

1. AREA AND POPULATION

The municipality of Zvečan/Zvečan is located in northern Kosovo. It covers an area of approximately 122 km² and includes Zvečan/Zvečan town and 35 villages. According to the municipal website, the total population is estimated at 16,650.

Ethnic composition:

1. Kosovo Serbs: over 16,000 residing in the town and in 32 villages;
2. Kosovo Albanians: approximately 500 residing in Boletin/Boljetin, Lipë/Lipa, and Zhazhë/Zhaža villages;
3. Kosovo Bosniak, Kosovo Roma, Kosovo Gorani: approximately 300 in the town and villages (source: municipal return and community officer).

After the conflict, the municipality received 3,750 displaced persons including 250 refugees from Croatia living in private accommodation and collective centres.

2. GOVERNING STRUCTURES AND POLITICAL OVERVIEW

The total number of voters in Zvečan/Zvečan municipality registered for the last municipal elections held in November 2013 was 10,012, including out-of-Kosovo voters. The voter turnout was 17.9 per cent/1,793 voters (source: Central Election Commission).

The election results were as follows:

GIS - Citizens Initiative Srpska	55.00%	10 seats
GISDP - Oliver Ivanovic	39.00%	7 seats
AAK-LDD Alliance for the Future of Kosovo-LDD	6.00%	1 seat

A. LEGISLATIVE

The municipal assembly has 19 seats distributed amongst three (3) political entities; 18 members are Kosovo Serbs, one (1) is Kosovo Albanian, while six (6) are female. The municipal assembly chairperson is Sasa Popović (GIS).

B. EXECUTIVE

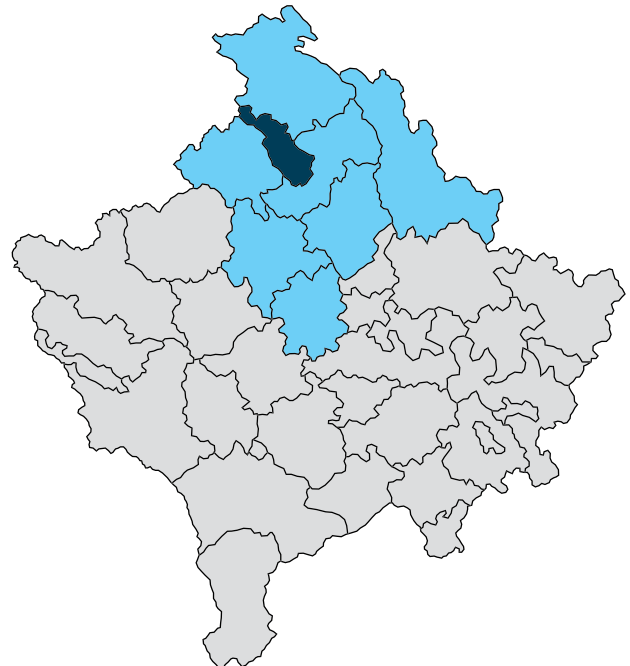
Structure of municipal executive and the executive's political affiliations

The municipality is headed by the mayor, Vučina Janković (GIS). Deputy mayor and directors have not been appointed yet at the time of the update (summer 2015).

3. JUDICIARY

In February 2015, the parties engaged in the EU-facilitated Dialogue between Belgrade and Prishtinë/Prishtina reached an agreement on judiciary structures in

The OSCE regional center Mitrovicë/Mitrovica covers nine (9) municipalities including Zvečan/Zvečan and has field teams working in all of them.



northern Kosovo. The agreement anticipates the creation of a judicial structure for seven municipalities in the region (Mitrovicë/Mitrovica South, Mitrovica/Mitrovicë North, Leposavić/Leposaviq, Zubin Potok, Skenderaj/Srbica, Zvečan/Zvečan, Vushtri/Vučitrn), which will reflect the ethnic composition of the area and operate under the Kosovo legal framework. At the time of the update (summer 2015), this judicial structure is the process of establishment.

Prior to the agreement, the situation was as follows: The Mitrovicë/Mitrovica basic court functioned with limited capacity at its Vushtri/Vučitrn branch premises. It had 18 judges, 12 male and six (6) female, out of which one (1) was Kosovo Serb female. It had branches that nominally covered Leposavić/Leposaviq, Skenderaj/Srbica, Zubin Potok and Vushtri/Vučitrn municipalities and also covers Zvečan/Zvečan. The Mitrovicë/Mitrovica basic prosecutor's office was also located in Vushtri/Vučitrn and has (10) prosecutors, nine (9) Kosovo Albanians and one (1) Kosovo Serbs, five (5) are female. In addition to Mitrovicë/Mitrovica it covers Leposavić/Leposaviq, Skenderaj/Srbica, Zubin Potok, Zvečan/Zvečan and Vushtri/Vučitrn municipalities (source: basic court and prosecution officials).

4. SECURITY PRESENCE

The Kosovo Police station in Zvečan/Zvečan municipality has 56 police officers; 53 are Kosovo Serbs, three (3) are Kosovo Albanians, while four (4) are female.

The regional traffic police unit covering the four northern municipalities is located in Zvečan/Zveçan municipality. It has 47 police officers; 42 are Kosovo Serbs, three (3) are Kosovo Albanian, two (2) are Kosovo Bosniaks, while 1 is female.

As for the international military presence, the multinational KFOR Joint Regional Detachment-North and Greek liaison monitoring team cover the area.

5. ECONOMY

The economy of Zvečan/Zveçan municipality is mainly based on the public sector and related assistance, production of batteries and battery recycling, agriculture and small trade businesses.

There are 62 registered private businesses operating in the municipality. There is no reliable data on the number of employed in private sector in Zvečan/Zveçan (source: municipal website; municipal department of general administration).

6. PUBLIC SERVICES

A. INFRASTRUCTURE

The overall status of infrastructure in Zvečan/Zveçan municipality is assessed as good. Most of the main roads connecting major villages with the urban centre are asphalted. Zvečan/Zveçan town and three (3) out of 35 villages are connected to the Mitrovicë/Mitrovica regional water supply and sewage systems; other villages have their own water supply and sewage systems. All villages are connected to power supply system (source: municipal department of general administration). Electricity supply is fairly stable.

B. HEALTH

The primary health care system includes one (1) health centre and four (4) health houses. The health sector has 167 employees, including doctors, nurses and support staff. Additionally, two (2) health houses financed by the Kosovo government are currently operating in two (2) Kosovo Albanian villages, with two (2) employees (source: municipal community officer).

Access:

All communities have access to health care and all health facilities in areas they inhabit (source: municipal department of general administration).

C. EDUCATION

There are three (3) primary schools, with 801 pupils and 76 teachers; one (1) secondary school with 254 students and 38 teachers; and one (1) kindergarten with 240 children, which follow the Serbian-language curriculum (source: municipal department of general administration, 2012).

In addition, there are three (3) primary schools with 63 Kosovo Albanian pupils and 17 teachers following the Kosovo curriculum (source: school director).

Additional information:

After the conflict, the Serbian-language faculty of arts and music was relocated from Prishtinë/Priština to Zvečan/Zveçan, and the college for technical sciences and traffic engineering was relocated from Ferizaj/Uroševac. There is also a vocational school in Doljane/Dolan which is a part of the network of vocational centres funded by the Kosovo Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare.

7. RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL SITES

Zvečan/Zveçan medieval fortress and the Serbian Orthodox Banjska Monastery are classified as the special protective zones. In addition, within the territory of the municipality, there is a joint special protective zone, classified as such due to territorial reasons, consisting of the Serbian Orthodox Sokolica Monastery and the Kosovo Albanian heritage site Isa Boletini Memorial Complex. (source: municipal website; municipal communities' officer).

TO KNOW

In Zvečan/Zveçan there are:

19

seats in the municipal assembly distributed amongst 3 political entities.

103

police officers.

Developing court system.

131

teachers in 5 primary schools and 1 secondary school.