



## FACT SHEET 2

## URBAN POPULATION IN MAJOR AREAS

- In 2005, the majority of all urban residents in the world lived in Asia (1.6 billion), Europe (0.5 billion), Latin America and the Caribbean (0.4 billion), Africa (0.3 billion), Northern America (0.3 billion) and Oceania (0.02 billion).
- A combination of a large starting population and a projected rate of urban population growth that remains relatively high over the next 25 years results in a marked increase of the urban populations in both Asia and Africa. As a result, Asia will rank first and Africa second in terms of the number of urban dwellers in 2030.

TABLE 2. TOTAL, URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION BY MAJOR AREA, SELECTED PERIODS, 1950-2030

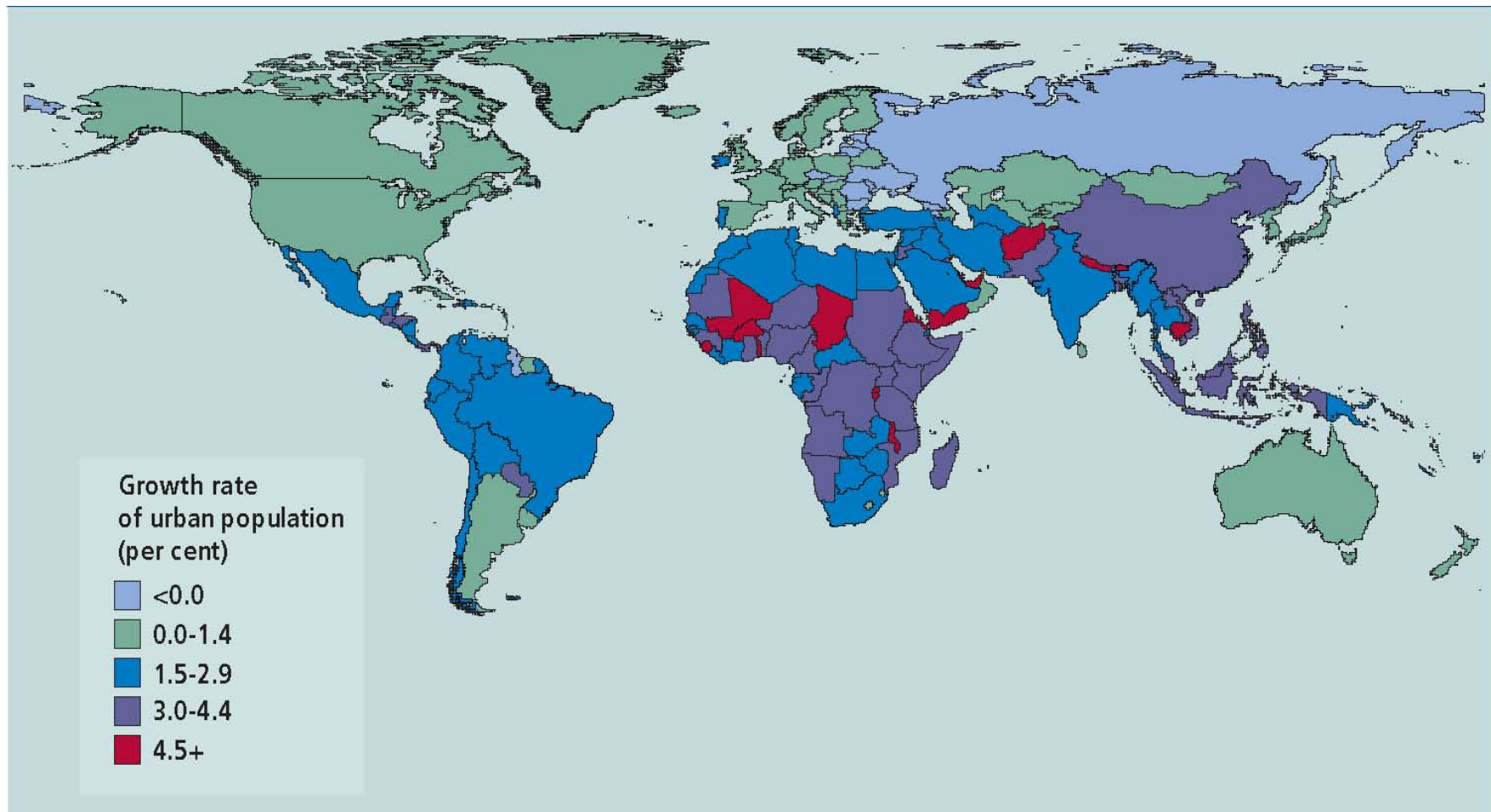
Major area	Population (millions)					Average annual rate of change (percentage)	
	1950	1975	2000	2005	2030	1950-2005	2005-2030
<b>Total population</b>							
Africa .....	224	416	812	906	1 463	2.54	1.92
Asia .....	1 396	2 395	3 676	3 905	4 872	1.87	0.88
Europe .....	547	676	728	728	698	0.52	-0.17
Latin America and the Caribbean.....	167	322	523	561	722	2.20	1.01
Northern America.....	172	243	315	331	400	1.19	0.76
Oceania.....	13	21	31	33	43	1.72	1.01
<b>Urban population</b>							
Africa .....	33	105	294	347	742	4.29	3.04
Asia .....	234	575	1 363	1 553	2 637	3.44	2.12
Europe .....	277	443	522	526	546	1.17	0.16
Latin America and the Caribbean.....	70	197	394	434	609	3.31	1.35
Northern America.....	110	180	249	267	347	1.62	1.05
Oceania.....	8	15	22	23	31	1.96	1.18
<b>Rural population</b>							
Africa .....	191	310	518	559	721	1.95	1.02
Asia .....	1 162	1 820	2 313	2 352	2 236	1.28	-0.20
Europe .....	271	232	206	203	152	-0.53	-1.16
Latin America and the Caribbean.....	97	125	129	127	113	0.49	-0.45
Northern America.....	62	64	66	64	53	0.05	-0.73
Oceania.....	5	6	9	10	11	1.25	0.58



FACT SHEET 2 (CONTINUED)

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Figure 2. Average annual rate of change of the urban population, 2000-2005



NOTE: The boundaries shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.