

Ethnologue: Languages of Latvia

Twenty-sixth edition data

David M. Eberhard, Gary F. Simons, and Charles D. Fennig, Editors

Based on information from the *Ethnologue*, 26th edition:

Eberhard, David M., Gary F. Simons, and Charles D. Fennig (eds.). 2023. *Ethnologue: Languages of the World*. Twenty-sixth edition. Dallas, Texas: SIL International. Online: <http://www.ethnologue.com>.

For personal use only

Permission to distribute or reuse this work (in whole or in part) may be obtained through the Copyright Clearance Center at <http://www.copyright.com>.

Contents

List of Abbreviations	3
How to Use This Digest	4
Country Overview	6
Language Status Profile	7
Statistical Summaries	8
Alphabetical Listing of Languages	11
Language Map	17
Languages by Population	18
Languages by Status	21
Languages by Family	24
Language Code Index	25
Language Name Index	26
Bibliography	28

Copyright © 2023 by SIL International

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, redistributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise—without the prior written permission of SIL International, with the exception of brief excerpts in articles or reviews.

List of Abbreviations

A	Agent in constituent word order
<i>alt.</i>	alternate name for
<i>alt. dial.</i>	alternate dialect name for
AOV	Agent-Object-Verb
C	Consonant in canonical syllable patterns
CDE	Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960)
<i>Class</i>	Language classification
CPPDCE	Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005)
CSICH	Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003)
<i>dial.</i>	primary dialect name for
EUD	European Union of the Deaf
FCPNM	Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (1998)
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)
IMB	International Mission Board
km	kilometer(s)
L1 / L2	first language / second (or other additional) language
<i>Lg Dev</i>	Language development
<i>Lg Use</i>	Language use
m	meter(s)
P	Patient in constituent word order
PARADISEC	Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources In Endangered Cultures
<i>pej.</i>	pejorative
pl.	plural
S	Subject in constituent word order
sg.	singular
SVO	Subject-Verb-Object
<i>Type</i>	Typological information
UNCRPD	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006)
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007)
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
V	Vowel in canonical syllable patterns

How to Use This Digest

This *Ethnologue* country digest provides an extract of the information about the language situation in Latvia that is published in the 26th edition of *Ethnologue: Languages of the World* (see <http://www.ethnologue.com>), including some ways of presenting the information that are not available in the online version. The digest begins with a “Country Overview” (page 6) and “Statistical Summaries” (page 8) of languages and number of speakers by language size, by language status, and by language family.

The “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) provides detailed information on the 23 languages listed in the *Ethnologue* for the country of Latvia. This includes languages that are indigenous to the country, languages that have developed well-established multigenerational speaker communities after immigrating in the past, and languages that have a significant presence in the country but are not established (that is, not being transmitted to the next generation within the country). A complete language entry has the following form and content:

Primary language name [ISO 639-3 code] (Alternate names). Autonym. *Users*: Country user population. Population stability comment. Population remarks. Monolingual population. Ethnic population. *Location*: Location. *Status*: EGIDS level. Special cases. Language function in country. *Class*: Linguistic classification. Macrolanguage membership. *Dialects*: Dialect names. Intelligibility and dialect relations. Lexical similarity. *Type*: Linguistic typology information. *Lg Use*: Remarks on use of the language. Domains of use. User age range. Language attitudes. Bilingualism remarks. Use as second language. *Lg Dev*: Literacy rates. Literacy remarks. Use in education. Publications and use in media. Revitalization efforts. Language development agencies. *DLS*: Digital support. *Writing*: Scripts used. *Other*: Non-indigenous. General remarks. Religion. Macrolanguage member languages. *Worldwide*: Total population in all countries. Other countries where used.

See <http://www.ethnologue.com/methodology/#languagePages> for a full description of these information elements. If the autonym contains the “?” character, this indicates a complex non-Roman character that the PDF-creating software we are using is not able to render. We regret the inconvenience.

Many ways of finding languages are provided. “Languages by Population” (page 18) lists the languages in order of their first-language speaker populations. “Languages by Status” (page 21) lists the languages by their level of development or endangerment as measured on EGIDS, the Expanded Graded Intergenerational Disruption Scale (Lewis and Simons 2010). “Languages by Family” (page 24) lists the languages by their linguistic classifications. “Language Code Index” (page 25) gives an alphabetical listing of all the three-letter codes from ISO 639-3 that are used in this digest to uniquely identify languages. “Language Name Index” (page 26) lists every name that appears in the language listings as a primary or alternate name of a language or dialect. A total of 38 unique names are associated with the 23 languages described in this digest.

Finally, a listing of all the published sources cited within this digest is found in “Bibliography” (page 28). The published sources are cited using standard in-text citations enclosed in parentheses, consisting of the author’s or editor’s surname followed by the year of publication. Unpublished sources including personal communications and unpublished reports are also acknowledged when specific statements or facts are attributed to them. They are identified using in-text citations enclosed in parentheses in which the year of the communication is given first, followed by the source’s first initial and surname. In such a case, there is no corresponding entry in the bibliography.

This digest is designed for use in both digital and print formats. The cross-references are thus rendered as page numbers that are hyperlinks. When using the document in printed form, simply turn to the referenced page by number. When using it in digital form, click on the blue text to jump to the cross-referenced location.

If you believe any of the information about a language in this digest is in error or if you are able to supply missing information, please send your proposed change to the editor using one of the means given below. Provide as much information as possible about the source of your information. Full bibliographic details of published sources are especially helpful.

The preferred method of submitting corrections and additions is to join our Contributor Program by applying at <http://www.ethnologue.com/contributor-program>. With a contributor account you will be entitled to complimentary access to the website and will be able to use the Contribute tab on the page for a language or country in order to propose corrections and additions. The advantage of giving feedback in this way is that it becomes part of the public record on the website. You will also be automatically notified of the editorial action.

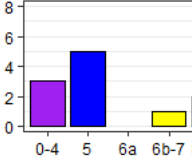
Alternatively, you may submit corrections and additions by e-mail to:

Ethnologue_Editor@sil.org

Or by post to:

Editor, Ethnologue
SIL International
7500 West Camp Wisdom Road
Dallas, TX 75236, U.S.A.

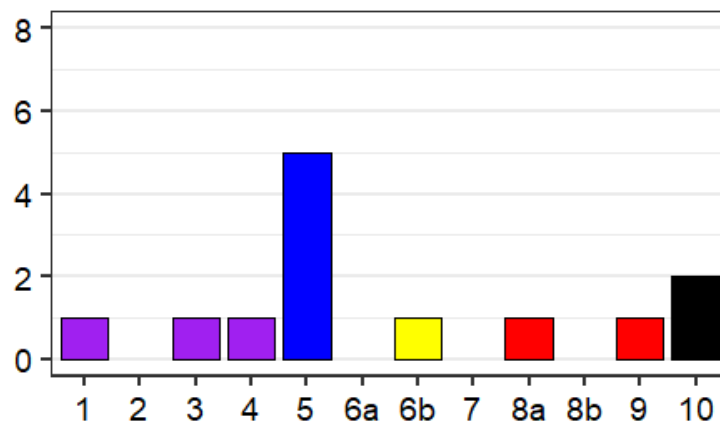
Country Overview

Name of country	Latvia
Other names	Republic of Latvia
Population	1,875,000 (2021 census)
Principal language	Standard Latvian
Literacy rate	100% (2018 UNESCO)
International conventions	CDE (2009), CPPDCE (2007), CSICH (2005), FCPNM (2005), ICCPR (1992), UNCRPD (2010), UNDRIP (2007)
General references	Campbell and King 2011, Kibrik 1991
Language counts	<p>The number of established languages listed for Latvia is 13. Of these, 11 are living and 2 are extinct. Of the living languages, 5 are indigenous and 6 are non-indigenous. Furthermore, 3 are institutional, 5 are developing, 1 is in trouble, and 2 are dying. Also listed are 9 unestablished languages and 1 macrolanguage.</p> 

See the next page for an explanation of the summary categories for language vitality used in the above counts and graph.

Language Status Profile

The following histogram gives a graphic profile of the established languages in Latvia with respect to their status of language development versus language endangerment. This includes all of the languages appearing in the “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) that report an EGIDS level after *Status*; macrolanguages and unestablished languages are not included in the profile. The horizontal axis plots the estimated level of development or endangerment as measured on the EGIDS scale (Lewis and Simons 2010). The height of each bar indicates the number of languages that are estimated to be at the given level. Consult “Languages by Status” (page 21) in order to see the specific languages for each level.



The color coding of the bars in the histogram above matches the color scheme used in the summary profile graph on the preceding page. In this scheme, the EGIDS levels are grouped as follows:

- Purple = Institutional (EGIDS 0–4) — The language has been developed to the point that it is used and sustained by institutions beyond the home and community.
- Blue = Developing (EGIDS 5) — The language is in vigorous use, with literature in a standardized form being used by some though this is not yet widespread or sustainable.
- Green = Vigorous (EGIDS 6a) — The language is in vigorous use among all generations and remains unstandardized.
- Yellow = In trouble (EGIDS 6b–7) — Intergenerational transmission is in the process of being broken, but the child-bearing generation can still use the language so it is possible that revitalization efforts could restore transmission of the language in the home.
- Red = Dying (EGIDS 8a–9) — The only fluent users (if any) are older than child-bearing age, so it is too late to restore natural intergenerational transmission through the home; a mechanism outside the home would need to be developed.
- Black = Extinct (EGIDS 10) — The language is no longer used and no one retains a sense of ethnic identity associated with the language.

Statistical Summaries

The “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) provides a detailed listing of all the languages of Latvia. This section steps back from the detail to offer a summary view of the language situation in the country. Specifically, it offers three numerical tabulations of the living established languages of Latvia and their users: by language size, by language status, and by language family.

Summary by language size

Table 1 summarizes the distribution of living established languages in Latvia by number of L1 speakers. The *Population range* column categorizes the sizes of the languages by order of magnitude (in terms of the number of digits in the population of first-language speakers). Consult “Languages by Population” (page 18) for a listing of the specific languages in each range category.

The *Count* column gives the number of living established languages within the specified population range. The *Percent* column gives the share of the count for that population range as a percentage of the total number of languages given at the bottom of the Count column. The *Cumulative* column gives the cumulative sum of the percentage of languages going from top to bottom in the column.

The *Total* column gives the total L1 population of all the languages in the given range category. The second *Percent* column gives the percentage of the total country population as estimated at the bottom of the Total column. Note that if the table has a row for Unknown, representing languages for which the *Ethnologue* does not have a population estimate, the calculation of population percentage is not able to take those languages into account. The final *Cumulative* column gives the cumulative sums of the population percentages going from top to bottom in the column.

Table 1: Distribution of languages by number of first-language speakers

Population range	Living languages			Number of speakers		
	Count	Percent	Cumulative	Total	Percent	Cumulative
1,000,000 to 9,999,999	1	9.1	9.1%	1,390,000	55.82307	55.82307%
100,000 to 999,999	2	18.2	27.3%	1,091,000	43.81509	99.63815%
1,000 to 9,999	2	18.2	45.5%	7,640	0.30683	99.94498%
100 to 999	2	18.2	63.6%	1,370	0.05502	100.00000%
0	1	9.1	72.7%		0.00000	100.00000%
Unknown	3	27.3	100.0%			
<i>Totals</i>	11	100.0		2,490,010	100.00000	

Summary by language status

Table 2 summarizes the distribution of living established languages in Latvia by their status in terms of language development or language endangerment. The *EGIDS* column categorizes the languages by their level on the EGIDS scale. Consult “Languages by Status” (page 21) for a listing of the specific languages that have been assigned to each level. Note that the EGIDS level reported here is for the status of the language in Latvia. Languages that are also used in other countries may be assigned to a different EGIDS level in those countries.

The next six columns are as in Table 1. In addition, the *Mean* column gives the average L1 population of all the languages with the given EGIDS level and the *Median* column gives the median L1 population for the languages at that level, that is, half of the languages at that level have a higher population and half have a lower population. If there are any languages with an unknown population, these are ignored in the calculation of the mean and the median.

Table 2: Distribution of languages by vitality status

EGIDS	Living languages			Number of speakers			Mean	Median
	Count	Percent	Cumulative	Total	Percent	Cumulative		
1	1	9.1	9.1%	1,390,000	55.8231	55.8231%	1,390,000	1,390,000
3	1	9.1	18.2%	891,000	35.7830	91.6061%	891,000	891,000
4	1	9.1	27.3%	Unknown				
5	5	45.5	72.7%	208,180	8.3606	99.9667%	41,636	3,820
6b	1	9.1	81.8%	Unknown				
8a	1	9.1	90.9%	830	0.0333	100.0000%	830	830
9	1	9.1	100.0%		0.0000	100.0000%		
<i>Totals</i>	11	100.0		2,490,010	100.0000			

Summary by language family

The genealogical classifications given in the language entries of the “Alphabetical Listing of Languages” (page 11) name 3 different top-level groups. Table 3 summarizes the distribution of living established languages and their L1 populations within these families. The columns are as for table 2, with the exception that *Cumulative* is excluded since there is no inherent ordering of the families.

Table 3: Distribution of languages by language family

Language family	Living languages		Number of speakers			
	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Median</i>
Indo-European	8	72.7	2,488,010	99.9	311,001	102,820
Sign language	1	9.1	2,000	0.1	2,000	2,000
Uralic	2	18.2		0.0		
<i>Totals</i>	11	100.0	2,490,010	100.0		

Alphabetical Listing of Languages

Armenian, Western [hyw]. *Users*: 1,680 in Latvia (2018). *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Indo-European, Armenian. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. *Writing*: Armenian script. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 1,582,290 (as L1: 1,576,490; as L2: 5,800). Global EGIDS level: 5 (Developing). Indigenous in: Armenia, Georgia, Turkey. Also established in 21 other countries and unestablished in 13 more.

Azerbaijani, North [azj]. Autonym: Azərbaycan dili, Azərbaycanca. *Users*: 2,430 in Latvia (2018). *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Turkic, Southern, Azerbaijani. *Type*: SOV; postpositions; no articles; case-marking (6 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense; 24 consonant and 9 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; stress on final syllable; vowel harmony. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Radio. TV. Dictionary. Grammar. Bible: 1891–2009. *Writing*: Arabic script, Naskh variant, used until 1920s. Braille script. Cyrillic script, official usage in Dagestan. Latin script, official usage in Azerbaijan since 1992. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 9,110,020. Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia. Also established in: Russian Federation. Unestablished in: Afghanistan, Estonia, Germany, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Sweden, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

Belarusian [bel]. *Users*: 18,300 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 97,200 (2021 census). *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, East. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); no articles; case-marking (6 cases); verb affixes mark person, number, gender of subject (in past tense); passives; tense and aspect; 37 consonant and 6 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; free stress. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. Bible: 1973–2017. *Writing*: Arabic script, Naskh variant, developed in the 16th century. Braille script, no longer in use. Cyrillic script, official usage. Latin script, official usage 1941–1944, modern occasional usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 3,766,550 (as L1: 1,376,550; as L2: 2,390,000). Global EGIDS level: 5 (Developing). Indigenous in: Belarus. Also established in: Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine. Unestablished in: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Czechia, Estonia, Germany, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United States, Uzbekistan.

Chuvash [chv]. *Users*: 1,340 in Latvia (2018). *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Turkic, Bolgar. *Type*: SOV. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Newspapers. Radio. TV. Dictionary. Grammar. Bible: 2010. *Writing*: Cyrillic script. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 738,150. Global EGIDS level: 6b (Threatened). Indigenous in: Russian Federation. Unestablished in: Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

English [eng] (Angļu). Autonym: English. *Users*: 914,000 in Latvia (European Commission 2012), L2 users. *Status*: 4 (Educational). *Class*: Indo-European, Germanic, West, English. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; genitives after noun heads; articles, adjectives, numerals before noun heads; question word initial; word order distinguishes subject, object, indirect objects, given and new information, topic and comment; active and passive; causative; comparative;

consonant and vowel clusters; 24 consonants, 13 vowels, 8 diphthongs; non-tonal; free stress; phrasal verbs. *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Standard Latvian [lvs]. *Lg Dev*: Taught as subject in many secondary schools. Fully developed. Bible: 1382–2002. *Writing*: Braille script. Deseret Alphabet, developed in 1854 with limited usage until 1877. Duployan shorthand. Latin script, primary usage. Shavian (Shaw) script, no longer in use. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 1,456,448,320 (as L1: 379,682,200; as L2: 1,076,766,120). Global EGIDS level: 0 (International). Indigenous in: Ireland, United Kingdom. Also established in 167 other countries and unestablished in 16 more.

French [fra]. Autonym: français. *Users*: 20,200 in Latvia (Marcoux et al 2022), L2 users. *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). *Class*: Indo-European, Italic, Romance, Italo-Western, Western, Gallo-Iberian, Gallo-Romance, Gallo-Rhaetian, Oïl, French. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final for common adjectives, numbers, possessives, but most attributive adjectives come after the noun; gender (masculine/feminine); definite and indefinite articles; verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense; comparatives; 20 consonant and 14 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; syllable-timed stress. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. Bible: 1530–2000. *Writing*: Braille script. Duployan shorthand. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 309,804,220 (as L1: 80,770,190; as L2: 229,034,030). Global EGIDS level: 0 (International). Indigenous in: Andorra, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Monaco, Switzerland. Also established in 95 other countries and unestablished in 24 more.

Georgian [kat]. *Users*: 1,000 in Latvia (2018). *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Kartvelian, Georgian. *Type*: SOV; postpositions; noun head final; no articles; case-marking (7 cases); verb affixes mark person, number, object; ergativity; passives; tense and aspect; 27 consonants, 5 vowels, no diphthongs; non-tonal; stress on first syllable; long consonant clusters. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. Bible: 1743–2021. *Writing*: Braille script. Georgian (Mkhedruli and Mtavruli) script, primary usage. Khutsuri (Asomtavruli and Nuskhuri) script, no longer in use. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 3,878,780 (as L1: 3,724,240; as L2: 154,540). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Georgia, Turkey. Also established in: Azerbaijan, Iran. Unestablished in: Armenia, Canada, Germany, Greece, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

German, Standard [deu] (Deutsch). Autonym: Deutsch. *Users*: 212,540 in Latvia, all users. L1 users: 540 in Latvia (2021 census). L2 users: 212,000 (2021). Ethnic population: 3,470 (2021 census). *Status*: 5* (Dispersed). *Class*: Indo-European, Germanic, West, High German, German, Middle German, East Middle German. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); definite and indefinite articles; case-marking (4 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense; comparatives; 22 consonants, 22 vowels, 3 diphthongs; non-tonal; stress on first syllable of the root. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. Bible: 1466–2016. *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. Latin script, Fraktur variant, used until 1940. Runic script, no longer in use. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 133,245,880 (as L1: 75,282,080; as L2: 57,963,800). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Austria, Belgium, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy. Also

established in 39 other countries and unestablished in 23 more.

Krevinian [zkv] (Krevin, Krieviņu dialekts). *Users*: No known L1 speakers. Last speaker died in the mid 1800s. *Location*: Bauskas province: Bauske. *Status*: 10 (Extinct). *Class*: Uralic, Finnic. *DLS*: Still.

Latgalian [ltg] (Latgaliešu). Autonym: Latgališu. *Users*: 200,000 in Latvia (2009 J. Eisaks). *Location*: Aglona, Baltinava, Balvi, Cibla, Dagda, Daugavpils, Kārsava, Kraslava, Livāni, Ludza, Preili, Riebiņi, Rugāji, Varakļāni, Vārkava, Viļaka, and Viļāni municipalities; Rezekne City; generally east of the Balvi–Pechory (Russia) highway. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Baltic, Eastern. A member of macrolanguage Latvian [lav]. *Dialects*: None known. Reportedly similar to Latvian [lav] and Lithuanian [lit]. *Lg Use*: Also use Russian [rus]. Also use Standard Latvian [lvs]. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Newspapers. Radio. Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 1937. *DLS*: Ascending (0.25). *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 17. *Worldwide*: Unestablished in: Germany.

Latvian [lav]. A macrolanguage. Population total all languages (L1 only): 1,752,780. *DLS*: . *Other*: Includes: Latgalian [ltg], Standard Latvian [lvs]. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 1,752,780.

Latvian Sign Language [lsl] (LZV, Latviešu Zīmju Valoda). *Users*: 2,000 (2021 EUD). Approximately 0.1%. Another estimate: 9,900 (2014 IMB). *Location*: Scattered. *Status*: 5 (Developing). Recognized language (1999, Official Language Law, Section 3(3), 1999-09-12), Ensures development and use for communication with people of impaired hearing. *Class*: Sign language, Deaf community sign language. *Type*: One-handed fingerspelling. *Lg Use*: Deaf associations. Deaf boarding schools in Riga and Valmiera. Used by all. *Lg Dev*: Literature. TV. Theater. Videos. Dictionary. Grammar. Agency: Latvijas Nedzirdīgo savienība (Latvian Association of the Deaf, LNS). *DLS*: Emerging (0.01). *Other*: Fingerspelling system similar to French Sign Language [fsl]. 41 working sign language interpreters (2021 EUD). Christian.

Latvian, Standard [lvs]. Autonym: Latviešu valoda, Latviski. *Users*: 1,840,000 in Latvia, all users. L1 users: 1,390,000 in Latvia (2021 census). L2 users: 450,000 (European Commission 2012). Ethnic population: 1,370,000 (2021 census). *Location*: Widespread. *Status*: 1 (National). Statutory national language (1998, Constitution, Article 4). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Baltic, Eastern. A member of macrolanguage Latvian [lav]. *Dialects*: Tamian is a subdialect of the Central Latvian dialect. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final; gender (masculine/feminine); no articles; case-marking (7 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense and aspect; comparatives; 26 consonants, 11 vowels, 10 diphthongs; tonal (3 tones: even, falling, broken); stress on first syllable. *Lg Use*: Many also use English [eng] (European Commission 2006). Many also use Russian [rus]. *Lg Dev*: Taught in all primary and secondary schools. Taught in all tertiary schools. Fully developed. Bible: 1689–1995. *DLS*: Vital (0.82). *Writing*: Latin script. *Other*: Christian. *Map*: 17. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 2,005,550 (as L1: 1,554,520; as L2: 451,030). Unestablished in: Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Norway, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States,

Venezuela.

Lithuanian [lit]. Autonym: Lietuviškai, Lietuvių kalba. *Users*: 13,200 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 33,400 (2021 census). *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Baltic, Eastern. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. *Bible*: 1735–1998. *Writing*: Latin script. Latin script, Fraktur variant, no longer in use. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 2,772,870 (as L1: 2,771,830; as L2: 1,040). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Lithuania. Also established in: Poland. Unestablished in: Australia, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Norway, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uzbekistan.

Liv [liv] (Livonian). Autonym: Livõ kēļ, Rāndakēļ. *Users*: 20, all users. L1 users: No known L1 speakers. Last speaker, Grizelda Kristina, died in 2013 (2013 D. Charter). L2 users: 20 (Metslang et al 2015). Ethnic population: 250 (Metslang et al 2015). *Location*: Dundaga and Ventspils municipalities: 12 coastal villages; narrow strip along Baltic coast; Riga city. *Status*: 9 (Dormant). *Class*: Uralic, Finnic. *Dialects*: Western Livonian (Courland Livonian, Kurzeme, Raandalist), Eastern Livonian (Salaca Livonian, Salis Livonian, Vidzeme). *Lg Use*: Shifted to Standard Latvian [lvs]. *Lg Dev*: Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 1942. Agency: Mazirbe Livonian Society. *DLS*: Ascending (0.14). *Writing*: Latin script.

Polish [pol]. *Users*: 11,500 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 59,500 (2021 census). *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, West, Lechitic. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); no articles; case-marking (7 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; aspect; comparatives; 30 consonant and 8 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; stress on penultimate syllable. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. *Bible*: 1561–2018. *Writing*: Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 40,589,930 (as L1: 39,896,930; as L2: 693,000). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Czechia, Poland, Ukraine. Also established in: Germany, Hungary, Israel, Lithuania, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia. Unestablished in: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States, Uzbekistan.

Romani, Baltic [rml] (Balt Romani, Balt Slavic Romani, Baltic Slavic Romani, Romani). Autonym: Romani. *Users*: 5,640 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 8,200 (2021 census). *Location*: Scattered: western Latvia; Riga. *Status*: 5* (Developing). *Class*: Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Intermediate Divisions, Western, Romani, Northern. *Dialects*: Latvian Romani (Lettish Romani, Lotfitko Romani, Lotfitko Romani cib, Lotfitka Romá), North Russian Romani, Estonian Romani (Čuxny Romani). *Lg Dev*: Printed or pre-recorded Romani language materials may not be understandable outside the country (or context of surrounding languages) in which they were produced. *Bible*: 2015. *Writing*: Cyrillic script, used in Belarus, Russian Federation, and Ukraine. Latin script, used in Latvia, Lithuania and Poland. *Other*: Non-indigenous. Ethnic groups: Lotfitka Romá (western Latvia). Christian.

Worldwide: Total users in all countries: 33,570. Also established in: Belarus, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Russian Federation.

Romanian [ron]. *Users*: 3,350 in Latvia (2018). *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Indo-European, Italic, Romance, Eastern. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head initial; gender (masculine/feminine/ambigeneric); indefinite article and definite article suffix; case-marking (2 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense; 22 consonants, 7 vowels, 2 diphthongs; non-tonal; free stress. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. *Bible*: 1688–1989. *Writing*: Braille script. Cyrillic script, official usage in Moldova until 1991. Cyrillic script, Old Church Slavonic variant, 1688, experimental usage. Latin script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 24,478,820 (as L1: 24,461,820; as L2: 17,000). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Moldova, Romania, Ukraine. Also established in: Hungary, Israel, Serbia. Unestablished in: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom, United States, Uzbekistan.

Russian [rus] (Krievu). *Users*: 2,151,000 in Latvia, all users. L1 users: 891,000 in Latvia (2021 census). L2 users: 1,260,000 (European Commission 2012). Ethnic population: 703,000 (2021 census). *Location*: Major cities. *Status*: 3 (Wider communication). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, East. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; genitives after noun heads; adjectives, numerals before noun heads; question word initial; 1 prefix on a word; recursive addition of suffixes allowed; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); no articles; case-marking (6 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense and aspect; comparatives; 32 consonants, 5 vowels, 4 diphthongs; non-tonal; free stress. *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Eastern Yiddish [ydd], Latgalian [ltg], Standard Latvian [lvs]. *Lg Dev*: Taught as subject in many secondary schools. Fully developed. *Bible*: 1876–2011. *Writing*: Braille script. Cyrillic script, primary usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. Christian, Jewish. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 254,997,130 (as L1: 146,954,150; as L2: 107,987,980). Global EGIDS level: 0 (International). Indigenous in: Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Ukraine. Also established in 16 other countries and unestablished in 30 more.

Ukrainian [ukr]. *Users*: 17,300 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 63,600 (2021 census). *Status*: Unestablished. *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, East. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final; gender (masculine/feminine/neuter); no articles; case-marking (7 cases); verb affixes mark person, number; passives; tense and aspect; comparatives; 32 consonant and 6 vowel phonemes; non-tonal; free stress. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. *Bible*: 1903–2020. *Writing*: Cyrillic script. Latin script, used in the 19th century, limited usage. *Other*: Non-indigenous. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 33,026,920 (as L1: 26,862,920; as L2: 6,164,000). Global EGIDS level: 1 (National). Indigenous in: Romania, Slovakia, Ukraine. Also established in: Brazil, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland. Unestablished in: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany,

Greece, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom, United States, Uzbekistan.

Võro [vro] (Võro kiil). Autonym: Võro kiil. *Location*: Aluksnes municipality: north, along Estonian border. *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Class*: Uralic, Finnic. *Lg Dev*: Newspapers. Radio. TV. Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 1686–1905. *Writing*: Latin script. *Map*: 17. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 87,210. Also indigenous in: Estonia, Russian Federation (Seto).

Yiddish, Eastern [ydd] (Judeo-German). *Users*: 830 in Latvia (2021). *Location*: Scattered. *Status*: 8a (Moribund). *Class*: Indo-European, Germanic, West, High German, Yiddish. *Dialect*: Northeastern Yiddish. *Type*: SVO; prepositions; noun head final; gender (masculine, feminine, neuter); definite and indefinite articles; verb affixes mark person, number; 20 consonant, 6 vowels and 3 diphthongs; non-tonal; stress on first syllable. *Lg Use*: Shifted to Standard Latvian [lvs]. Some also use Russian [rus]. *Lg Dev*: Periodicals. Radio. Grammar. Bible: 1821–1936. *Writing*: Hebrew script. *Other*: Non-indigenous. The Jewish population has declined significantly since Communism fell in the 1990s, and many Jews moved to Israel and other nations. Jewish. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 408,547 (as L1: 401,947; as L2: 6,600). Global EGIDS level: 5 (Developing). Indigenous in: Ukraine. Also established in 19 other countries and unestablished in 3 more.

Zemgalian [xzm] (Semigallian). *Users*: No known L1 speakers in Latvia. The last speaker likely died by the 16th century. *Location*: Bauskas, Jelgava, Jūrmala, Ķekava, Marupe, Ogre, Olaine, Riga City, and Ropaži municipalities. *Status*: 10 (Extinct). *Class*: Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Baltic, Eastern. *DLS*: Still. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: none known. Also indigenous in: Lithuania.

Language Map



Languages by Population

In this section the languages of Latvia are listed in order of their population of first-language speakers within the country, from highest to lowest. The entries report just the population and status elements.

1,000,000 to 9,999,999

Latvian, Standard [[lvs](#)] *Users:* 1,390,000 in Latvia (2021 census). 1,840,000 in Latvia, all users. L2 users: 450,000 (European Commission 2012). Ethnic population: 1,370,000 (2021 census). *Status:* 1 (National). Statutory national language (1998, Constitution, Article 4). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,005,550 (as L1: 1,554,520; as L2: 451,030).

100,000 to 999,999

Russian [[rus](#)] *Users:* 891,000 in Latvia (2021 census). 2,151,000 in Latvia, all users. L2 users: 1,260,000 (European Commission 2012). Ethnic population: 703,000 (2021 census). *Status:* 3 (Wider communication). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 254,997,130 (as L1: 146,954,150; as L2: 107,987,980).

Latgalian [[ltg](#)] *Users:* 200,000 in Latvia (2009 J. Eisaks). *Status:* 5* (Developing).

10,000 to 99,999

Belarusian [[bel](#)] *Users:* 18,300 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 97,200 (2021 census). *Status:* Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 3,766,550 (as L1: 1,376,550; as L2: 2,390,000).

Ukrainian [[ukr](#)] *Users:* 17,300 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 63,600 (2021 census). *Status:* Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 33,026,920 (as L1: 26,862,920; as L2: 6,164,000).

Lithuanian [[lit](#)] *Users:* 13,200 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 33,400 (2021 census). *Status:* Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,772,870 (as L1: 2,771,830; as L2: 1,040).

Polish [[pol](#)] *Users:* 11,500 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 59,500 (2021 census). *Status:* Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 40,589,930 (as L1: 39,896,930; as L2: 693,000).

1,000 to 9,999

Romani, Baltic [[rml](#)] *Users:* 5,640 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 8,200 (2021 census). *Status:* 5* (Developing). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 33,570.

Romanian [ron] *Users:* 3,350 in Latvia (2018). *Status:* Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 24,478,820 (as L1: 24,461,820; as L2: 17,000).

Azerbaijani, North [azj] *Users:* 2,430 in Latvia (2018). *Status:* Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 9,110,020.

Latvian Sign Language [lsl] *Users:* 2,000 (2021 EUD). Approximately 0.1%. Another estimate: 9,900 (2014 IMB). *Status:* 5 (Developing). Recognized language (1999, Official Language Law, Section 3(3), 1999-09-12), Ensures development and use for communication with people of impaired hearing.

Armenian, Western [hyw] *Users:* 1,680 in Latvia (2018). *Status:* Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 1,582,290 (as L1: 1,576,490; as L2: 5,800).

Chuvash [chv] *Users:* 1,340 in Latvia (2018). *Status:* Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 738,150.

Georgian [kat] *Users:* 1,000 in Latvia (2018). *Status:* Unestablished. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 3,878,780 (as L1: 3,724,240; as L2: 154,540).

100 to 999

Yiddish, Eastern [ydd] *Users:* 830 in Latvia (2021). *Status:* 8a (Moribund). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 408,547 (as L1: 401,947; as L2: 6,600).

German, Standard [deu] *Users:* 540 in Latvia (2021 census). 212,540 in Latvia, all users. L2 users: 212,000 (2021). Ethnic population: 3,470 (2021 census). *Status:* 5* (Dispersed). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 133,245,880 (as L1: 75,282,080; as L2: 57,963,800).

0

Krevinian [zkv] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. Last speaker died in the mid 1800s. *Status:* 10 (Extinct).

Liv [liv] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. Last speaker, Grizelda Kristina, died in 2013 (2013 D. Charter). 20, all users. L2 users: 20 (Metslang et al 2015). Ethnic population: 250 (Metslang et al 2015). *Status:* 9 (Dormant).

Zemgalian [xzm] *Users:* No known L1 speakers in Latvia. The last speaker likely died by the 16th century. *Status:* 10 (Extinct). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: none known.

Unknown

English [eng] *Users:* L2 users: 914,000 in Latvia (European Commission 2012), L2 users. *Status:* 4 (Educational). *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 1,456,448,320 (as L1: 379,682,200; as L2: 1076,766,120).

French [fra] *Users:* L2 users: 20,200 in Latvia (Marcoux et al 2022), L2 users. *Status:* 5*

(Dispersed). *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 309,804,220 (as L1: 80,770,190; as L2: 229,034,030).

Võro [[vro](#)] *Status*: 6b* (Threatened). *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 87,210.

Languages by Status

In this section the languages of Latvia are listed in order of their status within the country as represented by their level on the EGIDs scale (Lewis and Simons 2010). The language entries are reduced to just the information elements that are relevant to assessing the EGIDS level: population, status, language use, language development, and writing.

1 (National)

Latvian, Standard [*lvs*] *Users*: 1,840,000 in Latvia, all users. L1 users: 1,390,000 in Latvia (2021 census). L2 users: 450,000 (European Commission 2012). Ethnic population: 1,370,000 (2021 census). *Status*: Statutory national language (1998, Constitution, Article 4). *Lg Use*: Many also use English [*eng*] (European Commission 2006). Many also use Russian [*rus*]. *Lg Dev*: Fully developed. Bible: 1689–1995. *Writing*: Latin script. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 2,005,550 (as L1: 1,554,520; as L2: 451,030).

3 (Wider communication)

Russian [*rus*] *Users*: 2,151,000 in Latvia, all users. L1 users: 891,000 in Latvia (2021 census). L2 users: 1,260,000 (European Commission 2012). Ethnic population: 703,000 (2021 census). *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Eastern Yiddish [*ydd*], Latgalian [*ltg*], Standard Latvian [*lvs*]. *Writing*: Braille script. Cyrillic script, primary usage. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 254,997,130 (as L1: 146,954,150; as L2: 107,987,980).

4 (Educational)

English [*eng*] *Users*: 914,000 in Latvia (European Commission 2012), L2 users. *Lg Use*: Used as L2 by Standard Latvian [*lvs*]. *Writing*: Braille script. Deseret Alphabet, developed in 1854 with limited usage until 1877. Dupleyan shorthand. Latin script, primary usage. Shavian (Shaw) script, no longer in use. *Worldwide*: Total users in all countries: 1,456,448,320 (as L1: 379,682,200; as L2: 1076,766,120).

5 (Developing)

Latgalian [*ltg*] *Users*: 200,000 in Latvia (2009 J. Eisaks). *Lg Use*: Also use Russian [*rus*]. Also use Standard Latvian [*lvs*]. *Lg Dev*: Literature. Newspapers. Radio. Dictionary. Grammar. NT: 1937. *Writing*: Latin script.

Latvian Sign Language [*lsl*] *Users*: 2,000 (2021 EUD). Approximately 0.1%. Another estimate: 9,900 (2014 IMB). *Status*: Recognized language (1999, Official Language Law, Section 3(3), 1999-09-12), Ensures development and use for communication with people of impaired hearing. *Lg Use*: Deaf associations. Deaf boarding schools in Riga and Valmiera. Used by all.

Lg Dev: Literature. TV. Theater. Videos. Dictionary. Grammar.

Romani, Baltic [rml] *Users:* 5,640 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 8,200 (2021 census). *Writing:* Cyrillic script, used in Belarus, Russian Federation, and Ukraine. Latin script, used in Latvia, Lithuania and Poland. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 33,570.

5 (Dispersed)

French [fra] *Users:* 20,200 in Latvia (Marcoux et al 2022), L2 users. *Writing:* Braille script. Duployan shorthand. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 309,804,220 (as L1: 80,770,190; as L2: 229,034,030).

German, Standard [deu] *Users:* 212,540 in Latvia, all users. L1 users: 540 in Latvia (2021 census). L2 users: 212,000 (2021). Ethnic population: 3,470 (2021 census). *Writing:* Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. Latin script, Fraktur variant, used until 1940. Runic script, no longer in use. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 133,245,880 (as L1: 75,282,080; as L2: 57,963,800).

6b (Threatened)

Võro [vro] *Writing:* Latin script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 87,210.

8a (Moribund)

Yiddish, Eastern [ydd] *Users:* 830 in Latvia (2021). *Lg Use:* Shifted to Standard Latvian [lvs]. Some also use Russian [rus]. *Writing:* Hebrew script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 408,547 (as L1: 401,947; as L2: 6,600).

9 (Dormant)

Liv [liv] *Users:* 20, all users. L1 users: No known L1 speakers. Last speaker, Grizelda Kristina, died in 2013 (2013 D. Charter). L2 users: 20 (Metslang et al 2015). Ethnic population: 250 (Metslang et al 2015). *Lg Use:* Shifted to Standard Latvian [lvs]. *Lg Dev:* Dictionary. Grammar. Texts. NT: 1942. *Writing:* Latin script.

10 (Extinct)

Krevinian [zkv] *Users:* No known L1 speakers. Last speaker died in the mid 1800s.

Zemgalian [xzm] *Users:* No known L1 speakers in Latvia. The last speaker likely died by the 16th century. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: none known.

Unestablished

Armenian, Western [hyw] *Users:* 1,680 in Latvia (2018). *Writing:* Armenian script. *Worldwide:*

Total users in all countries: 1,582,290 (as L1: 1,576,490; as L2: 5,800).

Azerbaijani, North [azj] *Users:* 2,430 in Latvia (2018). *Writing:* Arabic script, Naskh variant, used until 1920s. Braille script. Cyrillic script, official usage in Dagestan. Latin script, official usage in Azerbaijan since 1992. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 9,110,020.

Belarusian [bel] *Users:* 18,300 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 97,200 (2021 census). *Writing:* Arabic script, Naskh variant, developed in the 16th century. Braille script, no longer in use. Cyrillic script, official usage. Latin script, official usage 1941–1944, modern occasional usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 3,766,550 (as L1: 1,376,550; as L2: 2,390,000).

Chuvash [chv] *Users:* 1,340 in Latvia (2018). *Writing:* Cyrillic script. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 738,150.

Georgian [kat] *Users:* 1,000 in Latvia (2018). *Writing:* Braille script. Georgian (Mkhedruli and Mtavruli) script, primary usage. Khutsuri (Asomtavruli and Nuskhuri) script, no longer in use. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 3,878,780 (as L1: 3,724,240; as L2: 154,540).

Lithuanian [lit] *Users:* 13,200 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 33,400 (2021 census). *Writing:* Latin script. Latin script, Fraktur variant, no longer in use. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 2,772,870 (as L1: 2,771,830; as L2: 1,040).

Polish [pol] *Users:* 11,500 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 59,500 (2021 census). *Writing:* Braille script. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 40,589,930 (as L1: 39,896,930; as L2: 693,000).

Romanian [ron] *Users:* 3,350 in Latvia (2018). *Writing:* Braille script. Cyrillic script, official usage in Moldova until 1991. Cyrillic script, Old Church Slavonic variant, 1688, experimental usage. Latin script, primary usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 24,478,820 (as L1: 24,461,820; as L2: 17,000).

Ukrainian [ukr] *Users:* 17,300 in Latvia (2021 census). Ethnic population: 63,600 (2021 census). *Writing:* Cyrillic script. Latin script, used in the 19th century, limited usage. *Worldwide:* Total users in all countries: 33,026,920 (as L1: 26,862,920; as L2: 6,164,000).

Languages by Family

This index gives an alphabetical listing of the linguistic classifications used for the established languages of Latvia. The entries in this index represent the full path in the linguistic family tree from the highest level grouping down to the lowest. All the languages listed in the same entry are members of the same lowest-level subgroup. The referenced page contains the main entry that describes the language.

Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Baltic, Eastern

Latgalian [ltg], [13](#)

Latvian, Standard [lvs], [13](#)

Zemgalian [xzm], [16](#)

Indo-European, Balto-Slavic, Slavic, East

Russian [rus], [15](#)

Indo-European, Germanic, West, English

English [eng], [11](#)

Indo-European, Germanic, West, High German, German, Middle German, East Middle German

German, Standard [deu], [12](#)

Indo-European, Germanic, West, High German, Yiddish

Yiddish, Eastern [ydd], [16](#)

Indo-European, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Intermediate Divisions, Western, Romani, Northern

Romani, Baltic [rml], [14](#)

Indo-European, Italic, Romance, Italo-Western, Western, Gallo-Iberian, Gallo-Romance, Gallo-Rhaetian, Oïl, French

French [fra], [12](#)

Sign language, Deaf community sign language

Latvian Sign Language [lsl], [13](#)

Uralic, Finnic

Krevinian [zkv], [13](#)

Liv [liv], [14](#)

Võro [vro], [16](#)

Language Code Index

This index gives an alphabetical listing of all 23 three-letter codes that are used in this work to uniquely identify languages. The referenced page contains the main entry that describes the language. All codes listed are part of the ISO 639-3 standard; see <http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/>.

azj	Azerbaijani, North, 11	ltg	Latgalian, 13
bel	Belarusian, 11	lvs	Latvian, Standard, 13
chv	Chuvash, 11	pol	Polish, 14
deu	German, Standard, 12	rml	Romani, Baltic, 14
eng	English, 11	ron	Romanian, 15
fra	French, 12	rus	Russian, 15
hyw	Armenian, Western, 11	ukr	Ukrainian, 15
kat	Georgian, 12	vro	Võro, 16
lav	Latvian, 13	xzm	Zemgalian, 16
lit	Lithuanian, 14	ydd	Yiddish, Eastern, 16
liv	Liv, 14	zkv	Krevinian, 13
lsl	Latvian Sign Language, 13		

Language Name Index

This index lists every name that appears in the language listings as a primary or alternate name of a language or dialect. The following abbreviations are used in the index entries: *alt.* ‘alternate name for’; *alt. dial.* ‘alternate name for a dialect of’; *dial.* ‘primary name for a dialect of’; *pej. alt.* ‘pejorative alternate name for’; and *pej. alt. dial.* ‘pejorative alternate name for a dialect of’. Each index entry resolves to the primary name for the language with which the indexed name is associated, followed by square brackets containing the unique three-letter language code from ISO 639-3. The referenced page contains the main entry that describes the language. If the language appears on a map, the entry for the primary name also lists page numbers for the maps on which the language occurs.

- Angļu**, *alt.* English [eng], 11
- Western Armenian**, *see* Armenian, Western [hyw], 11
- North Azerbaijani**, *see* Azerbaijani, North [azj], 11
- Balt Romani**, *alt.* Romani, Baltic [rml], 14
- Balt Slavic Romani**, *alt.* Romani, Baltic [rml], 14
- Baltic Slavic Romani**, *alt.* Romani, Baltic [rml], 14
- Courland Livonian**, *alt. dial.* Liv [liv], 14
- Čuxny Romani**, *alt. dial.* Romani, Baltic [rml], 14
- Deutsch**, *alt.* German, Standard [deu], 12
- Eastern Livonian**, *dial.* Liv [liv], 14
- English** [eng], 11
- Estonian Romani**, *dial.* Romani, Baltic [rml], 14
- French** [fra], 12
- German, Standard** [deu], 12
see German, Standard [deu], 12
- Judeo-German**, *alt.* Yiddish, Eastern [ydd], 16
- Krevin**, *alt.* Krevinian [zkv], 13
- Krevinian** [zkv], 13
- Krieviņu dialekts**, *alt.* Krevinian [zkv], 13
- Krievu**, *alt.* Russian [rus], 15
- Kurzeme**, *alt. dial.* Liv [liv], 14
- Latgalian** [ltg], 13, 17
- Latgaliešu**, *alt.* Latgalian [ltg], 13
- Latgališu**, *alt.* Latgalian [ltg], 13
- Latvian Romani**, *dial.* Romani, Baltic [rml], 14
- Latvian Sign Language** [lsl], 13, 0
- Latvian, Standard** [lvs], 13, 17
see Latvian, Standard [lvs], 13
- Latviešu valoda**, *alt.* Latvian, Standard [lvs], 13
- Latviešu Zīmju Valoda**, *alt.* Latvian Sign Language [lsl], 13
- Latviski**, *alt.* Latvian, Standard [lvs], 13
- Lettisch**, *pej. alt.* Latvian, Standard [lvs], 13
- Lettish**, *pej. alt.* Latvian, Standard [lvs], 13
- Lettish Romani**, *alt. dial.* Romani, Baltic [rml], 14
- Liv** [liv], 14
- Livõ kēļ**, *alt.* Liv [liv], 14
- Livonian**, *alt.* Liv [liv], 14
- Lotfítka Romá**, *alt. dial.* Romani, Baltic [rml], 14
- Lotfitko Romani**, *alt. dial.* Romani, Baltic [rml], 14
- Lotfitko Romani cib**, *alt. dial.* Romani, Baltic [rml], 14
- LZV**, *alt.* Latvian Sign Language [lsl], 13
- North Russian Romani**, *dial.* Romani, Baltic

- [rml], 14
- Northeastern Yiddish**, *dial.* Yiddish, Eastern [ydd], 16
- Raandalist**, *alt. dial.* Liv [liv], 14
- Rāndakē**, *alt.* Liv [liv], 14
- Romani**, *alt.* Romani, Baltic [rml], 14
- Romani, Baltic** [rml], 14
see Romani, Baltic [rml], 14
- Russian** [rus], 15
- Salaca Livonian**, *alt. dial.* Liv [liv], 14
- Salis Livonian**, *alt. dial.* Liv [liv], 14
- Semigallian**, *alt.* Zemgalian [xzm], 16
- Vidzeme**, *alt. dial.* Liv [liv], 14
- Võro** [vro], 16, 17
- Võro kiil**, *alt.* Võro [vro], 16
- Western Livonian**, *dial.* Liv [liv], 14
- Yiddish, Eastern** [ydd], 16
see Yiddish, Eastern [ydd], 16
- Zemgalian** [xzm], 16

Bibliography

- Campbell, G. L. and G. King. 2011. *The concise compendium of the world's languages, 2nd ed.* New York: Routledge.
- European Commission. 2006. *Europeans and their languages*. Eurobarometer 243. Brussels: Directorate-General Communication (European Commission). http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_243_en.pdf. Accessed 17 February 2015.
- European Commission. 2012. *Europeans and their languages*. Special Eurobarometer 386. Brussels: Directorate-General Communication (European Commission). http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_386_en.pdf. Accessed 17 February 2015.
- Kibrik, A. E. 1991. The problem of endangered languages in the USSR. In R. H. Robins and E. M. Uhlenbeck (eds.), *Endangered languages*, pp. 257–273. Oxford: Berg Publishers.
- Lewis, M. P. and G. F. Simons. 2010. Assessing endangerment: Expanding Fishman's GIDS. *Revue Roumaine de Linguistique* 55(2):103–120. http://www.lingv.ro/RRL_2_2010_art01Lewis.pdf. Accessed 11 January 2011.
- Marcoux, R., L. Richard and A. Wolff. 2022. *Estimation des francophones dans le monde en 2022: Sources et démarches méthodologiques*. Note de recherche de l'ODSEF, Québec, Mars 2022. Québec: Université Laval, Observatoire démographique et statistique de l'espace francophone.
- Metslang, H., K. Pajusalu, and T.-R. Viitso. 2015. Negation in Livonian. In M. Miestamo, A. Tamm, B. Wagner-Nagy (eds.) *Negation in Uralic languages*, pp. 433–456. *Typological Studies in Language* 108. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.