

In February 2002 all 578 municipalities of Latvia received a standardised set of more than 40 tables each with the census data on their municipality.

Key figures of the 2000 Census have been put on the CSB home page in the Internet.

To ensure a higher level of satisfaction of the data users, the PC-Axis software for data dissemination was obtained and used. This software allows data users to combine the different census variables in the most appropriate way.

Within the framework of co-operation among the NSIs of three Baltic States the common 2000/2001 Census data publication in English was prepared and published. Now it is available on the all three NSIs home pages in the Internet.

The following main topics will be described in detail in this paper:

- Brief description of the organisation and methodological principles of the 2000 Census in Latvia.
- Census data processing in the CSB of Latvia.
- Census data publication and dissemination.
- Conclusions and some ideas for the 2010 Census round.
- Main results of the 2000 Population and Housing Census in Latvia (Annex).

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANISATION AND METHODOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES OF THE 2000 CENSUS IN LATVIA

The 2000 Population and Housing Census was the first census of population in Latvia since regaining of its independence in 1991. The aim of it was to obtain all-round and

unbiased information on the number of resident population, their composition by sex, age, ethnicity, citizenship, occupation, sources of livelihood, 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.

The preparatory work to carry out the census was started immediately after the Cabinet in 1995 issued Regulations "On Preparatory Work for the Regular Population Census", in compliance to which the Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia was commissioned to prepare and conduct the regular census of population. The Regulations of 11 May 1999, specified the census date indicating that all information had to be collected and compiled pursuant to the situation on 31 March 2000.