

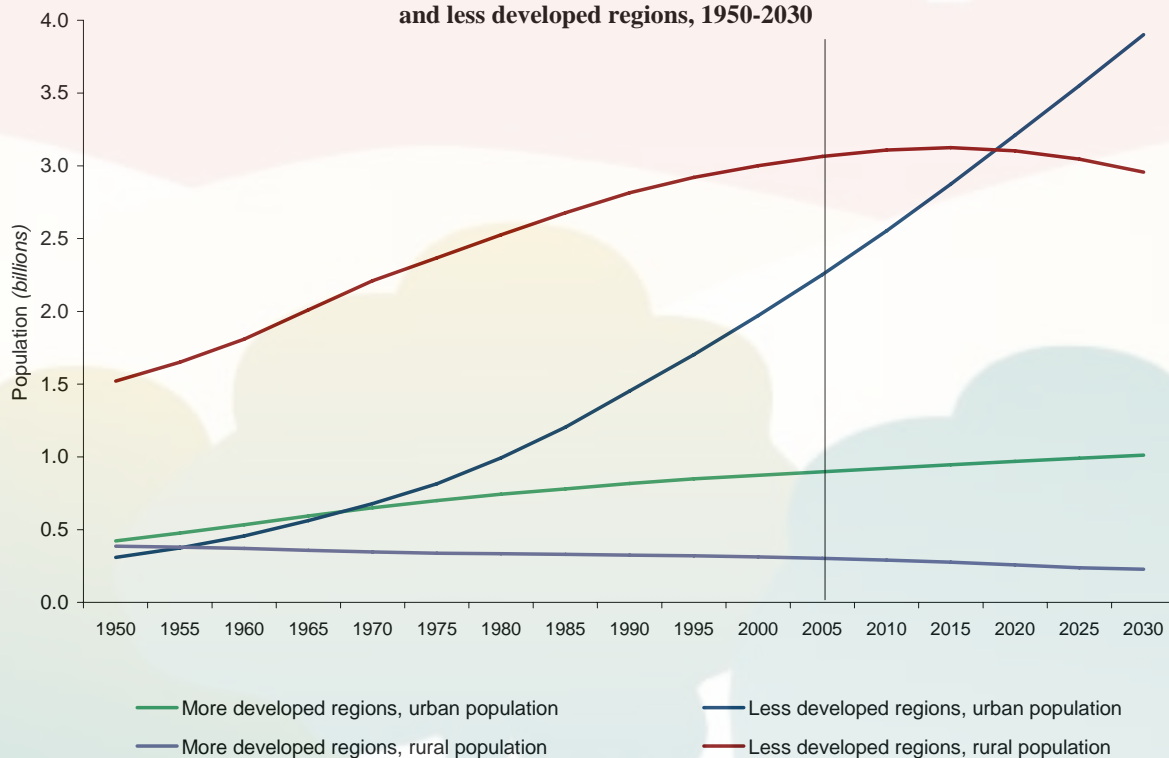


FACT SHEET 5

URBAN POPULATION BY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

- The urban population in more developed regions stood at 0.4 billion people in 1950 and increased to 0.9 billion people by 2005. Over the next 25 years, the growth will be less pronounced and the urban population in more developed regions is projected to reach one billion in 2030.
- In 2005, the urban population in less developed regions was 2.3 billion people, about 7 times larger than in 1950. Over the next 25 years, the urban population in less developed regions is projected to continue to increase fast, reaching 3.9 billion people by 2030.

Figure 6. Urban and rural population of more developed regions and less developed regions, 1950-2030





FACT SHEET 5 (continued)

URBAN POPULATION BY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

- Urbanization is well advanced in more developed regions, where in 2005 almost three-quarters (74 per cent) of the population lived in urban settlements. The proportion urban is projected to increase to 81 per cent by 2030.
- The proportion urban was lower in the less developed regions at 43 per cent in 2005, but it is anticipated to rise to 56 per cent by 2030.

TABLE 4. TOTAL, URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION BY DEVELOPMENT GROUP, SELECTED PERIODS, 1950-2030

Development group	Population (billions)					Average annual rate of change (percentage)	
	1950	1975	2000	2005	2030	1950-2005	2005-2030
Total population							
More developed regions.....	0.81	1.05	1.19	1.21	1.25	0.73	0.13
Less developed regions.....	1.71	3.03	4.89	5.25	6.95	2.04	1.12
Urban population							
More developed regions.....	0.42	0.70	0.87	0.90	1.01	1.37	0.47
Less developed regions.....	0.31	0.82	1.97	2.25	3.90	3.61	2.20
Rural population							
More developed regions.....	0.39	0.35	0.32	0.31	0.24	-0.40	-1.07
Less developed regions.....	1.40	2.21	2.92	3.00	3.05	1.39	0.06
	Percentage urban					Rate of urbanization (percentage)	
More developed regions.....	52.1	66.9	73.2	74.1	80.8	0.64	0.35
Less developed regions.....	18.1	26.9	40.3	42.9	56.1	1.57	1.08

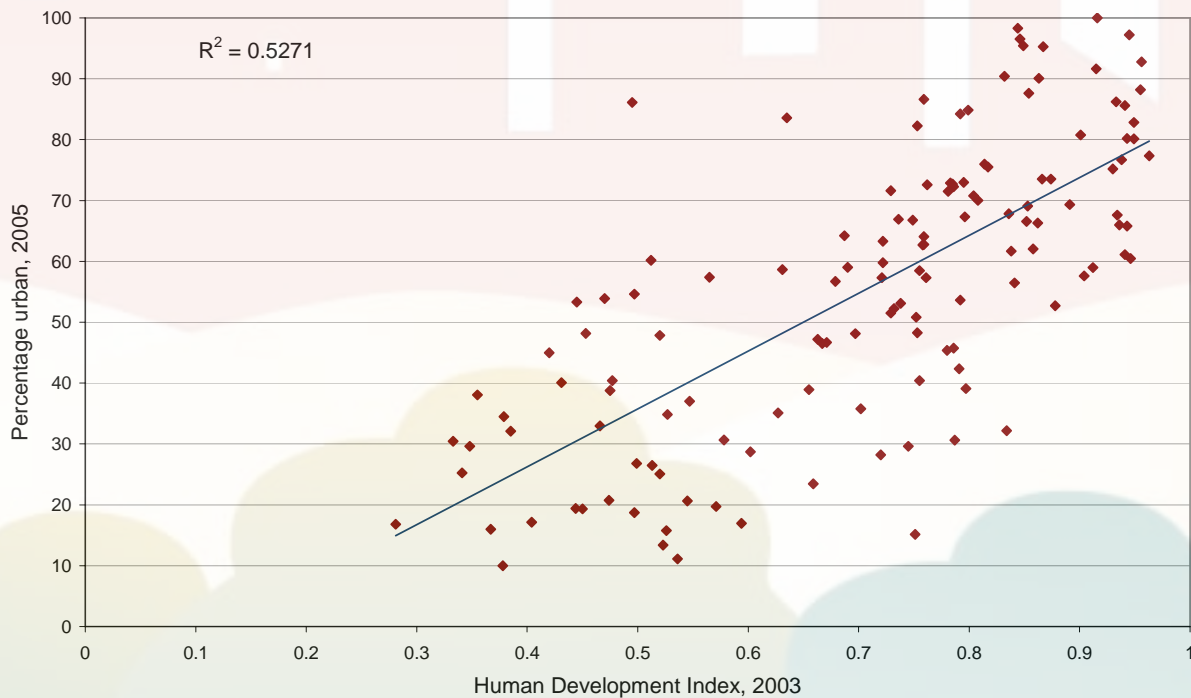


FACT SHEET 5 (continued)

URBAN POPULATION BY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

- The Human Development Index (HDI)¹⁴, an overall measure of human development reflects both human capital and gross domestic product, is correlated with the percentage urban in a population.

Figure 7. Relationship between the Human Development Index (2003) and the proportion urban (2005) in less developed countries



NOTE: The values of the Human Development Index were obtained from United Nations Development Programme, *Human Development Report 2005*. New York 2005.

¹⁴The Human Development Index (HDI) includes four sub-indices based on life expectancy, adult literacy, school enrollment and GDP per capita.