

ADMINISTRATIVE-TERRITORIAL AND TERRITORIAL DIVISION OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2020

As of 31 December 2020, the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria is administratively divided into 28 administrative districts and 265 municipalities, in which there are 3 160 individual mayoralties. In addition, the municipality of Sofia and the cities of Plovdiv and Varna are subdivided into composite territorial administration units (quarters): capital municipality (Stolichna) - into 24 quarters, Plovdiv - into 6 quarters, Varna - into 5 quarters.

As of 31 December 2020, there are 5 257 settlements in the Republic of Bulgaria, of which 257 towns, and 5 000 villages, while the settlement formations were 165 (including 8 of national and 157 of local importance).

According to the requirements of the Classification of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS), applied by the European Union, the territory of the country is divided into statistical regions with 3 hierarchical levels.

The upper two levels: NUTS1 - statistical zones, and NUTS2 - statistical regions, are not considered as administrative-territorial units, while the level of NUTS3 - districts, is defined as an administrative-territorial level, which corresponds to the 28 administrative districts. The NUTS3 regions and the 28 administrative districts have the same names.

Amendments to the Unified classifier of administrative-territorial and territorial units (UCATTU) during the period from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020:

- 14.01.2020: The municipality council of Georgi Damyanovo has closed down the following mayoralties: Gavril Genovo, Dalgi del, Melyane, Kamenna Riksa (State Gazette, No. 4/2020);
- 17.01.2020: The municipality council of Varshets has closed down the following mayoralties: Draganitsa, Cherkaski, Gorno Ozirovo (State Gazette, No. 4/2020);
- 21.01.2020: The municipality council of Gorna Oryahovitsa has closed down the following mayoralties: Paisiy, Strelets, Gorski goren Trambesh (State Gazette, No. 6/2020);
- 31.03.2020: The municipality council of Asenovgrad has closed down the following mayoralties: Novakovo, Bachkovo, Dolnoslav, Zhalt kamak, Patriarh Evtimovo (State Gazette, No. 30/2020);
- 26.05.2020: The municipality council of Parvomay has closed down the following mayoralties: Dragoyново, Poroyna (State Gazette, No. 48/2020);
- 19.06.2020: A new settlement formation of local importance, called Armira Tourist complex, has been created in the municipality of Ivaylovgrad, Haskovo district (State Gazette, No. 55/2020);
- 21.07.2020: A new settlement formation of local importance, called Zhabokrek, has been created in the municipality of Rila, Kyustendil district (State Gazette, No. 65/2020);

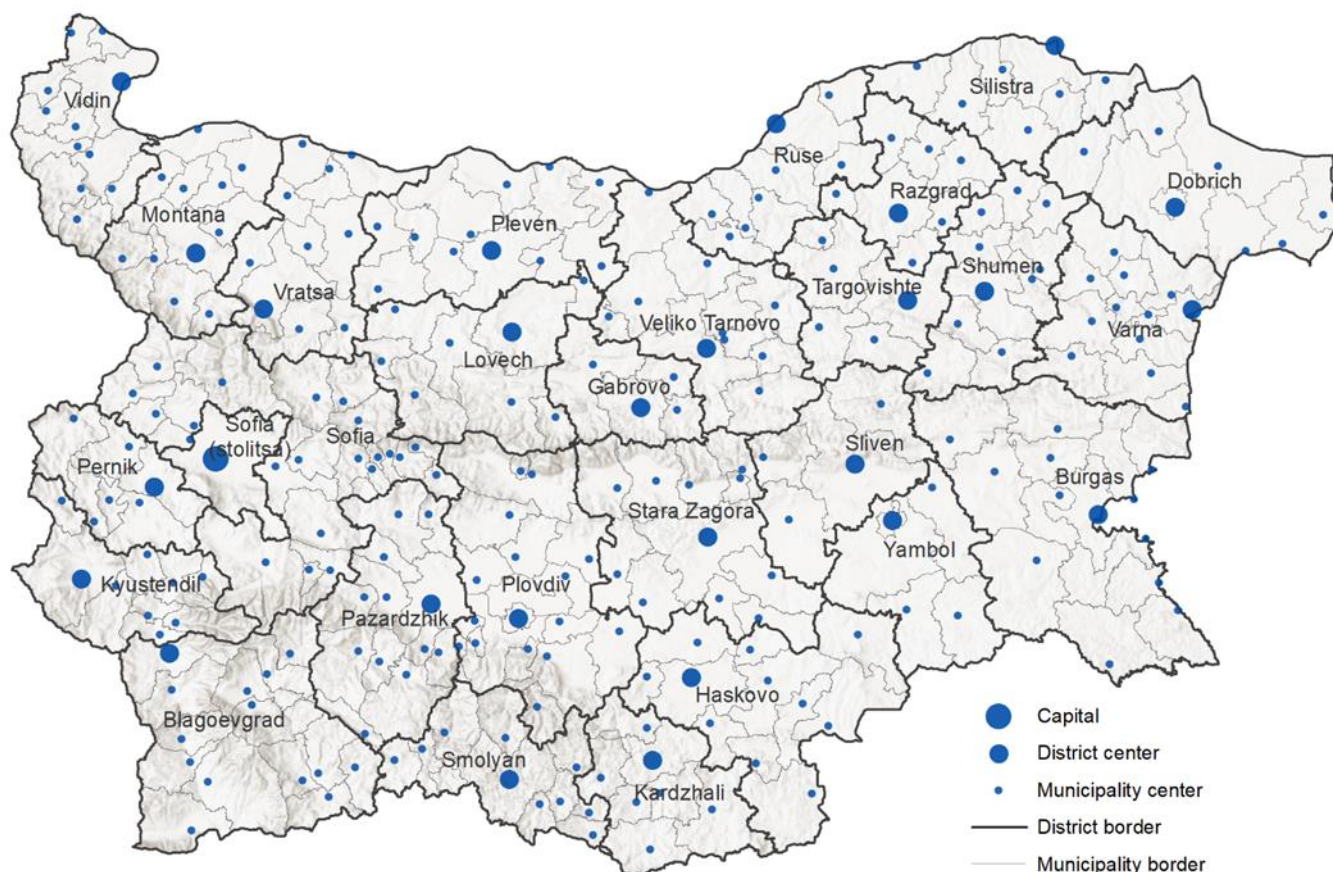
As of 31 December 2020, the following administrative-territorial units exist in Bulgaria:

- Districts - 28;
- Municipalities - 265.

1. Administrative districts in the Republic of Bulgaria as of the end of 2020

The average area of a single administrative district in the Republic of Bulgaria was 3 964 sq. km. The largest administrative districts by territory were Burgas, Sofia, Blagoevgrad and Plovdiv, while the smallest were Pernik, Gabrovo and Sofia (stolitsa), which at the same time is the only district with a population above 1 000 000. The smallest administrative district by population is Vidin with 81 212 inhabitants. In the administrative districts of Razgrad and Smolyan there were no towns with a population above 30 000.

Figure 1. Administrative districts in the Republic of Bulgaria as of 31 December 2020¹



¹ The city of Sofia (the capital city) is administrative centre of two districts - Sofia (stolitsa) (SOF), composed only by Stolichna municipality, and district of Sofia (SFO), composed by 22 municipalities.

1. Population, territory and administrative-territorial and territorial units in the Republic of Bulgaria as of 31 December 2020^{1,2}

№	Districts		Population	Territory	Municipalities	Mayoralties	Towns	Villages
	EKATTE	name	number	sq. km	number	number	number	number
1	BLG	Blagoevgrad	301138	6449	14	161	13	261
2	BGS	Burgas	409750	7748	13	165	20	230
3	VAR	Varna	470124	3819	12	120	11	148
4	VTR	Veliko Tarnovo	229718	4662	10	114	14	322
5	VID	Vidin	81212	3033	11	67	7	133
6	VRC	Vratsa	157637	3620	10	104	8	115
7	GAB	Gabrovo	105788	2023	4	42	5	344
8	DOB	Dobrich	170298	4720	8	133	6	209
9	KRZ	Kardzhali	160781	3209	7	370	5	463
10	KNL	Kyustendil	116619	3052	9	69	7	175
11	LOV	Lovech	122490	4129	8	80	8	102
12	MON	Montana	125395	3636	11	67	8	122
13	PAZ	Pazardzhik	251300	4457	12	100	13	105
14	PER	Pernik	120426	2394	6	50	6	165
15	PVN	Pleven	233438	4653	11	105	14	109
16	PDV	Plovdiv	666398	5973	18	154	18	194
17	RAZ	Razgrad	109810	2488	7	92	6	97
18	RSE	Ruse	212729	2803	8	67	9	74
19	SLS	Silistra	106852	2846	7	86	5	113
20	SLV	Sliven	182551	3544	4	96	6	104
21	SML	Smolyan	101887	3193	10	117	8	232
22	SFO	Sofia	238476	7062	22	125	18	266
23	SOF	Sofia (stolitsa)	1308412	1349	1	32	4	34
24	SZR	Stara Zagora	311400	5151	11	134	11	195
25	TGV	Targovishte	110027	2710	5	130	5	189
26	HKV	Haskovo	223625	5533	11	175	10	251
27	SHU	Shumen	171781	3390	10	129	8	143
28	JAM	Yambol	116486	3355	5	76	4	105

¹ The number of villages includes Rila monastery (in Kyustendil district) and Klisura monastery (in Montana district), which are having settlement's status.

² EKATTE - Unified classifier of administrative-territorial and territorial units (UCATTU).

2. Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria as of 31 December 2020

The largest municipality in Bulgaria by population size is Stolichna municipality. Another group of 8 municipalities had a population above 100 000 inhabitants - Plovdiv, Varna, Burgas, Ruse, Stara Zagora, Sliven, Pleven and Pazardzhik. The share of the population in these 9 municipalities represents 41.1% of the total country's population.

At the end of 2020, 132 municipalities in the country out of 265 (about 50%) had a population below 10 000 inhabitants. The share of their population was just 10.8% of the total country's population.

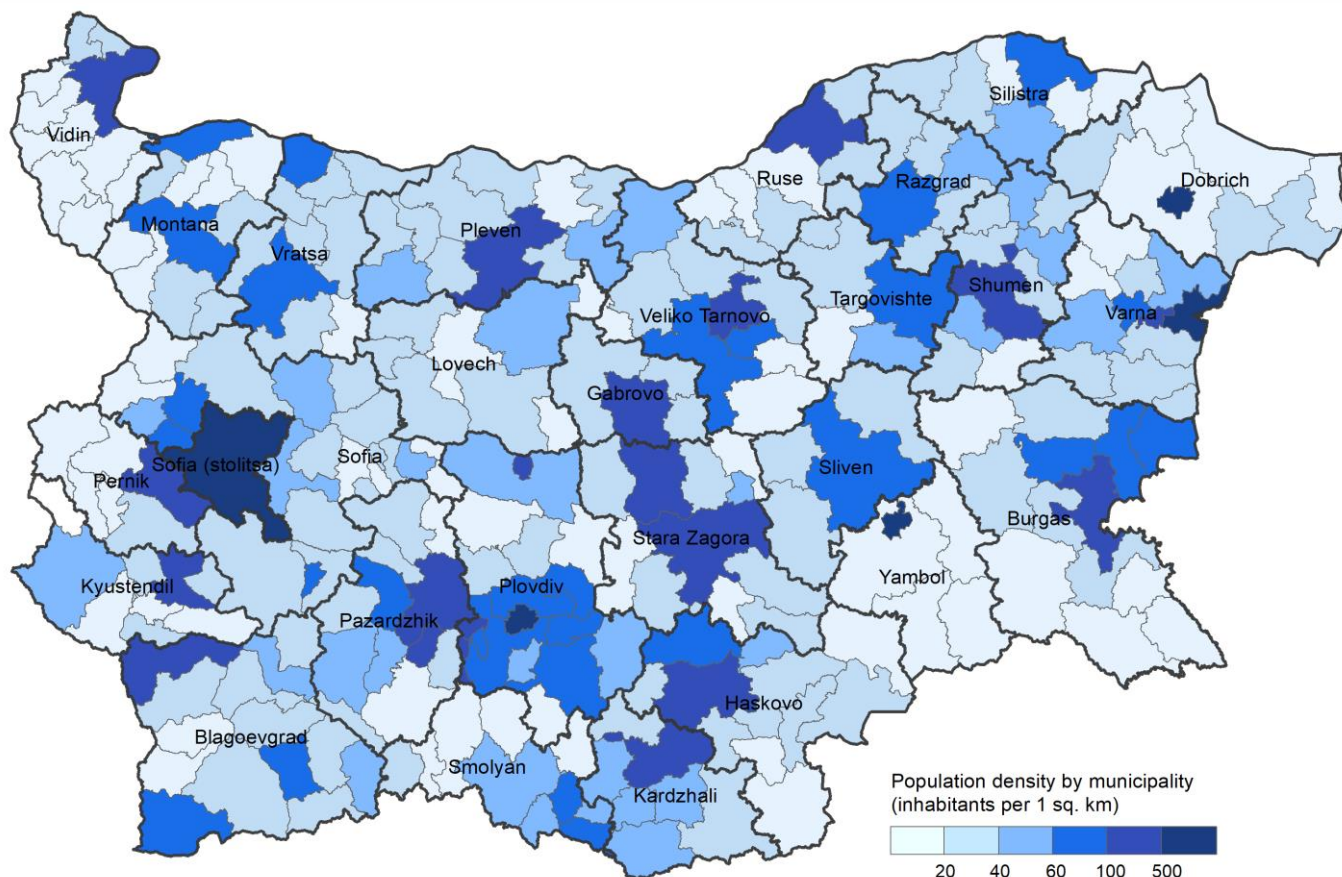
The smallest municipality was Treklyano (Kyustendil district) with 768 inhabitants, followed by Boynitsa municipality (Vidin district) with a population of 823.

On average, the area of one municipality in Bulgaria is 419 sq. km. The largest municipality by area is the municipality of Sliven. Beside Sliven, there are only 7 more municipalities with territory above 1 000 sq. km - Stoliczna, Dobrich-selska, Tundhza (Yambol district), Samokov (Sofia district), Sredets (Burgas district), Stara Zagora and Karlovo (Plovdiv district).

On the other hand, the smallest municipality in the country is Chelopech (Sofia district). Also 10 other municipalities have a territory less than 100 sq. km - Nikolaevo (Stara Zagora district), Yambol, Anton (Sofia district), Chavdar (Sofia district), Dolna banya (Sofia district), Stamboliyski (Plovdiv district), Beloslav (Varna district), Sopot (Plovdiv district), Krichim (Plovdiv district) and Perushtitsa (Plovdiv district).

On the territory of 9 municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria - Plovdiv, Dobrich, Yambol, Krichim, Perushtitsa, Koprivshtitsa, Chelopech, Anton, Chavdar - there is only one settlement, which is also municipal centre.

**Figure 2. Population density by municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria
as of 31 December 2020**



2. Municipalities with population over 30 000 in the Republic of Bulgaria as of 31 December 2020

№	Municipality		Population number	District	
	EKATTE	name		EKATTE	name
1	SOF46	Stolichna	1308412	SOF	Sofia (stolitsa)
2	PDV22	Plovdiv	342048	PDV	Plovdiv
3	VAR06	Varna	341516	VAR	Varna
4	BGS04	Burgas	205329	BGS	Burgas
5	RSE27	Ruse	153833	RSE	Ruse
6	SZR31	Stara Zagora	152956	SZR	Stara Zagora
7	SLV20	Sliven	116666	SLV	Sliven
8	PVN24	Pleven	115355	PVN	Pleven
9	PAZ19	Pazardzhik	105161	PAZ	Pazardzhik
10	PER32	Pernik	87683	PER	Pernik
11	SHU30	Shumen	86387	SHU	Shumen
12	VTR04	Veliko Tarnovo	85484	VTR	Veliko Tarnovo
13	HKV34	Haskovo	84862	HKV	Haskovo
14	DOB28	Dobrich	80936	DOB	Dobrich
15	BLG03	Blagoevgrad	74452	BLG	Blagoevgrad
16	KRZ16	Kardzhali	71320	KRZ	Kardzhali
17	SZR12	Kazanlak	66903	SZR	Kazanlak
18	JAM26	Yambol	64435	JAM	Yambol
19	VRC10	Vratsa	63033	VRC	Vratsa
20	PDV01	Asenovgrad	60491	PDV	Plovdiv
21	GAB05	Gabrovo	55768	GAB	Gabrovo
22	TGV35	Targovishte	53716	TGV	Targovishte
23	KNL29	Kyustendil	52269	KNL	Kyustendil
24	VID09	Vidin	51600	VID	Vidin
25	BLG33	Petrich	48593	BLG	Blagoevgrad
26	PDV13	Karlovo	47103	PDV	Plovdiv
27	MON29	Montana	46208	MON	Montana
28	HKV09	Dimitrovgrad	45650	HKV	Haskovo
29	RAZ26	Razgrad	45624	RAZ	Razgrad
30	SLS31	Silistra	44237	SLS	Silistra
31	LOV18	Lovech	41527	LOV	Lovech
32	VTR06	Gorna Oryahovitsa	40751	VTR	Veliko Tarnovo
33	KNL48	Dupnitsa	38480	KNL	Kyustendil
34	BLG40	Sandanski	36893	BLG	Blagoevgrad
35	SFO39	Samokov	36124	SFO	Sofia
36	SML31	Smolyan	35288	SML	Smolyan
37	SLV16	Nova Zagora	34758	SLV	Sliven
38	PAZ08	Velinograd	33464	PAZ	Pazardzhik
39	VTR28	Svishtov	33321	VTR	Veliko Tarnovo
40	PDV26	Rodopi	32481	PDV	Plovdiv
41	PDV17	Maritsa	32371	PDV	Plovdiv
42	GAB29	Sevlievo	31660	GAB	Gabrovo
43	SFO07	Botevgrad	30665	SFO	Sofia

Figure 3. Distribution of the number and size of the municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria as of 31 December 2020

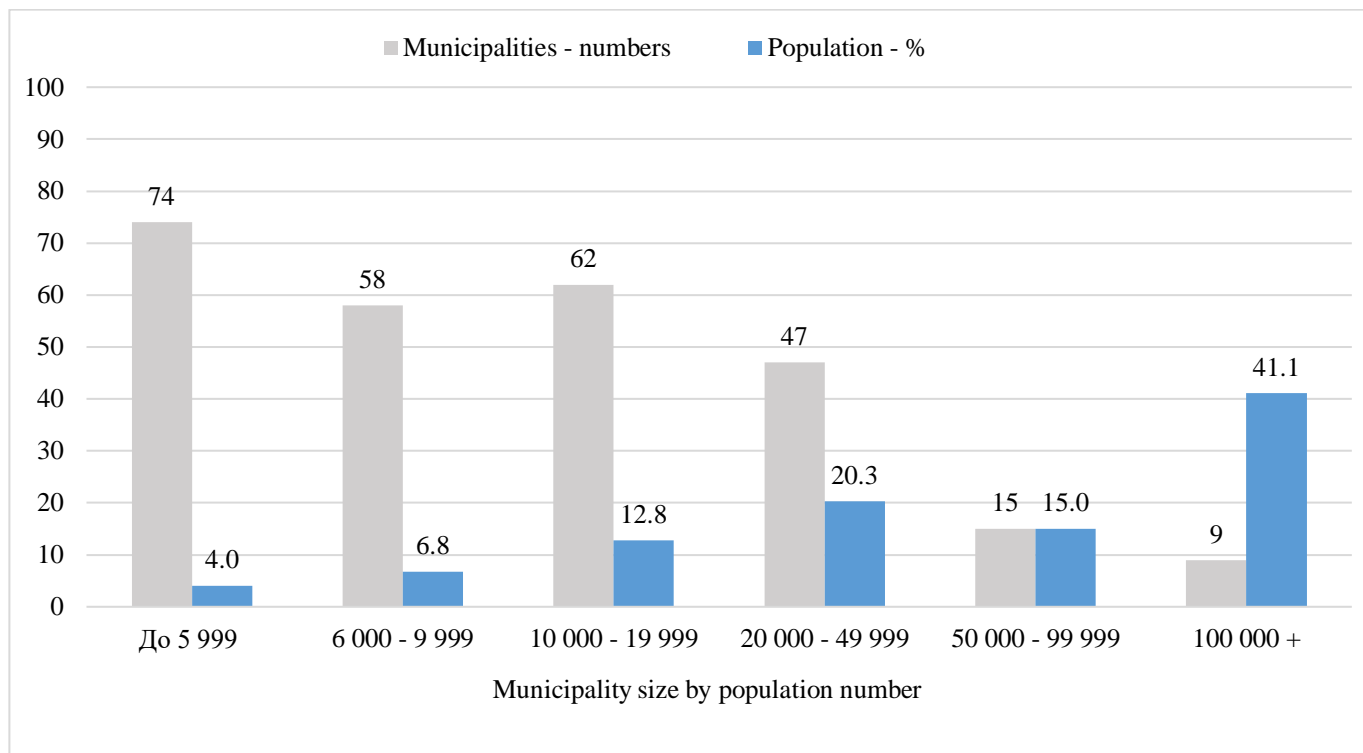


Figure 4. Distribution of the municipalities by districts as of 31 December 2020

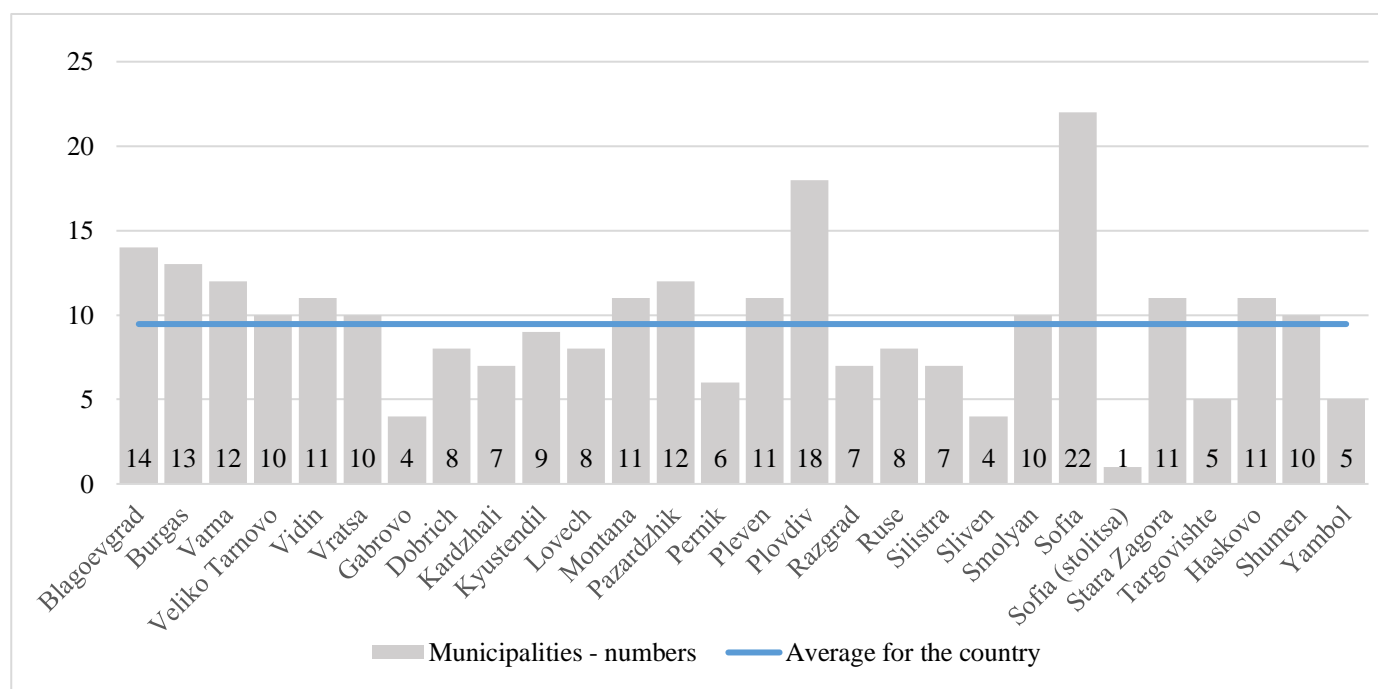
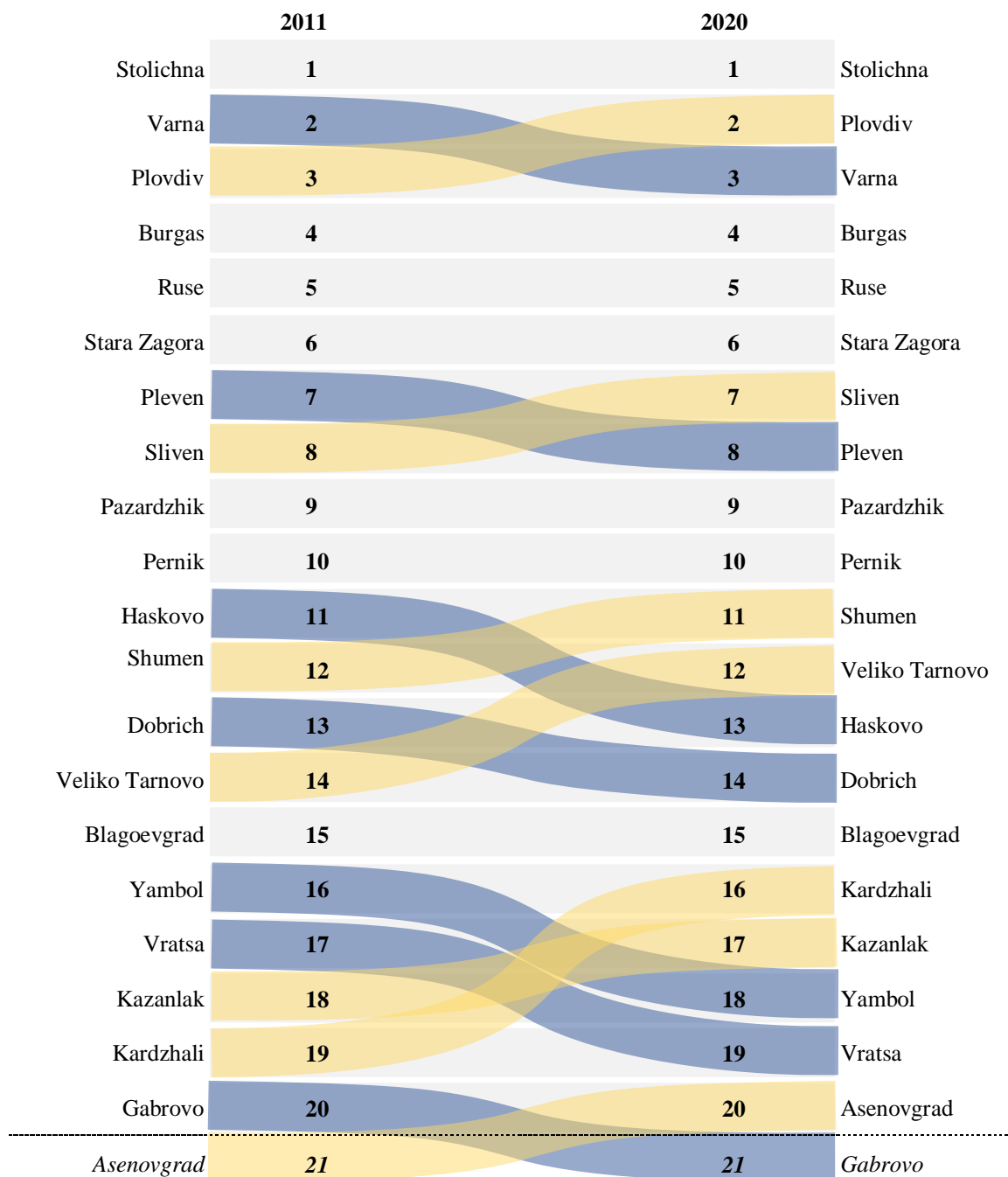


Figure 5. Ranking of the top 20 municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria by population in 2011 and 2020



Over the period 2011-2020 there were no significant changes in the ranking of the top 20 municipalities in the country according to their population size. Since 2013, the municipality of Asenovgrad has a larger number of inhabitants than the municipality of Gabrovo. In 2020, the municipality of Sliven moves to higher position in the ranking compared to the municipality of Pleven. The negative population growth has remained unchanged in the most of these municipalities. The only municipalities among these with a positive population growth in 2020 compared to 2019, were Kardzhali with 1 223 persons and Pernik with 54.

3. Composite territorial administration units (quarters):

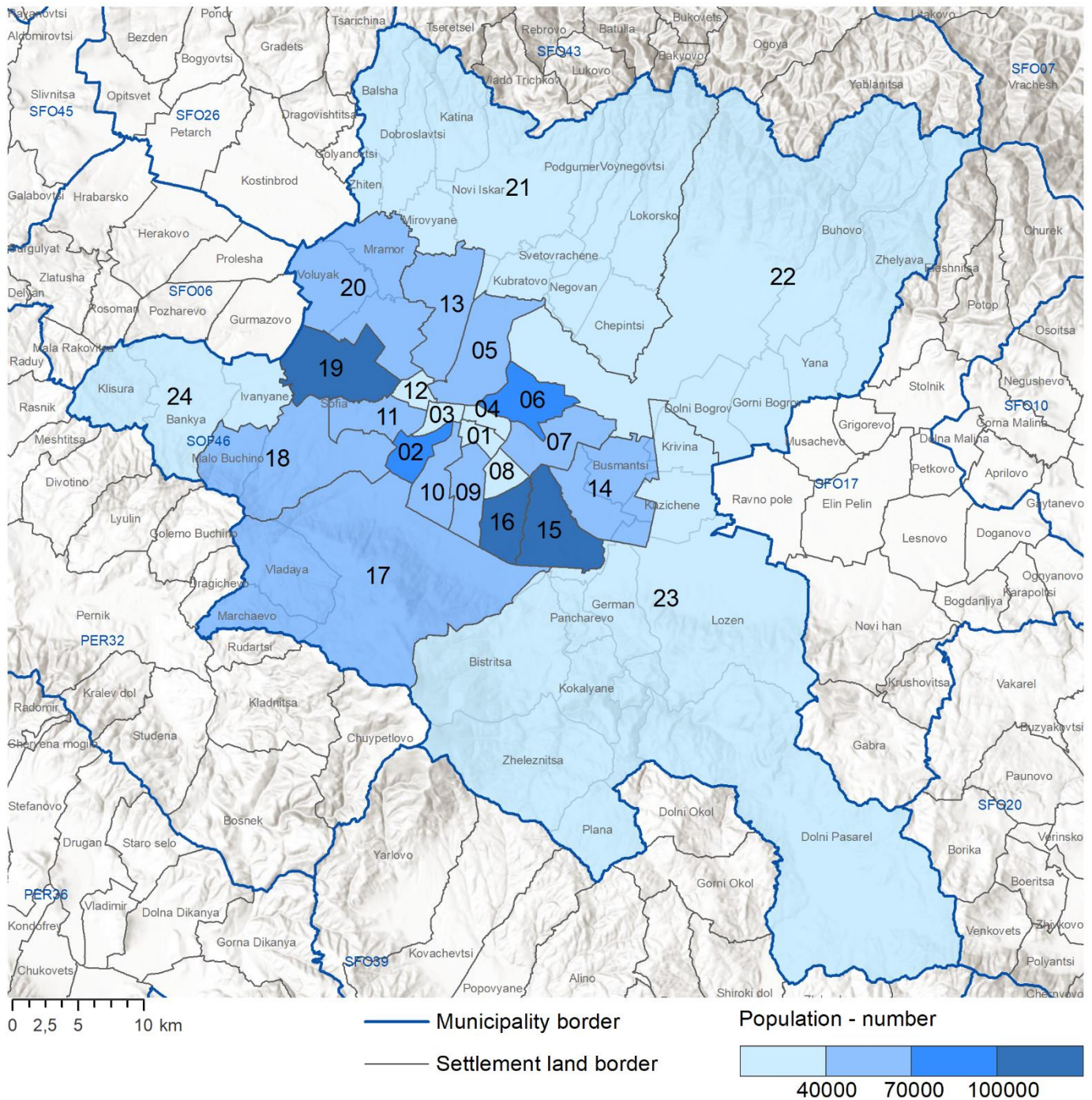
- Quarters - 35 (in Stolichna municipality and the cities of Plovdiv and Varna);
- Mayoralties - 3 160.

3. Quarters in Stolichna municipality as of 31 December 2020¹

№	Quarters in Stolichna municipality		Population	
	EKATTE	name	number	%
1	68134-01	Sredets	28137	2.2
2	68134-02	Krasno selo	80439	6.2
3	68134-03	Vazrazhdane	37275	2.9
4	68134-04	Oborishte	30032	2.3
5	68134-05	Serdika	43722	3.3
6	68134-06	Poduyane	71989	5.5
7	68134-07	Slatina	64907	5.0
8	68134-08	Izgreve	30521	2.3
9	68134-09	Lozenets	55516	4.2
10	68134-10	Triaditsa	66922	5.1
11	68134-11	Krasna polyana	54602	4.2
12	68134-12	Ilinden	31523	2.4
13	68134-13	Nadezhda	66601	5.1
14	68134-14	Iskar	60272	4.6
15	68134-15	Mladost	105083	8.0
16	68134-16	Studentski	103554	7.9
17	68134-17	Vitosha	68213	5.2
18	68134-18	Ovcha kupel	56272	4.3
19	68134-19	Lyulin	107215	8.2
20	68134-20	Vrabnitsa	44877	3.4
21	68134-21	Novi Iskar	27321	2.1
22	68134-22	Kremikovtsi	22434	1.7
23	68134-23	Pancharevo	26460	2.0
24	68134-24	Bankya	11781	0.9

¹ As of 31 December 2020 about 1.0% (12 744 persons) of the total population of the municipality are not assigned to any of the quarters due to incorrect or incomplete address information.

**Figure 6. Population distribution by quarters in Stolichna municipality
as of 31 December 2020**



4. Quarters in the city of Plovdiv as of 31 December 2020¹

№	Quarters of Plovdiv		Population	
	EKATTE	name	number	%
1	56784-01	Tsentralen	74259	21.7
2	56784-02	Iztochen	51680	15.1
3	56784-03	Zapaden	36026	10.5
4	56784-04	Severen	50215	14.7
5	56784-05	Yuzhen	73997	21.6
6	56784-06	Trakia	54149	15.8

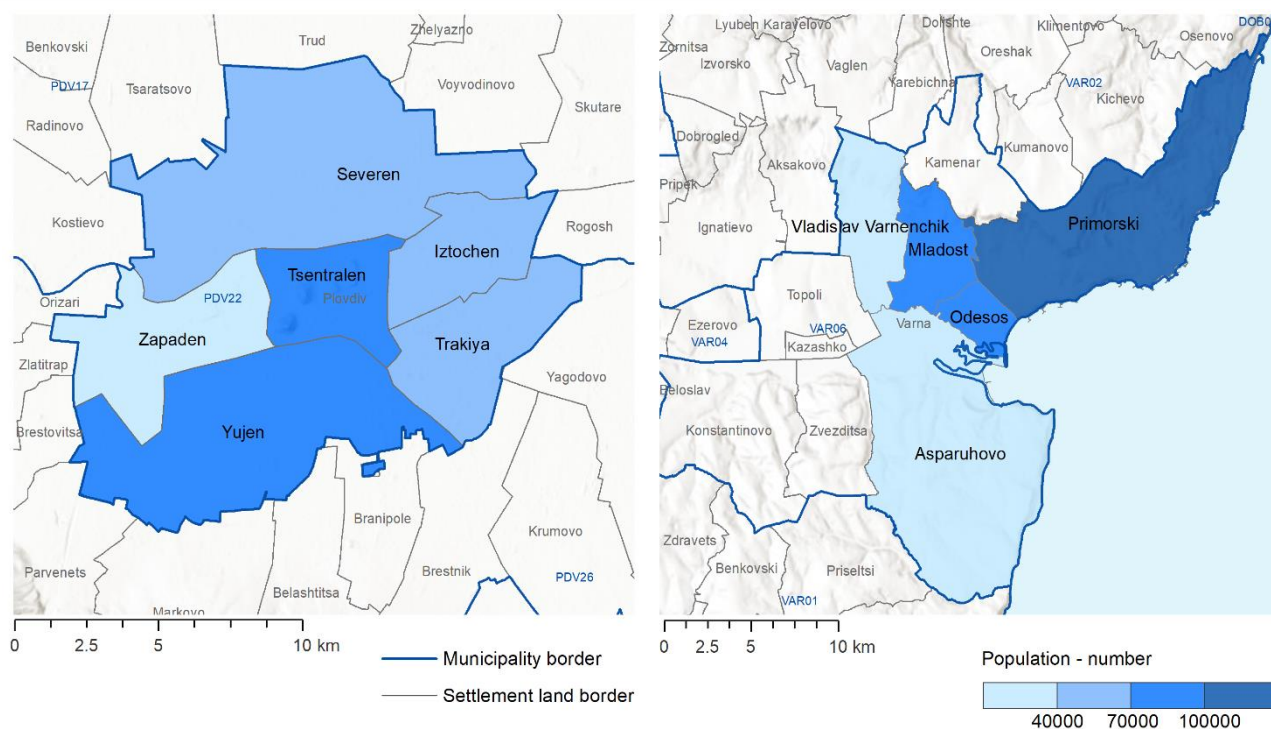
¹ As of 31 December 2020, about 0.5% (1 722 persons) of the total population of the city of Plovdiv are not assigned to any of the quarters due to incorrect or incomplete address information.

5. Quarters in the city of Varna as of 31 December 2020¹

№	Quarters of Varna		Population	
	EKATTE	name	number	%
1	10135-01	Odesos	77752	23.4
2	10135-02	Primorski	106312	32.0
3	10135-03	Mladost	78341	23.6
4	10135-04	Vladislav Varnenchik	39441	11.9
5	10135-05	Asparuhovo	25044	7.5

¹ As of 31 December 2020 about 1.7% (5 504 persons) of the total population of the city of Varna are not assigned to any of the quarters due to incorrect or incomplete address information.

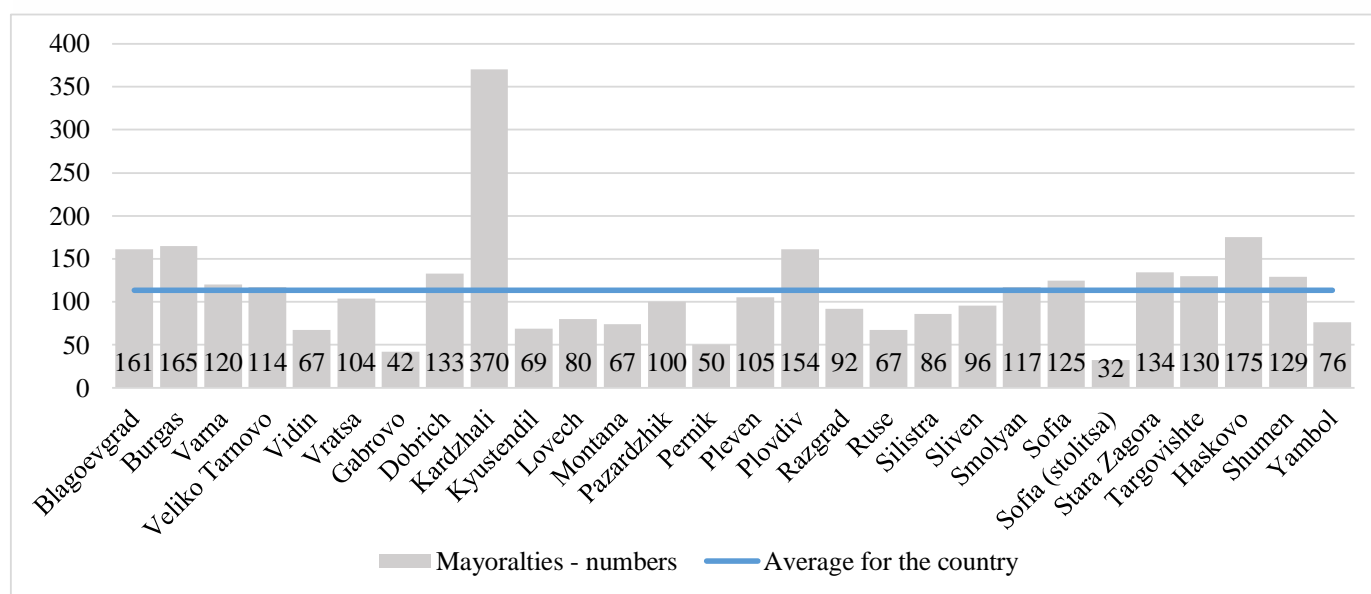
Figure 7. Population distribution by quarters in the cities of Plovdiv and Varna as of 31 December 2020



6. Mayoralties with population over 3 500 in the Republic of Bulgaria as of 31 December 2020

№	Mayoralties		Population	Municipality		Districts	
	EKATTE	name	number	EKATTE	name	EKATTE	name
1	SOF46-61	Lozen	6187	SOF46	Stolichna	SOF	Sofia (stolitsa)
2	SLS31-01	Aydemir	5359	SLS31	Silistra	SLS	Silistra
3	SOF46-54	Bistritsa	5172	SOF46	Stolichna	SOF	Sofia (stolitsa)
4	PAZ08-08	Draginovo	4709	PAZ08	Velinograd	PAZ	Pazardzhik
5	SOF46-58	Kazichene	4479	SOF46	Stolichna	SOF	Sofia (stolitsa)
6	BGS15-02	Sveti Vlas	4266	BGS15	Nesebar	BGS	Burgas
7	PDV13-22	Rozino	4225	PDV13	Karlovo	PDV	Plovdiv
8	SLV11-04	Gradets	4175	SLV11	Kotel	SLV	Sliven
9	PDV17-17	Trud	4084	PDV17	Maritsa	PDV	Plovdiv
10	PAZ24-02	Kostandovo	4008	PAZ24	Rakitovo	PAZ	Pazardzhik
11	VAR02-09	Ignatievo	3961	VAR02	Aksakovo	VAR	Varna
12	PVN10-15	Trastenik	3949	PVN10	Dolna Mitropoliya	PVN	Pleven
13	PVN24-05	Bukovlak	3833	PVN24	Pleven	PVN	Pleven
14	RSE27-03	Marten	3809	RSE27	Ruse	RSE	Ruse
15	PAZ19-15	Malo Konare	3849	PAZ19	Pazardzhik	PAZ	Pazardzhik
16	VTR04-13	Debelets	3689	VTR04	Veliko Tarnovo	VTR	Veliko Tarnovo
17	PDV26-30	Tsalapitsa	3637	PDV26	Rodopi	PDV	Plovdiv
18	PDV25-01	Belozem	3673	PDV25	Rakovski	PDV	Plovdiv
19	SLS31-10	Kalipetrovo	3709	SLS31	Silistra	SLS	Silistra
20	SLV24-04	Shivachevo	3628	SLV24	Tvarditsa	SLV	Sliven
21	PDV26-23	Parvenets	3596	PDV26	Rodopi	PDV	Plovdiv
22	PVN24-20	Slavyanovo	3507	PVN24	Pleven	PVN	Pleven

Figure 8. Distribution of the mayoralties by districts as of 31 December 2020



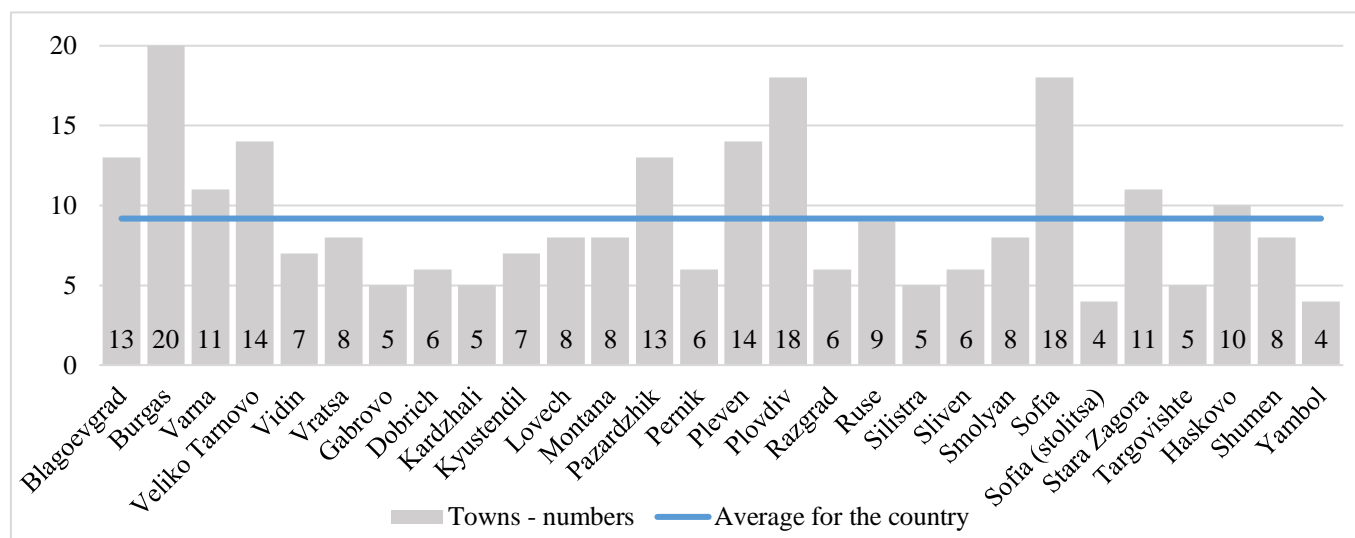
4. Territorial units in the Republic of Bulgaria as of 31 December 2020:

- Settlements - 5 257 (incl. 257 towns and 5 000 villages);
- Settlement formations - 165 (incl. 8 of national and 157 of regional/local importance).

7. Towns with population over 20 000 in the Republic of Bulgaria as of 31 December 2020

№	Town		Population	Municipality		District	
	EKATTE	name	number	EKATTE	name	EKATTE	name
1	68134	Sofia	1221785	SOF46	Stolichna	SOF	Sofia (stolitsa)
2	56784	Plovdiv	342048	PDV22	Plovdiv	PDV	Plovdiv
3	10135	Varna	332394	VAR06	Varna	VAR	Varna
4	07079	Burgas	198593	BGS04	Burgas	BGS	Burgas
5	63427	Ruse	135440	RSE27	Ruse	RSE	Ruse
6	68850	Stara Zagora	125732	SZR31	Stara Zagora	SZR	Stara Zagora
7	56722	Pleven	91119	PVN24	Pleven	PVN	Pleven
8	67338	Sliven	83371	SLV20	Sliven	SLV	Sliven
9	72624	Dobrich	80936	DOB28	Dobrich	DOB	Dobrich
10	83510	Shumen	72997	SHU30	Shumen	SHU	Shumen
11	55871	Pernik	71504	PER32	Pernik	PER	Pernik
12	77195	Haskovo	68298	HKV34	Haskovo	HKV	Haskovo
13	04279	Blagoevgrad	68179	BLG03	Blagoevgrad	BLG	Blagoevgrad
14	55155	Pazardzhik	66690	PAZ19	Pazardzhik	PAZ	Pazardzhik
15	10447	Veliko Tarnovo	66103	VTR04	Veliko Tarnovo	VTR	Veliko Tarnovo
16	87374	Yambol	64435	JAM26	Yambol	JAM	Yambol
17	12259	Vratsa	51020	VRC10	Vratsa	VRC	Vratsa
18	14218	Gabrovo	49175	GAB05	Gabrovo	GAB	Gabrovo
19	00702	Asenovgrad	48236	PDV01	Asenovgrad	PDV	Plovdiv
20	35167	Kazanlak	44266	SZR12	Kazanlak	SZR	Stara Zagora
21	40909	Kardzhali	44123	KRZ16	Kardzhali	KRZ	Kardzhali
22	10971	Vidin	39568	VID09	Vidin	VID	Vidin
23	41112	Kyustendil	38629	KNL29	Kyustendil	KNL	Kyustendil
24	48489	Montana	37122	MON29	Montana	MON	Montana
25	73626	Targovishte	35139	TGV35	Targovishte	TGV	Targovishte
26	21052	Dimitrovgrad	32535	HKV09	Dimitrovgrad	HKV	Haskovo
27	43952	Lovech	30353	LOV18	Lovech	LOV	Lovech
28	66425	Silistra	30169	SLS31	Silistra	SLS	Silistra
29	61710	Razgrad	29399	RAZ26	Razgrad	RAZ	Razgrad
30	68789	Dupnitsa	28881	KNL48	Dupnitsa	KNL	Kyustendil
31	16359	Gorna Oryahovitsa	27876	VTR06	Gorna Oryahovitsa	VTR	Veliko Tarnovo
32	56126	Petrich	26933	BLG33	Petrich	BLG	Blagoevgrad
33	67653	Smolyan	26718	SML31	Smolyan	SML	Smolyan
34	65231	Samokov	24942	SFO39	Samokov	SFO	Sofia
35	65334	Sandanski	24770	BLG40	Sandanski	BLG	Blagoevgrad
36	65766	Svishtov	23576	VTR28	Svishtov	VTR	Veliko Tarnovo
37	10450	Velingrad	21026	PAZ08	Velingrad	PAZ	Pazardzhik
38	36498	Karlovo	20550	PDV13	Karlovo	PDV	Plovdiv

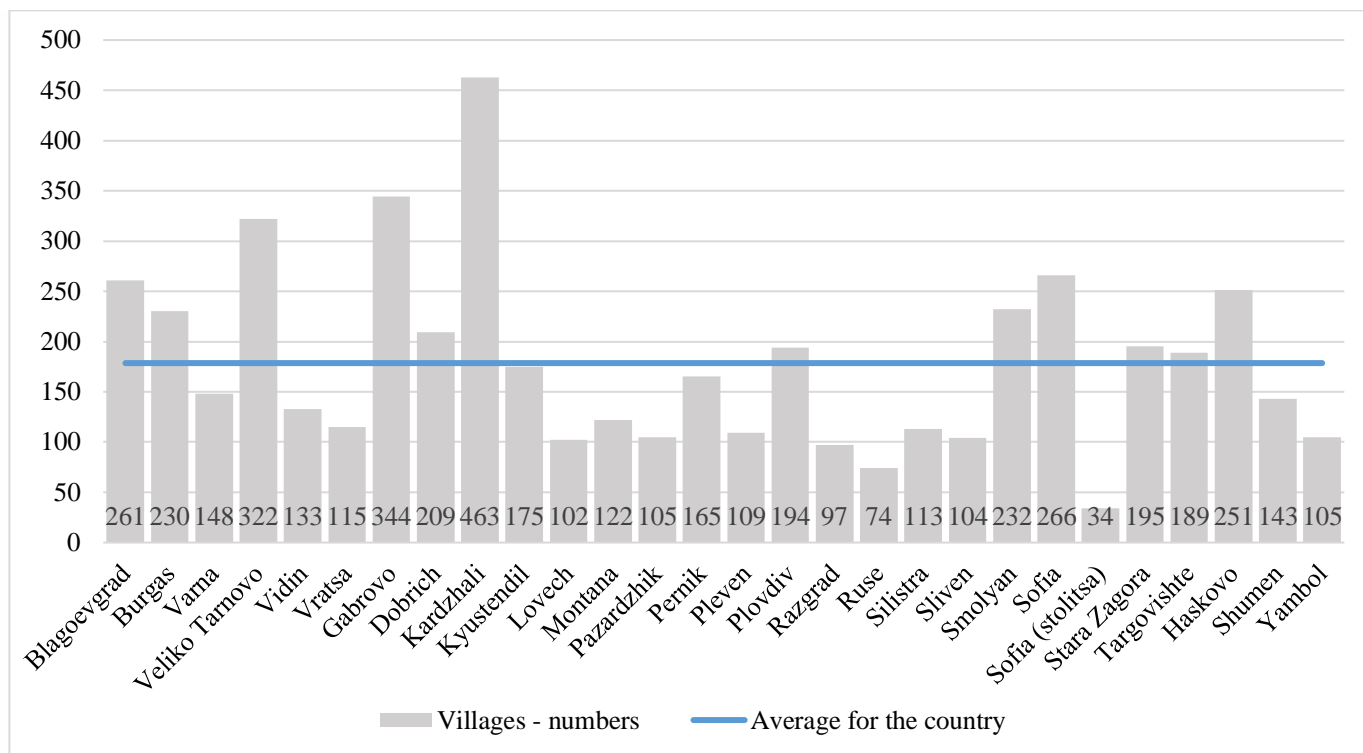
Figure 9. Distribution of the towns by districts as of 31 December 2020



8. Villages with population over 3 000 in the Republic of Bulgaria as of 31 December 2020

№	Villages		Population	Municipality		Districts	
	EKATTE	name	number	EKATTE	name	EKATTE	name
1	44063	Lozen	6187	SOF46	Stolichna	SOF	Sofia (stolitsa)
2	00895	Aydemir	5359	SLS31	Silistra	SLS	Silistra
3	04234	Bistritsa	5172	SOF46	Stolichna	SOF	Sofia (stolitsa)
4	23234	Draginovo	4709	PAZ08	Velingrad	PAZ	Pazardzhik
5	35239	Kazichene	4479	SOF46	Stolichna	SOF	Sofia (stolitsa)
6	62949	Rozino	4225	PDV13	Karlovo	PDV	Plovdiv
7	17436	Gradets	4175	SLV11	Kotel	SLV	Sliven
8	73242	Trud	4084	PDV17	Maritsa	PDV	Plovdiv
9	06999	Bukovlak	3833	PVN24	Pleven	PVN	Pleven
10	46749	Malo Konare	3792	PAZ19	Pazardzhik	PAZ	Pazardzhik
11	78029	Tsalapitsa	3692	PDV26	Rodopi	PDV	Plovdiv
12	03620	Belozem	3680	PDV25	Rakovski	PDV	Plovdiv
13	41143	Kalipetrovo	3647	SLS31	Silistra	SLS	Silistra
14	59032	Parvenets	3596	PDV26	Rodopi	PDV	Plovdiv
15	18490	Elin Pelin	3381	SFO17	Elin Pelin	SFO	Sofia
16	11394	Vladaya	3332	SOF46	Stolichna	SOF	Sofia (stolitsa)
17	06505	Brestovitsa	3324	PDV26	Rodopi	PDV	Plovdiv
18	55419	Pancharevo	3323	SOF46	Stolichna	SOF	Sofia (stolitsa)
19	38916	Kostenets	3311	SFO25	Kostenets	SFO	Sofia
20	06306	Breznitsa	3277	BLG11	Gotse Delchev	BLG	Blagoevgrad
21	47295	Markovo	3224	PDV26	Rodopi	PDV	Plovdiv
22	72816	Topolchane	3171	SLV20	Sliven	SLV	Sliven
23	62858	Rogosh	3151	PDV17	Maritsa	PDV	Plovdiv
24	12283	Vrachesh	3137	SFO07	Botevgrad	SFO	Sofia
25	59077	Parvomay	3133	BG413	Petrich	BLG	Blagoevgrad
26	52012	Novi han	3108	SFO17	Elin Pelin	SFO	Sofia
27	61056	Ravda	3105	BGS15	Nesebar	BGS	Burgas
28	72709	Topoli	3085	VAR06	Varna	VAR	Varna

Figure 10. Distribution of the villages by districts as of 31 December 2020



9. Settlement formations of national importance in the Republic of Bulgaria as of 31 December 2020

№	Settlement formation		Municipality		District	
	EKATTE	name	EKATTE	name	EKATTE	name
1	94015	Resort „Zlatni pyasatsi“	VAR06	Varna	VAR	Varna
2	94040	Resort „Sv. sv. Konstantin i Elena“	VAR06	Varna	VAR	Varna
3	99958	Resort „Albena“	DOB03	Balchik	DOB	Dobrich
4	98212	Resort „Slanchev bryag“	BGS15	Nesebar	BGS	Burgas
5	94085	Resort „IYC - Primorsko“ ¹	BGS27	Primorsko	BGS	Burgas
6	98260	Holiday village „Dyuni“	BGS21	Sozopol	BGS	Burgas
7	98226	Resort „Borovets“	SFO39	Samokov	SFO	Sofia
8	98230	Resort „Pamporovo“	SML38	Chepelare	SML	Smolyan
			SML31	Smolyan		

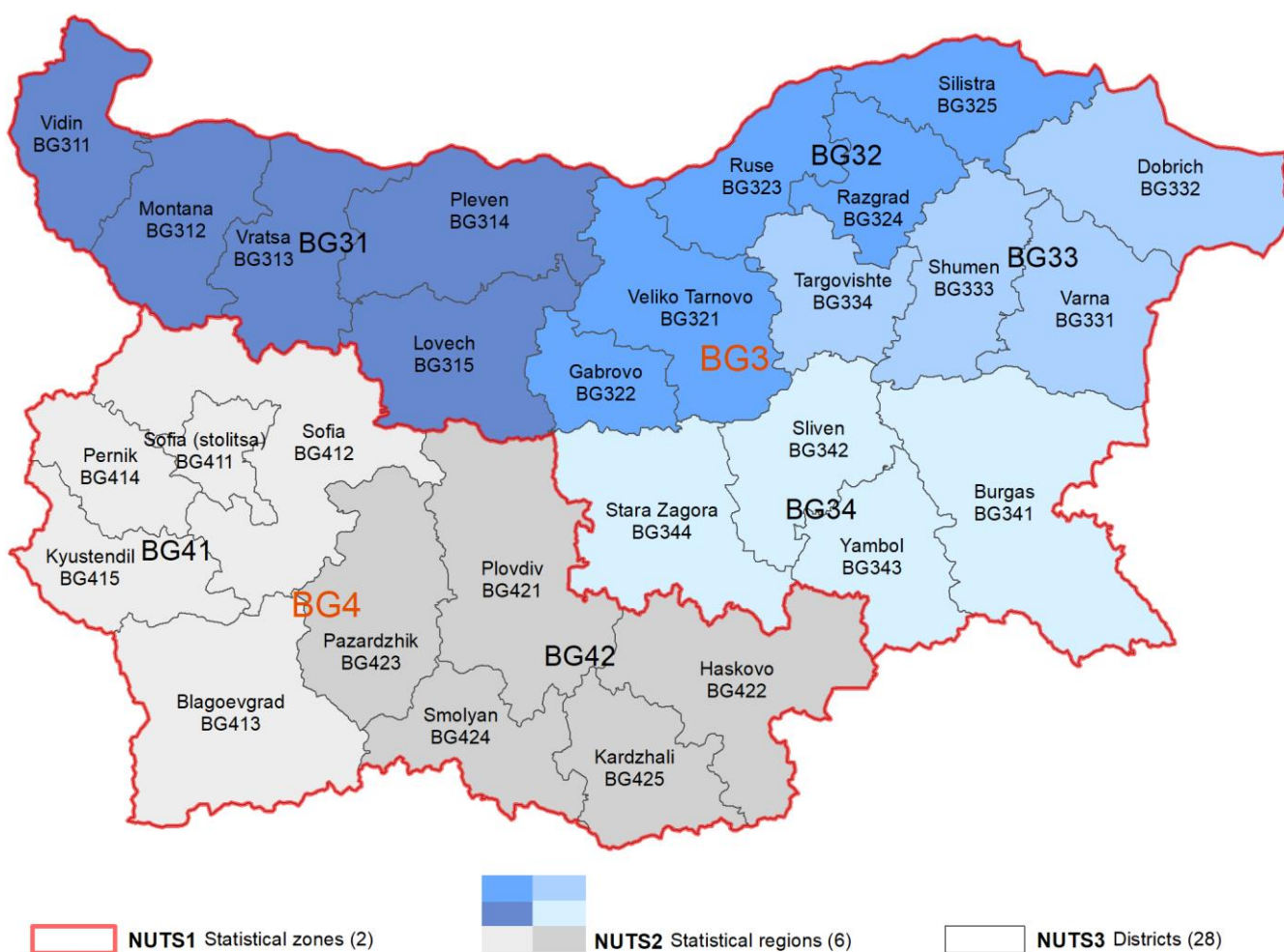
¹ IYC - International Youth Center

5. Territorial Units for Statistics as of 31 December 2020

According to the requirements of the common Classification of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS), applied by the European Union, the following levels have been defined:

- NUTS0 - the country level;
- NUTS1 - 2 statistical zones;
- NUTS2 - 6 statistical regions;
- NUTS3 - 28 districts.

Figure 11. Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS) in the Republic of Bulgaria



10. Population by Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS) as of 31 December 2020^{1,2}

№	Code	Level	NUTS	Population		Territory
				number	%	sq. km
1	BG	NUTS0	Bulgaria	6916548	100.0	111001
2	BG3	NUTS1	Severna i Yugoiztochna Bulgaria	3427486	49.6	68330
3	BG31	NUTS2	Severozapaden	720172	10.4	19071
4	BG311	NUTS3	Vidin	81212	1.2	3033
5	BG313	NUTS3	Vratsa	157637	2.3	3620
6	BG315	NUTS3	Lovech	122490	1.8	4129
7	BG312	NUTS3	Montana	125395	1.8	3636
8	BG314	NUTS3	Pleven	233438	3.4	4653
9	BG32	NUTS2	Severen tsentralen	764897	11.1	14822
10	BG321	NUTS3	Veliko Tarnovo	229718	3.3	4662
11	BG322	NUTS3	Gabrovo	105788	1.5	2023
12	BG324	NUTS3	Razgrad	109810	1.6	2488
13	BG323	NUTS3	Ruse	212729	3.1	2803
14	BG325	NUTS3	Silistra	106852	1.5	2846
15	BG33	NUTS2	Severoiztochen	922230	13.3	14639
16	BG331	NUTS3	Varna	470124	6.8	3819
17	BG332	NUTS3	Dobrich	170298	2.5	4720
18	BG334	NUTS3	Targovishte	110027	1.6	2710
19	BG333	NUTS3	Shumen	171781	2.5	3390
20	BG34	NUTS2	Yugoiztochen	1020187	14.7	19798
21	BG341	NUTS3	Burgas	409750	5.9	7748
22	BG342	NUTS3	Sliven	182551	2.6	3544
23	BG344	NUTS3	Stara Zagora	311400	4.5	5151
24	BG343	NUTS3	Yambol	116486	1.7	3355
25	BG4	NUTS1	Yugozapadna i Yuzhna tsentralna Bulgaria	3489062	50.4	42671
26	BG41	NUTS2	Yugozapaden	2085071	30.1	20306
27	BG413	NUTS3	Blagoevgrad	301138	4.4	6449
28	BG415	NUTS3	Kyustendil	116619	1.7	3052
29	BG414	NUTS3	Pernik	120426	1.7	2394
30	BG412	NUTS3	Sofia	238476	3.4	7062
31	BG411	NUTS3	Sofia (stolitsa)	1308412	18.9	1349
32	BG42	NUTS2	Yuzhen tsentralen	1403991	20.3	22365
33	BG425	NUTS3	Kardzhali	160781	2.3	3209
34	BG423	NUTS3	Pazardzhik	251300	3.6	4457
35	BG421	NUTS3	Plovdiv	666398	9.6	5973
36	BG424	NUTS3	Smolyan	101887	1.5	3193
37	BG422	NUTS3	Haskovo	223625	3.2	5533

¹ NUTS - Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics.

² For more information on the NUTS, please visit [the website of NSI](http://www.nsi.bg).

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Definitions

The district shall consist of one or more neighbouring municipalities. The territory of the district shall consist of the territory of the municipalities, included into it. The name of the district shall be the name of the settlement, which is its administrative centre (Territorial Administration of the Republic of Bulgaria Act, Art. 4).

The municipality consists of one or more neighbouring settlements. The territory of the municipality shall consist of the territories of the settlements, included into it. The name of the municipality shall be the name of the settlement, which is its administrative centre (Territorial Administration of the Republic of Bulgaria Act, Art. 7).

A mayoralty is a settlement with population over 350 permanent residents. The territory of the mayoralty shall be the territory of the settlement. The name of the mayoralty shall be the name of the settlement, which is its administrative centre (Territorial Administration of the Republic of Bulgaria Act, Art. 14 and Art. 15).

A settlement is a historically and functionally separated territory, defined by the presence of permanent resident population, a built-up area or a built-up area and land-use area and the required social and engineering infrastructure. The settlements are specified as towns and villages and shall be subject to registration in the Unified classifier of administrative-territorial and territorial units.

A settlement formation is a territory outside the built-up areas of existing settlements, which does not have a permanent resident population and has specific functions, determined by its construction boundaries. The settlement formations are of national and local importance. The Council of the Ministers shall determine the settlement formations of national importance.

Data sources

Data source for the administrative-territorial division of the country is the National Register of the Settlements, maintained by the NSI: <https://www.nsi.bg/nrnm>

Data source for the territory in sq. km is the National Agency for Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre.

Source of data on population number is the Information System Demography of the NSI.

Computation Methods

The number of administrative-territorial and territorial units is calculated based on the data in National Register of the Settlements as of 31 December of the reference year. The data enters into the Register after the promulgation of a decree of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria, related to administrative-territorial changes in the country.

The population density per square km is calculated by the total area of the territorial administration units and the population number as of 31 December 2020.

The population number as of 31 December are calculated based on the population data for the previous year adjusted by the data on the natural population change and the net migration during the reference year. The regional break-down of the demographic events' data is provided according to the administrative-territorial division of the country as of 31 December of the reference year (settlements, municipalities and districts) and according to the statistical regions by the address of the usual residence of the people. More data on population numbers and structures are available here: <https://infostat.nsi.bg/infostat>

Legal basis

Article 135 of the Constitution of the Republic of Bulgaria (State Gazette, No. 56/1991) determines that the territory of the country is divided into municipalities and districts.

The Law on Local Self-Government and Local Administration (State Gazette, No. 77/1991) determines the rules to be used by the citizens to solve different issues through the local authorities.

In 1995, the Territorial Administration of the Republic of Bulgaria Act was adopted (State Gazette, No. 63/1995).

The territorial division of the capital municipality and of the cities with a population over 300 000 is established by the Law on the Administrative Division of Sofia Municipality and Large Cities (State Gazette, No. 66/1995). It provides also the names and the boundaries of the quarters of Sofia municipality, the cities of Plovdiv and Varna.

The territory of the country is divided into 28 districts (according to the amendment of the Territorial Administration of the Republic of Bulgaria Act, State Gazette, No. 154/1998). The borders and their administrative centres have been approved by Decree № 1 of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria (State Gazette, No. 2/1999) following the proposal of the Council of the Ministers.

The text of Art. 12 of the Law on Local Self-Government and Local Administration was amended in 2006 as follows: „The name of the municipality is the name of the settlement, which is its administrative centre, except for the municipalities as found by the law, where the administrative centres are settlements outside their territory, shared as such with other municipalities“. In addition to the case of Dobrich-selska (with administrative centre Dobrich), this amendment also applies to 3 other municipalities in the country - Maritsa and Rodopi (with administrative centre Plovdiv), and Tundzha (with administrative centre Yambol).

As defined by the Territorial Administration of the Republic of Bulgaria Act (Art. 37), NSI maintains the Unified Classifier of Administrative-Territorial and Territorial Units (UCATTU) and National Register of Settlements. The content of the UCATTU and the Register, as well as the corresponding criteria and indicators, are approved by the Council of the Ministers based on the proposal of the NSI and the other stakeholders.

The content of the UCATTU was approved by Decision № 565 of the Council of the Ministers of 10 August 1999 (State Gazette, No. 73/1999) and it covers all administrative-territorial and territorial units defined by the Territorial Administration of the Republic of Bulgaria Act. Each of them has an identification code in UCATTU.

The content of the National Register of the Settlements was approved by Decision № 695 of the Council of the Ministers, taken on 29 September 2006. The National Register of the Settlements aims to monitor the development and the changes in the administrative-territorial and territorial units (establishing, merging, division, accession, closing down).

Regulation (EC) № 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and the Council establishing a common classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) was adopted of 26 May 2003. The purpose of the Regulation is to enable the collection, compilation and dissemination of harmonised regional statistics in the Community. Following the accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union in 2007, Regulation (EC) № 176/2008 of the European Parliament and the Council amended the Annexes to Regulation № 1059/2003 of 20 February 2008 with the new Member States.

More information on the NUTS is available on the [website of NSI](#).