



Lahti

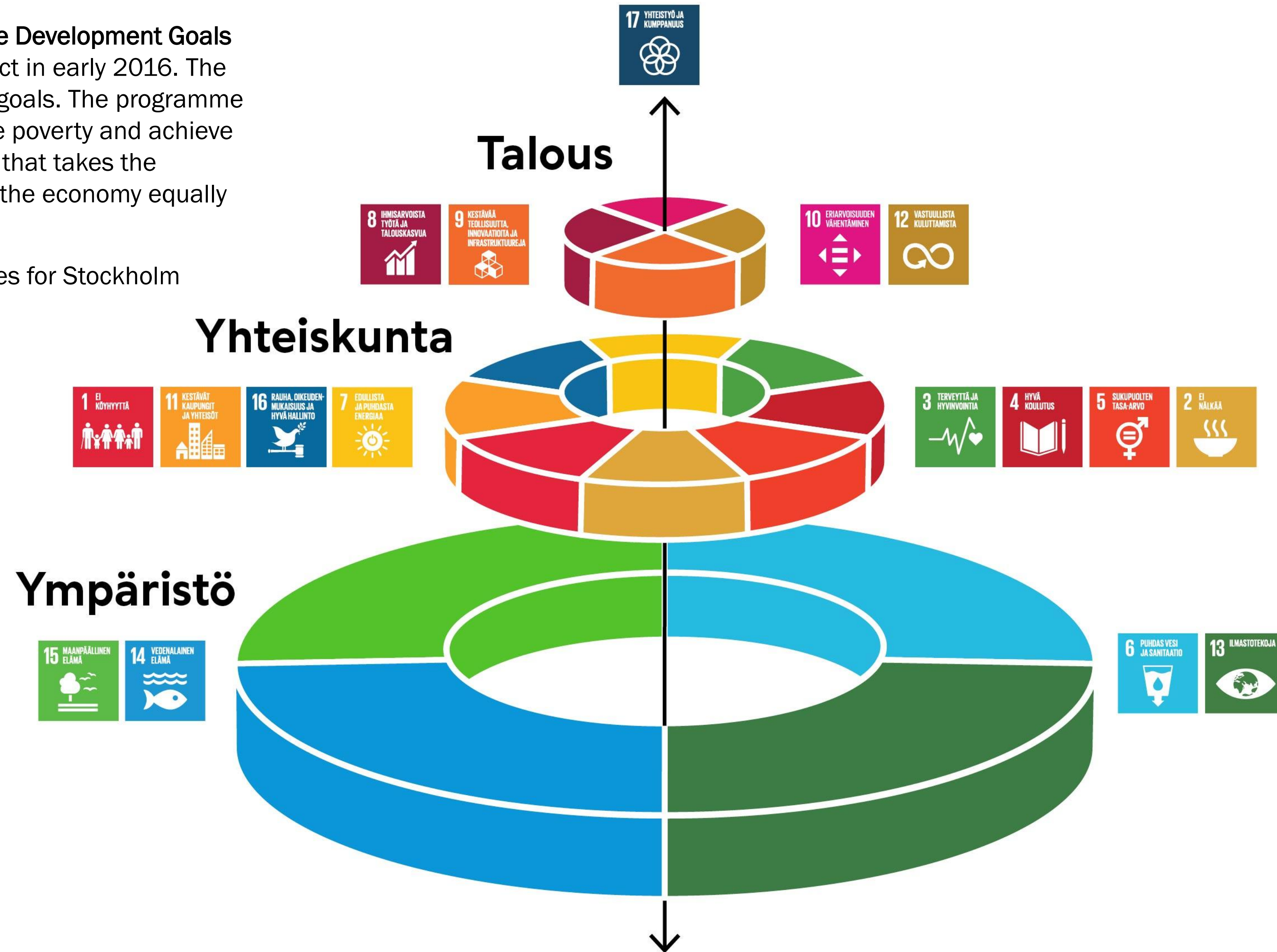
Lahti ***Enduring change***

City of Lahti – Sustainability Report 2024
Environmental | Social | Economic sustainability

12.10.2026

The global UN Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) came into effect in early 2016. The programme has 17 main goals. The programme aims to eradicate extreme poverty and achieve sustainable development that takes the environment, people and the economy equally into account.

Image source Azote Images for Stockholm Resilience Centre



Lahti – Enduring Change

Environmental sustainability

The foundation for all sustainability

Climate neutrality
Biodiversity
Circular economy



Social sustainability

Good and meaningful everyday life

Education
Employment
Inclusion



Economic sustainability

Stable economic growth without debt and overconsumption



Lahti in figures

121,400

residents

8,400

businesses

51,300

jobs

Lahti Group

3,600

people employed by the City of Lahti

5,440

people employed by Lahti Group

44

subsidiaries in Lahti Group

Summary



Metrics indicating a positive trend



Lahti strives for net-zero emissions as the first major city in Finland. In 2023, emissions by the City of Lahti decreased by approximately 64% from the comparison year.



The number of higher-education students increased by 9.7 per cent from the previous year. The number of students at LUT University's Lahti campus has almost quadrupled since 2020.



The City has successfully reduced its loan portfolio four years in a row, which has had a positive impact on the increase in debt servicing costs resulting from rising interest rates.



Metrics indicating areas in need of improvement



Transport emissions have not decreased in line with the target. The reduction of transport emissions is implemented in two key areas, one of which has to do with a shift in transport modes and the other with the transition to electric transport.

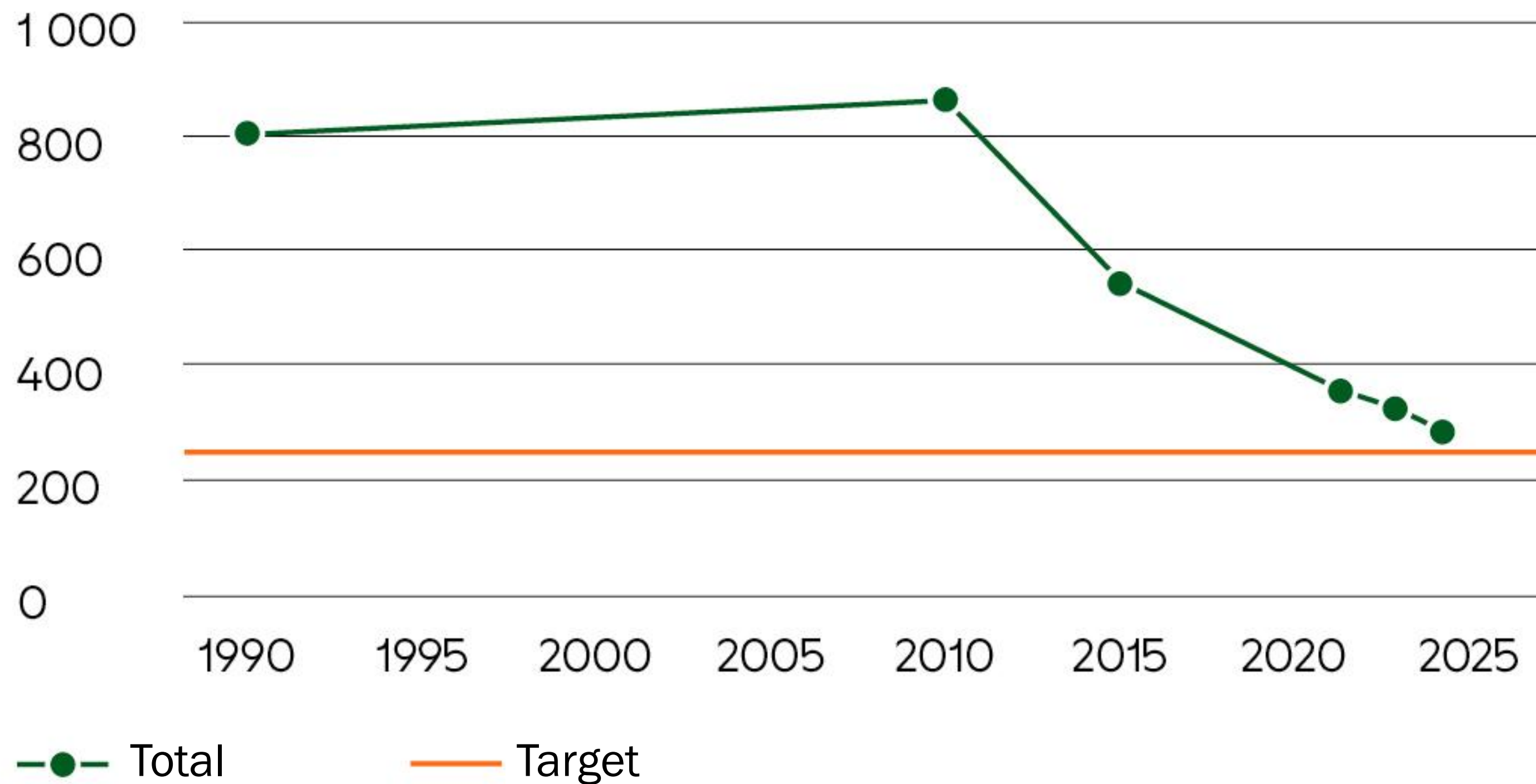


The youth unemployment rate in Lahti is higher than the average across Finnish municipalities.



Slow economic growth and an uncertain employment situation are causing instability in the economy of the City of Lahti. The City of Lahti's financial plan for 2025–2027 includes a savings target for the City's operational and budget balancing programme, which is expected to curb cost increases and help to achieve a sustainable economic trajectory. The City of Lahti's balance sheet shows an accumulated surplus of EUR 245.8 million, which will serve as a buffer during the balancing programme.

Greenhouse gas emissions in the Lahti region

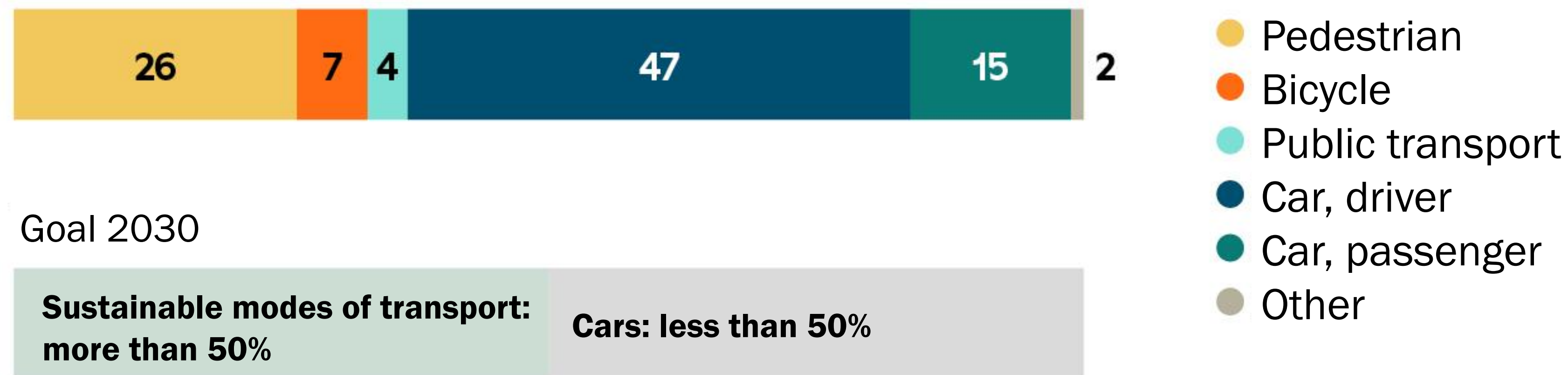


Info

Climate neutrality means that the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced is lower than what can be sequestered from the atmosphere to carbon sinks. This way, emissions remain at a level that does not contribute to global warming.

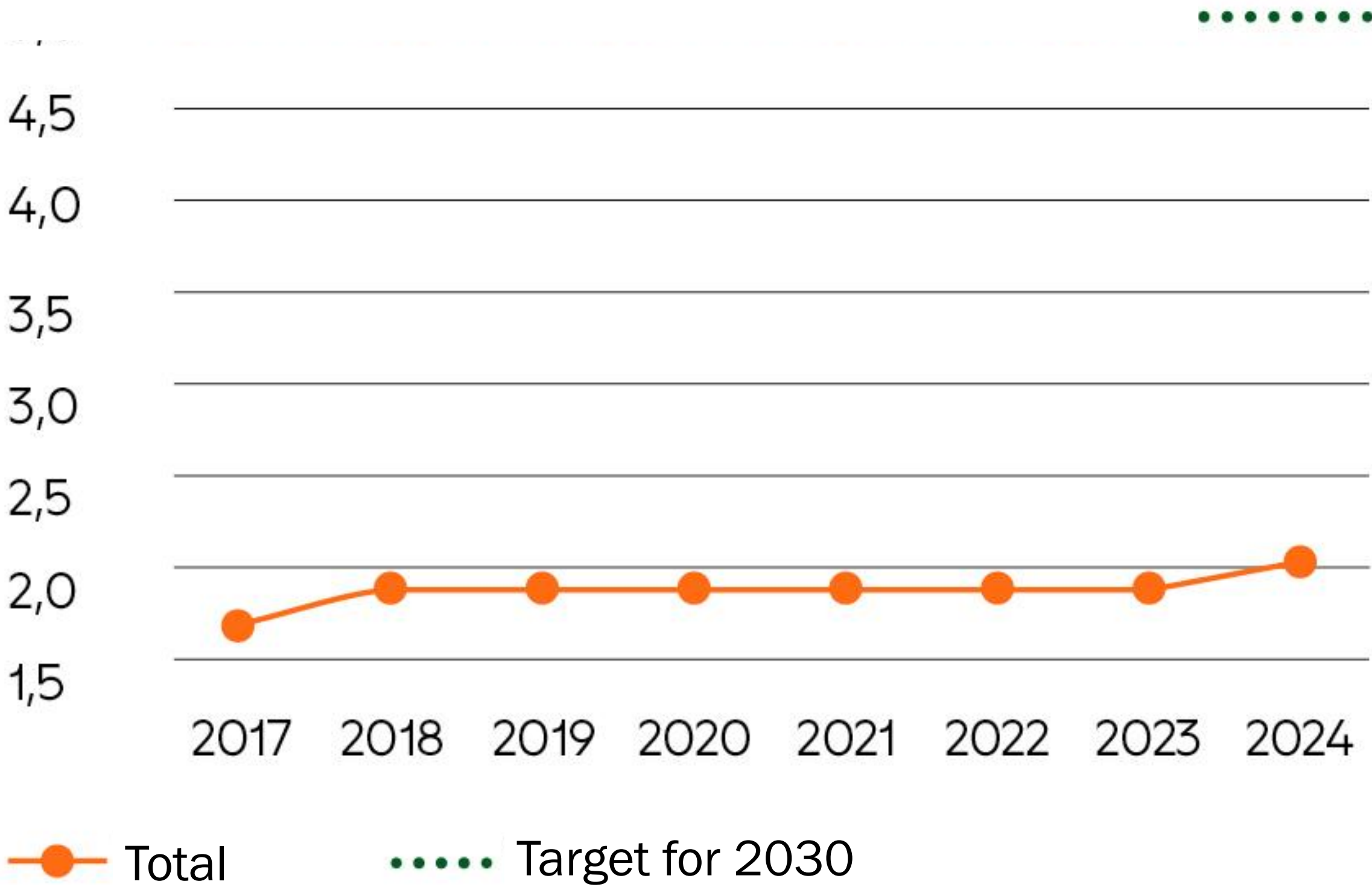
Greenhouse gas emissions in the Lahti geographical area from 1990 onwards and target level for climate neutrality. The climate neutrality of Lahti means cutting emissions produced in the region by 80 per cent from the level of 1990. In 2023, emissions were 64 per cent lower than in 1990.

The distribution of modes of transport in Lahti still needs to become more sustainable (%)



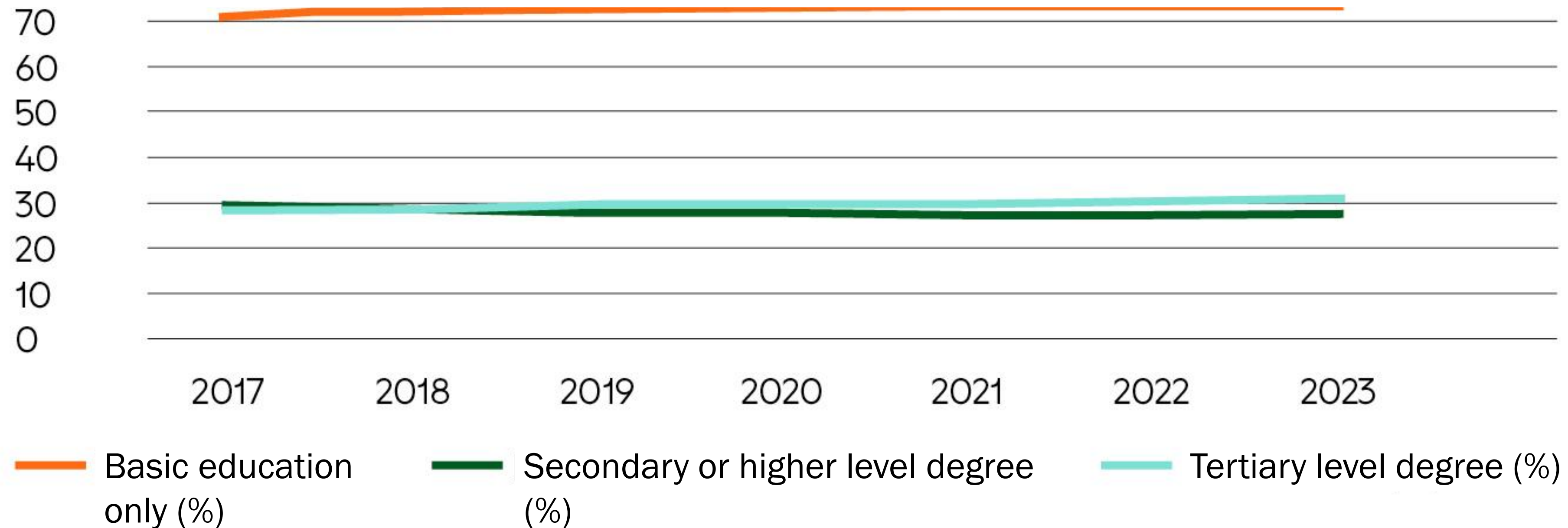
The goal is for sustainable modes of transport to account for more than 50% of all transport by 2030.

Proportion of nature reserves of the surface area of the City of Lahti (%)



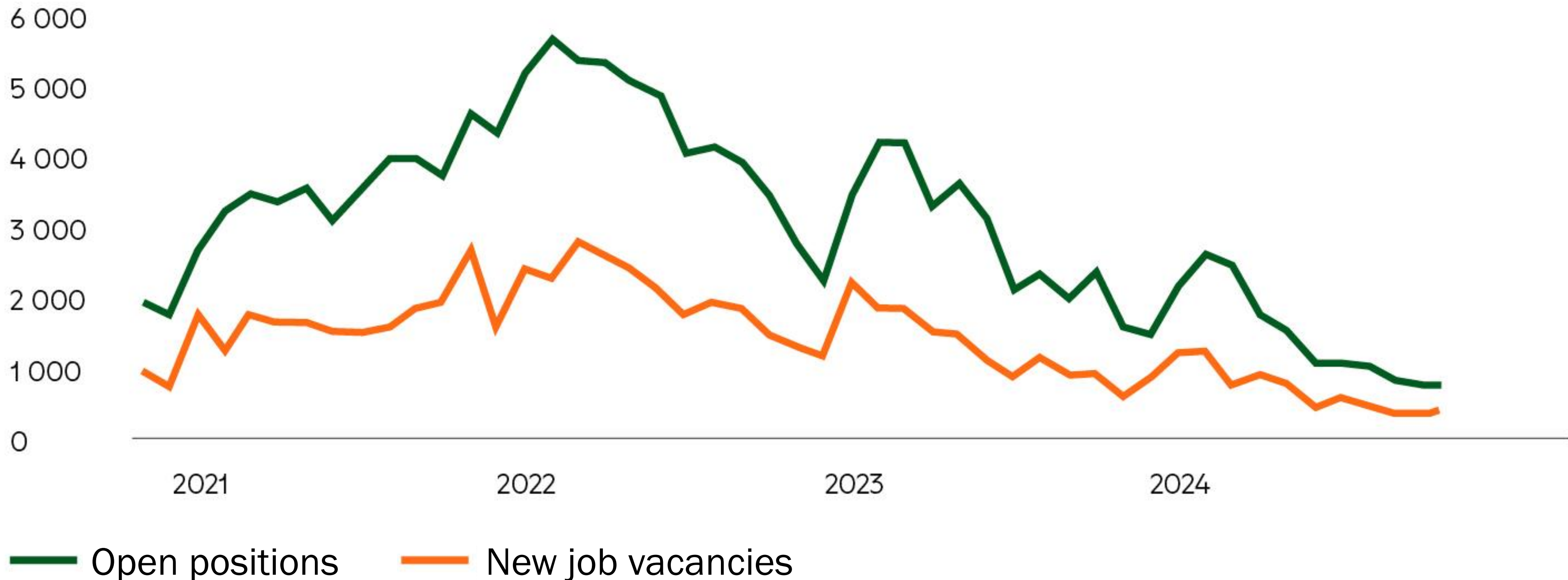
Lahti has approximately 1,000 hectares of areas protected under the Nature Conservation Act, accounting for approximately 2 per cent of the city's total area. The aim is to increase the proportion to 5 per cent by 2030. 2030 mennessä.

Education level is increasing in Lahti, while the number of uneducated people is decreasing



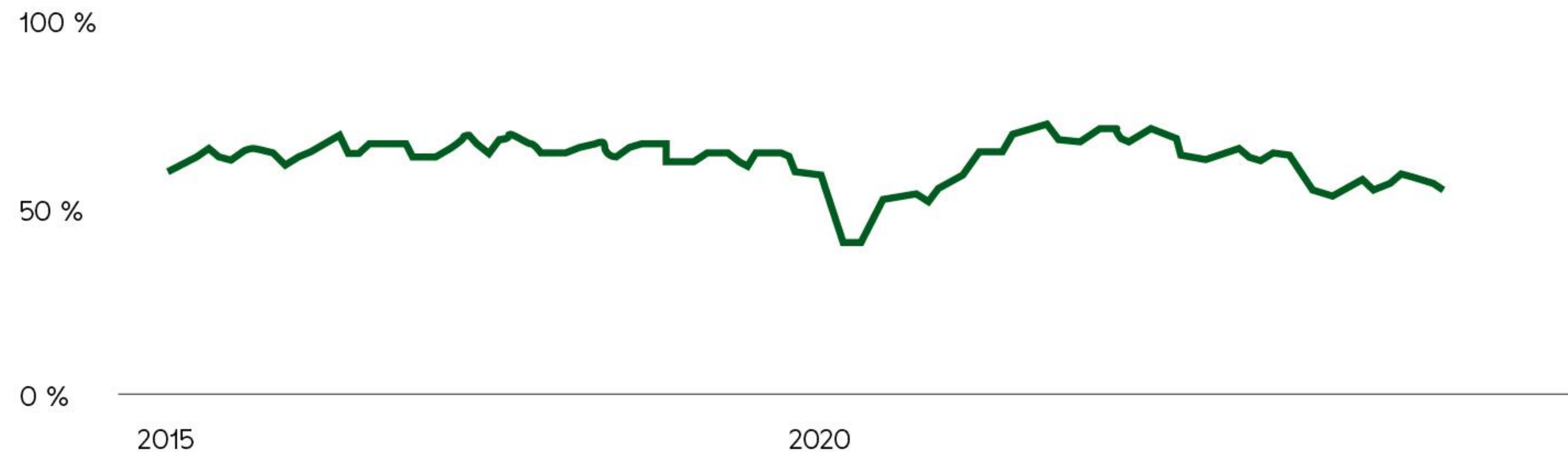
Lahti education demographics from 2017 to 2023. Outturn 2023: basic education only 26.9%, secondary or higher level degree 73.1% and tertiary level 30.6%.

Development of the number of job vacancies (qty)



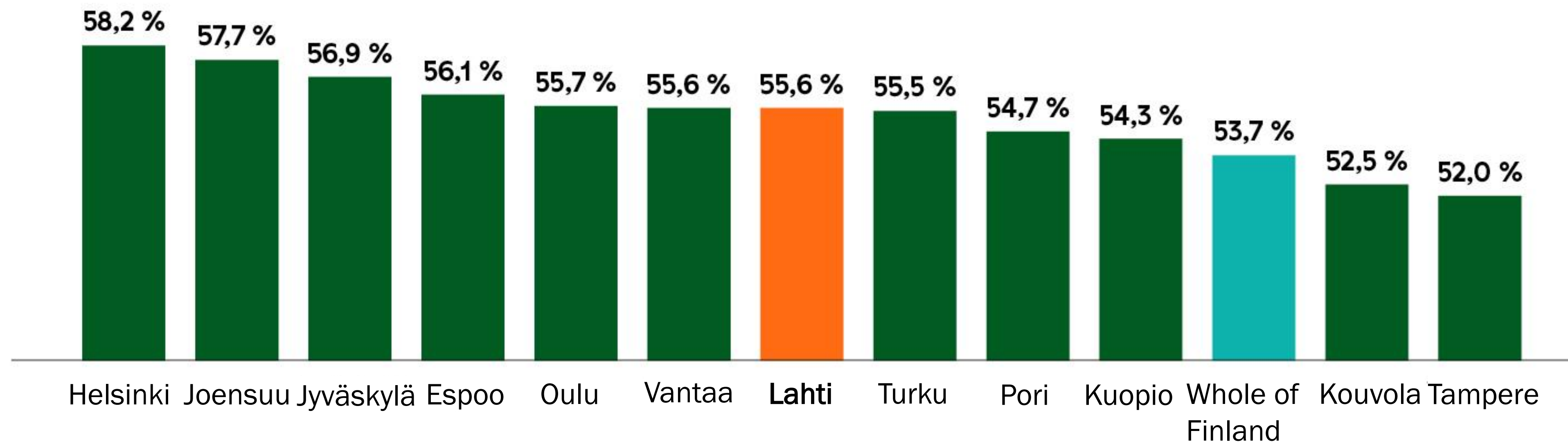
Development of the number of open and new job vacancies from 2021 to 2024.

Structural unemployment in Lahti (%)



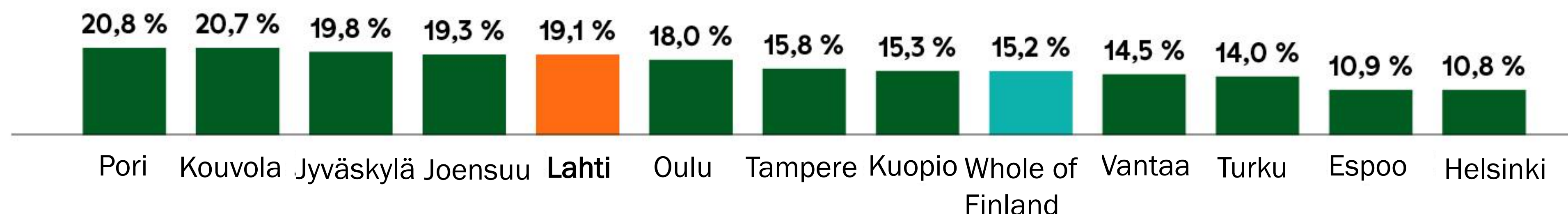
Development of structural unemployment in Lahti from 2015 to 2024.

Rate of structural unemployment in Finland's 12 largest cities (%)



The structural unemployment rate in Lahti is around the national average. Structural unemployment describes the proportion of all unemployed persons who are difficult to employ.

Rate of youth unemployment in Finland's 12 largest cities (%)

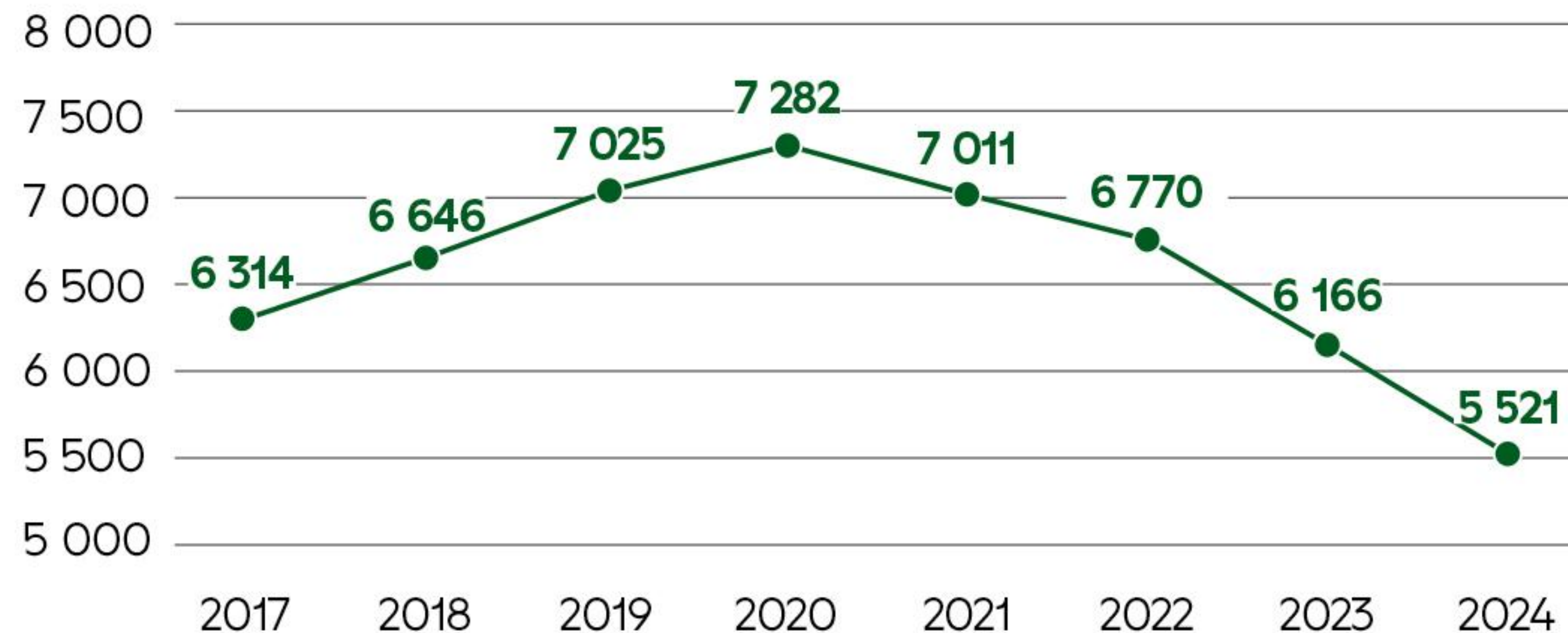


The youth unemployment rate in Lahti is higher than the average across Finnish municipalities. Young people are the driving force behind economic growth. The start of studies also has a significant impact on youth unemployment, causing seasonal fluctuations in youth unemployment.

Number of events and participants in 2023–2024

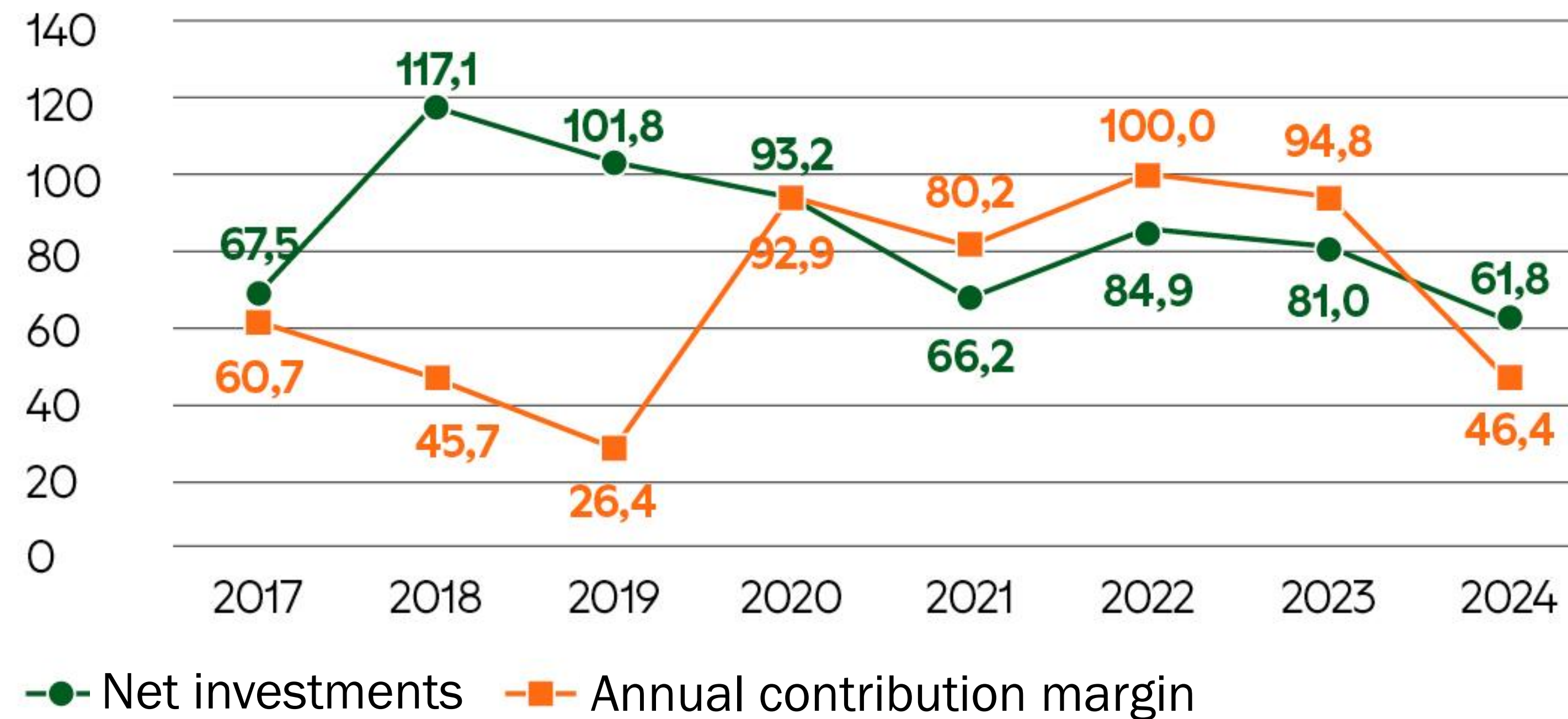
	2023	2024
Inclusion events	65	36
Participants in inclusion events	5 296	3 194
Other events for residents	24	36
Timeout discussions	43	26
Participants in Timeout discussions	810	733
of whom children who participated in Skididialogi	280	449
Hosted by Kumppanuuspöytä local roundtables		
Kerro Pois! events	16	10
Other events for residents	16	23
Number of participants at Kumppanuuspöytä roundtable events	5 837	5 708
Budget proposals by residents	956	

City of Lahti debt per capita from 2017 to 2024 (EUR)



In 2024, the City of Lahti's debt amounted to EUR 5,521 per resident.

Cash flow generated by the City and net investments from 2017 to 2024 (EUR million)



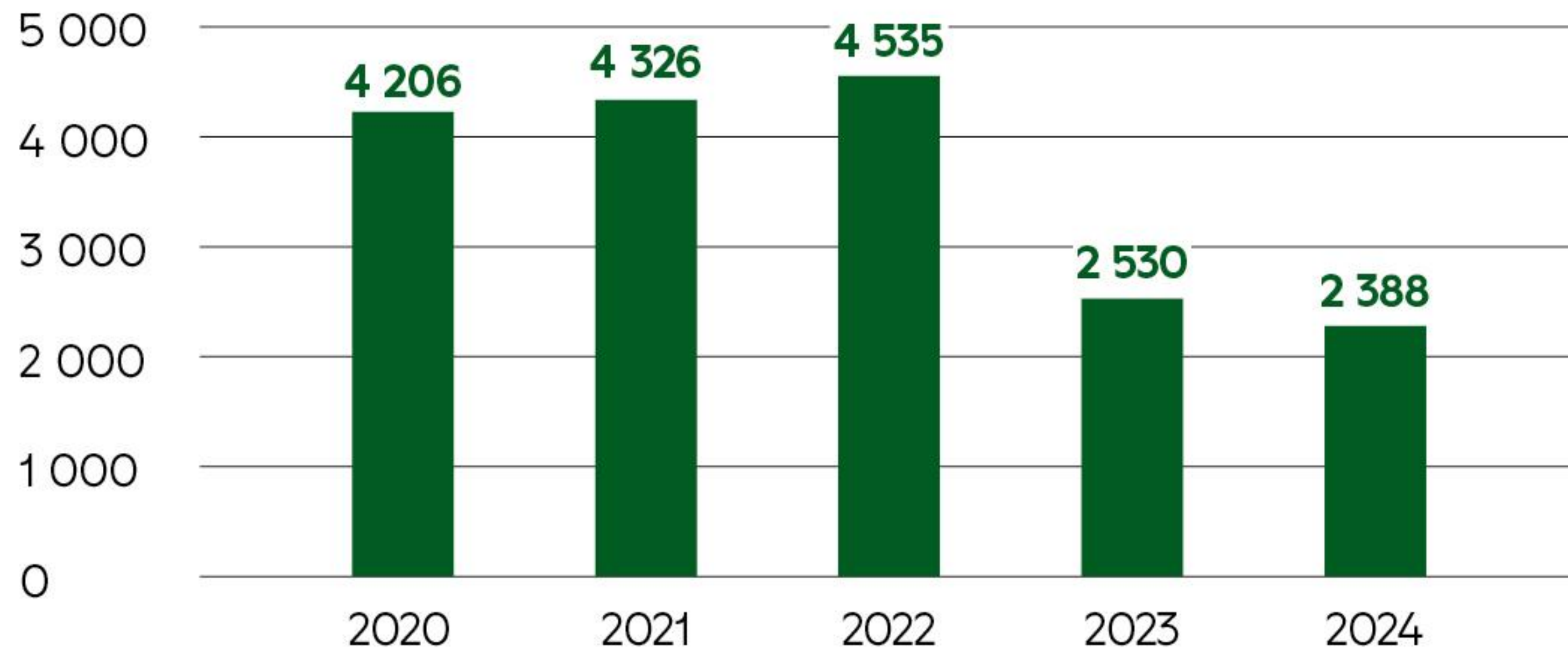
The annual contribution margin shows the cash flow that, after deducting expenditure, remains usable for investments and loan repayments.

Net investments = investment expenditure - financial contributions

Procurements promoting low-carbon solutions in 2022–2024	2022	2023	2024
Total calls for tender published by the City	62	60	48
Calls for tender promoting low-carbon solutions	21	30	9

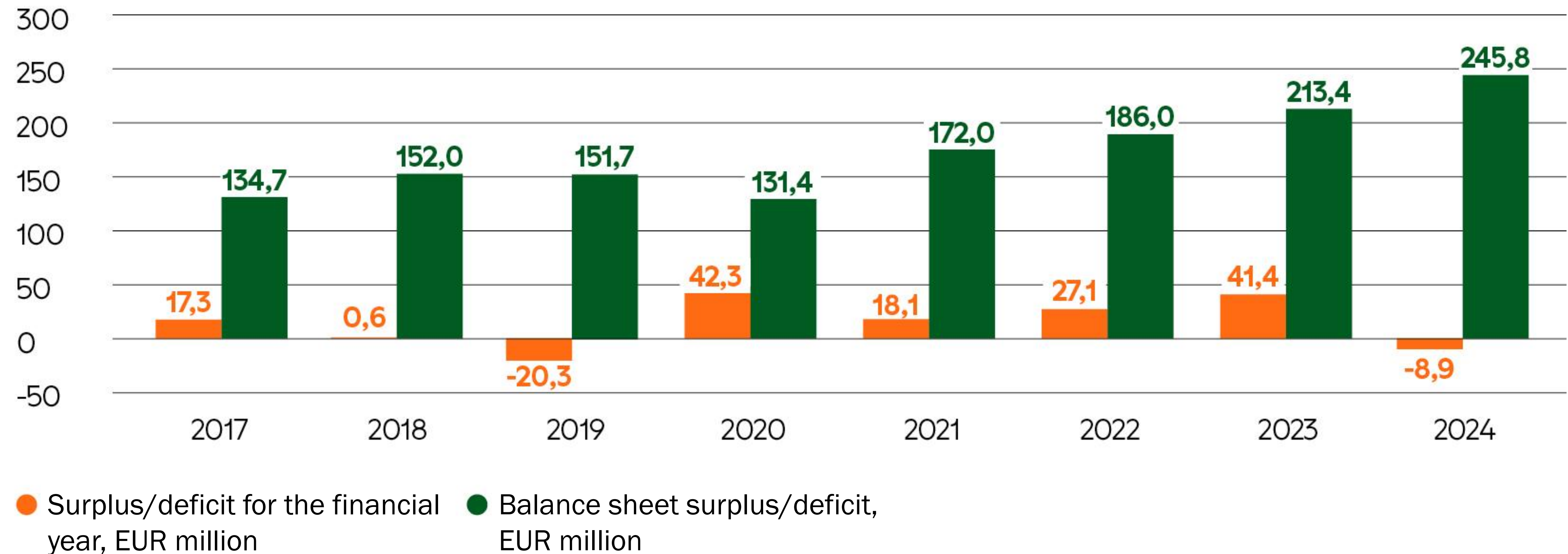
The number of procurements that contribute to Lahti’s climate neutrality has been tracked since 2022. In 2024, there were fewer calls for tenders promoting low-carbon solutions than in previous years. This was due to the nature of the procurements, which included system acquisitions, consulting and training services as well as communications. The City also uses procurement activities as a way to support the achievement of carbon neutrality.

Growth in tax revenue per capita from 2020 to 2024 (EUR)



Tax revenue per capita refers to the City's tax revenue divided by the number of residents. In 2024, the tax revenue of the City of Lahti amounted to EUR 288 million. The health and social services reform cut municipal tax rates for all municipalities by 12.64 percentage points from 2023 onwards.

The City of Lahti's balance sheet surplus from 2017 to 2024



In 2024, the City of Lahti had a deficit of EUR -8.9 million for the financial year and a balance sheet surplus of EUR 245.8 million.

Lahti Group

**EUR 2.8
million**

In 2024, Lahti Group companies paid a total of EUR 2.8 million in dividends.

**EUR 16.5
million**

In 2024, purchases made by Group companies from the Lahti region amounted to EUR 16.5 million.

Thank you!

Subheading / contact information, etc.,
as needed