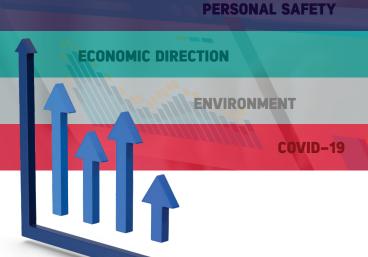




UNDP Kosovo

Public Pulse Brief XXII

POLITICAL DIRECTION



APRIL 2022



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Public Pulse Brief XXII

Executive Summary

Public Pulse Brief is a biannual publication providing an overview of ten key indicators derived from respective opinion polls, with respondents over 18 years old in Kosovo. The Public Pulse Brief XXII is based on an opinion poll conducted from 6 to 24 April 2022, with 1,306 respondents from all ethnic communities in Kosovo. Data and indicators from the opinion poll are disaggregated by ethnicity and gender to provide detailed information on differences in perceptions on development problems faced by the people of Kosovo.

The level of satisfaction with the performance of the Executive was recorded at 47.2%, a decrease of 0.4 percentage points from the October-November (autumn) 2021 poll when it stood at 47.6%. Satisfaction level with the work of the Prime Minister was recorded at 52.6% (53.2% autumn 2021), while that of the Kosovo Assembly Speaker stood at 54.4% (55.4% in autumn 2021). The level of satisfaction with the President was recorded at 58.4% as compared to 55.2% satisfaction rate recorded in autumn 2021. There was an increase in the satisfaction rate of the Courts and Office of the Chief Prosecutor, with 39.1% and 37.1%, respectively, compared to 33.9% and 34%, respectively, in autumn 2021.

The Democratization Index (DI) has increased by 0.07 points (1.66) from autumn 2021, when it stood at 1.59 points. On the other hand, the Economic Confidence Index (ECI) has decreased by 0.54 points (0.98) from autumn 2021 when it stood at 1.52 points. Both DI and ECI are measured on a scale from 0 points (minimum) to 3 points (maximum), where values below 1.5 are considered negative, whereas those above 1.5 show a positive outlook of the majority of the people regarding democratization and economic index.

A slightly higher number of respondents were ready to protest for political reasons in April 2022 (37.6%) than in autumn 2021 (35.6%). Data disaggregated by ethnicity show an increase in readiness to protest among Kosovo Albanians, but a decrease among Kosovo Serbs and members of other Kosovo communities. The rating among Kosovo Albanians stood at 39.4% as compared to 37.1% in autumn 2021, the rating among Kosovo Serbs stood at 6.7% as compared to 7.1% in autumn 2021, and 30% among members of other Kosovo communities as compared to 30.8% in autumn 2021.² The largest share of those dissatisfied with political direction in Kosovo was among Kosovo Albanians (43.2%), followed by members of other Kosovo communities (34.5%) and Kosovo Serbs (33.8%). The ethnic community that had the largest share of the members that were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with the political direction were Kosovo Serbs (57.1%). Overall, 42.6% of respondents were dissatisfied and 23.16% were satisfied with Kosovo's current political direction.

 $^{^2}$ For the purpose of this opinion poll, the term "other Kosovo communities" include Kosovo Ashkali, Kosovo Bosnians, Kosovo Egyptians, Kosovo Gorani, Kosovo Roma, and Kosovo Turks.

Findings from April 2022 opinion poll show an increase in the sense of safety among respondents, with 80.4% feeling safe when outside, compared to 73.6% in autumn 2021. Gender-disaggregated data show equal feeling of safety between women (80.5%) and men (80.4%). The feeling of safety among Kosovo Serbs has decreased by 3.9 percentage points, with 46.1% feeling safe in April 2022, as compared to 50.9% in autumn 2021. Similar to the previous poll, the highest sense of safety was recorded among members of other Kosovo communities, with 88.5% (85% in autumn 2021) feeling safe when out in the streets followed by 81.6% of Kosovo Albanians who felt safe when outside (73.6% in autumn 2021).

The April 2022 Public Pulse poll also enquired about the most pressing problems Kosovo is currently facing. Findings show a change from the previous poll in the three major issues that impact social well-being: prices of essential supplies taking over from environmental problems as the third most pressing issue. Top three major problems reported during this survey were unemployment (36.4%), poverty (21.1%) and prices of essential supplies (7.7%). Healthcare (5.7%) and corruption (5%) were among top five problems identified by respondents. It is worth noting that compared to autumn 2021 (9.3%), the rate of those that considered corruption as a major problem, has dropped by 4.3 percentage points. Kosovo Serbs considered unemployment (20.5%), prices of public utilities (14.8%) and electric energy supply (11.4%) as three most pressing issues, whereas for other Kosovo communities the biggest problem was unemployment (48%), followed by poverty (20.5%) and urban space problems (13%). For Kosovo Albanians, unemployment (36.5%), poverty (21.9%) and prices of essential supplies (8.1%) were the three major problems in Kosovo. A total of 75% of respondents considered that employment in the public institutions of Kosovo is not based on merit, as opposed to autumn 2021 when 73% believed that to be the case. On average, 22.2% of respondents claimed they perceive large-scale corruption to be present in public and international institutions in Kosovo, a decrease by 1.2 percentage points from autumn 2021 (23.4%).

As for the right to live in a healthy environment, 9% of respondents said they know a lot about the topic, 32.5% claimed average knowledge, and 41.4% of respondents claimed to know a little about this topic. A total of 17.1% said they have no knowledge about their right to live in a clean and healthy environment, a decline by 10.4 percentage points compared to autumn 2021 (27.5%).

A total of 38.1% of respondents believed that their vote can affect change as opposed to 26.6% who did not believe their vote can affect changes in Kosovo. A total of 76.7% of respondents would vote for a specific political party, or a coalition, if central elections were to take place in the near future. A total of 62.5% of respondents declared that COVID-19 has had a negative impact on their economic wellbeing. A total of 48.1% declared it negatively affected their physical health, and 52.6% indicated that it negatively affected their mental health. A total of 35.5% were satisfied with the measures taken by the executive cabinet to prevent the spreading of COVID-19.

Additional data obtained through this and previous polls will be made available in the Public Pulse Data Visualization Platform and ASKData.³

Public Pulse Key Indicators

The April 2022 opinion poll has shown that on average, 48.4% of respondents were satisfied with the work of Kosovo central institutions compared to 47% in autumn 2021, 51.4% in May 2021, 27.5% in December 2020, and 42.5% in April 2020.

Satisfaction with the work of the President of Kosovo stood at 58.4% as compared to 55.2% in autumn 2021 and 63.7% in May 2021. Satisfaction with the work of the Prime Minister was recorded at 52.6% (53.2% in autumn 2021 and 59.5% in May 2021). Satisfaction with the Executive cabinet of Kosovo stood at 47.2% as compared to 47.6% in autumn 2021 and 59.1% in May 2021. The level of satisfaction with the Assembly Speaker was at 54.4% (55.4% in autumn 2021 and 59.2% in May 2021), while satisfaction with the work of the Kosovo Assembly was at 50.2% (50.3% in autumn 2021 and 52.9% in May 2021).

An increase was observed in the satisfaction level with the performance of courts (39.1%) as compared to 33.9% in autumn 2021 and 34.6% in May 2021. This is the highest level of satisfaction with the performance of courts recorded by Public Pulse opinion polls. Similar increase in satisfaction was recorded in relation to the Office of the Chief Prosecutor. A total of 37.1% of the respondents had a positive view on the performance of the Office of the Chief Prosecutor, as compared to 34% in autumn 2021 and 30.8% in May 2021. This is the highest level of satisfaction recorded since April 2014, when satisfaction levels with the work of the Office of the Chief Prosecutor stood at 38.1%. Overall, people's satisfaction with the judiciary shows a steady increase since 2019 as shown in the table below.

48.4%

of respondents were satisfied with the work of Kosovo central institutions

Table 1 Respondents' satisfaction with the key executive, legislative, and judicial institutions in Kosovo

Political Inc	dicators	Apr 2016	Oct 2016	Oct 2017	May 2018	Nov 2018	May 2019	Nov 2019	Apr 2020	Dec 2020	May 2021	Nov 2021	Apr 2022	Trend
Satisfaction with	Executive Cabinet	17.80%	20.20%	32.40%	30.00%	31.30%	17.70%	14.40%	60.70%	21.30%	59.10%	47.60%	47.20%	~\\
executive cabinet	Prime minister	18.30%	19.70%	42.30%	33.20%	35.10%	36.50%	20.70%	65.40%	23.00%	59.50%	53.20%	52.60%	~\\
Satisfaction with	Parliament	17.30%	18.90%	31.70%	32.90%	36.10%	19.60%	18.60%	33.40%	22.60%	52.90%	50.30%	50.20%	~~~
legislative	Speaker of parliament	24.30%	24.90%	36.00%	31.50%	36.30%	23.60%	20.50%	72.40%	46.70%	59.20%	55.40%	54.40%	
Satisfaction with President	President	45.70%	25.50%	37.60%	39.10%	38.40%	20.40%	21.20%	18.70%	33.90%	63.70%	55.20%	58.40%	M
Satisfaction with	Courts	18.70%	22.10%	36.90%	31.20%	37.80%	18.70%	13.60%	24.80%	23.00%	34.60%	33.90%	39.10%	~~~
judiciary	Prosecutor 's office	16.90%	16.30%	33.10%	29.90%	35.30%	16.40%	14.20%	22.30%	23.00%	30.80%	34.00%	37.10%	M/

Political Direction

The share of respondents who were very satisfied and satisfied with the political direction of Kosovo has decreased by 7.5 percentage points (23.2%) as compared to autumn 2021 (30.7%), when it represented the highest level of satisfaction ever recorded by Public Pulse opinion polls. Accordingly, the number of those very dissatisfied and dissatisfied with the political direction of Kosovo has increased with 42.6% dissatisfaction rate. This was a 9.4 percentage points increase in dissatisfaction rate compared to autumn 2021 (33.2%) when the lowest level of dissatisfaction was recorded by Public Pulse opinion polls. However, this dissatisfaction rate is lower than in December 2020 (59.4%) and April 2020 (69.6%). The number of those who were neutral has decreased (34.2%) compared to autumn 2021 (36.1) and May 2021 (38.8%).

Gender-disaggregated data show slight difference between men and women regarding satisfaction with political direction of Kosovo, with 23.9% of men and 22.3% of women being very satisfied and satisfied with Kosovo's political direction. However, women appeared to be more dissatisfied (34.1%) then men (31.2%) with Kosovo's political direction. Ethnically disaggregated data show similarity in the level of satisfaction with the political direction of Kosovo among Kosovo Albanians (23.8%) and other Kosovo communities (23%). The level of satisfaction among Kosovo Serbs was slightly lower (8.1%) than in the previous poll (9.1% in autumn 2021). The highest level of dissatisfaction was found among Kosovo Albanians (43.2%), followed by members of other Kosovo communities (34.5) and by Kosovo Serbs (33.8%).

The percentage of those that were neutral in their assessment of Kosovo's political direction was quite high, with 57.1% of Kosovo Serbs, 42.5% of other Kosovo communities and 32.8% of Kosovo Albanians being neutral.

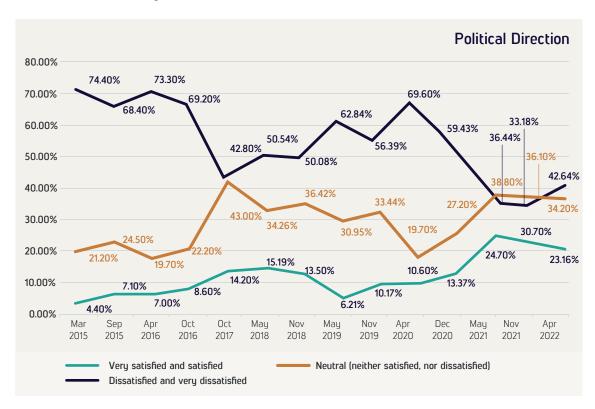


Figure 1 Respondents' satisfaction with Kosovo's political direction

The number of those ready to join political protest has increased by 2 percentage points since autumn 2021. A total of 37.6% of respondents were ready to join political protest in April 2022 as opposed to 35.6% in autumn 2021. This number is higher than in December 2020 (30.6%), April 2020 (33.6%) and November 2019 (31.3%), but lower than in May 2019 (42.2%). Ethnically disaggregated data show that Kosovo Albanians were more willing to protest than Kosovo Serbs and members of other Kosovo communities. Specifically, 39.4% of Kosovo Albanians were willing to protest as opposed to 6.7% of Kosovo Serbs and 30% members of other Kosovo communities. Compared to autumn 2021, the readiness of Kosovo Serbs and members of other Kosovo communities to protest for political reasons dropped slightly from 7.1% to 6.7%, and from 31% to 30% respectively. The number of Kosovo Albanians who were ready to protest for political reasons increased by 2.3 percentage points compared to autumn 2021 (37.1%).

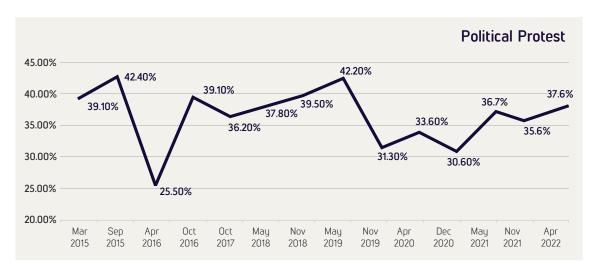


Figure 2 Percentage of respondents that would join political protests

Personal Safety

To measure the perception of public safety, respondents were asked whether they feel safe or unsafe while out in the streets, in terms of potential violence and crime. Findings indicate an increase in perception of safety by 6.8 percentage points (80.4%) compared to autumn 2021 (73.6%). The highest level of safety was recorded in April 2020, when 86.3% of respondents reported to feel safe in terms of potential violence and crime.



Figure 3 Respondents' perception of safety

Gender-disaggregated data show same feeling of safety between women (80.5%) and men (80.4%). The perception of safety increased by 9 percentage points among women compared to autumn 2021 (71.5%) and by 5 percentage points among men (75.4%). Ethnically disaggregated data show a slight decrease in the perception of safety among Kosovo Serbs, with 46.1% feeling safe when outside. The perception of safety among Kosovo Serbs in autumn 2021 was 50.9%. It is worth noting that the perception of safety among Kosovo Serbs was higher than in May 2021 (34.8%) and similar to April 2020 (46.2%) and December 2020 (46.2%), when records of safety were reported. Similar to the previous poll, the highest perception of safety was recorded among members of other Kosovo communities, with 88.5% (85% in autumn 2021) feeling safe when out in the street. A total of 81.6% of Kosovo Albanians felt safe when outside, compared to 73.6% in autumn 2021.

Democratization and Economic Confidence Indices

The April 2022 Public Pulse opinion poll recorded an increase in Democratic Index (DI) and a decrease in Economic Confidence Index (ECI).⁴ More specifically, the current DI has increased by 0.07 points (1.66) from autumn 2021, when it stood at 1.59 points. This figure suggests that more than half of the people of Kosovo had a positive view of democratic processes in Kosovo.

Contrary to the autumn 2021, when majority of people had positive view of Kosovo's economic prospects (1.52 points), in April 2022, less than half of people had this positive perception (0.98 points). As shown in the graph below, this figure is also lower compared to May 2021, when it stood at 1.49 points.



⁴The DI and the ECI are continuous measures from 0 to 3, in which a score from 0 to 1.5 means that the majority of the population views democratization or economic trends negatively and the score from 1.5 to 3 means that the majority of the population views democratization or economic trends positively.



Figure 4 Democratization and Economic Confidence Indices

Both DI and ECI consist of a number of components, which are used to generate respective indices. DI consists of nine components shown in Table 2 below. The questions for this index can be answered with either "Yes, fully," "Yes, mainly," "Not so much," or "Not at all." Table 2 shows the percentage of respondents who responded with either "Yes, fully" or "Yes, mainly" to the nine questions. To determine which indicators influenced the increase of DI, the data from the April 2022 opinion poll were compared with those generated in previous opinion polls. Findings reveal that except for judiciary, all other DI components listed in Table 2 have seen an increase compared to autumn 2021. A total of 73.4% of respondents believed that elections in Kosovo are democratic and follow international standards, compared to 70.9% in autumn 2021, 70.4% in May 2021, 45.9% in December 2020 and 66.3% in April 2020, making this the highest evaluated DI component. A total of 67.5% considered that the Assembly monitors the performance of the Executive, compared to 63% in autumn 2021, 60.1% in May 2021, 45.6% in December 2020 and 58% in April 2020. The only component which saw a decline compared to autumn 2021 (44.9%) and was otherwise lowest evaluated component, is the judiciary with 41.7% of positive evaluation by the respondents. However, judiciary remained higher than in May 2021 (37.5%), but lower than in November 2018, when highest positive evaluation (46%) was recorded. A total of 69.6% of respondents considered that media enjoy freedom of expression – showing an 8.9 percentage points increase compared to autumn 2021 (60.7%) and similar to May 2021 (69.2%) and was also higher than December 2020 (57.9%). An increase was also observed in perceptions on the role of the civil society organizations as truthful monitors of the executive, with 61.9% believing that to be the case, as compared to 55.6% in autumn 2021, 56.6% in May 2021, 45.8% in December 2020 and 50.7% in April 2020.

Similar level of satisfaction can be observed with the work of local government and that of the central executive. Whereas the former had an increase from 54.9% in autumn 2021 to 55.8 in April 2022, the latter had an increase from 49.3% in autumn 2021 to 56.8% in April 2022. An increase in positive responses was observed to the question whether the Constitution and applicable laws are democratic and whether they comply with human rights standards, with 63.1% of positive response, compared to 59.5% in autumn 2021. Finally, an increase of 4 percentage points compared to autumn 2021 (55.7%) was also noted in responses to the question whether democratic processes in Kosovo are instituted and are going in the right direction (59.6%). The April 2022 ethnically disaggregated data show that while the majority of the members of other Kosovo communities responded with "yes fully" and "yes mainly" to all DI component questions, majority of Kosovo Serbs, similar to previous polls, responded with "not at all" and "not so much." Majority of Kosovo Albanians responded with "yes fully," and "yes mainly" to all DI component questions, except that on judiciary, where 58% responded with "not at all" and "not so much."

Yes Mainly and Yes fully	Mar 2015	Sep 2015	Apr 2016	Oct 2016	Oct 2017	May 2018	Nov 2018	May 2019	Nov 2019	Apr 2020	Dec 2020	May 2021	Nov 2021	Apr 2022	Trend
Are the elections in Kosovo democratic and in accordance with international standards?	26.20%	23.00%	30.30%	28.00%	44.60%	50.90%	53.70%	35.60%	62.73%	66.30%	45.87%	70.44%	70.88%	73.42%	~~
Does the Parliament monitor the performance of Executive Cabinet?	21.20%	21.80%	26.60%	30.80%	36.10%	46.70%	48.30%	38.10%	38.61%	58.00%	45.56%	60.13%	62.95%	67.47%	\mathcal{N}
Is Judiciary System in Kosovo independent on its decisions?	13.60%	17.60%	21.00%	21.60%	31.20%	43.60%	46.00%	21.50%	31.48%	39.70%	36.66%	37.50%	44.88%	41.67%	\mathcal{N}
Does media in Kosovo enjoys the freedom of expression?	35.50%	46.50%	47.30%	42.30%	52.50%	52.80%	59.10%	45.60%	46.66%	69.10%	57.94%	69.24%	60.70%	69.60%	~~~
Does Civil Society in Kosovo serve as, a truthful monitor of democratic developments	19.50%	23.10%	32.10%	30.10%	34.30%	48.30%	57.50%	32.60%	34.79%	50.70%	45.77%	56.56%	56.62%	61.89%	,
Is your Local (municipal) Government working according to priorities of Kosovo people?	23.30%	27.20%	28.90%	30.40%	34.00%	50.20%	49.20%	29.80%	29.62%	56.70%	41.53%	52.64%	57.88%	55.82%	\mathcal{N}
Is Kosovo central Executive Cabinet working according to priorities of Kosovo people?	11.80%	15.50%	18.90%	17.90%	24.70%	39.90%	37.50%	18.10%	24.23%	54.90%	30.61%	54.39%	49.28%	56.78%	\mathcal{N}
Is Kosovo Constitution as well as Laws in power democratic and do they respect the Human Rights?	23.50%	19.80%	31.70%	31.80%	41.40%	53.40%	60.50%	33.40%	40.30%	64.00%	42.82%	58.07%	59.49%	63.05%	<i></i>
Regardless of daily politics and looking forward to the future, do you agree that the democratic processes in Kosovo are instituted and are going towards the right direction?	17.30%	15.40%	23.10%	23.80%	29.70%	46.90%	57.20%	22.40%	33.01%	42.50%	36.22%	58.65%	55.65%	59.63%	<i>_</i>

Table 2 Trend analysis of DI components

To determine which indicators influenced the decrease of the ECI, the current positive responses of the ECI components were compared to those collected in previous opinion polls, as shown in the Table 3 below. Questions pertaining to ECI could be answered with "Favourable". "Unfavourable" and "Neutral." A total of 17.2% of respondents had favorable expectations regarding their family's total income within next six months which is slightly higher than autumn 2021 (15.9%). A decrease in positive view is observed in how respondents viewed conditions for doing business in Kosovo with 7.3% considering they were favourable – a decrease from 12.8% in autumn 2021. Similar decrease compared to autumn 2021 (10.8%), is observed in how respondents viewed current employment conditions, with 6.3% viewing them as favourable. Finally, a decrease is observed in how respondents viewed future employment conditions – six months from the April 2022 opinion poll – a total of 10.5% viewed them favourable, as opposed to 15.9% in autumn 2021. In sum, the ECI components suggest that less than half of the people of Kosovo (0.98) had an optimistic view of the economy.

Favourable	Mar 2015	Sep 2015	Apr 2016	Oct 2016	Oct 2017	May 2018	Nov 2018	May 2019	Nov 2019	Apr 2020	Dec 2020	May 2021	Nov 2021	Apr 2022	Trend
What are your expectations regarding your family's total income six months from now?	15.10%	15.90%	23.40%	18.00%	22.40%	19.90%	18.80%	11.60%	13.70%	14.20%	11.50%	15.90%	15.90%	17.20%	M
What is your assessment of the current business conditions?	8.10%	8.30%	14.40%	13.10%	17.90%	18.50%	16.70%	5.50%	9.10%	8.20%	7.20%	4.70%	12.80%	7.30%	\mathcal{M}
What is your assessment of the current employment conditions?	5.00%	6.80%	10.30%	7.70%	17.10%	15.40%	15.90%	5.80%	7.40%	6.60%	5.60%	7.00%	10.80%	6.30%	M
What are your expectations regarding employment condition six months from now?	6.00%	8.00%	14.00%	10.70%	18.70%	17.80%	23.30%	4.60%	12.00%	11.60%	8.30%	18.80%	15.90%	10.50%	M_{χ}

Table 3 Trend analysis of ECI components

Economic Direction

A decrease in positive perceptions, compared to autumn 2021, can be observed also in the satisfaction of respondents with the economic direction of Kosovo. During April 2022, 17.2% of respondents were satisfied with Kosovo's economic direction as opposed to 22.3% in autumn 2021 and 18.4% in May 2021. Accordingly, the number of those dissatisfied has increased from 44.6% in autumn 2021 to 50.8% in April 2022. A total of 32% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. In contrast to autumn 2021 when women were more satisfied with economic direction than men, in April 2022, men appeared to be more satisfied than women. Whereas 18.8% of men were satisfied with Kosovo's economic direction, only 15.5% of women felt the same. Accordingly, 49.7% of men were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the economic direction of Kosovo as opposed to 52% of women who felt the same. Ethnically disaggregated data suggest dissatisfaction level among Kosovo Albanians to have been at 51.2%, and Kosovo Serbs at 35.7%. Members of other Kosovo communities appeared to be most dissatisfied with Kosovo's economic direction (54%). Accordingly, the most satisfied group with Kosovo's economic direction were Kosovo Albanians (17.8%), followed by respondents of other Kosovo communities (14.5%), and Kosovo Serbs (7.6%).

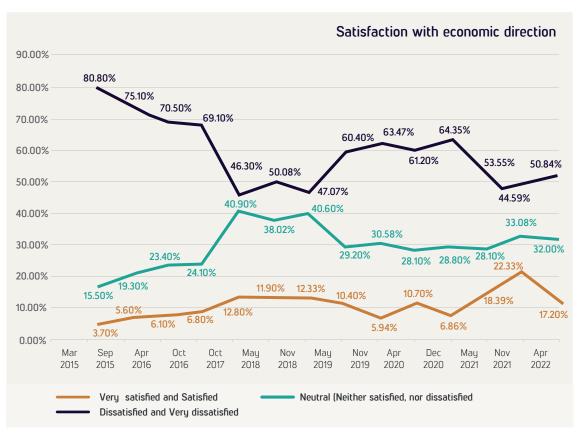


Figure 5 Satisfaction with the economic direction of Kosovo

Major Problems Currently Facing Kosovo

The April 2022 Public Pulse poll also enquired about the most pressing problems Kosovo is currently facing. Findings show a change from the previous poll in three major issues that impact social well-being with prices of essential supplies taking over from the environment as the third most pressing issue. Top three major issues reported during this opinion poll were unemployment (36.4%), poverty (21.1%,) and prices of essential supplies (7.7%), whereas unemployment, poverty and environment were the top three concerns in autumn 2021. Compared to autumn 2021, environment (2.2%) dropped by 7.9 percentage points. Healthcare services (5.7%) and corruption (5%) were among 5 top problems facing people of Kosovo.

Ethnically disaggregated data show that Kosovo Serbs considered unemployment (20.5%), prices of public utilities (14.8%) and electric energy supply (11.4%) as three most pressing issues, whereas for other Kosovo communities the biggest problem was unemployment (48%), followed by poverty (20.5%) and urban space problems (13%). For Kosovo Albanians, unemployment (36.5%), poverty (21.9%) and prices of essential supplies (8.1%) were the three most pressing problems in Kosovo.

Gender disaggregated data show that both men and women were mostly concerned about unemployment, poverty, and prices of essential supplies. Similar to the last opinion poll, women were more concerned about unemployment (40%) than men (32.6%). Both women (20.2%) and men (21.8%) seemed to be equally concerned about poverty. However, men were more concerned about prices of essential supplies (9.1%) than women (6.4%).







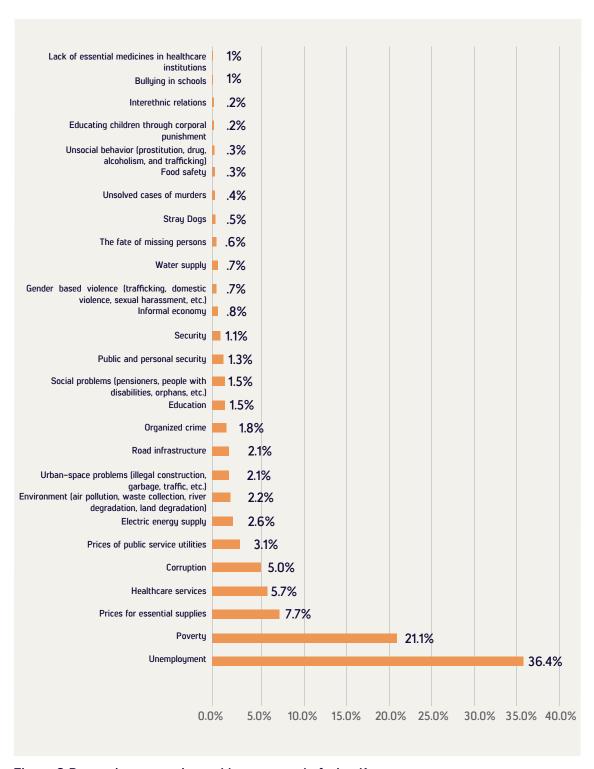


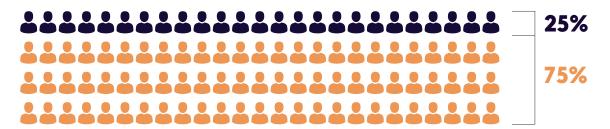
Figure 6 Perceptions on major problems currently facing Kosovo

Merit-based Recruitment in the Public and Private Sector

The April 2022 opinion poll shows that 25% of respondents considered that employment in the public sector is merit-based, while 75% considered that employment in the public sector is not based on merit. The findings show a decline in the trust on merit-based employment compared to autumn 2021 when this figure stood at 27%. The respondents considered the following as main factors to gain employment in the public sector: party allegiance (31.5%), family connections (26%), education (14.9%), bribe (9.2%), friends (6.4%), professional experience (6.3%), vocational training (3.7%) and, to a lesser extent, appearance (1.6%) and gender (0.2%). A total of 25% of respondents believed that education, vocational training, and professional experience are the most relevant factors to gaining employment in the public sector.

Gender-disaggregated data show that men were more confident in merit-based employment than women. A total of 26.9% of men believed employment in the public sector is merit-based, as opposed to 23.1% of women who thought the same. Both for men (31.4%) and for women (31.7%), party allegiance was the most helpful way to get employment in the public sector.

Ethnically disaggregated data show that party allegiance appeared to be the key factor in gaining employment for Kosovo Albanians (32.1%) and Kosovo Serbs (32.9%), while for other Kosovo communities, having family connections (30.5%) enables easier employment in the public sector. Similar to the previous three polls (December 2020, May 2021 and autumn 2021), the least confidence in merit-based employment was found among Kosovo Serbs (22%), followed by Kosovo Albanians (25%) and members of other Kosovo communities (32.5%). In line with the latest poll, the latter's confidence in merit-based employment, with education, professional experience and vocational training being decisive factors in gaining employment in the public sector, was the highest.



Opinion poll shows that 25% of respondents considered that employment in the public sector is merit-based, while 75% considered that employment in the public sector is not based on merit.



Figure 7 Perceptions of the role of meritocracy to gaining employment in the public sector

In comparison to the autumn 2021 poll, confidence about merit-based employment in the private sector has decreased from 48.8% to 45%. Majority of respondents (54.9%) believed that employment in the private sector is not based on merit. Similar to the previous poll, respondents identified the following non-merit factors in gaining employment in the private sector: family connections (30%), friends (13.8%), bribe (6.3%), party allegiance (3.7%), appearance (1%), and to a lesser extent, gender (0.1%).

Gender disaggregated data show that men (45.6%) and women (44.7%) were similarly confident in merit-based employment in the private sector. Ethnically disaggregated data show significant differences between communities in perceptions about meritocracy in the private sector. Most confident in meritocracy as a criterion for employment in the private sector were members of other Kosovo communities with 52.5% being confident, followed by Kosovo Albanians with 45.3% and Kosovo Serbs who had least confidence in meritocracy, with 39.9%.

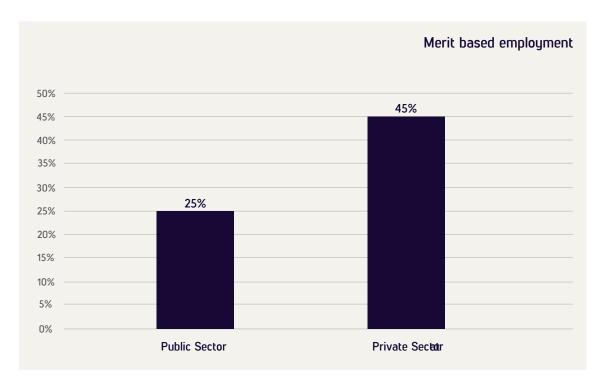


Figure 8 Perceptions of the role of meritocracy to gaining employment in the public versus private sector

Perceptions on Large-scale Corruption

On average, 22.2% of respondents claimed they perceive large-scale corruption to be present in public and international institutions in Kosovo. This value represents a decrease of 1.2 points from autumn 2021 (23.4%), 2.8 percentage points from May 2021 (25%), 5.8 percentage points from December 2020 (28%), and an increase by 1.5 percentage points compared to April 2020 (20.7%). This result indicates a steadily positive trend in perception about large-scale corruption compared to previous years as shown in Table 4.

The education sector was perceived to be least corrupt with 12.1% believing there is large-scale corruption in schools and universities, followed by Kosovo central institutions (13.9%), international organizations (14%), and Kosovo Police (14%). The most corrupt organizations were perceived to be Customs (36.2%), followed by the Privatization Agency of Kosovo (PAK) (32.6%), and Courts (27.9%). The biggest changes in perceptions on large-scale corruption were observed in the following institutions: Kosovo Police (14% compared to 20.5% in autumn 2021), Kosovo central institutions (13.9% compared to 19.5% in autumn 2021), and Education sector (12.1% compared to 16.8% in autumn 2021).

As shown in the table below, eight sectors and organizations were perceived to be less corrupt than in autumn 2021, and seven are perceived to be more corrupt than during autumn 2021. Gender disaggregated data show that the perception of men about the presence of large-scale corruption in Kosovo institutions and international organizations in Kosovo was higher than that of women.

	Apr 2016	Oct 2016	Oct 2017	May 2018		May 2019	Nov 2019	Apr 2020	Dec 2020	May 2021	Nov 2021	Apr 2022	Trendi
Healthcare (hospitals and family healthcare centers)	37.90%	49.70%	25.50%	32.50%	25.70%	25.10%	33.40%	11%	25%	22.90%	18.80%	18.10%	1m
KEDS	31.10%	31.40%	20.50%	33.00%	31.30%	40.70%	38.90%	27.30%	28.70%	26.10%	25.80%	26.50%	~~~
KEK									27.50%	25.30%	25.80%	26.70%	
Courts	42.30%	49.30%	24.90%	38.60%	29.10%	30.70%	42.00%	24.50%	31.60%	32.50%	27.70%	27.90%	~~~
Customs	32.30%	45.20%	22.70%	39.10%	31.40%	29.30%	41.40%	30.60%	39.20%	34.30%	32.30%	36.20%	~~~
Central administration/ government	36.60%	49.20%	30.70%	34.70%	28.40%	36.70%	35.30%	20.80%	29.50%	23.10%	19.50%	13.90%	^~~
PAK (Privatization Agency of Kosovo)	39.20%	45.70%	24.90%	34.50%	29.80%	40.70%	48.10%	36.60%	39.00%	39.30%	29.40%	32.60%	W~
Municipalities (local government)	30.00%	40.20%	25.50%	29.00%	26.40%	25.80%	29.80%	13.30%	24.70%	20.40%	19.10%	16.30%	~~~
Education (schools, University)	17.50%	31.00%	16.30%	26.20%	19.90%	20.70%	26.10%	13.60%	19.50%	15.10%	16.80%	12.10%	~~~
TAK (Tax administration of Kosovo)	18.20%	32.50%	17.40%	28.90%	25.40%	35.30%	42.20%	18.90%	30.20%	27.40%	28.80%	25.40%	\sim
PTK	18.40%	29.60%	17.00%	27.80%	25.60%	44.20%	40.80%	37.90%	33.20%	31.60%	27.70%	25.90%	~~~
Banks	23.10%	24.40%	13.10%	27.30%	26.10%	33.80%	34.10%	18.90%	28.10%	22.90%	22.20%	20.50%	~~~
International organizations	16.00%	28.00%	10.80%	24.50%	10.70%	19.50%	23.60%	5.50%	23.80%	15.70%	17.60%	14.00%	~~~~
Kosovo Police (KP)	13.60%	21.10%	14.90%	25.70%	21.60%	17.00%	20.70%	9.80%	15.30%	14.00%	20.50%	14.00%	~~~

Table 4 Perceptions of the prevalence of large-scale corruption in public and international institutions in Kosovo

To understand what shaped perceptions on the presence of large-scale corruption in the public and international institutions in Kosovo, respondents were asked about the reasons for their opinion on the extent of corruption. Similar to other polls in the past, findings reveal that the majority of respondents (69.4%) have formed their opinions through print and electronic media, as illustrated in Figure 9 below. A total of 27.2% of respondents declared that conversations with relatives and friends shaped the basis of their opinions regarding the extent of corruption, whereas only 3.4% of respondents claimed that personal experiences where they were asked for money, gifts, or other favors in return for certain services influenced their opinions. The latter has decreased by 7.6 percentage points compared to autumn 2021 poll (11%).

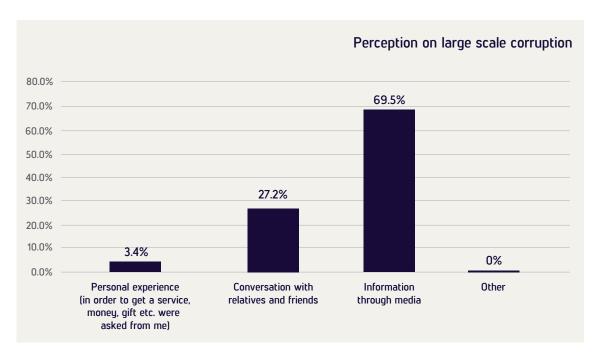


Figure 9 Respondents' reasons behind their evaluation of the extent of corruption in Kosovo

Attitudes Towards Voting

The April 2022 Public Pulse opinion poll also enquired about the voting attitudes of the people of Kosovo. The attitudes toward voting have changed compared to autumn 2021 opinion poll, showing an increased confidence in the effect of popular vote to trigger political changes. When asked whether their vote can change the situation in Kosovo, 38.1% of respondents declared that they believe their vote can affect change, compared to 29.4% in autumn 2021, 43.8% in May 2021, 34.1% in December 2020 and 46.7% in April 2020. On the other hand, 26.6% considered that their vote cannot change the situation in Kosovo, as compared to 36.1% in autumn 2021, 25.1% in May 2021, 27.4% in December 2020 and 26.8% in April 2020.

In April 2022, 32.9% considered their vote can change the situation to some extent, compared to 31.2% in autumn 2021 and 23.9% in May 2021. Only 2.3% did not know whether their vote can affect changes or refused to respond.

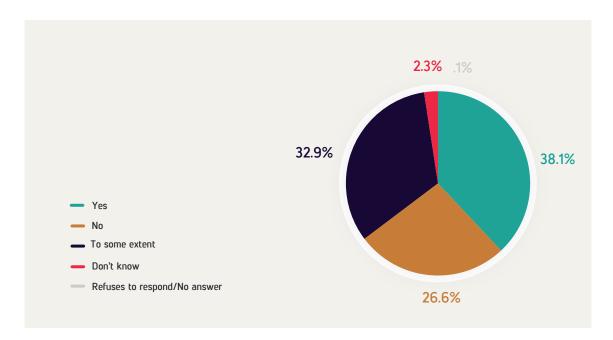


Figure 10 Respondents' perception on whether their vote can change the situation in Kosovo

Gender-disaggregated data show that women were less confident than men on the power of their vote in affecting change in Kosovo. While 40.1% (32.2% in autumn 2021) of men considered that their vote can change the situation in Kosovo, 35.9% (26.5% in autumn 2021) of women thought the same. A total of 25.2% of men and 28% of women believed their vote cannot affect changes, whereas 32.3% of men and 33.6% of women felt their vote can affect changes to some extent.

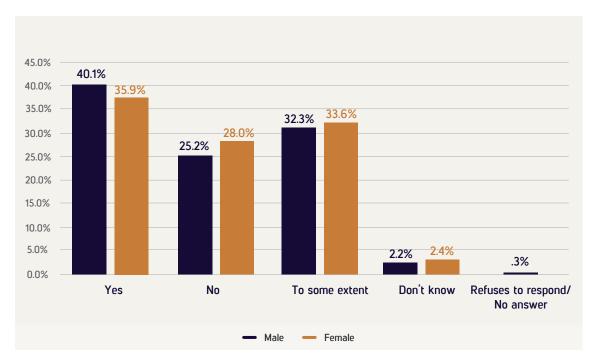


Figure 11 Perception of men and women on whether their vote can change the situation in Kosovo

Ethnically disaggregated data show considerable differences between communities in Kosovo in their confidence in elections as a mechanism of change. Overall, an increase in confidence of their vote as a mechanism for change is observed among Kosovo Albanians, and to a smaller extent among Kosovo Serbs, while a decrease can be observed in the confidence of members of other Kosovo communities. A total of 6.7% of Kosovo Serbs (5.7% in autumn 2021 and 2.4% in May 2021) considered their vote can affect changes in Kosovo as opposed to 15% of members of other Kosovo communities (30% in autumn 2021 and 16.9% in May 2021) and 40.5% of Kosovo Albanians (30.8% in autumn 2021 and 48.2% in May 2021). While a total of 52% of members of other Kosovo communities did not believe their vote can affect changes (37% in autumn 2021 and 47.3% in May 2021), 24.8% of Kosovo Serbs (19% in autumn 2021 and 34.8% in May 2021) and 25.6% of Kosovo Albanians (37.7% in autumn 2021 and 22.9% in May 2021) thought the same. Just as in autumn 2021 and May 2021 polls, the number of Kosovo Serbs who believed their vote can affect changes to some extent was the highest (59.5%), followed by Kosovo Albanians (32%) and members of other Kosovo communities (25.5%).

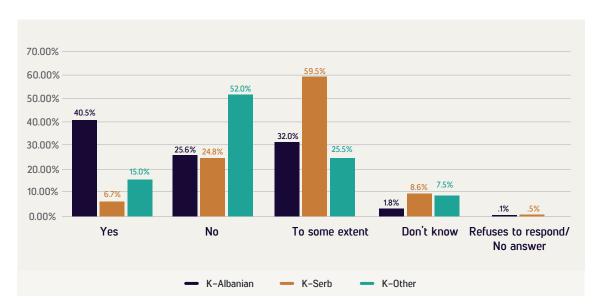


Figure 12 Perception of different communities on whether their vote can change the situation in Kosovo

The April 2022 Public Pulse poll also enquired about the likelihood of respondents to vote if central elections were to be held soon, and their voting preferences. Findings indicate that 76.7% of respondents (compared to 77.6% in autumn 2021 and 75.3% in May 2021) would have voted for a specific political party, or a coalition, if central elections were to take place in the near future. Identical to the results of the autumn 2021 poll, 6.8% of respondents did not have any political preferences (compared to 7.4% in May 2021), 11.1% of respondents said they would not vote (compared to 10% in May 2021) and 5.4% refused to respond.

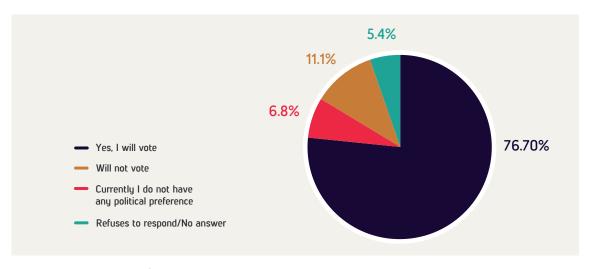


Figure 13 Respondents' likelihood to vote if central elections were to be held soon

Similar to the previous polls, gender-disaggregated data show that more men than women would have voted if elections were to be held soon. More specifically, 81.1% men and 76.8% women would have voted if central elections were to be held in the near future. In autumn 2021, these figures stood at 78.3% for men and 75.2% for women, whereas in May 2021 it was 83.7% for men and 82% for women. These figures are both lower than December 2020, when 93.4% of men and 92.2% of women declared they would vote.

Ethnically disaggregated data suggest a slight decrease in the likelihood to vote among Kosovo Serbs (52.4%) compared to autumn 2021 when 57.6% of them said they would vote. A total of 42.9% of Kosovo Serbs said they would vote in May 2021 and 59.1% were likely to vote in December 2020. Kosovo Albanians displayed little change in their likelihood to vote (79.5%) compared to autumn 2021 (77.5%) and May 2021 (77.3%). However, these figures suggest a decline compared to 84.4% in December 2020. More members of other Kosovo communities would have voted in April 2022 (88%) than in autumn 2021 (78%) and in May 2021 (70.2%), but less so than in December 2020 (89.4%). Only 7.4% of Kosovo Albanians (6.9% in autumn 2021, 5.8% in May 2021 and 9.2% in December 2020), 5.7% of Kosovo Serbs (5.7% in autumn 2022, 14.8% in May 2021 and 16.7% in December 2020), and 4.5% of members of other Kosovo communities (6% in autumn 2022, 9.5% in May 2021 and 5% in December 2020) did not have any political preferences, whereas 9.6% (10.9% in autumn 2022 and 9.6% in May 2021) of Kosovo Albanians, 18.6% (17.1% in autumn 2022 and 22.9% in May 2021) of Kosovo Serbs, and 6% (9% in autumn 2021 and 9.5% in May 2021) of members of other Kosovo communities declared they would not vote if elections were to be held soon. A total of 23.3% of Kosovo Serbs, followed by 3.6% of Kosovo Albanians and 1.5% of members of other Kosovo communities refused to respond to this question.

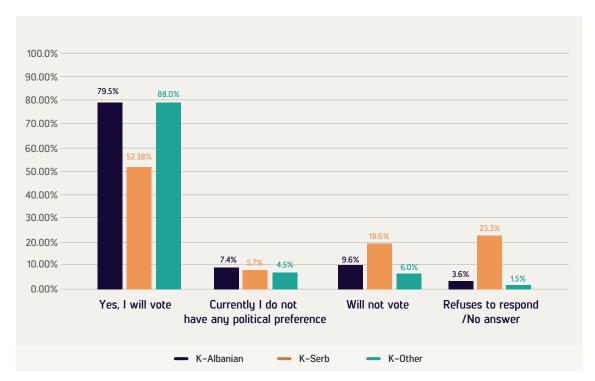


Figure 14 Respondents' likelihood to vote and voting preferences, ethnically disaggregated data

Environment

Respondents were asked about their knowledge on the right to live in a healthy and clean environment. The April 2022 Public Pulse opinion poll shows that there is a difference in people claiming more knowledge about their right to live in a healthy and clean environment compared to autumn 2021. A total of 15.3% (7.9% in autumn 2021 and 16.1% in May 2021) said they know a lot about the topic, 25.5% (24.9% in autumn 2021 and 32.7% in May 2021) claimed average knowledge, and 40.7% (39.7% in autumn 2021 and 36% in May 2021) of respondents said they know a little about this topic. A total of 18.5% (27.5% in autumn 2021 and 15.2% in May 2021) said they have no knowledge about their right to live in a clean and healthy environment.

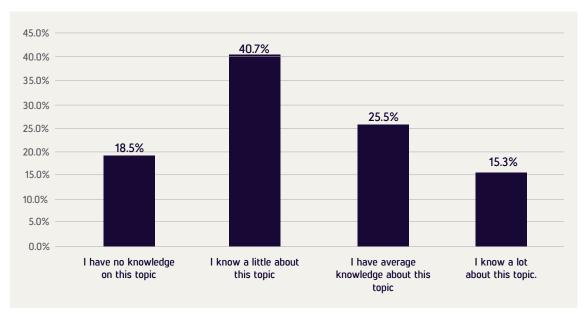


Figure 15 Respondents' awareness about the right to live in a healthy and clean environment

Ethnically disaggregated data show considerable differences between various communities in Kosovo about their awareness on the right to live in a healthy and clean environment. A total of 38.6% of Kosovo Serbs, 34.5% of members of other Kosovo communities, and 17.1% of Kosovo Albanians declared they have no knowledge about this issue, which (except for Kosovo Serbs) is a decrease in the lack of knowledge from autumn 2021 (14.8% Kosovo Serbs, 39.5% other Kosovo communities and 26.7% Kosovo Albanians). Kosovo Serbs represent the largest share of respondents (38.6%) who declared to have no knowledge about the topic. Kosovo Serbs also represent the largest share of respondents with average knowledge about the topic (29.5%). Members of other Kosovo communities show the largest percentage of respondents in knowing a little about this topic (44%), whereas Kosovo Albanians led in knowing a lot about the topic (16%), followed by Kosovo Serbs (6.2%) and members of other Kosovo communities (5%).

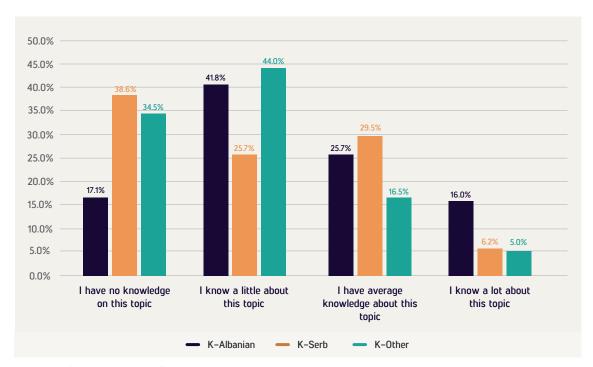


Figure 16 Respondents' awareness regarding their right to live in a healthy and clean environment, ethnically disaggregated data

The April 2022 Public Pulse opinion poll also explored the awareness of respondents on the potential environmental threats to their own and their family's health. While 9% (5.1% in autumn 2021 and 11.9% in May 2021) of respondents declared full awareness about these threats, 73.9% (67.9% in autumn 2021 and 70.7% in May 2021) of respondents declared to have little to average knowledge about these threats. A total of 17.1% (27% in autumn 2021 and 17.4% in May 2021) of respondents declared to have no knowledge about potential environmental threats to their own and their family's health. Gender-disaggregated data show that men (8.9%) and women (9.1%) had similar knowledge on this topic. This similarity is also related to average knowledge (32.9 women and 32.1% men) but slightly less women (39.9%) than men (42.9%) claimed to have little knowledge about this topic. More women (18%) claimed to have no knowledge about this topic than men (16.1%).

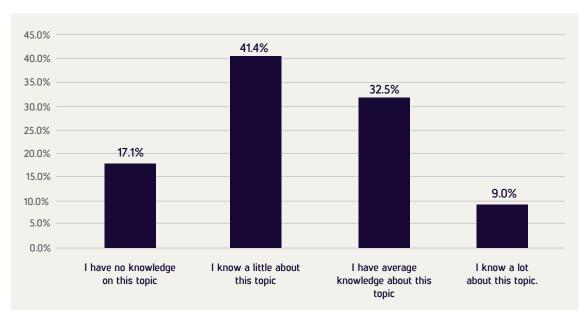


Figure 17 Respondents' awareness about potential environmental threats to own and family's health

As shown in Figure 18 below, ethnically disaggregated data highlight differences in knowledge between ethnic groups regarding potential environmental threats to own and family's health, as well as differences compared to autumn 2021 poll. A total of 32.4% of Kosovo Serbs, 29.5% of other Kosovo communities, and 16.1% of Kosovo Albanians declared to have no knowledge about this topic. The biggest difference compared to autumn 2021 opinion poll was the increase in the number of Kosovo Serbs (10.5%) who had no knowledge about this topic and decline of the number of Kosovo Albanians (26.3%) who had no knowledge about this topic. Kosovo Serbs represent the largest share of respondents who declared to have no knowledge (32.4%) about the topic. Members of other Kosovo communities constitute the largest share of those who had little knowledge (45%) while Kosovo Albanians led in having average knowledge (32.9%) about the topic. Kosovo Albanians also led with a lot of knowledge about this issue (9.5%), followed by members of other Kosovo communities (5.5%) and Kosovo Serbs (4.8%). In autumn 2021, Kosovo Serbs claimed most knowledge about this topic, with 6.7%, compared to 5.5% Kosovo Albanians and 0.5% other Kosovo communities.

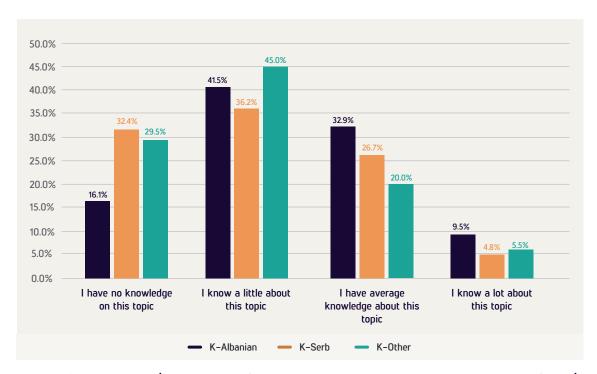


Figure 18 Respondents' awareness of potential environmental threats to own and family's health, ethnically disaggregated data

For the second consecutive time, the Public Pulse opinion poll also enquired on awareness about climate change. A total of 17.8% (12.3% in autumn 2021) believed that Kosovo is impacted by climate change and 63.4% (49.7% in autumn 2021) believed it is somewhat impacted by climate change. A total of 16% (30.7% in autumn 2021) believed climate change has had little impact, while for 2.8% (7.3% in autumn 2021) climate change has had very little impact on Kosovo. Gender-disaggregated data show no major differences in the perceptions of men and women about the impact of climate change in Kosovo: a total of 83.2% (61.6% in autumn 2021) of men and 79.3% (62.6% in autumn 2021) of women believed that Kosovo is impacted a lot and somewhat by climate change, whereas 16.8% (38.3% in autumn 2021) of men and 20.5% (37.4% in autumn 2021) of women believed Kosovo is impacted little and very little by climate change.

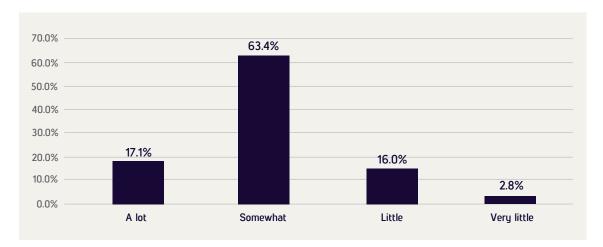


Figure 19 Respondents' awareness of the impact of climate changes in Kosovo

Ethnically disaggregated data show that 82.5% (62.7% in autumn 2021) of Kosovo Albanians believed that Kosovo is impacted a lot and somewhat by climate changes, followed by 64.5% of members of other Kosovo communities (66% in autumn 2021) and 64.3% of Kosovo Serbs (51.9% in autumn 2021). The latter led (35.7%) in believing that Kosovo is impacted little and very little by climate changes (48% in autumn 2021), followed by members of other Kosovo communities (35.5% versus 34% in autumn 2021) and Kosovo Albanians (17.5% versus 37.4% in autumn 2021).

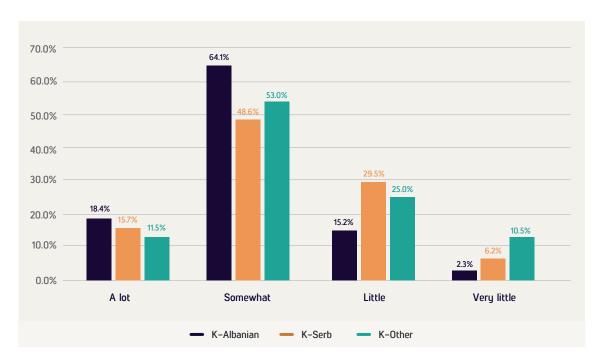


Figure 20 Respondents' awareness of the impact of climate changes in Kosovo, ethnically disaggregated data

COVID-19

The April 2022 opinion poll contained questions about the COVID-19 pandemic. Respondents were first asked about the COVID-19 impact on their economic wellbeing, physical health, and mental health. A total of 62.5% (51% in autumn 2021, 60.7% in May 2021, 68.7% in December 2020, and 65.9% in April 2020) of respondents declared that COVID-19 has had a negative impact on their economic wellbeing. A total of 48.1% (43.9% in autumn and in May 2021, 46.9% in December 2020 and 40.7% in April 2020) declared it negatively affected their physical health. A total of 52.6% (50.7% in autumn 2021, 48.6% in May 2021, 52.8% in December 2020 and 59% in April 2020) indicated that it affected their mental health. Like in the previous poll, these figures suggest that the situation created by the outbreak of COVID-19 in Kosovo, has had a major negative effect on economic wellbeing of respondents, followed by mental health and physical health. Gender-disaggregated data show that in general, women have been more affected than men. In terms of economic wellbeing, women (62.5%) were slightly more affected than men (60.8%). Women's physical health (50.1%) was affected more than that of men (45.1%). The impact of COVID-19 on mental health of women (53.7%) was higher than that of men (50%).

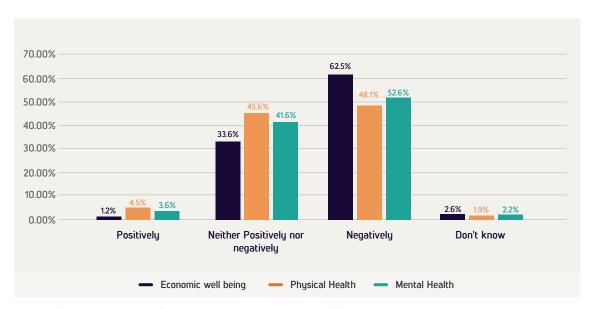


Figure 21 The impact of the situation created by COVID-19 on economic wellbeing and on physical and mental health

Ethnically disaggregated data show that the negative impact of COVID-19 on economic wellbeing has increased among Kosovo Albanians and members of other Kosovo communities but has decreased among Kosovo Serbs: a total of 63.7% (51.9% in autumn 2021) of Kosovo Albanians, 31.4% (38.6% in autumn 2021) of Kosovo Serbs and 51.5% (47% in autumn 2021) of members of other Kosovo communities reported a negative impact by COVID-19 on their economic wellbeing.

A total of 33.4% of Kosovo Albanians, 20% of Kosovo Serbs, and 40% of members of other Kosovo communities responded that there was no effect on their economic wellbeing due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Whereas 49.2% of Kosovo Albanians reported that COVID-19 has had a negative impact on their physical health, 18.6% of Kosovo Serbs and 43% of members of other Kosovo communities reported the same. At the same time, 53.8% of Kosovo Albanians, 25.7% of Kosovo Serbs and 33.5% of members of other Kosovo communities reported a negative impact of COVID-19 on their mental health.

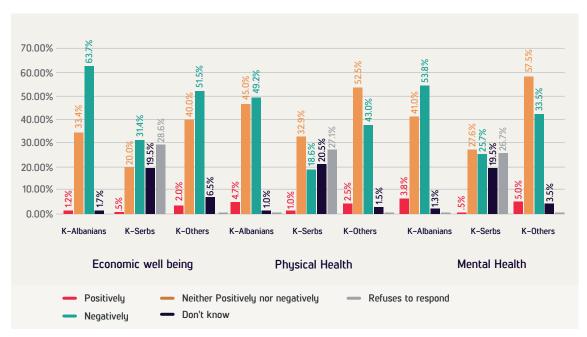


Figure 22 The impact of the situation created by COVID-19 on economic wellbeing, physical health and mental health, ethnically disaggregated data

Respondents were also asked whether they are satisfied with the measures taken by the central institutions of Kosovo to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Data suggest a slight increase in the level of satisfaction compared to the autumn 2021 opinion poll. More specifically, 35.5% of respondents were satisfied with the measures of the executive cabinet of Kosovo as opposed to 32.3% in autumn 2021, 43.6% in May 2021 and 78.8% in April 2020. The level of satisfaction in December 2020 was the lowest with only 15% of respondents being satisfied. Gender-disaggregated data show that men (37.3%) were more satisfied with the measures taken by the executive cabinet of Kosovo in response to the outbreak of the pandemic than women (33.8%). Accordingly, the level of dissatisfaction was higher among women (31.2%) than among men (26.7%).

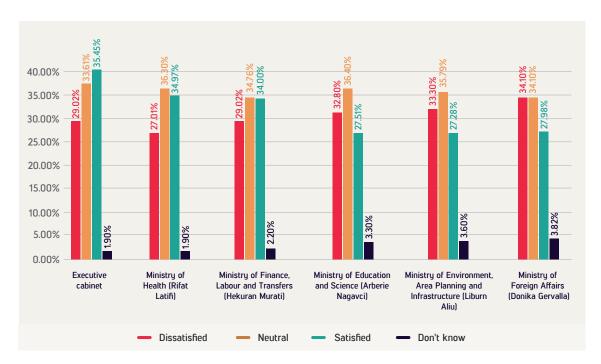


Figure 23 Satisfaction with the response of public institutions to the crisis caused by the outbreak of COVID-19

Ethnically disaggregated data show an increase in satisfaction among Kosovo Albanians and Kosovo Serbs, but a decline in satisfaction among members of other Kosovo communities, in comparison to the autumn 2021 opinion poll. A total of 36.9% (32.9% in autumn 2021) of Kosovo Albanians were satisfied with the measures of the executive cabinet of Kosovo, followed by 30% (44.5% in autumn 2021) of members of other Kosovo communities, while only 10% (8.6% in autumn 2021) of Kosovo Serbs have expressed their satisfaction with the measures taken by Kosovo executive cabinet to prevent the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. There was a slight decline in dissatisfaction among Kosovo Albanians and substantial decline among Kosovo Serbs, and a slight increase in dissatisfaction among members of other Kosovo communities compared to the autumn 2021 opinion poll. A total of 29.3% (31% in autumn 2021) of Kosovo Albanians were dissatisfied, followed by 31.9% (59% in autumn 2021) of Kosovo Serbs and 22% (20% in autumn 2021) of members of other Kosovo communities. Other Kosovo communities led in being neutral (45.5%), followed by Kosovo Albanians (33.6%) and Kosovo Serbs (19.5%).

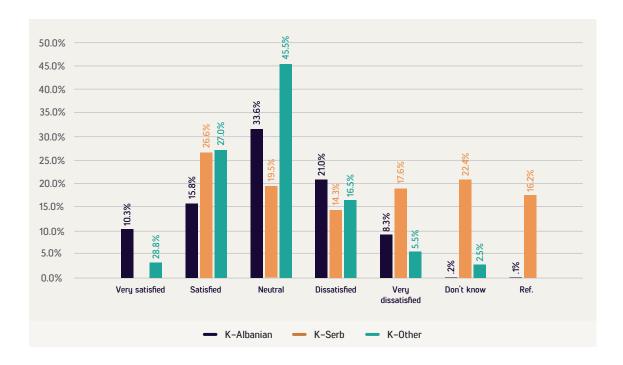


Figure 24 Satisfaction with the response of public institutions to the crisis caused by the outbreak of COVID-19, ethnically disaggregated data

Methodology

The findings presented in this brief are based on an opinion poll which surveyed 1,306 respondents in Kosovo over the age of 18, from 6 to 24 April 2022. The sample included the same number of men and women from all Kosovo municipalities and regions, covering both urban and rural areas. In terms of ethnic representation, the sample included 896 Kosovo Albanians, 210 Kosovo Serbs, and 200 members of other Kosovo communities (Kosovo Ashkali, Kosovo Bosnians, Kosovo Egyptians, Kosovo Gorani, Kosovo Roma, and Kosovo Turks). The survey was based on a multi-staged random probability sampling and was conducted through face-to-face interviews. The sample is representative of households in Kosovo.⁵

⁵In the report, terms percent and percentage point are used. A percentage point is the numerical difference between two percentages; whereas percent is the ratio expressed as fraction of 100. Percent refers to the rate of change, whereas percentage point measures the actual amount of change.

Weighting Population Totals

Public Pulse polls oversample minorities in order to disaggregate data by ethnicity. However, when calculating total numbers, the Public Pulse team weights data by actual population figures. Since 2002, the following percentages for weighting the population totals have been used:

Kosovo Albanians: 88%; Kosovo Serbs: 6%;

Members of other Kosovo communities: 6%.

According to the 2011 population census and official data from the Kosovo Agency of Statistics, the current ethnic composition in Kosovo is the following:

Ethnicity	Total Population	Percentage of Total Population
Kosovo Albanian	1,616,869	92.93
Kosovo Serb	25,532	1.47
Kosovo Turk	18,738	1.08
Kosovo Bosnian	27,533	1.58
Kosovo Gorani	10,265	0.59
Kosovo Roma	8,824	0.51
Kosovo Ashkali	15,436	0.89
Kosovo Egyptian	11,524	0.66
Other, refused to declare and not available	5,104	0.29
Total	1,739,825	100.00

If these figures were to be followed for the Public Pulse polls, weighting would be the following:

Kosovo Albanians: 93%; Kosovo Serbs: 2%;

Members of Other Kosovo Communities: 5%.

However, considering that Kosovo Serbs in the northern Kosovo had not participated in the 2011 Census, along with the general observation that the participation rate of Kosovo Serbs in the rest of Kosovo was lower, the need to add another 34,000 Kosovo Serbs was estimated, bringing the total number of Kosovo Serbs considered for the purposes of this study to 59,532. This also increased the total population of Kosovo to 1,773,825.

When these changes were taken into consideration, the weighting in the Public Pulse polls was applied in the following manner:

Kosovo Albanians: 92%; Kosovo Serbs: 4%;

Members of Other Kosovo Communities (Kosovo Ashkali, Kosovo Bosniaks, Kosovo

Egyptians, Kosovo Gorani, Kosovo Roma, and Kosovo Turks): 4%.

Calculation of Indices

The DI is a composite average based on respondents' level of agreement or disagreement with the following developments in Kosovo: extent of free and fair elections, Assembly monitoring, the performance of central institutions, independence of the judiciary system, freedom of expression and media, existence of a watchdog civil society, human rights-based Constitution and laws, and whether local and central Executive work according to people's priorities. The DI is a continuous measure which ranges from 0 to 3 where a score from 0 to 1.5 means that majority of respondents consider democratization not to be on the right track and a score from 1.5 to 3 means that majority of respondents agree that democratization is on the right track.

The ECI is a composite average which is calculated based on the respondents' evaluation of favorable or unfavorable economic conditions in Kosovo. Specifically, respondents evaluate the following conditions: expectations regarding their family's total income, employment conditions in the next six months, and an assessment of the current business and employment conditions. The ECI is a continuous measure which ranges from 0 to 3 where the range of 0 to 1.5 indicates an unfavorable assessment of the economic situation by the majority of the population and the range of 1.5 to 3 indicates a favorable assessment by the majority.





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