

Land Use and Land Cover

- Land that is covered mainly in buildings and roads is called urban land
- Any area not classified as urban is considered rural.
 - Farmland
 - Rangeland
 - Forest Land
 - National and State Parks
 - Wilderness



Primary	Land-Use (Categories

resources

and fiber

wildlife, fish, nuts, and other

Land used for recreation and

communities and ecosystems

Land that is difficult to use for

Land used for houses, businesses,

scenic enjoyment and for

human purposes

industry, and roads

Land used to grow plants for food

preserving native animal and plant

Primary	Land-Use Categories
Land Cayer Tree	Human and H

Primary Land-l	Jse Categories	
Land Cover Type	Lluma em 1	

Human Use of Land

Lana Cover Type Rangeland Land used to graze livestock and

wildlife Land used for harvesting wood,

Forest land

Cropland

Parks and preserves

Wetlands, mountains, deserts, and other Urban land

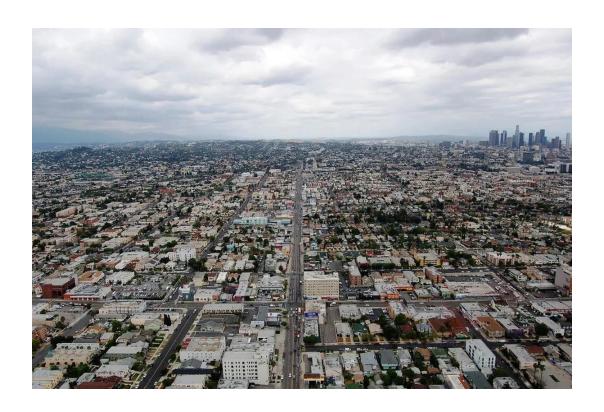


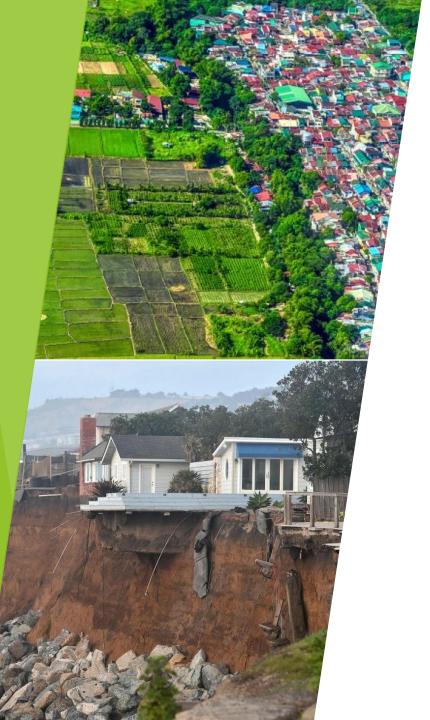
Urbanization

- Until the 1850's most people live in rural areas.
 - Many were farmers, managed forests, worked in local mines or mills, or manufactured necessities of life for a small town
- The Industrial Revolution changed this pattern.
 - ► Thousands of rural jobs were eliminated
 - Many people moved to urban cities to find jobs
- Urbanization is the movement of people from rural areas to cities
- People usually leave rural areas for more plentiful and better paying jobs

The Urban Crisis

- Rapidly growing populations can overwhelm a cities infrastructure
 - Infrastructure is the basic facilities and services that support a community, such as roads, sewers, railroads, bridges, canals, fire and police stations, schools, libraries, hospitals, water mains, power lines, etc.
- When more people live in a city than its infrastructure can support, the living conditions deteriorate.
 - Traffic jams
 - Substandard housing
 - Polluted air and water





Urban Sprawl

- Rapid expansion of a city into the countryside around a city
- Much of this expansion results from building suburbs on the boundary of a larger city
 - Many suburbs are built on land that was previously used for food production
 - Whether people live in cities or in the countryside, they are dependent on the resources produced in rural areas. These resources include clean drinking water, fertile soil and land for crops, trees for wood and paper, and much of the oxygen we breathe.
- Many suburbs have been built on marginal land (land that is poorly suited for building) when a city was first built with little room for expansion