Administrative Areas 1 : 2 500 000

VG2500
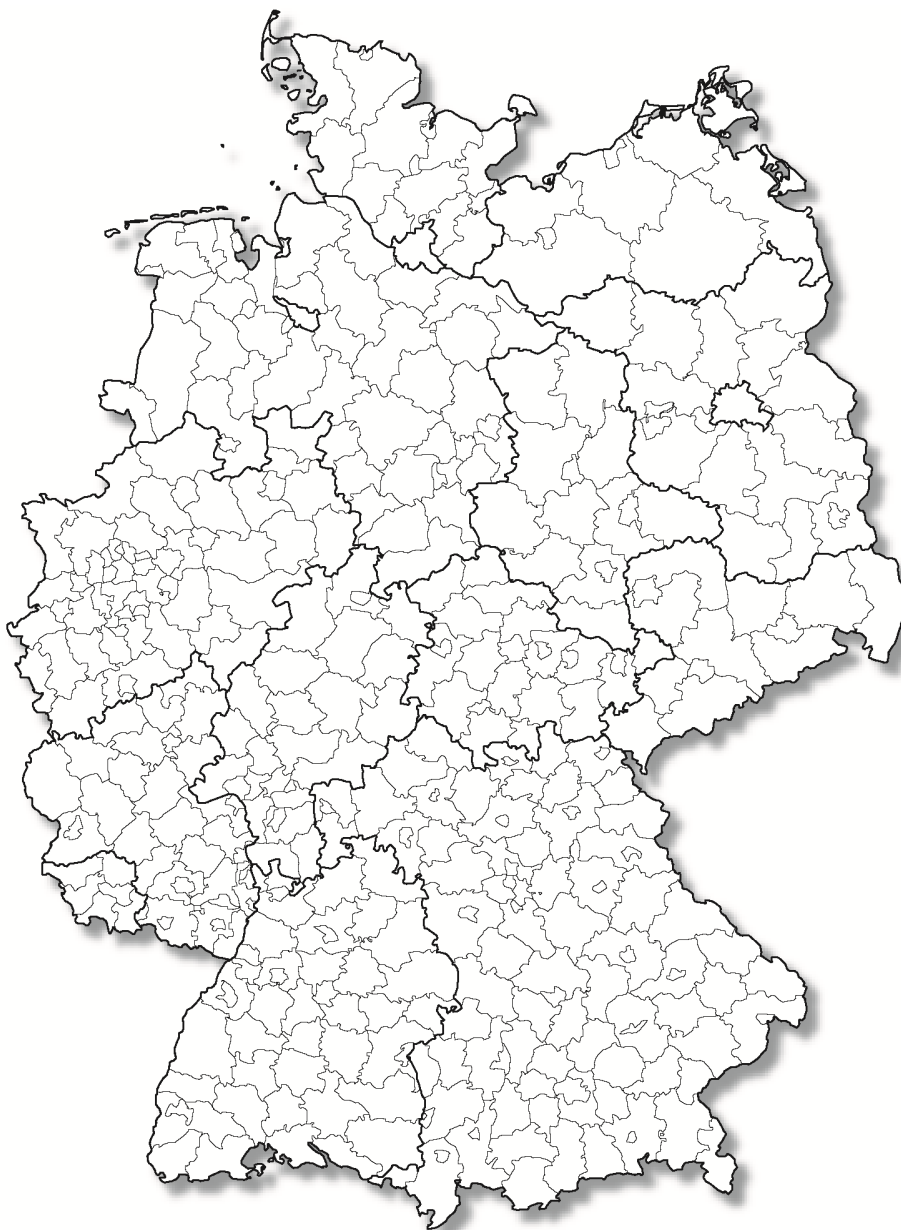
Product as of 01.01.2020
Status of documentation: 30.07.2020

Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy

Contents

Note In 2019, the previous Territorial key - RS was renamed into ARS in official statistics. The previous attributes RS and RS_0 are changed analogously and are now called ARS and ARS_0.

1   Overview of the dataset

Product	:	VG2500
Contents	:	The dataset includes the administrative units of the hierarchical from the state to the Kreise (administrative districts) with: - their boundaries, - the regional key and the name of the administrative unit. The areas are of the type "MultiPolygone" (also designated as "Multipart"), i. e. each area may 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 (state, Länder (federal states), Regierungsbezirke (administrative districts), Kreise (districts/counties), whereby the areas contained directly carry the attributive information.
Area	:	Bundesrepublik Deutschland (Federal Republic of Germany)
Geographical classification	:	None
Georeferencing		- 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 status 01.01. of each year. (see www.bkg.bund .de → Produkte & Services → Digitale Geodaten)
Source	:	*First production:* Generalization of the VG1000 *Updating:* Entry templates on the basis of data from the Land Offices of Statistics, the Federal Statistical Office and other Land authorities
Data format	:	SHAPE
Data supply		dataset via download or data carrier Web Map Service (WMS) Web Feature Service (WFS)

2 Description of the contents of the dataset

2.1 General

The dataset subdivides into the administrative levels of Germany:

- Staat (sta) (country)
- Länder (lan) (states)
- Regierungsbezirke (rbz) (administrative districts)
- Kreise (krs) (districts)

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

The areas included carry the attributive information.

2.2 Attributes of the areas

ADE: The administrative level to which the respective area belongs.   (formerly attribute USE)

The attribute is occupied as follows:

1 = Staat (country)
2 = Land (state)
3 = Regierungsbezirk (administrative district)
4 = Kreis (district)

RS: Territorial Code (TC)   (formerly attribute RS)

This key is a statistical key as it is referred to by the Statistical Offices. The key number is structured hierarchically and reflects the administratitive levels as existing within the Federal Republic.

The territorial code (RS) is broken down as follows:

1.-2. digit	=	identification number of the Land
3. digit	=	identification number of the administrative district
4.-5. digit	=	identification number of the district (county)
6.-9. digit	=	identification number of the administrative association
10.-12. digit	=	identification number of municipality

RS_0: filled Territorial Code (TC)   (formerly attribute RS_0)

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

GEN: Geographical Name

2.3   SHAPE data format

The SHAPE data format constitutes as a de facto industry standard a widespread and very useful data format for the exchange geodata.

Each administrative level consists of a dataset with the following files:

VG2500_XXX.SHP   Geometry file
VG2500_XXX.SHX   ID and coordinates
VG2500_XXX.DBF   DBASE attribute file (ID and attributes)
VG2500_XXX PRJ   Georeferencing
VG2500_XXX CPG   Character set

XXX stands for the respective administrative level.

The character encoding of the attributes is in this case UTF-8 (Unicode).

2.4   Data volume

Shape format: ca. 2 MB

3   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)

4   Contact

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