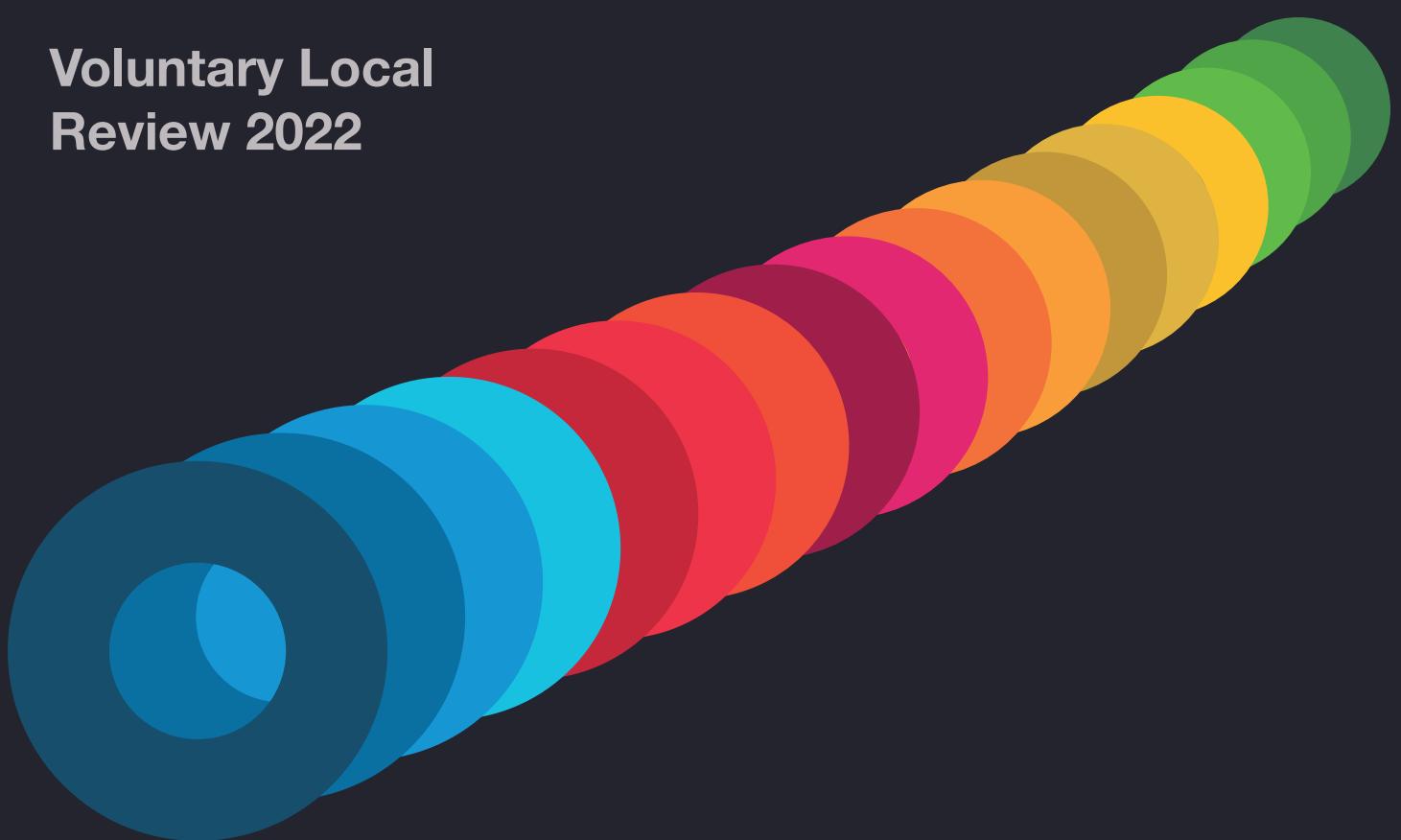


# Annual monitoring and evaluation report on the 2030 Agenda and Barcelona

Voluntary Local  
Review 2022



**BARCELONA**  
AGENDA 2030

Ajuntament de  
Barcelona



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# PRESENTATION

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The 2030 Agenda was approved in 2015 and the majority of local councils and administrations promoted programmes to develop the Sustainable Development Goals in the current term of office, which began in 2019. Many things have changed in recent years. First there was the pandemic and then the energy crisis,

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further aggravated by the war in Ukraine. Yet cities remain at the epicentre of the major social, environmental and economic challenges we face globally.

Certainly, the current context is complex, but the direction of the path laid out by the Sustainable Development Goals is very clear, and this is what has guided our action during 2022, as you will see on the following pages of the 2022 Annual Report on the monitoring and evaluation of Barcelona's 2030 Agenda.

We want to move towards a city that is more inclusive, healthy, dynamic and committed to human rights, global sustainability and solidarity. For this we need a transparent and efficient administration, with a vocation for service and transformation. This is the path to 2030 that we will continue to work on from the city government.

**Laia Bonet Rull**  
**3rd Deputy Mayor at Barcelona City Council**

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The year 2023 will mark the mid-point of the validity of the SDGs (2016-2030). We are therefore entering a year of evaluation and reflection of the 2030 Agenda, which will culminate in September in a summit of the United Nations. This 2022 monitoring report provides us with a more data-driven basis for our reflections and decisions

on the implementation of the SDGs in Barcelona. It outlines the landscape in which the action is to take place.

Against a backdrop of changes and shocks, the 2030 Agenda has urged us to establish medium- and long-term outlooks, which are absolutely necessary to address the most pressing challenges of this century, such as inequalities, climate change, the energy transition and digital transformation. The City Council already has plans and projects with a 2030 horizon for most sectors. There are seven years left in which Barcelona will have to speed up and scale up action to make them a reality, along with challenges set by Europe, such as the 100 Carbon Neutral and Smart Cities Mission.

We will only achieve this if we strengthen what works and prioritise those sectors where the city is not making sufficient progress. And in the spirit of SDG 17 ("Partnerships for Action"), we must also learn to work better towards common goals, overcoming the differences between departments and between administrations, and engage in ongoing dialogue with citizens, businesses and the third sector.

**Bàrbara Pons Giner**  
**Commissioner for the Barcelona 2030 Agenda.**

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# 1.

## Introduction

### 1.1 An agenda that moves forward amidst crisis

In mid-2018, Barcelona City Council took on the challenge of localising the 2030 Agenda. *The report on localising the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Barcelona*, presented in March 2019, provided a systematic approach to the issue and laid the foundations for a possible municipal policy for the 2030 Agenda. During the 2019-2023 term of office, the new municipal government explicitly included the 2030 Agenda among its missions and on 30 September 2019 all the municipal groups approved a declaration in favour of promoting the 2030 Agenda. With the appointment of a Commissioner and the design of a *strategy with a medium and long-term vision*, it was presented to the Full Meeting of the Municipal Council in January

2020. Barcelona undertook its responsibility for the SDGs with its own approach, which encourages transparency, reflection, experimentation and innovation.

Measure 1.3. of the Strategy is the so-called “localisation” of the 2030 Agenda, which essentially consisted of defining a “Barcelona target” for each of the SDG targets that are considered localisable. The first criterion was to incorporate the targets already planned into municipal strategies and action plans, as long as they were consistent with the SDGs, and to convert the *Barcelona Sustainability Indicators* into targets. In sectoral areas where there were no formalised targets, these were based on the interpretation of planning documents and examples proposed by reference institutions. The initial proposals were contrasted and improved

through dialogue with the areas involved and the various support areas. The final result of this work is the [Barcelona Sustainable Future report](#), which includes a comprehensive localisation proposal for the 2030 Agenda, based on 139 SDG targets and 220 key indicators for monitoring them. One year later, the [2021 voluntary local review](#) updated the data to show the progress of each indicator and set out the efforts made by Barcelona City Council to move forward on the different SDGs. It should be noted that the [Barcelona 2030 Agenda has its own website](#), which documents the activities carried out in the various fields. [The key indicators are available online](#) and their data can be downloaded, also in graph or table format. The most relevant information is available in Catalan, Spanish and English.

The 2022 voluntary local review is presented in a specific context, firstly characterised by a seemingly definitive exit from the health crisis. Secondly, due to the confluence of crises generated by other factors: The climate, with a drought situation that could become very serious in 2023; war, which generates major social and economic disruption; and the cost of living, due to the sharp increase in prices for essential products and services (food, energy, housing, etc.). These crises are interrelated, but the patterns of their evolution are difficult to predict. The fact is that, as the recent [Barcelona Metrópolis monograph](#) shows, uncertainties about the future are growing.

Both the [2022 Sustainable Development Goals Report](#) and the [2022 Sustainable Development Europe Report](#) (Addressing the SDGs: Europe's compass in a multipolar world) note that, despite the partial successes of the first few years, the road to the SDGs now seems to be stagnating, and in some places has even regressed. The pandemic was a very hard blow to health, education and economic activity in general. It has also exacerbated inequalities, especially where no protection or compensation mechanisms have been provided.

Barcelona is also coming out of two long years of the effects of Covid with significant impacts, which can be felt in collective life and which [have also left a mark on many of the indicators](#). Some of these have already recovered the situation and/or the trend they were showing in 2019. Others, for better or worse, show no signs of returning to the pre-pandemic situation.

Barcelona City Council had to change its plans (starting with the [2020-2023 Municipal Action Plan](#)) to adapt them to the new circumstances. During this time, we have [acted with determination](#), and we have also [learned lessons](#), many of which have been set documented (as we will see throughout the document) and which we hope will improve the city's capacity to respond to the possibility of a new health crisis.

## 1.2 Logic and contents of the 2022 report

As in the two previous editions, the report is essentially structured around the 17 SDGs. Each of these has its own section, which details and comments on the progress of the key indicators that were agreed in 2020 to measure the degree of achievement of the targets. Some of the indicators that were outstanding have been completed in this edition, while others have been replaced by indicators for which data are available.

The [Municipal Data Office](#) directly or indirectly provides much of the information used in the system of key indicators for the Barcelona 2030 Agenda. The primary data are generated from statistical records from public and private institutions and also from surveys and opinion polls. The [Barcelona City Council's Sociological Studies Plan](#) incorporates a series of surveys, such as the [Municipal Services Survey](#), the [Socio-demographic Survey](#) and the [Social Values Survey](#), which provide solid, highly granular data on the most important issues in municipal policy and management. The number of indicators available at neighbourhood level is still quite limited, but they are systematically collected in products such as the [Neighbourhood Observatory](#). The [Barcelona Public Health Agency](#) publishes research on health issues and their social determining factors – including food, environmental quality, etc. – which is useful in many of the SDGs.

Despite the improvements, it is important to point out the limitations of this work. The indicators come from many different sources and the methodologies used and the frequency at which they are updated are also diverse. For example, it is common for economic indicators, which normally come from registers, to arrive earlier and with greater frequency and precision than social indicators. Furthermore, many indicators are not comparable, because Barcelona generates data that other cities and territories do not

have. Therefore, a new feature of this edition is the inclusion of indicators which, although they were not part of the original list, allow Barcelona to be compared with its main territorial areas of reference (Catalonia, Spain, European Union). If a comparative view of Barcelona with other cities is required, publications such as the [Barcelona Observatory](#) or the [Index of Urban Quality of Life in Europe](#) are available.

In the first instance, despite having more than 200 indicators, the social reality is much too complex to be described solely with numerical data. In-depth knowledge requires more. That is why each SDG and the vast majority of the documents contain references and links to directly access all the relevant documents that the City Council has published on the subject in question over the last two years (or even longer in some cases). These are documents on diagnosis (studies, articles), planning (strategies, plans, programmes) and accountability (reports, evaluations) drawn up over the last two years by the sectoral departments of Barcelona City Council. In the case of the districts, in order to make it manageable, only the most relevant documents have been included.

Practically all the links provided refer to the [BCN. ROC Barcelona Open Knowledge Repository](#), an essential tool for finding out about and documenting the City Council's activities. Apart from concentrating the historical collation of municipal activity – conceived in a broad sense – into a single portal, another great advantage of BCN. ROC is that, unlike what happens with many other institutional websites, the links it provides are simple and stable over time. Once stored there, it will always be possible to locate and download the document.

The information on municipal action is completed with the budget alignment data, which have been processed by the Directorate of Budgets and Tax Policy and the Management Office for Budgets and Taxation. The information is presented in two different graphs:

A graph of the trend in current expenditure (essentially, expenditure on own staff and on goods and services necessary to sustain the production of municipal services, as well as the payment of social benefits and subsidies) between 2020 and 2022. The figures used for 2020 and 2021 are those of

the executed budget, while those of the approved budget are used for 2022, as the final amount will not be available until February-March 2023.

A graph of the trend in investment expenditure (essentially, expenditure on the acquisition or construction of things that are expected to last more than one year: buildings, infrastructure, vehicles, furniture and computer equipment, etc.) between 2020 and 2023, which is the period of validity of the current PIM (Municipal Investment Plan).

Overall, in addition to fulfilling the commitment to transparency, the intention is to highlight the knowledge generated about social problems, public policies and municipal management, so that it can be used optimally to improve Barcelona's governance, along the lines recommended by experts<sup>1</sup>.

Another new feature of the report is the addition of the conclusions of joint research carried out with the *Spanish Network for Sustainable Development* to establish a prioritisation model for the SDG targets. This responds to a demand repeatedly voiced within the academic and social world, in the sense that the 2030 Agenda encompasses many things and it is difficult to establish priorities for action and evaluation among such extensive and diverse contingents. The model we are presenting is based on a set of criteria (distance to the target, strategic relevance, budgetary effort and responsibility) in order to determine what is most relevant to the 2030 Agenda for the Barcelona of today in a more objective way. In any event, the proposal is the basis for a debate that will have to include the participation of all the actors involved.

The final part of the report is firstly devoted to a review of the specific promotion and innovation action for the 2030 Agenda carried out by the Commission, and secondly, to put forward conclusions and work proposals for 2023.

<sup>1</sup> Magre Ferran, Jaume: "Perspectives for the future of the special regime of Barcelona", in: The Barcelona Municipal Charter and the right to the city. Basis for its promotion and updating, directed by Tomàs Font i Llovet, Barcelona City Council, 2022 (pp. 337-365).



## **2.**

# **Status of the SDGs in Barcelona**



## End poverty in all of its forms, everywhere



The reference document for municipal policies against poverty and exclusion is the 2017-2027 Strategy for Inclusion and Reduction of Social Inequalities, which in 2020 was updated to 2030 and provided with new targets, in line with the SDGs. Also very relevant, due to the growing incidence of poverty in these sectors of the population, are the 2021-2030 Children's Plan (challenges and actions to improve the lives and rights of children and adolescents in Barcelona), and the 2016-2024 Strategy against the feminisation of poverty and precariousness in Barcelona. The 2021 Report of the Social Rights, Global Justice, Feminism and LGBTI Area details the work carried out in

this area. Beyond the management reports, it is highly recommended to take a look at the more in-depth evaluation studies that have been carried out to estimate the social impacts of new programmes, such as the Fons 0-16 or the B-Mincome programme. There are also several recent studies that allow us to deepen our understanding of SDG 1 as applied to Barcelona. The magazine Barcelona Societat published a monograph on the social impact of Covid. The FOESSA 2022 Report, with data from 2021, invites us to analyse poverty and exclusion in post-Pandemic society, using the Diocese of Barcelona as the territory to be analysed.

## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 1.1 Every Barcelona resident who becomes homeless will have a bed to sleep in and food on the table, and the number of homeless people will be significantly reduced

As in other large European cities, Barcelona has seen a considerable increase in the number of homeless people in recent decades. Over the course of the last six years, there has been an increase of 44.4%, from 2,799 people without a home to 4,042. The health and social emergency caused by Covid-19 has led to a considerable increase in the number of people living on the streets or in substandard housing, a fact which, for the time being, makes it impossible to reduce the phenomenon of homelessness to a minimum.

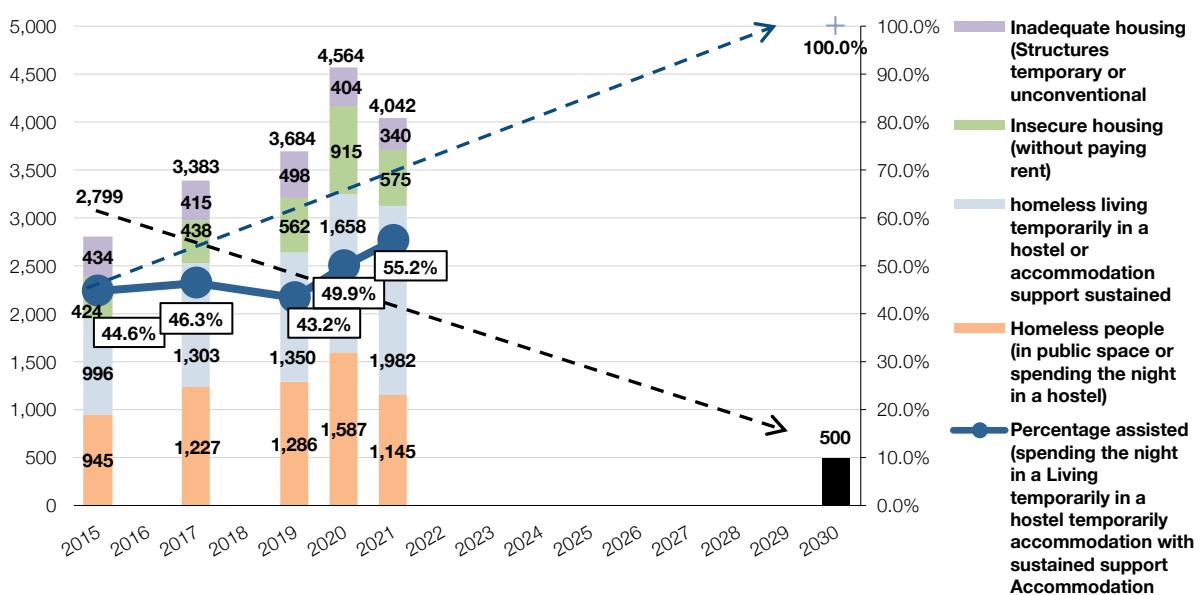
In parallel, the [Barcelona Support Network for the Homeless](#) (XAPSLL) has increased its resources for housing by 82% since 2008 (Diagnosis 2019). Thanks to this effort, the percentage homeless people attended by the XAPSLL has gradually increased year by year, reaching 55.2%, although there has been a parallel increase in the number of homeless people. In order to reach the target of 100% of people receiving assistance, it will be necessary to act on the economic and social factors that cause people to find themselves homeless, as well as to continue increasing the resources allocated to people who find themselves in this situation.

Homelessness in Barcelona has been the subject of numerous studies, the most recent of which is a comprehensive report [by the city's Ombudsman](#). Also noteworthy is the [report on the impact of housing insecurity and energy poverty on health](#). In terms of action, the [2016-2020 Barcelona Plan to Combat Homelessness](#) continues to be the basic point of reference for understanding the municipal approach to homelessness. The report offers a fresh look at homelessness, which it sees as a violation of people's right to housing (which is why it must be read in conjunction with the [2016-2025 Right to Housing Plan](#)). The

**Graph 1: Homeless people**

**Indicator 1.1.1:** People attended by the Barcelona Support Network for the Homeless (XAPSLL). (Right axis)

**Indicator 1.1.2:** Reduce the number of homeless Barcelona residents to below 500



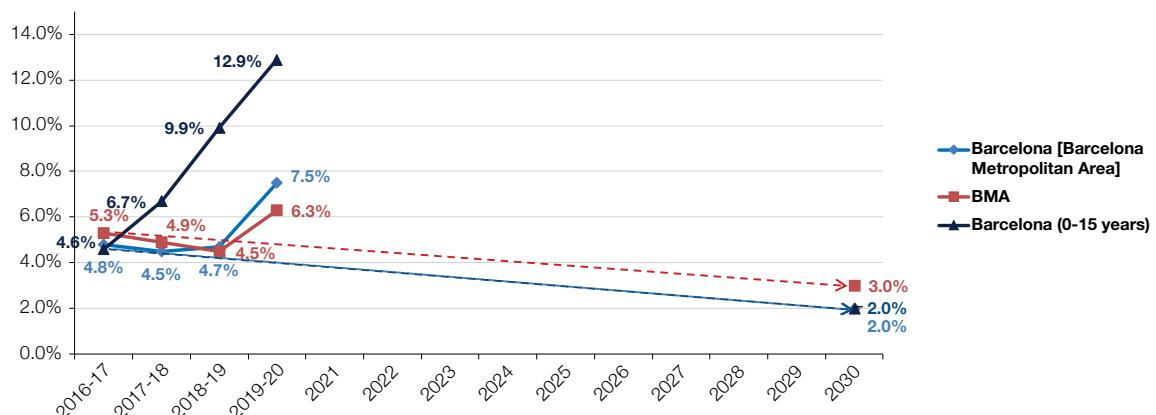
*Source:* Area of Social Rights.

driving principles of the plan are the person-centred model, structural prevention and attention to situations of female homelessness. In order to develop this first point, in 2020 a [Government measure for the prevention of female homelessness and the introduction of a gender perspective in the care of homeless people](#) was approved.

## 1.2 Greatly reduce the incidence of severe poverty, especially among younger people, while also ensuring that it does not disproportionately affect certain areas

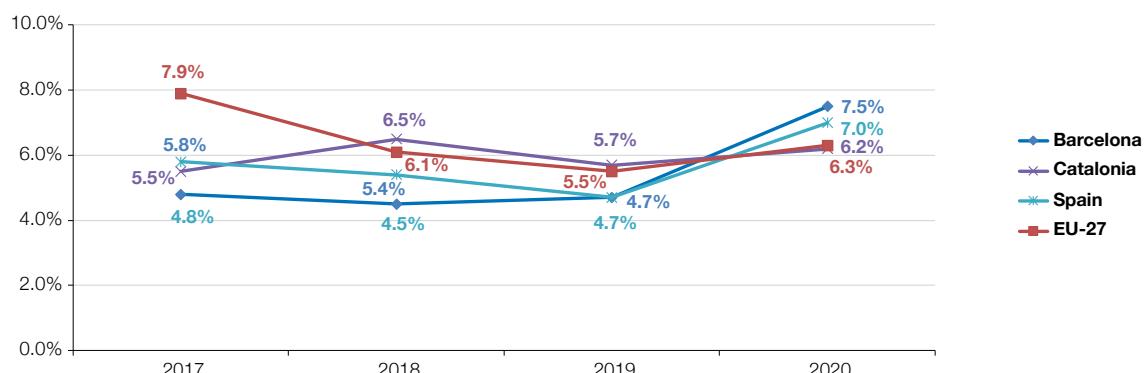
**Graph 2: Severe material deprivation**

Indicator 1.2.1a: Less than 2% for the population of Barcelona as a whole (calculated according to Barcelona threshold)  
 Indicator 1.2.1b: Less than 2% for the Barcelona population aged 0 to 15 (calculated according to Barcelona threshold)  
 Indicator 1.2.1c: Less than 3% for the population of the Barcelona Metropolitan Area (BMA) (calculated according to BMA threshold)



Source: IERMB. Survey on living conditions.

**Graph 3: Severe material deprivation (territorial comparison)**



Note: The data for Barcelona are calculated by combining samples from two consecutive years; 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020.  
 Source: IERMB and Idescat. Survey on Living Conditions.

It is currently considered that material deprivation<sup>2</sup> is the phenomenon that best reflects and allows poverty to be measured. Graphs 2 and 3 show that the percentage of the population suffering from severe material deprivation soared throughout 2020, mainly due to the effects of the health crisis. In Barcelona, the material deprivation rate has risen to 7.5%, 2.7% more than four years ago (4.8%). Unfortunately, we still do not have the results for 2021 for Barcelona, although the advanced data for Catalonia as a whole (7.3%) indicate that the situation still shows no signs of improvement. Therefore, the target of not exceeding 2% of the population living in severe material deprivation is still far from being achieved. Of particular concern is this indicator in the population under 16 years of age (12.9% for the years 2019-2020). The target for 2030 establishes an even stronger reduction in the case of the child population, because it is a proven fact that enduring these situations during the first years of life has a very severe impact on a person's life chances.

To learn more about this issue, we recommend reading the report [Material deprivation in Barcelona](#) (2019).

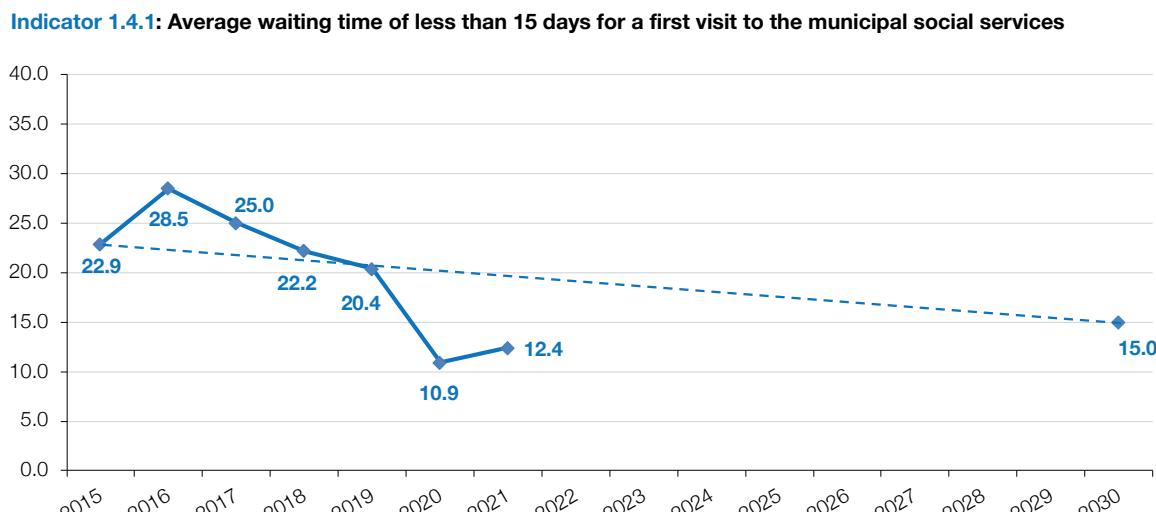
## 1.3 Ensure that the Minimum Living Income is available to everyone who needs it

This target refers to a benefit financed by the Central Government. The indicator is not yet available at city level. In the [FOESSA Report on Exclusion and Social Development in the Diocese of Barcelona](#) (results of the 2021 survey on Integration and social needs) states that in September 2021 there were a total of 42,173 people benefiting from the MLI (Minimum Living Income) in the province of Barcelona. As for the Guaranteed Citizen Income, a benefit managed by the Government of Catalonia, in December 2020, 69,401 people in the province of Barcelona were receiving this benefit (p. 28).

## 1.4 Ensure easy access to municipal social services

In order to cope with the increase in demand for social care, the Municipal Institute of Social Services (IMSS) recruited more than a hundred new professionals to the teams in 2021 (95 more to the Social Services Centres, 25 more to the Children

**Graph 4: Access to the municipal social services**

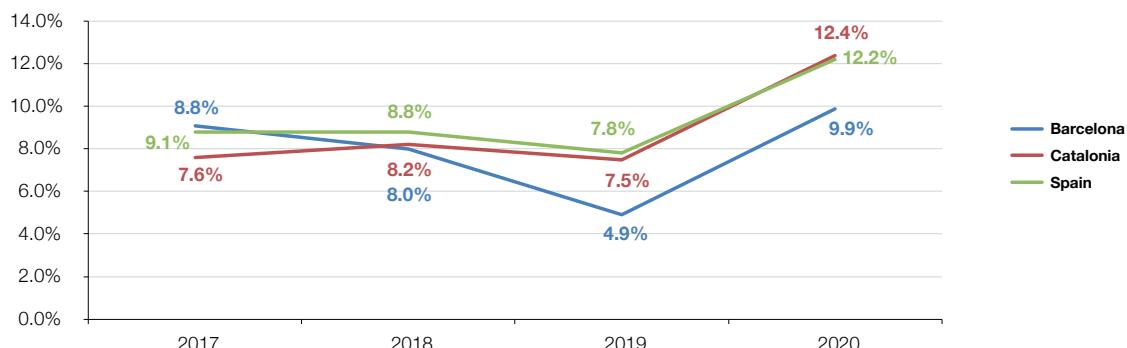


**Source:** Area of Social Rights.

<sup>2</sup> Material deprivation is defined as the inability to access goods that are considered essential for living in society due to a lack of economic resources. Households suffering from material deprivation are considered to be those where there is a forced lack of at least four out of the following nine elements: Paying expenses related to housing or to deferred purchases without falling into arrears; able to go on holiday for at least one week a year; able to make a meal with meat, chicken or fish (or the vegetarian equivalent) at least once every two days; able to cope with unforeseen expenses; able to afford a telephone (including a mobile phone); able to keep the home at a reasonable temperature; able to afford to own the following consumer items: A colour TV, a washing machine and a car. The target sets out a firmer commitment in the case of children, because it is a proven fact that when a person suffers from these situations during the first years of their life, it has a very severe effect on their life opportunities.

### Graph 5: Access to basic utilities (territorial comparison)

**Indicator:** % of people who have suffered fallen into arrears in the payment of bills or receipts for basic utilities (electricity, water, gas, etc.) in the last 12 months.



**Note:** The data for Barcelona are calculated by combining samples from two consecutive years; 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020.  
**Source:** IERMB and INE. Survey on Living Conditions.

and Adolescent Care Teams and 3 more to the Care, Recovery and Shelter Service), with the support of the Generalitat. This reinforcement, together with the broadening of online and professional assistance, has led to a notable reduction in the average waiting time for the first assistance, down to 12.4 days, which is clearly below the target set by the 2030 deadline (15 days).

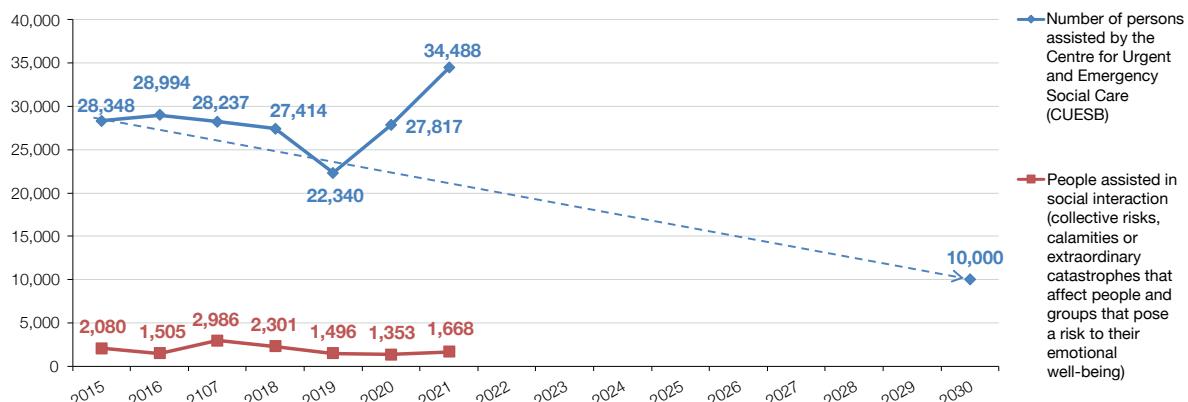
If we focus on basic services, it can be seen that in 2020, the peak of the pandemic's impact, the positive trend that Barcelona had

experienced between 2017 and 2019 came to a halt. Similar to what happened in Catalonia and Spain as a whole, bill payment delays soared, with the number of people affected almost doubling.

### 1.5 Reduce the exposure of the most vulnerable people to crisis and disaster situations, as well as increase their resilience to deal with them

#### Graph 6: Assistance to people in situations of urgency or social emergencies

**Indicator 1.5.1:** Less than 10,000 persons assisted by the Social Emergencies Centre (CUESB)



**Source:** Area of Social Rights.



The [Social Emergencies Centre](#) complements the work of the social services centres and provides assistance to people in a situation of risk or social emergency, such as loss of housing, lack of resources for food, abuse due to gender-based violence and elder neglect. In 2021, 34,488 emergencies were attended (with 35,584 people seen), compared to 27,817 emergencies (and 25,148 people) in 2020. This increase is linked to the social emergency caused by the pandemic, as well as to a greater number of home assessments and a significant increase in telephone consultations. Furthermore, the Social Emergencies Service attends to people affected by a critical incident (such as a fatal road traffic accident, a home, a suicide, a fire, a landslide or a very adverse weather conditions), who need immediate psychosocial care, including short-term accommodation. In 2021, 1,668 people experiencing a

social emergency were attended, 23.3% more than in 2020.

Beyond the reactive services, it is necessary to mention programmes that address social resilience in a strategic and preventive manner. The [Barcelona Neighbourhood Plan](#) does so from different perspectives (support for education, community action, etc.).

### **1.a Develop the international cooperation of cities in reducing poverty**

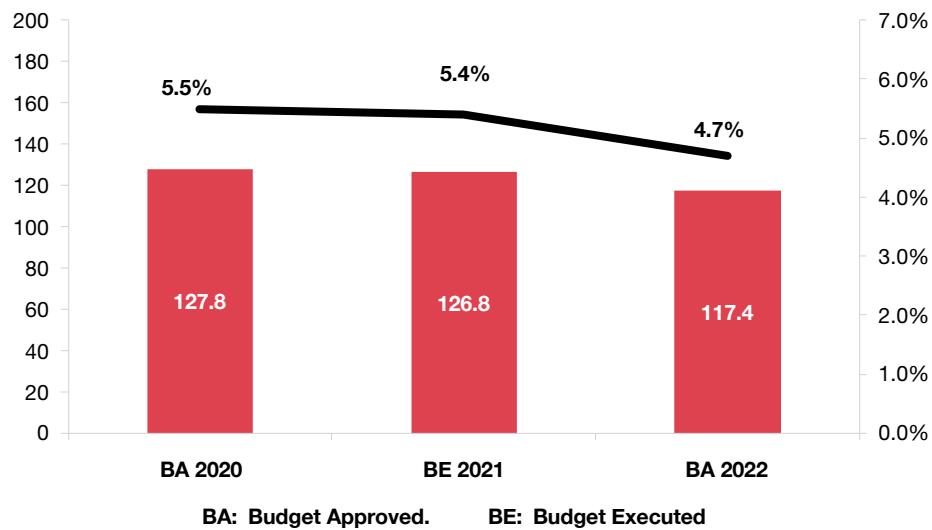
See SDG 17, target 2.

## Budgetary effort indicators

The budgetary effort indicators show a stable trend in current expenditure, at around 5%, with higher figures in the budgets for 2020 and 2021 due to the extra resources earmarked to combat the effects of the pandemic. Investment

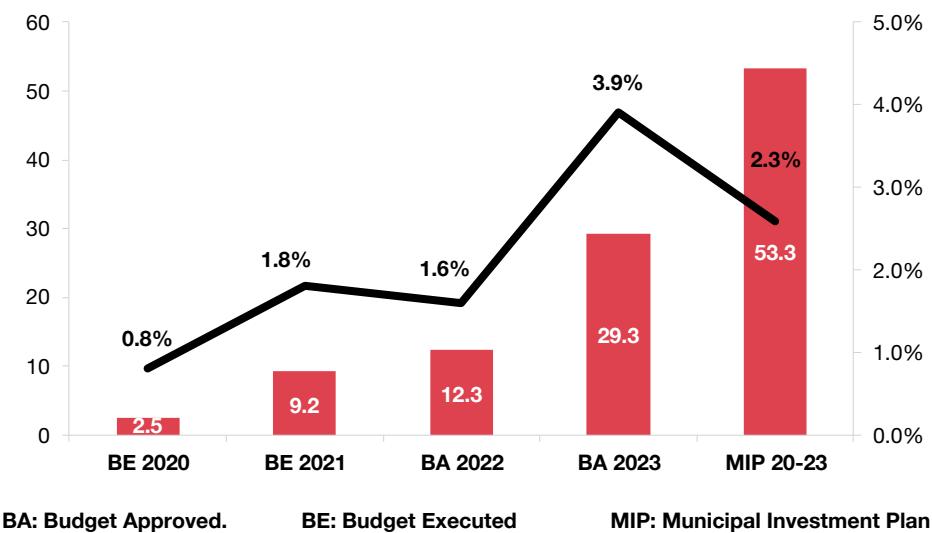
expenditure has increased over the course of the term of office. It should be borne in mind that a substantial part of social expenditure is included in other SDGs, especially SDG 10 on reducing inequalities.

**Current expenditure on SDG 1**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



BA: Budget Approved. BE: Budget Executed

**Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 1**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



BA: Budget Approved.

BE: Budget Executed

MIP: Municipal Investment Plan





## End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture



In 2021, Barcelona was named Food Capital of the Year, which was a great success. One of the results of the reflections and work carried out there is the 2030 Healthy and Sustainable Food Strategy, which will guide the action on this SDG and its various tar-

gets in the city. Within the framework of this event, studies analysing the situation of the food system in Barcelona were carried out and published, and Barcelona Metrópolis devoted a monograph to exploring the new food model.

## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 2.1 Ensure that no one suffers hunger or malnutrition in Barcelona

As with material deprivation as a whole, food deprivation due to lack of economic resources increased by 1.4 points in 2020 in Barcelona, affecting 3.6% of the population. Unfortunately, the data for 2021 is not yet available.

This food emergency has been analysed by the City Council in a [ruling on inequalities and vulnerabilities](#). In terms of municipal action, resources have been channelled into combating poverty (see SDG 1) in all its forms. However, emphasis has also been placed on disseminating useful information on [healthy and economical food for families with children](#).

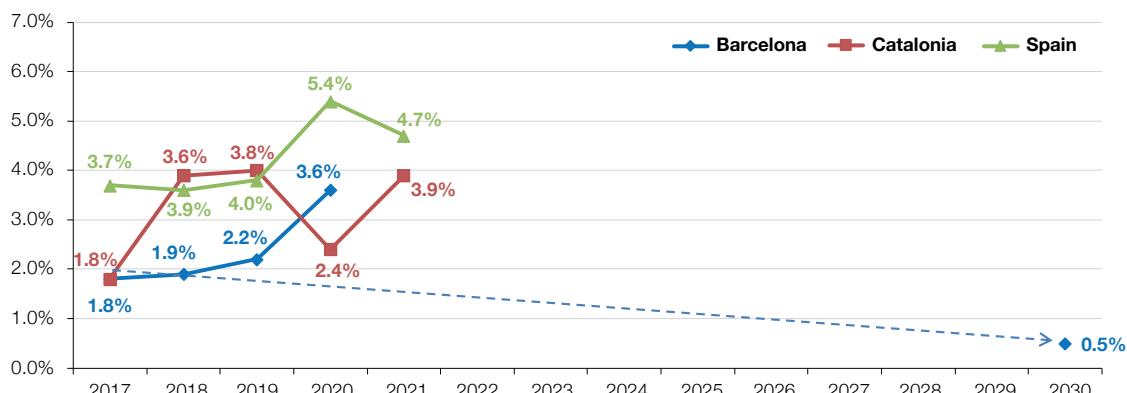
### 2.2 Reduce the prevalence of obesity by 20%, especially in children

The Barcelona 2021 Health Survey shows that obesity has increased in Barcelona compared to 2016, especially among men, rising from 13.5% to 16.3%. In the case of women, the increase is less than one percentage point, meaning that the prevalence remains at 14.4%. As no annual data are available, it is not possible to know whether these increases were triggered by the pandemic or whether they began beforehand. In any case, they are moving in the opposite direction to the target of bringing the obesity rate down to below 11%.

In recent years, a review of school menus in Barcelona has been carried from the perspective of both health and sustainability. The programme

**Graph 7: Prevalence of food deprivation**

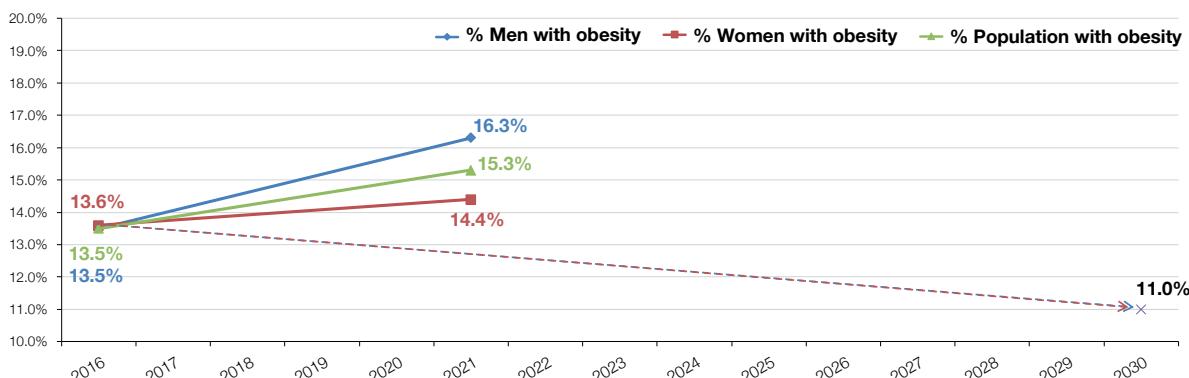
**Indicator 2.1.1:** Reduce to below 0.5% the percentage of the population that cannot afford a meal of meat, poultry or fish, or a vegetarian equivalent, every two days.



Source: IERMB and Idescat. Survey on Living Conditions.

**Graph 8: Prevalence of obesity**

**Indicator 2.2.1:** Obesity prevalence rate of less than 11.0% in the adult population



Source: Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB). Barcelona Health Survey



has been evaluated in [this report](#). Another noteworthy municipal action in this area is the [Childhood Obesity Prevention Programme](#), [the evaluation of which](#) has confirmed the effectiveness of its approach. Publications such as “Mou-te i menja bé” [Get moving and eat well] reflect this commitment to information and awareness-raising on such a fundamental issue for children’s health.

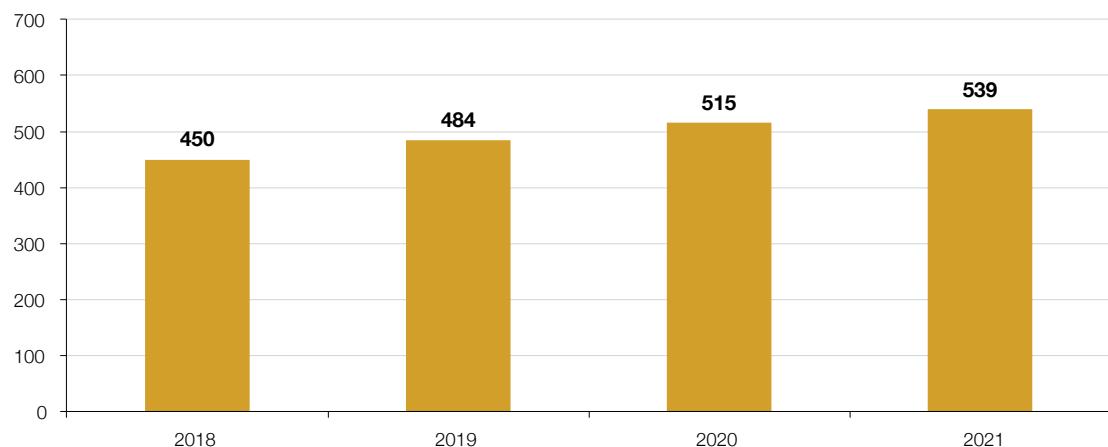
## 2.3 Promote urban agriculture, showcasing its economic, ecological and social benefits

Urban allotments have consolidated their presence in the urban fabric of Barcelona and have progressively increased in number, even in a context of overcoming the 2008-2013 property crisis and increasing pressure on land. This indicates considerable social interest in this practice, which is fully aligned with climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.

The city of Barcelona has implemented the [2019-2030 Urban Agriculture Strategy](#) and has an [Observatory](#) that publishes information on these practices and the distribution of the Urban Allotment Network. Guidelines have also been published to promote biodiversity through urban

**Graph 8bis: Urban allotments**

**Indicator 2.3.1: Number of urban allotments in the city of Barcelona**



**Note:** 2030 target pending definition.

**Source:** Area of Urban Ecology. Climate Plan.



allotments, as these areas can establish *symbiotic relationships with certain species of flora* and *fauna*.

## 2.4 Promote resilient local, ecological agricultural production through the retail and wholesale commercial network and promote the adoption of the Planetary Health Diet

The launch in 2021 of the “green stallholders” model as part of the city’s Green Commerce strategy has been very successful, with a participation rate of 56%. As far as meat consumption in the adult population is concerned,

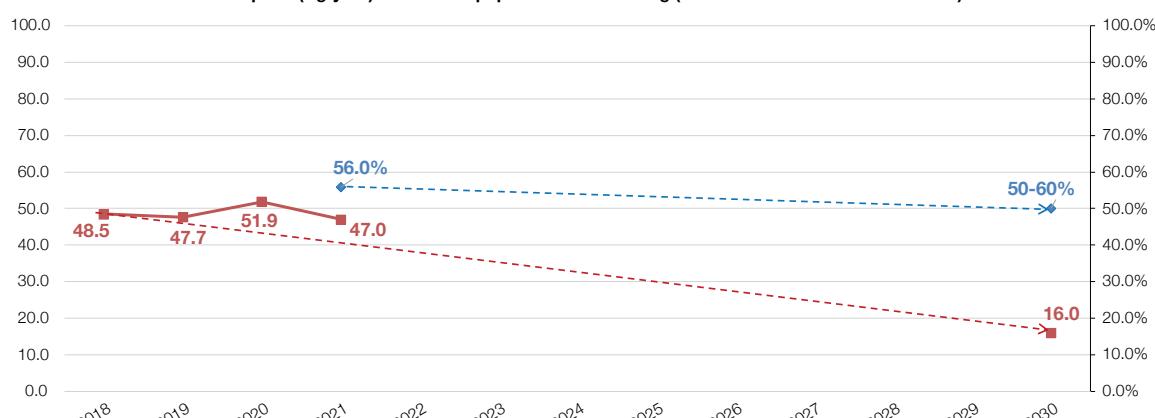
the data for Catalonia, which we assume can be reasonably extrapolated to Barcelona, do not show the desired trend in terms of achieving a healthier and more environmentally sustainable diet. In 2021, the total consumption of meat per person was 47 kilograms, which represents a slight decrease compared to 2018 (48.5). So there is still a long way to go if we want to bring this consumption into line with the *recommendations of the sustainable planetary diet*.

### 2.a Develop international city cooperation in the area of urban agriculture and food

See SDG 17, target 2.

**Graph 9: Green trade and meat consumption**

Indicator 2.4.1: Maintain the proportion of stalls in municipal markets classified as “green stalls” between 50% and 60%.  
Indicator 2.4.4: Meat consumption (Kg/year) in the adult population below 16 Kg (indicator for Catalonia as a whole)



Note: The data on meat consumption refer to the whole population of Catalonia. Data for Barcelona are not available.

Source 2.4.1: Barcelona Municipal Institute of Markets.

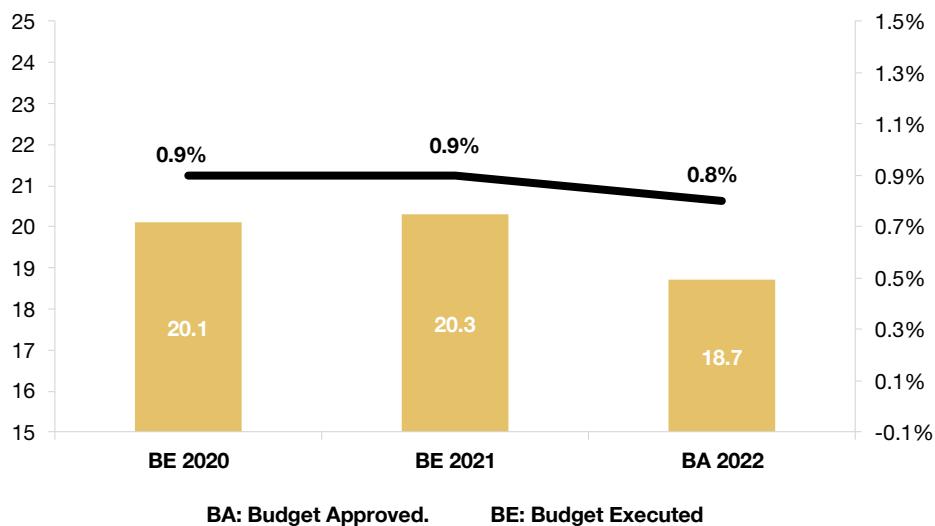
Source 2.4.4: Ministry for Consumer Affairs.

## Budgetary effort indicators

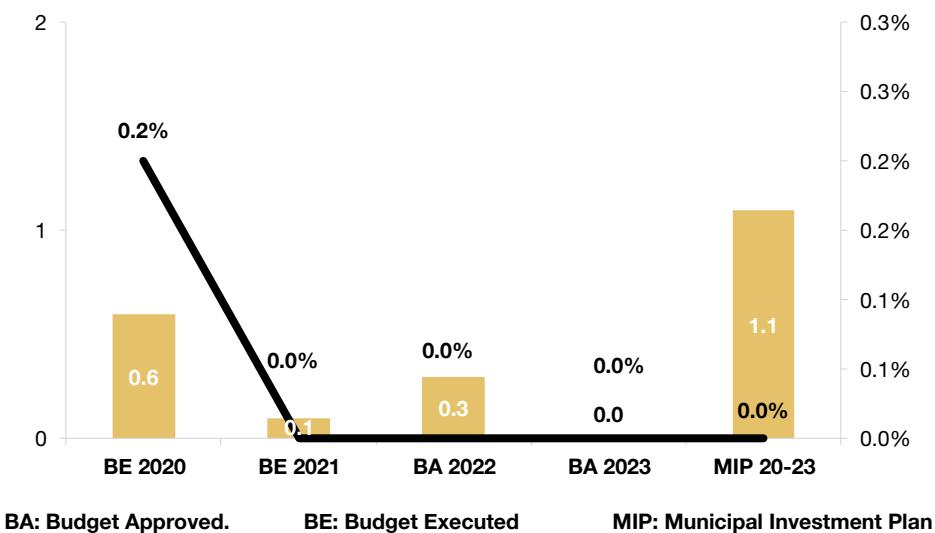
The budgetary alignment indicators show a stable trend in current expenditure of around 1%, with higher figures in the budgets for 2020 and 2021, due to the extra resources earmarked to

combat the effects of the pandemic. The investment expenditure in this SDG is not very significant, because the City Council does not have resources dedicated exclusively to food.

**Current expenditure on SDG 2**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



**Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 2**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)







## Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



The *annual Barcelona Health Report*, complemented by reports such as *Mortality in the city of Barcelona*, provides a very accurate picture of the state of health of the Barcelona population. Every five years, the overview is completed with the *Barcelona Health Survey*, which provides information based above all on people's perceptions and practices in relation to health and illness.

The *2021-2025 Health Plan for the Barcelona Health Region (Barcelona city area)* is the framework that guides public action for health, coordinated through the Barcelona Health and is coordinated by the Barcelona Health Consortium (joint action between the Government of Catalonia and the Barcelona City Council). The municipal health policies follow a decidedly social and territorial approach.

## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 3.1 Achieve a maternal mortality rate that is very close to zero

In 2018 and 2019, not a single woman died in Barcelona as a result of childbirth, which highlights the importance of having quality health systems with universal access.

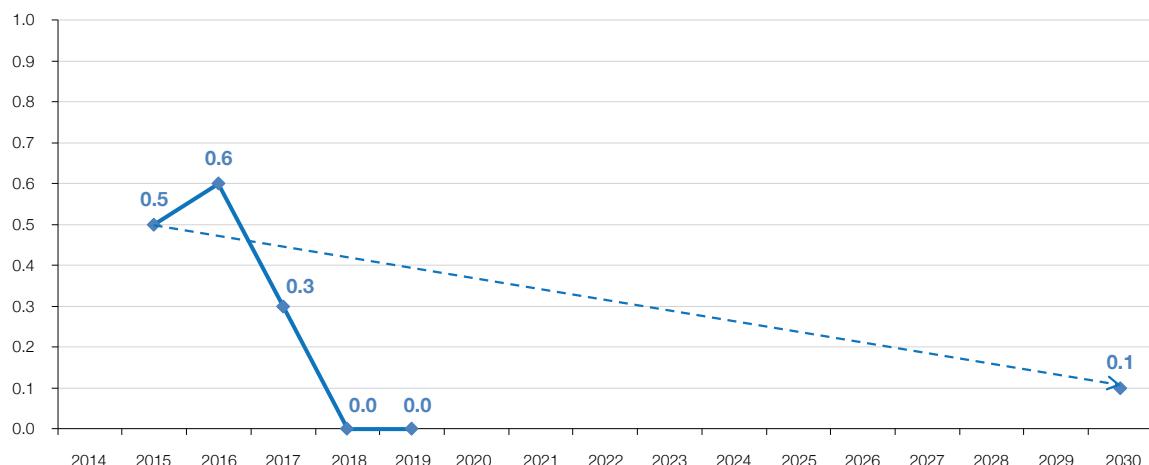
### 3.2 End preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age

The premature mortality rate in children under 5 years of age has shown little change over the last five years and stands at 43.4 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants. It remains to be seen whether in the coming years there will be a sustained reduction that will enable the 2030 target to be met.

In relation to neonatal mortality, despite the rise in the latest available data (from 2019) to 2.5 deaths per 1,000 live births, if we look at the entire statistical series, it remains at very low levels and close to the 2030 target.

**Graph 10: Maternal mortality rate**

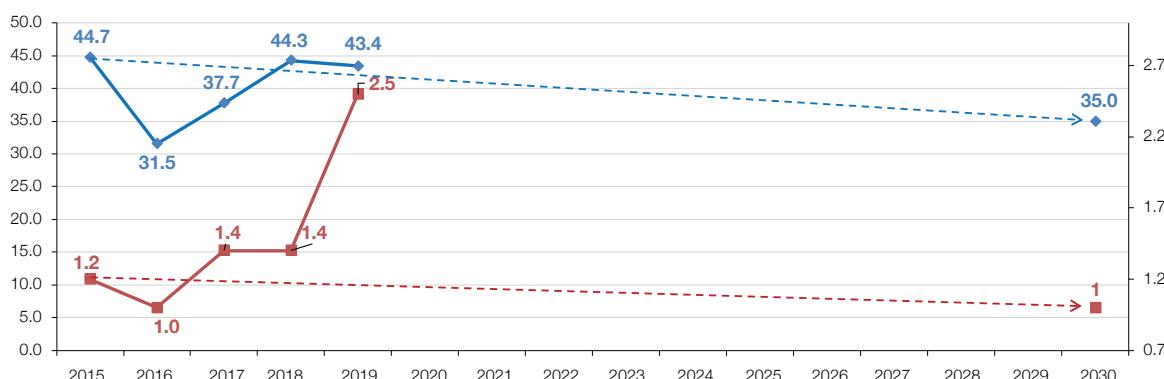
**Indicator 3.1.1:** Maternal mortality rate below 0.1 per 1,000 births



*Source:* Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB). Mortality Register.

**Graph 11: Child and neonatal mortality**

**Indicator 3.2.1:** Premature mortality rate in children under the age of 5 to below 35 per 100,000  
**Indicator 3.2.2:** Neonatal mortality rate below 1 per 1,000



*Note:* The neonatal mortality rate is calculated as the number of deaths of infants under 28 days of age per 1,000 live births.  
*Source:* Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB). Mortality Register.

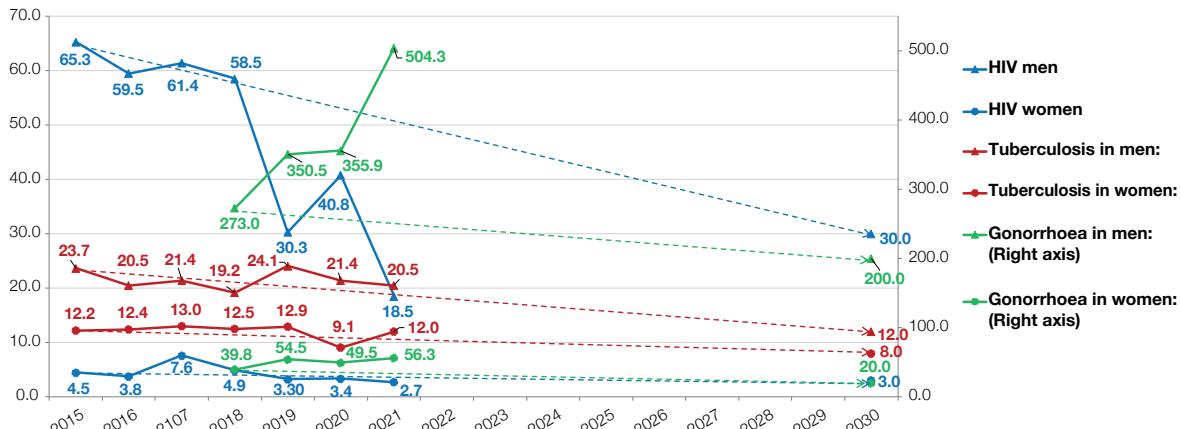
### 3.3 Reduce the effects of infectious diseases by half

Graph 12: Effects of infectious diseases

Indicator 3.3.2: HIV rate per 100,000 inhabitants and per age between 15 and 64 years of less than 30 in men and 3 in women.

Indicator 3.3.3: Tuberculosis rate per 100,000 inhabitants of less than 12 in men and 8 in women

Indicator 3.3.4: Gonorrhoea rate per 100,000 inhabitants of less than 200 in men and 20 in women



Source: Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB).

In 2021, 326 new HIV infections were detected, 169 of which were in people living in the city, a decrease of 29.5% compared to 2020. HIV incidence per 100,000 inhabitants was 2.7 in women and 18.5 in men. The trend of this indicator is very favourable in relation to the achievement of the 2030 target for both men and women.

In contrast to HIV, the incidence of tuberculosis is decreasing much more slowly. 378 cases were detected in 2021, 248 of which were people living in the city, representing an incidence of 20.5 cases per 100,000 inhabitants in the case of men and 12.0 cases in the case of women. Compared to 2020, the incidence of the disease has increased by 25% in women and decreased by 9% in men. At this slow rate of reduction, it will be difficult to achieve the 2030 target.

With regard to gonorrhoea, both the trend and the latest data for the indicator are very negative and urgent action is required if the target set for 2030 is to be met. In 2021, there were 4,462 reported cases of gonorrhoea, of which 10.9% were women, 88.9% were men and 0.2% were transgender people. The incidence was 269.9 cases per 100,000 inhabitants (56.3 in women and 504.3 in men), an increase of 13.7% in women and 42.0% in men.

The ASPB regularly publishes information on the situation of the main infectious diseases in Barcelona and on the action being taken to eradicate them. This is the case of the reports [AIDS in Barcelona: epidemiological surveillance](#) and [Tuberculosis in Barcelona](#).

### 3.4 Reduce premature mortality by one third and the prevalence of psychological pathologies by half and take a more active role in promoting health

After five years of a favourable trend in premature mortality rates, the excess mortality associated with Covid-19 caused a notable worsening in 2020 (to 2,934.6 in men and 1,670.1 in women). That same year, 19,738 deaths were recorded (10,538 women and 9,200 men), an increase of 33.5% for women and 30.9% for men compared to 2019. The data from the 2021 Health Survey also show a sharp deterioration in mental health, which affects considerably more women (where the incidence of psychological distress has risen from 19.9% to 31.4%) than men (from 16.5% to 21.6%).

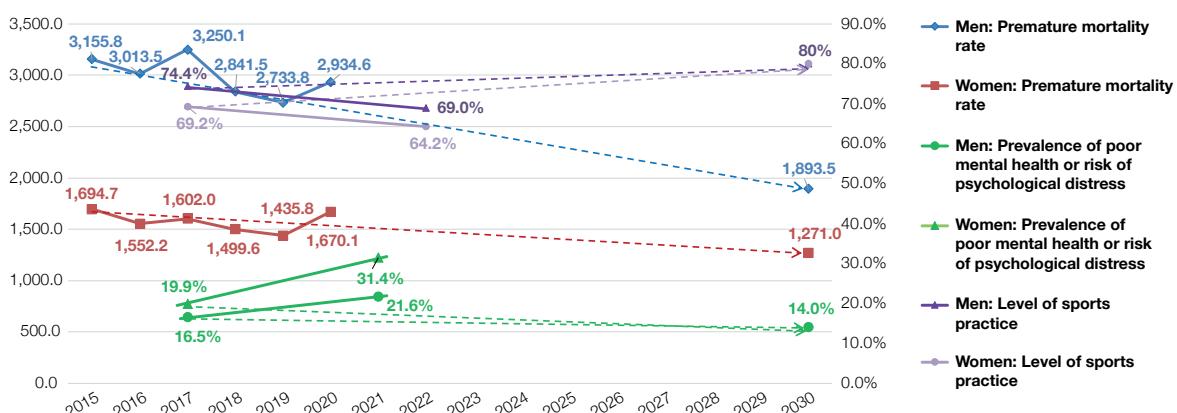
### Graph 13: Premature mortality, mental health and well-being

**Indicator 3.4.1a:** Reduce the premature mortality rate in men by 40% (potential years of life lost between 1 and 70 years per 100,000 Deaths)

**Indicator 3.4.1b:** Reduce the premature mortality rate in women by 25% (potential years of life lost between 1 and 70 years per 100,000 Deaths)

**Indicator 3.4.2:** Reduce the prevalence of psychological distress in men and women to below 14% (above 3 points on the General Health Questionnaire, GHQ-12)

**Indicator 3.4.3:** Increase sports practice to above 80% among men and women



Source 3.4.1: Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB). Mortality Register.

Source 3.4.2: Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB). Barcelona Health Survey.

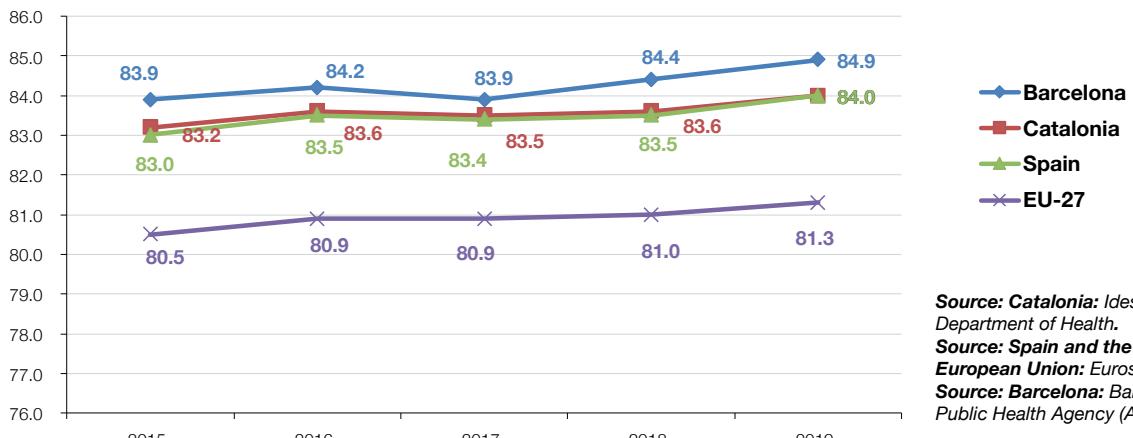
Source 3.4.3: Barcelona Sport and Physical Activity Observatory. Barcelona Sporting Habits Survey

The [2016-2022 Barcelona Mental Health Plan](#) laid the foundations for a municipal policy in this area. The detection of the mental health emergency unleashed by Covid led to the approval of the [Government Measure Mental Health Action Plan](#), which led to the roll-out of a series of measures and projects. Children and young people have been the main target groups of this Action Plan. Studies such as [Health and its determining factors in adolescents in Barcelona \(FRESC\)](#) and "[Screens and emotional health in adolescents in Barcelona](#)" have allowed us to quantify and understand all the facets of the problem. The issue of mental health at work has also been addressed, through the "[Shared city strategy to foster a framework which includes the prevention, promotion and care of](#)

[mental health in a comprehensive and collaborative manner](#)".

Up until 2019, the increase in life expectancy was widespread and of similar intensity all over the world. In the case of Barcelona, from 2015 to 2019 life expectancy increased by one year, from 83.9 to 84.9 years. This is almost one year more than in Catalonia and Spain as a whole, and 3.6 years more than in the European Union as a whole. The differences by sex have remained stable in the city throughout this period (in 2019, life expectancy was 87.5 years for women and 81.8 years for men). There is still no data available that allows us to know the effects of the pandemic on this indicator.

### Graph 14: Life expectancy at birth. (territorial comparative)



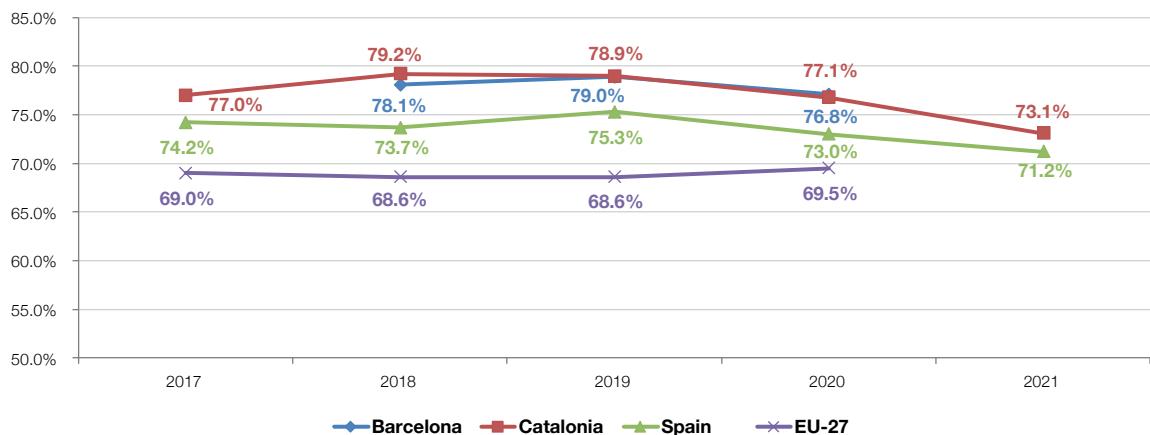
Source: Catalonia: Idescat; Department of Health.

Source: Spain and the European Union: Eurostat.

Source: Barcelona: Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB).

### Graph 15: Health status (territorial comparison)

Indicator: % of population who rate their health as good or very good



Source: Catalonia and Barcelona: Idescat and (IERMB); Survey of living conditions.  
Source: Spain and the European Union: Eurostat.

Since 2020, there has been a worsening in the subjective perception of the population's state of health, both in Catalonia and in Spain. In the city of Barcelona in 2020, the decline was more gradual. The percentage of the population who consider their health to be good or very good was 77.1%, down only 1.8% on the previous year.

Preventive actions are being carried out to improve the state of health, such as the [Breast Cancer Early Detection Programme](#), as well as awareness-raising actions, which are very diverse in terms of subject matter and target groups. These are carried

out with a territorial focus, through programmes such as [Barcelona health in the neighbourhoods](#), and [in schools](#). Health is also promoted through a good diet (see Target 2.2), with the [Food Health Quality Research Programme \(IQSA by its initials in Catalan\)](#) and the [dissemination of the quality of organic food](#). And also through sport, as stated in the [2012-2022 Barcelona Strategic Plan for Sport](#).

### 3.5 Reduce the harmful consumption of alcohol and cannabis, especially among young people

#### Graph 16: Harmful alcohol and cannabis consumption

- Indicator 3.5.1: Reduce the harmful consumption of alcohol in adults by one third
- Indicator 3.5.2: Reduce the harmful consumption of cannabis among adults by one third
- Indicator 3.5.3: Reduce the harmful consumption of alcohol in young people by 50%
- Indicator 3.5.4a: Reduce the harmful consumption of cannabis in teenage boys by 50%
- Indicator 3.5.4b: Reduce the harmful consumption of cannabis in teenage girls by 50%



Note: The harmful consumption of alcohol is understood to be the intake of 17 or more units of consumption (SDU) in women and 8 or more in men, or 5.  
Source: Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB).

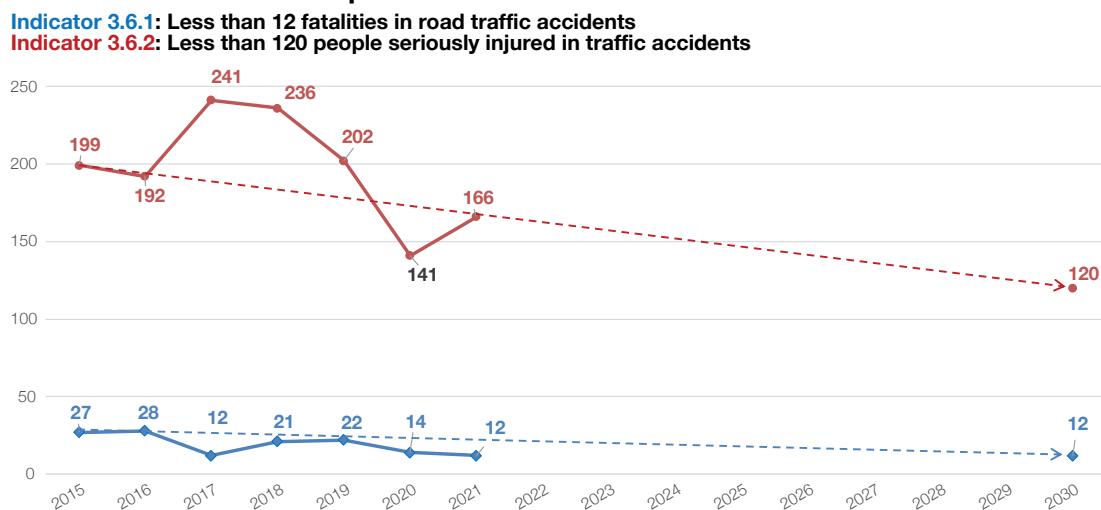
Harmful alcohol consumption by the population as a whole increased considerably between 2016 and 2019, from 6.5% to 10.8%; but it is among young people aged 15 to 24 that it has increased worryingly, reaching 22.0%. As for cannabis use, its harmful use is also increasing in the population as a whole, rising from 4.2% in 2016 to 6.4% in 2021. Among the adolescent population, however, it has remained fairly stable (down from 6.0% to 5.2% among boys and up by a tenth, to 3.7%, among adolescent girls).

The [2021-2024 Barcelona Action Plan on Drugs and Addictions](#) lays out the actions to prevent and reduce the use of addictive substances and practices.

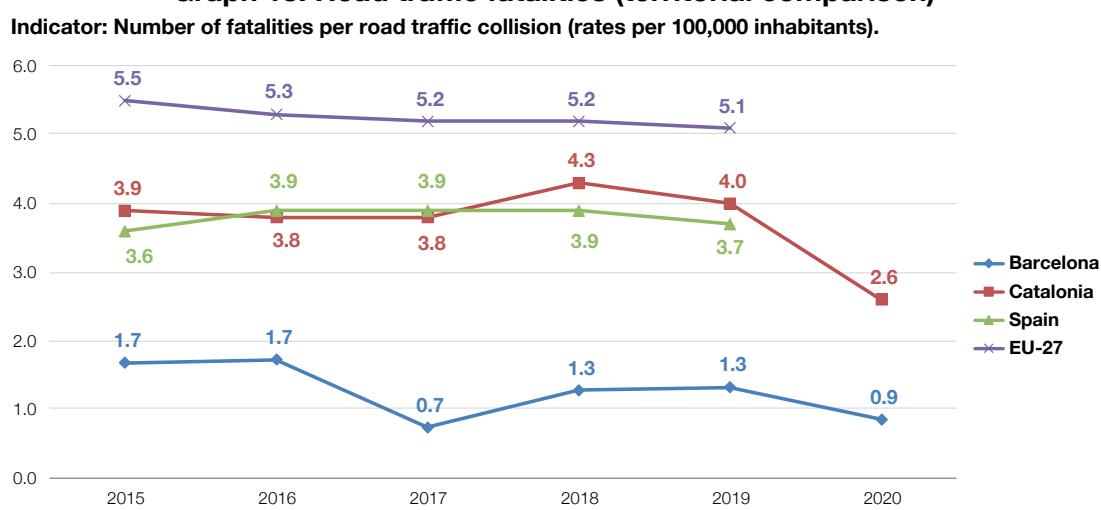
### 3.6 Drastically reduce the number of deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents

The number of people killed and seriously injured in road traffic accidents in Barcelona experienced a significant decrease in 2020, associated with the forced reduction in mobility due to the pandemic. In 2021 this positive trend continued, especially in terms of fatalities. Unfortunately, the partial data for 2022 do not indicate a consolidation of these declines. Quite the contrary, by November 2022, there had already been 23 fatalities in accidents.

**Graph 17: Road traffic accident victims**



**Graph 18: Road traffic fatalities (territorial comparison)**



Since 2015, the number of traffic fatalities per 100,000 inhabitants has remained very stable, with a slight upward trend across all territorial levels. In Barcelona, however, mortality rates are considerably lower than in Catalonia, Spain and the EU as a whole.

The [2019-2022 Local Road Safety Plan](#) sets out actions to prevent accidents.

### 3.7 Reduce the incidence of teenage pregnancies by half, while also narrowing the differences between districts.

In 2020, there were 436 pregnancies (a rate of 12.8 per 1,000) in teenage women (aged 15 to 19), 89 fewer than in 2019. Of these, 114 resulted in a birth (a rate of 3.3 per 1,000) and 322 ended in abortion (a rate of 9.4 per 1,000). Since 2010, there has been a steady decline in both situations, which represents an accelerated trend towards meeting the 2030 target (9.5 pregnancies per 1,000 adolescent girls). The second part of the survey refers to the distribution of fertility in adolescent girls, which is not homogeneous in the city and shows a pattern linked to the socio-economic level of the neighbourhoods. In 2020 the difference between the districts with the highest and lowest rates, Nou Barris and Les

Corts, stood at 19.1, still well above the target for 2030.

Barcelona has a well-established [Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy](#), which is [reported on](#) every year. An important part of this strategy is the dissemination of [sexual and reproductive rights](#), linked to health protection.

### 3.8 Halve the number of people who do not have access to healthcare assistance or treatment due to economic reasons

The indicator on the lack of health care on economic grounds cannot be updated until next year due to problems with the collection of data in the Catalan Health Survey. The only value available, that of 2019, shows that more than 10% of Barcelona's population could not access relatively basic health treatments not covered by social security for economic reasons.

The City Council has acted in a supplementary way to alleviate some of these deficits, namely in dental care and mental health. But just as important, if not more so, is the [investment to improve the quality of public health care in the city](#),

**Graph 19: Teenage pregnancies**

**Indicator 3.7.1:** Reduce the rate of pregnancies in girls aged 15 to 19 by 50%



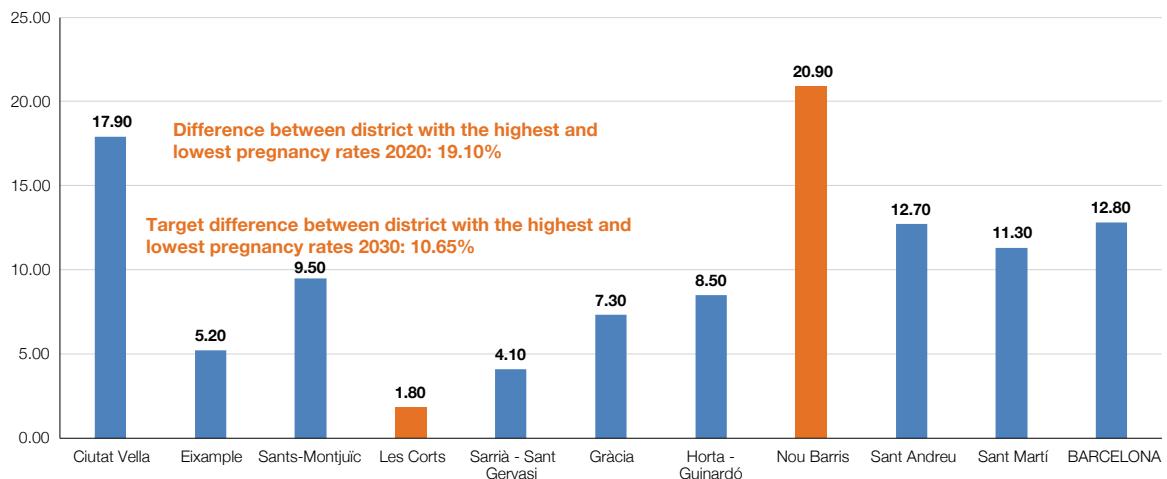
**Note:** The pregnancy rate in adolescent girls is calculated as the number of pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19.  
**Source:** Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB).

through collaboration between the Government of Catalonia, which is responsible for it, and the City Council, coordinated through the Barcelona Health Consortium.

### 3.9 Drastically reduce the number of deaths caused by excessive pollution

**Graph 20: Teenage pregnancies**

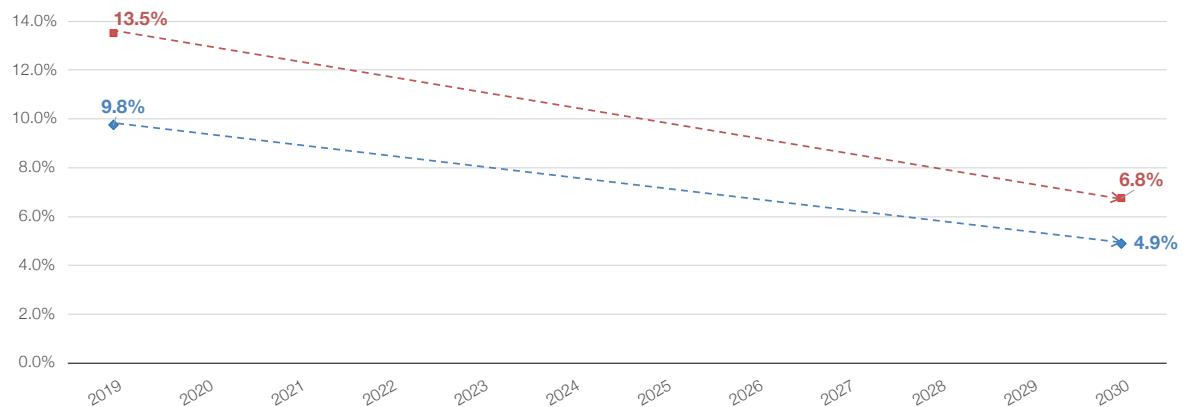
**Indicator 3.7.2:** Teenage pregnancy rate (number of pregnancies per 1,000 girls aged 15 to 19 years) by District. 2020



**Source:** Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB).

**Graph 21: Lack of healthcare assistance due to economic reasons**

**Indicator 3.8.1a:** Reduce the lack of access to healthcare for economic reasons by 50% (men)  
**Indicator 3.8.1b:** Reduce the lack of access to healthcare for economic reasons by 50% (women)

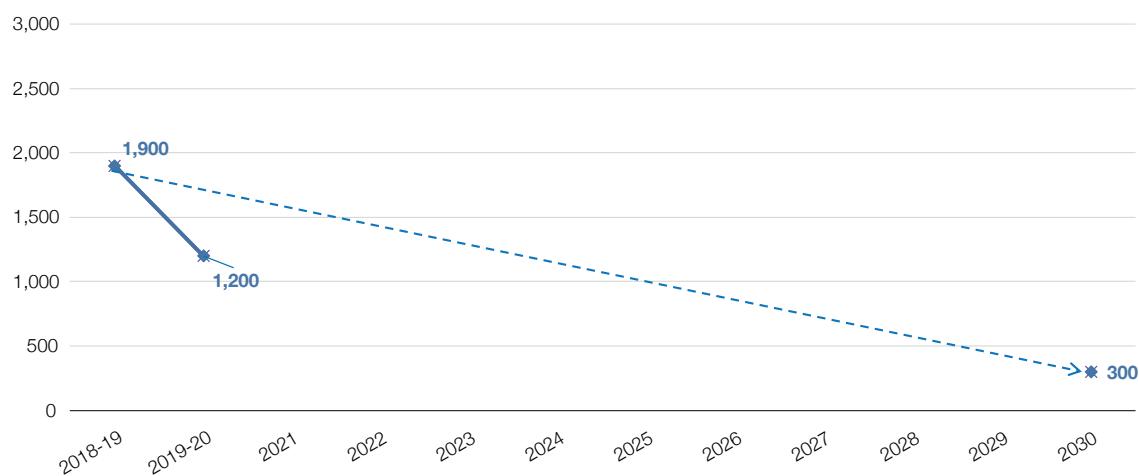


**Note:** The indicator is calculated on the population over the age of 15 who, despite needing it, have not had access to the following health treatments for economic reasons: dental care, mental health and/or prescription medication.

**Source:** Health Department, Government of Catalonia. Catalan Health Survey.

## Graph 22: Health and air pollution

Indicator 3.9.1: Estimated number of annual deaths caused by pollution



Source: Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB). 2021 Health Report.

The Barcelona Public Health Agency performs estimates on the impact of air pollution (particulate matter and nitrogen dioxide) on health. Graph 22 shows the estimated number of deaths caused by the excess pollution before the pandemic (2018/2019) and during the pandemic (2020/2021). If the fall were to continue at this rate, the target date for 2030 would be reached much sooner. But this positive trend can only be maintained if air pollution levels consolidate the improvement experienced in 2020. (For more information on this subject, see target 11.6).

### 3.a Significantly reduce the habit of smoking

Data from the Barcelona 2021 Health Survey show a two-point drop in the percentage of people living in Barcelona who smoke daily. However, as can be seen in Graph 23, the reduction in this habit is concentrated among men (almost 4 points), while the smoking rate among women remains practically the same.

Graph 24, which shows the sum of daily and occasional smokers, shows that in all territorial areas the rate is very similar, between 24% and 25% of the population over 15 years of age.

Barcelona has a [programme to tackle smoking from a public health perspective](#).

### 3.b. Develop international city cooperation in the area of global health research and the improvement of Public Health instruments and Healthcare Systems

See SDG 17, target 2.

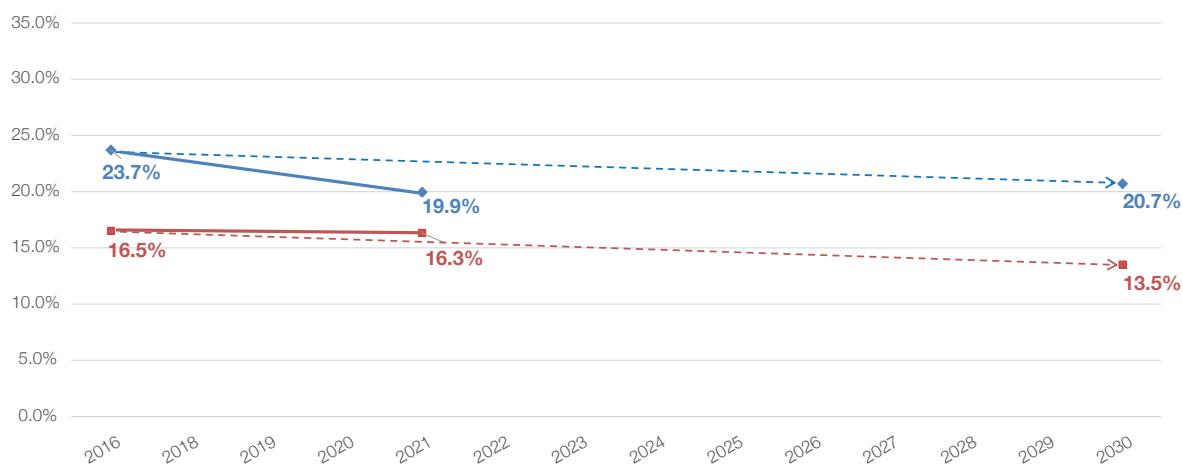
### 3.d Provide Barcelona with a specific emergency plan to tackle pandemic situations

From the outset, the City Council has been [committed to offering services and resources](#) to deal with the new and unforeseen situation in the best possible way. During this time, it has gained in experience and in innovations – in terms of actions and organisational adaptation – that are highly relevant to the [governance of highly complex health and social emergencies](#). This knowledge has already been codified, and all that remains to be done is to shape it into a plan.

### Graph 23: Prevalence of smoking

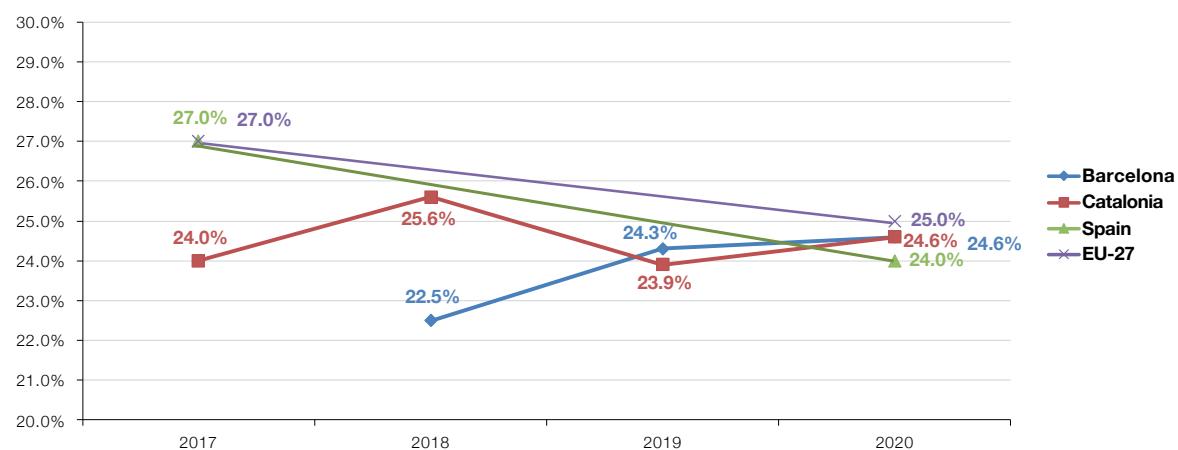
**Indicator 3.a.1a:** Reduce the % of people over the age of 15 who smoke on a daily basis (men) by 3 percentage points.

**Indicator 3.a.1b:** Reduce the % of people over the age of 15 who smoke on a daily basis (women) by 3 percentage points.



**Source:** Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB). Barcelona Health Survey.

### Graph 24: Prevalence of smoking. (territorial comparative)



**Note:** The indicator is the sum of the percentage of the population aged 15 and over who say they smoke daily and the percentage who say they smoke but not daily (occasional smokers).

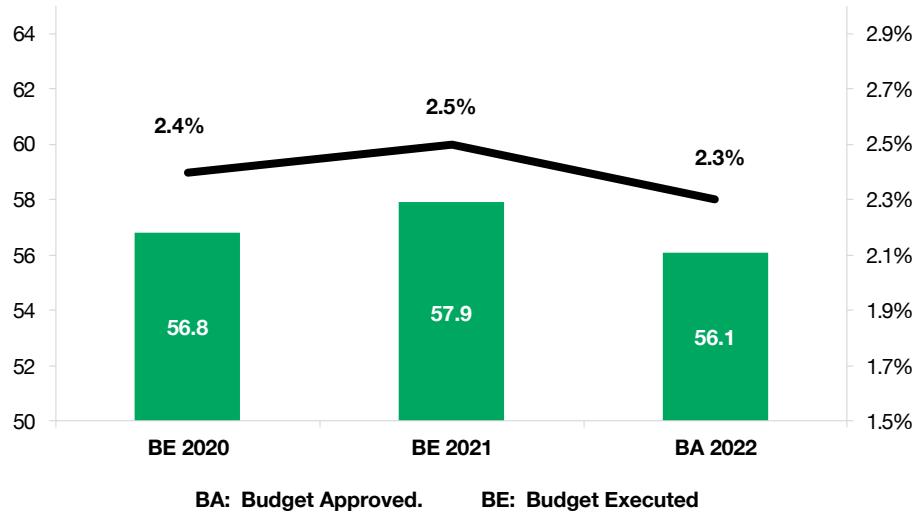
**Source:** Catalonia and Barcelona: Department of Health. Catalan Health Survey. Source: Spain and the European Union: Eurostat.

## Budgetary effort indicators

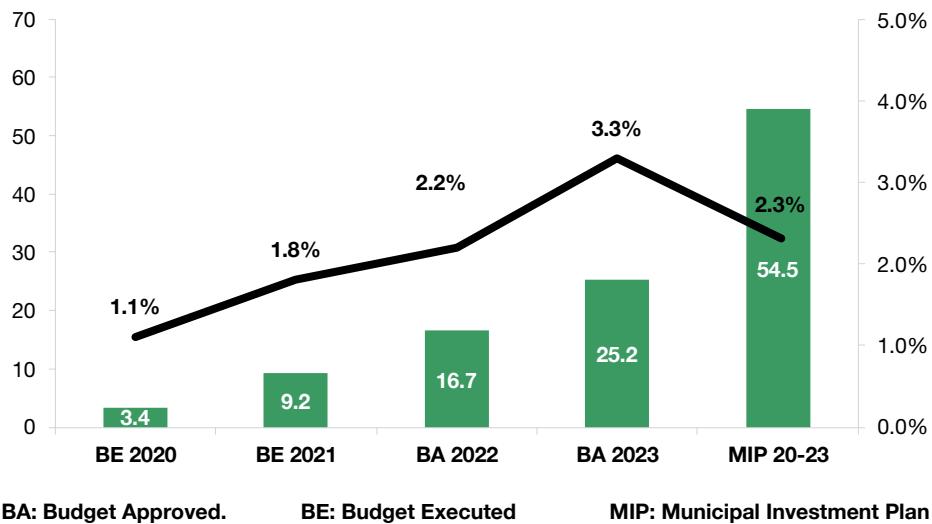
The SDG 3 budgetary effort indicators show a very stable situation in terms of current expenditure, which is between EUR 56 and EUR 58 million, between 2.3% and 2.5% of the total budget.

Meanwhile, investment is growing notably, to the point that if the Municipal Investment Programme (PIM) forecasts are met, it will have tripled by the end of the term of office.

**Current expenditure on SDG 3**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



**Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 3**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)







## Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong opportunities for all



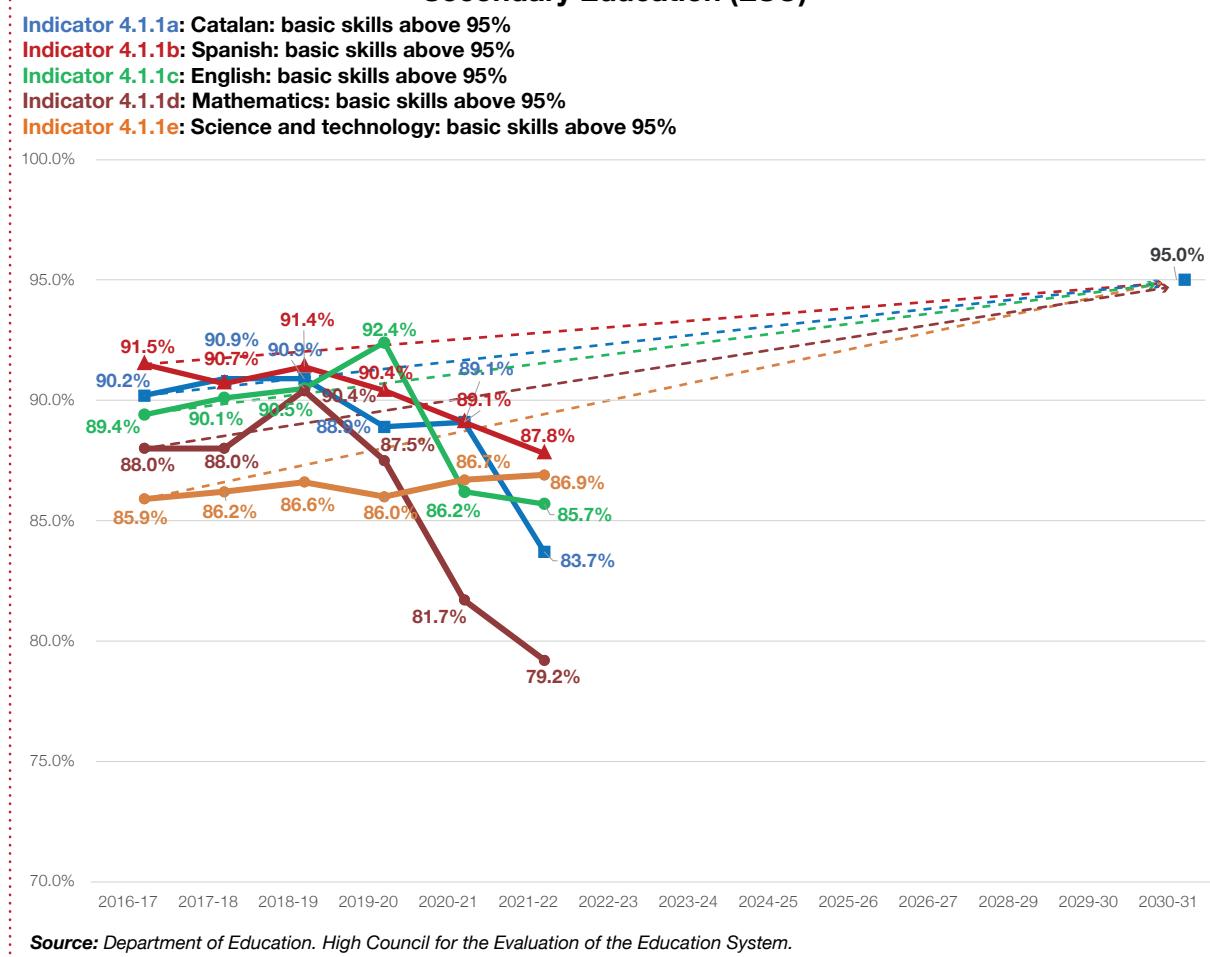
These three documents provide the most complete and up-to-date view of the municipal action for education, the *Report by the Municipal Institute of Education*, the *Report on*

*transversal programmes of the Department of Culture, Education, Science and Community* and the *Collection of management indicators* for this same area.

## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 4.1 Practically all students successfully complete compulsory education and with a suitable level of skills

**Graph 25: Rate of achievement of basic skills at the end of Compulsory Secondary Education (ESO)**

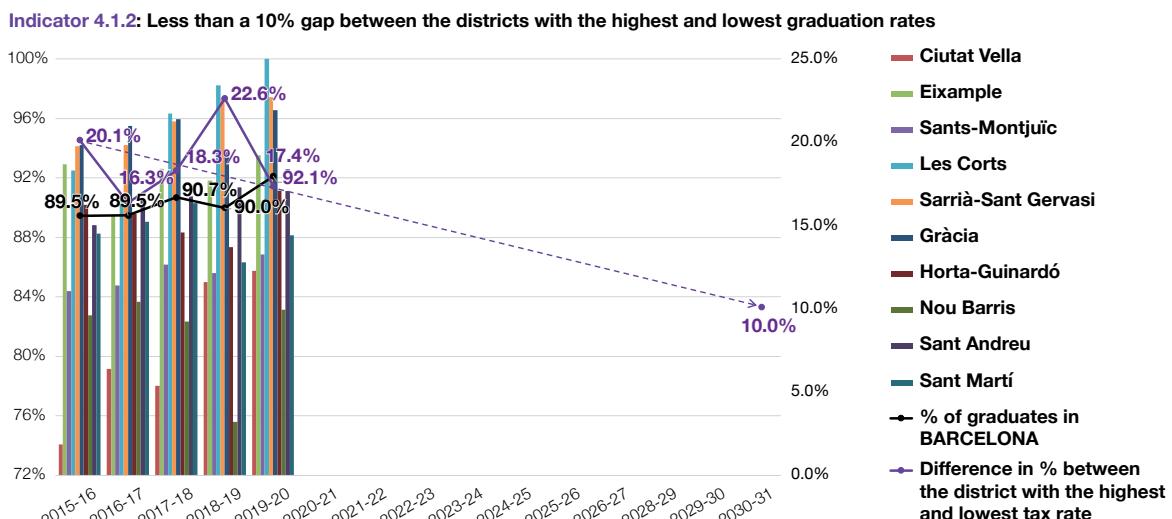


The academic year 2021-22 shows a decrease in all results except in science and technology skills. It fell 5.4 points in Catalan and 1.3 points in Spanish, 0.5 points in English and 2.5 points in Mathematics. The start of this negative trend dates back to the 2019-2020 academic year, the year of the beginning of the pandemic. It is necessary and urgent to reverse the trend in order to be able to place the target of 95% satisfactory achievement in the five basic skills in 4th and final year of Compulsory Secondary Education

(ESO by its initials in Catalan) in the spotlight once again.

The graduation rate in ESO increased by 2 points (to 92.1%) in the last academic year for which we have data (2019-2020), which is very positive. The gap between districts also narrowed, with a distance of 17.4 percentage points, but is above the desired target of 10% (or less) by 2030. When the data for 2020-2021 are available, it will be necessary to see to what extent the pandemic has also affected these indicators.

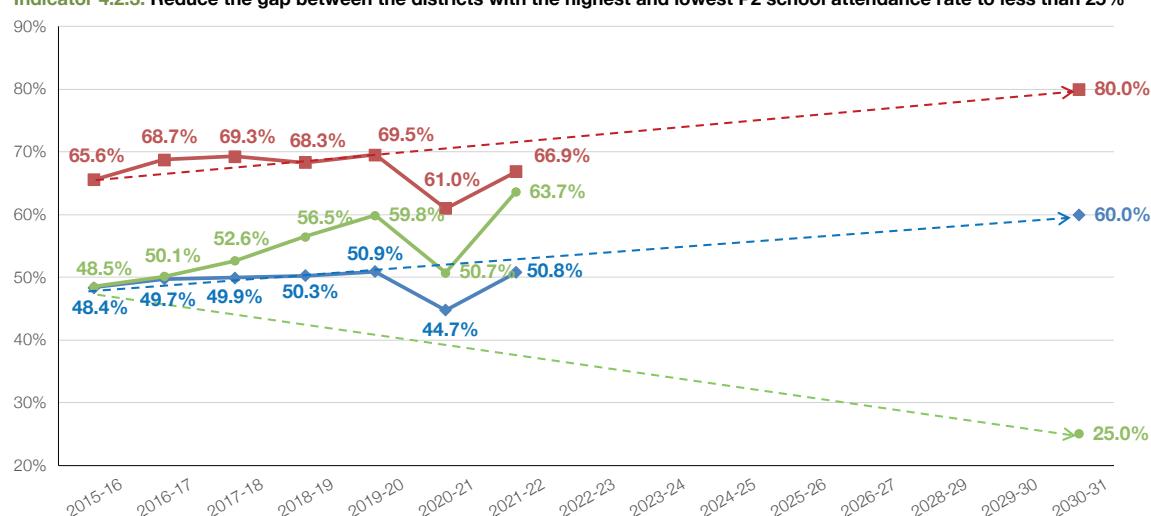
### Graph 26: Graduation rate at the end of compulsory education



## 4.2 Increase schooling in the 1-3 age group, ensuring that this increase focuses especially on the children of families with a low socio-economic level

### Graph 27: Schooling in the 0-3 age group

**Indicator 4.2.1:** Get the 1-year-old (P1) school attendance rate to above 60%  
**Indicator 4.2.2:** Get the 2-year-old (P2) school attendance rate to above 80%  
**Indicator 4.2.3:** Reduce the gap between the districts with the highest and lowest P2 school attendance rate to less than 25%

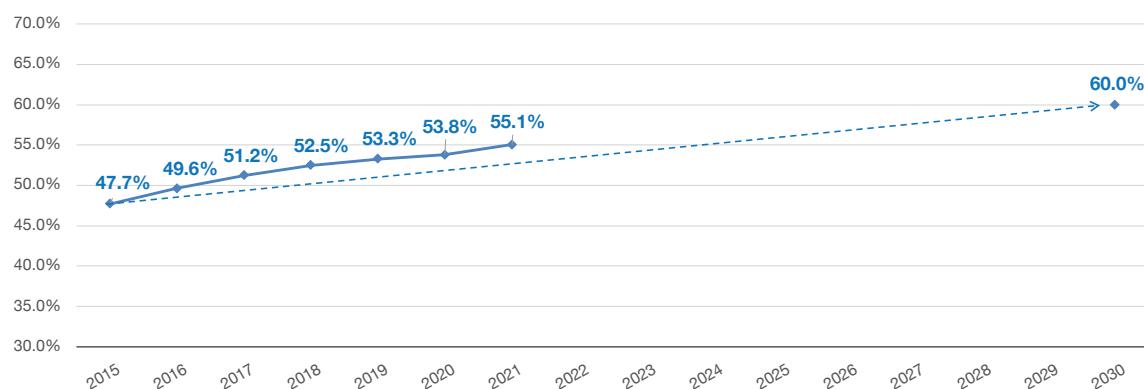


After the sharp drop in school enrolment rates in P1 (1-2 age group) and P2 (2-3 age group) during the 2020-21 school year caused by the pandemic, the 2021-22 school year saw a sharp recovery in values, reaching 50.8% in P1 and 66.9% in P2, close to the values expected to reach the target of 60% (P1) and 80% (P2) in 2030. The most negative aspect shown by the data is the difference between districts regarding school attendance at two years of age. Far from narrowing, this difference has reached its highest during the 2021-22 academic year, standing at 63.7 points.

The City Council has a [Plan for early childhood education and care](#), which promotes universal access and inclusive education. In addition to making progress in the construction of new nursery schools, progressively increasing the number of places available, work has been done on the [early detection and attention of specific educational support needs \(NESE\) in municipal nursery schools](#), and a [social pricing policy](#) for this service has been implemented to promote social equity.

### Graph 28: Population with higher-education qualifications

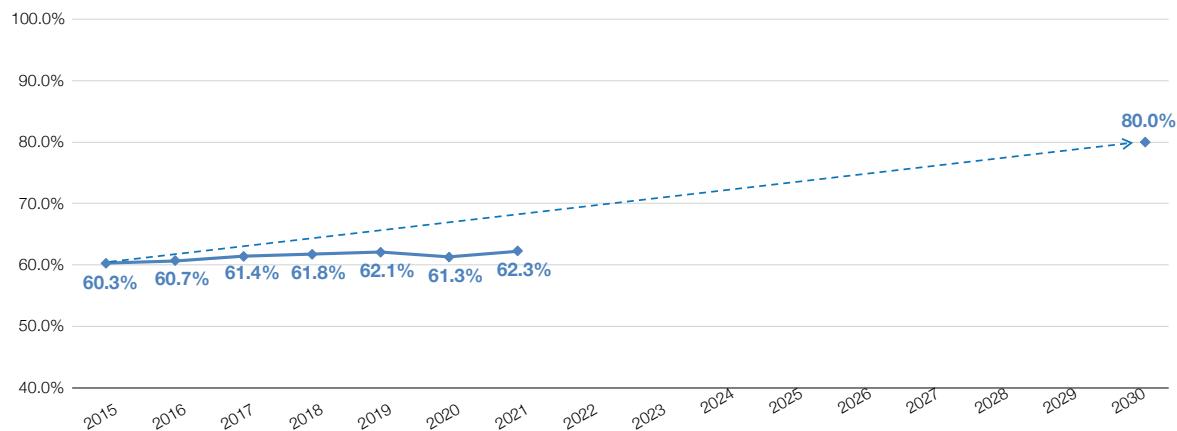
**Indicator 4.3.1:** 60% of people aged 30 to 34 with a higher-education qualification (university studies or Advanced Vocational Training)



Source: Municipal Data Office using information from the Municipal Register of Inhabitants.

### Graph 29: Population with post-compulsory education

**Indicator 4.4.1:** 80% of people aged 20 to 24 with at least a post-compulsory education qualification (Higher secondary school or Intermediate Vocational training).



Source: Municipal Data Office using information from the Municipal Register of Inhabitants.

## 4.3 More than 60% of young adults with higher qualifications

As can be seen in the graph, the percentage of the population aged between 30 and 34 with higher education qualifications is steadily increasing in Barcelona, with the data series showing right from the beginning higher than expected values in relation to meeting the target of 60% by 2030. In 2021, it stood at 55.1% of higher education graduates, 1.3% more than the previous year. (more information on this subject can be found in SDG 9, section 5).

## 4.4 Four out of every five young people will have completed some type of post-compulsory training

The percentage of people aged between 20 and 24 with post-compulsory education (baccalaureate or vocational training) is increasing very slowly and seems to be stagnating at around 62%. It seems unlikely that the target of 80% by 2030 will be reached. This indicator, combined with that of figure 4.3, points to a growing polarisation of the Barcelona population in terms of education.

In order to publicise the strategic importance of vocational training and promote vocations, diagnostic reports, new trends and training needs, linked to vocational training, have been published in relation to four highly relevant sectors: [health and social health](#), [3D printing](#), [eco-design \(circular economy\)](#), [commerce and catering](#), and [agri-food](#).

## 4.5 By 2030, everyone will have the same educational opportunities

The indicator for this target is not yet available.

It is important to stress that the City Council has promoted inclusion and equal educational opportunities through various programmes and government measures. The [Connexions Programme](#) was created as a response to the pandemic but has been extended beyond it. It consists of the cession of municipal spaces to expand the space available to schools, seeking connections with other municipal programmes and services. With regard to educational spaces, there has also been participatory work on the [criteria for a good school playground](#): naturalised, co-educational and community-based. The strategy "[Towards a policy of afternoons in educating neighbourhoods](#)" aims to promote educational and cultural opportunities for all children and adolescents through extracurricular activities. The concept of "educating neighbourhoods" aims to achieve the [expansion of education within the community](#), promoting the knowledge and coordination of the different educational and community agents, the social use of educational centres and the educational function of public space.

## 4.6 Most of Barcelona's population will be able to function in three languages: Catalan, Spanish and English

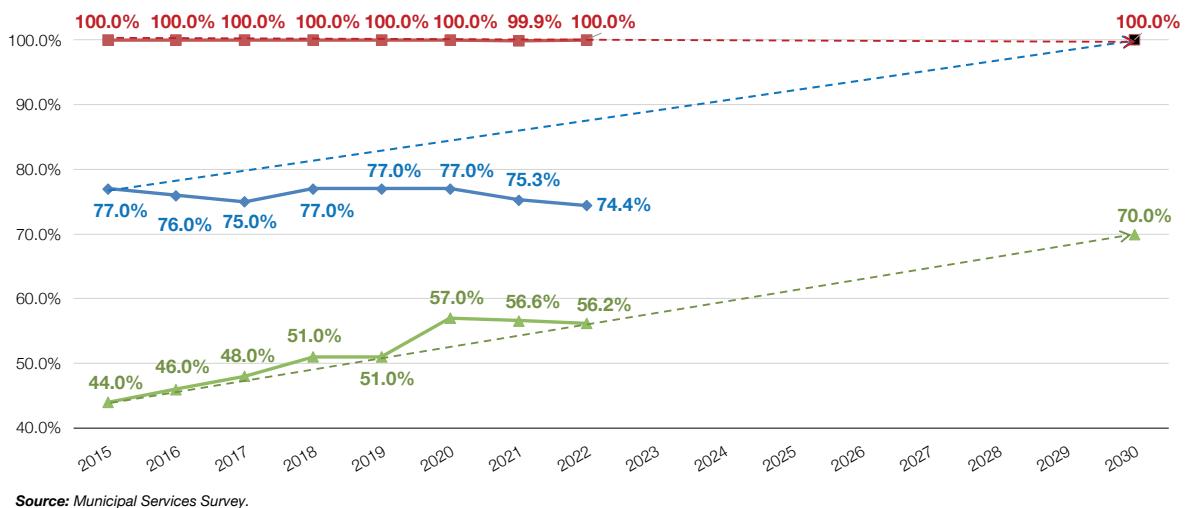
Knowledge of Spanish, measured on the basis of the subjective perception of one's own linguistic ability, is practically 100% in the overall population over 17 years of age and for all the years of the series. With regard to English, knowledge of the language has increased by 12 points since 2015, reaching 56.2% in 2022. Despite the slight setback of the last two years, it is heading in the right direction to reach 70.0% by 2030. However, the percentage of the population over 17 years of age who consider that they can speak Catalan has decreased by 0.9% compared to the previous year and by 2.6% compared to 2015. The objective that everyone should be able to speak Catalonia's own language is still a long way off.

## 4.7 Educational and awareness-raising action on sustainable development and human rights will be available at all education centres

The number of schools that have carried out environmental education projects within the framework of the More Sustainable Schools (E+S by its initials in Catalan) programme was 358, representing 52% of all schools in the city in the 2020-21 school year. Growth is relatively stagnant, but is heading in the right direction. In contrast, the percentage of pupils who know the rights included in the Convention on the Rights of the Child at the end of primary school has dropped considerably. 14.8% fewer pupils claim to know them when they

**Graph 30: Knowledge of languages**

Indicator 4.6.1a: 100% of the population over 17 years of age consider that they can speak Catalan  
Indicator 4.6.1b: 100% of the population over 17 years of age consider that they can speak Spanish  
Indicator 4.6.1c: 70% of the population over 17 years of age consider that they can speak English

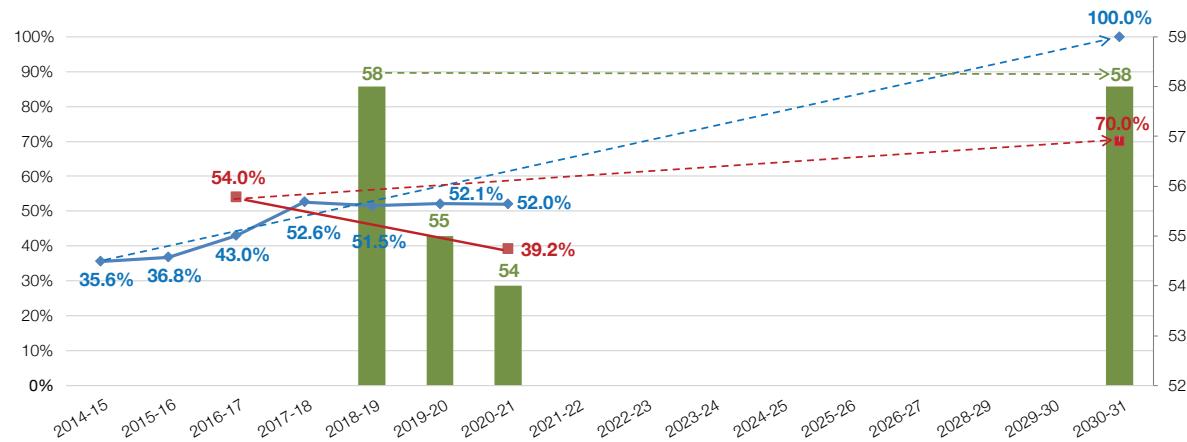


### Graph 31: Education for sustainable development and human rights

**Indicator 4.7.1:** 100% of education centres take part in environmental-education projects in the “More Sustainable Schools” network

**Indicator 4.7.2:** Over 70% of students understand the Convention on the Rights of the Child when they finish primary school

**Indicator 4.7.3:** Maintain the Education for Global Justice projects



**Note:** Education for global justice projects promote critical education and the promotion of peace, human rights, sustainability and gender equality.

**Source 4.7.1:** More Sustainable Barcelona. Barcelona City Council.

**Source 4.7.2:** Institute for Children and Adolescents. Survey on the Subjective Well-Being of Children in Barcelona.

**Source 4.7.3:** Global Justice programme report.

finish primary education (39.2% in 2020-21). The disruption of the school programme and of leisure and cultural activities outdoors, due to the pandemic, largely explains this decline. As regards the projects presented and funded under the Global Justice Education Strategy, there were three fewer in 2021 than in the previous year; this is an insignificant figure for a strategy that has been very successful in its deployment.

#### 4.a All children with learning difficulties will have access to a specialised resource or centre to foster their early development

The indicator for this target is not yet available.

#### 4.b Develop international cooperation in the area of education

See SDG 17, target 2.

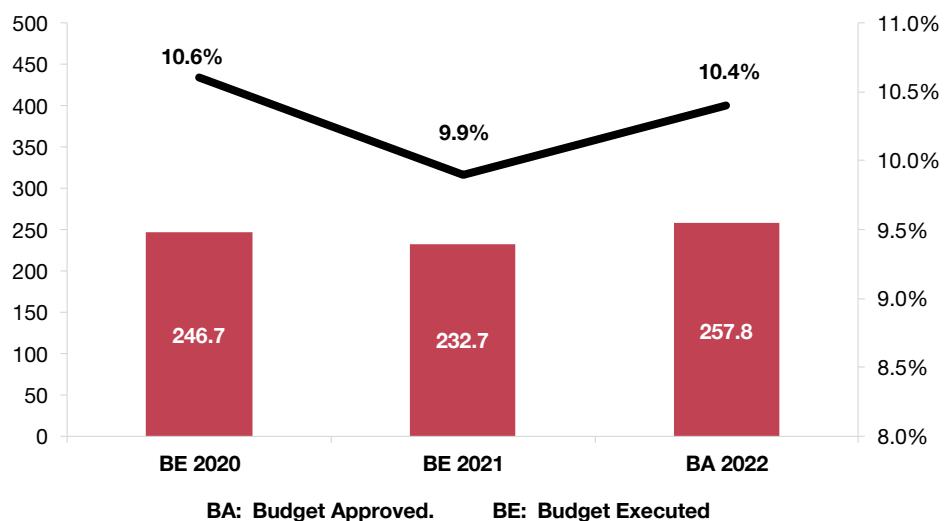


## Budgetary effort indicators

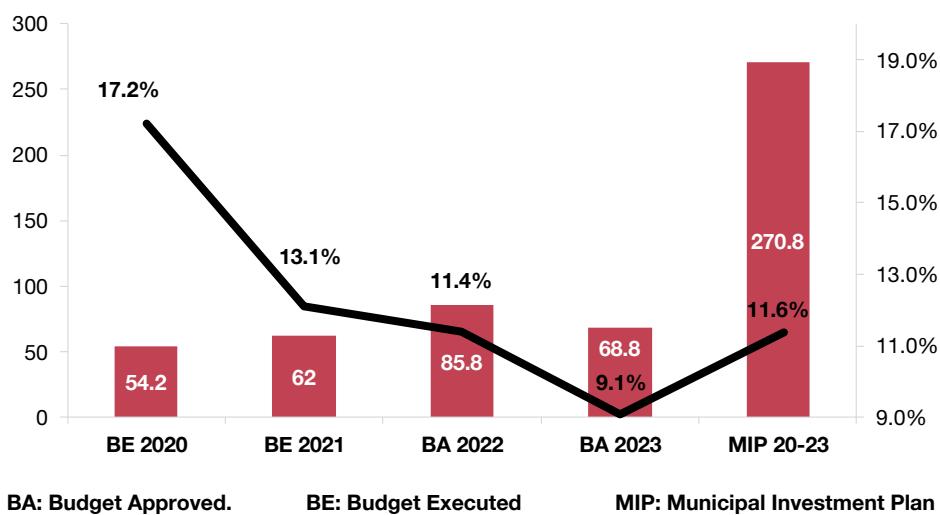
The budgetary effort indicators show a strong stabilisation in current expenditure. It accounts for around 10% of total expenditure, although it should be borne in mind that this SDG accounts for most of the expenditure devoted to cultural programmes and facilities.

It can be seen that investment remains relatively stable in absolute terms, but with decreases towards the end of the MIP in relative terms.

**Current expenditure on SDG 4**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



**Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 4**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)







## Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 5.1 End all forms of discrimination and reduce the impact on equality

Work is under way to calculate the [Gender Equality Index](#) synthetic indicator, developed by the European Institute for Gender Equality, to encompass only Barcelona. The great virtue of this index is that it integrates practically all the dimensions of gender inequality. It is comprised of 31 indicators, grouped into six core areas (work, resources, knowledge, time, power and health) and two additional ones (violence against women and intersectional inequalities). The problem is that it is designed to be calculated on a State scale. It has been possible to do [at the level of Catalonia](#), but calculating it at the city level presents insurmountable difficulties due to the unavailability of data for some of the indicators. In any case, the main indicators available can be found in this SDG and in others such as 3 and 8.

The City Council has been very active in the fight against economic gender inequality. The [Strategy against the feminisation of poverty and job insecurity in Barcelona: 2016-2024](#) has been completed and updated by the [Government Measure on Feminist Economy](#) (for the improvement of the economic, social and labour conditions of the most precarious and feminised occupations).

A study has also been carried out on gender justice in an emblematic area of Barcelona's industry, the [industrial estates on the right bank of the Besòs](#).

In addition to this, it has included a gender perspective in many areas of municipal policies such as [housing, preventing homelessness, sport, culture, science, community action, cycling mobility](#), and the [design, implementation and management of public facilities](#). The drafting of gender impact reports has also become generalised, among which [the budget](#) report stands out.

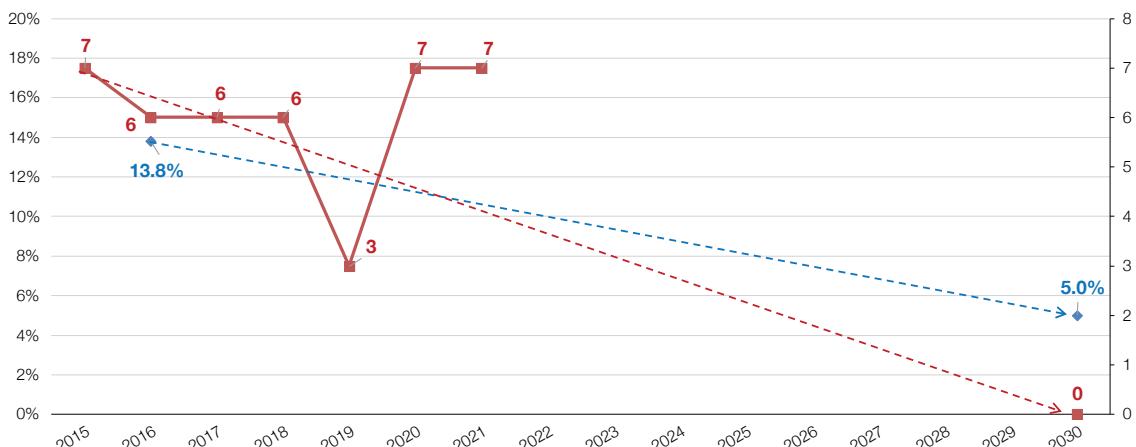
### 5.2 Eliminate gender violence in Barcelona

The indicator referring to the prevalence of gender violence cannot be updated until next year, coinciding with the publication of the Survey on gender violence in Catalonia for 2021. In relation to gender violence, it has not been possible to reduce the number of homicides due to gender violence in the judicial district of Barcelona.

Barcelona has very firm policies in the fight against gender violence. In this mandate, they have been updated with the Government measures [Forging Alliances: Barcelona, a city free of gender violence](#), and [the Guàrdia Urbana against gender violence](#). The latter is a Plan that has the general objective of increasing the resources and preparation of the GUB [city police] to improve prevention, detection and care for women victims of gender violence, as well as optimising the existing resources of the system.

**Graph 32: Gender-based violence**

**Indicator 5.2.1:** Prevalence of gender violence below 5%  
**Indicator 5.2.2:** Number of femicides equal to zero (right axis).



**Note 5.2.2:** Includes the homicides due to violence against women in the judicial district of Barcelona.

**Source 5.2.1:** Catalan Department of Home Affairs. Survey on gender violence in Catalonia.

**Source 5.2.2:** General Council of the Judiciary.

The trend in this phenomenon was constantly and closely monitored during the pandemic, through reports such as “[Gender violence in times of Covid-19](#)” and the “[Panel on the perception of gender violence among SARA users in times of Covid-19](#)”. Another issue that has been prioritised in the last two years is the prevention, detection and action in cases of sexual violence through activities promoted by the City Council. Specifically, protocols have been approved for [municipal music education centres](#) and for [sports activities for adults](#).

### **5.3 Develop programmes to combat the human trafficking and sexual exploitation of women and girls, and against gender violence in countries receiving Official Development Assistance**

The [Municipal Unit against Human Trafficking](#) (UTEH by its initials in Catalan) is a municipal service that tackles and combats human trafficking from a holistic perspective. The main line of action is the restitution of human rights that have been violated for victims or potential victims of human trafficking who are linked to the city of Barcelona, by offering specialised care. The number of people attended by the service almost tripled in the first four years of operation. The pandemic, which reduced the flow of international mobility, may also

have influenced the significant decline observed in 2021.

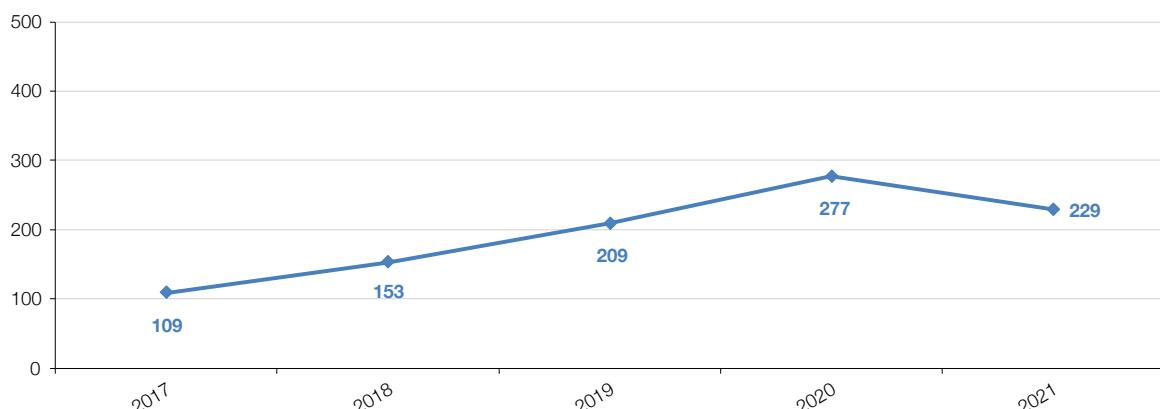
### **5.4 Achieve shared responsibility in housework and care work, both within families and between families, companies and the public administration**

The ambitious target set for 2030 that *no one should be caring for a person in need of care alone* is well on the way to being achieved, as in 2021 the percentage of people caring for dependants by themselves fell by 2.3% compared to 2016 to 5.6%. In contrast, the objective of achieving a more balanced distribution of household tasks between men and women does not seem to be moving in the right direction. The latest available data for 2020 shows that women spend an average of 48.8% more of their time doing housework than men. The pandemic seems to have interrupted the slow progress that had been achieved between 2015 and 2019.

The [NUST Network \(New Social Uses of Time\)](#) is a local network of companies and organisations of different sizes and sectors aimed at promoting a work culture and a management of working time that leads to a better balance between the time needs of people and the requirements and the competitiveness and productivity needs of the or-

**Graph 33: Fight against trafficking and sexual exploitation of women and girls**

**Indicator 5.3.1:** Family units assisted by the Municipal Unit against Human Trafficking (UTEH) victims of sexual exploitation or human-trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation

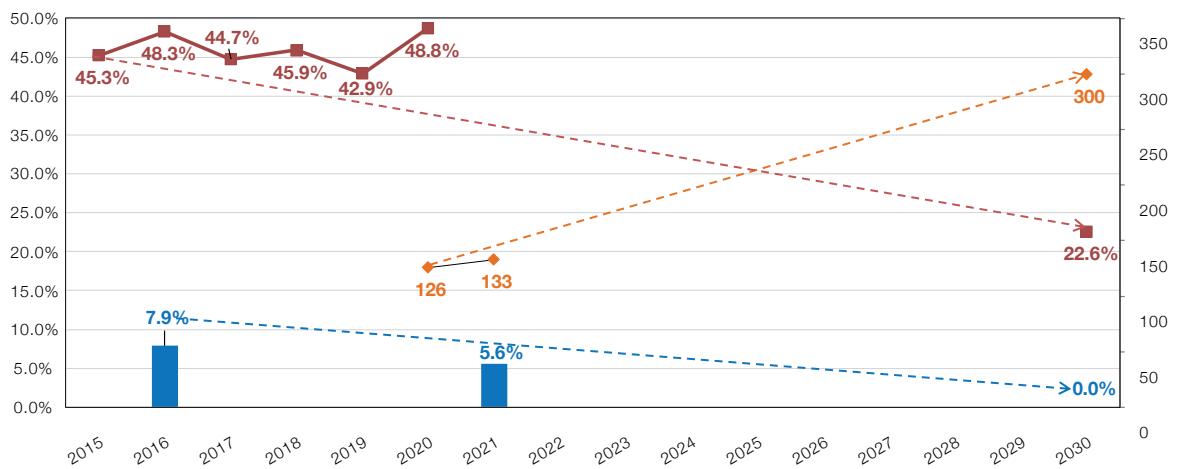


**Note:** 2030 target pending definition.

**Source:** Area of Social Rights. Barcelona City Council.

### Graph 34: Shared responsibility in the home and for care

**Indicator 5.4.1:** No one will have to look after a dependent person without any support  
**Indicator 5.4.3:** Reduce the gender gap in household chores by half  
**Indicator 5.4.5:** A minimum of 300 companies and organisations must form part of the NUST network



**Source 5.4.1:** Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB). Barcelona Health Survey.

**Source 5.4.3:** Health Department, Government of Catalonia. Catalan Health Survey.

**Source 5.4.5:** New Social Uses of Time Business Network.

ganisation, promoting changes to move forward in this direction. In 2021, a total of 133 companies and organisations were taking part. It is a step forward, but progress is nowhere near fast enough to reach the figure of 300 members by 2030.

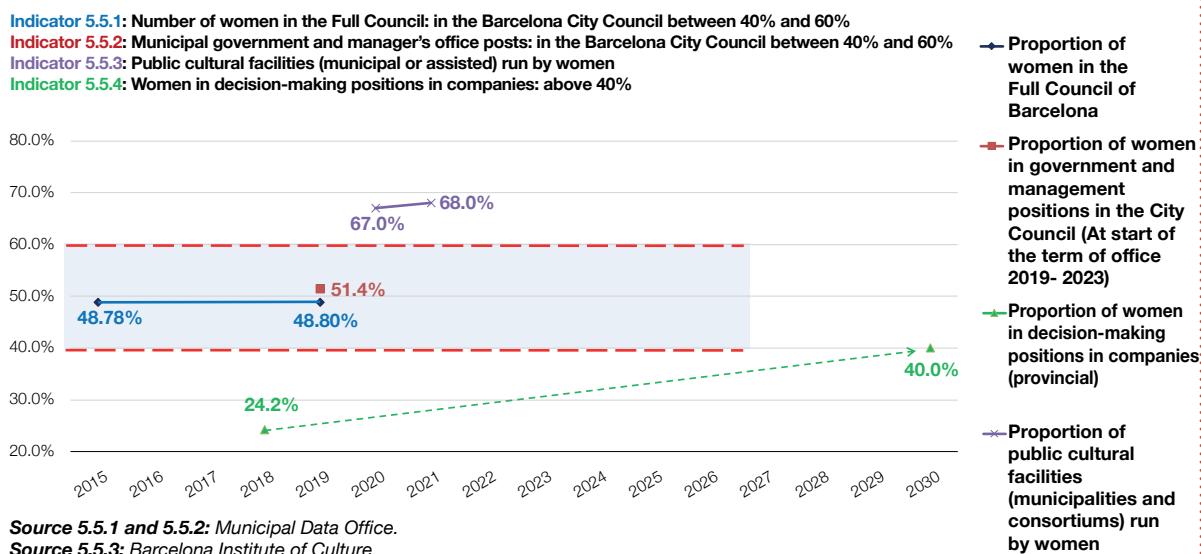
The [Government Measure for care democratisation](#) continues to be the main point of reference

in the City Council's policy on this issue. In recent years, new knowledge has been generated about work related to care, through the [Municipal Omnibus survey](#) and the [special dossier "The city of care"](#) in the magazine Barcelona Metrópolis. There has also been theories about the link between care and [time for life in the sustainable city](#).



## 5.5 Break the glass ceiling for women in Barcelona, achieving parity in political, economic and social representation and leadership

Graph 35: Parity in representation and leadership posts



The latest available data, both in relation to the political representation of women in the full city council and in municipal government posts, show how they are distributed in a way that is in line with gender parity. Furthermore, the percentage of public cultural facilities run by women reached 68% in 2021. The “glass ceiling” is much more evident when analysing the presence of women in decision-making positions in companies (24.2%). It should be noted that this indicator is for the province of Barcelona as a whole and has not been updated since 2018. It will be necessary to update it or seek alternatives.

The City Council has an [Equal Opportunities Plan for women and men](#), which involves [implementing gender equality in the different areas of the organisation](#). In another area, it is worth mentioning the work done in analysing the [Barcelona City Council Awards and Distinctions](#) from a gender perspective, which has served to [incorporate this issue into the draft regulations for the “Amendment of the Barcelona City Council Honours and Distinctions Regulations”](#).

### 5.b Achieve gender equality in the use of ICTs

The indicator for this target is not yet available. Work is under way to create a synthetic indicator, capable of reflecting the different aspects of the gender gap in the digital sphere. The study “[The digital gap in the city of Barcelona](#)” provides an up-to-date look at the issue with robust data. [A study of the situation has also been carried out at Barcelona City Council](#) itself. The most outstanding municipal action in this area is the [Government Measure BcnFemTech 2021-2023: for gender equality in the ICT sector](#).

### 5.c Implement and update the regulations and plans for gender equality in the City Council

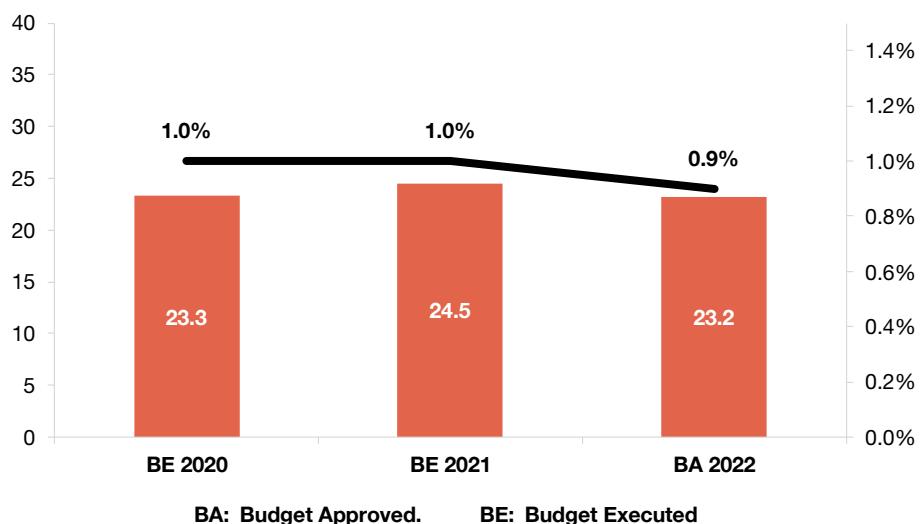
The [second Gender Justice Plan \(2021-2025\)](#) is currently in force. The [first Gender Justice Plan \(2016-2020\)](#) was evaluated in all its areas, specifically [in relation to gender mainstreaming](#).

## Budgetary effort indicators

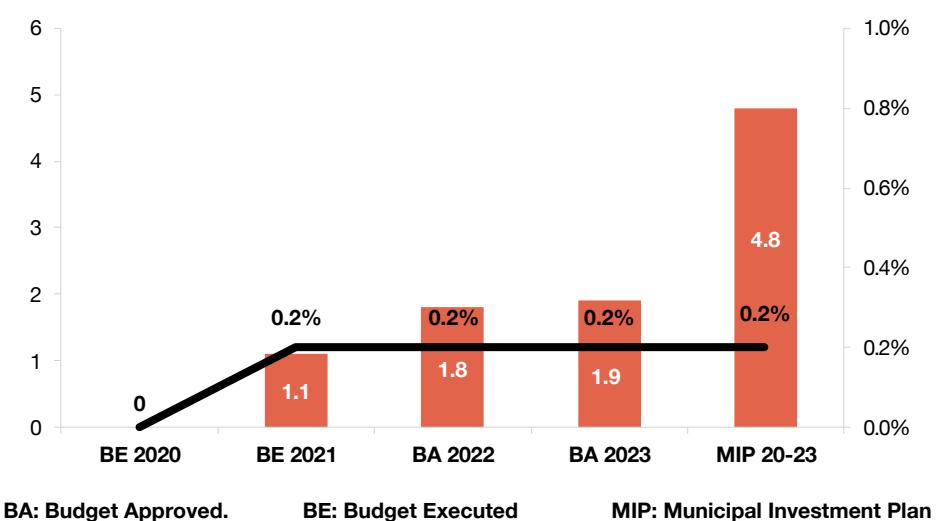
The budgetary effort indicators show a great stability in current expenditure, which is between EUR 23 and 24 million (around 1% of the total).

The investment is at a very low level, representing 0.2% of the total.

**Current expenditure on SDG 5**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)

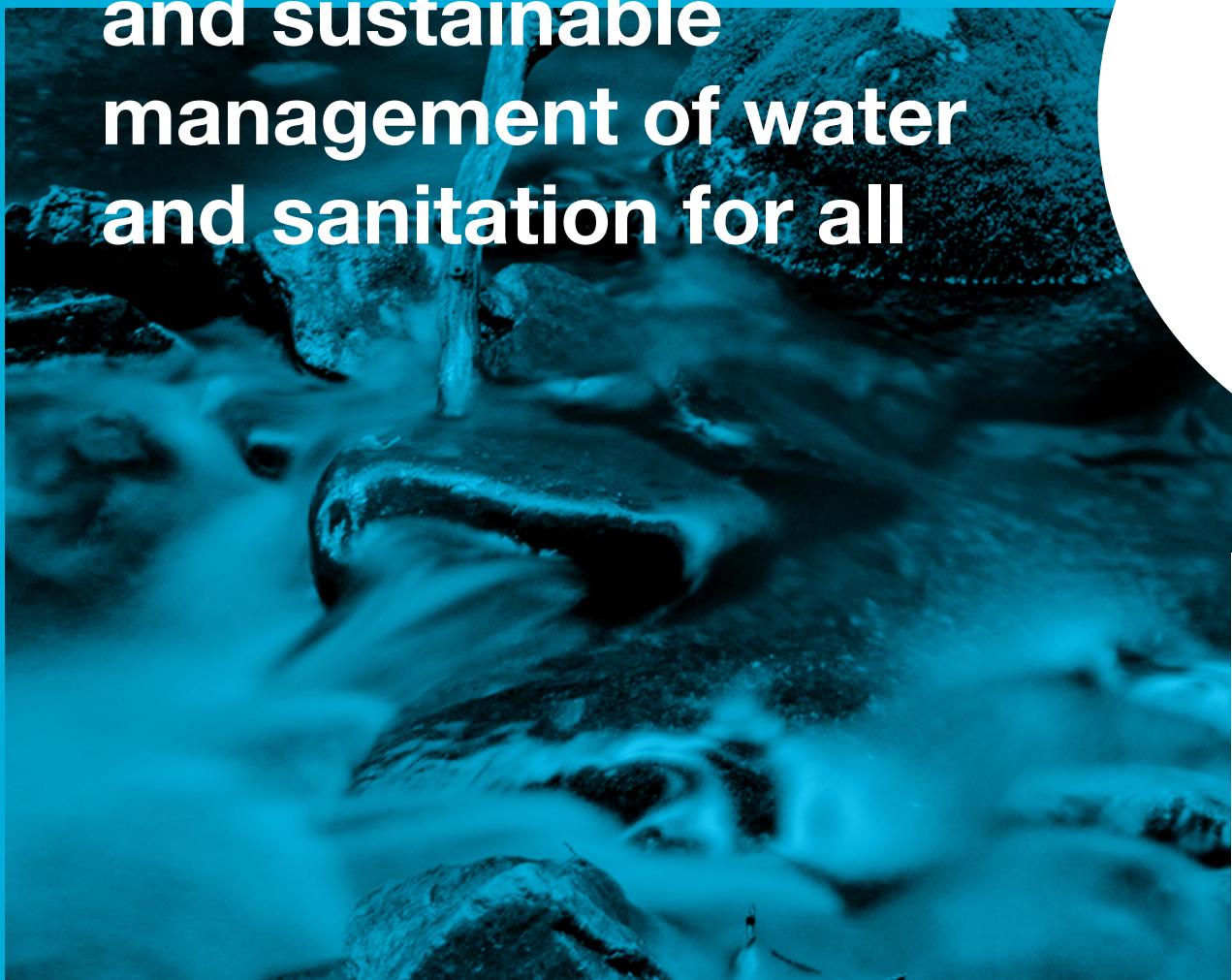


**Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 5**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)





## Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all



The annual report "[Water consumption in Barcelona: use and exploitation of water resources](#)" is the source of reference for understanding

the situation of this SDG in Barcelona. It contains a huge amount of data and analysis, particularly on the water balance and water supply.

## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 6.1 Reduce the burden of the water bill on family budgets

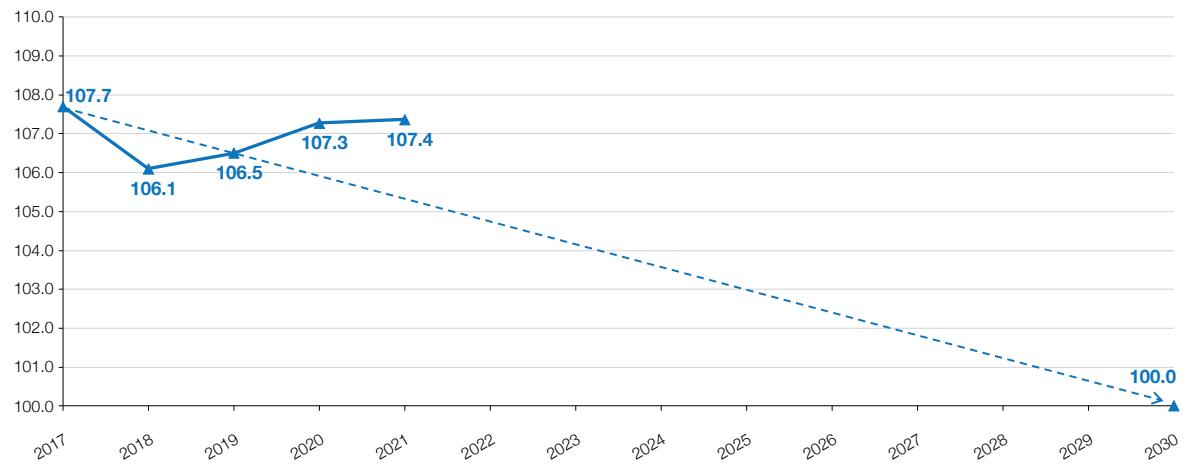
In the last five years, it has not been possible to reduce the difference in the water bill between the households in the county (comarca) of Barcelonès and those in Catalonia as a whole. They continue to pay 7% more.

### 6.2 Ensure that everyone has access to housing with suitable conditions of sanitation and hygiene

The number of irregular settlements in the city has increased steadily in recent years and, as a result, so has the number of people who live

**Graph 36: Cost of water bill (Barcelonès region)**

**Indicator 6.1.1:** Get the index of economic effort needed to pay the water bill down to the average for Catalonia



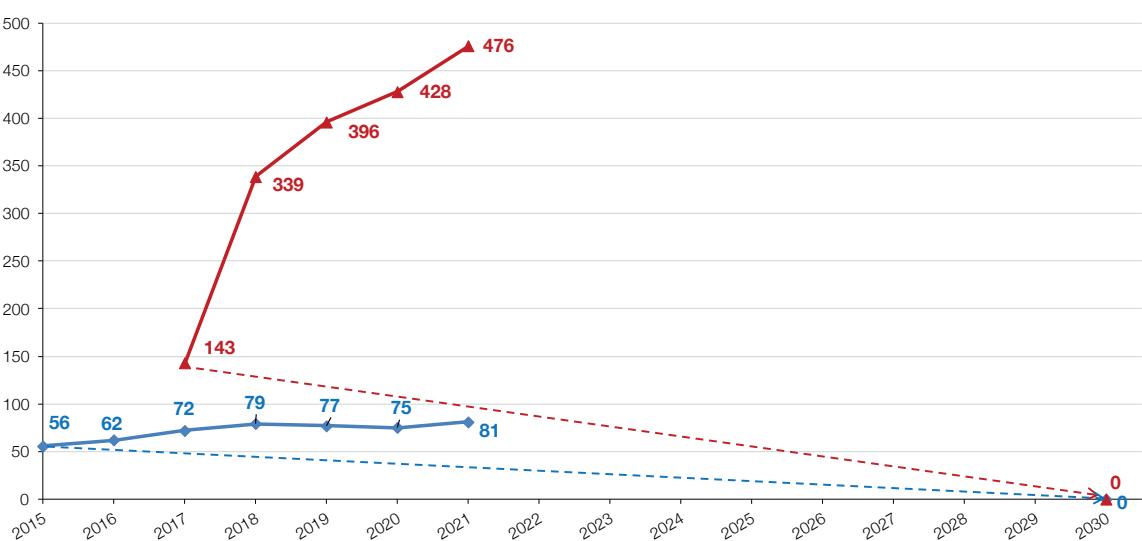
**Note:** The index for economic effort needed to pay the water bill relates the price of water to the Disposable Family Income (Catalonia = 100).

**Source:** Catalan Water Agency.

**Graph 37: Illegal settlements (dwellings without sanitation)**

**Indicator 6.2.1a:** Reduce the number of illegal settlements to zero in the city

**Indicator 6.2.1b:** Reduce the number of people living in illegal settlements to zero in the city



**Source:** Area of Social Rights. Barcelona City Council.

there. In 2021, 81 irregular settlements were recorded, housing a total of 476 people. (for a better understanding of this target, see also SDG 1, target 1).

### 6.3 Expand the sustainable urban drainage systems and the use of groundwater

In order to reach an optimal state of rehabilitation, it has been estimated that it would be necessary to rehabilitate at least 1.0% of the sewer network per year from 2030 onwards. As can be seen in the graph, the rehabilitation percentages are still very low, as indicated by the 2021 figure of 0.19%. Another good indicator of the status of the sewer network, and closely related to the previous one, is the average age of the whole

network. In 2021, the average age was 65.2 years, 2.2 years older than in 2014, and still far from the target of 2030 of reducing it to an average of 50 years.

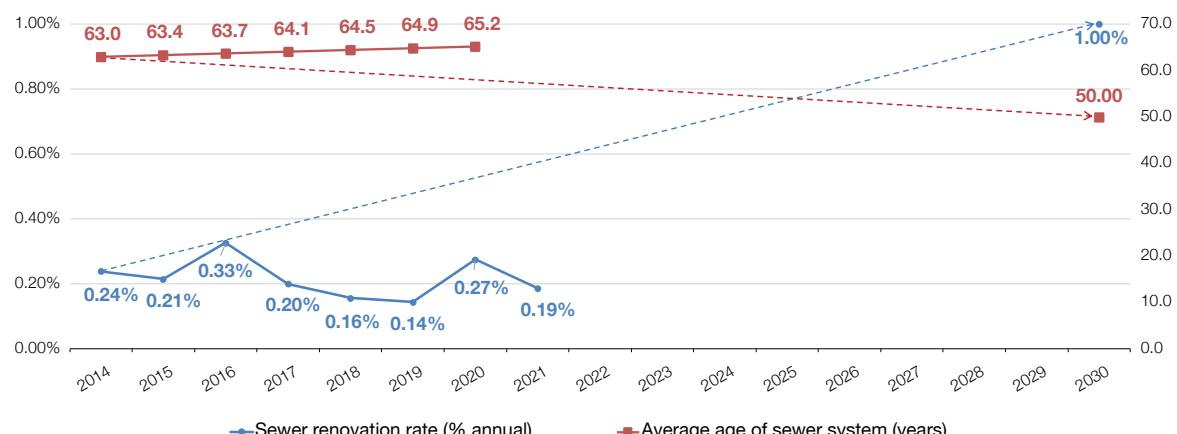
The state of conservation and the maintenance of the sewer network are essential to avoid water seepage into the subsoil. The desired scenario for 2030 is that this volume of water should not exceed 6.71 hm<sup>3</sup>. In recent years, however, the indicator has worsened considerably, reaching 11.50 hm<sup>3</sup> of water. The economic losses derived from this filtration are estimated at some EUR 18.82 million.

The [2020-2100 Integral Sanitation Master Plan for the City of Barcelona \(PDISBA\)](#) is the guideline for this policy, working on long-term scenarios.

**Graph 38: Status and renovation of the sewer system**

Indicator 6.3.1: Renovate 1% of the sewer system each year.

Indicator 6.3.3: Achieve an average age of the sewer system of less than 50 years. (Right axis)

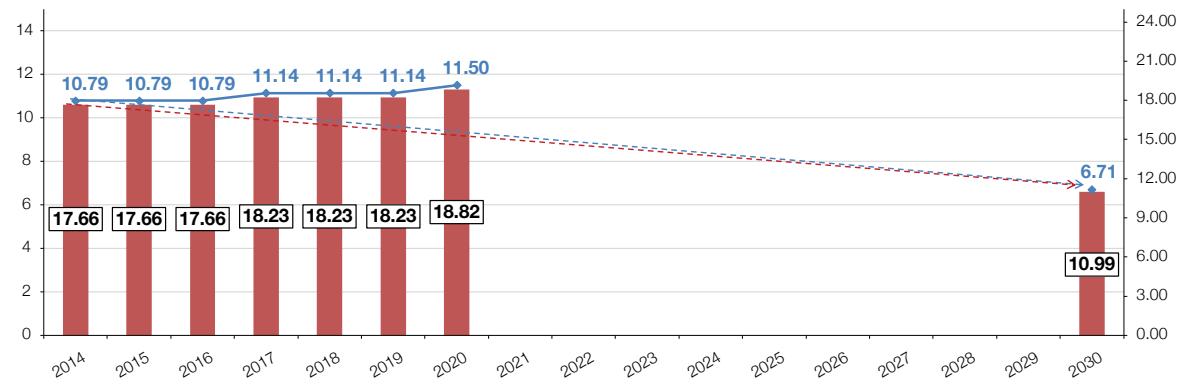


Source: Barcelona Cicle de l'Aigua, SA.

**Graph 39: Water filtration and pollution**

Indicator 6.3.2: Reduce the estimated volume of water filtering into the subsoil resulting from the ageing of the sewer network to below 6.71 hm<sup>3</sup>.

Indicator 6.3.4: Reduce economic losses due to pollution of groundwater bodies to less than EUR 10.99 million. (Right axis)



Source: Barcelona Cicle de l'Aigua, SA.

### Graph 40: Drinking water consumption

**Indicator 6.4.1:** Achieve a drinking water consumption in the home of less than 100 litres per person per day  
**Indicator 6.4.2:** Achieve an urban drinking water consumption of less than 150 litres per person per day



**Source:** Annual Report. Water consumption in Barcelona. Barcelona City Council.

## 6.4 Achieve sustainable domestic water consumption, through water efficiency and saving measures

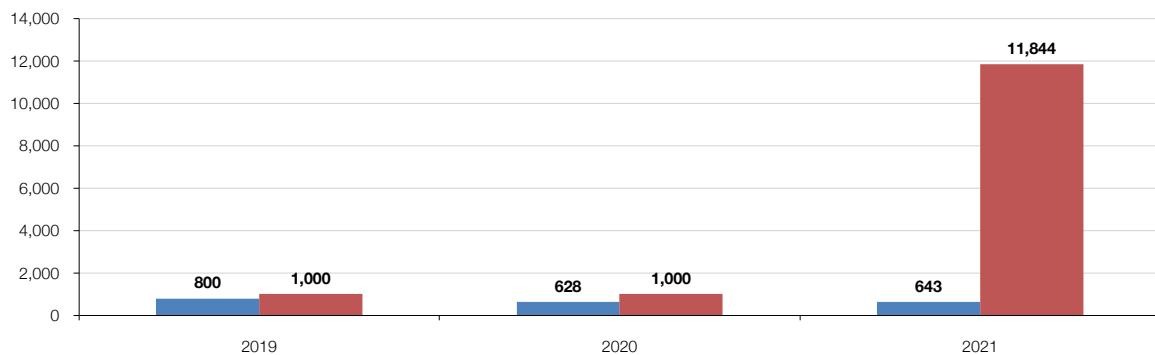
Domestic drinking water consumption has traditionally been low in Barcelona compared to other similar cities. Even so, considering that drought situations could occur more and more frequently and intensely, it would be advisable to reduce it slightly more. As can be seen in the graph, domestic water consumption

has remained very stable since 2015, except for the peak in 2020, caused by the pandemic lockdowns. In contrast, urban water consumption reached the 2030 target in 2020 and 2021, although these values are highly dependent on the fall in tourist activity, and it is very likely that they will increase again.

The [Barcelona protocol for drought situations](#) is the municipal civil protection plan that caters for both the possible situations and problems arising from the lack of water and the organisation of the actions to be taken in each particular case.

### Graph 41: Use of greywater and rainwater

**Indicator 6.4.3:** Greywater used (in m<sup>3</sup>)  
**Indicator 6.4.4:** Rainwater use on roofs (m<sup>3</sup>)



**Note:** 2030 target pending definition.  
**Source:** Barcelona Cicle de l'Aigua, SA.

As can be seen in the graph, the use of greywater in buildings is still in its early stages. The establishment of a 2030 target is conditional on government measures and the funding that can be obtained to expand it in the domestic, industrial and commercial spheres. With regard to the collection and use of rainwater on roofs, there was a significant increase in 2021, reaching 11,844 m<sup>3</sup> collected.

*Barcelona's Technical Plan for the Use of Alternative Water Resources (PLARHAB)* proposes the increasing inclusion of resources such as groundwater, regenerated water, run-off rainwater, grey water and seawater, in all situations where it is not necessary to use drinking water.

## 6.5 Implement integrated water-resources management at all levels, including cross-border cooperation

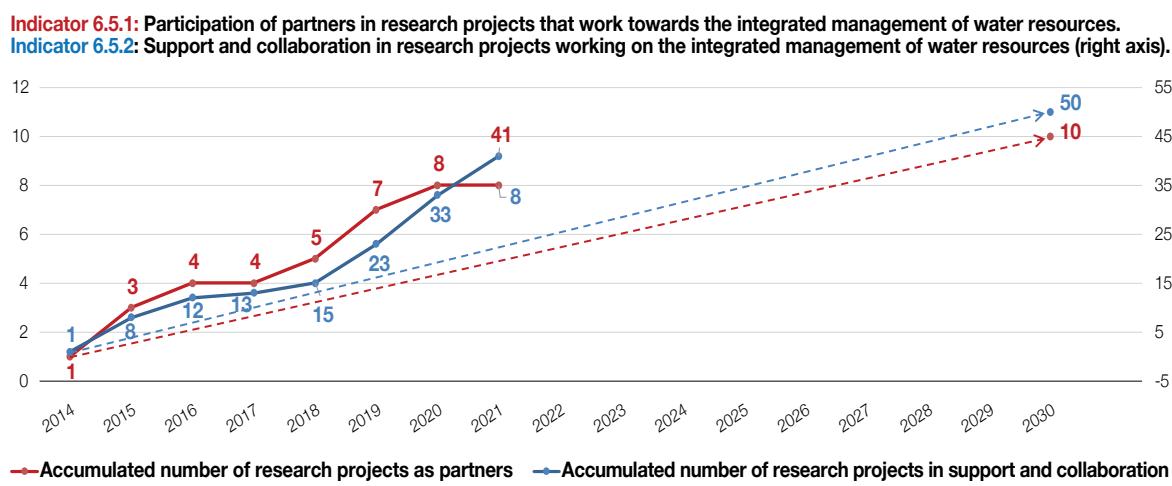
Participation in research projects provides innovation and continuous improvement in the integrated management of water resources. Barcelona City Council, through Barcelona Cicle de l'Aigua (BCASA), participates in various projects with

European funding, either as part of the consortium or as a collaborating entity. The accumulated participation since 2014 as partners totals eight research projects, and 41 as collaborators. This is a well-established trajectory.

Barcelona City Council is working on the implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS), which make it possible to regulate the water flow in the sewer network and thus reduce the environmental impact of the overflows of the combined sewage systems and other harmful effects generated in times of extremely heavy rainfall, when the sewerage system is overwhelmed. Thanks to the effort in implementing this system, by the end of 2021 there were already 65.7 thousand m<sup>2</sup> available, with a notable progress towards the 2030 deadline. With regard to mains water consumed by municipal services, we can see that it has fallen by 330,000 m<sup>3</sup> since 2015, to 5.28 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2021. If it continues to decrease at this rate, the target of a reduction to 4.48 million m<sup>3</sup> by 2030 will be achieved.

Both the *PDISBA* and the *PLARHAB* include these lines of work, which are strategic in adapting the city to the effects that climate change is having on the water cycle.

**Graph 42: Municipal participation in integrated water management research projects**

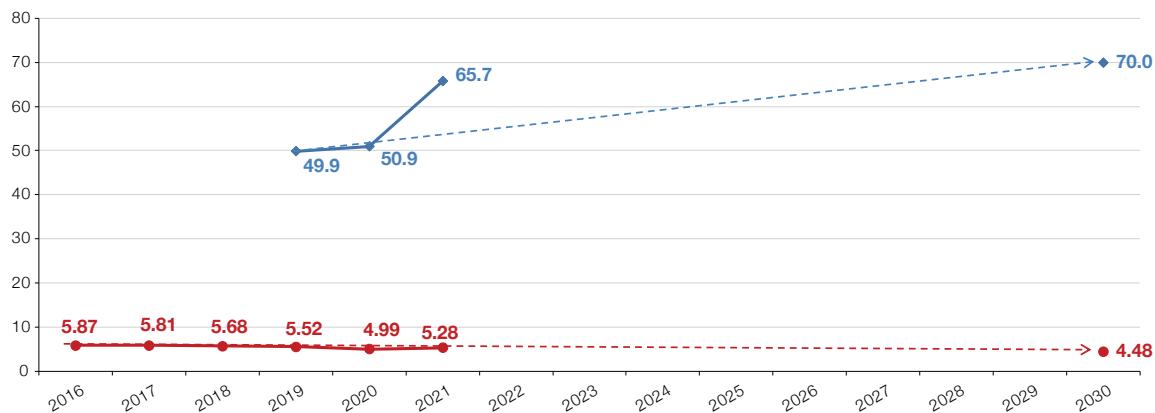


Source: Barcelona Cicle de l'Aigua, SA.

### Graph 43: Sustainable drainage and water savings through the use of alternative water sources

**Indicator 6.5.3:** Increase the Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) to 70 million m<sup>2</sup>.

**Indicator 6.5.4:** Reduce the annual city water consumption by municipal services by 100,000 m<sup>3</sup> (in million m<sup>3</sup>)

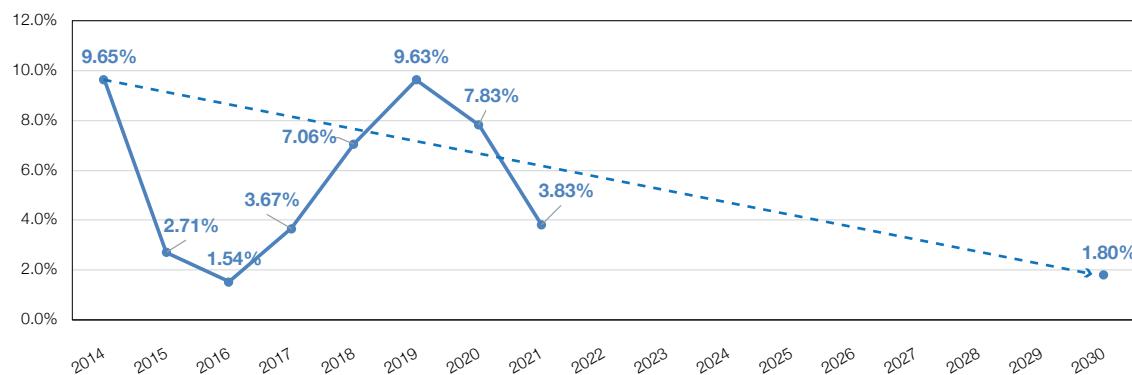


Source: Barcelona Cicle de l'Aigua, SA.

## 6.6 Ensure the protection and environmental quality of water ecosystems

### Graph 44: Microbiological quality of the water of the beaches

**Indicator 6.6.2:** Forecast of the percentage of time of non-compliance of the microbiological quality of the water of the beaches of Barcelona during the bathing season of less than 1.80%.



Note: The bathing season is considered to be from June to September.  
Source: Barcelona Cicle de l'Aigua, SA.

In order to guarantee the quality of the water on Barcelona's beaches, it is desirable that the time of non-compliance with the microbiological quality of the water does not exceed 1.80% of the time of the bathing season from June to September. The record for 2021 decreases to 3.83% of the time. The indicator varies greatly, depending on the rainfall. The growth of the SUDS (see target 6.5) and other innovations should allow for increasingly effective regulation, which will allow for a stable reduction in pollution.

### **6.a. Develop international city cooperation in programmes relating to water and sanitation**

See SDG 17, target 2.

### **6.b Increase citizen participation in water and sanitation management**

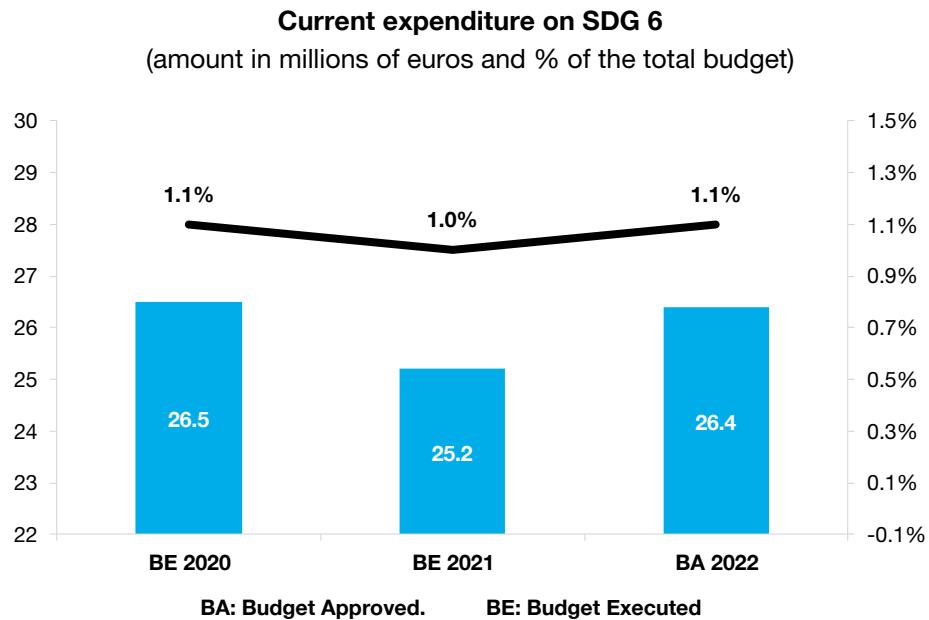
With the new Regulations for Citizen Participation, approved in 2017, the way was open to hold a citizen consultation on the water supply management model, which had the support of more than 50 entities and associations. That regulation, however, was strongly contested in the courts, mainly by the concessionaire company of the water supply service. In October 2019, the regulation was annulled in the courts, with the essential argument that the City Council could not regulate participation based on the Barcelona Municipal Charter, but had to comply with State regulations. In May 2022, a new version of the Regulation was approved which, in principle, allows this type of consultation, although it makes it much more difficult, both because of the number of supporting signatures that must be obtained and because of the filters that the proposal has to pass through before it can receive final approval. On this issue, in the debates on the promotion and updating of the Barcelona Municipal Charter, a proposal has been tabled to extend Barcelona's autonomy in the regulation of its citizen participation model.



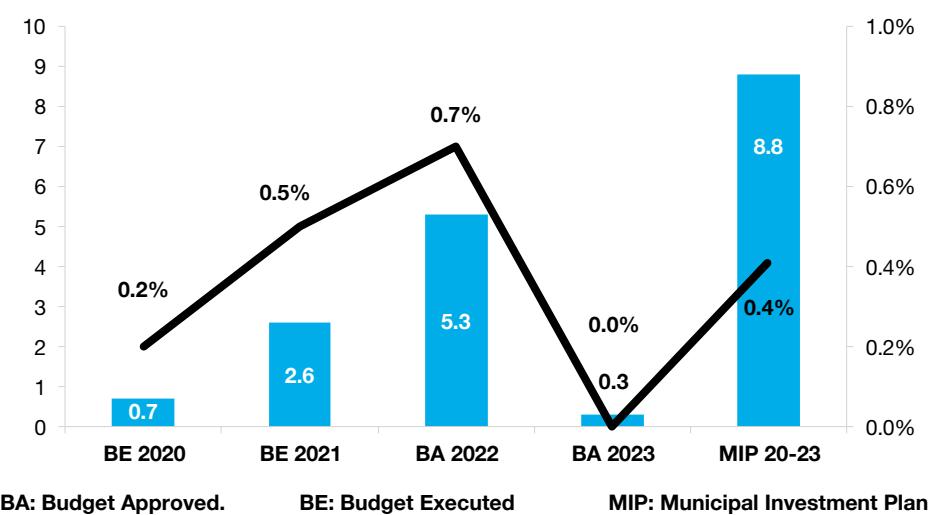
## Budgetary effort indicators

The budgetary effort indicators show a stable but very low current expenditure, around 1% of the total, because the bulk of the investment in

water-related infrastructures is not covered by the municipal budget.



**Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 6**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)





## Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all



The [Balance of energy and greenhouse gas emissions](#) is the reference document for understanding the situation of this SDG in Barcelona. The [Monograph](#)

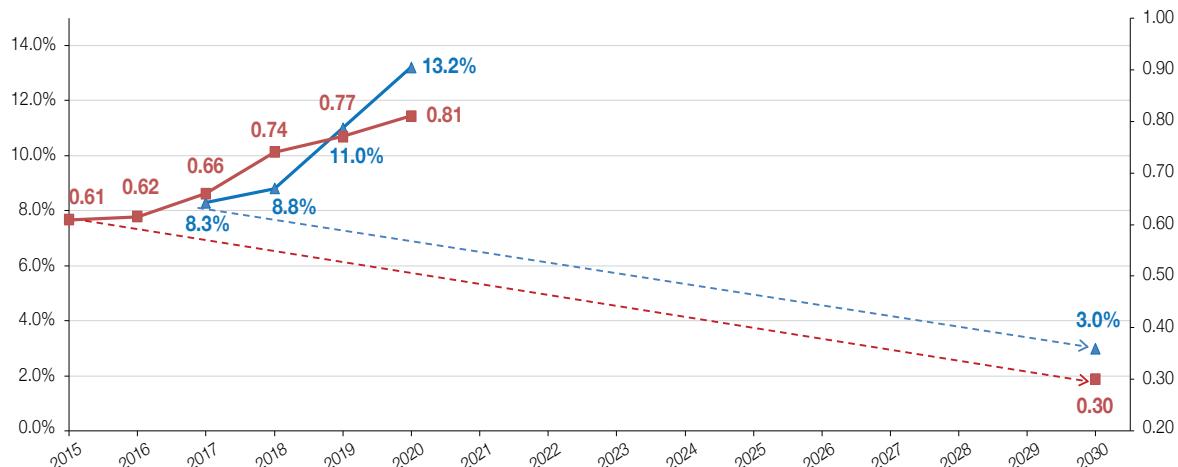
[on Energy and Climate Change published by the magazine Barcelona Sòcietat](#) is also recommended for further information on the subject.

## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 7.1 Drastically reduce energy poverty and power cuts in Barcelona

**Graph 45: Access to energy and high-quality supply**

**Indicator 7.1.1:** Reduce the percentage of households unable to keep their homes at an adequate temperature in the coldest months to below 3%.  
**Indicator 7.1.2:** Reduce the SAIDI (System Average Interruption Duration Index) for urban areas in the Province of Barcelona to below 0.3 (right axis)



**Note:** The acronym TIEPI refers to the interruption time equivalent to the installed medium-voltage power in municipalities with more than 20,000 supplies.

**Source 7.1.1:** IERMB. Municipal survey on living conditions.

**Source 7.1.2:** Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge.

The TIEPI [Duration of power cut equivalent to the installed capacity] is a basic indicator of the quality of the electricity supply service. In this case, it refers to the urban areas of the province of Barcelona. It is impossible to know what the figure is for

the city of Barcelona, but it is clear that the indicator has improved slightly over the last few years. In comparative terms, in 2020 the TIEPI for urban areas in Catalonia as a whole was 0.88 and 0.47 in the case of Madrid.

**Graph 46: Access to energy (territorial comparative)**

**Indicator:** Proportion of people unable to keep their homes at an adequate temperature in the coldest months.

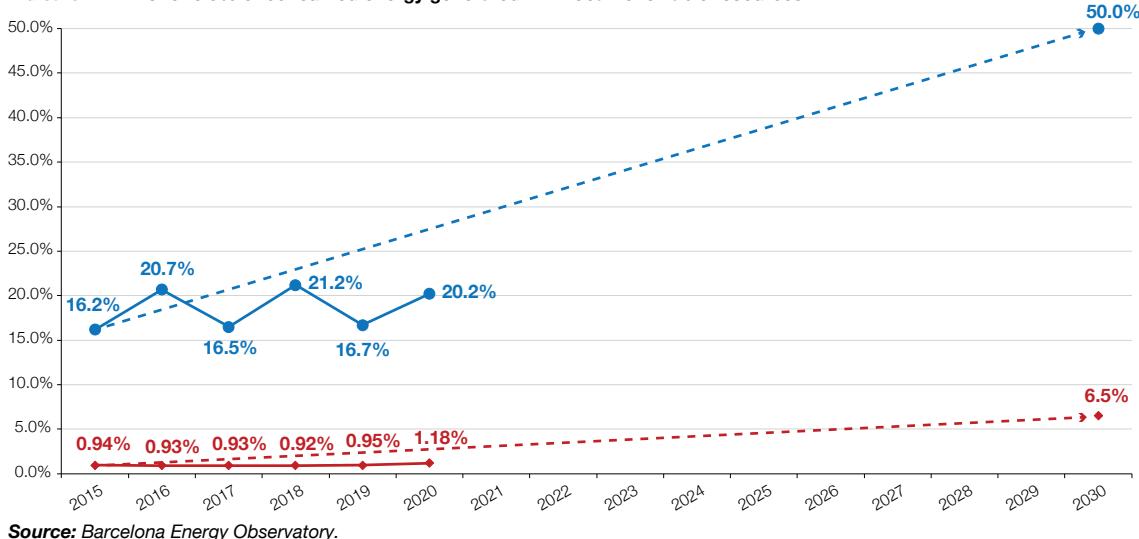


**Note:** The data for Barcelona are calculated by combining samples from two consecutive years; 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020.  
**Source:** IERMB and Idescat. Survey on Living Conditions.

### Graph 47: Consumption and generation of renewable energy

**Indicator 7.2.1:** More than 50% of electric energy consumed of renewable origin

**Indicator 7.2.2:** Over 6.5% of consumed energy generated with local renewable resources



Source: Barcelona Energy Observatory.

The percentage of the population unable to keep their homes at an adequate temperature in cold months increased alarmingly in 2020 and 2021 for the Spanish and Catalan populations as a whole (14.2% and 15.9%, respectively, in 2021). In Barcelona, the latest available data for 2020 already pointed to the same trend and stood at 13.2%. The reports [Emergency housing, energy poverty and health](#) and [The human right to energy: impact of the increase in electricity tariffs in Barcelona](#), provide a deeper understanding of the issue.

The [Energy Advice Points \(PAE\) by its initials in Catalan](#) are a specific municipal response to this situation. The figures for 2021 show that the PAEs have provided assistance to almost 155,500 people since 2015 and, in addition, they have managed to prevent 107,960 supply disconnections. Other related documentation can be found in SDG 1.

## 7.2 An exponential leap in the local consumption and the production of renewable energy

The percentage of electricity consumed from renewable sources in Barcelona is increasing at an excessively slow rate. It only increased by 4 points from 2015 to 2020, it experiences strong oscillations due to the varying presence of hydroelectric energy and is still very far from the 2030 target of reaching 50%. This is a consequence of the low weight of renewable energies in Catalonia, as can be seen in Graph 48, where we can see that only 9.9% of final energy consumption came from renewable sources in 2019, far below the figures for Spain and the European Union as a whole, with values of 18.4% and 19.7%, respectively.

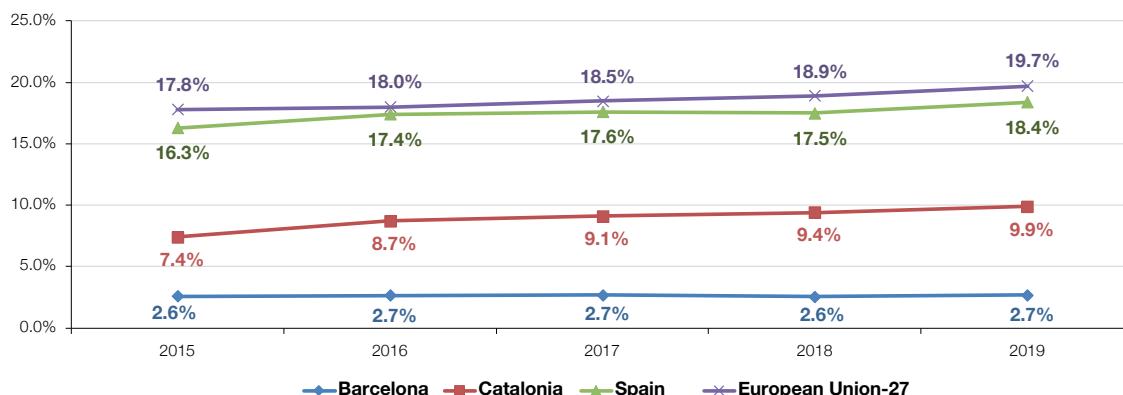
Another indicator that should make an exponential leap in the coming years is the local production of renewable energy, because the energy consumed that was generated with local renewable resources was only 1.18% in 2020 in Barcelona, 0.24% more than in 2015 (0.94%).

The promotion of the installation of renewable energies is being driven by the [MES \(Mecanisme de Energia Sostenible\) Barcelona](#) and [Moment Solar Barcelona](#) programmes.



### Graph 48: Renewable energy consumption (territorial comparative)

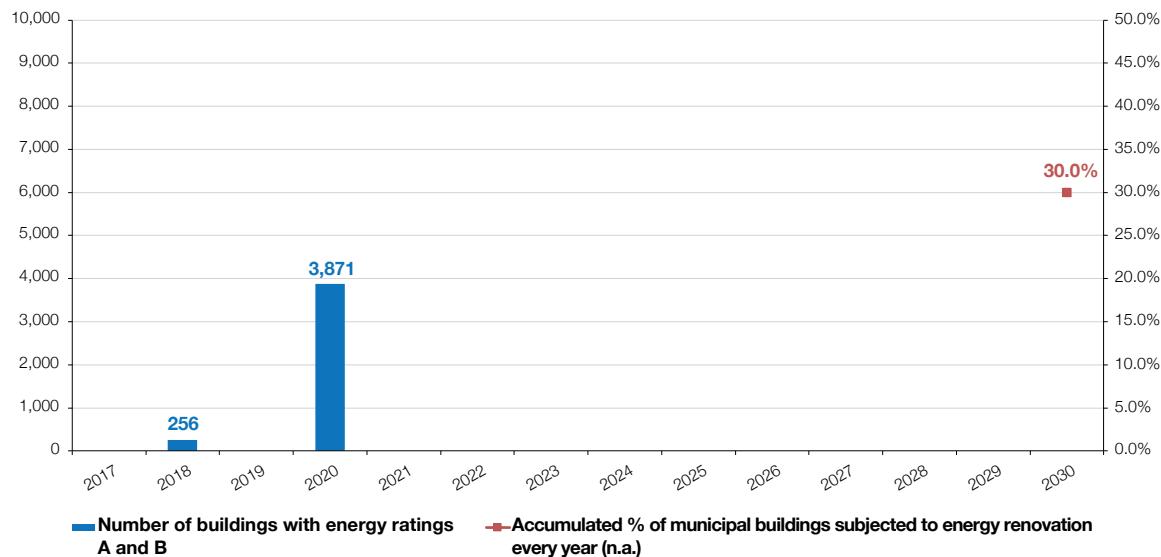
Indicator: Proportion of renewable energies over final energy consumption.



**Source Catalonia:** Department of Enterprise and Knowledge. Catalan Energy Institute. **Source Spain and the European Union:** Eurostat.  
**Source Barcelona:** Barcelona Energy Observatory.

### Graph 49: Energy efficiency

Indicator 7.3.1: Number of buildings with A and B energy ratings  
Indicator 7.3.2: Energy renovation of 30% of municipal buildings (right axis)



Note 1: 2030 target value per indicator 7.3.1 still to be defined.

Note 2: Data not available for indicator 7.3.2.

Source: Barcelona Energy Agency.

## 7.3 A stock of private and public buildings with high energy efficiency

The number of buildings with A and B energy ratings has multiplied by 15 in just two years, but these still represent a very small minority of the city's housing stock. It should be remembered that more than half of the city's buildings are over 60 years old. In 2018 only 30% of the total of 823,624 homes were energy certified and of these 94% were certified D or lower; per-

centages that are very similar to those of the metropolitan area as a whole. A key factor in adaptation and mitigation strategies in the face of climate change, however, is improving the thermal performance and energy efficiency of the city's buildings.

The [2030 Climate Emergency Action Plan](#) attaches particular importance to this issue (Buildings Better Than New) and the Next Generation Funds have made it possible to obtain resources to finance this transformation, which will be very costly.

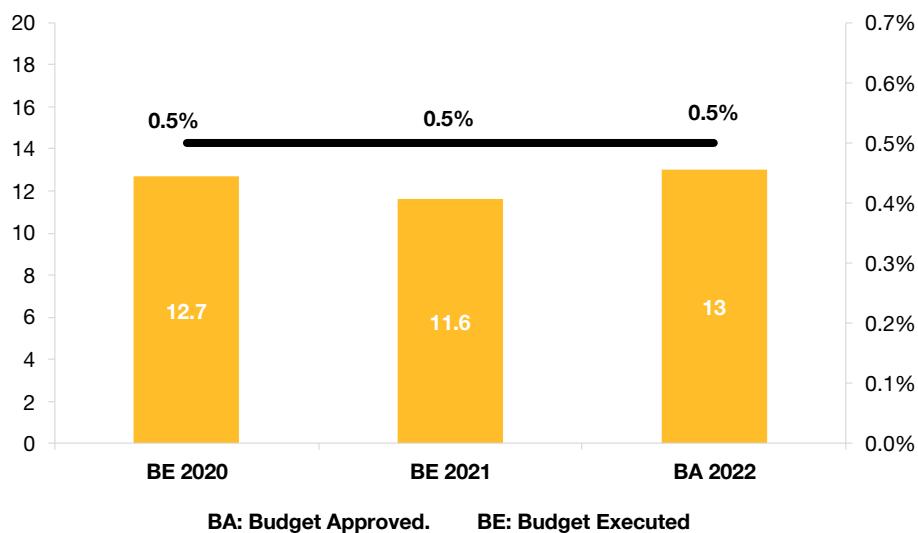
## Budgetary effort indicators

The budgetary effort indicators show a stable allocation to this SDG of 0.5% of the current

expenditure budget, and also of investment for the MIP as a whole.

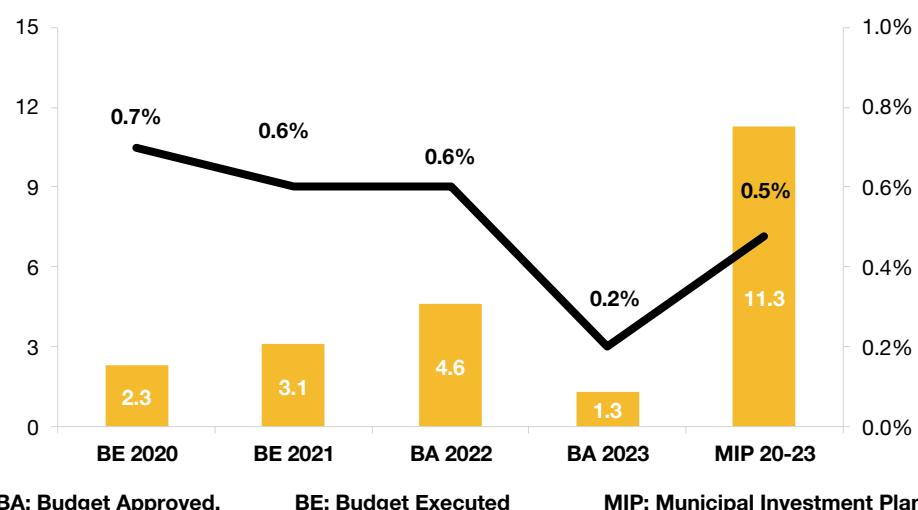
### Current expenditure on SDG 7

(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



### Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 7

(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)







## Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



There is plenty of information available on Barcelona's economy and it is frequently updated. It can be found in various formats. The [Barcelona Economia website](#) gathers indicators and reports from all sectors. It publishes a [monthly report on the economic situation in Barcelona](#), with synthetic and quick-to-read information. A more in-depth option is the publication "[Barcelona in figures: main economic indicators of the Barcelona area](#)". If you are looking for city rankings with an economic perspective, the most appropriate one is the [Barcelona Observatory Report](#).

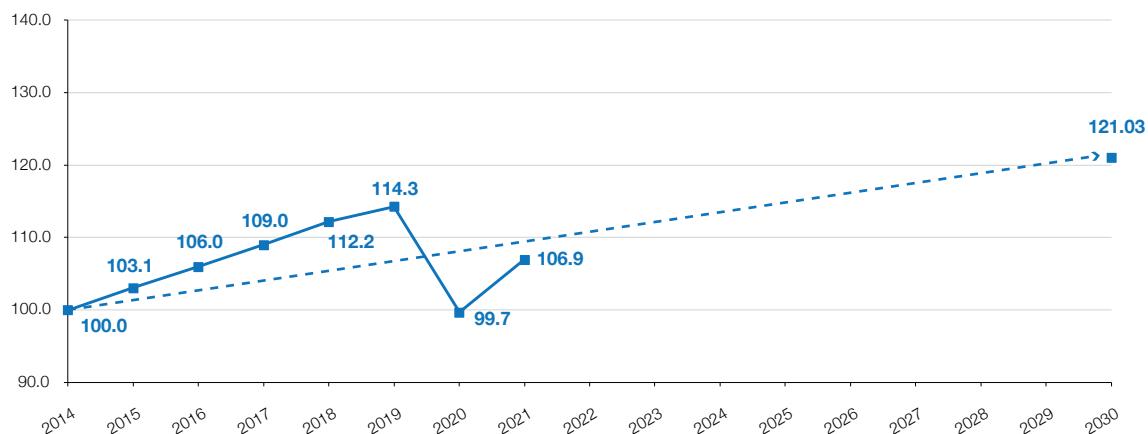
In terms of municipal action, a decisive development was the creation of the Economic Response Coordination Centre (CECORE), which during the critical months of 2020 set into motion a wide range of actions aimed at promoting a resilient recovery from the economic hardship caused by the pandemic. During the same period, the City Council adopted an integrated economic strategy ([Barcelona GREEN DEAL – A new economic agenda for the Barcelona of 2030](#)). The [Study of the impact of the 2020-2021 CECORE measures](#) and the [2021 Barcelona Activa Social Responsibility Report](#) give an account of the action carried out during this period.

## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

**8.1 Maintain an average annual economic growth of around 1.2%, placing the focus of the new growth on the green and circular economy, as well as on the digital sector**

**Graph 50: Growth of the economy (Barcelona index)**

**Indicator 8.1.1:** A growth of real annual per-capita GDP of 1.2% for the 2015-2030 period



**Source** Barcelona: Municipal Data Office.

**Graph 51: Growth of the economy**

**Real annual per-capita GDP growth. (territorial comparative)**



**Source** Spain and the European Union: World Bank. **Source** Barcelona: Municipal Data Office.

Real GDP per capita in Barcelona grew above the expected level until 2019, placing the index value at 114.3 points. In 2020, as a result of the economic crisis caused by Covid-19, GDP per capita contracted by 12.8%, falling to the levels of 2014. In 2021, the recovery was strong but incomplete (7.3%). The advanced data for the second quarter of 2022 show that Barcelona's GDP grew by 6.8% compared to

the same quarter of the previous year. As can be seen in Graph 51, this dynamic is shared by the Spanish economy, though to a lesser extent. The difference is explained by the fact that Barcelona is a city based on services and is very touristic. The [2021 Barcelona Gross Domestic Product](#) report provides further information on the calculation and results of this important indicator.

In 2021 the “[Easy Barcelona Plan](#)” was approved, with the aim of creating a more favourable ecosystem for economic and business activity. In this line, measures have been implemented to promote local businesses and local economic activity, such as “[Amunt persianes!": a strategy to boost economic activity in Barcelona's ground-floor premises](#)”, the Government measure for the [preservation and promotion of emblematic commercial establishments in Barcelona 2021-2024](#), the [Strategy and action plan for rehabilitation in Barcelona 2021-2024](#), as well as a whole series of plans for the post-pandemic reactivation of the districts, such as [Ciutat Vella](#) (supported by a [socio-economic report with a 2030 vision](#)), [Nou Barris](#), [Sant Martí](#), [les Corts](#), [Gràcia](#), [Horta-Guinardó](#) and [Sant Andreu](#).

## 8.2 A highly productive and diversified economy

The GDP per person employed as a measure of productivity experienced a sharp reduction in 2020, with a drop of 7.90 points compared to the previous year. The sharp contraction in the city's GDP in 2020 undermined the positive trend of the previous three years. In 2021, the substantial recovery in GDP was also reflected in an improvement in productivity, but it was still at levels seen in 2017.

There is a very slight tendency towards the concentration of the city's economy in certain sectors. The target for 2030 is to maintain the concentration below 6, as a more diversified economy is more resilient and adaptable to changes in the context.

In order to promote the diversification of the economy, work has been carried out to identify and strengthen [new "hubs" or centres of economic activity](#), as well as [urban clusters](#) that bring together companies in certain sectors.

**Graph 52: Productivity of the economy**

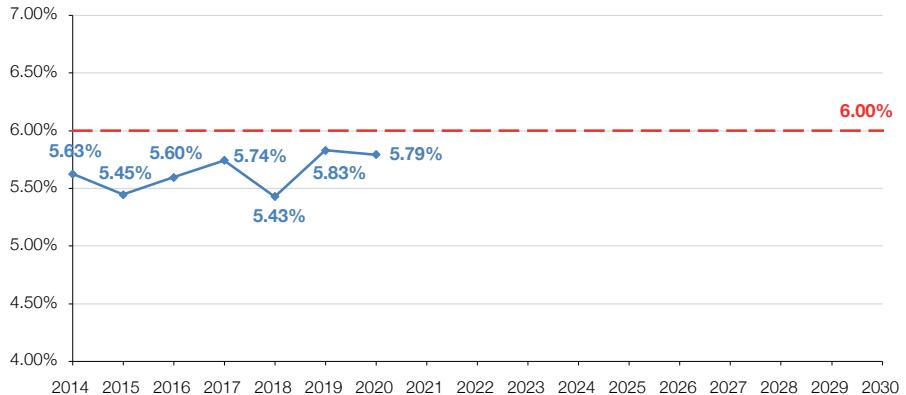
**Indicator 8.2.1:** A cumulative growth of the index value of GDP growth per person employed to 123.0 (year 2014 = base 100)



**Source:** Original, based on GDP data and the Labour Force Survey from the Municipal Data Office.

**Graph 53: Concentration/Diversification of Barcelona's productive sectors**

**Indicator 8.2.2:** A Concentration/Diversification index of the productive sectors of less than 6%



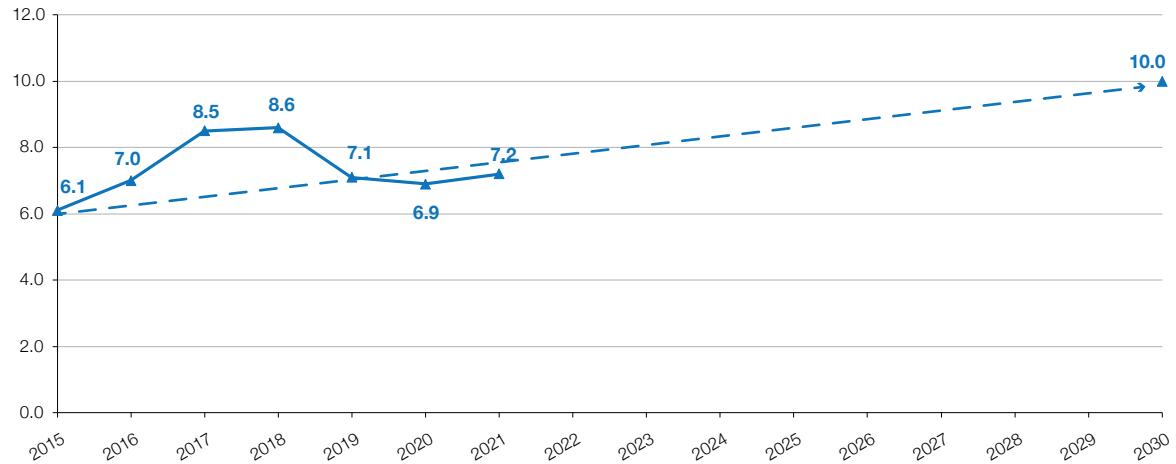
**Source:** Original, based on Municipal Statistics data on the GDP component sectors

**Description:** Indicator The Concentration (larger)/Diversification (smaller) indicator is calculated:  $\sum (\%) \text{ share of GDP in the GDP of each sector of activity CCAE}^2$ . The higher the value, the higher the concentration.

## 8.3 Barcelona will be a European capital for entrepreneurship

**Graph 54: Entrepreneur economy**

**Indicator 8.3.1:** Increase the Total Entrepreneurial Activity (TEA) rate for the population living in Barcelona to above 10



**Note:** The TEA measures the percentage of entrepreneurial initiatives less than three and a half years old that exist in a market.  
**Source:** Global Entrepreneurship Monitor.

The City Council is working to promote entrepreneurship as it represents a sign of good economic health and a valuable target for the 2030 Agenda. The data collected by the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor help to measure the level of entrepreneurship in a given territory. In the graph we can see how the rate of entrepreneurial activity (TEA) in the Barcelona area, despite registering a decrease in the values in 2019 and 2020, rises to 7.2 in 2021.

The [Barcelona entrepreneurship report](#), prepared by the Municipal Data Office using a different methodology, provides an in-depth analysis of this phenomenon, offering a metropolitan perspective and a comparison with other cities.

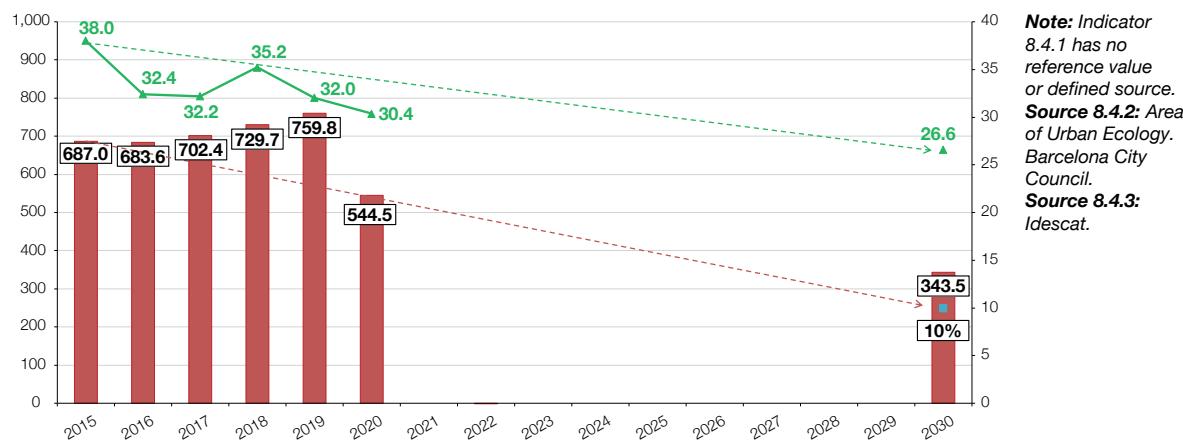
## 8.4 10-30-50 for a sustainable economy in Barcelona

**Graph 55: Sustainable economy**

**Indicator 8.4.1:** Achieve that 10% of the GDP is generated by the social economy

**Indicator 8.4.2:** Reduce commerce sector GHG emissions by 50% (x1.000 Tons of CO<sub>2</sub>)

**Indicator 8.4.3:** Reduce industrial waste generation per unit produced by 30% (Kg. of waste per €1,000 of GVA to Industry). (Right axis)



Unfortunately, it has not yet been possible to specify a suitable calculation methodology to measure the percentage of GDP generated by the social economy.

The target of reducing emissions in the commercial sector by 50% went in the opposite direction to that intended between 2017 and 2019. The 28.3% decrease recorded in 2020 compared to the previous year essentially reflects the decrease in commercial activity during the pandemic. It remains to be seen to what extent the post-pandemic recovery will be able to maintain a part of the reduction in emissions.

On the other hand, the reduction in the generation of industrial waste, despite the upturn experienced in 2018, does show a gradual decrease and is in line with the target of reducing it by 30% by 2030, to 26.6 kg per €1,000 of GVA in industry.

[The 2030 Strategy for the Social and Solidarity Economy in Barcelona](#): reactivating and strengthening an economy for life in the city aims to strengthen and boost the growth of a sector that will be essential to achieve a truly sustainable development model.

## 8.5 Reduce unemployment and in-work poverty and eliminate the gender wage gap, with a redoubled effort concerning labour market integration for people with disabilities

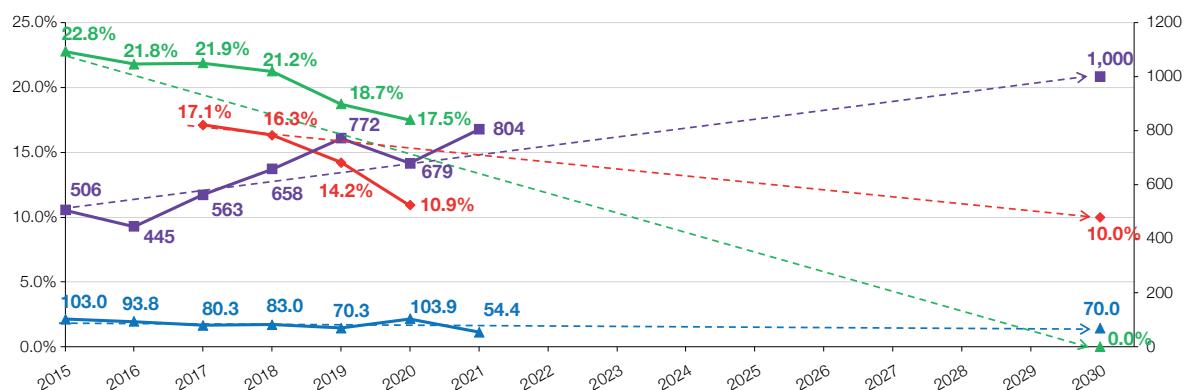
Despite the occasional increase in the unemployed population in Barcelona in 2020, reaching 103.9 thousand unemployed in the 4th quarter of 2020, the trend in unemployment data has been very positive since 2015. The year 2021 closed with 54.4 thousand people unemployed, below the target set for 2030. *This very favourable trend in unemployment translates into a gradual decrease in long-term unemployment rates, despite the rebound in 2021. In Catalonia and Spain, the trend in long-term unemployment is very similar to that of Barcelona, but with higher values, especially in the case of Spain (Graph 59).*

With regard to the in-work poverty rate, it also shows a very favourable progression and is on track to be below 10.0% by 2030. In fact, the percentage of people in work living in poverty in Barcelona in 2020 stood at 10.9%. When compared by territory, we can see that these percentages are very similar both in Catalonia and in Spain, but in the case of Barcelona the reduction has been very intense, because it began with much higher levels of in-work poverty (Graph 58).

The ambitious goal of eradicating the gender pay gap by 2030 is still far from being achieved. Even so, there is a clear trend towards reducing the gap. The latest available data for 2020 indicates that the gender pay gap is still 17.5%, 1.2 points lower than in 2019, basically because during the pandemic men's average wages lost

**Graph 56: Quantity and quality of employment**

Indicator 8.5.1: Get unemployment to below 70,000 people (in thousands, right axis)  
 Indicator 8.5.2: Reduce the working poverty rate to below 10%  
 Indicator 8.5.3: Eradicate the gender wage gap  
 Indicator 8.5.4: Over 1,000 people contracted by the Barcelona Job Placement network (right axis)



Source 851: Municipal Data Office based on the Labour force survey.

Source 852: IERMB. Survey on Living Conditions.

Source 853: Municipal Data Office. Wages in Barcelona

Source 854: Area of Social Rights

more purchasing power (-1.8%) than women's (-0.4%).

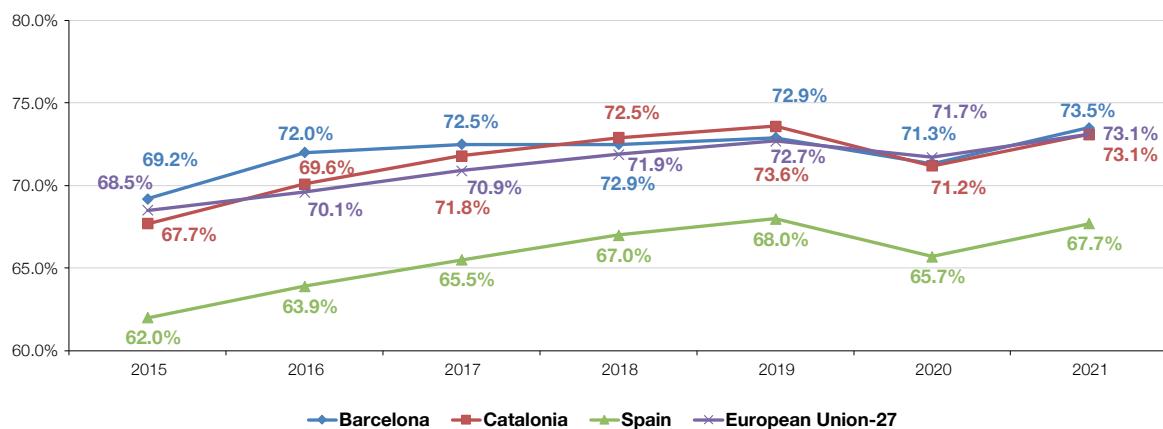
The inclusion of people with disabilities in the labour market is very important in the fight against inequalities. This is the primary mission of the Barcelona Labour Inclusion Network (Xarxa d'Inclusió Laboral de Barcelona – XIB). In 2021, a total of 804 people were hired by the XIB, consolidating the positive trend of the indicator since 2016.

In every year since 2015, the specific employment rate in Barcelona has followed the same trend as in Catalonia, Spain and the European Union as a whole, but at a slightly higher level. Between 2015 and 2021, the specific employment rate for

the population aged 16 to 64 increased by 4.3 points in Barcelona, from 69.2% in 2015 to 73.5% in 2021.

The [2021-2030 Barcelona Quality Employment Agreement](#), with its 2022-2023 Action Plan, is the reference document for understanding the strategic focus of this policy. In addition to prioritising young people (see target 8.6), work has also been done on the labour market integration of specific groups, such as transgender people, with publications such as the [Guide to improve the employability of transgender people](#), aimed at technical employment teams, and the [Guide to develop protocols for gender transition in the workplace](#), aimed at companies and administrations.

**Figure 57. Unemployment rate (territorial comparison)**

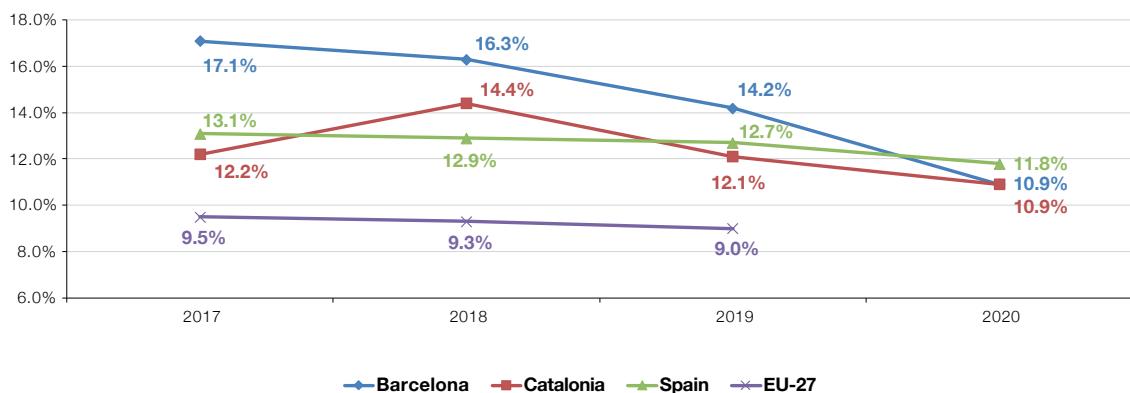


**Note:** The indicator measures the specific employment rate of 20 to 64 year-olds for Catalonia, Spain and the EU, and of 16 to 64 year-olds for Barcelona.

**Source Catalonia:** Idescat. Active Population Survey. **Source Spain and the European Union:** Eurostat.

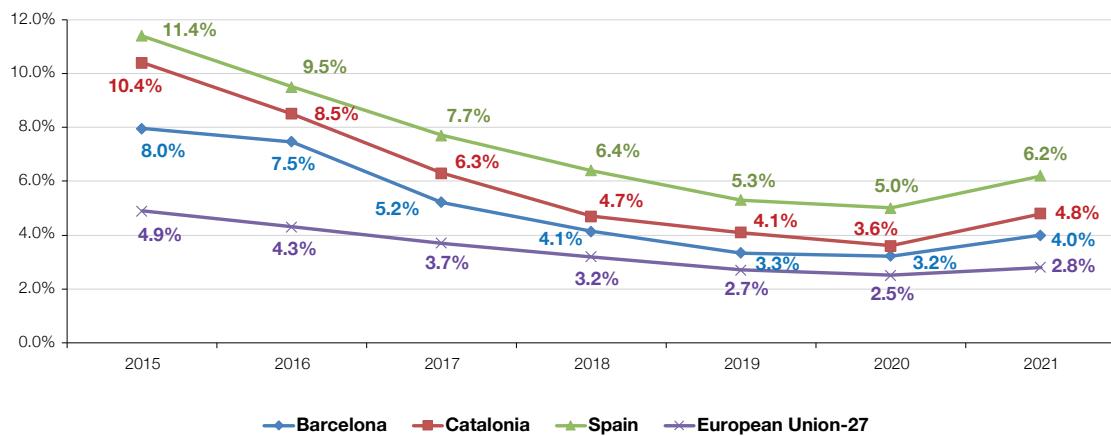
**Source Barcelona:** Municipal Data Office. Active Population Survey.

**Graph 58: In-work poverty risk rate (territorial comparison)**



**Note:** The data for Barcelona are calculated by combining samples from two consecutive years; 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020.  
**Source Catalonia:** Idescat. Survey on Living Conditions. **Source Spain and the European Union:** Eurostat. **Source Barcelona:** IERMB.

**Graph 59: Long-term unemployment rate (territorial comparison)**



*Note:* The indicator measures the percentage of the economically active population aged 16 to 74 who have been unemployed for 12 months or more.

*Source Catalonia:* Idescat. Active Population Survey. *Source Spain and the European Union:* Eurostat.

*Source Barcelona:* Municipal Data Office. Active Population Survey.

Of particular interest is the work carried out to analyse the social and economic return of the [social and labour insertion mechanisms deployed in the “work in the neighbourhoods” project](#) (with actions to stimulate and promote employment tailored to each neighbourhood, especially in the most vulnerable ones).

The reports [Basic data on the labour market in Barcelona](#) and [Wage poverty in Barcelona](#) provide a whole range of data to gain a better understanding of this issue. The [Futures of Work Dossier](#) published by the magazine Barcelona Metrópolis offers more qualitative reflections, but is nevertheless very much up to date.

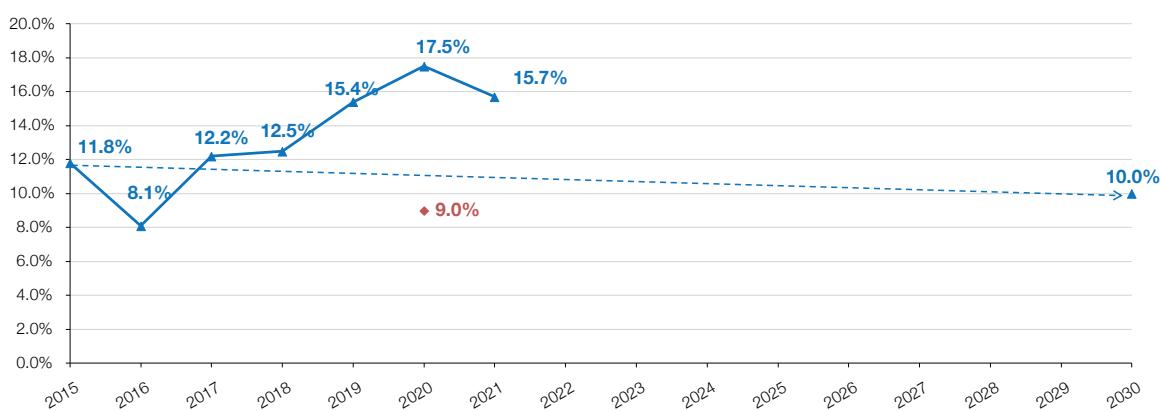
## 8.6 More job opportunities for young people

The achievement of the 2030 Agenda also involves strengthening employment and training opportunities for young people, thus avoiding situations of social risk exposure resulting from not working or studying. Based on the data collected by the [2020 Youth Survey](#), it was estimated that at that time 9% of young people were neither working nor studying. In relation to unemployment, the gap between the youth unemployment rate and the unemployment rate of the working population as a whole has increased progressively since

**Graph 60: Youth unemployment**

**Indicator 8.6.1:** Reduce the differential between youth unemployment (aged 16 to 24) and the average unemployment rate to below 10%

**Indicator 8.6.1:** Proportion of young people (aged 15 to 34) who are neither employed, studying nor receiving training



*Source 861:* Municipal Data Office based on the Labour force survey.

*Source 862:* 2020 Barcelona Youth Survey.

### Graph 61: Stability and security at work

Indicator 8.8.1: Reduce serious injuries and deaths to less than 10 out of 100,000 inhabitants a year  
 Indicator 8.8.2: Reduce work-related illnesses to less than 50 out of 100,000 inhabitants a year  
 Indicator 8.8.3: Reduce the temporary employment rate to 10% (right axis)  
 Indicator 8.8.4: Eradicate the temporary-employment gender gap (right axis)



Source 8.8.1 and 8.8.2: Barcelona Public Health Agency (ASPB).

Source 8.8.3 and 8.8.4: Municipal Data Office based on the Labour force survey.

2016. It is evident that the young population has not benefited to the same extent from the boom in the job market. It seems that the year 2021 may mark a turning point. It remains to be seen whether the trend consolidates and accelerates enough to reach the 10% target set for 2030. The [2020-2023 Fostering Youth Employment Plan](#) will need to be renewed and strengthened.

## 8.8 Barcelona, 100% decent and safe employment: Fewer accidents and less temporary employment

The indicators for job-related accidents and illnesses fell to historic lows in 2020 (especially the latter, which fell by more than 60%!), coinciding with the lockdown and the massive Temporary Employment Adjustment Plans (Expedients de Regulació Temporal de l'Ocupació). In 2021 both indicators worsened, but only slightly. If this trend can be maintained, the desired targets for 2030 could be met. The [Barcelona Health and Labour Indicators](#) report is essential in order to understand this reality.

With regard to the temporary employment rate, it stood at 18.6% in 2021, 1.7 points higher than the 16.9% of 2015. The gender gap also widened to 5.5 percentage points. The prospects of both indicators for reaching the 2030 target seem to be poor. However, the labour reform approved

in December 2021 seems to be clearly reversing the trend. The [November 2022 economic outlook report](#) states that “the number of permanent contracts has multiplied its volume by 2.3 times to that before the pandemic and its weight from January to November stands at 41% of the total, a new high”.



## 8.9 Achieve a tourism offer that is 100% 2030 Agenda compliant: Sustainable, safe and high-quality

Graph 62 shows that in 2020, the average spending per tourist in Barcelona recorded its lowest levels since 2015, due to the effect of Covid-19 on the demand for accommodation and tourist services. The average spending per tourist per night decreased from €59.50 to €35.10 from 2019 to 2020, while the average spending per one-day stay decreased from €82.30 to €69.20. In 2021 there was a recovery in spending per tourist (€46.20 per night and €71.90 per stay), which is expected to consolidate in 2022.

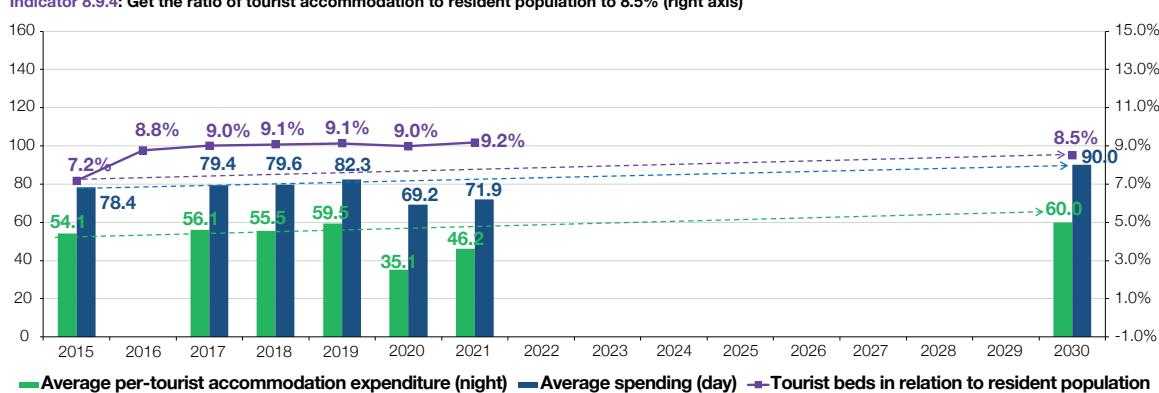
In order to have a quality, sustainable and balanced tourist offer, the number of tourist accommodation places in relation to the total resident population should not exceed 8.5% in 2030. Since 2016 this indicator has remained fairly stable, with an increase of 0.4 percentage points.

Figure 63 shows that in 2021 a total of 312 tour operators were committed to responsible and respectful management of the environment, culture, working conditions, gender equality, and social and economic return, within the framework of the Barcelona Biosphere Commitment to Sustainable Tourism.

The 2020 Strategic Tourism Plan focuses on the change of model that the Biosphere initiative aims to achieve.

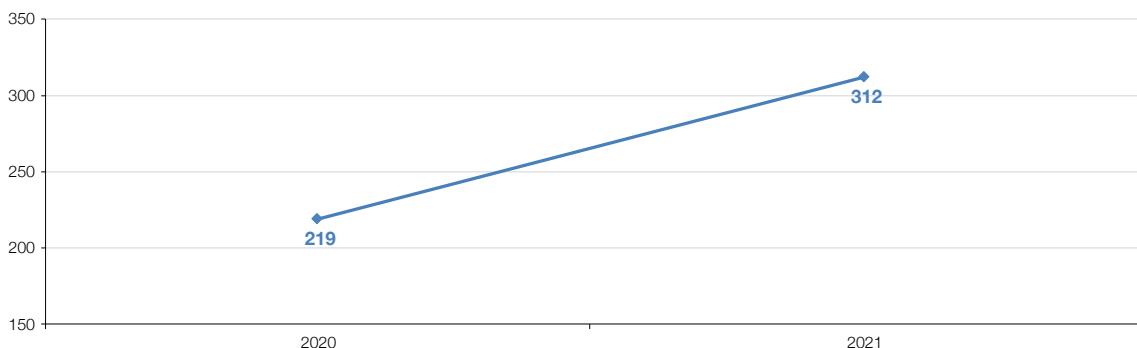
**Graph 62: Tourist accommodation and spending**

Indicator 8.9.3a: Increase the average per-tourist accommodation expenditure to €60 (night)  
 Indicator 8.9.3b: Increase the average per-tourist spending to €90 (day)  
 Indicator 8.9.4: Get the ratio of tourist accommodation to resident population to 8.5% (right axis)



**Graph 63: Sustainable tourism**

Indicator 8.9.2: Number of companies and organisations with the Biosphere seal in the city of Barcelona

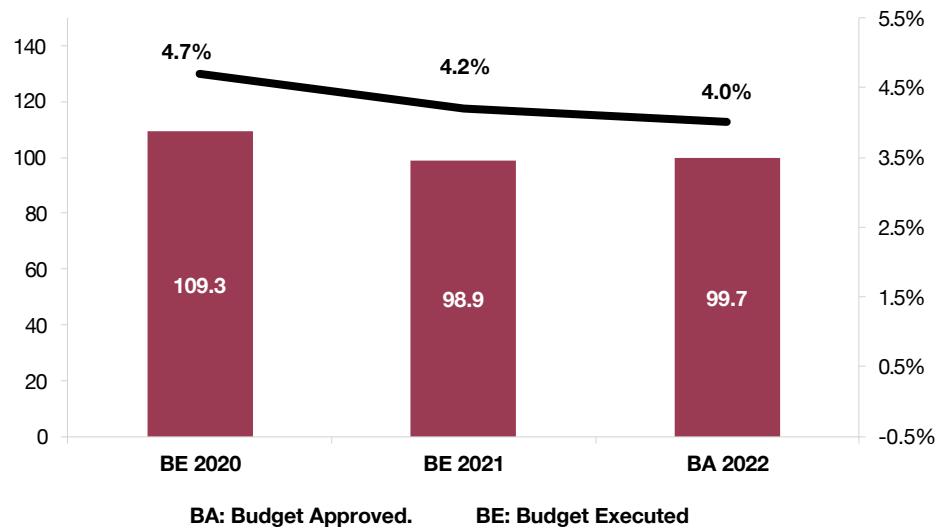


## Budgetary effort indicators

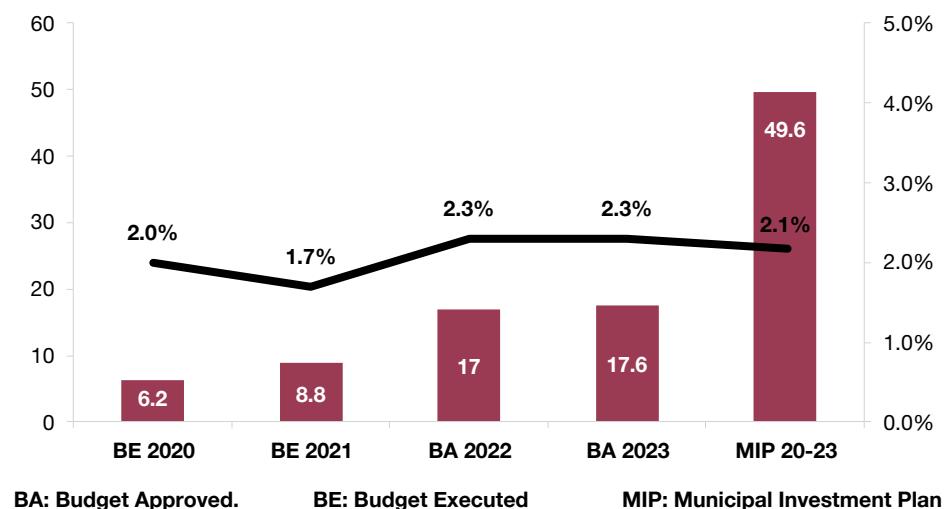
The budgetary effort indicators show that a considerable level of current expenditure, around EUR 100 million each year, or 4% of the total, is concentrated in this SDG. In 2020, it was significantly higher because extraordinary

activities and grants were funded as a result of the pandemic. The allocation for investment is much lower, because the network of facilities for the promotion of the economy and employment is consolidated.

**Current expenditure on SDG 8**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



**Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 8**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)





**Build resilient  
infrastructure, promote  
inclusive and sustainable  
industrialisation and  
foster innovation**





## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 9.1 Complete the strategic projects for the economic transformation of Barcelona

The strategic projects for the transformation of the city form part of the various sectoral strategies referred to throughout this report.

Strategic projects specifically focused on economic modernisation and digital transformation were included as a priority in the document "Barcelona, making plans for the future", drafted to prepare for municipal applications for Next Generation Funds.

Specifically, they are as follows:

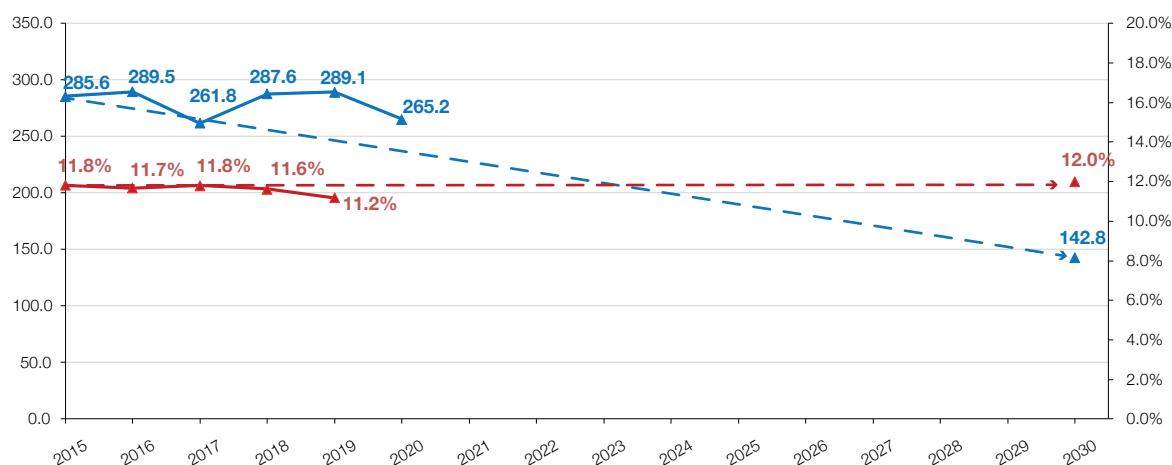
- ▶ Barcelona Renewable 2030: Energy renovation and regeneration
- ▶ Barcelona Innovation Coast to boost the research-company knowledge transfer
- ▶ Besòs industry: Transformation of the Besòs economic activity sites into a strategic area for the productive city
- ▶ Urban digital twin
- ▶ Digital divide, digital school, and digital skills and reskilling

- ▶ BSC-Design and prototyping of the future European chip
- ▶ Revitalising ground-floor premises
- ▶ DUM: Roll-out of the proposals deriving from the municipal strategy for urban goods distribution
- ▶ Fira Hub: Knowledge and Artech Hub
- ▶ Boosting research and innovation: Ciutadella of knowledge
- ▶ Boosting the Blue Economy
- ▶ L'Escocesa: Innovation in sustainable food, the food industry and gastronomy
- ▶ Mercabarna Gates: Creation of a Hub for logistics innovation for the food industry which will be a benchmark in southern Europe
- ▶ Digital transformation of the administration and public services

This indicator is not yet operational. It will need to be constructed on the basis of the evaluation of the completion of these projects, and others that may be added to the list in the next term of office.

**Graph 64: Industry's economic weight and GHG emissions**

Indicator 9.2.1: 50% reduction in GHG emissions from industrial buildings (x1000 tone of CO<sub>2</sub>)  
 Indicator 9.2.2: Increase the weighting of BMA industry to 12% of GVA (right axis)



Source 9.2.1: Area of Urban Ecology. Barcelona City Council.  
 Source 9.2.2: IERMB.

## 9.2 A sustainable and competitive industry

Greenhouse gas emissions in the industrial sector have remained very stable since 2015. It seems clear that the measures adopted so far have not been sufficient to achieve a significant reduction, in line with the 50% target set for 2030. With regard to the weight of industry on the entire economy, taking the Barcelona Metropolitan Area as a whole, the data point to a slight but constant decline.

With the aim of revitalising and modernising industry, from an approach in line with the reality of the city's industrial sector, government measures to [promote creative industries](#) and [Impulsem el 22@](#) (towards a more productive, more inclusive and more sustainable Poblenou with 22@), as well as the [Barcelona Innovation Coast](#) project, have been implemented.

## 9.3 SMEs that are more robust, digital, diversified and sustainable, export more and generate jobs

In 2021, through the partnership established between the City Council and the Employers' Organisation for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Catalonia (PIMEC), new data were generated in order to monitor target 9.3, which addresses the

competitiveness and sustainability of SMEs. Specifically, the studies: "[The SME in the city of Barcelona](#)" and "[The SME and the SDGs in the city of Barcelona](#)". The results then showed a robust network of small and medium-sized enterprises, which had evolved favourably during the 2015-2019 period. A second edition of the study will be carried out in 2023, which will provide evidence on how SMEs are coping with the impact of the pandemic and how their commitment to the 2030 Agenda is progressing.

## 9.4 Plan for the digital transformation of Barcelona

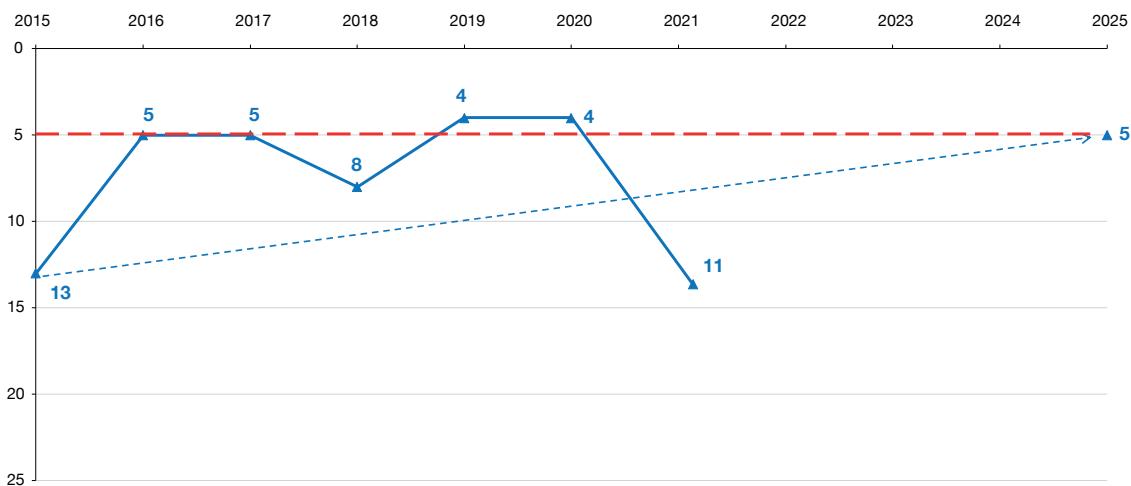
The [government measure of the municipal strategy for algorithms and data for the ethical promotion of artificial intelligence](#) updates and completes the measures that were approved between 2017 and 2018 on open digitalisation (free programming and agile development of services) and ethical and responsible data management, as well as the code of technological practices, the digital services standards and the Barcelona City Council ICT public procurement guide.

## 9.5 Barcelona, one of the five European capitals of science and innovation

After remaining in fourth place among the European cities listed in the [Innovation Cities Index](#) for

### Graph 65: City and innovation

Indicator 9.5.1: 5th position or higher for Barcelona in the Innovation Cities Index (European ranking)



**Note:** The index is calculated from 162 indicators, grouped into 31 segments that cover all the economic, industrial and social functions of an economy.

**Source:** Innovation Cities Index.

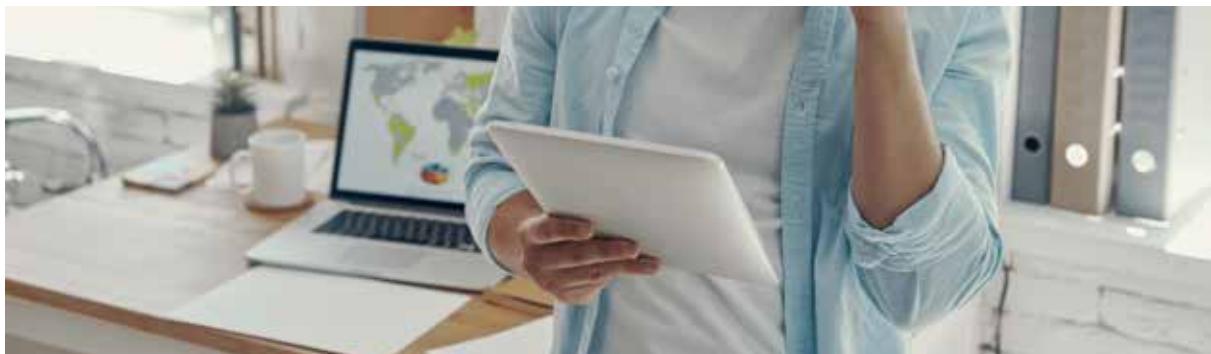
two consecutive years (2019 and 2020), in 2021 Barcelona slipped to eleventh place. We hope that in the coming years Barcelona will be able to regain a place among the top five, in a similar way to the Tech Cities of the Future ranking (7th) or the ranking of cities that attract start-ups (5th) or the Knowledge Cities ranking, which measures the amount of scientific production (5th). These and other references can be found in the [Barcelona Observatory report](#).

In recent years, the city has worked to consolidate and expand Barcelona's potential as a city that generates knowledge and innovation. These include [Barcelona City of Science](#) (reflection and action to project Barcelona in the international scientific and academic context), the measure [Relaunching the 2020-2023 Barcelona Science Plan](#), the measure [Promotion of the 2021-2030 South Campus Master Plan: Knowledge and](#)

[Citizenship](#), the Government Measure "[Barcelona city of talent](#)" (for the promotion of municipal policies for the generation, development, attraction, reception and retention of talent in Barcelona), the [Plan for the promotion of academic stays and international mobility for learning purposes](#), the [measure to promote urban innovation in Barcelona](#) and the [Plan to relaunch the Citizen Science Office](#).

### 9.b. Develop the city's international cooperation with the development of infrastructures and sustainable local research and innovation industries, with technological components

See SDG 17, target 2.



## 9.c. Guarantee universal access to affordable high-quality Internet

The data collected in the Municipal Services Survey indicate that in 2022, 93.5% of the population over the age of 18 had Internet access at home. In view of the performance of this indicator, it seems that we are moving in the right direction in terms of guaranteeing universal, high-quality Internet access from 2030 onwards.

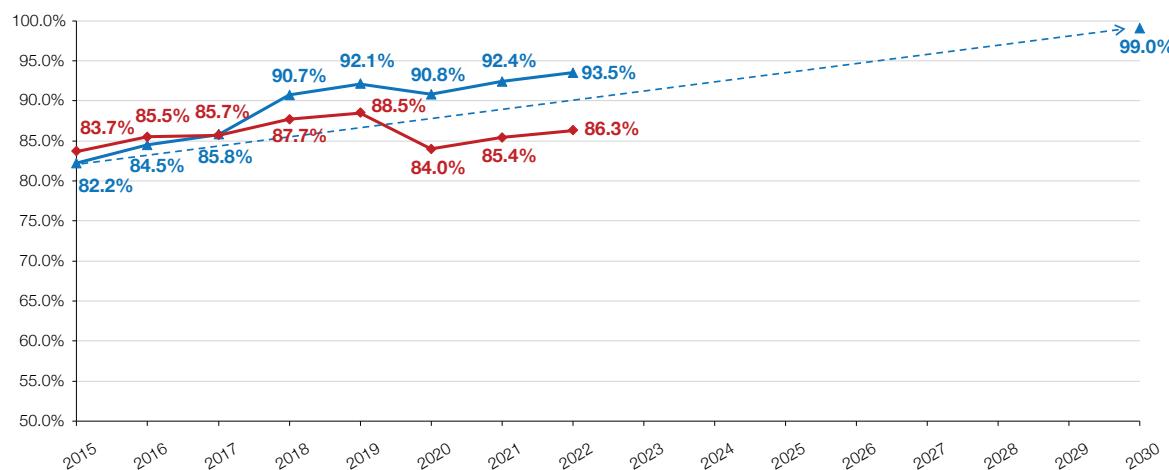
The digital divide has been perfectly documented and explained in the survey [The digital divide in the city of Barcelona 2020](#) and the [Dossier The digital divides](#) published by the magazine Barcelona Metròpolis.

In terms of measures, the [BcnFemTech 2021-2023: for gender equality in the ICT sector](#) is of particular note.

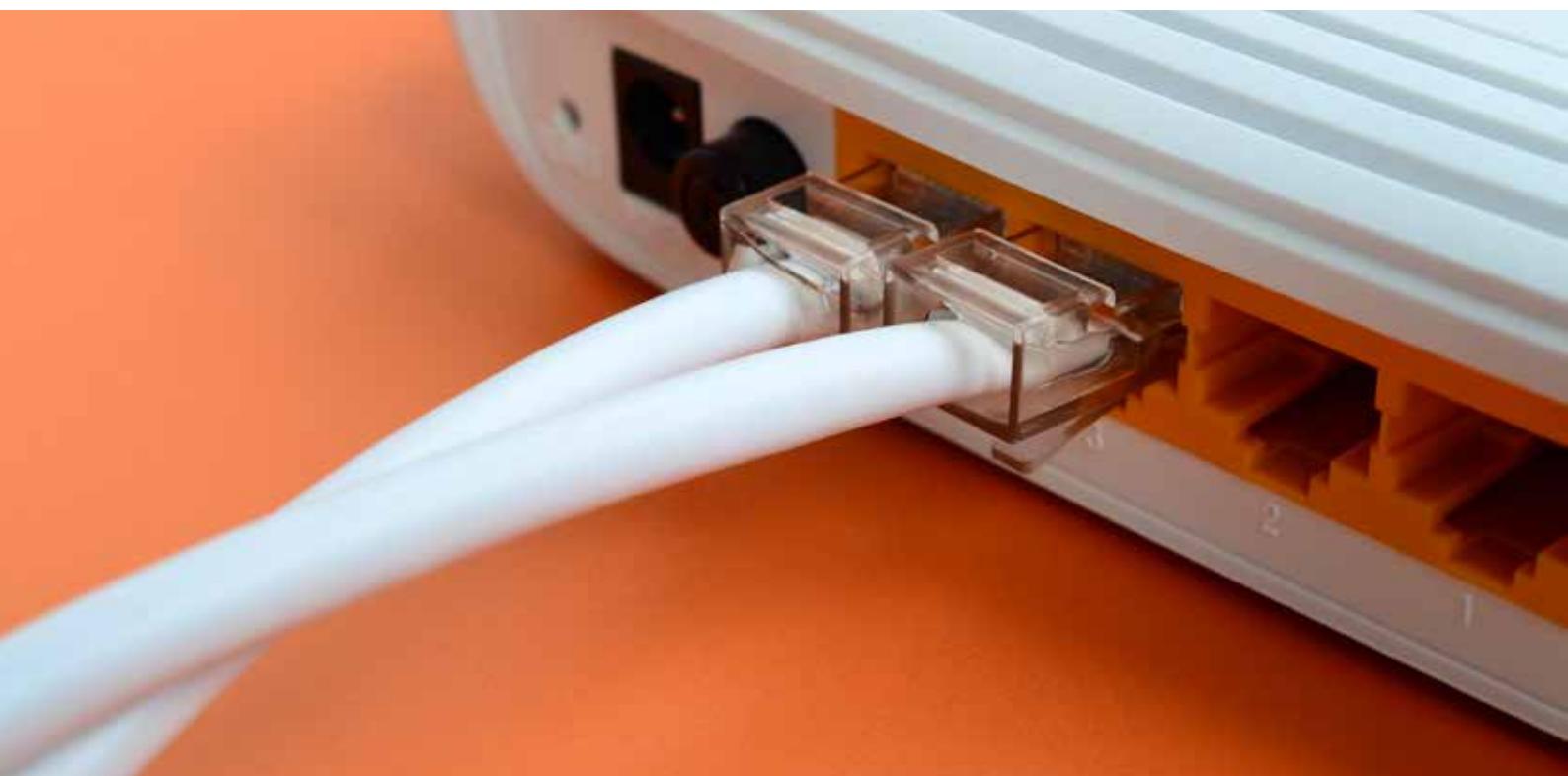
**Graph 66: Internet access and computer equipment**

**Indicator 9.c.1:** Increase the proportion of people over the age of 18 who have access to the Internet at home to 99%

**Indicator 9.c.2:** Proportion of people aged over 18 who have a computer (laptop or desktop) at home



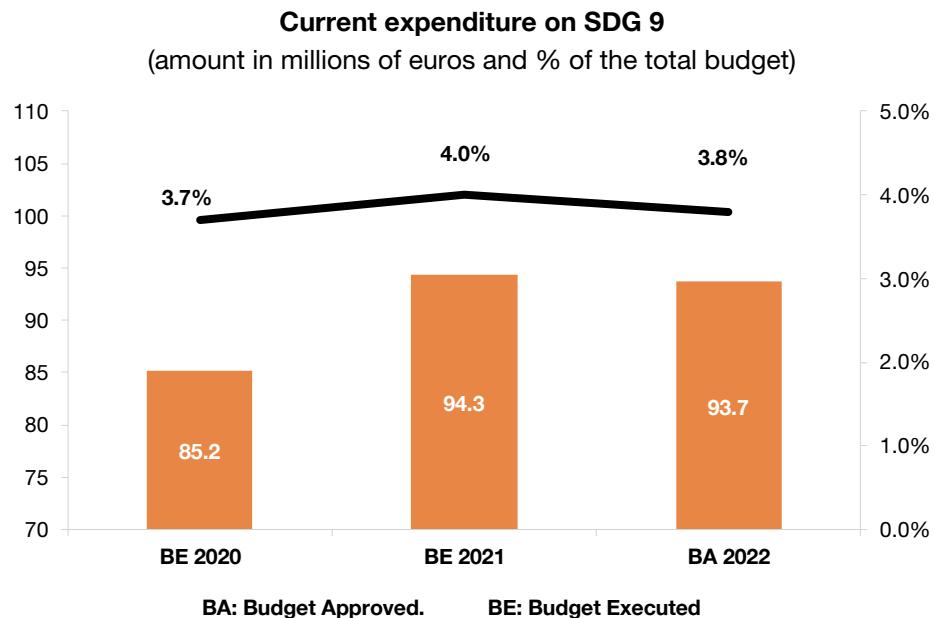
**Source:** Municipal Services Survey.



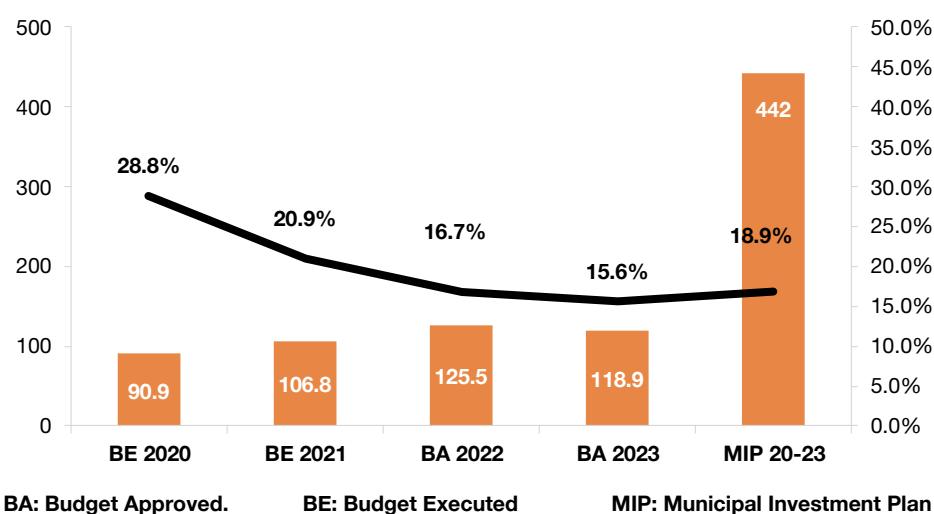
## Budgetary effort indicators

The budgetary effort indicators show a slight increase in current expenditure, approaching EUR 100 million. But the most important is

investment, which accounts for almost 20% of the total envisaged in the MIP.



**Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 9**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)





## Reduce inequality within and among countries



In this SDG, the reference document for municipal policies is *the 2017-2027 Strategy for Inclusion and Reduction of Social Inequalities*, which in 2020 was updated to 2030 and provided with new targets, in line with the SDGs. In the last two years, other significant measures have been approved, such as *Promoting social action: territory, participation and community*, or at district level the *2022-2024 Nou Barris Social Action Plan*. For a better understanding of the management in this area, you can consult

the *report of the Social Rights, Global Justice, Feminism and LGTBI Area* and the *2020-2021 report on cross-cutting programmes of the Culture, Education, Science and Community Area*.

Alongside this is the *Neighbourhood Plan*, designed to reverse territorial inequalities in the city. *It is active in 16 neighbourhoods* to improve the quality of life and life opportunities of its residents. Each neighbourhood plan focuses on transforming areas such as educa-

tion and public health, social rights, gender equality and community action, housing, employment, economic growth and the social economy, public space and accessibility, environmental sustainability and the climate emergency.

Equality and social inclusion are addressed from different sectors (income, health, education, housing, culture, etc.) and in a specific way depending on each type of person or social group. For the younger population, the main references are the [2021-2030 Children's Plan](#) (challenges and actions to improve the lives and rights of children and adolescents in Barcelona) and the [2018-2028 Youth Facilities and Services Plan](#). In the design of municipal action, it has been possible to count on the valuable work of the [Barcelona Institute for Childhood and Adolescence](#), developed through programmes such as the "[Observatory 0-17 BCN: lives and rights of children and adolescents in the city](#)". In the last two years, research has focused on analysing the impact of the pandemic on this age group, with work such as the [report on Covid-19 and childhood in Barcelona](#) ("What does the urgent social research tell us about the impact of Covid-19 on

the lives and rights of children and adolescents? How has the city government responded?) and [The youth of Barcelona in the year of the pandemic: 10 analyses of the 2020 Barcelona Youth Survey](#).

In the case of older people, the previous term of office saw the drafting and approval of [the strategy on demographic change and ageing: a city for all life cycles 2018-2030](#). Barcelona's experience in programmes to promote the inclusion of older people and the promotion of active ageing has been highlighted in the [city's contributions to the European Commission's Green Paper on Ageing](#). Meanwhile, studies have continued on the different dimensions and implications of the process of social ageing, as shown in the [monograph published by Barcelona Societat](#) (a journal of knowledge and social analysis) and the research project "[Migrants and ageing in the city of Barcelona](#)".

Other cross-cutting policies for equality and/or inclusion are set out in specific sections of this SDG, or, in the case of gender equality, in SDG 5.

## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

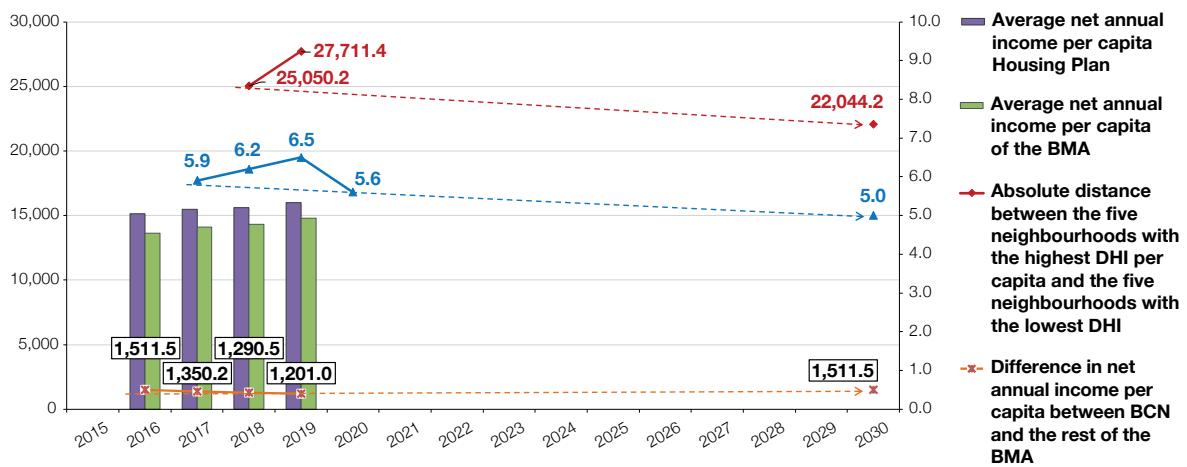
### 10.1 Significantly reduce inequality in the distribution of income in Barcelona, while preventing the city's average Gross Disposable Household Income differing from the Metropolitan average

**Graph 67: Inequality in income distribution**

**Indicator 10.1.1:** Reduce income gap between the 20% of the population with the highest and lowest incomes to less than 5 times (right axis)

**Indicator 10.1.2:** Reduce the income gap between the districts with the highest and lowest incomes by 12%

**Indicator 10.1.3:** Avoid increasing the income gap between Barcelona and the rest of the BMA. Maintain the gap below EUR 1,511.5

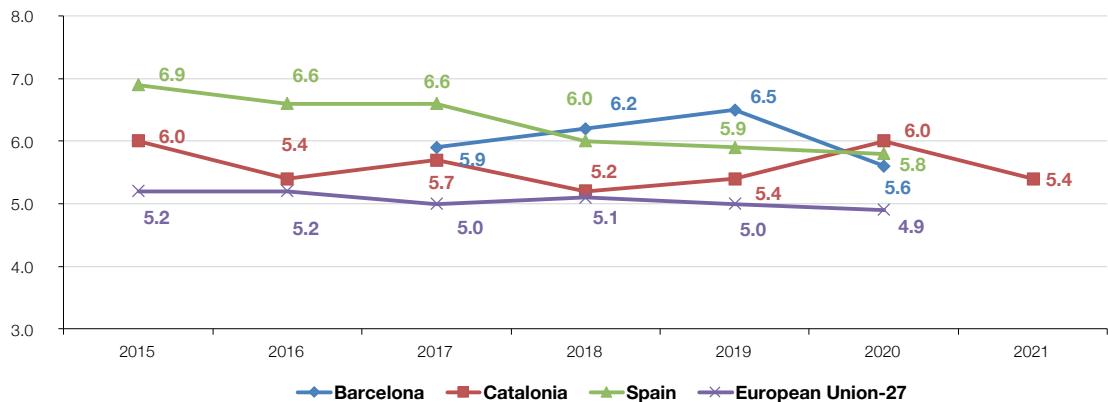


Source 10.1.1 and 10.1.3: IERMB. Municipal survey on living conditions.

Source 10.1.2: Municipal Data Office. Territorial breakdown of disposable household income per capita in Barcelona

### Graph 68: Inequality of income distribution (territorial comparative)

Indicator: Relative gap between the 20% of the population with the highest disposable household income per capita and the 20% with the lowest



**Note:** The data for Barcelona are calculated by combining samples from two consecutive years; 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020.

**Source:** IERMB and Idescat. Survey on Living Conditions.

Reducing inequalities is crucial to fulfilling one of the basic principles of the 2030 Agenda (leave no one behind). A common indicator of inequality is the 80/20 ratio, which measures the gap between the richest 20% of the population and the poorest 20% in terms of income. After experiencing progressive increases from 2017 to 2019, in 2020 the value fell to 5.6. This means that the disposable income of the richest 20% is 5.6 times the disposable income of the poorest 20%. If compared territorially (Graph 68), it can be seen that the estimated levels of inequality in Barcelona in 2030 will be very similar to those for Catalonia as a whole (6.0) and Spain (5.8).

Territorial inequality in income distribution is calculated on the basis of the distance between the five neighbourhoods with the highest disposable household income per capita and the five neighbourhoods with the lowest income. In this case, from 2018 to 2019 the gap increased by 10.6%, from €25,050.20 to €27,711.40, which clearly widens the gap with regards the desired target. The time series does not go back any further because from 2018 a new income estimation methodology was introduced, based on data from the Tax Agency. This subject is explored in detail in the report "[Household incomes in Barcelona. 2019: Distribution by districts, neighbourhoods and census sections](#)".

Finally, the difference in average net annual income between Barcelona and the Barcelona Met-

ropolitan Area as a whole has been progressively narrowing between 2016 and 2019. In 2019, this difference was €1,201.00, €310.50 less than in 2016.

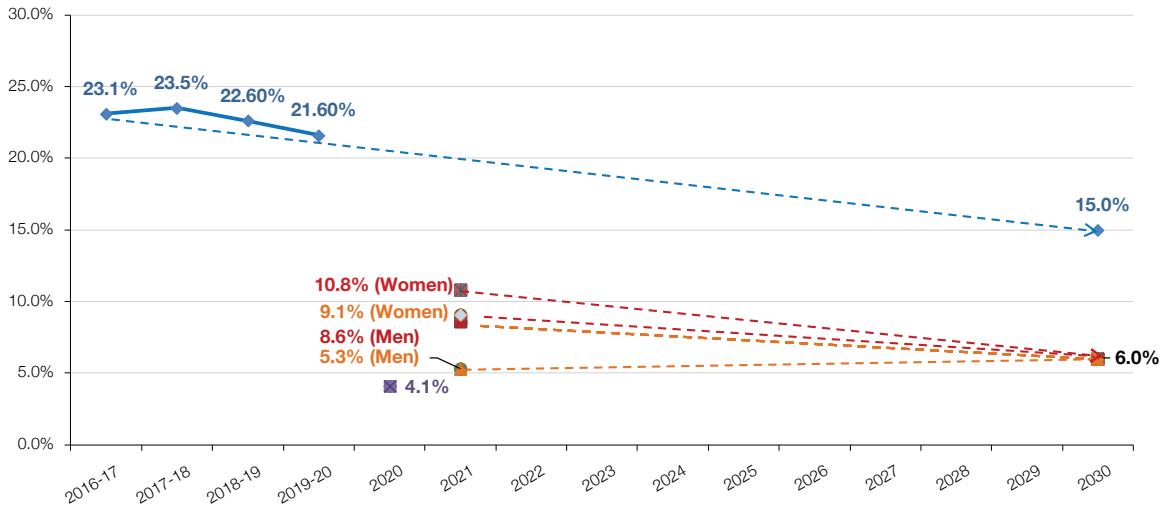
## 10.2 Promote social, economic and political inclusion for all

The percentage of the population at risk of poverty and social exclusion in Barcelona was 21.6% in 2020, 1% lower than the previous year. It is an improvement, but there is still a long way to go to reduce it to the 15% proposed for the 2030 target. From a territorial perspective (Figure 70), the AROPE rate in Barcelona in 2020 was at European Union levels (21.6%), while in Catalonia and Spain that same year it was much higher, 26.7% and 27%, respectively.

Social inclusion has a lot to do with autonomy, i.e. the ability to act and participate in social life. This is why the phenomenon of loneliness should not be an obstacle to personal well-being and social inclusion. In Barcelona, the perception of loneliness among the adult population affected 10.8% of women and 8.6% of men. Furthermore, greater attention should be paid to the effects of isolation and relational loneliness in the elderly, an issue that women suffer more intensely. In 2021, the perception of loneliness in the population over 64 years of age was 9.1% in

### Graph 69: Social inclusion and the perception of loneliness

**Indicator 10.2.1:** Reduce the AROPE rate (people at risk of poverty and/or social exclusion) to under 15%  
**Indicator 10.2.2a:** Reduce the perception or feeling of loneliness to less than 6% for adults  
**Indicator 10.2.2b:** Reduce the perception or feeling of loneliness to less than 6% for adults over the age of 64  
**Indicator 10.2.3:** Reduce the perception of loneliness in the young population (15 to 34 years old)

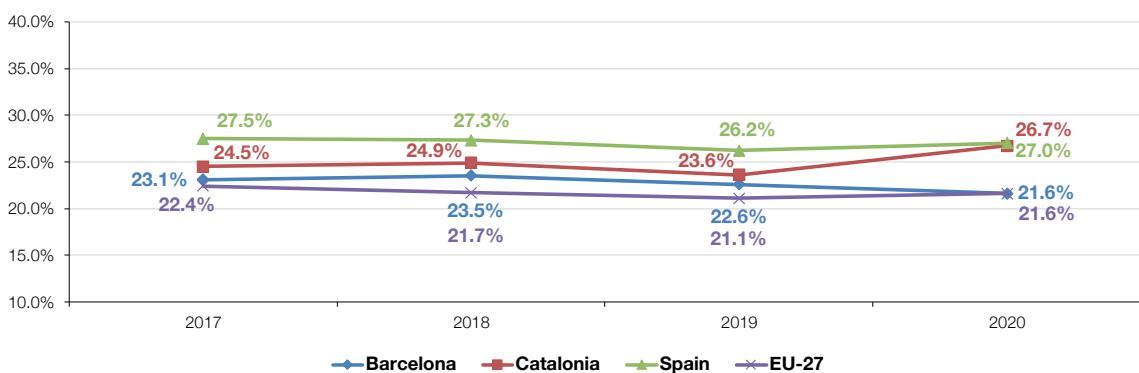


**Source 10.2.1:** IERMB. Municipal survey on living conditions.

**Source 10.2.2a and 10.2.2b:** Barcelona Public Health Agency. Barcelona Health Survey.

**Source 10.2.3:** Area of Social Rights. Barcelona Youth Survey.

### Graph 70: AROPE rate (territorial comparison)



**Note:** The data for Barcelona are calculated by combining samples from two consecutive years; 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020.

**Source:** IERMB and Idescat. Survey on Living Conditions.

women and 5.3% in men. Another very vulnerable group to the effects of unwanted loneliness are young people. In 2020, the Barcelona Youth Survey revealed that 4.1% of young people between 15 and 34 years of age felt lonely often or very often.

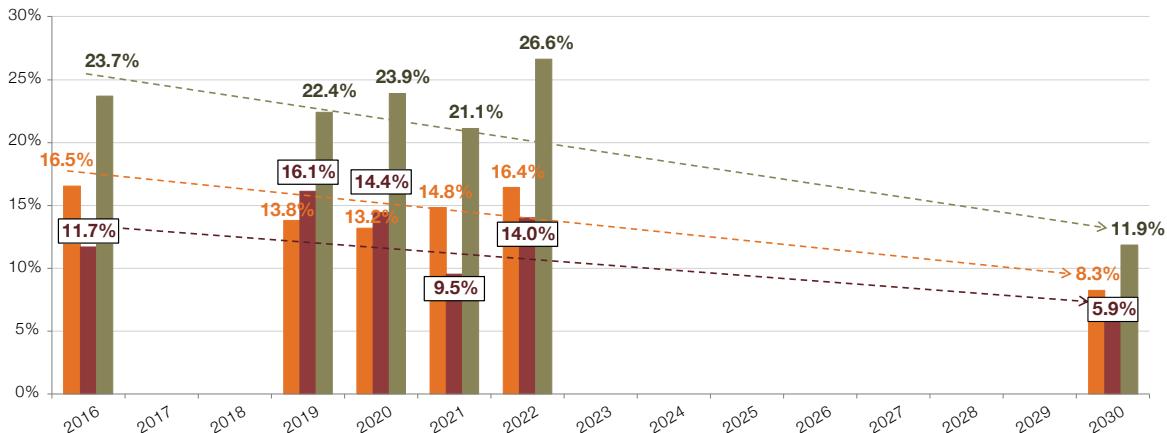
Unwanted loneliness is a growing phenomenon in our society, which has a negative impact on health and causes a loss of opportunities and quality of life. The City Council has thoroughly evaluated the incidence of homelessness in

the city of Barcelona (also studying its impact on specific groups, such as people with disabilities) and has drawn up a 2020-2030 Municipal Strategy against Homelessness, developed through action plans and communicated with the support of the Barcelona Against Homelessness monthly bulletin.

## 10.3 Greater equality of opportunities and zero tolerance of discrimination

## Graph 71: Inclusion in cultural life

**Indicator 10.3.1a:** Reduce the difference in the use of public libraries by 50% between the population with a low socio-economic level and the general population  
**Indicator 10.3.1b:** Reduce the difference in attendance at folk festivals by 50% between the low socio-economic level population and the general population  
**Indicator 10.3.1c:** Reduce the difference in attendance at cultural activities by 50% between the low socio-economic level population and the general population



Source: Municipal Services Survey.

Participation in the cultural life of the city is very often related to people's socio-economic possibilities, which in practice makes equal access to cultural services and activities impossible. This is why one of the targets for 2030 is to extend and promote the use of cultural services and activities to the entire population. After having experienced improvements between 2016 and 2021, in 2022 the lower socio-economic population lost ground in the use of public libraries, attendance at public festivals and attendance at cultural activities. In this case, the gap is enormous, 26.6 points, more than double the target set for 2030.

During this term of office, the promotion of culture has been addressed from the perspective of cultural rights, through the [Making Culture Plan](#), deployed through nine specific government measures, which touch on issues that also affect SDGs 1, 4, 5, 9 and 11. One: [Culture in the neighbourhoods and community action: the right to cultural practices and new centralities](#); two: [Grassroots culture and cultural sectors: the right to creation, experimentation, research and cultural production](#); three: [Popular cultures: the right to popular and traditional practices as spaces for participation and social cohesion: a governmental measure](#); four: [Culture and education: the right to cultural participation and lifelong artistic education and practice](#); five: [Feminist culture: the right to a diverse culture and the right to a culture of diversity and social cohesion: a government measure](#); six: [Culture and public](#)

[space: right to access and cultural participation in the street: government measure](#); seven: [Culture and digital rights: instruments and policies for access to knowledge, transparency and digital innovation](#); eight: [Museums of the city: innovation, education and the right to participate in Barcelona's cultural heritage](#); and nine: [Barcelona's libraries \(Master Plan 2030\). The right to read, to access information and knowledge and to foster new creative practices](#) (still in the working document phase).

An indispensable element for social inclusion is to provide everyone with opportunities to develop their own life. With this aim in mind, the Municipal Programme for Independent Living provides the means for people with disabilities to live as independently as possible and to decide where and with whom they want to live. The number of people benefiting from these programmes reached 1,869 in 2021, more than three times the number in 2017 and well above the target set for 2030.

Disability, with a wide variety of causes and degrees, is a situation that increasingly affects more and more people around the world. [In Barcelona in 2019, 9.28% of the population had some kind of recognised disability](#). The [2022-2030 Barcelona Strategy for Universal Accessibility](#) was approved during this mandate. The [Report by the Municipal Institute for People with Disabilities](#) gives an account of municipal action in this area.

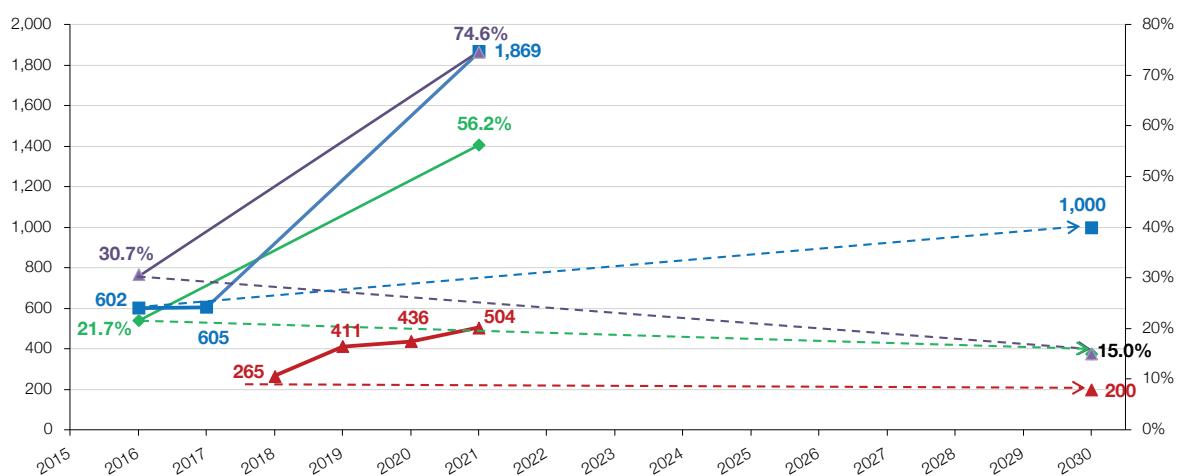
## Graph 72: Inclusion and discrimination

**Indicator 10.3.2:** Increase the number of people with a disability benefiting from personal autonomy and independent living programmes to above 1,000

**Indicator 10.3.3:** Reduce the number of discrimination complaints collected by the Board of Organisations for the Assistance of Victims of Discrimination to below 200

**Indicator 10.3.4a:** Reduce the perception of discrimination to less than 15%. Boys (right axis)

**Indicator 10.3.4b:** Reduce the perception of discrimination to less than 15%. Girls (right axis)



**Note 10.3.4:** Measure the % of secondary school students who in the last 12 months have suffered some type of discrimination on the grounds of disability, sexual orientation, origin or gender. **Source 10.3.2:** Area of Social Rights. Barcelona City Council.

**Source 10.3.3:** Barcelona Discrimination Observatory

**Source 10.3.4:** Barcelona Public Health Agency. Risk Factors in Secondary School Students (FRESC)

With regard to the discrimination that young adolescents may suffer, whether it is due to gender, origin, disability, sexual orientation or other reasons, the latest data published by the Factors of Risk in Secondary Schools Survey (FRESC) in 2021 indicate an exponential increase in the percentage of adolescents who feel discriminated against for any reason. We are talking about an incidence already clearly in the majority (74.6% of girls and 56.2% of boys), and well above the target for 2030, which is 15%.

Meanwhile, the number of complaints concerning discrimination collected by the Barcelona Discrimination Observatory has almost doubled in three years, to over 500. The indicator is not, in itself, as negative as the previous one, because one of the objectives of the entities that form part of the [Roundtable of Entities with a Care Service for Victims of Discrimination](#) is to report situations of discrimination.

The [annual balance prepared by the Office for Non-Discrimination](#) provides more information on this problem, which can be complemented with studies such as the [2020 Survey on Neighbourhood Relations and Coexistence: Report on discrimination in the neighbourhoods of Barcelona](#) and [Discrimination à la carte: exclusion on ethnic](#)

[grounds from the Barcelona housing rental market](#). In terms of municipal actions, in addition to those already mentioned in SDG 5, the most important has been the [government measure For an anti-racist Barcelona 2022-2025](#).



### Graph 73: Social expenditure and inclusion strategy

**Indicator 10.4.1a:** Maintain the City Council's necessary expenditure on social services and social promotion (€ per inhabitant)  
**Indicator 10.4.1b:** Maintain City Council's necessary expenditure on social services and social promotion (% over total, right axis)  
**Indicator 10.4.2:** Provide a city strategy for social inclusion and reducing social inequalities until 2030



## 10.4 Municipal commitment to equality and social-inclusion

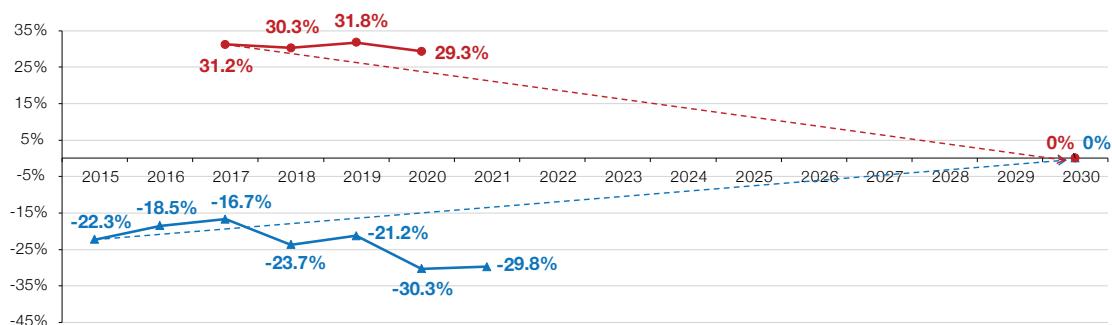
The City Council has progressively increased the portion of its budget earmarked for funding social services and other social promotion programmes. In 2020, the year of the health and social emergencies, it accounted for 14% of the total budget. In terms of expenditure per inhabitant, it has risen from €160.60 per inhabitant in 2015 to €230.80 per inhabitant in the 2021 budget. Furthermore, the City Council has a strategy for inclusion and the reduction of social inequalities that guides the distribution of these resources. This is done in collaboration with the organisations that participate in the [citizen agreement for an inclusive Barcelona](#).

## 10.7 Barcelona, a city of refuge and inclusion

Poverty and unemployment do not affect people equally depending on their socio-demographic characteristics. This means that people's origin can make it more difficult for them to be socially included, as they are at greater risk of poverty, unemployment or job insecurity. In the case of the risk of poverty and social exclusion, it can be seen that the foreign population is much more exposed than the Spanish population. The situation has improved since 2017, but the reduction has been very modest. In the case of the employment rate, we can see that in 2020 and 2021 the difference widened even more than in previous years, reaching 30 points. The reasons for this deterioration are diverse, but one of the most important is the impact of Covid-19 on the labour market, which has affected sectors, such as tourism, where the foreign workforce is over-represented.

### Graph 74: Poverty, inclusion and employment among the foreign population

**Indicator 10.7.1:** Reduce the difference in the AROPE rate between foreign nationals and Spanish nationals  
**Indicator 10.7.2:** Reduce the difference in the employment rate (people aged 20 to 64) between foreign nationals and Spanish nationals



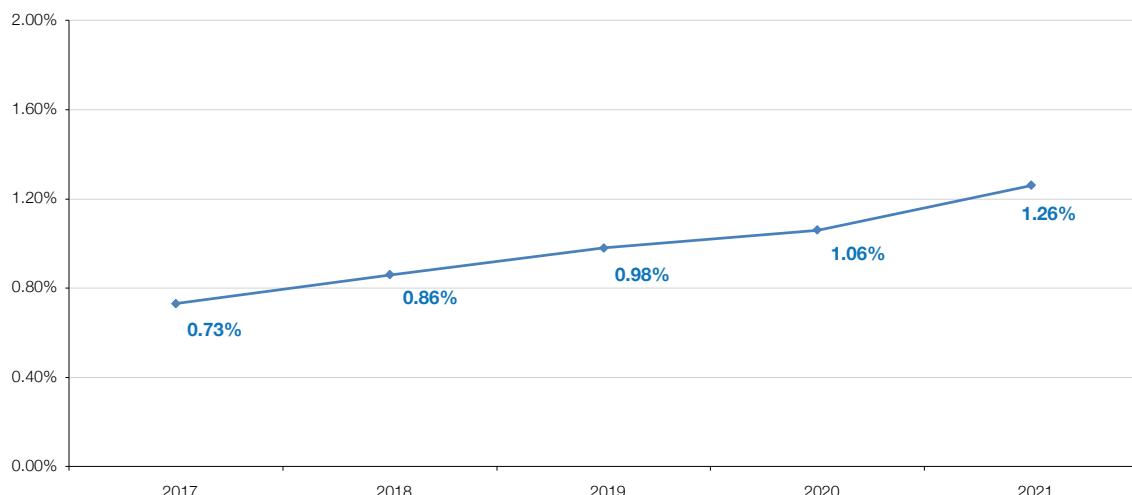
Source 10.7.1: IERMB. Municipal survey on living conditions.

Source 10.7.2: Municipal Data Office. Active Population Survey.



### Graph 74 bis: Access to public employment for the foreign population

Indicator 10.7.3: Percentage of the municipal workforce who were born abroad



Source: Manager's Office for People and Organisational Development. Barcelona City Council.

By contrast, the presence of foreign-born workers in the public sector is still very low. They represent about 1% of the City Council's workforce, far below its real weight in the population of Barcelona. It continues to increase, but still at an excessively low rate.

During this term of office, the [2021-2030 Barcelona Interculturality Plan](#) was approved, on the basis of which the [Ciutat Vella district](#) has its own Action Plan for 2022-2025. Also noteworthy is the [2020-2023 Work Plan of the Barcelona Municipal Immigration Council](#) (in the process of becoming the Municipal Council for Migration and Refugees).

The most recent studies on this subject deal with the [impact of the Covid-19 crisis on the migrant population in Barcelona](#), as well as the situation of [young migrants without family ties in the city of Barcelona](#). The [monograph on immigration published by the magazine Barcelona societat](#) is also noteworthy.

## 10.b. Develop international cooperation for the promotion of equality and the fight against racism and discrimination

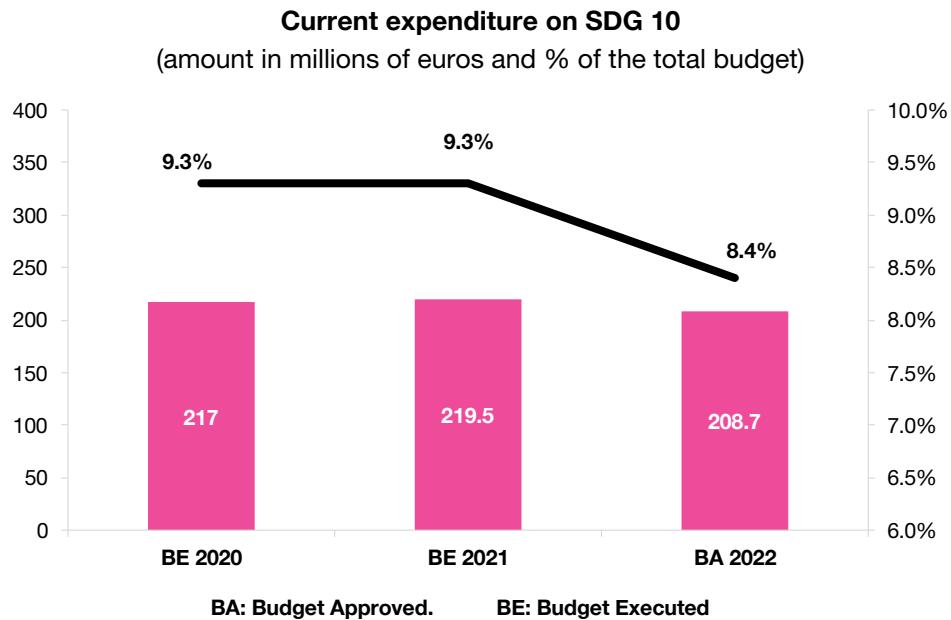
See SDG 17, target 2.

## Budgetary effort indicators

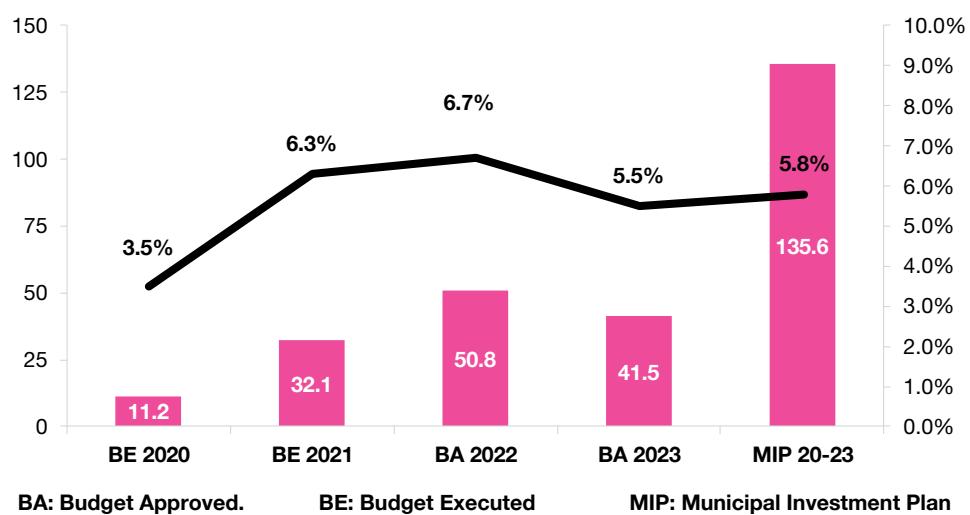
The budgetary effort indicators show that the current expenditure dedicated to SDG 10 is considerable, close to 10% of the total (more than EUR 200 million), although in the last year there has been a slight drop (of around EUR 10 million and 1 percentage point). These are services and programmes

deployed throughout the city. In contrast, investment expenditure is between 5% and 6% of the total.

In terms of analysis of municipal expenditure, [the report on budgetary investment in children in the 2021 municipal budgets](#) is of interest.



**Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 10**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)







**Make cities and  
human settlements  
inclusive, safe, resilient  
and sustainable**



## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

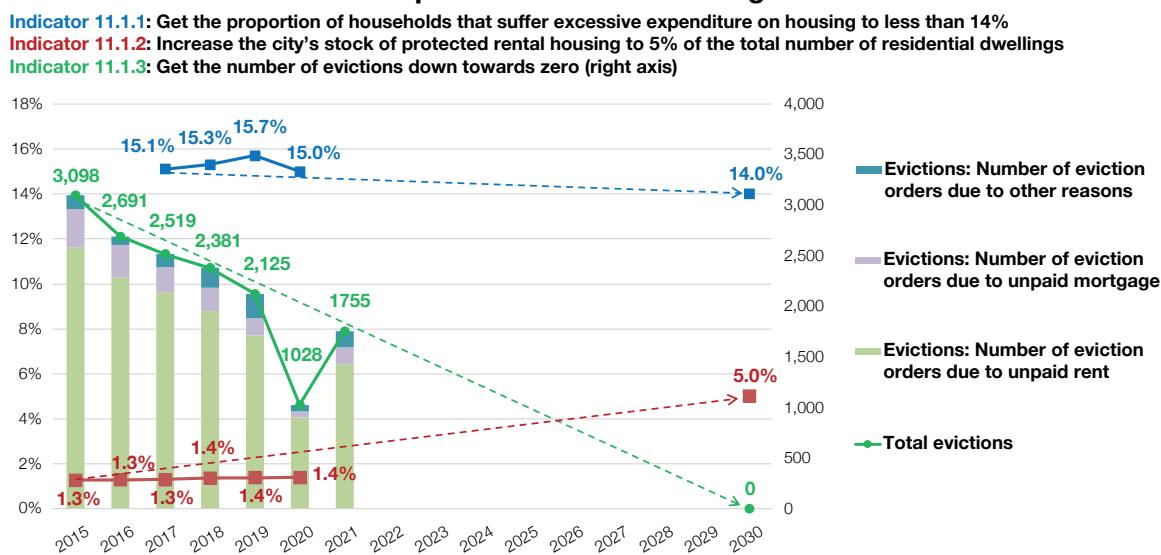
### 11.1 Affordable housing for all

Situations of housing strain (a population that spends more than 40% of its income on rent and

utilities) remain stable at around 15%. The 2030 target is achievable, because the aim is to contain the problem.

The 2030 Agenda includes a much more ambitious target to reverse the historical deficit in the supply of social housing in Barcelona. In 2015, only 1.3% of the total number of residential dwellings were in

**Graph 75: Access to housing**

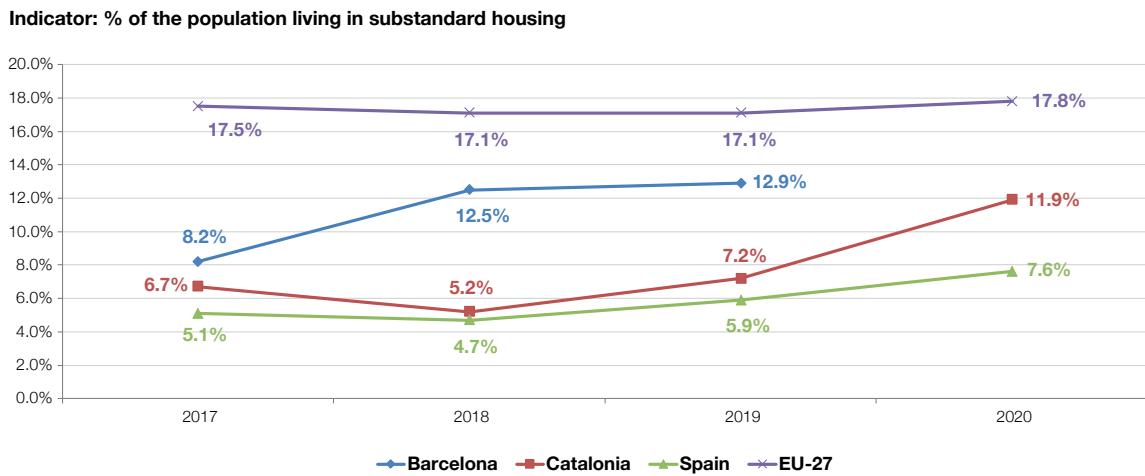


Source 11.1.1: IERMB. Municipal survey on living conditions.

Source 11.1.2: Municipal Data Office.

Source 11.1.3: General Council of the Judiciary.

**Graph 76: Inadequate housing (territorial perspective)**



**Note 1:** It is considered that a person lives in substandard conditions if the house does not have at least one room for the whole family, as well as a room for a couple, for each person over 18 years old, for a couple of adolescents (from 12 to 17 years old) of the same sex, for each adolescent of different sexes and for a couple of children (under 12 years old).

**Note 2:** The data for Barcelona are calculated by combining samples from two consecutive years; 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020.

**Source:** IERMB and Idescat. Survey on Living Conditions.

social housing. As can be seen in the graph, there is a positive trend, but in 2020 progress was still too slow.

The indicator that shows a more favourable situation is the one that refers to the number of evictions, which fell from 3,098 in 2015 to 1,755 in 2021. There is still some way to go to reach the target of 0 evictions, but the trend is promising. The moratorium decreed in the wake of the pandemic has had a lot to do with this, but also with the work of the [Loss of Housing and/or Employment Intervention Service \(SIPHO\)](#), which provides information, support and legal advice to households affected by a homelessness situation.

The lack of access to housing for many people also causes situations of overcrowding due to insufficient space in dwellings, which tend to be more frequent in large cities. The good situation of Spain in relation to the European Union as a whole is remarkable, although it seems that the gap is narrowing.

The [2016-2025 Plan for the right to housing](#) is the reference document for municipal policy. The actions derived from this strategy are explained in detail in the annual balance of the Plan and in the reports of the Municipal Institute of Housing and Rehabilitation and the Housing Consortium, which you will find in this [section on housing documentation](#). The [impact of Law 24/2015 and other measures in response to housing exclusion](#) have also been analysed.

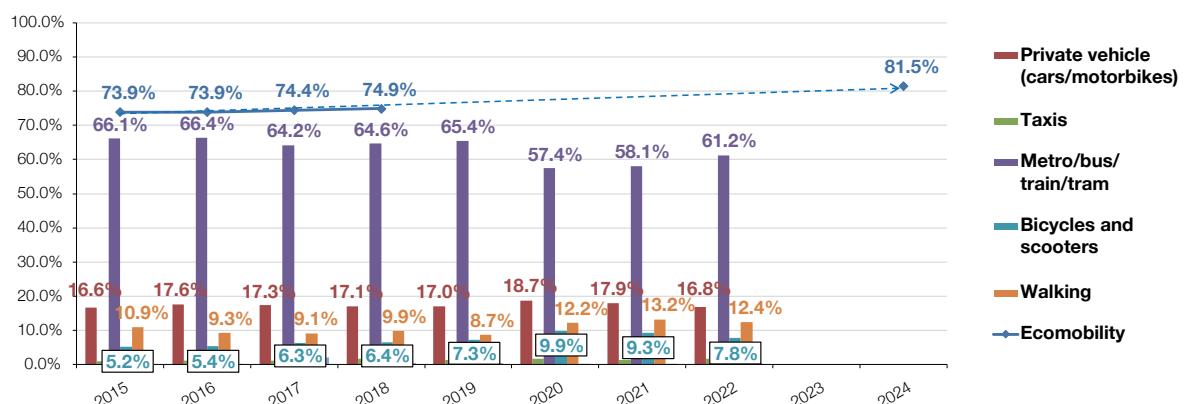
Housing is a basic issue for the city, and it has been studied from many different angles. In this vein, the reports carried out by the Metropolitan Housing Observatory of Barcelona highlight [the impact of Covid-19 and the inflationary crisis](#), on the [structure and concentration of home ownership](#), on [strategies and potential for rehabilitation](#) (considering the urban model and the European context), on [areas of opportunity for urban regeneration](#) (affordable housing and neighbourhood facilities) and on [residential vulnerability in the neighbourhoods of the Besòs](#). This [study on housing precariousness and health](#) is also of interest.

## 11.2 More eco-mobility, based on a sustainable and inclusive public transport system of the highest quality

Unfortunately, the indicator that measures eco-mobility by estimating the proportion of journeys made by means of transport only has data up to 2018. However, there is the Municipal Services Survey, which shows that the percentage of citizens who say that their main means of transport is by car or motorbike has hardly changed since 2015. The increase in walking, cycling and skateboarding has offset the fall in public transport users, who have not yet fully recovered from the crisis of confidence generated during the pandemic. The performance of this indicator, which is crucial for air quality and the fight against climate change, will need to be closely monitored.

**Graph 77: Use of means of transport**

Indicator 11.2.1: EcoMobility (proportion of journeys made using public transport or non-motorised private transport)  
 Indicator 11.2.5: Means of transport most frequently used to get to the main activities



Source 11.2.1: Area of Urban Ecology. Barcelona Sustainability Indicators.

Source 11.2.5: Municipal Services Survey.

### Graph 78: Rating of the public transport system

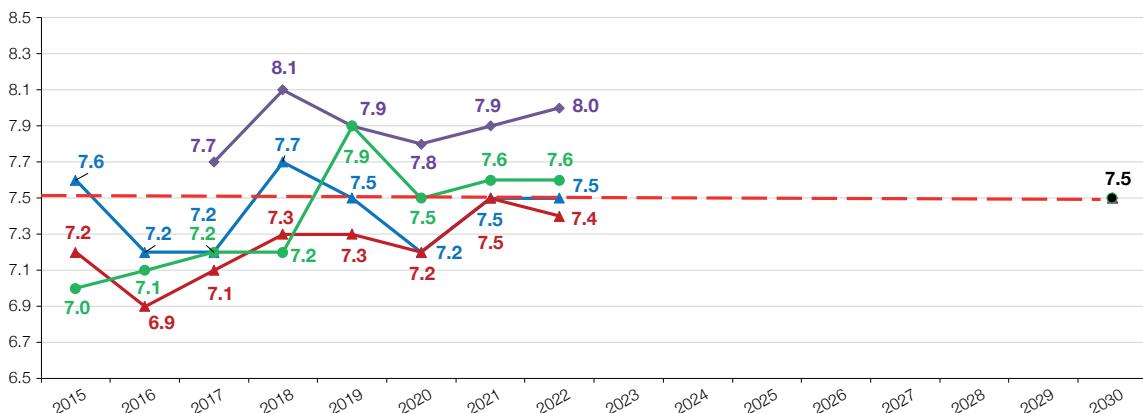
Indicator 11.2.2: Maintain the service-user evaluation of types of public transport at above 7.5 out of 10

Indicator 11.2.2a: Rating of metro users (scale 0-10)

Indicator 11.2.2b: Rating of urban bus users (scale 0-10)

Indicator 11.2.2c: Rating of BICING users (scale 0-10)

Indicator 11.2.2d: Rating of tram users (scale 0-10)

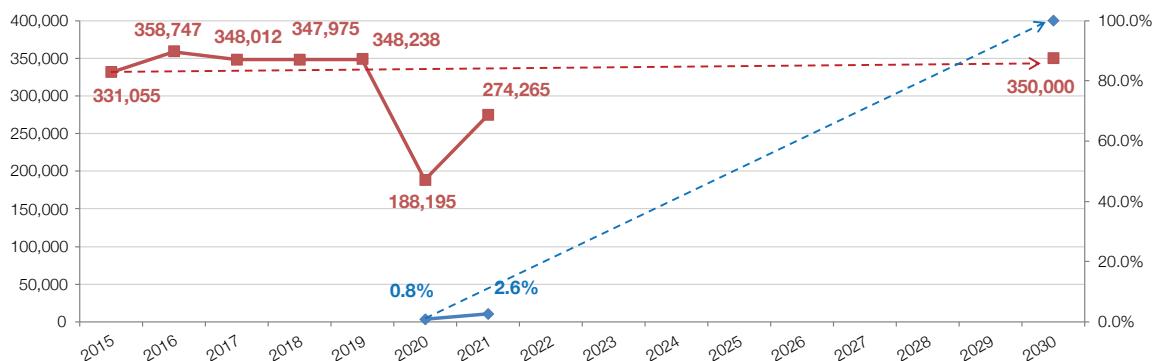


Source: Municipal Services Survey.

### Graph 79: Sustainability and inclusion in transport

Indicator 11.2.3: Achieve 100% electrification of the bus fleet.

Indicator 11.2.4: Carry out over 350,000 journeys/year in the door-to-door service for people with disabilities



Source 11.2.3: Transports Metropolitans de Barcelona (TMB).

Source 11.2.4: Area of Social Rights.

Quality public transport is essential to reduce the use of private motorised transport. This is why public transport user satisfaction must be maintained at the highest possible levels. The graph shows that in 2022 almost all means of public transport equalled or exceeded the score of 7.5 out of 10, with the exception of urban bus, which was one tenth of a point short (7.4). The highest score was 8.0 for the tramway.

Making the bus fleet 100% sustainable is a very ambitious but necessary challenge. By the end of

2021, the percentage of fully electric TMB buses stood at 2.6% of the fleet, representing very slow progress. However, it is foreseeable that these percentages will increase rapidly, considering the municipal government's decision to earmark European funds for the mass purchase of this type of vehicle.

In addition to being sustainable, public transport must be inclusive and adapted to people with reduced mobility. In line with this, the special public transport service for people with severe reduced

mobility, also known as the “door-to-door” service, is a complementary service to that of regular public transport, when the available service is not adapted. The number of journeys made using this system remained fairly stable until 2019, at around 350,000 journeys. For health reasons similar to those affecting public transport systems, there was a significant drop in the number of services of this type in 2020 and 2021.

The [2024 Urban Mobility Plan](#) updates the municipal mobility strategy. Everyone is aware that mobility has to change, because the levels of air pollution are no longer tolerable (see targets 3.9 and 11.6) and because Barcelona is committed to drastically and rapidly reducing its greenhouse gas emissions (see target 13.2). Measures have been taken on a metropolitan scale, such as the Low Emission Zone (LEZ), which will have to be adjusted in line with the evaluation of the results and in an attempt to ensure that they are [compatible with economic activity needs](#)<sup>3</sup>. If the aim is to reduce the presence of vehicles with combustion engines on Barcelona's streets, it is crucial to promote and at the same time regulate the means of transport that are to replace them. This has been done through measures such as the [Electric Mobility Strategy](#) and the [Traffic Regulations for personal mobility vehicles](#). The impacts have been analysed in studies such as the study on [Coexistence on public roads derived from the implementation of the cycle network in Barcelona](#).

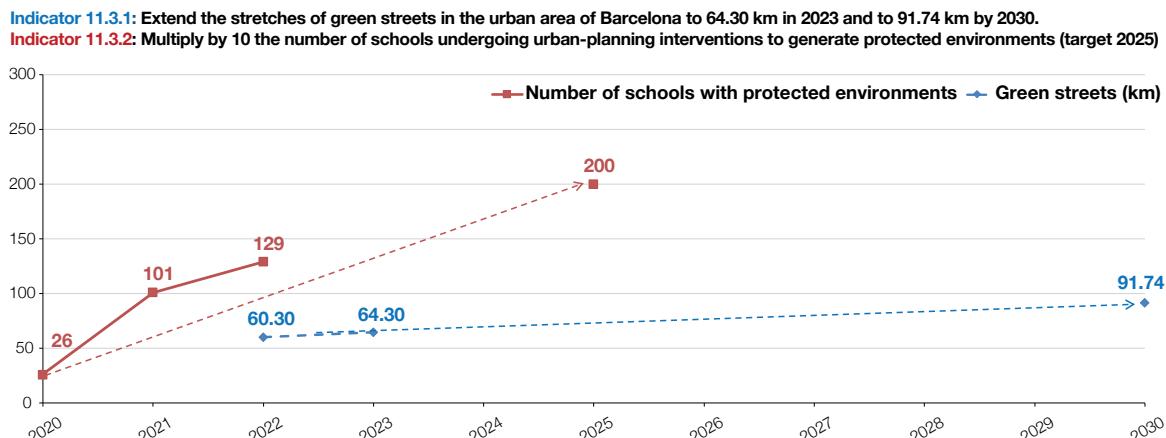
### 11.3 Achieve a change in urban model through social consensus in order to attain healthier and more sustainable public spaces, especially in areas surrounding schools

The renovation of the urban fabric with the aim of extending the stretches of green areas is one of the most important commitments in terms of the urban model. In 2020, the total length of the green stretches will reach 60.30 km. The expectation is to be able to reach 64.30 km in 2023 and the 91.74 km planned for 2030.

The new urban model also prioritises the creation of protected school areas, adding more quality public space to improve safety and reduce pollution. An initial target has been proposed, with a deadline of 2025, consisting of improving the urban area of at least 200 schools, with a view to subsequently completing the actions in all the schools in Barcelona. The data indicate that the first target is being met at a good pace, as by 2022 a total of 129 schools will have benefited.

The [Barcelona Superblock measure to regenerate Barcelona and its neighbourhoods](#) is the main strategic document of the new urban model. The [guide to sustainability and urban planning](#)

**Graph 80: Green streets and protected school environments**



3 A l'article [To what extent the traffic restriction policies applied in Barcelona city can improve its air quality?](#), publicat a la revista Science of The Total Environment s'aporten evidències per afirmar que les polítiques de restricció del trànsit adoptades fins ara, com la zona de baixes emissions, poden canviar els llocs on s'acumula la contaminació, però no reduir-la de forma global. Els autors argumenten que això només es pot aconseguir amb una reducció de la demanda de transport privat i la renovació dels vehicles.

*criteria* (More Sustainable Urban Planning) and the *Green Hub Model* (The new street of the 21st century) update the technical knowledge needed to move in the desired direction. The [\*Report by the Municipal Institute of Urban Planning\*](#) provides a better understanding of the actions carried out for urban improvement.

## 11.4 Improve the protection, accessibility and knowledge of singular heritage and identity features of Barcelona and its neighbourhoods

Facilitating access to the city's most significant heritage sites is essential both from the point of view of social inclusion and from the perspective of knowing and sharing the unique heritage elements and the identity of Barcelona and its neighbourhoods. To make this possible, it is necessary to facilitate physical access to museums and exhibition centres, for example, through free or reduced admission. In 2021, 68% of the total number of visitors gained access in this way.

It is also important to adapt the dissemination of heritage elements to the media and cultural forms of the digital society in order to guarantee better access to them. In line with this idea, the number of items in the city's collection of documents that are accessible online has been growing.



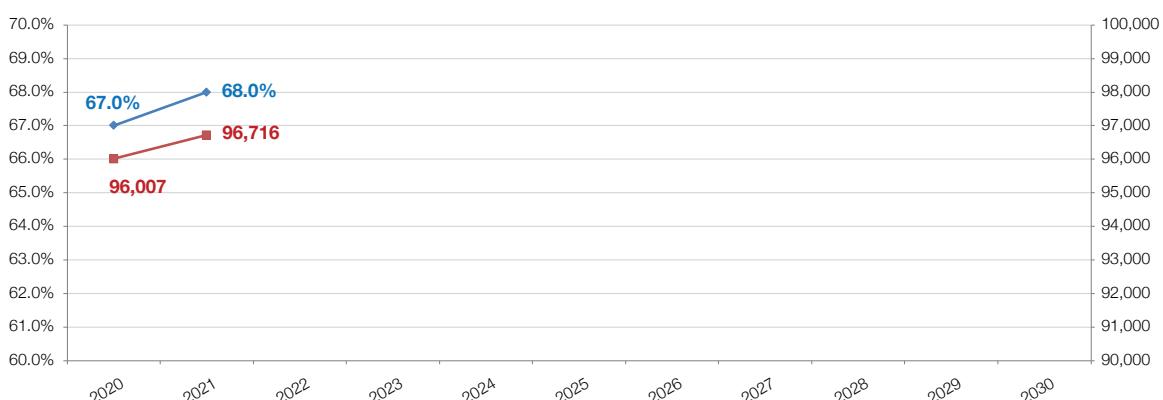
The [\*Government Measure Barcelona, Heritage City\*](#) brings together a series of actions that take a fresh look at the traditional concept of heritage to take into account values linked to everyday life in the neighbourhoods and the fight against climate change. A second recent and important measure is dedicated to [\*preserving and promoting emblematic commercial establishments\*](#).

For further information, see “[\*2020 Digital Indicators\*](#)”, conceived as a new approach to (cultural) data in times of pandemic. It is also worth consulting the [\*report by the Barcelona Municipal Archive\*](#) to see how it manages and disseminates documentary heritage using digital society criteria.

**Graph 81: Accessibility to museums and digitisation of heritage items**

**Indicator 11.4.1:** The number of people/total visitors that have entered public museums and exhibition centres either at a discount price or free of charge

**Indicator 11.4.2:** Number of pieces of the collections accessible online



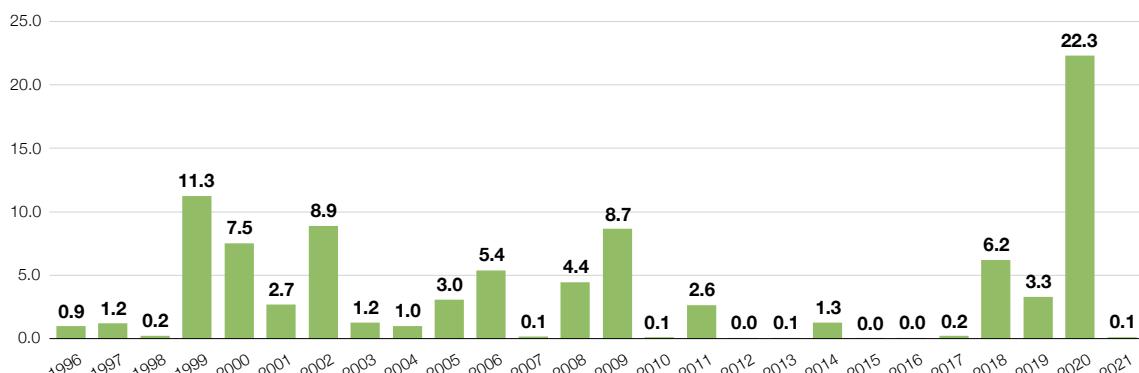
**Note:** 2030 target pending definition.

**Source:** ICUB.

## 11.5 Maximum protection for people and prevention of material damage during severe climate episodes

**Graph 82: Protection of people and prevention of material damage in the face of severe climatic events**

Indicator 11.5.1: Economic losses caused by water-related disasters (millions of euros)



Note 1: It includes economic losses due to sea battering, flooding and atypical storms.

Note 2: 2030 target pending definition.

Source: Barcelona Cicle de l'Aigua, SA.

In addition to preventive and climate adaptation actions, it is necessary to have the necessary resources and provisions in place to deal with disaster situations, while minimising personal and material damage. In the last 25 years, water-related events have not caused significant damage, except for the EUR 22.3 million in 2020, caused by storm Glòria. Unfortunately, there is still no complete information on the effects of heat waves and episodes of drought.

Municipal action on this issue is enshrined in documents such as the [2014-2025 Fire Prevention, Fire Fighting and Rescue Service Master Plan](#) and the government measure [Emergency management, tools for Barcelona's resilience](#).

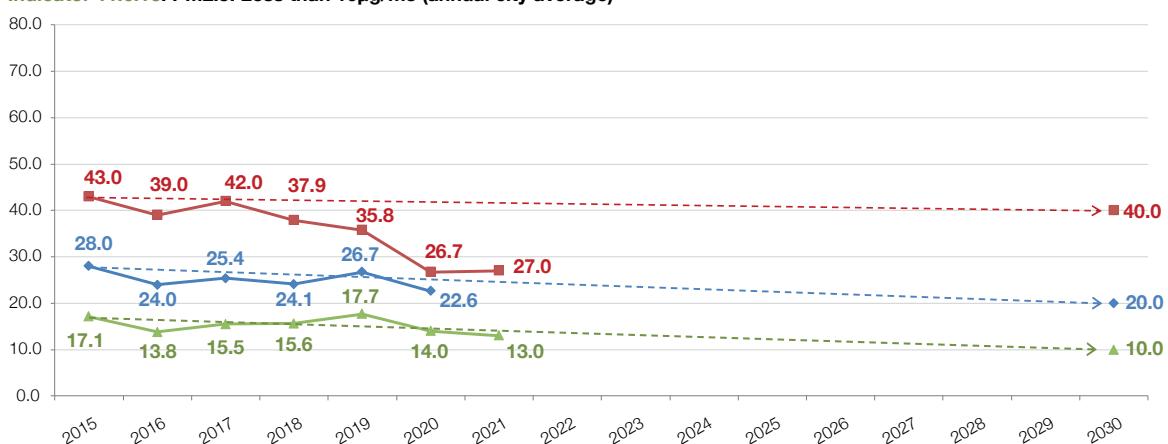
## 11.6 Barcelona will comply with the air-quality thresholds recommended by the WHO

**Graph 83: Concentration of air pollutants**

Indicator 11.6.1a: NO<sub>2</sub>: Less than 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (annual maximum average)

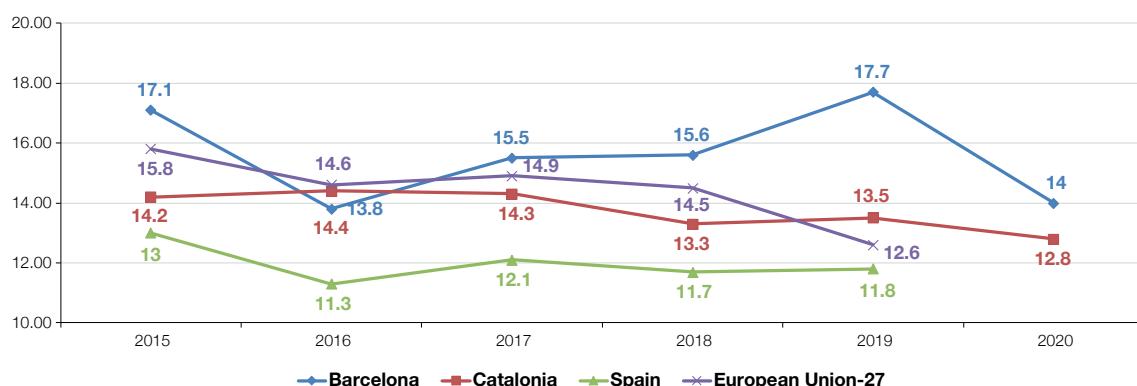
Indicator 11.6.1b: PM10: Less than 20 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (annual city average)

Indicator 11.6.1c: PM2.5: Less than 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (annual city average)



Source: Area of Urban Ecology. Barcelona Sustainability Indicators.

**Graph 84: Concentration of PM2.5 in the air (territorial comparison)**



Units:  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Source Catalonia: Ministry of Territory and Sustainability. Source Spain and the European Union: Eurostat.

Source Barcelona: Area of Urban Ecology. Barcelona Sustainability Indicators.

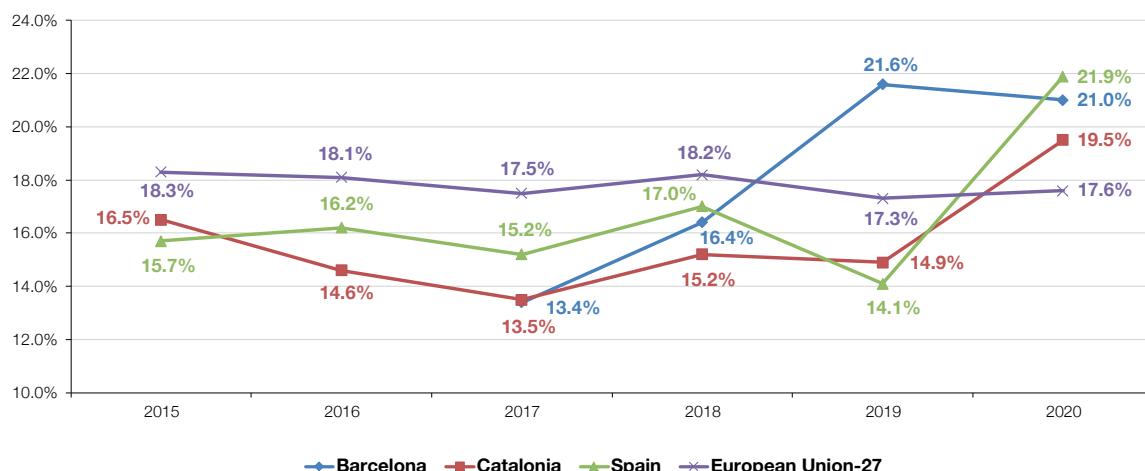
The average air concentration levels of NO<sub>2</sub>, PM10 and PM2.5 particles from 2015 to 2019 decreased in 2020 thanks to the stricter Covid-19 lockdown period. However, only in the case of NO<sub>2</sub> did it fall below the maximum limit recommended by the WHO (40.0  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ). Values of 22.6  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  of PM10 and 14.0  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  of PM2.5 were recorded that same year, 15.4% and 20.9% less than the previous year, respectively. In 2021, still marked by the Covid-19 restrictions, the presence of these pollutants remained at this level, significantly lower than in 2019 and below the legal maximum limits, but still clearly above the levels considered safe by the World Health Organisation. Graph 84 also shows that in 2020, the annual weighted average

concentration of fine particulate matter (PM2.5) was above the maximum level of 10.0  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  recommended by the WHO at all territorial levels.

The main reference for this matter is the [annual report Assessment of air quality in the city of Barcelona](#). Also highly recommended is the [Annual of pollution in Barcelona](#). The lockdowns and restrictions of the pandemic generated extraordinary effects on air quality and the [lessons learned, which are gathered in this report](#).

Noise pollution also has effects on the well-being and health of citizens, as evidenced by the Study [Environmental noise and health in the city of](#)

**Graph 85: Home that suffer from noise (territorial comparative)**



Note: The data for Barcelona are calculated by combining samples from two consecutive years; 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020.

Source: IERMB and Idescat. Survey on Living Conditions.

[Barcelona](#). The proportion of the population declaring that they suffer from noise in their homes reached 21% in Barcelona in 2020, a very similar percentage to the 19.5% and 21.9% for Catalonia and Spain that same year.

## 11.7 Greener and safer public spaces where people can play

Improving the quality of public space involves, among other things, increasing the amount of green space available in the city. From 2015 to 2020 the non-forest green space increased by 0.42 km<sup>2</sup> from 11.28 to 11.70 km<sup>2</sup>. The objective line in the graph indicates that adequate progress is being made in this area. Enjoying a clean city is very important in terms of coexistence and the enjoyment of public space. Citizens' assessment of the street cleaning service could be a good indicator in this respect, as it is not easy to obtain objective measurements of this issue. It can be seen that the assessment of this service has remained fairly stable between 2015 and 2021, with a negative spike in 2020.

The strategy for improving public space is included in the measures mentioned in point 11.3 on the urban model, as well as in the [2022-2030 Barcelona Strategy for Universal Accessibility](#) and the [2030 Barcelona Public Space Play Plan](#). This plan, otherwise known as Barcelona as a playable city, is truly exemplary in the fact that it defines a set of measurable goals for 2030

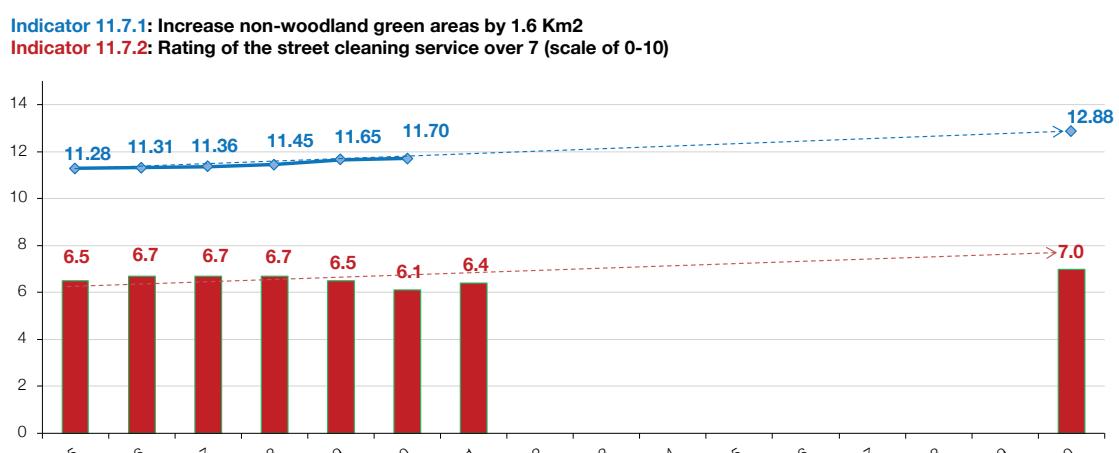
(see pp. 64-67 of the Plan), with the aim of "making the Strategy more communicable and the commitment to change more palpable in the city". A set of very specific indicators are established for each of the targets, referring to the size, quality and elements available in the children's play areas. In future editions, the annual report of the 2030 Agenda will include a synthetic indicator designed to measure the degree of implementation of the Plan.

### 11.a Have a new Metropolitan Urban-Planning Master Plan

The Metropolitan Urban Development Master Plan sets out the broad objectives and the main guidelines regarding infrastructure, green areas, urban fabric and open spaces to be developed over the next 20 years in the 36 municipalities that make up the Barcelona Metropolitan Area.

The [Barcelona Metropolitan Area is leading the technical and administrative process for implementing the metropolitan Urban Master Plan \(PDU\)](#), which is to culminate in its definitive approval and publication, following the initial approval, strategic environmental declaration and provisional approval phases. The process is currently in the public scrutiny and the collection of contributions and suggestions phase regarding the [PDU progress document](#). This document determines the criteria under which the plan will be developed.

**Graph 86: Quality of public space**



**Source 11.7.1:** Municipal Data Office.

**Source 11.7.2:** Municipal Services Survey.



## 11.b Develop Barcelona's urban resilience model

The impact of Covid-19 on cities has shown that it is necessary to apply a resilience perspective in public decision-making, moving from a logic that is purely reactive to one of pre-preparedness and reducing vulnerabilities. Since 2019, the City Council has been analysing the critical events that affect the city and its systems, with the aim of measuring the impact they have on the various urban services and designing responses that allow for a better recovery. The evidence and knowledge generated during this process is compiled into a risk map through which decision-makers in municipal departments can analyse the main risks that have recently affected the city, their capacity to manage them and the critical areas that need to be improved. The results are presented and debated at the Municipal Resilience Committee.

Furthermore, Barcelona City Council and UN-Habitat, through the City Resilience Global Programme (CRGP), have worked closely together in

recent years to promote and implement resilience actions both locally in Barcelona and in other cities around the world. Barcelona has offered itself as a pilot city to test the City Resilience Profiling Tool (CRPT). The risks, difficulties and opportunities of the urban system have led to the definition of a [\*resilience profile for Barcelona\*](#) centred on three priority themes: 1 - Right to decent housing and access to basic services (SDGs 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11); 2 - Public space: accessibility, health, uses and social cohesion (SDG 11) and 3 - Population ageing and demographic change (SDGs 1, 3, 5, 10 and 13).

## 11.c Develop international cooperation associated with urban planning and housing

See SDG 17, target 2.

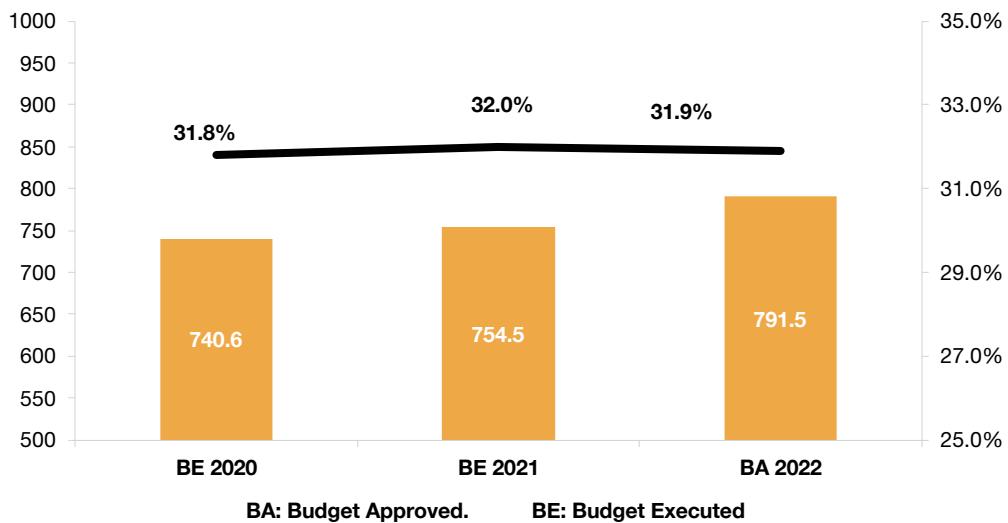
## Budgetary effort indicators

SDG 11 is the goal that accounts for the largest part of municipal expenditure, because it includes some of the most important powers exercised by the City Council, such as urban planning,

maintenance of public roads, mobility and housing. Current expenditure is almost a third of the total, while investment exceeds 40%.

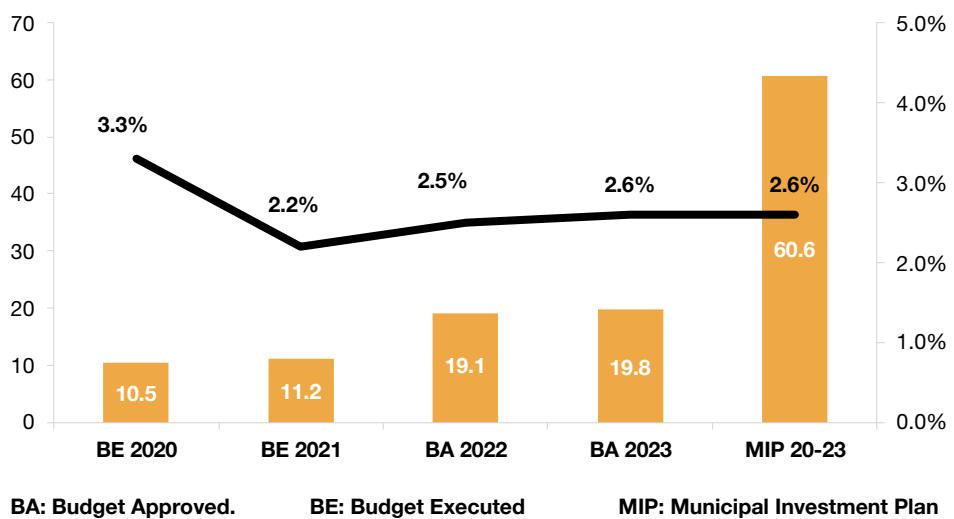
### Current expenditure on SDG 11

(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



### Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 11

(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)







## Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns



The municipal document of reference for this SDG is the [2030 Strategy for the Social and Solidarity Economy in Barcelona: reactivating and strengthening an economy for life in the city](#). The report on [the green and circular economy in the policies of the Barcelona City Council](#)

[City Council](#) contributed elements of reflection to update these policies at the time. The [Report on Municipal Consumer Services](#) provides systematic information on municipal action to promote responsible and sustainable consumption.

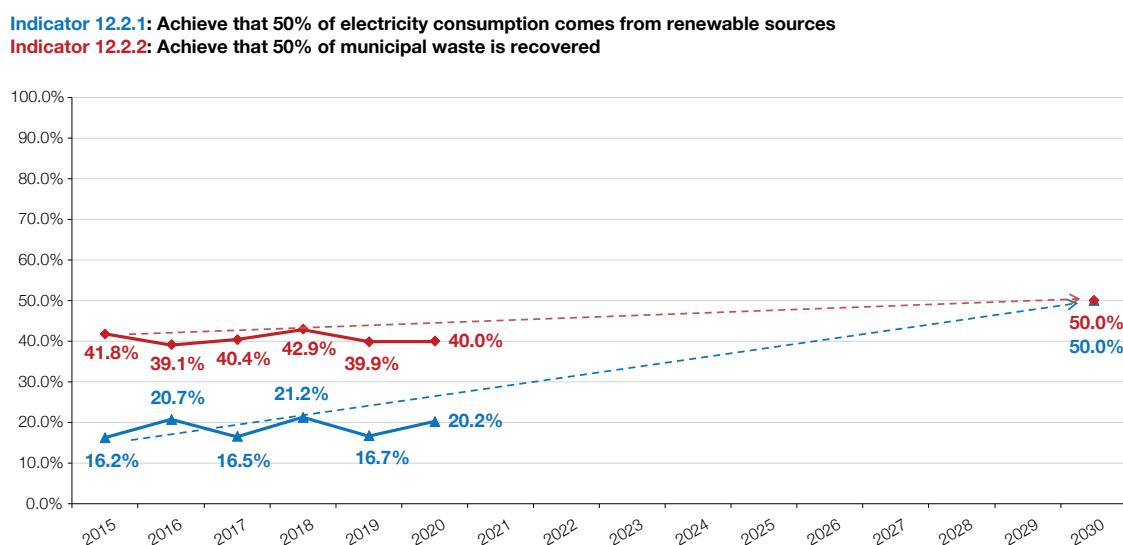
## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 12.2 Achieve the 50-50-100 target for an efficient and sustainable use of natural resources

The proportion of municipal waste recovered (materially and energetically) has remained practically unchanged since 2015. If this inertia remains unchecked, it will not be possible to achieve the target of 50% by 2030.

(Indicator 12.1.1, on renewable energy, can be found in SDG 7, target 2).

**Graph 87: Renewable energy and recovery from waste**



**Source 12.2.1:** Area of Urban Ecology. Climate Plan.

**Source 12.2.2:** Area of Urban Ecology. Barcelona Sustainability Indicators.

### 12.3 Reduce food waste by half

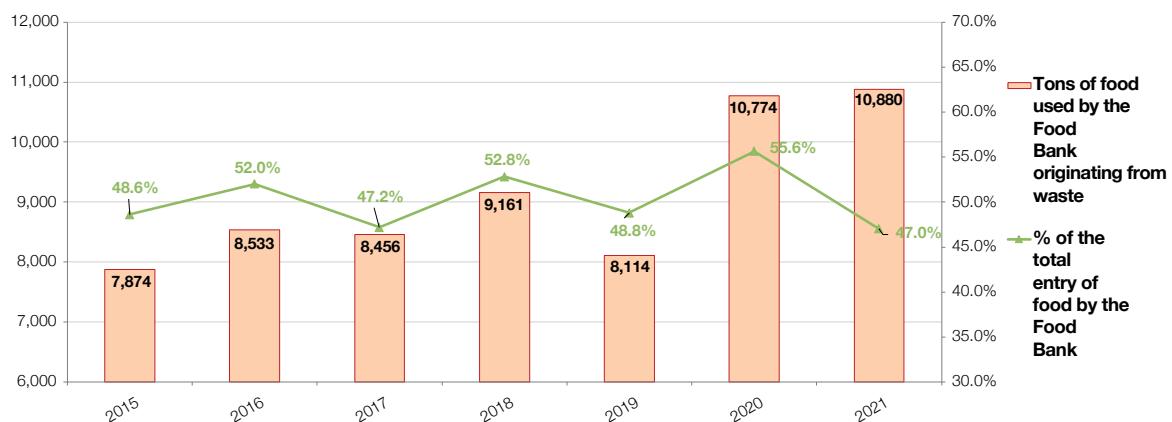
Reducing food waste to a minimum is an obvious and key step towards sustainable consumption. In this area, the food recovery work carried out by the Barcelona Food Bank is of great importance. In 2021, they were able to make use of 10,880 tonnes of food in the province of Barcelona, a figure that represents 47% of the total amount of food that entered the Food Bank. In the same vein, Mercabarna, the main fresh food wholesale market, has adopted the commitment to achieve zero waste by 2030. The figures show that this is

entirely feasible, because between 2015 and 2021 it has already managed to reduce food waste by 68%.

The [2030 Strategy for Healthy and Sustainable Food](#) includes this objective, as does the [2015-2025 Strategic Plan for Barcelona Markets](#), but with a lower profile. School canteens – the municipal facilities that handle the most food – have been provided with an educational guide on food waste, called “[Zero waste in school canteens now](#)”.

### Graph 88: Use of food at risk of being wasted

**Indicator 12.3.1:** Tonnes of food used by the Barcelona food bank that come from food waste (data for the province of Barcelona)

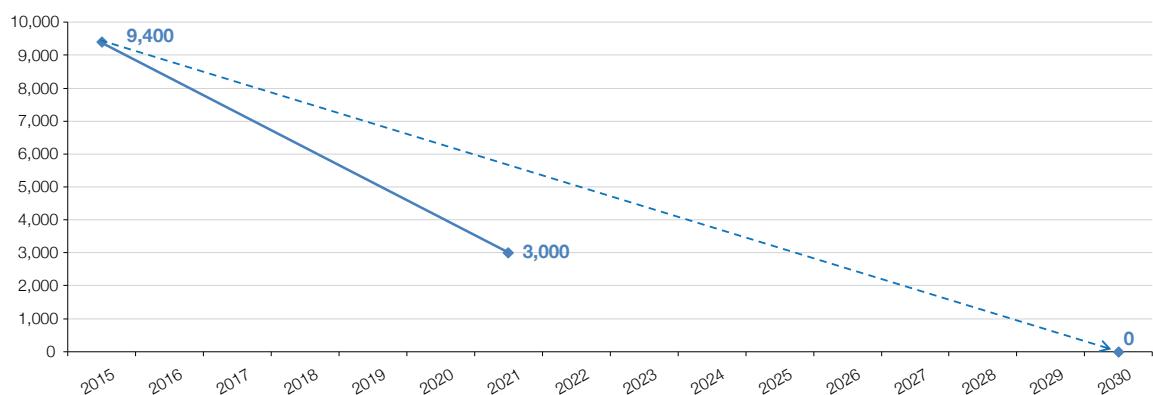


Note: 2030 target pending definition.

Source: Barcelona Food Bank.

### Graph 89: Food waste at Mercabarna

**Indicator 12.3.2:** Zero tonnes of food wasted at Mercabarna



Source: Mercabarna.



## 12.4 Reduce the presence and impact of plastics and micro-plastics on the environment in Barcelona

The indicator for this target is not yet available.

There is a commitment by the city to the effective reduction of single-use plastics, the “Barcelona Zero Plastic Commitment”, which is part of the Zero Waste strategy (see page 12.5). It was launched in 2019 by a group of organisations under the auspices of the Citizen Council for Sustainability and as one of Barcelona City Council’s responses to the climate emergency.

## 12.5 A significant leap in the reduction and recycling of waste

In 2021, the level of selective waste collection in the city as a whole stood at around 40%, which is a positive improvement, but still far from the target of 65% set for 2030. The current waste collection system does not seem to allow us to make the necessary leap to get there (and also to comply with European regulations, which demand 50% by 2020, 55% by 2025, 60% by 2030 and 65% by 2035). It should also be borne in mind that Barcelona's recycling rates are lower than those of Catalonia as a whole (45.9%) and the European Union (47.8%).

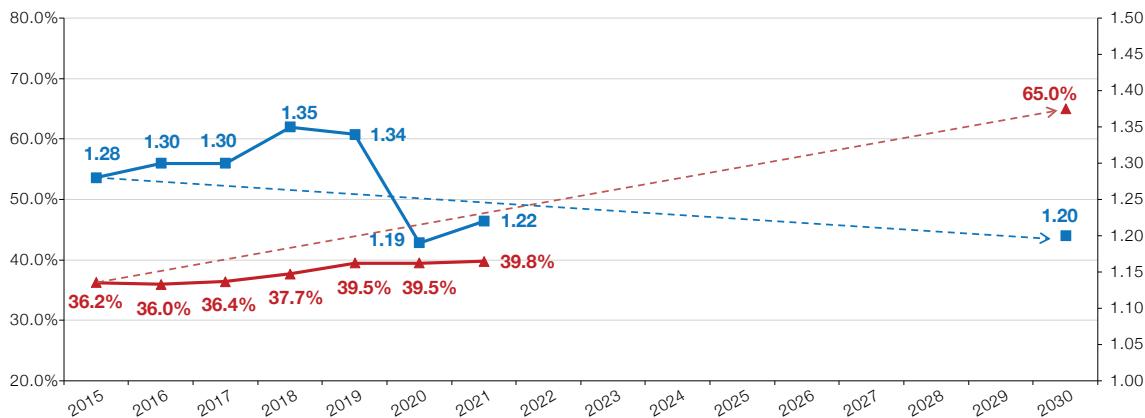
Other collection systems are being studied and put into practice, such as door-to-door

collection, which should lead to a significant improvement in the results. Just as important as recycling, if not more important, is reducing the generation of solid urban waste. Graph 90 also shows that after a progressive increase from 2015 to 2019 to 1.34 kilograms per inhabitant per day, in 2020 there is a significant drop (-11.2%) compared to the previous year to 1.19 kg, mainly as a result of the drastic reduction in commercial waste. In 2021 this figure increased slightly to 1.22 kg.

[Barcelona's zero waste strategy](#) sets out the lines to follow in this area.

### Graph 90: Waste generation and recycling

**Indicator 12.5.1:** Reduce the volume of collected solid urban waste down to 1.2 Kg./inhabitant/day (right axis)  
**Indicator 12.5.2:** Achieve that 65% of solid urban waste is recycled



**Source:** Area of Urban Ecology. Barcelona Sustainability Indicators.

### Graph 91: Waste recycling (territorial comparison)

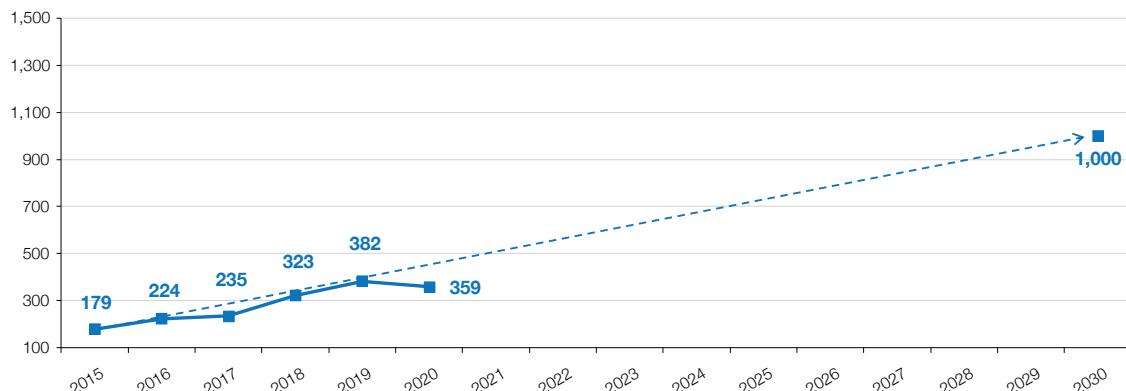


**Source:** Catalonia: Department for Climate Action, Food and Rural Agenda. Catalan Waste Agency.

**Source:** Spain and the European Union: Eurostat. **Source:** Barcelona: Area of Urban Ecology. Barcelona Sustainability Indicators.

### Graph 92: Companies with environmental certificates

Indicator 12.6.1: More than 1,000 companies operating in Barcelona with environmental or social certifications



Source: Area of Urban Ecology. Barcelona Sustainability Indicators.

### 12.6 All large companies operating in Barcelona must have environmental certificates

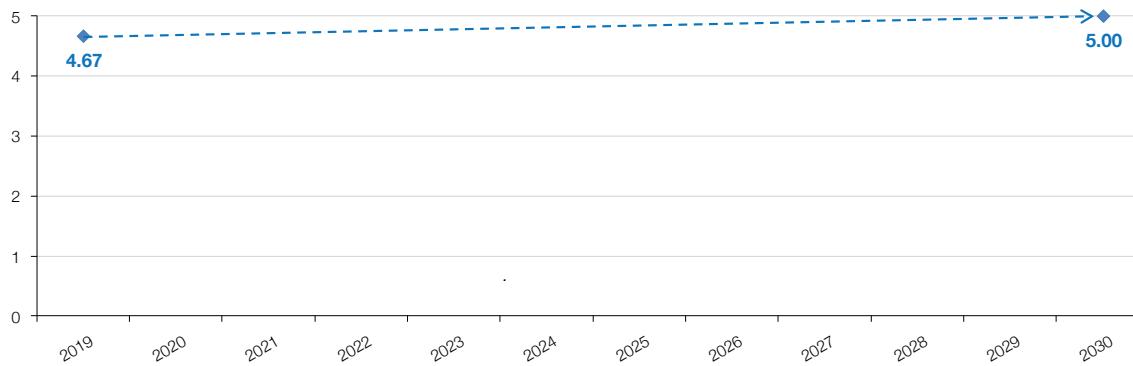
The number of current environmental and social certifications in Barcelona was 359 in 2020. The total number of companies, services or products with current sustainability certifications has fallen for the first time since the beginning of the time series, reversing a very promising trend towards the desired target for the year 2030. It remains to be seen to what extent the pandemic may have influenced this indicator, possibly due to less administrative activity.

### 12.7 Barcelona City Council's public procurement will meet all the standards established by the United Nations concerning sustainable procurement (social, environmental and economic clauses)

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has generated a methodology for calculating a synthetic index for sustainable public procurement. In the first round, Barcelona City Council obtained 4.67 out of 5 points in 2019, the highest score of all the administrations in the world that presented their results.

### Graph 93: Evaluation of municipal procurement with a sustainable perspective

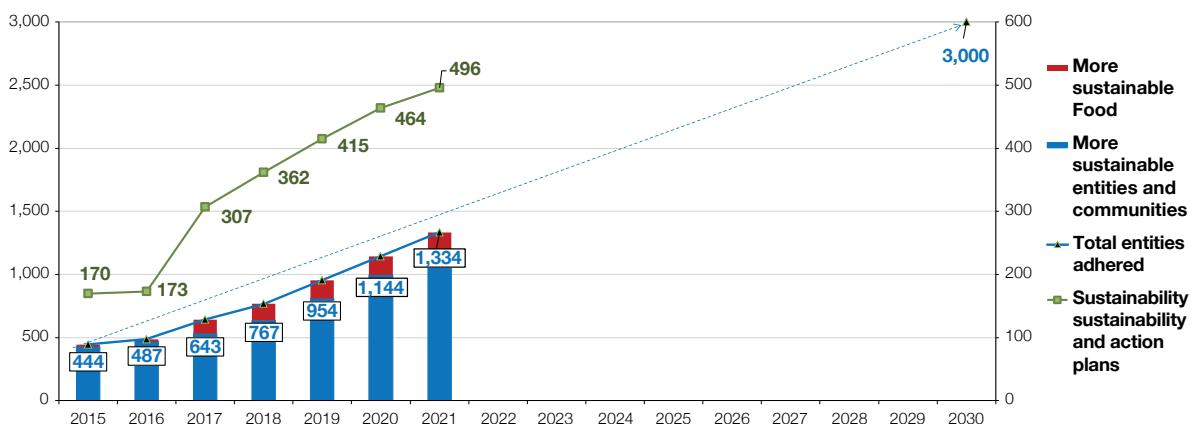
Indicator 12.7.1: Achieve a score of 5 in the Sustainable public procurement synthetic index.



Source: One Planet Network Sustainable Public Procurement Programme

### Graph 94: Committed entities and actions for sustainability

Indicator 12.8.1: Number of organisations that have joined the More Sustainable Barcelona network  
 Indicator 12.8.2: Number of sustainability actions and action plans



Source: Area of Urban Ecology. More Sustainable Barcelona.

Through their procurement and purchasing policies, the public administrations can send signs and significantly influence the markets for goods and services. Since 2018, the City Council has approved an [Annual plan of sustainable public procurement objectives](#) and presented a [Report on Sustainable Public Procurement](#). In parallel, the [application of responsible public procurement has been studied in sectors such as health](#) and in [the overall supply chains of the City Council](#), in order to assess the needs to comply with the obligation to respect human rights.

## 12.8 The More Sustainable Barcelona Network will have 3,000 member organisations committed to the 2030 Agenda

The number of entities, companies and businesses signing the Citizen Commitment for Sustainability has been increasing year after year. In 2021, there were already 1,334. It is also worth highlighting the sharp increase since 2015 in the good practices and action plans of these companies and organisations in relation to sustainability, with a total of 496 in force by the end of 2021. Progress is being made at a good pace, but there is no room for complacency if the target of 3,000 entities is to be reached by 2030.

The [2030 Let's Change for the Climate Plan](#) (Barcelona's sustainability culture strategy) identifies the need to involve new public and other types of entities in the fight for sustainability.

### 12.a. Develop international cooperation for the promotion of more sustainable consumption and production models

See SDG 17, target 2.

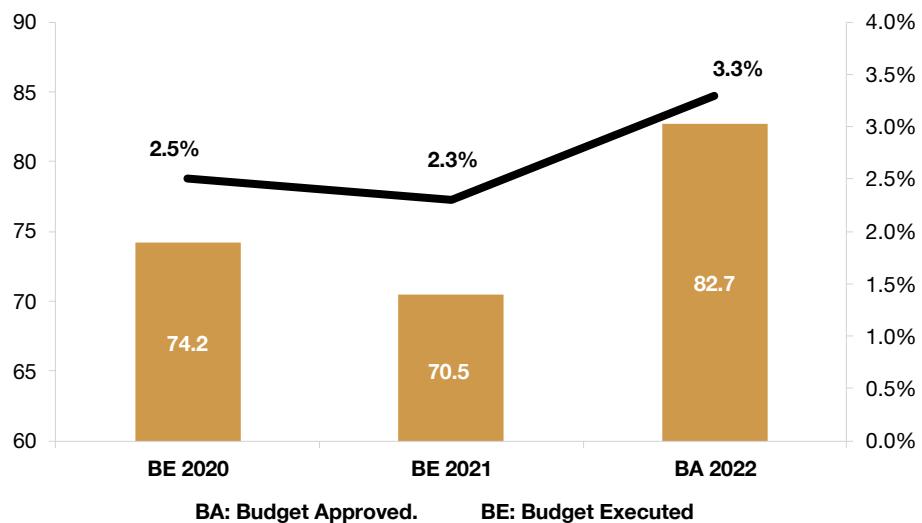


## Budgetary effort indicators

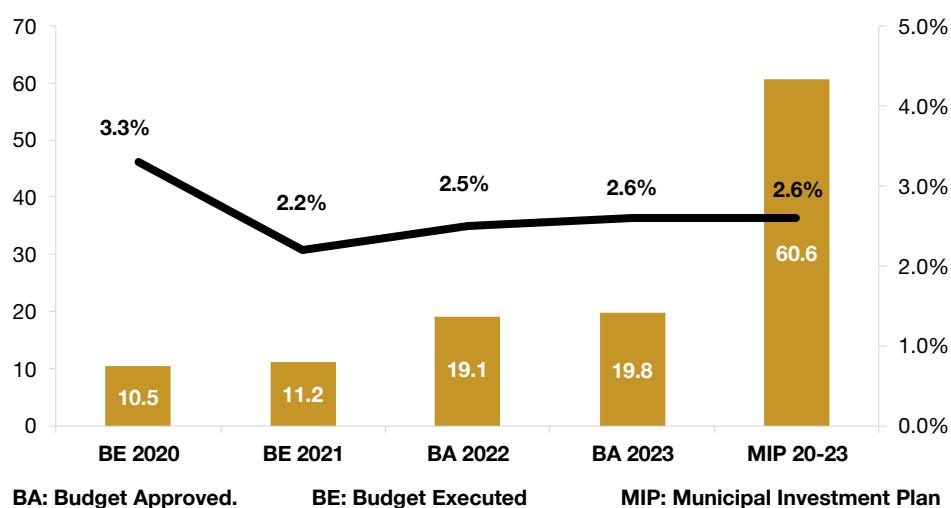
The budgetary effort indicators show a level of current expenditure of between EUR 70 and 80 million per year, highly concentrated in waste collection and management services. Investment

expenditure is considerably lower, although in the last two years it has increased notably, reaching around EUR 20 million a year.

**Current expenditure on SDG 12**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



**Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 12**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)







## Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



At the end of 2021, the City Council approved the 2030 Climate Emergency Action Plan, the result of merging (and updating) the 2018-2030 Climate Plan with the Climate Emergency Declaration of January 2020. The climate emergency situation indicators and the action

to combat it are updated every year through a specific report. It is also advisable to read the dossier Tackling the climate emergency, published by the magazine Barcelona Metrópolis.

## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 13.1 By 2030, 100% of the population will be less than 300 metres from a climate refuge, and there will be a water garden in every district

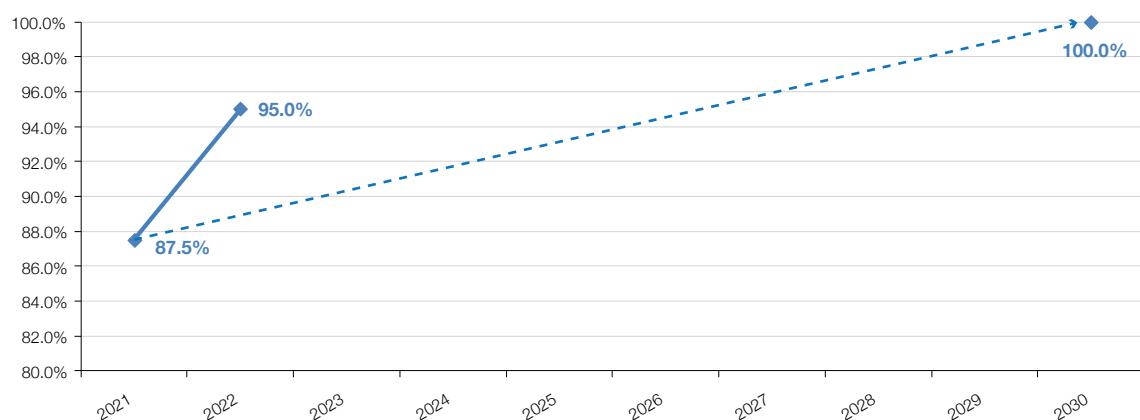
The excessive and sustained heat waves, such as those expected to occur with increasing frequen-

cy due to climate change, lead to an increase in mortality and morbidity, especially in the most vulnerable groups, and particularly those people who suffer more directly from the effects of heat, either because of their socio-economic situation or because of their health or age.

For this reason, starting in 2019, the City Council has been working on the creation of a network of climate refuge areas. The 202 climate shelters in operation during the summer of 2022 meant that 95% of citizens had a climate refuge less than

**Graph 95: Climate shelters**

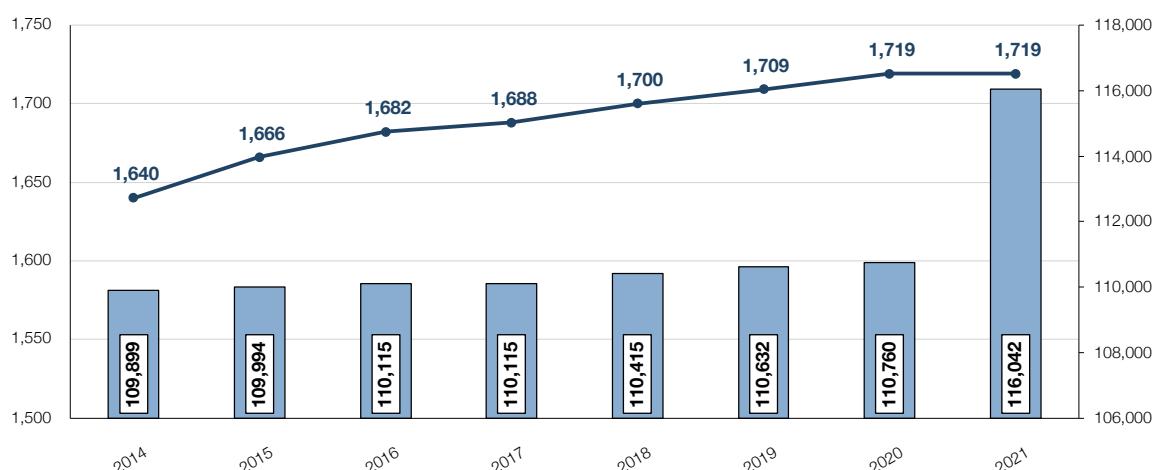
**Indicator 13.1.1:** Proportion of the population that have a climate refuge less than a 10 minute walk from their home



**Source:** Area of Urban Ecology. Climate Plan.

**Graph 96: Water in public areas**

**Indicator 13.1.2a:** Water surface area of ornamental fountains in m<sup>2</sup>. (Right axis)  
**Indicator 13.1.2b:** Number of drinking fountains

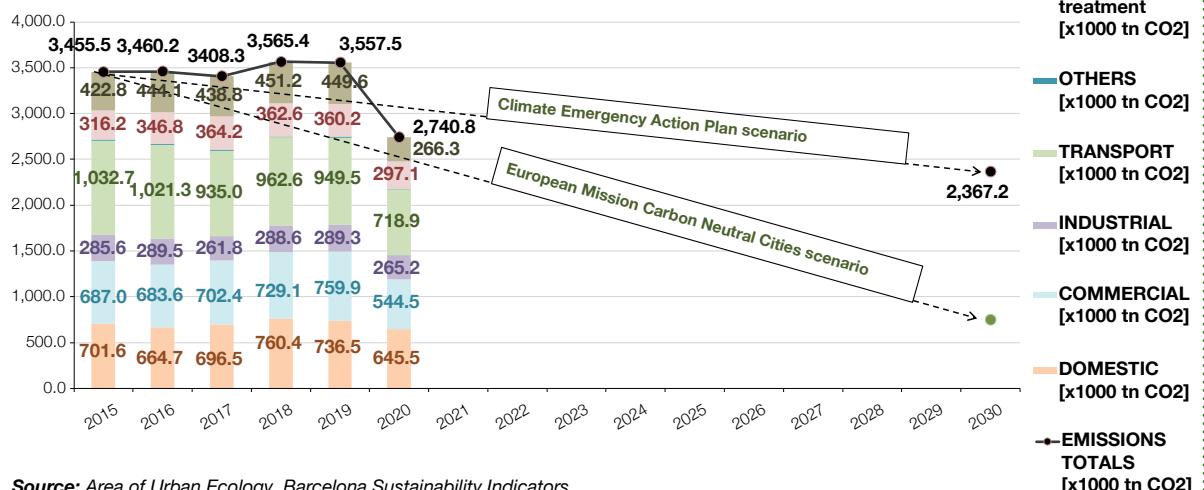


**Note:** 2030 target pending definition.

**Source:** Barcelona Cicle de l'Aigua, SA.

**Graph 97: Greenhouse gas emissions**

**Indicator 13.2.1:** Achieve at least a 50% reduction in GHG emissions compared to 1992



Source: Area of Urban Ecology. Barcelona Sustainability Indicators.

10 minutes' walk from their homes. This represents an increase of 7.5% on the previous year and a very important step towards reaching 100% of the population.

Adapting schools to climate change is essential in order to protect children and, secondly, the population as a whole, because schools are spaces spread throughout the city that are very conducive to acting as climatic refuges. A [catalogue of solutions has been drawn up to make this adaptation through green, blue and grey solutions](#). Participation in the [European Coolschools project](#) allows the learning and implementation of this policy to be accelerated.

In addition to their aesthetic value, the drinking water fountains and the surface water of ornamental fountains can also help to mitigate the effects of heat waves. In 2021, the total number of drinking fountains was 1,719, an almost unparalleled network in Europe. With regard to the surface area of ornamental fountains, in 2021 it totalled 116,042 m<sup>2</sup>, a significant increase compared to 2020, when it was 110,760 m<sup>2</sup>.

## 13.2 Barcelona will achieve the reduction of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions as established in the most ambitious international agreements

Cities are among the main emitters of greenhouse gases (GHG) and therefore have a major responsibility for preventing global warming. In the case of Barcelona, the [2030 Climate Emergency Action Plan](#) sets the target for reducing emissions in 2030 at 50% compared to 1992, limiting them to 2,367.2 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent. Between 2015 and 2019, a period of significant economic growth, GHG annual emissions increased by more than 100,000 tonnes. In 2020, the restrictions resulting from the pandemic led to a sharp drop of around 30% in emissions. Everyone accepts that emissions have risen again in 2021 and even more so in 2022, but it is essential that this "rebound" remains moderate, so that the level of emissions is on a clearly downward trajectory compared to 2019.

In April 2022, Barcelona was selected by the European Commission, out of more than 400 candidate cities, [as one of the 100 European cities to participate in the mission to achieve climate neutrality by 2030](#). It is considered that in order to reach this point it will be necessary to reduce annual emissions to below 750,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent; a major challenge that marks the way forward. This path will become a reality in 2023 with the drafting and approval of a City Climate Contract.

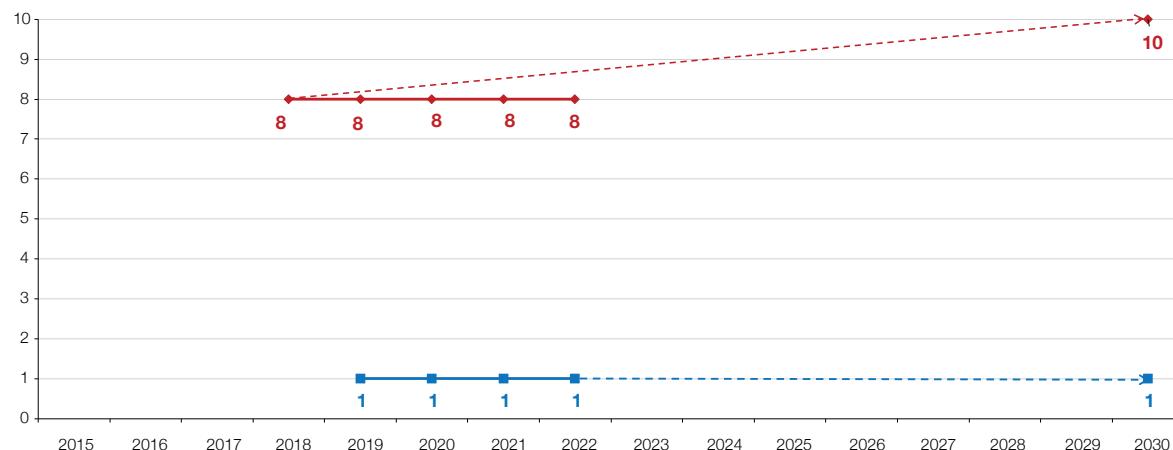
The [Barcelona Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Balance](#) is the document that brings together the main indicators in this area, presented in very comprehensive graphs.

### 13.3 Barcelona will have effective tools for improving education, awareness-raising, and the human and institutional capacity for the mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning of climate change

**Graph 98: Participation, awareness-raising and training in the fight against climate change**

**Indicator 13.3.1:** Have a participatory committee to tackle the climate emergency in Barcelona

**Indicator 13.3.2:** Provide the ten city districts with an environmental education facility



Source 13.3.1: Area of Urban Ecology. Climate Emergency Roundtable.

Source 13.3.2: Area of Urban Ecology. Climate Plan.

Education, cultural activity, communication and encouraging citizens to take action are vital instruments to make progress in achieving the SDGs. In the case of Barcelona, the existence and maintenance of the Climate Emergency Roundtable as a point of reference in the fight against climate change is particularly important. All districts should also be equipped with environmental education equipment that incorporates the climate goals and the 2030 Agenda. In 2022, 8 of the 10 districts already had such equipment.

The [2030 Let's change for the climate plan](#) sets out Barcelona's sustainability culture strategy, which encompasses all aspects of awareness-raising, participation and education. This work is deployed through spaces,

programmes and also documents such as "[The climate emergency challenge: information guide and proposal for educational activities](#)". In order to promote the involvement of citizens in the climate transition, the [2030 Climate Emergency Action Plan](#) envisages a solid policy of subsidies for projects in this area. The document "[Climate Plan + Let's Network \(2022-2027\)](#)" explains the logic and how it works.

#### 13.b Develop international cooperation relating to the prevention and mitigation of the effects of climate change

See SDG 17, target 2.

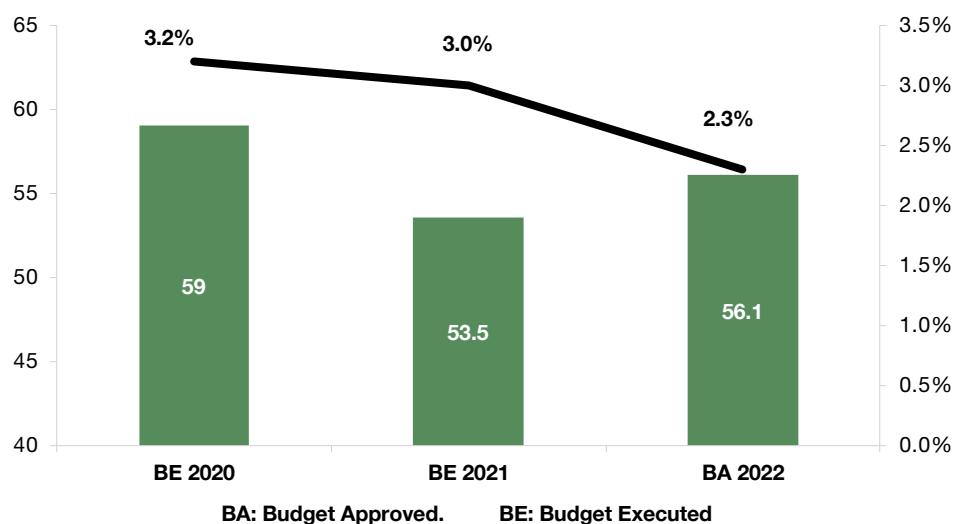
## Budgetary effort indicators

The budgetary effort indicators show that the annual expenditure dedicated to this SDG is around

EUR 70 million, summing both current expenditure and investment.

### Current expenditure on SDG 13

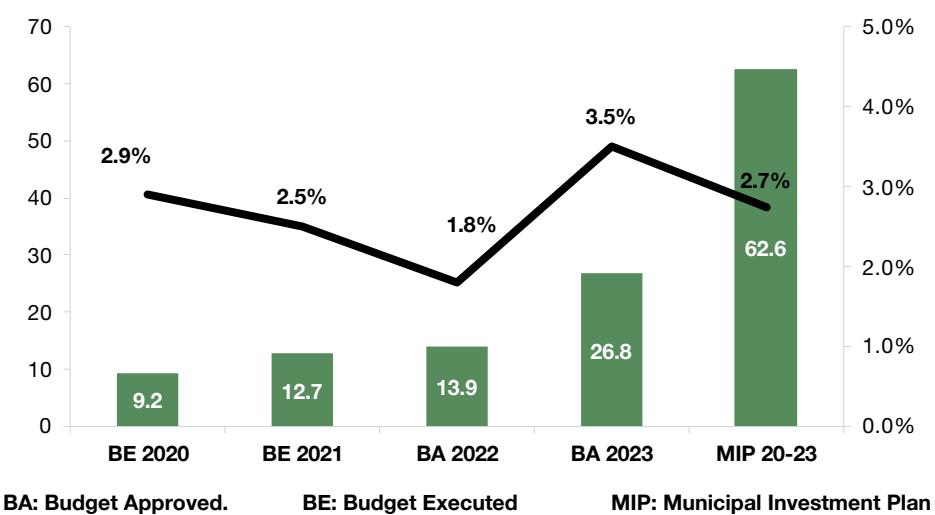
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



BA: Budget Approved. BE: Budget Executed

### Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 13

(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



BA: Budget Approved.

BE: Budget Executed

MIP: Municipal Investment Plan

These figures are the result of applying the same cost allocation model used in the other SDGs. More specifically, it takes into account only those actions dedicated exclusively or almost exclusively to achieving the targets of SDG 13.

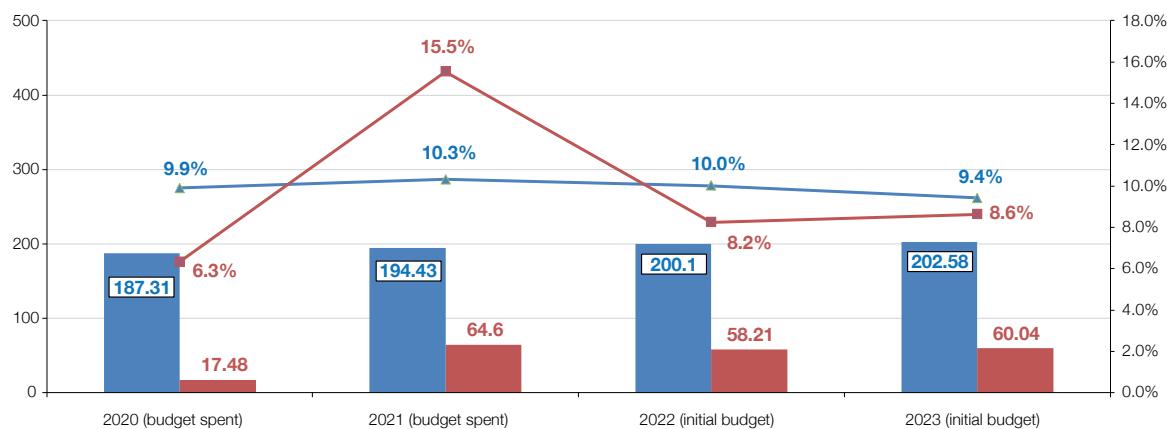
However, the fight against climate change is a very cross-cutting objective, which affects a large part of the sectors of municipal activity, even if it is not a priority objective in many cases. A paradigmatic

example of this is public transport (SDG 11, target 2). The Climate Budget follows this approach by identifying and accounting for all municipal expenditure that, directly or indirectly, has been dedicated to promoting the objectives of climate change mitigation and adaptation. The results, presented in budget graph 26bis, show that current expenditure is on course to reach EUR 200 million (10% of the total) and investment to reach EUR 60 million.

### Budget graph 26 bis: Municipal expenditure on climate objectives

**Indicator:** Current expenditure (chapters 2 and 4) on climate objectives in millions of euros and as a % of total current expenditure (chapters 2 and 4)

**Indicator:** Investment projects dedicated to climate objectives in millions of euros and as a % of total investment projects



**Source:** Barcelona City Council. Open budget.

## Life below water



The city of Barcelona has 15 kilometres of completely artificial coastline, which has enormous potential for valuable economic, social and environmental uses. The *Strategic Plan for the city's coastal areas* aims to bring order to these uses, which are not always compatible, and to optimise their positive impacts.

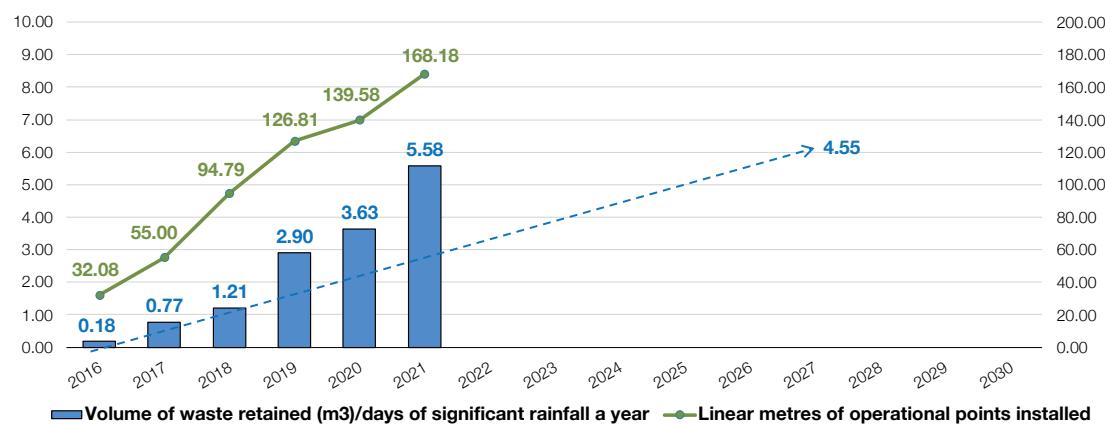
The *Government Measure “Boosting Barcelona’s blue economy”* aims to make the most of the economic and *employment* opportunities arising from its proximity to the sea, seeking synergies or, in any case, ensuring the preservation of the environmental values, as set out in SDG 14.

## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 14.1 Minimise water pollution along the Barcelona coastline

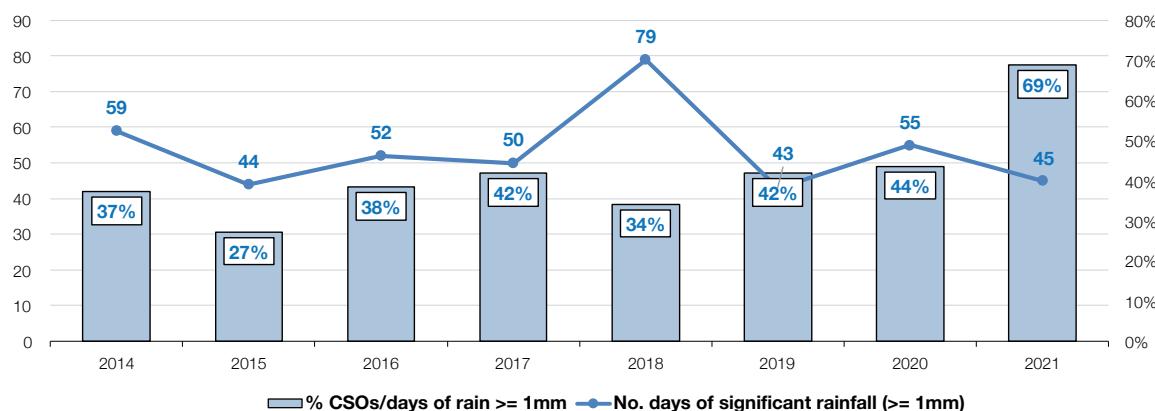
**Graph 99: Pollution of the sea with solid waste**

**Indicator 14.1.1:** Prevent 4.55 m<sup>3</sup> of solid waste from the combined sewage system from reaching the sea during rainy weather (m<sup>3</sup>/days of significant rainfall a year)



**Graph 100: Sea pollution on rainy days**

**Indicator 14.1.2:** Percentage of days of overflow on the beaches of Barcelona in relation to the days of significant rainfall (>= 1mm)



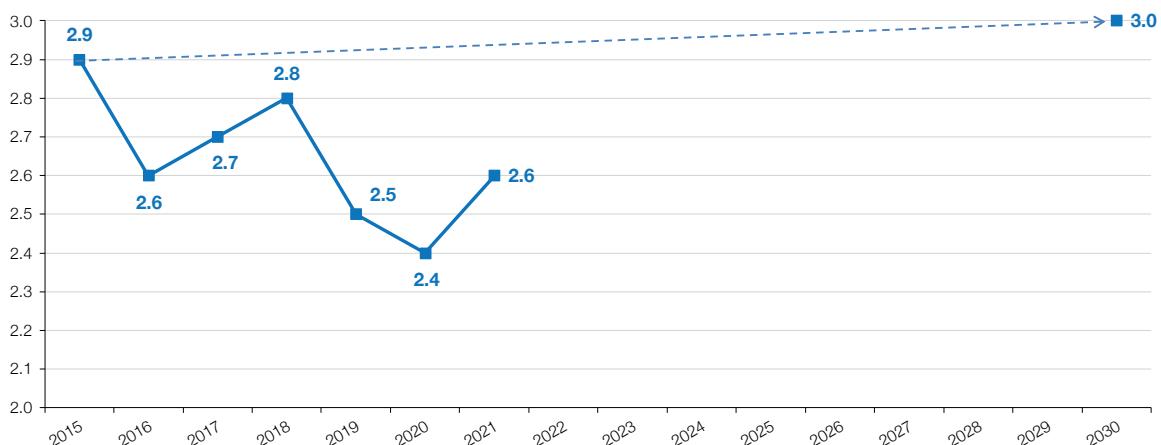
Minimising water pollution along the coast means protecting bathing water from overflows of combined sewage systems during periods of heavy rainfall, avoiding the arrival of both floating solid waste and lumps from land to sea and the discharge of untreated water. Graph 99 shows that thanks to the investment in retention infrastructure in 2021, 5.58 m<sup>3</sup> of solid waste from the combined sewage system were prevented from reaching the sea per day of significant rainfall. This figure is already better than the target set for 2030. In relation to the days of overflow due to rainy weather (Graph 100), it can be seen that this situation

occurred on 31 of the 45 days of significant rainfall recorded. This represents a significant increase over previous years.

In 2020, the City Council promoted the "[The sea starts here](#)" campaign, which aimed to raise awareness of the fact that small amounts of waste can reach the sea through the sewers. This action, together with the #beuresenseplastic challenge [drink without plastic], secured Barcelona the award in the public administration category at the 12th edition of the European Week for Waste Reduction.

### Graph 101: Water quality of the beaches

Indicator 14.2.1: Achieve a score of 3 (excellent) in the water-quality indicator for Barcelona's beaches



**Note:** Score of 3 for Excellent quality, 2 for Good quality, 1 for Sufficient quality and 0 for insufficient quality of each of the 10 beaches of in the city. The overall score is extrapolated from the average of the 10 beaches.

**Source:** Catalan Water Agency.

## 14.2 The water quality of all Barcelona's beaches will be excellent

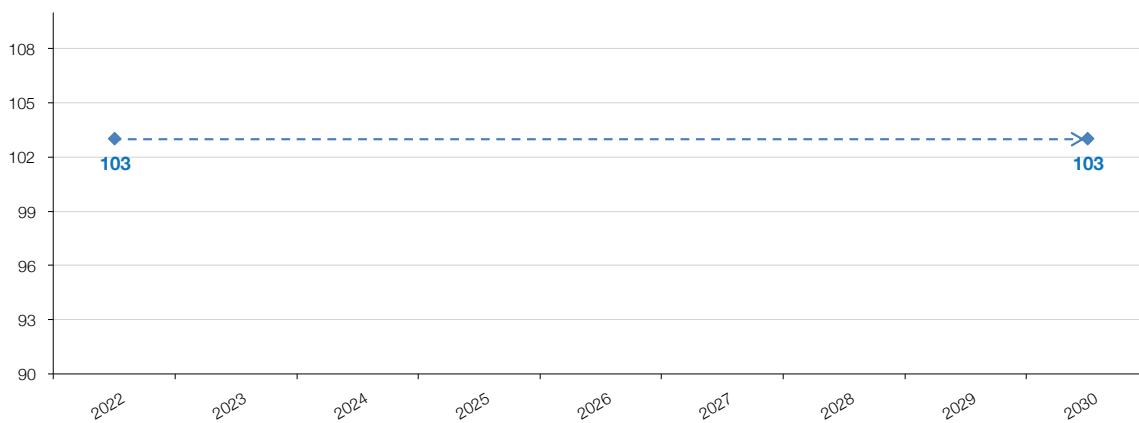
Achieving an excellent level of water quality on Barcelona's beaches means obtaining the maximum score of 3 points for the city's ten beaches. The graph shows that quality levels, despite some highs and lows, are quite high throughout the entire period from 2015 to 2021. To achieve excellence, however, it will be necessary to further reduce pollution in the coastal waters.

To do so, it is essential to understand and [reduce the negative environmental externalities generated by boat traffic](#). The [Port of Barcelona](#) is working to incorporate new means of responding to accidental spillages in the Prat dock and external waters. In the case of the Olympic Port, it is worth highlighting the acquisition in 2021 of a barrier to block the mouth of the port and thus contain oil and hydrocarbon spills that damage the maritime environment. In the case

## 14.5 Maintain Barcelona's commitment to the biodiversity of its coastline

### Graph 102: Marine animal species identified on the coast of Barcelona

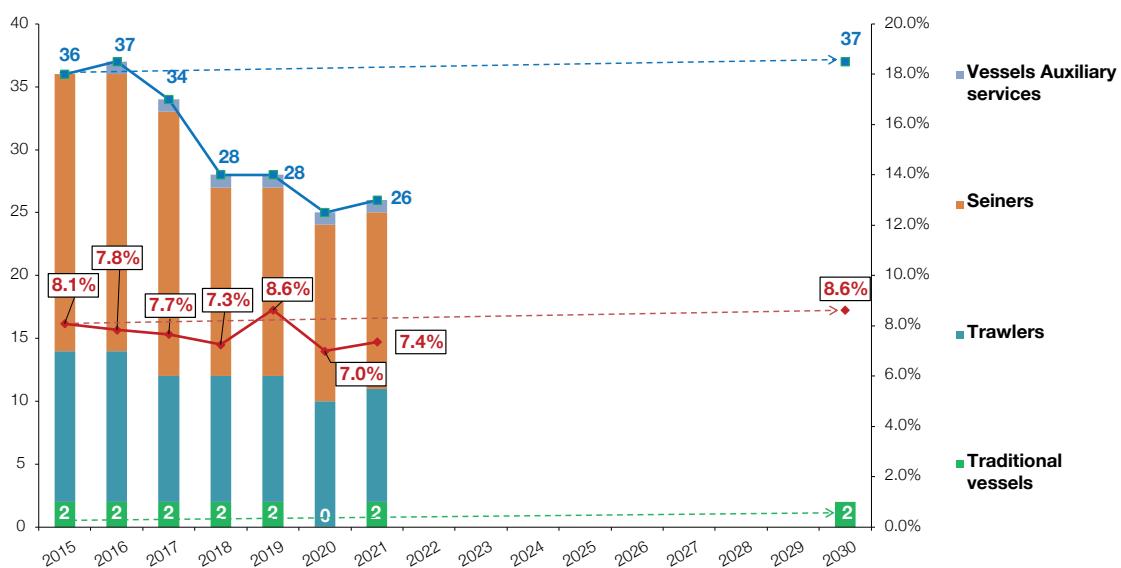
Indicator 14.5.1: Maintain the number of marine animal species identified on the coast of Barcelona



**Source:** Area of Urban Ecology. Biodiversity Atlas.

**Graph 103: Barcelona's fishing sector**

**Indicator 14.b.1:** Have at least 37 boats and at least two using traditional methods  
**Indicator 14.b.2:** Achieve captures for an amount equal to or greater than 8.6% of all fishing ports in Catalonia (right axis)



Source: Idescat and Department for Climate Action, Food and Rural Agenda

Maintaining marine biodiversity is very important. According to the Barcelona City Council's Biodiversity Atlas, Barcelona's beaches are home to 103 marine species. While it is true that some are invasive species, protected species such as seahorses, meagre, grouper and bluefish take shelter there.

On this point, of interest is the project, begun in 2021, for the rehabilitation of the Olympic Port's breakwater, which includes the environmentalisation of the submerged areas of the port to encourage an increase in the biological diversity of the area. The project is based in the Parc dels Esculls on the eastern coast and also has the scientific guidance of the Barcelona Zoo.

#### 14.a Consolidate a marine-sciences training, research and development hub

The main new development in this area is that in July 2022 the City Council and the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) approved a collaborative protocol to promote the expansion of the facilities of the Mediterranean Marine and Environmental Research Centre (CMIMA), located on Barcelona's Passeig Marítim, which includes the Institute of Marine Sciences and the Marine Technology Unit. The two institutions share the desire to generate new uses for scientific

dissemination and connection between science and the citizens in this space on the seafront. Therefore, the new space will focus on knowledge transfer and dissemination activities on topics related to the marine environment.

#### 14.b Promote the maintenance of the fishing sector in Barcelona, placing value on its economic, environmental and cultural contributions

The decline observed in the number of fishing vessels is far from the objective of maintaining the fishing sector in Barcelona beyond 2030. Between 2015 and 2021, 10 of the 36 vessels in operation at the beginning of the period were no longer operating. However, the two vessels that use traditional methods, the most valued in terms of sustainability, were still active in 2021.

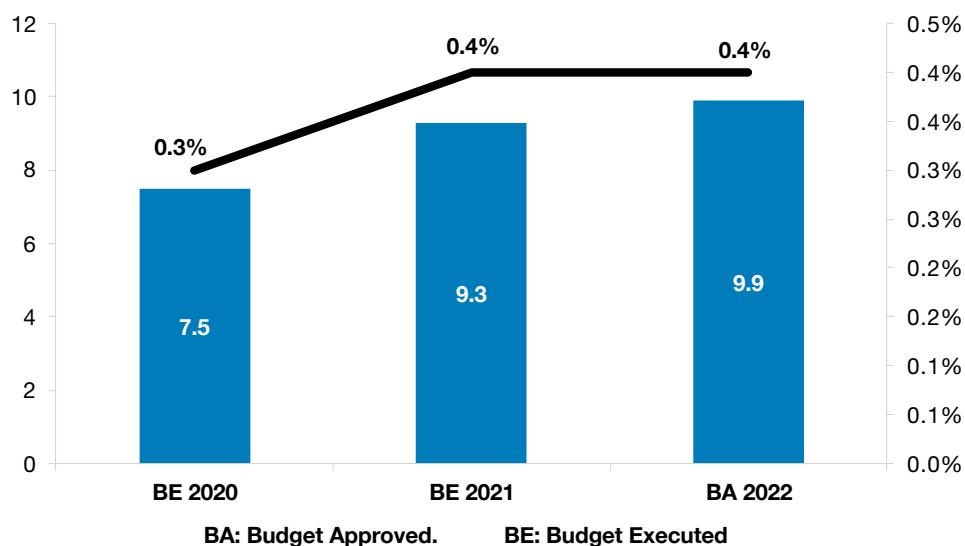
As far as catches are concerned, the share of the port of Barcelona in the total number of fishing ports in Catalonia fell by 1.6 points in 2020, to stand at 7.0%. In 2021, the indicator rose slightly, to 7.4%. During the years of the pandemic, 2020 and 2021, fish catches and the generation of economic value derived from them fell by more than 20%.

## Budgetary effort indicators

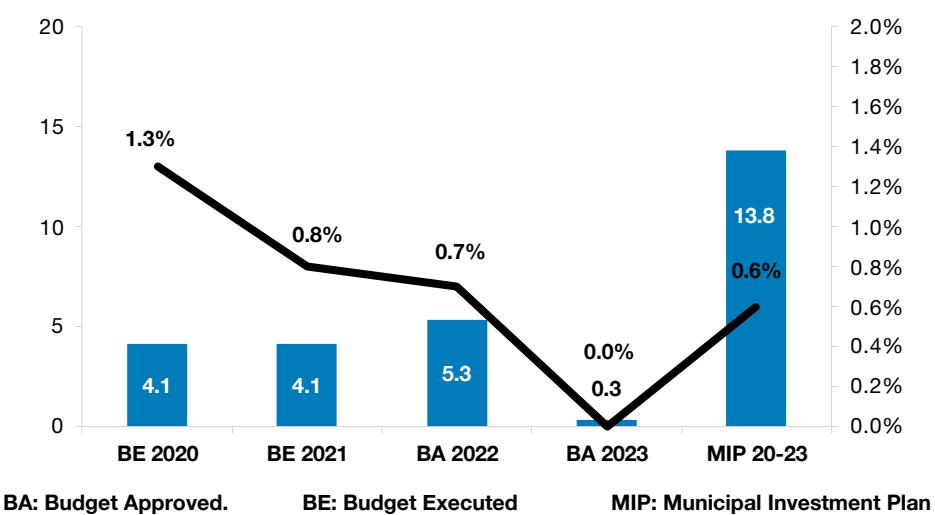
The budgetary effort indicators show that the current expenditure dedicated to SDG 14 is less than EUR 10 million, and the average investment in the

whole of the 2020-2023 MIP will be well below EUR 5 million per year. The main reason is that this is not an area that falls under municipal management.

**Current expenditure on SDG 14**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



**Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 14**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)







## Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

The *2021-2030 Barcelona Nature Plan* is the document that sets out the strategy to be followed so that the city can achieve SDG 15. It is based on three working lines (1. More greenery and biodiversity, 2. Conserving and improving greenery and biodiversity, 3. With and for citizens) and two cross-cutting areas (knowledge and governance), which will be rolled out through 20 actions and 100 projects. It is based on the success of the Green and Biodiversity Plan, which has already brought about a change in the *comprehensive rehabilitation of parks and gardens*.

The *Programme for promoting urban green infrastructure* is the government measure approved to speed up the implementation of the Plan. This new green infrastructure model, which incorporates naturalisation and the promotion of biodiversity, requires resources and new professional profiles in the area of parks and gardens. The *2030 Horizon Horta Labyrinth Training Centre's Strategic Plan* sets out this challenge and specifies how to tackle it (Community, innovation, excellence and networking at the service of the city's greenery).

## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 15.1 Promote biodiversity nodes and nature reserves as an essential part of urban green infrastructure

According to the monitoring indicators of the 2030 Climate Emergency Action Plan, Barcelona already had new biodiversity refuges and nature reserves in 2021. Biodiversity refuges are man-made habitats, designed with the intention of increasing the diversity of flora and fauna (in many cases, protected species) and to promote ecological connectivity. Some of these areas have been created naturally in particularly favourable locations, such

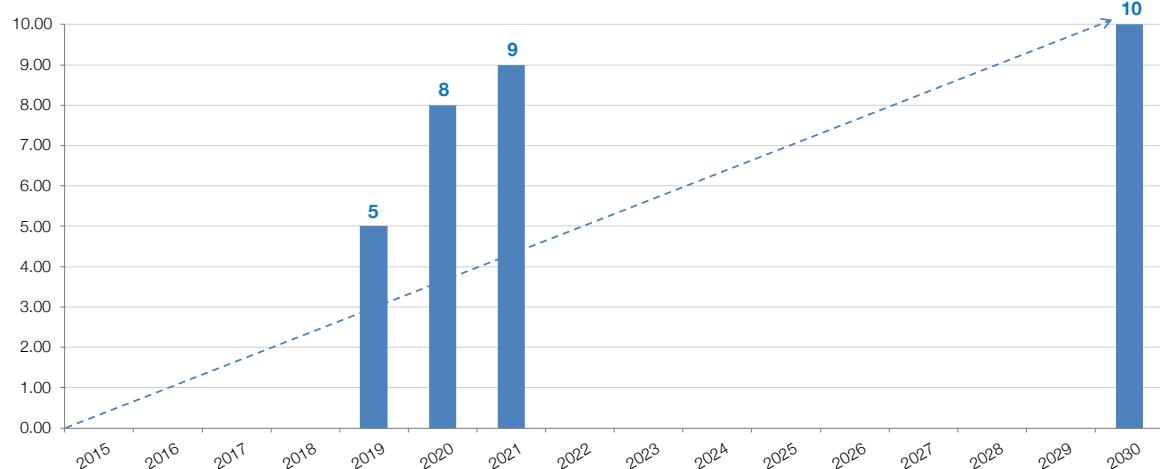
as in reservoirs or ponds, or where bird species of great interest nest. The six existing biodiversity refuges are located in the Joan Miró Park, the Valent Petit Gardens, the Ca l'Alier Factory, Plaça de les Glòries, the Doctor Pla i Armengol Gardens and the [Diagonal Mar park](#). This one, the newest, stands out for the presence of more than 150 different species of birds.

The [Greenery and Biodiversity Charter](#) is a guide on how to design green spaces using quality criteria, taking into account socio-environmental services while promoting biodiversity and sustainability.

### 15.2 Nearly 30% of Barcelona covered by trees

**Graph 104: Create biodiversity nodes and nature reserves**

**Indicator 15.1.1:** Create 10 biodiversity nodes and nature reserves in the city

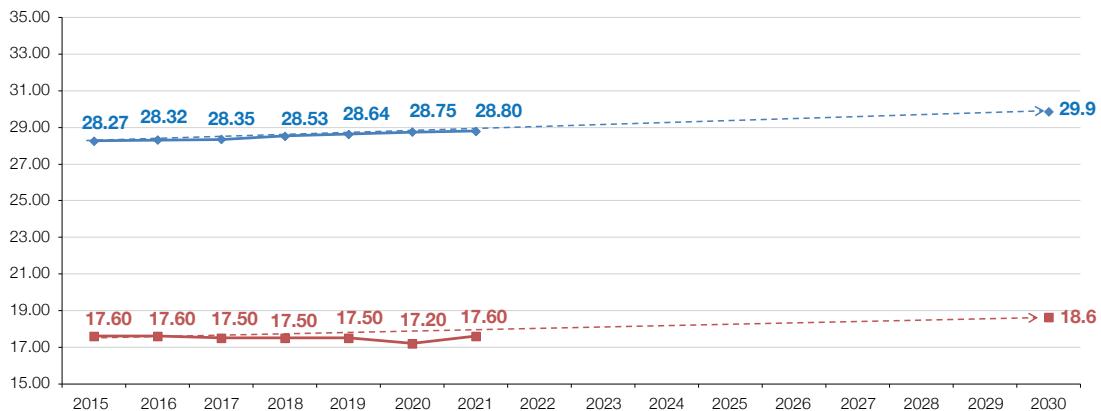


Source: Area of Urban Ecology. Climate Plan.

**Graph 105: Surface area with trees**

**Indicator 15.2.1a:** Increase the surface area with trees to 30 Km<sup>2</sup>

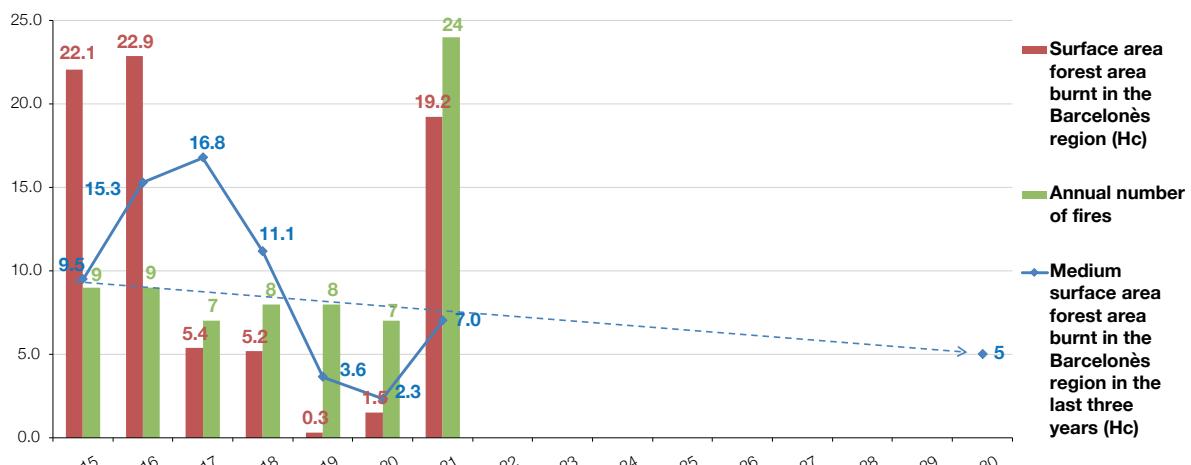
**Indicator 15.2.1b:** Increase the surface area with trees per inhabitant to 18.6 m<sup>2</sup>



Source: Area of Urban Ecology. Climate Plan.

**Graph 106: Burnt forest area (Barcelonès region)**

**Indicator 15.3.1:** Fewer than five burnt hectares a year (calculated from the moving average for the last three years)



**Source:** Department for Climate Action, Food and Rural Agenda.

The data indicate that we are on the right track to meet the 2030 targets of exceeding 30 km<sup>2</sup> of tree-covered surface area and 18.6 m<sup>2</sup> of tree-covered surface area per inhabitant in the city. Between 2015 and 2021, the tree-covered surface area increased by 53 hectares, which is equivalent to 17.60 m<sup>2</sup> per inhabitant. This level of effort will need to be maintained throughout the decade.

The [2017-2037 Barcelona Tree Planting Master Plan \("Trees for Life"\)](#) sets out the long-term strategy for the quantity, type and location of trees to be planted, as well as their maintenance, taking into account the expected climatic changes.

### 15.3 Less than five hectares of woodland burnt in the county of Barcelonès

After several years with a relatively low number of fires, less than 10 a year, in 2021 the number of forest fires in the county of Barcelonès was 24 and the total number of hectares burned was 19.2. Considering the period as a whole, the trend is still adequate to reach the target, but it is important not to let our guard down at any time.

The [2014-2025 Master Plan for the Barcelona Fire Prevention, Extinguishing and Rescue Service](#) sets out the course to be followed. Climate change poses an enormous challenge for the preservation of the forest mass and makes it even more necessary to [invest in prevention and consider new](#)

[approaches, such as the introduction of pasture-land](#) which, through grazing, creates perimeter safety strips to prevent fires in housing estates and neighbourhoods bordering the Collserola Park.

### 15.4 Introduce climate-change criteria into the management of the Serra de Collserola Natural Park

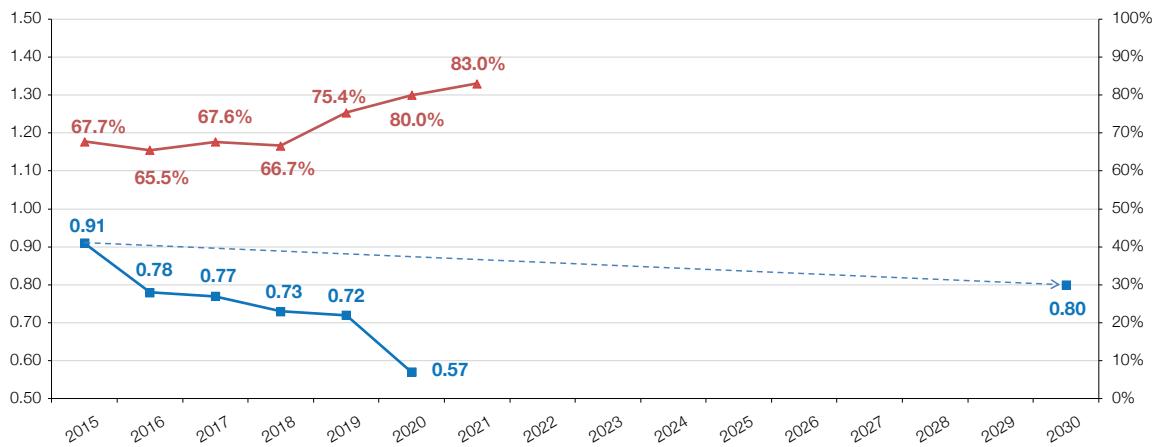
The [Special Protection Plan for the natural environment and landscape of Serra de Collserola Natural Park](#) has been approved and includes the perspective and criteria for adapting to climate change.

### 15.5 Maintain biodiversity in Barcelona and increase the efforts in the struggle to preserve the biodiversity of the planet

The biodiversity index of native species expresses the trend in the populations of native bird species in Barcelona in the year in question, in relation to the populations counted the first year when monitoring began in 2005 (index 2005=1). Graph 107 shows that the indicator has maintained a negative trend since 2016, particularly evident in the last year for which we have data. Concern about this phenomenon has led to the study of [its causes](#). Even more specifically, the [impact of cat colonies on urban nesting birds](#).

**Graph 107: Protecting biodiversity**

**Indicator 15.5.1:** Maintain the biodiversity Index for native birds at above 0.80  
**Indicator 15.5.2:** Proportion of Zoo research and conservation projects or actions dedicated to native species (right axis)



Source 15.5.1: Area of Urban Ecology. Barcelona Sustainability Indicators.

Source 15.5.2: Barcelona Zoo.

It is also satisfying to note that the research and conservation efforts of the Barcelona Zoo are increasingly focused on native species, thus contributing to the promotion of biodiversity in the Mediterranean region. [Barcelona Zoo's Report on research and conservation activities in situ](#) sets out in detail each of its projects and other activities of interest related to biodiversity.

## 15.7 Zero tolerance to the trafficking of protected species and the introduction of invasive species of flora and fauna to Barcelona

It has not been possible to make this target work on a local scale. The fact is that the responsibilities lie with the Spanish Government, and are exercised, on an executive level, by the Nature Protection Service of the Spanish Civil Guard. A National Central Office was created in February 2022 to improve coordination in the fight against illegal wildlife trafficking, and so on. The initiative is part of the Spanish Action Plan against Illegal Trafficking and International Poaching of Wildlife Species (TIFIES) and the European programme Life+ Nature Guardians.

In any event, in terms of Barcelona's 2030 Agenda, it would make more sense to focus the target on the functions exercised directly by the City Council in the enforcement of the [Byelaw on the protection, ownership and sale of animals](#). These [focus on](#)

*animals that live in the city, mainly domestic animals, but also species that have adapted to the urban habitat* and other non-domestic animals that, for whatever reason, are in the city. In the next edition of the report, a target for Barcelona will be presented with the corresponding indicator(s).

## 15.a Barcelona will have a new zoo model, more geared towards the preservation and dissemination of biodiversity, and a Biodiversity Research Institute

The [Strategic Plan for the new Barcelona Zoo model](#) (a glimpse into the future) has been developed with the implementation of projects such as the Savannah-Sahel biome, the new invertebrate area, the Komodo Dragons Discovery Centre, the new school reception area and the new La Dama restaurant and food kiosks. Barcelona City Council has also set up the Science and Ethics Committee (CCE) for the Zoo, made up of 15 independent experts in biodiversity conservation and management and in animal welfare.

See 15.5.

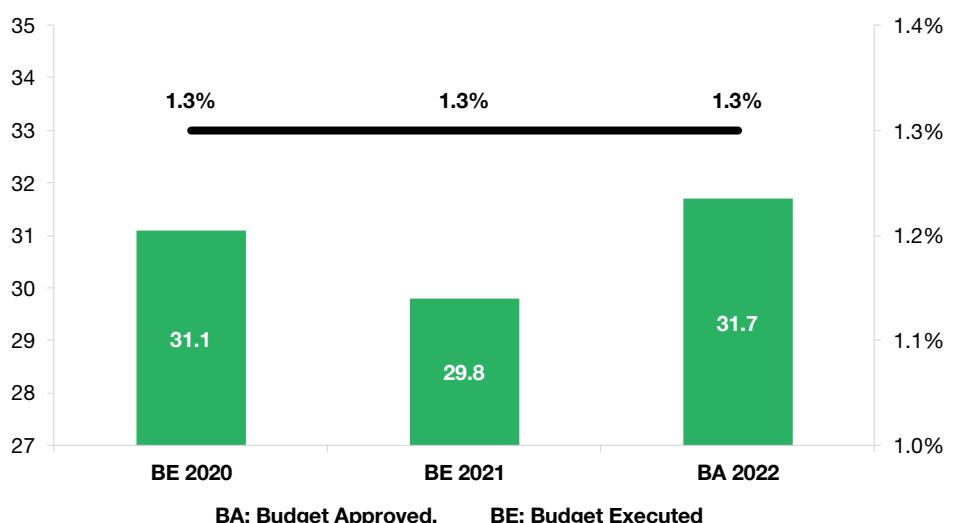
## Budgetary effort indicators

The budget effort indicators show that the ordinary expenditure dedicated to SDG 15 is very modest; in the region of EUR 30 million per year, just over 1% of the total.

Investment is still lower, although it will increase significantly in the first year of the MIP (2023). It should be noted that a large part of the expenditure on green infrastructure, in relation to public space, is attributable to SDG 11.

### Current expenditure on SDG 15

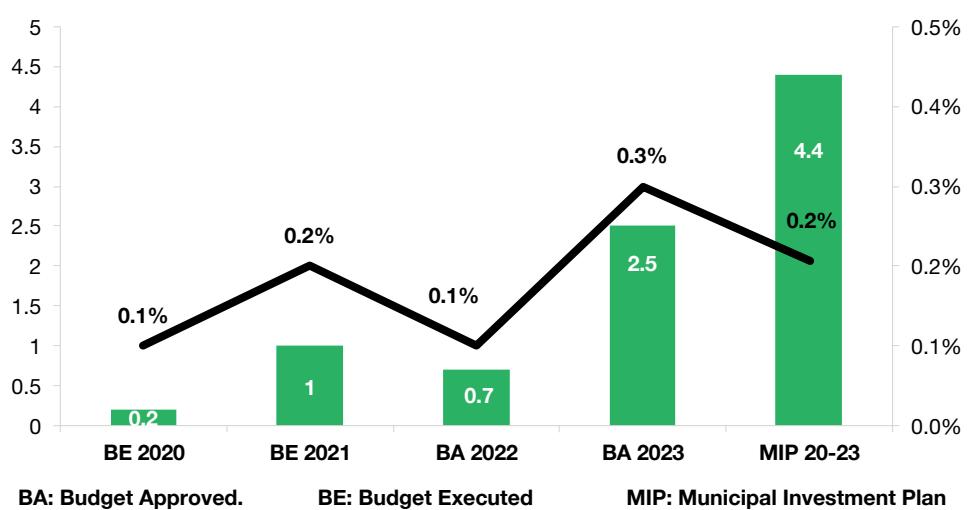
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



BA: Budget Approved. BE: Budget Executed

### Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 15

(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



BA: Budget Approved.

BE: Budget Executed

MIP: Municipal Investment Plan



# SDG16

16 PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND SOLID  
INSTITUTIONS



## Peace, justice and strong institutions



## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 16.1 By 2030, less violence, greater perception of safety and improved community life in Barcelona

In relative terms, Barcelona is a very safe city, especially when it comes to serious and violent crime. In 2021 there were a total of eight violent deaths in Barcelona, five fewer than the previous year. If this trend is maintained, the target could be achieved by 2030.

Furthermore, in 2021, a total of 146,605 reports of criminal offences were reported to the police, which implies an increase of approximately 10% compared to 2020, when the lockdowns and the fall in tourism led to a 40% drop in the number of crimes compared to the figure for 2019. The positive fact is that crime has not recovered as quickly as the economy, but it will be necessary to see the figures for 2022 to confirm whether it has stabilised at a significantly lower level than in 2018-2019.

From the perspective of preserving coexistence in the neighbourhood and among residents, 18.9%

**Graph 108: Crime**

**Indicator 16.1.1:** Reduce crime to less than seven violent deaths per year (manslaughter and homicides).  
**Indicator 16.1.2:** Reduce crime to less than 150,000 reported crimes a year (right axis).



**Source:** Catalan Department of Home Affairs. Mossos d'Esquadra.

**Graph 109: Conflicts of coexistence and perception of security**

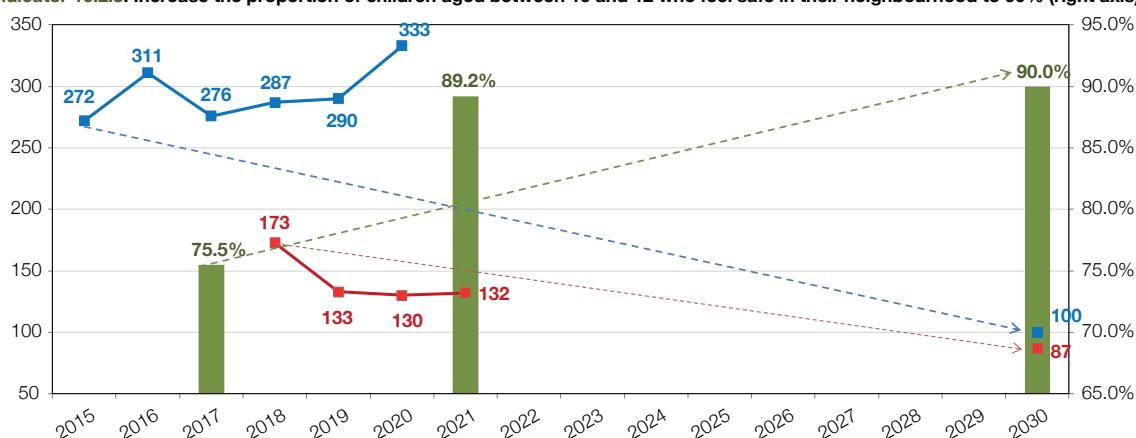
**Indicator 16.1.3:** Reduce the incidence of community-life conflicts to less than 10%  
**Indicator 16.1.4a:** Get the perception of safety in the neighbourhood to above 6.5 (out of 10)  
**Indicator 16.1.4b:** Get the perception of safety in the city to above 6.5 (out of 10)



**Source:** Barcelona Victimization Survey

### Graph 110: Safety and protection of children

**Indicator 16.2.1:** Reduce the number of reported cases of domestic violence against children or adolescents to less than 100  
**Indicator 16.2.2:** Reduce the number of crimes against family rights and obligations by 50%  
**Indicator 16.2.3:** Increase the proportion of children aged between 10 and 12 who feel safe in their neighbourhood to 90% (right axis)



Source 16.2.1: Department of Home Affairs of the Government of Catalonia.

Source 16.2.2: Department of Home Affairs of the Government of Catalonia.

Source 16.2.3: Barcelona Institute of Childhood and Adolescence. Survey on the Subjective Well-Being of Children in Barcelona.

of citizens stated that they had experienced some kind of coexistence conflict in 2021. This is almost 4 points more than the average for the period 2015-2020 and a worrying gap with respect to the target of not exceeding 10% in 2030.

With regard to the perception of safety, two very different situations can be found, depending on whether it is considered at the city-wide level or at neighbourhood level. In the latter case, the results have been very stable since 2015, with differences of just a few tenths of a point. In contrast, the perception of safety in the city over the same period is rated more negatively, with a cumulative drop of 8 decimal points (from 6.2 points in 2015 to 5.4 in 2021). It is worth pointing out that this discrepancy between the how the city and the neighbourhood are viewed demonstrates the subjectivity of the indicator.

The [Guàrdia Urbana Master Plan](#) is the main strategic document in this area. Follow the link for the summary document. In recent times, it is worth highlighting the government measure "[The Guàrdia Urbana against gender violence](#)", and the work done by the [Citizens' Roundtable for a civil and safe night](#) (diagnosis, proposals for action and action plan).

The [Barcelona Victimisation Survey](#) is the main source of data on the perception of safety. Recent projects that allow us to gain a more in-depth understanding of other aspects of safety in Barcelona include the study by the Barcelona Ombudsman's Office on the [Guàrdia Urbana and](#)

[local human rights: An analysis of police forces in the city](#), the [Report on coexistence, prevention and safety](#) prepared by the Working Committee for el Besòs and el Maresme and the [monograph on urban violence](#) published by Barcelona Metròpolis.

## 16.2 By 2030, a safer city for children with zero tolerance for child maltreatment

In 2020, 333 reports of domestic violence against children were recorded, the highest figure since 2015. Although we cannot know whether it is due to the effects of the stress factors derived from the pandemic, or whether it is due to the greater social awareness of the need to report cases of maltreatment, this increase shows that the devastating phenomenon of violence against children and adolescents is far from being eradicated.

With regard to offences against family rights and duties, 132 were reported in 2021, two more than the previous year, but 41 fewer than in 2018. In order to successfully achieve this goal, it is hoped that they will decrease at least as fast in the next few years.

If we consider how children perceive safety, it is worth highlighting the positive result emerging from the 2021 Survey of children's subjective well-being, which puts the proportion of children aged 10 to 12 who feel safe in the neighbourhood at 89.2%, an increase of 13.7% compared to 2017 and almost in line with the target figure for 2030.

The [2021-2030 Children's Plan](#) (Goals and actions to improve the lives and rights of children and adolescents in Barcelona) includes guaranteeing the right of children to be protected from discrimination and violence among its priority actions.

## 16.3 Develop international cooperation for the protection and promotion of human rights

See SDG 17, target 2.

## 16.5 Barcelona, an exemplary city for institutional integrity and good governance

Integrity is one of the essential cornerstones of political structures and is, in the first instance, crucial for economic and social well-being. We believe that the correct management of public resources and the application of ethical standards in their administration to a large extent determine the confidence citizens have in the institutions. In 2022, 44.8% of citizens rated the City Council's administration of money positively, 6.2 points more than in 2015 (38.6%). We must continue along the same lines and go even further in public transparency in order to reach at least

the 50% target set for 2030. From a more general point of view, however, it can be seen that the proportion of citizens who have a high level of confidence in the City Council was 51.6% in 2021. This rating is 4.8 points lower than in 2018 (56.4%), but much higher than the 43.9% reported in 2014.

Given the need for proactivity against corruption, the City Council created the Office for Transparency and Good Practices in 2015. One of the main instruments for implementing its mission is the Ethics Mailbox, an anonymous channel for reporting possible cases of corruption or malpractice within the City Council. The number of communications received in the ethics mailbox was 376 in 2021.

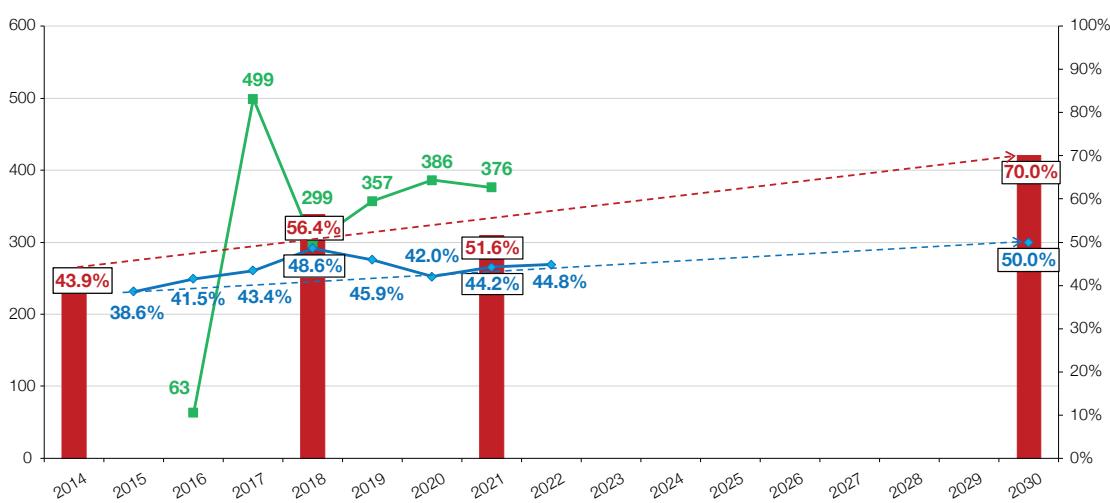
In 2017, the City Council adopted a [code of ethics and conduct](#) for its public servants, which sets the necessary standards to become a model administration. In parallel, there has been a dramatic increase in [municipal budget and financial transparency](#) since 2015. This also applies to the [cost reports](#), which are presented globally, by sector and by district, and which calculate the cost of each unit of service provided by the municipal administration, including the proportional part of indirect and structural costs.

**Graph 111: Institutional integrity and good governance**

**Indicator 16.5.1:** Increase the % of the population who rate the management of the City Council's money as good or very good by more than 50 points.

**Indicator 16.5.2:** Increase the % of people who have a high level of trust in the City Council to 70% (Right axis)

**Indicator 16.5.3:** Number of Communications received by the City Council's Ethical Postbox



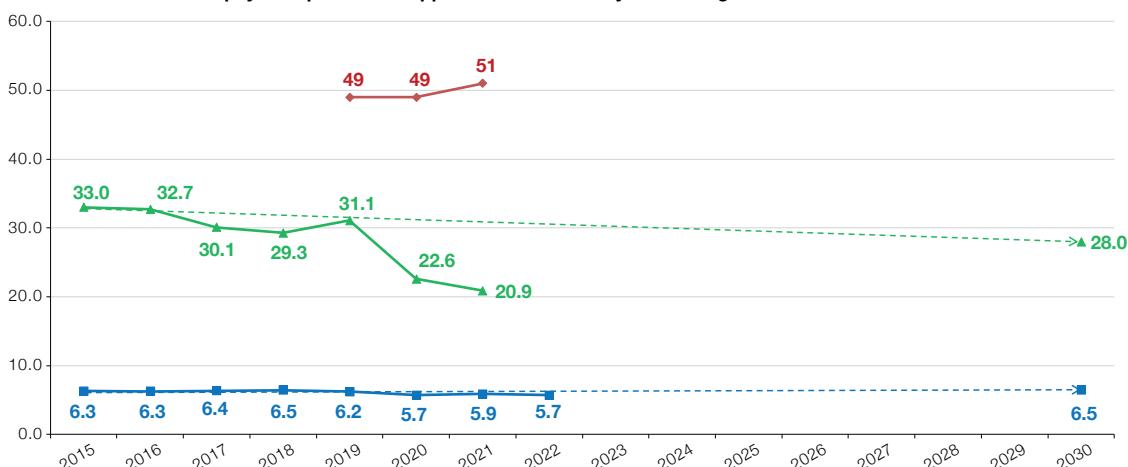
**Source 16.5.1:** Municipal Services Survey.

**Source 16.5.2:** Barcelona Social Values Survey.

**Source 16.5.3:** Analysis Services Directorate. Barcelona City Council.

**Graph 112: Municipal management**

**Indicator 16.6.1:** Get the evaluation of municipal management to above 6.5 (out of 10)  
**Indicator 16.6.2:** Final procedures that are completely digitalised with immediate download of the document  
**Indicator 16.6.3:** Get the payment period for suppliers to below 28 days on average



Source 16.6.1: Municipal Services Survey.

Source 16.6.2: Management Office for the 2030 Agenda, Digital Transition and Sports.

Source 16.6.3: Management Office for the Economy, Resources and Economic Promotion.

## 16.6 Barcelona City Council, maximum efficiency and responsibility towards the general public

Ensuring that Barcelona City Council is well regarded for its management is fundamental and depends on efficiency and accountability towards citizens.

As can be seen in Graph 112, the average rating of municipal management, on a scale of 0 to 10, increased slightly from 2015 to 2018, from 6.3 to 6.5. Since then, this rating has been falling – to 5.7 in 2022 – and is therefore moving further and further away from the objective of not falling below 6.5 in 2030.

One of the most important indicators of management efficiency is the speed of payment to suppliers. In 2021, payment to suppliers was made, on average, in less than 21 days from the moment the invoice was entered into the municipal registry. This is a very positive figure, and already well below the target of 28 days set for 2030.

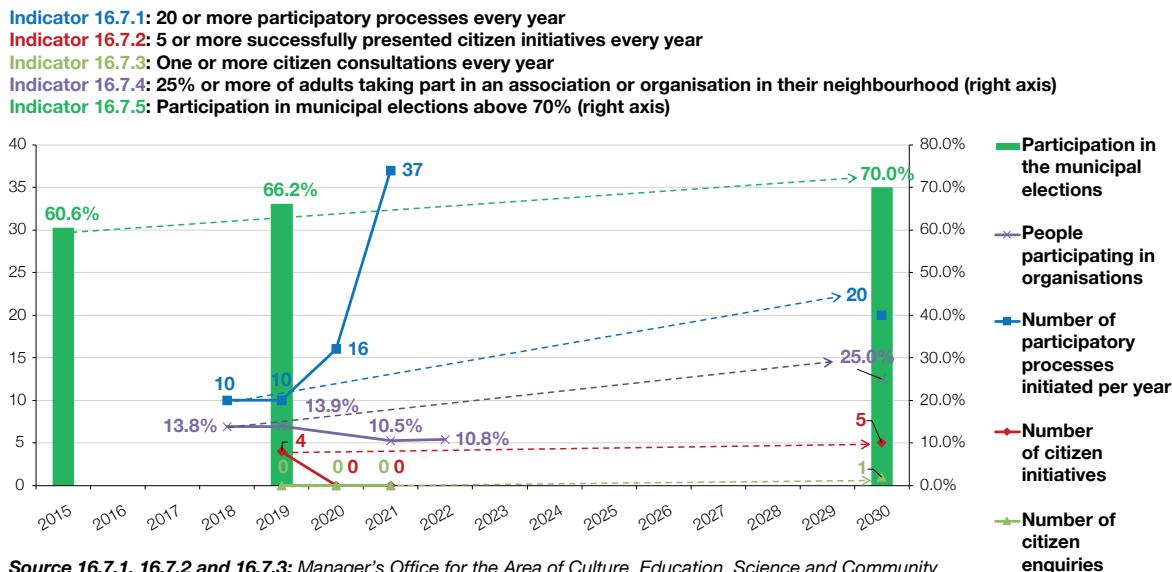
The digital transformation of the public administration brings important advances, both for citizens and the administration itself, as it brings about an improvement in the quality of public services. The City Council has made a major effort to

digitise a large part of the different phases of the procedures offered, including a total of 51 fully digitised procedures for which documents can be downloaded immediately.

The [Annual Municipal Services Survey](#), which has been carried out uninterruptedly for over 30 years, is the main source of data for finding out how citizens perceive and value the actions of Barcelona City Council, especially its services. This core opinion survey is complemented by other, more flexible surveys, such as the quarterly omnibus surveys and satisfaction surveys on very specific services.

The City Council has a [People and Organisational Development Strategy](#), which has been deployed with projects such as the [identification and promotion of the organisation's most positive values](#): agility, friendliness, commitment to public service, clarity and co-creation. These values have had to be developed within the context of the pandemic, which has [put public commitment to the test](#) and has led to [proposals for change in management models](#). It also highlights the effort to transform new knowledge into social value, through the [Government measure for social innovation](#), and to explore new approaches to public policy, through what are known as [Nudges](#). The action undertaken to improve the service to citizens and to move towards the digital administration is explained in the [report by the Management Office for the 2030 Agenda, Digital Transition and Sports](#).

### Graph 113: Social and political participation



## 16.7 Barcelona, a city committed to a high-quality and participatory democracy

Citizen participation is developed through different channels, such as participatory processes, citizen initiatives and citizen consultations. In 2021, 37 participatory processes were held, 21 more than in 2020. This is a very high figure, which reflects the municipal desire to subject all its relevant actions to public scrutiny and debate, with the aim of reaching agreements and bringing about improvements.



With regard to citizen initiatives, in 2020 and 2021 it was not possible to hold any due to the courts' annulment of the Citizen Participation Regulation of 2017. For the same reason, and as a consequence of the legal impediments, it has not been possible to hold any public consultations. It was necessary to wait for the definitive approval of the [new Regulation on citizen participation](#) in June 2022 before these instruments could be used again.

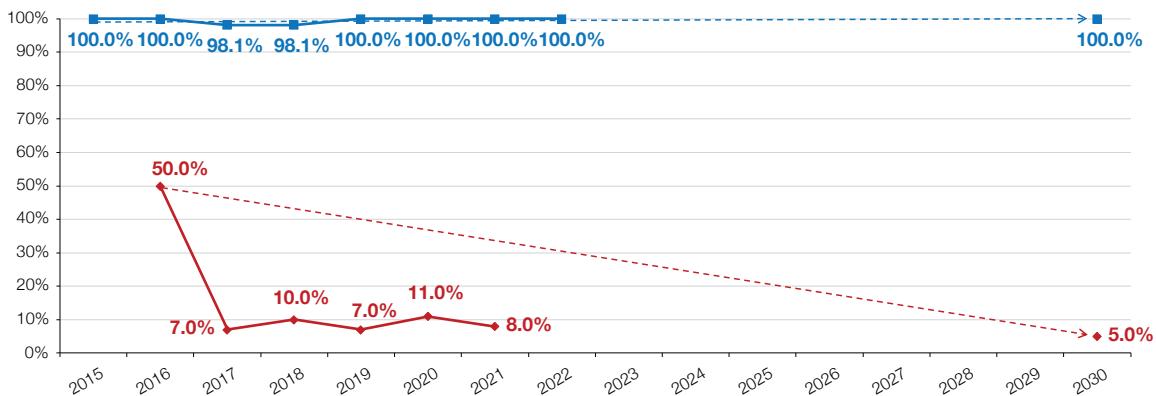
Municipal action regarding citizen participation is reflected in [this report](#) and in this [Series of management indicators](#) for 2020-2021. A particularly significant achievement of this term of office is that [participatory budgeting](#) has been carried out for the first time. It is also interesting to consult the [Report on the activities of the Consell de Ciutat](#) (Municipal Council Assembly), as this is the main permanent body for citizen participation, and through representation it encompasses many others.

Naturally, the pandemic has led to an upheaval in participatory practices and has generated a need for adaptation. To this end, the [Guide to citizen participation in times of pandemic: indications and recommendations to promote quality participation in a context of social distancing and reduced physical presence](#) has been published. Moreover, the trend in grassroots participation has been studied in the publication [Participation and informality in the associative fabric of the city of Barcelona: trends and reflections](#).

### Graph 114: Transparency and access to information

**Indicator 16.10.1:** Maintain Barcelona City Council's position in the Infoparticipa institutional transparency index at 100%

**Indicator 16.10.2:** Reduce the number of requests for access to municipal information contested before the Commission for the Guarantee of the Right of Access to Public Information to less than 5%.



Source 16.10.1: Report on Infoparticipa results.

Source 16.10.2: Department of Transparency and Good Practices.

## 16.10 In Barcelona, maximum transparency and commitment to access to information

Once again, Barcelona City Council has managed to maintain a 100% score in the analysis of Good Practices in Local Public Communication carried out by [Infoparticipa](#), which shows that it is proactively fulfilling its obligation to make information public in accordance with the transparency regime.

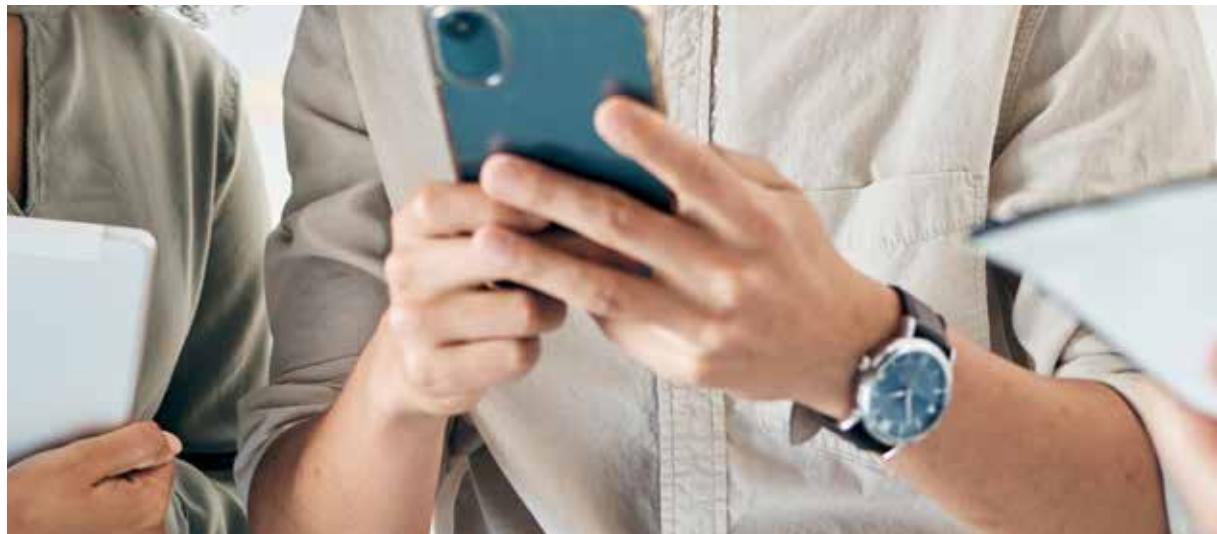
With regard to compliance with the right of access to public information, and as a means of ensuring its correct exercise, the target for 2030 is to reduce the number of requests for access

to municipal information contested before the Commission for Guaranteeing the Right of Access to Public Information to less than 5%. In 2021, 8% of the petitions were contested, 3% less than in 2020.

Details of the work carried out can be consulted in the [Report by the Department of Transparency and Good Practices](#).

### 16.a. Expand international cooperation relating to the prevention of violence and the promotion of peace

See SDG 17, target 2.



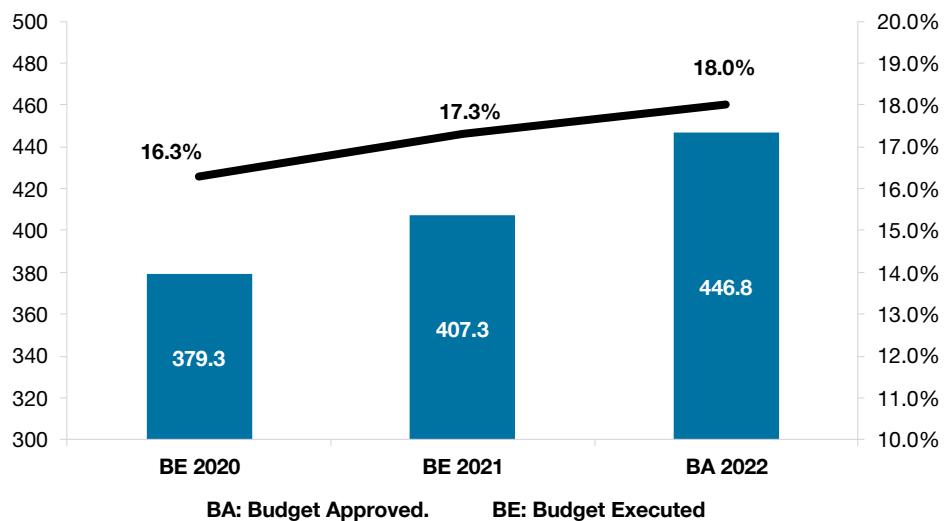
## Budgetary effort indicators

The budgetary effort indicators show that SDG 16 is the second most well provisioned in terms of current expenditure: more than EUR 400 million and a weight between 16% and 18% of the total. It should be taken into account that this includes security services, plus the non-earmarked services

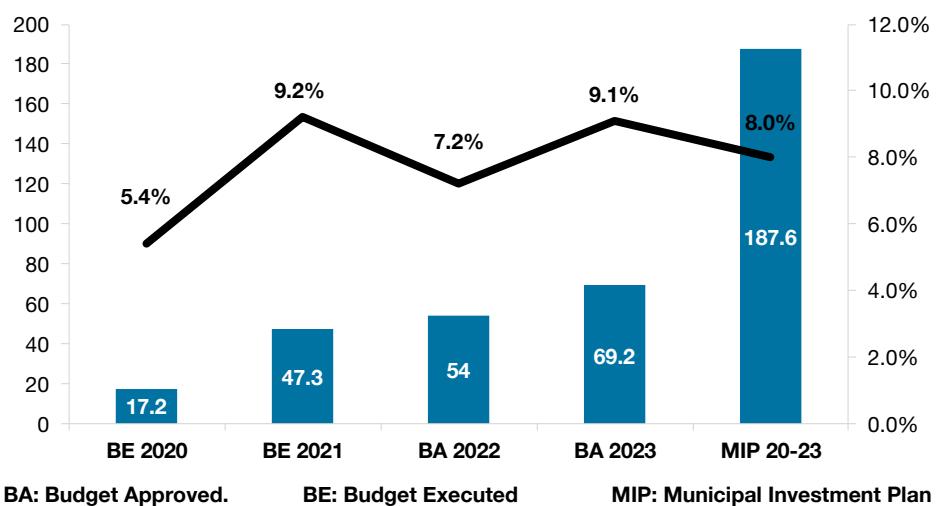
of the City Council and other structural costs that are difficult to assign to a specific SDG.

The investment expenditure is also considerable, but with a much smaller relative weight.

**Current expenditure on SDG 16**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



**Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 16**  
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



# SDG17

17 PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS



## Partnerships for the goals



## Targets and indicators for Barcelona

### 17.2 Municipal commitment with 0.7% for international cooperation

Since 2015, the municipal resources allocated to international cooperation and development aid are already very close to 0.7% of own settled income, which is the target set for 2030. In absolute terms, this represents an annual increase of approximately EUR 1.5 million compared to the beginning of the period. Graph 116 shows how many resources were allocated to subsidised cooperation projects, per year and per SDG. The areas of health, education, gender,

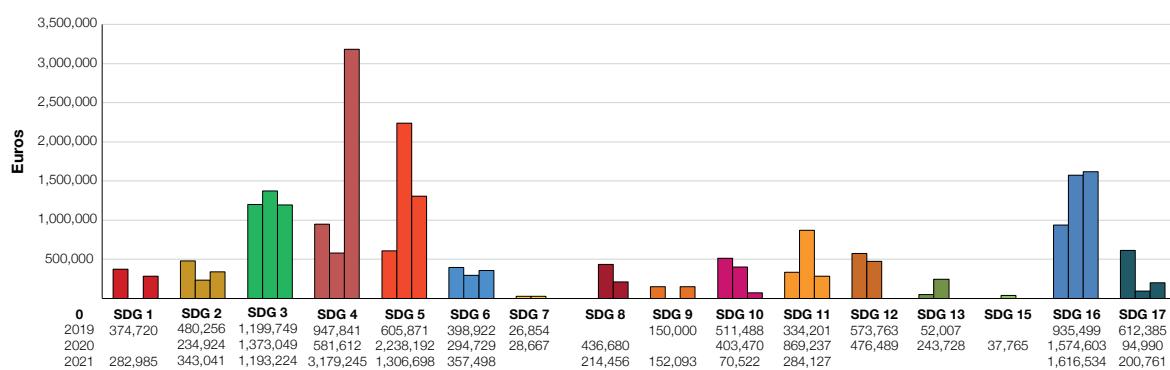
human rights and institutional strengthening are of particular note.

The [Barcelona Cooperation for Global Justice Master Plan](#) sets out the strategy followed in this area. The direct cooperation of Barcelona City Council is essential in a horizontal relationship approach among cities cooperating in the exchange of experiences and mobilisation of knowledge and skills for municipal action. This exchange is linked to a process of reciprocal learning, an essential condition for this interrelationship to be truly effective and long-lasting. Therefore, the technical and managerial expertise of Barcelona City Council is an essential asset for the implementation of this cooperation model, which in turn is complemented with other actions organised with NGOs,

**Graph 115: Municipal expenditure on international cooperation**



**Graph 116:**  
**Resources of the Justícia Global Programme per SDG (€). 2019 to 2021**



universities and other bodies of the city, through cooperation agreements as well as other projects within the framework of the annual call for applications for subsidies of the DJGCI.

In 2021, 44 cooperation projects were approved, 14 of which are implemented in coordination with an agreement with the priority cities for the city of Barcelona, as prioritised by the Master Plan: Amman, Saïda, Tétouan, Tunis, the people of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip (Mediterranean and Eastern Side); Maputo and Dakar (Sub-Saharan Africa); Havana and the Colombian cities involved in the peace process (Latin American and the Caribbean). In all of the above, technical exchange processes are under way in different areas, but in relation to 2021, the most significant were:

- ▶ Exchanges in the field of Combating, Preventing and Caring for Women Victims of Violence against Women in Sarajevo and in Municipalities of Libya in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund and UNODC.
- ▶ ASIMA TUNIS Project: “*Planification Stratégique et gouvernance multiniveau pour une ville métropolitaine résiliente*”. Programme executed by Medcités with the participation of Barcelona.
- ▶ Right to the City: Processes for the inclusive urban consolidation of informal neighbourhoods, the generation of public spaces and services. The “*Composting – Environmental Education and Action: pilot experience in the Tunduru Botanical Garden (Maputo)*” project has continued to be implemented in collaboration with Engineers Without Borders and the technical staff of the Urban Ecology Department of the Barcelona City Council.
- ▶ Design of the urban air quality control system for the Maputo Metropolitan Area.
- ▶ Urban intelligence micro-networks. Working groups for technical cooperation between cities, implemented through CIDEU (Ibero-American Centre for Strategic Urban Development) areas such as gender mainstreaming, urban ecology and libraries, archives and memory. Calí, Medellín, Bogotà, Havana.
- ▶ Support for sustainable urban drainage pilot projects, urban planning and accessibility Mediterrani Sports Centre in Gaza, Bethlehem and Amman.
- ▶ “*The Historic Centre of Havana towards a smart city model with emphasis on the promotion of the creative economy*” project.
- ▶ Barcelona City Council has extended the municipal programme “Barcelona protects journalists from Mexico”. In 2021, four women journalists were given shelter, two for a period of six months, from April to September, and two more, for a period of three months, during the last quarter of the year. Altogether there are already 12 people under the programme.

93 people took part in the technical exchange and project support processes in priority cities, including municipal technicians, elected officials and members of NGOs.

## 17.9 Develop international cooperation with regard to training and institutional improvement for the implementation of the SDGs

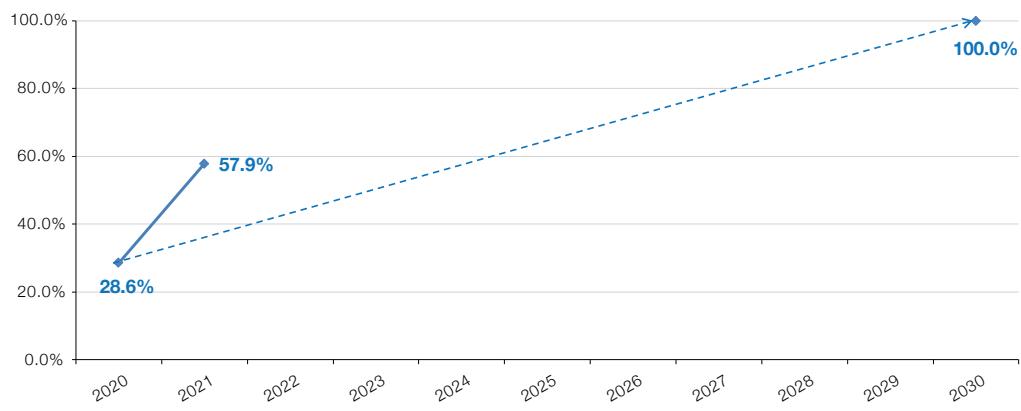
See 17.2.

## 17.14 From 2021, all municipal government actions must have reports concerning their impact on the 2030 Agenda and the city's businesses and organisations must include them in their accountability

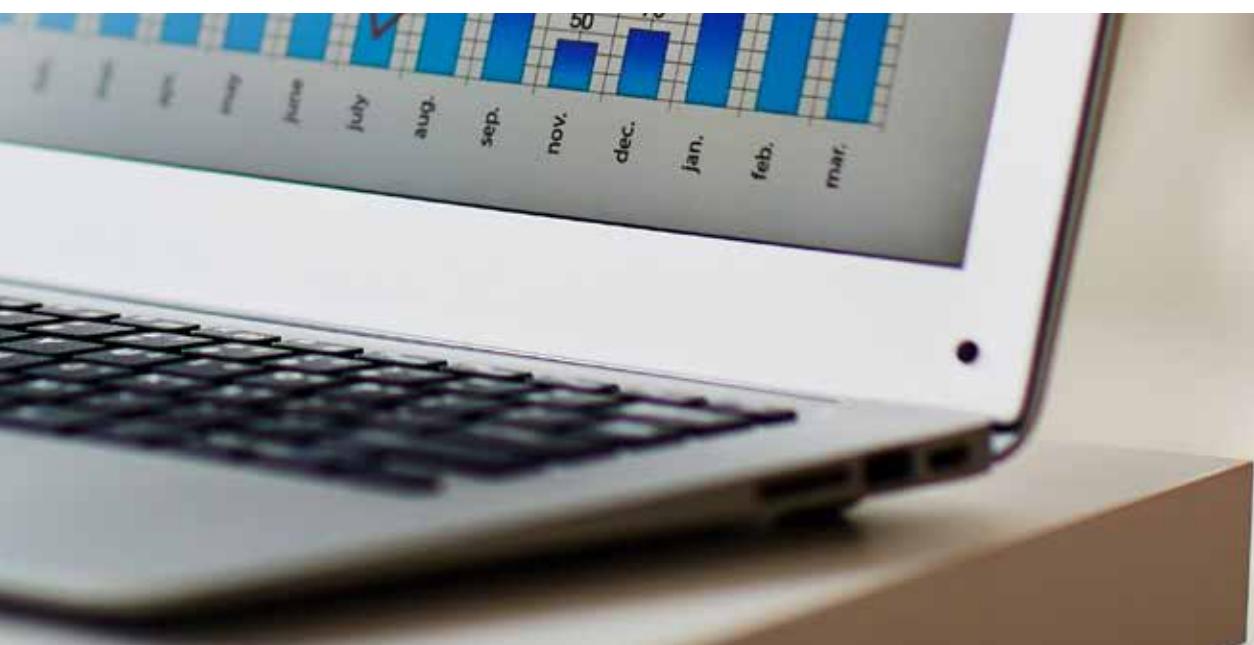
The alignment of municipal action with the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda is reflected in the fact that in 2021, 57.9% of government measures were aligned with the 2030 Agenda, which is 29.5% more than in 2020 (28.6%).

**Graph 117: Municipal alignment with the 2030 Agenda**

**Indicator 17.14.1:** Percentage of Government Measures that take into account the 2030 Agenda when drafted

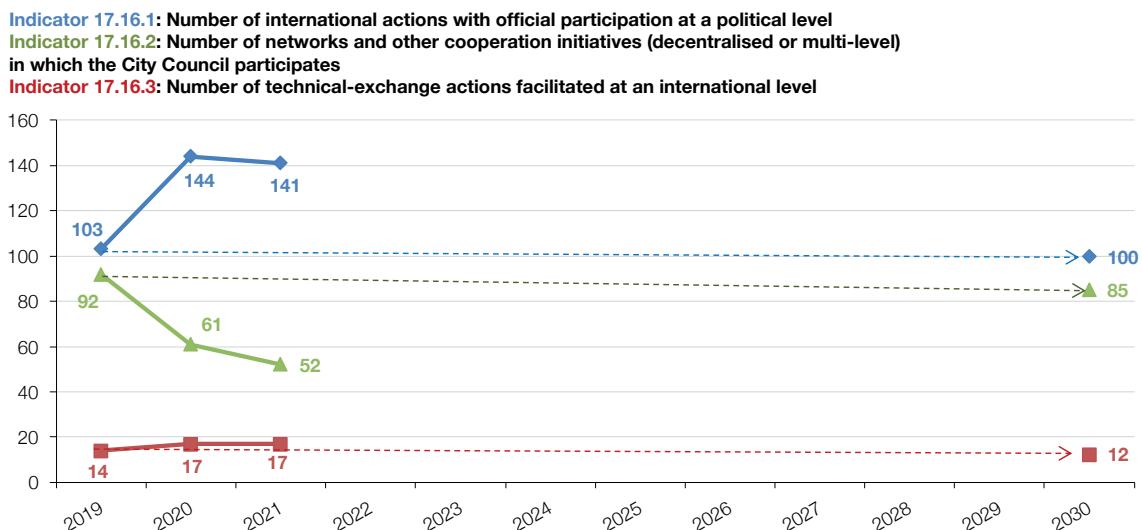


Source: Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda



## 17.16 Develop a strategy of partnerships at an international level in order to promote the attainment of the 2030 Agenda's goals

**Graph 118: International relations**



Source: Directorate of International Relations. Barcelona City Council.

The three indicators that measure this figure show the strength of the City Council's external action, both in terms of actions and participation in networks and the technical exchanges with other cities. The main actions carried out can be found in the corresponding section of the [2021 Report, 2030 Agenda, Digital Transition and Sports](#). In the case of city networks, a rationalisation policy has been adopted, which seeks a reasonable balance between the costs involved in participating in them and the benefits that can be obtained in terms of projection, influence and generation of opportunities for the city. There are occasions, however, when this type of analysis is not valid. In the case of the war that has been raging in Ukraine for the last year, Barcelona has stood by the side of the attacked party and has honoured its commitment to global justice by deploying [a series of support actions](#) and establishing a bilateral relationship of cooperation with its capital, Kiev.

**Barcelona, Global City:** The [2020-2023 International Relations Master Plan](#) is the document that has guided the City Council's overseas action, complemented by others such as the recently approved Asia Strategy.

## 17.17 Creating a public-private fund for the promotion of the 2030 Agenda in Barcelona

In 2021, with the backing of the 2030 Agenda Commission, the [MES Barcelona \(Sustainable Energy Mechanism\)](#) was created, a public-private partnership (PPP) instrument designed to attract private funding or funding from other public entities for projects with a strong, positive social impact. In this case, the aim is to increase local and renewable energy generation, especially photovoltaic energy. Through the multiplier effect of municipal investment, MES Barcelona aims to accelerate the implementation of clean energy in the city to mitigate climate change. At the same time, it aims to boost the local economy, making it richer in actors, more efficient, more dynamic and more sustainable. It is for this reason that this project also has an impact on SDGs 7, 8, 9 and 13, in addition to SDG 17.

The MES Barcelona instrument can make use of different investment modalities, always through a criteria of economic and social profitability. If this is a joint investment with other private and/or public

entities, the City Council may invest up to a maximum of 30% of the total amount. It is the responsibility of the co-investor entities or the companies managing the regulated vehicles to assume the leadership in each of the investments, their monitoring and subsequent disinvestment, if applicable, as well as to actively participate in the administration and management of the investments in which they have holdings. By the end of 2022, there were 17 approved investors and new special purpose vehicles (SPVs) had been approved, which together had an investment potential of 75.61 million euros, with an installed capacity of 87.13 MWp. The City Council's investment commitment in these new operations totals EUR 11.07 million.

At the same time, other projects have been launched by the Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda. First, there is the [Barcelona Innovation Coast \(BIC\)](#). The project's origins lie in the [Pact for Barcelona](#), signed in the summer of 2020 as a commitment by the city's main stakeholders to promote economic and social recovery and to continue making progress towards sustainability. The Pact calls for "a commitment to resilient and innovative economic sectors, thus promoting diversification". In recognition of this need and opportunity to change Barcelona's economic model, the BIC is conceived as a space for public-private support and coordination, focused on boosting the generation of applied knowledge to innovate production processes. The priority sectors are mobility, energy, health and digitalisation. Its territorial focus is the coastline of Barcelona, where many areas dedicated to research are concentrated, but the scope of action will be broader, covering the entire metropolitan region of Barcelona. The BIC's initial action consists of carrying out dialogue, negotiation, regulatory development and fundraising actions to set up spaces and instruments such as a deep tech investment maturity fund, the Fraunhofer Spain Research headquarters in Barcelona and the development of [Sandbox](#) models so that technological innovations can be tested in the city under real conditions and with all the legal guarantees.

Another is the [2030 Innovation programme](#), designed to stimulate urban innovation in certain key areas of the 2030 Agenda, such as energy, electromobility and social inclusion. This is in

collaboration with the company Barcelona de Serveis Municipals (BSM), the Mobile World Congress Foundation (Digital Future Society programme), the BIT Habitat Foundation and Fira de Barcelona, as well as other actors. The programme follows the logic of what are known as "innovation challenges", which consists of identifying a challenge and launching an open call to find companies or organisations that can propose a possible solution to it. A jury chooses the winning proposal or proposals, which are then applied in a real context, by means of pilot tests financed by the call itself. Innovations that successfully pass the test have the chance to be integrated in innovative public procurement processes and reach the market. In light of the results, the possibilities for territorial scaling up of the solutions with the greatest impact and potential are also explored. These innovation processes have been financed through the extraordinary fund established to tackle the recovery of the city's economy after the pandemic.

The collaboration with the [MetrópolisFPLab programme](#), promoted by the Barcelona Vocational Training Foundation, is also of note. A group of institutions and companies from the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona pose innovation challenges to teams of vocational training students. A jury chooses the winning team, which is awarded a grant to develop its project, monitored by the institution itself. The City Council, through the Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda, has participated in the 2022 edition of the project, proposing a 2030 Agenda challenge on SDG 5 (gender equality). The winning team was made up of students from the Advanced Diploma in Health Documentation and Administration at the INS Bonanova school for vocational training.

## **17.19 Annually assess the degree of attainment of the 2030Agenda in Barcelona**

Since the end of 2020, the City Council has been publishing an annual report on the monitoring and evaluation of the Barcelona 2030 Agenda, in three different language versions (Catalan, Spanish and English). With the publication of this third report, the forecasts made for the target have been maintained.

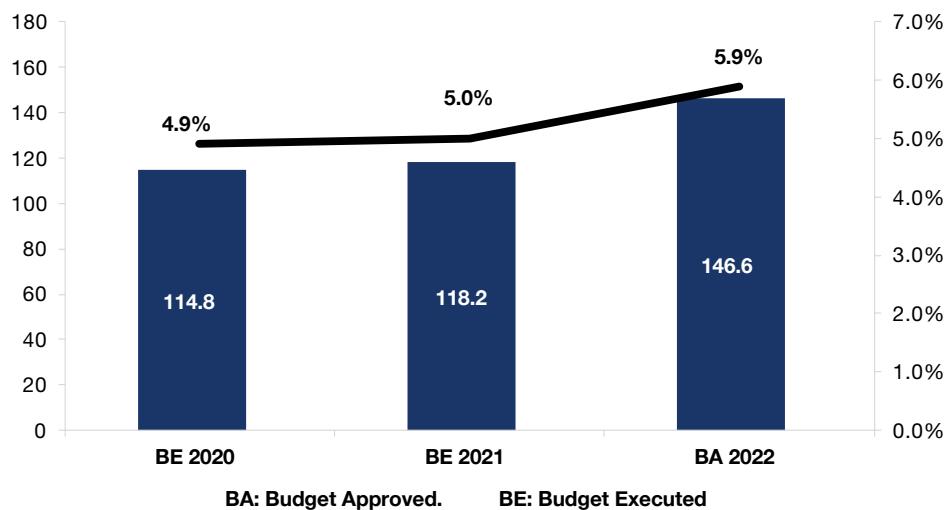
## Budgetary effort indicators

The budgetary effort indicators show that this SDG accounts for a fairly significant part of current expenditure, more than 5% of the total. However, more than 85% of this amount corresponds to the transfers that the City Council makes to the Barcelona

Metropolitan Area to finance its actions in the areas of Transport, Environment, Territory and other competences. This amount is financed by 7.6% of the transfers that the State contributes to the city of Barcelona, plus a part linked to property tax (IBI).

### Current expenditure on SDG 17

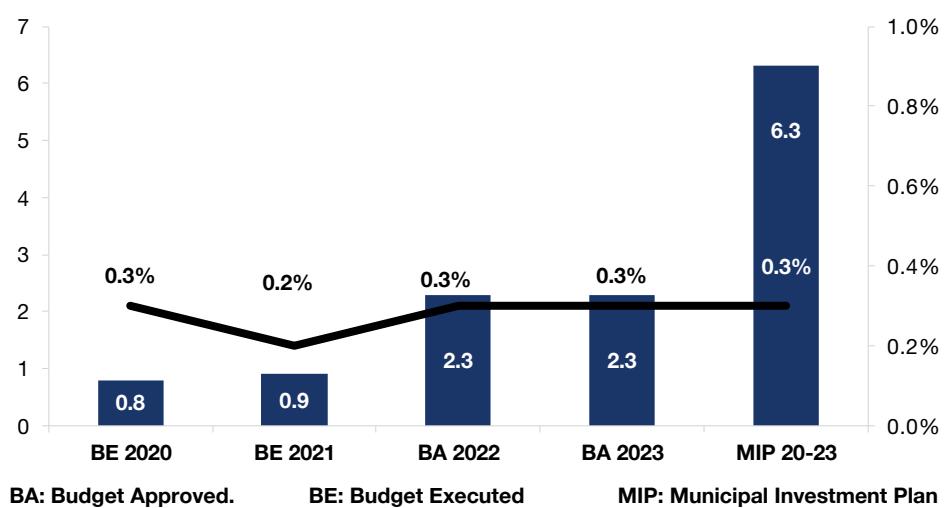
(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



BA: Budget Approved. BE: Budget Executed

### Planned investment in the MIP 2020-2023 for SDG 17

(amount in millions of euros and % of the total budget)



BA: Budget Approved.

BE: Budget Executed

MIP: Municipal Investment Plan





**3.**

**Proposals for  
a prioritisation  
model for  
Barcelona's 2030  
Agenda targets**

### 3.1 Justification and scope of the work

Since its creation at the end of 2020, the Barcelona 2030 Agenda has been progressively incorporating improvements in the definition of the targets to be achieved within each SDG and the key indicators for monitoring them. However, there is also the need to define a method that prioritises the different targets, so that the Agenda can contribute more effectively to the focus and improvement of municipal policies.

The issue of prioritisation is relevant, because the Barcelona 2030 Agenda consists of 140 adapted targets, and not all of them are of the same importance for the city; or, even if they are, they respond to economic forces or regulatory frameworks that greatly reduce the impact that can be made by local government. There is currently no documented example in the academic literature of how to carry out a prioritisation process of this kind at municipal level, as all the experiences refer to the national level.

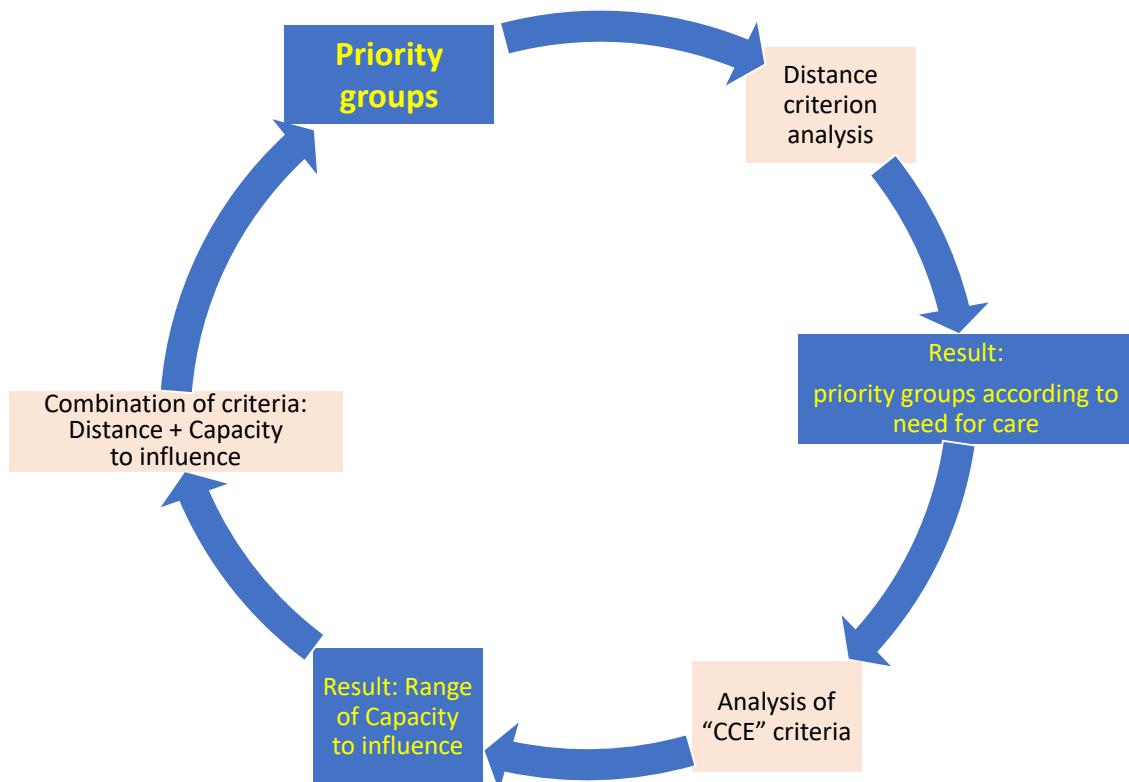
This work proposes a set of objective criteria to analyse the SDG targets and establish levels of

priority, thereby establishing a typology. Secondly, specific and appropriate actions are indicated in order to promote the progress of the different types of targets. The proposal is an exercise in reflection that aims to be agile and useful, and ultimately able to rationally justify the prioritisation of the adapted SDG targets. In any case, it will have to be contrasted and debated with the different sectors of the municipal organisation and with the city's economic, social and environmental organisations, as part of a broader process of reviewing and updating the 2030 Agenda.

### 3.2 Methodology

A multi-criteria analysis procedure is proposed to prioritise the SDG targets. This system allows decisions based on objective criteria to be made and presented on the basis of a decision matrix that connects the elements to be assessed (SDG targets) with the assessment criteria proposed, allowing them to be expanded further, if deemed necessary.

The following graph summarises the analytical scheme applied.



<sup>1</sup> Section developed in collaboration with Carlos Illán and Julia Urquijo, from the REDS entity (Spanish Sustainable Development Network).

### 3.2.1 Analysis of the distance (with respect to the 2030 target)

The prioritisation process is based on an analysis of the degree of implementation of each operational target. This is calculated on the basis of the observed gap or **distance** from the desired value for the year 2030<sup>2</sup>. Specifically, the percentage difference between the expected value and the real value observed during the last year is measured for each indicator.

The expected value is the percentage increase expected in each of the points (years) of the time series, in relation to the starting point, assuming that the progression is linear and that the entire operating target is to be reached in 2030. In order to be able to carry out the analysis in a homogeneous manner, the units in all indicators must be converted into percentages and negative ratios must be converted into positive ones.

It should be noted that the monitoring of each of the targets is carried out on the basis of one or more indicators. Should there be more than one indicator, the score of the target has been calculated by taking the average of the different scores of its indicators. Another equally or more justifiable option would be to calculate the distance only by considering the indicator that is most relevant and robust for the monitoring of the progress of the target.

On a discretionary basis and as a result of different tests, the thresholds between categories have been set at 10%, considering three categories.

The degree of achievement of a target can be deduced from the need to devote more or less attention and more or less effort to that target. As a general rule, we believe that the relationship is inversely proportional: the greater the achievement, the less the need for (extra) attention, and vice versa.

This analysis was carried out for all the targets that had an operational definition for 2030 and at least one quantitative indicator with data (a total of 75)<sup>3</sup>. The remaining 65 targets, for which it has not been possible to calculate the distance due to a lack of indicators or collated information, have been grouped into another priority group, number 4 (Table 2). In these cases, specific attention needs to be paid to the fact that the priority is to have data that allow the “distance” to be measured with respect to the operational target and to become part of group 1, 2 or 3, depending on the results.

### 3.2.2 Impact capacity analysis

The second major factor to be analysed is Barcelona City Council's impact capacity on the target. This “impact capacity” is understood as the availability and application of resources (strategic, regulatory, budgetary, technical, etc.) by Barcelona City Council. To measure this, the following three criteria are analysed for each SDG target:

- ▶ **Strategic relevance:** This verifies and measures the presence (or absence) of the target within the existing municipal planning instruments. Or, put another way,

CATEGORIES	DEFINITION
Long distance	Negative difference greater than 10% of the expected value compared to the observed value.
Medium distance	Distance between +/-10% of the estimated value and the observed value.
Short distance	Positive difference greater than 10% of the estimated value compared to the observed value.

Distance to the 2030 target	Points	Priority group	Level of attention required	Applied to BCN's SDG targets	
				No. of targets	%
Long	3	Group 1	High attention	28	20%
Medium	2	Group 2	Medium attention	35	25%
Short	1	Group 3	Low attention	12	9%
Indeterminate		Group 4	Specific attention	65	46%
				Total	140
				100%	

- 
- 2 It was first considered to complete the analysis of the distance with the analysis of the trend of the target (positive or negative) with respect to the expected value in the year 2030. However, it was found that if the analysis referred to the entire period 2015-2022, the trend and distance variables gave practically identical results. For this reason, one was discarded in order to simplify the model.
- 3 Cal tenir en compte que l'estudi es va tancar al setembre de 2022 i entretant ja es disposa d'indicadors operatius per a algunes d'aquestes fites. Això, però, no treu validesa a les conclusions de l'estudi. També cal tenir en compte que hi ha fites mesurades amb indicadors dicotòmics, que caldria reconvertir en numèrics.

the degree of alignment of the target with municipal policies.

- ▶ **Formal competence:** Measures the level of power and responsibility that the laws grant to the City Council with regard to the target.
- ▶ **Budgetary effort:** Measures the level of municipal expenditure attributable to the target.

### Strategic relevance

The working hypothesis is that when an SDG target incorporates key elements (formulation, activities, resources, indicators, monitoring and evaluation system, and so on) from one or more of Barcelona City Council's sectoral plans and/or strategies, it can be assumed that its strategic relevance is high.

Beforehand, this criterion is the one that presents the least methodological challenges, since the assignment of the score for the criterion is objective and easy to verify based on the review of the corresponding policies/plans/strategies. The list of the main strategies, plans, programmes and government measures approved by the City Council in the period 2020-2022 has been used to apply the criterion, taking as a reference the alignment between SDGs and municipal measures described in the 2020 report of the Barcelona 2030 Agenda.

There are also three categories used to analyse strategic relevance:

However, this criterion raises the fundamental question of whether it is necessary to prioritise the targets that have a higher degree of strategic relevance – because they have already been enshrined as such in other documents – or whether, on the other hand, it is necessary to prioritise – and devote more attention and effort to those targets that, although they are consistent with the United Nations 2030 Agenda, have not (yet) found a place in the municipal strategy.

#### Formal competence

This criterion raises the need to understand the level of municipal responsibility with respect to the adapted SDG target as a key factor in implementing the agenda at the local level (REDS, 2020). The analysis of municipal competences is complex, due to the different levels of existing competences (exclusive, shared, indistinct), the mechanisms by which competences are attributed (by law, delegated, by subjection, etc.), and the sectorial nature of the regulated aspects. It should also be borne in mind that a municipal public service created under the umbrella of a competence can be managed directly or indirectly, a factor that also has some impact on the Council's influential capacity.

There is currently no complete inventory of the competences attributed to Barcelona City Council. A more or less exhaustive mapping of the competences associated with the SDG targets, taking into account the municipal areas involved and the level of inter/intra-institutional coordination, would be a valuable contribution to understanding both the 2030 Agenda and the governance of Barcelona City Council.

Category and score	Rule applied
High strategic relevance (3 points)	When the target is already part of a policy/plan/strategy and its formulation is explicit
Average strategic relevance (2 points)	When, although the target is part of a policy/plan/strategy, its formulation is very generic and/or slightly different from the one adapted, and/or its values need to be updated and/or some relevant aspect for monitoring and/or implementation needs to be defined.
Low strategic relevance (1 point)	When the target is not reflected in any policy/plan/strategy or is addressed in a very limited and/or imprecise manner.

The mandatory competences are quite clearly defined according to the [Local Government Code](#) and the [Barcelona Municipal Charter](#). It is more complicated to differentiate between delegated, shared or indistinct competences. [Fernández-Rubio Hornillos' doctoral thesis on municipal competences](#) proposes a typology that has proved useful in structuring this criterion.

In order to reduce the complexity of the model and ensure consistency with the other criteria, it has been reduced to three very simple categories: high, medium or low level competences.

It works under the hypothesis that there would not be any 0-scoring targets; in other words, where there are no competences, because these would have to be the 31 UN targets that have not been incorporated into the set of targets adapted by the City Council (a total of 138). Were any case to arise, it would be necessary to analyse it in a particular way.

In this criterion, the interpretation of the consequences that may derive from it is not unequivocal either. Does it make more sense to concentrate efforts on those targets that only depend on the City Council itself or on those, often of greater complexity and impact, that require an effort of coordination with other administrations? With regard to shared competences, it is therefore important to differentiate between those in which concerted action is almost essential for the effectiveness of the policy, and those in which the City Council intervenes in a merely ancillary fashion.

### Budgetary effort

The third criterion for assessing the impact capacity refers to the volume of public resources that are spent on the achievement of each target.

One obvious option for making this criterion operational was to use the work on linking budget programmes (more than 400 analysed) with the SDGs, carried out by the City Council's Budget Department since 2019 and also presented in this report (see section 2). The fact is, however, that a more refined analysis was needed for this criterion, capable of linking the 400 budget programmes to the 140 SDG targets. Beyond the size of the task itself, it is often difficult to determine the proportion of the budget allocation that corresponds to each target, especially when a target is financed through different programmes, or when the budget programme does not specify its content very well. Other difficulties with this option are that most of the programmes do not include staff costs, that the general government costs are found in specific programmes (which prevents them from being attributed to earmarked programmes aligned with SDG targets) and that investments are only partially allocated to them.

In view of these difficulties and limitations, it has been decided to use an alternative model, namely the cost accounting model, which has been widely developed in the City Council and is known as the "[ABC cost model](#)". This entails attributing all municipal expenditure only to earmarked activities. In other words, those that make sense by themselves as a service or provision of public value to the

Category and score	Rule applied
High formal competence (3 points)	When the target is within the exclusive competence of the Council
Average formal competence (2 points)	When the target is in an area of shared competence with other administrations.
Low formal competence (1 punt)	When the target is of an indistinct area of competence

citizens. This means that all indirect and structural costs, which have no direct value but are necessary for the final services to function, are added to the direct costs of each activity, following specific calculation formulas. This results in the total cost of the activity. We could say that it is a form of accounting that better reflects what is of real interest to the citizen/user.

However, this model is also not without its problems. The main one being that the SDG targets defined do not fit conceptually with some of the most important municipal activities, such as culture or sports (which do not feature explicitly in the 2030 Agenda). There are also a number of costs that the model interprets as non-finalist, but which correspond to SDG targets (for example, a large part of international relations), and it has not been possible to reflect this. It is also the case that some large-scale activities (e.g. primary and secondary schools, attributed to various targets within SDG 4) include costs that are partly attributable to other targets (e.g. improvements to schools to make them more resilient in the face of climate change, which would be target 13.1).

It should also be noted that, due to time constraints, the costs generated by district activities (just over EUR 200 million in total) have not been included in the calculation of the criterion, nor has it been taken into account that there are activities that also generate income (for example, music schools or the zoo), which would reduce the total amount of expenditure in some areas.

Having assumed these limitations, the activities have been linked to the SDG targets and classified according to the following scale:

Category and score	Rule applied
High budgetary effort (3 points)	The target is assigned a significant budgetary effort for its achievement: more than EUR 20 million.
Moderate budgetary effort (2 points)	The target is assigned a reasonable budgetary effort for its achievement: between EUR 2 and EUR 20 million.
Low budgetary effort (1 point)	The target is assigned a discrete budgetary effort for its achievement: EUR 0 to EUR 2 million, or when it has not been possible to estimate the budgetary effort linked to the target.

Establishing the thresholds of what is understood as “discrete”, “reasonable” or “important” is another aspect that presents methodological challenges. For example, the volume of expenditure is less important in the provision of services than in the construction of infrastructures.

Finally, another very important aspect, but one that goes far beyond the scope of this analysis, is the identification and quantification of the expenditure of other administrations on services and investments made in Barcelona. On this point, the first and most feasible challenge would be to analyse the expenditure of the consortia, chaired by the Government of Catalonia and in which Barcelona City Council participates, which ensure the provision of three pillars of the Welfare State: health, education and social services (specialised).

### Integrated calculation of the City Council's impact capacity

The following table shows the distribution of the targets according to the score obtained for each criterion analysed.

Score	RELEVANCE		COMPETENCES		EXPENDITURE	
	No. of targets	%	No. of targets	%	No. of targets	%
3	104	74%	60	43%	26	19%
2	15	11%	8	6%	34	24%
1	21	15%	72	51%	80	57%
0						
	140		140		140	

Once the three criteria for each target have been assessed, it is possible to combine them to establish a range for the City Council's impact capacity.

IMPACT CAPACITY		
Range	Score	Explanation
(a) very high	3+3+3 3+3+2	Three criteria with the highest score Two criteria with the highest score and one with a moderate score.
(b) high	3+3 3+2+2	At least two criteria with the highest score One criterion with the highest score and the other two with a moderate score.
(c) medium	3+2 3	At least one criterion with maximum score and one other criterion with moderate score A criterion with the highest score.
(d) low	2+2 2	At least one or two criteria with moderate scores
(e) very low	1+1+1 1+1 1	All criteria with a low score

### 3.2.3 Integration of the “distance to the 2030 target” and “impact capacity” criteria: Analysis of results and conclusions

By combining the priority groups defined using the criterion of **distance to the 2030 target** with the established **impact capacity** ranges, 20 priority categories or groups can be defined, according to the following matrix.

PRIORITY GROUP	CAPACITY	(a) very high	(b) high	(c) medium	(d) low	(e) very low
	DISTANCE					
1	high	1a	1b	1c	1d	1e
2	medium	2a	2b	2c	2d	2e
3	low	3a	3b	3c	3d	3e
4	no data	4a	4b	4c	4d	4e

To make the prioritisation exercise simpler, more practical and useful, it is proposed to group the categories and leave them at only 11. The results are shown in the following table.

PRIORITY GROUP	CAPACITY	(a) very high	(b) high	(c) medium	(d) low	(e) very low	Total
	DISTANCE						
1	high	ab	ab	cd	cd	e	28
2	medium						35
3	low						12
4	no data	a	b	c	d		65

By multiplying the results of “Need for attention” by those of “ impact capacity”, we can obtain the priority range of the SDG targets of each group. This implies assuming that the three impact capacity criteria have a linear and positive interpretation (the greater the relevance, competences and expenditure, the higher the priority), despite the methodological doubts expressed throughout the study.

Group	Need for attention	Impact capacity	No. of SDG targets	Priority range
1ab	High	High	16	Maximum (9 points)
1cd		Medium	4	High (6 points)
1e		Very low	8	Medium (3 points)
2ab	Medium	High	16	High (6 points)
2cd		Medium	10	Medium (4 points)
2e		Very low	9	Low (2 points)
3ab	Low	High	6	Medium (3 points)
3cd		Medium	5	Low (2 points)
3e		Very low	1	Low (1 point)
4a	Insufficient data for evaluation	Very high	4	The priority is to have an operational and measurable target
4b		High	15	
4c		Medium	13	
4d		Low	5	
4e		Very low	28	

Beyond its potential to establish an objective model for prioritising the targets, the analysis proposed can help to gain a better understanding of the situation of each target (what level of support it has achieved, how much it is present in municipal strategies, what competences it has and what resources it has), and what shortcomings need to be addressed, which can be methodological (operationalising the target, having indicators available, etc.), strategic (coherence between SDG targets and municipal strategic objectives), competence-based (strengthened multi-level cooperation, increased competences, etc.) or budgetary (increase of the budget allocation, improvement in the efficiency of spending, etc.).





**4.**

## **Conclusions and perspectives**

## **4 Conclusions and perspectives**

### **4.1 On the results of the monitoring indicators**

The year 2020 will leave a noticeable, if not dramatic, mark on most of the context indicators of the Barcelona 2030 Agenda. We have been able to verify and measure the full extent of this “set-back” one or two years after the fact, when we have been able to access new data corresponding to the years 2020, 2021 and 2022. From the middle of 2021, if not more so in Europe, we have experienced two apparently parallel processes, but in reality they are strongly interconnected, almost like communicating vessels. On the one hand, the slow but unstoppable recovery from the pandemic, underpinned by the effectiveness of vaccination, which first led to the rapid recovery of economic activity and then social activity, reaching levels very similar to those of 2019 in most sectors. On the other hand, the recovery of the negative phenomena that usually accompany economic activity, such as atmospheric pollution, housing rental prices, road congestion and certain types of crime.

The most remarkable fact, however, is that the expected post-pandemic “rebound effect” has been neither homogeneous nor complete. On the positive side, neither pollution nor crime have returned – for the moment – to pre-2019 levels. They are significantly lower, and perhaps we are facing very hopeful structural changes in our city. We also find that there are negative changes that could be long-lasting. One of them is educational performance, at least in primary school pupils, as measured in this report. It has slipped a couple positions and it looks like it will be difficult to recover them. Another basic phenomenon at risk is people’s participation in social life. We are not talking about citizen participation, in the more political sense of the term, but rather about involvement in local organisations and projects, in the neighbourhood. The trend was already visible before 2020, but it seems to have increased. Moreover, the economic recovery, which this time has been accompanied by a more effective protection of employment and wages, has been hindered by the sharp increase and, for the time being, sustained rise in inflation. The reasons for this are diverse, ranging from the breakdown of global supply chains to energy shortages and the havoc caused by climate change. And on top of that, we have a war in Europe; a long and exhausting war that destroys and drains resources without any end in sight.

In the 3rd quarter of 2022, Barcelona’s GDP increased by 5.1% compared to the same quarter in 2021, maintaining a growth dynamic higher than that recorded both in Catalonia and Spain. The nominal income of Barcelona’s households was 4% higher than in 2019, but due to inflation its real purchasing power had fallen by 8% compared to the same year. If inflation is concentrated in the most basic items, such as food, housing and transport, inequality is overflowing, and the social policy containment dyke, however well enforced, does not seem capable of withstanding. It is not surprising that, given this situation, the consumer confidence index in Barcelona has fallen for three six-month periods in a row (June 2021-December 2022).

There are areas, such as citizen safety or the evaluation of municipal management, in which the discrepancy in results between objective indicators and subjective indicators is quite clear. Crime is down substantially, but the feeling of insecurity is much less so. The City Council provides services and pays suppliers promptly, and completes its operational targets, but the evaluation of the municipal management is in decline, with an increasingly extreme polarisation of public opinion. The social reality is very complex, because it is constructed from the interaction between these two elements: facts and perceptions. And how events are perceived and interpreted depends to a large extent on the ideological/discursive markers prevailing in the city at each moment in history.

### **4.2 On the construction and development of Barcelona’s 2030 Agenda**

Probably the most innovative – and daring – aspect of the Barcelona 2030 Agenda is the quantification of the targets. This is specifically designed as a way of shielding the “facts” and reinforcing the objectivity of the analysis of whether or not the city is on the way to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. It is worth going into a little more detail about how this has been developed, because it is an essential point. Many of the “localised” SDG targets have been defined and specified in intense participatory processes, especially within the framework of the Agreement for an Inclusive Barcelona and the Commitment to a Sustainable Barcelona. Nevertheless, except in those cases in which the target has been set as an absolute (“eradicate”, “reduce to zero”...), because they refer to intolerable social wrongs, in all other cases there is no pre-established objective

and/or formal criterion for setting the target. The solution has been to choose a numerical value for each indicator for the “year 2030”, based on the continuum between the maximum transformational ambition and the realistic estimate of the possibilities of achieving the desired result. The result, however, is that there are SDG targets that are much more ambitious than others, and this puts them at an advantage in terms of visibility and resources, but at a disadvantage when it comes to evaluation. The greater the list of expectations, the more difficult it is to achieve success. For this reason, at the risk of contradicting the previous section, it is considered that the direction of the movement of the indicator is as or more important than the distance to the target (are we getting too far away?). Are we getting closer? How fast?).

In a complex, dynamic and increasingly uncertain socio-political environment, the SDGs can be very useful as a mechanism for guidance, prioritisation and warning, both for the City Council and for the city as a whole. That is why we consider it very important and positive that municipal planning in recent years has been mostly geared towards the 2030 deadline. In times of turbulence and rapid change it may seem contradictory to extend the planning timeframe, but if the context is changing our living conditions so rapidly (the climate, the social structure, the production system), there is also a need to provide transformative collective responses that are up to date and provide an effective response to these changes. And this requires an ambitious vision and persistent and continuous action that goes beyond the four years of a municipal term of office.

The SDGs provide a general approach that can be shared by a majority of society. However, the priorities, approaches and, above all, the ways of advancing towards the targets may differ; either through ideological conviction or, equally validly, through a process of learning about what works and what does not work to achieve certain objectives. This is why the commitment to a medium- and long-term strategy must always be accompanied by a strong commitment to evaluation, review and adaptation. The ability to learn,

both from mistakes and, above all, from errors, thereby preventing preconceived ideas from (excessively) distorting our perception of social reality and the impact of our actions on this reality.

The year 2023, when the SDGs reach the mid-point of their period of validity (2016-2030), will be a key moment in determining the 2030 Agenda's capacity to have an impact, both globally and at the national and local levels. The United Nations will organise an extraordinary summit in September to take stock of the situation and relaunch global action.

Before then, at the end of May, Barcelona will hold its tenth democratic municipal elections. The new government that is elected will have to contend with, among other challenges, the renewal of Barcelona's commitment to sustainability, which should be stronger and broader. The start of a new term of office and the fact that we now have a set of sectoral strategies with a 2030 timeframe and an integrated territorial strategy with a view to ERDF funds (for the period 2021-2027) should lead to a review of the SDG targets and the shaping of an even more solid Barcelona 2030 Urban Agenda that is perfectly integrated with the city's ambitions and municipal organisation.

This will mean having powerful antennae, which will allow good communication in order to be attentive to changes and the demands of society. The spaces for cooperation regarding the 2030 Agenda created between 2020 and 2021 can perform this role: The Cross-cutting Commission for internal coordination, the Steering Committee for the participation of social and economic agents, and the Academic Advisory Council, for being well connected with the new knowledge.

Last but not least, there is a need to forge alliances beyond the city limits. Barcelona is an actor that is listened to and respected, one that wants to share missions, objectives and efforts at different territorial levels, as well as involve itself generously in spaces such as the [Catalonia 2030 Alliance](#), the SDG network promoted by the FEMP, and the global movement of cities for the SDGs.



# **Appendix: Report on promotion and communication actions**

## Barcelona 2030 Agenda Conference (2nd edition)

On 29 and 30 November 2022, the [Second Barcelona 2030 Agenda Conference](#) was held at the Barcelona Activa Auditorium. They were two days of fully face-to-face meetings, designed to generate exchange, thought and transformative energy. Faced with such a complicated scenario, we asked ourselves how the SDGs could have a positive influence on city governance, driving change and reporting on the work done. The experience of Barcelona and other cities, such as

Tunis and Amman, was presented, as well as how administrations at different levels can better coordinate action for the SDGs. The second day was dedicated to one of the most critical factors for sustainable development: energy. Because the transition to forms of energy that do not generate greenhouse gas emissions is an absolute necessity, one which needs to be made compatible with economic health and social welfare. This is an extremely complex challenge, which requires a strong and cross-cutting political commitment, but also great flexibility in the methods, with the ability to learn quickly from all successful experiences.



# Conference programme

## First block: A 2030 Agenda that transforms cities

### **Keynote speech: How can the SDGs shape the policy agenda of cities?**

Pablo Martínez Osés, member of the Global Collective and Coordinator of the Coherence for Sustainable Development Index

### **Session 1: The SDGs and city action against inequality: a Mediterranean perspective**

Ainara Fernández Tortosa, Senior Researcher at United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

### **Addressing inequalities through local transformation strategies: Commoning, Caring, Connecting, Renaturing, Prospering, Democratizing**

Nasir Qandeel, Head of the Department for International Relations and Technical Support in Amman

### **Amman's first VLR-2022**

Lofti Ben Aisa, President of City Strategy in Tunis

Tunis urban development strategy

Presented and moderated by Oriol Barba, Director of MedCités

### **Session 2: The 2030 Agenda, does it help to govern and manage better?**

Marc Balaguer, Director of the Catalan Institute for the Evaluation of Public Policies (IVALUA)

### **Assessments and the 2030 Agenda: Opportunities, Challenges and Constraints**

Raffaele Sisto, CEO of Smart&City Solutions and lecturer

Why assess impacts (in SDG terms)?

Presented and moderated by: Tamyko Ysa (Professor of Strategy and Public Management at ESADE)

### **Session 3: Annual report on the Barcelona 2030 Agenda**

Ramon Canal, Director of the Office for Technical Programming, Barcelona City Council

Annual Report on the Barcelona 2030 Agenda, highlights and reflections

Julia Urquijo, REDS Researcher and lecturer at the Polytechnic University of Madrid

Towards a model for prioritising SDG targets

Presented and moderated by: Bàrbara Pons, Commissioner of the 2030 Agenda of the Barcelona Council

### **Session 4: The 2030 Agenda: a city, metropolitan and country strategy?**

- ▶ Marina Espinosa, Coordinator of Corporate Strategy and Local Coordination, Barcelona Provincial Council
- ▶ Oriol Estela, Director of the Barcelona 2030 Strategic Metropolitan Plan
- ▶ Arnau Queralt, Director of the Advisory Council for Sustainable Development of Catalonia
- ▶ Gabriel Castañares, Director General of Leveraging Policies for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda of the Government of Spain

Presented and moderated by: Mariona Tomàs, Lecturer at the University of Barcelona

## **Second block: Energy, economy and sustainability**

### **Session 5: Obstacles, levers and best practices on the cities' road to climate neutrality**

- ▶ Marc Vilà, Director of Infrastructures and Sustainability at Mercabarna
- ▶ Daniel Ibáñez, Director General of the Catalan Institute of Advanced Architecture (IAAC)

Presented and moderated by: Cristina Castells, Director of the Energy Agency of Barcelona

### **Session 6: Decarbonised... and prosperous? Economic outlook of the cities of 2030**

- ▶ Enric Tello, Professor of Economic History at the University of Barcelona
- ▶ Pedro Fresco, Director General of Economic Transition of the Generalitat Valenciana

Presented and moderated by: Marc Montlleó, Head of Barcelona Regional Environmental and Energy Efficiency Area

### **Session 7: Barcelona and the European Mission 100 Climate-Neutral Cities by 2030**

- ▶ Jordi Peris, General Coordinator of Urban Strategies and Sustainable Agenda, Valencia City Council
- ▶ Santiago Saura, Councillor of the Area Internationalisation and Cooperation, Madrid City Council
- ▶ Bàrbara Pons, Commissioner of the 2030 Agenda of the Barcelona Council

Presented and moderated by: Julio Lumbres, Lecturer at the UPM and coordinator of CitiEs

### **Closing speech: The energy crisis and the SDGs: An opportunity?**

Natalia Fabra, Professor of Economics at the Universidad Carlos III of Madrid.

## **4.3 Barcelona 2030 Agenda Awards (1st edition)**

The Sustainable Development Goals imply such important transformations to the production, consumption and social organisation models that they can only be achieved with the contribution of all actors in society. Many entities and companies in Barcelona are carrying out actions with a positive impact on the SDGs. Barcelona

City Council has created the Barcelona 2030 Agenda Awards with the aim of recognising and disseminating these practices, rewarding the most outstanding in terms of innovation and quality.

The call for entries was open to any natural or legal person registered in the city of Barcelona or its metropolitan area, and actions carried out over the previous two years could also be presented, as well as actions which despite not yet being completed had already been implemented and had generated some form of impact. A multidisciplinary jury, made up of experts in each of the categories of the Awards, evaluated the candidatures according to a set of pre-established criteria, such as impact on the SDGs, originality, participation, coherence and replicability.

The first edition of the Barcelona 2030 Agenda Awards consisted of five categories divided into ten sub-categories.

- ▶ Business Initiatives Category (sub-categories 1, 2 and 3)
- ▶ Social Initiatives Category (sub-categories 4 and 5)
- ▶ Media Category (sub-categories 6 and 7)
- ▶ Educational Projects Category (sub-categories 8 and 9)
- ▶ Cities Category (sub-category 10)

A total of 75 candidatures were presented and the following were awarded prizes:

Type	Winning candidature	Project	Outstanding merits
1. SME Business Initiatives	Transportes Generales de Olesa, S.A.U.	<b>Bus4.me</b> , on demand open bus platform that allows stops to be added or removed, bus schedules to be modified and bus capacity to be increased or reduced, offering a connected service where there is currently no possibility of offering a traditional service.	Become an innovative and high-impact approach, which focuses on the inequality gap and is oriented towards sustainable mobility, offering an efficient, flexible and safe mobility service to citizens.
2. Business Initiatives of large companies	<b>Empresa Metropolitana de Gestió del Cicle Integral de l'Aigua, S.A.</b>	<b>Climate Action Hub</b> , an open, dynamic and multidirectional space with more than 36 member organisations, in order to set out lines of action and efficient climate practices.	Become an open innovation initiative aimed at raising awareness and citizen action in the face of the climate emergency and make a remarkable effort to align itself with the SDGs by involving its employees.

Type	Winning candidature	Project	Outstanding merits
3. Awareness-raising campaign on the SDGs promoted by a company	<b>Zona Franca de Barcelona Consortium</b>	<b>Barcelona Zona Franca Women's Council</b> ; a consultative council that has been set up as a pressure group in Barcelona's main industrial estate; promotes gender equality through good practices, awareness-raising actions, debates and initiatives such as the School-Industry-Stream programme.	Become a major awareness-raising campaign which, by placing women at the heart of the Zona Franca Consortium's business model, can become a major lever for change towards gender equality.
4. Contribution to the SDGs made in a non-profit organisation or by a citizen's initiative	<b>Sarrià Local Residents Association</b>	<b>Project for the promotion and localisation of the 2030 Agenda in the neighbourhood</b>	Mobilise and lead the involvement of the local residents to reflect on and communicate the importance of the SDGs and their arrival in the Sarrià neighbourhood, undertaking a wide range of actions and media (debates, neighbourhood councils, art, etc.).
5. Awareness campaign on the SDGs promoted by a not-for-profit entity	<b>Coordinator for fair trade and ethical finance</b>	<b>"And what do you choose? I choose fair trade"</b> campaign, which aims to get people to reflect on the economic, social and/or environmental impact of their daily purchases and to make them aware of all the possibilities available to them.	Its originality and its great impact. It raises social awareness about consumption and promotes initiatives that contribute to gender equality, decent work, environmental protection and the reduction of inequalities.
6. Media with the best coverage of news related to the SDGs	<b>Anna Grima Bigaire (TVE Catalunya)</b>	<b>News coverage</b> through reports and articles that explain in a clear and pedagogical manner the importance of carrying out gestures, actions and initiatives that promote the achievement of the SDGs.	The dissemination of initiatives that can help to combat the climate emergency and to live in a more sustainable and healthy way, both for people, in fairer and more egalitarian societies, and for the planet.
7. Best journalist report on SDGs published in Barcelona's media	<b>Local Communication Network</b>	<b>Espai Públic 2030</b> , a weekly programme that, using a local story, covers the determining elements of the 17 SDGs of the 2030 Agenda in a didactic, thought-provoking and comprehensive way, showing the need to achieve them.	Present different points of view that make us reflect on the global challenges, through well-constructed audiovisual stories that show the need to achieve the objectives set out in the 2030 Agenda.
8. Contribution to the SDGs made in a primary school	<b>Escola Octavio Paz</b>	<b>CUINES Project</b> . The aim is for children, teachers and families to approach the gastronomic and culinary heritage from different perspectives, concerns and needs. The project aims to awaken a sense of self-improvement in children and raise their awareness of fair and healthy consumption. It promotes equality, cultural diversity and the gender perspective, as well as curiosity, entrepreneurship and sustainability.	Apply an experimental, highly original and creative pedagogical approach that tackles the SDGs through reflection and practice, focusing on the impact that food and cooking have on health, society, the economy and the environment.
9. Contribution to the SDGs made in a secondary education centre	<b>Institut Rafael Casanova</b>	<b>"Towards a global tribe"</b> project by the third year ESO group, covering such diverse but interrelated topics as the environment, consumerism and migratory movements.	Set out a learning challenge in terms of culture and values, that is very coherent and continuous throughout the educational stage, which aims to give the pupils a leading role, making them responsible for their own learning.
10. Contribution to the SDGs by an individual city	<b>Viladecans City Council</b>	<b>MIA (Model of Innovation)</b> , which seeks to modernise and digitalise the municipal administration of Viladecans, with the aim of generating new opportunities for citizens and improving their quality of life.	Promote innovation as a value of the corporate culture of the City Council, which contributes to create a city strategy and to deploy it with city projects aligned with the 2030 Agenda.



The 2030 Agenda Awards are honorary. Each of the winning candidates received the Barcelona 2030 Agenda Award, designed by Emiliana i Cocu through an open competition organised by Barcelona Fostering Arts and Design association. In addition, all the schools that presented a candidature received another trophy, designed by Curro Claret. They were as follows:

#### **Primary schools:**

- ▶ Col·legi Públic Cervantes
- ▶ Col·legi Públic Sant Vicenç
- ▶ Escola Concepción Arenal
- ▶ Escola Espai 3
- ▶ Escola Ferran Sunyer
- ▶ Escola Joaquim Ruyra

- ▶ Escola Mercè Rodoreda

- ▶ Escola Octavio Paz

- ▶ Escola Rius i Taulet

#### **Secondary education schools and centres:**

- ▶ Barcelona Youth Council
- ▶ Assemblea de Cooperació per la Pau
- ▶ Fundació Collserola (Escola Frederic Mistral – Tècnic Eulàlia)
- ▶ Institut Escola Puig i Gairalt
- ▶ Institut Eugeni d'Ors
- ▶ Institut Rafael Casanovas

The awards were presented on 30 November at the Barcelona Activa Auditorium, in a ceremony presented by the Honourable Laia Bonet, 3rd Deputy Mayor of Barcelona City Council, and hosted by the company ImproBarcelona.

## International cooperation projects

Barcelona City Council participates in the “**Urban quality of life indicator**” project, financed by the Metrópolis cities organisation. It is organised by the city of Montreal, together with Barcelona and with the participation of the metropolitan region of Brussels. Its aim is to identify and develop tools that allow progress to be made in measuring the well-being and quality of life of the population living in cities, with the aim of improving the effectiveness of urban planning and policies. The project has focused on four issues: 1. The aspects of urban life that should be measured; 2. The availability of data in each of the cities concerned; 3. The hierarchy and relationship between objective and subjective quality of life indicators; 4. The need and feasibility of having disaggregable measures according to key variables, such as gender, age, origin or district/neighbourhood.

In the framework of this project, a delegation from Barcelona will participate in Brussels in the presentation of “Measuring the well-being to increase the effectiveness of urban Planning: A pilot project conducted in Montreal, Brussels and Barcelona”, as a session of the 58th World Planning Congress (ISOCARP). Afterwards, on 6 and 7 October, Barcelona hosted the second face-to-face meeting of the project, during which it organised the seminar “The challenge of measuring quality of life in cities”. It was an open event, aimed especially at social and public policy analysts, working in universities, research centres, the media and the administration itself. Various municipal departments and other organisations prepared presentations to be given at the seminar. Specifically: “Targets and main indicators of the Barcelona 2017-2027 Strategy for Inclusion and reduction of social inequalities” (Social Rights, Global Justice, Feminism and LGBTI Area); “Health indicators and measuring quality of life” (Public Health Observatory of the Barcelona Public Health Agency), “Barcelona Intercultural Indicators (2022 Divide Report)” (Department of Interculturality and Religious

Pluralism of the Department of Culture, Education, Science and Community), “The Urban Quality of Life Index (new experimental statistics)” (joint project between the Institute of Regional and Metropolitan Studies of Barcelona and the Analysis Department of the Municipal Data Office of the City Council) and “Proposal for a subjective well-being indicator for Barcelona” (Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda).

Barcelona City Council also took part in the project “Raising awareness of the 2030 Agenda at territorial level for the localisation of the SDGs”, financed by the Union of Ibero-American Capital Cities (UCCI). It was coordinated by the city of Montevideo, with the participation of Sao Paulo and La Paz in addition to Barcelona. The aim was to improve the implementation of the SDGs in the cities through the exchange of best practices and experiences between the cities involved in the project and to develop a practical guide for UCCI cities on the implementation of strategies for education, awareness-raising, participation and communication of the SDGs in the regions. The experience was presented to the [Platforma Awards, where it was one of the eight finalists](#). A second phase is being prepared, with an extended list of Latin American cities.



The City Council collaborates with the [Institute for Global Environmental Strategies \(IGES\)](#), a Japanese government agency with a project on the SDGs that has become a global benchmark for monitoring and analysing action regarding the 2030 Agenda carried out by local governments around the world. In addition to its reports, which are included in the IGES [Voluntary Local Reviews laboratory](#), Barcelona has regularly shared its experience with the organisation's technical team.

