



DASH Thematic Workshop Germany

Pecha Kucha Germany | 20 May 2025

The German DASH members

Municipality



Tübingen
Universitätsstadt

Housing organisation



Verein zur Förderung
innovativer Wohn- und
Lebensformen – INWOLE

University



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Inwolle

- What have been the biggest challenges in your context related to affordable housing?
- What is considered a success of affordable housing in your context?
- What is a recently completed successful affordable housing project in your context?

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Housing crisis in Germany

Germany must build 320,000 apartments yearly to meet housing demand, study shows

By Reuters

March 20, 2025 2:26 PM GMT+1 · Updated 2 months ago



As rents rise and social housing dwindles, new German government policies to exacerbate housing crisis

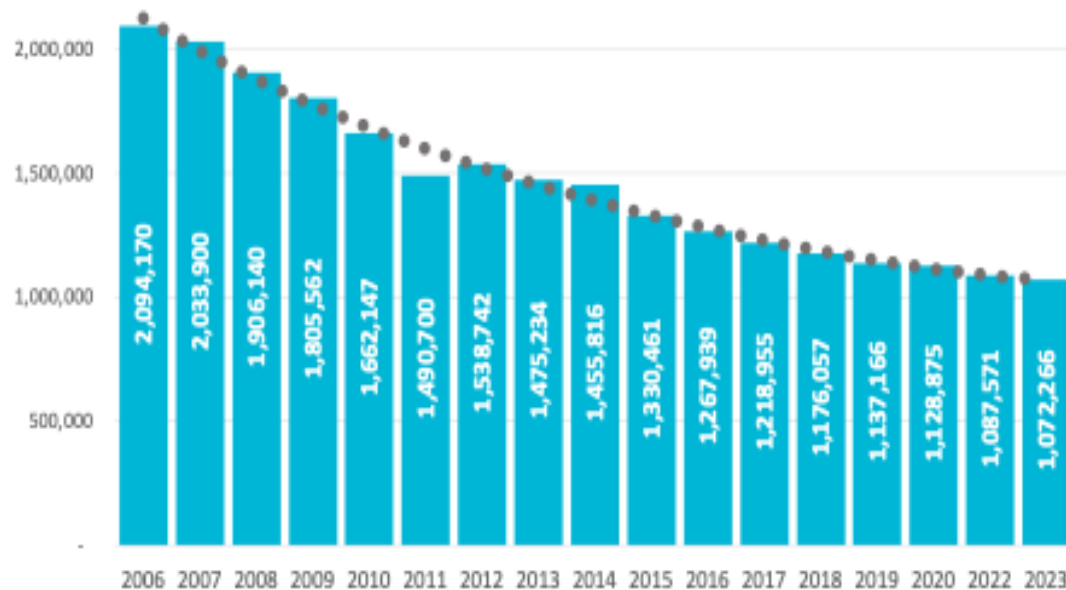
Tino Jacobson, Markus Salzmann

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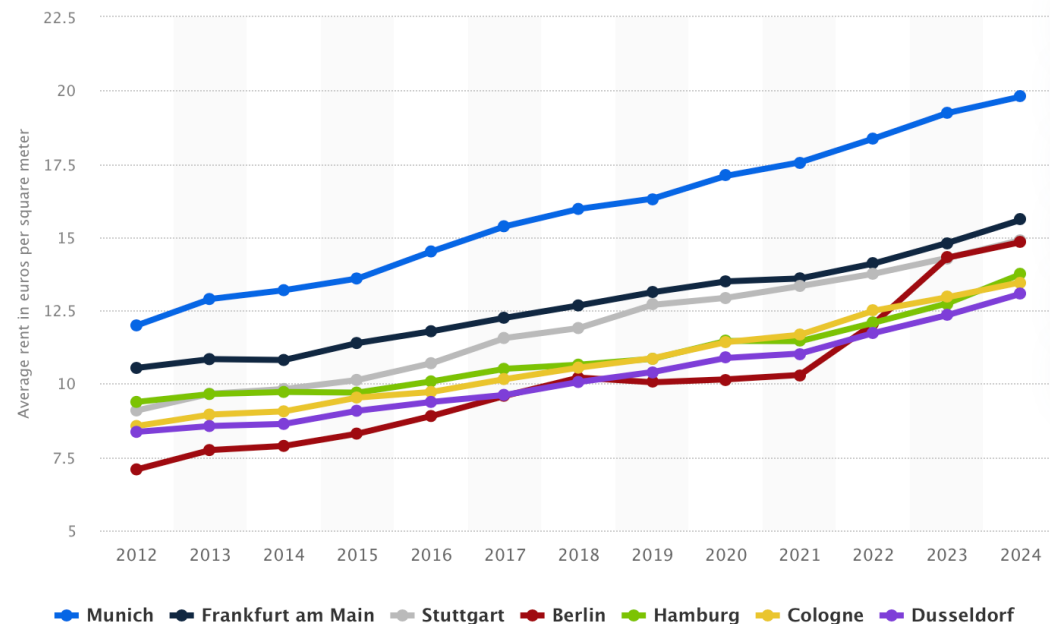
Housing crisis in Germany

Evolution of social housing stock



Source: DASH 2024, based on data from the German Bundestag

Evolution of rental prices



Source: [Statista](#)

Can social housing be affordable?

- Rising costs of land, construction, maintenance
- Increasing requirements in terms of sustainability
- Privatisation of the social housing market; social housing limited in time
- ...

Social and environmental goals in housing: a trade-off?

- Develop more new-built housing or preserve environmental areas?
- Improve energy efficiency by retrofitting existing housing stock, allowing rents to go up?
- Build using sustainable materials despite higher costs that will be passed on to the tenants?
- Target underoccupancy or allow housing choice?

The „Tübingen Model“

Universitätsstadt Tübingen as developer

- Acquires brownfield sites
- Develops concept, urban form and development plan
- Provides social and technical infrastructure, public spaces
- Manages decontamination and infrastructure development
- Manages overall development and finances it by planning gains/plot sales



private co-housing groups as owner-builders

- Receive plot options for their concepts
- Have creative freedom within development guidelines
- Take on shared responsibilities such as shared green courtyards and underground car parks
- key development actors
- Convert deserted brownfield sites into lively neighbourhoods



Thank you for your attention