**Urbanisation** is the **proportion or percentage** of people living in towns and cities.

* In **1800**, only about **3%** of the world’s population lived in urban areas.
* In **1950**, about **30%** of the world’s population lived in urban areas.
* In **2008**, the UN estimated **half** of the world’s population lived in urban areas.
* In **2014**, **54%** of the world’s population lived in urban areas.
* In **2050**, it is anticipated that **66%** of the world’s population will be living in urban areas.

**Student tasks**

1. Draw a line graph to show the increase in the proportion or percentage of people living in towns and cities between 1800 and 2050. Use a horizontal scale of 1 cm to 25 years.

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1. Study global urbanisation map below. This shows the percentage of urbanisation per country in 2012.

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Map used courtesy of Rotterdamus1234, 2012 under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported license.

[commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Urbanisation-degree.png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File%3AUrbanisation-degree.png)

1. Use an atlas to name five countries where the country has between 75% and 100% of the population living in towns and cities.

1. Use an atlas to name five countries where the country has 25% or less of the population living in towns and cities.

1. Circle the correct word in brackets to complete the sentence:

**HICs have a [higher/lower] percentage of their population living in towns and cities than LICs.**

1. Complete the table to show if the statements are true or false:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **True** | **False** |
| The highest proportions of urbanisation are found in the HICss of North America, Western Europe and Oceania. |  |  |
| The lowest proportions are found in the LICs of Africa and Southeast Asia. |  |  |
| Several countries with South America have more than 75% of their population living in urban areas.  |  |  |