



Assessing regional disparities through the lens of the SDGs

13TH OCTOBER 2021

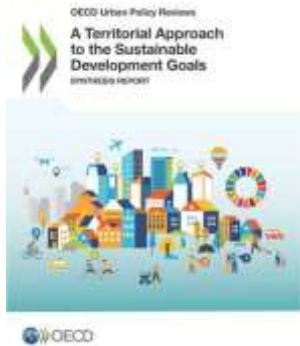
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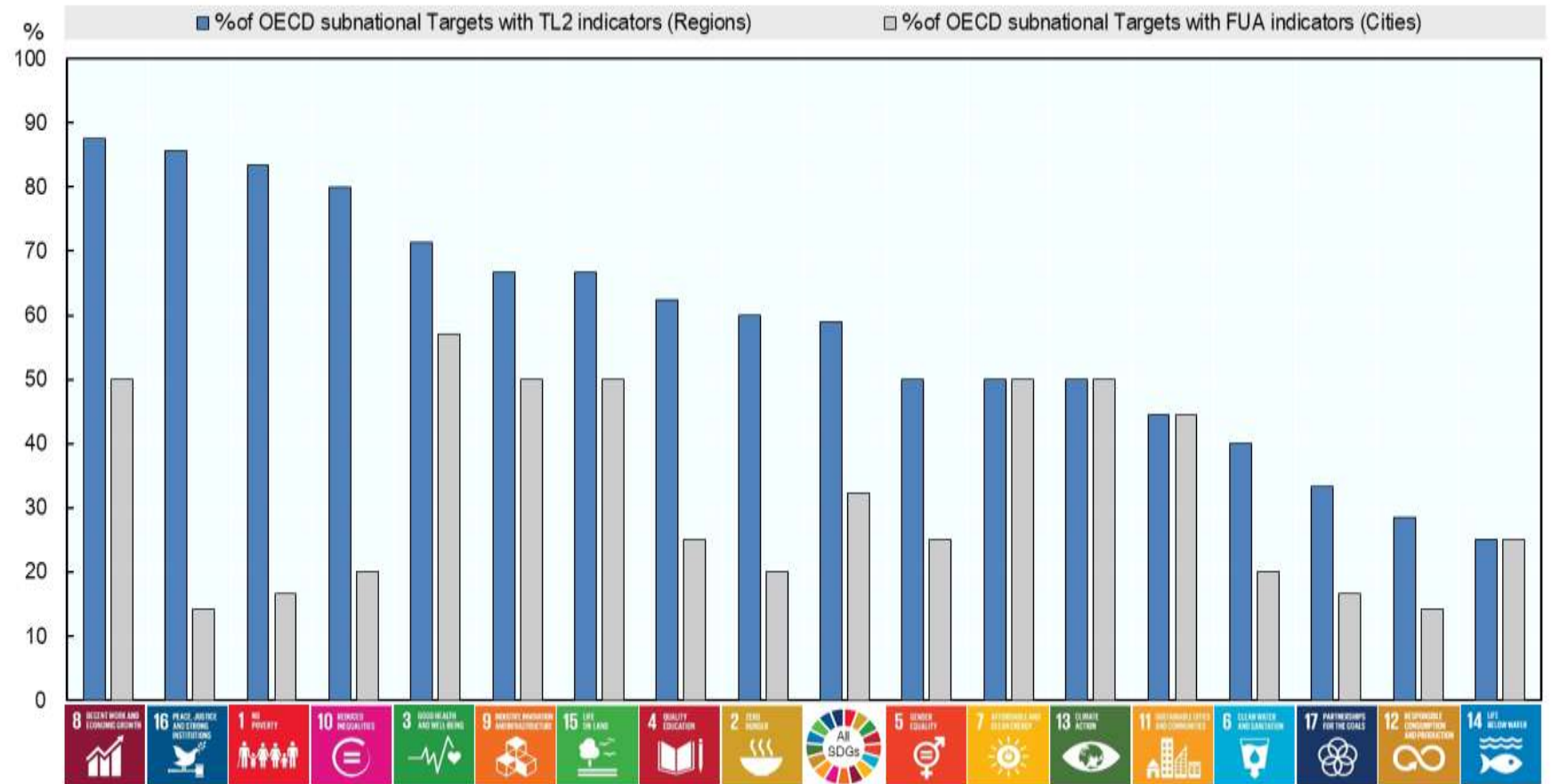
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For which of the OECD subnational Targets do we have indicators?

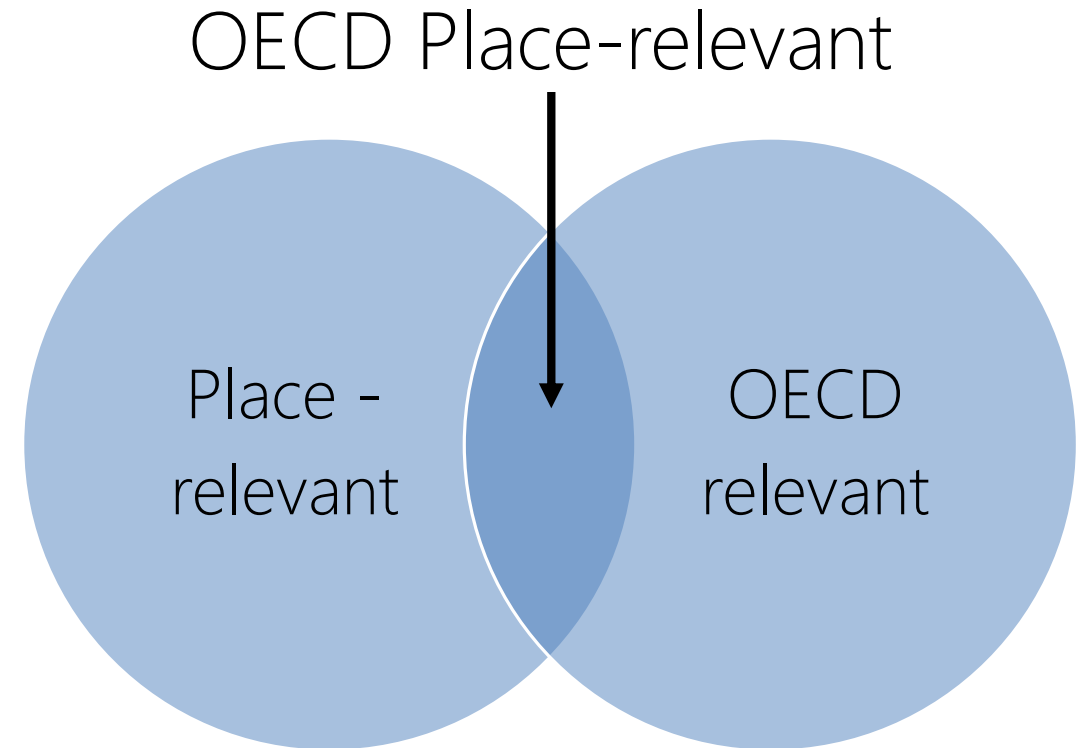
Around 130 indicators that allow monitoring progress in 65 out of the 105 targets identified as very relevant for OECD regions and cities.



% of subnational Targets with at least one available indicator, by Goal and scale

Identifying indicators

- i) What targets and indicators are relevant at the subnational scale?
 - Place-relevant vs. place-neutral
- ii) What targets and indicators are relevant in OECD countries?
 - Developed vs. developing country



The OECD estimates that at least 105 out of the 169 SDGs targets are very relevant for OECD regions and cities

At which subnational scale?

- **Regions:** first administrative tier of subnational government or TL2 Large Regions.
 - Coverage: 600+ TL2 Large Regions of 48 countries (36 OECD and 12 partners)
- **Cities:** Metropolitan areas or Functional Urban Areas of more than 250K people.
 - Coverage: 600+ FUAs of 33 OECD countries and Colombia

Data sources to bridge identified gaps

OECD questionnaire to NSOs



Obesity rate



Pupils and students enrolment



Women victims of physical or sexual violence (%); and Women Mayors (%)



Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)



Final energy consumption per capita



Municipal waste that is recycled (%)

Data from other sources or modelled



GHS Grids:

Built-up area growth relative to population growth



Gallup World Poll:

Feeling of Safety (%) (among others)



World Database on Protected Areas:

Protected terrestrial and coastal areas



OECD-ITF Database:

Performance of public transport network (among others)



Global Database of Power Plants:

Percent of electricity that comes from coal



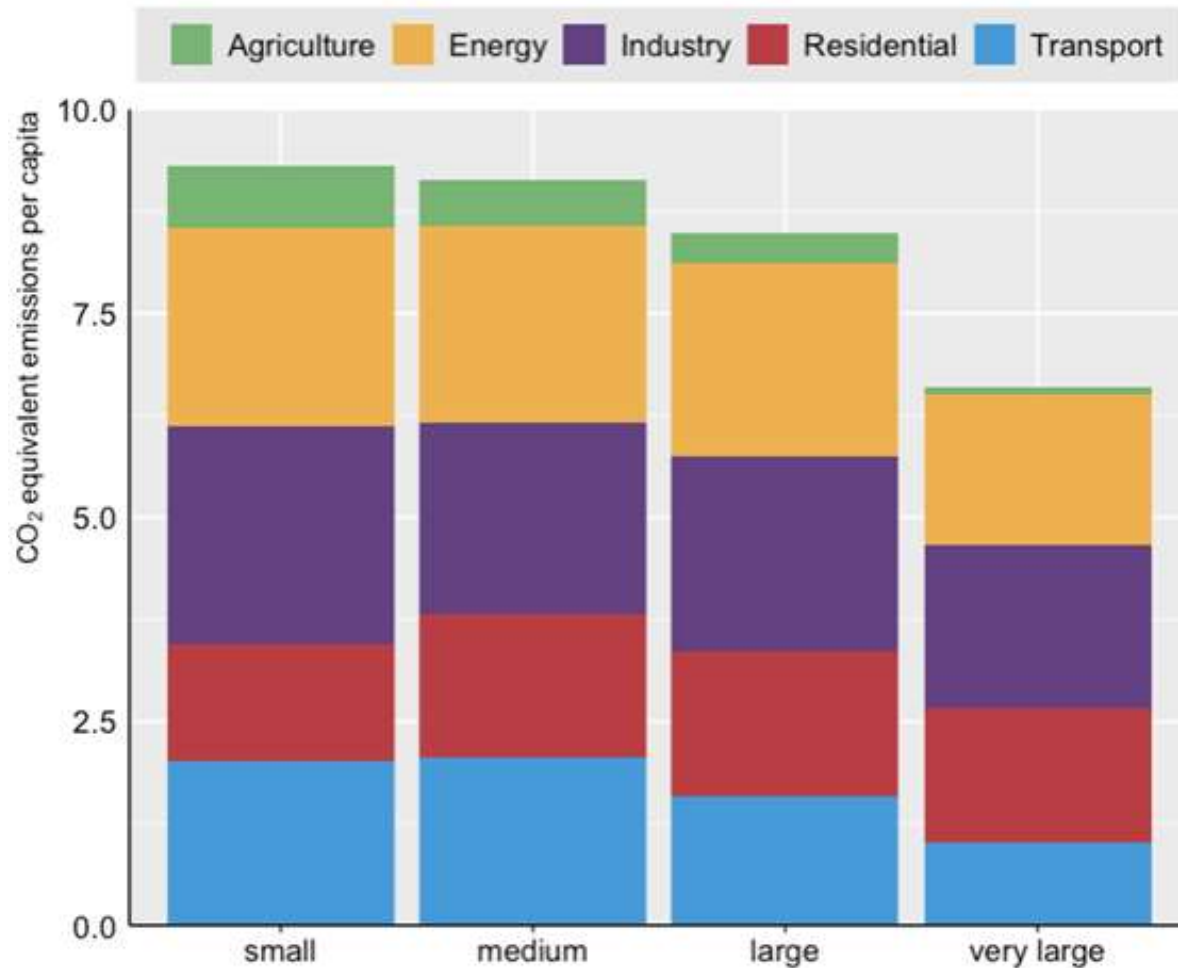
Emission Database for Global Atmospheric Research (EDGAR):

GHG emissions by sector

Within-country variation in emissions per capita is larger than between countries

Estimated GHG emissions per capita by metropolitan area size

Tonnes of CO₂-equivalent emissions per capita, functional urban areas, 2018

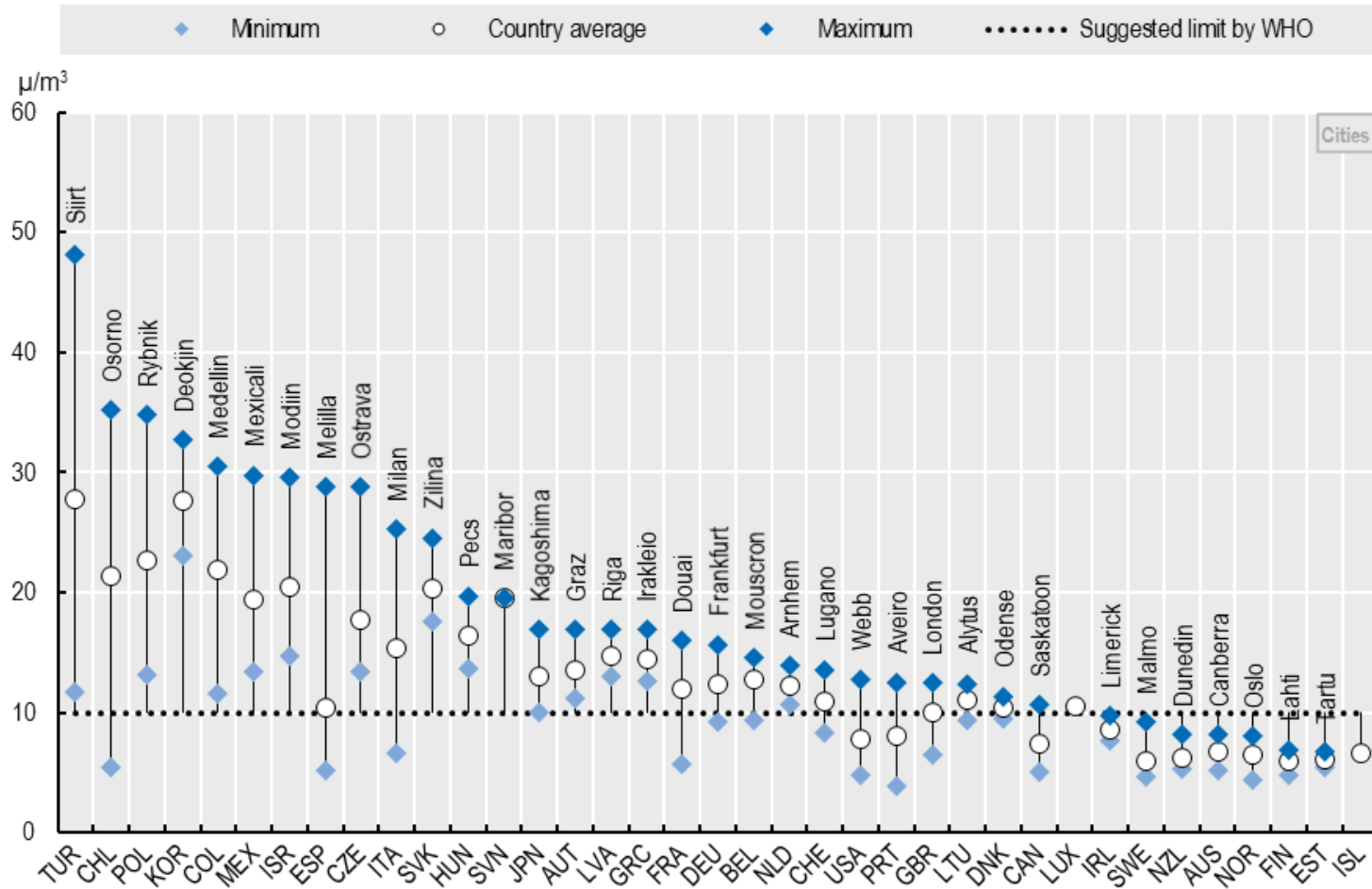


- Metropolitan regions contribute the most to total emissions while emissions per capita are higher in remote rural regions
- Large metropolitan areas tend to have lower production-based emissions per capita than other cities, mainly due to efficiency gains in the transport sector

Despite improvements in the last decade, air pollution in cities remains high

Air pollution levels in functional urban areas

Levels of PM_{2.5} in μm^3 , population-weighted average of cities, 2019



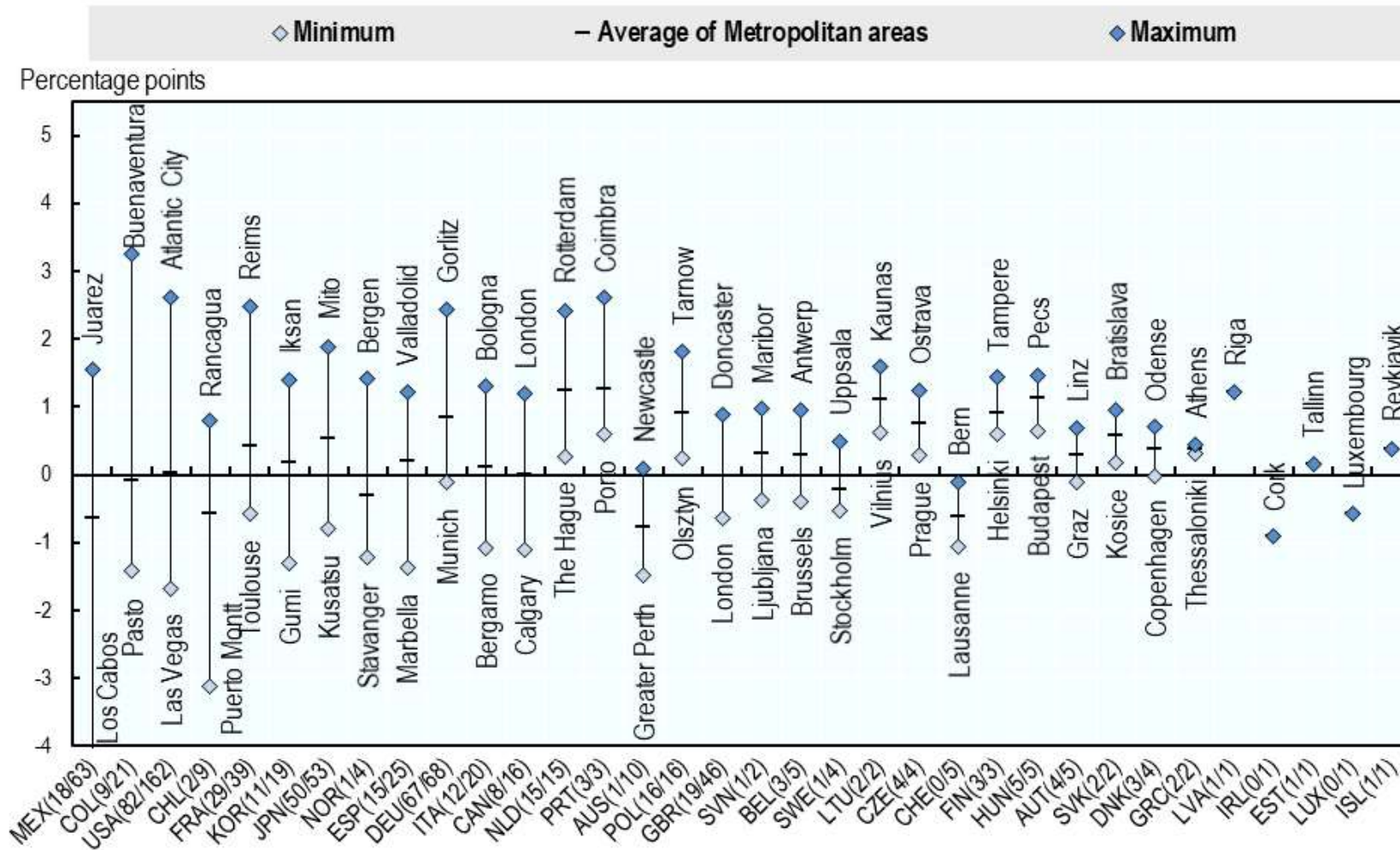
- In 30 OECD countries at least one city with air pollution above WHO recommended levels
- Within-country differences are largest in Turkey, Chile, Spain and Poland, where some cities experience levels of PM_{2.5} around the 30 μm^3

Recommended WHO limit: 10 μm^3 of PM_{2.5}

In one-third of cities with already high levels of built-up area per capita, land consumption keeps increasing faster than population

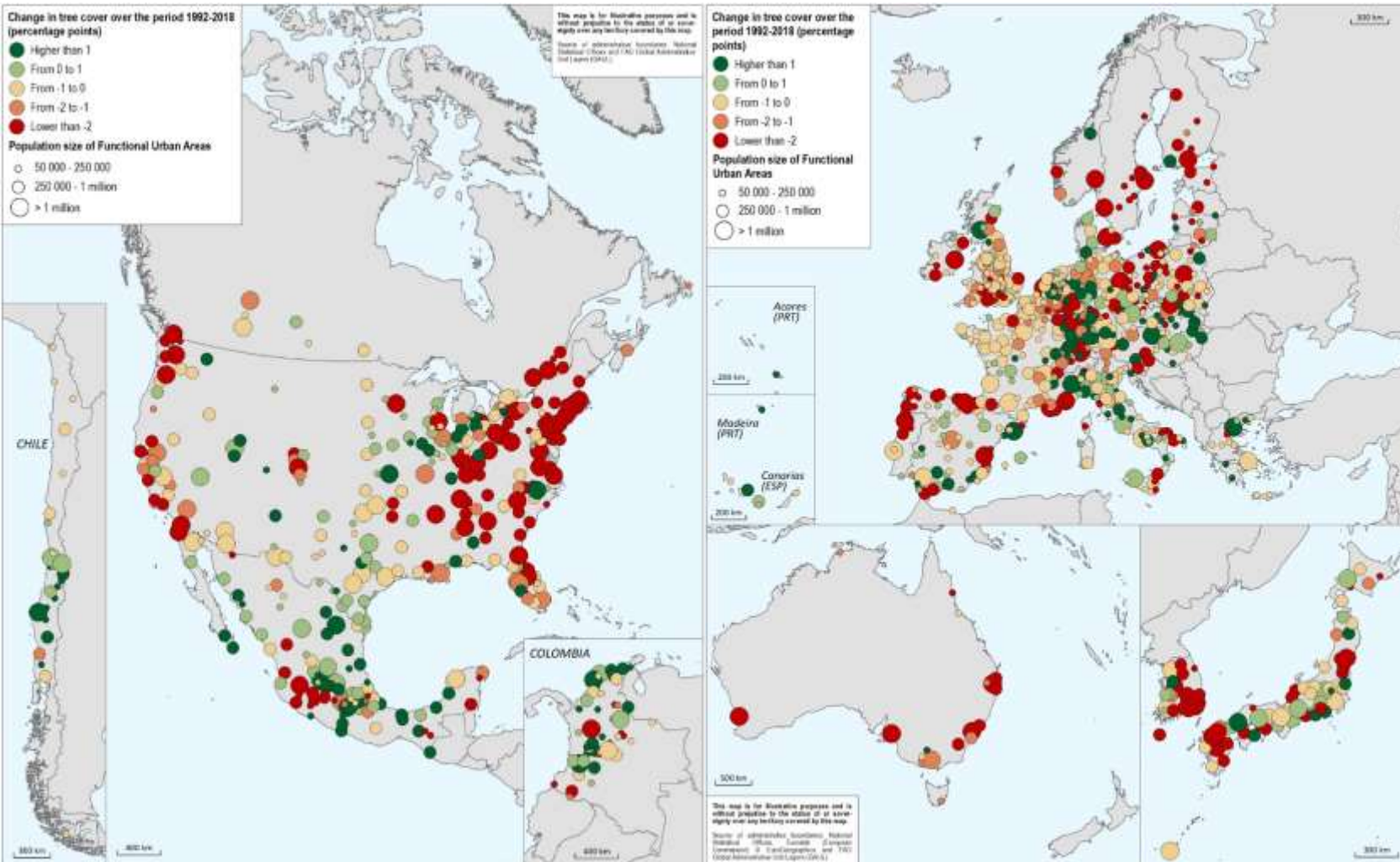
Land consumption relative to population growth

Growth rate of built-up area minus growth rate of population



Large metropolitan areas are experiencing higher tree cover loss than other areas, particularly in North America and Australia

Change in tree cover in FUAs: 1992-2018

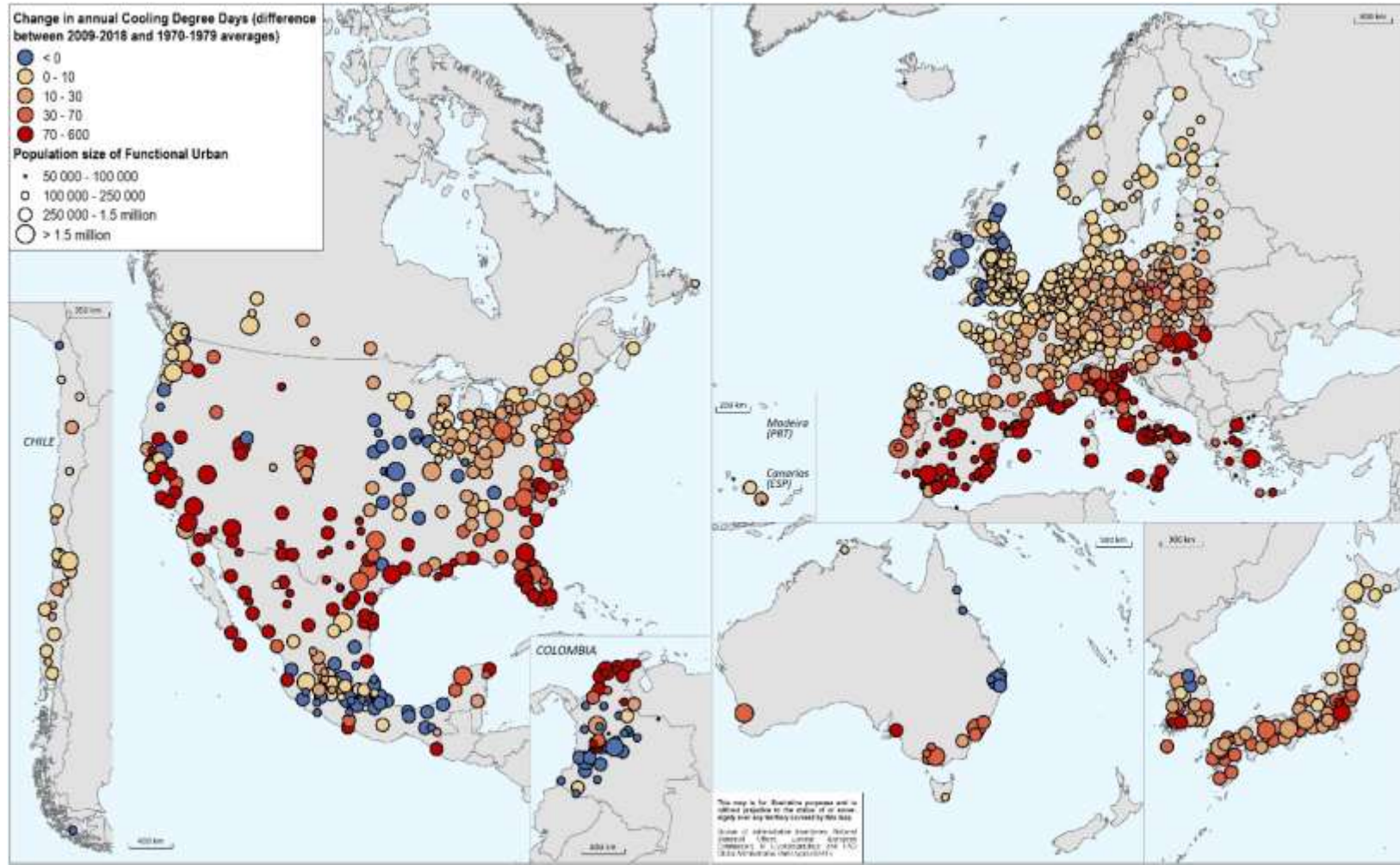


- Tree cover area has declined in more than half of functional urban areas between 1992 and 2018 (3pp reduction on average),
- Decline in tree cover happened for almost three quarters of the metropolitan areas over one million inhabitants.

Temperatures have increased in many metropolitan areas in the last 50 years

Change in cooling needs in cities and their commuting zones

Cooling degree days needed over the year to maintain an indoor temperature of 22 °C, functional urban areas, 1970-2018



- Cooling degree days (CDDs), a standard measure of for how long and by how much outside air temperature was above 22°C, have increased by 25% since 1970 in OECD cities, on average
- In Europe, Southern regions experienced higher increases in CDDs
- Cooling needs have more than doubled in Athens, Greece and Taranto, Italy.

OECD Visualisation tool for SDGs in regions and cities: <https://www.oecd-local-sdgs.org/>


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