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**Rural Revitalization through Integrated
Mobility:
Policy, Infrastructure, and Demographic
Challenges in North Macedonia**



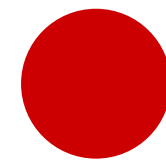
Map of North Macedonia



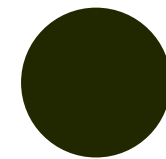
The Republic of North Macedonia is situated in South-Eastern Europe, in the centre of the Balkan Peninsula. According to the geographical location, it is a central Balkan country bordering with five countries, to the east with Bulgaria, to the north with Serbia and Kosovo, to the west with Albania and to the south with Greece. The length of the borders is 766 km in total.

25 713 km²

Statistical and Demographic data for R.N.Macedonia



Latest population estimate: 31.12.2023



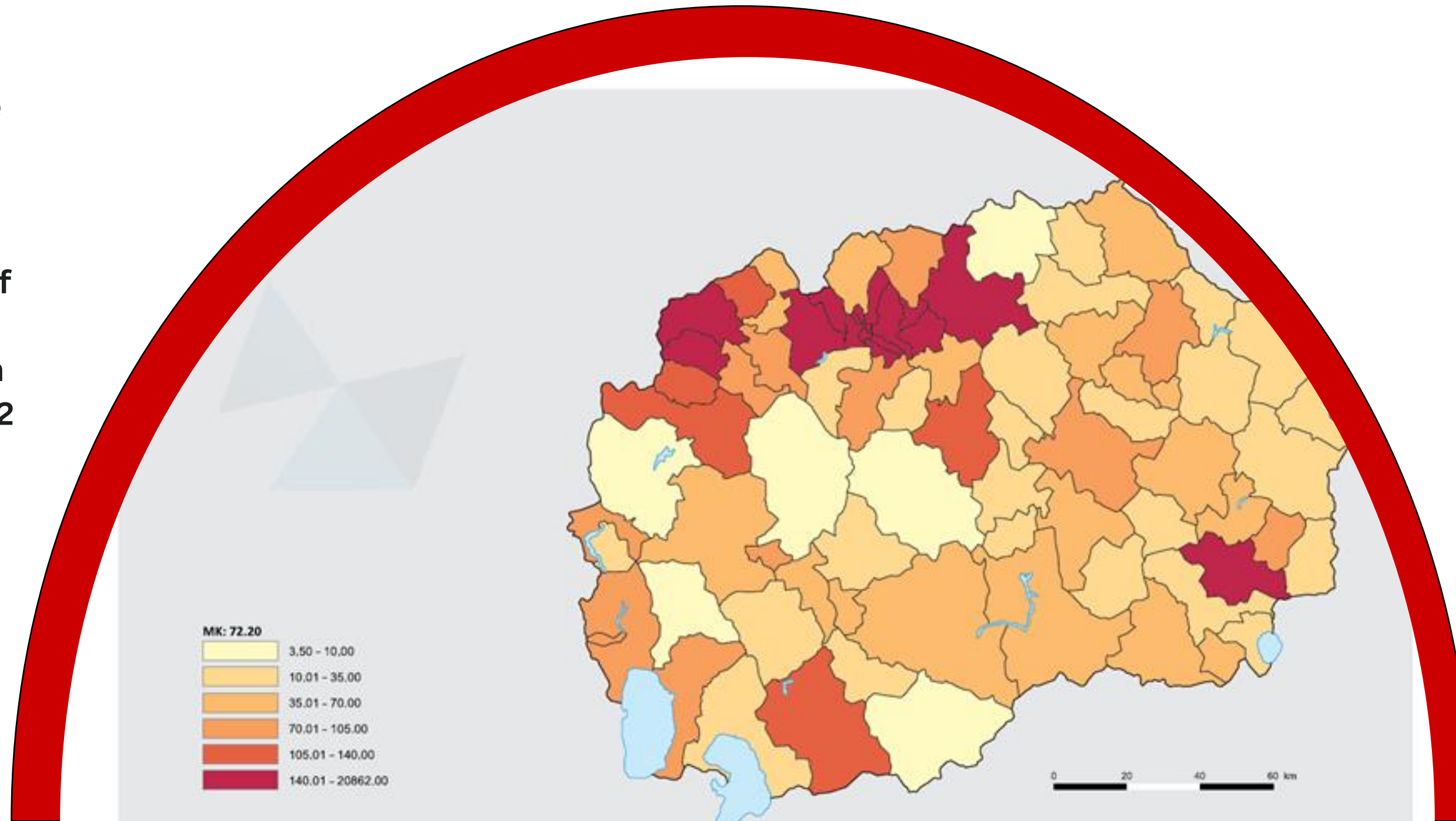
1,826,247 inhabitants

- *5.1% less than the population estimate in 2013*
- *The Macedonian population is increasingly aging. In the period from 2013 to 2023, the share of the elderly population (65 and over) increased from 13.1% to 18.1%.*



Population density per km2 - North Macedonia

- 72 people per square kilometre.
- The highest population density was registered in the Skopje municipality of Chair, which covers an area of only 3 km2 and has a population density of 20 862 inhabitants per km2.
- Municipality of Novaci has the lowest density with only 3.5 inhabitants per km2.



Percentagewise, the largest decline in population was recorded in the municipalities of Centar Zhupa **(-42.9%)** and Mavrovo and Rostushe **(-41.5%)**.

Largest percentage increase in population was in the municipalities of Studenichani **(+27.4%)** and Sopishte **(+18.7%)**.

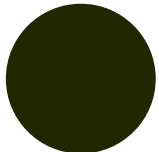
The municipalities with the largest population are Kumanovo with 98 104 inhabitants, Bitola with 85 164 and Tetovo with 84 770 residents.

Least populated municipalities are Zrnovci with 2 086, Lozovo with 2 264 and Vevchani with 2 359 inhabitants.

Year	<u>1948</u> (%)	<u>1953</u> (%)	<u>1961</u> (%)	<u>1971</u> (%)	<u>1981</u> (%)	<u>1991</u> (%)	<u>1994</u> (%)	<u>2002</u> (%)	2021%
Urban	28,7	31,3	38,6	48,8	55,2	58,1	58,7	58,1	61.6
Rural	71,3	68,7	61,4	51,2	44,8	41,9	41,3	41,9	38.4
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Ratio of the total urban and rural
population

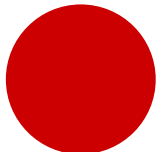
Urban and Rural shares in North Macedonia



Age structure of the population:

1948 – expansive shape of the pyramid

2021 - regressive/stagnant shape of the pyramid



Birth rate:

1948 – a large number of newborns

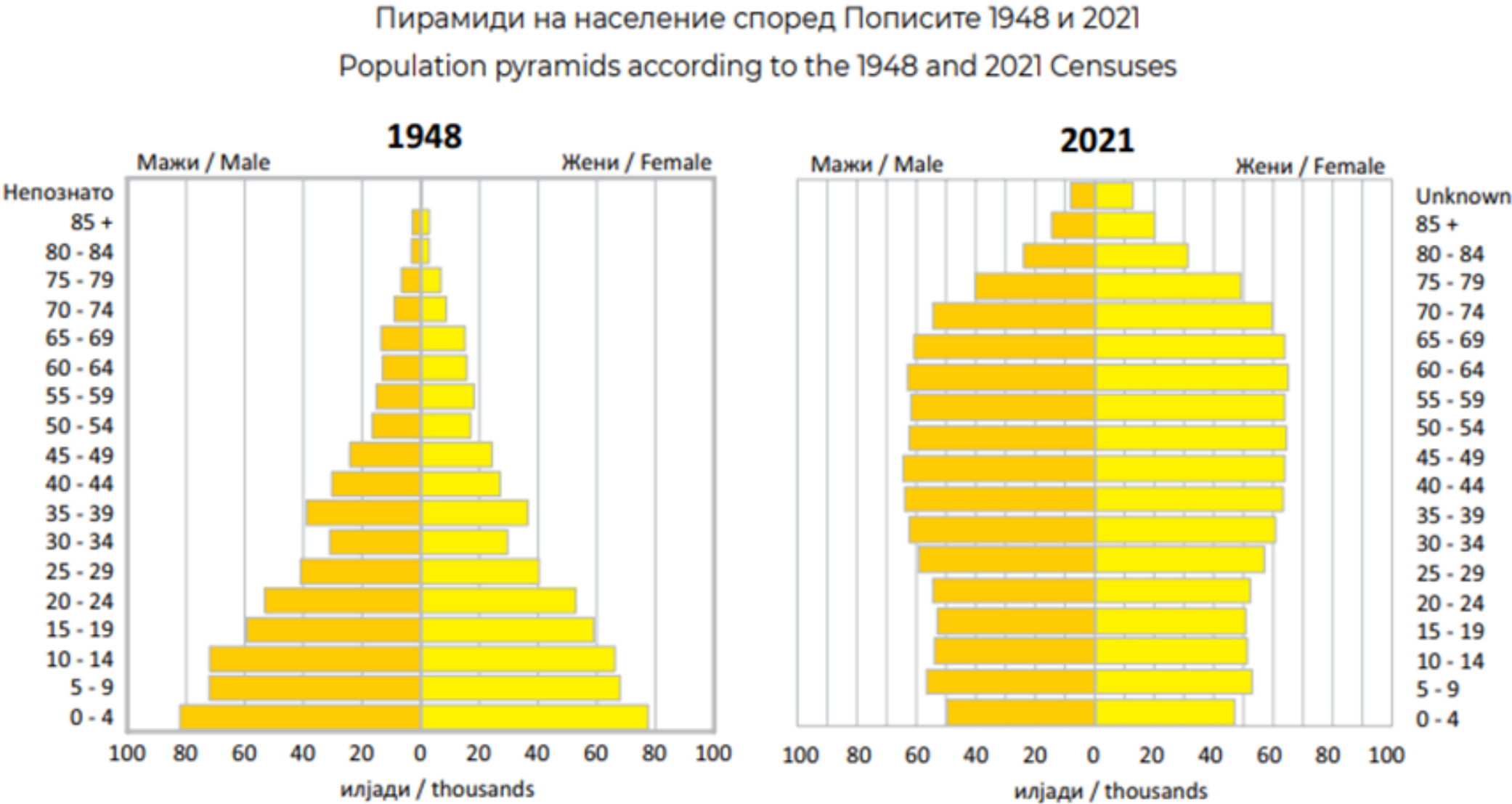
2021 - low birth rate



Gender structure:

1948 - balanced ratio between men and women

2021 - In older age categories (65+, especially 80+), women dominate



Urban population

Census 2021

Average age of the population is
40.8 years



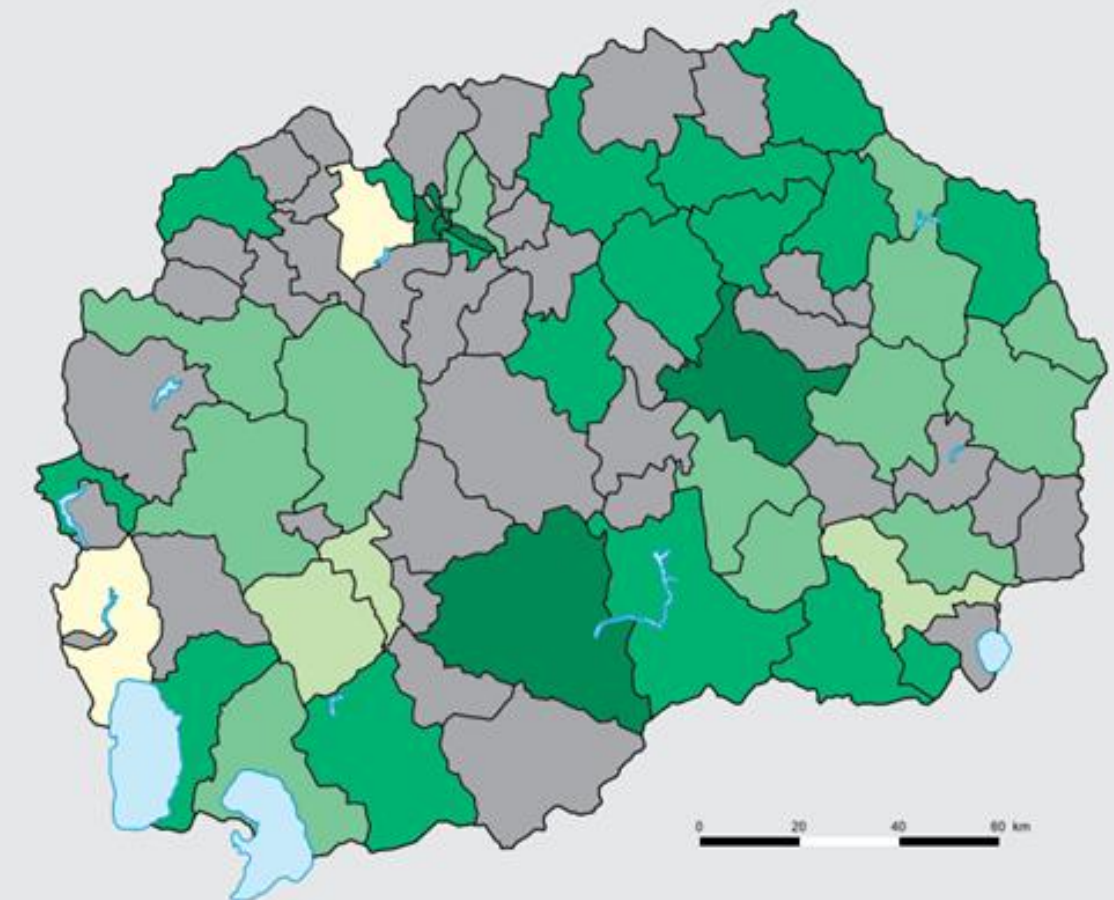
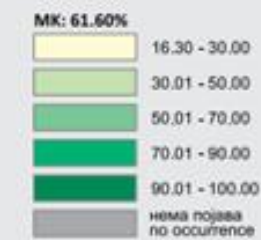
The average age of females is 41.7
years



The average age of males is 39.9 years

Урбано население
Urban population

Учество на урбаното во вкупното население, %
Share of urban population in the total population, %



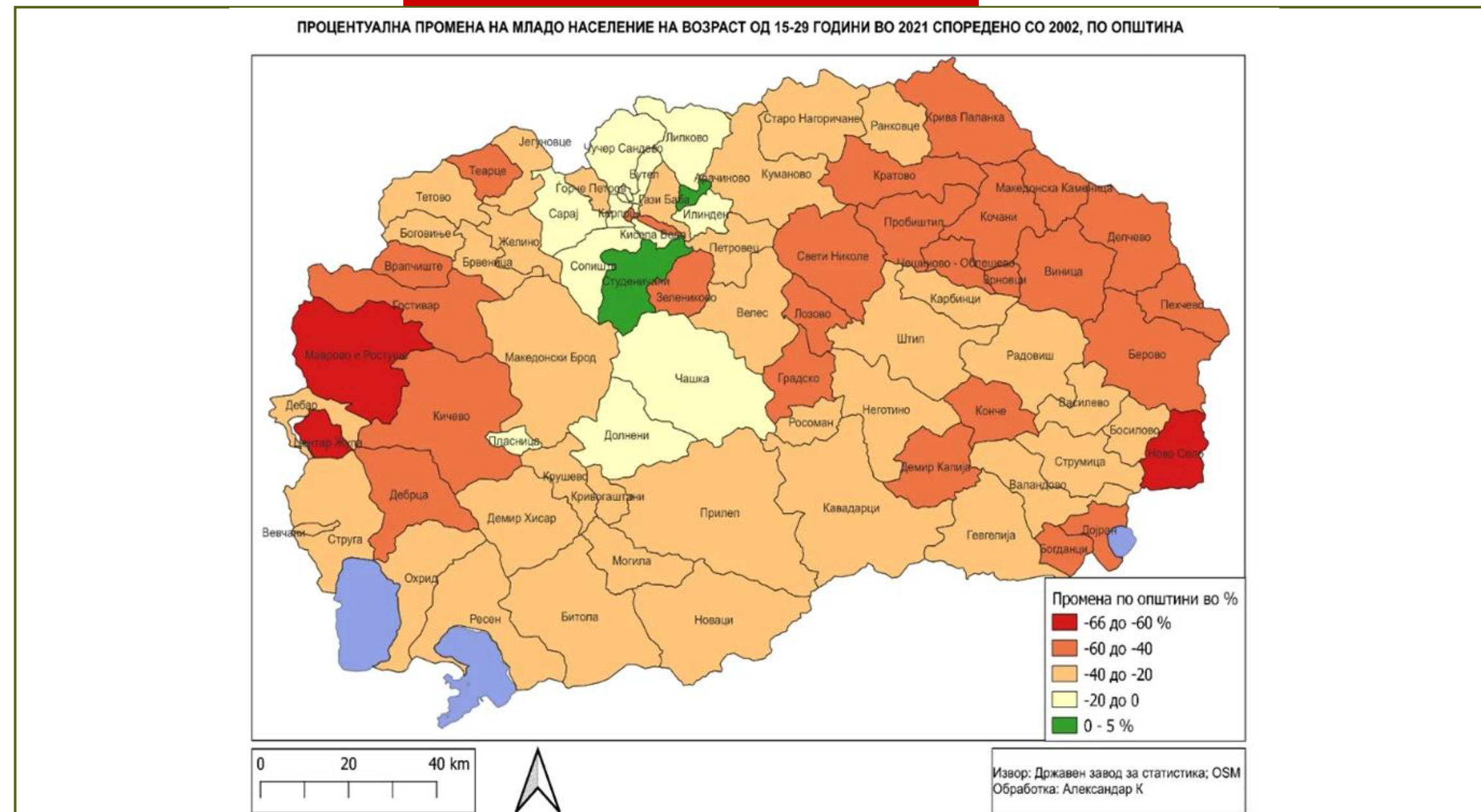
Percentage change in the youth population aged 15-29 in 2021 compared to 2002, by municipality

2021 vs 2002

- 180.000 inhabitants (-9%)
 - 15-29 years (2002) 480.828
 - 15-29 years (2021) 326,733

Young people in Macedonia aged 15-29 represented 17.8% of the total population in 2021.

The European average in 2021 was 16.3%.



Villages in N.Macedonia

- 114 villages (6.8%) of all villages in Macedonia lie directly on the roads;
- The largest number of villages lies on the A-1 road;
- The smallest number of villages lies on the A-4 highway;
- Within a 3 km distance from the main roads lie 379 settlements (22,7%);





Local Entrepreneurship



Fundamental driver of socio-economic transformation

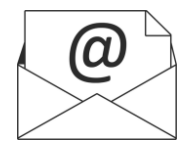


Rural entrepreneurship serves as a platform

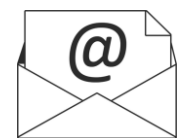


Rural environment can offer significant resources to the business community

Thank You



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