



AFRICA CENTER
FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

African Defense and Security
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CAPSTONE
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WHY AFRICA MATTERS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THE REST OF THE WORLD

The
Economist

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Weekly edition

The world in brief

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Africa is changing so rapidly, it is becoming hard to ignore

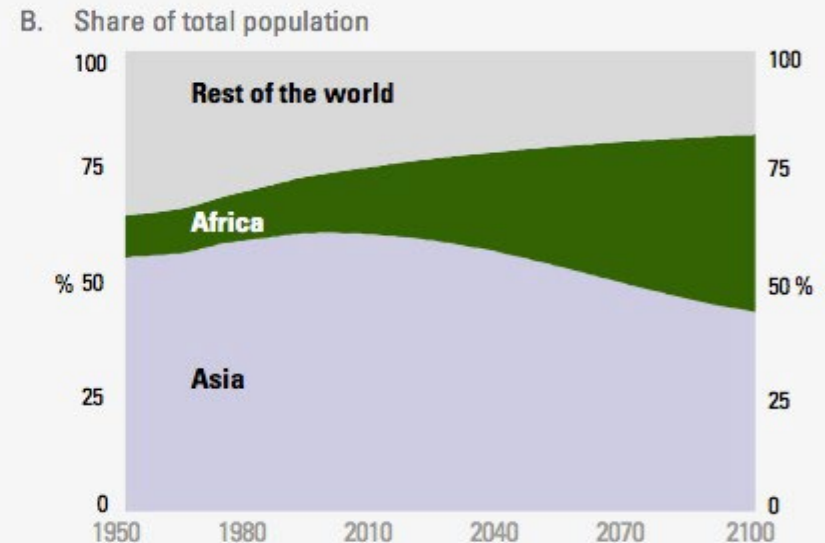
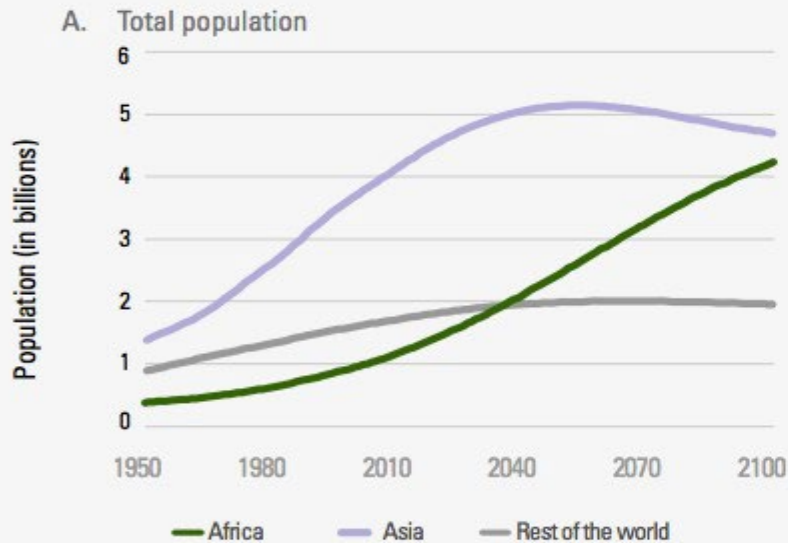
Rapid economic and social change will give the continent a bigger role in world affairs, says Jonathan Rosenthal

Africa's Youth Bulge Demographic Dividend or Disaster?

FIG. 1

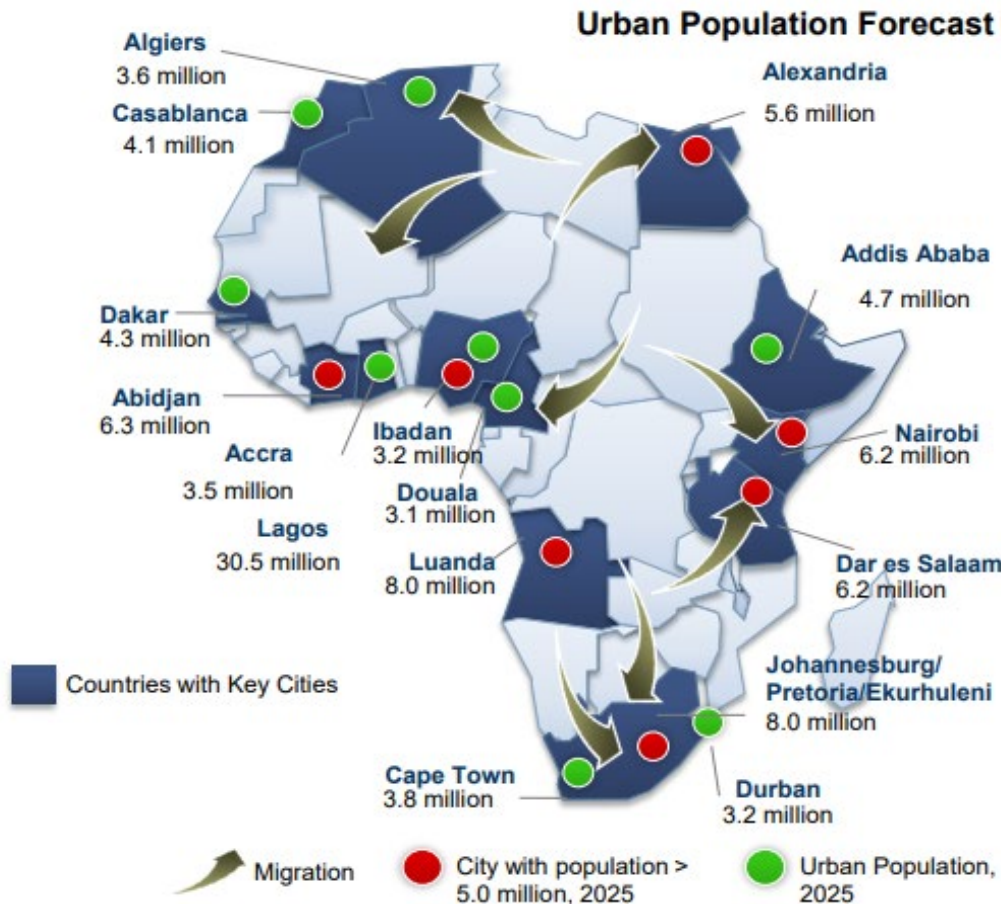
Africa's population will double from 2015 to 2050

Total population by region, 1950–2100



Source: UNICEF analysis based on United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision (UN WPP), United Nations, New York, 2013.

Accelerating Urbanization

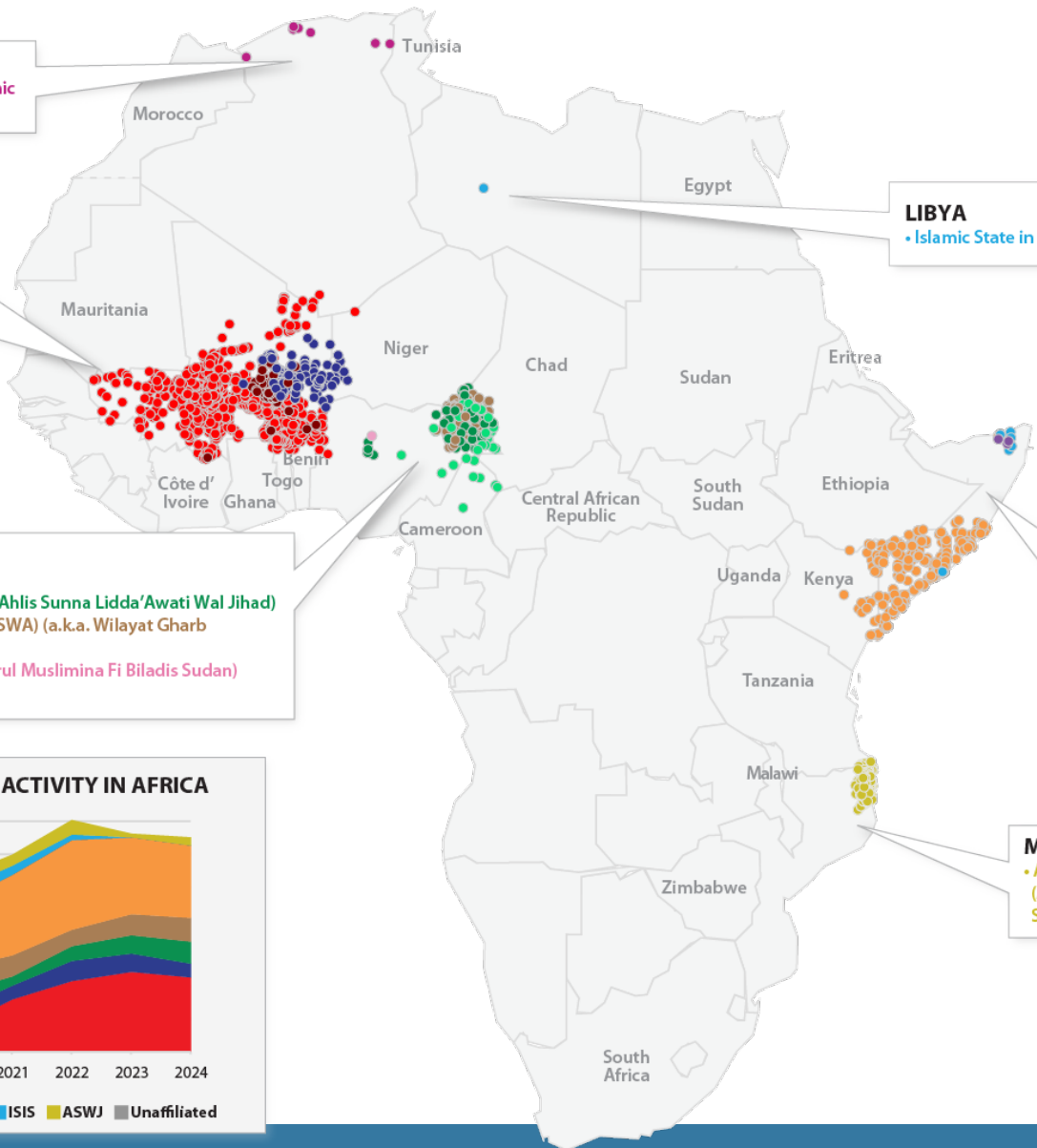


Africa 2025 Urban Population Notes

- Urbanization will further drive African consumer spending as income and wealth increase.
- 60% of consumption growth has come from an expanding population, and the rest from rising incomes.
- Median age in Africa will be 20.

By 2034, the working-age population expected to be 1.1 billion — larger than that of China or India.

AFRICA'S ACTIVE MILITANT ISLAMIST GROUPS



ALGERIA
 • Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM)

MALI/BURKINA FASO/NIGER
 • Jama'at Nusrat al Islam wal Muslimin (JNIM), comprising the following Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) affiliates:
 - Ansar Dine
 - Macina Liberation Front (FLM)
 - Al Mourabitoun
 - Sahara Emirate of AQIM
 • Ansaroul Islam
 • Islamic State in the Greater Sahara (ISGS)
 • JNIM and/or ISGS

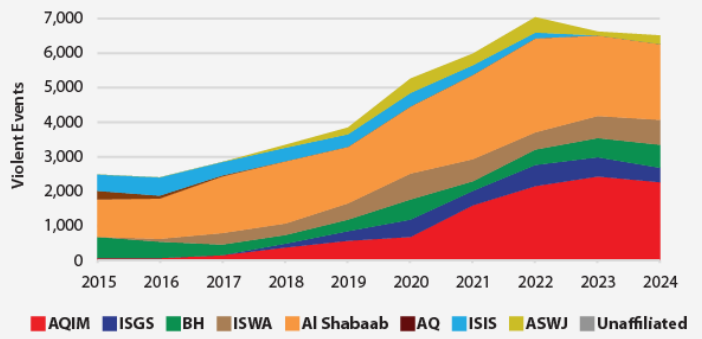
LIBYA
 • Islamic State in Libya

NIGERIA/NIGER/CAMEROON/CHAD
 • Boko Haram (a.k.a. Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'Awati Wal Jihad)
 • Islamic State in West Africa (ISWA) (a.k.a. Wilayat Gharb Afriqiyah)
 • Ansaru (a.k.a. Jama'atu Ansarul Muslimina Fi Biladis Sudan)
 • Boko Haram and/or ISWA

SOMALIA
 • Al Shabaab
 • Islamic State in Somalia (ISS) (a.k.a. Abnaa ul Calipha)
 • Al Shabaab and/or ISS

MOZAMBIQUE
 • Ahlu Sunnah wa Jama'a (ASWJ) (a.k.a. "al Shabaab")

TRENDS IN MILITANT ISLAMIST GROUP ACTIVITY IN AFRICA

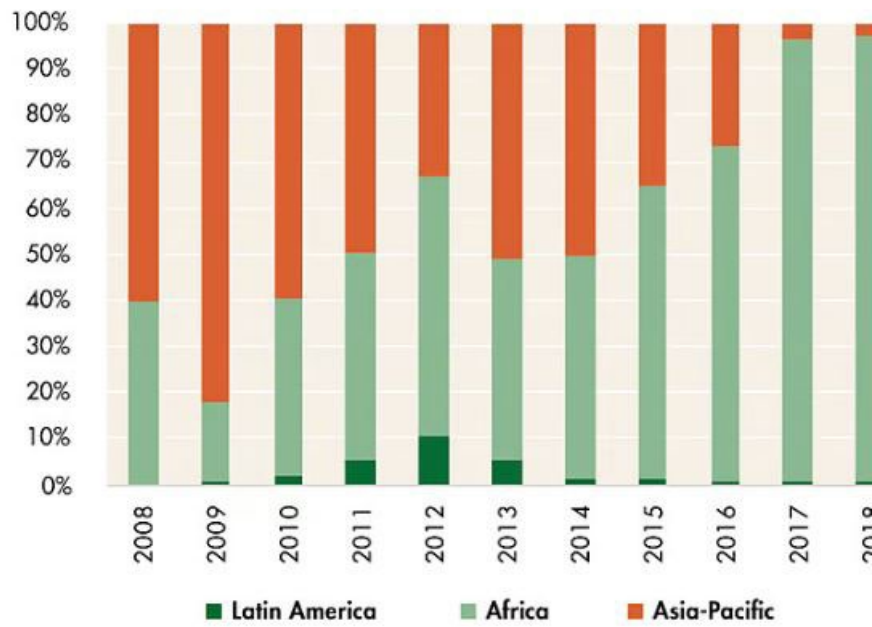


Updated: February 2025

Notes: Compiled by the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, this graphic shows violent events involving the listed groups over the 12-month period ending December 31, 2024. Data on attacks or fatalities does not attempt to distinguish the perpetrators of the events. Group listings are intended for informational purposes only and should not be considered official designations. Due to the fluid nature of many groups, the listed affiliations may change.
 Sources: Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED); Centro Para Democracia e Direitos Humanos; Hiraal Institute; HumAngle; International Crisis Group; Institute for Security Studies; MENASTREAM; the Washington Institute; and the United Nations.



Share of the volume of rosewood log imports to China by regional source, 2008-2018



Source: World Trade Atlas



in a forest in Cameroon. (Photo: AFP/Michael Runkel)

Great Power Competition: Russian and Chinese Influence In Africa







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