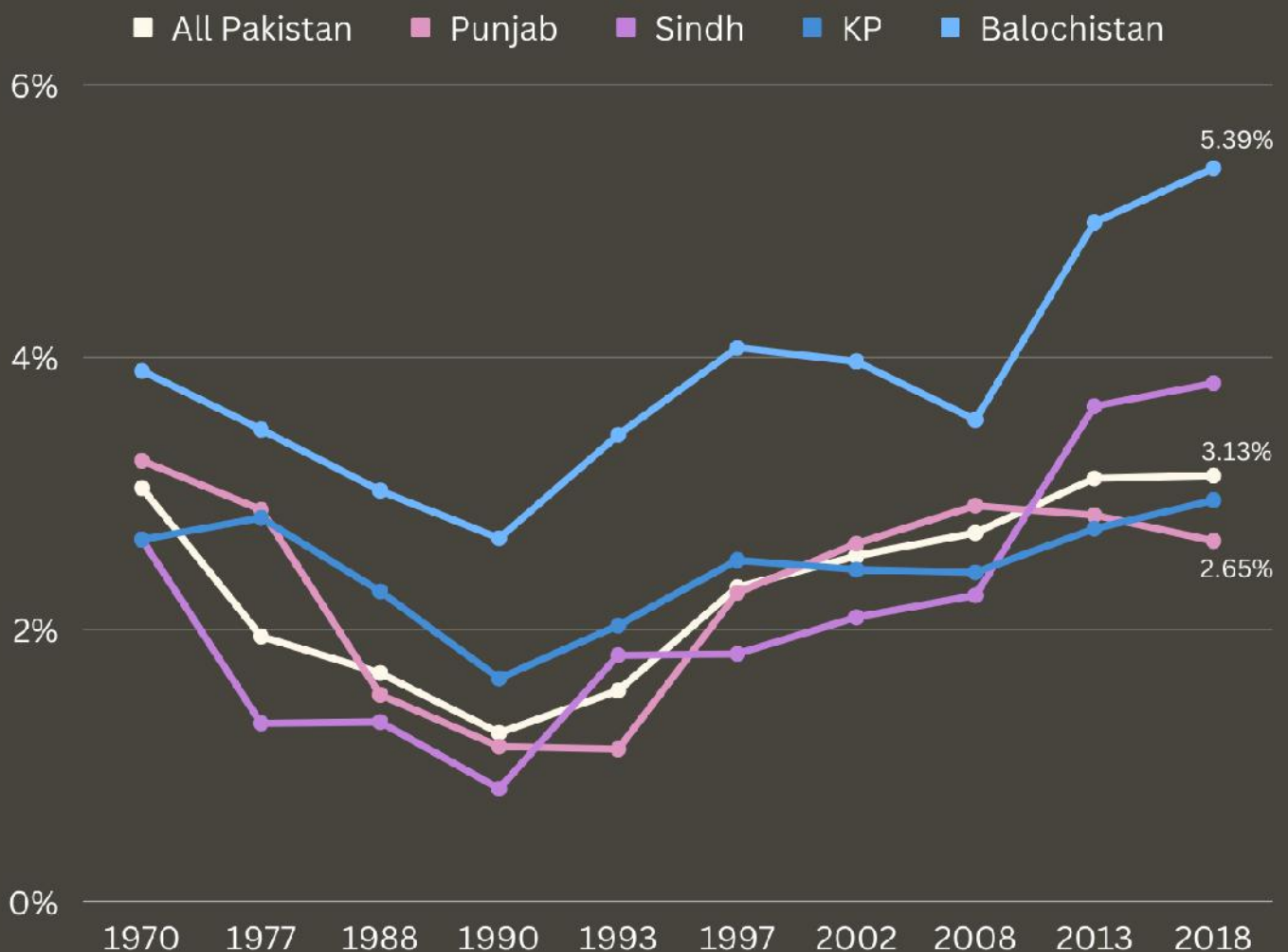


Proportion of votes rejected out of total cast has been rising over the last two decades

Proportion of rejected votes out of total votes:

In an average Pakistani constituency in the 2018 general election, 3.13% votes were rejected. Across provinces, the greatest proportion of votes rejected in an average constituency was from Balochistan (5.39%), while lowest proportion of rejected votes were in Punjab (2.65%), during the 2018 general elections.

Despite declining between 1970-90, rejected votes have been steadily increasing with every election thereafter.



Source: Gilani's Index of Electoral Record, based on ECP data computed by Gallup Pakistan

GALLUP PAKISTAN ELECTORAL REPOSITORY

Proportion of votes rejected out of total cast has been rising over the last two decades –
Rejected Votes – Elections 2018 – Gallup Pakistan Data Analytics Team

Islamabad, August 25, 2023

This press release is part of a special press release that aims to provide the readers interesting findings from Gallup Pakistan's electoral database. The database of the past 11 elections has been consolidated from the Elections Commission of Pakistan (ECP) data by Gallup Pakistan's Data Analytics team and analyzed over the past many years under the able leadership of Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani, a political scientist by training from MIT USA.

Gallup Pakistan and Gilani Research Foundation have been working in various projects and activities for the past 40 years which aim to popularize use of facts and figures to understand Pakistani society and the complex behavioral and sociological ties that run underneath.

This particular press release provides an overview of Pakistan's 2018 general elections in terms of facts and figures. The need for this arises as we slowly move towards the 12th general election in Pakistan since 1970.

INSIGHTS FROM 2018 ELECTIONS:

Proportion of rejected votes out of total votes:

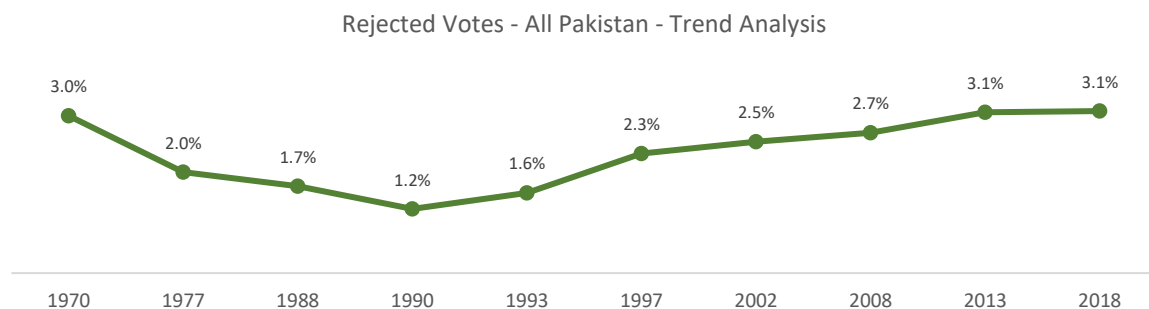
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Across provinces, the greatest proportion of votes rejected in an average constituency was from Balochistan (5.39%), while lowest proportion of rejected votes were in Punjab (2.65%), during the 2018 general elections.

Election Year	All Pakistan	Punjab	Sindh	KP	Balochistan
2018	3.13%	2.65%	3.81%	2.95%	5.39%
2013	3.11%	2.84%	3.64%	2.74%	4.99%
2008	2.71%	2.91%	2.25%	2.42%	3.54%
2002	2.54%	2.63%	2.09%	2.44%	3.97%
1997	2.31%	2.27%	1.82%	2.51%	4.07%
1993	1.55%	1.12%	1.81%	2.03%	3.43%
1990	1.24%	1.14%	0.83%	1.64%	2.67%
1988	1.68%	1.52%	1.32%	2.28%	3.02%
1977	1.95%	2.88%	1.31%	2.82%	3.47%
1970	3.04%	3.24%	2.66%	2.66%	3.90%

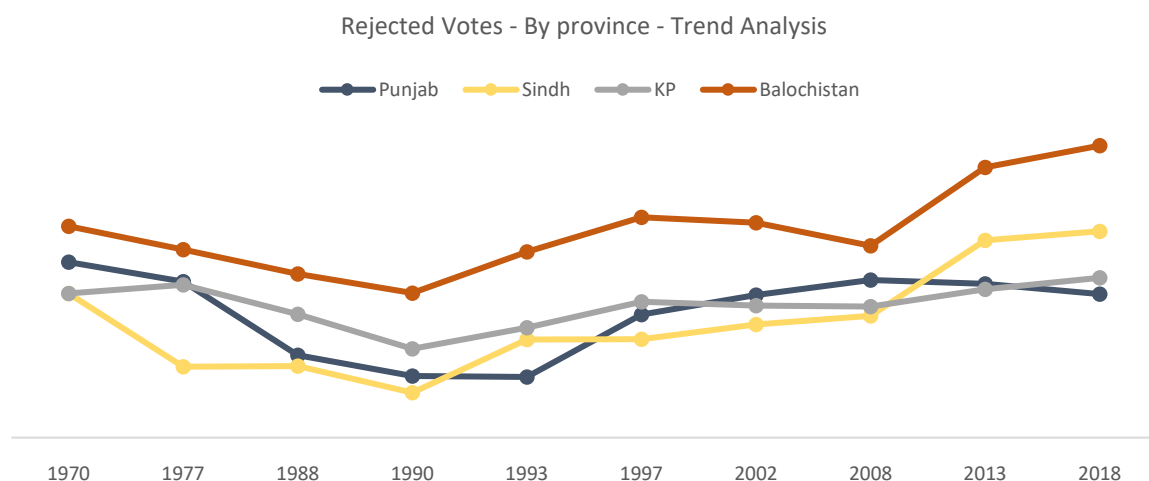
Source: Gilani's Index of Electoral Record, based on ECP data computed by Gallup Pakistan

The proportion of rejected votes out of total votes cast was as high in 2018 as in 1970. Despite declining between 1970-90, rejected votes have been steadily increasing with every election thereafter.



Source: Gilani's Index of Electoral Record, based on ECP data computed by Gallup Pakistan

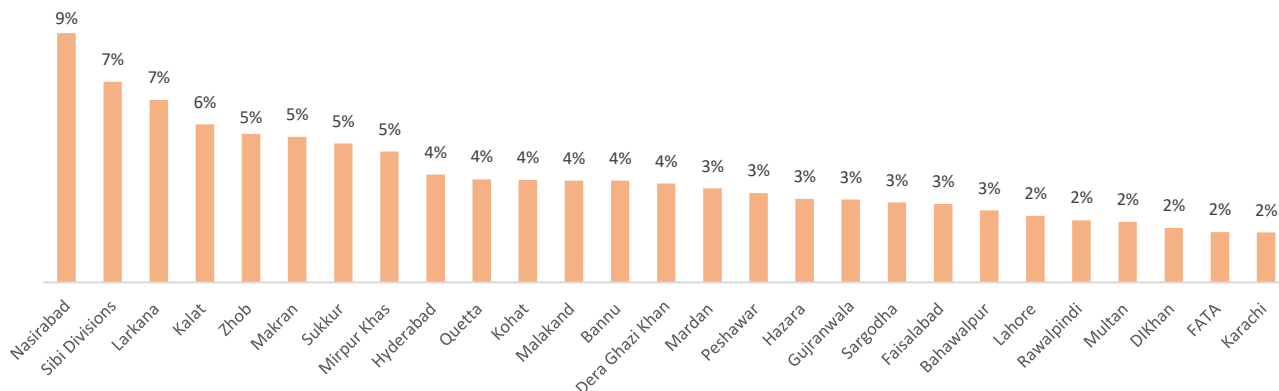
The highest proportion of rejected votes across provinces has historically occurred in Balochistan. Sindh had the lowest proportion of rejected votes every election until 1990, after which the rejected votes started to rise. The overall rise-and-fall is similar across the decades in all provinces, suggesting that the changes in proportion of rejected votes is due to structural or systemic factors.



Source: Gilani's Index of Electoral Record, based on ECP data computed by Gallup Pakistan

9% of votes cast in Nasirabad were rejected, the highest of all divisions followed by Sibi and Larkana (7%). Overall, the proportion of rejected votes was higher in divisions from Balochistan and Sindh.

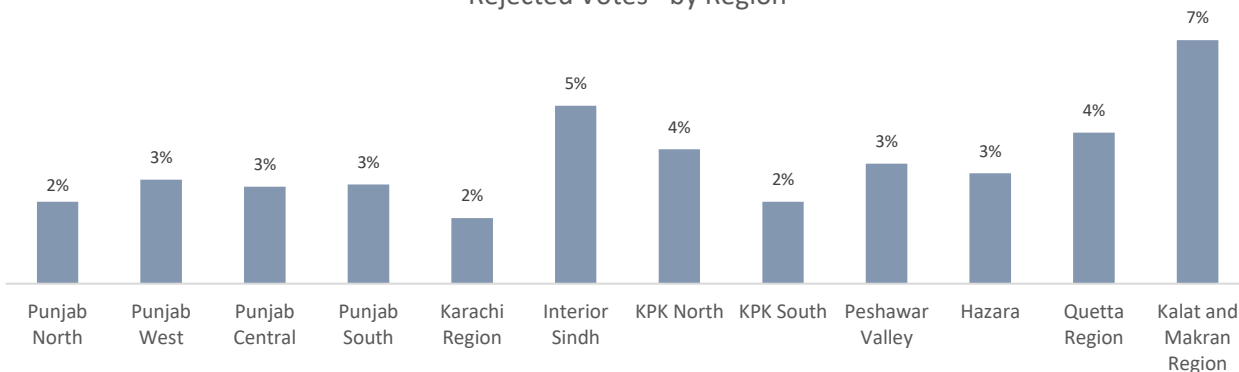
Rejected Votes - by Division



Source: Gilani's Index of Electoral Record, based on ECP data computed by Gallup Pakistan

The regional distribution of rejected votes reflects the divisional distribution; Kalat and Makran region had 7% of votes rejected, followed by 5% in Interior Sindh. The least proportion of rejected votes is in Karachi region and Punjab North.

Rejected Votes - by Region



Source: Gilani's Index of Electoral Record, based on ECP data computed by Gallup Pakistan

Methodology: The data for this analysis is based on Election Commission 2018 results retrieved from Election Commission website and then analyzed by Gallup Pakistan Analytical team. Any omission or error cannot be ruled out.

Gallup Pakistan Electoral Vault Series: An Introduction

The Gallup Pakistan Electoral Vault Series is comprised of the following sources:

1. Election Commission data on past 11 elections in Pakistan, available over each constituency. This data was acquired from Election Commission website and converted into digital database in SPSS form and is now referred to as Gilani Index of Electoral Record.
2. Gallup Exit Polls for every election since 1985.
3. Gallup pre and post-election survey record since 1985.
4. Analysis by Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani on elections piece by piece, as well as in combined form.

For complete access to reports or the Gallup Electoral Database, please visit the following links:
<http://gallup.com.pk/polls/gallup-pakistan-digital-libraries/digital-library-pakistan-elections/>

For definition of Gallup Electoral Territories, please visit the following link:
<http://gallup.com.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Gallup-Pakistan-Electoral-Repository-3.pdf>

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For more survey data, see website www.gallup.com.pk or write to Ms. Amnah Imtiaz at amnah.imtiaz@gallup.com.pk

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Disclaimer: The views and inferences expressed in the article are that of the author himself and Gallup Pakistan does not take any responsibility in this regard. This series, and many such initiatives, are internally funded by Gallup Pakistan and Gilani Research Foundation. No outside country or local funding has been received for this current activity.