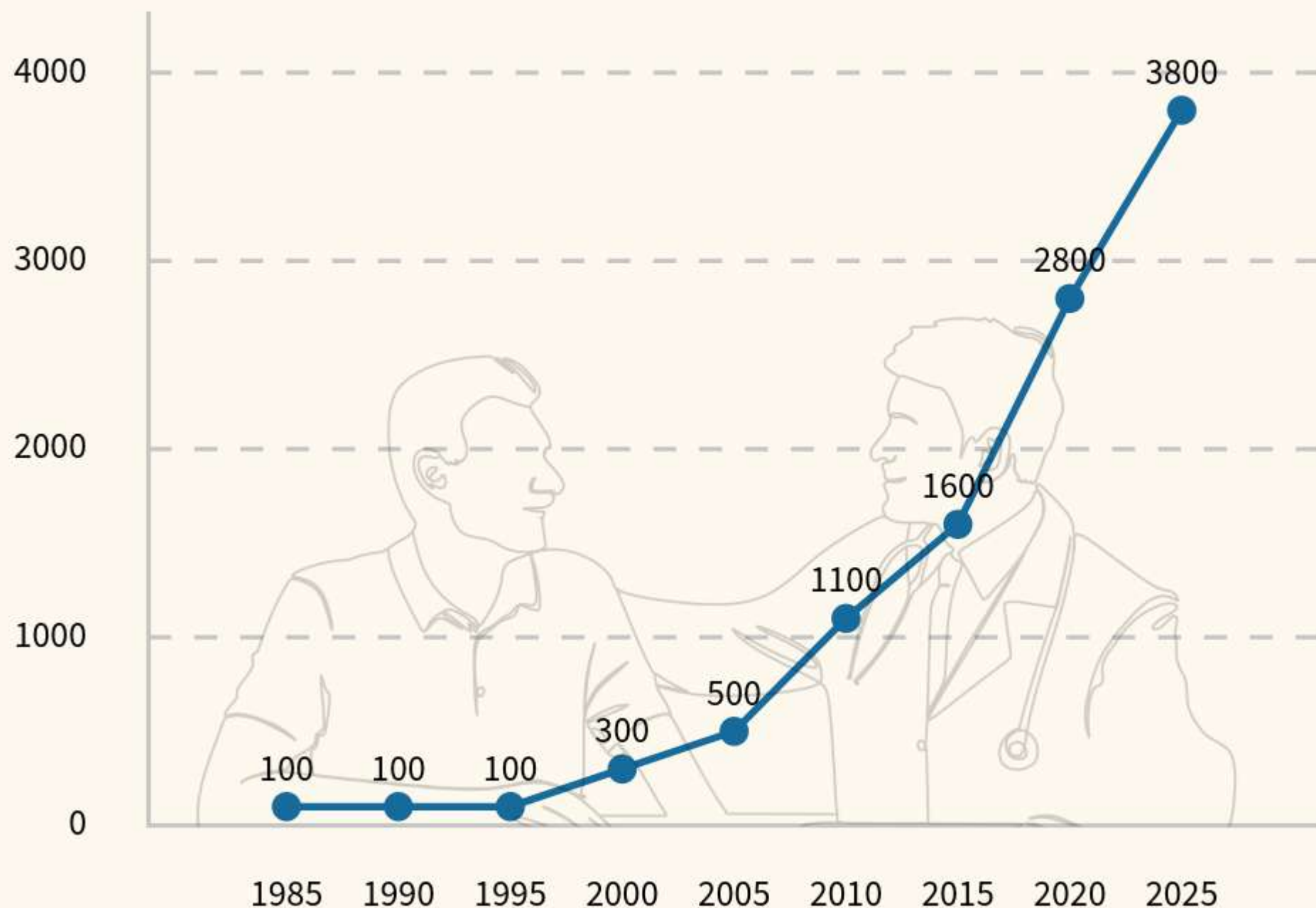


# Big Data Analysis | Emigration

The emigration of doctors from Pakistan has risen sharply over the past decade, reaching a historic peak in 2025, when approximately **3,800–4,000** doctors formally emigrated from the country. This marks the highest annual outflow of doctors ever recorded in official data.



Source: Gallup & Gilani Pakistan  
([www.gallup-international.com](http://www.gallup-international.com);  
[www.gallup.com.pk](http://www.gallup.com.pk) [www.gilanifoundation.com](http://www.gilanifoundation.com))





(Also emailed\*/faxed separately)



## PRESS RELEASE

### Big Data Analysis Emigration

#### **Pakistan's Doctor Exodus: Nearly 4,000 Doctors Left Pakistan in 2025 – the Highest Ever on Record**

*(Islamabad), 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026*

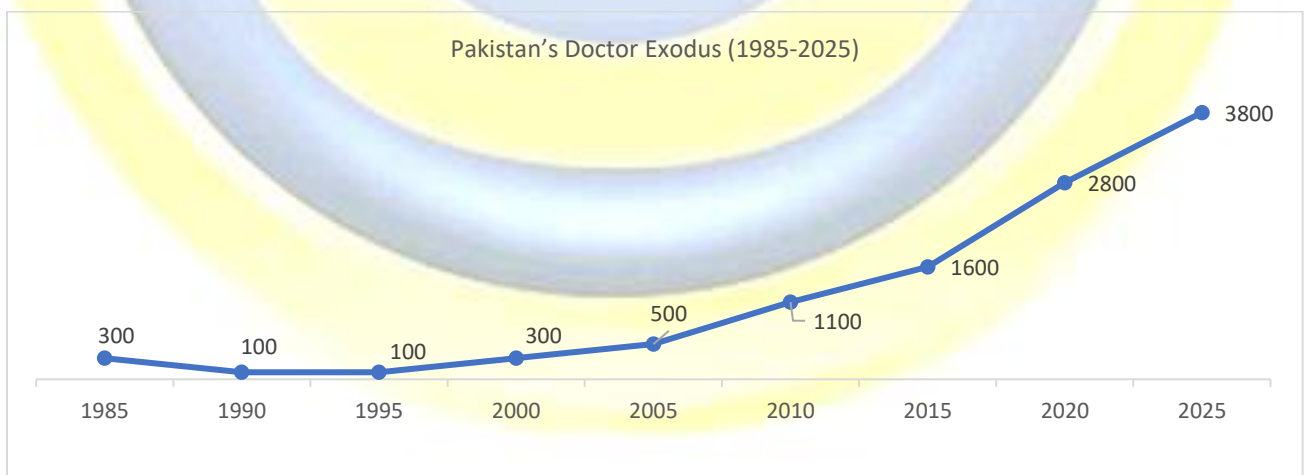
The emigration of doctors from Pakistan has risen sharply over the past decade, reaching a historic peak in 2025, when approximately 3,800–4,000 doctors formally emigrated from the country. This marks the highest annual outflow of doctors ever recorded in official data.

Data from Gallup Pakistan Digital Analytics' Overseas Pakistanis Dashboard, based on Bureau of Emigration (BOE) records, shows that for nearly three decades, the number of doctors leaving Pakistan remained relatively low and stable, typically in the range of a few hundred per year. This pattern began to change around 2010, when annual doctor emigration crossed 1,000 for the first time.

Since then, the upward trend has persisted. By the mid-2010s, annual outflows regularly exceeded 1,500–2,000 doctors, and in recent years have climbed further, reaching nearly 4,000 doctors per year. This trajectory indicates a structural shift, not a temporary spike.

The drivers behind this trend are well documented: dissatisfaction with working conditions, limited career progression opportunities, security concerns, and quality-of-life considerations, combined with strong global demand actively pulling Pakistan's trained medical workforce abroad.

The implications are significant. Pakistan heavily subsidizes medical education, and large-scale doctor emigration represents a loss of public investment, clinical capacity, teaching and mentoring potential, and ultimately health-system resilience. What appears as an individual migration decision aggregates into a systemic challenge for healthcare delivery. The uncomfortable question therefore remains: Is Pakistan producing doctors primarily for its own health system — or increasingly for export?



Source: Gallup & Gilani Pakistan

[www.gallup-international.com](http://www.gallup-international.com); [www.gallup.com.pk](http://www.gallup.com.pk); [www.gilanifoundation.com](http://www.gilanifoundation.com)

This analysis was conducted and released by Gallup & Gilani Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. It draws on official emigration data, tracking the number of doctors emigrating from Pakistan between 1985 and 2025. The data is also available in the Gallup Pakistan Digital Analytics Dashboard, which can be accessed [here](#).



**Opinion Poll from Gallup Pakistan**  
The Pakistani Affiliate of Gallup  
International



GILANI RESEARCH  
FOUNDATION

**Tuesday, 03 February 2026**

*(2 Pages, English version Only)*

***Gilani Research Foundation is a not-for-profit public service project to provide social science research to students, academia, policymakers, and concerned citizens in Pakistan and across the globe.***

*Gilani Research Foundation is headed by Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani who pioneered the field of opinion polling in Pakistan and established Gallup Pakistan in 1980. Currently, Dr. Gilani, who holds a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and has taught at leading universities in Pakistan and abroad, is Chairman of Gallup Pakistan.*

*If you have any further questions regarding this poll, please feel free to contact us.*

*Best Regards,  
Gallup Pakistan*

***Disclaimer:*** Gallup Pakistan is not related to Gallup Inc. headquartered in Washington D.C. USA. We require that our surveys be credited fully as **Gallup Pakistan** (not Gallup or Gallup Poll). We disclaim any responsibility for surveys pertaining to Pakistani public opinion except those carried out by **Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International Association.**

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Daily Gilani Poll  
2026



of Gallup Pakistan  
(1980-2026)