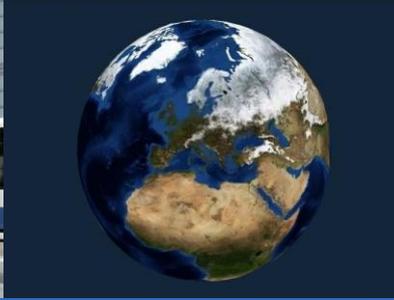




Stadt Zürich



Sustainability monitoring in the City of Zurich

Summary 2016

Full version: www.stadt-zuerich.ch/nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring

Information about this summary

Sustainability monitoring in the City of Zurich is published in electronic form only on the Internet (www.stadt-zuerich.ch/nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring). This summary contains the diagrams for the 22 indicators and comparisons between cities as well as a core message for each. It is a very brief overview, without the exact definitions and source references for the indicators or detailed interpretations of the diagrams. **All such in-depth information can only be found on the website**, which in particular also includes numerous examples which illustrate what the City of Zurich is doing towards sustainable development.

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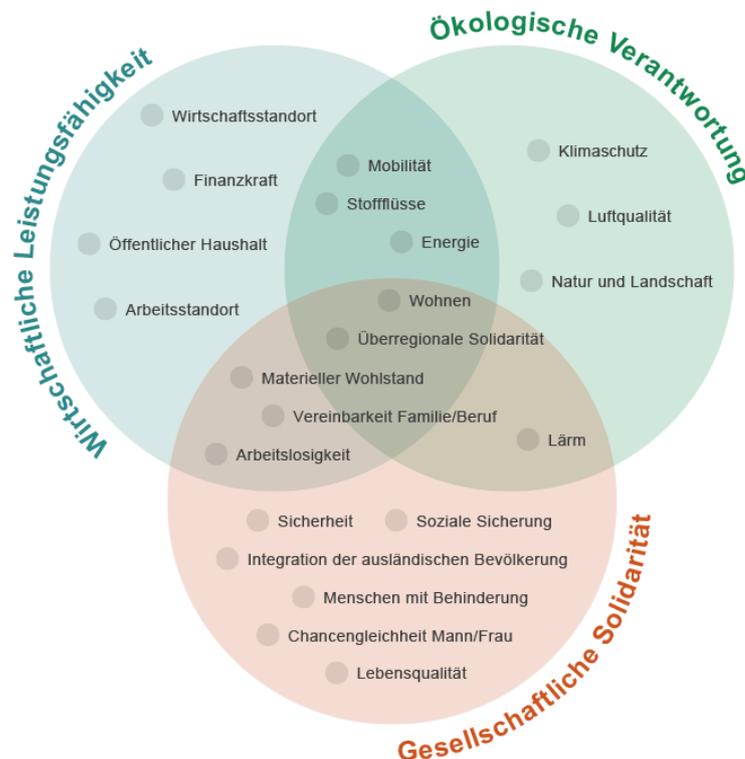
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Sustainable Zurich – now and in the future

"Sustainability" is Zurich's primary objective in terms of urban policy, and the city council has sketched a path to the future in its "Zurich Strategies 2035". The city has set itself far-reaching targets in important areas as far as sustainable development is concerned. To achieve these aims, Zurich intends to continue unflinchingly down the path it has chosen, and this includes regularly analysing what has already been achieved.

How can this be measured however? How can one possibly gauge sustainable or non-sustainable development? Clearly one single indicator is not enough, and it is also evident that it is not just a question of the environment. The City of Zurich has thus defined 22 indicators which it considers important with a view to sustainable development and which are to be pursued over time. Where possible, these indicators illustrate the development achieved over the past 20 years. Comparisons with other cities in Switzerland and, where possible also European cities, enable Zurich to see where it is positioned. All data is explained in full on the website. The website also shows which projects and activities the city administration is using to work towards sustainable development for all the different areas involved.

Sustainability monitoring enables decision-makers in politics and administration as well as interested members of the public to take stock of where we are. It is clear however that monitoring of this kind can never show the whole "truth". Instead, it reduces the reality to a limited number of aspects. This compressed overall view however shows where the city currently finds itself on its path towards sustainable development.



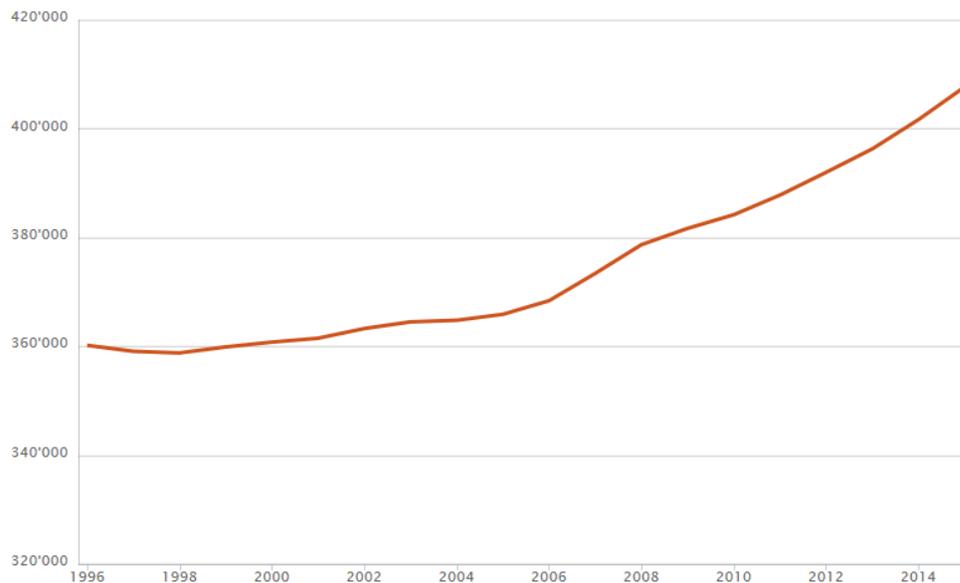
The 22 topics in the sustainability monitoring positioned in the three dimensions of economy, ecology and society.

Population development

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/bevoelkerungsentwicklung>

Population

Resident population (based on economic place of residence)



Source: City of Zurich Statistic Office

The average residential population for 2015 was 407,700. On 22 January 2014, the 400,000 barrier was exceeded. This is the highest population for Zurich since 1973.

Many of the indicators used hereafter refer to the number of inhabitants of the City of Zurich. Population development is therefore important for the interpretation of the subsequent diagrams.

The peak of population came in July 1962, when 445,314 people lived in Zurich before the suburbanization process began. We are nowhere near these levels at the moment, but the city nevertheless is booming, and in the last 10 years, the population has grown by about 50,000. According to the latest scenarios set out by the City of Zurich's Statistics department it is very likely that the peak will be reached again in the close future. The scenarios are assuming that, primarily due to the significant amounts of construction, there will be between 470,000 – 520,000 people living in Zurich by 2030.

Since the mid-1990s, the city has once again become an attractive place to live for many people, thanks amongst other things to the city's investment and enhancement measures in the various districts as well as active residential construction since the end of the 1990s. The face of the city has changed significantly in the space of a decade. As was the case before, families with children are moving out into surrounding areas, but nevertheless more births than deaths have once again been recorded since 2004 and the number of children has significantly increased in recent years.

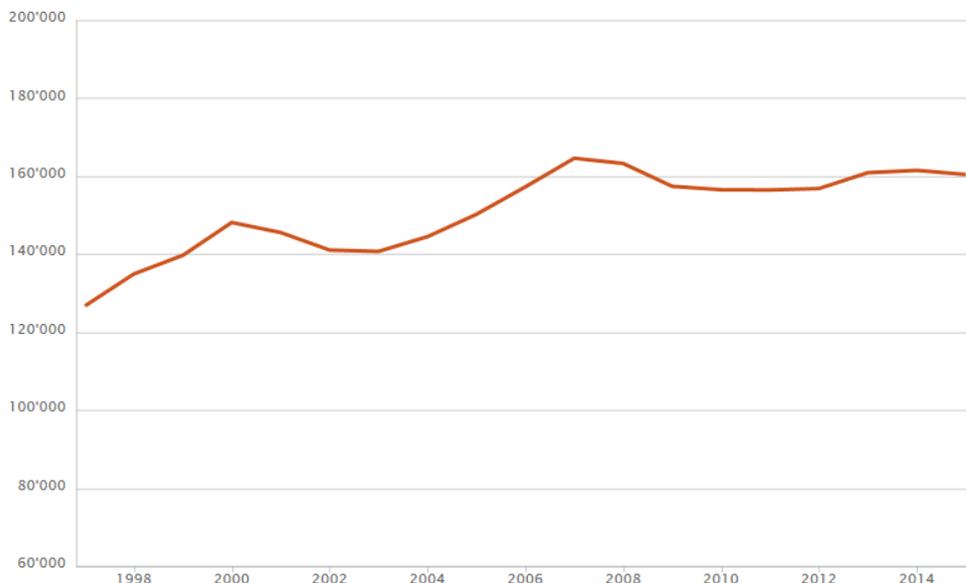
Economic performance

1 A place to do business

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/wirtschaftsstandort>

Sustainability indicator

Value creation: Real achieved value creation in the City of Zurich at year 2000 prices in CHF per capita



Source: City of Zurich Statistic Office (provisional data only available for 2014 and 2015)

Value creation has improved a little since the global financial and economic crisis (2008), but has not managed to return to strong levels of growth. The removal of the exchange-rate floor with the euro in early 2015 has had a dampening effect.

Comparison of cities

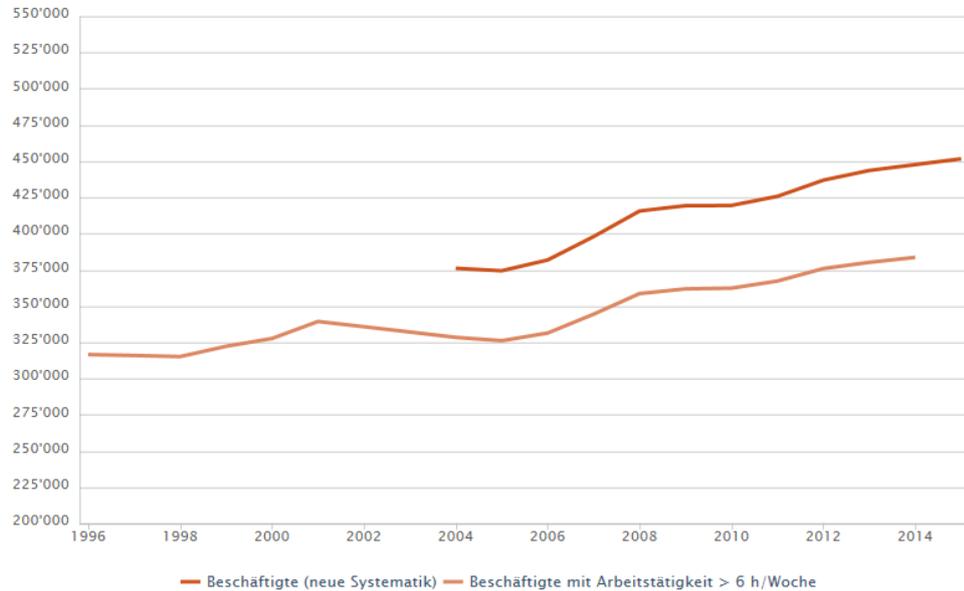
The comparison of cities with the proportion of people employed in sectors with high productivity which was intended to be inserted here should be available in autumn 2017 with current data, and will be provided by "Cercle Indicateurs" (part of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office). The data currently available is not up-to-date and only goes as far as 2011. It was therefore decided not to insert a comparison which is based on out-of-date figures.

2 A place to work

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/arbeitsstandort>

Sustainability indicator

Jobs: Number of people employed in the City of Zurich with a contractually-agreed occupation of > 6 hrs/week

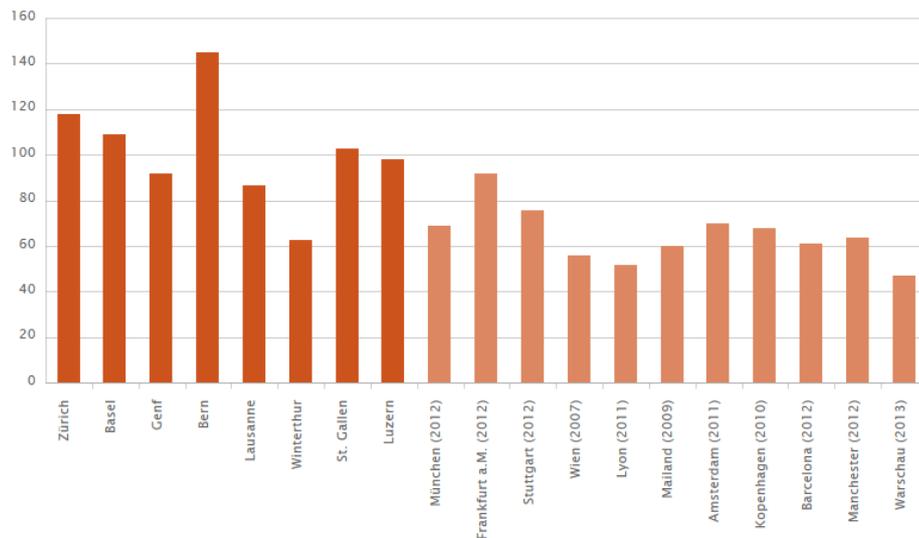


Source: City of Zurich Statistic Office (BESTA revision 2016: New definition of "employed" according to the old-aged and survivors' insurance office – AHV.)

The number of jobs has risen significantly since 2005 by of more than 77,000. In 2015, there were 451,800 people working in the City of Zurich.

Comparison of cities

Actively employed people per 100 inhabitants in 2013



Source: Urban Audit Eurostat database

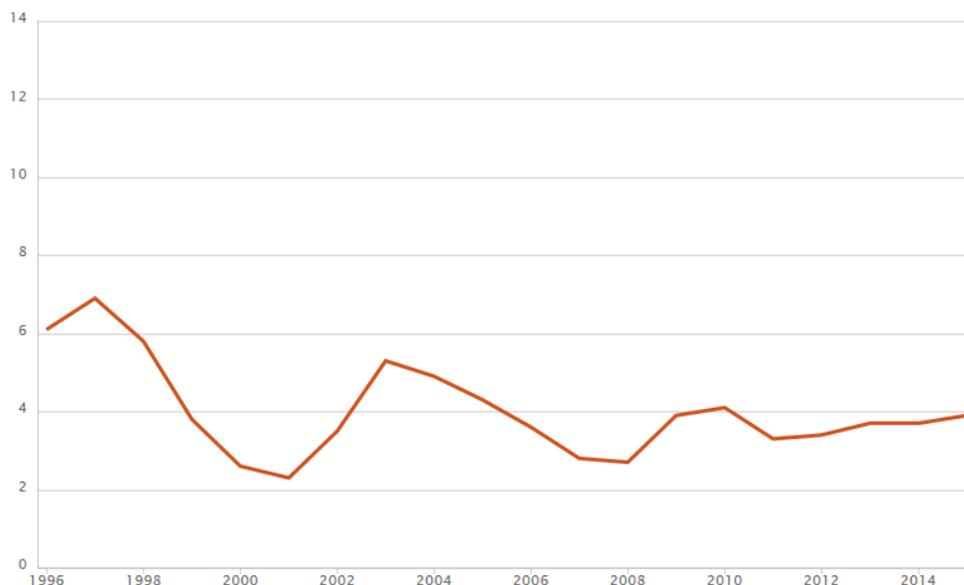
For every 100 inhabitants in the City of Zurich, there are 118 employees. Only in the city of Berne, which is home to a large proportion of the federal government, is the number of people employed (significantly) higher than the residential population.

3 Unemployment

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/arbeitslosigkeit>

Sustainability indicator

Unemployment rate: Number of registered unemployed among working population as a %

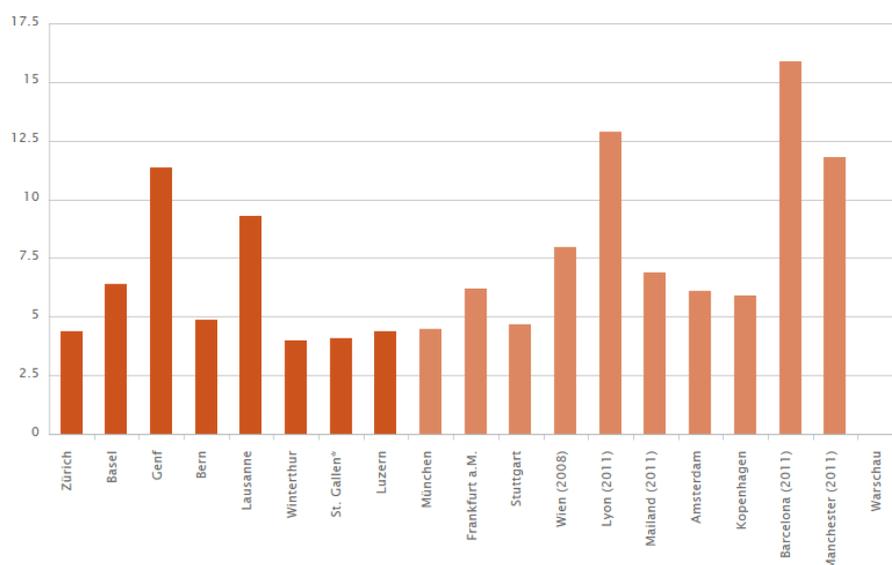


Source: City of Zurich Statistic Office (Up until 2009, the figures for the working population are based on the census of 2000. From 2010, they are based on data from the 2010 structural survey, and from 2014 on data from the 2012 – 2014 structural surveys.)

Unemployment in the City of Zurich in 2015 stood at 3.9 %. Despite a growth in employment as a whole, unemployment did not go down.

Comparison of cities

Unemployment rate (ILO) in 2014 as a % (Data on Swiss cities from the structural survey)



Source: Urban Audit Eurostat database/Swiss Federal Office for Statistics –Urban Audit set of indicators. (No Data for Warsaw).

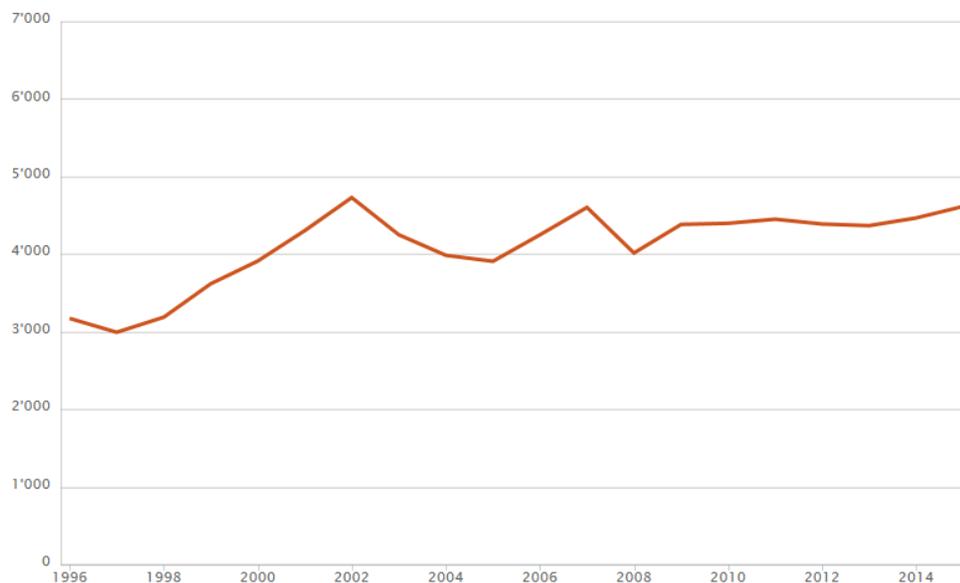
The disparity between the cities is considerable and regional differences can also be observed within Switzerland. The German-speaking part of the country is less affected than other areas.

4 Financial strength

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/finanzkraft>

Sustainability indicator

Taxation: Real taxation revenue in Zurich at year 2000 prices in CHF per inhabitant

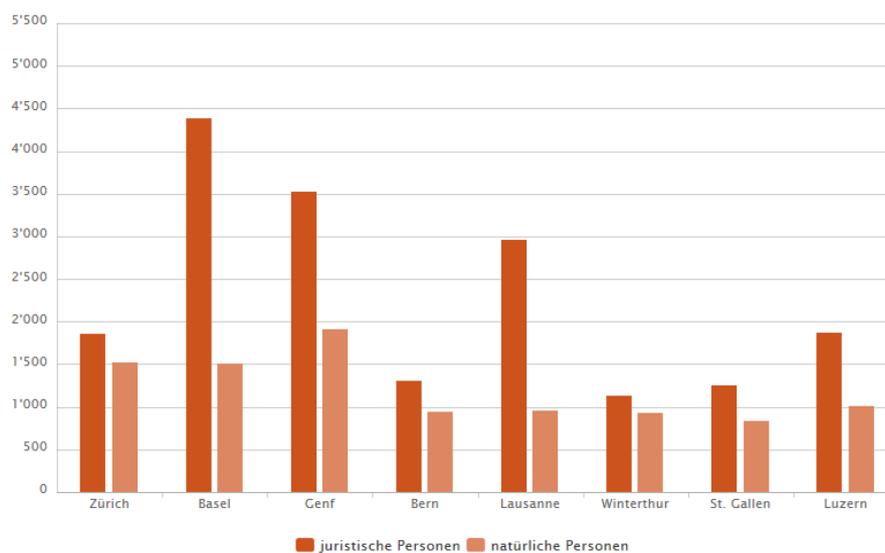


Source: City of Zurich Statistic Office

2014 and 2015 were the first years where a significant increase was recorded again. In previous years, taxation revenue had been at around CHF 4,400 per capita.

Comparison of cities

Direct federal tax of companies and individuals in 2012 in CHF per inhabitant



Source: Swiss Federal Tax Administration FTA

A 2012 comparison of legal entities shows the City of Zurich coming out well below Basle, Geneva and Lausanne. In terms of individuals, the City has a similar quota to Basle.

5 Public financing

www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/oeffentlicher-finanzhaushalt

Sustainability indicator

Household indebtedness in the city: Net debt ratio: Net debts as a percentage of value creation

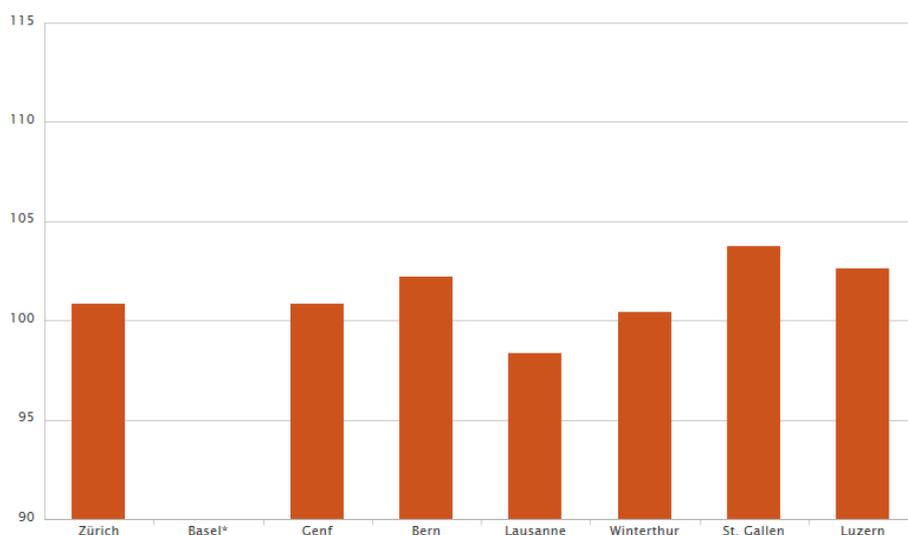


Source: City of Zurich Financial Administration (1996 is based on an older method of calculation for value creation.)

The net debt ratio went down again in 2014/2015 and stood at 5.9 % at the end of the year. After peaking in 1995, debt was significantly reduced up until 2007, before rising again after 2008 due to the global financial crisis.

Comparison of cities

IDHEAP figure: Current yield as a % of on-going expenses (moving average 2011 – 2013)



Source: IDHEAP, annual report (*no figures available for the City of Basle)

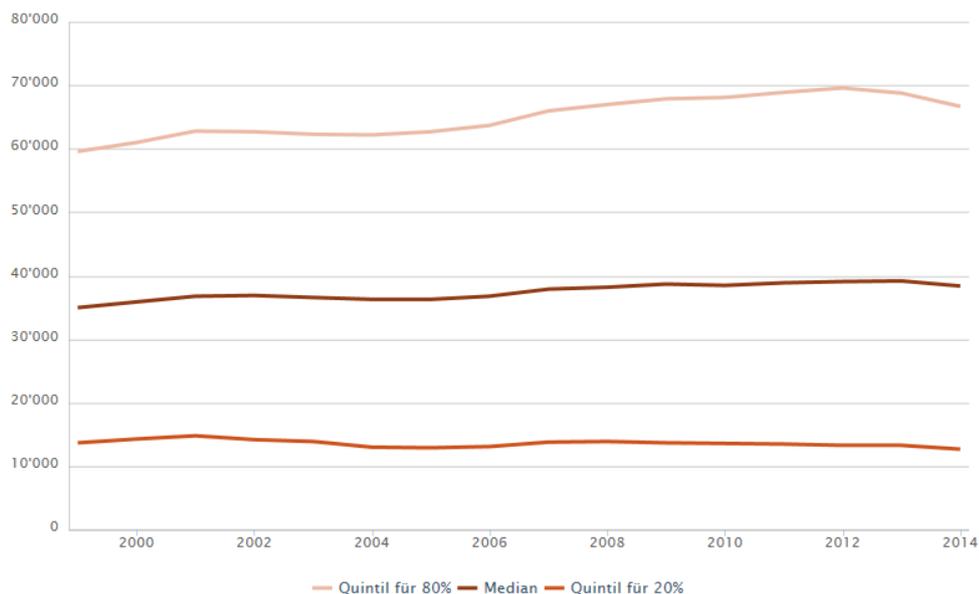
In terms of cost coverage, the City of Zurich shows a value of slightly above 100% for the period under report, which is within the ideal parameters.

6 Material wealth

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/materieller-wohlstand>

Sustainability indicator

Inhabitants' income: Taxable income per single-rate taxpayer in CHF

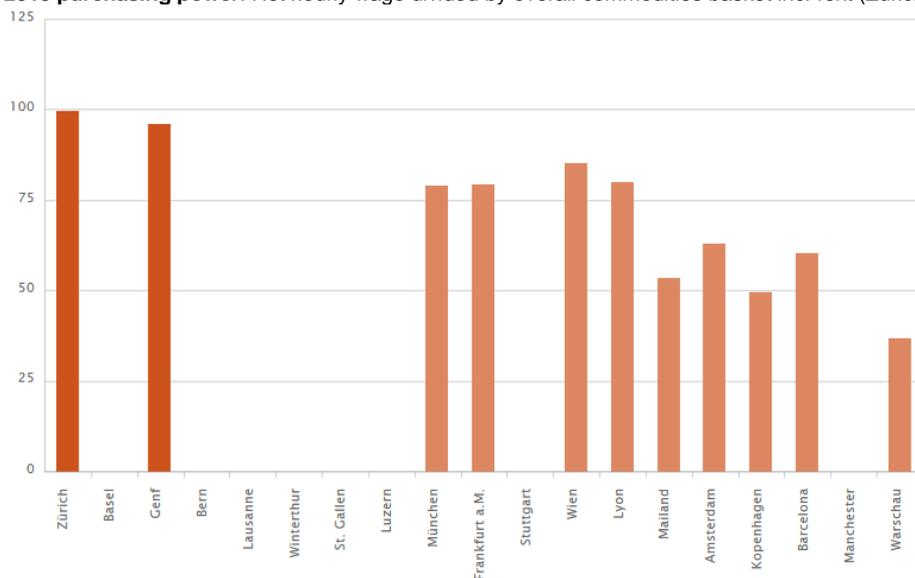


Source: City of Zurich Statistic Office (Provisional values for 2014. Revisions are also to be expected for 2013 and 2012).

The median taxable income for single-rate tax-paying individuals in the City of Zurich increased by approximately 12 % between 1999 and 2012, and stood at c. CHF 39,100 in 2012.

Comparison of cities

2015 purchasing power: Net hourly wage divided by overall commodities basket inc. rent (Zurich = 100)



Source: Prices and wages. A comparison of purchasing power around the world in 2015, UBS (only Zurich and Geneva are represented from Switzerland in the UBS global comparison of purchasing power. No data available either for Stuttgart or Manchester).

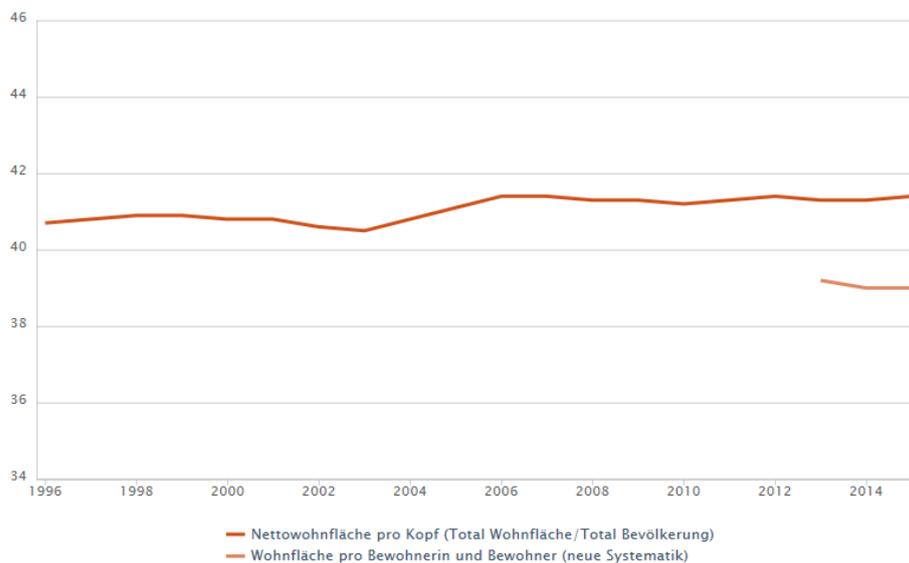
According to the "Prices and wages" study, domestic purchasing power is at its highest in Zurich, even though it is one of the most expensive cities in the world.

7 Living

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/wohnen>

Sustainability indicator

Living space: Net living space in square metres per inhabitant

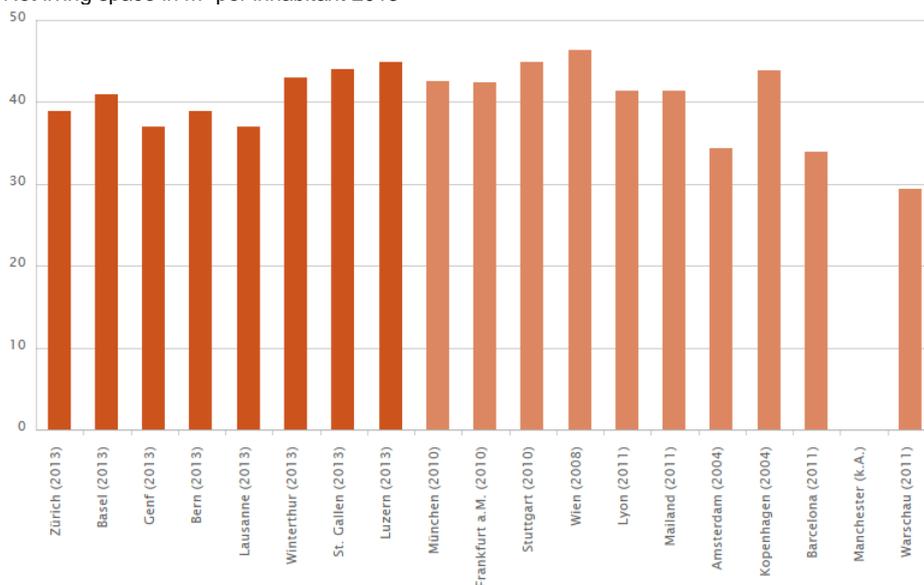


Source: City of Zurich Statistic Office (net surface area calculated from 2002, previous years based on gross floor area. Fundamental change in the method of calculation from 2013, resulting in somewhat lower values (new line).

There has been a slight increase in living space consumption over the course of the past 20 years, though the biggest jump came in the preceding decades. In 2015, the average individual residential area stood at 39.0 m² (based on the new method of calculation).

Comparison of cities

Net living space in m² per inhabitant 2013



Source: Statistics of the Swiss Cities' Association and Urban Audit Eurostat database

Compared with other large Swiss cities, Zurich is in the middle of the table. Internationally speaking, most cities have higher levels of floor space occupation, with only Amsterdam, Barcelona and Warsaw lower.

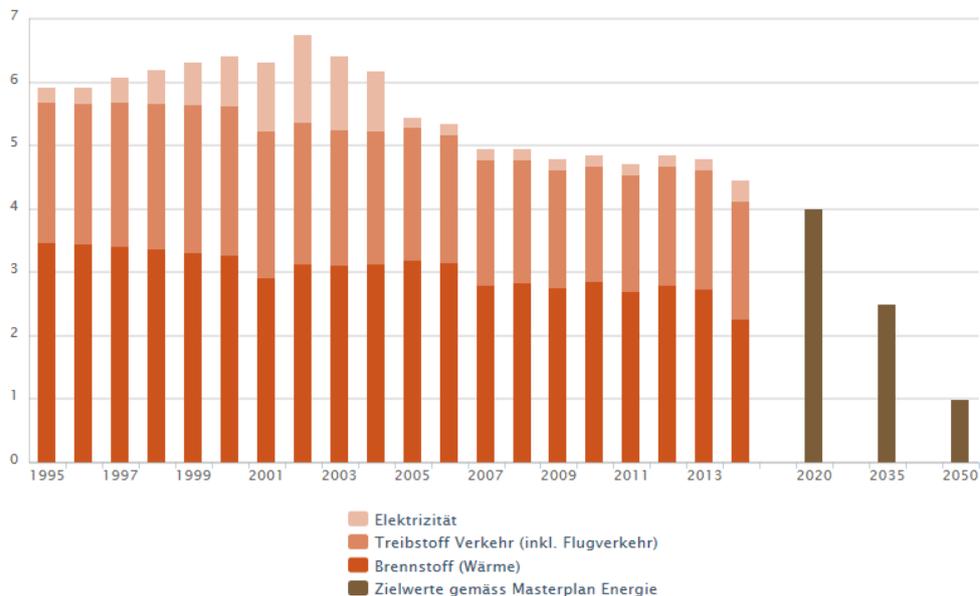
Ecological responsibility

8 Climate protection

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/klimaschutz>

Sustainability indicator

Greenhouse gas emissions: Tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per person per year



Source: City of Zurich Office for Environmental and Health Protection (data as of September 2015, without climate correction)

Greenhouse gas emissions fell significantly between 1990 and 2014 (from around 6.2 tonnes to 4.7 tonnes per person per year). Since 2007 however, the downward trend has noticeably tailed off.

Comparison of cities

Due to the significant differences between the cities, comparisons in terms of climate protection and energy are difficult to make. The basic characteristics of the cities vary considerably. There are big financial centres such as Zurich on the one hand, and cities that are more influenced by industry on the other. There are limits, therefore, when it comes to comparisons of energy and CO₂ footprints between the different cities.

Nevertheless, the City of Zurich is represented on various international committees which have become specialised in publishing figures on cities' greenhouse gas emissions and energy footprints. The best example of this is CDP Cities, of which the City of Zurich has been an active member for a number of years now, alongside 500 of its global counterparts. CDP publishes a very comprehensive report on the subject of climate protection in relation to cities every year.

9 Energy

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/energie>

Sustainability indicator

Primary energy consumption and renewable energy: Average continuous primary energy output in Watts per inhabitant



Source: City of Zurich Office for Environmental and Health Protection (data as of September 2015, without climate correction)

The primary energy requirement of the City of Zurich has fallen from around 5,200 watts per person in 1990 to around 4,200 watts (average of the past five years). Over the same period of time, the proportion of renewable energy was increased from 11% to 19%.

Comparison of cities

Due to the significant differences between the cities, comparisons in terms of climate protection and energy are difficult to make. The basic characteristics of the cities vary considerably. There are big financial centres such as Zurich on the one hand, and cities that are more influenced by industry on the other. There are limits, therefore, when it comes to comparisons of energy and CO₂ footprints between the different cities.

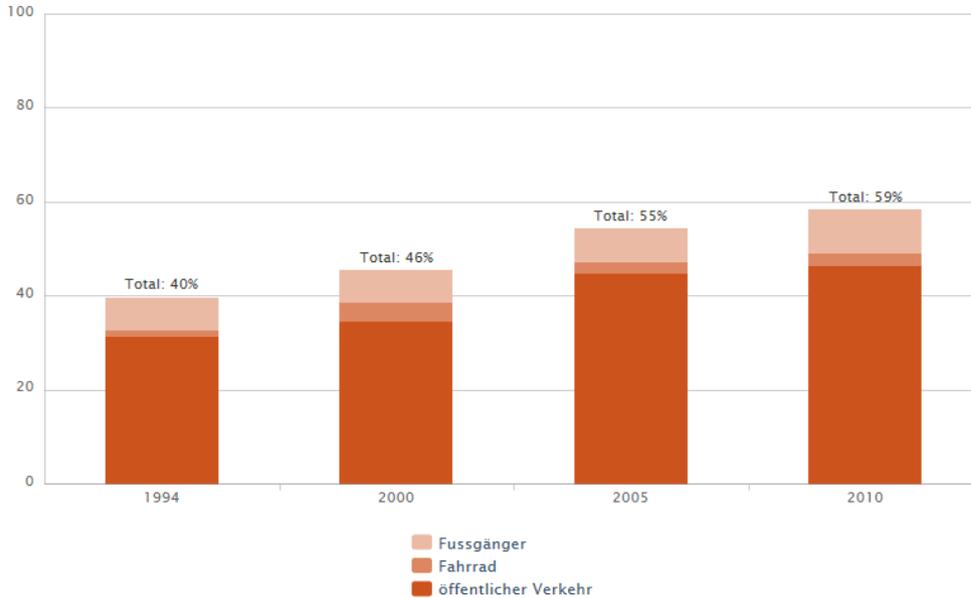
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10 Mobility

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/mobilitaet>

Sustainability indicator

Proportion of environmentally-friendly mobility: Proportion of environmentally-friendly means of transport as a % of total kilometres per person travelled daily by Zurich residents

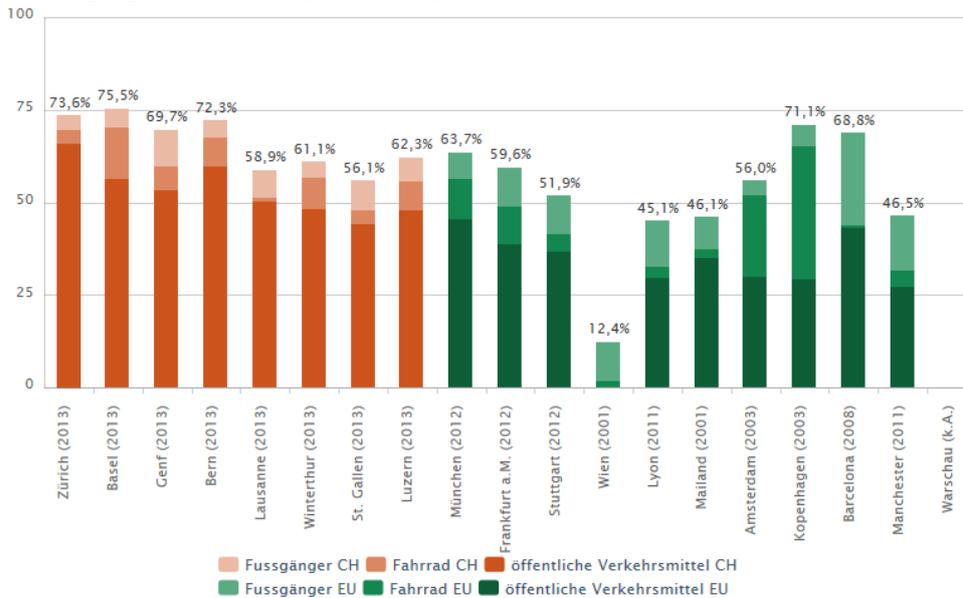


Source: City of Zurich Civil Engineering Office

In 2010, Zurich's population covered around 60% of its transport needs by train, tram, trolleybus, bus and bicycle or on foot.

Comparison of cities

Persons going to work on foot, by bicycle or by public transport as a %



Source: Urban Audit Eurostat database

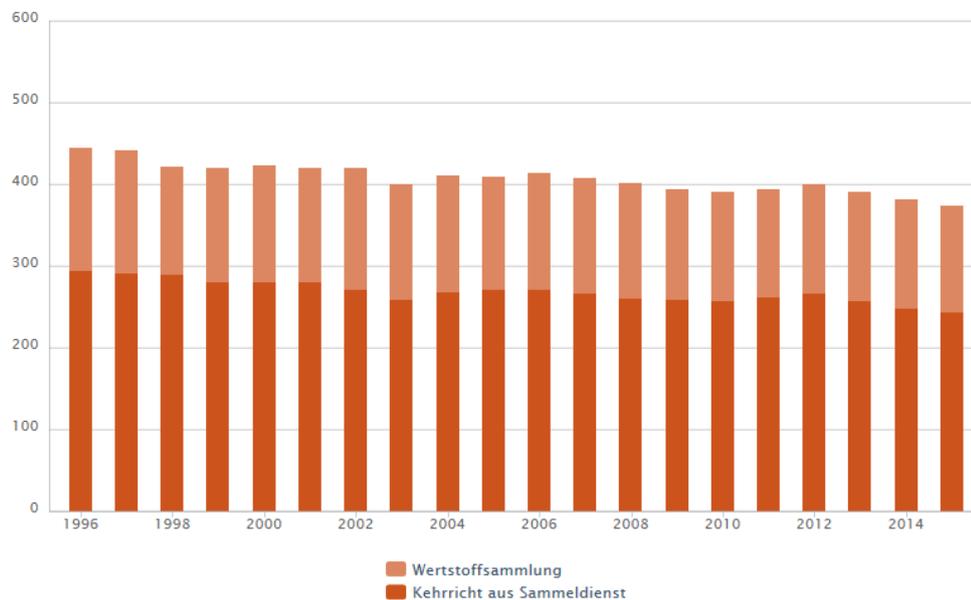
Zurich has a highly efficient public transport system. The proportion of distance covered on foot or by bicycle is however minimal.

11 Material flows

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/stofffluesse>

Sustainability indicator

Municipal waste: Municipal waste in kg per inhabitant per year

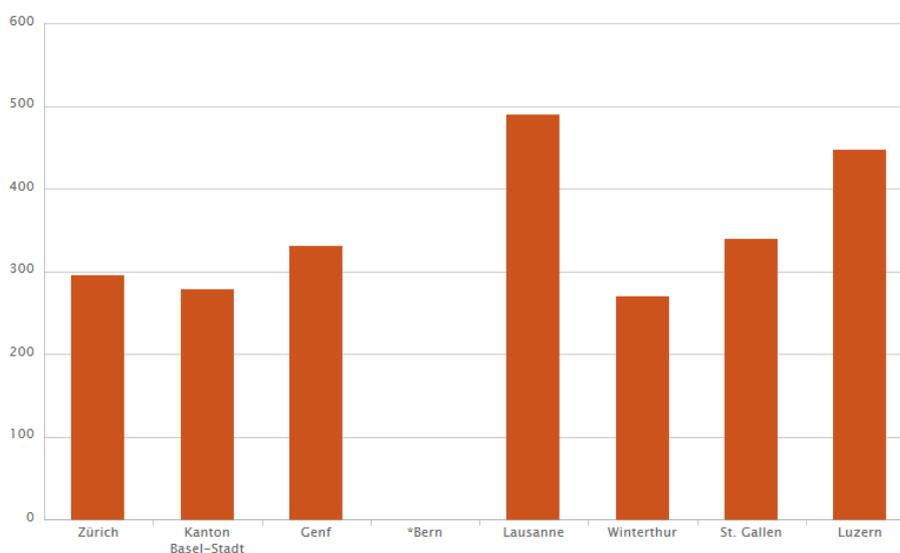


Source: Zurich Waste Disposal & Recycling (ERZ)

The amount of municipal waste per capita has slowly but steadily been reduced in the City of Zurich over recent years. The recycling quota is over 40%.

Comparison of cities

Amount of waste in kg per inhabitant in 2011



Source: Cercle Indicateurs, Swiss Federal Statistical Office

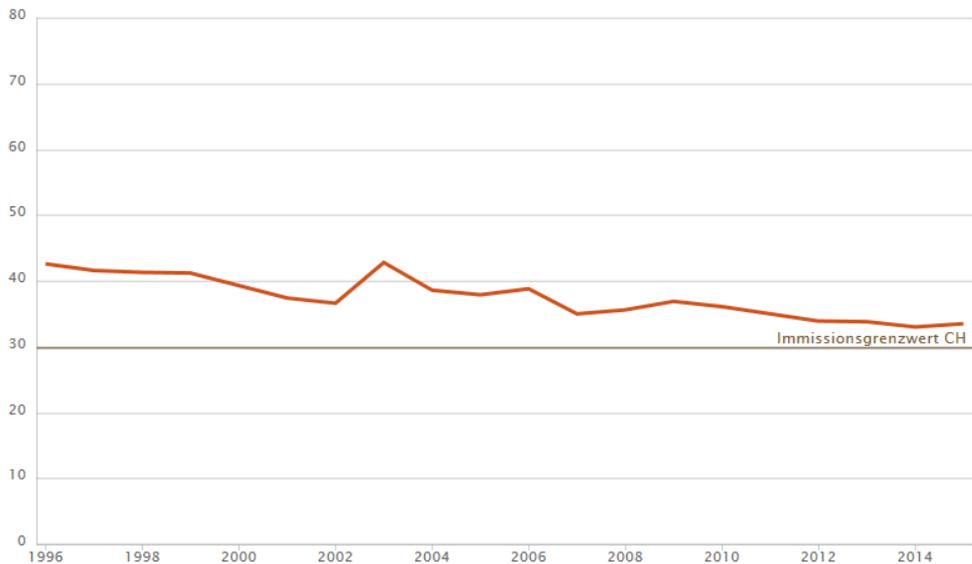
Zurich compares very favourably, but it should be noted that the comparison is only partially valid since there is no uniform federal ruling on calculating what, how much and where waste is generated.

12 Air quality

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/luftqualitaet>

Sustainability indicator

Nitrogen dioxide pollution: Average annual amount in Zurich in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

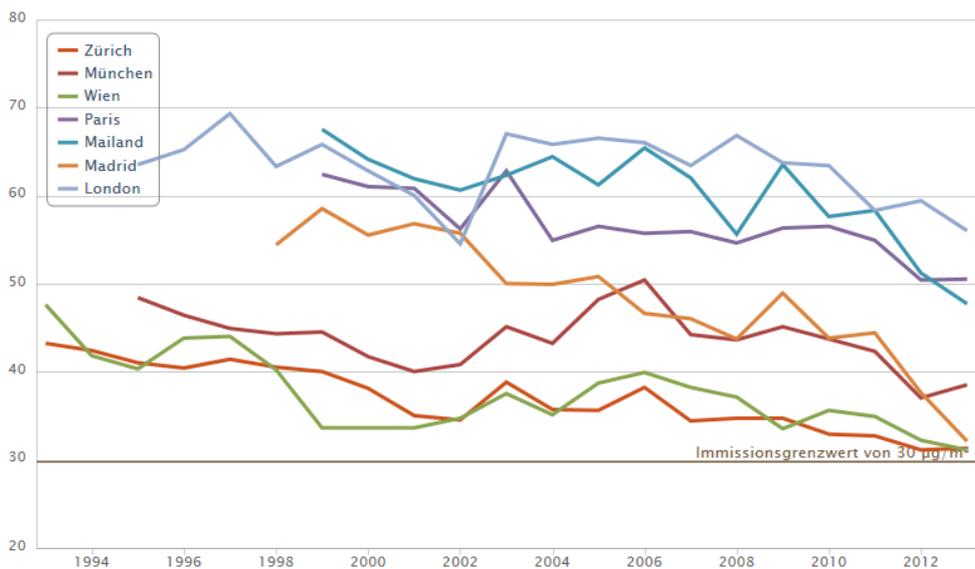


Source: City of Zurich Office for Environmental and Health Protection

The air quality in the City of Zurich has continually been improving since the 1980s. Nitrogen dioxide pollution nevertheless remains above the threshold value of the air protection rule.

Comparison of cities

Nitrogen dioxide pollution (average annual amount in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)



Source: City of Zurich Office for Environmental and Health Protection; data based on Euro Air Base (urban audit)

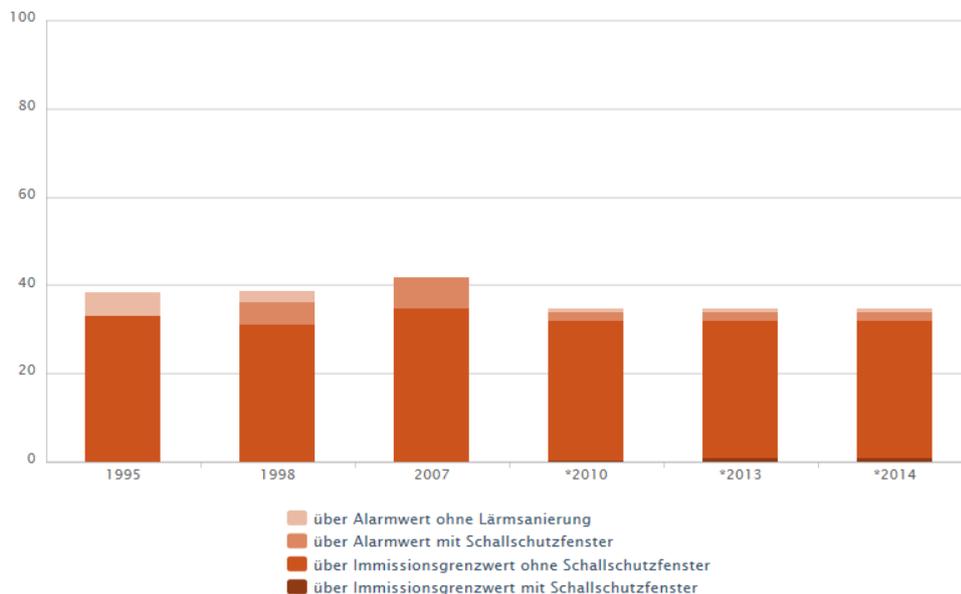
The comparison with other European cities shows that the situation in Zurich is healthy. The indicator also clearly illustrates the positive overall development in the city's air quality.

13 Noise

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/laerm>

Sustainability indicator

Noise pollution caused by traffic: Proportion of population suffering from excessive noise pollution (%)



Sources: City of Zurich Civil Engineering Office, and Office for Environmental and Health Protection, noise protection (using an electronic noise register which takes into account the actual noise pollution of individual buildings, the residential population that is affected is calculated in a more differentiated way from 2010. The proportion of the population affected by excessive noise is smaller primarily due to this reason).

According to model calculations, at the end of 2014, around 141,000 people in the City of Zurich were living in streets with excessive traffic noise. This represents 35 % of the residential population.

Comparison of cities

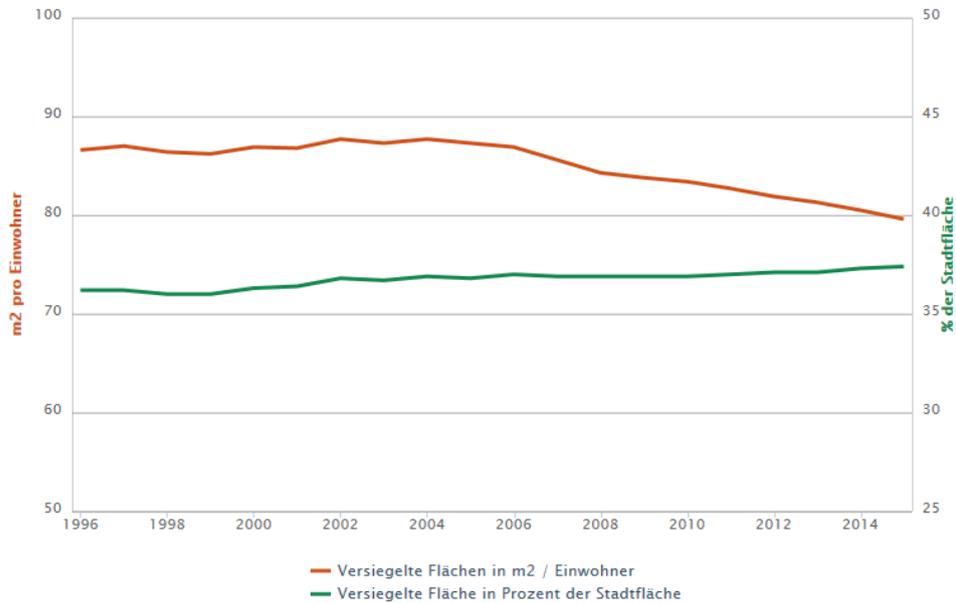
A comparison of cities cannot be made in this case, as there are various different international legislations, threshold values and construction regulations. The same federal provisions are applicable throughout the country, but the various cities are not comparable due to differences in traffic management systems and housing structures.

14 Nature and countryside

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/natur-und-landschaft>

Sustainability indicator

Sealed areas: m² per inhabitant / proportion (%) of the area of the city

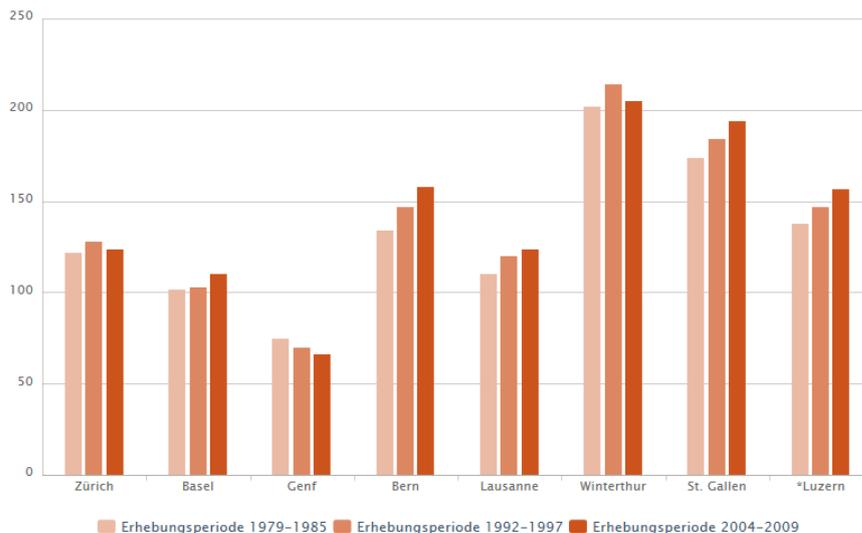


Source: City of Zurich Office of Parks and Open Spaces (from 2002: GIS-based statistics; until 2001: Federal land-use statistics)

Around 37 % of the surface area of the City of Zurich is sealed (this calculation does not include bodies of water). The sealed area per capita has gone down significantly due to the large increase in population.

Comparison of cities

Built-up area per person in m² (data from land-use statistics)



Source: Federal Land-use statistics 1979/85, 1992/97, 2004/09: Development of land use in municipalities in 10 categories *Lucerne based on current boundaries (i.e. after merger with Littau).

Geneva is by far and away the Swiss city with the greatest density, followed by Basle, Lausanne and Zurich. When populations rise, as in Zurich or Geneva, then the urban density also increases.

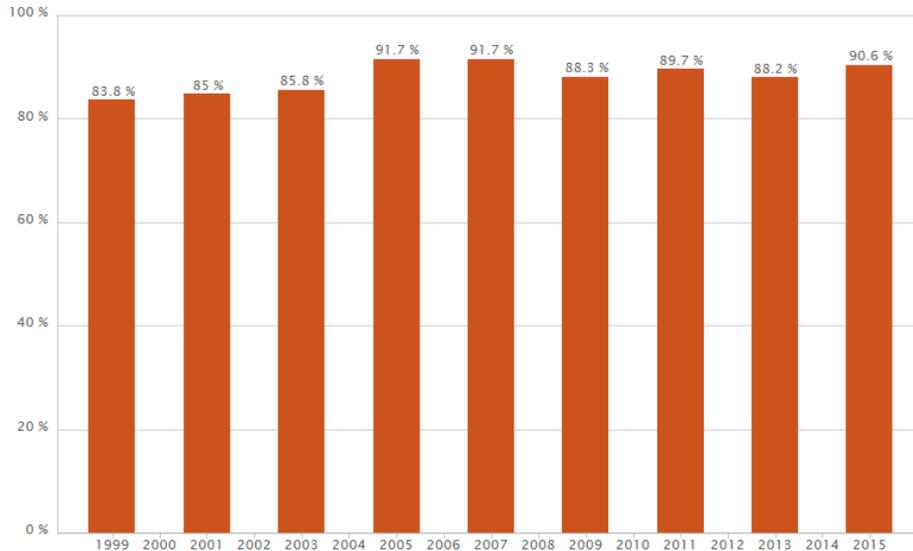
Social solidarity

15 Quality of life

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/lebensqualitaet>

Sustainability indicator

Population satisfaction levels: with the City of Zurich's facilities and what it has to offer

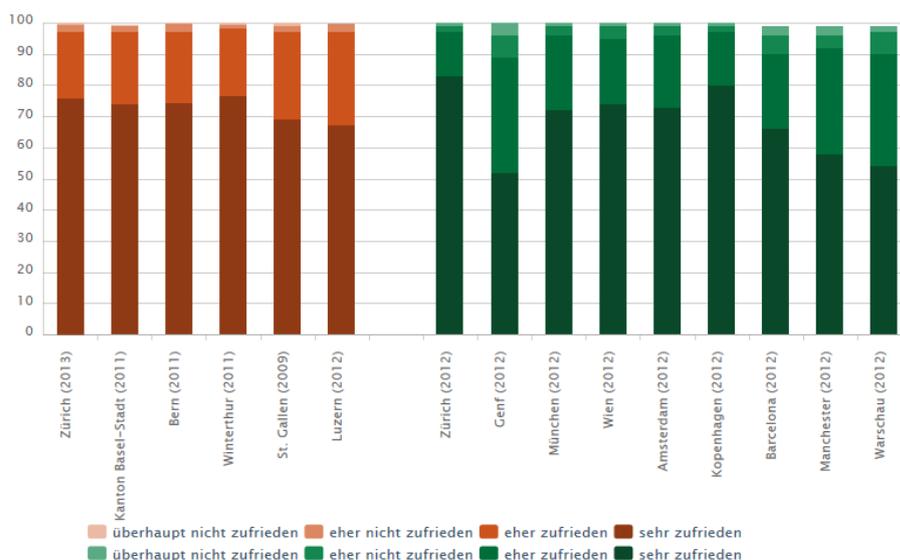


Source: City of Zurich population survey, Zurich urban development department

In 2015, about 91% of the population were satisfied with what is on offer and with the public facilities in Zurich. This figure has dropped somewhat compared with the 2005 and 2007 levels due to the significantly lower levels of satisfaction with the housing situation.

Comparison of cities

Satisfaction with place of residence (red: Perception surveys in Swiss towns; green: Perception survey on quality of life in the EU)



Sources: Perception survey on quality of life in 83 European Cities (green), October 2013; Population surveys in Zurich (2013), Lucerne (2012), Basle, Berne, Winterthur (2011) and St Gallen (2009).

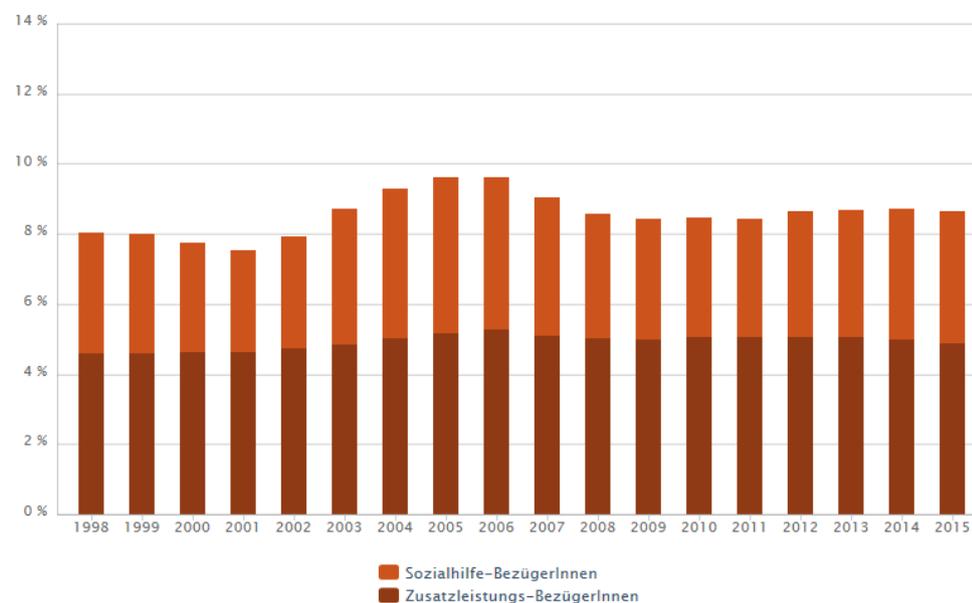
Around 97% of those surveyed declared themselves either happy or very happy to be living in Zurich. There is little difference compared with other Swiss cities, while satisfaction levels in other European cities surveyed were also high.

16 Social security

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/soziale-sicherung>

Sustainability indicator

Persons requiring support: receiving social benefits or extended AHV/IV (old-age/disability) benefits as a % of population

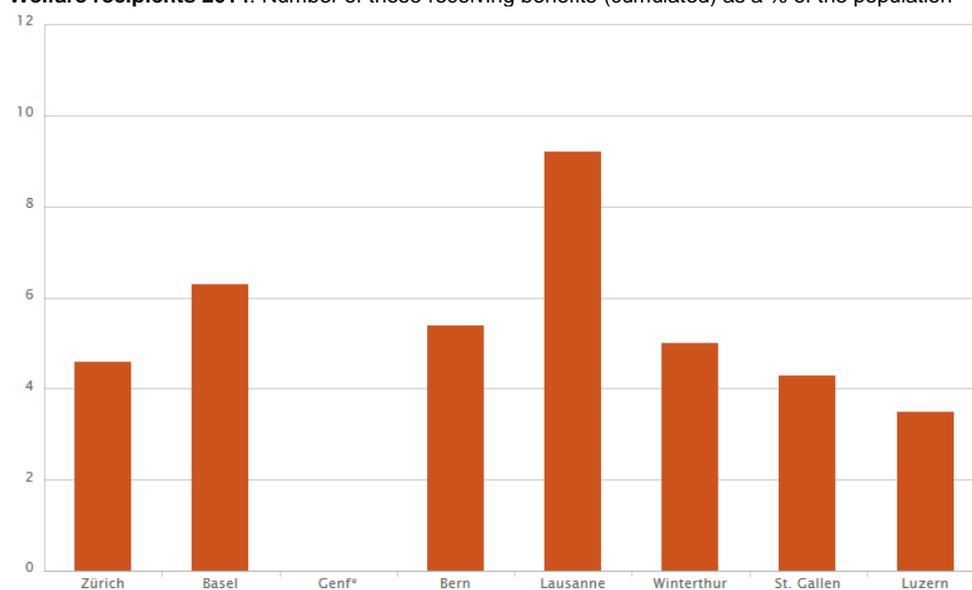


Source: Social statistics, evaluation of social services, Zurich

In 2015, around 33,900 people in the City of Zurich were receiving state support (either social benefits or extended AHV/IV benefits). This represents close to 9 % of the population.

Comparison of cities

Welfare recipients 2014: Number of those receiving benefits (cumulated) as a % of the population



Source: Comparison of key figures regarding social support in Swiss cities – 13 cities involved, social policy city initiative (*no figures for Geneva)

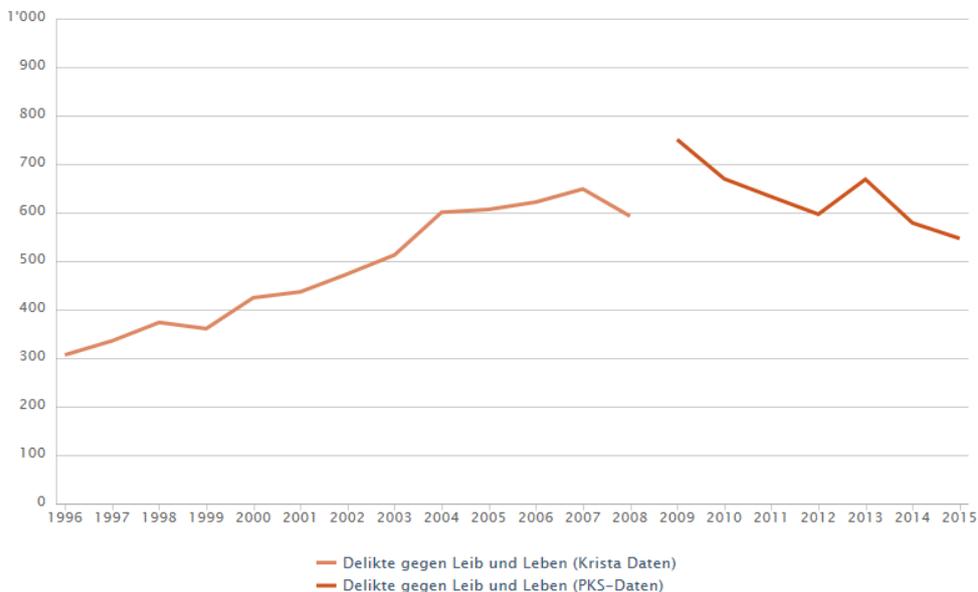
The social benefits quota in Zurich is relatively small compared with other major Swiss cities and is lower than the quotas of Basel for example or Berne.

17 Safety

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/sicherheit>

Sustainability indicator

Violent crimes: Registered cases of homicide, bodily harm, assault, endangering life and attacks/affray (§ 111-136 Swiss penal code) per year per 100,000 inhabitants

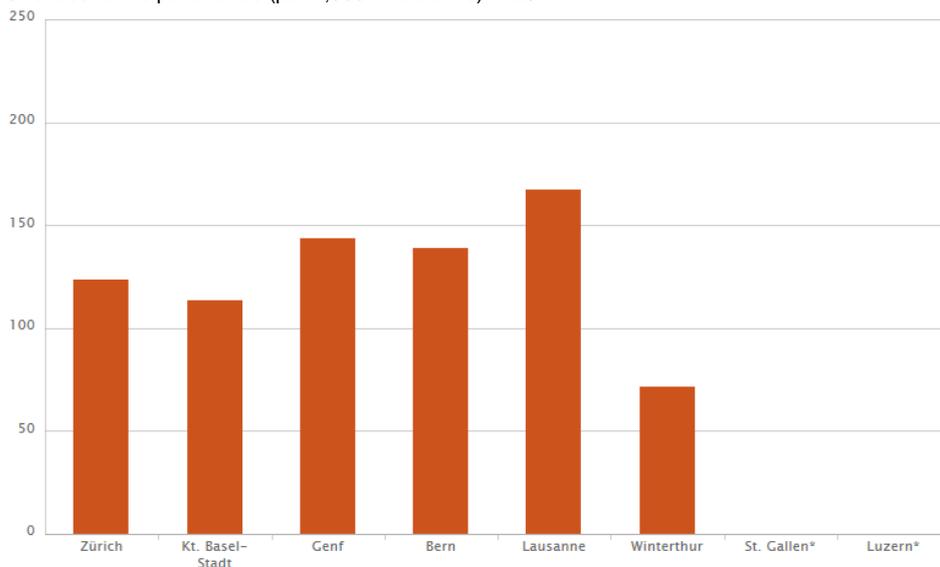


Source: Police criminal statistics (PKS); data provided by Krista up until 2008, by PKS from 2009 (The jump can be attributed to the new method of statistical data-gathering).

Violent crimes have been on a downward scale since 2008, after rising steadily for a number of years. The jump in the figures between 2008 and 2009 is down to methodology and can be attributed to a change in definition (PKS data used since 2009).

Comparison of cities

Offences to the penal code (per 1,000 inhabitants) in 2014



Source: Police crime statistics (PKS) – annual report 2014 (*the crime statistics departments did not provide any statistics for the cities of St Gallen and Lucerne)

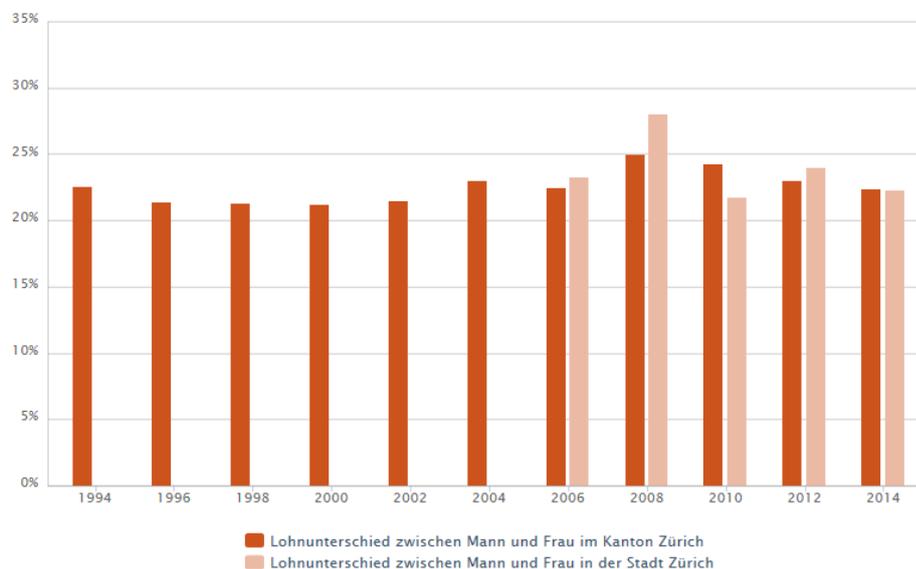
Compared with other large Swiss cities, Zurich is in the middle when it comes to safety, despite the fact that it functions very much as a metropolitan centre for the surrounding area.

18 Equal opportunities

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/chancengleichheit-zwischen-frau-und-mann>

Sustainability indicator

Wage gap between men and women in %: Wage gap in the private sector in the canton and the City of Zurich

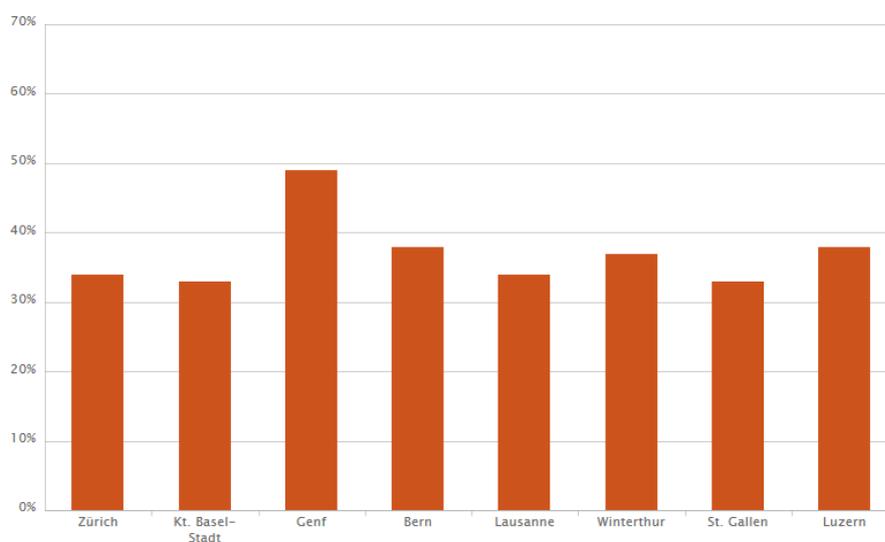


Source: City of Zurich Statistic Office (data 1994 – 2004: private and public sector. From 2006: private sector only. NB: The data for the City of Zurich are not comparable due to breaks in the methodology over the years.

The difference in wages makes it clear that in the world of work, men and women are still not on an equal footing. The wage differential between men and women in the private sector was at 22 % for the canton of Zurich as well as for the City of Zurich in 2012.

Comparison of cities

Number of women in parliament in % in 2014



Source: Urban Audit Eurostat database and BADAC database of Swiss cantons and cities

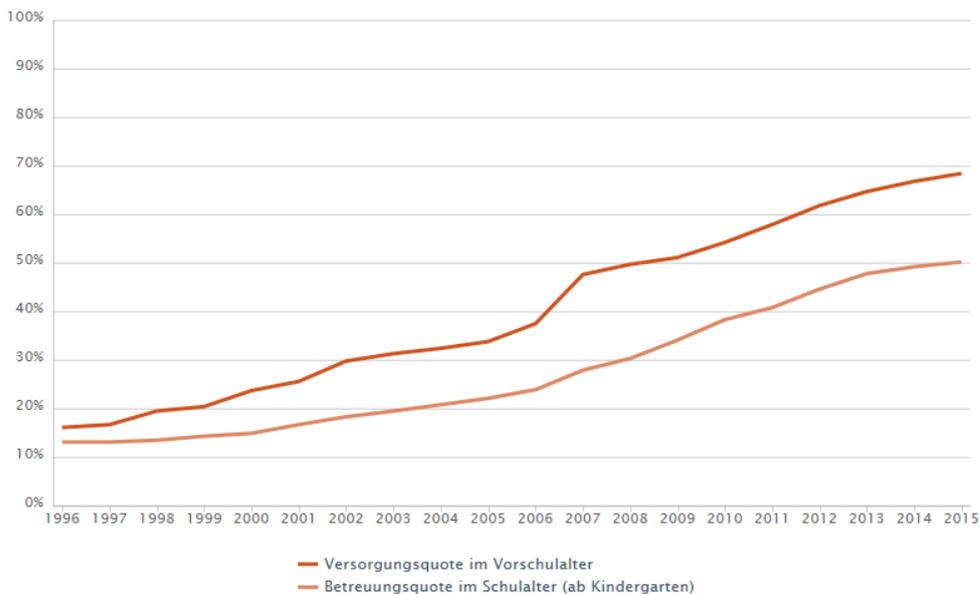
At 49%, Geneva has by far and away the highest proportion of female representation of the cities under comparison, putting it close to achieving the 50% mark. The Zurich municipal council has 34% female representation.

19 Work/family balance

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/vereinbarkeit-von-familie-und-beruf>

Sustainability indicator

Child care: Number of children of pre-school or school age receiving out-of-school-hours care, in %



Source: Report by the City of Zurich social department on child care; report by the school and sports department on supplementary child care in primary schools.

The range of supplementary child care continues to increase. In 2015, there were an extra 256 places in child-minding centres and another 801 places in school-run care.

Comparison of cities

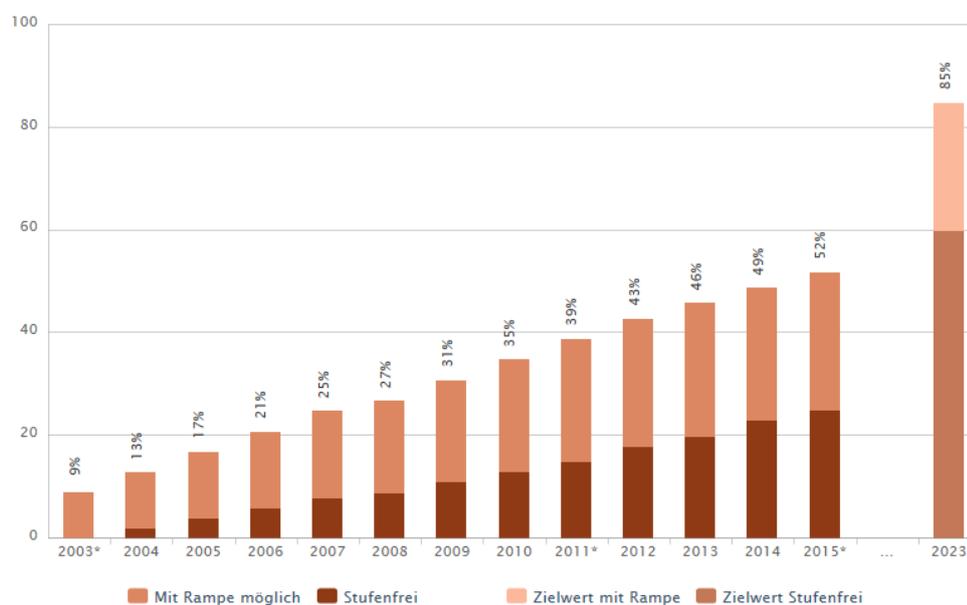
There is no comparison between cities, since in terms of child care it proved to be difficult to make meaningful comparisons between cities using an individual indicator. The child-care systems and the subsidies vary a great deal, and a comparison of cities using one individual indicator is therefore insufficient when it comes to showing how the cities perform in this particular area.

20 Equality for people with disabilities

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/menschen-mit-behinderung>

Sustainability indicator

Disabled access on Zurich public transport (VBZ): Proportion of VBZ transport entrances and exits in the City of Zurich with disabled access, as a percentage



Source: Zurich public transport (VBZ) (*Figures for 2003, 2011 and 2015 are exact, figures for the years in between have been interpolated)

In 2015, 52 percent of all entrances and exits on VBZ transport options in the City of Zurich had disabled access. The aim by the end of 2023 is for a further increase in disabled access for public transport to 85 percent.

Comparison of cities

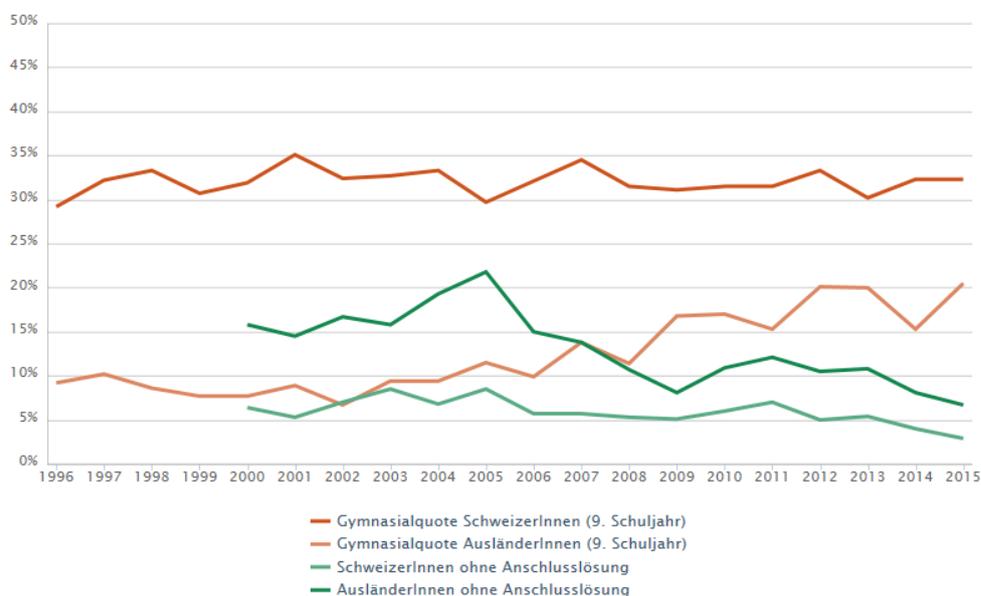
Comparisons between cities on a national or international level using one individual indicator are not possible in this sector. A report published by the City of Zurich entitled "Promoting equality for people with disabilities (focus topic reporting 2010–2014)" shows, however, that compared with other cities in Austria and Germany, Zurich is marginally below average.

21 Integrating people from abroad

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/integration-der-auslaendischen-bevoelkerung>

Sustainability indicator

Employment and education opportunities for foreign youngsters: % without an opportunity for further training / % attending high school in the City of Zurich



Source: Education Department of the Canton of Zurich, educational planning, educational statistics

The ratio of those without an option clearly shows that the lack of apprenticeship places during years where the economy is struggling has a particular effect on youngsters from abroad. The economic outlook has improved, placement figures are better at the moment.

Comparison of cities

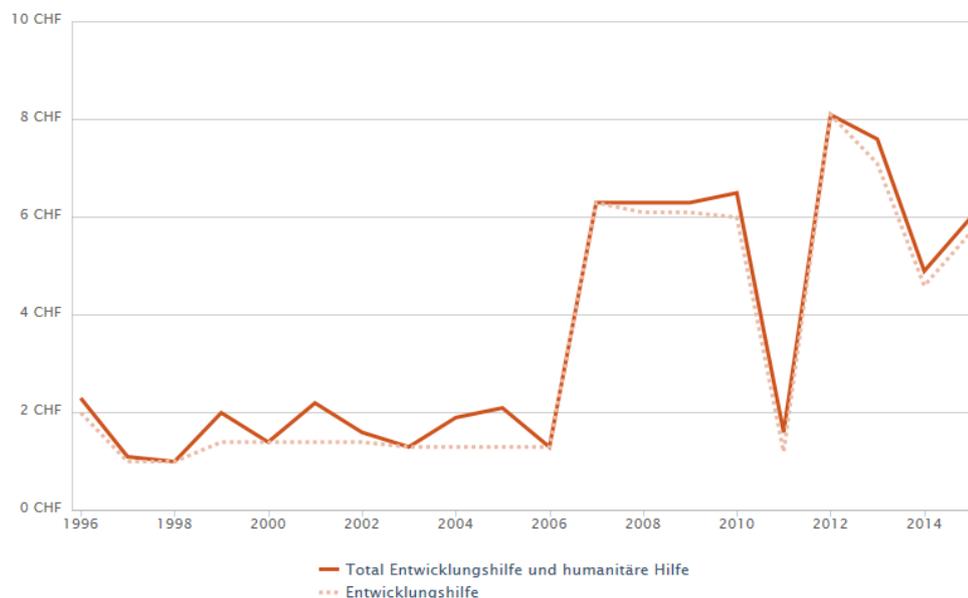
A comparison of cities would not be worthwhile in this case, as the integration of the foreign population involves a variety of structural and individual aspects and can only be represented in a very limited way by indicators. A comparison of cities would also create the problem that different legal, cultural and historical factors have to be taken into account in the various cities, and the results would be almost impossible to interpret.

22 Solidarity across the regions

<http://www.nachhaltigkeitsmonitoring.ch/ueberregionale-solidaritaet>

Sustainability indicator

Foreign aid: The City of Zurich's contributions to development and humanitarian aid abroad (in CHF per inhabitant per year)

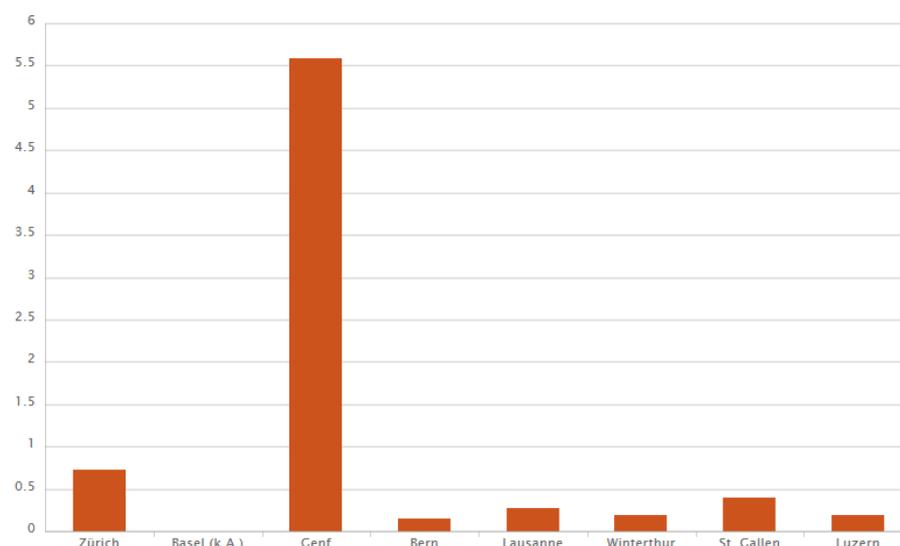


Source: City accounts, Finance Department

In 2015, the municipal council approved contributions to a value of CHF 2.5 million for development aid abroad. In addition, CHF 100,000 of immediate humanitarian aid was donated for emergency help for earthquake victims in Nepal.

Comparison of cities

Number of relief actions in Switzerland and abroad in 2013 compared with total active expenditure per thousand



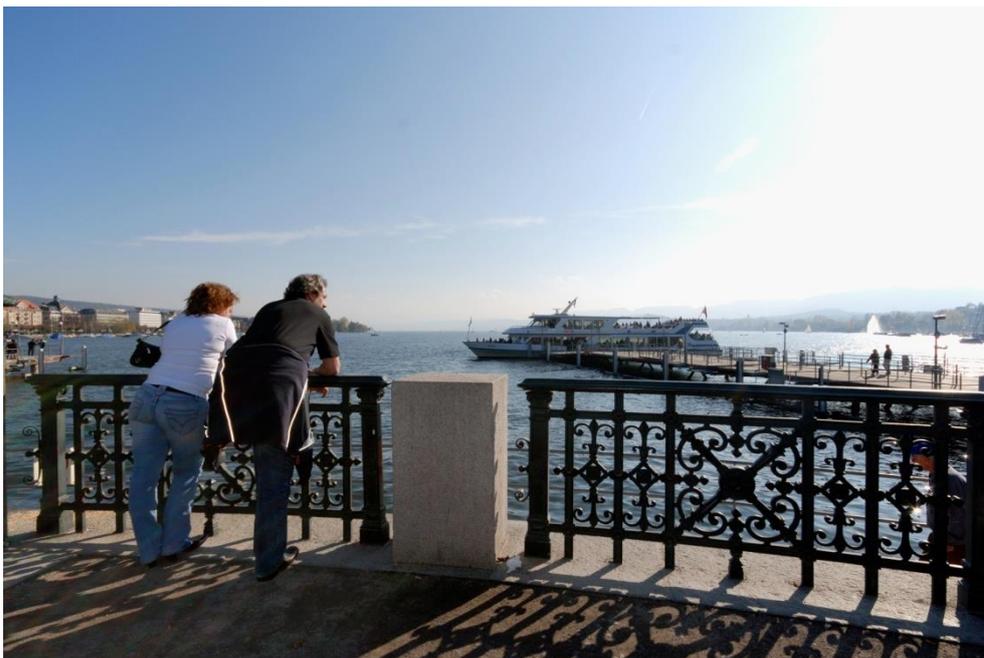
Source: "Solidarity across the regions" by Les Cercle Indicateurs, Federal Finance Administration FFA, financial policy department, financial equalisation, financial statistics

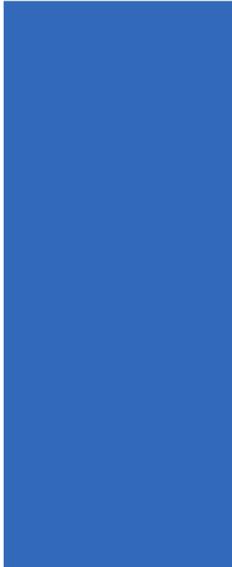
The city of Geneva made by far and away the highest contributions to aid programmes at home and abroad. The City of Zurich does however compare favourably with its peers.

Conclusion – where does the City of Zurich currently stand?

Sustainability monitoring shows that the City of Zurich is overall in a good position. The economy is doing well, and unemployment levels are relatively low, despite a tough international climate. Environmental quality is high, and social cohesion is also strong, despite the city becoming ever more diverse in terms of nationalities. While all of these are cause for satisfaction, the city is also being confronted with major challenges. Zurich is looking to become a 2000-Watt society, increase its proportion of social housing on the rental market to one third of apartments, and significantly build up the percentage of journeys carried out by public transport, cyclists and pedestrians. All of these targets will require further effort. The government's budgetary position may not be rosy, but it is solid, and is in a position to allow the continuation of crucial investments in terms of infrastructure, ecological improvements and measures to solidify social cohesion.

In light of this comparatively comfortable situation, and the city's exemplary approach to many issues, it should not be forgotten that the Zurich population is not yet a sustainable (or indeed a 2000-Watt) society. Levels of prosperity are high, which leads to a significant drain on resources. The negative ecological and social impact of a society where consumption is high are largely felt elsewhere around the world, and do not appear in this monitoring.





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