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21 Regional and international disparities

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Urban Audit

Core cities and larger urban zones – unequal neighbours

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The population of core cities is younger, harder hit by unemployment and faced with higher crime rates than the larger urban zones. In addition to the socio-economic differences between the core cities and their larger urban zones, there are also differences between the cities of various countries.

A change occurred between 1990 and 2008. Whereas in 1990 the median age in all ten core cities under observation was still higher than in their larger urban zones, in 2008 a different picture could be seen: six of the ten core cities showed a lower median age than their larger urban zones.

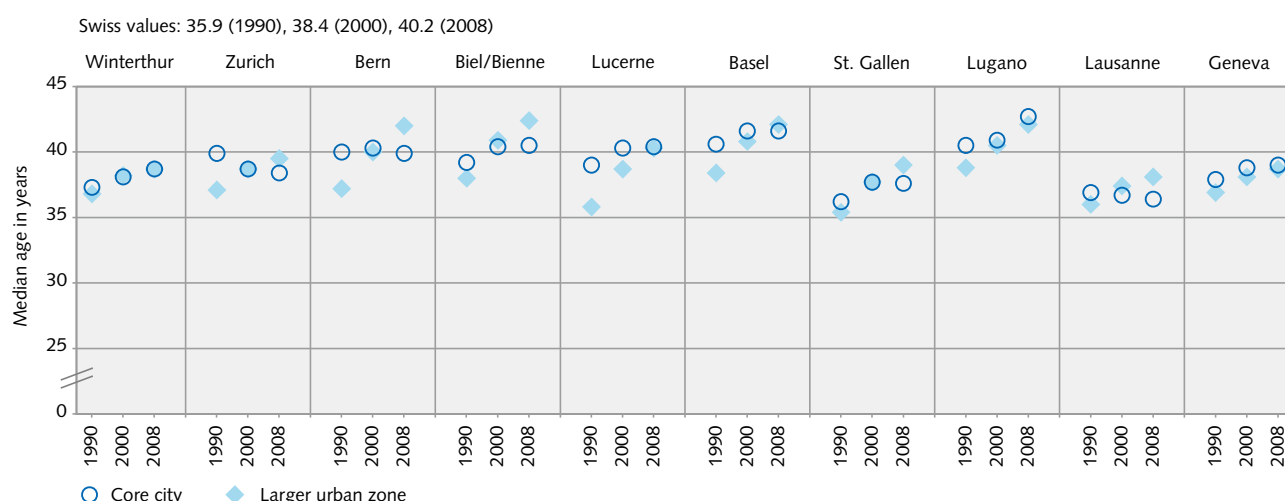
Younger population in the core cities – this was not always the case

The evolution of the median age is an indication of the trend in population ageing. Between 1990 and 2008 the median age rose continuously in Switzerland's ten largest larger urban zones: on average from 37.0 to 40.3 years. The same trend, albeit less pronounced, can be observed in the core cities.

Median age

Median age trend in core cities and larger urban zones, 1990–2008

G 1



Source: FSO, Communal and cantonal statistical offices

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Young age dependency rate higher in the larger urban zones than in the core cities

The young and old-age dependency rates indicate the ratio of the population at the non-working age (younger than 20 or older than 64) to the population at the working age (20 to 64 year-olds). If, for example, the age group of the under 20 year-olds is large in comparison to the 20 to 64 year-old group, then the young age dependency rate will be high.

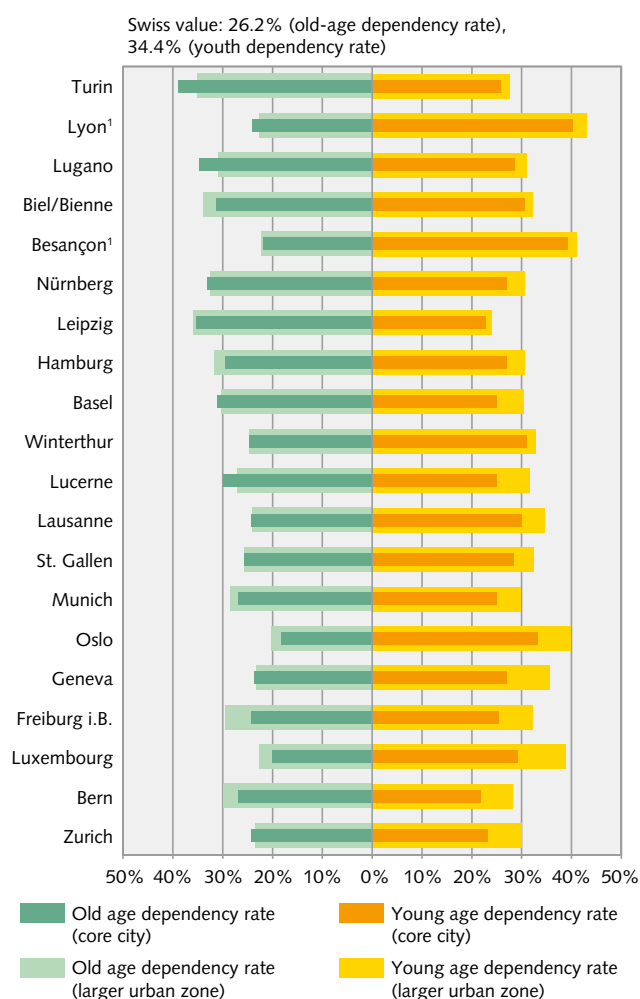
The Swiss cities, led by Zurich and Bern, tend to show lower values when the two demographic rates are added together than the other European cities under observation.

In the larger urban zones the young age dependency rates are consistently higher than in the core cities.

Young and old age dependency rate, 2008

Ratio of persons aged under 20 (young age rate) and persons aged over 64 (old age rate) to the population of 20–64 year olds, in %

G 2



Source: FSO, communal and cantonal statistical offices, Eurostat Urban Audit

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Stronger population growth in the Swiss larger urban zones than in their core cities

Between 2004 and 2008 population growth was stronger overall in the Swiss larger urban zones than in the core cities. But the annual growth rates of both the core cities (0.5%) and the larger urban zones (just under 0.7%) are smaller than that of the Swiss population as a whole (just over 0.7%).

The reverse situation can be observed in the European cities: generally core cities show stronger growth rates than their larger urban zones.

In European comparison, Winterthur is the only Swiss city to be found among the strongly growing core cities.

Change in total resident population

Annual average rate of change in the population, 2004–2008, in %

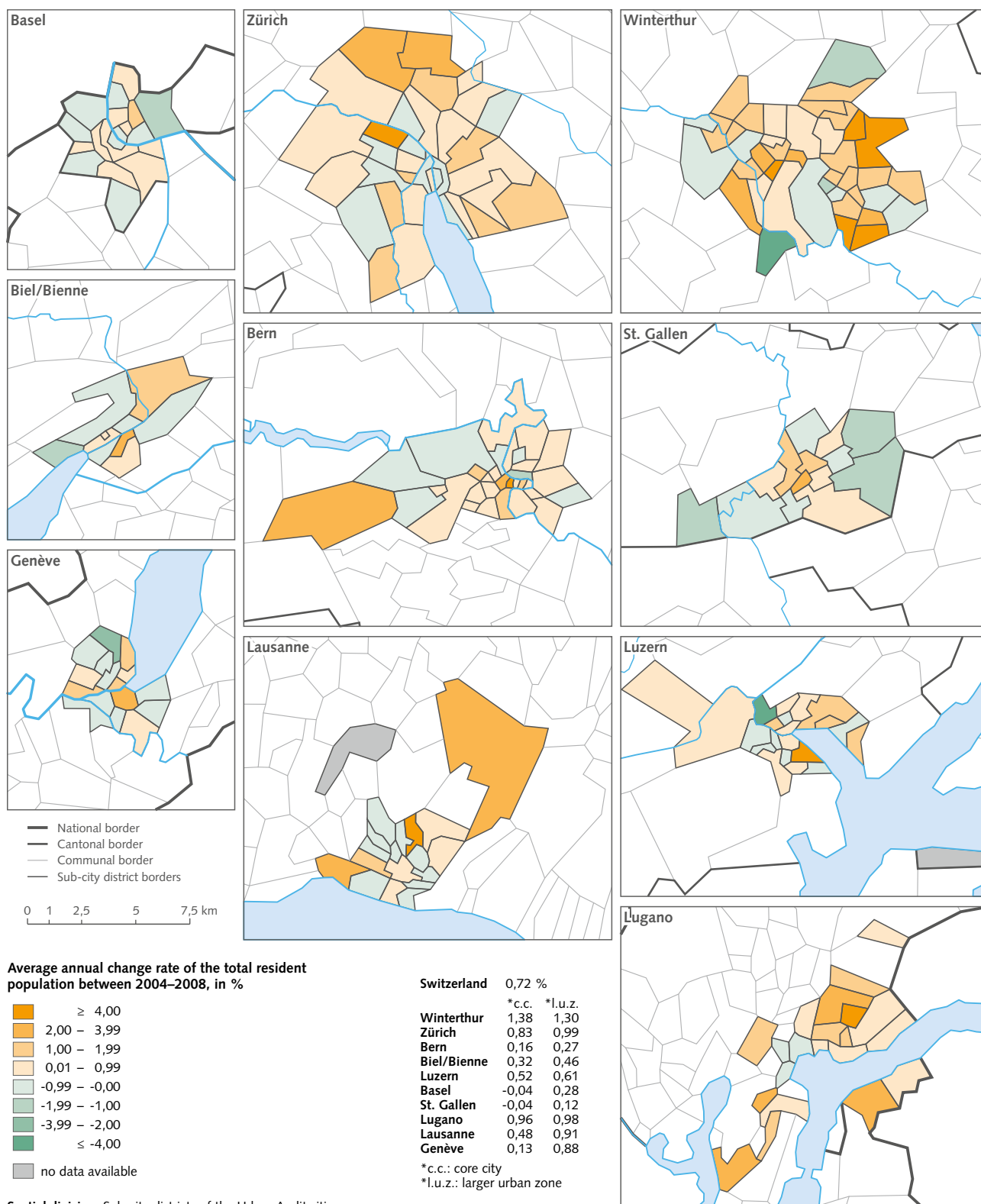
G 3



Source: FSO, communal and cantonal statistical offices, Eurostat Urban Audit

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Dynamic of the population 2004–2008



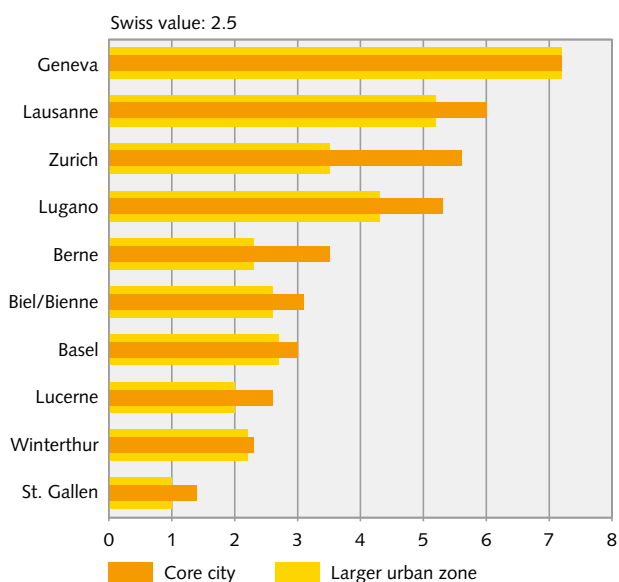
For the allocation of zone names see pages 10–11

Crime: more domestic burglaries in the core cities than in the larger urban zones

The core cities show a systematically higher number of domestic burglaries¹ than the larger urban zones. On average the value for 2009 in the ten Swiss core cities was 4.0 burglaries per 1,000 inhabitants whereas the figure in the larger urban zones was 3.3. Both averages are higher than the national average for Switzerland. The only exception is the city of Geneva which has a slightly higher value in its larger urban zone.

Domestic burglaries in 2009

Number of domestic burglaries per 1000 inhabitants **G 4**



Source: FSO, communal and cantonal statistical offices

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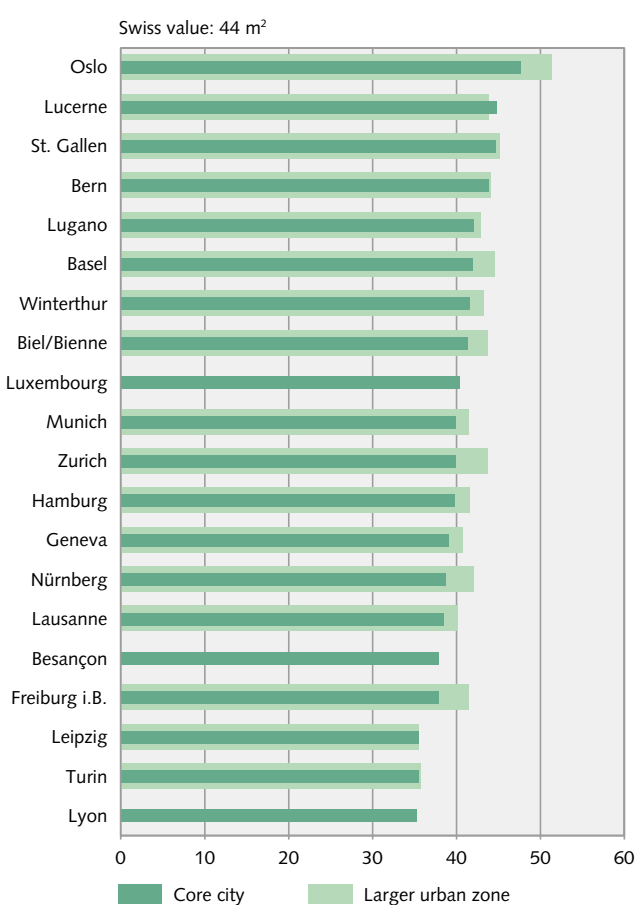
Large living spaces in Swiss cities

The living space per person is greater than in the other European cities under observation (based on data from the Population Census of 2000). In both core cities and larger urban zones the Swiss values are on average almost 10% higher than the European cities selected here. The population in the larger urban zones has more living space overall than that in the corresponding core cities.

Living space in 2000

Average living space per person, in m²

G 5



Source: FSO, communal and cantonal statistical office, Eurostat Urban Audit

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¹ Due to differences between international definitions of this indicator, European comparability is limited. Therefore, this indicator is only shown for the Swiss cities.

Swiss cities with lower unemployment – especially in the larger urban zones

In European comparison the Swiss cities demonstrate relatively lower unemployment rates.

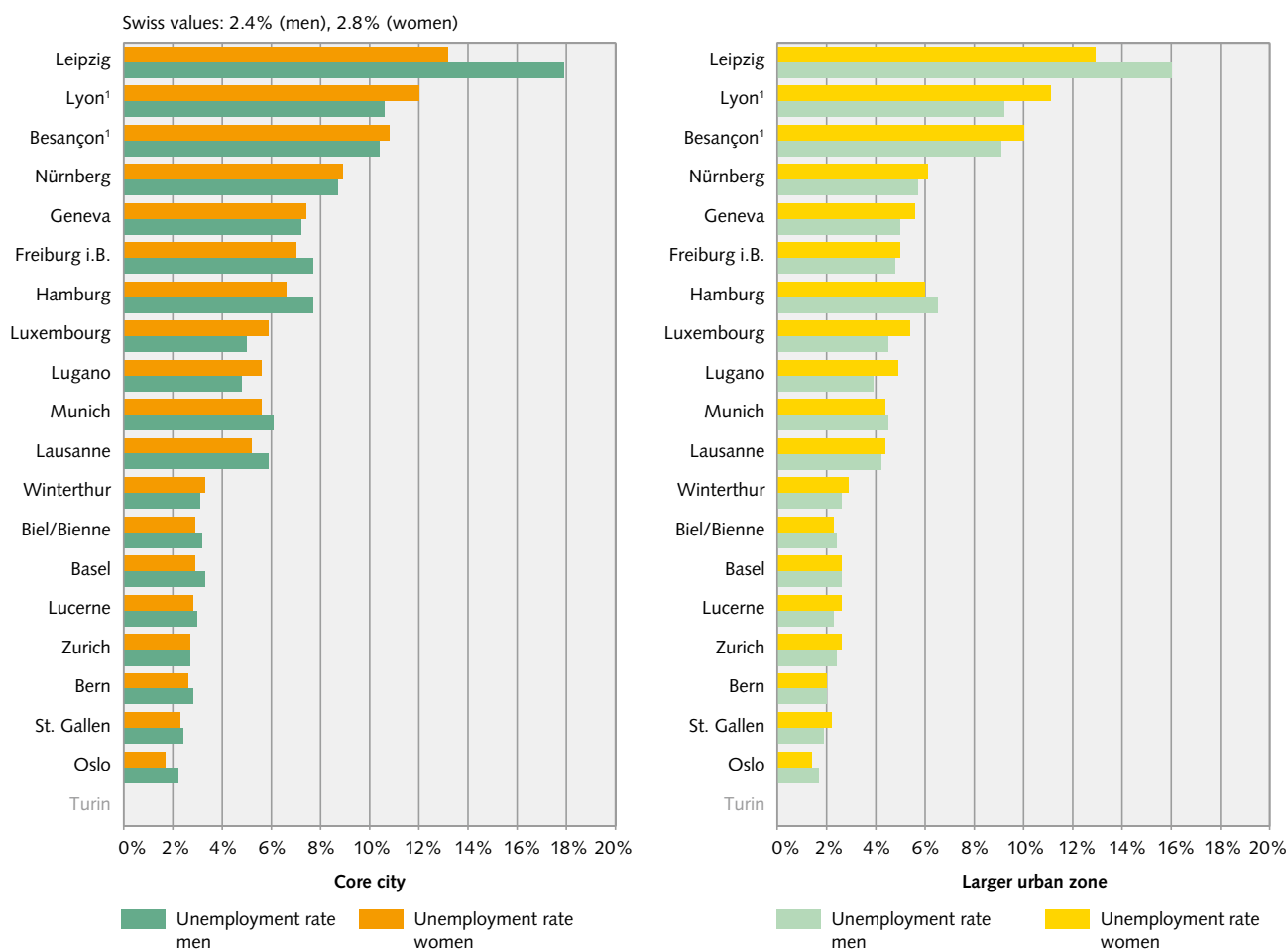
Regarding to the core-cities, male unemployment is generally higher than female unemployment. The reverse is true in the larger urban zones: female unemployment is somewhat higher, corresponding to the values for the whole of Switzerland.

For both sexes, unemployment in the larger urban zones is systematically lower than in the core cities.

Unemployment in 2008

Share of unemployed in labour supply, as %

G 6



¹ Data from an earlier period

Source: FSO, SECO, Eurostat Urban Audit

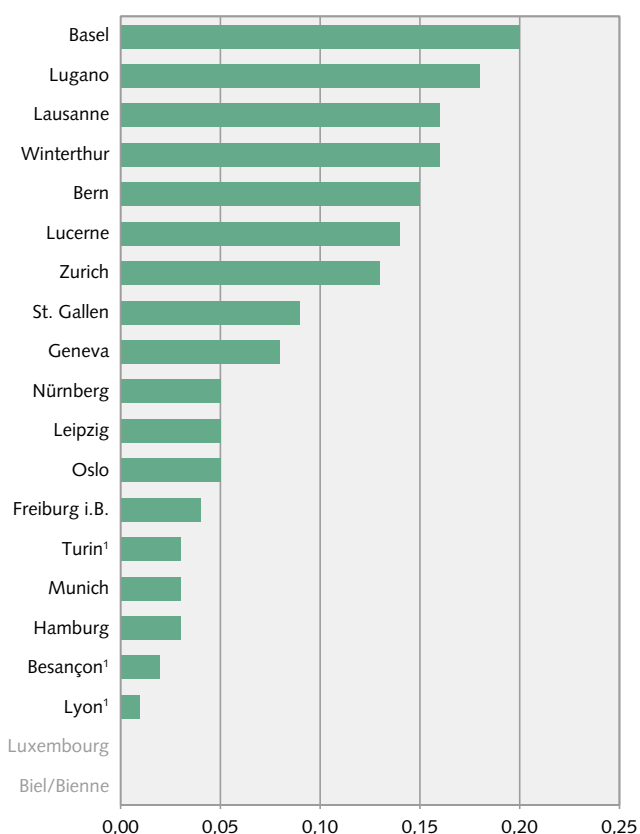
Cultural urban Switzerland – one museum for 7,000 inhabitants

In European comparison the Swiss cities in the Urban Audit enjoy the most museums per inhabitant. On average there is one museum for every 7,000 inhabitants in these 10 cities.

Museums in 2008

Number of museums per 1000 inhabitants

G 7



¹ Data from an earlier period

Source: FSO, communal and cantonal statistical offices, Eurostat Urban Audit

© Federal Statistical Office (FSO)

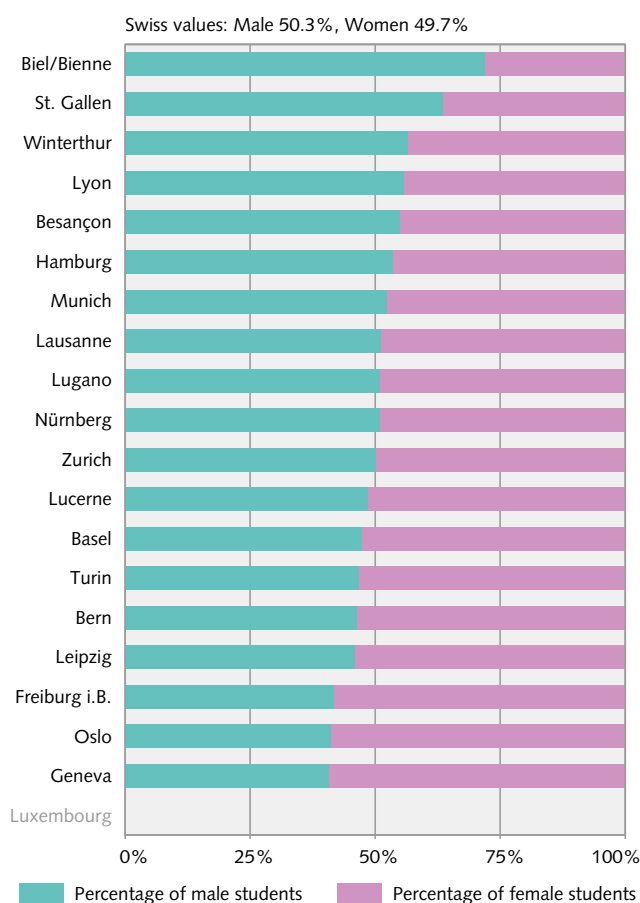
Geneva has the largest share of female students

Geneva shows the greatest proportion of female students. Biel/Bienne on the other hand has the greatest share of male students among the selected cities. The two Swiss cities with the Federal Institutes of Technology, Zurich and Lausanne, as well as Lugano, show well-balanced shares as does Switzerland as a whole (49.7% women to 50.3% men). Above all, this indicator's values can be explained by the different courses of study offered in the individual cities.

Students in tertiary education in 2008

Percentage of male and female students at tertiary level (ISCED 5–6)

G 8



Source: FSO (estimate), Eurostat Urban Audit

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On average just under 8% of total area is devoted to recreation, sport and leisure in the Swiss core cities

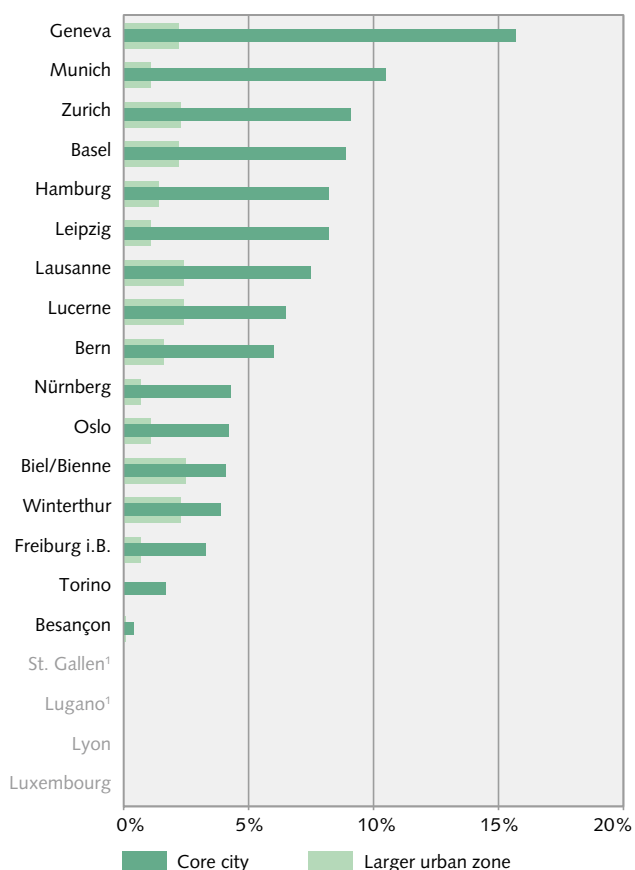
The core cities of the ten Swiss cities in the Urban Audit make an average of 7.7% of their area available for recreation, sport and leisure activities. In that order, Geneva, Zurich and Basel, Switzerland's 3 largest cities, show the highest values among the core cities.

The percentage of the areas referred to is consistently higher in the core cities than in their larger urban zones.

Recreation, sport and leisure areas, 2004/2009

Share of recreation, sport and leisure areas
as % of total area

G 9



¹ Results from Land Use Statistics 2004/2009 not yet available

Source: FSO, Eurostat Urban Audit

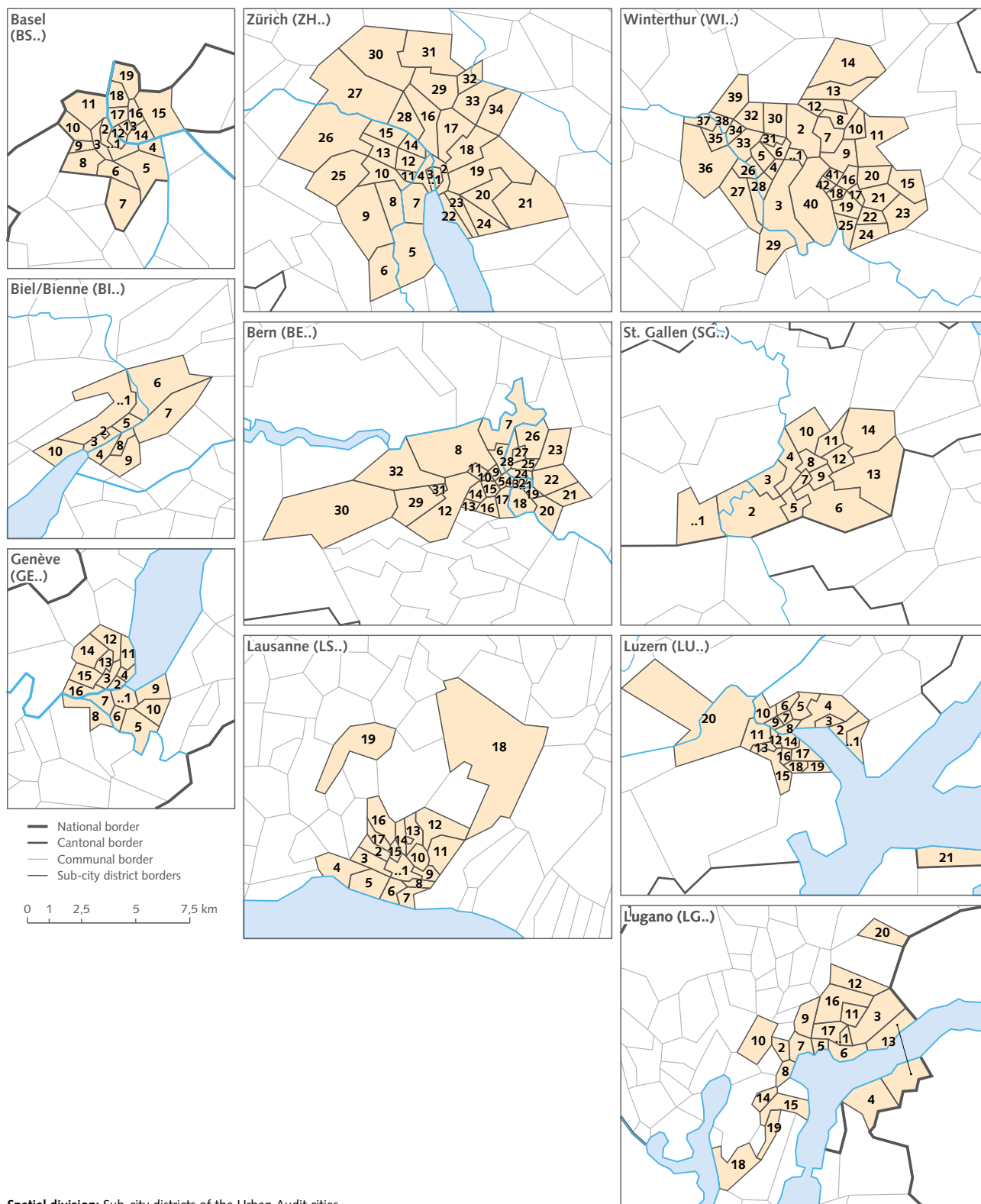
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Nomenclature of the sub-city districts of the Urban Audit cities

See map on the next page

Code	Name of the sub-city district	Code	Name of the sub-city district	Code	Name of the sub-city district	Code	Name of the sub-city district	Code	Name of the sub-city district
W11	Altstadt	ZH5	Wollishofen	BE17	Sandrain	LU21	Bürgenberg Wald	LG13	Gandria
W12	Leimbach	ZH6	Leimbach	BE18	Kirchenfeld	BS1	Grossbasel Altstadt	LG14	Pambio-Noranco
W13	Heiligberg	ZH7	Enge	BE19	Gryphenhübeli	BS2	Vorstädte	LG15	Pazzallo
W14	Tössfeld	ZH8	Alt-Wiedikon	BE20	Brunnadern	BS3	Am Ring	LG16	Pregassona
W15	Brühlberg	ZH9	Friesenberg	BE21	Murifeld	BS4	Breite	LG17	Viganello
W16	Neuwiesen	ZH10	Sihlfeld	BE22	Schosshalde	BS5	St-Alban	LG18	Barbengo
W17	Talacker	ZH11	Werd	BE23	Beundenfeld	BS6	Gundeldingen	LG19	Carabbia
W18	Guggenbühl	ZH12	Langstrasse	BE24	Altenberg	BS7	Bruderholz	LG20	Villa Luganese
W19	Grütze	ZH13	Hard	BE25	Spitalacker	BS8	Bachletten	LS1	Centre-Ville
W10	Hegmaten	ZH14	Gewerbeschule	BE26	Breitfeld	BS9	Gothelf	LS2	Maupas - Valency
W11	Hegi	ZH15	Escher-Wyss	BE27	Breitenrain	BS10	Iselin	LS3	Sébeillon - Malley
W12	Zinzikon	ZH16	Unterstrass	BE28	Lorraine	BS11	St-Johann	LS4	Montoie - Bourdonette
W13	Reutlingen	ZH17	Oberstrass	BE29	Bümpliz	BS12	Kleinbasel Altstadt	LS5	Montriond - Cour
W14	Stadel	ZH18	Fluntern	BE30	Oberbottigen	BS13	Clara	LS6	Sous-Gare - Ouchy
W15	Ricketwil	ZH19	Höttingen	BE31	Stöckacker	BS14	Wettstein	LS7	Montchoisi
W16	Waser	ZH20	Hirslanden	BE32	Bethlehem	BS15	Hirzbrunnen	LS8	Florimont - Chissiez
W17	Büelwiesen	ZH21	Witikon	BE33	Rebberg/Vignoble	BS16	Rosental	LS9	Mousquines - Bellevue
W18	Waldegg	ZH22	Seefeld	BE34	Altstadt/Vieille ville	BS17	Matthäus	LS10	Vallon - Béthusy
W19	Ganzenbühl	ZH23	Mühlebach	BE35	Neustadt Nord/Nouvelle ville nord	BS18	Klybeck	LS11	Chailly - Rovéréaz
W20	Sonnenberg	ZH24	Weinegg	BE36	Neustadt Süd/Nouvelle ville sud	BS19	Kleinhühningen	LS12	Sallaz - Vennes - Séchaud
W21	Oberseen	ZH25	Albisrieden	BE37	Champagne	SG1	Winkeln	LS13	Sauvabelin
W22	Gotzenwil	ZH26	Altstetten	BE38	Bözingen/Boujean	SG2	Bruggen	LS14	Borde - Bellevaux
W23	Eidberg	ZH27	Höngg	BE39	Mett/Mäche	SG3	Lachen	LS15	Vinet - Portaise
W24	Iberg	ZH28	Wipkingen	BE40	Madretsch Nord	SG4	Rosenberg	LS16	Bossons - Blécherette
W25	Sennhof	ZH29	Affoltern	BE41	Madretsch Süd	SG5	Riethüsi	LS17	Beaulieu - Grey - Boisy
W26	Schlossal	ZH30	Oerlikon	BE42	Vingelz/Vigneules	SG6	St-Georgen	LS18	Vers-chez-les-Blanc
W27	Dättnau	ZH31	Seebach	BE43	Würzenbach-Rebstock	SG7	Innenstadt	LS19	Vernand
W28	Eichacker	ZH32	Saaten	BE44	Bellerive-Schlössli	SG8	St-Jakob	GE1	Cité - Centre
W29	Rosberg	ZH33	Schwamendingen Mitte	BE45	Haide-Lützelmat	SG9	Linsebühl - Dreilinden	GE2	St-Cervais - Chantepoulet
W30	Blumenau	ZH34	Hirzenbach	BE46	Schwarzes Quartier	SG10	Rotmonten	GE3	Délites - Grottes
W31	Weinberg	BE1	Weisses Quartier	BE47	Grünes Quartier	SG11	Langgass-Heiligkreuz	GE4	Pâquis - Navigation
W32	Oberfeld	BE2	Grünes Quartier	BE48	Gelbes Quartier	SG12	St-Fiden	GE5	Champel - Roseraie
W33	Lindenplatz	BE3	Rotes Quartier	BE49	Engenied	SG13	Notkersegg	GE6	Cluse - Philosophes
W34	Niederfeld	BE4	Felsenau	BE50	Neufeld	SG14	Neudorf	GE7	Jonction - Plainpalais
W35	Neuburg	BE5	Neufeld	BE51	Länggasse	LG1	Aldesago	GE8	Bâtie - Acacias
W36	Hardau	BE6	Neufeld	BE52	Stadtbach	LG2	Besso	GE9	Eaux-Vives - Lac
W37	Härti	BE7	Neufeld	BE53	Muesmatt	LG3	Brè	GE10	Florissant - Malagnou
W38	Taggenberg	BE8	Neufeld	BE54	Holligen	LG4	Caprino	GE11	Sécheron - Prieuré
W39	Deutweg	BE9	Neufeld	BE55	Weissenstein	LG5	Cassarate	GE12	ONU - Rigot
W40	Endliker	BE10	Neufeld	BE56	Mattenhof	LG6	Castagnola	GE13	Grand-Pré - Vermont
W41	Rathaus	BE11	Neufeld	BE57	Monbijou	LG7	Centro	GE14	Bouchet - Moillebeau
W42	Hochschulen	BE12	Neufeld	BE58	Weissenstein	LG8	Loreto	GE15	Charmilles - Châteline
ZH1	Lindenhof	BE13	Neufeld	BE59	Weissenstein	LG9	Molino Nuovo	GE16	St-Jean - Aire
ZH2	Lindenhof	BE14	Neufeld	BE60	Weissenstein	LG10	Breganzona		
ZH3	City	BE15	Neufeld	BE61	Weissenstein	LG11	Cureggia		
ZH4	City	BE16	Neufeld	BE62	Weissenstein	LG12	Davesco-Soragno		

Territorial units: Sub-city districts of the Urban Audit cities



Spatial division: Sub-city districts of the Urban Audit cities

Sources: FSO, communal and cantonal statistical offices

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The Urban Audit in brief

The Urban Audit (UA) launched in June 1998 by the European Commission, is part of regional and urban policy as well as the European Union's cohesion policy. The UA collects approximately 350 variables and 300 indicators covering a wide range of topics, according to three spatial units (larger urban zones, core cities and sub-city districts). Since 2005 it has been one of Eurostat's key activities, carried out annually since 2009.

Switzerland – under the auspices of the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) and the Federal Office for Spatial Development (ARE), together with its ten most populated cities, Zurich, Geneva, Basel, Bern, Lausanne, Winterthur, Lucerne, St. Gallen, Lugano and Biel/Bienne – is conducting the Urban Audit for the second time. Its first audit was conducted in 2009.

European comparison– selected cities

Two conditions had to be fulfilled for the selection of the European cities that were to be compared with Switzerland: first, their importance for Switzerland, second the availability of identical data for several cities. Preference was given to cities from neighbouring countries. In order to be consistent, selected cities without available data on a particular indicator for the period of time in question are represented (grey).

Data period

The data for the Swiss cities are from 2008 (= reference year of the 2010 Urban Audit). The following topics are an exception: crime (2009), living conditions (2000) and time series (various periods). If the data from individual European cities are from an earlier period, this is noted in the relevant graph or chart.

Additional information:

The detailed data related to this publication as well as additional analyses and information on the Urban Audit in Switzerland and Europe are available at the following address:

www.urbanaudit.ch

At European level, the data can be obtained here:

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>

Statistics -> General and Regional Statistics -> Regions and cities -> City statistics – Urban Audit

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