Changes in population ranking, 1960-2018
25 most populous countries, labeled by Cold War position

Rank in 1960

Lines show change in rank

Rank in 2018

Rank in 1960	Rank in 2018
China	China
India	India
Russia/USSR	United States
United States	Indonesia
Japan	Pakistan
Indonesia	Brazil
Germany	Nigeria
Brazil	Bangladesh
United Kingdom	Russia/USSR
Italy	Japan
Bangladesh	Mexico
France	Ethiopia
Nigeria	Philippines
Pakistan	Egypt
Mexico	Vietnam
Vietnam	DR Congo
Spain	Germany
Poland	Turkey
Turkey	Iran
Thailand	Thailand
Egypt	France
Philippines	United Kingdom
South Korea	Italy
Ethiopia	South Africa
Iran	Tanzania
	South Korea

Ranked highest in population

Ranked lowest in population

Structural Position in 1945
- 1st World
- 2nd World
- 3rd World