

## 1. Area and Population

The municipality of Deçan/Deçane is located in south-western Kosovo. It covers an area of approximately 297 km<sup>2</sup> and includes Deçan/Deçane town and 36 villages. According to the Kosovo Population and Housing Census 2011 the total population is 40,019.

### Ethnic composition

1. Kosovo Albanians: 39,402
2. Kosovo Egyptians: 393
3. Kosovo Bosniaks: 60
4. Kosovo Ashkali: 42
5. Kosovo Roma: 33
6. Kosovo Serbs: 3
7. Kosovo Gorani: 1
8. Not specified: 66

(Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics)

*Note: According to municipal officer for communities and returns, 15 Kosovo Serbs - not including Serbian Orthodox clergy - and two (2) Kosovo Montenegrins also reside in the municipality.*

*Prior to the 1999 conflict Kosovo Serbs also lived in the municipality. They are since displaced. There is no available data on their whereabouts.*

## 2. Governing Structures and Political Overview

The number of voters in Deçan/Deçane municipality registered for the last municipal elections held in November 2009 was 35,727 including out-of-Kosovo voters. The voter turnout was 41,08 per cent/14,589 voters (source: Central Elections Commission).

The election results were as follows:

AAK - Alliance for the Future of Kosovo	57.7%	16 seats
LDK - Democratic League of Kosovo	19.64%	5 seats
PDK - Democratic Party of Kosovo	9.11%	2 seats
LDD Democratic League of Dardania	8.22%	2 seats
AKR - Alliance for New Kosovo	2.76%	1 seat
PSD - Social Democratic Party	2.00%	1 seat

### a. Legislative

The municipal assembly has 27 seats distributed amongst six (6) political parties. All 27 members are Kosovo Albanian; nine (9) members are female. The municipal assembly chairperson is Jashar Dobraj (AAK).

The OSCE regional centre Pejë/Peć covers six (6) municipalities including Deçan/Deçane and has field teams working in all of them.



### b. Executive

The municipality is headed by a mayor, Rasim Selmanaj (AAK), and a deputy mayor, Sami Cacaj (AAK). It has 11 departments and departmental directors: general administration; budget and finance; education; health and social welfare; urbanism and planning; inspection; public services; agriculture, forestry and rural development, economic development; geodesy and cadastre; culture, youth and sport. All department directors are from AAK (source: municipal website).

### 3. Judiciary

Pejë/Peć basic court has a branch in Deçan/Deçane with five (5) judges; all are Kosovo Albanian, one (1) is female.

#### Additional information

Pejë/Peć basic prosecutor's office covers the municipality (source: basic court).

### 4. Security Presence

The Kosovo police station in Deçan/Deçane municipality has 55 police officers; 54 are Kosovo Albanian, one (1) is Kosovo Bosniak; eight (8) are female.

As for the international military presence Italian KFOR covers the area (source: Kosovo police).

## 5. Economy

The economy of the municipality of Deçan/Dečane is mainly based on agriculture and small trade businesses.

There are some 1,100 registered private businesses operating in the municipality. There is no reliable data on the number of people employed in private sector in Deçan/Dečane municipality (*source: municipal directorate of economic development*).

## 6. Public Services

### a. Infrastructure

The overall status of infrastructure in the municipality of Deçan/Dečane is assessed as good. All the main roads connecting major villages with the urban centre are asphalted. Deçan/Dečane town and to 24 out of 36 villages are connected to a water supply system. The town and only seven (7) surrounding villages are connected to a sewage system. The electrical power supply is still a problem especially in winter (*source: municipal directorate of public services*).

### b. Health

The primary health care system includes one (1) main municipal family health centre, one (1) mental health care centre, three (3) family health centres in the villages of Strelc i Epërm/Gornji Streoc, Isniq/Istinić, Irzniq/Rznić and six (6) health houses in the villages of Prapaqan/Papraçane, Pobërgjë/Pobrđe, Prilep/Prilep, Lumbardh/Ljumbarda, Ratish/Ratiš and Gramaçel/Gramočelj. The health sector has 120 employees, 67 females and 53 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 17 primary schools with 5,341 pupils and 359 teachers; three (3) secondary schools with 1,977 students and 99 teachers; and one (1) kindergarten with 20 pupils and two (2) teachers (*source: municipal directorate of education*).

## 7. Religious and Cultural sites

Deçan/Dečane has 15 mosques many of them were renovated in the past years, and one (1) Serbian Orthodox monastery. There is one (1) Catholic church in Prapaqan/Prapaçane village (*source: municipal development plan*).

## toknow

In Deçan/Dečane there are:

**27** seats in the municipal assembly distributed amongst 6 political parties.

**55** police officers.

**5** judges.

**458** teachers in 17 primary and 3 secondary schools.