Urbanization

The Growth of Cities
Urbanization

• The large scale migration of people from rural to urban areas
  – Urban Areas: Heavily populated areas found in, and around, cities
  – Rural Areas: Less densely populated areas. Sometimes referred to as the hinterland or countryside
Causes of Urbanization: Push Factors

- Rural Areas have less opportunities
  - Education
  - Jobs
  - Entertainment
  - Services
- Natural Disasters
- Decline of Family Farming
- Poor Infrastructure
- Security
Causes of Urbanization: Pull Factors

• More Opportunities
• Higher density of services
• Entertainment destinations
• Perceived potential economic benefit
• Infrastructure
• Social Services
Defining The City

• **Urban Area** – Densely populated area with more than 50,000 people

• **Municipality** – Incorporated urban areas with established city governments that provide services

• **City Limits** – The legal limits of a city

• **Metropolitan Statistical Area** – An Urban area and the surrounding city that is services by the city
Parts of the City

- **Central Business District (CBD)** – The main center of business and commerce in the city
- **Suburbs** – The areas surrounding the city. Typically reserved for the middle class
- **Edge Cities** – Suburbs that become large cities themselves
- **High-Tech Corridors** – Industrial and technological centers that grow in regions of the city
Parts of the City

- **Squatter Settlements/Slums** – Very low wealth communities that grow unplanned
- **Ethnic Neighborhoods/Ghettos** – Parts of the city inhabited by people of a certain ethnic group
Problems of Urbanization

• Overpopulation
• Unemployment
  – Leading to higher rates of crime
• Squatter Settlements
• Traffic
• Pollution
  – Noise, Light, Air, Water
• Stress