



Documentation

NUTS regions 1 : 2 500 000

NUTS2500



valid from the product as of 31.12.2020

Content

1	Overview of the dataset	3
2	General information	5
2.1	Geometrical bases	5
2.2	Special notes	6
2.3	Incommunalised water areas	6
3	Description of the dataset	7
3.1	Specification	7
3.2	Attributes	7
4	Description of the data formats	8
4.1	SHAPE format	8
5	Data acquisition	9
6	Terms of use and copyright	9
7	Contact	9

1 Overview of the dataset

Product:	NUTS2500
Content:	<p>For the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany, the dataset comprises the regions of the systematics of the territorial units NUTS¹ for the purpose of European statistics according to the Regulation (EC) No 1059 / 2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003, as amended most recently by Commission Regulation (EU) 2016 / 2066 of 21 November 2016 (NUTS 2016) and by Commission Regulation (EU) 2019 / 1755 of 8 August 2019 (NUTS 2021); this Regulation shall be applied to the transmission of data to Eurostat as of 1 January 2018 or 1 January 2021.</p> <p>The criteria for the NUTS regions that might not coincide with national administrative units, are published on the website of Eurostat².</p> <p>The NUTS regions have a hierarchical structure and three levels and - with only a few exceptions - mirror the administrative units for Germany.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ NUTS 1 in Germany: Länder (Federal states)▪ NUTS 2 in Germany: largely Regierungsbezirke (administrative districts)▪ NUTS 3 in Germany: kreisfreie Städte and Landkreise (independent towns and districts) <p>Besides the current Regierungsbezirke, also the former Regierungsbezirke of the Länder Lower Saxony, Rhineland-Palatinate and Saxony are given on the NUTS-2 level for Germany. In national language, this NUTS-2 classification is also called „Statistical Regions“.</p> <p>The areas are of the „MultiPolygon“ type (also „Multipart“). Each area can comprise several single areas, such as regular area with exclaves or inset areas, each of these MultiPolygons corresponding to a dataset in the attribute table.</p>
Area:	Bundesrepublik Deutschland (Federal Republic of Germany)
Spatial structure:	Complete data set without spatial breakdown

¹ Nomenclature des unités territoriales statistiques

² <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/de/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/overview>

Spatial reference:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Geographic coordinates in decimal degrees, Ellipsoid GRS80, Datum ETRS89 ▪ Gauß-Krüger projection in the 3rd, 4th or 5th meridional strip Bessel Ellipsoid, Potsdam Datum, (central point Rauenberg) ▪ UTM projection in zone 32 or 33 Ellipsoid GRS80, Datum ETRS89
Position accuracy:	The geometry is derived from the respective dataset Administrative Areas 1 : 2 500 000 (VG2500).
Currentness:	1-year revision cycle with the status 31.12. of each year
Data formats:	SHAPE
Data supply*:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dataset via Download or Disk ▪ Web Map Service (WMS) ▪ Web Feature Service (WFS)
Modification against last Dataset:	none
Historical data:	available from 2016
Data volume:	2 MB
Data source:	Derivation from the respective dataset Administrative Areas 1 : 2 500 000 (VG2500). Information from the statistical office of the European Union (EUROSTAT).
Note	<p>The NUTS2500 data are generated from the corresponding dataset (status of data) of the VG2500 (Administrative Areas 1 : 2 500 000) and therefore match topologically the used VG2500.</p> <p>In addition, an adjustment may be made for the NUTS-reference date of December 31st.</p> <p>The information in the documentation of the Administrative Areas 1 : 2 500 000 (VG2500) applies correspondingly.</p>

* Please note that not all forms of delivery can be provided with each georeferencing and data format. If you have any questions, feel free contact the Service Centre (DLZ).

2 General information

The NUTS code (Nomenclature des unités territoriales statistiques) represents the „European classification of territorial units for statistics“ of the Statistical Office of the European Union (EUROSTAT) according to the Regulation (EC) No 1059 / 2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 in its latest version.

The NUTS regions have a hierarchical structure and three levels and - with only a few exceptions - mirror the administrative units for Germany. Deviations exist at the NUTS-2 level. In the current version of this regulation for Germany, there are additionally given besides the current Regierungsbezirke also the former Regierungsbezirke of the Länder Lower Saxony, Rhineland-Palatinate and Saxony.

The also hierarchically structured NUTS code is in total a 5-digit code, where the first two digits always designate the state (for Germany „DE“) and the first three digits in total code the NUTS 1 level, the first four digits in total code the NUTS 2 level and finally the 5-digit NUTS code codes the NUTS 3 level. Digits containing no data are designated with 0 (zero).

It has to be taken into account that possible national territorial reforms will only be included into the NUTS classification with the next revision of the regulation. This means especially that the congruence between the NUTS 3 classification and the administrative level of the kreisfreie towns (towns constituting a district in its own right) and districts in Germany are considered reliable only with the start of validity of a new version of the NUTS regulation (see also **point 2.2**).

Considering the above-mentioned exceptions, the following structure results:

1 st – 2 nd digit	=	NUTS 0	identifier of the state (country) – for Germany: DE
3 rd digit	=	NUTS 1	in Germany: identifier of the Länder (federal states)
4 th digit	=	NUTS 2	in Germany: identifier of the Länder (federal states)
5 th digit	=	NUTS 3	in Germany: identifier of the Kreise (districts)

2.1 Geometrical bases

The NUTS2500 data are generated from the corresponding dataset (status of data) of the VG2500 (Administrative Areas 1 : 2 500 000) and therefore match topologically the used VG2500.

In addition, an adjustment may be made for the NUTS-reference date of December 31st.

2.2 Special notes

The NUTS structures are defined for a period of at least three years in accordance with the legal base³. Therefore, not all modifications of the German administrative structure can be considered in the NUTS structure in a timely fashion. Until now an intermediate modification has been renounced due to a considerable reorganization in accordance with Article 5 (4) of the Regulation.

The version NUTS 2021 currently applies since January 01, 2021. For Germany, this corresponds to the version NUTS 2016 that has been in effect since January 01, 2018.

2.3 Incommunalised water areas

The territorial units do not consider the water areas of the North and Baltic Seas or the Lake Constance. The estuaries of the bigger waters were generalized.

The coastal form is retained in the data in generalized form due to the scale.

The general rule is:

Each NUTS region has exactly one attribute set in the data.

³ Regulation (EC) No 1059 / 2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003, as amended most recently by Commission Regulation (EU) 2016 / 2066 of 21 November 2016 (NUTS 2016) and by Commission Regulation (EU) 2019 / 1755 of 8 August 2019 (NUTS 2021).

3 Description of the dataset

3.1 Specification

The dataset is divided into the 3 NUTS levels for Germany:

NUTS 1
NUTS 2
NUTS 3

Each of these levels forms an object class containing the area geometry of the NUTS regions. All levels constitute in each case a nationwide dataset. The areas contained directly carry the attributive information.

3.2 Attributes

NUTS_LEVEL	Level of the NUTS region
	Survey of values
	1 = level NUTS 1
	2 = level NUTS 2
	3 = level NUTS 3
NUTS_CODE	Hierarchical key of the NUTS region
	<i>3-digit</i> <i>NUTS 1</i>
	<i>4-digit</i> <i>NUTS 2</i>
	<i>5-digit</i> <i>NUTS 3</i>
NUTS_NAME	Name of the NUTS region

4 Description of the data formats

4.1 SHAPE format

The SHAPE data format constitutes as a de facto industry standard a very widespread and suitable data exchange format for the exchange of geodata.

Each dataset consists of the following files in UTF-8 character coding (Unicode).

Level NUTS 1	2500_NUTS1.SHP	Geometry
	2500_NUTS1.SHX	Geometry index
	2500_NUTS1.PRJ	Projection
	2500_NUTS1.DBF	Attributess
	2500_NUTS1.CPG	Character set
Level NUTS 2	2500_NUTS2.SHP	Geometry
	2500_NUTS2.SHX	Geometry index
	2500_NUTS2.PRJ	Projection
	2500_NUTS2.DBF	Attribute
	2500_NUTS2.CPG	Character set
Level NUTS 3	2500_NUTS3.SHP	Geometry
	2500_NUTS3.SHX	Geometry index
	2500_NUTS3.PRJ	Projection
	2500_NUTS3.DBF	Attributes
	2500_NUTS3.CPG	Character set

5 Data acquisition

The database can be obtained free of charge on our website www.bkg.bund.de under the heading „Products and Services“ → „Open Data“. Historical data is also available in our archive.

6 Terms of use and copyright

The geodata offered here are available via geodata services for download and for online use free of charge according to the Open Data Datenlizenz Deutschland – Namensnennung – Version 2.0.

Especially, each user has to place the source reference to all geodata, metadata and geodata services recognisably and optically linked. Alterations, processings, new designs or other adaptations have to be affixed with an indication of the alteration in the source reference.

Source reference and indication of alteration have to be formulated as follows. The source reference has to be linked with the URL "http://www.bkg.bund.de" for the representation at a website.

© GeoBasis-DE / BKG (year of last data download)

© GeoBasis-DE / BKG (year of last data download) (data changed)

7 Contact

Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy
Section GDL2 | Service centre (DLZ) | Central Office for Geotopography (ZSGT)
Karl-Rothe-Straße 10-14
D-04105 Leipzig

Phone: +49(0)341 5634-333

Fax: +49(0)341 5634-415

E-Mail: dlz@bkg.bund.de

Further information and services can be found on our homepage www.bkg.bund.de under the heading „Products & Services“.