

Rwanda's population was 13,246,394 as of August 2022, showing an inter-censal annual growth rate of 2.3% between 2012 and 2022.

The Rwanda's population has increased over time, tripling between 1978 (4.8 million) and 2022 (13.2 million). The increase was steady between 1978 and 1991, between 2002 and 2012 as well as between 2012 and 2022 as reflected by the respective average annual growth rates of 3.1%, 2.6% and 2.3%. In contrast, the population growth was slow between 1991 and 2002 (1.2% annually), reflecting the high death toll of the 1990 war and the 1994 genocide against Tutsi.

Population projections

The Rwanda population is projected to increase from 13.2 million in 2022 to 24.2 million (high scenario), to 23.8 million (medium scenario), and to or 23.4 million (low scenario) by 2052.

The current population density of 501 inhabitants per square kilometre (in mid-year 2022) will increase to about 894 (medium scenario) at the end of the projection period, 2052.

The urban population will increase from 3.7 million in 2022 to 16.5 million (medium scenario) by 2052 in consideration of the country's aspiration to have 70% of the population in urban by 2050.

TABLE: Resident population by residence, Province, and District (2022)

Province/ District	Count			Percentage		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
Rwanda	13,246,394	3,701,245	9,545,149	100	27.9	72.1
City of Kigali	1,745,555	1,517,168	228,387	100	86.9	13.1

Nyarugenge	374,319	315,899	58,420	100	84.4	15.6
Gasabo	879,505	714,069	165,436	100	81.2	18.8
Kicukiro	491,731	487,200	4,531	100	99.1	0.9
Southern Province	3,002,699	444,106	2,558,593	100	14.8	85.2
Nyanza	365,718	33,765	331,953	100	9.2	90.8
Gisagara	397,051	13,513	383,538	100	3.4	96.6
Nyaruguru	318,126	7,641	310,485	100	2.4	97.6
Huye	381,900	79,744	302,156	100	20.9	79.1
Nyamagabe	371,501	40,592	330,909	100	10.9	89.1
Ruhango	359,121	39,079	320,042	100	10.9	89.1
Muhanga	358,433	87,252	271,181	100	24.3	75.7
Kamonyi	450,849	142,520	308,329	100	31.6	68.4
Western Province	2,896,484	640,307	2,256,177	100	22.1	77.9
Karongi	373,869	33,542	340,327	100	9	91
Rutsiro	369,180	20,606	348,574	100	5.6	94.4

Rubavu	546,683	294,448	252,235	100	53.9	46.1
Nyabihu	319,047	78,027	241,020	100	24.5	75.5
Ngororero	367,955	18,142	349,813	100	4.9	95.1
Rusizi	485,529	162,165	323,364	100	33.4	66.6
Nyamasheke	434,221	33,377	400,844	100	7.7	92.3
Northern Province	2,038,511	353,729	1,684,782	100	17.4	82.6
Rulindo	360,144	38,110	322,034	100	10.6	89.4
Gakenke	365,292	14,788	350,504	100	4	96
Musanze	476,522	234,258	242,264	100	49.2	50.8
Burera	387,729	38,442	349,287	100	9.9	90.1
Gicumbi	448,824	28,131	420,693	100	6.3	93.7
Eastern Province	3,563,145	745,935	2,817,210	100	20.9	79.1
Rwamagana	484,953	180,056	304,897	100	37.1	62.9
Nyagatare	653,861	157,894	495,967	100	24.1	75.9
Gatsibo	551,164	55,351	495,813	100	10	90

Kayonza	457,156	65,071	392,085	100	14.2	85.8
Kirehe	460,860	29,039	431,821	100	6.3	93.7
Ngoma	404,048	37,297	366,751	100	9.2	90.8
Bugesera	551,103	221,227	329,876	100	40.1	59.9

The urban population will increase from 3.7 million in 2022 to 16.8 million (high scenario), 16.5 million (medium scenario) and 16.2 million (low scenario) by 2052. This corresponds to an overall increase equivalent to more than 4 times the increase rate of the total population.

The rural population will decline from 9.5 million in 2022 to 7.2 million (high scenario), 7.1 million (medium scenario) and 6.9 million (low scenario) by 2052.

This will translate in a decrease of the size of the rural population by 24.5% (high scenario), 26% (medium scenario) and 27% (low scenario) between 2022 and 2052 in consideration of the country's aspiration to have 70% of the population in urban by 2050.

Access to electricity

Access to electricity by private households in Rwanda currently amounts to 61% (47% on grid and 14% solar panels). This shows a significant improvement comparatively to the 2012 census.

The City of Kigali is ahead with 90% access to electricity, while in the other provinces access to electricity ranges between 55% to 60% of their private households. The access to electricity by households is far higher in urban areas (84.6%) than in rural areas (51.3%).

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