

Construction costs and initial yield effects of MINERGIE certification and sustainable construction measures in new multi-family houses in Switzerland

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Why sustainable construction is important

The Swiss Federal Office of Energy summarizes the impact of the Swiss building stock on the environment as follows:

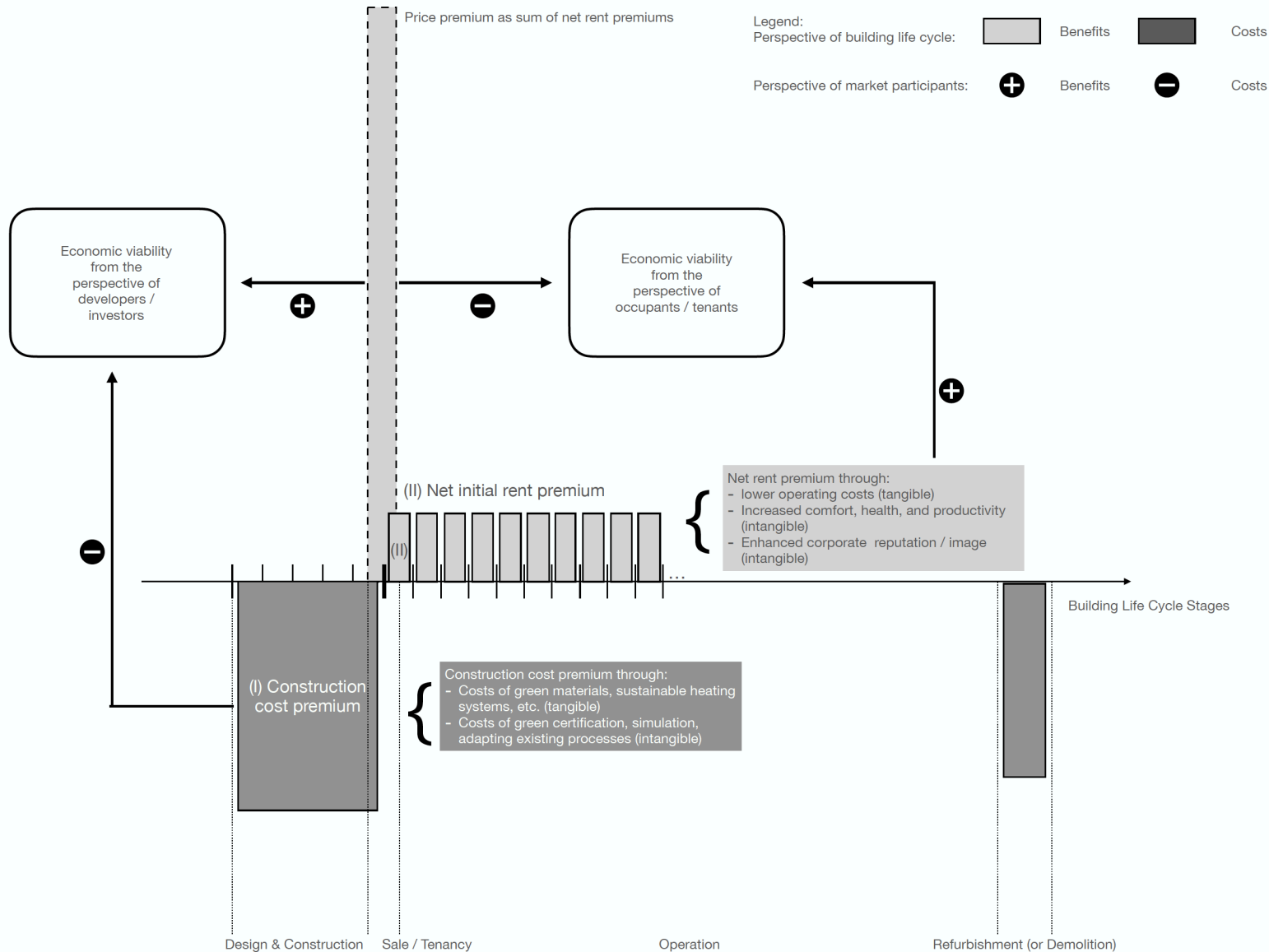
“Today, about **50 % of Switzerland’s primary energy consumption** is spent on buildings 30 % for heating, air conditioning, and hot water, 14 % for electricity, and about 6 % for manufacturing and maintenance. Exploiting the still considerable savings potential in the building sector is of great economic interest. Moreover, the building sector is also substantially responsible for the consumption of material resources, waste generation, and the environmental impact on our society (SFOE, 2020).»

→ The real estate industry has a huge impact on our environment.

However, are there economic incentives to go green?

In other words, what is the cost-benefit ratio of a green building?

Building life cycle costs and benefits based on Zhang et al. (2018)



To examine the cost-benefit ratio from the perspective of investors, we ask the questions:

(I) If green construction cost premiums during „Design & Construction phase“ exist,

and,

(II) If green measures yield higher net initial rents for the investor?

Existing Literature on Green Rent Premiums

The focus of sustainable housing research in Switzerland has been toward analyzing the rent and price premiums, that is, the revenue.

Studies by Feige et al. (2013), Marty et al. (2016), Marty & Meins (2017), Salvi et al. (2008), Salvi et al. (2010), and Schuster & Füss (2016) indicate the existence of green rent and price premiums in the approximate range between 1.78–12 %, for MINERGIE-certified buildings in the Swiss residential market.

→ The primary drivers of these higher rental and sales prices include increased quality of living, greater comfort, lower energy costs, and improved property value retention (MINERGIE, 2020).

Globally, studies by Bond & Devine (2015), Cajias et al. (2019), and Koirala et al. (2014), showed green rental and sales premiums of approximately 1.4–23.25 % according to international sustainability standards.

→ There is a **consensus** in the literature that certified buildings exert positive premiums on rents and sales.

Existing Literature on Green Cost Premiums

According to Dwaikat & Ali (2016), owners and investors often perceive sustainable buildings as expensive, which is often cited as the primary reason for the lower market penetration of green buildings.

Most studies on construction cost premiums examine the commercial sector, whereas the residential market is scarcely studied.

Overall, the literature on construction costs of sustainable buildings compared to conventional buildings identifies three different cases:

- First, studies by Kaplan et al. (2009), Matthiessen & Morris (2007), and Rehm & Ade (2013) identified **no stat. significant cost differences** in the construction of sustainable and conventional buildings.
- Second, studies by Ade & Rehm (2020), Galuppo & Tu (2010), Kim et al. (2014), Shrestha & Pushpala (2012), Zhang et al. (2011), and Kats et al. (2003), indicated **higher costs** for constructing sustainable buildings.
- Third, Lucuik et al. (2005) and Hydes & Creech (2010) identified **lower costs** for constructing a sustainable building.

In contrast to the predominantly positive benefits of sustainable building labels on rents and prices, the cost-side effects of green certified real estate are still **ambiguous**.

Hypotheses

Based on these identified gaps in the existing literature, this study addresses the following hypotheses:

Sustainable residential properties exert

- (I) higher construction costs and
- (II) higher initial rental income,

compared to conventional properties.

Additionally, we study the effects of cost of and return to certification (according to MINERGIE) and that of its underlying building measures and parts that lead to certification.

What we define as “green“ and where the data comes from

We define «greenness» in two ways:

First, the analysis distinguishes between **individual construction measures that lead to certification**, i.e., *technology controls*, and *amenity and quality controls* that are independent from certification status.

→ For example, the analysis compares the construction costs and net initial rents of clean technology such as geothermal energy, which is in line with the certification standard, against conventional fossil-based heating, that is not allowed for certification. Therefore, the analysis reveals the cost and rent premiums from the construction measure level.

Second, hedonic regression specifications include whether a project was **certified according to a certain MINERGIE standard** or not.

→ Thus, the study addressed whether premiums on construction costs and net rents can be ascribed to MINERGIE, which demands a bundle of sustainable characteristics (MINERGIE, 2022).

Data:

This study assembles a new dataset including specific information on construction projects and their costs (Baublatt/Bauinfo-Center Docu Media, 2020), linked with listing data (FPRE, 2020) on the net initial rents of projects, and information on MINERGIE (2021) certifications.

Methodology – Hedonic Regression

$$(I) \quad \ln(\text{Construction costs per } m^2) = c_0 + \beta z_i + \gamma l_i + \phi t_i + \epsilon_i,$$

$$(II) \quad \ln(\text{Net rent per } m^2 \text{ and year}_i) = c_0 + \beta z_i + \gamma l_i + \phi t_i + \epsilon_i,$$

where:

c_0 = constant

β, γ, ϕ = vectors of regression coefficients or implicit hedonic prices

z_i = z_i vector of structural variables market, project size, and individual components of the construction project:

- **MINERGIE**
MINERGIE Y/N
MINERGIE, "MINERGIE-P or higher"
- **Market**
Owner-occupied property market (=dummy variable), rental market and total market (both)
- **Size**
ln(Number of apartments)
ln(Square area per project)
ln(Storeys)
ln(Mean net floor area)
ln(Mean number of rooms)
- **Individual components of construction project (cf. Appendix A)**

l_i = l_i vector of locational variables of construction project:

- Mobilité Spatiale regions: 1 to 106, reference category = MS 1 (City of Zurich)
- Accessibility by public transport "ÖV-Gütekasse", A, B, C, D, none (=reference category)
- Population density per hectare: Permanent population, total per hectare

t_i = t_i vector of time trend variable of construction project:

- Year 2010 to 2020 (reference category = 2010), year in which the construction application was approved

ϵ_i = Error term

→ Estimation equation = Hedonic Regression (I) & (II), reflecting our hypotheses. (standard methodology)

Ingredients of hedonic model:

→ Structural Variables

→ Locational Variables

→ Time Trend Variable

Certificates and individual components of construction project

Appendix A: Individual components of construction project

B) technology controls that lead to certification

C) amenity controls independent from certification

Reference category (amenity controls in grey), if amenity controls are not included. See specifications [II], [V], and [VI]

Reference category (italic), if amenity controls are included for regression specifications [III], [VII], and [VIII]

Roofing	Supporting Structure	Flooring
MINERGIE standard	Wood	Floor underlay
<i>Reference category = all others</i>	Brick	Artificial stone flooring
	Aerated concrete blocks	Parquet flooring
Roofing finishes	Sand-lime brick	Linoleum flooring/synthetic flooring
Green roofing	Skeleton construction (concrete, steel, wood)	Textile flooring
<i>Reference category = all others</i>	Steel	Ceramic flooring
	Double-shell masonry/brickwork	Wooden flooring
Façade	Exposed masonry/brickwork	Concrete flooring
MINERGIE standard	Single-layer masonry/brickwork	Raised/false flooring
Wood	Supporting structure without specifications	Natural stone flooring
Metal/steel/light metal	<i>Reference category = Concrete</i>	Laminate flooring
Natural stone		Industrial jointless flooring
Glass	Heating	<i>Reference category = all others</i>
Façade elements: concrete/lightweight concrete/artificial stone	District heating	Interior
Ventilated curtain façades	Heat pumps	Not differentiated
Fiber cement plates	Solar heating systems	Equipment
Ceramic	Geothermal energy/ground probes/collectors	Air conditioner
Exposed masonry/brickwork	Wood-fired heating	Conveyor system
Sandwich panels	Woodchip heating	Sun and weather protection
Exposed concrete	Pellet heating	Building automation
Compact façades	Controlled room ventilation/comfort ventilation	Safety technology
Façades without specifications	Gas-fired heating	Garage gate
<i>Reference category = Plastered masonry/brickwork</i>	Electric heating	Landscaping
	Chimney/Chimney stove	Cooling systems
Windows	Floor heating	Tank installations (areas with heating)
Minergie standard	Radiators/Flat panel radiators	Terraces/balconies
Wood windows	Heating without specifications	Ventilation
Metal/lightweight metal windows	<i>Reference category = Oil-fired heating</i>	Habitat/pond
Thermal and acoustic insulated windows	Insulation	Pergola
Balcony and terrace windows	Minergie standard	External lighting
Wood/metal windows	Internal thermal insulation	Irrigation system
Windows without specifications	External thermal insulation	Controlled parking system
<i>Reference category = Plastic windows</i>	In-between thermal insulation	
Electricity	Thermal insulation of earth-contacting components	<i>Reference category = all others</i>
Solar energy	Insulation and seal without specifications	
Reference category = all others	<i>Reference category = all others</i>	

- List of building measures and components, for which we control in our model:

- [A] Certificates: MINERGIE Y/N & MINERGIE (standard certification) and MINERGIE-P or higher]

- **B) Technology controls that lead to (MINERGIE) certification**

- **C) Amenity and quality controls that are independent from certification status.**

Model Specifications

	Construction costs/m2						Net rent/m2a					
Specifications	(III)	(IV)	(V)	(VI)	(VII)	(VIII)	(III)	(IV)	(V)	(VI)	(VII)	(VIII)
A*) certificates												
B) technology controls												
C) amenity controls												
D) market & size controls												
E) location control												
F) time controls												
G) constant												
H) regression statistics												
* MINERGIE Y/N = (III), (V) & (VII); MINERGIE (standard certification) & MINERGIE-P or higher = (IV), (VI), (VIII)												

- The analysis begins by running a model that omits the key technology controls that lead to certification and only includes the certification (cf. Specifications (III)-(IV)).
- Adding the key technology controls to the regression reveals the total cost or return to certification and how much of that cost or return is explained by adding the observable environmental investments that lead to certification (III)-(VI).
- Finally, there are further quality and amenity controls, which are independent from certification status (but correlated with certified buildings). Adding these extra controls further erodes the estimates on certification. Compare (III)-(VI) vs. (VII)-(VIII).

Estimation results

The analysis of the cost-benefit ratio reveals the following:

- First, sign. cost and rent premiums for MINERGIE certifications identified.
- Second, cost and rent premiums for MINERGIE certifications erode but persist.
- Third, results on MINERGIE premiums align with literature.
- Fourth, significant construction cost premiums for (green) technology controls, but almost no effect on yields (except geothermal energy).

		Construction costs/m2						Net rent/m2a					
		(III)	(IV)	(V)	(VI)	(VII)	(VIII)	(III)	(IV)	(V)	(VI)	(VII)	(VIII)
		In(Construction costs/m2)						In(Net rent/m2a)					
A) certificates	Certificates	MINERGIE Y/N	0.0251*** (0.0079)	0.0220*** (0.0079)	0.0187** (0.0077)			0.0358*** (0.0122)	0.0351*** (0.0124)	0.0296** (0.0125)			
	Ref. Cat. = Non-certified buildings												
	MINERGIE		0.0219*** (0.0082)	0.0189** (0.0082)	0.0157* (0.0081)			0.0312** (0.0128)	0.0309** (0.0131)	0.0254** (0.0129)			
	MINERGIE-P or higher		0.0577** (0.0244)	0.0535** (0.0246)	0.0496** (0.0241)			0.0733* (0.0379)	0.0696* (0.0383)	0.0637 (0.0494)			
B) technology controls	Roofing	MINERGIE standard		0.0256 (0.0313)	0.0254 (0.0313)	0.0186 (0.0309)	0.0183 (0.0309)		0.1231 (0.2074)	0.119 (0.2079)	0.0907 (0.1962)	0.0873 (0.1966)	
	Ref. Cat. = cf. Appendix												
	Façade	MINERGIE standard		0.0318 (0.0355)	0.0329 (0.0355)	0.0095 (0.0364)	0.0102 (0.0364)		-0.0801 (0.0747)	-0.0823 (0.0745)	-0.0896 (0.0670)	-0.0916 (0.0670)	
	Ref. Cat. = cf. Appendix												
	Windows	Minergie standard		-0.0593 (0.0451)	-0.0592 (0.0451)	-0.0683 (0.0439)	-0.0682 (0.0438)		-0.0623 (0.0877)	-0.0564 (0.0884)	-0.0457 (0.0811)	-0.0398 (0.0821)	
	Ref. Cat. = cf. Appendix												
	Heating	District heating		0.0273*** (0.0094)	0.0273*** (0.0094)	0.0484*** (0.0135)	0.0487*** (0.0135)		-0.0156 (0.0132)	-0.0157 (0.0132)	0.0021 (0.0214)	0.0017 (0.0214)	
	Ref. Cat. = cf. Appendix												
	Heat pumps			-0.0036 (0.0064)	-0.0035 (0.0064)	0.0278** (0.0120)	0.0280** (0.0120)		-0.0031 (0.0089)	-0.003 (0.0089)	0.0182 (0.0191)	0.0179 (0.0191)	
	Solar heating systems			-0.0006 (0.0069)	-0.0006 (0.0069)	0.0061 (0.0071)	0.0061 (0.0071)		0.0049 (0.0107)	0.0048 (0.0107)	-0.0024 (0.0110)	-0.0026 (0.0110)	
	Geothermal energy/ground probes/collectors			0.0368*** (0.0059)	0.0367*** (0.0059)	0.0310*** (0.0058)	0.0310*** (0.0058)		0.0255*** (0.0089)	0.0255*** (0.0089)	0.0191** (0.0088)	0.0191** (0.0088)	
	Wood-fired heating			0.0103 (0.0174)	0.0104 (0.0174)	0.0283 (0.0189)	0.0285 (0.0189)		-0.0195 (0.0311)	-0.0197 (0.0311)	-0.0102 (0.0316)	-0.0106 (0.0316)	
	Woodchip heating			0.0308 (0.0234)	0.0307 (0.0234)	0.0498** (0.0239)	0.0498** (0.0239)		-0.0262 (0.0332)	-0.0254 (0.0333)	0.0084 (0.0341)	0.0091 (0.0343)	
C) amenity controls	Pellet heating			0.0390** (0.0154)	0.0392** (0.0154)	0.0594*** (0.0173)	0.0597*** (0.0173)		-0.016 (0.0195)	-0.0153 (0.0196)	0.0046 (0.0241)	0.0049 (0.0241)	
	Controlled room ventilation/comfort ventilation			0.0174* (0.0099)	0.0177* (0.0100)	0.0171* (0.0099)	0.0175* (0.0099)		0.0107 (0.0136)	0.0108 (0.0136)	0.0032 (0.0134)	0.0033 (0.0134)	
	Insulation	Minergie standard insulation		0.0206 (0.0219)	0.019 (0.0220)	0.0529* (0.0281)	0.0520* (0.0282)		0.0164 (0.0723)	0.0164 (0.0722)	0.0329 (0.0817)	0.0319 (0.0817)	
	Ref. Cat. = cf. Appendix												
	Electricity	Solar energy (Electricity)		0.0299*** (0.0080)	0.0298*** (0.0080)	0.0246*** (0.0080)	0.0246*** (0.0080)		-0.0078 (0.0150)	-0.0076 (0.0150)	-0.0011 (0.0148)	-0.0009 (0.0148)	
	Ref. Cat. = all others												

Conclusion I/II

- This study investigated whether (I) sustainable residential multi-family dwellings exhibit higher construction costs and (II) increased net initial rents compared to conventionally constructed buildings.
- Further, the analysis helps understanding the cost of and return to certification (MINERGIE) including the underlying components of green buildings (technology that leads to certification & quality and amenity controls).

(I) Construction Costs:

- The analysis showed that after controlling for technology and amenity, a statistically significant cost premium for MINERGIE certification persists.
- Besides, sustainable technology that leads to certification, also the MINERGIE certification itself, demands a statistically significant cost premium of about 1.9 % (1.6 % for MINERGIE (standard certification) and 5.1% for MINERGIE-P or higher).
- The empirical results showed statistically significant cost premiums for the sustainable construction measures:
 - 5.0 % for district heating,
 - 3.1 % for geothermal energy with the reference category oil-fired heating,
 - 3.2 % for green roofing over other roofing finishes (cf. specification [VIII] in Appendix B).
- In general, higher costs occurred for specific sustainable construction measures and MINERGIE certifications.

Conclusion II/II

(II) Net initial rents

- With a few exceptions (geoth. energy), no statistically significant effects on net initial rents were identified for the individual green building measures.
 - For MINERGIE, the results were different. The certifications of MINERGIE (standard certification) and MINERGIE-P or higher yielded increased net initial rents of 2.6% and 6.6% (not significant) for apartments.
 - However, the analysis showed that environmental friendly technology (technology controls) does not impact net initial rents significantly. In contrast, high-quality materials and amenities (e.g. glass façade, elevator, green roofing) which deliver a perceptible benefit to tenants, show statistically significant rental premiums.
- These results suggested that green building practices without labels or certifications were not rewarded by the market through increased rents.
- The implementations require credible labels, such as a MINERGIE certification to yield a green rent premium. This aligned with Bond & Devine (2015), that certification transmits a stronger signal than just stating that a property is green.
- As this analysis focused on construction costs and their initial returns, rather than concentrating on the perspective of a holistic life cycle costs and return approach, it shows that there might be a discrepancy between costs and return with respect to single construction measures in the short run.
- The results suggest that the certification according to MINERGIE could soften this myopic incentive problem in Switzerland.
- For further research: A full cost and return consideration of sustainable construction measures (and MINERGIE certification) would certainly be worthwhile.



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Thank you
for your attention.

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Appendix I/II

Table 7: Regression results of construction costs/m²

		Specifications							
		A) certificates B) technology controls C) amenity controls D) market & size controls E) location control F) time controls G) constant H) regression statistics							
		(I)	(II)	(III)	(IV)	(V)	(VI)	(VII)	(VIII)
		Construction costs/m2							
		(I)	(II)	(III)	(IV)	(V)	(VI)	(VII)	(VIII)
		lnConstruction costs/m2							
A) certificates	Line:								
	a	Certificates	MINERGIE Y/N	0.0251*** (0.0079)	0.0220*** (0.0079)	0.0187*** (0.0077)			
	b	Ref. Cat. = Non-certified buildings	MINERGIE	0.0219*** (0.0082)	0.0189*** (0.0081)	0.0157* (0.0081)			
B) technology controls	c	MINERGIE-P or higher	MINERGIE-P or higher	0.0377** (0.0244)	0.0335** (0.0246)	0.0406** (0.0241)			
	d	Roofing	MINERGIE standard	0.0257 (0.0314)	0.0184 (0.0310)	0.0256 (0.0313)	0.0254 (0.0313)	0.0186 (0.0309)	0.0183 (0.0309)
	e	Facade	MINERGIE standard	0.0315 (0.0356)	0.0090 (0.0365)	0.0318 (0.0355)	0.0329 (0.0355)	0.0095 (0.0364)	0.0102 (0.0364)
	f	Windows	Minergie standard	-0.0594 (0.0450)	-0.0685 (0.0438)	-0.0593 (0.0451)	-0.0592 (0.0451)	-0.0683 (0.0439)	-0.0682 (0.0438)
	g	Heating	District heating	0.0277*** (0.0094)	0.0489*** (0.0135)	0.0273*** (0.0094)	0.0273*** (0.0094)	0.0484*** (0.0135)	0.0487*** (0.0135)
	h	Ref. Cat. = all others for Spec. (1), (5) & (6) Ref. Cat. = Oil-fired heating for Spec. (2), (7) & (8)	Heat pumps	-0.0033 (0.0064)	0.0281** (0.0120)	-0.0036 (0.0064)	-0.0035 (0.0064)	0.0278** (0.0120)	0.0280** (0.0120)
	i	Solar heating systems	Solar heating systems	-0.0008 (0.0069)	0.06 (0.0071)	-0.0006 (0.0069)	-0.0006 (0.0069)	0.0061 (0.0071)	0.0061 (0.0071)
	j	Geothermal energy/ground probes/collectors	Geothermal energy/ground probes/collectors	0.0369*** (0.0059)	0.0311*** (0.0058)	0.0368*** (0.0059)	0.0367*** (0.0058)	0.0310*** (0.0058)	0.0310*** (0.0058)
	k	Wood-fired heating	Wood-fired heating	0.0097 (0.0174)	0.0279 (0.0189)	0.0103 (0.0174)	0.0104 (0.0174)	0.0283 (0.0189)	0.0285 (0.0189)
	l	Woodchip heating	Woodchip heating	0.0313 (0.0235)	0.0504** (0.0239)	0.0308 (0.0234)	0.0307 (0.0234)	0.0498** (0.0239)	0.0498** (0.0239)
	m	Pellet heating	Pellet heating	0.0392** (0.0154)	0.0596*** (0.0173)	0.0390** (0.0154)	0.0392*** (0.0154)	0.0594*** (0.0173)	0.0597*** (0.0173)
	n	Controlled room ventilation/comfort ventilation	Controlled room ventilation/comfort ventilation	0.0184* (0.0099)	0.0180* (0.0099)	0.0174* (0.0099)	0.0177* (0.0100)	0.0171* (0.0099)	0.0175* (0.0099)
	o	Insulation	Minergie standard insulation	0.0217 (0.0219)	0.0545* (0.0281)	0.0206 (0.0219)	0.019 (0.0220)	0.0529* (0.0281)	0.0520* (0.0282)
	p	Ref. Cat. = all, but MINERGIE standard for Spec. (1), (5) & (6) Ref. Cat. = all others (2), (7) & (8)	Solar energy (Electricity)	0.0390*** (0.0080)	0.0247*** (0.0080)	0.0290*** (0.0080)	0.0298*** (0.0080)	0.0246*** (0.0080)	0.0246*** (0.0080)
	C) amenity controls	Line:							
q		Market	Ownes-occupied property	0.0384*** (0.0049)	0.0356*** (0.0049)	0.0392*** (0.0049)	0.0382*** (0.0049)	0.0382*** (0.0049)	0.0354*** (0.0049)
r		Size	ln(Number of apartments)	0.2262*** (0.0095)	0.2504*** (0.0095)	0.2250*** (0.0095)	0.2250*** (0.0095)	0.2263*** (0.0097)	0.2505*** (0.0097)
D) market & size controls	s	lnSquare area per project (m2)	lnSquare area per project (m2)	-0.3125*** (0.0093)	-0.3506*** (0.0093)	-0.3079*** (0.0093)	-0.3079*** (0.0093)	-0.3127*** (0.0103)	-0.3508*** (0.0103)
	t	lnStoreys	lnStoreys	0.0390*** (0.0095)	0.0232** (0.0096)	0.0386*** (0.0095)	0.0384*** (0.0095)	0.0388*** (0.0095)	0.0221** (0.0096)
	u	lnMean net floor area	lnMean net floor area	0.0388 (0.0260)	0.0498* (0.0258)	0.0373 (0.0263)	0.0374 (0.0263)	0.0382 (0.0263)	0.0491* (0.0257)
	v	lnMean number of rooms	lnMean number of rooms	0.0388 (0.0260)	0.0498* (0.0258)	0.0373 (0.0263)	0.0374 (0.0263)	0.0382 (0.0259)	0.0491* (0.0257)
E) location controls	Line:								
	w	Locational variables	Locational variables	y	y	y	y	y	y
	x	Mobile Spatial regions	Mobile Spatial regions	y	Appendix B	y	y	Appendix B	Appendix B
F) time control	Line:								
	z	Time Fixed Effects	Time Fixed Effects	y	Appendix B	y	y	Appendix B	Appendix B
		Year of building application	Year of building application	y	Appendix B	y	y	Appendix B	Appendix B
G) constant	Line:								
		Constant	Constant	9.4336*** (0.0567)	9.6325*** (0.1323)	9.4279*** (0.0567)	9.4285*** (0.0567)	9.4330*** (0.1324)	9.4334*** (0.1324)
H) regression statistics	N	11.993	11.993	11.993	11.993	11.993	11.993	11.993	11.993
	R2	0.2913	0.321	0.2869	0.287	0.2918	0.2919	0.3214	0.3215
	Adjusted R2	0.2893	0.3092	0.2793	0.2794	0.2835	0.2836	0.3095	0.3095
I) heteroskedasticity-consistent (robust) standard errors HC1	Residual Std. Error	0.2422 (df = 11855)	0.2378 (df = 11786)	0.2428 (df = 11867)	0.2428 (df = 11866)	0.2421 (df = 11854)	0.2421 (df = 11853)	0.2377 (df = 11785)	0.2377 (df = 11784)
	F Statistic	25.5703*** (df = 137; df = 206; 11855)	27.0538*** (df = 125; df = 206; 11786)	26.1877*** (df = 125; df = 206; 11866)	26.1877*** (df = 125; df = 206; 11866)	25.5469*** (df = 137; df = 206; 11854)	25.5469*** (df = 137; df = 206; 11853)	26.8409*** (df = 125; df = 206; 11785)	26.8409*** (df = 125; df = 206; 11784)

Source: Own representation, data from [ARE \(2020\)](#), [Baublatt/Bauinfo-Center Docu Media \(2020\)](#), [FSO \(2018\)](#), [FPRE \(2020\)](#), [MINERGIE \(2021\)](#).

Note: White heteroskedasticity-consistent (robust) standard errors HC1 are clustered for each location cluster within parenthesis. Significance values 0.10, 0.05, and 0.01 are indicated by *, ** and ***, respectively.

Table 8: Regression results of rent/m²a

		Specifications							
		A) certificates B) technology controls C) amenity controls D) market & size controls E) location control F) time controls G) constant H) regression statistics							
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII
		Net rent/m2a							
		(I)	(II)	(III)	(IV)	(V)	(VI)	(VII)	(VIII)
		lnNet rent/m2a							
A) certificates	Line:								
	a	Certificates	MINERGIE Y/N	0.0358*** (0.0122)	0.0351*** (0.0124)	0.0296** (0.0125)			
	b	Ref. Cat. = Non-certified buildings	MINERGIE	0.0312** (0.0128)	0.0309** (0.0131)	0.0254** (0.0129)			
B) technology controls	c	MINERGIE-P or higher	MINERGIE-P or higher	0.0733* (0.0379)	0.0696* (0.0383)	0.0637 (0.0454)			
	d	Roofing	MINERGIE standard	0.1221 (0.2082)	0.0908 (0.1963)	0.1231 (0.2074)	0.119 (0.2079)	0.0907 (0.1962)	0.0873 (0.1966)
	e	Facade	MINERGIE standard	-0.0785 (0.0753)	-0.0883 (0.0673)	-0.0801 (0.0747)	-0.0823 (0.0745)	-0.0896 (0.0670)	-0.0916 (0.0670)
	f	Windows	Minergie standard	-0.0649 (0.0887)	-0.048 (0.0815)	-0.0623 (0.0877)	-0.0564 (0.0884)	-0.0457 (0.0811)	-0.0398 (0.0821)
	g	Heating	District heating	-0.0139 (0.0132)	0.0038 (0.0213)	-0.0156 (0.0137)	-0.0157 (0.0214)	0.0021 (0.0214)	0.0017 (0.0214)
	h	Ref. Cat. = all others for Spec. (1), (5) & (6) Ref. Cat. = Oil-fired heating for Spec. (2), (7) & (8)	Heat pumps	-0.0022 (0.0089)	0.0193 (0.0191)	-0.0031 (0.0089)	-0.003 (0.0191)	0.0182 (0.0191)	0.0179 (0.0191)
	i	Solar heating systems	Solar heating systems	0.0047 (0.0107)	-0.0028 (0.0110)	0.0049 (0.0107)	0.0048 (0.0110)	-0.0024 (0.0110)	-0.0026 (0.0110)
	j	Geothermal energy/ground probes/collectors	Geothermal energy/ground probes/collectors	0.0256*** (0.0089)	0.0192** (0.0088)	0.0255*** (0.0089)	0.0255*** (0.0089)	0.0191** (0.0088)	0.0191** (0.0088)
	k	Wood-fired heating	Wood-fired heating	-0.0216 (0.0311)	-0.0119 (0.0316)	-0.0195 (0.0311)	-0.0197 (0.0316)	-0.0102 (0.0316)	-0.0106 (0.0316)
	l	Woodchip heating	Woodchip heating	-0.0221 (0.0345)	0.0123 (0.0353)	-0.0254 (0.0332)	0.0084 (0.0333)	0.0084 (0.0341)	0.0091 (0.0343)
	m	Pellet heating	Pellet heating	-0.013 (0.0198)	0.0075 (0.0242)	-0.0153 (0.0195)	0.0046 (0.0196)	0.0049 (0.0241)	0.0049 (0.0241)
	n	Controlled room ventilation/comfort ventilation	Controlled room ventilation/comfort ventilation	0.0128 (0.0135)	0.005 (0.0133)	0.0107 (0.0136)	0.0108 (0.0134)	0.0032 (0.0134)	0.0033 (0.0134)
	o	Insulation	Minergie standard insulation	0.0189 (0.0729)	0.034 (0.0826)	0.0164 (0.0723)	0.0164 (0.0722)	0.0329 (0.0817)	0.0319 (0.0817)
	p	Electricity	Solar energy (Electricity)	-0.0074 (0.0149)	-0.0008 (0.0148)	-0.0078 (0.0150)	-0.0076 (0.0148)	-0.0011 (0.0148)	-0.0009 (0.0148)
	C) amenity controls	Line:							
q		Market	Ownes-occupied property	0.0096 (0.0074)	-0.0011 (0.0077)	0.0098 (0.0074)	0.0097 (0.0074)	0.0092 (0.0074)	0.0091 (0.0077)
r		Size	ln(Number of apartments)	-0.0195*** (0.0047)	-0.0306*** (0.0051)	-0.0207*** (0.0045)	-0.0207*** (0.0047)	-0.0201*** (0.0051)	-0.0311*** (0.0051)
D) market & size controls	s	lnSquare area per project (m2)	lnSquare area per project (m2)	0.015 (0.0136)	0.008 (0.0139)	0.012 (0.0134)	0.0119 (0.0134)	0.0148 (0.0136)	0.0147 (0.0139)
	t	lnStoreys	lnStoreys	-0.3292*** (0.0228)	-0.3484*** (0.0228)	-0.3244*** (0.0229)	-0.3244*** (0.0228)	-0.3483*** (0.0228)	-0.3481*** (0.0228)
	u	lnMean net floor area	lnMean net floor area	0.0388 (0.0260)	0.0498* (0.0258)	0.0373 (0.0263)	0.0374 (0.0263)	0.0382 (0.0259)	0.0491* (0.0257)
	v	lnMean number of rooms	lnMean number of rooms	0.0388 (0.0260)	0.0498* (0.0258)	0.0373 (0.0263)	0.0374 (0.0263)	0.0382 (0.0259)	0.0491* (0.0257)
E) location controls	Line:								
	w	Locational variables	Locational variables	y	y	y	y	y	y
	x	Mobile Spatial regions Location Class "ÖV-Ginkgoeisen" Population density per hectar	Mobile Spatial regions Location Class "ÖV-Ginkgoeisen" Population density per hectar	y Appendix B y	y Appendix B y	y y y	y y y	y Appendix B Appendix B	y Appendix B Appendix B
F) time control	Line:								
	z	Time Fixed Effects Year of building application	Time Fixed Effects Year of building application	y	Appendix B	y	y	y	Appendix B Appendix B
G) constant	Line:								
		Constant	Constant	7.3174*** -0.0886	7.2658*** (0.1325)	7.3123*** -0.0885	7.3115*** -0.0886	7.3156*** -0.0887	7.2608*** (0.1323)
H) regression statistics	N	3.562	3.562	3.562	3.562	3.562	3.562	3.562	3.562
	R2	0.5812	0.608	0.5796	0.5798	0.582	0.5821	0.6086	0.6087
	Adjusted R2	0.5649	0.5844	0.5649	0.5649	0.5856	0.5856	0.5849	0.5849
I) heteroskedasticity-consistent (robust) standard errors HC1	Residual Std. Error	0.1899 (df = 3428)	0.1856 (df = 3359)	0.1899 (df = 3440)	0.1899 (df = 3439)	0.1898 (df = 3427)	0.1898 (df = 3426)	0.1855 (df = 3358)	0.1855 (df = 3357)
	F Statistic	35.7644	35.7923*** (df = 135; df = 202; 3428)	35.7923*** (df = 135; df = 202; 3428)	35.7923*** (df = 135; df = 202; 3428)	35.7923*** (df = 135; df = 202; 3428)	35.7923*** (df = 135; df = 202; 3428)	35.7923*** (df = 135; df = 202; 3428)	35.7923*** (df = 135; df = 202; 3428)

Appendix II/II

Appendix B: Full panel regression results of construction costs/ m^2 and net rent/ m^2/a including amenity controls (specifications [III], [VII], and [VIII]) 1/2

		(II)			(VII)			(VIII)			(II)			(VII)			(VIII)		