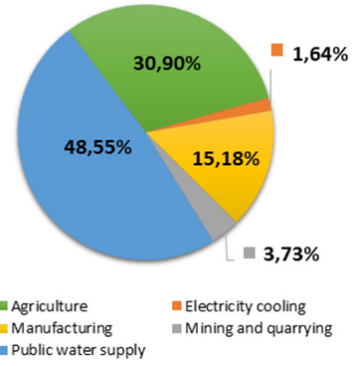
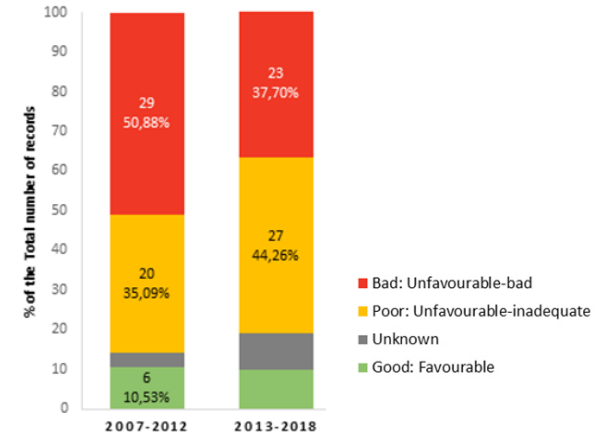




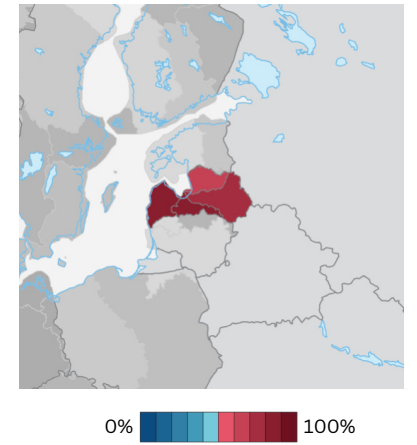
# of inhabitants **1.9 million**  
 Surface area **63 290 km<sup>2</sup>**  
 GDP per capita **74 pps [1]**  
 Significant bodies of water (RBDs) **Daugasva ; Gaujas ; Lielupes ; Ventas**  
 Polity **a parliamentary democracy and a unitary state**  
 Layers of government **central government; 9 cities ; 110 municipalities**  
 Legislative powers at the sub-national level **No**  
 Decentralisation index **2.5 (2 out of 27) [2]**  
 Water Exploitation Index plus (WEI+) **0.22% (2017) [3]**



Water abstraction per sector in Latvia - Source: EEA (2022)



Conservation status for habitats in 2007-2012 and 2013-2018 in Latvia - Source: EEA (2021)



Water bodies with less than good ecological status in Latvia - Source: EEA (2021)

**Main actors responsible for WEFE nexus relevant governance**

NEXUS PILLARS	POLICY MAKING	POLICY EXECUTION
<b>Water</b>	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development	State Environmental Service; Latvian Environment; Geology and Meteorology Center; Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology; municipalities
<b>Energy</b>	Ministry of Economics	municipalities
<b>Food</b>	Ministry of Agriculture	Food and Veterinary Service; municipalities
<b>Ecosystems</b>	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development	State Environmental Services; Latvian Environment; Geology and Meteorology Center; Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology; municipalities

**WEFE NEXUS PERSPECTIVE**

- ### CHALLENGES
- Improve wastewater management infrastructure
  - Address issues of leakage, infiltration and rupture of water supply and distribution
  - Integration of biodiversity concerns into other national and local policies
  - Reduce emissions and nitrates from agriculture and increase nutrient use efficiency
  - Establish conservation objectives and measures for all Natura 2000 sites

- ### OPPORTUNITIES
- Latvia participates in the LIFE GoodWater integrated project aiming to implement the measures in the Daugava, Gauja, Lielupe and Venta RBMPs[4]
  - The Coalition Clean Baltic Experts (Germany, Poland, Sweden, Estonia and Latvia) to exchange experiences on river restoration
  - The Latvia LIFE MarshMeadows project[5] aims to restore the local hydrological regime

More information on WEFE nexus governance in the EU

[1] EU purchasing power standard  
 [2] <https://portal.cor.europa.eu/divisionpowers/Pages/Decentralization-Index.aspx>  
 [3] The threshold for water scarcity is set at > 20%  
 [4] <https://goodwater.lv/en/home/>  
 [5] <https://www.ldf.lv/en/>

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