

The Urban Audit

An Introduction and The First Results

Dr Elisabeth Helander

Director, DG Regional Policy

European Commission

Key European Urban Actions by DG Regional Policy

URBAN II and Urban Actions	Develop and implement urban policy in a common framework
URBACT	Exchange experience within European networks
Urban Audit	Compare 258 cities across Europe

Goals of the Urban Audit

- Allow citizens and city leaders to compare their city with other cities in Europe
- Support the development of urban policy
- Facilitate the exchange of experience between cities
- Inform Member States and the EU of the quality of life in European Cities

From Pilot Project to the full-scale Urban Audit

Pilot Project 1997-2000

- 58 large cities in the EU 15
- 500 variables
- Carried out by a consultancy
- One-off exercise

Urban Audit 2002-2005

- 258 large and medium-sized cities in EU27
- 333 variables with improved definitions
- Carried out by Eurostat, the 27 national statistical institutes and the 258 cities
- Keeps knowledge in-house, easy to repeat

Cities in the Urban Audit

- ◆ Urban Audit cities within EU15
- ◆ Urban Audit cities outside EU15



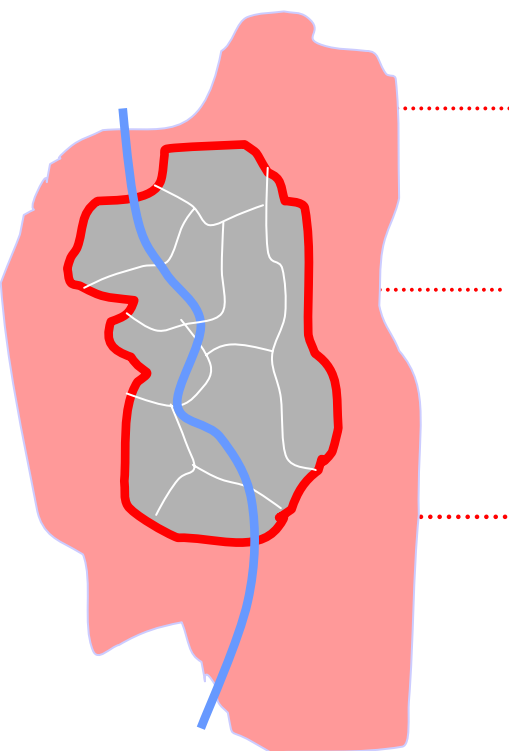
123 Large cities

pop > 250 000

135 Medium-sized cities

**pop between
50 000 and 250 000**

The Urban Audit: three target levels



**Larger Urban Zone –
city and surrounding
areas**

Approximates a
functional urban
region (commuter
shed)

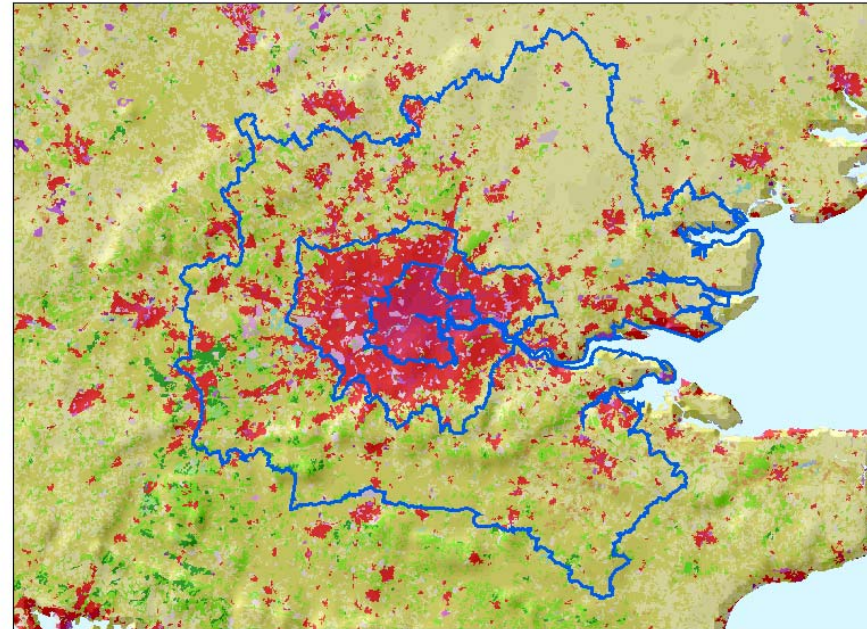
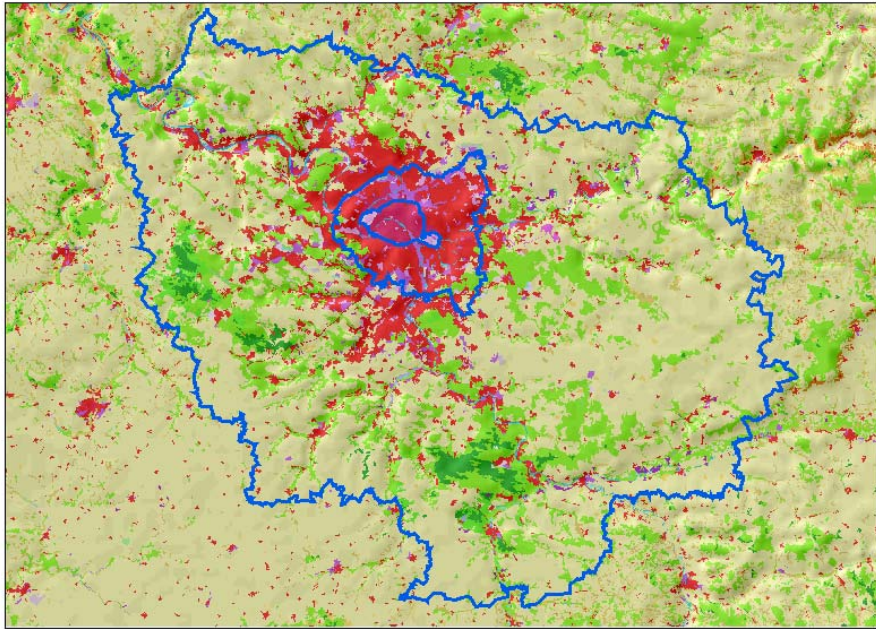
City

**Has a political leader
such as a Mayor or
Council Leader**

Neighbourhood

Min 5 000 inhabitants
Average 20 000
Max 40 000

Three levels for Paris and London



Paris & London

	Population		
Inner London	2.8 m	2.1 m	La Ville de Paris
Greater London	6.2 m	7.2 m	Paris et petite couronne
Larger Urban Zone of London	12 m	11 m	Ile de France

Nine Domains

1. **Demography:** age, gender and nationality, household
2. **Social Aspects:** housing, health and crime
3. **Economic aspects:** employment and income
4. **Civic Involvement:** elections and local administration
5. **Training and Education:** education levels
6. **Environment:** climate, air quality, water and waste
7. **Travel and Transport:** travel to work, accidents
8. **Information Society:** ICT use and ICT sector
9. **Culture and Recreation:** cultural activities and tourism sector

Urban Audit - State of Play

What is ready?

- Urban Audit website & book on 189 cities in EU15
- Perception survey in EU 15

What is to come in 2005

- Update of website & book with 69 cities outside EU15
- Perception survey outside EU15

Future Plans

- Invite Norway, Switzerland, Croatia and Turkey

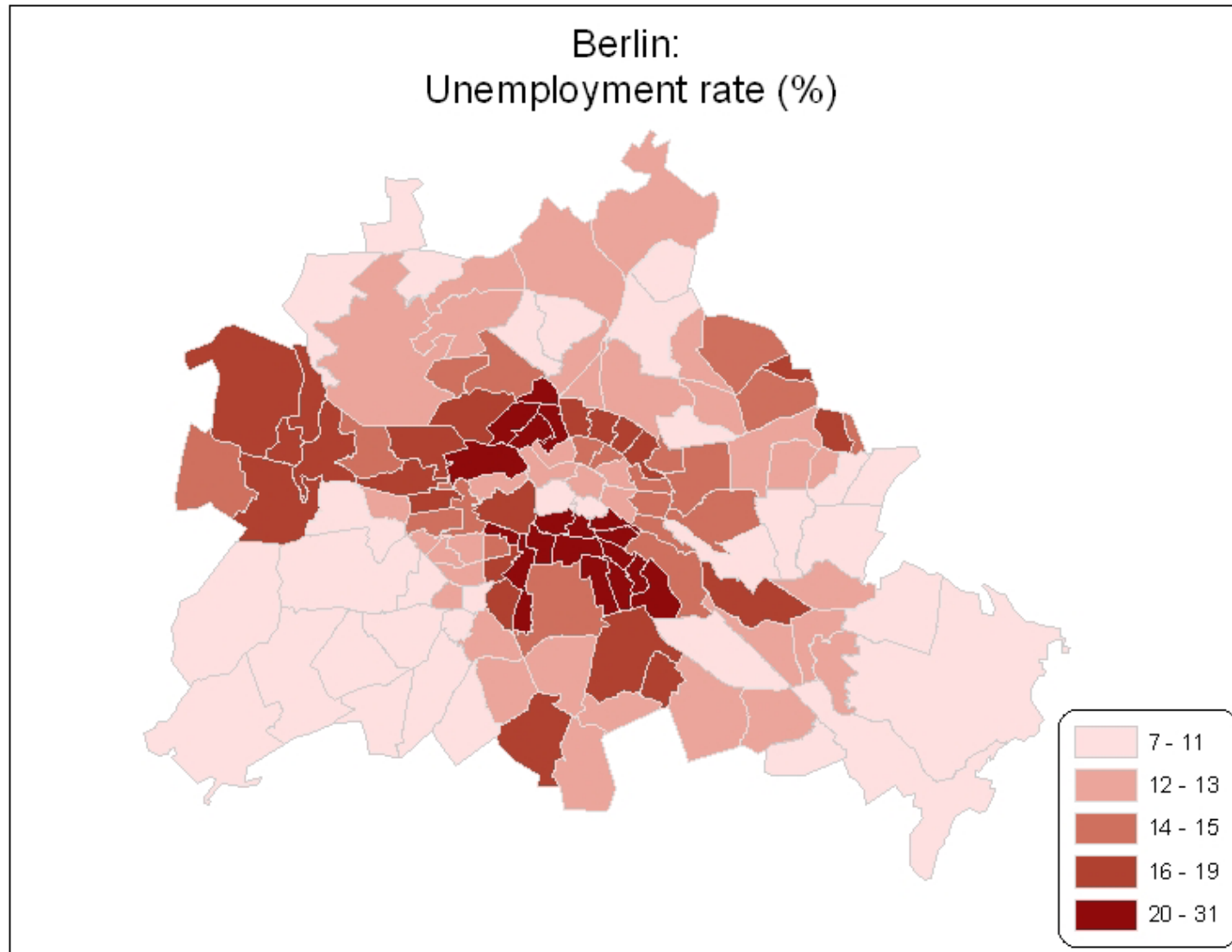
New round of the Urban Audit foreseen in 2006.

Large disparities in neighbourhood unemployment levels in most large cities

Neighbourhood Unemployment Rate in 2001

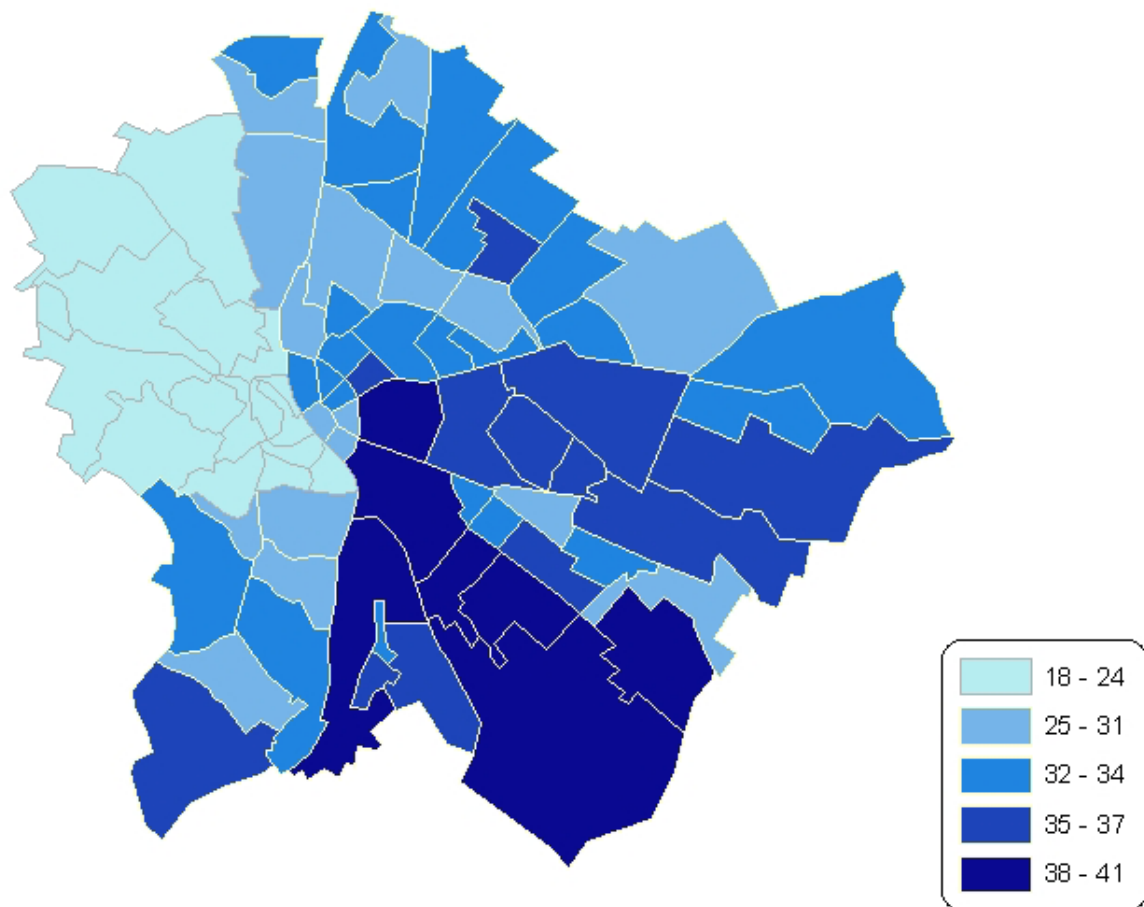


Concentration of unemployment in Berlin



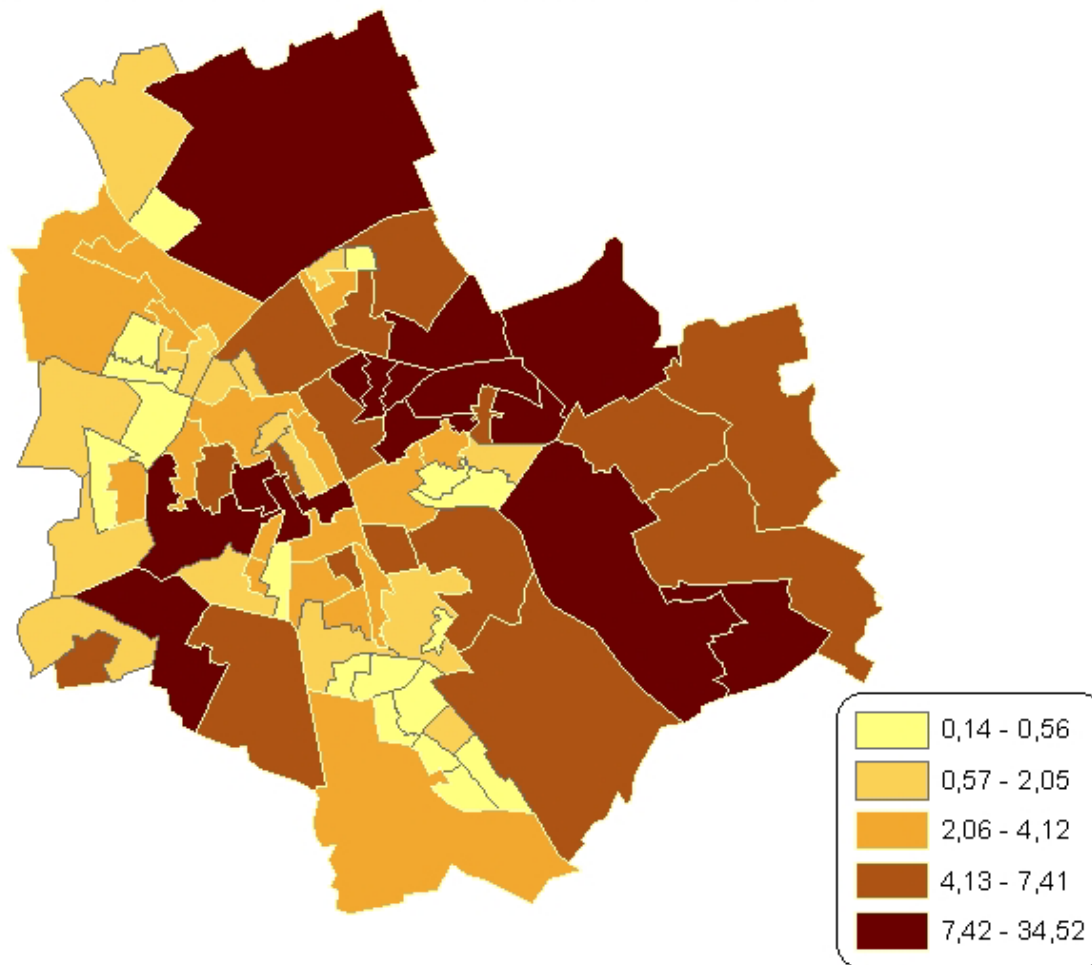
Residents without a secondary education in Budapest

Budapest:
Residents who have not completed secondary education (%)



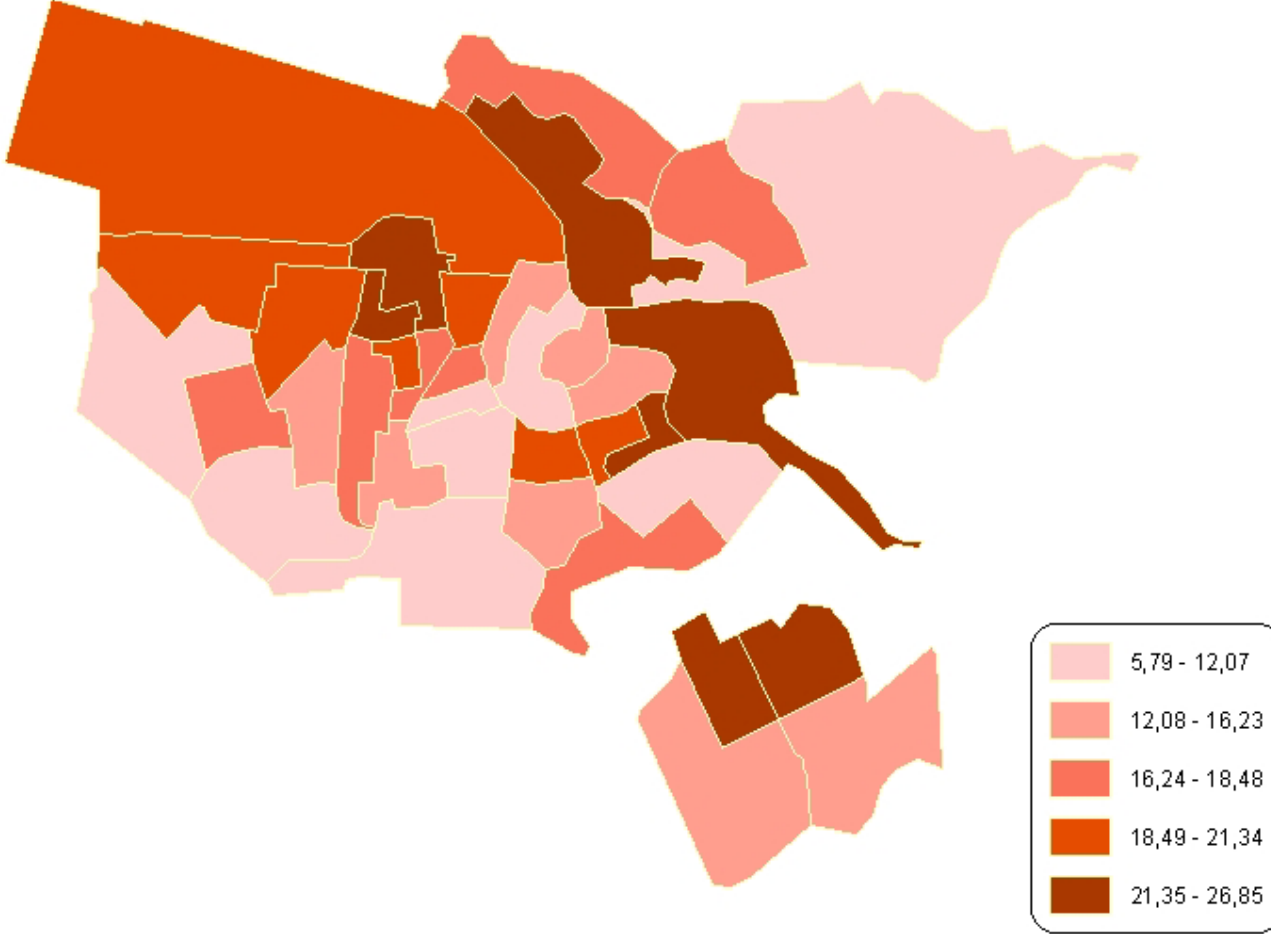
Housing Quality in Warsaw

Warszawa:
Proportion of dwellings lacking basic amenities (%)

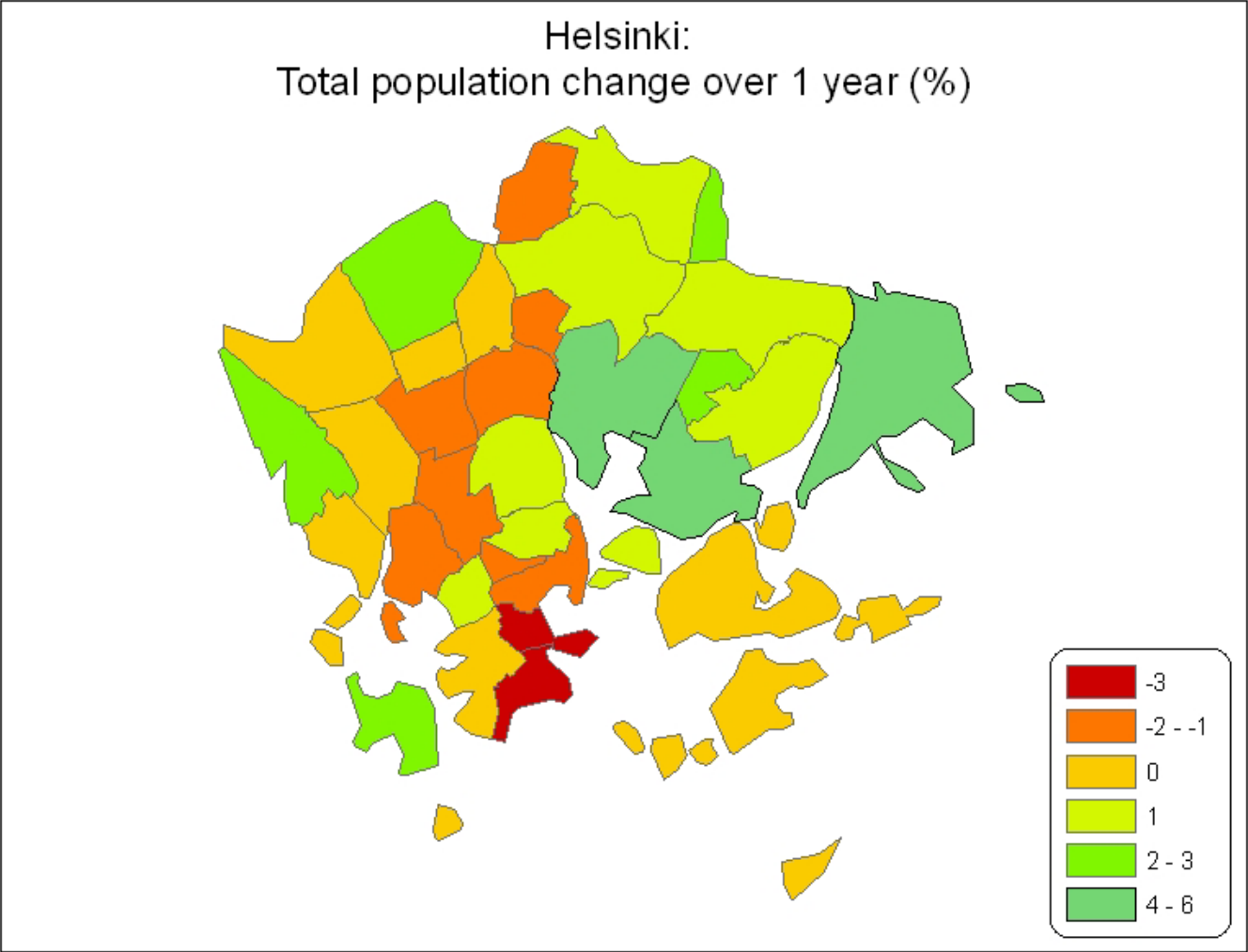


Poverty in Amsterdam

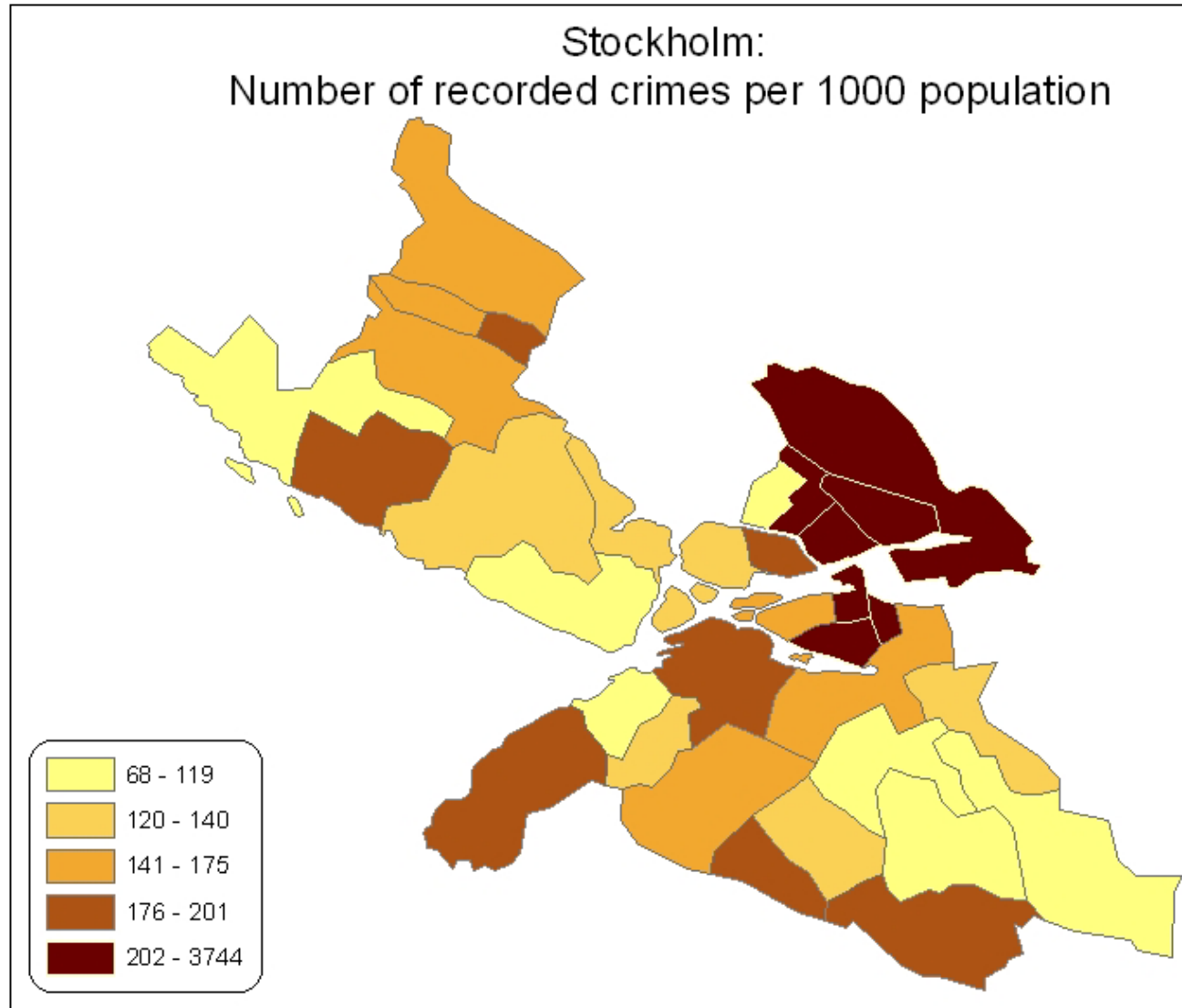
Amsterdam:
Proportion of households reliant upon social security (%)



Population change in Helsinki

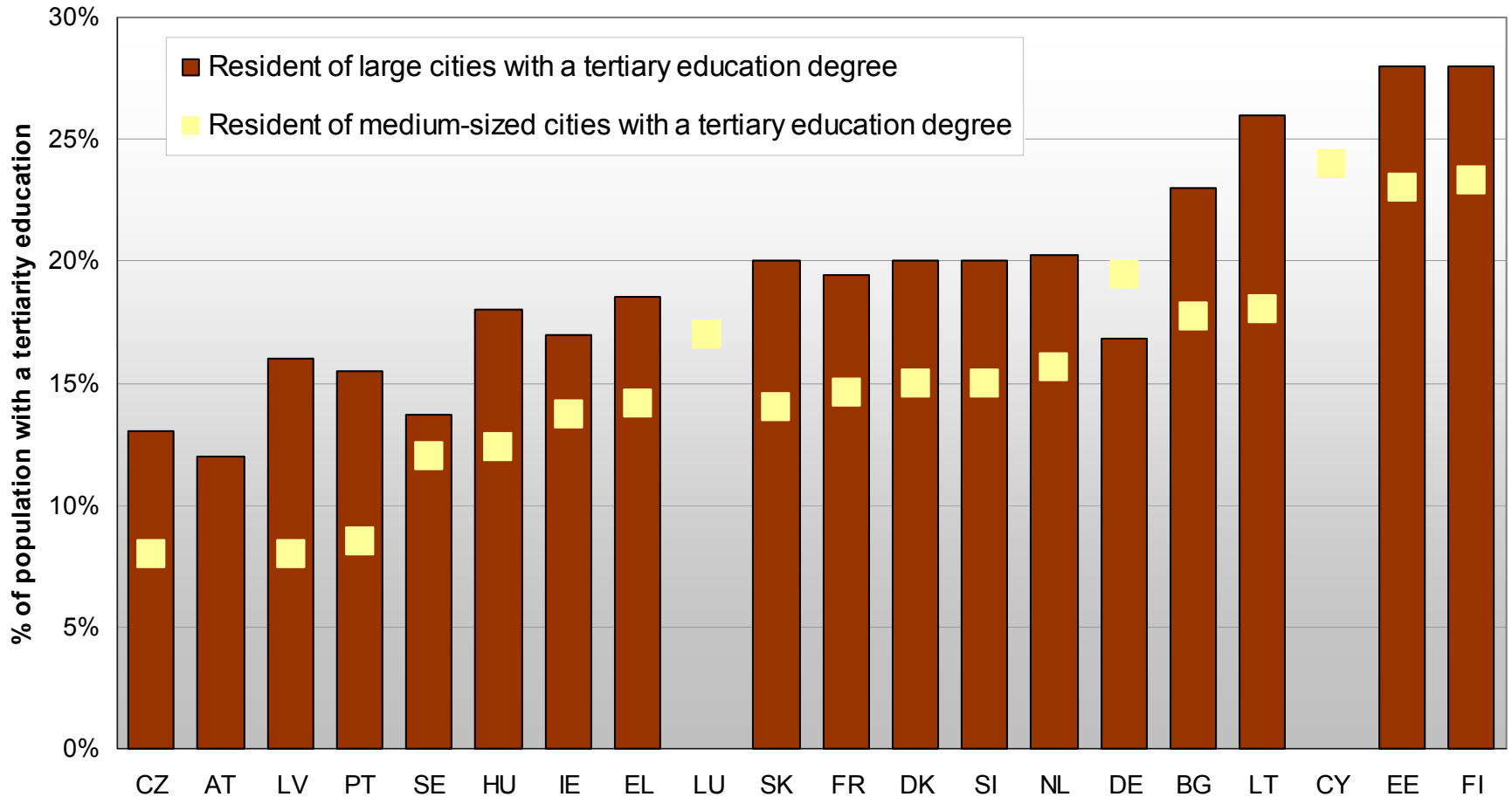


Crime concentration in Stockholm

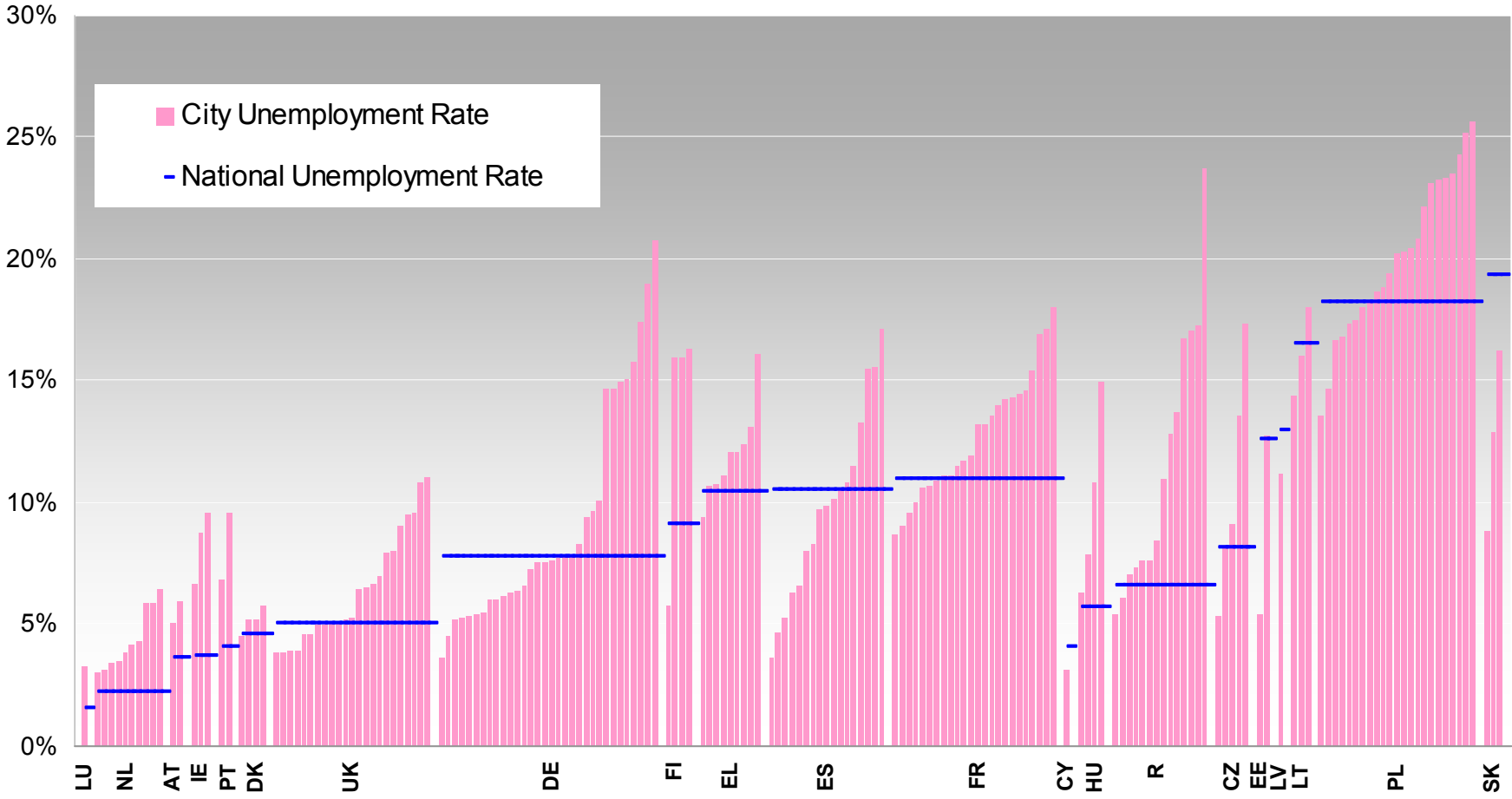


The highly educated prefer large cities

People with higher education prefer large cities

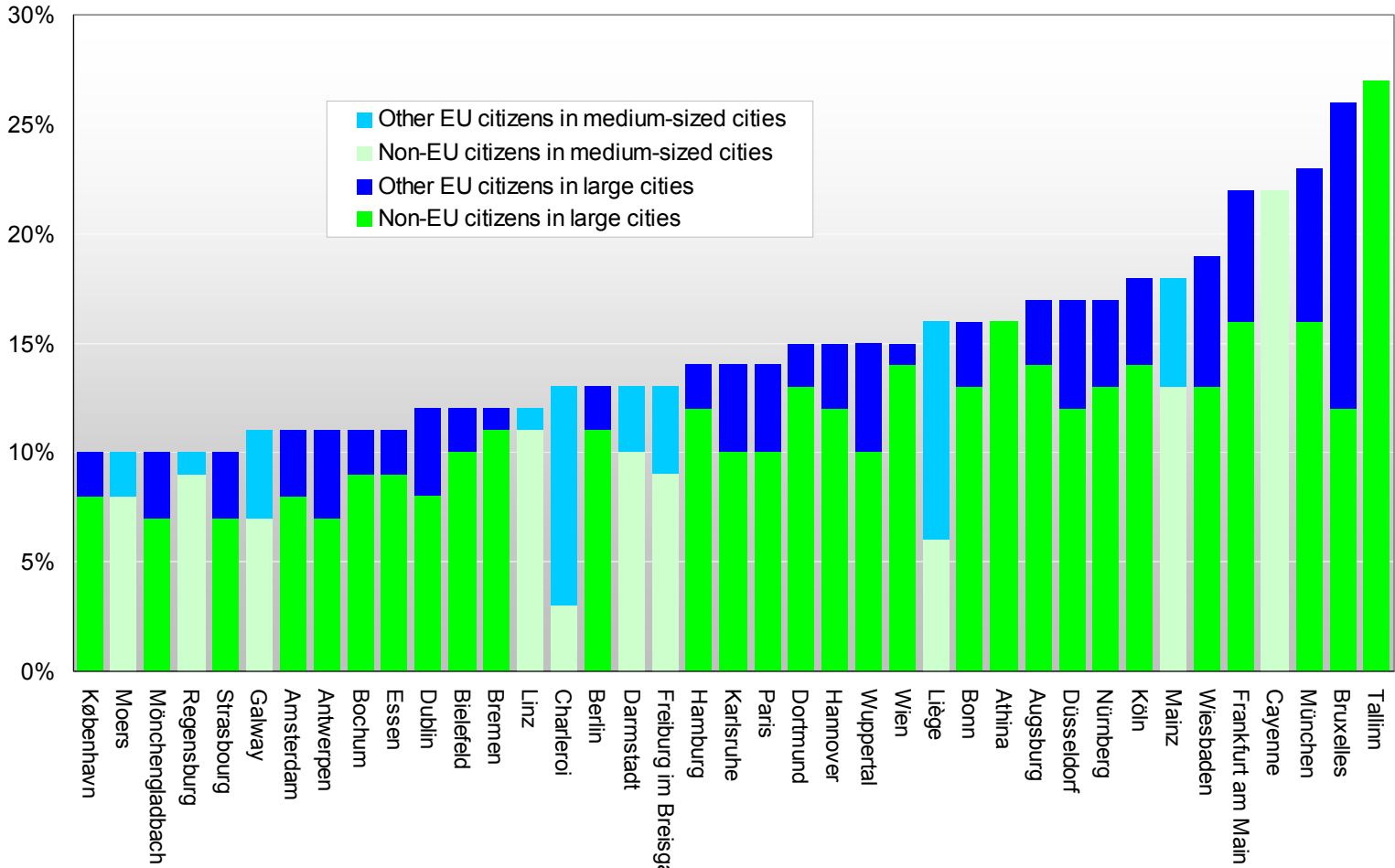


Unemployed often concentrate in cities



Most foreigners live in large cities and capitals

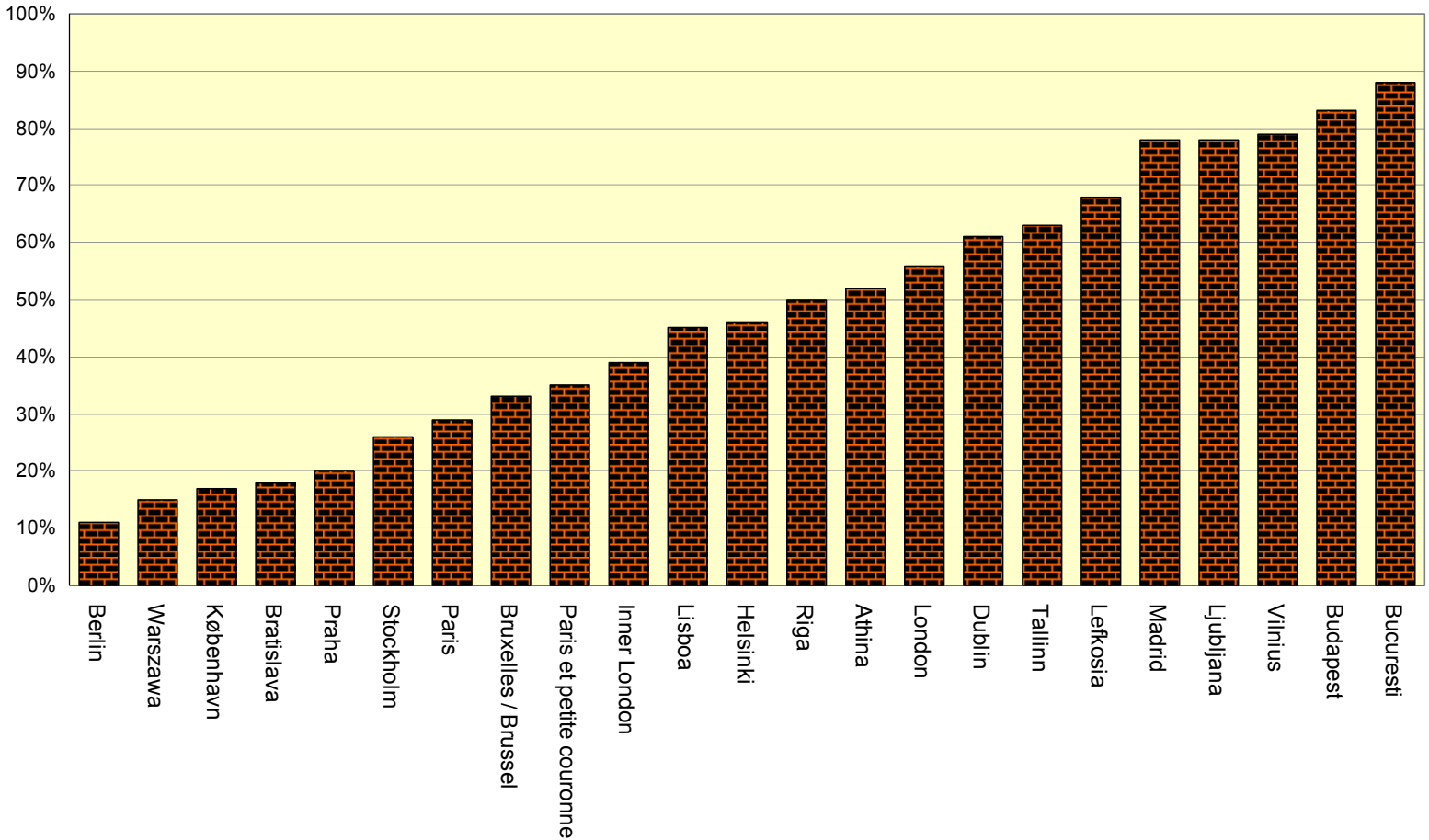
Non-EU and Other-EU nationals in Cities



UK data not available

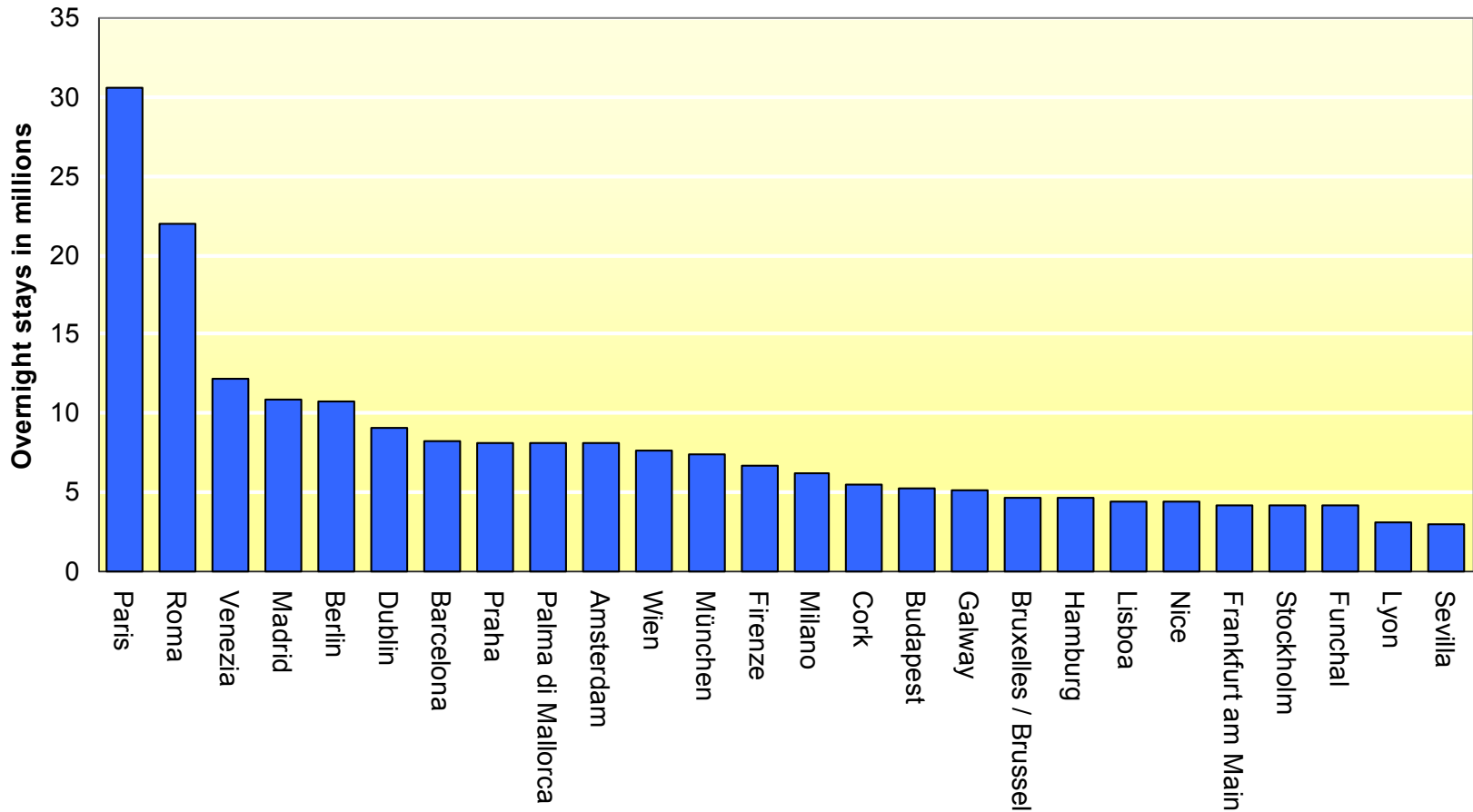
Cities in new MS vary from almost complete owner-occupation to complete renters

Household living in owned dwellings in capitals



Top Tourist Cities: Paris & Rome

Tourist overnight stays per year in millions



The Perception Survey

- Perception data is an important complement to the "objective" data collected by the Urban Audit (safety \neq small number of recorded crimes)
- How citizens feel is important to politicians
- Show the differences in citizen opinions in different cities

31 Cities in the EU 15

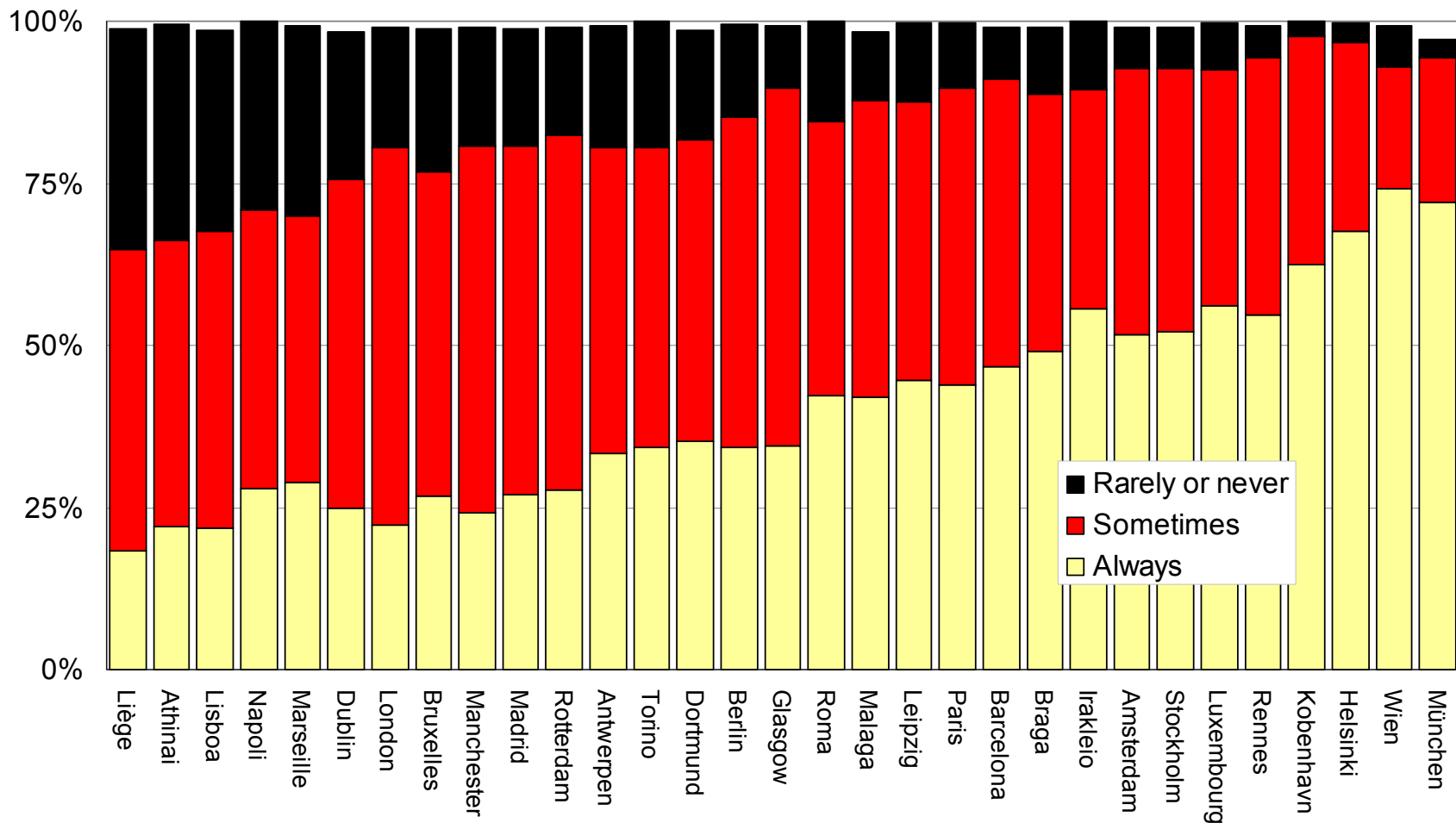
1. **Bruxelles/
Brussel**
2. Antwerpen
3. Liège
4. **København**
5. **Berlin**
6. München
7. Leipzig
8. Dortmund
9. **Athina**
10. Irakleio
11. **Madrid**
12. Barcelona
13. Malaga
14. **Paris**
15. Marseille
16. Rennes
17. **Dublin**
18. **Roma**
19. Napoli
20. Torino
21. **Luxembourg**
22. **Amsterdam**
23. Rotterdam
24. **Wien**
25. **Lisboa**
26. Braga
27. **Helsinki**
28. **Stockholm**
29. **London**
30. Glasgow
31. Manchester

18 Cities added in the beginning of 2005

1. Sofia
2. Burgas
3. Lefkosia
4. Praha
5. Ostrava
6. Tallinn
7. Budapest
8. Miskolc
9. Vilnius
10. Riga
11. Valletta
12. Warszawa
13. Gdańsk
14. Opole
15. Bucuresti
16. Cluj-Napoca
17. Ljubljana
18. Bratislava

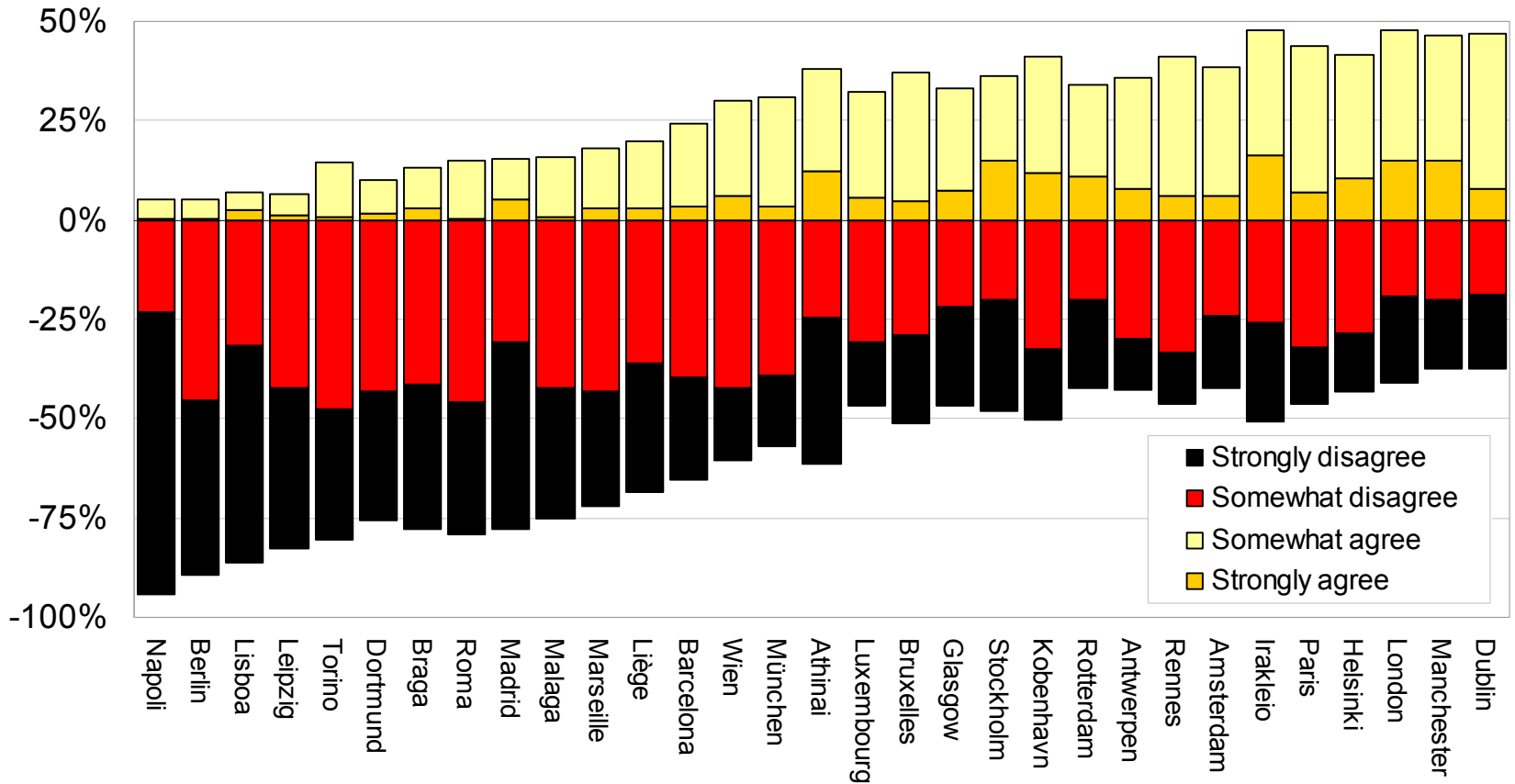
Citizens feel safest in Munich and Vienna, most insecure in Liège and Athens

You feel safe in this city?



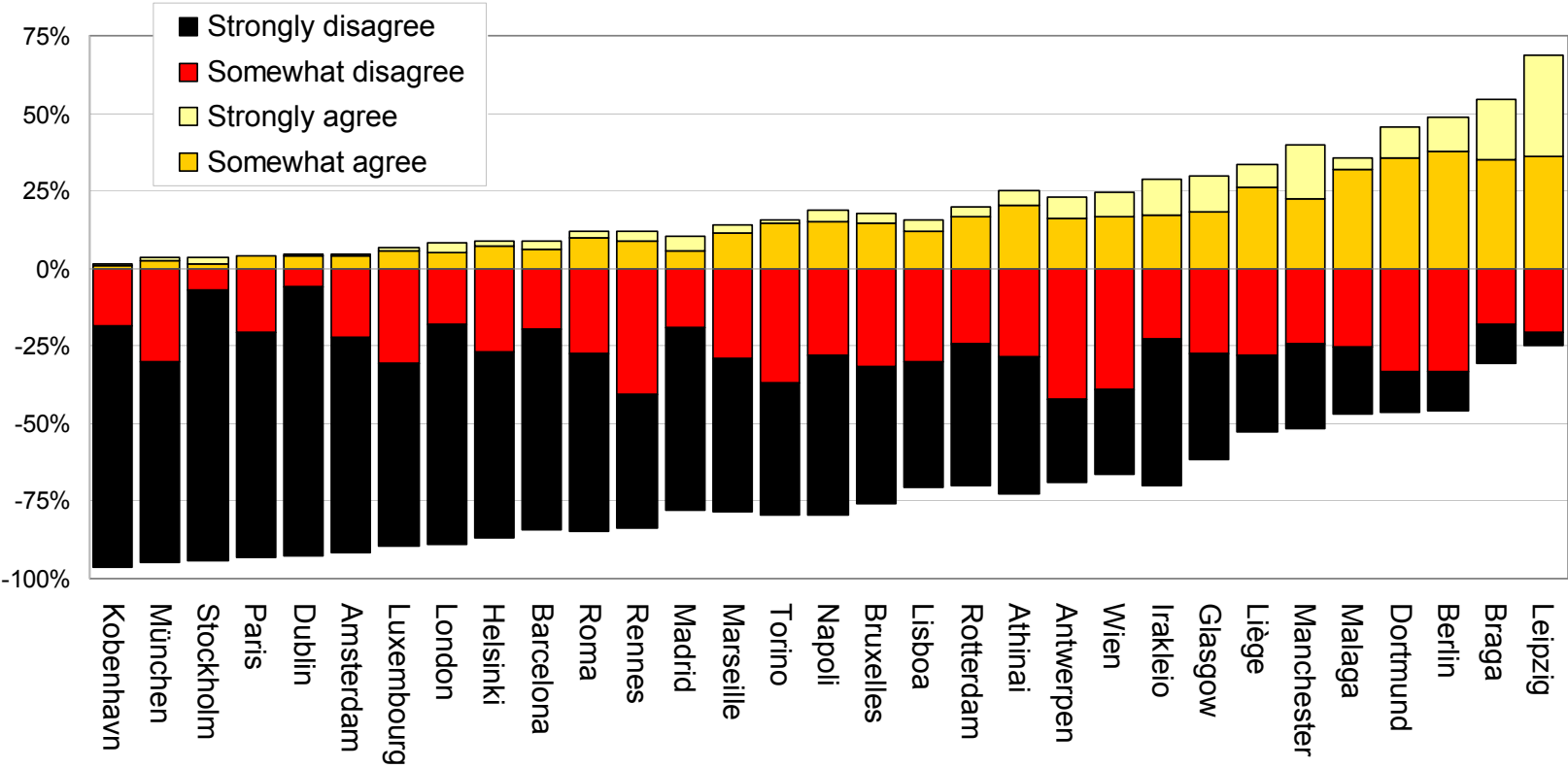
Employment Opportunities: good in Dublin and Manchester, poor in Naples and Berlin

It is easy to find a job



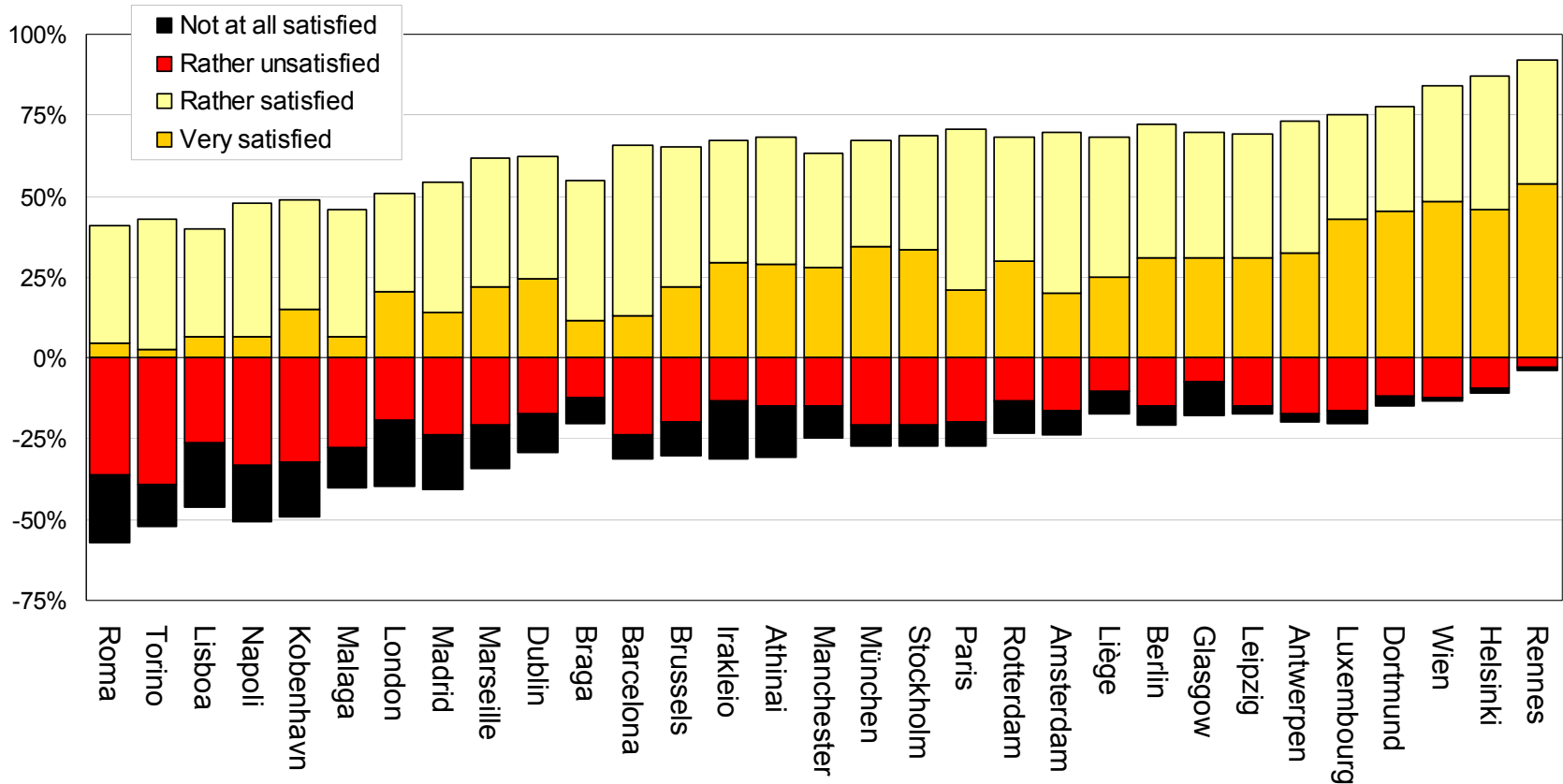
Housing Costs: low in Leipzig and Braga, high in Copenhagen and Munich

It is easy to find good housing at a reasonable price



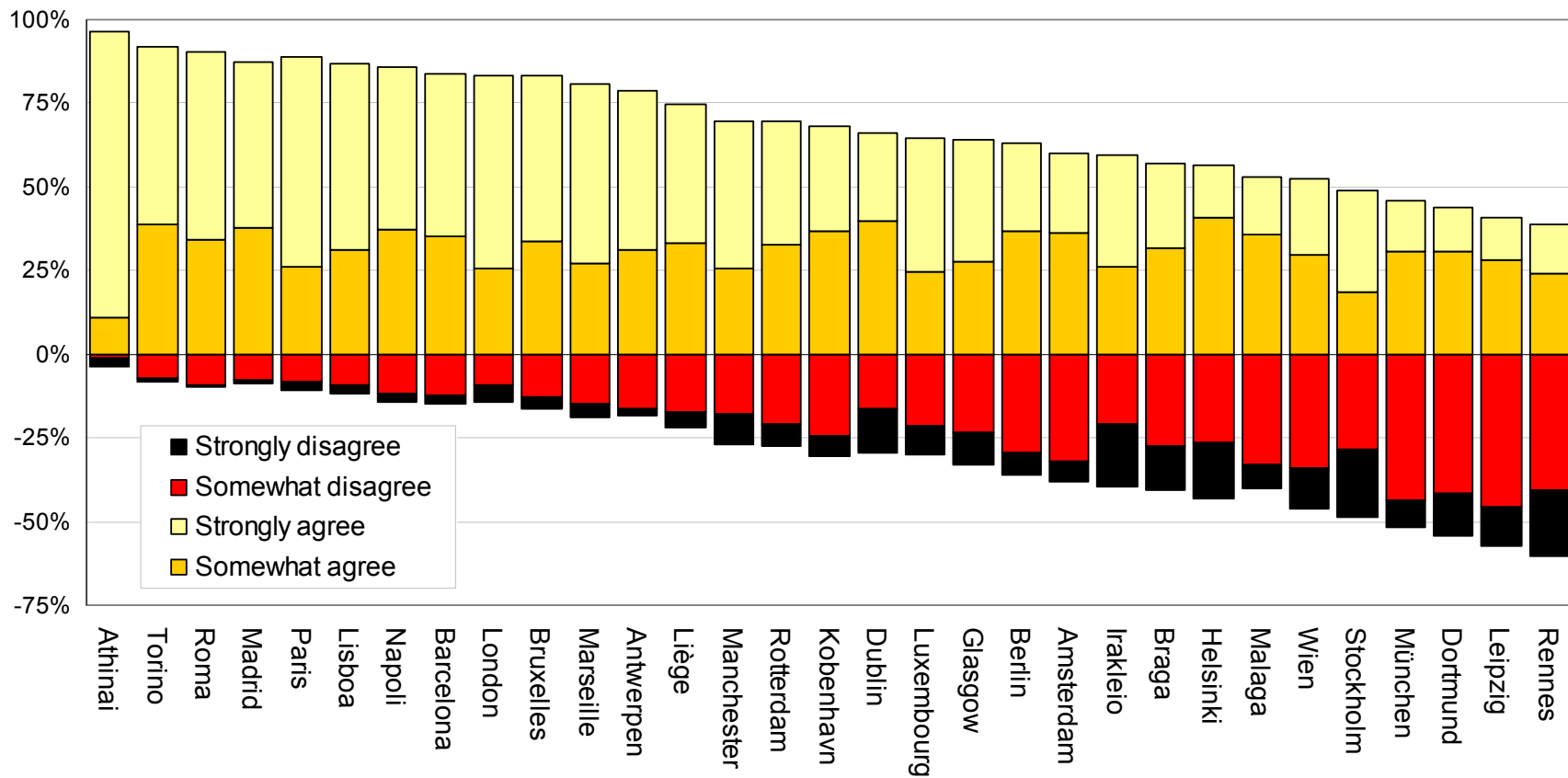
Public Transport: works well in Rennes, Helsinki, but less so in Rome and Torino

Satisfaction public transport



Air Pollution

Air pollution is a big problem



Conclusions

The Urban Audit

- makes Europe-wide city comparisons possible
- allows better targeting of urban policy
- facilitates the exchange of experience
- will be continued and improved!

Good News: Most Europeans really enjoy living in their city

You are satisfied to live in this city

