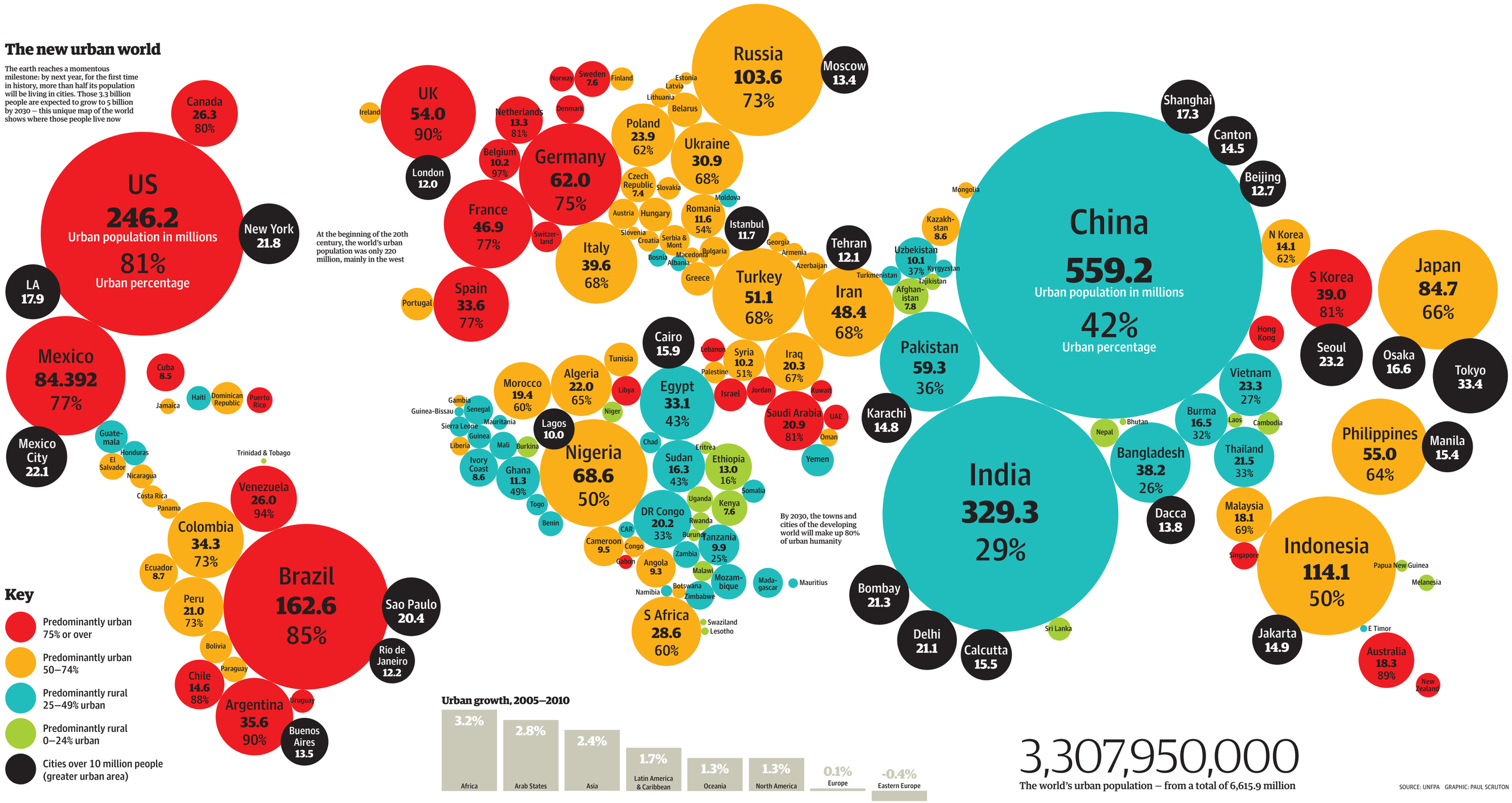
The new urban world

The earth reaches a momentous milestone: by next year, for the first time in history, more than half its population will be living in cities. Those 3.3 billion people are expected to grow to 5 billion by 2030 – this unique map of the world shows where those people live now

At the beginning of the 20th century, the world's urban population was only 220 million, mainly in the west

By 2030, the towns and cities of the developing world will make up 80% of urban humanity



3,307,950,000

The world's urban population – from a total of 6,615.9 million

SOURCE: UNFPA GRAPHIC: PAUL SCRUTON