

GALLUP PAKISTAN ANALYSIS OF
PAKISTAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS DATA

Live Births (2018-2020)

Pakistan Demographic

Survey 2020

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31%

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Nearly 1 in 4 Pakistani children (24%) were born at home between 2018 and 2020. 65% of live births in Balochistan were homebirths (greatest proportion out of all provinces)



60%

Between 2018-20, 60% of children born in Pakistan were delivered by doctors



16%

were delivered by traditional birth attendants (Dai) and 12% by nurses.

**Out of live births conducted under a doctor's overview, 60% took place in rural areas while 40% were in urban areas*

PRESS RELEASE

Gallup Pakistan Analysis of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics Data

*Nearly 1 in 4 Pakistani children (24%) were born at home between 2018 and 2020 – **Live Births (2018-2020) – Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020***

Islamabad, February 22, 2023

Gallup Pakistan, as part of its Big Data Analysis initiative, is looking at Live Births (2018-20). This data is part of a publication by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics called the 'Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020'.

The complete Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020 is available [HERE](#).

What is the Big Data Analysis Series by Gallup:

Gallup Pakistan's Big Data series was started by Bilal I Gilani, Executive Director of Gallup Pakistan. Bilal explains the rationale of the series: "The usual complaint from academics and policy makers is that Pakistan does not have data availability. Our experience negates that. Pakistan has lots of data, but it is not available in a usable form and not widely accessible. At Gallup we plan to bridge this gap in terms of accessibility and use of data. The Gallup Big Data series has earlier worked with data sets such as PSLM, Labour Force Survey, and Economic Survey reports as well as National Census Reports and Election Commission Data sets. The current series is using the Pakistan Demographic Survey, an annual compilation which seldom has data points not covered in many other reports. We hope that these series are useful, and we welcome both feedback as well as possible collaborations as we create a public good in the form of useful data sets in Pakistan."

What data points this current edition covers:

This series aims to present the important learnings from the Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020 for policy makers, the public, as well as for marketers in an easy and understandable way. In particular, this edition looks at number of Live Births from 2018 to 2020. The total number of live births over a period of time can have implications for state of healthcare across the urban-rural divide, and between provinces, and the age stratification can tell us what age group of women are having the greatest successful pregnancies. The series' main aim is to provide data. Implications of these data points for development sector as well as wider socio-political ramifications is something we would like to trigger in relevant circles.

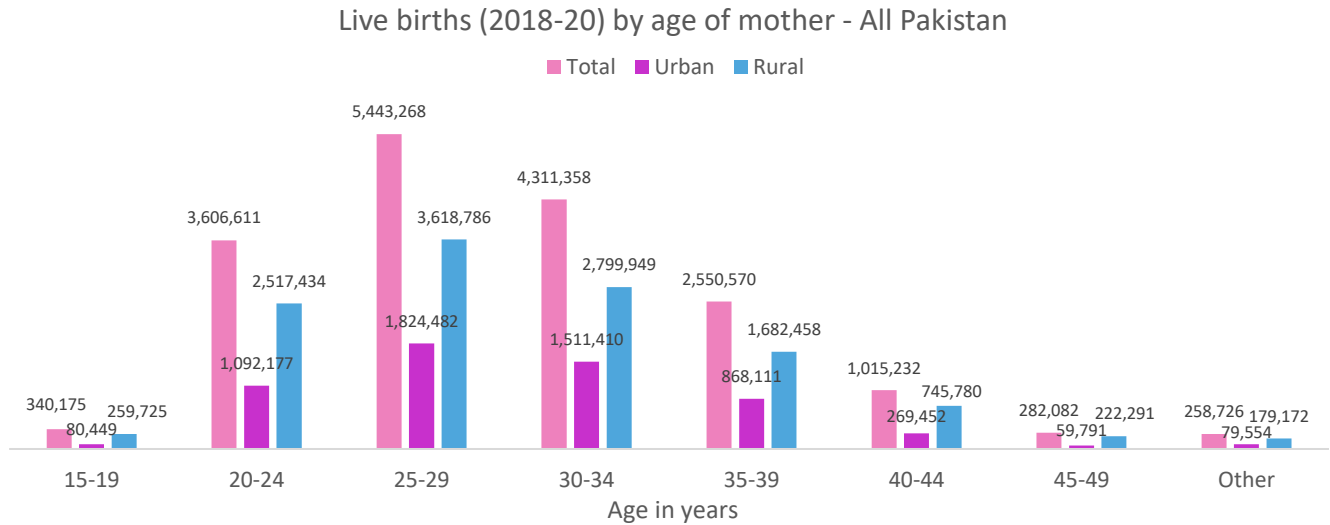
Today's topic is "Live Births (2018-20)"

Key Findings:

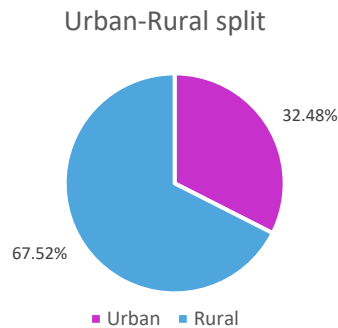
- 1) **Number of live births by age of mother:** During 2018-20, women in their late twenties delivered the highest number of live babies, at 31% of the total number of live births
- 2) **Number of live births by place of delivery and age of mother:** Nearly 1 in 4 Pakistani children (24%) were born at home between 2018 and 2020. 65% of live births in Balochistan were homebirths (greatest proportion out of all provinces)
- 3) **Number of live births by type of attendant at birth and age of mother:** Between 2018-20, 60% of children born in Pakistan were delivered by doctors. 16% were delivered by traditional birth attendants (Dai) and 12% by nurses. Out of live births conducted under a doctor's overview, 60% took place in rural areas while 40% were in urban areas

1) Number of live births by age of mother:

During 2018-20, women in their late twenties delivered the highest number of live babies, at 31% of the total. The rural population during this time had a much greater increase than the urban population; 68% of all live births took place in rural areas while 32% happened in urban areas.



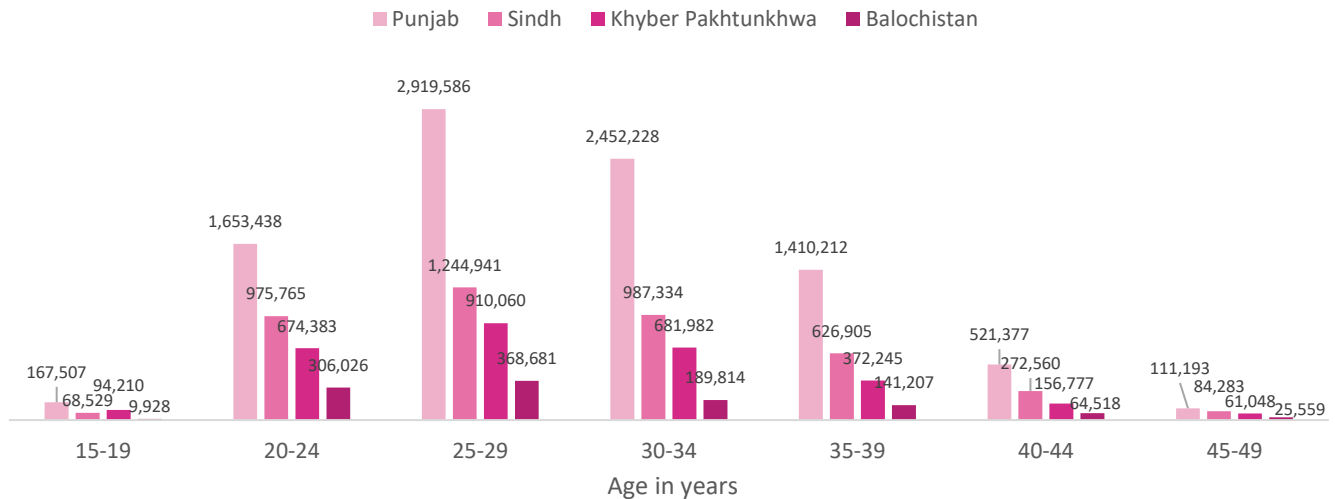
Source: Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020; analyzed by Gallup Pakistan



Source: Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020; analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

The number of live births during 2018-20 was greatest in Punjab, then Sindh, KP, and Balochistan – following each provinces overall population distribution relative to each other. This does not hold true for the 15-19 years age group, as the number of children born to teenage mothers is greatest in KP than in Sindh.

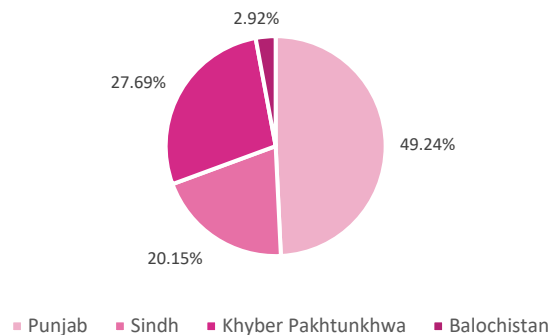
Live births (2018-20) by age of mother - by Province



Source: Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020; analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

* “other” category excluded from age groups

Total live births in 15-19 years age group - percentage by province



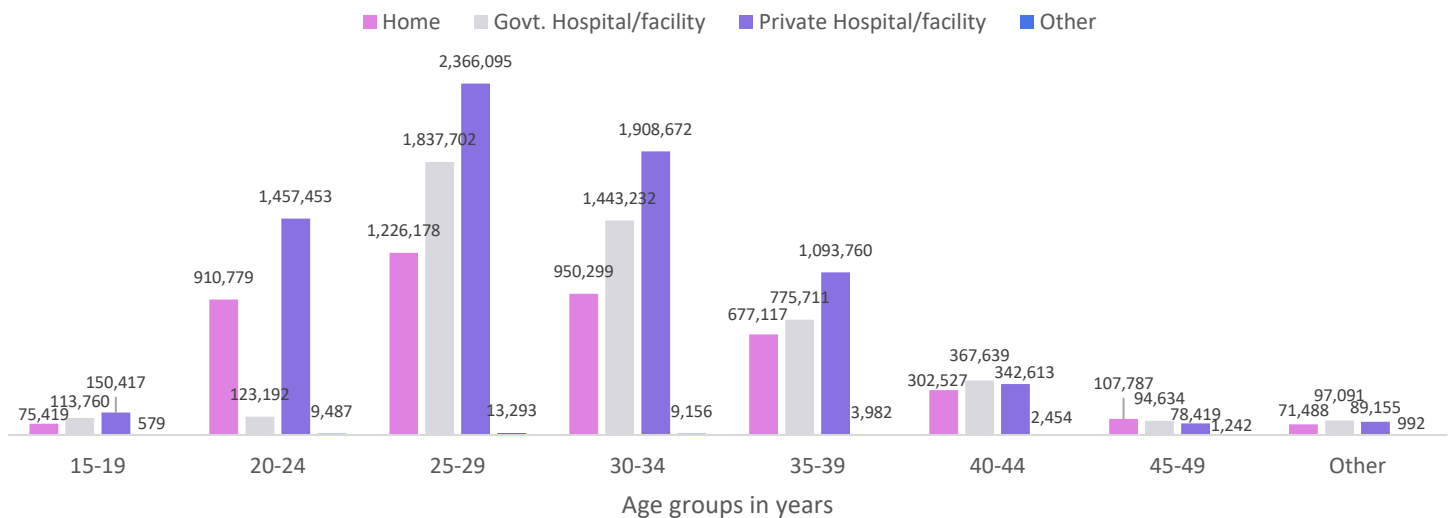
Source: Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020; analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

2) Number of live births by place of delivery and age of mother:

Nearly 1 in 4 Pakistani children (24%) were born at home between 2018 and 2020. 38% of births in these years took place at government facilities, while 42% took place at private facilities. More people appear to be opting for private hospitals for their childbirth needs during this time.

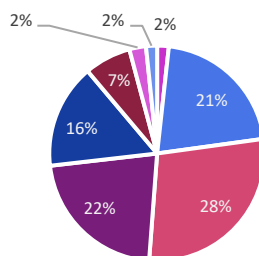
Among women older than 40 years, it appears that government hospitals were able to deliver babies more successfully, since the number of live births is greater for government facilities as compared to private ones. Home births continue to be the least popular option out of the three, except among women aged 20-24 who had 7 times more successful births at home than in government hospitals.

Live births (2018-20) by place of delivery and age of mother - All Pakistan

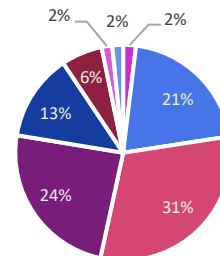


Source: Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020; analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

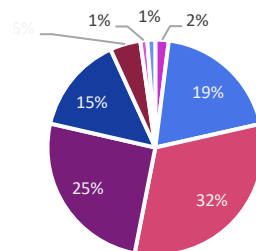
Percentage of live births at home by age group



Percentage of live births at govt facility by age group



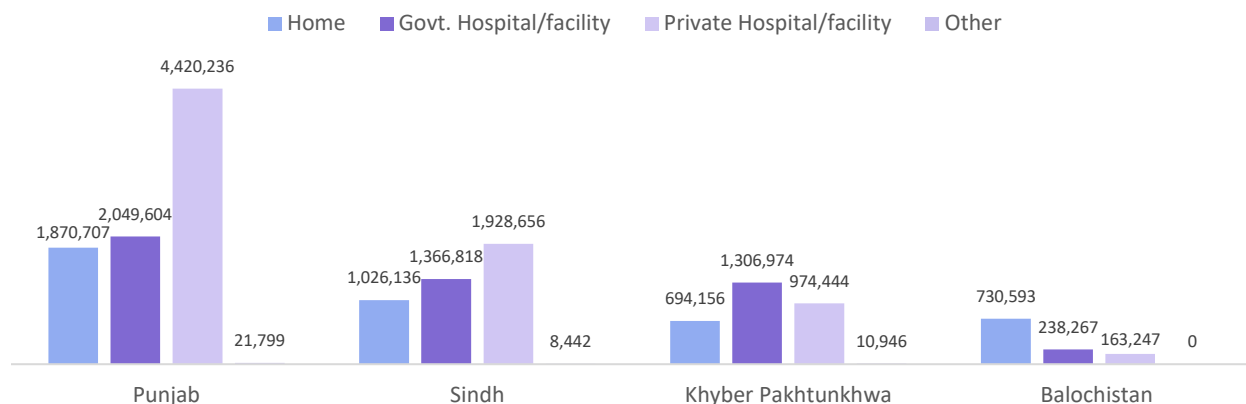
Percentage of live births at private facility by age group



Source: Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020; analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

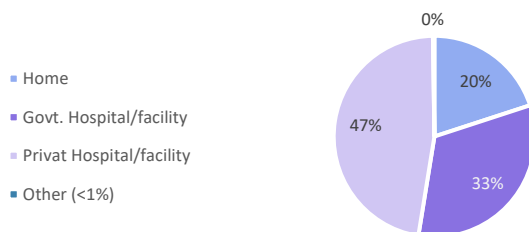
Balochistan is the only province where at-home live births far exceeded those happening in government or private hospitals; in this province, 65% of total live births were homebirths. More live births happened in government hospitals than private ones in Balochistan as well, which may be indicative of how private institutions are not only few in the province, but out of reach of the general population. This indicates the vast discrepancy in healthcare resources compared to other provinces. In Punjab, around twice as many live births happened in private facilities as in government ones. Live births at private facilities also outnumbered those in government facilities in Sindh, albeit with a much smaller gap. In KP, the public healthcare infrastructure may have proven better than the private alternative as more live births happened in the former.

Live births (2018-20) by place of delivery - by Province

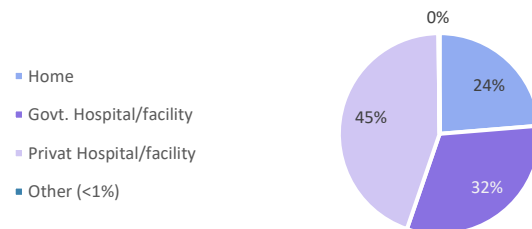


Source: Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020; analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

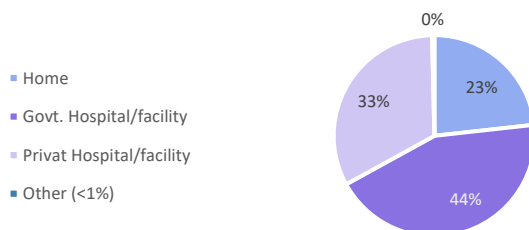
Percentage of live births by place of delivery - Punjab



Percentage of live births by place of delivery - Sindh



Percentage of live births by place of delivery - KP



Percentage of live births by place of delivery - Balochistan

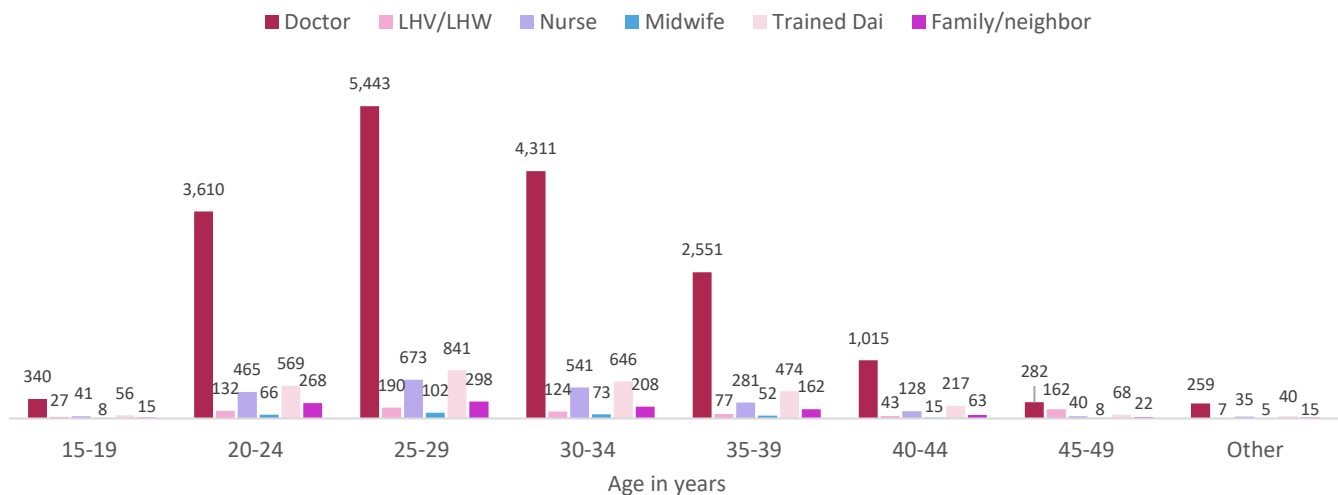


Source: Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020; analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

3) Number of live births by type of attendant at birth and age of mother:

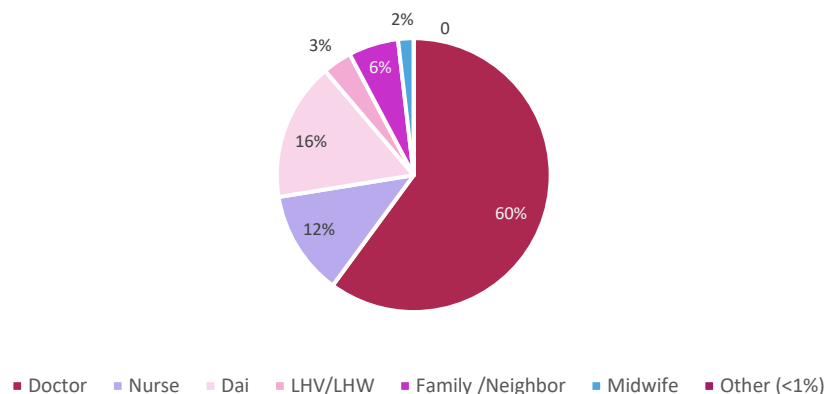
Between 2018-20 60% of children born in Pakistan were delivered by doctors. 16% were delivered by traditional birth attendants (Dai) and 12% by nurses. Live births assisted by less qualified attendants, or members of the community, such as family and neighbors (6%), Lady Health Workers/Visitors (3%) or midwives (2%) accounted for a very small proportion of the total. This indicates a shift away from more antiquated traditional birth-giving practices, and an increased precedent of women seeking out professional healthcare for childbirth.

Live births (2018-20) by type of attendant at birth (in 000s) - All Pakistan



Source: Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020; analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

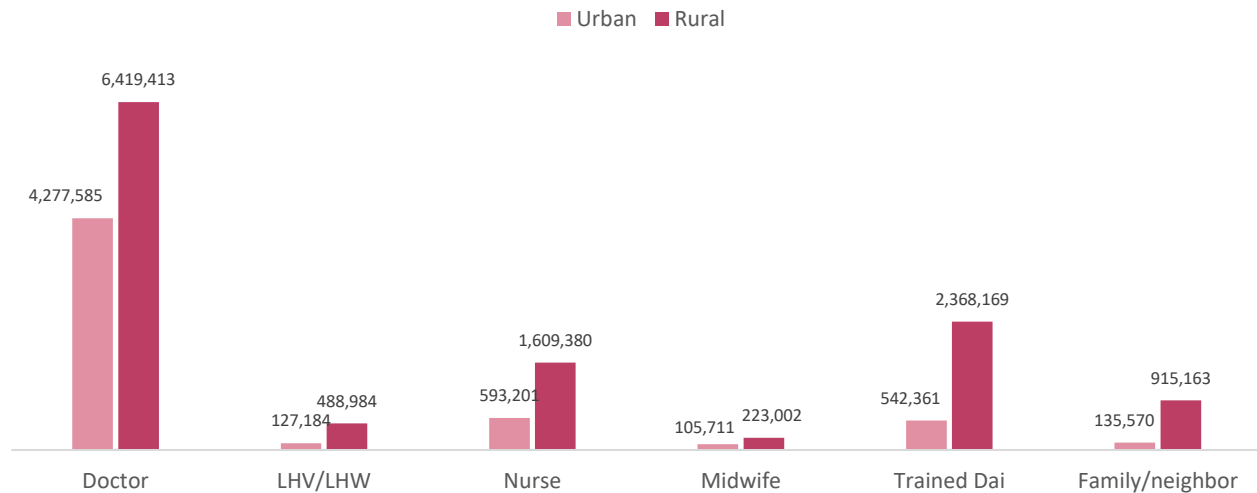
Percentage of live births (2018-20) by type of attendant at birth



Source: Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020; analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

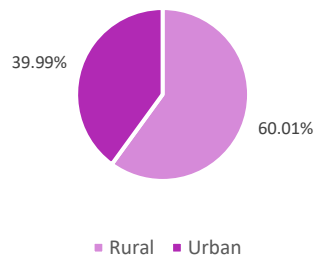
Out of live births conducted under a doctor's overview, 60% took place in rural areas while 40% were in urban areas. Traditional practices like births attended by Dais, LHW/Vs, and community members, are also more common in rural areas. Out of live births at deliveries attended by family/relatives/neighbors, 13% occurred in urban areas while 87% were in rural areas.

Live births (2018-20) by type of attendant at birth (in 000s) - All Pakistan

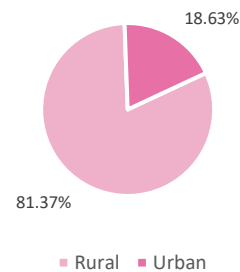


Source: Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020; analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

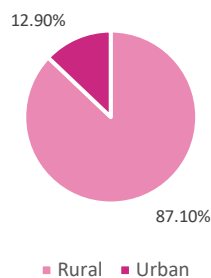
Percentage of live births attended by doctors



Percentage of live births attended by Trained Dai



Percentage of live births attended by family/neighbors



Source: Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020; analyzed by Gallup Pakistan

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 Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020. If you have any ideas, please write to Bilal I Gilani, Project Director, Big Data Analysis at Gallup Pakistan.

Wish to know more about the Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020?

Pakistan Demographic Survey (PDS) is a regular activity of PBS, conducted during inter-censal period to provide reliable data on Demographic Indicators. These Demographic statistics are inevitable for policymakers, planners, and administrators for planning of development programs for the National & Provincial Governments.

Pakistan Demographic Survey (PDS), 2020 is the twentieth round of a series of surveys, initiated in 1984. After 1984 nineteen rounds of PDS were completed till 2007. Current round of PDS was started after a gap of 13 years, which provides the detailed information on various demographic indicators for the year 2018-2020 at National level with Urban-Rural breakdown. These indicators are Life Expectancy, Crude Birth Rate, Crude Death Rate, General Fertility Rate, Age Specific Fertility Rates, Age Specific Death Rates, Infant Mortality Rate and Rate of Natural Increase etc. Results of the survey are compiled at National level with Urban Rural Segregation.

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

Or visit:

[Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020](#)

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