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Ministria e Zhvillimit Rajonal
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Ministry of Regional Development



Feasibility study and system
design for monitoring
balanced regional socio-
economic development
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TABLE OF ACRONYMS:

ACA	KOSOVO CADASTRAL AGENCY
AKM	ASSOCIATION OF KOSOVO MUNICIPALITIES
CARA	CIVIL AVIATION REGULATORY AUTHORITY
KAS	KOSOVO AGENCY OF STATISTICS
RDA	REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES
WB	WORLD BANK
EU	EUROPEAN UNION
KCB	KOSOVO CONSOLIDATED BUDGET
GDP	GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT
CAPI	COMPUTER-ASSISTED PERSONAL INTERVIEWING
CATI	COMPUTER-ASSISTED TELEPHONE INTERVIEWING
DPASER	DEPARTMENT FOR REGIONAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC PLANNING AND ANALYSIS
DRD	DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
IMF	INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND
GIS	GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM
GND	GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT
ICMM	INDEPENDENT COMMISSION FOR MINES AND MINERALS
MFT	MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND TRANSFERS
MLGA	MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
MESP	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND SPATIAL PLANNING
MCYS	MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORTS
LM	LINE MINISTRIES
MTPT	MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND POST TELECOMMUNICATION
MRD	MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MBRSED	MONITORING OF BALANCED REGIONAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
SMEs	SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
WHO	WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
NGO	NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
OSCE	ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE
DR	DEVELOPMENT REGION
DRC	DEVELOPMENT REGION CENTER
DRS	DEVELOPMENT REGION SOUTH
DRE	DEVELOPMENT REGION EAST
DRW	DEVELOPMENT REGION WEST
DRN	DEVELOPMENT REGION NORTH
SMMBRSED	SYSTEM FOR MONITORING BALANCED REGIONAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
BRD	BALANCED REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
LED	LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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1. Introduction

According to geospatial, functional and socio-economic criteria, the Regional Division of Kosovo has been and remains an unceasing effort of many authors and researchers, to clarify the essential definition based on the defining elements for its differentiation. Differentiation of elements, as a complex category, analyzes the elements of the natural landscape, as a fundamental basis of space in the transformation of which, socio-economic activities constitute the scale and dynamics of development. The elements of the natural landscape are only representative indicators by which regional differentiation is made and therefore, they constitute only a set of geographical criteria, while the social role is increasingly becoming a decisive factor in its transformation. Physiognomy, as an individualized appearance of the geographical complex, defines the element of regional differentiation of a space. Region integrates all natural elements and socio-economic activities of space, while geographical analysis is a form of interpretation which concludes with the explanation as to what is the correlation of these elements, or which of them prevails in determining its physiognomy. The higher the level of development of the society, the more transformed the geographical region will be. According to most contemporary researchers, regions are categories mainly under the influence of natural elements, but, when social processes have a high degree of development, they take on the appearance of cultural landscape. The advantages of the study of the geographical region are not only for the inventory of geographical phenomena and processes, but also for the determination of balance, statistics, dynamics, complexity, functionality, parallelism and the aesthetics of the region.

Kosovo's space with all geographical elements is an individualized and specific space. In its territory pass important roads that connect the interior of Central Europe, with the Balkan Peninsula, the coast of the Mediterranean Sea and the seas surrounding it. The natural landscape with high mountains around, and the plain between them, shows the natural differences of geographical regionalization, while the low rate of development indicates its social differentiation. Based on the differentiating elements of geographical complexity, the geographical space of Kosovo can be divided into two Regional geographical units (in Kosovo plain and Dukagjini plain).

From the administrative point of view, the regional division of Kosovo has existed before and has a history which is related to the socio-economic and political developments of this geographical area. The regional division was mainly based on the spatial component and socio-economic developments of the time.

During the period 1974 - 1990, regional geographical units have been organized in:

- ✓ Kosovo Plain which included: Northern Region (Mitrovica, Leposavic, Skenderaj and Vushtrri), Middle Region (Pristina, Podujeva, Glogoc and Lipjan), Southern Region (Kamenica, Viti and Gjilan), Ferizaj Region (Ferizaj and Kaçanik).
- ✓ Dukagjini Plain which covered the western part (Peja, Istog, Klina, Deçan, Rahovec), and the Southern Region (Prizren, Suhareka, Malisheva and Gjakova).

After the '90s, for statistical needs, the territory of Kosovo was divided into five regions (Region of Prishtina, Mitrovica, Gjilan, Prizren and Peja).

During the period 2000-2008, from the administrative point of view it is divided into seven regions (Prizren, Gjakova, Peja, Mitrovica, Prishtina, Gjilan and Ferizaj).

Regional development, as a topic and field of development, is not new in Kosovo, but in terms of more structural use of EU funds has been recognized since 2008. Balanced regional development means reducing differences in terms of socio-development - economic and raising the quality of life in developing regions. Balanced regional development cannot be achieved without building the capacity of the regions in order to have genuine inter-regional competition. Measures need to be taken to increase interregional competition in order to achieve higher levels of productivity, employment and prosperity. Balanced regional development policy intervenes to correct inequalities between different regions of a country and also to raise the standard of living to a higher level with an equal rate.

In order to reflect a more realistic situation in terms of regional socio-economic development in Kosovo, it is important to conduct this feasibility study in advance regarding the monitoring of balanced regional socio-economic development. This study will identify all topics, areas, indicators and determine the way through which the Ministry of Regional Development (hereinafter MRD) will provide the necessary data to review regional social and economic developments. Through accurate reflection of socio - economic developments, contribution will be made to the orientation of strategic policies and balanced investments of line ministries in development regions. In addition to identifying areas, indicators, data collection methodology, reporting, feasibility study will provide the MRD with a model of the system to be built, as well as with all the elements of efficiency that it should have. This refers to the design or description of the system which will be put in place by the MRD and used by competent persons, to monitor and measure regional performance.

The feasibility study and the design of the system for monitoring the balanced regional socio-economic development is a starting point for putting in place the system for monitoring the social and economic development of the development regions. This system will identify all relevant areas of social and economic development on a regional basis, indicators for monitoring socio-economic development and economic and social development in development regions will be monitored through this system in regulated terms and regional performance, as a strategic goal of MRD, will be incentivized, promoted and managed.

1.1. Purpose

The purpose of the Ministry of Regional Development is to reflect as realistically as possible the balanced regional socio-economic development in Kosovo. To achieve this, the MRD needs to analyze issues related to regional socio-economic development in Kosovo, including issues that go beyond the competencies of municipalities and that relate to the central level. Balanced socio-economic regional development, in some respects exceeds the municipal boundaries defined by the legislation in force, and is not related to administrative issues of organization of levels of government. Balanced regional socio-economic development is not limited to the level of local economic development, but exceeds it by reflecting the development of sectors and projects developed in two or more municipalities.

Monitoring balanced regional socio-economic development is a new approach, which has not been developed before by the central level institutions. The feasibility study is done in order to create a starting point for putting in place a system, which will be managed by MRD, while it will be used both by local and central official users regarding the inclusion of data. The creation of the system, which will contain data on the social and economic developments of the development regions promoted by the MRD, will contribute to the balance of investments in the regions, as well as the accurate reflection of the areas having development stagnation and that we need to work harder for mark progress. This also aims to highlight inequalities in various aspects of socio-economic well-being in all regions of Kosovo and reflect changes over time, promoting influencing factors and those seen as an obstacle.

In order to elaborate the content in more detail and describe the process of study development and design of the system for monitoring the balanced regional socio-economic development, several objectives were initially set. The objectives aimed to be achieved through the implementation of the feasibility study for monitoring the balanced regional socio-economic development in Kosovo and the design of the system are:

1. Definition of all topics / activities (social and economic) that can constitute regional social and economic developments and which can be measured and reflected in certain periods by the MRD.
2. Providing information that can be used in the future, for the implementation of monitoring of balanced regional socio-economic development. What are the treatment topics that can be included in the framework of balanced regional socio-economic development, areas of treatment, what are the indicators for measuring regional social and economic developments, implementation of reporting processes and data collection / working methodology, stakeholders to be involved, a description of the expected impacts of the analytical documents published by the MRD for the regular coverage of the monitoring of balanced regional socio-economic development, etc. All activities to be included in the study and that are recommended to the MRD, will be in accordance with the legislation in force and respecting the scope of activity of other institutions.
3. Development of an electronic system by MRD for measuring social and economic developments on a regional basis, then materializing them across units (municipalities) or more concrete issues (areas and sectors). What should be the content of this system, who can be the users and their number, security and maintenance, changes and modifications, software documentation, on what platform should it be developed, etc.

4. All elements related to the electronic system for monitoring the balanced regional socio-economic development (regional performance) will be presented in a separate section which will be used by the MRD to contract the company that will develop this system.

The feasibility study for monitoring the balanced regional socio-economic development is designed on the basis of an open work methodology and is constantly consulted with the representative / respective unit in the MRD.

Also, in the course of conducting this study, MRD availed all the documentation drafted and published (in the years 2018, 2019, 2020) that served as sources of information.

1.2. Work methodology

The work in drafting this document was carried out using three methods:

1. Research of existing materials
2. Analysis
3. Description and presentation of results

Research method- During the drafting of this document, research has been carried out on various materials related to the field of regional socio-economic development. All existing laws, regulations, strategies and other existing documentation have been reviewed in advance. The aim is to ensure that this document is in full compliance with the legislation and regulations in force. Also, this document has been drafted in full compliance with the strategy.

The study builds on data obtained from the use of written literature; during field visits; statistical data in the form of tables and graphs; cartographic data (topographic and thematic maps) and satellite imagery; vector data and aerial photographs that present the factual situation of phenomena and processes in the field. During the first phase of the work, the study and evaluation of the desk review took place, the data related to the socio-economic and spatial developments at the municipal and regional level were collected and reviewed, published so far in Kosovo and abroad.

The analysis process includes the processing of digital data, those obtained from scanning and georeferencing, as well as various thematic data, necessary for the demonstration of facts and spatial developments. In this study, material review, analysis, and interpretation are combined in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Also, a GIS software application was used to generate spatial data from topographic, thematic maps, orthophotos and satellite images.

Table 1. Study approaches

Methods used	Basic materials	Data structure	Data formats	Applications used	Modes of presentation
Surveys and interviews	Legal basis Development Strategies	Alphanumeric	Excel file * .xls	Microsoft Office Excel 2013	Text
Use of literature	Thematic map	Raster	Dorddocument * .doc	Microsoft Office Word 2013	Table
Scanning of documents	Orthophotos; v.2000, v.2004, v. 2012	Vector	* jpg	Paint	Cartographic
SURVEY	Satellite images v.2009,	table	* bitmap	CSPRO 4.1	Graphic
Comparison	photography		* tab	MapInfo	Photography
Analysis	Map top.1: 25000, v.1979		* PDF	Vertical Map	Schematic

	1: 50000, v. 2000, 1: 100000, v. 1976 1: 300000, v. 1976				
GIS	LITERATURE			ArkGIS	
GPS					

GIS has been very helpful as a methodology in the realization of this study, by structuring data with spatial components, spatial identification of social and economic activities, measuring surfaces, determining distances, comparing data, tracking spatial developments of phenomena, identification of areas built in rural and urban areas, presentation through maps of spatial and socio-economic phenomena, and has created professional support to issue the necessary suggestions for the development and spatial transformation of settlements in the future.

2. Legal basis, strategies and other documents

In Kosovo there are development policies at the national level, while there is a lack of regional development policies. However, according to the Regional Development Strategy approved by the Government of Kosovo for a period of 10 years (2020-2030), the drafting of necessary policies for regional development is foreseen. So far, the law and regulations on inter-municipal cooperation have been implemented as a basis for coordinating regional development activities.

Laws and bylaws

The laws and bylaws on which this document is based are as follows:

1. **Law no. 03 / L-040 on Local Self-Government** -determines the full power of local authorities in terms of local interests. This law also defines clear competencies regarding the organization and functioning of municipal bodies, financing of municipalities, relations within municipalities, inter-municipal and cross-border cooperation as well as relations between municipalities and the central level. The Law on Local Self-Government lists the areas in which local authorities have executive powers and these are exercised in accordance with the standards set out in applicable law. According to this law, municipalities have the right to cooperate and establish partnerships with other municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo, within the scope of their competencies to perform functions of common interest. Municipalities also have the right to enter into cooperation agreements with foreign bodies of local self-government.
2. **Law no. 04 / L-010 on inter-municipal cooperation**- regulates the inter-municipal cooperation between the municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo for the needs of exercising their own competencies and expanded in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, the law in force and the European Charter of Local Self-Government of the Council of Europe. The cooperation of the municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo in the framework of twinning or other forms of cooperation within the own and enhanced competencies of the municipalities is also regulated. This law also provides for inter-municipal cooperation agreements, where two or more municipalities have the right to enter into agreements for their common goals in the field of municipal public services and local development.
3. **Regulation on the promotion of inter-municipal cooperation**- regulates the promotion and support of inter-municipal cooperation and regional socio-economic development. In particular, it defines areas / competencies as well as criteria for cooperation including: local and regional socio-economic development, land development and use, urban and rural planning, environmental protection, promotion and development of tourism, promotion and preservation of cultural heritage, development of inter-municipal infrastructure, as well as other issues that are within the own competence of municipalities.
4. **Regulation on the procedure of international municipal cooperation**- determines the form and procedure of international municipal cooperation between the institutions of local self-government of the Republic of Kosovo with municipalities and other institutions of local self-government outside the Republic of Kosovo. Municipalities have the right to enter into administrative and technical cooperation agreements with other local government institutions abroad. International cooperation can be related to several

areas such as economic development, urban and rural planning, land development and use, local environmental protection, construction and control according to standards, provision of public education, preschool, primary and secondary, public health, public housing, infrastructure development, promotion and protection of human rights and many other issues that are under competencies of the municipalities according to the applicable legislation of Kosovo.

5. Regulation (GRK) no.16 / 2017 on amending and supplementing Regulation no.02 / 2011 on the areas of administrative responsibility of the Office of the Prime Minister and Ministries amended and supplemented on Regulation no.07 / 2011, Regulation no.14 / 2017 and Regulation no.15 / 2017- this regulation defines the mandate of the ministry of rural development.

The current legislation does not regulate specific issues for rural development such as: balanced regional development, regional socio-economic development, and does not provide elements that regulate the legal and policy framework for regional development.

3. Regions in Kosovo, their definition and characteristics

The Republic of Kosovo, as a geographical unit, lies between the northern latitude 41°51'9" - 43°16'10" and the eastern longitude 20°37'20" - 21°47'37". It covers an area of 10905.25 km², in which live 1,798,188 inhabitants (165 b / km²)¹. The good geographical position, in the center of the Balkans, and the good connections with all the surrounding countries, enable access to important regional and spatial corridors. This has influenced the space of Kosovo to have a specific macro position, which has helped its dynamic development during the twentieth century, with special emphasis on the last two decades. It borders with Albania to the southwest, Montenegro to the west, Serbia to the northeast, and Macedonia to the southeast. The territory of Kosovo has an average altitude of 800, and is characterized by various forms of configuration, mainly mountain and plain shapes. The highest point above sea level is Gjeravica (2565m), while the lowest is located in Vermica (325m).

Micro Geographical position -the extension of the roads in the terrain configuration between the altitude above sea level 300 to 900m, and with the slope of the terrain up to 5°, has created good preconditions for rapid development of the settlements. After the completion of the railway that aimed to connect Pristina and Thessaloniki to create access to the Aegean Sea (d. 1973), and the railway Fushë Kosovë-Peja (d. 1936), as well as the construction of national roads, good communication conditions are created with the largest regional centers, in which case the expansion of centers within it begins. Of special importance for the development of the country in the last decade are the roads of international character, such as Vermicë-Arllat (length 38 km) and Prishtina-Han i Elezit (length 65.6km), which enable better communication with the countries of the region towards the South-West, South and North-East. Good communication links have enabled the Country access to all major cities in the region. The nearest city is Skopje is 93km, then Tirana 259km, Podgorica 300km, Sofia 334km and Belgrade 524km. Under the influence of good geographical position and development of road and railway infrastructure, cities have developed: Prishtina, Prizren, Mitrovica, Ferizaj, Gjilan, Podujeva, Peja, Gjakova, etc.

Road infrastructure -as a driving element of economic development at the national level has been largely completed over the years throughout the territory of the Republic of Kosovo. Compared to 2005, the difference is significant, so it is important to say that Kosovo as a territorial unit has infrastructure that is developed at four levels (Highways, National Roads, Regional Roads and Local Roads). Only, in the first three categories the length of roads is 2378.7km. Of the total roads in these categories; highways participate with 5.77%, national roads 31.75% and Regional roads with 62.48%. In the absence of data, local roads are not addressed. Highways as part of road infrastructure until 2010 were missing, and then in 2011 the route of the Ibrahim Rugova Highway (Vermica Arllat) with a length of 38km is built, which has helped connect the national and regional regions and roads of the central and southwestern part of Kosovo. The development of this level of highways is continuing today. According to statistics in 2020, a total of 137.2 km length of highways have been identified, which means that during the period 2011 - 2020, this category of roads has grown by about 100 km (10.1 km / year). Translated into capital investments, it turns out that over 100 million euros have been invested per year in this category of roads. Three regions are covered by these roads: region center, east and south. This is an indication that the central institutions are focused on the development of this category of roads which have an international character and help complete the road infrastructure related to neighboring countries, namely international economic corridors, such as corridors 8 and 10. *National Roads* - as part of the road infrastructure with an important role in regional development, has marked continuous stagnation during the period 2005-2016. Until 2016, a total length of 630.4km has been

¹Kosovo Statistics Agency. Statistical Yearbook. Estimates for 2020. Prishtina 2021.

identified and no increase of this category of roads has been identified, but the existing routes have been rehabilitated and maintained, in some cases they were expanded. From 2017 to 2020 it has been identified that there has been an increase of 124.8 km of roads of this category. Consequently this category reaches a total length of 755.2km and has a spatial coverage in all regions of Kosovo. Regional Roads - have the largest share in the categorization of roads with a total of 1486.3 km, and have a spatial coverage in all municipalities of Kosovo. From the post-war period until 2012, investments in the development of this category of roads have been concentrated only on their repair. While from 2013 to 2020 we have the development of this category of roads for about 500 km.

Table 2. Road infrastructure

Length of roads (km) by category and year ²							
Description	2005	%	2019	%	2020	%	Difference 2005 - 2020
Highway	0	0.00	137.2	5.94	137.2	5.77	137.20
National road	630.4	16.04	665.2	28.78	755.2	31.75	124.80
Regional road	1294.7	32.94	1509.4	65.29	1486.3	62.48	191.60
Total	3930.1	48.98	2311.7	100.00	2378.7	100.00	453.60

From the spatial aspect, the administrative division of the Republic of Kosovo is defined in four levels: The territory of the Republic of Kosovo, administrative municipalities, cadastral zones and cadastral parcels. The terrain configuration, spatial physiognomy, connections between municipalities, and socio-economic characteristics, impose the need for a regional definition of the geographical space of the Republic of Kosovo.

Therefore, based on its legal mandate defined by Regulation (QR) no. 16/2017 on Amending and Supplementing Regulation no. 02/2011 on Areas of Administrative Responsibility of the Office of the Prime Minister and Ministries, as well as based on the annual work plan for 2019, the Ministry of Regional Development has drafted the document "Profiles of Development Regions in Kosovo". This document is the first document of the Ministry of Regional Development that reflects the socio-economic development profiles of development regions in Kosovo. The name 'Profiles of Development Regions in Kosovo', contains all the social and economic elements in terms of overall development of development regions of Kosovo and which name derives from the Concept - Document for Regional Development approved by the Government of the Republic of Kosovo with Decision no 13/61 of date 22.08.2018.³

The geographical individuality of the regions is determined by many elements and factors, including the geographical position, the altered configuration alongside the hypsometry, the differences in climatic elements between the lowlands and the highlands, the specific hydrography and the diverse flora. Changes in natural elements are also manifested in social processes, as a result of which there is a higher population density in the plains and hills, while the lowest in the mountains. In functional terms, urban centers with numerous representative and administrative activities are the main focuses that integrate certain geographical areas, which take on the role of regional centers.

The origin of regional development in Kosovo is known earlier and was based on the principle of homogeneity and geographical uniformity. But, in terms of the most structural use of EU funds is known since 2008, through the establishment of five (5) regional

² https://askdata.rks.gov.net/PXëeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata__Transport__Annual%20indicators/tr10.px/Tabela/TabelaVieëLayout1/?rxid=d43a5363-b9e4-4886-6c6a

³ Ministry of Regional Development, "Profiles of Development Regions in Kosovo", 2019

development agencies (RDA "Center", RDA "North", RDA "West", RDA "South" and RDA "East", from the Ministry of Local Government Administration and the EU Office in Pristina, starting from this period, the administrative classification with spatial components of the regions begins, in order to create their spatial, socio-economic and administrative balance . Based on the characteristics listed above, Kosovo as a geographical unit is divided into 5 regions: Development Region Center, Development Region East, Development Region North, Development Region West and Development Region South.

Table 3. Regional division

Regions of Kosovo							
	Markets	the population	% of population	Sip.km²	% of territory	No. of settlements	%
1	Development region Center	517723	29	2215.52	20.32	299	19.96
2	Development region East	325971	18	2298.5	21.08	293	19.56
3	Development region North	224121	12	2051.84	18.81	361	24.1
4	Development region West	323468	18	2324.38	21.31	314	20.96
5	Development region South	406905	23	2015.01	18.48	231	15.42
	Total	1798188	100	10905.25	100	1498	100

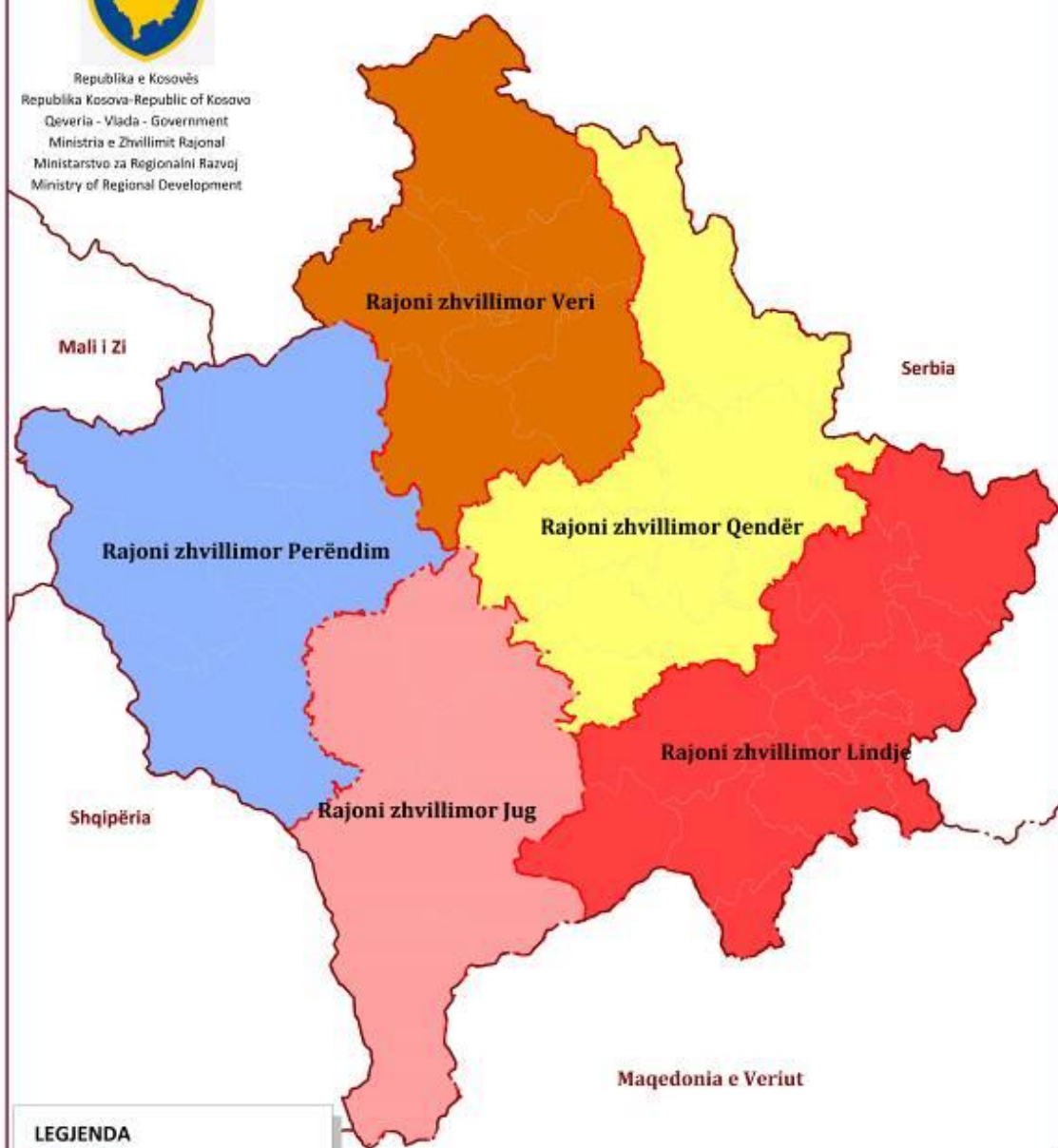
If we analyze the concentration of population by regions in Kosovo (2020 projections), it turns out that the largest concentration of population is in the Development Region Center where 29% of the population live, the second in a row is the Development Region South with 23% of the population, followed by the Development Region East with 18% of the population, the Development Region West with 18% of the population and the Development Region North with 12% of the population.

Based on the spatial coverage, the region with the largest area is the Development Region West with 21.31% of the total area, followed by the Development Region East with 21.08%, the Development Region Center with 20.32%, the Development Region North with 18.81% and the Development Region South with 18.48 %. As for the concentration of settlements, the region with the largest number of settlements is the Development Region North with 361 settlements, followed by the Development Region West with 314, Development Region Center with 299, Development Region East with 293 and Development Region South with 231 settlements .

Ndarja Regjonale e Republikës së Kosovës



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo
Qeveria - Vlada - Government
Ministria e Zhvillimit Rajonal
Ministarstvo za Regionalni Razvoj
Ministry of Regional Development



LEGJENDA

- Kufiri i regjionit
- Kufiri i shteteve për rreth
- Rajoni zhvillimor Jug
- Rajoni zhvillimor Lindje
- Rajoni zhvillimor Perëndim
- Rajoni zhvillimor Qendër
- Rajoni zhvillimor Veri

Projekti: TREGUESIT PËR MONITORIMIN E ZHVILLIMIT
SOCIO - EKONOMIK RAJONAL TË BALANCUAR NË KOSOVË
Financues: MZHR
Përpiluesi: AXA - Data GISconsulting sh.p.k.



0 7,467
meters
Scale: 1:460.4

Punoi: Dr. sc. Tomor Çela

Map 1. Regional Division of the Republic of Kosovo

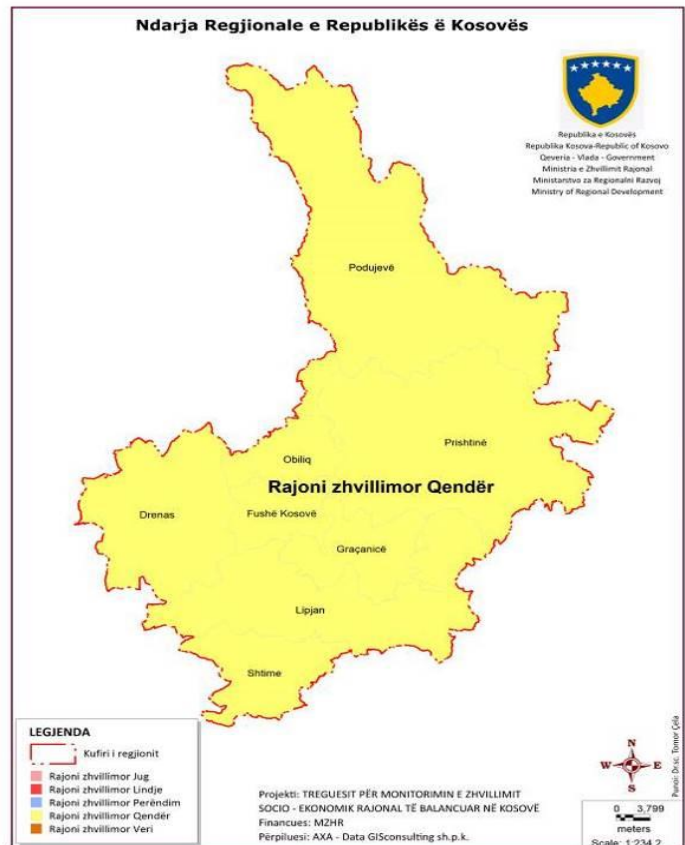
3.1 Development Region Center

Good geographical position, relatively smooth terrain configuration, good connections with other Southern European countries through corridor 10 (Merdar border point), the intersection of main roads at national and regional level through the Highway (Arbër Xhaferi) and Peja highway which connects it with the Ibrahim Rugova highway, then Prishtina as the capital with administrative, socio-economic and educational functions and the concentration of the main industry, make this region stand out in terms of physical-geographical and socio-economic characteristics.

In the morphology of the configuration, the hilly forms have the largest share and cover an area of 1462 km² or 66%, while the plain forms have a coverage of 744 km² or 34% of the territory of the Region, compared to the fields of the region north it is twice as large than its fields.

1. Development Region Center consists of 299 settlements distributed in a total of eight administrative municipalities with an area of 2,215.52 km² or 20.31% of the territory of Kosovo. The municipality with the largest number of settlements is Podujeva 77 of them, followed by Lipjan with 62 and Prishtina with 43 settlements, while Gracanica has the smallest number of settlements with 17 settlements (see table 1)

2. Prishtina as the largest urban center with a variety of functions is of great importance not only for the region center, but for the whole of Kosovo. It becomes attractive for all regions with a large number of representative activities and diverse activities of the tertiary and quaternary sector.



Map 2. Development Region Centre

3.1.1 Population

Another characteristic of the Development Region Center are the socio-economic processes, which are related to the dynamic development of the population, both in terms of demographic regime, which can be considered expansive, as well as the mechanical growth of the population. This geographical area is distinguished by the large population density of 236.6 inhabitants per km², approximately one time higher than the average density of Kosovo. The population of 517,723 inhabitants (29% of the entire population of Kosovo) categorizes the geographical area as the region with the highest concentration of population. The municipality with the largest population is Prishtina (218,782 inhabitants), the second is Podujeva with 82,023 inhabitants, followed by Drenas with 61145 inhabitants, while Gracanica has the smallest population of 12229 inhabitants. Despite the fact that the

municipality of Prishtina has the epithet of administrative center with all administrative, representative and socio-economic functions, it ranks second in terms of population density (418 inhbts. / km²). The highest density is Fushë Kosova (475 inhbts. / km²), while the lowest density is Graçanica with 100 inhabitants / km². Socio-economic and administrative activities which take place in this geographical area, including administrative, economic, educational, Legal, legislative, diplomatic, cultural and governing function at national and local level, help the region to have great potential for economic development, and a good supply of jobs. Therefore, it can be considered as a region with a development axis in the Republic of Kosovo.

Table 1: Municipalities and settlements of the Development Region Center. Statistical Yearbook of the Republic of Kosovo 2021. Estimation for 2020

	Municipalities	The population⁴	Area km²	Density of pop.
1	Pristina	218,782	523.13	418
2	Podujevo	82,023	632.59	130
3	Lipljan	57,928	338.41	170
4	Obilic	18.218	104.84	174
5	Drenas	61.145	275.63	222
6	Shtime	27,450	134.42	204
7	Fushë Kosovë	39,948	84.09	475
8	Graçanica	12.229	122.41	100
	Total	517723	2215.52	233.6

3.1.2. Configuration and geological construction

The Development Region Center in terms of configuration structure, is differentiated with the lowland, mainly in the area of Prishtina and Fushë Kosovë, which in morphotectonic terms belongs to the sunken area of the field, while the main forms of morphogenesis are the result of tectonic activities, after which there were erosive and accumulative ones of river flows. The higher parts of the configuration have been subjected to fluvial erosion, which make the configuration more fragmented and more diverse. The configuration of this area consists of three main geographical formations: Kosovo Plain, Gollak area and southern Drenica area. The Gollak area lies in the eastern part of the RDC. It is differentiated with high configuration, where the hypsometric amplitude is between 800 to 1000. Mesozoic formations predominate and less Paleozoic ones. The Kosovo plain is a regional unit, which the low configuration, flat with gentle elevation, on both sides of the river Sitnica, make this space individual and specific within the Central Region. The altitude ranges from 540 to 600m. Kosovo plain reaches a length of 40km, while its width is about 20km. The Sitnica River is the main element in the landscape physiognomy of this area. Kosovo plain in its geological construction represents a homogeneous space with new formations such as sand deposits and clay sand of the alluvial plains of Sitnica and its branches. On both sides of

Sitnica above the alluvial plains are spread the Pliocene lake sediments, which are represented by sandy loams and marls. Part of the area of this region is also that of Llap, which compared to that of Fushë Kosovë is slightly higher. The Llap field has all the features of the Kosovo plain, both in terms of genesis and processes that have appeared later, as well as in the lithological construction. South Drenica has a diverse lithological structure where it can be encountered by almost all geological ages. Old Paleozoic formations and have peripheral extension. They are represented by old Paleozoic fillets and shales. Of the Mesozoic sediments, Jura is the most widespread, but serpentines, diabase-gravel formations, as well as new Pliocene formations represented by marls, clays, sands and gravels can also be encountered.

3.1.3. Climate

The geographical area of the RDC, located between the Kopaunik Mountains in the north and Mount Sharr in the south, where many climatic elements are intertwined, which have determined for the climate to be transit. Therefore, we say that the climate is continental characterized by exotic and Alpine influences, where summers are warm and winters are cold. Average temperature inside the country varies between +25 ° C (summer) and -10 ° C (winter). This area is characterized by a dry climate and annual precipitation of approximately 600 mm per year.

3.1.4. watermark

Development Region Center is poor in terms of surface water. The main river of this geographical area is Sitnica. Its stream goes mostly through fields with numerous meanders and extends in a north-south direction. It flows through the lowest part of Fushë Kosova to the estuary of the Ibar River. Sitnica is 90km long. It consists of the stream of Matica with Sazlina, the river of Shtime, the river of Prishtina, the river Llap (with tributaries Kaçandoll, Dubnica and Batllava), the river of Gracanica, the river Drenica. In 1966, the artificial lake of Badovc was built in 1966 in the middle stream of Gracanica. It is 150-200 m wide and 3.5 km long, with an accumulation of 26 million m³, which is used to supply water to Prishtina and its periphery. Lake Batllava is also a very important element in the physiognomy of the Development Region Center. The lake is 300 m wide and 8 km long, with a depth of 30 to 35 m, accumulating approximately 40 million m³.

3.1.5. Soils and Vegetation

Lands and vegetation are also important components with geographical basis. Using modern agro-technical tools, it has been continuously contributed to the complete change of their spread, which consequently have influenced on the transformation of geographical space. In the Development Region Center, brown soils are most widespread, which are biologically very active and mostly used for agricultural crops and forests. Less prevalent, however, are the Smonic lands, which were once former-lake lands. Forests have the largest spread of about 40% of the area, and lie in the peripheral part of the Region. The types of non-coniferous forest trees dominate the most including beech, oak etc. They lie in the Gollak area to the north and reach the spring of the Llap River. Other forests are located in the suburban area of southern Drenica. All these forests extend to an altitude ranging from 700 to 800 m above sea level.

3.1.6. Education

The infrastructure and quality of educational services in the Development Region Center is at a very good level. A large number of school and university institutions have been built and renovated. According to public education statistics 2020-2021 the number of schools in the Development Region Center in primary and lower secondary education is 232, while in upper secondary education is 31. The number of students in the Development Region Center in primary and lower secondary education is 72,563. There are 22,338 students in upper secondary education, while 11,454 or 51.25% of them are in vocational schools.⁵

Table2: Pre-University Education Statistics. Source: Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021

	Number of Institutions	Students		Teachers	Administrative staff Public	Support staff	
		Public	Private				
Preschool / kindergarten	15	<5 years 5 <6 years	1793 6961	3103 1340	295	479	1004
Primary and lower secondary	232		72563	3386	4732		
Higher Secondary	31		22338	2324	1458		

One of the important factors in determining the level of balanced regional socio-economic development is data analysis at the level of education of population. The educational structure represents an important human resource base with an impact on socio-economic development. In this section, the number of population over 10 years was analyzed according to the level of education. The data provided in Table 3 below are data obtained from the population census conducted in 2011 by the Kosovo Agency of Statistics. These data can also be updated with the new population census that is expected to be implemented during this year (2021).

Table 3: Level of education in the Region Center. Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics, statistics from the 2011 census.

Level of education at the Region Center	Number of population by the level of education	% of the population according to the level of education
Postgraduate degree	5385	1.2
Graduates	40244	9.1
Higher secondary education	141275	31.8
Lower secondary education	117336	26.4
Primary education	63538	14.4
Uncompleted primary education	38303	8.6
Literates	22034	4.9
Illiterates	16269	3.6

3.1.7. Infrastructure

The geographical position of the Development Region Center, in which important roads pass, enables good and very efficient communication. Almost all categories of roads are covered,

⁵Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation. Education statistics in Kosovo 2020/21, 2021.

and this region is classified as the center of the railway network of Kosovo, where the railways that connect other regions branch off, but also those railway lines that connect with the countries of the region such as the Republic of Northern Macedonia. and the Republic of Serbia.

As the most important category of road infrastructure is that of highways which is considered as a road traffic network. The most important is the route of the highway Prishtina - Lipjan in the direction of Skopje, which covers this region with a total of 18 km, then that of Prishtina - Trude (15 km) in the direction of Merdare. While the most important regional roads are: Arllat - Prishtina, Prishtina - Mitrovica, Prishtina - Llabjan, Trudë - Merdarë, Komoran - Carraleva and Komoran - Skenderaj. These categories of roads are built with high standards and are subject to regular maintenance. They have an extension of 174 km in the direction N-S and E-W.

Table 4: National and Regional Road Network

Description	km
Regional Road (Arllat - Prishtina) direction - Prishtina	27
Highway (Prishtina - Trudë) direction - Podujevë	15
Highway (Prishtina - Lipjan) direction - Skopje	18
Regional Road (Trude - Merdare) direction - Podujeva	40
Regional Road (Prishtina - Babimoc) direction - Mitrovica	15
Regional Road (Prishtina - Llabjan) direction - Gjilan	30
Regional Road (Komoran - Morina) direction - Skenderaj	17
Regional Road (Komoran - Petreshtica) direction - Carraleva	12
Total	174

Local roads have the largest representation in relation to road infrastructure with about 60%, which connect the settlements of the Region. The *railway network* is regional one with the main station in Fushë Kosovë. It extends in a North-South and East-West direction, which connects the central region with other regions. The extension of the railway in the North-South direction is of an international character, because through the Northern Region it connects with Central and Southern Europe, while through the Eastern Region it connects to North Macedonia and Greece. This railway line is a railway with a length of 188 km. Only the municipality of Shtime as part of this Region does not have access to the railway network. The condition of the railway network is not good and the investments for its rehabilitation are quite insignificant. They are mainly done at the level of selective maintenance. It is used for transporting passengers and freight.

Of particular importance for the DRC is the space of the international airport "Adem Jashari" which is located in the settlement of Slatina in the municipality of Fushë Kosova. Distance from the capital to the airport is 20 km. In DRC, the annual passenger turnover was about 35,000, while the freight turnover was about 300,000 / ton. The trend of using railways for passenger transport during 2020 marks a decrease of about 42%, while freight transport 26%. The only functioning railway line in this region is that of Skopje. Water supply and sewerage

system - The number of settlements included in the drinking water system for this region reaches about 70%, in the wastewater treatment system 25%.

Regarding the infrastructure of local roads, having their lighting, inclusion in the drinking water system and sewerage, detailed information is provided in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Municipal performance evaluation. Data from the evaluation table for 2019.

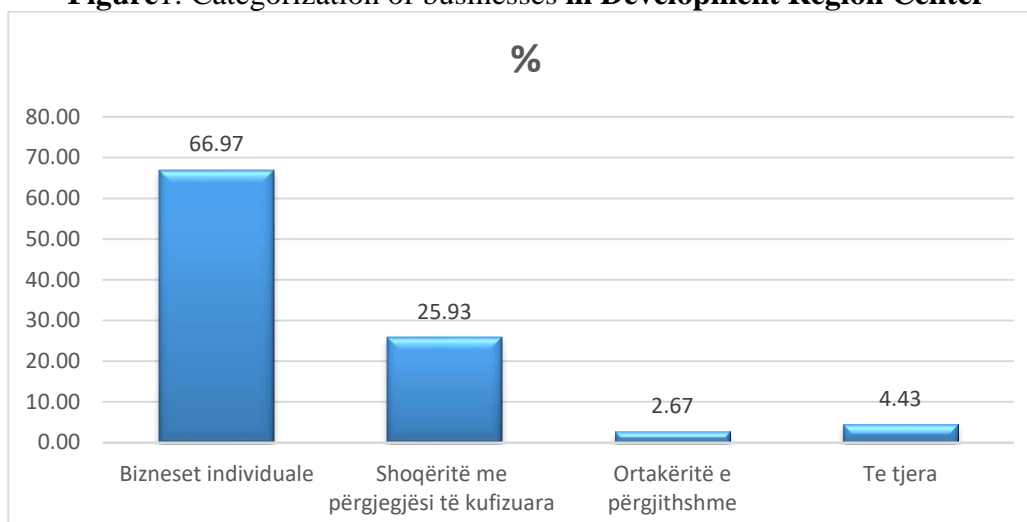
Municipality	% of local roads paved in municipalities	% of households, public institutions and business units included in the drinking water system in	% of households, public institutions and business units included in the sewerage system	% of length of local roads equipped with public lighting
Pristina	50.24	91.00	0.00	29.14
Podujevo	71.96	58.15	78.48	7.91
Lipljan	53.19	40.28	97.35	17.43
Obilic	51.26	93.84	82.89	38.04
Drenas	74.47	63.68	77.00	8.55
Shtime	86.50	67.00	64.69	24.42
Fushë Kosovë	100	96.83	98.80	74.61
Graçanica	51.35	43.50	64.29	40.94

3.1.8. Economy and business development

The most prominent business profiles in the Development Region Center are those of individual businesses, followed by limited liability companies and general partnerships. The most developed sectors are wholesale and retail trade, construction, and services. The Development Region Center has the largest number of business concentrations because the capital of Kosovo is in this region and most domestic and foreign businesses are concentrated in the capital. 68,133 businesses are registered in the Development Region Center. While the types of businesses include different ones such as: individual businesses, foreign companies, agricultural cooperatives, publicly, socially owned enterprises, partnerships, general partnerships, joint stock companies and limited liability companies. Individual businesses constitute the largest number in the region center with a number of 45,626, followed by limited liability companies 17,667 and general partnerships 1,822 businesses. ⁶

⁶ Data according to KBRA for the number of businesses in 2018.

Figure1: Categorization of businesses in Development Region Center



The municipality with the largest number of businesses is Prishtina (65%), followed by Lipjan (12%), Obiliq (8%), Podujeva (7%), Drenas (3%), while the smallest number of registered businesses in this region are in the following municipalities: Shtime, Fushë Kosova and Graçanica with 2% each.

Table 6: Number of businesses by municipalities

Development Region Center			
No.	Municipalities	No. of Businesses	%
1	Pristina	43977	65
2	Podujevo	4878	7
3	Lipljan	8410	12
4	Obilic	5110	8
5	Drenas	1907	3
6	Shtime	1132	2
7	Fushë Kosova	1074	2
8	Graçanica	1645	2
	Total	68133	100

The economic / business zones in this region is: Business Park in Drenas which was declared an economic zone by the decision of the Government of Kosovo on 18.08.2010. The park is located at the 22nd kilometer along the highway Prishtina - Peja, in the village of Koretica e Epërme. The park offers an ideal location with physical infrastructure and quality services. It has an area of 24 ha which offers locations of different sizes for businesses, mainly for the manufacturing and services sectors. About 41 businesses are located there (Table 7). Each plot has direct access to the main roads of the Park and has individual connections to the main network of the park with sewerage, water, telephone, internet, etc.

Table 7: Industrial Zones in the Development Region Center 7

3. Location	4. Description	5. Distance from Prishtina km	6. Surface area 7. Ha.	8. No. of Businesses
9. Korrotica e Epërme, Drenas	10. Business Park	11. 22	12. 24	13. 41
14. Qylagë, Lipjan	15. Industrial Park	16. 27	17. 56	18. No data
19. Shtime	20. Technology Park	21. 30	22. 10.7	23. 11
24. Lipjan, near QMI	25. Economic Zone	26. 13.5	27. No data	28. No data
29. Babush, Ferizaj	30. Economic Zone	31. 25	32. No data	33. No data

The Industrial Park in Qylagë Lipjan was established in 2016, with an area of 56 ha. The Ministry of Trade and Industry together with the Municipality of Lipjan started investing in the regulation of physical infrastructure in this economic zone - the first phase. In the coming years MTI plans to continue with joint investment and finalization of physical infrastructure in order to create better conditions for businesses. This industrial park is at initial stages of infrastructure investment and has a small number of businesses in this industrial park. The Technology Park in Shtime was established in 2013, with an area of 10.70 ha. The Technology Park in Shtime is located in the second kilometer on the highway Shtime-Ferizaj (M-25.3). The Technology Park is located near the city, near the national road, at a crossroads between Skopje - Pristina and Tirana. This technology park has the physical infrastructure (roads, water supply, sewerage, atmospheric sewerage, sidewalks and lighting). This technology park is tax-free for construction permits and municipal taxes for business activity, available space depending on the request of businesses where there are 11 businesses which operate their business activity. There are also Economic Zones in Lipjan near QMI, Economic Zones in Babush. In addition to infrastructure in some industrial zones, the challenge remains to attract investment given a series of procedures to provide a space in industrial areas which demotivates potential investors. It is important to review and re-evaluate the policies, procedures and support provided to local and foreign investors based on best practices in the region.

3.1.9. Agriculture

⁷ Information updated by “*Analysis of the functioning of economic zones in Kosovo*” Compiled by Department for Regional Socio-Economic Planning and Analysis, Ministry of Regional Development, 2019.

The Development Region Center has a considerable stock of agricultural lands of 93476 hectares or 18.25% of the total agricultural lands in Kosovo. In this region the largest area of utilized lands is in Podujeva (24807 hectares), followed by Lipjan (18547 ha), Glogoc (15126 ha), Prishtina (12976 ha), while Fushë Kosova is ranked last with (4714 ha) of utilized land (Table 8).

Table 8: Size of utilized agricultural land in the central region (Agriculture Census 2014)

Description	Utilized area of agricultural land - Total	More than 0 and less than 0.5	From 0.5 to less than 1	From 1 to less than 2	From 2 to less than 5	From 5 to less than 10	From 10 to less than 20	From 20 to less than 30	30 and more	Total	%
Measurement unit	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	(ha)	
Fushë Kosova	4714	124	237	560	1074	747	711	219	1042	4714	5.04
Glogovac	15126	385	902	2362	4670	2614	1611	632	1950	15126	16.18
Gracanica	5659	57	191	624	1611	1347	688	264	876	5659	6.05
Lipljan	18547	364	804	1996	4246	3154	2714	1590	3679	18547	19.84
Obilic	5519	115	217	632	1403	990	726	551	885	5519	5.90
Podujevo	24807	584	1281	2865	6053	4617	3497	1941	3970	24807	26.54
Prishtina	12976	184	388	951	2449	2046	2082	1718	3158	12976	13.88
Shtime	6128	166	339	795	1603	1203	684	454	884	6128	6.56
Total	93476	1980	4360	10785	23109	16717	12714	7369	16443	93476	100.00
%	100.00	2.12	4.66	11.54	24.72	17.88	13.60	7.88	17.59	100.00	

The DRC is also characterized by a large number of agricultural holdings. With 63103 (48.29%) agricultural economy in total, it is ranked as the region with the largest number of agricultural holdings in Kosovo. In this region the municipality of Prishtina leads with 35145 AH, while Podujeva is second with 9123 EB. The municipality with the smallest number of agricultural holdings is Fushë Kosova with 1760 of them (Table 9).

Table 9: Agricultural holdings by size of utilized agricultural land, by municipalities, Kosovo, (Agriculture Census 2014)⁸

	Utilized area of agricultural land - Total (ha)		More than 0 and less than 0.5 (ha)	From 0.5 to less than 1 (ha)	From 1 to less than 2 (ha)	From 2 to less than 5 (ha)	From 5 to less than 10 (ha)	From 10 to less than 20 (ha)	From 20 to less than 30 (ha)	30 and more (ha)
	No.of AH	%	No.of AH	No.of AH	No.of AH	No.of AH	No.of AH	No.of AH	No.of AH	No.of AH
Prishtina	35145	52.89	7718	6446	8125	8232	2804	1104	376	340
Fushë Kosova	1760	2.79	463	350	410	353	108	56	9	11

⁸ https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata__02%20Agriculture__Agricultural%20Household%20Survey/aeb01.p/x/?rxid=eae1fd74-f027-4e2f-b865-c820

Glogovac	6516	10.33	1429	1272	1685	1557	393	120	26	34
Lipljan	6143	9.73	1358	1177	1430	1383	465	198	65	67
Obilic	1928	3.06	466	314	448	462	145	55	24	14
Podujeva	9123	14.46	2196	1804	2050	1983	679	256	82	73
Shtime	2488	3.94	628	497	573	533	173	48	19	17
Total	63103		14258	11860	14721	14503	4767	1837	601	556
%	100.00		22.59	18.79	23.33	22.98	7.55	2.91	0.95	0.88

Agricultural area is exposed to socio-economic activities to a large extent, often in an uncontrolled manner, which results in the degradation of lands, and their destruction by changing the intended use. The Development Region Center, as in all of Kosovo, has undergone deep degradation as part of an uncontrolled process of illegal construction. Consequently, this has led to the loss of agricultural land, and its transformation into other intended uses. The largest share is occupied by arable land with about 43%, followed by meadows and pastures (34.18%), forestry lands (13.70%), perennial crops and fruit trees with 1% each, unutilized agricultural lands with 3.25%, gardens 0.23%, while the lowest share is occupied by nurseries and vineyards with 0.02% each (Table 10).

34. Table 10: Land use⁹

Description	Arable land - fields / ha	Gardens / ha	Meadows and pastures (including common land) / ha	Perennial crops / ha	Fruit Trees / ha	Vineyards / ha	Nurseries / ha	Unutilized agricultural land / ha	Forestry land / ha	Non-agricultural land / ha
Pristina	55123	278	48379	1493	1422	35	36	4754	22832	4233
Fushë Kosova	3278	10	1398	28	27	0	0	85	191	255
Glogovac	8182	62	6692	190	185	0	0	530	4200	769
Gracanica	4990	11	616	42	38	1	3	90	135	258
Obilic	3414	9	2047	49	49	0	0	190	328	226
Podujeva	12317	82	12087	320	307	0	0	1060	5255	916
Shtime	3686	20	2357	65	65	0	0	138	1566	298
Lipljan	10305	39	8091	112	94	13	5	360	1790	852
Total	95357	510	75732	2299	2186	49	44	7207	30360	7808
%	43.04	0.23	34.18	1.04	0.99	0.02	0.02	3.25	13.70	3.52

Livestock, as an important indicator in economic development, occupies a special place in the categorization of DRC, therefore the stock of 53,605 head of cattle in total categorizes the Region as one of the most important one for the development of this sector. If compared to the number of cattle at the national level, it turns out that about 20.8% of the total number of cattle are from DRC.

Table 11: Livestock stock by municipalities, Kosovo, 2014

	Total cattle	Buffalos	Sheep	Goat	Pig	donkeys and mules	Poultry	Other animals	Bee hive	Total	%

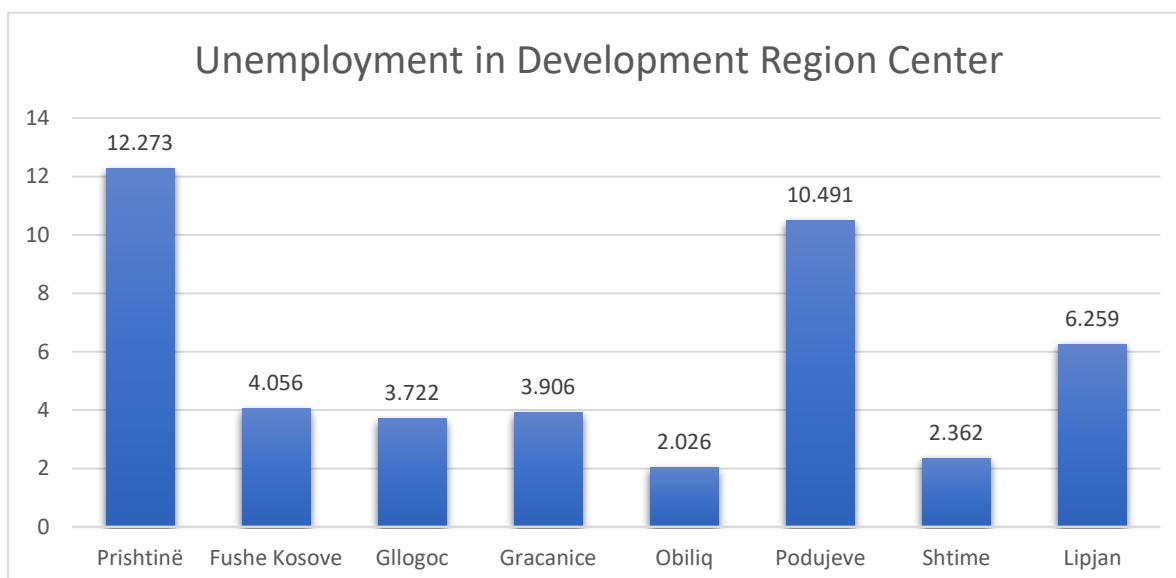
⁹ https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXëeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata%20Agriculture%20census%202014%20Land%20Use/Tabela%202_3.px/Tabela/TabelaVieëLayout1/?rxid=dfb9873-45ce-80ef-50cb0eb7a8da

Fushë Kosovë	2266	-	1167	28	-	-	35784	-	1540	40785	5.38
Glogovac	12062	9	5787	1807	-	10	110304	197	3594	133770	17.65
Gracanica	908	-	851	266	5631	10	39090	176	1375	48307	6.38
Lipljan	9987	-	4414	1085	339	130	100550	-	2940	119445	15.76
Obilic	2629	-	1189	87	982	21	37563	-	1590	44061	5.81
Podujevo	14624	8	7528	630	-	65	149468	128	5084	177535	23.43
Pristina	7266		5733	1275	307	11	95112	142	6535	116381	15.36
Shtime	3863	-	1430	424	-	87	69957	-	1698	77459	10.22
Total	53605	17	28099	5602	7259	334	637828	643	24356	757743	100.00
%	7.07	0.00	3.71	0.74	0.96	0.04	84.17	0.08	3.21	100.00	

3.1.10. Unemployment and employment

The Development Region Center has the greatest economic potential for providing jobs, taking into account the concentration of state institutions, foreign representations and organizations, as well as the representations of local and international business companies. However, the Development Region Center also faces unemployment. According to data from the Employment Agency namely the 2020 report, the total number of jobseekers in the Development Region Center is 45095 while the labor supply is 2320. Hence, a significant ratio and a large difference between supply and demand for work can be seen, although the fact must be taken into account that these data do not reflect the reality on the ground as a result of most of the workforce not addressing the employment offices for registration.

Chart 2. Unemployment by municipalities in the Development Region Center , Source Employment Agency of the Republic of Kosovo. Reports 2021



Average unemployment rate: According to the Labor Force Survey, there are data on unemployment by age, education, duration, research methods, previous work experience, economic activity, occupation as well as data on the inactive population by age and education. However, these data are only in general level and therefore data on the level of unemployment at the local and regional level cannot be generated. The lack of official data on the average unemployment rate, at local and regional level, as well as local and regional statistics on GDP which are essential indicators for calculating the level of regional development and the imbalance between regions is a challenge which should be addressed in the future.¹⁰

3.1.11. Natural resources

Development region center is rich in natural lake and river resources. The main artificial lakes in the Development Region Center are Lake Batllava (Podujeva) with a size of 3.27 km² and Lake Badovc (Pristina) 2.57 km². These two lakes are mainly used for drinking water, but also for irrigation. The Development Region Center is rich in mineral resources, especially lignite and ferronickel, but there are also reserves of lead, zinc, etc. The existence of mineral resources presents a good opportunity for the development of the mineral and energy industry. The municipality of Obiliq is known to be rich in natural resources which make it a favorable economic area, large coal resources are exploited and used to generate electricity in Kosovo A and B power plants. In the municipality of Podujeva there is a mine called mine of Drazhnja which is located in the village of Hertica. This mine is rich in lead, silver, gold and zinc. In the nickel mine "Old Çitakova" there are two sources (mineral bodies): "Dushkaja" and "Suka". Geological reserves in the two mines (Gllavica and Çitakova) are estimated to be about 13 Mt with an average composition of nickel 1.31% and cobalt 0.06% .^{17.11}

3.1.12. Tourism

Urban and cultural tourism are developed the most in the Development Region Center, because the capital is in this region and attracts visitors from different countries. The

¹⁰ Ministry of Regional Development, Regional Development Strategy 2020-2030, Prishtina 2020.

¹¹ Ibid.

Ethnological Museum, the residential complex "Emin Gjiku" is located in the old core of the city of Prishtina, the Newborn monument and the idea of painting it every February 17, made this monument an attraction for tourists every year, who appreciate the idea of changing the colors of this object. The Museum of Kosovo, which contains more than 50,000 different exhibits, was established in 1949, while its building in the style of Austro-Hungarian architecture dates back to 1989, the Kosovo Art Gallery. Prishtina has over 30 other tourist spots. The municipality of Podujeva has suitable spaces for tourism. Lake Batllava is an attraction for visitors. 66% of the territory of the Municipality of Podujeva includes the mountains where they present another attraction to visit and suitable for mountaineering. Ulpiana is a cultural heritage monument of great historical value near Gracanica, a city founded in the early second century. Archaeological excavations have given traces of pre-Roman life and prove that Ulpiana is a continuation of an Illyrian settlement and that the peak of economic and cultural development of this city had been reached at the end of the century. III and beginning of the century. IV. All these make Ulpiana one of the most favorite tourist spots in Kosovo. In this region there are also other tourist spots of religious cultural heritage such as various mosques and churches.¹²

3.1.13. City of Prishtina- a Representative and Regional Center of Kosovo

The city of Prishtina is one of the oldest urban centers and the capital of the Republic of Kosovo. It lies in the valleys of the rivers Prishtevkë and Vellusha, in the area between the Kosovo lowlands and the Gollak mountains. The city is developed at the crossroads of national and international roads which connect it with neighboring countries and the interior of the Balkan Peninsula. In the northern direction, through Mitrovica and the Ibar highway, it connects with the central part of Central and Southern Europe, through the "Arbër Xhaferi" Highway, it takes the southern direction of communication with Skopje and Thessaloniki, towards the west, Peja, connects with Montenegro and creates access to Adriatic Sea, while after the construction of the Highway "Ibrahim Rugova" it connects with Albania and Montenegro, creating two-way access to the Adriatic Sea. The good geographical position has enabled it to have an important commercial, craft, political, administrative, educational, cultural and representative function. The concentration of almost all functions such as administrative-political, cultural-educational and health, socio-economic and representative ones, make Prishtina into a representative center not only of this Region but of the entire Republic of Kosovo. The development of the city is related to the functions it has exercised in the past and present. As an urban center it has all the tertiary and quaternary functions developed to the highest degree. The city contains: Headquarters of the Academy of Sciences and Arts; the University center with faculties, high schools, primary and pre-primary education facilities. Additionally the parliament, the government and the headquarters of various international and diplomatic institutions, the archive, The National Museum and Library, the University Clinical Center, the central bank and a large number of commercial and microfinance banks; agency of statistics, cadaster, environment, mining and minerals, etc. are located in Prishtina. Diverse crafts, specialized trade, consolidated gastronomy network, and dense traffic have given the rhythm and dynamics of the urban center with high functional competencies, which is moving towards the phase of transformation into a Metropolitan area.

At the beginning of the XX century, Prishtina had 12000 inhabitants (1901), while the census in 1981 showed that it had grown by about 9 times more (109208 inhabitants). In 2011 it

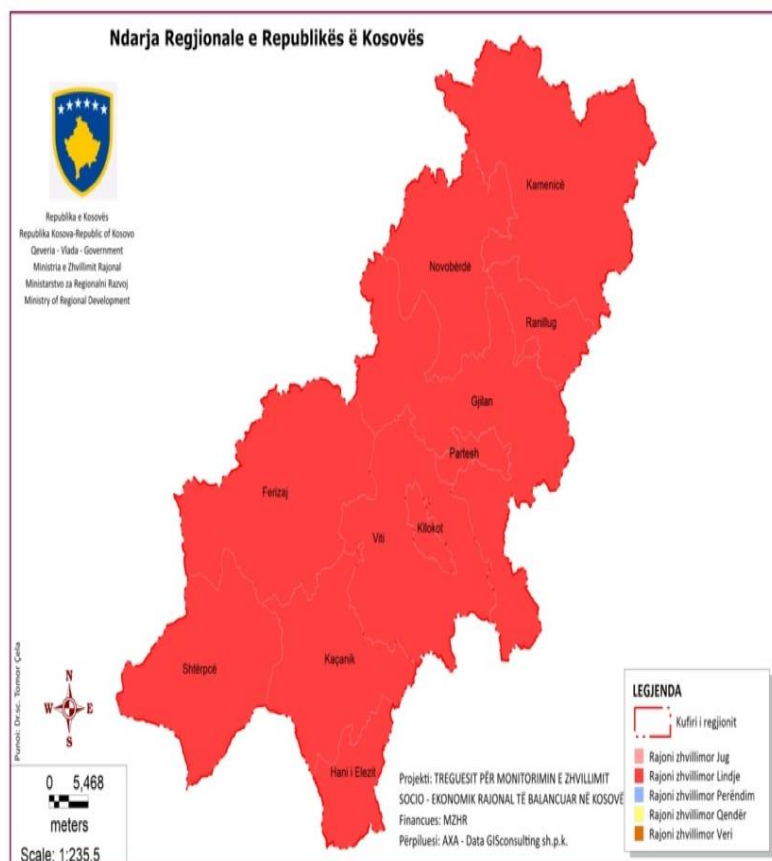
¹² Ibid.

counted 211755 inhabitants or about 11 times more. While according to the population estimate (2020) it has 218,782 inhabitants.

3. 2. Development Region East

The Development Region East is presented as a geographical entity not only for its southern position, but also for the morphology, morphotectonics, geological structure and diverse climatic elements that prevail in this region. From the administrative point of view, in the north-eastern part it is bordered by DRC, while in the south-eastern part it is locked with the border of the Republic of North Macedonia. Geographically speaking, the border with Macedonia is more natural and is defined by the Sharr Mountains and the Karadak mountain complex. Unlike the DRC that lies in north-south direction, the DRE has a more east-west extension which from the westernmost end of the municipality of Shtërpcë to the easternmost end of the municipality of Kamenica reaches a length of up to 90 km. Geographical position, the configuration of mainly hilly-mountainous terrain (excluding the Morava river valley with milder configuration) and the natural predisposition of Morava makes possible the good connection with Eastern Kosovo (Presheva valley). While it connects with the central and western part through the Kaçanik Gorge, the Lepenc River Valley and Fushë Kosova, which today is enabled by the coverage with the “Arbër Xhaferi” Highway and leads to the Ibrahim Rugova Highway. In the same line passes the railway line which gives the Region the features of a communicative and functional space.

Development Region East consists of 293 settlements distributed in a total of 11 administrative municipalities with an area of 2298.5 km² or 21.08% of the territory of



Map 3. Development Region East

Kosovo. The municipality with the largest area is Kamenica (416.61 km²), Gjan has an area of 391.84 km² and Ferizaj as the largest economic center of the region ranks third with 344.51km², while the municipality with the smallest area is Killokot with 23.39km².

3.2.1. Population

Development Region East is distinguished with its smaller population compared to the Development Region Center and is closely related to the configuration as a natural factor, where in the highest parts lie forests and pastures while in the lower parts open agrarian areas in which the largest number of large population is concentrated. Another characteristic of this region are the socio-economic processes, related to the dynamic development of the population, which is considered to be quite high. This geographical area is distinguished by a large population density of 120 inhabitants per km², or slightly lower than the average density of Kosovo, and approximately one time lower than the average density of DRC. The

population of 325,971 inhabitants (18% of Kosovo's population), or about 200,000 inhabitants less than the RDC, categorizes the geographical area as the third region in terms of population concentration. This smaller number of population compared to the central region can be explained by the low rate of economic development. The municipality with the largest population is Ferizaj (106,286 inhabitants), followed by Gjilan with 77,145 inhabitants, Viti with 47,896 inhabitants, Kaçanik (34,672 inhabitants), while other municipalities as part of this region have a small population (under 10000 inhabitants). The smallest population is in Partesh (1,699 inhabitants). Ferizaj has the highest population density (308 inhbt. / km²), followed by Gjilan (197 inhbt. / km²), while Shtërpeca has the lowest density with 27 inhabitants / km². Administrative and socio-economic activities are only at the local level. Administrative, economic, educational functions at all levels, help the region have great potential for economic development,

Table12: Population and area in **Development Region East**. Statistical Yearbook of the Republic of Kosovo 2021. Estimation of the population for 2020.

Development Region East				
	Municipalities	Population	Area km²	Density of pop.
1	Gjilan	77,145	391.84	197
2	Ferizaj	106,286	344.61	308
3	Viti	47,896	269.69	177
4	Kamenica	27,948	416.61	67
5	Novo Brdo	7,158	203.98	35
6	Kaçanik	34,672	211.28	164
7	Hani i Elezit	10,090	83.11	121
8	Strpce	6,621	247.7	27
9	Ranillug	3,737	77.62	48
10	Klokot	2,719	23.39	116
11	Partes	1,699	28.67	59
	Total	325971	2298.5	141.8

3.2.2. Configuration and geological construction

In terms of configuration's morphology, Development Region East has largely hilly-mountainous forms with an altitude between 500 to 1000m above sea level. The *Gollak area* lies to the north, the Karadak of Skopje to the south, and the lower part of the Morava e Binçes valley between them, with an altitude of between 600 and 700m. On the other hand, the DRE is open to the Kosovo Plain, while in the southern part it is locked by Sharr Mountain, while from the Dukagjini plain it is separated by Nerodime Mountain. Gollaku occupies the northern part of the Region, and the peak of Zhegovci (1070m), Veleglava (1181m), Kitka (1154m), and Rrafshi (1163m) is distinguished in the structure of the configuration. Between these high points, the configuration begins to decline in the direction of Morava e Binçës, where the distance between them and the river valleys is divided by a vertical distance of 600-700m. A special feature of the Region are the numerous forms of erosion in the upper part and their sediment in the lower part of the field. Karadak of Skopje is characterized by all the features of the hilly-mountainous configuration and lies between the Morava e Binçes valley in the north and Moravica in the south. Most of it lies in North Macedonia, while only a small part is covered in this eastern region. It lies in a narrow area between the Kaçanik Gorge on the Lepenc River to the Konçul Gorge in Morava, with a length of 48km. The highest points of this space are: Maja Kopilaça (1490 m), Cërni Vërr

(1219m), Topan (1178m), etc. Geologically speaking, it is mainly represented by pre-Cambrian Gneiss rocks. The Paleozoic also has a fairly large extent and is represented by phyllite, serite and granite shale. The lower area of the Morava Plain is presented as another element in the physiognomy of the configuration of this Region and lies between 450 and 500 m above sea level. In the lower part of the Morava plain, new sediments and Neogene lake sediments predominate. Conglomerates, sand and plesitocene gravel are present in a narrow area around the Morava valley.

3.2.3. Climate

Due to the geographical position and configuration orography of the configuration, surrounded by mountains in the southern and north-eastern part, as well as the Lepenc river valley which opens in the direction of Fushë Kosova, the eastern region is differentiated from the central region. The climate is variable continental one, but in the mountainous parts it has its own elements and is characterized as a changeable mountain climate, where the summer is warm and the winter cold. The average temperature during the year fluctuates from +21 ° C (July - summer) to -2.1 ° C (January - winter)¹³. This area is characterized by a dry climate and annual precipitation of approximately 590 mm per year. The small changes of the average monthly, annual temperatures and their amplitudes in the main cities of the Region (Gjilan, Ferizaj, Kamenica and Shterbçë), are more as a consequence of their geographical position. The highest average annual temperature is Gjilan (10.4), while the lowest is Ferizaj (10.2), due to the higher configuration that prevents the penetration of north winds. Precipitation deficit is another feature of this Region. The amount of precipitation from the plain part towards the mountainous areas increases. While in the part of Gjilan, the amount of precipitation is at minimum values (580mm), Ferizaj (673mm), in the direction of Kamenica it marks a slight increase to 590mm, while in the direction of Karadak of Skopje they increase by about 1.4 times,

3.2.4. Waters

Configuration and hydrographic predispositions are the two essential geographical elements in defining this Region. This area is distinguished by the upper part of the Morava basin and its tributaries, which covers an area of 1156km². Thus, it is defined as the main geographical element of the middle part of the Region, namely the municipality of Gjilan. Unlike the central and NW part of the Region which is differentiated by surface water deficit, the southern part of the Eastern Region is richer in water streams. Lepenci is the main flow of this geographical area, and the only river in Kosovo that belongs to the Aegean Sea basin. It originates in Oshlak (2212m) in the Sharr Mountains. The main branch of Lepenc is Nerodimja which is distinguished not only in terms of length (41 km) but also in terms of large inflows. Among other things, the importance of the waters of the southern part of the region can be seen from the energy angle and irrigation of the lands. The energy potential of Lepenc in average flows is estimated at 23 MW, and can be exploited in the Kaçanik Gorge. But this is already impossible because Arbër Xhaferi highway has been built in a considerable part along the riverbed of Lepenc, as well as the route of the railway Prishtina-Skopje. Therefore the greatest importance of the waters of this Region is concentrated in the irrigation of the lands. Construction of the Firaja accumulation system in Lepenc, the Region has entered the network of the Iber-Lepenc system for irrigation of lands in Fushë Kosova.

3.2.5. Soils and Vegetation

Land use in the Central and North-western part of the region are distinguished by homogeneous pedologies into a category and small categorization units. Preferential brown soils and brown soils in limestone and dolomite predominate and to a lesser extent fluvial and smonica soils. All of these belong to the fertile and less fertile soils. While in the south-west, mainly the mountainous part, there are chestnut-colored skeletal soils in crystalline ridges. These formations and auburn-type soils include parts of Mount Sharr and Koxha Balkan. In the lower part of Fushë Kosovë, alluvial soils and smonica are widespread. *Forests*, in the categories of uncultivated lands, forests with 42.2% are differentiating elements of the central, north-eastern and southern part of the Region. Forested areas have a greater extent in Karadak, Skopje. They are forests with medium development and shrub type. Of their species, Valonia oak (valanidhi), Italian oak (shpardhi) and Austrian oak (qarri) predominate, while cirona appears less. Pastures cover 14.1% of the area or three times smaller than forests. They are found in the highest parts of the configuration. Together with the meadows they occupy about 18% of the surface of this geographical space and make the main nutritional base of livestock. While in the area of Lepenc basin lies a relatively wide belt of forests. It is estimated that forests and shrubs cover about 47% of this basin. Pastures and meadows constitute less area with about 28% of the it. Far fewer are the fields and gardens. Approximately half of the upper part of Lepenc is with coniferous forests, while the other part with pastures and unproductive land. At altitudes between 1500 - 1600 above sea level lie pines, while in other parts shrubs and beech forests are encountered.

3.2.6. Education

The infrastructure and quality of educational services in the Development Region East is at a very good level. A large number of school and university institutions have been built and repaired. According to public education statistics 2020-2021 the number of schools in the Development Region East in primary and lower secondary education is 170, while in upper secondary education is 28. The number of students in EDR in primary and lower secondary education is 40,790. The number of students in upper secondary education is 15,105 of them 7486 or 49.56% are in vocational schools.

Table 13: Pre-university education statistics in the Development Region East. Source: Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021

	Number of Institutions	Student		Teachers	Administrative staff	Support staff
		Public	Private			
Preschool / kindergarten	9	0 <5 years old	697	696	96	334
		5 <6 years old	3935	215		
Primary and lower secondary	170		40790	602	3606	
Upper secondary	28		15105	158	1044	

One of the important factors in determining the level of balanced regional socio-economic development is the analysis of data on the level of education of the population. The

educational structure represents an important human resource base with an impact on socio-economic development. In this section, the number of population over 10 years according to the level of education is analyzed. The data provided in Table 14 below are obtained from the census conducted in 2011 by the Kosovo Agency of Statistics.

Table 14: Level of education in the **Development Region East**. Population census conducted in 2011 by the Kosovo Agency of Statistics

Level of education in the Development Region East	Number of population by level of education	% of the population according to the level of education
Postgraduate degree	1210	0.9
Graduates	19059	6
Higher secondary education	91808	29.1
Lower secondary education	96589	30.5
Primary school	49234	15.5
Uncompleted primary school	28747	9.1
Literate	16781	5.2
Illiterate	11966	3.7

3.2.7. Infrastructure

The geographical position of the Development Region East in which important roads pass enables good and quite efficient communication. Almost all road categories are covered. Also in the central and southwestern part of the Region lies the so-called Adriatic Railway. The most important category of road infrastructure is highways which is considered as a road traffic junction. The most important is the route of the highway (Pristina - Lipjan - Han i Elezit) in the direction of Skopje which covers this region with a total of 40 km, then the regional road Pristina - Llabjan - Gjilan - Konçul, direction - Bujanovac (43km), road Gjilan - Muqibabë Regional Road (15.5km) direction to Presheva, Gjilan - Kamenica Regional Road (27km), Gjilan - Feizaj Regional Road (34km),

Table 15: Network of National and Regional Roads in the **Development Region East**

Description	Km
Highway (Lipjan Han i Elezit) direction - Skopje	40
Regional Road (Llabjan - Gjilan - Konçul) direction – Bujanovac	43
Regional Road (Gjilan - Muqibabë) direction - Presheva	15.5
Regional Road (Gjilan - Kamenica)	27
Regional Road (Gjilan - Feizaj)	34
Regional Road (Customs - Gilloboqicë)	23
Regional Road Viti - Feizaj)	21.6
Total	182.5

Local roads have the largest representation in relation to road infrastructure with about 60%, which connect the settlements of the Region. The railway network has an international character, which connects the central region with other regions. The extension of the railway in the north-south direction has an international character, because through the Northern Region it connects with Central Europe, while through the Eastern Region it connects to North Macedonia and Greece. This railway line is single track railway, and goes through the Region with a length of 40 km. The condition of the railway network is not good and the

investments for its rehabilitation are quite insignificant. They are mainly at the level of selective maintenance. Used for transporting passengers and goods.

Detailed information on local roads, their lighting, inclusion in the drinking water system and sewerage is provided in Table 16 below.

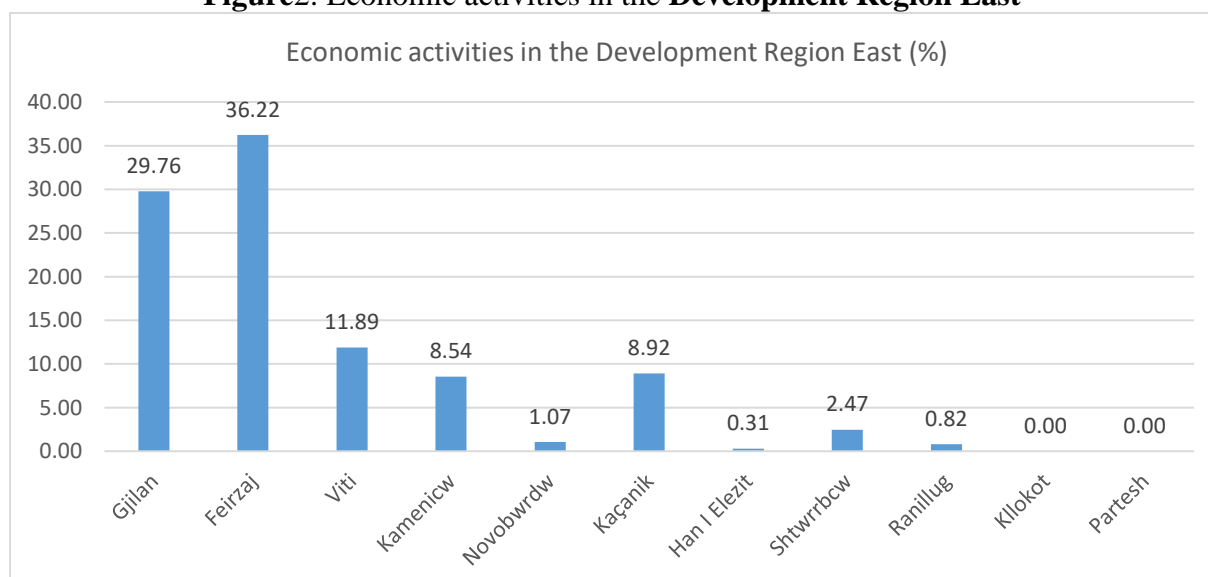
Table 16: Infrastructure statistics for **Development Region East** by Municipalities. Source: Municipal **Performance** Management System. Table for 2019.

Municipality	Local roads paved in municipalities in%	% of households, public institutions and business units included in the drinking water system	% of households, public institutions and business units included in the sewerage system	% of length of local roads equipped with public lighting%
Gjilan	72.00	99.22	76.57	47,10
Ferizaj	74.25	94.99	92.37	52.97
Viti	77.66	53.29	54,12	52.64
Kamenica	52.45	45,16	28.07	17,18
Novo Brdo	54.23	68.86	86.11	8.52
Kaçanik	81.57	69.48	69.48	13.45
Hani i Elezit	100.00	91.09	93.55	90.37
Strpce	92.37	100.00	97.79	55.56
Ranillug	73.52	100.00	76.78	40.71
Klokot	93.39	0.00	93.33	90.00
Partes	56.72	29,12	29,12	85.65

3.2.8. Economy and business development

The economic activities distributed in the East region are mainly individual businesses, but we also have a significant number of limited liability companies and general partnerships. The most developed sectors are wholesale and retail trade, construction, and services. Development Region East ranks second in terms of business concentration because this region includes the two major centers of Kosovo. 18.24% of businesses registered in Kosovo are registered in the Development Region East.

Figure 2: Economic activities in the **Development Region East**



The municipality with the largest number of businesses is Ferizaj (36.22%), followed by Gjilan (29.76%), Vitia (11.89%), Kaçanik (8.92%), Kamenica (8.54%), while the smallest number of registered businesses in this region is in municipalities of Strpce (2.47%), Novo Brdo (1.07%) and Ranilug (0.82%) (Figure 2).¹⁴

3.2.9. Agriculture

Land Use -As an important indicator of economic development is of great importance for assessing the development opportunities of the agricultural sector. Development Region East has a significant fund of agricultural land of 214,094 hectares or 14.05% of the total agricultural land in Kosovo. In this region, Gjilan (36.5%) has the largest area of utilized lands, followed by Ferizaj (32.95%), Vitia (8.46%), Kamenica (8.45%), while Novobërda, Hani i Elezit, Shtërbca have the least. Ranillug, Partesh and Kllokot have less than 5% of the area.

Table 17: Size of utilized agricultural land area in **DRE** (source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics, agricultural census 2014)

Municipality	Nr. agricultural economies	%	Area (ha)	%
Novoberde	1267	2.22	6441	3.00
FERIZAJ	22180	38.94	70544	32.95
Hani i Elezit	656	1.15	2582	1.20
Kacanik	2908	5.11	10157	4.74
Strpce	1355	2.38	4806	2.24
GJILAN	18663	32.77	78281	36.5
Kamenica	3069	5.39	18110	8.45
Klokot	511	0.9	1567	0.73
Partes	505	0.89	1129	0.52
Ranillug	826	1.45	2345	1.09
Viti	5014	8.8	18132	8.46
Total	56954	100	214094	100.0

35. Development Region East is also characterized by a large number of agricultural holdings. Having 56,954 agricultural holdings in total, it is ranked as the second region with the largest number of agricultural holdings in Kosovo. In this region the municipality of Ferizaj leads with 38.94%, while the second is Gjilan with 32.77%. Other municipalities have a smaller number of agricultural holdings with less than 5.5% (Table 17).

Livestock as an important indicator in economic development occupies a special place in the categorization of DRE, therefore the stock of 45,092 head of cattle in total categorizes the Region as one of the most important for the development of this sector. Compared to the number of cattle at the national level, it turns out that about 17.66% of the total number of cattle are from DRE (Table 17).

¹⁴ Data according to KBRA for the number of businesses in 2018.

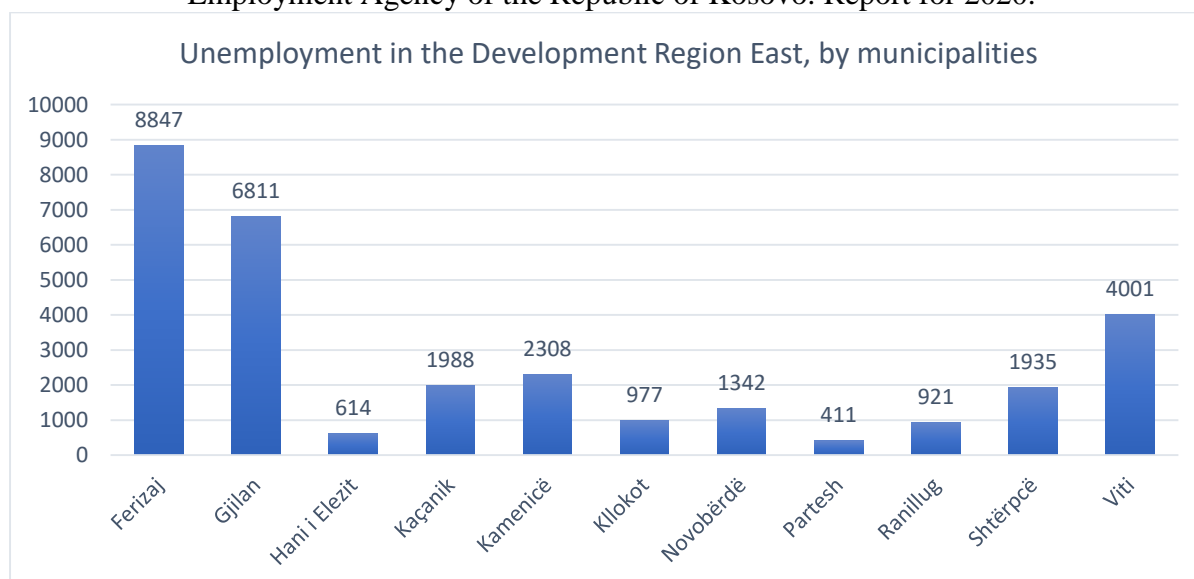
Table 18: Number of livestock in the Development Region East by municipalities (Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics, agricultural census 2014)

Municipalities	Cattle	%	Buffalo	Sheep	Goat	Pig	Horses, donkeys and mules	poultry	Other animals	Bee hive
Ferizaj	9762	21.65	11	11403	637	-	169	160867	134	4941
Gjilan	7148	15.85	k	9340	2225	1389	73	234579	239	3490
Hani i Elezit	1374	3.05	-	896	157	-	85	4377	-	725
Kaçanik	6048	13.41	6	4586	1123	-	257	25279	k	2062
Kamenica	7078	15.70	23	5980	1134	723	26	54677	191	4373
Klokot	342	0.76	-	363	98	2359	3	11245	k	230
Novo Brdo	2733	6.06	-	2823	2093	3786	17	48151	101	2181
Partes	320	0.71	-	189	105	2626	21	13932	k	90
Ranillug	522	1.16	k	718	421	2309	5	18737	241	897
Strpce	1560	3.46	-	1555	459	764	134	13132	k	1625
year	8205	18.20	24	15403	1539	284	162	134873	336	2692
Total	45092	100.00	64	53256	9991	14240	952	719849	1242	23306

3.2.10. Unemployment and employment

Human resources in the Development Region East represent an important factor for the development of economic activities. The economic challenge facing this region is unemployment. The phenomenon of unemployment is most prevalent among young people. The overall demand for labor greatly exceeds the opportunities offered by the labor market. So it is considered that employment opportunities are limited, especially among young people after graduation. Given the large number of young graduates, it would be necessary for municipalities to develop annual programs for the realization of professional internship by young people. According to data from the employment agency (2020 report), the total number of jobseekers in the eastern region is 30,155, while the job supply is 2359. The highest number of jobseekers is in the municipality of Ferizaj 8,847 and continues with the municipality of Ferizaj 6,811, Vitina 4,001, Kamenica, 2,308, Kacanik, 1,988, Shtpce, 1,935, Novobërdë, 1,342, Kllokot 977, and Ranillug 921 and Partesh 411 (Figure 3) 15

Figure 3: Unemployment in the Development Region East, by municipalities (source: Employment Agency of the Republic of Kosovo. Report for 2020.



3.2.11. Natural resources

Natural resources are a very important factor for economic development. The development region east possesses lakes and rivers through which it can create conditions for the development of various economic activities. This region is characterized by satisfactory capacity of water and other natural resources. The largest rivers in the Region are: Lepenci, Nerodime and Morava e Binçës. This region is also rich in minerals and ores such as: lead, zinc, silver, gold, copper, chromium, iron, magnesium, lignite, decorative stone, marble, kaolin, granite, quartz sand, clay. In this region, the Artana mine is distinguished, which has a high percentage of these minerals and ores. The most important source Mn, according to the data of the Trepça complex is located in the area of the existing Artana mine where through the alteration of Pb-Zn the mineralization of Mn-Fe has been formed. Estimated manganese resources in this field are about 5 million tons of ore, with a content of about 22% Mn. Valorization of Mn ore from this location should be preceded by technical reviews of the condition and possibilities of access to the closed Mn mine, as well as programmatic research on the possibility and effects of Mn concentration from ore to concentrate, by flotation methods and by magnetic concentration methods.¹⁶

3.2.12. Tourism

The development region east has great potential for winter rural and rehabilitation tourism. Among the touristic potentials in the region east that are worth noting are: the ski center in Brezovica, the thermal mineral baths in Klllokot, Novobërda Castle, etc. Valuable objects from antiquity and quite attractive for visiting are as follows :the Dardanian church in the mountains between the villages Komoglava-Sojevo and the old village, the water supply of the Illyrian-Roman period in the village of Komoglava, the Illyrian tumulus (cemetery) in the village Varosh, the Nika mill still in operation since 1321 and the bifurcation of the Nerodime River as a rare natural phenomenon. This region has great potential for the development of winter tourism, based on an early tradition which is directly related to the favorable

¹⁶Ministry of Regional Development, *Profiles of Development Regions in Kosovo*, Prishtina, October 2019. spring http://kryeministri-ks.net/ep-content/uploads/docs/Strategjia_Minerare_e_Republikes_se_Kosoves_2012-2025.pdf

topographic and climatic conditions for the development of this type of tourism. Large mountains covered with snow up to 280 days a year and proximity to road traffic with neighboring countries make the region east quite advantaged for tourism. The most valuable touristic area in the region east is Brezovica, which is part of the Sharr National Park. The Brezovica mountain range covers an area



of 39,000 hectares, with a high alpine mountain terrain and forests. The ski center in Brezovica, in the Sharr Mountains, is located between 1,700m and 2,500m above sea level. Sharr National Park is characterized by beauty and special natural values (biological, The most valuable tourist area in the eastern region is Brezovica which is part of the Sharr National Park. The Brezovica mountain range covers an area of 39,000 hectares, with a high alpine mountain terrain and forests. The ski center in Brezovica, in the Sharr Mountains is located between 1,700m and 2,500m above sea level. Sharr National Park is characterized by beauty and special natural values (biological, biogeographical, geological, geomorphological, hydrological and climatic) that are of special touristic recreational importance. Municipality of Kamenica has villages around the peak of Kika, Gmica, Kranidell and the surrounding area which are potentially relevant for activities and investments for the development of tourism during the winter season. They provide reasonable opportunities for investment in hotel facilities, ski center, yes as well as summer tourism. These places are part of the mountainous areas, which have rare natural beauties. These spaces can be used during the summer and winter season for the development of hiking sports, mountain camping, as well as various forms of rehabilitation. The nature of Hani i Elezit is very unique with the two mountain massifs of Sharr and Karadak, which fill every skyline. Dinca and Lac river valleys are also special tourist attractions in this Municipality. Part of the natural values in the Municipality of Hani i Elezit, as a potential for tourism, are also the old and new cultural values such as the Martyrs' Cemetery Complex in Pustenik, regulated and maintained, which intertwines with nature and Sharr increases the opportunities for tourism development. In this Municipality, as part of the list of cultural heritage for temporary protection approved by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, are mentioned the neighborhood of Bravëve in Pustenik, the neighborhood of Dacëve in Pustenik, the complex of houses in the neighborhood Bushët e Poshtëm, the Old Mosque in Han i Elezit, the mosque in Krivenik etc. There are opportunities for the construction of swimming pools for fish farming in flat places, especially around rivers such as Hogosht, Shipashnica, Kriva Reka. Municipality of Ranilug, has attractive places for the development of nature tourism such as mountain forests, white pine with an area of about 270 hectares, located on the outskirts of Ranilug and can be used for natural recreation, health spa tourism and recreational tourism. Village Ropotovå offers good conditions for hiking, cycling and motorcycling, as well as riding. The municipality of Gjilan has natural heritage potentials such as the mountain landscapes of Karadak, the forest landscapes of Zhegovci, Slubica with hilly-mountainous configuration and a rich flora and fauna. The thermal baths of Uglari, Mireshe and Dunav are known in this region. Multidimensional cultural festival "Flaka e Janarit", which starts on January 11 in Gjilan with the symbolic lighting of the torch and ends on January 31 known for various cultural activities. The museum of the city of Gjilan, which is also known as the object of "Kajmekamllak", located in the city center, built in the XIX century, a very attractive object to visit. The necropolis of the Illyrian tombs in Llashtica which is located northeast of the city of Gjilan is an attractive monument with historical values. Among other objects of historical value are the castle of Pogragja, the church in Lisocka, the castle of Mireshe, the castle of

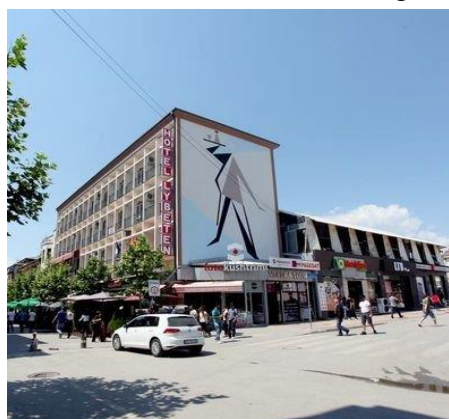
Pidic, the castle of Përlepnicë, the church of St. Anna in the upper Dunava, the church of St. Nicholas in the neighborhood Varosh, Villages Bozhevc, Rajanovc, Kormnjan, Domorovc, have a rich variety of flora and fauna and good conditions for excursions, eco-recreation, rural, hunting and other forms of natural tourism. Tourist attractions in the Municipality of Ranilug to be specified are cultural and sports events like the "Vidovdan Games" in Ropotovo and the games on the 1st of May. This region offers excellent tourism opportunities such as: skiing, eco-tourism, parachuting from mountain heights, mountain biking, rock climbing, mountaineering, horseback riding, etc. 17

3.2.13. The city of Ferizaj is an economic center of the Development Region East

Ferizaj, as an urban center, lies in the southern part of Fusha e Kosovës (Plain of Kosova). In its vicinity, passes the river Nerodima, an important tributary of Lepenc, which in the geographical literature stands out for bifurcation as a rare geographical phenomenon. As a locality, it is relatively new and its existence is connected with the caravan route, which connected Shkodra with Kosovo and Skopje. As a locality it became known with the construction of the inn of Feriz Shahsivar, who in 1836 had an important position "Ami Bue". With the construction of the railway in 1873, Ferizaj begins its rapid development. Ferizaj, although it has architecture with oriental elements, the later construction with straight and long roads, with contemporary buildings and broad squares, is increasingly taking elements of urbanization of the time. The railway line divided the city into two parts, the north and south part. Today the city is engulfed by a wave of unplanned construction which has seriously damaged the physiognomy of the city.

Until the Second World War, Ferizaj did not have any industrial facilities. It later became the nucleus of industry development. Owing to the raw materials offered by agriculture, the food industry has mainly developed (oil, margarine and biscuits), while forest areas have influenced the development of the wood industry. In addition, the metal industry (pipe industry) and the electro-industry (irrigation) have developed.

The numerous functions that Ferizaj has are attractive for the Development Region East. Among tertiary functions, the communication one should be mentioned, followed by the trade one and among the quaternary ones, it is differentiated for high school function (public and private). The diverse school profile, starting with the pre-primary, primary, lower and upper secondary school up to the university level, has influenced the gravity of pupils and students not only in the municipality of Ferizaj but also in the surrounding municipalities. Ferizaj is also known as a major health, commercial, administrative and cultural center of the region east. Today, the cultivation of flowers and decorative trees has also developed satisfactorily. Gastronomy also has an important place in the city's economy. Tourist attractions are evident in the suburbs of the city, namely Nerodime bifurcation and Jezerc.



3.3 Development Region North

Development Region North, lies in the northern part of the Kosovo plain, between the mountains of Kopaunik in the east and Rogozna and Mokna in the west. The northern border of the Region is locked by the state border of the Republic of Serbia, while the western border is divided with the municipalities: Istog and Klina. The southern border is locked by the municipalities: Gillogoc and Obiliq, the eastern one by Podujeva municipality. The configuration morphology is dominated by hilly areas on both sides of the Ibar River, to a lesser extent the mountainous parts on the sides of Kopaunik, Rogozna and Mokna. The DRN has a coverage imposed more by configuration forms in a north-south direction. Configuration contrasts are emphasized between the Ibar river valley and mountain peaks, where the difference between the river valley and Panqiq Peak is 1500m. It is a geographical area where from a geological point of view almost all geological ages take part. The oldest Precambrian formations are located in the periphery, where the formations of clayey shales, sandstones, and conglomerates participate. Mesozoic formations are also widespread (Jurassic serpentinite masses, but Upper Cretaceous flys predominate). Miocene formations are also relatively widespread, with lead and zinc ores

being associated with volcanic formations in this geographical area. It consists of seven administrative municipalities with a total area of 2051.84 km² or 18.81% of the entire territory of Kosovo.



Map 4. Development Region North

3.3.1. Population

Development Region North is differentiated by the smaller population than the region east and is closely related to the configuration as a natural factor, where in the highest parts lie forests and pastures while in the lower parts around the Ibar river valley, in which the largest number of population is concentrated. Another characteristic of this region are the socio-economic processes related to the development of industry, especially in the city of Mitrovica, Zubin Potok and Leposavic. This geographical area is distinguished by the average population density of 109 inhabitants per km², or one time lower than the average density of Kosovo, and approximately as the average density of DR East. It has a total population of 224,121 (12% of the population of Kosovo), or about 100,000 inhabitants less than the DRE and categorize the geographical area as the third region in terms of population concentration.

This smaller number of population compared to the Development Region Center can be explained by the low rate of economic development. The municipality with the largest

population is Mitrovica South (69,331 inhabitants), followed by Vushtrri with 62,926 inhabitants, Skenderaj with 52,714 inhabitants, Leposavic (13,202 inhabitants), North Mitrovica (11,994 inhabitants), while other municipalities as part of this Region have the smallest population (less than 10,000 inhabitants). The smallest population is in Zvecan (7,290 inhabitants) and Zubin Potoku (6,664 inhabitants). The population density in the development region north is 109 inhabitants per km². The municipality of Leposavic is one of the municipalities that includes the largest area of the northern region with an area of 539.05 km², followed by the municipality of Skenderaj with an area of 374.37km² and the third in a row is the municipality of Vushtrri with 344.85km². Next is Zubin Potok with 334.38 km², South Mitrovica 331.18 km² Zvecan 123.01 km² and North Mitrovica 5 km². This region has about 361 settlements or 24.09% of Kosovo settlements from its seven constituent municipalities. The municipality with the most settlements is the municipality of Leposavic with total of 72 and it is also the municipality with the largest area in the northern region. While the municipality with the smallest number of settlements is the municipality of North Mitrovica with 3 settlements and is the municipality with the smallest area in the Development Region North (Table 19).

Table 19: Population and area of Development Region North by Municipalities

Development region North				
	Municipalities	Population	Area km ²	Density of pop.
1	Mitrovica south	69,331	331.18	209
2	North Mitrovica	11,994	5	2399
3	Zvecan	7,290	123.01	59
4	Zubin Potok	6,664	334.38	20
5	Skenderaj	52,714	374.37	146
6	Vushtrri	62,926	344.85	182
7	Leposavic	13,202	539.05	24
	Total	224121	2051.84	109

Data on land use in the Development Region North are incomplete because there is a lack of data for the municipalities of Leposavic, North Mitrovica, Zubin Potok and Zvecan.

3.3.2. Education

According to public education statistics 2020-2021 the number of schools in the Development Region North in primary and lower secondary education is 118, while in upper secondary education is 13. The number of students in the Development Region North in primary and lower secondary education is 26605. The number of students in upper secondary education is 8627 of whom 4730 or 54.83% are in vocational schools. It should be noted that statistics on Serb-majority settlements are lacking.

Table 20: Pre-University Education Statistics in the Development Region North. Source: Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021.

	Number of Institutions	Students		Teachers	Administrative staff	Support staff
		Public	Private			
Preschool / kindergarten	3	<5 years	441	223	65	254
		5 <6 years old	2417	125		
Primary and lower secondary	118	26605	96	1918		
Higher	13	8627	41	582		

secondary

One of the important factors in determining the level of balanced regional socio-economic development is the analysis of data on the level of education of the population. The educational structure represents an important human resource base with an impact on socio-economic development. In this section, the number of population over 10 years according to the level of education is analyzed. The data provided in Table 21 below are data obtained from the census conducted in 2011 by the Kosovo Agency of Statistics. These data can also be updated with the new population census that is expected to be carried out during this year (2021).

Table 21: Level of education in the **Development Region North**. Population census conducted in 2011 by the Kosovo Agency of Statistics

Level of education in the Development Region North	Number of population by level of education	% of the population according to the level of education
Postgraduate degree	824	0.6
Graduates	9727	5.6
Higher secondary education	53688	31.1
Lower secondary education	51011	29.5
Primary school	26861	15.5
Uncompleted primary school	15396	8.9
Literate	9605	5.5
Illiterate	5791	3.3

3.3.3. Infrastructure

When it comes to Development Region North, it can be said that the regional and local road infrastructure are at an average level of development compared to other regions, although investments in infrastructure are generally increasing. The highway in this region passes west of the city, along the Ibar River and Gazivoda Lake to Montenegro and the Adriatic Sea, while the Pristina-Mitrovica highway is under construction. Regarding the local road infrastructure, the development region north stands at a high percentage of development, based on the regional performance statistics of 2019, where the Municipality which leads with the local paved roads is the Municipality of North Mitrovica with 100%, followed by Vushtrri with 91.82 and Zvecan with 91.82%, municipality of South Mitrovica with 91.80%, Skenderaj with 78%. While Zubin Potok is at the lowest level with 34.33% and Leposavic 28.38%. Detailed statistics on local street lighting, inclusion in the drinking water system and sewerage are provided in Table 22 below. **18**.

Table 22: Local infrastructure in the northern region. Source: From the performance management system of municipalities for 2019.

Municipality	% of local roads paved in municipalities	% of households, public institutions and business units included in the drinking water system	% of households, public institutions and business units included in the sewerage system	% of length of local roads equipped with public lighting
North Mitrovica	100.00	33.33	//	81.08
South Mitrovica	91.80	99.24	69.95	68.57

18Ministry of Local Government Administration. The data are extracted from the tabular version of the detailed data for the assessment of municipalities for 2019.

Skenderaj	78.00	60.75	60.72	3.40
Vushtrri	91.82	70.68	94.26	32.49
Leposavic	29.38	83.81	81.75	//
Zubin Potok	34.33	///	//	4.66
Zvecan	91.82	67.40	63.89	32.49

The north-south railway line between Belgrade and Pristina passes through Mitrovica to Skopje and via Thessaloniki to the Mediterranean Sea. The development region north does not have a satisfactory condition with the telecommunication network and there is a regionally divided postal service, according to the ethnic division of the region. There are providers of landline telephony services such as PTK etc. Electricity supply comes from power plants in Obiliq. Part of the northern region is supplied with electricity from Novi Pazar, Serbia. The hydropower plant on Lake Gazivoda has a small capacity, which supplies customers at critical times of consumption.

3.3.4. Economy and businesses

Development Region North and the largest city in the region - Mitrovica is known for its mining complexes and metallurgical industry, being the main employer in the region. Mitrovica is rich in minerals especially lignite, metals such as lead, zinc, ferronickel, magnesium, etc. The current technological state of these ores does not currently allow for the efficient exploitation of ores, while the built-up processing capacities also have a technological degeneration. The exploitation of these ores depends on the interest of strategic investors. There are over 16,000 companies registered in Mitrovica, Vushtrri and Skënderaj, but these are dominated mainly by trade rather than production, with small shops, which mainly sell imported goods. The manufacturing sector is underdeveloped due to factors such as the informal economy, very high interest rates on loans from commercial banks, no credit system for start-up business activities, etc. The development region north has enough space for the construction of industrial facilities and business parks, but most of them are owned by Trepça and are subject to the privatization process of this company. The operational business parks in the region are as follows: Business Park in Mitrovica, Business Park in Dolane, Zvecan municipality, Business Park in Vushtrri. The business park in Skënderaj has not been functionalized and in 2018 a new initiative was taken for its relocation and functionalization. The business park in Mitrovica was established in 2012, with an area of 3.5 hectares. The business park was the first initiative in Kosovo by the municipality of Mitrovica supported by MTI described as a pilot project for a business area for producers. Its implementation was a model for absorbing donations and encouraging businesses. To this end, the municipality has allocated 3.5 hectares of land in order to implement the project "Business Park" from which a total of 22 businesses have benefited. The industrial park in Frashër-Mitrovica was established in 2014 with an area of 48 hectares. In this area, investments have been made in the regulation of physical infrastructure, of which 10 hectares have been flattened and arranged for advertising. 7 contracts have been signed to start the investments. The industrial park in Frashër has been developed in phases I, II, III & e IV, and currently phase V is being implemented. Industrial zones are a good opportunity for investors to develop their businesses and business conditions in these areas are advantageous. Industrial zones are one of the best stimulators of the economy in the northern region. The Municipality of Mitrovica has 1,540 parcels of municipal property, in an area of 56,819,776 m². The property of Skënderaj Commune consists of 799.79.5548 hectares of municipal property.

17,626 businesses are registered in the Development Region North. While the types of businesses include the most diverse: individual businesses, foreign companies, agricultural

cooperatives, public enterprises, social enterprises, partnerships, general partnerships, joint stock companies and limited liability companies. Individual businesses consist the largest number in the region north with a number of 15,432 businesses, followed by limited liability companies 1,732 businesses and general partnerships 332 businesses. In the Municipality of South Mitrovica according to the table below the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with a number of 6,407 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with a number of 739, followed by the general partnerships with a number of 148 businesses. The Municipality of Vushtrri has a total number of 4,244 businesses. In the Municipality of Vushtrri, according to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with a number of 3,746 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with a number of 444, followed by general partnerships with a number of 44 businesses. The Municipality of Vushtrri has a total number of 4,244 businesses. In the Municipality of Skënderaj, according to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with a number of 2,312 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with a number of 193, followed by the general partnerships with a number of 46 businesses. The municipality of Skënderaj has a total number of 2,560 businesses. While the municipality with the smallest number of businesses in the eastern region is the municipality of North Mitrovica with a total number of businesses 612, individual businesses 488, limited liability companies 124.¹⁹

Table 23: Profiles of economic activities and their number, Development Region North.
Businesses by municipalities ARBK

Municipalities	Individual Business	Foreign Company	Agricultural cooperatives	Publicly owned enterprise	Socially Owned Enterprise	Other enterprises under the jurisdiction of the Partnership	Partnership	General Partnership	Joint Stock Company	Limited liability company	Total
South Mitrovica	6407	14	1	/	/	/	/	148	65	739	7376
North Mitrovica	488		/	/	2	/	/			124	612
Zubin Potok	554	2	1	/	/	/	/	19	2	42	620
Zvecan	730	1	1	1	/	/	2	14	8	67	824
Skenderaj	2312	1	6	/	/	/		46	2	193	2560
Vushtrri	3746	5	2	/	/	/		44	2	444	4244
Leposavic	1195		2	1	/	/	3	61	5	123	1390
Total	15432	23	13	2	2	/	5	332	84	1732	17626

3.3.5. Agriculture

The potentials for the development of agricultural production of all kinds in the northern region are high. Quite fertile lands, pastures, hilly-mountainous configuration, make this region diverse enough to have a highly developed agricultural industry. Agricultural land in the northern region consists of gardens, orchards, vineyards, greenhouses, meadows, pastures, and other lands quite dense in their configuration. Agricultural activities in these areas are diverse and include the cultivation of different varieties of cereals, fruits and vegetables, including vineyards. While, in terms of livestock, different types of animals and birds are used for consumption needs and supply of milk and other products of the meat industry and their markets, including fish processing. Considering the mountainous configuration of the

¹⁹ Data according to KBRA for the number of businesses in 2018.

region and the natural wealth in the forests and meadows, the development region west is traditionally also known for beekeeping and honey processing, and the meat processing industry, which in recent years is developing further. The overall vision for agriculture and rural development in this region is to achieve a balanced contribution to the economic, environmental, social and cultural well-being of partnerships between the private sector, central / local government and communities within the region's development context. When it comes to fertile land, the following can be singled out: the soft soil on the banks of the Ibar and Sitnica. Wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley, melon, watermelon, peppers, cabbage, cucumber, alfalfa, etc. are cultivated there. Municipality of Vushtrri, another region with highly developed agriculture, where most of the land is hilly, is well used for pastures and agricultural production. Vushtrri is the largest potato producer in Kosovo. It is also home to the largest potato processing plant. This Municipality possesses an area of 17,505.59 hectares of utilized agricultural land of which about 7,000 hectares are under irrigation system.

Table 24: Land area for use and land area used by Agricultural Holdings, Development Region North. Agriculture Census 2014²⁰

Development Region Center	Land area - Total		Utilized area of agricultural land	
	Nr. agricultural economies	Area (ha)	Nr. agricultural economies	Area (ha)
Leposavic	/	/	/	/
Mitrovica	2803	13278	2786	10942
North Mitrovica	/	/	/	/
Skenderaj	6232	27559	6205	19701
Vushtrri	6232	20829	6199	17506
Zubin Potok	/	/	/	/
Zvecan	/	/	/	/
Total	15267	61667	15190	48149

Livestock as an important indicator in economic development occupies a special place in the categorization of economic activities, but, in the DRN, the stock of 31414 head of cattle in total, categorizes the region as the least important for the development of this sector.

Table 25: Livestock stock by municipalities in the Development Region North²¹

Municipalities	Cattle	Buffalos	Sheep	Goat	Pig	Horses, donkeys and mules	Poultry	Other animals	Bee hive
Mitrovica	6215	-	5651	718	k	50	63732	k	4295
North Mitrovica	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Zvecan	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Zubin Potok	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Skenderaj	14199	k	4341	673	k	3	107819	187	6576

²⁰https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata__02%20Agriculture__Agricultural%20Household%20Survey/aeb01.px/?rxid=ae1fd74-f027-4e2f-b865-c8b8

²¹ https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata__02%20Agriculture__Agricultural%20Household%20Survey/aeb01.px/?rxid=ae1fd74-f027-4e2f-b865-c820

²¹ https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata__02%20Agriculture__Agricultural%20Household%20Survey/aeb01.px/?rxid=ae1fd74-f027-4e2f-b865-c820

²¹ https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata__02%20Agriculture__Agricultural%20Household%20Survey/aeb01.px/?rxid=ae1fd74-f027-4e2f-b865-c820

Vushtrri	11000	k	3636	532	395	56	158712	k	5415
Leposavic	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Total	31414	0	13628	1923	395	109	330263	187	16286

3.3.6. Unemployment and employment

The Development Region North has sufficient potential for labor supply. Unemployment is an existing element at a significant level in this region. According to the statistics of the employment report for 2020, the total number of jobseekers in the north region is 29948, while the labor supply is 2176, where we see a large difference between the labor supply and demand, always given that the data do not reflect reality on the ground. But the data is incomplete as many jobseekers do not go to employment offices to be recorded as figures. From the following Table no. 26 it can be seen that the municipality of South Mitrovica has the largest number of jobseekers of 7828 and a small job offer of 604 vacancies. The Municipality of Vushtrri continues with 7049 jobseekers and 732 vacancies. The Municipality of Skënderaj 4777 jobseekers and 451 employment opportunities, followed by the Municipalities with the lowest number of jobseekers such as: Municipality of Leposavic 3189 jobseekers, Zubin Potok 1738 jobseekers and Zvecan 1853 jobseekers. The Development Region North has great human potential for the labor market including a fairly young and skilled workforce.

Table 26: Unemployment and job vacancies in the development region north. Source **EARK: Employment report for 2020**

Municipality	Unemployment (number of jobseekers)	Regular Vacancies	ALMP vacancies
South Mitrovica	7828	287	317
Skenderaj	4777	153	298
Vushtrri	7049	411	321
North Mitrovica	3514	39	104
Leposavic	3189	4	100
Zvecan	1853	7	48
Zubin Potok	1738	66	66
Total	29948	922	1254

3.3.7. Natural resources

Development Region North has underground mineral resources, forest reserves, fertile land and rich water resources. The Development Region North is very rich in water resources, highlighting here the rivers Ibar and Sitnica and the largest artificial lake of Ujman in Zubin Potok, one of the largest water reservoirs of this type in Europe. The municipality of Skënderaj has underground assets which are a great economic potential of this area such as: limestone and high quality clay for processing construction materials. The villages of Bajza and Syrigana are rich in lead and zinc. Coal reserves up to 7 million tons at a depth of 10 -15 m have been discovered in the villages Polac and Prekaz in the municipality of Skënderaj, a large asset which is still awaiting capital investment in this area. Based on the fact that the Feronikeli mine is not far from the territory of the municipality of Skënderaj, according to some data there are signs that in the villages of the municipality of Skenderaj such as: Qirez,

Baks, Prellovc, etc., there are underground ores. However, an accurate scientific research should be carried out **22**

Mitrovica area is very rich in pastures, fields, forests and mountains. The great potential of this region is its rich hydrography with rivers, lakes with great water potentials where a picturesque view is given by the tributaries of the Ibar River to those of the rivers: Sinica, Lushta, Trepça and Bistrica. Trepça is a precious natural resource of the whole of Kosovo which possesses a great potential of economic development of the region respectively and the whole Republic of Kosovo. Trepça mine has a good infrastructure according to the modern model of underground mining, having three servile and ventilation wells. It is developed in 12 horizons, and between the last three horizons are developed ramps that enable the application of modern mechanization in preparation and in ore exploitation. The mine with its own infrastructure as well as with modern filling methods, has the capacity of ore exploitation from 500,000 to 650,000 tons of ore per year. The Stantërg mine with the surrounding springs has reserves of about 35 Mt, or expressed through the amount of ore metals, 1,349,579 tonnes of lead, 1,080,504 tonnes of zinc and 2,280,224 kg of silver and is currently one of the most significant potentials of sulfite ores of Pb and Zn in the region.**23**

3.3.8. Tourism

The Development Region North has potential for tourism development. High mountains such as Mokra, Gora, Shala e Bajgores, Çyçavica with their beautiful nature present great potential for development of eco-tourism and winter tourism. The Ibar Valley can be used for various recreations and sports activities. Ujman Lake is attractive to visit during the summer period. The types of tourism that can be developed in the Shala region are: mountain tourism, cultural tourism, rural tourism and eco-tourism. Mountain tourism-mountains of Bajgora. One of the tourist potentials of Shala is the out-of-function mines in Trepça, which are interesting points for the tourism development. The Crystal Museum was established in 1964 with over 1300 exhibitors of different types of crystals turning the museum into an object of great national importance for Kosovo both in terms of values and tourism. Vushtrri is one of the most ancient cities in Kosovo, which in the Roman period is referred to as a Vicianum shopping center. In the Municipality of Skenderaj are historical towers, memorial complexes and tourist attractions which are visited by many local and foreign tourists.**24**

3.3.9. The city of South Mitrovica is the center of the North Development Region

It lies in the alluvial plain of the rivers: Ibër, Sitnica, Lushta and Trepça, as well as on the slopes of the surrounding rivers. The geographical position is convenient due to the configuration. The city is bordered by the slopes of Kreshbardha (Kopaonik), Rogozna, Mokna and Qyçavica. The territory of this municipality borders with the municipality of Zveçan (in the northern part), with the municipality of Besiana (in the eastern part), with the municipality of Vushtrri (in the southern part), the municipality of Skenderaj (in the western part) and the municipality of Zubin Potok (in the northwestern part). In the direction of Sitnica, it is connected with the Kosova Plain. The city, on the south side, is separated from the Kosova basin by the mountain of Bajri (520 m). The entire territory of the vicinity of Mitrovica has an important position, especially for transit traffic. Mitrovica lies at 42,53 °

22 Ministry of Regional Development, *Profiles of Development Regions in Kosovo*, Prishtina, October 2019

23 Ibid.

24 Ministry of Regional Development, *Regional Development Strategy 2020-2030*, Prishtina 2020.

degrees north latitude and 25, 52 ° east latitude and 508-510 m altitude. The strategic position and especially the geographical position between the two important rivers, the Ibër and the Sitnica rivers, has made the territory of Mitrovica populated since prehistoric times. The economic motive for the establishment of settlements and for the concentration of the population in this area, first of all, were livestock, agriculture, hunting and later on mining, which was initially developed modestly and later become one of the main causes of penetration of Romans and Slavic invaders, Ottomans, etc., on this part. Both in Kosovo and the region, Mitrovica is known for its rich natural resources, mainly Lead and Zinc metals. The entire economy in Mitrovica has developed around the mining industry and the extraction and processing of metals. Land use data, in the Municipality of Mitrovica, show that land for agriculture and meadows represents 50.29% of the total area. This area, like other parts of the Illyrian Peninsula, in ancient times was inhabited by Illyrian inhabitants, namely the Dardan tribe.²⁵

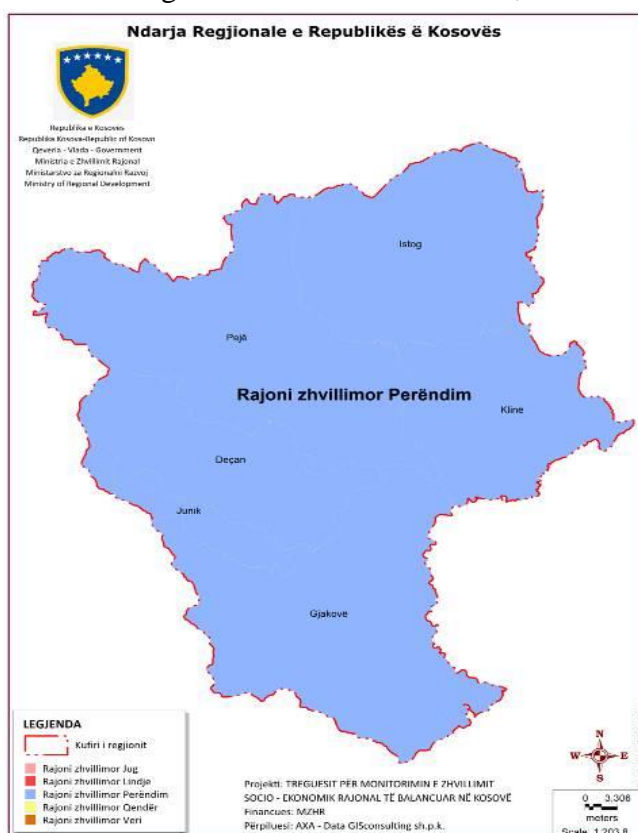
²⁵ Ministry of Local Government Administration, *Profiles of Municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo*, 2017

3.4. Development Region West

The area of the region consists of six municipalities: Istog, Klina, Peja, Junik, Deçan and Gjakova, with a total of 314 settlements included in the region. With a total area of 2,324.38 km², this region covers about 21.31% of Kosovo's area. It is bordered by Montenegro to the northwest, while to the southwest it borders Albania, to the northeast by the economic region north, and to the southeast by the economic region south. The Western region is mainly covered by the Dukagjini Plain which is bordered by the high mountains of the Albanian Alps.²⁶

3.4.1. Population

With a total population of 323,468 inhabitants or 18% of the population of Kosovo. The west development region includes 314 settlements or 20.96% of Kosovo settlements. The population density is 139 inhabitants per km in the western region. While the municipalities with the densest population in the western region are Peja with 98.601 inhabitants or 164 inhabitants per km, then Gjakova with 94.334 inhabitants or 161 inhabitants per km². Deçan with 41.181 inhabitants or with 145 inhabitants in one km². The municipalities with the widest extension in the western region are Peja with 602.63 km² or 25.92% of the territory of the western region, then Gjakova with 586.62 km² or 25.23% of the territory of the western region and Istog with 454.36 km² or 19.54% of the territory of the western region.²⁷



Map 5. Development Region West

Table 27. Population density and area in the Development Region West. Source: KAS Statistical Yearbook 2021. Population estimates for 2020.

Development region West				
	Municipalities	Population	Area km ²	Density of pop.
1	Deçan	42.480	293.97	145
2	Gjakova	94.334	586.62	161
3	Istog	41.181	454.36	91
4	Junik	6.383	77.78	82
5	Klina	40.489	309.02	131
6	Peja	98.601	602.63	164
	Total	323468	2324.38	139

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Kosovo Agency of Statistics, Statistical Yearbook 2021, Population Estimates for 2020

3.4.2. Configuration and geological construction

The Development Region West is mainly covered by the Dukagjini Plain, which borders the high mountains of the Albanian Alps. The territory of the Accursed Mountains is one of the most important areas in terms of natural landscape and meets all the conditions and criteria to be considered protected as a National Park. The proposed area of the park is 38,000 ha (GZK11/86). With the establishment of this park in the Western Region there will be benefits both in economic and social/recreational terms.

The part of the Accursed Mountains territory, which is proposed as a National Park, is special in terms of its natural features and values and as such should be placed under special care and protection. The natural beauties and ecological values of this territory, especially of the Rugova Gorge, occupy an important place in the comparative assessments of landscapes, the attractiveness of specific natural areas.

In the massif of the Accursed Mountains, in addition to the peak of Gjeravica with an altitude of 2656 m (the highest peak in Kosovo), the following important peaks can be distinguished:

- Rupa Peak (Rupa Peak) 2,501 m
- Dog Peak (Dog Peak) 2,405 m
- Strelc Peak (Strelc Peak) 2,377 m
- Rrasa e Zogut (Peak of Rrasa e Zogut) 2,305 m
- Marjashi Peak (Marjashi Peak) 2,530 m

3.4.3. Climate

The climatic characteristics of the Western Region are almost the same as in the entire territory of the Dukagjini Plain. Western Kosovo has a continental climate influenced by the Mediterranean climate. Relatively high temperatures with an average annual value above 11°C, August and July are the hottest months with temperatures of 21.7°C and 21.68°C and January the coldest month with temperatures of 0.5°C. The average air humidity during the year is 70.2%, in which case an increase in humidity is significantly higher from the summer season to the winter season by 17.5% than the decrease in humidity from winter to summer.

In this region, the average annual cloudy weather is 58%. During the year, the frequency of cloudless days is 60,5 days (16.6%), while the frequency of cloudy days is 119.3 days (32.6%). The average duration of sun exposure, due to orthographic influences, is lower than the Kosovo average with 1.972 hours, of which 293.6 hours or 72,1% of the sun per year in July.

The amount of rainfall in this region is among the highest in Kosovo. In the lower parts, it reaches 724.6 lit/m², in the mountainous areas of the Accursed Mountains, the average amount of precipitation reaches more than 1,300 lit/m².

The wind frequency is... / 398 0/00/, while the frequency of west (Ë) and southwester (SW) winds is 122 0/00 / and 113 0/00 / and the lowest frequency is that of east winds /E/ me 55 0/00 /.

3.4.4. Water bodies

The Development Region West is known for its high river density. Kosovo has four main drainage basins, the main of which is the source of the river Drini i Bardhë in the village of

Radac in the municipality of Peja. It covers almost the entire region and flows into the Adriatic Sea. The remaining rivers of the region flow into the Drini i Bardhë river including Bistrica e Pejës which starts at the foot of Kodra e Plakut, one of the peaks of the Albanian Alps at an altitude of 1900 m above sea level and flows into the Drini i Bardhë. River near the village of Zajm about 378 m above sea level.

The Development Region West has several mountain lakes such as the lakes on Mount Gjeravica (Figure 2) and Rugova Mountains. The artificial lake of Radoniq is located in the municipality of Gjakova with an area of about 130 km² contains about 113,000,000 m³ of water (esk gj. Mje 06-07).

Mirusha - Mirusha region in the south and east of the region is one of the most beautiful and interesting areas of Kosovo. This is recorded through the biological diversity of this region. This region has an area of 63.21 km². The altitude above sea level of the area varies from 340–1006 m. Mirusha River is one of the most beautiful rivers in Kosovo. In its last part, the stream passes through a gorge, which is known as the Mirusha River Canyon. Mirusha Natural Park is located on both sides of the Mirusha River from the beginning of the canyon to the place where it flows into the Drini i Bardhë River.**28**

3.4.5. Education

According to public education statistics 2020/2021, the number of schools in the Development Region West in primary and lower secondary education is 137, while in upper secondary education, it is 20. The number of students in the Development Region West in primary and lower secondary education is 23266. The number of students in upper secondary education is 10455 of them 6279 or 60.06% are in vocational schools.

Table 28: Pre-university education statistics. Source: Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021

	Number of Institutions	Student		Teacher	Administrative staff	Support staff	
		Public	Private	Public			
Preschool / kindergarten	12	0 <5 years old	850	476	115	269	552
		5 <6 years old	2980				
Primary and lower secondary	137	23266		292	3041		
Higher secondary	20	10455		543	972		

One of the important factors in determining the level of balanced regional socio-economic development is data analysis of the level of education of the population. The educational structure represents an important human resource base with an impact on socio-economic development. This section analyses the number of population over 10 years old according to the level of education for the Development Region West. Data provided in Table 29 below are obtained from the population census conducted in 2011 by the Kosovo Agency of Statistics. The data can also be updated with the new population census that is expected to be realized during this year (2021).

Table 29: Education level in the Development Region West. Population census conducted in 2011 by the Kosovo Agency of Statistics

Level of education in the Development Region West	Number of population by level of education	% Of the population according to the level of education
Postgraduate degree	1490	0.6
Graduates	20584	7.9
Higher secondary education	75505	29.1
Lower secondary education	93950	36.2
Primary school	44964	17.3
Primary school not completed	2544	1
Literate	14774	5.7
Illiterate	5791	2.2

3.4.6. Infrastructure

Infrastructure is relatively developed in the Development Region West. This region is a connecting point of Kosovo, bordering Albania (Gjakova and Junik), Montenegro (Deçan and Peja), and Serbia (Municipality of Istog). In recent years, a lot has been invested in local roads, water supply, sewerage, power system and public lighting²⁹.

In terms of local road infrastructure, the Development Region West stands at a level that varies depending on the type of infrastructure, but generally good based on the regional performance statistics of 2019. When it comes to local roads, the Municipality with the most paved local roads is the Municipality of Junik with 100%, followed by Gjakova with 84.9, and Peja with 77.94%. While at a lower level are Deçan with 63.33%, Istog with 62.12 and Klina with 59.35%. Detailed statistics on local street lighting, inclusion in the drinking water system and sewerage are provided in Table 30 below.³⁰

Table 30: Local infrastructure in the Development Region West Source: Municipalities performance management system for 2019.

Municipality	Local roads paved in municipalities in %	Households, public institutions and business units included in the drinking water system in %	Households, public institutions and business units included in the sewerage system in %	Length of local roads equipped with public lighting %
Peja	77,94	100,00	63,89	33,47
Istog	62,12	99,07	81,97	4,61
Deçan	63,33	100,00	83,86	12,35
Junik	100,00	100,00	100,00	68,93
Klina	59,36	80,44	85,48	4,67
Gjakova	84,09	100,00	74,74	31,61

3.4.7. Unemployment and employment

²⁹ Ministry of Regional Development, *Profiles of Development Regions in Kosovo*, October 2019.

³⁰ Ministry of Local Government Administration. Data from the detailed tabular report on the performance of municipalities for 2019.

Human resources and the labor market in the Development Region West are also an important factor in the development of economic activities. In the western region, we have a number of 28228 jobseekers and a market supply of 2108 vacancies based on the statistics derived from the employment report for 2020. The ratio between supply and demand has a large difference due to the lack of access and registration of jobseekers in employment offices. In the western region, the municipality with the largest number of jobseekers is the Municipality of Peja with 10139 and with an offer of 665 vacancies. The second municipality is the Municipality of Gjakova with 9537 jobseekers and an offer of 752 vacancies and the Municipality of Klina with 3076 jobseekers and an offer of 226 job vacancies. Followed by the Municipality of Deçan with 2023 jobseekers and the Municipality of Istog with 3012 jobseekers. The municipality with the lowest number of jobseekers is the Municipality of Junik with 441 jobseekers and 39 vacancies³¹.

Table 31: Unemployment and job vacancies in the development region west. Source: EARK 2020 Report

Municipality	Unemployment Number of jobseekers	Regular Job Vacancies	ALMM Vacancies
Peja	10139	196	469
Istog	3012	26	315
Deçan	2023	31	54
Junik	441	17	22
Klina	3076	59	167
Gjakova	9537	236	516
Total	28228	565	1543

3.4.8. Economics and business development³²

In the Development Region West, the areas with the highest potential for development are: agriculture, wood processing, information technology and telecommunications, construction, production of vehicle components, energy, textiles and tourism, as areas with the highest potential for development. In connection with the above, as subareas or industries with very good potential for immediate development are: food processing industry from agricultural products and meat processing. The industry of extraction and processing of decorative stones, various forms of wood processing and the industry of metal constructions. From a regional point of view, almost all these areas or industries are included in the municipal and urban development plans of the municipalities of the western region, as well as in other documents of municipal and regional levels. The development region west has great potentials and very favorable conditions for businesses, given important factors such as: well-educated, competitive workforce, enviable natural resources (mining, agriculture), low taxes and a transparent system. In the Development Region West, economic zones have been established such as: Industrial Park in Gjakova, "American Economic Zone" also in the municipality of Gjakova, industrial economic zone in Peja. The American Economic Zone aims to attract foreign investors primarily American businesses and be the basis for strategic investment. The American Economic Zone was established in 2018 and is expected to be an extraordinary

³¹Employment Agency of the Republic of Kosovo, *Employment and Vocational Training for 2020*, Prishtina 2021.

³² Ministry of Regional Development, *Profiles of Development Regions in Kosovo*, October 2019.

stimulus for the economy of the western region. This area covers 500 hectares and aims to attract American investors and businesses. The Municipality of Peja, in its municipal development plan, has foreseen the development of the free economic zone. Based on the Law on Economic Zones, it owns 547 hectares, 46 Ares and 71m². According to the records, the largest area is in the parts of rural and hilly-mountainous area. The Municipality of Istog has 1540 plots (municipal property), in an area of 56,819,776 m²⁶³. In the municipality of Deçan, the number of municipal parcels is 716, the land area of municipal parcels is 32.789.07 hectares.

There are 25,894 registered businesses in the Development Region West. While the types of businesses include the most diverse; Individual businesses, foreign companies, agricultural cooperatives, public, socially owned enterprises, partnerships, general partnerships, joint stock companies and limited liability companies. Individual businesses have the largest number in the Western region with 22,325, followed by limited liability companies with 2,975 and general partnerships with 430 businesses. In the Municipality of Peja, according to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with 8,220 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with 1,308, followed by general partnerships with 214 businesses. The Municipality of Peja has a total of 9,789 businesses. In the Municipality of Gjakova, according to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with 6,954 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with 837, followed by general partnerships with 125 businesses. The Municipality of Gjakova has a total number of 7,977 businesses. In the Municipality of Istog, according to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with 2,563 businesses followed by the sector of limited liability companies with 367, followed by general partnerships with 29 businesses. The Municipality of Istog has a total number of 2,985 businesses. While the municipality with the smallest number of businesses in the western region is the municipality of Junik with a total of 5 businesses, of those, 4 are individual businesses, 1 is a limited liability company.³³

Table 32: Profiles of economic activities and their number in the Development Region West

Komunat	Biznes individual	Kompani e huaj	Kooperativa bujqësore	Ndërrmarje publike	Ndërrmarje shoqërore	Ndërrmarje tjera nën juridiksion të AKM-së	Ortakëri	Ortakëri e përgjithëshme	Shoqëri aksionare	Shoqëri me përgjegjësi të kufizuara	Total
Deçan	2,134	2	2	/	/	/	/	22	4	199	2,363
Gjakovë	6,954	9	8	1	/	1	4	125	38	837	7,977
Istog	2,563	3	13	/	/	/	/	29	10	367	2,985
Junik	4	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	1	5
Klinë	2,450	2	8	/	1	/	2	40	9	263	2,775
Pejë	8,220	20	5	1	/	/	5	214	16	1,308	9,789
Gjithsej	22,325	36	36	2	1	1	11	430	77	2,975	25,894

3.4.9. Agriculture

³³ Data according to KBRA for the number of businesses in 2018.

The Development Region West of Kosovo is estimated to have about 89,346,75 hectares of used agricultural land in its six municipalities and 37,376.21 arable land, 50,434 meadows and pastures, 12, 729.67 forest land. Detailed statistics can be found in Table 33.

Table 33: Agricultural land statistics in the Development Region West 34

KOMUNAT	Sipërfaqja e shfrytëzuar e tokës bujqësore/Sipërfaqja ha	Tokë e punueshme-Arat/Sipërfaqja ha	Kopshte	Livadhet dhe kullotat/Sipërfaqja ha	Tokë bujqësore e përdorur Sipërfaqja ha	Toka pyjore/Sipërfaqja ha	Toka Jobujqësore/Sipërfaqja ha
Pejë	21,024.91	7,141.92	54.51	13,496.83	1,039.14	2,070.93	688.04
Istog	20,653.91	9,091.08	50.51	11,124.83	426.64	1,761.64	601.33
Deçan	10,043.88	2,901.94	29.86	7,003.17	71.25	860.13	472.31
Junik	1,298.16	604.86	3.49	636.16	104.28	528.33	62.59
Klinë	14,947.55	10,214.33	34.41	4,461.54	375.58	2,753.88	681.93
Gjakovë	21,378.34	7,422.08	41.35	13,711.47	1,137.85	4,754.76	788.55
GJITHSEJ	89,346.75	37,376.21	214.13	50,434	3,154.74	12,729.67	3,294.75

Agricultural activities in these areas are diverse and include the cultivation of different varieties of cereals, fruits and vegetables, including vineyards, while in livestock different types of animals and birds are bred for the needs of dairy and meat industry products and their markets. Given the mountainous configuration of the region and the natural wealth in forests and meadows sufficient livestock capacity, the western region is traditionally known for beekeeping and honey extraction, as well as meat processing industry, which in recent years is developing significantly. There is also a great potential in arboriculture, which is growing and is one of the main apple suppliers of the Kosovo market. Existing orchards in Istog and new surface areas in the part of Gjakova, Peja, Deçan and Klina show that this region is developing this sector, replacing export products. In contrast to other regions, the western region and its municipalities are in a better situation regarding irrigation of agricultural land. According to the report of the Agency for Environmental Protection, in the Development Region West, 22,685 hectares are under the irrigation system under the management of KIR "Drini i Bardhë" and RIC "Radoniqi-Dukagjini", which is significantly more than in other regions. However, compared to the area of agricultural land in the region, the expansion and modernization of this network should remain a priority. Favorable climatic conditions, and the suitable configuration of the region of Municipality of Klina provide optimal conditions for the development of agriculture. This region is known for the cultivation of white cereals, fruits, vegetables and the cultivation of cattle. Beekeeping is also quite developed in this region.³⁵

Livestock, as an important indicator in economic development, occupies a special place in the categorization of RDW, therefore the fund of total 74952 heads of cattle categorizes the region as one of the most important for the development of this sector. If we put it in relation

³⁴Ministry of Regional Development. *Profiles of Development Regions in Kosovo*. 2019

taken from https://ëëë.mbpzhrks.net/repository/docs/REGISTRATION_Agriculture_IN_Republic_of_KOSOVO_2014_Results_Finalmtare.pdf

net / repository / docs / REGISTRATION_Agriculture_IN_Republic_of_KOSOVO_2014_Results_Finalmtare.pdf

³⁵Ministry of Regional Development. *Profiles of Development Regions in Kosovo*. 2019

to the number of cattle at the national level, it turns out that about 26% of the total number of cattle are from RDW (Table 34).

Table 34: Livestock fund by municipalities in the Development Region West

Municipalities	Cattle	Buffalos	Sheep	Goats	Pigs	Horses, donkeys and mules	Birds	Other animals	Beehive
Deçan	11367	k	3139	216	36	167	29080	k	4366
Gjakova	17982	k	7322	468	5218	215	262570	130	6355
Istog	15817	k	10055	1153	607	115	75610	98	5420
Junik	1113	-	1000	23	-	10	2740	-	910
Klina	10474	k	2345	606	4160	56	75240	178	3724
Peja	18199	17	8599	1420	829	196	90317	k	7223
Total	74952	17	32460	3886	10850	759	535557	406	27998

3.4.10. Natural resources

Development Region West is rich in natural resources, geographical location, fertile soil and climatic conditions, especially, in the Dukagjini plain are ideal for the development of horticulture, fruit production, beekeeping and arable agricultural lands. The area of arable land presents a great potential for agricultural development. The development region west has a considerable number of lakes such as; Lake Radoniq and Erenik in the Municipality of Gjakova, the two natural lakes of Gjeravica in Junik, Lake Liqenat and Lake Drelaj in the municipality of Peja as well as the Liqeni i pafund (Endless Lake), Lake Leqe Leqe and Lake Gjorvice in Deçan. Other water resources of this region include the large number of rivers such as: Drini i Bardhë, Lumëbardhi i Pejës, river Klina, river Mirusha, river Istog, river Erenik, river Lloqan, etc. The Accursed Mountains National Park is one of the largest assets in the western region. It is located in 5 municipalities of the western region. In addition, there are lignite reserves in the municipality of Istog, with an area of 100 km² and a thickness of 30-50 meters and up to 230 meters depth. It also has a considerable area of forests and pastures that presents a great potential for the development of agriculture and livestock. The municipality of Klina has natural and non-mineral natural resources such as: reserves of lignite 2 billion tons, bauxite ore 2 million tons, clay 6.5 million tons, sand and gravel 3.5 million tons. Along the Mirusha River in the southern and southwestern part of Klina, there are waterfalls, a rare natural beauty with a very rich flora and fauna. This complex covers an area of 200 hectares and is a protected area - reserves with great opportunities for the development of tourism. **36**

3.4.11. Tourism

In the Development Region West of Kosovo, tourism is one of the areas with potential for development and generation of new jobs. The identified branches of tourism are mountain tourism with sports and recreational elements, mainly in Peja, Deçan, Junik, Gjakova and Istog. Cave exploration tourism (speleology) is developed in Peja, Gjakova Deçan and Klina; health and welfare tourism starting from the thermo-mineral waters in Istog and other suitable places for the development of rehabilitation centers throughout the region; water, land,

36 Ministry of Regional Development, *Profiles of Regions in Kosovo*, Prishtina, October 2019.

mountain and air sports and recreational activities for which the western region offers the most suitable conditions; agro-tourism in places with rich landscapes and active rural life; and also that of particular importance, cultural tourism and heritage. Despite this potential for the development of tourism and the development of proper hospitality services, which will support and enrich the tourist offer, what has been achieved so far is still far from achieving the full potential of this sector.³⁷

3.4.12. The city of Peja is the center of the Development Region West 38

Peja lies at the northwestern end of the fertile Dukagjini valley, in front of the picturesque gorge, under the slopes of the Albanian Alps. It lies in the Lumëbardh valley surrounded by the Albanian Alps. It is bordered by Montenegro to the north, Istog to the northwest and Klina and Deçan to the south. The mountainous climate of the Rugova region is characterized by hot summers and cold and long winters. The abundant presence of water is of high importance. The average annual rainfall is 1000mm. Most of this precipitation falls during winter in the form of snow, but rain as well. Cold and suitable winter favors the development of winter tourism, skiing, climbing and stationary. The most beautiful and at the same time special motif is the Gorge of Rugova and the field around the bed of Lumëbardh of Peja, through which passes the 24 km paved road that leads from Peja through Çakor to Montenegro. The area around the Lumëbardh bed has a gorge view of 20 km in length, while its most beautiful part, Rugova Gorge is close to 10 km long. It is close to 1000m deep, so it is classified among the deepest canyons in the country and in Europe. A special area in the municipality of Peja which is also under the protection of UNESCO is the "Patriarchate" of Peja, "Rugova Gorge" and "Radavci".

Throughout its history, the territory of Peja was firstly part of the Illyrian Dardania, then under Rome, Byzantium, the Middle Ages of Serbia, and later the Turkish Empire. The ancient settlement in the locality "Gradina" was of great importance for the ancient history of Peja, which undoubtedly represents the continuation of the previous Dardan settlement. A number of archeological objects have also been discovered, which led us to conclude that it must have been a municipal administrative center of the entire Dukagjini Plain. In Peja, there is also a customs terminal or customs point.

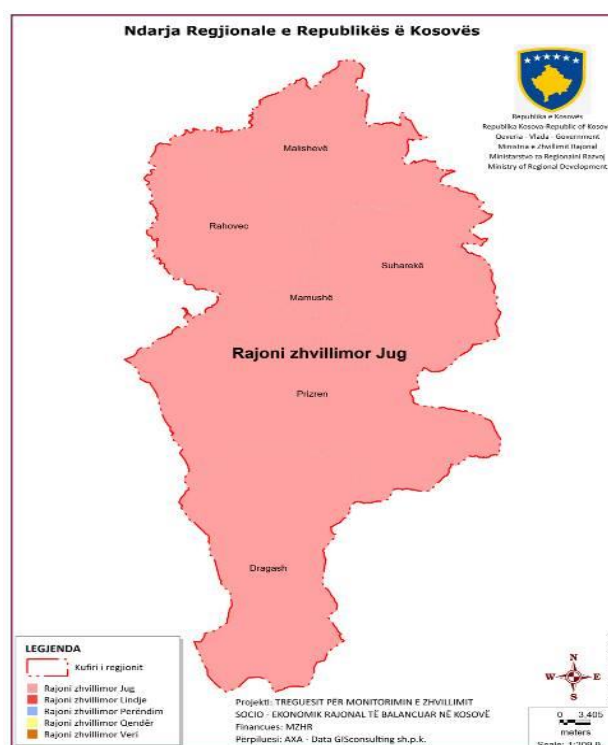
The municipality of Peja is known for its rich summer pastures, suitable for the development of livestock and tourism, the plains in the southeast, rich in fertile land for the development of agriculture. Along with other economic sectors, the contribution of tourism and agribusiness to the economic development of the municipality of Peja is considered strategic, substantive and tangible. Almost half of the territory, of 603 km², is mountainous area-Rugova, rich in forests and pastures and suitable for the development of livestock.

³⁷ Ministry of Regional Development, *Regional Development Strategy 2020-2030*, Prishtina 2020.

³⁸ Ministry of Local Government Administration, *Profiles of Municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo*, 2017

3.5. Development Region South

The Development Region South covers about 2,015.01 km, 18.4% of Kosovo's area (10,905.25 km²) 66. With a population of 409,449 or 23% of the total population of Kosovo, the population density is 202 inhabitants per square km in the south region. While the municipalities with the densest population in the southern region are; the municipality of Mamusha, with a total population of 5874 and a density of 537 inhabitants per 1 km², followed by the municipality of Prizren with 310 inhabitants per km². The third municipality in a row is the municipality of Rahovec with 206 per km². The municipality of Malisheva has a density of 186 inhabitants per km², the municipality of Suhareka 161 inhabitants per km² and Dragash 78 per 1 km². In the southern region, the municipality with the largest extent is the municipality of Prizren with 626.86km², the municipality of Dragash with 433.85 km² and the municipality of Suhareka with 361.04 km².



3.5.1. Population

Map 6: Development Region South

The development region south has a population that can be characterized as relatively young. There are 152,368 inhabitants under the age of 19 in the Region South. The municipality with the largest number of young people under 19 is the municipality of Prizren with 67,145 or 35% of the population of the municipality of Prizren, followed by the municipality of Malisheva with 24,961 inhabitants or 42.80% of the total population of the municipality of Malisheva, which is the municipality with the highest percentage of the youngest population of the southern region. Suhareka has 23,875 inhabitants under the age of 19 or 39.62% of the population of the municipality. In terms of ethnic structure, the development region south is characterized as a region with different ethnic populations. The majority are Albanians with 335,075 inhabitants, Bosniaks with 21,037 inhabitants, Turks with 14,427, RAE 5,835, Serbs 380 and others 10,315. The largest birth rate in the southern region has the municipality of Prizren with a number of 2,210 inhabitants, followed by Malisheva with 945 inhabitants. The development region south is represented by the largest number of females with 254,148 while males with 190,97.

Table 35: Population and area in the Development Region South. Population Statistics from the Statistical Yearbook of the Kosovo Agency of Statistics 2021, population estimates 2020.

Development Region South				
	Municipalities	Population	Area km ²	Density of pop.
1	Prizren	194581	626.86	310
2	Suhareka	58194	361.04	161
3	Rahovec	57047	275.9	206
4	Malisheva	57261	306.42	186
5	Dragash	33948	433.85	78

6	Mamusha	5874	10.94	537
	Total	406905	2015.01	202

3.5.2. Configuration and geological construction

The Development Region South lies in the southwestern part of Kosovo. It is bordered by Albania to the west, FYR Macedonia to the southeast, the municipality of Gjakova to the northwest, Shtime to the northeast and Strpce to the east. The region has a total area of 2031 km² 18.66% of the territory of Kosovo and consists of 6 municipalities: Prizren, Dragash, Suhareka, Malisheva, Rahovec and Mamusha, which differ significantly in size - from the largest of 640 km² (Prizren) to the smallest of 12.5 km² (Mamusha) with the remaining four municipalities of average size (280-430 km²) for Kosovo.

The topography is mixed and includes high mountains, hills, valleys and plains. Land elevation varies from about 400 to 2.750 meters across mountainous areas (Sharr mountain peaks). In the mountains, there are vast forest lands and some natural pastures with abundance of wildlife and vegetation.³⁹

3.5.3. Climate

The climatic features of the Development Region South are dominated by those that are characteristic of the average continental climate (with cold winters and hot summers). There is also a significant impact of the milder Mediterranean climate. Maximum temperatures during the summer season reach an average of 24,6°C, while the lowest temperatures in January reach an average of -10°C. Total rainfall varies from 511 mm to 1.108 mm per year. Climatic conditions in combination with relatively good soils constitute a good basis for agricultural development. Rotating hills with optimal exposure to the sun make it possible to set up quality vineyards.⁴⁰

3.5.4. Water bodies

The region is considered to have adequate water supply. None of the rivers are large enough to organize navigation, i.e., river transport for commercial use, but they can be used for tourism or fishing purposes. Most of the smaller rivers and streams join the Drini i Bardhë river, which has a length of 122 km and is located in the western part of the region. This makes it possible to irrigate a good part of the arable land. As a result, a significant portion of agricultural land in the region, over 12.500 hectares, is covered by irrigation systems. This compares with a total of about 55.000 hectares under irrigation throughout Kosovo (about 23%). Kosovo has a nominal designed irrigation capacity of 72.440 ha. A significant part of this untapped potential is believed to be in the Economic Region South.⁴¹

3.5.5. Land and Vegetation

³⁹ Center for Regional Development South, *Development Strategy South 2010-2013*.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Ibid.

The Development Region South has a utilized area of agricultural land of 95,108.77 hectares, of this area the municipality of Dragash has the largest area in the region south with 27,662.24 hectares; it is followed by the municipality of Prizren with 21,777.01 hectares and the municipality of Suhareka with 15,069.96 hectares. In the southern region, there is a total of 31,396.26 hectares of arable land. The municipality with most arable land is the municipality of Rahovec with 9,186.14 hectares, followed by the municipality of Malisheva with 8,939.2 hectares and the municipality of Suhareka with 6,246.18 hectares. The development region south has an area of 59,748.79 of meadows and pastures. The municipality of Dragash has an area of 27,221.10 hectares meadows and pastures, followed by the municipality of Prizren with 15,677.14 hectares and the municipality of Suhareka with 8,010.23 hectares.⁴²

3.5.6. Education

According to public education statistics 2020-2021, in the Development Region South, the number of primary and lower secondary education schools is 209, while of upper secondary education is 27. The number of students, in the Development Region South, in primary and lower secondary education is 46244 while in upper secondary 13171. The number of students in upper secondary education is 13171, of them 6719 or 51.01% are in vocational schools.

Table 36: Pre-university education statistics. Source: Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021

	Number of Institutions	student		Teacher	Administrative staff	Support staff	
		Public	Private				
Preschool / kindergarten	6	0 <5 years old	315	357	17	307	662
		5 <6 years old	4215				
Primary and lower secondary	209	46244		1139	4756		
Higher secondary	27	13171		579	1049		

One of the most important factors in determining the level of balanced regional socio-economic development is the analysis of data on the level of education of the population. The educational structure represents an important human resource base with an impact on socio-economic development.⁴³

Table 37: Level of education in the Development Region South. Population census conducted in 2011 by the Kosovo Agency of Statistics

Level of education in the Development Region South	Number of population by level of education	% of the population according to the level of education
Postgraduate degree	1222	0.4
Graduates	17167	4.9

⁴² Ministry of Regional Development, *Profiles of Regions in Kosovo*, Prishtina 2019.

⁴³In this part the number of population over 10 years is analyzed according to the level of education. The data provided in Table 37 below are data obtained from the census conducted in 2011 by the Kosovo Agency of Statistics. These data can also be updated with the new population census that is expected to be conducted during this year (2021).

Higher secondary education	65629	18.9
Lower secondary education	142731	41.3
Primary school	60952	17.6
Primary school not completed	29297	8.5
Literate	18993	5.5
Illiterate	103304	2.9

3.5.7. Infrastructure

Development Region South is characterized as the region with one of the most developed networks of local, regional and national roads. The Pristina-Tirana highway passes in the southern region, which is a highway with European standards. The highway connects Kosovo and the countries of the region with the port of Durrës. It is a strategic line for the development of sea and road transport, a very important segment for the economy of Kosovo. In the southern region, there is only one railway line in the Kosovo railway network. This is the line that passes from Prizren through Xërxë and Klina to Fushë Kosovë. Local infrastructure has developed significantly in the southern region in recent years. Information on local roads, their lighting, inclusion in the drinking water and sewerage system are provided in detail in the Table no.38 below.

Table 38: Infrastructure in the Region South by municipalities. Source: Municipal Performance Management System. Estimation for 2019

Municipality	Local roads paved in municipalities in%	Households, public institutions and business units included in the drinking water system in%	Households, public institutions and business units included in the sewerage system in%	Length of local roads equipped with public lighting%
Prizren	60.00	100.00	100.00	36.51
Suhareka	22.56	93.71	99.36	52.08
Rahovec	81.05	97.34	85.81	40.67
Malisheva	91.21	67.91	64.66	22.56
Dragash	/	/	/	//
Mamusha	/	/	/	//

3.5.8. Economy and businesses

The Development Region South has a favorable infrastructure for developing conditions for business. In the development region south, several industrial zones have been established which aim to attract investors and businesses in the area of production and processing. Economic Zones in the development region south are; the industrial zone in Suhareka is located in Shiroka of Suhareka, which in the east is bordered by the existing road Suhareka - Prizren, in the south by the existing road of the old industrial zone, in the west by the existing vineyards and in the north by the green belt. The activities that are foreseen to be located in the industrial zone are: Processing of food products, Processing of textile and leather products, processing of elements from aluminum, plastic and wood, Processing of glass, stone, marble and iron, elements of concrete, processing of electrical and electrical engineering elements, etc. The other zone in this municipality is the Agro-Industrial Zone in

Suhareka, established in 2015 with an area of 28 ha. The Agro-industrial zone is located in the village of Samadraxhë - Suharekë. Investments have started in this economic zone, initially in electricity and water supply. In the economic zone, respectively "Agro - Industrial Zone", currently three (3) contracts have been signed, while with five (5) other beneficiaries, contracts are in the signing phase. Even during this year, investments in physical infrastructure are being continued. The Municipality of Suhareka has planned facilities for businesses that provide long-term use in the Agro-Industrial Zone in Samadraxhë. Although a small municipality, the municipality of Dragash has an economic zone in Mejdan, Shajm village. There are 23,710 registered businesses in the southern region, while the types of businesses include the most diverse; Individual businesses, foreign companies, agricultural cooperatives, public and social enterprises, partnerships, general partnerships, joint stock companies and limited liability companies. Individual businesses have the largest number in the southern region with 20,500 businesses, followed by limited liability companies with 2076 businesses and general partnerships with 390 businesses.⁴⁴

In the Municipality of Prizren, according to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with 11,788 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with 1,603, followed by general partnerships with 276 businesses. The Municipality of Prizren has a total number of 13,731 businesses. In the Municipality of Rahovec, according to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with 2,870 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with 356, followed by general partnerships with 47 businesses. The municipality of Rahovec has a total number of 3,289 businesses. In the Municipality of Suhareka, according to the following table, the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with 2,532 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with 464, followed by general partnerships with 31 businesses. The municipality of Suhareka has a total of 3,040 businesses. While the municipality with the smallest number of businesses in the southern region is the municipality of Dragash with a total of 1,255 businesses, individual businesses 1,187, limited liability companies 49, general partnerships 11, joint stock companies 1 and socially owned enterprises 1.⁴⁵

⁴⁴ Ministry of Regional Development, *Regional Development Strategy 2020-2030*, Prishtina 2020.

⁴⁵ Ministry of Regional Development, *Profiles of Regions in Kosovo*, Prishtina 2019.

Table 39: Profiles of economic activities and their number, Development region South.46

Komunat	Biznes individual	Kompani e huaj	Kooperativa bujqësore	Ndërrmarje publike	Ndërrmarje shoqërore	Ndërrmarje tjera nën juridiksion të AKM-së	Ortakëri	Ortakëri e përgjithshme	Shoqëri aksionare	Shoqëri me përgjegjësi të kufizuara	Totali
Dragash	1,187		6		1			11	1	49	1,255
Rahovec	2,870	5	6				2	47	3	356	3,289
Prizren	11,788	35	10	1	6		3	276	9	1,603	13,731
Malishevë	2,123	6	4					25	3	234	2,395
Mamushë	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Suharekë	2,532	4	2					31	7	464	3,040
Gjithsej	20,500	50	28	1	7		5	390	23	2,706	23,710

3.5.9. Agriculture

Development Region South is a leading producer of high-quality agricultural products in Kosovo. Vegetables cultivated in this part of Kosovo are also exported to the countries of the region, such as peppers from the district of Krusha, tomatoes from Mamusha, etc. Also, other vegetables like cabbage, cucumber and carrot are successfully cultivated in this region. Krusha district is also known for watermelon cultivation. The municipality of Dragash is rich in medicinal and aromatic plants, as well as a variety of forest products. More than 90% of these plants are exported to the western countries. Also, the Municipality of Dragash is known for Sharr cheese, as a regional brand representative of this region. Viticulture is typical for this region and deserves special care. This sector dominates in Rahovec, but also extends to the municipalities of Suhareka and Prizren. Suitable agro-climatic conditions create considerable potential for further development of grape cultivation and wine production.

The Development Region South has a utilized area of agricultural land of 95,108.77 hectares. Of this area, the municipality of Dragash has the largest area in the south region with 27,662.24 hectares, followed by the municipality of Prizren with 21,777.01 hectares and the municipality of Suhareka with 15,069.96 hectares.

Arable land in the southern region comprise in total 31,396.26 hectares of this area. The municipality with the most arable land is the municipality of Rahovec with 9,186.14 hectares, followed by the municipality of Malisheva with 8,939.2 hectares and the municipality of Suhareka with 6,246.18 hectares. Regarding the area with meadows and pastures, the development region south has an area of 59,748.79, of this area the municipality of Dragash has an area of 27,221.10 hectares with meadows and pastures, then the municipality of Prizren 15,677.14 hectares and the municipality of Suhareka with 8,010.23 hectares.⁴⁷

Table 40: Number of households and agricultural areas in the Development Region South

46 Source of statistics ARBK, year 2018.

47 Ministry of Regional Development, Profiles of Development Regions in Kosovo, Prishtina, October 2019

KOMUNAT	Sipërfaqja e shrytëzuar e tokës bujqësore/Sipërfaqja ha	Tokë e punueshme-Arat/Sipërfaqja ha	Kopshte	Livadhet dhe kullotat/Sipërfaqja ha	Tokë bujqësore e papërdorur Sipërfaqja ha	Toka pyjore/Sipërfaqja ha	Toka jobujqësore/Sipërfaqja ha
Prizren	21,777.01	5,704.71	46.28	15,677.14	671.11	2,194.89	538.38
Dragash	27,662.24	386.80	17.03	27,221.10	407.89	439.14	199.23
Malishevë	14,908.79	8,939.2	52.3	5,690.23	963.94	4,456.5	957.78
Mamushë	1,229.19	933.23	2.78	269.32	4.38	470	25.55
Rahovec	14,461.58	9,186.14	12.58	2,880.77	1,733.91	1,849.12	576.15
Suharekë	15,069.96	6,246.18	78.10	8,010.23	1,433.11	3,970.74	676.82
GJITHESEJT	95,108.77	31,396.26	209.07	59,748.79	5,214.34	13,380.39	2,973.91

Livestock as an important indicator of economic development occupies a special place in the categorization of DRS, therefore the fund of 56,626 head of cattle in total categorizes the Region as one of the most important for the development of this sector. If we put it in relation to the number of cattle at the national level, it turns out that about 18% of the total number of cattle are from DRS.

Table 41: Livestock fund by municipalities in the Development Region South

Municipalities	Cattle	buffalos	Sheep	Goats	Pigs	Horses, donkeys and mules	Birds	Other animals	Beehives
Prizren	12701	-	22809	1493	912	381	111006	k	4435
Suhareka	10884	-	4609	1253	85	111	104926	k	7574
Rahovec	9854	13	7102	1049	122	51	129413	k	3992
Malisheva	15537	k	7363	3040	-	17	93007	k	4212
Dragash	6572	k	13820	k	-	266	25720	k	3925
Mamusha	1078	-	438	k	-	-	4262	-	88
Total	56626	13	56141	6835	1119	826	468334	0	24226

3.5.10. Unemployment and Employment

The Development Region South has sufficient human resources for the labor market and a relatively young and skilled workforce. Regarding employment in the public sector, we can say that in the southern region, the Municipality of Prizren leads with the largest number of employees in this sector. Based on the employment report for 2020, we can say that the development region south has a number of 35,554 jobseekers and an offer of 2,204 vacancies, which again shows a large difference between offer and demand. The municipality with the largest number of jobseekers is the Municipality of Prizren with 17,809 jobseekers and a job offer of 735 vacancies, followed by the Municipality of Suhareka with 5,180 jobseekers and a job offer of 295 job vacancies, Municipality of Malisheva with 5,177 jobseekers and an offer

of 537 vacancies, Municipality of Dragash with 3,536 jobseekers and Municipality of Rahovec with a number of 3,615 jobseekers. The municipality with the lowest number of jobseekers is the Municipality of Mamusha with 237 jobseekers and no job offers.⁴⁸

Table 42: Unemployment and job vacancies in the Development Region South for 2020.

Municipality	Unemployment	Job vacancies	ALMP vacancies
Prizren	17,809	196	539
Suhareka	5,180	6	289
Rahovec	3,615	346	99
Malisheva	5,177	75	462
Dragash	3,536	13	179
Mamusha	237	-	-
Total	35554	636	1568

3.5.11. Natural resources

The development region south has a large percentage of good quality land, favorable climatic conditions, which in combination with the possibilities of further advancement of irrigation, make the region suitable for the integrated development of agriculture. Waters in the southern region, including rivers and lakes are valuable resources of this region, most of the rivers flow into the river Drini i Bardhë, which flows at a length of 122 kilometers in the western part of the region. Small natural lakes in this region are Livadica Lake, Jazhinca Lake, Dragaqina Lake. This region is known for limestone, limestone appears as red and brown. Red limestone is of more economic interest. The limestone reserve is thought to have a volume of 382,913 m³. Minerals like Cobalt, Nickel and Copper are found in the vicinity of Guri i Kuq, where a layer of Nickel-Cobalt ores has been found. The chromium mineral is thought to be located along the Drini i Bardhë valley in an area of about 60 km and respectively in the localities Qëndresa, Gradisht, the valley of the Rimnik stream.⁴⁹

3.5.12. Tourism

Tourism; The Development Region South has a great tourist potential that still remains relatively untapped. The specific, geographical position, natural resources, numerous examples of cultural and historical heritage, as well as the diverse folklore, make the south region an ideal place for the development of sustainable tourism. There is a great potential for sustainable development of mountain tourism and camping on weekends. Tourism development, including rural tourism can become an important source of well-being for a growing part of the region. This region has a great tourist potential that still remains relatively untapped. The Municipality of Prizren is a jewel of tourism, which is one of the areas of development of the Municipality of Prizren. Prizren is one of the strategic tourist cities for foreign and local visitors. The Sharr Mountains contain hundreds of meters of areas which

⁴⁸ Employment Agency of the Republic of Kosovo, *Employment and Vocational Training for 2020*, Prishtina 2021

⁴⁹ Ministry of Regional Development, *Regional Development Strategy 2020-2030*, Prishtina 2020.

are not fully exploited and present great potential for the development of winter tourism. The Koretnik and Pashtrik Mountains have great natural potentials for the development of mountain tourism, such as mountaineering and hunting, as well as the numerous rivers in the region that offer the opportunity for the development of water sports and fishing. Various cultural and artistic festivals and events and agribusiness fairs are typical of this region and attract many local and foreign visitors.⁵⁰

5.3.13. The city of Prizren, the center of the Development Region South

Prizren lies in the southern part of the Dukagjini Plain with an area of 603 km². It borders the municipalities: Gjakova, Rahovec, Suhareka, Strpce and Dragash, as well as the state of Albania and Macedonia. The Prizren plain is located at an altitude of about 400 meters and some peaks of Sharr exceed the altitude of 2000 meters above sea level. The climate of the city is diverse. In the lowlands, due to the influence of the Mediterranean climate and very hot summers, the crops are among the first in Southeast Europe with unparalleled advantages for agricultural crops, such as: Grape vines, fruits and vegetables. In the mountainous areas, the climate of the Alps dominates. Therefore, until June the quantities of snow remain in the pits, in which case, the tops of the mountains can be whitened in the middle of the summer.

Prizren is one of the oldest cities in Southeast Europe located at the foot of the Sharr Mountains and along the Lumbardh River. Archaeological data testify the existence of an active life in the territory of present-day Prizren since antiquity. This area was inhabited by a pure Illyrian population - the Dardanians. In the 19th century, Prizren was the second most important economic and commercial center of the Albanian lands with about 1,500 shops. Prizren occupies a special place in the history of the Albanian National Movement, it became the capital of the Albanian League of Prizren, which was founded on 10 June 1878. Prizren was the headquarters of the Albanian Provisional Government (1881) headed by Ymer Prizreni. After the second war until 1947, Prizren was the center of the Autonomous Region of Kosovo. In the late 1950s to mid-1960s over 3,200 families moved from Prizren to Turkey. The economy of the municipality of Prizren is mainly based on agriculture, trade, construction and food processing - all private enterprises. The natural values that Kosovo possesses, represent sources of high-level tourism. The agricultural sector remains one of the main sources of employment and income. Prizren has been famous for its orchards, vegetables and wines.⁵¹

⁵⁰ Ibid.

⁵¹ Ministry of Local Government Administration, *Profiles of Municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo*, 2017

4. Indicators for measuring the degree of regional socio-economic development in Kosovo

36. The main purpose of conducting this study is to define the areas, indicators of their purpose and sources of information. Their treatment is also in line with the MRD mandate for planning and development of indicators for monitoring balanced regional socio-economic development, and their correlation with the preparation of analyzes related to balanced regional socio-economic development⁵².
37. The treatment and definition of all areas and indicators is related to the purpose of MRD which has to do with the most fair and realistic reflection of balanced socio-economic development in Kosovo. As mentioned at the beginning, regional socio-economic development goes beyond the competencies of municipalities and is more related to the central level. Balanced regional socio-economic development is not limited to the level of local economic development, but exceeds it by reflecting the development of sectors and projects developed in two or more municipalities. Thematic areas and indicators that reflect the most realistic situation of socio-economic development in the regions of Kosovo are numerous and interrelated. This shows the interdependence that thematic areas have by conditioning each other on the one hand, and on the other, they are also accompanied by various effects. It is known that the regions of Kosovo have their own characteristics that differ in terms of territory, demography, social, economic, environment, infrastructure, etc. These differences must be accurately identified through measurable indicators. The importance lies in the fact that these indicators according to different areas provide the opportunity to follow the development trends in the regions of Kosovo and here can be planned measures and needs to improve the situation. It is known that the differences between the regions are also in specific areas, so it is important to identify and follow each area for each region. This also enables investment planning and priorities according to areas in different regions in Kosovo. This document defines the main areas that reflect the degree of socio-economic development in the regions of Kosovo. Initially, the field of demography was treated, where the indicators that determine the trends of regional demographic development were presented. This is of particular importance from the fact that development planning should be done for people in the first place, so it is important to have accurate data about population size, density, growth, structures and other demographic characteristics at the level of regions. Based on demographic data, basic needs and requirements can also be analyzed. The field of social development is an important issue in the socio-economic development of the regions of Kosovo. Analysis of educational status, health, unemployment and employment, poverty rate, gender equality, as well as the level of development of culture, youth and sports, are key topics in determining and analyzing balanced social and economic development. The level of regional economic development determines the overall level of development and the follow-up of development trends also enables the identification of differences between the regions of Kosovo. Measurable indicators that define differences and balanced development are also defined in the field of economic development. Infrastructure is an important basis in terms of socio-economic development, so the treatment of indicators that

⁵² Annex 21 of Regulation no. 16/2017 on Amending and Supplementing Regulation no. 02/2011 on Areas of Administrative Responsibility of the Office of the Prime Minister and Ministries, amended and supplemented by Regulation no. 07/2011, Regulation no. 14/2011 and Regulation no. 15/2011, Official Gazette no. 29, dt. 23 November 2017, Prishtina

determine regional differences in terms of infrastructure, enables the identification of requirements and needs for balanced regional infrastructure development.

38. In order to make a comprehensive summary of balanced socio-economic development in the regions of Kosovo, this document summarizes five main areas that will be matched with indicators, results and concrete data such as:

1. Demography
2. Education
3. Health
4. Unemployment and employment
5. Poverty and social assistance
6. Culture, youth and sports
7. Economic activities
8. Commerce
9. Agriculture
10. Industry
11. Mining and Mining
12. Infrastructure
13. Capital Projects
14. Tourism

39.

40. Through these areas of action, the balanced regional socio-economic development between the development regions in Kosovo will be presented. In order to analyze in as much detail as possible each area in the regions of Kosovo, the results, indicators and data that should be provided for a more realistic reflection of balanced socio-economic development in the regions of Kosovo are defined.

41. This document addresses 14 areas for each development region and their performance will be measured through 93 indicators presented in the table below.

42. Below, the indicators, results and data that have been made taking into account the following elements are presented:

- indicator: the means by which the current situation in the respective field according to the Development region will be measured or evaluated. Through the indicators, the comparison of the current situation in the given field can be made, according to the regions and the comparison of the development over the years.
- Purpose of the Indicator: indicates what the relevant indicator intends to evaluate or measure.
- data: which contribute to making the indicator measurable.
- Source of information: indicates the institution from which the data originate, or through which they can be obtained.

The indicators and data that are planned to be collected, analyzed and presented at the regional level are numerous and based on the areas of action, these data are among the most diverse. Therefore, their cooperation requires cooperation with central and local institutions. Depending on the field of data collection, the cooperation should be oriented with the Minister, the Agency and other institutions of the respective lines.

The following table presents defined and related: areas, indicators, purpose, data and sources of information.

1. Demographic Indicators

Indicator	The purpose of the indicator	Data	– Data source / information
1.1 Number of inhabitants by development regions	Reflection of the total number of population living in the regions of Kosovo that can contribute to economic development based on human resources	– Number of inhabitants in the current year by regions	Kosovo Agency of Statistics Municipalities
1.2 Number of inhabitants living in rural and urban areas by development regions	Reflection of the number of population that can contribute to economic development through sectors that can be developed in rural or urban areas	– Number of inhabitants living in rural areas – Number of inhabitants living in urban areas in each development region	Kosovo Agency of Statistics Municipalities
1.3 Number of settlements by development regions	Differences in the number of settlements by regions and the degree of urbanization	– Number of settlements by development regions	Kosovo Agency of Statistics Municipalities
1.4 Population per km ² by development regions	Reflection of population density in developing regions	– Number of inhabitants living in each development region – number of square kilometers in each region	Kosovo Agency of Statistics Municipalities Municipalities
1.5 Birth rate by development regions	Reflection of the birth rate by development regions	– Number of births within a year by region – Total number of inhabitants by regions	Kosovo Agency of Statistics Municipalities
1.6 Mortality rate by developmental regions	Reflection of mortality rate by developmental regions	– Number of deaths within the year by regions – Total number of inhabitants by regions	Kosovo Agency of Statistics Municipalities
1.7 Percentage of natural population growth	Reflection of the rate of natural growth by development regions	– Number of inhabitants at the end of the previous year – Number of births during the year of assessment – Number of deaths during the year of assessment	Kosovo Agency of Statistics Municipalities
1.8 Population by age group and gender	Provide and reflect the number of inhabitants by age and gender	– Number of inhabitants according to each age group – Number of inhabitants by each gender	Kosovo Agency of Statistics Municipalities

1.9	Level of education by regions	Reflection of the educational level of the population by regions	– Number of population over 10 years old according to the level of education by regions	Kosovo Agency of Statistics
1.10	Number of inhabitants by ethnic groups	Reflection of the ethnic structure of the population across regions	– Total number of inhabitants by regions – Number of inhabitants by ethnic groups by regions	Kosovo Agency of Statistics
1.11	Population by religious affiliation	Reflection of the religious structure of the population across regions	– Total number of inhabitants by regions – Population by religious affiliation in the regions	Kosovo Agency of Statistics
1.12	Number of active and inactive population	Reflection of the active population or that which is part of the labor force and inactive (not considered part of working power) of the population across regions	– Number of active population in each development region – Number of inactive population in each development region	Kosovo Agency of Statistics
1.13	Average number of family members by regions	Reflects the size of households by region	– Total number of inhabitants by regions – Number of families by development regions	Kosovo Agency of Statistics
1.14	Number of citizens who have left the country during the year	Presenting the trend of movements of citizens abroad by development regions	– Number of citizens who have left the country during the year by development regions	MIA Municipalities Kosovo Agency of Statistics
2. Education Indicators				
2.1	Number of school facilities by development regions	Reflection of the current situation with school facilities at all levels of pre-university education by regions	- Number of school facilities by regions	MEST
2.2	Number of students in public education - pre-primary level	Providing statistics and reflecting the trend of enrollment of children in pre-primary education by development regions	- Number of students in public education - pre-primary level by regions	ASK MEST Municipalities
2.3	Number of students in public primary and lower secondary education	Providing statistics and reflecting the trend of student enrollment in primary and lower secondary education by development regions	- Number of students in lower secondary education by regions	ASK MEST Municipalities
2.4	Number of students in public higher secondary education	Providing statistics and reflecting the trend of student enrollment in primary and higher secondary education by development regions	- Number of students in upper secondary education by regions	ASK MEST Municipalities

2.5	Number of educational staff in pre-university public education	Reflection of the number of educational staff in pre-university education by regions	- Number of teachers in pre-university education in the public sector by regions	ASK MEST Municipalities
2.6	Number of administrative and educational support staff in pre-university education	Reflection of the number of administrative and support staff in pre-university education	- Number of administrative staff - Number of support staff in pre-university education in the public sector	ASK MEST Municipalities
2.7	Number of students in private pre-university education	Reflection of the number of students in private pre-university education	- Number of students in private education at pre-primary, lower secondary and upper secondary level	ASK Municipalities MEST
2.8	Number of students enrolled in public universities by development regions	Reflection of the number of students at the bachelor and master level by development regions	- Number of students at the bachelor level - Number of students at the master level by public universities	MEST ASK
2.9	Number of graduate students in public universities by development regions	Reflection of the number of students who have graduated at the bachelor and master level from public universities.	- Number of bachelor graduate students by regions - Number of master graduate students by regions	MEST ASK
2.10	Number of students enrolled in private colleges in Kosovo by development regions	Reflection of the number of students enrolled at the bachelor and master level in private colleges by regions	- Number of students enrolled at the bachelor level - Number of students enrolled in the master level in private colleges by regions	MEST ASK
2.11	Number of graduate students in private colleges in Kosovo by development regions	Reflection of the number of bachelor and master graduate students in private colleges by regions	- Number of bachelor graduate students - Number of master graduate students by private colleges by regions	MEST ASK
3. Health Indicators				
3.1	Number of health facilities (MFMC, FMC and Ambulances)	Reflection of the number of health facilities by regions in Kosovo	- Number of health facilities and their categorization by type for each region	MoH Municipalities
3.2	Number of doctors and nurses by regions	Reflection of health staff and by development regions	- Number of doctors and nurses are providing health services according to development regions	MoH Municipalities

3.3	Level of qualification of doctors and nurses	Reflection of the level of qualification of doctors and nurses by development regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of doctors with university qualifications - Number of doctors with postgraduate qualifications/specializations - Number of doctors with postgraduate/doctoral qualifications - Number of qualified nurses 	MoH Municipalities
3.4	Number and type of private health services by regions	Reflection of the volume of private health services by regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of private health services provided by the private health sector 	Municipalities
3.5	Type of private health services by regions	Coverage of types of private health services by regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - List of health services provided by the private health sector 	Municipalities
4. Unemployment and employment indicators				
4.1	Unemployment rate by regions	Reflection of the unemployment rate by regions in Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of jobseekers by regions 	EARK Regional and municipal employment offices
4.2	Unemployment rate by gender (%)	Reflection of the unemployment rate by gender in the Development regions in Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of jobseekers by gender by region 	EARK Regional and municipal employment offices
4.3	Unemployment rate by age (%)	Reflection of the unemployment rate by age in the Development regions in Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of jobseekers by age by region 	EARK Regional and municipal employment offices
4.4	Level of education and qualification of jobseekers (%)	Reflection of the qualification of jobseekers by regions in Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of jobseekers by their qualification and regions 	EARK Regional and municipal employment offices
4.5	Employment rate (%)	Reflection of employment rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of employees by regions 	EARK Regional and municipal employment offices
4.6	Employment rate of women in different institutions by region	Coverage of employment by gender and institutions in the regions of Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of women employed by institutions in the respective regions 	Ministry of Internal Affairs
4.7	Number of persons certified in professional fields through training or non-formal education for professions that are assessed as labor market needs (by strategy).	Reflection of the level of professional training according to the needs of the labor market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of persons certified in professional fields through training or non-formal education for professions that are considered as a need of the labor market 	EARK Regional and municipal employment offices

4.8	Percentage of subsidies in the private sector that contribute to employment growth by regions (indicators from the RD Strategy).	Reflection of subsidies provided to the private sector which contributes to employment growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The monetary amount of subsidies provided to the private sector which contributes to employment by regions - The total amount of subsidies offered by regions? 	MRD MAFRD Municipalities
4.9	Number of realized projects for capacity building for the use of resources (indicators from the Strategy for RD)	Coverage of projects implemented for human capacity building and CSOs for the use of all resources that contribute to regional socio-economic development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of implemented projects for human capacity building and CSOs for the use of all resources that contribute to regional socio-economic development 	MRD Municipalities ?
5. Poverty and social assistance				
5.1	Overall poverty rate by development regions (%)	Overview of the overall poverty rate by regions in Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of inhabitants that are poor in what is considered to be the standard of minimum requirements (As defined by KAS). - Total number of inhabitants by regions. 	Kosovo Agency of Statistics. Regional and municipal offices of labor and social welfare
5.2	General poverty rate by age (%)	Reflection of the overall poverty rate by age and regions in Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Division of residents that are poor in what is considered to be the standard of minimum requirements by age 	Kosovo Agency of Statistics. Regional and municipal offices of labor and social welfare
5.3	Overall poverty rate by gender (%)	Reflection of the overall poverty rate by gender and regions in Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Division of residents that are poor in what is considered to be the standard of minimum requirements by gender 	Kosovo Agency of Statistics. Regional and municipal offices of labor and social welfare
5.4	Extreme poverty rate by development regions (%)	Overview of the extreme poverty rate by regions in Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of inhabitants that are poor, as they cannot meet basic food needs. (According to the definition of KAS) - Total number of inhabitants by regions. 	Kosovo Agency of Statistics. Regional and municipal offices of labor and social welfare
5.5	Extreme poverty rate by age (%)	Reflection of the extreme poverty rate by age and regions in Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of inhabitants that are poor, as they cannot meet basic food needs by age 	Kosovo Agency of Statistics. Regional and municipal offices of labor and social welfare
5.6	Extreme poverty rate by gender (%)	Reflection of the extreme poverty rate by gender and regions in Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of inhabitants that are poor, as they cannot meet basic food needs by gender 	Kosovo Agency of Statistics. Regional and municipal offices of labor and social welfare
5.7	Percentage of households receiving social assistance by region	Reflection of the poverty rate by participation in social assistance by regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of families receiving social assistance by development regions - Number of families by development regions 	Kosovo Agency of Statistics. Regional and municipal offices of labor and social welfare

6. Culture, Youth and Sports				
6.1	Number of sports clubs by regions	Coverage of sports in the regions of Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of sports clubs by regions - Number of inhabitants by regions - <i>(explanation: the calculation for this indicator and other indicators in this field can be calculated in the report the number of inhabitants of the region)</i> 	MCYS, Municipalities
6.2	Number of sports fields by regions	Coverage of sports in the regions of Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of sports fields by regions 	MCYS, Municipalities
6.3	Number of libraries by regions	Coverage of libraries and opportunities given to citizens to use public libraries by regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of libraries by regions 	MCYS, Municipalities
6.4	Number of books in public libraries by regions	Reflection of the book fund in public libraries by regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of books in public libraries by regions 	MCYS, Municipalities
6.5	Number of readers in public libraries by regions	Reflection of reading rate in libraries by regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of readers in public libraries by regions 	MCYS, Municipalities
6.6	Number of museums and other similar facilities by regions	Reflection of cultural heritage objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of museums and other similar facilities by regions 	MCYS, Municipalities
7. Economic Development and Businesses				
7.1	Gross domestic product by regions	Reflection of performance of the economy by development regions during the year of assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gross domestic product data by regions are obtained by KAS 	Kosovo Agency of Statistics
7.2	Real GDP growth rate by development regions	Reflection of performance of the economy by development regions during the year of assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gross domestic product data by regions are obtained by KAS 	Kosovo Agency of Statistics
7.3	The rate of foreign direct investment by regions	Reflection of information on foreign direct investment by development regions during the year of assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total amounts of foreign direct investment by regions 	Kosovo Agency of Statistics
7.4	Number of active businesses by regions	Reflection of the number and distribution of businesses at the regional level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of active businesses by regions 	KBRA KAS
7.5	Number of employees in private businesses by activities by development regions	Reflection of the number of employees according to the activities in which they operate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of employees in businesses by regions - It is also required to divide businesses by activities and the number of their employees. 	KBRA KAS
7.6	Value of investments by activities by development regions	Coverage of capital investments by businesses at regional level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The value of capital invested by businesses - It also requires the division of businesses 	KBRA TAK

		according to activities and the value of their investments.	Municipalities
7.7	Number of businesses supported in economic zones (by strategy)	Reflection of the number of businesses that rely on economic zones by development regions	- Number of businesses that are supported and which are located in economic areas KBRA TAK Municipalities
8. Trade			
8.1	Number of commercial activities	Coverage of trade activities at the regional level	- Number of commercial activities by regions MTI ASK
8.2	Types of commercial activities	Coverage of trade activities by type at regional level	- List of types of commercial activities by regions MTI ASK
8.3	Number of commercial activities produced by the diversification process, as well as their impact on the expansion of commercial activities	Reflection of diversification of trade activities at the regional level	- Number of investments in commercial activities generated through the diversification process MTI ASK Municipalities
9. Agriculture			
9.1	Number of agricultural activities by development regions	Reflection of the diversity of agricultural activities by development regions	- Number of agricultural activities by regions - List of activities by activities by regions MAFRD Municipalities
9.2	Number of farms and households engaged in agriculture	Reflection of the number and distribution of farms and households engaged in agriculture at the regional level	- Number of farms at the regional level - Number of households engaged in agriculture at the regional level MAFRD Municipalities
9.3	Number of livestock farms and their capacity by regions	Reflection of livestock development regional level	- Number of livestock farms and their capacity MBZHRD KAS Municipalities
9.4	Areas of agricultural land by character of utilization by regions	Submission of information on the type of land and agricultural areas by regions	- Areas of agricultural lands (in ha) according to the character of their use MBZHRD KAS Municipalities
9.5	Forest areas according to the character of exploitation	Reflection of forest areas at regional level	- Forest areas according to the character of exploitation MBZHRD KAS Municipalities
10. Industry			
10.1	Number of Industrial activities	Coverage of industrial activities at the regional level	- Number of industrial activities at the regional level MTI, KAS, Municipalities
10.2	Number of corporations / businesses dealing with Industry	Reflection of the number and distribution of corporations and businesses dealing with industry at the regional level	- Number of corporations / businesses dealing with Industry MTI, KAS, Municipalities

10.3	Value of investments by type of industry	Reflection of capital investments in industry by regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Value of capital invested by businesses dealing with Industry - The division of businesses dealing with industry according to their activities and the value of their investments is also required. 	MTI, KAS, Municipalities
10.4	Number and size of cadastral parcels, as well as their classification according to land solvency	Reflection of the land area used for the needs of Industry at the regional level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number and size of cadastral parcels, as well as their classification according to land solvency 	AKM, MTI, KAS MBZHRD
11. Mining and mines				
11.1	Number of active mines and ores	Reflection of the extent of ore-rich areas, by type by region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of locations with mineral reserves by regions - List of ore types by regions 	Commission for Mines and Minerals Ministry of Economic Development
11.2	Amount of mineral reserves by type of mineral by regions	Reflection of the extent of mineral reserves, by type by region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amount of mineral reserves by type of mineral by regions 	Commission for Mines and Minerals. Ministry of Economic Development
11.3	Cost of investments for the mining sector by regions	Reflection of the distribution of investments in the mining sector by development regions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investment amounts for the mining sector by regions 	Commission for Mines and Minerals. Ministry of Economic Development
12. Infrastructure				
12.1	Local roads paved by regions (in%)	Reflection of the quality of road infrastructure at the local level by regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kilometers of roads in the territory of the respective region - Kilometers of paved roads (total) in the respective region - Kilometers of roads paved for the first time during the year 	MLGA (MPMS)
12.2	Length of local roads equipped with sidewalks in urban areas and settlements in villages	Reflection of the quality of road infrastructure at the local level by regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kilometers of paved roads - Kilometers of roads equipped with sidewalks in urban areas and settlements in villages 	MLGA (MPMS)
12.3	Length of regional roads paved and equipped with sidewalks	Reflection of the quality of regional road infrastructure by regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Length of regional roads according to regions - Length of regional roads equipped with sidewalks 	MoT MLGA
12.4	Households, public institutions and business units included in the drinking water system in%	Reflection of the involvement of households, institutions and business units in the drinking water system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of households by development region - Number of households included in the drinking water system by development region 	MLGA (MPMS)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of public institutions by development region - Number of public institutions included in the drinking water system by development region - Number of business and similar economies by development region - 6. Number of business economies (and similar) included in the drinking water system by development region 	
12.5 Households, public institutions and business units involved in the sewerage system	Reflection of the inclusion of households, institutions and business units in the sewerage system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of households by development regions - Number of households included in the sewer system - Number of public institutions by development regions - Number of public institutions involved in the sewerage system - Number of business economies and similar by development regions - Number of business economies (and similar) involved in the sewerage system 	MLGA (MPMS)
12.6 % of public spaces covered with lighting	Reflection of coverage of public areas with public lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Square meters (m2) public space according to development regions - Square meters (m2) public spaces equipped with public lighting 	MLGA (MPMS)
12.7 Households that have access to the waste collection system	Reflection of the involvement of households, institutions and business units in the waste collection system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of households by development regions - Number of households included in the waste collection system - Total number of public institutions by development regions - Total number of public institutions involved in the waste collection system - Number of commercial and industrial economies by development regions - Number of commercial economies included in the waste collection system 	MLGA (MPMS)
12.8 Number of joint projects of municipalities implemented in order to realize the general interest	Reflection of the degree of inter-municipal cooperation in the respective regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of projects and their financial value realized by municipalities in partnership, in the field of infrastructure, tourism, environment, 	Line Ministries municipalities

		etc.	
12.9 Number and value of capital projects funded by each ministry by regions	Capital investments of line ministries in development regions in Kosovo	- Number of projects and their financial value and the sector each ministry has invested in in municipalities by development regions	Line Ministries municipalities
13. Capital projects			
13.1 Number of capital projects implemented by regions	Coverage of regional level capital projects	- Number of capital projects by regions	Municipalities Line Ministries Donors
13.2 Financial value of Projects	Reflection of the level of capital investments at the regional level	- Financial value of Projects	Municipalities Line Ministries Donors
13.3 Number of infrastructure projects in economic zones (from RD Strategy)	Reflection of the degree of infrastructure investments in economic zones by region	- Number of capital projects in infrastructure in economic zones by region	Municipalities Line Ministries Donors
14. Tourism			
14.1 Types of rural tourism that can be developed by regions	Coverage of tourism activities at the regional level	- List of types of rural tourism by regions	Municipalities, MTI
14.2 Number of tourist areas by regions	Reflection of the Digital Tourist Guide by tourist activities at regional level	- Number of tourist areas by regions	MTI Municipalities
14.3 Number of hotels by regions	Reflection of hotel capacities by regions	- Number of hotels by regions <i>(explanation: even the calculation for these indicators can be calculated in the report the number of inhabitants of the region)</i>	MTI Municipalities
14.4 Number of restaurants by regions	Reflection of hotel capacities by regions	- Number of restaurants by regions	MTI Municipalities
14.5 Number of visitors by origin in tourist areas	Reflection of the number of visitors and their origin, local or foreign in the regions.	- Number of visitors by regions	Municipalities
14.6 Number of cultural and natural tourist heritage areas	Reflection of the tourist potentials of the cultural and natural heritage at the regional level	- Number of cultural and natural tourist heritage areas	Municipalities MCYS
14.7 Number of agricultural products produced in tourist areas	Reflection of agro-tourism potentials in the settlements of tourist areas at regional level	- Number of agricultural products produced in tourist areas	municipalities MAFRD

5. ANNEX 1

EXAMPLE OF INDICATORS ANALYSIS BY DEVELOPMENT REGIONS

Demography and Education

5.1. DEMOGRAPHY

43. The characteristics of the demographic development of a region are important indicators for determining and reflecting the level of socio-economic development. The population has a reciprocal correlation with the characteristics of general socio-economic development. Demographic development is presented through very specific indicators that can concretely reflect the socio-economic development of a region. Data on population and density are defined in this area. The number and density of the population are very important elements in determining the degree of development of a region. Usually, the most populated and densely populated areas are more attractive to live in and on the other hand we will also have a higher development trend. In addition to socio-economic and demographic development, we also have the differences and specifics of natural increase. At the same time, the rate of natural growth is an important element in socio-economic development. This is due to the fact that certain contingents of the population also derive from reproduction. The active population represents a significant potential of the labor force but on the other hand, the young and the elderly population represent the retained layer of the population and these elements directly reflect on the socio-economic development trends. A very important element that has been addressed in the demographic development is the population structures. Population structures are conditioned by a number of economic, social and demographic factors and also have an impact on the degree of socio-economic development of the region. Population structure by age and gender, educational structures, ethnic, religious, economic, etc., is an important element in reflecting socio-economic development. Also, the size of families has a reciprocal cause-and-effect relationship with the economic, social and demographic factors of the region. Human migration is also closely linked to the level of socio-economic development and better living conditions.
44. Population is also an important factor in determining labor force growth, which, in turn, is a key determinant of future economic growth. Unequal regional development is reflected in population patterns. Human capital is an asset that belongs to a region, is the engine of knowledge and creative economy and has a critical impact on the economy of a country or region. The distribution of the population (village and city) indicates the human resources that can be found for the development of the rural economy or the production and services that can be provided even in urban areas.

Population data are reflected through some indicators and data that are important for the development trends of a region both in terms of demographics and socio-economy.

5.1.1. Analysis of demographic indicators

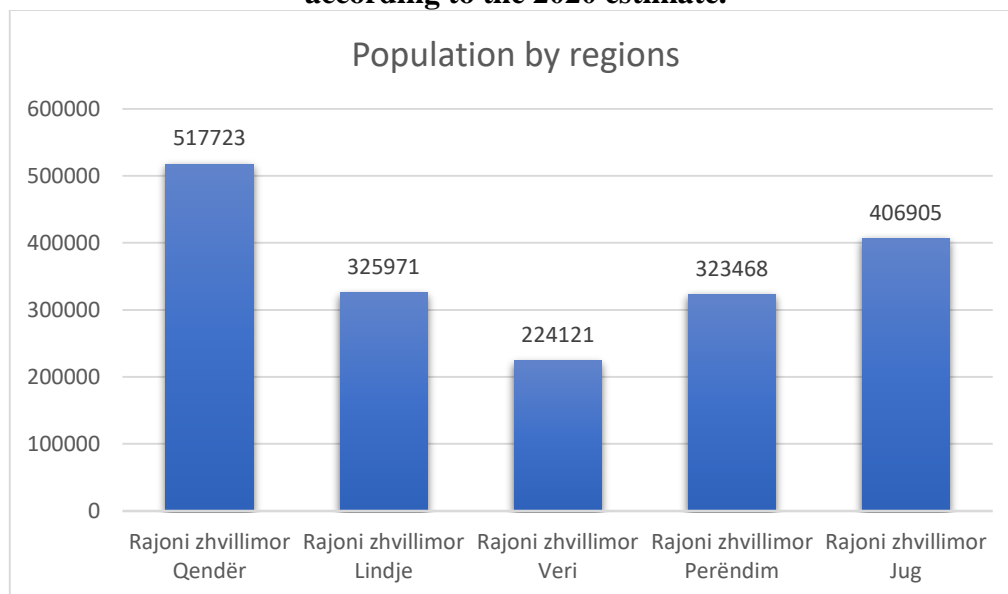
Demographic indicators

Data on demographic indicators are mainly obtained from the Kosovo Agency of Statistics. This Agency provides demographic data from population censuses, estimates, surveys and

reports of other institutions and as such publishes them on the official website of KAS. The population number is published both at the level of municipalities and at the level of settlements. This data can be used to analyze the population, then the urban and rural population and the population density by regions of Kosovo. Regarding data on births, mortality and natural increase, data are reported annually by KAS on the number of births and deaths at the municipal level. This data enables us to analyze the rates of natural growth both in percentage and promiles at the regional level to follow the trends of natural growth. Population structure by gender, age, level of education, ethnicity, religion, economic structure of the population, household size and population migration, data can be provided by KAS at the municipal level. All these data are presented with official figures and can then be analyzed in percentages according to different regions in Kosovo.

1. Number of population⁵³- Different regions in Kosovo have differences in terms of demographics. These differences will be best reflected when we analyze demographic data by region. When we analyze the number of population, we can see significant differences between these regions. Based on the census data conducted by KAS, the largest concentration of the population is in the Development Region Center.

Figure4: Number of population by development regions. Analysis of KAS statistics according to the 2020 estimate.



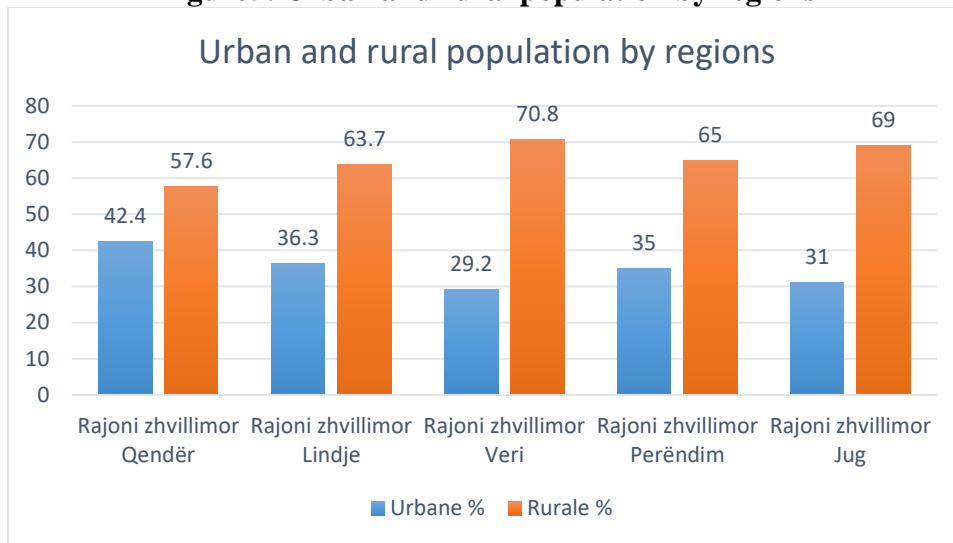
According to the data, we can conclude that the development region Center is the region with the largest population. More than half a million people live in this region, followed by the development region south. The region with the smallest population is the region North and it has less than half the population compared to the region Centre. In fact, this is related to the development of some large urban centers in Kosovo and especially to the development of Prishtina as the capital. Based on urban development, there are also differences between urban and rural populations (Figure 4).

2. Urban and rural population - The characteristics of the urban and rural population are an important factor in determining the degree of economic development of different regions in Kosovo. The regions with the highest percentage of urban population mainly have a higher socio-economic development where service activities and other non-agricultural activities

⁵³ Kosovo Agency of Statistics, *Statistical Yearbook 2021*, Population Estimates for 2020

dominate. In the social aspect, they are more developed in terms of education, health, gender equality, etc.

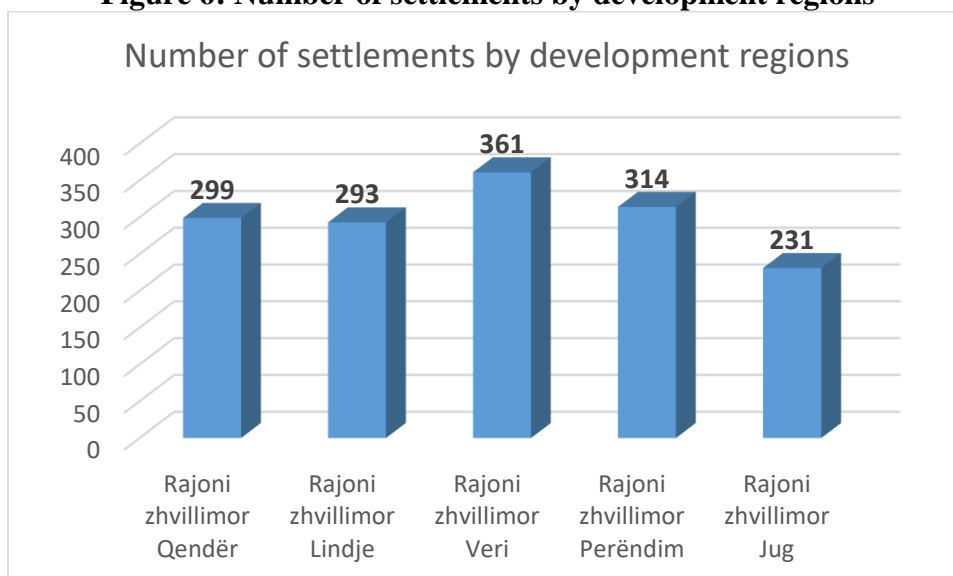
Figure5: Urban and rural population by regions



As it can be seen from the data in Figure 5, the Development Region Center has a higher percentage of urban population (42.4%). The North region has the lowest percentage of urban population with 29.2%.

3. Settlements - Rural settlements dominate in all development regions of Kosovo. Each municipality of Kosovo has a municipal center and they are also considered as urban settlements, while all other settlements are villages. What is the number of settlements by development regions in Kosovo will be presented below to analyze whether we have an equal regional distribution of settlements. This is important from the fact that settlements require the provision of services and also development opportunities, therefore their spatial extension in development regions enables the planning of developments and services for the future.

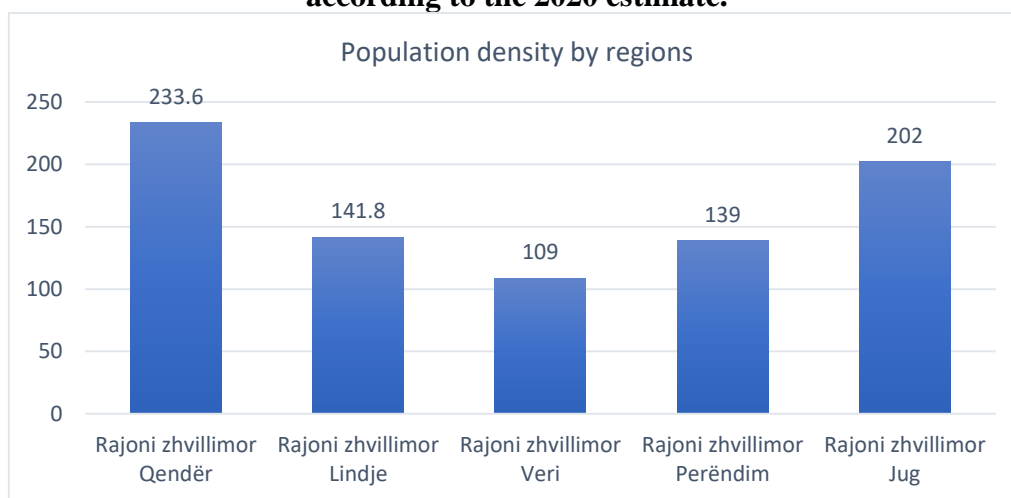
Figure 6: Number of settlements by development regions



The North region has the largest number of settlements with a total of 361 settlements⁵⁴. While this region had the lowest number and density of population, it is presented as the region with the most settlements. This indicates that the settlements in the northern region are small and sparsely populated. We also have urban centers that are not that big. The Development Region Center is the second region in terms of the number of settlements, but this region also has a larger population. Also, the Development Region East has approximately the same number of settlements (293), while the region with the smallest number of settlements is the development region south with 231 settlements.

4. Population density⁵⁵- The population density is calculated based on the data on the number of population and areas. The growing population, contributes to higher population density. The regions with the largest population also have the highest density.

Figure7: Population density by development regions. Analysis of KAS statistics according to the 2020 estimate.



In the Development Region Center, we have an average of 224 inhabitants per km². This is the region with the highest population density due to the fact that the city of Prishtina itself has the largest population and some other centers. The development region south, with 192 inhabitants per km², is ranked as the second region in terms of population density, while the region with the lowest population density is the northern one with 113 inhabitants per km² (Figure 7).

5. Natural population growth- Data on the number of births and the number of deaths during a year at the municipal level are constantly reported by KAS and by using the said data, the rate of natural growth can be calculated. Birth rate, mortality and natural increase are important elements that indicate demographic development trends for both the current situation and future trends. By tracking the rate of natural growth, it can be found whether there are significant differences between the development regions in Kosovo and to what extent those differences are. This will also affect the determination of socio-economic developments in the future for the respective region (Table 43).

54 <https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/> - The number of settlements by municipalities and then merged at the regional level are taken from the official census.

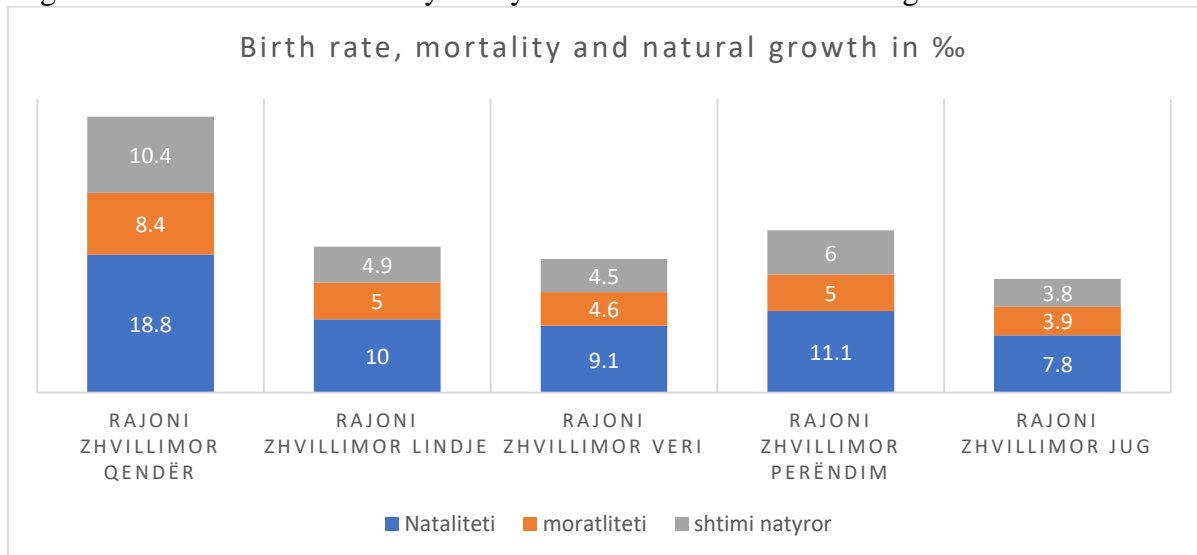
55 <https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/> - data on the number of population by municipalities and then by regions are calculated for the area of municipalities and regions and the population density is presented. Population and areas are taken from the official 2011 census.

Table 43: Regions of Kosovo-Birth rate, mortality and natural growth. Analysis of KAS statistics according to the 2020 estimate

No.	Markets	Births			Deaths			Natural growth		
		Number	%	%	Number	%	%	Number	%	%
1	Development region Center	9772	18,8	1,8	4379	8,4	0,8	5393	10,4	1,0
2	Development region East	3271	10	1,0	1660	5,0	0,5	1611	4,9	0,4
3	Development region North	2058	9,1	0,9	1036	4,6	0,4	1022	4,5	0,4
4	Development region West	3598	11,1	1,1	1633	5,0	0,5	1965	6,0	0,6
5	Development region South	3200	7,8	0,7	1622	3,9	0,3	1578	3,8	0,3
	Total	21899	12,1	1,2	10330	5,7	0,5	11569	6,4	0,6

The birth rate is highest in the center region 18.8 promiles, followed by the west region with 11.1 promiles. On the other hand, we have the highest mortality rate in the center region with 8.4 promiles. The highest natural increase is in the center region with 10.4 promiles followed by the development region west with 6 promiles. The lowest birth rate and at the same time the natural growth is presented in the Development Region South (Figure 8).

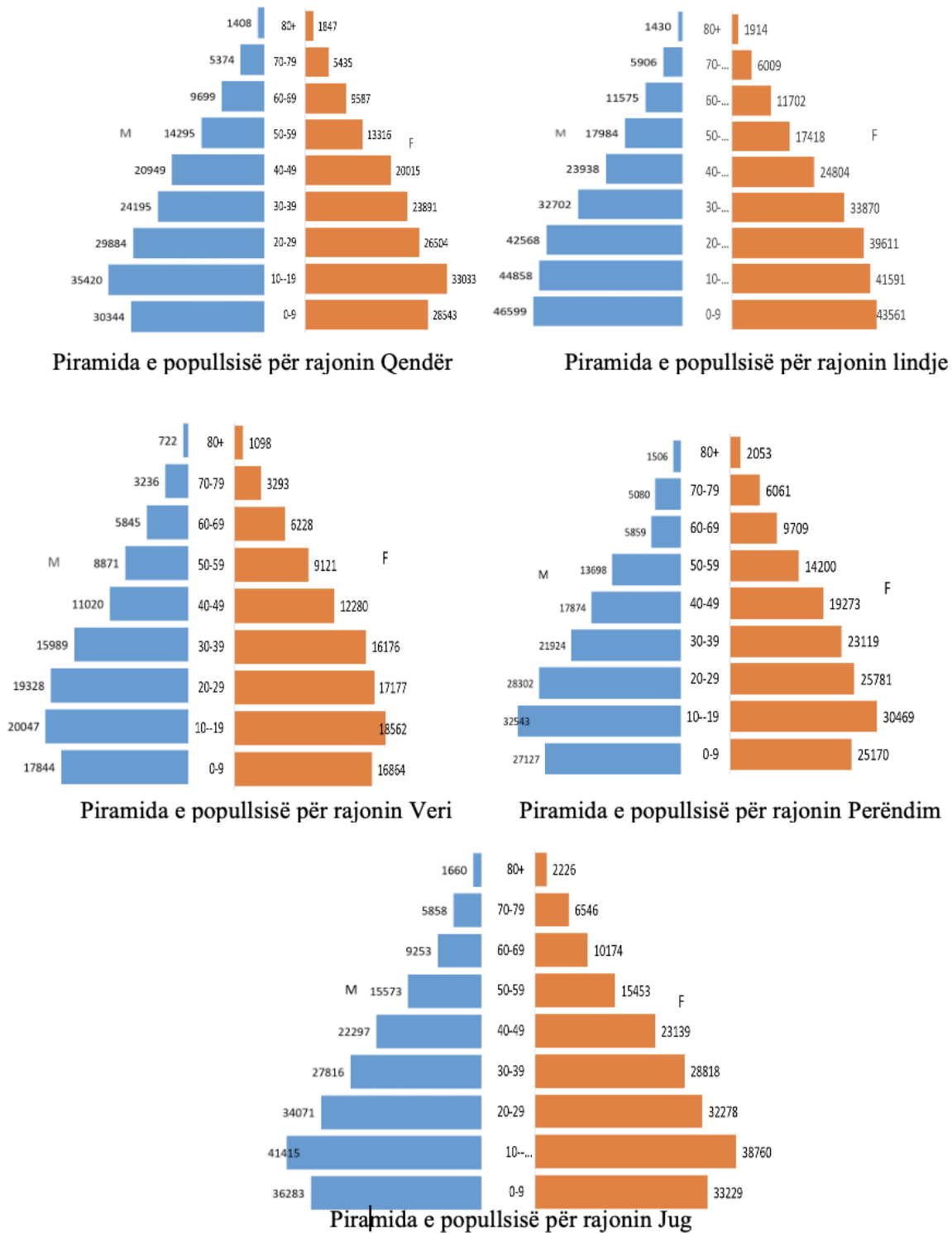
Figure 8: Birth rate and mortality Analysis of KAS statistics according to the 2020 estimate.



6. Population structure by age and gender- This indicator analyzes the structure of age and gender by development regions of Kosovo. Age and gender are very important elements that affect the overall socio-economic development, so the differences between different regions will also present the needs and requirements for the future. The work contingents derive from

this structure, as well as certain strata of society that affect many areas of life. Data on the population structure by age and gender can be provided by the Kosovo Agency of Statistics. In addition to declining birth rates and other factors, there are also changes in population structure by age. The age structure is best presented by means of the population pyramid and below are the population pyramids by regions.

Figure 9: Population pyramid by development regions



According to the data from the population pyramids for the regions of Kosovo (Figure 9), it can be concluded that in all regions of Kosovo, there is a narrowing of the base of the pyramid except for the center region. It should be borne in mind that these data are taken from the census conducted in 2011 and incorporate the latest data from the new census that is expected to be conducted by KAS, then we can expect an even greater narrowing of the base of the pyramid. The narrowing of the base of the pyramid is an important factor that shows that the birth rate has decreased significantly and emigration has also contributed to this. Younger age groups (0-9 years old) are in smaller numbers compared to age groups over 10 years old. Throughout the period of the last century, Kosovo had an expanded pyramid base

with the dominance of young age groups and this shows that there was consistently a progressive type of population. The changes that have taken place in recent times are clearly seen in the population pyramids by regions. Exceptionally, the center region differs from all other regions by the fact that the base of the pyramid is expanded and this indicates the dominance of young age groups. This can be explained by the fact that the center region has a more developed urbanization and is also facing internal immigration where many families are settled in the cities of the central region and consequently the population structure by age constitutes the widest base of the pyramid. The number of population by age is a good basis to analyze the current demand but also the needs for the future as in education, health, services and infrastructure, labor force, sports, cultural, youth activities, etc. The gender structure in all regions of Kosovo is almost completely balanced with some small differences by regions.

Table 44: Population by gender in the regions of Kosovo

No.	Markets	Men	Women	Total	Men%	Women %
1	Development region Center	227560	220480	448040	50.79	49.20989
2	Development region East	171568	162171	333739	51.408	48.59216
3	Development region North	102902	100799	203701	50.516	49.4838
4	Development region West	153913	155835	309748	49.69	50.31025
5	Development region South	194226	190623	384849	50.468	49.53189

As shown in Table 44, all regions of Kosovo have a gender balance ranging between 49 and 51 percent. A more significant gender difference can be seen in the development region east where we have 48.6% females and 51.4% males.

7. National population structure by regions- Data on the national population structure in the development regions of Kosovo are taken from the official population census conducted in 2011. These data represent the differences between the regions in terms of national structure. The data on the national structure are also complete for the development region north due to the fact that the population census has not been conducted in the northern municipalities of this region. When we analyze the national structure of the population we can find that in all regions of Kosovo, the Albanian population dominates with about 90% and more. Other ethnicities have low participation.

Table 45: National population structure by regions of Kosovo disaggregated in Percentage⁵⁶

Nationality	Development region Center	Development region East	Development region North	Development region West	Development region South
Albanian	95.3	93.7	98.3	93.7	86.6
Serbian	1.8	4.4	0.2	0.2	0.1
Turkish	0.4	0.3	0.4	0	3.7
Bosnian	0.1	0.1	0.3	1.6	5.4
Roma	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.8
Ashkali	1.5	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.6

⁵⁶ https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXëeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata_Census%20population_Census%202011__3%20By%20Municipalities/tab%205%204.px/?rxid=cc8c80dd-61b1-4582-a60 - Population by ethnicity and municipality 2011

Egyptian	0.1	0	0	3.4	0.1
Gorani	0.1	0	0.1	0.1	2.5
Others	0.2	0.1	0	0.1	0.2
Total	100	100	100	100	100

In all development regions, there are over 90% of the Albanian population, except the southern region which has about 88%. In the southern region, some geographical regions have Bosniak, Gorani and Turkish populations, such as the region of Zhupa and Gora, that have contributed to a relatively small percentage of non-Albanian population. What stands out from the table is the highest percentage of the Albanian population in the development region north. In fact, this region has a percentage of the Serb population, but this ethnicity in Kosovo has refused to participate in the population census and thus the statistics provide official data from the census where only the Albanian part of the population is registered (Table 45).

8. Religious structure- This structure is also an important factor in terms of social and cultural development. During the analysis of the religious structure, it can be seen that all regions of Kosovo have different religious beliefs but mainly the Islamic religion dominates.

Table 46: Religious structure of the population by development regions⁵⁷

Regions of Kosovo	Islam	Orthodox	Catholic	Others	No religion	Prefers not to answer
Development region Center	481584	9005	1946	445	722	3450
Development region East	326533	15283	2898	149	120	1062
Development region North	191485	449	64	44	19	263
Development region West	284912	699	27080	289	226	1202
Development region South	378898	401	6450	261	155	1236
Total	1663412	25837	38438	1188	1242	7213

As it can be seen from the data on the religious structure of the population, in all regions of Kosovo the Islamic population dominates with over 90%. The southern region of Kosovo has the highest percentage of Islamic population with about 97.7%, while the western region has the lowest percentage of Islamic population with about 90%. We should also keep in mind that the religious structure does not include data for the northern municipalities of Kosovo (Table 46).

9. Economic structure of the population - The economic structure of the population represents an important basis for the socio-economic development of development regions. This section presents the economic activity of the population by regions and also the economic activity of the population by regions of Kosovo.

Table 47: Economic activity of the population by regions of Kosovo⁵⁸

Development Regions	Economically active	Employed	Economically inactive
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57 https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata__Census%20population__Census%202011__3%20By%20Mublicities/tab%205%205.px/?rxid=cc8c80dd-61b1-4582-a60 - Population by religion municipality 2011

58 https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata__Census%20population__Census%202011__3%20By%20Mublicities/tab%205%2010.px/?rxid=cc8c80dd-61b1-4582-a60 - Population aged 15 and over according to the status of the current activity and the municipality 2011

Development region Center	160396	98464	197151
Development region East	103072	54920	147951
Development region North	55405	25421	82216
Development region West	87989	45050	142253
Development region South	101238	56599	174577
Total	508100	280454	744148

In almost all regions of Kosovo, there is a larger number of economically inactive population compared to the economically active population. Similarly, the number of employees is almost half lower compared to the number of economically active population. This also shows the unemployment rate. According to these data, the unemployment in development regions ranges from 45 to about 55% (Table 47).

Table 48: Economic activity of the population by regions⁵⁹

Economic activity	Development region Center	Development region East	Development region North	Development region West	Development region South
Agriculture, hunting and forestry	1326	2877	510	2935	4715
Fishing	5	2	2	6	5
Extractive industry	1060	362	672	261	302
Produce	7188	6470	2034	4722	9619
Electricity, gas and water	6028	790	1677	997	762
Construction	5971	5265	1451	3194	7703
Wholesale and retail trade, Repair of Motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods	18114	10493	4221	8817	9928
Hotels and restaurants	5229	2869	1111	2619	3094
Transportation, storage and communication	6256	2756	1400	1997	2107
Financial intermediation	2769	969	533	1142	890
Real estate, rental and business services	5334	1589	1067	1396	1351
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	12202	6083	4229	5402	4235
Education	10823	6851	3520	5633	6334
Health and social activities	6767	2923	1408	3111	2290
Other activities, social and personal services	5886	2249	1039	2054	2036

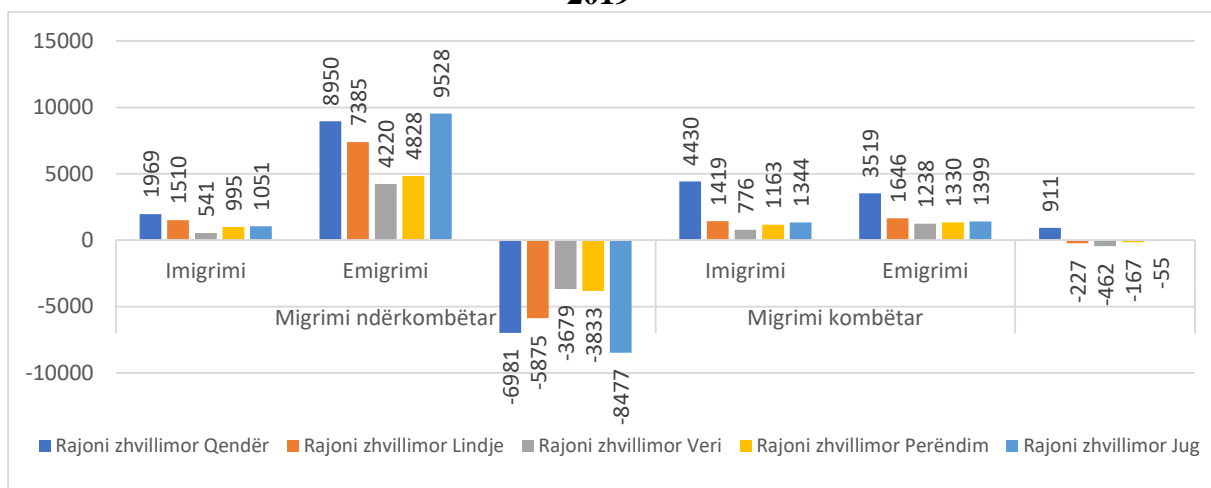
59 https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata_Census%20population_Census%202011__3%20By%20Municipalities/tab%205%2012.px/?rxid=cc8c80dd-61b1-4582-a060 - Employees by main activity, gender and municipality 2011

Domestic services	446	278	115	152	492
Activities of international organizations	3060	2094	432	612	736

According to population data on economic activities, it can be concluded that in all regions of Kosovo dominates the wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household items. The other sector that dominates is education, construction, production, health, etc. Primary economic activities agriculture, hunting and forestry are mainly more prevalent in the development region south and then in the other two regions, west and east. This activity is less significant in the development regions north and center (Table 48).

10. Migration- One of the important factors regarding the balanced socio-economic development of development regions in Kosovo is migration. Migration as a phenomenon is conditioned by many social and economic factors and on the other hand, there are also effects in terms of development. Migration data are taken from the KAS estimate for 2019. Data are analyzed for both international and national migration. According to these data, we have a significantly higher intensity of international migration in all regions of Kosovo. The following are the data on international migration for 2019 (immigration, emigration and international migration balance, as well as data on national migration (immigration, emigration and national migration balance) ⁶⁰.

Figure10: International and national migration by development regions in Kosovo in 2019⁶¹



As can be seen from Figure 12, all regions of Kosovo have negative balances in terms of international migration. Emigration is significantly more pronounced than immigration, therefore we have a rather negative migration balance. The most pronounced emigration is in the Development Region South, then the Development Region Center and then east. The development regions north and west have the lowest international emigration. In terms of national migration, except the central region, all other regions have a negative balance. The capital of Kosovo itself is located in the Development Region Center where inhabitants of

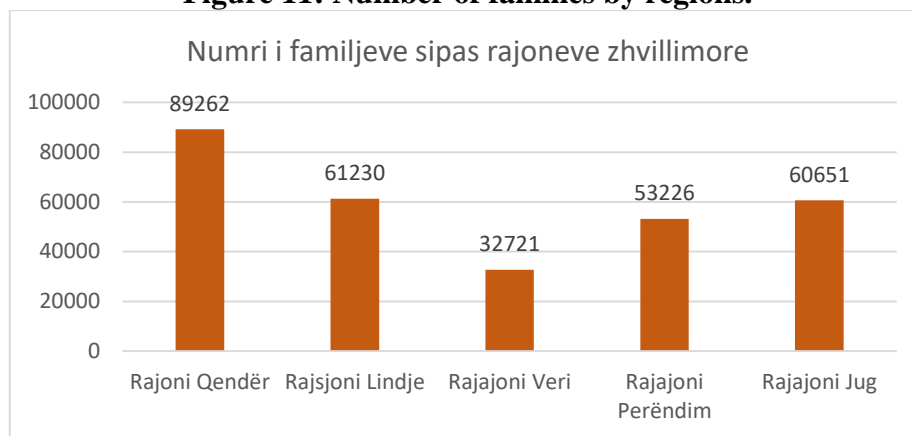
60 https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata__09%20Population__Population%20estimate/tab02.px/?rxid=08d54e1f-dc29-473e-b00a-4a7338dd046a

61 https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata__09%20Population__Population%20estimate/tab02.px/?rxid=08d54e1f-dc29-473e-b00a-4a7338dd046a

different parts of Kosovo gravitate and as a result, we have greater immigration than emigration.

11. Number of families⁶²- Based on the number of population, we also have differences in the number and size of families by development regions. According to the data obtained from the population census, the largest number of families is in the development region center. It is followed by the development region east, south, west and north (Figure 13).

Figure 11: Number of families by regions.



5.2. Education

Education is one of the most important areas in terms of social development and its treatment is of particular importance. In this document, education is treated in such a way as to reflect the most realistic situation at the level of the regions of Kosovo. This will enable the identification of progress and the advancement of the development of primary and secondary education. Educational indicators are data that describe the main aspects of education which allow monitoring of school infrastructure, Number of students by level of education, educational staff, programs and students. The collection of these data is also important in the economic aspect of development, due to the fact that it reflects the qualifications of young people who will be ready for work, such as: high school students and those who complete university education.

45. The description of education indicators and their analysis are listed below.

5.2.1. Analysis of education indicators

46. The analysis of the situation of the development regions in relation to the indicators of education is presented as follows:

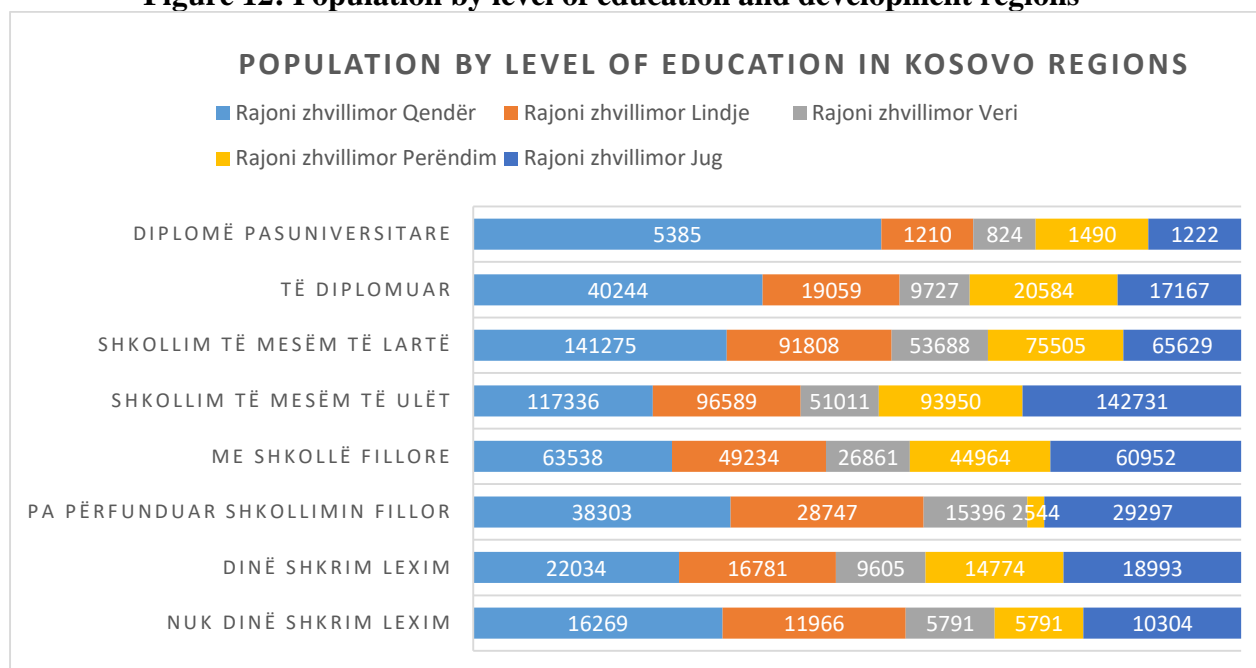
1. Educational structure of the population - One of the important factors in determining the level of balanced regional socio-economic development is the analysis of data on the level of education of the population. The educational structure represents an important human resource base with an impact on socio-economic development. This part analyzes the number of population over 10 years according to the level of education. These data were obtained from the population census conducted in 2011 by the Kosovo Agency of Statistics. These

⁶² https://askdata.rks-gov.net/PXËeb/pxëeb/sq/askdata/askdata__Census%20population__Census%202011__3%20By%20Mublicities/Pop%20by%20household%20status%20sex%20and%20mliament.px8?rxid=?-61b1-4582-a1a0-475062b609bd

data can also be updated with the new population census that is expected to be conducted during this year (2021). What can be considered as a shortcoming in the analysis of data not only for the educational structure but also for other areas, is the lack of data for the municipalities of North Mitrovica, Zvecan and Zubin Potok. This is due to the fact that in these three municipalities the population census has not been conducted.

This section analyzes the level of education for the population over 10 years of age for the Development Regions of Kosovo. The level of education is analyzed by taking the number and percentage of the population for each region and analyzing how many are: Those who are illiterate, those who are literate, those who have not completed primary education, primary school, lower secondary education, higher secondary education, graduates and those with postgraduate degrees. Based on the analysis of data on the educational structure of the population, it can be concluded that there are differences between development regions in Kosovo.

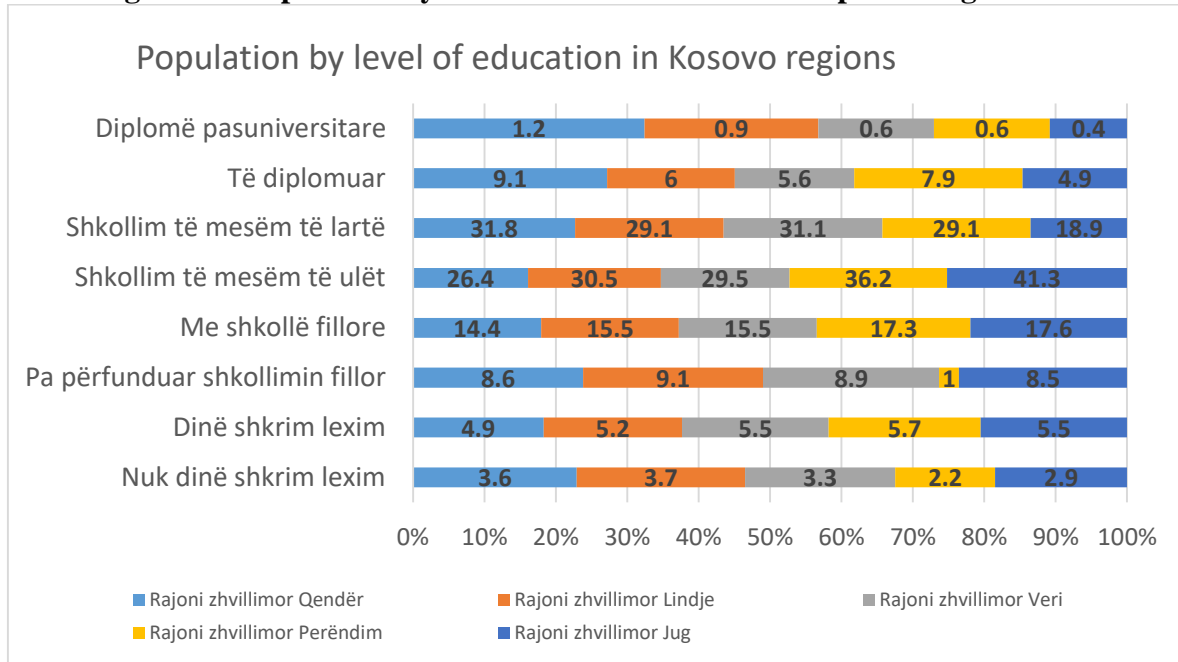
Figure 12: Population by level of education and development regions



The Development Region Center dominates at almost all levels of education. Nevertheless, this is also related to the total population. As it can be seen from the chart, the number of those who have a postgraduate degree in the central region is 5385 persons and all other development regions have fewer persons with a postgraduate degree in the central region. The number of those who have a postgraduate degree at Kosovo level is 10131 and only in the central region there are 5385 or over 53%. The other four development regions have 4746 persons or 46.7%. What can be considered disturbing in terms of schooling is the relatively large number of those who are illiterate. Their number at the level of Kosovo is 50121. The central region also dominates with the largest number of illiterates, followed by the development region east and the development region west. Another concern remains the number of those who have not even completed primary education. At the level of Kosovo, there are over 111 thousand people. Even in the number of those who have not completed primary education, the central region dominates, followed by the southern region and the eastern region (Figure 10).

To better analyze the difference between the regions in terms of level of education, we will present the differences at the regional level in percentage (Figure 11).

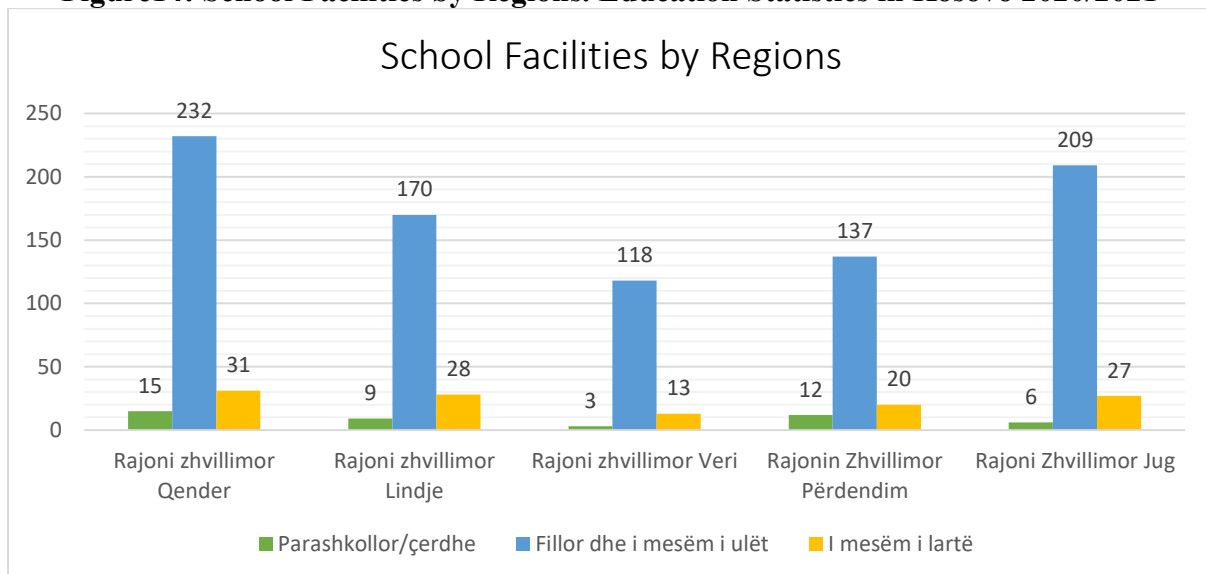
Figure 13: Population by level of education and development regions in %



According to these data, it can be concluded that the Development Region Center has a higher percentage of population with post-university education, higher education and higher secondary education compared to all other development regions in Kosovo. Even in this chart, it is noticed that the population that has not completed primary education is quite high. This population is around 8 and 9 percent of the population, but the development region west makes an exception with only 1 percent of those who have not completed primary education.

2. Number of school facilities- Below, the number of school facilities are analyzed according to the development regions in Kosovo as well as according to the level of education. These data are provided by MEST based on reports on education in Kosovo. The presented data are taken from the report of education statistics in Kosovo for 2020/2021. According to these data, there are a total of 1058 school facilities in Kosovo. Of these, 44 are Preschool/Kindergarten facilities, 892 Primary and lower secondary education facilities, as well as 122 higher secondary education facilities.

Figure14: School Facilities by Regions. Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021



If the number of school facilities by regions is analyzed, there is a dominance of the central region that has the largest number of school facilities for the three levels of education. There are a total of 278 school facilities in the central region for the three levels of education. South region is next with a total of 242 school facilities, the east region with 207 facilities, the west region with 169 facilities and the north region with 134 school facilities (Figure 14).

3. Number of students

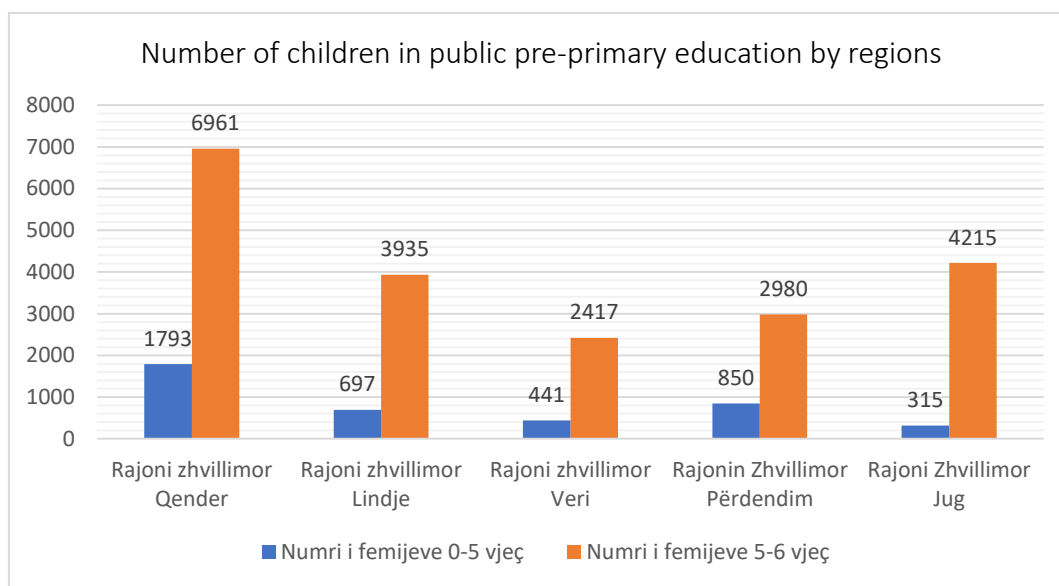
Levels of education in Kosovo are determined according to ISCED (International Standard Classification of Education). According to this classification, in Kosovo we have the following levels of education:

- **Pre-primary education-** The level of preschool/pre-primary education represents the level 01 and 02 according to the adaptation to the definitions of ISCED (International Standard Classification of Education). Level 01: Represents the early development and education of the child from the age of 0 to 3 years. Level 02: Pre-primary education age 4 to 6 years.
- **Compulsory education-** Compulsory education represents levels one and two according to ISCED (International Standard Classification of Education). Primary education is classified as level 1 (grades 1-5) and level 2 is lower secondary education (grades 6-9). Compulsory education at the national level operates in public and non-public (licensed) schools.
 - **Primary education level** - The level of primary education lasts 5 years, starting from the first grade to the fifth grade (1-5). Children registered at this level are those reaching the age of 6 years. The age group of students at this level is from 6 to 10 years old.
 - **Lower secondary education level-** The level of lower secondary education extends from the sixth grade to the ninth grade (6-9). The age group of students at this level is from 11 to 14 years old, without counting those who repeat the class and students with disabilities.
- **Lower secondary education level** - The level of lower secondary education represents level three (3) according to ISCED (International Standard Classification of Education) and operates in public and non-public (licensed) secondary schools. Based on the goals and content, these schools are organized into gymnasiums and vocational schools. High schools (gymnasiums and vocational schools) are profiled schools. Gymnasiums are divided according to directions in: social, general, natural sciences, mathematics, informatics and languages. While vocational high schools are divided according to directions in: technical, agricultural, economic, medical, music, trade, theological, art and centers of competence.

4. Pre-primary education

Students in public education - This section presents data on the number of students in pre-primary education by development regions in Kosovo. These are children aged 0 to 6 years and attend education in public educational institutions. The data are provided by education statistics in Kosovo for 2020/2021 collected by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology in cooperation with the Kosovo Agency of Statistics. According to these data, the total number of children who attended pre-primary education in public education in Kosovo during 2020/2021 was a total of 24,196. Of these, children aged 0 to 5 years are 4183, while children aged 5 to 6 years are 20,013. Below is the distribution of children in pre-primary education by development regions in Kosovo (Figure 15).

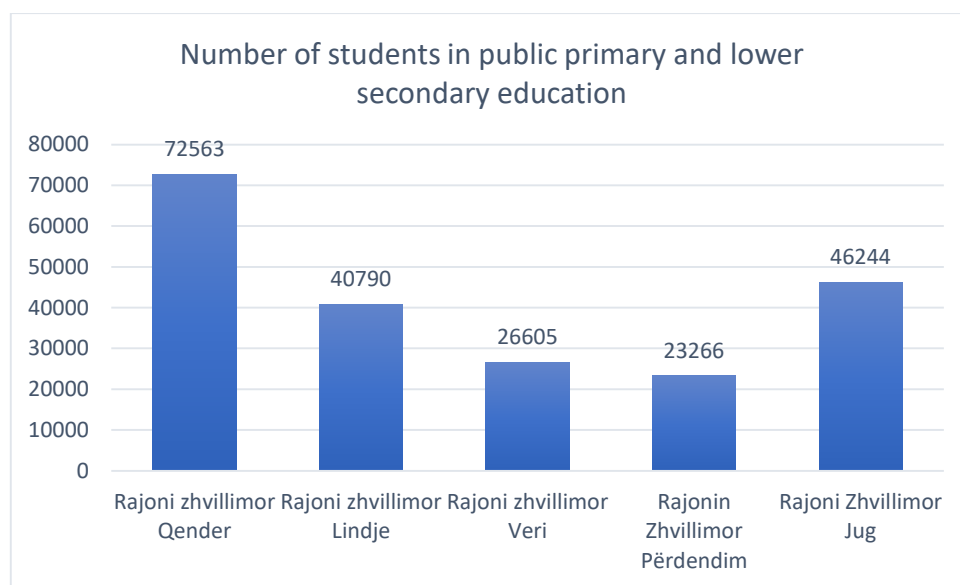
Figure15: Number of children in pre-primary education by regions. Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021



From the data, it can be concluded that the largest number of children attending pre-primary education is located in the central region. This is related to the higher concentration of population in this region. From the data in the chart, it can be seen that the largest number of children aged 5 and 6 attend education in the southern region of Kosovo, after the central region. On the other hand, the southern region has the smallest number of children aged 0 to 5 years. This is due to the fact that in this region, there is a significant lack of attendance of children in preschool institutions up to 5 years old.

Students in primary-lower secondary education- The level of primary and lower secondary education includes compulsory 9-year education. Below are data on the number of students at this level of education by region.

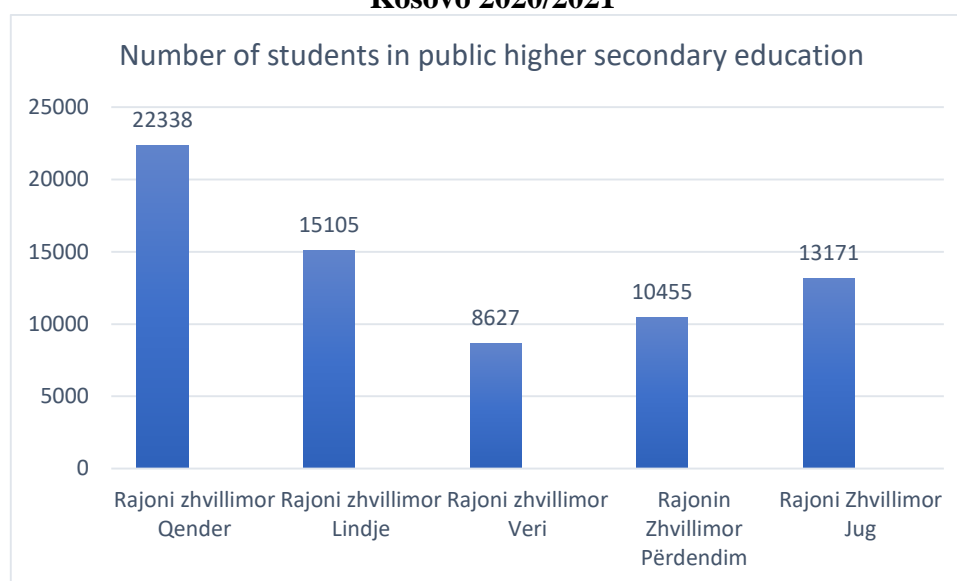
Figure16: Number of students in primary and lower secondary education. Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021



The total number of students who have attended school at the primary and lower secondary education level in Kosovo for 2020/2021 is 223,908. The central region dominates with the largest number of students in this level of education, followed by the southern region, the eastern region, then the western region and finally the northern region with the smallest number.

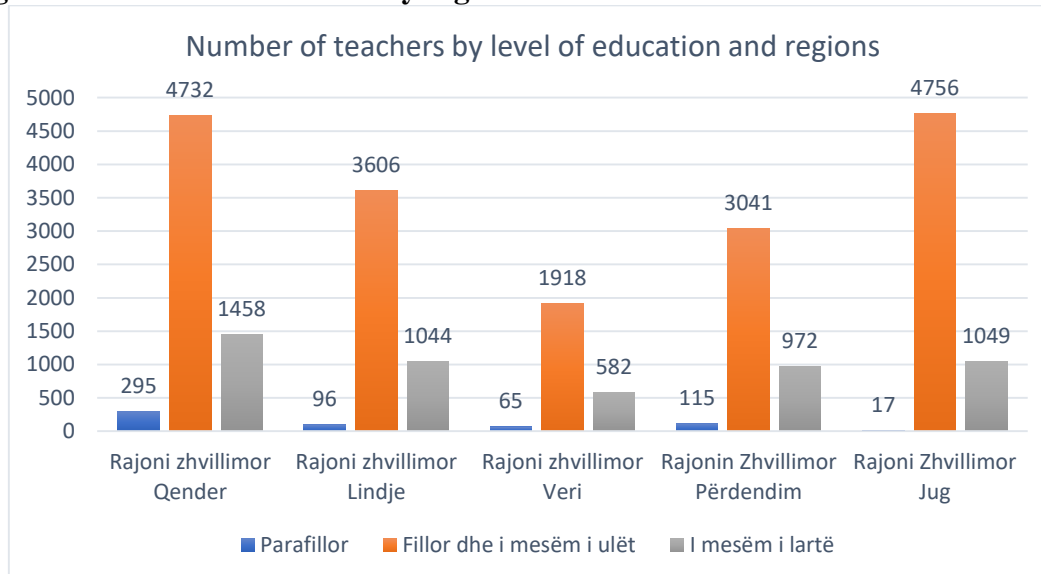
Students in higher secondary education - The level of higher secondary education includes level three (3) according to ISCED (International Standard Classification of Education) and is organized in gymnasiums and vocational schools. The total number of students at this level of education in Kosovo for 2020/2021 is 70,742. Even at this level of education, the center region dominates with the largest number of students with a total of 22,338. Then we have the east region with 15,105 students and the south region with 13,171 students (Figure 17).

Figure17: Number of students in higher secondary education Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021



Educational staff - The educational staff includes teachers, administrative staff and support staff.

Teachers- The data on the number of teachers by level of education and by development regions in Kosovo are analyzed below. The data are mainly provided by the reports of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. Based on the report of education statistics in Kosovo for 2020/2021 published by MEST, the total number of teachers in Kosovo at all levels of education is 23746 (Figure 18).

Figure18: Number of teachers by regions. Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021

The central region dominates with the largest number of teachers with 6485 and then we have the southern region with a total of 5822. Next are the region east and west and finally with the smallest number of teachers is the northern region.

Below are data on the number of teachers by level of education and regions.

The largest number of teachers is at the level of lower secondary education with 18053. It is followed by higher secondary education with a total of 5105 teachers in Kosovo and finally the preschool level with 588 teachers. The region dominating in lower secondary education is central region with a total of 4732 teachers and followed by the southern region with 4756 teachers. These are then followed by east, west and north region. Region center dominates in higher secondary education as well with a total of 1458 teachers, followed by east region with 1044 teachers and the south region with 1049. Then, the western region follows with 972 teachers and finally the north region with 582 teachers. A notable difference among the regions is the smallest number of preschool teachers in the southern region of Kosovo.

In addition to the number of teachers, this document also analyzes the number of administrative and support staff engaged in the three levels of education according to the regions of Kosovo.

Table 49: Number of administrative and support staff. Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021

Development regions in Kosovo	Administrative staff	Support staff	Total
Center	479	1004	1483
East	334	441	775
North	254	434	688
West	269	552	821
South	307	662	969
Total	1643	3093	4736

In total, there are 4736 administrative and support staff engaged throughout Kosovo at three levels of education. Of these, there are 3093 support staff and 1643 administrative staff. In terms of development regions, the central region that has the most support and administrative

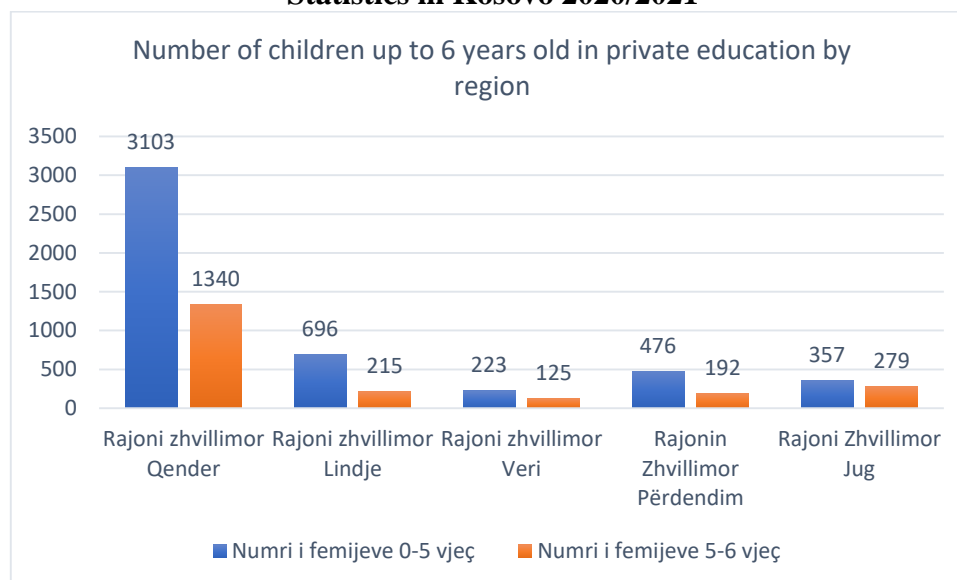
staff with a total of 1483. It is followed by the southern region with 969, the east region with 775, the west region with 8821 and the north region with 688 (Table 49).

5. Private education⁶³

The data presented in this publication belong to private educational institutions licensed by MEST and report to the EMIS system.

Students (children) in preschool and pre-primary education - In private education institutions, there is a smaller number of students. In Kosovo, there is a total of 6983 students who attend private preschool and pre-primary education. At the preschool level (0-5 years old), there are 4855 children and at the pre-primary level (5-6 years old), there are 2128 children. There are significant differences regarding the number of students in preschool and pre-primary education according to development regions.

Figure19: Number of children up to 6 years old in private education. Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021



Most of these children are from the center region with 4443 students. About 63% of all Kosovo children attending this level of education in the private sector are in the central region. In all other regions, there are 2563 students or about 37% of students in pre-primary education (Figure 19).

Private education - Students in lower secondary and higher secondary education⁶⁴

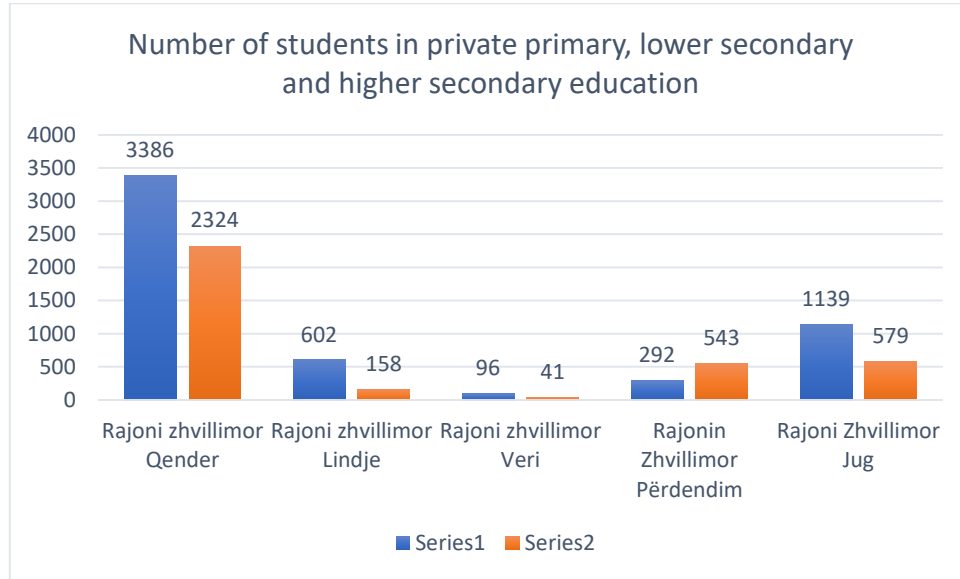
The total number of students attending private education in Kosovo, at the lower secondary and higher secondary level is 9441. At the lower secondary level alone, there are 5796 students, while at the higher secondary level 3645 students.

Private education is developed in all regions of Kosovo. However, there are significant differences, especially with the dominance of the central region.

⁶³ Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021,

⁶⁴ Ibid.

Figure 20: Number of students in private education by regions. Education Statistics in Kosovo 2020/2021



In the central region alone, there are 5170 students or about 62% of the total number of students at this level of education in private education. In all other development regions, there are 3450 students or about 38% (Figure 20).

6. ANNEX 2:

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR REGIONAL PERFORMANCE SYSTEM DESIGN

