



FACT SHEET 3

PERCENTAGE URBAN IN MAJOR AREAS

- In 2005, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Northern America and Oceania were highly urbanized with more than 70 per cent of their total population living in cities. Africa and Asia were the least urbanized major areas in the world. By 2030, however, 50 per cent or more of the population of Africa and Asia is projected to be living in a city.

TABLE 3. PERCENTAGE URBAN BY MAJOR AREA, SELECTED PERIODS, 1950-2030

	Percentage urban					Rate of urbanization (percentage)	
	1950	1975	2000	2005	2030	1950-2005	2005-2030
World.....	29.0	37.2	46.7	48.7	59.9	0.94	0.83
Africa.....	14.7	25.4	36.2	38.3	50.7	1.75	1.12
Asia .....	16.8	24.0	37.1	39.8	54.1	1.57	1.23
Europe .....	50.5	65.6	71.7	72.2	78.3	0.65	0.33
Latin America and the Caribbean.....	42.0	61.2	75.4	77.4	84.3	1.11	0.34
Northern America.....	63.9	73.8	79.1	80.7	86.7	0.42	0.29
Oceania.....	62.0	71.5	70.5	70.8	73.8	0.24	0.17

Figure 3. Percentage of population residing in urban areas by major area, 1950, 1975, 2005 and 2030

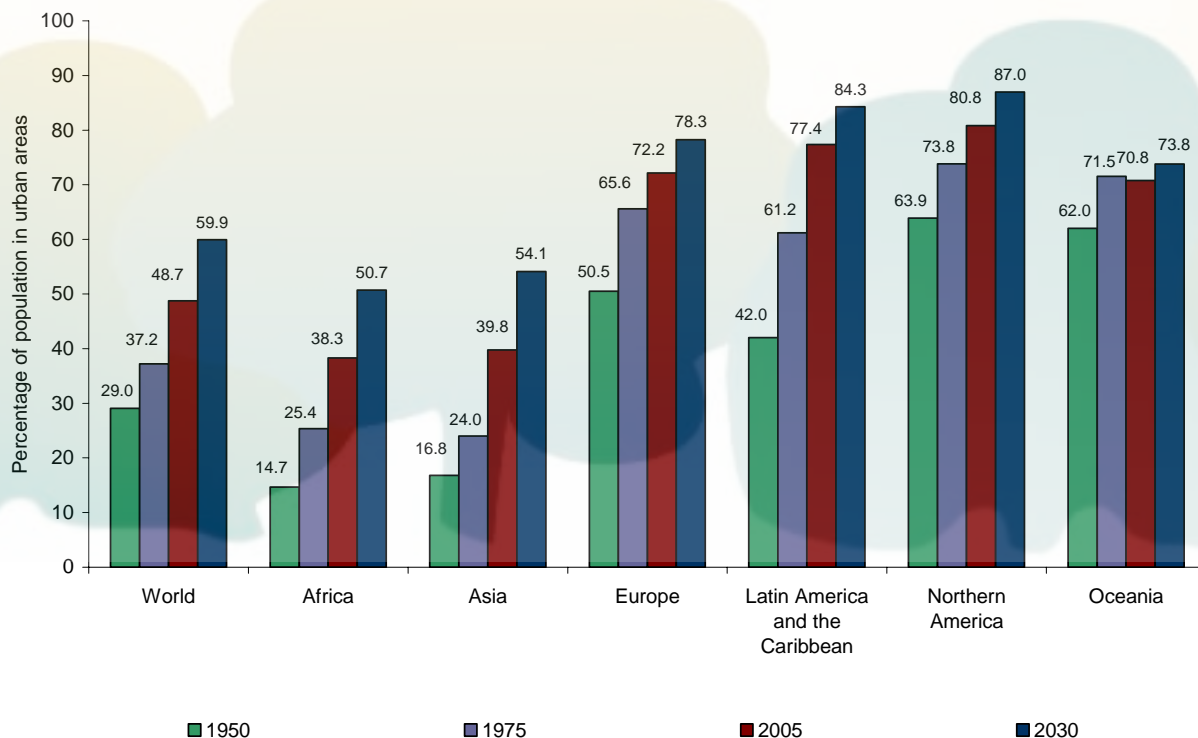
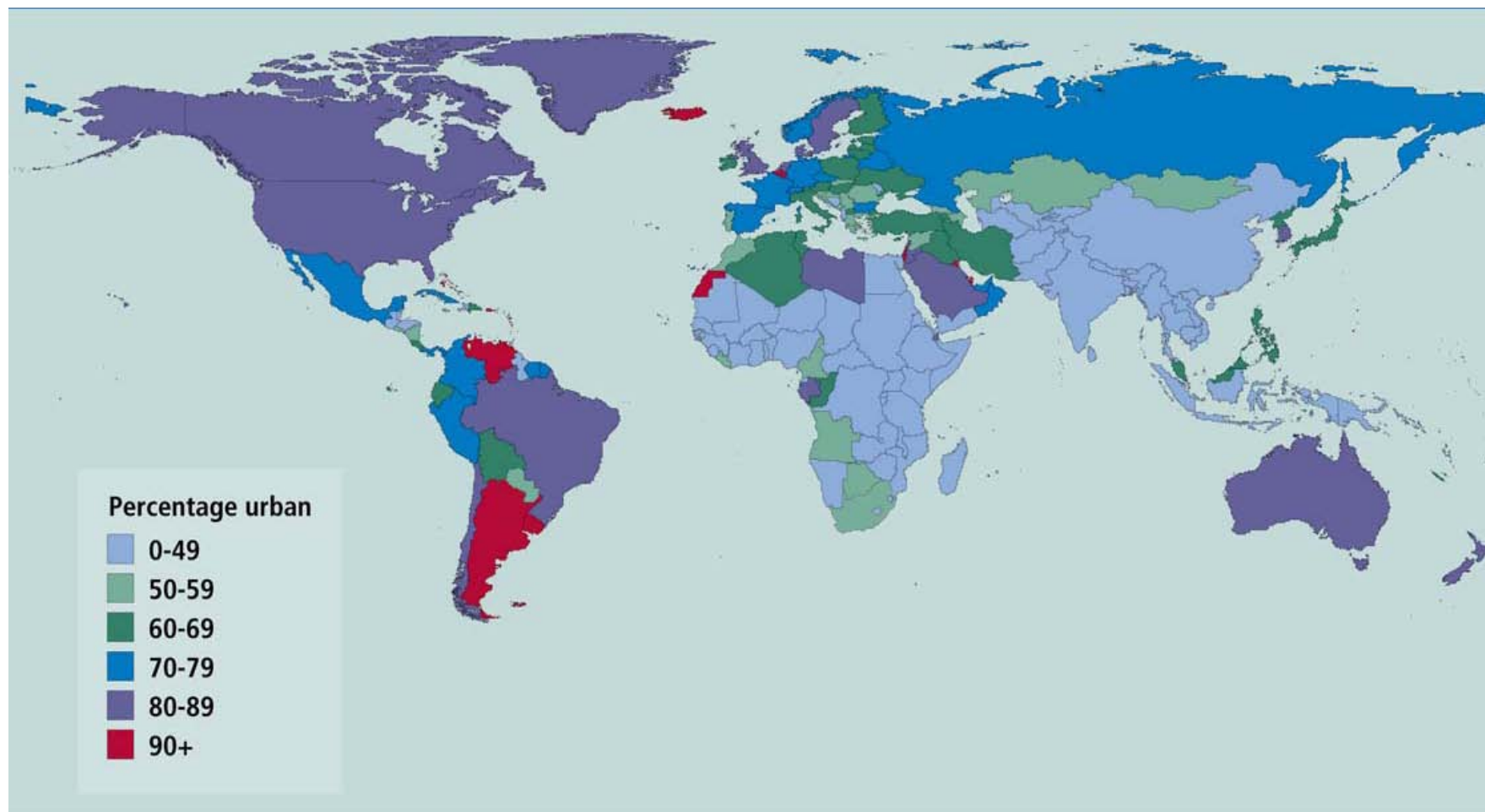




Figure 4. Percentage of the population living in urban areas, 2005



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