

FAQ's

1. Define a global city.

A global city, also called world city or sometimes alpha city or world center, is a city generally considered to be an important node in the global economic system. The concept comes from geography and urban studies, and the idea that globalization can be understood as largely created, facilitated, and enacted in strategic geographic locales according to a hierarchy of importance to the operation of the global system of finance and trade. . The use of "global city", as opposed to "megacity", was popularized by sociologist Saskia Sassen in her work in 1991 although the term "world city", which refers to cities that control a disproportionate amount of global business

2. What are the characteristics that constitute a world city?

- A variety of international financial services, notably in finance, insurance, real estate, banking, accountancy, and marketing
- Headquarters of several multinational corporations
- The existence of financial headquarters, a stock exchange and major financial institutions
- Domination of the trade and economy of a large surrounding area
- Major manufacturing centres with port and container facilities
- Considerable decision-making power on a daily basis and at a global level
- Centres of new ideas and innovation in business, economics, culture and politics
- Centres of media and communications for global networks
- Dominance of the national region with great international significance
- High percentage of residents employed in the services sector and information sector
- High-quality educational institutions, including renowned

- universities, international student attendance and research facilities
- Multi-functional infrastructure offering some of the best legal, medical and entertainment facilities in the country

3. What are the variants that exist among world cities to classify them further?

Alpha++ cities are London and New York City, which are vastly more integrated with the global economy than all other cities.

Alpha+ cities complement London and New York City by filling advanced service niches for the global economy. Examples are Tokyo and Paris.

Alpha and Alpha- cities are cities that link major economic regions into the world economy. Examples of alpha cities are Los Angeles and Moscow.

Beta level cities are cities that link moderate economic regions into the world economy.

Gamma level cities are cities that link smaller economic regions into the world economy.

Sufficiency level cities are cities that have a sufficient degree of services so as not to be obviously dependent on world cities.

4. The Global Power City Index is based on what categories?

The ranking is based on six overall categories,

- "Economy",
- "Research & Development",
- "Cultural Interaction",
- "Livability",
- "Environment", and
- "Accessibility", with 70 individual indicators among them

5. Discuss the relationship between globalization and emerging inequalities in cities.

Despite increase in urban incomes and urban productivity, there is growing urban poverty in most countries. Urban poverty and unemployment are directly affected by globalization.

Absolute poverty is accompanied by growing inequality within cities. This is mainly due to the skewed allocation of resources within cities. As the global economy comes to value these higher wage skills, existing patterns of inequality are being worsened.

Weak centralized public institutions have given way towards decentralizing of responsibility for policy and services.

Decentralization has also strengthened local participatory processes and permitted higher levels of accountability and transparency.

The last characteristic is the parallel process of urban concentration in megacities and the accelerated growth of secondary cities and towns.

6. What are the typical changes that occur in metropolitan areas because of urbanization and globalization?

Typical types of changes are:

Fragmentation

Differentiation

Growing inequalities

Poverty concentrations

Decentralization

Polarization

7. Discuss the following terms:

- fragmentation
- polarization

The process of fragmentation of metropolitan areas is driven by economic and social processes but its first

indicator has always been institutional when communities and their local governments units no longer perceive that their 'natural' links are with the metropolitan core, the process of fragmentation begins. This is further compounded by the growing importance of markets for goods and services beyond the city, and sometimes even in other countries.

These spatial and institutional patterns generate social polarization, between rich and poor, between longtime residents and recent arrivals and between various communities and ethnic groups. Social behavior is a reflection of perceived material interests. This segregation is manifest in the quality of life – schools, transportation, housing.