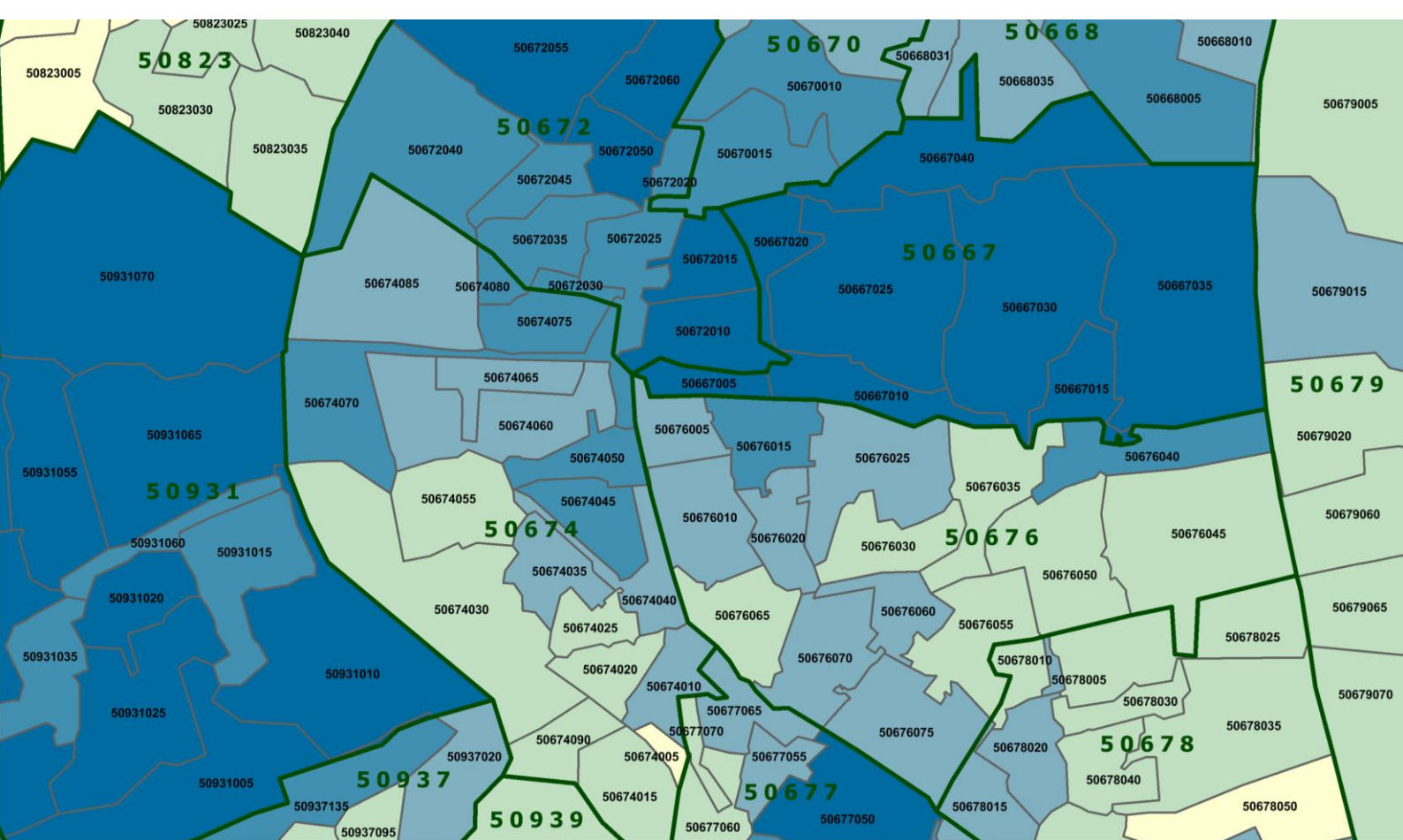


Release R2025_V1.0



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1 Introduction

The product PLZ8 has been available for Germany since mid-2008. It was developed jointly by PTV and microm GmbH and offers a completely new system of area division which was not previously available on the market.

The divisions are based on the well-known regions with the familiar 5-digit postcodes. These regions have been subdivided further for PLZ8 and the postcodes extended by three digits. The PLZ8 areas contain an average of 500 households. In many cases linear, boundary-forming elements such as motorways, railways and rivers have been taken into account in the creation of the PLZ8 areas. Moreover, the boundaries between administrative districts were also taken into account, meaning that the PLZ8 boundaries closely reflect the administrative boundaries.

Due to the fine subdivision of PLZ8 areas, some areas can tend towards extremes: in less than 1% of cases there are fewer than 100 households, and in densely built-up areas, there are PLZ8 areas with 1,000 households. For all cities with more than 50,000 inhabitants, the boundaries of PLZ8 areas generally have house-level precision. For all other areas, the boundaries were created based on road sections.

PLZ8 products also offer a range of socio-demographic, socio-economic and psychographic factual data. The product "PLZ8 Germany XXL" includes a selection of this factual data and the boundaries in the package. The standard product "PLZ8 Germany Boundaries" includes the boundaries only, without the factual data. Both PLZ8 products are complemented by the boundaries of the 5-digit, 2-digit and 1-digit postcode regions, as well as the boundaries of the postal areas (PA).

The data is based on as accurate and reliable information as possible. However, data gaps and errors cannot be ruled out. The PLZ8 boundaries are effective as at the regional status data of 01/01/2024. The factual data dates from 2022 to 2024.

New effective date of 01/01 for regional status:

PTV updates the boundaries once a year and has for many years used 31/12 as the effective date for the regional status. With the release of R2014_V1.0, 01/01 was introduced as the new effective date. Thus, instead of 31/12/2023, 01/01/2024 is the more recent, current basis for the present version R2025_V1.0.

Note on extra-district regions:

In Germany, there are some regions, such as forested areas or heathland, that do not belong to an administrative district (so-called "extra-district regions") and that do not have a postcode because they are uninhabited. Regions like these have not been assigned to a neighbouring postcode region, as these regions would then have a considerably larger area than they have in reality. This could potentially lead to incorrect conclusions or results.

However, in order to be able to perform a complete aggregation on the 2-digit postal regions, we have assigned the extra-district regions postcodes that are not used by

Deutsche Post (German postal service). These postcodes are marked with DummyPLZ = "ja".

For PLZ8 regions located in extra-district or other uninhabited regions, there are no corresponding factual data records in the XXL attribute tables. The number of PLZ8 boundaries is therefore slightly higher than the number of PLZ8 factual data records.

2 Special features in the releases

- R2025_V1.0
None
- R2024_V1.0
None
- R2023_V1.0
At the 5-digit postcode level, five “dummy postcodes” of the extra-district regions were dissolved. The number of “dummy postcodes” has thus been reduced to 39.
- R2022_V1.0
None
- R2021_V1.0
None
- R2020_V1.0
The attribute „Population Forecast“ is no longer included in the PLZ8 XXL package.
- R2019_V1.0
The proportion of foreigners in households (PLZ8 Germany XXL) is completely new calculated and categorized, based on a better source. With these changes the continuity in the foreigners attributes is slightly reduced from the previous to this version, but the data quality has improved a lot. See details in the column description below.
- R2018_V1.0
The PLZ8 boundaries including factual data (XXL package) are also supplied with abbreviated column names (maximum 10 characters long). This makes them easier to use, for example for the Shape format. See the layer PLZ8_17w_XXL_kurze_Namen.
- R2017_V1.0
The removal of multipolygons, which is explained in R2016_V1.0, also applies to R2017_V1.0. It should be noted, however, that the data record still contains a few multipolygons.
- R2016_V1.0
The removal of multipolygons. Previously, the geometry of a PLZ8 area could be made up of several connected multipolygons. These subareas are now shown as a separate PLZ8 geometry (with their own PLZ8 ID). As a result, the number of PLZ8 areas has risen.
- R2015_V1.0
None
- R2014_V1.0
New effective date 01/01: release R2014_V1.0 is based on the regional status date 01/01/2013. See also Introduction (section 1).

3 General information on the data record

Product name:	PLZ8 Germany Boundaries / PLZ8 Germany XXL
Content of the data record:	8-, 5-, 2- and 1-digit postcode boundaries, PLB boundaries (postal areas), overview data with federal state boundaries, motorways and some trunk roads, larger bodies of water and approximately 650 cities as points and areas. PLZ8 Germany XXL also includes factual data.
Coverage:	Germany
Subset possible:	yes
Scale/accuracy:	Scale: 1: 2,000 – 1: 25,000 Average accuracy: Urban postcode regions: less than 100 m Extra-urban postcode regions: 50 m to 100 m
Source:	microm GmbH, Neuss; Statistisches Bundesamt, Wiesbaden; Deutsche Post AG; PTV Logistics GmbH, Karlsruhe
Data type:	Regional boundaries/factual data
Geometry type:	Polygon
Number of data records:	84,427 PLZ8, 83,345 of which with XXL factual data 8,212 PLZ5, 8,173 of which official postcodes and 39 unofficial postcodes ("dummy postcodes") that cover the extra-district regions, 95 PLZ2 (postal regions), 10 PLZ1 (postal zones), 719 PLB (postal areas)
State of the data:	Regional status date: 01.01.2024 State of the informational basis: 2022 – 2024
Release:	R2025_V1.0
Standard data format:	Boundaries: MapInfo TAB, ESRI Shape / factual data: Microsoft Access
Standard coordinate system:	Longitude/latitude (WGS 84)
Language:	German
File size:	Boundaries: approx. 65 MB / factual data: approx. 60 MB
Update interval:	Once a year

4 Content and field descriptions

4.1 PLZ8 boundaries

8-digit postcodes:

File name	Display style
PLZ8_24w	no fill, green outline

Column name	Explanation	Data type	Index (MapInfo)
PLZ8	8-digit postcode	Char (8)	yes
PLZ5	5-digit postcode	Char (5)	yes
GKZ	Community code	Char (8)	

5-digit postcodes:

File name	Display style
PLZ5_24w	no fill, yellow-brown outline

Column name	Explanation	Data type	Index (MapInfo)
PLZ5	5-digit postcode	Char (5)	yes
Name	Name of the main place in the postcode region	Char (5)	yes
PLB	corresponding postal area	Char (4)	
DummyPLZ	If the region is an extra-district region, then "yes" is entered in the field, otherwise it is left empty.	Char (2)	

2-digit postcodes (postal regions):

File name	Display style
PLZ2_24w	no fill, brown outline

Column name	Explanation	Data type	Index (MapInfo)
PLZ2	2-digit postal region	Char (2)	yes

1-digit postcodes (postal zones):

File name	Display style
PLZ1_24w	no fill, brown outline

Column name	Explanation	Data type	Index (MapInfo)
PLZ1	1-digit postal zone	Char (1)	yes

Postal areas:

File name	Display style
PLB_24w	no fill, greenish outline

Column name	Explanation	Data type	Index (MapInfo)
PLB	Postal area	Char (4)	yes
PLZ_von	numerically smallest postcode in the postal area	Char (5)	
PLZ_bis	numerically largest postcode in the postal area	Char (5)	

4.2 Overview data

Rivers:

File name	Display style
d_Fluss	blue line

Column name	Content	Data type	Index (only MapInfo)
Name	Name of the river, includes major rivers	Char (40)	yes

Federal states:

File name	Display style
d_Land	No fill, black outline

Column name	Content	Data type	Index (only MapInfo)
LKZ	State code	Char (2)	yes
Name	Name of the federal state	Char (50)	yes
Hauptstadt	Capital of the federal state	Char (15)	

Places (location points from the basic local file without sublocation names and with level < 7):

File name	Display style
d_Ort	differently coloured points

Column name	Content	Data type	Index (only MapInfo)
Name	Name of the location	Char (50)	yes

Lakes:

File name	Display style
d_See	light blue filling, dark blue boundary

Column name	Content of the explanation	Data type	Index (only MapInfo)
Name	Name of the lake, only large lakes	Char (40)	yes

Settlement areas:

File name	Display style
d_Siedlung	yellow-orange filling, no outline

Column name	Content of the explanation	Data type	Index (only MapInfo)
Name	name of the settlement area	Char (40)	yes

Streets (streets from street network basis with category = 1):

File name	Display style
d_Strasse	lines in different line thicknesses and colours

Column name	Content of the explanation	Data type	Index (nur MapInfo)
Prim_Name	official street name, e.g. "Berliner Ring"	Char (80)	
Sek_Name	alternative name, e.g. "A10/E30/E55"	Char (80)	

4.3 PLZ8 factual data (XXL)

The PLZ8 factual data is provided as a MS Access database and as a map layer. In addition, another map layer with short column names is included (max. 10 characters). See the description of the factual data below, the short column names are written in red.

PLZ8 boundaries incl. all factual data:

File name	Display style
PLZ8_24w_XXL	no fill, green outline

PLZ8 boundaries incl. all factual data, with short column names

File name	Display style
PLZ8_24w_XXL_kurze_Namen	no fill, green outline

PLZ8 MS Access database incl. all factual data tables:

File name	Display style
PLZ8_24w_XXL.accdb or PLZ8_24w_XXL.mdb	none (database)

4.3.1 PLZ8_EWA: Inhabitants by age group

Column name short column name	Explanation	Data type
P8_ID PLZ8	8-digit postcode	Char (8)
P8_EWA_A_Gesamt EW_Gesamt	Total number of inhabitants	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_00bis03 EW_00_03	Number of inhabitants aged 0 to under 3 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_03bis06 EW_03_06	Number of inhabitants aged 3 to under 6 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_06bis10 EW_06_10	Number of inhabitants aged 6 to under 10 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_10bis15 EW_10_15	Number of inhabitants aged 10 to under 15 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_15bis18 EW_15_18	Number of inhabitants aged 15 to under 18 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_18bis20 EW_18_20	Number of inhabitants aged 18 to under 20 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_20bis25 EW_20_25	Number of inhabitants aged 20 to under 25 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_25bis30 EW_25_30	Number of inhabitants aged 25 to under 30 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_30bis35 EW_30_35	Number of inhabitants aged 30 to under 35 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_35bis40 EW_35_40	Number of inhabitants aged 35 to under 40 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_40bis45 EW_40_45	Number of inhabitants aged 40 to under 45 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_45bis50 EW_45_50	Number of inhabitants aged 45 to under 50 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_50bis55 EW_50_55	Number of inhabitants aged 50 to under 55 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_55bis60 EW_55_60	Number of inhabitants aged 55 to under 60 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_60bis65 EW_60_65	Number of inhabitants aged 60 to under 65 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_65bis75 EW_65_75	Number of inhabitants aged 65 to under 75 years	Long Integer
P8_EWA_A_75undgr EW_75_um	Number of inhabitants aged 75 and older	Long Integer

4.3.2 PLZ8_EWA_P: Inhabitants by age group (percentages)

Column name short column name	Explanation	Data type
P8_ID PLZ8	8-digit postcode	Char (8)
P8_EWA_A_Gesamt EW_Gesamt	Total number of inhabitants	Long integer
P8_EWA_P_00bis03 EW_00_03P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 0 to under 3 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_03bis06 EW_03_06P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 3 to under 6 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_06bis10 EW_06_10P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 6 to under 10 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_10bis15 EW_10_15P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 10 to under 15 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_15bis18 EW_15_18P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 15 to under 18 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_18bis20 EW_18_20P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 18 to under 20 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_20bis25 EW_20_25P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 20 to under 25 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_25bis30 EW_25_30P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 25 to under 30 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_30bis35 EW_30_35P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 30 to under 35 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_35bis40 EW_35_40P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 35 to under 40 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_40bis45 EW_40_45P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 40 to under 45 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_45bis50 EW_45_50P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 45 to under 50 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_50bis55 EW_50_55P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 50 to under 55 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_55bis60 EW_55_60P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 55 to under 60 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_60bis65 EW_60_65P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 60 to under 65 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_65bis75 EW_65_75P	Percentage of inhabitants aged 65 to under 75 years	Double
P8_EWA_P_75undgr EW_75_umP	Percentage of inhabitants aged 75 years and older	Double

4.3.3 PLZ8_EWG: Inhabitants by gender

Column name short column name	Explanation	Data type
P8_ID PLZ8	8-digit postcode	Char (8)
P8_EWG_A_Gesamt EW_Gesamt	Total number of inhabitants	Long integer
P8_EWG_A_Maennl EW_Maennl	Number of male inhabitants	Long integer
P8_EWG_A>Weiblich EW>Weibl	Number of female inhabitants	Long integer

4.3.4 PLZ8_KKR: Purchasing power

Column name short column name	Explanation	Data type
P8_ID PLZ8	8-digit postcode	Char (8)
P8_KKR_I_proEinwBRD KK_I_EW_D	Purchasing power index (per inhabitant) in relation to the whole of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG = 100)	Double
P8_KKR_I_proEinwWO KK_I_EW_WO	Purchasing power index (per inhabitant) in relation to the old and new federal states (old FS = 100, new FS = 100)	Double
P8_KKR_W_proHH KK_HH	Average purchasing power per household in €	Long integer
P8_KKR_W_Promille KK_Prom	Share of purchasing power per PLZ8 area in terms of one tenth of a per cent (total FRG = 1000)	Double
P8_KKR_W_Summe KK_Summe	Total purchasing power in €	Double
P8_KKR_W_proEinw KK_EW	Average purchasing power per inhabitant in €	Long integer
P8_KKR_I_proHHBRD KK_I_HH_D	Purchasing power index (per household) in relation to the whole of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG = 100)	Double
P8_KKR_I_proHHWO KK_I_HH_WO	Purchasing power index (per household) in relation to the old and new federal states (old FS = 100, new FS = 100)	Double
P8_KKR_K_KlasseBRD KK_KI_D	Classified purchasing power index (per inhabitant) in relation to the whole of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG = 100) For characteristics see next field P8_BP_C_classWE	Char (1)

P8_KKR_K_KlasseWO KK_KI_WO	<p>Classified purchasing power index (per inhabitant) in relation to the old and new federal states (old FS = 100, new FS = 100)</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <p>1 = well below average (lower than 75)</p> <p>2 = below average (75 to under 85)</p> <p>3 = slightly below average (85 to under 95)</p> <p>4 = average (95 to under 105)</p> <p>5 = slightly above average (105 to under 115)</p> <p>6 = above average (115 to under 125)</p> <p>7 = well above average (higher than 125)</p> <p>G = purely commercial use</p> <p>(empty) = no microgeographic information</p> <p>Since every variable for buildings with a purely commercial use has the attribute C, we recommend using the C no more than once in analyses.</p>	Char (1)
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4.3.5 PLZ8_KOO: Centre point coordinates

Column name short column name	Explanation	Data type
P8_ID PLZ8	8-digit postcode	Char (8)
P8_KOO_W_XDez Koor_X_DeZ	X-coordinate in WGS84, decimal degrees	Double
P8_KOO_W_YDez Koor_Y_DeZ	Y-coordinate in WGS84, decimal degrees	Double

4.3.6 PLZ8_MBA_HH: Households

Column name short column name	Explanation	Data type
P8_ID PLZ8	8-digit postcode	Char (8)
P8_MBA_A_Haushalt HH_Gesamt	Number of households	Long integer

4.3.7 PLZ8_MSO_Auslaender: Proportion of foreigners in households

Column name short column name	Explanation	Data type
P8_ID PLZ8	8-digit postcode	Char (8)
P8_MSO_A_Ausland_1 HH_Ausl_1	Number of households with the attribute "lowest proportion"	Long Integer
P8_MSO_A_Ausland_2 HH_Ausl_2	Number of households with the attribute "below average proportion"	Long Integer
P8_MSO_A_Ausland_3 HH_Ausl_3	Number of households with the attribute "slightly below proportion"	Long Integer
P8_MSO_A_Ausland_4 HH_Ausl_4	Number of households with the attribute "average proportion"	Long Integer
P8_MSO_A_Ausland_5 HH_Ausl_5	Number of households with the attribute "slightly above average proportion"	Long Integer
P8_MSO_A_Ausland_6 HH_Ausl_6	Number of households with the attribute "above average proportion"	Long Integer
P8_MSO_A_Ausland_7 HH_Ausl_7	Number of households with the attribute "far above average proportion"	Long Integer
P8_MSO_A_Ausland_8 HH_Ausl_8	Number of households with the attribute "very high proportion"	Long Integer
P8_MSO_A_Ausland_9 HH_Ausl_9	Number of households with the attribute "highest proportion"	Long Integer

4.3.8 PLZ8_MSO_Auslaender_P: Proportion of foreigners in households (percentages)

Column name short column name	Explanation	Data type
P8_ID PLZ8	8-digit postcode	Char (8)
MZ_MBA_W_Haushalt HH_Gesamt	Number of households	Long integer
P8_MSO_P_Ausland_1 HH_Ausl_1P	Number of households with the attribute "lowest proportion"	Double
P8_MSO_P_Ausland_2 HH_Ausl_2P	Number of households with the attribute "below average proportion"	Double
P8_MSO_P_Ausland_3 HH_Ausl_3P	Number of households with the attribute "slightly below proportion"	Double
P8_MSO_P_Ausland_4 HH_Ausl_4P	Number of households with the attribute "average proportion"	Double
P8_MSO_P_Ausland_5 HH_Ausl_5P	Number of households with the attribute "slightly above average proportion"	Double
P8_MSO_P_Ausland_6 HH_Ausl_6P	Number of households with the attribute "above average proportion"	Double
P8_MSO_P_Ausland_7 HH_Ausl_7P	Number of households with the attribute "far above average proportion"	Double
P8_MSO_P_Ausland_8 HH_Ausl_8P	Number of households with the attribute "very high proportion"	Double
P8_MSO_P_Ausland_9 HH_Ausl_9P	Number of households with the attribute "highest proportion"	Double