

Population of Albania

1st January 2025

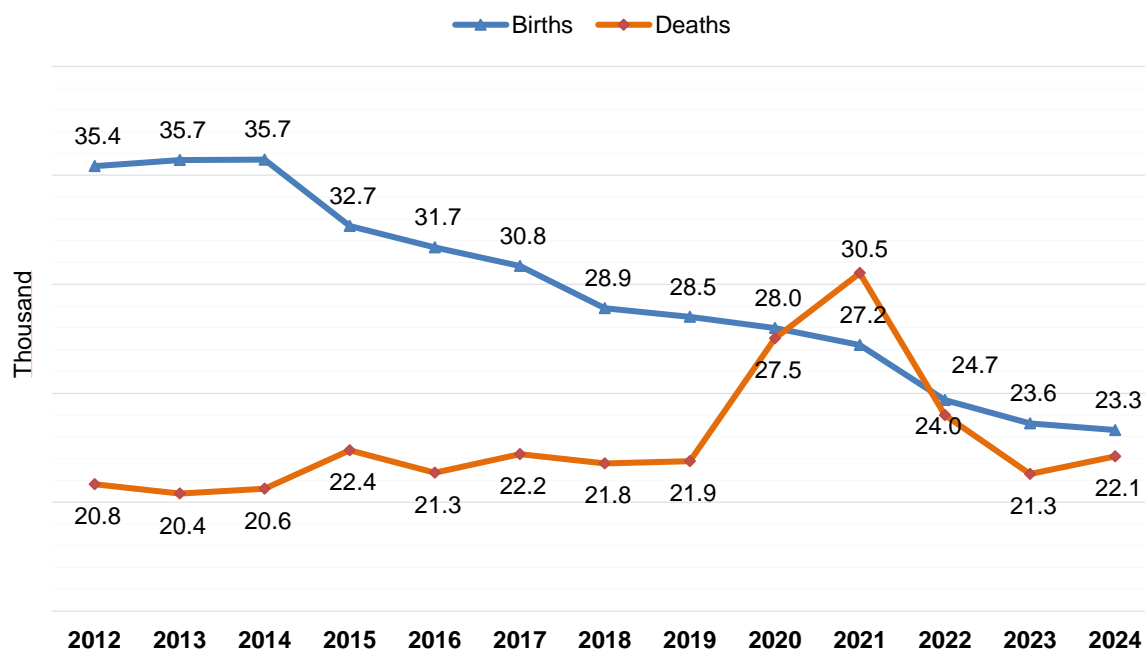
Tiranë, on 12th June 2025: The population of Albania¹ on January 1, 2025 is 2,363,314 inhabitants, decreasing by 1.2 % compared to January 1, 2024.

The population decline is the result of two main demographic components:

- Natural increase, which for 2024 was positive with +1,208 more births than deaths;
- Net migration, which remained negative with -28,836 people.

The sex ratio at birth increased from 106.8 in 2023 to 107.8 in 2024.

Fig. 1: Births and deaths in Albania



¹ Rebasing based on the 2023 Population Census (please consult Annex 1 for methodological details)

Demographic Indicators	January 1, 2024	January 1, 2025
Median age	43.5 years old	44.3 years old
Total population sex ratio (males per 100 females)	98.1	97.8
Youth dependency ratio	23.9 %	23.8 %
Old dependency ratio	31.1 %	33.3 %
Total dependency ratio	55.0 %	57.1 %
*Net migration	-43,761	-28,836

**Based on the best possible proxy data from statistical surveys.*

Population estimates on January 1, 2025 shows that only Tiranë prefecture recorded an increase in population, compared to the previous year, by 0.2 %. The largest population decreases were recorded in the prefectures Shkodër (-2.5 %) and Kukës (-2.3 %).

Tiranë, Fier and Elbasan have the highest share in the total population.

On January 1, 2025, Tiranë accounts about 32.2 % of the total population, continuing to be the most populated prefecture in the country, followed by Fier and Elbasan prefectures, with 9.9 % and 9.6 % respectively.

For more information and to see detailed tables, visit the database on the official INSTAT website: [Population Statistics](http://www.instat.gov.al/)

Methodology

I. Population rebase between the two Censuses.

The 2023 Population and Housing Census, which aimed to meet the needs of users with essential information on the population, presents a demographic overview for the decade, since 2011. Following the publication of the results of the 2023 Population and Housing Census in Albania, INSTAT has carried out an assessment of the population estimate on an annual basis. This process is usually carried out after each Census in order to ensure and produce high-quality statistics, using the available information.

This assessment was made possible by consulting with international experts.

The population estimates on 1 January are carried out annually by INSTAT, taking as a starting point the most recent Census. They refer to the “resident population”, including every resident on the territory of Albania, during the reference period. The resident population considers international migrants (individuals who change their country of residence for a period of more than 12 months); by adding to the population the immigrants or returnees who meet the condition of usual resident and by subtracting the number of emigrants (people who leave the country for more than one year).

Administrative birth/death data are considered reliable as they are based on registers (administrative records). Births during the 12-month period are added to the population by sex, while deaths are subtracted respectively by age, sex and by area of residence - in the case of Albania (prefecture).

For births and deaths: for this time series and in the future, it is made possible cleaning “fetus morto” cases (cases without any sign of life), considering for the final assessment only live births, attributed to methodological adaptation.

Based on these records, INSTAT has subsequently conducted rebase of population estimates, on an annual basis, including information from the 2023 Census.

II. Cohort component method

Annual population estimates are based on the generation component method. This is a standard demographic method that uses a variety of data sources for the basic components of population change. The main components of population change are summarized as follows:

i. Natural Increase (births and deaths)

The starting point for calculating the resident population was the number of residents as of January 1 of the previous year. Births during the 12-month period were added to the population, while deaths were subtracted, respectively, according to age, sex, and the respective district.

ii. Births

The population change due to births:

Live births that occur from January 1 to December 31 of the previous year are added to the population aged zero by sex and distributed to the prefecture where the birth was registered at the civil registry office.

Birth data:

Data for birth by demographic characteristic are provided by the General Directorate of Civil Status, which sends to INSTAT only the number of births of the residents in Albania. All births of Albanian residents are considered during the reference period, by not considering the births of residents outside Albania (emigrants), even though they may be registered in the civil status offices, near their former settlements.

Late registered birth:

A small adjustment is made in the number of the late registered births for the actual year, in order to include all occurred births in a reference period. The number of late registered births, in the previous year are considered as proxy for late registration of the actual year, considering the assumption (as a result of our continuous analyses) that the number of late registered births does not change a lot from year to year.

iii. Deaths

The population change due to deaths:

Deaths recorded in Albania from January 1 to December 31 of the previous year are deducted from the population by sex, age and prefecture of residence.

Death data:

Data for deaths by demographic characteristic are provided by the General Directorate of Civil Status, which send to INSTAT only the number of deaths of the residents in Albania. All deaths of Albanian residents are considered during a reference period, by not considering the deaths of residents outside Albania (emigrants), although they may be registered in the civil status offices near their former settlements.

Late registered death:

We make a small adjustment in the number of the late registered deaths for the actual year, in order to include all occurred deaths in a reference period. The number of late registered deaths in the previous year are considered as proxy for late registration of the actual year, considering the assumption (as a result of our continuous analyses) that the number of late registered deaths doesn't change a lot from year to year.

iv. Net Migration

International movements (international migration: people who enters and leave the country) are the most difficult component to measure, as a population register does not exist in Albania yet. In this way we use the best 'proxy' data to measure migration, based mainly on data collected from the Migration Module of the Labor Force Survey, combined with population projection rates.

v. Internal movements

The internal movements, inside the territory of the country, are also provided yearly by the General Directorate of Civil Status. The data received contains all the internal movements of the population, including the change of residence (prefecture) reflected in the destination civil office of the person. Internal movements of the persons which are not registered in the respective civil offices in the destination prefecture are not considered.

DEFINITION

Resident population: is based on the concept of usual residence. According to this definition in the resident population of one year are included all those persons who lived or have the intention to live for at least 12 months in the country, regardless of nationality.

Population growth rate on 1st January: It is the ratio of total population growth over a year as a result of its natural growth and net migration, compared to a year ago, expressed as a percentage.

Median age: age in which the half of population is older and the other half is younger.

Sex ratio of population: Ratio of the number of males to the number of females, in a given period of time, usually expressed as number of males for every 100 females.

Young dependency ratio: The ratio of young people, under the working age (0 - 14 years) to the number of people who are part of the working age (from 15 to 64 years), expressed in percentage

Old dependency ratio: The ratio of the elderly people, over the working age (65 + years) to the number of people who are part of the working age (from 15 to 64 years), expressed in percentage.

Total dependency ratio: The ratio of people younger than the working age (0 - 14 years old) and elderly people, over the working age (65+ years) to the number of people who are part of the working age (from 15 to 64), expressed in percentage.

Net migration: is the difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants of a population, in a specific territory, in a given period of time (I-E).

Natural increase in population: The difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths during in a given period of time.

Sex ratio at birth: Ratio of the number of males, to the number of females, born in a given period of time, usually expressed as number of males for every 100 females.

Live births: Births of children who showed signs of life. Is the number of births excluding stillbirths. (total births include live births and stillbirths).

Death: Denotes the permanent disappearance of all signs of life at any time after a live birth (interruption of vital functions without the possibility of resurrection).

Late fetal death or stillbirth: This refers to the removal of a dead fetus from its mother after the time at which it would normally be assumed to be capable of independent existence outside the womb. Babies who are born alive but die shortly after birth are excluded from this category.