



## THE 2000 LATVIAN POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS METHODOLOGY AND TECHNOLOGY - IN FAVOUR OF DATA USERS

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**SUMMARY** The 2000 Population and Housing Census was the first census of population in Latvia since regaining of its independence. The aim of it was to obtain all-round and unbiased information on the number, composition, occupation, sources of livelihood of the population, as well as their dwellings and other indicators included in the Census Programme in each city and pagasts (the smallest administrative unit in the rural area) in a situation when economic system, structure of population and demographic processes have drastically changed. The necessity to carry out the census was also caused by the fact that 11 years had elapsed since the previous census of population carried out in 1989.

The methodology of the census and the range of questions included were developed in compliance with the recommendations of the international organisations - the UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and "Eurostat", as well as the requirements of the state, local governments and other data users.

In November 2000, the Report on activities performed for the Census preparation and carrying out together with the first most important provisional Census data were passed to the Government of Latvia and presented in the form of a press release to all interested parties and the general public.

At the beginning of April 2001, i.e., less than a year after the census field operations had finished, the provisional results of the 2000 Census were published in a special bulletin.

In April 2002 came out the main publication of the 2000 Census - a data collection in Latvian and in English "Results of the 2000 Population and Housing Census in Latvia" containing an analytical part, charts, maps and statistical tables. All public libraries were provided with this 2000 Census data collection free of charge. Libraries of general schools, technical schools, high schools and universities also received a copy of this publication.

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