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|  | **WORLD POPULATION** | | | | |  |
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| **Largest cities in the Year 100** | |  |  | **Largest cities in the Year 1200** | |  |
| 1 | Rome, Italy | 450,000 |  | 1 | Hangzhou, China | 255,000 |
| 2 | Luoyang (Honan), China | 420,000 |  | 2 | Fez, Morocco | 200,000 |
| 3 | Seleucia (on the Tigris), Iraq | 250,000 |  | 3 | Cairo, Egypt | 200,000 |
| 4 | Alexandria, Egypt | 250,000 |  | 4 | Pagan, Myanmar | 180,000 |
| 5 | Antioch, Turkey | 150,000 |  | 5 | Kamakura, Japan | 175,000 |
| 6 | Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka | 130,000 |  | 6 | Angkor, Cambodia | 150,000 |
| 7 | Peshawar, Pakistan | 120,000 |  | 7 | Constantinople, Turkey | 150,000 |
| 8 | Carthage, Tunisia | 100,000 |  | 8 | Palermo, Italy | 150,000 |
| 9 | Wu (Suzhou), China | 90,000 |  | 9 | Marrakech, Morocco | 150,000 |
| 10 | Smyrna, Turkey | 90,000 |  | 10 | Seville, Spain | 150,000 |
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| **Largest cities in the Year 500** | |  |  | **Largest cities in the Year 1500** | |  |
| 1 | Constantinople, Turkey | 400,000 |  | 1 | Beijing, China | 672,000 |
| 2 | Ctesiphon, Iraq | 400,000 |  | 2 | Vijayanagar, India | 500,000 |
| 3 | Luoyang, China | 200.000 |  | 3 | Cairo, Egypt | 400,000 |
| 4 | Nanjing, China | 150,000 |  | 4 | Hangzhou, China | 250,000 |
| 5 | Antioch, Turkey | 150,000 |  | 5 | Tabriz, Iran | 250,000 |
| 6 | Teotihuacan, Mexico | 125,000 |  | 6 | Constantinople, Turkey | 200,000 |
| 7 | Carthage, Tunisia | 100,000 |  | 7 | Gaur, India | 200,000 |
| 8 | Rome, Italy | 100,000 |  | 8 | Paris, France | 185,000 |
| 9 | Alexandria, Egypt | 100,000 |  | 9 | Canton, China | 150,000 |
| 10 | Changan (Xi’an), China | 100,000 |  | 10 | Nanjing, China | 147,000 |
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| **Largest cities in the Year 900** | |  |  | **Largest cities in the Year 1600** | |  |
| 1 | Baghdad, Iraq | 900,000 |  | 1 | Beijing, China | 706,000 |
| 2 | Changan (Xi’an), China | 500,000 |  | 2 | Constantinople, Turkey | 700,000 |
| 3 | Constantinople, Turkey | 300,000 |  | 3 | Agra, India | 500,000 |
| 4 | Kyoto, Japan | 200,000 |  | 4 | Osaka, Japan | 360,000 |
| 5 | Cordoba, Spain | 200,000 |  | 5 | Kyoto, Japan | 300,000 |
| 6 | Alexandria, Egypt | 175,000 |  | 6 | Hangzhou, China | 270,000 |
| 7 | Luoyang, China | 150,000 |  | 7 | Paris, France | 245,000 |
| 8 | Fustat (Cairo), Egypt | 150,000 |  | 8 | Naples, Italy | 224,000 |
| 9 | Manyakheta (Malkhed), India | 100,000 |  | 9 | Cairo, Egypt | 200,000 |
| 10 | Kairwan, Tunisia | 100,000 |  | 10 | Bijapur, India | 200,000 |
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| **Largest cities in the Year 1000** | |  |  | **Largest cities in the Year 1800** | |  |
| 1 | Cordova, Spain | 450,000 |  | 1 | Beijing, China | 1,100,000 |
| 2 | Kaifeng, China | 400,000 |  | 2 | London, United Kingdom | 861,000 |
| 3 | Constantinople (Istanbul), Turkey | 300,000 |  | 3 | Canton, China | 800,000 |
| 4 | Angkor, Cambodia | 200,000 |  | 4 | Edo (Tokyo) Japan | 685,000 |
| 5 | Kyoto, Japan | 175,000 |  | 5 | Constantinople, Turkey | 570,000 |
| 6 | Cairo, Egypt | 135,000 |  | 6 | Paris, France | 547,000 |
| 7 | Baghdad, Iraq | 125,000 |  | 7 | Naples, Italy | 430,000 |
| 8 | Nishapur (Neyshabur), Iran | 125,000 |  | 8 | Hangzhou, China | 387,000 |
| 9 | Al-Hasa, Saudi Arabia | 110,000 |  | 9 | Osaka, Japan | 383,000 |
| 10 | Pata (Anhilwara), India | 100,000 |  | 10 | Kyoto, Japan | 377,000 |
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| **Largest cities in the Year 1900** | |  |  | **Largest cities in the Year 2000\*** | |  |
| 1 | London, United Kingdom | 6,480,000 |  | 1 | Tokyo, Japan | 26,400,000 |
| 2 | New York, United States | 4,242,000 |  | 2 | Mexico City, Mexico | 18,100,000 |
| 3 | Paris, France | 3,330,000 |  | 3 | Bombay, India | 18,100,000 |
| 4 | Berlin, Germany | 2,707,000 |  | 4 | Sao Paulo, Brazil | 17,800,000 |
| 5 | Chicago, United States | 1,717,000 |  | 5 | New York, United States | 16,600,000 |
| 6 | Vienna, Austria | 1,698,000 |  | 6 | Lagos, Nigeria | 13,400,000 |
| 7 | Tokyo, Japan | 1,497,000 |  | 7 | Los Angeles, United States | 13,100,000 |
| 8 | St. Petersburg, Russia | 1,439,000 |  | 8 | Calcutta, India | 12,900,000 |
| 9 | Manchester, United Kingdom | 1,435,000 |  | 9 | Shanghai, China | 12,900,000 |
| 10 | Philadelphia, United States | 1,418,000 |  | 10 | Buenos Aires, Argentina | 12,600,000 |
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| **Largest cities in the year 1950** | |  |  | **Largest cities in the Year 2015** | |  |
| 1 | New York, United States | 12,463,000 |  | 1 | Tokyo, Japan | 26,400,000 |
| 2 | London, United Kingdom | 8,860,000 |  | 2 | Bombay, India | 26,100,000 |
| 3 | Tokyo, Japan | 7,000,000 |  | 3 | Lagos, Nigeria | 23,200,000 |
| 4 | Paris, France | 5,900,000 |  | 4 | Dhaka, Bangladesh | 21,100,000 |
| 5 | Shanghai, China | 5,406,000 |  | 5 | Sao Paulo, Brazil | 20,400,000 |
| 6 | Moscow, Russia | 5,100,000 |  | 6 | Karachi, Pakistan | 19,200,000 |
| 7 | Buenos Aires, Argentina | 5,000,000 |  | 7 | Mexico City, Mexico | 19,200,000 |
| 8 | Chicago, United States | 4,906,000 |  | 8 | New York, United States | 17,400,000 |
| 9 | Ruhr, Germany | 4,900,000 |  | 9 | Jakarta, Indonesia | 17,300,000 |
| 10 | Kolkata, India | 4,800,000 |  | 10 | Calcutta, India | 17,300,000 |
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| Source: http://geography.about.com/library weekly | | |  |  |  |  |
| Source: Atlas of World History, Nystrom | | |  |  |  |  |

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| **City** | **Year Became #1** | **Population Information** |
| Memphis, Egypt | 3100 BCE | Well over 30,000 |
| Akkad, Babylonia (Iraq) | 2240 |  |
| Lagash, Babylonia (Iraq) | 2075 |  |
| Ur, Babylonia (Iraq) | 2030 | 65,000 |
| Thebes, Egypt | 1980 |  |
| Babylon, Babylonia (Iraq) | 1770 |  |
| Avaris, Egypt | 1670 |  |
| Memphis, Egypt | 1557 |  |
| Thebes, Egypt | 1400 |  |
| Nineveh, Assyria (Iraq) | 668 |  |
| Babylon, Babylonia (Iraq) | 612 | First above 200,000 |
| Alexandria | 320 |  |
| Pataliputra (Patna), India | 300 |  |
| Changan (Xi'an), China | 195 | 400,000 |
| Rome | 25 | 450,000 (100 CE) |
| Constantinople, Turkey | 340 CE | 400,000 (500) |
| Ctesiphon, Iraq | 570 |  |
| Changan (Xi'an), China | 637 | 400,000 (622); 600,000 (800) |
| Baghdad, Iraq | 775 | First over 1 million; 700,000 (800) |
| Cordova, Spain | 935 |  |
| Kaifeng, China | 1013 | 400,000 (1000); 442,000 (1100) |
| Constantinople, Turkey | 1127 |  |
| Merv (Mary), Turkmenistan | 1145 | 200,000 (1150) |
| Constantinople, Turkey | 1153 |  |
| Fez (Fes), Morocco | 1170 |  |
| Hangzhou, China | 1180 | 255,000 (1200); 320,000 (1250) |
| Cairo, Egypt | 1315 |  |
| Hangzhou, China | 1348 | 432,000 (1350) |
| Nanking, China | 1358 | 487,000 (1400) |
| Beijing, China | 1425 | 600,000 (1450); 672,000 (1500) |
| Constantinople, Turkey | 1650 | 700,000 (1650 & 1700) |
| Beijing, China | 1710 | 900,000 (1750); 1.1 million (1800) |
| London, United Kingdom | 1825 | First over 5 million; 1.35 million (1825); 2.32 million (1850); 4.241 million (1875); 6.480 million (1900) |
| New York | 1925 | First over 10 million; 7.774 million (1925), 12.463 million (1950) |
| Tokyo | 1965 | First over 20 million; 23 million (1975) |

Source: *Four Thousand Years of Urban Growth: An Historical Census* by Tertius Chandler