
EI's Global Liveability Index

Global city rankings: Methodology and COVID-19 impact

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The Global Liveability Survey

EI's Global Liveability Index methodology and underlying parameters used to track changes



What is Liveability?

- Defining liveability
- Parameters considered
- Use cases



COVID-19 impact

- Impact of COVID-19 on liveability
- Parameters affected



Key findings

- Key movements
- Regional analysis
- Future of liveability



Q & A

The EI's Liveability Index

- Assesses the **challenges** facing an individual's lifestyle across **140 cities**
- Carried out as **bi-annual** cost-of-living and liveability surveys
- Helps clients to understand **hardship** and related allowances around the world
- Enables **benchmarking** of target cities against top-ranked locations
- Enables informed **town planning** by identifying lifestyle challenges in cities
- Helps to build research around **liveability trends** at a country, regional or global level



“Measuring” liveability

What is liveability and how is it measured?

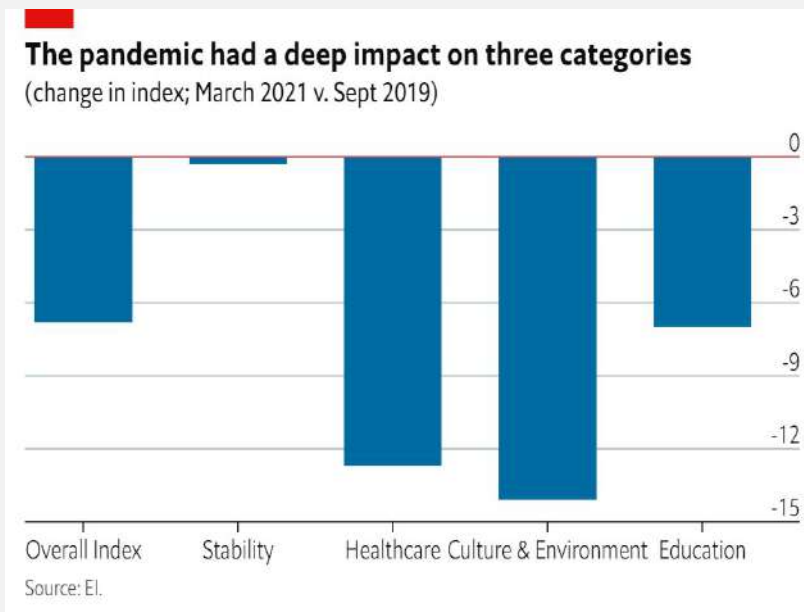
- The EI's Liveability Index assesses living conditions by **quantifying lifestyle challenges** faced by an individual.
- The index covers over **30 qualitative and quantitative** factors across **five broad categories** across 140 cities.
- Sub-categories are scored by our **in-city contributors** that are validated by expert **city analysts**.
- Indicators within the broad categories are **scored** as “Acceptable”, “Tolerable”, “Uncomfortable”, “Undesirable” or “Intolerable” and **weighted** to produce the overall liveability rating.
- Stability and Culture and Environment are given the highest weightage, followed by Healthcare and Infrastructure, and Education forming remaining of the overall index.

Category	Weights
Stability	25%
Culture and Environment	25%
Healthcare	20%
Infrastructure	20%
Education	10%

Accounting for the impact of Covid-19

How has the impact of COVID-19 been incorporated?

- Liveability indicators are scored from an “**availability**” point of view.
- **Lockdowns** and **restrictions** imposed by governments posed a **challenge** to this type of measurement.
- Therefore, a group of new **hyper/secondary level indicators** were introduced to measure the impact of the pandemic and main/primary indicators were adjusted accordingly.
- These parameters were introduced primarily for indicators in three categories:
 - Healthcare
 - Culture and Environment
 - Education
- City correspondents were asked to score these parameters on a scale of 1 to 5 based on quantified **thresholds**.
- Finally, the scores of the main **parameters** were then **adjusted**, based on scores of these secondary parameters.



COVID-19 impact on Liveability Index

Indicators capturing the impact of COVID-19

New Covid-19 indicators

Healthcare:

- Proportion of population vaccinated
- Average daily Covid deaths
- Positivity rate
- Stress on healthcare resources

Social distancing

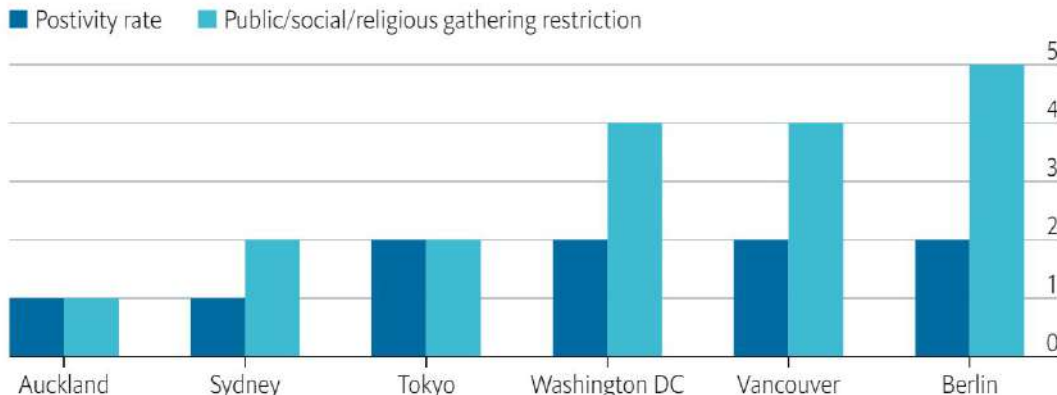
Restrictions on:

- Public/social/religious gatherings
- Local sporting events
- Theatre
- Music concerts
- Bar and coffee shops
- Night clubs
- Restaurants
- Educational institutions

Covid-19 indicators in our survey

(Positivity rate and public/social/religious restrictions; February 22nd-March 21st 2021)

1-Acceptable, 2-Tolerable, 3-Uncomfortable, 4-Undesirable, 5-Intolerable



Source: EIU

Key findings of the survey

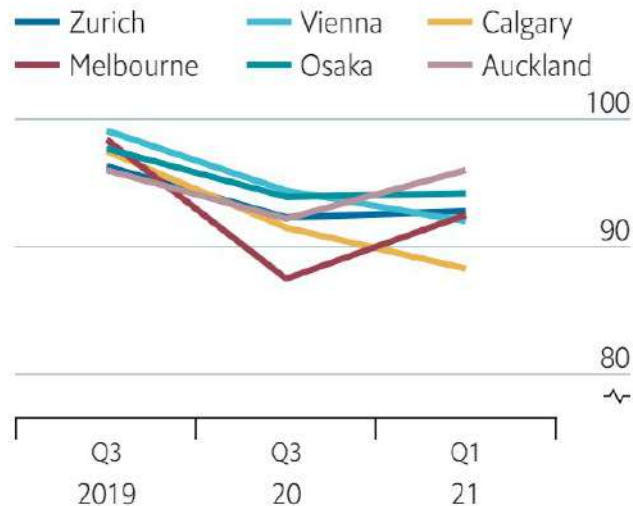
Auckland tops the ranking for the first time



Survey conducted from February 22nd to March 21st.

Liveability still worse than in 2019

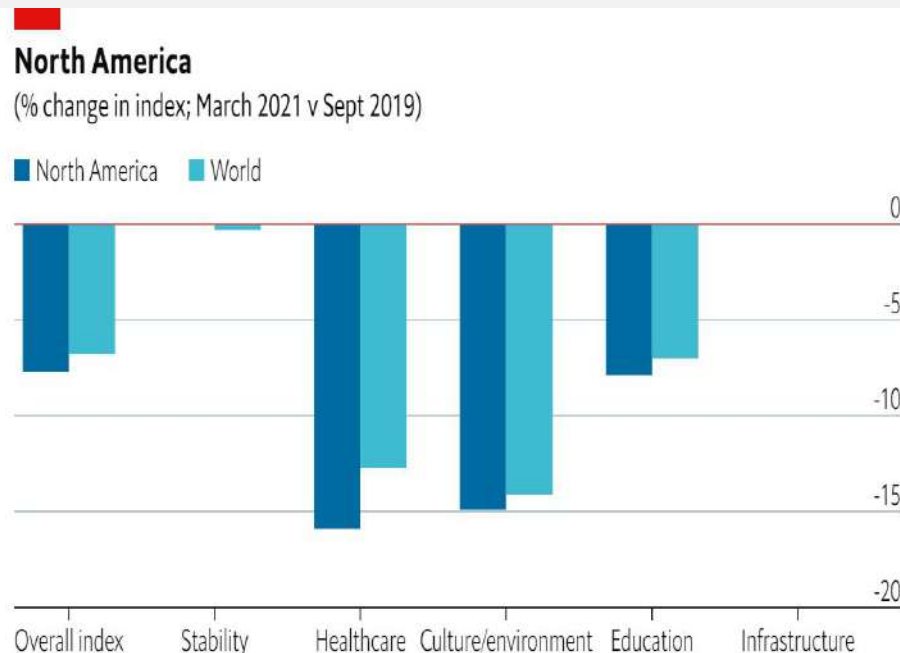
(Liveability index out of 100; selected cities)



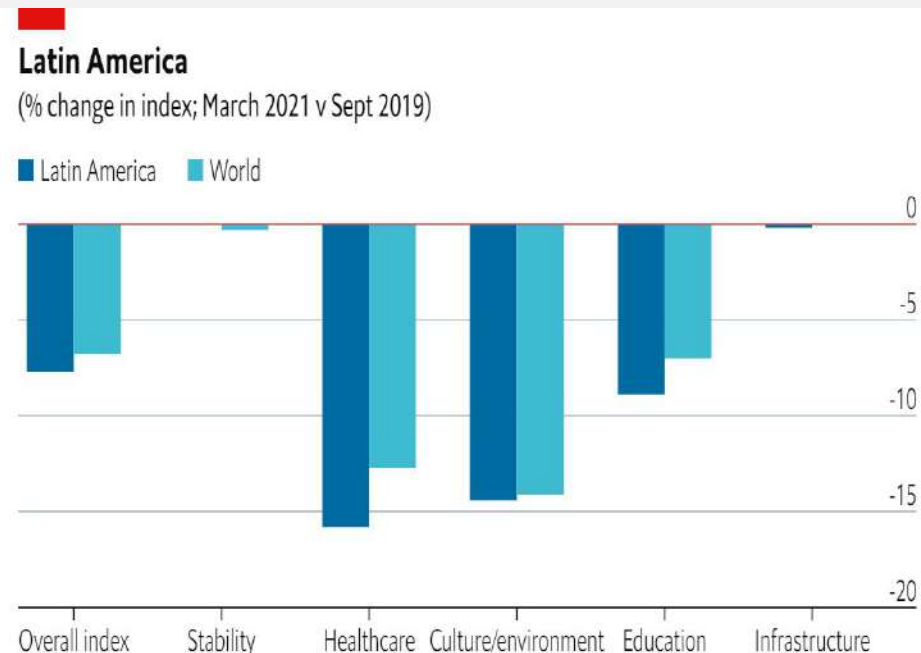
Source: EI

Key findings of the survey: North & Latin America

Index changes compared with the pre-pandemic survey



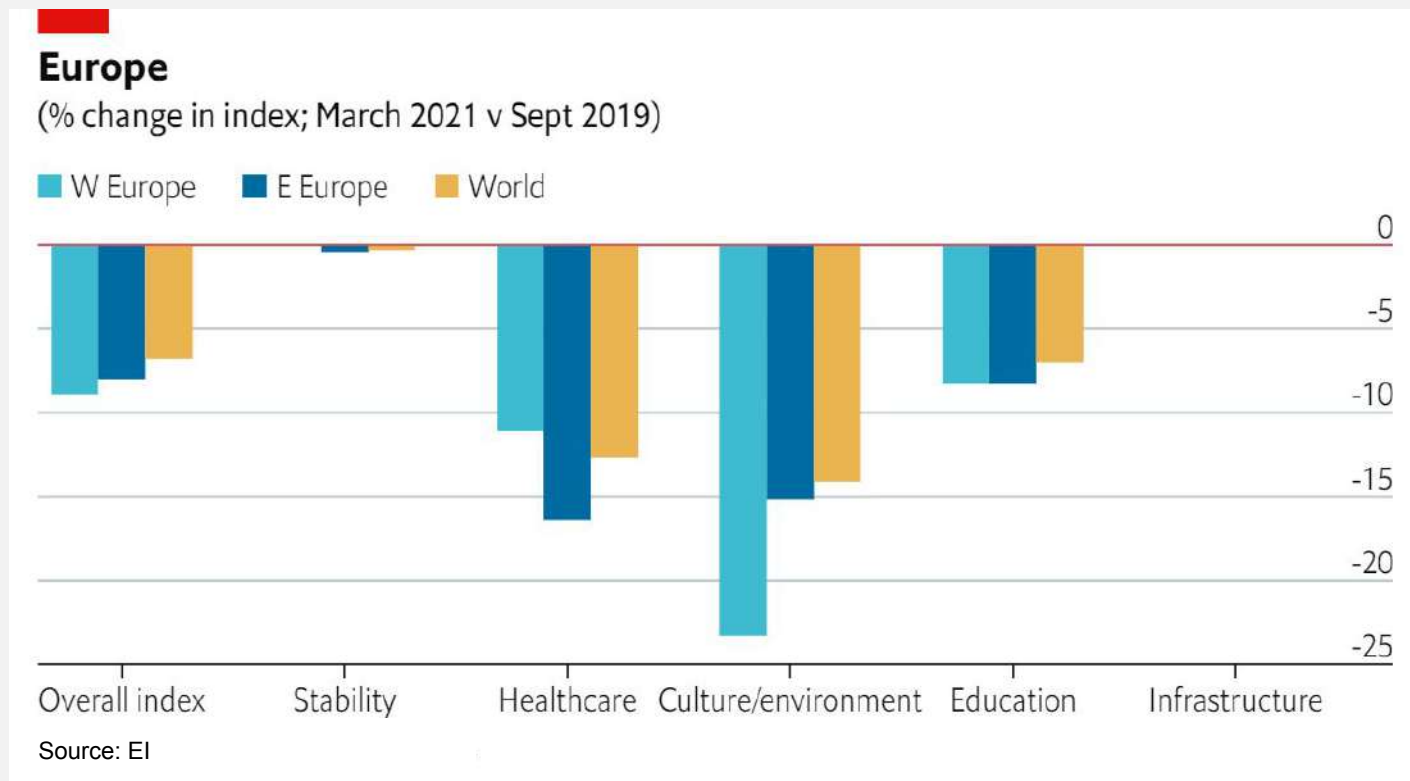
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Source: EI

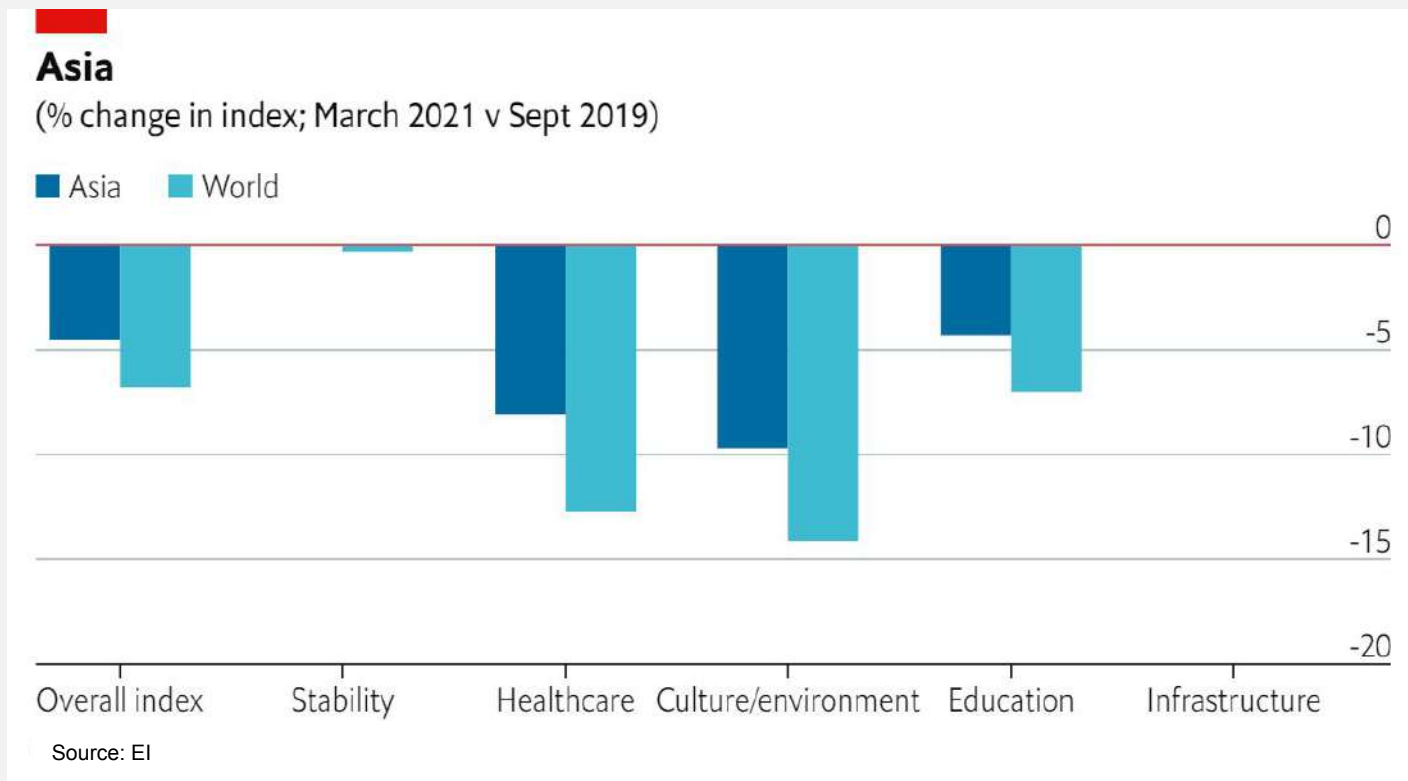
Key findings of the survey: Western & Eastern Europe

Index changes compared with the pre-pandemic survey



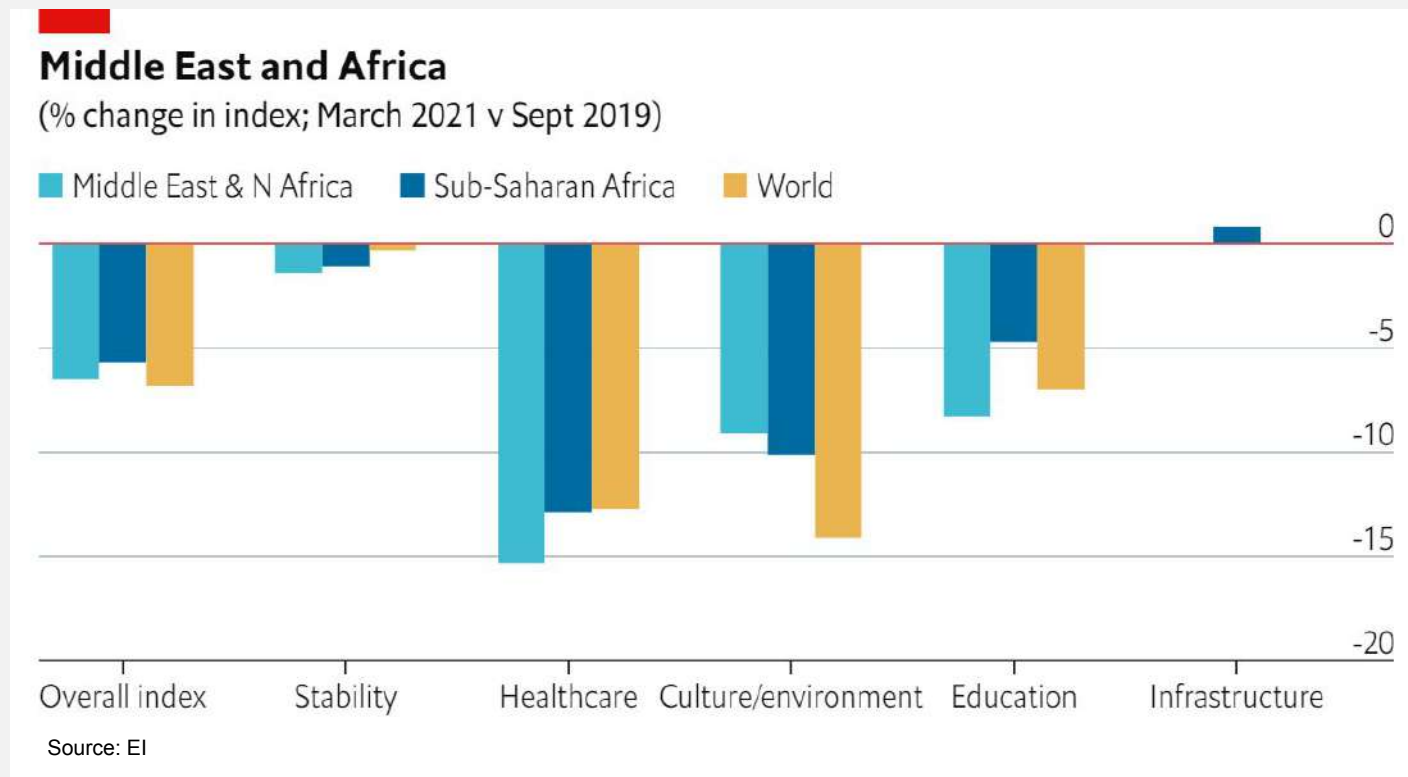
Key findings of the survey: Asia-Pacific region

Index changes compared with the pre-pandemic survey



Key findings of the survey: Middle East & Africa

Index changes compared with the pre-pandemic survey



Future of liveability

Will the top table change?

- Pace of recovery for liveability in cities dependent on:
 - Efficacy with which health risks are controlled through vaccination drives and quarantine measures
 - Removal of restrictions as a result of control of the pandemic
- Are the changes permanent?
 - Changes expected to be temporary as many European and Canadian cities, which have been mainstays at the top of the index, slipped due to the outbreak of another wave of COVID-19
 - These cities are expected to regain competitiveness as vaccination programmes succeed
- What will influence liveability in the future?
 - COVID-19 has shown that what individuals consider to be important has changed, eg preference for individual transport, green spaces, etc
 - Will climate change, in terms of environment, or inclusivity, in terms of human interaction, gain prominence?

Thank you!

The summary report of Mar 2021 Liveability Survey can be downloaded at:

[Global Liveability Index 2021](#)

The full dataset for our liveability survey is also available to purchase at:

[Global Liveability Matrix](#)

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