



3.11

Urbanization

	Urban population					Population in urban agglomerations of more than 1 million		Population in largest city		Access to improved sanitation facilities			
	millions		% of total population		average annual % growth	% of total population		% of urban population		% of urban population		% of rural population	
	1990	2007	1990	2007		1990	2007	1990	2007	1990	2006	1990	2006
Afghanistan	2.3	6.4	18	24	6.0	11	12	62	51	..	45	..	25
Albania	1.2	1.5	36	46	1.2	..	..	..	..	97	98	..	97
Algeria	13.2	21.9	52	65	3.0	8	10	14	15	99	98	77	87
Angola	3.9	9.5	37	56	5.2	15	23	40	42	55	79	9	16
Argentina	28.3	36.3	87	92	1.4	39	39	37	35	86	92	45	83
Armenia	2.4	1.9	68	64	-1.3	33	37	49	57	94	96	..	81
Australia	14.6	18.6	85	89	1.4	60	61	25	24	100	100	100	100
Austria	5.1	5.6	66	67	0.5	27	28	41	41	100	100	100	100
Azerbaijan	3.8	4.4	54	52	0.8	24	22	45	43	..	90	..	70
Bangladesh	22.4	42.3	20	27	3.7	8	12	29	32	56	48	18	32
Belarus	6.7	7.1	66	73	0.3	16	19	24	26	..	91	..	97
Belgium	9.6	10.3	96	97	0.4	10	17	10	17	..	..	..	..
Benin	1.8	3.7	35	41	4.3	..	..	..	..	32	59	2	11
Bolivia	3.7	6.2	56	65	3.0	25	32	29	26	47	54	15	22
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1.7	1.8	39	47	0.3	..	..	..	..	99	99	..	92
Botswana	0.6	1.1	42	59	3.9	..	..	..	..	60	60	22	30
Brazil	111.8	163.1	75	85	2.2	34	38	13	12	82	84	37	37
Bulgaria	5.8	5.4	66	71	-0.4	14	16	21	22	100	100	96	96
Burkina Faso	1.2	2.8	14	19	4.9	..	8	49	41	23	41	2	6
Burundi	0.4	0.9	6	10	5.1	..	..	..	..	41	44	44	41
Cambodia	1.2	3.0	13	21	5.3	6	10	49	48	..	62	2	19
Cameroon	5.0	10.4	41	56	4.3	14	19	19	18	47	58	34	42
Canada	21.3	26.5	77	80	1.3	40	44	18	20	100	100	99	99
Central African Republic	1.1	1.7	37	38	2.4	..	..	..	..	21	40	5	25
Chad	1.3	2.8	21	26	4.7	..	..	38	35	19	23	1	4
Chile	11.0	14.6	83	88	1.7	35	34	42	39	91	97	48	74
China	311.0	556.3	27	42	3.4	13	18	3	3	61	74	43	59
Hong Kong, China	5.7	6.9	100	100	1.2	100	100	100	100	..	..	..	..
Colombia	22.6	32.6	68	74	2.2	32	35	22	23	81	85	39	58
Congo, Dem. Rep.	10.5	20.8	28	33	4.0	15	17	35	38	53	42	1	25
Congo, Rep.	1.3	2.3	54	61	3.3	29	36	53	59	..	19	..	21
Costa Rica	1.6	2.8	51	63	3.4	24	29	47	46	96	96	92	95
Côte d'Ivoire	5.1	9.3	40	48	3.5	16	20	41	41	39	38	8	12
Croatia	2.6	2.5	54	57	-0.1	..	..	..	..	99	99	98	98
Cuba	7.8	8.5	73	76	0.5	20	19	27	26	99	99	95	95
Czech Republic	7.8	7.6	75	74	-0.2	12	11	16	16	100	100	98	98
Denmark	4.4	4.7	85	86	0.5	26	20	31	23	100	100	100	100
Dominican Republic	4.0	6.7	55	68	3.0	21	22	38	32	77	81	57	74
Ecuador	5.7	8.7	55	65	2.5	26	32	28	29	88	91	50	72
Egypt, Arab Rep.	24.0	32.2	44	43	1.7	22	21	38	37	68	85	37	52
El Salvador	2.5	4.1	49	60	2.9	19	21	39	35	88	90	59	80
Eritrea	0.5	1.0	16	20	4.0	..	..	..	..	20	14	0	3
Estonia	1.1	0.9	71	69	-1.1	..	..	..	..	96	96	94	94
Ethiopia	6.1	13.2	13	17	4.6	4	4	30	22	19	27	2	8
Finland	3.1	3.3	61	63	0.5	17	21	28	34	100	100	100	100
France	42.0	47.6	74	77	0.7	23	22	22	21	..	..	..	..
Gabon	0.6	1.1	69	85	3.4	..	..	..	..	..	37	..	30
Gambia, The	0.4	0.9	38	56	5.6	..	..	..	..	..	50	..	55
Georgia	3.0	2.3	55	53	-1.5	22	25	41	48	96	94	91	92
Germany	58.1	60.5	73	74	0.2	8	9	6	6	100	100	100	100
Ghana	5.7	11.6	36	49	4.2	12	16	21	18	11	15	3	6
Greece	6.0	6.8	59	61	0.8	30	29	51	48	100	99	93	97
Guatemala	3.7	6.4	41	48	3.3	..	8	22	16	87	90	58	79
Guinea	1.7	3.2	28	34	3.7	15	16	53	47	19	33	10	12
Guinea-Bissau	0.3	0.5	28	30	3.3	..	..	..	..	..	48	..	26
Haiti	2.0	4.4	29	45	4.5	16	21	56	46	49	29	20	12

	Urban population					Population in urban agglomerations of more than 1 million		Population in largest city		Access to improved sanitation facilities			
	millions		% of total population		average annual % growth 1990-2007	% of total population		% of urban population		% of urban population		% of rural population	
	1990	2007	1990	2007		1990	2007	1990	2007	1990	2006	1990	2006
Honduras	2.0	3.4	40	47	3.1	..	..	29	29	68	78	29	55
Hungary	6.8	6.7	66	67	-0.1	19	17	29	25	100	100	100	100
India	216.6	329.1	26	29	2.5	10	12	6	6	44	52	4	18
Indonesia	54.5	113.6	31	50	4.3	9	9	14	8	73	67	42	37
Iran, Islamic Rep.	30.6	48.3	56	68	2.7	23	23	21	16	86	..	78	..
Iraq	12.9	19.4	70	67	2.4	26	22	32	26	75	80	..	69
Ireland	2.0	2.7	57	61	1.7	26	25	46	40	..	..	..	..
Israel	4.2	6.6	90	92	2.6	43	60	48	49	100	100	..	..
Italy	37.8	40.3	67	68	0.4	19	17	9	8	..	..	..	..
Jamaica	1.2	1.4	49	53	1.1	..	..	..	..	82	82	83	84
Japan	78.0	84.7	63	66	0.5	46	48	42	42	100	100	100	100
Jordan	2.3	4.5	72	78	4.0	27	18	37	30	..	88	..	71
Kazakhstan	9.2	8.9	56	58	-0.2	7	8	12	14	97	97	96	98
Kenya	4.3	8.0	18	21	3.7	6	8	32	38	18	19	44	48
Korea, Dem. Rep.	11.8	14.8	58	62	1.4	15	19	21	22	..	..	..	..
Korea, Rep.	31.6	39.4	74	81	1.3	51	48	33	25	..	..	..	..
Kuwait	2.1	2.6	98	98	1.3	65	72	67	74	..	..	..	..
Kyrgyz Republic	1.7	1.9	38	36	0.7	..	..	38	43	..	94	..	93
Lao PDR	0.6	1.7	15	30	6.0	..	..	..	..	..	87	..	38
Latvia	1.9	1.5	69	68	-1.0	..	..	..	..	..	82	..	71
Lebanon	2.5	3.6	83	87	2.1	43	45	52	52	100	100	..	..
Lesotho	0.2	0.5	14	25	4.7	..	..	..	..	..	43	30	34
Liberia	1.0	2.2	45	59	4.9	..	28	55	47	59	49	24	7
Libya	3.3	4.8	76	77	2.2	48	55	45	46	97	97	96	96
Lithuania	2.5	2.3	68	67	-0.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Macedonia, FYR	1.1	1.4	58	66	1.2	..	..	..	..	..	92	..	81
Madagascar	2.8	5.7	24	29	4.1	8	9	33	30	15	18	6	10
Malawi	1.1	2.5	12	18	5.0	..	..	..	..	50	51	46	62
Malaysia	9.0	18.4	50	69	4.2	6	5	12	8	95	95	..	93
Mali	1.8	3.9	23	32	4.6	10	12	42	38	53	59	30	39
Mauritania	0.8	1.3	40	41	2.9	..	..	..	..	33	44	11	10
Mauritius	0.5	0.5	44	42	0.8	..	..	..	..	95	95	94	94
Mexico	59.4	81.0	71	77	1.8	32	34	26	23	74	91	8	48
Moldova	2.1	1.6	47	42	-1.5	..	..	..	..	..	85	..	73
Mongolia	1.2	1.5	57	57	1.3	..	..	48	60	..	64	..	31
Morocco	11.7	17.2	48	56	2.3	16	19	23	18	80	85	25	54
Mozambique	2.9	7.7	21	36	5.8	6	7	27	19	..	53	12	19
Myanmar	10.0	15.6	25	32	2.6	7	8	29	26	47	85	15	81
Namibia	0.4	0.8	28	36	3.8	..	..	..	..	73	66	8	18
Nepal	1.7	4.7	9	17	6.0	..	..	23	19	36	45	6	24
Netherlands	10.3	13.3	69	81	1.5	14	12	10	8	100	100	100	100
New Zealand	2.9	3.7	85	86	1.3	25	30	30	34	..	..	88	..
Nicaragua	2.2	3.2	52	56	2.2	18	21	34	38	59	57	23	34
Niger	1.2	2.3	15	16	3.9	..	..	36	39	16	27	1	3
Nigeria	33.3	70.5	35	48	4.4	11	14	14	13	33	35	22	25
Norway	3.1	3.6	72	77	1.0	..	..	22	22	..	..	..	..
Oman	1.2	1.9	66	72	2.5	..	..	..	..	97	97	61	..
Pakistan	33.0	58.0	31	36	3.3	16	18	22	21	76	90	14	40
Panama	1.3	2.4	54	72	3.7	35	38	65	53	..	78	..	63
Papua New Guinea	0.6	0.8	15	13	1.5	..	..	..	..	67	67	41	41
Paraguay	2.1	3.7	49	60	3.4	22	31	45	51	88	89	34	42
Peru	15.0	19.9	69	71	1.7	27	29	39	40	73	85	15	36
Philippines	29.9	56.4	49	64	3.7	14	14	27	20	71	81	46	72
Poland	23.4	23.4	61	61	0.0	4	4	7	7	..	..	..	..
Portugal	4.7	6.2	48	59	1.6	37	39	54	45	97	99	88	98
Puerto Rico	2.6	3.9	72	98	2.4	44	67	60	69



3.11

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	Urban population					Population in urban agglomerations of more than 1 million		Population in largest city		Access to improved sanitation facilities			
	millions		% of total population		average annual % growth	% of total population		% of urban population		% of urban population		% of rural population	
	1990	2007	1990	2007	1990-2007	1990	2007	1990	2007	1990	2006	1990	2006
Romania	12.3	11.6	53	54	-0.3	8	9	14	17	88	88	52	54
Russian Federation	108.8	103.5	73	73	-0.3	18	18	8	10	93	93	70	70
Rwanda	0.4	1.8	5	18	8.8	..	..	56	48	31	34	29	20
Saudi Arabia	12.5	19.9	77	81	2.7	30	40	19	22	100	100	..	..
Senegal	3.1	5.2	39	42	3.1	18	21	45	50	52	54	9	9
Serbia	3.8	3.8	50	52	0.0	..	11	..	21	..	96 ^a	..	88 ^a
Sierra Leone	1.3	2.2	33	37	2.9	..	..	40	39	..	20	..	5
Singapore	3.0	4.6	100	100	2.4	99	100	99	100	100	100	..	..
Slovak Republic	3.0	3.0	57	56	0.1	..	..	..	..	100	100	99	99
Slovenia	1.0	1.0	50	49	-0.1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Somalia	2.0	3.1	30	36	2.7	14	13	47	35	..	51	..	7
South Africa	18.3	28.8	52	60	2.7	25	33	10	12	64	66	45	49
Spain	29.3	34.5	75	77	1.0	22	24	15	16	100	100	100	100
Sri Lanka	2.9	3.0	17	15	0.2	..	..	..	..	85	89	68	86
Sudan	6.9	16.4	27	43	5.1	9	12	34	29	53	50	26	24
Swaziland	0.2	0.3	23	25	2.8	..	..	..	..	..	64	..	46
Sweden	7.1	7.7	83	84	0.5	17	14	21	16	100	100	100	100
Switzerland	4.9	5.5	73	73	0.7	14	15	19	20	100	100	100	100
Syrian Arab Republic	6.2	10.7	49	54	3.2	26	31	25	25	94	96	69	88
Tajikistan	1.7	1.8	32	26	0.3	..	..	..	..	..	95	..	91
Tanzania	4.8	10.1	19	25	4.4	5	7	27	29	29	31	36	34
Thailand	16.0	21.1	29	33	1.6	11	10	37	32	92	95	72	96
Timor-Leste	0.2	0.3	21	27	3.7	..	..	..	..	..	64	..	32
Togo	1.2	2.7	30	41	4.8	16	22	52	53	25	24	8	3
Trinidad and Tobago	0.1	0.2	9	13	2.9	..	..	..	..	93	92	93	92
Tunisia	4.7	6.8	58	66	2.1	..	..	..	..	95	96	44	64
Turkey	33.2	50.4	59	68	2.4	22	27	20	20	96	96	69	72
Turkmenistan	1.7	2.4	45	48	2.2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Uganda	2.0	4.0	11	13	4.1	4	5	38	36	27	29	29	34
Ukraine	34.7	31.6	67	68	-0.5	12	11	7	9	98	97	93	83
United Arab Emirates	1.5	3.4	79	78	4.9	25	31	32	40	98	98	95	95
United Kingdom	50.8	54.8	89	90	0.5	26	26	15	16	..	..	..	..
United States	188.0	245.5	75	81	1.6	41	43	9	8	100	100	99	99
Uruguay	2.8	3.1	89	92	0.6	41	45	46	49	100	100	99	99
Uzbekistan	8.2	9.9	40	37	1.1	10	8	25	22	97	97	91	95
Venezuela, RB	16.6	25.6	84	93	2.5	34	32	17	12	90	..	47	..
Vietnam	13.4	23.3	20	27	3.2	13	13	30	22	62	88	21	56
West Bank and Gaza	1.3	2.7	68	72	4.0	..	..	..	..	..	84	..	69
Yemen, Rep.	2.6	6.7	21	30	5.7	5	9	25	30	79	88	14	30
Zambia	3.2	4.2	39	35	1.6	9	11	24	32	49	55	38	51
Zimbabwe	3.0	4.9	29	37	2.9	10	12	34	32	65	63	35	37
World	2,252.1 s	3,260.9 s	43 w	50 w	2.2 w	18 w	20 w	17 w	16 w	76 w	78 w	34 w	44 w
Low income	219.6	410.5	25	32	3.7	11	12	28	26	50	54	19	33
Middle income	1,361.3	2,049.5	39	48	2.4	15	18	14	12	72	76	33	45
Lower middle income	873.3	1,430.3	32	42	2.9	13	16	12	10	64	71	31	43
Upper middle income	488.0	619.3	69	75	1.4	..	28	17	17	86	89	53	64
Low & middle income	1,580.9	2,460.1	37	44	2.6	14	17	16	14	69	73	30	41
East Asia & Pacific	460.0	827.7	29	43	3.5	..	..	9	7	65	75	42	59
Europe & Central Asia	273.7	283.3	63	64	0.2	15	16	13	14	95	94	77	79
Latin America & Carib.	308.0	438.8	71	78	2.1	32	34	24	22	81	86	35	51
Middle East & N. Africa	115.7	179.3	52	57	2.6	20	21	27	24	83	88	51	62
South Asia	279.2	443.9	25	29	2.7	10	12	10	11	49	57	8	23
Sub-Saharan Africa	144.3	287.1	28	36	4.0	..	13	26	25	41	42	20	24
High income	671.1	800.9	73	77	1.0	..	..	20	19	100	100	99	99
Euro area	213.0	236.7	71	73	0.6	18	18	15	15	..	..	..	..

a. Includes Kosovo.

About the data

There is no consistent and universally accepted standard for distinguishing urban from rural areas, in part because of the wide variety of situations across countries. Most countries use an urban classification related to the size or characteristics of settlements. Some define urban areas based on the presence of certain infrastructure and services. And other countries designate urban areas based on administrative arrangements.

The population of a city or metropolitan area depends on the boundaries chosen. For example, in 1990 Beijing, China, contained 2.3 million people in 87 square kilometers of "inner city" and 5.4 million in 158 square kilometers of "core city." The population of "inner city and inner suburban districts" was 6.3 million and that of "inner city, inner and outer suburban districts, and inner and outer counties" was 10.8 million. (Most countries use the last definition.) For further discussion of urban-rural issues see box 3.1a in *About the data* for table 3.1.

Estimates of the world's urban population would change significantly if China, India, and a few other

populous nations were to change their definition of urban centers. According to China's State Statistical Bureau, by the end of 1996 urban residents accounted for about 43 percent of China's population, more than double the 20 percent considered urban in 1994. In addition to the continuous migration of people from rural to urban areas, one of the main reasons for this shift was the rapid growth in the hundreds of towns reclassified as cities in recent years.

Because the estimates in the table are based on national definitions of what constitutes a city or metropolitan area, cross-country comparisons should be made with caution. To estimate urban populations, UN ratios of urban to total population were applied to the World Bank's estimates of total population (see table 2.1).

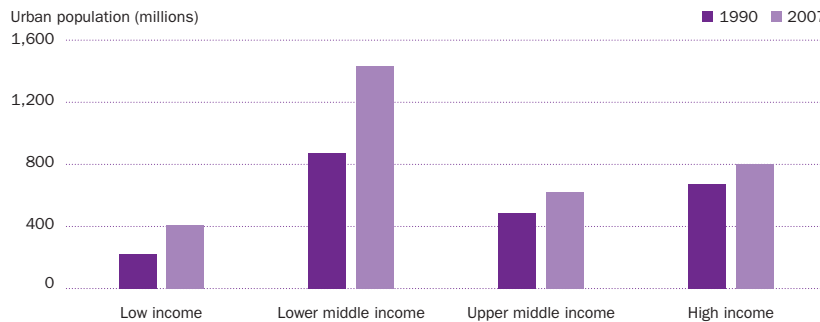
The table shows access to improved sanitation facilities for both urban and rural populations to allow comparison of access. Definitions of access and urban areas vary, however, so comparisons between countries can be misleading.

Definitions

- **Urban population** is the midyear population of areas defined as urban in each country and reported to the United Nations (see *About the data*).
- **Population in urban agglomerations of more than 1 million** is the percentage of a country's population living in metropolitan areas that in 2005 had a population of more than 1 million.
- **Population in largest city** is the percentage of a country's urban population living in that country's largest metropolitan area.
- **Access to improved sanitation facilities** is the percentage of the urban or rural population with access to at least adequate excreta disposal facilities (private or shared but not public) that can effectively prevent human, animal, and insect contact with excreta. Improved facilities range from simple but protected pit latrines to flush toilets with a sewerage connection. To be effective, facilities must be correctly constructed and properly maintained.

Developing economies had the largest increase in urban population between 1990 and 2007

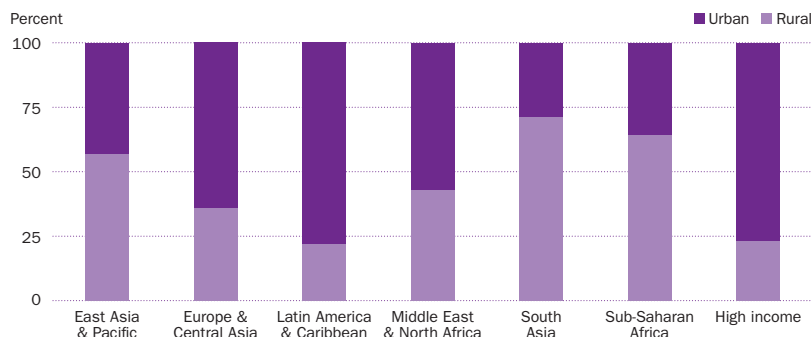
3.11a



Source: Table 3.11.

Latin America and the Caribbean had the same share of urban population as high-income economies in 2007

3.11b



Source: Table 3.11.

Data sources

Data on urban population and the population in urban agglomerations and in the largest city are from the United Nations Population Division's *World Urbanization Prospects: The 2007 Revision*. Data on total population are World Bank estimates. Data on access to sanitation are from the World Health Organization and United Nations Children's Fund's *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation* (2008).