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Urbanisation

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Urbanisation is the rise in the amount of people living in towns and cities (urban areas) compared to the number of people living in rural areas. From 2007, the world’s urban population was greater than its rural population. Urbanisation happens differently in countries depending on their income:

* HICs – The country first urbanises due to an increase in industrial activities, as people move into towns and cities to work in industrial plants. Later, as the city becomes more crowded, people begin to move away into rural areas again, however improved transport infrastructure allows them to commute into cities to work.
* NEEs – These countries are currently experiencing rapid urbanisation.
* LICs – The majority of the population live in rural areas. In the next few decades, these countries are predicted to experience rapid urbanisation.

Factors Causing Urbanisation

Push Factors (forcing people to leave a place):

* Natural Disasters
* Automation causing people to lose their jobs in rural agriculture.
* Land becoming uninhabitable due to processes such as urbanisation.
* Civil Wars
* Government Mandates (very uncommon)

Pull Factors (attracting people to a place):

* More/Higher-paid jobs.
* Better health/education infrastructure.
* Moving with other friends/family because they moved.
* Cities have more entertainment venues

Natural Increase

Natural Increase is when the number of births is higher than the number of deaths in a given area. Cities normally have a lower average age, so the number of births in cities is higher than rural areas.

Megacities

Megacities are cities with a population higher than 10 million. Examples include Bangkok, Thailand and Shanghai, China.