

Kosovo (Serbia and Montenegro)

The Roma fled Kosovo before, during and after the NATO air raids of June 1999. As a result, it has been difficult for the local authorities and international organizations to include the Roma in their statistics.

The latest census (1991) registered 42,806 people in Kosovo who declared themselves to be Roma. Different expert sources claim that those who associated themselves with another ethnic group but who have close Roma characteristics number between 100,000 and 150,000 people. These figures have been confirmed by international institutions, which tried to count the refugees and the internally displaced persons and agreed, with some reservations, that 62,000 Roma and about 21,000 Egyptians left Kosovo after the air raids. These data are relatively accurate, because the difference is accounted for by a third group that has been living in Kosovo for centuries, and has identified itself as Ashkali. The Egyptians and the Ashkali are close to each other because they both speak Albanian.

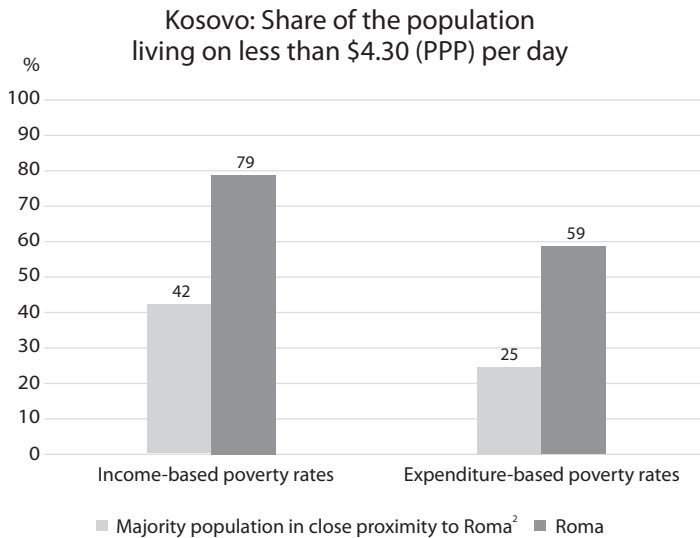
Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians were expelled from many towns and villages, and their houses were destroyed or set on fire. This happened to entire Roma neighbourhoods in Mitrovica, Pristina and Gnjilane. The predominant part of these refugees relocated to Serbia, Montenegro and Macedonia, while others found refuge in Western Europe (in autumn 1999, 12,000 Roma from Kosovo were registered in Italy alone). According to international organizations, about 30,000 Roma and Egyptians are living now as IDPs in the former Yugoslav Republic, but according to independent experts that number actually exceeds 80,000 people.

Currently, some 30,000 to 35,000 Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians are living in Kosovo. About 90 percent of the Kosovo Roma lives in extreme poverty: they have €1/day while the poverty line in Kosovo is €60/month. As a result, the mortality rate is high and access to health services is minimal for the members of Roma community. According to data from the World Bank, in 2000 only one third of the Roma children in Kosovo go to school, and barely 2 percent are in a position to continue their education after primary school.

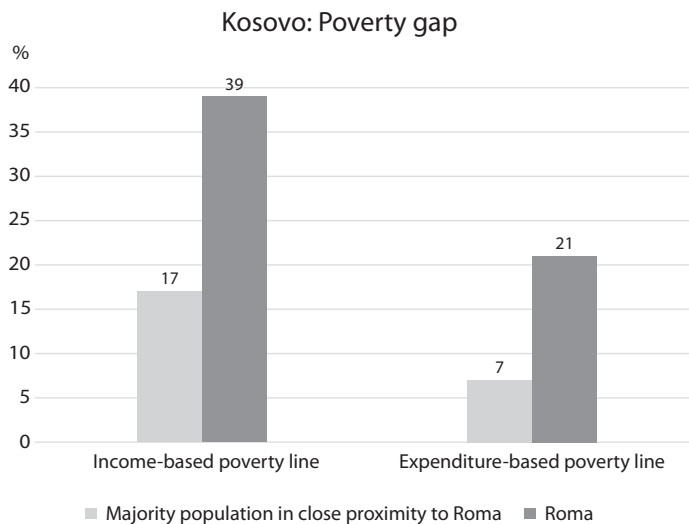
The Albanian majority in Kosovo is still intolerant towards other ethnic groups. Thus, Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians live in permanent ethnic tension while crude forms of nepotism pervade. During the March 2004 clashes, not only Serbs were attacked but also the Roma; more than 700 houses were set alight.

Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians are represented in 16 municipal councils. Nevertheless, the return of the refugees and the IDPs to Kosovo is of paramount importance: after the conflict and the related emigration from Kosovo, the community was significantly drained by the loss of its professional and intellectual elite.

Poverty and unemployment



The graph outlines the share of the population living below \$4.30 (PPP)¹ per day. (\$4.30 is the poverty line accepted by the World Bank and UNDP for international comparisons in developed economies). Per capita income is calculated using an OECD equivalence scale, which means that per capita income and expenditures are not simply “totals divided by the number of household members”, but divided by “an equalized number of household members” (for more details see the Glossary).

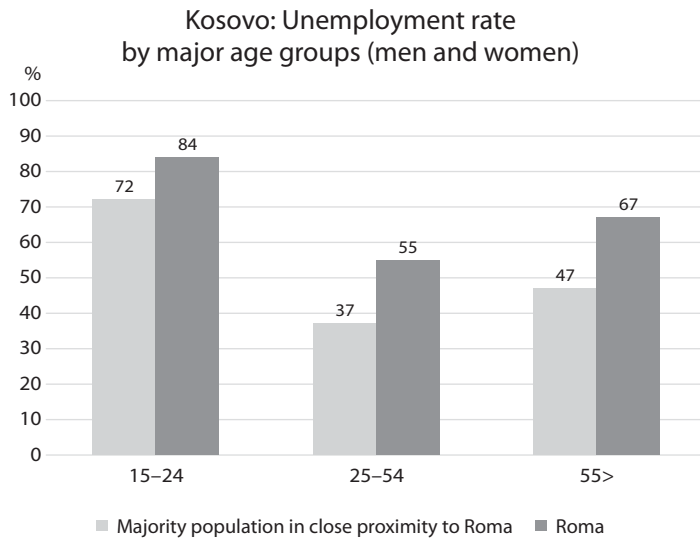


The graph shows the depth of poverty: how poor are those below the poverty line? A lower poverty gap means that more people are closer to the poverty line (with greater chances of rising above it). A higher poverty gap means that more people are closer to the bottom with fewer chances to improve their condition (see the Glossary for more details).

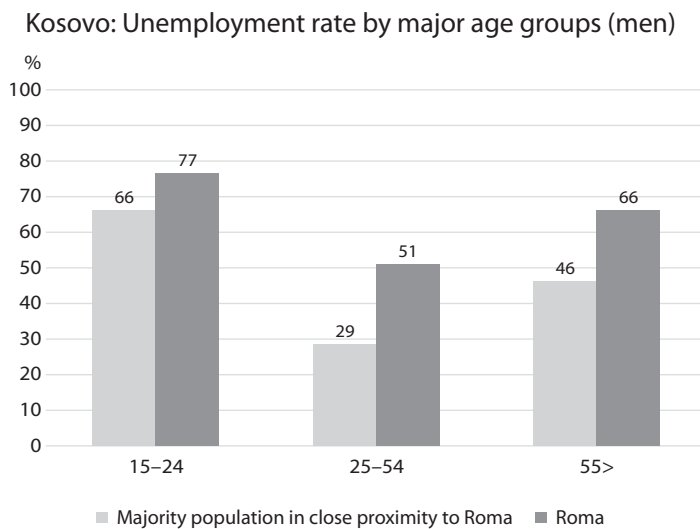
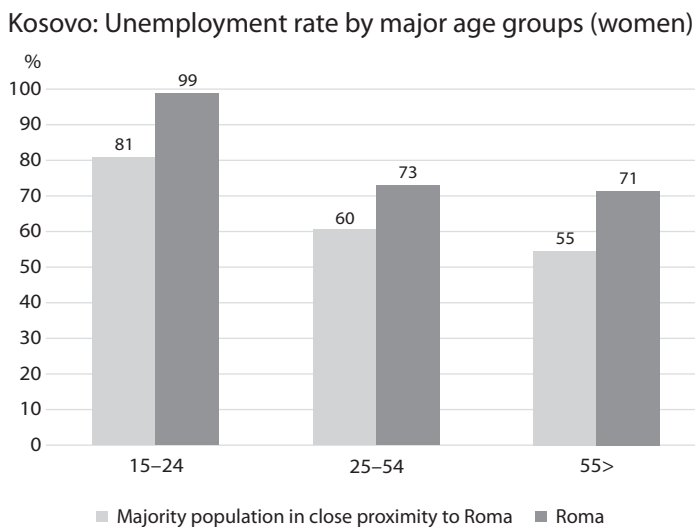
¹ For an explanation of PPP (purchasing power parity) please see the Glossary.

² Majority does NOT refer to the majority population representative for the whole country but rather it is a sample of the majority living in close proximity to Roma (see sections “General principles of the sample design” and “Majority boosters” in the “Introduction” chapter)

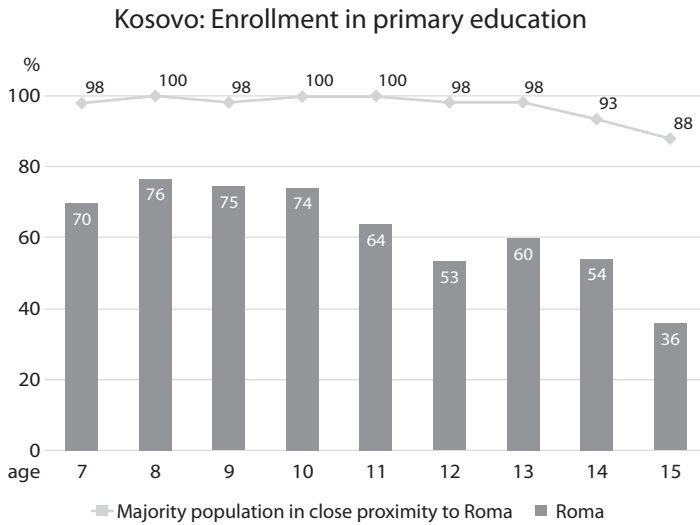
Unemployment



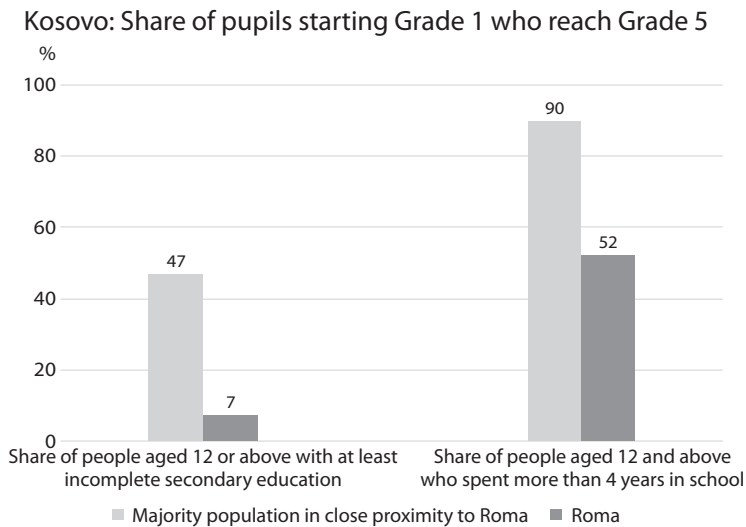
The graphs in this section illustrate the unemployed as a share of the labour force. Following the definition applied in Labour Force Surveys "Labour force" is defined as the working-age population (aged 15 and above) excluding people who are retired, in school and/or involved with housekeeping.



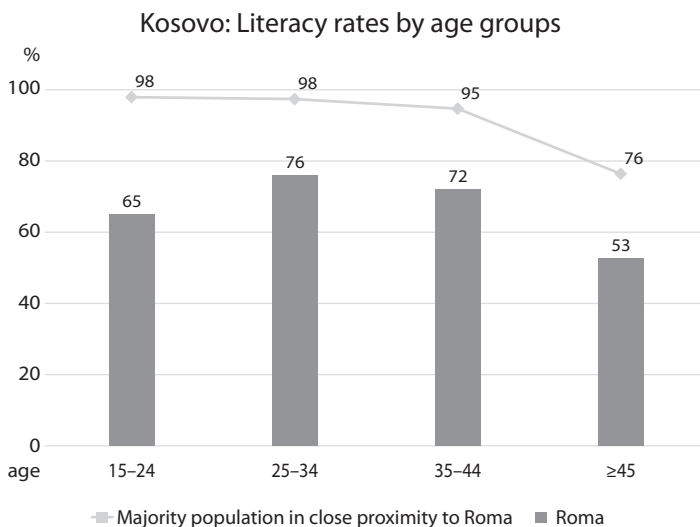
Education



The graph shows children by age who attend school as a share of those who should attend based on their age. The values are determined from the share of “yes” answers to the question “Does the household member still attend school or training?” when the person concerned is of primary school age (7–15).



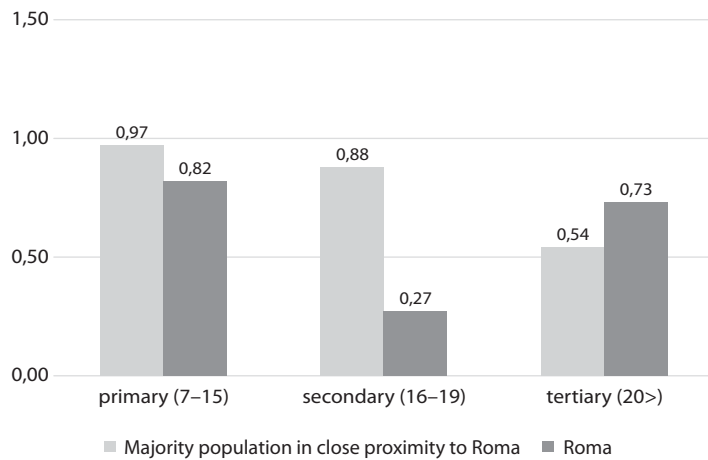
The first dataset in the graph shows the people who completed grade 5 as a share of those aged 12 (i.e. of those who should have completed it). The second dataset shows the people who completed grade 5 as a share of all aged 12 and above. The difference between the two data sets indicates the incidence of repeaters (pupils repeating a school year).



The graph shows those who are literate as a share of the population aged 15 and above. The values are based on the share of those who can read and write, broken into four age groups: 15–24, 25–34, 35–44, 45 and above. The survey question was “Can the household member read and write?”

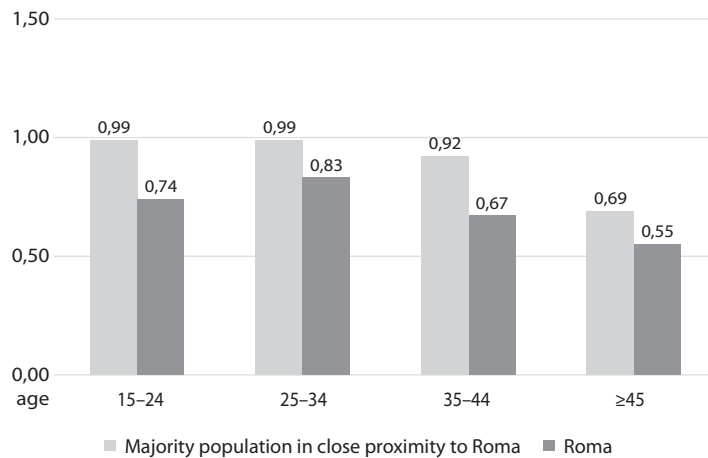
Gender equality and empowerment of women

Kosovo: Ratios of girls to boys by education level



The graph shows the distribution of “yes” answers to the question “Does the household member still attend school or training?” broken down by sex and age for the three “school-age groups”: primary (7–15 years old), secondary (16–19) and tertiary (above 20).

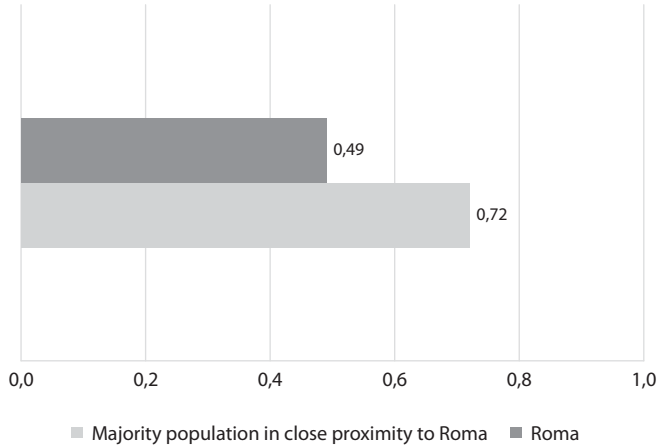
Kosovo: Ratios of literate females to males by age groups



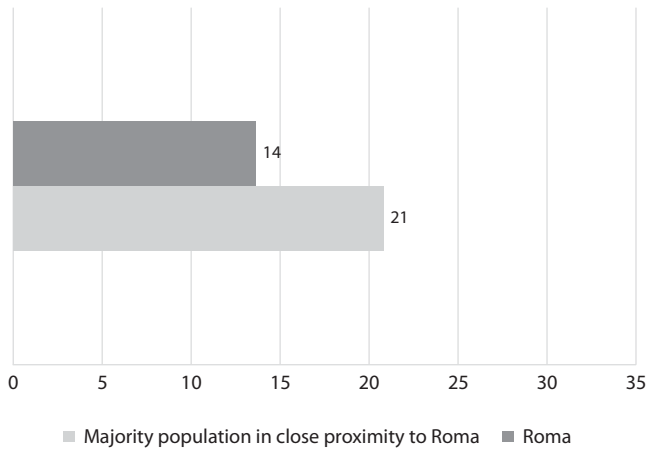
The graph outlines the “yes” answers to the question “Can the household member read and write?” broken down by sex and major age group.

Housing and living conditions

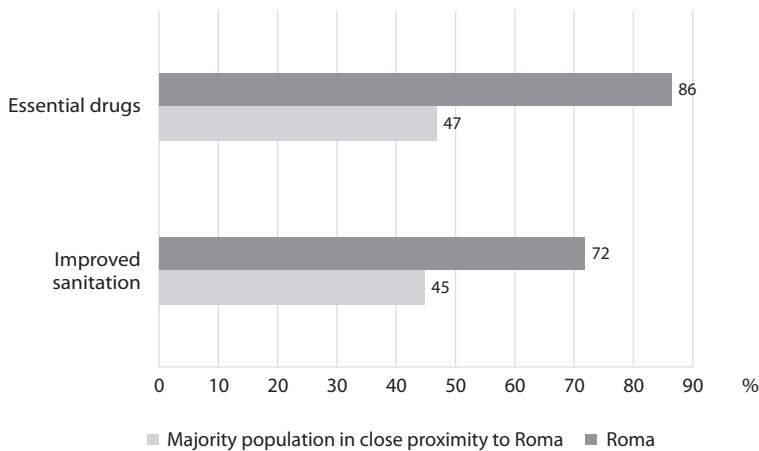
Kosovo: Rooms per household member



Kosovo: Square meters per household member



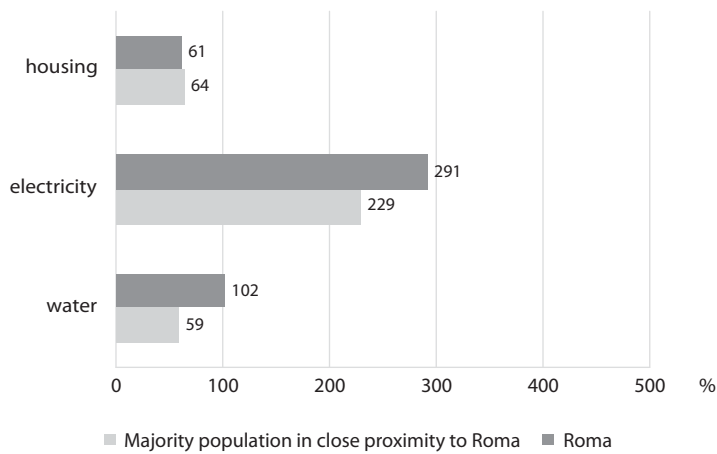
Kosovo: Shares of the population not having access to:



The two graphs show how much living space Roma and non-Roma household members use. The first graph is based on data derived from the question "How many rooms does your household have in the dwelling you currently occupy?" The second one is based on "How many square meters is your current dwelling?" Data per capita in both are calculated using the total number of household members.

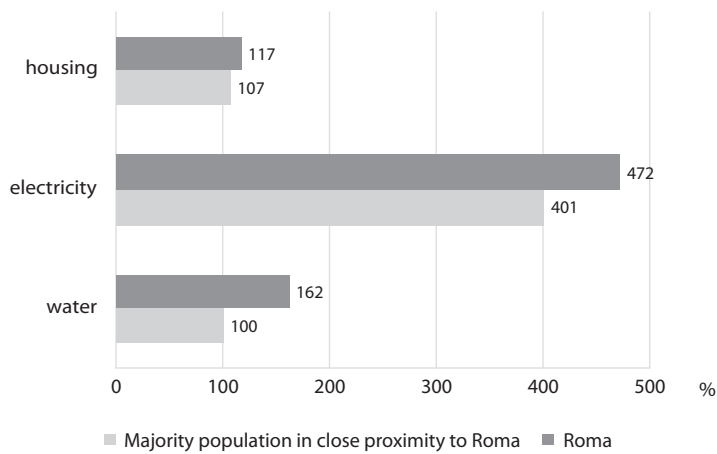
The "Essential drugs" section of the graph shows the share of households responding "Yes" to the question "Were there any periods in the past 12 months when your household could not afford to purchase medicines prescribed to/needed by a member of your household?" "Improved sanitation" shows the share of households not having a toilet or bathroom inside the house.

Kosovo: Outstanding payments as a share of monthly household expenditures

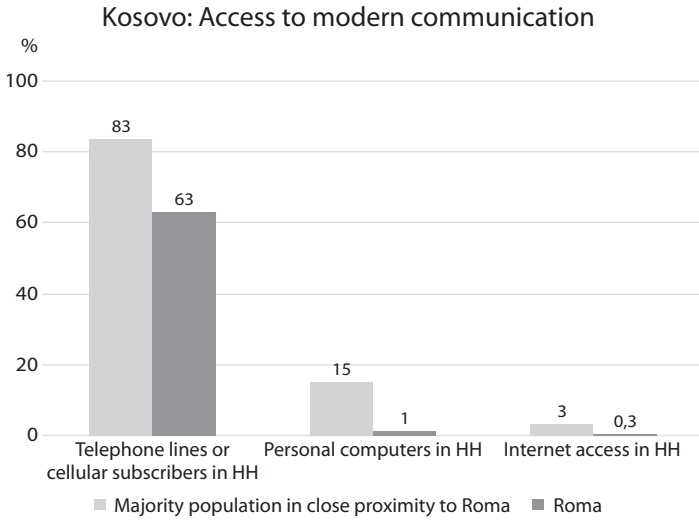


The graph shows the outstanding monthly payments for water, electricity and housing as a share of monthly household expenditures.

Kosovo: Outstanding payments as a share of monthly household income



The graph shows the outstanding monthly payments for water, electricity and housing as a share of monthly household income.



The first dataset in the graph shows telephone lines or cellular subscribers per 100 people. The values are based on the number of “yes” answers to the question “Do you have in your household a telephone or a mobile phone in functioning order?” and recalculated for a sample of 100 people. Households having both a telephone and a mobile phone were counted once. The second and third parts of the graph show the number of personal computers in use per 100 population and internet users per 100 people. The values are based on the number of “yes” answers to the question “Do you have here in your household a computer/internet connection in functioning order?” and recalculated for a sample of 100 people.