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**GMIS**

## Gender Management Information System (GMIS), Sindh Demographics Dashboard

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### PROJECT BIRD EYE VIEW

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# Gender Parity Report Sindh

This report is developed under the project Women Leadership in Public Life. The project was implemented by 'Oxfam in Pakistan' and Management and Development Foundation. European Commission funded the project. The report was developed by MAHER Consulting.

# **Gender Parity Report Sindh**

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## List of Acronyms

BPfA	Beijing Platform for Action
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GMIS	Gender Management Information System
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
KII	Key Informant Interview
KP	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
LFS	Labour Force Survey
MCH	Mother and Child Health
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
P&D	Planning and Development
PDHS	Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey
PPHS	Pakistan Population and Housing Survey
PSLM	Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement Survey
RHC	Rural Health Centre
SCSW	Sindh Commission on Statue of Women
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGPR	Sindh Gender Parity Report
WDD	Women Development Department (Sindh)
VAW	Violence against Women

# Executive Summary

The present report provides an analysis of gender parity in the province of Sindh, Pakistan, based on the latest available data from government and non-governmental sources. The report highlights the progress and challenges in achieving gender equality across different dimensions, including education, health, employment, and social norms. The report also identifies key policy recommendations to address the existing gender gaps and promote inclusive development. Overall, the report's findings suggest that while some improvements have been made in gender parity in Sindh, much remains to be done to ensure that women and men have equal access to opportunities and rights.

This Gender parity report is one of the outcomes of the project "Women Leadership in Public Life" implemented by Oxfam in Pakistan (OiP), in partnership with Management and Development Foundation (MDF). European Commission funded the project. This project is implemented in Sukkur and Sanghar districts of Sindh, along with coordination and advocacy activities at the provincial level. MAHER Consulting conducted the project evaluation.

This is the first Gender Parity Report report produced for the province of Sindh. It highlights the gender parity issues in five fields: demography, education, (reproductive) health, economic participation, and violence against women. The report relies on two types of data. The primary source is data collected by the MDF team from districts and fed into an online data management tool named Gender Management Information System (GMIS), specifically developed under this project. The secondary data generated by the Federal and Provincial Governments, including surveys such as the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), Labour Force Survey(LFS), Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement (PSLM) Survey, Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey(PDHS), and Pakistan Population and Housing Census was also benefited from. To better understand the gender issues in the province, a series of meetings were also arranged at Sindh Commission on Status of Women, the WDD department, its directorate, and field staff of WDD in different districts. The following pages highlight some of the findings of the report.



## Major Findings

Some key findings of the report are as under:

1. 21% of women in Sindh aged 15-19 years are married. Although the exact figures for the marital status of women under 18 are unavailable, a high percentage of married females in this age group should raise the alarm among policymakers and law enforcement agencies.
2. Sindh's population growth rate is 2.41%, but some districts are growing disproportionately. For example, the Urban areas of Tharparkar have a sex ratio of 112 and an annual growth rate of 6.52%.
3. In Education, there is a difference of 22% in male and female enrollment rates. The male-female literacy gap in Sindh is 16.5%. The outreach of education machinery is poor in rural areas of Sindh, where the male literacy rate is 46.9%, and the female literacy rate is 22.64%. In comparison, the overall literacy rate in Sindh among males is 62.52%, and among girls is 45.95%.
4. The overall gap in male-female teaching staff is 52%. The gap is more severe at the primary level, as high as 68%.
5. In health, although women's access to medical facilities has increased in recent years, 12% of females could not receive any antenatal check of their most recent delivery. 27.9% of women are still delivering at home.
6. Sindh's male labor force is five times higher than the female. In Sindh, 17.4 million women are in the working-age population, of which 14.8 million (85%) are out of the labor force. A clear disparity between the average wages of males and females in Sindh is also observed. The average wages of males in Sindh's rural areas are 35% higher than females. In urban areas, the average wage for males is 22.3% higher than females.
7. Sindh has made commendable progress in arresting the trends in violence against women. Still, 14.6% of women ages 15-49 have reported physical violence against them. The percentage is minimum among the provinces of Pakistan. In comparison, 48.4% of women in Balochistan have reported physical violence against them. 3% of the women in Sindh have reported violence during pregnancy. This percentage is also a minimum in Sindh. In KP, 12.2% of women reported violence during pregnancy.

## Recommendations

1. With a sex ratio of 108, Sindh has a disproportionately large number of boys compared to girls. A disproportionately large number of boys compared to girls may be attributable to sex selection based on a preference for a boy. The family planning awareness campaign should also focus on gender parity and the blessing a girl child could bring to the family. Simultaneously, law enforcement agencies must be more vigilant of such heinous activities in medical facilities.
2. The data has shown that the performance of female students to pass an examination and attain an education level is the same as male students. This shows that it is safe to invest in girls' education. The state machinery needs to focus more on plugging the enrollment gap in students and the recruitment gap in teachers.
3. In the health sector, awareness campaigns should focus on giving females equal opportunities to make family planning decisions. Data shows that 31% of women demanded family planning; only 31% were accommodated.
4. A safe and conducive working environment will allow females to participate in economic activities. 85% of the working-age population in Sindh is out of the labor force. These women should be provided economic opportunities at their doorstep by encouraging the cottage industry. The minimum wage Act should be strictly applied across the board. A survey in this respect shows that women are getting as low as PKR 250 per day in the informal agriculture sector in interior Sindh. A better economic return will encourage women to traverse their careers.
5. Although Sindh has made progress against gender-based violence, 14.6% of women still face it. This is by no means a small percentage that should give any respite to government agencies and civil society. The 14.6% means that one in every seven women, or possibly one woman in every two households still facing violence. Through sustainable Development Goal 5, the world, including Pakistan, has committed to achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.

**"Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but also a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable world."**

— United Nations —

# 1-INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Gender Equality

The international community is becoming increasingly aware that integrating gender considerations into public policy is crucial to sustainable and fair economic growth. Over the past two decades, global development partners and state institutions have expanded their attention to tackling gender inequities and gaps in many different industries, locales, organizations, and governmental institutions. The rights of women have received significant attention as a result of the adoption of international treaties and conventions like the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) (1979), the United Nations Beijing Declaration (1995), and the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) (1994).

At the United Nations (UN) Millennium Summit in 2000, all countries—including Pakistan—agreed to embrace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as a shared framework for measurable performance to advance the development and reduce poverty. In addition, the nations expressed that they were working toward achieving gender equality and women's empowerment.

The UN proposed the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015. The SDGs expand on the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which include precise goals and benchmarks for eradicating the worst types of human deprivation and severe poverty. The SDGs are the shared agenda of the international community for development, equality, and reducing poverty. Through Goal 5 of this agenda, the world has committed to achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.

## 1.2 Methodology

The notion of gender equality is all-encompassing, touching on virtually every aspect of human life. However, due to the shortage of time and resources, it is only possible to comprehend some of the areas

The government of Sindh is well-versed in its constitutional duty to ensure that all members of society are afforded equal chances. It is also aware of its international obligations in this regard. This commitment is manifested in the government's efforts to remove inequalities and imbalances in all social and economic development areas. The government of Sindh has introduced many pro-women legislations in the past two decades and has taken tangible measures to uplift women and include them in the national development agenda. The provinces now have the chance and duty to advance and develop this agenda thanks to the 18th Constitutional Amendment. Some measures to demonstrate the government's dedication include establishing and strengthening provincial Commissions on the Status of Women, creation of Sindh Women's Development Departments, and Ombudsperson's offices. In addition, the WDD has already taken specific initiatives at the policy level. This includes drafting Gender Equality and Women Development Policy and taking tangible measures like Day Care Centre at the Directorate of Women Development, Women's Complaint Cell at the Minister's Office, Helpline 1094, Dar-ul-Aman & Safe Houses. In addition, the Sindh government has enacted many pro-women legislations, including the Protection against Harassment of Women at Workplace, 2010, the Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2013, and the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2013.



Through Goal 5 of SDGs, the world has committed to achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.

in this report. Therefore, Oxfam proposed five broad thematic areas to focus on in the first gender parity report. These areas are demographics, education, health, women empowerment, and violence against women.

## 1.5 Data Availability

The report relies on two types of data. The primary source is data collected by the MDF team from districts and fed into an online data management tool named Gender Management Information System (GMIS), specifically developed under this project.

The secondary data pertains to different data collection tools of Federal and Provincial Governments such as the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), Labour Force Survey (LFS), Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement (PSLM) Survey, Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey (PDHS), and Pakistan Population and Housing Survey. Since these surveys are not done annually, the data in this report will pertain to the most recent and pertinent surveys undertaken. Some demographic data from the 2017 census were also extrapolated to get estimated figures for 2022. Some data was not available in gender-disaggregated form; hence, examining inequities based on gender was not conducted.

To better understand the gender issues in the province, a series of meetings were also arranged at the WDD department, its directorate, and field staff of WDD in different districts. These include:

- KII with Secretary, WDD, and Director, Directorate of Women Development, Karachi
- Meeting with the staff of WDD, including the Helpline staff
- Focus Group Discussions and individual meetings with the staff of WDD from Mirpurkhas, Hyderabad and Nawabshah, and Karachi Divisions. (Approximately 20 staff participated in the discussion)
- Meeting with WDD staff in Shaheed Benazirabad

# GMIS

## What is Gender Management Information System?

The Gender Management Information System (GMIS) is an important tool for tracking progress towards gender equality and women's empowerment. The system is developed under the WLPL project and will enable policymakers and program managers to track progress towards gender-related targets, identify gaps and challenges, and develop evidence-based interventions to address them. It will help to ensure that resources are targeted to where they are most needed. The Women Development Department will use GMIS to track progress towards gender parity in Sindh and to support the development of evidence-based interventions to address gender inequalities.

### Women Development Department: An Introduction

Sindh was the first province in Pakistan to create an independent Women Development Department (WDD) in 2003. The story started with the creation of Women Development Cell in 1979. This Cell was a part of the P&D department in the Government of Sindh. In 1994, it was upgraded to a separate Women Development Department. It was merged with the Social Welfare Department in 1998. The year 2001 saw the complete abolishment of the Directorate of Women Development – in place of which a Women Development Wing was established with a reporting line to the Directorate of Social Welfare. This reporting line was then transferred to the Population Welfare Department. In 2003 however, the Women Development Department was re-instated in the Government of Sindh and has been functional since then. WDD deals with overall supervision, legislation, decision-making, and planning at the Secretariat level. The Directorate deals with implementation.

## Introduction

## 2. DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF SINDH

### 2.1 Population Profile

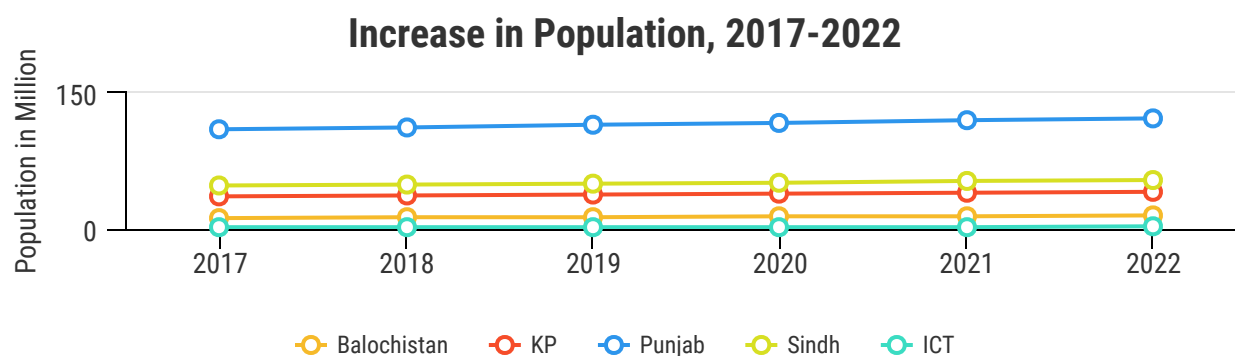
According to the census held in 2017, Pakistan's population was 207.6 million. With an annual growth rate of 2.4%, this number is expected to increase to 233.8 million in 2022. Punjab accounts for the largest share of the nation's population, with a projected population of 122.2 million (53%) in 2022. On the other hand, Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) has the smallest population share, with an estimated 2.5 million (1%) inhabitants in 2022. Sindh is Pakistan's second most populous province, with a projected population of 53.9 million in 2022, calculated at an estimated annual growth rate of 2.41%. The population projections for Pakistan in 2022 are given in Table 2.1.

Unit	Male	Female	Transgender	Total	Percentage Population
Pakistan	119,703,674	114,103,912	24,515	233,832,101	100
Balochistan	7,652,404	6,905,163	921	14,558,488	6
KP	17,808,984	17,368,454	2,305	35,179,744	15
FATA	2,872,976	2,748,325	254	5,621,555	2
Punjab	62,123,283	60,076,208	13,817	122,213,308	52
Sindh	28,021,774	25,877,221	6,707	53,905,702	23
ICT	1,336,683	1,207,670	356	2,544,709	1

**Table 2.1: Population of Pakistan according to Population and Housing Census, 2017;**

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0> ; Projected figures calculated by author

As shown in Table 2.1, Punjab is the province with the largest population in Pakistan. Its population has increased from 110 million in 2017 to 122 million in 2022. Sindh is placed second with an increase in population from 48 million to 54 million between 2017 to 2022. The population of KP (including the NMD) a combined growth rate of 2.7% is projected at 41 million<sup>1</sup>. Balochistan and ICT have also recorded an increase in their percentage share of the population. With an annual growth rate of 3.4% (the highest among the provinces), Balochistan now has an estimated population of 14.5 million. This is an increase in population share from 5.9% in 2017 to 6.2% in 2022. Thanks to migration and relocations, ICT has a population growth rate of 4.9%. ICT now contains 1.1% of the total population of the country. ICT share in Pakistan's population was 1% in 2017.

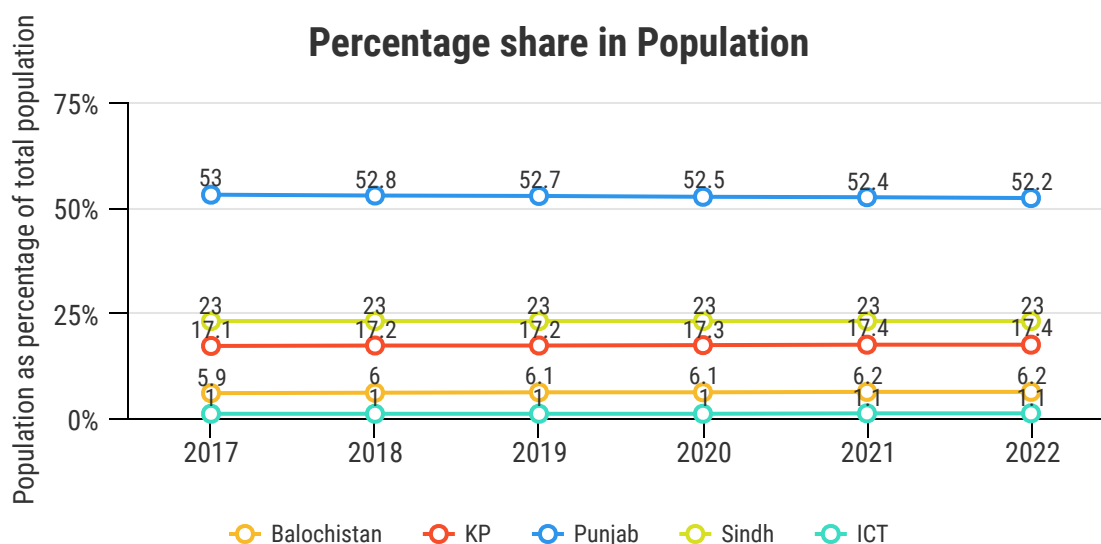


**Chart 2.1: Increase in the population of the provinces between 2017 (census) and 2022 (estimated)**

The estimated annual rate of increase is taken from the census results of 2017 and GMIS.

1. The annual growth rate of the population for KP is 2.9%, whereas the annual growth rate of the FATA region is 2.4%. Their combined growth rate is calculated using the formula  $r = [(Pt/Po)^{(1/t)} - 1] * 100$

Sindh is the only province with an unchanged share of the percentage of the population in Pakistan. According to the 2017 census, its population share was 23%. With an annual population increase rate of 2.4% (calculated in 2017), it still accounts for 23% of the country's population. Punjab is the only province showing a decrease in population share from 53% to 52.2%, calculated at an annual growth rate of 2.1%. On the other hand, KP, Balochistan, and ICT have shown increasing trends in percentage share of the population, as is evident from Chart 2.2.



**Chart 2.2: The percentage share of provinces in the total population of Pakistan**

Calculated using the population growth rate given in the census results of the 2017 census.

## 2.2 Sindh Demography

In the 2017 census, the population of Sindh was 47.8 million. Since then, the population has grown significantly. With a projected annual growth rate of 2.41 percent, Sindh's population is estimated to reach 53.9 million in 2022. Table 2.2 comprehends the journey of this increase in population from 2017 to 2022.

Year	Male	Female	Transgender	Total Population
2017	24,876,186	22,972,370	5,954	47,854,510
2018	25,475,702	23,526,004	6,097	48,007,804
2018	26,089,667	24,092,981	6,244	50,188,892
2020	26,718,427	24,673,622	6,395	51,398,444
2021	27,362,342	25,268,256	6,549	52,637,147
2022	28,021,774	25,877,221	6,707	53,905,702

**Table 2.2: Projected Population of Sindh, Primary Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017;**

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>, the Estimated population from 2018 to 2022 is taken from GMIS.

## 2. Demography

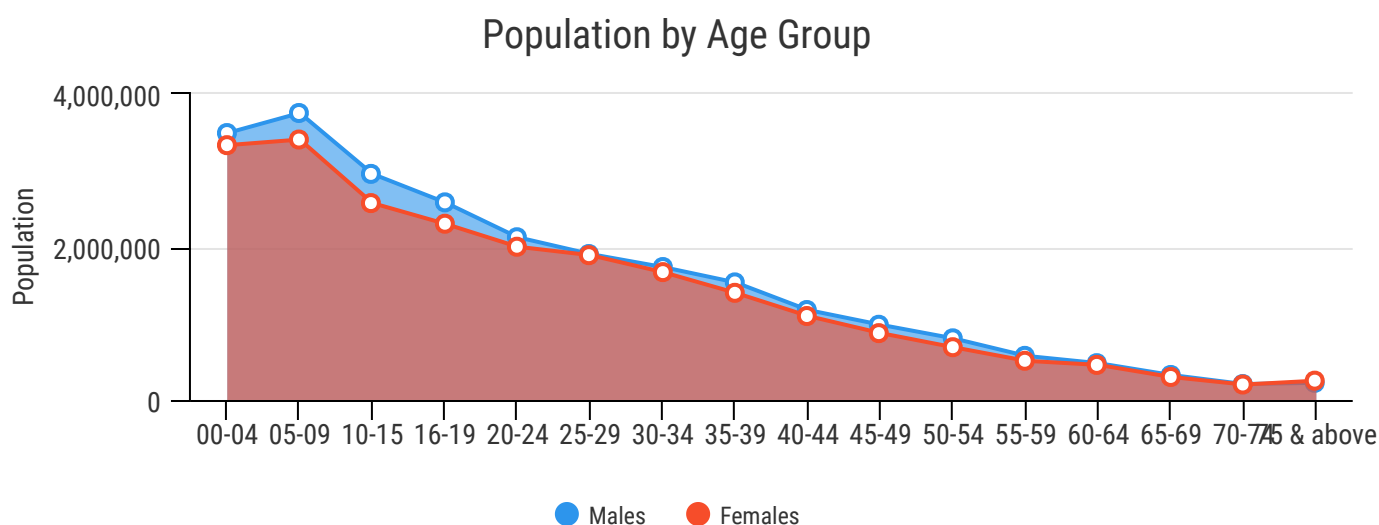
The sex ratio in Sindh is 1.08. This means there will be 108 men for every 100 women in Sindh. In Pakistan, districts Chakwal and Gujrat have the lowest sex ratio, with 94 men for every 100 women. Lahore has the highest sex ratio, with 110 men for every 100 women. This sex ratio pattern, like Sindh, should raise alarms among policymakers. Typically, a sex ratio between 104 and 106 is considered normal, but a higher value must be a cause of concern among experts and government officials.<sup>2</sup> A disproportionately large number of boys compared to girls may be attributable to sex selection based on a preference for a boy over a girl.



Sindh has a disproportionately large number of boys compared to girls. This proportion should be a cause of concern for the government.

### 2.3 Population by Age Group

An overview of Sindh's population's age and sex breakdown is shown in Chart 2.3. Sindh has a gender ratio of 52% men to 48% women. This is slightly inconsistent with Pakistan's overall population trend of 51% men to 49% women. The largest population group at the time of the 2017 census was 5-9 years which must have entered the next age group at the time of writing this report.



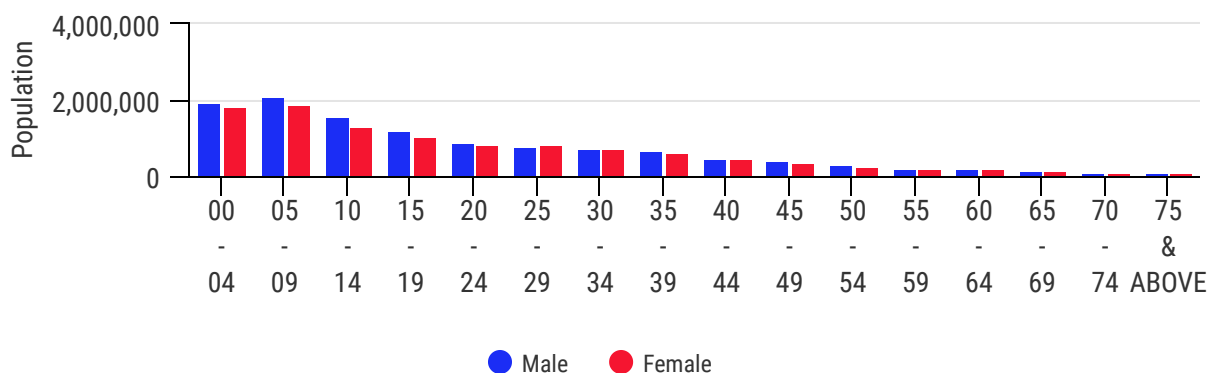
**Chart 2.3: Population spread by age group; Data source: Population and Housing Census, 2017;** Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0> ,

Chart 2.6 shows that the majority of the Sindh population lives in Urban areas. According to 2017 census results, out of the 47.85 million Sindh population, 23.02 million (48.02%) were living in rural areas, and 24.83 million (51.88%) in urban areas. Of the rural population of 23.02 million, 11.92 million were male, and 11.09 million were female. The male/female ratio in rural areas was 1.07. The extrapolated figures for 2022 show 25.5 million people in rural areas and 28.42 million in urban areas. The 25.5 million rural population comprises 13.21 million males and 12.29 million females. The population of the urban areas in 2022 is estimated at 28.42 million. This population includes 14.82 million males and 13.6 million females. The figures for 2022 are calculated with a 2.07% growth rate for rural areas and 2.74 for urban areas. These growth rates were obtained in the 2017 census and can vary due to rapid migration toward urban areas. We have already seen that the demographic profile of the province changed between 1998 and 2017. According to the 1998 census, 15.6 million (51.4%) people were living in rural areas, and 14.84 million (48.6%) were in urban areas.

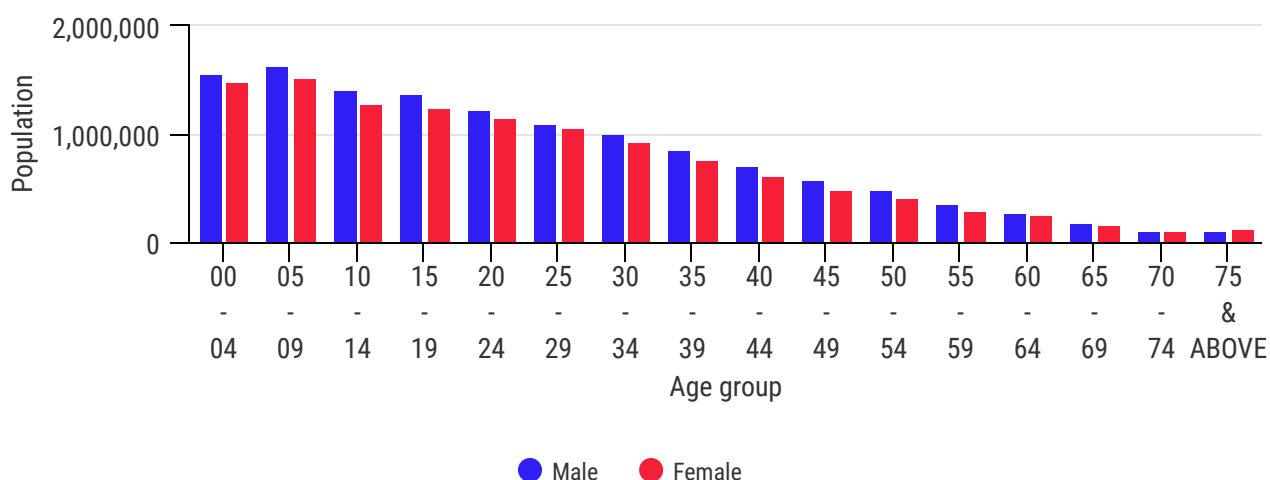
<sup>2</sup>. "Our World in Data." Our World in Data, ourworldindata.org/gender-ratio. Accessed 9 Jan. 2023.

## 2. Demography

### Population by Age Group-Rural Areas

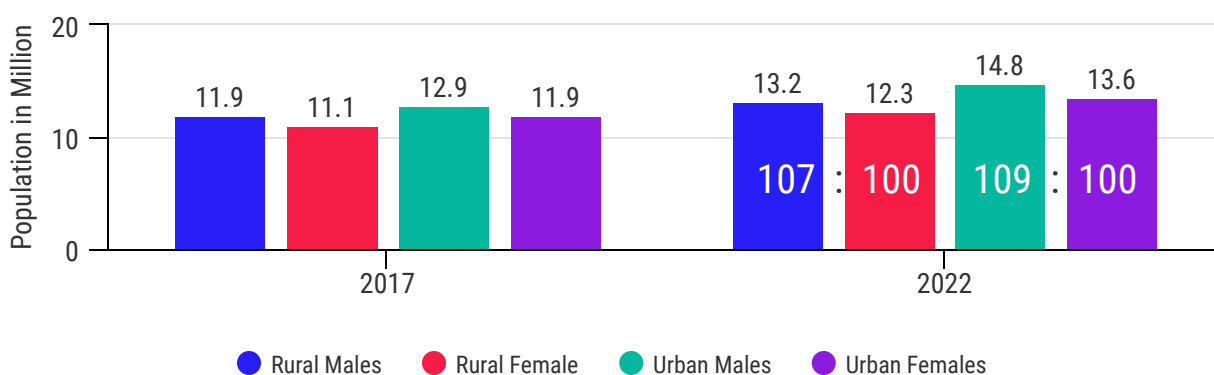


### Population by Age Group-Urban Areas



**Chart 2.4 and 2.5: Population spread by age groups in rural areas (2.4) and Urban areas (2.5);**  
 Data source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0> , and GMIS

### Estimated Population of Sindh in 2022 (54 million)



**Chart 2.6: Growth in Population from 2017 to 2022; data disaggregate by Sex and areas;**  
 Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0> , GMIS

## 2. Demography



## 2.4 Sindh: Population Profile of Districts

Table 2.3 shows the Rural-Urban and Gender Divide among the districts of Sindh. Karachi West has the maximum population among the districts. The district's population is 4.60 million, with a Rural-Urban divide of 0.318 million and 4.29 million. The sex ratio in the Urban areas of Karachi West is 111. The maximum sex ratio among Sindh's district is in Tharparkar, which is 115.04. The Rural area of Tharparkar district has a sex ratio of 115.24 with a population growth rate of 2.93. The Urban area of Tharparkar district has a sex ratio of 112.72 with a population growth rate of 6.52. The total estimated population of the Malir district is 2.31 million. Here overall sex ratio is 114.91, with a growth rate of 3.77 per annum. The sex ratio in rural areas is 113.34, with an annual growth rate of 5.02. The sex ratio in urban areas is 116. This sex ratio is also the highest among Sindh's rural and urban areas. The population growth rate in Malir Urban is 2.59.

Tando Muhammad Yar is the district with the minimum population in Sindh. According to the 2017 census, its population was 0.677 million, with 0.349 million (51.7%) males and 0.327 million (48.3%) females. Tando Muhammad Yar is a predominately rural district, with 79% of the population living in rural areas. In 2017, Tando Muhammad Yar was one of the six districts in Sindh with a population of less than one million. The other Districts with less than one million population are Mitari, Sujawal, Tando Allah Yar, Thatta, and Jamshoro. The overall sex ratio of Tando Muhammad Khan is 106.48. The sex ratio in Rural Areas is 106.78, with a growth rate of 1.97. The sex ratio in Urban Areas is 107.23, with a growth rate of 3.82. The total estimated population of Tando Muhammad Yar in 2022 is 0.759 million. District Kambar Shahdad Kot has a minimum sex ratio in Sindh. The overall sex ratio in the district is 103.54, and the annual growth rate is 1.96. The estimated population of the district in 2022 is 1.47 million. Of its 0.75 million males, 0.507 million (67.5%) live in rural areas. The total estimated female population in 2022 is 0.724 million. 67.7% of females live in rural areas.

## 2.5 Marital Status

This section discussed the marital status of Sindh women aged 15 years and above. The 2017 census shows that 13.7 million females in Sindh are aged 15 years and above. Of these 13.7 million, 9.39 million (68.5%) are married, 1 million (7.3%) are widowed, and 0.057 million (0.41%) are divorced. The number of unmarried women is 3.2 million (23.3%).

Table 2.3 shows the marital status of the women in Sindh disaggregated by age group. The population of females aged 15-19 is 2.3 million. 502,276 (21%) females from this group are already married. The number of widowed women in this age group is 2,974. Another 1,861 are divorced. Although exact figures for the marital status of females younger than 18 years are not available, the high percentage of married women in the 15-19 age group should raise the alarm among policymakers and law enforcement agencies. Some married women in this age group may be below 18 years old. Child marriage in Sindh is punishable under the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2013. The law prohibits child marriages under section 3, which states:

"Whoever, being a male above eighteen years of age, contracts a child marriage shall be punished with rigorous imprisonment, which may extend to three years but shall not be less than two years, and shall be liable to a fine."

The Act defines a "child" as "male or female under eighteen."<sup>3</sup>

The number of females aged 30 and above who are never married is 305,737. This number is 1% of the 15 years and above women in the province and 4% of women aged 30 and above.

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3. <http://sindhlaws.gov.pk/setup/publications/PUB-13-000734.pdf>

District	Males	Females	District	Males	Females
BADIN RURAL	817,943	766,115	KORANGI URBAN	1,537,619	1,403,779
BADIN URBAN	243,814	230,084	JCD RURAL	388,579	371,100
DADU RURAL	645,740	611,881	JCD URBAN	173,306	166,002
DADU URBAN	225,028	213,804	KZL RURAL	493,747	459,272
HDR RURAL	204,456	190,493	KZL URBAN	146,244	136,391
HDR URBAN	1,064,471	977,687	LRK RURAL	453,417	436,003
JAM RURAL	314,768	279,791	LRK URBAN	415,485	398,824
JAM URBAN	308,830	282,381	SDKT RURAL	506,734	489,748
MATIARI RURAL	335,764	316,179	SDKT URBAN	253,529	244,448
MATIRI URBAN	110,662	103,353	SKP RURAL	522,918	490,566
TAY RURAL	325,897	305,677	SKP URBAN	171,659	163,120
TAY URBAN	176,455	165,326	MPK RURAL	616,676	577,121
TMK RURAL	303,875	285,930	MPK URBAN	246,078	232,177
YMK URBAN	88,638	82,659	THAR RURAL	936,745	812,856
THATTA RURAL	466,748	430,186	THAR URBAN	96,301	85,434
THATTA URBAN	118,803	111,818	UMER KOT RURAL	477,177	445,791
SUJAWAL RURAL	403,702	372,139	UMER KOT URBAN	156,472	142,462
SUJAWAL URBAN	48,044	45,361	GHOTKI RURAL	749,470	704,692
KHI EAST RURAL	-	-	GHOTKI URBAN	231,594	216,266
KHI EAST URBAN	1,784,410	1,620,053	KPR RURAL	912,889	857,583
KHI WEST RURAL	167,425	151,027	KPR URBAN	488,737	458,776
KHI WEST URBAN	2,256,670	2,030,727	SUK RURAL	454,243	419,209
MALIR RURAL	582,037	513,512	SUK URBAN	423,848	386,019
MALIR URBAN	662,952	570,555	SGR RURAL	850,334	792,731
KHI CENTRAL RURAL	-	-	SGR URBAN	339,503	320,277
KHI CENTRAL URBAN	1,653,850	1,532,476	NSFZ RURAL	692,536	648,551
KHI SOUTH RURAL	-	-	NSFZ URBAN	232,860	220,290
KHI SOUTH URBAN	977,197	880,241	SBA RURAL	630,850	589,741
KORANGI RURAL	-	-	SBA URBAN	291,889	274,199

**Table 2.3: Rural-Urban and Gender Divide of Sindh's Districts**

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>, and GMIS

Age Group	Total Population	Never Married	Married	Widowed	Divorced
15 AND ABOVE	13,662,492	3,206,854	9,388,616	1,009,180	57,842
15 - 19	2,304,150	1,801,874	497,441	2,974	1,861
20 - 24	2,003,363	772,611	1,219,227	6,076	5,449
25 - 29	1,893,225	326,632	1,545,999	12,322	8,272
30 - 34	1,671,755	135,729	1,504,504	21,635	9,887
35 - 39	1,400,940	64,061	1,290,489	37,457	8,933
40 - 44	1,097,761	36,625	998,745	55,091	7,300
45 - 49	874,112	20,712	768,895	79,113	5,392
50 - 54	690,103	15,995	567,266	102,493	4,349
55 - 59	512,498	10,051	385,524	114,206	2,717
60 - 64	458,609	9,539	291,117	156,178	1,775
65 - 69	300,922	5,960	157,605	136,478	879
70 - 74	202,335	3,030	81,747	117,087	471
75 AND ABOVE	252,719	4,035	80,057	168,070	557

**Table 2.4: Marital Status of Sindh Women in different age groups**

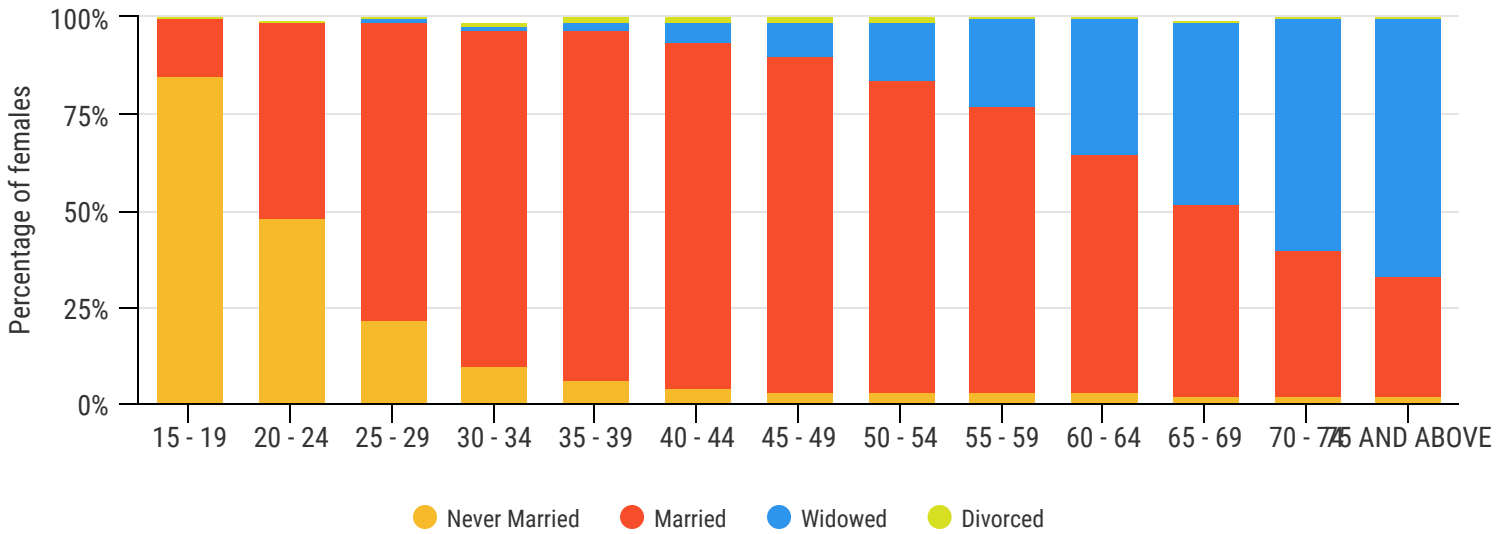
Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0> and GMIS

Charts 2.8 to 2.11 compare the marital status of males and females. It is evident from chart 2.8 that 70% of the rural women from the age group 15-19 years were never married., whereas 30% of the women were married before the age of 19. In comparison, only 12% of the rural men aged 15 to 19 were married. Another notable trend is the percentage of widowed as the age group increases. In rural females, 33% of the total population in the age group 60-65 are widows. The percentage of the widow in total married women is 50.5% in this age group. This percentage increases in upper age groups. In comparison, only 7% of men aged 60-65 are widowers.

The marital status of the urban population is different from the rural population. This status is presented in Charts 2.10 and 2.11. Only 15% of the urban females aged 15-19 are married. For rural females, the percentage of married women for this age group was 30. Similarly, only 4% of the males aged 15-19 are married. For rural males in this age group, 12% were married.

## 2. Demography

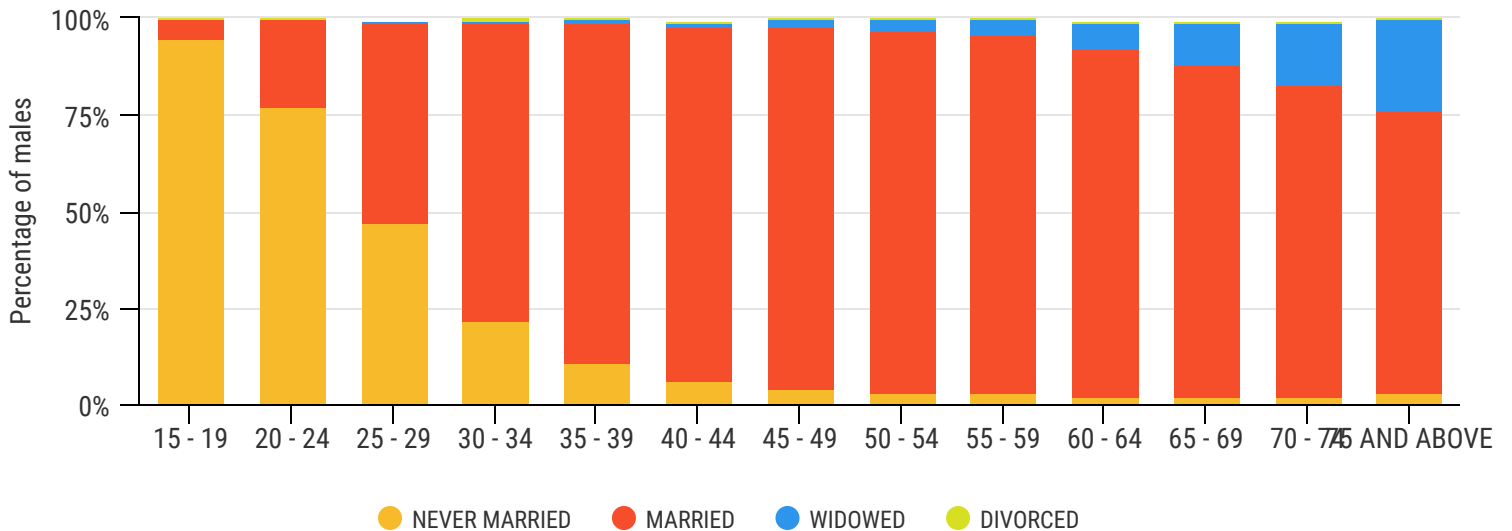
## Marital Status of Urban Females, 15 years and above



**Chart 2.7: Marital status of urban females, 15 years and above**

Data source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>,

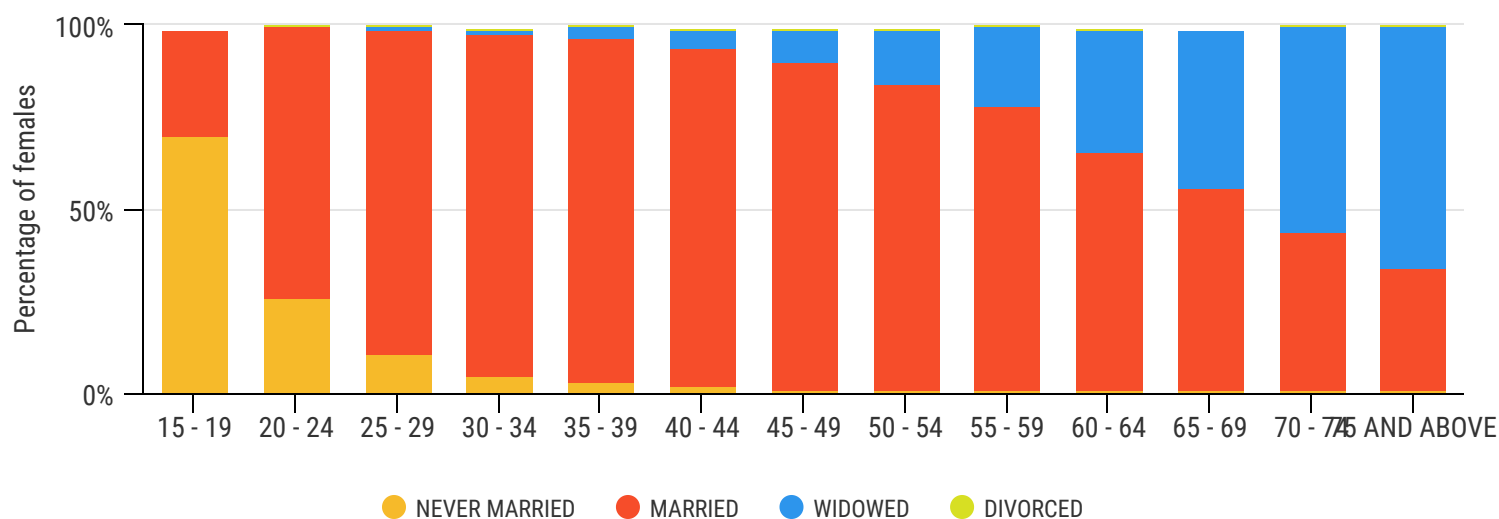
## Marital Status of Urban Males, 15 years and above



**Chart 2.8: Marital status of urban males, 15 years and above**

Data source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>,

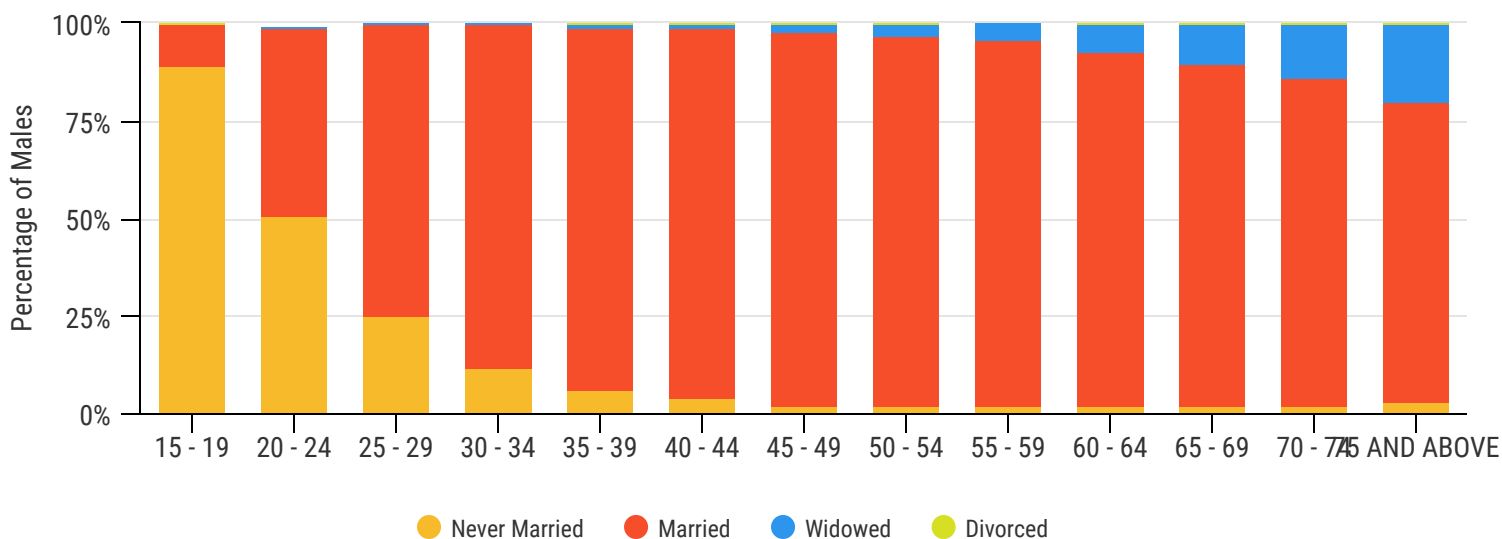
### Marital Status of Rural Females, 15 years and above



**Chart 2.9: Marital status of rural females, 15 years and above**

Data source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>, and GMIS

### Marital Status of Rural Males, 15 years and above

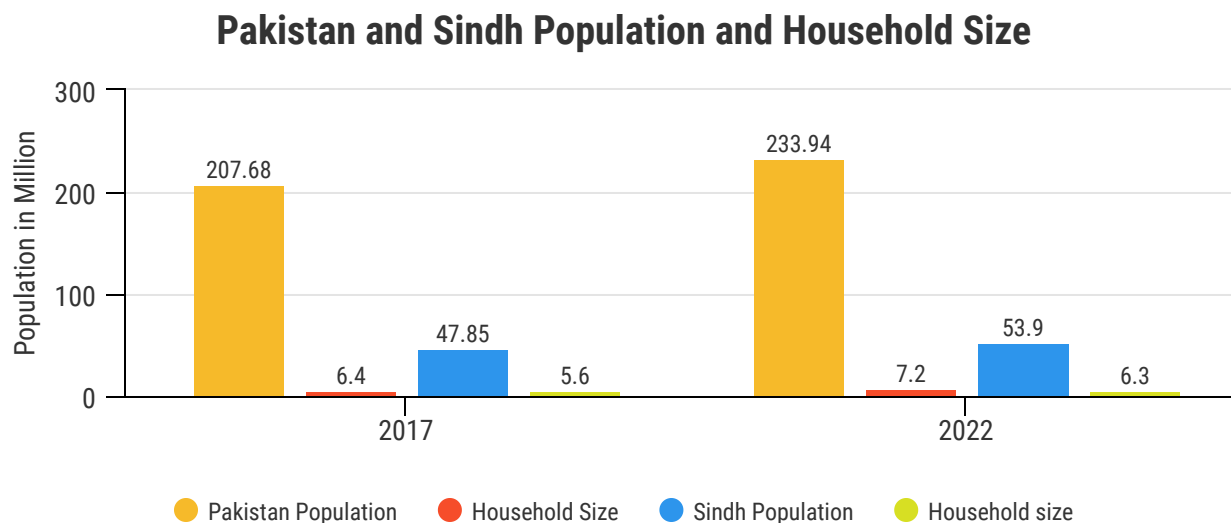


**Chart 2.10: Marital status of rural males, 15 years and above**

Data source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>, GMIS

## 2.6 Household Size

According to the 2017 census, 207.7 million people resided in 32.2 million households in Pakistan. Population projections indicate that in 2022 this number will increase to 233 million people. In 2017, the population of Sindh was 47.85 million, living in 8.62 million households with an average size of 5.55. With the same number of households in 2022, it is anticipated that the population will have increased to 53.9 million individuals with an average household size of 6.2. Chart 2.12 compares the average size of Pakistani and Sindhi households in 1998, 2017, and 2022.



### Chart 2.11: Projections for the increase in household size keeping the number of households constant between 2017 and 2022.

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>,

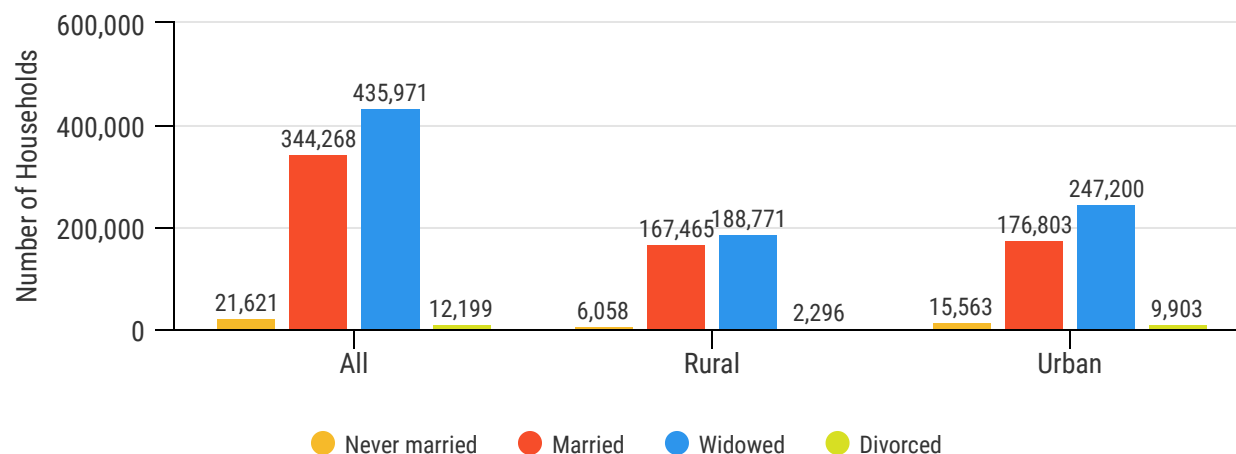
## 2.7 Household Headship

The estimated number of households in Sindh in 2017 was 8.48 million. Males were the head of 7.66 million (90.4%) households. Women were heading 0.814 million (9.6%) of households, while transgender people headed 0.01%. Chart 2.13 shows the breakdown of the households headed by females. Overall, 21,621 (2.6%) households are headed by women who are never married, 334,268 (42.3%) by married women, 435,971 (53.6%) by widowed, and 12,199 (1.5%) by divorced.

In the rural areas of Sindh, 364,590 households (44.8% of the total households headed by women) are headed by women. As Chart 2.13 shows, 6,058 (1.7%) heads are never-married women, 167,465 (45.9%) are married women, 188,771 (51.8%) are widowed, and 2,296 (0.6%) are divorced.

There are 449,469 households in the urban areas of Sindh headed by women. This number equals 55.2% of the household headed by women and 5.3% of all the households in Sindh. Of these 449,469 households, 15,563 (3.5%) households are headed by never-married women, 176,803 (39.3%) are headed by married women, 247,200 (55%) are headed by widowed, and 9,903 (2.2%) are headed by divorced women.

## Household Headed by Women in Sindh



**Chart 2.12: Households headed by Women in Sindh**

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>

### 2.8 Religious Profile of Sindh

According to the 2017 census, 90.03% of the 47.85 Sindh population is Muslim. The non-Muslim population of 9.97% contains Christians, Hindus, Ahmadi, and Scheduled castes. Overall, 96.5% of Pakistan's population is Muslim. This 9.97% of the non-Muslim population also makes Sindh a province with the highest concentration of non-Muslim population. The total non-Muslim population in Sindh is 4.62 million, which includes 2.4 million (52%) males and 2.2 million (48%) females

OVERALL	TOTAL	MUSLIM	CHRISTIAN	HINDU	QADIANI/AHMADI	SCHEDULED CASTES	OTHERS
All sexes	47,854,510	43,234,107	408,301	3,345,424	21,661	831,562	13,455
Males	24,876,186 (52%)	22,480,575 (52%)	208,382 (51%)	1,733,473 (52%)	11,126 (51%)	435,372 (52%)	7,258 (54%)
Females	22,972,370 (48%)	20,748,079 (48%)	199,837 (49%)	1,611,616 (48%)	10,531 (49%)	396,113 (48%)	6,194 (46%)
Transgenders	5,954 (0.01%)	5,453 (0.01%)	82 (0.02%)	335 (0.01%)	4 (0.02%)	77 (0.01%)	3 (0.02%)

**Table 2.5: Demographic Profile of Minorities living in Sindh**

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0> ,

The 4.6 million non-Muslim population of Sindh is divided into different religions. Hindus are the largest non-Muslim community in the province. It consists of 3.35 million people. The male-female divide of the Hindu population is 52:48% (107 males for 100 females). The Hindu population is 72.4% of the non-Muslim population of the province and 7% of the province's total population. The Schedules castes are the second largest non-Muslim community in the province. Their total population is 831,562, with 52% males and 48% females. The Scheduled caste population is 18% of the total non-Muslim population of Sindh and 1.74% of the total population of Sindh. The Christian community is placed third, with a population of 408,301 persons (8.8% of the non-Muslim population and 0.8% of the total population of Sindh).

The geographic profile of Sindh's non-Muslim population is interesting. We have already noted that 48% of the Sindh population is based in rural areas of the province. 46% of the Muslim community lives in rural areas. In rural areas, the percentage of the Muslim community is 86.46, as against 93.94% Muslim community that lives in urban areas. However, 67.5% of Sindh's non-Muslim population lives in rural areas. The total non-Muslim female population in rural areas is 1.5 million, 48% of the total rural non-Muslim population. Hindus are the largest non-Muslim community in the province, and 76% live in rural areas. 75.9% of Hindu males and 76.3% of Hindu females live in rural areas. Similarly, 83.31% of the Scheduled castes live in rural areas. Contrary to the other non-Muslim communities' profile, only 0.78% of the Christian population live in rural areas.

OVERALL	TOTAL	MUSLIM	CHRISTIAN	HINDU	QADIANI/ AHMADI	SCHEDULED CASTES	OTHERS
All sexes	23,021,876	19,904,962	24,447	2,372,272	6,332	709,455	4,408
Males	11,927,892 (52%)	10,308,009 (52%)	12,617 (52%)	1,229,839 (52%)	3,297 (52%)	371,642 (52%)	2,488 (56%)
Females	11,091,837 (48%)	9,595,105 (48%)	11,829 (48%)	1,142,206 (48%)	3,035 (48%)	337,743 (48%)	1,919 (44%)
Transgenders	2,147 (0.01%)	2,147 (0.01%)	1 (0%)	2,147 (0.01%)	- (0%)	2,147 (0.01%)	2,147 (0.02%)

**Table 2.6: Population Profile of different religions in Rural Sindh**

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>

**46%**

of Muslim community lives in rural areas

**67.5%**

non-Muslim community lives in rural areas

**76%**

Hindus (the largest non-muslim community in Sindh) lives in rural areas

## 2. Demography



OVERALL	TOTAL	MUSLIM	CHRISTIAN	HINDU	QADIANI/AHMADI	SCHEDULED CASTES	OTHERS
All sexes	24,832,634	23,329,145	383,854	973,152	15,329	122,107	9,047
Males	12,948,294 (52%)	12,172,566 (52%)	195,765 (51%)	503,634 (52%)	7,829 (51%)	63,730 (52%)	4,770 (53%)
Females	11,880,533 (48%)	11,152,974 (48%)	188,008 (49%)	469,410 (48%)	7,496 (49%)	58,370 (48%)	4,275 (47%)
Transgenders	3,807 (0.02%)	3,605 (0.02%)	81 (0.02%)	108 (0.01%)	4 (0.03%)	7 (0.01%)	2 (0.02%)

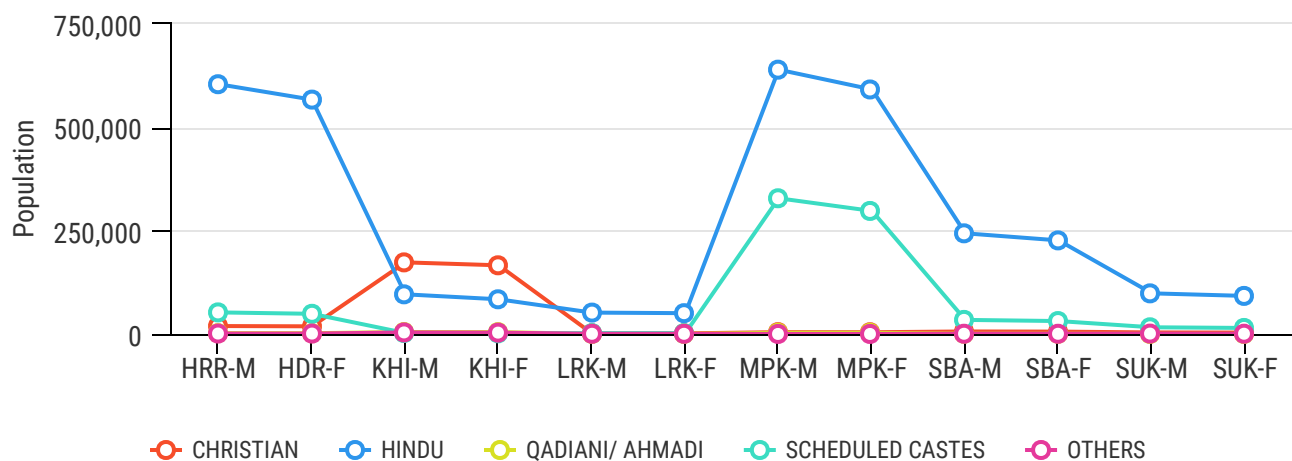
**Table 2.6: Population Profile of different religions in Urban Sindh**

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>

69% of Sindh’s non-Muslim population is based in 2 divisions. The MirpurKhas division has 40.5% of the non-Muslim population. The Mirpur Khas division consists of three districts: Mirpur Khas, Tharparkar, and Umerkot. Hyderabad division contains 28.5% of the province’s non-Muslim population. This division comprises seven districts: Hyderabad, Dadu, Jamshoro, Mitiari, Tando Allah Yar, and Tando Muhammad Khan.

Chart 2.14 shows the concentration of different non-Muslim communities in the province of Sindh. It is evident from the graph that both the male and female Christian community is concentrated in the Karachi division. Mirpur Khas has both Hindu and Scheduled castes. More than 1.2 million Hindus live in the Mirpur Khas division. This includes 639,507 males and 591,594 females. The hyderabad division houses 604,308 males and 567,060 females from the Hindu community.

**Non-Muslim Community living in Sindh**



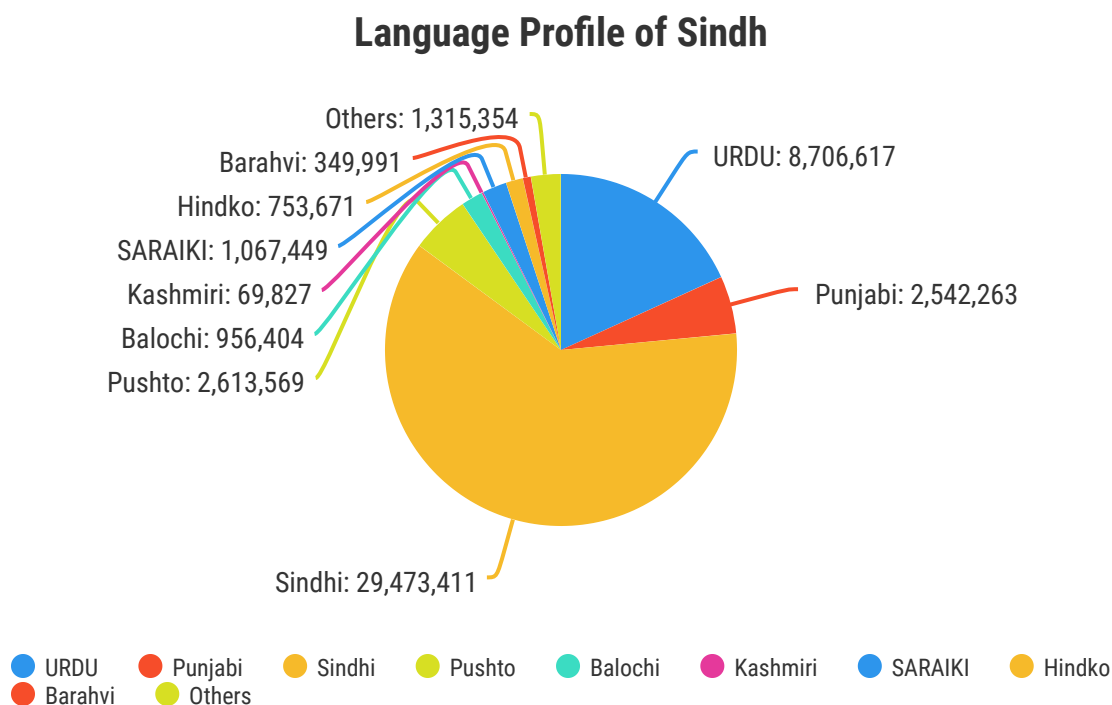
**Chart 2.13: Population Profile of different religions in Urban Sindh**

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>

## 2. Demography

## 2.9 Language Profile

There is a common conception that Sindh is the house of only two languages; Urdu is spoken in the province's urban areas, with the majority of the Urdu-speaking population concentrated in Karachi, and Sindhi is the mother tongue of people living in interior Sindh. Although not totally wrong, Sindh also provides habitation to different languages, including Punjabi, Pushto, Balochi, Saraiki, and Hindko. The Pie Chart shows the language profile of the province.



**Chart 2.14: Language profile of Sindh; Population speaking a language**

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>

There above pie chart shows that 29.47 million (62%) of the Sindh population is Sindhi-speaking. The male-female division within Sindhi speaking population is 51.85% to 48.15%. A dominant percentage of this Sindhi-speaking population is based in rural areas of Sindh. Sindhi-speaking people in rural Sindh are 21.13 million (71.7%). Of the 21.13 million rural Sindhis, 10.94 million (51.75%) are males, and 10.19 million (48.24%) are female. 8.37 million Sindhis are living in urban areas of Sindh. This includes 4.34 million males and 3.99 million females.

**62%**

Sindhi speaking population in Sindh

**18.2%**

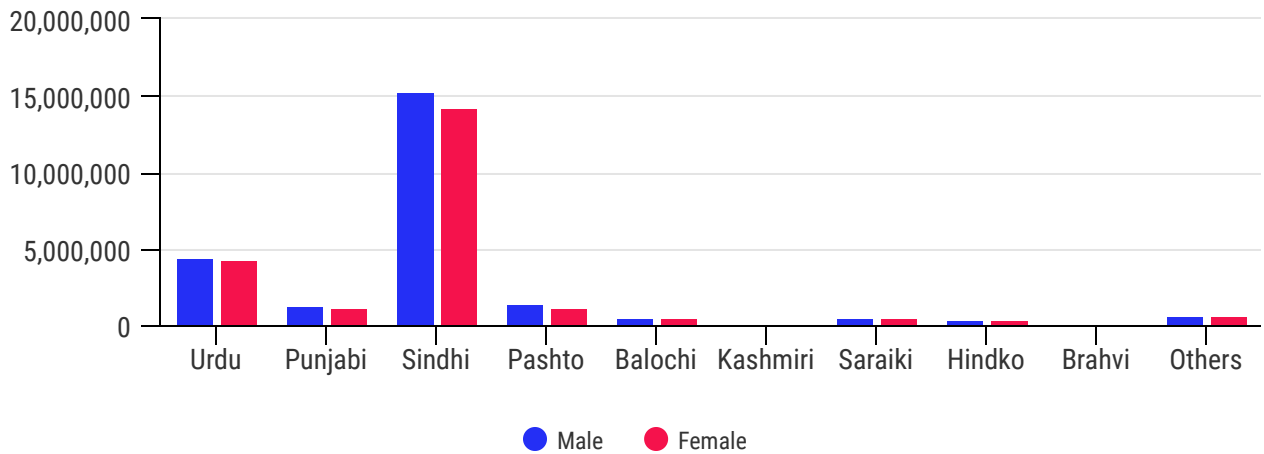
Urdu speaking population in Sindh

**5.5%**

Pashto speaking population in Sindh

## 2. Demography

## Language Profile in Sindh: Sex disaggregated data

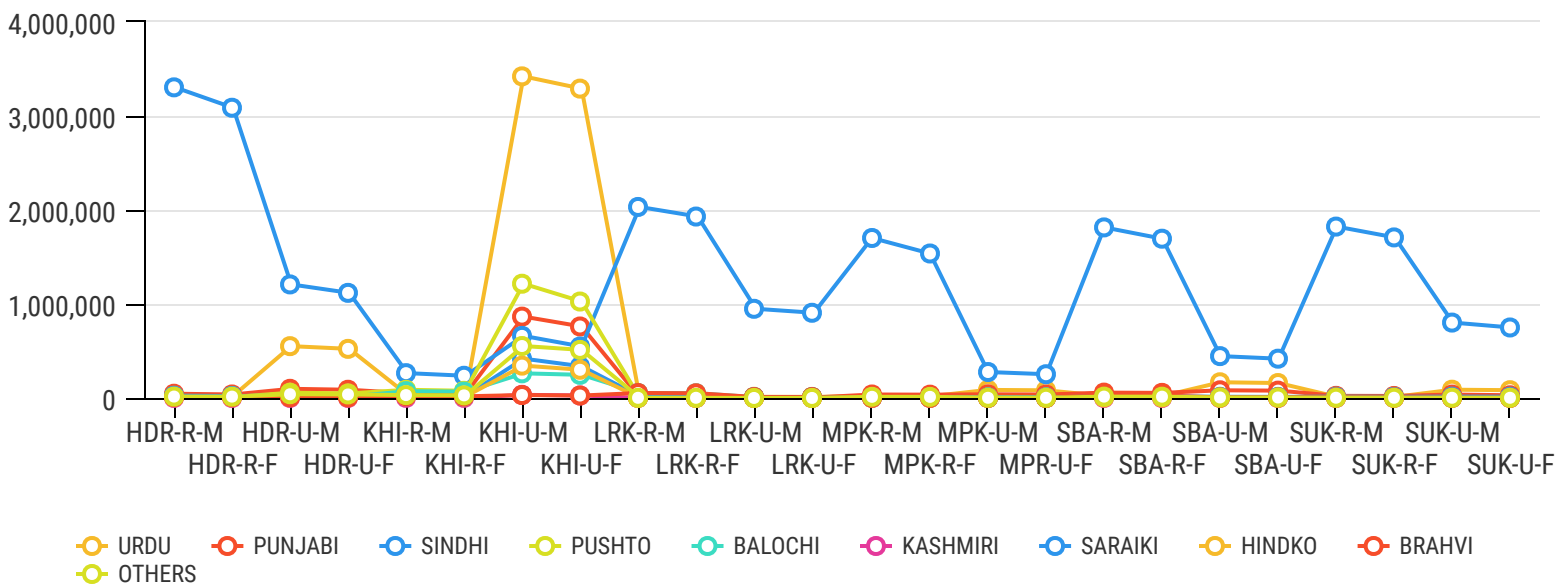


**Chart 2.15: Sex disaggregated data of Language Profile in Sindh**

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017-0>

Chart 2.17 shows the language spread in different districts of Sindh. The sex-disaggregated data is shown in this chart. The chart shows that Urdu, Pushto, Punjabi, and all other languages except Sindhi are concentrated in the urban areas of the Karachi division. In all other urban and rural areas, Sindhi speaking population dominates.

## POPULATION BY MOTHER TONGUE, SEX AND RURAL/ URBAN



**Chart 2.16: Population of Administrative Divisions of Sindh by Mother tongue, Sex and Rural/Urban**

Source: Population and Housing Census, 2017; Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/final-results-census-2017->

## 2. Demography

# MAJOR FINDINGS

1

## Sindh share in country's population is constant at 23%

Whereas the percent share of the population for all regions has changed since the last census (and National Finance Commission Award), Sindh's share of the population is estimated to remain at 23%. Sindh population growth rate calculated at the time of the 2017 census was 2.41, coincidentally also the national growth rate. Of the other provinces, the Punjab population is growing at the rate of 2.1% per annum. Its share of the population in 2022 is estimated to be 52.3%. The percentage share of KP and Balochistan has also increased due to their high growth rate.

2

## Sex ratio in Sindh is 108

The sex ratio in Sindh is 108 which is more than the normal ratio. This implies that Sindh has a disproportionately large number of boys compared to girls. This proportion should be a cause of concern for the government. A disproportionately large number of boys compared to girls may be attributable to sex selection based on a preference for a boy over a girl. This proportion is very high in early age groups. For example, in the age group 5-9, the ratio is 112, in age group 10-14, the ratio is 119 and in the age group 15-19, the ratio is 114.

3

## Focus family planning efforts on districts growing disproportionately

Some districts in Sindh are growing disproportionately and there is a need to focus family planning efforts on these districts. Tharparkar rural has a sex ratio of 115 and a population growth rate of 2.93. Tharparkar Urban has a sex ratio of 112 and a population growth rate of 6.52. Malir urban has a sex ratio of 116 and a population growth rate of 2.59.

4

## 21% females in age group 15-19 are married

502,276 (21%) females aged 15-19 are already married. The number of widowed women in this age group is 2,974. Another 1,861 are divorced. Although exact figures for the marital status of females under 18 years are not available, the high percentage of married women in the 15-19 age group should raise the alarm among policymakers and law enforcement agencies. Some married women in this age group may be below 18 years old which is a crime under the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2013.

# 3-EDUCATION

The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of five to sixteen years in such manner as may be determined by law.

Article 25-A, Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan

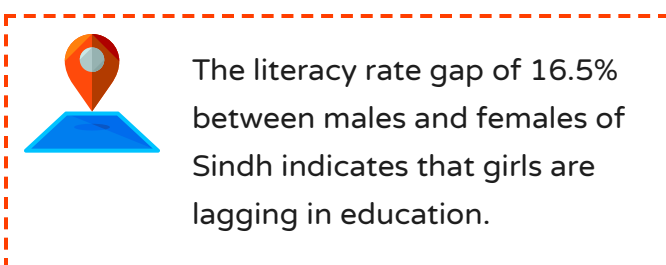
The data in this section includes the number of institutions, students, and teaching staff at elementary, middle, and high schools disaggregated by sex. The data is mainly drawn from Sindh Education Management Information System (SEMIS), and Gender Management Information System (GMIS). Only institutions managed administratively by the Education Department, Government of Sindh, are included in SEMIS. According to SEMIS, comprehensive data could not be prepared because several private schools have yet to respond to the data request.

## 3.1 State of Education in Pakistan

In the Global Gender Gap Report 2022, Pakistan is ranked 135th out of 156 in terms of "education attainment."<sup>4</sup> Despite progressing from 146 in the previous report, Pakistan will need to focus its resources and efforts on achieving the goal of universal education. Several social, economic, and cultural factors contribute to Pakistan's low levels of education, particularly among girls. These factors include, among others, difficulties in accessing schools due to limited mobility, a lack of safe and affordable transportation, an inability to afford school, and early marriages.

## 3.2 Education Profile of Sindh

Chart 3.1 displays the literacy rate for Sindh based on Pakistan Education Statistics 2017–18 and subsequent Pakistan Standard of Living Measurement (PSLM) Surveys (2019–20).<sup>5</sup> The overall literacy rate in Sindh in 2017 was 54.57%. The literacy rate among males ten years and above was 62.52, whereas among girls ten years and above was 45.95%.<sup>6</sup> Sindh is the second province in Pakistan after Punjab, with the highest overall literacy rate. It also has the narrowest gap between male and female literacy rates after Punjab. This gap for Sindh is 16.57%, 2% behind Punjab. In Punjab, the gap between males-females literacy rates is 14.5%. This gap of 16.57% in Sindh is the first indicator that females are lagging in acquiring quality education. PSLM survey depicts a slightly different picture. According to the data for 2019-20, the overall literacy rate in Sindh is 58%. The rate among males is 68% and among females is 47%.<sup>7</sup>



The literacy rate gap of 16.5% between males and females of Sindh indicates that girls are lagging in education.

<sup>4</sup> Global Gender Gap Report, 2022. (2022). Retrieved November 25, 2022, from [https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_GGGR\\_2022.pdf](https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2022.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> This is the latest education data available for Sindh.

<sup>6</sup> POPULATION (10 YEARS AND ABOVE) BY LITERACY, SEX, AGE GROUP, AND RURAL/ URBAN. (n.d.). Final Results of Census, 2017. Retrieved November 15, 2022, from <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/population/2017/tables/sindh/Table12p.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. (2020). Statistical Tables PSLM 2019-20 9Education). Retrieved January 10, 2023, from [https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files//pslm/publications/pslm\\_district\\_2019-20/tables/2.14a.pdf](https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files//pslm/publications/pslm_district_2019-20/tables/2.14a.pdf)

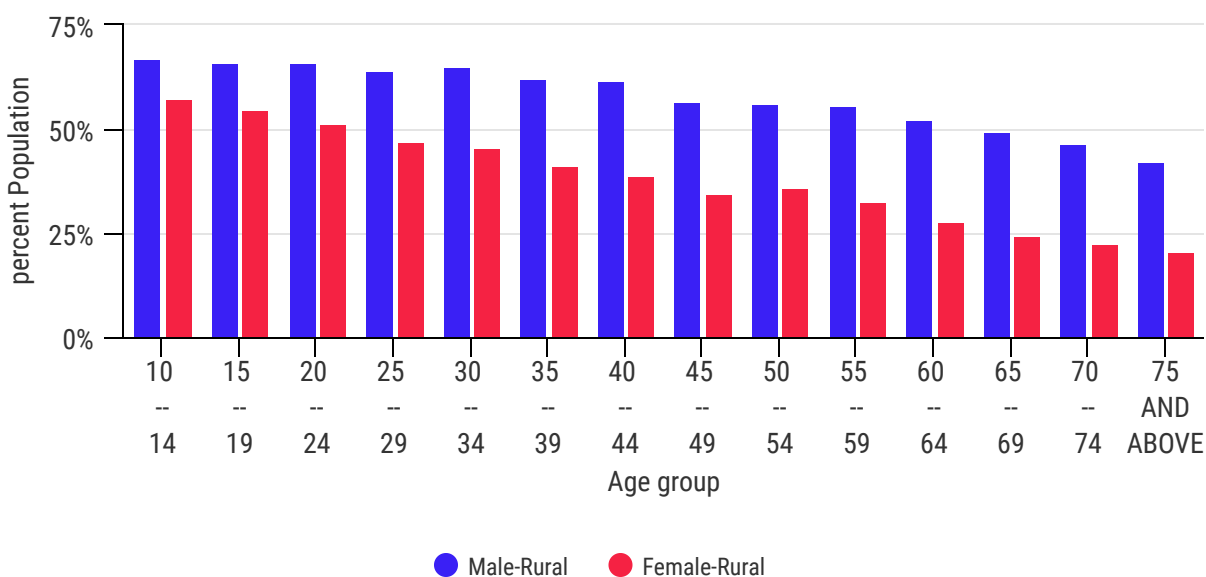
### 3.3 Literacy Rate by Age Groups

Chart 3.1 shows the literacy rate for males and females in different age groups. For males, the trend line is linear, touching the top of the blue bars (male), except for the first two age groups (10-14 and 15-19). This gradient of the trendline indicates that it should have touched the blue bar for the age group 10-14 years at the y-axis value at 70%. This also implies that the literacy rate in recent years could not be increased in line with the previous years' trends. The trend line for females is straight, but a 10% gap between the literacy rate of the two sexes persists. For upper age groups, say 30-34 and 35-39, this gap is as large as 20%. Therefore, the Sindh government needs to emphasize bringing more children to school and increase the literacy rate in upper age groups through non-formal teaching methods.



Government not only needs to bring out-of-school girls Sindh into school, but it should also increase the literacy rate of upper-age group females.

**Population by Literacy, Sex and Age Grops**



**Chart 3.1: Population by Literacy, Sex, and Age Groups**

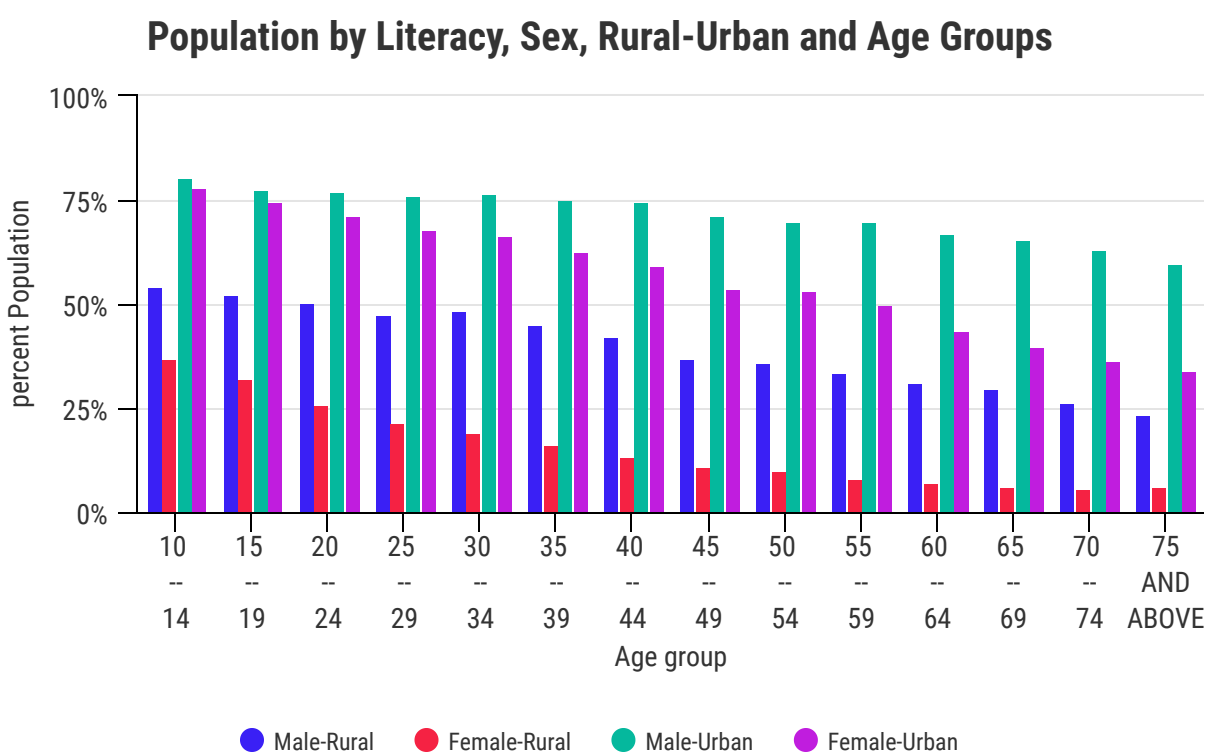
Source: POPULATION (10 YEARS AND ABOVE) BY LITERACY, SEX, AGE GROUP, AND RURAL/ URBAN. (n.d.). Final Results of Census, 2017. Retrieved November 15, 2022, from <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/population/2017/tables/sindh/Table12p.pdf>

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

— Sustainable Development Goal —4

Chart 3.2 shows the literacy rate in Sindh in different age groups and across the rural-urban divide. For smaller age groups in Urban areas, the gap between males-females is plugging. For example, in the age group 10-14 years, the male literacy rate is 80.2% against the female literacy rate of 77.66%. The gap in literacy rate between the two sexes is 2.54% which is the minimum among all the age groups. Undoubtedly, 0.986 million males and 1.10 million females in this age group are still illiterate.

The situation in rural areas is very alarming. The state’s education machinery in rural areas could not reach all boys and girls. In the age group 10-14 years, only 54.34% of males and 37.25% of females are literate in rural areas. The chart also shows that once the state fails to educate children during their school-going age, it is very difficult to put them back in the classroom and turn their illiteracy status.



**Chart 3.2: Population by Literacy, Sex, Rural-Urban and Age Groups**

Source: POPULATION (10 YEARS AND ABOVE) BY LITERACY, SEX, AGE GROUP, AND RURAL/ URBAN. (n.d.). Final Results of Census, 2017. Retrieved November 15, 2022, from <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/population/2017/tables/sindh/Table12p.pdf>

Chart 3.3 presents a picture of literacy rate in different divisions of Sindh segregated by sex and area (urban-rural). The literacy rate for females in rural areas, save Karachi, is at most 25%. The minimum literacy rate for males in rural areas of Sindh is in Mirpur Khas, which is 40.97%. The maximum gap between male and female literacy rates in rural areas is recorded in the Sukkur division, which is 30.95%. In the rural areas of the Sukkur division, the male literacy rate is 55.40%, and the female literacy rate is 24.45%.

### 3. Education

As expected, the maximum male literacy rate in Urban areas is in the Karachi division, which is 77.71%. The corresponding rate for females is 72.83%. Karachi urban is also the division with a minimum gap between male and female literacy rates of 4.88%. The maximum gap in literacy rate in urban areas exists in the Sukkur division, which is 21.86%. However, the Urban areas of the Larkana division have a minimum female literacy rate of 47.66%. Table 3.1 further explains this difference in literacy rate in different divisions of Sindh.



30.95%

In Sindh, Rural areas of the Sukkur division have a maximum literacy rate gap between males and females.

Division	Literacy Rate	Percentage Difference (Male-Female)
HDR-R-M	41.12	
HDR-R-F	20.66	20.46
HRD-U-M	69.53	
HDR-U-F	57.08	12.45
KHI-R-M	62.25	
KHI-R-F	47.63	14.62
KHI-U-M	77.71	
KHi-U-F	72.83	4.88
LRK-R-M	43.04	
LRK-R-F	19.96	23.08
LRK-U-M	69.25	
LRK-U-F	47.66	21.59
MPK-R-M	40.97	
MPK-R-F	15.43	25.54
MPK-U-M	72.56	
MPK-U-F	52.09	20.47
SBA-R-M	53.21	
SBA-R-F	25.70	27.51
SBA-U-M	73.01	
SBA-U-F	54.86	18.15
SUK-R-M	55.40	
SUK-R-F	24.45	30.95
SUK-U-M	73.16	
SUK-U-F	51.30	21.86


**Table 3.1: Literacy rate in rural and urban areas of Sindh**

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. (n.d.). Final Results of Census, 2017. Retrieved November 16, 2022, from <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/population/2017/tables/sindh/Table14p.pdf>

### 3. Education



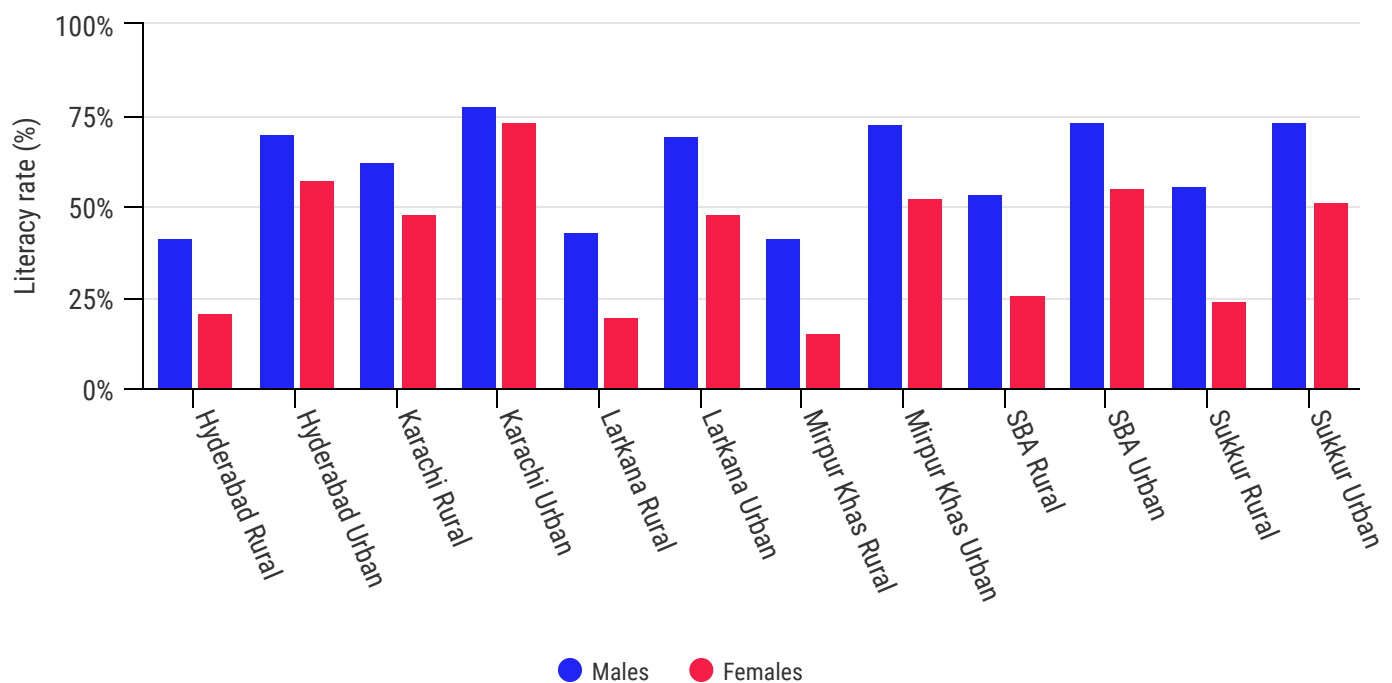
As expected, the maximum male literacy rate in Urban areas is in the Karachi division, which is 77.71%. The corresponding rate for females is 72.83%. Karachi urban is also the division with a minimum gap between male and female literacy rates of 4.88%. The maximum gap in literacy rate in urban areas exists in the Sukkur division, which is 21.86%. However, the Urban areas of the Larkana division have a minimum female literacy rate of 47.66%. Table 3.1 further explains this difference in literacy rate in different divisions of Sindh.



30.95%

In Sindh, Rural areas of the Sukkur division have a maximum literacy rate gap between males and females.

**Literacy Rate in Divisions of Sindh Disaggregated by Sex and Urban-Rural**



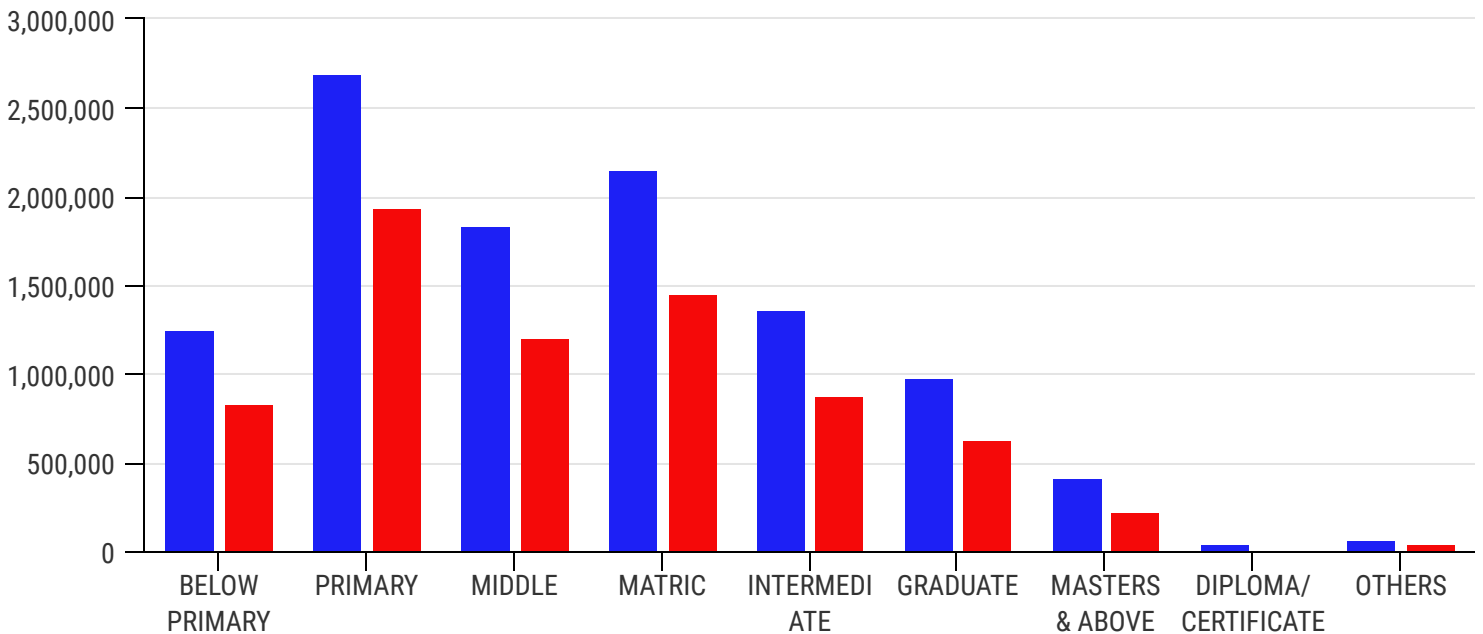
**Chart 3.3: Literacy Rate in Divisions of Sindh Disaggregated by Sex and Areas (Urban-Rural)**

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. (n.d.). Final Results of Census, 2017. Retrieved November 16, 2022, from <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/population/2017/tables/sindh/Table14p.pdf>

### 3.4 Maximum Education Level Attained

Chart 3.4 shows the maximum education level of males and females in Sindh. Again, there is a visible difference between males and females at each education level.

## Maximum Education Level Attained



**Chart 3.4: Maximum Education Level Attained by Males and Females**

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. (n.d.). Final Result of Census 2017. Retrieved November 16, 2022, from <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/population/2017/tables/sindh/Table05p.pdf>

In Sindh, the total number of males ten years or above is 17.63 million. Only 10.8 million (61.2%) could ever be enrolled in school. The total number of females, ten years or above, is 16.23 million. The number of females enrolled in the school is 7.21 million (44.42%). Chart 3.5 presents an eye-opening analysis. The performance of females at each education level is at par with their male counterparts. For example, 20% of the male students enrolled in school could pass their matric exam. The percentage of enrolled female students who could take the matric examination is also 20. We can see similar comparisons for other education levels. There is a one percent difference in favor of males for education level Masters and above. Twenty-seven percent of females were able to complete primary education, against 25 percent of males. The table shows that it is safe to invest in female education. Eighty-eight percent of females enrolled in schools could complete at least primary education. For male students, this percentage is also 88.



The performance of females to attain an education level after enrolment is at par with males. It is safe to invest in female education.

**17,635,063**

Male population  
10yrs and above

**10,804,523**

Enrolled in  
School (61%)

**16,236,532**

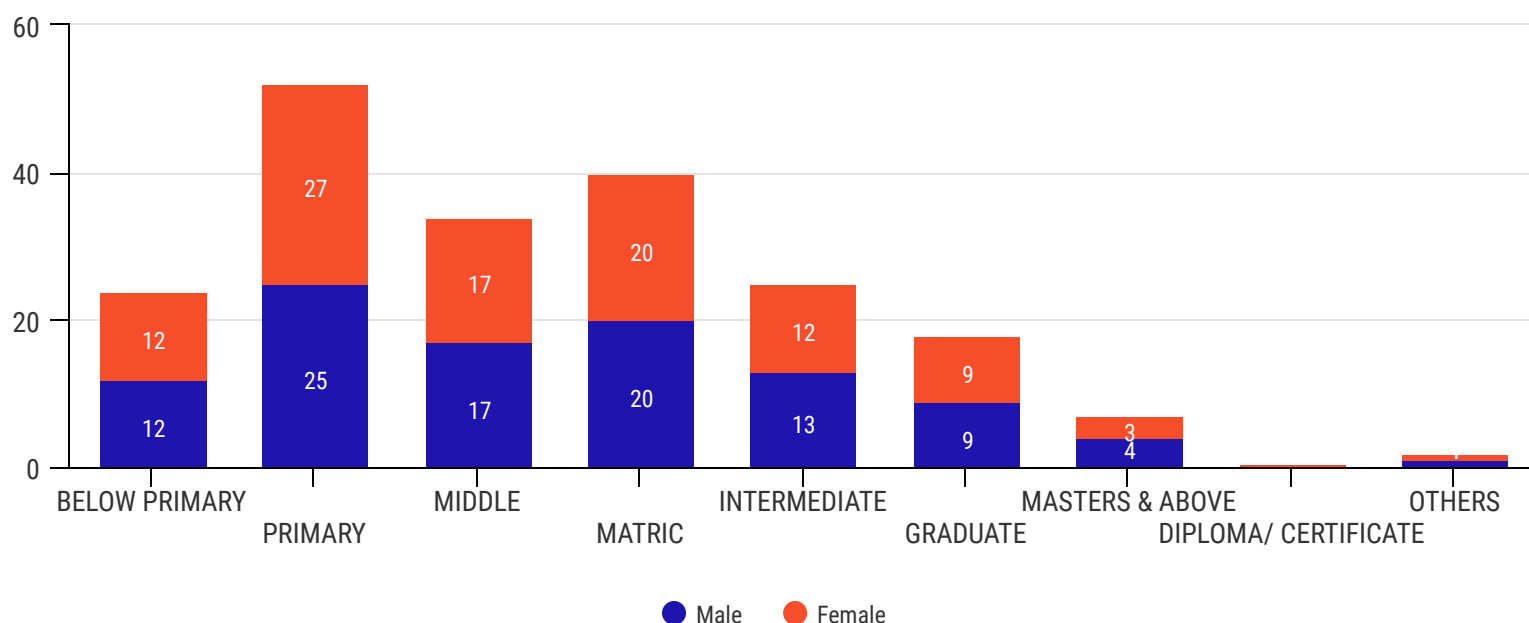
Female  
population 10yrs  
and above

**7,213,671**

Enrolled in  
School (44%)

## 3. Education

## Percentage of Male & Female Population with attained Level of Education




### Chart 3.5: Percentage of Males and Females with Attained Level of Education

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. (n.d.). Final Result of Census 2017. Retrieved November 16, 2022, from <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/population/2017/tables/sindh/Table05p.pdf>

### 3.5 Number of Schools

Charts 3.6 to 3.9 shows the number of schools in different categories in Sindh. In most cases, these numbers kept decreasing with the passing years. Sindh government claims that it has closed non-functional schools, and small schools in the same building were merged into campus schools. The total number of primary schools in Sindh decreased from 41,724 in 2014 to 38,155 in 2017 (-8.5%). The number increased to 44,296 in 2018.

There were 5851 female primary schools in 2014. This number decreased to 4301 in 2017 and then increased to 5468 in 2018. However, the number of schools in 2018 was still less than the number of schools in 2014. Since only 44% of girls were enrolled in Sindh in 2017, this decrease in the number of schools cannot be explained.

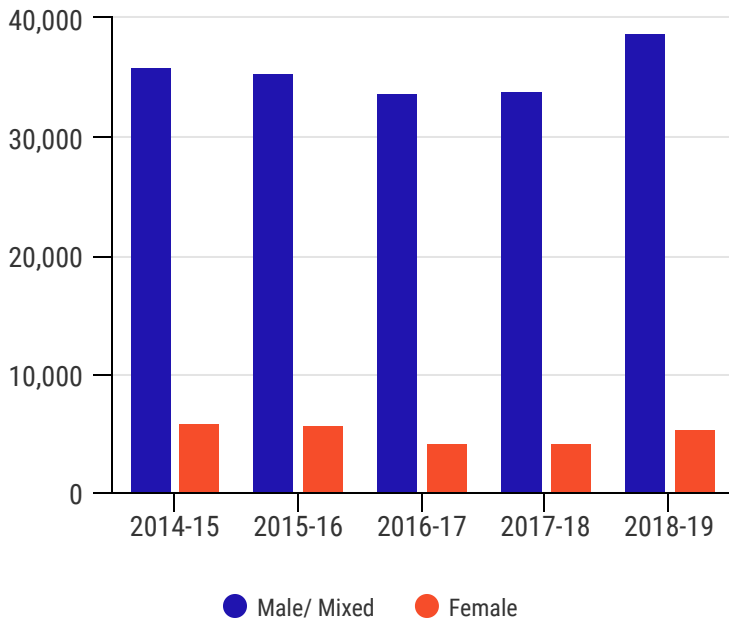


Between 2014-15 and 2018-19, The number of females primary schools in Sindh have decreased from 5851 to 5468.

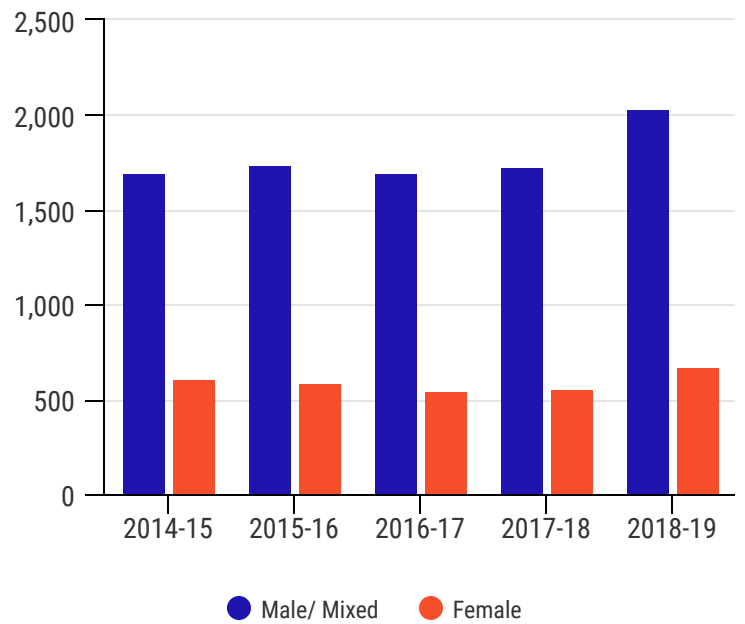
The case for Middle, secondary, and higher secondary is not much different. The number of middle schools was 616 in 2014-15, which decreased for the next two years and was 545 in 2016-17. The number rose to 671 in 2018-19. There were 512 female secondary schools in 2014-15. By 2018-19, these schools decreased to 472. Female higher secondary schools have a relatively constant trend. However, the total number decreased from 79 in 2014-15 to 74 in 2018-19.

## 3. Education

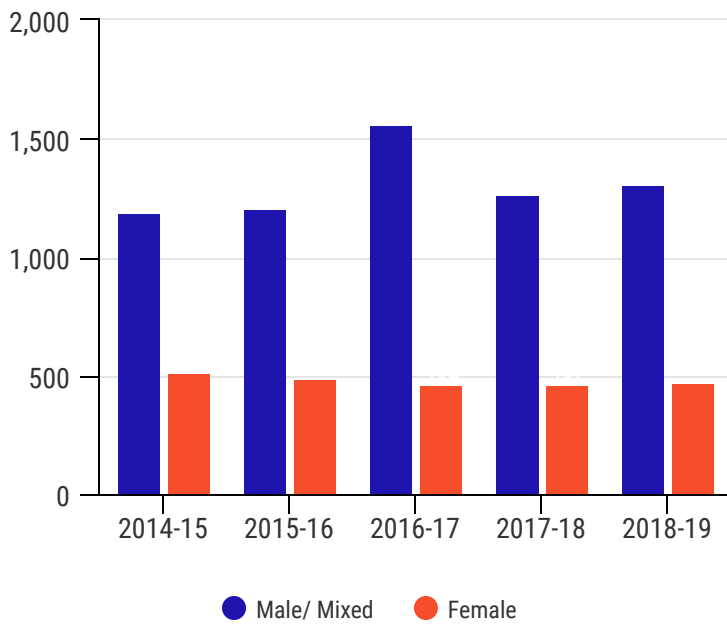
### Primary



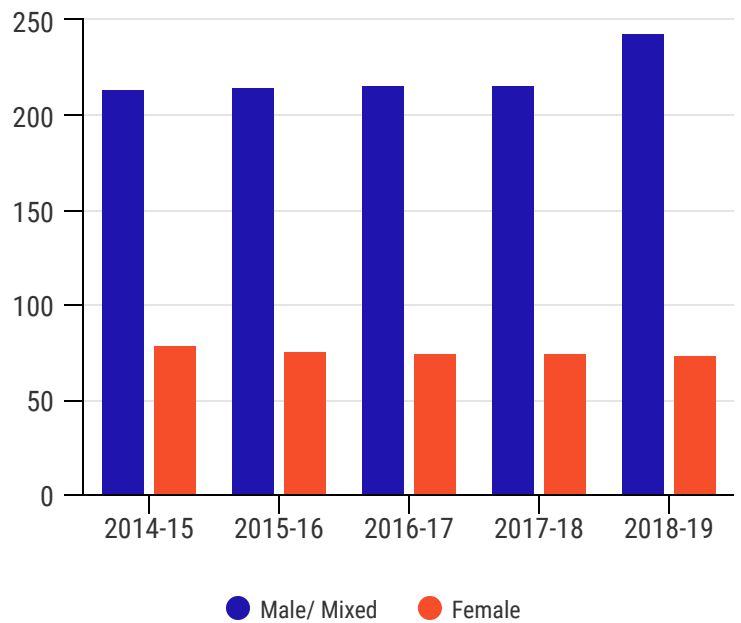
### Middle



### Secondary



### Higher Secondary




**Chart 3.6 to 3.9: Number of Schools in Sindh**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

### 3.6 Enrollment

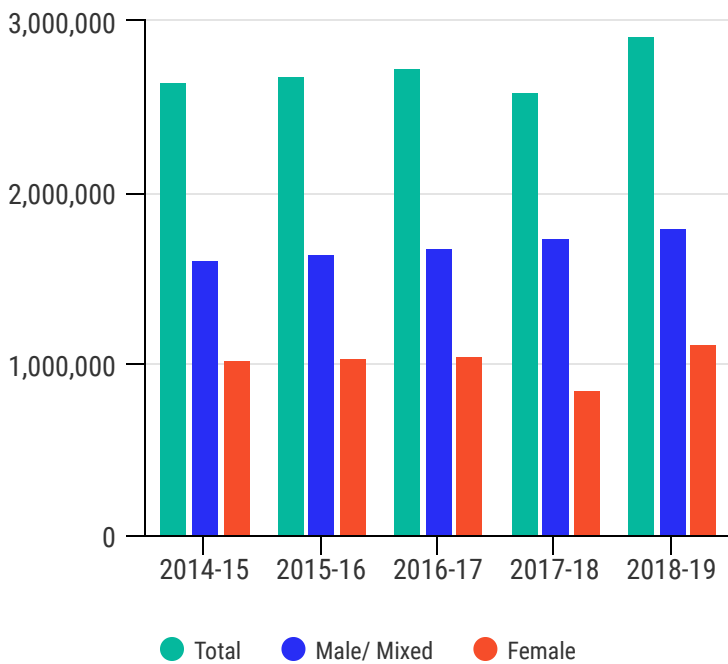
Chart 3.10 to 3.13 shows the enrollment status at different levels in Sindh. For girls at the primary and middle level, 2017-18 was a bad year when enrollment status was a dip. The numbers, however, had risen in the subsequent year. There is a vast gap between male and female enrollment at all four levels. At the primary level, this gap was 585,242 in 2014-15. The gap widened for the next three years and reached 892,516 in 2017-18. In 2018-19, this gap was plugged a little but was still 674,774



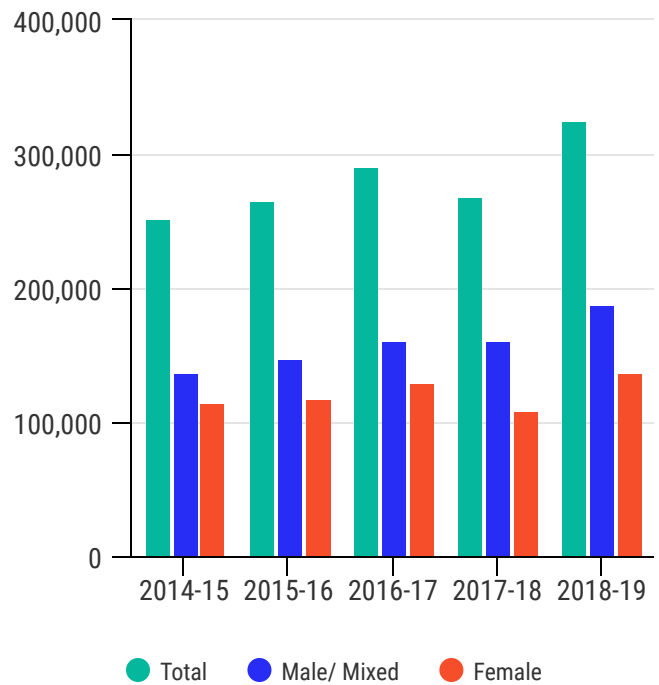
674,774  
Male-Female Gap in  
enrolment at  
primary levels

Analyzing the five-year enrollment data (2014-15 to 2018-19), the male-female enrolment gap has increased at all levels. At the primary level, the gap at the base year was 585,242, which increased to 675,774 in the last years. At the middle level, the base year gap was 22,676 and increased to 49,979 in the last year. At the secondary level, Sindh started with a gap of 136,135 in 2014-15 and reached 199,334 in 2018-19. For higher secondary level, these figures are 101,367 and 137,773. In percentage terms, at the primary level, this gap was widest in 2017-18 (51%), at the middle level again in 2017-18 (32%), at the secondary level in 2019-19 (36%), and higher secondary level in 2017-18 and 2018-19, this gap was 51%.

#### Primary

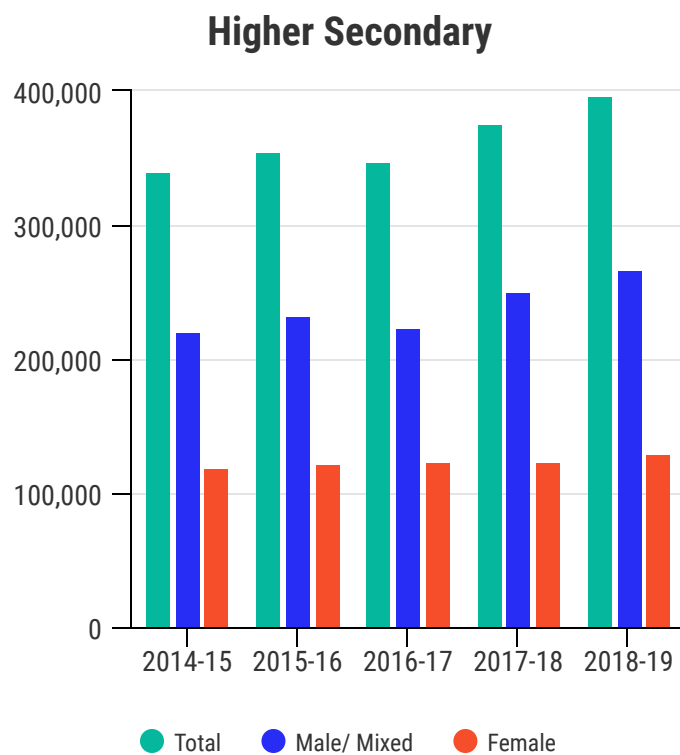
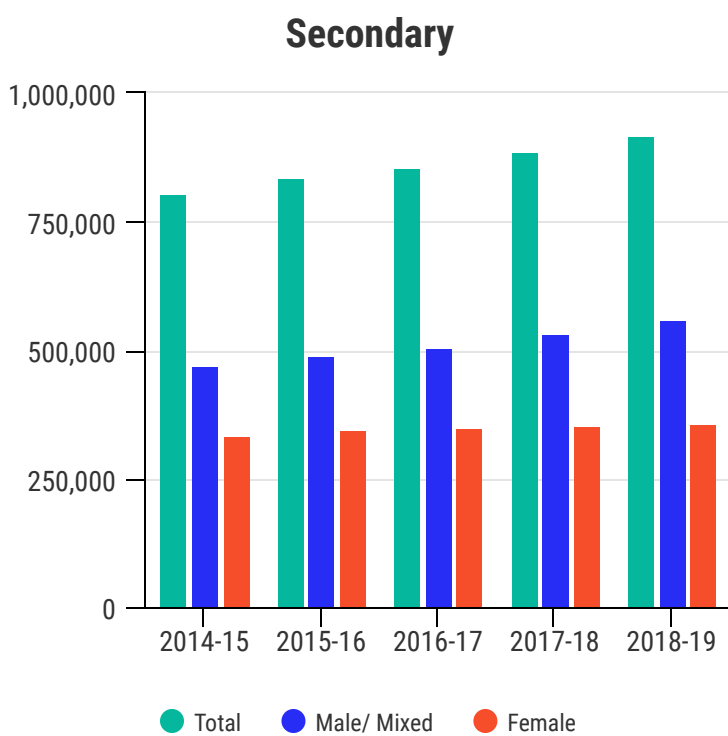


#### Middle



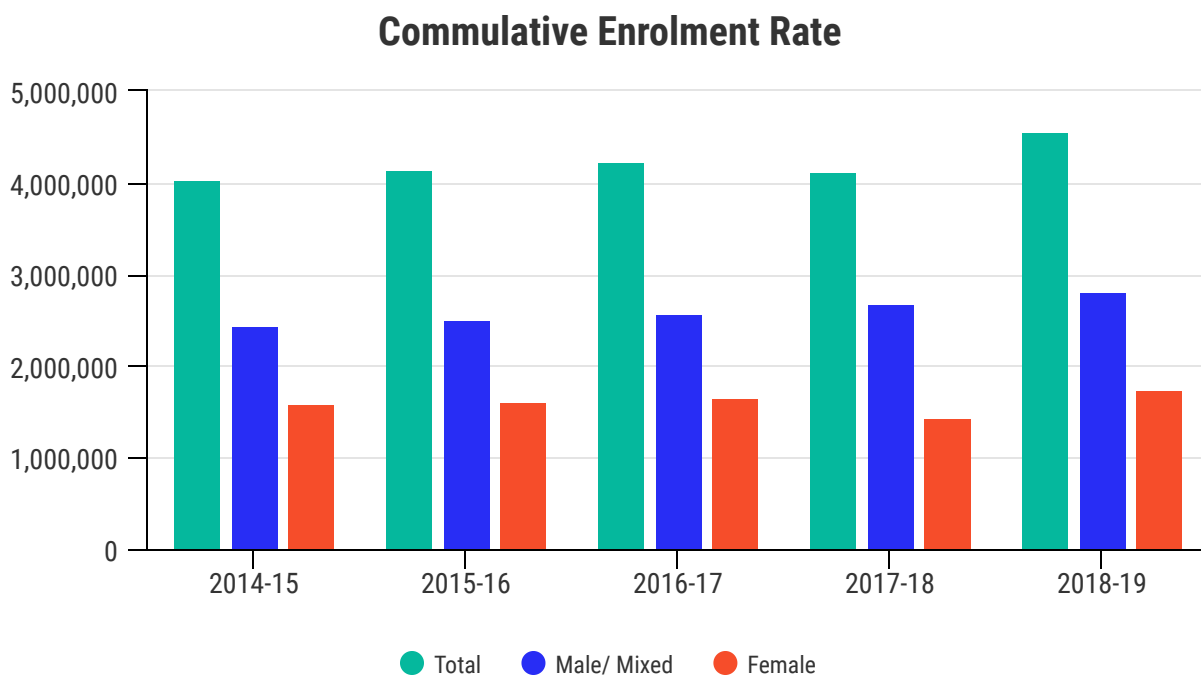
**Chart 3.10 to 3.11: Enrollment at Primary and Middle level**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>



**Chart 3.12 to 3.13: Enrollment at Secondary and Higher Secondary level**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>



**Chart 3.14: Enrollment in schools (primary to higher secondary levels)**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

## 3. Education

Year	Total	Male	Female	Male-Female Gap	% Gap
2014-15	2,645,868	1,615,555	1,030,313	585,242	36
2015-16	2,688,401	1,648,607	1,039,794	608,813	37
2016-17	2,735,156	1,686,546	1,048,610	637,936	38
2017-18	2,592,996	1,742,756	850,240	892,516	51
2018-19	2,919,862	1,797,818	1,122,044	675,774	38
2014-15	252,824	137,750	115,074	22,676	16
2015-16	265,846	147,898	117,948	29,950	20
2016-17	290,441	160,716	129,725	30,991	19
2017-18	269,349	160,470	108,879	51,591	32
2018-19	325,079	187,529	137,550	49,979	27
2014-15	805,131	470,633	334,498	136,135	29
2015-16	836,394	490,291	346,103	144,188	29
2016-17	855,842	505,561	350,281	155,280	31
2017-18	886,250	533,807	352,443	181,364	34
2018-19	918,706	559,020	359,686	199,334	36
2014-15	340,653	221,010	119,643	101,367	46
2015-16	354,578	232,384	122,194	110,190	47
2016-17	347,689	224,280	123,409	100,871	45
2017-18	375,438	251,453	123,985	127,468	51
2018-19	397,493	267,633	129,860	137,773	51
2014-15	4,044,476	2,444,948	1,599,528	845,420	35
2015-16	4,145,219	2,519,180	1,626,039	893,141	35
2016-17	4,229,128	2,577,103	1,652,025	925,078	36
2017-18	4,124,033	2,688,486	1,435,547	1,252,939	47
2018-19	4,561,140	2,812,000	1,749,140	1,062,860	38

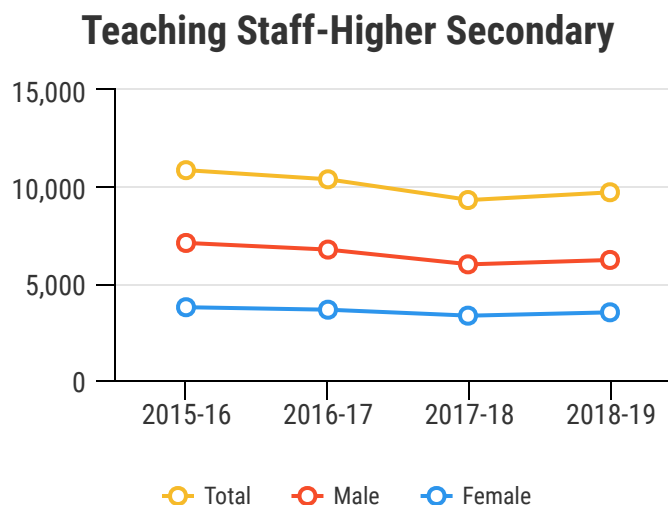
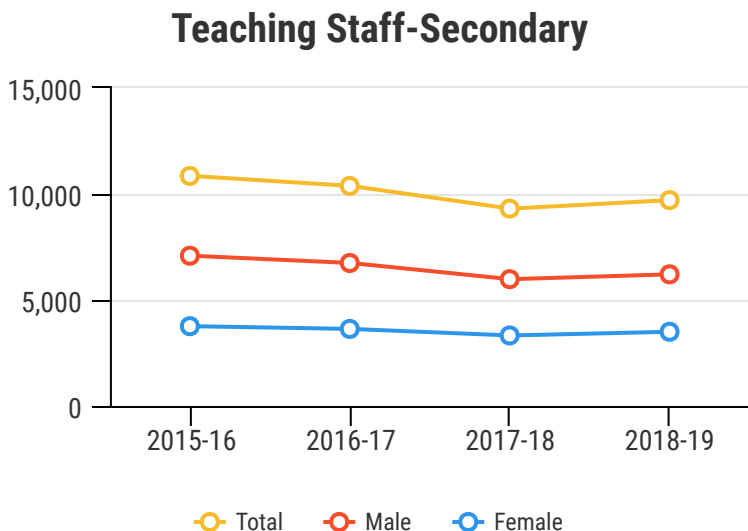
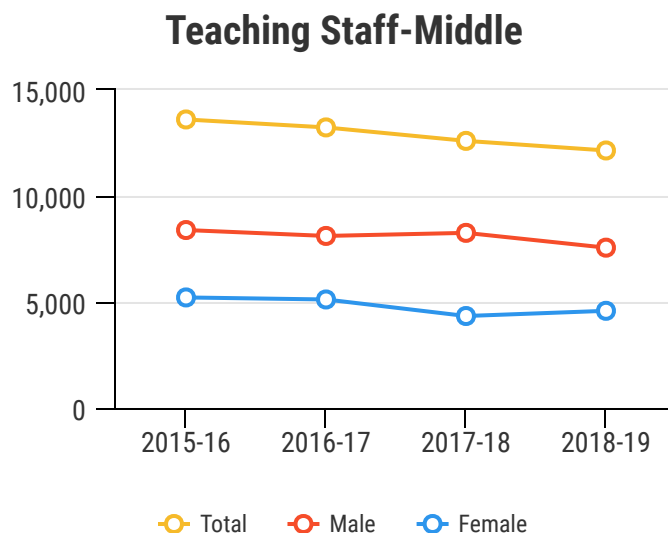
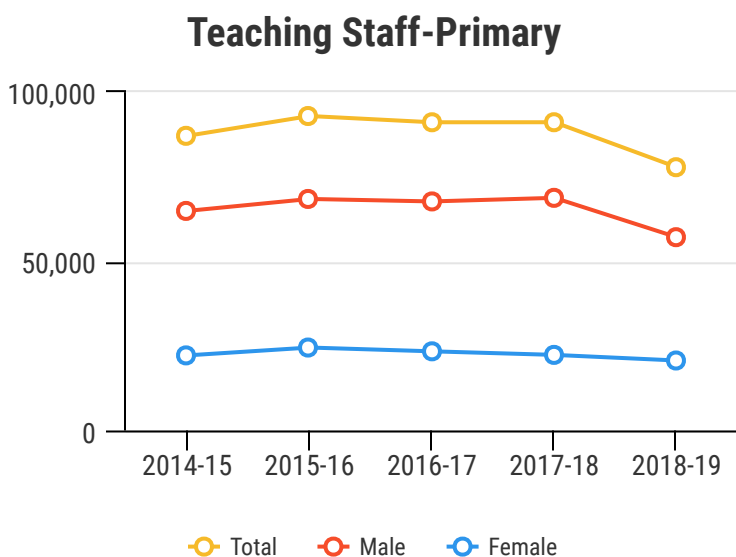
**Table 3.2: Gap in Male-Female enrollment at Primary, Middle, Secondary, and Higher Secondary Levels; The last set of data in table 3.2 is of cumulative figures.**

SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

### 3. Education

### 3.7 Teaching Staff

The following four charts tell the story of disparity in the teaching staff at four levels. The gap between male and female teaching staff exists at all four levels. The teaching staff data pertains to five years. The pattern is that gap increases for the four years and then decreases in the last year. For all four levels, primary, middle, and secondary, the number of teachers in the base year (2014-15) is less than that in the End-year. However, the number of female teachers in the end year is more at the higher secondary level than in the base year. The number increased from 3,450 in 2014-15 to 3,501 in 2018-19 (1.48%). For comparison, female enrollment at the higher secondary level increased from 119,643 in 2011-16 to 129,860 in 2018-19 (8.5%).



**Chart 3.15 to 3.18: Gender gap in teaching staff at Primary, middle, Secondary, and Higher secondary levels**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>



Year	Total	Male	Female	Male-Female Gap	% Gap
2014-15	87,085	64,892	22,193	42,699	66
2015-16	92,942	68,428	24,514	43,914	64
2016-17	91,092	67,695	23,397	44,298	65
2017-18	91,101	68,758	22,343	46,415	68
2018-19	77,811	57,130	20,681	36,449	64
2014-15	12,278	7,588	4,690	2,898	38
2015-16	13,610	8,395	5,215	3,180	38
2016-17	13,235	8,116	5,119	2,997	37
2017-18	12,600	8,261	4,339	3,922	47
2018-19	12,147	7,563	4,584	2,979	39
2014-15	34,588	20,244	14,344	5,900	29
2015-16	38,811	22,207	16,604	5,603	25
2016-17	36,097	20,884	15,213	5,671	27
2017-18	33,406	18,993	14,413	4,580	24
2018-19	33,407	19,304	14,103	5,201	27
2014-15	10,219	6,769	3,450	3,319	49
2015-16	10,853	7,089	3,764	3,325	47
2016-17	10,381	6,745	3,636	3,109	46
2017-18	9,309	5,982	3,327	2,655	44
2018-19	9,711	6,210	3,501	2,709	44
2014-15	144,170	99,493	44,677	54,816	55
2015-16	156,216	106,119	50,097	56,022	53
2016-17	150,787	103,422	47,365	56,057	54
2017-18	146,416	101,995	44,421	57,574	56
2018-19	133,076	90,207	42,869	47,338	52

**Table 3.3: Gap in Male-Female teaching staff at Primary, Middle, Secondary, and Higher Secondary Levels; the last set of data in table 3.2 is of cumulative figures.**

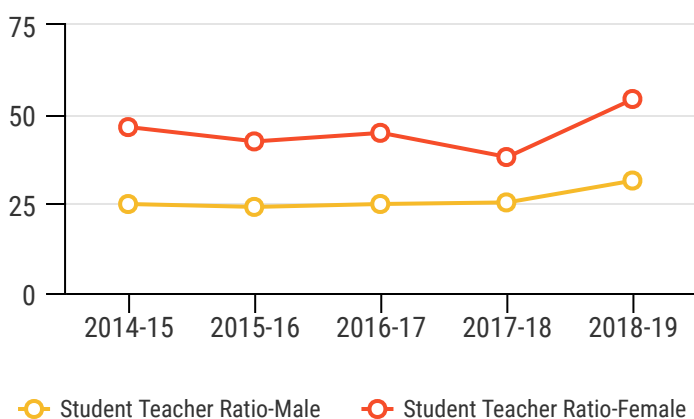
SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

### 3. Education

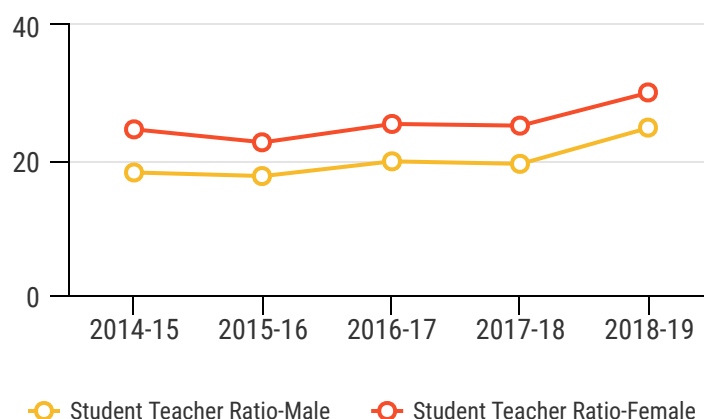
### 3.8 Student-Teacher Ratio

The student-teacher ratio in Sindh for primary and middle levels remained in favor of males. At the primary level, in 2018-19, there was one female teacher for 54 students and one male teacher for 31 students. This ratio, both for male and female teachers, was the highest in five years (2014-15 to 2018-19). The high ratio is due to the sudden increase in enrollment in 2018-19 without recruiting teachers proportionately. The number of female teachers also decreased from 22,193 in 2014-15 to 20,668 in 2018-19. The situation is similar for middle education, although the gap is less than the primary level. Here Student-Teacher ratio at the end year (2018-19) was 30 for female teachers as against 24 for male teachers. The trend was reversed for secondary and higher secondary levels. Chart 3.18 below shows the rise of the blue line (male) over the red line (female) in the last two years.

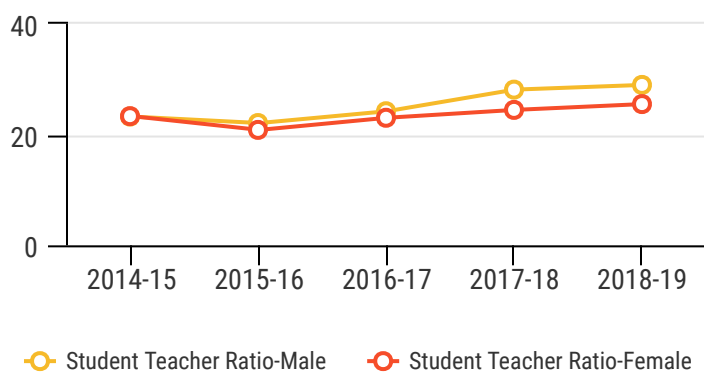
#### Student-Teacher Ratio-Primary



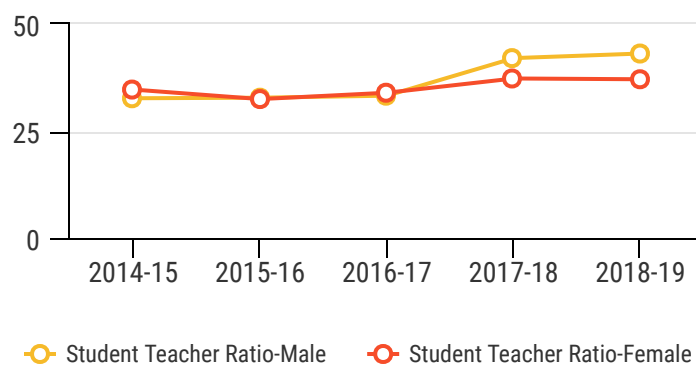
#### Student-Teacher Ratio-Middle



#### Student-Teacher Ratio-Secondary



#### Student-Teacher Ratio-Higher Secondary



**Chart 3.19-3.22: Student-Teacher Ratio at Primary, Middle, Secondary, and Higher Secondary levels**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). retrieved November 17, 2017 from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

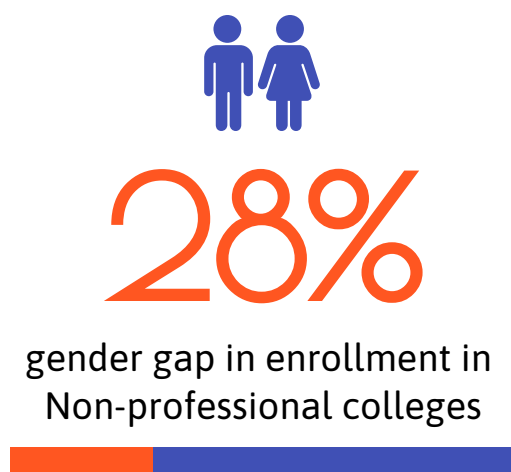
### 3.9 College Education

Non-professional Colleges	Professional Colleges	Technical Colleges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Intermediate</li> <li>-Degree and</li> <li>-Post-graduate colleges</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Medical Colleges</li> <li>-Homeopathic Colleges</li> <li>-Tibbia Colleges</li> <li>-Engineering and Technology</li> <li>-Law Colleges</li> <li>-Home Economics</li> <li>-Physical Education</li> <li>-Commerce</li> <li>-Teacher's Training (Below Degree Level)</li> <li>-Teacher's Training (Degree Level)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Colleges/Polytechnic/ Monotechnic Institution</li> <li>-Commercial Institutions &amp; Tech. Training Centres</li> <li>-Vocational Institutions/ Centres &amp; Schools</li> <li>Lenovo</li> </ul>

The enrollment status of males and females in colleges of Sindh is shown in chart 3.19. Data from three types of colleges are shown in the chart. These are Non-professional colleges, Professional colleges, and technical colleges.

Enrolment in male non-professional colleges has slowed down in the last three years. In 2016-17, this rate of increase in enrolment was 24.5%. In 2017-18, the rate was 13.8%. After that, the momentum was lost. In 2018-19, the enrollment rate increased by 3.6 % only. The following year, 2019-20, showed a negative trend. A similar trend was seen in female enrollment in non-professional colleges. Here the negative rate of enrollment was observed in 2018-19. That year, 181,507 females were enrolled, against 183,487 in 2017-18. The decrease in enrollment rate was 1.08%. However, the percentage gap between male and female enrollment has decreased. In 2016-17, the gap was 41.2%, which dropped to 28.3% in 2019-20.

Year	Male	Female	% gap
2015-16	175755	103277	-41.24
2016-17	218842	167157	-23.62
2017-18	249161	183487	-26.36
2018-19	258137	181507	-29.69
2019-20	257923	184953	-28.29

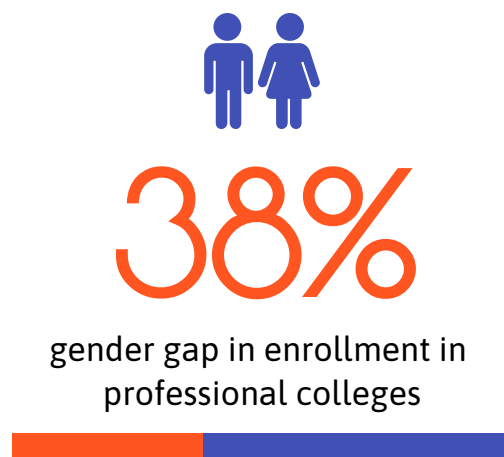


**Table 3.4: Gender Gap in Teaching Staff of Non-professional colleges**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

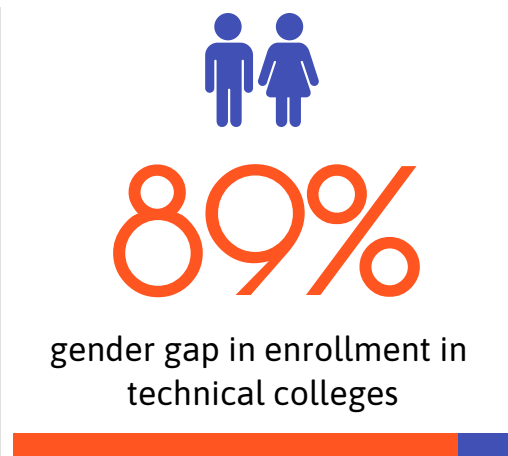
The gender gap in enrollment rates in professional colleges has also decreased over the last five years, although a more sustained effort is required to achieve parity. In 2015-16, 13,079 males and 6,338 females were enrolled in the professional colleges of Sindh. The gap in percentage terms for that year was 51.54. That gap decreased to 38.37% in 2019-20. This decrease in the gender gap can be attributed to two reasons: i) males' enrollment rate decreased over five years. In 2015-16, 13,079 males were enrolled in professional colleges in Sindh. The number increased for the next two years. In 2018-19, it showed the reverse trend. The negative trend continued in 2019-20 when 17,741 males were enrolled. ii) female enrollment in professional colleges has increased since 2015-16. Although it showed a negative trend in 2018-19, the rate is high enough to narrow the gap between male-female enrollment. In 2019-20, 10,934 females were enrolled against 17,741 males, and the gap was 38.37%

Year	Male	Female	% gap
2015-16	13079	6338	-51.54
2016-17	19756	11003	-44.31
2017-18	20355	11205	-44.95
2018-19	19358	9951	-48.59
2019-20	17741	10934	-38.37



The technical college enrollment disparity is enormous, and the status has not changed during the last five years. During the first year of inquiry, only 3,608 females were enrolled against 31,356 males. The gap for the year was 88.49%. The women enrolment in 2019-20 was 4,312. In that year, 38,687 males were enrolled in the technical colleges of Sindh. The gap was 88.85, fractionally more significant than observed in 2015-16. Technical education in Sindh remained largely a male-dominated field.

Year	Male	Female	% gap
2015-16	31356	3608	-88.49
2016-17	38592	3516	-90.89
2017-18	37453	3771	-89.93
2018-19	35355	4290	-87.87
2019-20	38687	4312	-88.85

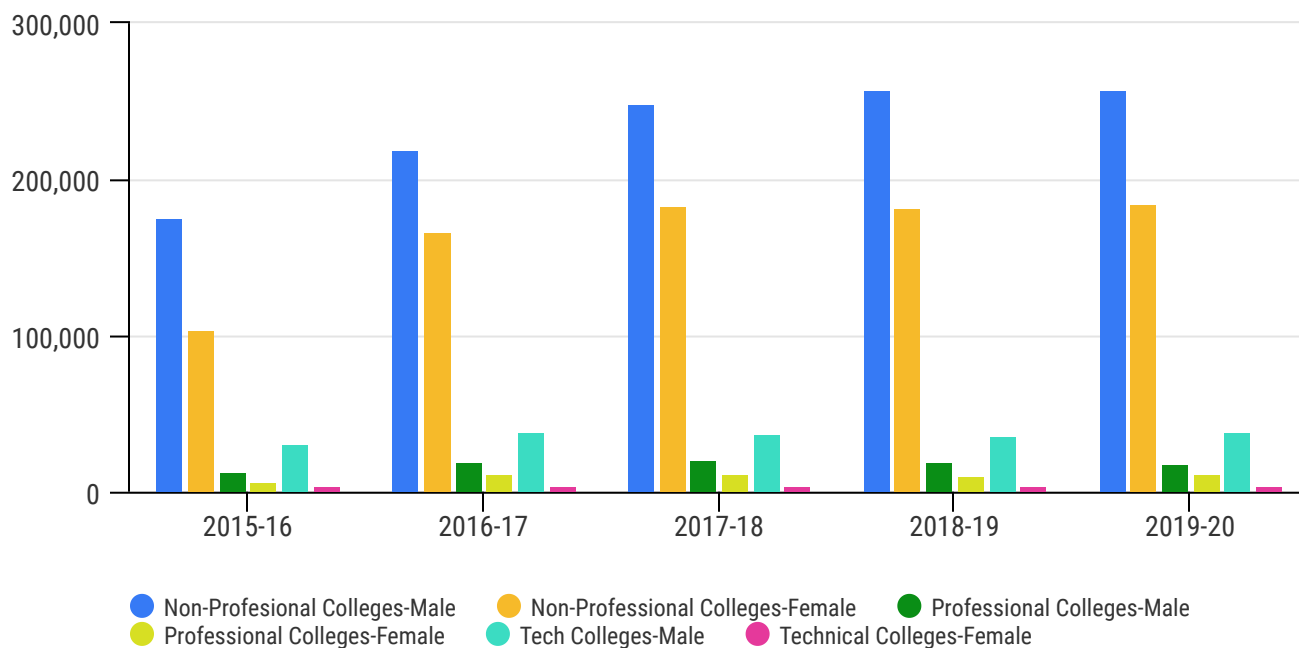


### Chart 3.5 & 3.6: Gender Gap in Teaching Staff of professional and technical colleges

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

## 3. Education

## Enrollment Status by Sex in Sindh colleges, 2015-16 to 2019-20



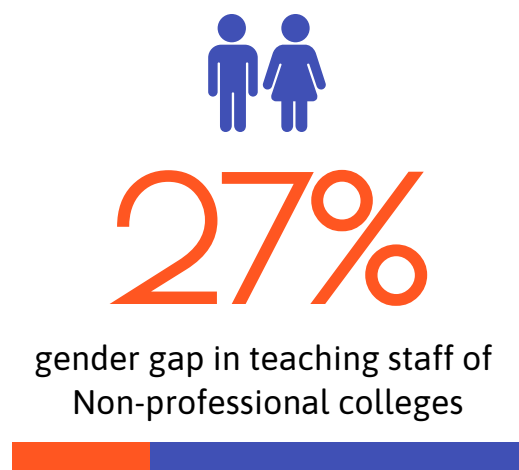
**Chart 3.23: Enrolment Status at different levels segregated by sex, 2016-16 to 2019-20 Teaching Staff**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

### 3.10 Teaching Staff in Colleges

Chart 3.20 shows the change in teaching staff for three types of colleges in Sindh. Both male and female teaching staff in non-professional colleges decreased during the last five years. Sindh had 4,520 male teaching staff in colleges in 2015-16. It increased marginally in 2016-17 and then decreased for the next three years. The number of male teachers in 2019-20 was 4120. This is a decrease of 9%, keeping 2015-16 as the base year and a reduction of 3.5% compared to the previous year (2018-19).

Year	Male	Female	% gap
2015-16	4520	3145	-30
2016-17	4541	3425	-25
2017-18	4443	3137	-29
2018-19	4272	3159	-26
2019-20	4120	3004	-27



**Table 3.7: Gender gap in teaching staff of non-professional colleges of Sindh, 2015-16 to 2019-20**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

## 3. Education

While the enrollment of females in Sindh's non-professional colleges increased by 79% between 2015-16 and 2019-20, the female teaching staff decreased by 4.5%. Like their male counterparts, the female teaching staff increased for 2016-17 and then decreased for the next three years. In 2015-16, the number of female teaching staff for non-professional colleges was 3145, which decreased to 3004 in 2019-20.

The gender gap among teaching staff in professional colleges of Sindh was 48% in 2015-16, and this gap remained persistent until 2019-20. In 2015-16, 976 male teaching staff were in the professional colleges of Sindh. The female teaching staff in that year was 506, 48% less than the male teaching staff. In 2019-20, the male teaching staff was 1,235, and the female teaching staff 633. The gap was still 49%. During the five years from 2015-16 to 2019-20, the male teaching staff increased from 976 to 1235 (26.5%). The female teaching staff during the same period grew from 506 to 633 (25%)

Year	Male	Female	% gap
2015-16	976	506	-48
2016-17	1069	537	-50
2017-18	1110	534	-52
2018-19	1103	527	-52
2019-20	1235	633	-49

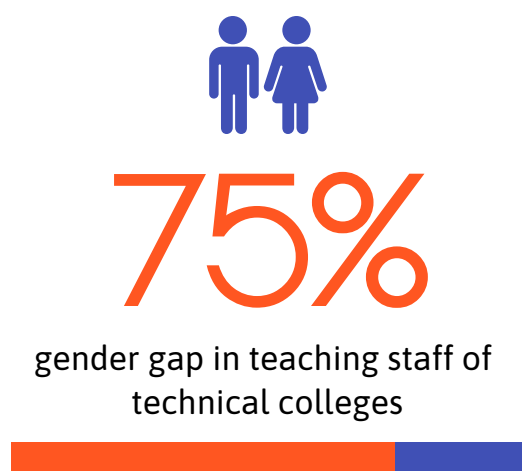


**Table 3.8: Gender gap in teaching staff of professional colleges of Sindh, 2015-16 to 2019-20**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

The technical colleges' male and female teaching staff are consistently on the decrease in Sindh. Not only is the staff decreasing, but the gender disparity is also increasing. In 2015-16, there were 1,042 male and 502 female teaching staff. The gender gap in that year was 52%. The male teaching staff in 2019-20 was 964, which decreased by 7.5% from 2015-16. The female teaching staff in the same period fell from 502 to 241. This was a decrease of 52%. The gender disparity in 2019-20 reached 75%.

Year	Male	Female	% gap
2015-16	1042	502	-52
2016-17	1011	277	-73
2017-18	961	257	-73
2018-19	968	246	-75
2019-20	964	241	-75

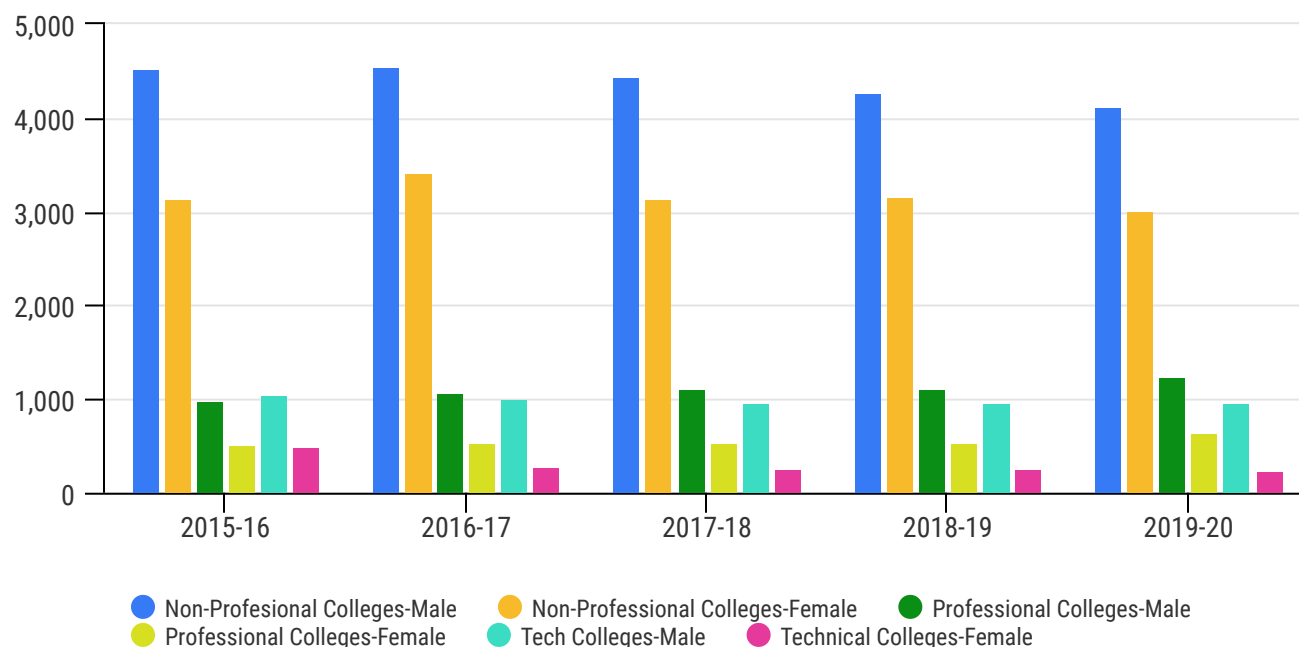


**Table 3.9: Gender gap in teaching staff of technical colleges of Sindh, 2015-16 to 2019-20**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

### 3. Education

## Teaching Staff Status by sex in Sindh colleges, 2015-16 to 2019-20



**Chart 3.24: Change in teaching staff in different types of colleges, 2015-16 to 2019-20**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

The student-teacher ratio is decreasing in Sindh, which is more visible in the case of females than males. In 2015-16, there was one male teacher for 39 male students in non-professional colleges of Sindh. This ratio for females was 33. Both ratios increased in the following years and reached 63 for males and 62 for females in 2019-20. This implies that as the number of students increases in non-professional colleges, the teaching staff has not increased at the same rate. In professional colleges, this ratio remained between 13 to 17 students per teaching staff. There is a noticeable gap in technical colleges' male and female student-teacher ratios. In 2015-16, this ratio was one male teacher for 30 male students and one female teacher for 120 female students. This ratio was 40 and 107 in 2019-20. For further details, see table 3.01

Year	Non-Prof-Male	Non-Prof-Female or Prof-Female	Prof-Male	Prof-Female	Tech-Male	Tech-Female
2015-16	39	33	13	13	30	120
2016-17	48	49	18	20	38	92
2017-18	56	58	18	21	39	97
2018-19	60	57	18	19	37	117
2019-20	63	62	14	17	40	107

**Table 3.10: Student Teacher Ration in colleges of Sindh, 2015-16 to 2019-20.**

Source: SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. (n.d.). SCHOOL EDUCATION STATISTICS SINDH 2018-19. Retrieved November 17, 2022, from <https://sbos.sindh.gov.pk/education-statistics>

## 3. Education

# MAJOR FINDINGS

1

## Male-Female enrollment gap is increasing

The male and female enrollment gap kept increasing between 2014-15 and 2018-19 at all levels, i.e., Primary, Middle, Secondary, and Higher Secondary. The cumulative figures for this gap in 2014-15 were 845,420. This gap continued to increase for the next three years and reached 1,252,939. In 2018-19, the gap persisted at 1,062,860. Given the fact that there is a difference of about 22% in the male and female literacy rates, a much more vigorous drive might be required to gain education parity in Sindh.

2

## Sex ratio in Sindh is 108

There is a big literacy rate gap between males and females. For Sindh, the gap is 16.5%. The Sindh government has a job in hand. It faces the challenge of increasing the literacy rate and attracting more girls to schools.

3

## Literacy gap in upper age groups is wider

The literacy rate gap is more pronounced in upper age groups than in lower age groups. The Sindh government has a literacy education department. This department should adopt innovative approaches to devise literacy schemes for upper-age females.

4

## Alarming female literacy rate in Sindh Rural

The state's education machinery has not reached rural areas compared to urban areas. In rural Sindh, the male literacy rate is 46.9% and the female literacy rate is 22.64%.

5

## It is safe to invest in girl education

The performance of female students to pass an examination and attain an education level after enrolment is the same as males. At a certain level, for example primary, females have performed better than males. Twenty-seven percent of the females enrolled in primary education could successfully attain the primary education level. In comparison, only 25% of males could attain primary status. The analysis shows that it is safe to invest in girls' education.

## 3. Education



# MAJOR FINDINGS

30.95%

male-female enrolment gap in rural areas of Sukkur Division

27.51%

male-female enrolment gap in rural areas of Shaheed Benazir Abad Division

25.54%

male-female enrolment gap in rural areas of Mirpur Has Division

6

## Number of girls primary schools has decreased

The number of female primary schools has decreased in Sindh. Although the Sindh government claims that many ghost schools were closed and small schools were merged into campus schools. The fact remains that only 44% of girls could be enrolled. This decrease in the number of schools can not be explained.

7

## Male-Female enrollment gap has increased

The male-female enrollment gap has increased at all four levels, i.e., primary, middle, secondary, and higher secondary. A special enrollment drive to increase female enrolment and convince parents to send girls to schools is required in Sindh.

8

## Gender gap in teaching staff has increased the student-teacher ratio

A similar male-female gap in teaching staff also exists. The gap is more severe at the primary level which is as high as 68%. The cumulative gap at all four levels is 52%. Consequently, this has increased the students-teachers ratio beyond the manageable level. For example, the student-teacher ratio is 54 for females and 31 for males at the primary level.

9

## Gender gap in technical college enrollment is 89%

In college education, the male-female enrolment gap has decreased for non-professional and professional colleges. The latest available figures for this gap for non-professional colleges is 28% and for professional colleges is 38%. In technical colleges, a gap of 89% persists in male-female enrolment.

### 3. Education

## 4. HEALTH

### 4.1 Health Profile of Sindh

The public sector health care services in Sindh are available at three levels: Primary Health Care, Secondary Health Care, and Tertiary Health Care.

### 4.2 Primary Health Care

Primary healthcare is the first level of healthcare. At this level, patients are first engaged with a system that delivers curative and preventive healthcare services.

The Basic Health Units, also known as BHUs, can have a catchment population of up to 25,000 people and are located at the Union Council level. At the Basic Health Units (BHUs), preventative care, curative care, and referral services are offered. The BHUs also provide clinical care, logistics, and management support to the Lady Health Workers (LHWs). Catchment populations of up to one hundred thousand people are cared for by Rural Health Centers (RHCs). In the province of Sindh, there are a total of 36 Unani Shifa Khana, 129 Rural Health Centers (RHCs), 798 Basic Health Units (BHUs), 865 Dispensaries, 94 Mother and Child Health Centres (MCHs), 3 Sub Health Centers/Clinics, 1 Homeopathic Dispensary, and 1 Urban Health Center (Source: Health Department of Sindh 2017).<sup>8</sup>

### 4.3 Secondary Healthcare

Providing technical, therapeutic, and diagnostic services is the focus of this intermediate level of healthcare. Serving at the district and taluka levels, it is the first referral level. This includes specialist consultations and hospital admissions.

0.5 to 3 million people are served by the Taluka Head Quarters (THQs) and District Head Quarters (DHQs) Hospitals. These healthcare facilities serve patients referred by BHUs and RHCs for an emergency, obstetrics, preventive, curative, diagnostic, and in-patient services and referral services. Sindh has a total of 27 major/other/specialized secondary hospitals, 14 DHQs, and 49 THQs.

### 4.4 Tertiary Healthcare

For in-patient care, the hospitals under Tertiary Healthcare are more specialized. Primary or secondary healthcare providers refer patients to these hospitals. These patients are typically indoor patients who require specialized healthcare treatments. Sindh Province has eight tertiary healthcare centers. The local population receives most of its curative and preventive care services from the heavily subsidized public healthcare system.

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<sup>8</sup>. Health Department, Government of Sindh. (n.d.). Health Department, Government of Sindh. Retrieved January 10, 2023, from <https://sindhhealth.gov.pk/Primary>

## Reproductive Health

### 4.5 Knowledge of Contraceptive

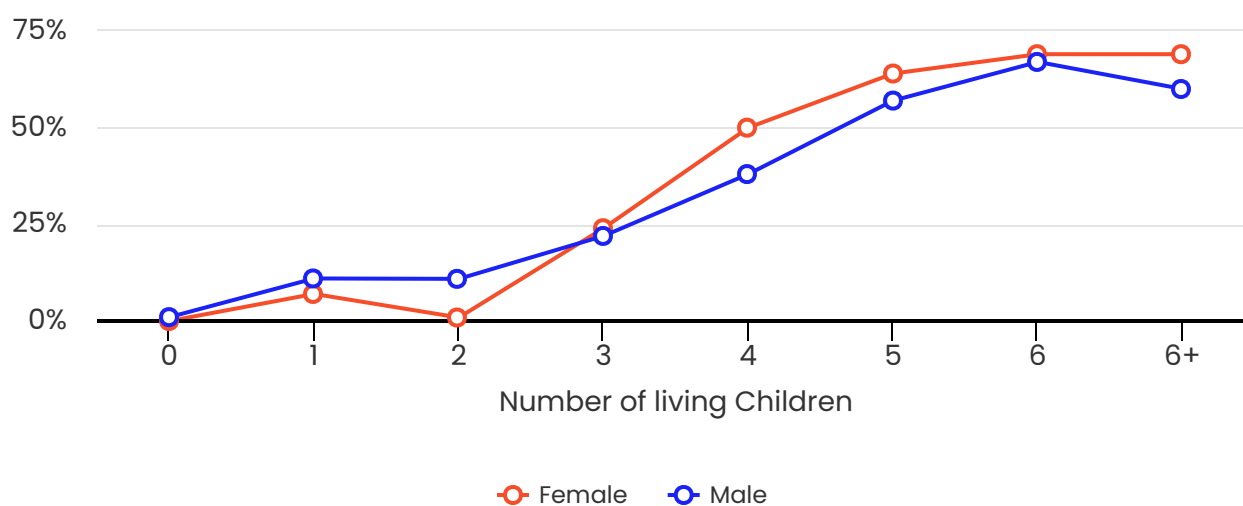
97.3% of females and 98.5% of males in Sindh know about at least one contraceptive method. This percentage is quite high, but Sindh women have the second lowest percentage in Pakistan after Balochistan (96.5%) with knowledge about at least one contraceptive method. The awareness level in Punjab women is at 98.5%, KP women at 98.3%, Balochistan at 96.5%, and ICT at 98.8% .

### 4.6 Desire to Limit the Children

Chart 4.1 compares the percentage of currently married women and men in Sindh aged 15-49 who want no more children. Chart 4.1 presents different sentiments between men and women with a different number of living children. Only 24.2% of the women and 21.9% of the men having two children are content with their family size. On the other hand, more than 75% of the women and 78% of men with two children still wanted to extend their family size by having more children. The last three columns of the below chart also reveal some interesting facts about family planning prospects in the province. For example, in the last column, 69.4% of women with 6 or more children did not want more children. For the same column, 59.6% of the men with 6 or more children or happy with their family size and did not want more children. A gap of 10% between women and men for desiring more children is noteworthy. With six children, 41.4% of males still want more children.

On the other hand, 31.4% of females with six or more children desire more children. The national percentage for this trend is 81%. This means that 81% of the men and women in the country with six or more children have no desire for more children. Also, note that only 24.2% of women and 21.9% of men having two children are willing to limit their family and do not want more children.

### Percentage of Married Men and Women with Desire to limit number of Children

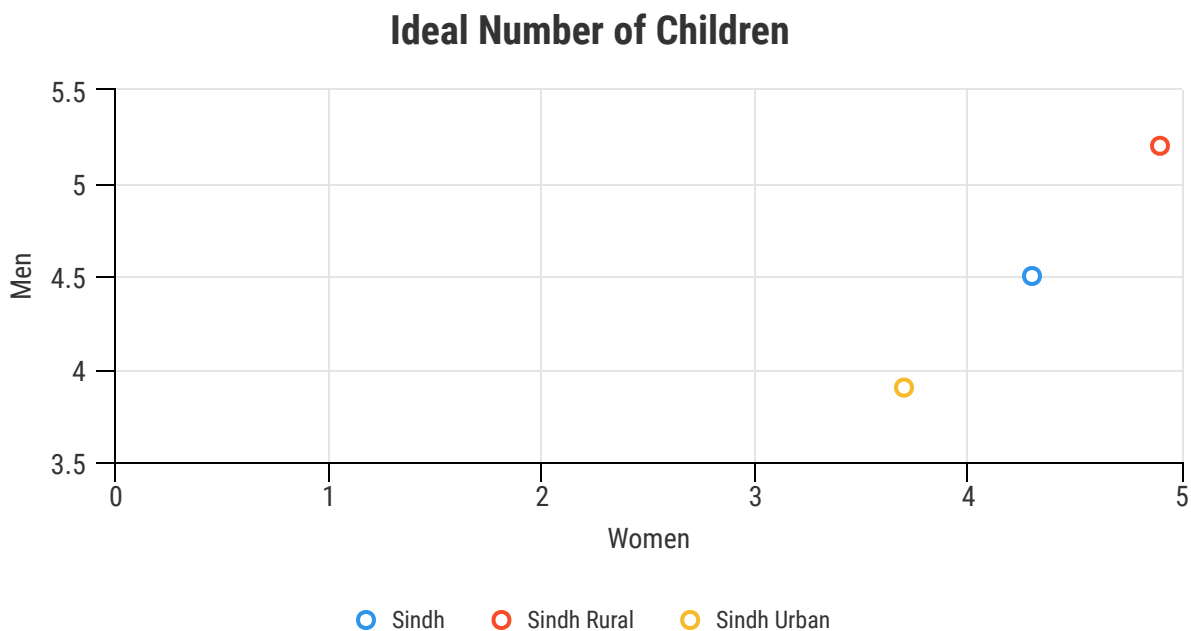


**Chart 4.1: Percentage of married men and women with the desire to have more children**

Source: Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19

### 4.7 Ideal Number of Children

In Sindh, there is a slight difference between the opinion of women and men regarding the ideal number of children. The mean ideal number of children for women is 4.3 compared to men, who think the ideal number of children is 4.5. However, the difference between rural and urban areas is significant. In Sindh urban, women want to have 3.7 children; for men, the ideal number of children is 3.9. The ideal number for women and men in rural Sindh is 4.9 and 5.2. The data shows that, although not much different, men always desire more children than women



**Chart 4.2: Mean ideal number of children, disaggregated by sex and area (Urban-rural)**

Source: Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19

In Sindh, the rate of contraceptive use is 30.9%. This includes 24.4% of couples using any modern contraceptive methods and the remaining 6.5% of couples using traditional methods. The traditional methods include rhythm and withdrawal. In Sindh, 24.4% of couples use at least any modern contraceptive method for family planning. The data shows that the main Responsibility for using contraceptives rests on women. Of the nine modern contraceptive methods, couples use only 6.8% of male-specific contraceptive methods. 17.6% of the remaining couples are using female-specific modern contraceptive methods. The most frequently used modern contraceptive method is female sterilization. Also, note that the rate for using male sterilization is zero. The largest source of these contraceptives is in public sector facilities, including government health facilities and government employees like lady health workers and lady health visors directly visiting and interacting with the community. The other major source is the private medical sector, which includes private hospitals, medical stores, and NGOs. The national share of the public sector as a source of contraceptives is 56.8%, and the private medical sector is 41.9%.

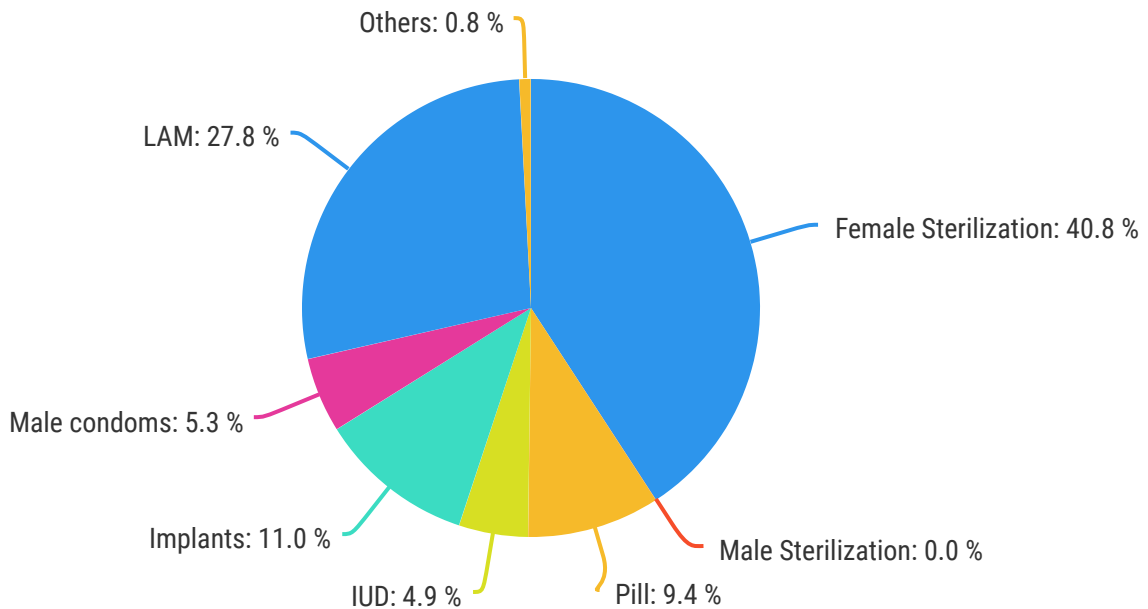
**24.4%**  
Couple using one of the modern contraceptive methods.

**10%**  
couples use female sterilisation methods

**0%**  
couples use male sterilisation methods

## 4. Health

## Percentage of Modern Contraceptive Methods used by Couples (Total=24.4% couples use modern contraceptive methods)



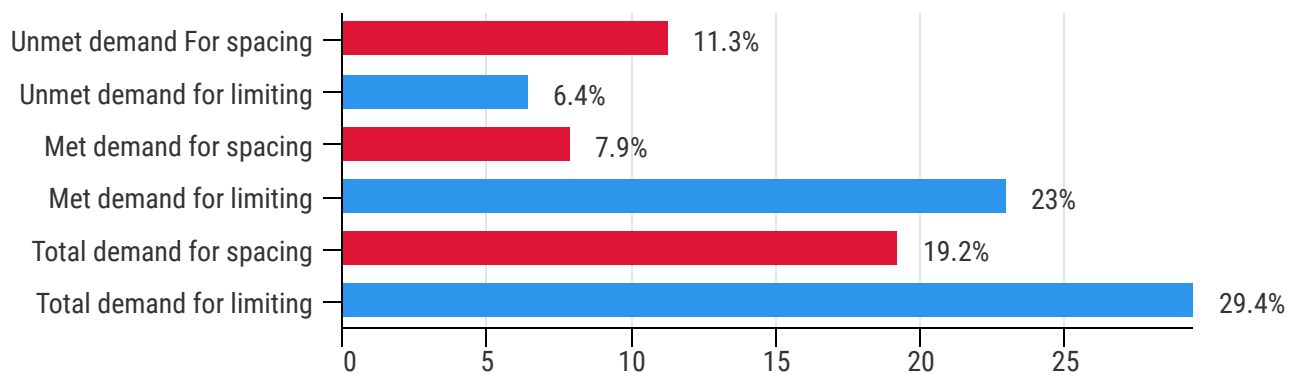
**Chart 4.3: Percentage of Modern contraceptive methods used by couples**

Source: Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19

### 4.9 Need and Demand for Family Planning

The demand for family planning is based on two indicators: Demand for limiting the family size and demand for spacing. The demand for family planning in Sindh came from 48.6% of the women. This includes 19.2% of women who demanded space and 29.4% who demanded limiting the family. This demand is calculated by adding unmet and met needs of family planning. Of the 19.2% of women suggesting spacing in their family, 11.3% could not be accommodated. Similarly, 29.4% of women demanded limiting the family, the demand for 23% of women was met, whereas 6.3% of women could not have their say in limiting the family.

### Met and Unmet Demand for Family Planning (Percentage)

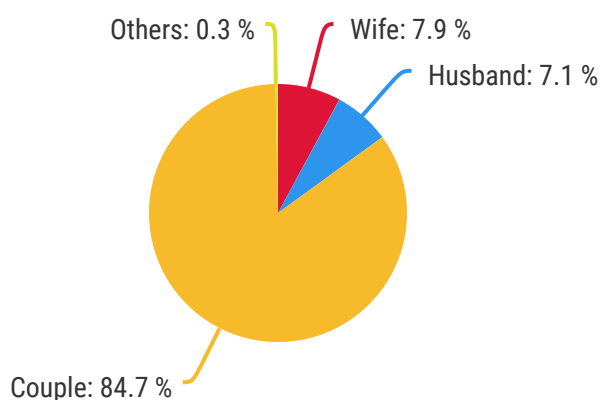


**Chart 4.4: Demand for family planning by Sindh Women**

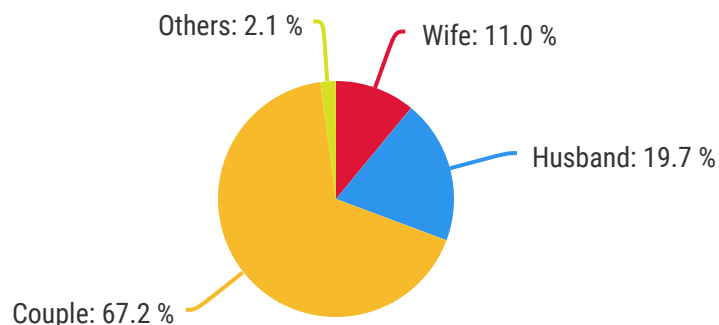
Source: Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19

## 4. Health

## For Married Women Currently using Family Planning Methods



## For Married Women Currently NOT using Family Planning Methods



### Chart 4.5/4.6: Role of Women in making family planning decisions

Source: Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19

#### 4.10 Exposure to Family Planning Messages

The experience of both women and men is different regarding their exposure to family planning methods. 74.7% of women have yet to see a family planning message during the last few months of the survey on four leading sources of communication: Television, Radio, Newspaper/magazine, and mobile phone. The percentage of men who have yet to see such messages on these sources is 45.6%. As expected, TV is the most frequent source of family planning messages for men and women. For females, the other three sources in order of preference are Radio, Newspaper/magazine, and mobile. For men, the order is Newspaper/magazine, radio, and mobile.

Regarding the type of messages, 48.1% of the women saw or heard at least one spacing message in the last few months. The other frequently heard messages are 'fewer children mean prosperous life' heard or seen by 36.6% of women and 'Maternal Health and Childbirth' by 35.2%. In comparison, 70.4% of men have seen or heard at least one spacing message in the last few months. Other messages seen or heard by the men are 'limiting family size' by 58.7% and 'welfare of a family' by 61.6%.



The huge potential of mobile phones and social media for disseminating family planning messages has not been explored in Sindh.

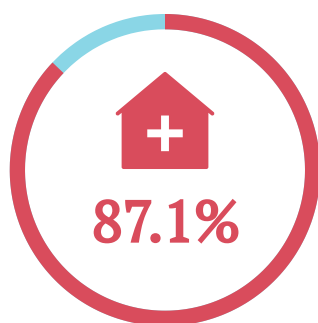
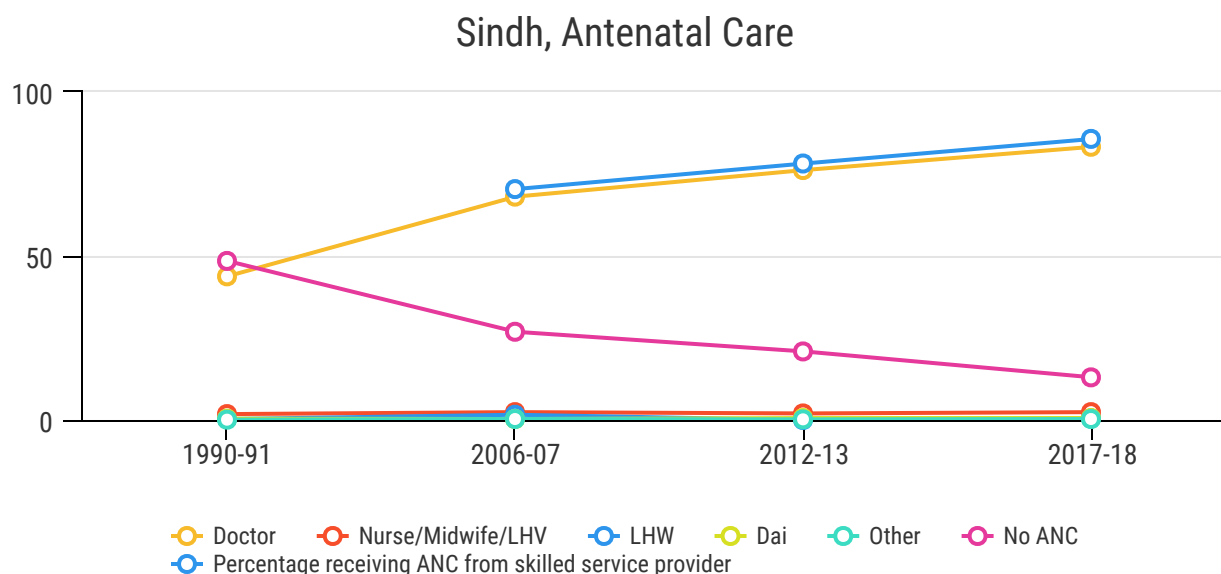
This clearly shows that family planning messages have better outreach to men than women. A connection between poor outreach and lesser Control on spacing and limiting family size can also be drawn. While both men and women see family planning messages mainly on television, newspaper/magazine is another popular source for men to see family planning messages. The relevant departments still need to fully explore the true potential of mobile phones for awareness-raising messages. 84.8% of women endorsed that family planning messages are very effective. For men, this percentage is 82.8.

## 4. Health

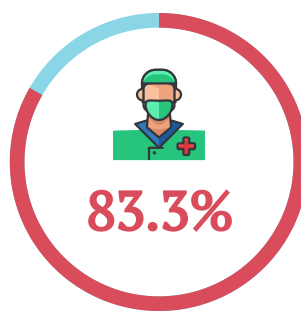
## Infants and Neonatal Mortality

### 4.11 Antenatal Care

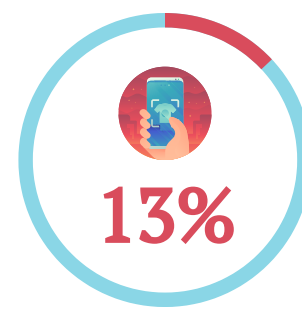
To monitor pregnancy and lower the risks of morbidity and mortality for the mother and child during pregnancy, at delivery, and after birth, it is crucial to receive antenatal care (ANC) from a qualified healthcare provider (42 days after delivery). According to the 2017–18 PDHS findings, 85.7% of Sindh’s women (against 86% of national figures) who gave birth in the five years before the survey had at least one prenatal visit to a qualified service provider. Most services were provided by doctors (83.3%). Eighty-four percent of women expressed satisfaction with the services received.



Antenatal care by skilled staff



Antenatal care by Doctor



No Antenatal Care

**Chart 4.7: Percentage of females receiving antenatal care**

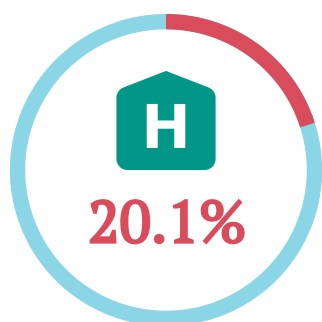
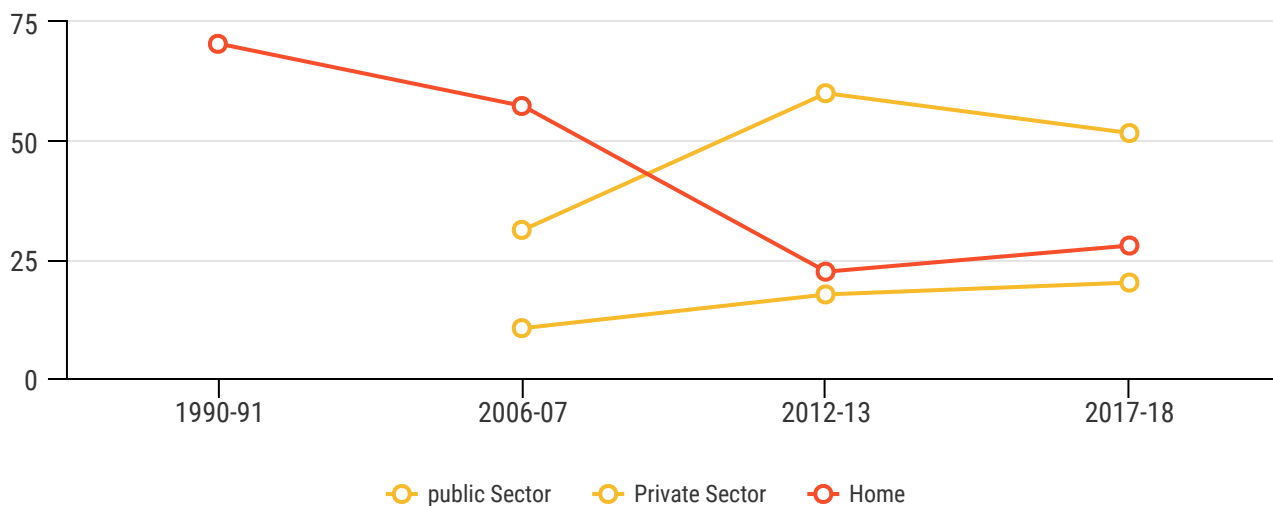
Source: Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19

Appropriate medical care and hygienic conditions during childbirth reduce the risk of complications and infections that can result in death or serious illness for the mother, the child, or both. Increasing the proportion of babies delivered in a safe and clean environment under the supervision of trained health professionals is thus an essential component of efforts to reduce the health risks of mothers and children. Provincial maternal, neonatal, and child health programs in Pakistan promote skilled birth attendance by introducing trained community midwives in rural areas and offering delivery services by lady health visitors in basic health units and rural health centers.

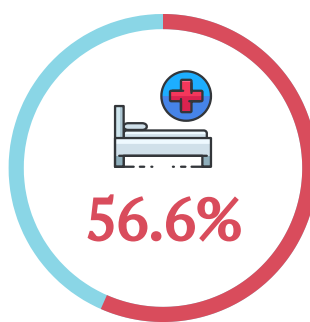
## 4. Health

Chart 4.8 shows the percentage distribution of live births by delivery location in Sindh province over five years. Less than Seventy-two percent of births in Sindh occur in a health facility, with 20.1% in a public facility and 51.6% in a private one. More than one-quarter (28%) of births take place at home. In urban areas, more than 88% of births occur in a health institution, compared to 58.3% in rural areas. The likelihood of delivering at the health facility has decreased recently. For example, in 2012-13 PDHS, 77.6 percent of the deliveries in Sindh occurred in the health facility. This is 5% higher than the survey results of 2017-18. One reason for this decline in the percentage of delivery in health facilities can be attributed to the private sector. The private sector was catering for 60% of deliveries in 2012-13; it was reduced to 51.6% in 2017-18. Unfortunately, the public sector could not fill the gap as there was only a marginal increase in the percentage of deliveries in the public sector facilities. This percentage was 17.6 in 2012 and increased by less than 3 percentage points to 20.1 in 2018. Due to this, the rising trend could not be sustained, and only 71.7% of births were recorded in health facilities in 2018.

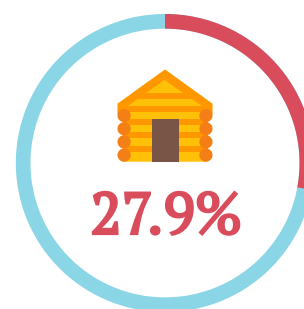
**Sindh, Place of Delivery**



births occurs in public hospital



Births occurs in private hospital



Births occurs at home

**Chart 4.8: Percentage of births disaggregated by place of birth**

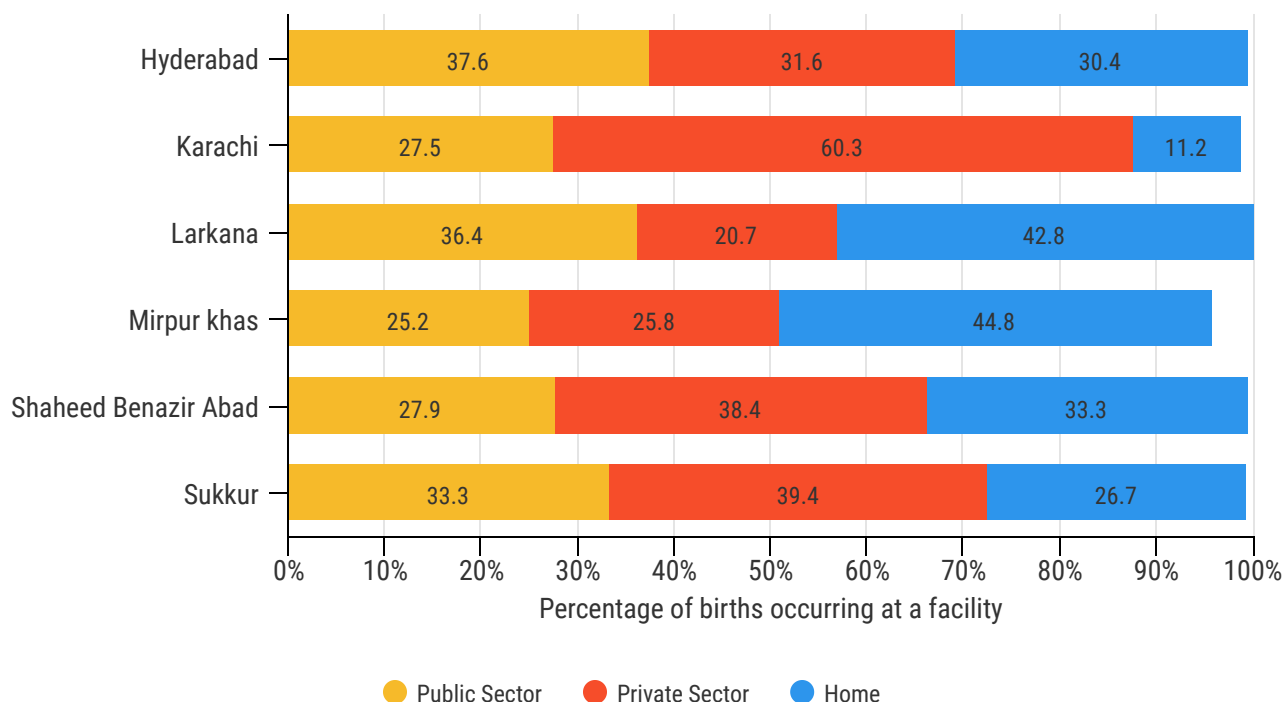
Source: Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19

## 4. Health



Chart 4.9 displays the trends in the 'place of delivery' in different divisions of Sindh. The public sector provides facilities to an average of 31.3% of women. The lowest is Mirpurkhas, with 25.2%. In percentage terms, the public sector in Hyderabad provides birth facilities for 37.6% of delivery cases. As anticipated, the maximum percentage of birth cases in the private sector are dealt with in Karachi, followed by Sukkur (39.4%) and SBA (38.4%). The most significant finding from this chart is the percentage of births occurring in homes. For Mirpurkhas, 44.8% of births occur at home; this percentage is 42.8% for the Larkana division.

### Place of Delivery Disaggregated by Divisions of Sindh



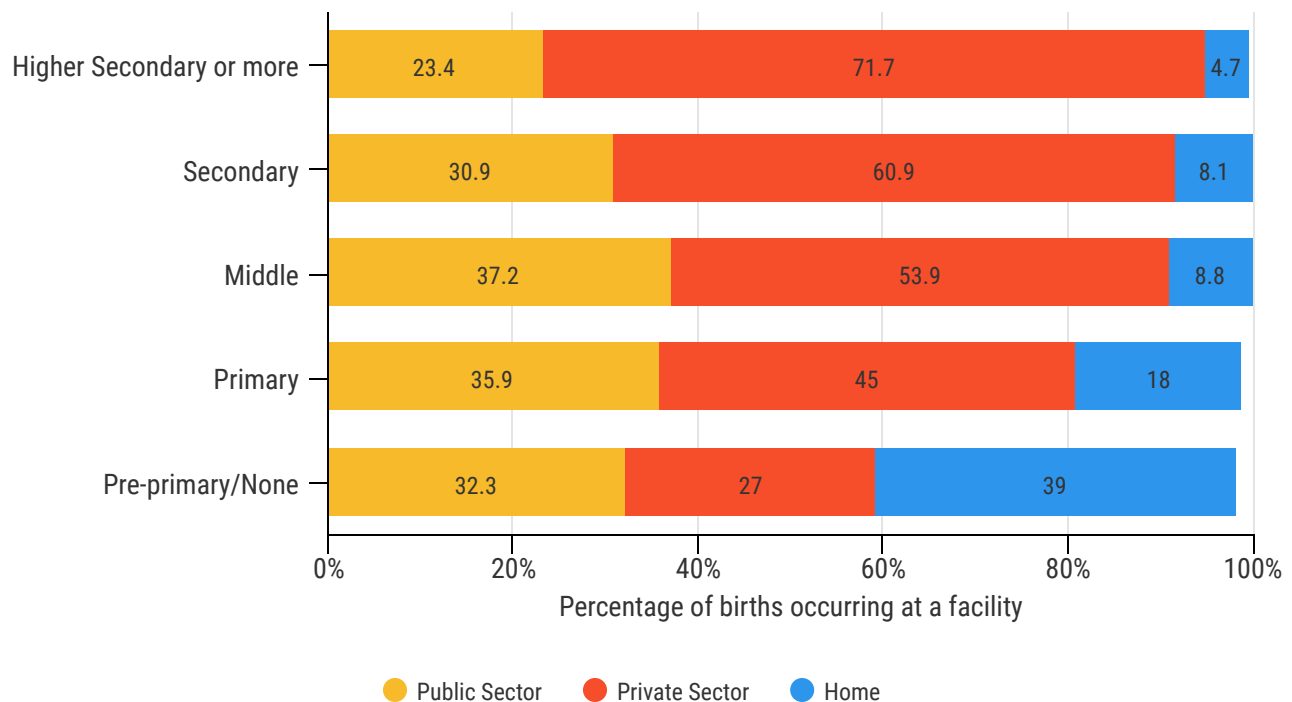
#### Chart 4.9: Place of delivery in Sindh’s divisions

Government of Sindh. (2021, February). Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19. Retrieved December 29, 2022, from <https://pnd.sindh.gov.pk/storage/resourcePage/51D3gPTZ6k17UcjKwYMvFP2YL0FUBbXFxc3qkHh0.pdf>

#### 4.12 Relationship Between Education Level and Place of Delivery

There is a definite relation between the education level and the delivery place. Chart 4.10 confirms this relationship. As we go higher the education ladder, the percentage of women delivering at home decreases. For Pre-Primary/No education, the percentage of women delivering at home is 39. This percentage sharply decreases even with attaining the primary level of education. From pre-primary to primary, the decrease is 21%. It further decreases as we move upward. For high school or beyond high school education, this percentage is only 4.7. A corresponding change is also visible for women delivering at private sector facilities. Only 27% of the women with pre-primary or no education deliver at private sector hospitals. Among the women with high school or higher education, this percentage is 71.7. In this education category, more than 95% of women deliver at a health facility: public or private. In comparison, only 59% of the women with pre-primary or no education deliver at a health facility.

## Relation Between Education and Place of Delivery



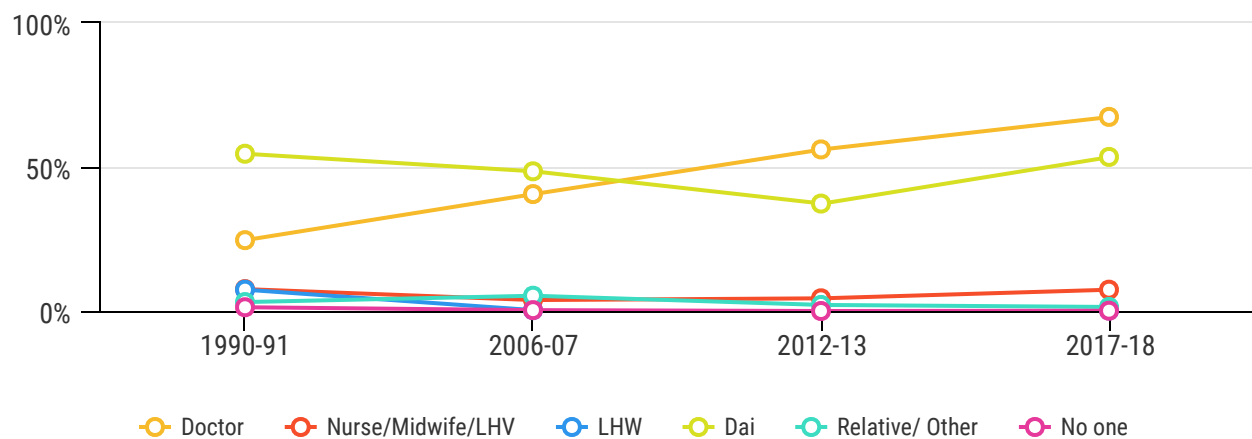
### Chart 4.10: Relation between education and place of duty

Government of Sindh. (2021, February). Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19. Retrieved December 29, 2022, from <https://pnd.sindh.gov.pk/storage/resourcePage/5ID3gPTZ6k17UcjKwYMvFP2YL0FUBbXFxc3qkHh0.pdf>

### 4.13 Assistance During Delivery

The most critical factor in lowering maternal and newborn mortality is believed to be the obstetric care delivered by a qualified medical practitioner during delivery (skilled birth attendance). Births at medical facilities are more likely to be assisted by skilled healthcare providers. In contrast, births delivered at home are more likely to be delivered without their help.

## Assistance During Delivery



### Chart 4.11: Percentage of births attended by a qualified attendant

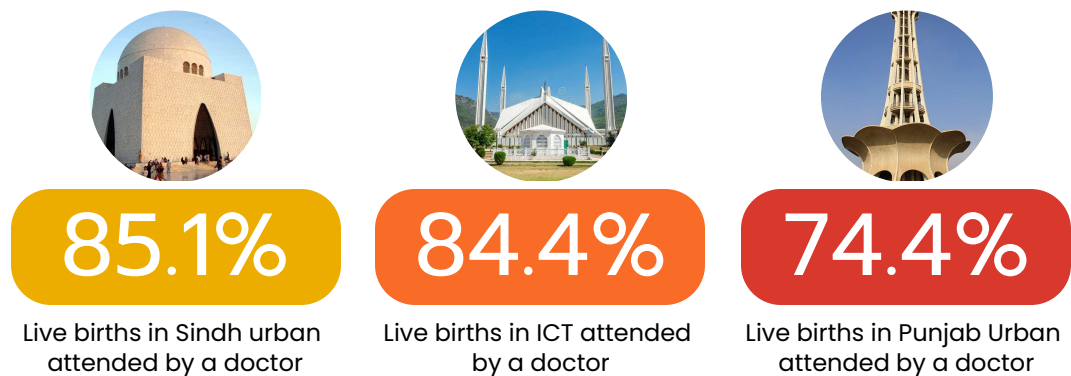
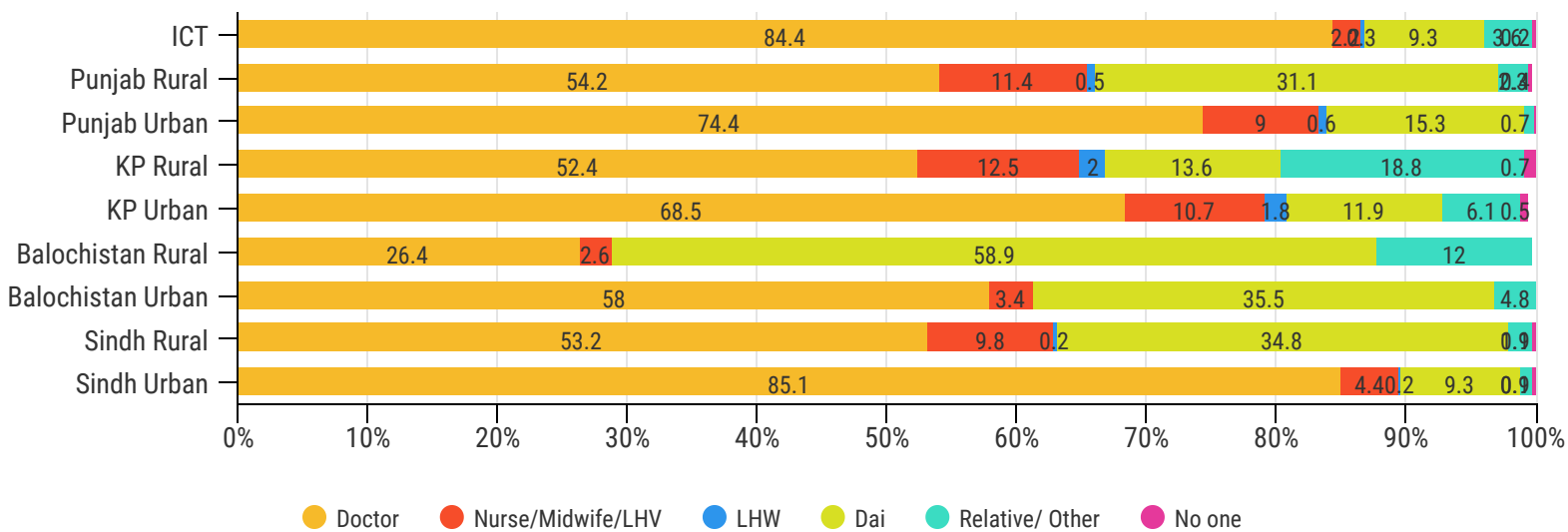
Government of Sindh. (2021, February). Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19. Retrieved December 29, 2022, from <https://pnd.sindh.gov.pk/storage/resourcePage/5ID3gPTZ6k17UcjKwYMvFP2YL0FUBbXFxc3qkHh0.pdf>

## 4. Health

Chart 4.11 shows the different types of healthcare professionals available during birth. The latest figures show that 74.8% of deliveries are assisted by a qualified health professional (doctor, nurse, midwife, or lady health visitor). Traditional birth attendants, including dais and relatives, attend about a quarter (23.6%) of live births. Less than 0.1% of deliveries are performed without any help. The graph also shows that the presence of doctors as attendants during live births has increased during the last three decades. In 1991, qualified doctors attended less than a quarter of live births in Sindh. During the latest survey, this percentage reached 67.4.

In Sindh, urban births (89.7%) are far more likely than rural births to receive medical assistance. Qualified doctors attended Sindh rural's 63% of live births. In Pakistan, the percentage of live births attended by a qualified doctor in urban areas is best in Sindh urban, even better than in ICT (84.4). Qualified healthcare professionals (including doctors and paramedical staff) attend 9 out of 10 (88%) births in Sindh Urban.

### Assistance During Delivery: A Comparison



### Chart 4.12: Births attended by skilled service provider-A comparison

Government of Sindh. (2021, February). Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19. Retrieved December 29, 2022, from <https://pnd.sindh.gov.pk/storage/resourcePage/5ID3gPTZ6k17UcjKwYMvFP2YL0FUBbXFxc3qkH20.pdf>

There is a strong positive correlation between a mother's education and the delivery of her child by a trained medical professional. Births to women with post-secondary education are 22% more likely to be attended by a skilled health provider than births to women without formal education (97.5% versus 75.5%, respectively). Similarly, the presence of skilled health providers is also a function of wealth. Births to women in the wealthiest quintile are more than twice as likely to be assisted by a trained medical professional as births in the poorest quintile (95.1% vs. 43.9%, respectively).

## 4. Health

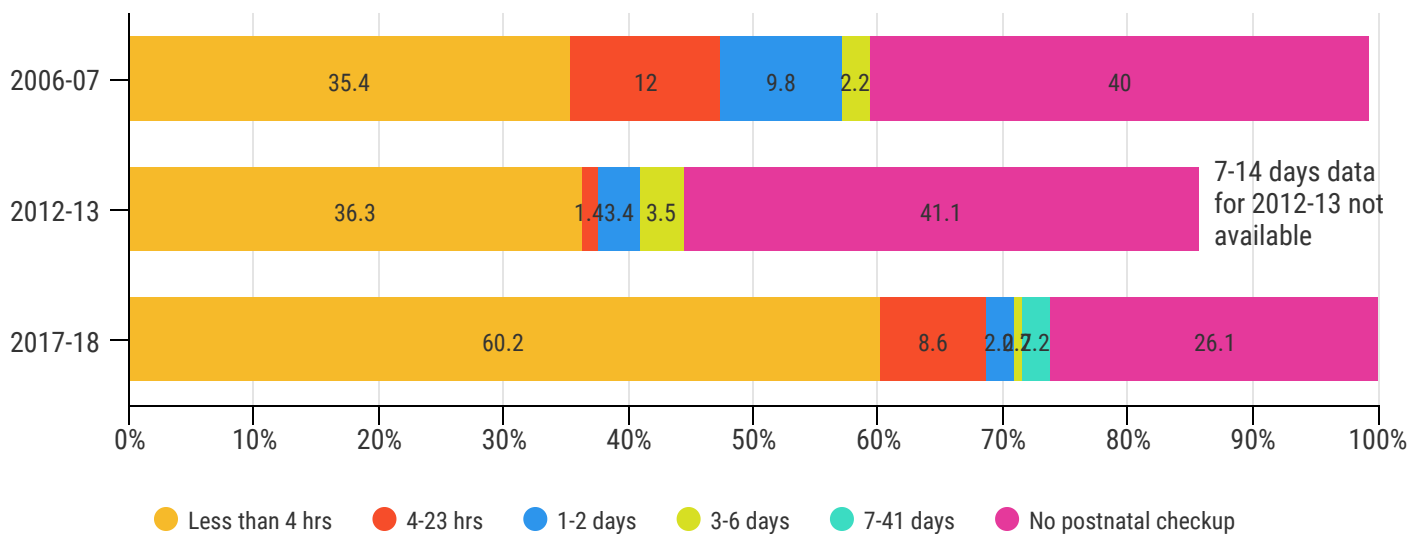
#### 4.14 First Postnatal Check for Mothers

The postnatal period is crucial for mothers because they are more likely to develop life-threatening complications such as postpartum hemorrhage during this time. Most of these conditions can be prevented or treated through postnatal care visits. Moreover, the postnatal period is essential for counseling the mother on caring for herself and the newborn. According to recommendations, a woman should receive at least three postnatal checks, the first within 24 hours of delivery, the second on the third day after delivery, and the third on the seventh day after delivery.

Sixty-two% of women aged 15-49 who gave birth in the two years before the survey reported having a postnatal check within the first four hours. Another 8.6% received their first check within 4 to 23 hours of giving birth. However, more than a quarter of women (26.1) never received a postnatal check.

Between 2006-07 and 2012-13, the proportion of women who had a postnatal checkup within four hours of delivery remained largely unchanged. It was 35.4% in 2006-17 and 36.3% in 2012-13. However, the proportion significantly jumped in the 2018-19 survey. That year, 62.1% of women had their first postnatal checkup within 4 hours of giving birth.

**First Postnatal Check for Mother**



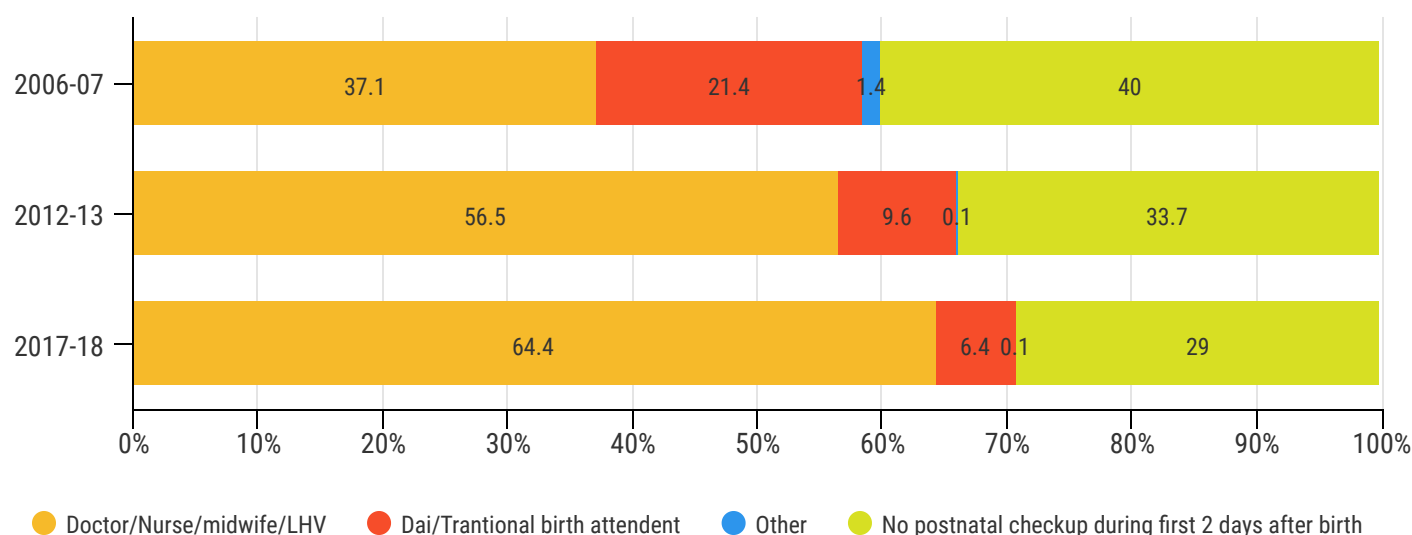
**Chart 4.13: First Postnatal checkup for mothers**

Government of Sindh. (2021, February). Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19. Retrieved December 29, 2022, from <https://pnd.sindh.gov.pk/storage/resourcePage/5ID3gPTZ6k17UcjKwYMvFP2YL0FUBbXFxc3qkHh0.pdf>

#### 4.15 Provider of First Postnatal Check

Skilled postnatal care is essential for diagnosing abnormalities or complications during the postpartum period and recommending treatment or referral. About two-thirds (64.4%) of women who gave birth received their first postnatal examination from a doctor, nurse, lady health visitor, or community midwife. This is an improvement from the 56.5% of women in 2012-13 and 37.1% of women in 2006-07 getting their first postnatal check from a doctor, nurse, midwife, lady health visitor, or community midwife. The percentage is different for urban and rural areas. 78.3% of women in urban areas had their first postnatal check performed by a doctor, nurse, midwife, lady health visitor, or community midwife, compared to 52.6% of women in rural areas.

## Provider of First Post-Natal Checkup to Mother



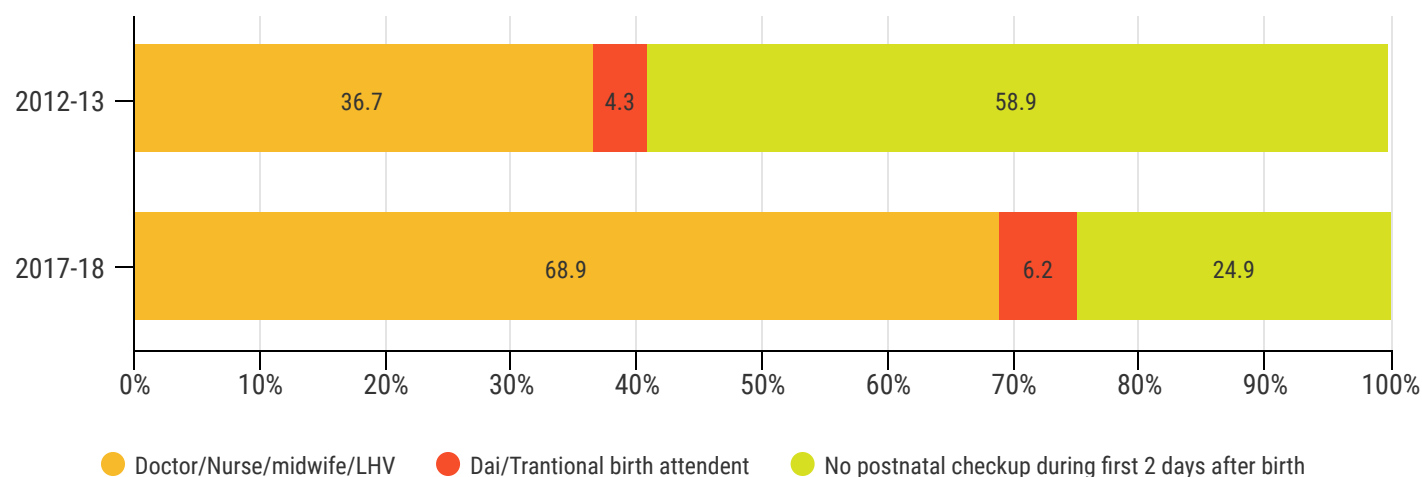
**Chart 4.14: First Postnatal checkup for mothers**

Government of Sindh. (2021, February). Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19. Retrieved December 29, 2022, from <https://pnd.sindh.gov.pk/storage/resourcePage/5ID3gPTZ6k17UcjKwYMvFP2YL0FUBbXFxc3qkHh0.pdf>

### 4.16 First Postnatal Check for Newborn

It is crucial to provide neonates with proper care to decrease neonatal complications and mortality. According to the World Health Organization, babies should get postnatal care services as soon as possible after birth since many neonatal deaths occur during the first 48 hours of life (WHO 2015). Thirty-five percent of infants were examined within the first hour of their birth. In Sindh in 2017-18, Seventy-four percent of babies had their first check within 24 hours of the birth and 75.2% within the first two days after birth. The uppermost bar in chart 4.15 is the source of worry. About a quarter of the newborn children never had their postnatal check.

## Timimng of First Post-Natal Checkup to Newborn



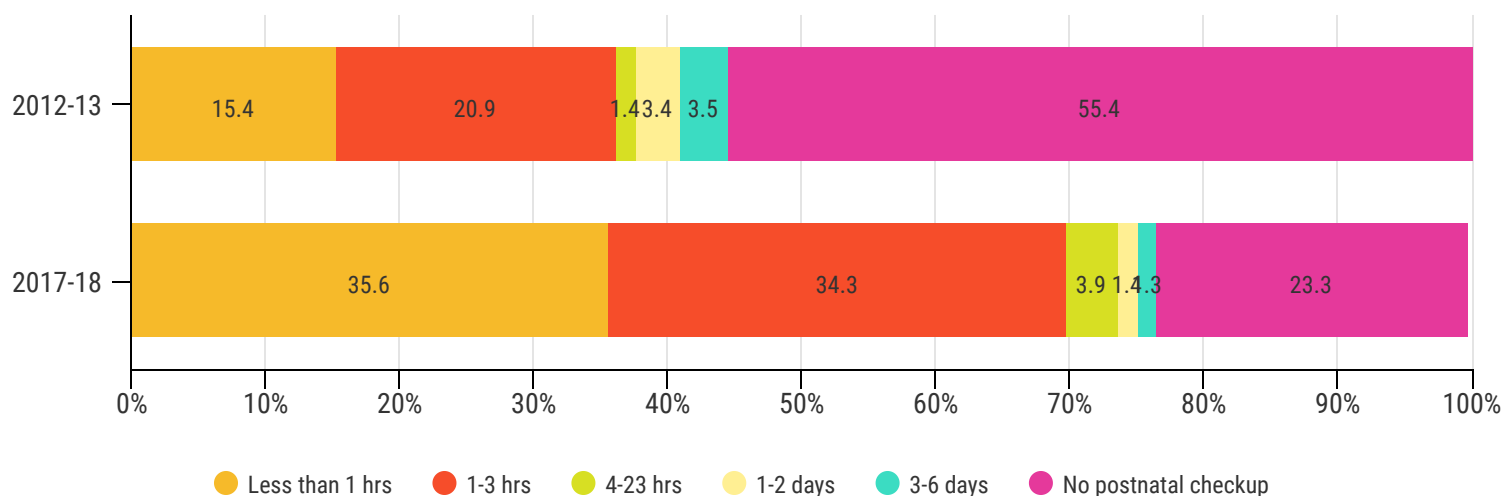
**Chart 4.15: Timing for first postnatal check for newborn**

Government of Sindh. (2021, February). Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19. Retrieved December 29, 2022, from <https://pnd.sindh.gov.pk/storage/resourcePage/5ID3gPTZ6k17UcjKwYMvFP2YL0FUBbXFxc3qkHh0.pdf>

## 4. Health

The urban-rural divide is more crucial and dangerous. For example, in rural Sindh, only 19.1% of the children had their first postnatal check within the first hour of birth. The corresponding percentage for urban areas is 55. Similarly, 32.8% of children born in rural areas could not have their postnatal check. For children born in urban areas, this percentage is 12.

**Timing of First Post-Natal Checkup to Newborn**



**Chart 4.16: Timing for first postnatal check for newborns in rural Sindh**

Government of Sindh. (2021, February). Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19. Retrieved December 29, 2022, from <https://pnd.sindh.gov.pk/storage/resourcePage/5ID3gPTZ6k17UcjKwYMvFP2YL0FUBbXFxc3qkHh0.pdf>

#### 4.18 Problems in Accessing Health Care

This section comprehends the problems women face while accessing health care. The data is available for four different kinds of problems. These are i) getting permission to go to treatment, ii) getting money for treatment, iii) Distance to the health facility, and iv) not wanting to go alone to the health facility.

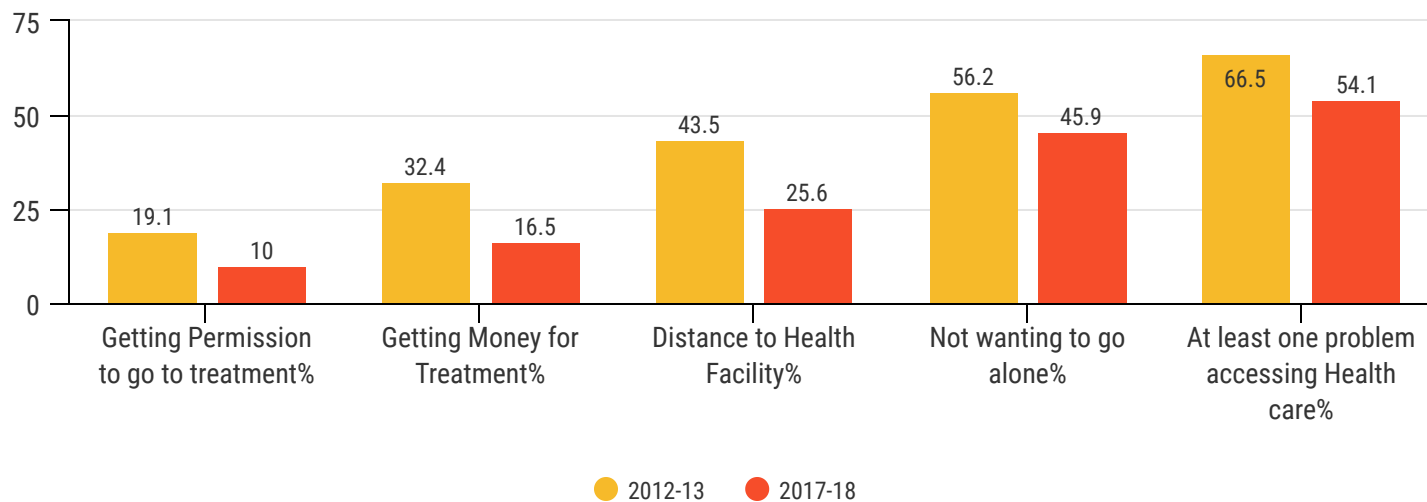
More than fifty-four percent of women cited at least one difficulty in receiving health care for themselves (Chart 16). About 46% of women reported "not wanting to go alone", for one-fourth (25.1%), "the distance to a health facility" was a problem, more than 16% of women reported "difficulties obtaining money for treatment", and 10% mentioned that "obtaining permission for accessing health care" was a major issue.

**23.3% newborn in Sindh are still deprived of antenatal check.**

— Gender Parity Report —

The urban-rural divide is more crucial and dangerous. For example, in rural Sindh, only 19.1% of the children had their first postnatal check within the first hour of birth. The corresponding percentage for urban areas is 55. Similarly, 32.8% of children born in rural areas could not have their postnatal check. For children born in urban areas, this percentage is 12.

### Problems Women faces in Accessing Health Care



**Chart 4.17: Problems faced by women in accessing the health facilities**

Government of Sindh. (2021, February). Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19. Retrieved December 29, 2022, from

<https://pnd.sindh.gov.pk/storage/resourcePage/5ID3gPTZ6k17UcjKwYMvFP2YL0FUBbXFxc3qkHh0.pdf>

#### 4.19 Nutritional Status of Women

Two anthropometric indices—height and body mass index—were used to evaluate the nutritional condition of women. To calculate these indices, the 2012-13 PDHS measured the height and weight of women aged 15 to 49 in every third interviewed household. Women who were pregnant or had given birth within the previous two months were omitted from the analysis.

Poor socioeconomic situations and inadequate nutrition relate to short height during childhood and adolescence. Short stature is a risk factor for negative birth outcomes and obstetric problems in females. For instance, short stature relates to a narrow pelvis, which increases the possibility of delivery complications and the danger of delivering infants with low birth weight. A lady is at risk if her height is less than 145 centimeters.

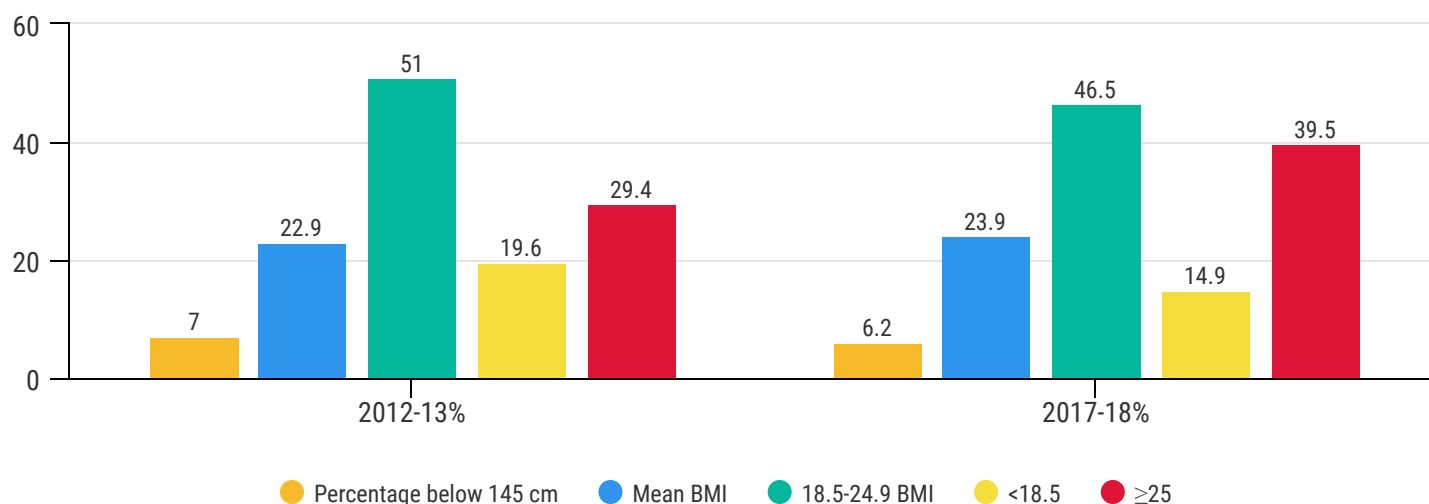
Chart 17 shows that 6.2% of women in Sindh are shorter than 145 cm. Women in rural areas are (7.7%) more likely to be under 145 cm in height than women in urban areas. This short height indicator is worst for Sindhi women compared to other provinces. As 6.2% of Sindh women are most likely to be under 145 cm in height, whereas women in ICT Islamabad are least likely to be under 145 cm (1.8 percent). The likelihood of small stature diminishes as education and wealth increase by quintiles.

The BMI (the ratio of weight in kilograms to the square of height in meters [kg/m<sup>2</sup>]) is used to determine whether a person is underweight or obese. A BMI of 18.5 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or below indicates thinness or acute malnutrition, whereas a BMI of 25.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or more suggests overweight or obesity. A body mass index (BMI) below 16 kg/m<sup>2</sup> shows severe malnutrition and is connected with an increased risk of death. As with short stature, a low BMI before pregnancy is related to adverse birth outcomes and obstetric problems.

## 4. Health

Chart 18 demonstrates that the mean BMI for women in Sindh aged 15 to 49 is 23.9 kg/sq m. In general, the mean BMI rises with age. The average BMI of urban women is slightly greater than that of rural women (21.5 kg/sq m). The mean BMI for the other three provinces is approximately 26, whereas the mean BMI for women in ICT is 27.8 kg/sq m. According to national data, women with no education are more likely to have a mean BMI of 24.6 kg/sq m than those with secondary or higher education, with a BMI of 26.9 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. The mean BMI increases steadily with rising wealth, from 20 kg/sq m in the lowest wealth quintile to 28.1 kg/sqm in the highest wealth quintile. In Sindh, 14.9% of women of reproductive age are underweight or thin (BMI 18.5 kg/sqm). The proportion of mild thinness (17.0-18.4 kg/sq m) is 9.6, and moderate and severe (less than 17 kg/sq m) is 5.3%. More rural women (26.1%) than urban women (5.9%) are likely to be thin. It shows that women in Sindh are most severely affected by malnutrition, with 14.9 percent (combined urban and rural) being underweight (BMI less than 18.5), compared to 6.6% in Punjab, 6.7% in KP, 5.8% in Balochistan, and 2.5% in ICT. Over 26% of Sindhi women are overweight (BMI 25-29 kg/m<sup>2</sup>), while 13.1% are obese (BMI 30 kg/sq m or more).

### Nutritional Status of Women



#### Chart 4.18: Nutritional Status of Women in Sindh

Government of Sindh. (2021, February). Sindh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2018-19. Retrieved December 29, 2022, from

<https://pnd.sindh.gov.pk/storage/resourcePage/5ID3gPTZ6k17UcjKwYMvFP2YL0FUBbXFxc3qkHh0.pdf>



# MAJOR Findings

1

## Focus on raising awareness about small families.

The family planning efforts of the Sindh government should also focus on raising awareness about small families. The data show that around 76% of women and 78% of males having two children still want to have more children. 31% of females with six or more children still want more children.

2

## Urban and rural inhabitants have different ideas about limiting the size of the family.

The idea of the ideal number of children is related to geographic area. For urban females, the mean ideal number of children is 3.7. The rural females think that the ideal number is 4.9. This ideal number for males in urban and rural areas is 3.9 and 5.2, respectively.

3

## Data shows that responsibility for using contraceptive rests with females

24.4% of couples use at least one modern contraceptive method. Data shows that the major responsibility for using contraceptives rests with females. 6.8% of couples use male-specific contraceptive methods while 17.6% of couples use female-specific contraceptive methods. Female sterilization is the most frequently used female contraceptive method.

4

## Women have limited role in deciding the size of the family

Women need to have a complete say in making family planning decisions. Data shows that 48.6% of women demanded family planning; only 31% of the women were accommodated.

# MAJOR Findings

5

## Percentage of delivery at homes has increased in Sindh

Although access to medical facilities has increased for many women in Sindh in recent years, 12% of females could not receive any antenatal check of their most recent delivery. 27.9% of births still occurred in homes. This rate is 5.5% higher than the figures of previous PDHS done in 2012-13. The data also shows a clear relationship between the education level and place of delivery. 95% of secondary or higher education females deliver at a health facility. The delivery rate at a health facility is 53% for pre-primary or no education.

6

## In Sindh Urban, 89.7% live births are attended by a skilled service provider .

A skilled service provider (doctor, nurse/midwife/LHV) attends 89.7% of live births in Sindh Urban. This is the highest rate in any urban or rural area of Pakistan for live births attended by a doctor; even better than ICT, where this rate is 84.4%.

7

## Women do not want to visit health facility alone

More than 50% of the female in Sindh cited at least one problem in accessing health care. The most common problem is that women do not want to go to the health facility alone.

8

## Sindh has maximum percentage of underweight women in Pakistan

15% of Sindh women are underweight (thin). These are the worst figures for a province in Pakistan. In addition, 26% of Sindh women are overweight, including 13% obese.

# 5. ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION AND OPPORTUNITIES

## 5.1 Women Economic Participation

This chapter talks about institutional arrangements made by the Sindh government for women's economic empowerment. The absolute statistics in this chapter were calculated using the NIPS estimated population of 222.4 million on January 1, 2021, of whom 113.5 million are men and 108.9 million are women. Moreover, a third of the entire population for both sexes is between 0 and 14 years. The percentage of the very young population, ages 0 to 14 (40.0%), is much greater than that of individuals aged 65 or older (3.4%). Also, the youth ages 15 to 24 comprise 18.8 percent of the total population and 41.8 million individuals. In conclusion, Pakistan has a young population.

The population of Sindh, according to 2021 estimates, is 51.6 million. The working-age population of the province is 36.3 million. The total number of employed people in Sindh is 15.31 million. It contains 5.58 million agriculture workers and 9.73 million non-agricultural workers. The non-agriculture workers are divided into 2.92 million formal and 6.81 million informal workers. In addition, 0.6 million people are unemployed. There are 20.6 million working-age people who are out of the labor force.

This chapter is divided into two parts. Part 1 describes the institutional mechanism for women development and gender equality. This consists of policy objectives of Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Policy 2020-2030 and strategic objectives of the Sindh Women Development Department to implement this policy. The main source of this content is the document of the Sindh government titled "Gender Equality and Women's Development Policy."<sup>9</sup> This document outlines the vision, mission, policy objectives, and recommended actions of the Sindh Government to advance Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) across the Province. Part 2 of this chapter analyzes the employment data in the province of Sindh. The primary source of this data is Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21 conducted by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics.<sup>10</sup>

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9. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. (n.d.). Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. Retrieved January 7, 2023, from

<https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/Field%20Office%20ESEAAsia/Docs/Publications/2021/01/FINAL%20GEWE%20Policy%20Sindh%20Feb%202020.pdf>

10. Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. (2022, March). Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21. Retrieved January 7, 2023, from [https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/labour\\_force/publications/lfs2020\\_21/LFS\\_2020-21\\_Report.pdf](https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/labour_force/publications/lfs2020_21/LFS_2020-21_Report.pdf)

## PART A

# Institutional Mechanism for Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality

### 5.3 Sindh Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Policy

This Policy applies to the entire province of Sindh and may remain in effect for a decade, from 2020 to 2030. The WDD will be the operational custodian and primary coordinator for implementing this Policy.

#### Vision of GEWE

A peaceful, democratic, just, and prosperous Sindh where women and girls are equal citizens and participants in decision-making from the home to the national and international levels, are able to lead a life free from violence, discrimination, exploitation, neglect, and abuse, and enjoy the full range of their social, political and economic rights.

#### Mission of GEWE

Promoting and advancing gender equality and women's empowerment by enacting sector-wide and sector specific reforms and mobilizing necessary legal, administrative, financial and institutional measures that strengthen women and girls as equal citizens across the province of Sindh.

#### Provincial Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy Objectives

- 1. Safeguarding gender equality and the rights of women and girls by adopting sound policies, practices, and enforceable legislation** and ending all forms of gender-based discrimination, violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect with specific focus on the rights of rural women, urban poor women, minority women, women with disabilities, elderly women, women in disaster prone and conflict areas, internally displaced women, women in vulnerable situations and the girl child;
- 2. Mainstreaming gender** by promoting and undertaking gender-responsive planning, budgeting, reporting, strategy development, implementation and review at the provincial, district and sub-district levels across Sindh;
- 3. Safeguarding and expanding investment in women and girls and closing the gender gap** in civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights including the right to development, by harmonizing and adequately resourcing (multi) sectoral programs, schemes and projects that directly contribute to women's uplift and/or remove barriers to gender equality and women's empowerment;
- 4. Creating strong, just, participatory, transparent, effective and accountable institutions and mechanism(s)** for full and effective implementation and protection of Constitutional, National and Provincial commitments and international obligations with regard to gender equality and women's empowerment;
- 5. Strengthening partnerships, alliances, coordination and collaboration mechanisms for gender equality and women's empowerment**, mobilizing support for strategies, pooling expertise, generating knowledge, building capacities and ensuring transfer of technology and financial resources needed to promote gender equality and women and girls' empowerment within and between the Provincial and Federal Government, legal systems, and support structures.
6. Ensuring effective implementation of and reporting on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (**CEDAW**), the Beijing Platform for Action (**BPfA**), International Conference on Population and Development (**ICPD**) and its Plan of Action (PoA), the Sustainable Development Goals (**SDGs**), and other International human rights covenants, conventions and treaties that advance gender equality;

## 5. Economic

7. Closing the gender data gap by improving data gathering, organizing and analysis for the purpose of informing specific and intersecting public policies that impact gender equality and women's empowerment, and institutionalizing sex-disaggregated data collection and monitoring and reporting across provincial departments and survey instruments in order to measure gender equality and women and girls' empowerment outcomes against inputs and resources;
8. Taking affirmative action to target patriarchal mindsets, gender stereotypes, specific behaviors, attitudes and (customary) practices that are detrimental to the rights of women and girls and/or promote discrimination, and streamlining local preventive, educative, remedial and support systems and mechanisms; and
9. Mobilizing domestic resources, including through local and international sources, to achieve the objectives of the Provincial GEWE Policy.

## **Priority Thematic Constituencies/ Domains for Sindh's GEWE Policy**

### **1) Human rights of women and the girl child**

Adopt and strengthen policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels and ensure that Constitutional, Provincial and International commitments are fully adhered to, honored, and complied with by all Departments of the Government of Sindh.

### **2) Feminized poverty and social protection**

Adopt sound legislation, policy and action frameworks for protection against feminized poverty, at the provincial, district and sub-district levels, and accelerate and streamline investment in social protection for women and girls.

### **3) Health and related services**

Ensuring provision of universal quality healthcare to all women and girls and removing gender-based barriers to access to sexual and reproductive health services and information for women and girls as agreed in the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA), the London Summit, 2012, and the outcome documents of their review processes.

### **4) Education and lifelong learning**

Reducing the gender gap in educational attainment and lifelong learning

### **5) Political and public life**

To establish gender balance in governmental bodies and committees and public administrative entities: setting specific targets and implementing measures to substantially increase the number of women with a view to achieving equal representation of women and men; reforming electoral systems that encourage political parties to integrate women in elective and non-elective public positions in the same proportion and at the same levels as men; protecting women and girls' right to engage in political activities and to freedom of association; and making public spaces safe for women.

## **6) Power and decision-making**

End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere, ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in personal, political, economic and social life, and undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic and productive resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with Constitutional guarantees, provincial laws, and international commitments.

## **7) Economy and productive work (including economic empowerment, skill development, participation in productive activities, gainful employment, unremunerated care and (domestic) productive work)**

To create equal employment and income generation opportunities for women and girls in the formal economy, recognize and address women's unpaid labor and contributions to the household and the national economy, and support women and girls to earn a decent living wage and have opportunities for gainful employment, free from harassment and exploitation.

## **8) Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Media, and Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)**

Enhance the use of enabling technology, information and communications technology, amongst women and girls, and undertake measures to increase women's share and decision-making positions in fields of science, engineering and mathematics, media and communication technology.

## **9) Gender-based violence and access to justice**

Eliminate all forms of gender-based violence and violence against women and girls including harmful practices in the name of culture, custom, religion and tradition, in the public and private spheres, and improve women and girls' access to integrated systems of justice, protection and rehabilitation/reintegration, by informing women about laws and related processes and existing services, facilitating their engagement with justice systems, undertaking necessary legislative and administrative actions, and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

## **10) Environment & climate change**

To improve understanding of intersections between climate change and gender, improve responsiveness towards climate change and promote environment-friendly and natural resources-based management strategies across the province, particularly in disaster-prone areas, through climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction initiatives.

### **5.4 Women Development Department**

Sindh Women Development Department in its present form is working since 2003 with a focus on women's development and Gender Equality. The department has set the following role for itself:

- To work on matters relating to formulation of public policies and laws to meet special needs of women.
- To ensure that women interests and needs are adequately represented in public policy formulation by various organs and agencies of the government.
- Registration and assistance of women Organizations.
- To promote and undertake training and research on the conditions and problems of women.

### **Strategic Objectives of the Sindh Women’s Development Department**

Following are the seven strategic objectives of WDD under Sindh Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Policy:

#### **Strategy 1: Formulate and promote laws, rules and regulations**

**Objective:** To formulate and promote laws, rules and regulations related to the status and rights of women and girls, including through (i) reviewing legislative and policy proposals from all relevant Departments and independent statutory Commissions, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, (ii) acting to floor new legislation (vide repeal and/ or amendment), and influencing public and private policies to eliminate substantive gender-based discrimination and safeguard and promote the rights of women and girls in accordance with Pakistan’s Constitution, National and Provincial laws, and international human rights commitments.

#### **Strategy 2: Undertake, encourage and support institutionalization of gender-responsive planning, budgeting, reporting, strategy development, implementation and review mechanisms at all levels**

**Objective:** To mainstream gender in provincial laws, policies, strategies, development plans, implementation plans and related structures, procedures and mechanisms, including for monitoring and evaluation, to ensure that gender equality and women’s empowerment perspectives and approaches are integral to, represented in, and adequately addressed by related Government Departments through their work, and to drive policy coherence for gender equality and women’s empowerment across Sindh.

#### **Strategy 3: Promote and support gender research, evidence gathering and independent assessments and evaluations**

**Objective:** Promote research and independent assessments and evaluations on prioritized issues for the purpose of generating evidence and analysis related to gender equality and women and girls’ empowerment, and using evidence so generated to advocate and lobby in matters concerning public policy.

#### **Strategy 4: Support gender mainstreaming efforts across Government Departments and oversight bodies**

**Objective:** To support, coordinate and build capacity for gender mainstreaming efforts specifically by (i) enhancing stakeholders’ gender understanding and response capacity; (ii) introducing gender planning, reporting, communication and monitoring tools and strengthening related mechanisms (including where gender impact and outcomes are not clearly articulated and/or captured in official material); (iii) building internal capacity (managerial, fiscal, human, technological and systemic) to meet this objective.

### **Strategy 5: Monitor and report on provincial efforts to comply with international gender equality and women and girls' empowerment commitments**

**Objective:** To monitor and report on provincial efforts to comply with international commitments on human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, including CEDAW, ICPD; ICESCR; ICCPR; BPfA; UPR; SDGs, and ILO Conventions (specifically, 100, 111, 177, 189, 190).

### **Strategy 6: Act for advocating, lobbying, networking and coalition-building**

**Objective:** To act for advocating, lobbying, networking and coalition-building for women and girls' legal, economic, social and political rights and gender equality, including by (i) pushing for space at the heart of gender policy and budget development processes; (ii) mobilizing continued support from the highest government offices (including the Cabinet, Assembly Committees, Caucus, Assembly members/ Legislators, Chief Secretary and Chief Minister), Government line departments, non- governmental organizations and civil society organizations (specifically those working on the intersections of gender with other rights and developmental issues); and (iii) coordinating GEWE efforts and pursuing & promoting inclusive partnerships, alliances, and formal coordination/collaboration/ communication mechanisms.

### **Strategy 7: Other Affirmative Actions**

**Objective:** To take affirmative action by providing and strengthening services and creating/ animating platforms and support systems that link women and girls with service providers, including by (i) setting up and strengthening existing support systems and multi-stakeholder forums; (ii) pursuing scale-up and/ or adoption of effective models in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, and (iii) creating awareness of Government laws, policies, support mechanisms, and accountability systems in communities, government departments and amongst other stakeholders.

## **Part 2**

### **5.5 Labor Force Participation**

This part provides information on the working-age population, the current state of economic activity, and the labor force participation rates for those 10 and older. The economically active population (or labor force) includes both employed and unemployed individuals. According to International Labour Organization classifications, individuals are classified as employed, unemployed, or outside the labor force (ILO). The activity rate is the proportion of the population engaged in economic activity. These results are based on the 2020-21 Labour Force Survey (LFS).<sup>11</sup>

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11. Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21. (2022, March). Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21. Retrieved January 13, 2023, from [https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/labour\\_force/publications/lfs2020\\_21/LFS\\_2020-21\\_Report.pdf](https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/labour_force/publications/lfs2020_21/LFS_2020-21_Report.pdf)

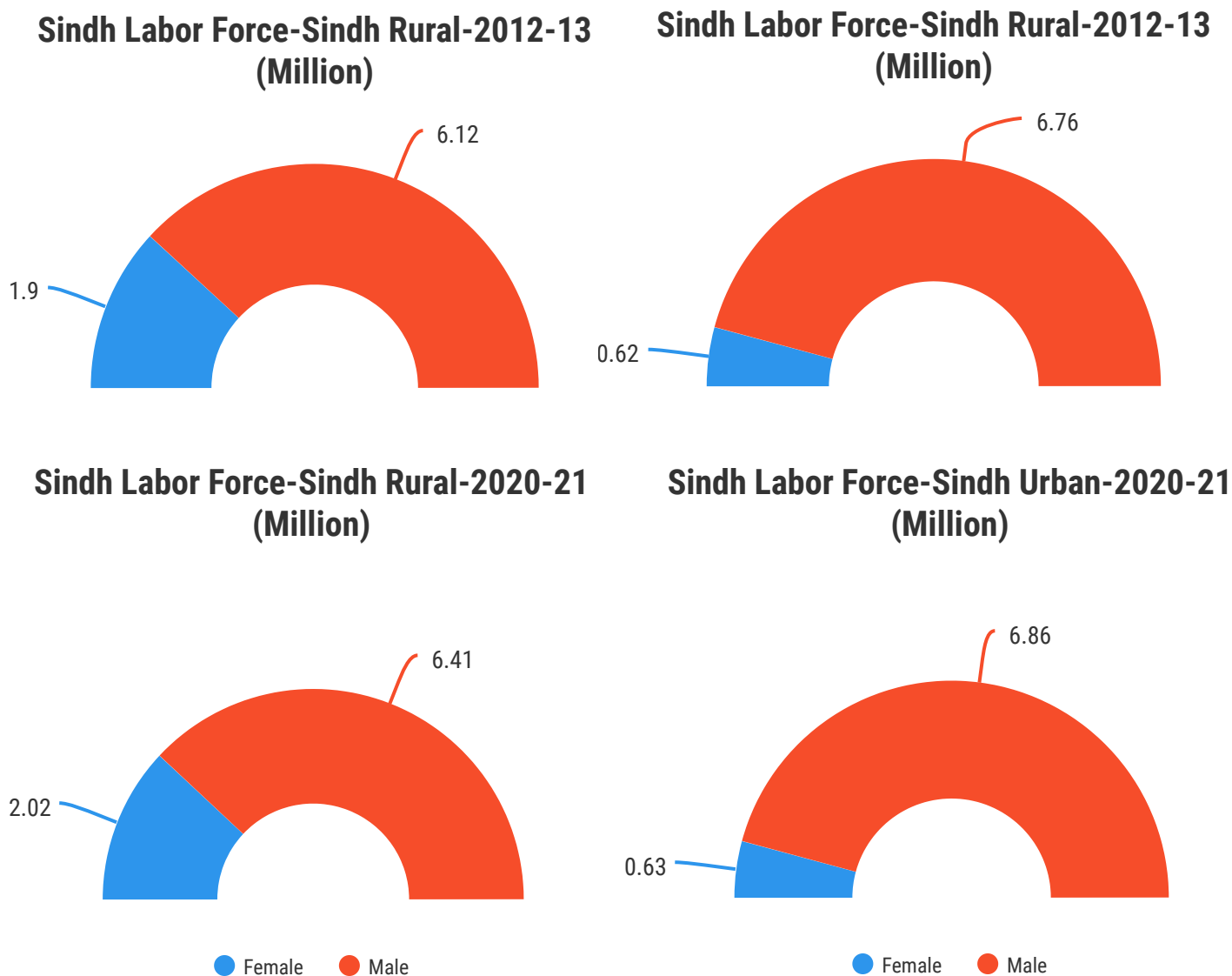


### 5.6 The Population Profile of Sindh

The absolute numbers in the study were calculated using the NIPS estimated population of 222.4 million on January 1, 2021, of which 113.5 million will be male and 108.9 million will be female. The overall population of Sindh was 51.6 million, with a working-age population of 36.3 million. Comparative survey data indicate that the average size of a household decreased from 6.28 in LFS 2018-19 to 5.92 in LFS 2020-21. This drop is also noted in Sindh where the average household size decreased from 5.96 in 2018-19 to 5.57 in 2020-21. The household size for Sindh's rural areas was 5.72 and for urban regions was 5.37. The sex ratio in Pakistan has increased from 103 in 2018-19 to 104 in 2020-21. The sex ratio in Sindh, however, has remained constant at 110.

### 5.7 Sindh Labor Market-Absolute Figures

The labour force increased from 15.40 million in 2018-19 to 15.92 million in 2020-21. This is an increase of 0.52 million. The provincial profile shift is more pronounced in rural areas than in urban ones. In addition, the trend is more prominent among males in Sindh than among females.



**Chart 5.1: Sindh Labor Force-Disaggregated by Sex and area (Urban/Rural)**

Source: Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21

## 5. Economic

## 5.8 Key Labor Market Indicators

The total strength of the labor force in Sindh is 15.9 million. This labor force includes 15.3 million employed and 0.6 million unemployed. The entire working-age population of Sindh is 36.3 million, which is 70.3% of the whole population of Sindh. In percentage terms, males are 83.6% of the labor force, and females are 16.4%. The total working-age male population is 18.9 million, of which 12.8 million are employed, 0.4 million are unemployed, and 5.6 million are out of the labor force. This means that 29.6% of the male working-age population is out of the labor force.

The working-age female population is 17.4 million, of which 2.5 million are employed, 0.2 million are unemployed, and 14.8 million are out of the labor force. This means that 85.05% of the female working-age population is out of the labor force.

Sex	Employed (m)	Unempl oyed (m)	Labr Force (m)	Out of labour force (m)	working age populati on (m)	Unempl oyment Rate %	Employeme nt to Population Ratio %	LFPR (Cru de)%
<b>Formula</b>	1	2	3=1+2	4	5=3+4	6= (2/3)*10 0	7=(1/5)*100	8= (3/5)* 100
<b>Male</b>	12.8	0.4	13.3	5.6	18.9	3.08	67.8	70.2
<b>Female</b>	2.5	0.2	2.7	14.8	17.4	7.4	14.3	15.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>36.2</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>43.9</b>

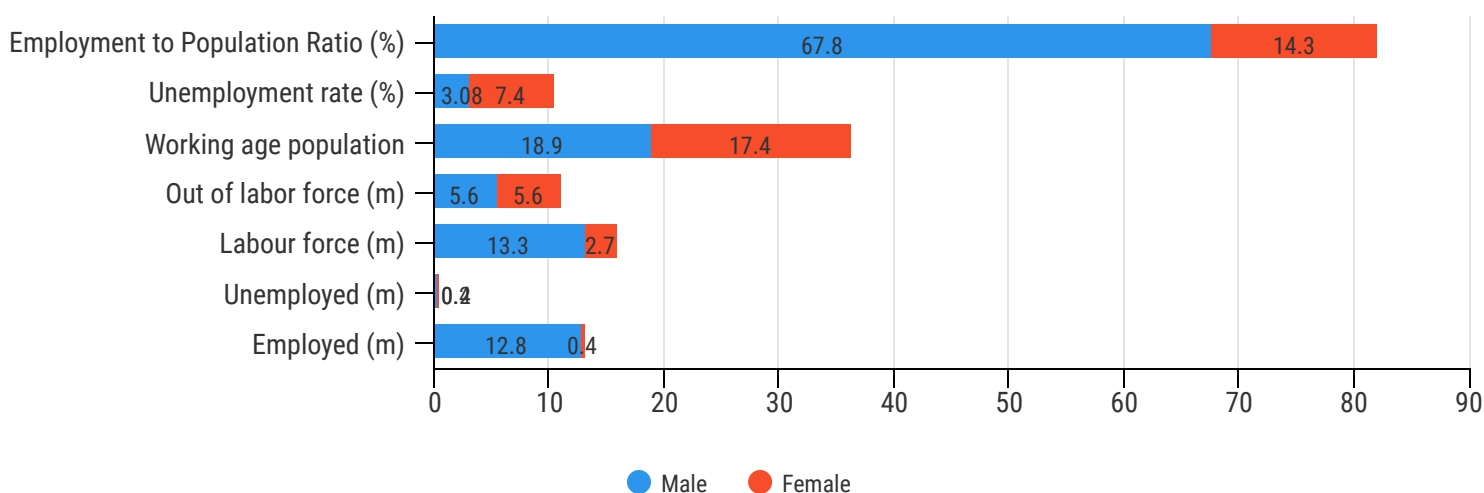
**Table 5.1 : Key labor Market indicators in Sindh by Sex**

Source: Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21

[https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/labour\\_force/publications/lfs2020\\_21/Key\\_Findings\\_of\\_Labour\\_Force\\_Survey\\_2020-21.pdf](https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/labour_force/publications/lfs2020_21/Key_Findings_of_Labour_Force_Survey_2020-21.pdf) last accessed on 05Jan23

All figures are in millions unless otherwise specified.

### Key Labor Market Indicators in Sindh



**Chart 5.2: Key labor market indicators in Sindh (Male/Female)**

Source: Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21

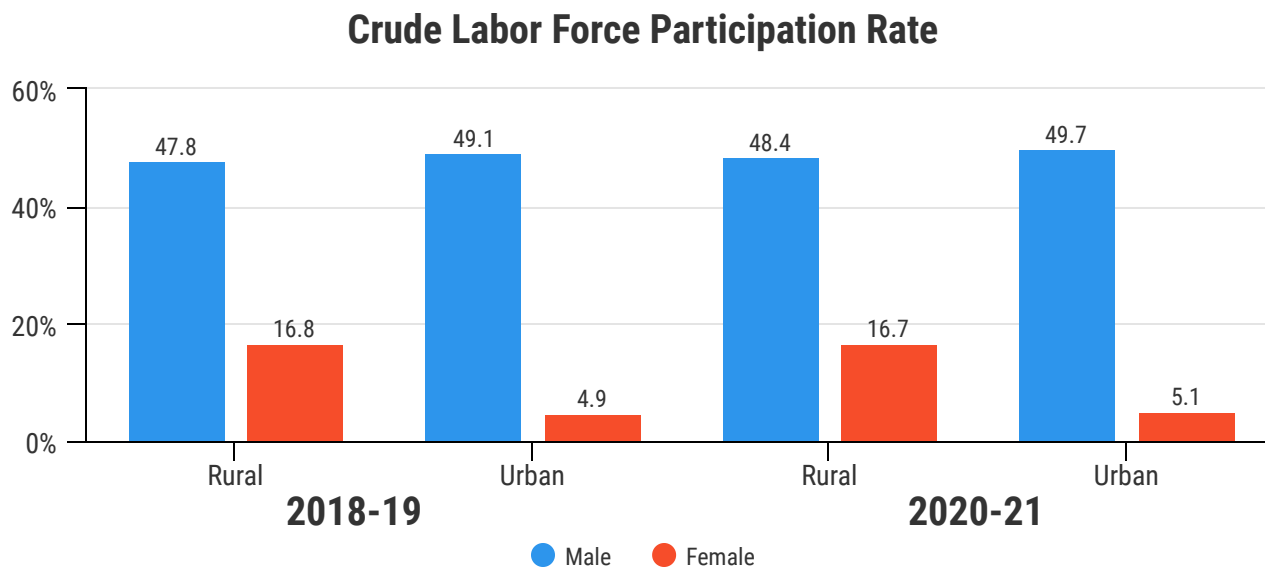
## 5. Economic

### 5.9 Crude Labour Force Participation Rates (LFPR)

The crude participation rate in Sindh in 2020-21 was 30.9%. At the time of LFS in 2018-19, this rate was 30.5%. There is an increase of 0.5% between the two surveys. The participation rate for males shows a rise of 0.6%. The participation rate for males in 2018-19 was 48.5% and in 2020-21 was 49.1%. The participation rate among females could not increase by the same percentage. The rate for females in 2018-19 was 10.5%. At 10.8% in 2020-21, it showed an increase of 0.3%.

The participation rate in rural Sindh for males increased from 47.8% to 48.4%. In urban Sindh, the male participation rate increased from 49.1% to 49.7%. The female participation rate in rural Sindh decreased from 16.8% to 16.7%. In urban areas, however, it showed an increase from 4.9% in 2018-19 to 5.1% in 2020-21.

$$\text{Labor Force participation Rate (Crude)} = \frac{\text{Total labor force (employed + unemployed)}}{\text{Overall population}} \times 100$$



**Chart 5.3: Labor Force Participation Rate (Crude)**

Source: Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21

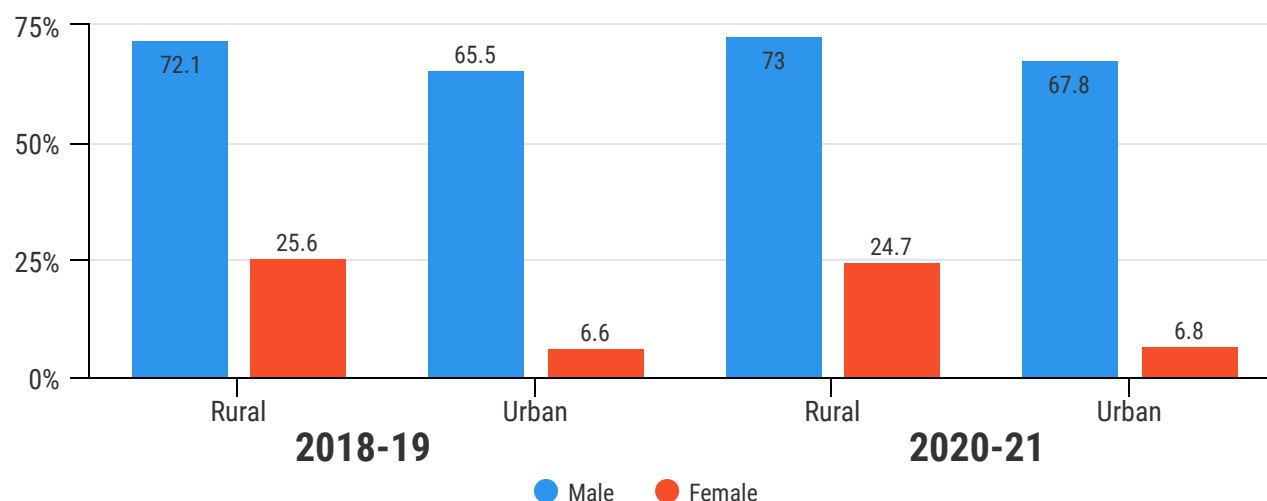
[https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/labour\\_force/publications/lfs2020\\_21/Key\\_Findings\\_of\\_Labour\\_Force\\_Survey\\_2020-21.pdf](https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/labour_force/publications/lfs2020_21/Key_Findings_of_Labour_Force_Survey_2020-21.pdf) last accessed on 05Jan23

### 5.10 Labor Force Participation Rate (Refined)

In general, the refined participation rate follows the trends of the crude participation rate. The overall (including rural and urban data) refined participation rate in Sindh in 2018-19 was 43.3%. It was 43.8% in 2010-21, thus registering an increase of 0.5%. The male participation rate in rural Sindh changed from 72.1% to 73% during the same period. This rate for males in urban Sindh increased from 65.5% to 67.8%. The overall refined participation rate for females increased from 15% in 2018-19 to 15.2% in 2020-21. The rate for rural women decreased from 25.6% in 2018-19 to 24.7% in 2020-21. The participation rate for urban women during the same period changed from 6.6% to 6.8%.

$$\text{Labor Force participation Rate (Crude)} = \frac{\text{Total labor force (employed + unemployed)}}{\text{Total working age population, 10yrs and above}} \times 100$$

## Refined Labor Force Participation Rate



**Chart 5.4: Labor Force Participation Rate (Refined)**

Source: Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21

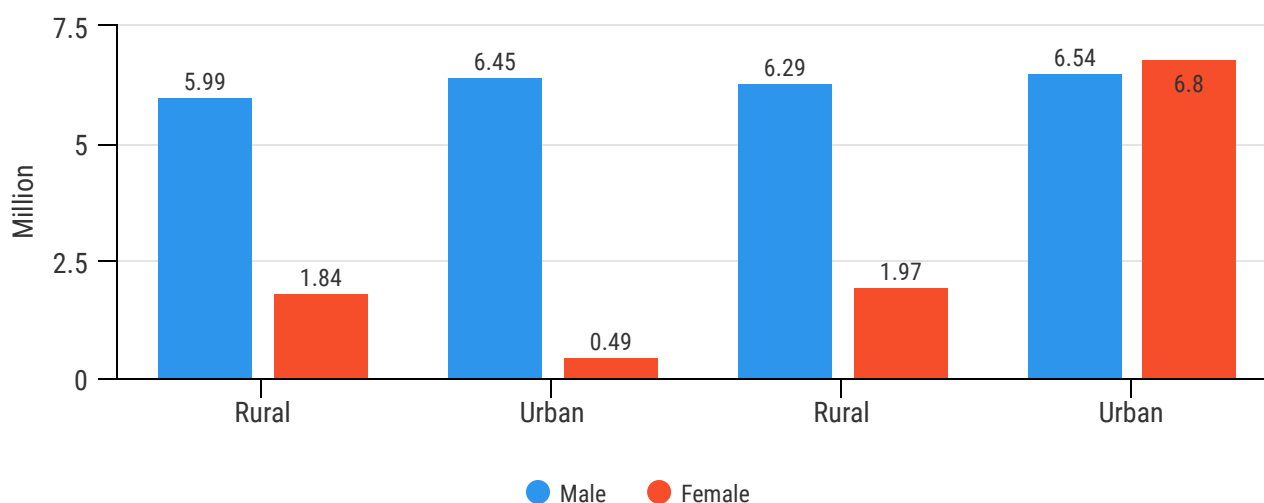
[https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/labour\\_force/publications/lfs2020\\_21/Key\\_Findings\\_of\\_Labour\\_Force\\_Survey\\_2020-21.pdf](https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/labour_force/publications/lfs2020_21/Key_Findings_of_Labour_Force_Survey_2020-21.pdf) last accessed on 05Jan23

### 5.11 Employment

The number of employed persons increased (by 0.54 million) from 14.77 million in 2018-19 to 15.31 million in 2020-21. The change is more significant in rural areas (0.43 million) than in urban areas (0.11 million). The figures for employed males in rural areas increased from 5.99 million in 2018-19 to 6.29 million in 2020-21. Urban males rose from 6.45 million to 6.54 million in the same period.

In 2018-19, 1.84 million females were employed in rural Sindh. This number increased to 1.97 million in 2020-21. For Urban areas, the number of employed females rose from 0.49 million to 0.51 million during this period.

## Employment in Sindh (Absolute Figures)



**Chart 5.5: Employment in Sindh (Absolute figures)**

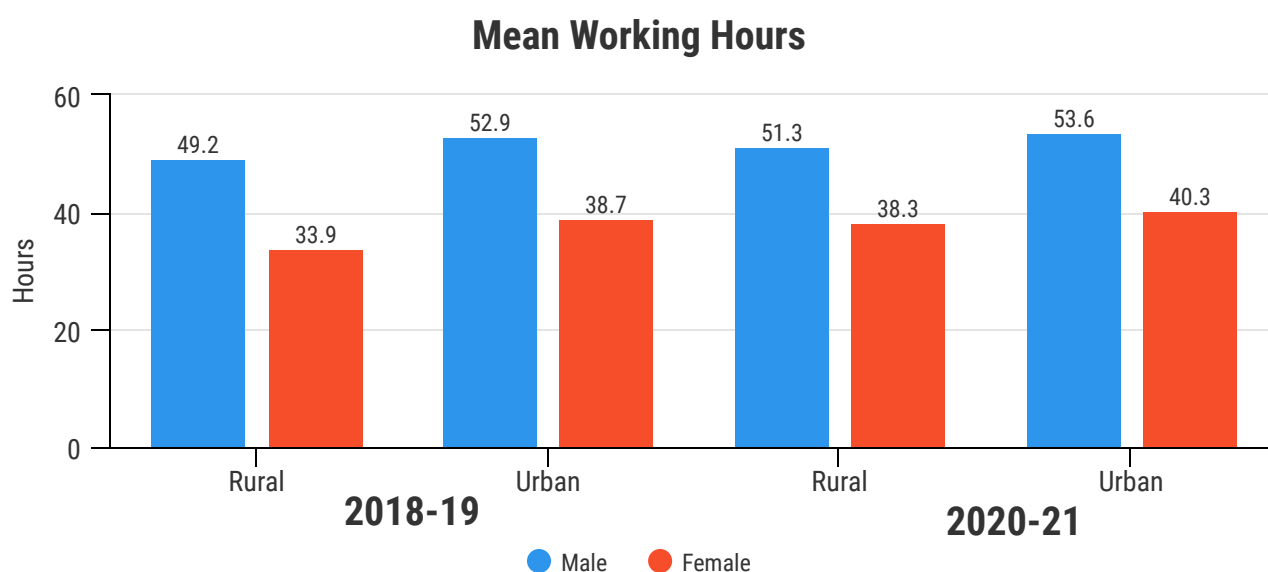
Source: Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21

## 5. Economic

## 5.12 Mean Working Hours

The mean number of hours worked per week increased during the comparative period from 48.6 to 50.2. In rural areas, the increase is from 45.6 to 48.2 hours per week. This increase is more prominent in females than in males. In males, this increase is from 51.1 hours per week to 52.5 hours per week (1.4 hours per week per male). Women's mean work hours per week increased from 34.9 to 38.7 (3.86 hours per week per female). This shows that employed males work 31.25% more than the usual 40 hours per week. This also demonstrates that women's working hours are increasing much faster than men's. Also, note that female working hours do not account for the time spent in the care economy.

The working hours for rural males have reduced from 49.2 hours per week to 48.2 hours per week. Correspondingly, the rural females in Sindh now work 38.3 hours per week. Previously (2018–19), they work for only 33.9 hours per week. Urban males now spend 53.6 hours per week on the job, compared to 52.9 hours in 2018–19. In comparison, urban females spend 40.3 hours per week on average. These hours are 1.6 hours per week more than they were working in 2018–19 (38.3 hours per week).



**Chart 5.6 Mean Working Hours Per Week**

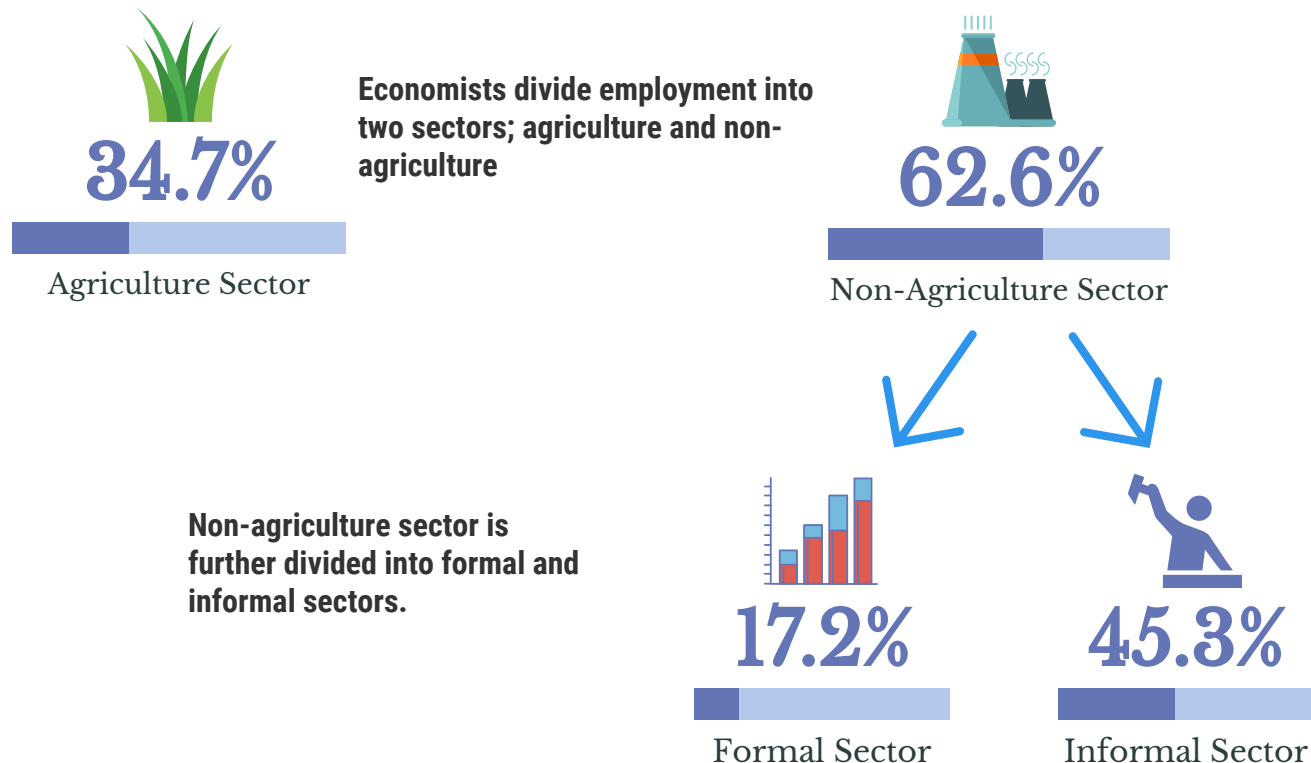
Source: Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21 h

## 5.13 Employment by Sector

### Defining Informal Sector

**The informal sector is defined as industrial units not registered under the factory act, employing fewer than ten people and having no regular employees.**

Private households are part of the informal sector. The informal sector is significant because it employs the most vulnerable groups and may serve as a stepping stone to employment in the formal sector. The formal sector (non-agriculture) includes those employed by the government or state-owned enterprises or international organizations/foreign embassies, as well as those working for registered corporations or establishments.



**Fig 5.1: Status of Employment by Sector in Sindh, Source LFS, 2020-21**

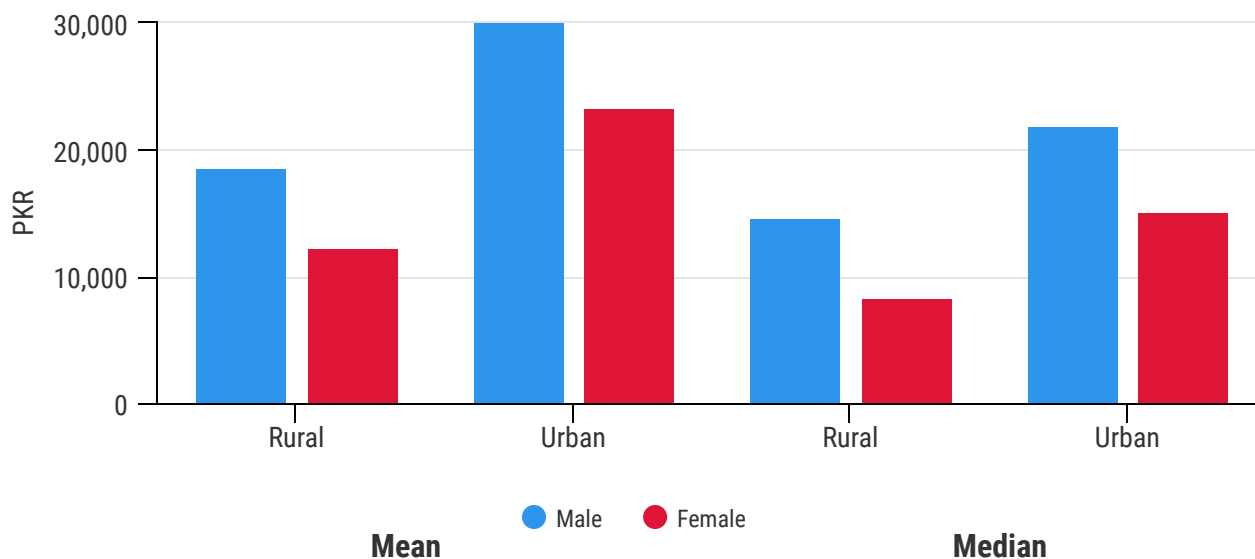
According to the Labor Force Survey for 2020-21, 77% of Pakistan’s 67.25 million employed workers are male. The informal (non-agriculture) sector is the most significant contributor to total employment, accounting for 45.3 percent of all jobs. The formal (non-agriculture) sector accounted for 17.2% of total employment, while the agriculture sector accounted for 37.4%. In addition, 52.5 percent of men were employed in the informal (non-agricultural) sector. In comparison, only 19 percent were employed in the formal (non-agricultural) sector. Females were nearly twice as prevalent in the informal (non-agriculture) sector as in the formal (non-agriculture) sector (11.1 percent).

Sindh's employment figures are similar to the national average. The 15.3 million Sindh’s labor force is divided between 5.58 million (36.5%) in the agriculture sector and 9.73 million (63.6%) in the non-agriculture sector. The non-agriculture sector is further divided between the formal with 2.92 million (19.1%) employees, and the informal sector, with 6.81 (44.5%) million employees.

#### 5.14 Average Monthly Wages in Main Job

Chart 5.7 shows the average monthly wages for males and females from their main job. There are clear trends of disparity between male and female wages. For example, the average wage of rural males in Sindh is PKR 18,703, and for rural females is PKR 12,243. This trend of disparity in wages continues in urban areas where the average wage for males is PKR 29,980 and for females is PKR 23,292. The average wages in Sindh are second-best among provinces after Balochistan. In Balochistan, the mean overall salary is PKR 27,659 against the mean wage in Sindh, which is PKR 24,664.

### Average Monthly Wage in Main Job



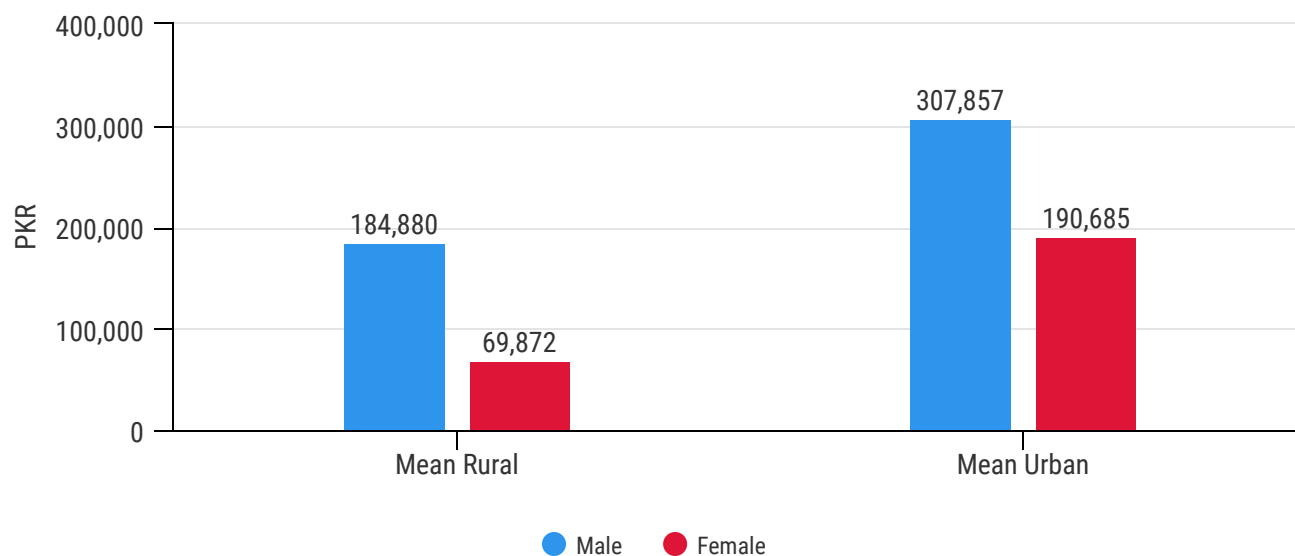
**Chart 5.7 Average Monthly Wage in Main Job**  
Source: Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21

#### 5.15 Average Annual Income of Self-employed

Chart 5.7 reveals that the average annual income of self-employed individuals in urban areas of Sindh is PKR 299,806 compared to PKR 177,818 in rural areas. The same pattern holds for the median yearly income. The median income in urban Sindh is PKR 244,000, and PKR 140,000 in rural Sindh. The data also indicates that men's average annual income is higher than women's. The average yearly male income in Sindh is PKR 238,197. In comparison, women only earn an average of PKR 83,062 per year. This indicates that the average female in Sindh makes 65 percent less than the average male.

On average, a female in Sindh earns 65% less than a male.

### Average Annual Income

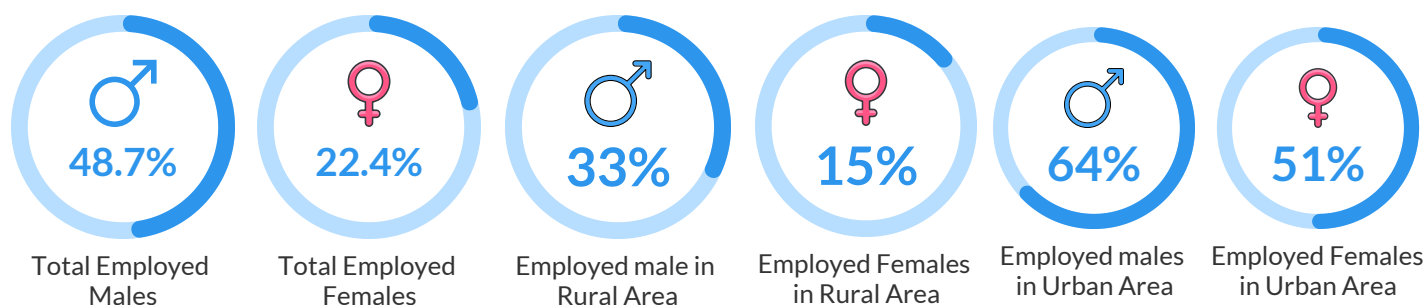


**Chart 5.8: Average Monthly Wage in Main Job**  
Source: Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21

## 5. Economic

### 5.16 Proportion of Informal Employment in Total Employment

Chart 5.8 shows the proportion of informal employment in the total employment disaggregated by area and sex. 48.7% of males in Sindh are engaged in informal employment. In comparison, 22.4% of employed Sindh females work in the informal sector. As we can anticipate, most of the informal sector is based in Urban areas, and 62.8% of the total employment is in the informal sector. In rural Sindh, 33% of employed males work in the informal sector. This percentage in urban Sindh is 63.8. Likewise, 15.1% of working females in rural Sindh are employed in the informal sector. This proportion for urban areas is 51%.



### Proportion of Informal sector in Total Employment in Sindh

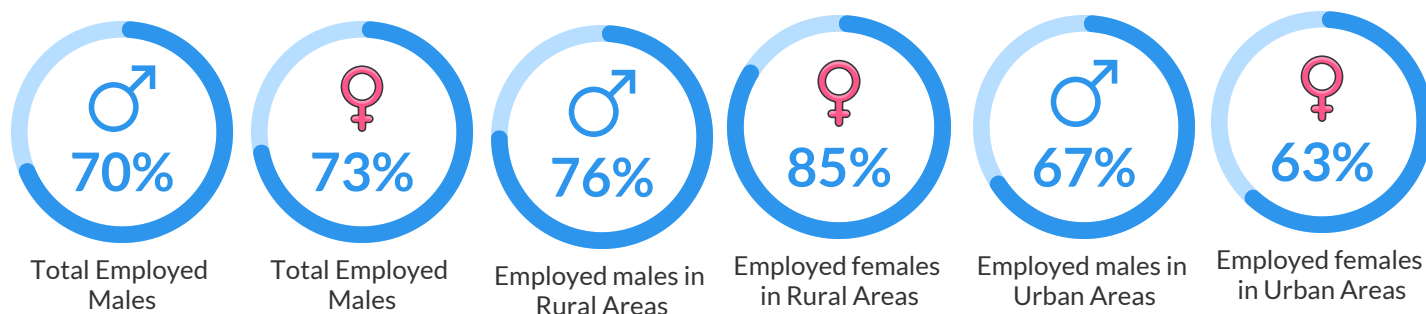
**Fig 5.2: Proportion of Informal Employment in Total Employment in Sindh**

Data Source: Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21

### 5.17 Proportion of Informal Employment in Non-agriculture Employment

Figure 5.2 shows the proportion of the informal sector in Non-agriculture employment. We know the employment sectors are divided into two main categories: agriculture and Non-Agriculture. In the Chart above, we saw the proportion of informal employment in the total employment in Sindh. This section discusses the proportion of informal employment in the non-agriculture sector. The figure below shows the share of informal employment in non-agriculture employment.

The first pair of columns in the Fig. 5.2 shows that 70% of the employed male in non-agriculture employment are working in the informal sector. For females, this percentage is 73. The rural-urban divide will give some further insights into the employment pattern. Seventy-six percent of the rural males employed in the non-agriculture sector work in the informal sector. The female proportion is even more prominent. Eighty-five percent of the employed females work in the informal employment of the non-agriculture sector.



### Proportion of Informal Employment in Non-agriculture Employment

**Fig 5.3: Proportion of Informal Employment in Non-agriculture Employment**

Source: Pakistan Labour Force Survey, 2020-21



# MAJOR Findings

1

## Males share in labor force is 5 times higher than females

Sindh male labor force is 5 times higher than the female labor force. In Sindh, 17.4 million women are in the working-age population, of which 14.8 million (85%) are out of the labor force. Concrete steps at the policy level are required to bring these women into the labor force. This can be done by creating economic activities near their homes.

2

## Women enters in labor force at a slower rate

In recent years, the crude participation rate among females has not increased at the same rate as that of males. The crude participation rate for females has increased by 0.3% compared to 0.5% for males crude participation rate. In rural Sindh, the female crude participation rate has in fact decreased from 16.8% to 16.7%. The refined Labor Force Participation rate has also shown similar trends. This shows that economic opportunities in Sindh are decreasing. In absolute terms, the number of employed females has increased in rural and urban areas. This implies that women's entry into the labor force is less than the rate of increase in their population.

3

## Mean Working hours has increased in Sindh

The mean working hours for both males and females have increased in Sindh. Women in urban areas now spend 38.7 hours compared to 34.9 hours previously. The working hours for females in rural Sindh have increased from 33.9 hours to 38.3 hours. Data is unavailable on whether working hours increased due to increased economic opportunities or harsh economic conditions where females must work longer to meet both ends.

4

## Disparity in average wages of males and females

There is a clear disparity between the average wages of males and females in Sindh. The average wage of males in rural Sindh is 34.5% higher than that of females. In urban areas, male earns 22.3% more than females. This difference in income is also noted for self-employed males and females. The mean annual income of males in rural Sindh is 62.2% more than females, whereas, in urban Sindh, this difference is 38%.

## 6. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Art 25. (1) All citizens are equal before law and are entitled to equal protection of law

(2) There shall be no discrimination on the basis of sex.

(3) Nothing in this Article shall prevent the State from making any special provisions for the protection of women and children.

Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

— Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan —

### 6.1 Domestic Violence

According to the United Nations, "Domestic violence" or "intimate partner violence", can be defined as a pattern of behavior in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner.<sup>12</sup>

Physical aggressiveness (hitting, kicking, biting, shoving, restraining, slapping, or hurling things), threats, sexual and emotional abuse, dominating or dominant behaviors, intimidation, stalking, and passive or hidden abuse are all examples of domestic violence. In 2012-2013, owing to its severity and seriousness, a domestic violence module was added for the first time to the PDHS. According to sector experts, domestic abuse is common in Pakistan and maybe the least reported crime. However, despite several laws meant to protect women from domestic abuse, the problem remains.

### Sindh Commission on Status of Women-An Introduction<sup>13</sup>

Sindh Commission on the Status of Women was set up in 2017 for the promotion of social, economic, political and legal rights of women, as provided in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan 1973, and in accordance with international declarations, Conventions, treaties, Covenants and agreements relating to women, including Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

SCSW is an independent, women-focused statutory body that believes in gender equality and works to promote and protect the political, social, economic and legal rights of women in Sindh as provided in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and in accordance with international declarations, conventions, treaties, covenants and agreements related to women – through measuring, monitoring and overseeing the effectiveness of public policy, laws, rules and administrative actions by the government.

### Objectives of SCSW

To Examine policies, programs and other measures taken by the Government for Women's development and gender equality;

Review laws, rules and regulations affecting the status of women; Monitor Mechanism and institutional procedures for redress of violation of women's rights and individual grievances;

Encourage and sponsor research to generate information, analysis and studies relating to women and gender issues;

Develop and maintain interaction and dialogue with NGOs experts and individual in society at the national, regional and international level; any other function assigned to it by the provincial Government.

<sup>12</sup>. United Nations. (n.d.). Retrieved January 2, 2023, from <https://www.un.org/en/coronavirus/what-is-domestic-abuse>

<sup>13</sup>. Copied from the SCSW's website <https://scsw.sindh.gov.pk> last retrieved on 14Jan23

## A. Legislation

Following is a brief account of pro-women laws legislated by the Sindh government during the last decade:

### 6.2 The Sindh Commission on the Status of Women Act, 2015

The objective of the law is to provide for the Provincial Commission on the Status of Women. Section 13 of the law explains the powers and functions of the Commission:

The Commission shall-

(a) examine the policy, programs, and other measures taken or to be taken by Government for gender equality, women's empowerment, political participation, representation, assess, implementation and make suitable recommendations to the concerned authorities;

(b) review all Provincial laws, rules and regulations prejudicial to the legitimate interest and rights of women and suggest accordingly in term of replacement, amendment, addition or legislation afresh essentially needed to eliminate discrimination, safeguard and promote the interest of women and achieve gender equality before law in accordance with the Constitution and obligations under international covenants and commitments;

(c) sponsor, steer, encourage research to generate information, analysis and studies and maintain a database relating to women and gender issues to provide knowledge and awareness for Government policy and strategic action for women empowerment;

(d) develop and maintain interaction and dialogue with non- governmental organizations, experts and individuals in society and an active association with similar commissions and institutions in other provinces for collaboration and action to achieve gender equality in the province;

(e) mobilize grants from domestic sources and international sources in order to meet any of its obligation or for the performing of its functions;

(f) facilitate and monitor implementation of international instruments and obligations affecting women and girls advise to Government in providing opinions and inputs to the Federal Government before accession to any such proposed international instrument, protocol or treat by Federal Government;

(g) seek and receive information, data and documents from any Provincial or Federal sources or entity in the course of performance of its functions;

(h) inspect any jail, sub-jail or other places of custody where women and girls are kept and to make appropriate recommendations to the authorities concerned;

(i) act for advocacy, lobbying, coalition building, networking and as a catalyst for promotion of the cause of women to facilitate their participation in all spheres of life including legal, economic, social and political empowerment;

(j) liaise with the National Commission on the Status of Women and other Provincial Commissions or any other relevant body;

(k) monitor mechanism and institutional procedure for redressal of violation of women's rights; and

(l) Perform any other functions which may be assigned to it by Government.

## 6. Violence

(m) the Commission shall, with the approval of Executive Committee as defined Section 14, fix an honorarium or remuneration of advisors, consultants and experts as may be prescribed.

(n) the Commission shall consider, approve and monitor implementation of the Strategic Plan and the Annual Budget.

### **6.3 The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2013**

The objective of the law is to restrain the solemnization of child marriages. According to Section 3 of the law, a male above eighteen years of age who contracts a child marriage (a girl under 18 years) shall be punished with rigorous imprisonment, which may extend to three years but shall not be less than two years and shall be liable to fine. The law fixes similar punishment for anyone who performs conducts, directs, brings about, or in any way facilitates any child marriage.

### **6.4 The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2013**

The objective of the law is to institutionalize measures that prevent and protect women, children, and any vulnerable person from domestic violence. The law defines domestic violence as all acts of gender-based and other physical or psychological abuse committed by a respondent against women, children, or other vulnerable persons with whom the respondent is or has been in a domestic relationship. Emotional, psychological, and verbal abuse is punishable by imprisonment of a minimum of six months or with a minimum fine of 10 thousand or both. Stalking is punishable by one year of punishment and a 20 thousand fine or both. Sexual abuse is punishable by a minimum imprisonment of two years or 50 thousand rupees fine or both. Trespassing or entry into an aggrieved person's residence either temporary or permanent, is punishable by imprisonment for a term not less than one month or with a fine or with both. Any abet, assault, attempt to commit any of the offenses mentioned in this section, "criminal force" as defined in section 350, "criminal intimidation" as defined in section 503 of the criminal code, harassment, hurting, and wrongful confinement is punishable under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act V of 1898).

### **6.5 The Sindh Criminal Law (Protection of the Minorities) Act, 2015**

According to the act, no person shall be deemed to have changed 'his' religion until attaining the age of maturity. A minor who claims a change of his religion before attaining the age of maturity shall not be deemed to have changed his religion, and no action shall be taken against him for any such claim or action made by such minor. This, however, does not apply where the parents or guardians of the minor decide to change the family's religion. A person who forcefully converts another person shall be liable to imprisonment of either description for a minimum of five years, a maximum of life imprisonment, and a fine to be paid to the victim. Any person who facilitates a marriage knowing that either or both parties are victims of forced conversion shall be liable to imprisonment of either description for a minimum of three years and a fine to be paid to the victim.

### **6.6 The Protection against Harassment of Women at Workplace, 2010**

The law protects women against harassment at the workplace. The law defines "harassment" as any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favors or other verbal or written communication or physical conduct of a sexual nature or sexually demeaning attitudes, causing interference with work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment, or the attempt to punish the complainant for refusal to comply to such a request or is made a condition for employment. The law makes it mandatory for each organization to constitute an Inquiry Committee to enquire into complaints under this Act. The Committee shall consist of three members, of whom at least one member shall be a woman. If the Inquiry Committee finds the accused to be guilty it shall recommend to the Competent Authority for imposing one or more of the following penalties:

### Minor penalties

- a. censure;
- b. withholding, for a specific period, promotion or increment;
- c. stoppage, for a specific period, at an efficiency bar in the time-scale, otherwise than for unfitness to cross such bar; and
- d. recovery of the compensation payable to the complainant from pay or any other source of the accused;

### Major penalties:

- a. reduction to a lower post or time-scale, or to a lower stage in a time-scale;
- b. compulsory retirement;
- c. removal from service;
- d. dismissal from service; and
- e. Fine. A part of the fine can be used as compensation for the complainant. In the case of the owner, the fine shall be payable to the complainant.

### 6.7 The Sindh Anti-Street Harassment Bill, 2018

The law covers harassment incidents against all citizens. Anyone whether male or female can invoke this law in case of harassment in the neighborhood. According to Section 3 of the act, an individual shall be entitled to lodge a complaint with the Police if experiences street harassment, including but not limited to verbal harassment, unwanted physical conduct, and indecent public exposure by one or more individuals at a public place. Penalty and fine charged for offenses committed against the provisions of this Act shall be upon discretion of a First Class Magistrate.

### 6.8 The Sindh Women Workers Agriculture Act, 2019

The objective of the law is to recognize the women work in agriculture, promote, and protect the rights of women agriculture workers, to ensure their participation in decision-making and, to foster empowerment through work, and to improve the health and nutrition of women in agriculture workers and their children. Section 8 of the act states that "A woman agriculture worker shall perform work free from all form of harassment or abuse as laid out in the relevant laws prevailing in the province. Section 11 further states that "A woman agriculture worker shall not be discriminated against with respect to employment opportunities, wages, and working conditions on the grounds of sex, land ownership, caste. Religion, ethnicity, and residential status.

### 6.9 The Sindh Home-Based Workers Act, 2018

The objective of the law is to protect the remunerative rights and social protection of home-based workers who work in the informal or unorganized sectors. According to Section 5 of the law, "Every registered home-based worker shall be entitled to all those social, medical and maternity benefits, compensations and marriages and death grants available to a person failing within the ambit of worker and workman envisaged in all Labour Laws including Sindh Industrial Relation Act, 2013 and Sindh Terms of Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 2016 and Sindh Workers Welfare Board."

## B. Violence against Women

### 6.10 Experience with Physical Violence

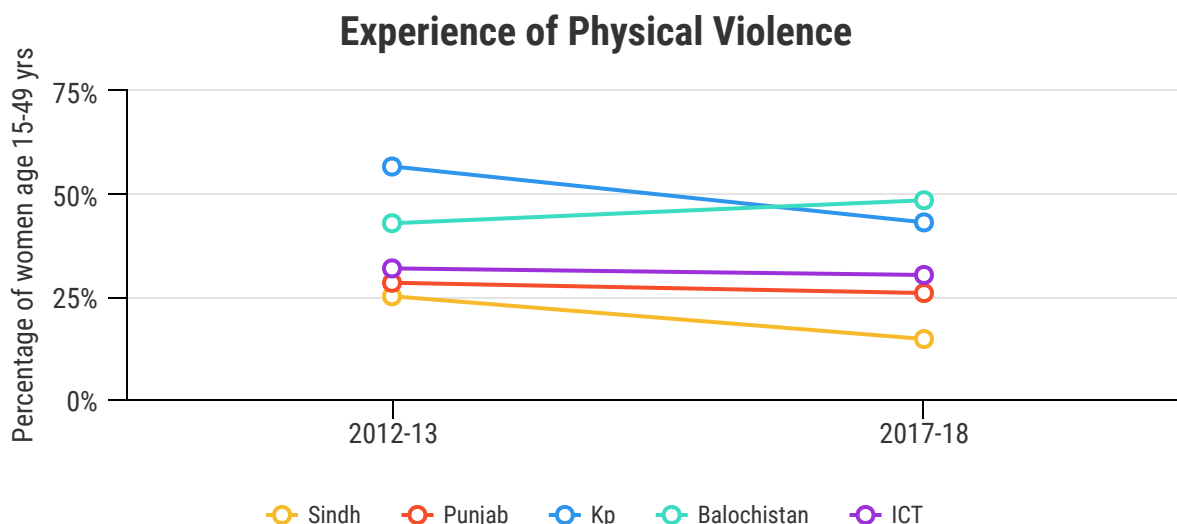
VAW is on the decline in three provinces of Pakistan: Sindh, Punjab, and KP. Balochistan is the only province where VAW trends have increased over the years.

In Sindh, 15% of women aged 15-49 have experienced physical violence at least once in their life since the age of 15. In the past 12 months, 3.8% of women reported experiencing physical violence frequently, while 6.3% reported experiencing physical violence occasionally.

In 2012-2013, 57% of women in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had experienced physical violence; according to the most recent available data, this number has decreased to 43 percent. In Balochistan, 48% of women reported they had faced violence at least once. The most recent figure available for

## 6. Violence

Balochistan is 48.4%. Balochistan is the only region where incidents of VAW have increased since the 2012-13 survey. The prevalence of violence is also high in Punjab and ICT (26 and 30 percent, respectively). This contradicts the commonly held belief that VAW is primarily a rural phenomenon. The regional pattern of women's experience of physical violence at any point in their lives or the 12 months before the survey indicates that Sindh women occupy the best position in the country.



**Chart 6.1: Violence against women-Data disaggregated by region**  
 Source: PAKISTAN DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2017-18, 2019

### 6.11 Violence During Pregnancy

Three percent of women (aged 15-49) in Sindh have experienced physical violence during pregnancy; 0.8% developed severe health-related complications due to this violence.<sup>13</sup> Although there is no clear correlation between age and violence during pregnancy, younger women are more likely to report experiencing violence during pregnancy than older women.

In urban areas of Sindh, the proportion of pregnant women who experience violence is higher (4.3%) than in rural areas (1.4%). The region with the highest percentage of violence during pregnancy is Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (12.2%), followed by Balochistan (10.1%). In Punjab (7.4%) and ICT (3.5%) women reported violence during pregnancy. The incidence of violence during pregnancy in Sindh is 3%, which is the lowest in this category.

**14.6%**  
 reported violence cases in Sindh

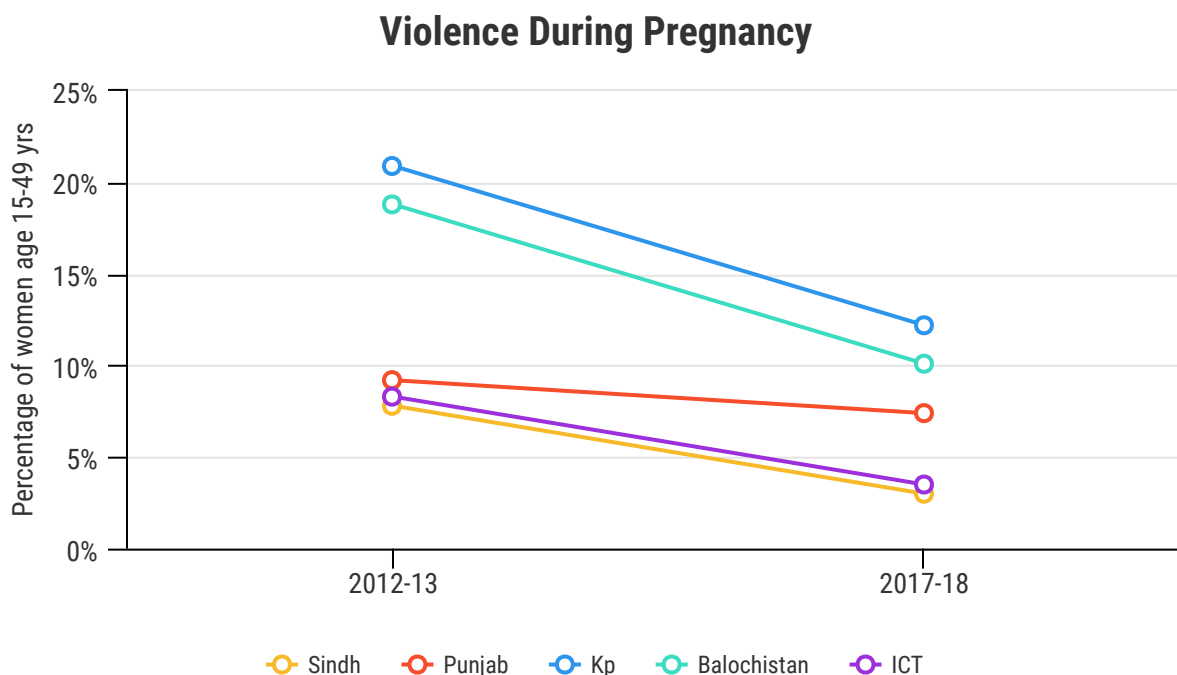
**3%**  
 reported violence cases during pregnancy

**0.8%**  
 severe health issues due to VAW during pregnancy

13. Abortion, miscarriage, stillbirth or other health problems due to VAW

## 6. Violence

Balochistan is 48.4%. Balochistan is the only region where incidents of VAW have increased since the 2012-13 survey. The prevalence of violence is also high in Punjab and ICT (26 and 30 percent, respectively). This contradicts the commonly held belief that VAW is primarily a rural phenomenon. The regional pattern of women's experience of physical violence at any point in their lives or the 12 months before the survey indicates that Sindh women occupy the best position in the country.



**Chart 6.2: Violence faced by women during pregnancy-Data disaggregated by regions**

Source: PAKISTAN DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2017-18, 2019

### 6.12 Marital Control

Husbands' attempts to closely control and monitor their wives' behavior are a significant warning sign and can be a precursor to domestic violence. The most common manifestations of controlling behavior are extreme possessiveness, jealousy, and attempts to isolate the wife from her family and friends.


The degree of marital control husbands exercise over their wives was determined using five indicators: (1) he is jealous or angry if she talks to other men; (2) he frequently accuses her of being unfaithful; (3) he does not permit meetings with female friends; (4) he attempts to limit contact with her family; and (5) he insists on knowing where she is at all times.

The proportion of women whose husbands exhibit at least three specified behaviors is highlighted in chart 6.3. Chart displays the percentage of ever-married women whose husbands reveal the listed behaviors based on specific background characteristics.

The primary controlling behaviors women in Sindh encountered from their husbands were knowing where they were at all times (7.4%), jealousy or anger if they spoke to other men (7.2%), and not allowing her to meet female friends (5.1%). Other common behaviors included accusing her of infidelity frequently (4.3%) and attempting to limit her contact with her family (3%).

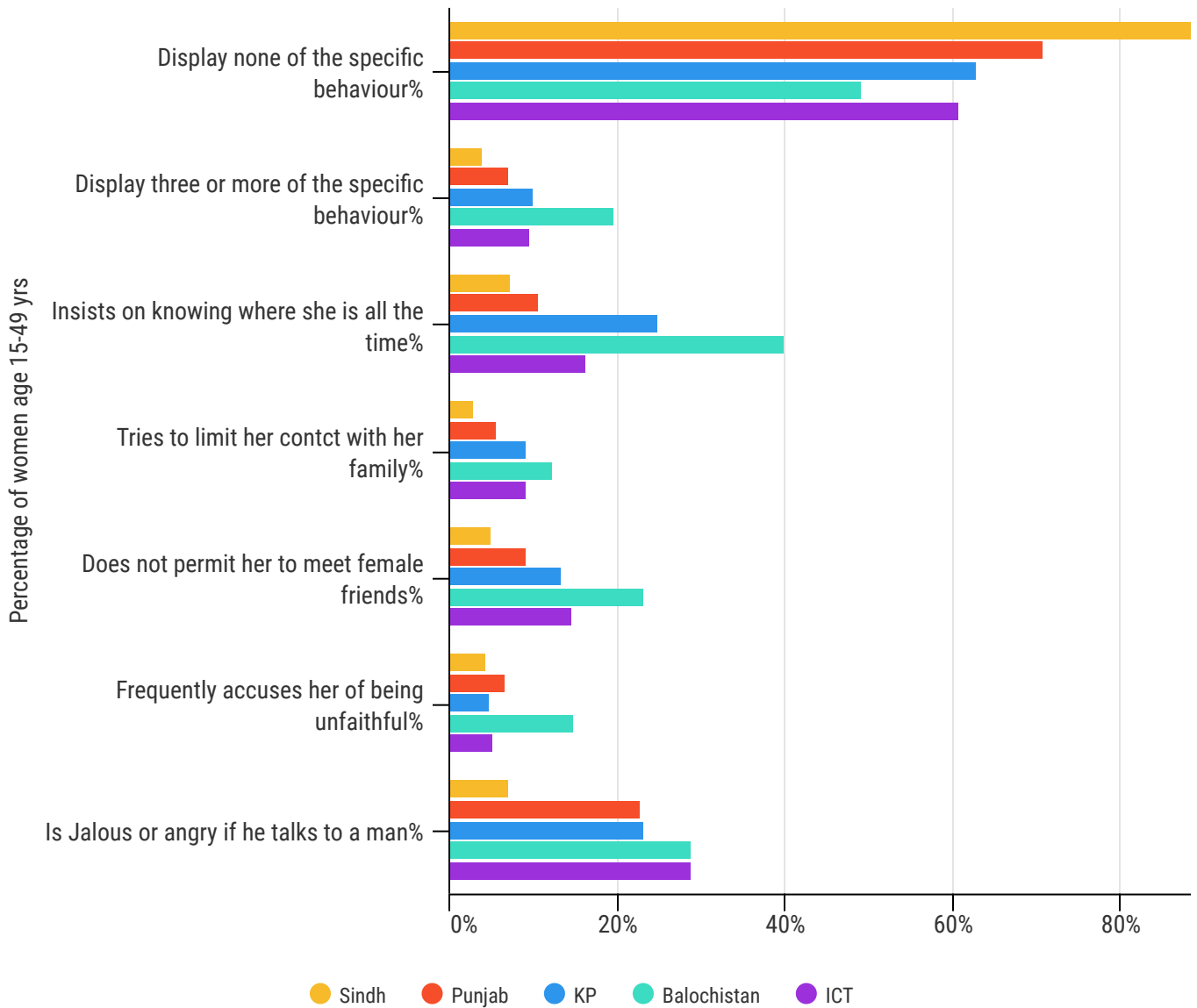
## 6. Violence

The controlling behaviors appear in groups. For example, 88.3% of currently married women in Sindh said their husbands do not exhibit any specific controlling behaviors. However, 3.9% of the remaining 11.7% of women indicated that their husbands exhibit at least three controlling behaviors. In urban areas, the proportion of women whose husbands exhibit at least three controlling behaviors is greater (5.3%) than in rural areas (2.2%).



**88.3%**  
 Women in Sindh reported their husbands do not show a controlling behavior. This proportion is highest among the provinces.

### Marital Control Exercised by Husband



**Chart 6.3: Violence faced by women during pregnancy-Data disaggregated by regions**

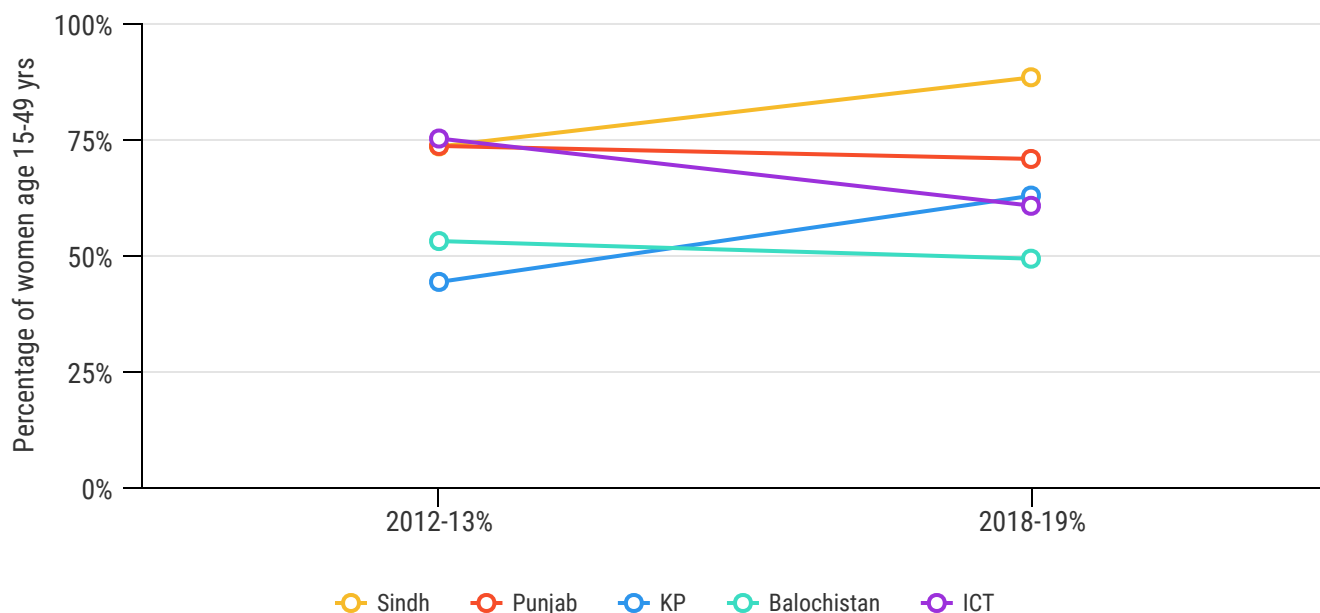
Source: PAKISTAN DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2017-18, 2019

## 6. Violence



Chart 6.4 indicates an interesting phenomenon regarding the percentage of husbands who never shows any specific behavior. Punjab, Sindh, and ICT were at the same point in 2012-13. At that time, the percentage of husbands displaying no specific controlling behavior was 73.5%, 73.4%, and 75.1%, for Punjab, Sindh, and ICT, respectively. From that point, Punjab and ICT have slipped to 70.7% and 60.6%, whereas Sindh has moved upward to 88.3%. In ICT, according to the 2018-19 survey, 60.6% of husbands do not show any specific behavior. This percentage is close to KP, where 62.8% of husbands reported not showing any controlling behavior. KP has shown progress in this indicator. KP was at the lowest place in 2012 with a percentage of 44.2. It is now placed above ICT and Balochistan (Chart 6.4).

### Marital Control Exercised by Husband-Behavior Change



**Chart 6.4: Marital control by husbands; percentage of women whose husbands have not demonstrated a specific type of behavior**

Source: PAKISTAN DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2017-18, 2019

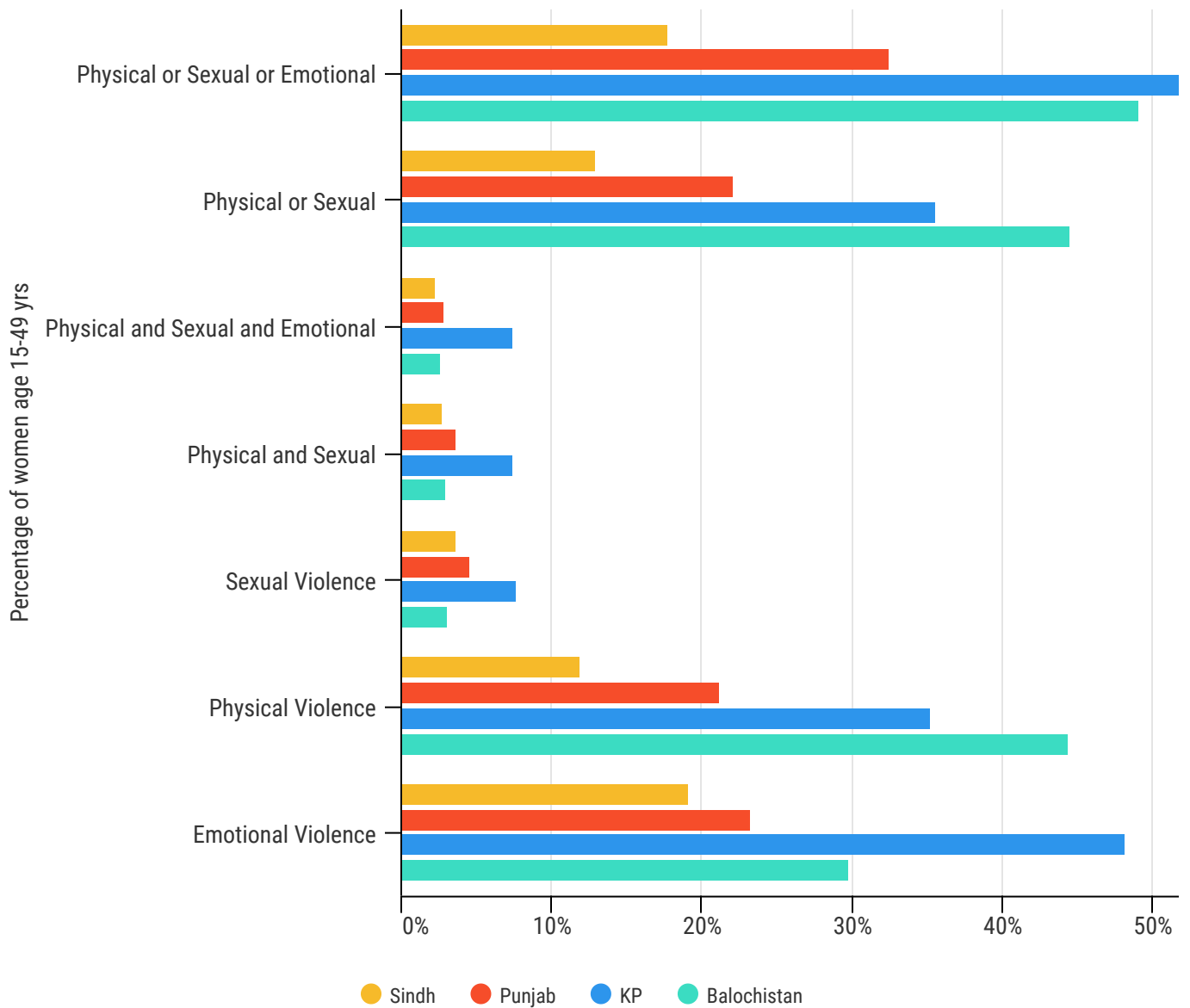
#### 6.13 Patterns of Spousal Violence

Women may report multiple forms of abuse, and different types of violence are not mutually exclusive. This section discusses the proportion of ever-married women between the ages of 15 and 49 who reported experiencing different abuse from their spouses. According to the data presented in Chart 6.5, 19.2% of Sindh Women are subjected to emotional violence. In addition, 11.9% of women have reported physical violence, and 3.7% have undergone sexual violence.

Regionally, KP women are most likely to have suffered emotional violence (48.2 %), followed by Balochistan women (29.8 %), and Punjab reporting (23.3 %). Sindh remained the lowest at 19.2%. The percentage of women who have faced physical violence is also the lowest for Sindh. Here 11.9% of women reported physical violence. Balochistan is highest at 44.4%, followed by KP at 35.2% and Punjab at 23.3%. For sexual violence, Sindh is placed second at 3.7% after Balochistan at 3.1%.

## 6. Violence

## Patterns of Spousal Violence



**Chart 6.5: Pattern of Spousal Violence-Data disaggregated by region**

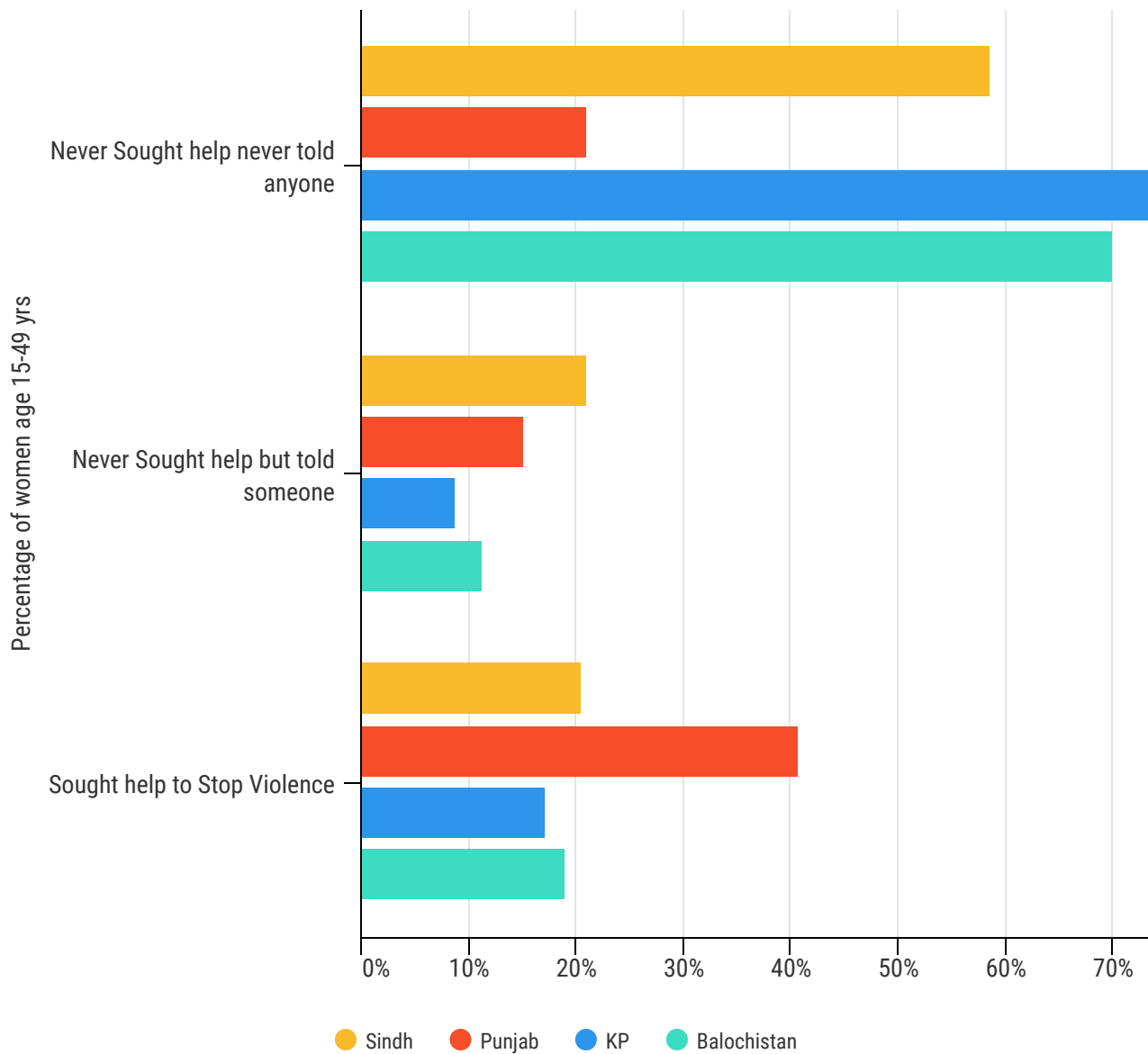
Source: PAKISTAN DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2017-18, 2019

### 6.14 Women Seeking Help to Stop Violence

Chart 6.6 depicts the percentage distribution of ever-married women aged 15-49 who have ever sought help to stop physical violence. The chart gauges three behavior of the survivor of violence; i) whether they sought help to stop violence, ii) never sought help but told someone, and iii) never sought help and never told someone.

Overall, 58.5.5% of Sindh women who have experienced physical assault have never sought assistance or disclosed the incident to anyone. Twenty-one percent never sought assistance yet disclosed they were victims of violence. Only 20.5% of Sindhi women who have ever suffered physical assault have sought help from any source.

## Women Seeking Help to Stop Violence



**Chart 6.6: Women seeking help to stop violence-Data disaggregated by regions** Source: PAKISTAN DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2017-18, 2019

# MAJOR Findings

1

## Sindh: A road toward violence-less society

Sindh is making rapid progress towards a violence-free society. Only 14.6% of women aged 15-49 have reported physical violence against them. This percentage is the minimum among the provinces. As a comparison, 48.4% of women in Balochistan have reported physical violence.

2

## Violence during pregnancy has also decreased

Only 3% of the women in Sindh aged 15-49 have reported violence during pregnancy. This percentage is the minimum among the provinces. As a comparison, for women in KP, this percentage is 12.2.

3

## Lesser controlling behavior by husbands in Sindh

83.3% of the women in Sindh aged 15-49 reported that their husbands did not show any controlling behavior. This percentage is the best among the provinces. As a comparison, 49.2% of women in Balochistan reported controlling behavior by their husbands.

4

## Incidents of emotional violence are lowest in Sindh

19.2% of women in Sindh have reported an incidence of emotional violence. The percentage is the lowest among the provinces. In comparison, 48.2% of women in KP have reported emotional violence against them.

5

## 20.5% of survivor of violence seek help to stop it

20.5% of the women aged 15-49 who have ever experienced violence have reported they sought help to stop it. The percentage is second best among provinces. In comparison, 40.7% of the survivor women in Punjab sought help to stop the violence. This percentage is the highest among the provinces.

MAHER Consulting is the premier consulting firm supporting governance, business, and not-for-profit sectors. Its focus is program development, Monitoring and Evaluation, strategic planning, and research on social and economic issues. It also specializes in policy development and analysis and training or result-based management.

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### **Vision**

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