

PRESS RELEASE

Gallup Pakistan Analysis of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics Data

***The number of private farm holdings in Pakistan increased 63% between 1990 and 2010 –
Number and Areas of Private Farms, Classified by Size – Pakistan Statistical Yearbook
2020***

Islamabad, September 7th, 2022

Gallup Pakistan, as part of its Big Data Analysis initiative, is looking at the Number and Areas of Private Farms, Classified by Size, for 1990, 2000, and 2010. This data is part of a compilation by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics called the ‘Pakistan Statistical Yearbook.’

This series aims to present the important learnings from the Pakistan Statistical Yearbook 2020 for policy makers, the public, as well as for marketers in an easy and understandable way. The sizes of private farms over the decades reflect significantly on progress in land reform and land productivity. Therefore, this series seeks to illustrate the trends in this data and create awareness towards the pursuit of sustainable and equitable development.

Today’s topic is “Number and Areas of Private Farms, Classified by Size.”

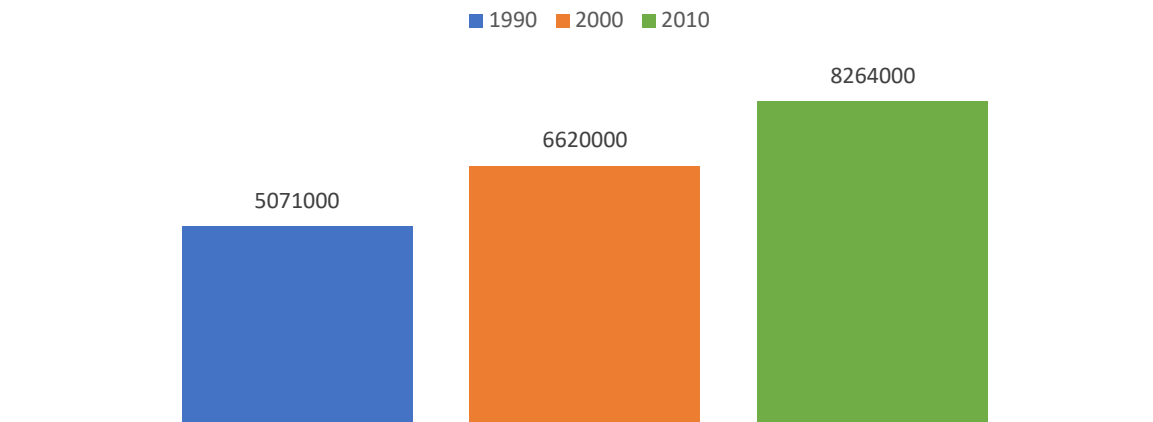
Key Findings:

- 1) **Total Number of Private Farms:** Over three decades from 1990 to 2010, private farms increased 62.9% in number.
- 2) **Number of Farms by Size:** The number of small sized farms has increased over the past three decades as large and medium farms have relatively decreased in number, and the distribution has become visibly skewed.
- 3) **Percentage of Cultivated Farmland Out of Total Farmland:** In 1990, 2000, and 2010, cultivated farmland area has remained close to 80% of the total area of farms.
- 4) **Percentage of Cultivated Farmland by Farm Size:** 74% of cultivated land in 2010 belonged to farms smaller than 10 hectares.

- 1) **Total Number of Private Farms:** The total number of private farms in Pakistan has increased, which may indicate the splintering of historically large land holdings.

From 1990 to 2000, the total number of farms increased by 30.5% to 6.6 million, and then by 24.8% to 8.26 million in 2010.

Figure 1 - Total Number of Private Farms



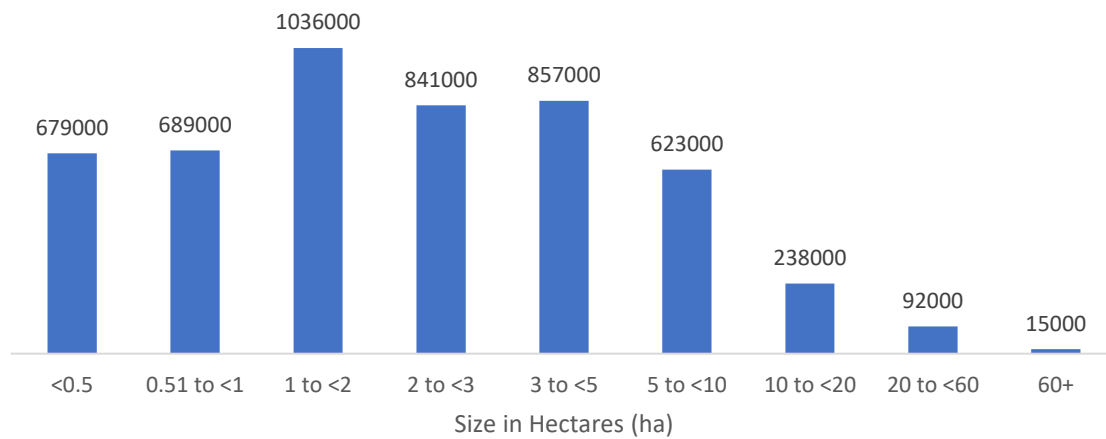
Source: Pakistan Statistical Yearbook 2022,

Analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

- 2) **Number of Farms by Size:** Of the total number of farms for each of these years, the numbers of small, medium, and large holdings also change.

In 1990, the greatest number of farms were between 1 and 2 hectares, at 1.03 million. 80.9% of all landholdings were of a small size, from less than 0.5 ha to under 5 ha. 16.9% of total holdings were a medium size, from 5 to under 20 ha. And large holdings 20 ha to 60 ha and above, comprised 2% of the total number of farms while numbering 107,000.

Figure 2 - Number of Private Farms by Size (1990)



Source: Pakistan Statistical Yearbook 2022,

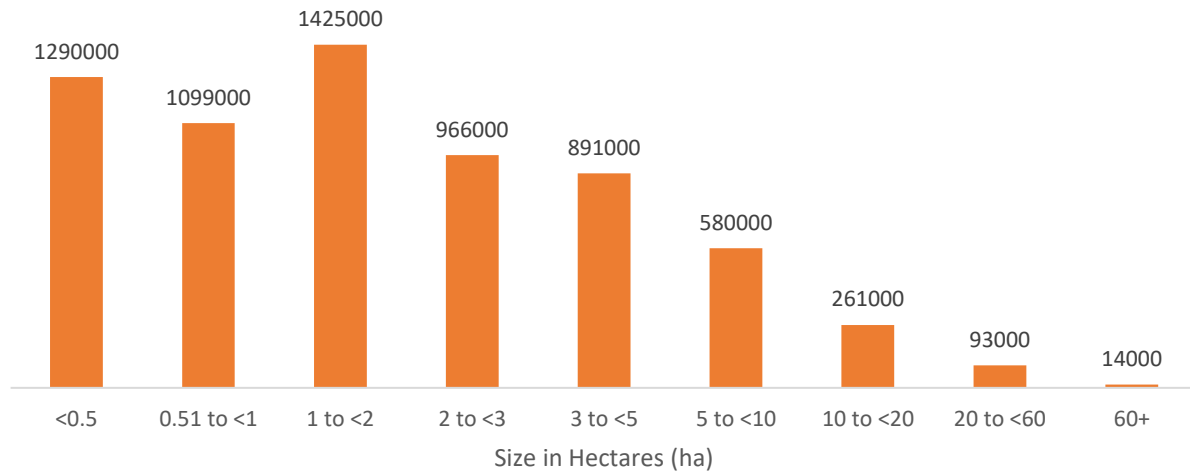
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In 2000, smaller farm holdings increased in number compared to the start of the previous decade.

Farms under 5 ha, numbering 5,671,000, comprised 85.6% of total private farms. Medium sized holdings decreased in their share of the total compared to 1990, making up 12.7% of total private farms in 2000. Large farms remained 107,000 in number, but their share of the total decreased to 1.6%.

This may indicate that, primarily, it was medium sized holdings that had fragmented into smaller farm holdings and thus increasing their number.

Figure 3 - Number of Private Farms by Size (2000)

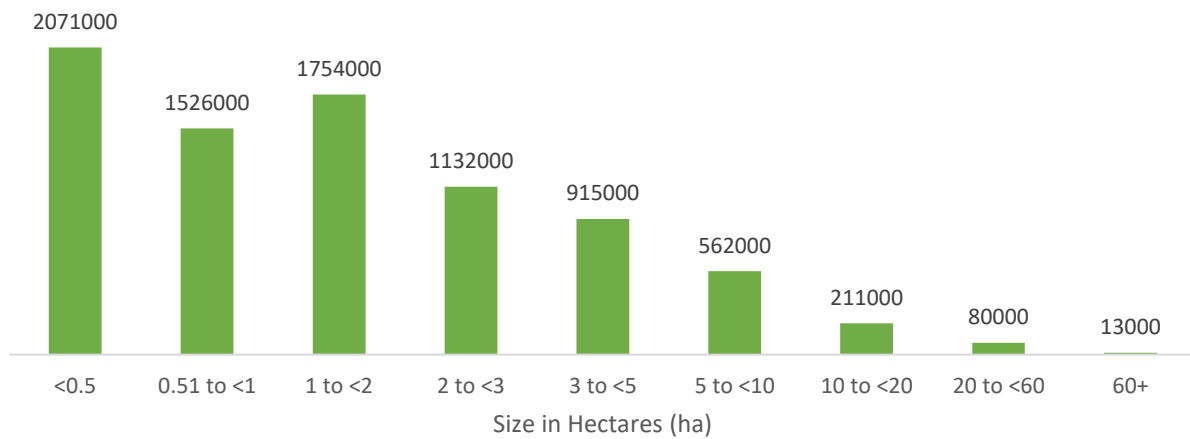


Source: Pakistan Statistical Yearbook 2022,

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There were more private farms under 0.5 ha in 2010 than in any other size category. Small sized farm holdings were 7.39 million in number, which made up 89.5% of the overall. The share of medium farms in the total dropped to 9.4%, numbering at 773,000. Large farmland holdings decreased in 2010, unlike in 1990 and 2000, to 9300. Large farms were 1.1% of the total in this year. This shows that in the decade between 2000 and 2010, land holdings were further fragmented and broken up into smaller chunks.

Figure 4 - Number of Private Farms by Size (2010)

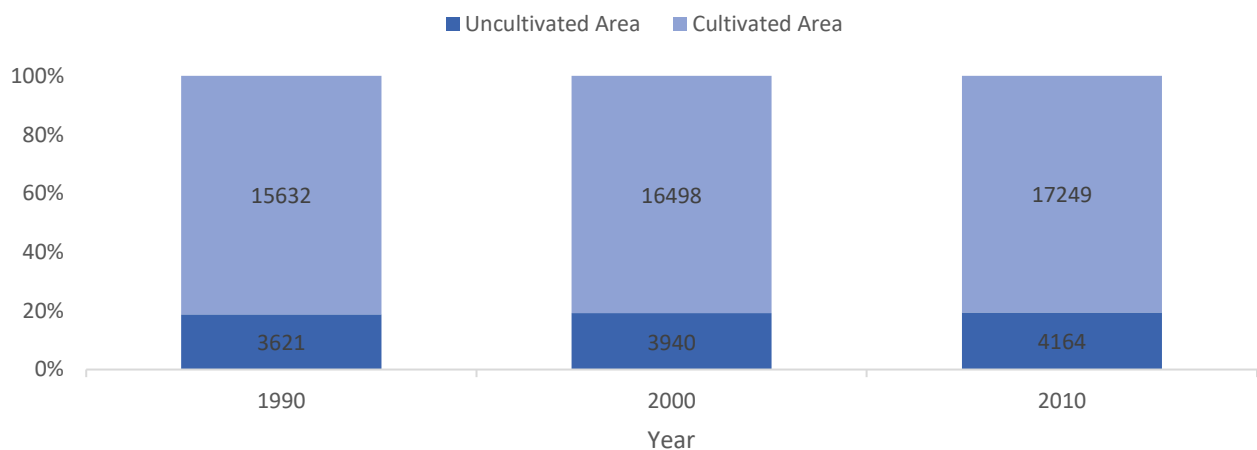


Source: Pakistan Statistical Yearbook 2022,

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- 3) **Percentage of Cultivated Farmland out of Total Farmland Area:** Over the generations, the percentage of farm area that is cultivated, out of the total, has remained in the neighborhood of 80%. However, this does not reflect accurately on things like consistency of yield because the number of different-sized farms has fluctuated throughout this time.

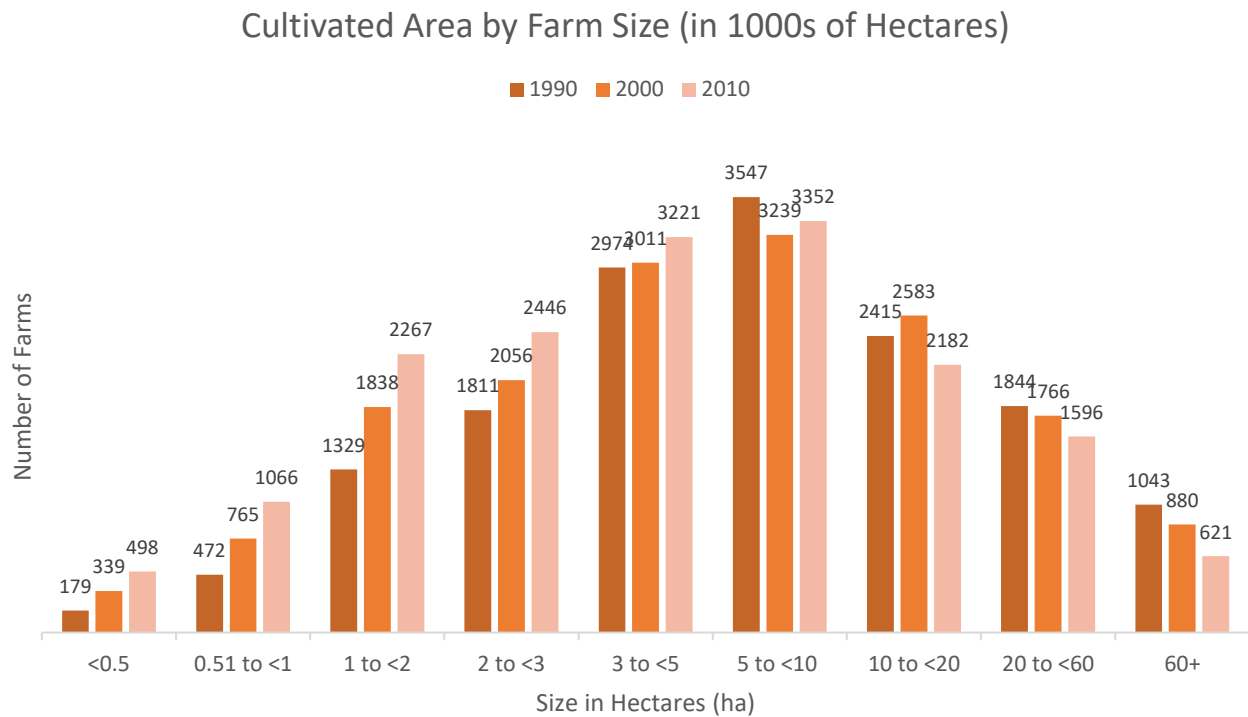
Figure 5 - Percentage of Cultivated Farm Area out of Total Farm Area (Hectares)



Source: Pakistan Statistical Yearbook 2022,

Analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

- 4) **Percentage of Cultivated Farmland by Farm Size:** 74% of the cultivated farmland in 2010 belonged to farms smaller than 10 Hectares. This is an increase from previous generations; farms smaller than 10 ha contained 67% and 68% of total land cultivated land respectively in 1990 and 2000.



Source: Pakistan Statistical Yearbook 2022,

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Wish to know more about the Pakistan Statistical Yearbook 2022?

The Pakistan Bureau of Statistics has been publishing the Pakistan Statistical Yearbook as a regular annual feature since 1952. The 2020 issue, released in the financial year 2019-20, contains data for the past decade on population, labor force, education, health, climate, agriculture, manufacturing, energy & mining, transport & communications, public finance, prices, and trade etc. It is aimed at assisting researchers, policy makers, and data users of both public and private sectors.

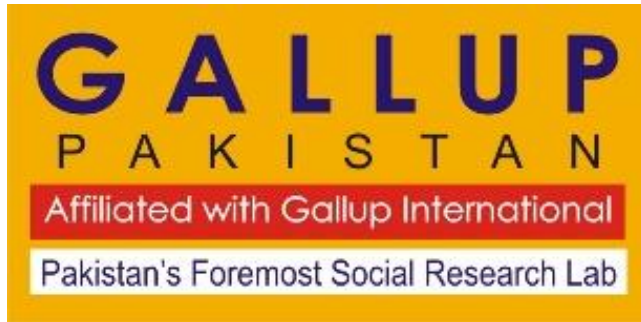
You can find more information on the Pakistan Statistical Yearbook 2020, and complete tables, on www.pbs.gov.pk

Or visit:

[Pakistan Statistical Yearbook 2020 | Pakistan Bureau of Statistics \(pbs.gov.pk\)](http://www.pbs.gov.pk)

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