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# The 10 Largest Cities in the World

Asia is home to six of the 10 most populous areas in the world.

By [Shelbi Austin](#) | Dec. 18, 2019

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## The Growth of Urban Areas

More than half of the world's population – 55 percent – lives in cities. By 2050, that figure is predicted to jump to 68 percent, according to the United Nation's [Department of Economic and Social Affairs](#).


As the world continues to urbanize, a handful of countries will account for much of the growth. Between 2018 and 2050, the U.N. estimates 35 percent of urbanization will occur in [India](#), [China](#) and [Nigeria](#) alone.


Today about 4.2 billion people live in cities, with North America, Latin America and the Caribbean making up the most urbanized regions of the world and Africa remaining the most rural.

These are the world's 10 largest urban areas, or "urban agglomerations," based on 2015 data, the most recent released by the U.N's population division.




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Updated on Dec. 18, 2019: This slideshow has been updated.


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