



This matrix shows a simple representation of how typical developed world urban infrastructures operate.

In rural areas, some basic services are moved back towards the household level - wells and septic tanks, for example, are examples of "distributed" or local infrastructure.

In general, local services are more resilient than centralized services which are generated at factories like water treatment plants and then pushed out to the population.

There are basically four classes of infrastructure distribution:

* **on site generation** (well, solar panel, wind power, farming.)

* **pipe and wire distribution** (water, gas, electricity, sewage and so on - the "Victorian model.")

* **delivery** (fuel oil, water in some areas.)

* **shopping** (bottled water, propane.)

Nearly all services can be generated in any one of these four ways, but some are much easier and convenient than others. Electricity, for example, is nearly impossible to delivery, and can only be stored in batteries in most cases. Water, on the other hand, has a wide range of options.