



Municipal ID 2025



Municipal ID

Shtator 2025

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Executive Summary

- According to the most recent census (2024), including assessments conducted in four northern municipalities, Kosovo has a total population of 1,602,515, marking a decline of 177,605 people, or 10% compared to 2011. Population decrease has been recorded in 28 municipalities, while only 9 municipalities have experienced population growth. The most significant declines are observed in the municipalities of Zvečan/Zveçan (-62%), Zubin Potok (-49%), and Kamenicë/Kamenica (-37%). Conversely, the municipalities with the highest population growth are Fushë Kosova/Kosovo Polje (+84%), Parteš/Partesh (+81%), Gračanica/Graçanicë (+73%), and Štrpce/Shtërpçë (+55%).
- Currently, the distribution of the population between urban and rural areas is equal, with 50% in each. Compared to 2011, the share of the population in urban areas has increased by 12 percentage points, while in rural areas it has decreased by the same rate.
- Data indicate that 64% of housing units/buildings in Kosovo are occupied, while the remaining 36% are unoccupied. Compared to 2011, the number of unoccupied housing units/buildings has increased by 7 percentage points.
- The Municipality of Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovica North has the highest population density, with 1,584 inhabitants per square kilometer, followed by Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje with 770 inhabitants per square kilometer. The municipality with the lowest population density is Zubin Potok, with only ten inhabitants per square kilometer.
- The number of students in all levels of pre-university education (pre-primary, primary, lower secondary, and upper secondary education) has continued to decline over the years. During the last four school years, from 2021/22 to 2024/25, the number of students at the national level decreased by 28,670 persons (9%). With the exception of Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, which recorded a 10% increase in the number of students, and Junik, which recorded a 6% increase, all other municipalities experienced a decline in student numbers compared to the 2021/22 school year.
- Over the past four years, the number of pre-university education personnel (teachers, administrative staff, and support staff) has decreased by approximately 2% or 717 people. A total of 25 municipalities have recorded a decrease in the number of educational personnel. The largest decline is observed in the Municipality of Junik, with a 31% decrease, while among the municipalities that have reported an increase in educational personnel, the Municipality of Fushë Kosova leads with a 19% increase.
- For the 2024/2025 school year, national student-to-teacher ratio across all levels of pre-university education stands at 12 students per teacher. The municipalities with the highest student-to-teacher ratios are Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Prishtinë/Priština, and Mitrovicë e Jugut/Južna Mitrovica/Mitrovica South. In contrast, the municipalities with the lowest student-to-teacher ratios are Leposavić/Leposaviq and Zvečan/Zveçan.
- According to the most recent data (June 2025), the number of households in Kosovo benefiting from social assistance schemes is 16,759 households, with a total of 65,026 members. Compared to 2021, this represents a decrease of 37,878 persons/members (or 37%).
- According to employment data from the Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT), specifically public sector employment at the local level, the total number of employees in 2024 was 43,733. The municipality with the highest number of public sector employees is Prishtinë/Priština, followed by Prizren, Ferizaj/Uroševac, and Gjiilan/Gnjilane. In contrast, the municipalities with the lowest number of public sector employees are Leposavić/Leposaviq, Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovica North, Zvečan/Zveçan, Klokot/Klllokot, and Parteš/Partesh.
- In 30 municipalities analyzed, there are a total of 337 municipal department (directorates), of which 243 (72%) are led by men and 94 (28%) are led by women. The most significant gender gap was observed in Klinë/Klina and Novobërdë/Novo Brdo, where men led all municipal departments. The highest representation of women in leadership positions within municipal departments is

observed in the municipality of Obiliq/Obilić, where six departments are led by women and five by men, and in Hani i Elezit/ Elez Han, where five departments are led by women and four by men.

- Municipal own-source revenues continue to remain low. In the current year's budget, out of a total of EUR 788 million, EUR 115 million (15%) is planned to be collected by municipalities. Compared to the previous year, when municipalities had EUR 742 million available in their budgets, only EUR 105 million (14%) came from own-source revenues.
- Kosovo municipalities are facing a high level of outstanding debt. In total, 34 municipalities in Kosovo have a debt amounting to around EUR 276.8 million. The municipality with the highest level of debt is Prishtinë/Priština, with a total of EUR 85.6 million, followed by Prizren with EUR 27 million, Ferizaj/Uroševac with around EUR 19 million, and Pejë/Peć with EUR 18.2 million.
- In 2024, municipalities in Kosovo also faced an increase in expenditures as a result of enforcement and court-related obligations. The value of these expenditures reached EUR 86.4 million, which is double the value compared to 2023 and represents an increase of around 137% compared to 2022. In some municipalities, such as Deçan/Dečane, Viti/Vitina, Kamenicë/Kamenica, Štrpce/Shtërpçë, Podujevë/Podujevo, Suharekë/Suva Reka, and others, expenditures for enforcement agents and courts exceeded the value of municipal own-source revenues.
- In 2023, Prishtinë/Priština recorded the highest number of newly registered businesses, with a total of 3,414 businesses, which accounts for 28% of all new establishments, followed by Ferizaj/Uroševac with 1,042 (9%) and Prizren with 912 (7%). These municipalities also recorded the highest number of business closures during the same year (2023).
- Regarding business economic activity at the municipal level in 2024, data indicate that the municipalities with the highest business turnover are Prishtinë/Priština, accounting for 42% of total turnover, followed by Gračanica/Gračanicë with 10%, Ferizaj/Uroševac with 7%, and Prizren with 6%.
- The total budget of all municipalities in Kosovo for 2025 is EUR 788 million. Compared to the previous year, the budget

has increased by EUR 45 million (6%). Municipalities that recorded a budget increase of more than 10% compared to the previous year are Skenderaj/Srbica (39%), followed by Parteš/Partesh (11%) and Ferizaj/Uroševac (10%). Municipalities that spent 100% of the funds allocated for capital investments in 2024 are Suharekë/Suva Reka, Malishevë/Mališevo, and Ferizaj/Uroševac. However, from this amount it is not clear how much may represent payments of enforcement obligations, which are not necessarily related to the implementation of concrete capital projects. The municipality with the lowest percentage of spending of the budget allocated for capital investments is Leposavić/Leposaviq (2%).

- According to data from the Tax Administration of Kosovo (ATK), in 2024, there were a total of 396,814 employed persons in Kosovo. Compared to the previous year, the number of employed individuals has increased by 9,349 people, or about 2%. The municipalities with the highest number of employed individuals are Prishtinë/Priština, Ferizaj/Uroševac, Prizren, Pejë/Peć, Gjilan/Gnjilane, and Gračanica/Gračanicë. Meanwhile, the municipalities with the smallest number of employed individuals are Parteš/Partesh, Zvečan/Zveçan, and Ranilug/Ranillug.
- According to the most recent performance report (2023) of the Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA), the overall performance of municipalities evaluated across 93 performance metrics, spanning 16 key governance areas, stands at 58%. Administrative public services, followed by municipal transparency, show higher performance compared to areas such as gender representation and road infrastructure, which are evaluated poorly.
- Municipal budget transparency for 2024, evaluated by GAP Institute, scored 61 points. This represents an increase of 3.5 points compared to 2023, or 6% higher. Municipalities with the highest score, each with 100 points, are Kaçanik/Kaçanik, Klinë/Klina, Lipjan/Lipljan, Mitrovicë e Jugut/Južna Mitrovica/Mitrovica South, Prizren, Rahovec/Orahovac, Shtime/Štimlje, Skenderaj/Srbica, and Vushtrri/Vučitrn. Municipalities with a zero-point score in budget transparency are Zubin Potok and Zvečan/Zveçan.

Introduction

The absence of structured analysis and systematic data comparison in areas under municipal competence presents a persistent challenge for local governments in Kosovo, undermining evidence-based decision-making and obscuring an accurate reflection of conditions on the ground. To address this gap, GAP Institute publishes the Municipal ID report series, which analyzes key developments in Kosovo's municipalities by providing comparative data across years and sectors.

The report outlines key municipal-level trends across a range of sectors, including demographics, territory, education, social welfare, public administration, budgeting, entrepreneurship, service delivery, and transparency. The data presented in this report highlight significant demographic and economic changes in Kosovo's municipalities. The overall decline in population, internal migration towards urban areas, and the decrease in the number of students present challenges for sustainable local planning. Although the value of municipal budgets has gradually increased over the past decade, own-source revenues continue to remain low, and the level of debt remains high. Furthermore, the gender gap in employment and leadership positions, along with poor performance in key areas, demonstrates the need for improving local governance through more inclusive and effective policies.

The methodology of this report is based on official data published by relevant institutions, including the Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS), the Tax Administration of Kosovo (TAK), the Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT), and the Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA). These data are analyzed with a focus on identifying trends and differences across municipalities in areas such as demographics, education, economy, public administration, budget, and related fields.

1. Demographics and Territory

1.1 Population

Based on data from the Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS) of the most recent census (2024), including assessments conducted in four northern municipalities, Kosovo has a total population of 1,602,515 people.¹ This reflects a decrease of 177,506 persons, or 10%, compared to the 2011 census of 1,780,021 inhabitants.²

At the municipal level, a population decrease was recorded in 28 municipalities, while only 9 municipalities recorded an increase in population.³ The municipalities with the highest population growth are: Fushë Kosovë/ Kosovo Polje (84%), Parteš/Partesh (81%), Gračanica/Gračanicë (73%), and Štrpce/Shtërpçë (55%). The municipalities with the highest population decline are: Zvečan/Zveçan (-62%), Zubin Potok (-49%), Kamenicë/Kamenica (-37%), Ranilug/Ranillug (-36%), and Junik (-35%).

Fig. 1 Population change by municipality, comparison in 2011 and 2024



Source: GAP Institute, based on data from the Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

Based on the most recent population census (2024), the current distribution of the population between rural and urban areas in Kosovo is nearly equal, with 795,627 inhabitants (50%) living in urban areas and 789,939 inhabitants (50%) living in rural areas.⁴ According to data from the 2011 census, 38% of

1 Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS). [Population and Housing Census in Kosovo 2024](#). 2025. Note: Population figures are based on the 2024 Census in Kosovo, which the population assessment for the four northern municipalities: Leposavić/Leposaviq, Zvečan/Zveçan, Zubin Potok, and Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovica North

2 Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS). [Estimation: Population in Kosovo 2011](#), p.37., 2013.

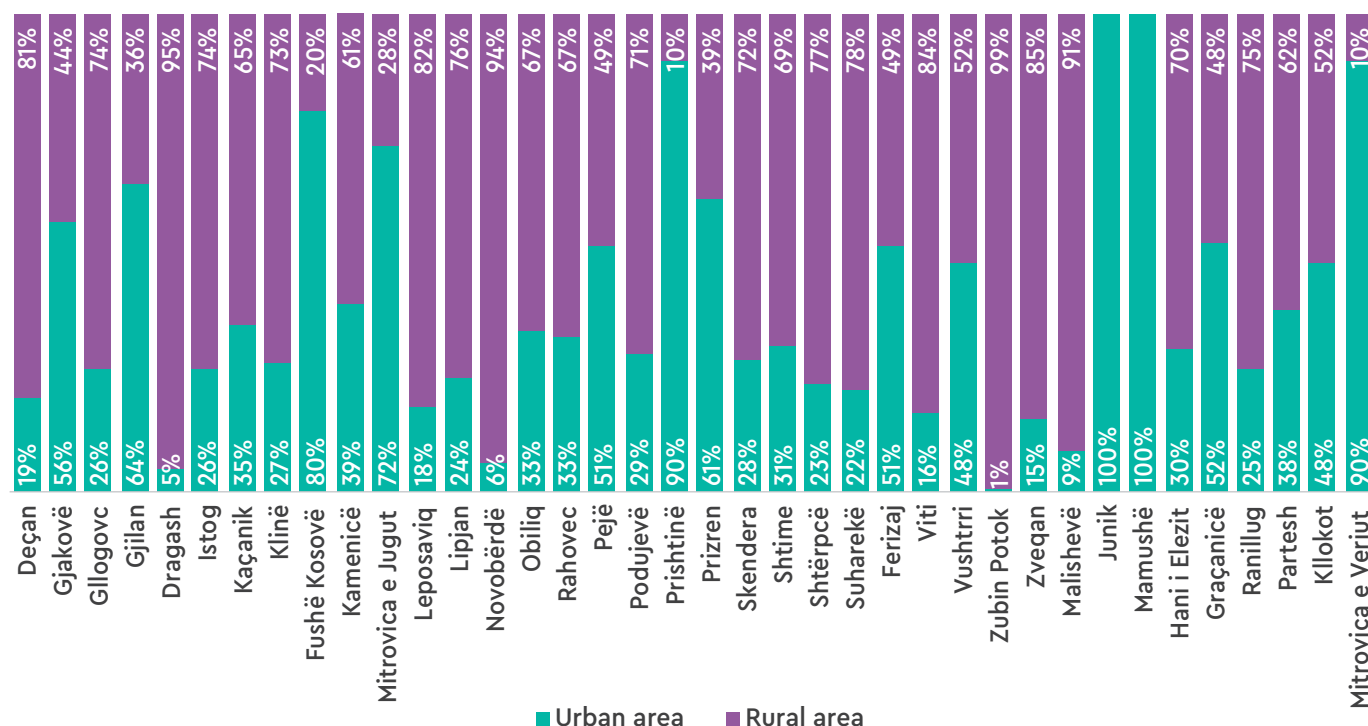
3 The Municipality of Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovica North is not included here, as the administrative process for the establishment of the municipality started after 2011 and it was not covered by the census.

4 Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS). [Population and Housing Census in Kosovo, 2024](#). f.11., 2025

the population lived in urban areas, while 62% lived in rural areas.⁵ Over the past decade, an internal shift of the population towards urban areas has been observed. As a result, the share of the population in urban areas has increased by 12 percentage points, while in rural areas it has decreased by the same rate.

At the local level, in municipalities such as Prishtinë/Priština, Junik, Mamuşa/Mamushë/Mamuşa, and Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovica North, 90% of the population lives in urban areas. In contrast, in municipalities such as Dragash/Dragaş, Novobërdë/Novo Brdo, Zubin Potok, and Malishevë/Mališevo, more than 90% of the population lives in rural areas.

Fig. 2 Urban and rural population share by municipality, 2024



Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

Data from the most recent census (2024) show that out of 581,000 housing units and buildings in Kosovo, around 64% are occupied and 36% are unoccupied.^{6,7} Compared to 2011, when at the national level around 71% of housing units/buildings were occupied and 29% were unoccupied, the current number of unoccupied dwellings has increased by 7 percentage points.⁸

The municipalities with the highest share of unoccupied housing units/buildings are Zvečan/Zveçan (81%) and Zubin Potok (60%). Meanwhile, the municipalities with the highest share of occupied housing units/buildings are Mamushë/Mamuşa (91%), followed by Hani i Elezit/Elez Han (82%), Obiliq/Obilić (79%), and Gračanica/Gračanicë (74%).⁹

⁵ Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS). ASK Data, [Population by Gender, Settlement \(Urban/Rural\), and Age, Census 2011](#).

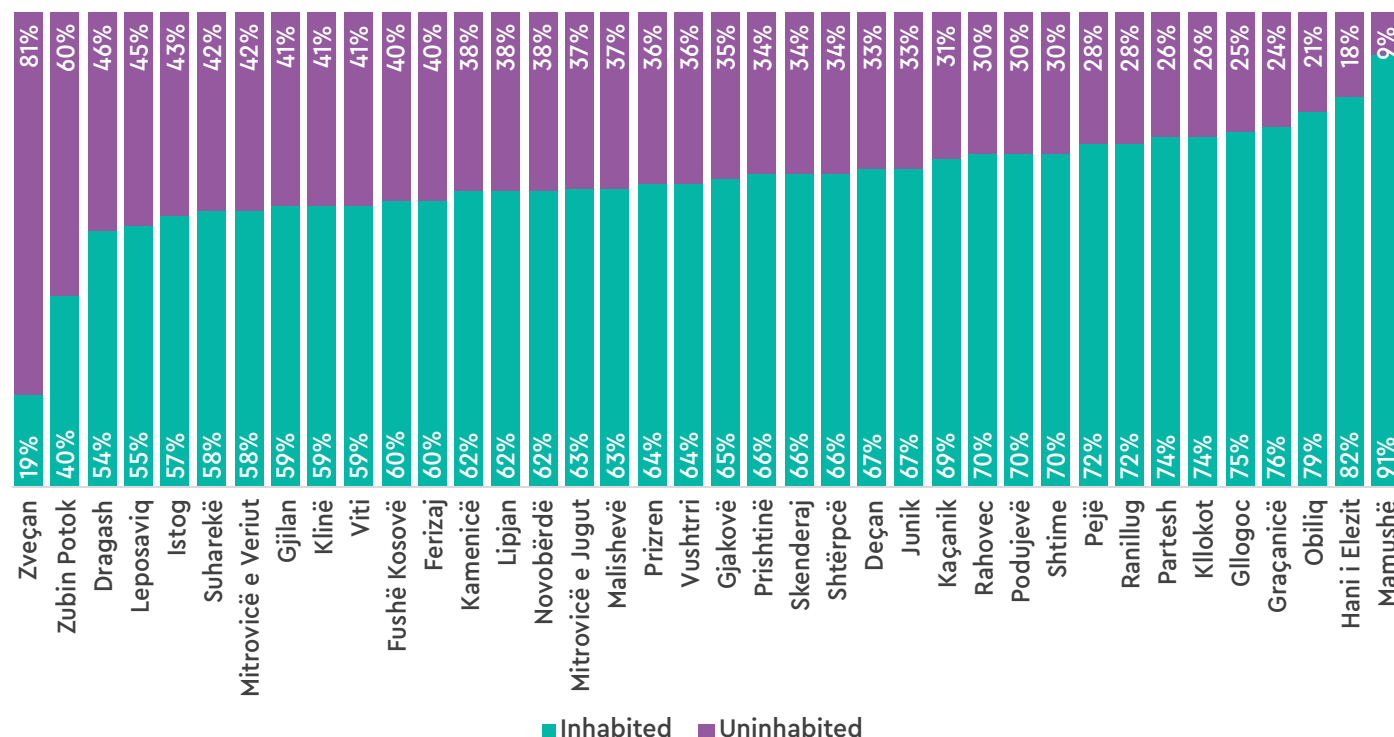
⁶ Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS). Population and Housing Census in Kosovo, 2024. [Dwellings and Buildings by Municipality](#). pp.12–13., 2025. Note: The category of occupied housing units/buildings includes: 1. Housing units/buildings occupied by one or more residents; 2. Housing units/buildings occupied by residents not included in the census (e.g., diplomatic staff, etc.); and 3. Housing units/buildings used for secondary purposes.

⁷ Note: According to KAS (Population and Housing Census 2024), the terms "Housing unit, also called Dwelling" and "Building" are defined as an independent structure containing one or more dwellings, rooms, or other spaces, including houses and apartments. Ibid. p.6, 2025.

⁸ Ibid. p.12.

⁹ Ibid. pp.13–15.

Fig. 3 The use of housing units/buildings by municipality, 2024

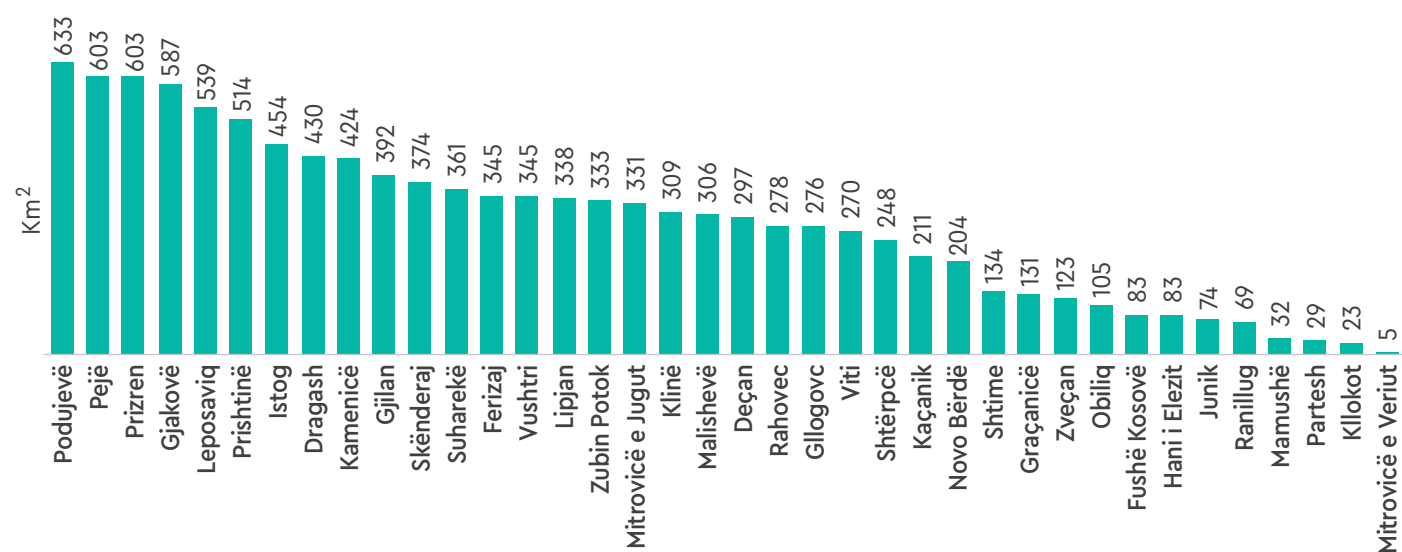


Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

1.2 Territory

Of the total 10,901 km² of Kosovo's territory, the municipality with the largest area is Podujevë/Podujevo with 633 km², followed by Pejë/Peć, and Prizren, each with 603 km². The municipality with the smallest area is Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovica North, with only 5 km².

Fig. 4 Territory of Kosovo municipalities, in square kilometers (km²)

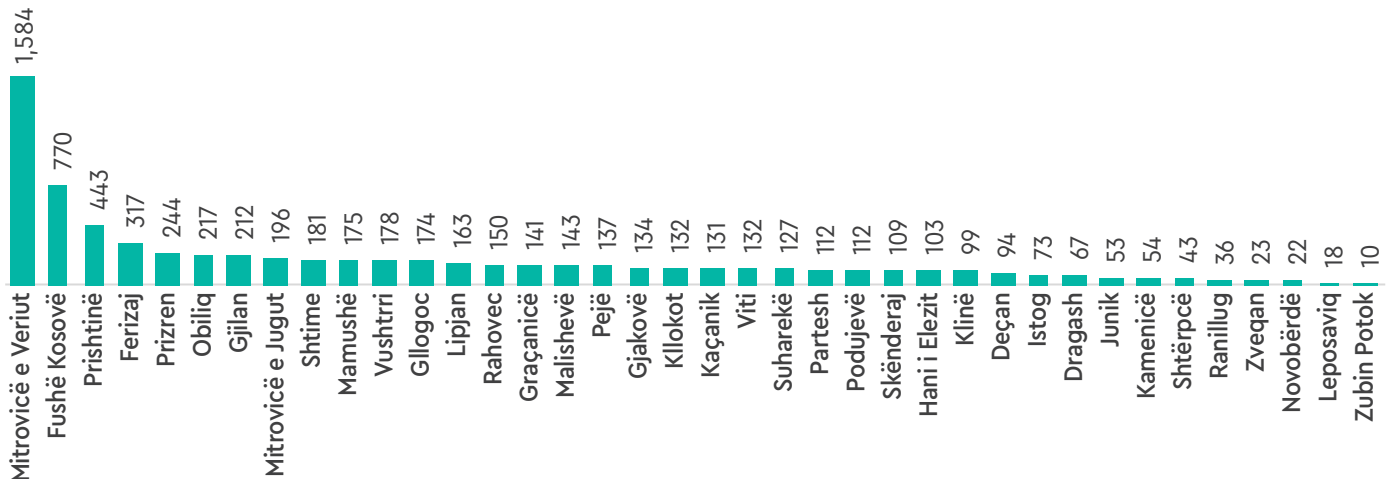


Source: Law No. 03/L-049 on Local Government Finance

1.3 Population Density

The municipality with the highest population density is Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovica North, with 1,584 inhabitants per km², followed by Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje with 770 inhabitants per km², and Prishtinë/Priština with 443 inhabitants per km². The municipality with the lowest population density is Zubin Potok, with only 10 inhabitants per km².

Fig. 5 Population density by municipality, 2024

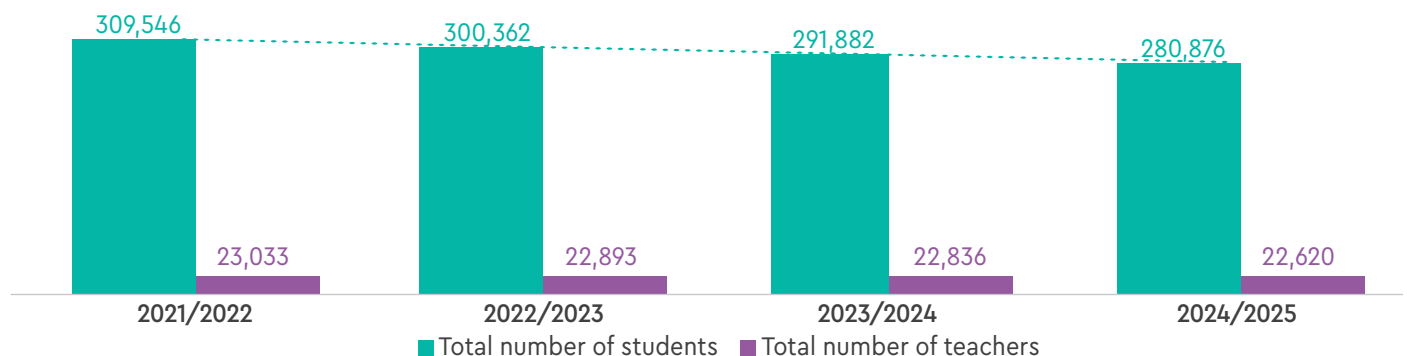


Source: Law No. 03/L-049 on Local Government Finances and 2024 Census (KAS)

2. Education

The number of students at all levels of pre-university education (pre-primary, primary, lower secondary, and upper secondary) has continuously declined. Over the last four school years, the number of students decreased by 28,670, representing a decline of 9%.¹⁰ The number of teachers has also decreased by 413, or approximately 2%, across all levels of pre-university education.

Fig. 6 Number of students and teachers at all levels of pre-university education, 2021/22 vs. 2024/25

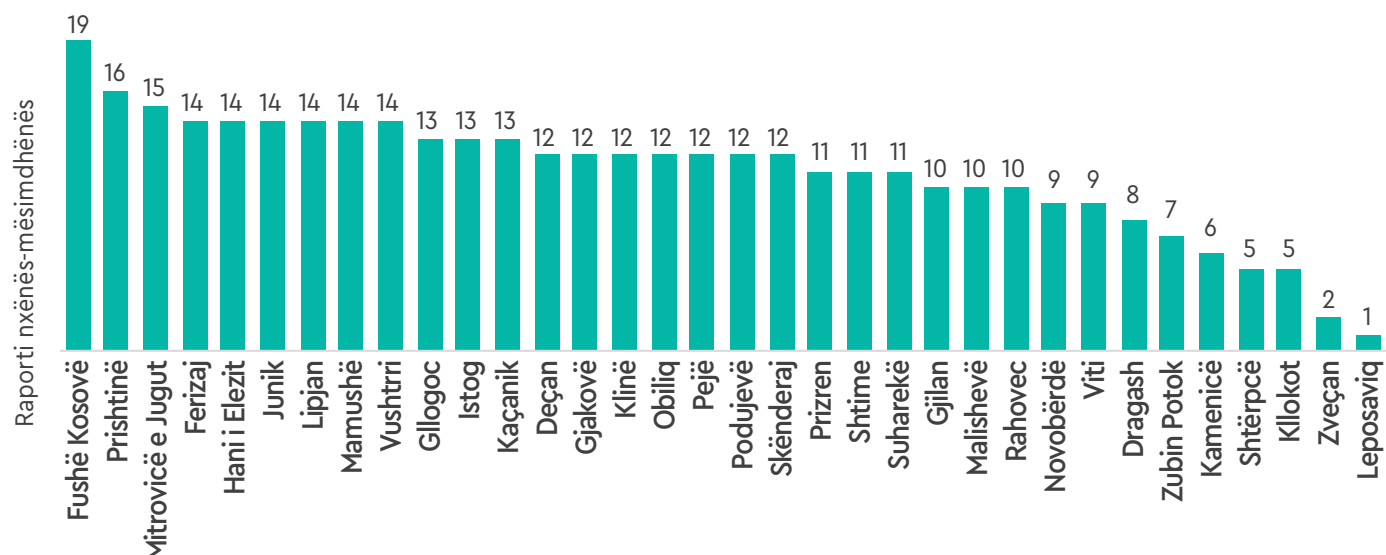


Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

¹⁰ Calculations by GAP Institute based on data from the Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS), Education Statistics for the school years 2024/25, 2023/24, 2022/23, and 2021/22.

For the 2024/2025 school year, at the national level, the student-to-teacher ratio across all levels of pre-university education is 12 students per teacher. The municipalities with the highest student-to-teacher ratios are Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Prishtinë/Priština, and Mitrovicë e Jugut/Južna Mitrovica/Mitrovica South. In contrast, the municipalities with the lowest student-to-teacher ratios are Leposavić/Leposaviq and Zvečan/Zvečan.

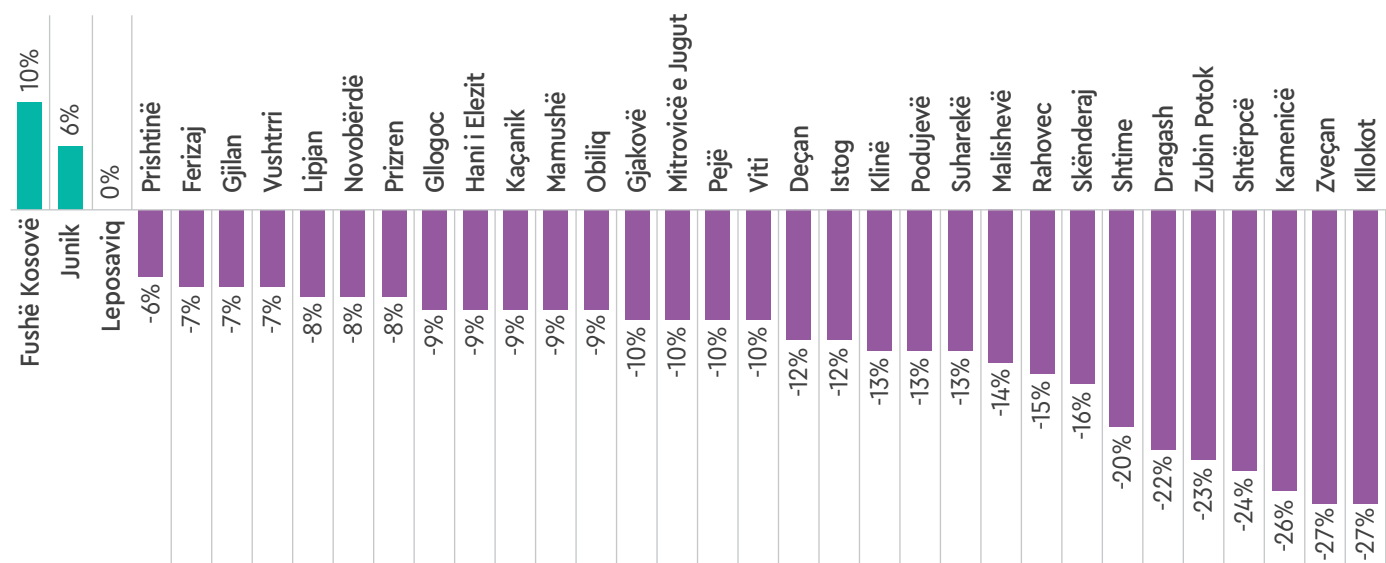
Fig. 7 Student-to-teacher ratio at all levels of pre-university education, 2024/25



Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

Over the last four years, with the exception of Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, which recorded a 10% increase in the number of students, and Junik, which recorded a 6% increase, all other municipalities have experienced a decline in student numbers compared to the 2021/22 school year. The largest decreases were observed in Klllokot/Klllokot and Zvečan/Zvečan, each with a 27% decline.

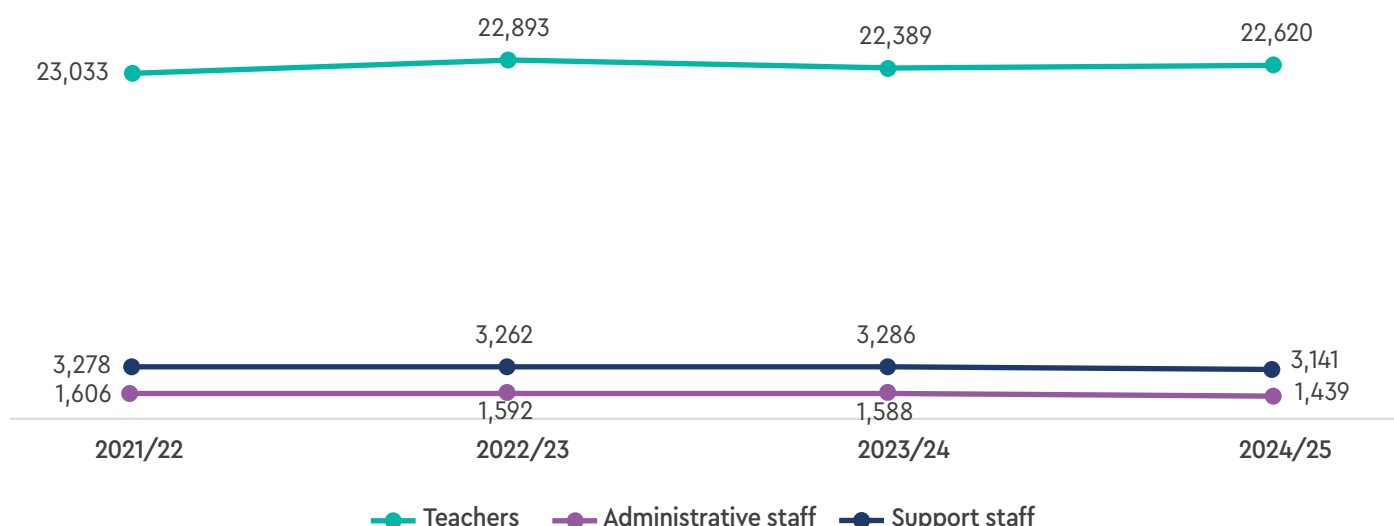
Fig. 8 Change in student enrollment across all levels of pre-university education by municipality, 2021/22 vs. 2024/25



Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

In total, the pre-university educational personnel (teachers, administrative staff, and support staff) has decreased by 717 people in the last four years. Specifically, the number of teachers has decreased by 413 (2%) fewer teachers compared to the 2021/22 school year, the number of support staff has decreased by 137 (4%) people, and the administrative staff has decreased by 167 (10%) people.

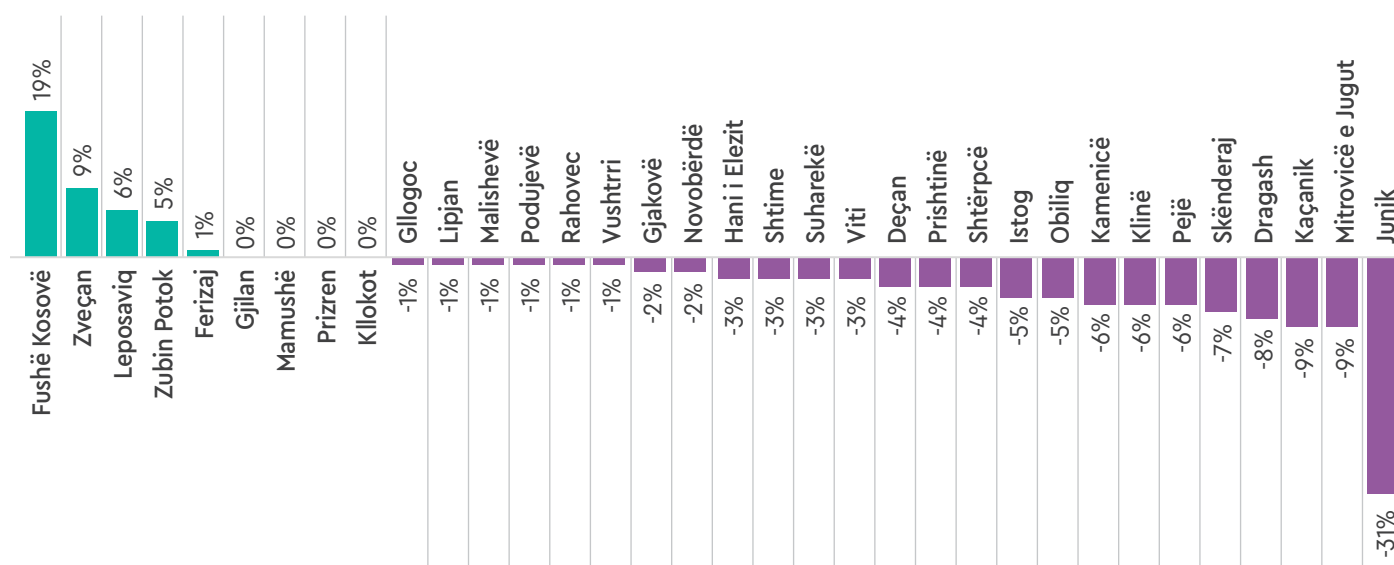
Fig. 9 Number of pre-university education staff, 2021/22 vs. 2024/25



Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

Based on municipal-level data, an increase in pre-university education staff compared to the 2021/22 school year was recorded in only five municipalities: Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje (19%), Zvečan/Zveçan (9%), Leposavić/Leposaviq (6%), Zubin Potok (5%), and Ferizaj/Uroševac (1%). In total, 25 municipalities recorded a decrease in pre-university education staff, with the largest decline observed in Junik, at 31%.

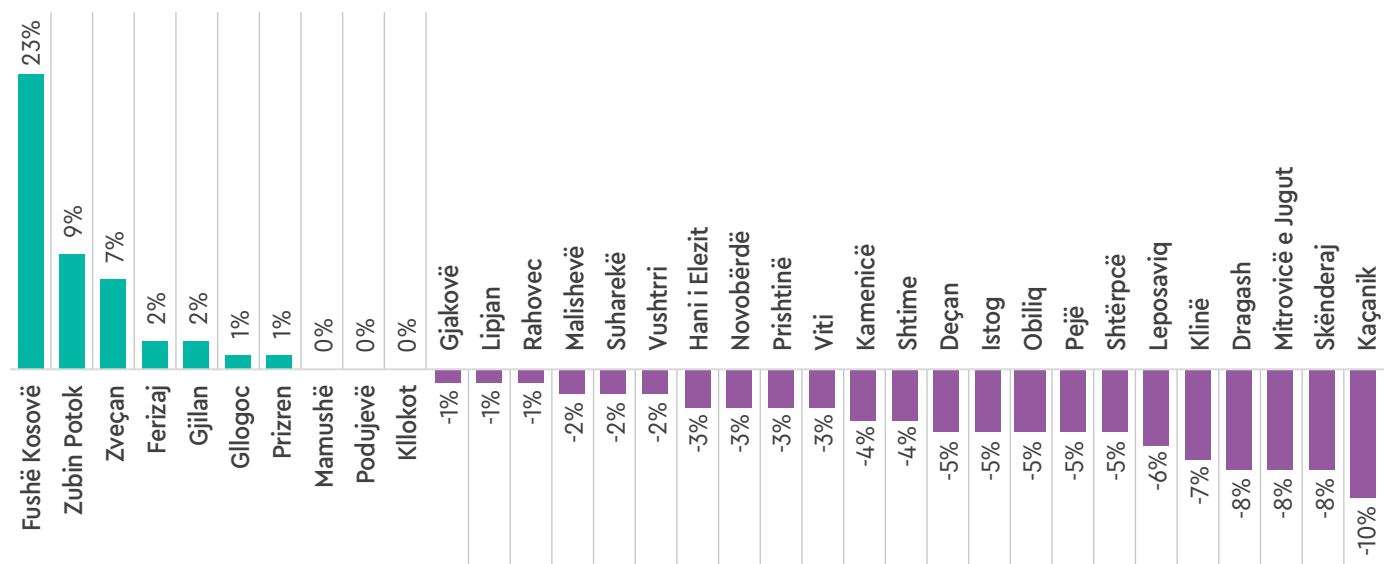
Fig. 10 Change in the number of pre-university education staff by municipality, 2021/22 vs. 2024/25



Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

The number of teachers, which represents the largest share of all staff employed in the pre-university education system, increased the most in Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje by 23%, while in Kaçanik/Kaçanik this number decreased by 10%.

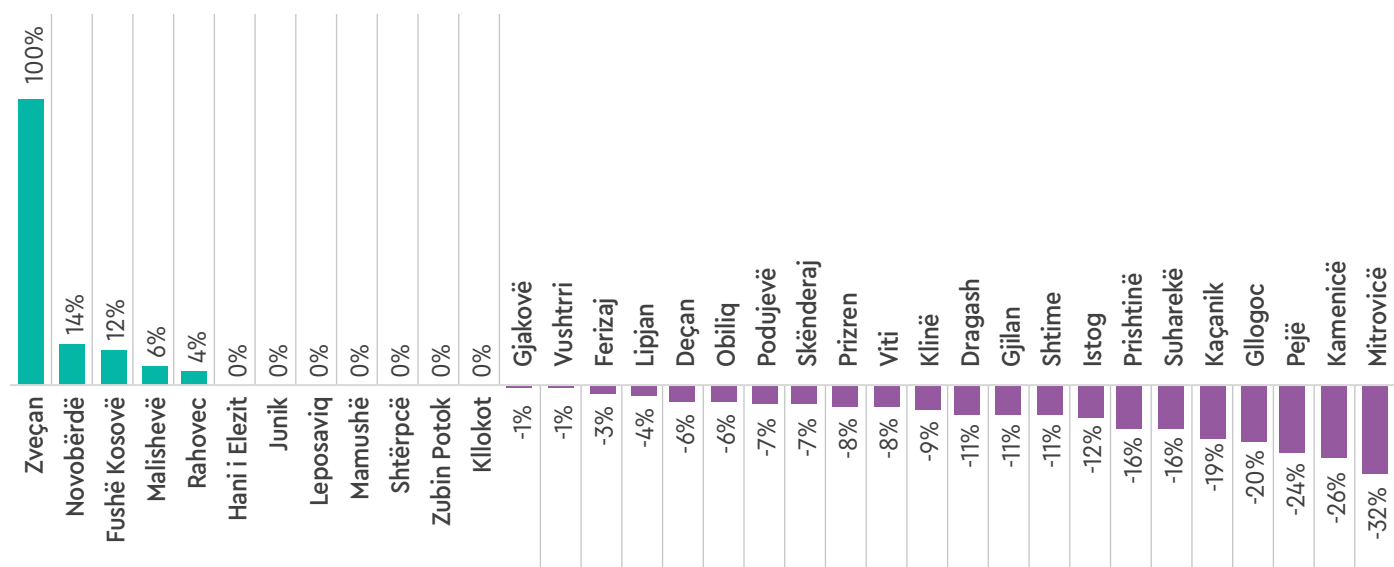
Fig. 11 Change in the number of teachers by municipality, 2021/22 vs. 2024/25



Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

In Zveçan/Zveçan, the number of administrative staff has doubled, while other municipalities recording an increase in administrative staff include Novobërdë/Novo Brdo (14%), Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje (12%), Malishevë/Mališevo (6%), and Rahovec/Orahovac (4%). In a total of 22 municipalities, the number of administrative staff decreased, with Mitrovicë e Jugut/Južna Mitrovica/Mitrovica South experiencing the largest decline at 32%, followed by Kamenicë/Kamenica at 26% and Pejë/Peć at 24%.

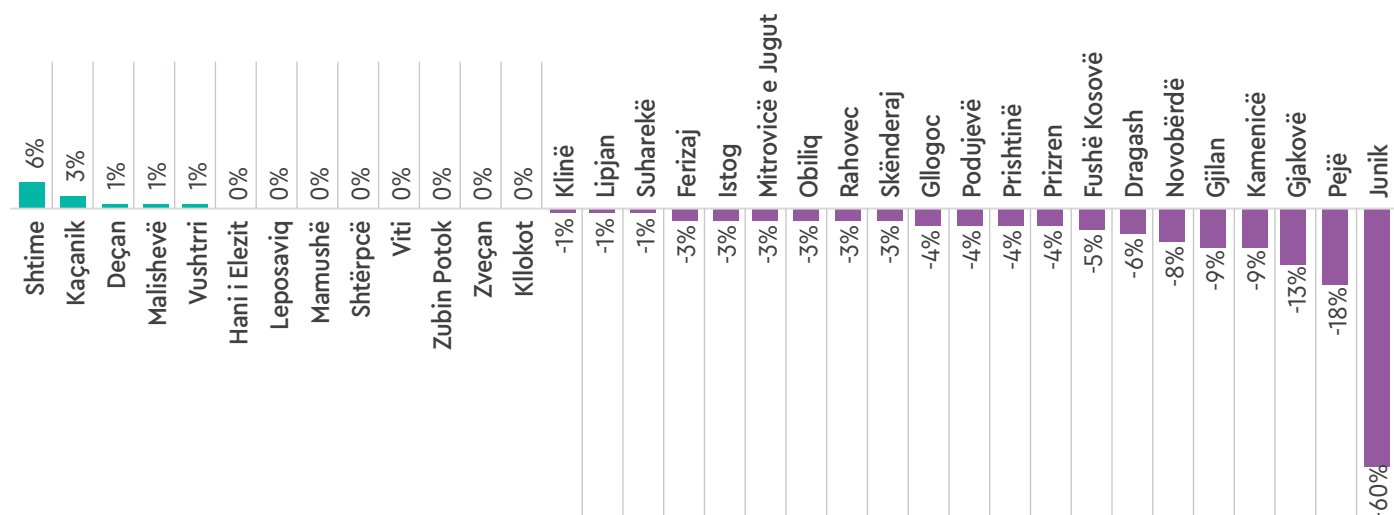
Fig. 12 Change in the number of administrative staff in pre-university education by municipality, 2021/22 vs. 2024/25



Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

Support staff, the category with the fewest employees in the pre-university education system, increased by 6% in Shtime/Štimlje, remained unchanged in seven municipalities over the past years, and decreased in 22 municipalities, with the largest decline recorded in Junik at 60%.

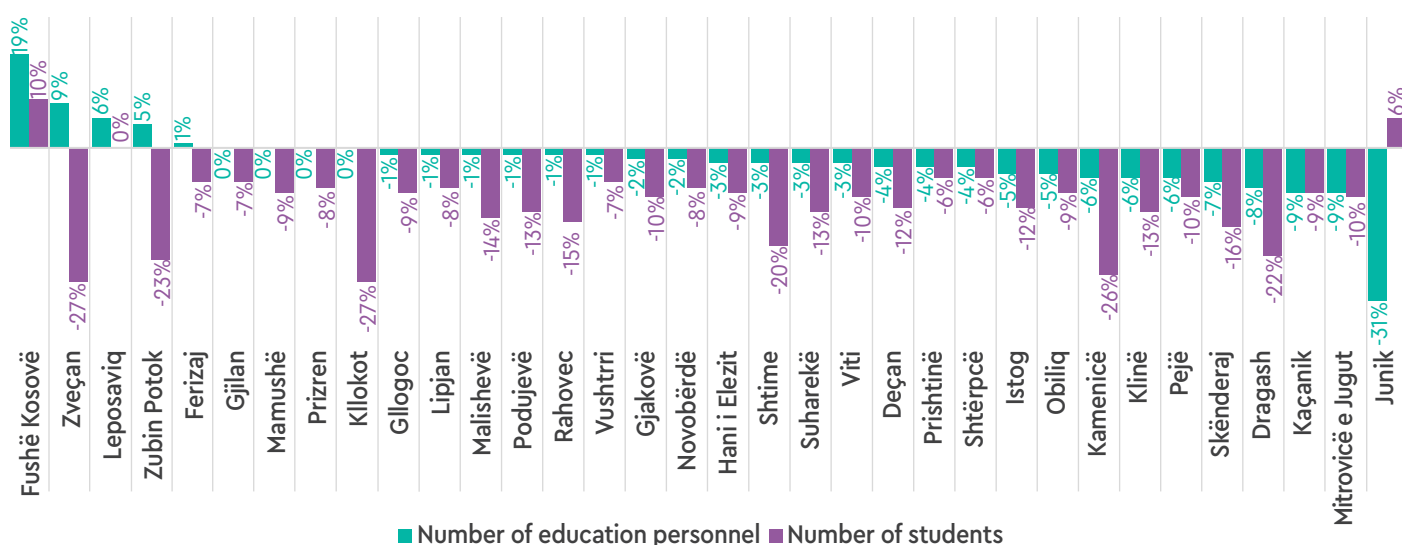
Fig. 13 Change in the number of support staff in pre-university education by municipality, 2021/22 vs. 2024/25



Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

When analyzing changes in the number of education staff and students, in Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, although the number of students has increased by 10% over the last four school years (2021/22–2024/25), the number of education staff has increased by 19% during the same period. However, in some municipalities, such as Zveçan/Zveçan, the number of students decreased by 27%, while the number of education staff increased by 9%. In contrast, Junik is the municipality that recorded the largest decline in education staff, at 31% over the past four years, even though the number of pupils increased by 6%.

Fig. 14 Comparison of changes in total education staff and student enrollment by municipality, 2021/22 vs. 2024/25

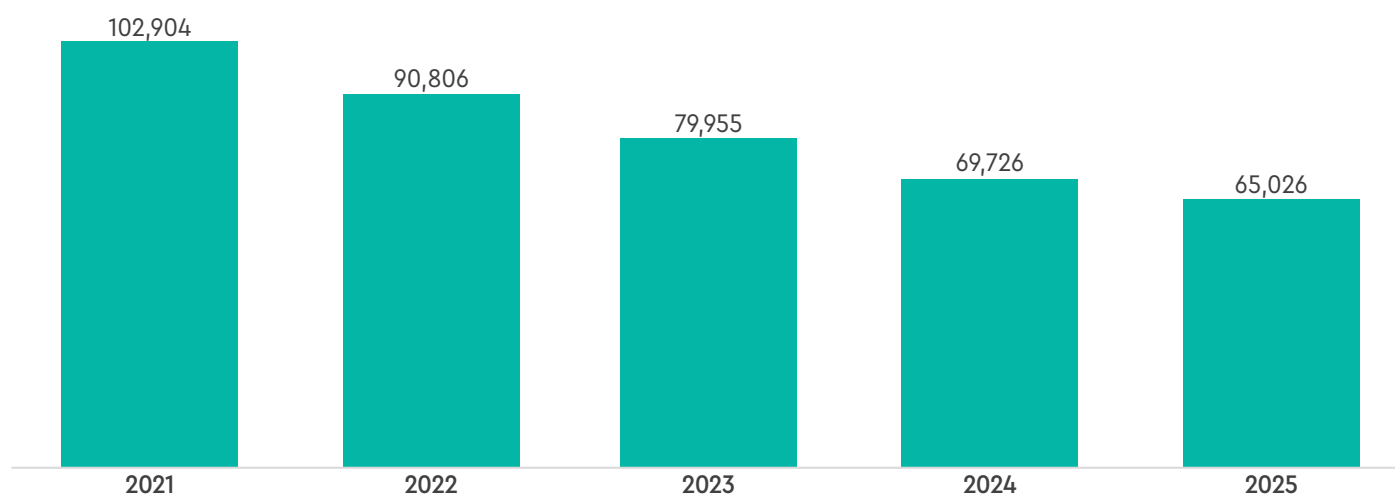


Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

3. Social Welfare

The number of households in Kosovo benefiting from social assistance schemes is 16,759, comprising a total of 65,026 members.¹¹ Compared to 2021, this represents a decrease of 37,878 persons (37%).

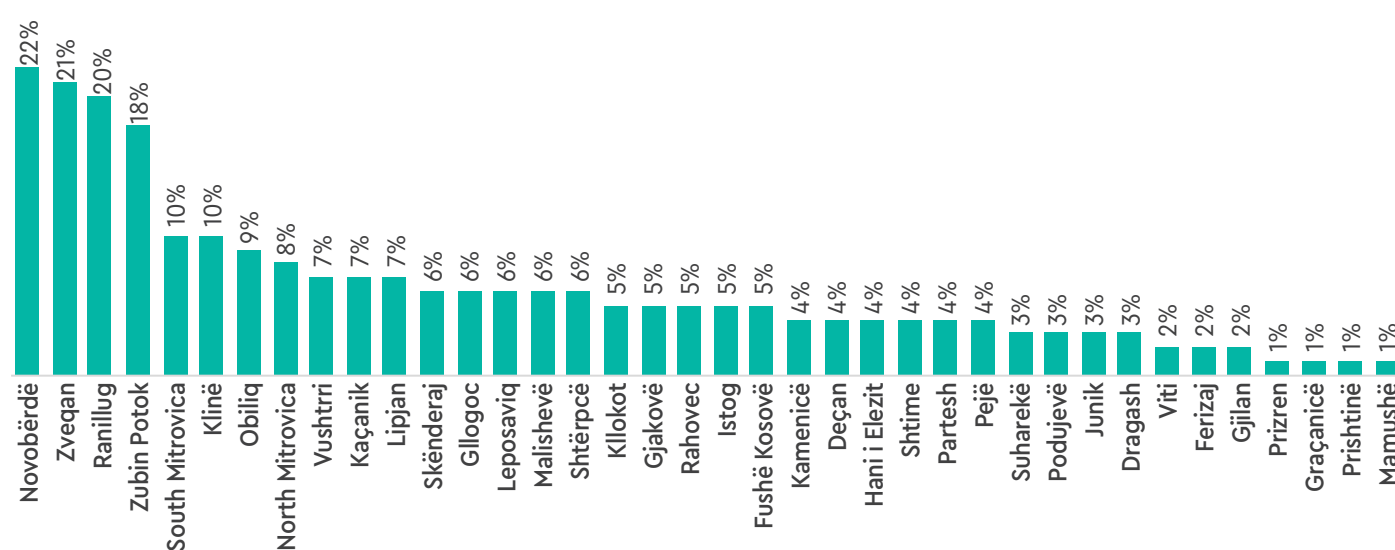
Fig. 15 Number of household members receiving social assistance, 2021–2025



Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

At the municipal level, Novobërdë/Novo Brdo has the highest share of citizens receiving social assistance, with 22% of the total population benefiting from social welfare schemes, followed by Zvečan/Zveçan (21%), Ranilug/Ranillug (20%), and Zubin Potok (18%). In contrast, only 1% of citizens in municipalities such as Prizren, Gračanica/Gračanicë, Prishtinë/Priština, and Mamuşa/Mamushë benefit from social assistance schemes.

Fig. 16 Population receiving social welfare by municipality, 2025



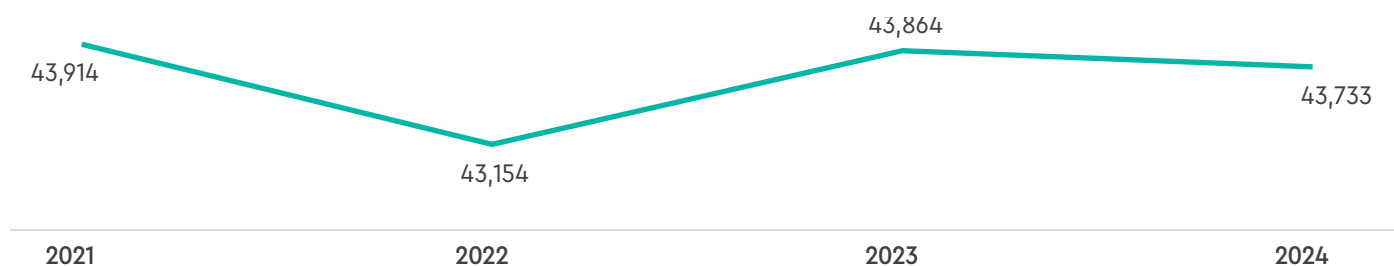
Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS); Social Welfare Data 2024 and Estimation: Population in Kosovo 2024

¹¹ Based on data from the Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS). Social Welfare Statistics [December 2021](#), [December 2022](#), [December 2023](#), [December 2024](#) and [June 2025](#).

4. Administration

According to employment data from the Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFPT), specifically regarding public sector employment at the local level, the total number of employees is 43,733 (2024).¹² Compared to the previous year, this number has decreased by 181 employees.

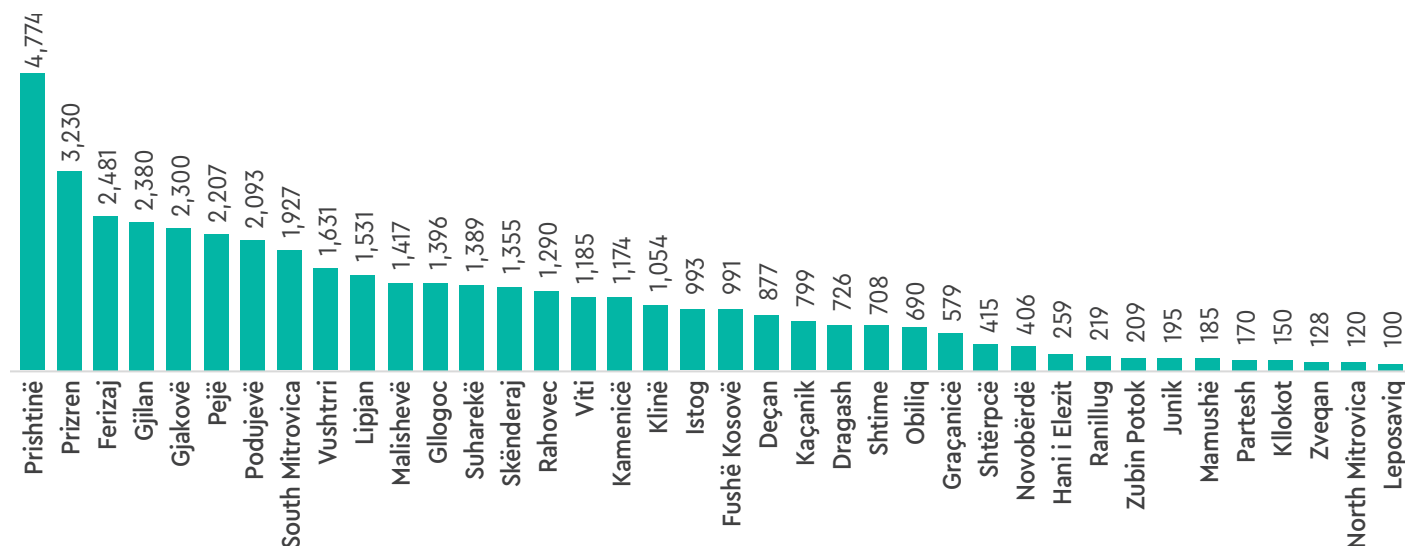
Fig. 17 Total number of public sector employees at the local level, 2021–2024



Source: Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT), Financial Reports

The municipality with the highest number of public sector employees is Prishtinë/Priština, with a total of 4,774 employees, followed by Prizren with 3,230, Ferizaj/Uroševac with 2,481, and Gjiilan/Gnjilane with 2,380 employees. The municipalities with the lowest number of civil servants are Leposavić/Leposaviq with 100, Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovica North with 120, and Zvečan/Zveçan with 128 employees.

Fig. 18 Number of public sector employees by local level, 2024



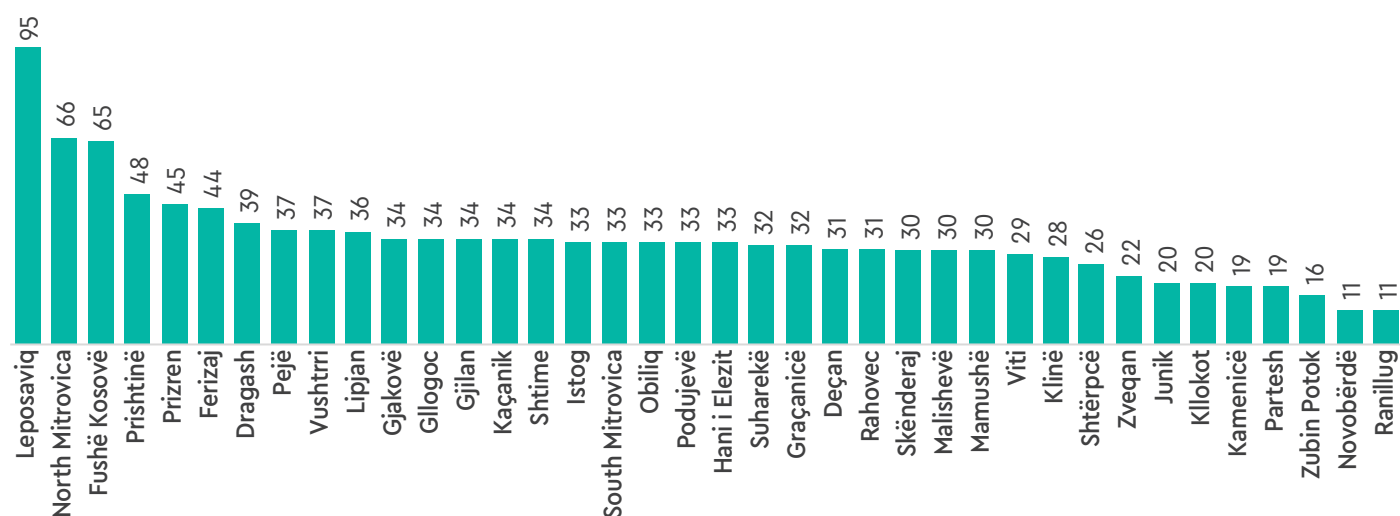
Source: Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT), Financial Reports

In relation to the population, the Municipality of Leposavić/Leposaviq has the lowest number of civil servants per inhabitant, with one civil servant for every 95 inhabitants, followed by Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovica North with one public servant for every 66 inhabitants, and Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje with one civil servant for every 65 inhabitants. On the other hand, the municipalities of Novobërdë/Novo Brdo and Ranilug/Ranillug

¹² Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT), [Annual Financial Reports for 2024, 2023, 2022, and 2021](#).

have the highest number of civil servants in relation to the population, with one civil servant for every 11 inhabitants.

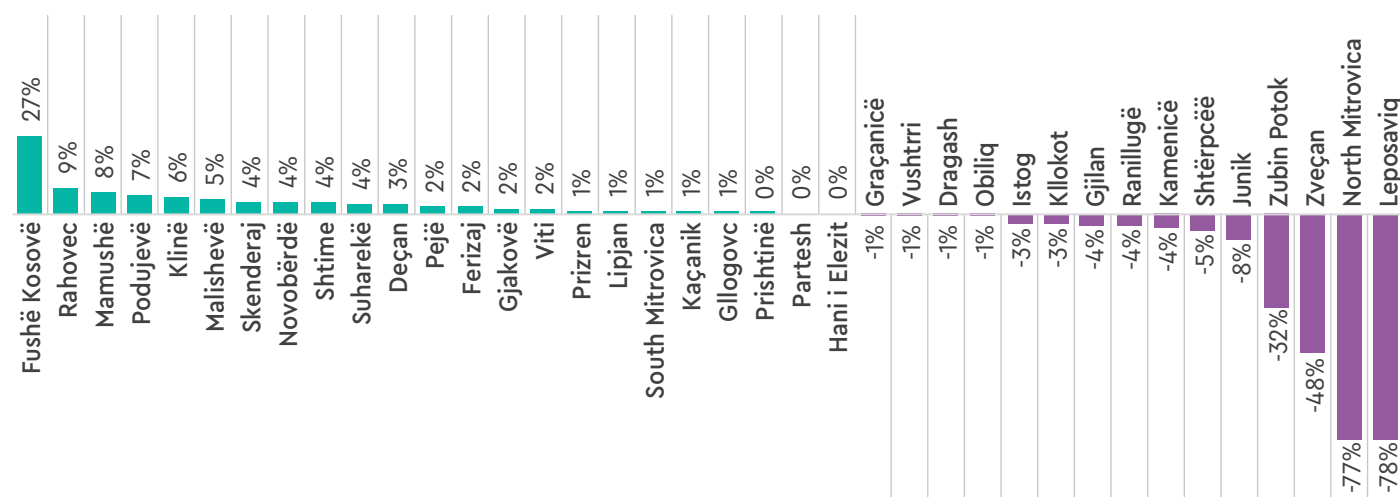
Fig. 19 Public servant-to-population ratio by municipality, 2024



Source: Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers, Financial Reports

Over the past four years, the number of employees in the public sector has increased in the municipalities of Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje (27%), Rahovec/Orahovac (9%), and Mamuşa/Mamushë/Mamuşa (8%), while it has decreased in municipalities such as Leposavić/Leposaviq (78%), Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovica North (77%), and Zvečan/Zveçan (48%).

Fig. 20 Employment trend of public servants by municipality, 2021–2024



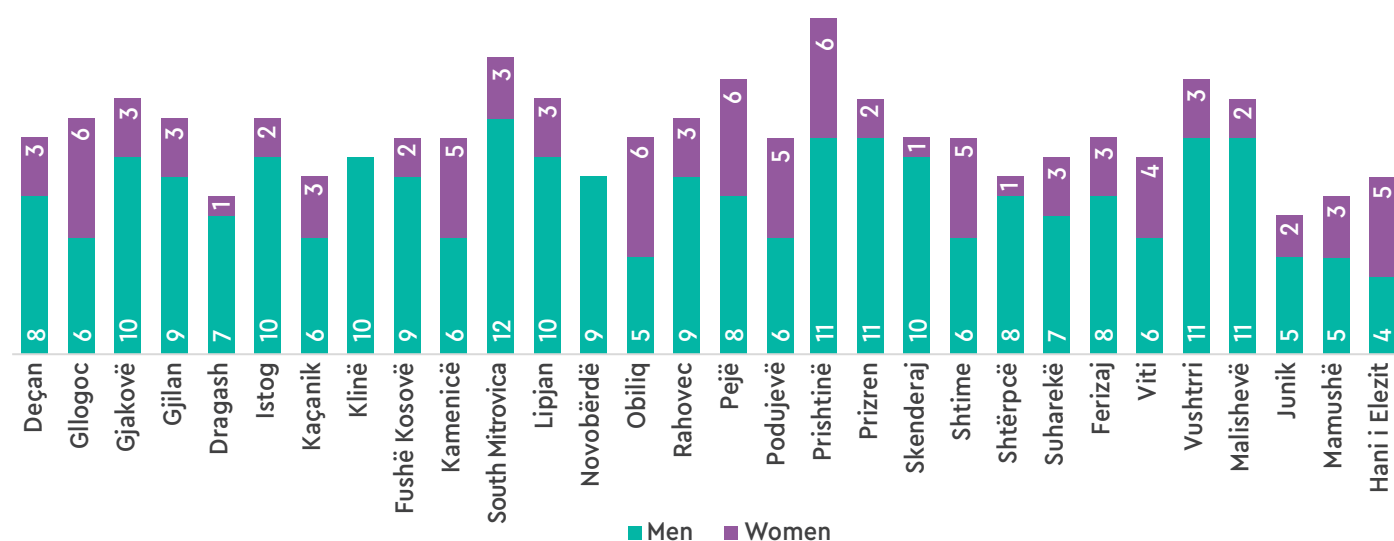
Source: Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT), Financial Reports

In the 30 municipalities analyzed, there are a total of 337 municipal departments (directorates), of which 243 (72%) are led by men and 94 (28%) are led by women.¹³ The largest gender gap was observed in the municipalities of Klinë/Klina and Novobërdë/Novo Brdo, where men led all departments. An equal distribution is recorded in the municipality of Glogoc/Glogovac, with six departments led by women out of a total of 12. The highest representation of women in leading municipal departments is found in the municipality of Obiliq/Obilić, with six departments led by women and five by men, as well

¹³ The official websites of the municipalities of Gračanica/Graçanicë, Zubin Potok, Novobërdë/Novo Brdo, Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovica North, Ranilug/Ranilug, Partesh/Partesh, Kllokot/Kllokot, and Leposavić/Leposaviq were not accessible. July 2025

as in Hani i Elezit/Elez Han, with five departments led by women and four by men. According to the 2021 data of the Central Election Commission (CEC), in all 38 municipalities of Kosovo there are 1,004 municipal assembly members, of whom 639 are men (64%) and 365 are women (36%).¹⁴

Fig. 21 The heads of municipal departments by gender, 2025

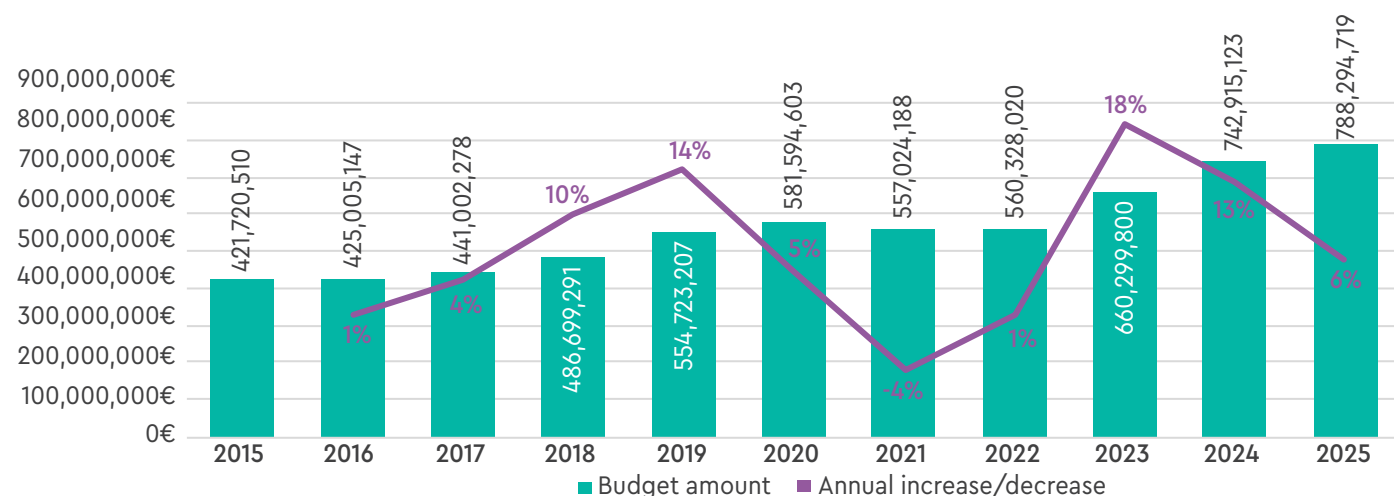


Source: Official municipal websites, July 2025

5. Budget

The total budget of all municipalities in Kosovo for 2025 amounts to EUR 788 million.¹⁵ Compared to the previous year, the budget has increased by EUR 45 million (6%). Over the past ten years, a consistent upward trend in municipal budgets can be observed, with the exception of 2021 and 2022. Compared to 2015, municipalities now have a higher budget of EUR 366 million, representing an increase of 87%.

Fig. 22 Total municipal budget, 2015–2025



Source: Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo, Annual Appropriations Laws 2015–2025.

¹⁴ Central Election Commission (CEC), [Municipal Elections 2021](#).

¹⁵ Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo, [Law No. 08/L-322 on Budget Appropriations for the Budget of the Republic of Kosovo for Year 2025](#).

The municipalities that recorded an increase in their budgets compared to the previous year (2024) of more than 10% are Skenderaj/Srbica (39%), followed by Parteš/Partesh (11%) and Ferizaj/Uroševac (10%).

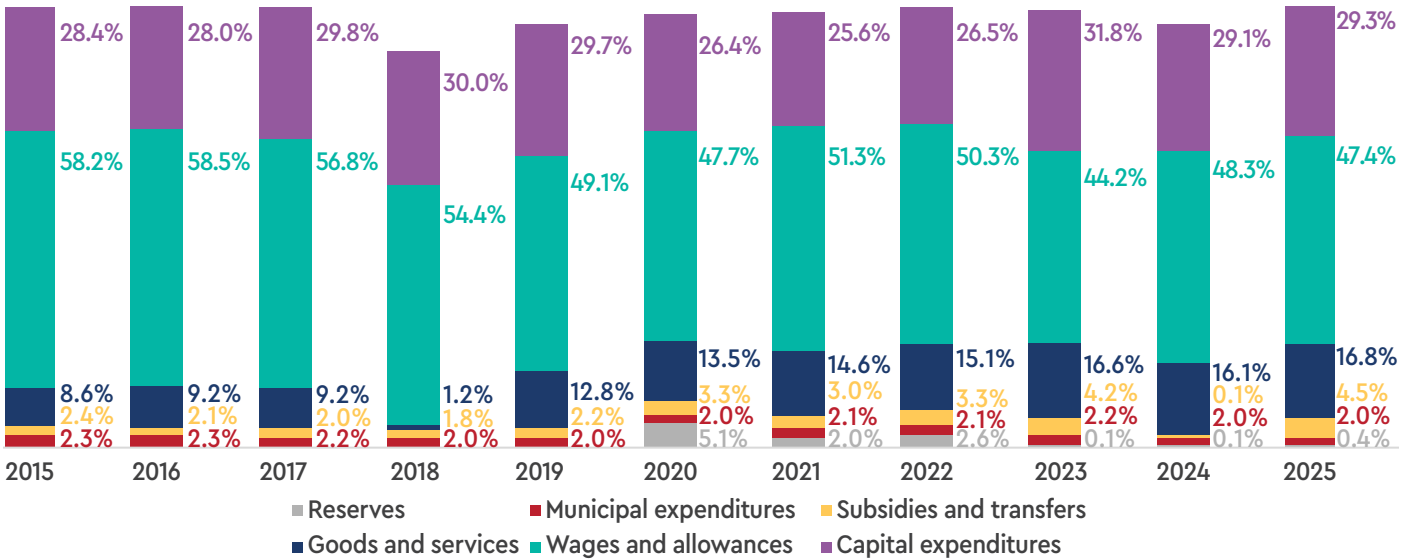
Fig. 23 Municipal budgets, 2024 vs. 2025



Source: Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT), Financial Reports

According to the structure of selected municipal budget expenditures, compared to 2024, current expenditures increased by EUR 28.9 million (5.5%), wages and allowances by EUR 11.5 million (3.2%), subsidies and transfers by EUR 4.7 million (15.6%), and capital expenditures by EUR 9.8 million (4.5%).

Fig. 24 Municipal budget allocation by main expenditure categories, 2015–2025



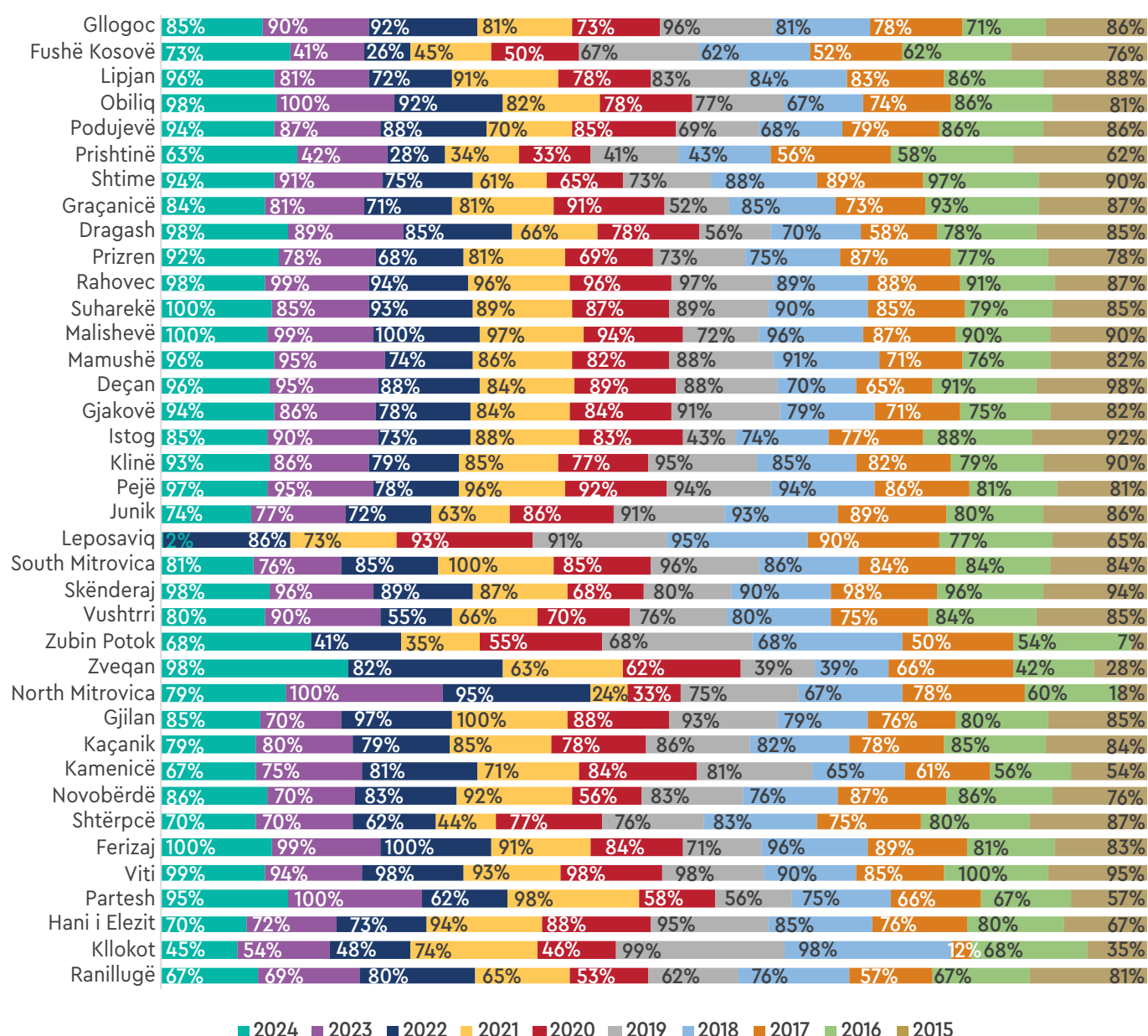
Source: Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo, Annual Appropriations Laws 2015–2025.

The municipalities that spent 100% of their funds allocated for capital investments in 2024 are Ferizaj/Uroševac, Malishevë/Mališevo, and Suharekë/Suva Reka.¹⁶ The municipalities with the lowest share of budget expenditure

¹⁶ Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT). [Annual Financial Reports 2015–2024](#).

dedicated to capital investments are Leposavić/Leposaviq with only 2%, Klokot/Kllokot with 45%, Prishtinë/Priština with 63%, Ranilug/Ranillug and Kamenicë/Kamenica with 67% each, and Zubin Potok with 68%.¹⁷

Fig. 25 Level of municipal budget spendings for capital investments, 2017–2022



Source: Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo, Annual Appropriations Laws 2015–2025.

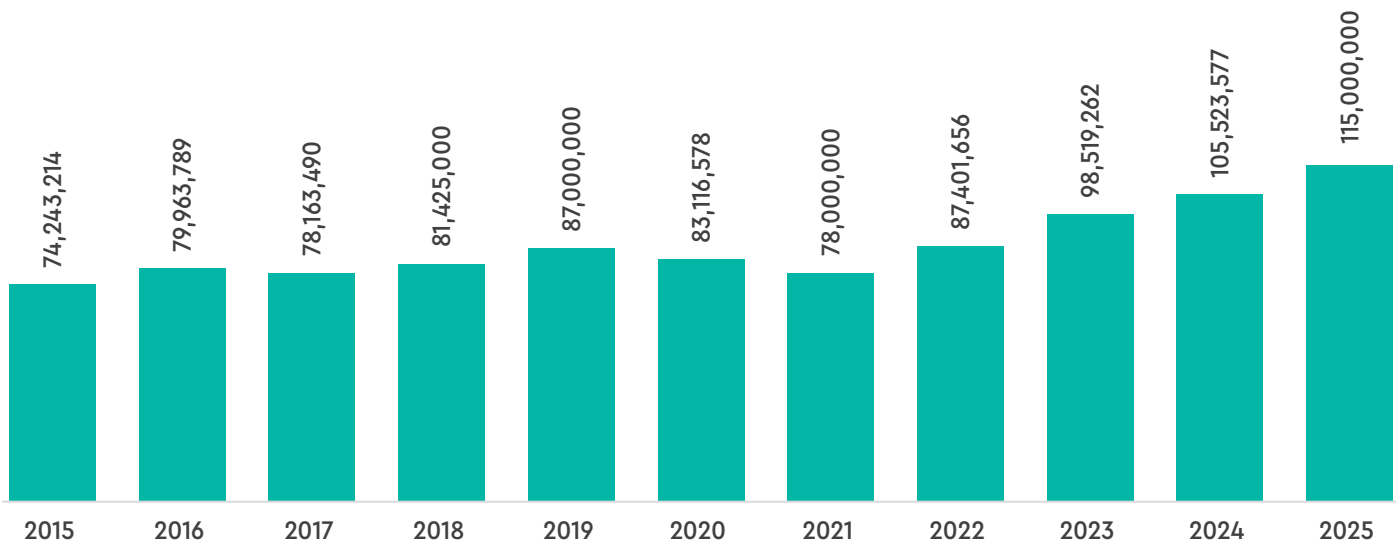
Municipal own-source revenues continue to remain low. Of the EUR 115 million in local own-source revenues forecast for the current year, EUR 38 million, representing 33% of the total, is projected to be collected solely by Prishtinë/Priština.¹⁸ Similarly, of the total EUR 742 million municipal budget for 2024, only EUR 105 million (14%) was generated from municipal revenues.¹⁹

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Based on the data on own source revenues of the Municipality of Prishtinë/Priština, [Approved Budget for 2025](#).

¹⁹ Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT). [Annual Financial Report 2024](#),

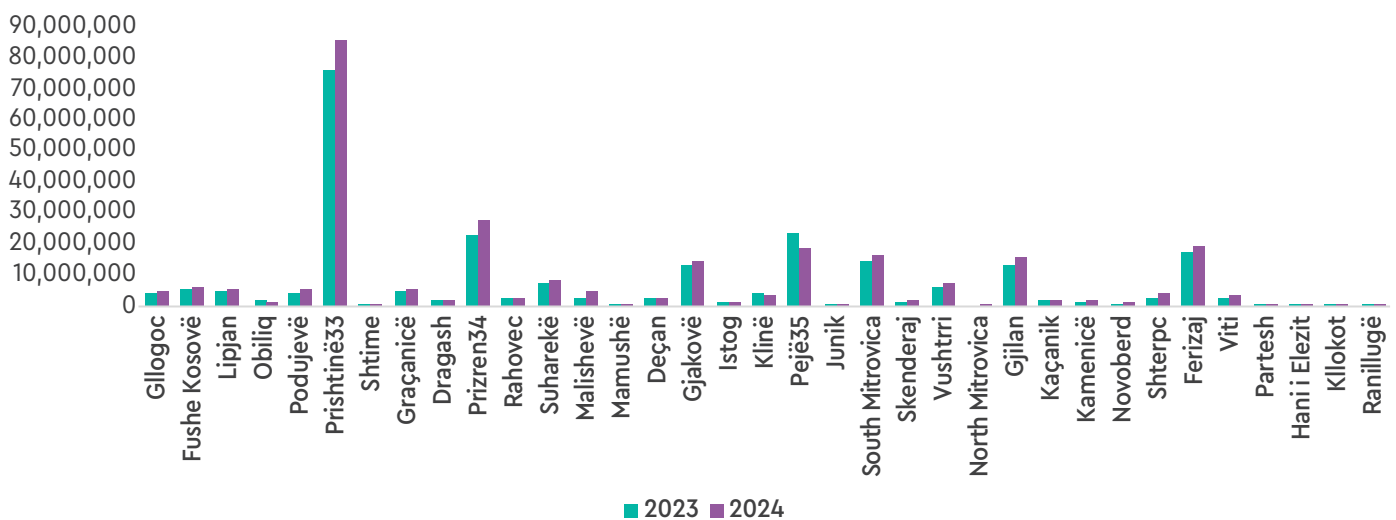
Fig. 26 Municipal own-source revenue, 2015–2025



Source: Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo, Annual Appropriations Laws 2015–2025.

Municipalities in Kosovo are facing a high level of outstanding debt. Based on 2024 data, a total of 34 municipalities had outstanding debt amounting to approximately EUR 276.8 million.²⁰ This figure represents an increase of EUR 28.3 million compared to the previous year (2023), when the level of outstanding debt was EUR 248.5 million. The municipality with the highest level of outstanding debt is Prishtinë/Priština, with a total of EUR 85.6 million, followed by Prizren with EUR 27 million, Ferizaj/Uroševac with around EUR 19 million, and Pejë/Peć with EUR 18.2 million.

Fig. 27 Outstanding municipal receivables from citizens, businesses, and other entities, 2023 vs. 2024



Source: Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT)

In recent years, municipalities have faced a significant increase in expenditures arising from court and enforcement obligations, reaching a total of EUR 86.4 million in 2024. This represents a double increase compared to 2023

20 Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT). [Annual Financial Report 2024](#).

and a triple increase compared to 2022.²¹ These enforcement obligations stem from previous contracts, a 2008 Government decision providing additional payments to education sector employees based on qualification level, and claims by civil servants for compensation for allowances, inflation adjustments, and transportation costs.²² In addition to teachers, civil servants are also receiving court-ordered compensation, particularly for meal allowances, inflation adjustments, and transportation costs. Enforcement-related expenditures have increased significantly across all municipalities, regardless of their size. In Prishtinë/Priština, these expenditures rose from EUR 6.2 million in 2022 to EUR 10.5 million in 2024; in Suharekë/Suva Reka, from EUR 972,000 to over EUR 4.1 million; in Skenderaj/Srbica, from EUR 183,000 to EUR 2.4 million, and in Vushtrri/Vučitrn, from EUR 199,000 to EUR 3.5 million. Even smaller municipalities, such as Gračanica/Gračanicë, experienced a substantial increase, from just EUR 260 in 2022 to over EUR 752,000 in 2024. This situation, where enforcement-related expenditures are high, limits municipalities' ability to carry out capital investment projects.

Tab. 1 Municipal budget payments executed via the Treasury in 2024, based on court rulings and enforcement obligations.

		2023 (EUR)	2022 (EUR)	Percentage increase 2024 vs. 2022
Glogoc/Glogovac	3,580,866	1,077,771	2,418,201	48%
Fushë Kosovë/ Kosovo Polje	3,342,321	1,028,531	147,843	2161%
Lipjan/Lipljan	1,775,177	368,834	354,842	400%
Obiliq/Obilić	1,330,128	199,209	405,103	228%
Podujevë/Podujevo	3,861,535	1,123,115	1,895,158	104%
Prishtinë/Priština	10,582,839	4,757,254	6,218,087	70%
Shtime/Štimlje	869,882	511,946	128,097	579%
Gračanica/ Gračanicë	752,986	274,323	260	289510%
Dragash/Dragaš	938,113	483,498	174,075	439%
Prizren	5,573,248	4,023,424	1,688,164	230%
Rahovec/Orahovac	1,779,043	920,102	295,253	503%
Suharekë/Suva Reka	4,133,857	615,959	972,282	325%
Malishevë/Mališevo	1,254,073	763,977	812,800	54%
Mamuša/ Mamushë/Mamuša	51,323	1,449	91,074	-44%
Deçan/Dečane	4,388,918	2,149,951	1,404,868	212%
Gjakovë/Đakovica	3,280,432	2,065,307	624,185	426%
Istog/Istok	2,349,111	732,475	1,150,495	104%
Klinë/Klina	312,908	64,632	54,749	472%
Pejë/Peć	7,081,044	5,466,897	1,132,612	525%
Junik	215,400	107,915	63,132	241%
Leposavić/ Leposaviq	168,723	–	–	–

21 Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT). [Annual Financial Report 2024](#), p.94

22 GAP Institute. [In Search of a Solution: Enforcement Challenges in Municipalities](#). 2025

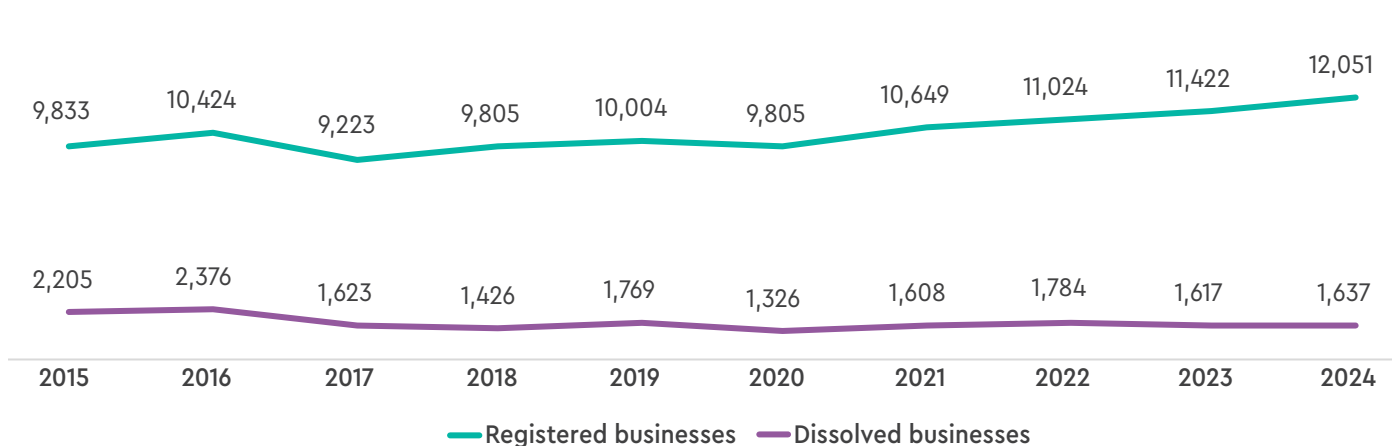
Mitrovicë e Jugut/ Južna Mitrovica (Mitrovica South)	5,042,057	1,168,509	3,615,609	39%
Skënderaj/Srbica	2,455,186	54,834	183,203	1240%
Vushtrri/Vučitrn	3,566,054	2,610,378	199,229	1690%
Zubin Potok	69,066	–	21,893	215%
Zvečan/Zvečan	72,966	31,059	678	10662%
Severna Mitrovica/ Mitrovicë e Veriut (Mitrovica North)	4,671	17,663	–	–
Gjilan/Gnjilane	7,006,316	1,987,677	5,733,917	22%
Kaçanik/Kaçanik	736,775	17,656	56,645	1201%
Kamenicë/ Kamenica	2,504,310	561,289	364,754	587%
Novobërdë/Novo Brdo	121,499	83,959	103,266	18%
Štrpce/Shtërpçë	419,416	343,817	132,670	216%
Ferizaj/Uroševac	3,260,412	5,190,665	4,990,519	-35%
Viti/Vitina	3,308,823	971,428	872,800	279%
Partesh/Partesh	5,325	204,962	25,474	-79%
Hani i Elezit/Elez Han	204,161	124,389	69,000	196%
Klokot/Klllokot	29,069	89,043	30,937	-6%
Ranilug/Ranillug	–	7,408	30,184	–
Total	86,428,033	40,201,304	36,462,057	137%

Source: Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT) Financial Reports and calculations by GAP Institute

6. Economy

In 2024, a total of 12,051 new businesses were registered, while 1,637 businesses were formally dissolved.²³ The wholesale and retail trade sector recorded the highest number of registered businesses (2,973), followed by the manufacturing sector (1,353), and the construction sector (1,326).²⁴

Fig. 28 Newly registered and formally dissolved businesses, 2015–2024



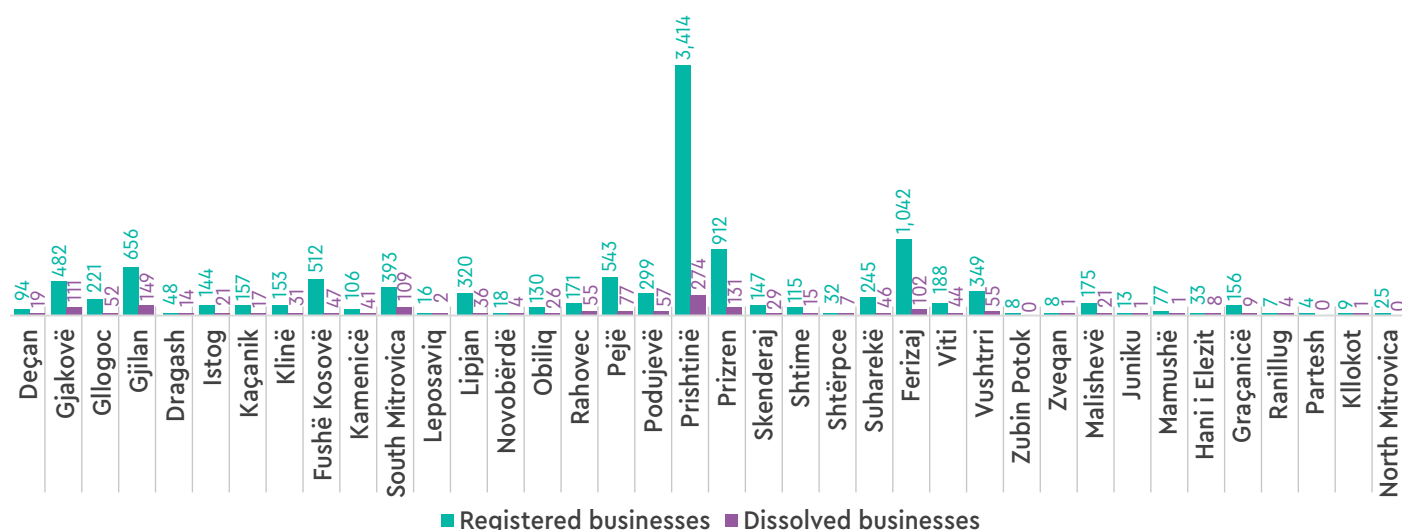
Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

²³ Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS). [Statistical Repertoire of Enterprises in Kosovo, December 2024](#).

²⁴ Ibid.

Based on the latest data on business registration and closure by municipality (2023), Prishtinë/Priština had the highest number of newly registered businesses, with 3,414 (28% of all new businesses in 2023), followed by Ferizaj/Uroševac with 1,042 (9%) and Prizren with 912 (7%). These municipalities also recorded the highest number of business closures during the same year.²⁵

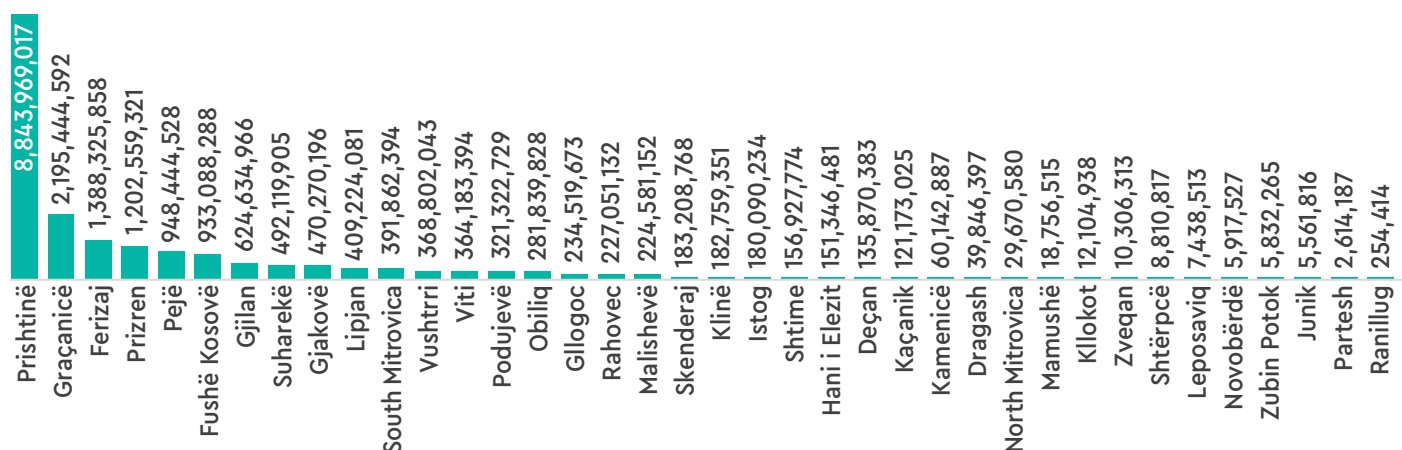
Fig. 29 Newly registered and formally dissolved businesses by municipality, 2023



Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS)

Regarding business economic activity at the municipal level in 2024, data indicate that the municipalities with the highest business turnover are Prishtinë/Priština, accounting for 42% of total turnover, followed by Gračanica/Gračanicë with 10%, Ferizaj/Uroševac with 7%, and Prizren with 6%.

Fig. 30 Annual business turnover by municipality, 2024



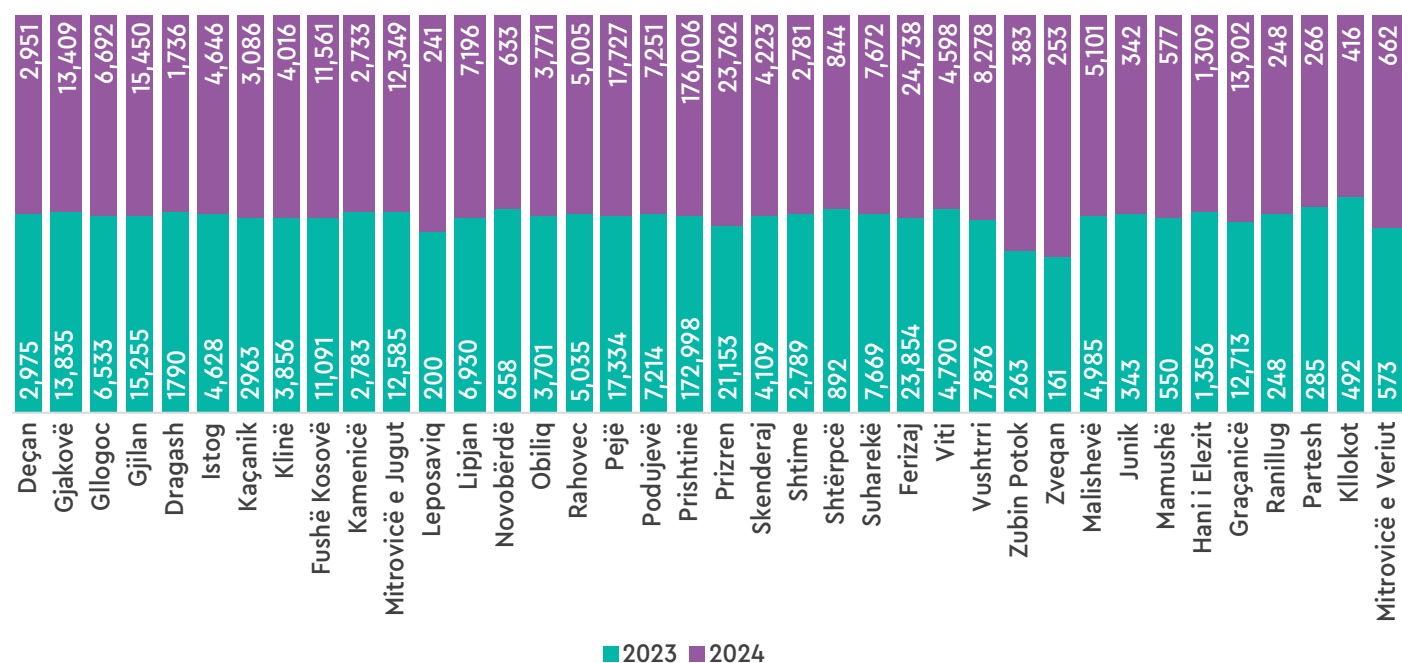
Source: Tax Administration of Kosovo (TAK)

25 Ibid.

According to data from the Kosovo Tax Administration (TAK) and reports from the Ministry of Finance, Labor and Transfers (MFLT), a total of 396,814 individuals were employed in the public and private sectors across Kosovo in 2024.²⁶ Compared to the previous year, employment increased by 9,349 persons, representing a growth of approximately 2%. The municipalities with the highest number of employed persons are Prishtinë/Priština, Ferizaj/Uroševac, Prizren, Pejë/Peć, Gilan/Gnjilane and Gračanica/Graçanicë, while the municipalities with the lowest total employment are Parteš/Partesh, Zvečan/Zveçan, and Ranilug/Ranillug.

Compared to the previous year (2023), 14 municipalities experienced a decrease in the number of employed persons, with the largest declines recorded in Klokot/Kllokot (-15%) and Parteš/Partesh (-7%). Conversely, several municipalities saw a significant increase in employment in 2024 compared to the previous year, particularly in Zvečan/Zveçan (57%) and Zubin Potok (46%).

Fig. 31 Number of employed persons by municipality, 2023 – 2024

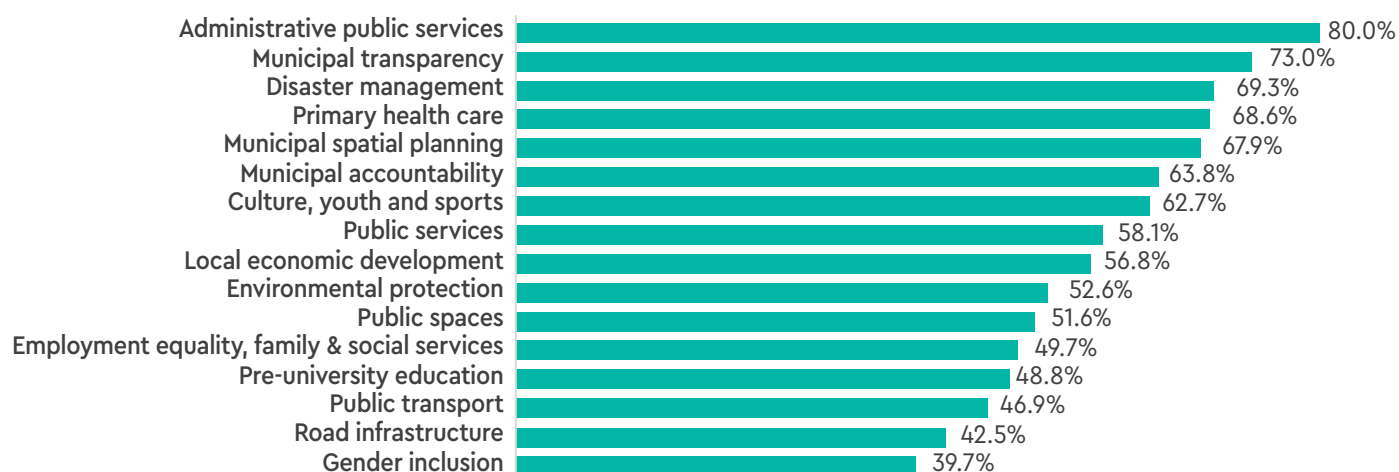


²⁶ Tax Administration of Kosovo (TAK). Open data. [Employment data 2023 and 2024](#) as well as data from the [financial reports](#) of the Ministry of Finance, Labor and Transfers (MFLT). Note: the number of total employees is calculated using the number of employment data in the public sector from the MFLT and is adjusted to the TAK private sector employment data.

7. Public Services

According to the most recent performance report of the Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA), the overall performance of municipalities evaluated across 93 performance metrics, spanning 16 key governance areas, stands at 58%.²⁷ Administrative public services, followed by municipal transparency, show higher performance compared to areas such as gender representation and road infrastructure, which are evaluated poorly.

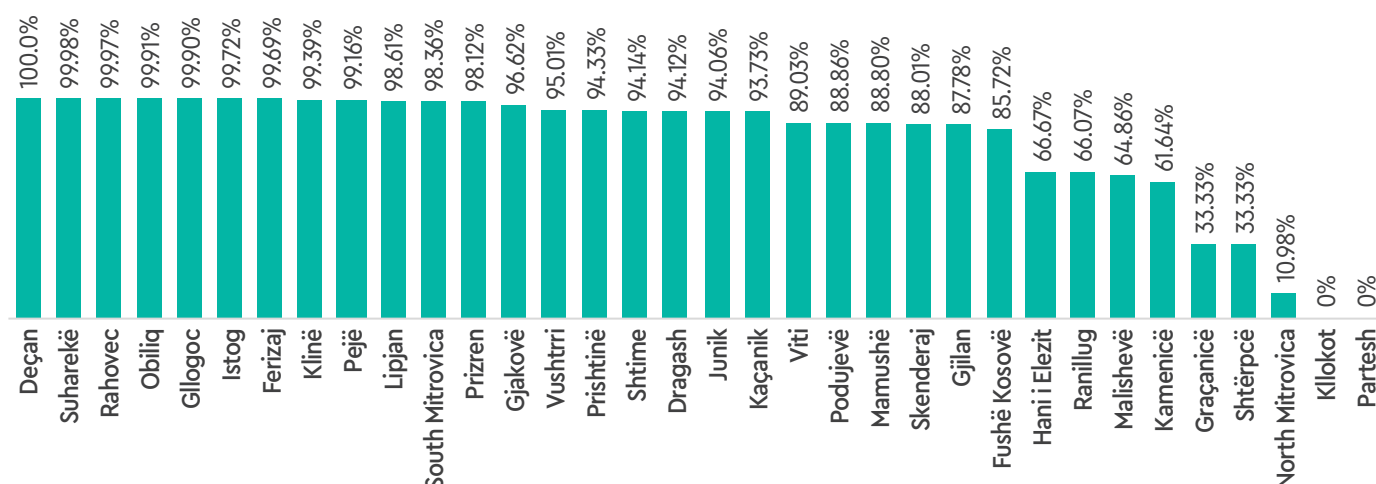
Fig. 32 Overall municipal performance across 15 key areas (%), 2023



Source: Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA)

In the category of public administrative services, which includes both service delivery and municipal body efficiency in addressing citizens' requests, the Municipality of Deçan/Deçane achieved the maximum performance level in administrative service delivery. The Municipalities of Parteš/Partesh and Klokot/Kllokot received the lowest score (zero points) in this category.

Fig. 33 Municipal-level performance in public administrative service delivery (%), 2023

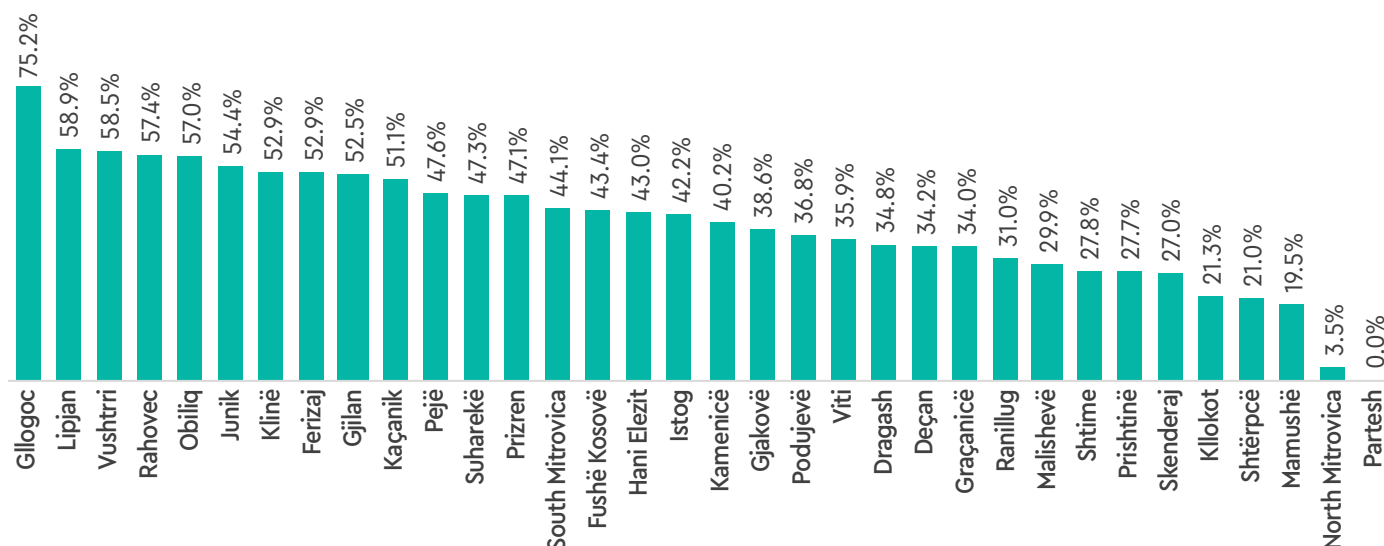


Source: Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA)

²⁷ Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA). [Republic of Kosovo, Municipal Performance Report, January-December 2024](#), 2024

The gender representation category records the lowest performance across all evaluated areas. In measuring gender representation, the focus is on the inclusion of both genders in economic and social development programs and other municipal activities. Out of 34 municipalities for which data were reported, the Municipality of Glllogoc/Glogovac ranks highest with a score of 75.2%. Parteš/Partesh and Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovica North are assessed as the lowest-performing municipalities in this area.

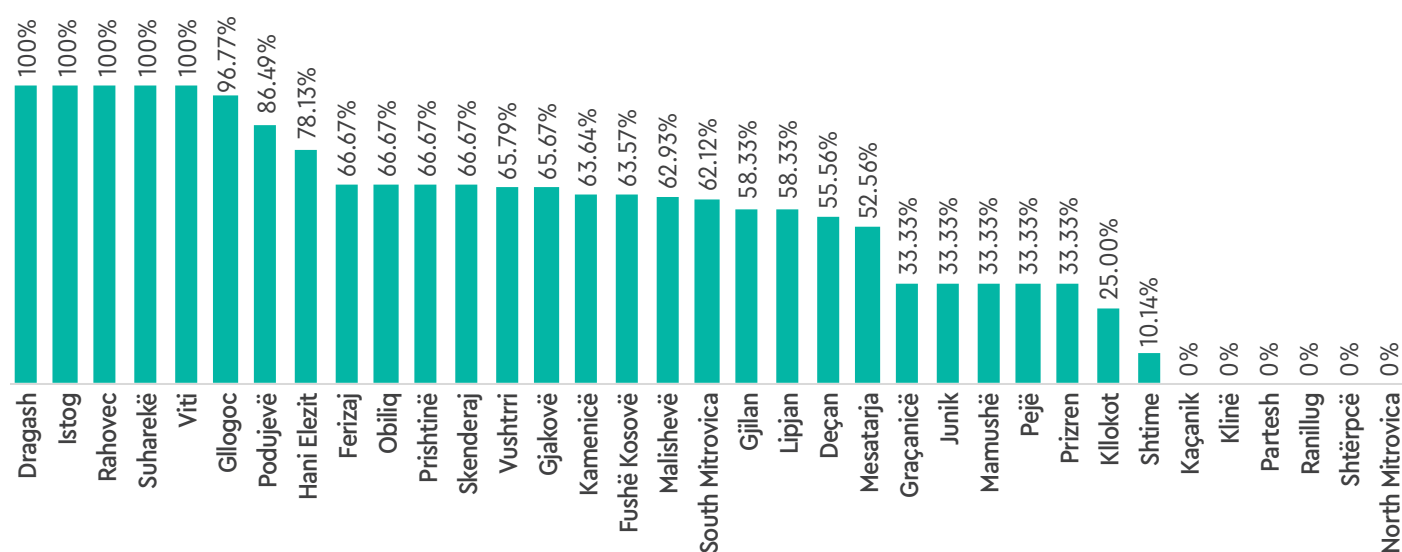
Fig. 34 Gender representation performance by municipality (%), 2023



Source: Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA)

Overall performance in the field of environmental protection stands at 52.5%. This category assesses the preservation of the natural environment, mitigation of degradation, pollution control, and related efforts. Municipalities such as Dragash/Dragaš, Istog/Istok, Rahovec/Orahovac, Suharekë/Suva Reka, and Viti/Vitina received the highest scores for their implementation of environmental protection plans. In contrast, Klinë/Klina, Parteš/Partesh, Kaçanik/Kaçanik, Ranilug/Ranillug, Štrpce/Shtërpçë, and Severna Mitrovica/Mitrovicë e Veriut/Mitrovicë North received the lowest score of zero.

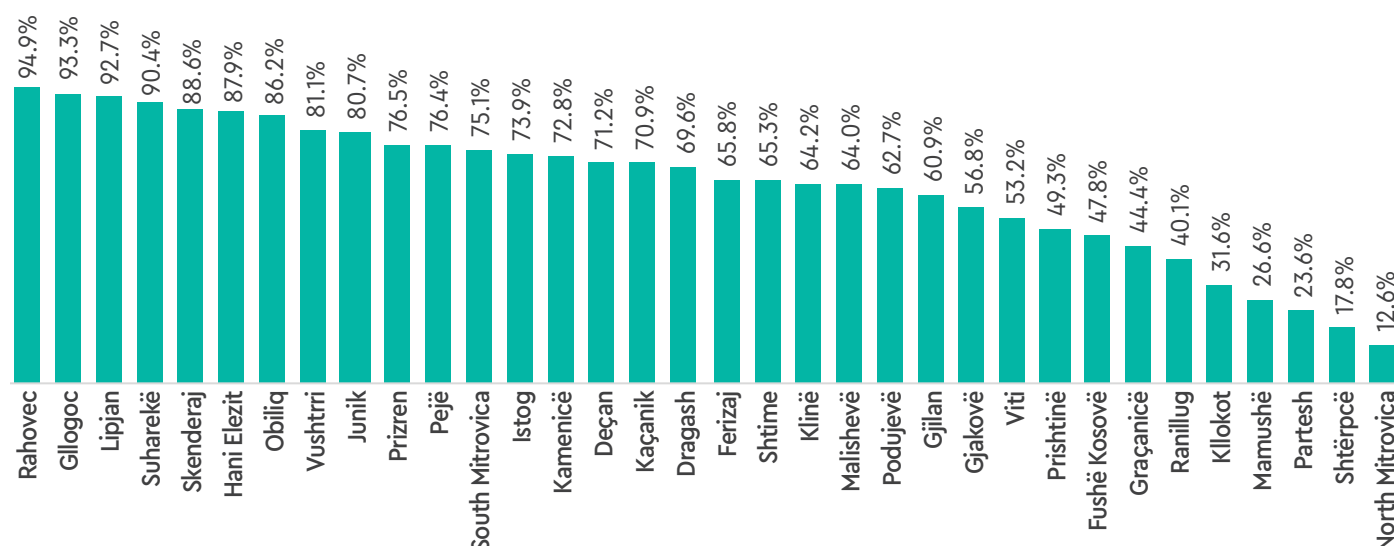
Fig. 35 Environmental protection performance by municipality (%), 2023



Source: Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA)

Overall municipal accountability performance is assessed at 63.79%, based on the evaluation of ten municipal accountability indicators for 2023. Within this area, municipalities have demonstrated strong results, particularly regarding the undertaking of legal actions. A satisfactory level of engagement has also been observed in the discussion of draft budgets and medium-term expenditure frameworks, reflecting participation and transparency in these processes.

Fig. 36 Municipal accountability performance (%), 2023



Source: Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA)

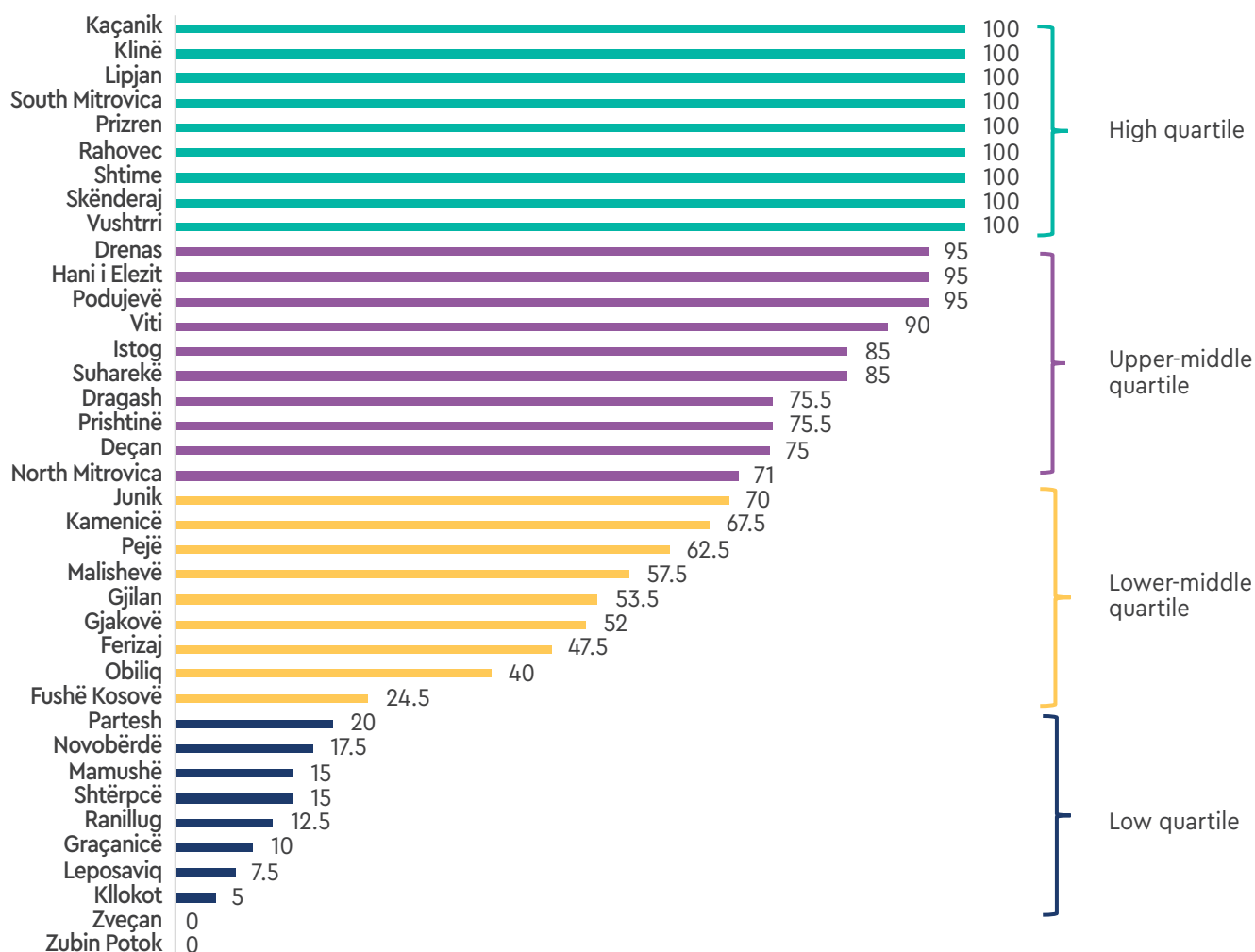
8. Budget Transparency

According to calculations by GAP Institute, the average budget transparency score for all municipalities in Kosovo in 2024 is 61 out of 100 points.²⁸ This represents an increase of 3.5 points (6%) compared to 2023. The highest scores, 100 points, were awarded to the municipalities of Kaçanik/Kaçanik, Klinë/Klina, Lipjan/Lipljan, Mitrovicë e Jugut/Južna Mitrovica/Mitrovica South, Prizren, Rahovec/Orahovac, Shtime/Štimlje, Skenderaj/Srbica, and Vushtri/Vučitrn. These municipalities have published all budget documents in readable formats such as Excel or Word.²⁹ Municipalities in the lower quartile of transparency include Parteš/Partesh (20 points), Novobërdë/Novo Brdo (17.5 points), Mamuşa/Mamushë/Mamuşa (15 points), Štrpce/Shtërpçë (15 points), Ranilug/Ranillug (12.5 points), Gračanica/Graçanicë (10 points), Leposavić/Leposaviq (7.5 points), Klokot/Klllokot (5 points), and Zubin Potok and Zvečan/Zveçan, which both scored zero points.

²⁸ GAP Institute. [2023 Municipal Budget Transparency Index](#). p.6., 2024

²⁹ Certain documents with textual content published in other formats, such as PDF or scanned documents, are an exception; however, these formats do not affect the maximum possible score.

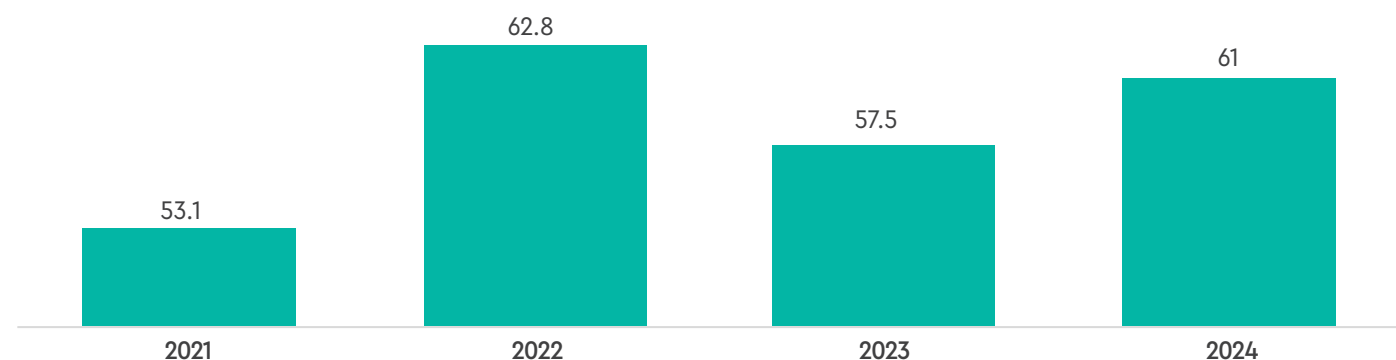
Fig. 37 Municipal Budget Transparency Index, 2024



Source: GAP Institute

Over the past four years, municipal budget transparency has increased from 53.1 points in 2021 to 61 points in 2024, representing an improvement of approximately 15%. The highest score was recorded in 2022, with 62.8 points. These findings underscore the importance of continuously enhancing transparency in municipal financial documents, including improving both the quality of information and access to data that are crucial for citizen participation in governance and public budget oversight.

Fig. 38 Municipal budget transparency, 2021–2024



Source: GAP Institute

GAP Institute is supported by Kosovar Civil Society Foundation (KCSF) program 'EJA Kosovo', co-financed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and Sweden.

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