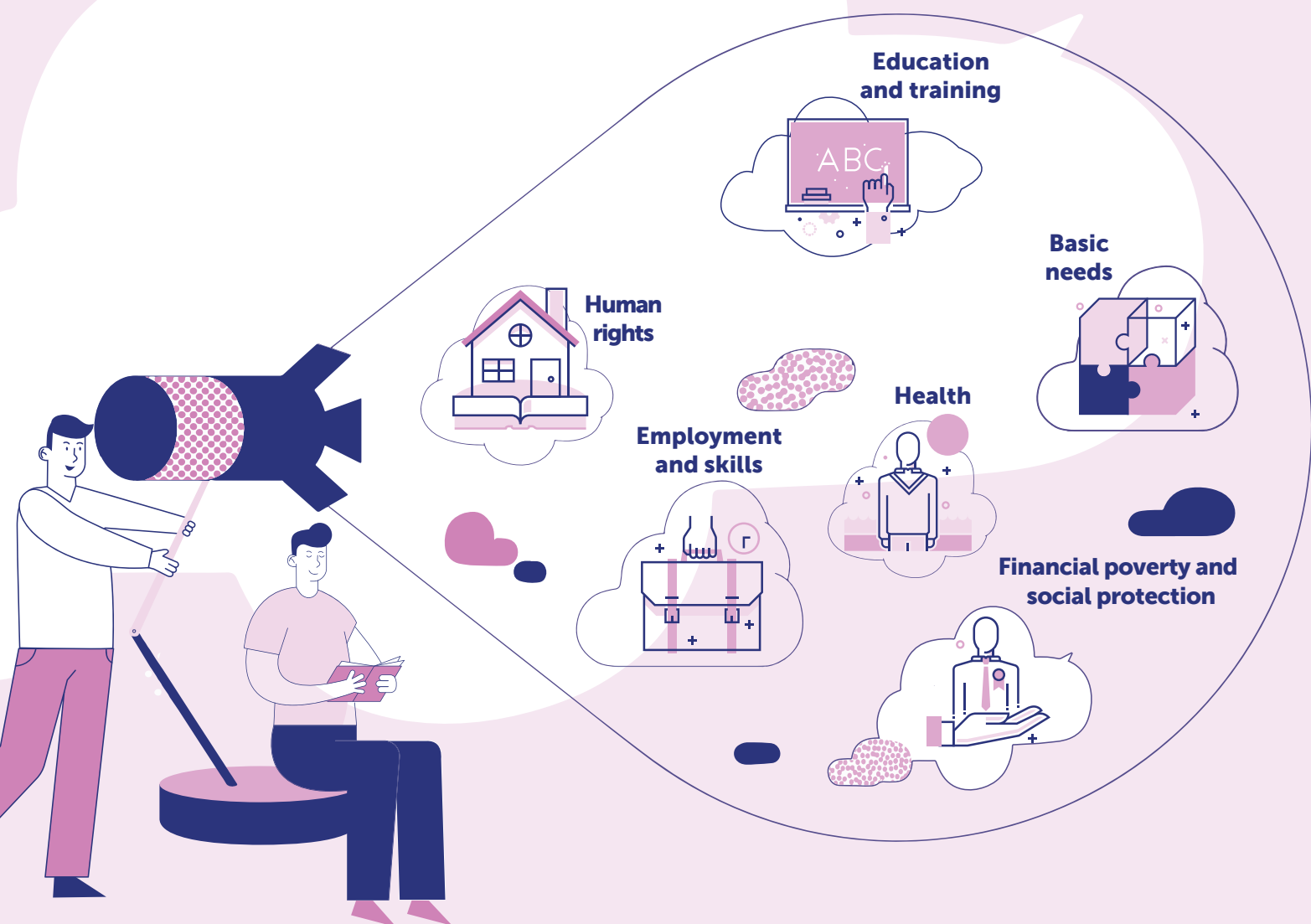


Monitoring social inclusion:

Indicators of financial poverty and social protection,
employment and skills, health, education and training,
basic needs, and human rights

Tirana, Albania
May 2021



This report is commissioned by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Albania in the framework of the UN Joint Programme 'Leave No One Behind,' which is supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).


Opinions and views expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect those of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) or the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

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The process of data collection was facilitated by Ina Kokëdhima, Expert of Roma and Egyptian Minorities at the Ministry of Health and Social Protection.

We are thankful to data specialists at the Institute of Statistics, State Social Services, National Agency for Employment and Skills, Compulsory Health Insurance Fund, Public Health Institute, Ministry of Health and Social Protection, Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, Ministry of Finance and Economy, State Social Services, State Directorate for Legal Aid, Ministry of Interior, and Ministry of Justice.



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Social inclusion



FROM 2017-2018

1.3%

DECREASE

The share of social transfers, including pensions, declined from 19.4% in 2017 to 18.1% in 2018.

FROM 2016-2019

0.7%

INCREASE

In 2019, the share of the unemployed men who gave up on job search was higher than in 2016 - 15.2% vs. 14%.

FROM 2016-2019

16.7

INCREASE

The share of the unemployed not registered with the National Employment Service increased from 46.7% in 2016 to 63.4% in 2019.

FROM 2016-2020

404

INCREASE

The number of victims of domestic violence, recorded by State Social Services, increased from 129 in 2016 to 533 in 2020.



Snapshot:

Social inclusion in Albania

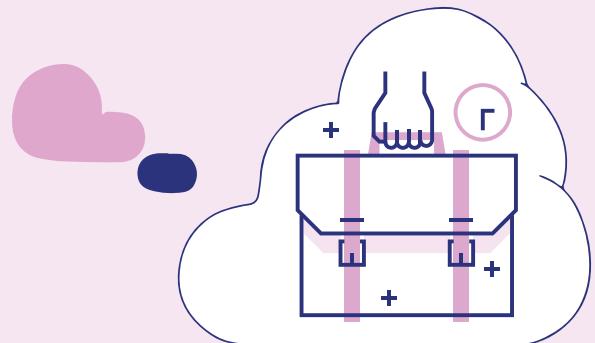


Financial poverty and social protection

- In 2017 and 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate was higher among women than men. In 2017, at-risk-of-poverty rate was 23.5% for men and 23.9% for women; meanwhile, in 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate was 23.0% for men and 23.8% for women.
- In 2017 and 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate was higher among the age group 0 – 17 years old, 29.6%.
- In 2017 and 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate was higher for families with dependent children. In 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate for families with dependent children was 27.0%; meanwhile, for families without dependent children was 15.2%.
- At-risk-of-poverty rate increased from 61.8% in 2017 to 64.2% in 2018 for persons living in households with very low work intensity, and it increased from 34.3% to 42.0% for persons living in households with low work intensity.
- The share of social transfers – including pensions – declined from 19.4% in 2017 to 18.1% in 2018.
- The number of the blind, paraplegics and quadriplegics who benefited social services increased from 2016 to 2019. The opposite

pattern was found in 2020. The number of the blind who received social services declined from 12,400 in 2019 to 12,185 in 2020. The number of paraplegics and quadriplegics declined from 6,666 in 2019 to 6,549 in 2020.

- The number of Roma children who benefited from State Social Services increased from 675 in 2016 to 2,080 in 2017 – the year with the highest number of beneficiaries. The number of older adults who benefited from State Social Services increased from 81 in 2016 to 122 in 2020. The number of persons with disabilities increased from 23 in 2016 to 60 in 2020.
- The number of victims of domestic violence – recorded by State Social Services – increased from 129 in 2016 to 533 in 2020.



Employment and skills

- During 2016 – 2019, the share of long-term unemployed was higher among women than men. Over time, the gender gap diminished. In 2019, the difference between women and men was 0.9 percentage points, compared to 3.3 percentage points in 2016.
- During 2016 – 2019, the very long-term unemployment rate was higher for men than women. For instance, the very long-term unemployment rate in 2019 was 5.4% for men and 4.5% for women.

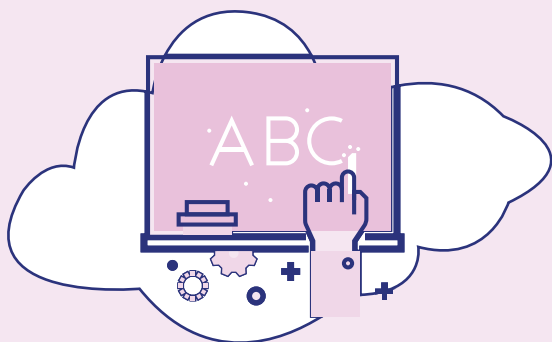
- The employment rate was lower among women of all age groups. In 2019, the employment rate for women between 15 and 64 years old was 54.4%; meanwhile, the employment rate for men between 15 and 64 years old was 68.2% – a difference of 13.8 percentage points.
- The share of self-employed declined from 34.9% in 2016 to 32.3% in 2019. The share of self-employed was lower among women than men. In 2019, the share of self-employed was 39.6% for men and 23.1% for women.
- The share of those working (with no pay) in the family business declined from 23.9% in 2016 to 22.0% in 2019. The share of women working (with no pay) in the family business was higher among all age groups, except those between 15-24 years old and 25-29 years old.
- The share of those employed less than 15 work hours per week was higher among women than men. The gender gap was substantial. In 2019, the share of those employed less than 15 work hours per week was 3.2% for women and 1.8% for men.
- The share of the unemployed men who gave up on job search declined from 2016 to 2017, to increase again in 2018 and 2019. In 2019, the share of the unemployed men who gave up on job search was higher than in 2016 – 15.2% vs. 14.5%. The share of the unemployed women who gave up on job search declined from 8.1% in 2016 to 5.8% in 2019.
- The share of the unemployed not registered with the National Employment Service increased from 46.7% in 2016 to 63.4% in 2019. The share of the unemployed not registered with the National Employment Service was higher among men than women.
- *The share of registered unemployed jobseekers included in Active Labor Market Programs increased from 33% in 2016 to 63% in 2019. The share decreased to 38% in 2020.*



Health

- In 2017 and 2018, women – compared to men – were less likely to perceive their medical status as “very good or good.”
- The incidence rate (per 100,000 women) of cervical cancer was 8.3 in 2016, 8.7 in 2017, and 8.7 in 2018.
- The incidence rate (per 100,000 people) of colorectal cancer increased from 11.2 in 2016 to 13.7 in 2018. The incidence rate (per 100,000 people) of colorectal cancer was higher among men than women. In 2018, the incidence rate (per 100,000 people) of colorectal cancer was 16.8 for men and 10.5 for women.
- Child mortality rate, infant mortality rate, and neonatal mortality rate increased from 2017 to 2019¹.
- During 2016-2020, maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births) fluctuated considerably. It increased from 3.5 in 2016 to 10.9 in 2017. It declined to 3.9 in 2018, and it increased to 8.1 in 2019. In 2020, maternal mortality rate was 4.1 – a value higher than in 2016.
- In 2016, the number of new cases of breast cancer was 672. The number increased to 713 in 2017. It decreased to 708 in 2018 and 678 in 2019.

¹ The trend varies based on the data source (see p. 36).



Education and training

- The gross enrollment ratio in kindergartens declined from 81.5% during 2016-2017 to 79.9% during 2019-2020. A declining pattern was also found for the two other levels of education – 9-year education and high school education.
- The dropout rate in basic education and upper secondary education was higher among boys than girls.
- The dropout rate in upper secondary education was higher in rural areas. During the academic year 2019-2020, the dropout rate was 1.18% in urban areas and 3.4% in rural areas.
- The number of children with disabilities attending basic education declined from 3,664 during the period 2018-2019 to 3,550 during the period 2019-2020.
- The number of Roma pupils attending basic education increased from 3,092 during the academic year 2016-2017 to 3,758 during the academic year 2018-2019. The number decreased to 3,550 during the academic year 2019-2020.
- The number of Roma pupils attending upper secondary education declined from 483 during the academic year 2016-2017 to 175 during the academic year 2019-2020.
- The number of Egyptian pupils attending upper secondary education increased from 460 during the academic year 2016-2017 to 1,042 during the academic year 2018-2019. The num-

ber declined to 650 during the academic year 2019-2020.

- Access to free textbooks declined significantly after the academic year 2017-2018. The decline was present among Roma, Egyptian, blind, and orphaned pupils.
- Education expenditure for preuniversity education declined from 2.34% in 2016 to 1.90% in 2020. A declining pattern was found for both levels of education – basic education and upper secondary education.



Basic needs

- The possession of computers increased from 39.1% in 2017 to 42.4% in 2018. The possession of other household appliances – phone, television, and washing machine – changed only slightly.
- The percentage of Roma families who benefited from social housing programs in 2018 and 2019 was 33.5 and 30.2, respectively. In 2020, Roma families constituted 24.2% of social housing beneficiaries.
- Social housing budget increased from 0.424 billion lekë in 2016 to 0.526 billion lekë in 2019. In 2020, the budget increased to 3.5 billion lekë.
- Social housing budget comprised 0.03% of the GDP during 2016-2019. It increased to 0.22% in 2020.



Human rights

- The number of requests addressed to State Social Services by women and members of the Roma community was lower in 2020 than in 2016. The number of requests made by members of the Roma community declined substantially – from 177 in 2019 to 99 in 2020.
- The number of cases of domestic violence addressed by the National Centre for Victims of Domestic Violence was 60 in 2020. The number was smaller than in 2016, 60 vs. 95.
- *The crime rate (per 100,000 people) increased from 143 in 2018 to 177 in 2019.*
- The number of applications for legal aid increased substantially – from 67 applications in 2019 to 4,372 applications in 2020. The percentage of cases won was 95.5 in 2019 and 99.4 in 2020.

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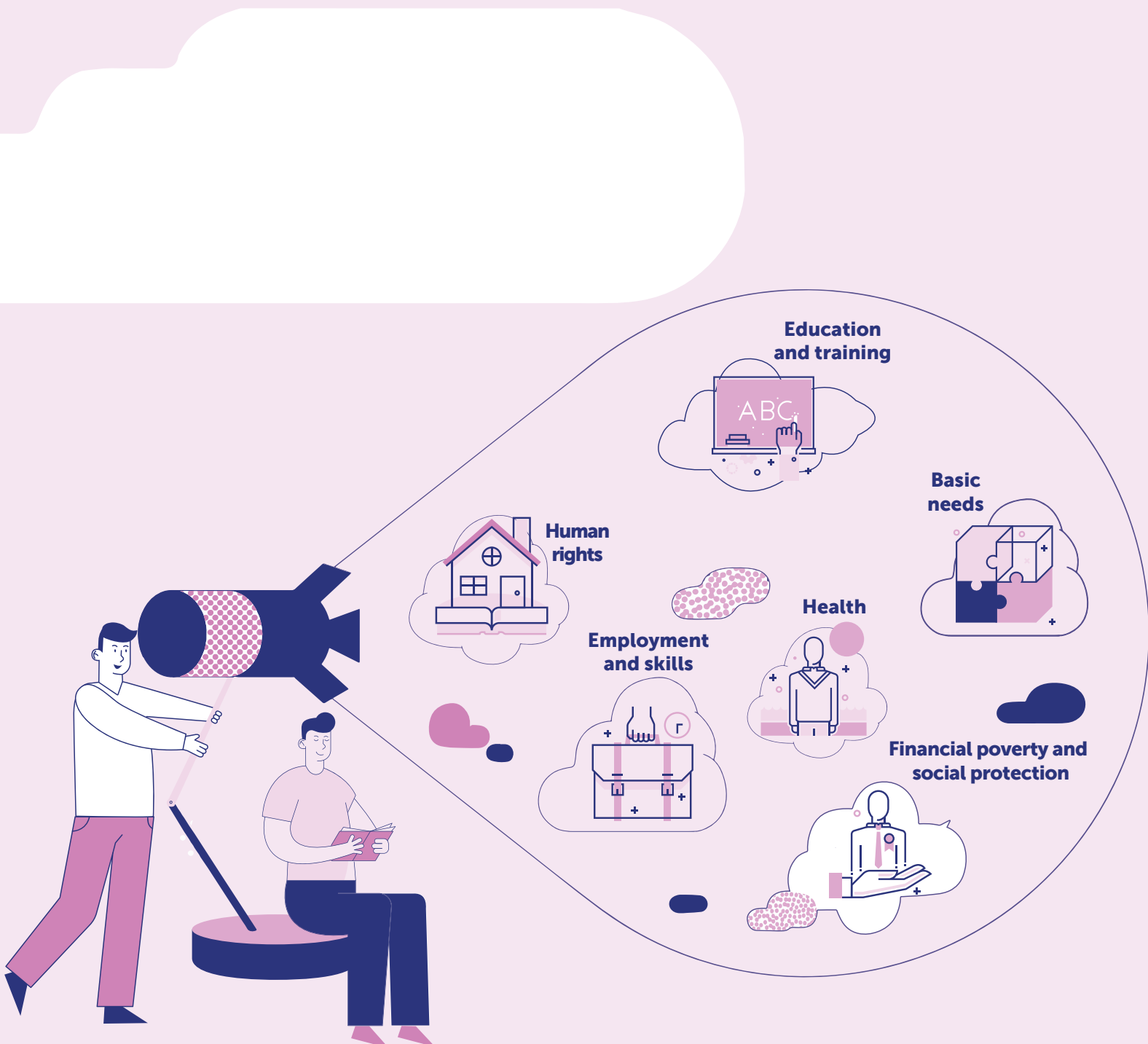
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Introduction





Monitoring Social Inclusion presents data on social inclusion in Albania across several policy domains, including financial poverty and social protection, employment and skills, health, education and training, basic needs, and human rights. The report draws on the Social Inclusion Policy Document

(2016-2020)² that set the vision of guaranteeing “a transparent, accountable, and regular system for assessing social inclusion,” and the goal of “improving government policies and Albania’s progress towards EU accession.”³

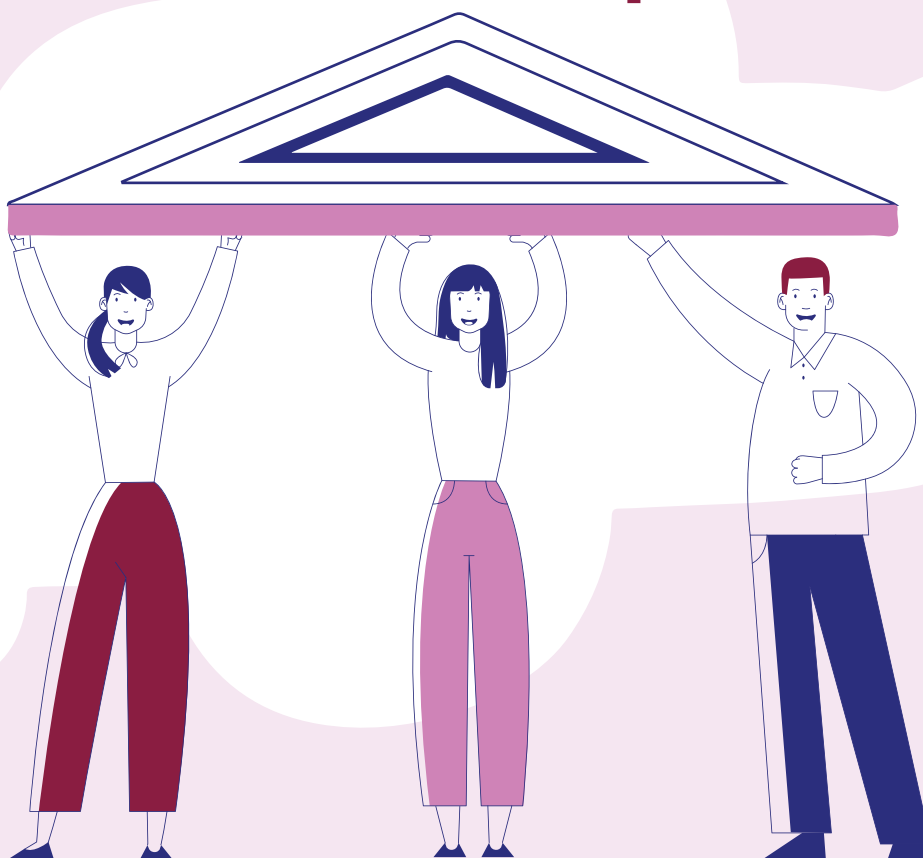
2. The Social Inclusion Policy Document was approved by the Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 87 on February 3, 2016.

3. Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth. (2016). Social Inclusion Policy Document 2016-2020: *Measuring, Monitoring and Reporting for Result-led Policies*, Tirana, Albania (p. 7).

The Social Inclusion Policy Document (2016-2020) sought to achieve three results: (1) develop, adopt, and mainstream social inclusion policies into sector strategies and national policy strategies by 2020; (2) align the reporting on social inclusion into the regular reporting of the government as part of the policy dialogue with the EU on progress in social inclusion; and (3) diminish poverty and marginalization through increased insights into the types, causes and intensity of social inclusion.⁴

To achieve these results, the Social Inclusion Policy Document (2016-2020) established three pillars. The **first pillar** centered on building sustainable systems for social inclusion. The document proposed the establishment of the Statistical Indicators and Integrity Group (SIIG) to ensure consistency in the definition and use of social inclusion indicators, establish a historical baseline of social inclusion indicators (2010-2015), and ensure compliance with the introduction

The three main pillars



First pillar

centered on building sustainable systems for social inclusion.

Second pillar

centered on building effective systems for the governance of social inclusion in the country.

Third pillar

centered on improving policy dialogue on social inclusion.

⁴. Ibid, p. 10.

and transition to the European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC). Other planned activities included publishing a glossary of terms for social inclusion that would be circulated to public bodies, think tanks, and non-governmental organisations; further, collecting and analyzing administrative data on gender, ethnicity, and disability, and incorporating such data into annual social inclusion reports. It was also proposed to establish a resource facility – the Technical Resource Facility (TRF) for Social Inclusion and Poverty Analysis – that would guide the efforts of monitoring and measuring social inclusion.⁵

The **second pillar** centered on building effective systems for the governance of social inclusion in the country. One of the first anticipated activities was the establishment of the Thematic Group on Social Inclusion. The group would ensure the coordination and implementation of the Social Inclusion Policy Document as part of the National Sector Programme for the Employment, Skills and Social Policy Sector (now the Integrated Policy Management Group – IPMG – for Employment and Skills)⁶. It was also anticipated to undertake an institutional review to improve the ways in which social inclusion is managed by the government and embedded in government systems. Other planned activities included developing a communication strategy for social inclusion.⁷

The **third pillar** centered on improving policy dialogue on social inclusion. Anticipated activities included publishing an annual report on social inclusion in Albania based on quantitative and qualitative data, conducting qualitative studies

on the intensity, causes and types of social exclusion, and organizing periodic events and an annual national conference on social inclusion.⁸

The report presented here concerns the first pillar – collection and analysis of data on social inclusion across different policy domains. We do not establish a historical baseline on social inclusion for the period 2010-2015 – as planned in the Social Inclusion Policy Document (2016-2020). However, we draw on more recent data (2015-2020) to provide insights on several indicators of social inclusion. The purpose of the report is twofold: first, to improve our understanding of social inclusion across different policy domains, and second, to identify areas of concern that can be used to inform policymaking. This is the first systematic effort to study social inclusion based on data provided by state institutions. While the purpose of the present report is not to assess the implementation of the activities laid out in the Social Inclusion Policy Document (2016-2020) and, overall, the fulfillment of thematic priorities, it highlights those thematic priorities that have not received significant attention during 2016-2020. The goal is to inform the social inclusion agenda of state institutions.

The Economic Reform Programme of the Government of Albania (2021-2023) has established the goal of “expand[ing] the coverage, inclusiveness, effectiveness [of services], better targeting people in need through social integrated services and through financial mechanisms.”⁹

Some of the policy measures include expanding health coverage, reducing inequality, and supporting inclusive growth.¹⁰ The findings presented in this report can support state institutions in the process of developing policy interventions to promote social inclusion.

5. Ibid, pp. 43-44.

6. Integrated Policy Management Groups – including the Integrated Policy Management Group for Employment and Skills – were established based on the Prime Minister’s Order No. 157, 22.10.2018, “On taking measures for the implementation of the sectoral/cross-sectoral wide approach, and the establishment and functioning of the integrated sectoral/cross-sectoral mechanism.” Integrated Policy Management Groups monitor sectoral reforms in Albania in accordance with the Government Priorities, the National Strategy for Development and Integration, the Medium-Term Budget Program, the EU membership process, and Albania’s international obligations. The Thematic Group on Social Inclusion and Protection monitors the fulfillment of the objectives established in the framework of social inclusion and protection sectoral and overarching strategies.

7. Ibid, p. 48.

8. Ibid, p. 51.

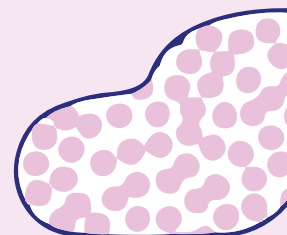
9. Council of Ministers. (2021). Economic reform programme, 2021-2023, Tirana, Albania (p. 142).

10. Ibid, p. 141.

The Social Inclusion Policy Document established eight thematic priorities for the period 2015 – 2020:

- 1** Establish a Statistical Indicators and Integrity Group (SIG) to ensure consistency in the definition and use of indicators, establish a historical baseline of indicators (2010-2015) and ensure compliance with the introduction and transition to EU-SILC.
- 2** Ensure that administrative data on gender, ethnicity and disability is collected and analysed.
- 3** Prepare and publish a glossary of terms for social inclusion that is circulated to all public bodies, think tanks, non-governmental organisations.
- 4** Develop and implement periodic/thematic qualitative analysis of social inclusion in Albania that focus on the intensity, causes and types of social exclusion.
- 5** Prepare an annual report on Social Inclusion in Albania based on existing and future survey and qualitative data.
- 6** Promote policy dialogue on social inclusion in Albania through annual national social inclusion conference and periodic events.
- 7** Conduct an institutional review of measures to improve the technical competencies and organizational governance of social inclusion in Albania.
- 8** Establish a Technical Resource Facility (TRF) for social inclusion and poverty analysis.

Source: Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth, 2016, p. 36.



Methodology



The report is based on data collected during February – March 2021 from several institutions, including the Institute of Statistics, State Social Services, National Agency for Employment and Skills, Compulsory Health Insurance Fund, Public Health Institute, Ministry of Health and Social Protection, Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, Ministry of Finance and Economy, State Social Services, State Directorate for Legal Aid, Ministry of Interior, and Ministry of Justice. A formal request for data – accompanied by the list of indicators – was sent to each

institution. The list of indicators was based on the Social Inclusion Policy Document (2016-2020). The process of data collection was facilitated by the General Directory of Policies and Development of Health and Social Protection in the Ministry of Health and Social Protection.



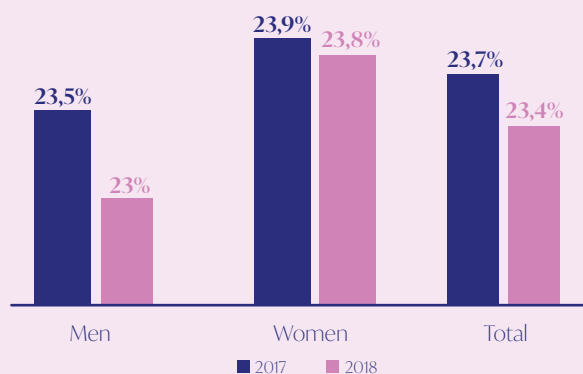
Social inclusion indicators

Financial poverty and social protection

At-risk-of-poverty rate by gender

- At-risk-of-poverty rate was 23.7% in 2017 and 23.4% in 2018.
- In 2017 and 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate was higher among women. In 2017, at-risk-of-poverty rate was 23.5% for men and 23.9% for women; meanwhile, in 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate was 23.0% for men and 23.8% for women (Figure 1).

Figure 1: At-risk-of-poverty rate by gender (%)

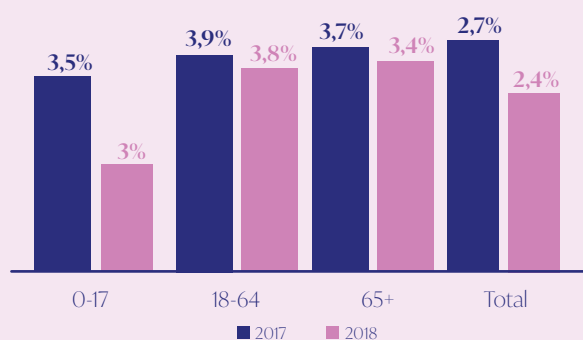


Source: Survey on Income and Living Conditions (2017 – 2018)

At-risk-of-poverty rate by age group

- In 2017 and 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate was higher among the age group 0 – 17 years old, 29.6%.
- At-risk-of-poverty rate increased from 13.4% in 2017 to 14.0% in 2018 for the age group 65 years old and above. A smaller change occurred among the other age groups (Figure 2).

Figure 2: At-risk-of-poverty rate by age group (%)

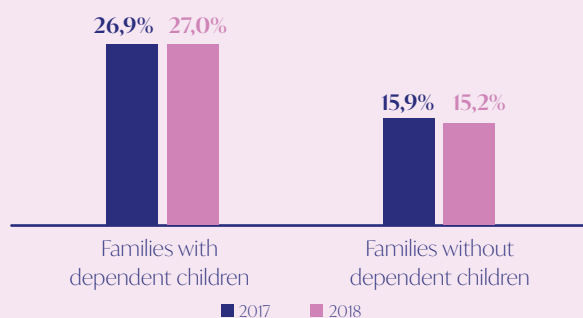


Source: Survey on Income and Living Conditions (2017 – 2018)

At-risk-of-poverty rate by household type

- In 2017 and 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate was higher for families with dependent children. The difference between families with dependent children and families without dependent children was quite substantial. In 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate for families with dependent children was 27.0%; meanwhile, for families without dependent children was 15.2% (Figure 3).

Figure 3: At-risk-of-poverty rate by household type (%)

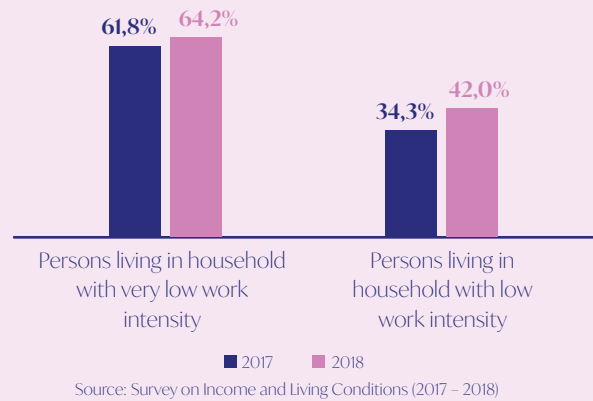


Source: Survey on Income and Living Conditions (2017 – 2018)

At-risk-of-poverty rate by the work intensity of household members

- In 2017 and 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate was higher for persons living in households with very low work intensity, compared to persons living in households with low work intensity.
- At-risk-of-poverty rate increased from 61.8% in 2017 to 64.2% in 2018 for persons living in households with very low work intensity, and it increased from 34.3% in 2017 to 42.0% in 2018 for persons living in households with low work intensity (Figure 4).

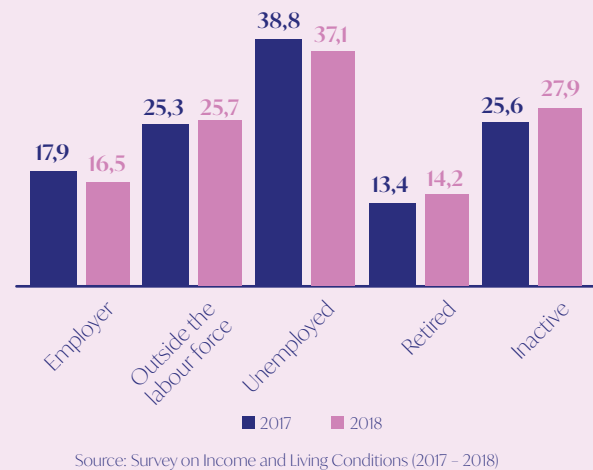
Figure 4: At-risk-of-poverty rate by the work intensity of household members (%)



At-risk-of-poverty rate by the most frequent activity status in the labor market

- In 2017 and 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate was higher for the unemployed. Specifically, at-risk-of-poverty rate for the unemployed was 38.8% in 2017 and 37.1% in 2018, and at-risk-of-poverty rate for those employed was 17.9% in 2017 and 16.5% in 2018 (Figure 5).

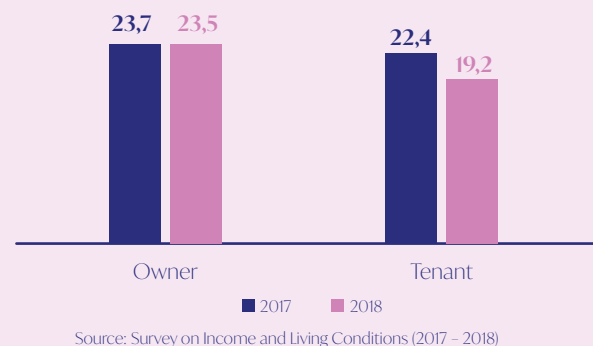
Figure 5: At-risk-of-poverty rate by the most frequent activity status in the labour market (%)



At-risk-of-poverty rate by tenure status

- In 2017 and 2018, at-risk-of-poverty rate was higher for owners than tenants. Specifically, at-risk-of-poverty rate for owners was 23.7% in 2017 and 23.5% in 2018, and for tenants it was 22.4% in 2017 and 19.2% in 2018 (Figure 6).

Figure 6: At-risk-of-poverty rate by tenure status (%)



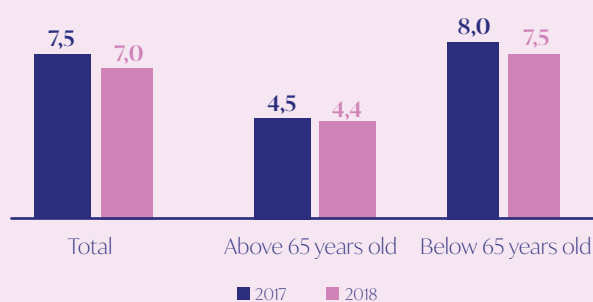
At-risk-of-poverty threshold

- At-risk-of-poverty threshold was 145,017 lekë in 2017, and 160,742 lekë in 2018.

Inequality of income distribution, quintile ratio S80/S20

- Inequality of income distribution was 7.5% in 2017 and 7.0% in 2018.
- In 2017 and 2018, inequality of income distribution was higher among those below 65 years old. The difference between the two groups – below 65 years old and above 65 years old – was substantial (Figure 7).

Figure 7: Inequality of income distribution, quintile ratio S80/S20 (%)



Source: Survey on Income and Living Conditions (2017 – 2018)

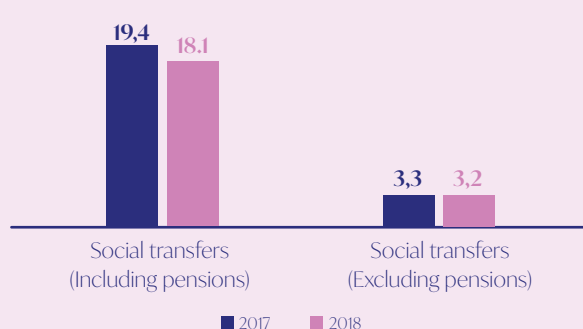
Relative at-risk-of-poverty gap

- The relative-at-risk-of-poverty gap was 33.4% in 2017 and 32.4% in 2018.

Inequality of income distribution – Gini coefficient

- The value of the Gini coefficient was 36.8 in 2017 and 35.4 in 2018.

Figure 8: Share of social transfers (%)



Source: Survey on Income and Living Conditions (2017 – 2018)

At-persistent-risk-of-poverty rate (50% of the median)

- At-persistent-risk-of-poverty rate was 17.5% in 2017 and 17.3% in 2018.

In-work poverty (full /part time)

- In-work poverty was 17.9% in 2017 and 16.5% in 2018.

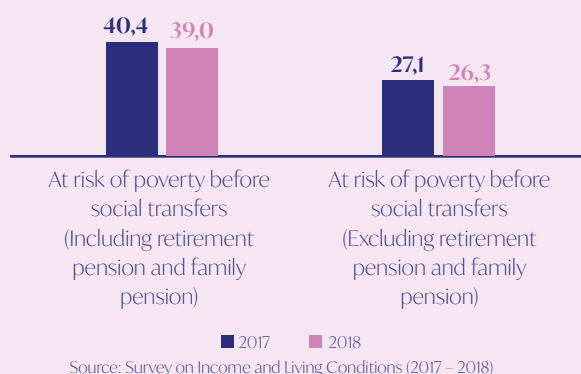
Share of social transfers

- The share of social transfers – including pensions – declined from 19.4% in 2017 to 18.1% in 2018.
- The share of social transfers – excluding pensions – was 3.3% in 2017 and 3.2% in 2018 (Figure 8).

Efficiency and effectiveness of social transfers

- At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers – including retirement pension and family pension – was 40.4% in 2017 and 39.0% in 2018.
- At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers – excluding retirement pension and family pension – was 27.1% in 2017 and 26.3% in 2018 (Figure 9).

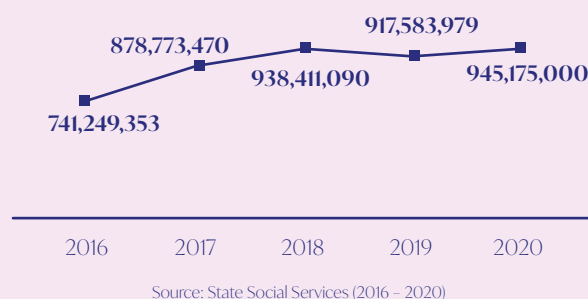
Figure 9: Efficiency and effectiveness of social transfers (%)



Social protection budget

- Social protection budget increased from 741,249,353 lekë in 2016 to 945,175,000 lekë in 2020. The increase was substantial during 2016 – 2018, followed by a decrease in 2019 and an increase in 2020 (Figure 10).

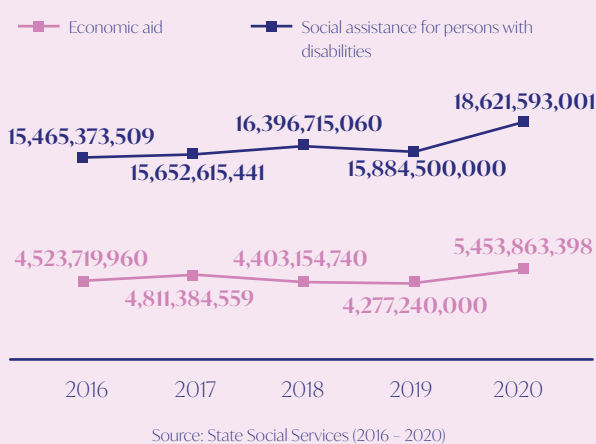
Figure 10: Social protection budget



Economic aid and social assistance expenditure

- Social assistance expenditure increased during the period 2016 – 2018. It declined in 2019, and it increased in 2020. In 2020, social assistance expenditure was 18,621,593,001 lekë, compared to 15,884,500,000 lekë in 2019 – a difference of 2,737,093,001 lekë.
- Economic aid expenditure increased from 2016 to 2017. It declined in 2018 and, further, in 2019. Similar to social assistance expenditure, economic aid expenditure increased in 2020. In 2020, economic aid expenditure was 5,453,863,398 lekë, compared to 4,277,240,000 lekë in 2019 – a difference of 1,176,623,398 lekë. Figure 11 displays economic aid expenditure and social assistance expenditure during 2016 – 2020.

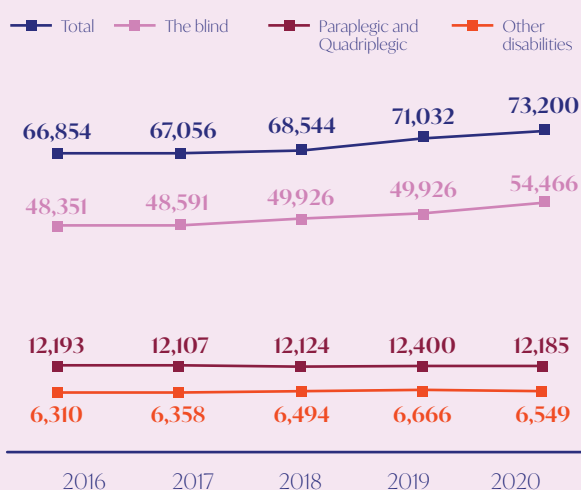
Figure 11: Economic aid and social assistance expenditure



Number of beneficiaries with disabilities

- The number of persons with disabilities who benefited from State Social Services increased from 66,854 in 2016 to 73,200 in 2020.
- The number of personal assistants supporting persons with disabilities was 19,402 in 2020.
- The number of the blind, paraplegics and quadriplegics who benefited social services increased from 2016 to 2019. The opposite pattern was found in 2020. The number of the blind who received social services declined from 12,400 in 2019 to 12,185 in 2020. The number of paraplegics and quadriplegics declined from 6,666 in 2019 to 6,549 in 2020.
- The number of persons with other types of disabilities increased from 51,967 in 2019 to 54,466 in 2020 (Figure 12).
- The number of persons with disabilities (work-related disabilities) who benefited from the social insurance program was 74,391.

Figure 12: Number of beneficiaries with disabilities

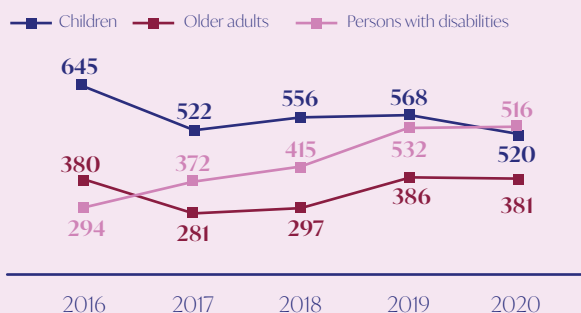


Source: State Social Services (2016 – 2020)

Number of beneficiaries: residential services

- The number of children who received residential services decreased from 645 in 2016 to 516 in 2020.
- The number of older adults who received residential services increased from 294 in 2016 to 532 in 2019. The number decreased to 520 in 2020.
- The number of persons with disabilities who benefited residential services decreased from 380 in 2016 to 281 in 2017. The number of beneficiaries increased in 2018 and 2019 (Figure 13).

Figure 13: Number of beneficiaries – residential services – by group

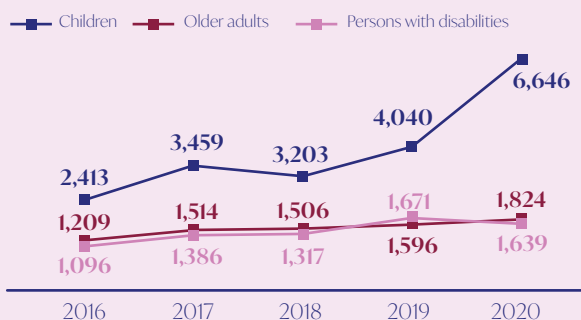


Source: State Social Services (2016 – 2020)

Number of beneficiaries: daily services

- The number of children, older adults, and persons with disabilities who received daily services increased from 2016 to 2020. The comparison across groups shows that the increase was substantial especially for children, particularly during 2020. Figure 14 presents the number of beneficiaries by group during 2016 – 2020.

Figure 14: Number of beneficiaries – daily services – by group

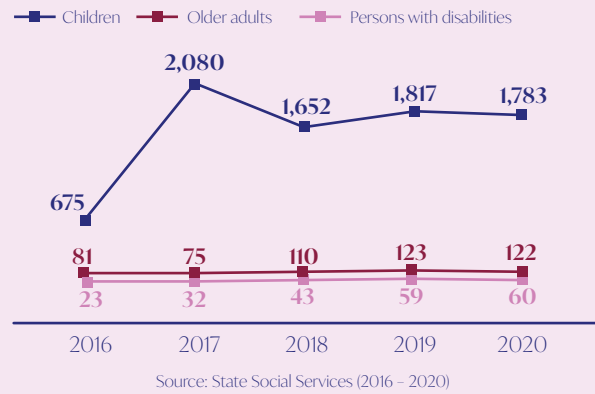


Source: State Social Services (2016 – 2020)

Number of beneficiaries: Roma community

- The data show that it is mainly Roma children who benefit from State Social Services. The number of children increased significantly from 675 in 2016 to 2,080 in 2017 – the year with the highest number of beneficiaries. The number of older adults who benefited from State Social Services increased from 81 in 2016 to 122 in 2020. The number of persons with disabilities increased from 23 in 2016 to 60 in 2020 (Figure 15).

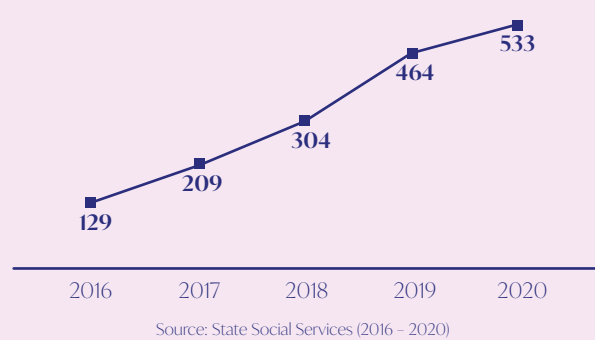
Figure 15: Number of beneficiaries – Roma community – by group



Victims of domestic violence

- The number of victims of domestic violence – recorded by State Social Services – increased from 129 in 2016 to 533 in 2020 – a multifold increase in a period of five years (Figure 16).

Figure 16: Victims of domestic violence

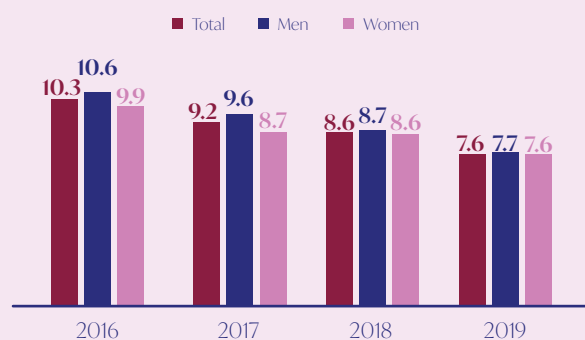


Employment and skills

Long-term unemployment rate

- The long-term unemployment rate declined from 10.3% in 2016 to 7.6% in 2019.
- The gender gap declined from 0.7 percentage points in 2016 to 0.1 percentage points in 2019. In 2019, the long-term unemployment rate was 7.7% for men and 7.6% for women (Figure 17).

Figure 17: Long-term unemployment rate by gender (%)

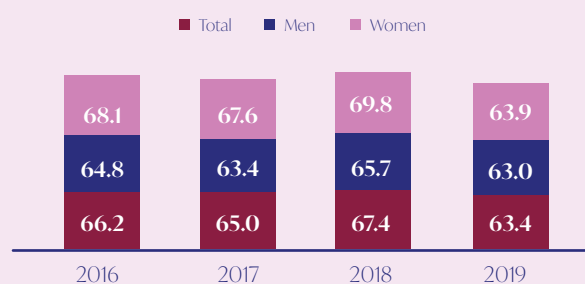


Source: Labor Force Survey (2016 – 2019)

Share of long-term unemployed (in the total number of the unemployed)

- The share of long-term unemployed (in the total number of the unemployed) declined from 66.2% in 2016 to 63.4% in 2019.
- During 2016 – 2019, the share of long-term unemployed was higher for women than men. For instance, the share of long-term unemployed in 2018 was 65.7% for men and 69.8% for women. Over time, the gender gap diminished. In 2019, the difference between women and men was 0.9 percentage points, compared to 3.3 percentage points in 2016 (Figure 18).

Figure 18: Share of long-term unemployed in the total number of the unemployed by gender (%)

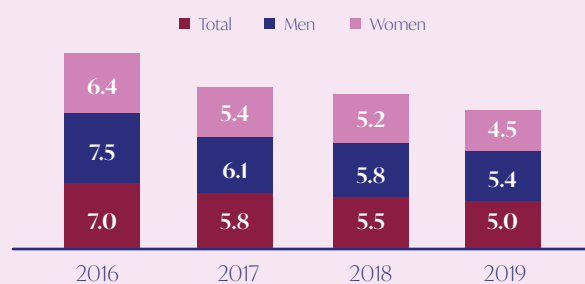


Source: Labor Force Survey (2016 – 2019)

Very long-term unemployment rate

- Very long-term unemployment rate declined from 7.0% in 2016 to 5.0% in 2019.
- During 2016 – 2019, the very long-term unemployment rate was higher for men than women. For instance, the very long-term unemployment rate in 2019 was 5.4% for men and 4.5% for women (Figure 19).

Figure 19: Very long-term unemployment rate by gender (%)

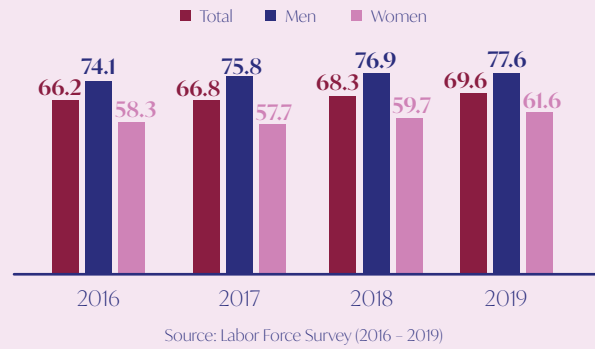


Source: Labor Force Survey (2016 – 2019)

Activity rate

- Activity rate increased from 66.2% in 2016 to 69.6% in 2019.
- During 2016 – 2019, the activity rate was higher for men. For example, the activity rate in 2019 was 77.6% for men and 61.6% for women – a gender gap of 16 percentage points (Figure 20).

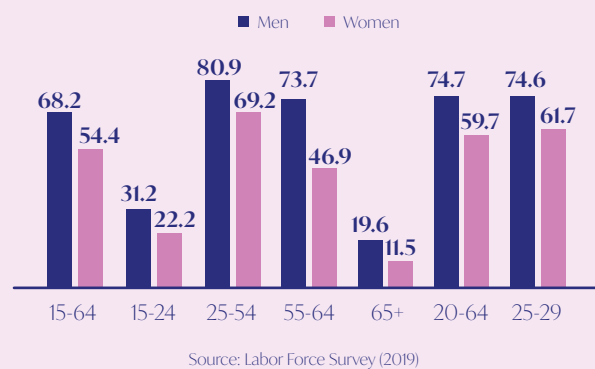
Figure 20: Activity rate by gender (%)



Employment rate by age group and gender

- The employment rate for the age group 15 – 64 years old increased from 55.9% in 2016 to 61.2% in 2019.
- During 2016-2019, the employment rate was higher among the age group 25 – 54 years old, compared to other age groups. Meanwhile, lower employment rates were found among the age group 15 – 24 years old (65+ years old not included).
- The employment rate was lower among women of all age groups.
- In 2019, the employment rate for women between 15 and 64 years old was 54.4%; meanwhile, it was 68.2% for men between 15 and 64 years old – a difference of 13.8 percentage points. Figure 21 presents the difference between women and men for the year 2019.

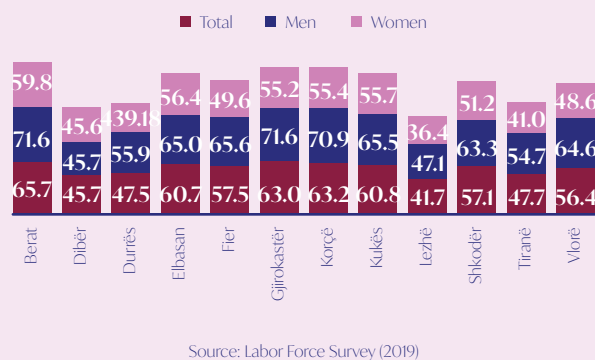
Figure 21: Employment rate by gender and age group (%)



Employment rate by region and gender

- In 2016, the regions with the highest employment rate were Elbasan (57.7%), Fier (54.4%), and Berat (54.0%). Meanwhile, the regions with the lowest employment rate were Kukës (42.5%), Tirana (43.1%), and Vloa (45.2%). In 2019, Berat (65.7%), Korça (63.2%), and Gjirokastra (63.0%) were the regions with the highest employment rate; meanwhile, Lezha (41.7%), Dibra (45.7%), and Durrës (47.5%) were the regions with the lowest employment rate.
- In 2019, the regions with the highest employment rate for men were Berat (71.6%), Gjirokastra (71.6%), and Korça (70.9%); meanwhile, the regions with the highest employment rate

Figure 22: Employment rate by region and gender (%)



for women were Berat (59.8%), Elbasan (56.4%), and Kukës (55.7%). In 2019, the regions with the lowest employment rate for men were Dibra (45.7%), Lezha (47.1%), and Tirana (54.7%), and the regions with the lowest employment rate for women were Lezha (36.4%), Durrës (39.1%), and Tirana (41.0%). Figure 22 presents employment rate by region and gender for the year 2019.

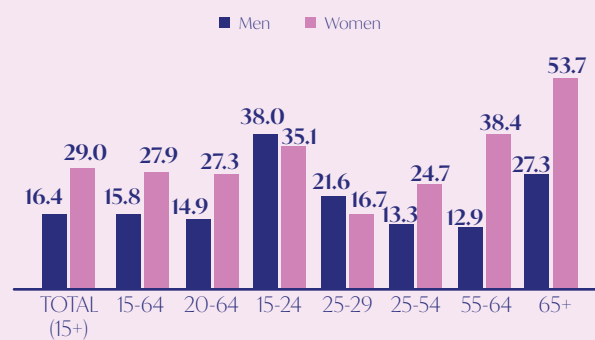
Share of self-employed

- The share of self-employed declined from 34.9% in 2016 to 32.3% in 2019.
- The share of self-employed was higher among men. In 2019, the share of self-employed was 39.6% for men and 23.1% for women. The age group 25 – 29 years old comprised the lowest share of self-employed.

Share of those working (with no pay) in the family business

- The share of those working (with no pay) in the family business declined from 23.9% in 2016 to 22.0% in 2019.
- The share of women working (with no pay) in the family business was higher among all age groups, except women between 15 and 29 years old. Figure 23 displays the share of those working (with no pay) in the family business by gender for the year 2019.

Figure 23: Share of those working (with no pay) in the family business by gender and age group (%)

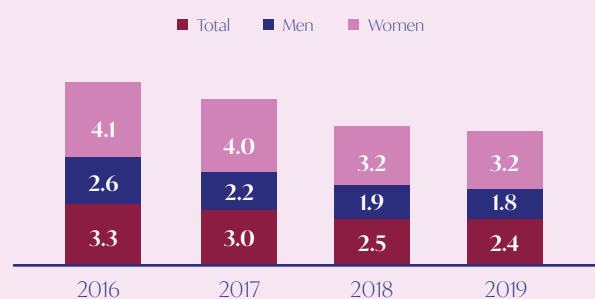


Source: Labor Force Survey (2019)

Share of the employed with less than 15 work hours per week

- The share of those employed less than 15 work hours per week declined from 3.3% in 2016 to 2.4% in 2019.
- The share of those employed less than 15 work hours per week was higher for women than men. The gender gap was substantial. In 2019, the share of those employed less than 15 work hours per week was 3.2% for women and 1.8% for men (Figure 24).

Figure 24: Share of the employed with less than 15 work hours per week by gender (%)



Source: Labor Force Survey (2016 – 2019)

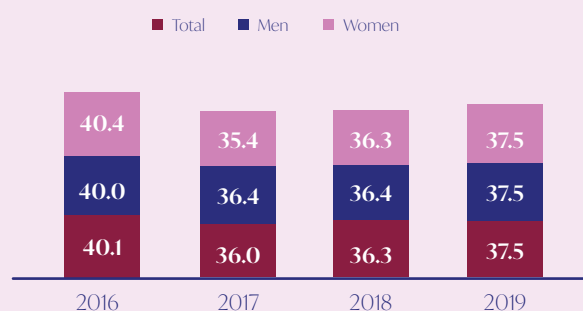
Household labour intensity

- Household labour intensity declined from 14.4% in 2017 to 13.3% in 2018.

Share of the informally employed

- The share of the informally employed declined from 40.1% in 2016 to 37.5% in 2019.
- The gender gap disappeared in 2019 (Figure 25).

Figure 25: Share of the informally employed by gender (%)

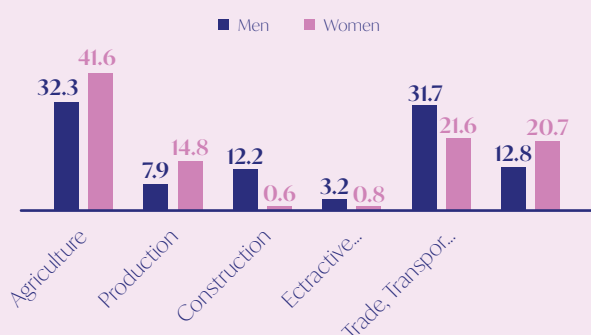


Source: Labor Force Survey (2016 – 2019)

Sectoral employment structure

- During 2016 – 2019, agriculture constituted the main economic activity. Women were more engaged in the following economic activities: agriculture; production; and public administration and social services. Men were more engaged in the following economic activities: construction; extractive industry, energy, gas, and water supply; and trade, transportation, hotels, business and administrative services. Figure 26 displays sectoral employment structure by gender in 2019.

Figure 26: Sectoral employment structure by gender (%)

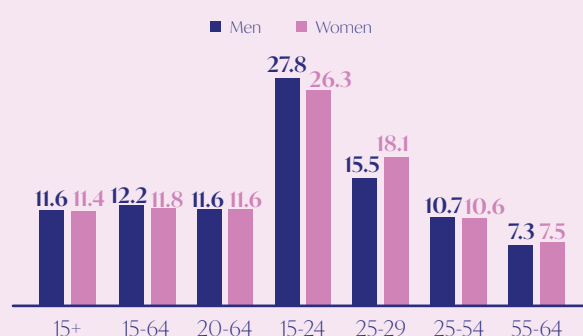


Source: Labor Force Survey (2019)

Unemployment rate by age group and gender

- The unemployment rate declined from 15.2% in 2016 to 11.5% in 2019. The declining pattern was found among women and men.
- During 2016 – 2019, the unemployment rate was higher among the age group 15 – 24 years old. The gender gap gradually diminished. In 2019, the unemployment rate for the age group 15+ was 11.6% for men and 11.4% for women.
- The unemployment rate for persons between the ages of 25 and 29 years old was higher among women. The reverse pattern was found for persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years old – the unemployment rate was higher among men. Figure 27 presents the unemployment rate by gender in 2019.

Figure 27: Unemployment rate by gender and age group (%)

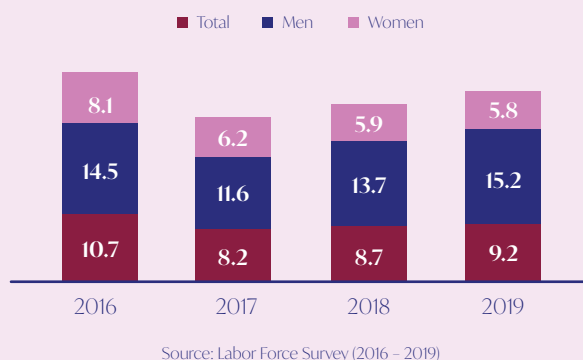


Source: Labor Force Survey (2019)

Share of the unemployed who gave up on job search

- The share of the unemployed who gave up on job search declined from 10.7% in 2016 to 8.2% in 2017. It increased to 8.7% in 2018 and 9.2% in 2019.
- The share of the unemployed men who gave up on job search declined from 2016 to 2017, to increase again in 2018 and 2019. In 2019, the share of the unemployed men who gave up on job search was higher than in 2016 – 15.2% vs. 14.5%. The share of the unemployed women who gave up on job search declined from 8.1% in 2016 to 5.8% in 2019 (Figure 28).

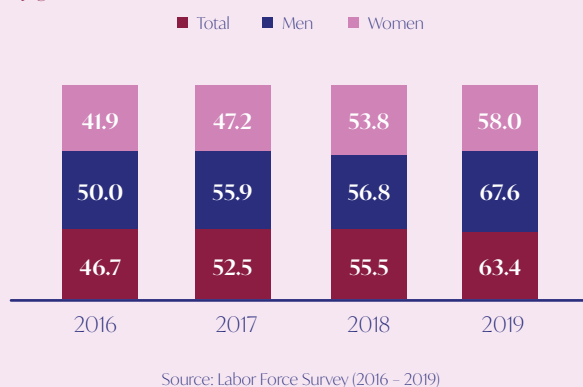
Figure 28: Share of the unemployed who gave up on job search by gender (%)



Share of the unemployed not registered with the National Employment Service (NES)

- The share of the unemployed not registered with the NES increased from 46.7% in 2016 to 63.4% in 2019.
- During 2016 – 2019, the share of the unemployed not registered with the NES was higher among men (Figure 29).

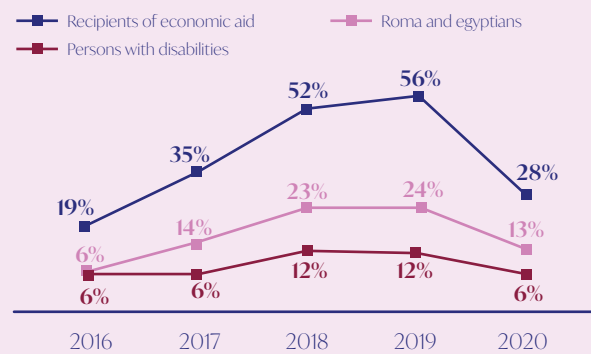
Figure 29: Share of the unemployed not registered with the NES by gender (%)



Share of the unemployed included in Active Labor Market Programs

- The share of registered unemployed jobseekers included in Active Labor Market Programs increased from 33% in 2016 to 63% in 2019. The share decreased to 38% in 2020.
- Figure 30 displays the share of registered unemployed jobseekers among recipients of economic aid, Roma and Egyptians, and persons with disabilities. The share of unemployed jobseekers included in Active Labor Market Programs was higher among persons with disabilities. In 2019, 56% of persons with disabilities who were unemployed jobseekers were part of Active Labor Market Programs. The share was lower for Roma and Egyptians, and recipients of economic aid.
- In 2020, the share of unemployed jobseekers included in Active Labor Market Programs declined for all groups: The share of Roma and Egyptians declined from 24% in 2019 to 13% in 2020, the share of recipients of economic aid declined from 12% in 2019 to 6% in 2020, and the share of persons with disabilities declined from 56% in 2019 to 28% in 2020 (Figure 30).

Figure 30: Share of the unemployed included in Active Labor Market Programs by group



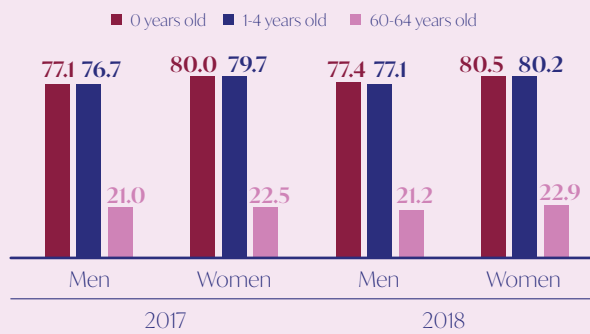
Source: National Agency for Employment and Skills (2016-2019)

Health

Life expectancy by age group and gender

- In 2017 and 2018, women had higher life expectancy than men. In 2018, life expectancy – at 0 years old – was 80.5 years for women and 77.4 years for men (Figure 31).

Figure 31: Life expectancy by gender and age group

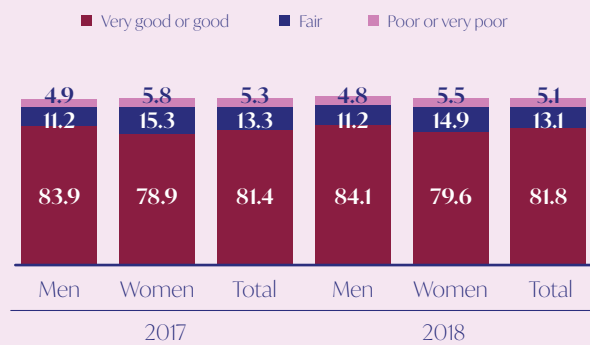


Source: Survey on Income and Living Conditions (2017 – 2018)

Self-perceived medical status

- Self-perceived medical status improved slightly from 2017 to 2018.
- In 2017 and 2018, women – compared to men – were less likely to perceive their medical status as “very good or good” (Figure 32).

Figure 32: Self-perceived medical status by gender (%)



Source: Survey on Income and Living Conditions (2017 – 2018)

Cervical cancer

- The number of cases of cervical cancer in 2016, 2017, and 2018 was 118, 124, and 124, respectively.
- The incidence rate (per 100,000 women) of cervical cancer was 8.3 in 2016, 8.7 in 2017, and 8.7 in 2018.

Colorectal cancer

- The number of cases of colorectal cancer was 321 in 2016, 429 in 2017, and 392 in 2018.
- During 2016-2018, the number of new cases was higher among men than women.
- The incidence rate (per 100,000 people) of colorectal cancer increased from 11.2 in 2016 to 13.7 in 2018.
- During 2016-2018, the incidence rate (per 100,000 people) of colorectal cancer was higher among men than women. In 2018, the incidence rate (per 100,000 people) of colorectal cancer was 16.8 for men and 10.5 for women.

Tuberculosis

- The number of tuberculosis cases declined from 413 in 2016 to 240 in 2020.
- The incidence rate (per 100,000 people) of tuberculosis declined from 14.4 in 2016 to 8.5 in 2020.

Infant mortality rate (0-1 years old) / 1,000 live births¹¹

- Referring to the Institute of Statistics, child mortality rate, infant mortality rate, and neonatal mortality rate increased from 2017 to 2019 (Figure 33).
- Referring to the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, child mortality rate, infant mortality rate, and neonatal mortality rate were lower in 2019 than 2016 (Figure 34).

Figure 33: Child mortality rate, infant mortality rate, and neonatal mortality rate

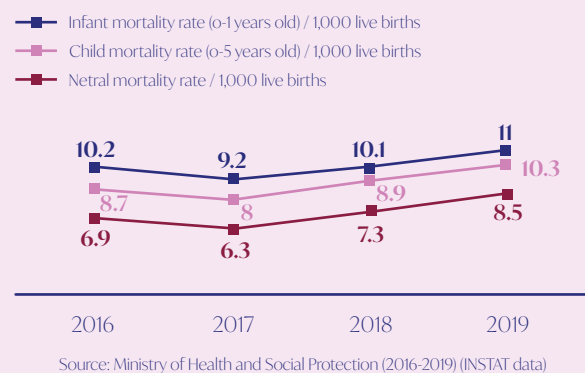
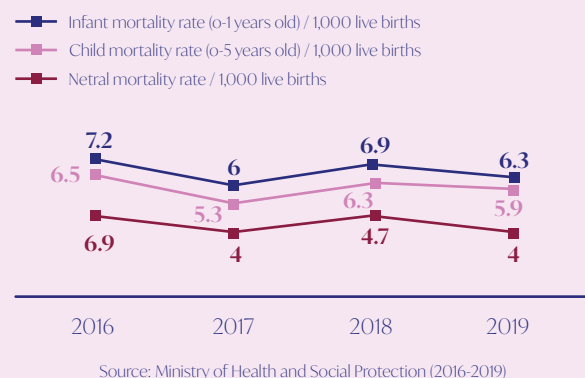


Figure 34: Child mortality rate, infant mortality rate, and neonatal mortality rate

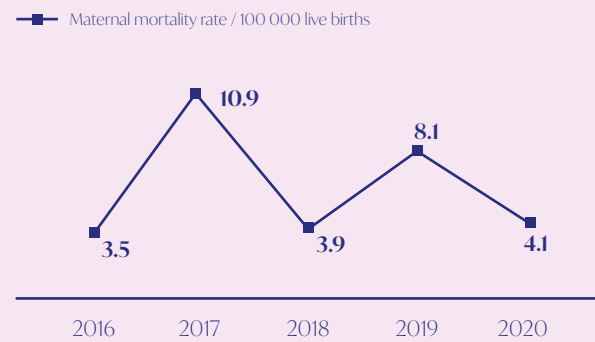


11. Child mortality rate, infant mortality rate, and neonatal mortality rate are reported from two sources: the Institute of Statistics and the Ministry of Health and Social Protection. The Ministry of Health and Social Protection refers to the data collected from public institutions. The Institute of Statistics refers to the data collected from civil registry offices (death records).

Maternal mortality rate / 100,000 live births

- During 2016-2020, maternal mortality rate fluctuated considerably. It increased from 3.5 in 2016 to 10.9 in 2017. It declined to 3.9 in 2018, and it increased to 8.1 in 2019. In 2020, maternal mortality rate was 4.1 – a value higher than in 2016 (Figure 35).

Figure 35: Maternal mortality rate

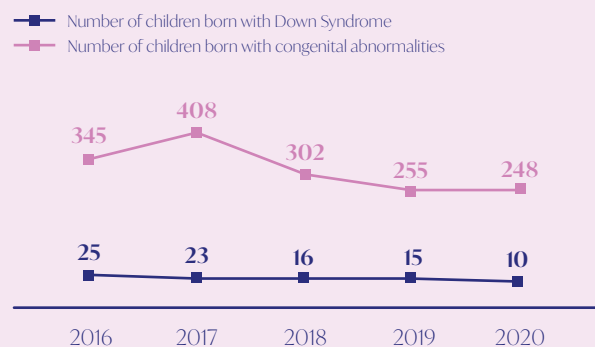


Source: Ministry of Health and Social Protection (2016-2020)

Number of children born with Down syndrome and congenital abnormalities

- The number of children born with Down syndrome in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 was 25, 23, 16, 15, and 10, respectively; The number of children born with congenital abnormalities was 345, 408, 302, 255, and 243, respectively (Figure 36).

Figure 36: Number of children born with Down syndrome and congenital abnormalities



Source: Ministry of Health and Social Protection (2016-2020)

Number of new cases of breast cancer

- In 2016, the number of new cases of breast cancer was 672. The number increased to 713 in 2017. It decreased to 708 in 2018 and 678 in 2019.

Number of abortions

- The number of abortions declined from 5,410 in 2016 to 4,425 in 2020.

Hospitalisation rates

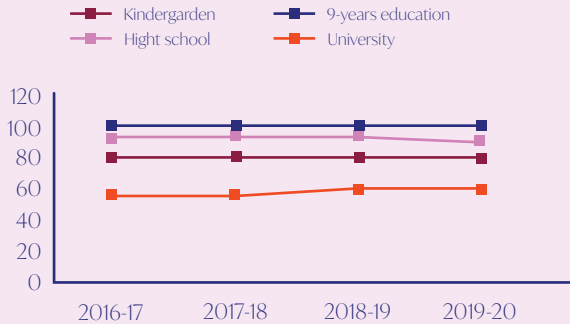
- The average length of stay declined from 5.3 in 2016 to 4.5 in 2020 – the decline occurred in 2020. A similar pattern was found for the percentage of bed usage and bed occupancy rate. The percentage of bed usage declined from 49.9 in 2019 to 31.4 in 2020. The bed occupancy rate declined from 34.4 in 2019 to 25.4 in 2020.

Education and training

Gross enrollment ratio

- The gross enrollment ratio in kindergartens declined from 81.5% during 2016-2017 to 79.9% during 2019-2020. A declining pattern was also found for the two other levels of education – 9-year education and high school education. The gross enrollment ratio at the university level increased from 56% during 2016-2017 to 59.5% during 2019 – 2020 (Figure 37).

Figure 37: Gross enrollment ratio (%)

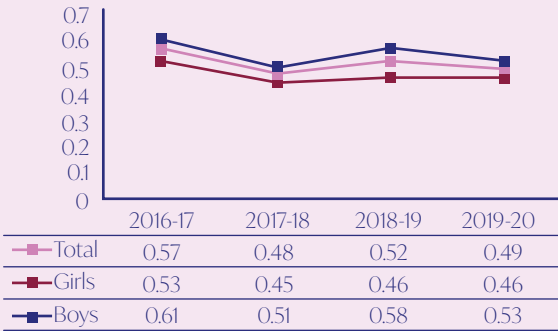


Source: Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth (2016 – 2020)

School dropout rate basic education

- The dropout rate declined from 0.57% during the academic year 2016-2017 to 0.49% during the academic year 2019-2020. During 2016-2020, the dropout rate was higher for boys than girls (Figure 38).
- The dropout rate declined in urban and rural areas. During the academic year 2019-2020, the dropout rate was 0.50% in urban areas and 0.49% in rural areas.

Figure 38: School dropout rate basic education by gender(%)

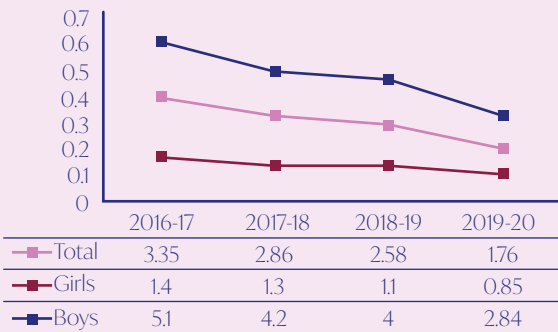


Source: Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth (2016 – 2020)

School dropout rate upper secondary education

- The dropout rate decreased from 3.35% during the academic year 2016-2017 to 1.76% during the academic year 2019-2020. The dropout rate declined for both girls and boys. During 2016-2020, the dropout rate was higher for boys than girls (Figure 39).
- During 2016-2020, the dropout rate was higher in rural areas. During the academic year 2019-2020, the percentage of dropouts was 1.18 in urban areas and 3.4 in rural areas.

Figure 39: School dropout rate – upper secondary education – by gender (%)



Source: Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth (2016 – 2020)

Number of children with disabilities (physical and mental) in the education system

- The number of children with disabilities in pre-school education, basic education, and upper secondary education increased from 3,771 during the period 2016-2017 to 4,686 during the period 2018-2019, and it declined to 4,573 during the period 2019-2020. The number of children with disabilities attending special schools declined from 659 during the period 2016-2017 to 527 during the period 2019-2020 (Figure 40).
- The number of children with disabilities attending basic education declined from 3,664 during the period 2018-2019 to 3,550 during the period 2019-2020 (Figure 41).

Figure 40: Number of children with disabilities in the education system

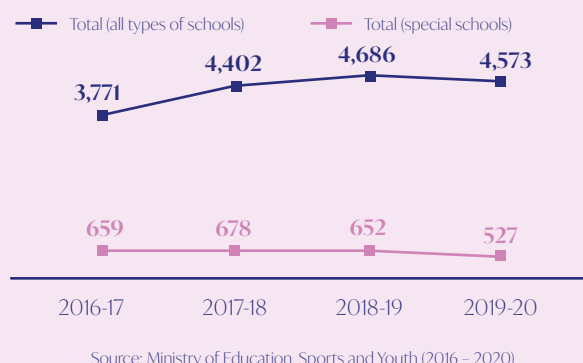
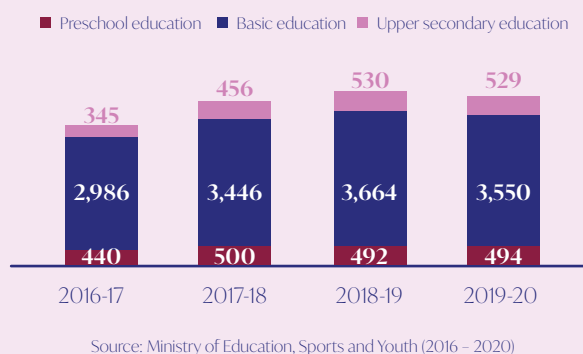


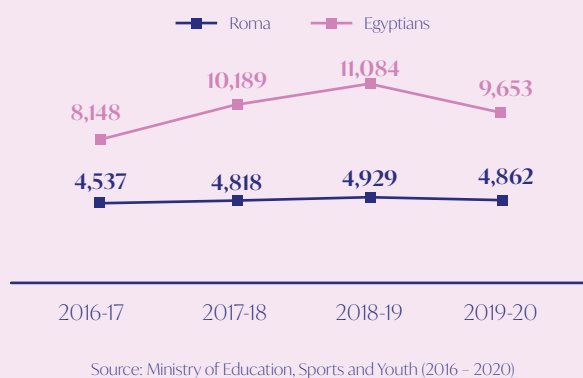
Figure 41: Number of children with disabilities attending different levels of education



Number of Roma and Egyptian pupils – preuniversity education

- The number of Roma pupils attending preuniversity education increased from 4,537 during the period 2016-2017 to 4,929 during 2018-2019. The number decreased to 4,862 during the period 2019-2020.
- The number of Egyptian pupils attending preuniversity education increased from 8,148 during the period 2016-2017 to 11,084 during the period 2018-2019. The number declined to 9,653 during the period 2019-2020 (Figure 42).

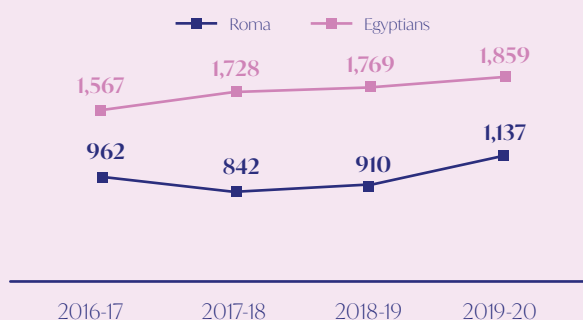
Figure 42: Number of Roma and Egyptian pupils attending preuniversity education



Number of Roma and Egyptian pupils – preschool education

- The number of Roma pupils attending preschool education decreased from 962 during the period 2016-2017 to 842 during the period 2017-2018. The number increased to 910 during the period 2018-2019 and 1,137 during the period 2019-2020.
- The number of Egyptian pupils attending preschool education increased from 1,567 during the period 2016-2017 to 1,859 during the period 2019-2020 (Figure 43).

Figure 43: Number of Roma and Egyptian pupils attending preschool education

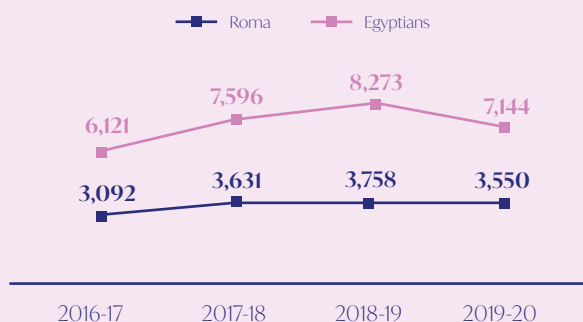


Source: Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth (2016 – 2020)

Number of Roma and Egyptian pupils basic education

- The number of Roma pupils attending basic education increased from 3,092 during the period 2016-2017 to 3,758 during the period 2018-2019. The number decreased to 3,550 during 2019-2020. A similar pattern was found among Egyptian pupils. During 2019-2020, the number of Egyptian pupils attending basic education was 7,144 (Figure 44).

Figure 44: Number of Roma and Egyptian pupils attending basic education

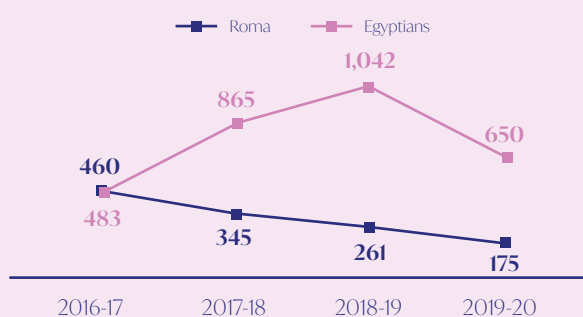


Source: Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth (2016 – 2020)

Number of Roma and Egyptian pupils upper secondary education

- The number of Roma pupils attending upper secondary education declined from 483 during the academic year 2016-2017 to 175 during the academic year 2019-2020. The declining pattern was present during 2016-2020.
- The number of Egyptian pupils attending upper secondary education increased from 460 during the academic year 2016-2017 to 1,042 during the academic year 2018-2019. The number declined to 650 during the period 2019-2020 (Figure 45).

Figure 45: Number of Roma and Egyptian pupils attending upper secondary education

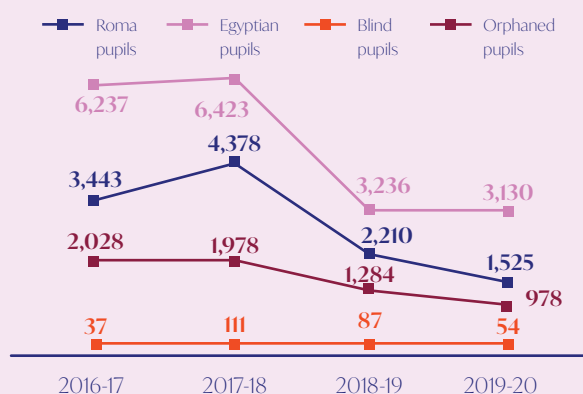


Source: Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth (2016 – 2020)

Access to free textbooks

- Access to free textbooks declined significantly after the academic year 2017-2018. The decline was present among Roma, Egyptian, blind, and orphaned pupils. For instance, the number of orphaned pupils who received free textbooks during 2016-2017 was 2,208. The number declined to 978 during 2019-2020 (Figure 46).

Figure 46: Access to free textbooks by group

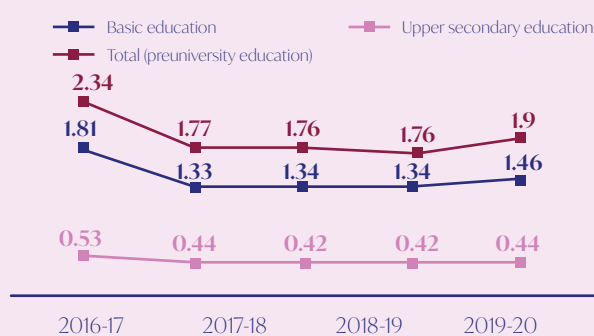


Source: Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth (2016 – 2020)

Education expenditure as percentage of GDP

- Education expenditure for preuniversity education declined from 2.34% in 2016 to 1.90% in 2020. A declining pattern was found for both levels of education – basic education and upper secondary education. Specifically, education expenditure for basic education declined from 1.81% in 2016 to 1.46% in 2020, and education expenditure for upper secondary education declined from 0.53% in 2016 to 0.44% in 2020 (Figure 47).

Figure 47: Education expenditure as percentage of GDP (%)



Source: Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth (2016 – 2020)

Basic needs

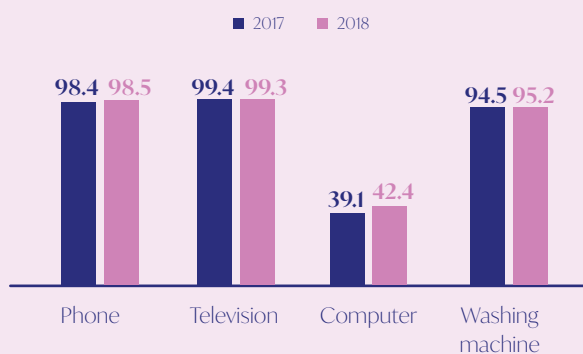
Financial burden imposed by housing-related costs

- Financial burden imposed by housing-related costs decreased from 9.2% in 2017 to 6% in 2018.

Possession of household appliances

- The possession of computers increased from 39.1% in 2017 to 42.4% in 2018. The possession of other household appliances – phone, television, and washing machine – changed only slightly (Figure 48).

Figure 48: Possession of household appliances (%)



Source: Survey on Income and Living Conditions (2017 – 2018)

Quality of clothing

- Over time, the replacement of old clothes with new ones became less common – it declined from 37.0% in 2017 to 25.3% in 2018. Similarly, having two pairs of shoes became less common – it declined from 12.0% in 2017 to 7.7% in 2018 (Figure 49).

Figure 49: Quality of clothing (%)

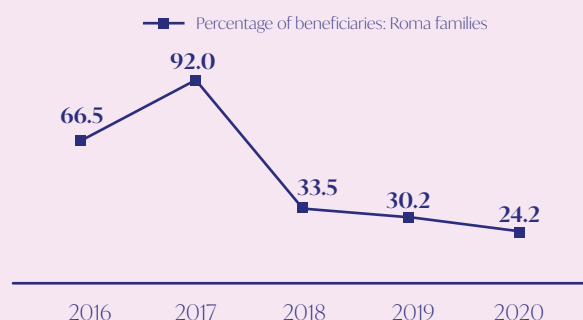


Source: Survey on Income and Living Conditions (2017 – 2018)

Percentage of social housing beneficiaries: Roma families

- The percentage of Roma families that benefited from social housing (out of all beneficiaries) was 66.5 in 2016. The percentage reached 92 in 2017.¹² The percentage of Roma families that benefited from social housing programs in 2018 and 2019 was 33.5 and 30.2, respectively. In 2020, Roma families constituted 24.2% of social housing beneficiaries (Figure 50).

Figure 50: Percentage of social housing beneficiaries: Roma families



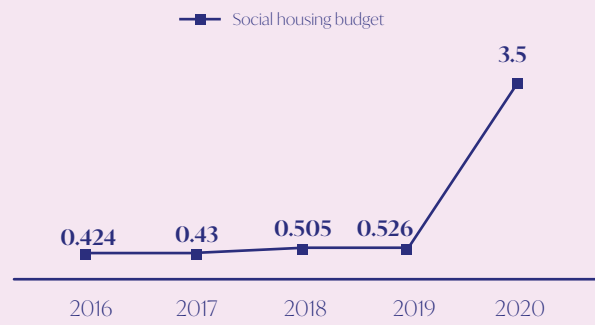
Source: Ministry of Finance and Economy (2016 – 2020)

12. For the period 2016-2017, the calculation was based only on capital expenditures – current expenditures were not included.

Social housing budget

- Social housing budget increased from 0.424 billion lekë in 2016 to 0.526 billion lekë in 2019. In 2020 – responding to the earthquake of 2019 – the budget increased to 3.5 billion lekë (Figure 51).

Figure 51: Social housing budget (in billion lekë)

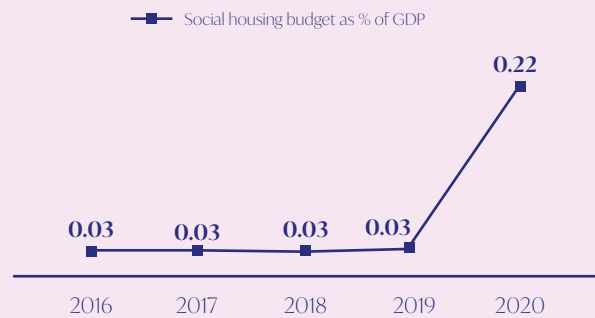


Source: Ministry of Finance and Economy (2016 – 2020)

Social housing budget as percentage of GDP

- Social housing budget comprised 0.03% of the GDP during 2016-2019. It increased to 0.22% in 2020 (Figure 52).

Figure 52: Social housing budget as percentage of GDP



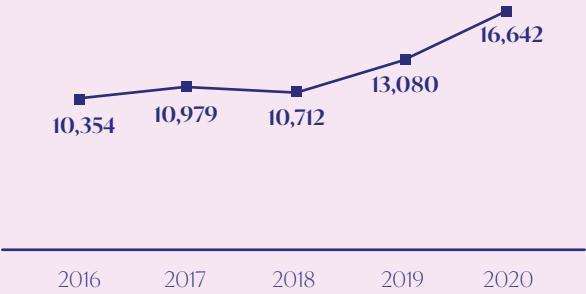
Source: Ministry of Finance and Economy (2016 – 2020)

Human rights

Number of beneficiaries

- The number of beneficiaries from State Social Services increased from 10,354 in 2016 to 16,642 in 2020. The largest increase in the number of beneficiaries occurred after 2018 (Figure 53).

Figure 53: Number of beneficiaries

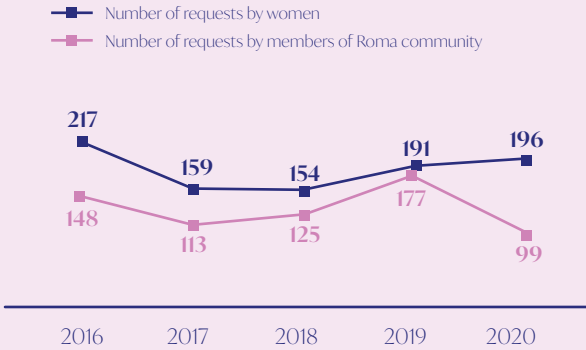


Source: State Social Services (2016 – 2020)

Number of requests made by women and members of the Roma community

- The number of requests addressed to State Social Services by women and members of the Roma community was lower in 2020 than in 2016. The number of requests made by members of the Roma community declined substantially, from 177 in 2019 to 99 in 2020 (Figure 54).

Figure 54: Number of requests made by women and members of the Roma community

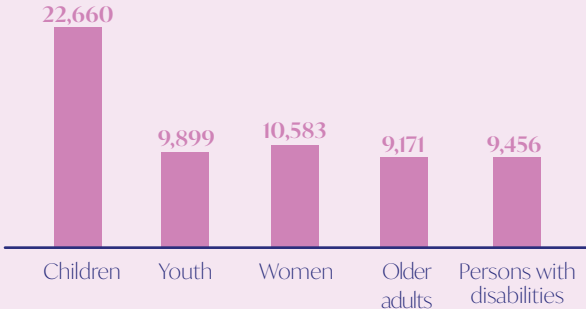


Source: State Social Services (2016 – 2020)

Number of beneficiaries by group

- During 2016 – 2020, children constituted the main beneficiaries of State Social Services. The number of children who received social services was 22,600. Other groups included women (10,583), youth (9,899), persons with disabilities (9,456), and older adults (9,171) (Figure 55).

Figure 55: Number of beneficiaries by group

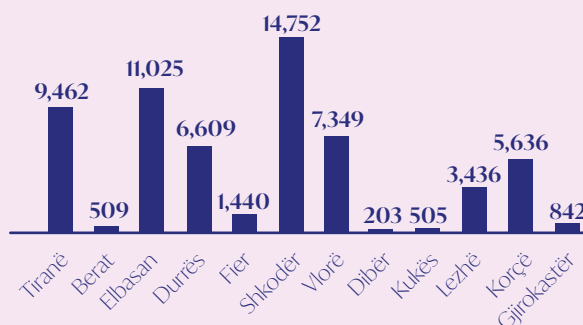


Source: State Social Services (2016 – 2020)

Number of requests by region

- During 2016 – 2020, the regions that addressed most requests to State Social Services were Shkodra, Elbasan, and Tirana. The regions with the lowest number of requests were Dibra, Kukës, and Berat (Figure 56).

Figure 56: Number of requests by region

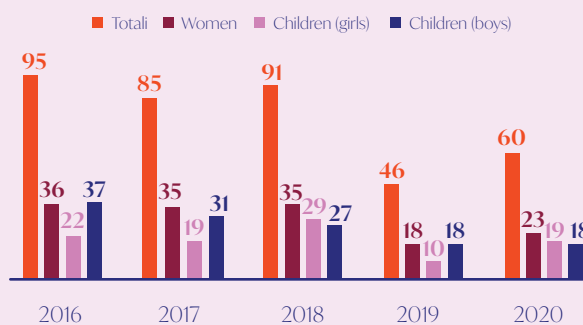


Source: State Social Services (2016 – 2020)

Number of cases of domestic violence addressed by the National Centre for Victims of Domestic Violence

- The number of cases of domestic violence addressed by the National Centre for Victims of Domestic Violence was 60 in 2020. This number was smaller than in 2016, 60 vs. 95. In 2019, only 46 cases of domestic violence were addressed by the National Centre for Victims of Domestic Violence (Figure 57).

Figure 57: Number of cases of domestic violence addressed by the National Centre for Victims of Domestic Violence



Source: State Social Services (2016 – 2020)

Number of neglected children who received supportive services

- The number of neglected children who received supportive services increased from 179 in 2016 to 229 in 2020. During 2016 – 2018, the increase occurred only among boys. Figure 58 displays the gender gap.

Figure 58: Number of neglected children who received supportive services by gender

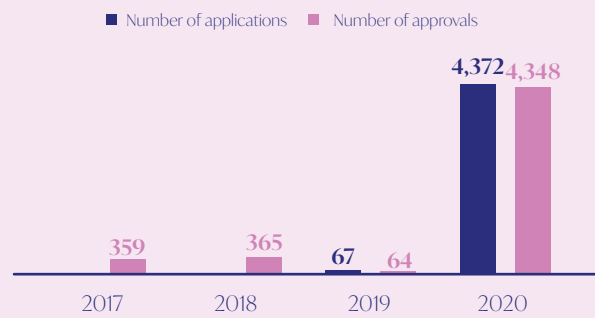


Source: State Social Services (2016 – 2020)

Applications for legal aid

- The number of applications for legal aid increased substantially – from 67 applications in 2019 to 4,372 applications in 2020. The number of approved applications increased from 359 in 2017 to 4,348 in 2020. The percentage of cases won was 95.5 in 2019 and 99.4 in 2020 (Figure 59).

Figure 59: Access to free legal aid

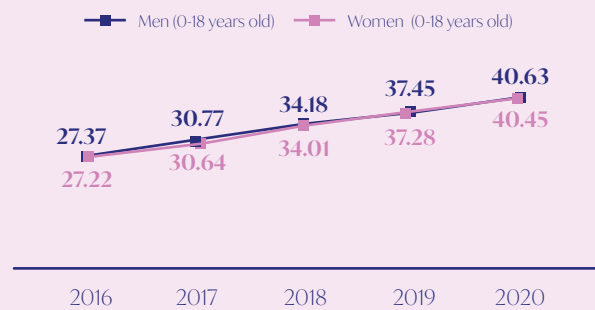


Source: State Directorate for Legal Aid (2017-2020)

Share of persons possessing a birth certificate

- The share of persons possessing a birth certificate increased from 2016 to 2020. Figure 60 displays the percentage of women and men, 0 – 18 years old, possessing a birth certificate.

Figure 60: Share of persons possessing a birth certificate by gender (%)

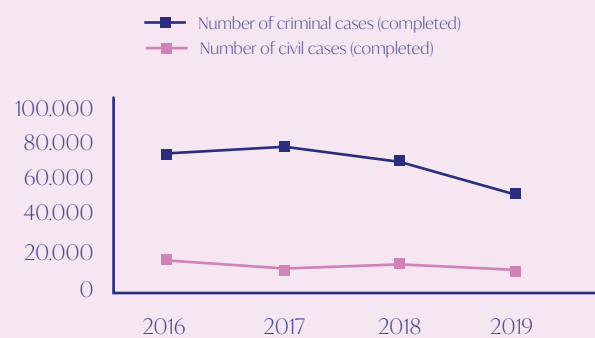


Source: Ministry of Interior (2016-2020)

Number of criminal cases (completed) and civil cases (completed)

- The number of criminal cases (completed) fell from 17,304 in 2016 to 11,531 in 2019.
- The number of civil cases (completed) fell from 74,297 in 2016 to 52,612 in 2019 (Figure 61).

Figure 61: Number of criminal cases (completed) and civil cases (completed)

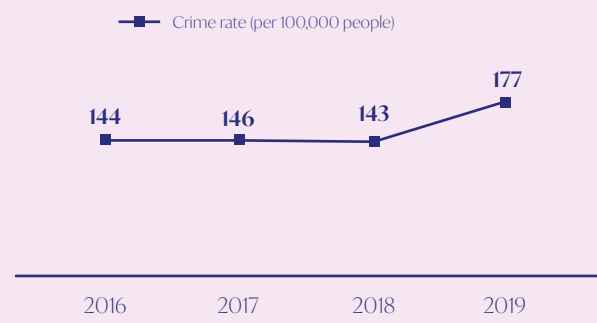


Source: Ministry of Justice (2016-2019)

Crime rate (per 100,000 people)

- The crime rate increased from 143 in 2018 to 177 in 2019 (Figure 62).

Figure 62: Crime rate

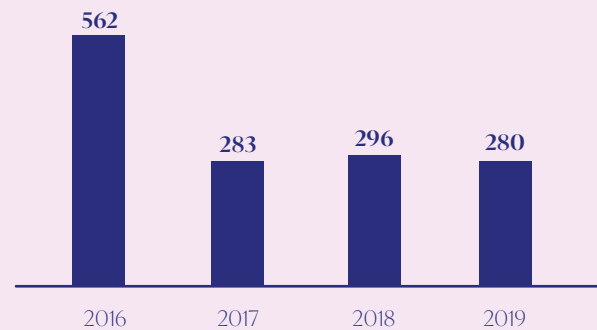


Source: Ministry of Justice (2016-2019)

Number of juvenile offenders

- The number of juvenile offenders declined from 562 in 2016 to 280 in 2019 (Figure 63).

Figure 63: Number of juvenile offenders



Source: Number of juvenile offenders (2016-2019)

Conclusions

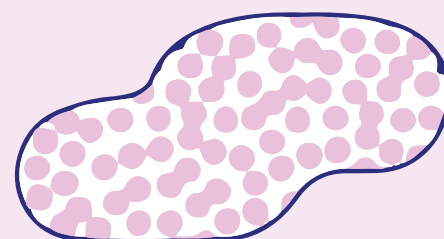
This report presented data on social inclusion in Albania across six policy domains, including financial poverty and social protection, employment and skills, health, education and training, basic needs, and human rights. The report relied on data reported by state institutions to provide an understanding of social inclusion in the country.

The analysis revealed a picture that is quite diverse. While some indicators have improved over time (e.g., *very long-term unemployment rate, school dropout rate in upper secondary education, the number of Egyptian pupils attending preschool education, the number of individuals who benefit from State Social Services, the number of applications for legal aid*), others have not changed significantly (e.g., *possession of household appliances including phone, television, and washing machine*) or have even worsened (e.g., *child mortality rate, the number of Roma pupils attending upper secondary education, access to free textbooks, education expenditure for preuniversity education, the number of cases of domestic violence addressed by the National Centre for Victims of Domestic Violence*). Findings highlight areas that need attention for each policy domain. They call for greater attention to those indicators that have worsened, first, to understand *why* they have worsened and, second, to design policy interventions with the goal of reversing the pattern.

The analysis indicated that some indicators worsened especially in 2020. For instance, the share of registered unemployed jobseekers included in Active Labor Market Programs increased from 33% in 2016 to 63% in 2019, and it decreased to 38% in 2020. Similar patterns were also found among the

number of children with disabilities in preschool education, basic education, and upper secondary education, and the number of Roma pupils attending preuniversity education. This trend could presumably be the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic, calling for policy interventions that seek to ameliorate the negative effects of the pandemic on social inclusion.

The Social Inclusion Policy Document (2016-2020) established eight thematic priorities for the period 2016-2020. To date, the first three thematic priorities have received more attention. Most efforts have been placed on collecting administrative data, establishing a baseline of social inclusion indicators, and publishing a glossary of terms for social inclusion. Other thematic priorities such as the promotion of policy dialogue on social inclusion through conferences and periodic events or the preparation of an annual report on social inclusion – based on quantitative and qualitative data – have received less attention. While the purpose of this report is not to assess the extent that thematic priorities have been accomplished, it draws attention to the importance of undertaking a series of measures to promote social inclusion in Albania. The data presented here can be used to initiate discussions that focus on what can be done to promote social inclusion across different policy domains.



Recommendations

Monitoring social inclusion across policy domains over time

- The efforts of monitoring social inclusion should extend over time, beyond the period 2015-2020. Rather than following a short route (i.e., institutional actors are asked to report data on social inclusion indicators), a longer and more sustainable route should be used (i.e., institutional actors collaborate during the process data collection, analysis, and reporting).

Addressing methodological concerns

- Understanding social inclusion in Albania and how it changes over time requires greater collaboration with state departments, ensuring that they collect data on social inclusion indicators. To conduct rigorous work in the future, it is important to address methodological challenges – through close collaboration with state departments – before proceeding with data collection. Some of the challenges that were faced while preparing this report were that the responsibility for data collection had shifted from one institution to another, institutions did not have data on some indicators or used different definitions of indicators, and institutional actors were not aware of the importance of using social inclusion indicators. It is important to address these challenges in the future.



Advancing the efforts of collecting and disaggregating administrative data by gender, ethnicity, and disability

- The analysis presented in this report revealed that data are not always disaggregated by gender, ethnicity, and disability. This was especially the case for ethnicity and disability (see e.g., indicators that concern access to justice). There were also instances of indicators for which there were no data (e.g., indicators on the quality of housing, neighborhood, and nutrition; hygiene; access to financial services; household indebtedness rate). The data presented in this report should be used to initiate a discussion on the importance of data disaggregation, and the ways that state institutions can advance their efforts of collecting data on social inclusion indicators and disaggregating the data by gender, ethnicity, and disability.

Examining the reasons behind data patterns

- The data presented in the report identify patterns. They do not explain why patterns change – improve, worsen, or remain the same. Future work should focus on the *why* – explain data patterns and use evidence to draw lessons and inform policy interventions.

Reviewing thematic priorities and setting the social inclusion agenda for the years to come

- It is important to review thematic priorities established in the Social Inclusion Policy Document (2016-2020) – to differentiate between those priorities that were fulfilled, were not fulfilled, and those priorities that were fulfilled only in part. The review can be used to draw lessons and initiate a discussion on the next social inclusion agenda, in line with the European Pillar of Social Rights. The review can inform the future work of the Thematic Group on Social Inclusion and Protection – an Integrated Policy Management Group led by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection. It is also important to consider indicators that capture recent development challenges – indicators that were not listed in the Social Inclusion Policy Document (2016-2020). These indicators can concern aspects that relate to, for instance, access to COVID-19 vaccines and access to social housing programs following the earthquake of November 2019.

Appendix A

Tables¹³

Financial poverty and social protection

Data source: Survey on Income and Living Conditions (2017 – 2018) – Institute of Statistics

Indicator	2017	2018
At-risk-of-poverty rate by gender (%)		
Men	23.5	23
Women	23.9	23.8
Total	23.7	23.4
At-risk-of-poverty rate by age group (%)		
0-17 years old	29.6	29.6
18-64	23.7	23.2
65+	13.4	14
Total	23.7	23.4
At-risk-of-poverty rate by household type (%)		
Families with dependent children	26.9	27.0
Families without dependent children	15.9	15.2
At-risk-of-poverty rate by the work intensity of household members (%)		
At-risk-of poverty rate for persons living in households with very low work intensity	61.8	64.2
At-risk-of poverty rate for persons living in households with low work intensity	34.3	42.0
At-risk-of-poverty rate by the most frequent activity status at the labour market and gender (%)		
Employed	17.9	16.5
Outside the labor force	25.3	25.7
Unemployed	38.8	37.1
Retired	13.4	14.2
Inactive	25.6	27.9
At-risk-of-poverty rate by tenure status (%)		
Owner	23.7	23.5
Tenant	22.4	19.2

13. Tables include more indicators than presented above.

At-risk-of-poverty threshold (%)		
At-risk-of-poverty threshold	145017	160742
Inequality of income distribution, quintile ratio S80/S20 (%)		
Total	7.5	7
Above 65 years old	4.5	4.4
Below 65 years old	8	7.5
Relative at-risk-of-poverty gap		
Relative at-risk-of-poverty gap (%)	33.4	32.4
Efficiency and effectiveness of social transfers (%)		
At-risk-of-poverty before social transfers (including retirement pension and family pension)	40.4	39
At-risk-of-poverty before social transfers (excluding retirement pension and family pension)	27.1	26.3
Inequality of income distribution – Gini coefficient		
GINI	36.8	35.4
At-persistent-risk-of-poverty rate (50% of the median) (%)		
Below 50% of the median	17.5	17.3
In-work poverty (full /part time) (%)		
Employment (18 years old and above)	17.9	16.5
Share of social transfers (other than pensions) (%)		
Social transfers (including pensions)	19.4	18.1
Social transfers (excluding pensions)	3.3	3.2
Household labour intensity		
Low labor intensity (%)	14.4	13.3

Data source: State Social Services (2016 – 2020)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Social protection expenditure	741,249,353	878,773,470	938,411,090	917,583,979	945,175,000
Economic aid expenditure	4,523,719,960	4,811,384,559	4,403,154,740	4,277,240,000	5,453,863,398
Social assistance expenditure	15,465,373,509.00	15,652,615,441	16,396,715,060	15,884,500,000	18,621,593,001
Number of beneficiaries with disabilities	66,854	67,056	68,544	71,032	73,200
The blind	12,193	12,107	12,124	12,400	12,185
Para-quadruplegics	6,310	6,358	6,494	6,666	6,549

Other disabilities	48,351	48,591	49,926	51,967	54,466
Number of adoptions	24	18	19	18	34
Number of beneficiaries: residential services					
Children	645	522	556	568	516
Older adults	294	372	415	532	520
Persons with disabilities	380	281	297	386	381
Number of beneficiaries: daily services					
Children	2413	3459	3203	4040	6646
Older adults	1096	1386	1317	1596	1639
Persons with disabilities	1209	1514	1506	1671	1824
Number of beneficiaries: Roma community					
Children	675	2080	1652	1817	1783
Older adults	81	75	110	123	122
Persons with disabilities	23	32	43	59	60
Children in foster care					
Total	209	249	297	357	374
Children with disabilities	14	13	26	11	14
Victims of domestic violence	129	209	304	464	533
Victims of trafficking	11	9	11	10	10

Employment and skills

Data source: Labor Force Survey (2016 – 2019) – Institute of Statistics

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019
Long-term unemployment rate				
Total	10.3	9.2	8.6	7.6
Men	10.6	9.6	8.7	7.7
Women	9.9	8.7	8.6	7.6
Share of long-term unemployed in total number of the unemployed				
Total	66.2	65.0	67.4	63.4
Men	64.8	63.4	65.7	63.0
Women	68.1	67.6	69.8	63.9
Very long-term unemployment rate				
Total	7.0	5.8	5.5	5.0
Men	7.5	6.1	5.8	5.4
Women	6.4	5.4	5.2	4.5
Activity rate				
Total	66.2	66.8	68.3	69.6
Men	74.1	75.8	76.9	77.6
Women	58.3	57.7	59.7	61.6
Employment rate				
Total				
15-64	55.9	57.4	59.5	61.2
15-24	20.2	21.6	25.7	26.7
25-54	69.7	71.1	73.7	75.0
55-64	54.8	55.5	58.2	60.4
65+	10.1	12.0	14.4	15.4
20-64	62.1	63.9	65.6	67.1
25-29	59.0	59.4	63.9	68.3
Men				
15-64	61.9	64.3	66.7	68.2
15-24	23.1	24.9	30.6	31.2
25-54	76.3	79.0	80.7	80.9
55-64	67.1	69.1	71.4	73.7
65+	14.3	15.9	18.7	19.6
20-64	69.4	72.1	73.9	74.7
25-29	65.4	69.6	73.4	74.6
Women				
15-64	49.7	50.3	52.4	54.4
15-24	16.8	17.7	20.4	22.2

25-54	63.4	63.4	67.0	69.2
55-64	42.0	41.7	45.2	46.9
65+	6.0	8.4	10.3	11.5
20-64	55.0	55.6	57.4	59.7
25-29	51.8	48.8	54.1	61.7
Employment rate				
Total				
Berat	54.0	51.7	58.2	65.7
Dibër	53.0	55.5	54.3	45.7
Durrës	45.9	45.7	46.7	47.5
Elbasan	57.7	61.2	61.5	60.7
Fier	54.4	54.7	59.0	57.5
Gjirokastrë	51.8	51.6	54.1	63.0
Korçë	50.0	51.5	59.5	63.2
Kukës	42.5	49.2	52.9	60.8
Lezhë	47.4	46.9	45.6	41.7
Shkodër	50.8	52.7	56.2	57.1
Tiranë	43.1	45.8	45.9	47.7
Vlorë	45.2	44.9	49.7	56.4
Men				
Berat	62.5	59.4	63.4	71.6
Dibër	53.5	58.8	54.1	45.7
Durrës	51.8	52.3	54.8	55.9
Elbasan	61.2	64.5	65.4	65.0
Fier	61.0	61.3	67.6	65.6
Gjirokastrë	57.9	62.0	62.0	71.6
Korçë	57.4	62.0	66.8	70.9
Kukës	44.4	54.7	60.8	65.6
Lezhë	52.6	49.9	51.3	47.1
Shkodër	57.2	59.1	62.5	63.3
Tiranë	49.3	53.3	53.4	54.7
Vlorë	55.1	54.0	59.1	64.6
Women				
Berat	45.4	44.1	53.2	59.8
Dibër	52.6	52.1	54.6	45.6
Durrës	40.1	39.0	38.8	39.1
Elbasan	54.2	57.8	57.7	56.4
Fier	47.6	47.7	50.2	49.6
Gjirokastrë	45.8	41.7	46.9	55.2
Korçë	42.5	41.4	51.9	55.4
Kukës	40.5	43.2	44.9	55.7

Lezhë	42.2	43.9	40.2	36.4
Shkodër	44.5	46.6	50.2	51.2
Tiranë	37.0	38.4	38.7	41.0
Vlorë	35.3	35.6	40.1	48.6
Employment structure by professional status				
Total				
Total (15 +)	41.2	44.1	44.5	45.7
15-64	42.3	45.4	46.1	47.7
20-64	42.7	45.8	46.5	48.3
15-24	47.8	56.1	47.6	41.3
25-29	58.9	59.7	60.8	63.6
25-54	44.2	46.6	48.9	52.3
55-64	32.4	35.5	34.6	34.2
65+	7.0	11.2	9.6	7.2
Men				
Total (15 +)	39.7	42.3	42.5	44.0
15-64	41.0	43.6	44.0	45.9
20-64	41.5	44.0	44.4	46.4
15-24	41.6	49.8	43.8	39.7
25-29	54.4	54.7	54.2	58.8
25-54	42.2	44.1	45.7	49.7
55-64	36.6	38.9	38.6	37.0
65+	8.2	...	13.4	9.9
Women				
Total (15 +)	43.0	46.4	47.0	47.9
15-64	44.0	47.8	48.7	49.9
20-64	44.2	48.0	49.1	50.5
15-24	57.5	66.7	53.6	43.5
25-29	65.2	67.1	69.9	69.7
25-54	46.5	49.6	52.6	55.2
55-64	25.3	29.7	28.5	29.7
65+	9.2
Share of self-employed				
Total				
Total (15 +)	34.9	35.8	34.0	32.3
15-64	34.1	35.2	33.5	31.1
20-64	34.4	35.4	33.6	31.2
15-24	16.5	18.4	22.2	21.9
25-29	19.8	21.0	21.2	17.0
25-54	33.9	35.5	33.1	29.1
55-64	42.6	41.9	41.1	43.1

65+	58.9	52.2	44.6	55.3
Men				
Total (15 +)	42.0	42.6	41.6	39.6
15-64	41.1	42.0	41.0	38.3
20-64	41.6	42.4	41.3	38.6
15-24	20.3	21.7	25.0	22.2
25-29	23.5	25.2	26.1	19.6
25-54	41.7	43.0	41.6	37.0
55-64	47.9	48.1	47.9	50.1
65+	65.6	57.0	52.0	62.7
Women				
Total (15 +)	25.7	26.8	24.3	23.1
15-64	25.3	26.3	24.0	22.2
20-64	25.4	26.4	24.0	22.2
15-24	10.6	12.7	17.7	21.3
25-29	14.5	14.9	14.5	13.6
25-54	25.0	26.5	23.2	20.1
55-64	33.6	31.6	30.6	31.9
65+	44.0	43.7	31.8	43.4
Share of those working (with no pay) in the family business				
Total				
Total (15 +)	23.9	20.1	21.5	22.0
15-64	23.6	19.4	20.4	21.2
20-64	22.9	18.9	19.9	20.5
15-24	35.7	25.5	30.2	36.8
25-29	21.3	19.2	18.0	19.4
25-54	21.9	17.9	18.0	18.6
55-64	25.1	22.6	24.3	22.8
65+	34.0	39.7	45.8	37.5
Men				
Total (15 +)	18.2	15.1	15.9	16.4
15-64	17.9	14.4	15.0	15.8
20-64	16.9	13.6	14.3	14.9
15-24	38.1	28.4	31.2	38.0
25-29	22.1	20.0	19.7	21.6
25-54	16.1	12.9	12.7	13.3
55-64	15.5	13.0	13.5	12.9
65+	25.2	31.9	34.6	27.3
Women				
Total (15 +)	31.2	26.8	28.7	29.0
15-64	30.7	25.9	27.3	27.9

20-64	30.3	25.6	26.9	27.3
15-24	31.9	20.6	28.7	35.1
25-29	20.3	18.0	15.6	16.7
25-54	28.5	23.9	24.2	24.7
55-64	41.0	38.6	40.9	38.4
65+	53.9	53.4	65.0	53.7
Share of the employed with less than 15 work hours/week				
Total	3.3	3.0	2.5	2.4
Men	2.6	2.2	1.9	1.8
Women	4.1	4.0	3.2	3.2
Sectoral employment structure				
Total				
Agriculture	40.2	38.2	37.4	36.4
Production	10.1	10.1	10.6	10.9
Construction	6.5	6.9	7.0	7.0
Extractive industry, energy, gas, and water supply	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.2
Trade, transportation, hotels, business and administrative services	24.3	25.0	25.7	27.2
Public administration, social services, other activities and services	16.1	17.4	17.2	16.3
Men				
Agriculture	36.2	34.9	33.5	32.3
Production	7.8	7.2	7.7	7.9
Construction	11.2	11.8	12.1	12.2
Extractive industry, energy, gas, and water supply	3.9	3.7	3.3	3.2
Trade, transportation, hotels, business and administrative services	27.8	28.8	29.6	31.7
Public administration, social services, other activities and services	13.1	13.7	14.0	12.8
Women				
Agriculture	45.4	42.5	42.3	41.6
Production	13.1	14.0	14.3	14.8
Construction	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6
Extractive industry, energy, gas, and water supply	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.8
Trade, transportation, hotels, business and administrative services	19.9	20.0	20.8	21.6
Public administration, social services, other activities and services	20.0	22.4	21.4	20.7
Unemployment rate				
Total				
15 +	15.2	13.7	12.3	11.5
15-64	15.6	14.1	12.8	12.0
20-64	15.2	13.6	12.4	11.6
15-24	36.5	31.9	28.3	27.2
25-29	22.1	20.5	18.4	16.7
25-54	13.7	12.6	11.2	10.6
55-64	10.7	9.6	8.6	7.4

Men				
15 +	15.9	14.6	12.7	11.6
15-64	16.4	15.1	13.2	12.2
20-64	15.8	14.5	12.5	11.6
15-24	37.4	34.1	29.6	27.8
25-29	22.3	20.0	16.7	15.5
25-54	14.0	13.0	11.0	10.7
55-64	12.1	10.7	9.0	7.3
Women				
15 +	14.4	12.6	11.9	11.4
15-64	14.6	12.8	12.3	11.8
20-64	14.4	12.5	12.2	11.6
15-24	34.9	27.7	26.0	26.3
25-29	21.9	21.2	20.8	18.1
25-54	13.4	12.1	11.3	10.6
55-64	8.3	7.6	8.0	7.5
Share of the unemployed who gave up on job search				
Total	10.7	8.2	8.7	9.2
Men	14.5	11.6	13.7	15.2
Women	8.1	6.2	5.9	5.8
Share of the unemployed not registered with the NES				
Total	46.7	52.5	55.5	63.4
Men	50.0	55.9	56.8	67.6
Women	41.9	47.2	53.8	58.0
Share of the informally employed				
Total	40.1	36.0	36.3	37.5
Men	40.0	36.4	36.4	37.5
Women	40.4	35.4	36.3	37.5

Data source: National Agency for Employment and Skills (2016-2020)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number of registered unemployed jobseekers	119,710	89,780	74,686	70,930	82,921
Percentage of registered unemployed jobseekers participating in Active Labor Market Programs	33%	38%	59%	63%	38%
Number of women	59,920	47,394	39,151	37,228	43,647
Percentage of women participating in Active Labor Market Programs	33%	35%	54%	59%	42%
Number of heads of households	39,800	35,636	31,215	29,417	33,474
Percentage of heads of households participating in Active Labor Market Programs	15%	17%	30%	31%	21%
Number of recipients of unemployment benefits – unemployed jobseekers	5,141	2,178	2,048	2,871	4,745
Percentage of recipients of unemployment benefits participating in Active Labor Market Programs	28%	32%	41%	33%	65%
Number of recipients of economic aid – unemployed jobseekers	49,657	41,751	24,113	21,794	26,633
Percentage of recipients of economic aid participating in Active Labor Market Programs	6%	6%	12%	12%	6%
Number of long-term unemployed – unemployed jobseekers	66,096	48,390	40,035	34,039	37,788
Percentage of long-term unemployed participating in Active Labor Market Programs	13%	13%	15%	12%	8%
Number of Roma and Egyptians – unemployed jobseekers	8,121	6,175	5,844	6,111	7,570
Percentage of Roma and Egyptians participating in Active Labor Market Programs	6%	14%	23%	24%	13%
Number of persons with disabilities – registered unemployed jobseekers	761	479	518	542	604
Percentage of persons with disabilities participating in Active Labor Market Programs	19%	35%	52%	56%	28%
Number of returned emigrants – unemployed jobseekers	1,126	518	498	541	572
Percentage of returned emigrants participating in Active Labor Market Programs	30%	42%	51%	41%	14%
Number of persons 15-29 years old – unemployed jobseekers	29,716	17,175	14,035	14,860	18,561
Percentage of persons 15-29 years old participating in Active Labor Market Programs	66%	96%	150%	150%	68%
Number of persons 30-39 years old – unemployed jobseekers	24,722	16,559	12,821	12,141	15,476
Percentage of persons 30-39 years old participating in Active Labor Market Programs	37%	51%	80%	83%	49%

Number of persons 40-50 years old – unemployed jobseekers	31,467	22,776	17,776	15,720	18,000
Percentage of persons 40-50 years old participating in Active Labor Market Programs	22%	28%	43%	46%	36%
Number of persons above 50 years old – unemployed jobseekers	33,805	33,270	30,054	28,209	30,884
Percentage of persons above 50 years old participating in Active Labor Market Programs	10%	9%	18%	18%	16%
Budget expenditure (in million lekë)					
Central and local-level administration	308.4	322.9	328.3	339.6	316.6
Employment Promotion Programs	466.5	475.0	258.3	346.0	71.5
Unemployment benefits	690.5	345.1	334.8	504.1	886.6
Vocational training	215.6	229.9	238.7	263.7	235.0
Total funding	1,800.1	1,455.3	1,227.6	1,479.6	1,547.0

Health

Data source: Survey on Income and Living Conditions (2017 – 2018) – Institute of Statistics

Indicator	2017	2018
Life expectancy by gender and age group		
0 years old – Boys	77.1	77.4
0 years old – Girls	80	80.5
1-4 years old – Boys	76.7	77.1
1-4 years old – Girls	79.7	80.2
60-64 years old - Men	21	21.2
60-64 years old - Women	22.5	22.9
Self-perceived medical/health status		
Very good or good - Men	83.9	84.1
Very good or good - Women	78.9	79.6
Very good or good - Total	81.4	81.8
Fair – Men	11.2	11.2
Fair – Women	15.3	14.9
Fair – Total	13.3	13.1
Poor or very poor – Men	4.9	4.8
Poor or very poor – Women	5.8	5.5
Poor or very poor – Total	5.3	5.1

Data source: Compulsory Health Insurance Fund (2016-2020)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number of persons with chronic illness	-	58,683	85,848	83,526	94,563
% of persons with chronic illness (out of all persons)	-	20.49	35	46	23.24
Reimbursement for prescribed medication	8,425,031,623	10,416,830,373	11,027,053,144	10,486,798,326	10,709,629,733
Patient payment	790,404,490	830,028,786	966,164,423	994,603,079	984,234,170

Data source: Public Health Institute (2016-2018)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018
Cervical cancer			
Total number of cases	118	124	124
Incidence per 100,000 women	8.3	8.7	8.7
Number of deaths	53	34	26
Gross level	3.7	2.4	1.8
Standardized level*	2.6	1.7	1.3
Colorectal cancer			
Total number of cases	321	429	392
Men	168	242	241
Women	153	187	151
Incidence per 100,000 inhabitants			
Total number of cases	11.2	14.9	13.7
Men	11.5	16.7	16.8
Women	10.8	13.1	10.5

*WHO World Standard Population

Data source: Public Health Institute (2016-2020)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Tuberculosis					
Total number of cases	413	503	440	412	240
Pulmonary tuberculosis	299	346	330	320	201
Extrapulmonary tuberculosis	114	157	110	92	39
Incidence per 100,000 inhabitants	14.4	16.5	15.5	14.2	8.5

Data source: Ministry of Health and Social Protection (2016-2020)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Infant mortality rate (0-1 years old) / 1,000 live births					
INSTAT	8.7	8	8.9	10.3	-
MHSP	6.5	5.3	6.3	5.9	5.2
Child mortality rate (0-5 years old) / 1,000 live births					
INSTAT	10.2	9.2	10.1	11	-
MHSP	7.2	6	6.9	6.3	-
Neonatal mortality rate / 1,000 live births					
INSTAT	6.9	6.3	7.3	8.5	-
MHSP	4.8	4	4.7	4	-
Coverage by vaccination					
Tuberculosis	99.2	99	99.1	98.9	-
Diphtheria	98.7	99	99.8	98.6	-
Tetanus	98.7	99	99.8	98.6	-
Pertussis	98.7	99	99.8	98.6	-
Measles-rubella-mumps	96.3	95.7	94.4	95	-
Poliomyelitis	98.3	98.9	98.7	98.6	-
Maternal mortality rate / 100,000 live births	3.5	10.9	3.9	8.1	4.1
Number of children born with Down syndrome	25	23	16	15	10
Number of children born with congenital abnormalities	345	408	302	255	243
Number of new cases of breast cancer	672	713	708	678	-
Number of abortions	5410	5,279	5,532	5,183	4,425
Number of abortions / 1,000 live births	170.48	171.01	191.2	181.5	-
Hospitalisation rates					
Average length of stay	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.3	4.5
Percentage of bed usage for hospital care	48.7	48.4	51.2	49.9	31.4
Bed occupancy rate	33.6	32.8	33.8	34.4	25.4

Source: Ministry of Health and Social Protection (2016-2020)

Education and training

Data source: Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth (2018)

Indicator	2018
Functional literacy of pupils (PISA ¹)	
Reading (below the basic level)	52%
Math knowledge (below the basic level)	42%
Scientific literacy (below the basic level)	47%
Reading (above the basic level)	48%
Math knowledge (above the basic level)	58%
Scientific literacy (above the basic level)	53%
Reading	405
Math knowledge	437
Scientific literacy	417

Data source: Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth (2016-2020)

Indicator	2016- 2017	2017- 2018	2018- 2019	2019- 2020
Enrollment ratio				
Kindergartens				
Gross enrollment ratio	81.5	80.3	78.3	79.9
Net enrollment ratio	77.7	76.3	71.9	75.9
9-year education				
Gross enrollment ratio	100.4	100.7	99.7	99.8
Net enrollment ratio	92.3	96.5	95.6	95.8
High school				
Gross enrollment ratio	94.7	93.9	95.6	90.7
Net enrollment ratio	77.1	76.7	77.4	76.2
University				
Gross enrollment ratio	56	54	60.3	59.5
School dropout rate				
Dropout rate – basic education				
Total	0.57	0.48	0.52	0.49
Girls	0.53	0.45	0.46	0.46
Boys	0.61	0.51	0.58	0.53
Urban	0.55	0.52	0.58	0.5
Rural	0.61	0.44	0.45	0.49
Percentage of school dropouts – upper secondary education				
Total	3.35	2.86	2.58	1.76
Girls	1.4	1.3	1.1	0.85
Boys	5.1	4.2	4.0	2.84
Urban	4.01	4.11	3.76	1.18

Rural	5.3	4.5	4.6	3.4
Number of pupils with disabilities (physical and mental) in the education system				
Preschool education	440	500	492	494
Basic education	2,986	3,446	3,664	3,550
Upper secondary education	345	456	530	529
Total (all types of schools)	3,771	4,402	4,686	4,573
Total (special schools)	659	678	652	527
Number of Roma and Egyptian pupils				
Preschool education				
Roma	962	842	910	1,137
Egyptians	1,567	1,728	1,769	1,859
Basic education				
Roma	3,092	3,631	3,758	3,550
Egyptians	6,121	7,596	8,273	7,144
Upper secondary education				
Roma	483	345	261	175
Egyptians	460	865	1,042	650
Preuniversity education				
Roma	4,537	4,818	4,929	4,862
Egyptians	8,148	10,189	11,084	9,653
Number of pupils accessing free textbooks				
Number of pupils, grades 1 to 4	0	0	122,981	140,607
Number of Roma pupils	3,443	4,378	2,210	1,525
Number of Egyptian pupils	6,237	6,423	3,236	3,130
Number of blind pupils	37	111	87	54
Number of orphaned pupils	2,028	1,978	1,284	978
Number of pupils coming from families that receive economic aid and unemployment assistance	60,213	56,047	36,286	32,033

Data source: Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth (2016-2020)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Education expenditure (percentage of GDP)					
Basic education	1.81%	1.33%	1.34%	1.34%	1.46%
Upper secondary education	0.53%	0.44%	0.42%	0.42%	0.44%
Total (preuniversity education)	2.34%	1.77%	1.76%	1.76%	1.90%

Other indicators of education:

- Number of schools that benefit food subsidies: 5 (3 in Tirana, 1 in Korça, and 1 in Vlora)
- Number of children that benefited food subsidies during 2020-2021: 342.
- Number of children that benefit transportation subsidies is around 32,000.
- Number of children that benefit scholarship (6 grade and above) is around 1,200.

Basic needs

Data source: Survey on Income and Living Conditions (2017 – 2018) – Institute of Statistics

Indicator	2017	2018
Financial burden imposed by housing-related costs (%)		
Financial burden	9.2	6
Possession of household appliances (%)		
Phone	98.4	98.5
Television	99.4	99.3
Computer	39.1	42.4
Washing machine	94.5	95.2
Quality of clothing / inadequate clothing (%)		
Replacing old clothes with new ones	37.0	25.3
Having two pairs of shoes	12.0	7.7

Data source: Ministry of Finance and Economy (2016-2020)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Percentage of social housing beneficiaries: Roma families*	66.5%	92%	33.5%	30.2%	24.2%
Social housing budget**	0.424	0.43	0.505	0.526	3.5
Social housing expenditure as % of GDP	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.22%

*Different modes of calculation have been used for the period 2016-2017 and 2018-2020.

**In billion lekë.

Human rights

Data source: State Social Services (2016 – 2020)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number of beneficiaries	10,354	10,979	10,712	13080	16642
Residential centers	85	115	71	135	56
Daily centers	606	531	349	376	380
Number of requests by women	217	159	154	191	196
Number of requests, Roma	148	113	125	177	99
Number of beneficiaries by group					
Children	3150	3982	3758	4609	7161
Youth	2390	1648	1488	2435	1938
Women	1835	1795	1926	1853	3174
Older adults	1391	1759	1733	2127	2161
Persons with disabilities	1590	1795	1807	2056	2208
Number of beneficiaries by region					
Tiranë	705	1,843	1,575	2,638	2,701
Berat	61	98	110	119	121
Elbasan	2262	1893	2243	2628	1999
Durrës	1266	1445	1367	1317	1214
Fier	94	317	355	321	353
Shkodër	2,115	1,365	1,643	2,523	7,106
Vlorë	1,976	1,826	1,220	1,179	1,148
Dibër	0	0	0	93	110
Kukës	132	73	106	102	92
Lezhë	594	669	725	804	644
Korçë	987	1,273	1,202	1,201	973
Gjirokastrë	163	177	166	155	181
Number of cases of domestic violence addressed by the National Centre for Victims of Domestic Violence					
Total	95	85	91	46	60
Women	36	35	35	18	23
Children (girls)	22	19	29	10	19
Children (boys)	37	31	27	18	18
Number of neglected children that received supportive services					
Total	179	189	210	210	229
Boys	99	110	135	131	130
Girls	80	71	75	79	99

Data source: State Directorate for Legal Aid (2017-2020)

Indicator	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number of applications for legal aid	NA	NA	67	4,372
Number of approvals	359	365	64	4,348
Percentage of cases won	NA	NA	95.5%	99.4 %

Data source: Ministry of Interior (2016-2020)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Percentage of persons who have a birth certificate					
Women, 0-18 years old	27.37	30.77	34.18	37.45	40.63
Men, 0-18 years old	27.22	30.64	34.01	37.28	40.45
Women, 18-65 years old	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Men, 18-65 years old	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05
Women, 65+	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Men, 65+	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Data source: Ministry of Justice (2016-2019)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of criminal cases (completed)	17,304	12,398	13,827	11,531
Number of civil cases (completed)	74,297	78,200	70,668	52,612
Number of dismissed cases	6,341	6,543	6,657	5,823
Crime rate (per 100,000 people)	144	146	143	177
Number of those involved in public interest work	974	938	884	1,017
Number of juvenile offenders	562	283	296	280

Appendix B

Definitions¹⁴

Financial poverty and social protection

At-risk-of-poverty rate by gender and age group

Share of persons with an income per consumer unit below 60% of the national median income per consumer unit. Income per consumer unit is calculated by dividing household income by the modified OECD scale (weight 1 assigned to the first adult, weight 0.5 to other adults over the age of 14 and weight 0.3 assigned to each child under 14).

At-risk-of-poverty rate by household type

At-risk-of-poverty rate by different household types depending on the household size, number of adults and number of dependent children.

At-risk-of-poverty rate by the work intensity of household members

Work intensity of the household refers to the number of months that all working age household members have been working during the income reference year as a proportion of the total number of months that could theoretically be working in a household.

At-risk-of-poverty rate by the most frequent activity status in the labor market

The most frequent activity status of members of the household aged 16+. On the basis of the most frequent activity status in the previous year (economic activity status lasting six or more months) the individuals are classified as economically active (employed, self-employed or unemployed) and economically inactive (pensioners and other inactive persons).

At-risk-of-poverty rate by tenure status

With respect to the basis of use of apartment in which the household lives. Households are differentiated to those living in an apartment owned by one of the members, or where they live free of charge and households paying lease (rent) for housing.

At-risk-of-poverty threshold

60% of the median equivalised income of all the households in a population. This is the illustrative value of the poverty line above the defined poverty line. It is expressed in PPS, Euros and the national currency. It needs to be monitored for the entire population, for single person households, households with two adults and two children.

Inequality of income distribution, quintile ratio S80/S20

Quintile ratio S80/S20 compares the total equivalent income of the top and the lowest quintiles. The top quintile represents 20% of the population with the highest equivalent income, and the lowest quintile 20% population with the lowest income. It only measures the changes in the top and the lowest quintiles of equivalent income.

Relative at-risk-of-poverty gap

Difference between the median equivalised disposable income of people below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold and the at-risk-of-poverty threshold, expressed as a percentage of the at-risk-of-poverty threshold (cut-off point: 60 % of national median equivalised disposable income).

Inequality of income distribution – Gini coefficient

Measure of inequality of income taking into account the entire income distribution.

14. Definitions are based on the Social Inclusion Policy Document (2016-2020). Some indicators have been adjusted based on data availability.

At-persistent-risk-of-poverty rate (50% of the median)

Share of persons with income per consumer unit below 50% of the median national income per consumer unit in at least two of the three previous years (condition: existence of panel data).

In-work poverty (full /part time)

Proportion of individuals classified as employed and who are at risk of poverty.

Share of social transfers

Allocation of social transfers in population and share of social transfers in the income of the poor and non-poor.

Efficiency and effectiveness of social transfers

Efficiency of social transfers: At-risk-of-poverty rates are compared before and after social transfers. An indicator defined in this way allows for measuring of the at-risk-of-poverty rate decrease as a consequence of social transfers. The second method of measuring efficiency of social transfers is to measure the percentage of social transfers distributed to population at risk of poverty.

Effectiveness of social transfers: Percentage of relative at-risk-of-poverty gap eliminated by social transfers. It shows the allocation of social transfers by the level of the household income and thus supports development of interventions in the domain of targeting of social transfers.

Social protection budget

The budget of State Social Services allocated for social protection.

Economic aid and social assistance expenditure

Expenditure for the economic aid program and social assistance program.

Number of beneficiaries with disabilities

The number of persons with disabilities who benefit from State Social Services.

Number of beneficiaries: residential services

The number of persons who benefit from residential services (State Social Services).

Number of beneficiaries: daily services

The number of persons who benefit from daily services (State Social Services).

Number of beneficiaries: Roma community

The number of beneficiaries from the Roma community (State Social Services).

Children in foster care

The number of children in foster care (State Social Services).

Victims of domestic violence

The number of victims of domestic violence recorded by State Social Services.

Victims of trafficking

The number of victims of trafficking recorded by State Social Services.

2. Employment and skills

Long-term unemployment rate

Represents a proportion of persons unemployed for 12 months and longer in active population aged 15–64.

Share of long-term unemployed (in the total number of the unemployed)

Proportion of persons unemployed for 12 months and longer in the total number of unemployed.

Very long-term unemployment rate

Proportion of persons unemployed for minimum 24 months in active population (aged 15–64).

Activity rate

Share of the employed and unemployed population (both categories defined by ILO standards) relative to working age population (aged 15–64). This indicator is a measure of total offer of labour in the society over the observed period. It indicates the size and structure of human resources on the labour market, but individually does not show inclusion in the labour market.

Employment rate

Share of the employed persons (ILO definition) in the working age population (15–64). Also, it represents one of the key indicators of labour market that needs to be taken in combination with other indicators or disaggregated by gender, age, region, ethnic affiliation, labour status, etc. Taken independently, this indicator cannot provide accurate information on employment (the high employment rates in countries with high levels of labour informality may indicate high engagement of population in informal, often agricultural, non-productive labour activities in order to survive in conditions of extreme poverty).

Share of self-employed

The share of employed persons that is self-employed.

Share of those working (with no pay) in the family business

The share of persons working (with no pay) in the family business.

Share of the employed with less than 15 work hours per week

The share of employed persons who work less than 15 hours during the working week in the total number of the employed. Indicates hidden unemployment in view of the extremely low labour intensity at individual level.

Household labour intensity

Represents the ratio of the total number of months that working age household members spent in employment during the previous year and the number of months that these members could have spent theoretically in employment. Shows full or low intensity of inclusion of the household in labour, may well indicate differences among households of certain categories of population as well as individual household members but also to allow insight into connections between labour intensity and aspects of financial poverty.

Share of the informally employed

Share of the employed who work without a labour contract, entrepreneurs and the self-employed without a registered enterprise.

Sectoral employment structure

Share of employment in individual sectors of economy relative to total employment. The indicator primarily describes the economic structure of the society through labour force distribution but may at the same time show whether certain groups have been deprived of the possibility of inclusion in developmental sectors of economy or if certain groups concentrate in certain traditional, low productivity sectors as well as in those with explicitly unfavourable working conditions.

Unemployment rate by age group and gender

Share of persons who were unemployed (ILO definition) in the reference period relative to the total number of active persons.

Share of the unemployed who gave up on job search

Share of dependent persons who gave up on job search and moved into inactive status. Shows the effects of long-term unemployment, the 'discouraged' unemployed who withdraw from the labour market, for the reason of losing hope in opportunities of finding a job.

Share of the unemployed not registered with the National Employment Service (NES)

Share of persons who, according to the ILO definition, are unemployed or are not registered with the NES in the total number of the unemployed. Shows exclusion from services of mediation of the national institution in charge of employment.

Share of the unemployed included in Active Labor Market Programs

Share of the unemployed included in the active labour market measures of NES.

Budget expenditure

Budget expenditure of the National Agency for Employment and Skills (in million lekë).

3. Health

Life expectancy

At birth – by gender – average number of years that an infant is expected to live (assuming his life is subject to current mortality conditions). At the age of 1 – by gender – average number of years that a 1-year-old child is expected to live (assuming his life is subject to current mortality conditions). At the age of 60 – by gender – average number of years that a 60-year-old person is yet expected to live (assuming his life is subject to current mortality conditions).

Self-perceived medical status

The variables refer to the respondent's own assessment of whether he or she needed the respective type of examination or treatment, but did not have it and if so, what was the main reason of not having it.

Number of persons with chronic illness

Number of persons with chronic illness. Also, reporting the percentage of persons with chronic illness.

Reimbursement for prescribed medication and patient payment

Amount of reimbursement for prescribed medication and patient payment.

Coverage by vaccination

Share of children vaccinated relative to the total population of children. Reported for tuberculosis, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, measles-rubella-mumps, and poliomyelitis.

Cervical cancer

Cervical cancer incidence at 100,000 women. Number of newly diagnosed women per year.

Colorectal cancer

Colon cancer incidence at 100,000 men. Colon cancer incidence at 100,000 women. Number of newly diagnosed men per year. Number of newly diagnosed women per year.

Tuberculosis

Case detection rate for all forms of tuberculosis. The ratio of the number of notified TB cases to the number of incident TB cases in a given year.

Mortality rate of infants and children

Share of children who died in the first 28 days of life (neonatal period). Share of children who died before turning one relative to the total population of children up to the age of 1 – expressed per 1,000 live births. Share of children who died by the age of 5 relative to 1,000 live births.

Maternal mortality rate

Mortality of women due to illness and conditions during pregnancy, at delivery and six weeks after delivery, which is an important indicator for assessing the medical status of women in the generative period and as well as the quality of medical care provided, calculated per 100,000 live births.

Number of children born with Down syndrome and congenital abnormalities

Number of children born with Down syndrome and congenital abnormalities per 100,000 live births.

Number of new cases of breast cancer

Breast cancer incidence at 100,000 women. Number of newly diagnosed women per year.

Number of abortions

Number of abortions per 1,000 live births.

Hospitalisation rates

Average length of stay, percentage of bed usage for hospital care, and bed occupancy rate.

4. Education and training

Functional literacy of pupils

Literacy expressed as a low result of pupils in PISA¹⁵ test. The test measures knowledge and skills of 15years old (reading, math knowledge, scientific literacy), from the aspect of functional literacy and capability for real life.

Gross enrollment ratio (GER)

Number of pupils enrolled in a given level of education, regardless of the age, expressed as a percentage of the population in the theoretical age group in the same level of education.

Net enrollment ratio (NER)

Number of pupils in the theoretical age group for a given grade/level of education enrolled in that level, expressed as a percentage of the total population in that age group.

School dropout

Pupils who drop out school are considered those pupils enrolled at the beginning of a school year and at the end of it are unclassified due to absence in the teaching process.

Number of disadvantaged pupils in the education system

Data reported for pupils with disabilities, Roma and Egyptian pupils.

Access to free textbooks

Access to free textbooks by groups such as Roma pupils, Egyptian pupils, blind pupils, and orphaned pupils.

Education expenditure as percentage of GDP

Public expenditures as % of GDP for basic education, upper secondary education, and preuniversity education (total).

¹⁵. Programme for Integrated Student Assessment

5. Basic needs

Financial burden imposed by housing-related costs

Share of households where the total housing costs (rent, utilities, power, etc.) exceed 50% of the total disposable income of the household.

Possession of household appliances

The proportion of households who have a score on the summary scale of appliances (e.g., stove, air conditioner, washing machine, dishwasher, microwave oven, refrigerator, deep freeze, vacuum cleaner, TV set, radio and other music devices, personal computer, passenger vehicle and DVD) below the average or as a proportion of households wherein the value of appliances is below the average. The content of the standard list of appliances varies between the countries and in time.

Quality of clothing

Share of households that can afford clothing and footwear when needed by a member of household.

Percentage of social housing beneficiaries

Proportion of approvals of social housing based on the number of applicants.

Social housing budget

Social housing budget (in billion lekë) and social housing expenditure as % of GDP.

6. Human rights

Number of beneficiaries

Number of beneficiaries from State Social Services.

Number of requests made by women and members of the Roma community

Number of requests made to State Social Services by women and members of the Roma community.

Number of beneficiaries by group

Number of beneficiaries from State Social Services by group. Data reported for children, youth, women, older adults, and persons with disabilities.

Number of requests by region

Number of requests addressed to State Social Services by region.

Number of cases of domestic violence addressed by the National Centre for Victims of Domestic Violence

Number of cases of domestic violence addressed by the National Centre for Victims of Domestic Violence.

Number of neglected children receiving supportive services

Number of neglected children who receive supportive services.

Share of persons possessing a birth certificate

Share of persons who have birth certificates.

Access to legal aid

Number of legal aid applications, number of approvals, and percentage of cases won.

Number of criminal cases (completed)

Cases registered in court based on a criminal offense provided in the Criminal Code for which the court has ruled in a decision.

Number of civil cases (completed)

Cases registered in court based on a civil offense provided in the Civil Code for which the court has ruled in a decision.

Number of dismissed cases

Criminal/civil cases registered in the court based on the provisions of the Criminal/Civil Code for which the court, based on the acts it administers, decides to dismiss the case.

Crime rate (per 100,000 people)

Number of crimes per 100,000 inhabitants.

Number of those involved in public interest work

Number of those who are sentenced with public interest work. The court specifies the number of hours and the number of times per week that the person is obliged to engage in public interest work.

Number of juvenile offenders

Juveniles who are found guilty by the court for committing a criminal offense. A juvenile, by law, is any person under the age of 18.

