LATVIAN LANGUAGE SITUATION IN LATVIA

More than 150 different nationalities are represented among the population of Latvia.

PROFICIENCY OF THE STATE LANGUAGE

Almost all minority youths have acquired some level of proficiency in Latvian:

- Excellent: 39%
- Good: 39%
- Basic users: 20%
- Weak: 2%

Ethnic composition of residents of Latvia (2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Latvia as mother tongue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latvians</td>
<td>1,505,800</td>
<td>61.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russians</td>
<td>258,800</td>
<td>25.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belorussians</td>
<td>59,500</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukrainians</td>
<td>36,300</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuanians</td>
<td>34,500</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,986,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

99% of minorities have acquired some level of proficiency in Latvian.

IN WHAT SITUATIONS DO ETHNIC MINORITIES SPEAK LATVIAN?

- If they are addressed in Latvian: 71%
- If most of people present are Latvians: 69%
- In order to practice speaking Latvian: 55%
- If the conversation partner does not understand Russian: 48%
- If most of people present are Russians: 27%

METHODS AND MEDIUMS OF LEARNING LATVIAN

- School: 70%
- Everyday situations: 47%
- Communicating with friends: 43%
- With colleagues: 41%
- Media: 38%
- Language courses: 27%
- Among family, relatives: 24%
- Independent learning: 20%
- Higher Education: 16%
- Private classes: 6%
- Other: 4%
- Hard to say: 4%

Infographic created by Valodas situācija Latvijā 2010 – 2015

Source: "Valodas situācija Latvijā 2010 – 2015"