

1. Area and Population

The municipality of Ferizaj/Uroševac is located in south-eastern Kosovo. It covers an area of approximately 345km² and includes Ferizaj/Uroševac town and 43 villages. According to the Kosovo Population and Housing Census 2011, the total population is 108,610.

Ethnic composition

1. Kosovo Albanians: 104,152
 2. Kosovo Ashkali: 3,629
 3. Kosovo Roma: 204
 4. Kosovo Bosniaks: 83
 5. Kosovo Turks: 55
 6. Kosovo Gorani: 64
 7. Kosovo Serbs: 32
 8. Kosovo Egyptians: 24
 9. Other: 102
 10. Not specified: 265
- (Source: Kosovo Agency of Statistics)

Note: According to the municipal office for communities and returns, ethnic composition is as follows: Kosovo Albanians: 104,180; Kosovo Ashkali: 3,916; Kosovo Roma: 258; Kosovo Gorani: 228; Kosovo Bosniaks: 69; Kosovo Serbs: 64; Kosovo Egyptians: 50; and Kosovo Turks: 38.

Prior to the 1999 conflict, the number of Kosovo Serbs and Kosovo Roma living in the municipality was much higher. Despite some returns, most remain displaced. There is no available data on their whereabouts.

2. Governing Structures and Political Overview

The total number of voters in Ferizaj/Uroševac municipality registered for the last municipal elections held in November 2009 was 88,306, including out-of-Kosovo voters. The voter turnout was 44.05 per cent/38,292 voters (source: Central Elections Commission).

The election results were as shown to the right:

a. Legislative

The municipal assembly has 41 seats distributed amongst eight (8) political entities. Thirty-nine (39) members are Kosovo Albanian, two (2) are Kosovo Ashkali, while 13 members are female. The municipal assembly chairperson as of 23 July 2012 is Xhavit Zariqi (PDK).

According to the law on local self-government, a municipality with more than ten (10) per cent of residents belonging to communities not in majority in that municipality is required to appoint a deputy municipal assembly chairperson for communities. Although this is

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



PDK - Democratic Party of Kosovo	34.91%	14 seats
LDK - Democratic League of Kosovo	22.30%	10 seats
AKR - Alliance New Kosova	12.77%	5 seats
AAK - Alliance for the Future of Kosovo	11.54%	4 seats
LDD - Democratic League of Dardania	10.98%	4 seats
PDAK - Ashkali Democratic Party of Kosovo	10.33%	2 seats
Independent Candidate	1.00%	1 seat
PD - Justice Party	1.00%	1 seat

Note: Since the 2009 elections, one (1) AAK, and one (1) LDK municipal assembly member have joined the PDK bringing a total number of seats held by the PDK to 16, and lowering the number of seats held by the AAK and LDK to three (3) each.

not the case in Ferizaj/Uroševac, in 2010 the municipal assembly appointed Rexhep Bajrami (PDAK) a deputy chairperson for communities.

b. Executive

The mayor of the municipality is Agim Aliu (PDK) and the deputy mayor, Besim Zymberi (PDK). It has ten (10) departments: administration and personnel (PDK); urbanism, property, cadastre, geodesy and

environmental protection (PDK); planning, development and reconstruction (PDK); education (PDK); economy, finance and budget (PDK); health and social welfare (PDK); agriculture and rural development (AKR); culture, youth and sport (AKR); public services and civil emergency (AKR); and inspection (no party affiliation) (source: *municipal website*).

3. Judiciary

Ferizaj/Uroševac basic court has 16 judges; all Kosovo Albanian, two (2) are female. It has branches in Kačanik/Kaçanik and Štrpce/Shtërpçë and also covers Hani i Elezit/Elez Han and Shtime/Štimlje municipalities (source: *Ferizaj/Uroševac basic court*).

Additional information:

Ferizaj/Uroševac basic prosecutor's office has ten (10) prosecutors; all Kosovo Albanian, two (2) are female. In addition to Ferizaj/Uroševac it also covers Hani i Elezit/Elez Han, Kačanik/Kaçanik, Shtime/Štimlje and Štrpce/Shtërpçë municipalities (source: *Ferizaj/Uroševac basic prosecutor's office*).

4. Security Presence

The Kosovo police station in Ferizaj/Uroševac municipality has 138 police officers; 132 are Kosovo Albanian, six (6) are Kosovo Ashkali, while 25 are female.

The Regional Kosovo police station is also situated in Ferizaj/Uroševac covering Kačanik/Kaçanik, Štrpce/Shtërpçë and Shtime/Štimlje municipalities. It employs 434 police officers; 384 Kosovo Albanian, 42 Kosovo Serb and eight (8) Kosovo Ashkali, while 25 are female.

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

5. Economy

The economy of the municipality of Ferizaj/Uroševac is based mainly on agriculture, construction, and supply companies and small trade businesses. There are some 3,800 registered private businesses operating in the municipality. There is no reliable data on a number employed in the private sector in Ferizaj/Uroševac (source: *municipal directorate of urbanism, property, cadastre, geodesy, environmental protection*).

6. Public Services

a. Infrastructure

The overall status of infrastructure in the municipality of Ferizaj/Uroševac is assessed as good. Most of the main roads connecting major villages with

the urban centre are asphalted. Ferizaj/Uroševac town and 32 out of 43 villages are connected to the water supply and sewage systems. Power supply is still a problem, especially in the villages (source: *directorate of public service and civil emergency*).

b. Health

The primary health care system currently includes one (1) main municipal family health centre, three (3) health centres and 13 clinics. The health sector has 308 employees; 203 females and 105 males, including three (3) Kosovo Turks, one (1) Kosovo Roma, and one (1) Kosovo Gorani.

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

c. Education

In Ferizaj/Uroševac municipality there are 37 primary schools with 21,377 pupils and 1,124 teachers; seven (7) secondary schools with 8,168 students and 398 teachers; and one (1) kindergarten with 253 children and 38 teachers (source: *municipal directorate of education*).

7. Religious and Cultural Sites

Ferizaj/Uroševac has 38 mosques six (6) of which are in town. All have been renovated since the 1999 conflict. Out of 15 Serbian Orthodox churches nine (9) were totally destroyed while six (6) though damaged remain in use. There is one (1) Catholic church in Ferizaj/Uroševac town centre (sources: *local religious representatives*).

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In Ferizaj/Uroševac there are:

41	seats in the municipal assembly distributed amongst 8 political entities.
138	police officers in the main police station.
16	judges and 10 prosecutors.
1560	teachers in 37 primary schools, 7 secondary schools and 1 kindergarten.