

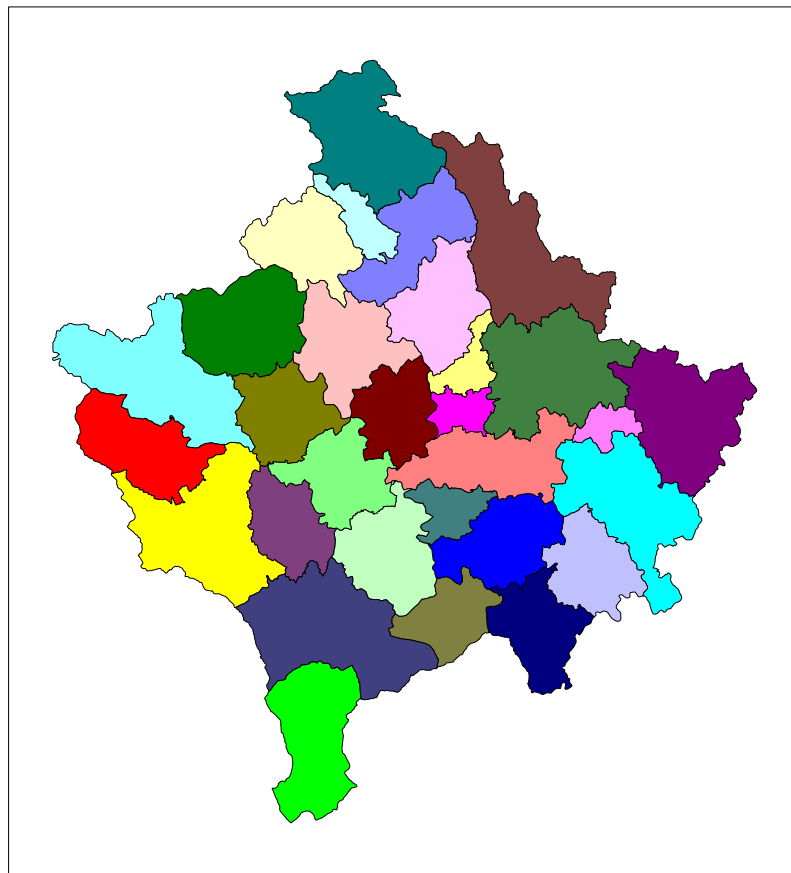


Republika e Kosovës  
Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo  
*Qeveria - Vlada - Government*

*Ministria e Administratës Publike - Ministarstvo Javne Uprave - Ministry of Public Administration*

## Series 5: Social Statistics

# Labour Market Statistics 2008



Enti i Statistikës së Kosovës  
Zavod za Statistiku Kosova  
Statistical Office of Kosovo



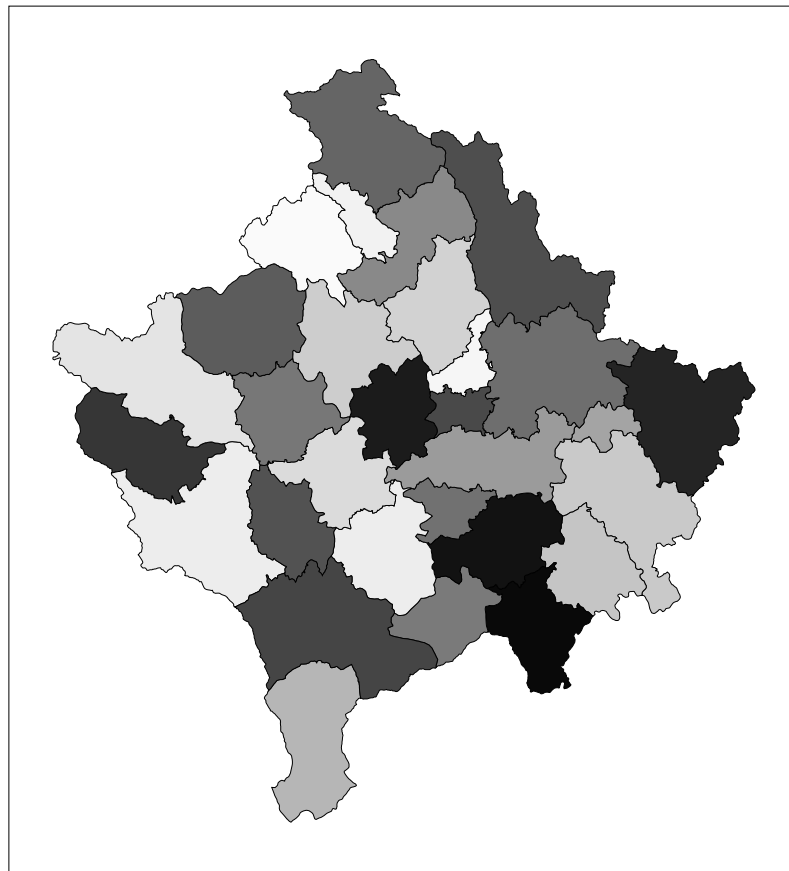


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## Foreword

The aim of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) is to collect statistical data on labour market and similar issues, and to estimate employment and unemployment indicators in Kosovo.

This statistical publication consists of data on the number of employment and unemployment according to age, sex, employment status, activities, occupations and other similar issues related to labour market.

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or visit our web-site: [www.ks-gov.net/esk](http://www.ks-gov.net/esk)

November, 2009

Chief Execution Officer, SOK  
Avni Kastrati

## Abbreviations

|      |  |
|------|--|
| LFS  | Labour Force Survey                                  |
| ILO  | International Labour Organization                    |
| LSMS | Living Standards Measurement Survey                  |
| EAR  | European Agency for Reconstruction                   |
| SOK  | Statistical Office of Kosovo                         |
| UE   | European Union                                       |
| ISCO | International Standard Classification of Occupations |
| NACE | Statistical Classification of Economic Activities    |
| -    | No occurrence of event                               |

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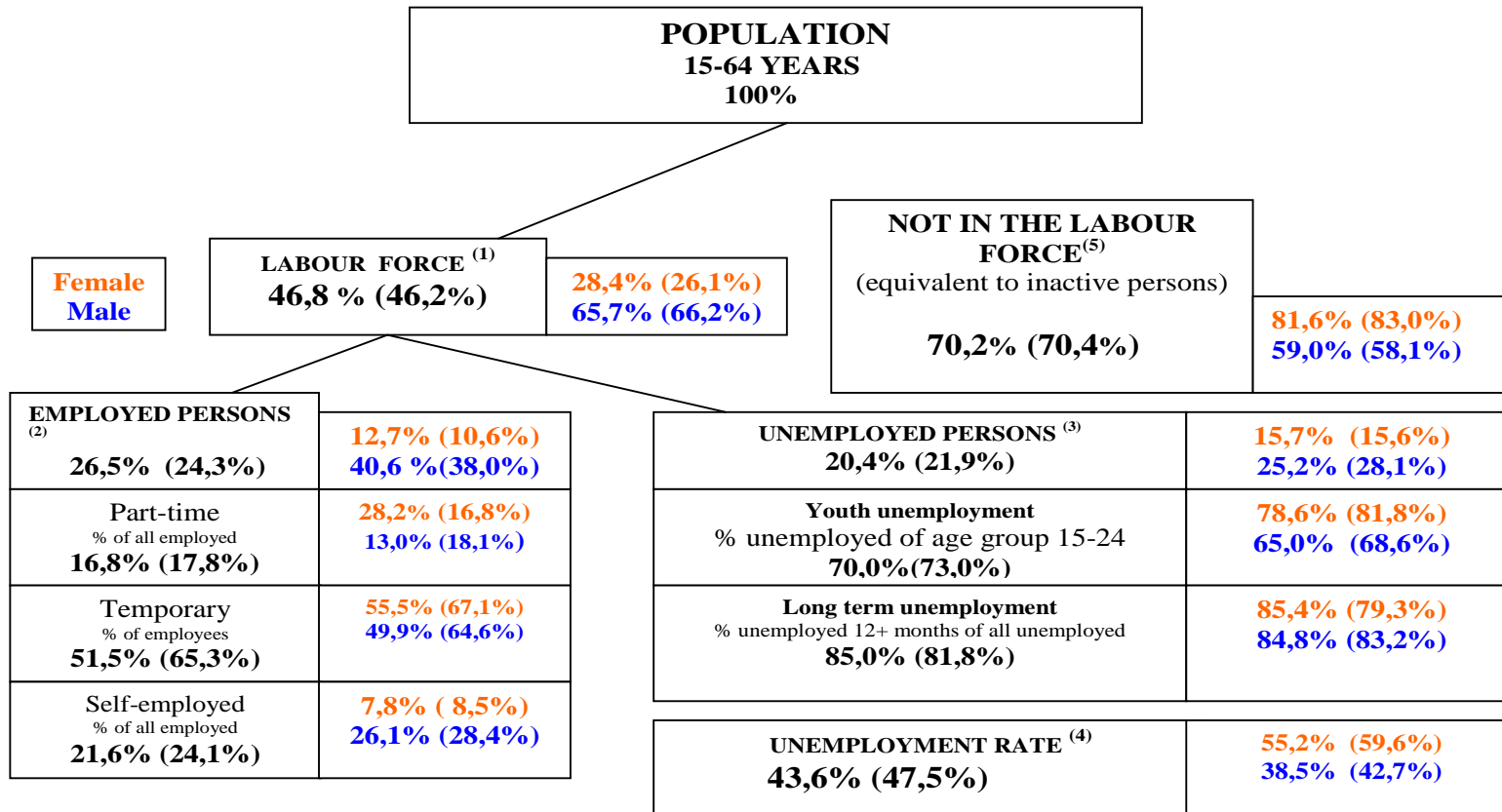
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## KOSOVO LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2007 and 2008

September 2007/October 2008 (LFS 2008 in brackets)



**Basic concepts:**

- (1) Activity rates or labour force participation rates: percentage of the labour force in the working age population;
- (2) Employment rate: percentage of employed persons in the working age population;
- (3) Unemployment-population ratios: percentage of the unemployed persons in the working age population.
- (4) Unemployment rates: percentage of unemployed persons in the labour force.
- (5) Inactive persons

## Labour Force Survey 2008

### 1 Background

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) was introduced by the Statistical Office of Kosovo in 2001 with the purpose of collecting comparable information on employment and unemployment in the territory of Kosovo, and make them available to local and international institutions.

Being the first effort of this type of research in Kosovo, the survey, in many respects, leaned on the example of the Living Standards Measurement Survey (LSMS) which was conducted in cooperation with the World Bank during the previous year. At the same time, it attempted to implement relevant international recommendations on labour market statistics published by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Eurostat.

With technical assistance of an ILO expert, and with the financial support by a German grant, the field work of the LFS 2001 was carried out in December 2001 and the results were presented in the publication "Key Employment Indicators" in June 2002.

Since then, the LFS has become an integral part of the SOK work program with an annual survey being carried out in the fall of each year. Except for a few changes, the LFS in 2002 and 2003 were the same as in 2001.

However, within the framework of the project "Support to the Statistical Office of Kosovo", which started in 2003 with the funding from the European Agency for Reconstruction (EAR), the SOK LFS has been reviewed under the aspect of its compliance with EU LFS standards. The first important result of this process has been the adoption of a new standard tabulation program for the LFS 2003, which, as a consequence, made it necessary to develop a new format for the analysis of LFS results as well as to retroactively produce these tables for the LFS 2001 and 2002.

The current report for the LFS 2008 is continuity of report LFS 2007, LFS 2006, LFS 2005, LFS 2004 and LFS 2003 of analysis which deviates from the reports for the years 2001 and 2002. In its data annex, contains the new standard tabulation program for the LFS 2007 and 2008.

Since SOK LFS included revision of the survey questionnaire from the year 2004 according to the EU definitions, the further changes of the SOK LFS include transition for an annual to a continuous survey with quarterly results, since the census plans to provide an appropriate sampling basis. At the same time, it also should be attempted to improve the quality of LFS results by undertaking additional organizational and methodological measures.

## 2 Methodological notes

Labor Force surveys are done on a sample basis, e.g. the needed information's are collected only for a limited number of respondents who shall be the representatives for the population as a whole.

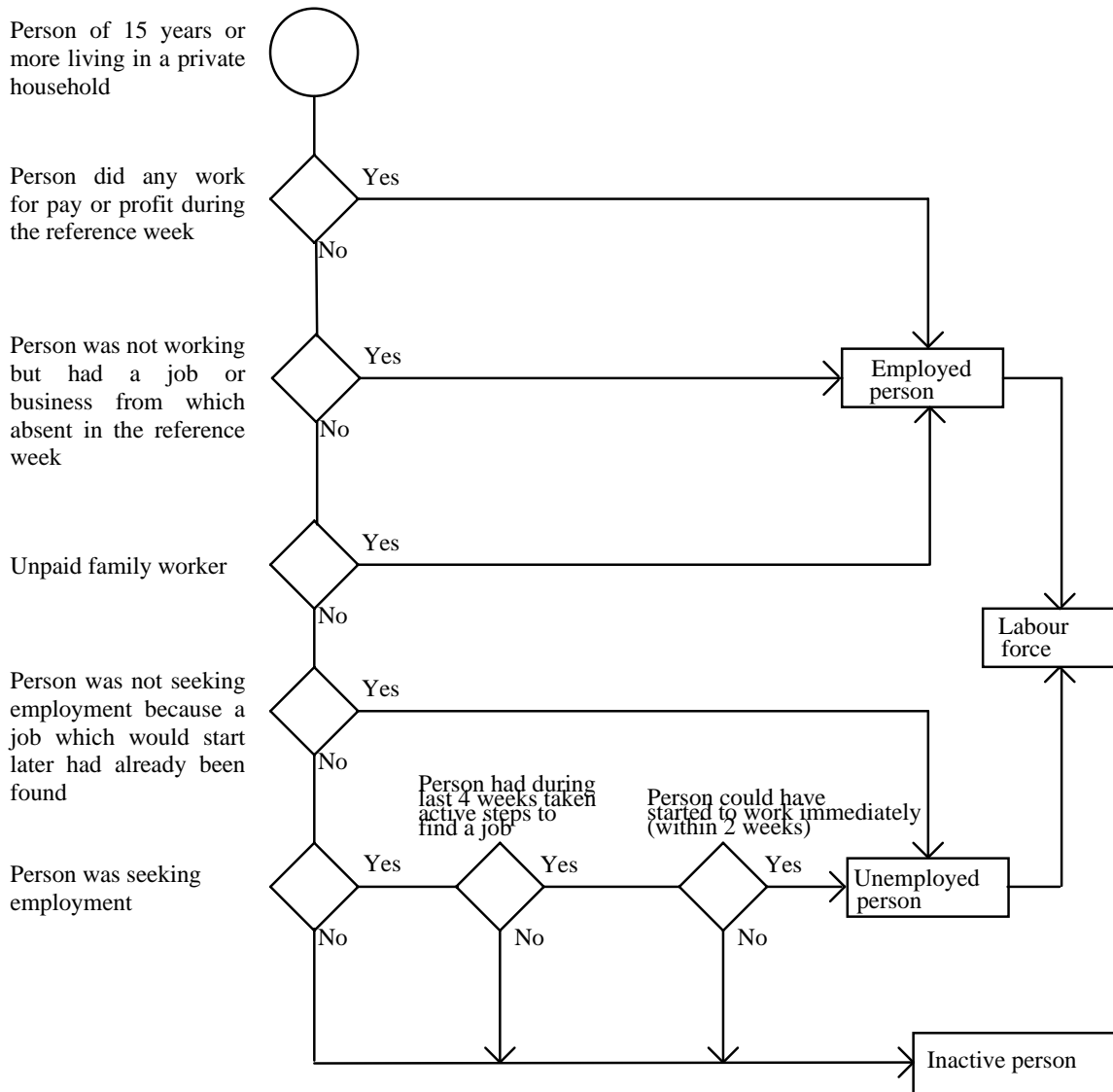
One of the problems in Kosovo has been the lack of an established sampling frame that normally is provided by a general census or an effective civil registration system. Therefore, the SOK LFS has been based on the World Bank LSMS sample design 2000. Every year, the sampling includes the selection of 360-400 enumeration areas in a first stage, and a fixed numbers of households (since 2002 usually 8) in a second stage, with a stratification by rural/urban and Albanian/Serbian (for more details see the Methodological Report, August 2002). The LFS then is administered to all members of the selected households. In 2007, the LFS finally included 399 enumeration areas, 3192 households and 20266 persons, and corresponding figures for 2008 were; 400 enumeration areas, 4000 households and 24470 persons.

According to the European Union definitions, LFS covers only the civilian resident population living in the private households and the individual questionnaire filled for everyone aged 15 and above in the last day of the reference week, that has been specified as the week from Monday to Sunday prior to the interview date.

The validity and comparability of LFSs in a large extent depends on their timing. The interviews for the 2001 SOK LFS were mainly conducted in December 2002, in November 2003, in the latter part of October and the beginning of November 2004. After the full revision of the questionnaire 2004, the LFSs were conducted from the mid until the end of September by including the LFS 2007, while LFS 2008 were conducted the beginning of October until mid of October. The later in a year the interview period is, the greater the chance is that the economic activities in some sectors (such as agriculture, construction or tourism) have reached a reduced level or even come to a complete halt. The shift of the interviewing period to an earlier date by about one month each year can impede the comparability of results over time.

Finally, the statistics and analyses of the labour market are fundamentally affected by the definition of each person's working status. Since 2002, the SOK LFS used the EU classification procedure represented in Figure 1, but also and time series of LFS 2001 and above use this classification.

**Figure 1: Labour force classification in the European Union Labour Force Survey**



The results of the 2008 SOK LFS and major changes since 2007 will be discussed in the following 4 sections defined by the working status: for the population as a whole, employed unemployed and inactive persons.

Considering EU standards, the analysis is based on the data from the new standard tabulation programme, which for these two years is attached in Annex 1.

A complete list of all variables on which information has been collected in the 2008 SOK LFS, and which could be used for additional tabulations may be found in Annex 2.

### 3 Basic concepts and definition

While the LFS is intended to cover the whole resident population of a country, the results are collected only for persons living in the private households by not including persons in compulsory military or community service surveyed in these households.

The central distinction in any LFS is the classification of persons aged 15 years or above by their labour status:

**Employed** are those who during the reference week:

- did any work for pay or profit, or
  - were not working but had jobs from which they are temporarily absent.
- Family workers were included.

**Unemployed** are those who:

- had no employment during the reference week, and
- had actively sought employment during the previous four weeks, and
- were available to start work within the next two weeks.

Persons who already had found a job which was to start later are also classified as unemployed.

**Inactive** are all those not classified as either employed or unemployed.

Figure 1 shows a flowchart for the classification of the population according to these definitions as prescribed since 2000. In this context, persons temporarily absent from work present certain difficulties. The accepted criterion for their classification as employed is a formal attachment to their job which in turn is defined by:

- the continued receipt of pay,
- the assurance of return to work, or
- the elapsed duration of absence.

For the 2001 LFS, the definition of the labour status has been further specified in a number of points:

Persons working in their own small agricultural farms but produce only for their own consumption should be considered as employed only if this production is included in national accounts.

**But from 2008 persons who work on their own agriculture farm should be considered as employed only in case at least part of their production is sold, whichever the total amount of the products. Persons who work on their own small agriculture farm, who do not sell their products, and produce only for their own consumption should not be considered as employed.**

Conscripts who performed some work for pay or profit during the reference week should not be considered as employed

- Persons on maternity leave should always be considered as employed.
- Others not at work during the reference week (seasonal workers during the on and off-season, persons on parental leave, unpaid family workers, lay-offs and persons on long-term absence except due to illness) should be considered as employed only if they have an assurance to return to work within a period of 3 months or continue to receive 50% or more of their salary.

Persons who were not employed during the reference week but already found a job thought to start later should be considered as unemployed unless the starting date for that job is within a period of at most 3 months and as inactive otherwise.

Based on the age and labour status, a number of groups and rates were derived:

- **Working-age population:** 15–64
- **Youth dependency rate:** under 15/15–64
- **Old age dependency rate:** 65+/15–64
- **Effective dependency rate:** not working 15+/employed
- **Labour force:** employed + unemployed
- **Activity rate:** labour force 15–64/working age population
- **Employment rate:** employed 15–64/working age population
- **Unemployment rate:** unemployed/labour force

In addition, there is a number of concepts related to specific conditions of employment, unemployment, or inactivity:

**The permanency of a job** only refers to employees. Temporary employment, working contracts of limited duration or fixed-term contracts are characterized by the agreement between employer and employee on objective conditions under which a job ends, such as: specific date, the completion of a task or the return of another employee who has been temporarily replaced. In particular, this applies to:

- persons with seasonal employment,
- persons engaged by an agency or employment exchange and hired to a third party to perform a specific task (unless there is a written contract of unlimited duration with the agency or employment exchange),
- persons with specific training contracts.

If there are no objective criteria for the end of a job or work contract, then this is considered as permanent or of unlimited duration.

**The distinction between full-time and part-time work** is based on the subjective declaration of the respondent. A more precise, objective definition is not possible since working hours differ from country to country and from one branch of activity to the next.

**Involuntary part-time work** is assumed for persons who declare that they work part-time because they were unable to find a fulltime job.

**The number of usual hours worked per week** in the LFS refers only to the usual number of hours to accomplish the job, including paid or unpaid overtime but by excluding travelling time between home and workplace or time for the main meal break (lunch). Apprentices or trainees should exclude any time spent at college or in other special training centres. Persons unable to provide a figure for their usual working hours may replace them by average number of hours actually worked per week over the past four weeks. Some persons, particularly self-employed and family workers, may not have a usual working timetable because their working hours vary widely from one week or a month to the next.

**The duration of unemployment** is operationally defined by the shorter of the following two periods:

- the duration of search for work, or
- the length of time since last employment.

**Youth unemployment** refers to the unemployment of persons aged 15–24.

**Long-term unemployment** is defined by duration of 1 year or more.

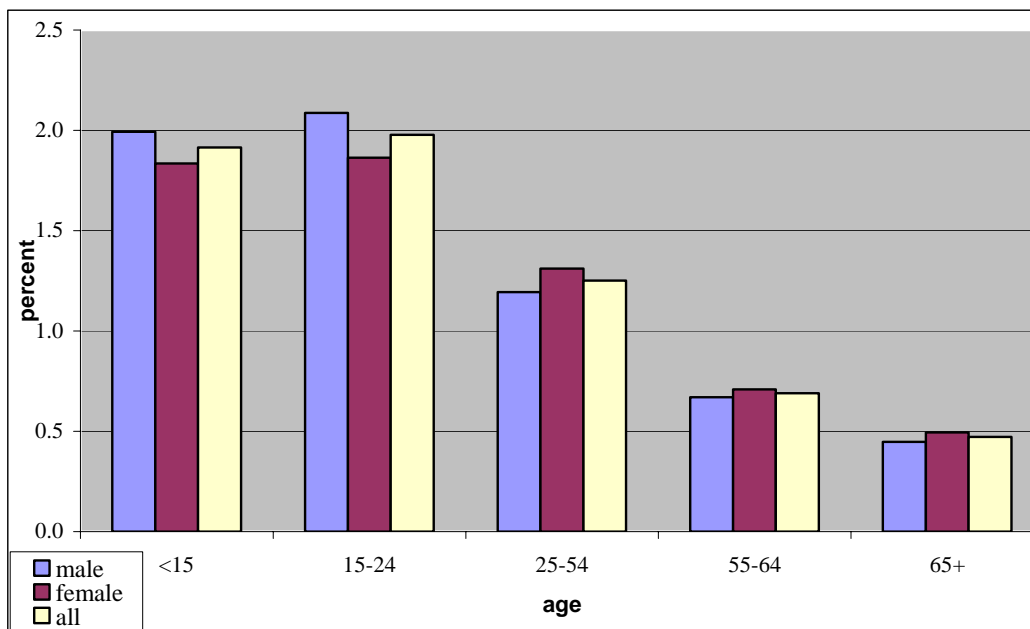
## 4 Population

Due to the events in its recent history and given the fact that no census has been conducted since 1981 and the civil registration system is not up-to-date, it is practically impossible to provide reliable absolute figures for the population as a whole or its constituent parts in terms of their working status. This applies even more to sample surveys such as the SOK LFS, which in addition had to be based on an unsatisfactory frame. Therefore, all parts/shares and distributions expressed here are in terms of percentages in the respective reference groups (male, female or all, which in some cases in turn are further specified by certain age limits).

### 4.1. Age structure

A first important labour market indicator is the relative size of the working age population, e.g., the persons between the ages of 15 and 64, which approximately defines the potential available manpower. In Kosovo, this figure from the 2008 SOK LFS is comparatively low with just 64.2%. The reason for this becomes apparent by looking at the age structure. Kosovo has a relatively “young” population, with almost one third less than 15 years old at the end of the scale and 7.1% aged 65 or more at the upper end. Such a structure is typical for the classical population pyramid. This also becomes visible if one computes the average size of the age groups used in labour market analysis for single years (see Figure 2).

**Figure 2: Average 1-year size of age groups by sex, 2008**



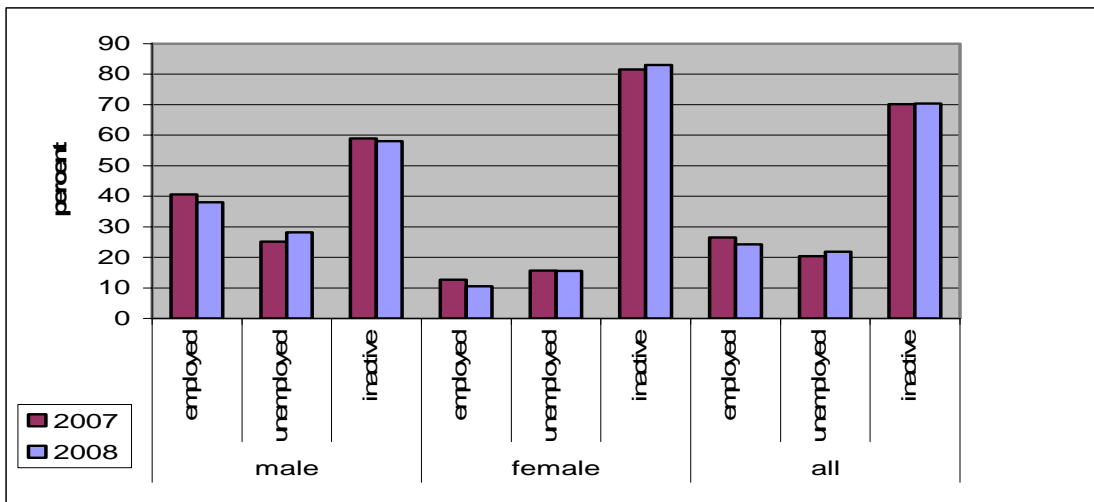
The same facts are expressed by the youth and old age dependency rates, describing how many persons under 15 and over 65, meaning that there are per 100 persons of working age. These comparisons show that, for the youngsters, this rapport in Kosovo is approximately 1:2, but for the old only 1:10.

Due to the higher sex ratio at birth all these figures tend to be higher for males in younger age groups, while they tend to be higher for females in older age groups because of their lower mortality.

## 4.2. Activity status

A second group of important labour market indicators refers to the actual activity of the population by distinguishing three statuses: employed, unemployed, and inactive (for the respective definitions see Figure 1 above). The distribution of males, females and the total population by their activity status is presented in Figure 3.

**Figure 3: Population by employment status and sex, 2007-2008**



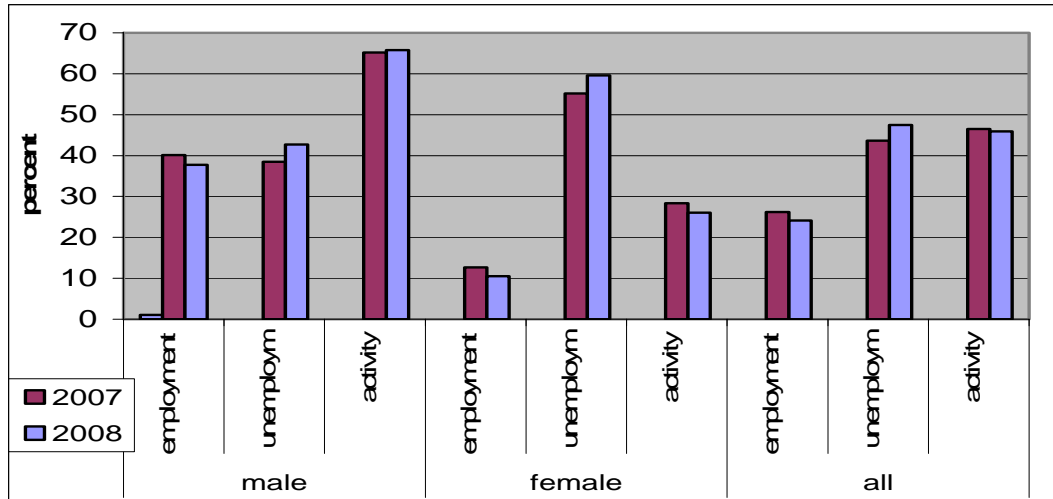
The Figure shows that inactive persons make up the largest group in the Kosovo population. There are several factors contributing to this. Firstly, all persons under 15 are included here by definition and, secondly, many younger people still are in the education, while, thirdly, a number of older persons leave the labour force before reaching the working age limit. Fourthly, many women take over the family and household responsibilities rather than engaging in economic activity and, lastly, some persons of either sex have given up looking for work because they think that none is available. To attach figures to these latter factors, however, would require additional analyses or data.

There is a striking difference between males and females in the labour force, e.g., the sum of employed and unemployed persons.



These findings are substantiated by the employment, unemployment and activity rates that generally, are computed only for the working age population (see Figure 4).

**Figure 4: Labour market participation of working age population by sex, 2007-2008**



While above 38% of the Kosovo males of working age actually were employed in 2008, the corresponding figure for females is approximately 11% with the overall rate ranging in between at about 24%. Conversely, the overall unemployment rate for the working age population, e.g., the proportion of unemployed in the labour force, has reached 47.5%, but again the difference between males and females amounted about 17% percentage points (42.7 vs. 59.6%). The activity rate, finally, which represents the percentage of the labour force in the working age population, shows a complete reversal in the sex-specific figures: while the 2008 SOK LFS found above 66% of the men to be active, practically, the same proportion of the women were inactive.

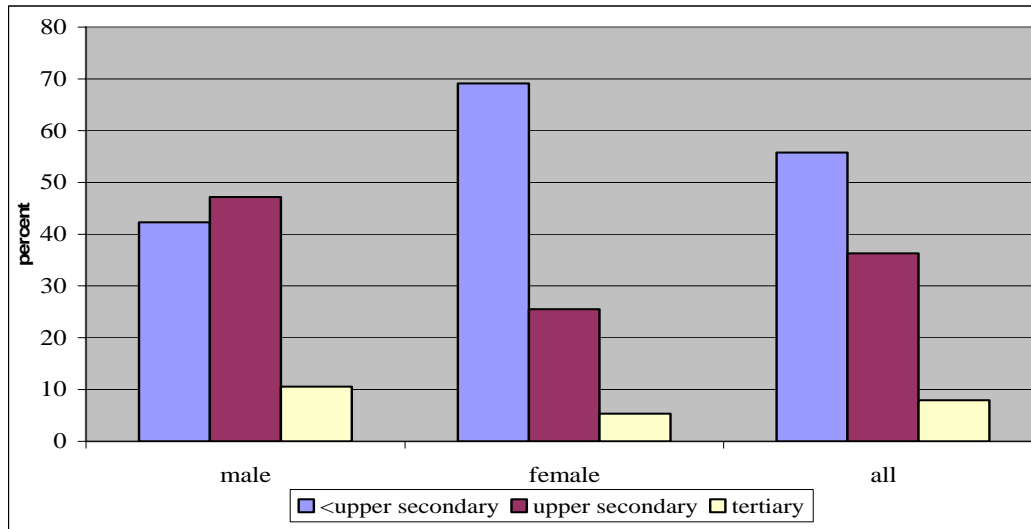
The most dramatic difference between male and female rates, however, occurs in the effective dependency rate. Similar to the age-related dependency rates, this rate expresses how many not working persons there are per 100 actually employed persons. Though the computation of this burden usually leaves out persons under 15 (because their working status is inactive by definition), the overall rate for 2008 shows that on the average 100 employed persons in Kosovo had to support 357 not working persons, but while this rate was less than half (191) among males, it reached an 5 times higher value (956) among females.

### 4.3. Education

While the working age population, in a way, represents the potential pool of manpower, in terms of sheer numbers the educational level may be considered as general indicator of the quality of this potential in terms of person's qualification.

In 2008, among all persons in Kosovo aged 15 or more, more than 42% of the males and more than 69% females in Kosovo had not completed upper secondary education (see Figure 5).

**Figure 5: Education levels of population (15+) by sex, 2008**



Only every sixteenth male and every twelve female had a college or university education.

Even if one takes into account that, on the one hand, some young people have not yet finished their education and, on the other hand, younger age groups generally tend to reach higher levels of education than their older counterparts, these figures must give reason for concern inasmuch as a person's qualification determines both his or her employment chances and the risk of unemployment. Both of these effects will be demonstrated in the following sections.

**Note:**

**<upper secondary:** without education, 1-4 grade of elementary education, 5-7 grade of elementary education, elementary education (completed);

**upper secondary:** secondary education;

**tertiary:** high-school, university, academy, master and doctorate.

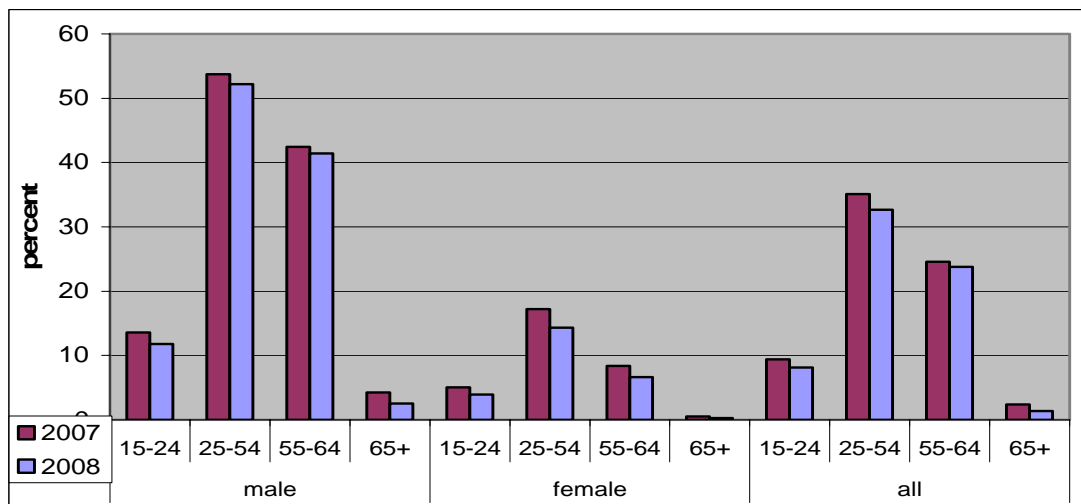
## 5 Employment

In this section, the situation on the Kosovo labour market in 2008 and possible developments since the preceding year will be discussed in a greater detail by looking at specific characteristics of employed persons.

### 5.1. Age groups

The differentiation of the employment rate by age shows that the proportion of working people in the central age group (25-54) is about 33% higher than on the average for males as well as females (see Figure 6).

**Figure 6: Employment rates by sex and age groups, 2007-2008**

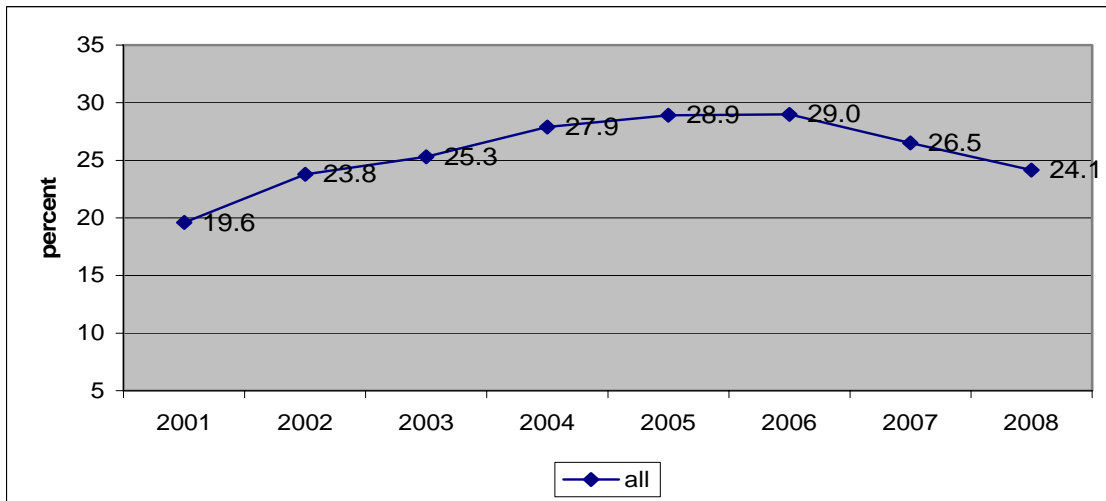


According to data, for both sexes, is low rate of employment for the age group 15-24 with only 11.8% for male and 3.9% for female, which in part can be traced back to continued education, but also may be due to difficulties of finding a first entry into the labour market. In the oldest age group (55-64), however, a wide gap opens between males and females. The main cause of this discrepancy may be the apparent tendency of women to go into earlier retirement.

In this Figure you can see employment rate of group-age above 65 which is 2.5% for male and 0.3% for female while corresponding figures for 2007 were about 4.2% for males and 0.5% for females.

The level of employment from year to year resulted in slight increase while in the last year has been decreased 2.4% (see Figure 7).

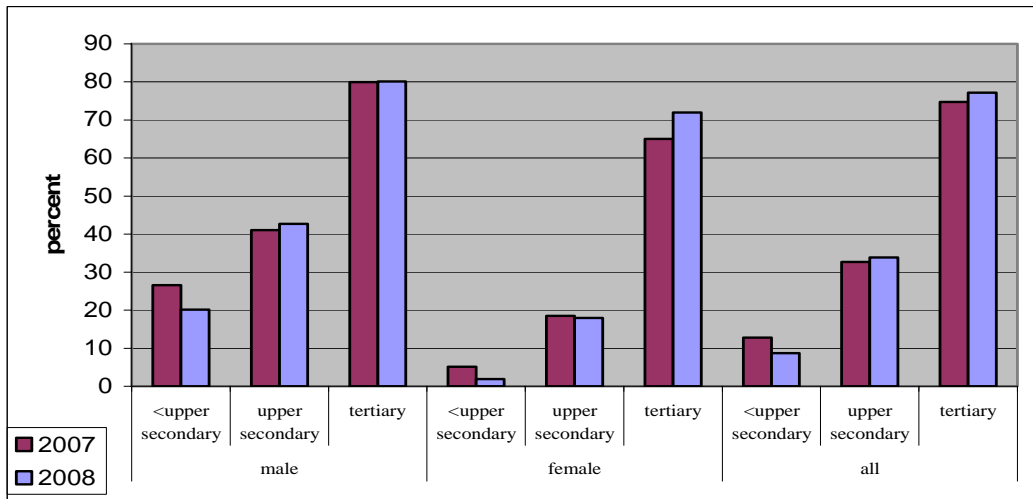
**Figure 7: Level of employment, 2001-2008**



## 5.2. Education

Also, there is a clear relationship between employment and education. The higher a person's level of education, the more likely it is that he/she is employed (see Figure 8).

**Figure 8: Employment rates by education and sex 2007-2008**



Even though, generally, lower than for males, these differences between education levels are even more apparent for females. In fact, on the tertiary level of education, females almost reach the same employment rate as males. In other words, the qualification factor plays an important role for females because they are bound to suffer more under respective deficits and profit more from high investments in human capital.

### 5.3. Economic activity

The distribution of employed persons by economic activity characterizes the structure of the economy and its changes over the time. This distribution can indicate the growth or diminished employment chances. The classification used for this purpose is the 1-digit NACE Rev.2 by grouping several smaller sectors at the beginning and the end of the scale (see textbox 1).

Text Box 1

Text Box 1

**Classification of economic activities**

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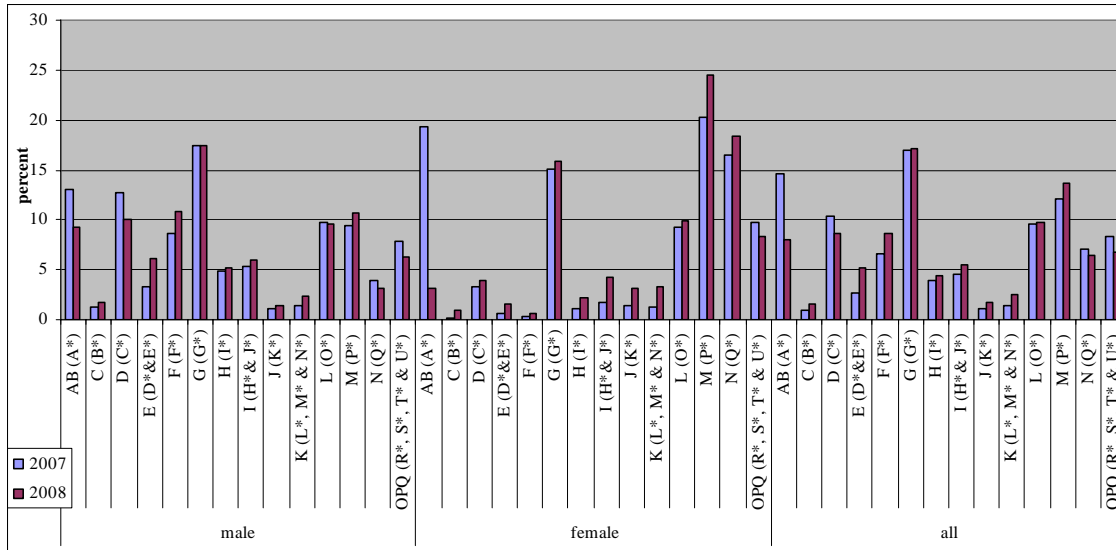
| NACE 1.1 | Description  | NACE Rev.2 | Description  |
|----------|--|------------|--|
| A        | <u>Agriculture</u> , hunting and forestry  | A          | Agriculture, forestry and fishing  |
| B        | Fishing  |            |  |
| C        | <u>Mining</u> and quarrying  | B          | Mining and quarrying   |
| D        | <u>Manufacturing</u>   | C          | <u>Manufacturing</u>   |
| E        | <u>Electricity</u> , gas and water supply  | D          | Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply  |
| F        | <u>Construction</u>  | E          | Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities  |
| G        | Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods             | F          | <u>Construction</u>  |
| H        | <u>Hotels</u> and restaurants  | G          | Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles   |
| I        | <u>Transport</u> , storage and communication   | I          | Accommodation and food service activities  |
| J        | <u>Financial</u> intermediation  | H          | Transportation and storage   |
| K        | Real estate, renting and <u>business</u> activities  | J          | Information and communication  |
| L        | <u>Public administration</u> and defence; compulsory social security   | K          | Financial and insurance activities   |
| M        | <u>Education</u>   | L          | Real estate activities   |
| N        | <u>Health</u> and social work  | M          | Professional, scientific and technical activities  |
| O        | <u>Other</u> community, social and personal service activities   | N          | Administrative and support service activities  |
| P        | Activities of private households as employers and undifferentiated production activities of private households | O          | Public administration and defence; compulsory social security  |
| Q        | Extraterritorial organisations and bodies  | P          | Education  |
|          |  | Q          | Human health and social work activities  |
|          |  | R          | Arts, entertainment and recreation   |
|          |  | S          | Other service activities   |
|          |  | T          | Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use |
|          |  | U          | Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies  |

Underlining: short form used in text

Underlining: short form used in text

In 2008, trade had become the most important branch of the Kosovo economy with an employment share of 17.1 %, followed by education (13.6%), administration (9.7%), production (8.7%) and construction (8.6%) (See Figure 9).

**Figure 9: Employment by economic activities and sex, 2007-2008**



The ranking of the most important sectors of female employment gives education with a share of above one quarter (24.4%), followed by health (18.4%), trade (15.9%), public administration and other branches (10.0% and 8.3%, respectfully).

The smallest sectors in Kosovo are finance & insurance, mining and business real estate services indicating that the territory still lags far behind in the development toward a modern service-oriented economy.

In comparison with the previous year, the agriculture sector has decrease about 7% in the overall employment rate because from 2008 persons who work on their own small agriculture farm, who do not sell their products, and produce only for their own consumption should not be considered as employed while some other sectors had increase but some decrease in the general scale of employment.

## 5.4. Occupation

The occupational structure of an economy reflects the human capital which its members obtained through professional specialization and sector-specific activities. The classification used for this purpose is the 1-digit ISCO except for code 0 = armed forces, which are not covered in the SOK LFS (see Textbox 2).

Text Box 2

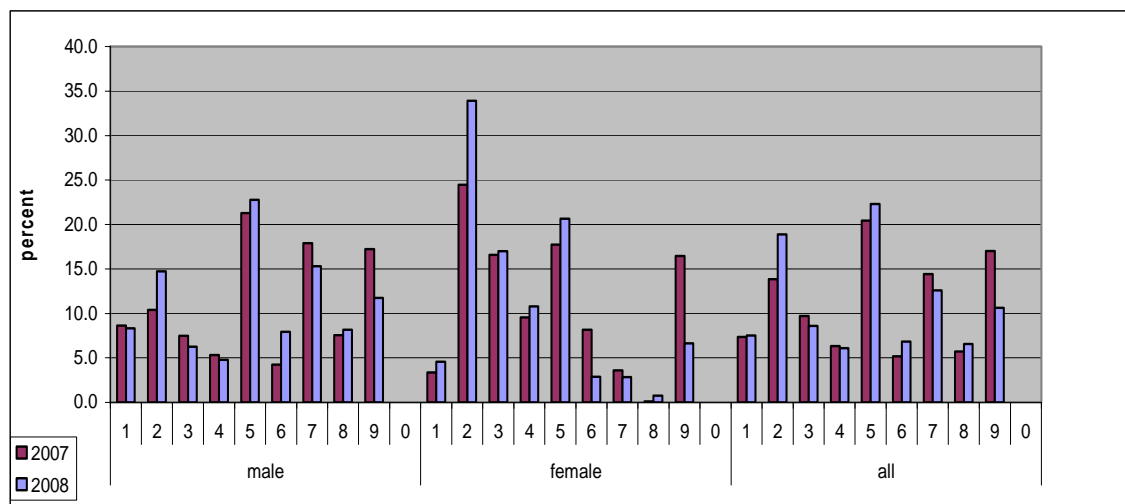
### Classification of occupations

| ISCO | Description   |
|------|---|
| 1    | Legislators, senior officials and <u>managers</u>               |
| 2    | <u>Professionals</u>  |
| 3    | <u>Technicians</u> and associate professionals                  |
| 4    | <u>Clerks</u>   |
| 5    | <u>Service workers</u> and shop and market <u>sales workers</u> |
| 6    | Skilled <u>agricultural</u> and fishery workers                 |
| 7    | <u>Craft and related trades</u> workers                         |
| 8    | Plant and <u>machine operators</u> and assemblers               |
| 9    | <u>Elementary occupations</u>                                   |
| 0    | <u>Armed forces</u>   |

Underlining: short form used in text

About one fifth (22.3%) of the employed in Kosovo works in services and sales (see Figure 10), approximately one fifth (18.9%) are professionals, about one eighth are and crafts or related trades and elementary occupations (respectively, 12.6% and 10.6%)

**Figure 10: Employment by occupational groups (1-0) and sex, 2007-2008**

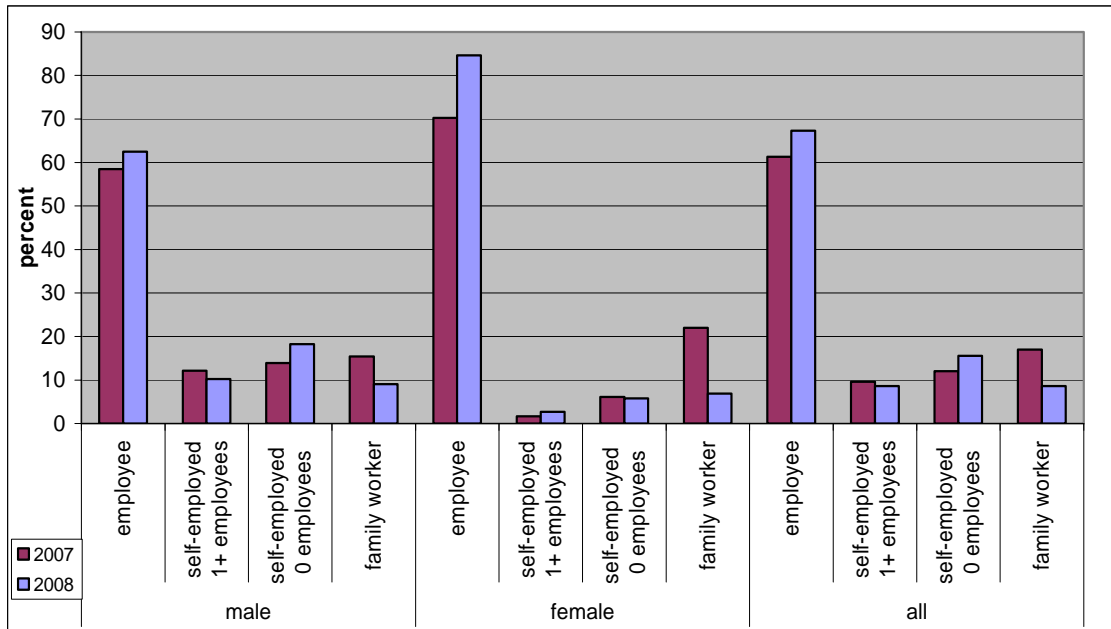


The differentiation by sex reveals about 87% of the females are found in service occupations with high (codes 1-3) or middle qualification (code 4-5). In these occupations, males are mostly represented more amongst managers (code 1) and service and sales. Conversely, almost half of the males are found in occupations linked to craft and industrial production (codes 7 and 8) and elementary activities (code 9).

### 5.5. Professional status

Generally, most employed persons have the status of employees. In 2008 these applied about 63% for males and above 85 % for females (see Figure 11).

**Figure 11: Employment by professional status and sex, 2007-2008**



The status of self-employed indicates that employment is based on one's own capital resources and carried on at one's own risk. High shares of self-employment thus can either be an expression of a dynamic development in the modern sector of an economy or simply an expression of a large agricultural sector consisting mainly of small family holdings. In Kosovo, the latter seems to be the case because only 8.6% of the employed persons classify themselves as employers (self-employed with one or more employees), while 15.5% report that they are own-account workers or free-lancers (here are all coded as self-employed without employees). In both cases, the share of self-employment is much higher among males than among females.

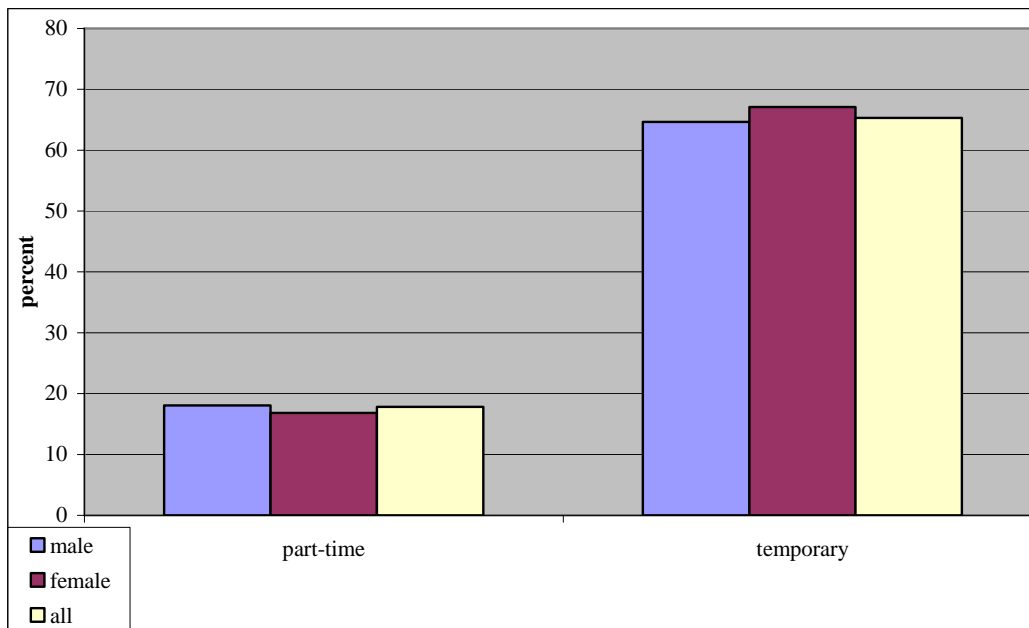


## 5.6. Conditions of employment

The extent of part-time work and temporary jobs can be indicators of particular employment situations, especially if combined with the distinction voluntary/involuntary. Thus, part-time employment may offer interested persons the choice between full-time or part-time activity, but it can also mean that not enough full-time jobs are available. Similarly, temporary jobs may be fitting for certain types of situations (training, season or vacation jobs, probationary periods), but they also can represent a precarious type of employment especially in post-war period in Kosovo where almost all employees have temporary contracts.

Comparison with LFS 2007, we had increase in LFS 2008 which were 1% of all employment in 2008 was carried on a part-time basis, with more 5% for males but we have decreased 11.4% for females. Also, we can see increase in temporary employment which was about 14% (See Figure. 12.).

**Figure 12: Shares of part-time work and temporary contracts (of employees) by sex, 2008**

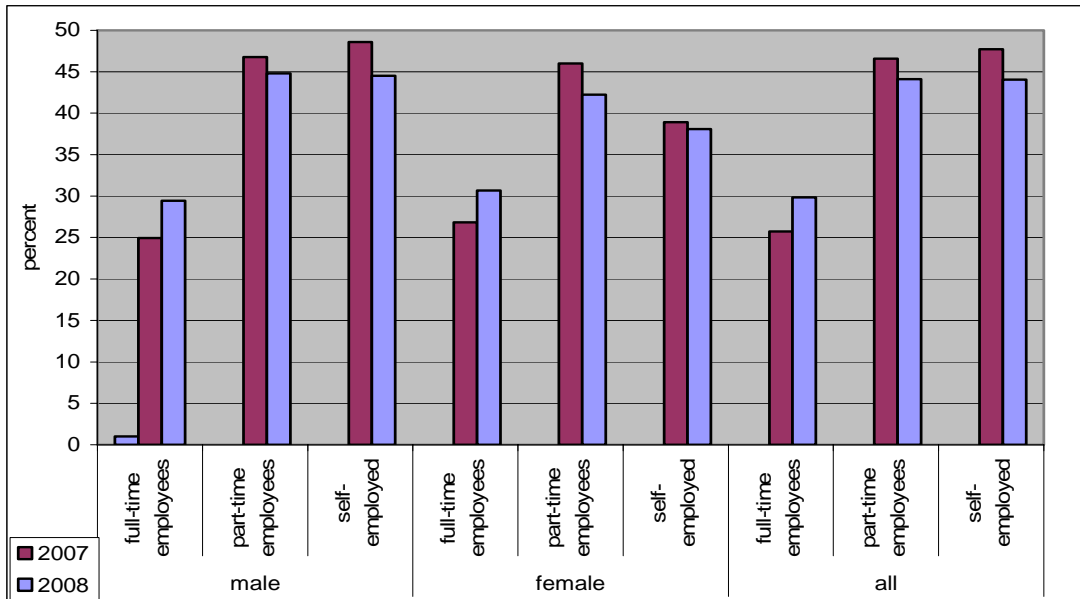


## 5.7. Usual working hours

The respective figures actually represent the average of employees who usually work 40 hours or more versus employees who usually work less than 40 hours.

Full-time employees in 2008 were found to work an average of 44.1 hours per week, part-time employees 29.9 hours; there had been decrease with 2.5% in the full-time employees comparison with previous year – in the first case, males case working 3 hour more than females, but part-time employees were found increase with 4.1% (see Figure 13).

Figure 13: Average number of usual working hours per week by professional status and sex, 2007-2008



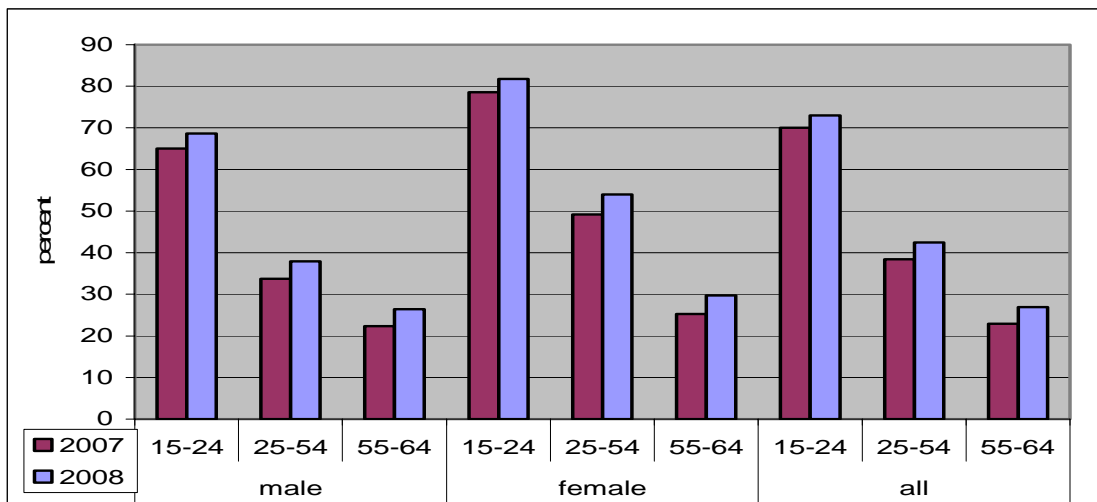
## 6 Unemployment

Similar to the analysis of employment, this section will discuss the situation of the unemployed situation in Kosovo for the year 2008 and possible developments since the preceding year (2007) in bigger details by looking at some of the same characteristics as well as at some factors and conditions specific to unemployment.

### 6.1. Age groups

The differentiation of the unemployment rate by age groups indicates that the highest incidence of unemployment occurs among young people, where more than two thirds of the males and 8 of 10 females in the labour force are without a job (see Figure 14).

**Figure 14: Unemployment rates by sex and age groups, 2007-2008**

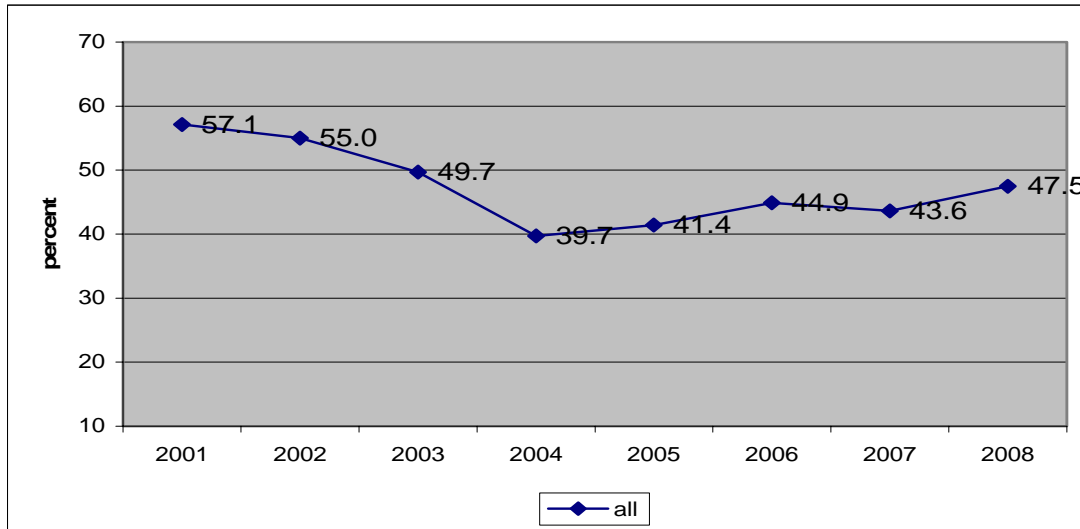


This does not mean, however, that most of the young people are unemployed. Since part of this age group still is in education and others are not looking for a job (for example, many females who got married), actually, less than one third of the young people are unemployed. The specific difficulties of young people at the start of their working life have made youth unemployment an important labour market indicator and given rise to many analyses subsumed under this issue.

The unemployment consistently decreases with age, though it still in values of to 37.9% of male and 54.0% for female labour force in the central age group. And the low unemployment rate in the highest working age group, together with the smallest difference between males and females (26.4 vs. 29.7), should not be taken as an indication that this group enjoys the most favorable labour market position. A main reason for the lowest unemployment here is that many persons of this age go into early retirement or simply do not look for a new job after becoming unemployed because they think that no job is available.

In year 2001 and 2002 subsistence farming and production for own-consumption were not counted as employment, while in 2003 were engaged in these activities if they worked for 15 hours or more during the reference week. From year 2004 until 2007 persons working in their own small agricultural farms but produce only for their own consumption are considered as employed but this is not considered for year 2008 (see Figure 15).

**Figure 15: Level of unemployment, 2001-2008**

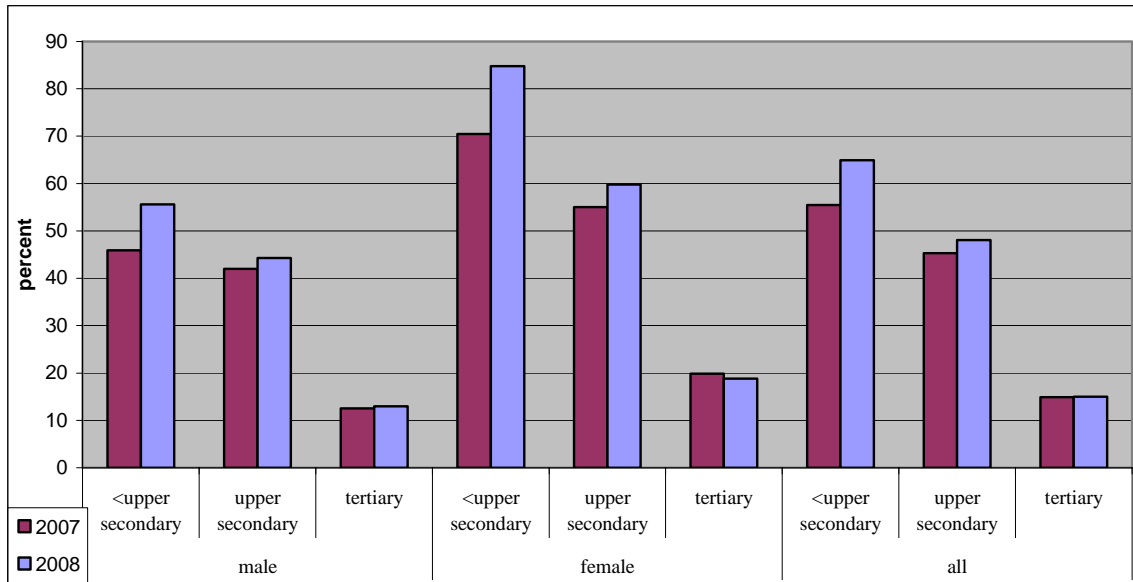


Rate of unemployed comparison with previous year it is increased with 3.9%, but this increase are also for reasons: until year 2007 persons working in their own small agricultural farms but produce only for their own consumption are considered as employed but while from year 2008 these persons considered unemployment; the LFS 2007 were conducted from the mid until the end of September while LFS 2008 were conducted the beginning of October until mid of October. The later in a year the interview period is, the greater the chance is that the economic activities in some sectors (such as agriculture, construction or tourism) have reached a reduced level or even come to a complete halt.

## 6.2. Education

Complementary to employment, the unemployment rate correlates negatively with the level of education. With a rate of 65% the persons with the lowest qualification are most likely to become or remain unemployed, and these rate decreases to over 48% on the middle level (secondary education), while persons with college or university education exhibit an unemployment rate of 15% (see Figure 16).

**Figure 16: Unemployment rates by sex and education, 2007-2008**



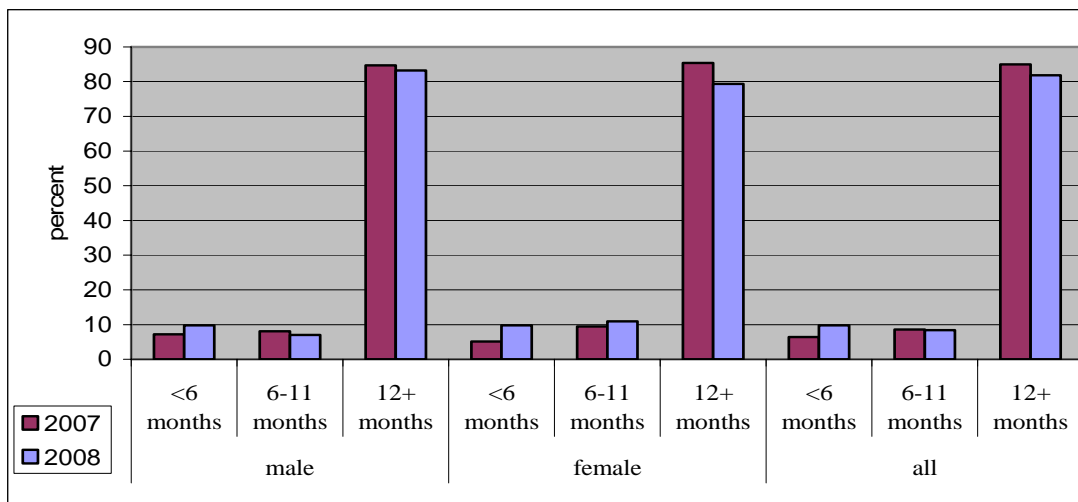
Again like in employment, females are in a negative position than males at all levels of education, but the differences decrease the higher the qualification gets.

### 6.3. Duration

While the lack or loss of a job already may be a negative experience, the situation can get even worse if all attempts of finding a job continue to be unsuccessful. In labour market statistics, this aspect is documented by the duration of unemployment. By definition, this is the time since a person lost his last job or started to look for work, whichever of these periods is shorter.

According to the 2008 SOK LFS, 6 out of 7 unemployed persons in Kosovo have been without a job for more than a year, same for males or females (see Figure 17).

**Figure 17: Duration of unemployment by sex, 2007-2008**



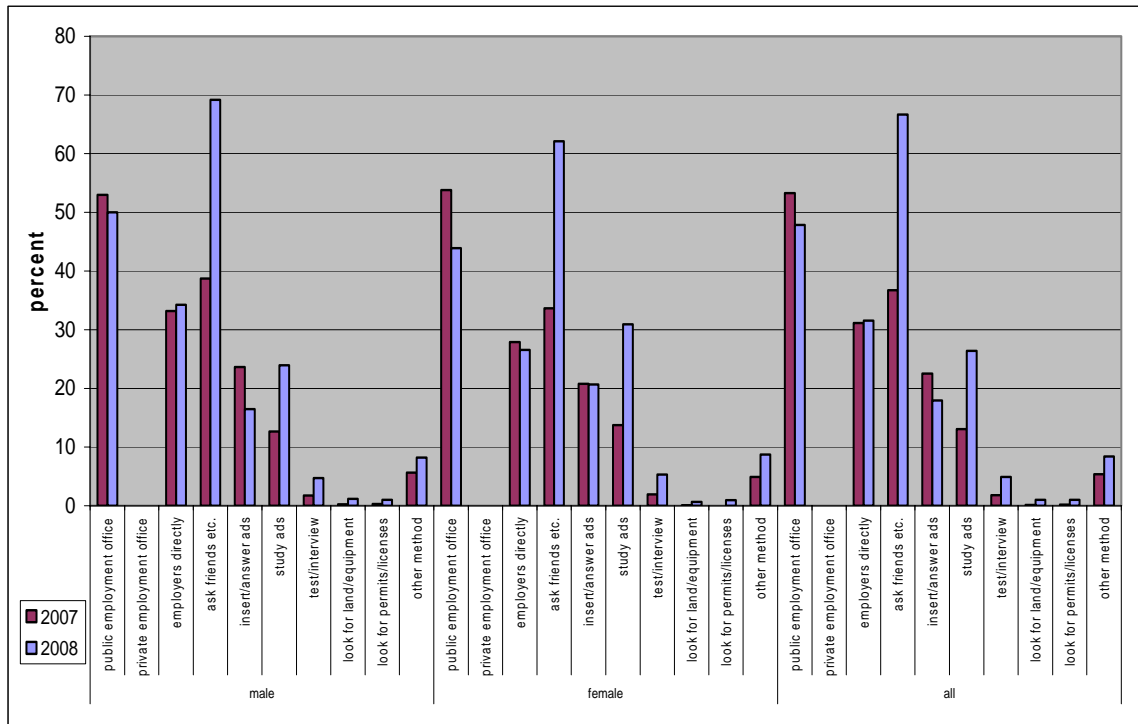
This is a very high incidence of long-term unemployment which is defined by the duration of one year or more. Furthermore, since this indicator refers to the current rather than the completed duration of unemployment (the latter being defined as the time until work is actually found), the persons reporting durations under 6 or between 6 and 11 months may also end up in the long-term category in due time. In other words, the chances of finding a job in Kosovo at present looks very bleak.

This situation seems not to be improved since 2004. In comparison with the previous year (2007), this year there was an increase with 3.4% in the first group; in the second group; there was an decrease with 0.2%, and in the third group, in the duration of the unemployment for one year or more, there was an decrease with 3.2%, showing that in Kosovo is very hard to find a working place for those remaining without a job and for those seeking employment.

### 6.4. Methods of search

Unemployed persons can use various methods in their search for work. Most of them will register with the public employment service (employment office), even though, partially, this is done to receive unemployment or other social benefits. In 2008, 50% of the unemployed males and about 44% of the unemployed females in Kosovo has contacted these offices (see Figure 18).

**Figure 18: Unemployed by methods of job search and sex, 2007-2008**

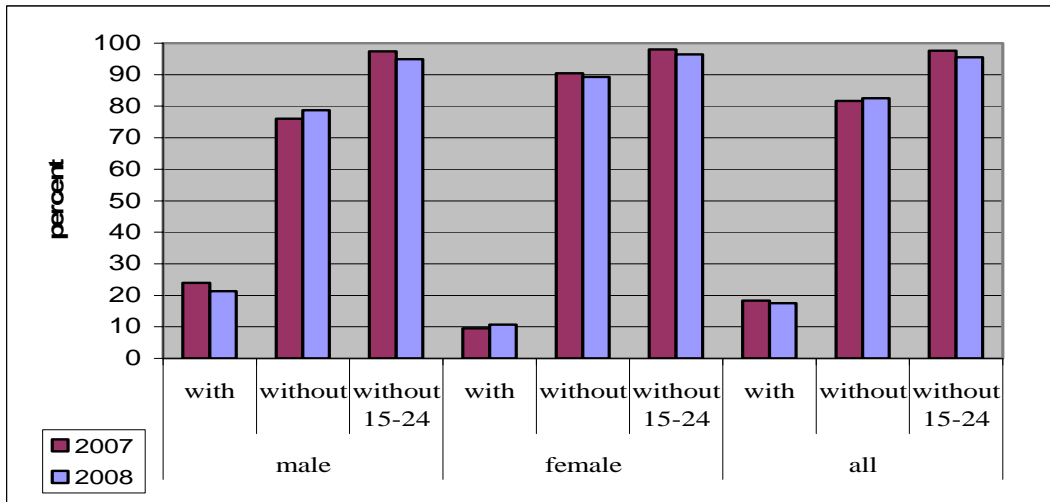


As can be noted from this figure, in the public employment offices alone (employment offices) and to the insert/answer advertisement there was a decrease in the searching methods while in all other searching method there is an increase compared with the previous year 2007.

## 6.5. Previous work experience

By asking unemployed persons if they worked before or not, allows one to distinguish between those who lost or gave up a job and now are trying to re-enter working life, with the ones who never held a job and face the difficulties of initial entry. According to the 2008 SOK LFS, most of the unemployed never worked before, approximately 79% of the males and more than 89% of the females (see Figure 19).

**Figure 19: Previous work experience of unemployed by sex and age, 2007-2008**



This problem is even more pronounced with regard to youth unemployment, because in the age-group of 15-24 almost everyone is looking to find a first job.

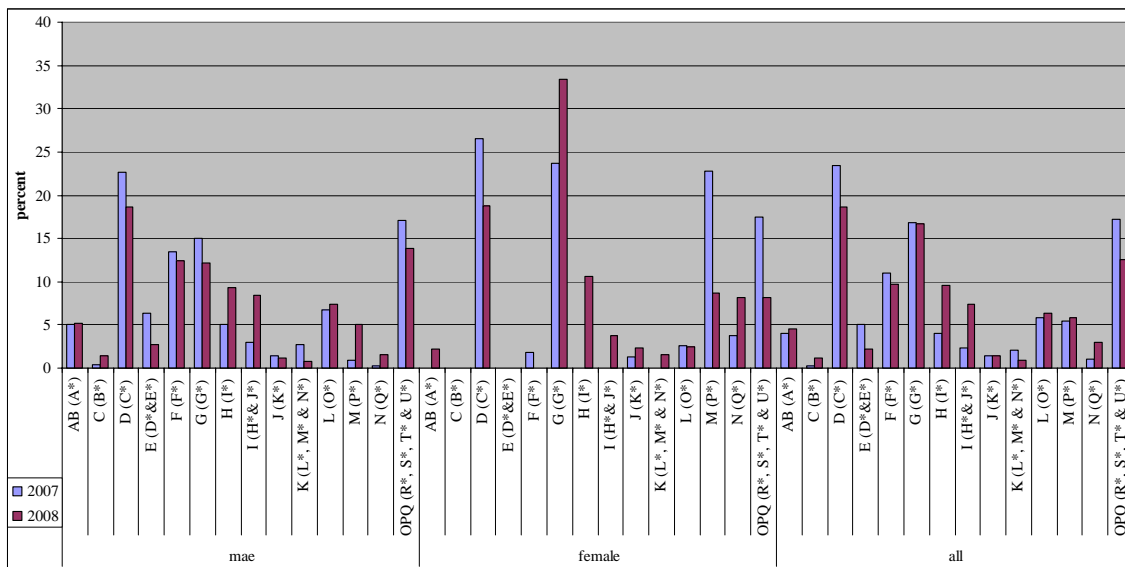


## 6.6. Economic activity

The distribution of the unemployed by economic activity of their last job can give a indication about the relative degree to which the individual sectors of an economy contribute to the unemployment situation. Unfortunately, the reliability of these figures for Kosovo is somewhat limited due to the low proportion of the unemployed with previous work experience, particularly of females.

In the 2008 SOK LFS, the greatest share of the unemployed (18.7%) reported that their last job had been in manufacturing, with females being far more affected than males (see Figure 20).

**Figure 20: Unemployed by economic activity of last job and sex, 2007-2008**



Other biggest sectors were: trade with 16.8% followed by others with 12.6%, where females compound biggest part of unemployment; and construction with 9.7% where the unemployment mainly tackled males. The considerable number of unemployed females (10.6% and 8.7%) was also working for their last time in hotels and education.

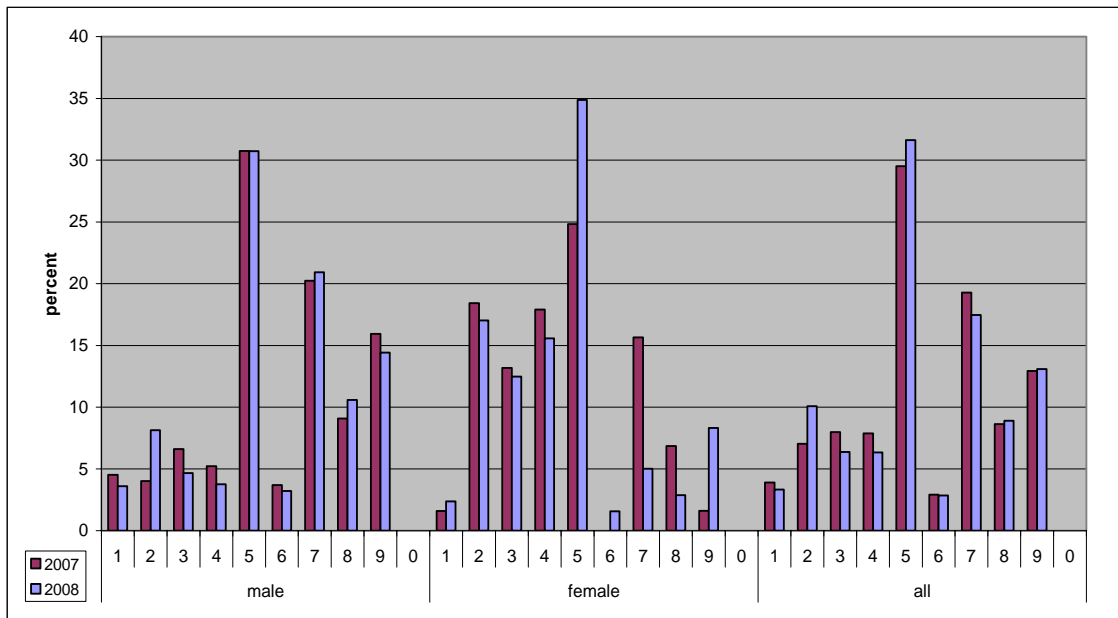
However, comparison with 2007 shows a similar reflection. That year, majority of unemployed persons reported that they worked in production for the last time (23.4%), and then came other (17.2%), trade (16.8%) and construction (11.0%). Also this year, it was reported that their last working place were the same activities (18.7%, 12.6%, 16.8% and 9.7%).

## 6.7. Occupation

The distribution of the unemployed by the occupation which they exercised in their last job can give an indication as to the demand for certain qualifications in economy. However, the reservations expressed with regard to the SOK LFS data made in the preceding section on economic activity apply here too.

In 2008, more than 30% of the unemployed with previous work experience reported to have worked as service or sales workers (31.6%), in crafts or related trades (17.5%), in elementary occupations (13.1%), and in professionals (10.1%) (see Figure 21).

**Figure 21: Unemployed by occupational group in last job and sex, 2007-2008**



While the loose of job by the last occupation has tackled males especially in the service-employment or sales-employment (30.7%), then craft or related trade (20.9%), continuing with elementary occupations and machine operators (14.4 and 10.6%); females were tackled as service-employment or sales-employment, professionals, clerks and technicians (34.9%, 17.0%, 15.6% and 12.5%).

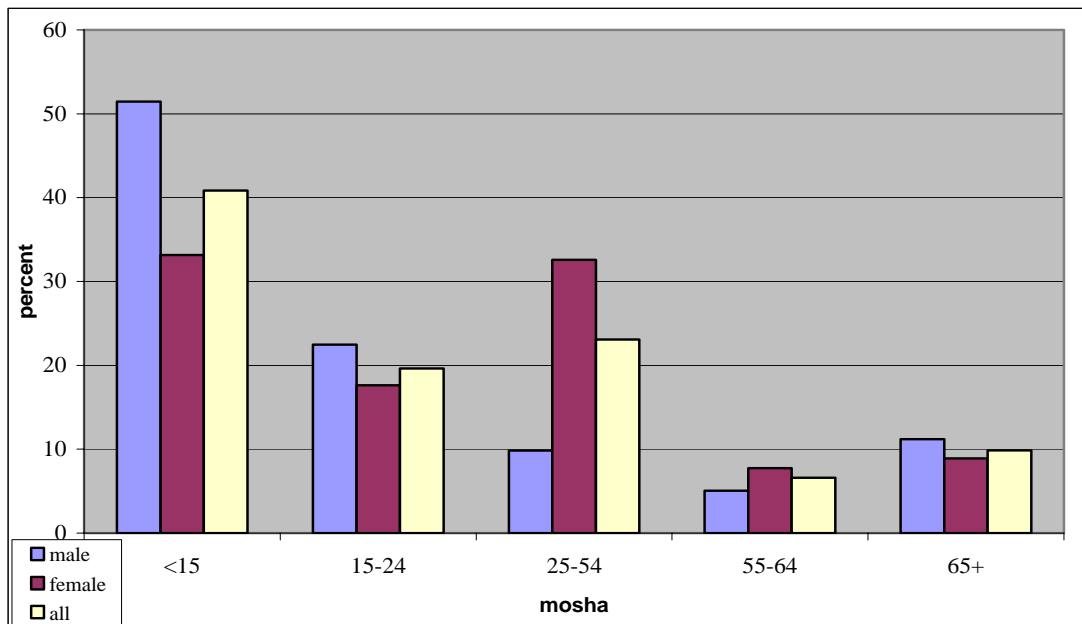
## 7 Inactive persons

The residual category of the labour force classification, the inactive population, will be portrayed only from two aspects: age and education. Discussions about the causes or conditions of inactivity will be discussed in separate analyses.

### 7.1. Age groups

As expected, on the basis of the population age distribution and the lower working age limit, children under 15 constitute the largest group among the inactive with almost 41%, followed by the central working age group with above 23% and the age group 15-24 with around 20% (see Figure 22).

**Figure 22: Inactive population by sex and age groups, 2008**



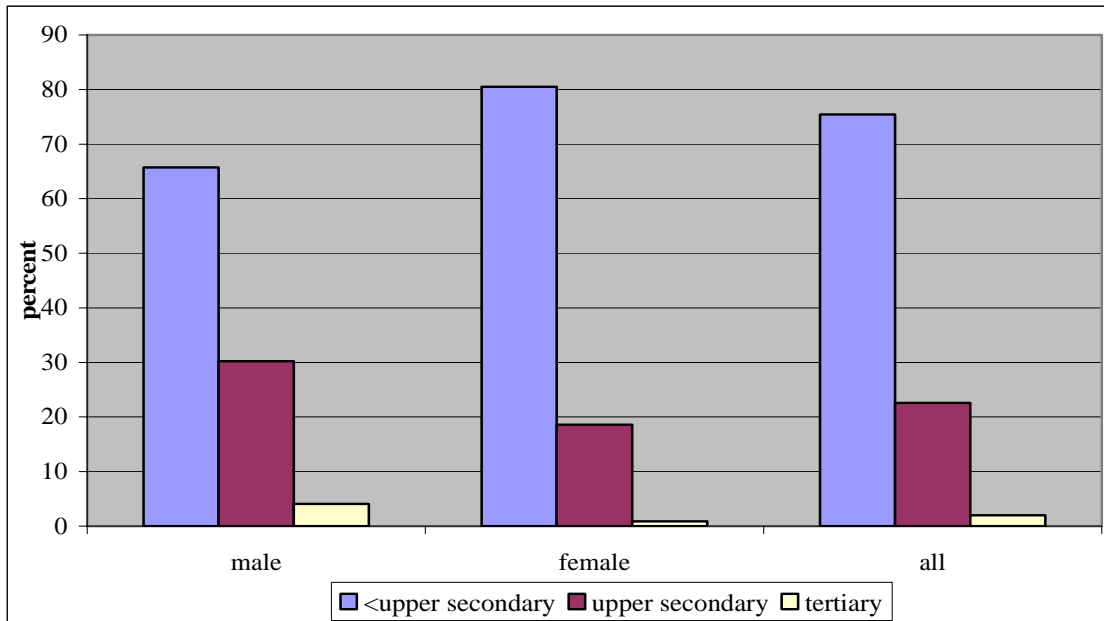
Due to their small size in the overall population, the groups just below and above the upper working age limit, reach only small shares even though they are predominantly or completely (by definition) inactive.

The age distributions of inactive males and females differ greatly. However, reflecting two diametrically opposed facts: the relatively high employment rates of males and the relatively low employment rates of females in the central working age group, leading to inactivity shares of 9.8% and 32.6%, respectively. More specifically, the latter value lowers the shares of inactive females in all other age groups although they surpass men in absolute numbers in all age groups except that of children.

## 7.2. Education

As expected, this time, on the basis of specific-employment by education and unemployment rates, the inactive population is characterized with lower education levels than the population as a whole. Two thirds of the inactive males over 15 and five sixths of their female counterparts have less than upper secondary education, while at the other end of the scale only 4.1% of the inactive males and 0.9% of their female counterparts have completed high education or university (see Figure 23).

**Figure 23: Inactive population (15+) by education and sex, 2008**



Also among the inactive population of Kosovo, males have a better education than females.

## Annex 1: Standard tabulation programme 2007-2008

| GROUP                         | Unit | 2007  |        |       | 2008  |        |       |
|-------------------------------|------|-------|--------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
|                               |      | male  | female | all   | male  | female | all   |
| <b>POPULATION</b>             |      |       |        |       |       |        |       |
| total*                        | %    | 50.4  | 49.6   | 100.0 | 50.7  | 49.3   | 100.0 |
| aged 15-64*                   | %    | 62.4  | 64.9   | 63.7  | 63.4  | 65.0   | 64.2  |
| <b>by age</b>                 |      |       |        |       |       |        |       |
| <15                           | %    | 30.8  | 28.3   | 29.6  | 29.9  | 27.5   | 28.7  |
| 15-24                         | %    | 19.3  | 18.9   | 19.1  | 20.9  | 18.6   | 19.8  |
| 25-54                         | %    | 36.5  | 38.6   | 37.5  | 35.8  | 39.3   | 37.5  |
| 55-64                         | %    | 6.7   | 7.4    | 7.0   | 6.7   | 7.1    | 6.9   |
| 65+                           | %    | 6.8   | 6.7    | 6.8   | 6.7   | 7.4    | 7.1   |
| 15-64                         | %    | 62.4  | 64.9   | 63.7  | 63.4  | 65.0   | 64.2  |
| <b>by education (15+)</b>     |      |       |        |       |       |        |       |
| <upper secondary              | %    | 40.2  | 66.6   | 53.6  | 42.3  | 69.1   | 55.8  |
| upper secondary               | %    | 48.9  | 28.0   | 38.4  | 47.2  | 25.5   | 36.3  |
| tertiary                      | %    | 10.8  | 5.3    | 8.1   | 10.5  | 5.3    | 7.9   |
| <b>by employment status</b>   |      |       |        |       |       |        |       |
| employed* (15-64)             | %    | 40.6  | 12.7   | 26.5  | 38.0  | 10.6   | 24.3  |
| unemployed* (15-64)           | %    | 25.2  | 15.7   | 20.4  | 28.1  | 15.6   | 21.9  |
| labour force* (15-64)         | %    | 65.7  | 28.4   | 46.8  | 66.2  | 26.1   | 46.2  |
| inactive*                     | %    | 59.0  | 81.6   | 70.2  | 58.1  | 83.0   | 70.4  |
| <b>dependency rates</b>       |      |       |        |       |       |        |       |
| youth*                        | rate | 49.3  | 43.6   | 46.4  | 47.2  | 42.3   | 44.7  |
| old age*                      | rate | 10.9  | 10.4   | 10.6  | 10.6  | 11.4   | 11.0  |
| effective*                    | rate | 173.4 | 767.0  | 317.8 | 191.0 | 955.6  | 356.9 |
| <b>activity rates (15-64)</b> |      |       |        |       |       |        |       |
| employment*                   | rate | 40.1  | 12.7   | 26.2  | 37.7  | 10.5   | 24.1  |
| unemployment*                 | rate | 38.5  | 55.2   | 43.6  | 42.7  | 59.6   | 47.5  |
| activity*                     | rate | 65.2  | 28.3   | 46.5  | 65.8  | 26.1   | 46.0  |

| GROUP<br>Classification               | Unit           | 2007 |        |      | 2008 |        |      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|------|--------|------|------|--------|------|
|                                       |                | male | female | all  | male | female | all  |
| <b>EMPLOYED</b>                       |                |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| <b>by age</b>                         |                |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| 15-24*                                | rate           | 13.6 | 5.1    | 9.4  | 11.8 | 3.9    | 8.1  |
| 25-54                                 | rate           | 53.7 | 17.2   | 35.1 | 52.2 | 14.3   | 32.6 |
| 55-64                                 | rate           | 42.4 | 8.4    | 24.6 | 41.4 | 6.7    | 23.8 |
| 65+                                   | rate           | 4.2  | 0.5    | 2.4  | 2.5  | 0.3    | 1.4  |
| 15-64*                                | rate           | 36.2 | 11.5   | 23.7 | 34.1 | 9.4    | 21.8 |
| <b>by education (15-64)</b>           |                |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| <upper secondary*                     | rate           | 26.6 | 5.1    | 12.8 | 20.1 | 1.9    | 8.7  |
| upper secondary*                      | rate           | 41.1 | 18.5   | 32.7 | 42.7 | 18.0   | 33.8 |
| tertiary*                             | rate           | 79.9 | 65.0   | 74.7 | 80.1 | 71.9   | 77.2 |
| <b>by economic activity (15-64)</b>   |                |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| agriculture                           | %              | 13.1 | 19.3   | 14.6 | 9.3  | 3.2    | 8.0  |
| mining                                | %              | 1.2  | 0.2    | 1.0  | 1.7  | 0.9    | 1.5  |
| manufacturing                         | %              | 12.7 | 3.3    | 10.4 | 10.1 | 3.9    | 8.7  |
| electricity                           | %              | 3.3  | 0.7    | 2.7  | 6.2  | 1.6    | 5.2  |
| construction                          | %              | 8.7  | 0.3    | 6.6  | 10.8 | 0.6    | 8.6  |
| trade                                 | %              | 17.5 | 15.1   | 16.9 | 17.4 | 15.9   | 17.1 |
| hotels                                | %              | 4.9  | 1.0    | 3.9  | 5.1  | 2.1    | 4.5  |
| transport                             | %              | 5.4  | 1.8    | 4.5  | 5.9  | 4.3    | 5.6  |
| finance                               | %              | 1.0  | 1.5    | 1.1  | 1.4  | 3.1    | 1.8  |
| business                              | %              | 1.4  | 1.2    | 1.4  | 2.4  | 3.3    | 2.6  |
| public administration                 | %              | 9.7  | 9.2    | 9.6  | 9.6  | 10.0   | 9.7  |
| education                             | %              | 9.4  | 20.2   | 12.1 | 10.6 | 24.4   | 13.6 |
| health                                | %              | 3.9  | 16.5   | 7.0  | 3.2  | 18.4   | 6.5  |
| other                                 | %              | 7.8  | 9.7    | 8.3  | 6.2  | 8.3    | 6.7  |
| <b>by occupation (15-64)</b>          |                |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| managers                              | %              | 8.6  | 3.4    | 7.3  | 8.3  | 4.6    | 7.5  |
| professionals                         | %              | 10.4 | 24.5   | 13.8 | 14.7 | 33.9   | 18.9 |
| technicians                           | %              | 7.5  | 16.6   | 9.7  | 6.3  | 17.0   | 8.6  |
| clerks                                | %              | 5.3  | 9.6    | 6.3  | 4.8  | 10.8   | 6.1  |
| service and sales                     | %              | 21.3 | 17.7   | 20.4 | 22.8 | 20.6   | 22.3 |
| agriculture                           | %              | 4.2  | 8.2    | 5.2  | 7.9  | 2.9    | 6.8  |
| craft and related trades              | %              | 17.9 | 3.6    | 14.4 | 15.3 | 2.9    | 12.6 |
| machine operators                     | %              | 7.5  | 0.1    | 5.7  | 8.2  | 0.7    | 6.6  |
| elementary occupations                | %              | 17.2 | 16.5   | 17.0 | 11.8 | 6.6    | 10.6 |
| armed forces                          | %              | 0.0  | 0.0    | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0    | 0.0  |
| <b>by professional status (15-64)</b> |                |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| employee                              | %              | 58.5 | 70.2   | 61.3 | 62.5 | 84.6   | 67.3 |
| self-employed 1+ empl.*               | %              | 12.2 | 1.7    | 9.6  | 10.2 | 2.7    | 8.6  |
| self-employed 0 empl.*                | %              | 13.9 | 6.1    | 12.0 | 18.2 | 5.8    | 15.5 |
| family worker                         | %              | 15.4 | 22.0   | 17.0 | 9.1  | 6.9    | 8.6  |
| <b>by conditions (15-64)</b>          |                |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| part-time*                            | %              | 13.0 | 28.2   | 16.8 | 18.1 | 16.8   | 17.8 |
| temporary*                            | % of employees | 49.9 | 55.5   | 51.5 | 64.6 | 67.1   | 65.3 |
| <b>by usual working hours (15-64)</b> |                |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| full-time employees*                  | average        | 46.8 | 46.0   | 46.6 | 44.8 | 42.2   | 44.1 |
| part-time employees*                  | average        | 24.9 | 26.8   | 25.8 | 29.5 | 30.7   | 29.9 |
| self-employed*                        | average        | 48.6 | 38.9   | 47.7 | 44.5 | 38.1   | 44.0 |

Labour Market Statistics 2008

| GROUP<br>Classification                | Unit       | 2007 |        |      | 2008 |        |      |
|--|------------|------|--------|------|------|--------|------|
|  |            | male | female | all  | male | female | all  |
| <b>UNEMPLOYED</b>                      |            |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| <b>by age</b>                          |            |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| 15-24*                                 | rate       | 65.0 | 78.6   | 70.0 | 68.6 | 81.8   | 73.0 |
| 25-54                                  | rate       | 33.7 | 49.2   | 38.4 | 37.9 | 54.0   | 42.5 |
| 55-64                                  | rate       | 22.4 | 25.3   | 22.9 | 26.4 | 29.7   | 26.9 |
| 15-64*                                 | rate       | 38.5 | 55.2   | 43.6 | 42.7 | 59.6   | 47.5 |
| <b>by education</b>                    |            |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| <upper secondary*                      | rate       | 45.9 | 70.5   | 55.4 | 55.6 | 84.8   | 65.0 |
| upper secondary*                       | rate       | 42.0 | 55.0   | 45.3 | 44.2 | 59.8   | 48.1 |
| tertiary*                              | rate       | 12.5 | 19.8   | 14.9 | 13.0 | 18.8   | 15.0 |
| <b>by duration</b>                     |            |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| <6 months                              | %          | 7.2  | 5.1    | 6.4  | 9.8  | 9.8    | 9.8  |
| 6-11 months                            | %          | 8.1  | 9.4    | 8.6  | 7.0  | 10.9   | 8.4  |
| 12+ months*                            | %          | 84.8 | 85.4   | 85.0 | 83.2 | 79.3   | 81.8 |
| <b>by methods of search</b>            |            |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| public employment office               | %          | 53.0 | 53.8   | 53.3 | 50.0 | 43.9   | 47.8 |
| private employment office              | %          | -    | -      | -    | -    | -      | -    |
| employers directly                     | %          | 33.2 | 27.9   | 31.1 | 34.3 | 26.6   | 31.5 |
| ask friends etc.                       | %          | 38.7 | 33.6   | 36.7 | 69.2 | 62.1   | 66.7 |
| insert/answer ads                      | %          | 23.7 | 20.8   | 22.5 | 16.4 | 20.7   | 17.9 |
| study ads                              | %          | 12.7 | 13.7   | 13.1 | 24.0 | 30.9   | 26.4 |
| test/interview                         | %          | 1.7  | 2.0    | 1.8  | 4.7  | 5.4    | 4.9  |
| look for land/equipment                | %          | 0.2  | 0.0    | 0.2  | 1.2  | 0.7    | 1.0  |
| look for permits/licenses              | %          | 0.3  | 0.0    | 0.2  | 1.0  | 1.0    | 1.0  |
| other method                           | %          | 5.6  | 4.9    | 5.4  | 8.2  | 8.7    | 8.4  |
| <b>by previous work experience</b>     |            |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| with                                   | %          | 24.0 | 9.5    | 18.3 | 21.3 | 10.7   | 17.5 |
| without*                               | %          | 76.0 | 90.5   | 81.7 | 78.7 | 89.3   | 82.5 |
| without 15-24*                         | % of 15-24 | 97.4 | 98.0   | 97.6 | 94.9 | 96.5   | 95.5 |
| <b>by economic activity (last job)</b> |            |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| agriculture                            | %          | 5.0  | 0.0    | 4.0  | 5.2  | 2.2    | 4.5  |
| mining                                 | %          | 0.4  | 0.0    | 0.3  | 1.4  | 0.0    | 1.1  |
| manufacturing                          | %          | 22.6 | 26.5   | 23.4 | 18.6 | 18.8   | 18.7 |
| electricity                            | %          | 6.3  | 0.0    | 5.0  | 2.8  | 0.0    | 2.2  |
| construction                           | %          | 13.5 | 1.8    | 11.0 | 12.4 | 0.0    | 9.7  |
| trade                                  | %          | 15.0 | 23.7   | 16.8 | 12.1 | 33.4   | 16.8 |
| hotels                                 | %          | 5.1  | 0.0    | 4.0  | 9.3  | 10.6   | 9.6  |
| transport                              | %          | 3.0  | 0.0    | 2.4  | 8.4  | 3.7    | 7.4  |
| finance                                | %          | 1.5  | 1.3    | 1.4  | 1.2  | 2.4    | 1.4  |
| business                               | %          | 2.7  | 0.0    | 2.1  | 0.8  | 1.6    | 1.0  |
| public administration                  | %          | 6.7  | 2.6    | 5.8  | 7.4  | 2.4    | 6.3  |
| education                              | %          | 0.9  | 22.8   | 5.5  | 5.1  | 8.7    | 5.9  |
| health                                 | %          | 0.3  | 3.7    | 1.0  | 1.5  | 8.2    | 3.0  |
| other                                  | %          | 17.1 | 17.5   | 17.2 | 13.8 | 8.1    | 12.6 |
| <b>by occupation (last job)</b>        |            |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| managers                               | %          | 4.5  | 1.6    | 3.9  | 3.6  | 2.4    | 3.3  |
| professionals                          | %          | 4.0  | 18.4   | 7.0  | 8.1  | 17.0   | 10.1 |
| technicians                            | %          | 6.6  | 13.2   | 8.0  | 4.7  | 12.5   | 6.4  |
| clerks                                 | %          | 5.2  | 17.9   | 7.9  | 3.7  | 15.6   | 6.3  |
| service and sales                      | %          | 30.7 | 24.8   | 29.5 | 30.7 | 34.9   | 31.6 |
| agriculture                            | %          | 3.7  | 0.0    | 2.9  | 3.2  | 1.6    | 2.9  |
| craft and related trades               | %          | 20.2 | 15.6   | 19.3 | 20.9 | 5.0    | 17.5 |
| machine operators                      | %          | 9.1  | 6.8    | 8.6  | 10.6 | 2.9    | 8.9  |
| elementary occupations                 | %          | 15.9 | 1.6    | 12.9 | 14.4 | 8.3    | 13.1 |
| armed forces                           | %          | 0.0  | 0.0    | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0    | 0.0  |

| GROUP<br>Classification   | Unit | 2007 |        |      | 2008 |        |      |
|---------------------------|------|------|--------|------|------|--------|------|
|                           |      | male | female | all  | male | female | all  |
| <b>INACTIVE</b>           |      |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| <b>by age</b>             |      |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| <15                       | %    | 52.2 | 34.7   | 42.1 | 51.5 | 33.2   | 40.8 |
| 15-24                     | %    | 20.0 | 17.7   | 18.7 | 22.5 | 17.6   | 19.6 |
| 25-54                     | %    | 11.7 | 31.3   | 23.0 | 9.8  | 32.6   | 23.1 |
| 55-64                     | %    | 5.1  | 8.1    | 6.8  | 5.0  | 7.7    | 6.6  |
| 65+                       | %    | 11.0 | 8.2    | 9.4  | 11.2 | 8.9    | 9.9  |
| 15-64                     | %    | 36.8 | 57.1   | 48.5 | 37.3 | 57.9   | 49.3 |
| <b>by education (15+)</b> |      |      |        |      |      |        |      |
| <upper secondary          | %    | 58.8 | 76.2   | 70.1 | 65.7 | 80.5   | 75.5 |
| upper secondary           | %    | 37.1 | 22.3   | 27.5 | 30.2 | 18.6   | 22.5 |
| tertiary                  | %    | 4.1  | 1.5    | 2.4  | 4.1  | 0.9    | 2.0  |

\* employment/unemployment indicators



## **Annex 2: Tabulation variables, SOK LFS 2008**

### **SURVEY SECTION**

Item/Question No.: Variable

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#### **SURVEY DATA**

Region  
Urban/rural  
A1. Municipality

#### **HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE**

Q3 Relation to head of HH  
Q7 Sex  
Q11 Marital status  
Q12 Ethnicity  
Derived variable: age  
Q16 Residency  
Q94 Education

#### **INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONNAIRE**

##### **Work activity in the reference week**

Derived variable: employment status

##### **Characteristics of main job**

Q30 Professional status  
Q32 Limited duration  
Q33 Reason limited duration  
Q34 Duration  
Q40 Economic activity  
Q41 No. of employed  
Q42 Occupation

##### **Working time**

Q39 Start current job  
Q46 Usual hours  
Q47 Actual hours 1) main job  
Q52 Reason actual hours less than usual hours

##### **Characteristics of additional job**

Q55 Additional job  
Q56 Economic activity  
Q57 Professional status

##### **Persons without work**

Q68 Ever worked before  
Q69 Date of stopping  
Q70 Reason for stopping work  
Q71 Economic activity last job  
Q72 Professional status last job  
Q73 Occupation last job  
Q75 Looking for a job  
Q76 Reason for not looking for work  
Q79 Duration without work or looking for a job  
Q80 Kind of work wanted  
Q82 Methods of job search  
Q84 Availability  
Q85 Reasons of non-availability  
Derived variable: duration of unemployment



## Statistical Office of Kosovo, a brief description

**The Statistical Office of Kosovo (SOK)** is a professional office operating since 1948. The SOK passed through some of the historic phases and was structured by the state rule of that time. SOK restarted its work on August 2, 1999, as an independent and professional office working in the frames of the Ministry of Public Administration (MPA). SOK is financed by the Kosovo Consolidated Budget and by donors for the various projects.

**The Statistical Office of Kosovo** acts pursuant the UNMIK Regulation 2001/14 that entered into force on July 2, 2001. A medium-term Master Plan is being developed for the statistical system of Kosovo compatible with the European Statistics.

**The SOK Organization Structure;** composes of four departments for production of statistics (Department of Economic Statistics and National Accounts, Department of Population Statistics, Department of Social Statistics and Department of Agricultural and Environment Statistics), seven Regional Offices (located in Gjakova, Gjilan, Mitrovica, Peja, Prizren, Pristina and Ferizaj), two support departments (Department of Methodology and Information Technology, and Department of Administration), as well as the Office of the Population Census.

Total number employees is 134, of them 96 (71.6%) within the SOK offices whilst 38 (28.4%) in regional offices.

There is also a support and cooperation with the international institutions.

The Statistical Office of Kosovo covers Kosovo entirely. For implementation of the surveys in the field, the SOK uses appropriate sampling and methodology approach. In the collection of the reports from the reporting units, the SOK engages professionals, technicians, administrators and civilians from the local offices and regional field population census.

Recently, a team of national and international experts is working in the project of the population census.

**SOK Mission** is to fulfill the needs of the users with the reliable statistical data and with regular analyses in order to support and provide government departments with the proper information for decision-making process including other users as well.

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