

Indicator Factsheet: Proportion of land cover classes

Indicator: Landscape composition

Sub-indicator: Proportion of land area by land cover classes

Description	The indicator specifies the proportion of the total area accounted for by each land cover class listed in Annex 1, Level 2 of the indicator report (see below).
Data source	Digital Basic Landscape Model (Basis-DLM) from the Official Topographic and Cartographic Information System (ATKIS).
Calculation	$pLS_i = \frac{a_i}{A_{LS}} \{[0,1]\}$ a_i = Area of land cover class i; A_{LS} = Size of the reference area
Spatial reporting level	Coverage: National; Resolution: Hexagons (100 ha, proportion of open land > 25%); Reference area: Landscape
Reporting period/ interval	from 2017 / annually
Interpretation	The proportion of a specific land cover class, or changes therein, can have positive or negative effects on biodiversity. The assessment must be carried out on a class-specific basis and depends, amongst other things, on abiotic site factors and the proportions of other land cover classes.
Limitations	Both the choice of the underlying reference area (e.g., hexagons) and the timeliness of the input data (Basis-DLM, rolling update approximately every 4 years) are crucial for the interpretation.
Latest Update	2026