# Kosovo\*

# Women Entrepreneurship

# **Demographics**



**Women constituted 50.5%** of the economy's population in 2019. 66% of university graduates in 2021 were young women. Women graduate mostly in health and wellbeing (32.6%); business, administration, and law (19.0%); and arts, and humanities (15.0%).

## **Women-led Entities**



- Out of all active legal entities contributing to Kosovo's\* GDP in 2021, only 17% had women owners or administrators.
- Most of women's businesses are concentrated in wholesale and retail trade, specifically in retail sale of clothing, footwear and specialised stores, as well as in offering services such as hairdressing.
- Out of 3,735 new active enterprises registered in 2021, 33% were owned by women.

## **Women-led Enterprises**



• In 2021, women entrepreneurs in Kosovo\* ran about **20% of enterprises in total** (where, women-owned businesses account for 17% of all businesses, but this includes physical persons registered with VAT numbers); however, they represent approximately 30% of new enterprises registered every year.



- The average share of women entrepreneurship in new enterprises in the last five years has been 31%.
- The best year for newly registered women's enterprises was 2021, when the **share of women owners or administrators** in new active enterprises **was 33%**.

#### Legal forms

The largest share of women in business in Kosovo\* was observed in the category of **natural persons with 21%,** followed by individual businesses with 17% in 2021.



Size of Enterprise

Data from the Business Registration Agency show that in 2021, almost **70% of women-led enterprises** in Kosovo\* are micro businesses with up to 9 workers. Around 24% of women businesses are small businesses, with up to 49 workers, around **5% are medium-sized businesses**, and less than 1% of women-owned enterprises are large businesses.



### Activities (Top Industries)

- In 2021, **32%** of active enterprises with women owners/administrators focused on
- wholesale and retail trade, followed by other services at 20% and manufacturing with 11%. The sectors with the lowest representation of women are electricity, gas, steam, and air conditioning supply, and construction, which are largely dominated by men.

# Women in Agriculture





- Out of 130,436 farmers in 2022, only 6,388 or **5% were women.**
- The share of registered women-owned enterprises working in agriculture increased to around 30% in 2019.

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.





#### Women in self-employment (%) 2021







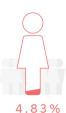
**Active enterprises** by gender of owner/administrator 2021



### Active entities with women owner/manager by firm size (%) 2021



Micro business



Medium business



Small business



Large business

#### Active entities by gender of owner/administrator and economic activity (%) 2021

#### **Top Industries for Women Entrepreneurs**



Administrative and support

1.97% 2.43%



Human health and social work activities



Professional, scientific and technical activities



Agriculture, forestry and fishery



Accommod ation and food services



ing industry





#### **Active by region and women** owners/administrators 2021

### **New active enterprises** by gender and type of entity, 2021



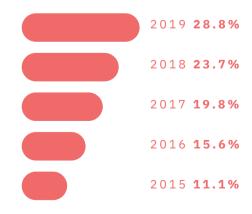


Men as a share



Woman as a share

### Agriculture enterprises by gender, 2015-2019



**Source:** The data in this infographic have been accessed from:

- 1. Kosovo\* Agency of Statistics
- 2. The Kosovo\* Business Registration Agency
- 3. Riinvest Institute