

## Infrastructure

The network of roads of the municipality of Leskovac consists of 614 km of categorized roads. Compared to a few years ago, this is a significant increase, although mostly in the category of local roads. Segments of two main roads pass through the territory of the municipality of Leskovac (M-1 and M-9), of a total length of 64 km. The main roads have asphalt pavement, and part of the M-1 road has been recently modernized.

Of the total length of the regional network, 68% have modern pavement, and of the local network, 38.3% (152 km). The break-up of the road network found in 1996 was as follows:

Break-up road network

Category of Road

Length

Modern Pavement

% of Roads with Modern Pavement

Main Road

Regional

Local

Total

64

153

397

614

64

104

152

320

100

68

38.3

52.1

Out of a total of 153 km of regional roads, 30 km are still gravel, 14 km are dirt, and 5 km are overgrown with plants, and uncut. The railway line Belgrade - NiÅ¡ - Skoplje - Athens runs through the territory of the city. The numbers of boarding passengers and loaded freight indicate that Leskovac still doesn't use enough the advantage of being tied into the railway system of the country, especially in terms of freight, and the industrial park of Leskovac isn't directly linked to the railway network by way of an appropriate number of industrial tracks.

#### Telecommunication and Informatics Infrastructure

The number of telephone connections of 26,700 provides 16.4 telephone sets per 100 residents. The telephone network is supplemented with 14 telephone exchanges, of which 7 are modern and automatic, and about 1,500 km of lines in the overall telephone network, of which 20% are underground. The role of the IT super-highway is played by electronic links in the form of PTT lines, network cables, and devices for wireless networking.

#### Large water-works infrastructure

The region of Leskovac is distinguished by a wealth of water potential, with the South Morava River as the major one, and a number of its tributaries, the largest of which are the Veternica and the Jablanica rivers. There are five public water supplies, one being a collective one serving Leskovac and a few smaller settlements, another is inter-municipal, serving Grelica, and three are local, serving VuÅ¡je, Å†ukljenik and Predejane. The total length of main pipes is 87 km, of the distribution network 480 km, with close to 23,250 water supply connections. The sewer network has 125km of pipes.

Twelve small accumulation reservoirs have been built on the territory of the city of Leskovac, 6 for irrigation, and another 6 for diluting solutions for the chemical treatment of vineyards. The region of the city is also distinguished for pronounced erosion, erosion processes and increasing deposits. Some parts, especially the right bank of Južna Morava, and in particular, the Grdelićka gorge, are affected by high intensity erosion.

#### Utility and housing infrastructure

The fact that 40% of the population of the municipality is concentrated in the city itself, while for the rest of the population spacial diversity is more prevalent, and they are dispersed into 143 smaller settlements, all give a seal of approval for the Utility-Housing administration to become part of the local government.

The Housing Fund has over 50,000 apartments, with a total floor area of more than 3,000,000 sq m, i.e. an average area per apt. of 62 sq m.

With a total of 8 km length of network in the remote heating system, the city has hardly met it's needs with this type of heating. A total of 3,100 apartments with a floor area of 168,040 sq m, and another 68,000 sq m of office space are in this system.

Apart from Industry, this is further justification for the completion of the gas pipeline branch Dimitrovgrad-Niš-Leskovac, and the gasification of the city. The streets and sidewalks are regularly cleaned by the utilities. This is a job that covers 404,000 sq m, i.e. close to 200 km of streets. 7 special trucks are engaged. The means for this kind of comunal expenditure are reglarly provided from the city budget