

PRESS RELEASE

Gallup Big Data Analysis of Census 2017

Volume 4

The level of congestion shows signs of improvement, with the average household size decreasing from 6.8 persons per housing unit in 1998 to 6.4 persons in 2017 - LEVEL OF CONGESTION: CENSUS YEAR 1998 AND 2017

Islamabad, November 9th, 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 "Level of Congestion: Census Year 1998 and 2017"

One important indicator that Census in Pakistan measures is level of congestion in the country. Although various surveys conducted by the government and non-government sectors in between the census years provided congestion estimations, the most accurate picture emerges from census.

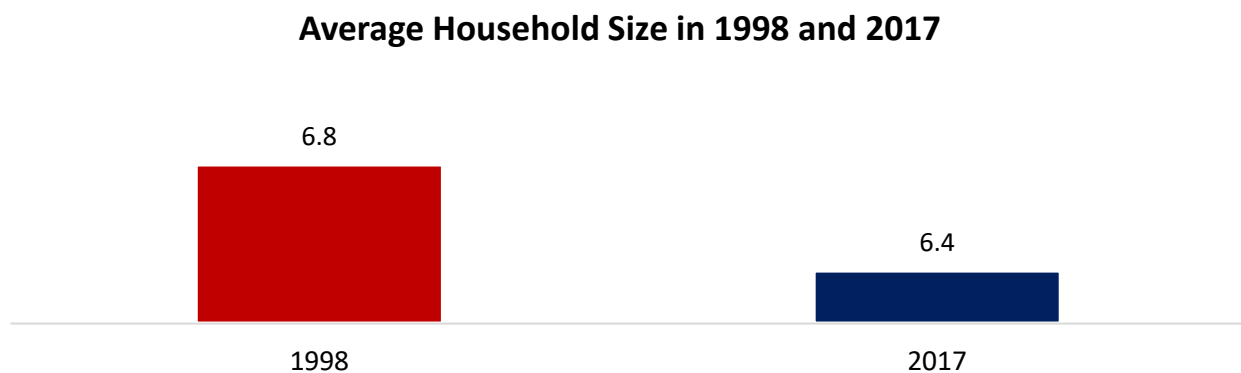
Key Learnings from the Analysis

- 1) *Average Household Size*: The average household size has decreased over the course of two decades, but it is not very significant
- 2) *Rural-Urban Breakdown*: Rural-Urban difference in average household size narrowed between 1998 and 2017 (6.8 in 1998 to 6.6 in 2017 for rural areas and 7.0 in 1998 to 6.1 in 2017)
- 3) *Housing Units by No. Of Rooms in 2017*: Housing units with 2 to 4 rooms were found in more than half (58.7%) of the population. Housing units with one room and 5 or more rooms were found in 31.4% and 10% of the population respectively.
- 4) *Comparison with 1998 Census*: The housing units with 2 to 4 rooms and 5 and more rooms have increased while housing units with one room has witnessed a downward trend.
- 5) *Rural-Urban Breakdown by No. of Rooms in 2017*: Housing units with one room are more prevalent in the rural areas as compared to the urban areas while there are more housing units with 2 to 4 rooms and 5 and more rooms in the urban setting.
- 6) *Comparison with 1998 Census*: Housing units with one room are more prevalent in the rural areas as compared to the urban areas while there are more housing units with 2 to 4 rooms and 5 and more rooms in the urban setting.

1) Average Household Size: The average household size has decreased over the course of the two decades but is not very significant

According to the Census 2017, the average household size was observed to be 6.4 persons per housing unit which had decreased from 6.8 persons per housing unit in Census 1998. The average household size is defined as the number of persons per housing unit which indicates the level of congestion among the population.

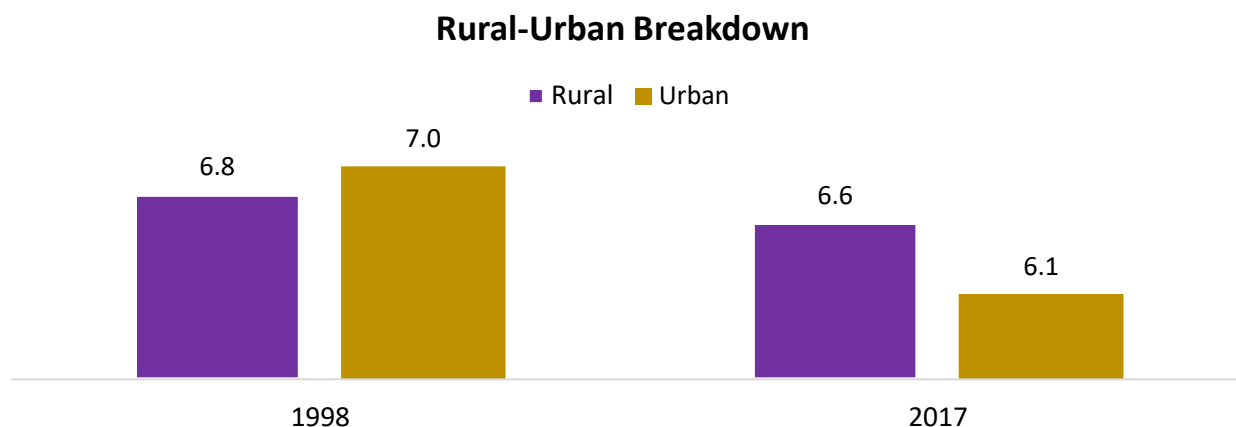
Figure 1 – Average Household Size in 1998 and 2017 (in persons per housing unit)



2) Rural-Urban Breakdown: Rural-Urban difference in average household size narrowed between 1998 and 2017 (6.8 persons per housing unit in 1998 to 6.6 persons in 2017 for rural areas and 7.0 persons per housing unit in 1998 to 6.1 persons in 2017)

In 1998, the rural average household size was 6.8 persons per housing unit which had decreased slightly to 6.6 persons in 2017. In 2017, the urban average household size decreased significantly from 7.0 persons to 6.1 persons per housing unit. For the current census of 2017, the rural average household size is higher than that for the urban areas. However, a similar trend cannot be witnessed in the previous census of 1998 in which the urban average household size was higher than the average for rural areas.

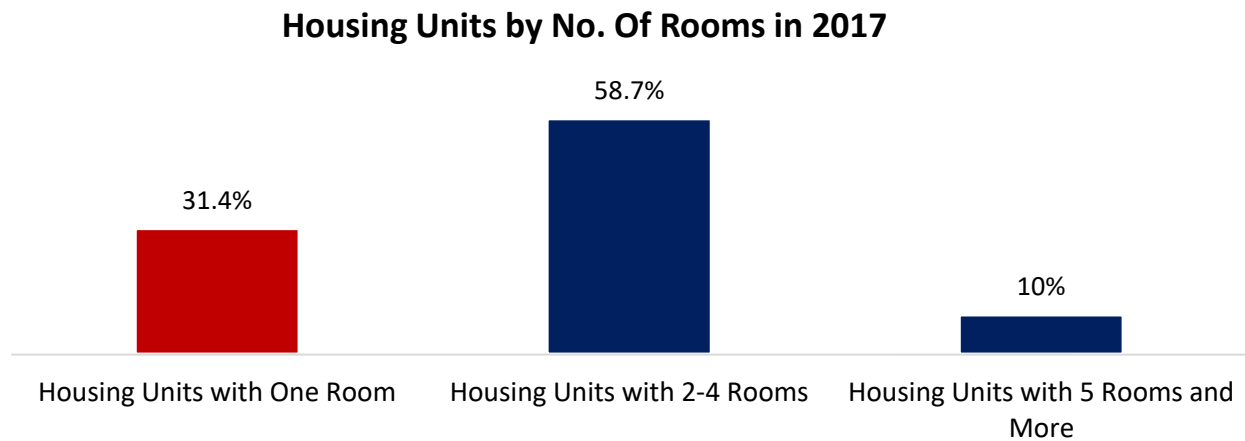
Figure 2 - Rural-Urban Breakdown 2017 vs 1998 Census: Average Household Size (in persons per housing unit)



3) Housing Units by No. Of Rooms in 2017: Housing units with 2 to 4 rooms were found in more than half (58.7%) of the population. Housing units with one room and 5 or more rooms were found in 31.4% and 10% of the population respectively

According to the Census-2017 results, the highest percentage of occupation was found in housing units with 2 to 4 rooms which stood at 58.7%. Housing units with one unit had the occupancy percentage of 31.4% which was also significant. The occupancy percentage for people with housing units with 5 rooms and more was found to be low (10%). The housing units by number of rooms reflect the crowding and tight living conditions of the population which aid in forming a comprehensive policy for future housing requirements.

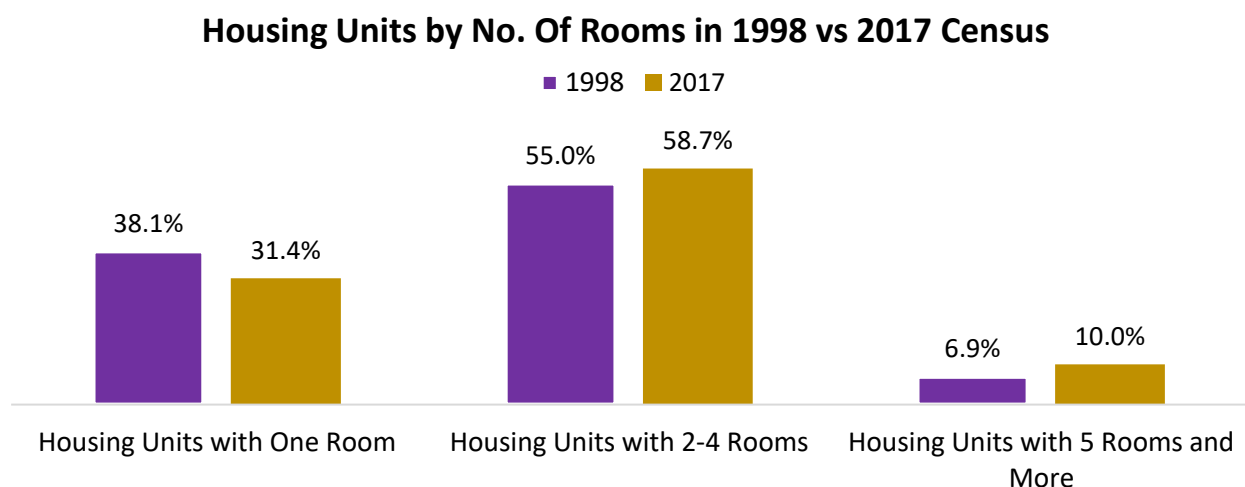
Figure 3 - Housing Units by No. Of Rooms in 2017



4) Comparison with 1998 Census: The housing units with 2 to 4 rooms and 5 and more rooms have increased while housing units with one room has witnessed a downward trend.

There has been a slight improvement in level of congestion as per the comparative analysis between Census 1998 and Census 2017 which indicates that housing units with 2 or more rooms have increased while housing units with one room has decreased. Moreover, the housing units with one room has decreased from 38.1% in 1998 to 31.4% in 2017. Similarly, housing units with 2 to 4 rooms and 5 or more rooms have increased from 55% and 6.9% in 1998 to 58.7% and 10% in 2017 respectively.

Figure 4 - Housing Units by No. Of Rooms in 1998 vs 2017 Census



5) Rural-Urban Breakdown by No. of Rooms in 2017: Housing units with one room are more prevalent in the rural areas as compared to the urban areas while there are more housing units with 2 to 4 rooms and 5 and more rooms in urban settings

The rural-urban breakdown by number of rooms also suggests an improvement in level of congestion in the country. The housing units with 2 to 4 rooms and 5 and more rooms indicate an upward trend in the urban setting with occupancy percentage at 63% and 11.3% respectively. For the same number of rooms in the rural areas, statistics show the percentages to be 56% and 9.2% respectively. In addition, for housing units with one room, there is more congestion in the rural areas (34.8%) as compared to the urban areas (25.7%).

Table 1: Rural-Urban Breakdown by No. of Rooms in 2017

Number of Rooms	Occupancy Percentage	
	Rural	Urban
Housing Units with One Room	34.8%	25.7%
Housing Units with 2-4 Rooms	56.0%	63.0%
Housing Units with 5 Rooms and More	9.2%	11.3%

6) Comparison with 1998 Census: Housing units with one room are more prevalent in the rural areas as compared to the urban areas while there are more housing units with 2 to 4 rooms and 5 and more rooms in the urban setting

In 1998 and 2017, there was more crowding in the rural areas for housing units with one room in comparison to the urban areas. The statistics show that the percentage occupancy in rural settings was 41.7% in 1998 and 34.8% in 2017. These results are higher compared to the statistics from urban areas where there was 30.4% occupancy in 1998 and 25.7% occupancy in 2017. Moreover, level of congestion improved for housing units with 2 to 4 rooms with an increase in occupancy in both rural (52.3% in 1998 to 56% in 2017) and urban areas (60.9% in 1998 to 63% in 2017). Furthermore, for housing units with 5 and more rooms in rural areas, the congestion improved from 6.1% in 1998 to 9.2% in 2017. For the urban setting, the results indicate easing of the crowding with occupancy percentage increasing from 8.7% in 1998 to 11.3% in 2017.

Table 2: Rural-Urban Breakdown by No. of Rooms in 1998 vs 2017

Number of Rooms	Occupancy Percentage			
	1998		2017	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Housing Units with One Room	41.7%	30.4%	34.8%	25.7%
Housing Units with 2-4 Rooms	52.3%	60.9%	56.0%	63.0%
Housing Units with 5 Rooms and More	6.1%	8.7%	9.2%	11.3%

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/ncrPCR/NCR%20Pakistan.pdf