

Macedonia

Ethnicity in Macedonia

Power relations

Macedonia attained its independence from the Yugoslav Federation in 1991.

There is only one period: There have not been significant changes in the list of ethnic groups in the country. Neither have there been any significant changes in the groups' access to power. There have been subtle demographic changes in the country, primarily due to the slight increase in the proportion of the ethnic Albanian population in the country between the 1991 and 2002 Census (from 0.21 to 0.25) and the influx of ethnic Albanian refugees from Kosovo during the conflict between ethnic Serbs and Albanians in the Kosovo province. Ethnic Albanians have participated as junior partners in coalition governments ever since independence. The current government (formed after the 2006 parliamentary elections) has 6 ethnic Albanians in its ranks. This is the government with the largest representation of ethnic Albanian to date.

Two members in the Macedonian parliament represent the Turk minority. One parliament-member is ethnic Serb (¹⁸³⁵). Both groups have little political influence and are thus coded as "powerless".

¹⁸³⁵ [U.S. State Department Human Rights Report 20

The Roma community faces widespread social discrimination. Roma are often denied job opportunities and entrance to establishments such as restaurants and cafes. But unlike in other Balkan countries, the Roma are not politically discriminated. They do participate in the political process and have two representatives in the parliament (¹⁸³⁶).

¹⁸³⁶ [U.S. State Department Human Rights Report 20

Population sizes from the 2002 census.

Update 2010 – 2013:

No changes in the power states of the ethnic groups in Macedonia. In the 2011 assembly elections, the Albanians gained 16 seats in assembly, thus they retain their junior partner role in the government (¹⁸³⁷). The Roma, Serbs and Turks remain powerless. The United States Country Report on Human Rights for Macedonia in 2012 stated that ethnic Albanians and other national minorities, except ethnic Serbs and Vlachs, were underrepresented in the civil service and other institutions, including the military, the police force, the intelligence services, as well as the courts, the national bank, customs and public enterprises. Ethnic Albanians constituted 18% of army personnel, while minority communities as a whole accounted for 25%

¹⁸³⁷ [Election Guide, 2011]

of the population, according to statistics provided by the government (1838).

¹⁸³⁸ [U.S. State Department, 2013]

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Political status of ethnic groups in Macedonia

From 1991 until 2013

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Macedonians	0.642	SENIOR PARTNER
Albanians	0.252	JUNIOR PARTNER
Turks	0.039	POWERLESS
Roma	0.027	POWERLESS
Serbs	0.018	POWERLESS



Figure 456: Political status of ethnic groups in Macedonia during 1991-2013.

Geographical coverage of ethnic groups in Macedonia

From 1991 until 2013

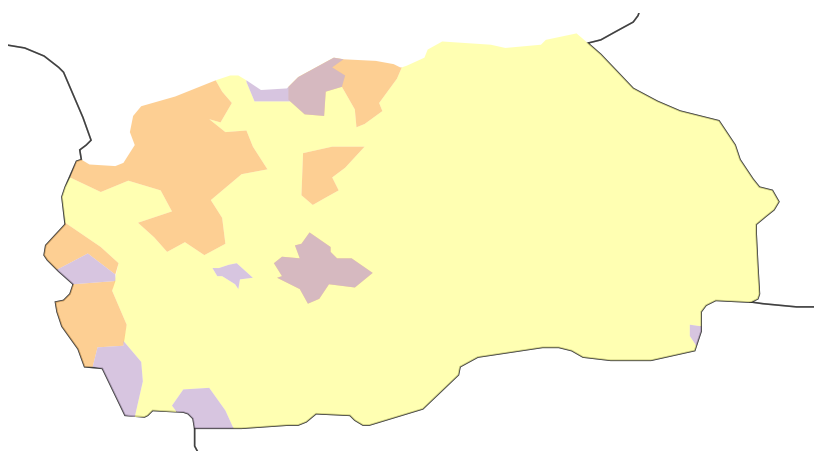


Figure 457: Map of ethnic groups in Macedonia during 1991-2013.

Group name	Area in km ²	Type
■ Macedonians	21 613	Regional & urban
■ Albanians	3716	Regional & urban
■ Turks	1360	Regional & urban
Roma		Dispersed
Serbs		Dispersed

Table 138: List of ethnic groups in Macedonia during 1991-2013.

Conflicts in Macedonia

Starting on 2000-01-11

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of Macedonia, FYR	UCK	Albanians	2000-01-11	Explicit	Yes	No