The municipality of Prishtinë/Priština is located in central Kosovo. It covers an area of approximately 572 km² and includes Prishtinë/Priština city and 48 villages. It is the administrative, political, economic and cultural centre of Kosovo and the most densely populated municipality. According to the 2011 Kosovo Population and Housing Census, the total population is 198,897.

GOVERNING STRUCTURES AND POLITICAL OVERVIEW

The total number of voters in Prishtinë/Priština municipality registered for the municipal elections held in 2017 (1st round in October and 2nd round in November) was 188,341, including out-of-Kosovo voters. The voter turnout in 1st round was 47.57% or 89,599 voters and in 2nd round it was 45.16% or 85,055 voters (source: Central Election Commission).

The 2017 municipal assembly election results were as follows:

- Vetëvendosje! (Self-Determination) Movement: 33.12%
- LDK Democratic League of Kosovo: 28.34%
- PDK Democratic Party of Kosovo: 10.99%
- AAK Alliance for Future of Kosovo: 10.01%
- AKR Alliance New Kosovo: 7.61%
- LB Movement for Unification: 3.20%
- NISMA Social Democratic Initiative: 2.83%
- ALTERNATIVA: 1.46%

According to the census conducted in 1981, there were 140,043 Kosovo Albanians, 43,875 Kosovo Serbs and 6,394 Kosovo Montenegrins in the municipality; according to the census conducted in 1991*, there were 154,990 Kosovo Albanians, 26,893 Kosovo Serbs and 3,912 Kosovo Montenegrins in the municipality.

According to the UNHCR statistics, 1,753 displaced persons have returned to the municipality since 1999, of them 1,145 Kosovo Serbs, 246 Kosovo Roma and 362 Kosovo Ashkali and Kosovo Egyptians.

*The 1991 census is not accepted by Kosovo Albanians as legitimate.

1. The overall population figure presented above is taken from the 2011 census (or authoritative estimates where the census figure is not available), whereas the voters list is a reflection of all people with a civil registration entry in the municipality. In some cases, the voters list figure is higher than or similar to the overall population number due to insufficient updating of the civil registry or a significant proportion of people registered in the municipality but actually living elsewhere or abroad.

* Following the elections, ten (10) Vetëvendosje! assembly members resigned from their party, nine (9) joined Social Democratic Party (PSD) and one (1) remained to hold the seat as an independent member.

** In May 2018, members who previously resigned from Vetëvendosje! joined the Social Democratic Party (PSD) and assumed its leadership. This occurred after the 2017 municipal elections and for that reason PSD is not reflected in the election results chart, but only in the municipal assembly seat distribution category above.
The municipal assembly has 51 seats distributed among ten (10) political entities, all members are Kosovo Albanian; 18 are women. The Municipal Assembly Chairperson is Agim Kuleta (LB).

Structure of municipal executive and the executive’s political affiliations.
The municipality is headed by Mayor Shpend Ahmeti (PSD)*, re-elected for his the second term as mayor with 50.22% of votes in the second round of the 2017 municipal elections. In the 2013 municipal elections, Mayor Ahmeti won with 51.80% of votes in the second round. First Deputy Mayor is Selim Pacolli (AKR) and second Deputy Mayor is Muhedin Nushi (PSD).

There are 16 municipal departments. Four (4) departments are run by women directors: social welfare (ALTERNATIVA); finance (AKR); cadaster (Vetëvendosje!); and parks (AKR), 12 departments are run by men directors: administration (PSD); urbanism, construction and environmental protection (PSD); public services (PSD); strategic planning and sustainable development (PSD); capital investment and contracts management (AKR); inspection (AAK); property (PSD); education (AAK); health (Vetëvendosje!); culture (Vetëvendosje!); agriculture (AKR); and sports (AAK). In the previous mandate (2013-2017), three (3) directors were women (source: municipal web site).

*In the 2017 municipal elections, Mayor Ahmeti ran as a Vetëvendosje! candidate, and subsequently joined the Social Democratic Party (PSD).

Prishtinë/Priština municipal court has three (3) police stations and one sub-substation in Donja Brnjica/Bërnicë e Poshtme village. There are 351 police officers, 332 are Kosovo Albanian, 15 are Kosovo Serb, two (2) are Kosovo Bosniak, one (1) is Kosovo Turk and one (1) is Kosovo Roma; 68 are women.

The Kosovo Police regional directorate with its respective units counts 260 police officers, 249 Kosovo Albanian, eight (8) Kosovo Serb and three (3) Kosovo Bosniak; 33 are women.

The international military presence is covered by Italian KFOR (source: Kosovo Police).

The economy of Prishtinë/Priština municipality is based on a wide range of economic activities including construction, agriculture, communications, trade and tourism. There are over 8,735 registered businesses with approximately 75,000 employees (source: municipal directorate of economy and development).

Infrastructure
The overall status of infrastructure in the municipality is assessed as good. All the roads connecting villages with the urban centre are asphalted. Prishtinë/Priština city and most of the villages are connected to water supply and sewage system. The municipality faces serious difficulties with air pollution and traffic congestions (source: pollution measurements by the municipality and the US Embassy, and municipal mobility plan/feasibility study).

Health
The primary health care system currently includes one (1) main family health centre, 16 municipal family health centres and 13 health houses in the surrounding villages, and one (1) emergency health centre. The health sector has 843 employees, including doctors, nurses and support staff; 210 women and 633 men. Prishtinë/Priština also hosts the University Hospital where the secondary and tertiary health care is provided by 3,600 staff.

There is one (1) Serbia-run healthcare facility in Donja Brnica/Brniçë e Poshtme (source: municipal office for communities and return and Kosovo Serb representative).

Kosovo Serbs residing in Prishtinë/Priština city and Slivovo/Slivovë, Donja Brnjica/Bërnicë e Poshtme, Gornja Brnjica/Bërnica e Epërme, Devet Jugovića/Nëntë Jugovicë and Lebane/Leban villages, also use Serbia-run secondary health care services in Gračanica/Graçanicë municipality and the hospital located in Mitrovica/Mitrovicë North (source: municipal directorate of health and social welfare).
PRISHTINË/PRIŠTINA

Education

There are 43 primary and lower secondary schools with 32,921 pupils and 2,067 employees, 14 secondary schools with 10,361 students and 779 employees and 14 kindergartens with 2,025 children and 278 employees (source: municipal directorate of education).

Prishtinë/Priština also hosts the public university “Hasan Prishtina,” the main education institution with 14 faculties, providing education for around 53,000 students (source: Statistical Agency of Kosovo).

KEY FACTS

In Prishtinë/Priština municipality there are:

- 51 seats in the municipal assembly distributed among 10 political entities
- 351 police officers in the stations and 260 in the regional command
- 165 judges in basic, appellate and supreme courts and 54 prosecutors
- 3,124 employees in 43 primary and 14 secondary schools and 14 kindergartens
- 1 public university

RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL SITES

There are 48 mosques in the municipality, six (6) were destroyed in the 1999 conflict and were reconstructed, and 25 new mosques have been built after the conflict. There are two (2) Serbian Orthodox churches, of which one (1) is in use, Saint Nicholas Church, and which was damaged during the March 2004 riots and reconstructed in 2008 by the Reconstruction Implementation Commission (RIC). There are two (2) Catholic churches, including the Roman Catholic Cathedral, in the municipality. One (1) Catholic church was built before the conflict, while the Cathedral was built after the conflict. There are six (6) Protestant Evangelical churches in the municipality, out of which one (1) was built before the conflict and five (5) others were built after the conflict. During the conflict these churches did not suffer any damages. There are five (5) tekkes and three (3) “zaviyes”, namely small tekkes (source: municipal department of culture, youth and sports).

A total of 134 cultural (archaeological and architectural) heritage sites within Prishtinë/Priština municipality are included in the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport list of sites under permanent/temporary protection.