

Gallup Big Data Analysis of Census 2017

Volume 3

Population Density increases by a sweeping 57% between 1998 and 2017, from 166 persons per sq. km in 1998 to 261 persons in 2017 – POPULATION DENSITY BY ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS: CENSUS YEAR 1998 AND 2017

Islamabad, November 1st, 2021

Gallup Pakistan as part of its big data analysis initiative is looking at the National Pakistan Census 2017 ratified recently.

This series aims to present the important learnings from the Census for policy makers, the general public as well as for marketers in an easy and understandable way.

Today's Topic is "Population Density by Administrative Units: Census Year 1998 and 2017"

Key Learnings from the Analysis

- 1) **Overall Population Density (by administrative units)** of Pakistan in 2017 revealed to be around 261 persons per square kilometer.
- 2) **Comparison with 1998 Census** shows that Pakistan's population density in 2017 has increased by around 57% since 1998 (166 persons per sq. km in 1998 to 261 persons in 2017)
- 3) **Rural-Urban Breakdown** highlights how the difference between rural and urban areas with regards to population density has narrowed slightly between 1998 and 2017 (35% in 1998 and 27.2% in 2017)
- 4) **Province-wise population density breakdown** reveals Islamabad to have the highest population density (2211 persons per sq. km) while Balochistan comes in last place (36 persons per sq. km)
- 5) **How has population density changed since 1998 at provincial level?** Highest increase in the number of persons per sq. km occurred in Islamabad, with an increase of 1,322 persons; lowest increase was observed in Balochistan (increase of 17 persons per sq. km)

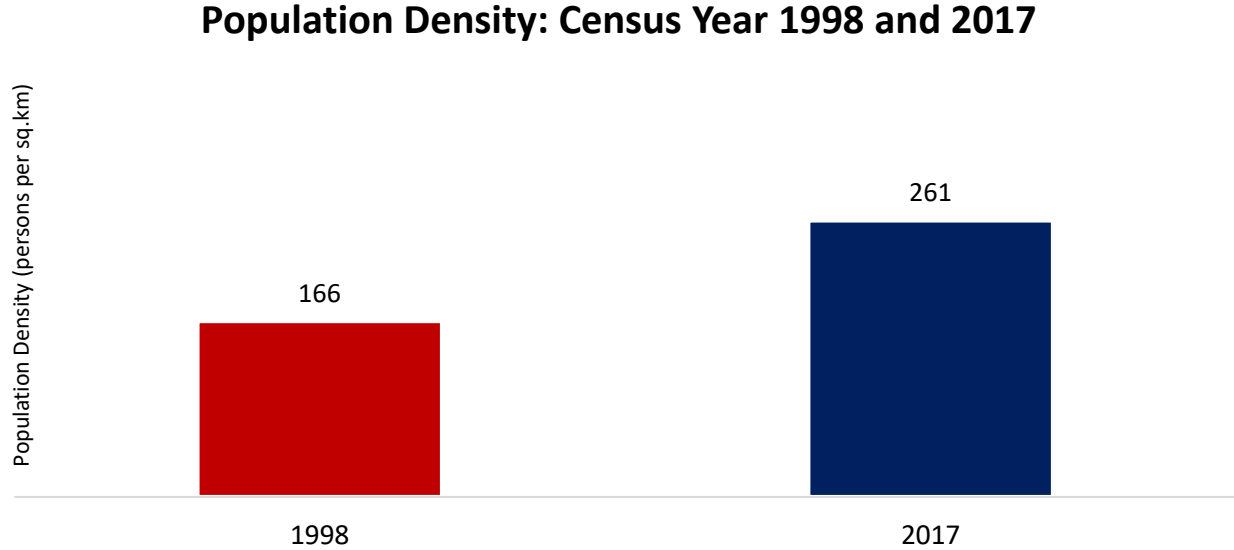
1) Overall Population Density (by administrative units) of Pakistan in 2017 revealed to be around 261 persons per square kilometer.

Population density is typically defined as the number of persons per square kilometer. In the year 2017, when the census was conducted, the population density of Pakistan was around 261 persons per square kilometer.

2) Comparison with 1998 Census shows that Pakistan’s population density in 2017 has increased by around 57% since 1998

Comparison with the 1998 Census shows that Pakistan’s population density has seen an increase (around 57%) from 166 persons per square kilometer in 1998 to 261 persons in 2017.

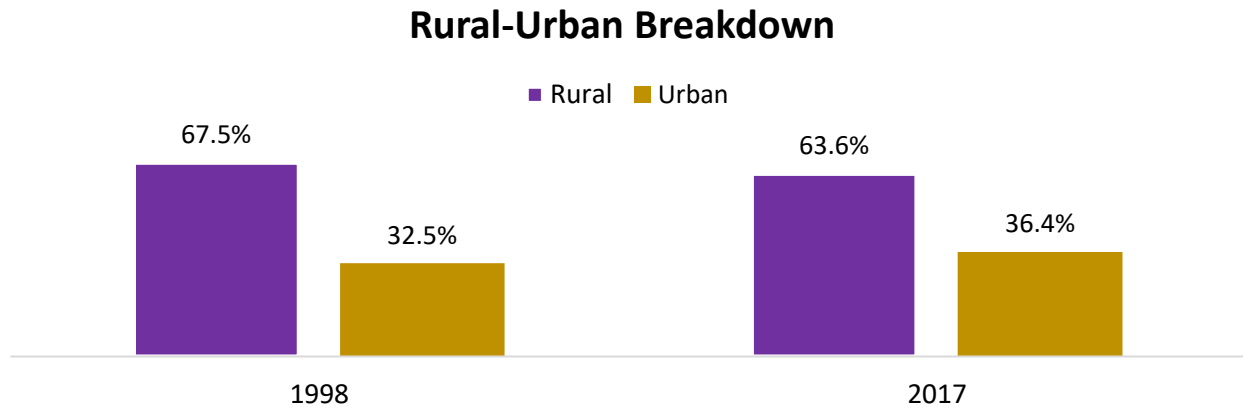
Figure 1 – Population Density by Administrative Units: 2017 vs 1998 Census



3) Rural-Urban Breakdown highlights how the difference between rural and urban areas with regards to population density has narrowed slightly between 1998 and 2017 (35% in 1998 and 27.2% in 2017)

As seen in Figure 2, in 1998, Pakistan’s rural population was recorded as 67.5% of Pakistan’s total population. However, this has seen a decline to around 63.6% in the 2017 census. On the other hand, when comparing Pakistan’s urban population, we can see that there has actually been an increase since 1998. Pakistan’s urban population was 32.5% of Pakistan’s total population in 1998 and in 2017, this increased to 36.4% of Pakistan’s total population.

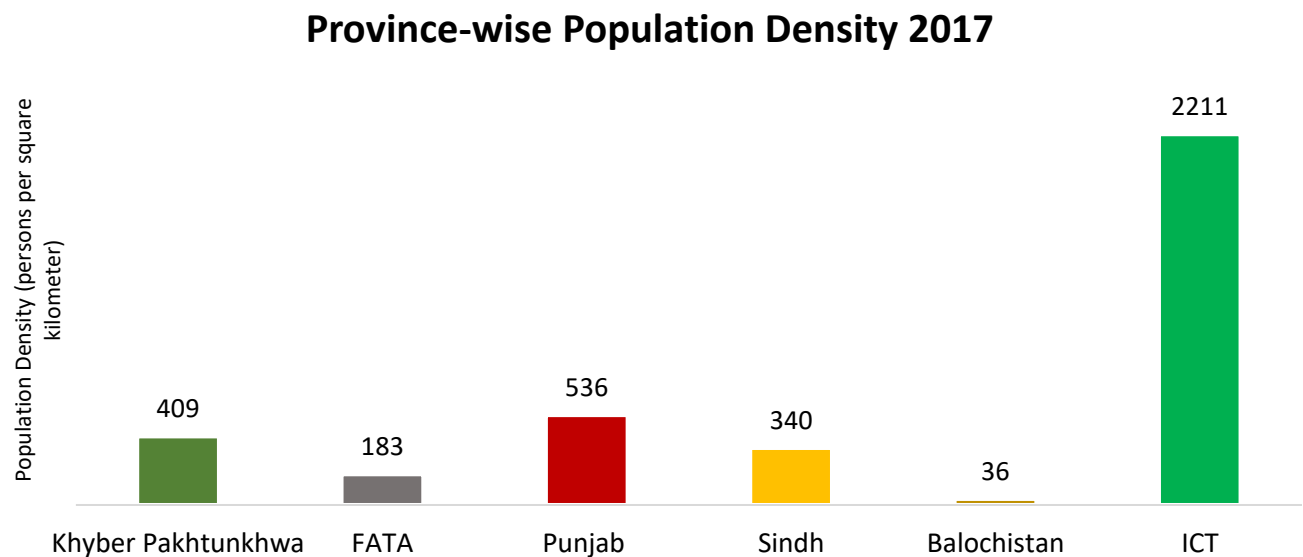
Figure 2 - Rural-urban breakdown of Pakistan's population density in 2017 vs 1998



4) Province-wise population density breakdown reveals Islamabad to have the highest population density (2211 persons per sq. km) while Balochistan comes in last place (36 persons per sq. km)

Data from the 2017 census shows that Islamabad has the highest population by a large margin, coming up to be around 2211 persons per square km. Amongst the provinces, Punjab has the highest population density of about 536 persons per square km, followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at 409 persons, Sindh at 340 persons and Balochistan comes in last place with 36 persons per square km. FATA is recorded to have a population density of around 183 persons per square km.

Figure 3 – Province-wise Population Density Census 2017



5) How has population density changed since 1998 at provincial level? Highest increase in the number of persons per sq.km occurred in Islamabad, with an increase of 1,322 persons; lowest increase was observed in Balochistan (increase of 17 persons per sq. km)

When comparing province-wise population density between the census years, 1998 and 2017, a change can definitely be observed. In 1998, the population density of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was around 238 persons per square kilometer and this increased to 409 persons by 2017 (an increase of 171 persons). The largest number of increase in persons per square km is seen to be in Islamabad, going from 889 persons in 1998 to 2211 in 2017, amounting to an increase of 1322 persons. Punjab went from 358 persons per sq.km in 1998 to 536 persons in 2017, an increase of 178 between the two years. In 1998, Sindh’s population density was around 216 persons per sq.km and increased by 124 to around 340 persons in 2017. Balochistan’s population density went from 19 persons per sq.km in 1998 to 36 persons in 2017 (increase of 17 persons). FATA saw an increase of 66 persons per sq. km from 117 persons in 1998 to 183 persons in 2017.

Figure 4 – Province-wise population density 1998 vs 2017

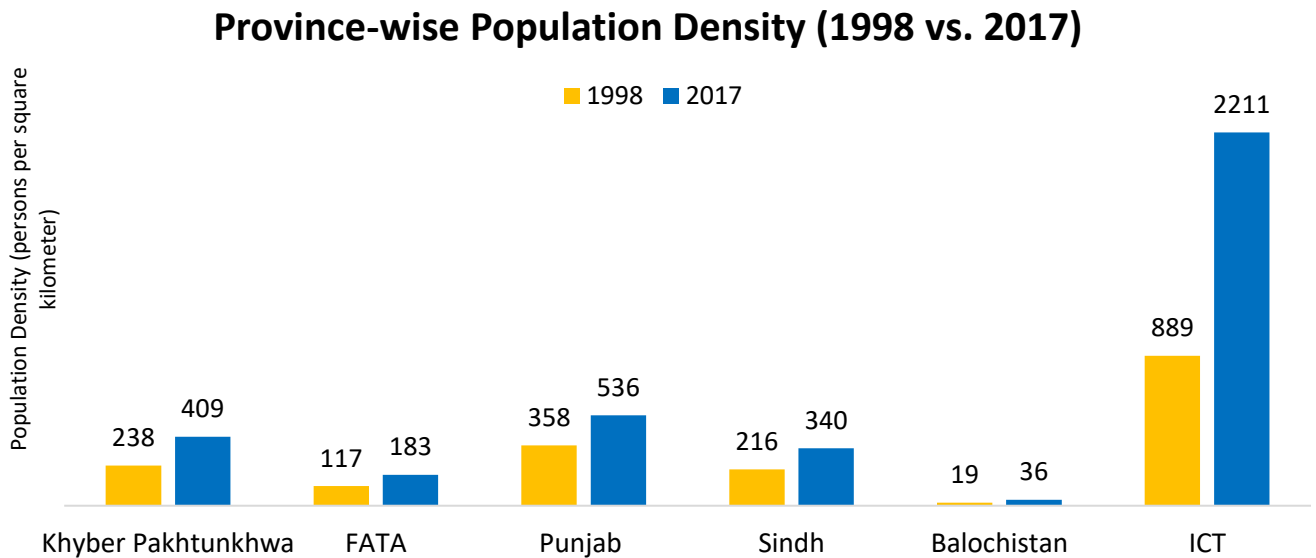


Table 1 – Province-wise population density 1998 vs 2017

Province	Population Density in 2017	Population Density in 1998	Growth in Population Density (in persons per sq.km)	Approximate Difference in Population Density (in %)
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	409	238	171	72%
FATA	183	117	66	56%
Punjab	536	358	178	50%
Sindh	340	216	124	57%
Balochistan	36	19	17	89%
ICT	2211	889	1322	149%

Wish to Contribute to Gallup Big Data Analysis

Gallup Pakistan is looking for collaboration with researchers to expand both the Big Data Analysis project as well as this study of National Census 2017. If you have any ideas, please write to Bilal I Gilani, Project Director, Big Data Analysis at Gallup Pakistan.

Other Gallup Big Data Analysis reports are available on:

<https://gallup.com.pk/search/big%20data%20analysis>

Wish to know more about National Census 2017

The 6th Population and Housing Census of Pakistan was undertaken throughout the country from 15th March to 24th May, 2017. For this purpose, the country was delimited into manageable census areas i.e. Blocks, Circles, Charges and Districts. The whole exercise was successfully completed by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) through deployment of field staff in all the census areas with strong support from the Provincial Government Departments and the Armed Forces of Pakistan

You can find more information on the national census and complete tables on www.pbs.gov.pk

Or visit:

https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files//population_census/ncrpr/NCR%20Pakistan.pdf