

# 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 around 700 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	Population in 2015 (GHS)	Share of population living in the city (%)
Aguachica	COL48	88 000	100
Apartado	COL28	146 000	100
Arauca	COL50	127 000	100
Armenia	COL13	399 000	93
Barrancabermeja	COL22	196 000	100
Barranquilla	COL04	2 209 000	88
Bogota D.C.	COL01	8 965 000	99
Bucaramanga	COL06	1 165 000	100
Buenaventura	COL17	392 000	100
Cali	COL03	2 608 000	96
Cartagena	COL05	1 188 000	79
Cartago	COL30	121 000	100
Caucasia	COL46	96 000	100
Cienaga	COL41	99 000	100
Cucuta	COL07	776 000	100
Duitama	COL39	105 000	100
El Carmen de Bolivar	COL52	64 000	100
Espinal	COL49	77 000	100
Facatativa	COL38	137 000	100

Florence	COL27	178 000	100
Fundacion	COL53	60 000	100
Fusagasuga	COL37	135 000	100
Girardot	COL29	128 000	100
Guadalajara de Buga	COL34	109 000	100
Ibague	COL09	566 000	100
Ipiales	COL35	136 000	96
La Dorada	COL45	86 000	100
Magangué	COL32	118 000	100
Maicao	COL31	157 000	100
Manizales	COL10	433 000	100
Medellin	COL02	3 584 000	99
Monteria	COL15	435 000	100
Neiva	COL18	334 000	100
Ocana	COL44	93 000	100
Palmira	COL19	300 000	100
Pasto	COL12	422 000	100
Pereira	COL08	668 000	100
Popayan	COL20	294 000	100
Quibdo	COL36	136 000	100
Riohacha	COL25	253 000	100
Rionegro	COL43	111 000	100
Sabanalarga	COL47	94 000	100
San Andres de Tumaco	COL26	184 000	100
Santa Marta	COL11	489 000	100
Santa Rosa de Cabal	COL51	70 000	100
Sincelejo	COL21	271 000	100
Sogamoso	COL33	100 000	100
Tulua	COL23	203 000	100
Tunja	COL24	207 000	88
Valledupar	COL16	434 000	100
Villavicencio	COL14	466 000	100
Yopal	COL40	195 000	100
Zipaquirá	COL42	122 000	100

Note: This document includes information as of 2022.

## 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>.