

# OXFORD ECONOMICS GLOBAL CITIES INDEX

# 2024



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ECONOMICS



# Foreword

In an era defined by uncertainty, one trend remains constant: cities are still at the forefront of economic growth. The ability of cities to serve as the engines of future growth is underpinned by their dynamic networks of businesses, institutions, and people. Agglomeration effects foster creativity, innovation, and prosperity, which further add to the draw of diverse and skilled populations.

Whilst we forecast cities to continue to fuel global growth and drive global competitiveness over the coming decades, each city is different and understanding their unique characteristics is crucial. Our Global Cities Index provides a consistent framework for assessing the strengths and weaknesses of the largest 1,000 cities across the world, and when coupled with our forecasts, it enables organisations and policymakers to make more informed strategic decisions.

**Mark Britton**

Director of City Services at Oxford Economics

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# Oxford Economics

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The Oxford Economics Cities and Regions team provides both forecasting and bespoke consulting services. Our unique suite of forecasting services covers 8,000 cities and regions across the world. Our regularly updated data and forecasts provide clients with regional economic outlooks and specific city insights. By drawing on our proprietary data, our consulting services provide bespoke solutions tailored to clients' needs. We offer evidence and strategic advice to support urban and regional development; produce bespoke datasets, models, and reports; and assess the economic impact of local investments.



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# Introduction

Cities are the driving force behind our global economy. They are the engines for national economic growth, centres for education and innovation, and seats of political power. In 2023, the 1,000 largest cities in the world accounted for 60% of global GDP and over 30% of the world's population—and the importance of cities will only continue to grow in the future.

In the decade preceding the Covid-19 outbreak, 70% of cities outperformed their respective countries in terms of either GDP or employment growth. But beyond economic strength, cities lead in other domains as well. They tend to have more educated populations and better access to services, as compared to their countries as a whole.

*In 2023, the 1,000 largest cities in the world accounted for 60% of global GDP.*

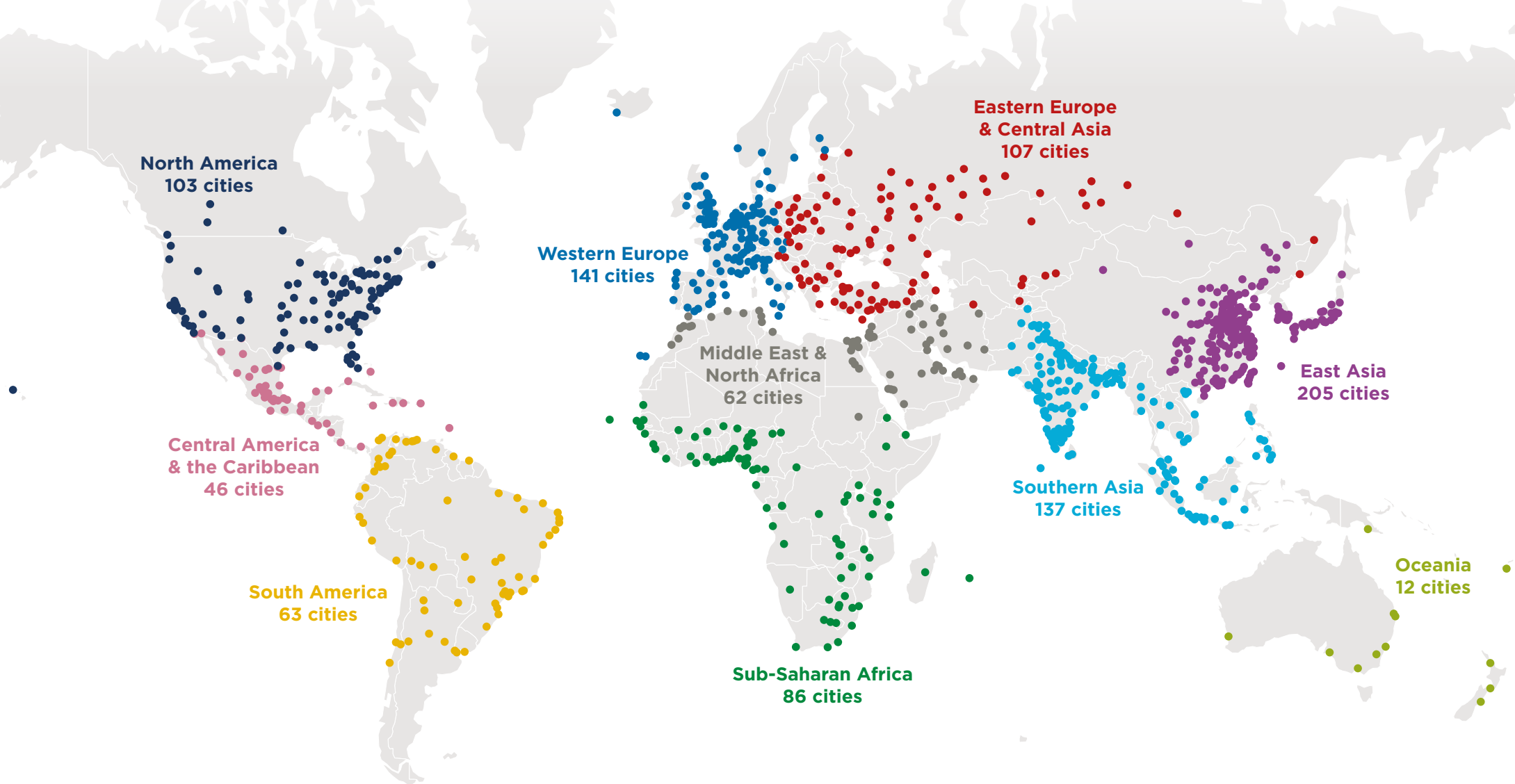
This is not just a regional or high-income country story though. Oxford Economics' 1,000 Global Cities are located across the world, in both advanced and developing countries. Metropolitan areas in 163 countries are represented in our 1,000 Global Cities, and the phenomena described above are present in cities in every region of the world, across income levels.

*In the decade preceding the Covid-19 outbreak, 70% of cities outperformed their respective countries in terms of either GDP or employment growth.*

The importance of cities is well documented, but comparing metropolitan areas in different countries and regions can be challenging due to disparities in data collection and inherent structural differences across cities. Nonetheless, assessing the relative strengths and importance of cities around the world is valuable for businesses, academics, and policymakers alike to be able to make informed decisions. Hence, these comparisons must consider more than just economic output or growth; there are several dimensions that can make a city attractive to residents and investors. To solve this issue, we are launching the Oxford Economics Global Cities Index.

# Oxford Economics' 1,000 Global Cities

The Global Cities Index covers the 1,000 largest cities in the world, which are located in 163 different countries.





# The Oxford Economics Global Cities Index

We have developed our Global Cities Index to provide a holistic assessment of the 1,000 largest cities in the world. Leveraging our economic data, and supplemented by other publicly available datasets, the index allows us to directly compare cities around the world on a range of metrics.

The index contains five categories: Economics, Human Capital, Quality of Life, Environment, and Governance, which are aggregated to create an overall score for each city.

Each category is comprised of multiple indicators (four to six, depending on the category), which aim to address some of the most important considerations within their respective categories. As a result, the Global Cities Index provides a more complete comparison of cities, by ranking them not just on their economic performance, but considering other important factors that influence their relative strengths. With a total of 1,000 cities and 27 indicators included, our truly global and multidimensional coverage allows us to provide a remarkable breadth and depth to the Global Cities Index.





# The Economics Category

A city's economy plays a crucial role in its prosperity and attractiveness. Economic vitality is a fundamental aspect of urban development, driving a city's wealth generation, employment opportunities, access to goods and services, and much more. Including economic metrics in the index acknowledges the pivotal role that the economy plays in shaping urban landscapes and driving investment. This category allows for an assessment of a city's potential for sustained growth and development, essential for any comprehensive comparison of cities around the world.

The cities topping the Economics category are the engines of the global economy. In this category, American cities dominate. Seven of the top 10 cities are located in the United States, with New York taking the top spot. It has the largest economy of any city in the world by far and has benefitted from stable economic growth in the decade preceding the Covid-19 outbreak. Los Angeles, in second place, also has one of the largest economies in the world, while third place San Jose has the highest GDP per person globally. The only three non-American cities to crack the top 10 are London, Paris, and Tokyo, behemoths of the global economy in their own right. They trail the top American cities mostly due to their lower levels of GDP per person.

## Economics indicators:



GDP size



GDP growth



GDP per person



Employment growth

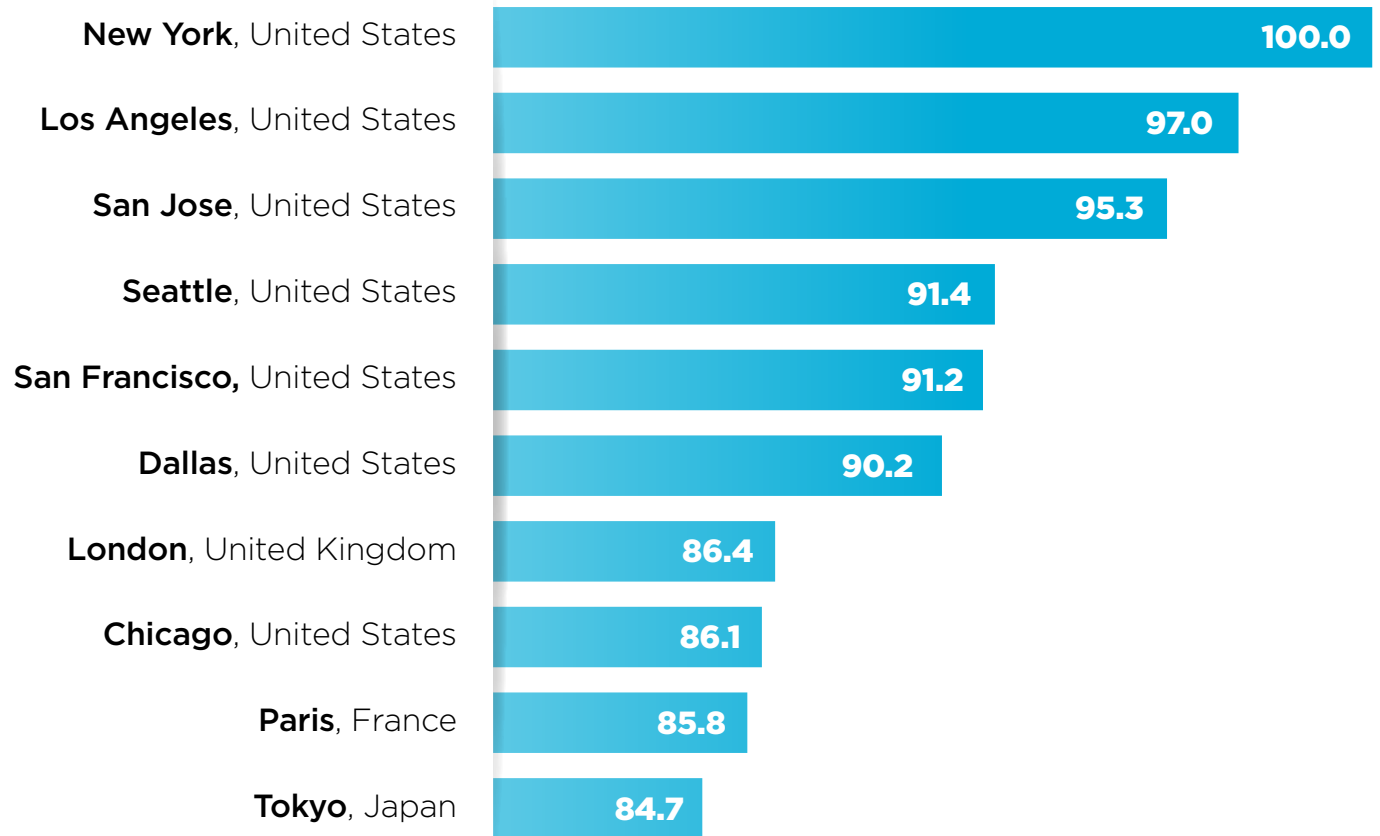


Economic stability



Economic diversity

## Top cities by Economics score







# The Human Capital Category

Human capital encompasses the collective knowledge and skills of a city's population, underpinning the economic potential of every city. It reflects the dynamics of educational attainment, innovation, and demographics at play across metropolitan areas. In today's knowledge-based economy, cities with diverse, highly-skilled workforces and innovative businesses are better positioned to adapt to technological change and compete globally. Incorporating human capital indicators into the index emphasises the importance of people in driving economic prosperity and recognises cities that invest in education, business, and diversity.

The cities leading the Human Capital category are hubs for higher education and business innovation, helping them attract diverse and highly educated populations. There are more regions represented at the top of this category than in the Economics category, with cities in five regions in the top 10. London takes the top spot, as it has the most globally ranked universities of any city in the world, and nearly the most global corporate headquarters as well. Tokyo comes in second, having the most corporate headquarters in the world, and nearly as many universities as London. Riyadh is next; the city benefits from a young, diverse population, with many immigrants having moved there to join the workforce of its growing business hub. Other notable cities in the top 10 include Washington, DC and Boston, two of the most highly educated cities in the world.

## Human Capital indicators:



Educational attainment



Universities



Corporate headquarters



Population growth

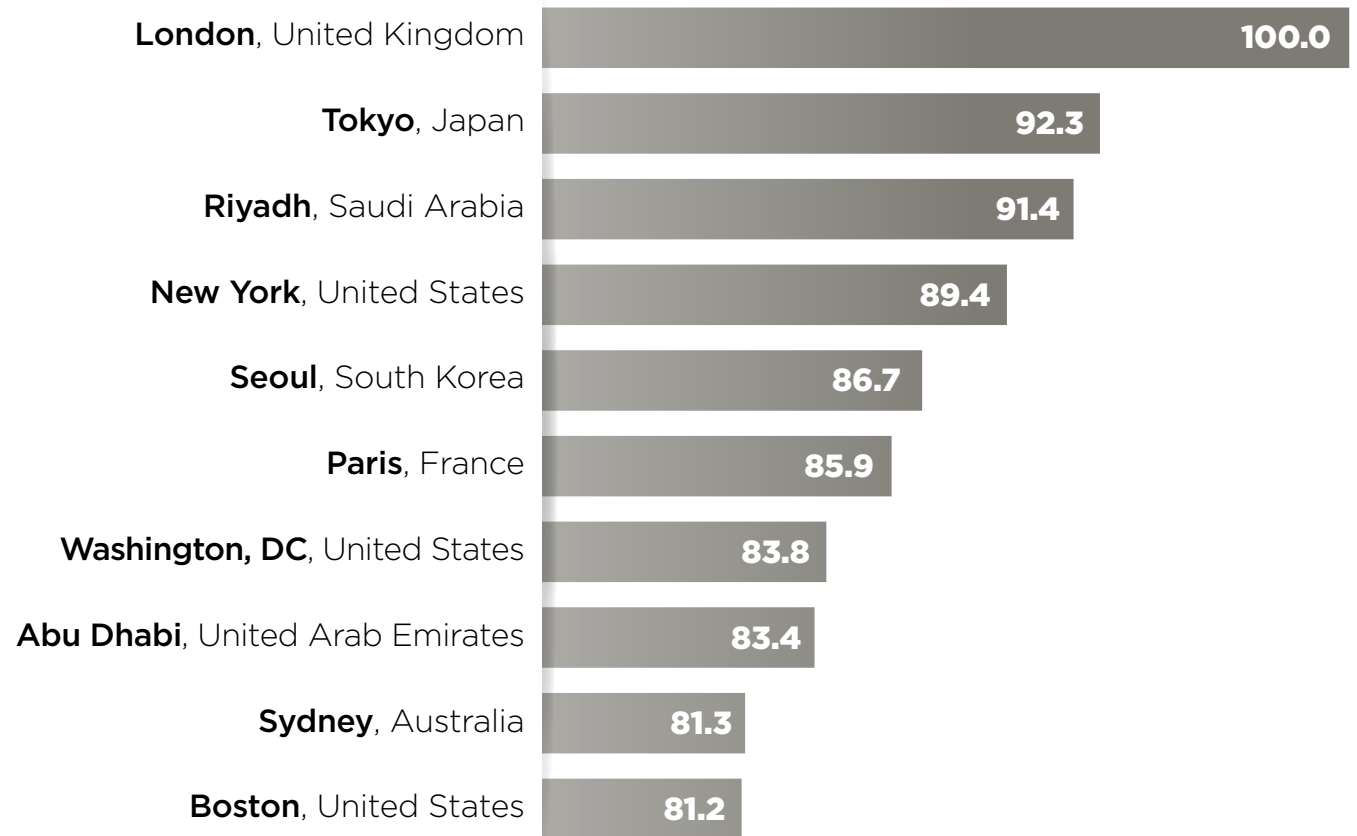


Age profile



Foreign-born population

## Top cities by Human Capital score





# The Quality of Life Category

Quality of Life encapsulates the wellbeing and satisfaction of a city's residents, reflecting the intersection of various socioeconomic factors. This category provides insights into the liveability and attractiveness of a city, which can play a role in migration patterns, talent retention, and the overall happiness of residents. Evaluating quality of life metrics in the index underscores the importance of urban policies that not only prioritise economic prosperity but also health, equality, and cultural vibrancy, enhancing residents' overall wellbeing.

At the top of the Quality of Life category are cities with lower inequality and residents that live long lives. Most of them also provide residents with access to a range of recreation and cultural amenities. These cities tend to be smaller than the leading cities in the Economics or Human Capital categories, and every city in the top 10 is located in Western Europe, bar one in Australia. Grenoble, France scores highest in this category, driven by its multitude of recreation and cultural sites per person and income equality. In second place is the lone non-European city in the top 10, Canberra. It benefits from among the highest life expectancy rates in the world and high levels of income per person. The rest of the top 10 are cities in northwestern Europe, all of which have a combination of high incomes with relatively high income equality, long life expectancies, and vast offerings of recreation and cultural sites.

## Quality of Life indicators:



Life expectancy



Income per person



Income equality



Housing expenditure

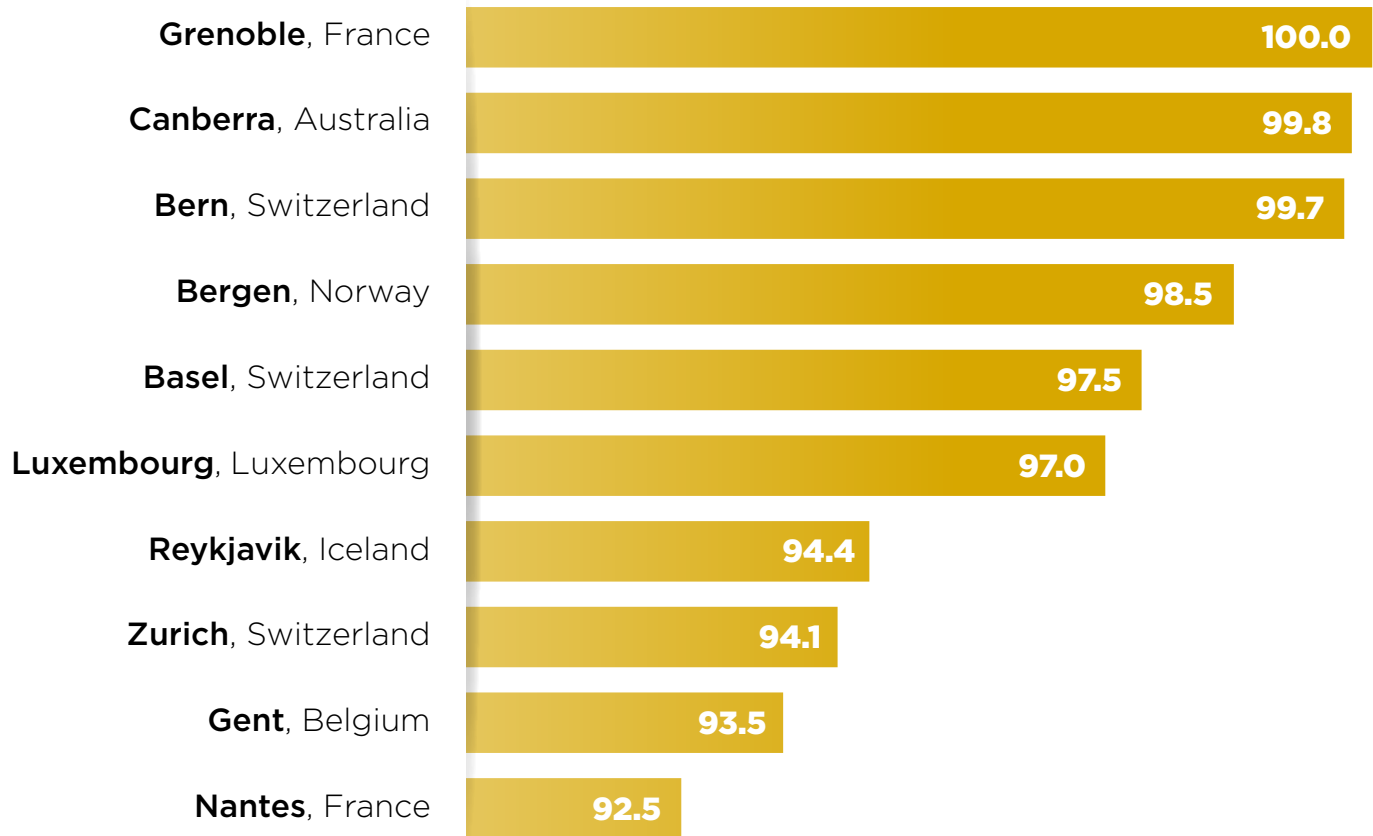


Recreation & cultural sites



Internet speed

## Top cities by Quality of Life score





# The Environment Category

With climate change at the forefront of international, national, and urban policymaking, the relevance of this category is undeniable. The Environment category evaluates a city's commitment to environmental sustainability and its predisposition to climate change risks, critical factors for ensuring long-term resilience. Incorporating environmental metrics into the index reflects the growing recognition of the interconnectedness between economic prosperity and the natural environment, highlighting the imperative for cities to adopt climate change-conscious policies and initiatives, and the hazards of not doing so.

The Environment category rewards cities that—either through policymaking or geographical fortune—benefit from outstanding natural environments. The cities in this top 10 are located around the world, although many of them are on islands, highlighting the role that luck can play in this category. Suva, Fiji leads the rankings, in part because the city has among the best air quality in the world. Fortaleza, Brazil, San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Natal, Brazil come next, scoring highly because of their stable climates; they do not experience very volatile temperatures. All three cities in New Zealand also crack the top 10, due to their clean air and low frequency of natural disasters.

## Environment indicators:



Air quality



Temperature anomalies



Emissions intensity

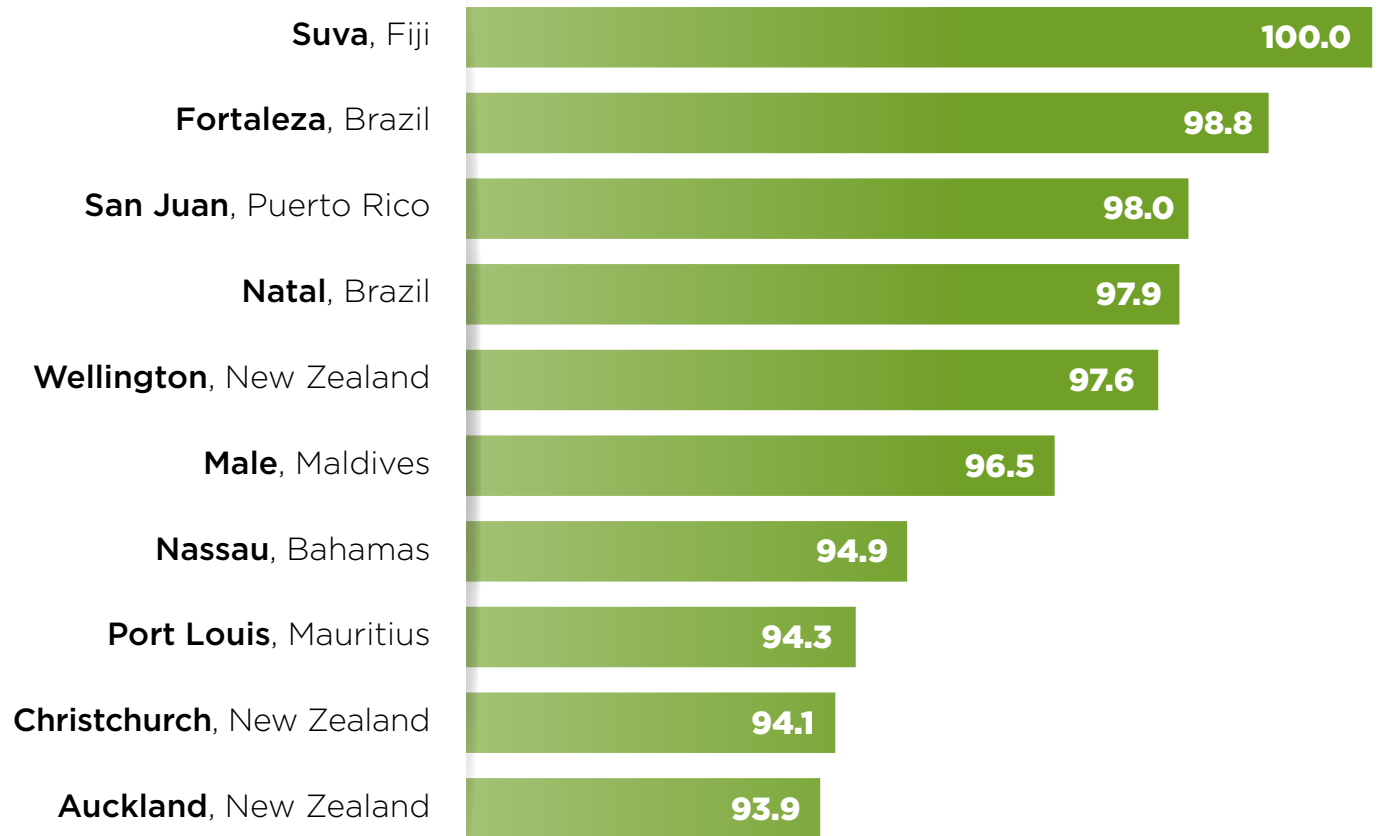


Rainfall anomalies



Natural disasters

## Top cities by Environment score





# The Governance Category

Governance is the basic foundation for city prosperity across the other four categories. Good governance fosters trust, social cohesion, and equitable access to opportunities, while poor governance can lead to inefficiencies, corruption, and social unrest. Including governance indicators in the index acknowledges the category’s pivotal role in shaping the overall trajectory of a city, influencing policy outcomes, public services delivery, and resident protection and engagement.

The Governance category is measured slightly differently than the other four, in recognition of the fact that national governments—not just those at the city level—have a significant influence on these outcomes. As a result, scores in this category are calculated at the national level rather than the city level, meaning that every city in a given country is given the same score for a given indicator.

Cities at the top of the Governance category have a pedigree of institutions that protect the rights of their residents and foster political stability. Leading the Governance category are the three cities in New Zealand: Auckland, Christchurch, and Wellington, due to the country’s political stability and its stellar business environment. The rest of the top 10 is comprised of Nordic cities, in part due to the commitment of Nordic countries in protecting the civil liberties of their residents. First come the Danish cities, followed by those in Finland, then Norway, then Sweden.

## Governance indicators:



Institutions



Business environment

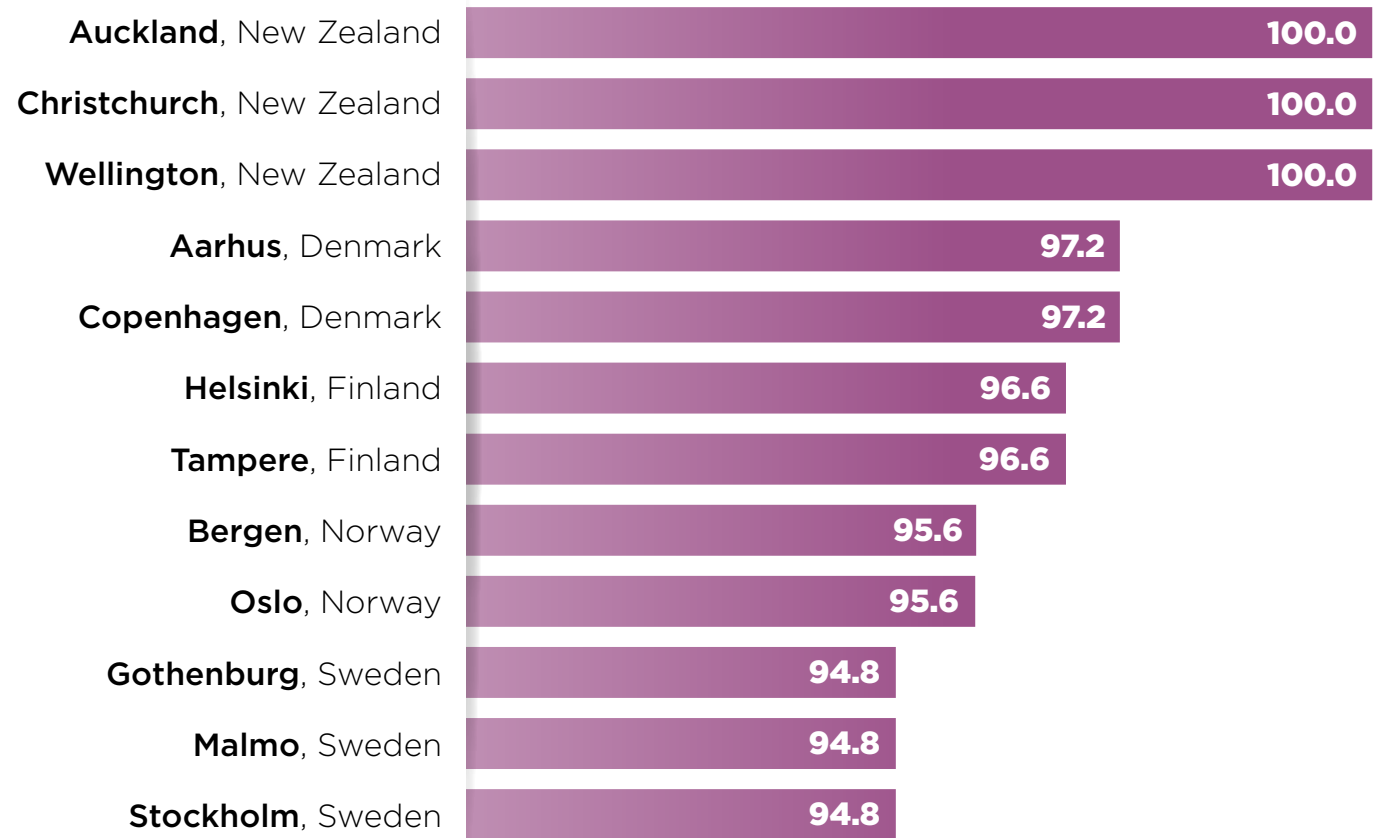


Political stability



Civil liberties

## Top cities by Governance score



# The Top Cities in the World

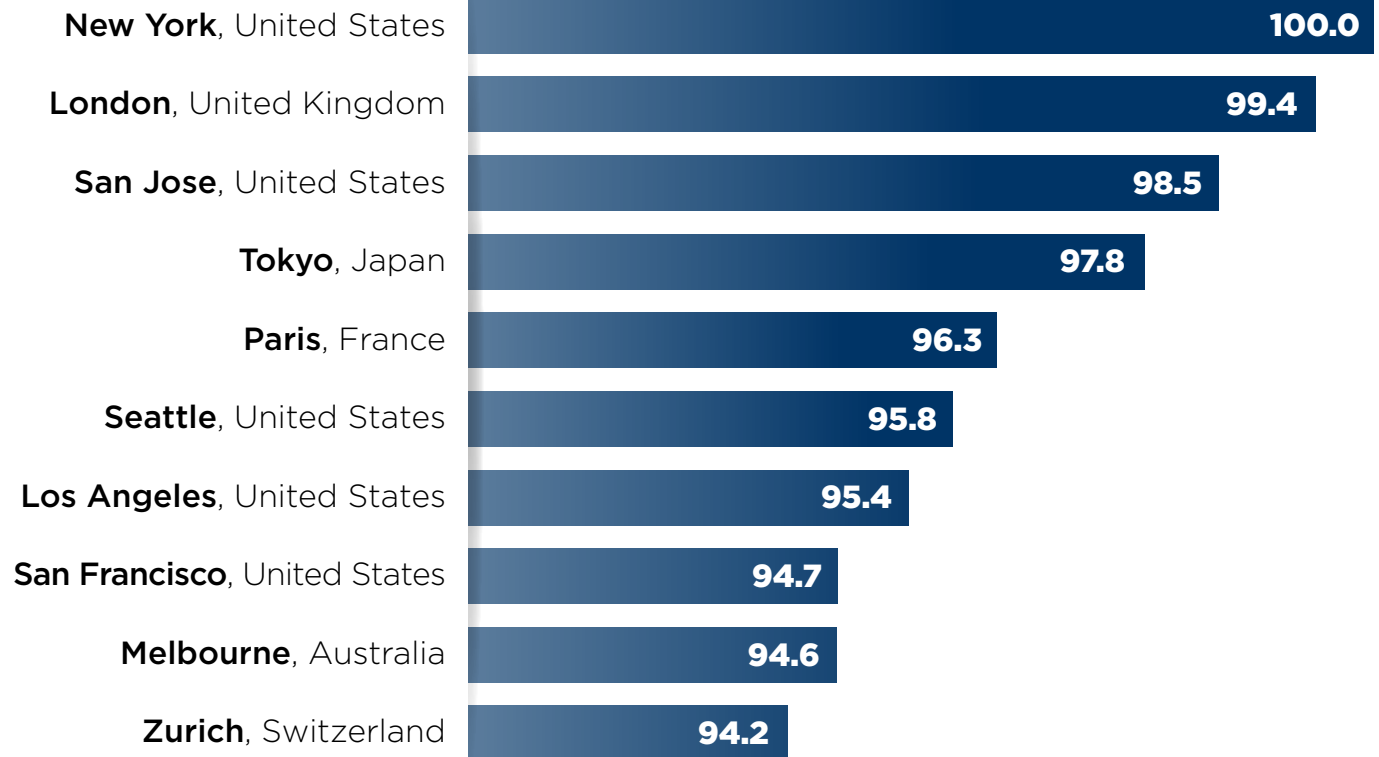
The top cities overall in the Global Cities Index possess strong scores in all five categories. Not only do they provide important economic contributions to the global economy, they are hubs for education and business innovation, and invest in the infrastructure necessary to maintain a high quality of life. They also prioritise policies that focus on the environment and good governance.



The top 10 cities are located in North America, Western Europe, East Asia, and Oceania. Leading the rankings in 2024 is New York, followed by London. Both cities perform best in the Economics and Human Capital categories, and the next three cities—San Jose, Tokyo, and Paris—all have top Economics and Human Capital scores as well. Furthermore, San Jose and Paris have strong scores in the Quality of Life category.

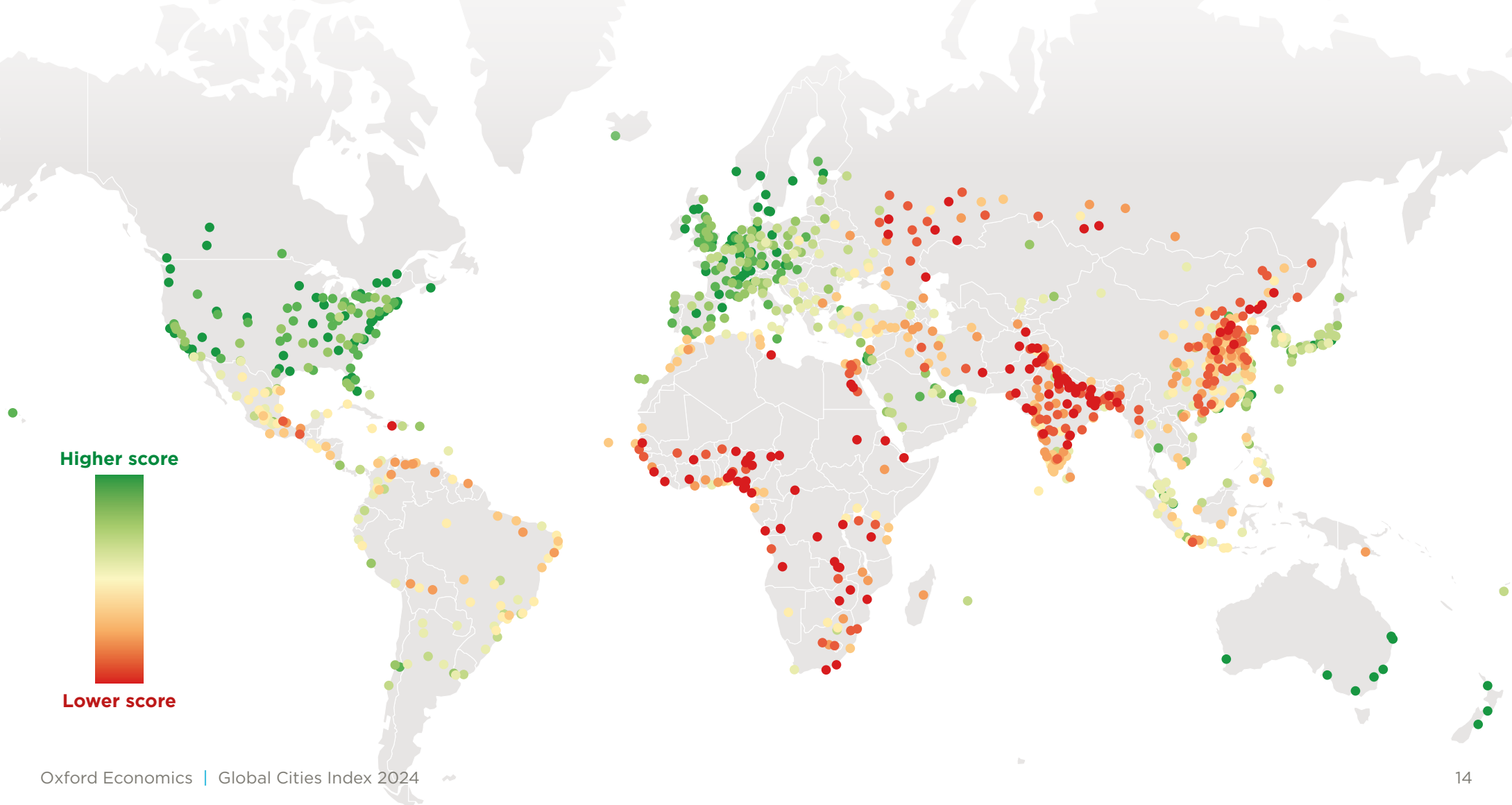
Rounding out the top 10 are Seattle, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Melbourne, and Zurich. The diversity in characteristics of these cities emphasises that there is no single formula to become a top city globally. Some, like Seattle and San Francisco, possess outsized economic influence. Others, like Melbourne and Zurich, are not as powerful economically but benefit from superior Environment or Quality of Life scores.

## Top cities by overall score



# Regional Trends in the Global Cities Index

Examining the overall rankings for our 1,000 cities reveals interesting regional trends. Among the 10 regions, it is unsurprising that North America, Western Europe, and Oceania perform best, as cities in these regions tend to score highly across all five categories. At the other end of the spectrum, the regions of Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia have the lowest average scores.

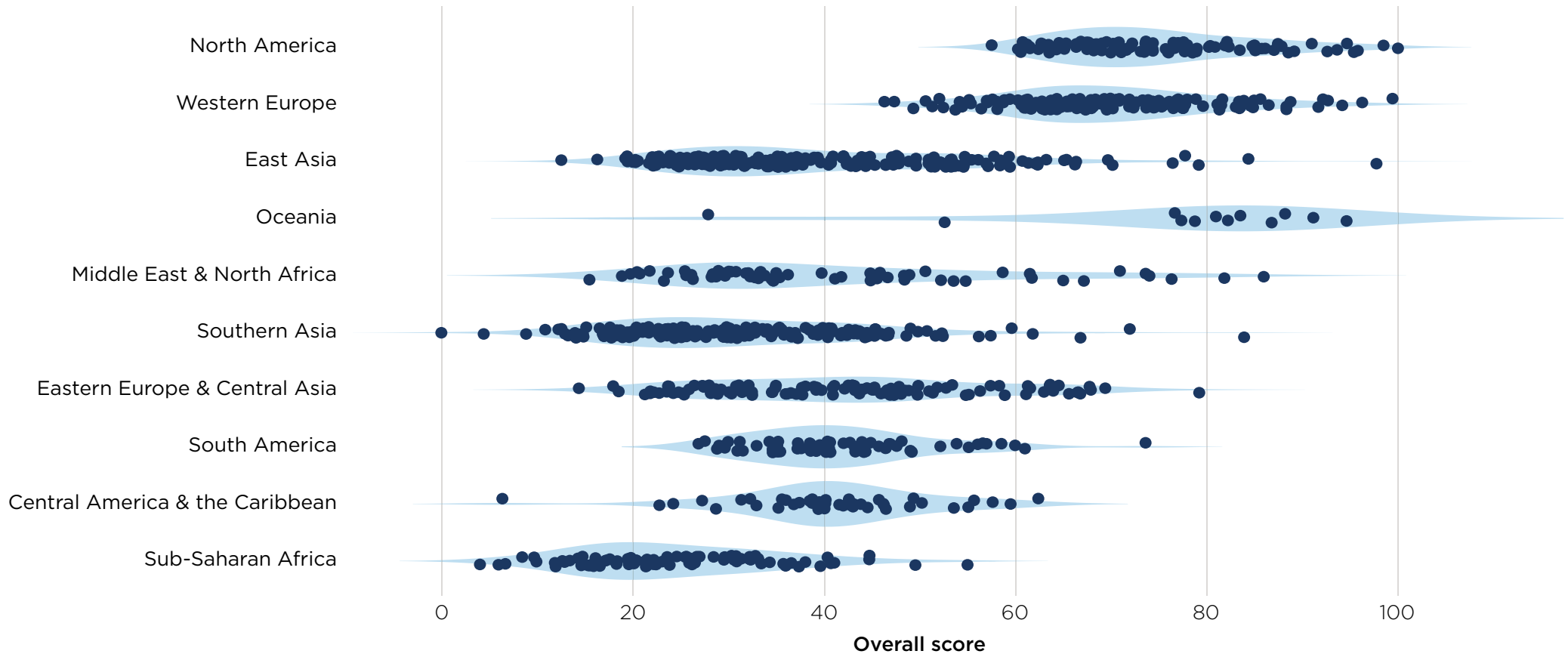


Within regions, different patterns emerge as well. In some regions, most cities are ranked closely to one another. In general, cities in North America are all clumped at the higher end of the rankings, while those in Sub-Saharan Africa are nearly all at the bottom. But not all regions are homogenous.

In East Asia, for example, Tokyo scores near the top of our rankings, while the lowest-scoring city, Fushun, China, ranks in the bottom 50. Southern Asia also has a high-scoring outlier in Singapore, while Oceania has a low-scoring outlier in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

This dot plot reveals another interesting finding: under our index criteria, a few of the top cities in Central America & the Caribbean and Sub-Saharan Africa outperform the weakest cities in North America and Western Europe. This suggests that while there are some regional effects at play, within-region and even within-country differences are significant.

### Overall scores by region



# Future Challenges Facing Cities

The Global Cities Index scores cities based on how they are performing today. Looking ahead to the coming years, there are several global trends that have the potential to disrupt these rankings. An uneven economic outlook across regions and lingering inflationary concerns could negatively impact the Economics score of many locations. Along similar lines, debt sustainability continues to be an issue for many developing countries following the Covid-19 pandemic and a period of heightened interest rates, which further threatens the economies of cities in these countries.

The phenomenon of “deglobalisation” and other global migration trends could have an impact on Human Capital scores. Cities making significant investments in their healthcare infrastructure following the challenges of Covid-19 may see their Quality of Life scores increase. Conversely, cities unable to get a handle on their housing crises may see declines in this category. Scores in the Environment category will certainly be impacted by the effects of climate change in the coming years, especially in cities most vulnerable to volatile temperatures and natural disasters.

And finally, the threat of violence and political instability remains present in many countries, which could impact their Governance scores. There is potential for significant movement within the rankings in the coming years, as the 1,000 Global Cities navigate the concurrence of several global trends.





# THE TOP 50 CITIES



# 1 New York | United States

New York is the top city in our 2024 Global Cities Index. The city is the economic capital of the United States, and in many ways, the world. It is a global hub for finance, tech, advertising, media, and fashion, which explains New York's top ranking in the Economics category. While the city's economy suffered more than many other American metros during the Covid-19 outbreak, it has rebounded quite strongly, and its fortunes look positive for the future.

The city's other relative strength is in the Human Capital category, where it has the fourth-highest score of our 1,000 cities. New York is the largest city in the US by population, with over 20 million people calling the metro area home—and high rates of international in-migration continue to drive this figure upward. Many people are attracted to the city for its world-class universities, cultural institutions, and the several head offices

for multinational corporations. As a result, the city's population is also highly educated and quite diverse.

New York slightly underachieves relative to other top cities in the Quality of Life and Environment categories, the areas that are generally weakest for megacities. That being said, compared to the world's other 41 megacities, New York ranks fifth in Quality of Life, which is a much better showing. The city has among the highest levels of income per person in the world, but the distribution of that income across the city's residents is very unequal. Housing affordability is also a chronic issue in New York (as it is in many megacities) and while there has been some recent momentum towards building more affordable housing, it is unlikely to satiate the sky-high demand for housing in the city that drives up prices. In the Environment category, two different stories emerge. New York's large public transit system earns it a

lower emissions intensity than most peer cities and better air quality, but the metro is more prone to natural disasters and volatile temperatures than other top cities in the rankings. Overall, this leaves the city near the top third of the rankings in Environment.

Finally, in the Governance category, the city benefits from a welcoming business environment, but the outcome of the 2024 presidential election has the potential to create significant movement in this category next year. Despite underperforming other top cities in a few areas, New York still scores quite highly in all five categories in absolute terms. While there are areas with room for improvement, New York reigns supreme in this year's Global Cities Index, riding its outstanding Economics and Human Capital scores to the top of the rankings. And it seems poised to defend that title for years to come.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	1 <sup>st</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	4 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	278 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	353 <sup>rd</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$2.3 trillion
GDP per person:	US\$114,000
Population:	20.5 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Large GDP size
-  Many corporate headquarters
-  High income per person

## WEAKNESSES

-  Lower income equality
-  More natural disasters
-  Less economic diversity

# 2 London | United Kingdom



London may fit the definition of a “Global City” more than anywhere else in the world. The city has established itself as a perpetually relevant locale for business, science and technology, education, and the arts. This global economic powerhouse scores seventh in our Economics category thanks to the size of the city’s economy (the fourth largest in the world) and the stable growth it experienced in the decade before the Covid-19 outbreak.

But London performs even better in our Human Capital category, topping all other cities in the rankings. This is, in part, due to the number of higher education institutions in the city, which helps it achieve one of the highest rates of educational attainment in

the world. London also attracts many highly educated people from abroad (nearly 40% of its population is foreign-born) and several global corporations are headquartered in the city to take advantage of this world-class talent pool. This should help keep population growth above—and the age profile younger than—the rate of many peer cities, including New York, Tokyo, and Paris.

This diverse and well-educated workforce creates a more productive economy, translating to higher average incomes for city residents. But, like New York, this income isn’t equally distributed across London, with the majority of the wealth concentrated in just a few neighbourhoods. Also hurting the city’s Quality of Life score is London’s housing

affordability crisis. London residents spend more of their income on housing than the residents of nearly every other city in the world. At the core of this crisis are structural affordable housing supply issues, which will take both political willpower and time to resolve.

London’s Environment score benefits from its lower carbon emissions intensity compared to peer cities, as much of the city’s economic output is driven by the low-carbon finance and business sectors. However, despite the implementation of congestion charges and central London’s ultra-low emission zone (ULEZ) policies, the city still suffers from worse air quality than New York and other peers, which somewhat drives down its score. Yet, ranking in the top 200 cities in the Environment category is an impressive feat for a city the size of London, especially when the top cities tend to be much smaller.

Overall, London has weathered the UK’s recent stumbles related to Brexit and the turmoil of the Prime Minister’s office quite well. Fears that Brexit would lead to a decline of the city as a global financial centre have not been realised. And we expect London to continue to attract migrants from all over the world to access its world-class institutions and range of job opportunities. The city is set to remain a top Global City for years to come, potentially fighting New York for the top spot.

## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	7 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	1 <sup>st</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	292 <sup>nd</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	197 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	72 <sup>nd</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$1.0 trillion
GDP per person:	US\$78,800
Population:	12.8 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Many universities
-  Large GDP size
-  Many corporate headquarters

## WEAKNESSES

-  High housing expenditure
-  Less economic diversity
-  Lower income equality

# 3 San Jose | United States

San Jose is home to most of the major technology companies, including Apple, Meta, Alphabet (Google), and Nvidia, as well as the operations for Microsoft and Amazon, among others. Its renowned Silicon Valley is what gives it an overall 3rd Global Cities Index ranking. With technology firms generating significantly higher GDP than most industries, San Jose's GDP per person is the highest of all 1,000 cities. Hence, despite having only the 21st largest GDP by size, it has the 3rd highest Economics score. However, the tech sector has experienced booms and busts over the years, and thus, San Jose's economic stability is relatively weak. And, given that there are few large companies outside of tech operating in Silicon Valley, the lack of economic diversity makes the city more exposed to this volatility.

San Jose attracts some of the brightest minds around the globe, with all of them having the aspiration to work for one of the high-profile tech companies. Thus,

its Human Capital category includes a large foreign-born population and a relatively high corporate headquarter measure. However, San Jose's Human Capital is hampered by an ageing population, as well as its low population growth. Although it attracts healthy immigration of young and foreign workers, it loses some middle-aged residents who struggle to maintain a reasonable lifestyle given the high cost of living.

Indeed, San Jose's Quality of Life ranks the highest in the US and is competitive in the overall index, complementing its higher Economics score. Many of San Jose's residents are high-income earners, with nearly a quarter of the households earning greater than \$350,000—more than four times the US average. A high measure indeed, but an unfortunate byproduct is the high income inequality, for which it ranks in the bottom half globally. With its abundant wealth, popular restaurants, and shopping mecca

on Santana Row, San Jose has a strong recreation offering. Adding to this, the San Jose Museum of Art, the Center for Performing Arts, and other sites grant the city a place in the top 25 in the US for recreation and cultural sites, though still far away from the top 100 globally.

San Jose has little heavy manufacturing outside of computers and semiconductors, and despite its limited public transportation and heavy reliance on cars, its overall emissions intensity is lower than most Californian towns. This boosts the city's Environment score, which is weighed down by temperature anomalies and higher propensity for natural disasters. This area of Northern California is near the Diablo Mountain Range, which is vulnerable to forest fires in dry climates. Aside from its lower Governance score, which is the case for all US cities, San Jose ranks within the top 100 in the other four categories, highlighting the well-rounded nature of this global tech hub.



## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS

3<sup>rd</sup>

HUMAN CAPITAL

28<sup>th</sup>

QUALITY OF LIFE

38<sup>th</sup>

ENVIRONMENT

53<sup>rd</sup>

GOVERNANCE

184<sup>th</sup>

## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP: US\$475 billion

GDP per person: US\$242,900

Population: 2.0 million

## STRENGTHS



High GDP per person



Many corporate headquarters



Lower emissions intensity

## WEAKNESSES



Larger temperature anomalies



Lower income equality



Older age profile

# 4 Tokyo | Japan

A prolonged period of stagnation since the 1990s, often referred to as the Lost Decades, has weakened narratives about Tokyo, but the city's position in the Global Cities Index is self-evident. Tokyo remains a key financial centre within the global context despite recent APAC competition, and it is still the second-largest city in the world in terms of GDP. Although GDP growth has been slow in comparison to its peers, such as London and New York, its diverse economy of industry and services has kept the wheels turning. Since the reopening of Japanese borders post-Covid-19, visitor numbers to Tokyo have rebounded to levels higher than 2019, providing a sizeable contribution to the economy.

The area where Tokyo excels most is in the Human Capital category, ranking 2nd in the world. While worries about Japan's ageing population have grabbed headlines, the population of Tokyo is one of the largest in the world and still continues to grow, in part due to internal migration of individuals relocating to the city where universities and job opportunities are concentrated. High educational attainment means the majority of national and numerous international corporations are based in Tokyo, close to the Japanese government and administrative institutions.

However, Tokyo's size and magnitude also come with problems, which become evident when examining the quality of

life. Just like in other megacities across the world, residents face high housing expenditure, with space in central Tokyo coming at a high cost. Additionally, Tokyo experiences similar problems to Japan as a whole concerning stagnant wages and lower incomes per head, stemming from economic but also cultural factors. However, it is not solely negative, as a high life expectancy and the abundance of recreational sites help Tokyo place in the top quartile for the category despite its challenges.

Environmentally, Tokyo has moderate levels of pollution, although it scores significantly higher than other major cities in East Asia. The city performs far better in emissions intensity than in air quality, which shows that the city's pollution levels are negatively affected

by activity of regional neighbours. Tokyo does see its score in this category worsened by the effects of natural disasters, with earthquakes a frequent occurrence in Japan.

An established economy, extensive human capital, and strong and secure institutions have created a stable metropolis which appeals to businesses and individuals, both domestically and internationally. We expect Tokyo to remain relevant in global rankings, but the presence of increasing competition from faster-growing cities can't be ignored. The foundations for Tokyo are all present, but whether it can capitalise on its potential through more efficient policy decisions will ultimately decide if Tokyo can retain its position on the Global Cities Index.



## RANKINGS

**ECONOMICS** 10<sup>th</sup>

**HUMAN CAPITAL** 2<sup>nd</sup>

**QUALITY OF LIFE** 218<sup>th</sup>

**ENVIRONMENT** 277<sup>th</sup>

**GOVERNANCE** 26<sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

**GDP:** US\$1.4 trillion

**GDP per person:** US\$38,700

**Population:** 36.3 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Many corporate headquarters
-  Large GDP size
-  High life expectancy

## WEAKNESSES

-  Older age profile
-  Slower GDP growth
-  High housing expenditure

# 5 Paris | France



For centuries, Paris has stood as one of the largest cities in the world, forging a path as a leader in diplomacy, commerce, sciences, culture, and gastronomy. With an economy largely focused on services, it is now the fifth-largest city in the world in terms of GDP, and the second-largest in Europe. Its cultural heritage along with the presence of significant historical landmarks have contributed to making the city one of the top tourist destinations worldwide, attracting millions of visitors annually. Paris ranks ninth in our Economics category, thanks to its size and its economic stability.

The importance of Paris as an economic powerhouse is also well reflected in our Human Capital category, where it has the sixth-highest score globally.

Paris is the largest city in a historically highly centralised country, and although regional strategies have been in place for decades, the capital still has the highest concentration of most major companies' headquarters, renowned universities, key decision-making institutions, and various international organisations. As a result, it draws in a highly-educated population, coming from across France and from abroad.

Although larger cities tend to rank relatively poorly in the Quality of Life category, Paris scores in the top 100, thanks to a high life expectancy, a good average income per person, and easy access to culture. Along with over 1,800 listed monuments and 130 museums, Paris has a diverse cultural

scene, supported by proactive national and local policies. For example, since 2022 a national programme offers every young person aged 15 to 18 a monetary allowance of up to €300 to be used for cultural activities. However, housing affordability is a significant issue in the city, and while prices have recently started to fall after years of growth, housing remains a significant challenge.

Instead, it is in the Environment category where Paris largely underperforms. The city has been prone to natural disasters, mainly in the form of flooding from the Seine River. Although a long-standing phenomenon, global warming is likely to increase the frequency of these events in the future. Meanwhile, there has been a recorded rise in the number of heatwave days, and this trend is expected to accelerate over time.

The French government has attempted to change investors' perceptions of heavy bureaucracy and red tape by multiplying incentives to attract foreign businesses to France. But Paris' Governance score still falls behind some other global cities, including London—its closest rival—specifically because of the quality of its business environment and institutions. The Olympic Games in summer 2024 will be an occasion for Paris to showcase the city's governance and management capabilities, and to reassert its position as a top global economic player.

## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	9 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	6 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	65 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	409 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	161 <sup>st</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$941 billion
GDP per person:	US\$71,200
Population:	13.2 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Many universities
-  Large GDP size
-  Many corporate headquarters

## WEAKNESSES

-  High housing expenditure
-  More natural disasters
-  Larger temperature anomalies

# 6 Seattle | United States



Seattle's economic strength propels it into the top 10 of our 2024 Global Cities Index. The city's major tech sector—home to Microsoft and Amazon—rivals those in any other city in the world. Aerospace is also a significant contributor to the economy, including Boeing (which was founded in the city). Seattle hosts a number of retail headquarters as well, including Starbucks, Costco, and Nordstrom. This range of large employers gives the city one of the highest GDP per person levels in our index, and a healthy economic stability measure.

Though Seattle has a highly educated workforce employed in its sizeable high-value tech and aerospace sectors, slower than expected population growth and an ageing population hold it back with respect to the Human Capital category—although it is still ranked 40th globally. The city suffered a slowdown in population growth during the Covid-19 outbreak due to increased out-migration to other US destinations, as well as reduced foreign immigration. However, this has begun to reverse according to the latest data.

The city scores favourably in the Quality of Life category as the large number of workers employed in the tech, aerospace, and corporate sectors means its residents have a very high income per person. However, this can be a double-edged sword, as it has likely contributed to high income inequality in the city. This is especially concerning as Seattle's

growth and limited housing supply has led to rising house prices and rents, causing housing affordability to become an increasingly prevalent issue.

Seattle residents enjoy a wide range of cultural, recreational, and outdoor amenities, that further boost its Quality of Life ranking. The city benefits from its location on the west coast of the US, between an inlet of the Pacific Ocean and Lake Washington, and has a wide selection of urban parks and natural landscapes. Seattle also has diverse cultural and arts offerings, including the Seattle Art Museum (SAM), the Seattle Symphony, and Seattle Opera company. The city is known for its contemporary music scene, being the birthplace of grunge and key to the emergence of alternative rock bands such as Nirvana and Sonic Youth. Finally, the city scores well in the Environment category due to its high air quality and low emissions. However, temperature anomalies and vulnerability to coastal flooding and storms weigh down this category.

Seattle's strong business environment contributes positively to its Governance rank. However, like the rest of the US, political instability weakens the city's score, especially with the upcoming 2024 Presidential election. Despite vulnerabilities, Seattle's excellent scores in four out of our five categories results in an overall ranking just outside the global top five.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	4 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	40 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	56 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	40 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$558 billion
GDP per person:	US\$136,600
Population:	4.1 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High income per person
-  Good air quality
-  Large GDP size

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Lower income equality
-  High housing expenditure

# 7 Los Angeles | United States

One of the largest metropolitan areas in the world with renowned entertainment and film sectors, Los Angeles boasts the seventh highest ranking in our 2024 Global Cities Index. With the third largest GDP in the world (behind New York and Tokyo), as well as a healthy economic diversity measure, the city yields the second highest overall Economics ranking. Indeed, although it is known for Hollywood with Paramount, Warner Brothers, and other big studio companies, Los Angeles also boasts healthy tech and high-end manufacturing sectors, including a large aerospace base. SpaceX is just one of several spacecraft companies with production facilities in the metro. The film sector has seen great volatility in jobs in recent times, though its GDP has generally remained high. These three sectors—film, tech, and aerospace—drive the city’s high GDP per person.

Los Angeles’ Human Capital measure ranks 19th overall. The city is the second most popular destination for immigrants to the US (other than New York), and it attracts many highly educated people who are drawn to its tech and creative industries. Many come to study at renowned universities, including USC and UCLA. Despite this, Los Angeles has suffered significant out-migration over the last few years as many seek to escape the high cost of living in the city; and this out-migration weighs on its population growth.

Los Angeles ranks less favourably on its Quality of Life measure due to several factors, including its high cost of living. Its housing expenditure measure is higher than most other cities as the cost of housing is hampered by strict zoning that prevents developers from building dense housing in many parts of the region. Although it has a high income per person, the wealth is not spread evenly; Los Angeles has significant income inequality. The city does have a large leisure and hospitality sector, with many people working at its theme parks, but these service jobs offer low pay which exacerbates the disparity. While the city does have numerous entertainment options, its recreation and cultural sites on a per-person scale is relatively low, a reflection of the metro area’s massive population.

Finally, Los Angeles’s sprawl and limited public transportation options require many to drive to work. This has historically created air quality issues. LA, however, is leading the drive for more electric vehicles with a pledge of 10% by 2025. Los Angeles’s Environment score as a whole reflects its generally favourable weather and limited natural disasters. In addition, with relatively few heavy manufacturing companies, its overall emissions score is better than most major US cities.

While strong scores in the Economics and Human Capital categories propel Los Angeles into the global top 10 cities, its weaker Quality of Life holds it back from an even stronger result. With future improvements in this space, Los Angeles is well positioned to move even closer to the top.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	2 <sup>nd</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	19 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	280 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	79 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$1.3 trillion
GDP per person:	US\$101,800
Population:	12.9 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Large GDP size
-  Many universities
-  High income per person

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Lower income equality
-  Slower population growth



# 8 San Francisco | United States

With a broad range of corporate headquarters in the area, from tech's Salesforce.com, Uber, and Yelp to Levi Strauss, the Gap, and Wells Fargo, San Francisco's global ranking reflects a robust economy that is heavily weighted by the pros and cons of having a large tech sector in its region. Its high Economics score is driven by having the second highest GDP per person in the world, trailing only San Jose. The tech sector generates high GDP on a per-job basis, but it has been notoriously volatile over the years, with sharp declines following both the dot-com and housing busts of the 2000s. Thus, its GDP and employment growth measures rank low. Moreover, it lacks economic diversity despite having other headquarters in the region, as well as a large banking sector

concentrated near Montgomery Street. Indeed, the failures of First Republic and Silicon Valley banks in 2023 took a toll and demonstrated the vulnerability of San Francisco's economy to the vicissitudes of tech.

San Francisco's reputation as a world class city has only been partially damaged in recent years, as reflected in other measures such as its Human Capital. With its high cost of living and a legacy of booms and busts, San Francisco sees considerable swings in net migration patterns that yield lower-than-average population growth and faster ageing of the population. In recent years, in-migration of those under 34 has declined sharply. With the attraction of the tech sector, however, San Francisco's

foreign-born population is generally higher than most, but on the flip side, its educational attainment is lower than other gateway cities.

With many earning enviable salaries paid by tech and finance firms, San Francisco has the third highest income per person in the world after San Jose and Bridgeport, Connecticut. Yet, income inequality is pervasive; this deeply affects the city's affordability, and the cost of housing is high despite high incomes. All of these account for San Francisco's relatively weak Quality of Life measure relative to other US cities. Although it is known for its charming streetscapes and popular tourism destinations—such as Fisherman's Wharf, the Presidio, Lombard Street, and Alcatraz—San Francisco does not have as many cultural amenities as the East Coast gateway cities.

San Francisco's Environment score reflects a favourable emissions intensity that comes from its strong public transportation network which frees residents from a reliance on cars. Likewise, with a lack of heavy manufacturing in the area, San Francisco's air quality is better than most. The city has taken a bit of a beating in the media in recent years, but clearly, San Francisco remains a top city in the world. Time will tell whether the volatility of the tech sector and housing market will lead San Francisco to move up or down in the rankings in the future.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	5 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	34 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	101 <sup>st</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	62 <sup>nd</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$778 billion
GDP per person:	US\$168,600
Population:	4.6 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High GDP per person
-  Many corporate headquarters
-  Lower emissions intensity

## WEAKNESSES

-  High housing expenditure
-  Lower income equality
-  Larger temperature anomalies

# 9 Melbourne | Australia

Melbourne ranks ninth overall in the Global Cities Index, doing particularly well in the Human Capital and Economics categories. It is the highest-ranking Australian city in our index, seven positions above its slightly larger and more famous counterpart, Sydney. Indeed, Melbourne has in the last two decades been catching up to Sydney in aspects ranging from economics to population size. Because of its many art galleries and the fact that it hosts major sports events—such as the Australian Open and the Australian Grand Prix—Melbourne is widely considered to be the cultural and sporting capital of Australia.

Melbourne's strong performance in terms of its economics is a result of multiple different metrics. As the second largest city in Australia in terms of GDP, Melbourne places just within the top 50 cities worldwide. Also boasting a diversified, service-oriented economy, with a large business services sector and leading research facilities in healthcare, the city has been able to grow at a relatively high and stable rate in recent years. Overall, Melbourne's achievement in the Economics category is centred around its being a global city, with a diverse and durable economy.

However, where Melbourne truly shines is in the Human Capital category, where the city achieves its highest ranking of 11th worldwide. This ranking is attributable to its many high-quality



universities, with two of them notably belonging to the prestigious “Group of Eight,” a club of top Australian universities. Melbourne's fast-growing economy makes it an appealing destination for immigration, and over the past few years the city has attracted many foreign workers.

Melbourne is also the best ranking Australian city in the Environment category. The presence of few heavy industries and its geographical location mean that the city has good air quality and a low emissions intensity, whilst also benefitting from a relatively stable climate with few rainfall anomalies and few natural disasters. Combined, these metrics mean that Melbourne places 30th overall.

Conversely, Melbourne ranks less well in the Quality of Life category. The city's fast-growing population has made housing increasingly unaffordable, and

as is the case in most Australian cities, Melbourne suffers from slow internet speed due to structural underinvestment into broadband infrastructure. Nevertheless, Melbourne does rank highly in terms of life expectancy, thanks to its world-class healthcare system comprised of over 150 public and private hospitals located across the city. Ultimately, these globally leading medical research centres help prop up the city's ranking in this category.

Like the rest of Australia, Melbourne's high quality government institutions and democratic system promote a high degree of civil liberty and an open business environment, underpinning the city's high ranking in the Governance category. While missing some of the “soft power” of its northern peer, Sydney, Melbourne ranks higher in our index, and is on a path to overtake its main competitor as Australia's largest city.

## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS 16<sup>th</sup>

HUMAN CAPITAL 11<sup>th</sup>

QUALITY OF LIFE 185<sup>th</sup>

ENVIRONMENT 30<sup>th</sup>

GOVERNANCE 18<sup>th</sup>

## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP: US\$292 billion




GDP per person: US\$56,300

Population: 5.2 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High life expectancy
-  Many universities
-  Large foreign-born population

## WEAKNESSES

-  High housing expenditure
-  Older age profile
-  Slower internet speed

# 10 Zurich | Switzerland



Rounding out the top 10 cities in 2024 is Zurich. While the city may not have the population or GDP size of other business hubs around the world, it remains an important financial capital in Europe. The fact that the city punches well above its weight is reflected in its top-30 scores in four out of the five categories. Zurich has the 81st-largest economy in the world, but in per-person terms, it has the 11th-largest. It is one of only 19 cities in the world with a GDP per person above \$100,000, and one of only six cities in Europe to achieve that feat, which helps explain its high score in our Economics category.

Zurich ranks even higher in the Human Capital category. Here, the city benefits from having one of the most educated populations in the world, as well as several globally ranked universities. Zurich is also home to many head offices for multinational corporations, due to the city's role as a financial hub. These features attract people from all around the world to Zurich for its educational and employment opportunities.

If people come to Zurich for the economic opportunities, they stay for the city's liveability; Zurich's strongest performance lies in the Quality of Life category. Incomes per person are very high, and crucially, relatively equally distributed. Unlike some other cities with high incomes per person (such as those in the US), income inequality is relatively low in

Zurich. Further boosting the city's Quality of Life score is its high life expectancy and many cultural sites, such as the famous Opera House and many museums. Where Zurich does struggle in this category, however, is with housing expenditure. It is no surprise that Zurich's lakefront location and snow-capped mountain skyline come with the downside of high house prices and rents. But despite this, Zurich has the highest Quality of Life score of any city in the overall top ten.

The city's visually stunning location comes with another downside, however, as seen in the Environment category. Zurich's climate can be quite volatile, with large swings in temperatures and rainfall. It is also prone to natural disasters, especially flooding. These incidents are likely to get worse as the effects of climate change intensify, which may explain Zurich's urgency in responding to the climate crisis, seen through its legally enshrined commitment to reducing emissions. Still, the Environment remains Zurich's only underperforming category.

In the Governance category, Zurich benefits from Switzerland's strong institutions and political stability, scoring among the highest in the world for these two indicators. Overall, Zurich demonstrates that it's not just a large economy or population that makes a top city; doing the little things right is just as important.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	29 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	14 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	8 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	382 <sup>nd</sup>
GOVERNANCE	13 <sup>th</sup>

## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$185 billion
GDP per person:	US\$115,400
Population:	1.6 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Strong institutions
-  High educational attainment
-  High income per person

## WEAKNESSES

-  Slower GDP growth
-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  High housing expenditure

# 11 Boston | United States



Despite just missing out on the overall top 10, Boston is still undoubtedly a global powerhouse in the Economics and Human Capital categories. The city ranks 10th globally in Human Capital, in large part because of its role as a global hub for education. Boston is home to some of the best universities in the world, including Harvard and MIT, attracting talented students, academics, and researchers from around the globe. Unsurprisingly then, Bostonians have among the highest levels of educational attainment in the world. The city's universities foster a culture of innovation and cutting-edge research, bolstered by the many companies—particularly those in the healthcare and tech sectors—that are headquartered in Boston.

As a hub for innovation and technology, Boston's economy benefits from its large life sciences and tech sectors. These help the city achieve the 13th-largest GDP in the world, and the sixth-largest in per person terms. In fact, Boston's R&D-based sectors make up such an important share of the city's output that its economy is less diverse than nearly every other city in North America. Relying on just a few industries for growth can be risky, but this is slightly less of an issue for Boston as its R&D-based sectors tend to be less volatile than industries dependent on financial markets or commodity prices.

Boston's role in the knowledge economy results in some of the highest incomes

per person in the world, boosting the city's Quality of Life score. However, Boston has very high levels of income inequality. The disparities facing the city's residents extend to housing and educational opportunities as well. But Boston's Quality of Life score receives a boost from the number of recreation and cultural sites in the city, many of which are related to Boston's role in the founding of the United States.

In the Environment category, Boston's score takes a hit because the city is prone to natural disasters, particularly flooding. And new research shows that many neighbourhoods in Boston that were initially built on marshlands are sinking into the ground, compounding the issue of sea level rise already facing the city. Each centimeter the land sinks can make floods significantly worse. Fortunately, with its sizeable public transit system, Boston is already among the world's cleanest cities, both in terms of air quality and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions intensity. But more will need to be done to protect Boston's residents from the growing climate hazards facing the city.

Like other US cities, Boston's Governance score is driven by its strong business environment. In Boston's case, this business environment is married with the city's many centres for higher education, resulting in a city that is a global hub of innovation and entrepreneurship.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	12 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	10 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	123 <sup>rd</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	237 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$617 billion
GDP per person:	US\$125,100
Population:	4.9 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High income per person
-  Many universities
-  High educational attainment

## WEAKNESSES

-  Lower income equality
-  Less economic diversity
-  More natural disasters

# 12 Dublin | Ireland

Dublin is the economic engine of Ireland, and it is the first of three cities to rank in the top 100 in every category (the others being Stockholm and Oslo). The city's Economics score is strengthened by having the ninth highest GDP per person of our 1,000 cities and placing in the top three in Western Europe for GDP growth. Though Dublin's GDP per person is impressive, GDP can be a flawed measure of Dublin's economy, given that it continues to be distorted by activities of large multinationals operating in the city. Instead, other metrics can provide a more accurate insight into Dublin's economy. Like, for instance, employment growth; with Dublin having the second highest employment growth in Western Europe, it indicates that the city's labour market is indeed in good shape. Dublin's recent success has been concentrated in tech, finance, and pharmaceuticals, and although these sectors are high value, they can be exposed to global economic shocks.

The stock of human capital in Dublin is key to its economic prowess. The city has one of Western Europe's most favourable demographics in terms of population growth and age. The population has access to high-quality universities such as Trinity College Dublin and the city's talent pool is part of what attracts businesses, with many global corporations headquartered in Dublin, including Accenture. These advantages help Dublin rank fifth for Human Capital in Western Europe.

Although in the top decile globally for Quality of Life, certain factors weigh down Dublin's ranking. Residents spend relatively more on housing than nearly anywhere else—it is in the bottom 50 globally and one of the most expensive cities in Europe for housing—which is unsurprising given Ireland's housing crisis. Dublin ranks just outside the top decile for income per person, likely driven by its high earners working in the large multinationals in the city's Docklands, including the IFSC (International Financial Services Centre).

Dubliners enjoy one of the highest Environment scores globally, reflecting the city's temperate climate and ambitious climate action. Residents experience superior air quality due to a low concentration of carbon-intensive industries, and further progress is planned by the city council as it aims for climate neutrality by 2030. In terms of risk, there is a small chance of flooding along the river Liffey in the city during storms.

Dublin, Ireland's political centre, benefits from the country's stable representative democracy with good civil protections, though its business environment is average compared to Scandinavian cities. Dublin's challenges include its acute housing shortage, lack of economic diversity, and the instability that comes with its sectoral composition. Though despite these, Dublin earns a very respectable position in the index, grounded in its economic growth, environment, and highly skilled workforce.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	33 <sup>rd</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	16 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	67 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	17 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	51 <sup>st</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$260 billion
GDP per person:	US\$117,400
Population:	2.2 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High GDP per person
-  Many universities
-  Good air quality

## WEAKNESSES

-  Less economic stability
-  High housing expenditure
-  Less economic diversity

# 13 Washington, DC | United States

Washington, DC's two strongest categories, Human Capital and Economics, are a result of the city's role as the seat of the US federal government. Its score in the Economics category is reflective of the city's large GDP, both in total and per person terms. Unsurprisingly, the public sector plays an outsized role in the economy, as around one quarter of the population works for the federal government. However, Washington is also home to a large services sector that supports government activities, from law firms, non-profits, and consultancies to the hotels that host conferences year-round. However, having an economy so closely tied to the public sector can have a downside. The public sector tends to be less productive than others, which can explain Washington's slower GDP growth as compared to other US cities.

Washington's top score is in the Human Capital category. The city's residents are among the most educated in the world (and are the most educated in the US), which is a byproduct of many of them working in Washington's several policy-making arenas. The city is also home to many universities and corporate headquarters that want to benefit from being in proximity to the federal government. As the US capital, Washington is also a very international city, thanks to the many foreign diplomats stationed there.

The prevalence of well-paid government jobs also plays a role in Washington's high levels of income per person. In addition, the city benefits from decent recreation and cultural infrastructure for its size, with its plethora of museums (including 17 Smithsonian Museums alone) and monuments catering to tourists and residents alike. But Washington's Quality of Life score is hindered by relatively high levels of inequality (a feature of most American cities) and an expensive housing market.

The city's Environment score takes a hit because the region is prone to natural disasters and can experience volatile temperatures. But Washington gains points in this category for having a low CO<sub>2</sub> emissions intensity, in part due to its density and broad public transportation

infrastructure. Additionally, the city is not home to many carbon-intensive industries, and as a result, has one of the lowest emissions intensities of any American city.

Perhaps nowhere is a city's Governance score felt more acutely than in Washington. In addition to influencing its score, a new administration with new priorities can make Washington feel like an entirely different place. Like other US cities, Washington's Governance score is brought down by the increasing instability of the US political system. Overall, the city's fortunes are closely tied to its role as the US capital. In good times, Washington attracts new residents and visitors alike to its halls of power. But in bad times, the political gridlock can be crippling, causing government shutdowns and sluggish growth.



## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS

11<sup>th</sup>

HUMAN CAPITAL

7<sup>th</sup>

QUALITY OF LIFE

224<sup>th</sup>

ENVIRONMENT

314<sup>th</sup>

GOVERNANCE

184<sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP: US\$706 billion




GDP per person: US\$110,300

Population: 6.4 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High educational attainment
-  High income per person
-  Large GDP size

## WEAKNESSES

-  Slower GDP growth
-  More natural disasters
-  Less economic diversity

# 14 Stockholm | Sweden



Stockholm comes in at 14th in our rankings, making it the highest placed city in the Nordic region. The city's strength in the index lies in its consistency, as it is the second of only three cities to score in the top 100 for every category. As the economic centre of Sweden and the Nordics, Stockholm is the largest city in terms of GDP and population in the region. Its Economics score is further bolstered by a relatively high GDP per person, and a diverse economy that is less exposed to sector-specific shocks than many of its peers. This has helped Stockholm achieve healthy GDP growth by Western European standards.

Closely tied to the city's strong economy is its performance in the Human Capital category. Several global corporations have established their headquarters

in Stockholm, accessing a talent pool of highly educated residents and globally ranked universities. This makes Stockholm an attractive destination to do business, which has boosted job opportunities and helped to support healthy population growth, which has been increasing at one of the fastest rates in Europe.

People and businesses are also choosing Stockholm because of the high standard of living, which includes one of the highest life expectancies in the world. The city also has many recreational and cultural offerings, which include the Vasa Museum, Skansen, and the several islands of the Stockholm archipelago (popular destinations for Swedes and international visitors alike). But like many other cities at the top of the rankings, Stockholm's housing market remains

a key challenge. On average, residents spend a larger share of their income on housing than in most other cities. Rent controlled housing is available, but the average wait time is currently over nine years, and this pushes residents into the secondary market where sublets are often more expensive and less secure. With its high rates of population growth, it is likely that Stockholm's housing stock will become further strained without government intervention.

But it is a testament to Stockholm's overall strength that its worst-performing category, Environment, still scores in the top decile globally. In this category, however, competing forces are at play. On the one hand, Stockholm has one of the lowest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions intensities of any city in the world. At the same time, the city has particularly volatile temperatures, a common problem across the Nordic region, and this is likely to worsen as the impacts of climate change continue to grow.

Stockholm also benefits from Sweden's strong institutions that enable political stability and a welcoming business environment. Residents of Stockholm have among the most robust civil liberties protections in the world. Across the five categories in our index, Stockholm is among the most well-rounded. The city's strength lies in its ability to have no glaring weakness across any of our categories.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	28 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	15 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	85 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	88 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	10 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$189 billion
GDP per person:	US\$77,000
Population:	2.5 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Lower emissions intensity
-  Many corporate headquarters
-  Strong civil liberties

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  High housing expenditure
-  Larger rainfall anomalies

# 15 Copenhagen | Denmark

Copenhagen ranks 15th in our Global Cities Index, just one place behind its (perhaps) greatest rival, Stockholm. And although smaller in size, the Danish capital has a lot going for it. Copenhagen's greatest strength is in the Economics category, where it benefits from particularly high scores for sectoral diversity and GDP per head. The city's economic diversity is evident from it serving as headquarters for companies in a wide range of industries, from the pharma giant Novo Nordisk, to the world's largest shipping company Maersk, to Danske Bank (finance), and Carlsberg (beverages). Transport is another important sector for the city, with Copenhagen Airport the busiest in the Nordic region, and a major hub for European travellers.

Copenhagen also performs well in the Human Capital category, with its labour force achieving a very high rate of educational attainment. This is linked to the strong reputation of the city's universities, represented primarily by the University of Copenhagen, Technical University of Denmark, and the Copenhagen Business School. The city also does well in attracting skilled workers from abroad, with one-in-five of Copenhagen's residents being foreign-born.

The Danish capital ranks somewhat lower in our Quality of Life category, largely brought down by its limited and expensive housing. Indeed, in a recent Eurostat survey only 2.5% of Copenhagen's residents indicated that it's easy to find good housing at a

reasonable price—the lowest positive response among 80 major European cities. So much so that to help alleviate housing shortages, there are long-term plans to build an artificial island (to be called Lynetteholm) in the Copenhagen harbour, which would accommodate 35,000 people. On a more positive note, Copenhagen does benefit from high income per person, a long life expectancy, and rich cultural offerings, including the world-renowned Tivoli Gardens amusement park in the centre of the city.

As well as having many green spaces, Copenhagen enjoys a low emissions intensity, in part due to its extensive public transportation network and bike-friendly infrastructure. Already the eighth-best city in the world in terms of emissions intensity, Copenhagen has aspirations to become the first climate neutral capital in the world, although its plan to reach that target by 2025 has been delayed. However, Copenhagen's Environment ranking takes a hit because temperatures in the city can be very volatile.

Finally, Copenhagen's score for Governance is second only to cities in New Zealand. In particular, the Danish capital earns the highest marks across all cities for business environment, reflecting low levels of corruption and administrative burdens. And that is further reflected in strong scores of Copenhagen's institutions, which in turn support the city's positive economic and demographic outlook.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	13 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	37 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	179 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	110 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	4 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$190 billion
GDP per person:	US\$87,100
Population:	2.2 million

## STRENGTHS

-  More economic diversity
-  High educational attainment
-  Strong business environment

## WEAKNESSES

-  High housing expenditure
-  Lower income equality
-  Larger temperature anomalies



# 16 Sydney | Australia

As arguably the most iconic Australian city and the largest in terms of economic size, Sydney occupies the 16th place in our Global Cities Index. Sydney is the financial capital of Australia and hosts a large business services sector, as well as key institutions like the Reserve Bank of Australia and Australia's stock exchange. With an outreach both into Australia and the Asia Pacific region, Sydney has attracted many foreign companies over the years and currently has the largest number of corporate headquarters among Australian cities.

Sydney falls just within the top 20 in our index for the Economics category. It has enjoyed relatively high stability in its GDP growth rate over the years, in line with Australia's economic resilience in general. Also, Sydney's economy gets a large contribution from tourism, as it is home to some of Australia's most famed landmarks, including the Opera House, the Harbour Bridge, and Bondi Beach.

With two universities in the "Group of Eight" and several others, Sydney offers a broad array of higher education options. This contributes to the city's high average educational attainment level and attracts many foreign students. In conjunction with its large number of company headquarters, Sydney has highest share of foreign-born people in its population among Australian cities, bolstering its Human Capital score.

However, a major weakness in the form of high housing costs persists. Property prices and rents have risen steeply in the city due to rapid growth in population, and the housing supply has not been able to keep up. Indeed, Sydney's housing supply is constrained by its geographical location on the coastline and regulatory restrictions protecting heritage neighbourhoods; this makes new construction or increases in density difficult. As such, residents of Sydney have very high levels of housing

expenditure, which weighs considerably on the city's Quality of Life score.

In terms of environmental risk, Sydney has the worst ranking among all Australian cities in our index. Because of its subtropical climate, Sydney faces a greater exposure to temperature and rainfall anomalies than Melbourne (a city with a milder, temperate climate). Also, Sydney tends to be more affected by bush fires due to its forested surroundings, further increasing the environmental hazards.

Still the foremost city in Australia, Sydney continues to be an attractive place for individuals and companies alike. However, as shown by its ranking in the index, Sydney has lost some ground to its main competitor, Melbourne, in recent years. In order to bounce back, Sydney will have to make gains in its two weakest categories: Environment and Quality of Life.

## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS 19<sup>th</sup>

HUMAN CAPITAL 9<sup>th</sup>

QUALITY OF LIFE 230<sup>th</sup>

ENVIRONMENT 363<sup>rd</sup>

GOVERNANCE 18<sup>th</sup>

## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP: US\$339 billion




GDP per person: US\$62,500

Population: 5.4 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Many universities
-  Large foreign-born population
-  Strong institutions

## WEAKNESSES

-  High housing expenditure
-  More natural disasters
-  Slower internet speed



# 17 Toronto | Canada



Toronto is the highest-scoring Canadian city in the rankings, as it is the country's premier centre for business, finance, culture, and art. Positioned in the top-20 of both the Economics and Human Capital categories, the city's relevance is not only keenly felt in Canada, but also around the world. Toronto boasts one of the most historically stable economies in North America, yet it hasn't sacrificed robust GDP growth to achieve this feat and it remains one of the fastest-growing cities in the region.

Sustaining this strong growth over a long period of time is possible thanks to Toronto's persistently high levels of immigration, particularly from international immigrants. The city has the third-highest population growth rate in North America and the largest share of foreign-born residents. Toronto's Human Capital score is further boosted by its role as a corporate and educational hub. Canada's five largest banks are headquartered in the city, as are many companies in the hospitality and communications sectors. Several universities are also located in the city, driving a robust climate of research and innovation, including the world-renowned University of Toronto, a notable trailblazer in the medical field.

While Toronto's strong population growth rate has boosted its Human Capital score, it may have negatively impacted the city's Quality of Life score. The large influx of new residents has strained the metro's

already expensive housing market. With housing supply unable to keep up with demand, unaffordability hit record highs in early 2022. As a result, residents of Toronto spend more of their income on housing than residents of nearly every other city in the world. While the government of Ontario has increased its targets for new housing construction to help abate this crisis, elevated immigration rates could impede any significant improvements. Despite this issue, Toronto still ranks relatively strongly in Quality of Life given its high levels of life expectancy and income equality.

Toronto's lowest-ranking category is the Environment, in part because the city struggles with significant temperature anomalies, especially in winter. But heat waves have also hit the city in summertime in recent years, increasing the amount of risk the city faces due to climate change. Moreover, as Toronto sits on the shores of Lake Ontario, it is prone to flooding.

Like all Canadian cities, Toronto benefits from the robust civil liberties protections enforced by the government, earning the city a strong Governance score. Despite housing market challenges and a temperamental climate, Toronto continues to attract new residents from the world over. At a time when many cities in the developed world are struggling to maintain their population growth, Toronto is primed to remain a strong contender in the rankings for years to come.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	17 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	13 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	197 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	316 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	52 <sup>nd</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$435 billion
GDP per person:	US\$63,900
Population:	6.8 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High economic stability
-  Large foreign-born population
-  Many corporate headquarters

## WEAKNESSES

-  High housing expenditure
-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Less economic diversity

# 18 Dallas | United States



Dallas places 18th overall in our Global Cities Index, driven by its economic size and stability. What was a railroad and cotton-trading centre just over a century ago is now the fifth largest metropolitan economy in the US, and the ninth largest in the world. Diversification away from oil production since the 1980s into downstream oil refining and other high-value services sectors means that the city is no longer beholden to oil booms and busts. The “business friendly” political climate has stimulated private sector investment and has attracted many corporate relocations, including Caterpillar, Aecom, Toyota, CBRE, and Charles Schwab. Dallas also hosts the headquarters of Texas Instruments, American Airlines, and Southwest Airlines.

The significant number of corporate headquarters located in Dallas means that the city is amongst the best performers in terms of the Human Capital metric. However, when looking at the other measures of Human Capital, the city does not perform as well. Population growth is expected to slow, and an increasing share of the population will be of retirement age. Also, Dallas lacks the abundance of world-class education institutions present in other top cities, and its residents are not as highly educated as its competitors. The city also has fewer foreign-born residents than most of its large US peer metros. Nevertheless, in the global context, Dallas still ranks an impressive 23rd in this category.

Housing affordability has become an increasing issue in recent years, exacerbated by the city’s high income inequality. Dallas also suffers from relatively slow internet speed, and overall, these factors weigh on Dallas’ Quality of Life ranking. In addition, despite some notable recreational and outdoor amenities such as the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Gardens, and cultural institutions like the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the city lacks the breadth of art and cultural offerings present in other leading cities. Even though Dallas’ score in this category is bolstered by high average incomes, partly driven by the absence of state income tax in Texas, this alone isn’t enough to overcome Dallas’ other liveability challenges.

Dallas’ urban sprawl, along with a public transportation infrastructure in need of further investment, means that there is a significant dependency on cars and high levels of traffic congestion. Coupled with the elevated emissions and reduced air quality, the city’s Environmental score takes a hit. Moreover, Dallas also experiences frequent heatwaves that weigh on the city’s performance in this category, and the urban heat island effect compounds these temperature extremes. Without more concrete plans to address this and other climate change hazards, the city risks further sliding in this category (and in others) in future years.

## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	6 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	23 <sup>rd</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	320 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	280 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$742 billion
GDP per person:	US\$91,600
Population:	8.1 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Large GDP size
-  Many corporate headquarters
-  High economic stability

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  High income inequality
-  Slower internet speed

# 19 Oslo | Norway

Just making it in the top 20 is the Norwegian capital, Oslo. Unlike others in the index, Oslo's strength is broad-based, and it is one of only three cities which ranks inside the top 100 across all categories. While not a large economy in global terms, Oslo's GDP per person is high at \$72,750, the city's residents are wealthy, and personal taxes are notably lower compared with its Nordic peers (albeit still high in the global context), thanks to levies on Norway's colossal oil and gas industry.

Oslo's strong overall performance is characterised by its stability. The city's economy is reasonably broad-based, which means Oslo is less exposed to sector-specific downturns than some of its peers. Plus, the city's economic performance has also been consistently healthy with GDP growth routinely hovering around the 2%-3% mark in the decade prior to the pandemic. The political climate is also favourable. Civil liberties are well protected by strong institutions, and the threat of political instability is low. This lack of volatility and risk has made Oslo an attractive destination to do business, and unsurprisingly, the city scores well in the Economics and Governance categories.

This favourable economic and political background is supported by Oslo's well-educated and young workforce, many of whom are foreign-born and enjoy a high quality of life. Oslo's residents live

some of the longest lives in the world, and resident satisfaction is among the highest in Europe. Part of this is as a result of the numerous recreational facilities and outdoor spaces that the city has to offer. In fact, the Norwegian capital is one of the only urban centres in the world where it is possible to ski within the city boundary, a popular pastime for residents.

However, this quality of life comes at a cost. While incomes are high, the city is notoriously one of the most expensive places in the world to live and housing costs take up a significant share of residents' incomes. This drags Oslo down in the Quality of Life category. But the

city is far from alone when it comes to this, as housing affordability is a key concern for many cities in our list.

Oslo's 'weakest' performing category is the Environment, although notably the city still features in the top decile globally. Emissions intensity is very low in the city and the air quality is high, helped in part by the large swathes of forested areas that surround it. Where Oslo falls in this category is through temperature and rainfall anomalies, a common problem for cities as far north as Oslo. But, by and large, Oslo is a city which consistently performs well in almost all areas in our index.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	48 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	53 <sup>rd</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	31 <sup>st</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	72 <sup>nd</sup>
GOVERNANCE	8 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$108 billion
GDP per person:	US\$72,800
Population:	1.5 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High economic stability
-  Strong civil liberties
-  Many recreation and cultural sites

## WEAKNESSES

-  High housing expenditure
-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Larger rainfall anomalies

# 20 Vancouver | Canada

Although Vancouver is best known for its stunning natural beauty, its performance across the index shows that quality of life isn't the only thing that is impressive about this city. Like Toronto, Vancouver's economy is both stable and fast-growing; the metro experienced steady economic growth in the decade preceding the pandemic and is among one of the fastest-growing cities in North America today. At the same time, Vancouver's economy isn't particularly diverse, and an overdependence on the real estate and tech sectors poses risks to future growth if these sectors begin to struggle.



Despite the potential risks, the preponderance of the tech sector ultimately benefits Vancouver's Human Capital ranking. The industry attracts workers from around the world; many US tech firms have established offices in Vancouver in order to recruit international talent. As a result, population growth is high, and the city is one of the most diverse in the world—nearly half of Vancouver's residents are not native English nor French speakers. Another byproduct of the influx of highly skilled workers is that Vancouver also has one of the highest rates of educational attainment.

Beyond the availability of jobs in tech, Vancouver also attracts new residents due to its high quality of life. Surrounded by both the Pacific Ocean and snow-capped mountains, Vancouver's

proximity to outdoor recreational activities of all types enhances its Quality of Life score. The outdoorsy nature of the city's residents also likely contributes to their high life expectancy. But Vancouver's amenities and scenic views come at a cost—namely, in the housing market. House prices and rental costs are a chronic issue, and the city's housing market has regularly topped lists of the most expensive in the world since the early 2010s. With these high costs, Vancouverites tend to spend a significantly larger share of their income on housing than nearly every other city in the world. But despite these costs, quality of life in the city remains high.

Vancouver's landscape isn't the only factor drawing its residents outdoors—for a city, it also boasts very good air

quality. Vancouver's Environment score is further boosted by the steps the city has taken to reduce its carbon emissions, first with the Greenest City Action Plan which concluded in 2020, and now with the Climate Emergency Action Plan. As a city with large temperature anomalies that is at risk of flooding and coastal storm surges, well-defined energy transition and climate adaptation plans are essential for Vancouver to manage climate change.

Arguably one of the most picturesque cities in the world, it's no surprise that Vancouver is such an attractive location for many Canadians and international migrants. For those who can stomach the housing costs, there are few other cities that can match Vancouver's economic strength and quality of life.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	35 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	33 <sup>rd</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	78 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	149 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	52 <sup>nd</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$164 billion
GDP per person:	US\$56,900
Population:	2.9 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High economic stability
-  Large foreign-born population
-  High life expectancy

## WEAKNESSES

-  High housing expenditure
-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Less economic diversity

# 21 Geneva | Switzerland

Geneva is the second Swiss city to appear in the index, following Zurich at #11. Like its slightly larger compatriot, Geneva punches well above its weight in the Economics category, owing to having a GDP per person among the highest in the world. The city's economy is also very stable, as a significant share of its activity comes from the numerous international organisations located around Geneva, including the headquarters of many UN bodies. While the public administration sector doesn't experience the volatility of other industries, the downside is that it tends to grow more slowly, contributing to a poor GDP growth ranking. However, this is balanced out by the other major industry in Geneva—the much faster-growing, but more volatile, finance

sector. The city hosts one of the world's largest marketplaces for the trading of oil, sugar, grains, and other commodities, which offsets some of the slowness from the public sector.

Given the city's key role in both global diplomacy and trade, it is unsurprising that Geneva's population is also very international. The share of its population that is foreign-born is the highest in Europe, which boosts its Human Capital score. Educational attainment is also high, as jobs in the public administration and finance sectors often require advanced degrees. And as the home of CERN, one of the largest research centres in the world, the city also attracts a wide array of scientists from across the globe.

But Geneva performs even better in the Quality of Life category. The city boasts the second-highest life expectancy of any city in Europe. And nestled between the Alps and Lake Geneva, the city has access to a wide range of outdoor recreational activities, from world-class skiing in the winter to swimming and hiking in the summer. But as is the case with many Swiss cities, residents face high housing costs as a result of Geneva's picturesque location, slightly bringing down its score in this category.

Another consequence of the city's location is its relatively poor Environment score. Lake Geneva poses a flooding risk to some neighbourhoods, and the mountains cause significant temperature anomalies as the weather can change dramatically from one day to the next. Conversely, Geneva's Environment score is boosted by the city's low emissions intensity, ranking fifth-best in the world due to an economy largely driven by services, rather than carbon-intensive industrials.

Like other Swiss cities, Geneva's top Governance score is driven by the country's robust institutions and political stability. Switzerland's carefully calibrated policy of neutrality has served Geneva well over the years and helps explain why so many international organisations are headquartered here. Despite a relatively small GDP and population, Geneva maintains an outsized relevance on the global stage.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	36 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	60 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	14 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	335 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	13 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$75 billion
GDP per person:	US\$121,000
Population:	620,000

## STRENGTHS

-  High GDP per person
-  Large foreign-born population
-  Lower emissions intensity

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Slower GDP growth
-  High housing expenditure

# 22 Luxembourg | Luxembourg



Luxembourg is one of the smallest cities in the top 50 both in terms of population and GDP, but for what the city lacks in quantity, it makes up for with quality. Specifically, quality of life. It has among the most recreation and cultural sites per person of any city in the world, thanks to its rich history and many notable museums. Luxembourg is the only city to have been crowned a European Capital of Culture twice. Residents of Luxembourg also benefit from high incomes, which are relatively evenly distributed—a rare combination. All of these characteristics contribute to Luxembourg’s achievement of the sixth-highest Quality of Life score in the world.

Underpinning Luxembourg’s high incomes is the city’s robust economy. While its total GDP doesn’t rank in the top 100 globally, in per-person terms, Luxembourg has the fifth-largest GDP in the world. This is mostly due to the city’s role in the financial services sector, where it specialises in providing banking and wealth management services to a predominantly international clientele. As such, the city’s economy is among the least diverse in Europe, with growth heavily dependent on the financial sector. Ultimately, this results in a high-risk, high-reward growth strategy: Luxembourg has among the fastest GDP growth rates in Western Europe, but it is also highly exposed to financial market volatility and regulatory changes.

In addition to being a financial hub, Luxembourg is also one of the de facto capitals of the European Union as the seat of several EU institutions and agencies. Because it is an international centre for finance and policymaking, Luxembourg has one of the largest shares of foreign-born residents in the world. This trend is set to continue as the city is forecast to have one of the fastest population growth rates in Western Europe in the next few years, further bolstering Luxembourg’s Human Capital score.

Luxembourg’s worst category by far is the Environment, but this is largely climate, rather than policy, related. The city has a relatively low emissions intensity as much of its economic output comes from the low-carbon financial sector. However, it suffers from significant temperature and rainfall anomalies. Large swings in temperatures and rainfall have led to heat waves and flash floods in Luxembourg in recent years, the risks of which will continue to grow as the impacts of climate change worsen.

In many ways, Luxembourg is unique among the world’s premier business hubs, having leveraged its financial revenues more equally for its residents. This is in part due to its political stability and strong institutions, resulting in a high Governance score. While Luxembourg’s prosperity is largely at the mercy of the global financial sector, for now, the city has maximised the benefits of these conditions.

## RANKINGS

**ECONOMICS** 38<sup>th</sup>

**HUMAN CAPITAL** 66<sup>th</sup>

**QUALITY OF LIFE** 6<sup>th</sup>

**ENVIRONMENT** 440<sup>th</sup>

**GOVERNANCE** 70<sup>th</sup>

## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

**GDP:** US\$86 billion




**GDP per person:** US\$129,600

**Population:** 660,000

## STRENGTHS

-  High GDP per person
-  Many recreation and cultural sites
-  Large foreign-born population

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Larger rainfall anomalies
-  Less economic diversity

# 23 Perth | Australia



Perth is the third ranking city in Australia and places 23rd in our index. The Western Australian city's performance is broad based across the categories we include in our index, and is situated in the top 100 in all but Quality of Life. The city is home to and serves as the operational and export basis to a large part of Australia's important mining sector. This is both a strength and a weakness for Perth; the mining generates substantial economic value for the city, contributing to a high GDP per person as well as a high rate of economic growth for a developed economy city. However, Perth's reliance on the mining sector also comes with drawbacks as it makes the city vulnerable to commodity price and demand fluctuations.

Perth's mining sector also enables the city to attract many foreign-born inhabitants seeking opportunities in its high paying labour market. Indeed, Perth has the strongest population growth score and the second largest share of foreign-born residents in Australia. The city also boasts a high level of educational attainment, supported by the presence of multiple universities, among which one is a part of the "Group of Eight", a group of elite Australian universities. All these elements drive Perth's strong performance in the Human Capital category, in which it is ranked 22nd worldwide.

High incomes associated with the mining and extraction sector also

imply that Perth's inhabitants enjoy a good quality of life on average. However, all of Perth's inhabitants do not benefit from the sector's windfall, creating high income inequality by Australian standards. Also, given the city's remoteness and the general underinvestment in internet connectivity infrastructure in Australia as a whole, Perth suffers from relatively poor levels of internet speed. Its geographic isolation also implies that Perth does not provide the same access to cultural life as some of its Australian east coast peers.

However, being remote does come with perks. Indeed, Perth scores highly when it comes to environmental quality, as the city has high levels of air quality and low emissions intensity. This might seem surprising for a city with a mining sector as large as Perth's, but this can be explained by the mining activities being extraction-focused and involving few air polluting transformation activities. Furthermore, these activities tend to be located away from the city's living quarters.

Perth's fortunes have been closely linked to the mining sector, which should continue to support the economy. Meanwhile, the city's growing services industry will likely also ensure that growth in the city will be more diverse in the future. A key challenge for Perth, then, will be to continue to attract talent to sustain its current growth path.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	57 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	22 <sup>nd</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	135 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	34 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	18 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$223 billion
GDP per person:	US\$96,600
Population:	2.3 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High GDP growth
-  Good air quality
-  High GDP per person

## WEAKNESSES

-  Less economic diversity
-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Slower internet speed



# 24 Denver | United States

With an overall ranking of 24, Denver, Colorado sits just east of the Rocky Mountains and just north of the top 50 in our index. While not as economically diverse as other leading cities, Denver's sectoral concentration has led it to be a financial powerhouse in the western US. Denver's highest scoring category is Economics, owing that feat to both high levels of GDP per person and GDP size, courtesy of the many information and professional services companies that have made the Mile High City their home.

These high-paying, information-centred jobs are the root cause of higher scores in the other categories. For example, of the top 50 cities in the Human Capital category, the only American city that ranks higher in educational attainment than Denver is Washington, DC. It is clear that these types of jobs attract highly educated, skilled labour from around the country. Additionally, the businesses that host these jobs do not just have branches

in Denver, but have put down roots in the Rockies, as the city hosts several global corporate headquarters, further boosting its Human Capital ranking.

Although Denver doesn't score in the top 100 for Quality of Life measures as it's weighed down by high housing expenditure, the city impressively boasts the 6th-highest income per person the world. Credit for this score can again be given to high paying information sector jobs in tandem with a demographic dominated by a young, skilled workforce.

The environment is also very important to Denverites, with the mountains and gorges providing ample opportunities for skiing, hiking, and rafting, as well as serving as a major pull for tourism. However, it also presents hurdles in the Environment category, with the famously arid climate bringing strong anomalies in temperature and rainfall. In combination

with the dry air, Denver is situated in a valley, making it uniquely exposed to natural disasters such as wildfires and flooding. On a brighter note, Denver does see very limited air pollution, which is owed to a low carbon-intensive industry mix and a lack of heavy manufacturing. Additionally, with recent efforts made to promote alternative methods of transportation, Denver has made significant improvements to its cycling infrastructure, and residents can also enjoy easy access to a well-connected light rail.

Denver has positioned itself as a city at the forefront of the professional and information sectors. This centralised focus has attracted top talent from other parts of the country and has allowed these workers to be well compensated for their performance. Looking forward, those in Denver can endeavour to diversify the broader economy and enjoy their 300 days of sunshine.



## RANKINGS

**ECONOMICS** 23<sup>rd</sup>

**HUMAN CAPITAL** 31<sup>st</sup>

**QUALITY OF LIFE** 113<sup>th</sup>

**ENVIRONMENT** 243<sup>rd</sup>

**GOVERNANCE** 184<sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

**GDP:** US\$305 billion




**GDP per person:** US\$101,300

**Population:** 3.0 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High income per person
-  High educational attainment
-  Good air quality

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Larger rainfall anomalies
-  Less economic diversity

# 25 Houston | United States

Houston ranks 25th overall in our Global Cities Index. Its position as an international and vertically integrated hub for the oil and gas sector makes it an economic powerhouse. Most aspects of the industry—downstream, midstream, and upstream—are managed from here, including the major fuel refining and petrochemicals sectors. This makes Houston the 12th largest city in the world by GDP size, with a high ranking for GDP per person as well. Major employers located in the city include Schlumberger, Shell Oil Company, and ExxonMobil. And although the city has notable aerospace and logistics sectors and has diversified into other areas such as biomedical research and tech, its fortunes remain very much tied to oil and gas. As such, its economic stability and growth lag other leading cities in the index.

Houston ranks highly in the Human Capital category due to the large number of corporate headquarters present in the city. In addition to energy sector giants, major companies such as Hewlett Packard and Sysco also have head offices in the city. Houston's leading educational institutions include Rice University, the University of Houston, and the multiple medical schools linked to the Texas Medical Center, the largest medical complex in the world. Despite this, it lacks the number of world-leading universities that other cities have, and only performs moderately in terms of the educational attainment of its residents. Slower expected population growth and an ageing population also slightly weaken its score in this category.

Although Houston has high incomes per person due to its significant energy, aerospace, and medical research sectors, its Quality of Life score is hurt by having high income inequality and a life expectancy that is lower than nearly half of the 1,000 cities. Although Houston does not have as many recreation and cultural sites as other top cities in the index, residents still enjoy a variety of arts, cultural, and recreational activities, including the city's Museum District and NASA's Space Center Houston. And the Houston Zoo is the second most visited zoo in the US.

Houston's urban sprawl and underdeveloped public transportation infrastructure means that residents have a strong reliance on cars, with traffic congestion a significant issue. This contributes to reduced air quality and high CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, which are also negatively affected by Houston's large oil & gas sector, particularly the fuel refining process. Houston's Environment score is further reduced by the city's location on a floodplain next to the Gulf of Mexico, which means river flooding and hurricanes are major risks for its inhabitants (as Hurricane Harvey demonstrated in 2017). Undoubtedly, Houston is a leading business centre that plays a key role in supporting the US economy, but given its shortcomings in other categories it will need to follow the path of some of its more well-rounded peers in order to move up in the rankings.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	15 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	18 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	298 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	271 <sup>st</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$659 billion
GDP per person:	US\$88,600
Population:	7.4 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Large GDP size
-  Many corporate headquarters
-  High income per person

## WEAKNESSES

-  Lower income equality
-  Slower GDP growth
-  Fewer recreation and cultural sites

# 26 Atlanta | United States

Atlanta obtains a prominent rank in our 2024 index. The city has a diverse economy and hosts a high concentration of corporate headquarters, most notably Coca-Cola, CNN, Home Depot, and Delta Airlines. As a transport and logistics hub for the southern US, Atlanta has the ninth largest economy in the country. Its strong Economics score, buoyed by its high GDP, places it in the top 15 cities globally. And as the state capital and home to large state universities, Atlanta's government sector serves as an economic stabiliser.



Like other large metropolitan cities in the US, Atlanta pairs its strong Economics ranking with a strong Human Capital ranking. The city is home to prestigious universities (including Emory and Georgia Tech), attracting corporate activity and bolstering population growth, which feeds back into Atlanta's top 20 Human Capital rank. The city is on par with the US overall in terms of foreign-born population and educational attainment, ranking in the top decile globally for these metrics. Furthermore, Atlanta is home to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which employs many highly educated scientists.

Atlanta's GDP is its main strength, indicative of a vibrant though concentrated economy that places in the top 10 for North America. However, GDP per person is low for the region, an echo of the uneven distribution of income

among the city's residents. While the city has an excellent portfolio of corporate HQs and infrastructure such as the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta international airport (one of the busiest passenger airports globally and a hub for Delta), not all the city's residents enjoy an equal share of the economic success.

The city also underperforms compared to other large cities on Quality of Life. Driven by economic segregation that is made evident by the significant income inequality, Atlanta lies in the bottom half of our global rankings for this metric. Higher levels of income inequality can also signal lower life expectancy, and this relationship appears to hold true in the case of Atlanta, where life expectancy is lower than half of the 1,000 cities in the index. Further adding to Quality of Life pressures, a combination of supply

constraints, gentrification, sprawled development, and inflation has put pressure on the city's housing market, with housing expenditure a major issue facing Atlanta's working and lower middle classes.

The city performs better in the Environment category, with lower rainfall anomalies than most other global cities. Yet it still has high exposure to seasonal weather events, especially during hurricane season. Air quality is also a problem mostly due to traffic congestion and urban sprawl, which can have implications for life expectancy. Like several other US cities in the top 50, Atlanta's strong Economics and Human Capital scores are partially offset by Quality of Life and Environment vulnerabilities.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	14 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	20 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	321 <sup>st</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	211 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$563 billion
GDP per person:	US\$89,400
Population:	6.3 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Large GDP size
-  Many corporate headquarters
-  Smaller rainfall anomalies

## WEAKNESSES

-  More natural disasters
-  Lower life expectancy
-  High housing expenditure

# 27 Brisbane | Australia



The capital of Queensland, Brisbane, ranks 27th in the Global Cities Index. It's economy benefits from high rates of GDP and employment growth, in part thanks to the city's involvement in the mining industry, for which it houses several company headquarters and operational offices. However, this reliance also means that Brisbane's economic growth tends to fluctuate with the global commodities markets. But, with other sectors like education, tourism, and technology continuously growing in strength, these are likely to dampen economic shocks in the future. Overall, this culminates in Brisbane placing 41st in the Economics category.

Brisbane's economic dynamism also means that the city is a desirable location for immigration, attracting a large foreign-born population. As such,

the city's continued capacity to attract talent, from the rest of Australia and abroad, means that Brisbane ranks well in terms of population growth and only just falls short of the top 100 cities for that metric. Another one of Brisbane's strengths is its well-educated and young workforce; in fact, it boasts one of the youngest populations out of Australia's major cities. Relatedly, Brisbane is home to two major universities, and one of them, The University of Queensland, is part of Australia's elite "Group of Eight" universities.

The category in which Brisbane scores the lowest is Quality of Life, in large part due to the high cost of housing. Indeed, the city's growing population has caused demand for housing to increase, while supply has struggled to keep pace. Low internet speed is another component

weighing down Brisbane's Quality of Life score. Like many of its Australian peers, the city suffers from its poor internet infrastructure, caused by long term underinvestment and mismanagement. However, one aspect in which Brisbane excels is life expectancy, a metric in which it ranks in the top 50 cities globally. Brisbanites can rely on the city's state-of-the-art healthcare infrastructure, including the Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital, which is the largest hospital in the southern hemisphere.

Exposure to natural disasters weakens the city's Environment score. Brisbane is subject to floods as it sits on a floodplain, which has led to it being hit several times by damaging and deadly floods in recent history. The 2010 Queensland floods, for example, caused widespread damage to the city. Brisbane's humid subtropical climate also means it faces natural disaster risks from storms and cyclones, and it can experience large rainfall anomalies.

Brisbane scores among the highest in our index in terms of Governance, occupying the 18th position in our rankings. The city benefits from Australia's strong record on advancing political rights and civil liberties. Brisbane has a strong economy with a capable workforce, but it will need to invest more into its infrastructure in order to grow and manage the effects of climate change.

## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	41 <sup>st</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	41 <sup>st</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	146 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	135 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	18 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$156 billion
GDP per person:	US\$57,400
Population:	2.7 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High life expectancy
-  Large foreign-born population
-  Strong institutions

## WEAKNESSES

-  More natural disasters
-  Larger rainfall anomalies
-  High housing expenditure

# 28 Amsterdam | Netherlands



Amsterdam is ranked 28th in our Global Cities Index and secures a place in Europe's top 10. As one of the region's largest cities by GDP size, it scores highly in the Economics category, driven by its large finance & business sector and transport & communications sector. The latter particularly benefits from a central location in Europe, with extensive transport links including a metro and tram system, the country's second largest port, and Schiphol airport, which is among the busiest in Europe. Amsterdam takes a small hit in the Economics category however with slower expected employment growth and less economic diversity than the majority of cities in Western Europe.

The Dutch capital performs best in the Human Capital category, where it benefits from a highly educated workforce. This helps to explain why a diverse range of multinational firms, such as AkzoNobel (chemicals), Phillips (electronics), and KPMG (professional services) have chosen to place their headquarters in the city. Businesses are also moving to Zuidas, Amsterdam's rapidly growing business district also known as the "Financial Mile." This will be home to new offices, homes, and amenities, and will be well connected by what is expected to become the city's second largest train station. Although Amsterdam has a less favourable age profile, it is successful in attracting skilled workers from abroad, with nearly a third of its residents foreign-born.

These workers are likely drawn to the city's high quality of life. The city boasts a wide range of cultural sites including the Rijksmuseum and Van Gogh Museum, as well as offering a vibrant nightlife. Cycling is central to the culture and residents can navigate the city within minutes thanks to the excellent infrastructure. The population also benefits from a high life expectancy and high incomes per person, but like other popular European cities, housing in Amsterdam is limited and expensive. With the supply of properties struggling to keep up with the continually expanding population, residents will welcome the plans to build 7,500 homes per year until 2035.

Amsterdam underperforms relative to other major cities when considering environmental factors. In addition to high temperature anomalies and poor air quality, the city's canal system is at growing risk of flooding as sea levels rise. Although robust defences are in place, further prevention measures may be required as these issues worsen in years to come. Finally, Amsterdam's score in the Governance category is boosted by a high ranking for the city's institutions and reflects the city's historical reputation for the strong civil liberties and political rights of its residents. This contributes to a well-rounded overall score for Amsterdam, and apart from the environment, its strengths are spread evenly across most categories in the index.


## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	50 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	30 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	61 <sup>st</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	343 <sup>rd</sup>
GOVERNANCE	63 <sup>rd</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$249 billion
GDP per person:	US\$84,000
Population:	3.0 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High GDP per person
-  Many corporate headquarters
-  Large foreign-born population

## WEAKNESSES

-  Slower employment growth
-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Less economic diversity

# 29 Chicago | United States

As the third largest metro economy in North America and sixth largest in the world, it's no surprise that Chicago has been able to secure a place in the top 30 of the 2024 Global Cities Index. With a substantial population in its metro area and suburbs generating economic activity in a diverse range of sectors, its GDP per person exceeds that of most global competitors. While the city's economic fortunes are predominantly reliant on the financial sector in the iconic Chicago Loop, the city is also home to a range of high-level non-financial international and domestic corporations.

There is a strong culture of education in the city as its economy is human capital-intensive. It has among the most universities in North America—including

the University of Chicago, Northwestern, and Loyola—which contribute to Chicago's skilled talent pool. The city performs well when comparing its foreign-born population and age profile to other global cities, a strength that it has over older and less diverse locations. However, Chicago has consistently suffered from out-migration in recent years. This pulls its population growth ranking down to the bottom quarter of our global cities and among the lowest in North America.

The Windy City's worst performing category is the Environment. The impact of lake effect snow and other Great Lakes weather anomalies, along with urban issues such as the urban heat island effect, result in significant

temperature fluctuations. The city also experiences air pollution due to human and industrial activities, which drags its air quality ranking down to the worst in North America. However, the city's active public transit system does reduce car traffic and prevents some of the air quality issues present in more sprawling US metros.

A poor Environment ranking often correlates with a modest Quality of Life ranking—and this relationship holds true in the context of Chicago. While Chicago's Quality of Life is better than the global average, it falls in the lower half for North America. The city faces an acute income inequality issue, with high-earning households disproportionality benefitting from the city's lucrative economy. This imbalance can lead to a limited access to quality healthcare and lower life expectancies for some residents. Chicago does have numerous cultural institutions including the Art Institute and Symphony Orchestra, as well as popular destinations such as the Millennium Park and Navy Pier. These help to offset some of Chicago's weaknesses in the Quality of Life category.

Historically, Chicago's relevance to the US and global economy resulted in a growing population and a skilled workforce. But with the city now experiencing a net population decline, it is unclear if the city will remain as competitive in the future as it has in the past.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	8 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	46 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	276 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	520 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$869 billion
GDP per person:	US\$92,200
Population:	9.4 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Large GDP size
-  Many corporate headquarters
-  High income per person

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Slower population growth
-  Lower income equality

# 30 Tel Aviv | Israel

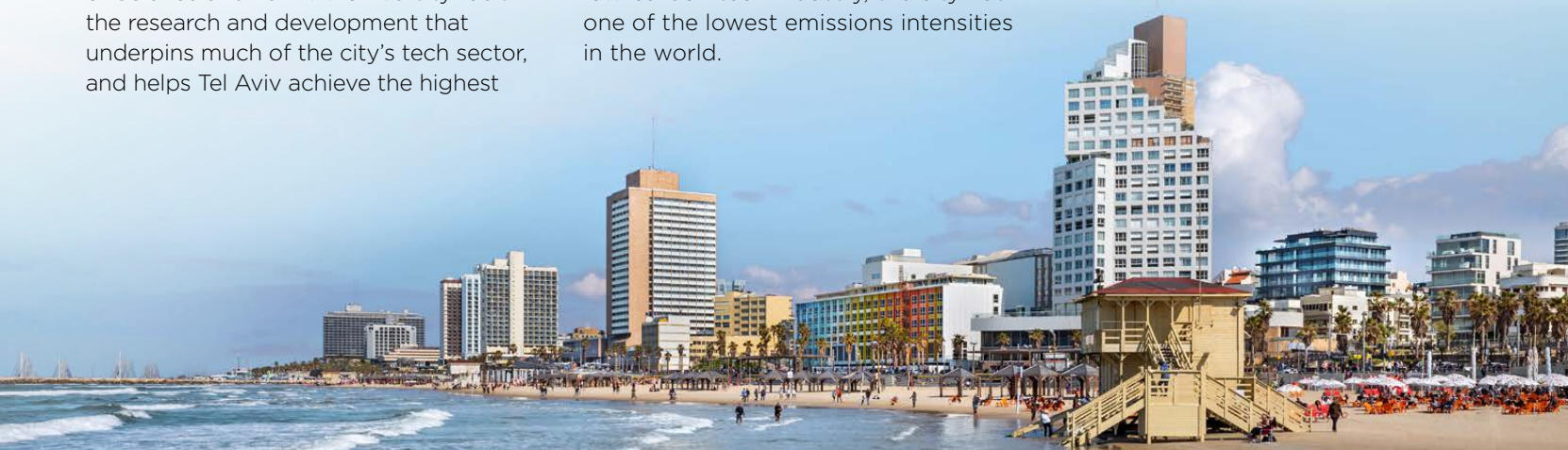
The sole city from the Middle East & North Africa region in the top 50, Tel Aviv performs highly due to its Economics and Human Capital scores. In many ways, the city's booming tech industry powers its ranks in both these categories. "Silicon Wadi," as the city is known, is home to both startups and more established businesses across the tech spectrum, from defence, to finance, to biotech. These businesses drive the economy, helping Tel Aviv rank in the top decile globally for GDP size and GDP per person. But Tel Aviv's economy—and Israel's as a whole—has taken a significant hit since the October 7 attacks and the subsequent war.

Tel Aviv's tech cluster fosters an ecosystem of innovation, bolstering the city's Human Capital score. The presence of institutions like the Weizmann Institute of Science and Tel Aviv University fuels the research and development that underpins much of the city's tech sector, and helps Tel Aviv achieve the highest

rate of educational attainment in the MENA region. And while Israel has always had a history of attracting foreign-born residents—particularly from the Jewish diaspora—in recent years, the existence of highly paid jobs in the tech sector has played a role as well. But despite an inflow of young workers, Tel Aviv still has the oldest population in the region, slightly lowering its Human Capital score.

The city's Quality of Life category also benefits from the tech sector, primarily through its well-paid jobs that boost Tel Aviv's income per person to just outside of the global top 100. Residents also benefit from the highest life expectancy in the region thanks to Tel Aviv's robust healthcare system, although they must also contend with high housing costs. In the Environment category, since much of Tel Aviv's growth comes from the low-carbon tech industry, the city has one of the lowest emissions intensities in the world.

The city's weakest category is Governance, a reflection of Israel's unique geopolitical situation. Political stability in Israel is among the worst in the world, a combination of the ongoing Israeli-Hamas war, the government's attempts to roll back judicial authority, and large-scale protests. Regional geopolitical tensions also play a significant role, particularly the persistent threats posed by Iran and its allies, such as Hezbollah. Although Tel Aviv remains slated to perform well in the rankings in the coming years from a structural standpoint, questions surrounding the long-term effects of the terror attacks, Israel's invasion of Gaza, and the grave political instability pose serious risks.



## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS

21<sup>st</sup>

HUMAN CAPITAL

44<sup>th</sup>

QUALITY OF LIFE

70<sup>th</sup>

ENVIRONMENT

290<sup>th</sup>

GOVERNANCE

350<sup>th</sup>

## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP: US\$237 billion

GDP per person: US\$78,300

Population: 3.0 million

## STRENGTHS



Lower emissions intensity



High life expectancy



High educational attainment

## WEAKNESSES



Less political stability



Older age profile



High housing expenditure

# 31 Montreal | Canada



The third of four Canadian cities in the top 50 is the country's largest French-speaking metro: Montreal. The city's best category is Human Capital, driven by its globally ranked universities and several corporate headquarters. Montreal is home to McGill University, a global leader in medical research, as well as two of Canada's largest transport companies: Canadian National Railway and Air Canada. Montreal is also known as a global hub for AI research and video game development, attracting a highly skilled workforce from around the world. However, the city's Human Capital score takes a small hit due to Montreal's older population age profile, especially compared to other North American metros.

Montreal was once the economic capital of Canada but was surpassed by

Toronto in the 1970s. However, due to the city's location on the St. Lawrence River and its proximity to other major North American cities, it has maintained its status as one of Canada's largest transport hubs. The transport sector, along with the finance sector, helps Montreal generate the second-largest GDP in Canada and a top-60 GDP globally. The city's Economics score is further boosted by Montreal's relatively stable economic growth in the decade preceding the pandemic.

One downside to having a large transport sector is that these jobs typically pay less than those in other, higher-skilled industries. As a result, incomes in Montreal are among the lowest of cities in North America. And although housing in Montreal is more affordable than in other Canadian

metros, in a global context, residents still spend more of their income on housing than in a large majority of our 1,000 cities. But, despite lower average incomes, residents of Montreal experience far less inequality than those in most other cities around the world. Further boosting the city's Quality of Life score is the high life expectancy of residents, a byproduct of the city's excellent healthcare system, which includes the McGill University Health Centre (one of the largest hospital networks in the country). The city also has a rich offering of recreation and cultural sites, enhanced by the many festivals Montreal hosts every year.

Like the rest of Canada's cities in the global top 50, Montreal's worst category is the Environment. The transport sector may be good for the economy, but it is also more carbon-intensive compared to other sectors. As a result, Montreal ranks worse in emissions intensity than many other North American metros. And by nature of its northern location, Montreal also experiences inconsistent temperatures with significant volatility. These anomalies, both heatwaves and cold fronts, are likely to get worse as the impacts of climate change continue to grow. This underscores the importance of Montreal reducing its carbon emissions, which poses a challenge to one of its most important industries.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	49 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	35 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	98 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	341 <sup>st</sup>
GOVERNANCE	52 <sup>nd</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$230 billion
GDP per person:	US\$52,400
Population:	4.4 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Higher income equality
-  Many universities
-  High life expectancy

## WEAKNESSES

-  High housing expenditure
-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Older age profile



# 32 Munich | Germany

Munich achieves the highest ranking of any German city, with strong performances in the Economics and Human Capital categories. The city traces its success to the German Economic Miracle—the period of rapid post-war reconstruction and growth seen in Western Germany—contributing to its present large economy and high per person income ranking. As Bavaria's capital, Munich benefits from its strong Bavarian cultural roots and status as Germany's second-largest federal state in both population and GDP. Munich's economy further profits from hosting the headquarters of many large multinational corporations including BMW, Siemens, and Allianz, as well as the European bases of McDonald's and Microsoft. However, not everyone shares equally in Munich's economic success, as its lower income equality brings down its Quality of Life score. Linked to this is its unaffordable housing market; whilst comparatively affordable for Germany, it brings the city down in the international and overall rankings.

Munich's high rank in the Human Capital category is partly due to its concentration of corporate headquarters, which attracts a skilled workforce. Further contributions to the Human Capital ranking come from the city's universities and high educational attainment; Munich is home to the Ludwig Maximilian University and the Technical University of Munich, which are

two of the highest-ranking universities in Germany. However, Munich, like the rest of Germany, suffers from an older age profile which brings down its Human Capital ranking—although this demographic challenge is not as acute in Munich as in other German cities. This is partly due to Munich's popularity with foreign-born residents, who contribute positively to its Human Capital ranking.

The city's high quality of life is supported by competitive wages, high life expectancy, and good recreational and cultural offerings. Munich's wealth of cultural assets contributes to a strong performance in this indicator, with major attractions including the Marienplatz, Nymphenburg Palace, the Olympiapark, as well as the Kunstareal (museum quarter). And every autumn, it hosts the world-famous Oktoberfest, drawing large numbers of visitors.



Munich's geographically central location in Europe means it is well connected to other cities by rail. This good public transportation infrastructure hence supports a lower emissions intensity. However, the city's continental climate provides hot summers and cold winters, and the extremes of its climate in both temperature and rainfall bring down its Environmental ranking.

Munich has a high Governance score, due to Germany's high rankings in all indicators in this category. Munich itself contributes to the institutional scores across the EU as it hosts the EU Patent Office, which safeguards intellectual property rights across the bloc. Overall, Munich is a city with a host of strengths and potential across the five categories, which means it will continue to be an important city regionally and globally for the foreseeable future.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	31 <sup>st</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	48 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	116 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	374 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	107 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$265 billion
GDP per person:	US\$86,200
Population:	3.1 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High income per person
-  Many corporate headquarters
-  Lower emissions intensity

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Older age profile
-  Lower income equality

# 33 Philadelphia | United States

Situated in a strategic location between New York and Washington, DC in the northeast “Acela” corridor, Philadelphia’s position endows the city with a vast metropolitan population and facilitates access to other major markets. Known as a hub for healthcare, education, and logistics, it comes as little surprise that the city boasts the 16th largest GDP in the world. While Philadelphia has a less diverse industry mix than other top cities, it performs well on economic stability with its key sectors providing consistent GDP growth. Consequently, it comes as little surprise that the city secures a position in the top 20 in the Economics category.

Philadelphia has played a significant role in American education, dating back to the colonial era when it hosted the

Continental Congress. The city is home to prestigious institutions such as the Ivy League’s University of Pennsylvania and other research-intensive educational facilities. These boost Philadelphia’s educational attainment to the top 20% of the US. A highly educated workforce attracts business and Philadelphia is no different in this respect, with Comcast, Aramark, and AmerisourceBergen representing just some of the leading corporations headquartered in the city. Paired with a decent pool of skilled foreign labour and fair—though ageing—demographics, the city scores in the top 30 globally for Human Capital.

Unlike New York, Philadelphia has a relatively affordable housing market, reflected in its housing expenditure level which ranks 25th in North America

(impressive for a metro of its size). The city also benefits from its recreation and cultural facilities, including its famed Avenue of the Arts, the Liberty Bell, and much more. These factors grant Philadelphia a Quality of Life ranking above New York, though like most economically strong American cities, Philadelphia has problems distributing this quality of life to some of its residents. Income inequality is salient, and despite the fact that incomes per person are high when considered in both a global and US context, many of the city’s residents earn low incomes. Philadelphia’s Quality of Life is also held down by life expectancy, which is in the bottom half of our 1,000 global cities.

In the Environment category, Philadelphia ranks below peer cities in North America. Philadelphia has a significant industrial base affecting its air quality, with emissions intensities in the middle of the pack for the region. It is more prone to natural disasters than other top cities and more susceptible to temperature anomalies. This leaves the city near the top third of the rankings in Environment, on par with New York.

Overall, this historically significant city has much to offer. A rich cultural heritage and strong economic base attract both new residents and tourists, but challenges related to inequality and the environment hold Philadelphia back from climbing even higher in the rankings.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	18 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	29 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	260 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	355 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$545 billion
GDP per person:	US\$87,300
Population:	6.2 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Large GDP size
-  Many universities
-  High income per person

## WEAKNESSES

-  Less economic diversity
-  More natural disasters
-  Lower income equality

# 34 Minneapolis | United States

Encompassing both Twin Cities (Minneapolis and St. Paul), the Minneapolis metropolitan area is famous for having the biggest mall in the United States, several national sports teams, an impressive state fair, and immersive museums. Operating within Minneapolis is a wealth of industries, from health and retail to transportation and trade. This wide range is reflected in the types of businesses that reside in the city, with corporations such as Target, 3M, Cummins, US Bancorp, and several other large companies choosing the Twin Cities as their home base.



These companies create a demand for a highly educated workforce, drawing on people from an expansive array of academic disciplines. As a result of the strong concentration of corporate headquarters fostering educational attainment throughout the city, Minneapolis places 54th in the Human Capital category.

Due to the investment in human capital, Minneapolis enjoys a high level of GDP, both in size and on a per person basis. This high level of productivity—along with a stable economic environment—leads Minneapolis to score highest in the Economics category, with a rank of 24th. The city has the potential to increase its score in this category by placing an emphasis on GDP and employment growth, which rank near the bottom half of all US metros.

While Minneapolis ranks an impressive 15th in income per person, not everyone has access to these high salaries, with the city suffering from above average income inequality. This brings Minneapolis' Quality of Life rank down to 124th, echoing the inequality issues seen in other American cities, such as Chicago and Boston. However, Minneapolis is more affordable than most US cities as indicated by its housing expenditure measure which scores better than most US cities.

Ranking 428th, the Environment is Minneapolis's worst-ranked category by a wide margin. By now, Minnesotans are used to the frigid, blizzard-ridden winters. However, it may still be surprising to see that Minneapolis has some of the worst temperature anomalies of all cities in the Global Cities Index. The city performs better in other metrics

in this category, but none of them crack the top 100. Due to the city's geographical position in the northern Midwest, Minneapolis is exposed to a plethora of natural disasters, including tornadoes and intense snowstorms. The state's nickname, "The Land of 10,000 Lakes," also references the fact that the city is under the constant threat of flooding. Interestingly, Minneapolis is widely considered to be one of the most bikeable cities in the United States, and the expansion and promotion of this cycling infrastructure could help the city to lower emissions intensity and bring up air quality standards.

Despite enduring large swings in temperatures and the more-than-occasional blizzard, Minneapolitans enjoy high incomes and a healthy business environment, driving the city's success in the rankings.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	24 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	54 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	124 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	428 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$342 billion
GDP per person:	US\$91,500
Population:	3.7 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High economic stability
-  High educational attainment
-  High income per person

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Slower employment growth
-  More natural disasters

# 35 San Diego | United States

Located on the western Pacific seaboard in southern California, San Diego—with its deep-water port—is a key player in the US defence industry. The city has capitalised on its seaside location and proximity to other Californian metros by promoting sectors such as tourism, tech, and international trade. Its Economics score reflects a high GDP per person that is driven by its tech sector, as well as its rising life sciences sector that has emerged as a leader in the industry. Concentrated in and around UC San Diego, the city's life sciences sector includes the Scripps Research Institute and the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. But, despite its strong Economics score, San Diego suffers from weaker employment growth than other top cities.

The demographics of San Diego are older than the global average, though on the younger side for North America. Given its location as a port city bordering Tijuana in Mexico, San Diego has a sizeable foreign-born population. The city also has a selection of good universities and has access to the wider Californian university ecosystem. With this, its population gains the skills needed to drive forward its economy, with companies such as Illumina, Qualcomm, and General Atomics headquartered in the city. Still, San Diego has had low population growth, in part due to its relatively high cost of living.

The housing market in San Diego is tight like its Californian peers; residents spend higher amounts of their disposable income

on housing compared to most other North American cities. Less disposable income dampens living standards and hence the city's Quality of Life score. San Diego compensates for this somewhat with good recreation and culture amenities such as the world-famous San Diego Zoo, and amusement parks Legoland and SeaWorld. Although it has higher levels of income equality than other Californian metros, it still ranks in the bottom half globally. Despite this, San Diego has among the best life expectancies in North America, reflecting its robust healthcare system and pristine climate.

San Diego's Mediterranean climate with mild winters, warm summers, and semi-arid weather propel it to the fifth best Environment ranking in the US (and a strong result globally too). It still has some temperature anomalies and is exposed to natural disasters (including earthquakes) as it lies along the San Andreas Fault system. However, residents enjoy good air quality—among the best in the index, in fact, which goes hand in hand with the city's low carbon emissions intensity. San Diego's Environment ranking is also fortified by climate regulations and initiatives in green infrastructure that aim to enhance its urban environment even more. San Diego is perhaps a product of good fortune given its seaside environs and mild climate, but it has reinforced the hand it was dealt with a strong economy and commitment to a sustainable future.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	26 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	64 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	217 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	37 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$310 billion
GDP per person:	US\$94,300
Population:	3.3 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High GDP per person
-  Smaller rainfall anomalies
-  Good air quality

## WEAKNESSES

-  High housing expenditure
-  Slower employment growth
-  Lower income equality

# 36 Miami | United States



Miami, the Magic City, is Florida's largest metro. The city ranks 19th in the index for GDP size, thanks to a large economy that is concentrated in finance and commerce, and augmented by its tourism and technology sectors. Miami enjoys stronger employment and GDP growth than the majority of North American metros, driven by strong outlooks in the finance, retail, and hospitality sectors. Due to its significance as a hub for economic activity, Miami ranks 22nd in the Economics category, which is its strongest result of the five categories in the index.

Along with its ample economic opportunities, Miami's historic link to Latin America and the Caribbean

continues to attract many immigrants. As a result, Miami has the highest share of foreign-born residents of any US city and ranks in the top 20 globally. Moreover, the city is home to multiple universities, which also attracts a young cohort of residents. Both of these characteristics help Miami partly offset another trait of its population: the large share of retirees. Miami's population is among the oldest in North America (and in the bottom 15% globally), a symptom of the wider Florida retirement economy. But the impact of Miami's age profile on its Human Capital score is minimal, and the city still ranks in the top 40 globally in the category.

Miami's economic and human capital prowess result in the city's residents

having the ninth-highest average incomes in the world. However, this masks the disparate distribution of these incomes; in general, the more diverse communities in the city are less affluent, with many working in low-income tourism-related jobs and with limited access to higher education. The city's housing market is tight, with beachfront and downtown areas commanding steep prices and affordable options limited to less desirable neighbourhoods. Miami has a range of cultural and recreation activities due its diversity and downtown entertainment scene, but it's particularly known for its art scene reinforced by its annual hosting of Art Basel every December. Still, low levels of income equality coupled with high housing costs result in a Quality of Life score below most of Miami's US peers.

Despite being at an elevated risk of hurricanes (like most of Florida), Miami ranks in the top forty globally on Environment. It has managed to escape hurricane damage for many years, with the last significant hurricane being Andrew back in 1992. The city has relatively healthy air quality thanks to its coastal location, and its temperatures are the least volatile in all of North America. Still, climate risks perpetually loom over the city, threatening its strong score across the index. It will take a serious commitment to climate adaptation and mitigation policies for Miami to continue to thrive in the coming years.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	22 <sup>nd</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	38 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	318 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	39 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$521 billion
GDP per person:	US\$84,000
Population:	6.2 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Large foreign-born population
-  High income per person
-  Good air quality

## WEAKNESSES

-  Older age profile
-  Lower income equality
-  High housing expenditure

# 37 Basel | Switzerland

Basel's strong performance in the Quality of Life category lands it in the top 50 of the index. Switzerland's unofficial cultural capital lives up to its reputation, as it has among the most recreation and cultural sites per person in the world. Basel's rich cultural heritage is centred around art: the city is home to the Kunstmuseum, the first public art museum in the world, and hosts Art Basel, one of the world's premier international art fairs. Basel's Quality of Life category is further bolstered by the city's high life expectancy and income equality. The latter is particularly impressive given the high average incomes in the city. The combination of these characteristics leads Basel to take the fifth spot globally in the Quality of Life rankings.

The city's high incomes are the product of Basel's strong economy. Only two cities in the world have a higher GDP per person than Basel: the US tech hubs of San Jose and San Francisco. In Basel, the high GDP per person reflects the city's high-productivity finance and pharmaceuticals industries, rather than tech. And in fact, these sectors play such a large role in Basel that its economy is among the least diverse in Western Europe, bringing down its Economics score slightly.

Basel's role in the pharmaceuticals industry benefits its Human Capital score as well. Several pharmaceutical, chemical, and biotech companies are headquartered in the city, including Novartis and Roche. Like other Swiss

cities, Basel also attracts many residents from abroad, further boosting its score in this category. However, the city hasn't attracted enough new immigrants to overcome the problem of an ageing population; Basel's age profile is in the bottom decile globally. Part of this issue stems from the fact that population growth in Basel lags the other major Swiss metros, suggesting that the city's peers may be beating it when it comes to attracting new residents, despite Basel's stellar quality of life.

Like the other major Swiss cities, Basel's worst category is the Environment. The city has among the most volatile temperatures in Europe, which can result in major heatwaves, such as the one experienced in summer 2022. And while some Swiss cities have comprehensive public health strategies to combat heatwaves, Basel currently doesn't. As temperature anomalies intensify in the coming years due to climate change, the health risks for residents are likely to grow unless Basel establishes a heatwave-specific public health strategy. It's not all bad news for Basel on the Environment front, however, as the city has one of the lowest emissions intensities in the world. Despite challenges related to an ageing population and climate change, Basel remains a top city with a world-class quality of life and high levels of GDP per person.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	82 <sup>nd</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	105 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	5 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	421 <sup>st</sup>
GOVERNANCE	13 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$79 billion
GDP per person:	US\$140,700
Population:	560,000

## STRENGTHS

-  High GDP per person
-  High life expectancy
-  Lower emissions intensity

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Older age profile
-  Less economic diversity

# 38 Helsinki | Finland



Helsinki comes in at 38th in our index, joining Nordic peers Stockholm, Copenhagen, and Oslo inside the top 50. But as is often the case, Helsinki is the weakest performing of these four capitals, nearly 20 places below Oslo. Part of the reason for this is due to the city's less favourable economic structure. The Helsinki economy is much more reliant on typically slower growing and less productive sectors such as public services and manufacturing, and as a result, GDP growth in the Finnish capital has been relatively lacklustre for some time, while GDP per person is also lower. This drags down the city's score in our Economics category.

However, this underperformance against Nordic rivals shouldn't overshadow the

fact that Helsinki is still a successful city despite its more modest size. The city is wealthy, with relatively high incomes per person supporting a strong consumer base. The labour force is very well educated, and the high English language proficiency helps to make the city an attractive place to do business for international companies. The wider political environment is also stable as Helsinki, and Finland more generally, ranks well for institutional quality and protection of civil liberties. It is therefore no surprise that Helsinki is one of the top performers in our Governance category.

One of Helsinki's other strengths lies in the city's high quality of life. The Nordic economic model means that the city's residents benefit from well-functioning

public services, a high-quality education system, and well-paying jobs across the occupational spectrum. The city scores well for access to recreation and cultural sites, ranging from the city's famous music and design scenes to the two national parks situated within the metropolitan area's boundaries. Helsinki's residents also benefit from close social ties with neighbouring Tallinn in Estonia. The two cities are separated by a two-hour ferry across the Gulf of Finland, which is one of the busiest passenger crossings in the world with around 9 million trips taken annually.

But the quality of life in the city isn't perfect. Helsinki's northerly location means that daylight hours are limited in the autumn and winter months. Housing is also expensive, with housing expenditure as a share of income in Helsinki among the very highest in our list of 1,000 cities. Helsinki also performs poorly in the Environment category, although this is solely as a result of significant rainfall and temperature volatility, which is a recurrent difficulty that the other Nordic capitals also face. These climate anomalies will likely become even more exaggerated in the coming years as the planet continues to warm. On the plus side, natural disasters are relatively rare in Helsinki. But despite a poor showing in the Environment category, Helsinki performs well for a city of its size, placing it snugly within the top 50.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	68 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	52 <sup>nd</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	75 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	377 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	6 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$110 billion
GDP per person:	US\$70,100
Population:	1.6 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Many recreation and cultural sites
-  Fewer natural disasters
-  Strong institutions

## WEAKNESSES

-  High housing expenditure
-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Larger rainfall anomalies

# 39 Austin | United States



Austin's ranking in our Global Cities Index reflects a strong economy, favourable population dynamics, and high living standards. Austin is known for its entrepreneurial spirit and rapidly growing tech sector: both have generated strong GDP and job growth in recent years, and are expected to continue to do so in the future. In fact, we forecast both GDP and employment growth in Austin to be among the fastest of any US city in the next five years, reflecting the city's tech boom. As the home of both the state capital and the University of Texas at Austin, the city also has a large state government sector that bolsters its economic stability. However, the large tech and government sectors result in Austin having less economic diversity than peer cities, the only real weakness to its Economics score.

With a favourable cost of living together with strong job prospects, Austin has experienced robust in-migration to its region, particularly in the last few years. This trend has extended to businesses as well; Austin has attracted corporate re-locations including Tesla, Oracle, and Charles Schwab. Moreover, Samsung is expanding its semiconductor manufacturing in Taylor. Further boosting Austin's Human Capital score is its youthful demographic profile, which contributes to the city's innovative and forward-thinking culture. As does its expanding foreign-born population that

seeks its growing job opportunities, especially those in tech-related fields.

While the city's tech sector boosts Austin's average income per person, income inequality is high, reflecting the fact that much of the income is still concentrated with the elite. Austin's robust population growth pushed housing prices up sharply in 2022, but they have since corrected, just as income has been rising. Thus, its housing expenditure is lower than two-thirds of US cities, boosting its Quality of Life rank. Austin is known for its popular live music scene, including the famous Austin City Limits music festival. Still, like many fast-growing cities, Austin's cultural amenities have not grown in step with its economy, as it ranks in the bottom third of US metros—yet still above its Texan peers.

Austin's relatively poor Environment score is largely due to its geography, as its propensity for natural disasters and temperature anomalies are high. The ice storm of 2021, for example, knocked out electricity in the region for days. Although Austin has a limited public transportation network and a high reliance on cars, it has less heavy manufacturing than other US cities, and as a result, has a more favourable emissions intensity which reflects well in its Environment score. Overall, Austin's economic outlook is very promising; maintaining the city's liveability through this growth will be key to jumping up the rankings in the future.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	20 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	59 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	231 <sup>st</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	207 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$247 billion
GDP per person:	US\$100,400
Population:	2.5 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High income per person
-  Lower emissions intensity
-  High economic stability

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Lower income equality
-  Less economic diversity



# 40 Bern | Switzerland

Bern is one of the smallest cities in the global top 50 both in terms of GDP and population, but like its slightly larger neighbor, Basel, it dominates the Quality of Life rankings. Placing third globally in this category, Bern achieves a top score due to its high life expectancy and many recreation and cultural sites. The city's well-preserved medieval old town is a UNESCO World Heritage site, and its picturesque surroundings, including the Aare River and nearby mountains, provide ample opportunities for outdoor activities. Bern also has the highest levels of income equality of any Swiss city and ranks in the top decile globally.

While Switzerland doesn't have an official capital, Bern is the country's de facto capital, sometimes called the "federal city." Government agencies, embassies, and the Swiss parliament dot the city's landscape, and as a result, the public sector plays a large role in Bern's Economics score. This sector's significant role in Bern's economy leads the city to score very highly in terms of economic stability, but the flip side is that GDP growth is lower than any other city in Switzerland and performs very poorly in a global context as well. However, Bern's Economics score is aided by high levels of GDP per person, a characteristic of all Swiss cities.

Moreover, Bern's role as the seat of the Swiss government benefits its Human Capital score, although this category is somewhat weighed down

by demographic trends. Educational attainment is high, and the city has a large share of foreign-born residents, a reflection of the government agencies and foreign embassies located in Bern. But Bern's Human Capital score suffers due to the city's age profile, the oldest in Switzerland and in the bottom decile globally. This may reflect Bern's challenges in attracting and retaining a young workforce, since the city lacks the professional opportunities available in Zurich and Geneva. Indeed, Bern's population growth rate is forecast to be the second lowest of the Swiss cities.

Due to the city's large public sector, Bern benefits from a very low emissions intensity, ranking 30th globally and in

the top 10 in Europe. But as is the case with all Swiss cities, Bern's Environment score takes a significant hit due to the large temperature anomalies residents experience.

As Switzerland's federal city, Bern likely benefits from its top Governance score more than other Swiss cities. While everyone living in Switzerland avails themselves to the country's top ranked institutions, many of those institutions are based in Bern. Zurich may be the financial capital of Switzerland, Geneva the diplomatic capital, and Basel the cultural capital, but Bern plays an important role in Swiss society as the country's governmental capital.



## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS 80<sup>th</sup>

HUMAN CAPITAL 142<sup>nd</sup>

QUALITY OF LIFE 3<sup>rd</sup>

ENVIRONMENT 396<sup>th</sup>

GOVERNANCE 13<sup>th</sup>

## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP: US\$49 billion

GDP per person: US\$94,600

Population: 520,000

## STRENGTHS

- Many recreation and cultural sites
- Strong institutions
- Lower emissions intensity

## WEAKNESSES

- Larger temperature anomalies
- Older age profile
- Slower GDP growth

# 41 Seoul | South Korea



Seoul, the capital city of South Korea and one of the major economic centres of both Asia and the world, ranks in the top 100 in the Economics category primarily due to its substantial GDP size, achieved over the past several decades of remarkable economic growth. This transformation has turned a war-torn nation into one of the world's leading economies. Its Economics score is further assisted by relatively strong economic stability through a well-diversified structure and a sturdy industrial base. However, the ranking is weighed down by the more recent slowdown in GDP and employment growth, partly due to the nation's ageing population which acts as a constraint on the economy.

Seoul ranks among the top cities in the Human Capital rankings, with a strong culture of academic elitism and several

prestigious higher education institutions, namely the university group known as "SKY", which includes Seoul National University, Korea University, and Yonsei University. Furthermore, Seoul is home to several multinational companies, including Samsung Group, LG, and Kia Corporation, fuelling its Human Capital ranking.

However, Seoul has a less-than-ideal performance in our Quality of Life category. This is partly due to the city's relatively high housing expenditure, with house prices having surged in recent years and expensive rental costs now covering a more significant portion of incomes for working-class residents. Despite the government measures that have been put in place, the problem is ultimately limited supply coupled with the lack of room for expansion due to geographical constraints. However,

life expectancy in Seoul is among the highest in the world, with South Korea as a whole experiencing an increase over the past few decades, attributed to various factors such as advancements in healthcare and improvements in living standards.

The Environment category has the lowest ranking out of the five categories, with its score diminished by a high number of climate anomalies and relatively poor air quality. Seoul's climate anomalies cause irregular patterns of temperature and precipitation, with the effect of anomalies further exaggerated during summer and winter. Summertime experiences prolonged periods of extreme heat, whereas during the winter, temperatures often drop below freezing, and heavy snowfall or unusually warm spells can occur.

South Korea has a history of political stability since its transition to democracy in the late 20th century. While the country has experienced periods of political turmoil and protests, democratic institutions have remained resilient, with transitions of power through free and fair elections contributing to overall political stability. Overall, despite some weaknesses in the Environment category, Seoul's overarching strong performance across other categories cements its place as one of the top-performing cities in Asia.

## RANKINGS

**ECONOMICS** 67<sup>th</sup>

**HUMAN CAPITAL** 5<sup>th</sup>

**QUALITY OF LIFE** 272<sup>nd</sup>

**ENVIRONMENT** 615<sup>th</sup>

**GOVERNANCE** 148<sup>th</sup>

## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

**GDP:** US\$772 billion




**GDP per person:** US\$31,600

**Population:** 24.4 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Large GDP size
-  Many universities
-  High educational attainment

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger rainfall anomalies
-  Slower employment growth
-  Poorer air quality

# 42 Singapore | Singapore



Singapore is the third ranking Asian city in our index, just behind Seoul (#41). Its strategic location on the Malacca Strait and its small open economy make Singapore one of the most globally economically integrated cities in the world. This is both a strength and a weakness; Singapore's economy thrives when the global economy grows, but falters when it sputters.

Singapore boasts the highest level of GDP per person among the Asian cities in our index, thanks to its advanced and diverse economy. Indeed, Singapore has a thriving financial services sector with a global reach, as well as large business services and information & communications sectors. The city has also been able to sustain its advanced high-tech manufacturing sector and activities relating to global trade. However, its Economics score takes a small hit due to the slower employment growth facing the city.

Its position within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) means Singapore is often used as hub for companies operating in the region. Consequently, it hosts many corporate headquarters, particularly those operating in the financial services sector. Singapore's high ranking in the Human Capital category is also supported by its world-class universities, which are widely recognised as being at the cutting edge of research in numerous fields.

High levels of income means that quality of life in Singapore tends to be high, leading the city to be among the top 50 in this category. Singapore's excellent healthcare system also contributes to this achievement, as it has resulted in a life expectancy among the best in our rankings. However, one important drawback faced by Singaporeans is high housing costs, an issue exacerbated by limited land availability.

Size constraints also play a role in Singapore's Environment score. The city struggles with poor air quality, in part because it has had to forego land for green spaces to support economic activity. Air quality is also affected by occasional pollution coming from forest fires in neighbouring Indonesia. However, Singapore's Environment score gets a boost from the city's low CO<sub>2</sub> emissions intensity, among the best in Southern Asia.

In terms of Governance, Singapore both excels and underperforms depending on the angle one chooses. The city has achieved high political stability thanks to the uninterrupted rule of the People's Action Party (PAP) and Singapore also ranks among the best cities world for doing business and for the quality of its institutions. However, civil liberties tend to be curtailed in Singapore. The nature of Singapore, as a city state confined to an island in a geographically strategic location, poses both unique advantages and challenges.

## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	78 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	43 <sup>rd</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	40 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	424 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	135 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$464 billion
GDP per person:	US\$78,400
Population:	5.9 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Smaller temperature anomalies
-  Large GDP size
-  High political stability

## WEAKNESSES

-  Slower employment growth
-  Poorer air quality
-  Weaker civil liberties

# 43 Berlin | Germany

As Germany's capital and one of the EU's most populous cities, it's no surprise that Berlin's highest-ranking categories are Economics and Human Capital. The city scores well for total output and moderately well for stability, income per person, and diversity, reflecting its status as a hub for startups and creative industries. Since reunification, Berlin has been the seat of the federal German government, and its economy benefits from being the capital city of the world's third-largest national economy. Berlin scores well in the Governance category due to Germany's high institutional quality, political stability, and civil liberties. However, like the rest of Germany, Berlin faces the challenge of an ageing population.

Education in Berlin is world class. It has three large universities—the Technical University of Berlin, the Humboldt University, and the Free University of Berlin, as well as several other smaller universities and technical colleges. Access to higher education in Germany is more affordable compared to other Western cities, allowing for a more meritocratic progression through education than elsewhere. These assets provide Berlin with its highest ranking of all the metrics in the index, placing second globally in terms of educational attainment.

Berlin was uniquely divided into two halves during the Cold War, a division that still shapes the characteristics of



its eastern and western districts. Berlin's storied 20th-century history contributes to its significant cultural capital. It is among the top cities in the world for recreation and cultural sites; home to world-famous landmarks such as the Brandenburg Gate, the East Side Gallery, and the Fernsehturm, Berlin has a plethora of museums, memorials, theatres, and art galleries. The city also has a long tradition of radical thought and artistic expression—in the 1920s it was famed for its cabaret, and in the 21st century, it has gained a reputation for its music scene and nightlife, drawing in visitors from around the world. Also contributing to its high score in recreation and cultural sites is its abundance of green space and parks, notably the Tiergarten and the Tempelhofer Feld (a repurposed airport).

Berlin is served by the newer Brandenburg Airport, the third largest in Germany, which is well connected to the city centre with public transport. Despite Berlin's ample green space and good transportation infrastructure, the city's lowest ranking category is Environment. The poor showing in this category is mainly due to the city's significant temperature anomalies; in recent years, Berlin has experienced several heatwaves with temperatures reaching well above average in summer months. The health risks of persistent heat are highest among older residents, so for a city like Berlin with an ageing population, heat mitigation is particularly important. Like many other European cities, Berlin will need to learn to manage climate-related hazards in the future in order to maximise its potential.

## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	47 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	50 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	114 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	463 <sup>rd</sup>
GOVERNANCE	107 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$260 billion
GDP per person:	US\$50,800
Population:	5.1 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High educational attainment
-  Many universities
-  Many recreation and cultural sites

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Older age profile
-  Slower population growth

# 44 Canberra | Australia



Canberra is the capital city of Australia and was built for that purpose in the early 20th century. Its economy is small compared to other Australian cities in the index and almost entirely geared towards the public sector and related service industries. Canberra's economy, therefore, has little sectoral diversity, but given the permanency of the government sector this does not translate into economic instability. Canberra's focus on high-paying government and service sector jobs also means that the city has the second highest level of GDP per person in Australia, putting it at the top end of the rankings for that metric. Altogether, Canberra ranks 179th in the Economics category.

However, the city scores the highest in the Quality of Life category, in which it ranks second globally. This impressive feat is driven by the city's high incomes and low degree of income inequality, due to the availability of stable and high paying government jobs. The city also has excellent healthcare facilities and ranks among the highest in the world for life expectancy. Although, like many other Australian cities, Canberra underperforms when it comes to access to fast internet due to poor internet infrastructure.

In the Human Capital category Canberra falls just within the top 100. The city boasts a highly educated and relatively young population by Australian standards. However, given its strong

focus on government institutions, Canberra has fewer corporate headquarters than most of its Australian peers and tends to attract fewer foreign workers. Canberra punches above its weight in terms of higher education availability, as the city is home to the Australian National University, which is regarded as one of Australia's best.

Canberra's biggest weakness is its environment. Indeed, the city is subjected to natural disasters such as bushfires and floods. Canberra's nickname is "The Bush Capital," owing to its location in the middle of the Australian bush which makes it particularly vulnerable to wildfires. These wildfires also contribute to the air quality occasionally deteriorating during the fire season, a trend made worse by Canberra being in a valley as this causes smoke to be trapped over the city.

As the capital and the home of its government institutions, Canberra probably best characterises Australia's high quality of governance. Indeed, the city ranks 17th globally in the Governance category, as it benefits from Australia's high levels of public sector effectiveness and political stability. Overall, Canberra is a true government city and many of its inhabitants are related to the public sector in some way. This has been a boon to the Canberrans, who, thanks to the many government jobs available, are among the highest and most equally paid in the Global Cities Index.

## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS 179<sup>th</sup>

HUMAN CAPITAL 90<sup>th</sup>

QUALITY OF LIFE 2<sup>nd</sup>

ENVIRONMENT 194<sup>th</sup>

GOVERNANCE 18<sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP: US\$33 billion




GDP per person: US\$70,900

Population: 470,000

## STRENGTHS

-  High life expectancy
-  High educational attainment
-  Lower income inequality

## WEAKNESSES

-  Less economic diversity
-  More natural disasters
-  Slower internet speed

# 45 Brussels | Belgium

Brussels is the capital of Belgium and the unofficial capital of the European Union. Indeed, Brussels hosts the EU's key institutions—the Council, the Commission, and the Parliament—in what is known as the European quarters. In addition, Brussels also hosts the NATO headquarters and the secretariats of several pan-European organisations. The presence of these has led to the rise of an ecosystem of public sector-related services industries such as public affairs, consulting, policy research, and communications. Due to the permanency of the government sector, the city enjoys stable (albeit slow) economic growth, which is reflected in the city's Economics score.

The duality of Brussels' roles as the capital of Belgium and of the EU gives the city a very distinct flavour. The Belgian inhabitants of Brussels share the city with a legion of highly educated professionals coming from all over Europe (and to some extent the world) to work for the EU institutions and related service industries. As such, Brussels scores highly in terms of educational attainment and foreign-born population, but is also plagued by high levels of unemployment, mostly affecting its low-skilled population outside the "Brussels bubble." This term is used to refer to those working in EU policy circles and is reflective of how two groups of residents share the city but interact only marginally.

Brussels faces several constraints which weigh down on its Quality of Life ranking in the index. One of them is income inequality, which is a byproduct of the above mentioned two-speed labour market in the city. Another is that Brussels has comparatively slow internet due to poor and unequal infrastructure rollout, caused by the city's decentralised administrative structure—a legacy from the city having emerged from the grouping of 19 municipalities. On the upside, Brussels has a vibrant cultural life, and its inhabitants can enjoy a multitude of high-quality museums.

Brussels' biggest weakness in our index is its Environment score. The city suffers from high levels of air pollution relative to

other European cities in part because of dense car traffic, namely on the ring road which surrounds the city centre. High car usage is also related to Belgium's generous tax breaks for company cars, which promote car ownership. However, the Brussels municipality has taken drastic steps in recent years to reduce car-related air pollution, namely by reducing the authorised speed in the city to 30km/h and by making large parts of the city centre inaccessible to cars.

While Brussels is likely to continue suffering from deficiencies relating to its patchy governance structure, its role as the policy hub of Europe will endure, making it an impressively global city given its size.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	45 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	42 <sup>nd</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	196 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	328 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	136 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$227 billion
GDP per person:	US\$67,300
Population:	3.4 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Large foreign-born population
-  Many universities
-  High economic stability

## WEAKNESSES

-  Slower economic growth
-  Slower population growth
-  Lower income equality

# 46 Phoenix | United States



Phoenix's strong economy has gained momentum over the last few years, driven by healthy in-migration and its attractiveness as a low-cost alternative to West Coast metros for both living and business. Its favourable Economics ranking is helped by having a large GDP, but Phoenix's GDP per person is lower than many other US cities as it generates less GDP from tech and high value-add professional and business services, and more GDP from healthcare. However, the city's manufacturing sector is poised to see a boost in the coming years as both Intel and Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation are building large production facilities ("fabs") in the region with the help of CHIPS Act funding. This should increase job growth and high-skilled in-migration.

A resurgence of in-migration from high-skilled workers should also benefit Phoenix's Human Capital category. The city's score here is weighed down by its relatively older population which is ageing rapidly; Phoenix has long been known for its appeal as a retirement destination, with numerous golf courses in the region. However, this reputation has started to change in recent years, due to its lower business and housing costs. Thus, it has attracted younger people and more foreign-born residents eager to take advantage of its healthy job growth opportunities. Though Phoenix does not have many global corporate headquarters, it boasts a portfolio of

important regional headquarters for companies, including Microsoft and Intel. These companies avail themselves of the skilled labour in the city, thereby creating a positive feedback loop which attracts more highly skilled workers to the area.

Phoenix's economy has grown outward, and this sprawling development has weighed on its Quality of Life score. While the city boasts a beautiful natural landscape with mountain views, the number of recreation and cultural sites has not expanded in step with its overall population growth, resulting in fewer amenities per person than two-thirds of US cities. Phoenix has a healthy income per person in a global context, yet incomes are lower than other major US cities. At the same time, its income equality is considerably better than in most major US cities.

Phoenix performs better than its regional peers in the Environment category, partly because it is located in one of the world's sunniest regions. While temperature anomalies are common, rainfall (or lack thereof) in the city is consistent, reducing the risk of floods. Risks of other natural disasters are also low, and residents benefit from good air quality—despite a lack of public transportation options and a heavy reliance on cars. With a robust economy and picturesque location, Phoenix is primed to climb the rankings if it can leverage its positive employment loop and improve liveability.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	25 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	72 <sup>nd</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	253 <sup>rd</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	67 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	184 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$389 billion
GDP per person:	US\$76,800
Population:	5.1 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Large GDP size
-  Good air quality
-  Smaller rainfall anomalies

## WEAKNESSES

-  Older age profile
-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  Fewer recreation and cultural sites

# 47 Madrid | Spain

Discussions on Europe's most important cities are generally concentrated around London and Paris, however, Madrid has gradually entered the conversation. Underpinned by an economy that is diverse and dynamic, supportive to businesses, and home to a highly skilled workforce, Madrid is well positioned in our Global Cities Index, sitting just inside our top 50.



Economically, Madrid is well on its way towards becoming a powerhouse. It is the engine of Spain's economy, and on the European stage it is the closest rival to London and Paris in terms of GDP size. The explanation for Madrid's economic success is multifaceted, with a major strength being its diverse sectoral structure. Beyond its position as Spain's political and financial centre, Madrid is a hub for technology; growth here has been aided by significant investment inflows, including the openings of Google's Innovation Campus and Amazon's tech hub. This ability to attract companies has been pivotal to Madrid's success, and probably relates to the low tax, low regulation approach of the Madrid regional premier, combined with the city's highly geostrategic location. Madrid has also benefitted from political uncertainty in Cataluña, which has skewed investment towards the capital in recent years.

The dynamics of Madrid's economy are tied to its strength in human capital. The workforce is well educated and diverse, with the city's concentration of universities, particularly business schools, high by global standards—and crucially, courses are well integrated with local corporations and institutions. Demographic constraints exist due to the ageing population, but this is less of an issue in Madrid than elsewhere in southern Europe. Latino worker inflows are a key reason behind this, and Madrid is even beginning to challenge Miami's

position as the "capital of Latin America." But with Madrid's population now exceeding 7 million, problems with housing affordability have come to the fore, exacerbating the city's already high levels of income inequality and weighing down its Quality of Life score. To tackle this, construction has begun on Madrid Nuevo Norte, the largest urban housing and office redevelopment program in Europe.

Sustainability is also at the heart of the Nuevo Norte project, underlining the city's wider "360 environmental strategy" to reach carbon neutrality by 2050. Progress so far has been good, with Madrid recently receiving the EU Mission Label award for its climate mitigation approach. And the city fares well in the Environment category: emissions intensity is low, and rainfall abnormalities are modest. The exception is temperature anomalies, with summer heatwaves among the hottest across Europe.

Given these factors, Madrid's overall ranking shows that to become a top city, you cannot be a one-trick pony. Strength must be broad based, and Madrid excels across a range of our pillars. The next step: break into the elite tier of global cities.




## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	51 <sup>st</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	45 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	167 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	102 <sup>nd</sup>
GOVERNANCE	278 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$312 billion
GDP per person:	US\$44,200
Population:	7.1 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Large GDP size
-  Many universities
-  Smaller rainfall anomalies

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  High housing expenditure
-  Older age profile



# 48 Gothenburg | Sweden

The fifth and final Nordic city making it into the top 50 is Gothenburg. Sweden's second largest city is the country's industrial hub, with a large automotive manufacturing sector best known as the home of Volvo, as well as a plethora of other companies further up the supply chain. This makes the Gothenburg economy more export focused, and the manufacturing industry is supported by the largest seaport in the Nordic region which handles nearly 30% of Sweden's foreign trade. While this industrial mix does differentiate the city from the business hub that is Stockholm, the reliance on these sectors means that Gothenburg is more exposed to downturns in global trade and supply chain disruptions. As a result, GDP

growth is more volatile and tends to be weaker than the city's other Nordic peers, which hampers Gothenburg's performance in the Economics category of our index.

The industrial nature of the economy also hinders Gothenburg in the Environmental category as air quality is worse than some of the city's peers and the emissions intensity is higher. The city economy is also more exposed to the risks related to the climate related economic transition, as these sectors will require greater adjustments to reach net zero. However, this does present an opportunity for Gothenburg if the city is able to position itself as a leader in electric vehicle and battery production.

Gothenburg's strengths are largely concentrated in Human Capital and Quality of Life, where the city scores well in our index. Specifically, the workforce is well educated by global standards and the city has several respected universities, such as the University of Gothenburg and Chalmers University of Technology. Life expectancy is also high, although the population is on average older than many cities which feature inside the overall top 50, with persons aged 65+ comprising a larger share of the total population. This has consequences for public services, and may put pressure on Sweden's large and effective welfare system in the future.

But in general, the residents of Gothenburg have a high quality of life. Income inequality is lower than many of the city's peers, including Malmö, Stockholm, and Copenhagen, and this inequality is mainly as a result of more people at the upper end of the income spectrum, as the at-risk-of-poverty rates in the city are low. One downside that Gothenburg shares with its Nordic peers is that housing expenditure accounts for a large share of incomes. The rental market in the city is also particularly challenging as waiting times for housing association homes can be long, and it's not uncommon for residents to sublet, which is often less secure. Despite this, the city remains an attractive place to live, with strong and stable governance which has helped Gothenburg achieve a top 50 finish in our index.






## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	102 <sup>nd</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	68 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	59 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	82 <sup>nd</sup>
GOVERNANCE	10 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$66 billion
GDP per person:	US\$60,900
Population:	1.1 million

## STRENGTHS

-  High life expectancy
-  Fewer natural disasters
-  Strong civil liberties

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  High housing expenditure
-  Older age profile

# 49 Vienna | Austria

Vienna just makes it into our top 50, helped by strong scores in the Economics and Human Capital categories, but dragged down somewhat by its weaker Environment score. Within the Economics category, the Austrian capital does particularly well for economic stability and diversity, with the city having prominent business services, trade, and public services sectors, as well as a smaller manufacturing base. However, the outlook for Vienna is relatively modest in both a global and European context, similar to that of Austria itself.

Vienna attracts many high-skilled migrants, which is reflected in strong scores for its educational attainment and share of population that is foreign-born. It is also very close to Bratislava, to the point that the two cities are often considered as one metropolitan area. This is another advantage for Vienna, as it's able to draw on additional workers from the Slovakian capital. Vienna scores highly for its universities too, and that is also linked to the city being renowned for its leading life sciences research.

As one of the world's most beautiful and culturally rich cities, home to the famous Vienna State Opera and the Schönbrunn Palace, it is not surprising that Vienna fares well in our Quality of Life category. High average incomes and long life expectancies are additional areas of strength for the city. Vienna does have a lower score for housing affordability,

at least in the global context, but its housing rental market is divided into apartments owned by the city (cheaper, older, and harder to get) and private apartments (usually newer and significantly more expensive). But Vienna does offer free all-day kindergartens, unlimited public transport use from just €1 per day, and tap water sourced straight from the Alps!

As well as having very clean water, Vienna's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions intensity is low. However, the city's ranking in the Environment category is brought down by unfavourable scores for temperature anomalies and natural disasters. Located on the Danube River, Vienna is at a high risk of flooding—but the city's government is naturally aware of this, and its 1980s-built flood defences are among

the best in the world. In order to remain one of the world's most liveable cities, in 2022 Vienna committed to becoming carbon-neutral by 2040, with points of action including phasing out fossil fuel-based heating systems, expanding public transport, and planting 25,000 new trees.

Finally, Vienna also benefits from Austria's strong institutions and political stability, achieving a high score in the Governance category. And the city itself has a strong stance on human rights, as well as supporting newly arrived residents with its StartWien program, which includes free counselling and advice available in over 20 languages. Whether Vienna can remain in our top 50 ranking will depend on how it manages to execute its carbon-neutral plan, and if it can boost its economic growth.





## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	42 <sup>nd</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	47 <sup>th</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	145 <sup>th</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	604 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	104 <sup>th</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$182 billion
GDP per person:	US\$58,800
Population:	3.1 million

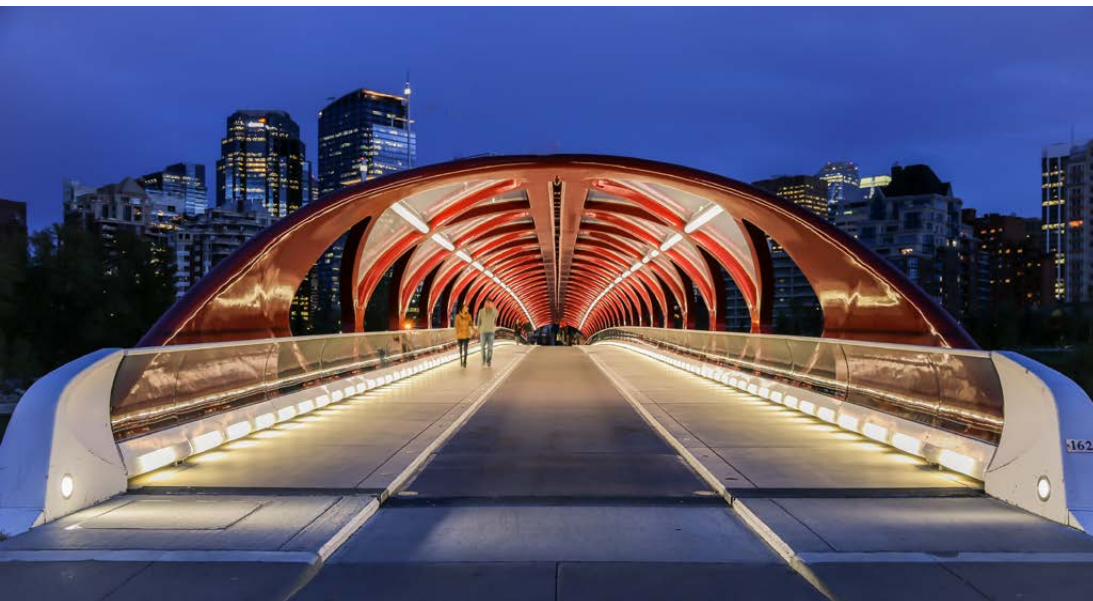
## STRENGTHS

-  Many recreation and cultural sites
-  More economic diversity
-  Large foreign-born population

## WEAKNESSES

-  Slower employment growth
-  High housing expenditure
-  High temperature anomalies

# 50 Calgary | Canada



Calgary rounds out the top 50 cities in 2024. Canada's fourth-biggest city is the headquarters for the country's large oil and gas industry, which plays a role in both Calgary's Economics and Human Capital rankings. In the Economics category, the city's score is boosted by strong growth forecasts; in fact, we expect Calgary to experience the fastest GDP and employment growth over the next five years out of any city in North America, thanks to the continuing strength of the oil and gas sector. But Calgary's reliance on this sector also poses economic risks. Namely, Calgary has a less diversified economy than most cities, and its growth can be quite volatile depending on the fortunes of the oil market.

Calgary's best category, Human Capital, is also interlinked to the oil and gas industry. Most of Canada's largest energy companies are headquartered in Calgary, and well-paid engineering and managerial jobs have attracted highly educated people from all over the world. This also has the effect of keeping the city's age profile younger than that of most other North American cities.

These high-paying jobs also help boost income per person in Calgary, which is the highest of any Canadian city. Life expectancy in Calgary is also among the longest in North America, further reinforcing its Quality of Life score. But despite high average incomes, residents

still spend a large share of that income on housing. While the housing market remains more affordable than in most other Canadian cities, this is largely a reflection of the state of the housing crisis elsewhere in Canada, rather than the strength of Calgary; the city ranks in the bottom decile for housing expenditure globally.

Surprisingly, Calgary's connection to the oil and gas industry doesn't have much of a negative impact on its Environment score. The city's air quality is very good, and its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions intensity is about average for North America, a reflection of the fact that while the administration of the oil and gas industry occurs in Calgary, the extraction and refining processes do not. That being said, the city suffers from the worst temperature anomalies of all 1,000 cities, experiencing both significant cold fronts and heatwaves, the intensity and frequency of which will likely grow in the coming years as the effects of climate change amplify.

Calgary's strong ranking in the 2024 index is partially a byproduct of its reliance on a dying industry. For now, the city ranks in the top 50 as it feeds off of today's demand for oil, but as the world transitions away from fossil fuels Calgary may find itself in a difficult position if it cannot adapt.

## RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	105 <sup>th</sup>
HUMAN CAPITAL	32 <sup>nd</sup>
QUALITY OF LIFE	141 <sup>st</sup>
ENVIRONMENT	312 <sup>th</sup>
GOVERNANCE	52 <sup>nd</sup>




## KEY FIGURES IN 2023

GDP:	US\$98 billion
GDP per person:	US\$59,400
Population:	1.6 million

## STRENGTHS

-  Many corporate headquarters
-  Large foreign-born population
-  Good air quality

## WEAKNESSES

-  Larger temperature anomalies
-  High housing expenditure
-  Less economic diversity

# METHODOLOGY



# Methodology

The Oxford Economics Global Cities Index is a holistic ranking of the 1,000 cities included in our Global Cities Forecasting Service. While our best-in-class economic forecasts underpin these rankings, cities are scored across five different categories to achieve a well-rounded comparison of locations. The five categories are Economics, Human Capital, Quality of Life, Environment, and Governance.

- The **Economics** category contains indicators that measure the economic size, structure, and growth of each city, examining both historical performance and future potential.
- The **Human Capital** category contains indicators that measure the educational and business climates of each city, in conjunction with demographic trends.
- The **Quality of Life** category contains indicators that measure the benefits of living in each city and residents' wellbeing, covering financial and health outcomes, as well as access to amenities.
- The **Environment** category contains indicators that measure the natural environment of each city on climate change-related issues.
- The **Governance** category contains indicators that measure the political stability of a city and the degree to which residents' rights are protected. In recognition of the fact that national governments—not just those at the city level—have a significant influence on these outcomes, this category is measured at the national level, rather than at the city level. As a result, every city in a given country receives the same score.



The full list of indicators in each of these categories is included below:

Category	Indicator	Description
<b>Economics</b>	GDP size	The size of the city's gross domestic product
	GDP growth	The 5-year GDP forecast for the city
	GDP per person	The size of the city's GDP divided by its population
	Employment growth	The 5-year employment forecast for the city
	Economic stability	The consistency of the city's GDP growth in the past decade
	Economic diversity	The relative size of each sector of the city's economy
<b>Human Capital</b>	Population growth	The 5-year population forecast for the city
	Age profile	The ratio of the city's residents aged 65+ to the residents aged between 15 and 64 (roughly retired population over working-age population)
	Universities	The number universities in the city weighted by their rankings
	Corporate headquarters	The number of the world's 2000 largest corporations headquartered in the city
	Educational attainment	An average of the mean years of schooling of adults aged 25+ and the expected years of schooling of children aged 6 for a city's residents
	Foreign-born population	The share of the population residing in the city that was born outside of the city's country
<b>Quality of Life</b>	Income equality	The Gini coefficient for total household income in the city (a measure of household income equality)
	Income per person	The total household disposable income of the city divided by its population, adjusted for purchasing power parity (PPP) across countries
	Housing expenditure	The share of household disposable income spent on housing and utilities in the city
	Life expectancy	The life expectancy at birth for residents of the city
	Internet speed	The average broadband internet download speed in the city
	Recreation & cultural sites	The number of recreation and cultural sites in the city divided by its population
<b>Environment</b>	Air quality	The mean PM2.5 concentration in the city
	Emissions intensity	The sum of CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in the city divided by its GDP
	Natural disasters	The total number of natural disasters that have occurred in the city since 2000
	Temperature anomalies	The average yearly temperature anomaly for the city, calculated as the difference between the daily maximum temperature and its long run average
	Rainfall anomalies	The average yearly rainfall anomaly for the city, calculated as the difference between the total monthly rainfall and its long run average
<b>Governance</b>	Institutions	An aggregate score of the institutional context and rule of law of the city's country
	Political stability	An aggregate score of the likelihood of political instability and violence in the city's country
	Business environment	An aggregate score of the ease of doing business and the control of corruption in the city's country
	Civil liberties	An aggregate score of the political rights and civil liberties of residents of the city's country

The indicators included in the Global Cities Index are not an exhaustive list of the characteristics to consider when comparing cities. Rather, they are among what we believe to be the most relevant traits, as well as a reflection of the harmonised data available at the city level across 163 countries.

After we collected data for each indicator for all cities, we created a normalised score for each indicator by assigning the highest-scoring city a score of 100 for that indicator, the lowest-scoring city a score of 0, and distributing the rest of the cities' scores across that range. We combined the scores for each indicator within a category to create a total score for that category for each city. We then normalised the total score for each category, and calculated the city's final overall score by taking a weighted average of each category's normalised score, using the weights in the table below:

Category	Weight
Economics	30%
Human Capital	25%
Quality of Life	25%
Environment	10%
Governance	10%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>100%</b>

The result is an overall score for each of the 1,000 Global Cities that considers not only the city's economic performance, but also how well educated it is, the wellbeing of its residents, the volatility of its climate, any political risks facing the city, and much more. This allows us to rank the cities in a more holistic manner, but also identify relative strengths and weakness for each city across the five categories.

## A note on city geographical definitions

Consistent geographical definitions are vital when comparing the economies of different cities, which is why Oxford Economics employs the concept of Functional Urban Areas in the Global Cities Index. With two key elements, a Functional Urban Area captures both the areas of highly intense economic activity in the city cores, while also capturing the economic activity associated with a city's periphery, in its less dense but still important commuting zone.

In the European Union and OECD member countries, we employ the methodology proposed by the OECD to delineate Functional Urban Areas, using their published definitions, and building up economic and demographic datasets from a municipal basis to reach a comprehensive dataset for each Functional Urban Area. In the rest of the world, we adapt the OECD's estimated Functional Urban Area definition to align with local level municipal boundaries, using a similar methodology proposed for European and OECD member countries. As a result, we can confidently compare New York to Lagos, Cairo to Sydney, and Chongqing to Vienna.

# 1,000 GLOBAL CITIES RANKINGS





# 1-25

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
1	New York	United States	1	4	278	353	184
2	London	United Kingdom	7	1	292	197	72
3	San Jose	United States	3	28	38	53	184
4	Tokyo	Japan	10	2	218	277	26
5	Paris	France	9	6	65	409	161
6	Seattle	United States	4	40	56	40	184
7	Los Angeles	United States	2	19	280	79	184
8	San Francisco	United States	5	34	101	62	184
9	Melbourne	Australia	16	11	185	30	18
10	Zurich	Switzerland	29	14	8	382	13
11	Boston	United States	12	10	123	237	184
12	Dublin	Ireland	33	16	67	17	51
13	Washington, DC	United States	11	7	224	314	184
14	Stockholm	Sweden	28	15	85	88	10
15	Copenhagen	Denmark	13	37	179	110	4
16	Sydney	Australia	19	9	230	363	18
17	Toronto	Canada	17	13	197	316	52
18	Dallas	United States	6	23	320	280	184
19	Oslo	Norway	48	53	31	72	8
20	Vancouver	Canada	35	33	78	149	52
21	Geneva	Switzerland	36	60	14	335	13
22	Luxembourg	Luxembourg	38	66	6	440	70
23	Perth	Australia	57	22	135	34	18
24	Denver	United States	23	31	113	243	184
25	Houston	United States	15	18	298	271	184

# 26-50

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
26	Atlanta	United States	14	20	321	211	184
27	Brisbane	Australia	41	41	146	135	18
28	Amsterdam	Netherlands	50	30	61	343	63
29	Chicago	United States	8	46	276	520	184
30	Tel Aviv	Israel	21	44	70	290	350
31	Montreal	Canada	49	35	98	341	52
32	Munich	Germany	31	48	116	374	107
33	Philadelphia	United States	18	29	260	355	184
34	Minneapolis	United States	24	54	124	428	184
35	San Diego	United States	26	64	217	37	184
36	Miami	United States	22	38	318	39	184
37	Basel	Switzerland	82	105	5	421	13
38	Helsinki	Finland	68	52	75	377	6
39	Austin	United States	20	59	231	207	184
40	Bern	Switzerland	80	142	3	396	13
41	Seoul	South Korea	67	5	272	615	148
42	Singapore	Singapore	78	43	40	424	135
43	Berlin	Germany	47	50	114	463	107
44	Canberra	Australia	179	90	2	194	18
45	Brussels	Belgium	45	42	196	328	136
46	Phoenix	United States	25	72	253	67	184
47	Madrid	Spain	51	45	167	102	278
48	Gothenburg	Sweden	102	68	59	82	10
49	Vienna	Austria	42	47	145	604	104
50	Calgary	Canada	105	32	141	312	52

# 51-75

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
51	Adelaide	Australia	81	73	152	57	18
52	Portland	United States	30	112	161	56	184
53	Salt Lake City	United States	43	70	150	217	184
54	Abu Dhabi	United Arab Emirates	79	8	215	491	358
55	Bergen	Norway	254	143	4	15	8
56	Hamburg	Germany	39	78	162	413	107
57	Lausanne	Switzerland	157	61	26	342	13
58	Aarhus	Denmark	100	135	55	97	4
59	Auckland	New Zealand	112	109	206	10	1
60	Baltimore	United States	32	86	199	299	184
61	Nashville	United States	27	75	271	257	184
62	Ottawa-Gatineau	Canada	153	83	20	346	52
63	Rotterdam	Netherlands	75	129	49	425	63
64	Prague	Czech Republic	65	104	83	486	144
65	Taipei	Taiwan	243	25	106	262	98
66	Columbus	United States	53	62	286	234	184
67	Quebec City	Canada	138	159	12	261	52
68	Lyon	France	55	178	30	327	161
69	Wellington	New Zealand	189	165	66	5	1
70	Raleigh	United States	61	106	226	87	184
71	Riverside	United States	34	131	294	111	184
72	Charlotte	United States	63	76	279	164	184
73	Barcelona	Spain	115	71	130	201	278
74	Richmond	United States	72	96	238	176	184
75	Manchester	United Kingdom	83	92	246	248	72

# 76-100

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
76	Hong Kong	Hong Kong SAR, China	89	56	151	583	299
77	Madison	United States	64	118	119	465	184
78	Orlando	United States	52	121	311	27	184
79	Malmö	Sweden	160	110	133	127	10
80	The Hague	Netherlands	178	98	54	242	63
81	Gold Coast	Australia	120	168	95	118	18
82	Edinburgh	United Kingdom	213	65	165	50	72
83	Bristol	United Kingdom	168	113	89	133	72
84	Tampa	United States	56	137	296	33	184
85	Frankfurt am Main	Germany	77	99	193	554	107
86	Nantes	France	126	245	10	77	161
87	Christchurch	New Zealand	206	166	128	9	1
88	Halifax	Canada	260	133	42	29	52
89	Edmonton	Canada	123	141	81	482	52
90	Eindhoven	Netherlands	163	151	32	325	63
91	Osaka-Kyoto	Japan	154	88	164	339	26
92	Dubai-Sharjah-Ajman	United Arab Emirates	70	12	343	597	358
93	Toulouse	France	119	177	45	172	161
94	Antwerp	Belgium	97	253	11	460	136
95	Providence	United States	111	97	205	235	184
96	St. Louis	United States	46	150	242	427	184
97	Las Vegas	United States	73	124	293	100	184
98	Gent	Belgium	118	263	9	444	136
99	Stuttgart	Germany	191	93	82	395	107
100	Glasgow	United Kingdom	181	81	258	51	72

# 101-125

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
101	Milan	Italy	101	95	158	477	304
102	Cologne	Germany	98	148	188	530	107
103	Utrecht	Netherlands	130	279	29	310	63
104	Omaha	United States	124	134	105	523	184
105	San Antonio	United States	58	140	302	302	184
106	Cambridge	United Kingdom	200	123	140	174	72
107	Lisbon	Portugal	201	144	102	69	141
108	Pittsburgh	United States	66	145	266	398	184
109	Virginia Beach	United States	117	139	237	155	184
110	Durham	United States	133	91	290	158	184
111	Winnipeg	Canada	113	196	127	435	52
112	Haifa	Israel	131	77	159	330	350
113	Birmingham	United Kingdom	136	157	223	190	72
114	Grenoble	France	218	328	1	283	161
115	Worcester	United States	122	125	214	372	184
116	Bordeaux	France	127	327	27	113	161
117	Detroit	United States	116	100	277	352	184
118	Riyadh	Saudi Arabia	44	3	580	697	626
119	Santiago	Chile	172	27	330	301	296
120	Hamilton	Canada	187	184	48	402	52
121	Sacramento	United States	71	205	268	143	184
122	Honolulu	United States	88	269	200	38	184
123	Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo	Canada	225	147	88	348	52
124	Rennes	France	132	332	39	71	161
125	Milwaukee	United States	76	219	170	407	184

# 126-150

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
126	Southampton	United Kingdom	145	195	195	193	72
127	Freiburg im Breisgau	Germany	216	208	25	450	107
128	Dusseldorf	Germany	155	201	107	401	107
129	Leeds	United Kingdom	140	173	250	223	72
130	Oxford	United Kingdom	175	167	163	294	72
131	Leicester	United Kingdom	248	82	270	212	72
132	Indianapolis	United States	54	274	263	273	184
133	Allentown	United States	87	187	256	385	184
134	Rome	Italy	137	117	245	331	304
135	Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	106	21	391	526	334
136	Linz	Austria	199	235	16	623	104
137	Graz	Austria	207	209	37	487	104
138	Reykjavik	Iceland	395	176	7	349	25
139	Jacksonville	United States	84	256	259	123	184
140	Cincinnati	United States	60	261	228	483	184
141	Provo	United States	94	284	191	293	184
142	New Haven	United States	134	232	209	173	184
143	Jerusalem	Israel	114	103	309	264	350
144	Bonn	Germany	224	191	97	388	107
145	Belfast	United Kingdom	212	266	192	18	72
146	Memphis	United States	69	149	345	456	184
147	Tampere	Finland	286	272	62	205	6
148	Kansas City	United States	59	346	220	488	184
149	Columbia	United States	135	172	317	95	184
150	Boise City	United States	152	239	257	60	184

# 151-175

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
151	Valetta	Malta	255	306	18	93	302
152	Fukuoka	Japan	173	218	235	322	26
153	Nottingham	United Kingdom	238	182	208	230	72
154	Oxnard	United States	144	325	207	61	184
155	Marseille	France	143	414	53	284	161
156	Montpellier	France	195	349	44	192	161
157	Nagoya	Japan	252	211	129	438	26
158	Muenster	Germany	217	238	120	405	107
159	Hartford	United States	214	204	143	246	184
160	Karlsruhe	Germany	302	156	77	589	107
161	Budapest	Hungary	177	127	137	596	347
162	Cardiff	United Kingdom	210	233	265	58	72
163	Ruhr	Germany	229	185	168	499	107
164	Tulsa	United States	151	161	288	495	184
165	Des Moines	United States	247	226	86	361	184
166	Newcastle upon Tyne	United Kingdom	263	242	153	171	72
167	Cleveland	United States	146	212	287	282	184
168	Sheffield	United Kingdom	227	214	229	239	72
169	Brighton and Hove	United Kingdom	295	160	232	202	72
170	Coventry	United Kingdom	270	175	252	210	72
171	Oklahoma City	United States	96	276	308	318	184
172	Liverpool	United Kingdom	261	215	233	157	72
173	Charleston	United States	109	309	305	181	184
174	Louisville	United States	74	345	291	459	184
175	Nuremberg	Germany	245	353	63	406	107

# 176-200

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
176	Tucson	United States	159	275	295	74	184
177	Hanover	Germany	267	217	155	457	107
178	Palm Bay	United States	269	223	251	35	184
179	Rochester	United States	194	222	239	278	184
180	Portsmouth	United Kingdom	280	252	203	122	72
181	Ljubljana	Slovenia	323	231	34	404	160
182	Bratislava	Slovakia	204	273	41	606	303
183	Grand Rapids	United States	91	478	236	255	184
184	Tours	France	220	494	22	292	161
185	Bridgeport	United States	240	313	109	268	184
186	Colorado Springs	United States	147	391	202	259	184
187	Mannheim-Ludwigshafen	Germany	345	174	74	614	107
188	Buffalo	United States	129	347	255	351	184
189	Dammam	Saudi Arabia	86	36	438	417	626
190	Harrisburg	United States	128	393	261	252	184
191	Mainz	Germany	316	255	93	432	107
192	Bangkok	Thailand	310	26	300	437	522
193	Warsaw	Poland	313	120	111	679	318
194	Liege	Belgium	215	410	68	498	136
195	Albany	United States	125	453	194	367	184
196	Clermont-Ferrand	France	355	348	15	287	161
197	Valencia	Spain	242	307	204	90	278
198	Tallinn	Estonia	234	210	241	625	71
199	Istanbul	Turkey	158	17	395	507	801
200	Northampton	United Kingdom	231	338	227	250	72



# 201-225

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
201	Winston-Salem	United States	209	198	312	226	184
202	Knoxville	United States	104	322	329	364	184
203	Malaga	Spain	353	240	112	81	278
204	New Orleans	United States	228	163	314	381	184
205	Taichung	Taiwan	496	122	174	319	98
206	Shenzhen	China	37	49	618	553	637
207	Bologna	Italy	304	236	73	451	304
208	Seville	Spain	278	297	219	85	278
209	Porto	Portugal	367	329	94	68	141
210	Poznan	Poland	174	319	131	570	318
211	Bilbao	Spain	276	399	80	233	278
212	Santa Cruz de Tenerife	Spain	356	405	76	16	278
213	Bournemouth	United Kingdom	358	278	172	160	72
214	Hsinchu	Taiwan	752	119	51	296	98
215	Bakersfield	United States	95	437	341	162	184
216	Birmingham	United States	103	382	337	320	184
217	Beijing	China	142	24	367	769	637
218	Al Ain	United Arab Emirates	293	63	335	468	358
219	Strasbourg	France	192	670	24	454	161
220	Greenville	United States	107	532	297	279	184
221	Vilnius	Lithuania	139	469	264	512	143
222	Fort Myers	United States	203	456	282	41	184
223	Lille	France	182	555	117	378	161
224	Palma de Mallorca	Spain	346	384	91	104	278
225	Little Rock	United States	156	388	301	329	184

# 226-250

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
226	Nice	France	202	678	46	306	161
227	Murcia	Spain	328	311	177	159	278
228	Nicosia	Cyprus	385	199	201	227	294
229	A Coruna	Spain	343	490	43	116	278
230	Derby	United Kingdom	380	295	211	196	72
231	Augsburg	Germany	296	482	108	375	107
232	Bremen	Germany	308	350	186	478	107
233	Orleans	France	264	740	17	244	161
234	Arnhem	Netherlands	294	608	47	376	63
235	Brno	Czech Republic	274	462	71	593	144
236	Wroclaw	Poland	188	447	96	603	318
237	Stockton	United States	149	425	327	332	184
238	North Port	United States	241	536	262	19	184
239	Akron	United States	239	428	234	286	184
240	Kaohsiung	Taiwan	545	225	100	392	98
241	Las Palmas	Spain	410	441	87	26	278
242	Dresden	Germany	352	512	35	510	107
243	Gdansk	Poland	281	337	126	539	318
244	Alicante	Spain	373	286	216	147	278
245	Fresno	United States	164	442	338	128	184
246	Vigo	Spain	378	463	79	89	278
247	Granada	Spain	364	402	118	142	278
248	El Paso	United States	235	246	342	336	184
249	Baton Rouge	United States	193	312	328	517	184
250	Mexico City	Mexico	85	69	642	504	529

# 251-275

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
251	Sapporo	Japan	283	545	274	108	26
252	Busan	South Korea	350	374	181	308	148
253	Middlesbrough	United Kingdom	339	438	175	357	72
254	Macao	Macao SAR, China	314	314	154	568	300
255	Verona	Italy	279	473	110	476	304
256	Manila	Philippines	150	101	461	238	614
257	Jeddah	Saudi Arabia	141	67	432	611	626
258	Saint-Etienne	France	394	642	13	291	161
259	Zaragoza	Spain	307	589	121	121	278
260	Almaty	Kazakhstan	338	55	313	721	605
261	Modesto	United States	205	479	331	132	184
262	Doha	Qatar	349	74	336	556	368
263	Albuquerque	United States	208	603	267	185	184
264	Padua	Italy	319	503	57	469	304
265	Guangzhou	China	99	58	588	668	637
266	Dijon	France	265	800	21	397	161
267	Krakow	Poland	232	422	160	676	318
268	Aachen	Germany	418	370	176	410	107
269	Syracuse	United States	271	518	249	270	184
270	Kiel	Germany	470	454	99	260	107
271	Toledo	United States	362	248	285	470	184
272	Bucharest	Romania	165	412	303	550	331
273	Groningen	Netherlands	631	283	92	455	63
274	Toulon	France	325	751	28	188	161
275	Buenos Aires	Argentina	311	152	339	112	473

# 276-300

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
276	Wiesbaden	Germany	365	544	84	496	107
277	Greensboro	United States	196	533	326	221	184
278	Shanghai	China	90	85	405	883	637
279	Aberdeen	United Kingdom	657	335	182	45	72
280	Wichita	United States	251	537	248	442	184
281	Kingston upon Hull	United Kingdom	382	357	304	265	72
282	McAllen	United States	226	241	404	383	184
283	Lima	Peru	170	114	418	608	514
284	Jakarta	Indonesia	40	89	741	793	480
285	San Juan	Puerto Rico	587	299	324	3	276
286	Hangzhou	China	62	158	430	837	637
287	Braunschweig-Salzgitter	Germany	552	344	144	511	107
288	Hiroshima	Japan	503	529	171	179	26
289	Astana	Kazakhstan	258	115	356	571	605
290	Leipzig	Germany	292	770	103	576	107
291	Tainan	Taiwan	728	354	139	177	98
292	Turin	Italy	445	433	104	446	304
293	Kuwait City	Kuwait	211	138	377	664	513
294	São Paulo	Brazil	180	102	604	334	569
295	Kumamoto	Japan	340	656	243	358	26
296	Sendai	Japan	558	506	221	131	26
297	Athens	Greece	502	169	322	236	348
298	Bielefeld	Germany	330	706	198	412	107
299	Florence	Italy	384	661	60	350	304
300	Naha	Japan	337	553	319	379	26

# 301-325

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
301	San José	Costa Rica	315	262	412	168	295
302	Valladolid	Spain	468	708	58	175	278
303	Dayton	United States	262	760	269	256	184
304	Hanoi	Vietnam	183	194	347	630	820
305	Moscow	Russia	93	111	415	613	946
306	Cheongju	South Korea	456	521	173	500	148
307	Venice	Italy	479	586	36	549	304
308	Nancy	France	535	655	33	471	161
309	Brasília	Brazil	289	164	448	70	569
310	Daegu	South Korea	653	326	225	389	148
311	Valparaíso	Chile	531	270	323	304	296
312	Bergamo	Italy	528	452	122	518	304
313	Kyiv	Ukraine	186	229	325	638	867
314	Ho Chi Minh City	Vietnam	167	343	358	311	820
315	Hamamatsu	Japan	753	673	52	198	26
316	Bogotá	Colombia	230	84	677	572	501
317	Monterrey	Mexico	282	116	596	323	529
318	Gwangju	South Korea	601	547	149	362	148
319	Rouen	France	405	878	50	307	161
320	Caen	France	665	801	23	138	161
321	Ankara	Turkey	285	146	410	516	801
322	Concepción	Chile	619	386	307	98	296
323	Panama City	Panama	219	540	349	340	365
324	Port Louis	Mauritius	344	725	355	8	147
325	Suzhou (Jiangsu)	China	92	220	462	910	637

# 326-350

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
326	Riga	Latvia	478	466	284	567	277
327	Cairo	Egypt	162	57	715	599	848
328	Nanjing	China	148	130	474	946	637
329	Niigata	Japan	593	745	212	145	26
330	Okayama	Japan	632	647	138	534	26
331	Genoa	Italy	605	783	19	344	304
332	Charleroi	Belgium	407	779	213	493	136
333	Kanazawa	Japan	581	799	156	204	26
334	Montevideo	Uruguay	411	543	380	36	183
335	Erfurt	Germany	559	831	64	434	107
336	Wuhan	China	110	188	544	913	637
337	Chengdu	China	121	267	468	799	637
338	Mexicali	Mexico	317	251	475	76	529
339	Mecca	Saudi Arabia	381	87	493	548	626
340	Matsuyama	Japan	655	778	187	184	26
341	Szczecin	Poland	369	737	190	587	318
342	Chiayi	Taiwan	845	523	147	297	98
343	Xian	China	176	186	489	784	637
344	Kagoshima	Japan	383	881	283	231	26
345	Daejeon	South Korea	614	569	244	475	148
346	Lublin	Poland	565	575	125	662	318
347	Toyohashi	Japan	757	832	69	195	26
348	Suva	Fiji	427	249	660	1	367
349	Wolfsburg	Germany	674	786	90	472	107
350	Delhi	India	108	51	838	973	380

# 351-375

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
351	Georgetown	Malaysia	554	254	384	276	334
352	Mito	Japan	636	857	166	170	26
353	Manama	Bahrain	290	171	541	561	610
354	Xiamen	China	198	200	581	619	637
355	Toyama	Japan	763	738	134	399	26
356	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil	341	153	628	317	569
357	Lens	France	404	911	132	443	161
358	Tbilisi	Georgia	458	183	503	422	361
359	Malacca	Malaysia	460	361	362	489	334
360	Takamatsu	Japan	625	891	115	356	26
361	Utsunomiya	Japan	743	794	189	206	26
362	Wakayama	Japan	806	748	184	209	26
363	Takasaki	Japan	826	749	136	251	26
364	Iasi	Romania	321	539	369	560	331
365	Jeonju	South Korea	842	552	142	466	148
366	Naples	Italy	487	659	316	275	304
367	Qingdao	China	197	336	401	760	637
368	Bialystok	Poland	606	573	210	646	318
369	Ulsan	South Korea	783	559	240	415	148
370	Zhuhai	China	300	180	532	610	637
371	Da Nang	Vietnam	324	435	344	453	820
372	Bari	Italy	575	750	247	274	304
373	Taif	Saudi Arabia	550	107	464	506	626
374	Nassau	Bahamas	488	485	538	7	329
375	Katowice	Poland	557	651	180	788	318

# 376-400

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
376	Johor Bahru	Malaysia	457	259	443	706	334
377	Bydgoszcz	Poland	399	885	169	629	318
378	Hefei	China	184	285	513	869	637
379	Cheonan	South Korea	685	658	273	564	148
380	Johannesburg	South Africa	312	39	923	365	371
381	Chongqing	China	161	316	535	867	637
382	Santo Domingo	Dominican Republic	275	498	646	86	472
383	Halle an der Saale	Germany	640	868	157	591	107
384	Campinas	Brazil	390	227	547	436	569
385	Butterworth-Bukit Mertajam	Malaysia	363	520	452	464	334
386	Córdoba	Argentina	691	341	350	165	473
387	Guadalajara	Mexico	288	421	639	141	529
388	Amman	Jordan	387	154	678	531	601
389	Dongguan	China	185	376	598	672	637
390	Podgorica	Montenegro	847	373	254	535	366
391	Kota Kinabalu	Malaysia	693	407	386	140	334
392	St Petersburg	Russia	298	213	413	408	946
393	Khamis Mushait	Saudi Arabia	539	265	378	403	626
394	Medina	Saudi Arabia	533	108	579	653	626
395	Florianópolis	Brazil	562	330	423	99	569
396	Tirana	Albania	361	577	368	485	471
397	Zagreb	Croatia	476	590	357	577	330
398	Kitakyushu	Japan	775	864	222	423	26
399	Numazu	Japan	813	947	72	199	26
400	Rosario	Argentina	609	556	332	241	473



# 401-425

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
401	Zhengzhou	China	190	334	531	923	637
402	Skopje	North Macedonia	351	528	388	782	362
403	Catania	Italy	764	756	306	114	304
404	Baku	Azerbaijan	571	258	351	569	837
405	Fuzhou	China	222	411	615	661	637
406	Tokushima	Japan	700	919	289	187	26
407	Lviv	Ukraine	537	331	333	514	867
408	Quito	Ecuador	495	342	473	240	608
409	Izmir	Turkey	435	300	477	447	801
410	Guayaquil	Ecuador	507	359	549	63	608
411	Bengaluru	India	171	179	847	727	380
412	Kuantan	Malaysia	540	551	399	390	334
413	Ostrava	Czech Republic	750	710	281	747	144
414	Al Hofuf	Saudi Arabia	516	128	537	841	626
415	Belgrade	Serbia	332	530	381	685	623
416	Kharkiv	Ukraine	483	271	359	574	867
417	Hermosillo	Mexico	536	368	574	52	529
418	Porto Alegre	Brazil	417	457	593	64	569
419	Kuching	Malaysia	532	492	466	419	334
420	Haikou	China	257	681	501	247	637
421	Foshan	China	237	417	614	715	637
422	Medellín	Colombia	424	224	692	490	501
423	Chişinău	Moldova	336	601	444	474	512
424	Palermo	Italy	756	802	315	107	304
425	Querétaro	Mexico	466	362	561	258	529

# 426-450

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
426	Culiacán	Mexico	454	424	630	44	529
427	Mumbai	India	169	126	915	812	380
428	Sofia	Bulgaria	467	570	363	718	355
429	Algiers	Algeria	610	206	390	479	860
430	Mérida	Mexico	422	432	589	186	529
431	La Plata	Argentina	782	455	352	183	473
432	Muscat	Oman	630	234	527	580	500
433	Kota Bharu	Malaysia	594	367	653	333	334
434	Surabaya	Indonesia	236	377	769	541	480
435	Changwon	South Korea	907	824	178	394	148
436	Cebu City	Philippines	379	502	683	24	614
437	Yerevan	Armenia	441	401	492	631	510
438	Bishkek	Kyrgyzstan	444	203	517	710	843
439	Izmit	Turkey	628	281	408	542	801
440	Thessaloniki	Greece	809	568	334	458	348
441	Barranquilla	Colombia	509	291	721	92	501
442	Casablanca	Morocco	431	287	713	225	562
443	Tehran	Iran	306	80	745	773	928
444	Ningbo	China	250	625	450	783	637
445	Cape Town	South Africa	574	79	881	83	371
446	Accra	Ghana	459	230	718	565	369
447	Seremban	Malaysia	501	610	514	387	334
448	Tijuana	Mexico	515	461	633	49	529
449	Colombo	Sri Lanka	366	381	666	473	624
450	Antalya	Turkey	585	310	454	497	801

# 451-475

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
451	Ulaanbaatar	Mongolia	442	415	650	622	363
452	Pohang	South Korea	943	798	148	494	148
453	San Miguel De Tucumán	Argentina	768	491	370	200	473
454	Makassar	Indonesia	301	472	774	103	480
455	Asunción	Paraguay	491	396	607	289	611
456	Bursa	Turkey	583	260	479	650	801
457	Cali	Colombia	347	429	708	502	501
458	Curitiba	Brazil	549	403	539	324	569
459	Kuala Muda	Malaysia	551	609	498	416	334
460	Belo Horizonte	Brazil	414	495	670	178	569
461	Kunming	China	233	674	645	505	637
462	Samsun	Turkey	494	324	469	707	801
463	Juárez	Mexico	485	383	631	411	529
464	Odesa	Ukraine	543	406	353	612	867
465	Ipoh	Malaysia	447	690	398	787	334
466	Jinan	China	223	764	403	848	637
467	Nanchang	China	246	615	524	821	637
468	Tashkent	Uzbekistan	553	136	612	861	842
469	Arequipa	Peru	861	365	428	91	514
470	Medan	Indonesia	266	390	821	228	480
471	Nanning	China	249	767	467	671	637
472	Chennai	India	244	189	879	763	380
473	Shangrao	China	331	711	379	737	637
474	Chiclayo	Peru	433	726	521	115	514
475	Chiang Mai	Thailand	808	516	310	682	522

# 476-500

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
476	Salta	Argentina	887	404	372	182	473
477	Sarajevo	Bosnia and Herzegovina	425	620	396	573	634
478	Dnipro	Ukraine	548	364	365	673	867
479	Padang	Indonesia	299	366	800	386	480
480	San Luis Potosí	Mexico	463	675	440	326	529
481	Cuernavaca	Mexico	489	443	634	345	529
482	Shimkent	Kazakhstan	566	264	523	806	605
483	Toluca	Mexico	493	339	703	359	529
484	Suqian	China	375	684	348	863	637
485	Mendoza	Argentina	811	496	360	431	473
486	Bridgetown	Barbados	746	859	397	22	301
487	Cagayan de Oro	Philippines	450	514	626	338	614
488	Adapazarı	Turkey	684	303	441	640	801
489	Yogyakarta	Indonesia	342	296	790	634	480
490	Taiyuan	China	303	513	548	882	637
491	Jiaxing	China	277	632	480	902	637
492	Urumqi	China	291	534	565	881	637
493	Konya	Turkey	600	277	585	647	801
494	Jinhua	China	388	458	536	781	637
495	Denpasar	Indonesia	305	728	730	153	480
496	Fortaleza	Brazil	607	476	727	2	569
497	Changsha	China	391	525	460	808	637
498	Chihuahua	Mexico	522	557	644	136	529
499	Bozhou	China	273	723	451	884	637
500	Davao City	Philippines	412	645	629	229	614

# 501-525

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
501	Tunis	Tunisia	611	228	733	380	598
502	Angeles City	Philippines	498	634	550	191	614
503	Puebla	Mexico	471	464	673	527	529
504	Rabat	Morocco	438	486	742	156	562
505	Mykolaiv	Ukraine	745	465	354	418	867
506	Windhoek	Namibia	480	243	916	65	353
507	Mataram	Indonesia	408	483	784	150	480
508	Changzhou	China	287	735	447	909	637
509	Denizli	Turkey	774	372	436	551	801
510	Kayseri	Turkey	649	308	590	644	801
511	Male	Maldives	481	762	656	6	827
512	Quanzhou	China	221	845	613	632	637
513	Lagos	Nigeria	359	94	844	708	896
514	Guiyang	China	268	719	649	751	637
515	Joinville	Brazil	735	649	425	163	569
516	Trujillo	Peru	624	515	571	508	514
517	Palembang	Indonesia	334	460	793	522	480
518	Vitória-Vila Velha	Brazil	773	446	619	117	569
519	Bandar Lampung	Indonesia	372	451	815	109	480
520	Tianjin	China	555	380	459	906	637
521	Kochi	India	259	560	765	790	380
522	Gaborone	Botswana	534	132	974	169	333
523	Bucaramanga	Colombia	603	470	704	267	501
524	Goiânia	Brazil	703	448	689	78	569
525	Aguascalientes	Mexico	505	695	661	139	529

# 526-550

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
526	Tampico	Mexico	490	605	591	582	529
527	Morelia	Mexico	510	777	572	126	529
528	Kolkata	India	166	392	884	919	380
529	Constantine	Algeria	740	282	534	528	860
530	Mersin	Turkey	439	572	601	641	801
531	San Salvador	El Salvador	371	758	671	373	604
532	Jiangmen	China	320	724	569	792	637
533	Pretoria	South Africa	588	162	875	426	371
534	Pune	India	386	181	897	713	380
535	Campo Grande	Brazil	725	487	654	214	569
536	Havana	Cuba	818	397	529	203	828
537	Semarang	Indonesia	360	444	796	586	480
538	Bacolod	Philippines	546	739	695	12	614
539	Saltillo	Mexico	831	395	623	249	529
540	Dhaka	Bangladesh	309	170	794	890	887
541	Bandung	Indonesia	297	419	808	767	480
542	Nantong	China	256	901	429	825	637
543	Natal	Brazil	754	519	728	4	569
544	Minsk	Belarus	857	592	299	547	863
545	Ribeirao Preto	Brazil	618	646	559	368	569
546	Adana	Turkey	578	430	658	600	801
547	Cancún	Mexico	638	761	611	46	529
548	Yinchuan	China	389	628	578	817	637
549	Gaziantep	Turkey	675	385	567	722	801
550	Thrissur	India	326	698	757	581	380

# 551-575

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
551	Reynosa	Mexico	602	602	635	449	529
552	Torreon	Mexico	755	546	620	216	529
553	Kingston	Jamaica	523	653	780	146	346
554	São Gonçalo	Brazil	825	475	599	215	569
555	Durango	Mexico	586	700	659	180	529
556	Baixada Santista	Brazil	708	676	512	285	569
557	Georgetown	Guyana	465	693	747	73	521
558	Gumi	South Korea	957	955	183	433	148
559	Pereira	Colombia	486	583	699	617	501
560	Manaus	Brazil	604	604	687	219	569
561	Guatemala City	Guatemala	322	641	726	594	796
562	Pekanbaru	Indonesia	436	591	767	281	480
563	Cochabamba	Bolivia	629	301	761	269	829
564	Hyderabad	India	253	524	882	674	380
565	Lodz	Poland	990	666	275	683	318
566	Dalian	China	569	643	446	766	637
567	Nairobi	Kenya	272	280	986	54	612
568	Wenzhou	China	579	650	478	693	637
569	Ganzhou	China	368	780	577	738	637
570	Novosibirsk	Russia	453	375	597	705	946
571	Kazan	Russia	590	293	570	654	946
572	Dazhou	China	327	898	486	701	637
573	Aracaju	Brazil	844	488	720	13	569
574	Zaporizhzhia	Ukraine	626	660	366	692	867
575	Zhongshan	China	596	596	554	675	637

# 576-600

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
576	León	Mexico	599	742	682	144	529
577	Kigali	Rwanda	598	317	826	288	511
578	Islamabad-Rawalpindi	Pakistan	514	190	772	755	874
579	Sorocaba	Brazil	687	668	558	521	569
580	Kozhikode	India	392	607	783	620	380
581	Recife	Brazil	767	501	755	23	569
582	Lianyungang	China	448	709	507	875	637
583	Krasnodar	Russia	402	584	573	515	946
584	Chandigarh	India	284	468	849	887	380
585	Hohhot	China	591	644	504	765	637
586	Harbin	China	635	616	449	847	637
587	Celaya	Mexico	812	538	676	213	529
588	Yueqing	China	377	847	508	764	637
589	Vientiane	Lao PDR	701	729	414	462	845
590	Kampala	Uganda	519	202	877	313	844
591	Yancheng	China	329	918	463	777	637
592	Diyarbakir	Turkey	709	431	680	624	801
593	Bandjarmasin	Indonesia	401	703	817	129	480
594	Huizhou	China	692	508	675	595	637
595	Alexandria	Egypt	677	197	779	566	848
596	Malatya	Turkey	741	449	652	686	801
597	Matamoros	Mexico	718	594	684	445	529
598	Yichang	China	398	820	560	779	637
599	Tyumen	Russia	504	356	694	601	946
600	Nouakchott	Mauritania	474	531	743	660	800



# 601-625

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
601	Chenzhou	China	529	790	495	743	637
602	Binzhou	China	484	743	519	862	637
603	Shenyang	China	656	654	494	802	637
604	Dagupan	Philippines	673	701	696	220	614
605	Libreville	Gabon	713	363	759	120	886
606	Irapuato	Mexico	730	707	700	137	529
607	Lanzhou	China	472	721	617	853	637
608	Haiphong	Vietnam	644	895	346	752	820
609	Qujing	China	403	852	608	703	637
610	Jambi	Indonesia	500	499	842	354	480
611	São José dos Campos	Brazil	793	677	556	558	569
612	Sousse	Tunisia	870	477	709	224	598
613	Samarinda	Indonesia	696	564	809	21	480
614	Shangqiu	China	335	874	496	951	637
615	Tegucigalpa	Honduras	420	635	797	152	839
616	Yulin	China	525	785	485	846	637
617	Belém	Brazil	875	509	750	25	569
618	Pontianak	Indonesia	473	718	789	371	480
619	Wuhu	China	406	765	609	920	637
620	João Pessoa	Brazil	879	626	712	14	569
621	Zhenjiang	China	508	704	487	963	637
622	Salvador	Brazil	940	387	737	28	569
623	Shijiazhuang	China	333	882	516	938	637
624	Esfahan	Iran	580	216	716	866	928
625	Kahramanmaras	Turkey	749	578	640	609	801

# 626-650

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
626	Putian	China	423	856	672	543	637
627	Batman	Turkey	786	579	553	677	801
628	Yueyang	China	370	889	419	966	637
629	Puyang	China	415	853	424	957	637
630	Erbil	Iraq	789	290	603	588	981
631	Tangier	Morocco	727	727	717	130	562
632	Caracas	Venezuela	714	333	719	59	987
633	Grande São Luís	Brazil	876	566	731	31	569
634	Tiruchirappalli	India	413	562	820	726	380
635	Cuiabá	Brazil	801	680	667	369	569
636	Varna	Bulgaria	860	797	484	637	355
637	Ekaterinburg	Russia	616	426	616	666	946
638	Oran	Algeria	973	352	476	315	860
639	Can Tho	Vietnam	694	916	426	253	820
640	Zunyi	China	318	909	632	843	637
641	Yiwu	China	421	930	417	775	637
642	Dar Es Salaam	Tanzania	518	268	947	119	833
643	Cartagena	Colombia	697	854	586	484	501
644	Huaihua	China	432	821	625	810	637
645	Nanchong	China	409	924	509	723	637
646	Pondicherry	India	734	440	782	663	380
647	Jiangyin	China	348	884	551	944	637
648	Bengbu	China	464	912	433	858	637
649	Kottayam	India	469	795	753	657	380
650	Ahvaz	Iran	758	288	707	626	928

# 651-675

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
651	Jining	China	659	816	400	873	637
652	Kollam	India	374	888	758	621	380
653	Dakar	Senegal	623	593	751	728	519
654	Ahmedabad	India	376	408	937	813	380
655	Baghdad	Iraq	724	192	736	680	981
656	Agadir	Morocco	668	663	762	391	562
657	Yichun	China	443	817	681	780	637
658	Shiraz	Iran	721	221	744	750	928
659	Xiangfan	China	429	957	387	834	637
660	Fuyang	China	430	846	584	915	637
661	Durban	South Africa	719	257	961	161	371
662	Valencia	Venezuela	608	340	771	218	987
663	Oaxaca	Mexico	798	809	662	295	529
664	Deyang	China	455	907	568	804	637
665	Liuan	China	426	887	499	948	637
666	Yaoundé	Cameroon	461	398	806	480	940
667	Mysore	India	475	640	804	778	380
668	Sfax	Tunisia	892	511	729	337	598
669	Coimbatore	India	564	420	837	857	380
670	Marrakech	Morocco	766	752	702	441	562
671	Kaifeng	China	451	838	583	936	637
672	Jalandhar	India	400	662	827	816	380
673	Ashgabat	Turkmenistan	722	155	805	744	927
674	Voronezh	Russia	633	561	627	635	946
675	Kandy	Sri Lanka	771	714	711	366	624

# 676-700

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
676	Cotonou	Benin	452	439	889	667	635
677	Managua	Nicaragua	810	638	679	154	916
678	Port Said	Egypt	944	247	766	124	848
679	Douala	Cameroon	556	379	792	559	940
680	Yangon	Myanmar	357	683	734	492	994
681	Praia	Cape Verde	661	633	836	579	354
682	Yuncheng	China	720	787	515	822	637
683	Van	Turkey	951	360	664	717	801
684	Fes	Morocco	732	587	781	509	562
685	Taizhou (Zhejiang)	China	542	943	465	665	637
686	Thiruvananthapuram	India	437	897	748	695	380
687	Phnom Penh	Cambodia	671	394	786	688	847
688	Qom	Iran	742	237	725	897	928
689	Xiaogan	China	544	848	576	892	637
690	Suzhou (Anhui)	China	511	855	528	952	637
691	Madurai	India	440	576	829	927	380
692	Qingyuan	China	669	834	636	678	637
693	Paramaribo	Suriname	760	541	833	300	518
694	Xining	China	530	903	622	758	637
695	Zamboanga City	Philippines	961	772	592	48	614
696	Rostov-on-Don	Russia	688	554	674	525	946
697	Heze	China	573	908	409	958	637
698	Acapulco	Mexico	920	769	686	96	529
699	Polokwane	South Africa	613	450	965	134	371
700	Maanshan	China	393	902	522	988	637

# 701-725

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
701	Ibagué	Colombia	678	784	706	798	501
702	Tomsk	Russia	848	400	643	628	946
703	Guayana City	Venezuela	819	423	732	75	987
704	Bhubaneswar	India	434	631	894	741	380
705	Mombasa	Kenya	397	722	957	55	612
706	Pekalongan	Indonesia	663	732	811	393	480
707	Makhachkala	Russia	785	567	648	467	946
708	Bloemfontein	South Africa	737	292	973	263	371
709	Mashhad	Iran	658	289	749	930	928
710	Xianyang	China	641	949	374	852	637
711	Yantai	China	643	966	375	770	637
712	Langfang	China	648	894	456	921	637
713	Addis Ababa	Ethiopia	541	474	818	347	943
714	Tangshan	China	513	913	488	967	637
715	Guilin	China	622	950	393	830	637
716	Changchun	China	780	872	437	851	637
717	Amritsar	India	396	822	813	797	380
718	Kumasi	Ghana	911	351	843	562	369
719	Ufa	Russia	797	427	691	649	946
720	Nam Dinh	Vietnam	779	935	427	598	820
721	Tabriz	Iran	802	323	724	785	928
722	Xuchang	China	560	863	605	937	637
723	General Santos	Philippines	843	915	665	101	614
724	Taian	China	710	977	340	864	637
725	Dushanbe	Tajikistan	716	369	763	855	915

# 726-750

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
726	Baotou	China	794	812	483	899	637
727	Meknes	Morocco	784	694	787	448	562
728	Teresina	Brazil	873	814	775	11	569
729	Vellore	India	621	571	810	908	380
730	Ludhiana	India	446	775	823	849	380
731	Cirebon	Indonesia	419	747	876	762	480
732	Huaian	China	449	958	542	880	637
733	Tanta	Egypt	796	355	845	429	848
734	Maracay	Venezuela	799	445	754	167	987
735	Cúcuta	Colombia	888	699	739	546	501
736	Zhumadian	China	582	869	641	925	637
737	Antananarivo	Madagascar	620	580	929	42	840
738	Yibin	China	672	967	394	801	637
739	Luoyang	China	572	936	472	918	637
740	Yangzhou	China	647	933	471	859	637
741	Lomé	Togo	527	480	932	557	832
742	Hengyang	China	776	937	383	840	637
743	Hengshui	China	570	867	606	961	637
744	Nagpur	India	499	588	867	911	380
745	Dehradun	India	627	550	887	745	380
746	El-Mansoura	Egypt	791	304	832	669	848
747	Shantou	China	731	811	698	702	637
748	Vasai-Virar	India	428	652	950	618	380
749	Kathmandu	Nepal	679	776	746	753	603
750	Xiangtan	China	681	926	411	932	637

# 751-775

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
751	Gomel	Belarus	978	679	361	691	863
752	Handan	China	576	819	637	978	637
753	Huanggang	China	462	944	594	905	637
754	Maracaibo	Venezuela	597	558	776	321	987
755	Santa Cruz	Bolivia	968	193	802	651	829
756	Suez	Egypt	967	244	778	524	848
757	Xuzhou	China	777	826	490	962	637
758	Plovdiv	Bulgaria	933	938	406	733	355
759	Kannur	India	584	917	768	605	380
760	La Paz	Bolivia	865	600	795	232	829
761	Srinagar	India	664	637	825	842	380
762	Rasht	Iran	769	409	738	814	928
763	Zhoukou	China	617	880	600	959	637
764	Villahermosa	Mexico	987	636	566	555	529
765	Irkutsk	Russia	883	621	526	607	946
766	Hubli-Dharwad	India	689	712	865	545	380
767	Salem	India	561	689	828	916	380
768	Jiaozuo	China	521	858	669	984	637
769	Conakry	Guinea	497	574	891	414	914
770	Guwahati	India	492	548	934	895	380
771	Orumiyeh	Iran	729	371	764	877	928
772	Jaipur	India	520	565	930	871	380
773	Beirut	Lebanon	723	835	685	519	895
774	Nizhniy Novgorod	Russia	919	623	533	529	946
775	Weifang	China	762	941	371	950	637

# 776-800

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
776	Krasnoyarsk	Russia	821	484	688	776	946
777	Belgaum	India	660	792	852	552	380
778	Port Moresby	Papua New Guinea	886	489	913	32	797
779	Mangalore	India	612	865	791	768	380
780	Linfen	China	800	791	651	943	637
781	Mianyang	China	686	999	382	714	637
782	Barquisimeto	Venezuela	715	581	777	254	987
783	Vladivostok	Russia	834	720	655	537	946
784	Nanyang	China	772	945	389	940	637
785	Anyang	China	646	840	621	994	637
786	Chelyabinsk	Russia	923	527	575	749	946
787	Weihai	China	898	971	364	643	637
788	Veracruz	Mexico	965	766	697	461	529
789	Huzhou	China	690	969	445	876	637
790	Zhanjiang	China	824	946	552	584	637
791	Abidjan	Côte d'Ivoire	526	585	955	578	798
792	Bhopal	India	416	702	958	819	380
793	Huainan	China	538	923	610	990	637
794	Maceió	Brazil	948	805	785	20	569
795	Tasikmalaya	Indonesia	676	744	886	639	480
796	Udaipur	India	517	866	812	885	380
797	Blantyre City	Malawi	654	549	943	720	527
798	Jodhpur	India	595	806	839	833	380
799	Surat	India	512	771	890	878	380
800	Zhangzhou	China	823	942	602	592	637



# 801-825

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
801	Zhaotong	China	765	961	546	730	637
802	Lilongwe	Malawi	707	688	919	481	527
803	Zhuzhou	China	792	968	416	860	637
804	Tiruppur	India	680	781	835	811	380
805	Penza	Russia	929	697	555	540	946
806	Vadodara	India	506	757	904	872	380
807	Kerman	Iran	918	315	705	956	928
808	Lusaka	Zambia	736	250	995	272	524
809	Zagazig	Egypt	916	298	883	536	848
810	Kimberley	South Africa	726	582	968	439	371
811	Ouagadougou	Burkina Faso	670	378	933	696	920
812	Onitsha	Nigeria	868	320	824	809	896
813	Saratov	Russia	926	624	638	645	946
814	Zhangjiagang	China	615	952	545	969	637
815	Amravati	India	683	883	807	724	380
816	Rizhao	China	804	996	392	759	637
817	Huaibei	China	662	922	562	992	637
818	Kalaburagi	India	650	839	859	711	380
819	Maputo	Mozambique	482	302	999	148	865
820	Kermanshah	Iran	851	471	756	820	928
821	Visakhapatnam	India	634	782	814	960	380
822	Jiujiang	China	739	981	421	926	637
823	Chittagong	Bangladesh	705	657	799	740	887
824	Abuja	Nigeria	761	305	902	839	896
825	Mahalla el-Kubra	Egypt	846	535	855	430	848

# 826-850

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
826	Nashik	India	695	754	861	845	380
827	Ulyanovsk	Russia	932	691	557	690	946
828	Mandalay	Myanmar	563	823	740	575	994
829	Khabarovsk	Russia	747	837	690	585	946
830	Taizhou (Jiangsu)	China	699	1000	422	818	637
831	Huangshi	China	568	954	587	986	637
832	Raipur	India	639	669	896	953	380
833	Berhampore	India	642	825	850	850	380
834	Sylhet	Bangladesh	803	665	788	704	887
835	Qinhuangdao	China	889	939	481	824	637
836	Linyi	China	830	983	373	928	637
837	Datong	China	912	906	497	912	637
838	Yaroslavl	Russia	859	873	518	656	946
839	Bamako	Mali	651	619	863	538	944
840	Maoming	China	877	965	530	681	637
841	Xinyang	China	833	992	376	924	637
842	Aurangabad	India	807	759	873	739	380
843	Indore	India	354	830	976	815	380
844	Bikaner	India	738	793	841	896	380
845	Tula	Russia	937	733	540	729	946
846	Xalapa	Mexico	975	741	723	709	529
847	Shaoyang	China	781	984	470	922	637
848	Solapur	India	788	810	870	698	380
849	Guigang	China	903	988	385	836	637
850	Maseru	Lesotho	840	629	983	245	364

# 851-875

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
851	Chifeng	China	927	974	431	716	637
852	Omsk	Russia	902	682	693	732	946
853	Luanda	Angola	820	434	967	106	917
854	Moradabad	India	744	671	903	929	380
855	Volgograd	Russia	974	611	582	735	946
856	Basra	Iraq	922	413	760	761	981
857	Bissau	Guinea-Bissau	667	598	969	452	841
858	Warangal	India	637	928	822	796	380
859	Perm	Russia	969	617	663	658	946
860	Zibo	China	787	970	500	964	637
861	Cuttack	India	477	899	901	891	380
862	Guntur	India	645	927	854	694	380
863	Luxor	Egypt	854	563	864	648	848
864	Gwalior	India	589	746	952	894	380
865	Dongying	China	856	962	525	900	637
866	Arusha	Tanzania	874	788	905	47	833
867	Zhangjiakou	China	909	994	407	771	637
868	Mymensingh	Bangladesh	706	753	801	854	887
869	Liuzhou	China	853	964	543	898	637
870	Erode	India	577	934	831	874	380
871	Liaocheng	China	872	975	402	971	637
872	Khulna	Bangladesh	946	418	798	823	887
873	Tuxtla Gutiérrez	Mexico	997	667	735	384	529
874	Ryazan	Russia	949	755	595	731	946
875	Rajshahi	Bangladesh	935	481	770	914	887

# 876-900

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
876	Jingzhou	China	871	986	435	907	637
877	Kolhapur	India	682	931	856	652	380
878	Lahore	Pakistan	815	542	858	827	874
879	Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)	India	841	672	914	856	380
880	Qiqihar	China	947	991	420	684	637
881	Banjul	Gambia	822	713	944	503	636
882	Zhaoqing	China	959	960	505	687	637
883	Daqing	China	966	959	453	742	637
884	Samara	Russia	981	627	657	659	946
885	Xinxiang	China	869	920	624	982	637
886	Ilorin	Nigeria	905	517	869	636	896
887	Mbabane	Eswatini	884	686	963	189	602
888	Weinan	China	899	989	439	888	637
889	Changde	China	855	997	458	879	637
890	Baoding	China	915	951	482	941	637
891	Anqing	China	835	995	442	942	637
892	Orenburg	Russia	894	796	714	633	946
893	Izhevsk	Russia	954	804	563	748	946
894	Faiyum	Egypt	955	467	857	642	848
895	Peshawar	Pakistan	759	734	816	889	874
896	Baoji	China	930	980	502	772	637
897	Jammu	India	666	890	925	795	380
898	Nay Pyi Taw	Myanmar	931	768	722	360	994
899	Buffalo City	South Africa	924	696	979	66	371
900	Mwanza	Tanzania	704	851	962	84	833

# 901-925

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
901	Ibadan	Nigeria	958	294	892	805	896
902	Barnaul	Russia	934	730	701	774	946
903	Kitwe	Zambia	836	505	988	533	524
904	Patna	India	652	900	880	945	380
905	Asansol	India	592	870	872	993	380
906	Tripoli	Libya	980	497	773	303	999
907	Cangzhou	China	891	976	564	939	637
908	Zahedan	Iran	893	630	752	970	928
909	Niamey	Niger	849	807	862	602	846
910	Bhavnagar	India	816	896	895	736	380
911	Varanasi	India	712	715	908	998	380
912	Aba	Nigeria	928	500	840	865	896
913	Xingtai	China	882	972	520	977	637
914	Zaozhuang	China	896	979	506	972	637
915	Kota	India	547	813	941	996	380
916	Bujumbura	Burundi	838	664	936	309	942
917	Ndola	Zambia	829	510	992	590	524
918	Karachi	Pakistan	863	612	851	917	874
919	Pingdingshan	China	914	987	457	965	637
920	Lucknow	India	702	685	964	980	380
921	Enugu	Nigeria	917	522	878	832	896
922	Asyut	Egypt	910	493	920	835	848
923	Bhilai Nagar	India	733	833	885	991	380
924	Aligarh	India	832	614	951	975	380
925	Brazzaville	Congo	866	504	971	420	924

# 926-950

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
926	Abeokuta	Nigeria	989	318	871	700	896
927	Touba	Senegal	770	940	898	544	519
928	Dezhou	China	881	998	434	983	637
929	Bareilly	India	895	705	935	935	380
930	Jinzhou	China	962	990	510	807	637
931	Anshan	China	982	932	491	955	637
932	Nellore	India	711	978	868	712	380
933	Jamshedpur	India	790	876	874	976	380
934	Sohag	Egypt	900	692	924	655	848
935	Rajkot	India	827	904	940	719	380
936	Jabalpur	India	698	905	954	838	380
937	Astrakhan	Russia	983	827	647	670	946
938	Port Elizabeth	South Africa	984	613	980	125	371
939	Comilla	Bangladesh	862	789	846	829	887
940	Quetta	Pakistan	778	892	830	831	874
941	Mardan	Pakistan	878	828	819	800	874
942	Owerri	Nigeria	901	507	948	789	896
943	Sangli	India	850	963	866	627	380
944	Freetown	Sierra Leone	993	648	848	501	826
945	Ranchi	India	897	841	900	886	380
946	Meerut	India	814	875	910	949	380
947	Lipetsk	Russia	956	849	668	870	946
948	Gorakhpur	India	751	886	918	979	380
949	Abbottabad	Pakistan	885	842	834	786	874
950	Bobo-Dioulasso	Burkina Faso	717	815	959	563	920

# 951-975

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
951	Djibouti City	Djibouti	524	929	970	208	926
952	Harare	Zimbabwe	960	207	998	298	922
953	Bogura	Bangladesh	950	803	803	794	887
954	Multan	Pakistan	867	763	888	893	874
955	Faisalabad	Pakistan	890	736	928	791	874
956	Yamoussoukro	Côte d'Ivoire	941	850	949	305	798
957	Saharanpur	India	837	829	966	903	380
958	Jilin	China	985	993	455	934	637
959	Monrovia	Liberia	906	606	984	699	838
960	Jos	Nigeria	839	599	978	757	896
961	Benin City	Nigeria	988	321	912	931	896
962	Pointe-Noire	Congo	994	595	921	105	924
963	Kinshasa	Democratic Republic of Congo	858	459	990	370	984
964	Khartoum	Sudan	817	622	956	746	997
965	Lubumbashi	Democratic Republic of Congo	748	773	975	400	984
966	Prayagraj	India	880	871	927	987	380
967	Gaya	India	938	893	893	947	380
968	Maiduguri	Nigeria	852	860	942	725	896
969	Muzaffarpur	India	795	910	926	997	380
970	Ogbomosho	Nigeria	996	416	909	754	896
971	Bulawayo	Zimbabwe	979	389	991	266	922
972	Dodoma	Tanzania	945	877	981	43	833
973	Vijayawada	India	921	956	853	901	380
974	Novokuznetsk	Russia	991	861	710	734	946
975	Asmara	Eritrea	986	618	939	80	993

# 976-1000

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
976	Sialkot	Pakistan	904	836	922	844	874
977	Agra	India	942	844	938	968	380
978	Dhanbad	India	977	716	907	995	380
979	Kabul	Afghanistan	567	687	977	933	1000
980	Port Harcourt	Nigeria	995	436	931	828	896
981	Faizabad	India	828	953	911	981	380
982	Kanpur	India	864	914	953	985	380
983	Kano	Nigeria	908	597	987	826	896
984	Beira	Mozambique	805	818	1000	166	865
985	Hyderabad	Pakistan	963	843	860	904	874
986	Fushun	China	999	985	511	954	637
987	Gujranwala	Pakistan	925	921	906	756	874
988	Huambo	Angola	972	808	985	94	917
989	Malabo	Equatorial Guinea	1000	358	945	532	919
990	Shahjahanpur	India	913	862	917	999	380
991	N'Djamena	Chad	976	639	972	689	980
992	Bangui	Central African Republic	970	526	989	513	998
993	Bokaro	India	953	879	899	1000	380
994	Mbuji-Mayi	Democratic Republic of Congo	936	774	994	151	984
995	Kaduna	Nigeria	964	731	993	868	896
996	Port-Au-Prince	Haiti	952	948	982	222	945
997	Zaria	Nigeria	971	717	997	803	896
998	Hardoi	India	992	973	946	974	380
999	Sokoto	Nigeria	939	925	996	616	896
1000	Sultanpur (Uttar Pradesh)	India	998	982	960	989	380





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