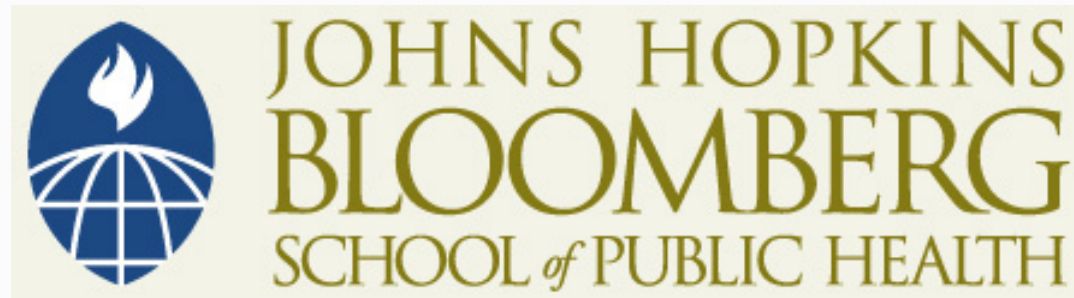


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# Global Urbanization: Trends, Patterns, Determinants, and Impacts

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## Section A

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### Session Outline

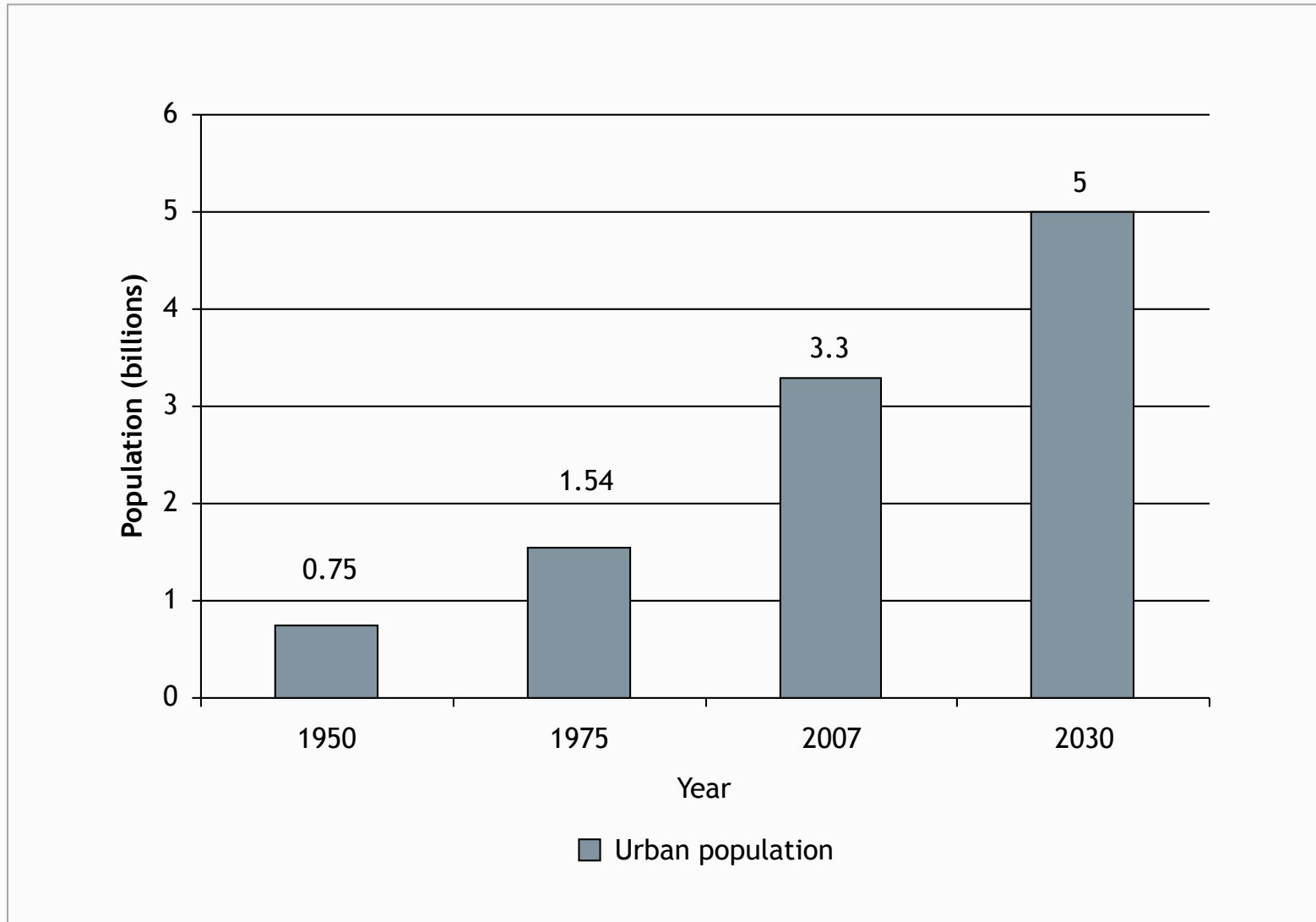
# Session Outline

- Global trends of urban population growth
- Patterns of urban population growth

# Global Urbanization Trend

- Only about 30% of the world's population lived in urban areas in 1950
- The proportion rose to ~50% by 2007
- Projected urban share of global population in 2030 is ~60%

# World's Population Living in Urban Areas, 1950-2030



## Growth of Rural vs. Urban Population (in billions)

	1950	1975	2007	2030
Rural	1.77	2.52	3.3	3.29
Urban	0.75	1.54	3.3	5

# Growth of Rural vs. Urban Population

- Between 2007 and 2030, the world's population is expected to increase by 1.8 billion
- Almost all population growth during this period will be in urban areas
- The rural population will actually decrease by about 20 million



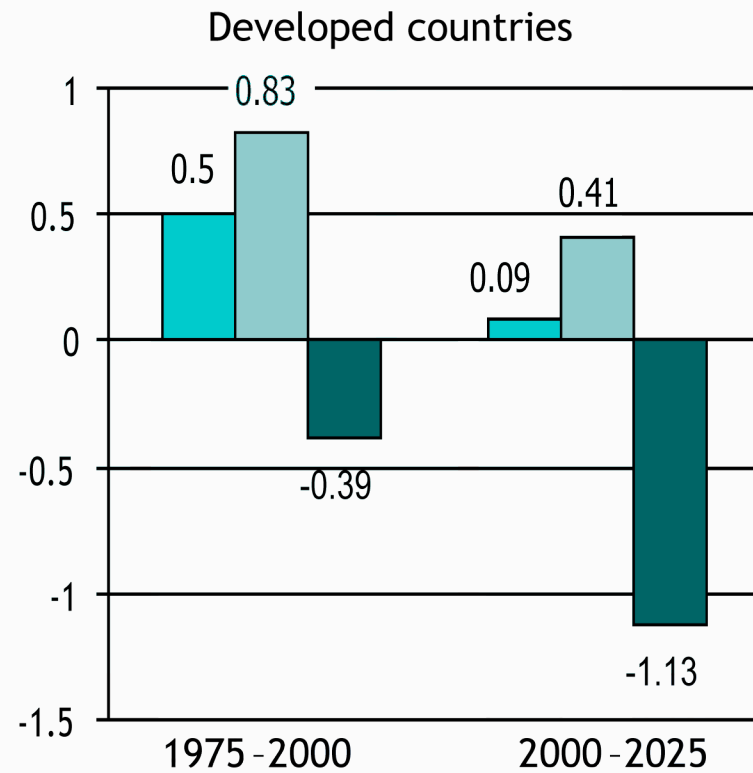
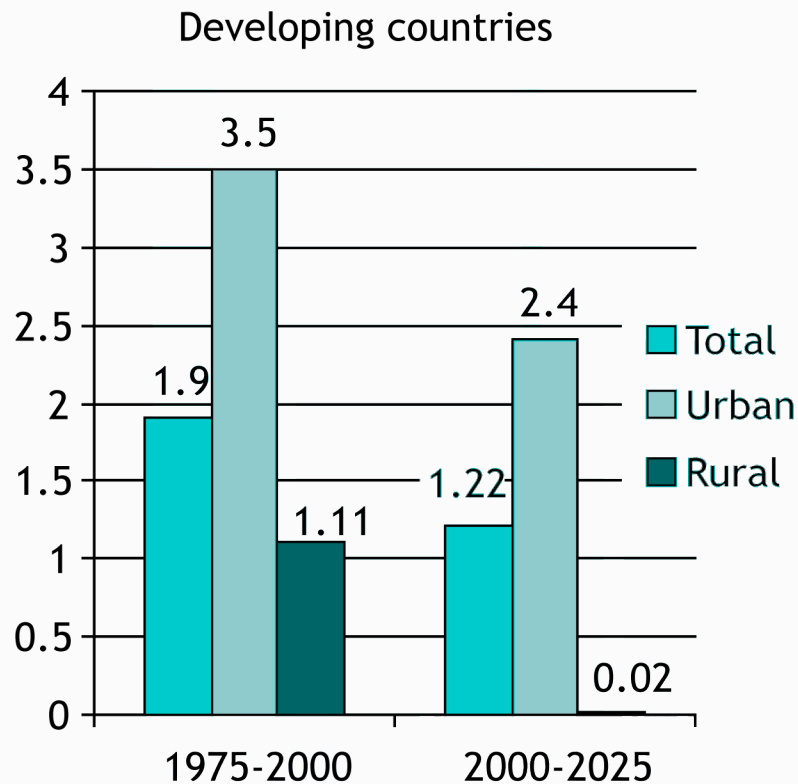
## Urban Population: Developed vs. Developing Countries (in billions)

- Process advanced in developed nations, where 76% lived in urban areas in 2000, and will increase to 83% by 2030
- Only 40% of those in developing countries lived in urban areas in 2000, increasing to 56% by 2030

	1950	1975	2000	2030
Developed	55	70	76	83
Developing	18	27	40	56

# Urban Growth: Developing and Developed Countries

Overall urban and rural population growth rates: developing and developed countries



# Urban vs. Rural Growth: Developing Countries

- Population growth will be particularly rapid in the urban areas of less developed countries, averaging 2.4% per year during 2000-2030
- At this rate, developing country urban population will double in 29 years
- In contrast, the rural population of the developing regions is expected to increase very slowly, at just 0.02 per cent per year during the same period

# Urban vs. Rural Growth: Developed Countries

- In developed countries, average annual rate of urban growth was only 0.83% between 1975 and 2000
- The rate is projected to fall to 0.41% during the first quarter of this century
- The rural population has been declining for decades—from 370 million in 1950 to an anticipated 215 million in 2025

# Implications for Developing Countries

- Although developing countries are less urbanized, the rate of urbanization is much higher
- The number of people added each year continues to rise because the rates are applied to an ever increasing population base
- The annual growth rate of 3.5% during 1975-2000 was applied to the 1975 urban population of 810 million

# Implications for Developing Countries

- The 2.4% annual growth rate will be applied to a larger urban population base of 1.94 billion
- The number of persons added to the urban population in developing countries indicates the challenges faced by governments, urban planners, non-government service providers, and urban residents

# Population in Urban Areas, by Region

Percent of population living in urban areas, by major developing country regions

	1950	1975	2000	2025
Sub-Saharan Africa	11%	21%	34%	49%
Asia (except Japan)	15%	22%	35%	50%
Latin American & Caribbean	41%	61%	75%	82%

## Variations by World Region

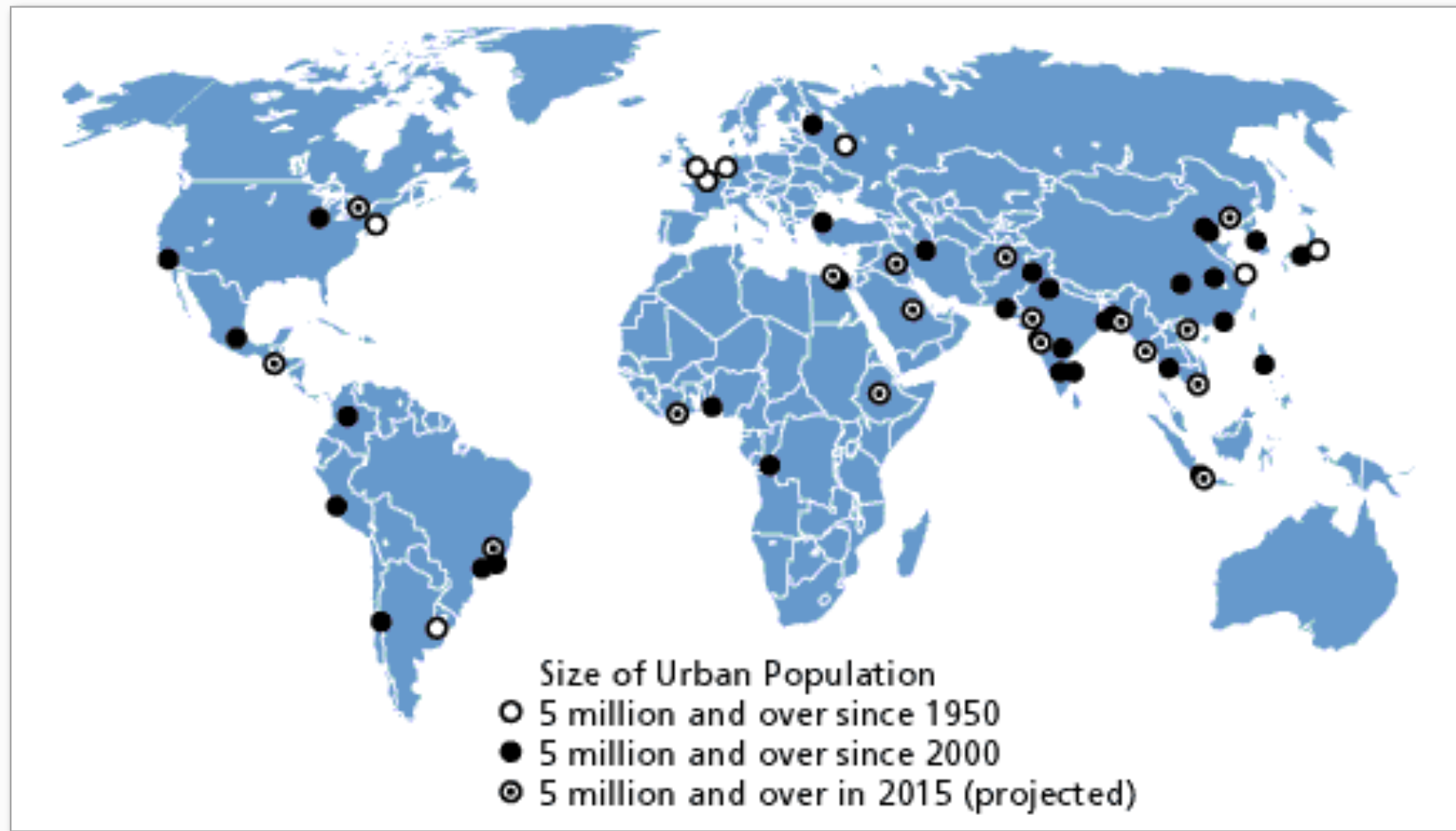
- Despite their high levels of urbanization, the combined numbers of urban population in Europe, Latin America, Caribbean, North America, and Oceania (1.2 billion) is smaller than the number in Asia alone (1.4 billion)
- By 2030, Asia will account for 54% of the urban population of the world



# The Rise of “Mega-Cities”

- One feature of today’s urbanization is the continuing growth of large cities, including mega-cities
- The number of mega-cities rose from just one in 1950 to 23 in 1995, with 17 of them in the developing world
- By 2015, the number is projected to grow to 36; 23 of these mega-cities will be located in Asia

# Cities with More Than 5 Million: 1950, 2000, 2015



## Cities with More Than 1 Million: 1975, 1995, and 2015

	1975	1995	2015
Developed	85	114	138
Developing	110	250	426

# Proportion Living in Large and Small Cities

- Although the number of large cities is increasing, much of the urban population lives in small cities
- In 2000, 24.8% of the world's population lived in urban settlements with fewer than 500,000 inhabitants
- By 2015 that proportion is likely to rise to 27.1%

## Urban Growth: Large vs. Small Cities, 2000-2015

Large cities (>5 million)	20.9%
Small cities (<500,000)	44.4%

- In both cases, cities in the less developed regions will absorb most of the increase



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## Section B

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Global Urbanization: Determinants, Issues, and Concerns

# Session Outline

- Determinants of urban population growth
- Issues related to rapid urbanization
- Impact of rapid urbanization

# What Factors Contribute to Urban Population Growth?

- Urban population grows as a result of
  - Natural increase
  - Internal rural-to-urban migration
  - International urban migration
  - Reclassification of urban boundaries to encompass formerly rural areas



# Relative Contributions of Factors in Urbanization

- About 60% of the urban population growth in developing countries is due to natural increase
- The remaining 40% is attributable to net rural-urban migration and reclassification of rural areas into urban sites
- However, these relative contributions vary by the status of overall socioeconomic development of a location
- As fertility levels decline and economic development increases, migration assumes a greater role in determining the pace of urban growth

# Relative Contributions of Factors in Urbanization

- In Africa, for example, natural increase accounts for 75% of urban growth, compared with about 51% in Asia
- In China, which has experienced rapid economic growth, only 28% of the urban growth results from natural increase
- The demographic dynamics underlying urban growth are complex
- Most analyses are based on census data, but census data often miss important factors, such as circular migration, and less direct or long-term effects of migration

# What Is Circular Migration?

- Throughout Southeast Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, millions of people move back and forth between urban and rural areas to take advantage of income-earning opportunities—a phenomenon known as circular migration
- Temporary migrants can cause large swings in population size
- In some cities of China, for instance, temporary migrants are estimated to account for one-fifth to one-third of the total urban population

# Rural-Urban Migration

- In many countries, such temporary migrants are counted as rural residents
- Official statistics thus tend to underestimate levels of urbanization and migration's actual contribution to urban growth
- Rural-to-urban migration becomes a less important contributor of urban growth once the national level of urbanization is relatively high

# Who Migrates and Why?

- The two important factors that affect migration are “pull” and “push” factors
- Pull factors: opportunities in cities, including high urban wages paid by transnational corporations
- Push factors: poor conditions in the countryside, e.g., health, fragmentation of farm land, limited job, educational, and economic opportunities

# Demographic Characteristics of Migrants

- Rural-to-urban migration is a selective process
- People with certain characteristics are more likely to move than people with other characteristics
- One of these factors is gender because employment opportunities vary greatly by gender
- Gender selectivity in migration distorts gender ratios in both destinations and origins

# Gender Selectivity in Migration

- Gender selectivity of rural-urban migration may change over time as ...
  - Urban job opportunities for women increase or decrease relative to opportunities for men
  - Family norms regarding the migration of women change

# Distorted Gender Ratio and Its Impact

- Gender ratios differ between urban and rural areas in many parts of the world
- Distorted gender ratios have implications for public health
- In sub-Saharan Africa, for example, there are many more men than women in urban areas because more jobs are available for men
- The excess of males in African cities is considered one of the driving forces behind the HIV/AIDS epidemic



# Distorted Gender Ratio and Its Impact

- In Latin America, the Caribbean, and South Asia, urban populations include more women than men
- These women work in domestic and low-skilled export-oriented jobs
- They often send money to their families in rural areas and thereby contribute to the rural economy
- However, they also tend to suffer from a high prevalence of violence and sexual abuse

# Demographic Characteristics of Urban Populations

- In developing countries, there are fewer very young and very old people in urban areas
- It is less easy for them to move and find jobs
- The prime working ages are also the prime child bearing ages
- That means there is a large need for reproductive, family planning, and education services in urban areas

# Positive and Negative Impacts of Urbanization

- The impact of urbanization is mixed
- Urbanization is an essential element to stimulate economic development in cities
- Urbanization has stimulated innovations in science and technology and in systems of law and government

# Positive Impacts of Urbanization

- Cities have facilitated the diffusion of information through interaction among diverse cultures
- The density of urban populations offers significant cost advantages for governments in the delivery of essential goods and services and for the private sector in the production and consumption of such items
- Cities have also played a crucial role in reducing fertility

# Negative Impact of Rapid Urbanization

- However, rapid population growth in urban areas creates negative economic, social, and environmental consequences
- The uncontrolled in-migration and rapid urban growth is increasing urban poverty and inequality
- Poverty is one of the most critical issues facing urban areas

# Negative Impact of Rapid Urbanization

- Rapid urbanization has given rise to slum and squatter populations
- An estimated 30-50% of urban inhabitants in developing countries live in impoverished slums and squatter settlements
- These settlements lack
  - Adequate housing
  - Adequate water, sanitation, refuse collection
  - Adequate health care facilities

# Negative Impact of Rapid Urbanization

- Urban poverty degrades both physical and social environments
- The urban poor areas are characterized by
  - Crowding
  - Pollution
  - Concentration of the poor in central cities
  - Violence and crime
  - Prostitution
  - Drug abuse
  - Street children

# Negative Impact of Rapid Urbanization

- The poor physical environment in turn increases morbidity and mortality in cities more than in surrounding rural areas
- The poverty-burdened social environment causes social instability, which affects both physical and mental health
- This was the case in some U.S. cities in 1900



# Urban Challenges of Less Developed Countries

- At the current pace and scale of change, over 60 million people are added to the urban population each year
- This rate of growth often strains the capacity of local and national governments to provide even the most basic services to urban residents

# Urban Challenges of Less Developed Countries

- Managing rapid urban population growth will be one of the world's most important challenges in the next few decades
- About 80% of the world's population resides in less developed countries
- In these countries, one of the central issues will be how to cope with an unprecedented increase in the number of people living in urban areas