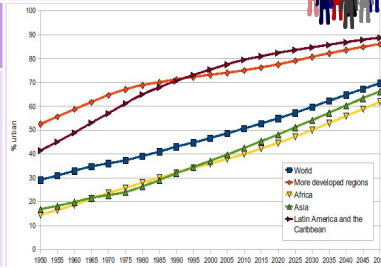


## What is urbanisation?

Urbanisation is the increase in the amount of people living in urban areas such as towns or cities. In 2007 the UN announced that, for the first time, more than 50 % of the world's population live in urban areas.

### Where is Urbanisation happening?

Urbanisation is happening all over the world but in LICs and NEEs rates are much faster than HICs. This is mostly because of the rapid economic growth, which is leading to increasing life expectancies, that they are experiencing.

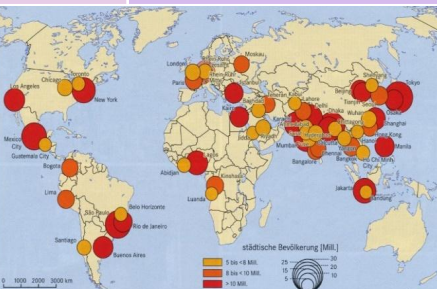


## Causes of Urbanisation

| Rural - urban migration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | The movement of people from rural to urban areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Push factors                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Pull factors                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
| Factors that encourage people to move away from a place.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Factors that encourage people to move to a place.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural disasters e.g. drought.</li> <li>War and Conflict.</li> <li>Mechanisation.</li> <li>Lack of opportunities.</li> <li>Lack of employment.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                              | Factors are sometimes perceived. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More Jobs.</li> <li>Better education &amp; healthcare.</li> <li>Increased quality of life.</li> <li>Following family members.</li> </ul>                                   |  |
| Natural Increase                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | When the birth rate is greater than the death rate.                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| Increase in birth rate (BR)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Lower death rate (DR)                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Migration often involves young adults. When there is a high percentage of population of child-bearing age this leads to higher birth rate.</li> <li>In the UK migrant groups have higher fertility rates.</li> <li>Lack of contraception or education about family planning.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A higher life expectancy is due to supplies of clean water, better living conditions and diet.</li> <li>Improved medical facilities help lower infant mortality rates and raise life expectancy.</li> </ul> |  |

## Types of Cities

| Megacity | An urban area with over 10 million people living there. |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------|
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------|



More than two thirds of current megacities are located in either NEEs or LICs. The majority of megacities are located in Asia. The number of megacities are predicted to increase from 28 to 41 by 2030.

## Sustainable urban living

Sustainable urban living means being able to live in cities in ways that do not pollute the environment and using resources in ways that ensure future generations can also use them. Sustainable living should ensure that all facilities necessary for people are available, and that areas are economically viable.

| Water Conservation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Energy Conservation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>This is about reducing the amount of water used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rainwater harvesting provides water for gardens and for flushing toilets.</li> <li>Installing water meters discourages water use. Dual flushes on toilets flush less water.</li> <li>Educating people on using less water.</li> </ul>                | <p>Using less fossil fuels can reduce the rate of climate change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting renewable energy sources e.g. solar panels, insulation.</li> <li>Making homes and appliances more energy efficient.</li> <li>Encouraging people to use less energy.</li> <li>Using wood in buildings instead of bricks.</li> </ul>                        |
| Green Space- Urban Greening                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Waste Recycling                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p>Creating green spaces in urban areas can improve places for people who want to live there.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide natural cooler areas for people to relax in.</li> <li>Encourages people to exercise.</li> <li>Reduces the risk of flooding from surface runoff.</li> <li>Reduces airborne particulates.</li> </ul> | <p>More recycling means fewer resources are used. Less waste reduces the amount that eventually goes to landfill. This reduces waste gases (methane) and contamination of water sources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collection of household waste.</li> <li>More local recycling facilities.</li> <li>Greater awareness of the benefits of recycling.</li> </ul> |

## Unit 2a Urban Issues & Challenges

### Distribution of population & cities in the UK



The location of most UK cities is linked to the availability of natural resources (particularly coal), or near to the coast for imports, and the subsequent location of industry during the industrial revolution. This is because coal was the original source of power for the factories e.g. Glasgow, Newcastle, Nottingham and Cardiff.

London is a major anomaly to this trend. Instead its location on the River Thames enabled resources to be imported along the River Thames. Imports from across the British Empire were then used in industry.

### Integrated transport system

This is the linking of different forms of public and private transport within a city and the surrounding area e.g. bus timetables coincide with train arrivals and departures. Tram lines associated with peak flow from park and ride locations.

### Brownfield sites

A brownfield site is an area of land that has been developed before and, because it has become derelict, can be re-used e.g. old factories in Leicester rebuilt as apartments. Brownfield sites are more expensive to develop than greenfield sites as derelict buildings must be removed first.

## Traffic management

Urban areas are busy places with many people travelling by different modes of transport. This has caused urban areas to experience traffic congestion that can lead to various problems.

| Environmental problems                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Traffic increases air pollution which releases greenhouse gases that is leading to climate change.</li><li>More roads have to be built.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Economic problems                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Social Problems                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Congestion can make people late for work.</li><li>Business deliveries take longer. This costs companies more money as drivers take longer to make the delivery.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>There is a greater risk of accidents. This is a particular problem in built up areas.</li><li>Congestion causes frustration.</li><li>Traffic creates particulates that can affect health e.g. asthma.</li></ul>       |
| Congestion solutions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Widen roads to allow more traffic to flow more easily and avoid congestion.</li><li>- Build ring roads and bypasses to keep traffic out of city centres.</li><li>- Introduce park and ride schemes to reduce car use.</li><li>- Encourage car-sharing schemes in work places and by allowing shared cars in special lanes.</li><li>- Have public transport, cycle lanes &amp; bike hire schemes.</li><li>- Having congestion charges discourages drivers from entering the busy city centres.</li></ul> |    |

## Urban Change in a Major UK City: Leicester Case Study



### Location and Background

- Leicester is a city in the East Midlands of England.
- The greater urban area of Leicester (including areas on the outskirts like Oadby and Birstall) has a population of 509,000, the city has a population of 369,000.
- Leicester's origins date back to Roman times.
- Leicester is a changing city affected by population growth and migration.



### City's Importance

- Leicester is at the centre of its region.
- Leicester is one of the UK's fastest growing cities, up 15% between 2001 and 2011 censuses.
- It is a truly multi ethnic city – the first in the world to have no majority ethnic group. The most multicultural street is Narborough Road.
- The city has both premiership football and rugby teams as well as national basketball and hockey teams.
- The city has two major universities with a total student population of over 50,000.

### Migration to Leicester

- There is historic migration linked to industrialisation in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This is associated with the building of large areas of terraced housing in the city.
- In the 1970's people of Asian heritage arrived in the city fleeing 'Africanisation' policies in Uganda and Kenya.
- 28% of the population identify themselves as 'Indian'.
- The city council tried to stop this at the time (advertises in newspapers) but now Leicester is proud of being the most tolerant, multicultural city in Europe.
- Modern migration has come from:
  - Somalia (now 5% of Leicester's population)
  - Eastern Europe (particularly Poland)
- The city has changed with each new group of migrants, incorporating their foods and traditions into the culture of the city.
- The city has a higher than average population under 25.



### City's Opportunities

**Social:** Lots of social attractions, linked to the larger than average number of under 25s, including bars and shopping in the city centre. There is a new cultural quarter centred around the Curve theatre. The Golden Mile on Belgrave Road hosts the largest Diwali celebrations outside India. Leicester has an annual Comedy Festival.

**Economic:** Historically known for knitwear & hosiery, now the service sector is the largest employer particularly retail & financial sectors. However, compared to national averages the city retains more secondary industry. Summit, Liberty and The Cube Accommodation built.

**Environmental:** Leicester became the UK's first environment city in 1990. The council has a 20% Greenhouse gas reduction target for 2020. Urban greening has taken place in the city centre. There is investment in cyclepaths and bus routes.

### City Challenges

**Social:**  
House prices have increased along with greater house shortages. This has led to the development of both brownfield sites (redevelopment of the Liberty building) and greenfield sites (New Lubbesthorpe) to provide housing.  
A third of households live in the 10% of the most deprived wards in the UK.

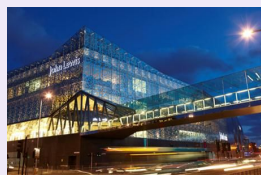
**Economic:**  
Higher unemployment (12%) than East Midlands or national (both 7%). This is occurring due to the rapidly increasing population and a lack of jobs.  
Inequality in housing exists around the city e.g. St Matthews estate compared to Hamilton. More deprived areas have higher crime rates, higher unemployment and more overcrowding.

**Environmental:**  
Urban sprawl has led to increased pressure and decline of greenfield sites around the city (Hamilton / Birstall). Derelict areas around the CBD have been improved by regeneration. The city has the third highest air pollution figures outside London.

### Highcross regeneration

**Reasons for development:**  
Revitalise an underused area of city, land value high but large buildings which were old factories no longer used, derelict. Derelict buildings encouraged crime, discouraged people from city centre.  
Counteract the decline in city centre shopping caused by the opening of Fosse Park and Thurmaston out of town shopping centres. Raise profile of Leicester regionally.

**Opened in 2008** as an expansion of the Shires shopping centre Highcross. Features include a £350 million development which is mixed use including shopping, restaurants, cinema, parking and apartments. It is aimed at the more affluent shoppers. The new Highcross mall has increased footfall in other CBD shops but apartments are not fully occupied.  
The mall has had a Negative impact, because of competition, on shops further away from the shopping Centre e.g. on Granby Street.



## Urban Change in a Major NEE City: Mexico City Case Study



### Location and Background

- Located in central Mexico, N. America, a high altitude capital city (2240m) with mountain ranges on all sides.
- Built on an old lake bed (drained by Spanish in 16<sup>th</sup> Century).
- It is the most populated city in the country.
- 82% of population are Roman Catholic.



### Migration to Mexico City

The city began to grow when Spanish settlers arrived in 1521 leading to the fall of Tenochtitlan (previous capital city).



However, more recently, millions of people have migrated from rural areas that have suffered from drought and desertification (400m<sup>2</sup> farmland lost per year), lack of services and unemployment to Mexico City (wages are 3-4 times higher in the city). People do this to search for a better quality of life.

A high proportion of 20-40 year olds leads to rapid natural increase.

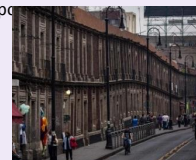
This expanding population has resulted in the rapid urbanisation of Mexico City. In 1960 50% of Mexico's population were rural, now only 20% are rural.

### City Challenges

**Social:** There is a severe shortage of housing and slums have developed due to rapid growth. Neza-Chalco-Itza is the world's largest slum (4 million residents). Many children work in the informal economy rather than going to school. Employees work very long hours, particularly in informal sector (29% of workers compared to 12% in other NEEs). Huge water shortages makes water very expensive - in Tlalpan some residents spend 80% of income on water.

**Economic:** A high number of informal jobs (50% of workers) with low pay and no tax contributions e.g. in Tianguis (street markets) and rubbish dumps. Most slum dwellers work in the informal sector. Mexico's GDP is estimated to be 3-4% lower than expected due to the informal economy. Huge income inequalities – Top 20% earn 13x more than bottom 20%.

**Environmental:** 12,000 tonnes of waste per day, most dumped into river untreated. Severe water shortages and over-abstraction leading to subsidence (10m in 100 years!). More than 4 million cars leads to very poor air quality. Smog is trapped in the city due to temperature inversions, made worse by Mexico City's mountains. Breathing in Mexico City's air is equivalent to smoking 60 cigarettes per day!



### City's Importance

- GDP of US\$411 billion per year.
- Mexico City contributes 20% to Mexico's GDP
- 50% of all of Mexico's industry is in Mexico City.
- Population – 21 million and increases by 300,000 every year.
- 25% of Mexico's population lives in Mexico City.
- There are 160 museums in Mexico City, only London has more!
- It is the 8<sup>th</sup> richest city in the world.
- Mexico City International Airport is the busiest in Latin America with 42 million passengers in 2016. It is the 42<sup>nd</sup> busiest airport in the world.

### City's Opportunities

**Social:** Standards of living are gradually improving. The Cinco de Mayo festival is an important cultural event for traditional dancing and music. National Autonomous University is the largest and one of the best universities in the world.

**Economic:** Mexico City has a very low unemployment rate (4%). The city has various types of employment including 50% of the country's manufacturing industry.

**Environmental:** Huge investment in sewage works to remove waste from Mexico City and public transport systems e.g. The Grand Canal sewage system and Mexicable

### Urban planning to improve quality of life for urban poor

A variety of schemes have been introduced improve socio-economic and environmental conditions.

**Socio-economic improvements: Casa y Ciudad.** Bottom up scheme to help residents redevelop housing to a high standard at low cost. Residents provided with construction advice and materials and training to help provide long term jobs. E.g. In the suburb of Azcapotzalco 75 homes were rebuilt with 3 bedrooms, kitchens and sanitation, residents also trained to be carpenters and plumbers.

**Environmental improvements: Isla Urbana** 4870 rainwater harvesting schemes implemented in poorest regions in individual houses, health centres and schools (e.g. Parres Primary School, Tlalpan) providing nearly 250 million litres of harvested water to locals. Less water taken from aquifers.

#### Government-led top down schemes:

- E.g. Oportunidades which loans money to urban poor on the condition that they send children to school regularly and attend regular health centre visits.
- E.g. No Hoy Circula which bans cars from being on the road on certain days of the week depending on their registration plate. Aimed to reduce carbon emissions and particulates from entering Mexico City's air and creating smog.
- Mexicable- access city centre in 30 minutes instead of 1hr30/2hours. Regeneration of area around, safer travel.