Documentation
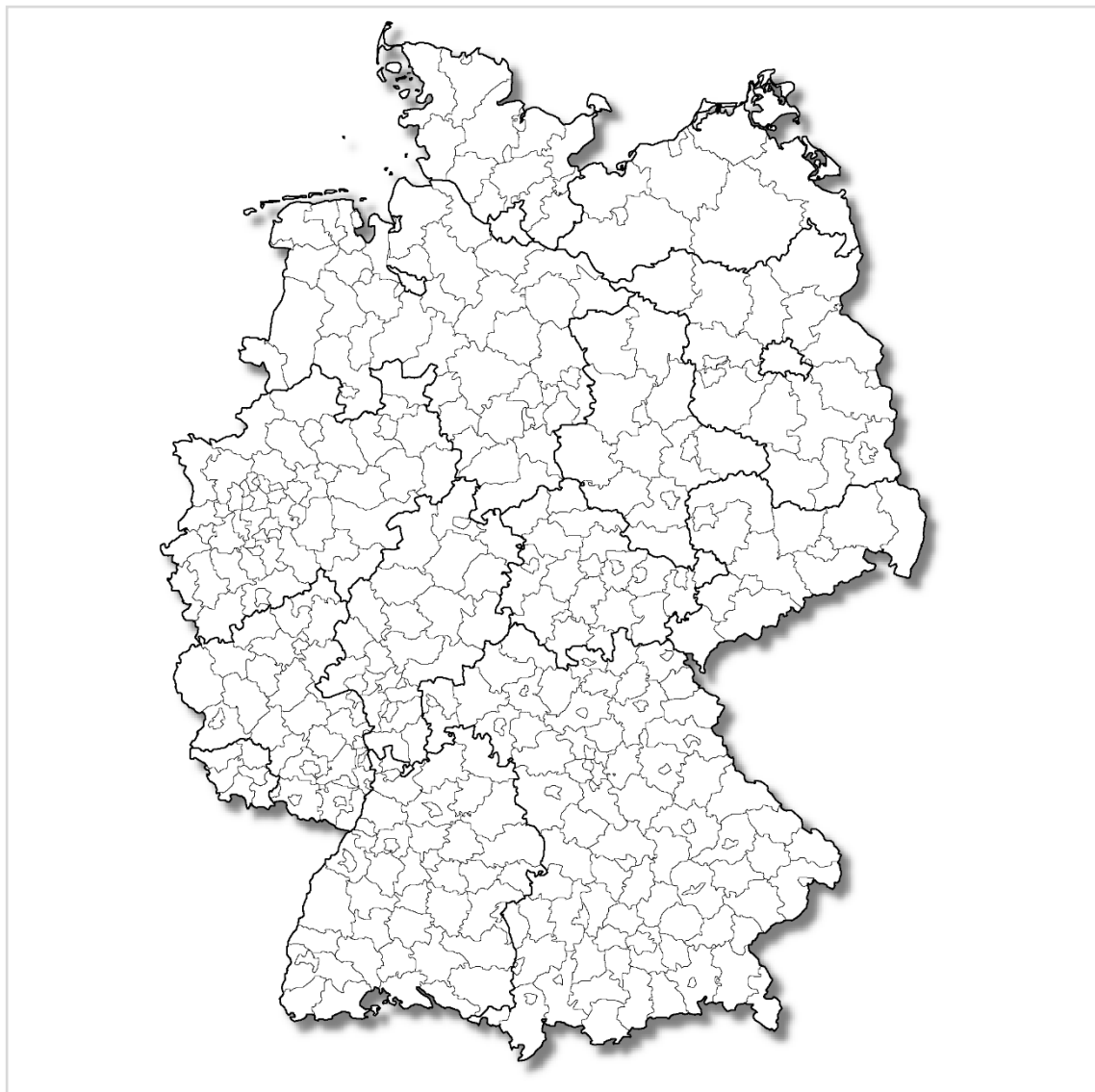
Administrative Areas 1 : 2 500 000

VG2500

valid from the product as of 01.01.2021

Contents

1   Overview of the dataset

Product:	VG2500
Content:	The dataset includes the administrative units of the hierarchical administrative levels from the country (state) down to the "Kreise" (districts) with: - administrative boundaries, - key-numbers as well as - names. 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. The data are structured according to levels (country/state, Länder (federal states), Regierungsbezirke (administrative districts), Kreise (districts/counties), whereby the areas contained are directly carrying the attributive information.
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:	strong generalized
Currency:	1-year revision cycle with the status 01.01. of each year
Data formats:	SHAPE
Data supply*:	- Dataset via Download or Disk - Web Map Service (WMS) - Web Feature Service (WFS)

Modification against last Dataset:	- In 2019, the previous Territorial key - RS was renamed into ARS in official statistics. The previous attributes RS and RS_0 were changed analogously and are now called ARS and ARS_0. -new attributes, s. 2.2.
Historical data:	available from 2007
Data volume:	2 MB
Data source:	Municipal directories and originals of acquisition on the basis of the Land Offices of Statistics, the Federal Statistical Office as well as the Land Survey Offices

* 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   Description of the dataset and online services

2.1   General information

The dataset includes the administrative units of the Federal Republic of Germany from the national down to the district level and is divided into:

- Staat (country)   STA
- Länder (states)   LAN
- Administrative districts   RBZ
- Districts   KRS

Each of these levels forms a layer containing the areas of the administrative units. The areas included carry the attributive information. With the exception of the administrative district level, the administrative levels have been created on a nationwide basis. On the national and Land levels also the area of the respective territorial sea (12 nautical-mile-zone) is included.

Lake Constance is only shown as a body of water in the data set.

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.

2.2   Attributes

OBJID   unique object identifier

BEGINN   beginning of lifetime interval

Date at which this object was inserted or changed in the data set.

ADE   Administrative level

Survey of values

1 = Country
2 = State
3 = Administrative district
4 = District

ARS   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 territorial code (ARS) is broken down as follows:

1st – 2st 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

GEN   Geographical name

BEZ   Designation of the administrative unit

IBZ   Identificator

     The identificator is a product-specific identification number for the BEZ attribute.

BEM   Note

     The note constitutes a differential description for the BEZ attribute.

ARS_0 filled territorial code

     basically 12-digit ARS (filled in with zeros on the right side)

2.3 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).

Administrative areas `VG2500_###.SHP` Geometry
          `VG2500_###.SHX` Geometry index
          `VG2500_###.PRJ` Projection
          `VG2500_###.DBF` Attributes
          `VG2500_###.CPG` Character set

          `###` stands for the respective administrative level (see **item 2.1**)

3   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.

4   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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© GeoBasis-DE / BKG (year of last data download) (data changed)

5   Contact

Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy
Section GDL2 | Service centre (DLZ) | Central Office for Geotopography (ZSGT)
Karl-Rothe-Straße 10-14
D-04105 Leipzig

Phone: +49(0)341 5634-333
Fax: +49(0)341 5634-415
E-Mail: dlz@bkg.bund.de

Further information and services can be found on our homepage www.bkg.bund.de under the heading „Products & Services".