

URBANIZATION

- Transformation of a society from a rural to an urban one.
- **Urban population** - Persons living in cities or towns of 2,500 or more residents.
- **Urbanized area** - One or more places and the adjacent densely populated surrounding area that together have a minimum population of 50,000.

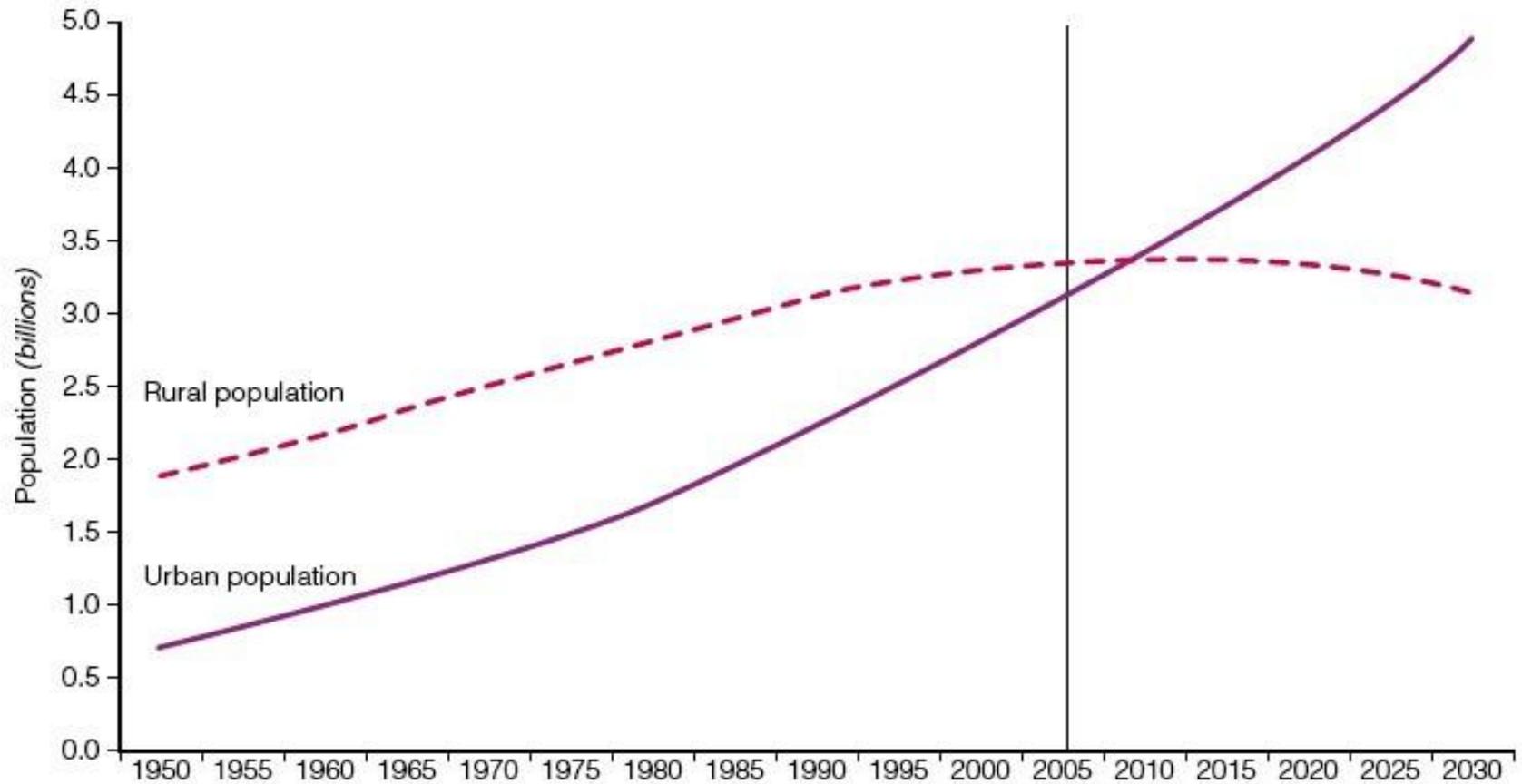
- **Megacities** - Cities with 10 million residents or more.



Metropolitan Area

- A **metropolitan area** is a densely populated core area together with adjacent communities.
- The largest city in each metropolitan area is designated the central city.

Urban and rural population of the world (1950-2030)



Causes of Urban Growth

- ③ Better food supply
- ③ Good medical care
- ③ Education
- ③ Jobs
- ③ Entertainment
- ③ Specialization of professions

Functionalist View

- Focuses on how changes in one aspect of the social system affect other aspects of society.
- Human Ecology
- Urban Ecology

Functionalist View

- The development of urban areas is functional for societal development.
- Urbanization is also dysfunctional, because it leads to increased rates of anomie as the bonds between individuals and social groups become weak.

Functionalist View

- There are different theories:
- Concentric-zone theory
- Demographic transition theory
- Multiple-nuclei theory

Demographic transition

theory

- The **demographic transition theory** of population describes how industrialization has affected population growth.
- There are different stages in this theory:

- **Stage 1: Preindustrial Societies** - little population growth, high birth rates offset by high death rates.
- **Stage 2: Early Industrialization** - significant population growth, birth rates are relatively high, death rates decline.

- **Stage 3: Advanced Industrialization and Urbanization** - very little population growth occurs, birth rates and death rates are low.
- **Stage 4: Postindustrialization** - birth rates decline as more women are employed and raising children becomes more costly.

Growth of World's population



© 2007 Thomson Higher Education

Symbolic View

Simmel's view
of city life

The intensity of city life causes people to become insensitive to individuals and events around them.

Urbanism as a
way of life

Size, density, and heterogeneity of urban population result in elaborate division of labor and space.

Conflict View

- Emphasizes the role of power, wealth and profit motive in development of urban areas.
- Capitalism contributes to migration of rural inhabitants to cities.
- Individuals and groups with wealth and power influence decisions that affect urban populations.

Conflict View

Capitalism
and urban
growth

The capitalist class chooses locations for skyscrapers and housing projects, limiting individual choices by others.

Gender
regimes in
cities

Different cities have different ideologies regarding access to social positions and resources for men and women.

New Urban Sociology

- An approach to urbanization that considers the interplay of local, national, and worldwide forces and their effect on local space, with special emphasis on the impact of global economic activity.

Current Urban Problems

- For Developing world
 - 1-uncontrollable growth
 - 2-traffic noise
 - 3 pollution
 - 4 dirty water
 - 5increase in unemployment
 - 6-shortage of land(housing)