

OXFORD ECONOMICS GLOBAL CITIES INDEX

2025



OXFORD
ECONOMICS





 Seattle, United States
Overall Rank: 5th

Foreword

The global economic environment is evolving. Over the past year, heightened geopolitical tensions and a rise in economic nationalism have contributed to increased levels of uncertainty and have adversely affected global economic growth. As a result, businesses and policymakers are navigating a complex landscape that requires adaptive strategies to mitigate risks and capitalise on emerging opportunities.

The significance of cities in this period of uncertainty can't be overstated. They serve not only as centres of resilience but also as engines of adaptation and innovation, owing to their dynamic networks of businesses, institutions, and people. Given these characteristics, we believe cities are well placed to navigate the current challenges and expect them to continue to fuel global growth and drive competitiveness in the coming decades.

But not all cities are the same. Each one has a unique set of characteristics, and understanding this is crucial for making informed location decisions—whether that's for opening a new retail outlet, selecting a site for a corporate headquarters, or planning critical infrastructure such as hospitals for the future needs of the population.

This is where our Global Cities Index excels. It provides a holistic overview of the attractiveness of city economies based on a diverse array of quantifiable metrics, which can be used to support strategic decisions across a myriad of industries. But being able to quantify opportunities across 1,000 cities from all corners of the world on a comparable basis is what really makes our analysis unique—from comparing income levels and inequality in developing markets such as Kinshasa and Dhaka to economic behemoths like New York and London, or understanding how air quality differs between emerging cities such as Delhi and Cairo and environmental advocates like Copenhagen and Auckland.

Our index is powered by a robust array of datasets, a testament to our Cities team's extensive expertise in spatial data and forecasting solutions. With over 40 dedicated economists who are passionate about city and regional development, we empower organisations to make better-informed decisions with confidence.

Mark Britton

Director of City Services at Oxford Economics

Oxford Economics

Oxford Economics is the world's foremost independent economic advisory firm. Covering over 200 countries, over 100 industrial sectors, and 8,000 cities and regions, we provide insights and solutions that enable clients to make intelligent and responsible business decisions faster in an increasingly complex and uncertain world. For more information, visit <https://www.oxfordeconomics.com>.

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.



Project leaders and principal authors



Mark Britton is the Director of City Services at Oxford Economics. His responsibilities include forming Oxford Economics' global city outlook, and managing and developing forecasting solutions. With extensive experience working in the field of urban and regional economics over the last two decades, Mark now oversees the activities of the Cities and Regions forecasting teams globally. His expertise helps support a range of clients, across both the public and private sectors, with strategic location decision-making.

mbritton@oxfordeconomics.com



Anthony Bernard-Sasges is a Senior Economist on the Cities and Regions team at Oxford Economics. He manages the Global Cities Index and is the principal author of this report. He has extensive experience forecasting urban economies in both advanced and emerging markets. Anthony also helps develop the team's benchmarking capabilities and contributes to geospatial data analysis projects.

abernard-sasges@oxfordeconomics.com



George Bowen is a Lead Economist on the Cities and Regions team at Oxford Economics. He manages the Global Cities Forecasting Service, which brings together city level forecasts for over 1,000 locations globally. He has a breadth of experience forecasting cities across all four corners of the world. George also leads the development of our novel geospatial data techniques which we use to analyse and estimate economic activity at a hyper-local level.

gbowen@oxfordeconomics.com



Toronto, Canada
Overall Rank: 20th

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Seoul, South Korea
Overall Rank: 15th

Introduction

The global economy is in the midst of a period of acute uncertainty. Trade tensions and deglobalisation are causing considerable headwinds to economic growth worldwide, potentially triggering substantial shifts in supply chains and the way countries do business with each other over the coming years. In the face of uncertainty, the world's leading cities have historically demonstrated resilience, making them best placed to navigate current challenges. Not only are they the engines that drive the global economy, but cities are also centres of learning, innovation, culture, and decision-making that shape the future of our world. In fact, the 1,000 largest cities in the world—Oxford Economics' Global Cities—were home to a third of the global population but produced nearly 60% of global GDP in 2024.

In the face of uncertainty, the world's leading cities have historically demonstrated resilience, making them best placed to navigate current challenges.

While traditional urban giants such as New York, London, and Tokyo still exert enormous influence on the world economy, the global landscape of urban economies is undergoing a tectonic shift. In 2024, US cities accounted for around 18% of world GDP growth and Chinese cities accounted for more than 15%. But over the next 25 years, we expect the distribution of global growth to shift, as cities in India and other parts of the developing world increase their contributions to the global economy. The fastest-growing cities in the world in 2024 were located in Africa and Southeast Asia, and while they comprise a much smaller share of the global economy today, they are poised to make significant gains in the coming decades.

These gains will be widespread. By 2050, the Global Cities will house half a billion more residents than today, presenting an incredible opportunity for these urban centres. And we forecast that over a quarter of the Global Cities will see their average household incomes more than double in the next 25 years, compared to today.

But increasingly, new and more complex challenges are threatening the prosperity of cities around the world. In addition to the short-term economic uncertainty related to trade tensions, deglobalisation, and military conflicts, slowing population growth and ageing demographics threaten the long-run outlook of many cities,

particularly in Western Europe and East Asia. At the same time, many cities around the world are also experiencing housing affordability crises. And climate change is causing more frequent and intense natural disasters, from flooding and hurricanes to wildfires and droughts. But opportunities exist as well, for example, many cities are poised to reap the rewards of the innovations of AI.

Evaluating the opportunities and challenges facing cities is made more complicated by the inherent structural differences of urban areas located in different regions around the world. Despite reduced multilateral cooperation, cities are still leading the way in bringing together

knowledge and resources to tackle today's most pressing issues, from addressing environmental concerns to improving living standards. To equip businesses and governments alike to make strategic decisions, the Oxford Economics Global Cities Index provides a holistic assessment of the 1,000 largest cities in the world.

We forecast that over a quarter of cities will see their household incomes more than double by 2050, compared to today.

Growth in key indicators, 2000–2050

Index, 2025 = 100



2000	71
2025	100
2050	118

Cities will gain **half a billion** more residents by 2050.



2000	75
2025	100
2050	150

Productivity will increase by **50%** on average.



2000	44
2025	100
2050	208

240 million new high-income households will emerge over the next 25 years, more than double the number today.



Paris, France
Overall Rank: 3rd

The 2025 Global Cities Index

The 2025 update of the Global Cities Index reflects the latest assessment of the structural advantages, opportunities, and challenges facing cities. Cities are scored on several metrics across five categories: Economics, Human Capital, Quality of Life, Environment, and Governance. Leveraging our best-in-class urban economic forecasts, and supplemented by other publicly available datasets, we have created a globally consistent dataset of characteristics for the 1,000 largest cities in the world. As a result, the Global Cities Index provides a holistic, data-driven approach to city rankings, by scoring them not just on their economic performance, but also considering several other important dimensions that influence their standing in the world.



While there are many small movements in the rankings compared to last year, overall, the rankings have remained stable, suggesting that cities are staying resilient in the face of a myriad of challenges. Eight of the top 10 cities are the same as last year, and New York and London remain in the top spots for the second year running.

Both cities perform best in the Economics and Human Capital categories, emphasising their roles as global hubs for finance, business, and education. New York has the largest metro economy in the world, and London has the fourth largest. Similarly, both cities have among the most universities and corporate headquarter offices. As highlighted by their scores, the two powerhouses on either side of the Atlantic are very much neck and neck at the top of the index.

Paris, San Jose, and Seattle round out the top five. All three have top Economics scores, Paris due to the sheer size of its economy, and San Jose and Seattle due to their high levels of GDP per person. While these three cities score slightly lower than New York and London on the Human Capital front, they outperform the top two cities in terms of Quality of Life. Paris benefits from its plethora of world-renowned cultural sites and high life expectancy, while residents of San Jose and Seattle have among the highest income levels in the world.

Two new cities have entered the top 10 this year: Sydney and Boston. Sydney takes the seventh spot due to an improvement in its Quality of Life and Environment scores, while Boston saw an

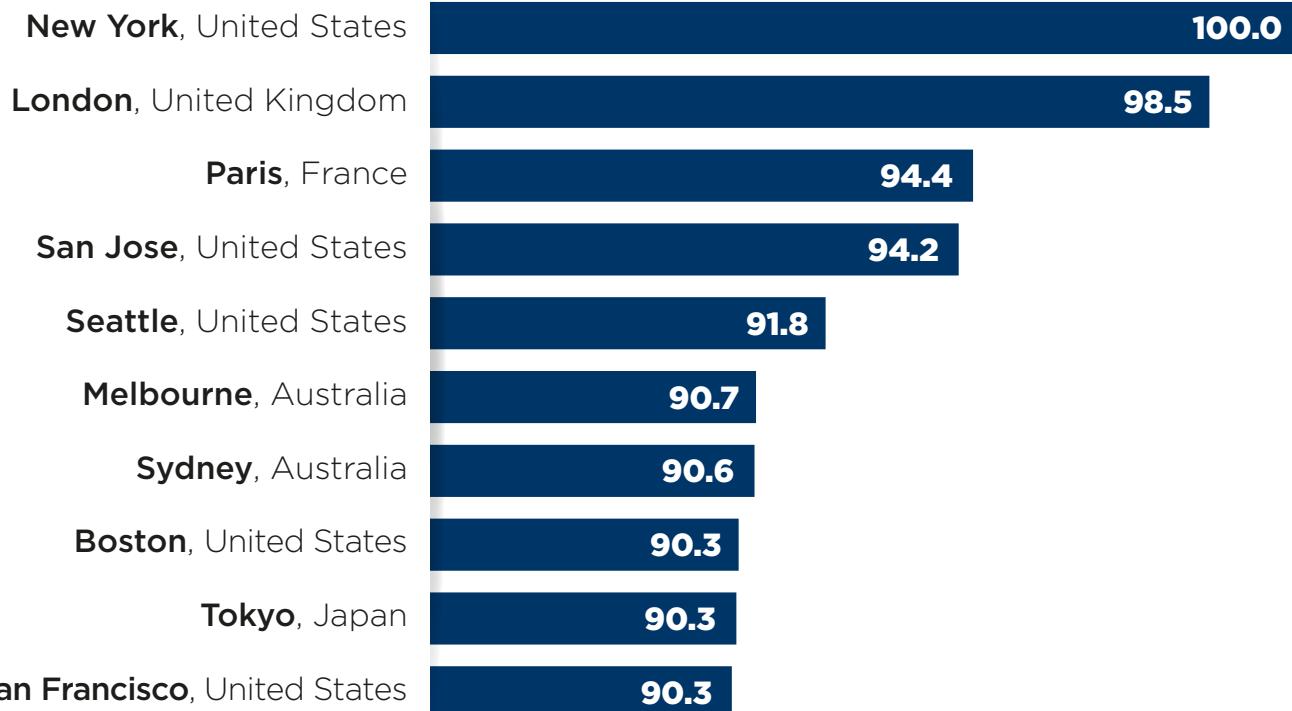
increase in its Economics score. Los Angeles (#11) and Zurich (#16) fell out of the top 10 this year—in part due to declines in their Human Capital scores—but they still maintain strong scores overall. More detailed analysis on the comparative strengths and weaknesses of the top 50 ranked cities in this year's index can be found in the Top 50 Cities section of this report.

A broader theme evident in the movements in this year's rankings is the role of changing economic outlooks. In some cities, a more resilient GDP growth forecast in the face of global headwinds

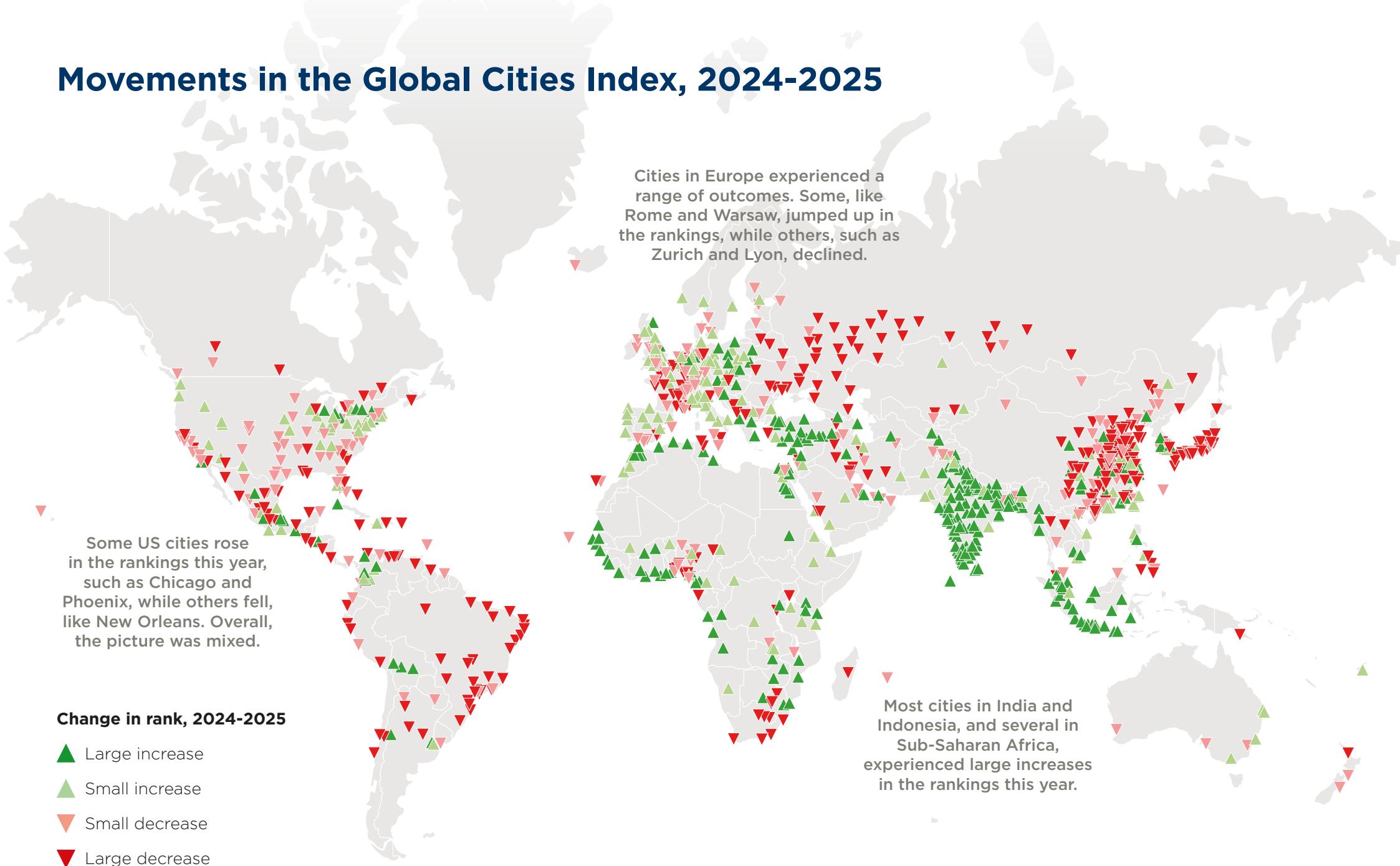
has boosted scores. For example, several cities in India, Indonesia, and the UK have risen in the rankings this year, whereas Japanese, Canadian, and Brazilian cities mostly fell. Cities in the US, China, Australia, and continental Europe experienced a mix of outcomes.

It is important not to extrapolate too much from only two years of rankings. Some cities are likely to reverse their rises/falls next year, while others will continue on their current path. It will take a few years to be able to determine which movements are longer-term trends, and which are single-year blips.

Top 10 cities by overall score



Movements in the Global Cities Index, 2024-2025





New York, United States
Overall Rank: 1st

City archetypes: A new way to classify cities

Each city is unique in its structure, outlook, and history. But in many cases, cities often evolve along similar development pathways, sharing characteristics, challenges, and opportunities with a subset of peers around the world. In order to identify common themes across cities, we have created a typology of city archetypes. Classifying the world's major cities in such a way reveals some key trends for each group, pinpointing similarities, and—equally important—differences between types of cities. Business leaders and policymakers can use these archetypes to better benchmark a city's current performance against a subset of similar peers around the world.

We have defined the archetypes using a range of metrics from all five categories of the Global Cities Index, with each archetype focusing on a different set of common traits. Some of the world's largest and most prominent cities like New York, London, and Tokyo belong to more than one classification, reflecting the multifaceted nature of these cities. But the typology is not exhaustive, and as a result, many cities do not fall into any archetype. By design, the archetypes are meant to cover as wide a range of cities as possible, ranging from small island nation capitals to economic behemoths, from developing-country megacities to highly specialised hubs in advanced economies. More information on the archetype selection criteria and cities covered within each group can be found in the Methodology section.



Global Leaders



Regional Leaders



Cultural Capitals



Sustainable Cities



Industrial Hubs



Legacy Cities



Developing Megacities



Emerging Standouts

Archetype	Characteristics	Key examples
 Global Leaders	<p>The true “global cities” that drive the world economy. They are the largest cities in the world by GDP, and they are financial and business hubs with many corporate headquarters and universities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New York • London • Tokyo
 Regional Leaders	<p>Important and large cities in their regions, but not as economically powerful on the global stage as the Global Leaders. They outperform their respective countries on metrics such as economic growth and income per person, and they tend to have more universities and business activity than neighbouring cities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buenos Aires • Vancouver • Kuala Lumpur
 Cultural Capitals	<p>Mostly smaller cities that have high quality of life. They have many cultural sites and a sizeable share of foreign-born residents. They also tend to attract residents and tourists alike due to their amenities and educational opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prague • Florence • Edinburgh
 Sustainable Cities	<p>Cities that have prioritised sustainable growth and are focused on adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change. They have low emissions intensities and are focused on the clean energy transition, with the political stability to support their climate goals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stockholm • Nassau • Auckland
 Industrial Hubs	<p>Cities dependent on extraction or manufacturing to drive growth. They tend to have low economic diversity and experience volatile growth due to the nature of their key industries. These cities often have high emissions intensities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dammam • Perth • Wolfsburg
 Legacy Cities	<p>Cities facing a demographic challenge from ageing (and falling) populations. As a result, GDP growth is slowing or stagnant and they often struggle to attract immigrants, leading to a low share of foreign-born residents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Osaka-Kyoto • Turin • Busan
 Developing Megacities	<p>Very large urban areas (over 10 million residents) in the developing world. Their infrastructure investments have often struggled to keep up with the increasing population and they have low levels of income per person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lagos • Cairo • Dhaka
 Emerging Standouts	<p>Cities in the developing world that are outperforming their respective countries. They attract residents due to their fast productivity growth and higher levels of income per person than their country as a whole.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bengaluru • Ho Chi Minh City • Davao City

The performance of the city archetypes within the index

The city archetypes display starkly different structural characteristics, reflecting their respective strengths and weaknesses.

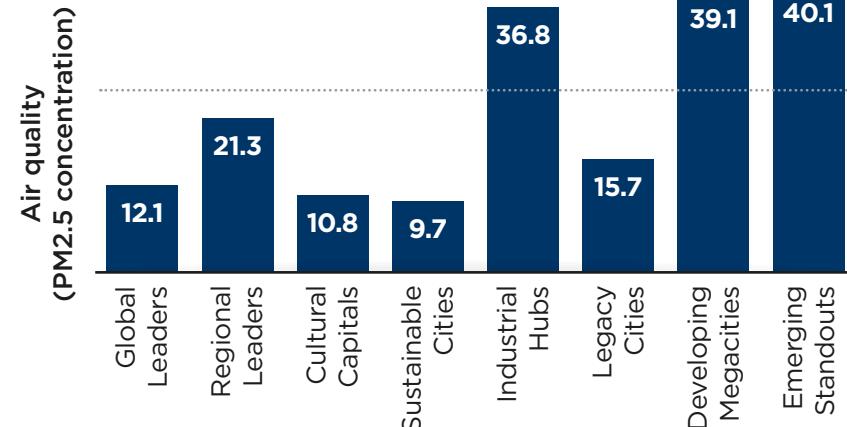
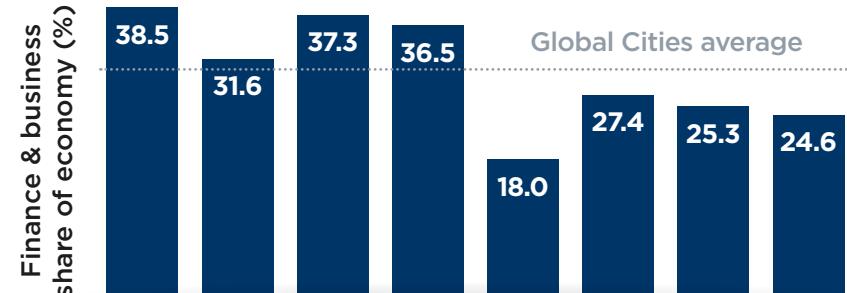
Among the Global Leaders, the financial and business services sectors account for almost 40% of total economic output—significantly higher than the global city average of just 30%. This is no surprise given the role Global Leaders play as the engines of the world economy, which is reflected in the clustering of multinational corporations in their metropolitan areas. On the other hand, the Industrial Hubs have the lowest share of financial and business services activity, with output instead dominated by mining, oil and gas, or manufacturing industries. This difference in sectoral structure plays a part in not only the rankings of these cities within the Global Cities Index, but also in shaping the development of these urban economies over the coming decades; the financial and business services sectors are expected to be key drivers of city prosperity, while industrial activities will play a smaller role in economic growth.

The average size of each archetype also varies. Unsurprisingly, the Developing Megacities have the largest populations, at nearly 20 million inhabitants on average. Both the Global Leaders and Regional Leaders are also sizeable, with around 10 million inhabitants each on average—more than three times larger than the average city in the

world. The least populous cities, meanwhile, are the Sustainable Cities and Legacy Cities. For the Legacy Cities, this is tied to their demographic vulnerabilities of ageing and declining populations. But for the Sustainable Cities, a smaller population (assuming it is still growing) can be beneficial, allowing for more manageable, climate-conscious urban planning and sustainable growth.

The more manageable scale of the Sustainable Cities and their urban planning needs may be related to their better air quality as well, which makes sense given their focus on environmental policies and balanced growth. The Global Leaders also have very good air quality on average, which is impressive given their size. However, size is likely part of the problem for the poor air quality of the Developing Megacities. They, and the Emerging Standouts, have the worst air quality on average, highlighting a significant challenge facing cities in developing economies. Lacking the transportation infrastructure of more developed cities, but with large or fast-growing populations, these areas are often plagued by some of the worst traffic in the world, which causes significant pollution and subsequent health problems and higher mortality rates for residents. The poor air quality in the Industrial Hubs, on the other hand, is more likely attributable to their heavy manufacturing or extraction industries.

Structural characteristics by archetype



Comparing the performance of the city archetypes in the Global Cities Index yields interesting findings. The Global Leaders score the highest overall, followed by the Cultural Capitals and Sustainable Cities. The Emerging Standouts have the lowest average score overall, despite their more rapid rates of economic growth.

Across both the Economics and Human Capital categories, the Global Leaders are, unsurprisingly, the strongest performers. This reflects their economic power and their strong pool of well-educated and productive workers. The Global Leaders also perform above average in terms

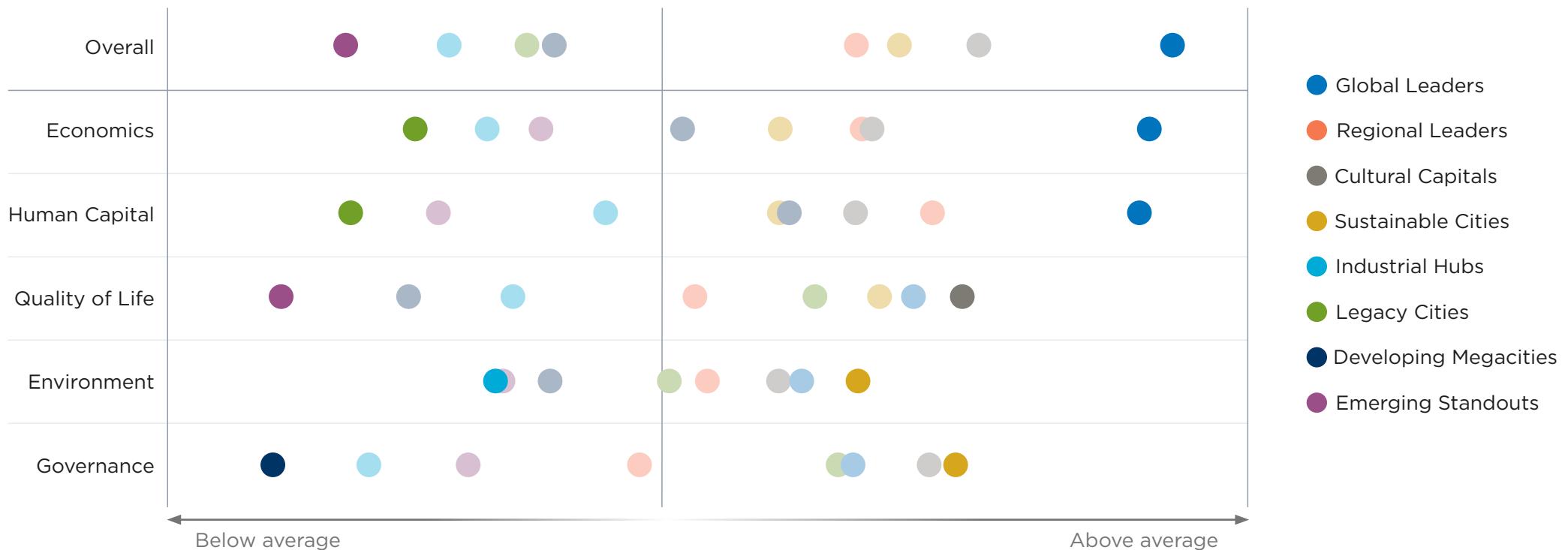
of Quality of Life, but are surpassed by the smaller Cultural Capitals, which may not be as economically powerful but provide a higher standard of living for their residents. The Sustainable Cities have the highest scores in the Environment and Governance categories, highlighting their prioritisation of environmental issues and the strength of their institutions.

Compared to their other developed city peers, the Legacy Cities underperform considerably in terms of Economics and Human Capital, dragged down by ageing demographics and their continuing economic slowdown. On the other hand, the

Developing Megacities score above average in the Economics and Human Capital categories, despite their less developed urban economies. But this comes with substantial issues in Quality of Life and Governance, where many of the challenges facing these cities become evident.

The Global Leaders score the highest overall, followed by the Cultural Capitals and Sustainable Cities.

Global Cities Index scores by archetype

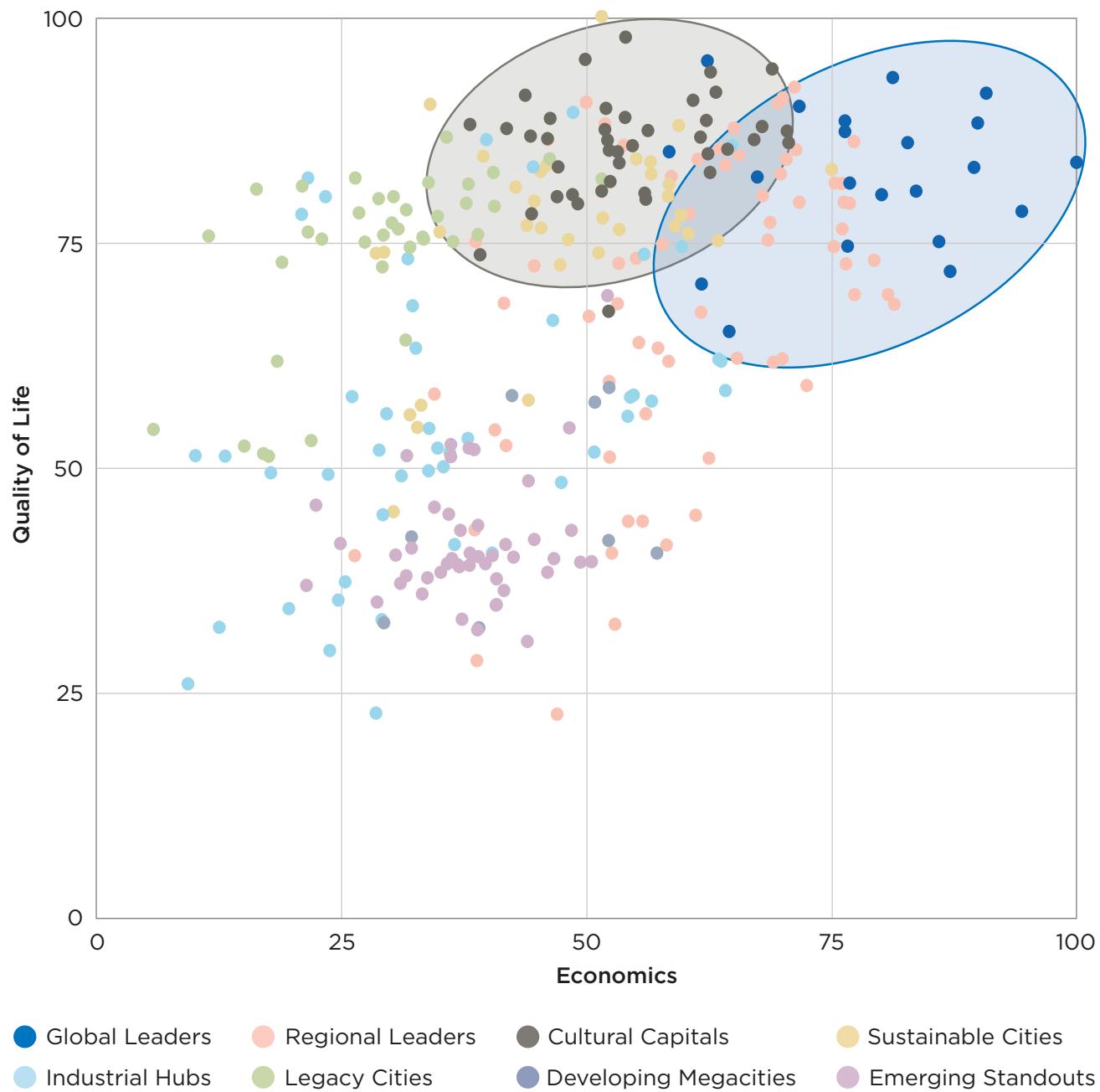


Taking a closer look at the Economics and Quality of Life scores, cities are broadly clustered into their archetypes, emphasising their shared characteristics. The Global Leaders have the highest Economics scores and strong Quality of Life scores. This is illustrated in the chart to the right, which plots each city's Economics and Quality of Life scores, colour-coded by archetype. The Global Leaders are primarily located in the top right of the chart, meaning they score strongly on both categories. The Cultural Capitals are clustered at the top in the centre; they have the highest Quality of Life on average but score lower in Economics.

Cities are broadly clustered into their archetypes, emphasising their shared characteristics.

The Regional Leaders are somewhat more spread out. The cities in advanced economies tend to be concentrated in the top right quadrant, while those in developing countries score lower in both categories. But this chart highlights the value of the archetypes: comparing cities that may not otherwise be considered peers. Denver and Copenhagen are two cities that, at first glance, may not share much in common. But as Regional Leaders with very similar Economics and Quality of Life scores, they are valuable peers for benchmarking purposes. The same is the case for Buenos Aires and Ho Chi Minh City. Despite being on different continents, their similar scores and status as Regional Leaders suggest they may provide similar opportunities for businesses.

Economics and Quality of Life scores by archetype



Future trends for city archetypes

In addition to enabling a comparison of peer cities across different structural characteristics and index results, the archetypes also provide a useful lens through which to view the key themes and trends that will shape the future of cities. Some of these trends will provide opportunities for cities to increase economic growth and elevate the quality of life of their residents through a more sustainable future. But others will be more challenging to navigate, risking the progress many cities have made in the past few decades. Each archetype faces different opportunities and challenges, and understanding and capitalising on these will be essential for policymakers and business leaders to ensure a prosperous future for their cities.

One of the most consequential recent innovations, the effects of which are just beginning to emerge, is generative AI. The potential benefits (and risks) of this technology for cities are vast, with AI enabling productivity improvements for workers and providing the foundation for more connected “smart” cities. However, they also have the potential to increase inequality and raise both privacy and intellectual property concerns. Oxford Economics has developed a proprietary metric called “government AI preparedness,” which measures government AI policy, the maturity of the tech sector, and IT infrastructure capacity. This gives us an indication of the extent to which countries are ready to reap the benefits of generative AI.

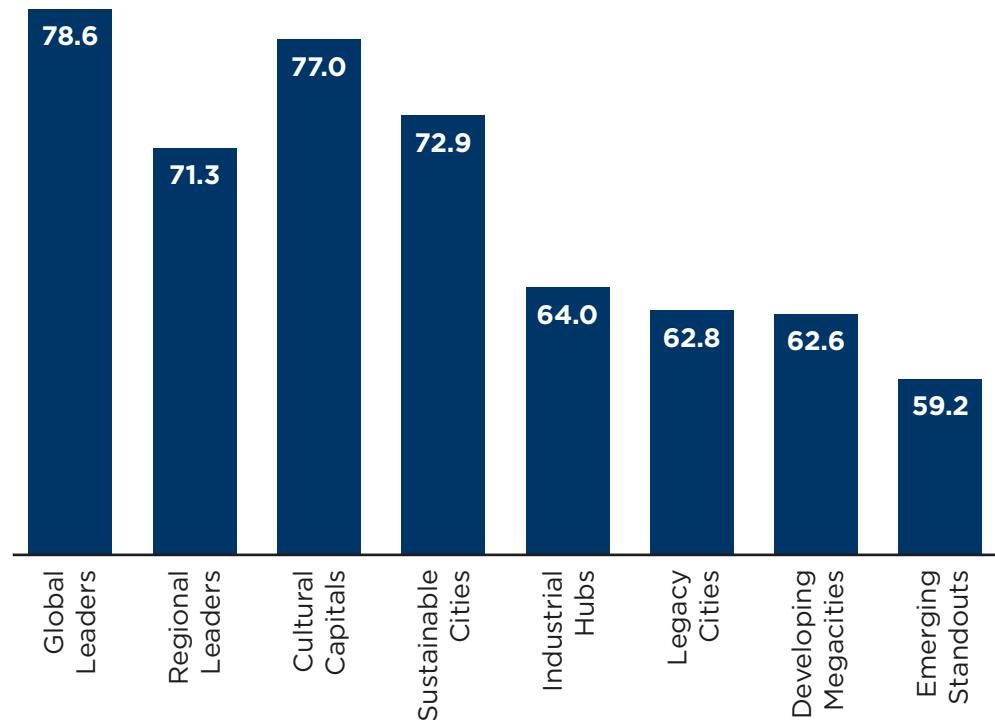
The Global Leaders are best positioned to benefit from generative AI, closely followed by the Cultural Capitals and Sustainable Cities.

Comparing the government AI preparedness metric across archetypes suggests that the Global Leaders are best positioned to benefit from generative AI, closely followed by the Cultural Capitals and Sustainable Cities. These archetypes have the skilled workforce, conducive regulatory environment, and high share of service sector jobs that can maximise

the benefits of the technology. The other end of the spectrum includes the Emerging Standouts, Developing Megacities, and Industrial Hubs. Generative AI is likely to have smaller impacts on cities that are more heavily reliant on industrial sectors, where there is less scope for AI productivity gains, as productivity gains here are more related to automation than AI. However, emerging economies that are open to high levels of foreign direct investment might be faster adopters of generative AI, as they could benefit from the technology transfer from advanced economies.

This is just one of the several opportunities facing cities in the coming decades. The long-run GDP, employment, and population outlooks for each archetype are driven by a host of factors.

Government AI preparedness index



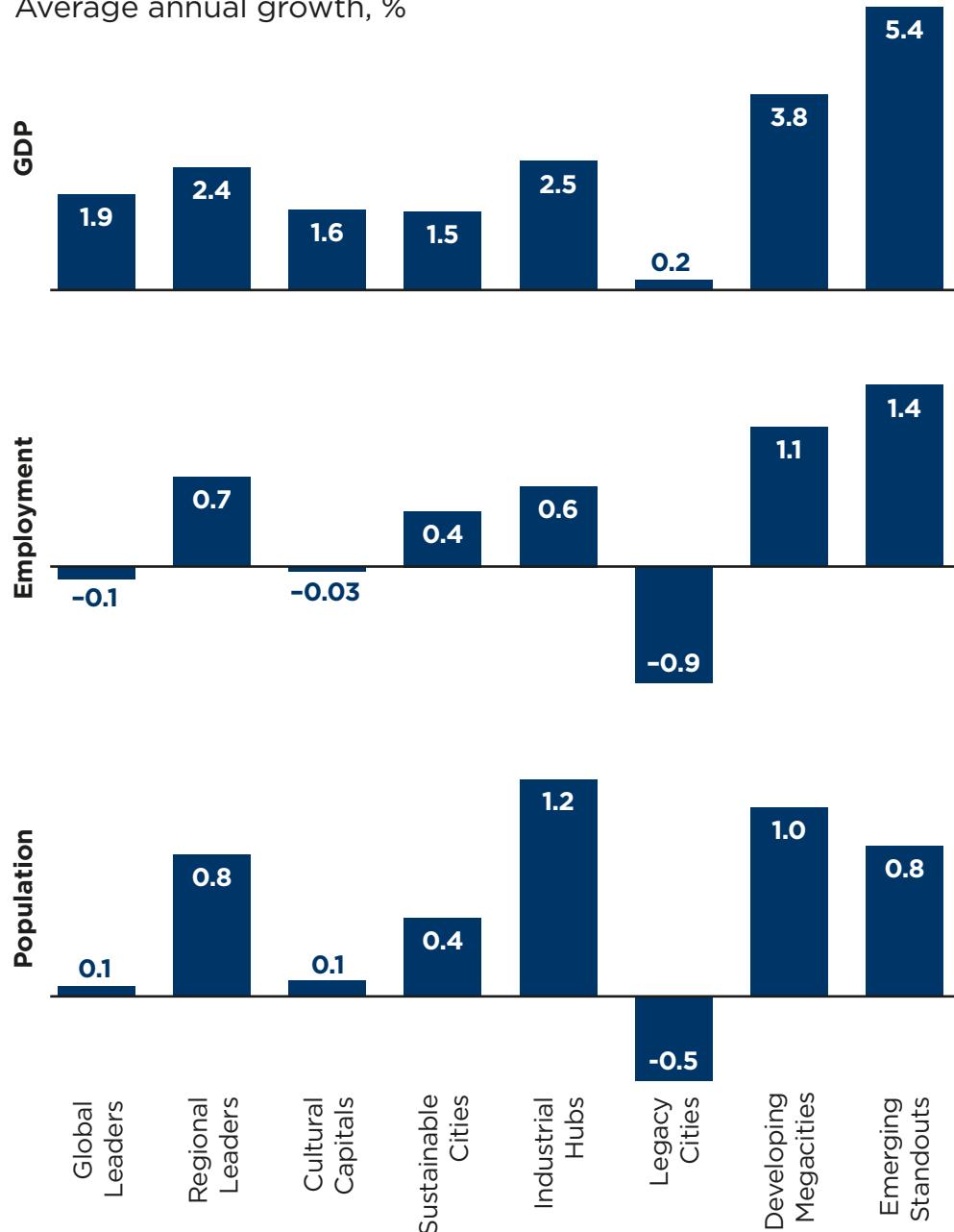
Over the next 25 years, we expect the Emerging Standouts to experience the fastest rates of GDP and employment growth. While they may not benefit from generative AI to the same extent as the Global Leaders, we still expect them to make significant economic gains as they catch up to their more developed peers. The Global Leaders, Cultural Capitals, and Sustainable Cities will grow much more slowly, but they are starting from a much higher level of development, and will continue to see large expansions of their economies.

There are several other trends that will shape the future of cities, providing both upside and downside risks to our forecasts. Some of these are not new: climate change, rapid urbanisation, and demographic changes are topics that have been persistent issues for years. But for many cities, newer concerns are emerging, such as institutional instability, deglobalisation, and trade wars.

The way in which cities navigate these challenges and opportunities will determine their future success. Combined with the uncertainty surrounding the short-term global economic outlook, there is significant scope for movements in the Global Cities Index rankings over the coming years. Many cities, from the Global Leaders to the Emerging Standouts, will see massive gains to GDP and incomes. Whether cities can maintain this growth and translate it into stronger economies, higher human capital, better quality of life, a more sustainable environment, or more stable governance remains to be seen.

Forecast growth by archetype, 2025-2050

Average annual growth, %



Archetype	Key opportunity	Key challenge	
	Global Leaders	<p>Generative AI: A conducive regulatory environment and skilled workforce can maximise the productivity benefits of this emerging technology.</p>	<p>Rising inequality: The gap between the highest and lowest income groups has been rapidly growing in recent years, threatening social cohesion.</p>
	Regional Leaders	<p>Alternative to Global Leaders: With cheaper housing and business costs, these cities can position themselves as alternatives to the Global Leaders and attract new residents and business investment.</p>	<p>Deglobalisation and trade wars: With reduced access to large markets in other countries (among other positive benefits of free trade), growth and innovation may both take a hit.</p>
	Cultural Capitals	<p>Attracting new residents: Promoting high quality of life and access to amenities can attract new residents and act as a template for other cities.</p>	<p>Housing affordability: Regulations limiting housing supply combined with strong demand for accommodation from both tourists and residents may lead to significant pricing pressures.</p>
	Sustainable Cities	<p>Clean energy transition: By taking the lead in reducing emissions and transitioning to cleaner energy, these cities are well positioned to benefit from the green economy of the future.</p>	<p>Climate hazards: Many of these cities are vulnerable to sea level rise or other climate hazards, which will only worsen unless the rest of the world joins in the clean energy transition.</p>
	Industrial Hubs	<p>High-tech and green industry: Leveraging existing infrastructure and logistics capabilities can maintain a competitive advantage while investing in the production of semiconductors, EVs, and other green economy goods.</p>	<p>Clean energy transition: The move to renewable energy sources threatens the viability and profitability of traditional oil and gas and heavy manufacturing operations.</p>
	Legacy Cities	<p>Urban revitalisation: Repurposing former industrial spaces and vacant downtown areas into new cultural districts, parks, and other mixed-use spaces can attract new residents and improve quality of life.</p>	<p>Declining populations: Inward migration is insufficient to offset the population losses through low fertility rates, leading to ageing and falling populations and stagnating economic growth.</p>
	Developing Megacities	<p>Human capital potential: With massive, young workforces, these cities have the potential to realise huge demographic dividends.</p>	<p>Rapid urbanisation: Infrastructure investments are unable to keep up with large and rapidly growing populations, leading to various quality of life and productivity issues.</p>
	Emerging Standouts	<p>Productivity growth: Significant increases in productivity over the coming years can lead to substantial improvements in incomes and overall quality of life of residents.</p>	<p>Institutional instability: Rapid population growth and rising inequality affect resident quality of life and may threaten the stability of the government and institutions.</p>

THE TOP 50 CITIES



London, United Kingdom
Overall Rank: 2nd

1

New York | United States

New York remains the top city in our 2025 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, and media, which explains New York's top ranking in the Economics category. It has the largest metro economy in the world, nearly double that of the next-largest city (Los Angeles). While the city's economy is dominated by its massive finance sector, leading to lower economic diversity than other American cities, GDP growth has historically been stable in New York, 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. Many people are attracted to the city for its world-class universities, cultural institutions, and the many head offices for multinational corporations. As a result, the city's population is highly educated and quite diverse. However, population growth will likely take a hit in coming years due to the Trump administration's more restrictive immigration policies.

New York slightly underachieves in Quality of Life, although this is generally a weaker category for megacities. That being said, compared to the world's other 42 megacities, it ranks an impressive second in Quality of



Life, showcasing a strong relative performance despite shortcomings. 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 volatile temperatures and severe natural disasters than other top cities. Overall, this leaves the city in the top quintile of the rankings in Environment.

Finally, in the Governance category, the city benefits from a welcoming business environment, but the uncertainty surrounding various policies of the Trump administration has the potential to create significant movement in this category in the future. 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 st
HUMAN CAPITAL	4 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	90 th
ENVIRONMENT	168 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$2.5 trillion
GDP per person:	US\$119,600
Population:	20.7 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader
- Cultural Capital

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 eighth in our Economics category, thanks to the size of the city’s economy (the fourth-largest in the world) and the stable growth it has historically experienced.

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 is not equally distributed across London’s residents, 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 overcome.

London’s impressive 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. The city’s congestion charging program and central London’s ultra-low emission zone (ULEZ) help the city achieve an air quality score in the top quarter of cities. Ranking 66th in the world in the Environment category is an impressive feat for a city the size of London, especially when the top cities in this category tend to be much smaller.

Overall, London has weathered the UK’s past 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	8 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	1 st
QUALITY OF LIFE	144 th
ENVIRONMENT	66 th
GOVERNANCE	81 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$1.0 trillion
GDP per person:	US\$81,200
Population:	12.7 million

STRENGTHS

- Many Universities
- Large GDP size
- Lower emissions intensity

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader
- Cultural Capital
- Sustainable City

3 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 11th 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 seventh-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 major company 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 large cities tend to rank relatively poorly in the Quality of Life category, Paris is the exception to the rule, scoring within the top 10 globally 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. Since 2022, a national programme has offered every young person aged 15 to 18 an allowance for cultural activities. However, housing affordability is a significant issue in the city, and while prices have recently fallen after years of growth, it remains a significant challenge.

It is in the Environment category where Paris largely underperforms. There has recently been a recorded rise in the number of heatwave days, and

climate change is likely to accelerate this trend over time. Similarly, Paris faces inconsistent rainfall, which can cause flooding or droughts, another phenomenon that is likely to increase in intensity 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.



RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	11 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	7 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	7 th
ENVIRONMENT	178 th
GOVERNANCE	255 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$994 billion
GDP per person:	US\$74,800
Population:	13.3 million

STRENGTHS

- Many Universities
- Large GDP size
- Many recreation and cultural sites

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader
- Cultural Capital
- Sustainable City

4 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 fourth place overall in the Global Cities Index. 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 23rd-largest GDP by size, it has the third-highest Economics score. However, the tech sector has experienced booms and busts over the years, resulting in less economic stability. And given that there are few large companies outside of tech operating in Silicon Valley, the lack of economic diversity makes San Jose 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 headquarters 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.



Complementing San Jose's impressive Economics and Human Capital scores are the city's results in the Quality of Life category. It is the highest-ranking US city in this category. Many of San Jose's residents are high-income earners, with over a third of the households earning more than \$350,000 per year—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 vibrant 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 10 in the US for recreation and cultural sites, and just inside 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 otherwise weighed down by temperature anomalies and higher potential severity of natural disasters. This area of Northern California is near the Diablo Mountain Range, which is vulnerable to forest fires during dry periods. Aside from its lower Governance score, which is the case for all US cities, San Jose ranks within the top 50 in the other four categories, highlighting the well-rounded nature of this global tech hub.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	3 rd
HUMAN CAPITAL	26 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	11 th
ENVIRONMENT	43 rd
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$454 billion
GDP per person:	US\$228,000
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

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader

5 Seattle | United States



Seattle's economic strength propels it into the fifth spot of our 2025 Global Cities Index. The city's major tech sector—home to both Microsoft and Amazon—rivals those of 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 several retail headquarters as well, including Starbucks, Costco, and Nordstrom. This range of large employers gives the city one of the highest levels of GDP per person in our index, and a healthy economic diversity measure.

Seattle has a highly educated workforce employed in its sizeable high-value tech and aerospace sectors, resulting in a Human Capital ranking of 45th globally. However, the Trump administration's immigration policies will likely reduce international immigration to the city, reducing population growth and the share of foreign-born residents. This may hold Seattle back from making gains in

the Human Capital category in the next few years.

The city scores favourably in the Quality of Life category as the large numbers 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 contributed to rising house prices and rents, making housing affordability an increasingly prevalent issue. Seattle also faces a higher crime rate than peer cities in the US and abroad.

At the same time, Seattle residents enjoy a wide range of cultural, recreational, and outdoor amenities, boosting 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 detract from its performance in 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. Despite vulnerabilities, Seattle's excellent scores in four out of our five categories results in an overall ranking within the global top five.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	4 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	45 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	27 th
ENVIRONMENT	35 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$603 billion
GDP per person:	US\$145,800
Population:	4.1 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- Larger temperature anomalies
- High housing expenditure
- Higher crime rate

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader
- Cultural Capital

6 Melbourne | Australia



Melbourne ranks sixth 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, just 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 by GDP, Melbourne ranks within the top 20 cities worldwide in the Economics category. 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 it being a global city, with a diverse and durable economy.

However, where Melbourne truly shines is in the Human Capital category, achieving its highest ranking of 12th 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 immigrants, and over the past few years the city has attracted many foreign workers.

Melbourne ranks just outside of the top 50 in the Quality of Life category. The city's fast-growing population has made housing increasingly unaffordable, as is the case in most Australian cities. 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. Melbourne is also a very safe city; its low crime rate helps prop up the overall Quality of Life score.

Similarly, Melbourne ranks within the top 10% of all cities in the Environment category, or third out of the seven Australian cities in the Global Cities Index. The presence of few heavy industries and its geographical location mean that the city has a low emissions intensity, while also benefitting from a relatively stable climate with fairly mild rainfall anomalies. However, the intensity of natural disasters in Melbourne is near the global average, slightly lowering its Environment score.

Like the rest of Australia, Melbourne's high quality government institutions and democratic system promote a high degree of stability, 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 highest out of all Australian cities in our index and is on a path to overtake its main competitor as Australia's largest city.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	16 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	12 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	54 th
ENVIRONMENT	67 th
GOVERNANCE	15 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$324 billion
GDP per person:	US\$60,200
Population:	5.4 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- High housing expenditure
- Older age profile
- More severe natural disasters

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader
- Sustainable City

7

Sydney | Australia

As arguably the most iconic Australian city and the largest in terms of economic size, Sydney occupies the seventh 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 outside the top 20 in our index for the Economics category. This high ranking is mostly driven by the size of its economy—indeed, Sydney is the largest city in Australia in terms of GDP. 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.

Moreover, Sydney ranks 10th globally and first nationally in terms of the Human Capital category. With two universities in the "Group of Eight" and several others, Sydney offers a broad array of higher education opportunities. This contributes to the city's high average educational attainment level and attracts many foreign students. Moreover, together with its large number of company headquarters, Sydney has highest foreign-born population share among Australian cities and the 14th-highest globally, 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. As such, residents of Sydney have very high levels

of housing expenditure, which weighs on the city's Quality of Life score. However, a long life expectancy, many recreation and cultural sites, and low crime rates all prop up the city's score in this category.

In the Environment category, Sydney ranks lower than some of its peers. Because of its subtropical climate, Sydney faces more severe 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. Altogether, this weakens its Environment score.

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. Nevertheless, Sydney obtains a very strong result overall in our 2025 index.



RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	21 st
HUMAN CAPITAL	10 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	39 th
ENVIRONMENT	145 th
GOVERNANCE	15 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$384 billion
GDP per person:	US\$68,700
Population:	5.6 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader
- Cultural Capital
- Sustainable City

8

Boston | United States



Boston owes its top 10 ranking to its status as a global powerhouse in the Economics and Human Capital categories. As a hub for innovation and technology, Boston's economy benefits from its large life sciences and tech sectors. Combined, these two help the city achieve the 13th-largest GDP in the world, and the eighth-largest in per-person terms. 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.

Due to its role as a global hub for education, Boston ranks 11th globally in Human Capital. The city 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, 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, such as Moderna and Biogen—that are headquartered in Boston.

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, and these disparities extend to housing and educational opportunities as well. Still, Boston's Quality of Life score receives a boost from its multitude of recreation and cultural sites, 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 of the potential severity of the natural disasters facing the city, particularly flooding. Research has shown that many neighbourhoods in Boston that were originally built on marshlands are sinking into the ground, further exacerbating the challenges posed by rising sea levels. Each centimetre the land sinks can significantly worsen flooding. Fortunately, with its sizeable public transit system, Boston is already among the world's cleanest cities, both in terms of air quality and CO₂ 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 but rising political instability. It remains to be seen how the Trump administration's targeting of foreign-born students and professors will affect the city's many universities, and whether it will threaten Boston's position as a global hub of innovation and education in the future.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	9 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	11 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	57 th
ENVIRONMENT	242 nd
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$650 billion
GDP per person:	US\$129,500
Population:	5.0 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

-  Global Leader
-  Cultural Capital

9

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. Indeed, Tokyo is the highest-ranked city in Asia. Tokyo remains a key financial centre within the global context despite recent APAC competition, and it is still the third-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.

The area where Tokyo excels most is in the Human Capital category, ranking eighth 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 among the youngest in Japan, in part due to internal migration of individuals relocating to the city, where the 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 certain aspects of the city's liveability. 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 related to stagnant wages and lower incomes per person, stemming from economic but also cultural factors. However, Tokyo still places in the top 30 globally for Quality of Life thanks to its high life expectancy, low crime rate, and many recreation and cultural sites.

Environmentally, Tokyo has moderate levels of pollution, although its air quality is significantly higher than most other cities in East Asia. The city performs far better in emissions intensity, which suggests that the city's pollution levels are negatively affected by activity of regional neighbours. Tokyo's Environment ranking takes a significant hit due to the city's exposure to natural disasters. Their potential severity—especially for earthquakes and typhoons—is higher than in nearly every other city in the world.

An established economy, extensive human capital, and strong and secure institutions have created a stable metropolis that appeals to businesses and individuals, both domestically and internationally. Tokyo should remain relevant in global rankings in the coming years, but the presence of increasing competition from faster-growing cities cannot 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 remain in a top 10 position in the Global Cities Index in the future.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	22 nd
HUMAN CAPITAL	8 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	26 th
ENVIRONMENT	399 th
GOVERNANCE	38 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$1.3 trillion
GDP per person:	US\$37,300
Population:	36.1 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- Older age profile
- Slower GDP growth
- More severe natural disasters

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader
- Cultural Capital
- Legacy City

10 San Francisco

United States

With a broad range of corporate headquarters in the area—from tech companies like Salesforce, Uber, and Yelp to fashion brands like Levi Strauss and the Gap to financial firms like 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. 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. Moreover, the city's economy is less diverse than other US peers despite the presence of other headquarters in the region and a large banking sector

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

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, San Francisco's

foreign-born population is still 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, CT. Yet, income inequality is pervasive; this deeply affects the city's affordability, and the cost of housing remains high even relative to the high incomes. The city's crime rate is also worse than many others in the US. All these account for San Francisco's relatively weaker Quality of Life ranking. At the same time, the city is also known for its charming streetscapes and popular tourism destinations—such as Fisherman's Wharf, the Presidio, Lombard Street, and Alcatraz—endowing San Francisco with among the most cultural amenities of any US city.

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 cause San Francisco to move up or down in future rankings.



RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	5 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	37 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	99 th
ENVIRONMENT	41 st
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$835 billion
GDP per person:	US\$179,700
Population:	4.6 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- High housing expenditure
- Lower income equality
- Higher crime rate

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader
- Cultural Capital

11

Los Angeles | United States



One of the largest metropolitan areas in the world with renowned entertainment and film sectors, Los Angeles lands just outside the top 10 in our 2025 Global

Cities Index. With the second-largest GDP in the world (trailing only New York) and a strong economic stability measure, the city yields the second-highest Economics ranking. Indeed, although best known for Hollywood and major studios like Paramount and Warner Brothers, 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 years, 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 59th 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. Also weighing on its population growth are the Trump administration's immigration policies, which will likely reduce international immigration to the city.

Los Angeles ranks less favourably on its Quality of Life measure due to several factors, including its aforementioned high cost of living. Its housing expenditure

measure is higher than most other cities due to the strict zoning regulations that prevent developers from building dense housing in many parts of the region.

Although income per person is high, 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, exacerbating the disparity. At the same time, the city's numerous entertainment options lead it to have among the most recreation and cultural sites of any US city, boosting its Quality of Life score.

Finally, Los Angeles' sprawl and limited public transportation options require many residents to commute by car to work. Historically, this has created air quality issues. However, with relatively few heavy manufacturing companies in the metro, its overall emissions score is better than most major US cities. But weighing on LA's Environment score is the relative severity of natural disasters in the city, most recently seen in the destructive wildfires that engulfed parts of the metro in January 2025.

While strong scores in the Economics and Human Capital categories propel Los Angeles into the 11th spot globally, 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 nd
HUMAN CAPITAL	59 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	173 rd
ENVIRONMENT	98 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$1.4 trillion
GDP per person:	US\$105,200
Population:	12.9 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- More severe natural disasters
- Lower income equality
- Slower population growth

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader
- Cultural Capital

12

Washington, DC | United States

Washington's two strongest categories, Economics and Human Capital, 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 aggregate and per-person terms. Unsurprisingly, the public sector plays an outsized role in the economy, resulting in Washington having one of the least diverse economies in the US. But Washington is also home to a sizeable 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 partly explains Washington's slower GDP growth relative to other US cities. And the Trump administration's policies aiming to

cut the federal workforce and relocate government agencies poses a major downside risk to the city's economy.

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 seeking to benefit from being in proximity to the federal government. As the US capital, Washington is also a very international city, due 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 faces comparatively severe natural disasters and can experience volatile temperatures. But Washington gains points for having good air quality, in part due to its broad public transportation infrastructure. Additionally, the city has few 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 upheaval can be crippling, causing government shutdowns, mass layoffs, and sluggish growth.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	13 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	9 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	146 th
ENVIRONMENT	128 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$758 billion
GDP per person:	US\$116,200
Population:	6.5 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader

13 Dublin | Ireland



Dublin is the economic engine of Ireland. The city's Economics score is strengthened by having the fifth-highest GDP per person of our 1,000 cities and placing third in Western Europe for GDP growth. Though Dublin's GDP per person is impressive, it 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. For instance, Dublin also has the third-fastest employment growth forecast in Western Europe, indicating that the city's economy 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, which reduces Dublin's economic stability measure.

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 fourth for Human Capital in Western Europe.

On the other hand, certain factors weigh down Dublin's Quality of Life

ranking. Residents spend relatively more on housing than nearly anywhere else—it is just outside 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 fairly highly in terms of 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 policies to combat climate change. Residents experience fairly good 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, the severity of flooding along the River Liffey in the city during storms remains the biggest concern.

Dublin, Ireland's political centre, benefits from the country's stable representative democracy and good civil protections, though its business environment is average compared to the rest of Western Europe. 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	28 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	17 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	100 th
ENVIRONMENT	14 th
GOVERNANCE	26 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$319 billion
GDP per person:	US\$139,300
Population:	2.3 million

STRENGTHS

- High GDP per person
- Many universities
- Lower emissions intensity

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Sustainable City

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 one of only five 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 support healthy population growth, leading the city to have one of the youngest age profiles in Western 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 many islands of the Stockholm archipelago, which have become 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 several 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 still scores in the top decile globally.

In the Environment category, competing forces are at play. On the one hand, Stockholm has one of the lowest CO₂ emissions intensities and among the best air quality 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	36 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	14 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	71 st
ENVIRONMENT	45 th
GOVERNANCE	22 nd

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$194 billion
GDP per person:	US\$78,800
Population:	2.5 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader
- Cultural Capital
- Sustainable City

15 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 20 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, supported by 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 as the best Asian city, or fifth globally, in Human Capital. Seoul has 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 relatively poor air quality. Seoul's climate anomalies cause relatively extreme patterns of temperature and precipitation, with the effect of such anomalies further

exaggerated during summer and winter. Summertime sees 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. However, the country now faces a period of political turmoil that began with President Yoon Suk Yeol's declaration of martial law in December 2024 and his subsequent impeachment. While Seoul's Governance ranking remains strong at the moment, how the political crisis is resolved will determine the future of the city's ranking in this category, and it may have spillover effects for the other categories as well.



RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	18 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	5 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	129 th
ENVIRONMENT	514 th
GOVERNANCE	147 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$926 billion
GDP per person:	US\$37,900
Population:	24.5 million

STRENGTHS

- Large GDP size
- Many universities
- High life expectancy

WEAKNESSES

- Larger rainfall anomalies
- Slower employment growth
- Older age profile

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader

16 Zurich

Switzerland

While Zurich 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 50 scores in four out of the five categories. Zurich has the 85th-largest economy in the world, but in per-person terms, it has the 12th-largest. It is one of only 22 cities in the world with a GDP per person above US\$100,000, and one of only five 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. Indeed, Zurich ranks fifth in terms of educational attainment globally and first in Switzerland. 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 who seek to benefit from the educational and employment opportunities.

If people come to Zurich for the economic opportunities, they stay for the city's liveability; Zurich's second-strongest performance lies in the Quality of Life category. Incomes per person are very high, ranking second out of Western European cities. Further boosting the city's Quality of Life score is its high life expectancy, also ranked among the



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highest globally. 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.

The city's visually stunning location comes with another downside, as seen in the Environment category. Zurich's climate can be quite volatile, with large swings in temperatures and rainfall. The severity of natural disasters, especially flooding, is also considered a moderate risk. 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 is not just a large economy or population that makes a top city; doing the little things right is just as important.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	42 nd
HUMAN CAPITAL	21 st
QUALITY OF LIFE	13 th
ENVIRONMENT	175 th
GOVERNANCE	10 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$191 billion
GDP per person:	US\$117,600
Population:	1.6 million

STRENGTHS

- Strong institutions
- High educational attainment
- High life expectancy

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader
- Cultural Capital
- Sustainable City

17 Oslo

Norway

Placing 17th in our rankings is Oslo, the capital of Norway. Unlike many others in the index, Oslo's strength is broad-based, and it is one of only five cities that ranks inside the top 100 across all categories. While not a large economy in global terms, Oslo's GDP per person is high at US\$84,100, the city's residents are relatively 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 well-rounded, which means Oslo is less exposed to

sector-specific downturns than some of its peers. Plus, the city's economic performance has been consistently healthy with GDP growth routinely hovering around the 2%-3% mark in the decade prior to the Covid-19 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 due to 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 high quality of life comes at a cost. While incomes are high, the city is notoriously a very expensive place to live, and housing costs take up a significant share of residents' incomes. This drags Oslo down slightly 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 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 very high, helped in part by the large swathes of forested areas that surround it. Where Oslo falls in this category is through its 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, which explains the city's high position in the rankings, placing just three spots behind Nordic peer Stockholm.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	37th
HUMAN CAPITAL	53rd
QUALITY OF LIFE	9th
ENVIRONMENT	91st
GOVERNANCE	6th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$127 billion
GDP per person:	US\$84,100
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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader
- Cultural Capital
- Sustainable City

18 Copenhagen | Denmark

Copenhagen ranks 18th in our Global Cities Index, four places behind its (perhaps) greatest rival, Stockholm. And although smaller in size, the Danish capital has a lot going for it. One of Copenhagen's greatest strengths is in the Economics category, where it benefits from particularly high scores for economic stability and GDP per person. The city's stability is aided by the diversity of its economy; it hosts the headquarters for companies across 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 13.5% of Copenhagen's residents indicated that it was easy to find good housing at a reasonable price—one of the lowest rates among 80 major European cities. The government has acknowledged this issue, and in order 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 homes. On a more positive note, Copenhagen does benefit from relatively 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 aims to achieve climate positivity by 2035 with respect to direct CO₂ emissions within the city. However, Copenhagen's Environment ranking takes a small 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 the strong scores of Copenhagen's institutions, which in turn support the city's positive economic and demographic outlook.



RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	23 rd
HUMAN CAPITAL	34 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	159 th
ENVIRONMENT	49 th
GOVERNANCE	4 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$203 billion
GDP per person:	US\$92,400
Population:	2.2 million

STRENGTHS

- More economic diversity
- Lower emissions intensity
- Strong business environment

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader
- Cultural Capital
- Sustainable City

19

Dallas**United States**

Dallas places 19th 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 among 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. 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. Also, an increasing share of the population is approaching retirement age, and the city 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, which both 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 of other leading cities, scoring in the middle of the pack of US metros. 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 is not 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. This results in poorer air quality compared to most cities in the US, lowering the city's Environmental score. Moreover, Dallas also experiences frequent heatwaves that weigh on the city's performance in this category, as does the potential severity of natural disasters. Without more concrete plans to address these climate change hazards, the city risks further sliding in this category (and in others) in future years.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	6th
HUMAN CAPITAL	23rd
QUALITY OF LIFE	288th
ENVIRONMENT	231st
GOVERNANCE	161st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$789 billion
GDP per person:	US\$94,000
Population:	8.4 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- Larger temperature anomalies
- Lower income equality
- More severe natural disasters

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader

20 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 for 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 has not sacrificed its robust GDP and employment growth to achieve this feat. It remains one of the faster-growing cities in the region.

Sustaining this strong growth over a long period of time has been possible thanks to Toronto's persistently high levels of in-migration, particularly from international immigrants. While new, lower immigration targets from the

federal government have started to slow the breakneck pace of population growth seen from 2022 to 2024, the city still has the largest share of foreign-born residents in North America. 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 rapid population growth of the past few years has boosted its Human Capital score, it may have

negatively affected 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 remains near record highs. 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, improvements in affordability will take several years. Despite this issue, Toronto still ranks in the top quartile in Quality of Life given its high levels of life expectancy and income equality.

Toronto's other weakness is the Environment category, in part because the city struggles with significant temperature anomalies, especially in winter. But summer heatwaves have also hit the city in recent years, increasing the amount of risk it faces due to climate change. 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 remains a popular destination for 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	19 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	13 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	240 th
ENVIRONMENT	224 th
GOVERNANCE	27 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$451 billion
GDP per person:	US\$62,800
Population:	7.2 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader

21 Singapore | Singapore



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Singapore is the third-ranking Asian city in our index and the only in Southern Asia to land in the top 50 worldwide. 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 and falls within the global top 50, 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 and 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, and the risk of a global trade war initiated by US tariffs poses a significant downside risk for the future.

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 and low levels of crime mean that quality of life in Singapore tends to be high, leading the city to be ranked fourth globally

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 Singaporeans face is high housing costs relative to other cities in the region, an issue exacerbated by limited land availability.

Size constraints also play a role in Singapore's Environment score. The city struggles with somewhat poor air quality, in part because it has had to forego land for green spaces to support economic activity. Large rainfall anomalies are also common due to the city's tropical climate. However, this climate also results in more consistent temperatures. This, along with Singapore's low CO₂ emissions intensity (among the best in Southern Asia), boosts the city's Environment score to 23rd globally.

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	106 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	41 st
QUALITY OF LIFE	4 th
ENVIRONMENT	23 rd
GOVERNANCE	135 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$539 billion
GDP per person:	US\$89,300
Population:	6.0 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- Slower employment growth
- Less economic stability
- Weaker civil liberties

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader

22 Munich | Germany



Munich achieves the highest ranking of any German city in our index, with strong performances in the Economics, Human Capital, and Quality of Life categories. The city traces its success back to the German Economic Miracle—the period of rapid post-war reconstruction and growth seen in Western Germany—which has contributed to its current large economy and high per-person income. 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, and its lower income equality (among the worst in Western Europe) brings down its Quality of Life score. But Munich still lands in the top 20 globally in this category.

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—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, relatively high life expectancy, and many 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 has been prone to heatwaves in recent years, and anomalies in both temperature and rainfall bring down its Environment 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, and it will continue to be an important city regionally and globally for the foreseeable future.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	33 rd
HUMAN CAPITAL	49 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	18 th
ENVIRONMENT	249 th
GOVERNANCE	107 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$283 billion
GDP per person:	US\$91,600
Population:	3.1 million

STRENGTHS

- High educational attainment
- Many corporate headquarters
- Many recreation and cultural sites

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader
- Cultural Capital

23 Brisbane | Australia

The capital of Queensland, Brisbane, ranks 23rd in the Global Cities Index. Its economy benefits from high levels of GDP, and employment growth is among the fastest in Australia. This is 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

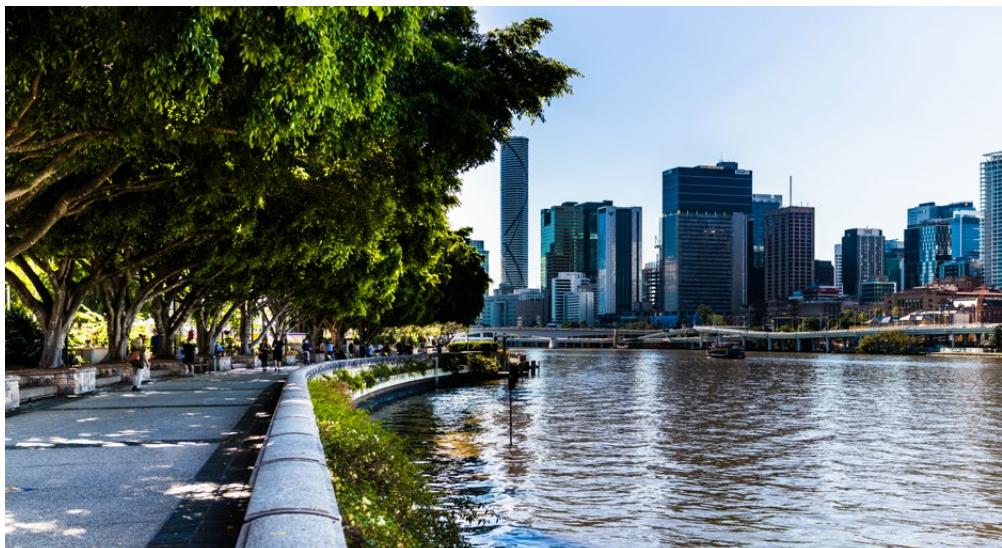
location for immigration, attracting a large foreign-born population. As such, the city's continued capacity to attract talent, from the rest of Australia and abroad, means that Brisbane ranks relatively well in terms of population growth. Another one of Brisbane's strengths is its well-educated and young workforce; in fact, it boasts one of the youngest populations out of Australia's major cities. On a related note, 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, although it is still in the top 100 globally. The city's high cost of housing dampens its ranking here. Brisbane's growing population has

caused demand for housing to increase, while supply has struggled to keep pace. However, one aspect in which Brisbane fares better is life expectancy. 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. Also boosting its Quality of Life score is the city's relatively low crime rate in a global context.

The severity of potential 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. But boosting its score in this category is the city's low emissions intensity and good air quality.

Brisbane scores among the highest in our index in terms of Governance, along with Australia's other cities. 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 housing and other infrastructure in order to improve affordability for residents and manage the effects of climate change.



RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	41 st
HUMAN CAPITAL	46 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	87 th
ENVIRONMENT	54 th
GOVERNANCE	15 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$168 billion
GDP per person:	US\$60,000
Population:	2.8 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

-  Regional Leader

24 Chicago

United States

As the third-largest metro economy in North America and sixth-largest in the world, it is no surprise that Chicago has been able to secure a place in the top 25 of the Global Cities Index.



With a substantial population in both its downtown 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 suffered from out-migration in recent years. This places its population growth in the bottom quintile of our Global Cities and among the lowest in North America.

The Windy City's two worst performing categories are Environment and Quality of Life. The impact of lake-effect snow and other Great Lakes weather anomalies, along with the urban heat island effect, result in significant temperature fluctuations that lower its Environment score. The city also experiences air pollution due to human and industrial activities, which drags its

air quality ranking down to among the worst in North America. However, the city's active public transit system does reduce car traffic and prevents some of the other pollution 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 the city's Quality of Life ranks among the top quarter globally, it is not among the top North American cities. Despite its high average incomes, Chicago faces an acute income inequality issue, with high-earning households disproportionately benefitting from the city's lucrative economy. This imbalance can lead to 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 provided it with a growing population and a skilled workforce. But with the city now experiencing a net population decline, it is unclear if it will remain as competitive in the future as it has been in the past.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	7 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	50 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	233 rd
ENVIRONMENT	296 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$935 billion
GDP per person:	US\$97,700
Population:	9.6 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader

25 Geneva | Switzerland

Geneva is the second Swiss city to appear in the index, following Zurich. 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 does not 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, offsetting 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 attracts a wide array of scientists from across the globe.



But Geneva performs even better in the Quality of Life category. The city's average life expectancy is among the highest globally. 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 weaker 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 fourth-best in the world and claiming the top spot in Europe thanks to an economy that is 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	40 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	63 rd
QUALITY OF LIFE	38 th
ENVIRONMENT	142 nd
GOVERNANCE	10 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$82 billion
GDP per person:	US\$130,700
Population:	630,000

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

-  Cultural Capital
-  Sustainable City

26 Denver

United States

Denver, Colorado sits just east of the Rocky Mountains and just outside the top 25 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 in aggregate and per-person terms, 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 houses multiple global corporate headquarters, further boosting its Human Capital ranking.

Denver impressively boasts the sixth-highest income per person in the world. But the city does not score as well in the Quality of Life category, as incomes here are unequally distributed and residents face high housing expenditure. Still, the city's top 200 score can be attributed to high-paying information sector jobs in tandem with an abundance of recreation and cultural sites available to residents.



RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	17 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	36 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	163 rd
ENVIRONMENT	153 rd
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$327 billion
GDP per person:	US\$107,300
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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader

27

Amsterdam | Netherlands



Amsterdam is ranked 27th in our Global Cities Index and secures a place just inside of 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 and business sector and transport and 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, given its slower expected employment growth and limited economic diversity compared to the majority of other cities in Western Europe.

The Dutch capital performs well in the Human Capital category, where it benefits from a highly educated workforce. This helps to explain why a 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 district will house 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—nearly a third of the city's residents are foreign-born.

These workers are likely drawn to the city's high quality of life, Amsterdam's strongest category. 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 relatively high life expectancy and 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 plans to significantly increase housebuilding over the coming years.

Amsterdam underperforms relative to other major cities when considering environmental factors. In addition to high temperature anomalies, 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 strong civil liberties and the 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	59 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	35 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	31 st
ENVIRONMENT	267 th
GOVERNANCE	63 rd

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$268 billion
GDP per person:	US\$89,100
Population:	3.0 million

STRENGTHS

-  High GDP per person
-  Many corporate headquarters
-  Many recreation and cultural sites

WEAKNESSES

-  Less economic diversity
-  Older age profile
-  More severe natural disasters

ARCHETYPES

-  Cultural Capital

28 Atlanta

United States

Atlanta obtains a prominent rank in our 2025 index. The city has a diverse economy with 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 10 cities globally. And as the state capital, 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 quintile 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; life expectancy here is lower than in 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 cities. Yet, it still has high exposure to natural disasters, 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	10 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	19 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	326 th
ENVIRONMENT	115 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$607 billion
GDP per person:	US\$95,100
Population:	6.4 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- More severe natural disasters
- Higher crime rate
- High housing expenditure

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader

29 Berlin

Germany

As Germany's capital and one of the EU's most populous cities, it is no surprise that Berlin performs strongly in the Economics and Human Capital categories. 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. These assets give Berlin its highest ranking across all the metrics in the index, placing it first globally for 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). This helps the city claim the 16th spot globally for Quality of Life.

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, and 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	46 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	61 st
QUALITY OF LIFE	16 th
ENVIRONMENT	326 th
GOVERNANCE	107 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$280 billion
GDP per person:	US\$54,200
Population:	5.2 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader
- Cultural Capital
- Sustainable Cities

30 Houston | United States

Houston ranks 30th 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. An older age



profile for the population also slightly weakens 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 recreational 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 mean that residents have a strong reliance on cars, making traffic congestion a significant issue. This contributes to reduced air quality and high CO₂ emissions, which are also negatively affected by Houston's large oil and 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	12 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	18 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	312 th
ENVIRONMENT	280 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$730 billion
GDP per person:	US\$94,300
Population:	7.7 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- Lower income equality
- Slower GDP growth
- More severe natural disasters

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader

31 Perth | Australia



Perth is the fourth-ranking city in Australia and places 31st in our index. The Western Australian city's performance is broad-based across the categories we include in our index, and it is situated in the top 100 in all but Environment. The city serves as the operational and export basis for a large part of Australia's important mining sector. This is both a strength and a weakness for Perth; mining activities generate substantial economic value for the city, contributing to a high GDP per person as well as a high rate of growth for a developed economy. 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 second-fastest population growth 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, one of which 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 25th worldwide.

The 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. They also face the difficulty of high housing costs, which stunts Perth's overall Quality of Life score. And its geographic isolation means 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 its 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 is because the mining activities are extraction-focused and involve few air polluting transformation activities. Furthermore, these activities tend to be located away from the city's living quarters. However, the severity of potential natural disasters and climate anomalies pushes down Perth's Environment ranking.

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 ensure that the city's economy 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	78 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	25 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	63 rd
ENVIRONMENT	208 th
GOVERNANCE	15 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$237 billion
GDP per person:	US\$99,000
Population:	2.4 million

STRENGTHS

- High GDP per person
- Many universities
- Large foreign-born population

WEAKNESSES

- Less economic diversity
- More severe natural disasters
- Higher housing expenditure

ARCHETYPES

- Industrial Hub

32

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 places in the top 20 globally for recreation and cultural sites, 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 these characteristics contribute to Luxembourg's achievement of having the fifth-highest Quality of Life score in the world.

Underpinning Luxembourg's high incomes is its robust economy. While its total GDP does not rank in the top 100 globally, in per-person terms, Luxembourg has the sixth-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 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 is the Environment, but this is largely due to climate, rather than policy. 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 heatwaves and flash floods in Luxembourg in recent years, and these risks 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	50 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	102 nd
QUALITY OF LIFE	5 th
ENVIRONMENT	266 th
GOVERNANCE	70 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$89 billion
GDP per person:	US\$132,100
Population:	680,000

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

-  Cultural Capital
-  Sustainable City

33

Philadelphia | United States



Strategically situated between New York and Washington, DC in the northeast “Acela” corridor, Philadelphia’s location endows the city with a vast metropolitan population and facilitates access to other major markets. Known as a hub for healthcare, education, and logistics, the city boasts the 17th-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 15 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 quartile of the US. A highly educated workforce attracts businesses, 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 27th 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 just inside the top 300, 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 even though 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 a higher crime rate than peer cities.

In the Environment category, Philadelphia ranks about average for North America. Philadelphia has a significant industrial base affecting its air quality and emissions intensity, scoring in the middle of the pack for the region. It also faces relatively more severe natural disasters than elsewhere. This leaves the city near the top quarter of the rankings in Environment, on par with Boston, but below 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	14 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	28 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	271 st
ENVIRONMENT	226 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$586 billion
GDP per person:	US\$92,700
Population:	6.3 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- Older age profile
- Higher crime rate
- Lower income equality

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader

34 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.



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Brussels faces several constraints that weigh down on its Quality of Life ranking in the index. One of them is income inequality, which is a byproduct of the aforementioned two-speed labour market in the city. Another is that Brussels has high housing costs and one of the highest crime rates across Western Europe. Still, like many European capitals, Brussels has a vibrant cultural life, and its inhabitants can enjoy a multitude of high-quality museums and galleries.

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, 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	44 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	32 nd
QUALITY OF LIFE	109 th
ENVIRONMENT	218 th
GOVERNANCE	140 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$243 billion
GDP per person:	US\$71,100
Population:	3.4 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- Slower GDP growth
- Older age profile
- Less economic diversity

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader
- Sustainable City

35 Minneapolis | United States



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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 62nd in the Human Capital category.

Due to the investment in human capital, Minneapolis enjoys a high level of GDP, both in aggregate 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 25th. The city has the potential to increase its score in this category by placing an emphasis on GDP and employment growth, which rank in the bottom half of all US metros.

While Minneapolis ranks an impressive 16th 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 131st, 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 more favourably than its peers.

Ranking 315th, Environment is Minneapolis' 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. Due to the city's geographical position in the northern Midwest, Minneapolis is exposed to a plethora of natural disasters, including tornados, winter storms, and flooding. The city performs better in other metrics in this category, especially for air quality. Interestingly, Minneapolis is considered to be one of the most bikeable cities in the US, which may play a role in its ranking 40th globally for air quality.

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 index. Improvements in the Quality of Life category would likely propel the city farther up the rankings in the future.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	25 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	62 nd
QUALITY OF LIFE	131 st
ENVIRONMENT	315 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$367 billion
GDP per person:	US\$97,300
Population:	3.8 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- Larger temperature anomalies
- Older age profile
- More severe natural disasters

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader

36 Vienna

Austria

Vienna's top-50 placement is a result of strong scores in the Human Capital and Quality of Life categories. The city 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 is 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.

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.

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. Fairly 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 CO₂ emissions intensity is relatively 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. Vienna's future in the index will depend on how it manages to execute its carbon-neutral plan, and if can boost its economic growth.



RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	67 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	42 nd
QUALITY OF LIFE	48 th
ENVIRONMENT	423 rd
GOVERNANCE	72 nd

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$185 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 GDP growth
- High housing expenditure
- Larger temperature anomalies

ARCHETYPES

- Cultural Capital
- Sustainable City

37

Vancouver | Canada

Although Vancouver is best known for its stunning natural beauty, its performance across the index shows that the environment is not 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 Covid-19 pandemic and has among the fastest employment growth of North American cities. At the same time, Vancouver's economy is not 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 for the region, 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 a very high rate 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 this, quality of life in the city remains high.

Vancouver's landscape is not the only factor drawing its residents outdoors—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 wildfires and coastal storm surges, well-defined energy transition and climate adaptation plans are essential for Vancouver to manage climate change hazards.

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



RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	53rd
HUMAN CAPITAL	52nd
QUALITY OF LIFE	186th
ENVIRONMENT	61st
GOVERNANCE	27th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$172 billion
GDP per person:	US\$55,900
Population:	3.1 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader
- Sustainable City

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, sitting 20 places behind Copenhagen. 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. As a result, GDP growth in the Finnish capital has been relatively lacklustre for some time, and GDP per person is also lower. Together, these factors drag down the city's score in our Economics category.

However, this underperformance against Nordic rivals should not 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 is not 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 is among the very highest in our list of 1,000 Global Cities. Helsinki also performs poorly in the Environment category, although this is 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. But despite a poor showing in the Environment category, Helsinki performs well for a city of its size, placing comfortably within the top 50.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	72 nd
HUMAN CAPITAL	55 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	78 th
ENVIRONMENT	357 th
GOVERNANCE	8 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$108 billion
GDP per person:	US\$67,400
Population:	1.6 million

STRENGTHS

- Many recreation and cultural sites
- Good air quality
- Strong institutions

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader
- Cultural Capital
- Sustainable City

39 Hamburg | Germany



Hamburg joins Berlin and Munich as the third German city within the top 50 for the first time in our index in 2025. As Germany's third-largest city and one of Europe's most important port hubs, Hamburg boasts a diverse economy, high economic stability, and an affluent population. Hamburg's GDP per person is among the highest in Germany, reflecting both its highly productive industries and its status as a major European trade centre. Hamburg has a long maritime history, and its port—the third-largest in the EU—continues to be a driver of the local and national economy. The city's economic diversity extends beyond shipping and trade; it is a major media hub and has a growing presence in tech and aerospace industries. These factors

contribute to its solid Economics ranking, especially in terms of economic diversity and stability, though its slower overall growth tempers its standing.

Education is another strength for Hamburg. The city has several universities, including the prestigious University of Hamburg and the Hamburg University of Technology. It benefits from an affordable higher education system, allowing for broad and continued access to learning opportunities. Hamburg hence performs well in the Human Capital category, particularly in educational attainment, where it has one of the best rankings globally. However, its ageing demographics slightly lowers the city's score in this category.

Hamburg's cultural scene and attractions make it one of Germany's most attractive cities. The HafenCity, one of Europe's largest inner-city developments, is a major draw. It includes the historic Speicherstadt warehouse district, a UNESCO World Heritage site, as well as the Elbphilharmonie concert hall, a striking modernist rebuilding of a warehouse. Hamburg is also famed for its nightlife, centred around the Reeperbahn and St. Pauli. Despite these assets, Hamburg's Quality of Life score takes a small hit as it is in the bottom half of German cities for housing expenditure and income equality.

The Environment category is Hamburg's weakest. The city is prone to large temperature anomalies and more severe natural disasters than elsewhere in Europe—particularly flooding, due to its low-lying geographic position. These are challenges faced by many German cities in the index. Thanks to its diversified economy, Hamburg has among the lowest emissions intensities in Germany, somewhat aiding its score in this category.

Despite some challenges, Hamburg remains one of Germany's most prosperous and globally connected cities. With its strong economic base, high educational attainment, and rich cultural offerings, it continues to be a vital part of both the national and European landscape.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	39 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	84 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	55 th
ENVIRONMENT	257 th
GOVERNANCE	107 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$240 billion
GDP per person:	US\$68,300
Population:	3.5 million

STRENGTHS

- High educational attainment
- More economic diversity
- High economic stability

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Cultural Capital

40 San Diego | United States



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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 US 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. However, San Diego still experiences 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. And although it has higher levels of income equality than Los Angeles and San Francisco, 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 second-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 and wildfires). However, residents enjoy good air quality, 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	24 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	81 st
QUALITY OF LIFE	200 th
ENVIRONMENT	34 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$333 billion
GDP per person:	US\$101,100
Population:	3.3 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader

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. However, 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 from healthcare. But 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. 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 that 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 than other major US cities. Similarly, income per person is lower in Phoenix than in its US peers, although it has healthy incomes in a global context. 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. Residents also 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	20 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	57 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	276 th
ENVIRONMENT	82 nd
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$420 billion
GDP per person:	US\$81,200
Population:	5.2 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader

42 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 10th spot globally in the Quality of Life rankings.

The city's high incomes are the product of Basel's strong economy. Basel ranks fourth globally in terms of GDP per person, outperformed only by a few of America's tech-centred cities. 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 has not brought in 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 does not. 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 is 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	94 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	91 st
QUALITY OF LIFE	10 th
ENVIRONMENT	170 th
GOVERNANCE	10 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$81 billion
GDP per person:	US\$142,000
Population:	570,000

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Cultural Capital

43 Montreal | Canada

The third and final Canadian city in the top 50 is the country's largest French-speaking metro: Montreal. The city's strong Human Capital score is driven by its globally ranked universities and several corporate headquarters. Montreal is home to McGill University, an international 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 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 its older population age profile, particularly in comparison to other North American metros.

Montreal was once the economic capital of Canada, before being surpassed by Toronto in the 1970s. However, given 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 the 62nd-largest globally. The city's Economics score is further boosted by Montreal's relatively stable economic growth in the decade preceding the Covid-19 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 the vast majority of our 1,000 cities. But, despite lower average incomes, residents of Montreal experience far less inequality compared to other cities around the world. Further boosting the city's Quality of Life score is the high life expectancy of residents (among the highest in North America), a byproduct of the city's excellent healthcare system, which includes the McGill University Health Centre. The city also has a rich offering of recreation and cultural sites, enhanced by the many festivals Montreal hosts every year.

Unlike Toronto and Vancouver, Montreal's worst category is 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 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	58 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	48 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	148 th
ENVIRONMENT	300 th
GOVERNANCE	27 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$240 billion
GDP per person:	US\$52,200
Population:	4.6 million

STRENGTHS

- Higher income equality
- Many universities
- High life expectancy

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader

44 Madrid | Spain

Discussions on Europe's most important cities are generally concentrated around London and Paris, but over the past several years, 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, the Spanish capital is well positioned in our Global Cities Index, taking the 44th spot in 2025.

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 the city'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 the Human Capital category. The workforce is well educated and diverse, and the



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concentration of universities in the city—particularly business schools—is high by global standards. Crucially, courses are also well integrated with local corporations and institutions. Despite demographic constraints arising from an ageing population, Madrid benefits from an influx of Latino workers, and the city is even beginning to challenge Miami's position as the "capital of Latin America." But with Madrid's population now exceeding seven million, problems with housing affordability have come to the fore, exacerbating the 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	64 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	40 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	116 th
ENVIRONMENT	143 rd
GOVERNANCE	278 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$343 billion
GDP per person:	US\$47,600
Population:	7.2 million

STRENGTHS

- Large GDP size
- Many universities
- Smaller rainfall anomalies

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Global Leader
- Sustainable City

45 Miami | United States



Miami, the Magic City, is Florida's largest metro. The city ranks 18th 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 15th 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), which is a symptom of the wider Florida retirement economy. But the impact of Miami's age profile on its Human Capital score is relatively minimal; the city still ranks just outside the top 50 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; Miami has the second-worst income equality in the US, trailing only Bridgeport, CT. 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 is particularly known for its art scene, reinforced by its annual hosting of Art Basel every December. Still, low 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 80 globally in Environment. Indeed, Miami lands in the bottom 10% globally for the natural disasters metric, but at the same time, 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	15 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	54 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	313 rd
ENVIRONMENT	77 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$568 billion
GDP per person:	US\$88,200
Population:	6.4 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

- Older age profile
- Lower income equality
- More severe natural disasters

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader

46 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 attacks on 7 October 2023 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 one of the highest rates 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 contend with high housing costs as well. In the Environment category, since much of Tel Aviv's growth comes from the lower-carbon tech industry, the city has a very low emissions intensity.

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. 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	26 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	47 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	130 th
ENVIRONMENT	325 th
GOVERNANCE	357 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$242 billion
GDP per person:	US\$78,200
Population:	3.1 million

STRENGTHS

- Lower emissions intensity
- High life expectancy
- High educational attainment

WEAKNESSES

- Less political stability
- Older age profile
- High housing expenditure

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader

47 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 they 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 seeking 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 amid rising incomes and a new housing construction boom. 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 amenities have not grown in step with its economy, as it ranks in the bottom third of US metros for recreation and cultural sites.

Austin's relatively poor Environment score is largely due to its geography, as temperature anomalies are large and the potential for severe natural disasters is 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, 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	27 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	58 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	241 st
ENVIRONMENT	194 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$261 billion
GDP per person:	US\$102,800
Population:	2.5 million

STRENGTHS

- High income per person
- Lower emissions intensity
- Fast population growth

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader

48 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 neighbour, Basel, it dominates the Quality of Life rankings. Placing sixth 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 does not 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 helps the city score very highly in terms of economic stability. However, the flip side is that GDP growth is lower here than in any other city in Switzerland, and it also performs poorly in a global context. Still, 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 relatively 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 it 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 22nd globally and in

the top 10 in Western 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 metros. 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	99 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	145 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	6 th
ENVIRONMENT	210 th
GOVERNANCE	10 th

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$51 billion
GDP per person:	US\$98,300
Population:	520,000

STRENGTHS

- Many recreation and cultural sites
- High economic stability
- Lower emissions intensity

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Cultural Capital

49 Gothenburg | Sweden

The fifth Nordic city making it into the top 50 is Gothenburg. Sweden's second-biggest city is the country's industrial centre, 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 slightly hinders Gothenburg in the Environmental category, as its emissions intensity is higher than some of the city's peers. Its economy is also more exposed to the risks associated with 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 large temperature anomalies also lowers its score in the



Environment category. But ranking 85th globally is impressive for a city with a large manufacturing presence, highlighting the Swedish commitment to sustainability.

Gothenburg's strengths are largely concentrated in Human Capital, 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 within the overall top 50, with persons aged 65+ making up a larger share of the total population. This has consequences for public services, and it 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 rate in the city is 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 is 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 that has helped Gothenburg achieve a top 50 finish in our index.

RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	101 st
HUMAN CAPITAL	70 th
QUALITY OF LIFE	108 th
ENVIRONMENT	85 th
GOVERNANCE	22 nd

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$72 billion
GDP per person:	US\$65,900
Population:	1.1 million

STRENGTHS

- High life expectancy
- Good air quality
- Strong civil liberties

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Cultural Capital

50 Portland | United States

Portland rounds out the top 50 cities in 2025. Traditionally, Portland has lived in Seattle's shadow, but in recent decades the city has emerged as a hub for entrepreneurship, technology, and bohemian culture. Like most US cities in the top 50, Portland's strong Economics score is driven by its large GDP, in both aggregate and per-person terms. The economy is led by its highly productive tech sector, the most visible example of which is Intel's large R&D campus, which employs thousands in the area. Several other global brands also call the city home, such as apparel giants Nike, Adidas, and Columbia Sportswear. These corporate headquarters, coupled with the multiple universities in the area and residents' high educational attainment,

boost Portland's Human Capital ranking. The city takes a hit in this category due to its older age profile.

The high-paying tech and corporate jobs propel Portland to a top 30 ranking globally for income per person. But like most US cities, these high incomes tend to be concentrated near the top, reducing income equality. At the same time, Portland remains an attractive destination on the West Coast, due to its lower cost of living than the nearby cities of San Jose, San Francisco, and Seattle. And like these other cities, Portland has access to a wide range of recreation and cultural amenities—from the sprawling Forest Park and Columbia River Gorge to the Portland Japanese Garden and Pittock

Mansion. In fact, Portland has among the most recreation and cultural sites of any US city on a per-person basis.

Portland's abundance of outdoor amenities is likely related to its strongest category, Environment, as well. The city has the seventh-best air quality in the world, seemingly associated with its massive urban forest in the heart of the city. And although Portland has a reputation for rainy weather, its rainfall is very consistent, leading to few anomalies that cause droughts or flooding from heavy rain. The city's temperature, on the other hand, tends to be more volatile, with heatwaves and other temperature anomalies increasing in frequency and intensity in recent years. But Portland has positioned itself as a leader in climate change adaptation. It was the first US city to create a local action plan for cutting carbon emissions in 1993. Its current Climate Action Plan has the goal of achieving a 40% reduction in emissions compared to 1990 levels in 2030, and an 80% reduction by 2050.

Portland's balanced results across categories bode well for the city's outlook. It has a fast-growing economy with a large high-productivity tech sector, an abundance of natural amenities and lower cost of living than neighbouring cities to attract residents, and an established commitment to climate change adaptation. All in all, that is a strong foundation for future success in the Global Cities Index.



RANKINGS

ECONOMICS	34 th
HUMAN CAPITAL	122 nd
QUALITY OF LIFE	158 th
ENVIRONMENT	25 th
GOVERNANCE	161 st

KEY FIGURES IN 2024

GDP:	US\$227 billion
GDP per person:	US\$89,600
Population:	2.5 million

STRENGTHS

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

WEAKNESSES

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

ARCHETYPES

- Regional Leader

METHODOLOGY

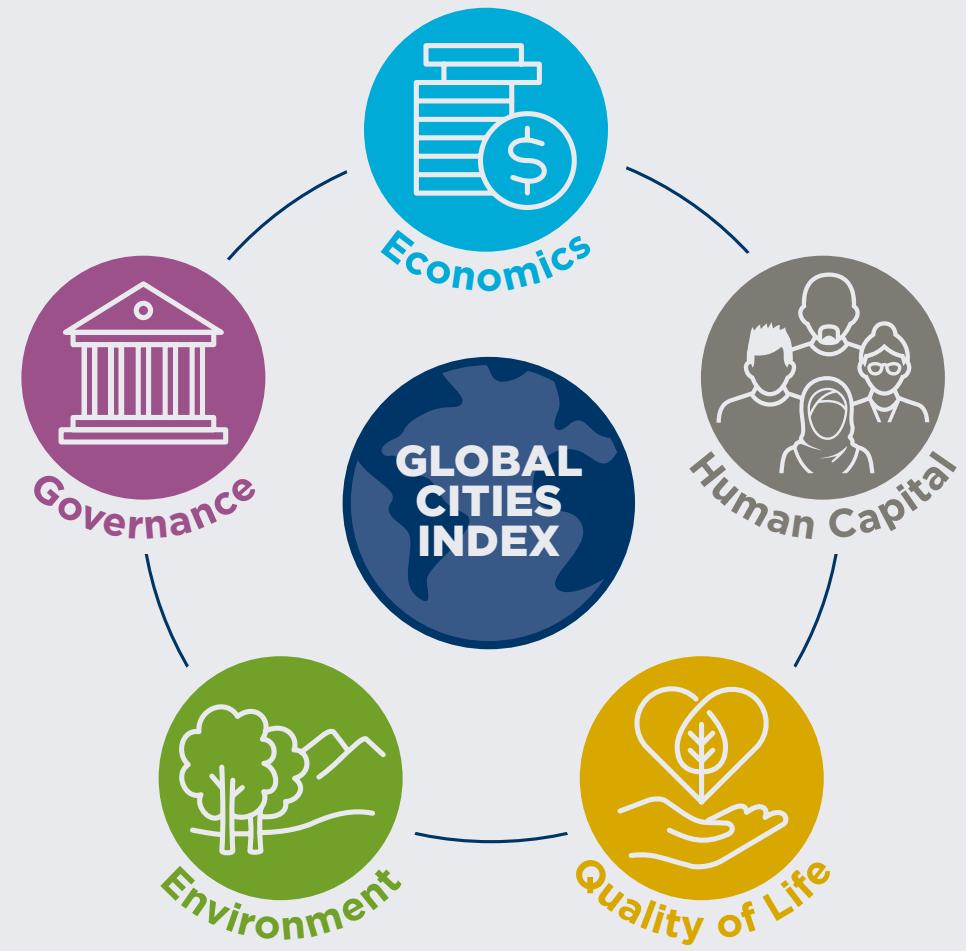
 Tokyo, Japan
Overall Rank: 9th



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 environments 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 is given the same score.



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

Category	Indicator	Description
Economics	GDP size	The size of the city's gross domestic product
	GDP growth	The five-year GDP forecast for the city
	Economic stability	The consistency of the city's GDP growth in the past decade
	GDP per person	The size of the city's GDP divided by its population
	Employment growth	The five-year employment forecast for the city
	Economic diversity	The relative size of each sector of the city's economy
Human Capital	Population growth	The five-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 2,000 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
Quality of Life	Foreign-born population	The share of the population residing in the city that was born outside of the city's country
	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
Environment	Life expectancy	The life expectancy at birth for residents of the city
	Crime rate	The city's homicide rate per 100,000 residents, scaled by globally-consistent country-level homicide data
	Recreation & cultural sites	An average of the total number of recreation and cultural sites in the city, and the number of sites divided by its population
	Air quality	The mean PM2.5 concentration in the city
	Emissions intensity	The sum of CO ₂ emissions in the city divided by its GDP
	Natural disasters	The potential severity of six natural hazards in the city: coastal flooding, cyclones, earthquakes, riverine flooding, tornadoes, and wildfires
	Temperature anomalies	The average yearly temperature anomaly for the city, calculated as the difference between the daily maximum temperature and its long run average
Governance	Rainfall anomalies	The average yearly rainfall anomaly for the city, calculated as the difference between the total monthly rainfall and its long run average
	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 collecting data for each indicator for all cities, normalised scores were created 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. The scores for each indicator within a category were combined to create a total score for that category for each city. The total scores for each category were then normalised. The city's final overall score was calculated 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%
Overall	100%

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 cities to be ranked in a more holistic manner, and helps identify relative strengths and weaknesses 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 (FUAs) in the Global Cities Index. Each FUA captures two key elements of a city: the areas of highly intense economic activity in the city cores, and the areas of economic activity associated with a city's periphery, in its less dense but still important commuting zones.

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

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.



City archetypes methodology

Cities have been classified into archetypes based on the indicators that comprise the Global Cities Index. This allows cities to be compared alongside peers that share similar characteristics.

Each archetype is based on a set of quantitatively defined metrics. For example, the Global Leaders are defined by the size of their economy, the importance of their finance and business sectors, their incomes per person, and the number of universities and corporate headquarters located there. The filters for each archetype result in groups of similar cities that can be considered their closest peers around the globe and share a similar narrative. The archetypes and their characteristics are listed on the right.

To ensure the robustness of the archetypes, econometric checks and a literature review were conducted. The econometric checks involved performing principal component analysis (PCA) and comparing the classification to the results of various cluster analysis algorithms, including k-means clustering, hierarchical clustering, and Gaussian mixture models. Additionally, the classification was validated qualitatively through a literature review of existing city typologies. The selected archetypes are not exhaustive, and many cities fit into more than one classification. To create archetypes that are distinct yet coherent, not all 1,000 Global Cities are classified.

Archetype	Characteristics
Global Leaders	The true “global cities” that drive the world economy. They are the largest cities in the world by GDP, and they are financial and business hubs with many corporate headquarters and universities.
Regional Leaders	Important and large cities in their regions, but not as economically powerful on the global stage as the Global Leaders. They outperform their respective countries on metrics such as economic growth and income per person, and they tend to have more universities and business activity than neighbouring cities.
Cultural Capitals	Mostly smaller cities that have high quality of life. They have many cultural sites and a sizeable share of foreign-born residents. They also tend to attract residents and tourists alike due to their amenities and educational opportunities.
Sustainable Cities	Cities that have prioritised sustainable growth and are focused on adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change. They have low emissions intensities and are focused on the clean energy transition, with the political stability to support their climate goals.
Industrial Hubs	Cities dependent on extraction or manufacturing to drive growth. They tend to have low economic diversity and experience volatile growth due to the nature of their key industries. These cities often have high emissions intensities.
Legacy Cities	Cities facing a demographic challenge from ageing (and falling) populations. As a result, GDP growth is slowing or stagnant and they often struggle to attract immigrants, leading to a low share of foreign-born residents.
Developing Megacities	Very large urban areas (over 10 million residents) in the developing world. Their infrastructure investments have often struggled to keep up with the increasing population and they have low levels of income per person.
Emerging Standouts	Cities in the developing world that are outperforming their respective countries. They attract residents due to their fast productivity growth and higher levels of income per person than their country as a whole.

Archetype	Number of cities	Cities
Global Leaders	21	Beijing, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Hong Kong, London, Los Angeles, Madrid, Munich, New York, Paris, San Francisco, San Jose (US), Seattle, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Tokyo, Toronto, Washington, DC
Regional Leaders	66	Abidjan, Accra, Astana, Atlanta, Auckland, Austin, Baku, Bangkok, Barcelona, Bengaluru, Berlin, Bogotá, Brisbane, Brussels, Buenos Aires, Cairo, Casablanca, Chengdu, Chennai, Copenhagen, Delhi, Denver, Dubai, Frankfurt am Main, Guangzhou, Helsinki, Ho Chi Minh City, Houston, Istanbul, Jakarta, Johannesburg, Karachi, Kuala Lumpur, Lima, Lisbon, Lyon, Manila, Melbourne, Mexico City, Miami, Minneapolis, Montreal, Moscow, Mumbai, Nairobi, Osaka-Kyoto, Oslo, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Prague, Rio de Janeiro, Riyadh, Rome, San Diego, Santiago, São Paulo, Shenzhen, St Petersburg, Stockholm, Taipei, Tel Aviv, Tianjin, Vancouver, Warsaw, Zurich
Cultural Capitals	63	Aachen, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Barcelona, Basel, Beijing, Bergen, Berlin, Bern, Bonn, Boston, Bremen, Budapest, Cambridge, Copenhagen, Dresden, Dusseldorf, Edinburgh, Florence, Freiburg im Breisgau, Geneva, Gent, Gothenburg, Granada, Graz, Grenoble, Hamburg, Helsinki, Kyiv, Liege, Lisbon, Ljubljana, London, Los Angeles, Luxembourg, Milan, Montpellier, Muenster, Munich, Nantes, New York, Nice, Osaka-Kyoto, Oslo, Padua, Paris, Prague, Reykjavik, Riga, Rome, Rotterdam, Ruhr, San Francisco, Seattle, Stockholm, Sydney, Tallinn, The Hague, Tokyo, Venice, Vienna, Wellington, Zurich
Sustainable Cities	63	Aarhus, Auckland, Bari, Belfast, Berlin, Birmingham (UK), Bonn, Bordeaux, Bournemouth, Bridgetown, Brighton and Hove, Bristol, Brussels, Cambridge, Canberra, Catania, Copenhagen, Dublin, Dusseldorf, Edinburgh, Frankfurt am Main, Geneva, Genoa, Granada, Helsinki, Kiel, Las Palmas, Lausanne, Leeds, Lille, Lisbon, Liverpool, London, Luxembourg, Madrid, Male, Malmo, Manchester, Melbourne, Montevideo, Montpellier, Muenster, Nantes, Nassau, Oslo, Palermo, Paris, Porto, Rennes, Reykjavik, San José (Costa Rica), Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Sapporo, Stockholm, Sydney, The Hague, Toulon, Utrecht, Vancouver, Vienna, Vilnius, Wellington, Zurich
Industrial Hubs	51	Abu Dhabi, Ahvaz, Al Ain, Arequipa, Baghdad, Baku, Baoji, Baotou, Basra, Bokaro, Cheonan, Chongqing, Dammam, Dhaka, Dhanbad, Doha, Gumi, Haiphong, Hefei, Huizhou, Kinshasa, Kuching, Kuwait City, Libreville, Lubumbashi, Mandalay, Monterrey, Muscat, Nagoya, N'Djamena, Perth, Pohang, Saltillo, San Luis Potosí, São Gonçalo, Stuttgart, Suez, Surat, Suzhou (Jiangsu), Taichung, Taipei, Tianjin, Torreon, Tyumen, Ulsan, Wolfsburg, Wuhan, Xiamen, Yamoussoukro, Yulin, Zhongshan
Legacy Cities	50	Bari, Bilbao, Busan, Catania, Changwon, Dijon, Dresden, Erfurt, Florence, Fushun, Genoa, Gumi, Halle an der Saale, Hamamatsu, Hiroshima, Jeonju, Kagoshima, Kanazawa, Kitakyushu, Kumamoto, Lens, Lille, Lodz, Matsuyama, Mito, Nagoya, Niigata, Numazu, Okayama, Osaka-Kyoto, Palermo, Pohang, Rouen, Ryazan, San Juan, Sapporo, Sendai, Takamatsu, Takasaki, Tokushima, Tokyo, Toyama, Toyohashi, Tula, Turin, Utsunomiya, Venice, Wakayama, Weihai, Yaroslavl
Developing Megacities	25	Bangkok, Bengaluru, Cairo, Chengdu, Chennai, Delhi, Dhaka, Dongguan, Ho Chi Minh City, Hyderabad (India), Jakarta, Karachi, Kinshasa, Kolkata, Lagos, Lahore, Lima, Luanda, Manila, Mumbai, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Surabaya, Tehran, Wuhan
Emerging Standouts	56	Agra, Ahmedabad, Amravati, Amritsar, Bacolod, Belgaum, Bengaluru, Bhavnagar, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Bokaro, Cagayan de Oro, Cebu City, Chandigarh, Chennai, Coimbatore, Davao City, Delhi, General Santos, Georgetown (Guyana), Guntur, Gwalior, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Hubli-Dharwad, Hyderabad (India), Jabalpur, Jaipur, Jalandhar, Jamshedpur, Kalaburagi, Kannur, Kolkata, Ludhiana, Madurai, Makassar, Mangalore, Meerut, Mumbai, Mysore, Nagpur, Nellore, Patna, Pune, Rajkot, Salem, Solapur, Surat, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruppur, Udaipur, Ulaanbaatar, Vadodara, Vellore, Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam

1,000 GLOBAL CITIES RANKINGS



Sydney, Australia
Overall Rank: 7th

1-25

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
1	New York	United States	1	4	90	168	161
2	London	United Kingdom	8	1	144	66	81
3	Paris	France	11	7	7	178	255
4	San Jose	United States	3	26	11	43	161
5	Seattle	United States	4	45	27	35	161
6	Melbourne	Australia	16	12	54	67	15
7	Sydney	Australia	21	10	39	145	15
8	Boston	United States	9	11	57	242	161
9	Tokyo	Japan	22	8	26	399	38
10	San Francisco	United States	5	37	99	41	161
11	Los Angeles	United States	2	59	173	98	161
12	Washington, DC	United States	13	9	146	128	161
13	Dublin	Ireland	28	17	100	14	26
14	Stockholm	Sweden	36	14	71	45	22
15	Seoul	South Korea	18	5	129	514	147
16	Zurich	Switzerland	42	21	13	175	10
17	Oslo	Norway	37	53	9	91	6
18	Copenhagen	Denmark	23	34	159	49	4
19	Dallas	United States	6	23	288	231	161
20	Toronto	Canada	19	13	240	224	27
21	Singapore	Singapore	106	41	4	23	135
22	Munich	Germany	33	49	18	249	107
23	Brisbane	Australia	41	46	87	54	15
24	Chicago	United States	7	50	233	296	161
25	Geneva	Switzerland	40	63	38	142	10

26–50

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
26	Denver	United States	17	36	163	153	161
27	Amsterdam	Netherlands	59	35	31	267	63
28	Atlanta	United States	10	19	326	115	161
29	Berlin	Germany	46	61	16	326	107
30	Houston	United States	12	18	312	280	161
31	Perth	Australia	78	25	63	208	15
32	Luxembourg	Luxembourg	50	102	5	266	70
33	Philadelphia	United States	14	28	271	226	161
34	Brussels	Belgium	44	32	109	218	140
35	Minneapolis	United States	25	62	131	315	161
36	Vienna	Austria	67	42	48	423	72
37	Vancouver	Canada	53	52	186	61	27
38	Helsinki	Finland	72	55	78	357	8
39	Hamburg	Germany	39	84	55	257	107
40	San Diego	United States	24	81	200	34	161
41	Phoenix	United States	20	57	276	82	161
42	Basel	Switzerland	94	91	10	170	10
43	Montreal	Canada	58	48	148	300	27
44	Madrid	Spain	64	40	116	143	278
45	Miami	United States	15	54	313	77	161
46	Tel Aviv	Israel	26	47	130	325	357
47	Austin	United States	27	58	241	194	161
48	Bern	Switzerland	99	145	6	210	10
49	Gothenburg	Sweden	101	70	108	85	22
50	Portland	United States	34	122	158	25	161

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
51	Dubai	United Arab Emirates	55	3	230	810	360
52	Canberra	Australia	245	103	1	241	15
53	Salt Lake City	United States	30	80	194	203	161
54	Adelaide	Australia	110	83	88	211	15
55	Bergen	Norway	198	212	2	6	6
56	Prague	Czech Republic	77	99	33	431	137
57	Edinburgh	United Kingdom	170	66	156	5	81
58	Nashville	United States	29	72	311	126	161
59	Lausanne	Switzerland	183	60	85	233	10
60	Taipei	Taiwan	263	44	15	284	75
61	Calgary	Canada	108	31	246	420	27
62	Frankfurt am Main	Germany	82	109	93	386	107
63	Baltimore	United States	35	94	281	167	161
64	Madison	United States	63	130	140	252	161
65	Rotterdam	Netherlands	80	151	70	379	63
66	Malmo	Sweden	135	96	181	52	22
67	Charlotte	United States	48	74	297	140	161
68	Bristol	United Kingdom	147	85	150	60	81
69	Gold Coast	Australia	151	178	66	27	15
70	Barcelona	Spain	117	73	86	392	278
71	Aarhus	Denmark	145	135	133	72	4
72	Hong Kong	Hong Kong SAR, China	144	65	76	398	299
73	Abu Dhabi	United Arab Emirates	132	6	242	713	360
74	Raleigh	United States	70	105	249	125	161
75	Antwerp	Belgium	109	179	25	316	140

76–100

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
76	Gent	Belgium	120	185	14	327	140
77	Riverside	United States	32	136	303	110	161
78	Wellington	New Zealand	208	191	91	3	1
79	Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	114	16	337	84	335
80	Columbus	United States	54	76	314	173	161
81	Detroit	United States	52	88	296	245	161
82	Milan	Italy	105	87	77	509	301
83	Leeds	United Kingdom	122	100	211	62	81
84	The Hague	Netherlands	232	107	50	114	63
85	Auckland	New Zealand	154	112	239	71	1
86	Cambridge	United Kingdom	172	92	145	93	81
87	Providence	United States	97	106	174	251	161
88	Ottawa-Gatineau	Canada	166	110	123	214	27
89	Richmond	United States	60	104	298	188	161
90	Glasgow	United Kingdom	169	79	247	19	81
91	Eindhoven	Netherlands	160	159	52	202	63
92	Orlando	United States	45	128	332	63	161
93	Manchester	United Kingdom	89	147	231	92	81
94	Tampa	United States	51	138	305	81	161
95	Lyon	France	87	193	67	335	255
96	Las Vegas	United States	68	126	310	42	161
97	Riyadh	Saudi Arabia	31	2	427	844	625
98	Omaha	United States	113	129	153	374	161
99	Dusseldorf	Germany	115	211	43	445	107
100	Osaka-Kyoto	Japan	238	131	28	385	38

101–125

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
101	St. Louis	United States	38	182	289	225	161
102	Utrecht	Netherlands	136	295	30	135	63
103	Pittsburgh	United States	56	168	264	228	161
104	Lisbon	Portugal	201	132	62	164	145
105	Stuttgart	Germany	288	98	21	395	107
106	Istanbul	Turkey	121	15	178	511	799
107	Linz	Austria	175	228	8	458	72
108	Bridgeport	United States	126	208	61	237	161
109	Cologne	Germany	103	198	95	512	107
110	Birmingham	United Kingdom	139	140	196	146	81
111	Rome	Italy	143	117	114	378	301
112	Christchurch	New Zealand	220	197	185	8	1
113	Toulouse	France	138	187	103	221	255
114	Oxford	United Kingdom	161	155	169	131	81
115	Albany	United States	83	180	213	250	161
116	Quebec City	Canada	218	194	56	230	27
117	Allentown	United States	74	195	205	349	161
118	Nantes	France	168	258	37	83	255
119	Sacramento	United States	61	225	287	104	161
120	Virginia Beach	United States	95	146	302	109	161
121	Freiburg im Breisgau	Germany	235	213	19	314	107
122	Hartford	United States	118	201	165	287	161
123	Worcester	United States	123	148	190	410	161
124	San Antonio	United States	65	137	344	305	161
125	Budapest	Hungary	191	101	64	486	350

126–150

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
126	Ruhr	Germany	239	171	35	464	107
127	Graz	Austria	199	214	23	490	72
128	Durham	United States	131	97	335	117	161
129	Cincinnati	United States	62	267	237	304	161
130	Leicester	United Kingdom	236	78	284	123	81
131	Edmonton	Canada	133	153	228	542	27
132	Indianapolis	United States	47	259	320	196	161
133	Grenoble	France	266	332	3	161	255
134	Shenzhen	China	43	30	390	442	640
135	Southampton	United Kingdom	185	203	184	73	81
136	Bonn	Germany	228	209	73	324	107
137	Kansas City	United States	57	300	272	309	161
138	Provo	United States	92	288	187	255	161
139	Cleveland	United States	71	210	319	222	161
140	Muenster	Germany	212	246	75	294	107
141	Reykjavik	Iceland	335	173	46	376	25
142	Newcastle upon Tyne	United Kingdom	234	215	170	39	81
143	Halifax	Canada	285	141	224	76	27
144	Honolulu	United States	93	361	199	101	161
145	Rennes	France	164	357	110	48	255
146	Rochester	United States	152	170	294	124	161
147	Haifa	Israel	104	161	202	435	357
148	Belfast	United Kingdom	207	253	201	22	81
149	Bordeaux	France	165	328	89	207	255
150	Boise City	United States	149	250	250	36	161

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
151	Karlsruhe	Germany	302	169	53	495	107
152	Beijing	China	112	22	300	683	640
153	New Haven	United States	130	252	191	301	161
154	Grand Rapids	United States	86	311	254	205	161
155	Jerusalem	Israel	129	115	291	262	357
156	Cardiff	United Kingdom	195	204	257	56	81
157	Vallletta	Malta	224	280	22	227	317
158	Nottingham	United Kingdom	222	181	206	204	81
159	Jakarta	Indonesia	49	75	400	412	483
160	Santiago	Chile	180	33	367	553	296
161	Jacksonville	United States	73	263	342	105	161
162	Oxnard	United States	137	359	188	53	161
163	Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo	Canada	257	152	248	229	27
164	Doha	Qatar	174	24	259	814	369
165	Buffalo	United States	116	240	304	137	161
166	Tampere	Finland	272	289	126	179	8
167	Sheffield	United Kingdom	217	200	226	165	81
168	Mainz	Germany	278	281	45	331	107
169	Des Moines	United States	187	248	162	248	161
170	Warsaw	Poland	332	119	49	519	319
171	Coventry	United Kingdom	233	175	282	149	81
172	Milwaukee	United States	69	441	273	285	161
173	Memphis	United States	66	162	458	299	161
174	Valencia	Spain	205	205	192	151	278
175	Wroclaw	Poland	156	297	74	538	319

176–200

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
176	Poznan	Poland	140	325	115	409	319
177	Liverpool	United Kingdom	246	202	253	102	81
178	Tulsa	United States	142	163	324	389	161
179	Brighton and Hove	United Kingdom	295	184	229	95	81
180	Hanover	Germany	262	229	134	403	107
181	Nuremberg	Germany	167	582	40	317	107
182	Ljubljana	Slovenia	411	164	34	484	159
183	Winnipeg	Canada	141	231	316	456	27
184	Northampton	United Kingdom	203	302	251	86	81
185	Aberdeen	United Kingdom	378	218	177	15	81
186	Mannheim-Ludwigshafen	Germany	350	216	51	503	107
187	Bilbao	Spain	243	330	119	116	278
188	Colorado Springs	United States	127	426	216	190	161
189	Guangzhou	China	75	51	389	627	640
190	Harrisburg	United States	98	406	292	177	161
191	Portsmouth	United Kingdom	273	251	243	65	81
192	Buenos Aires	Argentina	184	127	266	234	476
193	Bologna	Italy	287	223	72	473	301
194	Louisville	United States	76	347	349	288	161
195	Oklahoma City	United States	107	303	338	282	161
196	Knoxville	United States	91	320	363	136	161
197	Montpellier	France	223	355	124	318	255
198	Nicosia	Cyprus	358	124	160	459	295
199	Bangkok	Thailand	356	27	280	297	513
200	Porto	Portugal	336	310	94	139	145

201-225

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
201	Hsinchu	Taiwan	696	142	20	344	75
202	Nagoya	Japan	360	236	97	476	38
203	Marseille	France	162	437	149	366	255
204	Bournemouth	United Kingdom	343	239	197	47	81
205	Fukuoka	Japan	240	283	218	419	38
206	Manila	Philippines	158	93	373	30	604
207	Palm Bay	United States	215	220	307	103	161
208	Malaga	Spain	333	232	125	171	278
209	Winston-Salem	United States	177	189	358	193	161
210	Tucson	United States	157	286	352	58	161
211	Dammam	Saudi Arabia	85	29	394	868	625
212	Charleston	United States	100	315	361	322	161
213	Strasbourg	France	241	470	68	404	255
214	Columbia	United States	128	261	384	160	161
215	Krakow	Poland	173	329	142	590	319
216	Shanghai	China	79	71	355	806	640
217	Gdansk	Poland	258	308	121	424	319
218	Tallinn	Estonia	279	230	164	733	71
219	Seville	Spain	250	296	220	235	278
220	Derby	United Kingdom	368	271	208	100	81
221	A Coruna	Spain	317	370	106	200	278
222	Dresden	Germany	377	521	12	339	107
223	Taichung	Taiwan	464	282	47	450	75
224	Bremen	Germany	290	400	147	368	107
225	Augsburg	Germany	293	507	83	332	107

226–250

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
226	Greenville	United States	90	512	339	174	161
227	Aachen	Germany	313	390	151	303	107
228	Palma de Mallorca	Spain	322	387	104	217	278
229	Brno	Czech Republic	274	511	59	475	137
230	Orleans	France	301	535	36	279	255
231	Kaohsiung	Taiwan	513	324	32	373	75
232	El Paso	United States	181	255	379	129	161
233	Tours	France	265	575	79	264	255
234	Bratislava	Slovakia	375	291	65	444	316
235	Liege	Belgium	244	485	143	422	140
236	Fort Myers	United States	190	454	295	97	161
237	North Port	United States	200	517	262	46	161
238	Kingston upon Hull	United Kingdom	309	312	285	181	81
239	Al Ain	United Arab Emirates	325	39	347	735	360
240	Birmingham	United States	84	392	409	375	161
241	Santa Cruz de Tenerife	Spain	357	404	157	44	278
242	Syracuse	United States	155	514	301	158	161
243	Middlesbrough	United Kingdom	314	339	265	197	81
244	Macao	Macao SAR, China	355	351	113	272	300
245	Vigo	Spain	349	438	120	118	278
246	Toledo	United States	206	321	321	347	161
247	Verona	Italy	280	472	92	425	301
248	Hamilton	Canada	457	256	193	306	27
249	Little Rock	United States	124	424	366	307	161
250	Zaragoza	Spain	271	483	168	180	278

251–275

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
251	Jeddah	Saudi Arabia	197	38	381	748	625
252	Padua	Italy	329	487	24	532	301
253	Mexico City	Mexico	102	69	639	569	529
254	Hangzhou	China	96	116	375	755	640
255	Athens	Greece	376	192	203	361	348
256	Murcia	Spain	303	345	221	336	278
257	Wiesbaden	Germany	366	583	60	370	107
258	Almaty	Kazakhstan	346	64	245	726	613
259	Lille	France	242	598	183	216	255
260	Las Palmas	Spain	394	455	136	79	278
261	Clermont-Ferrand	France	566	375	41	256	255
262	Alicante	Spain	351	272	261	291	278
263	Akron	United States	248	469	267	275	161
264	Kiel	Germany	479	491	80	176	107
265	Arnhem	Netherlands	405	633	58	246	63
266	Fresno	United States	150	471	404	96	161
267	Bielefeld	Germany	259	711	138	313	107
268	Stockton	United States	125	459	392	381	161
269	Granada	Spain	362	393	176	271	278
270	Tainan	Taiwan	590	468	81	111	75
271	New Orleans	United States	214	219	412	433	161
272	Bakersfield	United States	134	466	429	169	161
273	Delhi	India	119	20	760	893	383
274	Bucharest	Romania	192	465	222	599	333
275	Nice	France	311	692	98	261	255

276–300

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
276	Astana	Kazakhstan	261	125	341	505	613
277	Ankara	Turkey	254	160	269	581	799
278	Modesto	United States	182	496	368	150	161
279	Lublin	Poland	318	451	102	638	319
280	Valladolid	Spain	388	560	128	147	278
281	Busan	South Korea	440	399	167	341	147
282	Leipzig	Germany	291	777	69	469	107
283	Nanjing	China	111	121	383	884	640
284	Albuquerque	United States	178	628	351	99	161
285	Groningen	Netherlands	580	396	112	465	63
286	Ho Chi Minh City	Vietnam	211	177	325	455	819
287	Florence	Italy	364	678	42	338	301
288	Hanoi	Vietnam	231	157	315	596	819
289	Sapporo	Japan	308	595	277	348	38
290	Vilnius	Lithuania	373	490	195	441	136
291	Greensboro	United States	179	541	378	215	161
292	Turin	Italy	447	448	107	487	301
293	Wichita	United States	260	561	306	320	161
294	Toulon	France	344	743	105	259	255
295	Kuwait City	Kuwait	193	67	451	917	503
296	Lima	Peru	226	114	420	612	524
297	Dayton	United States	153	774	327	220	161
298	Wuhan	China	81	167	437	853	640
299	Baton Rouge	United States	219	346	411	521	161
300	Bogotá	Colombia	194	68	766	406	504

301–325

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
301	McAllen	United States	270	249	506	408	161
302	Cairo	Egypt	171	56	492	823	846
303	São Paulo	Brazil	225	95	634	413	567
304	Bergamo	Italy	460	498	111	518	301
305	Szczecin	Poland	275	646	223	397	319
306	Suzhou (Jiangsu)	China	88	238	391	867	640
307	Dijon	France	330	867	84	298	255
308	Malacca	Malaysia	438	313	340	64	335
309	Chengdu	China	146	206	393	723	640
310	Bialystok	Poland	339	592	166	572	319
311	Xiamen	China	188	165	446	551	640
312	Manama	Bahrain	268	108	406	768	616
313	Johor Bahru	Malaysia	383	241	372	273	335
314	Jeonju	South Korea	526	576	132	496	147
315	Saint-Etienne	France	622	668	82	172	255
316	Braunschweig-Salzgitter	Germany	625	564	139	439	107
317	Moscow	Russia	210	150	275	668	947
318	Tbilisi	Georgia	387	186	387	477	355
319	Monterrey	Mexico	251	113	610	462	529
320	Naha	Japan	365	649	279	504	38
321	Daegu	South Korea	605	376	238	474	147
322	Georgetown	Malaysia	483	224	380	133	335
323	Suva	Fiji	445	278	413	10	366
324	Genoa	Italy	645	780	17	238	301
325	Sendai	Japan	664	516	225	353	38

326–350

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
326	Rouen	France	528	738	161	148	255
327	Xian	China	189	156	484	757	640
328	Gwangju	South Korea	595	596	172	432	147
329	Riga	Latvia	485	489	260	566	254
330	Mumbai	India	148	111	794	728	383
331	Bengaluru	India	176	144	765	573	383
332	Cheongju	South Korea	499	540	236	565	147
333	Erfurt	Germany	596	838	44	350	107
334	Venice	Italy	517	751	29	625	301
335	Kyiv	Ukraine	229	244	336	651	866
336	Surabaya	Indonesia	227	342	432	524	483
337	Zhuhai	China	340	158	438	480	640
338	Port Louis	Mauritius	305	785	353	144	160
339	Brasília	Brazil	326	190	636	106	567
340	Kuantan	Malaysia	397	548	370	37	335
341	Daejeon	South Korea	542	591	263	500	147
342	Nancy	France	720	693	101	391	255
343	Hiroshima	Japan	627	788	182	281	38
344	Hefei	China	163	254	456	801	640
345	Valparaíso	Chile	593	284	350	588	296
346	Baku	Azerbaijan	505	221	234	633	838
347	Qingdao	China	186	336	385	781	640
348	Panama City	Panama	202	536	498	333	368
349	Montevideo	Uruguay	369	565	455	138	277
350	Medellín	Colombia	324	172	748	141	504

351–375

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
351	Ostrava	Czech Republic	468	739	207	629	137
352	Katowice	Poland	484	695	122	749	319
353	Caen	France	755	792	96	108	255
354	Tijuana	Mexico	312	318	615	32	529
355	Kumamoto	Japan	568	747	232	520	38
356	Hamamatsu	Japan	817	704	117	364	38
357	Charleroi	Belgium	427	800	270	401	140
358	Naples	Italy	563	667	256	321	301
359	Zagreb	Croatia	500	440	348	499	330
360	Chennai	India	221	139	799	616	383
361	Da Nang	Vietnam	319	419	343	485	819
362	Denpasar	Indonesia	300	556	410	119	483
363	Bydgoszcz	Poland	320	901	179	560	319
364	Padang	Indonesia	284	306	605	394	483
365	Bari	Italy	620	744	210	223	301
366	Makassar	Indonesia	294	467	529	90	483
367	Chongqing	China	196	264	495	799	640
368	Mecca	Saudi Arabia	511	90	459	731	625
369	Tirana	Albania	402	488	322	508	382
370	San Juan	Puerto Rico	714	569	365	21	253
371	Yogyakarta	Indonesia	363	262	519	449	483
372	Kanazawa	Japan	710	825	171	337	38
373	Okayama	Japan	748	671	189	618	38
374	Antalya	Turkey	481	316	290	661	799
375	Halle an der Saale	Germany	650	877	127	470	107

376–400

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
376	Amman	Jordan	396	82	745	619	563
377	Chiayi	Taiwan	842	601	137	539	75
378	Bandung	Indonesia	296	411	526	329	483
379	Wolfsburg	Germany	884	647	118	323	107
380	Niigata	Japan	698	783	244	340	38
381	Nairobi	Kenya	216	166	907	69	621
382	Concepción	Chile	560	429	369	574	296
383	Izmit	Turkey	544	334	293	541	799
384	Ipoh	Malaysia	392	650	356	436	335
385	Matsuyama	Japan	731	802	198	372	38
386	Medan	Indonesia	264	380	700	253	483
387	Accra	Ghana	437	309	541	232	370
388	Kuching	Malaysia	684	500	374	28	335
389	Algiers	Algeria	507	243	308	592	859
390	Pune	India	255	154	823	666	383
391	Fuzhou	China	213	433	512	559	640
392	Khamis Mushait	Saudi Arabia	466	285	433	276	625
393	Palembang	Indonesia	342	453	594	70	483
394	Thessaloniki	Greece	579	589	299	498	348
395	Dongguan	China	249	364	460	704	640
396	Guadalajara	Mexico	247	418	640	428	529
397	Lens	France	491	915	212	356	255
398	Cheonan	South Korea	705	703	268	489	147
399	Kota Kinabalu	Malaysia	632	677	333	89	335
400	Medina	Saudi Arabia	562	118	465	771	625

401-425

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
401	Belgrade	Serbia	338	656	360	533	381
402	Ningbo	China	209	529	415	720	640
403	Toyama	Japan	808	768	175	534	38
404	Kagoshima	Japan	666	902	219	352	38
405	Bursa	Turkey	559	304	309	721	799
406	Semarang	Indonesia	367	402	522	414	483
407	Colombo	Sri Lanka	390	360	447	463	623
408	Seremban	Malaysia	583	568	443	33	335
409	Samsun	Turkey	415	363	334	780	799
410	Hyderabad	India	230	294	789	587	383
411	Konya	Turkey	521	268	359	681	799
412	Pekanbaru	Indonesia	453	593	482	9	483
413	Mendoza	Argentina	549	348	364	640	476
414	St Petersburg	Russia	416	276	323	438	947
415	Quito	Ecuador	428	327	488	302	633
416	Kolkata	India	159	352	801	718	383
417	San José	Costa Rica	679	333	527	407	294
418	La Plata	Argentina	634	314	418	362	476
419	Kochi	India	310	381	604	639	383
420	Jinhua	China	281	403	489	659	640
421	Pohang	South Korea	855	690	154	546	147
422	Foshan	China	286	391	474	719	640
423	Taiyuan	China	252	319	499	891	640
424	Sofia	Bulgaria	495	641	329	637	351
425	Pontianak	Indonesia	407	545	588	17	483

426–450

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
426	Kuala Muda	Malaysia	509	629	416	244	335
427	Thrissur	India	267	675	517	405	383
428	Tehran	Iran	401	77	449	904	932
429	Bandar Lampung	Indonesia	370	461	691	74	483
430	Takamatsu	Japan	744	910	152	550	38
431	Casablanca	Morocco	412	260	584	555	596
432	Taif	Saudi Arabia	806	120	425	515	625
433	Changwon	South Korea	777	858	155	478	147
434	Butterworth-Bukit Mertajam	Malaysia	504	484	508	388	335
435	Haikou	China	256	634	478	382	640
436	Al Hofuf	Saudi Arabia	554	143	480	849	625
437	Utsunomiya	Japan	798	820	235	468	38
438	Mataram	Indonesia	454	427	598	134	483
439	Guayaquil	Ecuador	419	287	677	198	633
440	Adapazarı	Turkey	585	338	331	730	799
441	Izmir	Turkey	642	371	317	614	799
442	Jinan	China	204	709	403	705	640
443	Mito	Japan	767	889	214	467	38
444	Palermo	Italy	783	803	255	191	301
445	Hermosillo	Mexico	515	366	642	75	529
446	Iasi	Romania	617	513	408	528	333
447	Rabat	Morocco	398	463	557	292	596
448	Kota Bharu	Malaysia	713	368	487	380	335
449	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil	506	176	773	286	567
450	Chișinău	Moldova	327	567	470	624	516

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
451	Juárez	Mexico	474	365	641	206	529
452	Mersin	Turkey	436	413	376	706	799
453	Santo Domingo	Dominican Republic	328	543	669	310	475
454	Takasaki	Japan	883	779	209	400	38
455	Muscat	Oman	651	134	670	734	474
456	Havana	Cuba	674	525	258	491	834
457	Johannesburg	South Africa	316	43	969	819	372
458	Male	Maldives	699	493	493	154	331
459	Bandjarmasin	Indonesia	323	661	724	31	483
460	Skopje	North Macedonia	348	822	346	722	364
461	Toyohashi	Japan	897	869	135	454	38
462	Podgorica	Montenegro	854	494	286	427	365
463	Changzhou	China	277	480	430	896	640
464	Campinas	Brazil	442	237	718	558	567
465	Guiyang	China	269	584	505	644	640
466	Ulaanbaatar	Mongolia	523	245	592	862	363
467	Kayseri	Turkey	600	354	362	737	799
468	Asunción	Paraguay	533	337	631	283	617
469	Nanchang	China	283	547	466	769	640
470	Cebu City	Philippines	371	504	697	156	604
471	Tashkent	Uzbekistan	558	123	565	872	840
472	Culiacán	Mexico	431	449	680	186	529
473	Kunming	China	315	624	500	481	640
474	Constantine	Algeria	599	293	371	643	859
475	Gaborone	Botswana	551	149	951	121	332

476–500

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
476	Rosario	Argentina	529	612	407	451	476
477	Wakayama	Japan	862	851	227	446	38
478	Mérida	Mexico	463	442	637	351	529
479	Querétaro	Mexico	516	353	684	334	529
480	Cali	Colombia	297	395	836	393	504
481	Nanning	China	299	713	421	604	640
482	Dhaka	Bangladesh	306	174	702	914	873
483	Yerevan	Armenia	409	557	422	782	517
484	Zhengzhou	China	253	533	539	855	640
485	Catania	Italy	763	922	252	152	301
486	Salta	Argentina	766	445	402	384	476
487	Windhoek	Namibia	480	227	933	87	354
488	Angeles City	Philippines	503	616	524	107	604
489	Gaziantep	Turkey	614	290	388	875	799
490	Denizli	Turkey	711	414	318	772	799
491	Tokushima	Japan	769	929	283	452	38
492	Ulsan	South Korea	974	609	217	448	147
493	Torreón	Mexico	628	401	590	278	529
494	Córdoba	Argentina	702	383	401	736	476
495	Mexicali	Mexico	561	247	762	418	529
496	Tiruchirappalli	India	292	524	776	578	383
497	Kozhikode	India	359	587	683	549	383
498	Bishkek	Kyrgyzstan	477	207	667	688	841
499	Barranquilla	Colombia	461	301	843	189	504
500	Florianópolis	Brazil	589	379	740	113	567

501–525

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
501	Morelia	Mexico	444	585	591	367	529
502	Malatya	Turkey	671	378	386	741	799
503	Adana	Turkey	446	610	398	690	799
504	San Miguel De Tucumán	Argentina	601	539	453	564	476
505	Arequipa	Peru	821	382	450	162	524
506	Cape Town	South Africa	591	86	966	184	372
507	Sarajevo	Bosnia and Herzegovina	426	845	330	516	635
508	Bucaramanga	Colombia	478	458	761	295	504
509	Santa Cruz	Bolivia	408	331	736	540	835
510	Jambi	Indonesia	525	637	758	7	483
511	Bridgetown	Barbados	672	852	468	38	315
512	Lviv	Ukraine	624	412	399	506	866
513	Chandigarh	India	276	435	825	770	383
514	Toluca	Mexico	406	341	774	609	529
515	Chihuahua	Mexico	470	555	709	201	529
516	Urumqi	China	237	723	464	899	640
517	Belo Horizonte	Brazil	489	385	824	80	567
518	Bacolod	Philippines	508	727	599	29	604
519	Davao City	Philippines	577	546	580	258	604
520	Jiaxing	China	331	658	457	813	640
521	Ahmedabad	India	334	350	837	773	383
522	Tampico	Mexico	417	604	577	593	529
523	Nassau	Bahamas	743	588	752	24	318
524	Kahramanmaraş	Turkey	606	501	396	747	799
525	Samarinda	Indonesia	704	552	698	20	483

526–550

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
526	Lagos	Nigeria	487	89	913	460	894
527	Jiangmen	China	393	665	454	714	640
528	Kharkiv	Ukraine	618	317	472	656	866
529	Tunis	Tunisia	647	279	668	687	618
530	Cochabamba	Bolivia	497	322	725	617	835
531	Changsha	China	576	503	419	775	640
532	Pondicherry	India	654	421	730	466	383
533	Diyarbakir	Turkey	649	388	434	835	799
534	Shimkent	Kazakhstan	703	292	448	911	613
535	Cuernavaca	Mexico	510	450	712	628	529
536	Yichang	China	304	787	532	664	640
537	Pereira	Colombia	441	571	783	308	504
538	Chiang Mai	Thailand	865	599	278	716	513
539	Nouakchott	Mauritania	420	611	674	493	638
540	Kigali	Rwanda	538	257	891	415	515
541	Lanzhou	China	341	662	553	833	640
542	Kitakyushu	Japan	924	900	274	552	38
543	Suqian	China	404	781	382	805	640
544	Kandy	Sri Lanka	789	482	504	290	623
545	Zhongshan	China	644	544	441	660	640
546	Numazu	Japan	953	961	141	429	38
547	Wuhu	China	298	753	550	812	640
548	Odesa	Ukraine	637	407	436	693	866
549	La Paz	Bolivia	410	640	713	346	835
550	Tegucigalpa	Honduras	389	446	819	426	839

551–575

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
551	Nagpur	India	321	570	818	790	383
552	Kottayam	India	524	756	560	579	383
553	Batman	Turkey	732	515	357	877	799
554	San Luis Potosí	Mexico	648	683	530	440	529
555	Ganzhou	China	347	746	652	623	640
556	Madurai	India	354	542	787	815	383
557	Alexandria	Egypt	602	242	703	785	846
558	Quanzhou	China	282	913	542	548	640
559	Puebla	Mexico	572	462	743	606	529
560	Conakry	Guinea	459	519	722	209	914
561	Tianjin	China	636	416	445	937	640
562	Lodz	Poland	983	698	215	595	319
563	Cirebon	Indonesia	418	721	731	535	483
564	Shenyang	China	640	581	417	808	640
565	Aguascalientes	Mexico	535	685	728	277	529
566	Chenzhou	China	435	758	523	601	640
567	Cancún	Mexico	569	725	692	182	529
568	Douala	Cameroon	537	349	666	513	929
569	Chiclayo	Peru	539	728	682	342	524
570	Minsk	Belarus	880	645	204	557	864
571	Gumi	South Korea	899	970	180	567	147
572	Durango	Mexico	641	681	659	363	529
573	Trujillo	Peru	646	532	614	727	524
574	León	Mexico	548	722	719	263	529
575	São Gonçalo	Brazil	768	495	759	78	567

576–600

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
576	Cartagena	Colombia	682	439	780	488	504
577	Cagayan de Oro	Philippines	709	562	625	507	604
578	Oran	Algeria	896	384	345	646	859
579	Beirut	Lebanon	553	447	552	725	917
580	Coimbatore	India	556	408	828	682	383
581	Dagupan	Philippines	662	563	755	247	604
582	Mysore	India	493	605	770	647	383
583	Kollam	India	403	885	593	597	383
584	Tangier	Morocco	613	691	687	343	596
585	Wenzhou	China	565	760	440	653	640
586	Porto Alegre	Brazil	502	643	815	155	567
587	Nantong	China	307	880	483	837	640
588	Curitiba	Brazil	653	423	820	371	567
589	Yinchuan	China	381	708	554	900	640
590	Van	Turkey	906	323	377	811	799
591	Sfax	Tunisia	765	559	547	537	618
592	Maputo	Mozambique	633	270	883	68	862
593	Vellore	India	543	531	775	685	383
594	Dakar	Senegal	545	731	721	417	519
595	Pekalongan	Indonesia	691	717	690	212	483
596	Georgetown	Guyana	430	657	879	88	528
597	Bozhou	China	382	798	595	712	640
598	Fortaleza	Brazil	668	486	930	1	567
599	Dnipro	Ukraine	639	422	518	797	866
600	Putian	China	424	807	671	434	640

601–625

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
601	Jaipur	India	414	518	856	678	383
602	Islamabad-Rawalpindi	Pakistan	603	217	751	860	881
603	Zunyi	China	400	831	558	679	640
604	Hohhot	China	608	635	520	788	640
605	Mombasa	Kenya	439	602	914	59	621
606	Nashik	India	352	714	803	732	383
607	Zhenjiang	China	476	655	471	949	640
608	Thiruvananthapuram	India	475	897	581	576	383
609	Tasikmalaya	Indonesia	686	726	735	163	483
610	Harbin	China	751	523	452	834	640
611	Dalian	China	677	648	424	856	640
612	Lomé	Togo	433	432	934	187	833
613	Bhubaneswar	India	434	594	880	529	383
614	Shangrao	China	469	812	537	676	640
615	Huizhou	China	773	526	602	536	640
616	Kumasi	Ghana	827	409	796	270	370
617	Pretoria	South Africa	604	183	960	752	372
618	Dar Es Salaam	Tanzania	455	340	942	358	829
619	Can Tho	Vietnam	598	907	423	354	819
620	Kazan	Russia	683	343	514	673	947
621	Jalandhar	India	399	630	812	821	383
622	Varna	Bulgaria	816	834	414	571	351
623	Ashgabat	Turkmenistan	658	133	809	807	927
624	Port Said	Egypt	870	269	729	236	846
625	Dehradun	India	557	478	833	743	383

626–650

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
626	Kathmandu	Nepal	629	558	746	703	562
627	Luanda	Angola	764	199	905	51	912
628	Esfahan	Iran	688	222	497	952	932
629	Tyumen	Russia	607	377	661	586	947
630	Yulin	China	527	729	570	804	640
631	Guatemala City	Guatemala	289	615	909	670	818
632	Fuyang	China	361	811	649	865	640
633	Suez	Egypt	851	265	676	580	846
634	Saltillo	Mexico	943	394	675	199	529
635	Yangon	Myanmar	391	617	545	689	994
636	Vasai-Virar	India	384	625	912	641	383
637	Haiphong	Vietnam	692	894	328	776	819
638	Salem	India	472	606	826	783	383
639	Kampala	Uganda	498	196	941	724	844
640	Fes	Morocco	623	566	778	645	596
641	Bhopal	India	372	653	927	561	383
642	Cotonou	Benin	379	686	921	268	636
643	Ouagadougou	Burkina Faso	687	508	564	598	924
644	Yueqing	China	380	914	507	794	640
645	Huaihua	China	421	810	694	700	640
646	Oaxaca	Mexico	722	804	566	483	529
647	Harare	Zimbabwe	828	233	715	622	919
648	Marrakech	Morocco	708	706	653	654	596
649	Yichun	China	429	815	710	671	640
650	Baixada Santista	Brazil	747	702	756	254	567

651–675

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
651	Irapuato	Mexico	656	696	779	453	529
652	Dazhou	China	522	878	620	544	640
653	Shijiazhuang	China	345	849	606	933	640
654	Goiânia	Brazil	734	474	908	120	567
655	Ludhiana	India	413	732	793	874	383
656	Agadir	Morocco	719	631	742	602	596
657	Lianyungang	China	449	794	617	882	640
658	Jiangyin	China	353	872	556	941	640
659	Krasnodar	Russia	550	636	521	632	947
660	Phnom Penh	Cambodia	582	362	821	800	858
661	Celaya	Mexico	676	701	771	502	529
662	Yaoundé	Cameroon	519	374	808	652	929
663	Kannur	India	578	911	632	591	383
664	Guwahati	India	534	510	894	759	383
665	Deyang	China	422	886	600	791	640
666	Mangalore	India	587	742	757	763	383
667	Ribeirão Preto	Brazil	665	669	785	525	567
668	Natal	Brazil	793	534	935	2	567
669	Solapur	India	520	775	829	577	383
670	Ibagué	Colombia	467	763	811	699	504
671	Veracruz	Mexico	730	761	704	531	529
672	Sousse	Tunisia	868	509	695	526	618
673	Kaifeng	China	425	813	663	892	640
674	Surat	India	450	724	798	889	383
675	Mykolaiv	Ukraine	804	710	442	530	866

676–700

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
676	Belgaum	India	518	870	800	430	383
677	Srinagar	India	667	618	781	836	383
678	Campo Grande	Brazil	792	505	857	240	567
679	Aurangabad	India	571	716	834	648	383
680	Binzhou	China	536	818	573	870	640
681	Kingston	Jamaica	482	750	952	369	347
682	Meknes	Morocco	707	652	786	575	596
683	Dushanbe	Tajikistan	715	398	753	764	893
684	Tiruppur	India	594	741	827	621	383
685	Yuncheng	China	586	769	633	866	640
686	Vientiane	Lao PDR	845	676	435	610	845
687	Suzhou (Anhui)	China	386	821	689	940	640
688	San Salvador	El Salvador	395	749	853	761	566
689	Vitória-Vila Velha	Brazil	823	475	865	239	567
690	Qujing	China	532	823	681	766	640
691	Reynosa	Mexico	888	600	707	421	529
692	Shiraz	Iran	774	226	656	945	932
693	Sorocaba	Brazil	742	689	777	547	567
694	Praia	Cape Verde	663	734	940	122	356
695	Cúcuta	Colombia	619	644	889	583	504
696	Novosibirsk	Russia	739	428	619	745	947
697	Warangal	India	488	919	767	568	383
698	Acapulco	Mexico	815	757	726	359	529
699	Puyang	China	501	833	502	959	640
700	Vadodara	India	432	745	842	879	383

701–725

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
701	Kolhapur	India	462	887	813	611	383
702	Erode	India	473	847	797	729	383
703	Amritsar	India	451	786	806	881	383
704	Xiaogan	China	512	832	630	894	640
705	Nanchong	China	530	918	651	613	640
706	Voronezh	Russia	680	550	582	711	947
707	Xalapa	Mexico	735	733	714	751	529
708	Joinville	Brazil	772	664	852	166	567
709	Baghdad	Iraq	564	234	791	930	981
710	Paramaribo	Suriname	803	719	816	132	518
711	Indore	India	337	795	944	686	383
712	Addis Ababa	Ethiopia	584	578	832	274	931
713	Rajshahi	Bangladesh	858	457	596	697	873
714	Gwalior	India	494	699	917	698	383
715	El-Mansoura	Egypt	678	326	807	920	846
716	Lusaka	Zambia	631	235	981	582	521
717	Erbil	Iraq	718	305	673	916	981
718	Handan	China	456	805	723	923	640
719	Hubli-Dharwad	India	616	840	835	461	383
720	Mashhad	Iran	753	298	629	974	932
721	Shantou	China	778	827	574	620	640
722	Durban	South Africa	685	273	986	330	372
723	Shangqiu	China	465	857	648	939	640
724	Udaipur	India	490	829	810	831	383
725	Xuchang	China	546	837	644	905	640

726–750

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
726	Maanshan	China	385	941	485	963	640
727	Tanta	Egypt	737	373	845	762	846
728	Manaus	Brazil	724	626	918	328	567
729	Bengbu	China	492	963	486	795	640
730	Raipur	India	621	549	840	960	383
731	Changchun	China	775	806	476	878	640
732	Aracaju	Brazil	909	492	920	12	567
733	Guntur	India	573	916	817	457	383
734	Tabriz	Iran	812	335	555	950	932
735	Nam Dinh	Vietnam	761	920	426	669	819
736	Xining	China	574	893	609	857	640
737	Taizhou (Zhejiang)	China	727	936	467	570	640
738	Managua	Nicaragua	750	614	768	492	915
739	Monrovia	Liberia	822	572	849	219	827
740	Liu'an	China	514	864	567	969	640
741	Amravati	India	694	853	795	510	383
742	Bloemfontein	South Africa	612	358	984	494	372
743	Qom	Iran	813	277	579	986	932
744	Makhachkala	Russia	831	632	516	482	947
745	São José dos Campos	Brazil	829	697	763	603	567
746	Cuttack	India	443	874	875	694	383
747	Zhumadian	China	471	846	741	912	640
748	Bulawayo	Zimbabwe	849	452	782	390	919
749	Chittagong	Bangladesh	729	420	738	957	873
750	Rasht	Iran	797	410	622	909	932

751–775

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
751	Qingyuan	China	681	909	664	605	640
752	Hengshui	China	452	854	706	958	640
753	Huanggang	China	458	927	623	901	640
754	Abidjan	Côte d'Ivoire	496	801	943	159	825
755	Belém	Brazil	864	520	945	18	567
756	Recife	Brazil	912	538	932	4	567
757	Moradabad	India	701	621	863	863	383
758	Zaporizhzhia	Ukraine	752	797	496	803	866
759	Plovdiv	Bulgaria	873	951	395	746	351
760	Blantyre City	Malawi	567	528	956	754	564
761	Aligarh	India	717	574	896	829	383
762	Patna	India	547	879	830	767	383
763	Libreville	Gabon	771	436	899	396	916
764	Kermanshah	Iran	820	369	657	924	932
765	Maracaibo	Venezuela	374	688	923	311	984
766	Guayana City	Venezuela	740	530	831	130	984
767	Yancheng	China	486	942	643	828	640
768	Bikaner	India	555	748	866	903	383
769	Anyang	China	575	819	613	987	640
770	Bissau	Guinea-Bissau	660	597	946	269	842
771	Jabalpur	India	540	883	898	556	383
772	Kalaburagi	India	669	809	862	655	383
773	Tangshan	China	423	945	528	961	640
774	Kinshasa	Democratic Republic of Congo	838	274	874	260	990
775	Rostov-on-Don	Russia	762	613	655	695	947

776–800

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
776	Berhampore	India	661	791	878	677	383
777	Ekaterinburg	Russia	857	499	562	696	947
778	Mandalay	Myanmar	581	772	616	717	994
779	Polokwane	South Africa	741	473	978	355	372
780	Yiwu	China	770	924	513	692	640
781	Orumiyeh	Iran	760	372	720	965	932
782	Linfen	China	721	770	685	936	640
783	Lucknow	India	643	639	922	886	383
784	Luxor	Egypt	810	425	855	691	846
785	Xiangfan	China	615	953	463	898	640
786	Tuxtla Gutiérrez	Mexico	920	660	737	634	529
787	Khulna	Bangladesh	853	405	701	935	873
788	Jodhpur	India	592	765	870	902	383
789	Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)	India	785	623	897	742	383
790	João Pessoa	Brazil	869	773	890	11	567
791	Rajkot	India	655	890	841	631	383
792	Salvador	Brazil	957	464	939	13	567
793	Lahore	Pakistan	695	590	784	871	881
794	Zhoukou	China	541	875	711	956	640
795	Grande São Luís	Brazil	963	415	931	40	567
796	Varanasi	India	700	680	846	942	383
797	Cuiabá	Brazil	801	694	887	471	567
798	Nay Pyi Taw	Myanmar	716	707	654	663	994
799	Caracas	Venezuela	675	651	869	94	984
800	Mahalla el-Kubra	Egypt	728	554	868	750	846

801–825

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
801	Baotou	China	757	863	490	964	640
802	Jammu	India	693	865	822	777	383
803	Kota	India	448	782	886	980	383
804	Bhavnagar	India	736	876	804	702	383
805	Yueyang	China	531	928	638	947	640
806	Bareilly	India	745	654	910	845	383
807	Lilongwe	Malawi	657	670	949	701	564
808	Valencia	Venezuela	588	619	882	447	984
809	Visakhapatnam	India	635	888	747	973	383
810	Villahermosa	Mexico	970	620	717	635	529
811	Huaian	China	652	947	559	880	640
812	Tomsk	Russia	839	502	696	740	947
813	Jiaozuo	China	638	843	716	966	640
814	Tripoli	Libya	890	431	734	479	997
815	Malabo	Equatorial Guinea	960	188	893	523	923
816	Arusha	Tanzania	626	824	948	185	829
817	Langfang	China	776	882	603	907	640
818	Sylhet	Bangladesh	794	816	699	667	873
819	Yamoussoukro	Côte d'Ivoire	848	687	936	50	825
820	Huabei	China	670	912	563	982	640
821	Freetown	Sierra Leone	986	766	491	416	828
822	Banjul	Gambia	781	735	924	437	637
823	Zagazig	Egypt	844	356	867	890	846
824	Heze	China	659	904	586	989	640
825	Ufa	Russia	908	551	658	662	947

826–850

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
826	Maracay	Venezuela	738	607	872	345	984
827	Guilin	China	809	960	444	825	640
828	Bamako	Mali	609	718	919	387	944
829	Asansol	India	597	830	861	953	383
830	Abuja	Nigeria	790	266	967	753	894
831	Antananarivo	Madagascar	610	684	973	289	843
832	Sangli	India	630	962	844	600	383
833	Jamshedpur	India	725	835	848	887	383
834	Prayagraj	India	756	828	850	851	383
835	General Santos	Philippines	872	930	744	319	604
836	Enugu	Nigeria	917	386	926	365	894
837	Port Moresby	Papua New Guinea	911	434	961	383	639
838	Bobo-Dioulasso	Burkina Faso	784	881	749	443	924
839	Kimberley	South Africa	749	603	977	615	372
840	Huzhou	China	833	964	461	792	640
841	Jining	China	799	946	540	838	640
842	Weihai	China	931	958	397	665	640
843	Gomel	Belarus	996	764	354	680	864
844	Mbabane	Eswatini	796	642	970	377	603
845	Yangzhou	China	847	925	531	840	640
846	Nizhniy Novgorod	Russia	936	682	533	657	947
847	Pointe-Noire	Congo	898	460	954	57	921
848	Matamoros	Mexico	985	580	792	589	529
849	Asyut	Egypt	843	497	904	715	846
850	Huainan	China	570	967	546	991	640

851–875

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
851	Yantai	China	863	948	431	852	640
852	Irkutsk	Russia	874	666	688	675	947
853	Datong	China	859	899	494	948	640
854	Meerut	India	779	839	877	818	383
855	Barquisimeto	Venezuela	697	705	906	293	984
856	Huangshi	China	611	943	587	992	640
857	Nellore	India	712	976	839	554	383
858	Xuzhou	China	892	799	611	951	640
859	Penza	Russia	915	740	608	562	947
860	Saharanpur	India	788	796	928	786	383
861	Zamboanga City	Philippines	966	856	772	183	604
862	Kerman	Iran	948	307	589	998	932
863	Zhanjiang	China	882	938	662	543	640
864	Gaya	India	795	862	888	756	383
865	Maceió	Brazil	939	836	903	26	567
866	Ranchi	India	807	808	900	809	383
867	Krasnoyarsk	Russia	894	476	764	830	947
868	Zhangjiagang	China	786	937	538	967	640
869	Faiyum	Egypt	907	477	854	843	846
870	Gorakhpur	India	723	850	881	927	383
871	Khabarovsk	Russia	846	784	739	497	947
872	Taian	China	875	972	405	910	640
873	Zhuzhou	China	867	966	473	832	640
874	Mymensingh	Bangladesh	787	737	814	895	873
875	Touba	Senegal	791	950	895	213	519

876–900

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
876	Vladivostok	Russia	881	762	665	658	947
877	Onitsha	Nigeria	927	344	958	522	894
878	Khartoum	Sudan	726	553	938	411	1000
879	Chelyabinsk	Russia	926	672	569	854	947
880	Zhangzhou	China	933	926	660	585	640
881	Bhilai Nagar	India	689	793	858	997	383
882	Brazzaville	Congo	830	417	974	402	921
883	Comilla	Bangladesh	800	778	802	858	873
884	Multan	Pakistan	706	776	876	859	881
885	Xiangtan	China	885	921	509	946	640
886	Zibo	China	805	959	481	981	640
887	Agra	India	889	814	851	827	383
888	Ulyanovsk	Russia	928	730	627	738	947
889	Dongying	China	837	969	503	934	640
890	Faizabad	India	758	908	873	906	383
891	Niamey	Niger	811	855	884	312	918
892	Zahedan	Iran	871	506	754	977	932
893	Xianyang	China	901	940	475	929	640
894	Bogura	Bangladesh	922	789	727	793	873
895	Vijayawada	India	836	935	790	824	383
896	Kitwe	Zambia	850	479	976	789	521
897	Karachi	Pakistan	819	754	805	913	881
898	Mwanza	Tanzania	733	898	965	265	829
899	Huambo	Angola	934	586	953	157	912
900	Muzaffarpur	India	673	884	916	985	383

901–925

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
901	Ndola	Zambia	835	481	980	864	521
902	Omsk	Russia	887	720	733	816	947
903	Zhaoqing	China	977	952	479	626	640
904	Jiujiang	China	910	932	571	918	640
905	Peshawar	Pakistan	754	759	864	931	881
906	Sohag	Egypt	852	700	929	684	846
907	Qinhuangdao	China	942	933	583	841	640
908	Perm	Russia	965	673	708	650	947
909	Maoming	China	921	957	645	708	640
910	Faisalabad	Pakistan	824	736	902	765	881
911	Linyi	China	895	979	439	943	640
912	Teresina	Brazil	961	861	950	16	567
913	Liuzhou	China	904	965	525	908	640
914	Weifang	China	930	939	428	983	640
915	Luoyang	China	860	978	534	926	640
916	Yaroslavl	Russia	876	905	572	760	947
917	Cangzhou	China	818	975	693	919	640
918	Ryazan	Russia	947	790	626	784	947
919	Izhevsk	Russia	958	844	511	739	947
920	Ahvaz	Iran	990	367	624	993	932
921	Mianyang	China	932	999	469	707	640
922	Volgograd	Russia	984	674	612	779	947
923	Saratov	Russia	905	868	686	709	947
924	Rizhao	China	950	995	462	774	640
925	Hengyang	China	938	992	477	846	640

926–950

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
926	Tula	Russia	951	771	618	869	947
927	Maseru	Lesotho	826	537	999	545	367
928	Ibadan	Nigeria	968	397	955	608	894
929	Kanpur	India	802	891	937	897	383
930	Beira	Mozambique	746	712	987	195	862
931	Basra	Iraq	832	443	847	995	981
932	Yibin	China	971	954	549	778	640
933	Quetta	Pakistan	834	903	838	710	881
934	Zaozhuang	China	891	971	515	979	640
935	Zhangjiakou	China	916	994	544	848	640
936	Owerri	Nigeria	919	456	972	636	894
937	Djibouti City	Djibouti	552	917	971	360	926
938	Buffalo City	South Africa	866	715	994	127	372
939	Mardan	Pakistan	825	842	859	888	881
940	Zhaotong	China	954	956	732	672	640
941	Anshan	China	967	923	510	975	640
942	Bujumbura	Burundi	840	663	963	594	928
943	Ilorin	Nigeria	937	444	979	517	894
944	Nanyang	China	903	990	536	955	640
945	Barnaul	Russia	940	767	750	850	947
946	Shaoyang	China	902	986	621	932	640
947	Xinxiang	China	886	955	678	976	640
948	Abbottabad	Pakistan	841	896	915	642	881
949	Hardoi	India	877	949	871	820	383
950	Dodoma	Tanzania	759	906	983	192	829

951–975

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
951	Asmara	Eritrea	959	627	957	55	993
952	Jingzhou	China	935	987	576	921	640
953	Taizhou (Jiangsu)	China	949	1000	568	796	640
954	Jinzhou	China	962	988	585	817	640
955	Xingtai	China	879	974	672	984	640
956	Daqing	China	989	968	551	822	640
957	Qiqihar	China	978	984	561	839	640
958	Xinyang	China	925	993	548	962	640
959	Shahjahanpur	India	814	826	892	1000	383
960	Liaocheng	China	923	973	543	994	640
961	Orenburg	Russia	964	841	769	630	947
962	Sialkot	Pakistan	856	860	925	787	881
963	Baoji	China	975	981	628	842	640
964	Hyderabad	Pakistan	861	871	860	928	881
965	Samara	Russia	1000	659	607	674	947
966	Gujranwala	Pakistan	878	859	901	861	881
967	Chifeng	China	991	980	635	758	640
968	Anqing	China	944	996	501	988	640
969	Astrakhan	Russia	988	873	597	798	947
970	Changde	China	945	998	650	915	640
971	Lubumbashi	Democratic Republic of Congo	782	752	968	744	990
972	Ogbomosho	Nigeria	993	522	962	584	894
973	Baoding	China	980	944	646	972	640
974	Jilin	China	973	982	578	954	640
975	Aba	Nigeria	913	527	982	826	894

976–1000

Rank	City	Country	Economics	Human Capital	Quality of Life	Environment	Governance
976	Port Elizabeth	South Africa	982	638	996	243	372
977	Pingdingshan	China	969	991	601	978	640
978	Bokaro	India	914	848	885	999	383
979	Dhanbad	India	979	866	911	968	383
980	Weinan	China	976	983	705	944	640
981	Lipetsk	Russia	952	892	679	990	947
982	Port Harcourt	Nigeria	972	299	989	873	894
983	Kabul	Afghanistan	780	679	964	970	999
984	Mbuji-Mayi	Democratic Republic of Congo	900	755	985	112	990
985	Bangui	Central African Republic	946	577	975	563	998
986	Guigang	China	997	989	575	925	640
987	Abeokuta	Nigeria	987	430	991	501	894
988	Jos	Nigeria	893	579	988	876	894
989	N'Djamena	Chad	992	622	959	607	946
990	Fushun	China	998	985	535	971	640
991	Port-Au-Prince	Haiti	690	934	990	472	945
992	Novokuznetsk	Russia	995	895	788	847	947
993	Benin City	Nigeria	994	275	993	883	894
994	Dezhou	China	981	997	647	996	640
995	Kano	Nigeria	929	573	995	885	894
996	Zaria	Nigeria	956	389	1000	802	894
997	Maiduguri	Nigeria	918	817	992	649	894
998	Kaduna	Nigeria	941	608	997	938	894
999	Sultanpur (Uttar Pradesh)	India	999	977	947	922	383
1000	Sokoto	Nigeria	955	931	998	527	894

**Global headquarters**

Oxford Economics Ltd

60 St. Aldates
Oxford, OX1 1ST
UK

Tel: +44 (0)1865 268 900

London

4 Millbank
London, SW1P 3JA
UK

Tel: +44 (0)203 910 8000

New York

5 Hanover Square, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10004
USA

Tel: +1 (646) 786 1879

Singapore

6 Battery Road
#38-05
Singapore 049909
Tel: +65 6850 0110

**Europe, Middle East
and Africa**

Oxford
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Americas

New York
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Asia Pacific

Singapore
Hong Kong
Tokyo
Sydney

Email:

marketing@oxfordeconomics.com

Website:

www.oxfordeconomics.com

Further contact details:

www.oxfordeconomics.com/contact

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