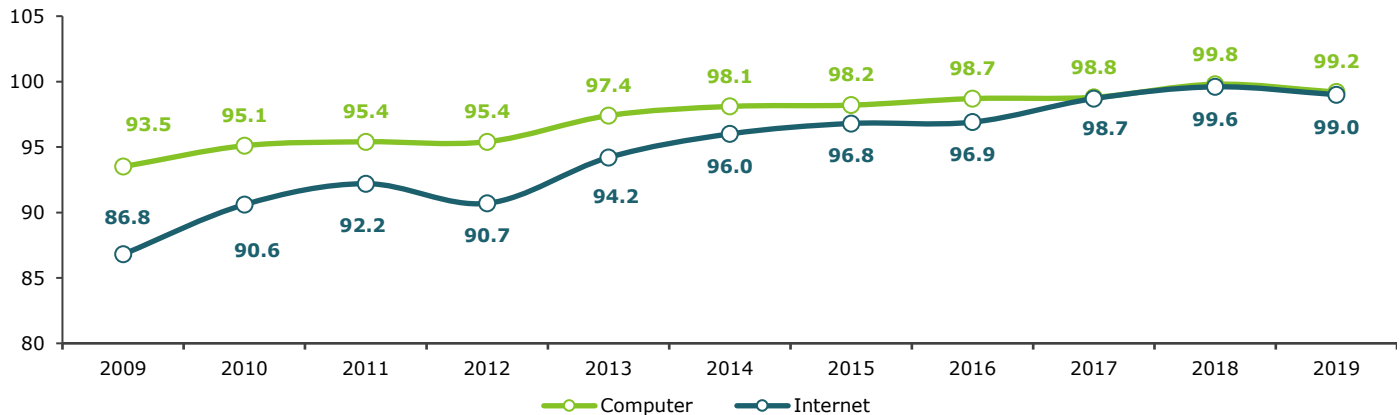


Information Technologies

Information and communication technologies are used by almost all Latvian enterprises

In 2019, almost all Latvian enterprises used information and communication technologies ⁽¹⁾. Every sixth Latvian enterprise has own website. During the last two years use of social media has increased by 10.9 percentage points. Every third enterprise in Latvia uses resource planning software. In 2018, 13.8 % of enterprises sold their goods or services on the Internet. Almost seven thousand enterprises are working in the ICT sector.

Share of enterprises using computer and internet
(% of total enterprises with 10 or more persons employed)



Majority of enterprises have a website

64.2 % of enterprises had a website (homepage). Only 59.0 % of small enterprises had a website, while medium-sized and large enterprises had own website – 86.1 % and 94.1 %, respectively.

Increasing number of enterprises are engaged in e-commerce

In 2018, 13.8 % of enterprises used opportunity to sell goods or services on websites, applications or other computer networks: 35.1 % – large, 16.8 % – medium-sized and 12.6 % – small enterprises sold goods and services on the Internet.

Tenth part of enterprises used website or application to sell goods or services on the Internet (10.9 %). But 4.2 % of enterprises used electronic data interchange (EDI) notifications. In 2018, large enterprises (21.1 %) sold goods using EDI notifications the most.

⁽¹⁾ Hereinafter the data published are related to enterprises with 10 or more persons employed; small enterprises with 10 to 49 persons employed, medium-sized – from 50 to 249, and large – with 250 and more persons employed.

Use of social media in business

In 2019, 40.9 % of enterprises are using social media, but in 2017 – only 30.0 % of enterprises used social media. Mostly large enterprises use opportunities offered by social media (74.5 %), medium-sized enterprises (49.9 %), but the least – small enterprises (38.2 %).

85 % of households have access to Internet

In 2019, 85 % households had access to the Internet, which, compared to 2018, is increase of 3 %. In 2019, 83 % of the households had a broadband Internet connection. During the last five years, this indicator has increased by 10 percentage points, but during the last year – by 4 %.

Mostly the Internet is available in households in urban areas (88 %), but in rural areas the Internet is available in 80 % of households. Compared to 2018, availability of the Internet in rural areas has risen by 2 %, but in urban areas – by 5 %. In households with children access to the Internet is higher (98 % – in 2019) than in households without children – 81 %.

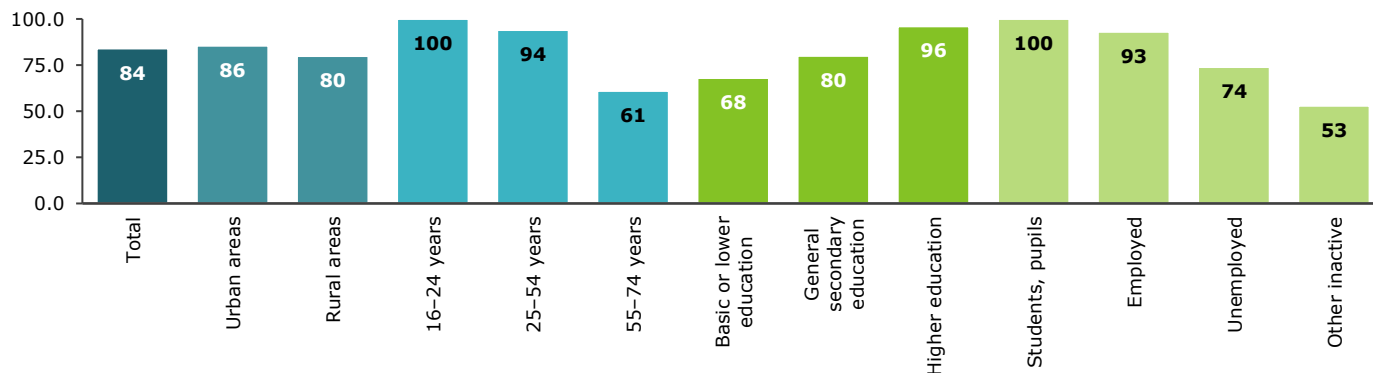
Increase in the number of regular Internet users (use at least once a week)

84 % of population used internet regularly (at least once a week), compared to 2018, this indicator has risen by 3 %. Pupils and students use Internet the most – all persons of this group use Internet at least once a week. Also 47 % of the older generation (persons aged 65–74) use the Internet at least once a week and, compared to 2018, this indicator has risen by 7 %. Share of regular Internet users is larger among groups of population with the highest level of educational attainment. 96 % of population with the highest education used Internet at least once a week, but population with basic and general secondary education use Internet rarely – 68 % and 80 %, respectively.

Increasing number of Latvian population takes opportunity to use the Internet outside home and work. In 2019, 81 % of population used a mobile device to access the Internet outside home or work. Compared to 2018, this indicator has risen by 6 %. For this purpose 65 % of all population used mobile telephone or smart phone, 12 % – portable computer, but 8 % – used tablet PC.

Share of regular Internet users (at least once a week) in 2019

(as % of the total number of population)



Most commonly Internet is used to access e-mail

In 2019, residents of Latvia used the Internet mainly for sending and receiving e-mails and Internet banking (72 %). Females participate in social networking more often than males (68 % and 61 %, respectively), but males – listen to the music on the Internet more often than females (46 % and 42 %, respectively). Most popular activities among young people (16–24 years) are social networking, using instant messaging, i.e., exchanging messages and sending and receiving e-mails, but among seniors (65–74 years) – reading online news sites, newspapers, news magazines, Internet banking and sending and receiving e-mails.

Almost one fifth part of Internet users (21 %) have used learning materials available on the Internet, for example, presentations, videos or learning manuals, 10 % contacted lecturers or students using websites of educational institutions, but 5 % have used Internet to complete an online training course.

In 2019, 37 % of Internet users used option to store various data on the Internet in special data storage sites or clouds, as compared to 2018, this indicator has risen by 6 %. Students and pupils use this option the most (65 %).

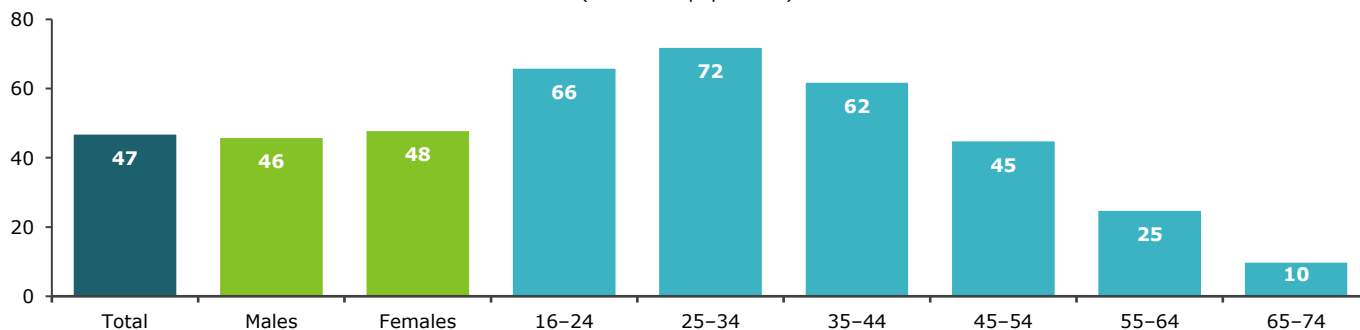
43 % of all population use data storage on the Internet, flash memory, external hard disks and other data storage devices for back-up of various files – documents, pictures, music, videos, etc.

In 2019, cooperation between people and state or public institutions through the Internet continues to increase. 56 % of population fill in forms of state or public institutions online. Compared to 2018, this indicator has risen by 6 %.

Purchase of goods or services over the Internet

In 2019, 47.0 % of population had purchased or ordered goods or services on the Internet. 48 % of females and 46 % of males made purchases on the Internet. Mostly clothes or sports goods (48 %), household goods (41 %), tickets for events (34 %) and electronic equipment (32 %) were purchased on the Internet.

Purchase of goods or services on the Internet in 2019
(% of total population)



In 2019, amount of purchases mostly was below EUR 50. Such amount was spent by 42 % of population, who made online purchases during the last year, while 2 % of population spent more than EUR 500.



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