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# ALBANIA DWELLING AND LIVING CONDITIONS



May, 2014

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Printing house:

## **Preface and Acknowledgment**

The 2011 Population and Housing Census of Albania is the 11th census performed in the history of Albania. The preparation and implementation of this commitment required a significant amount of financial and human resources. For this INSTAT has benefitted by the support of the Albanian government, the European Union and international donors. The methodology was based on the EUROSTAT and UN recommendations for the 2010 Population and Housing Censuses, taking into consideration the specific needs of data users of Albania.

In close cooperation with international donors, INSTAT has initiated a deeper analysis process in the census data, comparing them with other administrative indicators or indicators from different surveys. The deepened analysis of Population and Housing Census 2011 will serve in the future to better understand and interpret correctly the Albanian society features. The information collected by census is multidimensional and the analyses express several novelties like: Albanian labour market and its structure, emigration dynamics, administrative division typology, population projections and the characteristics of housing and dwelling conditions.

The series of these publications presents a new reflection on the situation of the Albanian society, helping to understand the way to invest in the infrastructure, how to help local authorities through urbanization phenomena, taking in account the pace of population growth in the future, or how to address employment market policies etc.

The five editions of this series are in-depth analysis conducted by INSTAT in collaboration with the University of Geneva, University of Neuchâtel and Urban Research Institute, and supported financially by the SDC - Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

INSTAT avails itself of this opportunity to express its gratitude and acknowledgement for the valuable contribution of the SDC - Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, INSTAT experts and other local and international experts for the publication of the series of analyzes of population and housing census 2011

Special appreciation also goes out to all institutions and donors, who have contributed to the conduction of the population and housing census 2011, the Albanian Government, European Union (IPA 2009 and CARDS 2006), SIDA – Swedish Agency for International Development, SDC - Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, UNFPA – UN Population Fund, and UNDP – United Nations Development Program.

Gjergji FILIPI, PhD Director General of INSTAT

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## Lista e publikimeve tematike të Censusit 2011, Maj 2014 List of 2011 Census thematic publications, May 2014

- Censusi i Popullsisë dhe Banesave 2011: karakteristikat ekonomike
- 2011 Population and Housing Census: Economic Characteristics
- Dimensionet e cilësisë së Censusit 2011
- Quality Dimensions of the 2011 Population and Housing Census of Albania
- Kushtet e banimit dhe të jetesës
- Dwelling and living conditions
- Migracioni në Shqipëri
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- Commuting from home to work
- Dinamikat e tregut të punës, 2001-2011
- Labour market dynamics, 2001-2011
- Aplikimi INSTATGIS hartat në web (www.instatgis.gov.al)
- INSTATGIS Atlas web application (www.instatgis.gov.al)

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#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Albania has undergone a long transitional period over the last decades. It has gone from a centralized economic system with total control of the state to a free market economy. The recovery has been slow at times, however much has also been achieved. Growth records from 1998 up to 2008 have been impressive, averaging about 5% yearly (Figure A1). Poverty reduction has also been substantial, reaching the lowest poverty rate of 12.4% in 2008.

One of the major phenomena starting in the early 1990s has been the migration mbi 1,000,000 Albanians, mainly young men from rural areas. The large migration waves, as a result of poverty and collapse of productive sectors like industry and agriculture in the early transitional period, have brought about many changes in terms of population structure and growth rates. On the other hand, migrants have largely contributed to the Albanian economy through remittances. Remittances have served the receiving households for various uses such as increased consumption, education, health, acquisition of durables, new housing, housing reconstruction, business start-up etc.

These major socio-economic changes have required additional social and economic indicators from those already in place in the early 1990s so as to create baselines and a foundation for development. In this respect, the 2001 Census and 2002 Living Standard Measurement Survey (LSMS) provided answers to questions regarding the population of Albania and its standards of living, housing and dwelling conditions, access and quality of the basic services, accesses to education and health, years of schooling in Albania and level of education, occupations and economic sectors that provide employment, migration, fertility and poverty. This information served in the implementation of policies, of which the most important aimed to reduce poverty and improve the welfare in Albania in terms of education, general health, maternal health and gender equality.

The overall picture after the first decade of transition has shown major improvements in terms of social and economic development including growth and poverty reduction and new aspirations for integration in the European Union until 2008, after which the impact of the global financial crisis was felt. In this respect, the 2011 Census renders an interesting picture of how things have changed and evolved in the prior ten years. This census provides a rich source of information that serves as a tool in the continued implementation and monitoring of existing strategies that aim for the process of further development and integration of Albania. It is the 11th census in the history of Albania, officially starting the enumeration on September 30, 2011 and lasting one month in the field. Previously, the 2001 Census and 2002 Living Standard Measurement Survey provided the first picture of the main socio-economic aspects of Albania in the earlier transitional period until about 11 years after the fall of the communist regime.

Overall, living conditions in Albania appear to have improved since 2001. Albanian households live in better conditions, better equipped with furniture and improved water systems and sanitation, especially in rural areas. New technology devices necessary for a contemporary style of living are present in Albanian households. Commodities such as cars and secondary or seasonal houses have shown a rapid increase compared to ten years before.

However, the increased availability of consumer goods presents only part of the picture. Analyses of the main characteristics of dwelling as well as their conditions are an essential aspect in the measurements of living standards in non-monetary terms. This report focuses on aspects of housing and dwelling standards, amenities as well as the availability of basic services such as sanitation, water supply, electricity and heating that are important tools of measuring the welfare and living condition of Albanian households.

Dwelling conditions are closely related to economic conditions of a household and its relative poverty or wealth status. Adequate living conditions are also related to household characteristics such as the gender and education of the head of the household, household composition and geographic area. Demographic, economic and social indicators have changed throughout the years, increasing the inequality between different regions. High levels of population migration and development of the housing market during the past years have brought about many changes. A larger percentage of the population lives in urban areas. Large population movements towards urban areas may deplete economic opportunities and saturate the labour market. Lack of economic opportunities and overconcentration of internal migrants in urban areas may be associated with deteriorated dwelling and living conditions, and consequently potential urban slums. Among geographic divisions, there are expected to be significant differences in terms of dwellings and living conditions. The infrastructure related to the supply of basic needs, such as water and electricity supply, sanitation and heating have been developed within recent years but still a significant group of people are deprived of basic services, mainly in rural areas.

This report is based on data from the 2001 and 2011 Albanian Censuses and the 2012 LSMS. The findings in this report follows the work done in the publication "Living Condition and Inequality in Albania" in 2001. The analyses in this report follow a multidimensional approach to analyze the non-monetary poverty and differences based on dwelling and living conditions. The objective of this report is to analyze and provide a thorough description of dwelling and living

conditions in Albania, differences in dwelling and living conditions, potential improvements by years, significant factors that influence dwelling and living conditions as well as regional and group differences. Dwelling and living conditions are closely linked to health and education, thus affecting productivity, economic growth and ultimately social and economic development. Lack of adequate living conditions reinforces poverty and lowers household income generating opportunities. The report follows with section 2 on dwellings and living conditions, section 3 on household model of living conditions, section 4 on dwelling and living conditions by household poverty level, section 5 on non-monetary poverty index of unmet basic needs, and concludes in section 6.

## 2. DWELLING AND LIVING CONDITIONS

#### 2.1 Buildings and dwellings

The process of urbanisation, noticed in Albania from the 2001 Census, is still persisting and progressing mainly due to internal migration towards urban areas. In 2001 there was noted a clear trend of population decrease in rural<sup>1</sup> areas and population increase in urban areas, accompanied by a larger increase of housing stock in urban areas (87.4% in urban areas versus 19.4% in rural areas). This was also the first indication of change in Albanian settlement patterns. During that previous census cycle, there had been an increase of 32.8% in the number of buildings and a decrease of 3.6% in population, which may have indicated improved living conditions. In 2011, there was a continuous increase in the number of buildings by 16.8% and a faster decrease in population by 8.8% compared to 2001. That seems to be indicative of an increasing demand for a higher standard of living in terms of housing. The decrease of rural population by 26.7% and the increase of urban population by 15.8% confirm the urbanisation process, while the urban-rural comparison in regards to the stock of buildings gives an increase of 54.4% in urban areas compared to just 2.2% in rural areas (Table A1).

There is not much difference in the number of residential buildings between 2001 and 2011. However, there is a significant change in terms of dwellings as a result of the increase in the number of multi-storey buildings mainly in cities. The number of residential buildings in 2011 is about 598,267 and this is not much higher than 512,387 in 2001, but the respective number of dwellings in 2011 is about 1012 thousand compared to 785 thousand in 2001. The number of dwellings increased by 28.9% and the average number of dwellings for each building increased by 10.4% compared to 2001. The average number of dwellings per building is higher for Tiranë, Durrës and Vlorë that also indicates the larger number of apartment buildings versus individual or medium-size buildings. This is another indicator of a changing residential pattern and the progress of urbanisation process in the last decade.

In Albania, like in other developing countries, people have moved to urban areas to improve their livelihoods in search of better employment opportunities, education, healthcare, housing, social life etc. In the process they have depopulated the countryside and overcrowded cities especially the biggest ones. Consequently, the overall housing stock has increased in Albania, and there has also been a switch in the concentration of housing units between rural and urban areas. In 2011, 53.9% of all dwellings were concentrated in urban areas compared to 46.1% in rural areas while in 2001 the results revealed 46.4% dwellings in urban area compared to 53.6% dwellings in rural areas. This has resulted in a larger percentage of the population residing in urban areas.

The characteristics of buildings in 2011 in Albania do not vary drastically from 2001 in terms of type of building, number of floors, number of dwellings per building etc.. The number of individual buildings still prevails while apartment buildings constitute only 3.7% in 2011, very close to 3.3% in 2001. The type of buildings and the related period of construction show that the number of apartment buildings constructed during 2001-2011 has more than doubled compared to the previous decade and accounts for 23.4% of the total stock of that type of building in Albania (Table A2). Figure 1 shows the boom in construction during 2001-2011compared to 1991-2000.

The main feature of single house residential construction in Albania, making up 96.3% of buildings, also shapes the other characteristics such as number of floors and number of dwellings in the building. In this respect, about 85% of buildings in Albania have one floor and have one dwelling per building. When considering these features by period of construction there is a clear trend comparing the last two decades. During 2001-2011 there is a decrease in the stock of constructions with one or two floors while the mid-size (3-5 floors) remain at the same level and there are more buildings with 6 to 10 floors and a large increase of buildings with more than eleven floors, respectively 3 and 4 times more than those constructed during 1991-2000.

The pattern is also confirmed by the indicator of number of dwellings per building constructed during the last decade that reveals 3.3 times more buildings constructed with 16 and more dwellings inside. The most important element

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The division urban/rural for the purposes of these analyses are based on the administrative division between the municipalities/communes.

confirming the tendency to construct multi-storey buildings is the presence of a lift, which has increased by 2.7 times in the structures of the last decade compared to the previous one. This trend is also confirmed when comparing the two five-year periods of the last decade. During 2006-2011 there were about 1.4 times more buildings constructed with more than 16 dwellings inside than in 2001-2005, and 1.4 times more buildings constructed with elevators. However, the analysis by number of floors shows that the focus of construction in the last five years has been buildings with 6-10 floors, about 1.5 times more than in the previous five-year period, while the other types of construction included those with eleven floors and more, are somehow less. The share of the buildings constructed during 2001-2011 by number of floors and year of construction is shown in Figures 2a and 2b<sup>2</sup>.

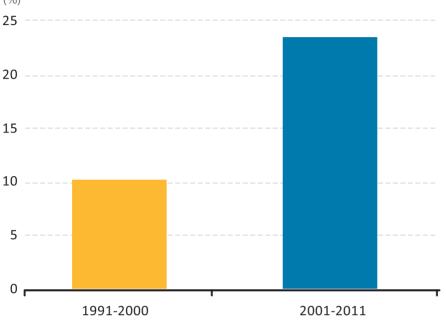


Figure 1: Number of apartment buildings by period of construction, Census 2011 (%)

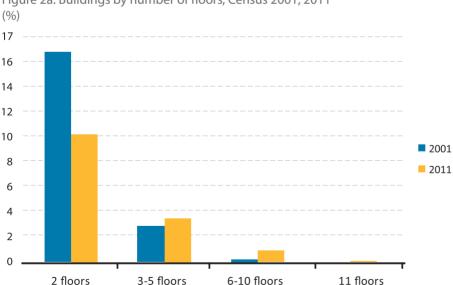


Figure 2a: Buildings by number of floors, Census 2001, 2011

Buildings with 1 floor are left out of the graph to highlight the differences in the other number of floors. As noted earlier the majority of buildings, continue to have 1 floor.

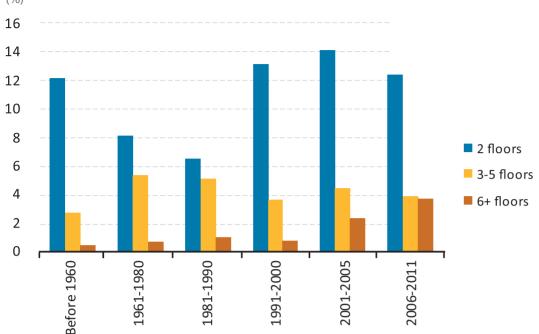


Figure 2b: Buildings by number of floors and year of construction, Census 2011 (%)

The reason why the tendency of constructing multi-storey buildings is not prevailing, as the trend in the beginning of the decade has shown, is related to the impact of the crisis at the end of the last decade, associated with the contraction of the construction sector. Other factors reducing the construction of high-rises include: a large amount of stock still vacant in the country, high prices of residential units, which are disproportionate to the average and minimum wages of Albanian households. The residential units so far had been affordable due to remittances from migrants, but the reduction of the remittances due to the global financial crisis as well as weaker ties between migrants and their home country have diminished this effect.

Further elements can also be found when analysing dwellings by occupancy status. The vacant dwellings in 2011 account for about 21.7% of the total number of dwellings in Albania compared to only 11.3% in 2001. Eight percent of housing is for secondary purposes and seasonal use, which means that the number of vacant dwellings increased more rapidly than people could demand or afford: Some households can afford a second unit as others live in non-conventional dwellings (0.4% of the dwellings, 3 out of 4 in urban areas) or in buildings not constructed for residential purposes (1.3%). Urban areas also host the majority of collective living quarters. Conventional dwellings comprise 99.6% of the total, distributed among 53.8% in urban areas and 46.2% in rural areas.

Among conventional dwellings, the share of houses for secondary use, or seasonal purposes, is respectively 7.3% in urban areas and 9.4% in rural areas. The preference of wealthier households for rural areas along with second houses near seashore or mountain areas may reveal the new characteristics of the Albanian society in the last decade. People are becoming sensitive towards negative aspects of agglomerations like stress, pollution, overcrowded cities, and they tend to prefer nature. As a result, the number of vacant dwellings in 2011 in rural areas is higher compared with urban areas (24.6% versus 19.0%) highlighting a different situation from 2001 when the number of vacant dwelling was 9.7% in rural areas compared to 13.1% in urban areas. While the overall trend in the last two decades has been growing construction, one of the most significant reasons for vacant dwellings in the rural areas in 2001 has been migration toward cities and foreign countries. In 2011, the stock of unoccupied houses in rural areas was larger than 10 years before, and also larger than in urban areas. This has been as a result of the overall growth in construction combined with migration towards urban areas and housing constructed and sold for seasonal and secondary use like tourist villages, residential complexes near the most attractive areas in the country, individual villas, or other type of buildings in the outskirts of the cities (Figure 3).

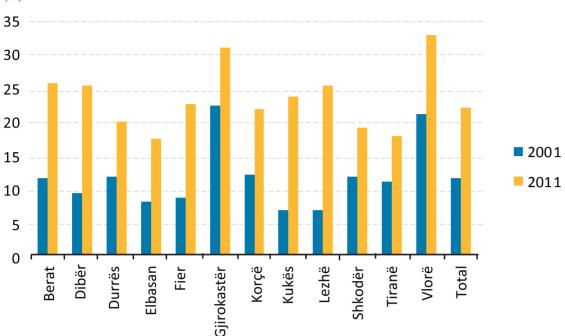


Figure 3: Share of vacant conventional dwellings of housing stock, Census 2001, 2011 (%)

The distribution of unoccupied dwellings in 2011 still reflects the situation of 2001, with higher ratios of vacant dwellings in the south of Albania (Vlorë and Gjirokastër). A quick glance at the prefectures with higher ratios of unoccupied dwellings than the national average of 21.7% sustains the previously-made assumptions that the stock of unoccupied dwellings increases as a result of house abandonment due to migration, or construction of houses for seasonal dwellings near the shore. As a result, in 2011, vacant dwellings reach over one third in Vlorë and Gjirokastër and about one fourth in Berat, Dibër and Lezhë. The reason why Fier, Korçë and Durrës present similar ratios with the national average while others like Tiranë and Elbasan present even lower ratios may result from these regions hosting internal migration and having larger populations. More specifically, in the case of Tiranë and Durrës the demand for housing is higher and matches the available supply. Therefore, another process is unfolded here since some of these areas are changing their economic profile: although there may be population loss because of out-migration they are still increasing their own population due to incoming flows from less developed areas. The distribution of inhabited dwellings by prefectures illustrates this situation in the country with the construction boom in Tiranë, Vlorë and Durrës (Figure 4).

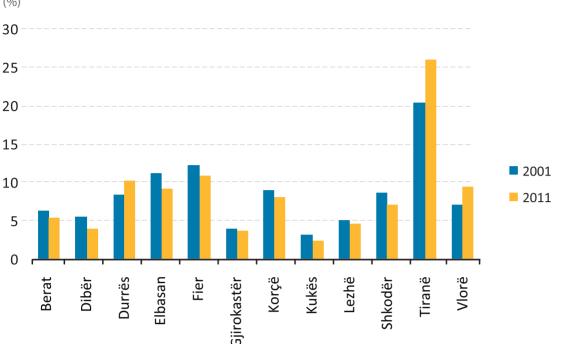


Figure 4: Inhabited dwellings by prefecture, Census 2001, 2011 (%)

Tiranë remains the largest host of internal migration and consequently the boom of constructions has occurred in the city and its suburbs. The prefecture of Vlorë has the peculiarity of having both a higher rate of vacant dwellings and also a higher rate of inhabited dwellings compared to the national average. The vacant dwellings may be a result of migration and seasonal dwellings and touristic centres, whereas high rates of inhabited dwellings may be as a result of a city with growing potential for better job opportunities and living conditions attracting inhabitants from surrounding areas. The concentration of inhabited dwellings in the larger Tiranë area account for more than one fourth of the total distribution of inhabited dwellings in the country followed by Durrës, Fier, Elbasan, Vlorë and Korçë. The distribution of houses for secondary use or seasonal purposes confirms that they are concentrated in Durrës, Vlorë and Gjirokastër, respectively 16.5%, 14.6% and 12.6%. Durrës has two times more than the national average of 8.3%.

The number of buildings in Albania in 2011 has increased by 16.8% while the number of dwellings has increased by 28.9%. The distribution by place of residence shows that there has been an increase in the share of inhabited dwellings in urban areas by 24.7% and a decrease in rural areas by 20.5%. This result is in line with the shift of the population from rural to urban areas.

#### 2.2 Basic services and heating

Adequate provision of water supply and sanitation as well as adequate living space in the dwelling is a non-monetary indicator of a certain standard of living. In 2001, the provision of water and sanitation were each fairly adequate in urban areas while quite low in rural areas (water 5.6 and sanitation 3.2 times lower). The 2011 Census shows a substantial improvement of the situation specifically with regards to rural areas, where there are 3 times more dwellings with piped water inside the dwelling compared to 2001. Consequently, in rural areas, dwellings with piped water outside the dwelling or water provided by other systems such as wells etc. are reduced in the inter-census period. The most substantial impact of improvements is revealed in the dwellings with no water supply which is 21 times less in 2011 than in 2001 (or 4.4 times lower in percentage of the total of inhabited dwellings) (Figure 5, Table A3). Surprisingly, in 2011 in urban areas there is an increase in the percentage of dwellings that use other systems of water supply, almost 2 times more compared to 2001. This may indicate either personal choices in using alternative sources like wells etc., or household's efforts to cope with water system interruptions by making use of sustainable water sources instead.

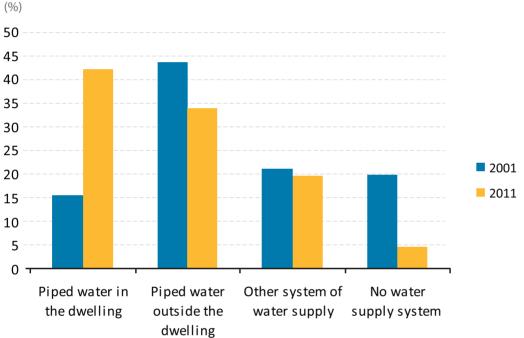


Figure 5: Inhabited dwellings by water supply system in rural areas, Census 2001, 2011<sup>3</sup>

The overall improvements in the country with regards to the water supply become clearer at the regional level. The changes in percentage points in the inter-census period show an increase of dwellings with water inside and a decrease of those with water outside, or no water at all prefectures except the prefecture of Fier that has had a slight increase of the water supply outside the dwelling. The prefectures with the most significant increase of inside water supply in the 2011 census are Kukës, Gjirokastër and Vlorë. While the prefectures of Vlorë, together with Tiranë and Durrës, were among the most furnished with piped water inside dwellings in 2001, the situation has changed in 2011 with the prefectures of Gjirokastër and Berat following Vlorë and Tiranë and leaving Durrës and Korçë somewhat behind.

The water supply system outside dwellings has decreased, mostly for Korca and Gjirokastër, while the water supply by other systems has a sizable increase in Shkodër and Dibër explaining the lower increase of piped water inside dwellings. It should be noted that the increase in use of other water supply systems in Dibër seems to be an alternative to piped water. In Shkodër the increase in the use of other systems of water supply is even more pronounced, being more than twice compared to the piped water supply. Shkodër appears to using alternative water systems, which may be more viable than piped water, or piped water is lacking or not able to meet household needs. Kukës and Lezhë have also developed some alternative water supplies although much more less than Shkodër and Kukës, while all the other prefectures have had a decrease of the use of alternative water supply systems. The most important and positive feature of housing in 2011 compared with 2001, is the substantial overall increase in water supply inside dwellings and a decrease of dwellings with no water supply especially for Dibër and Kukës but also Lezhë, Vlorë and Fier (Table A4).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Other system of water supply" means "other: not specified."

The overall picture about access to basic services is completed by the access to an adequate sanitation system. In 2011, the improvement in sanitation is quite evident with the largest impact in rural areas (Figures 6 and 7). Dwellings with a flush toilet inside the dwelling have had the largest increase between 2001 and 2011. In rural areas, the largest increase has also been in flush toilets inside dwelling. However, flush toilets outside dwellings have also had a considerable increase in rural areas, which has had the largest improvement in terms of access to adequate systems of sanitation. Improvements since 2001 in urban areas are not substantial given the large presence of flush toilets inside dwellings in 2001 further increased at the level of 92.0% in 2011. Most remarkably in the inter-census period there has been a decrease of dwellings with no piped toilet (within or outside the dwelling). In addition, the already low level of dwellings without any type of toilet in 2001 has had a further decrease in 2011 in the total of the country (Table A5).

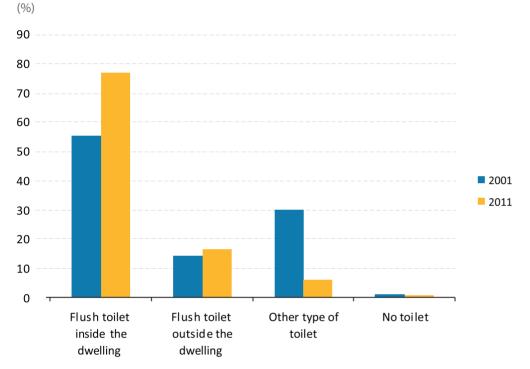
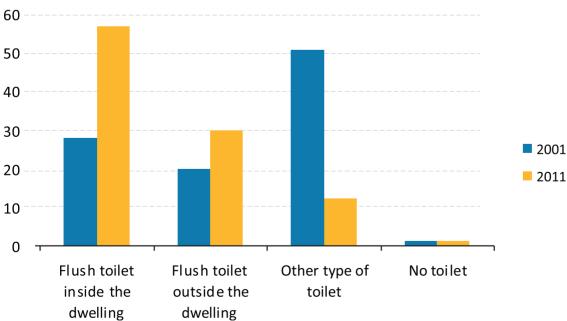


Figure 6: Inhabited dwellings by sanitation system, Census 2001, 2011

Figure 7: Inhabited dwellings by sanitation system, in rural areas, Census 2001, 2011 (%)

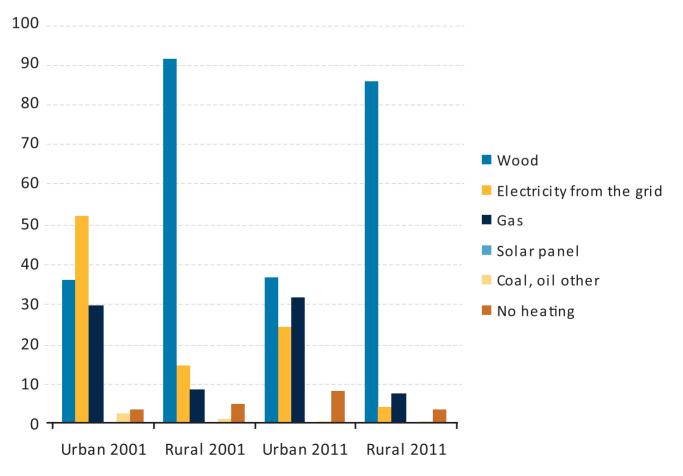


Prefectures also evince disparities on the presence of adequate sanitation systems, although there have been improvements to sanitation for all prefectures in access since 2001. In 2011, the prefectures with most access to sanitation are Tiranë, Vlorë, Durrës, Shkodër and Gjirokastër, compared to Tiranë, Shkodër and Durrës in 2001. The most urbanized cities are better equipped with basic facilities, but in the inter-census period all prefectures except Dibër have improved access to sanitation. Dibër has observed in contrast a slight decrease in the percentage of dwellings with a flush toilet inside and in the meantime has observed an increase in the percentage of dwellings with a flush toilet outside the dwellings. The increasing trend in the presence of flush toilets outside the dwelling is also present for Fier, Elbasan and Korçë that have in the meantime observed the larger decrease of dwellings with other types of toilet. Gjirokastër and Berat are the other two prefectures where dwellings with other systems of toilet have been decreasing while dwellings with a flush toilet inside have been increasing (Table A6).

Certainly, improvements in the access to running water, especially inside dwellings, have also brought improvements with regards to the presence of piped toilets, baths and showers. As a result, more than half of the inhabited dwellings in Albania have access to all basic facilities: water supply system, toilet, bath or shower and only 1.1% of inhabited dwellings are without any of those basic facilities.

The heating systems in Albania mainly consist of separate equipment like stoves, owned by 63.3% of the households, air conditioners, or electric heaters. Central heating systems within the building or the dwelling are owned by only 3.2% of households. The main type of energy used for heating continues to be firewood for 57.5% of households with a decrease of 12.3% in comparison to 2001. Furthermore, 20.8% of households use gas, which has increased by 17.5% from 2001. In 2011, 15.4% of households used electricity, which shows a reduction by 50.8% of the use of electricity for heating from 2001, that may be as a result of the increase in electricity prices as well as an improved system of enforcing payment of electricity bills. Urban-rural differences show that in 2011 85.0% of households are heated with wood, 7.1% use gas and 4.1% use electricity in rural areas compared to 36.3% of households that are heated with wood, 24.0% with electricity and 31.3% with gas in urban areas (Table A7). In 2011, a new type of energy has come into play, which is the solar panel that seems to be more present in urban areas (Figure 8).





#### 2.3 Dwelling occupancy

The distribution of dwellings according to the number of rooms shows that the majority of them have 3 rooms (43.8%), fewer have only 2 rooms (28.7%) and 24.3% have 4 and more rooms. This is different from 2001 where the majority of dwellings consisted of 2 rooms (42.8%) and 3 rooms (33.0%), while dwellings of just one room, or more than 4 rooms were at 11.9% each). Dwellings with one room account for just about3 % of the total in 2011, which is 4 times less compared to 2001 (Figure 9). This is also the case for both urban and rural areas (Table A8), with a slight difference when it comes to the distributions by place of residence: more dwellings with 2 and 1 room in urban areas and more dwellings with more than 4 rooms in rural areas. The share of dwellings with 3 rooms appears equal for both areas in 2011 compared to 2001. In 2001, rural dwellings were mostly including 3 or 4+ rooms whereas urban dwellings were made up in a larger share by 2 and 1 rooms.

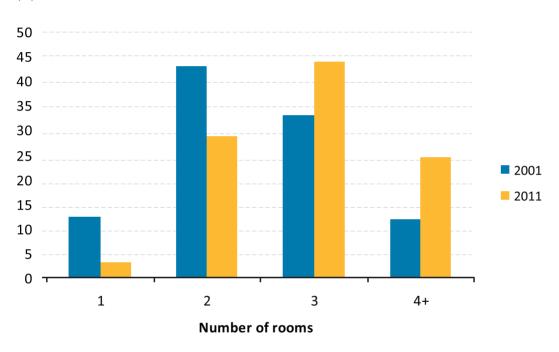


Figure 9: Inhabited dwellings by number of rooms, Census 2001 and 2011 (%)

The distribution by prefecture shows how differences are distributed in Albania in terms of number of rooms and how this has evolved in the inter-census period. Dwellings with 3 rooms and more are more frequent in all the prefectures (Table A9). However, there are certain peculiarities for different prefectures. The prefectures of Berat, Gjirokastër and Korçë have kept the larger share of dwellings with 3 rooms in 2011 as in 2001. The prefecture of Korçë is the only prefecture that does not comply with the general trend of having the larger share of dwellings with 3 rooms since 2001. Shkodër and Kukës have the largest share of dwellings with 4+ rooms among prefectures in both 2011 and 2001. Tiranë and Durrës are among the prefectures with a larger share of dwellings with just 1 room in both censuses underlining their characteristic of migrant-hosting prefectures and features of urbanisation as the two largest metropolitan areas of the country.

The density of dwelling has had substantial improvements during the last decade. Two types of measurement of dwelling density are taken in consideration comparing the results from the two censuses. The first measure considers as "adequately occupied" dwellings with 1 to 2.9 persons per room and therefore dwellings with three persons or more are defined as "overcrowded" while dwellings with rooms inhabited by less than one person per room are considered "under-occupied". The share of "overcrowded" dwellings reveals a slightly worse situation in rural areas compared to urban areas (Figure 10; Table A10). Further comparisons with 2001 reveal a large decrease in the overcrowded share of dwellings in 2011 by almost 4 times less, and a large increase of the under-occupied dwellings by 2.4 times (Figure 11).

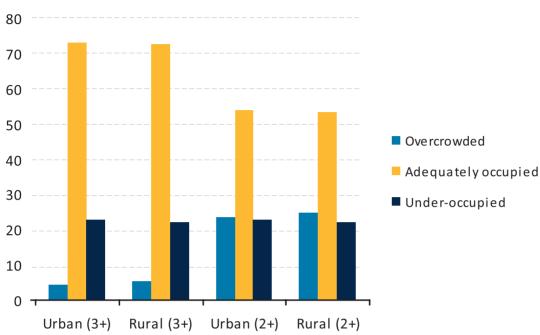
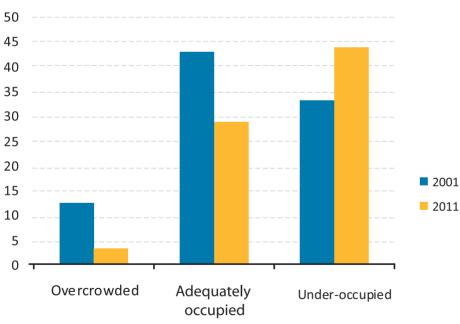


Figure 10: Density of the dwelling by both standards for adequate occupation by urban and rural area, Census 2011<sup>4</sup> (%)

Figure 11: Density of the dwelling with standard for adequate occupation 1-2.9 persons per room, Census 2001, 2011 (%)



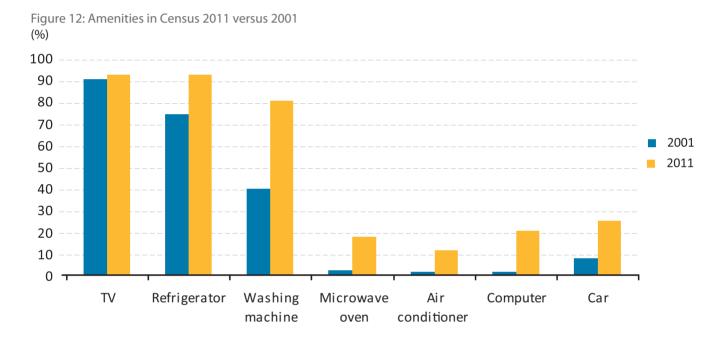
The second standard of measurement considers as adequately occupied, dwellings inhabited by 1 to 1.9 persons per room, hence overcrowded dwellings are considered from two persons and more living in one room. When this second definition is considered, substantial improvements are also observed between 2001 and 2011. The share of overcrowded dwellings is 2 times less in 2011 compared to 2001, while under-occupied dwellings are 2.4 times more in 2011 indicating

<sup>4</sup> 3+ means 3 people and more per room. 2+ means 2 people and more per room.

new patterns of living for Albanian households. Albanian households appear to be living in a small nucleus and with larger spaces as well as continuing the tendency of the detachment from the parents' family. The tendency seems the same for both types of measurements when considering the issue by prefecture (Table A11). Kukës and Dibër remain overcrowded in both censuses.

#### 2.4 Amenities

The amenities which were available for both 2001 and 2011 periods are presented in the graph below unfolding the increasing demand to own not only indispensable durables like TV's, refrigerators and washing machines but also new devices like microwave ovens, air conditioners and computers. The latter were owned by few in 2001. Given the almost universal ownership of TV's in 2001, there is insignificant change in the percentage of households possessing a TV in 2011. The percentage of households possessing refrigerators has increased by 25% in 2011 and of those having washing machine has doubled. On the other hand, there are about 10 times as many households with a microwave oven, 8.5 times more households with an air conditioner and about 14 times more households with computers. Lastly, 24.8 % of households own at least one car in 2011 versus only 8.0 % in 2011 (Figure 12).



The distribution of basic durables by place of residence (Figure 13) shows how the situation has drastically changed in rural areas. In 2011 the percentage of households owning a TV has increased by 8%, for those owning a refrigerator by 50% and for the washing machine 4.4 times more than in 2001. In urban areas, ownership of such amenities is almost universal in 2011.

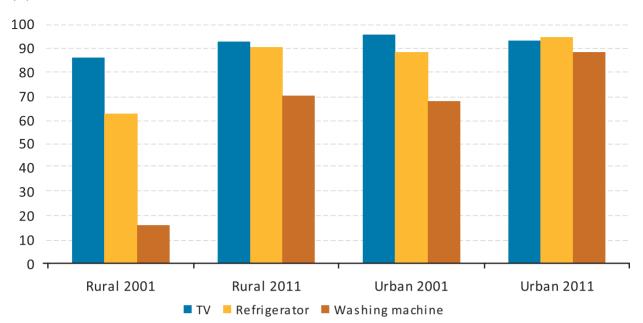


Figure 13: Amenities by urban and rural area, Census 2001, 2011 (%)

The amenities considered "new entries" in 2001 like microwave ovens, air conditioners, computers and cars continue to maintain high prevalence in urban areas even though there has also been an increase in rural areas. The percentage of car ownership in rural areas in 2011 has surpassed the level of urban areas of 2001. This may be as a result of need for transportation to the city for selling products. Air conditioners remain low in rural areas partly as a result of the traditional ways of heating and cooling in these areas where wood use remains prevalent. However, it could also be due to expensive rates for energy. The number of households that own a computer is higher in urban areas; however the percentage of households owning a computer in rural areas in 2011 has increased by 26% compared to 2001. This points towards the modernization and the need for digitalisation spreading in rural areas (Figure 14).

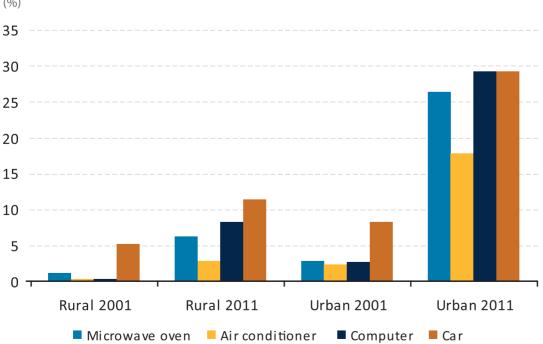


Figure 14: New amenities by urban and rural area, Census 2001, 2011 (%)

The other household amenities for which information has only been collected in 2011 reveal a situation that confirms the tendency of households to seek more comfort at home. This may be a result of improved standards of living and poverty reduction achieved thus far. Albanian households have just started to use deep freezers, dishwashers and drying machines during the last decade. Although percentages are quite small ownership is expected to increase with the passing of time. Ownership of boilers is high even though a large part of households may have owned this appliance from 2001. Likewise for the proportion of TV decoders that reach 18.5%. Solar panels are owned by 2.7% of households. This utility is quite new, and despite low levels it is an indicator of using ecological alternative sources of energy (Table A12).

Urban-rural differences are present in terms of amenities distribution. All new amenities are much more present in urban areas with the exception of solar panels, which may be linked to the housing structure in rural areas. As Figure 15 shows, the percentage of households owning a boiler or a TV decoder in the urban zones is about twice that of rural areas. Similarly, deep freezers and drying machines are respectively 1.7 and 1.8 times more prevalent in urban areas. A large difference exists in terms of dish washer possession which is 4.5 times more in urban areas compared to rural areas. This may be linked to the way of living and culture in rural areas, where households tend to be more traditional.

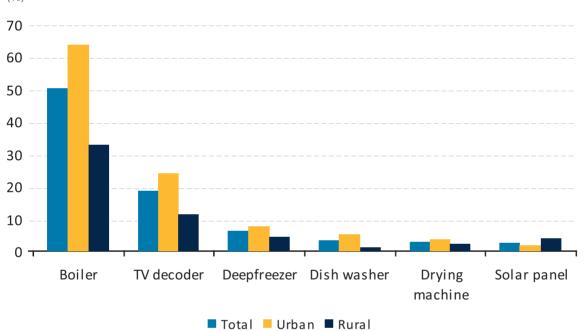
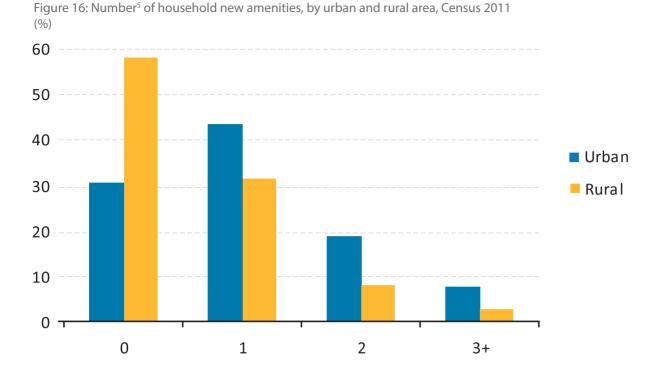


Figure 15: New household amenities by urban and rural area, Census 2011 (%)

To summarize, the better living conditions of urban areas are also present in terms of new household amenities. Overall poverty levels remain lower in urban areas compared to rural areas, and urban areas maintain a certain level of living conditions. When analysed by possession of 0, 1, 2 or three and more new amenities, rural areas have a much larger percentage of no new amenities compared to urban areas. In the rural areas, 58.1% of households have no new amenities in 2011 compared to 30.6% of urban areas. There are more urban households owning 1 new amenity compared to rural areas, but most importantly a larger percentage of urban households have 2 or 3+ new amenities compared to rural areas (Figure 16).



Data by prefecture shows that Dibër, Kukës, Elbasan and Lezhë are among the prefectures with the highest percentage of houeholds having no new amentities in 2011 (Figure 17; Table A13). These prefectures are also among those with the highest poverty rate. On the other hand, prefectures of Tiranë, Durrës, Korçë are among those having the highest percentage of households with 2 new amentities. Tiranë has by far the largest percentage of households having 3+ new amenities in 2011 reaching 10.6%. As the capital, Tiranë continues to have the highest standards of living and living conditions. Overall, larger and more urbanized cities enjoy more and newer amenities, which is an additional indication of their better living conditions

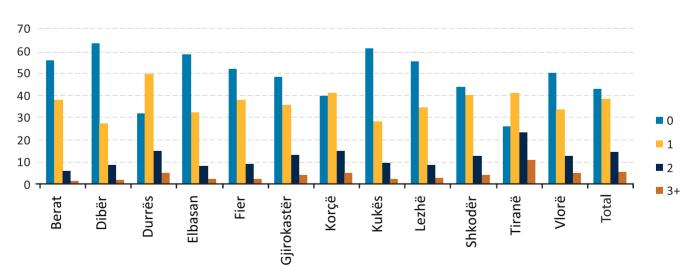


Figure 17: Number of household new amenities, by prefecture, Census 2011 (%)

"0" means that household have none of the new amenities "1"means that household have only one of the new amenities "2" means that household have two of the new amenities

"3+" means that household have three and more new amenities

In regards to communication services for which households have access in 2011, results show that only 28.5% of the households in Albania have a fixed phone line at home, mainly concentrated in urban areas where 44.2% have a fixed connection compared to 7.9% in rural areas. In the era of increased global communication and social networks 86.8% of households in Albania have at least one member that has a mobile phone in 2011. The percentage is very high for both areas; however it is higher for rural areas in part to compensate for fewer fixed lines. Internet connection still remains an urban phenomenon: 19.1% of urban households have an internet connection versus only 3.5% of rural households. This result is in line with the possession of computers in the two areas: 29.2% of households in urban versus 8.2% in rural areas. There is also a difference in demand for internet connection in the two areas: only 42.0% of households that own a computer have also an internet connection at home in rural areas compared to 65.5% of households in urban areas (Figure 18).

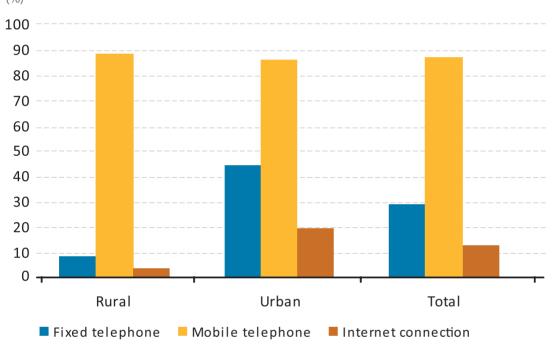


Figure 18: Household communication services supply, Census 2011 (%)

Furthermore, data also shows that households in urban areas enjoy more communication services than rural areas (Figure 19). The availability of all 3 types of communication service is quite limited in rural areas. Therefore, rural areas enjoy fewer new amenities and communication services<sup>6</sup>. In rural areas, 79.9% of households have one communication service versus 45.9% of households in urban areas. The differences between areas for 2 and 3 communication services get even larger. In rural areas, 7.5% of households have 2 communication services versus 28.9% of households in urban areas. Lastly, only 1.6% of households in rural areas have 3 communication services compared to 15.1% in urban areas.

<sup>&</sup>quot;0" means that none of the three communication services are present in the household, "1" means that household have only one of them, "2" means that the household have 2 of these services and "3" is used for households that have all of them.

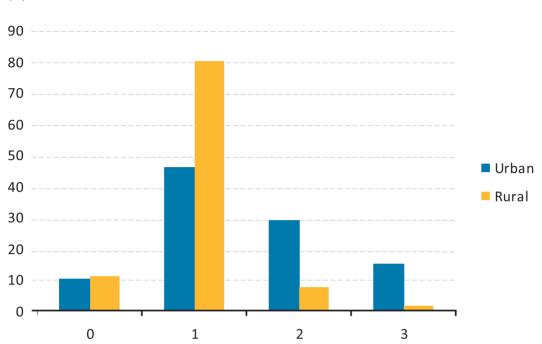
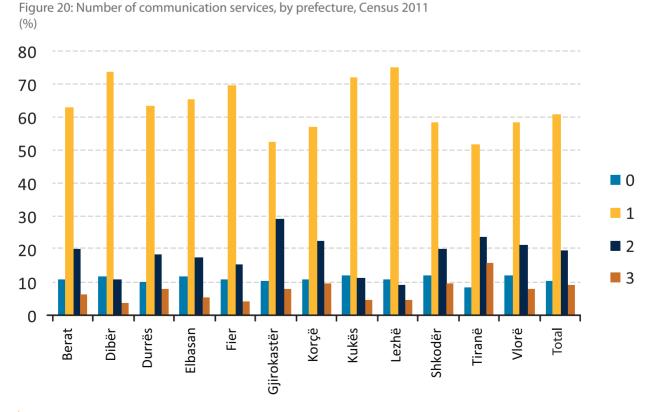


Figure 19: Number of communication services, by urban and rural area, Census 2011 (%)

Although the vast majority of households in each prefecture have access to one communication service, prefectures like Gjirokastër, Tiranë, Korçë, Vlorë, and Shkodër are among the prefectures with the highest percentage of households having access to 2 communication services (Figure 20). Tiranë remains by far the prefecture with the highest percentage of households having 3 communication services, 15.9%, whereas the rest of the households in the other prefectures range between 3.6% (Dibër) and 9.7% (Shkodër). The larger number of communication services in prefectures where the larger cities are located such as Tiranë, Shkodër, Durrës, Vlorë, Korçë is mainly due to the possession of computers and internet access since the majority of households have a fixed telephone line or mobile phone averaging 88.0% nationally.



24 Dwelling and living conditions in Albania

#### 3. FACTORS DETERMINING LIVING CONDITIONS

This section looks at the impact of various factors such as return migration, household education, sex of head of household and region on availability of basic services and adequate dwelling occupation for the household. Albania has experienced very high levels of out-migration, which peaked in the early 1990s and 1997. In the early years of the transition period, migration was viewed as a way out of poverty. Masses of people migrated outside of the country in search of better lives and living conditions. The global financial crisis has played a major role in migrants' decisions to return to the home country. The majority, amounting to 86,417 returnees, has returned from Greece. Consequently, whereas remittances from abroad have played a major role in the well-being of the Albanian economy for a long time, the trend is now downwards. As a result, with increased return migration in Albania, an investigation of dwellings and consequently living conditions by migration status of the household is necessary. This investigation provides an insight on the living conditions of this group, which depend on their economic conditions once back in the county, their readaptation, opportunities provided in the country, the status of the receiving household if they are being reunited, and related issues.

Education levels of the household are usually a good predictor of an individual's or household's living conditions. Education is linked to occupations and consequently income. In addition children in more educated households perform better in the education system due to the parental involvement in their education and expectations in terms of labor market outcomes, and thus they tend to continue in their parents' footsteps. As a result, the highest education level of the household is taken into consideration and is used to analyse dwellings by education level.

Although female-headed households are quite fewer than male-headed households, a close investigation on dwelling and living conditions of these households and a comparison with their male counterparts is important for various reasons. These households may be more vulnerable and marginalized. In general female-headed households are found to be poorer and live in worse conditions in many countries of the world. In Albania this has not been the case. Poverty has not been found at higher rates in such households; instead female-headed households in Albania have usually been found to have good living conditions. This has been due to the fact that the majority of female-headed households have been families whose male head had migrated. Therefore, remittances from migrants have played a role in the livelihoods of these families, and consequently, they have not fallen into poverty.

To investigate in more depth the effect of return migration, household education, sex of head of household and region, a multivariate-ordered probit regression was run in order to predict the probability of having various basic services and adequate dwelling occupation. Results show the impact of the included explanatory variables on the probability of having each of the four possible outcomes. The services included in the analysis are availability of piped water in the dwelling, availability of flush toilet inside the dwelling, the availability of heating and living in non-overcrowded dwellings<sup>7</sup>. The dependent variable is therefore ordinal taking values from 0 to 4, meaning 5 possible outcomes. A value of 0 means that the household has none of the above (outcome 0), a value of 1 means that the household has one of the services (outcome 1 and so on to a value of 4 meaning that the household has all four basic services (outcome 4). There are no values of zero since all households have reported at least one of the four categories. Therefore results are presented for outcome 2, outcome 3 and outcome 4 meaning having 2, 3, or all 4 of the basic services. The results are presented in Figure 21.

Results show that each of the independent variables positively affects the probability of having all four basic services. As the graph indicates, each of the independent variables reduces the probability of the household having fewer services (that is outcome 2 and 3). The largest positive impacts in having more services available by the household are given by education and especially tertiary education and living in urban areas. Education is especially important for higher outcomes. More specifically having tertiary education as the highest education achieved in the household compared to having no education increases the probability of having all four basic services by 32.6% (whereas it reduces the probability of having 2 services by 19.4% and 3 services by 11.7%. Secondary education is also important compared to no education. In fact it increases the probability of having all four services by 22.8% (whereas it reduces the probability of having 2 services by 14.7%, and 3 services by 6.8%).

A dwelling with 3 persons and more per room is considered overcrowded.

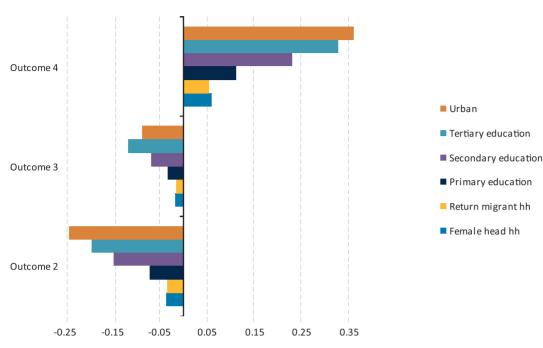


Figure 21: Household model<sup>8</sup> of living conditions, Census 2011 (%)

This reinforces the importance of the role of education in increasing standards of living and achieving better living conditions. Likewise, living in urban areas compared to rural areas increases the probability of having all four services by 35.8% (whereas it reduces the probability of having 2 services by 24.1% and 3 services by 8.7%). This shows that urban areas continue to be more developed and provide better living conditions and access to basic services than rural areas. Although return migration has a smaller positive impact in having all four services, increasing the probability by 5.4%, it goes to show that return migrants are adapting well in their home country and that they are coming back with resources and may have also been accustomed to certain living conditions in the former host country. Lastly, results on femaleheaded households for Albania continue to be in line with earlier findings that these households do not live in worse conditions than the rest of the households primarily as a result of international migrations. Female-headed households are mainly due to the migration of the male head.

Separate regressions for urban and rural areas show one main difference between the areas. The role of return migration is stronger for rural areas compared to urban areas. Since migration has mainly been from rural areas, this goes to show that migrants are returning to their areas of origins. Having returned migrants in the household in the rural areas increases the probability of having all four services by 8.6% compared to 1.6% in urban areas. The impact of return migration in rural areas is much larger compared to urban areas in all levels of services. In addition, education plays a very important role in achieving better living conditions and access to services in both areas. Primary and secondary education compared to no education in the household in rural areas already plays a positive impact on having 3 services. This also shows that availability of services is more restricted in rural areas, either as a result of traditional dwelling and ways of living but also in terms of economic opportunities; therefore the impact of some education is also felt for lower outcomes. As Figure 22 shows, urban areas' results are quite close with those of the overall population. Results for rural areas are given in Figure 23.

Given is the change in probability in a particular outcome given a change in one unit in the explanatory variables. No diploma or no schooling is the reference category for maximum level of education in the household. Dependent variable: ordinal taking value of 1 if the household have one of the following: piped water in the dwelling, flush toilet inside the dwelling, heating in the dwelling, lives in non-overcrowded dwelling. Independent variables: Household dumines to no education, taking value of 1, 0 otherwise. Female headed household taking value of 1, 0 otherwise. Maximum level of education in the household dumines for no education, primary education, secondary education, tertiary education. Region denoted by urban taking value of 1 if the household lives in urban areas, 0 otherwise.

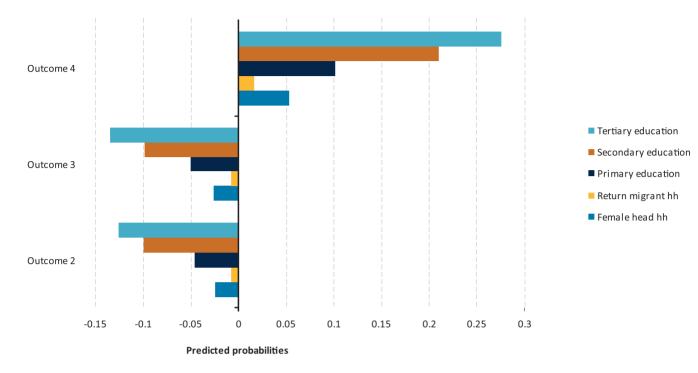
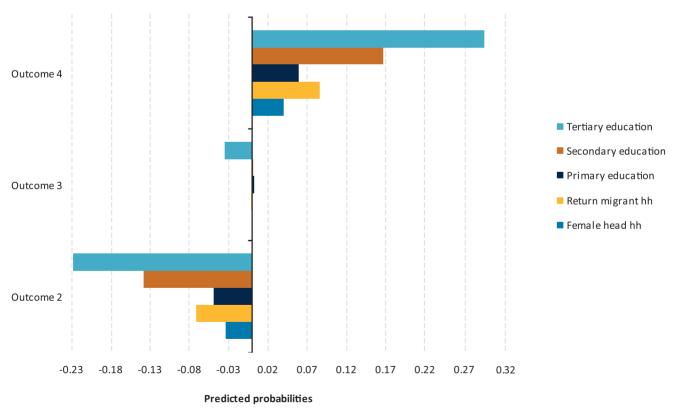


Figure 22: Household model of living conditions, urban areas, Census 2011 (%)

Figure 23: Household model of living conditions, rural areas, Census 2011 (%)



## 4. DWELLING AND LIVING CONDITIONS BY HOUSEHOLD POVERTY LEVEL

Albania has made significant improvements in poverty reduction since 2002. Poverty rates decreased from 25.4% in 2002 to 18.5% in 2005 to 12.4% in 2008. Poverty in Albania increased to 14.3% in 2012 from 12.4% in 2008, which was the lowest poverty rate achieved by Albania since 2002. Furthermore, extreme poverty also increased from 1.2% in 2008 to 2.2% in 2012. Despite the considerable progress Albania has made in poverty reduction, the latest economic trends and aftermath of the financial crisis may be among the factors contributing to the increase in poverty. In the past poverty was mainly concentrated in rural areas. Poverty numbers in 2012 show that with the increase in poverty, there has also been a shift from rural to urban areas. Poverty is no longer mainly a rural issue. Urban areas have generally developed faster than rural areas. After a major reduction in poverty in 2008 in both urban and rural areas, poverty increase in urban areas is larger than in rural areas in 2012. Poverty in urban areas increased from 10.1% in 2008 to 13.6% in 2012, whereas rural poverty increased from 14.6% to 15.3%. As a result, the demographics of the poor are also expected to have changed given the larger increase of urban population falling into poverty. Consumption components have also changed. As is symptomatic of poverty increases, there has been an increase in food and utilities consumption and a decrease in education, non-food and durable goods consumption. This means that, beyond satisfying their food and utility needs, people's means are limited. Lastly, other poverty indicators such as the poverty gap and severity of poverty also appear to have worsened.

A comparison of dwelling and living conditions of the poor versus non-poor will help understand differences beyond mere levels of poverty. It shows differences in livelihoods and shed light on how the poor live. This section looks at differences in dwellings by poverty status using the 2012 Albanian Living Standard Measurement Survey.

There are noticeable differences in dwelling characteristics between poor and non-poor households (Table 1). Poor households occupy fewer rooms and areas than non-poor households. On average poor households occupy 2.96 rooms compared to 3.12 rooms for non-poor households. In terms of surface area, a larger percentage of poor households live in smaller surfaces of less than 40m2 (6.0% of poor households versus 1.8% of non-poor households) and 40-69m2 (21.8% of poor households versus 19.6% for non-poor households).

There are no significant differences between the two groups in terms of years in the building and the building's time of construction. This may also have to do with historical reasons and state-provided houses during communism, which were inherited afterwards. There are however significant differences in terms of the respondent's view of their dwelling conditions. A lower percentage of poor households view their dwellings to be in very good condition. On average 14.3% of poor households view their dwellings to be in very good condition versus 33.9% of non-poor households. In addition, 17.5% of poor households report inappropriate living dwelling conditions compared to only 4.5% of non-poor households.

Further enquiries show that poor households have consistently more problems with their dwelling conditions (Table 2). Poor households report higher percentages of dwellings being too small (approximately 28.9% of poor households versus 15.9% of non-poor households), problems with dampness (19.7% of poor households versus 12.0% of non-poor households), inadequate heating (33.3% of poor households versus 20.3% of non-poor households), windows and door conditions (18.8% of poor households versus 8.0% of non-poor households). They also report to be somewhat further from primary schools, medical services and bus stations.

Poor households also report lower percentages of running water inside the dwelling (64.3%) compared to the non-poor households (73.9%). A noticeable difference exists in terms of water. Poor households mainly drink running water from inside the dwelling and cannot afford to buy bottled water as the non-poor household can. A much smaller percentage of poor households (24.5%) buy bottled water compared to non-poor households (42.9%). In addition, a larger percentage of poor households (33.0%) drink running water from inside the dwelling compared to non-poor households (17.8%). Consequently approximately 10.9% of poor households regularly boil water compared to 6.5% of non-poor households.

In terms of heating, poor households mainly use stoves (59.0% of poor households versus 54.6% of non-poor households) and wood as their source of heating (61.9% of poor households versus 55.0% of non-poor households). Although, it should be said that stoves are the main source of heating for the population in general. Therefore, differences are also expected to be smaller between different groups of the population. Electric heaters and electricity are more used by the non-poor households as they are more expensive heating options. Electric heaters are used by 14.3% of poor households compared to 19.0% of non-poor households and electricity for heating is used by 19.5% of poor households versus 28.0% of non-poor households.

	Poor	Total	
Dwelling Type			
Single family house	84.58	70.91	72.87
Dwelling is a building with up to 15 apts.	12.39	19.33	18.34
Dwelling is a building with more than 15 apts.	2.74	9.08	8.17
Other (not specified)	0.29	0.68	0.62
Dwelling Characteristics			
Lift in the building	9.14	27.00	25.60
Years lived in dwelling	18.52	18.79	18.75
Number of rooms occupied	2.96	3.12	3.12
Condition of Dwelling			
Very good	14.28	33.86	31.05
Appropriate for living	67.35	61.37	62.23
Inappropriate for living	17.53	4.54	6.40
Under construction	0.84	0.23	0.32
Time of Construction			
Before 1945	1.23	2.36	2.20
1945-1960	6.28	6.28	6.28
1961-1980	18.88	19.27	19.21
1981-1990	25.50	23.53	23.82
After 1990	48.11	48.55	48.49
Dwelling Area			
Less than 40 sq. meters	6.05	1.75	2.37
40-69 sq. meters	21.76	19.60	19.91
70-99 sq. meters	34.79	41.89	40.87
100-130 sq. meters	26.70	27.39	27.29
More than 130 sq. meters	7.89	8.02	8.00
Don't know/not sure	2.81	1.35	1.56

Table 1: Dwelling characteristics by poverty status, LSMS 2012, in %

Besides rates of poverty, there are real differences in terms of dwellings and living conditions between the poor and the non-poor. Poor households have worse dwelling and living conditions as shown in terms of dwelling physical characteristics, sources of water and heating, dwelling maintenance problems, distance etc. These differences may have various repercussions on other aspects of livelihood. What may be simply an obstacle or an inconvenience can develop into an inadequate state of affairs, a poverty trap that may continue for generations. Inadequate dwelling and living conditions reinforce poverty, which in turn reinforces worse dwelling and living conditions. Lack of basic services and inadequate living conditions may have a negative influence on income generation by household members. They may also exert an influence on children's education in terms of school attendance and performance. As seen above there are visible and problematic differences between poor and non-poor households in terms of dwellings and living conditions that may further reinforce and increase poverty.

	Poor	Total	
Dwelling Problems			
Dwelling too small*	28.85	15.88	17.74
Inadequate heating*	33.32	20.30	22.16
Dampness*	19.68	12.01	13.11
Windows/doors in bad conditions*	18.78	7.99	9.54
Distance from nearest primary school (in minutes)	16.04	15.07	15.21
Distance from nearest ambulatory/doctor (in minutes)	19.28	16.85	17.20
Distance from nearest bus (in minutes)	15.40	13.28	13.58
Sources of Water Supply			
Running water inside the dwelling	64.25	73.87	72.49
Continuous water	61.34	67.41	66.54
Average hours of water per day	4.35	4.05	4.10
Quality of Main Source of Water			
Good for drinking	63.40	64.27	64.15
Not good for drinking but good for other use	32.64	34.09	33.88
Not good for any other use	3.96	1.63	1.97
Buy bottled water	24.51	42.88	40.19
Drinking running water inside dwelling	33.02	17.82	20.05
Regularly boil water	10.92	6.52	7.19
Main Type of Heating			
Common heating in the building	4.41	4.75	4.70
Separate central heating in dwelling	0.25	3.14	2.73
Stove	59.05	54.63	55.26
Fireplace	6.13	4.14	4.43
Electric heater	14.25	18.97	18.29
Air conditioner	2.22	5.60	5.12
Other type of heating	5.26	5.79	5.71
No heating	8.43	2.98	3.76
Source of Heating			
Electricity	19.46	28.03	26.80
Wood	61.92	55.03	56.02
Gas	15.18	15.71	15.63

Table 2: Dwelling problems and basic conditions by poverty status, LSMS 2012, in %

Note: \* denotes subjective assessment.

# 5. NON-MONETARY POVERTY INDEX OF UNMET BASIC NEEDS (UBN) AND DWELLING CONDITIONS INDEX (DCI)

Non-monetary dimensions of poverty shed light on deprivations and disparities that may be more pronounced than those observed through the monetary dimension. Each of the components of the unmet basic needs (UBN) may have repercussions on various other aspects affecting livelihoods and living conditions. Lack of adequate water and sanitation, inadequate housing, or crowding may have repercussions on health as well as income generating abilities and human capital accumulation. This may especially affect children's educational attainment or school attendance. Inadequate energy supplies may affect the profitability of investments and consequently lower economic growth. The level of education of the household head affects the well-being of the household as well as the children's education. This is especially important in the Albanian context, where a household's decisions including children's education heavily rely on the household head. The household head also continues to remain the main bread winner, especially for rural areas.

The nonmonetary poverty index of unmet basic needs (UBN) is constructed based on five indicators namely, adequacy of water and sanitation, adequacy of housing conditions, inadequate power supply, crowding of the dwelling, and education of the household head<sup>9</sup>. Households are considered to be UBN-poor when two or more of the above considered basic needs are unmet, and to be UBN-extreme poverty when three or more are unmet. The final index shows the percentage of households that are non-UBN-poor, UBN-poor and extreme-UBN poor.

	Urban	Rural	Total
Inadequate water and sanitation(*)	0.5	9.4	4.6
Inadequate housing(**)	4.3	9.6	6.7
Inadequate energy supply(***)	2.0	1.1	1.6
Crowding (3+ persons/room)	6.1	5.9	6.1
Education (hh head w/primary or less)	42.5	70.2	55.2
Non Poor (one or no UBN)	92.8	83.6	88.5
Poor (two or more UBN)	5.7	11.6	8.4
Extreme Poor (three or more UBN)	1.4	4.8	3.0

Table 3: Unmet Basic Needs by urban and rural area, LSMS 2012, in %

Note: \* Running water and piped WC are both unavailable.

\*\* Subjective assessment (house inadequate for living or under construction).

\*\*\* Power shut off for 6 hours or more per day.

The UBN for 2012 shows a lower non-monetary poverty rate than the consumption-based poverty rate (Table 3). According to the index, only 8.4% of the households are considered UBN-poor versus 14.3% poverty rate of the consumption aggregate. The index also shows lower non-monetary poverty vis-à-vis monetary poverty in urban and rural areas. The UBN only shows a poverty rate of 5.7% in urban areas compared to 13.6% of consumption-based poverty. Likewise, the UBN shows a poverty rate of 11.6% in rural areas compared to 15.3% of consumption-based poverty. Rural areas have a larger non-monetary and consumption-based poverty compared to urban areas. Extreme poverty however, is higher in terms of UBN in total and for rural areas than the monetary based extreme poverty. Urban areas have a lower poverty rate in terms of UBN compared to monetary extreme poverty.

The overall lower poverty rates in terms of UBN may be as a result of overall improved living conditions in Albania, high economic growth rates until 2008 and considerable poverty reductions in terms in monetary terms. In the recent years especially there have been major improvements in terms of water and energy. For the most part there is now uninterrupted water and energy provision in Albania, which was not the reality in the early 1990s, or even in the early 2000s. Once in place these systems are more stable than income generation, meaning that income may fluctuate from year to year whereas the above mentioned services remain active over time. In the aftermath of the financial crisis we saw a worsening of poverty in Albania in 2012, with consumption-based poverty increasing from 12.4% in 2008 to 14.3% in 2012. However, the overall improvements in terms of basic needs may have not taken the same worsening direction. Consumption-based poverty worsened for urban areas more than rural areas most probably as a result of continuous population shifts and saturation of economic opportunities in these areas, but in terms of unmet basic needs this may not

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> It follows the methodology used in "Albania Poverty Assessment." (2003). The World Bank, Report No. 26213-AL.

be the case. Historically urban areas have had better infrastructure and basic need provisions than rural areas. Therefore, the non-monetary index of unmet basic needs is much lower in urban areas compared to rural areas.

As table 4 shows, Tiranë city has the lowest UBN index, way below the national average of 8.4%. Once again this is linked to the urbanization of Tiranë as well as overall good provision of basic needs including water and sanitations, housing, energy supply, and education. Being the capital, Tiranë has the best infrastructure and basic services among the other regions. Tiranë is followed by the coastal, mountain and central regions. As with consumption-based poverty, which had much improvement in the traditionally poorest mountain region, the UBN index is also not the highest in the mountain areas. This may be as a result of infrastructure improvements linking these regions with the rest, which may increase monetary and non-monetary well-being. Extreme UBN-poverty, however, continues to be the highest in the mountain region.

	Central	Coastal	Mountain	Tiranë city	Total
Inadequate water and sanitation	5.6	5.0	7.7	0.1	4.6
Inadequate housing	8.4	5.9	10.2	2.5	6.7
Inadequate energy supply	1.3	0.5	0.3	4.9	1.6
Crowding (3 persons and more/room)	6.6	6.8	5.8	3.4	6.1
Education (hh head w/primary or less)	60.7	58.9	61.2	33.8	55.2
Non Poor (one or no UBN)	86.5	88.9	85.9	94.1	88.5
Poor (two or more UBN)	10.0	8.3	9.9	4.4	8.4
Extreme Poor (three or more UBN)	3.5	2.8	4.1	1.5	3.0

Table 4: Unmet Basic Needs by region, LSMS 2012, in %

The UBN by prefecture shows a similar trend as consumption-based poverty (Table 5). Kukës, Korçë, Lezhë, Elbasan and Fier are among the poorest prefectures in terms of UBN. As with the previous cases in this section, UBN-poverty is mainly driven by the education of the head of the household. This may be as a result of the long transition period that Albania went through, where education and the education system suffered many setbacks. Prefectures such as Kukës and Lezhë have had overall worse infrastructure and economic conditions and opportunities, especially in the rural areas. As a result, those prefectures continue to remain problematic. On the other hand, a trend of increasing monetary poverty is observed for prefectures such as Fier and Durrës. In the case of Fier, monetary poverty is mainly driven by its rural areas, whereas for Durrës both urban and rural areas have similar monetary poverty rates.

Lastly, to provide an overall picture of dwelling conditions by communes/municipalities for each prefecture in Albania, the dwelling conditions index (DCI) is similarly constructed to the UBN index using 2011 Census data considering that a dwelling should have water, sanitation, heating and enough space in order to be suitable for living. The DCI is based on four indicators namely, availability of water inside dwelling, sanitation inside dwelling, adequate occupation of dwelling (less than 3 persons per room), and availability of any heating system in the dwelling. A DCI less than 2 is considered low, equal to or greater than 2, but less than 3 is considered medium, and equal to or greater than 3 is considered high<sup>10</sup>. Results are presented in Figure 24a and Table A14. Overall, there are few municipalities/communes with a low DCI. The majority of municipalities/communes have a medium DCI. Municipalities/communes with a high DCI are mainly concentrated in the coastal areas and the south. The majority of communes/municipalities have a medium DCI. Lack of a low DCI is a positive sign considering the large internal migration inflows in Tiranë and concerns of disparities among different municipalities/communes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The DCI per dwelling take values from 0 to 4 according to the number of conditions they accumulate, but since the values of the calculated index per commune/municipality form a continuous variable with a minimum of 1.6 and a maximum of 3.9, three values have been created to define the adequacy of dwellings per commune/municipality: low, medium and high. The communes/municipalities with a high index of dwelling conditions are those that accumulate on average 3 or more conditions, the communes/municipalities with a medium value of DCI meet on average 2 or more but less than 3 conditions, and the remaining part meet on average less than two conditions being considered communes/ municipalities with low DCI.

Table 5: Unmet Basic Needs by prefecture, LSMS 2012, in %

	Prefecture												
	Berat	Dibër	Durrës	Elbasan	Fier	Gjirokaster	Korçë	Kukës	Lezhë	Shkodër	Tiranë	Vlorë	Total
Inadequate water and sanitation	4.1	1.3	4.1	10.3	6.9	5.2	5.6	14.3	5.3	2.7	2.0	1.4	4.6
Inadequate housing	8.1	8.2	8.1	9.9	6.1	9.2	10.7	14.0	7.8	7.1	3.3	4.9	6.7
Inadequate energy supply	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	5.1	1.5	1.6
Crowding (3 persons and more/ room)	5.2	4.1	5.2	5.0	7.2	4.6	5.9	8.4	8.1	10.5	4.7	5.6	6.1
Education (hh head w/primary or less)	69.4	58.5	69.4	63.9	59.3	48.8	62.5	59.8	65.8	62.0	40.0	53.8	55.2
Non Poor (one or no UBN)	87.5	92.3	87.5	83.6	86.0	89.8	83.9	80.2	85.6	88.3	92.6	92.4	88.5
Poor (two or more UBN)	9.8	5.4	9.8	11.7	10.6	7.0	12.8	13.0	12.7	8.2	5.5	6.2	8.4
Extreme Poor (three or more UBN)	2.7	2.3	2.7	4.7	3.4	3.2	3.3	6.8	1.7	3.6	1.9	1.4	3.0

Figure 24b provides a closer look to prefectures with the most municipalities/communes having a low DCI and the most municipalities/communes having a high DCI. The prefectures of Shkodër, Dibër, Kukës and Elbasan have the most municipalities/communes with a low DCI, whereas the prefectures of Gjirokastër and Vlorë (in addition to Tiranë) have the most municipalities/communes with a high DCI. The prefecture of Kukës has the largest monetary poverty rate (21.8%) in the country, the prefecture of Shkodër also has a poverty rate (15.7%) larger than the national average of 14.3%. On the other hand, the prefectures of Gjirokastër (10.7%) and Vlorë (11.7%) are among the prefectures with the lowest monetary poverty rate. Results of DCI by municipality/commune once again show worse dwelling and living conditions in northern prefectures, which is linked to higher poverty rates and low economic activity in these regions.

Figure 24a: Dwelling Conditions Index, Census 2011

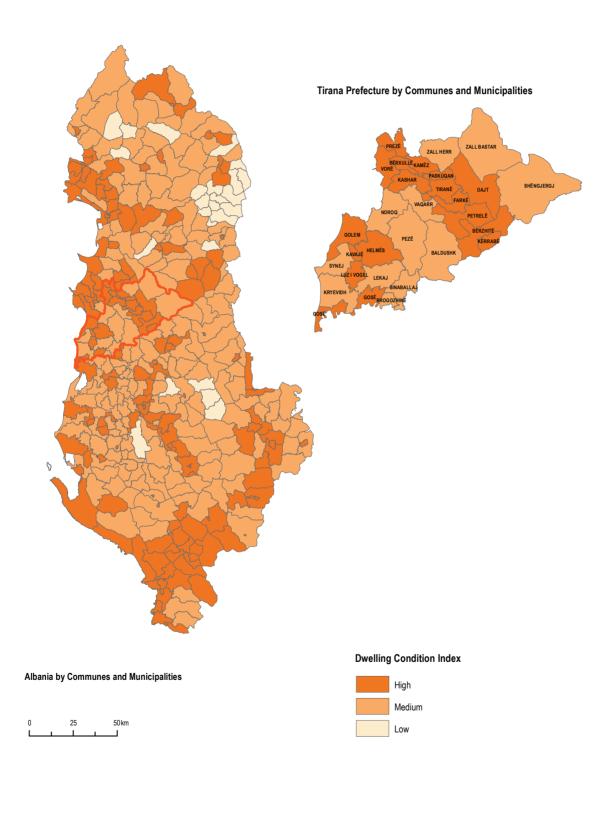
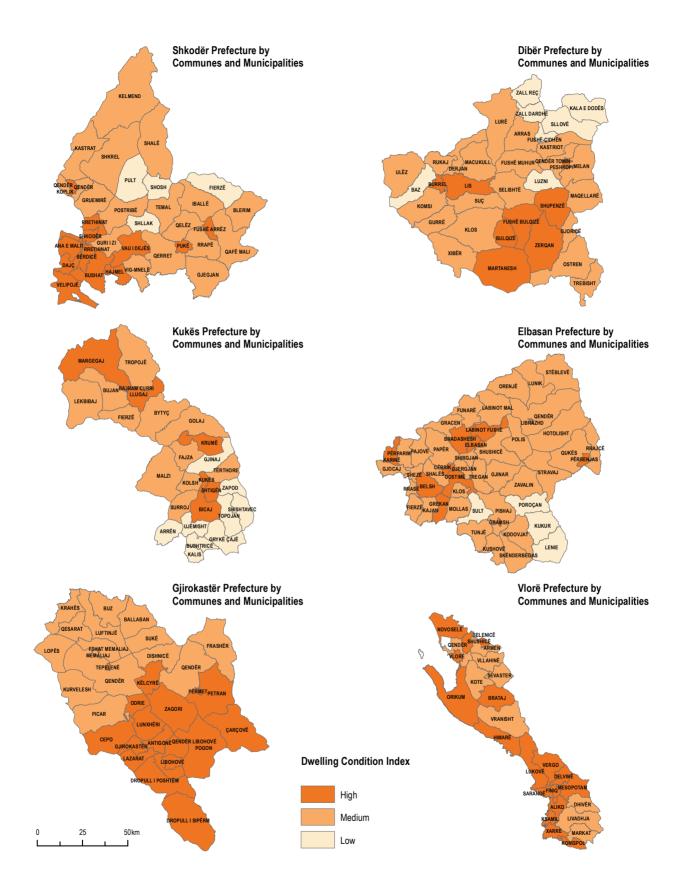


Figure 24b: Dwelling Conditions Index, Census 2011



### 6. CONCLUSIONS

An investigation of dwellings and living conditions is necessary to unravel non-monetary measures of poverty and wellbeing. Dwelling and living conditions impact health and educational attainment and are closely linked to household income generation and poverty. Their influence on health and education affects worker productivity and as a result is closely linked to economic growth and social and economic development. Understanding dwelling conditions and characteristics and living conditions using the 2011 Census data for Albania gives an overview of livelihoods in the country. These statistics and indicators are complemented with comparisons with the 2001 Census and the 2012 LSMS survey to better understand living conditions in the country.

The overall analysis shows improvements in dwelling and living conditions in Albania since 2001. Access to basic services and sanitation has improved considerably and Albanians are living in larger spaces and enjoying more and better amenities. Comparisons between 2001 and 2011 show a substantial increase in water supply inside dwellings, especially for rural areas, which have 3 times more dwellings with piped water inside them. Albanian households appear to be living in a small nucleus and in more adequately occupied dwellings, and they continue the tendency of the detachment from the parents' family. Although rural areas have had many positive changes and improvement in dwelling and living conditions, urban areas continue to enjoy better conditions. Prefectures where larger and more urbanized cities are located continue to enjoy better living conditions, services and amenities. Tiranë appears by far the most developed, with the most accessibility to goods and services.

Furthermore, the impact of return migration on access to basic services and adequate dwelling occupation is positive especially for rural areas. Households with return migrants appear to be enjoying relatively good living conditions. This points to the influence of return migrants in part as a result of their savings, and their attempts to maintain the accustomed living conditions in their former host countries.

Female-headed households do not appear to be worse off than male-headed households. Poverty and poor living conditions are not symptomatic of these families in Albania. Female-headed households continue to maintain relatively good living conditions as they have in the past. This is a good indication in terms of gender differences in dwelling and living conditions mainly due to remittances from abroad.

Education makes a difference in terms of dwellings and living conditions. As education increases dwellings and living conditions improve substantially especially from upper secondary education onwards. Households where the highest level of education is tertiary appear to have the highest access to services and have substantially better dwelling and living conditions. This is linked to better occupations and higher income and consequently higher standards of living.

Poor households live in more problematic dwellings, in worse conditions and are somewhat further away from public facilities. In addition they have problems in terms of adequate living conditions, smaller spaces, dampness, water sources, and the like. Poverty extends beyond monetary measures as shown by the unmet basic needs index (UBN) showing that non-monetary poverty exists especially driven by the low education of the head of the household, reinforcing the importance of education. Rural areas have higher non-monetary poverty rates due to lower levels of education and basic services.

In terms of recommendations, initiatives should be taken to continue the amelioration of the overall dwelling and living conditions in conjunction with poverty reduction. Besides direct efforts to improve dwelling conditions, other efforts linked to poverty reduction and provision of education and health care, and employment opportunities are necessary. These efforts would be expected to improve the overall economic well-being and thus also to improve dwelling and living conditions.

Special attention should be given to population movements and the increased population living in urban areas. Further studies should investigate in depth intra-urban living conditions and inequality, which may uncover other dimensions besides the standard urban-rural differences, and may provide useful in face of the new territorial reform. It may uncover inequalities within urban areas and investigate the possibility of urban slum formation especially caused by population movements. This investigation may help the society to better assist internal migrants adapt in urban areas, as well as increasing efforts in providing access to services and labour market opportunities.

Furthermore, special consideration should be given to areas and prefectures falling behind the national standard since they may create pockets of poverty, or poverty traps. Likewise, more vulnerable groups such as the poor or less educated should be provided with opportunities to improve their livelihoods and to achieve adequate living conditions to avoid intergenerational poverty.

## ANNEX

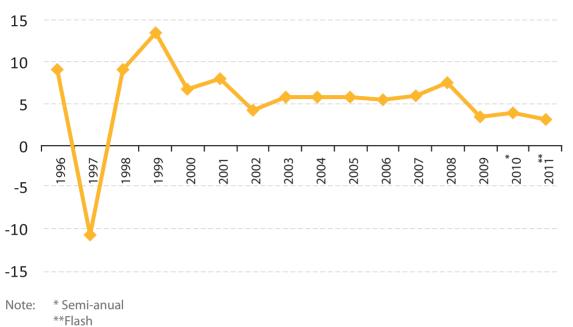


Figure A1: Annual real growth rate of GDP at constant prices compared to previous year (%)

Table A1: Population	and housing	arowth Concur	1020 2001 2011
Table ALL Opulation	i anu nousing	giowin census	1909, 2001, 2011

	Census 1989	%	Census 2001	%	Census 2001 vs. Census 1989	Census 2011	%	Census 2011 vs. Census 2001	Census 2011 vs. Census 1989
<b>Resident Populat</b>	tion								
Total	3,182,417		3,069,275		-3.6	2,800,138		-8.8	-12.0
Rural	2,044,855	64.3	1,775,079	57.8	-13.2	1,301,630	46.5	-26.7	-36.3
Urban	1,137,562	35.7	1,294,196	42.2	13.8	1,498,508	53.5	15.8	31.7
Buildings									
Total	385,769		512,387		32.8	598,267		16.8	55.1
Rural	309,666	80.3	369,793	72.2	19.4	378,110	63.2	2.2	22.1
Urban	76,103	19.7	142,594	27.8	87.4	220,157	36.8	54.4	189.3

Table 2A. Buildings for resid		Period of construction, Census 2011 Period of construction											
			uction										
Building characteristics	Before 1960	1961-1980	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2005	2006-2011	Not specified						
Total	7.4	13.1	10.9	20.8	9.6	8.2	30.1						
Type of buildings													
Detached house	6.2	12.0	10.8	21.7	10.0	8.5	30.9						
Semi-detached house	14.4	16.6	9.3	17.7	6.4	4.8	30.7						
Row (or terraced) house	19.3	17.5	7.2	18.5	6.4	4.3	26.9						
Apartment building	7.2	26.7	19.1	10.2	10.6	12.9	13.4						
Number of floors													
1	7.3	13.2	11.1	20.1	8.9	7.7	31.7						
2	8.8	10.5	6.9	26.9	13.2	9.9	23.7						
3-5	5.8	20.1	15.9	21.5	12.1	9.0	15.5						
6-10	3.4	8.8	11.0	15.6	19.6	29.8	11.8						
11+	1.0	2.8	2.2	16.7	43.0	29.7	4.6						
Number of dwellings in	n the buildi	ng											
1	6.4	12.1	10.7	20.6	9.5	8.4	32.3						
2	13.5	16.6	10.0	25.2	9.4	5.6	19.7						
3-4	17.7	18.3	7.7	23.4	9.6	5.4	18.0						
5-8	17.8	31.9	7.8	12.5	7.6	5.5	16.9						
9-15	9.3	34.5	24.1	8.8	5.7	5.7	12.0						
16+	4.0	23.4	23.6	10.1	14.3	19.4	5.1						
Presence of lift													
Yes	1.4	1.4	1.3	22.7	25.4	34.9	12.9						
No	7.5	13.3	11.0	20.8	9.4	7.8	30.3						

Table 2A: Buildings for residential purposes by characteristics and period of construction, Census 2011

	Water supply system	Census 2001	Census 2011	Water supply system
	Inside the dwelling	46 .9	66 .0	Piped water in the dwelling
			11.0	Piped water outside the dwelling,
_	Outside the dwelling	28 .6	11.0	but in the building
Total			9.2	Piped water available outside the building
	Well or water tank	12 .8	11.2	Other system of water supply
	Not supplied with water	11.7	2 .7	No water supply system
	Inside the dwelling	84 .6	84 .4	Piped water in the dwelling
			6.6	Piped water outside the dwelling,
2	Outside the dwelling	10 .7	0.0	but in the building
Urban			3 .0	Piped water available outside the building
⊃	Well or water tank	2 .8	4 .9	Other system of water supply
	Not supplied with water	1.9	1.2	No water supply system
	Inside the dwelling	15 .6	42 .0	Piped water in the dwelling
			16 7	Piped water outside the dwelling,
Rural	Outside the dwelling	43 .5	16 .7	but in the building
Ru			17.2	Piped water available outside the building
	Well or water tank	21.1	19.5	Other system of water supply
	Not supplied with water	19.9	4 .5	No water supply system

Table 3A: Inhabited dwellings by water supply system and by urban and rural area, Census 2001 and 2011, in %

Table A4: Inhabited dwellings by water supply system and prefecture, Census 2001 and 2011, in %

						Р	refectu	re					
Water suppy system	Berat	Dibër	Durrës	Elbasan	Fier	Gjirokastër	Korçë	Kukës	Lezhë	Shkodër	Tiranë	Vlorë	Total
						Ce	ensus 2	001					
Inside the dwelling	48.8	27.9	54.1	36.8	33.6	49.8	43.4	33.9	38.4	47.6	64.4	53.5	46.9
Outside the dwelling	29.4	36.4	24.8	40.2	28.1	33.9	41.2	31.7	27.6	25.5	17.1	26.2	28.6
Well or water tank	12.8	6.3	13.2	11.6	24.7	6.5	9.0	5.2	14.1	15.4	12.8	6.3	12.8
Not supplied with water	9.0	29.4	7.9	11.3	13.5	9.9	6.3	29.1	19.9	11.5	5.7	14.1	11.7
						Ce	ensus 2	011					
Piped water in the dwelling	71.0	48.7	68.2	57.9	54.6	74.0	65.3	58.4	57.1	52.9	76.7	77.0	66.0
Piped water outside the dwelling	19.6	27.9	17.3	28.6	30.1	19.6	28.3	25.4	20.2	15.5	12.0	16.4	20.1
Other system of water supply	7.7	16.7	10.9	10.9	13.1	4.5	5.3	9.0	18.2	27.7	9.3	4.7	11.2
No water supply system	1.6	6.6	3.5	2.6	2.3	1.9	1.2	7.1	4.5	3.9	1.9	1.9	2.7

	Access to sanitation system	Census 2001	Census 2011	Access to sanitation system
	One W.C. inside	52.6	76.7	Fluch toilet incide the dwelling
	Two or more W.C. inside	2.5	/0./	Flush toilet inside the dwelling
Total	W.C. outside, with piping	14.0	8.5	Flush toilet outside the dwelling, but in the building
F			8.0	Flush toilet outside the building
	W.C. outside, without piping	30.0	6.1	Other type of toilet
	No W.C.	0.9	0.7	No toilet
	One W.C. inside	83.7	92.0	Flush toilet inside the dwelling
	Two or more W.C. inside	4.0	92.0	Flush tollet hiside the dwelling
Urban	W.C. outside, with piping	7.0	4.1	Flush toilet outside the dwelling, but in the building
ō			2.1	Flush toilet outside the building
	W.C. outside, without piping	4.9	1.5	Other type of toilet
	No W.C.	0.5	0.3	No toilet
	One W.C. inside	26.7	56.8	Fluch toilet incide the dwelling
	Two or more W.C. inside	1.3	50.8	Flush toilet inside the dwelling
Rural	W.C. outside, with piping	19.9	14.1	Flush toilet outside the dwelling, but in the building
~			15.8	Flush toilet outside the building
	W.C. outside, without piping	50.8	12.2	Other type of toilet
	No W.C.	1.2	1.2	No toilet

Table A5: Inhabited dwellings by sanitation system and by urban and rural area, Census 2001 and 2011, in %

Table A6: Inhabited dwellings by sanitation system and prefecture, Census 2001 and 2011, in %

						Prefec	ture						
Sanitation system	Berat	Dibër	Durrës	Elbasan	Fier	Gjirokastër	Korçë	Kukës	Lezhë	Shkodër	Tiranë	Vlorë	Total
						Cer	sus 200	01					
W.C. inside	50.9	54.2	65.4	37.8	39.7	50.2	41.7	42.4	49.1	71.8	73.0	59.2	55 .1
W.C. outside, with piping	11.7	15.3	16.6	17.4	11.0	9.8	14.8	19.9	20.3	8.9	12.4	17.0	14.0
W.C. outside, without piping	37.0	29.1	17.1	44.1	48.7	39.6	43.1	36.4	28.3	17.3	13.9	23.3	30.0
No W.C.	0.4	1.3	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4	1.3	2.4	2.1	0.8	0.5	0.9
		· · · · · ·				Cer	isus 201	11			· · · · · ·		
Flush toilet inside the dwelling	75.7	52.9	82.8	64.6	68.5	76.1	67 .2	61.1	71.1	78.4	89.4	83 .5	77 .0
Flush toilet outside the dwelling	17.7	26.0	12.8	27.7	23.8	17.2	25.4	22.1	18.5	12.1	7.5	12.5	16.4
Other type of toilet	6.3	19.8	3.8	7.2	7.0	6.3	7.2	15.7	9.1	7.3	2.7	3.7	4.7
No toilet	0.3	1.4	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.2	1.2	1.3	2.2	0.4	0.4	1.9



Main type of energy used for heating		Census 2001		(	Census 2011	I
Main type of energy used for neating	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
Wood	65.6	35.7	90.7	57.5	36.3	85.1
Electricity from the grid	31.3	51.5	14.4	15.4	24.0	4.1
Gas	17.7	29.1	8.2	20.8	31.3	7.1
Solar panel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Other type of energy (coal,oil other)	1.5	2.2	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.2
No heating	4.0	3.3	4.5	5.9	7.9	3.4

Table A7: Private households by type of energy used for heating and by urban and rural area, Census 2001 and 2011, in %

Note. "-" means that in the respective census household has not been asked for that specific amenity.

Table A8: Inhabited dwellings by number of rooms and urban and rural area, Census 2001 and 2011, in %

Number of rooms	Urban	Rural	Total
	Census 2001		
1	12.7	12.1	12.4
2	45.6	40.5	42.8
3	31.8	33.9	33.0
4+	10.0	13.5	11.9
	Census 2011		
1	3.6	2.7	3.2
2	33.0	23.1	28.7
3	43.9	43.8	43.8
4+	19.6	30.5	24,3

Table A9: Inhabited dwellings by number of rooms and prefecture, Census 2001 and 2011, in %

		Prefecture											
Nr. of rooms	Berat	Dibër	Durrës	Elbasan	Fier	Gjirokastër	Korçë	Kukës	Lezhë	Shkodër	Tiranë	Vlorë	Total
						Cer	sus 200	)1					
1	9.3	15.3	19.3	14.1	9.8	5.0	6.1	16.5	14.3	12.1	14.4	9.6	12.4
2	47.2	41.8	42.1	42.4	47.5	43.7	36.5	40.7	42.1	40.0	42.1	47.0	42.8
3	38.0	29.1	26.8	32.5	33.8	40.9	43.3	27.8	29.7	30.7	30.8	34.0	33.0
4+	5.5	13.8	11.8	11.0	8.9	10.4	14.1	15.1	13.8	17.3	12.7	9.4	11.9
						Cer	nsus 201	1					
1	3.4	3.3	3.2	2.8	2.8	1.5	2.7	3.6	2.9	3.0	3.8	3.4	3.2
2	35.1	32.2	24.4	24.9	29.9	30.0	27.5	27.4	24.3	25.4	29.7	34.4	28.7
3	48.5	39.5	42.8	45.1	47.5	48.6	47.7	37.3	37.1	37.1	43.8	43.5	43.8
4+	13.1	25.0	29.5	27.2	19.9	19.9	22.1	31.7	35.8	34.5	22.7	18.7	24.3

	Total	Urban	Rural
Overcrowed (3+)	4.9	4.5	5.5
Adequately occupied (1-2.9)	72.7	72.9	72.5
Under-occupied	22.4	22.6	22.0
Overcrowed (2+)	24.0	23.4	24.7
Adequately occupied (1-1.9)	53.6	53.9	53.3
Under-occupied	22.4	22.6	22.0

Table A10: Density of the dwellings by both standards for adequate occupation and by urban and rural area, Census 2011, in %

\*Overcrowed (3+) is considered a dwelling with 3 and more persons per room

\*\*Adequately occupied (1-2.9) is considered a dwelling with 1-2.9 persons per room

\*\*\*Overcrowed (2+) is considered a dwelling with 2 and more persons per room

\*\*\*\*Adequately occupied (1-1.9) is considered a dwelling with 1-1.9 persons per room

Table A11: Density of the dwellings by both standards for adequate occupation and prefecture, 2001 and 2011, in %

						Prefe	cture					
Nr of rooms	Berat	Dibër	Durrës	Elbasan	Fier	Gjirokastër	Korçë	Kukës	Lezhë	Shkodër	Tiranë	Vlorë
						Census	s 2001					
Overcrowed (3+)	16.9	26.8	23.4	22.3	18.1	11.2	10.5	30.1	20.9	16.0	18.2	13.7
Adequately occupied (1-2.9)	77.0	67.2	67.3	71.5	75.1	77.0	77.9	63.9	69.7	71.6	71.4	72.2
Under-occupied	6.1	6.0	9.3	6.2	6.7	11.8	11.6	6.0	9.4	12.4	10.4	14.2
						Census	s 2011					
Overcrowed (3+)	5.0	9.8	4.5	4.9	4.6	2.3	4.1	10.6	5.4	5.1	4.5	4.2
Adequately occupied (1-2.9)	75.4	77.8	71.9	74.9	73.7	68.1	70.3	77.1	69.7	68.1	74.3	68.4
Under-occupied	19.6	12.4	23.6	20.1	21.7	29.6	25.6	12.3	25.0	26.9	21.2	27.4
						Census	s 2001					
Overcrowed (2+)	54.4	60.1	53.6	56.7	54.4	43.7	40.2	63.0	52.1	44.5	48.0	43.8
Adequately occupied (1-1.9)	39.5	33.9	37.1	37.2	38.9	44.5	48.2	31.0	38.6	43.1	41.6	42.0
Under-occupied	6.1	6.0	9.3	6.2	6.7	11.8	11.6	6.0	9.4	12.4	10.4	14.2
						Census	s 2011					
Overcrowed (2+)	27.1	37.7	22.3	24.5	24.6	17.2	22.0	37.2	24.4	21.9	22.8	21.8
Adequately occupied (1-1.9)	53.3	50.0	54.1	55.4	53.7	53.3	52.5	50.5	50.7	51.2	56.0	50.8
Under-occupied	19.6	12.4	23.6	20.1	21.7	29.6	25.6	12.3	25.0	26.9	21.2	27.4

Amenities		Census 2011			Census 2011		
Amenicies	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	
ти	90.0	95.1	85.8	92.4	92.6	92.2	
Refrigerator	74.1	88.0	62.4	92.4	94.3	89.8	
Washing machine	39.3	67.5	15.7	80.2	88.1	69.9	
Microwave oven	1.9	2.8	1.1	17.6	26.4	6.2	
Air conditioner	1.3	2.4	0.4	11.3	17.8	2.8	
Computer	1.4	2.7	0.3	20.1	29.2	8.2	
Car	8.0	8.2	5.2	24.8	29.2	11.4	
Parabolic antenna	23.5	10.5	13.0	-	-	-	
Electric cooking stove	42.5	28.3	14.2	-	-	-	
Gas cooking stove	18.7	12.1	6.6	-	-	-	
Boiler	-	-	-	50.4	63.9	32.8	
TV decoder	-	-	-	18.5	24.0	11.2	
Deepfreezer	-	-	-	6.3	7.7	4.5	
Dish washer	-	-	-	3.4	5.2	1.1	
Drying machine	-	-	-	2.9	3.6	2.0	
Solar panel	-	-	-	2.7	1.8	4.0	

Table A12: Household amenities by urban and rural area, Census 2001 and 2011, in %

Note. "-" means that in the respective census household has not been asked for that specific amenity.

Table A13: Household amenities by prefecture, Census 2011, in %

						Prefe	cture		-	-	-		
Amenities	Berat	Dibër	Durrës	Elbasan	Fier	Gjirokastër	Korçë	Kukës	Lezhë	Shkodër	Tiranë	Vlorë	Total
Refrigerator	94.0	86.6	93.0	90.0	93.6	94.7	91.3	84.5	91.3	89.9	94.2	94.3	92.4
Deepfreezer	2.8	2.6	6.4	2.8	4.5	6.8	5.2	3.8	5.0	8.3	9.4	7.5	6.3
Washing machine	80.8	61.4	81.7	75.3	79.5	85.0	79.9	65.5	72.9	76.1	86.3	85.8	80.2
Drying machine	1.2	1.4	3.0	1.8	1.8	2.2	3.0	1.9	2.0	2.1	4.8	2.6	2.9
Dishwasher	1.1	0.6	3.5	1.2	1.8	3.7	1.8	1.0	1.3	2.2	7.2	3.3	3.4
Boiler	36.1	25.7	65.9	29.5	39.5	41.2	55.4	29.2	39.3	51.7	69.7	39.4	50.4
Microwave oven	12.7	4.9	18.0	9.4	11.2	24.6	15.5	5.7	6.6	11.1	30.5	18.7	17.6
TV	93.0	92.0	92.4	92.0	92.7	91.6	92.9	90.3	91.9	92.1	93.2	91.0	92.4
TV decoder	6.2	18.8	15.6	13.0	8.6	19.1	19.1	17.4	11.7	14.1	30.0	18.8	18.5
Fixed telephone	29.1	14.9	25.1	24.4	20.4	40.7	36.0	12.8	11.5	27.8	36.7	30.4	28.5
Mobile telephone	85.2	87.5	87.5	86.0	87.0	84.7	84.0	87.1	88.4	85.6	88.8	84.3	86.8
Computer	12.2	9.2	18.6	12.4	11.5	14.2	18.3	14.0	14.3	19.4	33.9	17.3	20.1
Internet connection	7.3	4.4	11.5	6.9	5.7	8.6	10.8	8.2	7.8	13.9	21.7	10.5	12.3
Solar panel	6.1	0.2	1.2	6.7	7.1	1.1	2.1	0.1	0.6	0.3	1.4	2.3	2.7
Air conditioner	4.7	1.0	9.6	5.4	5.0	9.7	1.4	1.8	6.8	6.9	25.4	12.1	11.3
Cars	18.7	15.0	28.4	17.4	23.5	27.4	19.7	18.0	22.7	21.4	31.7	28.8	24.8
None of these	4.2	4.9	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.9	4.7	4.8	3.9	4.6	4.3

Prefecture	Commune / Municipality	Commune / Municipality Code	Dwelling Condition Index
	BERAT	0101	High
	KUTALLI	0102	Medium
	LUMAS	0103	Medium
	VELABISHT	0104	Medium
	OTLLAK	0105	High
	POSHNJË	0106	Medium
	ROSHNIK	0107	High
	SINJË	0108	Low
	TERPAN	0109	Medium
	URA VAJGURORE	0110	High
	VERTOP	0111	High
	CUKALAT	0112	Medium
Berat	KOZARE	1601	High
<b>—</b>	KUÇOVË	1602	High
	PERONDI	1603	High
	BOGOVË	3101	High
	ÇEPAN	3102	Medium
	ÇOROVODË	3103	High
	GJERBËS	3104	Medium
	LESHNJË	3105	Medium
	POLIÇAN	3106	High
	РОТОМ	3107	Medium
	QENDËR	3108	High
	VENDRESHË	3109	Medium
	ZHEPË	3110	Medium
	BULQIZË	0201	High
	FUSHË BULQIZË	0202	High
	GJORICË	0203	Medium
	TREBISHT	0204	Medium
	OSTREN	0205	Medium
Dibër	SHUPENZË	0206	High
Dif	ZERQAN	0207	High
	MARTANESH	0208	High
	ARRAS	0501	Medium
	FUSHË-ÇIDHËN	0502	Low
	KALA E DODËS	0503	Low
	KASTRIOT	0504	Medium

Table A14: Dwelling	Condition In	ndex by co	ommune / I	municipality,	Census 2011

Prefecture	Commune / Municipality	Commune / Municipality Code	Dwelling Condition Index
	LURË	0505	Medium
	MAQELLARË	0506	Medium
	MELAN	0507	Medium
	FUSHË MUHUR	0508	Medium
	PESHKOPI	0509	High
	QENDËR TOMIN	0510	Medium
	SELISHTË	0511	Medium
	SLLOVË	0512	Low
	ZALL DARDHË	0513	Low
	ZALL REÇ	0514	Low
	LUZNI	0515	Low
	BAZ	2401	Low
	DERJAN	2403	Medium
	GURRË	2404	Medium
	KLOS	2405	Medium
	KOMSI	2406	Medium
	LIS	2407	High
	MACUKULL	2408	Medium
	BURREL	2409	High
	RUKAJ	2410	Medium
	SUÇ	2411	Medium
	ULËZ	2412	Medium
	XIBËR	2413	Medium
	DURRËS	0601	High
	GJEPALAJ	0602	Medium
	ISHËM	0603	High
	KATUND I RI	0604	High
	MAMINAS	0605	High
	MANËZ	0606	High
	RRASHBULL	0607	High
rës	SHIJAK	0608	High
Durrës	SUKTH	0609	High
	XHAFZOTAJ	0610	High
	BUBQ	1501	Medium
	CUDHI	1502	Medium
	FUSHË KRUJË	1503	High
	KODËR THUMANË	1504	Medium
	KRUJË	1505	High
	NIKËL	1506	High

Prefecture	Commune / Municipality	Commune / Municipality Code	Dwelling Condition Index	
	BELSH	0701	High	
	BRADASHESH	0702	High	
	CËRRIK	0703	High	
	ELBASAN	0704	High	
	FIERZË	0705	Medium	
	FUNARË	0706	Medium	
	GJERGJAN	0707	Medium	
	GJINAR	0708	Medium	
	GOSTIMË	0709	High	
	GRACEN	0710	Medium	
	GREKAN	0711	High	
	KAJAN	0712	Medium	
	KLOS	0713	Medium	
	LABINOT FUSHË	0714	High	
	LABINOT MAL	0715	Medium	
	MOLLAS	0716	Medium	
	PAPËR	0717	Medium	
	RRASË	0718	Medium	
u	SHALËS	0719	Medium	
Elbasan	SHIRGJAN	0720	Medium	
	SHUSHICË	0721	Medium	
	TREGAN	0722	Medium	
	ZAVALIN	0723	Medium	
	GRAMSH	0901	High	
	KODOVJAT	0902	Medium	
	KUSHOVË	0903	Medium	
	LENIE	0904	Low	
	PISHAJ	0905	High	
	POROÇAN	0906	Low	
	SKËNDERBEGAS	0907	Medium	
	KUKUR	0908	Low	
	SULT	0909	Low	
	TUNJË	0910	Medium	
	HOTOLISHT	2001	Medium	
	LIBRAZHD	2002	High	
	LUNIK	2003	Medium	
	ORENJË	2004	Medium	
	PËRRENJAS	2005	High	
	POLIS	2006	Medium	

Table A14: Dwelling Condition	Index by commune	/ municipality, Census 2011

Prefecture	Commune / Municipality	Commune / Municipality Code	Dwelling Condition Index
	QENDËR	2007	Medium
	QUKËS	2008	Medium
	STËBLEVË	2009	Medium
	STRAVAJ	2010	Medium
	RRAJCË	2011	Medium
	GJOCAJ	2601	Medium
	KARINË	2602	High
	PAJOVË	2603	Medium
	PEQIN	2604	High
	PËRPARIM	2605	Medium
	SHEZË	2606	Medium
	CAKRAN	0801	Medium
	DERMENAS	0802	Medium
	FIER	0803	High
	FRAKULL	0804	Medium
	RUZHDIE	0805	Medium
	KUMAN	0806	Medium
	KURJAN	0807	Medium
	LEVAN	0808	Medium
	LIBOFSHË	0809	Medium
	MBROSTAR	0810	Medium
	PATOS	0811	High
	PORTËZ	0812	Medium
	QENDËR	0813	High
er	ROSKOVEC	0814	High
Fier	STRUM	0815	Medium
	ТОРОЈЁ	0816	High
	ZHARRËS	0817	High
	ALLKAJ	2101	Medium
	BALLAGAT	2102	Medium
	BUBULLIMË	2103	Medium
	DIVJAKË	2104	High
	DUSHK	2105	Medium
	FIERSHEGAN	2106	Medium
	GOLEM	2107	High
	GRABIAN	2108	Medium
	GRADISHTË	2109	Medium
	HYSGJOKAJ	2110	Medium
	KARBUNARË	2111	Medium

Prefecture	Commune / Municipality	Commune / Municipality Code	Dwelling Condition Index
	KOLONJË	2112	Medium
	KRUTJE	2113	Medium
	LUSHNJE	2114	High
	RREMAS	2115	Medium
	TËRBUF	2116	Medium
	ARANITAS	2301	Medium
	BALLSH	2302	High
	FRATAR	2303	Medium
	GRESHICË	2304	Medium
	HEKAL	2305	Medium
	KUTË	2306	Medium
	NGRAÇAN	2307	Medium
	QENDËR	2308	Medium
	SELITË	2309	Medium
	ANTIGONË	1001	High
	CEPO	1002	High
	DROPULL I POSHTËM	1003	High
	DROPULL I SIPËRM	1004	High
	GJIROKASTËR	1005	High
	LAZARAT	1006	High
	LIBOHOVË	1007	High
	LUNXHËRI	1008	High
	ODRIE	1009	High
	PICAR	1010	Medium
	POGON	1011	High
stër	QENDËR LIBOHOVË	1012	High
oka	ZAGORI	1013	High
Gjirokastë	BALLABAN	2701	Medium
Ŭ	ÇARÇOVË	2702	High
	FRASHËR	2703	Medium
	KËLCYRË	2704	High
	PËRMET	2705	High
	QENDËR	2706	Medium
	SUKË	2707	Medium
	DISHNICË	2708	Medium
	PETRAN	2709	High
	BUZ	3301	Medium
	FSHAT MEMALIAJ	3302	Medium
	KRAHËS	3303	Medium

Prefecture	Commune / Municipality	Commune / Municipality Code	Dwelling Condition Index
	KURVELESH	3304	Medium
	LOPËS	3305	Medium
	LUFTINJË	3306	Medium
	MEMALIAJ	3307	High
	QENDËR	3308	Medium
	QESARAT	3309	Medium
	TEPELENË	3310	High
	BILISHT	0401	High
	QENDËR BILISHT	0402	Medium
	MIRAS	0403	Medium
	HOÇISHT	0404	Medium
	PROGËR	0405	Medium
	BARMASH	1301	Medium
	ÇLIRIM	1302	Medium
	ERSEKË	1303	High
	LESKOVIK	1304	High
	LESKOVIK	1305	Medium
	MOLLAS	1306	High
	NOVOSELË	1307	High
	QENDËR	1308	High
	DRENOVË	1401	High
	GORË	1402	Medium
Korçë	KORÇË	1403	High
Ko	LEKAS	1404	Medium
	LIBONIK	1405	High
	LIQENAS	1406	Medium
	MALIQ	1407	High
	MOGLICË	1408	Medium
	MOLLAJ	1409	High
	PIRG	1410	Medium
	POJAN	1411	Medium
	QENDËR	1412	High
	VITHKUQ	1413	Medium
	VOSKOP	1414	Medium
	VOSKOPOJË	1415	High
	VRESHTAS	1416	Medium
	BUÇIMAS	2801	High
	ÇËRRAVË	2802	Medium
	DARDHAS	2803	Medium

Prefecture	Commune / Municipality	Commune / Municipality Code	Dwelling Condition Index
	POGRADEC	2804	High
	PROPTISHT	2805	Medium
	TREBINJË	2806	Medium
	HUDENISHT	2807	High
	VELÇAN	2808	Medium
	FAJZA	1101	Medium
	GOLAJ	1102	Medium
	GJINAJ	1103	Low
	KRUMË	1104	High
	ARRËN	1701	Low
	BICAJ	1702	High
	BUSHTRICË	1703	Low
	KOLSH	1704	Medium
	KUKËS	1705	High
	MALZI	1706	Medium
	ZAPOD	1707	Low
	SHISHTAVEC	1708	Low
Ś	SHTIQËN	1709	High
Kukës	SURROJ	1710	Medium
×	TËRTHORE	1711	Medium
	TOPOJAN	1712	Low
	UJËMISHT	1713	Low
	GRYKË ÇAJË	1714	Low
	KALIS	1715	Low
	BAJRAM CURRI	3501	High
	BUJAN	3502	Medium
	BYTYÇ	3503	Medium
	FIERZË	3504	Medium
	LEKBIBAJ	3505	Medium
	LLUGAJ	3506	High
	MARGEGAJ	3507	High
	TROPOJË	3508	Medium
	FUSHË KUQE	1801	High
	LAÇ	1802	High
	MAMURRAS	1803	Medium
	MILOT	1804	Medium
	BALLDREN I RI	1901	Medium
	BLINISHT	1902	High
	DAJÇ	1903	High

Prefecture	Commune / Municipality	Commune / Municipality Code	Dwelling Condition Index
	KALLMET	1904	High
	KOLÇ	1905	High
	LEZHË	1906	High
	SHËNGJIN	1907	High
	SHËNKOLL	1908	Medium
	UNGREJ	1909	Medium
Lezhë	ZEJMEN	1910	Medium
Lez	FAN	2501	Medium
	KAÇINAR	2502	Medium
	KTHJELLË	2503	Medium
	OROSH	2504	Medium
	RRËSHEN	2505	High
	RUBIK	2506	High
	SELITË	2507	High
	GRUEMIRË	2201	Medium
	KASTRAT	2202	Medium
	KELMEND	2203	Medium
	KOPLIK	2204	High
	QENDËR	2205	Medium
	SHKREL	2206	Medium
	BLERIM	2901	Medium
	FIERZË	2902	Low
	FUSHË ARRËZ	2903	High
	GJEGJAN	2904	Medium
	IBALLË	2905	Medium
ër	PUKË	2906	High
Shkodër	QELËZ	2907	Medium
sh	QERRET	2908	Medium
	QAFË MALI	2909	Medium
	RRAPË	2910	Medium
	ANA E MALIT	3201	High
	BËRDICË	3202	High
	BUSHAT	3203	High
	DAJÇ	3204	High
	GURI I ZI	3205	Medium
	HAJMEL	3206	High
	VAU I DEJËS	3207	High
	POSTRIBË	3208	Medium
	PULT	3209	Low

Prefecture	Commune / Municipality	Commune / Municipality Code	Dwelling Condition Index
	RRETHINAT	3210	High
	SHALË	3211	Medium
	SHKODËR	3212	High
	SHLLAK	3213	Low
	SHOSH	3214	Low
	VELIPOJË	3215	High
	VIG-MNELË	3216	Medium
	TEMAL	3218	Medium
Tiranë	GOLEM	1201	High
	GOSË	1202	High
	HELMËS	1203	High
	KAVAJË	1204	High
	KRYEVIDH	1205	Medium
	LEKAJ	1206	Medium
	LUZ I VOGEL	1207	High
	RROGOZHINË	1208	Medium
	SINABALLAJ	1209	Medium
	SYNEJ	1210	Medium
	BALDUSHK	3401	Medium
	BËRXULLË	3402	High
	BËRZHITË	3403	High
	DAJT	3404	High
	KAMËZ	3405	High
	KASHAR	3406	High
	NDROQ	3407	Medium
	PASKUQAN	3408	High
	PETRELË	3409	High
	PEZË	3410	Medium
	PREZË	3411	High
	FARKË	3412	High
	SHËNGJERGJ	3413	Medium
	TIRANË	3414	High
	VAQARR	3415	Medium
	VORË	3416	High
	ZALL BASTAR	3417	Medium
	ZALL HERR	3418	Medium
	KËRRABË	3419	High
	DELVINË	0302	High
	FINIQ	0303	High

Prefecture	Commune / Municipality	Commune / Municipality Code	Dwelling Condition Index
Vlorë	MESOPOTAM	0304	High
	VERGO	0305	High
	DHIVËR	3001	Medium
	KONISPOL	3002	High
	LIVADHJA	3003	Medium
	LUKOVË	3004	High
	SARANDË	3005	High
	XARRË	3006	High
	ALIKO	3007	High
	MARKAT	3008	Medium
	KSAMIL	3009	High
	BRATAJ	3601	High
	HIMARË	3602	High
	КОТЕ	3603	Medium
	NOVOSELË	3604	High
	ORIKUM	3605	High
	QENDËR	3606	Medium
	SELENICË	3607	High
	SEVASTER	3608	Medium
	SHUSHICË	3609	High
	VLLAHINË	3610	Medium
	VLORË	3611	High
	VRANISHT	3612	Medium
	ARMEN	3613	Medium

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