

Dictionary of variables

Name of variable	Definition	Measurement method	Average value	Range	Observations
Financial autonomy	Financial resources related to activities	Box office income as proportion of total budget	0.26	0.06-0.46	Lowest: Ostrava, Highest: Zurich
Physical capacity	Number of seats in main auditorium		1,820	481-3,995	Lowest: Heidelberg, Highest: Metropolitan, New York
Seat occupancy rate	Average occupancy rate for the main auditorium	Tickets sold as proportion of tickets available	0.84	0.50-0.95	Lowest: Athens, Highest: La Monnaie, Brussels
Fame of conductors		Average number of houses with guest conductors	2.12	1.00-3.50	Total opera houses with guest conductor for opera X, divided by the number of guest conductors. Same procedure for directors and singers. Vienna, Zurich, Barcelona, and Munich head the list on these criteria.
Fame of directors		As for conductors	2.58	1.00-6.50	
Fame of soloists		As for conductors			
Alignment with classics		% of performances of group 1 works	50	0-100	Group 1 works account for over 50% of all performances
Most performed periods		% of performances of operas composed in the 19th century and first half of the 20th century	78	23-100	
Modernity	Programming of contemporary operas	% of performances of operas composed after 1950	7	0-34	Lowest: the Châtelet, Lausanne, Leipzig and Helsinki, Highest: Vienna, Venice Fenice, Vancouver and Turin Regio
Density of opera offer	Opera offer in the local urban area	Number of inhabitants per ticket on sale	14	0.6-110	0.6 in Santa Fe, between 2 and 4 in the German-speaking area, approximately 20 in North America, 110 in Tokyo
Operatic tradition ¹	Length and degree of establishment (rooting) of the operatic tradition in the zone	% of operas composed in the zone	---	1.5-47	47% in Italy, 32% in the German-speaking area, 10% in France, 1.5% in the US

¹ In constructing the environmental factor, for reasons of statistical coherence, we use the complement to 100 for this measure.

Average per capita gross national income		Per capital gross national income (GNI)	36, 460	€7,110 - €54,930 /year	Lowest: Poland, highest: Switzerland
Number of productions			14	4-48	
Total number of performances			90	20-244	20 in Salt Lake City, 22 in San Diego, 244 at the Vienna Staatsoper
Number of performances of new productions			25	0-109	
Number of performances of old productions			58	0-204	
Alternation of works		Average number of works performed in a week	2.1	1-4	4 in Vienna, Mannheim, Hamburg
Number of performances of co-productions			5	0-64	64 for Opéra de Paris, 52 for New York City Opera
Number of performances of rented productions			3	0-49	49 for Barcelona , 36 for Turin Regio
Number of touring venues			5	1-12	For houses that take productions on tour: 12 for Aarhus
Average cost per ticket		Total cost divided by number of tickets sold	288	98 - 806	Lowest: Montreal, Highest: Athens
Average ticket price		Box office income divided by number of tickets sold	60.50	13 - 173	Lowest: Warsaw, Highest: Zurich
Average cost per performance		Total cost divided by the number of opera performances	377,000	77,000 - 828,000	Lowest: Tallinn, Highest: La Scala, Milan