

World Urbanization Prospects The 2003 Revision

Data Tables and Highlights



United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Population Division

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United Nations
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The designations of “more developed regions” and “less developed regions” are intended for statistical convenience and do not necessarily express a judgment about the stage reached by a particular country or area in the development process.

The term “country” as used in the text of this publication also refers, as appropriate, to territories or areas.

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PREFACE

The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at the United Nations Secretariat is responsible for providing the international community with up-to-date and scientifically objective information on population and development. The Population Division provides guidance to the United Nations General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, and the Commission on Population and Development on population and development issues and undertakes regular studies on population levels and trends, population estimates and projections, population policies, and population and development inter-relationships.

The Population Division's work encompasses the following substantive areas: the study of mortality, fertility, international and internal migration, including their levels and trends as well as their causes and consequences; estimates and projections of the distribution of the population between urban and rural areas and in cities; estimates and projections of population size, age and sex structure, and demographic indicators for all countries of the world; the documentation and analysis of population and development policies at the national and international levels; and the study of the relationship between socio-economic development and population change.

This report presents the results of the *2003 Revision* of the official United Nations estimates and projections of urban and rural populations for major areas, regions and countries of the world and of all urban agglomerations with 750,000 inhabitants or more in 2000. The data in this *Revision* are consistent with the total populations estimated and projected according to the medium variant of the *2002 Revision* of the United Nations global population estimates and projections, published in *World Population Prospects: The 2002 Revision*¹. This *Revision* updates and supersedes previous estimates and projections published by the United Nations. The full report of the *World Urbanization Prospects: The 2003 Revision*, with an expanded analysis of the data, will be published as a United Nations sales publication later in 2004. Wall charts entitled *Urban Agglomerations, 2003* and *Urban and Rural Areas, 2003* will be issued by the end of March 2004.

Diskettes containing the major results of the *2003 Revision* can be purchased from the Population Division. A description of the databases and the order form are given beginning on page 18.

This publication may also be accessed on the Population Division world wide web site at www.unpopulation.org. For further information about the *2003 Revision of World Urbanization Prospects*, please contact the office of Mr. Joseph Chamie, Director, Population Division, DESA, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, USA; tel: (212) 963-3179, fax: (212) 963-2147 or visit: www.unpopulation.org.

¹*World Population Prospects: The 2002 Revision*, vol. I, *Comprehensive Tables* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.XIII.6).

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
PREFACE	v
EXPLANATORY NOTES	ix
KEY FINDINGS	1
DEFINITION OF MAJOR AREAS AND REGIONS	15
DATA IN DIGITAL FORM	18
ORDER FORM	21

TABLES

No.

1.	Total, urban and rural populations by development group, selected periods, 1950-2030	4
2.	Milestones in world total and urban populations	4
3.	Percentage urban by development group, selected periods, 1950-2030.....	5
4.	Total, urban and rural populations by major area, selected periods, 1950-2030.....	5
5.	Percentage urban by major area, selected periods, 1950-2030.....	6
6.	Population distribution of the world and development groups, by area of residence and size class of urban settlement, 1975, 2000, 2003 and 2015.....	6
7.	Population of urban agglomerations with 10 million inhabitants or more, 1950, 1975, 2000, 2003 and 2015.....	7
8.	Population of urban agglomerations with 10 million inhabitants or more in 2003 and their average annual rates of change, selected periods, 1975-2015.....	8
9.	Government views on the spatial distribution of the population, 2003	8

FIGURES

1.	Urban and rural populations of the world, 1950-2030.....	9
2.	Contributions of urban and rural population growth to total population growth, 1950-2030	10
3.	Urban and rural populations of more developed regions and less developed regions, 1950-2030	11
4.	Percentage of population residing in urban areas by major areas of the world, 1950, 1975, 2003 and 2030.....	12
5.	Percentage of population residing in urban agglomerations by size class of urban settlement, 1975, 2003 and 2015.....	13
6.	Number of urban agglomerations with 5 million inhabitants or more, 1975, 2003 and 2015.....	14

ANNEX TABLES

A.1.	Population of urban and rural areas at mid-year and percentage urban, 2003.....	25
A.2.	Percentage of population at mid-year residing in urban areas by major area, region and country, 1950-2030	

A.3.	Urban population at mid-year by major area, region and country, 1950-2030.....
A.4.	Rural population at mid-year by major area, region and country, 1950-2030
A.5.	Total population at mid-year by major area, region and country, 1950-2030
A.6.	Average annual rate of change of the urban population by major area, region and country, 1950-2030
A.7.	Average annual rate of change of the rural population by major area, region and country, 1950-2030
A.8.	Average annual rate of change of the total population by major area, region and country, 1950-2030
A.9.	Average annual rate of change of the percentage urban by major area, region and country, 1950-2030
A.10.	Average annual rate of change of the percentage rural by major area, region and country, 1950-2030
A.11.	The 30 largest urban agglomerations ranked by population size, 1950-2015.....
A.12.	Population of urban agglomerations with 750,000 inhabitants or more in 2000, by country, 1950-2015
A.13.	Population of capital cities in 2003
A.14.	Average annual rate of change of urban agglomerations with 750,000 inhabitants or more in 2000, by country, 1950-2015.....
A.15.	Percentage of the urban population residing in each urban agglomeration with 750,000 inhabitants or more in 2000, by country, 1950-2015.....
A.16.	Percentage of the total population residing in each urban agglomeration with 750,000 inhabitants or more in 2000, by country, 1950-2015.....
A.17.	Urban population, number of cities and percentage of urban population by size class of settlement, major area and region, 1975-2015.....

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

Various symbols have been used in the tables throughout this report, as follows:

- Two dots (..) indicate that the item is not applicable.
- Three dots (...) indicate that data are not available or are not separately reported.
- An em dash (—) indicates that the value is zero (magnitude zero).
- 0 and/or 0.0 indicates that the magnitude is not zero, but less than half of the unit employed.
- A minus sign (-) before a figure indicates a decrease.
- A full stop (.) is used to indicate decimals.
- Years given refer to 1 July.
- Use of a hyphen (-) between years, for example, 1995-2000, signifies the full period involved, from 1 July of the beginning year to 1 July of the end year.

Details and percentages in tables do not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Countries and areas are grouped geographically into six major areas: Africa; Asia; Europe; Latin America and the Caribbean; Northern America; and Oceania. Those major areas are further divided geographically into 21 regions. In addition, countries and areas are classified as belonging, for statistical convenience, to three general groups: more developed regions, less developed regions and least developed countries. The more developed regions comprise Europe, Northern America, Australia/New Zealand and Japan. The less developed regions comprise all regions of Africa, Asia (excluding Japan), Latin America and the Caribbean, Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. The least developed countries, as defined by the United Nations General Assembly in 2001, include 49 countries, of which 34 are in Africa, 9 in Asia, 1 in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 5 in Oceania. These countries are also included in the less developed regions.

KEY FINDINGS

World Urbanization Prospects: The 2003 Revision, prepared by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs' Population Division, presents estimates and projections of urban and rural populations for major areas, regions and countries of the world for the period 1950-2030. It also provides estimates and projections of the population living in urban agglomerations for the period 1950-2015 and the population of all capital cities in 2003. The *2003 Revision* updates the estimates and projections issued in the *2001 Revision*.

Almost all population growth expected for the world in the next thirty years will be concentrated in the urban areas. The smaller urban settlements (with fewer than 500,000 residents) of the less developed regions will be absorbing most of this growth. Mega-cities, like Tokyo, Mexico City and New York will continue to dominate the urban landscape in some countries, but the majority of the urban dwellers will be residing in the smaller cities.

Key findings of the *2003 Revision* are:

1. The world's urban population continues to grow faster than the total population of the world. As a consequence, about 3 billion people or 48 percent of humankind is now living in urban settlements. The majority of all urban dwellers lived in smaller urban settlements, while less than 5 per cent of the world population was living in mega-cities.
2. The world's urban population is estimated at 3 billion in 2003 and is expected to rise to five billion by 2030 (table 1). The rural population is anticipated to decline slightly from 3.3 billion in 2003 to 3.2 billion in 2030.
3. The urban population reached one billion in 1960, two billion in 1985, and three billion in 2002. It is projected to attain 4 billion in 2017 and 5 billion in 2030 (table 2).
4. Forty-eight per cent of the world's population lived in urban areas in 2003. It is projected to exceed the 50 per cent mark by 2007, thus marking the first time in history that the world had more urban residents than rural residents (figure 1). The proportion of the population that is urban is expected to rise to 61 per cent by 2030 (table 3).
5. During 2000-2030, the world's urban population is projected to grow at an average annual rate of 1.8 per cent, nearly double the rate expected for the total population of the world (almost 1 per cent per year) (table 1). At this rate of growth, the world's urban population will double in 38 years or in about half a lifetime of a person.
6. Population growth will be particularly rapid in the urban areas of less developed regions, averaging 2.3 per cent per year during 2000-2030 (table 1). Migration from rural to urban areas and the transformation of rural settlements into urban places are important determinants of the high urban population growth anticipated in the less developed regions.
7. Almost all the growth of the world's total population between 2000 and 2030 is expected to be absorbed by the urban areas of the less developed regions (figure 2). By 2017, the number of urban dwellers will equal the number of rural dwellers in the less developed regions (figure 3).
8. In contrast, the urban population of the more developed regions is expected to increase very slowly, from 0.9 billion in 2003 to 1 billion in 2030. The average annual growth rate of this population is

- expected to be 0.5 per cent between the 2000 and 2030, compared to 1.5 per cent recorded during the previous half-century (table 1).
9. The process of urbanization is already advanced in the more developed regions, where 74 per cent of the population lived in 2003. The proportion of the population living in urban areas is expected to increase to 82 per cent by 2030 (table 3). The share of the population that is urban is lower in the less developed regions: 42 per cent in 2003, and expected to rise to 57 per cent by 2030.
 10. There are marked differences in the size of the urban population and the proportion urban among the major areas of the world. In 2003, the combined number of urban dwellers in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Northern America and Oceania (1.2 billion) is smaller than the number in Asia (1.5 billion), one of the least urbanized major areas of the world. By 2030, Asia and Africa will each have more urban dwellers than any other major area, with Asia alone accounting for over half of the urban population of the world (table 4).
 11. Latin America and the Caribbean is highly urbanized, with 77 per cent of its population living in urban settlements in 2003. This proportion is twice as high as those for Africa and Asia. With 39 per cent of their populations living in urban areas in 2003, Africa and Asia are expected to experience rapid rates of urbanization during 2000-2030, so that by 2030, 54 per cent and 55 per cent, respectively, of their inhabitants will live in urban areas. At that time, 85 per cent of the population of Latin America and the Caribbean will be urban (table 5 and figure 4).
 12. In Europe and Northern America, the percentages of the population living in urban areas are expected to rise from 73 per cent and 80 per cent, respectively, in 2003, to 80 per cent and 87 per cent in 2030. The increase in Oceania is likely to be from 73 per cent to 75 per cent over the same period (table 5).
 13. The proportion of people living in mega-cities (urban agglomerations of 10 million persons or more) is small. In 2003, 4 per cent of the world population resided in mega-cities; by 2015 this share is expected to rise to around 5 per cent. Almost 3 per cent of the world population in 2003 lived in cities with 5 million to 10 million inhabitants, rising to nearly 4 per cent by 2015 (table 6 and figure 5). About 25 per cent of the world population and over half of the urban population lived in urban settlements with fewer than 500,000 inhabitants (table 6).
 14. In the more developed regions, nearly 40 per cent of the population lived in small urban settlements. This is about twice that in the less developed regions, where just over 20 per cent of the population lived in small urban settlements (table 6).
 15. With 35 million inhabitants in 2003, Tokyo is by far the most populous urban agglomeration. (The population estimate for the Tokyo urban agglomeration was raised considerably in the *2003 Revision* due to a new definition of metropolitan areas that comprises a greater number of cities and towns than previously associated with Tokyo.)
 16. After Tokyo, the next largest urban agglomerations in the world are Mexico City (18.7), New York-Newark (18.3), São Paulo (17.9) and Mumbai (Bombay) (17.4). In 2015, Tokyo will still be the largest urban agglomeration with 36 million inhabitants, followed by Mumbai (Bombay) (22.6), Delhi (20.9), Mexico City (20.6) and São Paulo (20) (table 7).
 17. The number of cities with 5 million or more inhabitants is projected to rise from 46 in 2003 to 61 in 2015. Among these, the number of mega-cities (with 10 million inhabitants or more) will increase

from 20 in 2003 to 22 in 2015. Most of these large cities are in developing countries. In 2003, 33 of the 46 cities with 5 million inhabitants or more were in less developed countries, and by 2015, 45 out of 61 cities are expected to be from the less more developed regions (figure 6).

18. Large urban agglomerations are not necessarily experiencing fast population growth. Of the 20 mega-cities identified in 2003, almost half experienced population growth below 1.5 per cent between 1975 and 2000 and just 6 grew at rates above 3 per cent (table 8): Dhaka in Bangladesh (6.2 per cent per year); Lagos in Nigeria (6.1); Delhi (4.1), Karachi (3.7) and Mumbai (Bombay) (3.1) in India; and Jakarta in Indonesia (3.3). Between 2000-2015, 11 mega-cities are projected to experience population growth below 1.5 per cent and five will remain with population growth rates above 3 per cent.
19. Related to the trends described above, three-fourths of all Governments report that they are dissatisfied with the spatial distribution of their populations (table 9). Developing countries (79 per cent) are more likely than developed countries (65 per cent) to report dissatisfaction.
20. Developing countries are also more likely to have adopted policies to ameliorate spatial distribution. For example, almost three-quarters of developing countries have enacted policies to reduce the flow of persons moving to metropolitan areas, but only 12 per cent of developed countries have done so.

Over the last 50 years, the world has witnessed a dramatic growth of its urban population. The speed and the scale of this growth, especially concentrated in the less developed regions, continue to pose formidable challenges to the individual countries as well as to the world community. Monitoring these developments and creating sustainable urban environments remain crucial issues on the international development agenda.

TABLE 1. TOTAL, URBAN AND RURAL POPULATIONS BY DEVELOPMENT GROUP, SELECTED PERIODS, 1950-2030

<i>Development group</i>	<i>Population (billions)</i>					<i>Average annual rate of change (per cent)</i>	
	<i>1950</i>	<i>1975</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2030</i>	<i>1950-2000</i>	<i>2000-2030</i>
Total population							
World	2.52	4.07	6.07	6.30	8.13	1.76	0.97
More developed regions.....	0.81	1.05	1.19	1.20	1.24	0.77	0.13
Less developed regions	1.71	3.02	4.88	5.10	6.89	2.10	1.15
Urban population							
World	0.73	1.52	2.86	3.04	4.94	2.72	1.83
More developed regions.....	0.43	0.70	0.88	0.90	1.01	1.45	0.47
Less developed regions	0.31	0.81	1.97	2.15	3.93	3.73	2.29
Rural population							
World	1.79	2.55	3.21	3.26	3.19	1.17	-0.03
More developed regions.....	0.39	0.34	0.31	0.31	0.23	-0.43	-1.05
Less developed regions	1.40	2.21	2.90	2.95	2.96	1.46	0.06

TABLE 2. MILESTONES IN WORLD TOTAL AND URBAN POPULATIONS

<i>Type of data</i>	<i>World population (billions)</i>	<i>Year when reached</i>	<i>Number of years it took to increase by one billion</i>	<i>Urban population (billions)</i>	<i>Year when reached</i>	<i>Number of years it took to increase by one billion</i>
Estimates	1	1804		1	1960	
	2	1927	123	2	1985	25
	3	1960	33			
	4	1974	14			
	5	1987	13			
	6	1999	12			
Medium projection variant	7	2012	13	3	2002	17
	8	2028	16	4	2017	15
	8.1	2030		4.9	2030	

TABLE 3. PERCENTAGE URBAN BY DEVELOPMENT GROUP, SELECTED PERIODS, 1950-2030

	<i>Percentage urban</i>					<i>Rate of urbanization (per cent)</i>	
	<i>1950</i>	<i>1975</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2030</i>	<i>1950-2000</i>	<i>2000-2030</i>
World	29.1	37.3	47.1	48.3	60.8	0.96	0.85
More developed regions.....	52.5	67.2	73.9	74.5	81.7	0.68	0.33
Less developed regions	17.9	26.9	40.5	42.1	57.1	1.63	1.15

TABLE 4. TOTAL, URBAN AND RURAL POPULATIONS BY MAJOR AREA, SELECTED PERIODS, 1950-2030

<i>Major area</i>	<i>Population (millions)</i>					<i>Average annual rate of change (per cent)</i>	
	<i>1950</i>	<i>1975</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2030</i>	<i>1950-2000</i>	<i>2000-2030</i>
Total population							
Africa	221	408	796	851	1 398	2.56	1.88
Asia.....	1 398	2 398	3 680	3 823	4 887	1.93	0.95
Europe.....	547	676	728	726	685	0.57	-0.20
Latin America and the Caribbean.....	167	322	520	543	711	2.27	1.04
Northern America	172	243	316	326	408	1.22	0.85
Oceania.....	13	22	31	32	41	1.77	0.97
Urban population							
Africa	33	103	295	329	748	4.39	3.10
Asia.....	232	575	1 367	1 483	2 664	3.55	2.22
Europe.....	280	446	529	530	545	1.27	0.10
Latin America and the Caribbean.....	70	197	393	417	602	3.45	1.42
Northern America	110	180	250	261	354	1.65	1.16
Oceania.....	8	15	23	24	31	2.13	1.07
Rural population							
Africa	188	305	500	521	650	1.95	0.87
Asia.....	1 166	1 823	2 313	2 341	2 222	1.37	-0.13
Europe.....	267	230	199	196	140	-0.59	-1.17
Latin America and the Caribbean.....	97	125	127	126	109	0.54	-0.51
Northern America	62	64	66	65	53	0.12	-0.70
Oceania.....	5	6	8	9	10	1.04	0.68

TABLE 5. PERCENTAGE URBAN BY MAJOR AREA, SELECTED PERIODS, 1950-2030

	Percentage urban					Rate of urbanization (per cent)	
	1950	1975	2000	2003	2030	1950-2000	2000-2030
	Africa	14.9	25.3	37.1	38.7	53.5	1.82
Asia.....	16.6	24.0	37.1	38.8	54.5	1.61	1.28
Europe.....	51.2	66.0	72.7	73.0	79.6	0.70	0.30
Latin America and the Caribbean.....	41.9	61.2	75.5	76.8	84.6	1.18	0.38
Northern America	63.9	73.8	79.1	80.2	86.9	0.43	0.31
Oceania.....	60.6	71.7	72.7	73.1	74.9	0.36	0.10

TABLE 6. POPULATION DISTRIBUTION OF THE WORLD AND DEVELOPMENT GROUPS, BY AREA OF RESIDENCE AND SIZE CLASS OF URBAN SETTLEMENT, 1975, 2000, 2003 AND 2015

Development group	Area of residence and size class of urban settlement (number of inhabitants)	Population (millions)				Percentage distribution			
		1975	2000	2003	2015	1975	2000	2003	2015
World	Total	4 068	6 071	6 301	7 197	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Urban area	1 516	2 857	3 044	3 856	37.3	47.1	48.3	53.6
	10 million or more	65	251	283	358	1.6	4.1	4.5	5.0
	5 million to 10 million	131	167	175	269	3.2	2.7	2.8	3.7
	1 million to 5 million	333	659	695	914	8.2	10.9	11.0	12.7
	500,000 to 1 million	179	291	316	358	4.4	4.8	5.0	5.0
	Fewer than 500,000	808	1 489	1 575	1 957	19.9	24.5	25.0	27.2
	Rural area	2 552	3 214	3 258	3 341	62.7	52.9	51.7	46.4
More developed regions.....	Total	1 047	1 194	1 203	1 230	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Urban area	704	882	896	952	67.2	73.9	74.5	77.3
	10 million or more	42	85	87	101	4.1	7.2	7.2	8.2
	5 million to 10 million	62	48	53	62	5.9	4.0	4.4	5.0
	1 million to 5 million	147	208	212	218	14.1	17.5	17.6	17.7
	500,000 to 1 million	71	78	77	83	6.8	6.5	6.4	6.8
	Fewer than 500,000	381	463	467	487	36.4	38.8	38.8	39.6
	Rural area	344	311	307	279	32.8	26.1	25.5	22.7
Less developed regions.....	Total	3 021	4 877	5 098	5 967	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Urban area	813	1 974	2 147	2 904	26.9	40.5	42.1	48.7
	10 million or more	22	165	196	257	0.7	3.4	3.8	4.3
	5 million to 10 million	69	119	121	207	2.3	2.4	2.4	3.5
	1 million to 5 million	186	451	484	696	6.2	9.2	9.5	11.7
	500,000 to 1 million	108	213	238	275	3.6	4.4	4.7	4.6
	Fewer than 500,000	427	1 026	1 108	1 470	14.1	21.0	21.7	24.6
	Rural area	2 208	2 902	2 951	3 063	73.1	59.5	57.9	51.3

TABLE 7. POPULATION OF URBAN AGGLOMERATIONS WITH 10 MILLION INHABITANTS OR MORE, 1950, 1975, 2003 AND 2015
(millions)

1950		1975		2003		2015		
Urban agglomeration	Population	Urban agglomeration	Population	Urban agglomeration	Population	Urban agglomeration	Population	
1	New York, USA ^a	12.3	1	Tokyo, Japan	26.6	1	Tokyo, Japan	36.2
2	Tokyo, Japan	11.3	2	New York, USA ^a	15.9	2	Mumbai (Bombay), India	22.6
			3	Shanghai, China	11.4	3	Delhi, India	20.9
			4	Mexico City, Mexico	10.7	4	Mexico City, Mexico	20.6
						5	São Paulo, Brazil	20.0
						6	New York, USA ^a	19.7
						7	Dhaka, Bangladesh	17.9
						8	Jakarta, Indonesia	17.5
						9	Lagos, Nigeria	17.0
						10	Calcutta, India	16.8
						11	Karachi, Pakistan	16.2
						12	Buenos Aires, Argentina	14.6
						13	Cairo, Egypt	13.1
						14	Los Angeles, USA ^b	12.9
						15	Shanghai, China	12.7
						16	Metro Manila, Philippines	12.6
						17	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	12.4
						18	Osaka-Kobe, Japan	11.4
						19	Istanbul, Turkey	11.3
						20	Beijing, China	11.1
						21	Moscow, Russian Federation	10.9
						22	Paris, France	10.0

NOTES: ^aRefers to the New York-Newark urbanized areas.

^bRefers to the Los-Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana urbanized area.

Figure 1. Urban and rural populations of the world, 1950-2030

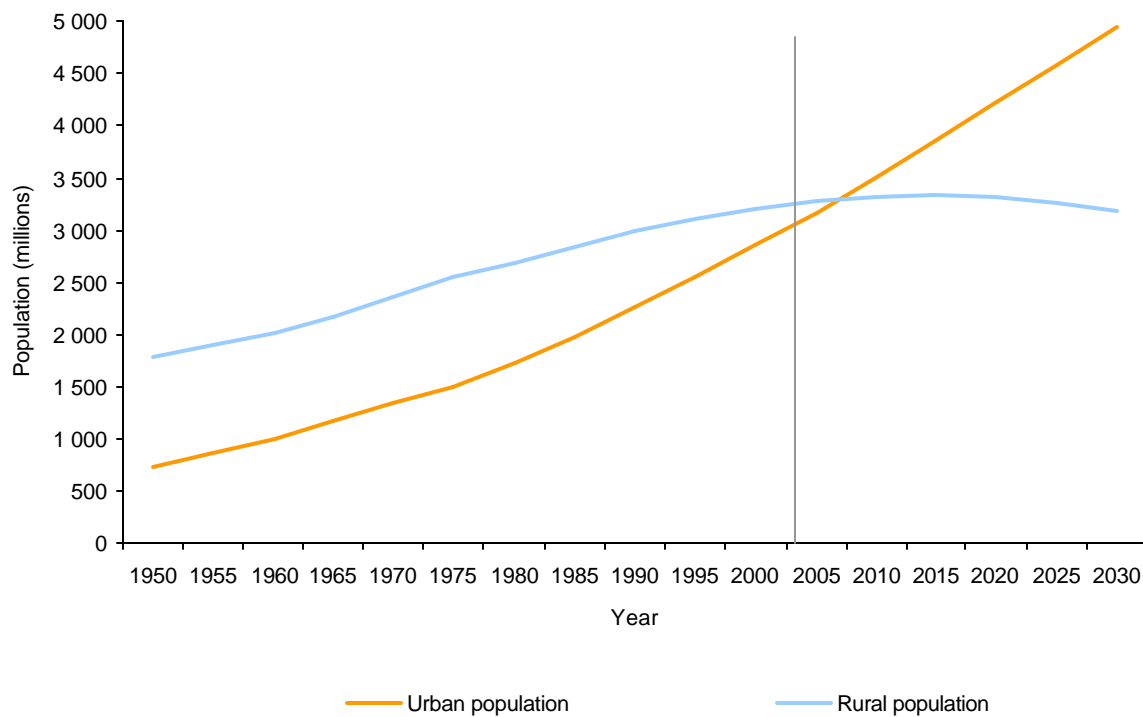


Figure 2. Contributions of urban and rural population growth to total population growth, 1950-2030

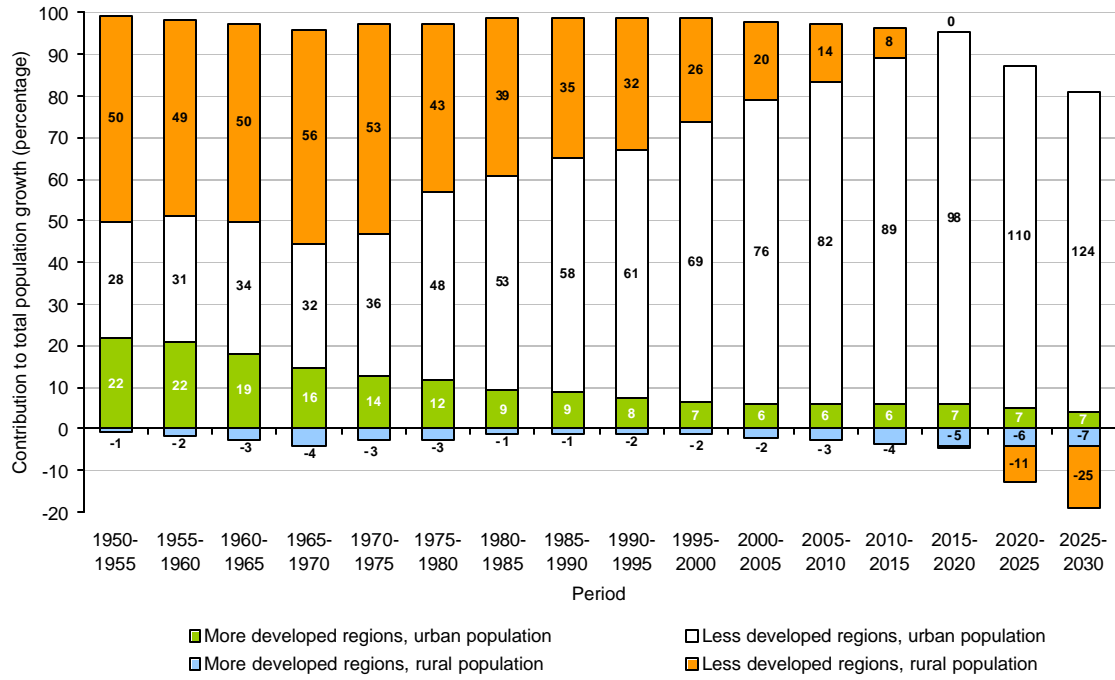


Figure 3. Urban and rural populations of more developed regions and less developed regions, 1950-2030

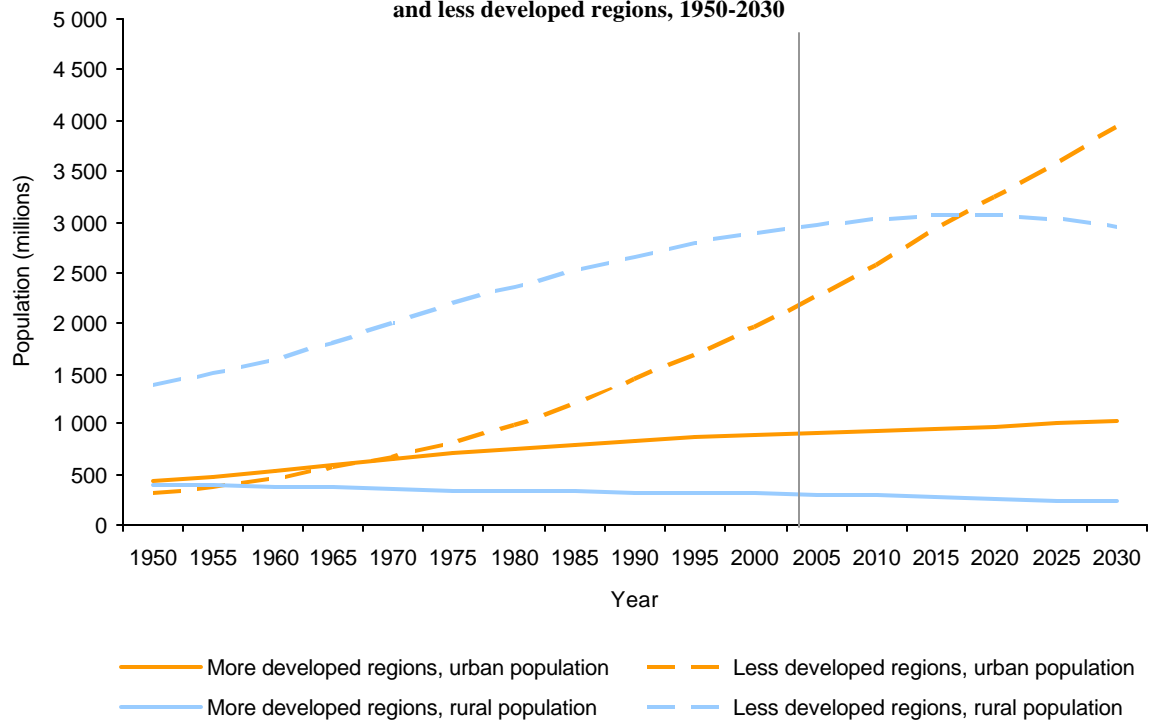


Figure 4. Percentage of population residing in urban areas by major areas of the world, 1950, 1975, 2003 and 2030

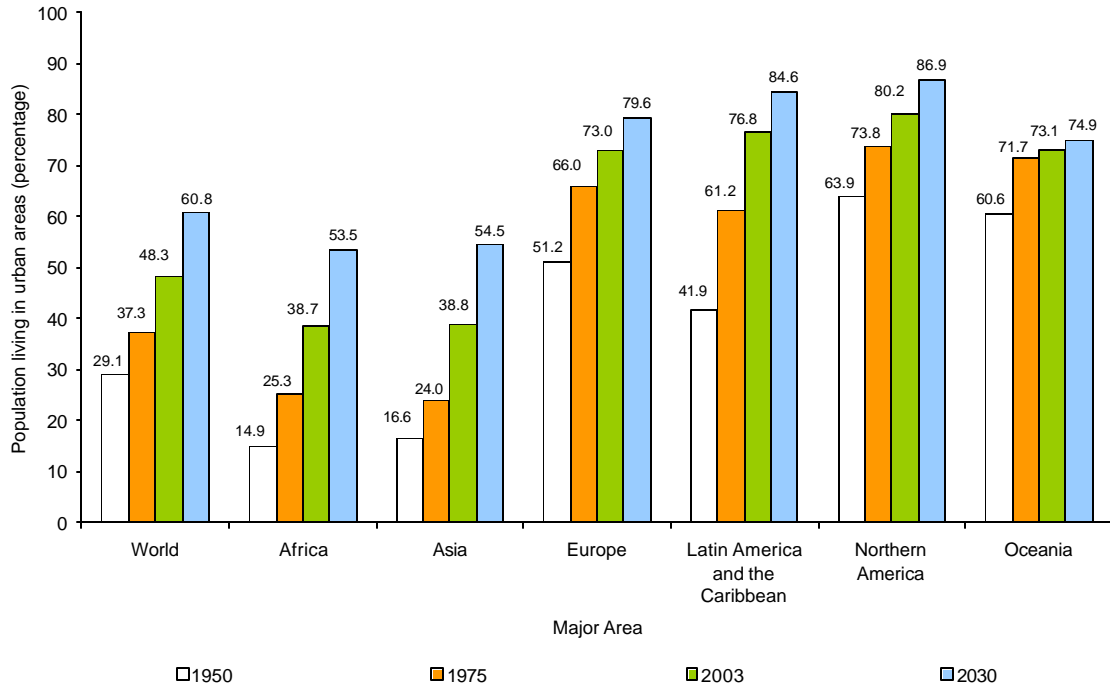


Figure 5. Percentage of population residing in urban agglomerations by size class of urban settlement, 1975, 2003 and 2015

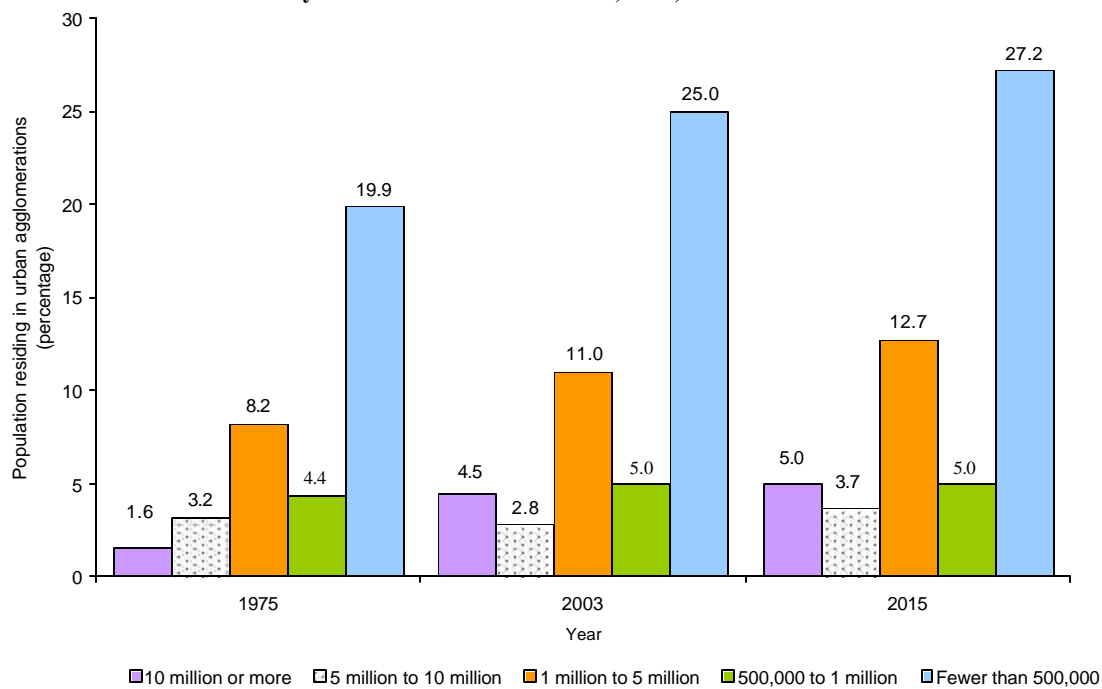
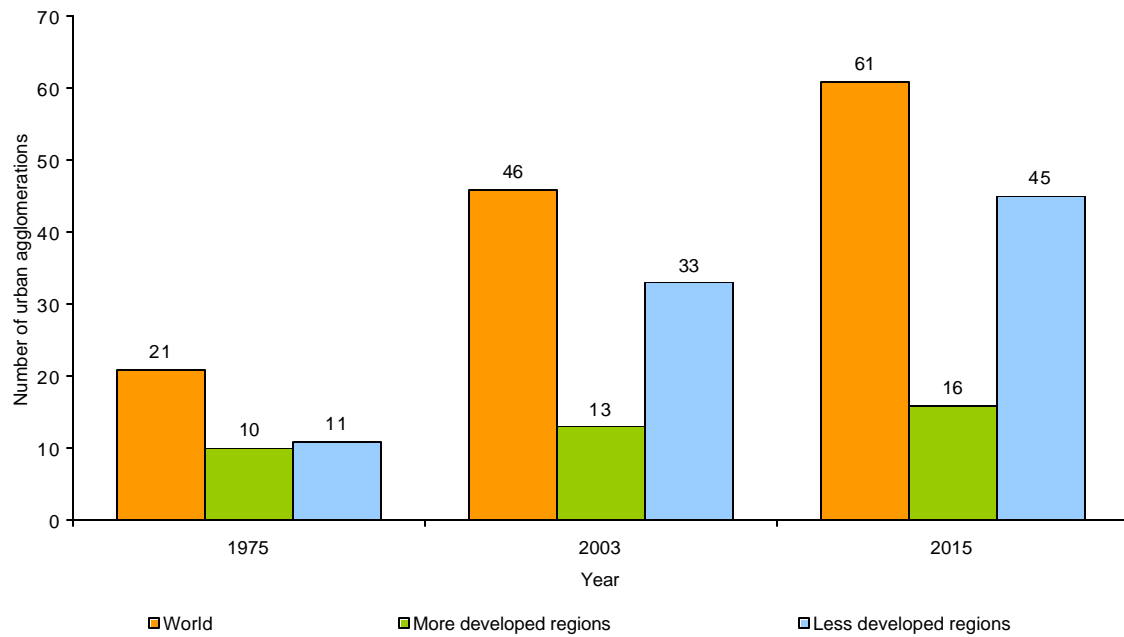


Figure 6. Number of urban agglomerations with 5 million inhabitants or more, 1975, 2003 and 2015



DEFINITION OF MAJOR AREAS AND REGIONS

Africa

<i>Eastern Africa</i>	<i>Middle Africa</i>	<i>Northern Africa</i>	<i>Western Africa</i>
Burundi	Angola	Algeria	Benin
Comoros	Cameroon	Egypt	Burkina Faso
Djibouti	Central African Republic	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Cape Verde
Eritrea	Chad	Morocco	Côte d'Ivoire
Ethiopia	Congo	Sudan	Gambia
Kenya	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Tunisia	Ghana
Madagascar	Equatorial Guinea	Western Sahara	Guinea
Malawi	Gabon		Guinea-Bissau
Mauritius	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	<i>Southern Africa</i>	Liberia
Mozambique		Botswana	Mali
Réunion		Lesotho	Mauritania
Rwanda		Namibia	Niger
Seychelles		South Africa	Nigeria
Somalia		Swaziland	Saint Helena
Uganda			Senegal
United Republic of Tanzania			Sierra Leone
Zambia			Togo
Zimbabwe			

Asia

<i>Eastern Asia</i>	<i>South-central Asia</i>	<i>South-eastern Asia</i>	<i>Western Asia</i>
China	Afghanistan	Brunei Darussalam	Armenia
China, Hong Kong SAR	Bangladesh	Cambodia	Azerbaijan
China, Macao SAR	Bhutan	Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste	Bahrain
Dem. People's Republic of Korea	India	Indonesia	Cyprus
Japan	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Georgia
Mongolia	Kazakhstan	Malaysia	Iraq
Republic of Korea	Kyrgyzstan	Myanmar	Israel
	Maldives	Philippines	Jordan
	Nepal	Singapore	Kuwait
	Pakistan	Thailand	Lebanon
	Sri Lanka	Viet Nam	Occupied Palestinian Territory
	Tajikistan		Oman
	Turkmenistan		Qatar
	Uzbekistan		Saudi Arabia
			Syrian Arab Republic
			Turkey
			United Arab Emirates
			Yemen

Europe

Eastern Europe

Belarus
Bulgaria
Czech Republic
Hungary
Poland
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
Slovakia
Ukraine

Northern Europe

Channel Islands
Denmark
Estonia
Faeroe Islands
Finland
Iceland
Ireland
Isle of Man
Latvia
Lithuania
Norway
Sweden
United Kingdom

Southern Europe

Albania
Andorra
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Croatia
Gibraltar
Greece
Holy See
Italy
Malta
Portugal
San Marino
Serbia and Montenegro
Slovenia
Spain
The former Yugoslav
Republic of Macedonia

Western Europe

Austria
Belgium
France
Germany
Liechtenstein
Luxembourg
Monaco
Netherlands
Switzerland

Latin America and the Caribbean

Caribbean

Anguilla
Antigua and Barbuda
Aruba
Bahamas
Barbados
British Virgin Islands
Cayman Islands
Cuba
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Grenada
Guadeloupe
Haiti
Jamaica
Martinique
Montserrat
Netherlands Antilles
Puerto Rico
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the
Grenadines
Trinidad and Tobago
Turks and Caicos Islands
United States Virgin
Islands

Central America

Belize
Costa Rica
El Salvador
Guatemala
Honduras
Mexico
Nicaragua
Panama

South America

Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Ecuador
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)
French Guiana
Guyana
Paraguay
Peru
Suriname
Uruguay
Venezuela

Northern America

Bermuda
Canada
Greenland
Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon
United States of America

Oceania

Australia/New Zealand

Australia
New Zealand

Melanesia

Fiji
New Caledonia
Papua New Guinea
Solomon Islands
Vanuatu

Micronesia

Guam
Kiribati
Marshall Islands
Micronesia
(Fed. States of)
Nauru
Northern Mariana Islands
Palau

Polynesia

American Samoa
Cook Islands
French Polynesia
Niue
Pitcairn
Samoa
Tokelau
Tonga
Tuvalu
Wallis and Futuna Islands

List of least developed countries

Afghanistan	Gambia	Niger
Angola	Guinea	Rwanda
Bangladesh	Guinea-Bissau	Samoa
Benin	Haiti	Sao Tomé and Príncipe
Bhutan	Kiribati	Senegal
Burkina Faso	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Sierra Leone
Burundi	Lesotho	Solomon Islands
Cambodia	Liberia	Somalia
Cape Verde	Madagascar	Sudan
Central African Republic	Malawi	Togo
Chad	Maldives	Tuvalu
Comoros	Mali	Uganda
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mauritania	United Republic of Tanzania
Djibouti	Mozambique	Vanuatu
Equatorial Guinea	Myanmar	Yemen
Eritrea	Nepal	Zambia
Ethiopia		

World Urbanization Prospects: The 2003 Revision
DATA IN DIGITAL FORM

The *2003 Revision* of the World Urbanization Prospects, prepared by the United Nations Population Division, provides a comprehensive and consistent set of urban and rural population data for the world's countries and areas, as well as for urban agglomerations with more than 750,000 inhabitants in 2000. The data referring to urban and rural areas cover the period 1950-2030 and those referring to urban agglomerations cover the years 1950-2015. Detailed results from the *2003 Revision* are available for purchase in two sets of files, available on two diskettes or on a single CD-ROM.

The files are prepared in Excel 2002, which is compatible with all versions since Excel 97. The diskette version includes an installation program (setup.exe) that copies the files to the hard disk. It creates a default folder C:\UNWUP2003 for the data. If desired, the user can change the name of this folder at run time. The CD-ROM version launches a navigation interface upon insertion.

In the data sets, figures for 1950-2000 are estimates and those for years beyond 2000 are projections. Estimates and projections are presented only for years that are multiples of five. The urban, rural and city data presented are consistent with the medium variant of the *2002 Revision of World Population Prospects*, the official United Nations population estimates and projections at the national level. A short description of each set of files is presented below; the list of file names and their contents are presented in detail in tables A and B on the following pages.

(1) *Urban and rural areas*: Nine files present estimates and projections of the population in urban and rural areas as well as associated indicators. The data are presented for 228 countries and areas individually and for 30 country aggregates, including the world as a whole, the more and the less developed regions, the major world areas and selected additional aggregates. The projected values cover the period 2000-2030. The files present information on: (1) the total population by country; (2) the urban population by country; (3) the rural population by country; (4) the percentage of the population residing in urban areas; (5) the average annual rate of change of the total population; (6) the average annual rate of change of the urban population; (7) the average annual rate of change of the rural population; (8) the urbanization rate or average annual rate of change of the percentage urban, and (9) the average annual rate of change of the percentage rural.

(2) *Urban agglomerations*: Seven files present the estimates and projections of the population in urban agglomerations. The first four files contain data only for urban agglomerations with 750,000 inhabitants or more in 2000. They cover the following indicators: (1) the total population of each urban agglomeration; (2) the average annual rate of change of the population of each urban agglomeration; (3) the percentage of the urban population residing in each urban agglomeration; (4) the percentage of the total population residing in each urban agglomeration. Two more files present data for specific sets of urban agglomerations. The first presents the 30 largest urban agglomerations of the world ranked by population size over the period 1950-2015. The second presents the population of the capital cities of each country for the year 2003. Lastly, a file presents the urban population, the number of cities and the percentage of urban population by size class of urban settlement.

The following citation, with underlined items replaced as appropriate, should be used to indicate the source of any data derived from the data sets described above:

Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (2004). *World Urbanization Prospects: The 2003 Revision*. Data Set Name (POP/DB/WUP/Rev.2003/Data set number/File number), data set in digital form.

World Urbanization Prospects: The 2003 Revision
Table A: Schematic Contents of Dataset on Urban and Rural Areas, 1950-2030

POP/DB/WUP/Rev.2003/1

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<i>File number</i>	<i>File name</i>	<i>Indicator presented</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Geographical coverage</i>	<i>Number of countries or areas</i>	<i>Type of indicator</i>	<i>Reference date</i>	<i>Time period covered</i>	<i>Table in World Urbanization Prospects</i>
File 1	WUP2003F1-Total_Population.xls	Total population	Thousands	All countries and areas	228	Stock indicator	1 July	1950, 1955, 1960, ..., 2025, 2030	A.5
File 2	WUP2003F2-Urban_Population.xls	Total population residing in urban areas	Thousands	All countries and areas	228	Stock indicator	1 July	1950, 1955, 1960, ..., 2025, 2030	A.3
File 3	WUP2003F3-Rural_Population.xls	Total population residing in rural areas	Thousands	All countries and areas	228	Stock indicator	1 July	1950, 1955, 1960, ..., 2025, 2030	A.4
File 4	WUP2003F4-Proportion_Urban.xls	Percentage of the population residing in urban areas	Percentage	All countries and areas	228	Stock indicator	1 July	1950, 1955, 1960, ..., 2025, 2030	A.2
File 5	WUP2003F5-Total_Growth_Rate.xls	Average annual rate of change of the total population	Per cent	All countries and areas	228	Period indicator	Average per year	1950-1955, 1955-1960, ..., 2020-2025, 2025-2030	A.8
File 6	WUP2003F6-Urban_Growth_Rate.xls	Average annual rate of change of the urban population	Per cent	All countries and areas	228	Period indicator	Average per year	1950-1955, 1955-1960, ..., 2020-2025, 2025-2030	A.6
File 7	WUP2003F7-Rural_Growth_Rate.xls	Average annual rate of change of the rural population	Per cent	All countries and areas	228	Period indicator	Average per year	1950-1955, 1955-1960, ..., 2020-2025, 2025-2030	A.7
File 8	WUP2003F8-Urbanization_Rate.xls	Average annual rate of change of the percentage urban	Per cent	All countries and areas	228	Period indicator	Average per year	1950-1955, 1955-1960, ..., 2020-2025, 2025-2030	A.9
File 9	WUP2003F9-Rate_Proportion_Rural.xls	Average annual rate of change of the percentage rural	Per cent	All countries and areas	228	Period indicator	Average per year	1950-1955, 1955-1960, ..., 2020-2025, 2025-2030	A.10

World Urbanization Prospects: The 2003 Revision
Table B: Schematic Contents of Dataset on Urban Agglomerations, 1950-2015
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<i>File number</i>	<i>File name</i>	<i>Indicator presented</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Geographical coverage</i>	<i>Number of countries or areas</i>	<i>Type of indicator</i>	<i>Reference date</i>	<i>Time period covered</i>	<i>Table in World Urbanization Prospects</i>
File 10	WUP2003F10-Cities_Over_750K.xls	Population of each urban agglomeration	Thousands	All cities with 750,000 inhabitants or more in 2000	228	Stock indicator	1 July	1950, 1955,, 2010, 2015	A.12
File 11	WUP2003F11-Growth_Rate_Cities.xls	Average annual rate of change of the population of each urban agglomeration	Per cent	All cities with 750,000 inhabitants or more in 2000	228	Stock indicator	Average per year	1950-1955, 1955-1960,, 2005-2010, 2010-2015	A.14
File 12	WUP2003F12-Percentage_Urban_in_Cities.xls	Percentage of the urban population residing in each urban agglomeration	Percentage	All cities with 750,000 inhabitants or more in 2000	228	Stock indicator	1 July	1950, 1955,, 2010, 2015	A.15
File 13	WUP2003F13-Percentage_Total_in_Cities.xls	Percentage of the total population residing in each urban agglomeration	Percentage	All cities with 750,000 inhabitants or more in 2000	228	Stock indicator	1 July	1950, 1955,, 2010, 2015	A.16
File 14	WUP2003F14-30_Largest_Cities.xls	Population of the 30 largest urban agglomerations at each point in time	Millions	The 30 most populous cities	...	Stock indicator	1 July	1950, 1955,, 2010, 2015	A.11
File 15	WUP2003F15-Capital_Cities.xls	Population of capital cities in 2003	Thousands	Capital cities	228	Stock indicator	1 July	2003	A.13
File 16	WUP2003F16-City_Size_Class.xls	Urban population, number of cities and percentage of urban population by size class of urban settlement	Various	Not applicable	228	Stock indicator	1 July	1950, 1955,, 2010, 2015	A.17

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Department of Economic and Social Affairs
POPULATION DIVISION

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Data in Digital Form**

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ANNEX TABLES