

## DB100: DEGREE OF URBANISATION

**Topic and detailed topic:** Technical items/Localisation

**Variable type:** Core variable/ Annual

**Unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Current

**Mode of collection:** Derived

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

**Series' differences:** Yes (2012 and 2021 modalities were changed)

### VALUES AND FORMAT

From 2021 onwards

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| 1 | Cities            |
| 2 | Towns and suburbs |
| 3 | Rural areas       |

Before 2021

1. Densely-populated area
2. Intermediate area
3. Thinly-populated area

### FLAGS

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | Filled                                     |
| -1 | Missing (allowed only from wave 2 onwards) |

### DESCRIPTION

This variable reports on the degree of urbanisation in the area where the usual residence of the person or the household is located.

From 2021 onwards the modalities were changed according to the standardised social variables.

This variable must be filled in for every household in wave 1. From wave 2 onwards, a missing value (flag -1) is allowed in exceptional cases (like moving house).

*From 2021 onwards the variable classifies LAU2 into three types of area:*

1. 'Cities' - densely-populated areas where at least 50% of the population live in an urban centre.
2. 'Towns and suburbs' - intermediate density areas where at least 50% of the population live in urban clusters, but which are not 'cities'.
3. 'Rural areas' - thinly populated areas where more than 50% of the population live in rural grid cells.

This classification is based on a combination of criteria of geographical contiguity and minimum population threshold applied to 1 km<sup>2</sup> population grid cells.

The LAU2 list including the degree of urbanisation is published by Eurostat on the RAMON server: [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/miscellaneous/index.cfm?TargetUrl=DSP\\_DEGURBA](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/miscellaneous/index.cfm?TargetUrl=DSP_DEGURBA).

For further methodological details on the classification of LAU2s by degree of urbanisation, see <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/degree-of-urbanisation/methodology>.

For further information, see:

[Local Administrative Units \(LAU\) - NUTS - Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics - Eurostat \(europa.eu\)](#)

*Modalities used before:*

- Densely populated area: contiguous grid cells of 1km<sup>2</sup> with a density of at least 1,500 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup> and a minimum population of 50,000.
- Intermediate area: clusters of contiguous grid cells of 1km<sup>2</sup> with a density of at least 300 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup> and a minimum population of 5,000.
- Thinly-populated area: Grid cells outside urban clusters.