

# Where should I live? An early analysis about life quality between two big EU cities: Rome and Berlin

Capstone Project - The Battle of Neighborhoods (Week 1)

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# 1 Introduction

Many reports and rankings about city life quality are currently available on books, internet and other sources.

However, those reports do not always provide a clear evidence of how these scores are affected by the actual city structure. Essentially, they are computed by means of interviews and/or polls submitted to the citizens without actually mapping those results on the city infrastructures in order to detect the main features that led to those scores.

More in details, those studies do not carry out a further analysis on the distribution of the essential services and venues over the city area to explain the polls results.

For example, the Teleport Company<sup>1</sup> developed a great reporting service providing fully fledged reports about cities quality life, computed over many and very detailed indexes, such as cost of living, housing, safety, healthcare, education, taxation, tolerance and so on and so forth. However, to the best of my knowledge, the ranking methods do not take into account the any info about the infrastructure of the cities studied.

For example, let us consider the Education Score assigned to the city of Rome. According to what has been reported on their page<sup>(2)</sup> the city of Rome has an education score of 4 out of 10. This score is then explained by means of a set of indexes based on the results of some academic tests carried out in one or more city universities.

However, this analysis does not clearly reflects the actual satisfaction of the education service provided by in Rome. Indeed, for a more exhausting research, we should take into account not only a quality score based on the academic relevance of the universities, but also some complementary information as the distribution of any grade schools and universities among the city neighbourhoods. In this way, we can evaluate the quality of educational services, based not only on the academic quality of the service itself, but also on the easiness to reach the school. Indeed, having some few high quality schools eventually placed in one or just few neighbourhoods, should not lead to a high ranking for educational services.

Moreover, this further study about the distribution of services among neighbourhoods, will also support new and former citizens throughout the *"where should I live?"* decision making process. They will have a more comprehensive view of service quality, based not only on generic quality scores, but also on their actual location in the area.

Therefore, the aim of this work is to provide an early analysis about the distribution of ten main service categories, among the neighbourhoods of two main EU cities as Rome and Berlin, to extend the quality analysis provided by the Teleport Company.

Moreover, for each city we compared and grouped all the similar neighbourhoods in terms of venue categories distribution within the neighbourhood itself. The purpose was to check what is the distribution of similar districts in the city area. Finally, a further comparison between the cities neighbourhoods has been carried out to detect similar area between these cities. This extra comparison, might be eventually useful for people moving from one city to the other one.

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<sup>1</sup><https://teleport.org/>

<sup>2</sup><https://teleport.org/cities/rome/>