



# OSM FROM BEGINNERS PERSPECTIVE: FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Regita Zeiļa

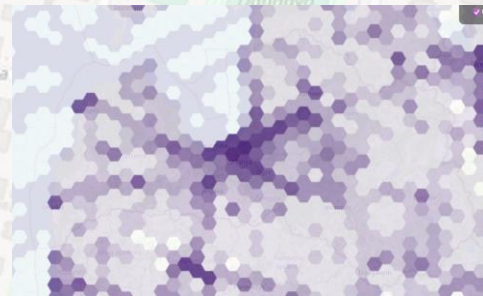
- Beginner-level OSM fan with a degree in Human Geography.
- Thesis focused on monoindustrial towns of Latvia
- Interests also include antiques, old maps, ethnography and regional development as well as social economy.
- Director of Social Entrepreneurship Association of Latvia
- Worked as Business Analyst for an Innovation Management consulting firm in Boston, USA
- Background includes cultural and social anthropology and human geography.





## FIRST THOUGHTS:

- OSM is so easy! .. Too easy, there should be a cach.
- «Everything's mapped already», what there is left to do for me?
- WHY would anyone do it voluntarily? (*people keep asking me this*)
- There's someone checking this, righ? .... Right?
  - Scared to screw up things
- «There's everything on Google Maps!» †
- Need to have a clear «first step» guidelines what actually can be mapped



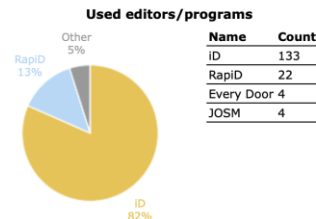
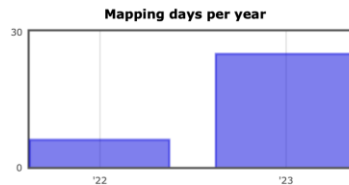
OSM coverage 4.06.2023

# How did you contribute to OpenStreetMap?

regitaz

Search

**Name:** [regitaz](#)  
**Registered:** 2022-09-19  
**Active contributor:** [Yes](#) & [No](#)  
**Mapping days:** 31 (3%)  
**Map changes:** 21,010 ([163](#))  
**Reverted changes:** 0 (0.0%)  
**Discussed changesets:** [1](#) (0)

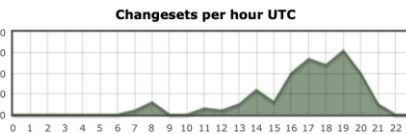
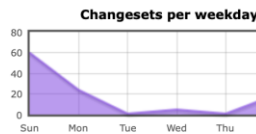


**Type?** Casual Mapper (Regularly Active)

**Recent changesets** ([details](#)): Latvia (33)

**Recent ranks:** Latvia [#11](#)

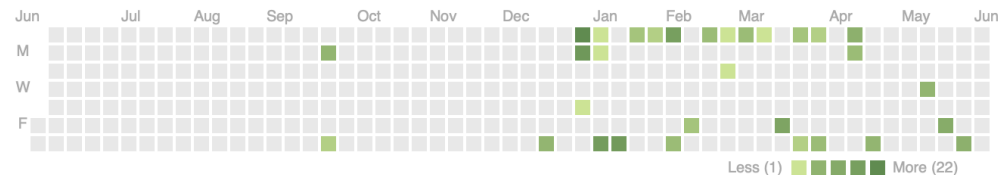
**OSM Notes:** Closed w/ comment 4 (w/o 3), commented 0 and opened 4  
**Rollbacks performed:** Reverted 2 changesets w/ 2 changes of 2 contributors



**Quality assurance:** ID editor: Resolved issues=30, Ignored warnings=7  
OSMI issues ([details](#)): routing=3, geometry=1   
Osmose issues: [Level 1](#)=0, [Level 2](#)=0, [Level 3](#)=0

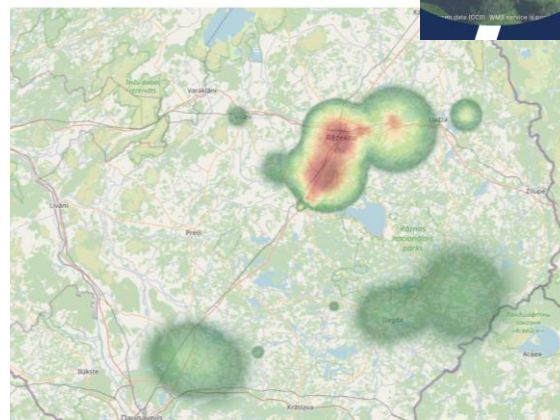
**Changesets per country - Overall 1 countries** (Country - Number of changes (changesets))  
 Latvia - 21,010 (163)

## 31 mapping days with 163 changesets in the last year



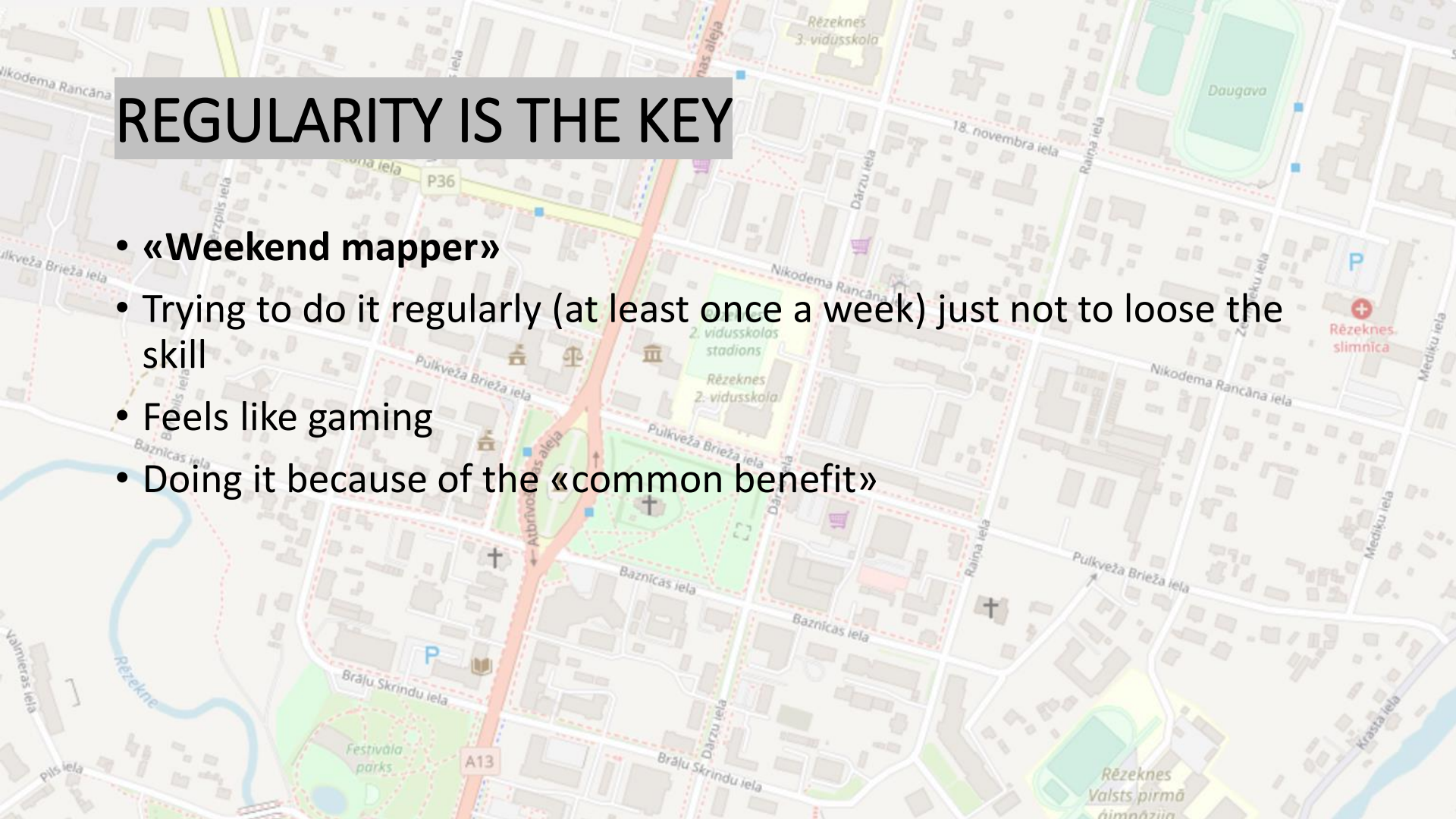
	Last modifier	Created	Modified	Deleted
<b>Nodes</b>	15,093	12,209 (69%)	4,149 (23%)	1,418 (8%)
<b>Ways</b>	2,543	2,491 (76%)	487 (15%)	281 (9%)
<b>Relations</b>	0	1 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

<b>Node tags</b> (?)	addr:* (31), name (8), amenity (8), name:* (3), highway (2), place (1), historic (1), public_transport (1)
<b>Way tags</b> (?)	addr:* (5503), building (2333), highway (115), name (95), amenity (71), natural (53), building:* (26), landuse (19), name:* (10), shop (8), surface (7), leisure (4), barrier (2), tourism (2), historic (2), ref (1), place (1), place (1), sport (1), waterway (1)



# REGULARITY IS THE KEY

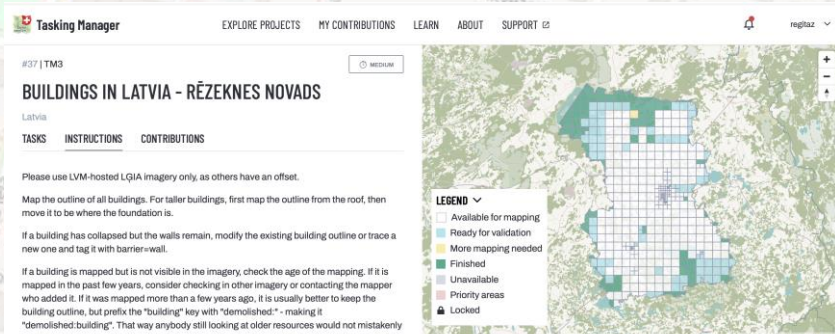
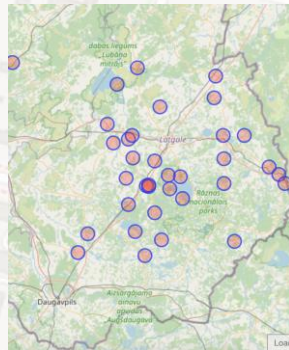
- «Weekend mapper»
- Trying to do it regularly (at least once a week) just not to loose the skill
- Feels like gaming
- Doing it because of the «common benefit»





# IT'S USEFUL TO HAVE A TASK

- Churches in Latgale region
  - Wooden churches
- Specific interest that gets you going
  - Like mine = mapping sacral heritage
- **Thanks to Rihards** – mapping Rēzeknes novads
- Planned next – mapping milk churn stand mapping



# HAVING THE COMMUNITY

- Community super important, but sometimes just not sure what and how to ask
- Super – useful to have a mentor / support person to ask (*Thanks Rich*)
- Zulip chat – place to ask anything

# IDEAS HOW TO INVOLVE MORE PEOPLE IN IT

- Practical workshops – events
- Easy-made designs about first things to be mapped
- Task-force for thematic mapping
- Involving geography teachers





THE MORE I KNOW, MORE I DON'T KNOW...

BUT it's amazing to have a hobby that is (possibly) useful for someone