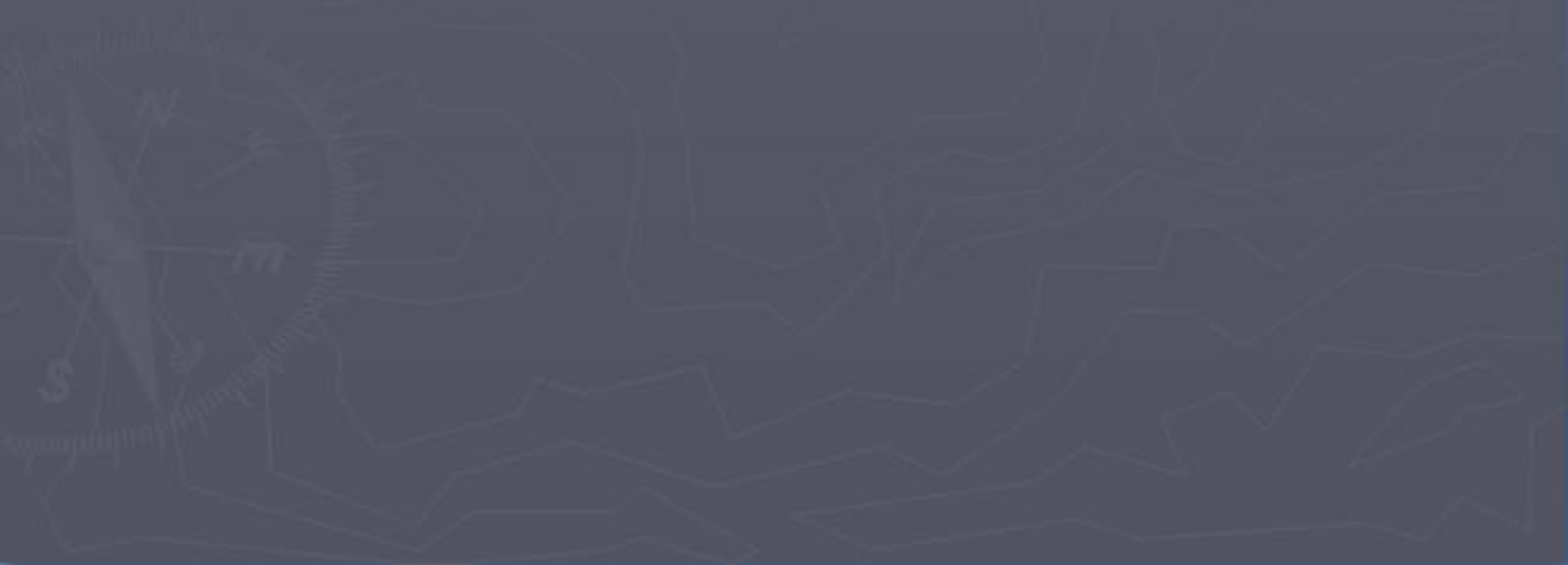


Basic Developments of Cities



Basic Definition

- Urban – Of, living, or situated in a city or town.
 - Definitions of urban areas vary by region but generally are a central place for a tributary area that include a variety of shops, banks and offices



Urbanization Defined

- The increasing number of people that migrate from rural to urban areas. It predominantly results in the physical growth of urban areas, be it horizontal or vertical.



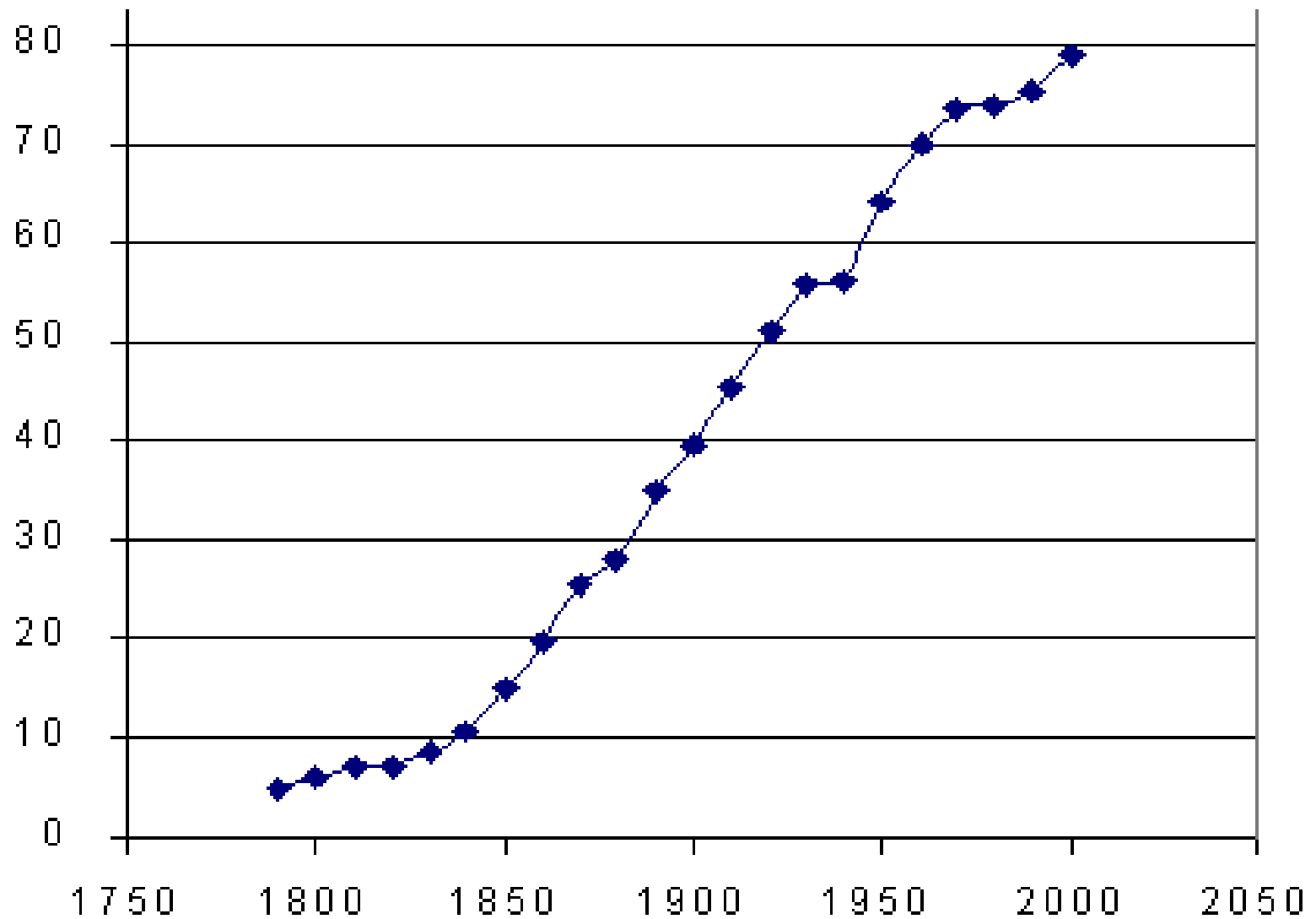
Earliest Uses for Cities

- First cities developed in Mesopotamia and Asia Minor around 10,000 – 12,000 years ago
 - Connected to **First Agriculture Revolution**
 - Domestication of certain plants and animals
 - Stable food source, needed more workers to produce food that provided for more people, that needed more workers to support production of more food, etc...
 - Densely clustered around water source
 - People grouped together for mutual protection
 - Allowed for specialization of labor and cultural developments

Reasons for Rapid Industrialization

- Urbanization increase rapidly in the 19th and 20th centuries
 - Industrial Revolution – (18th – 19th century) Changes in production leading to economic centers growing in the cities
 - **Enclosure Movement** – (18th-19th century) Shift to private ownership of farmland.
 - **Second Agricultural Revolution** – (18th – 20th century) Industrial technology applied to food production. Allowed for more production with less workers
 - **Medical Revolution** – (19th-20th century) Improved medical technology (vaccinations) and sanitation

Urbanization of the U.S., 1790 - 2000



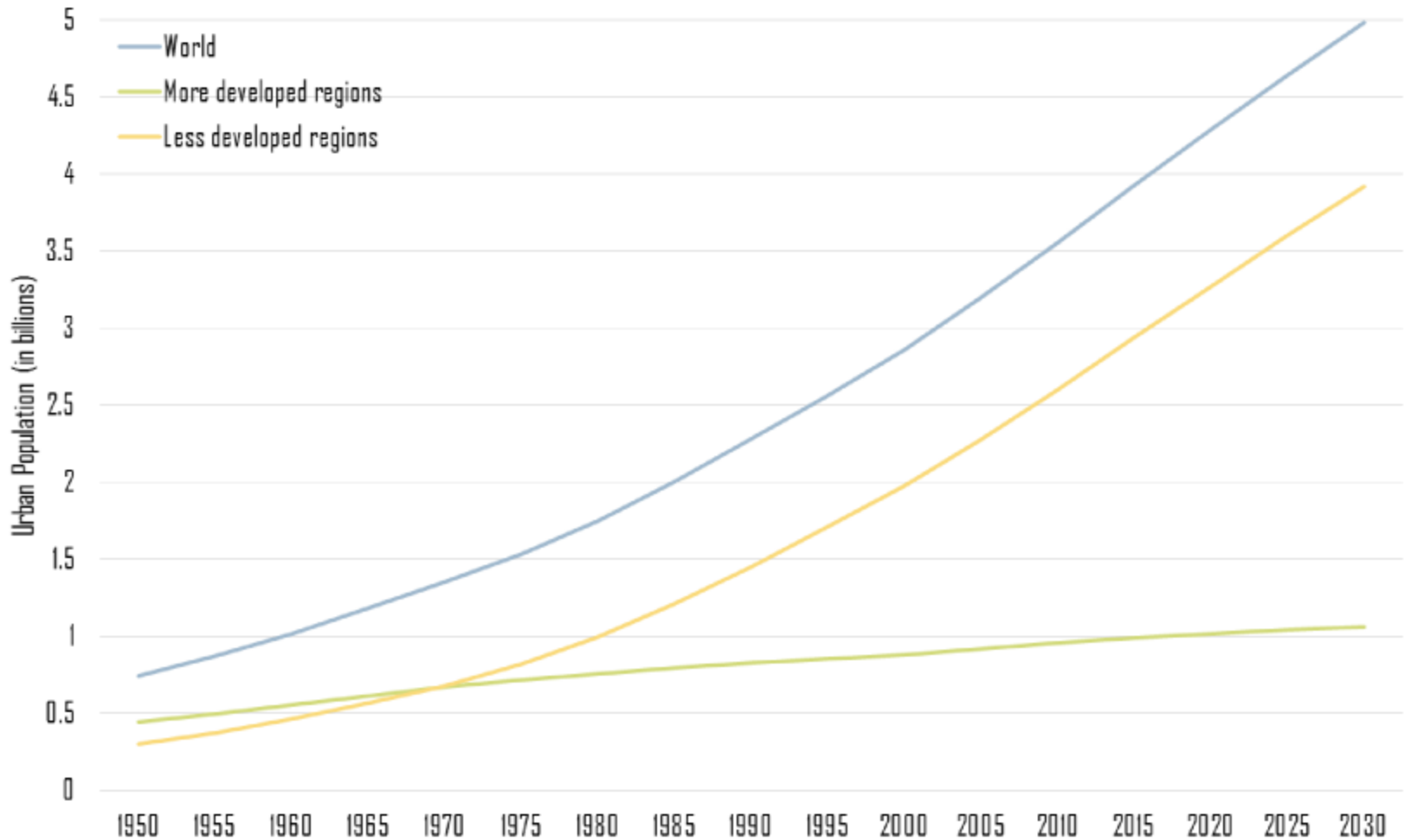
Problems with Defining a City

- No international definition for what constitutes a city
 - India defines an urban center as 5,000 inhabitants, with adult males employed primarily in nonagricultural work
 - The United States Census Bureau defines a city as a densely populated area of 2,500 people or more
 - South Africa counts as a city any settlement of 500 or more people

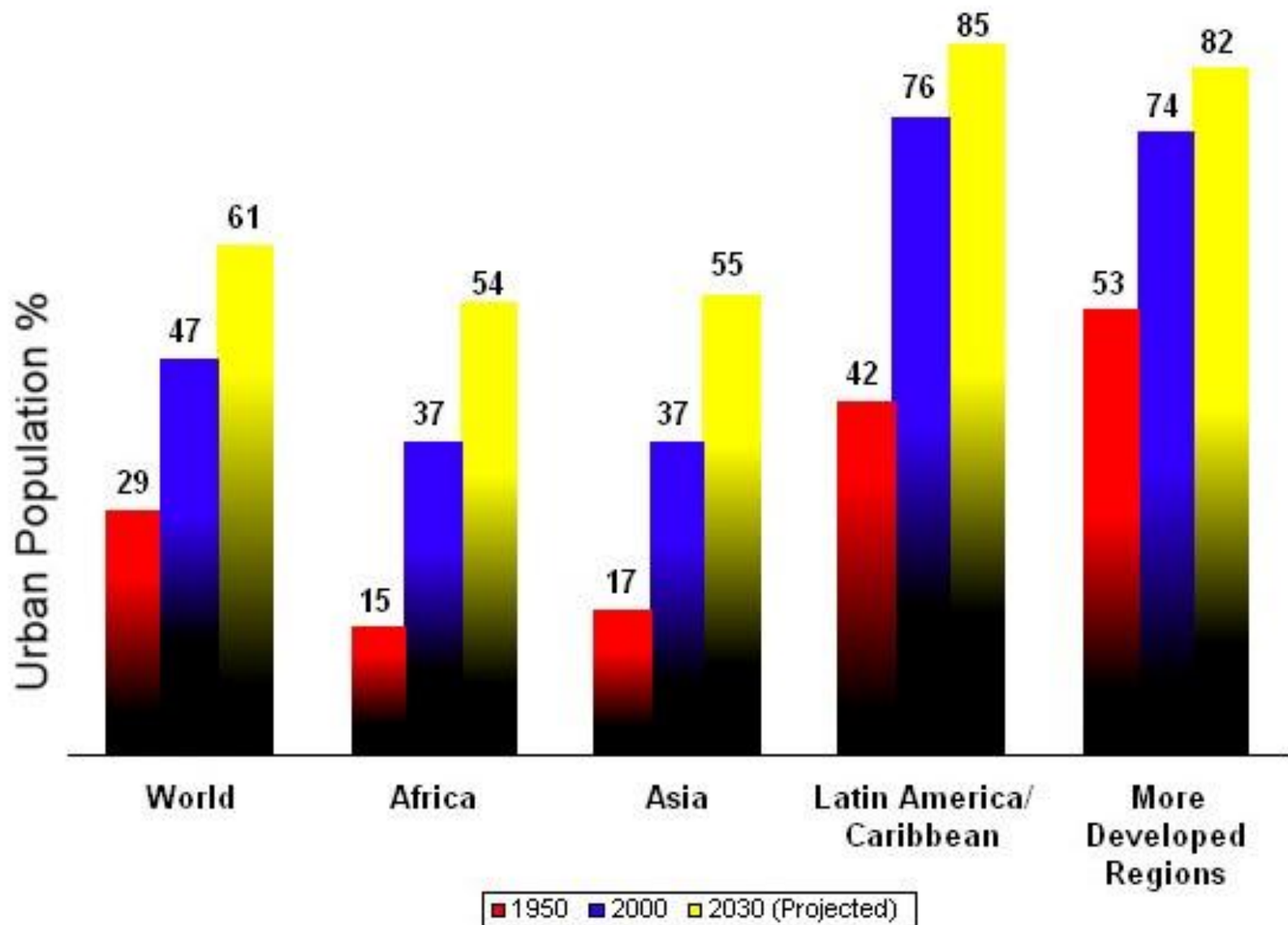
Differences in Urbanization

- More Developed Countries have higher rates of urbanized population than LDCs
- Developing countries are rapidly urbanizing
 - Caused by massive migration away from the country
 - People flock to the cities searching for a better life
 - Often resulting in high unemployment

World Urban Population, 1950-2010 with Projections to 2030 (in billions)



Trends in Urbanization by Region, 2003.



Source: United Nations, World Urbanization Prospects.

Urban Growth Factors

- Migration of people to the cities
- Higher natural population growth rates for recent migrants
 - Because employment is unreliable, large families construct a more extensive family support system
 - Family sizes shrink when job security increases and women enter the work force

Urban population explosion

By 2015, 22 megacities across the globe are projected to surpass 10 million people, according to the United Nations.

