

THE CAUSES OF URBANISATION

Urbanisation is due to 2 main causes :

A NATURAL INCREASE

B RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION

A NATURAL INCREASE : This is the difference between the birth rate and the death rate. In cities the birth rate will usually fall as it is more industrialised and women are more educated and more likely to have an economic role. The death rate will also fall significantly as people in the cities will generally have access to a better diet, cleaner water, hospitals and medical care causing life expectancy to increase. The fact that migration tends to be age selective, however, in that younger people are more likely to migrate to the cities, means that the youthful population of cities is more 'fertile'.

B RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION : This is the movement of people from rural areas (countryside) to urban areas (towns and cities) and is caused by 2 main factors. :

1. PUSH FACTORS : Negative aspects of rural areas that cause people to leave.

2. PULL FACTORS : Positive aspects of the cities that attract people.

Push Factors

The following are some of the push factors.

1. Poverty.
2. Low living standards.
3. Lack of security of life and property.
4. Poor sanitary conditions.
5. Lack of transportation and communication.
6. Lack of health facilities.
7. Lack of educational facilities.
8. Lack of recreational facilities.
9. Lack of job opportunities.

Pull Factors

The following are some of the pull factors.

1. Better health facilities.
2. Access to clean water.
3. High standard of living.
4. High standard of education.
5. Better recreational facilities.
6. More diverse job opportunities, especially in the secondary and service sectors.
7. Better security of life.
8. Better social environment.



