

# Colombia



Note: This map is for illustrative purposes and is without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory covered by these maps.

The OECD, in cooperation with the EU, has developed a harmonised definition of functional urban areas (FUAs). Being composed of a city (or core) and its commuting zone, FUAs encompass the economic and functional extent of cities based on daily people's movements (OECD, 2012); (Dijkstra, Poelman, & Veneri, 2019). The definition of FUA aims at providing a functional/economic definition of cities and their area of influence, by maximising international comparability and overcoming the limitation of using purely administrative approaches. At the same time, the concept of FUA, unlike other approaches, ensures a minimum link to the government level of the city or metropolitan area.

FUAs are listed below by size, according to four classes:

- Small FUAs, with population between 50,000 and 100,000
- Medium-sized FUAs, with population between 100,000 and 250,000
- Metropolitan FUAs, with population between 250,000 and 1.5 million
- Large metropolitan FUAs, with population above 1.5 million

A city is a group of local administrative units (i.e. LAU for European countries, such as municipality, local authorities, etc.) where at least 50% of its population live in an urban centre. An urban centre is defined as a cluster of contiguous grid cells of one square kilometer with a density of at least 1,500 inhabitants per square kilometer and a population of at least 50,000 inhabitants overall.

The commuting zone is composed of the local administrative units for which at least 15% of their workforce commute to the city. Commuting zones of the functional areas are identified based on commuting data (travel from home-to-work). Commuting data are also used to define whether more than one city share the same commuting zone in a single polycentric functional urban area.

The list of functional urban areas takes into account the results of the consultation with the European National Statistical Institutes launched by Eurostat in June 2011 on the definition of cities and by the OECD with Delegates from the Working Party on Territorial Indicators. This list of functional urban areas may be reviewed on the basis of additional comments provided by countries. The OECD Metropolitan Database provides a set of economic, environmental, social and demographic modelled indicators on the 668 OECD metropolitan areas (functional urban areas with 250 000 or more inhabitants).

Additionally, interactive maps, histograms and summary profiles of each metropolitan area are available on the [OECD Regions and Cities Data Visualisation tool](#).

The population grid used to create the FUAs in Colombia is the 2015 Global Human Settlement (GHS) grid. The geographic building blocks are the municipalities. Commuting data comes from the 2005 Census.

**Table 1. List of functional urban areas**

FUA name	FUA code	Size class	Population in 2015 (GHS)	Share of population living in the city (%)
Aguachica	COL48	Small area	90 000	100
Apartado	COL28	Medium-sized area	145 000	100
Arauca	COL50	Small area	114 000	100
Armenia	COL13	Metropolitan area	403 000	92
Barrancabermeja	COL22	Medium-sized area	196 000	100
Barranquilla	COL04	Large metropolitan area	2 214 000	88
Bogota D.C.	COL01	Large metropolitan area	8 953 000	99
Bucaramanga	COL06	Metropolitan area	1 159 000	100
Buenaventura	COL17	Metropolitan area	393 000	100
Cali	COL03	Large metropolitan area	2 599 000	97
Cartagena	COL05	Metropolitan area	1 181 000	79
Cartago	COL30	Medium-sized area	129 000	100
Caucasia	COL46	Medium-sized area	96 000	100
Cienaga	COL41	Medium-sized area	104 000	100
Cucuta	COL07	Metropolitan area	792 000	100
Duitama	COL39	Medium-sized area	104 000	100
El Carmen de Bolivar	COL52	Small area	64 000	100
Espinal	COL49	Small area	78 000	100
Facatativa	COL38	Medium-sized area	135 000	100

Florence	COL27	Medium-sized area	185 000	100
Fundacion	COL53	Small area	58 000	100
Fusagasuga	COL37	Medium-sized area	131 000	100
Girardot	COL29	Medium-sized area	124 000	100
Guadalajara de Buga	COL34	Medium-sized area	108 000	100
Ibague	COL09	Metropolitan area	568 000	100
Ipiales	COL35	Medium-sized area	137 000	96
La Dorada	COL45	Small area	89 000	100
Magangué	COL32	Medium-sized area	121 000	100
Maicao	COL31	Medium-sized area	156 000	100
Manizales	COL10	Metropolitan area	439 000	100
Medellin	COL02	Large metropolitan area	3 578 000	99
Monteria	COL15	Metropolitan area	433 000	100
Neiva	COL18	Metropolitan area	335 000	100
Ocana	COL44	Medium-sized area	93 000	100
Palmira	COL19	Metropolitan area	304 000	100
Pasto	COL12	Metropolitan area	414 000	100
Pereira	COL08	Metropolitan area	666 000	100
Popayan	COL20	Metropolitan area	294 000	100
Quibdo	COL36	Medium-sized area	145 000	100
Riohacha	COL25	Metropolitan area	244 000	100
Rionegro	COL43	Medium-sized area	111 000	100
Sabanalarga	COL47	Medium-sized area	94 000	100
San Andres de Tumaco	COL26	Medium-sized area	163 000	100
Santa Marta	COL11	Metropolitan area	479 000	100
Santa Rosa de Cabal	COL51	Small area	66 000	100
Sincelejo	COL21	Metropolitan area	271 000	100
Sogamoso	COL33	Medium-sized area	106 000	100
Tulua	COL23	Medium-sized area	203 000	100
Tunja	COL24	Medium-sized area	207 000	85
Valledupar	COL16	Metropolitan area	433 000	100
Villavicencio	COL14	Metropolitan area	462 000	100
Yopal	COL40	Medium-sized area	194 000	100
Zipaquira	COL42	Medium-sized area	120 000	100

Note: This document includes information as of 2019.

## References

Dijkstra, L., H. Poelman and P. Veneri (2019), "The EU-OECD definition of a functional urban area", OECD Regional Development Working Papers, No. 2019/11, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/d58cb34d-en>.

OECD (2012), Redefining "Urban": A New Way to Measure Metropolitan Areas, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264174108-en>.