Documentation
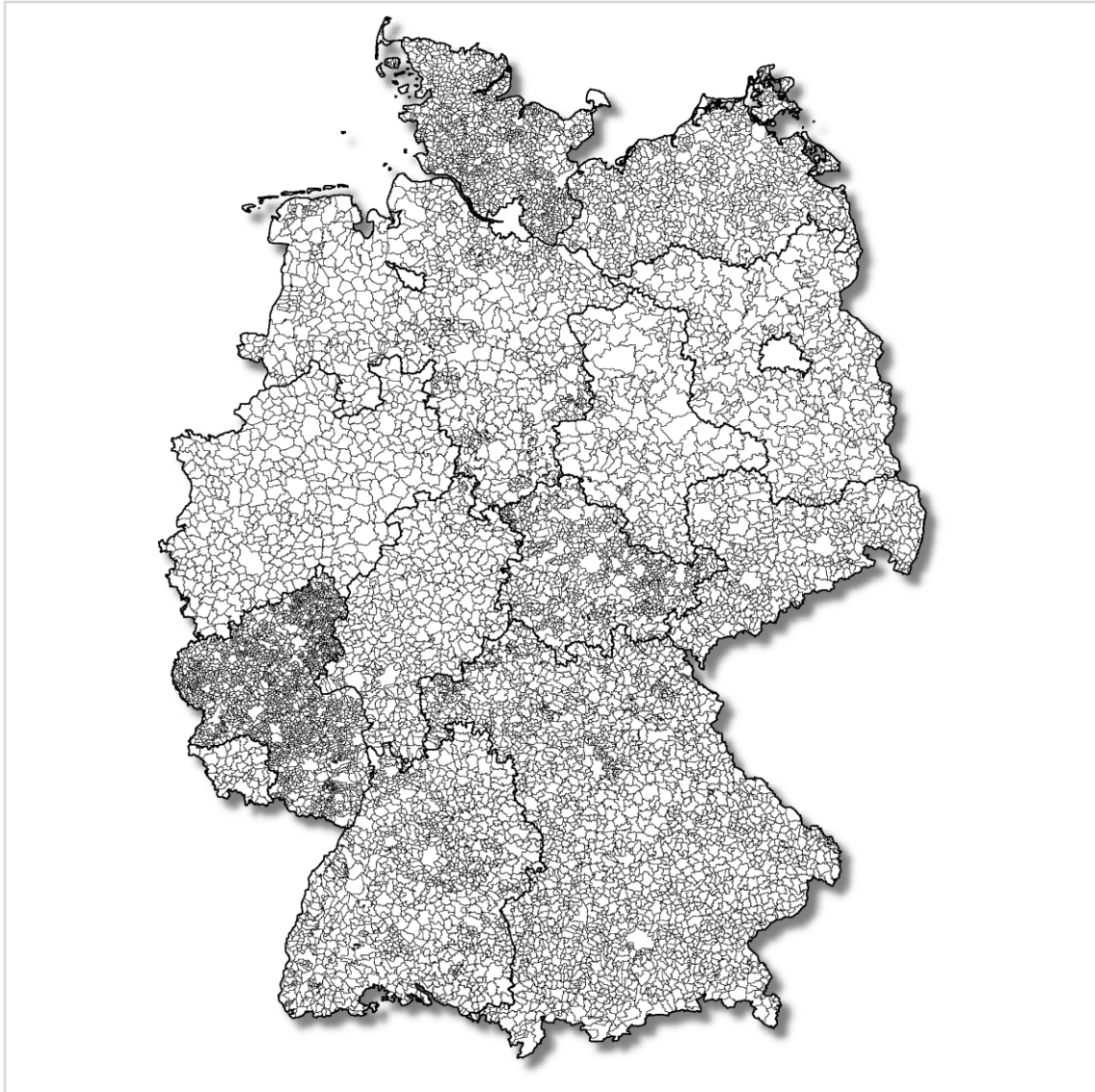
Administrative assignment 1 : 250 000

VZ250

valid from the product as of 31.12.2020

Content

1   Overview of the dataset

Product:	VZ250
Content:	The dataset includes for the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany the assignment of „Gemeinden" (municipalities) to the respective superior administrative units with • territorial code • names and • designations as well as the corresponding regions of the systematics of the territorial units NUTS for the purpose of European statistics of the Statistical Office of the European Union (EUROSTAT) • NUTS codes and • names of the NUTS regions. The areas are of the type "MultiPolygone"(also "Multipart"). Each area can comprise several single areas, such as regular area with exclaves or inset areas, each of these MultiPolygones corresponding to a dataset in the attribute table.
Area:	Bundesrepublik Deutschland (Federal Republic of Germany)
Spatial structure:	Complete data set without spatial breakdown
Spatial reference:	• 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 corresponding dataset Administrative areas 1 : 250 000 (VG250). Thus, the geometry is with respect to accuracy and resolution designed to the DLM250.
Currentness:	1-year revision cycle with the statuses 31.12. and 01.01. of each year
Data formats:	SHAPE
Data supply*:	• Dataset via Download or Disk • Web Map Service (WMS) • Web Feature Service (WFS)

Administrative assignment 1 : 250 000
VZ250

Modification against last Dataset:	In 2019, the previous Territorial key - RS was renamed into ARS in official statistics. This was also be done in the VZ250 from the 31.12.2019 edition.
Historical data:	available from 2016
Data volume:	45 MB
Data source:	Derivation from the corresponding dataset Administrative areas 1 : 250 000 (VG250). Information from the European statistical office EUROSTAT.
Note	The VZ250 data are generated from the corresponding dataset (status of data) of the VG250 (Administrative areas 1 : 250 000) and therefore match topologically the used VG250. The information in the documentation of the Administrative Areas 1 : 250 000 (VG250) applies correspondingly.

* 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 dataset includes the „Gemeinden" (municipalities) of the Federal Republic of Germany with the superior administrative units and the corresponding NUTS regions.

The hierarchical structure of the administrative levels is represented by the Amtlicher Regionalschlüssel (ARS) (territorial code). The ARS is a key of the products of the statistical offices of the Federal Government and of the Länder. Thus, the integration of statistical data and data synchronization, respectively, can easily be performed (cf. also http://www.destatis.de).

The complex administrative structure is shown country-specifically in the PDF file Verwaltungsgliederung_VG.pdf.

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 areas are of the type "MultiPolygone" (also "Multipart"). Each area can comprise several single areas, such as regular area with exclaves or inset areas, each of these MultiPolygones corresponding to a dataset in the attribute table.

Each administrative unit has precisely one record entry with the GF value 4. In addition, an administrative unit may have a record entry with the GF value of 2. For more information, see **point 3.2** for the GF attribute.

The VZ250 data are generated from the corresponding dataset (status of data) of the VG250 (Administrative areas 1 : 250 000) and therefore match topologically the used VG250.

The information in the documentation of the Administrative Areas 1 : 250 000 (VG250) applies correspondingly.

2.1 Territorial code

The territorial code (TC/ARS) is broken down as follows:

1st – 2nd digit	=	identification number of the Land
3rd digit	=	identification number of the administrative district
4th – 5th digit	=	identification number of the district (county)
6th – 9th digit	=	identification number of the administrative association
10th – 12th digit	=	community identification number

2.1.1 Key number of the administrative association

The leading digit of the administrative association key indicates the type of the community:

0	=	municipality not adhering to an administrative association
5	=	municipality adhering to an administrative association
9	=	unincorporated area

With municipalities not adhering to an administrative association and unincorporated areas the leading digit (0 or 9) in the administrative association key is followed by the three-digit municipality key as the 7th, 8th and 9th digit in the territorial code. This way, the level of the administrative associations is represented on a nationwide basis.

2.2 NUTS code

The NUTS code is structured hierarchically and mirrors the administrative units for Germany. Considering the below-mentioned exceptions, the following structure results:

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

Deviations from the administrative units exist at the NUTS-2 level. In the current version of the above-mentioned regulation (cf. **Point 2**) for Germany, there are additionally given besides the current Regierungsbezirke also the former Regierungsbezirke of the Länder Lower Saxony, Rhineland-Palatinate and Saxony.

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 (cf. also **point 2.5**).

2.3 Specifics in the administrative structure

The following exceptions result from specifics in the administrative structure.

2.3.1 Unincorporated areas in Schleswig-Holstein

The two unincorporated areas located in Schleswig-Holstein belong to an association of administrations (Amt/supra-municipality). Since this aspect cannot be implemented as a key number, these two unincorporated areas are treated as not belonging to an association.

ARS (TC)	unincorporated area	ARS (TC)	Amt (supra-municipality	Kreis (district)
010539105105	Sachsenwald (Forstgutsbez.)	010535323	Hohe Elbgeest	Herzogtum Lauenburg
010609014014	Buchholz (Forstgutsbez.)	010605053	Leezen	Segeberg

2.3.2 Inter-district association of administrations (Schleswig-Holstein)

The municipalities Bosau and Tangstedt (Kreis Stormarn) in Schleswig-Holstein are members of an association of administrations (Amt/supra-municipality) in a neighbouring district. Since this aspect cannot be implemented as a key number, these two municipalities are treated as municipalities not belonging to an association.

ARS (TC)	Municipality	Kreis	ARS (TC)	Amt (supra-municipality	Kreis (district)
010550007007	Bosau	Ostholstein	010575739	Großer Plöner See	Plön
010620076076	Tangstedt	Stormarn	010605034	Itzstedt	Segeberg

2.3.3 Unincorporated areas in Bayern (Bavaria)

In the past, the unregistered areas in Bavaria were also summarized in statistical lists, as a rule by districts. In this case the respective municipality key in the ARS (TC) and the AGS (OMK) figure was disclosed each with 444 at the end. In the described VG (AB) product the Bavarian unincorporated areas are shown individually.

2.3.4 Former Regierungsbezirke (administrative districts)

In Lower Saxony, Rhineland-Palatinate and Saxony, the 3rd digit of the ARS (TC) or the AGS (OMK) (Regierungsbezirk, administrative district) serves only to clearly identify the district level. Administratively, there are no more Regierungsbezirke in these Länder.

2.3.5 Common German-Luxembourgish territory

For reasons of generalization the common territory is not available in the dataset.

This concerns the German-Luxembourgish boundary line in the rivers Our, Sauer and Moselle.

Within the area of the Luxembourgish city of Vianden the otherwise coherent common territory is interrupted. **Annex D** of the documentation of the Administrative areas 1 : 250 000 (VG250) contains a list of the parts of the common territory.

2.4   Geometrical bases

The VZ250 data are generated from the corresponding dataset of the Administrative Areas 1 : 250 000 (VG250) and therefore match topologically the used VG250.

2.5   Special notes on the NUTS regions

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

The new version NUTS 2021 applies since January 01, 2021. For Germany, this corresponds to the NUTS 2016 version that has been in force since 01.01.2018.

2.6   Incommunalised water areas

Administrative units the territory of which also covers the North Sea or Baltic Sea or Lake Constance are separated at the coastline. A distinction between both parts of the concerned administrative units is possible by applying the attribute GF (Geofactor). The subarea on the mentioned waters has the GF value 2. By contrast, the land subareas have the GF value 4.

For an exclusive representation without the territories on the North or Baltic Sea or Lake Constance, the filter GF = 4 has to be applied, thus preserving the coastal form.

The general rule is:
Each administrative unit has <u>exactly one</u> attribute set with the GF value 4.
Additionally, an administrative unit <u>may</u> have <u>one</u> attribute set with the GF value 2.

3 Description of the dataset

3.1 Specification

The dataset consists of an object class containing the area geometry of the municipalities and forming a Germany-wide dataset. The areas contained directly carry the attributive information — also for the superior administrative units and the NUTS regions.

3.2 Attributes

GF   Geofactor

Survey of values

2 = with structure waters
(additional entry for territorial parts in the North or Baltic Sea as well as in Lake Constance)
4 = with structure land
(each region always has exactly one entry)

This attribute was directly taken from the underlying dataset Administrative areas 1 : 250 000 (VG250). It designates with the value 2 the territorial parts that extend beyond the land area into the North or Baltic Sea or Lake Constance (incommunalised or incorporated territorial parts). The territorial parts outside the three mentioned waters have the value 4.

The general rule is:
Each administrative unit has <u>exactly one</u> attribute set with the GF value 4. Additionally, an administrative unit <u>may</u> have <u>one</u> attribute set with the GF value 2.

Note:
For the exclusive representation without the territories on the North or Baltic Sea or Lake Constance, the filter GF = 4 has to be applied, thus preserving the coastal form.

The attributes ARS_…, AGS_…, GEN_…, BEZ_… and IBZ_… described below, are distinguished by appending the identifiers G, V, K, R and L instead of … . So, the administrative level is marked by the identifier. AGS is contained only with the identifier G. As regards the other identifiers, the AGS (OMK) is identical with the respective ARS (TC).

Survey of identifiers of the administrative level

G = Gemeinde (municipality)
V = Verwaltungsgemeinschaft (administrative association)
K = Kreis (district)
R = Regierungsbezirk (administrative district)
L = Land (federal state)

ARS_…   Amtlicher Regionalschlüssel (Territorial Code, TC)

This key is the statistical key. It is structured hierarchically and reflects the different administrative levels as existing in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The ARS is structured as follows:

$1^{st} - 2^{nd}$ digit	= identification number of the Land (federal state)
3rd digit	= identification number of the Regierungsbezirk (administrative district)
$4^{th} - 5^{th}$ digit	= identification number of the Kreis (district)
$6^{th} - 9^{th}$ digit	= identification number of the Verwaltungsgemeinschaft (administrative association)
$10^{th} - 12^{th}$ digit	= identification number of the Gemeinde (municipality)

AGS_…   Amtlicher Gemeindeschlüssel (Official municipality key)   *(only with identifier G)*

The key is structured hierarchically and is derived from the ARS shortened by the identification number of the administrative association.

The AGS is structured as follows:

$1^{st} - 2^{nd}$ digit	= identification number of the Land (federal state)
3rd digit	= identification number of the Regierungsbezirk (administrative district)
$4^{th} - 5^{th}$ digit	= identification number of the Kreis (district)
$6^{th} - 8^{th}$ digit	= identification number of the Gemeinde (municipality)

GEN_…   Geographical name

BEZ_…   Designation of the administrative unit

IBZ_…   Identifikator

The Identifikator is a product-specific identification number for the attribute BEZ. The **Annex IBZ** contains a list of the IBZ identification numbers under point 8.

The following attributes Attribute NUTS…_Code and NUTS…_Name are distinguished with the identifiers 3, 2 and 1 instead of … . So, the respective level of the NUTS region (NUTS level) is marked.

Survey of the identification of the NUTS level

3 = NUTS 3
2 = NUTS 2
1 = NUTS 1

NUTS…_CODE   Hierarchical key of the NUTS region

3-digit   NUTS 1
4-digit   NUTS 2
5-digit   NUTS 3

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).

Municipalities		
	`VZ250_GEM.SHP`	Geometry
	`VZ250_GEM.SHX`	Geometry index
	`VZ250_GEM.PRJ`	Projection
	`VZ250_GEM.DBF`	Attributes
	`VZ250_GEM.CPG`	Character set value table

For the purpose of a quick overview the data of the dBase table (DBF table) are provided additionally in the Excel-97-2003 format in the file `Tabelle_VZ250.XLS`.

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.

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7 Contact

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8   Annex IBZ

The table shows an overview of the designations (BEZ) contained in the VG products and the corresponding IBZ Identifikators.

ADE	IBZ	BEZ	BEM	LGS
L	20	Land (federal state)		2
	21	Free state		
	22	Free and Hanseatic City		
	23	Free Hanseatic City		
R	30	Administrative district		3
K	40	Independent city		5
	41	City borough		
	42	District		
	43	Rural district		
	45	Rural district	special association	
	46	District	special association	
V	50	Supra-municipality		9
	51	Joint community		
	52	Association of municipalities		
	53	Association of administrations		
	55	Administrative cooperation		
	56	Performing municipality		
	80	Independent municipality	independent	
	81	Uniform municipality	independent	
	82	Municipality not adhering to a cooperation	independent	
	83	Municipality not adhering to an association	independent	
	85	Independent municipality	not adhering to an association	
	86	Uniform municipality	not adhering to an association	
	87	Municipality not adhering to a cooperation	not adhering to an association	
	88	Municipality not adhering to an association	not adhering to an association	
G	60	City	independent	12
	61	City		
	62	Municipality		
	63	City	adhering to an association	
	64	Municipality	adhering to an association	
	65	Unincorporated area		

ADE: administrative level   LGS: Length of the territorial code

- L = Land
- R = Regierungsbezirk (administrative district)
- K = Kreis (district)
- V = Verwaltungsgemeinschaft (administrative association)
- G = Gemeinde (municipality)