

Macedonia

Ethnicity in Macedonia

Group selection

We identify the following politically relevant ethnic groups: **Albanians, Macedonians, Roma, Serbs, and Turks.**

Macedonia attained its independence from the Yugoslav Federation in 1991. 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.

Power relations

There is only one period: There have not been significant changes in the list of ethnic groups in the country, nor any significant changes in the groups' access to power. Ethnic Albanians have participated as junior partners in coalition governments ever since independence. The government formed after the 2006 parliamentary elections had 6 ethnic Albanians in its ranks, which is the government with the largest representation of ethnic Albanian to date. In the 2011 assembly elections, the Albanians gained 16 seats in assembly, thus they retain their "junior partner" role in the government ⁽²⁵⁵⁷⁾. A new cabinet, still under Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski, was announced in June 2014. Again, the only minority party represented in the government is the Democratic Union for Integration, which is the Albanian group's party ⁽²⁵⁵⁸⁾. Macedonians are coded as "senior partner".

²⁵⁵⁷ [Election Guide, 2011]

²⁵⁵⁸ [Balkan Insight, 2014]

Two members in the Macedonian parliament represent the Turk minority. One parliament-member is ethnic Serb ⁽²⁵⁵⁹⁾. Both groups have little political influence and are thus coded as "powerless".

²⁵⁵⁹ [U.S. State Department Human Rights Report 2012]

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 ⁽²⁵⁶⁰⁾.

²⁵⁶⁰ [U.S. State Department Human Rights Report 2012]

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% of the population, according to statistics provided by the government (²⁵⁶¹).

²⁵⁶¹ [U.S. State Department, 2013]

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Political status of ethnic groups in Macedonia

From 1991 until 2017

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
Bosniaks	0.008	POWERLESS
Vlachs	0.005	POWERLESS



Figure 535: Political status of ethnic groups in Macedonia during 1991-2017.

Geographical coverage of ethnic groups in Macedonia

From 1991 until 2017

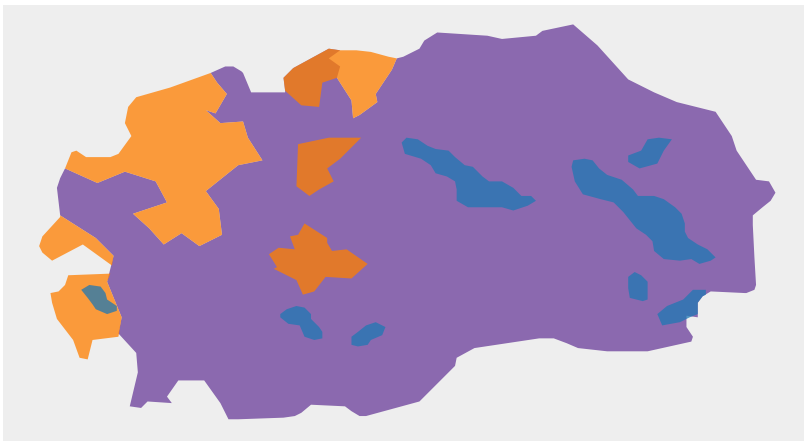


Figure 536: Map of ethnic groups in Macedonia during 1991-2017.

Group name	Area in km ²	Type
■ Macedonians	21 953	Regionally based
■ Albanians	3 721	Regionally based
■ Turks	1 440	Regionally based
Bosniaks		Dispersed
Serbs		Urban
Roma		Dispersed
Vlachs		Dispersed

Table 184: List of ethnic groups in Macedonia during 1991-2017.

Conflicts in Macedonia

Starting on 2000-01-10

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of Macedonia, FYR	UCK	Albanians	2000-01-10	Explicit	Yes	No