# Growth of towns

- **Facts**
  - 1750 — **15%** of population lived in towns
  - 1800 — **25%** of population lived in towns
  - End of 19th century — Over 50%
  - Country -> town
    Agriculture -> industry
  - Urban growth
    - 25% per decade — Between 1800 and 1850
    - Glasgow — 1800 - 1830 — Population increased 46%
    - Manchester — 1820 - 1830 — Population increase 46%
    - almost 50%
- **Overall population rise**
  - 1750 - 1800 — More than doubled
  - 1801 - 1851
    - Population increased by 12 million
    - National census
    - London — 1 million to 2.5 million
- **Push**
  - **Agriculture**
    - More productive and better quality — **Fed growing population**
      - Britain could also import food (large growing empire)
      - Larger workforce
    - **Low demand for labour** in countryside
      - Rural living healthier than towns → Babies survived
      - Could no longer employ all the people born
      - Mechanisation
  - 'Push' factor that pushed people to move out of countryside
- **Pull**
  - **Towns**
    - Provided jobs for the rural unemployed
    - Industrial centers grew fastest — Textile
      - Leeds — Wool factories
      - Manchester — Cotton factories
        - cottonopolis
  - 'Pull' factors that pulled people to move to towns
- **New jobs**
  - Employment for middle classes — Caused by growth of industry
    - Factory managers, bankers, lawyers, engineers
    - Managers, employees in retail
  - Growth of large stores — People needed to buy goods for families
  - Railway towns — Crewe and Swindon
- **Transport**
  - No restrictions in movement
    - People not tied to their land
    - Easy to move from one town to another in search of employment
  - Cheap by 1840

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