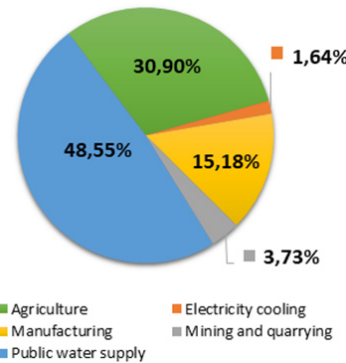
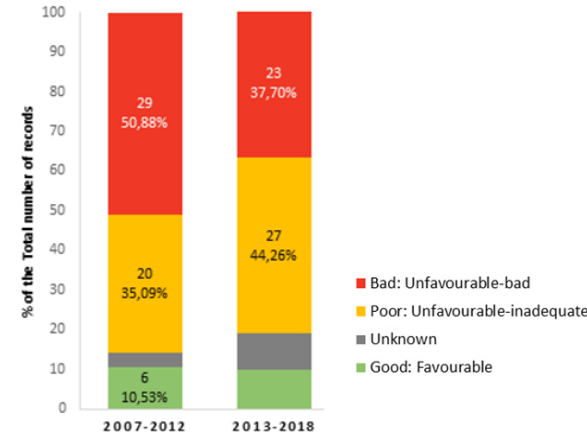


of inhabitants **1.9 million**
Surface area **63 290 km²**
GDP per capita **74 pps [1]**
Significant bodies of water (RBDs) **Daugasva ; Gaujas ; Lielupes ; Ventas**
Polity **a parliamentary democracy and a unitary state**
Layers of government **central government; 9 cities ; 110 municipalities**
Legislative 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

Water

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development

State Environmental Service; Latvian Environment; Geology and Meteorology Center; Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology; municipalities

Energy

Ministry of Economics

municipalities

Food

Ministry of Agriculture

Food and Veterinary Service; municipalities

Ecosystems

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development

State Environmental Services; Latvian Environment; Geology and Meteorology Center; Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology; municipalities



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/>

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