

# REGIONAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILES IN KOSOVO



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This publication is a summary of the data collected by the MRD from various sources published by the central and local level, as well as other mechanisms that operate in Kosovo. The data presents the situation at the time of publication.

# CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION .....	5
<b>SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION CENTRE .....</b>	<b>7</b>
SURFACE AND POPULATION .....	8
DEMOGRAPHY .....	10
HUMAN RESOURCES AND LABOUR MARKET .....	12
EDUCATION.....	14
NATURAL RESOURCES .....	16
TOURISM SECTOR.....	18
BUSINESSES PROFILES, NUMBER OF REGISTERED BUSINESSES .....	19
ECONOMY AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS.....	20
INFRASTRUCTURE.....	21
<b>RAJONI SOCIO-EKONOMIK LINDJE.....</b>	<b>23</b>
SURFACE AREA AND POPULATION .....	25
DEMOGRAPHY .....	26
HUMAN RESOURCES AND LABOUR MARKET .....	29
EDUCATION.....	30
NATURAL RESOURCES .....	33
AGRICULTURE SECTOR.....	35
SECTOR OF TOURISM .....	36
BUSINESS PROFILES AND NUMBER OF REGISTERED BUSINESSES.....	37
ECONOMY AND CONDITIONS FOR BUSINESS .....	38
INFRASTRUCTURE.....	39
<b>SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION NORTH .....</b>	<b>40</b>
SURFACE AREA AND POPULATION .....	42
DEMOGRAPHY .....	43
HUMAN RESOURCES AND LABOR MARKET .....	46
EDUCATION.....	47
NATURAL RESOURCES .....	50
AGRICULTURAL SECTOR .....	50
BUSINESS PROFILES, NUMBER OF REGISTERED BUSINESSES .....	53
<b>SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION WEST.....</b>	<b>55</b>
SURFACE AREA AND POPULATION .....	57
DEMOGRAPHICS.....	58
HUMAN RESOURCES AND THE LABOUR MARKET .....	61
EDUCATION.....	63

<b>NATURAL RESOURCES .....</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>AGRICULTURE SECTOR.....</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>TOURISM SECTOR.....</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>BUSINESS PROFILES, NUMBER OF REGISTERED BUSINESSES .....</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>ECONOMY AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS.....</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE.....</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION SOUTH.....</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>SURFACE AREA AND POPULATION .....</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>HUMAN RESOURCES AND LABOR MARKET .....</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>EDUCATION.....</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>NATURAL RESOURCES .....</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>AGRICULTURE SECTOR.....</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>TOURISM SECTOR.....</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>BUSINESS PROFILES, NUMBER OF REGISTERED BUSINESSES .....</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE .....</b>	<b>86</b>

# INTRODUCTION

This document is the first institutional document that presents the Socio-Economic Profiles in Kosovo. The purpose of the document in question is to provide an overview of the current situation and development trends in the five socio-economic regions of Kosovo, together with the sectors and specifics of each region. Studying socio-economic regional profiles is also in function of drafting public policies that are mainly related to the balanced economic development of Kosovo regions, while at the same time, updating data that are in the service of development in this area of socio-economic indicators of the regions will also be in the function of local government, in function of local and regional development. Therefore, this document does not preach in any way and does not allude the administrative division at the regional level. The document is based on an analysis of the regional social and economic development statistics of Kosovo's socio-economic regions.

The origin of Regional Development in Kosovo is known earlier, but in terms of more structured use of EU funds, it is known since 2008 where regional development is one of the five components. IPA is a financial instrument used by the EU that aims to help countries in the process of EU membership. The main IPA objectives include strengthening democratic institutions, reforming the administration and economy, promoting and protecting human rights and freedoms, improving the adherence to minority rights and developing the civil society. IPA assistance is provided in five components, which include: support during transition and institution building, cross-border cooperation, regional development, human resource development, and rural development. The assistance provided through IPA is based on a multi-year strategic planning, which includes a Multi-Annual Indicative Financial Framework.

In addition to projects such as IPA, other international mechanisms' practices that are in the function of institutional engagement for advancement and regional development are also those of EU Cohesion Policy: Such an approach usually represents a mechanism that is used by the EU to improve the economy of regions that have stagnated in terms of development and socio-economic growth.

The Cohesion Policy, through its main instruments, has contributed to the creation of jobs and to ensuring equal treatment for all European citizens. This policy is aimed at strengthening the European economy, social and territorial cohesion by reducing disparities between regions, referring to rural areas, regions affected by industrial transition, and regions suffering from permanent significant natural and demographic problems.

The European Commission in its Cohesion Policy 2021-2027 has developed several criteria to better reflect the socio-economic situation, focusing on the resources of less developed countries and providing financial support to the countries facing industrial transition. Specifically, the future of the European Cohesion Policy will aim to increase youth employment by addressing the low education levels, investing in climate change and reception and integration of immigrants.

This document addresses, inter alia, the regional specifics that relate to available areas, data and specifics for the population, the demographic aspect across the regions. Additionally, it addresses resources and potentials where economic development can be oriented, consequently the balanced economic development of the socio-economic regions of Kosovo addresses the level of population education, potentials in the field of agriculture sector, tourism sector, then businesses profiles operating within these regions, the conditions of doing business, as well as the level of infrastructure that is in the function of development.

Bearing in mind the Regional Development and EU Cohesion Policies, establishing sound policies and basics for regional development in Kosovo is indispensable and the first edition of the Socio-Economic Regional Profiles Document is a supporting document for the establishment of an information and analytical base of socio-economic regional profiles in Kosovo.

DRAFT PER KONSULIME

# REGIONAL PROFILES

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION CENTRE



## CENTRE

2.215.52 km<sup>2</sup>

299 settlements

511.562 inhabitants

*The Socio-Economic Region Centre is comprised of eight municipalities, Prishtina, Podujeva, Lipjan, Obiliq, Drenas, Shtime, Fushe Kosova and Gracanica. Region Centre is the region with the greatest potential and impact on the national economy because the capital city of Kosovo is located in it and also the investment base of local and foreign investors. The Socio-Economic Region Centre is bordered by the Region South in south-east, the Region North in north-east, the Region East in south-east and Serbia in north-east.*



## SURFACE AND POPULATION

The Socio-Economic Region Centre has an area of 2,215.52 km<sup>2</sup>, a population of 511,562 inhabitants and constitutes over 28.44% of the entire population of Kosovo<sup>1</sup>. This indicates a much larger concentration of population in the Region Centre than in other areas when it is known that the Region Centre is about 20.31% of the entire territory of Kosovo (10,905.25 km<sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>.

On average, in the Socio-Economic Region Centre, there are about 230 inhabitants per 1 km<sup>2</sup>. The largest population density in the Region Centre is in the Municipality of Fushe Kosova with 459 inhabitants per 1 km<sup>2</sup>. The second municipality in the order of density is the municipality of Prishtina with 404 inhabitants per 1 km<sup>2</sup>, while the lowest population density in the region centre is marked in the municipality of Gracanica. It is estimated that 98 people live in 1 km<sup>2</sup>. In the municipality of Drenas, there are 221 inhabitants per 1 km<sup>2</sup>, in the municipality of Shtime there are 205 inhabitants per 1 km<sup>2</sup>, in the municipality of Obiliq - 182 inhabitants per 1 km<sup>2</sup>, in the

municipality of Lipjanit - 170 inhabitants per 1 km<sup>2</sup> and in the municipality of Podujeva there are 131 inhabitants per 1 km<sup>2</sup>. There are 299 settlements in the Socio-Economic Region Centre and this represents about 19.95% of all settlements in Kosovo.

**The Socio-Economic Region Centre has the largest population number compared to other regions with 511,562 inhabitants and the highest density with 230 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>.**

The municipality with the largest number of settlements in the region centre is that of Podujeva with 78 settlements, while the municipality with the smallest number of settlements is the municipality of Fushe Kosova with only 15 settlements. While the municipality with the biggest surface area in the socio-economic centre is the municipality of Podujeva with 633 km, and after that Prishtina with 572 km and Lipjan with 422 km.

<sup>1</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-nees/vleresimi-i-popullsisë-2017>

<sup>2</sup> [http://kryeministri-ks.net/ep-content/uploads/2018/03/Raport\\_Faktografik\\_Matja\\_e\\_territorit\\_te\\_Republikes\\_se\\_Kosoves\\_032017.pdf](http://kryeministri-ks.net/ep-content/uploads/2018/03/Raport_Faktografik_Matja_e_territorit_te_Republikes_se_Kosoves_032017.pdf)



Table 1 Data on the surface and population of the Socio-Economic Region Centre.

No.	Municipalities	Population	Surface <sup>3</sup>	% of the territory of the Region Centre	No. of settlements
1	Prishtina	211,755	523.13 km <sup>2</sup>	23.61 %	48
2	Podujeva	83,445	632.59 km <sup>2</sup>	28.55 %	78
3	Lipjan	57,733	338.41 km <sup>2</sup>	15.27 %	62
4	Obiliq	19,144	104.84 km <sup>2</sup>	4.73 %	20
5	Drenas	61,133	275.63 km <sup>2</sup>	12.44 %	37
6	Shtime	27,654	134.42 km <sup>2</sup>	6.06 %	23
7	Fushe Kosova	38,607	84.09 km <sup>2</sup>	3.79 %	15
8	Gracanica	12,091	122.41 km <sup>2</sup>	5.52 %	16
	Total:	<b>511,562</b>	2,215.52 km <sup>2</sup>	99.97 %	299

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.osce.org/mission-in-kosovo/municipal-profiles>



## DEMOGRAPHY

The demography of the Socio-Economic Region Centre is comprised of different age groups and different ethnicities. Prishtina as the Capital City has the largest number of population in the Socio-

Economic Region Centre and the age group under 19 years old constitutes a number of 68,830 inhabitants or 32.50% of the total population of Prishtina. The Municipality of Podujeva has a population of 35,307 inhabitants under the age of 19 years old, which means about 42.30% of the total population of the municipality of Podujeva, while Drenas has a population of 23,181 inhabitants or 37.91% under the age of 19 years old. While other municipalities have the following percentages as regards population under the age of 19 years old: Lipjan with 39.66%, Fushe Kosova with 34.19%, Obiliq

with 43.96%, Shtime with 41.77% and Gracanica with 29.16%. Out of these data, it is noted that Obiliq has the youngest population in the Socio-Economic Region Centre. The number of the population divided by nationality living in the Republic of Kosovo has been presented above. According to KAS statistics, according to ethnic division, there are 473,937 Albanians, 10,376 RAE, 8,812 Serbs, 2,377 Turks and 616 Bosnians. Also in the same table are the data on natality and mortality. The highest natality in the Socio-Economic Region Centre is in Prishtina with 2,574 inhabitants and Podujeva with 981 inhabitants based on the 2017 Kosovo population estimates statistics. From the chart below we see that the number of males in the Socio-Economic Region Centre heads with the value of 251,252 males while there are 246,771 females.

Table 2: Demographic data, mortality, natality, communities by municipalities of the Socio-Economic Region Centre (KAS population estimates 2017).

45

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.osce.org/mission-in-kosovo/municipal-profiles>

<sup>5</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-neës/vleresimi-i-popullsisë-2017>

No	Municipality	GENERAL POPULATION	NATALITY	MORTALITY	ALBANIANS	BOSNIANS	TURKS	RAE	SERBS	OTHERS
1	Prishtina	211.755	3.412	838	194.452	400	2,156	621	430	539
2	Drenas	61.133	1,009	249	58,445	14	5	2	2	22
3	Fushe Kosova	38.607	815	199	30,275	34	62	3,948	321	146
4	Gracanica	12.091	18	9	2,474	15	15	852	7,209	67
5	Lipjan	57.733	948	229	54,467	42	128	2,158	513	266
6	Obiliq	19.144	354	86	19,854	58	2	1,266	276	53
7	Podujeva	83.445	1,346	365	87,523	33	5	756	12	43
8	Shtime	27.654	490	114	26,447	20	1	773	49	15
	<b>Total</b>	<b>511.562</b>	<b>26374</b>	<b>2089</b>	<b>473937</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>2377</b>	<b>10376</b>	<b>8812</b>	<b>1151</b>

Table 3 Demographic data, age groups, by gender, females (KAS population estimates 2011)<sup>6</sup>

No.	Municipality	0-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
1	Prishtina	24,606	8,413	8,809	9,071	8,531	7,612	6,526	5,838	5,349	4,547	3,529	6,705
2	Drenas	8,369	2,842	3,019	2,524	2,284	1,971	1,687	1,461	1,206	905	759	1,776
3	Fushe Kosova	4,786	1,543	1,517	1,468	1,395	1,274	1,135	914	843	654	535	1,144
4	Gracanica	1,329	402	438	465	371	325	303	282	306	259	258	519
5	Lipjan	8,244	2,736	2,567	2,199	2,142	2,150	1,849	1,494	1,222	1,006	864	1,812
6	Obiliq	3,180	965	968	860	847	754	641	601	467	402	360	619
7	Podujeva	13,074	4,123	3,935	3,532	3,544	3,192	2,594	2,211	1,888	1,491	1,375	2,585
8	Shtime	4,112	1,413	1,162	1,001	1,034	1,019	871	689	566	392	393	822
	<b>Total</b>	<b>67,700.00</b>	<b>22,437</b>	<b>22,415</b>	<b>21,120</b>	<b>20,148</b>	<b>18,297</b>	<b>15,606</b>	<b>13,490</b>	<b>11,847</b>	<b>9,656</b>	<b>8,073</b>	<b>15,982</b>

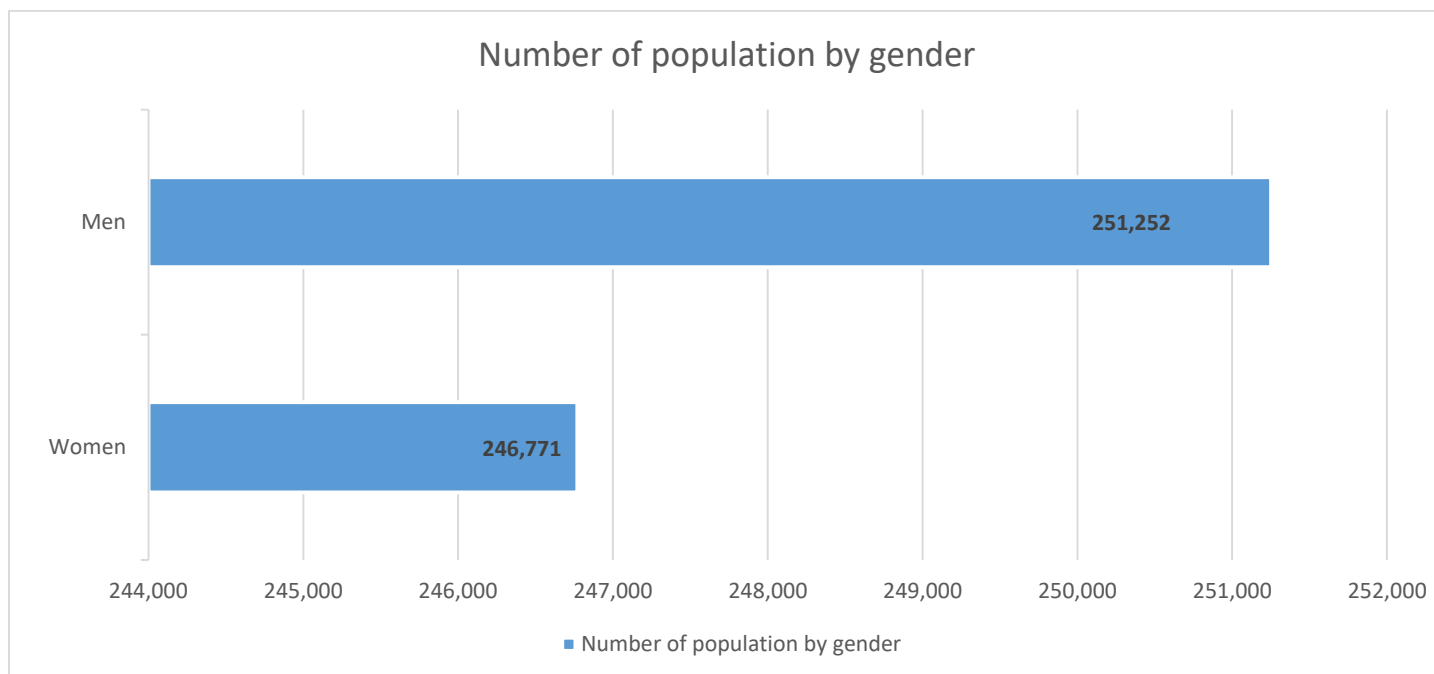
Table 4 Demographic data, age groups, by gender, males (KAS population estimates 2011)<sup>7</sup>

No.	Municipality	0-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
1	Prishtina	26,797	9,014	8,899	8,678	7,905	7,153	6,075	5,573	5,001	4,325	3,488	6,453
2	Drenas	8,926	3,044	3,211	2,778	2,341	2,088	1,584	1,381	1,158	927	770	1,520
3	Fushe Kosova	5,210	1,664	1,616	1,486	1,325	1,259	1,012	1,000	861	665	524	990
4	Gracanica	1,334	461	435	495	443	362	381	264	336	305	228	474
5	Lipjan	8,951	2,968	2,901	2,474	2,185	1,951	1,670	1,512	1,277	1,014	807	1,660
6	Obiliq	3,239	1,033	1,031	995	770	772	595	612	525	389	304	620
7	Podujeva	13,734	4,376	4,342	4,003	3,465	3,131	2,492	2,141	1,922	1,550	1,319	2,480
8	Shtime	4,469	1,558	1,328	925	1,026	891	799	657	592	438	364	776
	<b>Total</b>	<b>72,660.00</b>	<b>24,118</b>	<b>23,763</b>	<b>21,834</b>	<b>19,460</b>	<b>17,607</b>	<b>14,608</b>	<b>13,140</b>	<b>11,672</b>	<b>9,613</b>	<b>7,804</b>	<b>14,973</b>

<sup>6</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/media/2127/vlersim-popullsia-e-kosoves-2011.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/media/2127/vlersim-popullsia-e-kosoves-2011.pdf>

Chart 1 The number of population by gender in the Socio-Economic Region Centre



## HUMAN RESOURCES AND LABOUR MARKET



The Socio-Economic Region Centre has the greatest economic potential for job creation, taking into consideration the concentration of state institutions, foreign representations and organizations, as well as representations of local and international business companies. However, the Socio-Economic Region Centre also faces with unemployment. According to the data from the Employment Agency's Report for 2017, the total number of job seekers in the Socio-Economic Region Centre is 24,457, while the job offer is 2,327. Here we have a large ratio and difference between the job offer and demand, although one has to take into account the fact that these data do not reflect the reality on the field. A large portion of the workforce does not address the employment offices for registration purposes. The highest number of job seekers is in the municipality of Prishtina with 6,954 job seekers, in the municipality of Podujeva with 4,454, in Drenas – 3,230, in Lipjan – 3,203, in Fushe Kosova – 2,090, in Obiliq – 1,765, in Gracanica – 1,476, and in Shtime – 1,285.

As noted, the highest level of job seekers is in the municipalities of Prishtina, Podujeva, and Drenas. Municipalities that have the lowest



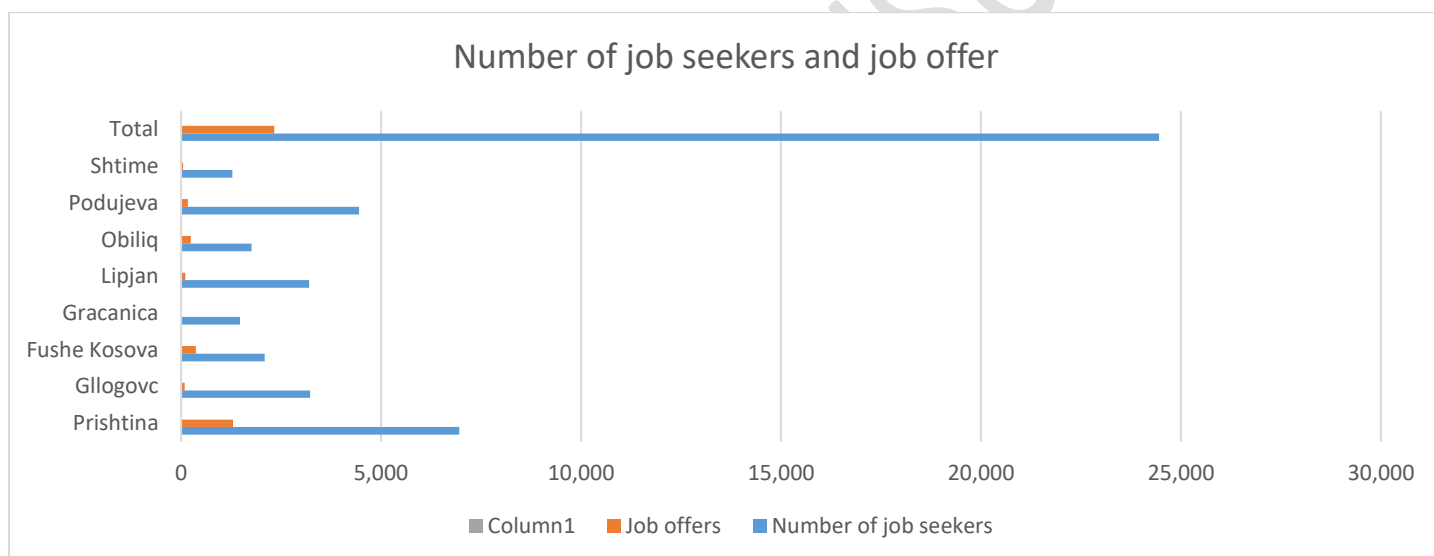
level of jobseekers are Shtime, Gracanica, and Obiliq. The Socio-Economic Region Centre has sufficient human resources for the labour market and a relatively young and skilled workforce.

The Socio-Economic Region Centre has the largest number of job seekers in Kosovo with a total of 24,457 job seekers and 2,327 regular job offers.

Table 5 Unemployment and job vacancies in the Socio-Economic Region Centre <sup>8</sup>

No.	Municipality	Unemployment (Number of job seekers)	Regular Job Vacancies	ALMP Job Vacancies
1	Prishtina	6,954	1,299	293
2	Drenas	3,230	88	24
3	Fushe Kosova	2,090	369	66
4	Gracanica	1,476	0	10
5	Lipjan	3,203	109	150
6	Obiliq	1,765	238	70
7	Podujeva	4,454	173	182
8	Shtime	1,285	51	65
	<b>Total</b>	<b>24,457</b>	<b>2,327</b>	<b>860</b>

Chart 2 Number of job seekers and job offer



<sup>8</sup> <https://apr.k.rks-gov.net/sq-AL/Content/Documents?doctype=2> 2017 Report on Employment



## EDUCATION

The infrastructure and quality of educational services in the Socio-Economic Region Centre is at a very good level. A large number of school and university institutions have been built and repaired. According to the 2017-2018 public education statistics<sup>9</sup>, the number of schools in the Socio-Economic Region Centre, in primary and lower secondary education, is 244, while there are 32 schools of upper secondary education. While the number of pupils in the Socio-Economic Region Centre in the primary and lower secondary education is 74,686, there are 26,286 pupils in upper secondary education. The total number of schools in the Socio-Economic Region Centre in primary, lower and upper secondary education is 276, while the total number of pupils in the Socio-Economic Region Centre in primary, lower and upper secondary education is 100,972. As for the number of special schools in the Socio-Economic Region Centre, according to 2017-2018 public education statistics, there are 2 special schools and 116 pupils with special needs.

Vocational secondary education, namely the Vocational Education and Training and Adults Education institutions, are primarily aimed at the preparation of cadres for the labour market, but if we are to follow the path laid down by the applicable legislation, the same also offers the possibility of applying for higher post-secondary studies of the 5<sup>th</sup> level of the national qualifications and university framework.

Secondary vocational education in the Socio-Economic Region Centre is divided into 12 different areas: forestry and wood processing area, machinery and metal processing area, mining area, metallurgy and geology area, electronics area, geodesy and construction area, traffic area, textile and leather area, chemistry area, non-metals and graphics area, catering and tourism area, economic and legal area, natural and mathematic sciences area, health and social protection area, art, culture and public information area.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare through the Employment Agency of the Republic of Kosovo manages eight Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) with 69 workshops and 30 different professions. In these centres, the training, and retraining of persons registered as job seekers, unemployed and those receiving career guidance services, is done at all employment offices in the municipalities. In the Socio-Economic Region Centre, the Vocational Training Centre in Prishtina offers training in the following professions: Water Supply and District Heating Installation, Business Administration/Self-Employment, Administrative Assistant/Accounting, Bakery, Pastry Shop, ICT and Industrial Electronics, Construction, Office Equipment Servicing, Auto Electrics, Tailoring, ICT - Podujeva.

In the institutions of higher education in Kosovo, respectively the Socio-Economic Region Centre, the Bachelor, Master and PhD studies are offered in public and private institutions, where University Hasan Prishtina is the only public university in the Socio-Economic Region Centre. According to the 2017-2018 Higher Education Statistics of the Bachelor level in the Socio-Economic Region Centre, the number of graduate students is 4,974 out of which 3,230 are females and 1,744 males, whereas the total number of students in the public university Hasan Prishtina is 34,323. In the Socio-Economic Region Centre, based on the 2017-2018 Public Higher Education Statistics of the Master level, there are 1340 graduate students out of

which 757 are females and 583 males, where the total number of students at the Master level is 6,817.

As regards higher education in private institutions, the number of private colleges is 14. The number of graduate students according to the 2017-2018 Higher Education Statistics at Bachelor level is 2,470 out of which 1,365 are females and 1,107 males, while the total number of students is 35,097. At the Master level in private institutions according to 2017-2018 Higher Education Statistics in the Socio-Economic Region Centre we have 11 colleges. The total of graduate students is 443 out of which 226 are females and 217 males where the total number of students in Master level is 7,628. The platform for developing the higher education system in Kosovo has been compiled based on the objectives of the Bologna Process.

The Socio-Economic Region Centre has the largest number of educational institutions and the largest number of pupils and graduate students in Kosovo.

In the Socio-Economic Region Centre, the following are the areas that stand out: electro-technical, geodesy, construction, machinery, metalworking.

<sup>9</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-nees/statistikat-e-arsimit-20172018>

Table 6 Professional areas in the Socio-Economic Region Centre <sup>10</sup>

	Pristina	Podujeva	Lipjan	Obiliq	Shtime	Drenas	Fushe Kosova	Gracanica	Total
Forestry and wood processing area	58	22							80
Mining, metallurgy and geology area,				98		106	110		314
Machinery and metal processing area	577	196		63	107	347	64		1354
Electronics area	1,174		158	330	171	214	31		2,078
Geodesy and construction area	768	96	126						990
Traffic area	300	686	251		89	283			1609
Textile and leather area	143								143
Chemistry, non-metals and graphics area	329			128					457
Trade, catering and tourism area	99		191			86	34		410
Economic and legal area	1296	1363	452				461		3572
Natural and mathematic sciences area				93					93
Health and social protection area	788								788
Art, culture and public information area	123								123
<b>Total</b>	<b>5655</b>	<b>2363</b>	<b>1178</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>700</b>		<b>12011</b>

<sup>10</sup> <https://masht.rks-gov.net/shkollat-profilet>

## NATURAL RESOURCES



The Socio-Economic Region Centre is rich in natural resources such as lakes and rivers. Sitnica is the central and most important river in Fushe Kosova, which originates from the mountain of Zhegavc, located in the southern part of Kosovo.

The Sitnica River is 90 km long and a number of rivers and streams of smaller amounts of water merge into it. The Sitnica River is also the river with the largest area running through the Municipality of Lipjan, which has the most extensive branches on the eastern side, while the main hydrographic branches of the eastern side are: Janjevka River, Zhegovc River, Gadime River and Sazlia River, whereas on the western side the largest river is the Vershevc River. Llap River flows through the valley of Llap and the town of Podujeva. It has a length of 59.5 kilometres, while the average amount of water discharged into the Llap River is 5 m<sup>3</sup> per second. The Drenica River springs at the foot of Carraleva and has a length of 41 kilometres. The waters of Drenica are also used for irrigation and for running a large number of mills. In this region, in the area of Shtime, there are also the Topilla and Carraleva rivers, which upon joining create the Shtimjana and the Mollopolec river. The main artificial lakes in the Socio-Economic Region Centre are Batllava Lake (Podujeva) with a size of 3.27 km<sup>2</sup> and Badovc Lake (Prishtina) with a size of 2.57 km<sup>2</sup>. These two lakes are mainly used for drinking water, but also for irrigation. The most important river that discharges into Batllava is the Llap River. The Batllava Lake was formed in 1965 with the construction of a dam, which is 40.5 meters high. The lake is located at a 600 meters altitude, 8 kilometres long and with a width of 300 meters and a maximum depth of 30-35 meters. There are 40 million cubic meters of water accumulated in the lake. Its distance from Prishtina is 28 km, while from Podujeva 10 km. The lake is located on a picturesque terrain, surrounded by forest slopes of high mountains with plenty of wild animals. There is a potential for this place to become a tourist centre.

Badovc Lake is formed by the waters of the Gracanica River discharging into the right side of Sitnica. The construction started in 1963, while it is 12 km away from Prishtina. It was formed with the construction of the dam in the gorge of Badovc. The dam is 45 meters high. The lake is 3.5 kilometres long, and 150 to 200 meters wide, and has a maximum depth of 29 meters. There are 26 million cubic meters of water accumulated in the lake, which is primarily used for the supply of drinking water to Prishtina and the irrigation of 2260 hectares of cultivated land in Gracanica, Cagllavica and Llapllasella.

The water potential in Kosovo is modest, but this potential can be used for both energy and curative purposes. The biggest opportunities are in the Llap region where thermo-mineral waters are found in tertiary ponds with a depth up to 300 meters (Lluzhan-Sallabaje). At the same depth, these waters extend even to the Drenica region. Near the village of Lluzhan, on the road Prishtina - Podujeva, at a distance of 10 kilometres from Podujeva is the unregulated mineral water spa. The Ballabaja mineral water spa is also located in the Municipality of Podujeva.

The Socio-Economic Region Centre is rich in mineral resources, especially lignite and ferronickel, but there are also reserves of lead, zinc, and so on. The existence of mineral resources represents 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 also make it a favourable economic zone; large lignite resources, I-IV class agricultural land, rivers: Sitnica, Drenica and Llapi, Iber-Lepenc irrigation system. The Municipality of Obiliq has 25% of the mountainous area where ecotourism such as hunting and fishing tourism is mainly developed. Another tourist and archaeological site is Maja e Zezë (Black Peak), located at the foot of the Cicavica Mountains. In the Municipality of Podujeva there is also the mine of Drazhnje which is located in the village of Hertica. This mine is rich in lead, silver, gold, and zinc. "Gllavica" silicate nickel mine is located in the Southwest of Prishtina at a distance of about 20

The Socio-Economic Region Centre stands out for its water resources such as rivers and lakes. The lakes of Batllava and Badovc are available for the supply of drinking water.

The Socio-Economic Region Centre is rich in mineral resources such as lignite, ferronickel, lead, and zinc.

km. The Gllavica nickel source lies on Golesh's peridotite massif on the eastern side of the Gllavica hill. The direction of the extent of the source is approximately North-South in length of 1,050 m. The area rich in minerals lies over peridotite in the form of a cover and has an area of about 32 ha. The "Gllavica" nickel source belongs to the group of silicate sources. After intensive geological research during 1967, the new source, the silicate nickels Mine "Çikatova e Vjetër", which is located in the region of Dritan peridotite massif (Dobroshevc), Municipality of Drenas, was discovered. From Prishtina to the west it is located at a distance of 20 km, while the Gllavica source is 12 km away. In the nickel mine "Çikatova e Vjetër" there are two sources (mineral bodies): "Dushkaja" and "Suka". The geological reserves in the two mines (Gllavica and Çikatova) are estimated to be about 13 Mt with an average nickel compound of 1.31% and average cobalt compound of 0.06%. Near the industrial park of Drenas, there are artificial lakes of Vasileva with a surface of 176,600 m<sup>2</sup>, the mineral water in the village of Poklek, a natural spring which is located about 2.5 km from the town of Drenas and has a surface of 7278 m<sup>2</sup>, the mineral water in the village of Verboc with a surface of 182 m<sup>2</sup>, Vrella in the village of Krajкова with a



surface of 4000 m<sup>2</sup>, and Vrella in village of Baice with a surface of 3060 m<sup>2</sup>.

## AGRICULTURE SECTOR



The Socio-Economic Region Centre has a surface of 2,215.52 km<sup>2</sup> from the total area; the utilized area of agricultural land is 87,348.08 hectares, while the arable land is 47,663.32 hectares. Throughout the territory of the Region Centre there are 237.89 hectares of gardens and 3,427.71 hectares of unused agricultural land. Forest lands comprise a total of 16,801.72 hectares while non-agricultural land comprises a total of 3,680.09. The total used and unused surface of agricultural land in the municipality of Podujeva is 24,807,27 hectares. The municipality of Podujeva has the largest area of agricultural land in the Socio-Economic Region Centre, followed by the municipality of Lipjan with a surface of 18,547.41 hectares and by the size of the agricultural land surface; the third is the municipality of Drenas with a surface of 15,125.52 hectares. The arable lands or fields in the municipality of Podujeva amount to 12,317.19 hectares, in the municipality of Lipjan 10,304.87 hectares, while in Drenas, 8,181.69 hectares. These are the three municipalities with the largest surface of arable lands or fields in the Region Centre. The cultures that are mostly cultivated in the Region Centre are: wheat, maize, potatoes, various vegetables and many-year-old fruit trees. Regarding areas with gardens, the municipality of Podujeva has a surface of 82.38 hectares, followed by Drenas with 61.70 hectares and Lipjan with 38.70 hectares.

Given that Prishtina is the capital city in the Socio-Economic Region Centre, urban tourism is developed in this region, and this region also possesses a number of monuments of historical value, which are very attractive for visitors.

The Socio-Economic Region Centre has the largest surface of arable land with 47,663.22 ha. Agriculture is highly developed in this region.

Meadows and pastures in the Region Centre comprise a surface of 38,367.53 hectares, and from this surface, the municipality of Lipjan has the largest surface in the Socio-Economic Region Centre with a surface of 8,091,37 hectares, followed by the municipality of Prishtina with a surface of 7,434.22 hectares and municipality of Drenas with a surface of 6,692,46, which makes these the municipalities with the largest surfaces of meadows and pastures in the Socio-Economic Region Centre. As far as the forests of Podujeva are concerned, Podujeva has the largest surface in the Socio-Economic Region Centre with 5,255.42 hectares, followed by Prishtina with 4,902.44 hectares and Drenas with 4,200.39 hectares.

MUNICIPALITIES	Utilized surface of agricultural land / Surface ha	Arable land-Fields/Surface ha	Gardens ha	Meadows and pastures/Surface ha	Unused agricultural land/Surface ha	Forests/Surface ha	Non-agricultural land / Surface ha
Prishtina	12,975.65	5,178,05	24,93	7,434,22	1,112,40	4,902,44	403,05
Drenas	15,125.52	8,181,69	61,70	6,692,46	529,79	4,200,39	769,28
Fushe Kosova	4,714.06	3,278,14	10,16	1,398,11	85,31	190,55	255,30
Gracanica	5,658.85	4,989,73	10,78	616,48	90,11	135,00	257,70
Lipjan	18,547.41	10,304,87	38,7	8,091,37	359,88	1,790,12	852,49
Obiliq	5,519.32	3,413,53	9,24	2,047,46	190,03	327,80	226,46
Podujeva	24,807.27	12,317,19	82,38	12,087,43	1,060,19	5,255,42	915,81
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>87,348.08</b>	<b>47,663.32</b>	<b>237,89</b>	<b>38,367.53</b>	<b>3,427.71</b>	<b>16,801.72</b>	<b>3,680.09</b>

Table 7 Data on agricultural areas in the Region East <sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> [https://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/repository/docs/REGJISTRIMI\\_I\\_BUIQESISE\\_NE\\_REPUBLIKEN\\_E\\_KOSOVES\\_2014\\_Rezultatet\\_Perfundimtare.pdf](https://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/repository/docs/REGJISTRIMI_I_BUIQESISE_NE_REPUBLIKEN_E_KOSOVES_2014_Rezultatet_Perfundimtare.pdf)

## TOURISM SECTOR



Tourism in the Socio-Economic Region Centre is mostly developed in urban tourism and this is because Prishtina, the capital city of Kosovo, is in the Socio-Economic Region Centre. Prishtina accounts for almost 120,000 visitors by the end of 2018. Most of the visitors, over 83%, are internationals. According to the number of visitors, the countries that make up the largest number of visitors are Albania (15,147), Germany (8,594) and Turkey (7,195). Out of the countries across the region and the European Union (EU), the United States dominate (5,576). The accommodation offer statistics also shows that Prishtina dominates at country level. The Ethnologic Museum is the place that ranked as first among attractions to be visited in Prishtina. The Residential Complex "Emin Gjiku" is located in the old side of the city of Prishtina, northeast of the actual city centre close to the hammam and the mosque of "Sultan Mehmet Fatih". The "NewBorn" monument and the idea of painting it every February 17th makes this monument, every year, an attraction for tourists who appreciate the idea of changing the colours of this object. The Kosovo Museum was founded in 1949, while its Austro-Hungarian architecture style building dates back to 1989. The Kosovo Museum has a collection of more than 50,000 exhibits of different profiles, such as archaeology, technology, history, nature, ethno-culture, folklore. The Kosovo Art Gallery, if you are a fan of art and want to get acquainted with the work of Kosovar painters and artists, you can definitely visit the "Kosovo Art Gallery" which was opened in 1979. Throughout these 30 years of activity this institution has organized over 500 exhibitions. Prishtina has over 30 other tourist spots.



Ulpiana is a monument of cultural heritage with great historical values in the vicinity of Gracanica, a city founded in the beginning of the second century. Archaeological excavations have provided traces of ancient Roman life and show that Ulpiana is a continuation of an Illyrian settlement and that it had its peak of economic and cultural development by the end of the III century and beginning of the IV century. This makes Ulpiana one of the most popular tourist spots in Kosovo, which continues to be visited more and more, either by local or foreign visitors. The Gracanica Monastery is a monument of cultural heritage in Gracanica. The monastery is located on the left side of the Gracanica River, in the south of Prishtina. The monastery of our days is a reconstruction of a 14th-century church, dedicated to Virgin Mary, which was built on the foundations of an early Christian basilica of the XIX century. According to its spatial concept, it

belongs to the type of churches with five square-shaped domes with an inscribed cross, a characteristic of Byzantine architecture.

The city of Lipjan has great potential for outdoor tourism such as the Blinaja reservation, the beautiful Shala-Klecka landscapes and the Zhegovc Mountains. The natural and cultural heritage are the areas of tourist attractions. The Marble Cave in Gadime as a natural monument presents a unique national and international attraction and is located in the vicinity of Lipjan near Prishtina-Ferizaj road in the village of Gadime e Ulet. It is called the Marble Cave because it is built on the rocks of marble and is one of the most beautiful caves not only in Kosovo but also in the Balkans and beyond. There are all kinds of adornments, stalagmites, and stalactites in the cave, all of them in different shapes and sizes, and the aragonite adornment is the one that stands out. The organisation of literary classes "Shtjefën Gjeqovi", along with other monuments and objects make Janjeva a great tourist spot. Rural tourism is linked to the development of agriculture and livestock. In the highlands, there are also farmers who can provide accommodation services by renting small rooms or houses for those who want to make use of qualitative services of agriculture and livestock, nature and hunting.

In the municipality of Obiliq, in the 6<sup>th</sup> kilometre of Prishtina-Mitrovica highway is the historic monument of the Sultan II Tomb, which in the month of May is crowded with visitors. The municipality of Podujeva has suitable spaces for tourism. Batllava Lake is a tourist attraction. 66% of the territory of the Municipality of Podujeva includes the mountains that represent another attraction to be visited and is suitable for alpinism. Tourism in Shtime is developed in rural areas in the villages of Mollopolca, Devetak, Llanishte, Topille, Rance and Duge. These villages lie in the mountains, and their natural beauty, numerous water sources (springs), caves such as the one of Imer Devetaku, Shpella e Lakuriqëve etc. are an attraction. The basic infrastructure in these villages is completed with asphalt roads, where in the village of Llanishte, the project on cycling is in the implementation phase, and in the village of Mollopolc, the project on mountain tourism is in the projection phase. The village of Mollopolc is located in the south-west of Shtime, and is about 6 km away from the city centre. This is the village where the tourist area begins and lies around the mountains, connects with the village of Devetak and ends in the village of Llanishte, where the distance from the starting and the ending points of this tourist area is 15km long. This tourist area has plenty of suitable areas for mountain tourism, whereby the river composed of many branches and a diversity of different height trees that in some places reach over 20 meters stand out. There are about 100 springs in the area, and a very beautiful waterfall, and the start of this area is highly suitable for picnics, hiking, cycling, volleyball, football, streetball etc., where the altitude is about 700 meters and extends to the village of Devetak. The highest peak in this village is at around 1100 meters altitude and there are also suitable meadows for some mountain sports and outdoor recreation. This area is about 11 km<sup>2</sup> long. This tourist area has a special geographic position as it connects three cities, Ferizaj, Shtime, Suhareka and is located at the border of these three cities and can be used by residents of these cities as well as by all citizens of Kosovo. The municipality of Fushe Kosova is rich in ancient monuments, as there are 22 archaeological sites in its territory, such as Harilaq, Bardh i Madh, Graboc, Miradi, Sllatine e Vogel, Henc, Lismir, Vragolia, as well as tracks of the ancient road near the Harilaq fortress. The Harilaq Castle represents

one of the most important archaeological monuments in Kosovo. Life in this castle began in the XII Century BC. However, the castle had its greatest development during the XI century AD. The highly frequented tourist spots are “Pishat e Sllatinës” and the Harilaq Castle, that have great potential for tourism. In this municipality, the touristic and archaeological spots are the ruins of the the Fushtice church,

along with the ancient castle of Verbovc, the Castle of Llapushnik and the pre-historic fortifications found in Çikatova. Natural heritage is composed of the rootstocks in Nekoc, the complex of trees in Negrov, the cave of Kishareka with a geomorphologic character, the leak trunk in Krajкова and the Gradina stone in Llapushnik



## BUSINESSES PROFILES, NUMBER OF REGISTERED BUSINESSES

The Socio-Economic Region Centre has the largest concentration of businesses because the capital city of Kosovo is in this region and most of the local and foreign businesses are concentrated in the capital city. In the Socio-Economic Region Centre, there are 68,133 registered businesses. The following are the types of businesses that this region consists; Individual businesses, foreign companies, agricultural cooperatives, public enterprises, socially-owned company, partnerships, general partnerships, joint stock companies and limited liability companies. Individual businesses have the largest number in the Region Centre with a number of 45,626, followed by limited liability companies with a number of 17,667 and general partnerships with a number of 1,822 businesses. In the Municipality of Prishtina, according to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with a number of 27,047 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with a number of 13,977 which is followed by general partnerships with a number of 1,398 businesses. The Municipality of Prishtina has a total of 43,288 businesses. In Municipality of Podujeva, according to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with a total of 4,477 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with a total number of 739, which is followed by general partnerships with a number of 148 businesses. The municipality of Podujeva has a total number of 7,376 businesses. In the municipality of Lipjan according to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses is that of individual



businesses with 3,750 businesses, followed by limited liability companies with a number of 636 businesses, which is followed by general partnerships with a number of 104 businesses. The municipality of Lipjan has a total number of 4519 businesses. The

The largest number of businesses at the country level is concentrated in the Socio-Economic Region Centre, namely in Prishtina as it is the capital city and the centre of many local and foreign businesses and representations.

municipality with the smallest number of businesses in the region is the municipality of Gracanica with a total number of 925 businesses, 536 individual businesses, 357 limited liability companies and 15 general partnerships.

Table 8. Profiles of economic activities and their number, the Socio-Economic Region Centre

Municipalities	Individual Business	Foreign Company	Agricultural Cooperative	Public Enterprise	Socially Owned Company	Other companies under the jurisdiction of the KTA	Partnership	General Partnership	Joint Stock Company	Limited Liability Company	Total
Prishtina	27047	585	13	3	15	/	18	1398	229	13977	43288
Podujeva	4477	2	4	/	1	/	/	148	65	739	7376
Lipjan	3750	22	2	/	1	/	1	104	3	636	4519



Obiliq	1318	8	2	/	/	/	/	14	9	243	1594
Drenas	3433	10	10	/	/	/	1	37	3	367	3861
Shtime	1675	1	5	/	/	/	/	28	1	193	1903
Gracanica	536	8	2	/	/	/	/	15	7	357	925
Fushe Kosova	3390	25	1	/	/	/	1	78	17	1155	4667
<b>Total</b>	<b>45626</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1822</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>17667</b>	<b>68133</b>

## ECONOMY AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS



The economy of Region Centre is more concentrated in Prishtina and the economic activity is mainly focused in the following areas: construction, agriculture, communications, industry, trade and tourism. The Socio-Economic Region Centre remains one of the largest and most important regions in Kosovo's construction sector, accounting for 38% of the total number of active companies in Kosovo. The construction sector in the Region Centre in Prishtina area is mainly dominated by micro businesses, which comprise 83% of active firms. Meanwhile, the Municipality of Prishtina leads the region with the largest number of employees, by employing 70% of the workforce and has about 61% of businesses operating in the Region Centre. The main reason why these companies are engaged in construction is the family tradition. The main activity is high construction, mainly of high-rise residential complexes. The international airport is located about fifteen (15) kilometres southwest of Prishtina. It is the only airport in Kosovo and is one of the key points of the capital city. It has the capacity to serve nearly 1.7 million passengers per year. The Socio-Economic Region Centre has several economic zones such as: Business Park in Drenas, Industrial Park in Lipjan, Licensed Economic Zone-Industrial Park in Qylage, in the process of functionalization, Economic Zone in QMI, Economic Zone in Babush and Economic Zone - Technological Park in Shtime. These economic zones are aimed at attracting foreign investors, mainly businesses in the field of technology, manufacturing, and other strategic investments. Business Park in Drenas was declared as an economic zone by the decision of the Government of Kosovo on 18.08.2010. This park lies on the 16<sup>th</sup> km along the highway Prishtina - Peja, in the village of Koretice e Eperme. The park offers an ideal location with physical infrastructure and qualitative services. It has an area of 100 hectares which offers locations of different sizes for businesses, mainly for manufacturing and services sectors. There are about 40 businesses. Each parcel has direct access to the main roads of the Park and has individual connection to the main park network of wastewater, water supply, telephone, internet, etc. The Industrial Park in Lipjan was established in 2016 with a surface of 56 ha. The Ministry of Trade and Industry together with the Municipality of Lipjan have started investing in the regulation of physical infrastructure in this economic zone. The Technological Park in Shtime was established in 2013, with a surface of 10.70 ha. The Technological Park in Shtime is located in the second kilometre on the Shtime-Ferizaj road (M-25.3). The Technological Park is located close to the city, near the highway and at the crossroads between Skopje - Prishtina and Tirana. Physical infrastructure is at an appropriate level including (road, water supply,



fecal sewerage, atmospheric sewerage, sidewalks and lighting). This technological park in the Municipality of Shtime exempts all businesses in their business activity from construction permits and municipal taxes. There are 12 businesses, out of which 7 exercise their residential activity and 5 other businesses in the investment phase. Also, the economic zone in Gllavica is in the east side of the city of Shtime and is at the border with the city of Ferizaj and this is a priority even for the investors of the Municipality of Ferizaj because

Construction is one of the most developed activities in this region, industrial areas are essential for the development of business conditions, and in this region, there are some industrial zones in Drenas, Industrial Park in Lipjan, Industrial Park in Qylage and Economic Zone QMI.

the geographical position is an attraction point and has direct connections with Macedonia in terms of trade. The geographic position of this area enables fast access to the highway for transport in and out of the country, access to the Ibrahim Rugova highway for 20 km, access to the Arber Xhaferi highway for 17 km and 20 km to Lipjan. Quick and close highway accesses are advantages for investors who transport products domestically and internationally. The surface of 375,242 m<sup>2</sup>, with 11 parcels, where each parcel is adjacent to each other, are the advantages of this area in relation to other parcels in the Municipality of Shtime, which may be an alternative for an Economic Zone and all these parcels are owned by the municipal assembly. The MTI is scheduled to give its consent for this area is this year (2019). The municipality of Podujeva, in its strategic development planning, has decided to establish the Business Park in Shtedim village. This space is suitable for business because it is near the city and is near the road that connects to neighbouring country Serbia and is also near the highway which is under

construction and has sufficient area for investment. This park is in the process of functionalization as the infrastructure in this park is about to be completed. The Municipality of Obiliq is underway to obtain the MTI consent for Economic Zone 2 in the village of Gllavica. The geographical position of the economic zone in Gllavica has its advantages and specifics that enable an efficient area, with 2 roads that allow access to the economic zone, one road is from Rashinca village and the other is from Koshare village. The main holders of economic development in the municipality of Obiliq are thermal power plants, generation and distribution of electricity, coal mines, agricultural land of category I - IV and road M2 in relation Prishtina - Mitrovica. The main development potential that this municipality possesses are the areas rich in coal and qualitative agricultural land (cat. I – IV). There are three coal mines that operate in the territory of Obiliq, which play an extraordinary role for Kosovo's economy and

energy sector, as more than 97% of Kosovo's annual electricity comes from that place, where Lignite is the main resource of thermal power plants, Power Plant Kosovo A and Kosovo B. The Municipal Assembly in Obiliq also allocated land for an industrial area in the place Llazareva where the surface of this area is 23 ha. It is a convenient place for business development both from road infrastructure and proximity to the highway Prishtina - Mitrovica, proximity to the capital city Pristina and to the Airport in the Region Centre. The Municipal Assembly of Obiliq has made use of the immovable property of the Municipality of Obiliq according to the laws in force through a public competition for economic development with a surface of 177.163m<sup>2</sup> (17 hectares and 71 acres and 63 meters).



## INFRASTRUCTURE

In the Region Centre, the infrastructure is relatively good, especially in urban areas. So far, 50% of local roads have been asphalted both in the city and in rural areas. In recent years investments have been made in the wastewater

system and in the water supply system. In the Region Centre, the Vermica-Merdare highway connects Kosovo with Albania and Serbia, and through Serbia with the European Union, as well as the Prishtina-Skopje highway connecting Kosovo with Macedonia and through Macedonia's highways is connected to Greece and Serbia. The Prishtina - Fushe Kosova - Peja railway, as well as the Prishtina International Airport, are in this area. There are three main roads in the territory of the municipality of Gracanica: E-65 Prishtina-Skopje (12.3 km within the municipality), Prishtina-Gjilan (5.5 km within the municipality), Prishtina - Prizren (3.45 km within the municipality). There are two railway directions in the territory of the municipality of Gracanica: International Railway Prishtina-Skopje-Athens and Local Railway Fushe Kosova - Kishnica. The main roads or boulevards are located on the Prishtina - Prizren axis with a profile width of 30 m which is formed by 2 lanes in both directions, the same profile is repeated also the 5th zone. Based on the statistics of the Municipal Performance Report of 2017 - published by MLGA, the percentage of local roads asphalted in municipalities is on a good average for the Region Centre. The municipality with the highest percentage of asphalted local roads in the municipalities is: Municipality of Podujeva with 89.05%, Municipality of Fushe Kosova with 88.51%, Municipality of Shtime with 80.96%, Municipality of Drenas with 53.36%, Municipality of Gracanica with

49.57%, Municipality of Lipjan with 41.38%, Municipality of Prishtina with 40.09% and Municipality of Obiliq with 35.10%. Regarding the percentage of settlements included in the drinking water supply system, the municipality with the largest percentage is Municipality of Obiliq with 88.89%, Municipality of Fushe Kosova with 87.50, Municipality of Shtime with 78.6%, Municipality of

The Socio-Economic Region Centre has the most developed infrastructure in the country, local, national and international roads, railroad infrastructure and air transport.

Gracanica with 75.00%, and Municipality of Lipjan with 66.13% and the Municipality of Prishtina with 62.79%. The municipalities with the lowest percentage are Municipality of Drenas with 35.71 and Municipality of Podujeva with 44.87%. The list of municipalities with most roads with public lighting is led by the Municipality of Gracanica with 79.62 and the Municipality of Fushe Kosova with 71.50%, while municipalities with the lowest percentage of the public lighting are the Municipality of Drenas with 6.05% and the Municipality of Shtime with 11.7%. The municipality of Drenas is the largest municipality with settlements in wastewater treatment system with 97.62%, followed by the municipality of Lipjan with 79%. The municipality with the lowest percentage is the Municipality of Prishtina with 6.89 %.

Table 9 Local infrastructure in the Socio-Economic Region Centre <sup>12</sup>

Municipality	Percentage of asphalted local roads in municipalities in %	Percentage of settlements included in the drinking water supply system in %	Percentage of settlements in the wastewater treatment system in %	Percentage of the length of public streets with public lighting in %
Prishtina	40.09	62.79	6.98	61.79
Podujeva	89.05	44.87	0.00	19.36
Lipjan	41.38	66.13	79.03	15.47
Obiliq	35.10	88.89	0.00	63.13
Drenas	53.36	35.71	97.62	6.05
Shtime	80.96	78.26	0.00	11.79
Fushe Kosova	88.51	87.50	18.75	71.50
Gracanica	49.57	75.00	0.00	79.62

<sup>12</sup> <https://mapl.rks-gov.net/raportet-vjetore-te-mapl-se/> Municipal Performance Report 2017

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## SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION

# EAST

2.298.50 km<sup>2</sup>

293 settlements

327.960 residents

*Development Region East consists of eleven municipalities: Ferizaj, Gjilan, Han i Elezit, Kacanik, Novo Brdo, Shterpce, Viti, Klllokot, Ranillug, Kamenica and Partesh. It is bordered on the north by the Economic Region Centre, on the east by Serbia, on the west by Region South and on the south by Macedonia*





## SURFACE AREA AND POPULATION



The Socio-Economic Region East has a surface area of 2.298.50 km<sup>2</sup> and a population of 327.960 and constitutes 18.23 % of the total population of Kosovo (1.798.506)<sup>13</sup>. The Socio-Economic Region East consists of around 21 % of the entire territory of Kosovo (10.905,25 km<sup>2</sup>)<sup>14</sup>. In average, the East Region is inhabited by around 142 people per 1 km<sup>2</sup>. In the East Region, the Municipality of Ferizaj has the highest population density, with 298 people per 1 km<sup>2</sup>. The second municipality with the highest population density is the Municipality of Gjilan, with 204 people per 1 km<sup>2</sup>. The Municipality of Novo Brdo is inhabited by 35 people per 1 km<sup>2</sup>, and the Municipality of Ranillug is inhabited by 49 people per 1 km<sup>2</sup>. The East Region consists of 293 settlements, which constitutes 19.55% of all settlements in Kosovo. In the Region East, the Municipality of Kamenica has the largest number of settlements, namely 58 settlements, whereas the Municipality of Partesh has the lowest number of settlements, with 3 settlements. The Municipality of Kamenica has the largest surface area in the Region East, with 416.61 km, followed by Gjilan with 391.84 km<sup>2</sup> and Ferizaj with 344.61 km<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>13</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-neës/vleresimi-i-popullsisë-2017>

<sup>14</sup> [http://kryeministri-ks.net/ep-content/uploads/2018/03/Raport\\_Faktografik\\_Matja\\_e\\_territorit\\_te\\_Republikes\\_se\\_Kosoves\\_032017.pdf](http://kryeministri-ks.net/ep-content/uploads/2018/03/Raport_Faktografik_Matja_e_territorit_te_Republikes_se_Kosoves_032017.pdf)

Table 10 Data on the surface area and population of Region East

No.	Municipalities	Population	Surface area <sup>15</sup>	% of the territory of Region East	No. of settlements
1	Gjilan	80,162	391.84 km <sup>2</sup>	17.04 %	42
2	Ferizaj	103,003	344.61 km <sup>2</sup>	14.99 %	44
3	Viti	47,615	269.69 km <sup>2</sup>	11.73 %	38
4	Kamenica	30,750	416.61 km <sup>2</sup>	18.12 %	58
5	Novo Brdo	7,160	203.98 km <sup>2</sup>	8.87 %	34
6	Kacanik	34,206	211.28 km <sup>2</sup>	9.19 %	31
7	Hani i Elezit	9,998	83.11 km <sup>2</sup>	3.61 %	10
8	Shterpce	6,773	247.70 km <sup>2</sup>	10.77 %	16

Socio-Economic Region East has a diverse population, with Albanian, Bosnian, Turkish, Serbian, RAE people, etc.

9	Ranillug	3,810	77.62 km <sup>2</sup>	3.37 %	13
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10	Klllokot	2,753	23.39 km <sup>2</sup>	1.01 %	4
11	Partesh	1,730	28.67 km <sup>2</sup>	1.24 %	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>327,960</b>	<b>2,298.50</b>	<b>99.94</b>	<b>293</b>

## DEMOGRAPHY

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.osce.org/mission-in-kosovo/municipal-profiles>

The Socio-Economic Region East is characterized with diverse ethnic groups, as follows: Albanians 87.814, Turks 978, Serbs 624, RAE 377 and others 164. Population of Region East is relatively young and of various age groups. Region East population of age group under 19 years totals to 131.420 people, where the Municipality of Ferizaj has the highest number of people under 19 years of age, namely 42.499 people, or 42% of the total population in the Municipality of Ferizaj, followed by the Municipality of Gjilan with 33.288 people, or 41.60% of the total population of the Municipality

of Gjilan, followed by the Municipality of Vitia with 19.298 people, or 40.80% of the total population of the Municipality of Vitia. According to KAS 2017 Population Census, the Municipality of Ferizaj has the highest natural population growth with 1446, followed by the Municipality of Gjilan with 893 people. The chart below shows that the number of women in the Region East is 169735, which is greater than the number of men in the same region, which is 163.184.

Table 11 Demographic data, mortality, natality, communities by municipalities of Region East (KAS 2017 Population Estimation).<sup>1617</sup>

MUNICIPALITY	TOTAL POPULATION	NATALITY	MORTALITY	ALBANIANS	BOSNIAKS	TURKS	RAE	SERBS	OTHERS
Gjilan	80162 (90178 <sup>18</sup> )	1,472	579	87,814	121	978	377	624	164
Novo Brdo	7,160	46	29	3,524	5	7	66	3,122	2
Kamenica	30,750	391	259	34,186	9	5	240	1,554	56
Ferizaj	103,003	1,990	544	104,152	83	55	3,857	32	168
Kacanik	34,206	576	152	33,362	20	2	6	1	7
Shterpce	6,773	90	137	3,757	2	/	25	3,148	7
Viti	47,615	809	253	46,669	25	4	26	113	90
Hani i Elezit	9,998	147	60	9,357	42	/	/	/	2
Klllokot	2,753	27	24	1,362	/	1	9	1,177	6
Ranillug	3,810	37	62	164	1	/	/	3,692	3
Partesh	1,730	41	29	/	/	/	/	1,785	2
	<b>327960</b>	<b>5,626</b>	<b>2128</b>	<b>324,347</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>1052</b>	<b>4606</b>	<b>15,248</b>	<b>507</b>

Table 12 Demographic data for women, by age group (KAS 2017 Population Estimation)<sup>19</sup>

<sup>16</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-neës/vleresimi-i-popullsise-2017>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.osce.org/mission-in-kosovo/municipal-profiles>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.osce.org/mission-in-kosovo/municipal-profiles>

Municipality	0-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
Gjilan	11,380	4,768	3,887	3,184	3,048	3,529	3,305	2,818	2,207	1,712	1,506	3,480
Novo Brdo	802	286	281	245	219	209	191	183	163	136	141	394
Kamenica	4,301	1,751	1,754	1,281	1,239	1,302	1,221	1,111	889	749	604	1,504
Ferizaj	15,287	5,289	4,724	4,195	4,131	4,075	3,523	3,068	2,393	2,006	1,648	3,430
Kacanik	4,645	1,614	1,478	1,269	1,256	1,347	1,072	917	756	581	467	1,037
Shterpce	875	252	267	245	266	251	235	185	181	157	115	366
Viti	6,957	2,451	1,949	1,692	1,688	1,780	1,533	1,250	937	746	747	1,557
Hani i Elezit	1,322	429	425	329	359	336	341	248	234	155	124	265
Klllokot	317	145	119	59	66	94	105	69	56	41	43	124
Ranillug	315	154	159	124	96	101	143	135	108	99	103	360
Partesh	166	85	79	55	52	57	65	57	46	46	46	111
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,367</b>	<b>17,224</b>	<b>15,122</b>	<b>12,678</b>	<b>12,420</b>	<b>13,081</b>	<b>11,734</b>	<b>10,041</b>	<b>7,970</b>	<b>6,428</b>	<b>5,544</b>	<b>11,126</b>

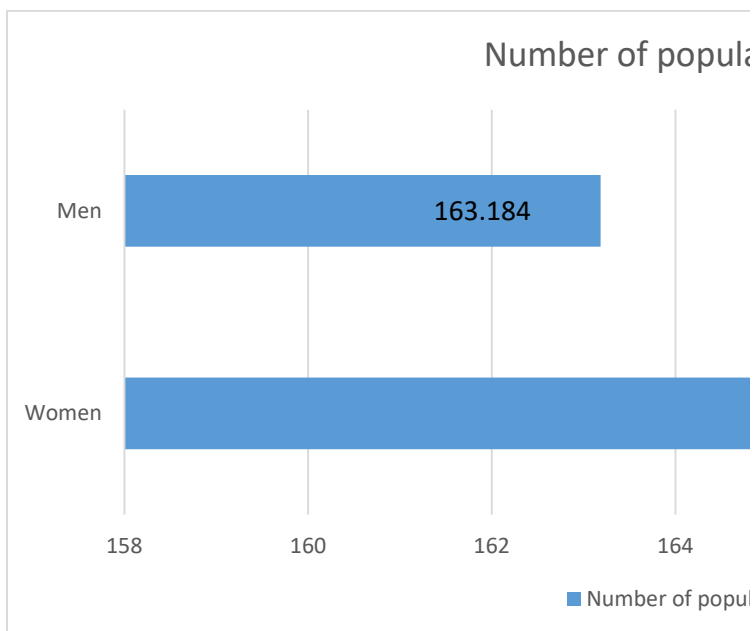
Table 13 Demographic data for men, by age group (KAS 2017 Population Estimation)<sup>20</sup>

No.	Municipality	0-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
1	Gjilan	12,084	5,056	4,435	3,469	3,058	3,012	3,204	2,797	2,237	1,629	1,299	3,074
2	Novo Brdo	841	309	312	278	241	240	237	221	190	143	129	340
3	Kamenica	4,599	2,001	1,721	1,498	1,379	1,362	1,119	1,113	946	709	619	1,413
4	Ferizaj	16,227	5,696	5,126	4,461	4,024	3,843	3,304	2,927	2,434	1,975	1,640	3,127
5	Kacanik	4,936	1,781	1,683	1,392	1,320	1,198	1,067	946	756	558	451	882
6	Shterpce	896	288	315	291	275	259	222	208	180	168	130	322
7	Viti	7,211	2,679	2,175	1,808	1,635	1,711	1,485	1,229	923	730	646	1,468
8	Hani i Elezit	1,456	471	406	425	382	327	321	302	214	156	117	259
9	Klllokot	353	165	125	104	68	83	82	91	51	63	43	90
10	Ranillug	340	154	169	148	115	91	118	173	146	112	91	312
11	Partesh	174	112	93	58	36	57	75	73	68	48	37	91
<b>Total</b>		<b>49,117</b>	<b>18,712</b>	<b>16,560</b>	<b>13,932</b>	<b>12,533</b>	<b>12,183</b>	<b>11,234</b>	<b>10,080</b>	<b>8,145</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>5,202</b>	<b>11,378</b>

Table 14 Number of population, by gender

<sup>19</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/media/2127/vlersim-popullsia-e-kosoves-2011.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/media/2127/vlersim-popullsia-e-kosoves-2011.pdf>



Unemployment phenomenon is mostly manifested among youth, where the demand for job exceeds the supply of job. This region has great potentials of human resources.



## HUMAN RESOURCES AND LABOUR MARKET

Other human resources in the Region East constitute an important factor for carrying out economic activities. An economic challenge faced by this region is unemployment. Unemployment phenomenon is mostly manifested among youth. The overall demand for job greatly exceeds the opportunities provided by the labour market. It is considered that employment opportunities are limited, especially among youth upon graduation. Given the large number of graduate youth, the municipalities need to develop annual

programmes for professional internship to be served by the youth. Based on the data of Employment Agency 2017 Report, the number of jobseekers in Region East is 20.905, whereas the supply of job is 1831. The Municipality of Gjilan has the highest number of jobseekers with 5725, followed by Ferizaj with 5460, Viti 2804, Kamenica 1713, Shterpce 1010, Novo Brdo 879, Hani i Elezit 498 and according to the relevant officials, Municipality of Killokot has 300 active jobseekers and Ranillug 683.

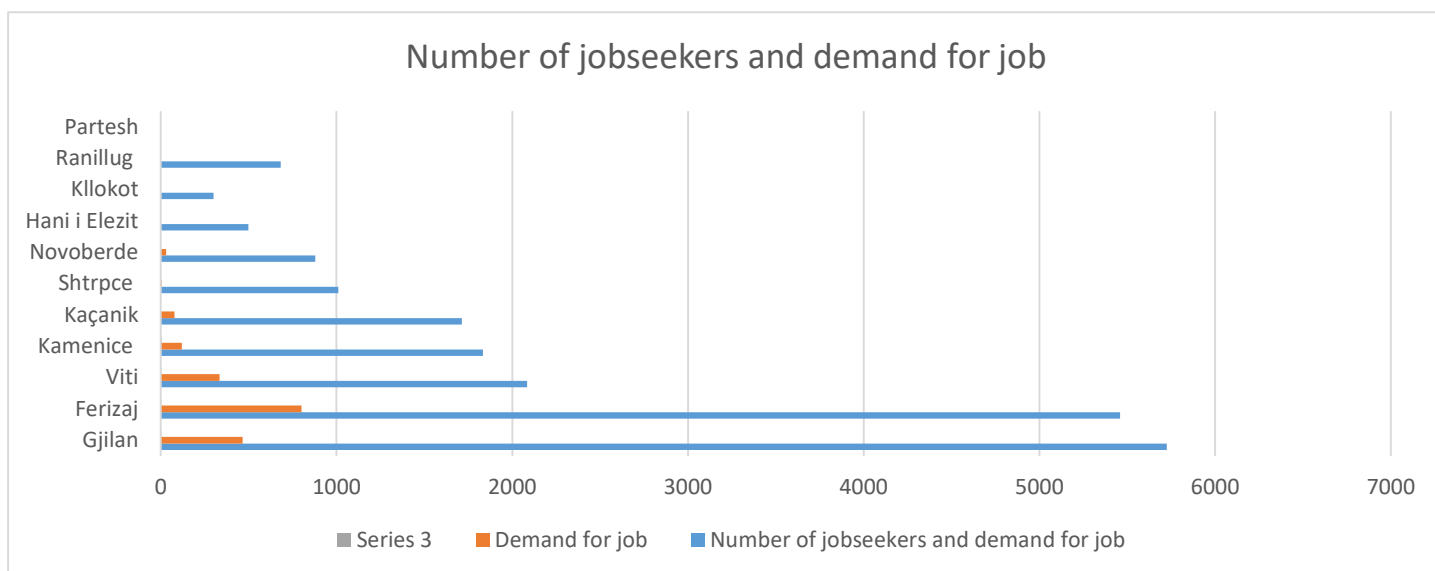
Table 15 Unemployment and job vacancies in Region East<sup>21</sup>

Municipality	Unemployment (Number of jobseekers)	Regular job vacancies	Job vacancies - ALMP
Gjilan	5,725	465	280
Novo Brdo	879	30	25
Kamenica	1,833	120	58
Ferizaj	5,460	801	187
Kacanik	1,713	77	92
Shterpce	1,010	4	37
Viti	2,804	334	134
Hani i Elezit	498	0	22

<sup>21</sup> <https://apr.k.rks-gov.net/sq-AL/Content/Documents?doctype=2> Employment Report for 2017

Kllokot	300 <sup>22</sup>	NA	NA
Ranillug	683 <sup>23</sup>	NA	NA
Partesh	NA	NA	NA
	<b>20.905</b>	<b>1831</b>	<b>835</b>

Table 16 Number of jobseekers in Region East



## EDUCATION



<sup>22</sup> Information submitted by the Municipality of Kllokot

<sup>23</sup> Information submitted by the Municipality of Ranillug

The education system in Region East is similar to other regions, characterized with a good infrastructure. According to public education statistics 2017-2018<sup>24</sup>, the number of primary and lower secondary schools in Region East is 200, whereas the number of upper secondary schools is 27. The number of public secondary schools totals to 227. According to the statistics of the same year, the number of pupils in primary and lower secondary education in this region is 45,455, including Serbs schools in the Municipality of Ranillug and Partesh. The number of pupils in upper secondary education is 18,894, including Serbs schools in the Municipalities of Killokot, Ranillug and Partesh. The number of pupils in two levels in Region East totals to 64,349.

The primary purpose of the secondary vocational education, namely vocational education and training and adult education institutions, is to prepare the cadres for labour market; however, if we are to follow the applicable legislation, the same provides opportunities for application in post-secondary education of National Qualifications Framework (NQF) Level 5 and university education.

Vocational secondary education in Region East is divided into 12 various fields: forestry and wood processing; machinery and metal processing; mining, metallurgy and geology; electronics; geodesy and construction; traffic; textile and leather; chemistry, non-metals and graphics; hospitality and tourism; economy and law; natural sciences and mathematics; health and social protection; and culture, art and public information.

Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, through the Employment Agency of the Republic of Kosovo, manages eight Vocational Training Centres (VTCs), with 69 workshops and 30 various occupations. These centres train and retrain persons registered as jobseekers, unemployed and those who receive services for career orientation in municipal employment offices. In Region East, Vocational Training Centres in the Municipality of Gjilan and Municipality of Ferizaj provide training sessions in the following occupations: administrative/accounting assistant; business administration; self-employment; electrical installations; construction; water supply and waste water installations; agriculture; computer-braille; culinary; welding; carpentry; ICT; janitor; catering; and central heating installer. Public and private institutions of higher education in the Region East in Kosovo provide Bachelor and Master studies.

Based on the statistics for public higher education for 2017-2018, the total number of graduate students in Region East at Bachelor level is 109, of whom 51 are men and 58 are women, whereas the total number of students in two public universities in Gjilan and Ferizaj is 4493. According to the statistics for higher education 2017-2018, the number of students at the Bachelor level in private institutions in the Municipality of Gjilan is 91, of whom 37 are women and 54 are men, whereas the total number of students is 465. With regards to the Master level in higher education, according to the Education Statistics 2017-2018, the Region East has two public universities with 15 graduate students, of whom 6 are women and 9 are men. The total number of students at Master level in public university is 155.

In Region East, the total number of graduate students at Master level in private institutions of higher education, according to Education

Statistics 2017-2018, is 27, of whom 15 are women and 12 are men. Total number of students in private institutions in Region East is 39.

Vocational secondary education in Region East is divided into 12 different fields: forestry and wood processing; machinery and metal processing; mining, metallurgy and geology; electronics; geodesy and construction; traffic; textile and leather; chemistry, non-metals and graphics; hospitality and tourism; economy and law; natural sciences and mathematics; health and social protection; and culture, art and public information. According to the data provided by municipal officials, Partesh has 2 primary schools and 4 secondary schools, and courses of mathematics with 140 pupils, medicine with 92, economics with 80 pupils, and electro technology with 62 pupils. According to municipal officials, the Municipality of Killokot has one secondary school providing technical-economic course, with 95 pupils in total. The Municipality of Ranillug has two secondary schools, namely the School of Economy – Trade Courses, and the School of Medicine, along with a branch in the Municipality of Kamenica, with a total number of pupils around 300. According to the municipal officials, the Municipality of Shterpce has two gymnasias, with the following courses: technician of economy, financial technician, law technician, physiotherapy technician, culinary technician, paediatric nurse, medical nurse, maths and general, natural sciences, social sciences, hospitality, machinery technician, with 724 pupils in total.

The Socio-Economic Region East is characterized by professional fields such as electrical engineering, machinery and metal processing.

<sup>24</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-ne-es/statistikat-e-arsimit-20172018>

Number of pupils	Ranilug	Kllokot	Gjilan	Ferizaj	Viti	Kamenica	Novo Brdo	Kacanik	Hani i Elezit	Shterpce	Partesh	Total
Forestry and wood processing				148								



Mining, metallurgy and geology						90						90
Machinery and metal processing			283	528	208	62		233				1314
Electrotechnics			544	349	404	279		220				1796
Geodesy and construction			259			60						319
Traffic				129		134		218				481
Textile and leather			238		18							256
Chemistry, non-metals and graphics			58		38							96
Trade, hospitality and tourism				242	57							299
Economy and law			1365	1313	86	136						2900
Health and social protection			894	788								1682
Culture, art and public information			894	87		761						1742
<b>Total</b>			4535	3584	811			671				9601

Table 17 Professional fields in Region East <sup>25</sup>



## NATURAL RESOURCES



<sup>25</sup> <https://masht.rks-gov.net/shkollat-profilet>

Natural resources represent a very important factor for economic development. Socio-Economic Region East has lakes and rivers, through which it may create the conditions for carrying out various economic activities. This region is characterized with satisfactory capacity of water and other natural resources. River of Lepenc, Nerodime and Morava e Binçes are the longest rivers in the Region. The zone of Sharr has around 25 small glacial lakes. Lake of Livadica and Jazhnica are the most beautiful ones, with a picturesque view.

The land is hilly-mountainous, fertile and suitable for agriculture. The structure of hilly-mountainous land is suitable even for wood industry. However, a great part of the land is currently unutilized, or it has not been utilized to the best purpose, in particular in relation to the agricultural planning, light industry or the medium-scale industry. Better utilization would contribute to a more economically diverse and viable region. Fauna is very rich in the Region East. Wild fauna living in this region includes: fox, wolf, bear, rabbit, wild goat, deer, etc. Also, this region is rich in minerals and ores, such as: lead, zinc, silver, gold, copper, chromium, iron, magnesium, lignite, decorative stone, marble, kaolin, granite, quartz sand, and clay. Artana mine is located in this region and is characterized with the highest percentage of these minerals and ores. The most significant Mn source, according to data of the Trepca Complex available, is found in the Artana area, where the conveyance of Pb-Zn leads to the mineralization of Mn-Fe. The assessed manganese resources in this source reach 5 million tons of minerals, with contents of Mn amounting to 22%. Mn ore valorisations should be conducted after the technical reviews of the state and approach opportunities to the closed Mn mine and programmatic explorations of the Mn concentration effects in concentrate ores, through floatation and magnetic concentration methods, should be reviewed prior to the Mn ore valorization from this location.<sup>26</sup>

Socio-Economic Region East has natural potentials and sources, as fertile lands, large water resources, mineral source as lead, zinc, silver, gold, iron, etc.

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<sup>26</sup> [http://kryeministri-ks.net/ëp-content/uploads/docs/Strategjia\\_Minerare\\_e\\_Republikes\\_se\\_Kosoves\\_2012-2025.pdf](http://kryeministri-ks.net/ëp-content/uploads/docs/Strategjia_Minerare_e_Republikes_se_Kosoves_2012-2025.pdf)

Socio-Economic Region East has a significant surface area of agricultural land and the most developed sectors are the livestock, orchard and vegetable farming.

## AGRICULTURE SECTOR



The Medium-continental climate and heterogeneous relief of Region East provide suitable conditions for development of livestock, harvests and agricultural production in general. In Region East, the total utilized agricultural area is 87.555,12 hectares, of which 18.708,56 hectares belong to the Municipality of Ferizaj, which is the municipality with the largest utilized agricultural area in Region East. The second municipality is the Municipality of Vitia, with 16.305,81 hectares and Municipality of Kamenica, with 14.928,75 hectares of the utilized agricultural area. The surface area of the arable land in Region East totals to 34.365,61 hectares, where the Municipality of Ferizaj has the largest surface area of the arable land, with 9.077,18, followed by the Municipality of Vitia with a surface area of 7.812,51 and Municipality of Gjilan, with a surface area of 5.949,88.

The surface area of gardens in the Socio-Economic Region East totals to 266 hectares, where the Municipality of Ferizaj has the largest surface area with 53,85 hectares, followed by the Municipality of Vitia with 51,26 hectares and Municipality of Gjilan with 46,36 hectares. The surface area of meadows and pastures in Region East is 51,759.88 hectares, whereby the Municipality of Kamenica has the largest surface area of meadows and pastures with 10,377.24 hectares, followed by the Municipality of Ferizaj with 9,348.04 hectares and Municipality of Vitia with 8,324.76 hectares. Forest lands in Region East have a total surface area of 12,476,52, where the Municipality of Gjilan has the largest surface area of forest land with 2,935.25 hectares, followed by the Municipality of Ferizaj with a surface area of 2,389.02 hectares and Municipality of Kamenica with 2,063.03 hectares.

Table 18 Data on the agricultural land in Region East<sup>27</sup>

MUNICIPALITI ES	Utilized agricultural land / surface area in ha	Arable land/surface area in ha	Kitchen gardens	Meadows and pastures / surface area in ha	Unutilized agricultural land/surface area in ha	Forest land/surface area in ha	Non- agricultural land/ surface area in ha
Gjilan	14 624.11	5 949.88	46.36	8 285.44	633.25	2935.25	306.67
Novo Brdo	4 949.58	2 281.80	14.64	2 577.83	213.39	1128.27	149.46
Kamenice	14 928.75	4 323.51	23.74	10 377.24	838.02	2063.03	280.39
Ferizaj	18 708.56	9 077.18	53.85	9 348.04	490.72	2389.02	846.23
Kacanik	7 883.43	1 516.57	27.68	6 281.89	185.82	1836.87	250.44

<sup>27</sup> [https://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/repository/docs/REGJISTRIMI\\_I\\_BUIQESISE\\_NE\\_REPUBLIKEN\\_E\\_KOSOVES\\_2014\\_Rezultatet\\_Perfundimtare.pdf](https://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/repository/docs/REGJISTRIMI_I_BUIQESISE_NE_REPUBLIKEN_E_KOSOVES_2014_Rezultatet_Perfundimtare.pdf)

<b>Shterpce</b>	4 227.35	294.40	15.72	3 828.59	382.25	132.59	63.95
<b>Viti</b>	16 305.81	7 812.51	51.26	8 324.76	421.85	734.74	669.66
<b>Hani i Elezit</b>	1 825.90	262.49	8.66	1 550.41	89.95	630.21	35.80
<b>Klllokot</b>	1 213.45	804.84	4.59	385.37	20.67	287.54	44.84
<b>Ranillug</b>	1 855.83	1 143.63	13.93	678.49	111.16	305.35	72.71
<b>Partesh</b>	1 032.35	898.80	5.90	121.82	6.50	33.65	56.82
<b>Total</b>	87.555,12	34.365,61	266.33	51759.88	3393.58	12,476,52	2776.97

## SECTOR OF TOURISM



Socio-Economic Region East has great potentials for rural winter and recreational tourism. It is worth mentioning, among others, the tourism potentials, such as: Brezovica Ski Centre, thermal-mineral spa in Klllokot, Castle of Novo Brdo, etc. Some of valuable objects of antiquity that are attractive to be visited are: Daradan church in mountains located between villages of Komogllave – Sojeve and old village; water supply from the Illyrian – Roman era in the village of Komogllave, Illyrian tombs (cemeteries) in the village of Varosh, Nika Mill which is still operational since 1321 and bifurcation of Nerodime River, as a rare natural phenomenon. The bifurcation of Nerodime River, namely a single stream flowing into two seas, is unique in Europe. The Nerodime River flows from the Jezerc Mountains and near Ferizaj is divided in two streams that discharge in two different seas. North watercourse (left stream) flows into Sitnica River and continues flowing into Iber and Morave Rivers, and through Danub discharges into the Black Sea, whereas the south watercourse (right stream) flows through Lepenc and Vardar Rivers into Aegean Sea. This natural phenomenon is very attractive for many researchers and has great educational, scientific and tourism importance. This region has great potential for winter tourism, based on an early tradition, which is directly related to the favourable topographic and climatic conditions for the development of this tourism. High mountains with snow cover of up to 280 days per year and proximity to road traffic with neighbour countries make the Region East very favourable for tourism. The most valuable tourism area in Region East is Brezovica, which is part of the National Sharr Park. Brezovica ridge covers a surface area of 39,000 hectares, with a high alpine terrain and forests. Brezovica Ski Centre in Sharr Mountains lies between 1.700 m and 2.500 m altitude. The National Park of Sharr is characterized with special natural beauties and values (biological, biogeographical, geological, geomorphological, hydrological and climatic) which are of special importance for recreation and tourism. Sharr is among six zones with the richest biodiversity in Europe<sup>28</sup>. This tourism area provides excellent weather and snow conditions, as well as skiing season from November to May.

Brezovica's geographic position has a strategic point, which can be reached for one hour from two international airports: Prishtina Airport (60 km) and Skopje Airport (70 km). Wild forests and mountains impress visitors a lot during the summer. Rich flora and fauna may contribute to development of protected areas and tourism in national park, in particular Sharr mountain area. Also, Sharr Mountains have small lakes in high altitude, with very picturesque



landscapes that are very attractive for many visitors. Coniferous forests with 40-year old white and black pine, with a surface area of 270 ha, located in the periphery of the Municipality of Ranillug, are attractive places for nature tourism development and can be used for nature recreation, medical spas and recreation tourism. Village of Ropotove has good conditions for hiking, cycling and motorcycling and riding.

Villages of Bozhevc, Rajanovce, Kormnjane and Domorovce have a rich diversity of flora and fauna and good conditions for excursions, eco-tourism, rural tourism, hunting and other forms of nature tourism. Tourist attractions in the community of Ranillug are cultural and sport events, as "Vidovdan Games" in Ropotove and games for marking the 1<sup>st</sup> of May.

**Socio-Economic Region East has developed the winter tourism in Brezovica and rehabilitation tourism in Klllokot. This region is distinguished for rare natural, climatic and hydrologic beauties.**

This region provides excellent opportunities for tourism, as: skiing, eco-tourism, parachute drops from mountainous heights, mountain biking, rock climbing, mountaineering, riding, etc.

<sup>28</sup> WCMC 1989



## BUSINESS PROFILES AND NUMBER OF REGISTERED BUSINESSES

Business Profiles in Region East are diverse. Socio-Economic Region East has the largest number of municipalities. The number of businesses registered in the Region East is 34109 and includes: individual businesses, foreign companies, agricultural combines, publicly-owned enterprises, socially-owned enterprises, partnerships, common partnerships, joint stock companies and limited liability companies. The Region East has 28574 individual businesses, 4746 limited liability companies and 642 common partnerships. Based on the table below, the total number of businesses in the Municipality of Ferizaj is 12879, of which the sector of individual businesses has the highest number of businesses, namely 10434 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with 2093, and common partnerships with 293. Based on the table below, the total number of businesses in the Municipality of Gjiilan is 10379, of which the sector with the highest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with 8573 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with 1604, then common partnerships with 151. Based on the table below, the total number of businesses in the Municipality of Viti is 3897, of which the sector with the highest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with 3424 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with 370, then common partnerships with 87 businesses. The Municipality of Ranillug has the lowest number of businesses in Region East, with a total of 3 individual

businesses. The Municipality of Hani i Elezit has 155 businesses, of which 89 are individual businesses and 64 limited liability companies.

In Socio-Economic Region East, individual businesses account for the largest number of businesses, followed by limited liability companies and common partnerships.

Municipalities		Individual business	Foreign company		Agricultural combine	Publicly-Owned Enterprise	Socially-Owned Enterprise	Other enterprises under the jurisdiction of KTA	Partnerships	Common partnership	Joint Stock Company	Limited Liability Companies		Grand Total	
Gjilan		8573	23		6	1	/	/	2	151	19	1604		10379	
Ferizaj		10434	23		4	1	2	/	1	293	28	2093		12879	
Viti	3424	5	3	/	/					/	/	87	8	370	3897
Kamenica	2461	1	1	/	/					/	/	45	1	209	2718

<b>Novo Brdo</b>	307	/	1	/	/	/	/	4	/	60	372
<b>Kacanik</b>	2571	6	3	/	2	/	2	57	1	258	2900
<b>Hani i Elezit</b>	89	/	/	/	/	/	/	1	1	64	155
<b>Shterpce</b>	712	1	3	/	/	/	/	4	1	88	809
<b>Ranillug</b>	3	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	3
<b>Klllokot</b>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<b>Partesh</b>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<b>Total</b>	28574	59	21	2	4	/	4	642	59	4746	34109

Socio-Economic Region East has favourable conditions for business development. This region consists of two industrial zones: Industrial Park in Vitia, Industrial Zone in Ferizaj and Business Incubator in Gjilan.

## ECONOMY AND CONDITIONS FOR BUSINESS



Socio-Economic Region East has great potentials and very favourable conditions for businesses, considering important factors such as: well-educated labour force, enviable natural resources, low taxes, and transparent tax system and purchase power due to the great revenues through remittances. Economy

in Region East is depended on wholesale trade, production, construction and services. Functional industrial zones in Region East are located near Ferizaj, village of Babush, with a surface area of 128,888 m<sup>2</sup>, where fourteen (14) businesses operate. It is also worth mentioning that another industrial zone is being constructed in the Municipality of Ferizaj, namely village of Komogllave.

In Region East, the industrial park has been developed in Vitia. The economic zone, namely industrial park has been established in Budriga, Municipality of Vitia. This industrial park has been established on 21.02.2017, with a surface area of 15.50 hectares, aiming the attraction of investors in this region.

The city of Gjilan has the Business Incubator, which has been funded by EU through the European Agency for Reconstruction, with a capacity of 1000 m<sup>2</sup> for business and 18 working premises. The Municipality of Ferizaj owns 77,09.88 ha of land divided into 46 different cadastral parcels within settlements or into 12 separate cadastral zones. The vast majority of these lands are located in rural



areas. Parcels with the highest surface area in the municipal property are located in the municipal zone in Komogllave with 8.84.19 ha, whereas the parcel with the smallest surface area is located in the municipal zone Nerodime e Poshtme with 0.18 ha. The Municipality of Vitia owns 26.993.59 ha of land in total. The number of municipal parcels in the Municipality of Ranillug is 105, with a total of 77617 m<sup>2</sup>.



Percentage of paved local roads in the Socio-Economic Region East is more than 63%. International highways and international railway cross this region.

## INFRASTRUCTURE



The existing roads in Region East lay along the traffic lines Albania – Kosovo – Serbia – Macedonia. The infrastructure in Region East has been significantly improved in the last years, both in regional and local roads. “Route 6”, which includes the section Prishtina – Hani i Elezit (Arbër Xhaferi) at the border with Macedonia, with a length of 65 kilometres and it is a highway of European standard constructed during the period 2015-2019. This highway is a bridge connecting to the main transport network in Southeast Europe. Also, this region has implemented very important investments for improving the local infrastructure in 11 municipalities of the Economic Development Region East. According to the statistics of 2017 Municipal Performance Report published by MLGA, the municipalities with the highest percentage of asphalted local roads are: Municipality of Hani i Elezit with 84.43%, followed by the Municipality of Ferizaj with 81.91%, then Municipality of Gjilan with 73.58%, Municipality of Ranillug with 66.56%, Municipality of Klllokot with 65.22%, Municipality of Kacanik with 64.41%, Municipality of Shterpce with 60.32%, Municipality of Kamenica with 57.53%, Municipality of Partesh with 55.43%, Municipality of Novo Brdo with 49.63% and Municipality of Vitia with lowest percentage of paved local roads, namely 38.68%. Socio-Economic Region East is a region that is considered to have a high percentage of settlements connected to the water supply system and waste water treatment system. Municipalities with the highest percentage of connection to the water supply system are: Municipality of Shterpce with 100 %, Municipality of Ferizaj with 95.56, Municipality of Ranillug with 75 %, Municipality of Gjilan with 66.67%, Municipality of Vitia with 64.10%, whereas municipalities with lowest percentage of connection of settlements in the water supply system are Municipality of Kamenica with 6.90 %, Kacanik with



25.81 % and Partesh with 33.33%. The first municipality with 100% connection to the waste water treatment system is the Municipality of Partesh, Municipality of Ferizaj with 95.56%, Municipality of Klllokot with 75%. In Region East, the municipality with the lowest percentage is the Municipality of Gjilan with 9.52%. According to the statistics of regional performance of municipalities for 2017, the municipality which has complete public lighting is the Municipality of Klllokot with 73.33%, followed by the Municipality of Gjilan with 69.47% and Municipality of Ranillug with 53.66%. Municipalities with the lowest percentage are the Municipality of Kacanik 5.15%, Municipality of Novo Brdo with 13.91% and Municipality of Kamenica with 19.53%. Socio-Economic Region East has access to railway infrastructure, which is an old infrastructure, but operational. Railway line, which is part of the international railway line, includes two cities of Region East: Ferizaj and Hani i Elezit. Energy system is distributed in almost all over the Region East.

Table 19 Local infrastructure in Region East<sup>29</sup>

Municipality	Percentage of paved local roads in municipalities in %	Percentage of settlements connected to the water supply system in %	Percentage of settlements connected to the waste water treatment system in %	Percentage of the length of local roads with public lighting in %
Gjilan	73.58	66.67	9.52	69.47
Ferizaj	81.91	95.56	95.56	42.59%
Viti	38.68	64.10	0.00	23.99
Kamenica	57.53	6.90	0.00	19.53

<sup>29</sup> <https://mapl.rks-gov.net/raportet-vjetore-te-mapl-se/> Municipal Performance Report 2017

<b>Novo Brdo</b>	49.63	60.00	0.00	13.91
<b>Kacanik</b>	64.41	25.81	0.00	5.15
<b>Hani i Elezit</b>	84.43	63.64	0.00	51.18
<b>Shterpce</b>	60.32	100.00	0.00	/
<b>Ranillug</b>	66.56	75.00	0.00	53.66
<b>Kllokot</b>	65.22	50.00	75.00	73.33
<b>Partesh</b>	55.43	33.33	100.00	/

# REGIONAL PROFILES

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION NORTH





## SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION

# NORTH

**2.051.84** km<sup>2</sup>

**361** settlements

**225.938** residents

*Socio-Economic Region East consists of seven municipalities: South Mitrovica, North Mitrovica, Leposaviq, Zvecan, Zubin Potok, Vushtrri and Skenderaj. Socio-Economic Region North is bordered by Serbia in the north, bordered by Region Centre in northeast and Region West in the west.*



Socio-Economic Region North has the smallest surface area and lowest population number and lowest population density compared to other regions.

## SURFACE AREA AND POPULATION



Socio-Economic Region North covers a surface area of 2,051.84 km<sup>2</sup> or 18.81 % of the whole territory of Kosovo (10,905,25 km<sup>2</sup>)<sup>30</sup>. Population of Region North totals to 225,938 or 12.56% of total population in Kosovo (1,798,506). Population density in the Socio-Economic Region North is 110 people per one km<sup>2</sup>. Municipality of Leposaviq is among the municipalities with the largest surface area in the Region North with 539.05 km<sup>2</sup>, followed by the Municipality of Skenderaj with a surface area of 374.37 km<sup>2</sup> and the Municipality of Vushtrria with 344.85 km<sup>2</sup>, Zubin Potoku with 334.38 km<sup>2</sup>, South Mitrovica with 331.18 km<sup>2</sup>, Zvecani with 123.01 km<sup>2</sup>, and North Mitrovica with 5 km<sup>2</sup>. Most populated municipalities are: Municipality of South Mitrovica with 69,346 residents, where the population density is 209 people per 1 km<sup>2</sup>, Municipality of Vushtrria with 64,468 residents and the population density in the Municipality of Vushtrria is 186 people per 1 km<sup>2</sup>, Municipality of Skenderaj with 52,343 residents and population density of 139 people per 1 km<sup>2</sup>, Leposaviq has 13,587 residents and a population density of 25 people per 1 km<sup>2</sup> which is the municipality with the lowest population density in Region North. North Mitrovica has 12,211 residents and population density is 244 people per 1 km, representing the municipality with the highest population density in this region. Zvecan has 7,367 residents and population density is 59 people/km and Zubin Potok has 6,616 residents or 19 people/km. This Region has seven municipalities with around 361 settlements or 24,09 % of total settlements in Kosovo. Municipality of Leposaviq has the largest number of settlements with 72 settlements and has the largest surface area in Region North. The Municipality of North Mitrovica has the lowest number of settlements with 3 settlements and represents the municipality with the smallest surface area in Region North.

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<sup>30</sup> [http://kryeministri-ks.net/ep-content/uploads/2018/03/Raport\\_Faktografik\\_Matja\\_e\\_territorit\\_te\\_Republikes\\_se\\_Kosoves\\_032017.pdf](http://kryeministri-ks.net/ep-content/uploads/2018/03/Raport_Faktografik_Matja_e_territorit_te_Republikes_se_Kosoves_032017.pdf)

Table 20 Data on the surface area and population of Region North.<sup>31 32</sup>

No.	Municipalities	Population	Surface area	% of territory of Region North	No. of settlements
1	South Mitrovica	69.346	331.18 km <sup>2</sup>	16.14 %	46
2	North Mitrovica	12.211	5 km <sup>2</sup>	0.24 %	3
3	Zvecan	7.367	123.01 km <sup>2</sup>	5.99 %	63
4	Zubin Potok	6.616	334.38 km <sup>2</sup>	16.29 %	61
5	Skenderaj	52.343	374.37 km <sup>2</sup>	18.24 %	49
6	Vushtrri	64.468	344.85 km <sup>2</sup>	16.80 %	67
7	Leposaviq	13.587	539.05 km <sup>2</sup>	26.27 %	72
	<b>Total</b>	<b>225.938</b>	<b>2,051.84</b>	<b>99.97 %</b>	<b>361</b>

## DEMOGRAPHY



<sup>31</sup> <https://www.osce.org/mission-in-kosovo/municipal-profiles>

<sup>32</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-neës/vleresimi-i-popullsise-2017>

Economic Region North has diverse population demography, with Albanians, Bosniaks, Serbs, Turks, RAE, etc. Region North is dominated by Albanians with 195.992, followed by Serbian community with 70.880, Bosnian community with 2141, RAE community with 1656 and Turkish community with 1007 and others 708. The city with the highest number of residents under 19 years is South Mitrovica with 27.092 residents, or 39.50 % of total population of the Municipality of South Mitrovica. Municipality of Vushtrria has 23.376 residents under 19 years, or 41.10% of total population of Vushtrria. The Municipality of Skenderaj has 20.274 residents under 19 years, or 38.90% of population of Skenderaj. Municipality of Vushtrria has the highest percentage of population under 19 years in Region North. The municipality with the highest natural population growth in Region North, according to KAS statistics<sup>33</sup>, is the Municipality of South Mitrovica with 891 residents, followed by the Municipality of Vushtrria with 846 residents and Skenderaj 658. The Region North has a population with the largest number of men with 96283, compared to the number of women in the same region with 91369.

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<sup>33</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-neës/vleresimi-i-popullsisë-2017>

Table 21 Demographic data, death rate, birth rate, communities by municipality of east region (KAS Population Estimates 2017).

Municipality	Total number of population	Birth rate	Death Rate	ALBANIANS	BOSNIAKS	TURKISH	RAE	SERBS	OTHERS
Mitrovica South	69,346	1,359	468	69,497	416	518	1.181	14	70
Skenderaj	52,343	898	240	50,685	42	1	11	50	5
Vushtrri	64,468	1,240	394	68,840	33	278	212	386	53
Mitrovica North	12,211	32	77	4,900	1,000	210	240	22,530	580
Leposavic	13,587	31	12	270	350	/	12	18,000	/
Zvecan	7,376	33	16	500	300	/	/	16,000	/
Zubin Potok	6,616	44	9	1,300	/	/	/	13,900	/
<b>Total</b>	<b>225947</b>	<b>3,637</b>	<b>1216</b>	<b>195,992</b>	<b>2141</b>	<b>1007</b>	<b>1656</b>	<b>70,880</b>	<b>708</b>

Table 22 Demographic data of age groups disaggregated by sex - females (KAS Census 2011)<sup>34</sup>

Municipality	0-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
Mitrovica South	9,815	3,260	2,997	2,833	2,839	2,554	2,185	1,956	1,766	1,557	1,216	2,656
Skenderaj	7,414	2,481	2,339	2,030	1,974	1,797	1,398	1,220	1,046	826	784	1,903
Vushtrri	9,457	3,343	3,027	2,667	2,686	2,454	2,136	1,833	1,576	1,280	1,137	2,270
Mitrovica North	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Leposavic	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Zvecan	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Zubin Potok	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,686</b>	<b>5,741</b>	<b>8,363</b>	<b>7,530</b>	<b>7,499</b>	<b>6,805</b>	<b>5,719</b>	<b>5,009</b>	<b>4,388</b>	<b>3,663</b>	<b>3,137</b>	<b>6,829</b>

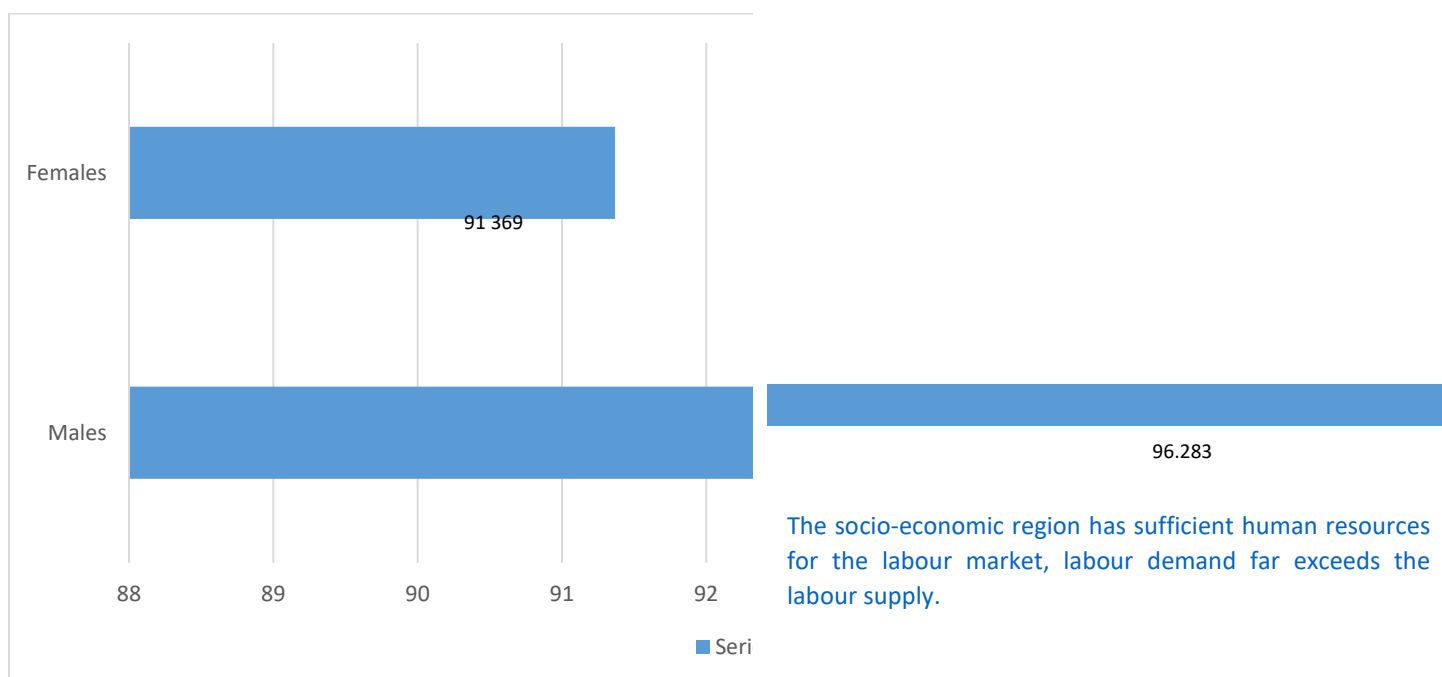
Table 22 Demographic data of age groups disaggregated by sex - male (KAS Census 2011)<sup>35</sup>

Municipality	0-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
Mitrovica South	10,536	3,481	3,433	3,061	2,719	2,424	1,984	1,850	1,769	1,429	1,171	2,418
Skenderaj	7,617	2,762	2,749	2,286	1,831	1,745	1,308	1,127	1,062	879	706	1,574
Vushtrri	10,177	3,742	3,580	2,280	2,688	2,375	1,980	1,882	1,636	730	1,054	2,238
Mitrovica North	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Leposavic	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Zvecan	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Zubin Potok	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,330</b>	<b>9,985</b>	<b>9,762</b>	<b>7,627</b>	<b>7,238</b>	<b>6,544</b>	<b>5,272</b>	<b>4,859</b>	<b>4,467</b>	<b>3,038</b>	<b>2,931</b>	<b>6,230</b>

<sup>34</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/media/2127/vlersim-popullsia-e-kosoves-2011.pdf>

<sup>35</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/media/2127/vlersim-popullsia-e-kosoves-2011.pdf>

Chart 3 Number of population by sex



The socio-economic region has sufficient human resources for the labour market, labour demand far exceeds the labour supply.

## HUMAN RESOURCES AND LABOR MARKET



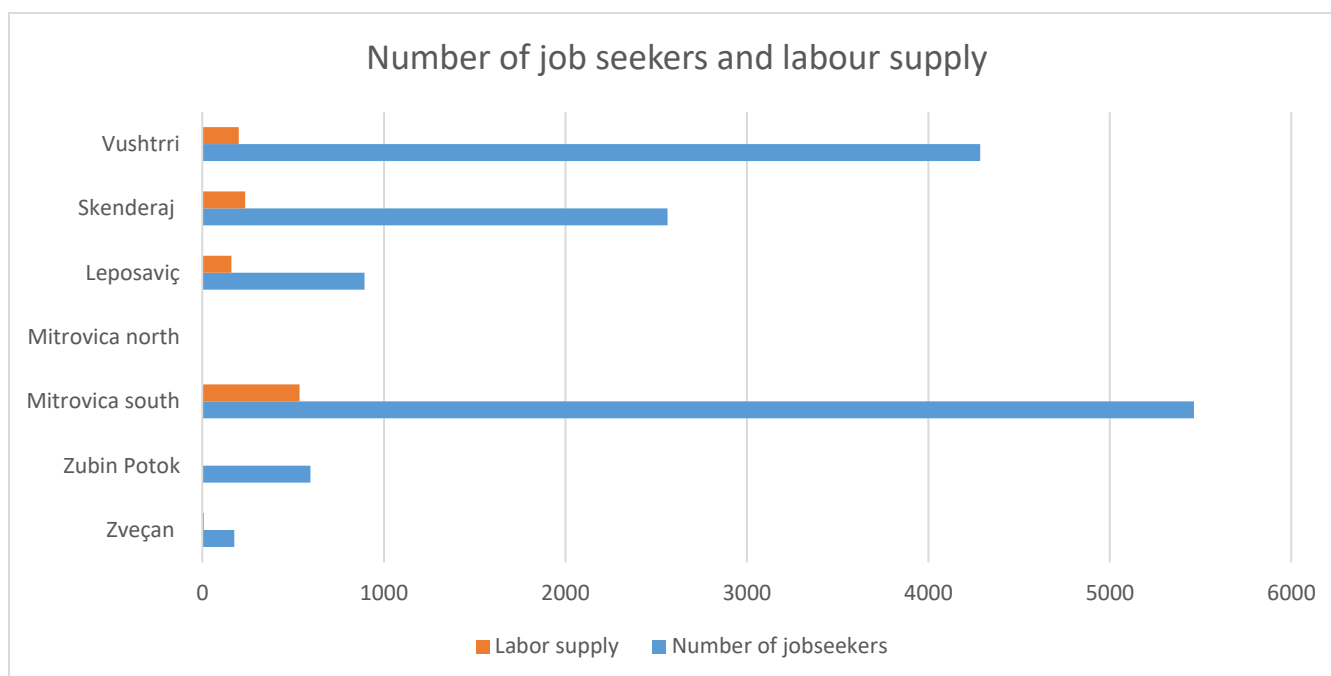
The socio-economic region north has sufficient potential for workforce supply. The unemployment is an existing element which is considerably prevalent in this region. Based on the employment statistics report for 2017, the total number of jobseekers in the region north is 13950, while the workforce supply is 1138 which represents a large discrepancy between the workforce supply and demand, always bearing in mind that the data does not reflect the reality on the ground. Many jobseekers are not directed to employment offices in order to be identified as figures. From the table below we see that the

municipality of Mitrovica has the highest number of jobseekers at 5464 with a small supply at 535 vacancies. Municipality of Vushtrria has 4285 jobseekers and 200 vacancies. Municipality of Skenderaj has 2563 jobseekers and 235 employment opportunities, followed by municipalities with the lowest number of jobseekers such as the following Municipalities: Leposavic with 893 jobseekers, Zubin Potok with 569 jobseekers and Zvecan with 176 jobseekers. The socio-economic region north has a high human potential for the labour market, including a fairly young and skilled labour force.

Table 24 Unemployment and vacancies in the region north <sup>36</sup>

Municipality	Unemployment (Number of jobseekers)	Regular job vacancies	PATP job vacancies
Mitrovica South	5,464	535	244
Skenderaj	2,563	235	119
Vushtrri	4,285	200	239
Mitrovica North	/	/	/
Leposaviç	893	160	20
Zveçan	176	8	30
Zubin Potok	569	0	63
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,950</b>	<b>1138</b>	<b>715</b>

Chart 4 Number of job seekers and labour supply



## EDUCATION



<sup>36</sup> <https://apr.k.rks-gov.net/sq-AL/Content/Documents?doctype=2> Raporti I punësimit për vitin 2017

The education system in this region is organized based on the ethnic lines. Schools in Mitrovica South, Vushtrria, Skenderaj are under the authority of the Ministry of Education and Science of Kosovo and schools in the municipalities of Zubin Potok, Zvečan, Leposavic and Mitrovica North operate as a parallel system. According to the public education statistics of 2017-2018<sup>37</sup> in the north region, there are a total of 141 schools in both primary and lower secondary education levels. At the level of primary and lower secondary education in the region north we have 126 schools while in upper secondary education 12 schools. According to the same statistics, there are 39,452 students, out of which 28,660 are in primary education, whereas 10,792 in upper secondary education. Regarding the number of special schools in the region north there are two schools according to public education statistics 2017-2018, one is in Leposavic and one in Mitrovica South. The number of students with special needs in these schools is 52.

Secondary vocational education, namely vocational education and training and adults education institutions, is primarily aimed at preparing the capacities for the labour market, but if the course, stipulated in the legislation in force, is pursued, it also offers the possibility of applying for postgraduate secondary level studies at the 5th level of national qualifications framework - NQF and undergraduate studies. Secondary vocational education in the region north is divided into 12 different areas; Forestry and wood processing, machinery and metalworking, mining, metallurgy and geology, electronics, geodesy and construction, traffic, textile and leather processing fields, chemistry, non- metals and graphics, hotel and tourism, economic and legal field, natural- mathematical, health and social protection, arts and public information field.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, through the Employment Agency of the Republic of Kosovo, manages eight vocational training centres (VTCs) with 69 workshops and 30 different occupations. All persons registered as jobseekers, unemployed and those receiving career guidance services are provided with training and retraining in these centres at all employment offices in the municipalities. Training in the following occupations: Carpentry, Culinary, textile, Construction, Welding, ICT business administration/self-employment are offered in the municipality of Mitrovica and Dolan, Zvečan, whereas IT training is offered in the municipality of Skenderaj.

Bachelor and Master studies in public and private institutions are provided in higher education institutions in Kosovo, namely in the region north. According to public higher education statistics of 2017-2018 there is a total number of 20156 students attending a public university, out of which 70 students are graduates, 32 females and 38 males. In the Region North, according to education statistics 2017-2018, there is in a private Bachelor level university with a total number of 159 students based, and according to the same statistics, there are 22 graduates, out of which 15 females and 7 males. According to public education statistics 2017-2018 at the level of higher education we have a public university in Mitrovica providing Master studies to a total number of 229 students, with 43 graduates, out of which 18 females and 25 males. In addition, there are three vocational training centres in Mitrovica: the German Training Centre, the Danish manufacturing school in the South and the vocational training centre in Dolan (Northern Mitrovica).

<sup>3839</sup> Secondary vocational education in the region north is divided into 12 different areas; Forestry and wood processing, metalworking

and metal processing, metallurgy and geology, electronics, geodesy and construction, traffic, textile and leather industry, chemistry, non-metals and graphics, hotel and tourism, economic and legal field, natural, mathematical, health and social protection, culture, arts and public information.

Education fields that are characterized in this region are metal-processing, mining and metallurgy.

<sup>37</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-neës/statistikat-e-arsimit-20172018>



Table 25 Professional Subjects in the Region North<sup>40</sup>

	Mitrovica south	Mitrovica north	Zvečan	Zubin Potok	Skënderaj	Vushtrri	Leposaviç	Total
Forestry and wood processing								
Mining, metallurgy and geology	229				224	219		672
Machinery and metal processing	173				322	525		1020
Electro-technical field	319				177	197		693
Geodesy and construction	39				75			114
Traffic	114				323	265		702
Textile and leather						91		91
Chemistry, not metals and graphics	115				442			557
Trade, hospitality and tourism	371					158		529
Economic and Legal	704				369	105		1178
Health and social protection	768							768
Culture, art and public information	33							33
<b>Total</b>	2865				1932	1560		6357

<sup>40</sup> <https://masht.rks-gov.net/shkollat-profilet>

## NATURAL RESOURCES



This region has underground mineral resources, forest reserves, fertile land, water resources and tourist potential. The socio-economic region north is very rich with water resources, such as the river of Iber and Sitnica, and the largest artificial lake of

Ujmani, one of the largest water reservoirs of this nature in Europe. The Municipality of Skenderaj has underground assets that represent a great economic potential of this area, such as limestone, high quality clay for processing of construction materials. Bajza and Syrigan villages are rich in lead and zinc. In the villages of Polac and Prekaz in the municipality of Skenderaj were discovered coal reserves of up to 7 million tons in depths of 10-15 m, a large asset that is still pending capital investments in the area. Based on the fact that the Feronikeli mine is not far from the territory of the municipality of Skenderaj, according to some data there are signs that even in the villages of the municipality of Skenderaj such as Qirez, Baks, Prelovc etc., exist some underground ores, however an accurate scientific research must be conducted.

The Mitrovica area is rich in pastures, fields, forests and mountainous areas. The great potential of this area is the hydrography that is rich with rivers and lakes of great water potentials such as the Iber River, and the Ujmani Lake, with a picturesque view over the watercourse of Iber River branching to Sinica, Lushta, Trepça and Bistrica rivers. Trepça is a precious natural resource of the entire Kosovo, which possesses a great potential for economic development of the region and the entire Republic of Kosovo. There are great sources of: lead, zinc, silver, cadmium.



Mitrovica is among the most important cities not only in Kosovo but also in the entire Balkan Peninsula and beyond, for mineral resources.

## AGRICULTURAL SECTOR



The potentials for development of agricultural production of all kinds in the Region North are high. Fertile lands, pastures, hilly-mountainous configuration make this region quite diverse to have a highly developed agricultural industry. Agricultural land in the Region North consists of gardens, orchards, vineyards, greenhouses, meadows, pastures and other dense soil in their configuration. Agricultural activities in these areas are diverse and include cultivation of various varieties of cereals, fruits and vegetables, including vineyards, whereas with regard to livestock, different types of animals and poultry are used for nutrition needs and supply of milk and other meat products to the industry and markets, including fish farming. Given the region's mountainous configuration and natural wealth in forests and meadows, the socio-economic western region is traditionally known for beekeeping and honey processing as well as meat processing industry which has been further developing in recent years. The overall vision for agriculture and rural development in this region is to achieve a balanced

In the socio-economic region of the north it is estimated that there are over 7,000 hectares of land under irrigation.

contribution to economic, environmental, social and cultural wellbeing between private sector, central/local government and communities within the region's development context. Speaking of fertile soil, we can make mention the soft soil by the Ibër and Sitnica. Wheat, corn, oats, turnips, barley, melon, watermelon, pepper, cabbage, cucumber etc, are cultivated in the aforementioned soil. The Municipality of Vushtrria is another region with highly developed agriculture where most of the lands are hilly and used for pastures and agricultural production. Vushtrria is the largest potato producer in Kosovo. The largest potato processing plant is located there as well. This Municipality possesses a 17,505.59 utilized area of agricultural land, of which about 7,000 hectares are under the irrigation system.

Table 26 Data on agricultural areas in socio-economic region north <sup>41</sup>

MUNICIPALITIES	Used agricultural land / ha area	Arable land-fields / surface area ha	Gardens	Meadows and pastures / Surface ha	Unused agricultural land/surface area ha	Forest land / surface ha	Non- agricultural land / surface ha
Mitrovica South	10 942.41	2 297.54	17.50	8 537.89	324.60	1 772.50	238.87
Skenderaj	19700.73	12703.41	50.59	6783.52	844.57	6309.21	704.61
Vushtrri	17505.59	10892.74	39.87	6422.29	644.7	1981.77	697.12
Mitrovica North	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Leposavic	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Zvecan	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Zubin Potok	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<b>Total</b>	48,148.73	25,893.69	107.96	21,743.70	1,813.87	10,063.48	1,640.60

<sup>41</sup> [https://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/repository/docs/REGJISTRIMI\\_I\\_BUIQESISE\\_NE\\_REPUBLIKEN\\_E\\_KOSOVES\\_2014\\_Rezultatet\\_Perfundimtare.pdf](https://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/repository/docs/REGJISTRIMI_I_BUIQESISE_NE_REPUBLIKEN_E_KOSOVES_2014_Rezultatet_Perfundimtare.pdf)



The socio-economic region north has high potential for tourism development. High mountains such as Mokra Gora, Shala e Bajgores, Çyçavica with their beautiful nature represent great potential for development of eco-tourism and winter tourism. The Ibri's Valley can be used for various recreations and sports activities. Ujmani Lake is attractive to visitors during the summer. Tourist resorts in the region are only at the initial stage of development. The Banjska Banja possesses three thermal-mineral springs that help skin healing and rheumatic diseases. All springs are near and have a water temperature of 46-56 °C

Types of tourism that can be developed in the Shala region are as follows: mountain tourism, cultural tourism, rural tourism and eco-tourism. Mountain Tourism - Mountains of Bajgora with its natural beauties, rich flora and fauna, the extraordinary landscape with gorges, rich heritage monuments offer favourable conditions for the development of tourism. Winter and summer mountain tourism should be one of the most advanced forms of tourism, due to the favourable conditions that this region offers to visitors. The mountains of Bajgora are known for beautiful and attractive landscapes used also for livestock pastures, and for farmers stay in summer time. As far as summer tourism is concerned, it can be said that visits to these localities has already started, even though this form of tourism is at the initial phase due to the lack of infrastructure. One of the forms of tourism in the municipality of Mitrovica may also be rural tourism. The arable lands located in the villages of Bajgora are planted with various fruits and vegetables. The Ecotourism-Shala region, as a rich and untapped place with very fertile land that offers many nutritious products treated with organic fertilizers only, with attractive mountains that offer conditions for vacation and development of the touristic village Barel. A kind of touristic potential that Shala has is the out of function Trepça mines, which are interesting points for tourism development. The Crystal Museum was founded in 1964, where over 1300 exponents of different types of crystals are located there, transforming the museum into a site of great national importance for Kosovo, both in terms of value as well as in terms of tourism. Vushtrria is one of the oldest cities in Kosovo, which in the Roman period is mentioned as a trade centre named Vicianum. Vushtrria is considered to be the ancient Viciania, mentioned in the "Peutinger Table" in Vienna. Though considered as a city with numerous cultural heritage values, experts believe that it is necessary to trace new discoveries of cultural heritage throughout the region of Vushtrria municipality. Vushtrri Castle is one of the oldest monuments. The castle is located in the part where a higher relief starts from the West towards the East. All historical sources mention this as the old castle. Based on its construction model, composition of construction material and other

## TOURISM SECTOR



records of the auxiliary sciences of history, it appears to be Illyrian-Dardan, but its parts are thought to have been built in the Middle Ages as well. The city's *hammam* is also located in the middle of the city of Vushtrria. It is considered to belong to the middle ages, namely XV century. The Stone Bridge is also an important monument of cultural heritage and is thought to date back to the XV century. French guide Philip Kane, who visited Vushtrria in 1579, mentioned the Stone Bridge. This bridge is considered to be a unique case since it contains no water underneath, even though the Silnica River passes no farther than 300 meters from the bridge. The composition of the pedological soil along the river and the paths are thought to be the reasons behind shifted river stream from the riverbed as well as the existence of trees and willows along the riverbank.

There are several historical towers and tourist attractions in Skenderaj Municipality visited by many local and foreign tourists such as: Ahmet Delia's Tower, Tahir Meha's Tower, Adem Jashari's Tower,

### Types of tourism that can be developed in the Shala region are: mountain tourism, cultural tourism, rural

Ilaz Kodra's Tower. Memorial Complex "Adem Jashari" which is located in Prekaz, where besides the houses converted into museums, there are also all the graves of the Jashari family fallen in the war. Taking into account the necessity of protecting this area of special interest, which has an ontological, anthropological, historical and cultural significance for the citizens of Kosovo, the Kosovo Assembly adopted the law for proclaiming the Memorial Complex "Adem Jashari" an area of Special National Interest. Near the grave of the first three martyrs of this family, such as Shaban, Hamëz and Adem Jashari, stands the KSF Guard, which honours the Legendary Commander and the entire Jasharaj family. Over 12 years this complex is believed to have been visited by millions of Albanian citizens from all ethnic territories, as well as by millions of visitors from the region.



## BUSINESS PROFILES, NUMBER OF REGISTERED BUSINESSES

There are 17626 businesses registered in the region north. The types of businesses are diverse such as: Individual businesses, foreign companies, agricultural cooperatives, public enterprises, socially owned enterprises, partnerships, general partnerships, joint stock companies and limited liability companies. Individual businesses constitute the largest number of businesses in the northern region with a total of 15432 businesses, followed by limited liability companies with total of 1732 businesses and general partnerships with a total of 332 businesses. In the Mitrovica South Municipality, according to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of individual businesses with a total of 6407 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with a total of 739 and next followed by general partnerships with a total of 148 businesses. Vushtrri Municipality has a total of 4244 businesses. According to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses in Vushtrri municipality is the sector of individual businesses with 3746 such businesses followed

by the sector of limited liability companies with a number of 444 and followed by general partnerships with total of 44 businesses. The Municipality of Vushtrria has a total of 4244 businesses. According to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses in Skenderaj municipality is the sector of individual businesses with 2312 businesses followed by the sector of limited liability companies with 193 followed by general partnerships with 46 businesses. The Municipality of Skenderaj has a total of 2560 businesses. While the municipality with the smallest number of businesses in the eastern region is the Mitrovica North municipality with a total of 612 businesses: 488 individual businesses and 124 limited liability companies.

In the socio-economic region north individual businesses comprise the largest number of registered businesses, followed by limited liability companies.

Table 27. Economic activities profiles and their number, socio-economic region north

Municipalities	Individual businesses	Foreign companies	Agricultural Cooperatives	Public enterprises	Socially owned enterprises	Other enterprises under the jurisdiction of the KTA	Partnerships	General Partnerships	Joint Stock Companies	Limited Liability Companies	Grand Total
Mitrovica South	6407	14	1	/	2	/	/	148	65	739	7376
Mitrovica North	488	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	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
<b>Total</b>	<b>15432</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>1732</b>	<b>17626</b>

## ECONOMY AND CONDITIONS FOR BUSINESS



The socio-economic region north and the largest city in the region -Mitrovica are known for the mining and metallurgical industry, as the main employer in the region. Mitrovica is rich in minerals, particularly with lignite, metals such as lead, zinc, ferronickel, magnesium, etc. The current technological condition of these mining complexes, for the time being, do not allow for effective exploitation of minerals, while the constructed processing capacities have also sustained a technological degeneration. Exploitation of these minerals depends on the interest of strategic investors. There are over 16,000 registered companies in Mitrovica, Vushtrri and Skenderaj, but these are mainly dominated by trade rather than production, with small stores, which mainly sell imported goods. The manufacturing sector is underdeveloped due to factors such as the informal economy, very high loan interest rates by commercial banks, no credit system for start-up activities, etc. The socio-economic region north has plenty of space for construction of industrial facilities and business parks, but most of them are owned by Trepça and are subject to the privatization process of this enterprise. Business operational parks in the region are as follows: The business Park in Mitrovica, the business Park in Dolane, Municipality of Zvečan, the business Park in Vushtrria. The business park in Skenderaj has not been operational and in 2018 a new initiative has been taken to relocate and make it functional. The business Park in Mitrovica was established in 2012, with a surface of 3.5 ha. The Business Park was the first initiative in Kosovo by the municipality of Mitrovica supported by MTI as a pilot project for a business zone of manufacturers. Its implementation was a role model for absorbing donations and encouraging businesses. For this purpose, the municipality has allocated 3.5 hectares of land for the purpose of implementing the "Business Park" project, where a total of 22



## INFRASTRUCTURE

When it comes to the region north, we can say that regional and local road infrastructure are at an average level of development compared to other regions, although infrastructure investments are generally growing. The national road in this region passes west of the city, along the Iber River and Gazivoda Lake to Montenegro and the Adriatic Sea, while the Prishtina-Mitrovica highway is under construction. Regarding the infrastructure of local roads, the socio-economic region north has marked a high percentage of development, based on the 2017 regional performance statistics, where the municipality which leads with paved roads is the Municipality of Mitrovica South with 100%, Municipality of Skenderaj with 100%, Municipality of Vushtrria with 77.40% and Municipality of Zvečan with 55%. When it comes to percentages of settlements included in the drinking water system, the socio-economic region north is not at a satisfactory level. Based on the above mentioned statistics, the Municipality with highest

The socio-economic region north in some municipalities has over 80% of local roads paved and regulated.



businesses have benefited. The Industrial Park in Frashër-Mitrovica, was established in 2014 with a surface of 48 hectares. There were investments in this area such as regulating the physical infrastructure, out of which 10 ha have been flattened and arranged for advertisement. 7 contracts were concluded to start investments. The industrial park in Frashër has been developed in stages I, II, III & IV, and currently work is being done on the stage V. Industrial zones are a good opportunity for investors to develop their businesses and business conditions in these areas are favourable. Industrial zones are one of the best incentives for the economy in the north. The Municipality of Mitrovica has 1540 municipal owned plots, in the area of 56,819,776 m<sup>2</sup>. The Municipality of Skenderaj owns 799, 79.55 ha of municipal property. The Municipality of Glllogovc owns 1870.97.57 Ha of municipal land.

percentage of inclusion in drinking water supply is the Zvečan Municipality with a percentage of 34.29%, the Municipality of Vushtrria with 29.85% and Municipality of Skenderaj with 16.33%.

Three business park zones have been established in the socio-economic region north: Business Park in Mitrovica, Business Park in Dolane, Zvečan Municipality, and Business Park in Vushtrri. Business Park in Skenderaj.

We do not have statistical data from this report for other municipalities. In this region, the length of local roads with public lighting is very small. Also, the percentage of settlements connected to the waste water treatment system is not satisfactory in this region:



The municipality with the highest percentage of public lighting is the Mitrovica South with 32.35%, Skenderaj with the same percentage of 32.35%. Zvečan has a percentage of 30.02% of public lighting and Vushtrria with 24.33 whereas we do not have data from this report for other municipalities. Regarding the waste water treatment system, the municipality of Mitrovica South has a percentage of 16.33 and the municipality of Vushtrria has a percentage of 1.49%. The North-South railway line between Belgrade and Pristina passes through Mitrovica to Skopje and through Thessaloniki to the Mediterranean

Sea. The socio-economic region north does not have a satisfactory situation with the telecommunications network and there is a separate regional postal service, according to the ethnic division of the region. There are land-line telephony service providers such as PTK and others. Power supply comes from power plants in Obiliq. Part of the region north is supplied with electricity from Novi Pazar in Serbia. The Gazivoda Lake Hydropower Plant has small capacity, which supplies consumers at critical consume times.

Table 23. Local Infrastructure in the Region North <sup>42</sup>

Municipality	Percentage of local paved roads in the municipality in%	Percentage of settlements included in the drinking water system in%	Percentage of settlements connected to the waste water treatment system in%	Percentage of length of public streets with public lighting in%
Mitrovica North	/	/	/	/
Mitrovica South	100.00	/	16.33	32.35
Skenderaj	100.00	16.33	/	1.64
Vushtrri	77.40	29.85	1.49	24.33
Leposavic	/	/	/	/
Zubin Potok	/	/	/	/
Zvečan	55.00	34.29	/	30.02

# REGIONAL PROFILES

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION WEST

<sup>42</sup> <https://mapl.rks-gov.net/raportet-vjetore-te-mapl-se/> raporti I performances se Komunave 2017



**2.324.38 km<sup>2</sup>**

**314** settlements

**323.588** inhabitants





## SURFACE AREA AND POPULATION



The Socio-Economic Region West covers about 2,324.38 km or 21.31% of the total area of Kosovo (10,905.25 km<sup>2</sup>)<sup>43</sup>. With a total population of 323,588 people or 17.99% of Kosovo's population<sup>44</sup>. The Socio - Economic Region West includes 314 settlements, i.e. 20.96% of Kosovo's settlements. The population density is 139 inhabitants per km in the region west. Whereas the most densely populated municipalities in the region west are Peja with 99,568 inhabitants or 165 inhabitants per km, Gjakova with 95,340 inhabitants, or 162 inhabitants per km. Deçani with 41,808 inhabitants or 142 inhabitants per km. Municipalities with the largest surface areas in the region west are Peja with 602,63 km<sup>2</sup> or 25.92% of the territory in the region West, Gjakova with 586,62 km<sup>2</sup> or 25.23% of the territory in the region West, and Istog with 454.36 km<sup>2</sup> or 19.54% of the territory in the region West.

<sup>43</sup> [http://kryeministri-ks.net/ep-content/uploads/2018/03/Raport\\_Faktografik\\_Matja\\_e\\_territorit\\_te\\_Republikes\\_se\\_Kosoves\\_032017.pdf](http://kryeministri-ks.net/ep-content/uploads/2018/03/Raport_Faktografik_Matja_e_territorit_te_Republikes_se_Kosoves_032017.pdf)

<sup>44</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-neës/vleresimi-i-popullsisë-2017>

Table 24 Data on the surface area and population of the region West.<sup>4546</sup>

Municipalities	Population	Surface area	% of the territory of the region West	No. of settlements
Deçan	41.808	293.97 km <sup>2</sup>	12.64 %	37
Gjakova	95.340	586.62 km <sup>2</sup>	25.23 %	91
Istog	40.380	454.36 km <sup>2</sup>	19.54 %	50
Junik	6.370	77.78 km <sup>2</sup>	3.34 %	3
Klina	40.122	309.02 km <sup>2</sup>	13.30 %	54
Peja	99.568	602.63 km <sup>2</sup>	25.92 %	79
<b>Total</b>	<b>323.588</b>	<b>2.324.38 Km2</b>	<b>99.97 %</b>	<b>314</b>

## DEMOGRAPHICS

<sup>45</sup> <https://www.osce.org/mission-in-kosovo/municipal-profiles>



The population of the region west is relatively young, composed of a various ethnicities. There are 294.488 Albanians living in the region west, 5.081 inhabitants from the Bosnian community, 88 from the Turkish community, and 13.533 are RAE, while 644 are from the Serb community. The socio-economic region West has a young population, consisting of 117.669 inhabitants under the age of 19, regarding the population under 19, Gjakova dominates with a number of 17.141 inhabitants or 18% of the population of the municipality of Gjakova. Whereas Peja has 16,531 inhabitants under 19 or 16.60% of the total population of Peja followed by the municipality of Istog with 7.250 inhabitants under 19 or 17.90% of the population, Decani has a 7.081 inhabitants

under 19 years old or 16.90% of the population of Decan, Junik has 1133 inhabitants under 19 or 17.70% of the population of Junik, whereas the municipality of Klina has a number of 7631 inhabitants under 19, or 19% of the population, this shows that the municipality of Klina has the highest percentage of population under 19 in the region West. Gjakova has the highest natural increase in the region West with 912 inhabitants, followed by the municipality of Peja with 892 inhabitants and the municipality of Klina with 594 inhabitants, based on the statistics of population estimation for 2017. The socio-economic region west is represented with a larger number of males, consisting of 157.443 males compared to the number of females which is 156.610 in the same region.

Table 25 Demographic data, mortality, birth rate, communities by municipalities in the region West (KAS population estimation 2017)<sup>4748</sup>

Municipality	TOTAL POPULATION	BIRTH RATE	MORTALITY	ALBANIAN	BOSNIAN	TURKISH	RAE	SERB	OTHER
Peja	99,568	1,517	625	87,975	3,786	59	3,836	332	321
Istog	40,380	627	273	36,154	1,142	10	1,694	194	45
Deçan	41,808	570	174	39,402	60	/	468	3	20
Junik	6,370	73	28	6,069	/	/	/	/	4
Klina	40,122	810	216	37,216	20	3	1,097	98	23
Gjakova	95,340	1,539	627	87,672	73	16	6,438	17	105
	323,588	5,136	1943	294,488	5,081	88	13,533	644	518

<sup>47</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-neës/vleresimi-i-popullsise-2017>

<sup>48</sup> <https://www.osce.org/mission-in-kosovo/municipal-profiles>

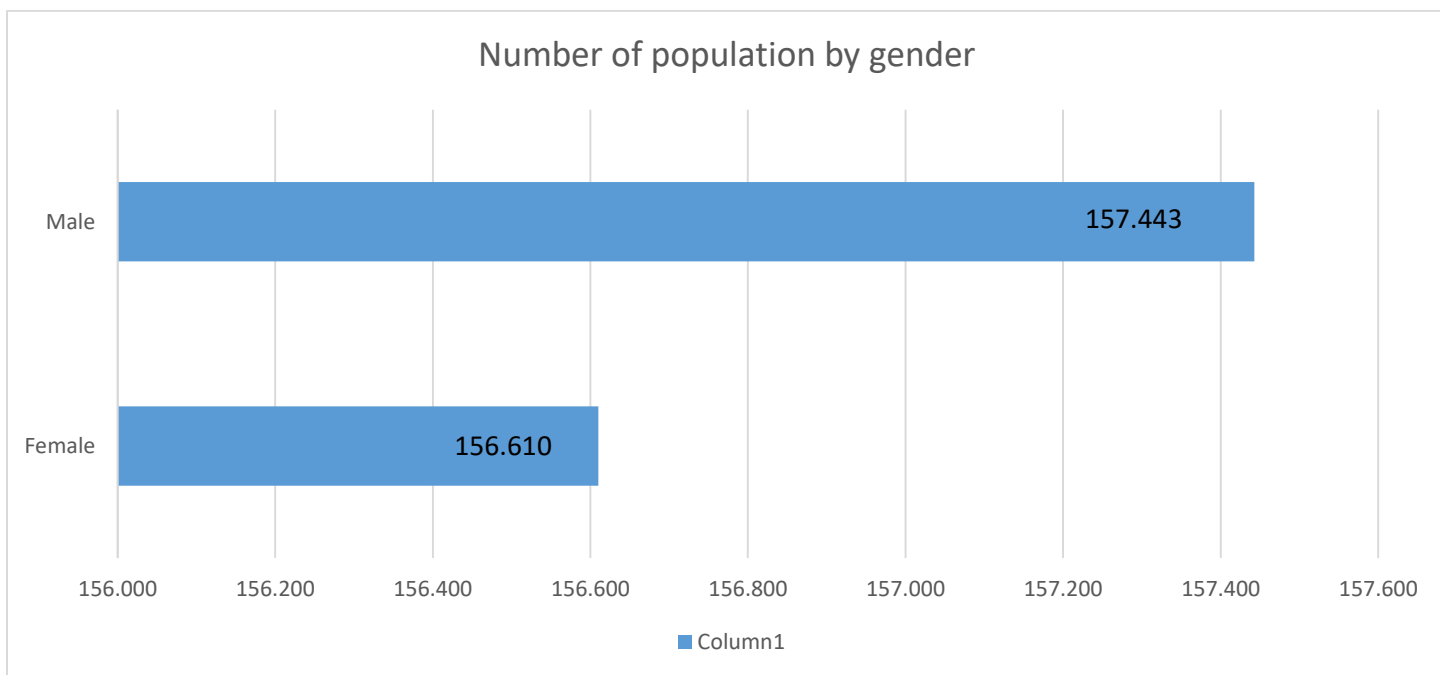
Table 26 Demographic data, age groups by gender (KAS population census 2011)

Municipality	0-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
Peja	12,016	4,515	4,173	3,841	3,572	3,703	3,241	2,877	2,514	2,048	1,735	4,063
Istog	5,208	2,042	1,605	1,414	1,412	1,479	1,228	1,023	839	749	710	1,618
Deçan	5,056	2,025	1,887	1,607	1,555	1,471	1,351	1,045	851	751	593	1,072
Junik	829	304	269	276	268	227	194	151	124	107	88	252
Klina	5,561	2,070	1,804	1,616	1,406	1,312	1,098	966	826	695	563	1,386
Gjakova	12,120	5,021	4,105	3,442	3,274	3,465	3,124	2,767	2,377	2,017	1,664	3,954
	<b>40,790</b>	<b>15,977</b>	<b>13,843</b>	<b>12,196</b>	<b>11,487</b>	<b>11,657</b>	<b>10,236</b>	<b>8,829</b>	<b>7,531</b>	<b>6,367</b>	5,353	12,345

Table 27 Demographic data, age groups by gender, male (KAS population census 2011)

Municipality	0-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
Peja	12,977	4,880	4,524	3,913	3,400	3,244	2,692	2,789	2,478	2,000	1,554	3,431
Istog	5,601	2,109	1,993	1,637	1,460	1,319	1,133	1,077	992	771	572	1,358
Deçan	5,415	2,156	1,989	1,790	1,567	1,446	1,263	1,116	858	736	523	1,266
Junik	852	268	283	261	289	248	195	151	128	86	66	168
Klina	5,837	2,195	1,984	1,528	1,319	1,231	987	887	828	639	537	1,221
Gjakova	13,180	5,432	4,841	3,691	3,176	3,025	2,811	2,586	2,250	1,782	1,347	3,105
Total	<b>43,862</b>	<b>17,040</b>	<b>15,614</b>	<b>12,820</b>	<b>11,211</b>	<b>10,513</b>	<b>9,081</b>	<b>8,606</b>	<b>7,534</b>	<b>6,014</b>	4,599	10,549

Chart 4 Number of population by gender



## HUMAN RESOURCES AND THE LABOUR MARKET



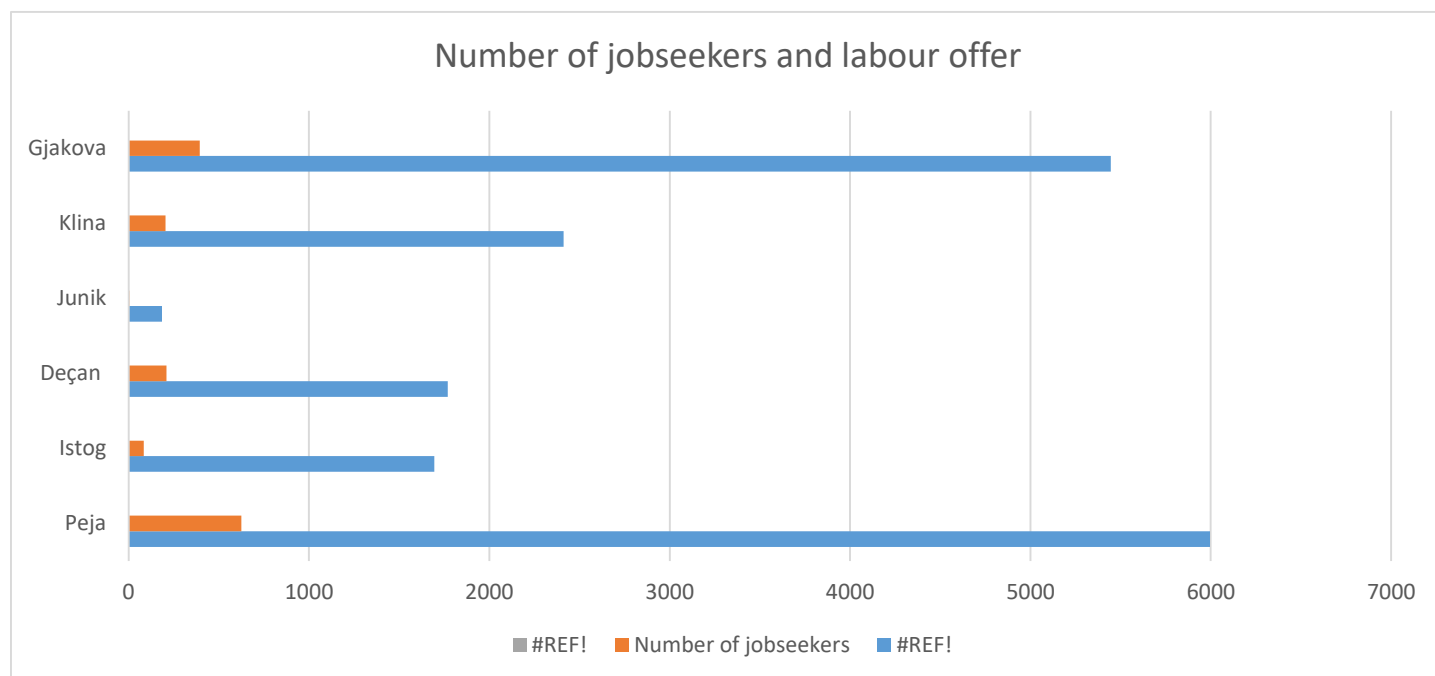
Human resources and the labour market in the region West also represent an important factor for the development of economic activities. In the region West we have a number of 17,500 jobseekers and a market offer of 1520 vacant positions based on the statistics extracted from the 2017 employment report. The ratio between supply and demand is quite large due to the lack of access to and registration of jobseekers in employment offices. In the region West, the municipality with the highest number of jobseekers is the Municipality of Peja with a number of 5995 jobseekers, and an offer of 625 vacant positions. The second municipality is the municipality of Gjakova with a number of 5446 jobseekers and an offer of 395 vacant positions, and the municipality of Klina with a number of 2411 jobseekers and an offer of 204 vacant positions. They are followed by the municipality of Decan with 1770 jobseekers and the municipality of Istog with 1694



jobseekers. The municipality with the lowest number of jobseekers is the municipality of Junik with 184 jobseekers and only 3 vacant positions.

Municipality	Unemployment (Number of jobseekers)	Regular vacant positions	Vacant positions ALMP
Peja	5,995	625	284
Istog	1,694	83	169
Deçan	1,770	210	41
Junik	184	3	5
Klina	2,411	204	88
Gjakova	5,446	395	371
	<b>17,500</b>	<b>1520</b>	<b>958</b>

Table 28 Unemployment and vacant positions in the region West <sup>49</sup>



<sup>49</sup> <https://apr.krs.gov.net/sq-AL/Content/Documents?doctype=2> Employment Report for 2017

## EDUCATION



The public and private education system in the region West is comprised of four levels, primary and lower secondary education, upper secondary education, and Bachelor and Master Levels. Based on the statistics of public education 2017-2018<sup>50</sup>, there are a total of 187 schools in the region West. There are 164 schools of primary and lower secondary education, and 23 schools of upper secondary education. Regarding the number of students, based on the same statistics, the region West has a number of 41.536 students in primary and lower secondary education and 14.520 students in upper secondary education, and these two levels have a total of 56.056 students combined. Regarding the number of special schools, this region has one special school in the municipality of Peja with 25 students.

Vocational secondary education, namely the Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education institutions, is primarily aimed at the preparation of staff for the labour market, however, if the course stipulated in the applicable legislation is followed, it also provides the possibility to apply for higher post-secondary studies at the 5<sup>th</sup> level of the national qualifications framework - NQF and university studies.

Secondary vocational education in the Centre region is divided into 12 different fields; Forestry and wood processing, machinery and metal processing, mining, metallurgy and geology, electronics, geodesy and construction, traffic, textile and leather processing, chemistry, non-metals and graphics, hospitality and tourism, economics and law, nature, mathematics, health and social care, culture, arts and public information.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, through the Employment Agency of the Republic of Kosovo, manages eight vocational training centres (VTCs) with 69 workshops and 30 different professions. The training and retraining of persons registered as jobseekers, unemployed and those receiving career guidance services at all employment offices in the municipalities is carried out in these centres. In the region West, the vocational training centre in Peja offers training in these professions: Administrative assistant/accounting, business administration, electrician, construction, plumbing, agriculture, computer braille, kitchen, welding, woodworking, entrepreneurship/self-employment, management of macro- and micro-enterprises, hairdressing, tailoring.

The public and private institutions of higher education in Kosovo, respectively those in the region West, provide Bachelor and Master studies. According to the statistics of public education 2017-2018, there are two public universities in Gjakova and Peja, with a total number of 13,367 students. Based on the same statistics of education, a total of 1.025 students graduated at the Bachelor level, where 742 of them are female and 283 are male. Likewise, the education statistics 2017-2018 indicate that, at the Bachelor level, in the region West, there is a College in Peja with a total of 228 students. Based on these statistics, there are 138 Bachelor graduates of which 47 are female and 91 male. At the Master level, according to the public education statistics 2017-2018, the region West has two public universities with a total number of 1699 students. According to the same statistics, 207 students have graduated, of which 140 are female



and 67 male. In private institutions at Master level, based on the same statistics, the Region West has a college with a total number of 33 students.

In the socio-economic region West there is a large number of students in profiles such as machinery and metal processing, electro-technics, and trade, hospitality and tourism.

<sup>50</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-neës/statistikat-e-arsimit-20172018>

Table 29 Number of students in vocational schools<sup>51</sup>

Number of students	Deçan	Gjakova	Istog	Junik	Klina	Peja	Total
Forestry and wood processing	45					22	67
Mining, metallurgy and geology							
Machinery and metal processing	203	161	378		225	225	1192
Electro-technics	113	224	53		111	442	943
Geodesy and construction		156	88			138	382
Traffic	250					219	469
Textile and leather processing		67				48	115
Chemistry, non-metals and graphics		155					155
Trade, hospitality and tourism		330				320	650
Economics and law		773				994	1767
Health and social care		807				492	1299
Culture, arts and public information					336	455	791
<b>Total</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>2673</b>	<b>519</b>		<b>672</b>	<b>3355</b>	<b>7830</b>

## NATURAL RESOURCES

<sup>51</sup> <https://masht.rks-gov.net/shkollat-profilet>







The socio-economic region West is rich in natural resources; the geographic location, fertile soil and weather conditions, especially in the Dukagjin Plain, are ideal for the development of horticulture, fruit production, beekeeping and arable land. The arable lands present great potential for development of agriculture. The socio-economic region West has a significant number of lakes as well; Lake of Radoniq and Erenik in the Municipality of Gjakova, two natural lakes of Gjeravica in Junik, Lake of Liqenat and Lake of Drelaj in the municipality of Peja as well as "Liqeni i pafund (Neverending lake)", "Lake leqe leqe" and Lake of Gjervica in Decan. Other water resources in this region are a large number of rivers such as White Drin, Lumebardhi of Peja, Klina River, Mirusha River, Istog River, Erenik River, Lloqani River etc. The National Park "Bjeshket e Nemuna (Accursed Mountains)" is one of the biggest resources in the region West, extending to the 5 municipalities of the region West. Moreover, the Municipality of Istog also possess lignite reserves, with a surface of 100 km<sup>2</sup> thickness of 30-50 metres and up to 230 metres depth. There is also a

significant area of forests and pastures that presents great potential for the development of agriculture and livestock. The municipality of Klina possesses mineral and non-mineral natural resources such as: 2

The socio-economic region is noted for potentials in the agriculture sector, it is estimated that the Region West has over 22.685 hectares of agricultural land under irrigation.

billion tons of lignite reserves, 2 million tons of bauxite ore, 6.5 million tons of clay, 3.5 million tons of sand and gravel. Along the river of Mirusha, in the south and south-west of Klina, are the waterfalls, a rare natural beauty with very rich flora and fauna. This complex covers an area of 200 h, and is a protected area - reserve, which provides good opportunities for development of tourism.

The natural resources of the socio-economic region West include the mountainous terrains that cover the national park "Bjeshket e Nemuna"

## AGRICULTURE SECTOR



The western region of Kosovo is estimated to have about 141,287 hectares of agricultural land in its six municipalities and 111,537 hectares of forest and meadows. 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 kinds of animals and birds are bred for the needs of dairy and meat industry products and their markets. Given the region's mountainous terrain and natural resources such as forests and meadows as well as sufficient livestock capacity, the region West is traditionally known for beekeeping and honey extraction as well as meat processing industry, which has been significantly developing in recent years. There is also a great potential in arboriculture, which is growing and is one of the leading Kosovo market suppliers with apples. The existing orchards in Istog and new surface areas in the Gjakova, Peja, Deçan and Klina indicate that this region is developing this sector, by replacing export products.

Unlike other regions, the region West and its municipalities are in a better position regarding the irrigation of agricultural land, where according to a report by the Environmental Protection Agency. under the management of RIC "Drini i Bardhë" and RIC "Radoniqi-Dukagjin" a total of 22.685 ha have been irrigated in the region West



as opposed to 42.226 ha in the whole territory of Kosovo, which, consequently, is significantly higher compared to other regions. However, compared to the area of agricultural land in the region, the expansion and modernization of this network should remain a priority. Favourable climate conditions and the appropriate relief make the

region of the municipality of Klina optimal for the development of agriculture. This region is known for the cultivation of white grains, fruits, vegetables and cultivation of cattle. Beekeeping is also highly developed in this region.

.Table 30 Data on agricultural areas in the region West<sup>52</sup>

MUNICIPALITIES	Exploited surface area of the agricultural land/Surface area ha	Arable Fields/Surface land-area ha	Gardens	Meadows and pastures/Surface area ha	Unused agricultural land/Surface ha	Forest land/Surface area ha	Non-agricultural land/Surface area ha
Peja	21024.91	7141.92	54.51	13496.83	1039.14	2070.93	688.04
Istog	20653.91	9091.08	50.51	11124.83	426.64	1761.64	601.33
Deçan	10043.88	2901.94	29.86	7003.17	71.25	860.13	472.31
Junik	1298.16	604.86	3.49	636.16	104.28	528.33	62.59
Klina	14947.55	10214.33	34.41	4461.54	375.58	2753.88	681.93
Gjakova	21378.34	7422.08	41.35	13711.47	1137.85	4754.76	788.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	89346.75	37376.21	214.13	50434	3154.74	12729.67	3294.75

## TOURISM SECTOR

The socio-economic region west is a region with high potentials in the field of mountainous, winter, cultural and historical tourism. The national park "Bjeshket e Nemuna" extends throughout the region West.

<sup>52</sup> [https://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/repository/docs/REGJISTRIMI\\_I\\_BUIQESISE\\_NE\\_REPUBLIKEN\\_E\\_KOSOVES\\_2014\\_Rezultatet\\_Perfundimtare.pdf](https://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/repository/docs/REGJISTRIMI_I_BUIQESISE_NE_REPUBLIKEN_E_KOSOVES_2014_Rezultatet_Perfundimtare.pdf)



The Municipal and Urban Development Plans, the West Regional Development Strategy and other strategic documents identify tourism as one of the fields with potential for development and creation of new jobs in the region West of

Kosovo. The tourism sectors identified in these strategic documents are mountainous tourism which possess sports and recreation elements, mainly in Peja, Decan, Junik, Gjakova and Istog, cave exploring tourism (speleology) in Peja, Gjakova, Decan and Klina; health and welfare tourism, starting from thermal mineral waters in Istog and other appropriate places for the development of rehabilitation centres in the entire region; water, land, mountains and air sports and recreational activities for which the region West provides the most suitable conditions; agro-tourism in places with rich landscapes and active rural life; and cultural tourism and heritage which is also of special importance. Regardless of such potential for development of tourism and catering services, which will in turn support and enrich the tourist offer, the achievements made until now are far from bringing forward the full development potential of the sector.

The tourist information offices have an important role and are directly involved in the process. In the region, there is a Regional Tourist Centre in Junik, a Tourist Information Office and a Visitor Centre in Peja as well as a Municipal Tourism Office in Gjakova, which provide tourists and visitors with tourist information and material. The sector with the highest potential for development in the region West is mountain tourism, however, this type of tourism with sports and recreation elements, and suitable accommodation facilities, for which Peja and Decan and certain parts of Gjakova and Istog have the highest potential, requires capital investments that cannot be covered by local companies. Therefore, this sector should be properly promoted as a suitable sector for foreign direct investments, including implementation of a feasibility study and appropriate legal and administrative preparation to facilitate investment.



Additionally, the health and wellbeing tourism is a suitable sector for foreign investments, mainly in the area of Istog, however, domestic investments can also play an important role in promoting this sector of tourism. On the other hand, other tourism sectors that can be developed with local capacities are speleological tourism, sports and recreational tourism based on water, land, mountain and air activities. There are currently many civil society organizations that carry out activities in the aforementioned areas, namely in creating speleological maps of the region through exploring expeditions, occasional events of rafting and canoeing in the rivers of the region, organization of bicycling, motorcycle races and other motor vehicle

races, mainly along mountain and field trails and terrains; alpine and mountain activities, hunting and fishing activities, as well as activities of aero-clubs in sliding and paragliding in various forms. However, the possibilities of turning these activities into sustainable businesses have been explored to a very small extent and require institutional support in order to achieve full potential.<sup>53</sup> The spring of Drini i Bardhe and the Radavc cave have been under protection since 1983 as nature monuments and have a surface area of 89,94 hectares. The cave and the spring of Drini i Bardhe are located near Radavc village, about 11 kilometres from the city of Peja, near the road Peja-Rozhaja. These two beauties of natural heritage are located in the north-eastern part of the "Bjeshket e Nemuna" mountain ranges.

Gjakova has a favourable geographic position which lies in the south-western part of the Dukagjini Plain, in the middle of the Prizren-Peja road. Gjakova lies on the left bank of Erenik River, east of Çabrati hill, on both sides of Krena River, at an average altitude of 365 metres.

To the west of Çabrati, which has an altitude of 440-460 metres, lie the mountains of Junik and Shkelzeni - part of the Bjeshket e Nemuna (Albanian Alps).

The municipality of Gjakova is known for its cultural, natural, spiritual heritage as well as a wide range of traditional gastronomy. The most attractive and most visited part of Gjakova is Çarshia e Madhe (Grand Bazaar), which is one of the largest bazaars of the region with a surface area of more than 34,000 m<sup>2</sup> and over 500 shops, where, apart from the old crafts, there are also shops from the field of hotels and tourism.

There are currently 4 museums in the municipality of Gjakova: the Historical Museum, the Ethnographic Museum, the Music Museum and the Qerkezi Family Museum from the war of 1999, not forgetting the large number of old traditional houses and old bridges such as: Bridge of Terezi, Tabak, Taliq, and the "Ura e Fshajt" (Sacred Bridge), etc.

Also, Gjakova is rich with a high number of old places of worship. In this regard it is worth mentioning the Hadum Mosque, Mahmut Pasha Mosque, Kusari Mosque; the Church of St. Paul and St. Peter, Church of St. Ndou, Church of Bec, etc. as well as a significant number of tekkes such as: the Grand Autocephaly Tekke, Shejh Emini Tekke, the Bektashi Tekke, etc.

As part of the natural heritage we can mention: Çabrati hill, the protected Park of Shkugeza, Radoniq Lake, White Drin Canyon, Kusari cave, as well as a large number of scenic villages that have high potentials for development of rural tourism.

Bjeshket e Nemuna, by their geological, geomorphological, flora and fauna composition, represent the most important and interesting



<sup>53</sup> Regional Strategy for Sustainable Tourism in the Region West of Kosovo

massif of not only Kosovo, but also of the entire Balkan Peninsula. The severity of the terrain and the beautiful nature has sparked the curiosity of many tourists as well as local and foreign scientific researchers. Bjeshket e Nemuna form the western peripheral part of Kosovo, descend almost vertically and end in the East and Northeast at the end of Dukagjini Plain and Iber valley, whereas in the West, they close the mountains to the border with Albania and Montenegro. Bjeshket e Nemuna have a north-east dimension of about 50 km, while their width is about 26 km. Deep traverse valleys go through these mountains, which are mostly in canyon form, such as the case of Lumëbardh of Peja, Deqani and Erenik. Bjeshket e Nemuna have been declared a national park in 2003. The Rugova Canyon, as a protected nature monument, is one of the most valuable geomorphologic, geological, hydrological areas, with biodiversity and tourist values, it is one of the distinctive tourist places in the municipality of Peja. Bjeshket e Nemuna is the area with the greatest potential for development of mountain tourism in the region West.<sup>54</sup>

The Haxhi Zeka Mill Complex is a monument of cultural heritage in Peja. This monument is of the "Architectural" category. Haxhi Zeka mill represents the first mill in the region, the technology of which was brought from Austria. If you visit it, you will see where the industry started developing in the region. The Haxhi Zeka mill is a large industrial heritage complex belonging to the second part of the XIX century, built with the help of Austro-Hungarians. The building consists of mills and granaries. In terms of the time of building, it represents the tallest building with three floors. The facade is made of combined stone, bricks, arch windows and frames. The Haxhi Zeka mill is the first mill in Kosovo and the region that had the most advanced technology brought from Austria. Initially, the mill operated with water, and then electricity was used. The economic industry started at that point in Peja. In the past, the entire region carried out grain milling and flour milling services. The famous medieval monastery of Decan is located in the municipality of Decan. Founded in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the monastery plays an important role for Kosovo Serbs and the region's Orthodox community and serves as a place for pilgrimage. In 2006, the monastery was included into UNESCO's List of World Heritage in Danger. A number of stone built residential towers, are also a characteristic of the region and are preserved in several villages in the municipality of Decan. The most prominent ones, which are still inhabited, are the towers of Mazrekaj in the village of Drenoc, Demukaj in Decan and Kuklex and Osdautaj in Isniq. They have valuable potential for development of rural tourism. There are also two well-preserved mills - Tahir Sadri's Water Mill in Isniq, which still work, and Shabanaj Mill in De qan.<sup>55</sup> Potential assets for the development of tourism are the children's recreational centres in Decan, which are a quite strategic area in Decan valley. Prilep Mountains are located in Decan area and are a protected and attractive area for mountain tourism. Also, it is worth mentioning the complex of old hotels in the same area, which, if activated, have a great potential for development of tourism in this area.

Cultural heritage also has the potential to arouse interest among national and foreign visitors, to establish appropriate links with other tourism branches and to provide opportunities for the hospitality

industry. Although so far there has been investment by foreign organizations and local institutions in the rehabilitation, preservation and inventory of cultural heritage, so that it becomes an instrument for tourism development, there is a need to clearly define the so-called "cultural heritage trails", including providing the right information, designing cultural heritage maps, installing all the "cause" signs needed for buildings and locations, as well as the most appropriate links of hospitality and other support services. Klina and its districts are rich in archaeological sites and cultural heritage sites. The archaeological sites are numerous and the most prominent ones are: Dresnik, Dollc, Pogragja, Rixheva, Cabiqi, Siqeva, Jashanica, Zabergja, Gjurgjevik. Building that are quite attractive for visitors are as follows: 52 towers and typical bridges of this region, old mills, places of worship such as medieval churches and mosques, shrines, granaries and private museums. There are four cultural and artistic events that are held annually in the municipality of Klina; the folklore festival "I kendojme lirise (We sing to freedom)", the literary manifestation "Ora e Tahir Deskut (Tahir Desku Hour)", Amateur theatre festival for children, Manifestation "Art Klina".

<sup>54</sup> [https://eëëammk-rks.net/repository/docs/Raporti\\_i\\_Natyres\\_2010-2014\\_ëëb.pdf](https://eëëammk-rks.net/repository/docs/Raporti_i_Natyres_2010-2014_ëëb.pdf)

<sup>55</sup> <https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=09000016806ae4c9>



## BUSINESS PROFILES, NUMBER OF REGISTERED BUSINESSES



There are 25894 registered businesses in the region West. Meanwhile we have various types of businesses such as: Individual businesses, foreign companies, agricultural cooperatives, public enterprises, socially owned enterprises, partnerships, general partnerships, joint stock companies and limited liability companies. In the region West individual businesses lead the way with a number of 22,325 businesses followed by limited liability companies with 2975 and general partnerships with a total of 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 a number of 8220 businesses, followed by the sector of limited liability companies with a number of 1308 businesses and general partnerships with a number of 214 businesses. Municipality of Peja has a total number of 9789 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 a number of 6954 businesses followed by the sector of limited liability companies with a number of 837 businesses and by general partnerships with a number of 125 businesses. The Municipality of Gjakova has a total number of 7977 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 a number of 2563 businesses followed by the sector of limited liability companies with a number of 367 businesses and by general partnerships with a number of 29 businesses. The Municipality of Istog has a total number of 2985 businesses. Whereas the municipality with the smallest number of businesses in the region West is the municipality of Junik with a total number of 5 businesses, 4 individual businesses, 1 limited liability company.

Table 36 Profiles of economic activities and their number, socio-economic region west



In the socio-economic region west, individual businesses and Limited Liability Companies are the largest number of businesses.



In the socio-economic region west there are three industrial zones, Industrial Park in Gjakova, "American Economic Zone" also in the municipality of Gjakova, industrial zone in Peja. The American Economic Zone aims to attract foreign investors, primarily American businesses and to be the basis for strategic investment.

Municipalities	Individual Business	Foreign company	Agricultural Cooperative	Public Enterprises	Socially owned enterprises	Other companies under the jurisdiction of the KTA	Partnership	General partnership	Joint stock company	Limited liability company	Grand Total
Decan	2134	2	2	/	/	/	/	22	4	199	2363
Gjakova	6954	9	8	1	/	1	4	125	38	837	7977
Istog	2563	3	13	/	/	/	/	29	10	367	2985
Junik	4	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	1	5
Klina	2450	2	8	/	1	/	2	40	9	263	2775
Peja	8220	20	5	1	/	/	5	214	16	1308	9789
Total	22325	36	36	2	1	1	11	430	77	2975	25894

## ECONOMY AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS



In the economic region West, the areas with the highest potential for development are the following: agriculture, wood processing, information and communications technology, construction, vehicle components, energy, textile and tourism as areas with the highest potential for development. In relation to the above, as sub-branches or industries with good potential for immediate development are the following: the food processing industry from agricultural products and meat processing. The industry of extraction and processing of decorative stones, different forms of wood processing and metal construction industry. Looking from the regional aspect, almost all of these areas or industries are included in municipal and urban development plans of municipalities in the region West as well as in other municipal and regional level documents. The socio-economic region West has great potential and favourable business conditions, taking into account the



important factors such as: well-educated and competitive workforce, enchanting natural resources (mining, agriculture), low taxes and a transparent meeting system. The economic areas such as: Industrial Park in Gjakova, “American Economic Zone” also in the municipality of Gjakova, industrial economic zone in Peja are established in the region West. The American Economic Zone aims at attracting foreign investors, primarily American businesses, and serve as the basis for strategic investment. The American Economic Zone was established in 2018 and is expected to be an extraordinary incentive for the economy of the western region. This zone covers a

surface area of 500ha and is aimed at attracting American investors and businesses. The Municipality of Peja, in its Municipal Development Plan, has foreseen the development of a free economic zone based on the Law on Economic Zones, and owns 547 ha, 46 are and 71 m2. According to the records, the largest part of it lies in the rural and hilly - mountainous areas. The municipality of Istog possesses 1540 parcels (Municipal property), with a surface area of 56,819,776 m<sup>2</sup>. The number of municipal parcels in the municipality of Decan is 71 and the surface area of the municipal parcels is 32.78.907ha.

INFRASTRUCTURE



The infrastructure in the region West of the Republic of Kosovo is relatively developed. This region is Kosovo’s connecting hub since it is bordered with Albania (Gjakova and Junik), Montenegro (Decan and Peja), and Serbia (Municipality of Istog). In the recent years, heavy investments have been made in local roads, water supply, sewerage, power system and public lighting. The power system covers almost the entire territory of the region West, while regarding roads, investments have been made mostly in the following municipalities: Junik with 94.63 of local roads, Municipality of Istog with 64.59% of local roads, Municipality of Gjakova with 62%, Municipality of Peja with 60.55%, Municipality of Klina with 41.95 and Municipality of Decan with 37.94%, these data are based on the regional performance statistics of the Municipalities according to the report of 2017 - MLGA. Regarding the percentages of settlements connected to the drinking water system and wastewater treatment system, this region is in good position regarding investments. Municipality of Junik is 100% connected to the sewage treatment system, followed by the Municipality of Gjakova with 62.50%,

Municipality of Klina with 38.89% and Municipality of Decan with 32.43%. The percentage of settlements connected to the municipal drinking water system is average because this region also has many natural sources of drinking water.



Municipalities with the highest percentage are the Municipality of Junik with 100%, Municipality of Istog with 96%, Municipality of Decan with 89.19%, Municipality of Peja with 73.42%, whereas Municipalities with the lowest level of connection of settlements to the drinking water system are the the following: Municipality of Klina with 42.59% and Municipality of Gjakova with 62.50%.

Table 37 Infrastructure in the Western Region <sup>56</sup>

Municipality	Percentage of paved local roads in municipalities in %	Percentage of settlements included in the drinking water system in %	Percentage of settlements in the sewage treatment system in%	Percentage of length of public roads with public lighting in%
Peja	60.55	73.42	0.00	26.31
Istog	64.69	96.00	0.00	6.22
Decan	37.94	89.19	32.43	12.72
Junik	94.63	100.00	100	34.04
Klina	41.95	42.59	38.89	1.19
Gjakova	62.00	62.50	62.50	40.15



In the socio-economic region West, 60% of local roads are paved. This region has a good road infrastructure that is connected to Albania and Montenegro.

<sup>5656</sup> <https://mapl.rks-gov.net/raportet-vjetore-te-mapl-se/> Municipalities performance report 2017

# REGIONAL PROFILES

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION SOUTH



In the socio-economic region south, municipality of Mamusha has the largest population density in Kosovo, 543 inhabitants per 1 km<sup>2</sup>.

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION SOUTH

**2,015.01** km<sup>2</sup>

**231** settlements

**409.449** inhabitants

*The socio-economic region consists of six municipalities: Rahovec, Malisheva, Prizren, Suhareka, Dragash and Mamusha. The south region lies in the south-western part of Kosovo. It is bordered by Albania in the southwest, Macedonia in the southeast, in the east with the socio-economic region east, in the northeaster with the center economic region, in the northwestern part is bordered by the western economic region. This region in its territory has*

*231 settlements*





## SURFACE AREA AND POPULATION



The Socio-economic Region South covers approximately 2,015.01 km or 18.47% of Kosovo's surface area (10,905.25 km<sup>2</sup>)<sup>57</sup>. With a population of 409,449 or 22.76% of the total population of Kosovo, the population density in the Region South is 203 inhabitants per/km<sup>2</sup>. Whereas the most densely populated municipalities in the Region South are; the municipality of Mamusha with a total population of 5,950 and a density of 543 inhabitants per 1 km<sup>2</sup> followed by the municipality of Prizren with a population of 191,565 and a density of 305 inhabitants per km. The third municipality is the municipality of Rahovec with a population of 59,102 or 214 per km. The municipality of Malisheva has a density of 190 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>, while municipality of Suhareka 166 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup> and the municipality of Dragash with 79 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>. In the Region South, the municipality with the largest surface area is the municipality of Prizren with 626.86 km, followed by the municipality of Dragash with 433.85 km<sup>2</sup> and municipality of Suhareka with 361.04 km<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>57</sup> [http://kryeministri-ks.net/ep-content/uploads/2018/03/Raport\\_Faktografik\\_Matja\\_e\\_territorit\\_te\\_Republikes\\_se\\_Kosoves\\_032017.pdf](http://kryeministri-ks.net/ep-content/uploads/2018/03/Raport_Faktografik_Matja_e_territorit_te_Republikes_se_Kosoves_032017.pdf)

Table 38. Surface and population data in the Region South <sup>5859</sup>

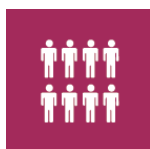
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<sup>58</sup> <http://ask.rks-gov.net/sq/agjencia-e-statistikave-te-kosoves/add-neës/vleresimi-i-popullsisë-2017>

<sup>59</sup> <https://www.osce.org/mission-in-kosovo/municipal-profiles>

No.	Municipalities	Population	Surface area	% of the territory of the Region South	Settlements
1	Prizren	191.565	626.86 km <sup>2</sup>	31.10 %	76
2	Suhareka	60.247	361.04 km <sup>2</sup>	17.91 %	42
3	Rahovec	59.102	275.90 km <sup>2</sup>	13.69 %	35
4	Malisheva	58.269	306.42 km <sup>2</sup>	15.20 %	43
5	Dragash	34.316	433.85 km <sup>2</sup>	21.53 %	35
6	Mamusha	5.950	10.94 km <sup>2</sup>	0.54 %	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>409.449</b>	<b>2,015.01 km<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>99.97 %</b>	<b>231</b>

## DEMOGRAPHICS



The Socio-Economic Region South has a population that can be characterized as relatively young. In the Region South, there are 152,368 people under the age of 19 years old. The municipality with the largest number of young people under the age of 19 years old is the municipality of Prizren with a total of 67,145 or 35% of the population, followed by the municipality of Malisheva with a total of 24,961 inhabitants or 42,80% of the total population, which is the municipality with the highest percentage of youth population in Region South, and the municipality of Suhareka with 23,875 people

under the age of 19 years old or 39.62% of the population. Regarding the ethnic structure, the Socio-Economic Region South is characterized as a region of different ethnic populations. The majority are Albanians with 335,075 inhabitants, followed by Bosnians with 21,037, Turkish with 14,427, RAE communities with 5,835, Serbs with 380 and others 10,315. The largest natality in the Region South is in the municipality of Prizren with a population of 2,210, followed by Malisheva with 945 inhabitants. The Socio-Economic Region South is represented with the highest number of females 254,148, while 190,975 are males.

Table 39. Demographic data, mortality, natality, communities by municipality of region east (KAS population estimates, 2017).

Municipality	OVERALL POPULATION	NATALITY	MORTALITY	ALBANIANS	BOSNIANS	TURKISH	RAE COM.	SERBS	OTHERS
Prizren	191,565	3,271	1,061	145,718	16,896	9,091	4,417	237	1,041
Dragash	34,316	514	340	20,287	4,100	202	10	7	9,240
Malisheva	58,269	1,132	187	54,501	15	/	31	/	8
Mamusha	5,950	72	18	327	1	5,128	51	/	/
Rahovec	59,102	934	311	55,166	10	2	787	134	11
Suhareka	60,247	1,311	326	59,076	15	4	539	2	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>409,449</b>	<b>7,234</b>	<b>2,243</b>	<b>335,075</b>	<b>21,037</b>	<b>14,427</b>	<b>5,835</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>10,315</b>

Table 40. Demographic data of femal gender age groups (KAS population census, 2011)

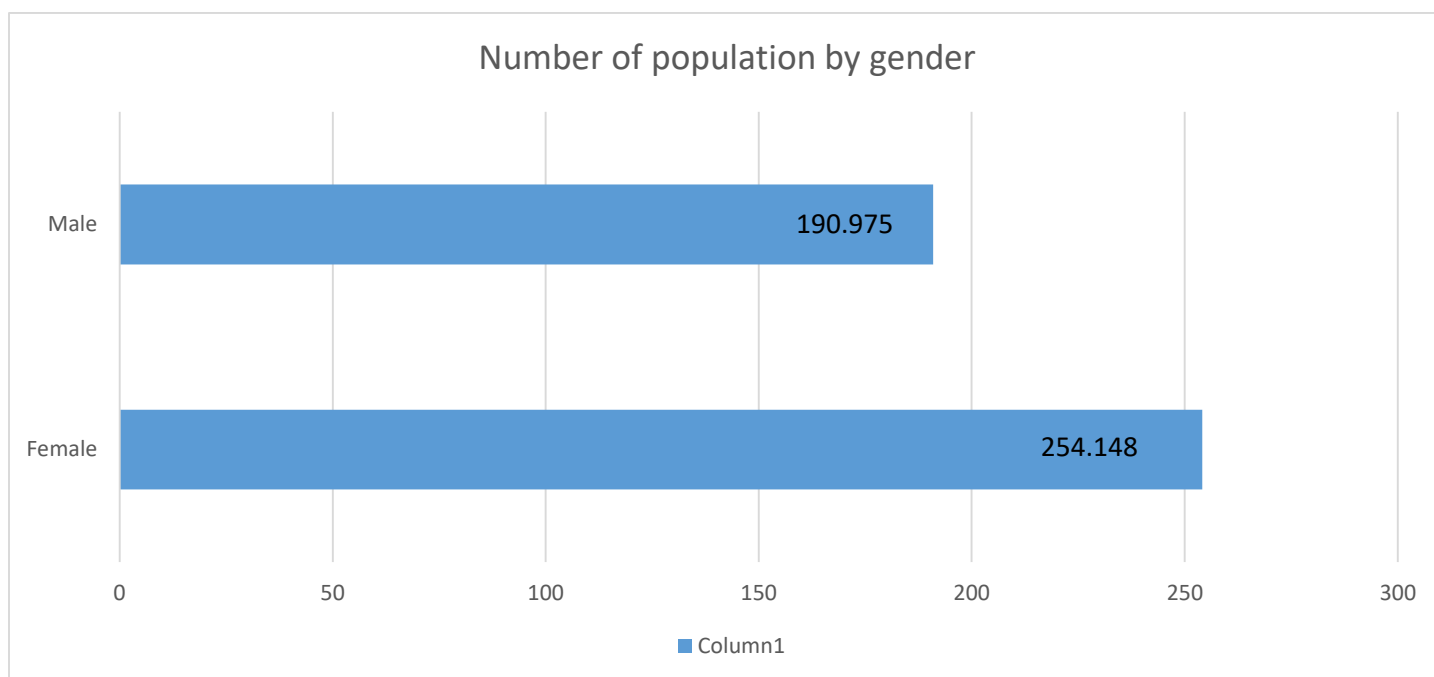
Municipality	0-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
Prizren	23,518	8,753	8,086	7,093	6,832	6,703	6,036	5,174	4,192	3,497	2,541	6,180
Dragash	4,187	1,476	1,332	1,222	1,175	1,282	1,205	1,056	918	780	610	1,719
Malisheva	9,097	2,992	2,728	2,243	2,179	1,941	1,591	1,245	935	710	644	61,647
Mamusha	885	265	252	234	220	201	139	124	76	94	73	126
Rahovec	7,571	3,047	2,492	2,152	2,173	2,286	1,807	1,436	1,195	902	786	1,849

<b>Suhareka</b>	8,371	3,151	2,742	2,273	2,272	2,319	1,997	1,659	1,284	1,037	879	2,260
	<b>53,629</b>	<b>19,684</b>	<b>17,632</b>	<b>15,217</b>	<b>14,851</b>	<b>14,732</b>	<b>12,775</b>	<b>10,694</b>	<b>8,600</b>	<b>7,020</b>	5,533	73,781

Table 41. Demographic data of male gender age groups (KAS population census, 2011)

Municipality	0-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
<b>Prizren</b>	25,681	9,193	8,467	7,270	6,575	6,352	5,676	4,895	4,191	3,382	2,270	5,224
<b>Dragash</b>	4,471	1,571	1,475	1,292	1,226	1,262	1,098	1,072	878	760	510	1,420
<b>Malisheva</b>	9,743	3,129	2,503	1,919	1,710	1,622	1,237	1,189	985	682	595	1,347
<b>Mamusha</b>	941	257	253	256	221	226	161	130	92	87	74	115
<b>Rahovec</b>	8,510	3,206	2,888	2,273	2,157	2,085	1,765	1,450	1,110	881	684	1,503
<b>Suhareka</b>	9,038	3,315	342	2,277	1,856	1,941	1,690	1,504	1,215	1,017	739	1,844
	<b>58,384</b>	<b>20,671</b>	<b>15,928</b>	<b>15,287</b>	<b>13,745</b>	<b>13,488</b>	<b>11,627</b>	<b>10,240</b>	<b>8,471</b>	<b>6,809</b>	4,872	11,453

Table 42. Number of population by gender



## HUMAN RESOURCES AND LABOR MARKET



The advantage of the Socio-Economy Region South is the professional education institutions which provide different vocational courses for the inhabitants of this region. The second important factor that has contributed to the extensive training

of the workforce is the vocational training system. The socio-economic region south possesses sufficient human resources for the labour market and a relatively young and sufficiently skilled workforce. As far as employment in the public sector is concerned, we can say that the municipality of Prizren leads in the Region South with the largest number of employees in this sector. Based on the

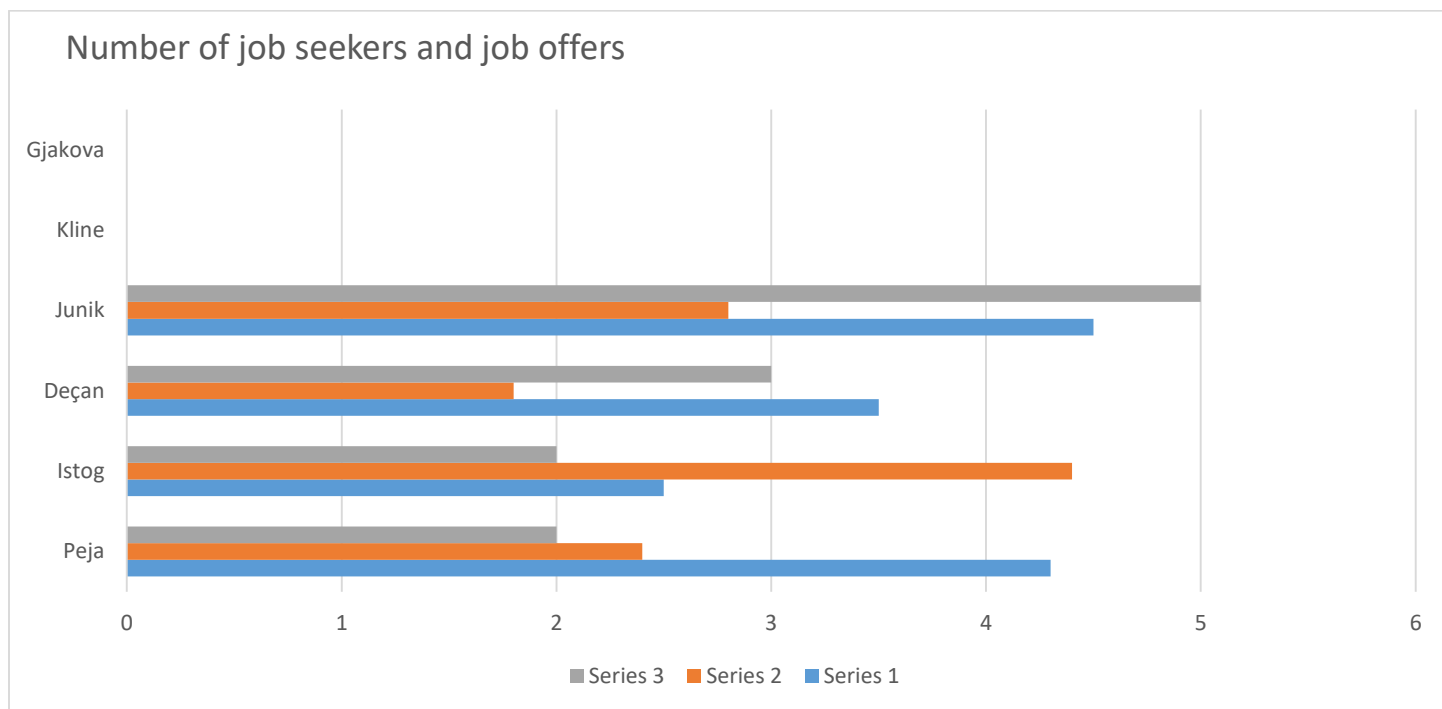
Employment Report 2017, we can say that the socio-economic Region South has a number of 18,037 job seekers and an offer of 1,588 vacancies where again a large difference between demand and offer is noted. The municipality with the highest number of job seekers is the municipality of Prizren with a number of 8,076 job seekers and a job offer of 401 vacancies, followed by the municipality of Suhareka with 3,756 job seekers and job offer of 44 vacancies, then municipality of Malisheva with 2,490 job seekers and with job offer of 167 vacancies, municipality Dragash with 1,890 job seekers and the municipality of Rahovec with 1,763 job seekers. The

municipality with the lowest number of job seekers is the municipality of Mamusha with a number of 62 job seekers and no offer of vacancies.

In the socio-economic Region South, the city of Prizren has the largest number of job seekers in Kosovo, with a number of 8,076 job seekers.

Table 43. Unemployment and job vacancies in the Region South <sup>60</sup>

Municipality	Unemployment	Vacancies of Regular Work	Vacancies ALMPs
Prizren	8,076	401	165
Dragash	1,890	17	149
Malisheva	2,490	167	235
Mamusha	62	0	0
Rahovec	1,763	959	25
Suhareka	3,756	44	165
	<b>18,037</b>	<b>1588</b>	<b>739</b>



<sup>60</sup> <https://apr.k.rks-gov.net/sq-AL/Content/Documents?doctype=2> Employment Report for 2017

In the socio-economic region South, the most demanding study fields are the department of electrical technology, machinery and metal processing, trade, hospitality and tourism, construction and geodesy.

## EDUCATION



The socio-economic Region South provides study opportunities even in the language of the communities present in the region such as in Albanian, Serbian, Bosnian, and Turkish language.

Education takes place in public and private institutions. According to the statistics of public education in the Region South of 2017-2018, the number of schools in primary and lower secondary education is 42 schools while in upper secondary education is 28 schools with a total of 70 schools in the Region South at both levels, whereby the number of pupils by education level in primary and lower secondary education is 51,348 while in upper secondary education is 17,064, respectively 68,412 pupils in total in elementary, and lower and upper secondary education. Regarding the number of special schools in the Region South according to the statistics of public education 2017-2018, there are two special schools with 122 students with special needs.

Vocational secondary education, implying the institutions of vocational education and training for adults, primarily aims at preparing staff for the labour market, however, if the course stipulated in the applicable legislation is followed, it also provides the possibility to apply for higher post-secondary studies at the 5th level of the national qualifications framework - NQF and university



studies.

Vocational secondary education in the Region South is divided into 12 different departments; Forestry and Wood Processing, Machinery and Metal Processing, Mining, Metallurgy and Geology, Electronics, Geodesy and Construction, Traffic, Textile and Leather Industry, Chemistry, Non-Metals and Graphics, Hospitality and Tourism, Economic and Legal studies, Nature, Mathematics, Health and Social Protection, Art Culture and Public Information department.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare through the Employment Agency of the Republic of Kosovo manages eight vocational training centres (VTCs) with 69 workshops and 30 different professions. In these centres training and retraining of persons enrolled as job seekers, unemployed and those receiving career guidance services, at all employment offices in municipalities takes place. In the Region South the vocational training centre offers training in these professions: chef, waiter, auto-electrician, hydraulic and pneumatic systems, welding, business-administration and self-employment, industrial electronics, electromechanical household appliances, ICT, hairdresser, tailoring and baker.

In the public higher education institutions Bachelor and Master studies are offered. The public university Hasan Prishtina, according to the statistics of public higher education 2017-2018, in the Bachelor level, has a total of 800 graduated students, out of which 556 are females and 244 males. In the Region South, the total number of students in public higher education at Bachelor level is 5,578 and according to the higher education statistics of the Master level, the total number of graduated students is 78, out of those 36 are females and 42 males, whereby the total number of students in the master level is 496.

Table 44. Vocational departments in Region South <sup>61</sup>

Number of students	Prizeren	Dragash	Malisheva	Mamusha	Rahovec	Suhareka	Total
Forestry and wood processing							
Mining, metallurgy and geology							
Machinery and metal processing	375				42	310	727
Electrical-technology	483					220	703
Geodesy and construction	102		23			80	205
Traffic	241		37		25		303
Textile and leather industry						32	32
Chemistry, non-metals and graphics	81					86	167
Trade, hospitality and tourism	376	28					404
Economic and legal studies	1435	204			199		1838
Health and social protection	511						511
Art culture and public information	136						136
<b>Total</b>	<b>3740</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>60</b>		<b>266</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>5026</b>

<sup>61</sup> <https://masht.rks-gov.net/shkollat-profilet>

## NATURAL RESOURCES



The socio-economic Region South has a large percentage of good quality soil, favourable climate conditions, which in combination with the opportunities for further irrigation progress, make the region suitable for the integrated development of agriculture. The majority of rivers are discharged in the Drini i Bardhë River, which runs over 122 kilometres in the western part of the region. A significant part of the agricultural land is under the irrigation system and this is considered a major advantage for the cultivation of agricultural products. Waters in the Region South, including rivers and lakes, are valuable resources for this region. The following are well known in the municipality of Prizren: the Lumbardh waterfalls, Konjusha waterfalls, Jazhince lake and Livadice lake. In Malisheva there is the artificial lake of Mirusha and Mirusha waterfalls, while in Suhareka and Mamusha the Dragaqina lake. The most important rivers in this region are the Drin river, the Lumbardh river, the Toplluha river, the Sopia river, the Drini i Bardhë river, Hoqa river, Duhlllo river, Rimmnik river, Sopniq river and Mirusha river. The socio-economic Region South, is quite rich in minerals such as chromium, asbestos, nickel, cobalt, copper and stone coal (coal), especially in the municipality of Rahovec, where decorative stones are located near the Drenovc village, at a distance of 5,5 km from the city of Rahovec. Reserves for this decorative construction material are estimated to be around 207,386 m<sup>3</sup>.

## AGRICULTURE SECTOR



The socio-economic Region South, is the main producer of high-quality agricultural products in Kosovo. Cultivated vegetables in this part of Kosovo are also exported to the countries of the region, such as peppers from Krusha district, tomatoes from Mamusha and so on. Also, other vegetables such as cabbage, cucumber, and carrots are successfully cultivated in this region. The Krusha district is also known for the cultivation of watermelon. The Municipality of Dragash is rich in medicinal and aromatic plants, as well as a variety of forestry products. More than 90% of these plants are exported to western countries. The Municipality of Dragash is also known with its Sharri cheese which is a regional representative brand of this region.

Vineyard - is typical of this region and deserves special care. This sector dominates in Rahovec, but also lies in the municipalities of Suhareka and Prizren. Adequate agro-climate conditions create considerable potential for further development of grape cultivation and wine production. The Socio-economic Region South has a utilized surface area of agricultural land of 95,108.77 hectares, out of which the municipality of Dragash has the largest area in the Region South with 27,662.24 hectares, followed by the municipality of

In the socio-economic region south there are great natural resources, water resources and minerals. The National Park 'Sharri Mountains' is characterized by its unique natural beauty, hydrological, climatic and landscape values.

Decorative lastolite layers are superficially covered with a humus layer of 0.5 m. Limestone: - found at the place called 'Hudhrat e Danit', located in the north-west of Rahovec city, 8 km away. Limestones appear in red and brown. Red limestones represent more economic interest. The limestone reserve is estimated to have a volume of 382,913 m<sup>3</sup>. Lately, according to the municipality, there is a possibility to find oil layers in the territory of the municipality of Rahovec. Their location is supposed to be in the village of Kramovik and along the Drini i Bardhë river flow to the Krusha e Madhe. Minerals such as cobalt, nickel, and copper are found in the Guri i Kuq area, where the nickel-cobalt ore layer was found. The chromium mineral is thought to be located along the Drini i Bardhë valley in a surface area of about 60 km<sup>2</sup> and respectively at the locations of Qëndresa, Gradisht, the valley of Rimmnik river, Delja, Shipi in Zadriq, Sharnica over Qëndresa, Drenovci, Guri i Kuq, Kanzniku etc. The coal is located in Hoqa e Madhe, Krusha, Nagavci river, Drinasi, etc.

The socio-economic region south, is one of the most developed agricultural regions, where vineyards and vegetable cultivation are typical for this region. The food processing industry is a field of great potential for development

Prizren with 21,777.01 hectares and the municipality of Suhareka with 15,069.96 hectares. Arable land in the Region South in total is 31,396.26 hectares, out of which the municipality of Rahovec possesses the majority of it with 9,186.14 hectares, followed by the Municipality of Malisheva with 8939.2 hectares and the municipality of Suhareka with 6,246.18 hectares. Regarding areas with meadows and pastures, the socio-economic Region South has a surface area of 59,748.79, out of which the Municipality of Dragash possesses 27,221.10 hectares of meadows and pastures, followed by the municipality of Prizren with 15,677.14 hectares and the municipality of Suhareka with 8,010.23 hectares. There is an important potential for the development of high-value agricultural products, including those that have been cultivated organically. Efforts to create the right distribution chains (from farmers to collection centers,



wholesalers/retailers to markets) should be considered among the region's priorities. Many of the regional agricultural products have a significant export potential.

Agriculture and food processing industry are the fields with the greatest potential for economic development in the Region South, where a large number of people can be employed and earn income for themselves. Progress can be made by promoting agricultural production, increasing land use, improving the quality of agricultural production through the use of agricultural technology, as well as traditional and ecological values. The abovementioned in combination with improved access to agricultural markets can be a foundation for balanced economic development of rural areas and rural tourism.

Krusha district is also known for the cultivation of watermelon. The municipality of Dragash is rich in medicinal and aromatic plants, as well as a variety of forestry products. More than 90% of these plants are exported to western countries.<sup>62</sup>

Agricultural surface areas, as important economic surfaces represent the important natural base. Favourable climate conditions, especially the large number of sunny days during the summer season, irrigation of cultivated crops through pipes (peppers, tomatoes, potatoes, watermelon, onion, etc.), as well as the cultivation of vineyards and fruits, make the region around the municipality of Rahovec very developed as regards agriculture. Agricultural surface areas are planted with the following crops: wheat, barley, oats, maize, etc. The most fertile surface areas are the plains of Anadrini ranging from Mrasori to Krusha e Madhe, where vegetables are mostly cultivated in these lands, while in the other parts are cultivated vineyards and various fruits such as: apples, pears, plums, peaches, nuts, apricots, etc. In the territory of Rahovec, cultivation of vineyards is widespread. The vineyards of the municipality of Rahovec, as well as grape products, are known not only in Kosovo but also beyond. Their products have been exported to many Western countries.



MUNICIPALITIES	Used agricultural surface area /surface area ha	Arable land/surface area ha	Gardens	Meadows and pastures /surface area ha	Unused agricultural land/ surface area ha	Forest land/surface area ha	Non-agricultural land/surface area ha
Prizren	21 777.01	5704,71	46.28	15677.14	671.11	2194.89	538.38
Dragash	27662.24	386.80	17.03	27221.10	407.89	439.14	199.23
Malisheva	14908.79	8939.2	52.3	5690.23	963.94	4456.5	957.78
Mamusha	1229.19	933.23	2.78	269.32	4.38	470	25.55
Rahovec	14461.58	9186.14	12.58	2880.77	1733.91	1849.12	576.15
Suhareka	15069.96	6246.18	78.10	8010.23	1433.11	3970.74	676.82
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>95108.77</b>	<b>31,396.26</b>	<b>209.07</b>	<b>59,748.79</b>	<b>5214.34</b>	<b>13380.39</b>	<b>2973.91</b>

Table 45. Data on agricultural surface areas in the Region South <sup>63</sup>

## TOURISM SECTOR



<sup>63</sup> [https://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/repository/docs/REGJISTRIMI\\_I\\_BUJQESISE\\_NE\\_REPUBLIKEN\\_E\\_KOSOVES\\_2014\\_Rezultatet\\_Perfundimtare.pdf](https://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/repository/docs/REGJISTRIMI_I_BUJQESISE_NE_REPUBLIKEN_E_KOSOVES_2014_Rezultatet_Perfundimtare.pdf)



Socio-economic Region South, has a great tourism potential that still remains relatively untapped. Specific geographic position, natural resources, numerous examples of cultural and historical heritage, as well as diversified folklore make the Region South an ideal place for sustainable tourism development. There is a great potential for sustainable development of mountain tourism and weekend camps. Tourism development, including rural tourism, can become an important source of welfare for a part of the growing population of the region. This region has a great tourism potential that still remains relatively untapped. Appropriate geographical position, diverse natural resources, numerous cultural and historical buildings, as well as diverse folklore are the main basis for tourism development in the Region South. There are conditions for developing historic, urban, rural, mountainous, winter and recreational tourism. Development shall address basic tourism issues (both in terms of hotels, restaurants and qualified human resources for tourist services). The socio-economic Region South is particularly well positioned to attract tourists from Albania and other destinations to spend their leisure time, by relaxing along the rivers and mountains, with sports activities, rich history and traditional hospitality of the autochthonous population. Advantages related to the geographic position of the region (transport lines, airport proximity, natural and cultural sites, traditions and historical assets as well as people's hospitality) are proportional to the level of capacity needed for the development of the tourism sector in a strong sector of regional economy.

The area of the municipality of Malisheva is a region with good infrastructure for tourism development. This municipality possesses great potential of cultural heritage sites such as: various prehistoric archaeological sites, Illyrian tumulus, medieval fortresses, towers, various mills and religious buildings, festive events etc. In this municipality, there are two caves still not functional that are considered a valuable tourist jewel for the visitors of this municipality: the cave in the village of Temeqina and 'Shpella e Flladit' in the village of Panorc. So far only 945m of the cave in Panorec have been explored. The pool of the thermal Spa of Banja is known for the healing values it possesses - as a thermal spring in the village of Banj ë and above this source the pool of the thermal Spa of Banja is located with a surface area of 2000 m<sup>2</sup>. During the May-September period, this pool of the thermal Spa attracts about 200-300 visitors a day, while over the weekend about 1000 visitors a day. The area around the river Mirusha with a surface area of 601 ha, has been declared a protected area under the name "Regional Park of Mirusha Nature" from the Kosovo Assembly, since this area represents a rare natural phenomenon of extraordinary natural, scientific, cultural and tourism importance. According to the IUCN, the area belongs to the protected landscape category and Mirusha river to the "Natural Monument" category and the same extends to the territory of 3 municipalities: Malisheva, Klina and Rahovec. This area also possesses a rich flora. Within the boundary of the park there are no remarkable economic activities. This park would have a big economic impact on Kosovo's GDP and generate employment, if it had a tourist offer for different tourists at the country level. Along the range of Sharr and Berisha Mountains, which reach an altitude of up to 2,750 m, these reliefs are home to 16 mountain lakes. The Sharr Mountains contain hundreds of meters of areas that are not fully used and present great potential for the development of winter tourism. The Korintiku and Pashtriku Mountains have great natural potential for the development of mountain tourism, such as hiking and hunting, as well as numerous rivers in the region that offer the possibility of

developing water sports and fishing<sup>64</sup>. The Sharr Mountains are well known for the walking paths: Path 1: 10km (Novoselle-Kogja Ballkan-Billo Oshllak), Path 2: 11 km (Bulec- Kopana voda - Kogja Balkan - Billo-Oshllak), Path 3: 6 km (Prevall ë Oshllak), Path 4: 9 km (Prevall ë Bist ë Konjush ë), Path 5: 6 km (Prevall ë Konjisha), Path 6: 7 km (Prevall ë Maja e Zez ë), Path 7-14 km (Prevall ë Lubinj ë e Ep ërme), Path 8: 9 km (Lubinja e Ep ërme-Treskavec-Kobilic ë Vertop), Path 9: 8 km (Guri i Zi - Vertop), Path 10: 7 km (Kampi-Skarpe-Kranikoll ë).

The Municipality of Prizren is a tourism jewel, consisting also one of the areas of development of this municipality. Prizren, as one of the strategic tourist cities for foreign and local visitors possesses the Castle of Prizren, a monument of cultural heritage in Prizren which is considered to be the symbol of the city. The Castle of Prizren is an important element in Kosovo's cultural identity. Built on a high hill, in a picturesque environment, and in an extremely strategic position, the castle rises above the city, as well as above the deep valley of Lum ëardh and the Dukagjini plain. There are monuments of high historical and tourist values such as; the Prizren League Museum, an object of great historical and cultural value, the Fountain Spring near the Sinan Pasha Mosque built in the 17th century, the Church of St. Nicholas, built in 1331, the Catholic Church 'Saviour Lady' with a Greek-Roman architecture of 1870, the 'Gazi Mehmet Pasha Turkish Bath' in the centre of the city built in 1563/74, the "St. Spas Church" supposed to have been built between 1307-1348, the "Electro-economics Museum" in the Lumbardh Gorge built in 1926/28, the 450 year old "Marash Tree", the only exemplary in the Balkans, "Clock Tower", "Stone Bridge" built in 1941. Other tourist attractions are the craft stores; silk processing, carpentry, silversmith store, blacksmiths, hat making craft, carver's craft, and filigree among the oldest existing crafts. The municipality of Prizren is making strategic investments also in developing other identified touristic potentials such as: the 'Cave of Muradeh', a place of archaeological interest recognized by antiquity as a religious cult. Also, a precious natural resource is the Kabash mountains as a key and strategic point for state investment. In the municipality of Mamusha, the Dragaqine lake is being put into operation and is expected to be one of the tourist attractions.

**In the socio-economic Region South, cultural heritage, mountainous, urban, rural and recreational tourism are typical for this region.**

The International Documentary and Short Film Festival- Dokufest is the largest film event in Kosovo, which is held in August, in historic and picturesque Prizren, attracting a large number of artists from the region and the world. In this annual festival films are screened twice a day in five cinemas, three open-air cinemas and two closed cinemas. In addition to films, the festival is also known for the nights full of life that follow the screenings of films. The festival is also followed by a number of activities such as workshops, DokuPhoto exhibitions, festival camps, concerts and other, giving the city a special charm in which you would like to be present. Zambaku i Prizrenit-National Song Festival, Music Festival and Activism NGOM Fest, River

<sup>64</sup> Regional Development Strategy for the South Economic Region 2010 - 2013

rafting race using tractor tire inner tubes in Lumbardh River BunarFest, Classic car show - Old Timer fest, Open-air regional folk music & dance festival - Hasi Jehon, and the Tomato Festival, held every year on 23rd July, is held exactly in Mamusha as a region known for tomato cultivation. Wine festival in Rahovec "Hardh Fest" is also a typical festival related to the potentials of this area in grape cultivation. This festival annually promotes the products of grapes and wine produced in Kosovo, beyond the municipality of Rahovec and the Republic of Kosovo, which has become an important tourist event, where many foreign visitors come and taste wines and enjoy the beauties of the vineyards of the Region South.

Diaspora celebration "Dia Fest", which is organized annually on 3rd and 4th August, a holiday dedicated to the emigrants of Suhareka is held in this municipality. The municipality of Suhareka as an area is also well known for the cultivation of peaches of Suhareka, the pear of Dardhishta and is especially known for the cultivation of the chestnut of Mushtishtë.

Municipality of Suhareka a region with sustainable recreational tourism and outdoor experience, based on natural resources and attractive environment for nature lovers, has quite appropriate and interesting areas for the development of tourism, located in the massif of Sharr mountain complex, which lies in the Northeast and Southeast parts of Mushtishtë, as well as in the area of the Caraleva Mountains. Natural beauties, rich flora, water and sea level of 1500 m-2400 m, Mediterranean Alpine climate, arouse the visitor's curiosity both during summer and winter.

Interesting sites of cultural and archaeological heritage to be visited are: Kastercite Castle, prehistoric archaeological site in Shiroka and Reshtan, 'Pasha's Tower' in Mushtishtë, 'Rame Bllaca House' in Blace, 'Jonuz Tafoll Tower' in Qadrak, 'Breshanc Mill', 'Dragaqina Mill', 'Budakova Mill', 'Semetisht Mill', 'Sharr Mountain', 'Delloc Stone', 'Buqalla' in Reqan, 'Gazi Mehmet Pasha Mosque' in Leshan, 'White Mosque' in Suhareka, and Museum in Suhareka.



## BUSINESS PROFILES, NUMBER OF REGISTERED BUSINESSES

In the Region South there are 23,710 registered businesses. While types of businesses include different ones such as Individual Businesses, Foreign Companies, Agricultural Cooperatives, Public Enterprises, Socially Owned Enterprises, Partnerships, General Partnerships, Joint Stock Companies and Limited Liability Companies. Individual Businesses lead the way with the largest number in the Region South with a total of 20,500 followed by Limited Liability Companies with 2,076 and General Partnerships with a total of 390 businesses. 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 a number of 11,788 businesses, followed by the sector of Limited Liability Companies with a number of 1,603, then the General Partnerships Businesses with a number of 276 businesses. The Municipality of Prizren has a total 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 a number of 356, then the General Partnerships Businesses with a number of 47 businesses.

**In the socio-economic Region South, Individual Businesses, General Partnerships and Limited Liability Companies are businesses with the largest number in the region.**

Municipality of Rahovec has a total of 3,289 businesses. In the municipality of Suhareka, according to the table below, the sector with the largest number of businesses is the sector of Individual Businesses, with a number of 2,532 businesses, followed by the sector of Limited Liability Companies with a number of 464, then by General Partnerships Businesses with a number of 31 businesses. In addition the Municipality of Suhareka has a total of 3,040 businesses, while the municipality with the smallest number of businesses in the Region South is the municipality of Dragash with a total number of 1,255 businesses, 1,187 Individual Businesses, 49 Limited Liability Companies, 11 General Partnerships Businesses, 1 Joint Stock Companies and 1 Socially Owned Enterprises.

Municipalities	Individual Businesses	Foreign Company	Agricultural Cooperative	Public Enterprise	Socially Owned Enterprises	Other companies under the jurisdiction of the KTA	Partnerships	General Partnerships	Joint Stock Company	Limited Liability Company	Grand Total
Dragash	1187		6		1			11	1	49	1255
Rahovec	2870	5	6				2	47	3	356	3289
Prizren	11788	35	10	1	6		3	276	9	1603	13731
Malisheva	2123	6	4					25	3	234	2395
Mamusha	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Suhareka	2532	4	2					31	7	464	3040
<b>Total</b>	<b>20500</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2706</b>	<b>23380</b>

## ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS



The socio-economic Region South, has a favourable infrastructure for developing business conditions. Economic Zones in the Region South are; Agro-Industrial Zone in Suhareka, Industrial Zone in Shiroka of Suhareka, Agricultural zone in Samadrexha. Although the municipality of Dragash is small, it possesses an Economic Zone in Mejdan of the village of Shajmë where two enterprises are located. The Agro-Industrial Zone in Suhareka was established in 2015 with a surface area of 28 ha. This area is located in the Samadraxhë village of Suhareka. The agricultural zone in Samadrexhë comprises of 35 hectares and is located near the Suhareka-Rahovec road. It was established by the initiative of the municipality of Suhareka and Rahovec. First investments in this Economic Zone were initially made in electricity and water supply. This zone now has 90 parcels and 53 businesses. According to current data in the Industrial Zone, there are approximately 700 employees. It is also worth mentioning that a peculiarity of this zone is also the “Avdyl Rama” Professional High School, which prepares the staff for the labour market, especially for businesses that run within the zone. The new Law on Allocation for Use and Exchange of Immovable Property of the Municipality regulates the protective price for the value of investment, a value determined under the law starting from 0.05 cents. The project is funded by the European Union to support development in the



southern economic region of Kosovo, in order to create a suitable business environment, increasing entrepreneurial skills and creating

Economic Zones in the socio-economic Region South are; Agro-Industrial Zone in Suhareka, Industrial zone in Shiroka of Suhareka, Agro-zone in Samadrexhë. Although the Municipality of Dragash is small, it possesses an economic zone in Mejdan of the village of Shajmë.



new jobs. This project is a direct and strategic contribution to the overall objectives of the European Commission in order to create a basis for sustainable development in Kosovo. According to the latest data, users of parcels for 99 years are total 16 users (natural and legal persons). Also in the municipality of Suhareka, there is Casablanca Camp, which has the potential to switch to an economic zone with a surface area of 30 hectares. This Zone has been supported by the municipality of Suhareka through the creation of various facilities for the development of business activity. This camp was established with a donation of Austrian and Swiss KFOR funds in the amount of EUR 2.000.000. The other Industrial Zone is located in village Shiroka of Suhareka, which in the east is bounded by the existing road line Suhareka - Prizren, in the south with the existing road of the old industrial zone, in the west with vineyards and in the north with the greenery fields. The village of Duhel is a potential project to be converted into an economic zone, a project foreseen to have 80

hectares of it converted to an economic zone. Activities foreseen to be placed in the industrial area are: processing of food products, processing of textile and leather products, processing of elements from aluminum, plastic and wood materials, processing of glass, stone, marble and iron, processing of concrete elements, processing elements/technique from electrical and electro-technics, etc. Malisheva this year will begin the construction of the business incubator which is expected to be completed in 2020, as well as is allocated the property for the creation of a 85 ha-sized of Economic Zone around the highway in the villages Banja, Bellanica and Senik. Municipality of Malisheva possesses 1688.48.73 ha of municipal property. The conditions for allocation for use of municipal property for investment are provided by the Municipal Assembly respectively as decided by the members of the Municipal Assembly. The Municipality of Rahovec has 1,540 municipal parcels, with a surface area of 56.819.776 m<sup>2</sup>.



## INFRASTRUCTURE

The socio-economic Region South, is characterized as the region with one of the most developed networks of local and regional streets, as well as highways. The Prishtina-Tirana highway, which is a highway of

European standards, passes along the Region South. The highway connects Kosovo and the regional countries, as well as the port of Durrës. It is a strategic line for the development of sea and road transport, a segment of great importance for the economy of Kosovo. In the Region South, there is only one railway line in Kosovo's rail network. This is the line that passes from Prizren to Xërë and Klina to Fushë Kosova. Recently local infrastructure has developed significantly in the Region South. Municipalities with the most developed local infrastructure in the Region South according to the performance report of the municipalities 2017 - reported by MLGA are: municipality of Malisheva with 90%, municipality of Prizren with 83.52%, municipality of Dragash with 80%, municipality of Suhareka with 70.35% and municipality of Rahovec with 66.53%. Regarding the settlements included in the potable water system of the municipalities in this region, leads the municipality of Prizren with 62.11%, then the municipality of Mamusha with 44.22 %, while municipalities with the lowest percentage are: Malisheva with 4.44%, Suhareka with 7.05%, Dragash with 10.83% and Rahovec with 19.69%. The socio-economic Region South is characterized by a fairly good percentage of settlements connected to the potable water treatment system, where the municipality of Mamushes leads with 100%, then the municipality of Prizren with 97.30%, and the municipality of Rahovec with 83.33%, while municipalities with the lowest percentage are: Dragash with 16%, Suhareka with 34% and Malisheva with 40.91%. In the percentage of settlements in the sewage treatment system, the municipality of Dragash leads with 100% and the municipality of Suhareka with 73.81%. The municipality

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Socio-economic Region South has a well organized local infrastructure, over 75% of local roads are paved and regulated in this region. the highway that connects Kosovo with Albania and the coast is also located in this region.

lowest percentage is the municipality of Prizren with 1.35%. Regarding the percentage of the length of the local roads with public lighting, the municipality of Mamusha leads the way with 44.22% followed by the municipality of Rahovec with 19.69%, then Dragash with 10.83% and the municipality with the lowest percentage is the municipality of Malisheva with 4.44%, then Suhareka with 7.05% and Prizren with 70.05%.

Figure 1. Local Infrastructure in the Region South

Municipality	Percentage of local paved roads in the municipality	Percentage of settlements included in the potable water system	Percentage of length of public roads with public lighting	Percentage of settlements in the sewage treatment system
Prizren	83.52	97.30	7.05	1.35
Suhareka	70.35	34.15	7.05	73.81
Rahovec	66.53	83.33	19.69	0.00
Malisheva	90.00	40.91	4.44	0.00
Dragash	80.00	16.00	10.83	100.00
Mamusha	63.62	100	44.22	0.00

## SUMMARY OF REGIONS

Socio-economic regions in Kosovo have almost an equal surface area with a difference of 4% in total. If we consider the socio-economic region Centre, it has the largest number of inhabitants and the largest population density in Kosovo. While the socio-economic Region North has the smallest population and the smallest density of population. Below are summarized chronologically the socio-economic potentials for each region.

**The socio-economic Region Centre** is characterized by a young population, and with great potential for the labour market, with a discrepancy between job demand and the opportunities offered. Thus, job demand exceeds in large scale the offer and the opportunities offered for employment. Human resources for the labour market are sufficient given the large number of young people in this region graduated in different fields, therefore, the creation of new jobs still remains a challenge. In the Region Centre, a public policy intervention may target a variety of economic objectives, such as promoting economic growth, increasing employment, promoting equality of income, managing money offer and interest rates, increasing profits or addressing of market failures in the function of offer stabilization and job demand.

The most prominent business profiles in the region Centre 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, while some of the sectors that need support and are very important for the economy of Region Centre, for generating new jobs and export increase are: processing, production, and agriculture which can be considered as sectors with great potential in this region. The socio-economic Region Centre has a considerable surface area of agricultural land, therefore, the capacity building for the use of this highly valued asset for the economy of this region would be one of the right policies for the economic development of this region. Economic zones in this region provide good investment conditions, such as: Business Park in Drenas, Industrial Park in Qylagë Economic Zone in Lipjan near QMI, Economic Zone in Babush and Technological Park in Shtime. These zones provide conditions for local and foreign investors in the field of production, technology and other investments in the field of industry.

The socio-economic Centre Region has also great potential for urban tourism, rural, cultural and historical tourism. Capacity building in the tourism sector in this region would be a good generator for employment and revenue growth in the sectors of small and medium-sized businesses such as hotels, restaurants, tourist companies, apartment and car rental companies.

As great potential in the socio-economic Region Centre are considered also natural resources, water sources and two lakes, as well as mineral resources such as: lignite, ferronickel, lead and zinc present in some areas, while in the municipality of Obiliq there are larger coal reserves, which are used for electricity generation. The level of infrastructure in the socio-economic Region Centre is at a satisfactory level. The percentage of local paved roads in this region exceeds 60%, while 70% of settlements are connected in the potable water system.

**The socio-economic Region East** is characterized by a young population, where over 49% of the population are under the age of 19. The level of education is well organized and provides conditions in various fields of professional education for students in this region who are mostly focused on the department of electrical technology and machinery and metal processing. The employment offer is significantly lower compared to labour

demand. Economic potentials such as orienting economic policies in the development of the potentials of this region, would significantly affect the creation of new jobs.

The most distinguished economic potentials in the socio-economic Region East are: winter tourism, rural tourism, mountain tourism, agriculture, processing and production. Winter tourism makes this region a very competitive region at international level, for instance Brezovica with its geographical position lies in a strategic point where it can be reached within an hour by car from two international airports: Prishtina Airport (60 km) and Skopje Airport (70 km). The development of economic policies to revitalize this resource of great potentials would be one of the most strategic investments for the economy of this region. Rural and mountain tourism are additional values with great potential, creation of investment opportunities in these sectors will revitalize the capacities of small and medium-sized businesses and have a direct impact on the households of this region.

The socio-economic Region East has a considerable surface area of agricultural land; a feature of this region is that the land is clean and rich for the production of organic agricultural products, the latter are a growing demand and in trend in the country level and even in the international market. Most distinguished business activities in the socio-economic Region East are Individual Businesses, then Limited Liability Companies, whereby the wholesale and retail trade sector is the most developed sector. The socio-economic Region East offers good business conditions, most of municipalities do not impose municipal tax for businesses and have established economic zones or business parks to stimulate investment in this region. In the Region East, an Industrial Park was built in Vitia, aiming to attract investments in the field of industrial production, and the same has a surface area of 15.50 hectares. Also, in the city of Gjilan there is a Business Incubator, funded by the EU through the European Agency for reconstruction, with a capacity of 1000 square meters for business and 18 working spaces. Functional industrial zones in the Region East are located in the vicinity of Ferizaj, village of Babusha with a surface area of 128,888 m<sup>2</sup> where 14 businesses operate. It is also worth mentioning another industrial zone that is under construction in the municipality of Ferizaj respectively in the village of Komogllava.

The potentials of natural resources are satisfactory. This region is characterized by a satisfactory capacity of water and other natural resources. The largest rivers in the region are: Lepenci, Nerodime and Morava e Bin çës. Also this region is rich in minerals and ores such as: lead, zinc, silver, gold, copper, chrome, iron, magnesium, lignite, decorative stone, marble, kaolin, granite, quartz sand and clay. In this region, one resource that can be distinguished is the Artana mine which has a high percentage of these minerals and ores. The most important source, according to the data by the Trepca complex, is located in the existing mine area of Artana, where through the alienation of Pb-Zn is formed the mineralization of Mn-Fe. Estimated manganese resources in this source are about 5 million tonnes of ore, containing about 22% Mn. Infrastructure in function of economic development is satisfactory, the percentage of local roads in the socio-economic Region East exceeds 63%, and also the extension of the water supply network is at a good level and lies in 58% of the territory. Wind, solar, and biomass energy are the three renewable energy sources that have potential in some area of the Region East.

**The socio-economic Region North** has the smallest number of the density of population compared to other regions, the population is young and the labour offer capacities exceed the job offer. The level of education also in this region is significantly improved, offering different programs from lower secondary education, then secondary and tertiary level of education. Vocational schools have genuine programs for the preparation of young population in different profiles in the Region North, there is also a large number of registered students in the department of machinery and metal processing. Potential resources and natural resources in the Region North are extremely large, such as Trepça mine in Stantërg belongs to the city of Mitrovica. Mitrovica is undoubtedly one of the most important cities not only in Kosovo but also in the entire Balkan Peninsula and beyond as regards mineral resources. This mining giant today operates with small capacities and the settlement of outstanding issues regarding Trepça would affect the normal reactivation and functioning of this industry, which is one of the main drivers of the economy of the socio-economic Region North and throughout the country.

The socio-economic Region North today is highly dependent on some sectors of businesses also in the north as in other regions where individual businesses dominate in large scale, followed by Limited Liability Companies and General Partnerships. In this region, several economic zones have been established in order to attract investments and create new jobs, such as: Business Park in southern Mitrovica with a surface area of 3.5 hectares, Industrial park in Frashë-Mitrovica with a surface area of 48 hectares, Business Park in Dolane in the municipality of Zveçan, and the Business Park in Vushtrria. Industrial zones are a good opportunity for investors to develop their businesses and the business conditions in these areas are favourable. Industrial zones are one of the best stimulus for the economy in the Region North.

In some areas in the socio-economic Region North, agriculture is also developed, where it is estimated to be over 7,000 hectares of land under irrigation. Given the region's mountainous configuration and natural resources such as forests and meadows, the Region North is traditionally known for beekeeping and honey processing, as well as the meat processing industry which in recent years has been further developed. 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 with its natural beauties, rich flora and fauna, extraordinary landscape of the localities, mouths, rich heritage monuments, offers favourable conditions for the development of tourism. Winter and summer mountain tourism should be one of the most advanced forms of tourism, due to the favourable conditions that this region offers for visitors. The Bajgora Mountains are known for beautiful and attractive landscapes used for livestock pastures and remote livestock farm. Regarding summer tourism, it can be said that it has already started frequentation of these localities, even though this form of tourism is in the initial phase due to the lack of infrastructure. Investments in local infrastructure and capacity building of small and medium-sized businesses in the field of tourism would have an impact on the welfare of the households in this region.

**The socio-economic Region West** lies mainly in the Dukagjini plain that is bordered by the high mountains of the Albanian Alps, and is one of the regions with the greatest potentials in the field of tourism. Natural resources of this region include mountain terrains covering the National Park 'Bjeshkët e Nemura', where also cultural heritage is an important element for attracting visitors to this region. Business sectors that need to be empowered in this region include the hospitality industry's capacity building of services and creativity by adapting to specific tourist areas. The



establishment of a strategy for investments in the tourism sector in the area of 'Bjeshk ë e Nemuna' National Park in line with international standards for the development of tourism in the National Parks is necessary. Eco-Tourism and Agro-Tourism have potential of development but there is lack of infrastructure, genuine and well organized institutional support for the development of activities like Eco-Tourism and Agro-Tourism.

The socio-economic Region West is characterized by a young population, the level of education is good both in the lower secondary level, upper secondary level and university level. It is worth mentioning the vocational training centres that offer different vocational training programs. There is a large number of students in profiles such as machinery and metal processing departments, electro technical and trade departments, hospitality and tourism departments. The socio-economic Region West possesses sufficient and well prepared human resources for the labour market, however, job demand exceeds the job offers. Creation of new jobs remains a challenge in this region.

Individual Businesses in this region are the most distinguished companies, followed by Limited Liability Companies and General Partnerships. The most prominent sector is wholesale and retail trade, followed by construction, textiles and tourism, while sectors with potential and immediate development are: food processing industry from agricultural and meat processing industries. Considering from the regional aspect, almost all of these fields or industries are included in municipal and urban development plans of municipalities in the Region West, as well as in other municipal and regional level documents. In business service and with the purpose of investors attraction, municipalities in this region have established economic zones such as 'American Economic Zone' in Gjakova with a surface area of 500 hectares of land which intends to attract mainly investments from American businesses or investors aiming at placing products or services on the European market. The municipality of Peja is also in the process of establishing an Industrial Economic Zone in Peja.

The socio-economic Region West, apart from the tourism potentials, is well known for potentials in the agricultural sector. In the Region West it is estimated that over 22,685 hectares are under irrigation and the expansion of this irrigation network remains a priority. Mostly cultivated cultures in this region are: vegetables, fruits, cereals, cattle breeding and beekeeping. Supporting small and medium-sized businesses in the field of processing of agricultural products is necessary for the creation of new jobs and increasing the competitiveness of the region at the national and international level. Local infrastructure in the socio-economic Region West is good, over 60% of local roads are paved and nearly 80% of settlements have access to the potable water system.

**The socio-economic Region South** is the second region in terms of the number of population in Kosovo, where there is a young population, well-educated both in the lower secondary level and the upper secondary level and university level. Vocational Training Centres in this region provide training in various fields. The socio-economic Region South has sufficient human resources potential for the labour market. Even in the socio-economic Region South job demand exceeds job offer.

There are conditions for developing historic, urban, rural, mountainous, winter and recreational tourism. Development shall address basic tourism issues both in terms of hotels, restaurants and qualified human resources for tourist services. The socio-economic Region South is particularly well positioned to attract tourists from Albania and other destinations to spend their leisure time, by relaxing along the rivers and Mountains, with sports activities, rich history and traditional hospitality by the autochthonous population. Advantages related to the geographic position of the region are transport lines, airport proximity, natural and cultural sites, traditions and historical assets, as well as people's hospitality, are proportional to the level of capacity needed for the development of the tourism sector in a strong sector of regional economy. The Municipality of Prizren is a tourism jewel consisting also one of the areas of development of this municipality. Prizren as one of the strategic tourist cities for foreign and local visitors, organizes various annual festival and programs which attract a lot of local and foreign visitors. Institutional support of the tourism sector would enable the continuation and further development of this sector, institutional support would also enable the sustainability of households of handicrafts which are representative of the tradition and culture of this region.

Socio-economic Region South has a considerable and qualitative surface area of agricultural land, it is the main producer of high quality agricultural products in Kosovo. Vegetables cultivated in this part of Kosovo are also exported to the regional countries, such as peppers from Krusha district, tomatoes from Mamusha etc. The most powerful sector in this region is the vineyard that is typical of this region and deserves special care. This sector dominates in Rahovec, but also lies in the municipalities of Suhareka and Prizren. Adequate agro-climate conditions create considerable potential for further development of grape cultivation and wine production, which is well-known in Kosovo and the region's countries. Support and empowerment of this sector would make Kosovo one of the main competitors in the regional and international market.

In the socio-economic Region South, several industrial zones have been established with the purpose of attracting investors and businesses in the field of production and processing. Economic Zones in the socio-economic Region South are: Agro-industrial zone in Suhareka, Industrial zone in Shiroka of Suhareka. Although the municipality of Dragash is small, it possesses an economic zone in Mejdan of the village of Shajmë. The socio-economic Region South has a well-organized local infrastructure. Over 75% of local roads are paved and regulated in this region. It is also necessary to coordinate the local and central policies for the utilization of all these potentials of this region.