

# Global City Trends

April 2022

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## INTRODUCTION

Scope  
Key findings (1)  
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Global cities snapshot  
Key trends impacting cities  
Areas of opportunity

## CITIES TODAY

World cities in 2021: Top 1,000 cities summary  
Nearly 90% of North America's GDP in 2021 was concentrated in 370 cities  
Middle class growth dominated by Eastern European and Chinese cities  
Necessity spending remains the highest among African cities  
Sustainability awareness sees most cities record improving air quality levels  
Passenger car numbers continue to rise despite the increasing focus on alternative mobility  
Rising unemployment is a challenge for emerging and developing cities  
Travel industries recover in 2021 but are still below pre-pandemic levels

## GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Sub-Saharan African cities to record the fastest population growth  
East Asian cities to display the largest ageing shift  
US cities to remain the most affluent by 2040 despite a large disparity in incomes  
By 2040, the internet will be readily accessible in most cities  
Future economic growth to be dominated by poorer cities with high economic potential  
Four Chinese cities to appear among the top 10 largest by GDP in PPP terms by 2040  
Chinese cities to record disposable income levels on a par with advanced economies  
Number of USD100 billion+ consumer markets to more than double in emerging markets

## TOP 5 TRENDS

Key trends impacting cities  
Digital cities  
Clean and sustainable energy systems  
Urban space and environment  
Seamless and clean mobility  
Cities of the future

## RANKINGS BY INDICATOR

GDP Ranking  
Disposable income ranking  
Disposable income by band  
Consumer expenditure ranking  
Population ranking

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