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## **Series 5: Social Statistics**

# **Results of the Statistics on Income and Living Conditions 2018**



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## Foreword

Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS), respectively the Department of Social Statistics (DSS) with the support of the World Bank, for the first time in 2018 conducted the survey on Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) known as EU-SILC.

The purpose of publishing the results of the Statistics on Income and Living Survey (SILC) 2018, is to provide statistical data on the living conditions of households in Kosovo and other similar issues related to living standards.

In this publication are presented the results in summary form for the living conditions of households in 2018.

This publication aims to alleviate the lack of information in the field of living standards of households in Kosovo. We believe that this publication will serve as a useful reference base for all users of statistical data.

The Statistics on Income and Living was funded by a World Bank (WB) grant, and professional support was provided by experts under IPA 2015, as well as the EU-SIDA project, through the Swedish Statistical Office and experts from Bulgaria and Malta.

We thank the experts of these organizations for their contribution. Also, the Department of Methodology and Information Technology has made a valuable contribution to the development of the questionnaire in electronic form in the Survey Solutions application in the CAPI / tablet method (computer-assisted personal interviewing for data collection), sample preparation, maps and monitoring of work in the field that has been done by the regional offices for the collection data on income and living conditions.

Your comments, remarks, suggestions and proposals regarding this publication are welcome and can be sent to the email address: [social@rks-gov.net](mailto:social@rks-gov.net).

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August, 2020

Chief Executive Officer, KAS  
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## List of Abbreviations

SILC - Statistics on Income and Living Conditions

KAS - Kosovo Agency of Statistics

WB - World Bank

EU - European Union

DSS - Department of Social Statistics

SIDA - International Agency for Development and Cooperation

DMIT - Department of methodology and information technology

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## Objective and scope of the survey

The Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) was conducted for the first time in our country in 2018.

The Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) is completely in line with the Eurostat methodology and the methodology used by all other European Union member states.

The Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) is an instrument for collecting timely and comparable micro-data on income, poverty, social exclusion and living conditions. The methodology used to design the questionnaires is based on the Eurostat methodology used by all EU countries.

Field data collection was done through the CAPI / tablet method (computer assistance for data collection) through the Survey Solutions application.

Until 2017, the provision of information on key indicators of living standards, welfare, poverty and other indicators was provided through the Household Budget Survey (HBS) conducted from 2002 to 2017.

## Methodology

Through the Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) it is intended to measure the well-being and indicators of living conditions.

Based on the methodological changes used in these two surveys, it is expected that the information from the Income and Living Conditions Survey will be different, compared to the data provided by the Household Budget Survey (HBS).

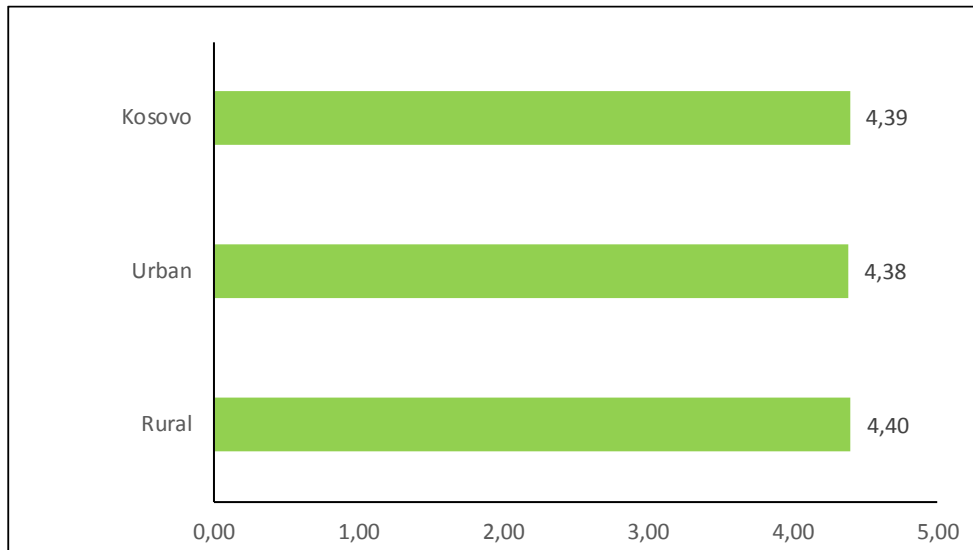
**Coverage:** The Statistics on Income and Living Conditions covers all Households in the territory of the Republic of Kosovo regardless of their size or socio-economic characteristics.

**Do not participate in surveys:** Individuals living in collective housing of all kinds (dormitories, nursing homes, hospitals, prisons, rehabilitation centers, camps, etc.).

**Household:** The household includes all persons who live in a shared housing or dwelling and who share the main means of subsistence.

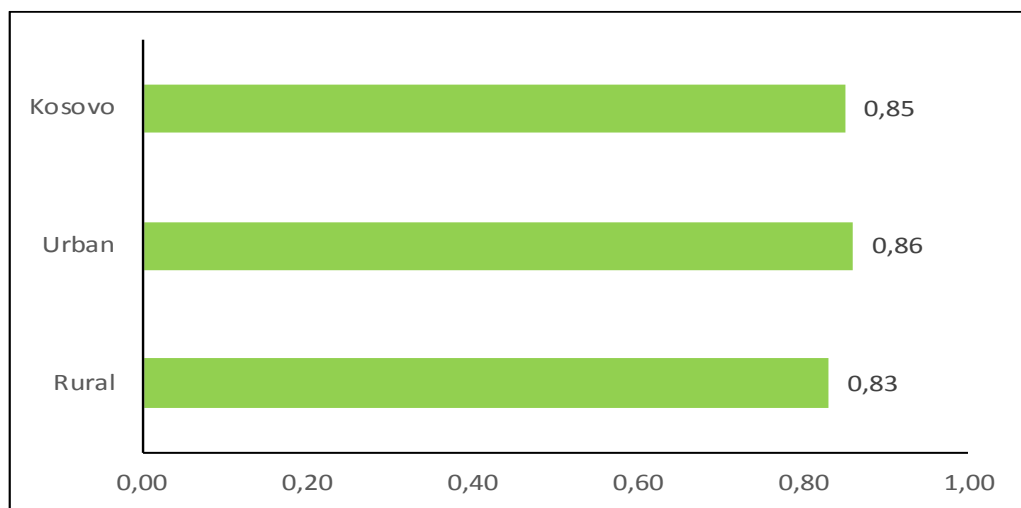
**Sampling size:** The Statistics on Income and Living Conditions in 2018 includes a sample of 4 500 households.

**Graph 1: Average number of rooms in households in Kosovo**



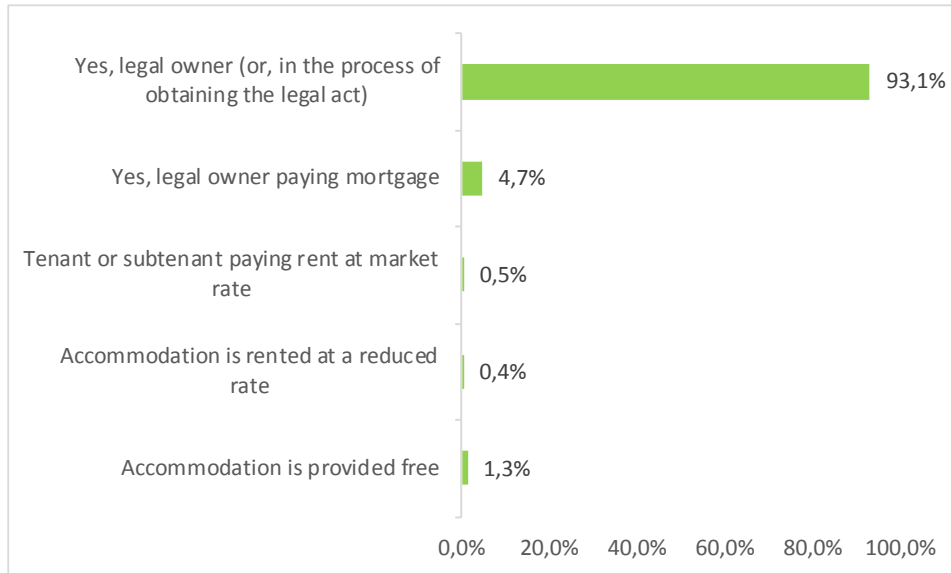
The Graph above indicates that the average number of rooms for a household in Kosovo was 4.39 rooms, where 4.38 rooms were in urban areas and 4.40 rooms in rural areas.

**Graph. 2: Average number of rooms per member in households in Kosovo**



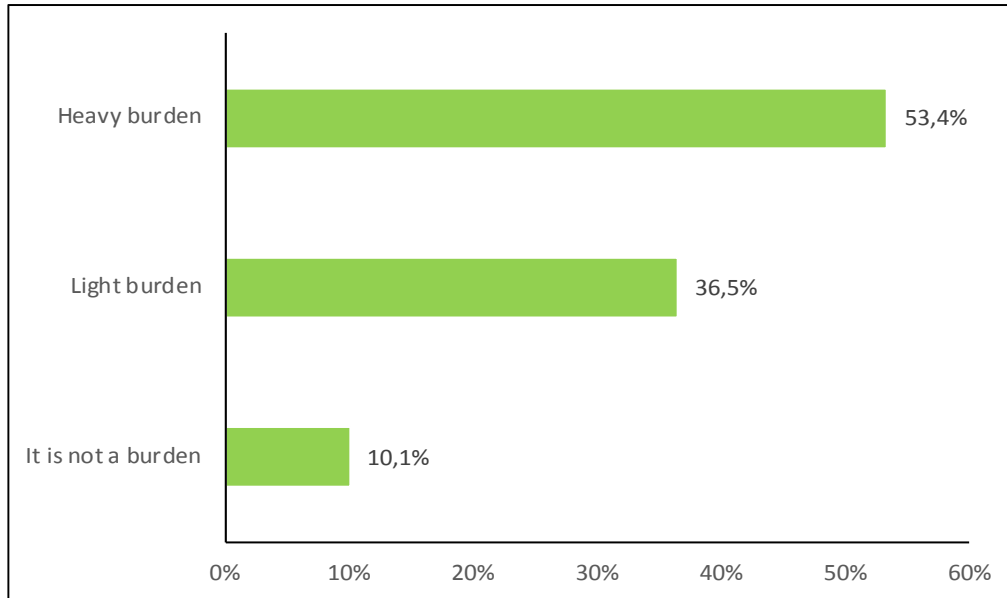
The Graph above indicates that the average number of rooms per member in households in Kosovo was 0.85 rooms, i.e. less than 1 room per person, where 0.86 was in urban areas and 0.83 in rural areas.

**Graph. 3: Ownership status of house and dwelling**



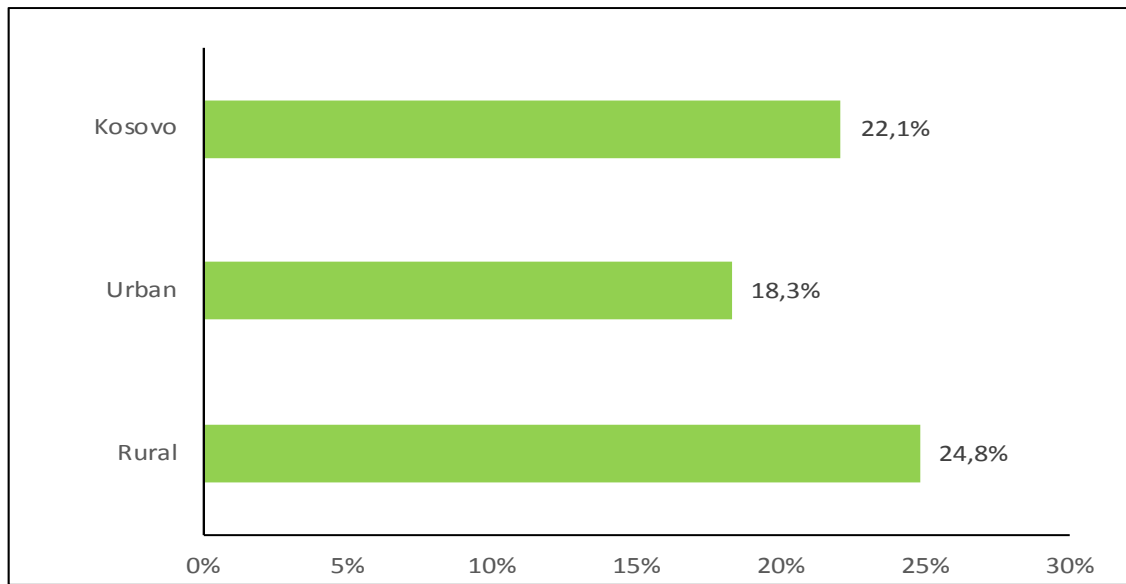
The Graph above indicates that 93.1% of households legally owned house / dwelling, while 4.7% of households legally owned but were paying loans, 0.5% of households were tenants or sub-tenants who pay rent at market rate, for 0.4% of households accommodation is rented at a lower market price, while for 1.3% of households accommodation is provided free of charge.

**Graph. 4: The financial burden of housing and household expenditures**



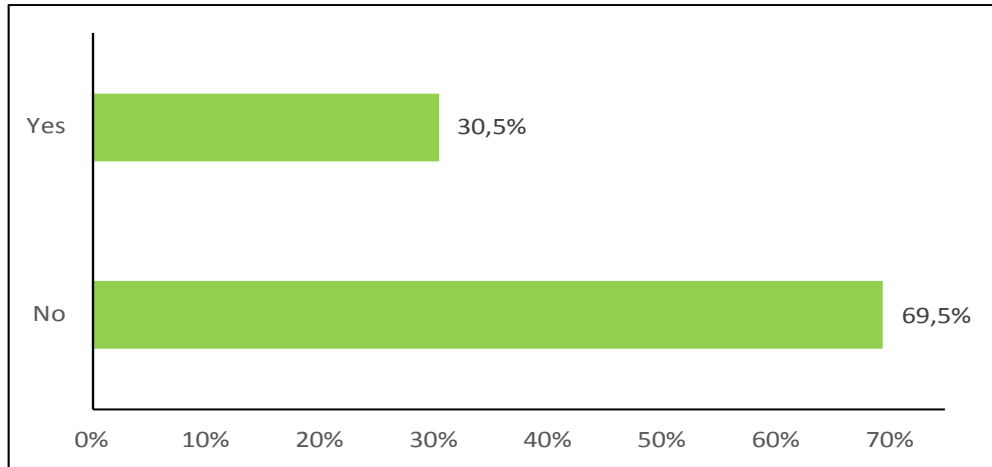
The Graph above indicates that for 53.4% of households, housing expenditures are presented as a heavy financial burden, for 36.5% of households, housing expenditures are presented as a light financial burden, while for 10.1% of households, housing costs do not represent a financial burden. Housing costs include: mortgage payment, rent, insurance and utility payments, garbage collection costs, sewage, regular maintenance, repair and other costs.

**Graph. 5: Percentage of households that had problems with a sloping roof or roof, walls, floors, wet foundations, window frames, and rotten floors**



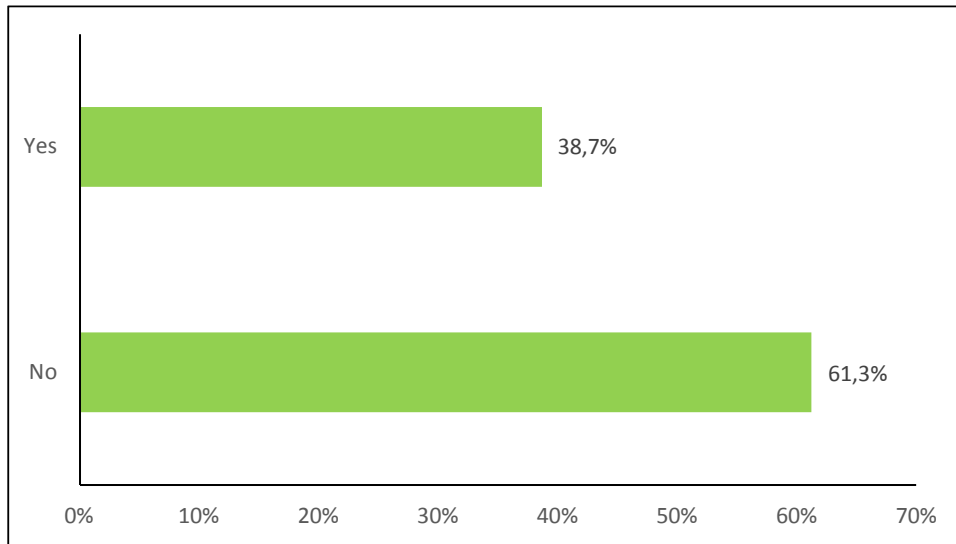
The Graph above indicates that 22.1% of households in Kosovo had problems with leaking roofs or walls, wet walls, floors or foundations, as well as window frames and rotten floors, 18.3% of households in urban areas, while 24.8% of households in rural areas.

**Graph. 6: Affordability of households for a week of trip away from home**



The Graph above indicates that 30.5% of households can afford to spend a week away from home, including staying in another house (weekend house), apartment or with friends or relatives, while 69.5% of households can not to cover this cost.

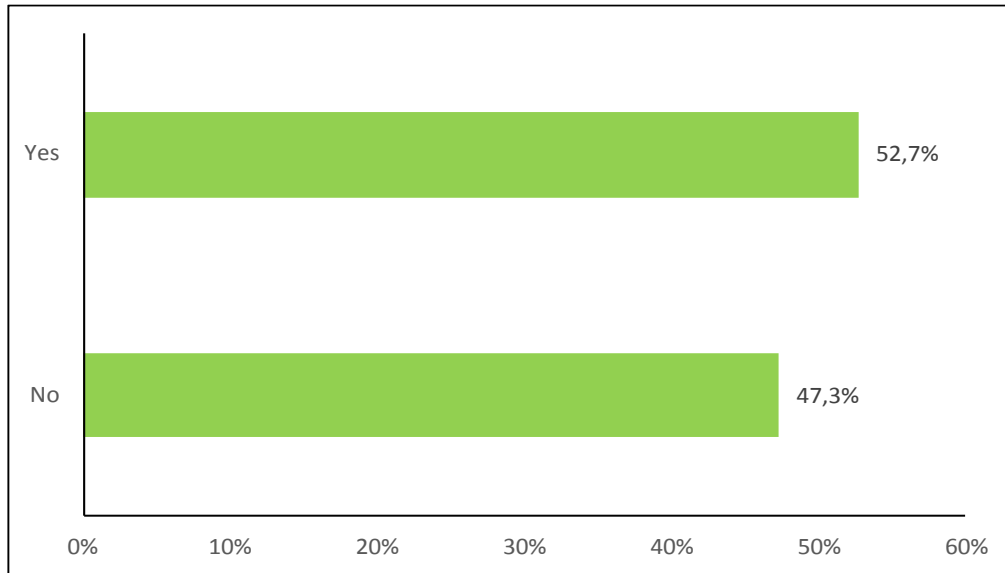
**Graph. 7: Households that can afford a meal with meat, chicken and fish every second day**



The Graph above indicates that 38.7% of households can afford a meal with meat, chicken and fish every second or other day, while 61.3% of households can not afford this cost.

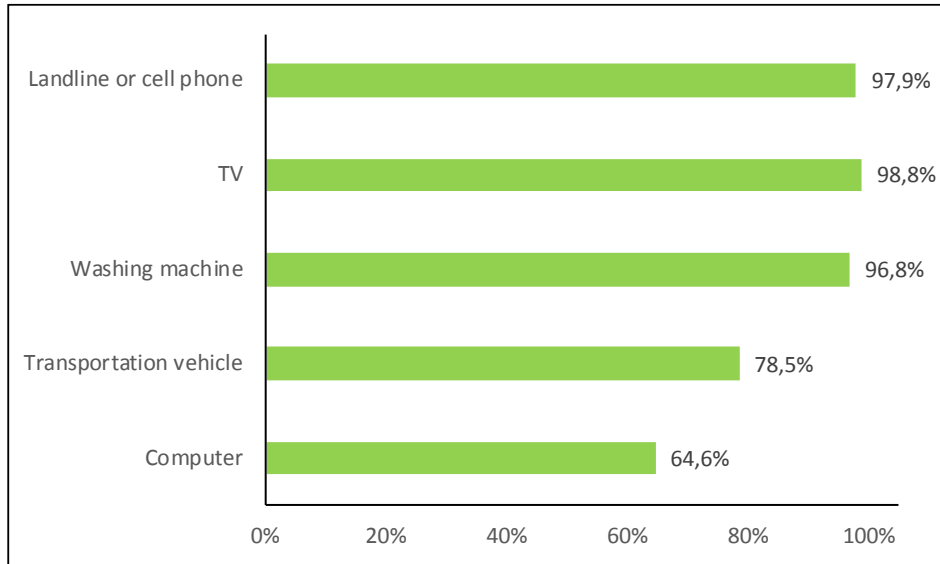


**Graph. 8: Households which can afford an unexpected expense of € 100**



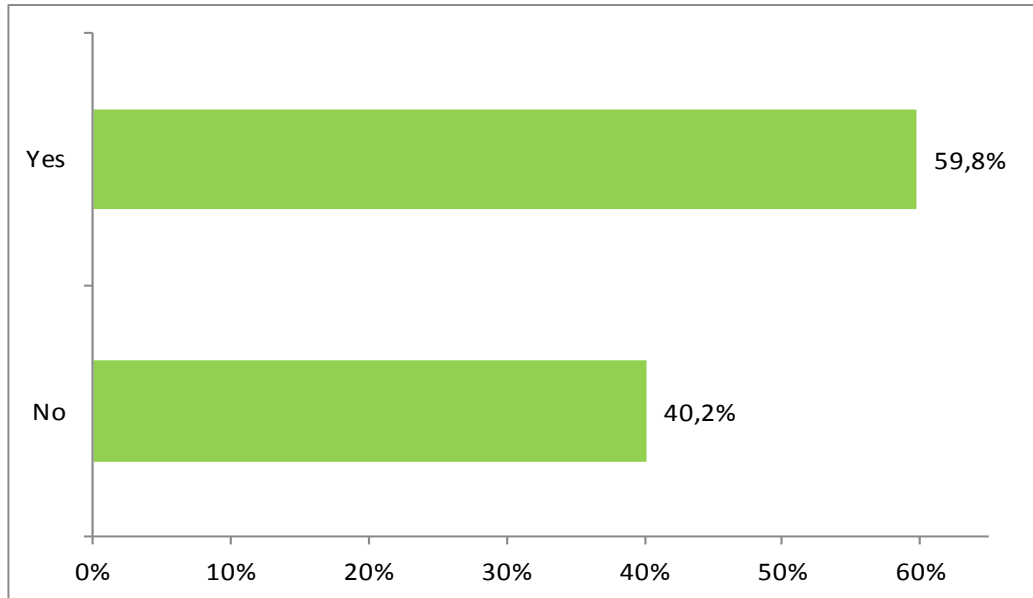
The Graph above indicates that 52.7% of households can afford an unexpected expense of € 100 and pay from their own income or sources, while 47.3% of households can not afford an unexpected expense of € 100.

**Graph. 9: Long-term equipment or tools in households**



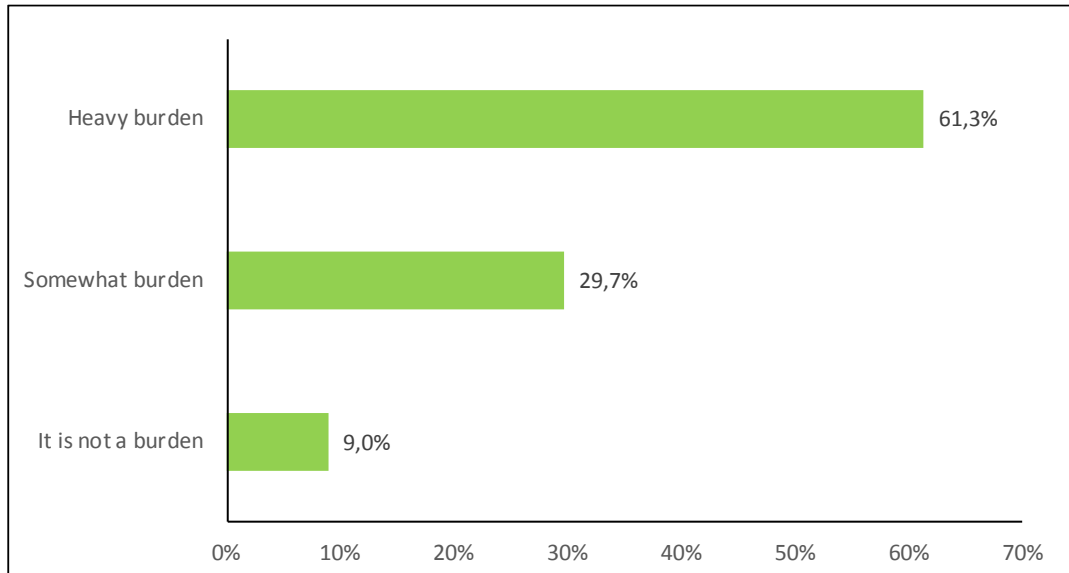
The Graph above indicates that 97.9% of households are equipped with landline or mobile phone, 98.8% of households are equipped with TV, 96.8% of households are equipped with washing machines, 78.5% of households are equipped with a transport vehicle and 64.6% of households are equipped with a computer.

**Graph. 10: Affordability of households to keep the house warm adequately**



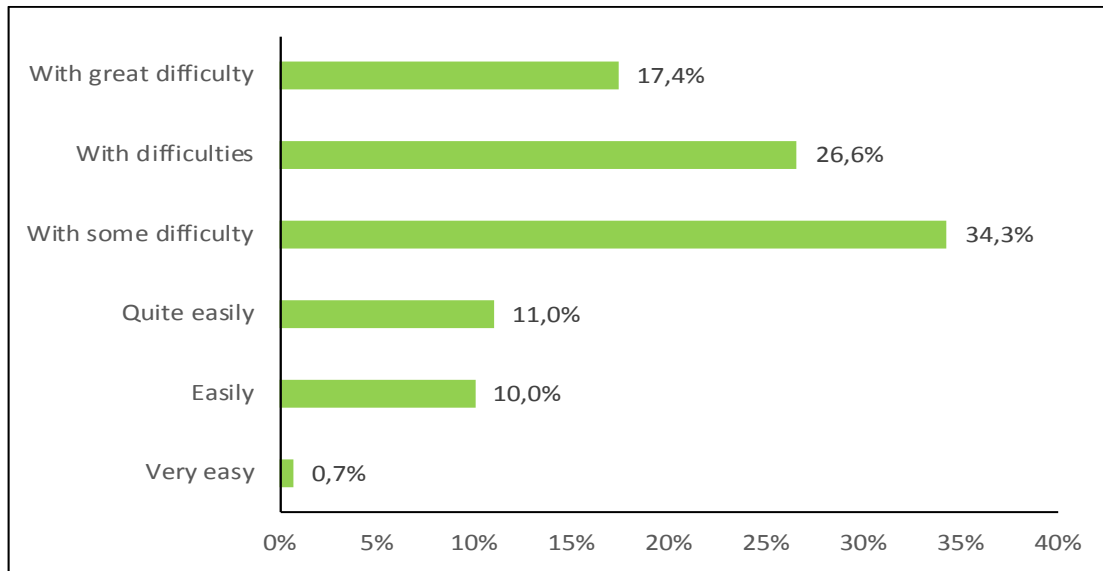
The Graph above indicates that 59.8% of households were able to afford to keep a warm home adequately, while for 40.2% of households it was unaffordable to keep a warm home adequately.

**Graph. 11: The financial burden of households to repay loans**



The Graph above indicates that for 61.3% of households the payment of credit card debt, large purchases or other loans (excluding mortgage payments or other loans related to the purchase of a house or apartment) was a heavy financial burden, for 29.7% of households was to some extent a financial burden, while for 9.0% of households it was not a financial burden.

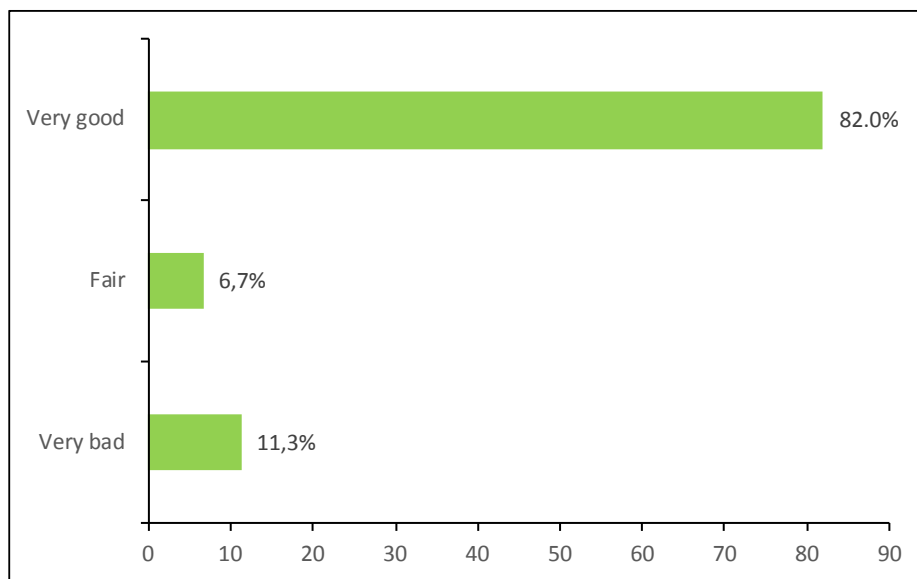
**Graph. 12: Difficulties of households in making the necessary payments**



The Graph above indicates that 17.4% of households had great difficulty in making the necessary payments, taking into account the total income and the situation to make the necessary ordinary payments, 26.6% of households had difficulty, 34.3% with some difficulties, while 11.0% of households coped quite easily, 10.0% easily, and 0.7% very easily.

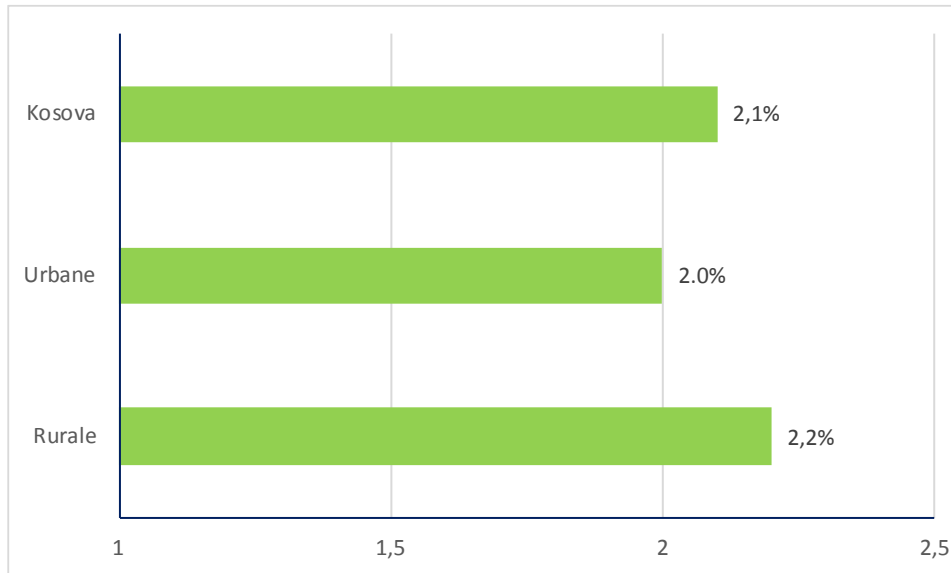
\* Common household necessities should include housing-related costs but exclude business and farm costs.

**Graph. 13: General health condition of individuals in Kosovo**



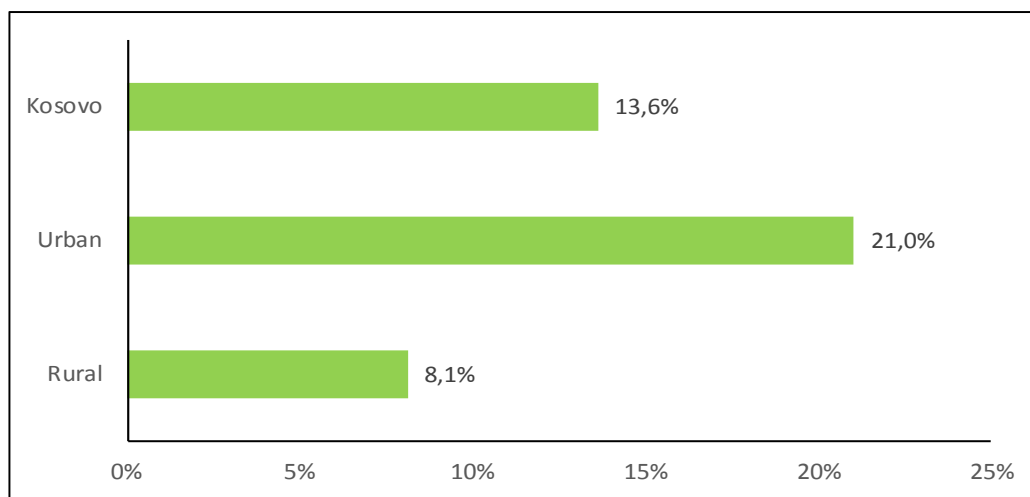
The Graph above indicates that 82.0% of individuals in households in Kosovo have stated that they enjoy very good health, 6.7% of individuals in households with poor health, while 11.3% of individuals in households with very poor health.

**Graph. 14: Problems like crime, violence or vandalism**



The Graph above indicates that 2.1% of households in Kosovo have stated that in the place where they live they have problems such as crime, violence or vandalism, 2.0% of households in urban areas and 2.2% of households in rural areas.

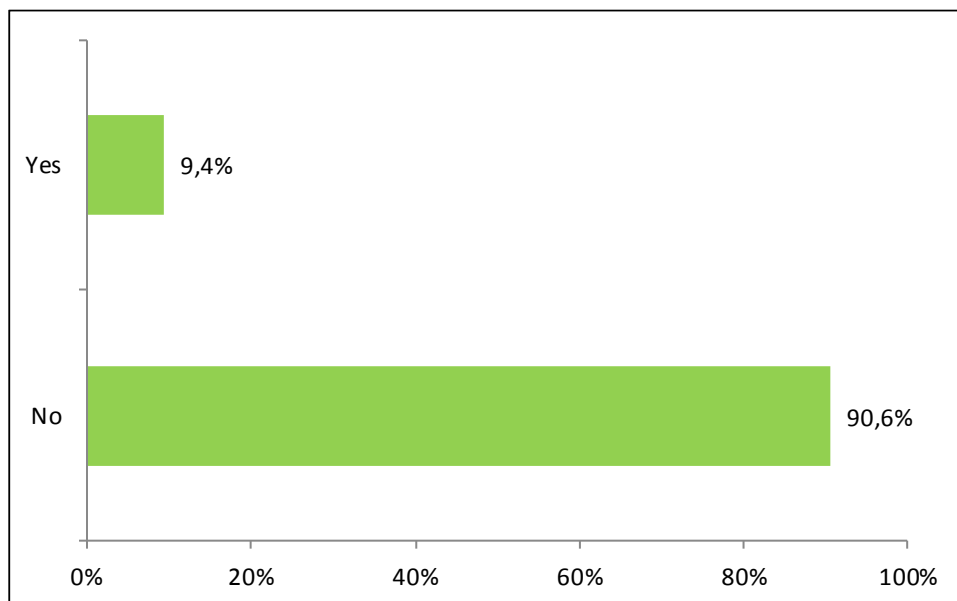
**Graph. 15: Problems with pollution, dirt and other environmental problems such as: smoke, dust, unpleasant smells or polluted water**



The Graph above indicates that 13.6% of households in Kosovo had problems of pollution, dirt and other environmental problems such as: smoke, dust, unpleasant smells or polluted water, 21.0% of households in urban areas, while 8.1% of households in rural areas.



**Graph. 16: Impact of noise from neighbors or outside on households**



The Graph above indicates that 9.4% of households in Kosovo live in areas where there is a lot of noise from neighbors or from outside, from traffic, businesses and factories, while 90.6% of households live in areas where there is not much noise from neighbors or from outside, from traffic, businesses and factories.

## Conclusions

Kosovo Agency of Statistics, respectively DSS through the survey on Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) has tried to fill the vacuum in the lack of information in the field of living standards of households.

The main purpose of this report is to assess living conditions at the national level in 2018.

Based on the results of SILC 2018 it results that:

The average number of rooms in a household in Kosovo was 4.39 rooms, 4.38 in urban areas and 4.40 in rural areas. (Graph 1)

The average number of rooms per member in a household in Kosovo was 0.85, with 0.86 in urban areas and 0.83 in rural areas. (Graph 2)

93.1% of households legally owned the house / apartment, 4.7% of households legally owned but pay loans, and 0.5% of households were tenants or sub-tenants who pay rent at the market rate, while for 0.4% of households accommodation is rented at a lower market price, and for 1.3% of households accommodation is provided free of charge. (Graph 3)

For 53.4% of households the costs for housing represent a heavy burden, while for 36.5% of households these costs represent a light burden, while for 10.1% they do not represent a financial burden. (Graph 4)

22.1% of households in Kosovo stated that they have problems with leaking roofs, walls, floors, wet foundations and window frames and rotten floors, of which 18.3% in urban areas and 24.8% in rural areas. (Graph 5)

30.5% of households in Kosovo stated that they can afford to spend a week away from home, including staying in another house (weekend house), apartment or with friends or relatives, while for 69.5% of households it is unaffordable such an expense. (Graph 6)

38.7% of households in Kosovo can afford a meal of chicken and fish every other day, while 61.3% of households can not afford this expense. (Graph 7)

52.7% of households in Kosovo can afford an unexpected expense of € 100, while 47.3% of households can not afford an unexpected expense of € 100 and pay from their own resources. (Graph 8)

97.9% of households are equipped with landline or mobile phone, 98.8% with TV, 96.8% with washing machine, 78.5% with transport vehicle and 64.6% of households are equipped with computer. (Graph 9)

59.8% of households were able to afford to keep the house warm adequately, while for 40.2% of households it was unaffordable (Graph 10)

For 61.3% of households the payment of credit card debt, large purchase or other loans (excluding mortgage payments or other loans related to the purchase of a house or apartment) was a heavy financial burden, for 29.7% of households it was to some extent a financial burden, while for 9.0% of households it was not a financial burden. (Graph 11)

17.4% of households had great difficulty in making the necessary payments taking into account the total income and the situation to make the necessary ordinary payments, 26.6% faced it with difficulty, 34.3% with some difficulty, while 11.0% quite easily, 10.0% easily, and 0.7% very easily. (Graph 12)

82.0% of individuals in households in Kosovo stated that they enjoy very good health, 6.7% of individuals in households are with poor health, while 11.3% of individuals in households reported very poor health (Graph 13)

2.1% of households in Kosovo stated that in the place where they live they have problems such as crime, violence or vandalism, of which 2.0% of households in urban areas, while 2.2% of households in rural areas. (Graph 14)

13.6% of households in Kosovo had problems of pollution, dirt and other environmental problems such as smoke, dust, unpleasant smells or polluted water, 21.0% of households in urban areas, while 8.1% of households in rural areas. (Graph 15)

9.4% of households in Kosovo live in areas where there is a lot of noise from neighbors or from outside, from traffic, businesses and factories, while 90.6% of households live in areas where there is not much noise from neighbors or from outside, from traffic, businesses and factories. (Graph 16)

# Kosovo Agency of Statistics

## *short description*

**Kosovo Agency of Statistics** is a professional institution which deals with collection, processing and publication of official statistical data. As such acts since 1948 and has passed through several historical stages, structured according to state regulation of those times.

On 2 August 1999, the Agency has resumed his professional work (after nine years of interruption of all statistical series detrimental to the interest of Kosovo), as an independent institution under the Ministry of Public Administration. Since 12.12.2011 the Agency operates in the frames of the Prime Minister's Office. Office is funded by the Kosovo Consolidated Budget, but also by donors for specific projects and for technical professional support.

**Kosovo Agency of Statistics** acts according to the Law No. 04/L-036 which entered into force on 12.12.2011 and Amendment of Law No. 06/L-058 which entered into force on 17.01.2019 . Programme of Official Statistics 2018/2022 is in implementation for the development of statistical system in correlation with the European Union statistics (EUROSTAT).

**Kosovo Agency of Statistics** has this organizational structure: production departments; Department of Economic statistics, Department of National Accounts, Department of Agriculture and Environment statistics and Department of Social statistics. **Support Departments**; Department of Methodology and Information Technology, Department of Policy Planning, Coordination and Communication, Department of Census and survey and Department of Administration. **Within the Agency are also established Regional Offices**; Gjakove, Gjilan, Mitrovica, Peja, Prizren, Pristina and Ferizaj

In KAS are employed in total 156 workers, of whom 115 at the headquarters of the Agency, while in the Regional Offices, 41. Agency's educational qualifying structure is as follows: 123 with university education, 15 with non-tertiary education, and 18 with secondary education.

We have professional and technical cooperation with all Ministries of the Government of Kosovo, especially with the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Central Bank of Kosovo, with international institutions, EUROSTAT, International Monetary Fund, World Bank, Sweden's SIDA, DFID, UNFPA, UNDP, UNVEF, and with the statistical institutions of the countries in the region.

**Kosovo Agency of Statistics** almost completely covers the territory of Kosovo, based on the statistical structure of the enumeration areas as the basic unit and sole in the country from which it gets first hand information. All surveys conducted in the field use the extension of the samples in these enumeration areas but also a statistical methodology according to international recommendations. During the collection of statistical data and reports from reporting entities are involved professionals, technicians, administrators, servants of the country offices, field enumerators from regional offices, etc.

In 2011, the project of Population Census , Households and Dwellings was successfully implemented, and in 2014 was successfully carried out the Agriculture Census. The result obtained from these censuses will have an important role in the development policies.

**The mission of the Agency**; to meet the needs of users with qualitative statistical data, objective, in time and space so that users have reliable base to conduct regular analysis in the interest of planning and project development at the municipal and country level. To support government institutions, scientific institutes, research academies, businesses in order to provide proper information for decision-makers and other users in Kosovo.

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