

Voluntary Local Review
2024



Münster
gemeinsam
nachhaltig



SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

Kommunales Nachhaltigkeitsmanagement
Zusätzliches Lernen 2030

STADT MÜNSTER
Amt für Grünflächen,
Umwelt und
Nachhaltigkeit

Voluntary Local Review of the City of Münster

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This Voluntary Local Review (VLR) is based on the German language version of the Münster sustainability report 2019-2022, which was prepared in accordance with the Sustainable Municipality Reporting Framework (BNK). The German Council for Sustainable Development developed the BNK in 2020 as a nationally standardized format for municipal sustainability reports. Münster City Council is one of around 30 municipalities nationwide that are testing this format for the first time.

Foreword



Dear readers,

our new local sustainability report offers an overview of the current situation in Münster with regard to sustainable urban development and implementation of the 17 United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals.

With this report, we are working together with around 30 municipalities across Germany which are introducing the Sustainable Municipality Reporting Framework as a new format for sustainability reporting. The framework was developed specifically for local authorities by the German Council for Sustainable Development, which advises the German government on sustainability issues. Development was carried out with the involvement of the City of Münster, which is why we are particularly pleased to be trialling this format here locally.

In 2016, Münster City Council committed to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by adopting the model resolution of the German Association of Cities and Towns. As the UN's Agenda 2030, the SDGs are the global action plan for people, the planet and prosperity. In terms of the action we take in Münster, they are both a guideline and a challenge. Implementing them is a major task involving many tradeoffs that we must and choose to pursue. Because one thing is clear – our use of resources continues to exceed the earth's ability to regenerate them. This is linked to the loss of biodiversity and the increasing impact of climate change. Last but not least, right now the Agenda 2030 goal to "strengthen universal peace in larger freedom" is more relevant than ever. Meeting these challenges can only be achieved through a major joint effort. States and municipalities, business and academia, civil society and politics – we all need to contribute our best to ensure that the "transformation of our world" set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development succeeds. For us as a city, the Sustainable Development Goals concern both urban services of general interest and more extensive municipal design options. According to the OECD, around 65 percent of

the SDGs can only be achieved with the involvement of cities. Municipalities therefore play a particularly important role in implementation.

The adoption of the first Münster 2030 sustainability strategy in 2019 systematically anchored sustainable action in municipal action. Together, we want to implement and advance the goals of our sustainability strategy in the ten strategic focus areas of social participation, housing, natural resources, mobility, climate neutrality, mobility transition, educational equity, good work, future-oriented economy, social justice, global responsibility, and consumption and lifestyles.

Since 2016, we as a municipality have worked with the Münster community and our Global Sustainable Municipality Advisory Board to initiate numerous measures for a sustainable city. These measures are summarised in our sustainability strategy. Thanks to our sustainability report, we now know where we stand in concrete terms. This allows us to work strategically on realising our goals and making the right changes to achieve a climate-friendly, sustainable Münster. True to the motto of the sustainability process, we want to shape "Münster sustainably together" and work towards the Münster we want for our future and for our grandchildren.

This report builds on the sustainability reporting we have been producing for many years. What is new is the link to the sustainability process objectives and measures and the selection of indicators. In addition, it also considers higher level management criteria for sustainable action and municipal sustainability. This makes clear what has been undertaken and what has been achieved since the sustainability strategy was adopted.

The sustainability report of the City of Münster also clearly showcases the role that cities can play in achieving the global SDGs when they are committed to doing so. Our commitment is even more effective when we network, exchange ideas and act together with other cities. With this in mind, Münster is involved in international and supra-regional city networks, for example through the German Association of Cities, our city partnerships, the Sustainability Advisory Council of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and the German Council for Sustainable Development “Sustainable City” dialogue between mayors.

Our sincere thanks go to all those who have contributed to this report for their dedicated support – especially to all the departments of the city administration and municipal enterprises. We would also like to thank everyone involved in the sustainability process and the people of Münster who are helping us to shape a future-proof, sustainable Münster.



Lord Mayor Markus Lewe



Head of department Arno Minas

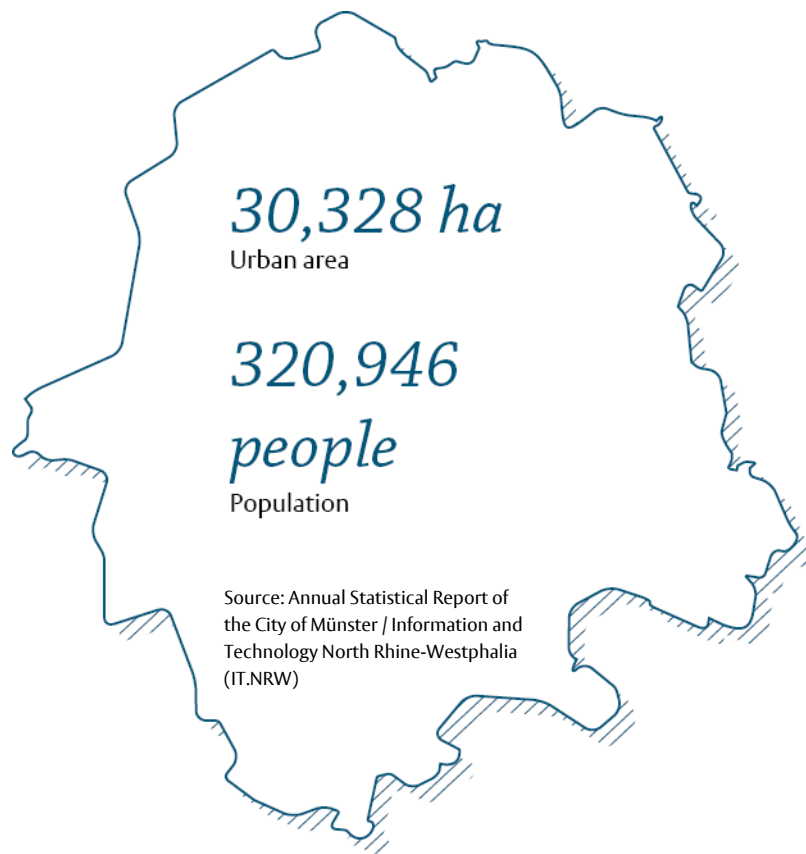
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Markus Lewe'.

Markus Lewe
First Mayor of the City of Münster

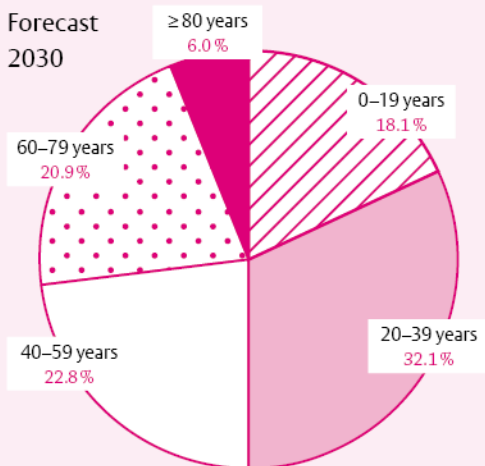
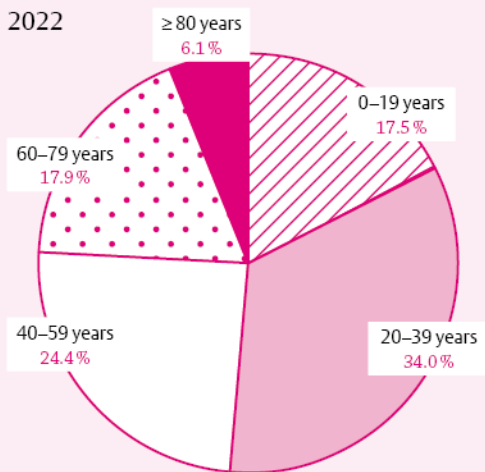
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Minas'.

Arno Minas
Head of the Department for Housing
Supply, Real Estate and Sustainability

Münster in figures



Population by age group



Source: City of Münster, City Planning



43.3 %
Agriculture



16.4 %
Forest



10.3 %
Residential area



8.6 %
Transport



3.9 %
Industrial and commercial space



2.0 %
Bodies of water



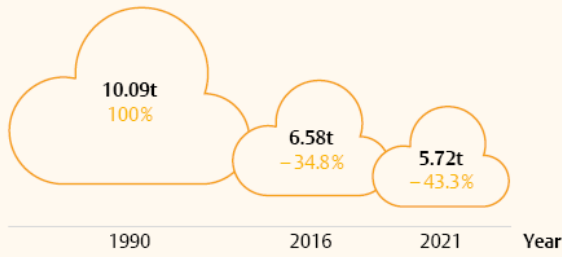
325
Playgrounds



300,000
City trees

Source: Information and Technology North Rhine-Westphalia (IT.NRW) / City of Münster, Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability

CO₂ emissions per inhabitant

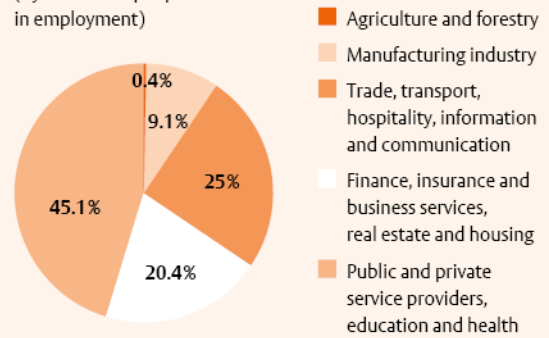


■ CO₂ emissions (private households, trade, industry and transport) per inhabitant

Source: Stadtwerke Münster / City of Münster, Climate Unit

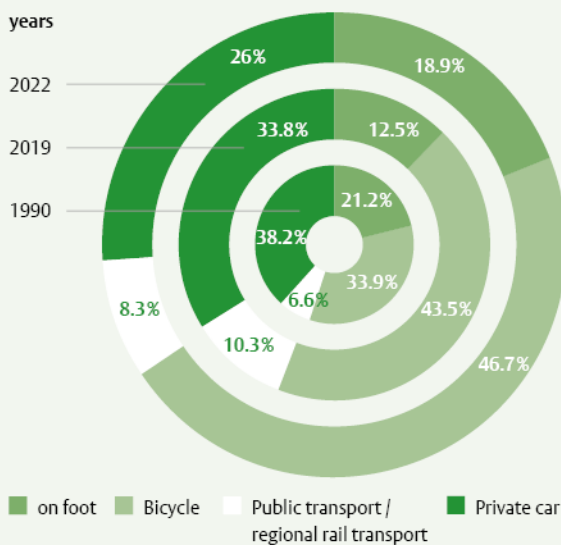
Economic sectors in Münster

(by number of people in employment)



Source: Working Group "Federal and State Employment Accounts"

Modal split



Source: City of Münster, City Planning Office / Office for Mobility and Civil Engineering

60,853 Students at universities

43,869	University of Münster
462	German Police University
7	Philosophical Theological University
353	Academy of Art
10,941	Münster University of Applied Sciences
1,186	Catholic University NRW
1,435	University for Police and Public administration NRW
2,600	Federal University of Applied Science, Finance department

Source: Federal Statistical Office



86

Number of general education schools

46	Primary schools
14	Grammar schools
4	Comprehensive schools
6	Secondary schools
4	Middle schools
8	Special schools
4	Other schools
32.245	School pupils

Source: City of Münster, Office for Schools and Further Education



Waste

1.2 kg/day

Quantity per inhabitant



Drinking water

102.6 litres/day

Consumption per inhabitant



Weekly markets

17 markets

in Münster

Source: City of Münster, Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe / Stadtwerke Münster / City of Münster, Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability

17 Global sustainability goals



At the end of 2015, the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by 193 UN member states. It contains 17 goals (Sustainable Development Goals – SDGs for short) and 169 sub-goals for improving the living conditions of all people while preserving the planet. These goals include eradicating extreme poverty and hunger worldwide, reducing inequality and limiting climate change. Each of the 17 SDGs is equally important and the different SDGs often have to be considered interdependently in order to find good, sustainable solutions.

Implementing the 2030 Agenda requires action from a wide range of stakeholders. In addition to states and state institutions, business, academia and civil society also need to be involved. The EU (Green Deal), the German federal government (German Sustainability Strategy, DNHS) and the State of NRW (NRW Sustainability Strategy 2020) are adopting the SDGs and using them as a guide in shaping their strategies.

The Münster 2030 sustainability strategy is also based on the global 2030 Agenda. The Münster 2030 sustainability strategy was developed with the involvement of numerous stakeholders and takes account of Münster's specific circumstances. At a higher level, it also feeds into the NRW Sustainability Strategy 2020 and the German Sustainability Strategy.





Sustainable Management

Münster has a long tradition of sustainability. The Advisory Council for Municipal Development Cooperation has been in existence since 1995. In 1997 Münster was a model municipality in the federal Cities of the Future for Sustainable Urban Development programme, and Local Agenda 21 has been promoting sustainability-related processes since 1996/97.

Since 2015, there has been a separate Department for Housing Supply, Real Estate and Sustainability. The sustainability Unit based within it is responsible for sustainability management. In 2016, the city signed the German Association of Cities' model resolution on Agenda 2030, committing itself to implementing the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals locally and to giving Münster a grandchildren-friendly environmental policy.

In 2019, Münster was honoured with the German Sustainability Award as one of the most sustainable cities in Germany. Chaired by Prof Günther Bachmann, General Secretary of the German Council for Sustainable Development, the jury of experts cited the city's responsible use of natural resources and its efforts to strengthen social cohesion.

"The City of Münster takes the concept of intergenerational justice seriously", said the jury in its statement. The jury recognised the city's sustainable projects that help to overcome social, ecological and economic challenges together.

Münster 2030 sustainability strategy

Since 2016, the City of Münster has been developing the Münster 2030 sustainability strategy through its participation in the Global Sustainable Municipality NRW (GNK) pilot project. The fundamental aim of the sustainability strategy is to establish and continuously improve an impact-orientated sustainability management system for the sustainable development of Münster.

The frame of reference for the city's sustainability strategy includes the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and federal government sustainability strategies, the EU Green Deal and the 2030 Agenda. The UN Sustainable Development Goals are an integral part of the fields of action (→ Chapters 1 to 9 of the BNK report).

The sustainability strategy links together more than 50 existing strategies and concepts of the City of Münster.



Fields of action and programme of measures

The sustainability strategy comprises a system of objectives adopted by the City Council as a framework for orientation and action for sustainable development in Münster. This target system is embedded in the following ten sustainability strategy fields of action:

1. Social participation and gender
2. Sustainable living
3. Natural resources and the environment
4. Sustainable commercial, commuter and leisure traffic
5. Climate neutrality 2030
6. Good work
7. Future-orientated economy
8. Holistic educational equity
9. Global responsibility and One World
10. Consumption and lifestyles

The first programme of measures assigned to the fields of action was adopted by the City Council of Münster for the period 2019 to 2022. This programme contains prioritised measures with which the City of Münster can align itself locally and globally. Monitoring of these measures forms the basis for regular evaluations and for updating the strategy. In 2021, the first ever survey on this topic was carried out in relevant departments.

The fields of action and selected concepts, strategies and measures are outlined in more detail in sections 1 to 9 of this BNK report.

These fields of action – in alignment with the ten key topics in the MünsterZukünfte process (→ Sustainable administration – public participation) – formed the basis for identifying four crossdepartmental fields of action as part of the process of setting priorities for short and medium-term key focus areas for the city administration:

- Climate neutrality
- Affordable, sustainable living
- City-friendly sustainable mobility
- Diversity and cohesion

The fields of action are intended as cross-departmental and cross-office work priorities for the administration, which will in future also be taken into account in the municipal budget.

Sustainability reporting and communication

In 2020, the City of Münster took part in a stakeholder dialogue organised by the German Council for Sustainable Development on developing the Sustainable Municipality Reporting Framework (BNK) as a standardised national format for municipal sustainability reporting. It is one of over 30 municipalities testing this format. The City of Münster is focussing on linking this new reporting format with the existing system of targets set out in the Münster 2030 sustainability strategy, previously adopted by the Münster City Council. This BNK report is the result of this process.

An important goal is raising awareness and public relations work to make the city's sustainability strategy.

To this end, in 2019 and 2020 a new corporate design and logo were developed and implemented with the aim of generating publicity for the sustainability strategy.

Public relations work also includes print and online products with the aim of reporting on projects, measures and the overarching structure of the sustainability strategy. These include brochures on key projects forming part of the sustainability strategy and a guide to sustainable event planning. In addition, various sustainability topics were incorporated into consultations and activities in particular. This BNK report will also be accompanied by a short version focused on actions, targeted at the public.

Responsibility for the sustainability process lies with the Sustainability Unit, internal GNK core team, extended GNK core team, GNK Advisory Board and other contributors from relevant departments and municipal subsidiaries. The organisational structure is described in more detail under "Responsibility and sustainability management".

Sustainability strategy targets

As part of the Sustainability Strategy 2030, the City Council of Münster has adopted the following ten goals, intended to provide orientation and a framework for action:

- To enable social participation for all
- Affordable, environmentally and socially responsible, healthy living
- To preserve the natural foundations of life
- To make commercial, commuter and leisure traffic environmentally friendly and climate-neutral
- To actively shape climate neutrality
- To enable good work
- To develop the economy for the future
- To holistically shape educational equity
- To embed global responsibility in our actions
- To realise sustainable patterns of production and consumption

To these goals are assigned a total of 42 strategic development sub-goals and 56 operational goals, based in turn on 139 corresponding measures. The strategic development sub-goals are listed in sections 1 to 9. Only the short text forms of the goals are listed here. Exact goals can be found in the relevant council resolutions.

In sections 1 to 9 of the BNK report, the individual fields of action are also cross-referenced against the corresponding UN Sustainable Development Goals. This is also shown in the figure below.

Ten strategic sustainability goals for Münster

1. Social participation and gender



2. Sustainable living



3. Natural resources and the environment



4. Sustainable economic, commuter and leisure traffic



5. Climate neutrality 2030



6. Good work



7. Future-orientated economy



8. Holistic educational equity



9. Global responsibility and One world



10. Consumption and lifestyles



The ten sustainability goals for Münster contribute to several of the global sustainability goals (marked in colour here).

Responsibility and sustainability management

As a member of the First Mayor's Sustainable City Dialogue of the German Council for Sustainable Development, through the NRW Sustainable Municipalities Dialogue and as Chairman of the NRW Sustainability Advisory Council, the First Mayor of the City of Münster supports sustainable development in local authorities in Münster and beyond.

This issue is given the institutional attention it requires by the Head of the Sustainability Department, who is also Chairman of the GNK Advisory Board. The Administrative Board of the City of Münster advises on key aspects.

Implementation and prioritisation of topics is the decentralised responsibility of the respective departments and is adjusted on an ongoing basis. Cross-office and cross-departmental cooperation ensures cross-sectional sustainability-related processes.

Sustainability management by the Sustainability Unit

The Sustainability Unit is part of the Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability. It is responsible for sustainability management of the City of Münster and coordinates the city's sustainability process with the GNK Advisory Board, GNK core team and extended GNK core team. It is also involved in the following areas of responsibility:

- Regional Centre for Education for Sustainable Development / School Gardens
- House of sustainability / awareness-raising (until November 2022: environmental advice)
- Sustainable food transition / Biocity Münster / Münsterland model eco-region
- Münster shows its colours / Urban gardening / Edible city
- Civic engagement / Environmental award / Culture of recognition
- Environment and economy (Ecoprofit / sustainability management)

Orientation framework, educational work and target groups

The Sustainability Unit is guided by the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the Münster 2030 sustainability strategy and relevant Münster City Council resolutions.

In numerous educational contexts, the Sustainability Unit raises awareness of, informs and advises people on and implements education for sustainable development. The Sustainability Unit pursues a skills and management-oriented approach to education, identifies conflicting goals and facilitates a change in perspective. For its long-term quality development, e.g. through the development of a mission statement, its pedagogical concept and its organisational structure, the Unit was ESD certified as an education for sustainable development-institution for the period 2021 to 2024 by the Advisory Board of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (→ Section 7.4).

In keeping with the motto 'Münster together sustainably', it carries out its work, actions and activities hand in hand with the people of Münster, the administration, politicians, business, academia, and associations, clubs and educational institutions in Münster.

Core team and extended core team

In 2020, the GNK core team that emerged from the GNK process was made permanent and expanded to include a total of 15 members from, in view of the issue involved, all departments. The committee meets three to four times a year.

The GNK core team is part of the GNK Advisory Board and undertakes four key tasks within the sustainability process:

- Technical support for the GNK Advisory Board and sustainability management
- Supporting internal implementation and ongoing development of the sustainability process within the administration
- Coordination of responses to regular enquiries about the implementation status within a department
- Networking with parallel processes, e.g. climate protection, MünsterZukünfte, Alliance for Science, integrated education, age-appropriate neighbourhood management, etc.

The GNK core team is supported in these tasks by the extended GNK core team, which meets twice a year. As an expression of decentralised responsibility, the committee includes members from twenty-eight municipal departments and institutions.

Global Sustainable Municipality Münster Advisory Board

Between 2016 and 2020, more than 50 people were involved in the City of Münster's Global Sustainable Community Project Advisory Board (GNK Advisory Board). They were recruited from various civil society networks, advisory boards, political council groups, business, academia and administration. Advisory Board members are listed in the appendix.

The composition of and procedural principles for the GNK Advisory Board were laid down by a council resolution adopted in 2021. This ensures that the city's development will continue to be sustainability-focused and to be shaped with the participation of the Münster community in future. The composition of the GNK Advisory Board is designed to reflect the issues addressed by Münster's sustainability strategy and the global sustainability goals. The GNK Advisory Board currently has a total of 65 members.

The GNK Advisory Board is a participatory and advisory body and acts as a connector and multiplier between city and civil society, business and academia, and politicians and the administration. Its members view themselves as promoters who actively contribute to the further development of Münster as a model locally and globally sustainable municipality. The purpose of the GNK Advisory Board is, as a socially broad-based committee, to support the implementation process for the sustainability strategy, continuous monitoring of implementation progress and necessary future evaluation and updating, to draw up integrative proposals for further development and to present these as implementation recommendations to the administration and politicians.

The GNK Advisory Board is a specific feature of the GNK programme based on the sustainability management model for participatory development of integrated sustainability strategies developed as part of the Global Sustainable Municipality in NRW pilot project. It is based on the principle of cooperative planning, meaning that the GNK Advisory Board acts as a work group and format for stakeholder participation in the process of planning, implementing and further developing Münster's sustainability strategy.

Global Sustainable Municipality Münster Advisory Board (GNK Advisory Board)

Members:

- 40 people from the fields of social affairs, environment, culture, sport, associations / civil society, business and academia
- 17 people from the municipal departments (core team + sustainability management)
- Head of the Department of Sustainability and politicians

Function: To set thematic priorities, and to further develop the sustainability strategy and sustainability process

GNK core team

Members: 17 members from the municipal departments (incl. sustainability management)

Function: Communication within departments, analysis and interdisciplinary planning of content, consultation within the Advisory Board

Sustainability management

(3 employees of the Sustainability Unit)

Function: Organisational and content-related process control and coordination, communication, awareness-raising



Finances

The section which follows presents sustainable budget planning and management, sustainable investment principles, and sustainable financing instruments that take into account intergenerational and intragenerational equity.

Sustainable budget planning and management

Sustainability issues are reflected in annual budgets of the City of Münster through the targets and target indicators discussed above.

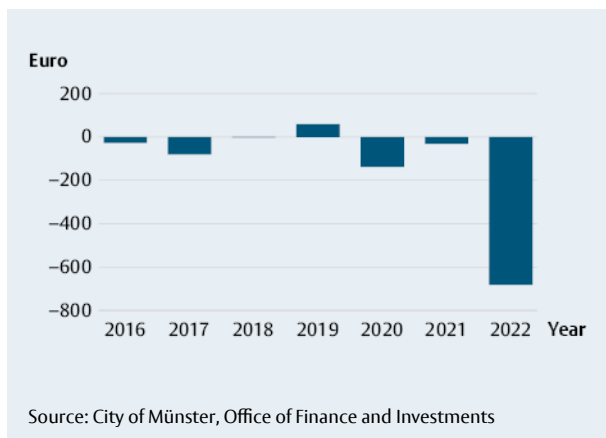
In December 2022, the City Council passed a resolution designating four fields of action as “cross-departmental and cross-office work priorities”. These fields of action represent a focus in the sense of a medium-term work programme, the financial impact of which must be taken into account in the city budget. They form the basis for future discussion of priorities in the City of Münster’s municipal activities.

The individual fields of action are:

- Climate neutrality
- Affordable, sustainable living
- Urban, environmentally friendly mobility
- Social participation and anti-discrimination

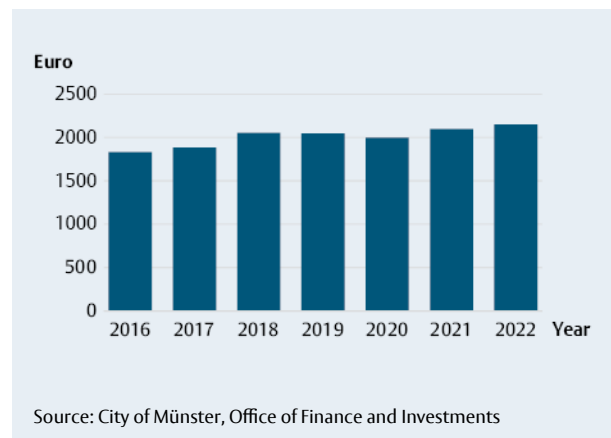
Cash and cash equivalents

Budget surplus or deficit from current administrative activities and current investment activities per inhabitant per year in euros



Tax income

Tax income per inhabitant per year in euros



The Council has instructed the administration to firstly outline what has already been achieved in the respective fields of action and to develop a procedure that combines target-oriented management with the annual preparation of the budget. In a next step, a strategy for urban management, including budgets for the coming years, will be defined based on the prioritised areas of action.

FINANCIAL FAIRNESS

In 2009, the City of Münster signed up to the European Charter for Equality between Women and Men (→ Section 1).

A concrete instrument for promoting gender equality is FINANCIAL FAIRNESS. This means a budget plan that helps to reduce gender inequality. The City of Münster's 2020 budget plan contains additional gender equality targets and key figures in 20 areas.

The 2021 budget included new key figures on FINANCIAL FAIRNESS, in particular for the Office for Housing and Neighbourhood Development, the Office for Children, Young People and Families, the Westphalian School of Music and the public library. Other areas of the municipal budget have developed FINANCIAL FAIRNESS targets and key figures for the 2022 financial year.

In 2018, Münster also initiated an intercommunity working group to ensure an exchange of experiences.

Sustainable investment principles

Sustainable investments are characterised by the fact that, in addition to conventional profitability and security criteria, investment decisions also take into account ecological, social and ethical factors. The City of Münster continues to apply this procedure. Investment guidelines are reviewed and updated at regular intervals.

The City of Münster invests part of its capital in two special funds aimed at reducing future pension liabilities from pension obligations and other continuing entitlements of civil servants after they leave active service. Sustainable investment principles are implemented for both funds through detailed investment guidelines. A blacklist is used to exclude sectors and companies that do not meet the city's exclusion criteria. In addition, a best-in-class approach is used to select companies that stand out from the sector average in terms of sustainability.

Sustainable financing instruments

Sustainable financing involves taking into account environmental, social and governance considerations in addition to conventional security and profitability criteria in investment decision-making.

Green bond / sustainability promissory note

In September 2021, the City Council of Münster instructed the administration to initiate sustainable capital procurement via a green bond. To implement this decision, the administration set up a working group consisting of representatives from the Office of Finance and Investments, the Office of Real Estate Management, the Office of Mobility and Civil Engineering and Stadtwerke Münster GmbH. In addition, a consortium of banks was commissioned to support the process.

The framework for green and social financing was developed in conjunction with the banking consortium. The framework is based on Social Bond Principles and Green Bond Principles process guidelines, and describes the process of selecting and evaluating projects at the City of Münster and Stadtwerke Münster GmbH, and utilisation of the issue proceeds from the promissory note. It also includes project requirements and eligibility criteria for green projects.

The framework also includes an obligation to report regularly to investors on the development of investments and on associated targets.

The sustainability performance and strategy which the City of Münster and Stadtwerke Münster GmbH aim to achieve through the framework and selected projects was reviewed by a rating agency. It confirmed that the framework complies with the Social Bond Principles and Green Bond Principles discussed above, and that the City of Münster and Stadtwerke Münster GmbH can be considered sustainable issuers.

From 13 September 2022 to 22 September 2022, investors were able to express an interest by submitting an offer. Due to the high level of interest in the sustainability promissory note and in investment in sustainability-related projects, the administration increased the original financing volume from 100 million to 140 million euros.

The interest rates agreed via the promissory note are slightly below the level of municipal loans, terms of which were obtained in parallel on an indicative basis in order to ensure comparability.

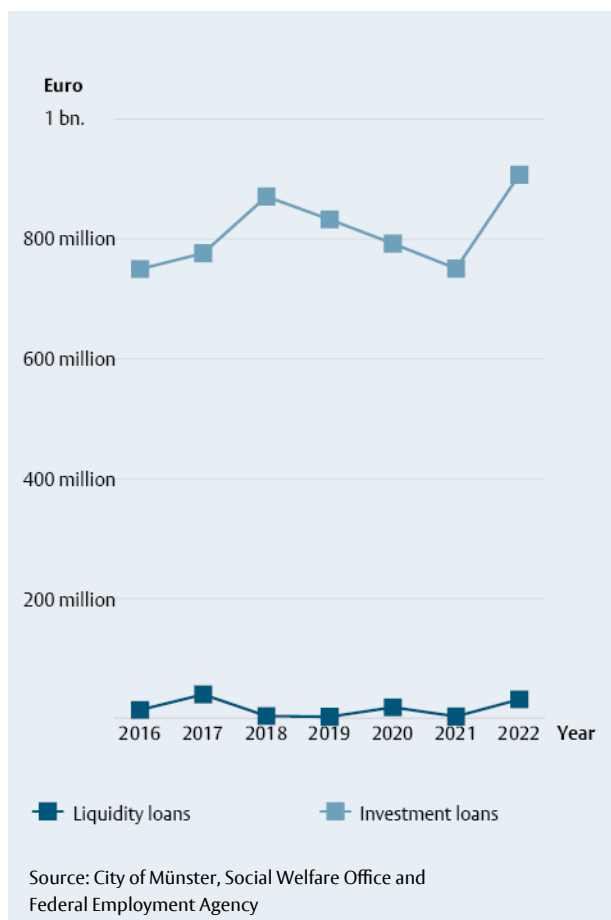
The administration publishes an annual Sustainable Finance Report, which provides information on the use of funds (allocation report) and the sustainability impact of financed investments or projects (impact report).

The allocation report shows the amount of the financial volume already allocated to individual projects and the amount of the total volume still outstanding. The impact report covers sustainability effects achieved in the fields of environmentally friendly buildings (CO₂ emissions savings in tonnes per year), sustainable water and wastewater management (volume of treated wastewater before and after the project in m³ per year) and fibre network installation (installation progress and resulting potential energy savings).

The green bond has changed the city's debt portfolio. Conventional investment loans now account for just under 84 percent of the portfolio, while more than 16 percent of the portfolio is already demonstrably structured as a sustainable financing instrument. While conventional investment loans are also used to finance municipal projects with strong sustainability characteristics, the green bond represents a commitment by the city to demonstrate the sustainability effect to third parties. The volume of financing via green bonds will increase in future.

Liquidity and investment loans

Liquidity and investment loans in euros



Awarding and Procurement

Given its economic importance, government demand for goods, works and services needs to be met cost-effectively, but also in a socially and ecologically responsible manner. The city administration's procurement system will therefore be organised to give appropriate consideration to protecting nature and the climate and to protecting the people involved in the production and provision of goods.

Business instructions for contract awards

In addition to legal principles such as the German Collective Bargaining and Public Procurement Act (TVgG), principles for municipal procurement are regulated in the City of Münster's procedural instructions for procurement procedures. The principle of economic efficiency and economy set out in this document does not preclude sustainable procurement, even where it is more expensive. The awarding authorities make decisions on procurement of environmentally friendly services and the additional cost on a case-by-case basis.

The city's business directive lists, for example, the following social factors, and these are taken into account by the City of Münster:

- Exclusion of products from exploitative child labour (in line with ILO Convention No. 182)
- Preferential consideration of recognised workplaces for people with disabilities and inclusive companies when awarding public contracts (SGB IX)

In addition, the following **exemplary** environmental factors are taken into account during the awarding of contracts by the City of Münster:

- Update of the City of Münster's building guidelines for building construction measures (submission no. V/0388/2020 dated 26/08/2020)
- Avoiding the use of tropical woods and wood products (submission no. 35/89 dated 15/02/1989)
- Avoiding the use of CFC and HCFC-containing building materials in all municipal buildings and restricting the use of PVC-containing materials (submission no. 751/94 dated 15/07/1994)
- Environmental protection in the office, Official Notices dated 20/12/1990 No. 79
- Use of environmental protection paper, Official Notices of 8/10/1993 No. 8
- Avoiding the use of solvents, statement from the Main Office to the Civil Engineering Office dated 06/01/1992, in response to an enquiry from the SPD parliamentary group in the environment committee
- Use of "directly recycled" window envelopes, circular letter according to mailing list B dated 06/03/1997

In order to bring greater focus to the issue of socially and environmentally friendly procurement, in September 2022 a decision was made to form a working group made up of administration and policymakers. The working group has been convened with the aim of developing guidelines for sustainable procurement that define social and environmental criteria for the procurement of goods, services and works for the City of Münster and of proposing a legally permissible procedure for ensuring and monitoring compliance.

Procurement in accordance with social and environmental criteria – selected projects

The following projects are examples of how socially and environmentally friendly procurement has been implemented and promoted in various areas.

Climate-neutral city administration 2030 – field of action: Procurement and events

The “Climate Neutral City Administration 2030” concept adopted by the Council in 2021 sets a goal of making all of the city administration’s procurement processes sustainable and climate-friendly.

Additions will be made to the business directive discussed above, an advisory centre for sustainable procurement will be established and relevant pilot projects implemented.

Eco-fair catering

Münster City Council has decided to give higher priority to sustainability criteria (e.g. organic, regional and fair-trade products) in catering in municipal canteens, schools and day-care centres, at municipal events and in procurement. In addition, it will aim to give consideration to regional (organic) value chains, expand information opportunities and develop and implement collaborations with stakeholders from civil society and business.

In 2020, the City of Münster successfully applied for the continuation of the Coordination of Municipal Development Cooperation (KEPOL) position at SKEW / Engagement Global. A pilot project on ECO-Fair Schools will be organised by the KEPOL office for the period from the end of 2020 to the end of 2022.

The programme was initiated under the leadership of the Office for Citizen and Council Services in cooperation with the Office for Schools and Further Education, the Health and Veterinary Office and the Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability with the support of Christian Initiative Romero e. V. (CIR).

Guidelines for sustainable events

In cooperation with the Fairtrade City of Münster steering group and other partners, the Sustainability Unit has developed guidelines for sustainable events. The guidelines are intended to provide sustainability-related support to municipal offices and institutions, and companies when organising and running events.

Paper atlas

The City of Münster’s central procurement office exclusively orders Blue Angel copy paper for the city administration. In 2019 Münster came third in the Paper Atlas city competition organised by Initiative Pro Recycling Paper (IPR), in 2020 fourth and in 2021 ninth. This makes Münster one of the most recycled paper-friendly cities in Germany.

The use of recycled copy paper saved more than 6 million litres of water and over 1.2 million kilowatt hours of production energy in 2019 alone.

Municipalities in favour of a strong supply chain law

In 2021, the City of Münster signed the declaration Municipalities for a strong supply chain law in Germany. 34 cities and municipalities call through this declaration for statutory liability regulations and effective government mechanisms to enforce requirements that oblige companies to respect human rights and avoid environmental destruction. The idea arose during a municipal exchange meeting held in November 2020 as part of the Capital of Fair Trade competition, in which Münster took part.

The Supply Chain Due Diligence Act was passed by the German Parliament in June 2021.

Public participation

The people who live in Münster and the organisations and companies based here identify strongly with their city, districts and neighbourhoods, observe their development closely and actively contribute to a liveable future in Münster in many different ways.

The City of Münster therefore both wants and has a duty to involve people to the maximum extent possible in opinion-forming and decision-making on municipal projects, and to support and recognise their active contributions and commitment.

There are various forms of citizen participation for this purpose, some of them prescribed by law and some of them voluntary. The City of Münster has adopted the “Guiding principles for good public participation” framework, which is intended to ensure the quality and ongoing development of co-designed participation in Münster.

Participation opportunities and good standards

The City of Münster uses various forms of and diverse offerings for citizen participation (see, for example, issue 2 of MünsterZukünfte magazine), in addition to participation rights under the municipal code for the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, such as question time events in the council and district councils, suggestions and complaints, residents’ petitions, petitions for a referendum, etc.

Voluntary services include, for example, the mayor’s consultation hours and the citizens’ survey. A particular feature is children’s participation, which enables citizens to address suggestions, questions, ideas and criticism about children’s lives in Münster to staff at the Children’s Office. During playground refurbishments and planning, for example, the Children’s Office regularly organises local ideas forums (→ Section 1.1). In addition, each year the City of Münster organises a large number of statutory and voluntary participatory open space, urban and transport planning events.

The Global Sustainable Municipality process is primarily aimed at organisations such as community groups, companies and associations. Sections 1 to 9 discuss forms of stakeholder participation. These include advisory boards, networks, alliances, working groups and circles, representative bodies, (action) alliances, forums, regional groups, etc. These reflect the diversity of ways in which society participates in co-productive urban development.

In order to further strengthen co-designing public participation, the MünsterZukünfte Process has developed “Guiding principles for good public participation”, which have been adopted by the City Council. They are also available in simple German. These guiding principles, presented below, set out procedural quality standards that all participation processes in the city should meet.

Münster City Council

... promotes

a culture of participation characterized by fairness and mutual respect. This includes in particular fact-oriented discussions that enable an exchange between equals. To achieve this, it uses a variety of methods suitable for involving sections of society that have previously been underrepresented in participation processes.

... provides information

from all areas of the administration about important municipal projects and how they will be taken forward at an early stage. It provides information on all opportunities for participation and involvement in an easily accessible central location on the council website.

... presents

reasons for and objectives of projects, explains their substance and possible effects, draws attention to requirements and framework conditions and explains the current and future procedure. Projects will be accompanied by target group-oriented communication from start to finish. All key information will be presented to the public, project participants, district councils and the city council comprehensibly, clearly and in understandable language, and will be regularly updated for the public. A variety of offline and digital formats and communication channels will be used for this purpose.

... offers

opportunities for discussion and makes it clear what the participation process is about and what scope there is for action. In particular, it makes clear who is involved in planning and implementing projects and what points and issues (e.g. Section 1 BauGB) definitely have to be taken into account, providing a realistic picture of the actual scope for shaping and making decisions about the project.

... applies

appropriate, professionally recognized methods and procedures for participation and develops these further for the specific project and target group. If necessary, it brings in external agencies to support or carry out this process. It offers relevant training for municipal employees.

... views itself

as particularly committed to finding appropriate ways to involve groups of people who are not easily reached by standard methods (for example through outreach participation). The aim is to give all residents the opportunity to take part in a participation process, irrespective of their membership of a particular social group, age, gender, level of education or origin (inclusive approach). As far as possible, the perspectives of people who will be affected in future are also taken into account.

... promotes

and strengthens participation by children, teenagers and young adults in public affairs, starting in council childcare, educational and leisure facilities, in formats oriented towards their concerns and interests. In doing so, it utilises target group-appropriate forms of participation and digital elements for learning and practicing participation skills.

... makes

clear in an appropriate manner how contributions and new information resulting from public participation are incorporated into the planning process (internal administrative consideration, political decisions and their implementation). The final decision remains with the elected representatives on the Council and its committees and with district councils.

... advises,

motivates and supports groups, initiatives and organizations in their engagement for the common good and their voluntary participation in the development of our city.

... aims

to make the inhabitants of the city and its neighbourhoods co-creators and co-planners of their living environment and to make their experience the basis for planning.

... pursues

the idea of co-production with Münster society, meaning joint city-making, and development of the city as a shared task. To this end, Münster City Council is increasingly not only involving

the public and civil society in planning and decision-making processes, but also promoting the cooperative and co-productive realization of projects and city and neighbourhood development plans.

... will continue to learn

It evaluates the participation processes, focusing on the perspective of the participants, assesses the experiences gained, and continues to develop public participation in a reflective manner.

5. Application to third-party projects

In accordance with Section 25 (3) of the NRW Administrative Procedure Act, Münster City Council will step up its efforts to ensure that non-municipal planning bodies and bodies responsible for third-party projects also observe the above guiding principles and involve the public accordingly.

6. Culture of participation and continuous further development

These guiding principles are intended to form the foundations for growing participatory expertise and a growing participatory culture. They are to be viewed not as a finished document, but as a learning system, and should be subject to continuous further development based on exchanges of experience and ideas between all parties involved and on accompanying evaluation.

In addition, the City of Münster took part in the comparative Difu project “Structured participation – how does it work?” with a total of 16 German municipalities, which categorises the city’s participation structures and provides information on possible further instruments and measures.

MünsterZukünfte – making the future together

The MünsterZukünfte process explored innovative ideas for citizen participation, put them into practice and tested them. The aim of the process was to develop key points for future urban development. This took the form of an intensive, joint dialogue process between Münster society, academia, business, politicians and the administration using a variety of approaches. Future projects were submitted by citizens under the motto “Good Tomorrow Münster”. In addition, alternative development scenarios for long-term future prospects were identified based on comprehensive surveys and workshops, and by using scenario analysis. Additionally, specific future strategies and key measures were developed for the integrated urban development concept (ISEK), primarily through ‘city forum’ events.

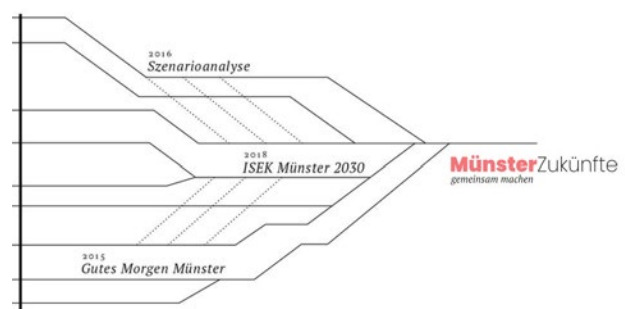
In 2020, the MünsterZukünfte team and the Smart City unit organised the first urban web forum on “Thinking participation digitally”. This focussed on the possibilities, opportunities and challenges of digital participation formats in urban development.

Digital formats appeal to new target groups and also enable participation by people who, for various reasons, are unable to attend face-to-face events. As a result, Münster has launched a pilot digital participation platform called “Beteiligung NRW”.

Geared towards intensive public participation, MünsterZukünfte has organised ‘future walks’, a diversity competition, digital participation opportunities, city forum events, etc. Its (interim) results were adopted by the City Council in 2021.

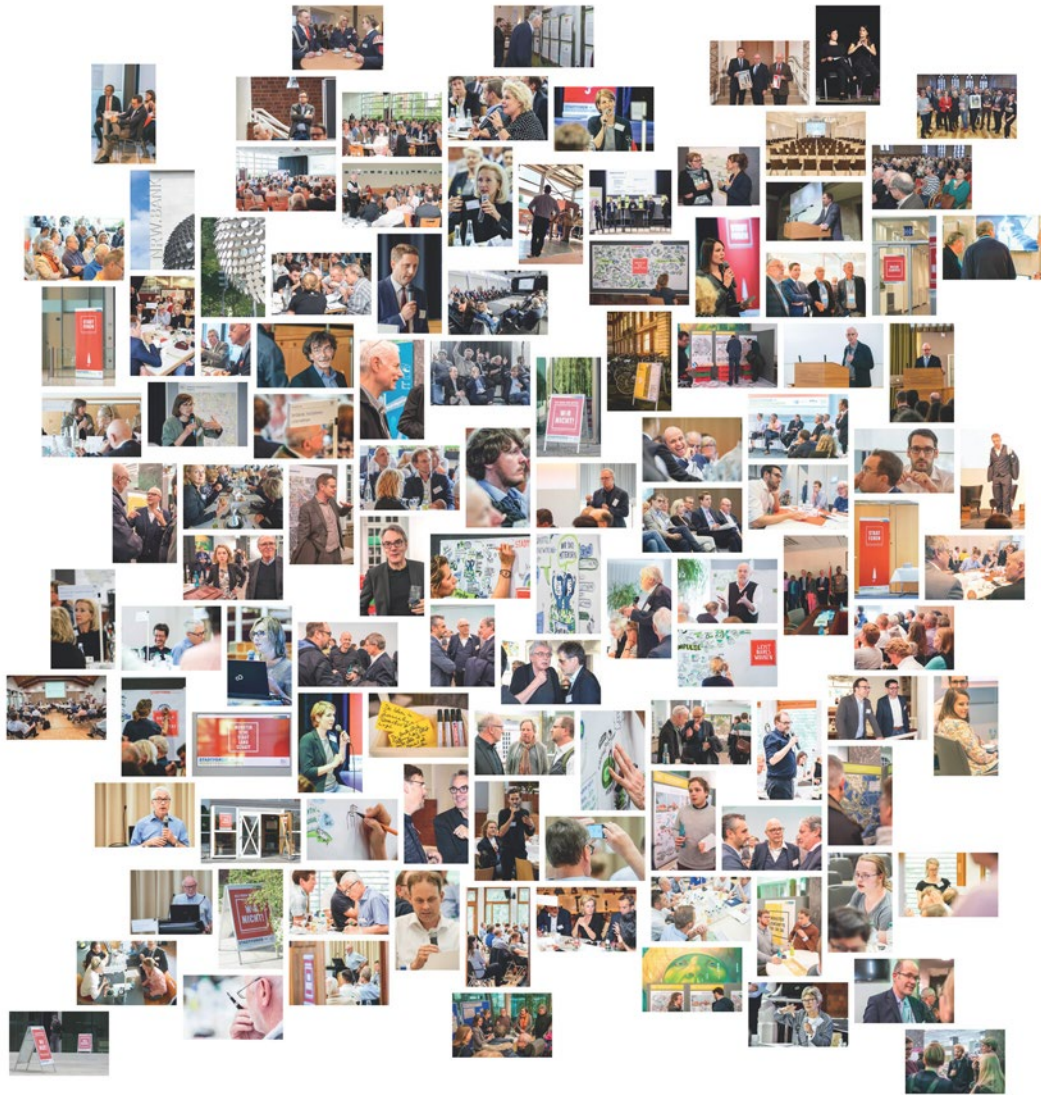
Further developing participation

Under the motto “direct from the process to implementation”, there have been and are numerous follow-up activities in the 10 ISEK Münster 2030 fields of action and in the cross-cutting topic “Thinking participation further”. This is because previous forms of participation still fail to reach some groups in Münster society. The #stadtsache app, used in the Südviertel, Hörster Parkplatz and Berg Fidel districts, has been used to test new means of multimedia child and youth participation. Children and young people were able to use the app to playfully collect ideas for the future and diversity of their neighbourhood. Finally, in 2022 the ePart MS-Lab project explored broader options for electronic and hybrid youth participation. In the same year, work began on the new Inclusive Participation Guide with and by people with disabilities, who named themselves participation pilots.



Münster's future process continues under the motto “MünsterZukünfte gemeinsam machen”

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UNSTER
FOR
MINSK

Im
Ganz
Gay
im
E

Geschlecht:
□ männlich
□ weiblich
X Scheißegal!

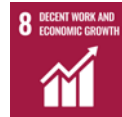
GLEICH
RECHTE



Ich liebe wen ich will
Stammi

1. Social participation

Participation in society is a matter of course for everyone in Münster.



What is it about?

How can we make it so that social participation in Münster is a matter of course for everyone? How can we minimise poverty and existential hardship and expand equal participation opportunities for all genders, people with disabilities and people with a migrant background? Promoting cultural diversity and intercultural encounters is just as important for this purpose as creating demand-orientated sporting opportunities or encouraging civic engagement.

Strategic goals



- Minimise poverty, deprivation and associated health risks
- Promote cultural diversity and intercultural encounters, and enable equal participation for all
- Women and men have equal opportunities to participate without stereotypical role assignments and people with disabilities benefit from inclusive programmes
- Strengthen participation opportunities for new immigrants and people with a migrant background
- Create demand-orientated cultural and sporting activities
- Promote and encourage opportunities for everyone to participate

1.1 Enabling poverty prevention and participation for all

Through a range of different activities and measures, we will make equal participation possible for all citizens in Münster. Below, the focus is on participation by children, young people and older people.



Children and young people

Empowering children and young people, offering families the services they want and need – that is the best investment in Münster’s future, so that children, young people and families feel at home in Münster.

Child and youth development plan

Through the 4th Münster Children and Youth Promotion Plan, the City of Münster is fulfilling its legal obligation to draw up a plan of measures for the following areas of activity:

- Child and youth work (open child and youth work, youth council, youth association work)
- Youth social work
- Youth welfare at schools
- Educational child and youth protection

Independent child and youth welfare organisations work together with public sector providers to align their work with this plan. In addition to legally defined goals, service areas work according to their own guiding goals and principles.

Guidelines for the promotion of child and youth work

Within the framework of the guidelines for the promotion of child and youth work, the City of Münster supports things like holiday camps, holiday programmes, all-day holiday childcare, international youth encounters, open youth events, courses and training courses, and basic and advanced training.

By providing information, advice and funding, the city safeguards and provides expert support for ongoing development of open child and youth work, youth association work, migration support and outreach youth social work.

Programme of measures for child and youth-related poverty prevention

All children and young people should be able to grow up successfully from the outset and thus participate in and be integrated into society. Transitions and access to local support services should be improved. The aim is to form enduring communities of responsibility, to further develop prevention chains through the various phases of life, and to coordinate them with each other in subsequent phases of life.

Selected measures:

- Database “Support services for families with young children”
- Organisation of prevention conferences
- Promotion of a “healthy breakfast” in selected daycare centres in disadvantaged neighbourhoods
- Outreach support from family midwives and paediatric nurses for highly vulnerable families up to the age of one

House of Juvenile Justice

Since 2022, officers from Criminal Investigation Department 16 at Münster Police Headquarters, the City of Münster’s youth welfare services, the Münster public prosecutor’s office and Caritas have been working together under one roof. The common goal is to quickly and consistently set clear boundaries for young offenders, to monitor them more closely and at the same time to provide support with their personal and social situation.

Child-friendly community

The City of Münster supports child-friendliness through low-threshold advice services and participation procedures. Focuses include family visits for newborns, play area demand planning and idea exchanges involving the active participation of children.

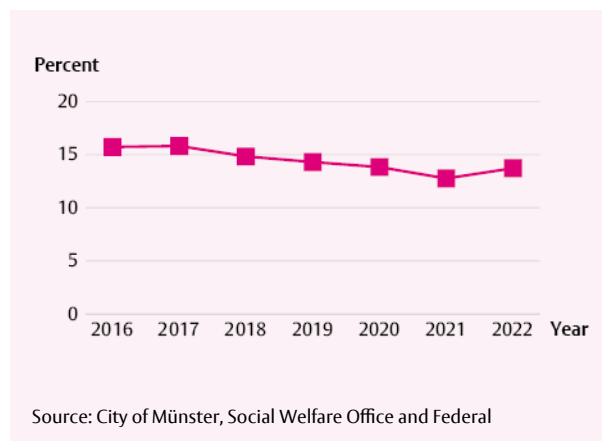
Another institutional example of participation is the Youth Council, which was newly elected in 2021 and is made up of a total of 30 members. The Youth Council can put all public resolutions on its agenda, comment on them and make suggestions for changes.

A new website has been created to serve as a platform for presenting these projects.

The Youth Council has, for example, worked to convert a former teaching pool into a multifunctional room for the municipal grammar school. The Committee for Schools and Further Education allocated 100,000 euros for the realisation of this project in 2021. In addition, in 2020 the exercise park in Hiltrup was inaugurated with the support of the Youth Council.

Child and youth poverty

Percentage of under 18s in receipt of SGB II or SGB XII benefits



Participation in old age

The importance of senior citizens in society is increasing, and not just because of their numbers. They are increasingly demanding their place in the social and political arena. Old age and ageing are no longer limited to being a time of need.

The emphasis is increasingly on the resources, strengths and abilities of older people, and senior citizens are increasingly being asked to participate and contribute. The focus is moving to actively shaping the ‘third age’ with self-confidence.

WHO Age-friendly Cities and Communities network

Münster was one of the first major cities in Germany to join the WHO Age-friendly Cities and Communities network. By the end of 2022, over 1,400 cities and communities in over 50 countries were members of the network. To realise an overall concept, existing local individual measures will be networked and brought into cooperation with each other. In addition, the measures will be brought together via the WHO’s Age-friendly World platform and internationally networked under the slogan “learning from each other through experience”. Age-friendliness means more than just conventional help for older people. At its heart is the question of the nature of the active role in society and urban development assigned to senior citizens to boost active ageing and engagement by this section of the population. The age-friendly city initiative is divided into eight areas:

- Public space and built space
- Mobility and transport
- Living
- Social participation
- Respect and social integration
- Commitment and employment
- Communication and information
- Public and health services

The Age-Friendly City of Münster Advisory Board, founded in the course of the city’s accession to the WHO network, consists of 19 members from the Senior Citizens’ Association, Münster University of Applied Sciences, Alzheimer’s Society Münster, Diakonie, DRK, Haus vom Guten Hirten, the Board of the Committee for the Promotion of Inclusion of People with Disabilities, LichtBlick Seniorenhilfe e. V., Münster University of Applied Sciences, the Health and Veterinary Office and the Social Welfare Office. It defined a strategic plan for the years 2022 to 2025 at its second meeting. The following points will be prioritised in Münster in this three year period:

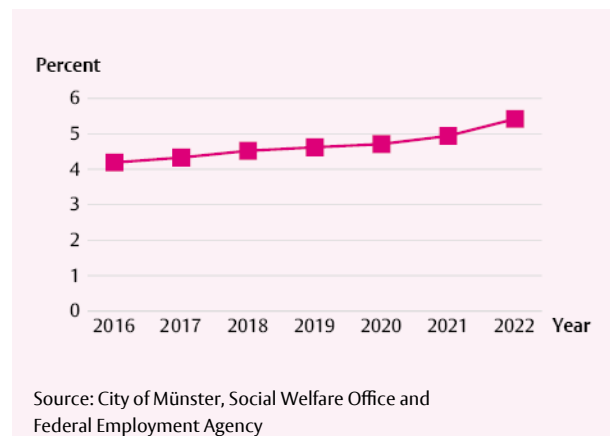
- Housing, security of supply and care in the neighbourhood
- Improving mobility in old age and for people with disabilities
- Supporting digitalisation

A further topic that will be addressed in future is the issue of loneliness, which has increased in cities partly as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

Other examples of enabling participation in old age include voluntary case management for people claiming basic income support in old age and the 60plusAbo, a low-cost means of using public transport for all people aged 60 and over.

Old-age poverty

Percentage of over 65s in receipt of SGB XII benefits



Masterplan for older people-friendly neighbourhoods

The City of Münster aims to create a supportive environment for older people in all neighbourhoods. A master plan has been drawn up by the Social Welfare Office to ensure that people with care and support needs are provided for in their neighbourhoods.

Neighbourhood networks are being established in close consultation with the elderly. In conjunction with volunteer initiatives and social and commercial service providers, the city is also publicising existing services. New services will be developed locally in individual neighbourhoods in keeping with demand.

In Münster, there are six projects for age-appropriate, inclusive neighbourhood development, listed below. Neighbourhood activities are varied, ranging from strengthening digital participation through smartphone consultation hours and tablet courses, to exercise and low-threshold conversation offers, to wheelchair bicycles, tricycles and parallel tandems that can be borrowed free of charge to enable people with disabilities to take part in bike tours and to give them greater freedom of movement.

- Aaseestadt / Pluggendorf
- Handorf
- Herz-Jesu / Mauritz-Mitte
- Hiltrup-East
- Mauritz-East
- Rumphorst

There are also three neighbourhood support points, which aim to provide outpatient care for people with disabilities and the elderly.

Housing advice and help with moving

If a person's home no longer meets their needs due to age, illness or disability, it is often possible to carry out customisation of their existing home.

The City of Münster's housing advice service supports tenants, landlords and property owners. If it is not possible to adapt someone's existing home, the "Relocation assistance" housing advice centre will help find a home adapted to their needs.

Senior citizens (and people with disabilities) can take advantage of municipal assistance when moving so that they can live independently in a suitable disability-friendly, affordable flat.

In view of demographic changes, the increasing housing shortage associated with these changes and the simultaneous increase in the need for counselling for households in need of support, relocation assistance services are an essential tool for improving the housing and living situation.

Digital participation

Münster has been participating in the nationwide Digital Compass since 2021. The aim is to share and disseminate existing services relating to digital issues for older people in Münster.

The free senior citizens and health app "Gut versorgt in Münster" provides an overview of local services related to health, leisure and culture, senior-friendly housing, support and care services, etc. The app has a read-aloud function and can be voice-controlled.

Health in old age

Health promotion and prevention are of great importance for the independence and well-being of older people. Healthy ageing requires health-conscious behaviour and a health-promoting environment.

One offering is a series of events entitled "Healthy and active – growing older in Münster". The organising team includes the Health and Veterinary Office, the Municipal Seniors' Representation, the City Sports Association, the Münster Adult Education Centre and the Münster Self-Help Contact Point.

Care and support in old age

Münster has a wide range of care and support services for people in need of care and assistance. However, demographic developments and a growing shortage of skilled labour mean that these services are increasingly stretched. Ensuring the provision of nursing care will be one of the key challenges facing municipalities in coming years. The City of Münster has for many years focused on expanding decentralised, neighbourhood-based care structures.

In 2015, the City Council decided to introduce binding care needs planning, which makes the funding of additional inpatient places dependent on a municipal confirmation of need. The aim was and is to primarily create decentralised outpatient assisted living care communities rather than further expanding large inpatient facilities. In recent years, there has been a continuous increase in the number of places.



Every year, around 1,600 people complete their training as nursing professionals.

The proportion of people cared for in residential facilities in Münster has been well above the North Rhine-Westphalia average for a long time. Nevertheless, the majority of people with care and support needs are still cared for by their relatives. Care consultations provided by the Care Information Office, together with other advisory services, play a key role in this respect. The care advice service helps people find their way around the complex care system and provides advice in particular on respite and support options. In future, strengthening informal care support services within neighbourhoods in order to guarantee low-threshold help and support services and relieve the burden on professional care services will become even more important.

Future expansion and maintenance of nursing infrastructure will depend crucially on the degree to which it is possible to recruit and retain nursing staff. The City of Münster is actively involved in the “Strong care in Münster – the care model region” initiative, an alliance of employers from the elderly care sector and various training providers. A key aim of the project is to attract qualified employees now and in the future and to promote the care sector. In addition, the focus is on further developing the care landscape, e.g. through the development of permeable, flexible training and education concepts. From 2017 to 2019, the project was funded by the state of North Rhine-Westphalia and the European Social Fund. Since 2020, the project has been subsidised by the City of Münster.

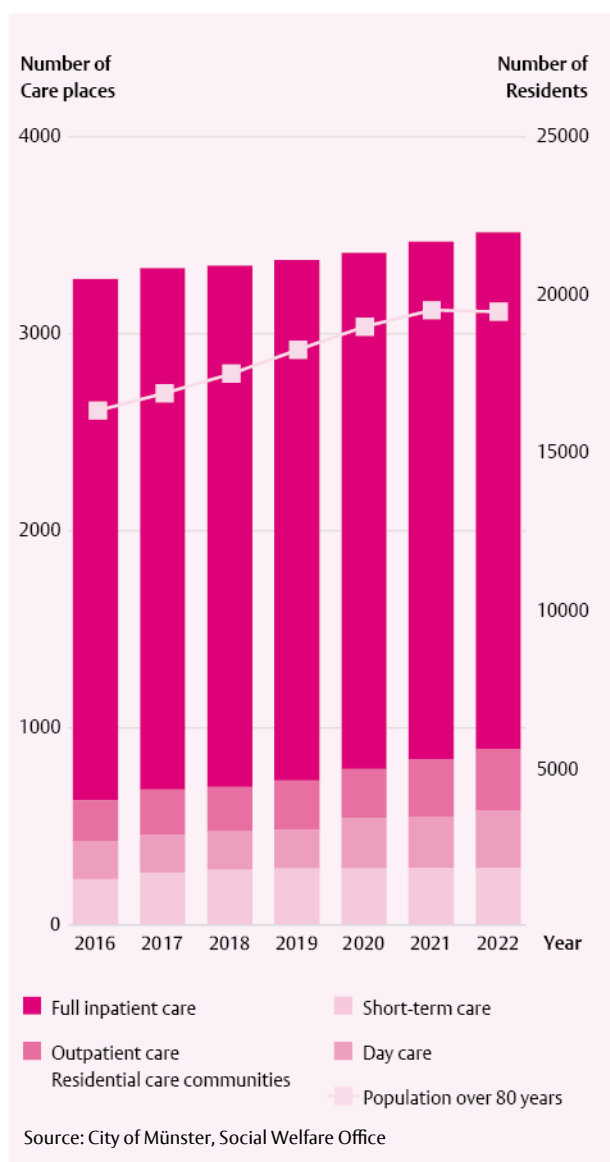
Training is a key factor in recruiting skilled labour. Münster trains an above-average number of nursing professionals compared to other regions. Since 2019, this figure has remained high at around 1,600 trainees per year. Nevertheless, this figure will not be sufficient to compensate for future demographic developments in the profession. On 1 January 2020, a generalist nursing training programme for nursing specialists was introduced nationwide. This is intended to make nursing training more attractive and future-proof.

In October 2022, the City of Münster held an event entitled “Status and development of nursing training”. This featured experts from the fields of classroom and practical nursing training and aimed to analyse the effects of the switch to generalist nursing training and

to identify potential areas where action is required at local authority level. In particular, the provision of affordable housing for trainees, e.g. as part of a trainee campus, was raised.

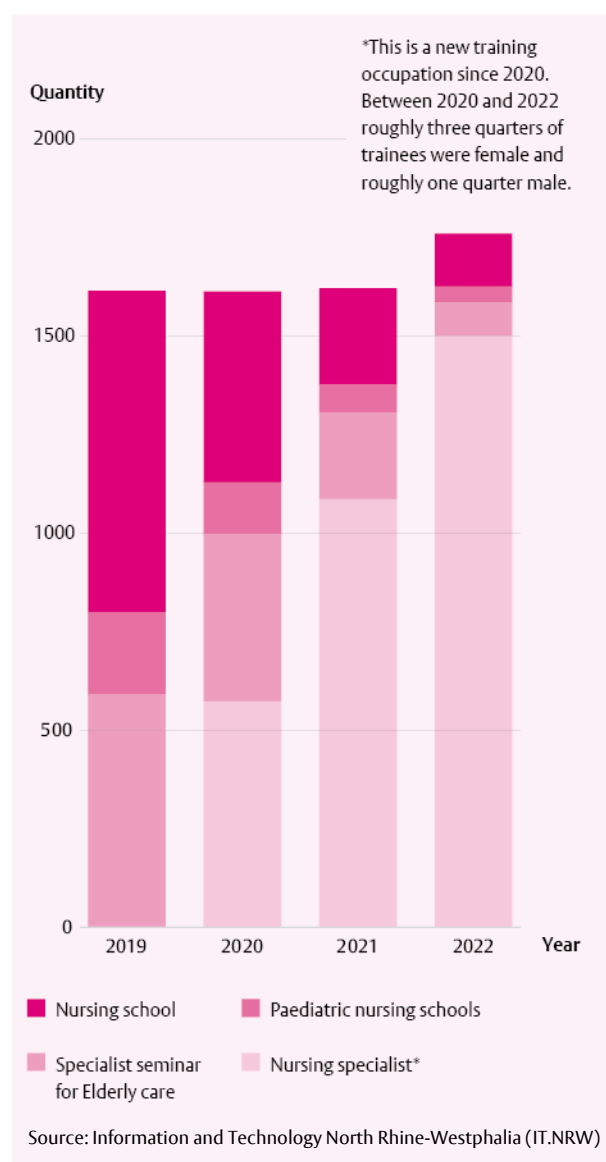
Care infrastructure

Number of places available in various facilities and number of residents over 80 years of age



Trainees at nursing schools in Münster

Number of trainees at nursing schools in Münster



1.2 Gender equality

Achieving gender equality was, is and remains a task for society as a whole – as stipulated by the German Basic Law. The public sector has a particular role to play in this area and acts as a clear role model.

European Charter for Equality between Women and Men – Action Plan for Münster

The 4th European Charter for Equality between Women and Men Action Plan at local and regional level for Münster for 2021-2023 is broad based. This is to enable it to cover the wide variety of areas in which action is required. The action plan includes specific projects and tasks as well as meta-objectives.

The action plan was developed with a core team from the administration, consisting of representatives from the fields of culture, social affairs, education, planning, health, sustainability and human resources. Representatives from politics and civil society were also involved, as, in addition to the administration itself, the objectives and measures were also implemented by independent organisations and equality networks.

The 4th Action Plan deals with the following issues:

- Making diversity visible (including gender monitoring)
- A colourful and diverse cityscape (including making women visible in street names)
- Needs-based childcare and support for families (including the future of child daycare)
- Reducing violence against women, men and the LGBTIQ* community
- Gender-appropriate language (e.g. in publications)
- Making the City of Münster a fair employer (including respectful behaviour)
- Equal participation in financial and urban planning (including toilets in public spaces from a gender perspective)
- Sport for women and girls (including making sports halls, club activities and swimming pools more appealing to girls and women)
- Gender-sensitive integration (including an online map with counselling and integration services)
- Balanced gender ratio in politics (including motivation to engage in political participation)



© City of Münster

The 5th action plan is scheduled for 2023. As it is a highly topical issue, the focus of this action plan will be on climate and gender justice. The climate crisis has an impact on gender equality, as the effects of climate change are felt differently by different genders and different genders also bear differing responsibility for the causes of climate change (→ Section 5).

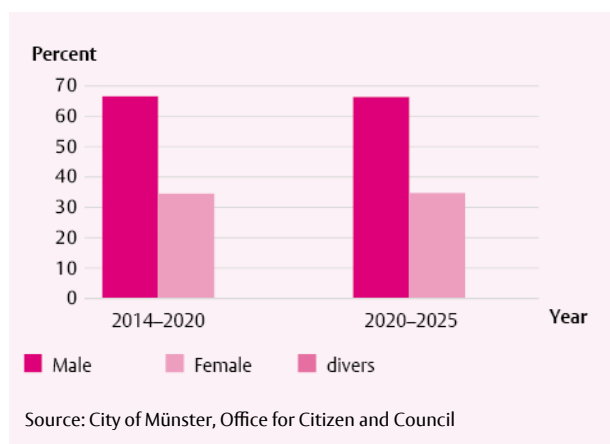
The indicator below shows the gender ratio on the City Council. The proportion of women in management positions in the city administration is presented elsewhere in this BNK report (→ Section 6.3).

LGBTIQ* Action Plan

The mandate to develop an LGBTIQ* Action Plan, adopted by the Council in autumn 2022 creates a binding basis for Münster to promote the acceptance of diverse lifestyles, and sexual and gender identities, and to advance equality and equal rights for LGBTIQ* people. The action plan aims to reduce discrimination based on sexual or gender identity and acceptance of LGBTIQ* people. The varying realities of life for lesbian, gay and bisexual people and for trans*, intersex* and queer people must be taken into account as needed. The action plan will contain measures in seven selected fields of action (family, pre-school education, school, education, working life/profession, leisure/culture/sport, old age/care). The measures in the action plan will be actioned both by Münster society and by the administration. The two-year development phase of the action plan is expected to start in the first half of 2023, preceded by a recruitment process at the Office for Gender Equality.

Gender ratio

Gender ratio on the City Council for different electoral periods in percent



Istanbul Convention Action Plan

The Istanbul Convention of the Council of Europe is a treaty under international law to combat gender-based violence against women and girls. The convention has been applicable law in Germany since February 2018 and gives impetus to efforts to combat violence against women and girls at all levels of government.

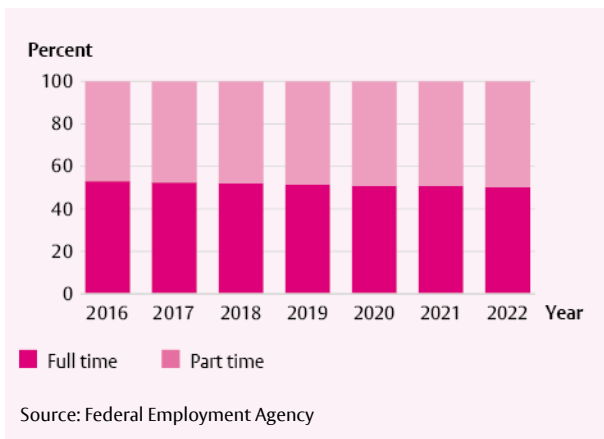
The aim of the Convention is to protect women and girls from violence. The contracting states undertake to prevent, prosecute and eliminate violence against women, to prevent discrimination against women and to strengthen women's rights.

From the end of 2023, the Office for Gender Equality will, with the participation of Münster society, develop an action plan for implementing the Istanbul Convention. This will be preceded by a recruitment process. This will fulfil structural requirements for measures in the administration and in Münster society.

In addition to indicators on male and female employment presented here, the indicators in the section "Good work and a future-oriented economy" also provide information on the number of women and men in employment and subject to social insurance contributions and on the gender pay gap over time (→ Section 6.1).

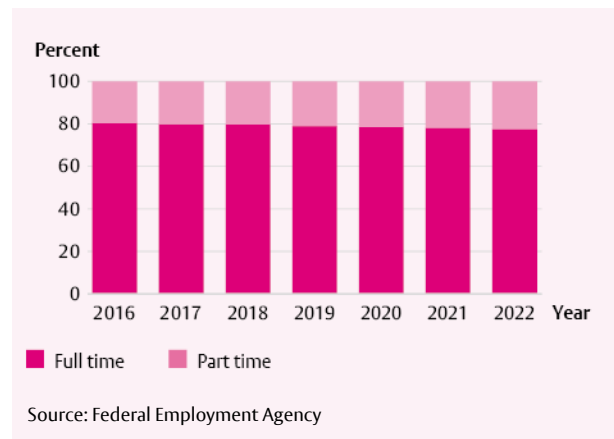
Scope of employment for women

Proportion of women in full-time and part-time employment and subject to social insurance contributions in Münster in percent



Scope of employment of men

Proportion of men in full-time and part-time employment subject to social insurance contributions in Münster in percent



1.3 Migration and Integration

Münster is characterised by diversity, and Münster society views itself as a place of constant change. The aim is to proactively develop sustainable integration strategies and reduce discrimination. Structural barriers for people with a migrant background are to be reduced and people's potential is to be promoted. The migration mission statement adopted by the City Council is a cornerstone document that must be followed by all stakeholders.

Implementation and ongoing development of the migration mission statement

The first migration mission statement was developed in Münster in 2008 by means of an extensive participation process on the initiative of what was then known as the Foreigners' Advisory Council and is today the Integration Council. Kommunales Integrationszentrum Münster (KI – Münster Municipal Integration Centre) is in charge of the migration mission statement process.

The KI is part of a state-wide, comprehensive network for integration in municipalities. KI's are established under the NRW Participation and Integration Act. The KI is funded by the Ministry for Children, Youth, Family, Equality, Refugees and Integration (MKJFGFI) and the Ministry for Schools and Education (MSB). The KI is part of the Office for Migration and Integration.

In 2019, the City Council adopted the third edition of the mission statement on migration and integration. The mission statement forms the basis for and sets out objectives for migration work in Münster and is updated every five years. In total, over 200 committed people were involved in the process, which was led by the KI in collaboration with the Integration Council. An integration monitoring report is published every two to three years to evaluate the goals set out in the mission statement. It outlines developments relating to the political, legal and social integration of people with a migrant background in Münster.

Integration is always treated as a cross-cutting task that requires a networked, socio-spatial approach. Overcoming racism and discrimination, teaching intercultural skills and gender sensitivity, and breaking down prejudices are perceived as core shared tasks.



Adoption of the migration mission statement © City of Münster

Fields of action in the migration mission statement:

- Legal advice and integration support
- Participation (including political participation) and civic engagement
- Education and languages
- Child and youth welfare, social benefits and services
- Economy and labour
- Housing and socio-spatial urban development
- Health and care
- Culture and religion
- Sport and leisure
- Encouraging intercultural openness in public administration

The migration mission statement forms the basis of migration-sensitive work at the City of Münster. Goals developed through a participatory process are implemented at the operational level by the administration, relevant stakeholders and Münster society as a whole. The concepts presented create a frame of reference, in terms of both strategy and substance, for specific projects and measures. Selected programmes are described below.

KOMM-AN NRW

The aim of the KOMM-AN NRW project is to integrate new immigrants into Münster society by supporting neighbourhood associations, autonomous migrant organisations, volunteer initiatives, organisations and groups through networking, coordination and training of volunteers in close collaboration with public sector and independent migration work providers. The KI is responsible for parts 1 and 2 of the state programme.

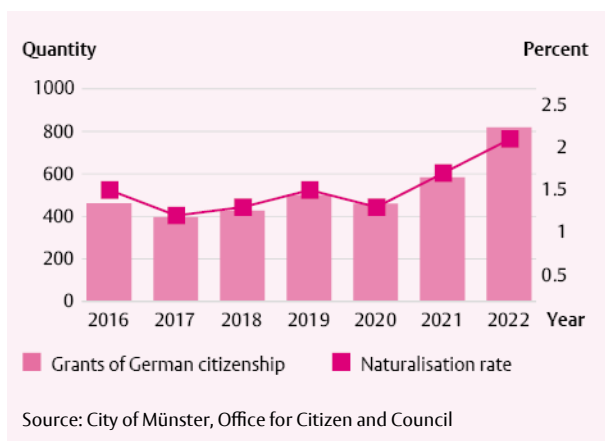
The KI passes KOMM-AN funding from the state of NRW on to organisations that support volunteer projects for new immigrants (e.g. in sports projects). This makes it easier for clubs to involve recent immigrants in their activities. 115,750 euros are currently available annually.

Selected measures:

- Regular training programmes for migration work volunteers
- Intensive promotion of the funding programme and awarding of state funds to associations, autonomous migrant organisations and migration work initiatives
- Networking within the “Volunteering in migration work” working group
- Quarterly volunteer coordinators networking meeting

Naturalisation

Number of grants of German citizenship in Münster and number of people granted citizenship per year as a percentage of all foreign residents



Cooperation with autonomous migrant-organisations

The KI collaborates with autonomous migrant-organisations and religious communities. The aims of this collaboration are:

- to raise awareness of the diversity of such organisations and the different fields in which they work, to make them aware of and thereby improve access to existing funding structures at all political levels,
- to raise awareness of their work as part of civil society,
- to focus on necessary cooperation with the administration and other migration work stakeholders and
- to provide a platform for a critical and productive dialogue between these organisations, politicians and the administration.

Autonomous migrant organisations are important partners and drivers in developing integration work. The KI values their work and supports the raising of their visibility. One aim is to promote collaboration between these organisations, with the KI and with other sections of Münster society. To this end, an annual conference is held on topics chosen by autonomous migrant organisations. This annual autonomous migrant organisation conference creates a framework for interaction between these organisations, welfare organisations, associations, politicians and the administration with a different focus every year. Autonomous migrant organisation conferences generate valuable insights for and give impetus to the various participants. They are organised in collaboration with representatives of autonomous migrant organisations active in Münster and representatives of the Integration Council.

Since 2012, the database of autonomous migrant organisations has also been available to interested parties as a research tool for research on autonomous migrant organisations, religious communities, associations and institutions active in Münster. These are visualised on an interactive city map.

Anti-racism work

Membership of the European Coalition of Cities against Racism (ECCAR) commits the City of Münster to implementing a binding 10-point action plan and gives the KI a sharper focus on anti-racism work.

Anti-racism work by the KI includes coordinating the Weeks against Racism event, organised in collaboration with other organisations, and managing the Critical Racism Network.

Members of this network regularly take part in training programmes. Participants in these programmes take anti-racism insights from the programme back to their institutions.

Anti-discrimination service centre

The Anti-Discrimination Service Centre is a collaboration between DRK Münster and Caritas Münster. It is funded by the Ministry for Children, Family, Refugees and Integration of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and is part of the integration agencies. It is an independent advice service aimed at people who have experienced discrimination and people who want to work towards a less discriminatory society.

Services and measures:

- Racism in employment (access to the labour market/application procedures/jobs) (DRK)
- Racism in the transition from school to work (Caritas)
- Consulting and training services for companies, organisations, educational institutions, etc.
- Initiation of empowerment programmes and introductions to networks of people affected by discrimination
- Public relations: awareness-raising and prevention
- NRW-wide networking with service centres working in other areas for referral work
- Anti-racism networking in the social space

(Source: HP Caritas)

Fostering early cultural and intercultural encounters and education

Fostering early cultural and intercultural encounters and education encompasses a large number of individual projects involving different groups and ethnicities at annual festivals. It supports ongoing cultural programmes, intercultural initiatives and funding of individual projects.

Events and projects with an intercultural approach are supported by project funds from the Cultural Office.

The state Culture and Schools programme has been running continuously since 2006. In 2019 and 2020, around 50 percent of projects had an intercultural focus.

Language daycare centres

The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs' Sprach-Kitas programme promotes the integration of language education into everyday life as an integral component of daycare. In Münster, 26 daycare facilities took part in the programme in 2022.

In Münster, the programme is supported by an additional specialist advisor from the Office for Children, Young People and Families.

In 2021, 97 percent of pre-school children over 3 registered in refugee facilities in Münster attended a daycare centre. The Office for Children, Youth and Families analyses changes in childcare provision and provides support for the provision of daycare places on a case-by-case basis in collaboration with social services.

Action plan for refugees in Münster

The action plan for refugees builds on the objectives of the migration mission statement and looks at how they apply specifically in the area of work with refugees.

The aim of the action plan is to make clear the main tasks to be performed by the city administration in relation to the reception and integration of refugees, to highlight challenges in the municipal fields of action and to describe existing goals and strategies.

Fields of action of the action plan:

- Early childhood education, school and youth welfare
- Teaching German language skills
- Training, work and employment
- Health care
- Civic engagement in helping refugees
- Social participation – culture and sport

Another key area of action is the reception and accommodation of refugees as part of the nationally agreed accommodation concept.

The accommodation concept

The aims of the City of Münster's accommodation concept are to distribute the facilities as evenly as possible across the whole of the city, to integrate them into the local residential environment, to provide manageable housing units with an average of up to 50 places per location (maximum of 100 places) and to intensively support these facilities with social and housekeeping services and by closely involving volunteers.

1.4 Inclusion

Inclusion means that people with disabilities are equal members of society from the start and receive the support they need where they live, work and spend their leisure time.



Participation of people with disabilities

In 1996, the City of Münster's joined the Barcelona Declaration "The City and People with Disabilities", confirming its willingness to work to realise comprehensive participation by people with disabilities in Münster.

The role of the municipal commissioner for people with disabilities is to work towards achieving these goals. To this end, she works with organisations, associations and the Commission for the Promotion of Inclusion of People with Disabilities (KIB) appointed by the Council. Suggestions and criticism from people with disabilities, their relatives and other interested parties are taken into account and can help improve living conditions for people with disabilities in Münster.

Münster offers a wide range of counselling and support services dealing with various issues and areas of life for people with disabilities. This includes services provided by many independent organisations, as well as municipal services such as the Care Information Office and the Early Help Advice Centre in the Health Department.

Implementation of the action plan for the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The action plan for the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities adopted by the City Council in 2013 commits politicians and administration to systematically ensure that all municipal fields of action are designed to align with the goals and requirements set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The core guiding principles behind the measures and actions in the action plan are inclusion and universal design.

Selected measures:

- Annual funding of 75,000 euros to support inclusion-related projects as part of the guidelines for the promotion of child and youth work helps child and youth work organisations make their services more inclusive.
- The City of Münster is further expanding its accessible information services (simple German, sign language videos, etc.). To achieve this it will organise workshops and website accessibility checks.
- In 2019, in collaboration with the Social Welfare Office and Stadtwerke Münster and with the participation of a number of associations and groups of people with disabilities, the Commission for the Promotion of Inclusion of People with Disabilities organized a “Participation for all!” day of action to learn more about the variety of work by and for people with disabilities in the city.
- The City of Münster provides 20,000 euros annually to support activities and projects in the area of “Inclusion – strengthening the participation and political involvement of people with disabilities in Münster”. This funding is intended to help promote participation by people with disabilities in various areas of Münster society and/or to further embed the issue of inclusion in Münster society. In recent years, the funding has, for example, been used to support the educational film “Guck mal! – Blind und sehbehinderten in Münster unterwegs” by the Münster Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, which encourages greater awareness for better inclusion. The association Alternative Housing with Assistance Services e. V. also received funding for a disability-friendly reading of “Self-willed - favourite stories on disability” in the city library.
- In addition, 10,000 euros are available annually for projects to support inclusive healthcare. The Health and Veterinary Office allocate these funds in collaboration with an advisory board. To date it has funded projects such as rewriting information materials in easy-to-read language, a cooking course for the blind, the creation of a German sign language information film about coronavirus contact points and training for examiners able to award the sports badge for people with disabilities.



1.5 Sport and Participation

A comprehensive range of leisure, recreational and competitive sporting activities contributes to the health of Münster citizens, and makes the city in general more attractive. This section focuses on the integrated, city-wide sports development concept and on playgrounds and leisure facilities in Münster.

Integrated, city-wide sports development concept

The integrated, city-wide sports development concept contributes to the ongoing development of sport in Münster. The sports facility development plan outlines the status quo and provides recommendations and guidelines for the future development of sports facilities.

In 2021, in addition to the planned concept development, the sports committee also decided to set up an interdisciplinary core team and advisory board.

The overriding aim of the concept is to enable everyone in Münster to participate in a diverse range of sporting activities. This includes:

- helping to shape land use plans and development plans with regard to exercise, sport and play,
- funding structures for sport,
- further development of sports centre infrastructure,
- to preserve and, if necessary, expand the infrastructure of municipal and club-owned gymnastic and sports halls, sports facilities and pitches, and special sports facilities in keeping with demand,
- the infrastructural and organisational safeguarding of school sports and
- helping to market the city with and through sport as part of major events.

Playgrounds and leisure facilities

With their diverse play equipment, Münster's playgrounds offer some interesting play opportunities. The 325 public playgrounds invite young and old to linger and enjoy themselves. In addition to regular care and maintenance of the playgrounds (e.g. safety checks, repairs, cleaning, green maintenance), the range of playgrounds is continuously being developed further. In addition to traditional play activities for children, the range of exercise and non-club leisure activities on offer in public spaces will be further expanded.

Areas for ball games, skate parks, parkour and calisthenics facilities, pump tracks and dirt bike trails are intended to provide young people and young adults with opportunities for exercise. The tried-and-tested trim trail and the modern fitness parkour are popular with all age groups.

Natural playground in the west of the city

A further section of the Kinderbachtal Park in Gievenbeck was realised during the reporting period. This included the creation of a natural playground that incorporates surrounding nature, offers a variety of play stimuli and provides various seating options. The individual play areas provide a variety of challenges that children can overcome as they develop. These include, for example, a sand playhouse and a birch grove with forest huts for free play for younger children as well as a climbing and balancing facility and a water and mud area for older children.



*325 public
playgrounds are
available for young
and old to enjoy.*

Movement park Hiltrup

In 2020, the eastern area of the Hiltrup Süd-Sports facility was redesigned. Three workshops with user participation were held to plan the redesign. An exercise facility including a skate park, slackline area, and calisthenics and parkour facility was designed and built. The resulting facility offers a wide range of uses for a variety of users of every age.

Redesign of the Schillerstraße playground

The playground on Schillerstraße had to be decommissioned and dismantled by the Water and Shipping Authority during construction of the media culvert and new canal bridge. Planning for the redesign began in 2018. Due to the proximity of the Schillerstraße playground to other playgrounds, the initial question concerned the potential of the neighbouring Hansaplatz, Hubertstraße, Liborstraße and Schillerstraße playgrounds and how they could be developed so that each playground would have its own unique selling point despite their proximity. Consideration was given to replacing the ball game area that existed before the demolition with an exercise playground and upgrading the ball game areas at Hubertspielplatz and Hansaplatz. This idea met with a positive response at an ideas exchange. As a result, in 2019 an exercise area focusing on the in-trend sports of parkour and calisthenics was designed. The design idea is that movement sequences are not predetermined, encouraging user creativity. A play area for younger children was created in the north-west, a play area for older children in the south and an exercise area focused on parkour and calisthenics in the east. All age and user groups can exercise in a variety of ways. The different play and exercise areas are connected by a paved main path.





2. Housing and sustainable neighbourhoods

Everyone has the opportunity to live in Münster in an affordable, environmentally and socially responsible and healthy way.



What is it about?

Münster is a growing city. Some of the consequences of this growth are challenging, for example a tight housing market, with rising rents and property prices, the need to provide additional infrastructure, land use, public services, etc.

The City of Münster has initiated numerous measures and projects to counteract this development. The long-term focus is on the question, "How can all people be given the opportunity to live in Münster in an affordable, environmentally and socially responsible way?" The creation of demand-oriented housing availability and support for new forms of housing are as important for achieving this as the ongoing development of a sustainable city, districts and neighbourhoods in dialogue with people.

Strategic goals



- To create demand-orientated Münster housing availability and support new forms of housing
- To develop and shape the city, districts and neighbourhoods in dialogue with the people
- Climate-neutral new housing construction and refurbishment of existing housing stock

2.1 Affordable, environmentally and socially just housing

The housing market in Münster is very tight. Many people are looking for affordable housing. One of the city administration's priority goals is therefore to create additional availability.

The housing action plan, the associated land for development programme and socially responsible land use in Münster are presented below. One focus of these concepts is on the construction of publicly subsidised and therefore affordable housing.

Residential construction

Completions of flats in new builds and conversions



Housing action plan

The housing action Plan is the City of Münster's framework concept for housing and development land policy adopted in 2013. The role of the action plan is to define the city's goals and positions with respect to land for development and housing policy and to bring together the city's measures aimed at realising these goals.

The objectives associated with the housing action plan are in particular:

- Sufficient land for development
- Adequate housing provision
- Socially mixed residential neighbourhoods
- Ecological improvements
- Good infrastructure

Below the land for development programme and socially responsible land use in Münster (SoBoMü) are presented as selected modules for implementation of the action plan.

Land for development programme 2023 – 2030

The land for development programme is used to select areas that will be developed in the coming years in order to achieve housing and urban development policy goals. The current land for development programme is entitled "Land for development programme 2023 – 2030" and is updated annually.

From 2019 to 2022, a total of 7,362 new flats (by year: 1,749, 2,113, 1,518 and 1,982) were completed. This means that the target of 2,000 new flats per year set by the Council in 2015 was first reached in 2020.

From 2019 to 2022, the amount of land set aside for development increased to an average of over 1,000 new flats per year, almost reaching the target figure of 1,250 residential units per year. The difference was offset in 2020 and 2022 by an increase in completions outside of construction areas.

Implementation of socially responsible land use in Münster

One component of the housing action plan is socially responsible land use in Münster (SoBoMü). The construction of publicly subsidised housing is to be significantly increased. In addition, private property owners on whose land residential developments are taking place will be involved in achieving housing and social policy goals through appropriate commitments and cost contributions. A land strategy will enable the city to exert influence over factors such as rental prices in new developments.

Realisation of social and housing policy goals:

A key pillar is the purchase of development land by the city, especially in outlying areas. The municipal interim acquisition of land allows the city to use contractual means to directly control implementation of its social and housing policy goals. The city's procurement guidelines, which include social and price-reducing criteria, also exert a similar effect. The effectiveness of the criteria is reviewed regularly. It was, for example, determined that the criteria for allocating plots for detached housing were often not in keeping with the varying life circumstances of applicants. As a result, the guidelines will be amended in 2023. The "workplace in Münster" criterion, for example, will in future also cover people working from home. Similarly, in future ongoing adoption proceedings or permanent fostering relationships will also be recognised under the "children" criterion, and the discount on the purchase price per child will increase from 3,000 to 7,500 euros.

The SoBoMü model is applied consistently to land development both in the city centre and in outlying areas.

The SoBoMü aims to provide all land market participants (owners, property developers, investors, the Council and administration) with clarity and the certainty needed to invest by prioritising the following three principles:

- Equal treatment
- Transparency
- Investment certainty

In 2019, three construction sites with a capacity of around 450 flats were ready for construction under the SoBoMü model. Since 2020, all construction areas have been developed under the SoBoMü model. From 2020 to 2022, there were five, three and five new construction sites (including large construction phases on the former barracks sites) respectively, with capacities of 970, 1,250 and 970 apartments.

The goal: A liveable city for everyone

Sufficient affordable living space will be created in the growing city of Münster. A key prerequisite for this is that the extreme rise in land prices needs to be halted. Münster City Council has therefore unanimously adopted the concept of **Socially Responsible Land use** (*SoBo Münster*).

To ensure that Münster remains a good place to live for all its citizens and attractive to newcomers, specific **social and housing policy goals** are to be achieved. These include:

- sufficient development land for publicly subsidised and subsidisable housing, but also access to property ownership for broad sections of the population
- adequate housing provision for people with disabilities, senior citizens and people with a migrant background
- urban, socially mixed residential neighbourhoods for different target and income groups with new communal forms of housing
- environmental improvements through reductions in commuter traffic and energy-optimised construction

To achieve these goals in the long term, *SoBo Münster* relies on **two core principles**: An active role for the city and the involvement of private stakeholders.

1. Active role for the City

The city itself acquires plots of land for housing construction and then sells them based on specific criteria. This enables it to control the implementation of its housing policy goals directly and independently. This process is carried out through multiple channels:

- **Land acquisition**: Land in outlying areas is prioritised for development if the owner has previously sold at least 50% of the land to the city.

- **Allocation of land**: When the city allocates land for rental housing, the contract is not awarded to the investor who offers the highest price, but to the investor who guarantees the lowest starting rent or delivers the best concept. For owner-occupied homes, plots will continue to be allocated at a reduced price in accordance with municipal guidelines.

- **Contractual safeguards**: Before initiating construction planning in inner city areas, the city concludes binding contracts with developers requiring them to implement housing policy objectives.

2. Involvement of private stakeholders

In accordance with the principle that “property entails obligations”, the city gets private landowners and investors involved in realising its housing policy goals:

- private investors assume the costs for developing and building technical and social infrastructure for their properties
- in inner city areas, investors are also contractually obliged to realise objectives such as fixed quotas of subsidised housing

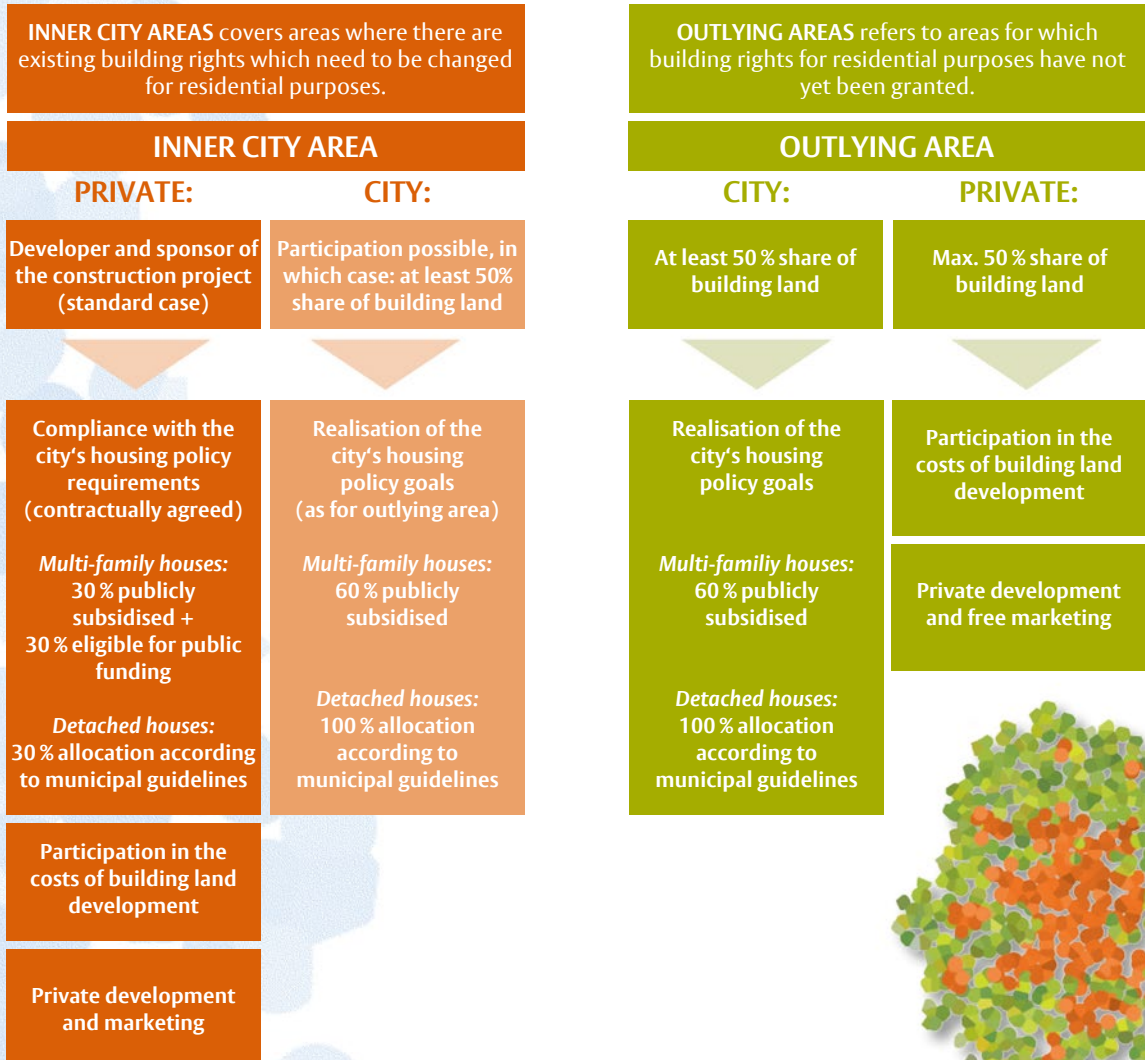
At the same time, the private sector benefits from clear advantages: **Transparency** of procedures, **equal treatment of all projects** and **investment certainty** thanks to the ability to calculate costs at an early stage.

Münster's speciality

Many cities are now using similar strategic land management instruments. For these instruments to be effective, they need to be tailored to the specific requirements of the city.

One of Münster's distinguishing features is that only 33.5% of the city area is used for housing and transport – there are large outlying areas in which there are currently no building rights for residential purposes. *SoBo Münster* takes this distinguishing feature into account by having different regulations for inner city and outlying areas.

Overview of the model



Promotion of public housing

Sustainable housing aims to prevent poverty and focus on the common good. Münster should remain a city for people of all incomes. This means that people on a low-income, older people and young families should in future also have the opportunity to live in Münster.

The City of Münster has various instruments for promoting public housing, described below.

Public funding

The supply of additional publicly subsidised housing is growing, so that the target figure of 300 additional subsidised housing units per year had been exceeded regularly from 2017 until the start of the Ukraine war and energy crisis in 2022, and the resulting economic distortions (material and personnel shortages, significant rise in interest rates, etc.).

In 2019, there were applications for 414 rental flats, and 300 rental flats were funded by the Office for Housing and Neighbourhood Development. This included, for example, 18 large group flats with a total of 204 disability-friendly residential units for students. 18 of these residential units were designed to meet the special needs of students who use a wheelchair.

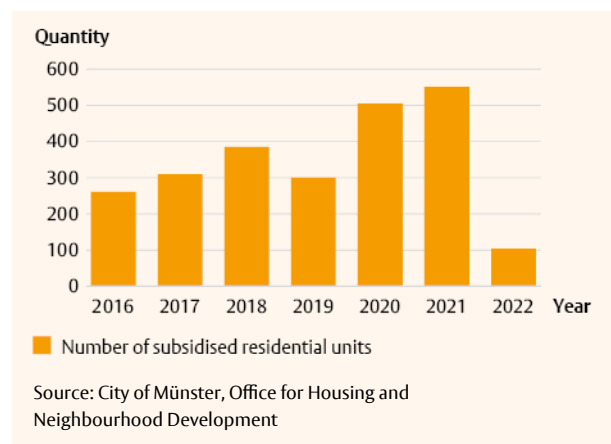
In 2020, there were 505 subsidised rental flats, including three flats for wheelchair users. In addition to the annual budget of 35 million euro, the state of North Rhine-Westphalia provided the City of Münster with a further 35 million euro to subsidise rental housing and owner-occupied homes.



In 2018, the portfolio of publicly subsidised rental flats totalled 8,135, in 2020 there were 8,326 and in 2022 8,472 flats.

Publicly subsidised housing

Subsidy commitments for publicly subsidised housing





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The Office for Housing and Neighbourhood Development also supported 25 owner-occupied homes in 2019 and 29 in 2020 with public funding.

In 2021, 536 rental flats, including 178 residential units for students and 4 flats for wheelchair users, and 15 owner-occupied homes were publicly subsidised with a total budget of 66.2 million euros.

In 2022, global economic crisis meant that only 99 flats and 5 owner-occupied homes were able to be subsidised.

Housing protection and naming rights statute

The “Housing protection statute” stipulates that housing in Münster is reserved exclusively for residential use. Without express permission, residential property may not be used for commercial purposes, used as holiday accommodation or demolished. Leaving property empty without authorisation is also prohibited. In 2020 the statute was extended for a further five years.

In 2016, the City Council adopted a “naming rights statute” for subsidised rental housing. Under this statute, tenant designation rights are established in favour of the administration for publicly subsidised flats for which the municipal right of occupancy has expired. The statute is aimed at managing an appropriate supply of housing and improving options for supporting households with difficulty accessing the local housing market by providing subsidised, affordable housing. This will primarily be achieved through cooperation agreements with landlords. Alternatively, access to subsidised housing can be facilitated through the specific nomination of tenants.

On this basis, the City of Münster has been granted tenant naming rights for the 4,364 (as at the end of 2022) publicly subsidised apartments. In 2021, the naming rights statute was extended for a further five years.

Qualified rent index

The regularly published “qualified rent index” is an important guideline for new rental contracts for privately financed flats and is the basis for calculating the local comparative rent. It is revised every four years and updated every two years to reflect market developments. For the 2021 rent index, the city administration sent out 18,000 questionnaires to tenants and landlords, 2,600 of which were analysed. It was published in April 2021.

According to the rent index, in 2021 tenants in Münster paid an average basic rent of 8.55 euro per square metre for privately financed flats. Five years earlier, the average net rent was 7.25 euro per square metre, equivalent to an annual increase of around 4.5 percent.

Homelessness

Number of people in temporary accommodation due to homelessness*



Homelessness

The provision of affordable housing is crucial in the fight against homelessness. The City of Münster is taking part in the State “Finally a HOME!” programme. The state programme relies on close cooperation between organisations supporting homeless people and the housing industry. The aim of the programme is to prevent people from losing their homes and to improve and accelerate the process for providing homeless people with accommodation.

Wohn + Stadtbau GmbH

An important factor in the provision of affordable housing is the municipal housing company Wohn+Stadtbau GmbH. The housing company has over 100 employees and lets over 6,300 flats in Münster. Around 200 new flats are built every year.

By 2025, land with a total value of 50 million euros will be transferred to Wohn + Stadtbau GmbH, to be used primarily for the construction of publicly subsidised housing. In addition, instruments such as the promotion of communal forms of housing will provide targeted support for measures that can help realise affordable housing.



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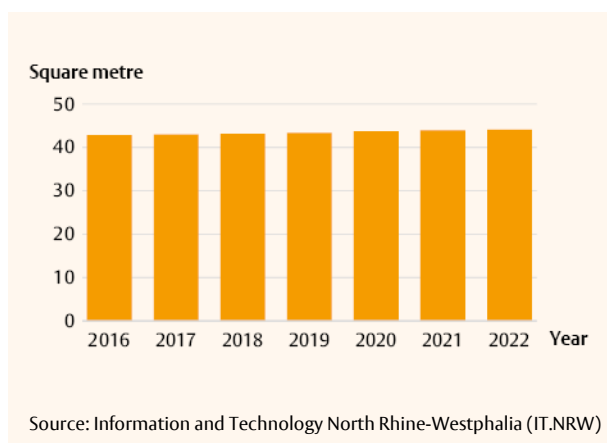
2.2 Promoting target-group-specific projects

More and more people are interested in organising their communal life themselves right from the start. As a result, people are planning and building housing projects together to ensure affordable living space in the long term.

The City of Münster promotes communal forms of living. For this reason, almost all new construction areas offer space for communal-orientated, cooperative or inclusive housing projects. This funding contributes to increasing the diversity of housing and to sustainable, climate-friendly, future-proof urban development.

Living space

Living space in square metres per inhabitant



Promoting communal living projects

Demographic and social changes are also leading to changes in housing needs and lifestyles. In this context, communal living is becoming increasingly important. These forms of living include cooperative living, multi-generational living, living together with like-minded people or friends, and living together in old age. These forms of housing and living can reduce loneliness, strengthen personal responsibility and promote neighbourly interaction.

Engagement of the City of Münster

Since 2014, the City of Münster has purchased 100 hectares of land, which will gradually be sold for development under fair, social terms to loosen the tight housing market. In allocating land, the city will make increasingly use of 'heritable building rights' (Erbbaurecht) in order to dispose of the land in the long term and retain influence over an affordable level of rent.

In accordance with a council resolution from 2019, every larger construction area is examined to see if it is suitability for communal forms of housing. In future construction areas, a significant proportion of the net living space created in urban multi-family housing developments will be assigned for the creation of communal, cooperative or inclusive forms of housing. In doing so, the City of Münster contributes to increasing the diversity of housing and to sustainable, climate-friendly, future-proof urban development.

The Office for Housing and Neighbourhood Development also supports interested citizens, groups with specific project ideas and innovative investors by acting as a clearing house for finding like-minded people or developing communal forms of living. The coordination centre has become a point of contact for issues relating to communal living.

In 2021 and 2022, for example, regular networking meetings were held on topics including architecture, financing options and legal forms, and for presentations on groups and project status.

“Mehr als Wohnen – Mecklenbeck”

On Elisabeth-Hürten-Weg in Münster-Mecklenbeck, 30 rental flats plus a shared flat were completed in 2020 as part of a multi-generational housing project. The association “Mehr als Wohnen Mecklenbeck e. V.” (more than living Mecklenbeck) was founded in 2018. The association pursues goals including the following:

- to promote interaction within the project that encourages good neighbourliness and mutual support
- to represent the common interests of association members in dealings with the owners of the project

Further selected communal living projects:

- An den Eichen, communal living in Münster-Wolbeck
- Bremer Stadtmusikanten, Wolbeck
- Gemeinsam Wohnen von Alt und Jung in Münster-Mecklenbeck e. V.
- Grafschaft 31, Berg Fidel
- Hiltruper Wohngenossenschaft e. G., Hiltrup-West
- Platanenhof, centre: Schützenhof
- Stolberg-Projekt, centre: Schlachthof
- Wohngenossenschaft Haus Coerde e. G., Coerde
- Wohnhof Delstrup, Gremmendorf Ost
- Grüner Weiler eG, Gievenbeck
- KLiQ GbR, Gievenbeck
- Südviertelhof eG, Südviertel
- WIG/WAM e. V. & GmbH, Mecklenbeck

The last four projects are in the realisation phase, with buildings currently under construction.

Promoting housing for students

The City of Münster is actively committed to constructing student and trainee accommodation.

A student housing supply working group was established in 2012 under the leadership of the Office for Housing and Neighbourhood Development with the aim of developing adequate volumes of suitable student accommodation. The working group includes representatives from the University of Münster, Münster University of Applied Sciences, student representatives from the two universities, Münster Student Union, the Episcopal Student Union, the Protestant student community, the City of Steinfurt and the City of Münster.

In 2018, relevant institutions at Münster science centre (the Münster office of Bau- und Liegenschaftsbetrieb NRW and the City of Münster) signed a “Future of the Science City” letter of intent. Partners also include Studierendenwerk, ensuring that student accommodation needs (e.g. transformation of Natural Science CenterPlus, the new plan for the Busso-Peus-Straße model district) – and in the case of Busso-Peus-Straße also trainee accommodation needs – are expressly taken into account in all planning.

In 2020, for example, redensification of a Münster student union residential complex with 124 places was realised on Busso-Peus-Straße. The City of Münster has also provided the student union with basic planning law options for redensification at other locations, which will need to be qualified in terms of urban and open space planning. The city also supports the student union with issues relating to public housing subsidies. During the reporting period, Wohn + Stadtbau GmbH also built 72 residential units for students on the York Barracks site. In 2022, 490 flats for students were also under construction on the site of the former ice sport hall on Steinfurter Straße, 145 of which were subsidised flats.

An expert survey in 2018 identified no acute need for a trainee residence. This has changed in recent years and the aim is to develop halls of residential in central locations.

2.3 Sustainable urban districts and neighbourhoods

Below, two conversion projects, elderly-friendly neighbourhood development, urban knowledge districts and districts with special development needs are presented as examples of sustainable neighbourhood development.



Conversion

With the withdrawal of the British armed forces, 18 residential sites were relinquished within Münster, plus the York Barracks in Gremmendorf and the Oxford Barracks in Gievenbeck. In Münster, the focus is on converting these sites. The barracks sites in Münster are mostly located close to the city centre and can be used for the development of new residential and commercial districts.

19 conversion projects have been realised in Münster since the 1990s.

York and Oxford Quarter

By 2028, around 1,800 residential units, communal and infrastructure facilities will have been built on the 50-hectare former military site in the York-Quartier in Gremmendorf. Groups including families, single people, senior citizens, residential and building communities will benefit from the new housing. Listed building stock will be preserved and supplemented by new buildings.

Part of the new neighbourhood is owned by Wohn + Stadtbau GmbH of the City of Münster, which is building 477 publicly subsidised flats, including 72 for students, 220 privately financed rental flats, 80 condominiums and two day-care centres. The City of Münster is selling the other residential development sites in a process designed to ensure affordable housing.

The Oxford-Quartier in Gievenbeck aims to create attractive, contemporary housing in a lively urban residential neighbourhood while preserving the listed building.

A socially and culturally mixed, residential quarter which has been renovated and modernised to high energy-efficiency standards will create various sizes of affordable living space at various locations on the site of the old barracks. Wohn + Stadtbau GmbH also owns part of the Oxford Quarter, where it is building 104 publicly subsidised apartments, 40 condominiums, 17 privately financed flats and a neighbourhood meeting place.

KonVOY GmbH, a company wholly owned by the City of Münster, is responsible for developing and marketing the two city districts.

Urban model neighbourhoods

Embedded in the MünsterZukünfte concept, the City of Münster is developing new urban neighbourhoods intended to meet existing increased demand for living space, workplaces, and locations for science and research facilities. These are the model neighbourhood for new urban living, working and technology west of Steinfurter Strasse and the model neighbourhood for science and living west of Busso-Peus-Strasse. In addition to these two model neighbourhoods in the north-west of Münster, the city is also developing model neighbourhoods in the south-east (Theodor-Scheiwe-Straße, Nieberdingstrasse/ Eulerstrasse,

Am Hawerkamp/ Stadthafen 2) which will likewise combine residential and commercial use.

The aim is to create multifunctional neighbourhoods featuring exemplary ecological and social standards, which, by mixing housing, science and work/ technology at all levels of the neighbourhood, contribute to a future-oriented economy (→ Section 6) and a city of short distances (→ Section 4.1).

In designing these urban model neighbourhoods, key planning maxims are climate neutrality, priority for pedestrian/ cycle paths and public transport, space-saving construction, high quality of open spaces, mixed use, social mix, intergenerational planning and a social marketing concept based around the multidimensionality of sustainable development. Citizens are proactively involved in and invited to participate in the planning processes.



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District development concepts

District development concepts define fields of action, goals and measures for the future development of individual districts. Below, the focus is on the districts of Coerde, Kinderhaus-Brüningheide, Berg Fidel and Angelmodde as examples.

Coerde – a neighbourhood on the move

In 2020, the City Council unanimously adopted an integrated district development concept (InSEK) for Münster-Coerde. The concept serves as the foundation for upcoming projects and measures in Coerde and for applying for further funding.

Over the next few years, numerous measures will be implemented to improve the quality of housing and life in the district.

Selected integrated district development concept (InSEK) projects:

- Upgrading and redesigning Hamannplatz
- Construction of a new multifunctional district centre
- Creation of exercise elements and refurbishment of playgrounds (new skate and pump track facility at Meerwiese)

Kinderhaus-Brüningheide

The Kinderhaus-Brüningheide programme of measures was initially launched in 2007 as part of the joint federal and state Socially Integrative City programme and has received annual financing of around 150,000 euros from municipal funds. In addition, since its extension in 2011 there has also been dynamic readjustment of staff cost shares. An annual report provides information on implementation of the measures. Projects aim to improve the housing and living situation, increase educational opportunities and integrate groups in the district.

The integrative, neighbourhood-related continuation concept is actively supported by many municipal departments. The Kinderhaus-Brüningheide tenants' council, "Schleife image workshop" interest group and Kinderhaus-Brüningheide housing industry working group have been founded to this end, and meet when

required with participation and management by the Office for Housing and Neighbourhood Development.

In addition, housing conditions have also been improved by the continuation of refurbishment measures, including energy-efficiency refurbishment measures, by individual housing companies and action days for the design of the green loop under the leadership of the Green Space Office. At the end of 2022, the city also initiated a participatory workshop process for the urban redevelopment of Sprickmannplatz, supervised by the urban planning office.

Integrated district development concept Berg Fidel – colourful, green, urban

The administration received a number of requests from parliamentary committees to develop an integrated development concept (InSEK) for the Berg Fidel district. The process was launched in 2019 with intensive participation by local residents, other stakeholders and local politicians. A cross-party working group made up of members of Münster-Hiltrup district council and formed specifically for this process decided, in conjunction with project management at the city planning office, to define only the central area of the district – districts 911 and 912 – as a study area for the district development concept.

Based on the participation steps, a list of measures for improving living conditions in the neighbourhood will be compiled shortly. Focal points will include climate protection and climate adaptation, and strengthening infrastructure to improve educational opportunities and thereby reduce unemployment rates in the district.

Angelmodde district development concept

In 2021, the administration began working on a neighbourhood development concept for Angelmodde. In addition to analysing the current situation in the district, a number of participation steps and formats with different target groups have taken place. The development concept sets out goals and a mission statement for future development of the neighbourhood. Measures and projects formulated in the development concept will be implemented over the long term, thereby improving quality of life and living conditions for people in Angelmodde. The urban development concept will be finalised in the first half of 2024.



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3. Natural resources and the environment

In Münster, the natural foundations of life are being preserved and biodiversity improved.



What is it about?

How can we preserve natural resources and biodiversity in Münster in the face of population growth? Ensuring sustainable land use and utilisation is one essential factor. Other important components include environmentally-friendly management of ground and surface waters, preservation of biodiversity, environmentally-friendly management of open spaces, green spaces and forest areas, the expansion of ecological and environmentally-friendly agriculture and precautionary climate change adaptation measures.

Strategic goals



- Utilise development potential in existing built-up areas before using new outlying areas
- Maintain and enhance region-specific species and variety diversity
- Promote ecological, resource-conserving, animal-friendly, conventional and environmentally-friendly agriculture
- Groundwater and all surface waters are in good ecological and chemical condition
- Manage open spaces, green spaces and forest areas in an environmentally friendly way and improve networking
- Expand precautionary climate change adaptation measures

3.1 Land utilisation and urban development

As aerial photograph and area statistics for Münster show, much of the area of the City of Münster is characterised by vegetation. Agricultural and forest areas account for 60 percent of land area. Settlement and transport areas make up 33 percent. Münsterland thus extends far into the city, meaning that agricultural use is also of great importance. Large parts of the settlement areas are structured by green and open spaces, with the Promenadenring a particularly prominent example. This interlocking of city and landscape, of settlement and open space, of landscape areas and urban neighbourhoods is undoubtedly a unique feature of Münster.

Green space planning

Münster’s green space planning agreement sets out the green system, and targets and concepts for the protection of nature, the landscape, open spaces, and leisure and recreation.

Münster has had a closed first green ring in the form of the Promenade, which follows the course of the historic city wall, since the 18th century. There are seven major green corridors running radially towards this inner-city green ring.

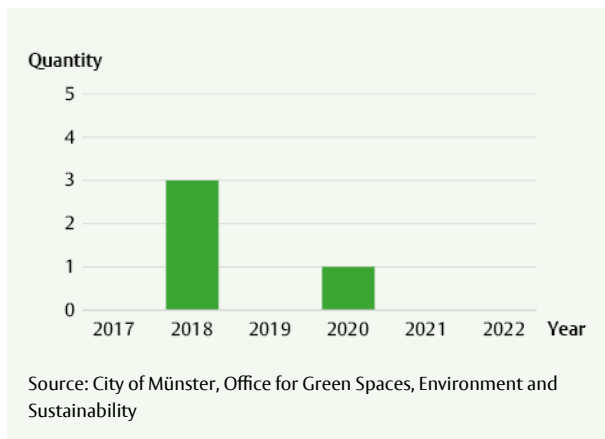
Areas making up a second green ring surround the city centre. These are important open spaces for structuring the city and providing the population with green spaces for recreation close to their homes. The second ring, which is also important for the urban climate, is intended to preserve open space between the original city of Münster and surrounding neighbourhoods.

The third green ring comprises the open countryside extending to the city limits in the outer districts.

The indicator below shows the number of structural changes to Münster’s green spaces. This includes changes (> 500 m² impervious surface) to green corridors and the first and second green rings in accordance with the City of Münster’s green regulations. It excludes privileged projects in outlying areas.

Changes to the green space planning system

Number of changes to the green space planning system in Münster



Model project for space-saving municipalities

In 2013, Münster was selected as one of six model municipalities for certification as a land-saving municipality in North Rhine-Westphalia. The main focus was on the introduction and further development of strategic land management systems.

The City of Münster's efforts led it to be awarded the "Milestone in Gold" certificate as a space-saving municipality from 2014 to 2017.

Successful certification also involved the submission of a land report including a land-saving development action programme. Using a well-designed strategy for limiting

land consumption, the action programme helps to make more targeted use of limited land resources and to decouple urban and economic development from the consumption of open space.

During the reporting period, the city has continued to emphatically pursue the goal of "inner development before outer". The city is implementing conversion projects (York Barracks and Oxford Barracks) and reuse of areas such as the former city harbour, Beresa, Lancier and Winkelhaus sites. In 2020, for example, a resolution was passed to reuse the areas between Halle Münsterland and Stadthafen II and the city launched the project to develop former commercial land at Stadthafen Nord into an urban neighbourhood (→ Section 2).



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3.2 Open space planning

The City of Münster's open space planning concerns undeveloped open spaces within the settlement area. The aim is to provide the population with suitable green and open spaces. These include parks and green spaces, playgrounds and sports grounds, allotment gardens and cemeteries.

The Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability looks after more than 1,046 hectares of urban green space.

Green space management

Green spaces have the potential to contribute to sustainable urban development in a variety of ways. Potential positive effects of urban green spaces include contributing to mitigating the consequences of climate change, promoting health, safeguarding social functions, improving the quality of a location, protecting the soil, water and air, and preserving biodiversity.

Renovation of Südpark

Splashing in the water, playing ball, jogging or simply sitting on a bench and gazing at the greenery: Südpark is one of Münster's largest parks and the core green space in Südviertel. With its numerous leisure facilities, Südpark is very important to local residents. After around 40 years of intensive use, however, the site was in need of extensive renovation. Over the last few years, this has been planned and started with the involvement of a wide range of citizens. The first construction phase was completed in August 2020. The project saw extensive renovation of the water play area and a complete overhaul of the technical facilities. The water play area is now once again inviting for children and includes seating and space to lie down for all. Further construction phases, involving the renovation of existing Speckbrett and ball game courts, and a playground, have already been realised. In addition, a new area has been created with five raised beds for urban gardening, and additional seating areas have been created in various places. The extensive refurbishment should be completed in 2024. Südpark will remain a meeting place for all generations and sections of the population in the long term.

Wildflowers in the city

From 2020 to 2022, 30,580 square metres were sown with regional seeds (Weseler Straße, Aasee, Von-Esmarch-Straße, Mecklenbeck Landschaftspark, Kinderbach, Wienburgpark, Hobbeltstraße, Hansaplatz and Franz-Grillparzer Weg). This represents an increase in total area sown to approx. 37,600 square metres. The sown areas were mown once only and the cuttings cleared away.



This is in response to the need to protect native insects, which are threatened by the use of pesticides in agriculture and by the decline in native plant species in their habitat. Three flowering areas have been created through citizen involvement.

Wild plants from the local region were used in the flowering areas, as native insects are often dependent on specific plants. The various seed mixes used were developed based on scientific and practical considerations and modified specifically for Münster. They included a flower meadow mix, a butterfly and wild bee mix and a mix for moist soils containing only a small proportion of grass.

Ecological development of the Lauheide forest cemetery

The Lauheide forest cemetery is a unique landscape and recreational garden.

More than 60 plant species and well over 100 bird species can be found here. Most of the paths on the 82-hectare site are unsealed. Instead of using raised bog peat and artificial fertiliser, the site uses bark mulch and compost. The site does not use salt for gritting, poisons, or stone or plastic grave boundaries.

Project funding was provided as part of the Green Infrastructure funding call as part of NRW's stimulus package I.

Measures implemented:

- Planting of 150 standard trees of native species
- Planting of 250 hedges for greater structural diversity
- Procurement of 200 nesting aids for a variety of bird species
- Procurement of 25 insect hotels
- Procurement of an electric sprinkler vehicle

Urban trees

Whether on streets and squares or in parks and green spaces, urban trees are important elements of urban nature in Münster. Regardless of their location, their function extends far beyond their aesthetic or urban planning significance. As space-creating design elements, urban trees are indispensable. They are highly visible and tangible by their very nature. They play a key role in quality of life in urban spaces and also promote the health of the population. They provide shade and oxygen, absorb noise and store carbon dioxide. These features have been proven to significantly improve the urban climate. At high temperatures, they provide noticeable cooling and help control air pollution control through the dust-binding effect of their leaves. They can help to minimise the effects of heavy rainfall events.

There are currently over 1 million trees covering a total area of over 300 km² in Münster. The City of Münster itself is responsible for approx. 300,000 trees with a height of more than 3 m on municipal properties within the city. This data is based on 3D point cloud analysis from 2021. In order to evaluate this basic data and add important further information, since mid-2022 control and maintenance processes have been reorganised and managed using a digital tree register.

Detailed recording of the tree population enables the City of Münster to better understand factors such as how much CO₂ our trees sequester, a key contribution to reducing greenhouse gases. In addition, the tree register makes it possible to analyse and increase the stock of climate change-resistant tree species. In an era of species extinction and global warming, it also helps to record and promote biodiversity within the city.

The advantages of a tree register are manifold:

- **Efficient management and control:** It enables effective management of tree location, species, age and condition and facilitates the planning of maintenance measures.
- **Road safety:** Regular tree inspections allow potentially dangerous trees to be identified early and professionally treated.
- **Conservation of biodiversity:** The data collected in the register can be used to better target planning of replacement and new planting projects.
- **Support for urban projects:** The register facilitates the planning of construction projects and takes into account the preservation of important tree locations and stands.
- **Appreciation of historically significant trees:** Special trees with historic or cultural significance can be better protected and honoured.

One of the other aims of the tree register is to familiarise the citizens of Münster with the importance of the urban tree population in the context of climate change. In addition to its role as an administrative tool, it also serves as an information and educational resource.

Omnipresent climate change caused by heat, lack of water, storms and heavy rainfall is increasingly affecting urban and private tree populations in Münster, boosting the number and intensity of many tree diseases. This is exacerbated by the demographics of the tree population in Münster, a planted post-war tree population which in many locations is in the transition from maturity to old age (approx. 50-80 years depending on the tree species). A significant increase in essential civil engineering and building construction measures, construction work on existing buildings, and fibre optic and broadband expansion are also giving rise to new and increased tree protection requirements during construction and for requirements for implementation of necessary tree protection measures.

The effects of these factors will increasingly be reflected in an increased workload to sustainably preserve the existing tree population. The aim of the Urban Trees specialist unit is to develop a sustainable tree management strategy that serves as a conceptual basis for implementation of an urban tree concept based upon it. The urban tree population will be preserved, renewed and expanded on the basis of urban ecology, climate and urban design principles. The focus is on establishing a long-term, healthy, stable stock of urban trees, which will continue to give rise to a sustainable improvement in the urban living environment and conditions, and make an important contribution to the design of the cityscape.

Campaigns and participation in urban greenery

Greenery and nature are promoted in Münster through the actions of numerous people, companies, organisations and associations.

Münster shows its colours

One aim of this civic campaign is for the citizens of Münster to take responsibility for the city's public green spaces. This can take the form of sponsoring the bed around a tree or a playground, for example. In some cases, companies also take responsibility for maintaining a public green space, highlighting how their company is rooted in Münster.





In addition to a number of single year campaigns, there are 402 existing tree sponsorships, 356 tree bed sponsorships, 149 playground sponsorships and 83 green sponsorships for public green spaces or roundabouts.

“Münster schenkt aus”

In 2020, the administration launched a campaign called “Münster schenkt aus” (Münster pours a drink) to raise awareness of the consequences of the extreme dry periods caused by climate change for city trees. The aim is to raise awareness and encourage citizens to help by watering city trees during hot, dry summer months. Since then, filled water containers have been set up at 61 locations in the city during the summer months and around 600 street trees have been equipped with water bags.

In addition, since the start of the campaign 2,355 additional water bags and 312 watering cans have been distributed to the population.

Münster is buzzing

In collaboration with NABU Nature Conservation Centre Münsterland, the Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability offers a free advisory service on boosting biodiversity in commercial and industrial areas.

Companies and institutions often have large outdoor areas in which it is possible to boost biodiversity without affecting functional areas.

A free initial consultation offers companies, associations, institutions and private individuals the opportunity to discuss local conditions and potential with trained staff and to develop initial ideas. This also includes information on reference sources. The slogan for the campaign is “Companies create diversity”. There is a flyer advertising the free counselling service.

3.3 Agriculture and forest management

Münster and the surrounding area are strongly agricultural. Around two thirds of the area of the city consists of forest and agricultural land (→ Section 3.1). Measures for the protection and ecological management of these areas are described below.

Agriculture

12,715 ha of land are used for agriculture in Münster representing over 43 percent of the city's total area. Since 2010, the area used for agriculture has decreased by 509 ha and the number of farms by 46.

In 2020, 10,533 ha were farmed as arable land, of which 6,334 ha were used to grow cereals (mainly animal feed). A further 2,271 ha are permanent grassland. Münster and large parts of Münsterland have traditionally been used for intensive livestock farming, especially pig fattening, pig breeding and bull fattening. The proportion of organic farming has risen slightly in recent years: There are nine organic farms, organically farming an area of 454 hectares (equivalent to 3.4 percent of the agricultural area). The City of Münster aims to increase this proportion to 5 percent by 2030, and the proportion of more sustainable conventional agriculture.

A student project on the theoretical degree of self-sufficiency shows that in Münsterland 128 percent of demand for chicken meat, 268 percent of demand for beef and 501 percent of demand for pork could theoretically be met from the region. The degree of self-sufficiency in plant-based raw materials such as food grains and potatoes is between 71 and 72 percent. However, there is a large deficit in vegetables and fruit with local supply meeting just 4 to 5 percent of demand.¹

Ecological leasing of urban areas

The City of Münster currently rents out approx. 1,000 hectares of agricultural land, mainly under one-year contracts.

The City of Münster rented out nine hectares of urban land in 2019 and a further eleven hectares in 2021 for a period of ten years for organic farming. The city plans to rent out a further area in future.

¹ Faiß, Nina (ed.) (2020): Inventory of the supply situation in the administrative district of Münster. Calculations of the self-sufficiency levels of selected staple foods. [internal source]

On behalf of the City Council, the administration is also currently developing a concept for renting out municipal agricultural land in accordance with environmental criteria.

Forest land management

Under the North Rhine-Westphalia State Forestry Act, the city applies the following management principles to municipal forests in Münster to maintain their utilisation, protection and recreational function:

- Long-term, permanent stocking of the soil with forest
- Management and design for the greatest possible benefit for the common good
- Ensuring sustainability
- Commitment to economy and efficiency

The municipal forestry operation manages 616 hectares of forest land belonging to the City of Münster, 394 hectares of forest land belonging to Stadtwerke Münster and 11 hectares of forest land belonging to the Siverdes Foundation. All operational work (e.g. logging, safety work, cultivation and maintenance work, maintenance of the path and drainage network, construction and maintenance of recreational facilities) is carried out on the basis of forest management plans drawn up in 2015 on behalf of the responsible lower forestry authority. The plans are for a ten year period.

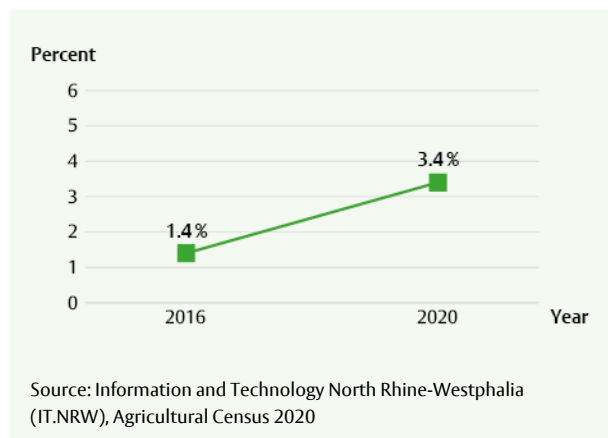
Natural management in accordance with FSC criteria

In 1997, the City Council decided to continue with near-natural management of forest areas used for forestry purposes, and that this would also apply to forests in areas managed by Stadtwerke Münster under a forestry contract. At the same time, the City of Münster committed to complying with the criteria for forest management in natural forest communities set out by the German Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union (NABU) and to endeavour to label the timber sold.

The City of Münster, Stadtwerke Münster and Siverdes Foundation forestry operations are managed in accordance with FSC criteria and are continuously audited. The main audit was successfully passed in 2020. A new main audit is planned for 2025.

Organic and conventional farming

Organically farmed land as a proportion of total utilised agricultural area in percent



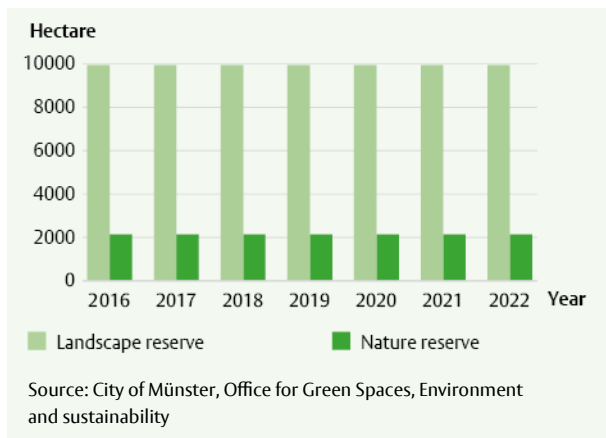
100 % of the city's forests are managed in accordance with FSC criteria.

3.4 Biodiversity and risks for biodiversity loss

The City of Münster signed the Biological Diversity in Municipalities declaration in 2010. In 2011, Münster was awarded second place for larger cities in the “Federal Capital of Biodiversity” competition. The award emphasised the nutrient-poor, species-rich, flowering green strips along many streets, the unsealing of central reservations, tree plantations and support for environmental education facilities.

However, the City of Münster also supports “Together for species conservation”. Representatives from nature conservation, beekeeping, hunting, agriculture and the City of Münster meet regularly to share information and plan joint activities.

Nature reserves and landscape protection areas
Area of nature reserves and landscape protection areas in Münster in hectares



Nature reserves and landscape protection areas

Nature reserves are important refuges for rare, endangered animal and plant species and therefore require intensive protection from disruptive influences. There are currently 16 nature reserves in Münster, covering an area of around 2,135 hectares.

Landscape conservation areas are established in order to maintain or restore the capacity of the ecosystem or the utilisation capacity of natural resources, or where this is necessary due to their importance for recreation. There are currently 9 landscape conservation areas in Münster, covering an area of 9,939 hectares. This means that landscape conservation areas represent around 32.5 percent of the total area of the city.

The core planning instrument for nature conservation and landscape management is the landscape plan. It makes an important contribution to protecting natural resources and serves to secure the basis of human life in the long term. The most important aspects of its role are conservation and development of the natural diversity of flora and fauna, protection of the soil and water balance and safeguarding the landscape for human recreation. There are three legally binding landscape plans in Münster:

- Werse
- Northern Aa Valley and Vorberg Hills
- Roxeler Riedel

A fourth landscape plan (Davert and Hohe Ward) is currently being drawn up.

Species protection

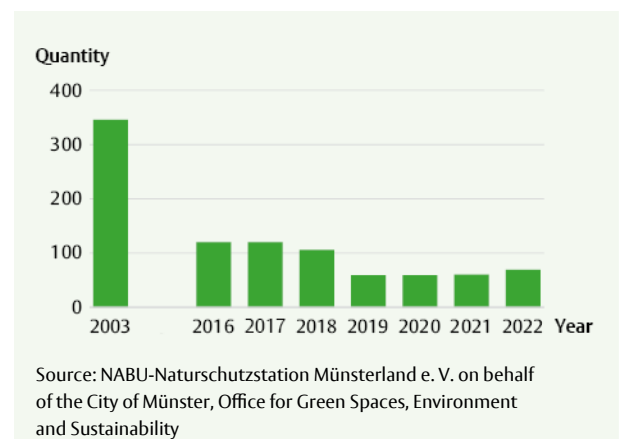
NABU-Naturschutzstation Münsterland e. V. regularly records the population and change in population for selected species. Indicator species provide representative information on changes in biodiversity in the most important habitat types: The annual lapwing survey, for example, conducted since 2014, provides information on wet meadows and fallow land.

In 2021 NABU-Naturschutzstation Münsterland e. V. counted 60 breeding lapwing pairs, while 69 breeding pairs were counted in 2022. This represents a slight increase in breeding pairs after a drastic decline in previous years (2018: 106 breeding pairs, 2019: 59 breeding pairs). According to NABU, the threshold value of 0.8 fledged chicks per breeding pair required to maintain the population was exceeded in 2021, when it was 0.92. However, breeding success fell to 0.4 in 2022, which is considered insufficient to maintain the local population.

Various factors threaten the survival of the lapwing population in Münster. The species often uses arable land or secondary habitats such as industrial fallow land for breeding, due to a lack of natural habitats such as wet grassland. Spring drought, arable land use and predator pressure, however, often mean that the birds fail to breed successfully in these areas. In addition, construction projects are driving loyal lapwings from their habitats. One example is the new residential area on Kötterstraße in Handorf, which currently endangers around 10 percent of the region's total lapwing population. NABU estimates that Münster's lapwing population is likely to continue to decline unless there are significant improvements to the "basic ecological quality" of suitable areas and the release of new areas. To counteract this decline, in collaboration with local farmers, NABU-Naturschutzstation Münsterland and the Westphalian Cultural Landscape Foundation, the City of Münster has launched the Münster Lapwing Protection project.

Lapwing breeding pairs

Number of breeding pairs of lapwings in Münster



3.5 Soil protection

Maintaining natural soil function and performance requires knowledge of soil type and soil quality. The environmental register contains comprehensive information on soil type and quality.

Digital soil contamination map

In 2006, in order to obtain baseline information on soil contamination in Münster, a digital soil contamination map of the whole city was compiled. This shows that the level of contaminants in the city's soils is quite low, with contamination levels decreasing as you move from the city centre to the periphery.

In the central settlement area, increased levels of contaminants in soil can be expected over large areas. Selected results are described below:

- In the residential area, measured values in some cases exceed test values, particularly for lead and benzo(a)pyrene. However, this frequently relates to lower soil horizons or less sensitive uses.
- The overall pollution level is higher in the floodplains. A detailed analysis is therefore required in the floodplains (e.g. the Aa).

Soils with special functional quality were analysed in the urban area. In these priority areas other uses will be minimised through planning and steering measures.

Characteristics worthy of protection:

- Soils with extreme water and nutrient availability
- Soils with high natural productivity
- Regionally typical and/or particularly rare soils

3.6 Bodies of water, groundwater and waste water

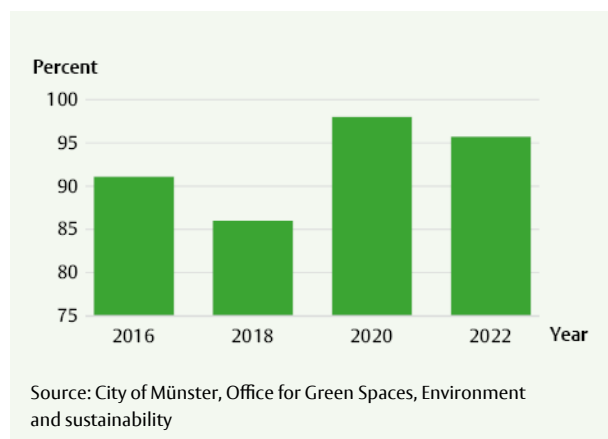
Water is indispensable for all life. The aim of water protection is, through sustainable water management, to protect bodies of water as part of the natural balance, as the basis for human life, as a habitat for animals and plants and as a usable resource (Section 1 WHG).

On this basis, the existence and quality of a water resource must be permanently maintained and – if already damaged – restored. Every intervention in the water balance leads to varying degrees of impact on the natural balance. Sustainable water management therefore requires that water resources are conserved to the maximum extent possible.

Sustainability means using the life-giving goodness of water sparingly and avoiding the entry of pollutants into watercourses to the maximum extent possible.

Water quality class of watercourses

Percentage of watercourse sections with water quality class II to III or better



Water and groundwater protection

There are over 600 kilometres of watercourses in the city of Münster. With the exception of the Werse and Münster'schen Aa, these are mainly small and very small bodies of water.

All of Münster's watercourses are heavily utilised and were in the past developed exclusively from a technical point of view for agricultural use and urban development. As a result, many are not in good ecological condition.

Responsibility for watercourses is divided between five water and soil associations and the City of Münster. These institutions have an obligation under the European Water Framework Directive to achieve good ecological status of watercourses.

To achieve this goal, the city has been carrying out ecological improvements to its watercourses since the mid-1980s. Measures taken in the period 2019 – 2022 covered by this report include measures on the Aa in Kanalstraße and the Westerholt'sche Wiese area, and on Piepenbach and Gievenbach.

Ecological upgrade of the Münstersche Aa

The ecological upgrade of the Münstersche Aa extends along a 1,300 metre stretch in the area of Kanalstrasse. The Aa burst its banks during a heavy rainfall event in Münster in 2014. The bed of the watercourse has now been largely restored to its natural state, and numerous tree trunks and roots have been installed to channel the water and provide a habitat for fish. The watercourse has been considerably widened. This allows the Aa to absorb and drain more water during heavy rainfall.

Renaturalisation of Piepenbach

In 2022, an approximately 440 metre-long section of the Piepenbach stream was renaturalised. Following an extensive redesign of the section from Telgter Straße to the mouth of the Angel, the stream now meanders through the urban green space. In total, the city has excavated and removed a good 10,000 cubic metres of soil to provide this small watercourse with sufficient space for near-natural development in future

With a width of around 40 metres, the new water corridor offers sufficient space for features such as shallow water zones and oxbow lakes. Small pools, deadwood and accumulations of stones provide an ideal habitat for amphibians.

Aasee resilience strategy

Following the fish mortality episode in Lake Aa in 2018, Prof Dr Dr Borchardt drew up a Lake Aa Resilience Strategy report. Based on this report, the following measures have been implemented in Lake Aa:

- Regular game fishing to limit fish stocks
- Ecological improvement of banks (flattening, installation of deadwood)
- Artificial aeration of the lake
- Intervention management (monitoring, measurement data, analysis)
- Reduction of nutrient and pollutant inputs (rainwater treatment)
- Further scientific investigations (sediment, deep aeration)

Groundwater

There are two separate aquifers in Münster. Water is extracted in many areas of the city for a variety of purposes:

- Public water supply
- Supplying farms and individual buildings in outlying areas with industrial and drinking water
- Supplying commercial and industrial companies with industrial and drinking water
- Operating heat pumps for heating buildings
- Irrigation of agricultural or horticultural land
- Irrigation of sports fields
- Draining agricultural or horticultural land
- Lowering groundwater levels during building construction

The effects of climate change on the groundwater body are monitored by the City of Münster's groundwater monitoring programme.

A key element in groundwater protection is awareness-raising through targeted public relations work by the City of Münster's environmental advice service, which provides tips and suggestions on the following issues:

- Unsealing of surfaces and options for rainwater retention and infiltration
- Rainwater utilisation for garden irrigation
- Roof greening
- Sustainable plant protection in the garden to avoid the use of pesticides

Following a decision by the synthetic turf working group, since 2019 EPDM granules have no longer been installed on synthetic turf pitches at municipal and transferred sports facilities. All new synthetic turf pitches built or renovated by the Sports Office or the Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability are constructed using a sand-filled construction.

Waste water

The overriding aim of the 7th update of the wastewater disposal concept for 2021 – 2026 is to minimise the impact of wastewater on the natural water cycle.

This will be achieved through measures such as maximising the reduction in the amount of substances released from the sewerage system and sewage treatment plants. To this end, a fourth treatment stage will be added to sewage treatment plants and combined water and rainwater treatment plants in the network will be modernised and, where necessary, expanded so that they are state of the art.

New urban developments are designed to be climate-adapted and water-sensitive, with the local natural water balance used as a target value.



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To avoid environmental pollution, all wastewater facilities must remain operational. To achieve this, targeted investment planning is carried out based on the applicable regulations to maintain substance and value.

Total investment through to 2026 amounts to around 356 million euro, which also covers the effects of city growth. The largest individual investments are expansion of the main wastewater treatment plant, currently under construction, and expansion of the Hiltrup wastewater treatment plant, at a cost of 115 million euro and 179 million euro respectively.

Expansion of the main wastewater treatment plant and the Hiltrup wastewater treatment plant

Münster's main wastewater treatment plant in Coerde is being expanded, not least due to Münster's growing population. A fourth treatment stage will also make it possible to reduce micropollutants. Replacement of the aeration system will also save energy and costs in future. The total cost of expanding the main sewage treatment plant is expected to be around 115 million euros. The State of NRW is subsidising the project with 35 million euros via NRW Bank.

Plans to connect the Nienberge-Häger sewage treatment plant to the main sewage treatment plant are currently being realised. As a result, wastewater from this area will be treated using state-of-the-art technology.



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In addition, the Hiltrup wastewater treatment plant will be expanded and will also gain a fourth purification stage to reduce and eliminate microplastics, anthropogenic trace substances and multi-resistant microorganisms. The planning contract was awarded in 2022.

treatment plant and has had a sludge incineration plant since 1977. As required by law from 2029, the new incineration plant will enable the recovery of phosphorus, significant amounts of which are contained in the incinerator ash. This raw material will therefore in future be recovered.

Sewage sludge disposal

In 2019, the drainage companies of the cities of Münster and Düsseldorf together with Aggerverband, Bergisch-Rheinischer Wasserverband and Wupperverband founded Klärschlammverwertung Buchenhofen GmbH to dispose of sewage sludge in a new sewage sludge mono-incineration plant at the Buchenhofen site in Wuppertal. The new sludge incineration plant will have a total capacity of 47,500 tonnes and will be built at Wupperverband’s Buchenhofen site in 2028. This is where the association operates its largest wastewater

Nitrate in drinking water

Average value of the four water catchment areas in milligrams per litre



3.7 Climate adaptation

In 2017, an urban climate adaptation concept was adopted with the aim of transforming Münster into a resilient, adaptable city equipped for all of the consequences of climate change.

The mission statement “An umbrella for Münster” includes the four pillars of heat, storm, heavy rain and drought prevention, and sets out the objectives of the climate adaptation concept. These are to protect the citizenry, urban infrastructure and urban nature.

Based on the climate adaptation concept, the “Climate Adaptation 2030” action plan, which comprises 48 measures and sub-measures, was adopted in December 2019. Selected content from the action plan is presented below.

Improving the greening situation

In 2021, the City Council decided that front gardens in new development areas should generally be designed as planted areas.

A natural, insect-friendly garden supports biodiversity and increases quality of living.

Plants have important functions, such as cooling, filtering and moisturising. They bind dust and pollutants, reduce noise and also provide privacy.

Rainwater seeps into the ground and is available to plants, reducing the burden on the sewage system. At the same time, care and maintenance costs can be reduced.

Roof and facade greening

Green roofs store water, filter dust, reduce noise, equalise temperature differences and provide a habitat for animals and plants. The City of Münster’s “Climate-friendly residential buildings” funding programme supports the installation of green roofs on both existing and new buildings. This includes the construction of the vegetation layer, including root-proof sealing, protective fleece, drainage elements, filter fleece and substrate. Up to 50 percent of the costs for these measures are subsidised.

The City of Münster environmental advice service also provides tips on greening facades.²

² The environmental advice centre was closed in November 2022 and will be replaced in 2023 by the newly opened House of Sustainability (→ Section 9.3).

Advantages of green roofs and facades:

- Improves the urban climate and cityscape: plants have a positive effect on the microclimate and filter dust and pollutant particles from the air; the appearance of monotonous facades is revitalised
- Protects the building from the weather: Thermal insulation in summer, protection against heat loss due to wind
- Noise protection: noise reduction of up to 5 decibels
- Ecological functions: additional habitat for many animal species, e.g. nesting opportunities for birds, food supply for insects seeking prey
- Retention area for precipitation and an important component of water-sensitive urban drainage

The municipal green roof register provides an initial assessment of the suitability of your own roof. It shows at a glance how much precipitation is stored on the roof and how much CO₂ can be absorbed by the plants.

Heavy rain hazard map for Münster

The heavy rain hazard map developed as part of the climate adaptation concept provided an initial indication of which settlement and traffic areas would be affected by flooding in the event of a heavy rainfall event. A detailed heavy rain hazard map has been available since end of 2022/start of 2023 (the map can be viewed at <https://www.stadt-muenster.de/wasser/starkregenfahrkarten>). This forms the basis for further risk assessment for sensitive structures in Münster.

Water-sensitive urban development

Another instrument is water-sensitive urban development, which focuses on the natural water balance in a settlement area. A variety of measures ensure that precipitation can seep away and evaporate or run off at surface level after a delay. This helps maintain the natural water cycle and promotes quality of life by cooling the ambient temperature.

Participation in the European Climate Adaptation Award (ECA)

The City of Münster is taking part in the European Climate Adaptation Award (ECA), a programme for cities and municipalities that are stepping up their climate adaptation measures. The four-year process includes identifying optimisation potential, support with implementation and regular checks.



4. Sustainable mobility

Commercial, commuter and leisure transport is predominantly environmentally and climate-friendly.



What is it about?

Until now, the 2030 Sustainability Strategy has mainly looked at how urban and suburban transport can be designed so that in future it is predominantly environmentally friendly and climate-neutral from the perspective of the commuter problem. This section now focuses on integrated mobility planning as envisaged in the Sustainable Municipality Reporting Framework.

Münster is known throughout Germany as a city of cyclists and this is one reason why people value its quality of life and value it as a place to spend time. However, transport planning is not limited solely to bicycles. Functioning mobility is guaranteed in particular when all modes of transport are taken into account and coordinated in the best possible way. This integrative approach has been the guiding principle of sustainable, climate-friendly mobility planning in Münster for many years.

Strategic goals



- Expand climate and environmentally-friendly transport of goods and deliveries
- Through regional collaborations, mobility (especially commuter transport) will be made predominantly environmentally friendly and climate-neutral
- Develop settlement areas primarily in the catchment area of efficient infrastructures, supply centres and public transport services (city of short distances)

4.1 City of short distances

The retail and centres concept safeguards local retail supply structures and in particular local amenities, thereby contributing to reducing traffic volumes.

The structure of mobility in Münster can be characterised as the city of short distances. Attractive, lively districts and the city centre are characterised by the fact that central services and facilities are within walking distance. Central amenities are easily accessible by all means of transport, particularly on foot and by bike, and demographic change and the increase in the proportion of older and less mobile people means that they are becoming increasingly important for keeping people supplied. Short local supply routes also contribute to the preservation of biodiversity. By reducing the volume of traffic, less space is used for transport and fewer emissions – for example noise – are produced.

Maintaining and further developing central supply areas and ensuring that local amenities are as accessible as possible on foot are core objectives of the concept adopted by Münster City Council, which is regularly updated.

The following are some of the measures contributing to the strategic implementation of the concept:

- Investor consultations in the run-up to planning and projects on centre-oriented retail trade management
- Preparation of statements on centre-oriented control of retail trade planning and projects
- Annual information and exchange meetings with official bodies relevant to the retail trade (Münster District Government, North Westphalia Chamber of Industry and Commerce, NRW Westphalia-Münsterland Trade Association, Münster Chamber of Crafts, Münster Economic Development Corporation, Münster Marketing)

- Updating the retail database and entering it into the web-based retail information system
- Re-conceptualisation and further development of local and basic supply locations to secure local supply in the light of dynamic growth in populated areas and population

All of the above measures were implemented during the reporting period. Investor consultations and the preparation of statements on retail planning and projects, both with the aim of centre-oriented and thus traffic-reducing retail management, are mandatory and form the basis for administrative action. Official information and exchange meetings with retail organisations, a tradition that now stretches back 20 years, were also held. A full survey of the retail trade in Münster was carried out up to 31 December 2021 and the data transferred to the retail information system. Münster's growth also makes it necessary to continue to develop the local retail network in order to be able to supply people in new residential neighbourhoods and, in some cases, employees at key workplaces (e.g. the university hospital area) with convenience goods (particularly food and pharmacy goods). Preliminary planning was carried out and expert opinions obtained to assess the extent to which the following new local shopping centres are compatible with urban development:

- Handorf: New development area north of Kötterstraße, integration of a local supply location for the establishment of a food discounter with max. 1,000 m² in the area of the corner of Hobbeltstraße and Kötterstraße
- Hilstrup-Ost: New development area north of Osttor, re-designation of a central supply area as a district centre in conjunction with the existing Osttor/Loddenweg local supply location
- University Hospital: new UKM service centre at Coesfelder Kreuz; integration of non-large scale local supply services

During the reporting period, preliminary investigations were also carried out on the designation of a central supply area on Austermannstrasse. This area is intended to supply people living in the new district on Steinfurter Strasse in future and remediate the known lack of amenities in the Horstmarer Landweg area. In addition, this area will also provide shopping facilities for the employees of the technology park.

The aforementioned developments will be taken into account in the next update of the retail and centre concept, which is planned from 2024.

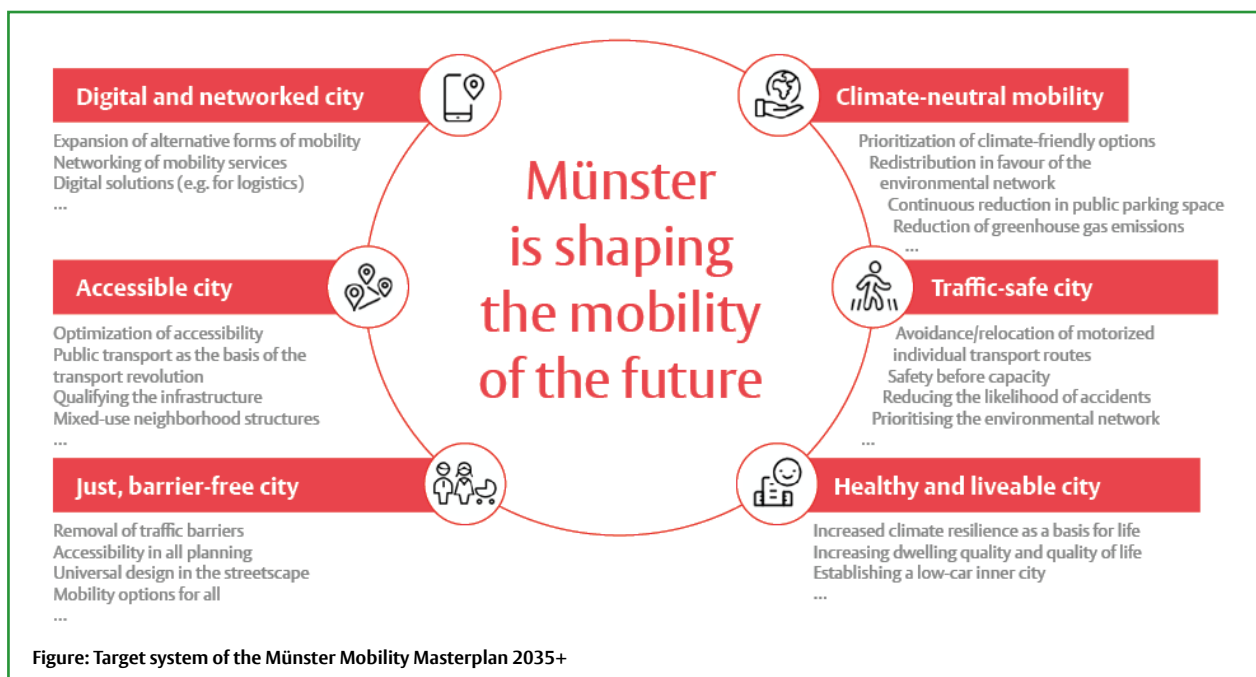


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4.2 Masterplan Mobility Münster 2035+

As a strategic management tool, the Münster Mobility Masterplan 2035+ is the basis for planning future-oriented organisation of mobility in Münster. It defines guidelines for and core measures with which Münster is embarking on the path to climate-neutral, city-compatible mobility. The already good starting point will be used to raise mobility in Münster to a new, sustainable level that guarantees that the needs of services of general interest are met and takes an area-efficient approach. The focus here is on endeavouring to increase the future quality of life in the city through binding targets and tailor-made measures. For this reason, all measures developed in the Mobility Masterplan should contribute to the overall objectives of climate-neutral mobility, traffic-safe, healthy and liveable, digital and networked, accessible, fair and barrier-free cities. To summarise: through the Mobility Master Plan, the City of Münster is creating a foundation for implementing ecological, economic and social sustainability in the mobility sector.

In order to achieve these goals, the city carried out a comprehensive survey of the existing mobility system. Strengths and weaknesses of individual modes of transport were identified by an expert office using SWOT analysis. A digital transport model was also created to enable the most objective assessment of the status quo and of any measures that are developed. The results of the status quo analysis were published in spring 2022 in a first interim report on the Münster Mobility Master Plan 2035+.



A core feature of the Masterplan Mobility Münster 2035+ is that it should be focused on the needs of the people of Münster. The results of the first interim report were therefore used to conduct a comprehensive participation process based on the Masterplan, which included the following elements:

- Ideas factory with a total of four half-day workshops for citizens
- Two additional workshops for regional stakeholders
- Pop-up exhibition on Salzhof in Münster city centre
- Online participation via the project website www.mobil-in-muenster.de
- Ideas Council to analyse the approximately 1,000 ideas and suggestions received

In addition, the process received ongoing support from a scientific advisory board and a politically appointed steering committee.

Based on the results of the inventory analysis and the participation process, the consultants calculated three forecast scenarios:

- The **forecast zero case** extrapolates relevant structural data and exogenous framework conditions to the year 2035. It is used to estimate what mobility behaviours can be expected if previous developments are extrapolated with no large scale mobility planning interventions. It represents the baseline scenario for the other models.
- The **trend scenario** builds on the forecast zero case and analyses additional mobility measures which have already received political approval at the time of the analysis or which are expected to be implemented by 2035.



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- The **climate neutrality scenario** looks at the question of what measures need to be taken to achieve the goal of local climate neutrality. This scenario deliberately goes beyond currently planned measures, even where the feasibility of individual aspects within the target horizon is in some cases still uncertain.

The results of the calculations for the planning scenarios form the basis for the **implementation scenario**, which contains effective measures to redefine Münster's mobility system which have the maximum possible likelihood of being realised. It thus models the basic conceptual idea that Münster wants to use to shape future mobility. The Münster Mobility Masterplan 2035+ is not, however, intended as a finished plan, but rather as a continuous process that will in future continue to incorporate and integrate new developments in the field of mobility and the changing needs of Münster residents.

4.3 Promoting eco-mobility

Münster is a mobile city. Mobility surveys show that the people of Münster often use eco-mobility, i.e. walking, cycling and local public transport.

Modal split

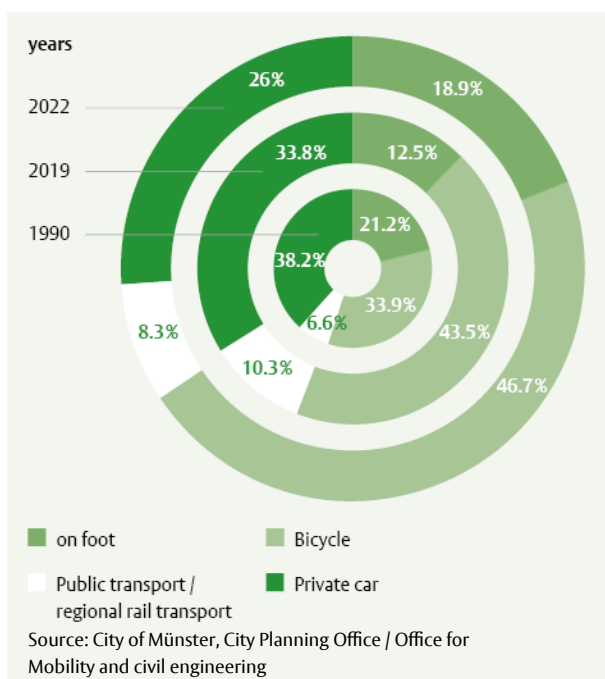
To assess the mobility behaviour of Münster residents, the City of Münster has been conducting regular mobility surveys since 1982. Randomly selected households are asked about their mobility behaviour. Several thousand responses are used to create a representative picture of means of transport used by people in Münster.

The percentage of people using the various modes of transport is referred to as the modal split. The indicator shows eco-mobility (pedestrians, cyclists, public transport) as a share of total transport. This share has increased in recent years. In 1990, eco-mobility was 61.7 percent of the modal split, in 2019 it was 66.3 percent and by 2022 had risen to 73.9 percent.

Implementation of the measures set out in the Münster 2035+ Mobility Master Plan (→ Section 4.2), should see the choice of means of transport shift further in favour of eco-mobility. This means significantly less car traffic and more public transport, cycling and walking.

Modal split

Transport modes as share of total transport in Münster in percent





Pedestrian traffic

The City of Münster takes the promotion of pedestrian traffic into account in all conceptual decisions. In planning new developments, the traffic area is always planned from the outside in. Consistently considering pedestrian traffic in traffic planning has led to an increase in the share of pedestrian traffic since 2001.

The dimensioning of facilities for pedestrian traffic is primarily based on demand.

To prevent conflicts with moving traffic, the City of Münster focuses on barrier-free crossing points that guarantee safe crossing. New bus stops are being built and existing stops adapted to a barrier-free standard.

Another key principle is that traffic light cycles should not leave pedestrians with long waiting times at traffic lights in that they allow pedestrians to cross the road without interruption.

There are also many orientation aids for visually impaired people in Münster.

Pedestrian traffic checks

As a member of Zukunftsnetz Mobilität NRW, the state-wide support network for developing sustainable mobility, Münster took part in NRW 2021 pedestrian traffic checks. The project identified the needs of pedestrians in Münster.

Potential questions included:

- Where are the danger spots?
- Where is there a lack of barrier-free access?
- Where are pavements of inadequate quality?
- Where are there difficulties crossing a road?

The final report is a valuable guideline with practical implementation-focused examples for use in pedestrian traffic planning in Münster. The results of the sample checks in the city centre and Roxel can be applied to the whole of the city. For this reason, the fields of action and proposed measures will be taken into account to the extent that this is reasonable and possible in future traffic planning in all districts. Further



detailed on-site inspections will be carried out. A barrier-free, convenient pedestrian infrastructure improves safety and quality of life, and facilitates access to other modes of transport.

In addition, the results of the pedestrian check will be incorporated into the city-wide integrated Masterplan Mobility Münster 2035+, incorporating the pedestrian perspective into the inter-modal planning process. The pedestrian traffic check is therefore a prelude to the integrative further development of pedestrian traffic and to promoting pedestrian traffic in Münster. In future, the interests of pedestrians will be given greater consideration in transport planning, with the aim of optimising the quality of routes and quality of life, accessibility and road safety.

Cycling

The symbol of Münster as a cycling city remains the Promenade. The 4.5-kilometre-long Promenade, laid out in a ring on the old city fortifications, is exclusively open to non-motorised traffic and is therefore very attractive for cyclists and pedestrians. Cyclists travelling from district centres or outer districts to the city centre can use the promenade as a distribution ring.

Cycling concept – Münster 2025

In 2016, in close collaboration with Cycling Round Table (RTR) the city transport planning department developed Cycling Concept – Münster 2025. A growing population, the increase in the cycling modal share, sustainable climate protection goals, the number of accidents and the results from the 2013 citizens' transport survey necessitated a new concept. Key elements – redesigned cycle-priority streets, city-regional cycle routes and measures to promote cargo bikes – are presented below.

Redesigned cycle-priority streets

To increase convenience and safety for cyclists, existing and future cycle-priority streets in Münster are being converted to meet the quality standards agreed by politicians in 2019. A four to five metre wide driving lane and extensive red markings will enable all road users to recognise that they are on a cycle-priority street. In addition, these cycle-priority streets have priority over side roads and through motor vehicle traffic is restricted. This enables cyclists to cycle safely, comfortably and quickly.

Regional cycle routes

Cycle routes are well-developed routes that connect surrounding communities with the outer districts and centre of Münster and which differ from normal cycle paths due to special features and high standards. They are a commitment by engaged municipalities to a new cycle route format: consistently convenient, safe, time-saving and environmentally friendly.

The twelve towns and municipalities in the city region area aiming to realise fourteen of these cycle routes across municipal boundaries and based on the existing network. The first sections of these cycle routes have already been completed with new qualities.

Until now, bicycles have mainly been used for journeys of less than five kilometres. Cycle routes are intended to persuade commuters in particular to cycle longer distances to work. They are routed along cycle paths, cycle lanes or cycle-priority streets that are comfortable to use and of high quality, thus offering an inexpensive, user-friendly alternative to cycle highways.

Cargo bikes

In 2019 and 2020, the City of Münster for the first time subsidised cargo bikes with a total of 450,000 euros in funding. The funds were used to subsidise the purchase of 519 cargo bikes and 377 cargo trailers. Funding of cargo bikes has since been discontinued for the time being, as the City of Münster first aims to push ahead with essential infrastructure measures, including creating cargo bike parking spaces in the city centre.

Cycle network 2.0

One of the building blocks of the Mobility Münster 2035+ masterplan process was the development of a seamless, systematic, hierarchical cycle network (→ Section 4.2). This creates a conceptual basis for the demand-led expansion of cycling infrastructure and for raising cycling quality to a new level.

Coherent cycle network planning focuses not on individual cycle paths, but on the cycle network as a whole. The aim is therefore to realise simple, convenient, safe door-to-door cycle transport that is integrated into the overall urban transport network.

A hierarchical network was developed consisting of cycle routes, main routes and basic routes featuring different cycling infrastructure elements.

To make planning conform as closely as possible to the needs of cyclists, the City of Münster has embraced digital participation by its citizens. The “Your APPgrade for Münster’s cycle paths” campaign and Maptionnaire digital participation platform provided valuable input that was incorporated into the planning process.



Public transport

Local public bus and rail transport has high priority in the City of Münster's current and long-term transport planning.

The aim of local transport planning is to safeguard and expand the position of local public transport as an environmentally friendly means of transport and as a component of eco-mobility.

The local transport plan is the basis for all strategic municipal decisions and measures for public transport-related planning. This means fundamental decisions on route and network design and the definition of service and transport quality.

Electric buses

Since 2015, Stadtwerke Münster has been using electric buses with batteries which are recharged regularly with green electricity at the final stop. To this end, Stadtwerke is installing fast-charging stations where buses can refuel with electricity for the next journey in just a few minutes. The range of electric buses is currently increasing with each new generation, enabling their use on more and more routes. Electric buses are not only emissions-free, they are also significantly quieter than the diesel buses they replace. This benefits passengers, drivers and people who live along a bus route or spend time in the city centre, for example.

To help protect the climate, Stadtwerke Münster's entire fleet will be fully electrically powered by 2029.



LOOP

LOOP, the first digital on-demand buses, was launched in 2020 to supplement the existing service. The system is operated by Stadtwerke Münster. LOOP has received five million euros in funding from the State as part of Mobil.NRW. It is a partnership between the city, municipal utility companies and the State of NRW.

To increase the appeal of local public transport, small vehicles with up to six seats travel through Hilstrup and neighbouring districts. They do not follow a fixed route and do not have a fixed timetable, instead, passengers can request journeys via an app. Software collates requests from different passengers and calculates the optimal route. The pilot project will initially run until August 2024.

Barrier-free bus stops

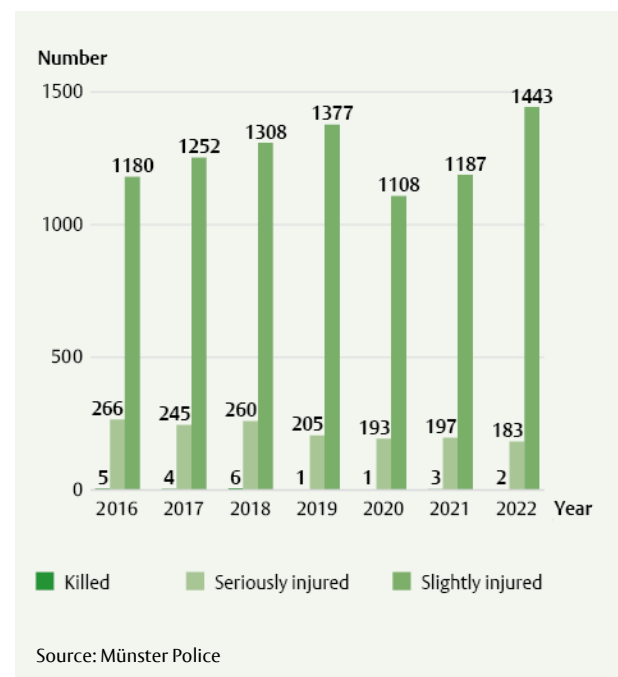
In Münster, there are over 1,100 stops served by regional and city bus services. Well over half are equipped with a bus shelter. Around half of these stops have a 16 cm raised kerb, ensuring largely level and therefore barrier-free access to public transport.

As part of the City of Münster's bus stop programme, around 10 to 15 bus stops are converted to barrier-free status every year.

The dynamic passenger information system (FIS) in the city area has also been expanded in recent years. This displays arrival and departure times in a user-friendly format in real time. This is particularly useful for passengers in the event of delays. There are now 100 stops with this electronic display system.

Deaths and injuries in road traffic

Number of fatalities and serious and minor injuries sustained in road traffic accidents in Münster



4.4 Creating more favourable conditions for e-mobility

Electromobility is seen as a beacon of hope for establishing the use of emission-free fuels in the long term. It is gaining ground in Münster too.

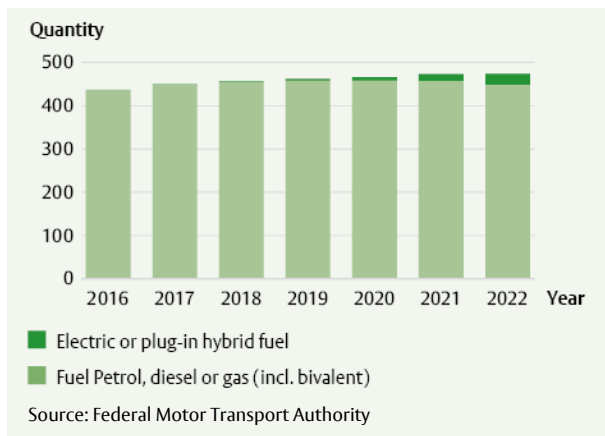
At the start of 2019, 314 fully electric vehicles were registered in the Münster city area. By 2022 this figure had risen to 4,820 vehicles. For this growth to continue, a comprehensive charging infrastructure is essential. Only when citizens have sufficient options for charging their vehicles will electric vehicles be able to become established in Münster in the long term.

As a result, the City of Münster has developed a variety of concepts for driving the expansion of public charging points throughout the city. In addition to close cooperation with Stadtwerke Münster, the city is also increasingly focused on expansion through other private providers of charging infrastructure.

Another important component with regard to emission-free drive systems and reducing the number of private cars is the promotion of an electric car-sharing service. This also plays an important role in the expansion plans described above.

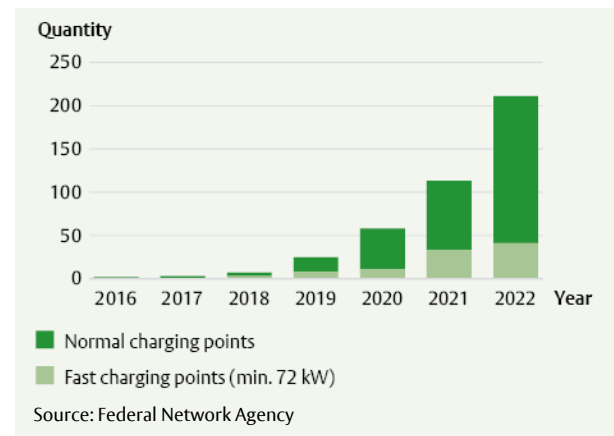
Car density

Number of cars by fuel type per 1,000 inhabitants



Publicly accessible charging points for electric cars

Number of publicly accessible normal and fast-charging points in Münster



4.5 Immission control

Immission is the term used when air pollution, radiation, heat, noise, etc. affect people, nature or objects. The following is about the City of Münster's noise pollution and air pollution control plan, aimed at reducing noise and air immissions.

Noise pollution plan

Noise has a significant impact on quality of life, as it reduces sleep, relaxation, and physical and mental performance. The city's aims to ensure that no-one's health is endangered by noise after 2030 (less than 55 dB(A) at night).

Münster City Council adopted the 3rd round of the noise action plan in March 2021.

In addition to an analysis of the current noise pollution situation, the update includes an update on areas where measures are to be taken. In February 2019, the speed limit was reduced to 30 km/h in ten measure areas.

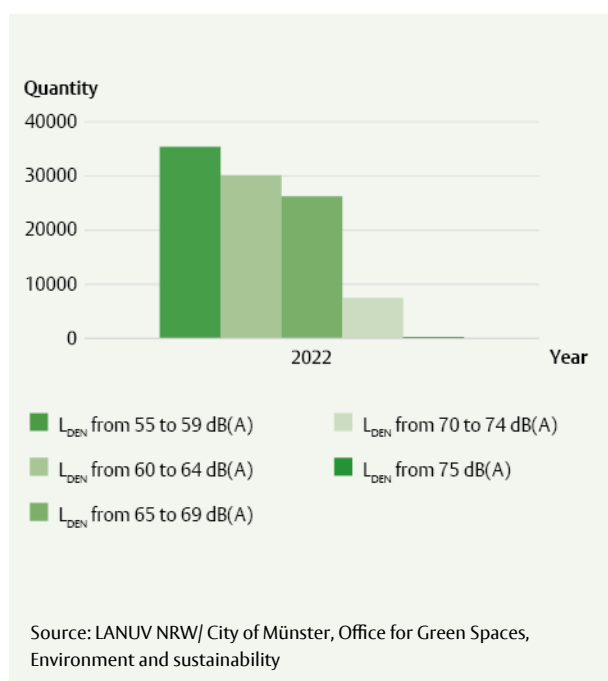
In addition to expanding the 30 km/h speed limit concept, planned measures also include road improvement measures. In addition, the passive noise insulation funding programme will continue and will fund noise insulating windows on additional roads.

The update to the 3rd round of the Noise Action Plan was accompanied by early public participation.

The 2022 noise mapping process will for the first time estimate the number of cases of health effects and nuisance based on exposure-response relationships. These are based on World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines on environmental noise. This is intended to treat noise protection more as a health promotion issue. The newly introduced method for calculating the number of people, homes, schools and sensitive facilities impacted by noise pollution has resulted in a significant increase in the number of people impacted.

Noise pollution from road traffic

Number of people affected by road traffic-related noise pollution L_{DEN} (day, evening, night) in Münster



Interpretation of the data, through for example comparison with other conurbations, is included in the noise action plan. Overall, the 2022 noise mapping process showed that road traffic continues to be the main source of noise in Münster. Around 99,500 people are affected by road traffic noise above LDEN 55 dB(A). The 2017 noise mapping process found that around 49,500 people were affected above LDEN 55 dB(A).

The next update to the noise action plan – based on the statutory five-year cycle – is due in 2024.

Clean air plan

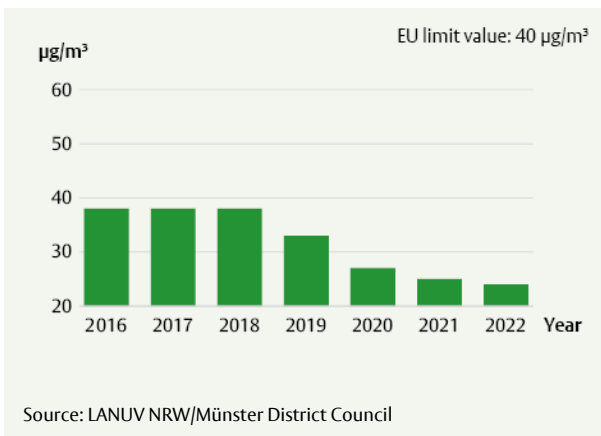
Air pollution in Münster is mainly caused by motor vehicle traffic. The implementation of the clean air plans for Münster (2009 and 2014) and the nationwide reduction measures in the vehicle fleet (introduction of EURO 4 to 6 emission standards) have resulted in significant reductions in the key components of traffic-related air pollution of particulate matter (PM10) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂).

A total of over 30 individual measures have been implemented. These include the tightening of environmental zone regulations, the purchase of low-emission buses and the relocation of through traffic away from the city centre.

All measuring stations have been in compliance with the annual limit value for nitrogen dioxide of 40 µg/m³ since 2017. Since the introduction of the first clean air plan, reductions of up to 30 µg/m³ have been achieved at pollutant hotspots and 10 µg/m³ for urban background pollution.

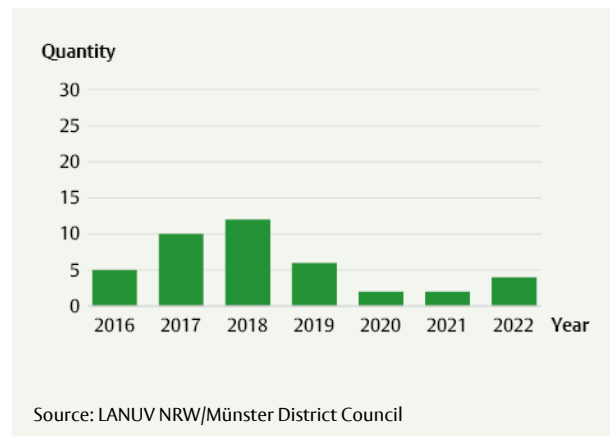
Air pollutants (1)

Annual mean nitrogen dioxide levels (NO₂) at the Weseler Straße continuous monitoring station in µg/m³



Air pollutants (2)

Number of days on which the daily limit for PM 10 (> 50 µg/m³) was exceeded at the Weseler Straße continuous monitoring station



Real-world laboratories

In 2021, transport trials were carried out in Münster in the form of real-world laboratories aimed at shaping future mobility in conjunction with the people of Münster.

Transport trials at a glance:

- Prioritisation of the promenade at Neubrückentor
- Traffic reduction and quality of stay in Hörsterstraße
- Special bus lane between Ludgeriplatz and Landeshaus

The transport trials were subject to expert evaluation in order to analyse the effects on traffic quality and traffic safety, quality of life and the microclimate in the study areas.

The transport trials functioned as real-world laboratories for testing various approaches to boosting eco-mobility, improving quality of life and quality of stay of congested urban areas and traffic calming, and making their effects and consequences tangible.

The focus of the trials was just as much on dialogue with street users as on trying out specific traffic measures. The aim was to record the needs of local people in order to be able to best take them into account in any subsequent planning. Rather than immediately implementing a long-term redesign of the traffic space, it used a planning approach characterised by gradual testing and discussion of redesign proposals. This approach allows everyone involved to learn from the results.

The results were summarised at the end of 2021 in a final report on the evaluation of the Münster 2021 transport trials.

4.6 Sustainable mobility in the city administration, in municipal enterprises and associated companies

Sustainable mobility is also an issue in some areas, for example waste disposal and green space maintenance, of city administration, municipal enterprises and associated companies. These areas are described in more detail below.

City administration operational mobility management

The City of Münster's vehicle fleet currently comprises vehicles from the waste management companies and the fire brigade:

- 137 cars, including 45 electric vehicles and 4 hybrid vehicles
- 125 trucks, including 17 electric trucks
- In addition, a small number of other vehicles, especially work machines, have been electrified.

The fire brigade has 214 vehicles, including one with an electric drive system.

In addition, there are also company bicycles, pedelecs and cargo bikes, the number of which is increasing continually. Car sharing is also used to reduce the need for company cars that are not utilised effectively.

The aim is to make company mobility as sustainable as possible.

The Climate Neutral City Administration 2030 programme of measures adopted by the City Council in 2021 also sets out targets for operational mobility. These are being implemented gradually and include the goal that half of the car pool should be electric by 2025. Bicycles will also be used more often as a means of transport for business trips within Münster.

To create further incentives for sustainable commuting, preparations were made in 2022 for the introduction of a bicycle leasing scheme. This has since been launched and is proving very popular. In October 2022, a 16 euro subsidy for the JobTicket was introduced for employees covered by collective agreements.



Operational e-mobility at Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster

Over 230 waste disposal, cleaning and other utility vehicles help to keep the city of Münster clean and tidy every day. To minimise fuel consumption, drivers receive regularly training on fuel and resource-efficient vehicle use.

A fleet management position was created in 2020.

Fleet management focuses on alternative drive systems and corresponding charging infrastructure, but also involves the procurement of conventional vehicles. Applications for funding and fulfilment of funding regulations (e.g. meeting deadlines or preparing/submitting proof of use) is also part of fleet management.

In 2022, Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster (awm) had 30 electric vehicles. Three more electric vehicles are expected by mid-2023 and further electric vehicles will be put out to tender or awarded over the course of 2023.

awm will gradually replace as many vehicles as possible with electric vehicles once they have reached end of life. This requires consideration to be given to expanding the charging infrastructure. Further connections and tenders are planned for 2023.

awm fills up with wind and sun

awm's electric vehicles refuel using green energy from right on our doorstep, ensuring an environmentally friendly energy cycle. The sun and wind are tapped into at more than 20 charging points spread across the site. A further 12 charging points are currently under construction. This means that electric vehicles can be charged and optimally utilised at any time.



5. Climate protection and energy

The generation and distribution of energy is climate-neutral and environmentally friendly, energy consumption has been halved and the share of climate-friendly mobility has significantly increased.



What is it about?

How can Münster become climate-neutral by 2030? Achieving this goal is a major challenge, especially for a growing city like Münster. This challenge can only be overcome by working with all stakeholders from business, politics, institutions, associations and citizens. It requires a significant intensification of local climate protection activities as well as a national and European framework that makes it possible to achieve the target.

Strategic goals



- Climate-neutral new housing construction and refurbishment of existing housing stock
- Significant increase in the share of energy demand met by renewable energies
- A halving of energy consumption

5.1 Climate protection process milestones

The Municipal Coordination Centre for Climate and Energy (KLENKO) was established in 1995. The diagram below illustrates key milestones and political decisions in the climate protection process since the foundation of KLENKO. Individual milestones are explained in more detail below. Information on climate adaptation can be found in Section 3.7.

“100% climate protection masterplan”

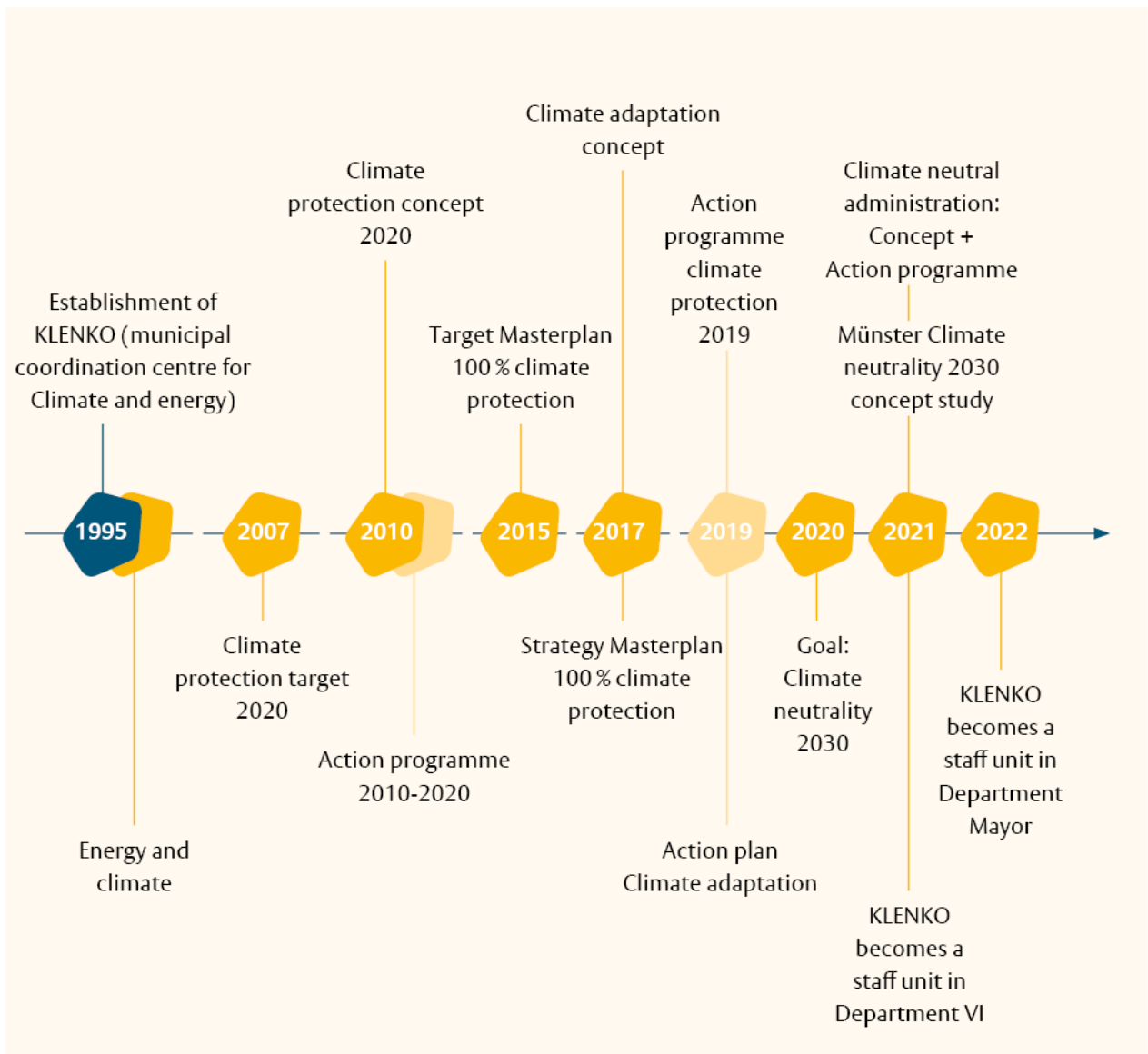
The city is a member of “Masterplan Communities 100% Climate Protection”, which has received awards from the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety for their commitment and climate protection goals to date.³ The climate protection strategy developed has received political approval and forms the strategic basis for climate protection work in Münster. With the help of extensive funding, the city has developed a master plan which by 2050 aims to reduce CO₂ emissions by 95 percent and final energy consumption by 70 percent compared to 1990 levels.

Energy and CO₂ budget

Compliance with targets is measured using the city-wide energy and CO₂ budget, which has been prepared on the basis of the national BSKO standard for municipal greenhouse gas budgeting. Between 1990 and 2021, emissions fell by 31%, from 2,618,000 tonnes in 1990 to 1,816,000 tonnes in 2021. There is therefore still a long way to go to achieve the target, which poses additional challenges for a rapidly growing city. The number of inhabitants will be used as a measure of the city's growth.

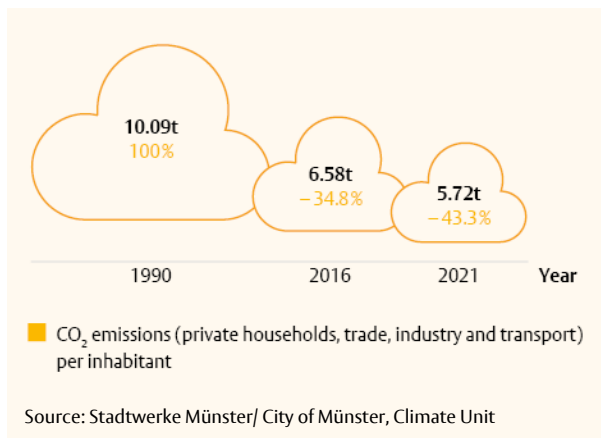
The indicator below shows per capita CO₂ emissions. It clearly shows a 43 percent reduction in per capita emissions between 1990 and 2021.

³ In 2019, the city declared a climate emergency and set itself the new goal of achieving climate neutrality by 2030.



Greenhouse gas emissions

Per capita CO₂ emissions (private households, commerce, industry and transport) in tonnes



Climate neutrality 2030

The Climate Action Programme 2030 was produced in 2019 and forms a measure and project-oriented foundation for the City of Münster's climate protection activities, building on the strategy set out in the master plan. The council has also adopted the goal of reaching climate neutrality by 2030.

Commissioned in response to this decision, the concept study "Münster Climate Neutrality 2030" shows the extent to which achieving this goal will require completion of the city's transformation process within individual fields of action (mobility, private households, commerce, industry). The study uses scenario analysis to demonstrate the changes required in various fields of action to achieve this goal. The study does not focus on feasibility.

5.2 Fields of action in the climate protection strategy

Done properly, climate protection always considers all areas of life where CO₂ emissions can be reduced. The City of Münster is therefore involved in various fields of action, presented below.

Climate-friendly construction and renovation

The building sector is one of the key areas for achieving climate targets by 2030 and is responsible for a good 30 percent of carbon emissions.

Münster’s building stock in particular therefore has considerable potential for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, high building energy standards will need to be implemented in new buildings to create the foundation for reducing energy consumption and thus carbon emissions by future buildings.

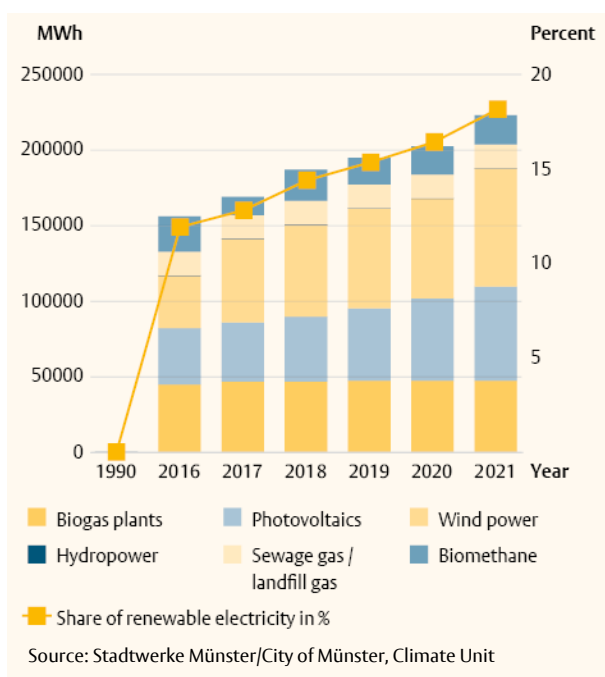
“Climate-friendly residential buildings in the City of Münster” funding programme

To make the approximately 55,000 existing buildings permanently sustainable, the City of Münster is supporting various projects through the “Climate-friendly residential buildings in the City of Münster” funding programme. In addition to a range of measures for building envelope refurbishment (including ecological/sustainable insulation materials), the programme promotes the use of renewable energies and the construction of green roofs.

The funding programme has been significantly increased in size and further developed in recent years. This has led to a continuous increase in the number of applications from citizens in Münster. The number of projects supported rose from 480 in 2020 to 890 in 2021 and around 1,200 in 2022.

Electricity from renewable energies

Renewable electricity generation by technology in Münster in MWh and share of renewable energies in total electricity consumption in percent



Thermographic flight

In autumn 2019, the City Council adopted a resolution agreeing to undertake a project called “Münster thermal flight – climate protection from the air” as one component of the implementation of the “100 percent climate protection master plan”.

The aim of the project, which has been running since January 2021, is to use a thermographic inspection to uncover heat losses through uninsulated or poorly insulated building roofs that would not otherwise be visible. The aim is to raise homeowner awareness of energy-related issues, provide them with information about ways to save energy and support them in

implementing complete building refurbishment measures. 42,000 personal letters were sent out in May 2022, and the current focus is now on energy advice, for which there is high demand in light of the energy crisis triggered in early 2022 by the war in Ukraine.

Thermal imaging was also used to record the condition of Stadtnetze Münster's district heating pipes to identify possible weak points and damage to the pipework system.

Urban energy-efficiency improvements

Another important approach is urban energy-efficiency improvements. This neighbourhood approach can be used to achieve synergy effects between climate protection, climate adaptation, mobility, health, urban development and other issues. In addition, a neighbourhood approach can accelerate the energy-efficiency improvement process in an urban area by expanding it to neighbourhood level and away from individual buildings.

Climate-friendly energy supply and renewable energies

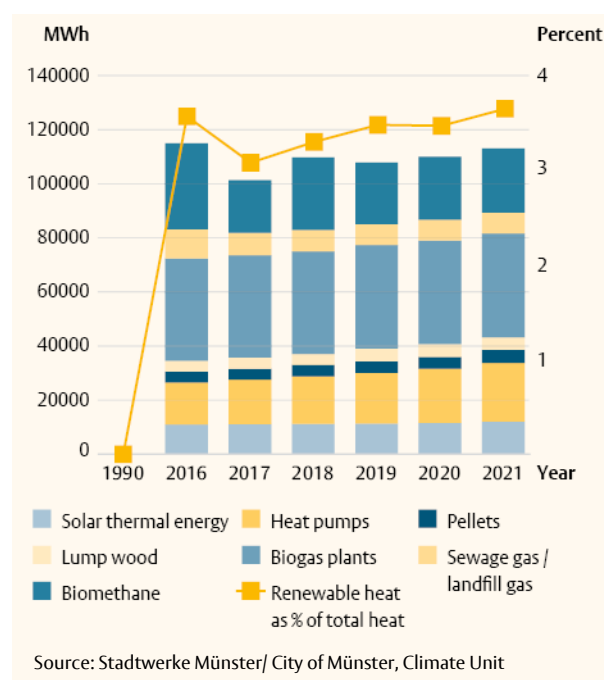
In Münster, it is solar energy that offers the greatest potential. 90 percent of roof surfaces suitable for photovoltaic and solar thermal systems have not yet been used. In order to achieve a high proportion of renewable energies in the energy supply, the city is supporting the expansion of photovoltaics, heat pumps, etc. In addition, guided tours and information events on these topics are organised regularly.

The city's solar registry provides information on the potential of a roof for utilising solar energy. In just a few steps, the online tool presents results on the cost-effectiveness of the system, potential carbon savings, etc.

For the electricity from renewable energies indicator, it can be seen that growth in recent years has mainly been in the areas of wind and photovoltaics. Around 220 GWh of fossil fuels were saved in 2020. At the end of 2021, renewable energies accounted for 18.2 percent of total electricity consumption. The share of renewable energies in the heat supply is approx. 3.5 percent of total heat consumption. In 2021, a total of approx. 110 GWh of fossil fuels were saved in the heating sector through the use of local renewable energies.

Heat from renewable energies

Renewable heat generation by technology in Münster in MWh, and renewable energies as a percentage of total heat consumption





© City of Münster / Tom Bendix

Developing a street lighting concept

The aim of developing a street lighting concept is to further reduce light emissions and energy consumption from street lighting using demand-orientated use. A pilot project on “moving light” has been conducted on a cycle path to investigate the practicality of adaptive street lighting. The aim is to be able to maintain a high level of traffic safety and avoid spaces where people might feel unsafe while at the same time saving energy.

The following factors were considered:

- It was agreed with the street lighting owner, Stadtwerke Münster GmbH, that street lighting will be completely converted to LEDs by 2030, with the aim of reducing energy consumption and light emissions.
- The City of Münster’s traffic computer will be integrated into the street lighting control system with the aim of exploiting synergies by dimming lights depending on traffic volumes.

- Over the next few years the city plans to carry out a pilot project on adaptive lighting in a residential area with the aim of further reducing light emissions and energy consumption despite conversion to LEDs.

The indicator illustrates the increase in LED lighting as a proportion of the total number of street lights. The number of LED lights has risen from 1,734 LED lights in 2016 to 8,230 lights in 2022. This means that more than 28 percent of street lighting will have been converted to LED lights by 2022.

Climate-friendly living

Every day, citizens have many opportunities to make conscious energy and resource use decisions and employ climate-friendly behaviours. Through a variety of approaches and projects, the City of Münster supports an environment that facilitates climate-friendly decisions.

Participatory campaign “Our climate 2030”

The participatory campaign “Our Climate 2030” encourages people to act independently (self-empowerment), encourages them to make an individual contribution to climate protection in Münster and promotes a sense of belonging.

The “Participate”, “Climate training” and “Real-world laboratory” levels of the participatory campaign create a framework for different levels of need for behavioural change. Implementation of the concept thus contributes to shifting civil society in the direction of climate-friendly behaviour.

Participate

Participate is about implementing simple everyday measures such as switching off stand-by or leaving the car at home more often. Interested individuals are sent ideas and suggestions, and can register for an information leaflet containing up-to-date information on projects and events.

ClimateTraining

ClimateTraining is the middle level of the participatory campaign and is of interest to all citizens who want to learn, deepen and consolidate climate-friendly behaviour. Volunteer climate trainers trained by the city support other people on their journey towards climate-friendly everyday living. They help them draw

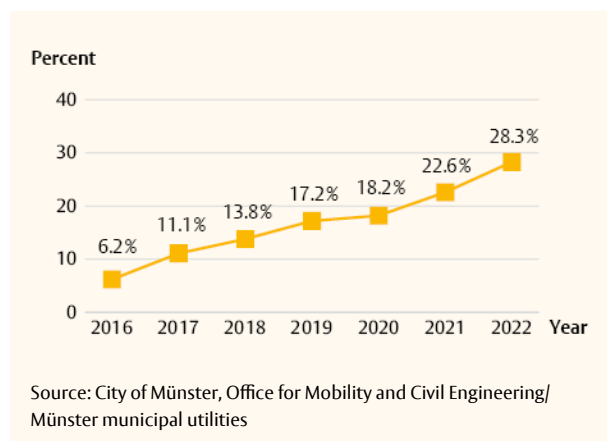
up an initial CO₂ balance sheet, advise them on setting individual targets, and provide tips and support to help them realise their goals. ClimateTraining also puts participants in touch with providers of climate-friendly offerings and services. These providers operate as supporters or topic mentors and offer lots of, sometimes exclusive, trial offers. The climate training programme takes place twice a year and last about four months.

Real-world laboratory

Real-world labs offer space for innovation. Here, decision-makers and providers come together on an equal footing. Providers are given the ideal framework for developing sustainable products. They benefit from direct user feedback and from experience from everyday use. They can also address different target groups. For the city, approaches from the real-world laboratory provide important information for designing projects to drive forward transformation and create a better environment for climate-friendly decision-making in Münster. The climate training approach, for example, evolved out of a living lab for climate-friendly decisions.

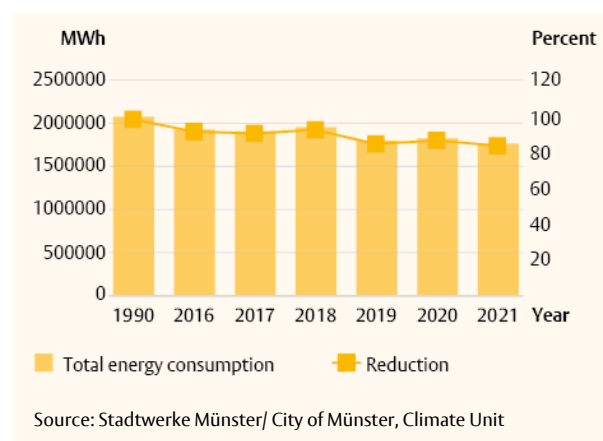
Street lighting

LED lights as a percentage of total street lights in Münster



Energy use in private households

Total energy consumption by private households in MWh and reduction in total energy consumption since 1990 in percent



5.3 Embedding in spatial planning

Climate protection and climate adaptation are becoming increasingly important in spatial planning. The examples below from recent years provide insights.

Münster's "standard for climate-friendly construction" KfW-40 standard

In 2021, the City Council adopted a new "Münster's standard for climate-friendly construction" building standard. This mandates the "KfW Efficiency House/ Building 40" building energy standard and an obligation to generate solar energy in urban development contracts, and in land purchase and leasehold contracts for residential and non-residential buildings.

Guidelines for urban development planning

Climate protection and climate adaptation are becoming an increasingly important issue in urban land-use planning. The City of Münster is therefore developing guidelines for climate-friendly urban land-use planning, which will be adopted in 2023. To this end, climate-related work aids currently available for urban land-use planning will be collated and expanded. The guidelines are intended to highlight the most effective options and instruments for climate-friendly action for individual phases of the urban land-use planning process.

The guidelines and other preliminary work form a foundation for a closer examination of the entire process chain of building land development in Münster with the aim of developing an interactive planning tool "Climate-friendly urban development Münster".

Integrated land use concept Münster – Balancing settlement, open space and renewable energies

The City of Münster finds itself needing to balance current and future spatial urban development challenges, specifically growth pressure for urgently needed new housing and workplaces, realising Münster's climate neutrality goals, and protecting and further developing natural and open spaces within the city. Space for new developments is limited. It is



therefore important to identify competing demands for space, weigh them up carefully and find the best possible solution.

Through the Integrated Land Use Concept Münster (IFM) the city is proactively focussing on future developments at an early stage. The aim is to identify development areas for new residential areas and workplaces, to locate potential areas for a climate-neutral energy supply and at the same time to protect and further develop the city's high-quality open spaces as a key unique selling point. The aim is to create a sustainable framework for future spatial urban development and at the same time preserve Münster's scope for action in terms of future housing and workplace needs.

In this way, the IFM process is intended to lay the groundwork for a balanced expert analysis of different demands on the space. It is informal and is performed proactively by the city. One specific occasion is the updating of the Münsterland regional plan, about which the City of Münster was required to submit a reasoned opinion. The area outline presented in the

draft regional plan provides the City of Münster with options for future spatial development with a target horizon of 2045. The IFM process is also intended to assist in formulating an expert position on this point. However, the IFM process does not end with the submission of a statement on the current update of the regional plan. It will continue with the aim of further specifying the range of settlement area options in the regional plan, preparing the classification of valuable open spaces and identifying potential sites for generating renewable energies in Münster.

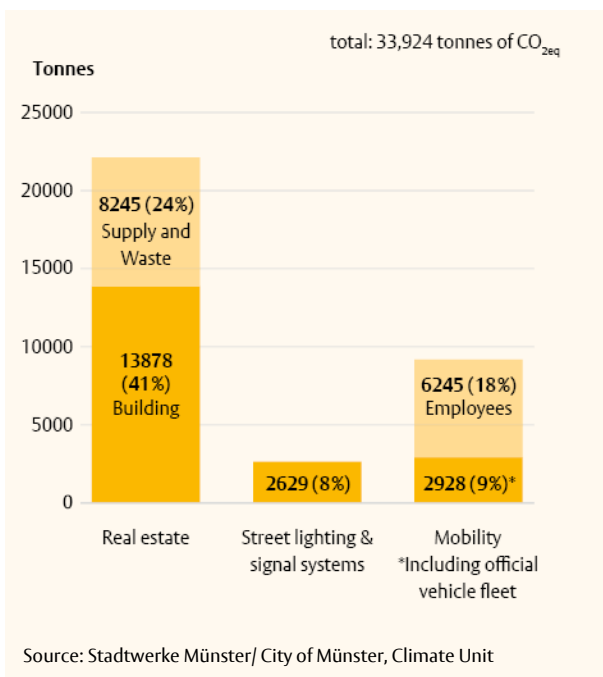
A three-part workshop series on the Münster integrated space concept is planned for early 2023. The aim is to develop a compass for Münster's urban landscape and, building on this, to visualise conflicts between areas and objectives at a spatial level and discuss them in detail with the public in the form of possible future scenarios.

5.4 Climate protection in the city administration, in municipal enterprises and associated companies

Münster will become climate-neutral by 2030. With the help of the “Climate-neutral city administration 2030” concept study, the city administration’s contribution is taking a more concrete form. For the first time, a comprehensive inventory of relevant areas of the city administration has been performed and a baseline energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions budget has been drawn up. In addition to scenario analysis based on the question “what levers can we use to achieve what goals”, an action programme with specific measures has also been developed in parallel.

Greenhouse gas emissions of the city administration

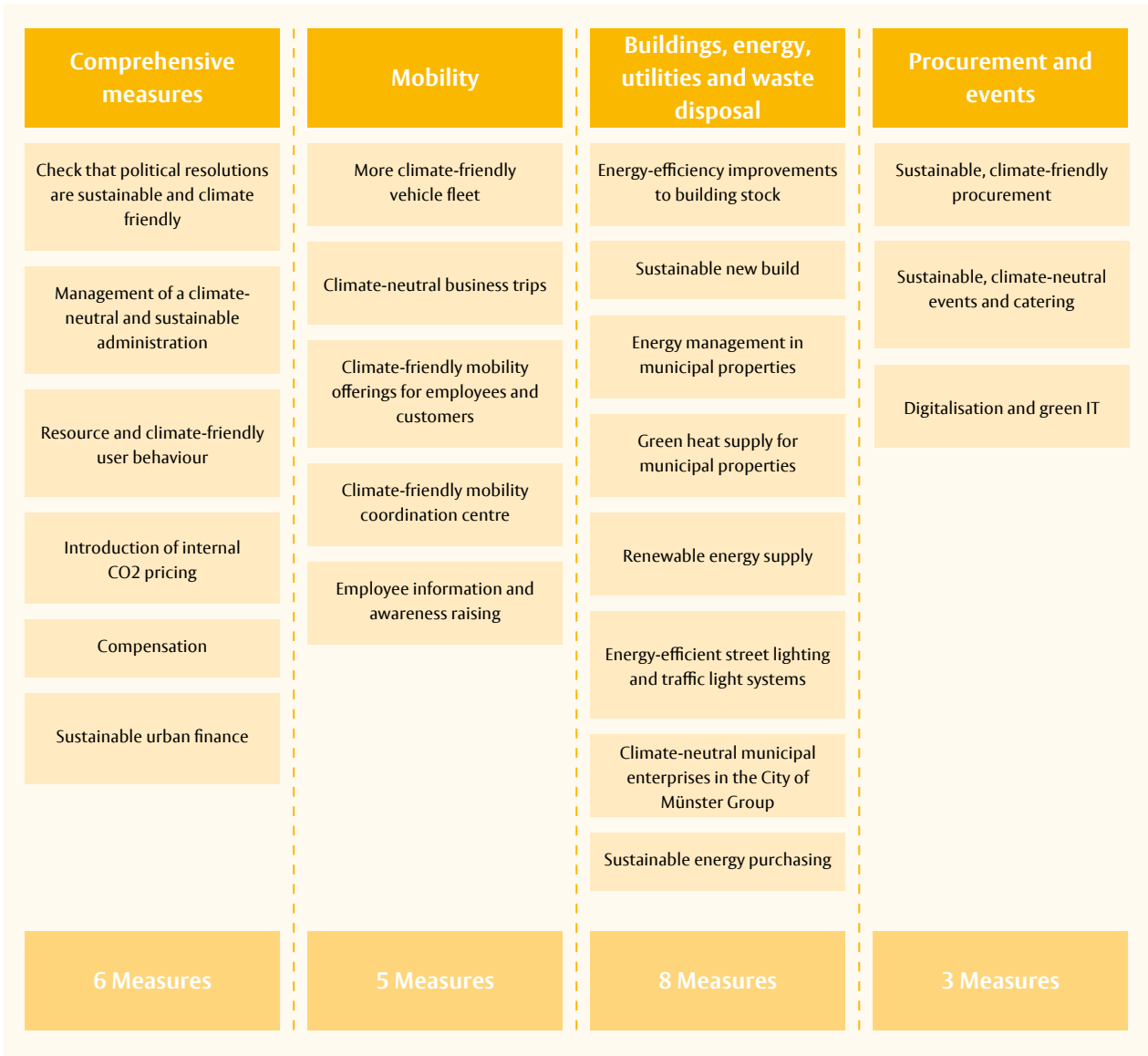
Greenhouse gas emissions of the city administration by area in baseline year 2019 in tonnes



Climate-neutral city administration 2030

According to figures from 2019, the city administration produces almost 34,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases per year, divided between properties (buildings & energy supply), street lighting and signalling systems, and mobility. This is equivalent to around two percent of the city’s total emissions. The indicator below shows the corresponding initial budget from 2019.

In 2021, a concept study was presented to the City Council chamber outlining a path to a climate-neutral city administration in the form of a range of scenarios. In addition to an inventory and a presentation on these scenarios, a programme of action was also developed with the participation of numerous city departments, municipal enterprises and municipal subsidiaries. This programme of action picks up, develops and supplements existing processes and activities. These include, for example, a mandatory sustainability and climate check for draft political resolutions, the phasing out of combustion engines in the city’s vehicle fleet and energy-efficiency improvements to the city’s building stock. A total of 22 groups of measures have been defined.



In addition to the groups of measures, immediate measures were identified in all areas of action that are already at an advanced stage of implementation planning or can be realised with little effort. These include, for example, bicycle leasing as a new offering for employees, the establishment of a coordination centre for climate-friendly mobility, and further specific energy-efficiency improvements to existing schools.

The mobility management position was filled in 2022 – the overall coordination position is expected to be filled in 2023. This will give implementation of measures and overall coordination another significant boost.

Climate protection at Stadtwerke Münster

By 2030, Stadtwerke Münster is aiming to expand its wind and solar energy to the extent that it can meet the electricity needs of its private customers from its own plants. The aim is also to facilitate citizen participation and allow local people to share in the financial rewards from renewables projects. In addition, it will also initiate the conversion of heat generation to renewable heat sources, i.e. district heat generation without the use of conventional fuels, during this period. In addition to other key technologies for heat transformation, in view of the promising geological situation Stadtwerke Münster is undertaking intensive investigations into deep geothermal energy.

Photovoltaic expansion with citizen participation

Reit- und Fahrverein Roxel e. V. and Stadtwerke Münster have together transformed two indoor riding arenas into solar power plants. A 3,000 square metre plant on the roofs of the new and old halls generates climate-neutral electricity for Münster. Around 200 households can be supplied with carbon-free energy from Roxel. The plant saves up to 360 tonnes of CO₂ every year.

Photovoltaic offering for homeowners

Stadtwerke Münster is aiming to significantly increase the proportion of electricity generated from solar energy and is offering homeowners a service that includes financing, planning and constructing a photovoltaic system on the roof of their house. Homeowners lease

the system for a fixed monthly sum. The residents of the house initially use the green electricity generated themselves. If the system generates more energy than the residents consume, the electricity is fed into the public grid and paid for. Stadtwerke Münster offers five system sizes for roof areas between 15 and 51 m². The photovoltaic system can also be supplemented with an electricity storage unit. This combination is eligible for a subsidy of up to 2,000 euros from the City of Münster.

Conversion of all private customer tariffs to green electricity

Since January 2022, Stadtwerke Münster has automatically supplied all basic and replacement supply customers with electricity from renewable energy plants. Other tariffs had followed suit by the end of the year.

From 2023, all new contracts and contract extensions with private households will be for green electricity only.

A total of around 67,000 tonnes of CO₂ will be saved by not using fossil electricity in Stadtwerke Münster's private customer portfolio. This is roughly equivalent to the annual CO₂ emissions of two percent of Münster's population, a good 6,000 people.

Guarantees of origin ensure that the electricity comes primarily from wind, photovoltaic and hydroelectric power plants in Europe. The guarantees make transparent which plant produced the green electricity and where it was produced.

Stadtwerke Münster is also active in the fields of wind and geothermal energy.



© City of Münster / Michael C. Möller



Stadtwerke Münster is planning to expand its wind energy plants to a generation capacity of 280 GWh and to expand its photovoltaic plants to 100 GWh by 2030.



6. Good work and a future-oriented economy

All people do good work in keeping with their qualifications. There are sufficient inclusive and fair employment opportunities available. The city pursues the goal of a future-orientated economy. The aim is to achieve economic development which ensures that economic competitiveness is in harmony with ecological sustainability and social responsibility.



What is it about?

How do we ensure that all people are able to do good work in keeping with their qualifications and that there is sufficient inclusive and fair employment? How do we actively promote good working conditions and create the best possible individual career prospects? What are we doing to continuously improve working conditions for women and part-time employees? And how can companies grow in quality while minimising their resource consumption and meeting social aspirations? The building blocks for a future-orientated economy range from preserving a broad mix of industries and companies, through land and resource-saving commercial land development opportunities, to the creation of living space for employees. Company management also needs to be organised with the common good in mind – in fair competition, along sustainable value chains and in active dialogue with academia and administration.

Strategic goals



- The Council and companies actively promote good work
- To foster the skills of all people individually to maximise their career prospects
- Women and men should receive equal pay for equal work
- To improve working conditions for marginally employed workers
- To preserve and develop a broad mix of sectors and companies
- To support location-dependent investment incentives, to provide a demand-led supply of commercial space that minimises land and resource use
- To create conditions for an adequate supply of skilled labour
- To firmly establish a dialogue between academia, business and Münster City Council
- To develop forward-looking business models, innovations, products and services and utilise the opportunities offered by digital transformation
- Companies will be aware of their global responsibilities and their responsibility for the common good in Münster
- Companies will organise their corporate management and value chains sustainably and operate in an environment of fair competition
- To enable appropriate housing for employees in Münster

6.1 Creating conditions conducive to good work

Good work is more than just having enough jobs. Both the city and companies in Münster actively promote good work, whether through the design of the working environment or through a labour market policy framework that enables greater integration, inclusion and family friendliness, and fairer pay.

Creating conditions conducive to child and family-friendly work

Family support in Münster means creating a suitable framework for families and providing them with information, support and advice at an early stage. Important services in this area include the family office, family visits, district coordination, early years support, pregnancy counselling, parental allowance, parental leave and childcare allowance.

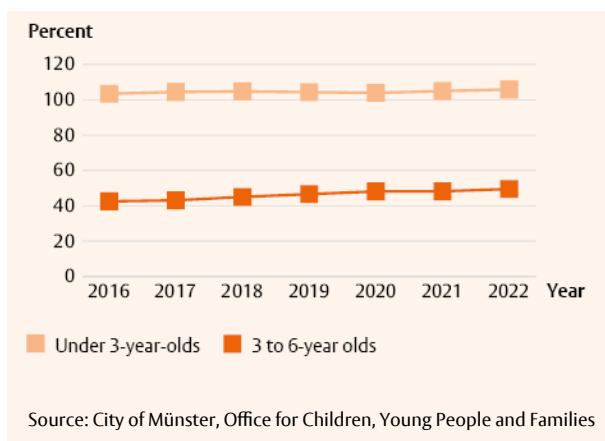
Expanding daycare and after school clubs

Childcare is an important building block for balancing work and family life.

Daycare services for children under and over 3 are being expanded continuously. The proportion of children using childcare depends on demographic developments (growing city).

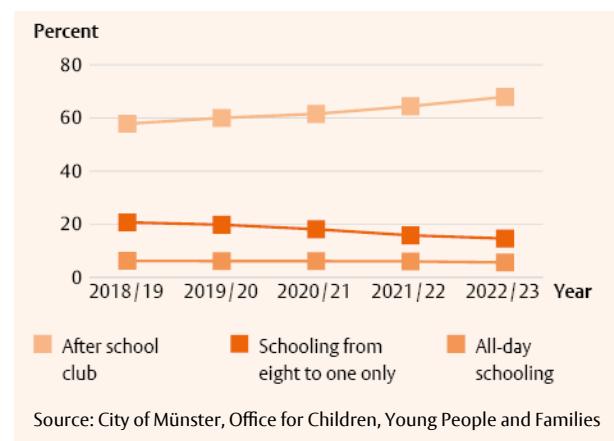
Childcare services

Number of childcare places in Münster for under 3 and 3 to 6-year olds as a percentage of the under 3 and 3 to 6-year old population



Childcare and after school clubs at primary schools

Childcare and after school clubs in years 1 to 4 at municipal primary schools



An annual child daycare report is published on the expansion strategies and new developments. Parents in Münster are able to access an after school club place if required. All-day holiday childcare programmes are available through a city-wide, all-day holiday childcare programme.

67.9 percent of primary school children will take part in extracurricular activities offered at after school clubs in the 2022/23 school year. The framework for a child-friendly municipality in Münster is presented in the Section “Social participation” (→ Section 1).

Promoting a labour market and social policy framework

The municipal labour market and integration programme sets out the framework, key objectives and

fields of action for the Job Centre of the City of Münster for each year, and the strategies, activities and measures that will be used to achieve the objectives within these individual fields of action.

The programme provides orientation for and sets out the foundations of the work performed by job centre employees and provides transparency about the work performed by the job centre.

Municipal labour market and integration programme

The job centre plans the labour market and integration programme with the participation of numerous labour market and social policy stakeholders, such as the job centre advisory board. Numerous empirical values are taken into account in developing job centre measures and offerings, including feedback from people claiming benefits.



Fields of action:

- Ending and preventing long-term unemployment and long-term dependence on benefits
- Integration into employment, subject to social security contributions
- Training and qualifications
- Fostering an inclusive labour market
- Equal opportunities on the labour market/ balancing family and career
- Networking with labour market stakeholders

Publicly subsidised employment

The aim of publicly subsidised employment (ögB) is to give the long-term unemployed and long-term recipients of SGB II benefits the prospect of participating in the labour market.

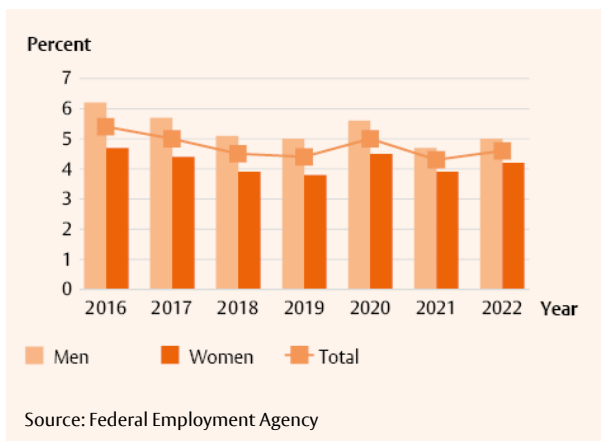
In 2021 and 2022, 120 and 84 long-term unemployed people respectively were provided with the opportunity to participate in social programmes. In addition, 31 long-term unemployed single parents and refugees with little contact with the labour market found work. Since the launch of the “Implementation of the Participation Opportunities Act in the City Administration” project in 2019, a total of 69 people who were long-term unemployed or long-term benefit recipients have started publicly subsidised employment with the City of Münster. There are currently 51 people employed in a wide range of roles in 14 different city administration offices and facilities.



69 people who were long-term unemployed or long-term benefit recipients have started publicly subsidised employment with Münster City Council since 2019.

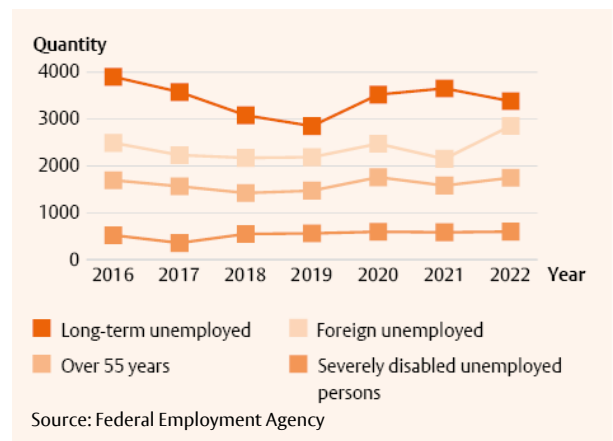
Unemployment rate

Percentage of women, men and of the total population in Münster who are unemployed



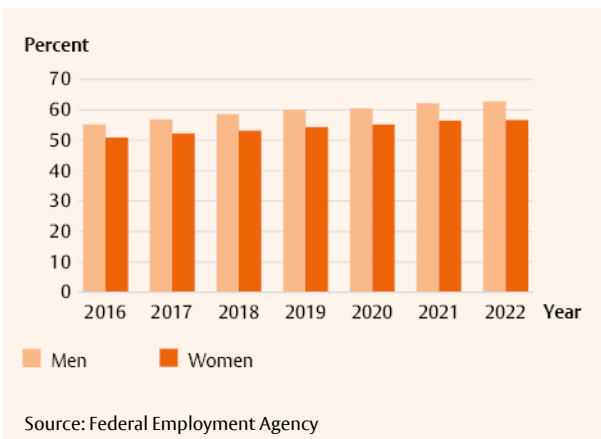
Unemployed people in Münster

Number of people over 55, long-term, severely disabled and foreign unemployed people in Münster



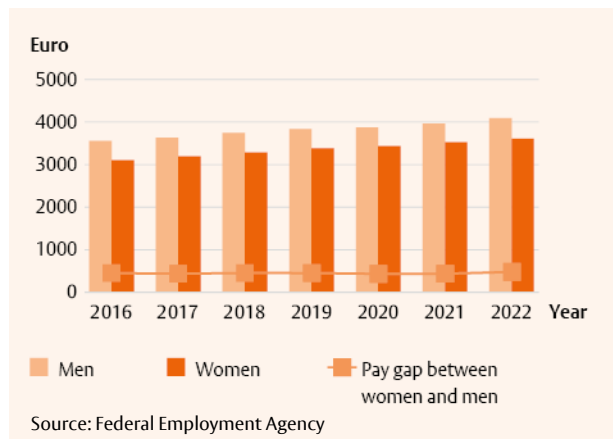
Employees subject to social security contributions

Women and men in employment subject to social insurance contributions in Münster as a percentage of the female and male population aged 18 to 64



Pay gap between men and women

Median of full-time employees subject to social insurance contributions in the core group with information on gross monthly pay working in Münster



6.2 Good work in municipal administration, municipal enterprises and holding companies

Good working conditions and more equality of opportunity are important markers of quality for municipal administrations and municipal companies, particularly in view of demographic change and the increasing shortage of skilled labour.

Persuasive policies on staff recruitment and retention, inclusion, maintaining health, working from home and childcare are becoming increasingly important. Both attitude and offerings for employees are increasingly perceived as markers of quality and are of fundamental importance for positioning the city as a good employer. Measures the city is taking in this area are presented below.

Sustainable personnel management

To ensure that the administration is able to enjoy a successful long-term future and fulfil its function, human resources management activities are directed towards ensuring the City of Münster remains an attractive employer going forward. This includes maintaining employee health and satisfaction, increasing the proportion of women in management positions, equal participation of people with disabilities in working life, integration of people with disabilities and employing people from a migrant background.

Staff development concept 2020 of the City of Münster

The City of Münster is committed to increasing the proportion of permanent employees subject to social insurance contributions. Employment should be more closely orientated towards biographical needs, should avoid underemployment, and there should be a reduction in the number of employees on fixed-term contracts.

The City of Münster's staff development concept combines a number of additional measures for identifying and developing to the maximum extent possible the potential of municipal employees. The focus is on the effects of demographic change, ongoing digitalisation, further developing leadership culture and collaboration and on maintaining or restoring the health of municipal employees.

Further measures:

- Development and introduction of programmes to promote extra-occupational bachelor's degree courses and to promote advanced vocational training
- Significant expansion of individual coaching for municipal employees
- Creating structures and incentives to make it easier for employees to combine family and career and a more gender-equitable distribution of care and paid work

Gender equality plan

The City of Münster is committed to continuously increasing the proportion of women in management positions. In accordance with the targets set out in the 2021 Gender Equality Plan, it will have reduced the current underrepresentation of women, including in municipal institutions and companies, by 2030.

Selected results from 2019 to 2022:

- The service agreement on the organisation of remote working and mobile working increases the flexibility of remote working options and enables mobile working.
- Working from home and remote working have been expanded.
- A new large company daycare centre (nine places) for children under three was opened in 2020.

- Management training will include a new module on “Gender and intercultural competence”. Training programmes for experienced and new managers will take more account of gender skills.
- Establishment of a working group to develop and establish a concept on “Respecting boundaries and combating sexual violence in the city administration” across the administration.

Inclusion agreement

The revised inclusion agreement from early 2018 means that the city administration will take into account equal participation of severely disabled people in working life is taken from the start. By implementing the goals and measures described in the inclusion agreement, the city administration is helping to promote self-determination of people with disabilities.

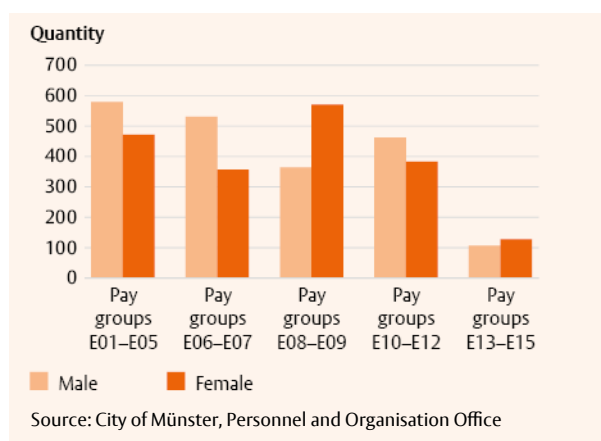
Women in management positions in the Münster City administration

Percentage of women in various management positions in the city administration



Münster city administration employees by TvöD pay grade

Number of city administration employees in various TvöD pay groups in 2022



Key points:

- Increase the proportion of severely disabled people to 6 percent of employees of the City of Münster
- Implement job carving: this involves carving simple activities out from other jobs and having them performed by people with disabilities
- Cooperation with the employment agency's specialised placement service for severely disabled academics (ZAV) to create qualified jobs for severely disabled people
- Training of people with disabilities: launch collaboration with schools and specialist integration services

The city is examining the idea of establishing an internal inclusion company to employ people with disabilities whose have particular difficulty participating in employment on the general labour market.

External workplaces

In order to integrate people with disabilities, the city administration has set up five external workplaces for people with disabilities. These external jobs are currently offered with the aim of promoting the inclusion of people with severe disabilities in collaboration with Alexianer Werkstätten GmbH and Westfalenfleiß GmbH with the aim of encouraging inclusive employment.

For those affected, this form of employment offers the opportunity to enhance their practical work skills and social skills under professional supervision with a view to entering the general labour market at a later date.

Deployment of people with disabilities in the following roles at the City of Münster has been found to be particularly successful:

- Work in the media library at Hansa-Berufskolleg
- Administrative and office work in the Social Welfare Office and the Office for Citizen and Council Services
- Garden and landscape maintenance in the Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability
- Support work in the canteen/ kitchen at Münster-Mitte comprehensive school

Severely disabled employees at administration of the City of Münster

Percentage of severely disabled employees at administration of the City of Münster



Cultural openness

Equal participation by all in the life of society is how the concept of integration is formulated in the migration mission statement (→ Section 1). An important contribution will be made by implementing the goals in the field of action “Cultural openness of public administrations”. The Municipal Integration Centre works with public authorities and associations in Münster to promote the employment of people with a migrant background in public administrations and associations.

To implement the migration mission statement, Münster City Council, for example, has decided to aim to have at least 20 percent of employees with a migration background in all administrations. This applies at all employment levels up to management level. In addition, Münster aims to employ people with a migrant background in all areas and institutions in proportion to their share of the city’s population.

In 2021, students at the University of Applied Sciences for Police and Public Administration NRW, in cooperation with the Municipal Integration Centre, examined previous concepts and measures for making Münster Job Centre more open to migrants with the aim of identifying new approaches and developing recommendations for action.

Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster (awm) has trained and taken on refugees since 2017, particularly through the project “Operational and professional integration of refugees in municipal companies”. In order to provide intensive support, awm appointed a new technical training trainee in 2020.

Occupational health management

Occupational health management includes various health promotion and health maintenance activities within the administration, municipal enterprises and affiliated companies. There are three pillars: occupational health and safety, occupational integration management for employees after long-term illness and workplace health promotion. The overall aim is to improve employee health, prevent illness and improve employee well-being and satisfaction. The aim is to shape working conditions, the operational framework and the personal health behaviour of employees to promote health.



*At the end of 2020,
6% of Münster city
administration employees
were not born in
Germany.⁴*

⁴ Because no information is available on the place of birth of around one sixth of municipal employees, the actual rate may be higher.

Health management of the City of Münster

As part of the City of Münster's occupational health management programme, employees are able to book ongoing offerings and a variety of health-related training courses. In addition, a wide range of health-promotion activities (e.g. health days) and lectures on a specific topical, relevant subject are organised annually. The chosen subject stimulates ideas, provides impetus for healthy behaviours, raises awareness of health, and encourages employees to take responsibility for their own health. The City of Münster supports participation in these subjects as a health-promotion measure. These sessions are treated as working time. Subjects in previous years were:

- 2021: Strong immune system
- 2022: Fit for digital

In addition, every year from May it's "On your bike, get set, go!" when employees take part in the nationwide "Cycle to work" campaign and pedal hard. Campaigns such as flu vaccinations and blood donation campaigns also form part of the occupational health promotion programme.

Health management at Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster

The "awm fit" (physical health) and "awm life" (psychosocial health) programmes have been components of occupational health management at Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster (awm) since mid-2013 and the end of 2014. They are designed and implemented by external experts in close and regular consultation. The aim of this pilot project is to reduce sickness rates at awm. Employees in the industrial sector in particular are exposed to high levels of physical stress, which is reflected in a comparatively high sickness rate. However, occupational health management should not neglect psychosocial stress in the workplace.

In 2019, a fitness room was set up at the suggestion of employees as a component of awm's occupational health management programme. Training is individually tailored to the needs and goals of the employee. Each employee is provided with an individual training plan and equipment instructions. There is a physiotherapist on site once a week to supervise the training.

Due attention is paid to the physically demanding nature of waste collection and street cleaning work. Ergonomic work equipment, low-floor vehicles, comfortable driver's seats and automatic lifts are selected examples of employee-orientated approaches.

The 50+ programme develops targeted measures and offerings aimed at maintaining and promoting health in older employees and supporting them with relevant issues (e.g. pensions).

With the involvement of other municipal stakeholders Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster has developed guidelines and an agreement on respecting boundaries. All employees, regardless of hierarchy, undertake to behave respectfully, to respect boundaries, to make third parties aware of and address any overstepping of boundaries, to stand up for victims, to intervene where possible and to inform their line manager where necessary.

Since 2021, the multi-layered company health management system within awm has been coordinated by a health manager. In addition, a Health Workshop has been under development since 2022.

6.3 Creating conditions conducive to sustainable economic activity

Through sustainable commercial space planning, digitalisation, numerous networks and cooperation projects with business and science, the City of Münster works with local companies to create conditions conducive to preserving and developing a broad mix of industries and companies, to ensuring a good supply of skilled worker and, to developing forward-looking business models, and supports companies in making their value chains more sustainable.

Sustainable commercial space planning

The commercial space development concept envisages the permanent availability of 50 hectares of ready-to-build land for commercial use owned by the City of Münster for demand-orientated, resource-saving commercial space development.

Ecological criteria are increasingly taken into account in developing commercial areas. The City of Münster has, for example, undertaken to stipulate greenery in the development plan for flat and low-sloped roofs in new development plans and to prohibit the creation of 'gravel gardens'. Criteria are currently being developed for climate-friendly, climate change-adapted urban land-use planning, and are also being applied to the designation of new commercial and industrial areas (→ Section 5.3).

For marketing commercial space Münster Economic Development Corporation (WFM) has developed an evaluation concept based on social and ecological criteria, used when allocating property. Intended as a guide framework, the concept includes five allocation categories with various points for evaluation that can help achieve a specific number of points (in some cases also special points):

- Job density
- Sustainability/ environmental protection (e.g. PV system, green roof, special points: promoting bicycle use, carpooling)
- Social (e.g. minimum wage, training company, special points: advancement of women, inclusion)
- Future orientation/ technology (e.g. technology-orientated, innovative)
- Functionality for the local area (e.g. catering supplying to the local area)

Battery research centre

The Fraunhofer Research Facility for Battery Cell Production (FFB) is currently under construction in the Hansa-BusinessPark industrial estate. A link between science, research and industry, the aim of the FFB is to establish a research infrastructure for ecological, economic battery cell production. The focus is therefore on the ecological use of resources, sustainable

production and environmentally friendly battery cell recycling. A pioneering research production facility for gigawatt scale battery cell production is under construction on a more than 55,000 m² site. The first building, the FFB PreFab, is due to be completed for research work in 2023. This will be followed by construction of the FFB Fab. This will enable available research capacity to be ramped up to a large scale industrial production with gigawatt output from 2025.

Sustainable tourism and sustainable major events and trade fairs

In tourism and congress marketing at Münster Marketing, numerous measures are being developed and implemented to make the organisation of conferences and congresses more sustainable and to realise sustainable tourism offerings:

Sustainable organisation of tourism management

Cycle tourism

One focus of tourism marketing is on cycle tourism. Together with districts in Münsterland, various projects are being carried out to expand cycling infrastructure (→ Section 4.3), and to upgrade cycle paths for tourism and marketing. Electric bike charging stations and bike hire stations are advertised on the internet. Cycle tourism is being further enhanced by the installation of junction signage on cycle paths, making it much easier for tourists to find their way around. The “Münster Naturally” project has also created a new sustainable visitor offering featuring two overnight stays and a rickshaw ride through Münster.

Internet presence

The Münster Marketing website brings together all key sustainability-related topics for visitors under the heading ‘sustainability’. For example, it provides information on Münster’s farm shops and weekly markets, on fair and sustainable food, and on shopping options.

Climate-neutral events and digital formats

All events organised by the Münster Marketing congress office are climate-neutral. Posters for events and campaigns are therefore exclusively digital and print products such as the Explore Münster magazine are also increasingly being offered digitally.

Sustainable partners

Congress Bureau partners that demonstrate a sustainability commitment are highlighted on the Congress Bureau website and in the Congress and Conference Guide.

In 2020, in collaboration with the German Hotel and Restaurant Association (DEHOGA), all hotels in the city were contacted. Businesses were first informed about various sustainability and climate-neutral certifications, and secondly were offered the opportunity to take part in an in-depth webinar on the issue.

Green ticket

Developed in collaboration with Stadtwerke Münster, the Willkommen!Ticket Münster will be made available to all organisers as a QR code free of charge for the duration of the event for distribution to participants. To be eligible, participants’ accommodation must be organised by Münster Marketing.

Münster Information

Münster Information provides advice on topics such as cycle tourism, hiking, public transport, and sustainable tourism offerings such as the solar-powered Aasee ship Solaaris and tours by electric bus, electric carriage or rickshaw.

Together with the Citizens' Advice Centre, Münster Information also provides information on waste disposal and Green Spaces Office topics, and accepts goods for recycling (corks, CDs, batteries).

Münster Information has largely digitised its range of information and materials. The range of printed materials has been reduced from 800 different brochures to around 150. A lot of information is shared by e-mail or printed out as required from our databases.

An interactive screen displays a wide range of information about the city, the surrounding area and tourist topics, and allows digital information to be transferred to mobile devices using a QR code.

Since May 2022, Münster Marketing has offered a digital city tour app for iOS and Android entitled "Explore Münster – Dein Stadtrundgang".

The digital city tour presents information points and historical topics in the historic city centre using audio, text and images. The app also provides information about places of interest in the broader environs of the city. The app also offers new media such as augmented reality, 360° panoramas and films. By the end of 2022, the app had been downloaded by 6,000 users.

The app is free of charge, can be used individually and complements the range of group city tours run by the tour guide teams. As it can be used at any time, tours are also possible outside of times when urban locations are particularly busy. The app is a resource-saving digital alternative to printed products.

Posters are shown on a digital display in the Münster Information offices. There is no longer a poster wall for printed posters.

In collaboration with the project "Lasse – your cargo bike for Münster" (in collaboration with the ADFC), Münster Information is the rental location for the "Mimi" cargo bike, which can be booked online and borrowed free of charge by local people.



Sustainable organisation of major events in Münster

At Council events such as Schauraum and the city festival, for some years it has been contractually agreed that no disposable packaging can be used, particularly for catering. These requirements feed directly into procurement procedures (→ Section 9.1). In addition, consideration is given to regionality and seasonality in catering.

6.4 Networks and services for promoting sustainability management in companies

Examples of the ÖKOPROFIT project, the Alliance for Climate Protection and the Alliance for Science are presented below. In addition, Section 3.2 provides information on advice services on nature-friendly business premises; the Smart City Alliance is described in more detail in Section 6.5.

ÖKOPROFIT – Environmentally friendly and sustainable management

ÖKOPROFIT stands for Ecological Project for Integrated Environmental Technology. It is a joint project of the municipality, local business and other regional and national partners. It gives participating companies a sound introduction to environmental and sustainability management.

In Münster, the advisory project is supported by the co-operation partners Wirtschaftsförderung Münster, Handwerkskammer Münster and the Efficiency Agency NRW. The project is financially supported by the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Transport of North Rhine-Westphalia.

The 12th ÖKOPROFIT programme took place in Münster from June 2021 to August 2022. For the second time, the project was carried out in conjunction with the district of Warendorf. In 2022, 12 companies from Münster were recognised for the first time and five more revalidated.



Since the start of the ÖKOPROFIT project in Münster, 130 companies and institutions have been recognised. The operating environmental and sustainability commitment of these companies saves 4.6 million euro in operating costs, approx. 19,400 tonnes of CO₂, 26.3 million kWh, 1,750 tonnes of waste and 162,600 m³ of water every year.



© City of Münster, Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability

Alliance for climate protection

Through the Alliance for Climate Protection, founded in 2011, over 100 companies are now involved in climate protection activities. They benefit from a network that offers exchanges, workshops, specialist events, public relations work and advisory services.

Through the declaration of accession to the Alliance, participants in the Alliance for Climate Protection undertake:

- to actively contribute to achieving Münster's climate protection target (→ Section 5.1),
- to undertake energy-saving and CO₂ reducing measures in their area of activity,
- to draw up an internal carbon footprint with specific CO₂ reduction targets and
- to participate in the development and implementation of at least one CO₂ reduction project.

Alliance for Science

With its universities and scientific institutions, the city of science Münster has a high level of scientific excellence in nanobioanalytics. The corporate landscape is developing accordingly – there are currently around 30 companies employing around 1,000 people active in the field of nanobioanalytics in Münster and the Münster region, focused on analytical and diagnostic products and services.

Münster has also developed into a major location for green technologies, particularly energy storage research. The universities have proven national and international excellence in this area. With the Helmholtz Institute Münster and the Fraunhofer Research Production Centre, Münster also hosts strong non-university research into this future technology. Science thus provides important impetus for the future development of Münster as a business location.

More information on the Alliance for Science can be found in Section 7.3.

6.5 Transformation through digitalisation

The use of digital technologies is now everywhere. It has significantly changed our day-to-day lives as well as many business processes in the economy. This presents opportunities, e.g. for more resource-efficient development. At the same time, however, the challenges and risks of a changing society must also be overcome. Münster has therefore set out to actively promote and support digital development of the city group and the city as a Smart City.

Smart City

Since its establishment in 2019, the Smart City staff unit has been the interface between administration, business, academia and civil society on topics and projects relating to digital urban development in Münster. The five-member Smart City staff unit team develops, initiates, networks, coordinates, moderates and communicates. Together with partners from all sections of Münster society, the aim is to provide new, exemplary answers to the changing challenges for living, housing and working in Münster.

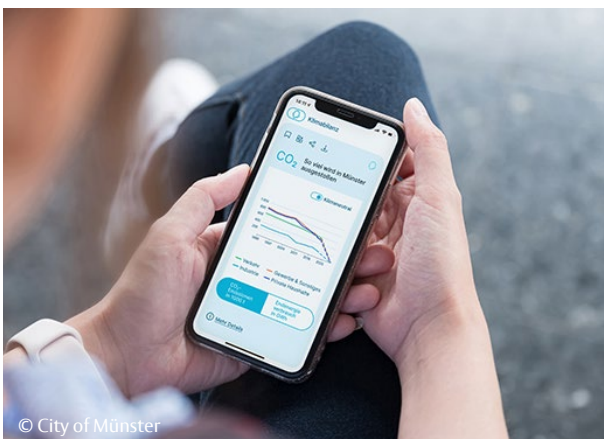
One example of a successfully implemented project is the thermographic flight project, which involved capturing images of all of the roofs of houses in the city using an aeroplane and thermal imaging camera with the aim of identifying buildings in need of energy efficiency improvements (→ Section 5.2). The Münster climate dashboard is also due to be published in 2023. The dashboard is being developed in conjunction with the Climate Unit and will provide information in four sections (“Climate in Münster”, “Energy”, “Mobility” and “Buildings”) on developments and organisations involved in the journey to climate neutrality.

The Smart City Core Team is a working committee for Smart City Münster within the city group. Colleagues from various specialist offices, departments and institutions exchange ideas and develop joint working approaches in the core team.

In addition to planning and construction-related urban development issues, colleagues from other municipal departments also contribute to the further development of Smart City Münster.

Smart City Münster Alliance

The development of Smart City Münster requires partners from all areas of city life. The Smart City Münster Alliance was established for this purpose. The alliance is an association of over 40 members from companies and start-ups, scientific and research institutions, associations, chambers, civil society organisations and the City of Münster.



© City of Münster

The Smart City Alliance views itself as a neutral platform for collaboration. Members help shape the digital transformation in terms of integrated and sustainable urban development, actively exchange knowledge and experience, and develop ideas and projects for Smart City Münster. Members network and generate synergies, jointly acquire funding, and communicate the potential of the Smart City as a marker of quality and to boost the attractiveness of Münster as a business location.

Participation in the Smart Cities pilot project and development of the Smart City Strategy 1.0

In 2021, the City of Münster successfully applied to participate in the Smart Cities Model Project (MPSC) organised by the Federal Ministry of Housing, Urban Development and Building. As one of 73 municipalities nationwide, the City of Münster will receive funding to develop expertise in digital urban development by the end of 2026 and realise specific digital-related projects within the city. At the beginning of its participation in the funding project, in parallel to implementation of the first funded projects the staff unit team developed an integrated Smart City Strategy 1.0 through a stakeholder process.

The strategy development process included explicit references to both the Münster-specific goals of the 2030 sustainability strategy and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Smart City Strategy 1.0 should be viewed as a sub-strategy for achieving Münster's sustainability goals through the use of innovative technologies and methods. The profiles for Smart City projects detail which of the global sustainability goals project implementation is expected to contribute to. In addition, the strategic guiding coordinates of the Smart City Strategy 1.0 also include the criterion of orientation towards the concept of strong sustainability and planetary boundaries.

Virtual town hall

Implementation of the "Virtual City Hall" component of the City of Münster's digitalisation strategy, commissioned by the Münster Administrative Board, involves two key topics, "Implementation of the Online Access Act (OZG)" and "City-wide introduction of electronic files" and is leading to a large number of sustainability effects. These are already having a positive impact.

OZG programme

Münster's OZG programme digitalises the interaction between customers (including citizens and companies) and the administration so that the various administrative services can be offered and used in digital form. For the actual OZG implementation, citeq – the municipal IT service provider – uses a mix of reused, standardised solutions and solutions developed in-house. Implementation is focussing first on national TOP100 OZG services based on their relevance from the perspective of citizens, companies and the administration. This is standard practice at state and federal level.

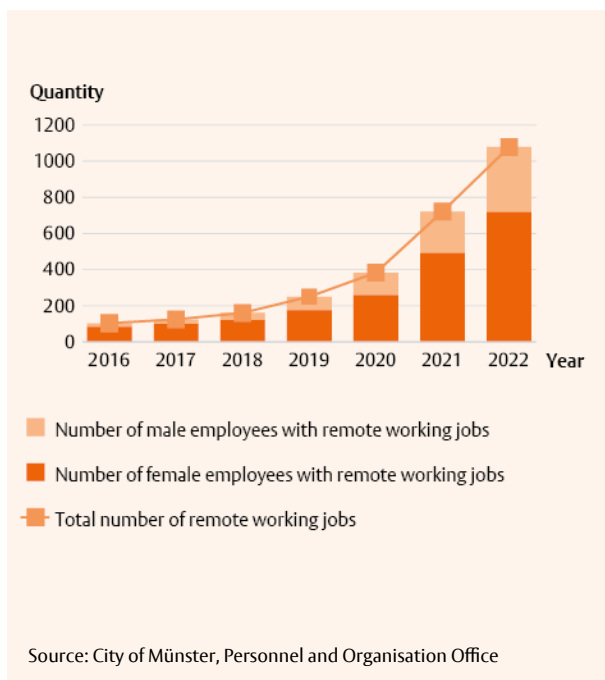
22 percent of TOP100 OZG services had been implemented by the end of 2022. The rate of implementation is expected to accelerate, as more and more reusable services are available and inter-municipal cooperation and information sharing is also increasing.

DMS programme and electronic records

In 2018, the City Council adopted a programme to introduce electronic records administration-wide (the DMS programme). The aim of the programme is to provide at least 70 percent of all office workstations with access to electronic records to enable fully electronic file management and largely do away with paper-based administrative processes. By the end of 2022, around 43 percent of this target had been achieved. In addition, electronic records create and provide access to a number of opportunities for a “New Work” approach, enabling new, resource-saving forms of hybrid and mobile collaboration.

Remote working at Münster city administration

Total number of remote working jobs at Münster city administration and number of male and female employees with remote working jobs



Broadband strategy

The City of Münster’s broadband strategy envisages that the fibre optic network will extend throughout the city by 2030. The city’s own commercial expansion play a key role in achieving this. Nevertheless, the city will only be able to achieve this goal if it additionally participates in federal and state funding programmes for networking outlying districts and commercial zones, as private network expansion to these areas is often unattractive.

Fibre optic network expansion to outer districts and business parks

In summer 2020, the City Council commissioned Stadtwerke Münster to connect around 2,000 residential and around 100 business addresses in outer districts of the city to the fibre optic network. The project will see the completion of 458 kilometres of underground construction. It will create 2,581 kilometres of fibre optics and 1,146 kilometres of empty conduits. Most of the funding for this project comes from the federal government (50 percent) and the state (40 percent). The city is responsible for 10 percent of the cost. Fibre optic network expansion to outer districts of the city is expected to be completed by the end of 2024.

In addition to the expansion to outer districts, the City of Münster is also pursuing the goal of connecting all commercial and industrial areas to the fibre optic network. In November 2021, the city administration, together with network operator Vodafone Deutschland and bidding consortium PCIF Münster S.à.r.l., German-Fiber-Solution GmbH & Co KG and Nederlands-Duitse Internet Exchange B.V. and with the support of a federal and state funding programme, launched relevant projects. Under the current plans, more than 90 percent of Münster's commercial and industrial areas connected to the fibre optic network by the end of 2024. Smaller commercial areas that do not yet have fibre optic infrastructure and have no expansion plans will be connected to the fibre optic network in future via the new guideline for the promotion of gigabit expansion in Germany (Gigabit-RL 2.0).

Mobile telephony

In addition to the expansion of the fibre optic network, the focus is also on mobile communications coverage. The expansion of mobile phone coverage is driven by competition between mobile network operators and the fulfilment of coverage requirements arising from the frequency allocation process. The City of Münster is actively involved in supporting mobile network providers to improve mobile coverage in outlying districts, enable prospective capacity expansions and drive forward the expansion of the 5G network throughout the city.



LTE and 5G coverage in the City of Münster is 99.8 % and 94.1 % respectively, which is above the national average. The number of mobile phone base stations in Münster increased slightly between 2022 and 2021:

256 mobile communications sites (4G, 5G and "Dynamic Spectrum Sharing") (+4.5 %)

43 Small Cells (+7.5 %)

5 stand-alone-5G sites (new).

6.6 Sustainability management in the city administration, in municipal enterprises and associated companies

Sustainability management is playing an increasingly important role in more and more departments and municipal enterprises and holdings. In addition to the Sustainability Unit, which coordinates sustainability management within the city administration (→ Sustainable Responsibility – Responsibility and Sustainability Management), the section below presents examples from Münster's waste management companies, the Münster Economic Development Agency and the Office for Mobility and Civil Engineering.

Sustainability management at Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster

Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster (awm) introduced a balanced scorecard (BSC) as a strategic target system back in 2010. Since then, all measures have additionally been measured in terms of their contribution to the common good (economic, ecological, social – analogous to the dimensions of sustainable development). The BSC will be continued until 2030 and serves to implement awm's Vision 2030.

While awm saw itself as a premium service provider for citizens from 2010 to 2020, Vision 2030 places the idea of partnership at the centre. Waste prevention and recycling goals can only be achieved in cooperation with a sustainability-conscious citizenry – Münster together sustainably. In this regard, awm states: "The people of Münster are ... our responsible partner – through model waste avoidance, separation of recyclable materials and excellent resource awareness. At the same time, they contribute to keeping the city clean.

awm employees are dependable partners for the people of Münster.

Together, we are creating quality of life – for a clean and sustainable Münster: even greater environmental protection, even more togetherness and regional value creation."

awm also integrated the UN sustainability goals into the sustainability and business development journal and waste balance sheet.

The same applies to the DNK (German Sustainability Code) declaration, which was prepared for the 2020 reporting year and published in 2021. It describes the strategic importance of sustainable development for awm and the relationship to the city's sustainability strategy. Regular updates to the Sustainability Code declaration are planned. In 2023, a systematic materiality analysis will be carried out based on the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS) and taking into account relevant stakeholders.

In 2022, a Sustainability Workshop will be organised with the aim of further establishing sustainability management, updating the Sustainability Code declaration and ensuring employee participation, in keeping with the motto “Everyone works together”.

Sustainability management at Wirtschaftsförderung Münster GmbH

Wirtschaftsförderung Münster GmbH (WFM) declared sustainability as a strategic field of action in 2021. The focus is on supporting companies in Münster on their path to doing sustainable business. WFM has also put its own conduct on the test stand and implemented sustainability measures. For example, it drew up a carbon budget for 2021 and implemented further measures to reduce carbon emissions in areas such as employee mobility and building heating and cooling. This process was repeated for 2022.

ECG accounting

In 2022, WFM also initiated an ECG balance sheet process, which analysed the years 2020 and 2021. The process was initiated with the support of an ECG consultant. The process began with a launch workshop for the entire WFM team to familiarise themselves with ECG and discuss its relevance for their work. This was followed by small group workshops to undertake a more nuanced analysis of WFM’s actions with regard to the five contact groups (suppliers, owners and financial partners, employees, customers and other companies, social environment) and on the basis of the canon of values oriented towards the common good. Finally, the company self-assessed all 20 fields of the ECG matrix and produced a comprehensive results report.

Management systems at the Office for Mobility and Civil Engineering

The Office for Mobility and Civil Engineering is certified in the areas of quality management (ISO 9001), environmental protection management (ISO 14001) and occupational health and safety management (ISO 45001). Environmental protection is a key issue at the Office for Mobility and Civil Engineering. One of the primary goals of environmental protection is to promote environmental awareness among all employees. The Office for Mobility and Civil Engineering’s environmental management system is designed to consider environmentally compatible or environmentally friendly properties of products and processes in all awards, procurements and if possible tenders. Depending on relevance, the extent to which influence can be exerted and the availability of information, the procurement process also takes into account the life cycle of products and services. Environmentally friendly waste disposal is also a high priority. In accordance with the PDCA (Plan-Do-Check-Act) model, processes are monitored using key figures, audits, inspections and meetings, and results discussed regularly. We regularly determine the requirements of our stakeholder groups and incorporate them into our processes.

At a recent workshop managers developed a (strategic) environmental programme. The environmental programme picks up existing urban guidelines, concepts and internal Office for Mobility and Civil Engineering goals, develops them further and processes them into a form able to guide action both at management level and in day-to-day work.



7. Comprehensive educational equity

People in Münster develop their educational potential in the best possible way, regardless of their origin or social background.



What is it about?

How can people in Münster develop their educational potential in the best possible way and how can we achieve a high level of equal opportunities and educational justice? Ensuring and promoting conditions conducive to a general cultural education environment is as much the focus here as better networking between relevant educational stakeholders. Additional educational opportunities are generated by cooperation between schools, universities, and municipal and other educational institutions. Education for sustainable development (ESD) is also an important building block and should be firmly established in educational institutions.

Strategic goals



- To create a better framework for general cultural education, knowledge of environmental and global contexts and for an equal-opportunity, intercultural, inclusive and gender-sensitive educational environment
- To network relevant education stakeholders and improving educational equity and equal opportunities
- To generate additional sustainable educational opportunities through cooperation between schools, universities, municipal facilities and other educational institutions
- Establishing education for sustainable development

7.1 Lifelong learning

Viewing education as a process of lifelong learning and focussing on transitions helps to improve educational opportunities. The Office for Schools and Further Education and the Office for Children, Young People and Families are working together to develop a foundation for data-supported observation and analysis processes and develop recommendations for action for the transition from daycare to primary school, improving quality at after school clubs, the transition from school to work, distribution of the municipal resource of school social work, and successful cooperation between open child and youth work and schools. The two offices are thus laying the foundations for data-based municipal education management (DKBM), based on a comprehensive understanding of education that – drawing on the idea of lifelong learning – encompasses all phases of life and areas of learning (formal and non-formal).

Organising the transition from daycare to primary school

The following section deals with the transition from daycare centre to primary school.

Development of an education index for Münster “Starting conditions for children before they start school”

An educational indicator developed for Münster aggregates “starting conditions of children before they start school” into a comparable measure and provides data-based information as a foundation for professional expertise. The education index for Münster shows social and economic correlations and, in the transition from daycare centre to primary school, can help target interventions and promote educational equality and participation.

Organising the transition from daycare to primary school

During the period of coronavirus restrictions, managing this transition was particularly challenging for daycare centres and primary schools. Best practices identified by surveying all daycare centres and primary schools in Münster and evaluating the survey results were made available as a handout for all daycare centres and primary schools in Münster.



Quality campaign for after school clubs

The implementation of quality standards for after school clubs in Münster has the strategic goal of enabling educational equality and equal opportunities for all children and making all after school clubs participation-orientated places to learn and live. As part of a Municipal Quality Circle, these standards are continuously undergo professional, multi-disciplinary development by the school district director, two school headmasters, spokespersons for the coordination of after school clubs, independent providers of after school clubs and the Office for Children, Young People and Families.

Intensifying cooperation

After school clubs are cooperating more closely with open child and youth work. To this end, themed networks have been set up as required. In the city districts, child and youth work offerings, the implementation of after school club projects in the afternoon and, in particular, holiday offerings are regularly coordinated.

Overall concept for school absences

Through the overall concept for school absences, the Office for Children, Young People and Families and the Office for Schools and Further Education, together with the school inspectorate, the health department and other partners, have further developed existing services for preventing and intervening in school absences. New features include the establishment of a digital learning centre and a workshop school. Both programmes enable children and young people to resume learning and thus secure their educational opportunities.

School social work

Municipally funded school social work is framed by a coordinated quality development system. A cooperation agreement between schools, providers and the local authority has been developed to ensure enduring process quality and provide a standardised basis for the deployment of school social work services. Supplementary service and quality descriptions are tailored to needs and schools.

Implementation and further development of indicator-based distribution of municipally funded school social work

Indicator-based distribution of municipally funded school social work has to deal with the conflicting priorities of staff continuity and the extension of the distribution rhythm in line with changes in demand. The Office for Children, Young People and Families and the Office for Schools and Further Education are working on redistributing municipally funded school social work. The existing table of indicators is being further developed.

Organising the transition from school to work

The following section deals with organisation of the transition from school to work.

No graduation without a connection (KAoA)

The NRW transition system “Kein Abschluss ohne Anschluss (KAoA)” has been running in Münster since 2014. It offers all pupils standardised career guidance from year 8 onwards. In 2022, the state stepped up the KAoA responsibility chains in order to ensure that young people in the lower secondary school leaving classes have prospects for a future career. All partners in the KAoA community of responsibility (local authorities, chambers, school inspectorate, employment agency) are involved.

School-to-work transition report

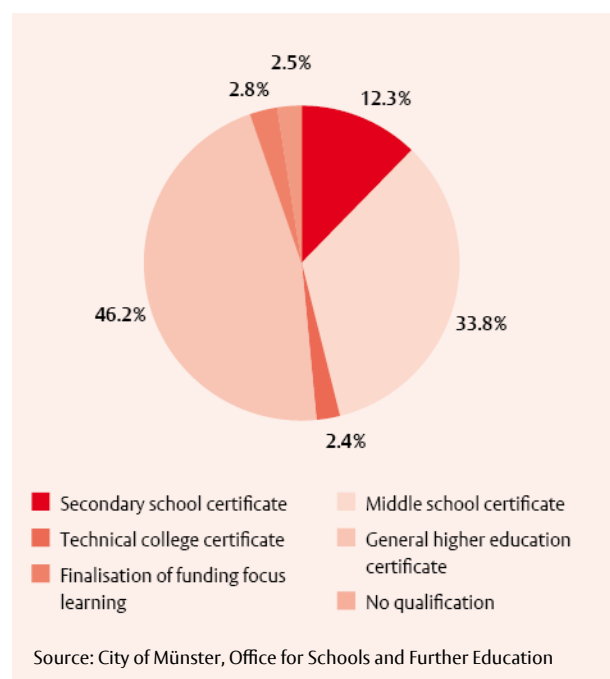
The transition report provides regular reporting on the paths being taken by young people after completing lower secondary level education into upper secondary education, into vocational training or into various other follow-up programmes such as youth workshops or voluntary social years. This data is the foundation for specific action strategies for the transition from school to work, which call on all partners in the KAoA community of responsibility to take a coherent approach to educational participation and social inclusion.

Cross-jurisdictional cooperation

The aim of cross-jurisdictional cooperation is „No young person left behind“. With this in mind, the Office for Schools and Further Education, the Job Centre, the Office for Children, Young People and Families and the Ahlen-Münster Employment Agency are aiming to work together to set up a youth employment agency in Münster.

School-leaving qualifications

Graduation rates at municipal secondary schools in the 2021/2022 school year in percent



7.2 Integration and Education

The Office for Schools and Further Education promotes the earliest possible participation in education, the active shaping of educational careers and the integration of immigrant children and young people through a range of programmes. The educational advice service provides support with things such as initial advice and orientation on school selection and registration, helps people have foreign qualifications recognised, and acts as a guide to other supporting offices and institutions. Since 2015, people taking alternative pathways into teaching in Münster have been admitted to regular classes in all types of schools depending on their education and educational expectations, which favours self-determined educational decisions and integration.

Language as key

Language is the key to successful participation in education, employment and integration. Language support for immigrants aged 6 to 17 is provided in the city by the Office for Schools and Further Education (e.g. as part of the MitSprache project). Holiday courses including cultural and educational elements in German and English have been taking place since 2013 and have been offered during all holidays since 2020. In addition, a partnership with the Centre for Multilingualism (CEMES) at the University of Münster offers practical training for student teachers to become support teachers in German as a foreign language in small groups with children and young people with a migrant background. By recognising multilingualism as a source of potential and a resource for educational success, multilingualism of children and young people is promoted by offering lessons in their native language and a multilingual reading aloud project (Mulingula). Efforts to further internationalise the school landscape through bilingual education programmes, internationally compatible school qualifications, internationally oriented projects, the acquisition of language certificates and school exchange projects also contribute to the integration of pupils from a migrant background.

7.3 Networking with academia

The City of Münster co-operates with local universities in numerous areas.

In the “Alliance for Science”, the city, academia and business work together as partners to develop Münster as a centre for science and business.

The aim of the alliance is to position Münster as a leading centre for science, research and development. It is also important to boost scientific dialogue with citizens and to communicate science and research in a way which reflects actual practice (→ Section 6.4).

Sustainable urban development working group

The Sustainable Urban Development Working Group was founded under the umbrella of the Alliance for Science. Together, science and practice are driving sustainable development in Münster with concrete projects:

In 2021, for example, the CorrensLab real-world laboratory was set up on Corrensstraße. Students from the University of Münster and Münster University of Applied Sciences worked on requirements for the sustainable, urban knowledge quarter of the future during courses held in the summer semester of 2021. In autumn 2021, they presented their ideas in a real-world laboratory on the partially closed Corrensstraße. The city will incorporate the results of the real-world lab during further development of the urban neighbourhoods of the future (→ Section 2).

Education working group

The task of the Education Working Group is to strengthen perceptions of the City of Münster as a city of science and education and to raise the visibility of science in exploring socially relevant educational issues.

The “Education” focus area primarily deals with the issue of “Transitions and turning points in educational pathways, taking potential into account”, which is of great social relevance for lifelong learning with changing educational pathways and an increasing willingness to change on the part of people and institutions.

7.4 Education for sustainable development

The Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability has been cooperating with NABU Münsterland's extracurricular environmental education centre in the Münster ESD Regional Centre since 2018. In line with the Münster 2030 sustainability strategy, the aim is to ensure that there is a strong education for sustainable development network and that it is structurally embedded in Münster.



ESD network

The Münster ESD network was founded in summer 2020. The network brings together educational stakeholders with the aim of establishing ESD in Münster's school and extracurricular educational institutions. The network views ESD as an integrated educational approach that trains the ability to experience, recognise and shape the world rationally and emotionally, and enables people to lead a satisfying and responsible life. One aim of ESD is to promote personal development and the ability to shape the local, personal and global perspectives of people, especially children and young people, in Münster by presenting conflicting goals, enabling changes of perspective and highlighting possible courses of action.



Members of the ESD network © City of Münster, Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability

Principles of the ESD network:

1. The network operates on the basis of the Münster 2030 sustainability strategy and is orientated towards its goals.
2. The State of NRW ESD guidelines form the framework for ESD work in Münster.
3. Educational stakeholders within the network are committed to a continuous process of evaluating and improving the quality of their own work.
4. The network promotes the implementation of ESD in school and extracurricular educational institutions and programmes in Münster.
5. Educational stakeholders cooperate within the network and with other partners.

Network members:

- Münster waste management companies (awm)
- All-weather zoo Münster
- “Education meets development” – Eine Welt Netz NRW e. V.
- Ethnology in Schools and Adult Education (ESE) e. V.
- Sustainability Unit of the City of Münster
- International Children’s Toy Museum Münster
- Kaktus Münster e. V. – Radio-Kaktus in community radio
- LWL Museum of Natural History
- MExLab ExperiMinTeS
- NABU-Münsterland-gGmbH
- Emshof school farm
- Vamos e. V.
- Adult Education Centre Münster

Network members are listed in the brochure “ESD network Münster – offers and information”.

Embedding ESD in schools and daycare centres

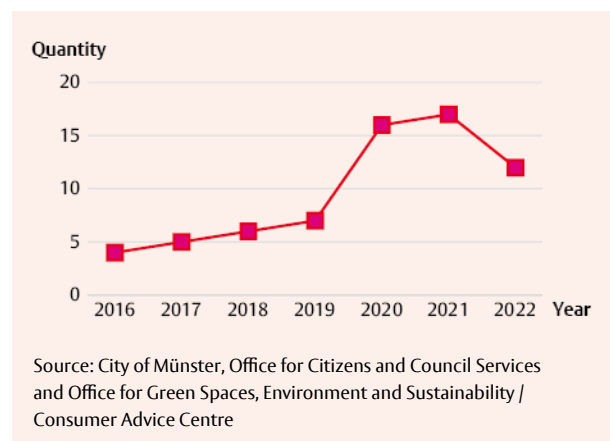
Schools offer numerous starting points for questions around what form a sustainable society could take. ESD topics can be introduced in many subjects or across disciplines, and can be lived out in everyday school life. In Münster, there are a number of permanent ESD programmes for schools and daycare centres.

State School of the Future programme

The state School of the Future programme, supported by the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Education, promotes the teaching of skills that contribute to shaping a sustainable society to young people in schools and daycare centres. Participating schools and daycare centres in Münster are supported by the Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability and NABU Münsterland. This includes teacher training, pupil academies and exchange events.

SDG schools

Number of schools in Münster recognised as a School of the Future, Fairtrade School, Consumer School or UNESCO Project School





In 2021, three training courses for multipliers were held on the topics of food waste (in collaboration with FairTEILBAR and awm), consumer change (in collaboration with Vamos e. V.) and limits to growth (in collaboration with Neue Ökonomien). In 2022, similar training courses were held on species extinction, school gardens and nutrition, and a student academy was held on the “Foodstories” educational concept.

In daycare centres run by the city, the issue of sustainability and environmental protection is continuously implemented and further developed in a participatory manner on the basis of the educational concept.

School gardens in the neighbourhood

The School Gardens in the Neighbourhood project is being implemented at Bodelschwingschule, Eichendorffschule and Freiherr-vom-Stein-Gymnasium. In this project, neighbourhood and school work together in the school garden to exploit synergies. In autumn 2020, the project was awarded the status of UN Decade on Biodiversity Project in the “Social Nature” category.

The ESD Regional Centre’s school garden activities will be expanded to include the “Raised beds in schools” project. Working with the Adolph Kolping Vocational College, they will build and plant raised beds in schools during action days.

Section 8 describes engagement by Fairtrade Schools and Fair Daycare Centres. Their approaches also contribute to ESD.

Learning centres for sustainability

There are a wide range of ESD programmes in Münster. The following are examples of the programmes offered by two ESD network members. These are Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster and the Münster adult education centre.

Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster – learning centre for sustainability

The aim of the sustainability education programmes offered by Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster (awm) is to motivate children, young people and adults to think and act sustainably.

People are provided with age and target group-appropriate knowledge and information about the connections between waste, energy and the climate. Getting to know how waste recycling plants work, especially in Münster, is as much a part of this as awareness-raising and educational work to promote a resource-conserving lifestyle. The aim is to make children aware of this issue at a young age.

In 2019, the learning centre received an award from the German UNESCO Commission and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research for its structural implementation of ESD.

The landfill adventure trail, for example, provides school classes with experience and action-orientated knowledge and information on the waste, energy and climate. Twelve learning stations teach the guiding principles behind a modern, resource-conserving circular economy based on various key topics – from correct waste separation through to explaining the interrelationships between waste avoidance, recycling and climate protection.

awm also supports sponsoring arrangements throughout the city that keep a specific area clean and tidy all year round. It supports volunteer groups (e.g. “Müllwandern” group, Hansaforum, Weitblick student initiative).



Every year, in cooperation with Immanuel-Kant-Gymnasium and other partners, awm takes part in the European Week for Waste Avoidance (EWAV).

In 2021, 48 daycare centres and 40 schools with a total of over 8,000 children and young people took part in the Clean Münster campaign.

Adult Education Centre Münster

The Münster Adult Education Centre (vhs) is the city's service centre for education, encounters and culture. In its mission statement, through its programmes it undertakes to contribute to professional, personal, social, political, cultural and general education, lifelong learning and quality of life regardless of age, origin, ideology, social situation and gender.

ESD has been an integral part of vhs Münster's programme portfolio for many years. Working with a number of partners, vhs Münster offers lectures, seminars and workshops as places for networking and dialogue, which impart the necessary knowledge and familiarise students with diverse aspects of sustainability. This includes theoretical foundations and tips for concrete implementation. The topics are as diverse as the 17 SDGs: No poverty, affordable clean energy, climate protection measures, clean water and sanitation, sustainable consumption and production, quality education, etc.

In 2021, for example, it organised the Münster Climate Talks, aimed at making the results of climate research comprehensible to a wide audience, and the exhibition “Fair Play?! Shirt Swap – The Two Sides of Global Sportswear Production” in cooperation with Vamos e. V.

In 2021, through its annual theme ‘Time for FAIR Change’, vhs Münster highlighted the tensions between the economy, environment and society. How is our attitude towards travelling and consumption in general changing? How can we, do we want or do we need to organise our future in terms of sustainability? Two 2022 projects are worth highlighting. “klimafit – schlau machen, konkret werden” is a certificate course from the WWF and the Helmholtz Foundation, which provides in-depth knowledge of ecological context and pursues specific goals to reduce the ecological footprint of participants. vhs Münster for the first time

organised the “Future Diploma for Children” project to teach young people about sustainability through a series of extracurricular events in collaboration with a number of local and regional partners. The aim is to raise environmental and sustainability awareness among children aged from 6 to 12 in a fun way.

Münster City Library

Münster City Library views itself as an institution that promotes democracy and enables social, cultural and political participation. It actively supports public discussion and debate. Its aim is to make accessible and actively communicate reliable knowledge and information to all. Its educational work uses a variety of target group-appropriate formats, enables collaborative work and learning, and aims to promote general skills and individual participation in the world of work. It is open to all people and also makes a fundamental contribution to sustainability and resource conservation through the principle of sharing. To communicate sustainability information, a sustainability centre has, for example, been set up in the city library. It includes a Library of Things. It is currently in the process of opening a Repair Café.

Library of things:

Since December 2022, the focus has been on “Lending rather than buying”. The Library of Things comprises an extensive, diverse range of products. In addition to telescopes, programmable robots and computers, customers can also borrow loudspeakers, tools, guitars and microscopes. The idea is that things that are used rarely can be shared and don’t need to be purchased.



Other event formats on a range of sustainability topics: The public library regularly organises events such as sustainability action days, workshops, events for children, etc. and cooperates with various stakeholders. Examples of events include

- Shirt bag campaign (Camphill workshops sew unique bags from old shirts)
- Zero waste – living without rubbish
- Made by life – the new sharing app (organiser Thinkasset Services)
- Waste advice for people with or without a migrant background (awm)
- Book upcycling
- Justice – When is something just from a social, ecological and economic perspective?
- Wood workshop
- Exhibitions such as “Shirt swap – the two sides of global sportswear production”
- Promoting reading sustainably – including on sustainability issues – with the LeseLeeze



7.5 Promoting culture in the context of educational equity

Cultural programmes in Münster are increasingly contributing to sustainable development. The following section first describe the promotion of culture in general before going on to describe directly sustainability-related programmes.

Promotion of culture by the cultural office

The work of the Department of Culture contributes to educational equity by strengthening, developing and expanding the artistic and cultural landscape. This is characterised by cultural diversity, international impulses and intercultural encounters. A key aspect of promoting educational equity in an arts and cultural context is the promotion of broad and diverse participation in different cultural offerings that encourage reflection, interaction, dialogue and critical thinking. Through the coordination and local implementation of the State “Kulturrucksack” and “Kultur und Schule” funding programmes, the Department of Culture and numerous partners create new pathways for accessing art and culture. This brings culture creators together with young people and promotes cultural activities, including in educational and social locations.

Neighbourhood cultural management

Neighbourhood culture management aims to strengthen, support and develop local potential and resources in order to enable people of all ages and backgrounds to actively participate in cultural life. In doing so it also promotes educational equality. The Department of Culture has its own district cultural centres and supports in particular municipally funded district cultural centres that offer a wide range of cultural, educational and recreational programmes that are accessible to everyone regardless of cultural or social background, disability, age, religion, ideology or sexual identity. They serve to open the door to, for example, different approaches to the world of performing arts for a young audience, such as the Begegnungszentrum/Theater in der Meerwiese. School and family performances here address a number of issues, including sustainability issues. In the play “Wild Ways”, for example, by Münster-based ensemble “echtzeit theater”, the forests in the city area are used as both a stage and as actors. The “mikroGiganto” project initiates a participatory spatial installation about insects. Sustainability issues are also taken into account in early childhood education. Examples include the outdoor play “waldrauschen” by Münster

ensemble “Grüne Neune” and the amateur production “Let’s do future” by the ensemble “freudige Füße”.

By improving and developing the spatial cultural infrastructure throughout the city, the aim is to promote access to art and culture and cultural education in various areas of life for as many people as possible. The Department of Culture also makes use of clever connections between city districts and the city centre to, for example, bring citizens into contact with cultural venues and events with programmes that include international influences or cultural collaborations. One example of this is the theatre in Pumpenhaus, also home to the “Cactus Junges Theater” which focuses on early intercultural encounters. These connections are also strengthened by mobile events taking place at festivals like the Münster Film Festival.

Cultural events

The Department of Culture is working on interlinking important art and cultural events such as the International Poetry Meeting with schools and/or universities in Münster. It also develops low-threshold intermediation programmes, for example in the context of “Art in Public Space” projects. It is committed to creating barrier-free access to events and supports projects that encourage initiative by people with a migrant background in cultural work, that further develop diversity, and artistic and cultural expression, that raise awareness of environmental issues or that develop new positive ideas for a climate-neutral way of life.



YOU DECIDE

8. Global Responsibility and One World

The issues of global responsibility and One World are firmly anchored in the actions of politicians, administration, business and civil society.



What is it about?

How do we firmly anchor global responsibility and One World in the actions of administration, business and civil society? Fair trade and project partnerships with entities in the Global South are essential building blocks for achieving these goals.

Strategic goals



- To utilise opportunities for fair trade, fair procurement and fair financial investment, and promote humane living and working conditions in countries of the Global South
- To support initiatives for more global justice
- To network and support entities working for a fairer world
- To initiate and support city and project partnerships with entities from the Global South

8.1 Local engagement for global justice

Münster is home to a large number of groups and entities working in the field of development policy. In 1995, the City Council set up the Advisory Board for Municipal Development Cooperation as a political mouthpiece for these groups and to provide them with a link to the Council and the administration.

Advisory Board for Municipal Development Cooperation

Set up by the City Council in 1995, the Advisory Board for Municipal Development Cooperation in Münster engages in dialogue with local One World groups and raises public awareness of global environmental and development issues. The board advises the Council and administration on issues relating to municipal development cooperation, acts as a point of contact for groups working in the field of development policy and stakeholders in Münster, and makes recommendations for municipal funding of local projects.

The advisory board is made up of members from One World Forum Münster, the University of Münster, Environmental Forum Münster and the Integration Council of the City of Münster. In addition, councillors from each party send a representative to the committee in an advisory capacity.

The Advisory Board for Municipal Development Cooperation is also involved in the following areas:

- Migration and development at municipal level
- Global South
- Fair trade

Development policy programme of events

Every year, more than 20 groups and associations take part in a programme of development policy events, which includes lectures and discussions, film and theatre screenings, exhibitions, expert hearings and other original project ideas. Examples over the past few years include

- 2019: Poverty! What to do? Münster's global responsibility
- 2021: Münster's world is not enough (SDG 11)
- 2022: Fair Play?! Sport and human rights worldwide

In 2020, the events were cancelled due to the coronavirus.



Münster is awarded the title Vice Capital of Fair Trade 2019
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Fairtrade City Münster

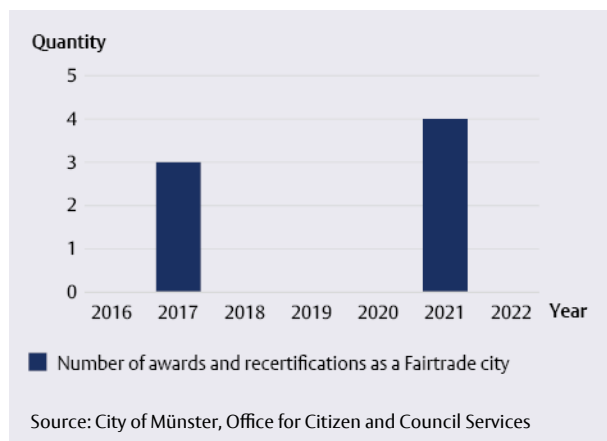
In 2021, the City of Münster was recognised as a Fairtrade city for a further two years for the fourth time. The city has held this title since 2011, when the Advisory Board for Municipal Development Cooperation proposed participating in this programme. In Germany the title is awarded by the association TransFair e. V. It honours municipalities that are particularly committed to fair trade.

The city demonstrably fulfils the required criteria on commitment to Fair Trade at various levels of the city. These include

- the establishment of a Fairtrade steering group,
- the involvement of schools, clubs and church communities,
- the use of fair trade products in retail and catering,
- public relations and
- a Council resolution that coffee and another Fair Trade product be used at all Council and committee meetings.

Fairtrade City Münster

Münster awarded Fairtrade city status and recertified



In 2019, for its wide-ranging engagement the City of Münster was awarded the title of Vice Capital in the nationwide Capital of Fair Trade competition organised by Engagement Global.

Fairtrade City Münster steering group

The steering group promotes constructive communication between civil society, the city and business and raises awareness of best-practice examples of fair trade in Münster. The aim is to boost fair trade in Münster and to spread the idea of a globally just and ecological economy and way of life among the population, without advertising for more consumption. The steering group is made up of 15 people from a wide range of different fields:

- Trade Association NRW WM e. V.
- DEHOGA Westphalia
- Münster District Craftsmen's Association
- Münster Chamber of Crafts
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Episcopal Vicariate General
- World Church Centre
- Münster Student Union
- Fair Handelsgesellschaft mbH
- Christian Initiative Romero, Vamos e. V.
- dreiraum – CoWorking for movement & therapy
- Advisory board for municipal development cooperation
- Representatives of the City of Münster (Office for Citizen and Council Services, Münster Marketing and Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability)

In close cooperation with other committed individuals, the steering group undertook a variety of campaigns and projects during the 2019 to 2022 reporting period, examples of which are shown below.

Fairtrade-Schools and FaireKITA

Under the umbrella of #münsterFAIRstärkt, 25 schools and eight day-care centres have already committed themselves to fair trade in a variety of ways. For this commitment, some have been recognised as FaireKITA or Fairtrade-Schools. The aim of these activities is to familiarise children and young people with issues of global justice in an age-appropriate way, to establish fair products in everyday life, and to promote the idea of a globally just world in Münster society. Many of these institutions also engage in local partnerships, e.g. with nature conservation association NABU e. V. or nearby fair trade shops. A large number of daycare centres and schools chose, for example, to order fair trade oranges from the local Weltladen fair trade shop and include them in their educational work with children and young people.

In collaboration with the Fairtrade City steering group and the City of Münster, there have been a number of city-wide public relations projects, including a banner campaign and the #münsterFAIRstärkt social media campaign.

FaireKITAs in Münster:

- Kindertagesstätte Die Zwerge e. V. (certified since 2016 and recertified twice)
- Evangelische Kita Epiphantias (certified since 2018 and recertified once)
- Kindergruppe Krullys e. V. (certified since 2019)
- Municipal daycare centre Wielerort (certified since 2021)
- St. Elisabeth Family Centre (certified since 2021)
- Mecklenbeck municipal daycare centre (certified since 2022)
- Klaras Kinderhaus, CVJM Münster (certified since 2022)

Fairtrade-Schools in Münster:

- Adolph-Kolping-Berufskolleg (certified since 2013 and recertified once)
- Hansa-Berufskolleg (certified since 2014 and recertified four times)
- Schillergymnasium (certified since 2014 and recertified four times)
- Protestant Social Pedagogical Training Centre (certified from 2016 to 2018, then merged with Anne-Frank-Berufskolleg)
- Waldschule Kinderhaus (certified since 2017 and recertified twice)
- Coerde secondary school (certified since 2018)
- Münster Mitte comprehensive school (certified since 2021)
- Immanuel-Kant-Gymnasium (certified since 2022)
- Overberg Kolleg (certified since 2022)

In 2020, the first FaireKITA and Fairtrade-Schools network meeting was held in Münster with representatives from daycare centres and schools. New concepts and ideas are discussed at these regular meetings. The network meetings are organised by the International Office in the City of Münster's Office for Citizen and Council Services.

Fairtrade-Schools and FaireKITAs in Münster

Number of Fairtrade-Schools or FaireKITA certifications



Other day-care centres and schools are also committed to fair trade and some are in the process of applying to become FaireKITA or Fairtrade-Schools.

Fair neighbourhoods

The #fairestadtteile project aims to anchor fair trade more firmly in Münster's neighbourhoods and to work with local stakeholders to turn their area of the city into a fair district.

The project was launched in Hilstrup in 2019 with the motto #hilstruphandeltfair. Contacts were recruited from the local population through the district administration and a district campaign, and a large launch event was organised at Kulturbahnhof Hilstrup in early 2019. A participatory process was used to compile and implement ideas, campaigns and visions for a fair district (fair district festival, photo box campaign, jersey swap exhibition, school and daycare centre involvement, etc.).

In 2021 the neighbourhood project was extended to the Kinderhaus district. A virtual meeting of stakeholders in Kinderhaus was held in the same year. Information on fair trade was provided as part of a pupil academy at the Waldschule and a poster exhibition "Trikot-Tausch" at Wuddi, a community centre and centre for children and young people at Bürgerhaus Kinderhaus.

The Fairtrade City Münster steering group held regular discussions during the reporting period with the aim of maintaining a durable, continuous volunteering structure in local neighbourhoods, strengthening the fair trade concept and raising the visibility of fair trade.

Fair City-Guide Münster app

The Fair City-Guide Münster app showcases existing sustainable offerings in Münster. It is divided into the categories Shopping Guide, Food Guide, Engagement and Events & Activities. It also includes user-friendly functions such as an interactive map, a search function with the option to filter by criteria and a favourites function. It was developed in 2021 in collaboration with muenster.fair, the Fairtrade Steering Group, the City of Münster and the Institute for Economic Informatics/ERCIS at the University of Münster.

Fairtrade ambassadors

A growing network of fair trade supporters is being established as part of the #münsterhandelt-fair-Botschafter campaign. This engagement is made visible on the steering group's website and via its social media channels. By the end of 2022, 28 institutions had registered on the site.



Photo from the photo box campaign with members of the Fairtrade City of Münster steering group
© City of Münster, Office for Citizen and Council Services

8.2 Regional and intermunicipal cooperation

In Münsterland, many municipalities are committed to fair trade, humane work and fair wages. They are committed to combating the exploitation of people and nature.

A joint regional and intermunicipal exchange between the municipalities is not limited to highlighting opportunities for cooperation and potential synergies.

Networking in the region

In 2019, regional cooperation in Münsterland began with regular weekly meetings between municipal coordinators and regional promoters for Münsterland North and Münsterland South.

The above stakeholders and the One World Network NRW, in 2020 organised a workshop entitled “Voluntarily Fair – Globally Responsible Procurement in Münsterland” in Münster. This event for the first time brought together 80 municipal, civil society and church stakeholders from across the Münsterland region to talk about fair procurement. The workshop provided an introduction to the legal framework and specific examples of fair procurement in practice from the Münsterland region.

An online symposium on sustainable procurement in the Münsterland region was held in 2021. Delegates came from municipal administrations (including the City of Münster), politics, schools, daycare centres, associations, companies, organisations and churches. Delegates discussed challenges and the implementation of fair and sustainable procurement using individual examples from the areas of workwear, bed and table linen, out-of-home catering and sports balls.

In 2022, a Münsterland-wide digital information event was held on the topic of “How do I become a FairKITA/ Fairtrade School?” The event attracted over 100 participants and focused on a model developed in the Hilstrup district.

In addition, three networking meetings of the 32 Fairtrade steering groups in Münsterland were held in 2021 and 2022, in which the City of Münster also participated. Attendees agreed to work together more closely on fair trade with the aim of giving fair Münsterland a clear identity through joint campaigns and projects.



8.3 Municipal partnerships with the Global South

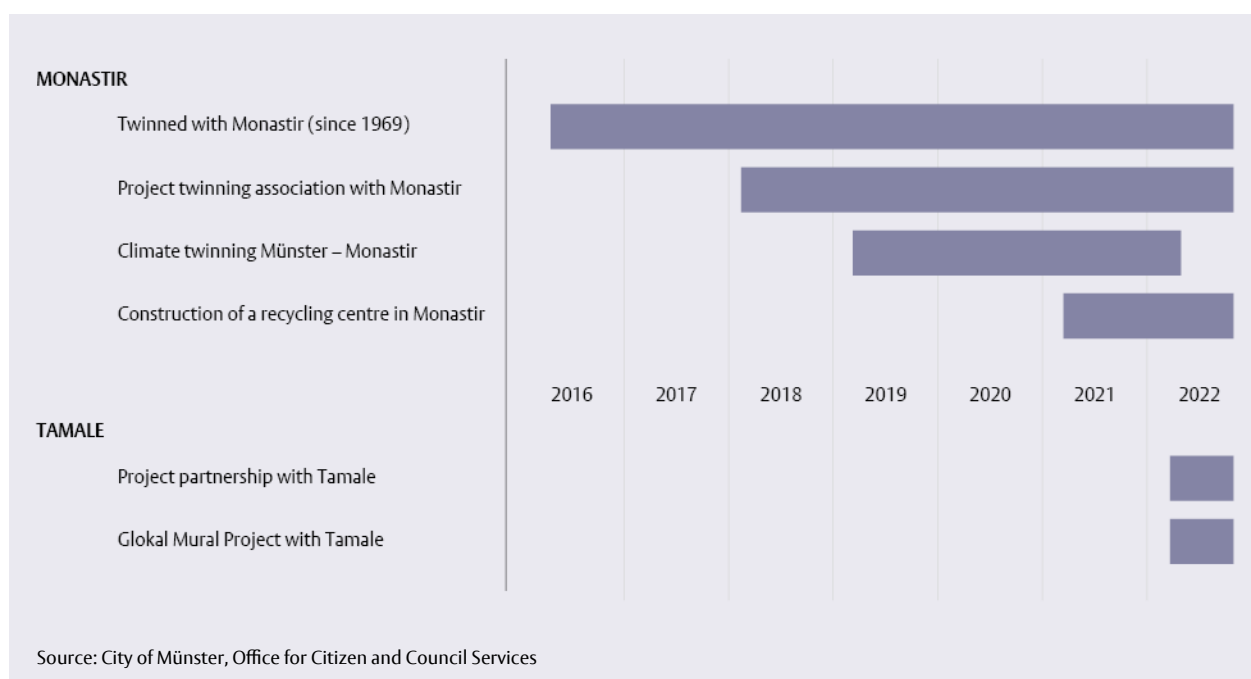
The City of Münster has maintained ten official town twinning partnerships since 1957. In addition, there is a sponsorship with Braniewo in Poland, a partnership between Münster Hilstrup and Beaugency in France, a budding solidarity partnership with Vinnytsia in Ukraine and project partnerships with Tamale in Ghana, Bologna in Italy and Rochester in the USA.

Twinning with Monastir

Münster twinned with Monastir in Tunisia in 1969. Münster's fourth twin city was the first outside Europe. Initially primarily limited to delegations and working visits, personal contacts have increasingly developed since the 1990s through Monastir's participation in Münster's Twin Cities Week, through Münster Days in Monastir, through the expansion of the partnership to include student exchanges and through joint art projects.

After the Jasmine Revolution in Tunisia in 2010 and 2011, cooperation at the administrative level intensified. Exchanges took place on municipal administrative structures, support for decentralisation efforts, joint conference and expert visits, joint participation in projects of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and work shadowing. Both cities take part in reciprocal multinational events such as an inclusive dance project in Münster and the international art and music festival in Monastir.

Projects and partnerships with entities from the Global South involving the municipality





The twinning association Freundeskreis Münster-Monastir e. V. was founded in 2018, facilitates a variety of civil society contacts and organises regular trips for citizens, as well as other activities. Overberg Kolleg in Münster is initiating a new school partnership with Lycée Hédi Kefacha in Monastir.

Climate partnership with Monastir

From 2019 to 2021, Münster and Monastir participated in the ninth phase of Engagement Global's municipal climate partnerships with its Service Agency for Communities in One World, financed by funds from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the NRW State Working Group on Agenda 21.

Over the course of these two years, a joint action plan was developed with partner municipality Monastir for short, medium and long-term climate protection and climate adaptation measures: This action plan is intended to form a permanent backdrop to the city and climate partnership between Monastir and Münster. Core teams and steering groups featuring representatives from the municipality, academia, politics and civil society were set up in both cities. Several expert missions and digital workshops were held to define objectives and measures.

The climate partnership programme of action includes the following topics:

- Sustainable waste management concept
- Climate-adapted rainwater and heat management
- Sustainable urban development

The city partnership between Münster and Monastir has generated many years of concrete experience in the implementation of waste management projects, in the replacement and use of waste collection vehicles for Monastir and in training for technical maintenance of the vehicles used (internships for Tunisian staff).

Based on the climate partnership action plan, the two core teams decided to build a recycling centre with composting facility on a former slaughterhouse site in Monastir as an initial measure. This project will be realised between 2021 and 2024 with funding from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and technical support from Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster. The composting plant is initially expected to recycle 2,000 to 2,500 tonnes of green waste per year.

The North African twin city does not yet have a city-wide waste collection system or separate collection of recyclable materials.

Development of necessary logistics and recycling infrastructure for organic waste, paper and plastics are further objectives of the joint action programme.

Project partnership with Tamale

In addition to the existing city partnership with Monastir, a new project partnership with a city in the Global South has been prepared over the last four years in response to resolutions on the sustainability strategy. Following an analysis of potential and many off-the-cuff conversations, Tamale in Ghana emerged as a potential partner city. One of the reasons Tamale proved to be particularly suitable is that the two cities already have a variety of long-standing civil society and academic connections, facilitating the development of a parallel civil society structure. In addition, the partnership between the state of NRW and Ghana, the NRW-wide civil society platform Ghanaforum NRW e. V. and a large Ghanaian diaspora are further positive factors favouring this project.

Several meetings between the cities took place in 2022. Firstly, there was a virtual exchange with the project team of the NRW-Ghana Municipal Exchange Programme, which was attended by guests including the Lord Mayor of Münster and the Mayor of Tamale. This meeting strengthened efforts to establish a joint project partnership at working level. This was followed by a first visit to Münster by a Ghanaian delegation. The visit was part of the technical information trip organised by the NRW-Ghana municipal exchange project, Engagement Global's Service Agency for Communities in the One World and the State Chancellery in Düsseldorf. The return visit to Tamale took place in September 2022.

The substance of the project partnership should primarily be related to the global sustainability goals. This was agreed by the two cities in advance. In 2022, the first joint cultural projects were realised. The Glocal Mural Münster project, for example, involved painting one of the facades of the city's Ratsgymnasium in cooperation with Vamos e. V., pupils, an artist from Münster and an artist from Tamale. Both city administrations support theatre workshops on the sustainability goals run by Cactus Junges Theater e. V. from Münster together with the Cultural Youth Home Group in Tamale.

From 2023, the focus will be on the water source in Tamale and improving access to clean drinking water there. There are also plans to support joint and new educational cooperation between academic institutions and to explore and firm up opportunities for cooperation in vocational training and healthcare.





9. Consumption and lifestyles

Münster is a role model for sustainable production and consumption patterns (less, simple, better).



What is it about?

How can Münster develop into a role model for sustainable production and consumption patterns in the sense of “less, simple, better”?

Important building blocks here are the promotion of more sufficiency-oriented lifestyles and of entrepreneurial behaviours. The circular economy, recycling, upcycling and cradle-to-cradle methodologies need to be supported and the market for regional value creation needs to be expanded.

Strategic goals



- For time richness, doing it yourself, self-care, and a culture of sharing and exchanging and living in and for the community to be widespread
- To support and realise a circular economy, recycling, upcycling, cradle-to-cradle methodologies and extending the useful life of products
- For goods to be increasingly supplied from and disposed of within the region, for regional value creation processes and the market for sustainable products to have been systematically expanded

9.1 Sustainable food system

Sustainable nutrition is important to lots of people in Münster. The City of Münster has been a member of the BioCities network since 2021. Ernährungsrat Münster e. V. and Regionalwert AG Münsterland were founded in the same year. In 2022, the Münster Municipal Health Conference adopted the annual theme of “Nutrition: Health and Climate Protection” and is working on this theme as part of a project group. The Münsterland eco-model region also began its activities in 2022. In addition, a number of voluntary initiatives, such as “Münster ist veggie”, FairTEiLBAR and Hansaforum, have been campaigning for a sustainable food system in Münster for many years already.



Organic City Münster

The Organic Cities Network is a nationwide association of municipalities launched in 2010 that promotes organic farming and organic food locally. The City of Münster agreed its membership through a Council resolution in February 2021. The goals and current programme of measures of Organic City Münster are based on the Münster Sustainability Strategy 2030 and are continuously updated through a city-wide sustainability process in conjunction with stakeholders from the Sustainability Advisory Board.

The goals of Organic City Münster are

- to establish and support regional value chains,
- to make catering in municipal canteens, schools and daycare centres increasingly organic, fair, regional, seasonal, vegetarian and vegan, and to make urban procurement as a whole more sustainability focused,
- to increase the share of organic farming to at least five percent and to significantly increase more sustainable conventional farming, and
- to firmly anchor education for sustainable development in all areas.

Selected sustainable food system-related municipal activities are presented below.

Display “Münster is(s)t bio, regional, fair”

The display provides information on the challenges involved in a more sustainable global food system, includes figures on agriculture and self-sufficiency in Münsterland, gives tips for a more sustainable and healthy diet, and includes an overview of Organic City activities for a more sustainable food system in Münster. The four clearly designed display boards are used as part of the city’s organic city activities (e.g. the 2022 canteen action week in the Stadtwerke/Stadthaus 3 canteen) or at events and action days and will be supplemented by further boards in the future.

Citizens’ dialogue “Food Futures: Our food system in Münster”

The citizens’ dialogue “Food Futures” took place in 2021 in cooperation with the Centre for Interdisciplinary Sustainability Research at the University of Münster and the City of Münster’s Sustainability Unit. Over the course of three days, 29 randomly selected citizens from Münster worked together to develop recommendations (eight guiding principles) for a more sustainable local food system. They started by identifying problems and challenges, then developed visions which, in a third step, led to the development of initial implementation proposals. These were presented to the public on two action days and to politicians in the Committee for the Environment, Climate and Building. At the same time, the results fed into the process of firming up further measures as part of the sustainability process.

“Münster eats veggie” initiative

A 2011 Council resolution instructed the administration to support civic engagement for a voluntary vegetarian Thursday and the “Münster eats veggie” initiative. Since 2014 staffing and funding support has been provided by the public health department.

Between 2019 and 2022 eleven lectures, five workshops and 23 information stands were organised. With information material and a restaurant map entitled “Münster isst veggie ... gewusst wo!” (Münster eats veggie ... know where!), volunteers provided information about the numerous effects of nutrition on the environment, climate, health, animals and people, especially in the countries of the Global South. The initiative is also supporting the introduction of purely plant-based meals as part of “Vegan-Taste-Week” at Münster University Hospital and celebrated its tenth anniversary (a year late) in 2022 with a party and information stands.

Sustainable urban events and catering

“Sustainable and climate-neutral events and catering” is a building block of Organic City Münster and also a measure in the Climate-neutral City Administration 2030 concept study (→ Section 5.4). The shared goal is to make procurement processes for events and canteen operations more sustainable and climate-friendly. Since the end of 2022, there has also been a socio-ecological procurement working group (→ Sustainable administration – procurement and contracting), which will in future also deal with procurement processes for catering and events.

The “Sustainable events” guide shows how, through well thought-out and forward-looking planning, events can be organised so that they are fair, protect the climate and conserve resources. In addition to valuable information, checklists and tips on organising catering, waste avoidance, equipment, mobility and greenhouse gas offsetting, the guide also contains a list of networks and municipal contact persons for the various topics.

Building on these guidelines and supplemented by a practice-oriented cooking module, three in-house training courses for employees have been held since 2022 and a public workshop organised in collaboration with Münster Volunteer Agency.

Regional (organic) value chains

The goals set out in the Münster 2030 sustainability strategy include, in a region that is still largely agricultural (→ Section 3.3), systematically expanding regional value creation processes and promoting ecological, resource-conserving, conventional and environmentally friendly agriculture with high animal welfare standards. This process is supported in part by the work of Münsterland eco-model region. Weekly markets and farm shops represent a good sales channel for regionally produced products.

Münsterland eco-model region

In 2022, Münsterland districts, Münsterland e. V. and the City of Münster successfully applied to the State of North Rhine-Westphalia as the Münsterland eco-model region and received funding approval for three years. In this project Münsterland is focussing on three fields:

- increasing the proportion of organic products in out-of-home catering
- expanding and strengthening the distribution of organic food
- identifying and plugging gaps in the regional organic value chain

The three-year Münsterland eco-model region funding project started in December 2022 when two newly hired eco-model region managers started work at Münsterland e. V. A steering committee with representatives from the districts and the City of Münster meets monthly to monitor and support these activities. In the City of Münster, Münsterland eco-model region activities are closely intertwined with activities for Organic City Münster.

There are many ways to achieve the shared goals and thus increase sales of bioregional food from Münsterland. Relevant entities within the region will be more closely networked, caterers will be actively approached and invited to get involved, targeted workshops will be organised and consumers in Münsterland will be targeted and educated. Organic regional shelves for in-store and online retail are also under consideration. In addition, organic regional value chains will be identified and supported, accompanied by public relations work and events.

Weekly markets and direct marketers

With around 120 stalls, the weekly market on Domplatz in front of the cathedral is the largest market in Münster. There are also 15 other weekly markets in various parts of the city. Predominantly regional market suppliers provide a wide range of food products.

Originating from the Agenda 21 process in the late 1990s, the organic farmers' market has now been held on Fridays on Domplatz in front of the cathedral for over 20 years. 16 certified organic farms from the Münsterland region sell their goods there using only certified organic raw materials, sourced from the region wherever possible.

There are also 37 direct marketers – including five organic direct marketers offering regional food fresh from the farm from local farmers in Münster. In their farm shops, at market stalls and in grocery shops, in addition to fruit and vegetables they also offer a wide range of other products from the region.



© City of Münster / Angelika Klauser



There are 17 weekly markets in Münster and 37 direct marketers who sell regional food direct from the farm.

Out-of-home and institutional catering

The importance of institutional catering – as a segment of out-of-home catering – has risen sharply in recent years and decades, primarily due to demographic and social change. At the same time, the demands placed on the choice of food in institutional catering are also increasing.

The section below focuses on institutional catering at Münster's schools, daycare centres and in municipal canteens. What requirements is the city focusing on in terms of sustainable catering? How can they be realised?

Nutrition in daycare centres and schools

Around 12,000 hot meals are served at Münster's municipal daycare centres and schools every day, and this number is increasing. The Health and Veterinary Office quality and hygiene guidelines provide these facilities with important recommendations, information, background information and checklists.

However, as choice of food is always a very individual and personal decision, ecotrophologists from the Health and Veterinary Office additionally provide municipal daycare centres and schools and the relevant city's departments with a full range of advice on quality and hygiene in daycare centre and school catering.

Further training and events on this issue are organised for all facilities. Between 2019 and 2022, ten events and training courses were held – in some cases in cooperation with the Networking Centre for Daycare and School Catering, the NRW Consumer Advice Centre and the "Münster isst veggie" initiative – for groups including pedagogical and housekeeping staff and caterers on quality and sustainability in catering and nutrition education.

Training courses and events organised:

- Introductory workshop: Check Dein Essen in cooperation with the NRW consumer advice centre
- Vegetarian, enjoyable and flavourful – simply delicious, a cooking workshop for housekeeping staff at Münster daycare centres and schools
- Just do it! Sustainability in nursery and school catering, in cooperation with the NRW Consumer Advice Centre's Added Value 21 project
- Workshop for climate-neutral, healthy and tasty catering at daycare centres and schools
- Getting a taste for it – nutrition education in daycare centres with all the senses in cooperation with the Networking Centre for Daycare and School Catering NRW
- With GemüseAckerdemie to your own school vegetable patch

In addition, regular newsletters provide information about additional events and news.

Specifications for catering in schools

With the aim of providing a healthy diet for pupils in Münster's municipal schools, the Office for Schools and Further Education invites tenders for lunchtime catering at primary and secondary municipal schools in close cooperation with the Quality Management Daycare and School Catering Department at the Health and Veterinary Office. Sustainability is an essential and explicit point in the tender specification.



Current criteria set out in the specification for the school catering tender are as follows:

- 20 percent and from 2023 30 percent certified organic (based on the monetary value of goods used)
- Milk and milk products used (and possibly other products) must be from GMO-free production
- Reference to increased use of seasonal and regional products
- Compulsory requirement not to use disposable crockery

Efforts to include a regional and seasonal component in the separate tender for fresh produce could not be realised permanently. Suppliers have declined to extend existing contracts and no bids have been received in response to corresponding invitations to tender. Since 2021, fresh components have therefore once again been tendered in conjunction with the basic meal. The above criteria from the tender specification apply to both of these, however.

Regional products should be preferred, in part because the short transport routes are more sustainable and better for the climate. However, it is impossible to formulate the criterion of “regionality” in a tender-compatible manner. Europe-wide tenders for lunchtime catering, mandatory under procurement law, cannot be limited by specifications for maximum distance to the place of performance.

Any contracting party who nevertheless wishes to specify a regional share needs to be aware that there are considerable legal risks involved.

Permissible alternatives are specifications for seasonal fruit and vegetables or positive evaluation of the use of the largest possible quantities of seasonal products and/or specifying short warming times when using hot food systems.

The specifications state: “The City of Münster emphasises the use of seasonal products (see the seasonal calendar). The supply of fruit and vegetables is to be orientated towards this calendar with a view to supply from local cultivation. At times when local produce is scarce, supra-regional produce can also be used. Fruit/vegetables that are at least level 2 of the 4 seasonal bars in the seasonal calendar are classed as seasonal.”

No price specifications are currently given in municipal tenders. The tender price accounts for only 30 percent of the award criterion. The menu ranges, checked by the quality manager for daycare and school catering, account for a further 30 percent and the service concept, evaluated by the schools, for 40 percent. The prices in 2022 ranged from 2.90 euro to 4.43 euro per meal. Costs are generally paid by parents.

With the council's decision to gradually transfer the after school club programme to independent providers, the number of primary schools put out to tender on the basis of the service specifications has fallen. In 2022, after school club services were provided by independent youth welfare organisations at 17 locations. This also includes lunchtime catering, providers organise themselves and which are not subject to directives from school management and the education authority. The municipal service catalogue operates as a guide only.

Politically and administratively, increasing the sustainability of school and daycare catering is an ongoing process.

Fair banana pilot project at two primary schools in Münster

Following the Eco-Fair Procurement Day in 2020, a project-related interdepartmental working group “Community catering organic – regional – fair” was established with the aim of making school catering even more compatible with social and ecological criteria. The International Office in the Office for Citizen and Council Services, the Sustainability Unit in the Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability, the Office for Schools and Further Education, the Health and Veterinary Office and the Procurement Management of the Legal Office and the former Foreigners Office were all represented. The working group received expert support for the project from the Romero Christian Initiative.

The group drew up a performance description, a lot description and a declaration of commitment for implementation of fair trade products (in this case bananas) in lunchtime catering at primary schools. In the run up to the tender, a jointly organised bidder dialogue was held to inform carters about the project and to exchange ideas with them about opportunities and obstacles to implementation.

Municipal canteens

The municipal canteen in Stadthaus II is making increased use of seasonal and regional food products, environmentally friendly production methods and aspects of fair trade. A framework agreement has, for example, been concluded with a wholesaler for the delivery of organic frozen vegetables and only MSC-certified (or comparable) fish. In addition, individual products (e.g. chicken eggs, asparagus) are procured regionally. Fairtrade coffee and tea are available. There is a vegetarian dish every day, and vegan meals are also offered occasionally.

In 2022, a sustainable canteen week was held in the Stadtwerke canteen in Stadthaus III. A dish with food from the Münsterland region was available every day. The exhibition “Münster is(s)t bio, regional, fair” (→ Section 9.1), nutrition quizzes and a number of informative talks were used to discuss the connection between production and consumption of food and the consequences for the environment and climate, the theoretical level of self-sufficiency with food from the region, and city’s activities aimed at promoting a more sustainable food system. Sales analysis showed that significantly more regional (in some cases vegetarian) campaign dishes were sold during the campaign week than on normal days.

Urban edible community gardens

Urban community gardens bring food and agriculture into the city and allow everyone to experience them. This raises awareness of healthy and seasonal food. They are also lively places for community gardening, neighbourly meetings and intercultural exchanges. The community garden Familienzentrum 37° in Hilstrup, for example, was created in 2021 with support from the city.

The municipal brochure “Urban community gardens in Münster” provides an overview of community gardens. It is also possible to obtain financial support for new edible urban community garden projects.

In 2020, the City of Münster, in cooperation with the city and district federation of allotment gardeners, distributed a total of 960 fruit trees for gardeners at 41 allotment garden sites. Gardeners were able to choose from a range of different apple and pear varieties for their plots in advance. Fruit trees are ecologically valuable. They provide a habitat for insects and birds and, with their abundance of leaves, are climate-relevant CO₂ reservoirs.

In 2021, the Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability also had 56 new fruit trees planted in Mecklenbeck and Albachten, including regional apple varieties such as Dülmener Rose and Rote Sternrenette, sweet cherries, Mirabelle plums, Hauszwetschge plums and quinces.

One aim of the Münster 2030 urban sustainability strategy is to promote biodiversity using fruit trees. Supported by political applications, standard fruit trees were planted on two streets in Mecklenbeck and on a meadow in Offerbachpark in Albachten. Citizens will be able to harvest the fruit themselves in future.



In Münster, there are nine neighbourhood gardens, three student community gardens, three school gardens and an intercultural garden. There are also a large number of allotment gardens and some educational gardens. This number is rising.

9.2 A capital of waste prevention

Abfallwirtschaftsbetriebe Münster (awm) has formulated its Vision 2030 with the aim, together with its citizens, of turning Münster into a capital of waste prevention by 2030. Through numerous measures, collaborations and educational programmes, awm is helping to achieve this goal in collaboration with its partners in the network (→ Section 7.4).

Domestic drinking water consumption

Domestic drinking water consumption in litres per inhabitant per day



Münster for reusable packaging

The “Münster für Mehrweg” initiative has been campaigning for sustainable reusable solutions in Münster since 2017. The aim is to get people thinking about saving valuable resources day to day through press work, and advice and information stands, and to promote dialogue with local stakeholders in order to develop alternatives. Münster residents are encouraged to take part with the slogan “Join in – Be part of it – Make Münster disposable-free”.

Selected results of the initiative:

- people can refill bottles with tap water for free at refill stations. “Münster für Mehrweg” advises and encourages people to use the refill system instead of using disposable bottles.
- “Münster für Mehrweg” provides information about ecological benefits, promotes the use of alternatives and lists local suppliers where it is possible to avoid using disposable packaging.
- “Münster für Mehrweg” supports the implementation of sustainable reusable alternatives at events and provides information on the savings achieved by not using disposable products through information boards at drink and campaign stands and through press work.

Network members:

- Münster waste management companies (awm)
- Office for Green Spaces, Environment and Sustainability
- NRW Trade Association
- Initiative starke Innenstadt Münster e. V.
- Interessengemeinschaft der Marktbesucher Münster e. V.
- Münster Marketing
- Umweltforum Münster e. V.
- Swapping and sharing
- Avoiding food waste

Circular economy

In addition to its company buildings and factory premises, awm operates a waste disposal centre with landfill site, various pieces of equipment and eleven recycling centres.

The facilities at the disposal centre include the landfill site, organic and green waste recycling plants, an anaerobic digester, a green waste composting plant, a mechanical residual waste treatment plant (MRA), a thermal residual waste recycling plant operated by awm's partner Twence Holding.BV, which is owned by municipalities in the Twente region, a leachate treatment plant and a combined heat and power plant.

Recycling bin

At the beginning of 2020, recycling bins replaced yellow bags throughout the city. Since then, in addition to packaging, the recycling bin can also be used to dispose of some material non-packaging items, e.g. plastics such as watering cans, folding crates and children's toys, metals such as pots, pans and tools. Disposal of some material non-packaging items was not possible with the previous yellow bag system. The new system was piloted in Hilstrup and parts of Kinderhaus and Gievenbeck in 2012, which improved acceptance during the introductory period.

HOOP project – a flagship project for the circular economy

In the HOOP project (Hub of Circular Cities bOOsting Platform to Foster Investments for the Valorisation of Urban Biowaste and Wastewater), Münster and seven other flagship European cities are exploring new ways to better recycle biowaste and boost circularity.

The HOOP project, which is fully funded by the European Commission, will invest in sustainable ideas and projects until 2024, test innovative technologies and create new value chains for bio-economies.



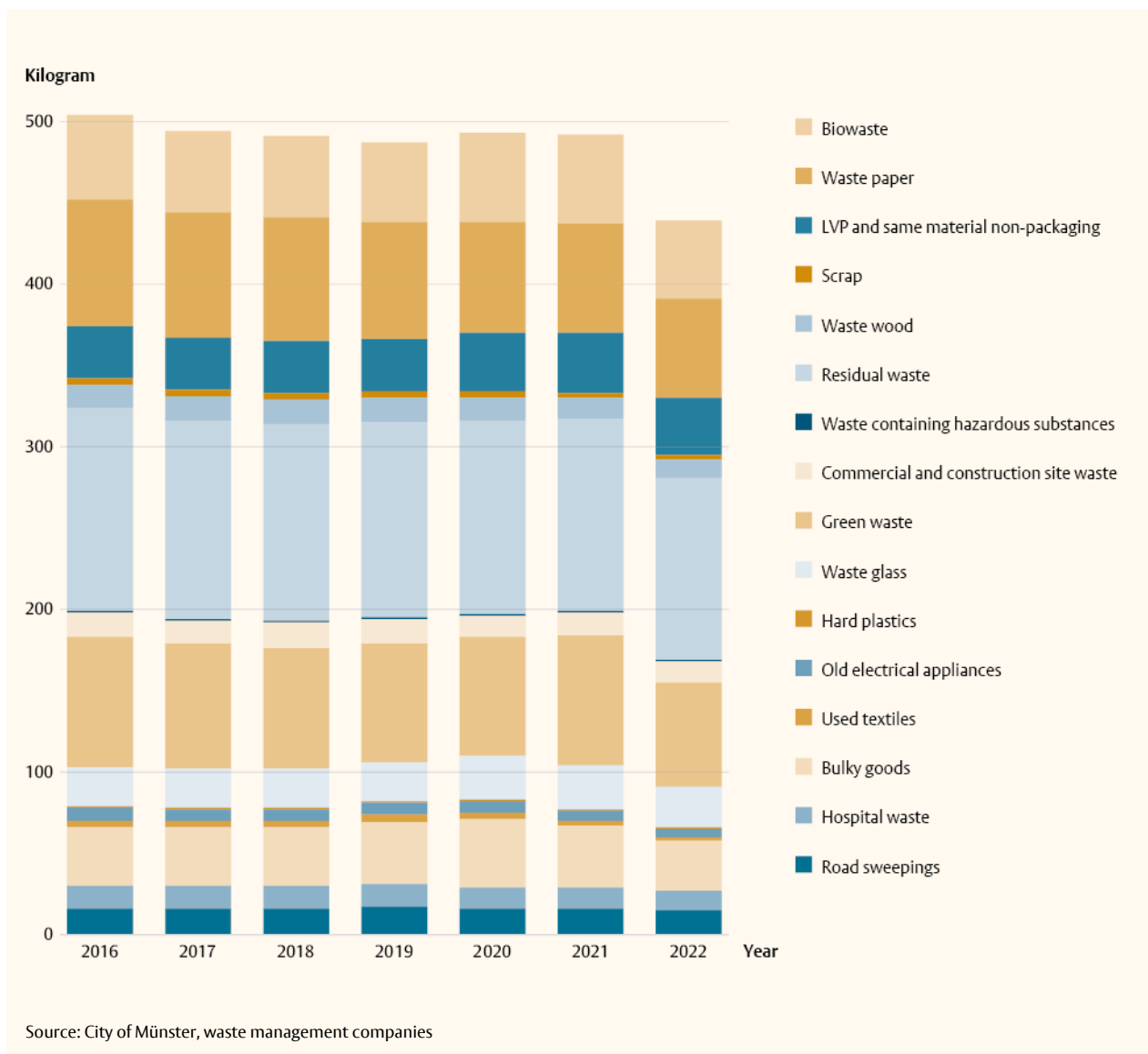
Münster was chosen for reasons including the city's high level of sustainability and mature organic and green waste collection system.

awm and the Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production (CSCP), which supports "biowaste clubs" in the project cities, have founded "Biomehrwert-Initiative Münster" (BIM).

With the help of many local partners from academia and Münster society and in consultation with the seven flagship cities, awm is aimed to use targeted measures to further improve the quality and quantity of biowaste in Münster and thus produce even higher quality products from biowaste.

Amount of waste

Total amounts of specific waste types from 2016 to 2022 per inhabitant in kilograms



9.3 Municipal sustainability advice

For 30 years, the City of Münster's environmental advice centre provided citizens with comprehensive advice on environmental and, in cooperation with the consumer centre, energy issues. These services were supplemented by numerous exhibitions, campaigns, expert consultations and exchange forums. The environmental advice service offered many suggestions for valuable, sustainable, resource-conserving and climate-friendly action in the form of regular environmental tips in the media and social media.

The environmental advice centre closed its doors in November 2022 to make way for the House of Sustainability, a key Münster 2030 sustainability strategy project. It will take over the role performed by the environmental advice centre and offer additional services.



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The House of Sustainability

The House of Sustainability is a key sustainability strategy project. In 2021 and 2022, a suitable municipal property was identified at Hammer Straße 1. The property was expanded in keeping with its new function as a contact point for citizens.

In 2023, the House of Sustainability, part of the Sustainability Unit, will open as an advice and networking centre on Hammer Strasse. In addition to the municipal advice service, the consumer advice centre's energy advisory service will also be based there.

The aim is to establish further links with (environmental) stakeholders in keeping with the Sustainability Unit mission statement:

"We coordinate the City of Münster's sustainability process and act as a communications interface between administration, politics, civil society, academia and business. We network stakeholders and implement numerous measures (often through various partnerships) to achieve the Münster 2030 sustainability strategy."

In combining these roles, the centre will expand from being an environmental advice service to become a municipal sustainability advice service. In addition to providing technical expertise, the focus in future will additionally be on empowering citizens to take concrete action to achieve the goals of the sustainability strategy.

The House of Sustainability will become a space for transformation and innovation in keeping with the slogan "Münster sustainable together".

Indicators

The following table provides an overview of the indicators on which this sustainability report provides information. The BNK column shows which of these indicators are recommended by the Sustainable Municipality Reporting Framework.

The SDG column shows which SDGs the indicator is associated with. Further information on the indicators and trends in these indicators can be found in the sections shown.

Field of action	Indicator	Definition	BNK	SDG	Section
Sustainable administration	Financial resources balance	Budget surplus or deficit from current administrative activities and current investment activities per inhabitant per year in euros	X	16	1.3
	Tax income	Tax income per inhabitant and year in euros	X	16	1.3
	Liquidity loans and investment loans	Liquidity loans and investment loans in euros	X	16	1.3
Social participation	Child and youth poverty	Percentage of population aged under 18 receiving SGB II or SGB XII benefits	X	1	1.1
	Old-age poverty	Percentage of population aged over 65 receiving SGB XII benefits	X	1	1.1
	Care infrastructure	Number of places available in various facilities and number of residents over 80 years of age	X	3	1.1
	Trainees at nursing schools	Number of trainees at nursing schools in Münster		3, 4	1.1
	Gender balance on Münster City Council	Gender balance on Münster City Council for individual electoral periods in percent		5	1.2

Social participation	Scope of employment of women	Percentage of women in full-time and part-time employment subject to social insurance contributions in Münster	X	5	1.2
	Scope of employment of men	Percentage of men in full-time and part-time employment subject to social insurance contributions in Münster	X	5	1.2
	Naturalisations	Number of grants of German citizenship in Münster and number of people granted citizenship per year as a percentage of all foreign residents	X	10	1.3
Housing and sustainable neighbourhoods	Residential construction	Completions of flats in new builds and conversions		11	2.1
	Publicly subsidised housing	Subsidy commitments for publicly subsidised housing		11	2.1
	Homelessness	Number of people in temporary accommodation due to homelessness		11	2.1
	Living space	Living space in square metres per inhabitant	X	11	2.2
Natural resources and the environment	Interventions in the green organisation system	Number of interventions in the green organisation system in Münster		15	2.1
	Organic and conventional farming	Organically farmed land as a proportion of total utilised agricultural area in percent		2, 15	3.3
	Nature conservation and landscape protection areas	Area of nature conservation and landscape protection areas in Münster in hectares	X	15	3.4

Field of action	Indicator	Definition	BNK	SDG	Section
Natural resources and the environment	Breeding lapwing pairs	Number of breeding lapwing pairs in Münster		15	3.4
	Water quality class of watercourses	Percentage of watercourse sections with water quality class II to III or better	X	14	3.6
	Nitrate in drinking water	Average value of the four water catchment areas in milligrams per litre		6	3.6
Sustainable mobility	Modal split	Transport modes as share of total transport in Münster in percent		11	4.3
	Deaths and injuries in road traffic	Number of fatalities and serious and minor injuries sustained in road traffic accidents in Münster	X	11	4.3
	Car density	Number of cars by fuel type per 1,000 inhabitants		11	4.4
	Publicly accessible electric charging points for cars	Number of publicly accessible normal and fast charging points in Münster		3	4.4
	Noise pollution from road traffic	Number of people affected by road-traffic related noise pollution LDEN (day, evening, night) in Münster		3	4.5
	Air pollutants (1)	Annual mean nitrogen dioxide levels (NO ₂) at the Weseler Straße continuous monitoring station in µg/m ³	X	3	4.5
	Air pollutants (2)	Number of days on which the daily limit value for PM 10 [$> 50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$] was exceeded at the Weseler Straße continuous measuring station		3	4.5




Climate protection and energy	Greenhouse gas emissions	Per capita CO ₂ emissions (private households, commerce, industry and transport) in tonnes		13	5.1
	Electricity from renewable energies	Renewable electricity generation by technology in Münster in MWh and share of renewable energies in total electricity consumption in percent	X	7	5.2
	Heat from renewable energies	Renewable heat generation by technology in Münster in MWh and renewable energies as a percentage of total heat consumption		7	5.2
	Street lighting	LED lights as a percentage of total street lights in Münster		7	5.2
	Energy use in private households	Total energy consumption of private households in MWh and reduction in comparison with 1990 in percent		7	5.2
	Greenhouse gas emissions of the city administration	Greenhouse gas emissions of the city administration by area in baseline year 2019 in tonnes		13	5.4
	Good work and a future-oriented economy	Childcare services	Number of childcare places in Münster for under 3 and 3 to 6-year olds as a percentage of the under 3 and 3 to 6-year old population	X	4
Childcare and after school clubs at primary schools		Childcare and after school clubs in years 1 to 4 at municipal primary schools		4	6.1




Field of action	Indicator	Definition	BNK	SDG	Section
Good work and a future-oriented economy	Unemployment rate	Percentage of women, men and of the total population in Münster who are unemployed		8	6.1
	Unemployed people in Münster	Number of people over 55, long-term, severely disabled and foreign unemployed people in Münster	X	8	6.1
	Employees subject to social insurance contributions	Women and men in employment subject to social insurance contributions in Münster as a percentage of the female and male population aged 18 to 64 years	X	8, 10	6.1
	Pay gap between men and women	Median of full-time employees subject to social insurance contributions in the core group with information on gross monthly pay working in Münster	X	8, 10	6.1
	Women in management positions in the Münster City administration	Percentage of women in various management positions in the city administration		5, 8	6.2
	Münster city administration employees by TvöD pay grade	Number of city administration employees in various TvöD pay grades		5	6.2
	Severely disabled employees at administration of the City of Münster	Percentage of severely disabled employees at administration of the City of Münster		8, 10	6.2


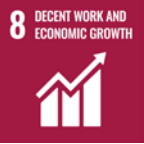
Good work and a future-oriented economy	Remote working at Münster city administration	Total number of remote working jobs at Münster city administration and number of male and female employees with remote working jobs		9	6.5
Comprehensive educational equity	School-leaving qualifications	Graduation rates at municipal secondary schools in the 2021/ 2022 school year in percent		4	7.1
	SDG schools	Number of schools in Münster recognised as a School of the Future, Fairtrade School, Consumer School or UNESCO Project School		12	7.4
Global responsibility and One World	Fairtrade City Münster	Münster awarded Fairtrade City status and recertified	X	12	8.1
	Fairtrade Schools and FairKITAs in Münster	Number of Fairtrade School and FairKITA	X	12	8.1
	Projects and partnerships with entities from the Global South involving the municipality			12, 17	8.3
Consumption and lifestyles	Domestic drinking water consumption	Domestic drinking water consumption in litres per inhabitant per day	X	12	9.2
	Amount of waste	Total amounts of specific waste types from 2016 to 2022 per inhabitant in kilograms	X	12	9.2



Overview – Sustainable development goals


The table below offers an overview of the allocation of SDGs to the sections of this Sustainability Report.




SDG	Section	Definition	Content
 <p>No poverty</p>	1.1	Enabling poverty prevention and participation for all	Minimizing poverty, existential hardship and associated health risks
	2.1	Affordable, environmentally and socially just housing	Creating demand-led offerings on the Münster housing market and supporting new forms of housing
	6.1	Creating conditions conducive to good work	Fostering the skills of all people individually to maximise their career prospects
	7.1	Lifelong learning	Creating better conditions for general cultural education, knowledge of environmental and global contexts, and for an equal-opportunity, intercultural, inclusive and gender-sensitive educational landscape
	8.1	Local engagement for global justice	Utilise opportunities for fair trade, fair procurement and fair financial investment, and promote humane living and working conditions in countries of the Global South
 <p>Zero hunger</p>	3.3	Agriculture and forest management	Promote ecological, resource-conserving, conventional and environmentally compatible agriculture with high animal welfare standards
	8.1	Local engagement for global justice	Utilise opportunities for fair trade, fair procurement and fair financial investment, and promote humane living and working conditions in countries of the Global South
 <p>Good health and well-being</p>	1.1	Enabling poverty prevention and participation for all	Minimizing poverty, existential hardship and associated health risks
	1.5	Sport and participation	A comprehensive range of leisure, recreational and competitive sporting activities not only contributes to the health of citizens, but also to the attractiveness of a city in general
	2.2	Promotion of target-group-specific projects	Developing and shaping the city, districts and neighbourhoods in dialogue with the people




	4.1	City of short distances	Mobility (especially commuter transport) is predominantly environmentally friendly and climate-neutral in regional cooperation
	4.3	Promoting eco-mobility	Münster is a mobile city. Mobility surveys show that the people of Münster often use eco-mobility, i.e. walking, cycling and local public transport
	4.4	Creating more favourable conditions for e-mobility	Electromobility is seen as a beacon of hope for establishing the use of emission-free fuels in the long term; it is also gaining ground in Münster
	4.5	Immission protection	The City of Münster's noise pollution and air pollution control plans aim to improve noise and air pollution in the city
	6.1	Creating conditions conducive to good work	The city and companies actively promote good work and foster the skills of all people individually to maximise their career prospects
 <p>Quality education</p>	1.1	Enabling poverty prevention and participation for all	Minimizing poverty, existential hardship and associated health risks
	6.1	Creating conditions conducive to good work	The city and companies actively promote good work and foster the skills of all people individually to maximise their career prospects
	7.1	Lifelong learning	Creating better conditions for general cultural education, knowledge of environmental and global contexts, and for an equal-opportunity, intercultural, inclusive and gender-sensitive educational landscape
	7.2	Integration and education	
	7.3	Networking with academia	
	7.4	Education for sustainable development	
	7.5	Promoting culture in the context of educational equity	Networking relevant education stakeholders and improving educational equity and equal opportunities Create additional sustainable educational opportunities through cooperation between schools, universities, and municipal and other educational institutions Establishing education for sustainable development
 <p>Gender equality</p>	1.2	Gender equality	Women and men have equal opportunities to participate without stereotypical role assignments
	6.1	Creating conditions conducive to good work	The city and companies actively promote good work and foster the skills of all people individually to maximise their career prospects
	6.2	Good work in city administration, in municipal enterprises and associated companies	Women and men receive equal pay for equal work
 <p>Clean water and sanitation</p>	3.6	Bodies of water, groundwater and waste water	Groundwater and all surface waters are in good ecological and chemical condition

SDG	Section	Definition	Content
 <p>Affordable and clean energy</p>	4.2	Masterplan Mobility Münster 2035+	Expand climate-friendly and environmentally friendly goods and delivery transport
	4.4	Creating more favourable conditions for e-mobility	Mobility (especially commuter transport) is predominantly environmentally friendly and climate-neutral in regional cooperation
	4.6	Sustainable mobility in city administration, in municipal enterprises and associated companies	
	5.2	Fields of action in the climate protection strategy	Significantly increase the share of renewable energies in energy demand
	5.3	Embedding in spatial planning	Halve energy consumption
	5.4	Climate protection in city administration, in municipal enterprises and associated companies	Significantly increase the share of energy demand met by renewable energies
 <p>Decent work and economic growth</p>	1.1	Enabling poverty prevention and participation for all	Minimizing poverty, existential hardship and associated health risks
	6.1	Creating conditions conducive to good work	The city and companies actively promote good work Improve working conditions for marginally employed workers
	6.2	Good work in municipal administration, municipal enterprises and holding companies	Preserving and encouraging a broad mix of sectors and companies Support location-dependent investment incentives, provide a demand-led supply of commercial space that minimises land and resource use
	6.3	Creating conditions conducive to sustainable economic activity	Creating the conditions for a good supply of skilled labour
	6.5	Transformation through digitalization	Developing forward-looking business models, innovations, products and services and utilising the opportunities offered by digital change Companies are aware of their global responsibility and their responsibility for the common good in Münster Companies organise their corporate management and value chains sustainably in a climate of fair competition
	8.1	Local engagement for global justice	Utilise opportunities for fair trade, fair procurement and fair financial investment, and promote humane living and working conditions in countries of the Global South
	8.2	Regional and intermunicipal cooperation	Networking and supporting entities working for a fairer world

 <p>9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>Industry, innovation + infrastructure</p>	5.2	Fields of action in the climate protection strategy	Done properly, climate protection always considers all areas of life in which CO ₂ emissions can be reduced
	5.4	Climate protection in city administration, in municipal enterprises and associated companies	The City of Münster is therefore involved in various fields of action and is acting to achieve climate neutrality in municipal enterprises
	6.3	Creating conditions conducive to sustainable economic activity	Preserving and encouraging a broad mix of sectors and companies
	6.4	Networks and services to promote sustainability management in companies	Support location-dependent investment incentives, provide a demand-led supply of commercial space that minimises land and resource use
	6.5	Transformation through digitalization	Developing forward-looking business models, innovations, products and services and utilising the opportunities of digital change Companies organise their corporate management and value chains sustainably in a climate of fair competition
 <p>10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES</p> <p>Reduced inequalities</p>	1.2	Gender equality	Promote cultural diversity and intercultural encounters and enable equal participation for all
	1.3	Migration and Integration	Women and men have equal opportunities to participate without stereotypical role assignments and people with disabilities benefit from inclusive programmes
	1.4	Inclusion	Strengthen participation opportunities for new immigrants and people with a migrant background Promote and encourage opportunities for everyone to participate
	6.1	Creating conditions conducive to good work	The city and companies actively promote good work
	6.2	Good work in city administration, in municipal enterprises and associated companies	Foster the skills of all people individually to maximise their career prospects Women and men receive equal pay for equal work
	7.2	Integration and education	Creating better conditions for general cultural education, knowledge of environmental and global contexts, and for an equal-opportunity, intercultural, inclusive and gender-sensitive educational landscape
	8.1	Local engagement for global justice	Utilise opportunities for fair trade, fair procurement and fair financial investment, and promote humane living and working conditions in countries of the Global South
8.3	Municipal partnerships with the Global South	Support initiatives for greater global justice Initiate and support city and project partnerships with entities from the Global South	

SDG	Section	Definition	Content
 <p>Sustainable cities and communities</p>	2.1	Affordable, environmentally and socially just housing	Creating demand-led offerings on the Münster housing market and supporting new forms of housing
	2.2	Promotion of target-group-specific projects	Developing and shaping the city, districts and neighbourhoods in dialogue with the people
	2.3	Sustainable urban districts and neighbourhoods	New housing construction and refurbishment of existing housing stock are climate-neutral
	3.1	Land utilisation and urban development	Utilise development potential in existing built-up areas before using new outlying areas
	3.2	Open space planning	Manage open spaces, green spaces and forest areas in an environmentally friendly manner and improve networking
	3.7	Climate adaptation	Expand precautionary measures to adapt to climate change
	4.1	City of short distances	Expand climate-friendly and environmentally friendly goods and delivery transport
	4.2	Masterplan Mobility Münster 2035+	Mobility (especially commuter transport) is predominantly environmentally friendly and climate-neutral in regional cooperation
	4.3	Promotion of eco-mobility	Develop settlement areas primarily in the catchment area of efficient infrastructure, supply centres and public transport services ("city of short distances")
	4.4	Creating more favourable conditions for e-mobility	
	4.6	Sustainable mobility in city administration, in municipal enterprises and associated companies	
	5.2	Fields of action in the climate protection strategy	New housing construction and refurbishment of existing housing stock are climate-neutral
	5.3	Embedding in spatial planning	Significantly increase the share of energy demand met by renewable energies Halve energy consumption
	6.3	Creating conditions conducive to sustainable economic activity	Support location-dependent investment incentives, provide a demand-led supply of commercial space that minimises land and resource use
	6.6	Sustainability management in city administration, in municipal enterprises and associated companies	
	9.1	Sustainable food system	Time richness, doing it yourself, self-care and a culture of sharing and exchanging and living in and for the community are widespread
	9.2	A capital of waste prevention	Supporting and realising a circular economy, recycling, upcycling, cradle-to-cradle methodologies and extending the useful life of products
9.3	Municipal sustainability advice	Goods are increasingly supplied and disposed of regionally, regional value creation processes and the market for sustainable products have been systematically expanded	

 <p>Responsible consumption and production</p>	3.3	Agriculture and forest management	Promote ecological, resource-conserving, conventional and environmentally compatible agriculture with high animal welfare standards
	6.3	Creating conditions conducive to sustainable economic activity	Companies are aware of their global responsibility and their responsibility for the common good in Münster
	8.1	Local engagement for global justice	Utilise opportunities for fair trade, fair procurement and fair financial investment, and promote humane living and working conditions in countries of the Global South
	8.2	Regional and intermunicipal cooperation	
	9.1 9.3	Sustainable food system Municipal sustainability advice	Time richness, doing it yourself, self-care and a culture of sharing and exchanging and living in and for the community are widespread Goods are increasingly supplied and disposed of regionally, regional value creation processes and the market for sustainable products have been systematically expanded
 <p>Climate action</p>	3.1	Land utilisation and urban development	Utilise development potential in existing built-up areas before using new outlying areas
	3.3	Agriculture and forest management	Promote ecological, resource-conserving, conventional and environmentally compatible agriculture with high animal welfare standards
	3.7	Climate adaptation	Expand precautionary measures to adapt to climate change
	5.1	Milestones of the climate protection process	Climate neutrality by 2030 – achieving this goal is a major challenge, especially for a growing city like Münster, and can only be tackled together with all stakeholders from business, politics, institutions, associations and citizens New housing construction and refurbishment of existing housing stock are climate-neutral Significantly increase the share of energy demand met by renewable energies Halve energy consumption
	5.2	Fields of action in the climate protection strategy	
	5.3	Embedding in spatial planning	
	5.4	Climate protection in city administration, in municipal enterprises and associated companies	
	 <p>Life below water</p>	3.6	Bodies of water, groundwater and waste water
9.2		A capital of waste prevention	Supporting and realising the circular economy, recycling, upcycling, cradle-to-cradle methodologies and extending the useful life of products Goods are increasingly supplied and disposed of regionally, regional value creation processes and the market for sustainable products have been systematically expanded
9.3		Municipal sustainability advice	

SDG	Section	Definition	Content
 <p>15 LIFE ON LAND</p>	3.4	Biodiversity and risks for biodiversity loss	Maintain and expand region-specific species and variety diversity
	3.5	Soil protection	Promote ecological, resource-conserving, conventional and environmentally compatible agriculture with high animal welfare standards Manage open spaces, green spaces and forest areas in an environmentally friendly manner and improve networking
 <p>16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</p>	2.1	Affordable, environmentally and socially just housing	Creating demand-led offerings on the Münster housing market and supporting new forms of housing
	2.2	Promotion of target-group-specific projects	Developing and shaping the city, districts and neighbourhoods in dialogue with the people
	8.1	Local engagement for global justice	Utilise opportunities for fair trade, fair procurement and fair financial investment, and promote humane living and working conditions in countries of the Global South
	8.2	Regional and intermunicipal cooperation	Support initiatives for greater global justice
	8.3	Municipal partnerships with the Global South	Networking and supporting entities working for a fairer world Initiate and support city and project partnerships with entities from the Global South
 <p>17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</p>	8.1	Local engagement for global justice	Utilise opportunities for fair trade, fair procurement and fair financial investment, and promote humane living and working conditions in countries of the Global South
	8.2	Regional and intermunicipal cooperation	Support initiatives for greater global justice
	8.3	Municipal partnerships with the Global South	Networking and supporting entities working for a fairer world Initiate and support city and project partnerships with entities from the Global South

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Imprint

Publisher:

City of Münster

Editorial office:

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Stadtwerke Münster
Adult education centre
Münster business development
Wohn + Stadtbau GmbH
Central legal services and
procurement management

Design:

Drees + Riggers

Cover photo and back cover:

Hendrik Wardenga

April 2024, 1st edition



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