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## Teacher Overview: *What have been the effects of urbanization in the late 20th and 21st centuries?*

[Go directly to student-facing materials!](#)



**Unit Essential Question(s):** How does globalization impact institutions, nations, international relations, and the lives of individuals? | [Link to Unit](#)

**Supporting Question(s):** Do the economic benefits of globalization outweigh the costs?

**Objective(s):**

- **Describe** the effects of urbanization in the late 20th and 21st centuries.

### Alignment to State Standards

#### [NYS Social Studies Framework:](#)

Key Idea	Conceptual Understandings	Content Specifications
<b>10.8 TENSIONS BETWEEN TRADITIONAL CULTURES AND MODERNIZATION:</b> Tensions exist between traditional cultures and agents of modernization. Reactions for and against modernization depend on perspective and context. (Standards: 2, 3, 4, 5; Themes: ID, TCC, SOC, GOV, CIV, TECH)	10.8a Cultures and countries experience and view modernization differently. For some, it is a change from a traditional rural, agrarian condition to a secular, urban, industrial condition. Some see modernization as a potential threat and others as an opportunity to be met.	Students will investigate the extent to which urbanization and industrialization have modified the roles of social institutions such as family, religion, education, and government by examining one case study in each of these regions: Africa (e.g., Zimbabwe, Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone), Latin America (e.g., Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Mexico), and Asia (e.g., China, India, Indonesia, South Korea).

## Social Studies Practices

### [NYS Social Studies Practices](#)

**Gathering, Using, and Interpreting Evidence** (A1, A2, A5, A7)  
**Chronological Reasoning and Causation** (B1, B3)  
**Comparison and Contextualization** (C1, C3, C5, C6)  
**Geographic Reasoning** (D1)

### [Common Core State Standards](#)

Depending on how you structure your lesson, you may address different standards. Below, are the standards that we believe are most important for this lesson.

Reading	Writing	Speaking and Listening
<p><b>Key Ideas and Details:</b> <b>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.9-10.2:</b> Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events or ideas develop over the course of the text.</p> <p><b>Craft and Structure:</b> <b>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.9-10.4:</b> Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history/social science.</p> <p><b>Integration of Knowledge and Ideas:</b> <b>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.9-10.7:</b> Integrate quantitative or technical analysis (e.g., charts, research data) with qualitative analysis in print or digital text.</p> <p><b>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.9-10.9:</b> Compare and contrast treatments of the same topic in several primary and secondary sources.</p>	<p><b>Text Types &amp; Purposes:</b> <b>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.WHST.9-10.1:</b> Write arguments focused on <i>discipline-specific content</i>.</p>	<p><b>Comprehension and Collaboration:</b> <b>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1:</b> Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9-10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.</p>

## What have been the effects of urbanization in the late 20th and 21st centuries?

Objective:

- **Describe** the effects of urbanization in the late 20th and 21st centuries.

### Introduction

➔ **Directions:** Examine the images below and respond to the prompt.



Manchester, England in 1820  
[Image.js](#) courtesy of wikimedia commons



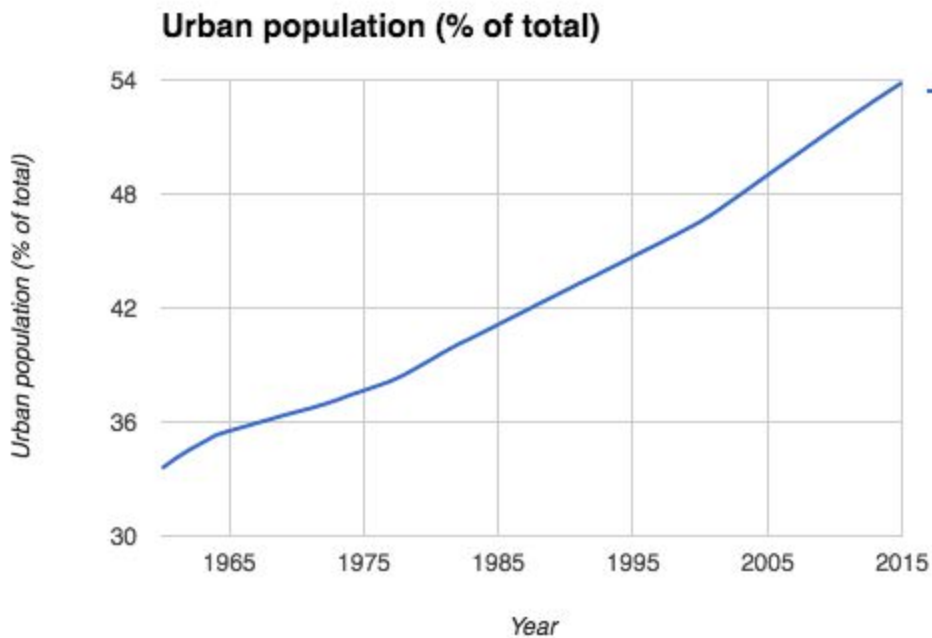
Manchester, England in 1852  
[Image.js](#) courtesy of wikimedia commons

The images above show the effects of urbanization and industrialization in Manchester, England during the Industrial Revolution in the 1800s. In the space below, describe the effects that urbanization and industrialization had on cities like Manchester based on what you learned earlier in the year.

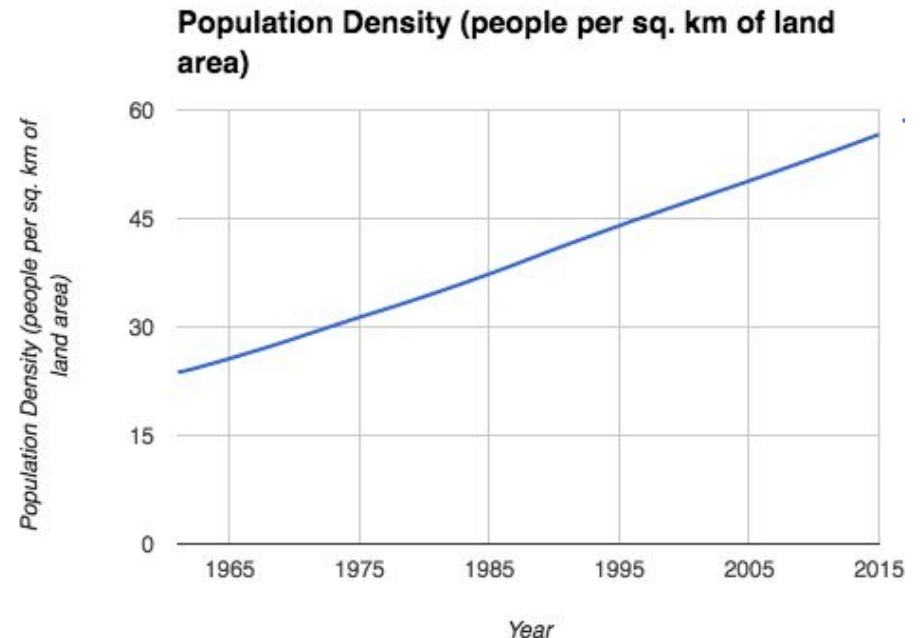
## Urbanization in the late 20th and 21st Centuries

Since the end of World War II, people throughout the world have migrated from rural areas to cities at a steady and increasing rate. This process of moving to cities is known as **urbanization**. Most people move to cities for **better employment opportunities** and the hope of a better life.

As a result of increased migration to them, some urban centers whose populations exceed 10 million people are now referred to as **“megacities.”** These areas are now faced with issues including **transportation congestion, insufficient housing** and **overstressed public services** as a result of the increase in population and rise in population density.



[Image](#) is courtesy of The World Bank Group



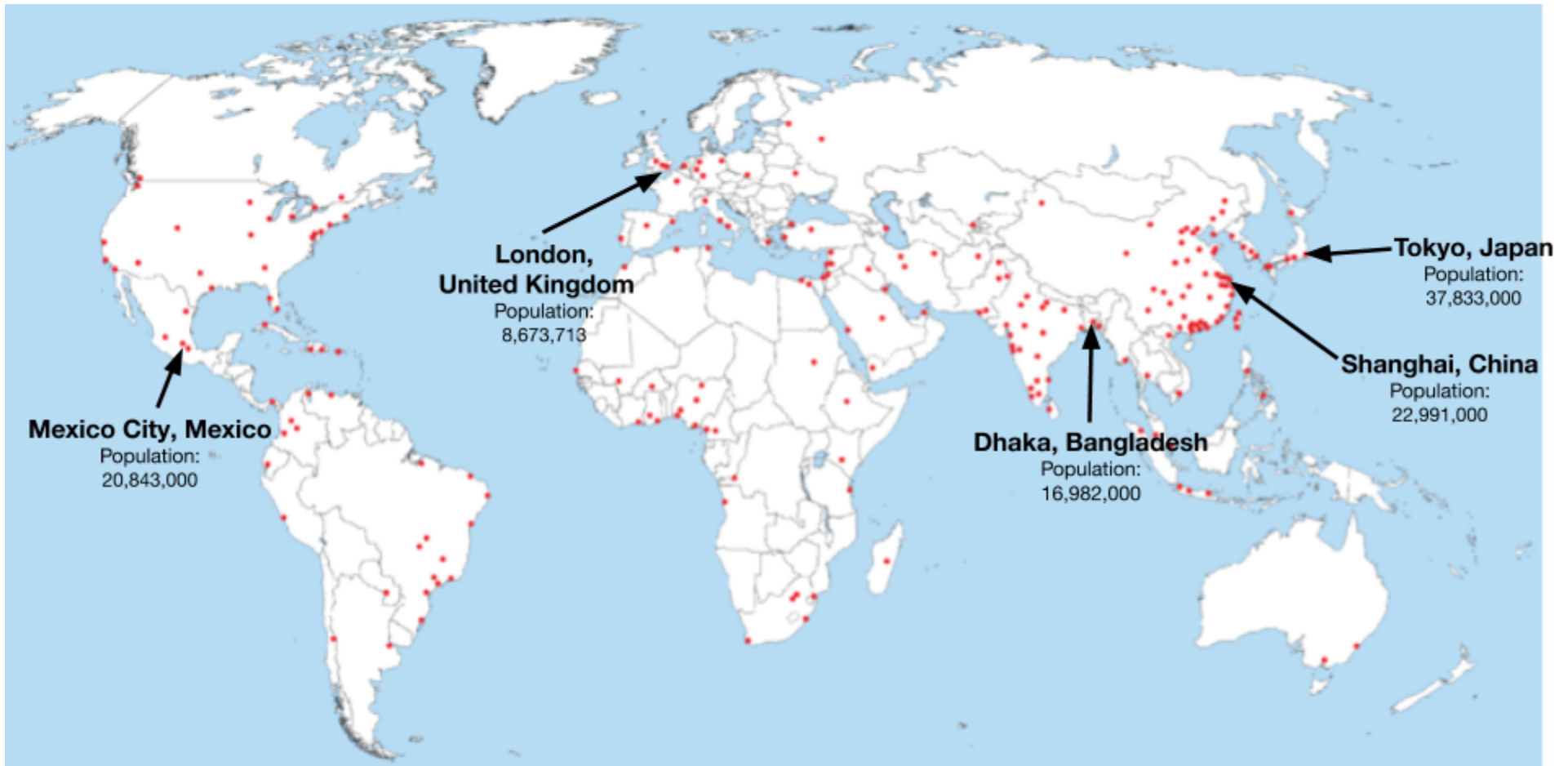
[Image](#) is courtesy of The World Bank Group

## Five Case Studies in late 20th and 21st Century Urbanization: Mexico City, Mexico; London, United Kingdom; Dhaka, Bangladesh; Shanghai, China; Tokyo, Japan



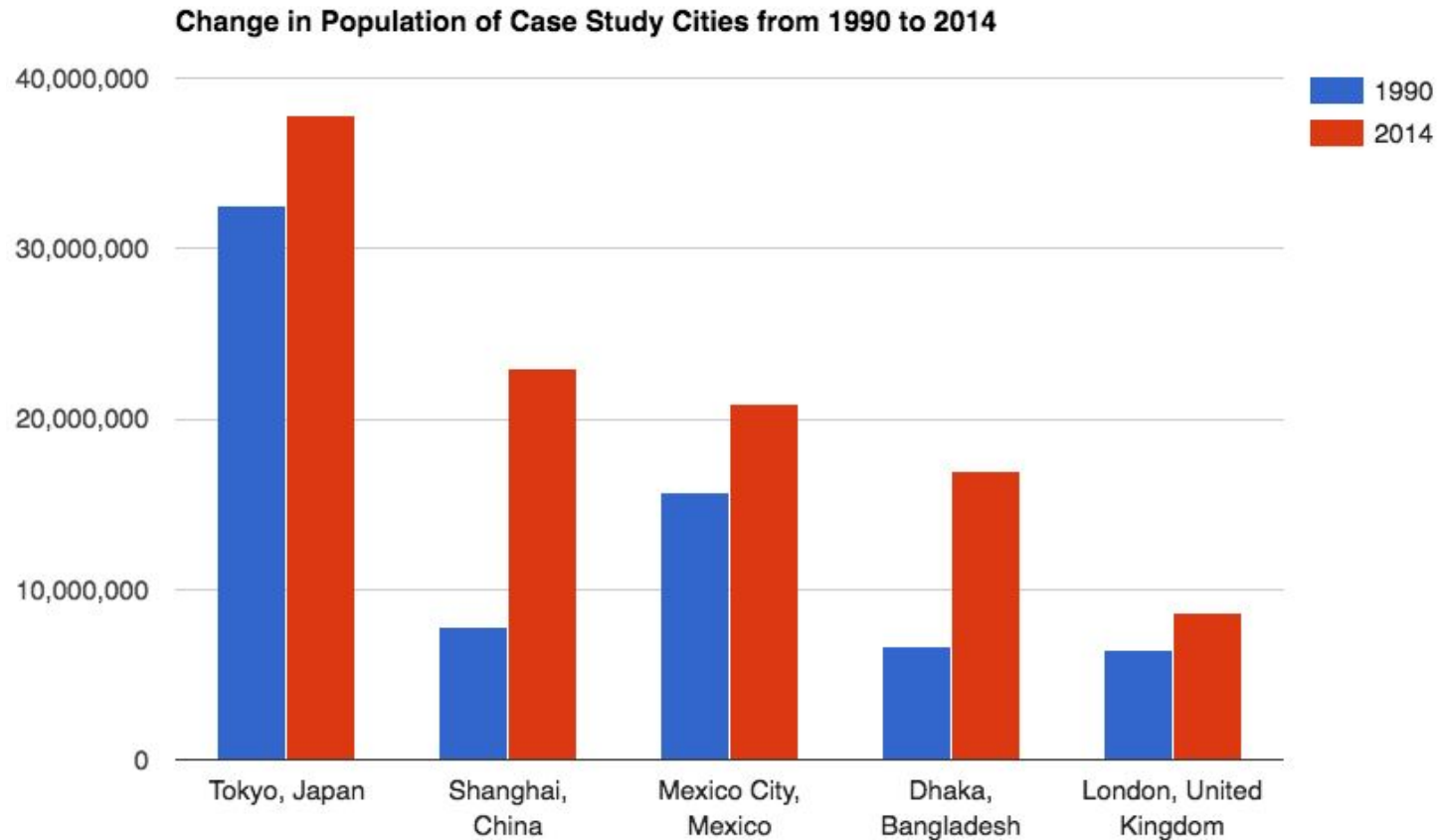
➡ **Directions:** To learn about the effects of urbanization in 21st century “megacities,” watch the linked videos from the BBC’s special “Megacities” which highlights five cities from around the globe that are in different states of development and have different cultures. In addition, examine the map and data provided.

Respond to the prompts associated with each video, map, and data.



Each dot on the map above represents a city with a population of over 2 million people. Those cities that are identified will be discussed further in this lesson. The populations given for each of the selected cities is based on the population in 2014.

## Population Changes in Case Study Megacities



\*Population data for London is from 1991 and 2015.

Sources: <http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0762524.html>; <http://www.londonspovertyprofile.org.uk/indicators/topics/londons-geography-population/londons-population-over-time/>

**1. Based on the map above, most of the world's largest cities are located on waterways. Why is that?**

**2. Based on the graph above, what generalization can you make about population in the case study cities from 1990 to 2014.**

**3. Which of the case study cities grew the most from 1990 to 2014?**

## Part I



➔ **Directions:** Watch excerpts of [episode one of the BBC show Andrew Marr's Megacities](#) and respond to the prompts that follow.

Time	Prompt	Response
3:15-11:00	4. According to Andrew Marr, why are people moving to megacities?	
	5. Describe the changes that Shanghai has experienced since the 1990s.	
18:12- 19:52	6. What does the luxury apartment show about the wealth concentrated in these megacities?	
19:56-30:36	7. Where are the people migrating to Dhaka, coming from? How many arrive each year?	
	8. Describe the slum in Dhaka that is depicted in the video.	
	9. Describe the sanitation in Musharraf's slum. Where does the human waste go?	
	10. How far away from Musharraf's home is the nearest freshwater pump?	
	11. Where did Musharraf's family come from? Why did they leave the country?	

31:39-36:06	<b>12. Why are so many buildings set to be demolished?</b>	
	<b>13. How did the people in Shanghai who were going to be forcibly moved, feel about the situation?</b>	
	<b>14. How does the home in Shanghai compare to the home that the host visited in Dhaka?</b>	
	<b>15. What are the benefits of being relocated by the Chinese government in Shanghai?</b>	
37:28-46:27	<b>16. What problem does Tokyo face?</b>	
	<b>17. How is Tokyo different from Shanghai?</b>	
	<b>18. What psychological and social effects are living in Tokyo having on some of its residents?</b>	



	<b>19. What negative effects of urbanization are depicted by Mexico City?</b>	
	<b>20. What evidence is there of inequality in Mexico city?</b>	
46:27-52:45	<b>21. Describe the “street culture” (at night and on the weekends) in Mexico City that the host experiences. How is it different from Tokyo, Shanghai, and Dhaka?</b>	

## Part 2



➔ **Directions:** Watch excerpts of [episode two of the BBC show Andrew Marr's Megacities](#) and respond to the prompts that follow.

Time	Prompt	Response
5:07-7:31	22. According to the video, why is there high crime in Mexico City?	
	23. What strategies do people use to cope with the high crime in Mexico City?	
21:07-24:10	24. Why do people in Mexico City worship Santa Muerte?	
	25. How might the popularity of Santa Muerte be related to urbanization in Mexico City?	
45:05-48:42	26. When was the original drainage system in Mexico City built?	
	27. Why is the current drainage system in Mexico insufficient?	
	28. How do the Japanese deal with the possibility of floods from Tsunamis? How is this system different from the drainage system in Mexico?	

	<b>29. What issues do monsoons and rising water levels caused by climate change create in Dhaka?</b>	
	<b>30. Why is disease a problem in the Dhaka slums?</b>	
48:44-54:00	<b>31. What efforts are being made to prevent and relieve disease in the slums in Dhaka?</b>	
	<b>32. What challenges face the healthcare system in Dhaka?</b>	

### Part 3



➔ **Directions:** Watch excerpts of [episode three of the BBC show Andrew Marr's Megacities](#) and respond to the prompts that follow.

Time	Prompt	Response
4:28-10:00	33. Describe the transportation options in Dhaka.	
	34. What are the effects of Dhaka's reliance on rickshaws?	
13:25-16:08	35. Describe the transportation options in Shanghai.	
	36. Why do people want cars in Shanghai?	
	37. What effects might more cars in Shanghai have on the city?	

18:50-21:45	<b>38. What issues does Mexico City have with the number of cars in their city?</b>	
31:04-34:15	<b>39. What is blocking the sewer system in London? How is issue connected to urbanization?</b>	
	<b>40. What is the “grand canal” in Mexico City?</b>	
37:17-39:15	<b>41. What is clogging the “grand canal” in Mexico City? What does this demonstrate about urbanization?</b>	
	<b>42. How do they unclog the grand canal in Mexico City?</b>	
43:40-44:30	<b>43. What does London’s landfill demonstrate about urbanization?</b>	
44:38-46:42	<b>44. Why do people pick through the landfill outside of Dhaka?</b>	

**FA**

**What have been the effects of urbanization in the late 20th and 21st centuries?**

➔ **Directions:** Using evidence from the documents above, respond to the task below in the space provided.

- **Describe** the effects of urbanization in the late 20th and 21st centuries.