



NUTS regions 1 : 250 000

NUTS250



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1 Dataset overview

Product	NUTS250						
Contents	<p>For the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany, the dataset comprises the regions of the systematics of the territorial units NUTS¹ for the purpose of European statistics according to the Regulation (EC) No 1059 / 2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003, as amended most recently by Commission Regulation (EU) 1319 / 2013 of 9 December 2013 (NUTS 2013); this Regulation shall be applied to the transmission of data to Eurostat as of 1 January 2015.</p> <p>The criteria for the NUTS regions that might not coincide with national administrative units, are published on the website of Eurostat².</p> <p>The NUTS regions have a hierarchical structure and three levels and - with only a few exceptions - mirror the administrative units for Germany.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Level NUTS 1</td><td>in Germany: Länder (Federal states)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Level NUTS 2</td><td>in Germany: largely Regierungsbezirke (administrative districts)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Level NUTS 3</td><td>in Germany: kreisfreie Städte and Landkreise (independent towns and districts)</td></tr> </table> <p>Besides the current Regierungsbezirke, also the former Regierungsbezirke of the Länder Lower Saxony, Rhineland-Palatinate and Saxony are given on the NUTS-2 level for Germany. In national language, this NUTS-2 classification is also called „Statistical Regions“.</p> <p>The geometry is derived from the respective dataset Administrative Areas 1 : 250 000 (VG250). So, what concerns accuracy and resolution, the geometry is oriented towards the DLM250 analogous to the VG250.</p> <p>The areas are of the „MultiPolygon“ type (also „Multipart“). Each area can comprise several single areas, such as regular area with exclaves or inset areas, each of these MultiPolygons corresponding to a dataset in the attribute table.</p> <p>The data are structured according to levels (NUTS1, NUTS2 and NUTS3), whereby the areas contained are directly carrying the attributive information.</p>	Level NUTS 1	in Germany: Länder (Federal states)	Level NUTS 2	in Germany: largely Regierungsbezirke (administrative districts)	Level NUTS 3	in Germany: kreisfreie Städte and Landkreise (independent towns and districts)
Level NUTS 1	in Germany: Länder (Federal states)						
Level NUTS 2	in Germany: largely Regierungsbezirke (administrative districts)						
Level NUTS 3	in Germany: kreisfreie Städte and Landkreise (independent towns and districts)						
Area	Bundesrepublik Deutschland (Federal Republic of Germany)						
Spatial structuring	none, extent of data allows to keep complete dataset without spatial decomposition						

¹ Nomenclature des unités territoriales statistiques.

² <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/de/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/overview>

Georeferencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 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- Geographic coordinates in decimal degrees, Ellipsoid GRS80, Datum ETRS89
Topicality	1-year revision cycle with the statuses 31.12. and 01.01. of each year. (see www.bkg.bund.de → Produkte & Services → Digitale Geodaten)
Source	Derivation from the respective dataset Administrative Areas 1 : 250 000 (VG250). Information from the statistical office of the European Union (EUROSTAT).
Production method	Summarizing the administrative units from the VG250 with the help of the NUTS code and possible interactive post-processing in the case of administrative changes that are not considered in NUTS in a timely fashion. Every NUTS level is summarized correspondingly. Additional linking with data from EUROSTAT.
Data formats	SHAPE
Character set	Unicode UTF-8
Data supply	dataset via download or data carrier Web Map Service (WMS) Web Feature Service (WFS)

Note	<p>The NUTS250 data are generated from the corresponding dataset (status of data) of the VG250 (Administrative Areas 1 : 250 000) and therefore match topologically the used VG250.</p> <p>The information in the documentation of the Administrative Areas 1 : 250 000 (VG250) applies correspondingly.</p>
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2 General information

The NUTS code (Nomenclature des unités territoriales statistiques) represents the „European classification of territorial units for statistics“ of the Statistical Office of the European Union (EUROSTAT) according to the Regulation (EC) No 1059 / 2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 in its latest version.

The NUTS regions have a hierarchical structure and three levels and - with only a few exceptions - mirror the administrative units for Germany. Deviations exist at the NUTS-2 level. In the current version of this regulation for Germany, there are additionally given besides the current Regierungsbezirke also the former Regierungsbezirke of the Länder Lower Saxony, Rhineland-Palatinate and Saxony.

The also hierarchically structured NUTS code is in total a 5-digit code, where the first two digits always designate the state (for Germany „DE“) and the first three digits in total code the NUTS 1 level, the first four digits in total code the NUTS 2 level and finally the 5-digit NUTS code codes the NUTS 3 level. Digits containing no data are designated with 0 (zero).

It has to be taken into account that possible national territorial reforms will only be included into the NUTS classification with the next revision of the regulation. This means especially that the congruence between the NUTS 3 classification and the administrative level of the kreisfreie towns (towns constituting a district in its own right) and districts in Germany are considered reliable only with the start of validity of a new version of the NUTS regulation (see also **point 2.2**).

Considering the above-mentioned exceptions, the following structure results:

1st–2nd digit	=	NUTS 0	identifier of the state (country) – for Germany: DE
3rd digit	=	NUTS 1	in Germany: identifier of the Länder (federal states)
4th digit	=	NUTS 2	in Germany: identifier of the Regierungsbezirk
5th digit	=	NUTS 3	in Germany: identifier of the Kreise (districts)

2.1 Geometrical bases

The NUTS250 data are generated from the corresponding dataset (status of data) of the VG250 (Administrative Areas 1 : 250 000) and therefore match topologically the used VG250.

2.2 Special notes

The NUTS structures are defined for a period of at least three years in accordance with the legal base³. Therefore, not all modifications of the German administrative structure can be considered in the NUTS structure in a timely fashion. Until now an intermediate modification has been renounced due to a considerable reorganization in accordance with Article 5 (4) of the Regulation.

The version NUTS 2016 currently applies since January 01, 2018.

³ Regulation (EC) No 1059 / 2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003, as amended most recently by Commission Regulation (EU) 1319 / 2013 of 9 December 2013 (NUTS 2013).

2.3 Water areas incorporated into municipal territories (inkommunalisiert)

NUTS regions the territory of which also covers the North or Baltic Sea or Lake Constance, are separated at the coastline. A distinction between both parts of the concerned NUTS regions is possible by applying the attribute GF (Geofactor). The subarea on the mentioned waters has the GF value 2. By contrast, the land subareas have the GF value 4.

For the exclusive representation without the territories on the North or Baltic Sea or Lake Constance, the filter GF = 4 has to be applied, thus preserving the coastal form.

The general rule is:

Each NUTS region has exactly one attribute set with the GF value 4.

Additionally, a NUTS region may have one attribute set with the GF value 2.

3 Description of the dataset

3.1 Specification

The dataset is divided into the 3 NUTS levels for Germany:

NUTS 1
NUTS 2
NUTS 3

Each of these levels forms an object class containing the area geometry of the NUTS regions. All levels constitute in each case a nationwide dataset. The areas contained directly carry the attributive information.

3.2 Attributes

GF Geofactor

Survey of values

2 = with structure waters
*(additional entry for territorial parts in the North or Baltic Sea
as well as in Lake Constance)*

4 = with structure land
(each region always has exactly one entry)

This attribute was directly taken from the underlying dataset Administrative areas 1 : 250 000 (VG250). It designates with the value 2 the territorial parts that extend beyond the land area into the North or Baltic Sea or Lake Constance (incorporated territorial parts). The territorial parts outside the three mentioned waters have the value 4.

The general rule is:

Each NUTS region has exactly one attribute set with the GF value 4.

Additionally, a NUTS region may have one attribute set with the GF value 2.

Note: For the exclusive representation without the territories on the North or Baltic Sea or Lake Constance, the filter GF = 4 has to be applied, thus preserving the coastal form.

NUTS_LEVEL Level of the NUTS region

Survey of values

1 = level NUTS 1

2 = level NUTS 2

3 = level NUTS 3

NUTS_CODE Hierarchical key of the NUTS region

3-digit *NUTS 1*

4-digit *NUTS 2*

5-digit *NUTS 3*

NUTS_NAME Name of the NUTS region

4 Description of the data formats

4.1 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).

Level NUTS 1	250_NUTS1.SHP	Geometry
	250_NUTS1.SHX	Geometry index
	250_NUTS1.PRJ	Projection
	250_NUTS1.DBF	Attributes
	250_NUTS1.CPG	Character set
Level NUTS 2	250_NUTS2.SHP	Geometry
	250_NUTS2.SHX	Geometry index
	250_NUTS2.PRJ	Projection
	250_NUTS2.DBF	Attributes
	250_NUTS2.CPG	Character set
Level NUTS 3	250_NUTS3.SHP	Geometry
	250_NUTS3.SHX	Geometry index
	250_NUTS3.PRJ	Projection
	250_NUTS3.DBF	Attributes
	250_NUTS3.CPG	Character set

5 Data volume

Data format	Data volume	Files
SHAPE	ca. 15 MB	15

6 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 ordering> (data changed)

7 Contact

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