The municipality of Prizren is located in south-eastern Kosovo. It covers an area of approximately 640 km² and includes Prizren city and 74 villages. According to the 2011 Kosovo Population and Housing Census, the total population is 177,781.

**Ethnic composition**

1. Kosovo Albanians 145,718
2. Kosovo Bosniaks 16,896
3. Kosovo Turks 9,091
4. Kosovo Roma 2,899
5. Kosovo Ashkali 1,150
6. Kosovo Gorani 655
7. Kosovo Serbs 237
8. Kosovo Egyptians 168
9. Other 386
10. Not specified 381

(source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics)

According to the census conducted in 1981, there were 93,657 Kosovo Albanians, 11,651 Kosovo Serbs and 538 Kosovo Montenegrins in the municipality; according to the census conducted in 1991*, there were 135,674 Kosovo Albanians, 10,911 Kosovo Serbs and 460 Kosovo Montenegrins in the municipality.

According to the UNHCR statistics, 1,810 displaced persons have returned to the municipality since 1999, of them 595 Kosovo Serbs, 170 Kosovo Roma, 54 Kosovo Ashkali and Kosovo Egyptians, 975 Kosovo Bosniaks and 16 Kosovo Gorani.

**GOVERNING STRUCTURES AND POLITICAL OVERVIEW**

The total number of voters in Prizren municipality registered for the municipal elections held in 2017 (1st round in October and 2nd round in November) was 168,884, including out-of-Kosovo voters. The voter turnout in 1st round was 40.62% or 68,595 voters and in 2nd round it was 30.94% or 52,255 voters (source: Central Election Commission).

**The 2017 municipal assembly election results were as follows:**

- PDK Democratic Party of Kosovo: 31.21%
- Vetëvendosje! (Self-Determination) Movement: 16.91%
- LDK Democratic League of Kosovo: 15.25%
- AAK Alliance for Future of Kosovo: 8.72%
- NISMA Social Democratic Initiative: 8.34%
- KDTP Kosovo Democratic Turkish Party: 7.23%
- VAKAT Coalition VAKAT: 5.53%
- NDS New Democratic Party: 3.98%

The current seat distribution is as follows:

- PDK Democratic Party of Kosovo: 13 seats
- Vetëvendosje! (Self-Determination) Movement: 7 seats
- LDK Democratic League of Kosovo: 6 seats
- AAK Alliance for Future of Kosovo: 4 seats
- NISMA Social Democratic Initiative: 4 seats
- KDTP Kosovo Democratic Turkish Party: 3 seats
- VAKAT Coalition VAKAT: 2 seats
- NDS New Democratic Party: 2 seats

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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.

*The 1991 census is not accepted by Kosovo Albanians as legitimate.*
The municipal assembly has 41 seats distributed among eight (8) political entities, 34 members are Kosovo Albanian, four (4) are Kosovo Bosniak and three (3) are Kosovo Turk; 16 are women. The Municipal Assembly Chairperson is Artan Abrashi (Vetëvendosje!) and the Municipal Assembly Deputy Chairperson for Communities is Sencar Karamuço (KDTP)*.

*According to the Law on Local Self-Government, a municipality with more than ten (10) per cent of residents belonging to communities in numerical minority position in that municipality is required to appoint a deputy mayor for communities and a deputy municipal assembly chairperson for communities.

The municipality is headed by Mayor Mytaher Haskuka (Vetëvendosje!), elected for his first term as mayor with 50.36% of votes in the second round of the 2017 municipal elections. In the previous term, the mayor was Ramadan Muja (PDK), who was elected in the second round of the 2013 municipal elections with 53.78% of the votes. Deputy Mayor is Eshref Memaj (LDK), and Deputy Mayor for Communities is Ms. Memnuna Ajdini (VAKAT).

It has 13 municipal departments. One (1) department is run by a woman director: tourism and economic development (KDTP), 12 departments are run by men directors: health (Vetëvendosje!); inspection (Vetëvendosje!); public services (Vetëvendosje!); emergency and safety (Vetëvendosje!); administration (NISMA); education and science (NISMA); culture, youth and sports (NISMA); cadastre and geodesy (NDS); urbanism and spatial planning (LDK); agriculture and rural development (LDK); labour and social welfare (LDK); and budget and finance (KDTP). In the previous mandate (2013-2017), two (2) directors were women (source municipal information officer).

Prizren Basic Court consists of a general department, a serious crimes department, a juvenile department and a minor offences division. It has 43 judges, including the court president, 38 Kosovo Albanian, four (4) Kosovo Bosniak and one (1) Kosovo Roma; 11 are women. It has branches in Dragash/Dragaš and Suharekë/Suva Reka and also covers Mumuša/Mamushë/Mamuša municipality (source: Prizren basic court).

SECURITY PRESENCE

Kosovo Police in Prizren municipality has 192 police officers, including police stations South (136 police officers) and North (56 police officers) and police sub-stations in Zhur/Žur and Sredska/Srëckë, 139 are Kosovo Albanian, 34 Kosovo Bosniak, 15 Kosovo Turk, 3 Kosovo Gorani and one (1) Kosovo Roma; 176 men and 16 women (source: Kosovo Police).

Kosovo Police Regional Headquarters, including Regional Investigation Unit and Regional Rapid Response Unit, has 78 police officers, 70 Kosovo Albanian, four (4) Kosovo Turk, three (3) Kosovo Bosnian and one (1) Kosovo Roma; 14 are women. Regional Traffic Unit has 50 police officers, 44 Kosovo Albanian, four (4) Kosovo Turk, one (1) Kosovo Bosnian and one (1) Kosovo Roma; three (3) are women.

As for the international military presence, the Swiss KFOR Liaison Monitoring Team, German KFOR, and Turkish KFOR cover the area.

The economy of Prizren municipality is mainly based on agriculture, trade, construction and food processing, all private enterprises. There are some 5,400 registered private businesses operating in the municipality. There is no reliable data on the number of people employed in the private sector. The industrial zone is still under pending process of expropriation of the properties located under this zone (source: Kosovo business registration office).

PUBLIC SERVICES

Infrastructure

The overall status of infrastructure in the municipality is assessed as good. All the main roads connecting villages with the urban centre are asphalted. Water supply is functional in Prizren city and in villages. There is no sewage system in a few villages. Power supply is still a problem, especially during the winter and in the villages (source: local public water company “Hidroregjioni”).
PRIZREN

Health

The primary health care system includes 14 municipal family health centres and 26 health houses. It has 475 employees, including doctors, nurses and support staff; 264 women and 211 men.

The regional hospital in Prizren offers services to approximately 250,000 residents. It employs 778 workers, including 155 doctors, and is equipped with emergency and intensive care units.

The Kosovo Serb community uses two (2) Serbia-run healthcare facilities, located in villages Sredska/Sreckë and Mushnikovë/Mušnikovo with in total five (5) medical and support staff. For secondary health care services Kosovo Serbs travel to Štrpce/Shtërpcë, Sredska/Sredskë or Mitrovica/Mitrovicë North.

All communities have access to health care and facilities (source: municipal director of health).

Education

There are 56 schools, 51 primary and lower secondary schools with 25,808 pupils and 1,877 teachers and five (5) upper secondary schools with 7,691 pupils and 373 teachers. Kindergartens are privately run. There is also a public university in Prizren “Ukshin Hoti”, offering lectures in Albanian, Bosnian and Turkish languages (source: municipal directorate of education and science, and education statistic are provided by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology).

RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL SITES

Prizren has 75 mosques. Seven (7) of them have been renovated since the 1999 conflict and all are in use. There are 20 Serbian Orthodox churches and monasteries, seven (7) of them were destroyed or damaged during the March 2004 riots, and all of them were reconstructed from 2005 to 2016. Two (2) churches in Prizren town, St George and Holy Virgin of Ljevisa, and the Monastery of St, Archangels near the town have permanent presence of the clergy. There are (5) Catholic churches currently in use, and not damaged during the conflict, seven (7) tekkes and three (3) Protestant churches (source: Islamic community centre, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports and UNESCO).

A total of 184 cultural heritage sites in Prizren municipality are included in the Ministry of Culture Youth and Sport list of sites under temporary protection and six (6) under permanent protection.

KEY FACTS

In Prizren there are:

• 41 seats in the municipal assembly distributed among 8 political entities
• 192 police officers in the stations and 128 in the regional command
• 43 judges and 24 prosecutors
• 2,250 teachers in 51 primary and 5 secondary schools
• 1 public university