

GCSE GEOGRAPHY

Resources for Paper 3 Geographical Applications

June 2020

Pre-release resources booklet

To be issued to students on Thursday 19 March 2020.

This booklet contains three resources as follows:

- Figure 1 – An increasingly urban world: pages 2–3
- Figure 2 – The growth of slums in LICs and NEEs: pages 4–5
- Figure 3 – Slums of hope or slums of despair?: pages 6–7

Information

- HIC is a higher income country.
- LIC is a lower income country.
- NEE is a newly emerging economy.

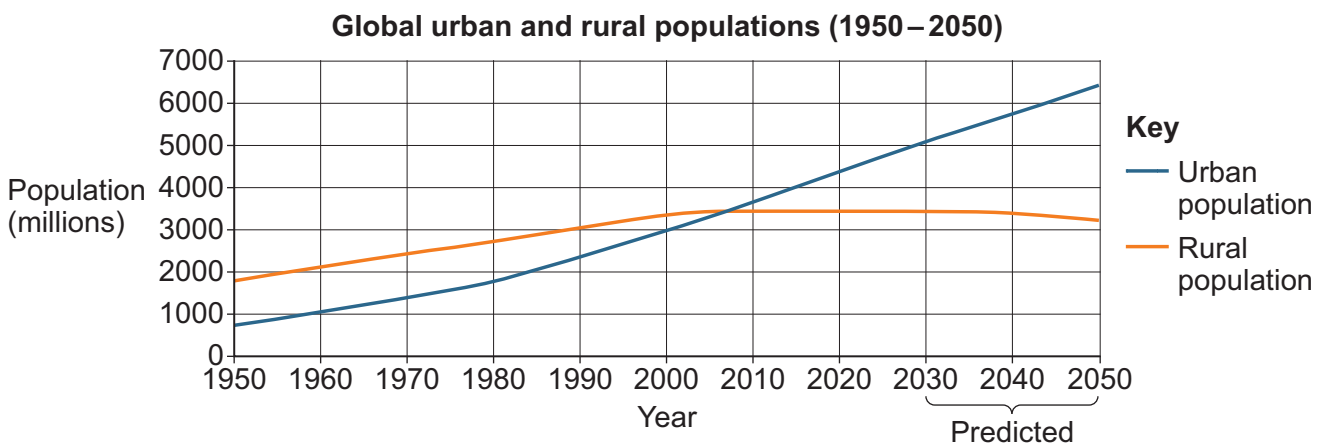
Figure 1

An increasingly urban world

An increasingly urban world

Since 1960 the world has seen a continued growth of urban populations as urban-industrial core areas develop around the world. In 1990, 43% of the world's population lived in urban areas. By the early part of the 21st century, for the first time, the majority of people lived in urban rather than rural areas.

This trend is likely to continue, estimates suggesting that global urban populations will reach 60% by 2030 and 70% by 2050. While the percentage increase is significant, it does not take into account the actual growth in the number of people living in urban areas, since populations are continuing to grow in those areas where the rate of urbanisation is highest.



Rates of urban growth

The increase in urban populations has not been evenly spread throughout the world. Different regions have seen their urban populations grow more or less quickly, although virtually no region of the world has seen a decrease in urbanisation. (UN Habitat)

In 2015 Asia had by far the largest number of people living in urban areas, approximately 2 billion, this growth being seen as directly linked to economic development. Between 2000–2030 the urban population in Asia and Africa is set to double. Asia's urban population will grow from 1.4 billion to an estimated 2.6 billion. Africa's urban population will surge to more than twice its size, from 294 million to an estimated 742 million. This means that by 2030 Asia and Africa will account for almost 70% of all urban inhabitants globally, with poorer people making up the largest part of future urban growth.

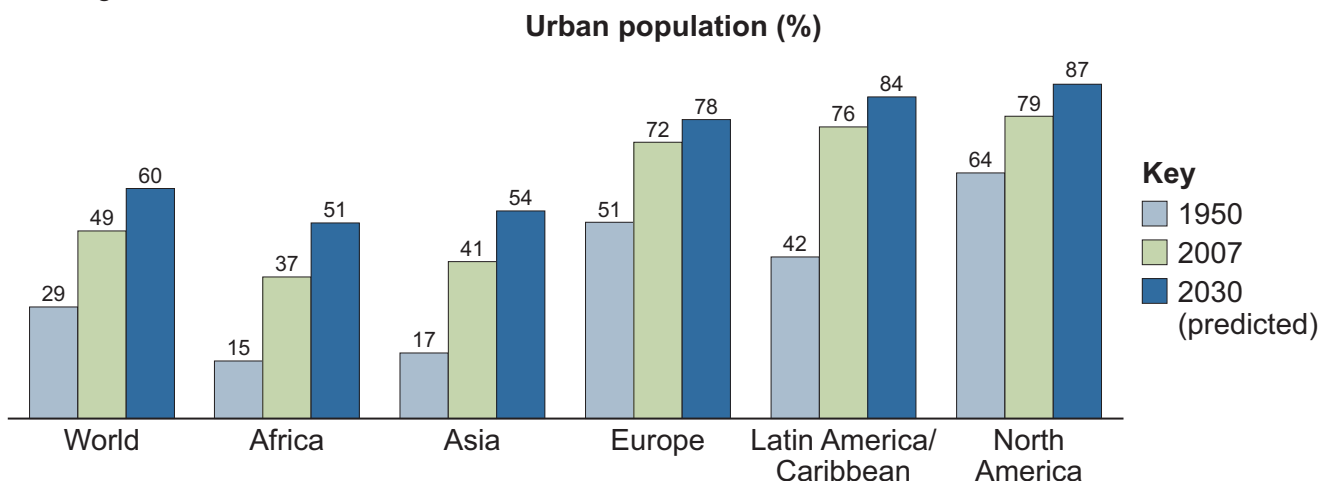
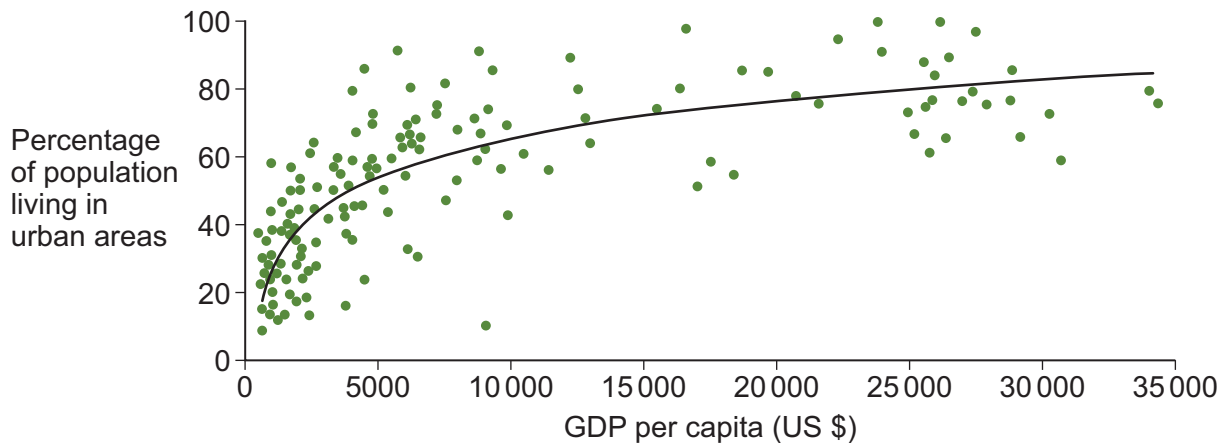


Figure 1 continued

Economic development and urbanisation

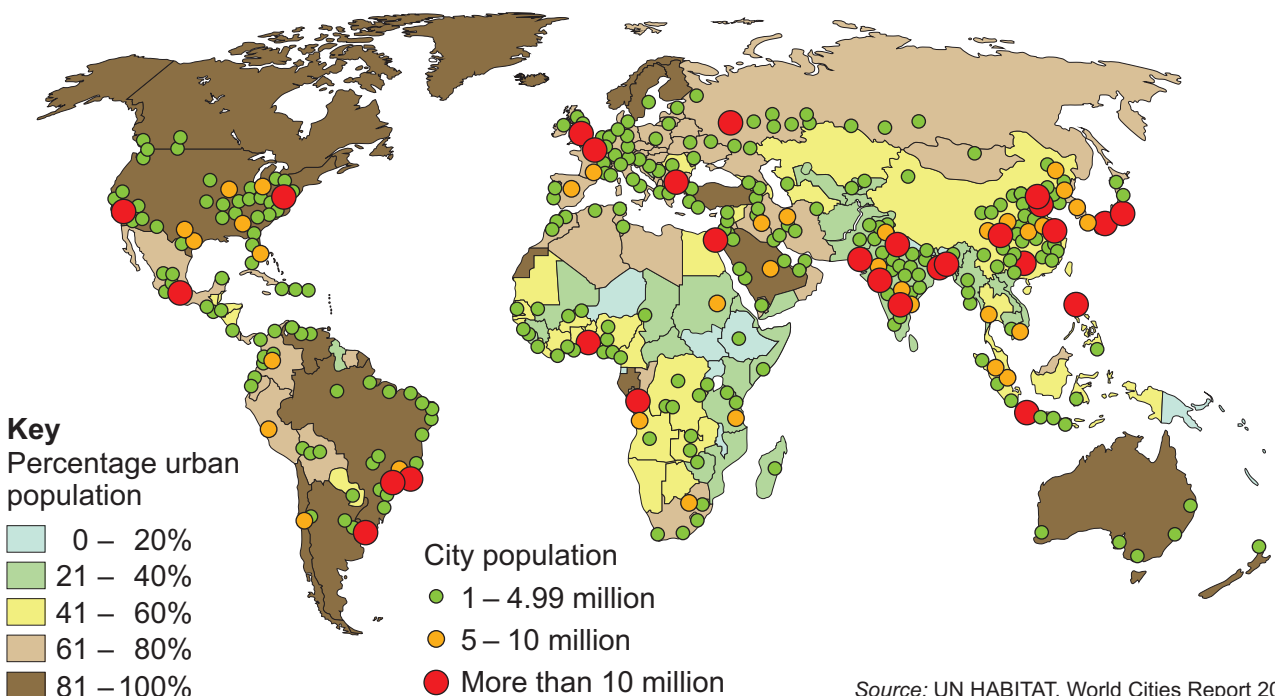
In many parts of the world urbanisation is seen as an important factor in improving living standards. This is because in urban areas people might have better access to the social and economic facilities required to improve quality of life. For example, China's economic transformation has been driven by urbanisation and industrialisation. Between 1985 and 2010 the urban population in China doubled and today the ten biggest cities in China account for 20% of the country's wealth.



The growth of cities

Large cities are defined as having between 5 and 10 million inhabitants and megacities as having 10 million or more inhabitants. The last 30 years have seen a significant increase in both categories of city. In some of the poorest cities this growth has led to the development of massive slums and squatter settlements, often lacking basic facilities. They are built in areas threatened by floods, landslides and other natural hazards. At the same time rural-urban migration has led to the decline of rural communities, where the population structure is increasingly unbalanced and a lack of investment has widened the gap in living standards between urban and rural areas.

Global patterns of urbanisation, 2015



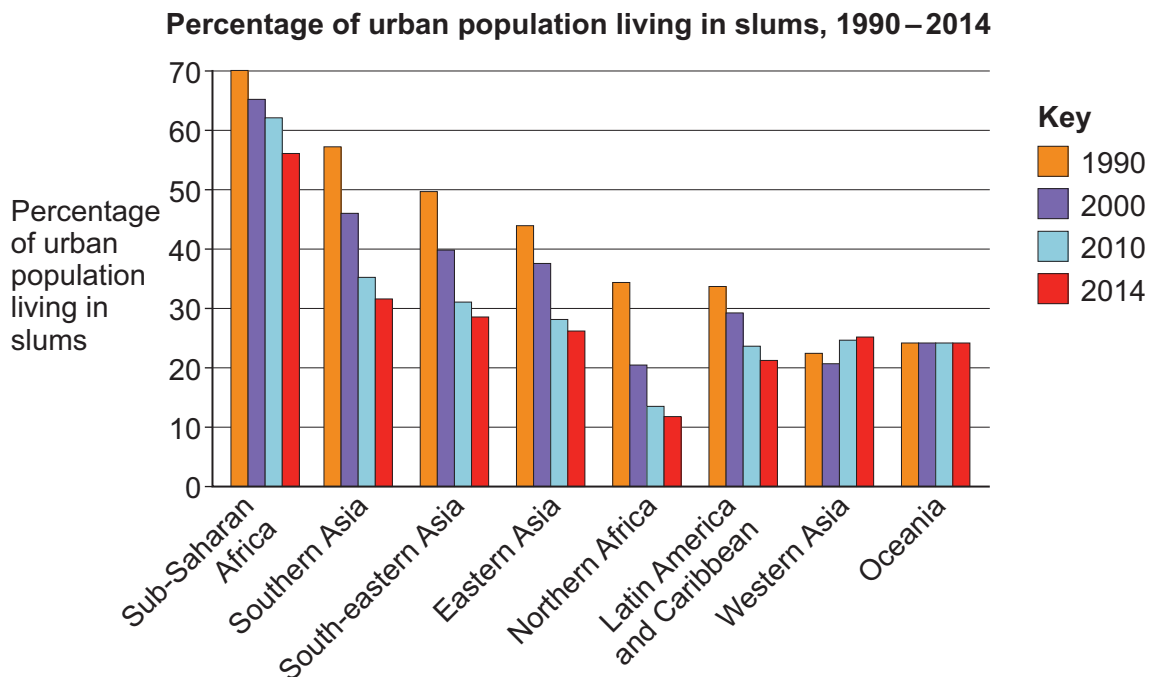
Source: UN HABITAT, World Cities Report 2016

Figure 2

The growth of slums in LICs and NEEs

The number of slum-dwellers continues to grow

Although the percentage of slum-dwellers in urban areas has decreased, the actual number of people living in slums continues to increase. In LICs and NEEs 881 million urban residents lived in slums in 2015, compared to 689 million in 1990. Many cities cannot keep up with the rate of urban growth, shown by the lack of basic facilities in some of the poorest areas of urban slums. The majority of people migrating to urban areas are from rural areas where conditions are poor and opportunities limited. Consequently, even living in an urban slum may offer a first step towards better living conditions.



Inequality in LIC/NEE cities

Urban inequality has become a growing problem in a number of areas, with African cities showing the greatest gap between the rich and the poor.

Inequality creates a number of problems, including:

- the image of poor people as lazy or criminal, resulting in their unfair treatment
- the increasing wealth in cities pushing up prices, which the poor cannot afford
- the inability of the poorest people to take advantage of the opportunities that exist in urban areas
- a lack of security, as the poorest people often do not own their own homes, or are forced to build homes in unstable or hazardous areas.



São Paulo, Brazil

Figure 2 continued

Urbanisation can be a 'force for good' with better jobs and cheaper services

The author of a World Bank report for 2013 said, "If managed effectively, urbanisation can be a force for good because cities create better-paid jobs and allow better and cheaper access to basic services".

For example, in Niger the average price of piped water in urban areas is 24 pence per cubic metre, whereas in rural areas clean water can cost four times as much, and people may have to walk long distances to collect water which may be contaminated.

However, the report concludes that "conditions in the poorest slums are a risk to human life. About a billion people live in urban slums in poor countries and this number is likely to increase dramatically in future, with the fastest growth in Sub-Saharan Africa".

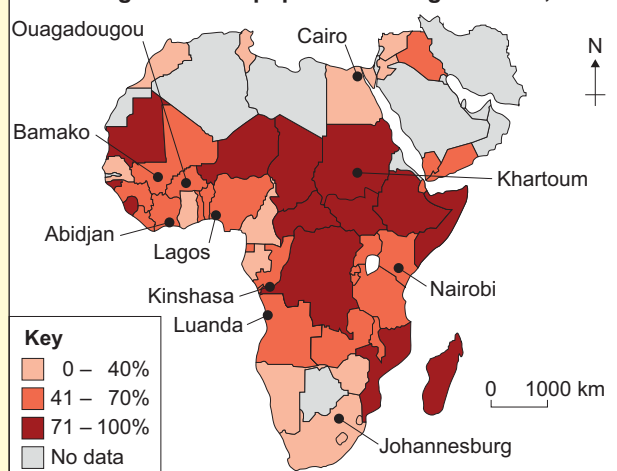
The director of the World Bank team that produced the report said that "providing basic services for the urban poor is a real challenge, but where it has been done successfully it has reduced the problems of rapid urbanisation".

Percentage access to piped water / improved sanitation		Urban (%)	Rural (%)
Sub-Saharan Africa	Piped water	33	5
	Improved sanitation	40	23
Southern Asia	Piped water	56	17
	Improved sanitation	67	36
South east Asia	Piped water	51	17
	Improved sanitation	81	64
Latin America	Piped water	94	68
	Improved sanitation	88	64

More than half of all urban dwellers in Sub-Saharan Africa live in slums

Lagos is already Nigeria's largest city and it is still growing rapidly. The population is predicted to increase by 77 people every hour between 2010 and 2030. This is approximately 56 000 a month, the size of a large town in the UK. Economic opportunities have encouraged the poor to migrate to the city and high birth rates have added to urban growth. The big question is whether the urban infrastructure can keep up with this growth. Lagos already suffers from electricity and water supply problems, a pattern repeated across Africa where growing urban populations put a strain on limited resources and increasing numbers of people live in some of the worst conditions in the world.

Percentage of urban population living in slums, 2014



These are Africa's fastest-growing cities

Population growth per hour, 2010–2030

Lagos, Nigeria	77
Kinshasa, DRC	61
Cairo, Egypt	44
Luanda, Angola	34
Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso	23
Nairobi, Kenya	22
Khartoum, Sudan	21
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire	21
Johannesburg, South Africa	21
Bamako, Mali	19

Figure 3

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Figure 3 continued

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