

Latvia's Political Survey 2014

All waves (July - November)

Summary Report

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Technical Information

Researcher	Ryo NAKAI
Polltaker	Research centre SKDS (Director: Arnis KAKTIŅŠ)
General body	Residents of Latvia aged from 15 to 74 years old.
Sample size	5219 respondents
Sampling method	Stratified random sampling
Stratification criteria	Administrative territories
Respondent selection principles	Random route method + first birthday rule.
Research Method	Face-to-face interviews (PAPI), at the places of residence of respondents.
Geographical coverage	All Latvia's regions (over 120 sampling points)
Date of Interview	July 18, 2014 – November 23, 2014.

Questionnaires by waves

	1 st wave July	2 nd wave August	3 rd wave September	4 th wave October	5 th wave November
Q0 [date]	+	+	+	+	+
Q1	+	+	+	+	+
Q2	+	+	+	+	+
Q3	+	+	+	+	+
Q4	+	+	+	+	+
Q5	+	+	+	+	+
Q6	+	+	+	+	+
Q7		+	+	+	
Q8		+	+	+	
Q9		+	+	+	
Q10		+	+	+	
Q11		+	+	+	
Q12		+	+	+	
Q13		+	+	+	
Q14		+	+	+	+
Q15		+			
Q16		+			
Q17		+			
Q18		+			
Q19		+			
Q20			+		
Q21			+		
Q21				+	
Q23				+	
demographic parameters	+	+	+	+	+

Results

Q1 - Q4

I will read to you several statements. Please tell me about each of them do you totally agree, rather agree, neither agree nor disagree, rather disagree or totally disagree with the following statement

Q1

Large differences in people's incomes are acceptable to properly reward differences in talents and efforts

N / %	July	August	September	October	November	All waves
Totally agree	123 11.75%	154 14.71%	122 11.84%	138 13.11%	93 8.93%	630 12.07%
Rather agree	283 27.03%	335 32.00%	323 31.36%	333 31.62%	293 28.12%	1567 30.02%
Neither agree nor disagree	216 20.63%	214 20.44%	179 17.38%	199 18.90%	265 25.43%	1073 20.56%
Rather disagree	218 20.82%	179 17.10%	219 21.26%	207 19.66%	211 20.25%	1034 19.81%
Totally disagree	119 11.37%	113 10.79%	130 12.62%	136 12.92%	134 12.86%	632 12.11%
Don't know/ No answer	88 8.40%	52 4.97%	57 5.53%	40 3.80%	46 4.41%	283 5.42%
Total	1047	1047	1030	1053	1042	5219 100.00%

Q2

Schools must teach children only in Latvian language

N / %	July	August	September	October	November	All waves
Totally agree	205 19.58%	254 24.26%	193 18.74%	257 24.41%	257 24.66%	1166 22.34%
Rather agree	207 19.77%	179 15.95%	192 18.64%	193 18.33%	201 19.29%	972 18.62%
Neither agree nor disagree	167 15.95%	167 15.95%	138 13.40%	143 13.58%	146 14.01%	761 14.58%
Rather disagree	182 17.38%	202 19.29%	242 23.50%	203 19.28%	204 19.58%	1033 19.79%
Totally disagree	254 24.26%	223 21.30%	244 23.69%	241 22.89%	219 21.02%	1181 22.63%
Don't know/ No answer	32 3.06%	22 2.10%	21 2.04%	16 1.52%	15 1.44%	106 2.03%
Total	1047	1047	1030	1053	1042	5219 100.00%

Q3

Social benefit, service, and unemployment insurance make people lazy

N / %	July	August	September	October	November	All waves
Totally agree	168 16.05%	161 15.38%	175 16.99%	124 11.78%	143 13.72%	771 14.77%
Rather agree	226 21.59%	228 21.78%	231 22.43%	219 20.80%	239 22.94%	1143 21.90%
Neither agree nor disagree	213 20.34%	228 21.78%	199 19.32%	246 23.36%	225 21.59%	1111 21.29%
Rather disagree	232 22.16%	226 21.59%	229 22.23%	245 23.27%	214 20.54%	1146 21.96%
Totally disagree	156 14.90%	164 15.66%	157 15.24%	169 16.05%	181 17.37%	827 15.85%
Don't know/ No answer	52 4.97%	40 3.82%	39 3.79%	50 4.75%	40 3.84%	221 4.23%
Total	1047	1047	1030	1053	1042	5219 100.00%

Q4

The Russian state is a threat to the peace and security of Latvia

N / %	July	August	September	October	November	All waves
Totally agree	142 13.56%	193 18.43%	200 19.42%	155 14.72%	176 16.89%	866 16.59%
Rather agree	209 19.96%	196 18.72%	190 18.45%	194 18.42%	226 21.69%	1015 19.45%
Neither agree nor disagree	186 17.77%	174 16.62%	139 13.50%	167 15.86%	168 16.12%	834 15.98%
Rather disagree	155 14.80%	169 16.14%	177 17.18%	175 16.62%	158 15.16%	834 15.98%
Totally disagree	279 26.65%	253 24.16%	271 26.31%	291 27.64%	258 24.76%	1352 25.91%
Don't know/ No answer	76 7.26%	62 5.92%	53 5.15%	71 6.74%	56 5.37%	318 6.09%
Total	1047	1047	1030	1053	1042	5219 100.00%

Q5

Which of these terms best describes how you usually think of yourself?

N / %	July	August	September	October	November	All waves
Own city, locality inhabitants	310 29.61%	341 32.57%	321 31.17%	333 31.62%	309 29.65%	1614 30.93%
Own regions inhabitants (ex. Kurzeme, Latgale etc.)	81 7.74%	90 8.60%	86 8.35%	79 7.50%	86 8.25%	422 8.09%
Latvian	380 36.29%	380 36.29%	390 37.86%	399 37.89%	427 40.98%	1976 37.86%
Russian	117 11.17%	96 9.17%	94 9.13%	102 9.69%	105 10.08%	514 9.85%
Baltic Russian, or Russian Latvian	80 7.64%	72 6.88%	83 8.06%	83 7.88%	62 5.95%	380 7.28%
Ukrainian	8 0.76%	6 0.57%	6 0.58%	6 0.57%	8 0.77%	34 0.65%
Do not know	41 3.92%	30 2.87%	32 3.11%	29 2.75%	26 2.50%	158 3.03%
No Answer	30 2.87%	32 3.06%	18 1.75%	22 2.09%	19 1.82%	121 2.32%
Total	1047	1047	1030	1053	1042	5219 100.00%

Q6

How proud are you to be Latvia inhabitant?

N / %	July	August	September	October	November	All waves
Very proud	237 22.64%	262 25.02%	280 27.18%	271 25.74%	297 28.50%	1347 25.81%
Quite proud	429 40.97%	422 40.31%	451 43.79%	444 42.17%	446 42.80%	2192 42.00%
Not very proud	210 20.06%	210 20.06%	179 17.38%	210 19.94%	190 18.23%	999 19.14%
Not at all proud	81 7.74%	80 7.64%	57 5.53%	63 5.98%	63 6.05%	344 6.59%
No Answer	90 8.60%	73 6.97%	63 6.12%	65 6.17%	46 4.41%	337 6.46%
Total	1047	1047	1030	1053	1042	5219 100.00%

Q7

On an average weekday, how much time in total, do you spend reading newspapers?

	August	September	October	All Waves
No time at all	460 43.94%	435 42.23%	486 46.15%	1381 44.12%
Less than 1/2 hours	321 30.66%	339 32.91%	334 31.72%	994 31.76%
1/2 hours to 1 hour	171 16.33%	175 16.99%	157 14.91%	503 16.07%
More than 1 hour up to 2 hours	55 5.25%	45 4.37%	42 3.99%	142 4.54%
More than 2 hours up to 3 hours	6 0.57%	7 0.68%	6 0.57%	19 0.61%
More than 3 hours	4 0.38%	2 0.19%	2 0.19%	8 0.26%
Don't know/ No answer	30 2.87%	27 2.62%	26 2.47%	83 2.65%
Total	1047	1030	1053	3130 100.00%

Q8

On an average weekday, how much time in total, do you spend reading social networking service?

	August	September	October	All Waves
No time at all	346 33.05%	298 28.93%	336 31.91%	980 31.31%
Less than 1/2 hours	171 16.33%	194 18.83%	182 17.28%	547 17.48%
1/2 hours to 1 hour	193 18.43%	253 24.56%	261 24.79%	707 22.59%
More than 1 hour up to 2 hours	165 15.76%	139 13.50%	141 13.39%	445 14.22%
More than 2 hours up to 3 hours	63 6.02%	69 6.70%	62 5.89%	194 6.20%
More than 3 hours	41 3.92%	49 4.76%	40 3.80%	130 4.15%
Don't know/ No answer	68 6.49%	28 2.72%	31 2.94%	127 4.06%
Total	1047	1030	1053	3130 100.00%

Q9

Which newspaper do you read most frequently?

	August	September	October	All Waves
Diena	72 6.88%	68 6.60%	52 4.94%	192 6.13%
Latvijas Avīze	59 5.67%	48 4.66%	48 4.56%	155 4.95%
Neatkarīga Rīta Avīze	17 1.62%	22 2.14%	28 2.66%	67 2.14%
Vesti Segodnya (Вести сегодня)	91 8.69%	99 9.61%	85 8.07%	275 8.79%
Dienas Bizness	6 0.57%	6 0.58%	9 0.85%	21 0.67%
Bizness&Baltija (Бизнес&Балтия)	11 1.05%	3 0.29%	3 0.28%	17 0.54%
Other	295 28.18%	319 30.97%	325 30.86%	939 30.00%
I do not read newspapers at all	461 44.03%	429 41.65%	477 45.30%	1367 43.67%
Don't know/ No answer	35 3.34%	36 3.50%	26 2.47%	97 3.10%
Total	1047	1030	1053	3130 100.00%

Q10

Which SNS do you use most frequently?

	August	September	October	All Waves
Facebook	201 19.20%	186 18.06%	199 18.90%	586 18.72%
Draugiem	281 26.84%	274 26.60%	269 25.55%	824 26.33%
Odnoklassniki (Одноклассники)	86 8.21%	88 8.54%	91 8.64%	265 8.47%
Vkontakte (ВКонтакте)	19 1.81%	14 1.36%	15 1.42%	48 1.53%
Twitter	30 2.87%	29 2.82%	29 2.75%	88 2.81%
LinkedIn	2 0.19%	2 0.19%	3 0.28%	7 0.22%
Other SNSs	50 4.78%	86 8.35%	80 7.60%	216 6.90%
I do not watch the SNS	353 33.72%	305 29.61%	338 32.10%	996 31.82%
Don't know/ No answer	25 2.39%	46 4.47%	29 2.75%	100 3.19%
Total	1047	1030	1053	3130 100.00%

*Show card Q11/12***Q11.** What do you think are the two most important problem facing Latvia today?

(MAX. 2 ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

	August	September	October	All Waves
Crime and Terrorism	54 2.71%	50 2.51%	47 2.31%	151 2.51%
Public transport	16 0.80%	8 0.40%	21 1.03%	45 0.75%
Rising prices	305 15.31%	325 16.30%	303 14.90%	933 15.50%
Taxation	267 13.40%	254 12.74%	289 14.21%	810 13.46%
Unemployment	438 21.99%	430 21.56%	433 21.29%	1301 21.61%
National Security and Foreign Affairs	154 7.73%	165 8.27%	111 5.46%	430 7.14%
Energy	52 2.61%	46 2.31%	60 2.95%	158 2.62%
Immigration	127 6.38%	124 6.22%	151 7.42%	402 6.68%
Health care	301 15.11%	311 15.60%	319 15.68%	937 15.56%
Pensions	128 6.43%	135 6.77%	136 6.69%	399 6.63%
Education	48 2.41%	57 2.86%	76 3.74%	181 3.01%
Language	39 1.96%	48 2.41%	40 1.97%	127 2.11%
Others	37 1.86%	28 1.40%	35 1.72%	100 1.66%
Don't know/ No answer	26 1.31%	13 0.65%	13 0.64%	52 0.86%
Total	1992	1994	2034	6020 100.00%

**Q12. What do you think are the two most important issues to you today?
(MAX. 2 ANSWERS POSSIBLE)**

	August	September	October	All Waves
Crime and Terrorism	22 1.16%	21 1.10%	13 0.58%	56 0.93%
Public transport	24 1.26%	18 0.95%	26 1.17%	68 1.12%
Rising prices	425 22.32%	406 21.36%	428 19.22%	1259 20.80%
Taxation	223 11.71%	200 10.52%	493 22.14%	916 15.14%
Unemployment	246 12.92%	194 10.21%	248 11.14%	688 11.37%
National Security and Foreign Affairs	64 3.36%	80 4.21%	50 2.25%	194 3.21%
Energy	33 1.73%	29 1.53%	40 1.80%	102 1.69%
Immigration	31 1.63%	30 1.58%	39 1.75%	100 1.65%
Health care	347 18.22%	392 20.62%	384 17.24%	1123 18.56%
Pensions	210 11.03%	225 11.84%	238 10.69%	673 11.12%
Education	121 6.36%	142 7.47%	120 5.39%	382 6.31%
Language	41 2.15%	56 2.95%	53 2.38%	150 2.48%
Others	78 4.10%	79 4.16%	70 3.14%	227 3.75%
Don't know/ No answer	39 2.05%	29 1.53%	25 1.12%	93 1.54%
Total	1904	1901	2247	6052 100.00%

Q13

How interested would you say you are in politics?

	August	September	October	All Waves
Very interested	57 5.44%	56 5.44%	56 5.32%	169 5.40%
Quite interested	313 29.89%	301 29.22%	309 29.34%	923 29.49%
Hardly interested	478 45.65%	470 45.63%	459 43.59%	1407 44.95%
Not at all interested	173 16.52%	189 18.35%	222 21.08%	584 18.66%
Don't know / No Answer	26 2.48%	14 1.36%	7 0.66%	47 1.50%
Total	1047	1030	1053	3130 100.00%

Show card P2A

Q14 (P2A in original questionnaire)

If LR Saeima election will be held tomorrow, for which political party or alliance will you vote?

	August	September	October	November	All Waves
“Harmony” Socialdemocratic Party	166 15.85%	173 16.80%	185 17.57%	207 19.87%	731 17.52%
Party “Unity”	131 12.51%	133 12.91%	120 11.40%	101 9.69%	485 11.63%
National Alliance “All for Latvia!” – “For Fatherland and Freedom/LNNK”	78 7.45%	83 8.06%	83 7.88%	118 11.32%	362 8.68%
Green and Farmers Union	115 10.98%	94 9.13%	126 11.97%	147 14.11%	482 11.55%
Russian Union of Latvia	9 0.86%	9 0.87%	10 0.95%	9 0.86%	37 0.89%
For Latvia from the Heart	29 2.77%	73 7.09%	46 4.37%	54 5.18%	202 4.84%
Party “Union for Latvia”	9 0.86%	9 0.87%	6 0.57%	8 0.77%	32 0.77%
For Latvia’s Development	12 1.15%	8 0.78%	6 0.57%	5 0.48%	31 0.74%
Regional Alliance of Latvia	9 0.86%	21 2.04%	55 5.22%	56 5.37%	14 3.38%
New Conservative Party	2 0.19%	4 0.39%	6 0.57%	3 0.29%	15 0.36%
Other	7 0.67%	10 0.97%	1 0.09%	1 0.10%	19 0.46%
Don’t know / No Answer	179 17.10%	142 13.79%	94 8.93%	88 8.45%	503 12.06%
Don’t participate in elections.	301 28.75%	271 26.31%	315 29.91%	245 23.51%	1132 27.13%
Total	1047	1030	1053	1042	4172 100.00%

(One-shot questions for August omnibus [2nd wave])

Q15 – Q19 Please tell me on a score of 0-10 how much you personally trust each of the institutions.

0 means you do not trust an institution at all, and 10 means you have complete trust:

Q15

United Nations

	N	%
0 Not trust at all	100	9.55%
1	27	2.58%
2	50	4.78%
3	81	7.74%
4	86	8.21%
5	189	18.05%
6	89	8.50%
7	100	9.55%
8	77	7.35%
9	41	3.92%
10 Complete trust	45	4.30%
No Answer	162	15.47%
Total	1047	100.00%

Q16

European Parliament

	N	%
0 Not trust at all	96	9.17%
1	46	4.39%
2	50	4.78%
3	117	11.17%
4	94	8.98%
5	233	22.25%
6	99	9.46%
7	97	9.26%
8	66	6.30%
9	20	1.91%
10 Complete trust	31	2.96%
No Answer	98	9.36%
Total	1047	100.00%

Q17

Saeima (Latvia's national parliament)

	N	%
0 Not trust at all	146	13.94%
1	68	6.49%
2	100	9.55%
3	153	14.61%
4	130	12.42%
5	180	17.19%
6	74	7.07%
7	65	6.21%
8	21	2.01%
9	17	1.62%
10 Complete trust	17	1.62%
No Answer	76	7.26%
Total	1047	100.00%

Q18

City / local parliament

	N	%
0 Not trust at all	82	7.83%
1	28	2.67%
2	27	2.58%
3	77	7.35%
4	96	9.17%
5	232	22.16%
6	124	11.84%
7	135	12.89%
8	97	9.26%
9	56	5.35%
10 Complete trust	43	4.11%
No Answer	50	4.78%
Total	1047	100.00%

Q19

Noncitizen Congress

	N	%
0 Not trust at all	254	24.26%
1	54	5.16%
2	37	3.53%
3	44	4.20%
4	38	3.63%
5	77	7.35%
6	17	1.62%
7	26	2.48%
8	27	2.58%
9	5	0.48%
10 Complete trust	14	1.34%
No Answer	454	43.36%
Total	1047	100.00%

(One-shot questions for September omnibus [3rd wave])**Q20**Who do you think is mostly to blame for the escalation of conflict in Ukraine?

	N	%
The government of Russian Federation	297	28.83%
The government of Ukraine	138	3.40%
Pro-Russian activists in Ukraine	94	9.13%
Ukrainian hardline nationalist	78	7.57%
The European Union	15	1.46%
NATO	27	2.62%
Western European countries (e.g. Germany, France, etc.)	5	0.49%
The United States	127	12.33%
Others	20	1.94%
I do not want to answer this question	101	9.81%
Don't know	128	12.43%
Total	1030	100.00%

Q21Who do you think is mostly to blame for the origin of conflict in Ukraine?

	N	%
The government of Russian Federation	283	27.48%
The government of Ukraine	115	11.17%
Pro-Russian activists in Ukraine	92	8.93%
Ukrainian hardline nationalist	77	7.48%
The European Union	15	1.46%
NATO	30	2.91%
Western European countries (e.g. Germany, France, etc.)	5	0.49%
The United States	153	14.85%
Others	13	1.26%
I do not want to answer this question	103	10.00%
Don't know	144	13.98%
Total	1030	100.00%

(One-shot questions for October omnibus [4th wave])

Q22

Saeima's election was held in 4th October. What was the most important information source for you when you update information on politics.

(MAX. 2 ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

	N	%
Television or radio programs	567	34.57%
Newspaper or journal articles	150	9.15%
Internet or SNS articles	263	16.04%
Political advertisements on televisions or radios	85	5.18%
Political advertisements on newspapers or journals	27	1.65%
Political advertisements on internet site or SNS	61	3.72%
Conversations with members of family, relatives, or friends	224	13.66%
Conversations with colleagues, managers, or clients in workplace.	64	3.90%
Conversations with neighbors	42	2.56%
Other sources	42	2.56%
No Answer	115	7.01%
Total	1640	100.00%

Q23

If you voted, supported, or sympathized to a specific political party on recent Saeimas election, please tell me the main reasons why you chose exactly this party?

(MAX. 2 ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

	N	%
They represent my economic interests (for example, tax, employment, pension, etc)	194	13.23%
They represent interests of my ethnic group (for example, Latvians, Russian, etc.)	157	10.71%
They represent our regional interests (for example, Vidzeme, Kurzeme, Zemgale, Latgale, Rīga)	63	4.30%
They are trustable	195	13.30%
They are not "dirty"*	69	4.71%
They are new political force	77	5.25%
They have good politicians	147	10.03%
They have good Prime Minister candidate	68	4.64%
My family, friend, or colleague asked me to do so	25	1.71%
Other reason	58	3.96%
I did not vote, support, or sympathize any political parties.	362	24.69%
No Answer	51	3.48%
Total	1466	100.00%

* *sasmērējušies* in Latvian

Sociodemographic parameters (all waves)

D1

Gender

	N	%
Male	2299	44.05%
Female	2920	55.95%
Total	5219	100.00%

(Ministry of Interior, registered population [Feb. 2014] / Male 47.7%, Female 52.3%)

D2

Age (shortened)

	N	%
15-24	810	15.52%
25-34	973	18.64%
35-44	891	17.07%
45-54	954	18.28%
55-74	1591	30.48%
Total	5219	100.00%

(Ministry of Interior, registered population [Feb. 2014] / 15-24: 14.8%, 25-34: 19.9%, 35-44: 18.1%, 45-54: 18.5%, 55-74: 28.8%)

D2A

Marital status

	N	%
Married / Live with partner	2840	54.42%
Divorced / Separated	732	14.03%
Unmarried	1167	22.36%
Widowed	480	9.20%
Total	5219	100.00%

D3

Number of household members

	N	%
1	949	18.18%
2	1601	30.68%
3	1285	24.62%
4	939	17.99%
5	316	6.05%
6	89	1.71%
7	32	0.61%
8	7	0.13%
9	0	0.00%
10	0	0.00%
11	1	0.02%
Total	5219	100.00%

D3A

Children aged under 18

	N	%
Yes	1933	37.04%
No	3277	62.79%
DK/NA	9	0.17%
Total	5219	100.00%

D4

Education

	N	%
No education	32	0.61%
Primary / Secondary uncompleted	779	14.93%
Secondary	1201	23.01%
Professional or vocational secondary	1803	34.55%
Tertiary education	1404	26.90%
Total	5219	100.00%

D5

Nationality (lv: Tautība)

	N	%
Latvian	3125	59.88%
Russian	1642	31.46%
Others	452	8.66%
Total	5219	100.00%

(Ministry of Interior, registered population [Feb. 2014] / Latvian: 58.7%, Non-Latvian: 41.3%)

D5A

Language spoken in family

	N	%
Latvian	3151	60.38%
Russian	2023	38.76%
Other	45	0.86%
Total	5219	100.00%

D6

Citizenship of the Republic of Latvia (lv:pilsonība)

	N	%
Have	4448	85.23%
Don't have	771	14.77%
Total	5219	100.00%

D7

Sector of work

	N	%
Public sector (national and regional)	930	17.82%
Private sector	2232	42.77%
Don't work	2057	39.41%
Other	0	0.00%
DK/NA	0	0.00%
Total	5219	100.00%

D8

Occupation

	N	%
Manager, senior or middle level	235	4.50%
Specialist or clerk, for non-physical work	1408	26.98%
Laborer, for physical work	1259	24.12%
Farmer (with own farm)	98	1.88%
Self-employed	162	3.10%
Pensioner	1017	19.49%
Student	439	8.41%
House-worker / parental leave	223	4.27%
Unemployed	378	7.24%
Total	5219	100.00%

D9

Average monthly income level per one family member (Euro, shortened)

	N	%
Under 150 euro	891	17.07%
151-220 euro	948	18.17%
221-290 euro	786	15.06%
291-360 euro	759	14.54%
361-430 euro	359	6.88%
over 430 euro	710	13.60%
DK	766	14.68%
Total	5219	100.00%

D10

Region (electoral district)

	N	%
Riga	1689	32.36%
Vidzeme	1447	27.73%
Kurzeme	645	12.36%
Zemgale	642	12.30%
Latgale	796	15.25%
Total	5219	100.00%

D10A

Region (statistical district)

	N	%
Riga	1689	32.36%
Pieriga	918	17.59%
Vidzeme	538	10.31%
Kurzeme	645	12.36%
Zemgale	633	12.13%
Latgale	796	15.25%
Total	5219	100.00%

(Ministry of Interior, registered population [Feb. 2014] / Riga: 32.1%, Pieriga: 17.8%, Vidzeme: 10.1%, Kurzeme: 13.0%, Zemgale: 12.2%, Latgale: 14.7%)