



Opinion Poll
Special Press Release
ACCESS TO FINANCE
Budget Management and Risk Coping Strategies

1 in 2 Pakistanis (52%) regard unforeseen illnesses and medical emergencies as the most significant risk to their household budget: (Access to Finance Survey 2015 / Gallup Pakistan)

Islamabad, January 16, 2017

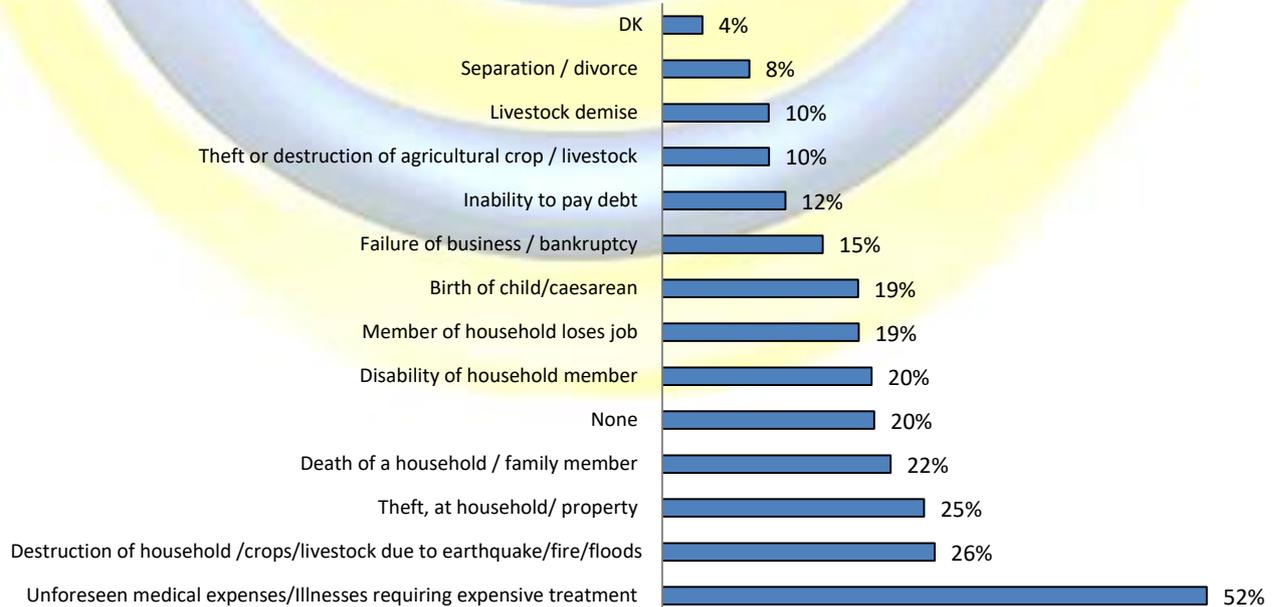
Introduction to the series on Financial Inclusion Research:

This press release is part of a special series that aims to foster an empirical understanding of financial inclusion in Pakistan and hopes to create a collaborative network of individuals working on the topic.

This particular press release aims to assess what the population perceives as important risks to their household budget management.

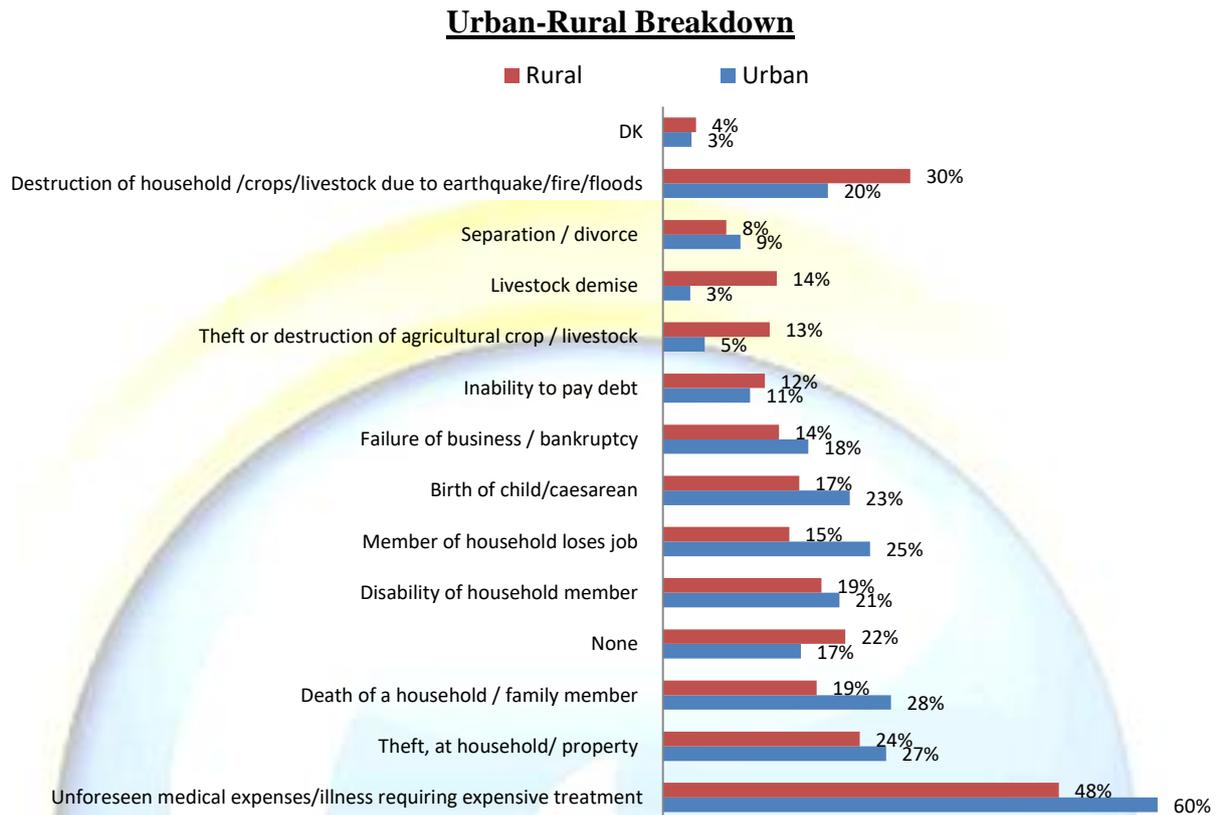
A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the four provinces was asked, “Finally, there are also more dramatic events that can have a very bad effect on one’s household. Which such events, if any, do you think are most likely to happen to people around you?” In response, 52% said unforeseen medical expenses or illness that requires expensive treatment, 26% said destruction of household/property/crops/livestock due to floods, earthquake or fire. 25% said theft at household/property and 22% said death of a family member. 20% said disability of a household member, 19% each said birth of child/caesarean and a family member losing job, 15% said failure of business and 12% said inability to pay debt. 10% each said livestock demise and theft/destruction of agricultural crops and livestock. 8% said separation or divorce. 20% said none and 4% did not know.

Question: “Finally, there are also more dramatic events that can have a very bad effect on one’s household. Which such events, if any, do you think are most likely to happen to people around you?” (Multiple Responses Allowed)





Urban-Rural Breakdown: Destruction of Agricultural Crops and Livestock more serious concern for rural (27%) than urban (8%) respondents



Source: Horus - Gallup Pakistan - Access to Finance Survey 2015
(<https://www.a2f2015.com>, www.gallup.com.pk)

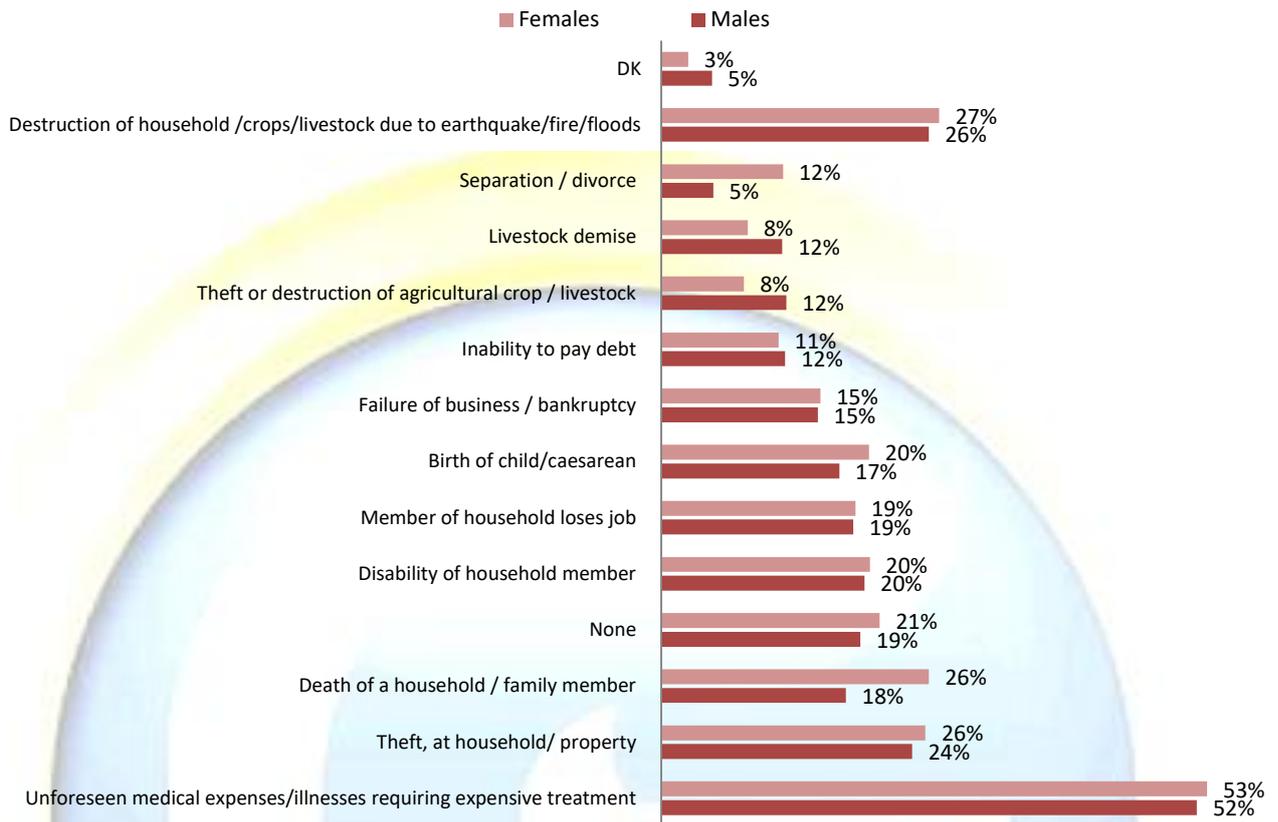
Among urban respondents, 60% said unforeseen medical expenses or illness that requires expensive treatment, 20% said destruction of household/property/crops/livestock due to floods, earthquake or fire. 27% said theft at household/property and 28% said death of a family member. 21% said disability of a household member, 23% said birth of child/caesarean and 25% said a family member losing job, 18% said failure of business and 11% said inability to pay debt, 9% said separation or divorce, 3% said livestock demise and 5% said theft/destruction of agricultural crops and livestock. 17% said none and 3% did not know.

Among rural respondents, 48% said unforeseen medical expenses or illness that requires expensive treatment, 30% said destruction of household/property/crops/livestock due to floods, earthquake or fire. 24% said theft at household/property and 19% said death of a family member. 19% said disability of a household member, 17% said birth of child/caesarean and 15% said a family member losing job, 14% said failure of business and 12% said inability to pay debt, 8% said separation or divorce, 14% said livestock demise and 13% said theft/destruction of agricultural crops and livestock. 22% said none and 4% did not know.



Gender Breakdown: Divorce/Separation more serious concern for women (12%) than men (5%)

Gender Breakdown



Source: Horus - Gallup Pakistan - Access to Finance Survey 2015
<https://www.a2f2015.com>, www.gallup.com.pk

Among male respondents, 52% said unforeseen medical expenses or illness that requires expensive treatment, 26% said destruction of household/property/crops/livestock due to floods, earthquake or fire. 24% said theft at household/property and 18% said death of a family member. 20% said disability of a household member, 17% said birth of child/caesarean and 19% said a family member losing job, 15% said failure of business and 12% said inability to pay debt, 5% said separation or divorce, 12% said livestock demise and 12% said theft/destruction of agricultural crops and livestock. 19% said none and 5% did not know.

Among female respondents, 53% said unforeseen medical expenses or illness that requires expensive treatment, 27% said destruction of household/property/crops/livestock due to floods, earthquake or fire. 26% said theft at household/property and 26% said death of a family member. 20% said disability of a household member, 20% said birth of child/caesarean and 19% said a family member losing job, 15% said failure of business and 11% said inability to pay debt, 12% said separation or divorce, 8% said livestock demise and 8% said theft/destruction of agricultural crops and livestock. 21% said none and 3% did not know.



Introduction to Access to Finance:

The Access to Finance Survey 2015 (A2F 2015) aims to create a platform for the State Bank, the Government and the private sector of Pakistan to adopt and implement a comprehensive set of reforms needed to influence financial inclusion among Pakistanis in a more holistic manner. A2F 2015 will help state and non-state actors in streamlining their policies and reforms to ensure that they are able to effectively target the financial inclusivity of the Pakistani public.

Gallup Pakistan, in collaboration with HORUS Development Finance, conducted an extensive survey in over 10,000 households across Pakistan. The primary aim of the study was to determine the extent of financial services being used by Pakistanis as well as to provide insights into the barriers faced by the Pakistani public in accessing formal financial services.

The data was released as part of Access to Finance Study 2015. Fieldwork carried out by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International, among a sample of 10,000 households across rural and urban areas of all four provinces of Pakistan, during March 27 – June 12, 2015. Error margin is estimated to be approximately $\pm 2-3$ per cent at 95% confidence level.

For more survey data on social and other issues see website www.gallup.com.pk

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of Gallup Pakistan
(1980-2018)