

1. Area and Population

The municipality of Viti/Vitina is located in south-eastern Kosovo. It covers an area of approximately 276 km² and includes Viti/Vitina town and 38 villages. According to the Kosovo Population and Housing Census 2011 the total population is 46,987.

Ethnic composition

1. Kosovo Albanians: 46,669
 2. Kosovo Serbs: 113
 3. Kosovo Bosniaks: 25
 4. Kosovo Ashkali: 14
 5. Kosovo Roma: 12
 6. Kosovo Gorani: 7
 7. Kosovo Turks: 4
 8. Others: 83
 9. Not specified: 60
- (Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistic)

Note: According to the municipal office for communities and returns 280 Kosovo Serbs and 40 Kosovo Croats reside in the municipality.

During the 2001 conflict in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, some 20,000 refugees arrived to Viti/Vitina municipality; some 300 still reside in the municipality.

2. Governing Structures and Political Overview

The total number of voters in Viti/Vitina municipality registered for the last municipal elections held in November 2009 was 41,438 including out-of-Kosovo voters. The voter turnout was 47.2 per cent/19,578 voters (source: Central Elections Commission).

The election results were as shown to the right:

a. Legislative

The municipal assembly has 27 seats distributed amongst seven (7) political entities. All 27 members are Kosovo Albanians; 11 are female. The municipal assembly chairperson is Skenderbe Hebibi (AAK).

b. Executive

The municipality is headed by the mayor, Nexhmedin Arifi (PDK), and deputy mayor Avdyl Bajrami, (independent candidate). It has ten (10) departments and department directors: health and social welfare (PDK); education (PDK); culture, youth and sport (AAK); economy, finance and development (non-party); public services and emergencies (AAK); inspection (PDK); cadastre, geodesy and property (AAK); agriculture, forestry and rural development (PDK); urban planning and environmental protection (PDK); and administration (PDK) (source: municipal website).

The OSCE regional centre Gjilan/Gnjilane covers 11 municipalities including Viti/Vitina and has field teams working in all of them.



LDD - Democratic League of Dardania	25.93%	7 seats
PDK - Democratic Party of Kosovo	25.93%	7 seats
AAK - Alliance for the future of Kosovo	18.52%	5 seats
LDK - Democratic League of Kosovo	14.81%	4 seats
AKR - New Kosovo Alliance	7.41%	2 seats
Independent Candidate	3.70%	1 seat
PDKI - Christian Democratic Party for Integration	3.70%	1 seat

Note: As of July 2011 three LDD members joined the LDK, leaving LDD with four representatives in the municipal assembly and increasing the number of LDK representatives to seven. The independent municipal assembly member was appointed deputy mayor on 19 July 2011 and was replaced in the municipal assembly by the next candidate on the AKR list, which increased the number of AKR municipal assembly members to three.

3. Judiciary

Gjilan/Gnjilane basic court has a branch in Viti/Vitina with seven (7) judges, all Kosovo Albanian; one (1) is female (source: Viti/Vitina branch of Gjilan/Gnjilane basic court).

Additional information

Gjilan/Gnjilane basic prosecutor's office covers the municipality.

4. Security Presence

The Kosovo police station in Viti/Vitina municipality has 86 police officers; 76 Kosovo Albanians, nine (9) Kosovo Serbs, and one (1) Kosovo Croat stationed in the main police station and in the two sub-stations in Vrbovac/Vërboc and Pozheran/Požaranje. Out of 86 police officers eight (8) are female.

As for the international military presence, the United States KFOR covers the area (*source: Kosovo police*).

5. Economy

The economy of Viti/Vitina municipality is mainly based on agriculture and small trade businesses. There are some 950 registered private businesses operating in the municipality. There is no reliable data on the number of employed in private sector in Viti/Vitina (*source: municipal directorate of economy, finance and development*).

6. Public Services

a. Infrastructure

The overall status of infrastructure in Viti/Vitina municipality is assessed as good. Most of the roads connecting major villages with the urban centre are not asphalted. Viti/Vitina town is connected to both water supply and sewage system. In addition 11 out of 38 villages are connected to water supply system while only eight (8) are connected to sewage system. Power supply is still a problem especially in the villages (*source: municipal development plan*).

b. Health

The primary health care system currently includes two (2) municipal family health centre; four (4) family medicine centres and seven (7) health houses. Health sector has 148 employees, 89 females and 59 male, including doctors, nurses and support staff.

Access:

All communities have access to health care and all health facilities (*source: municipal directorate of health and social welfare*).

c. Education

There are 18 primary schools with 9,047 pupils and two (2) secondary schools with 3007 students with 793 teachers, and one (1) kindergarten and with 63 children and eight (8) teachers (*source: municipal directorate of education*).

7. Religious and Cultural Sites

Viti/Vitina has 30 mosques, 6 Serbian Orthodox and 6 Catholic churches. Most mosques were renovated following the 1999 conflict. Five (5) Orthodox churches are in use; two (2) in Binçë/Binač village one (1) in each the town, Zhiti/Žitinje and Podgorcë/Podgorce villages. Orthodox church in Gërmovë/Grmovo village was destroyed and was never renovated. All six (6) Catholic churches are also in use and located in town and Letnicë/Letnica, Vërnez/Vrnez, Kabash/Kabaš, Binçë/Binač and Stublla e Epërme/Gornja Stubla villages (*source: municipal development plan*).

toknow

In Viti/Vitina there are:

27 seats in the municipal assembly distributed amongst 7 political entities.

86 police officers.

7 judges.

801 teachers in 18 primary and 2 secondary schools and 1 kindergarten.