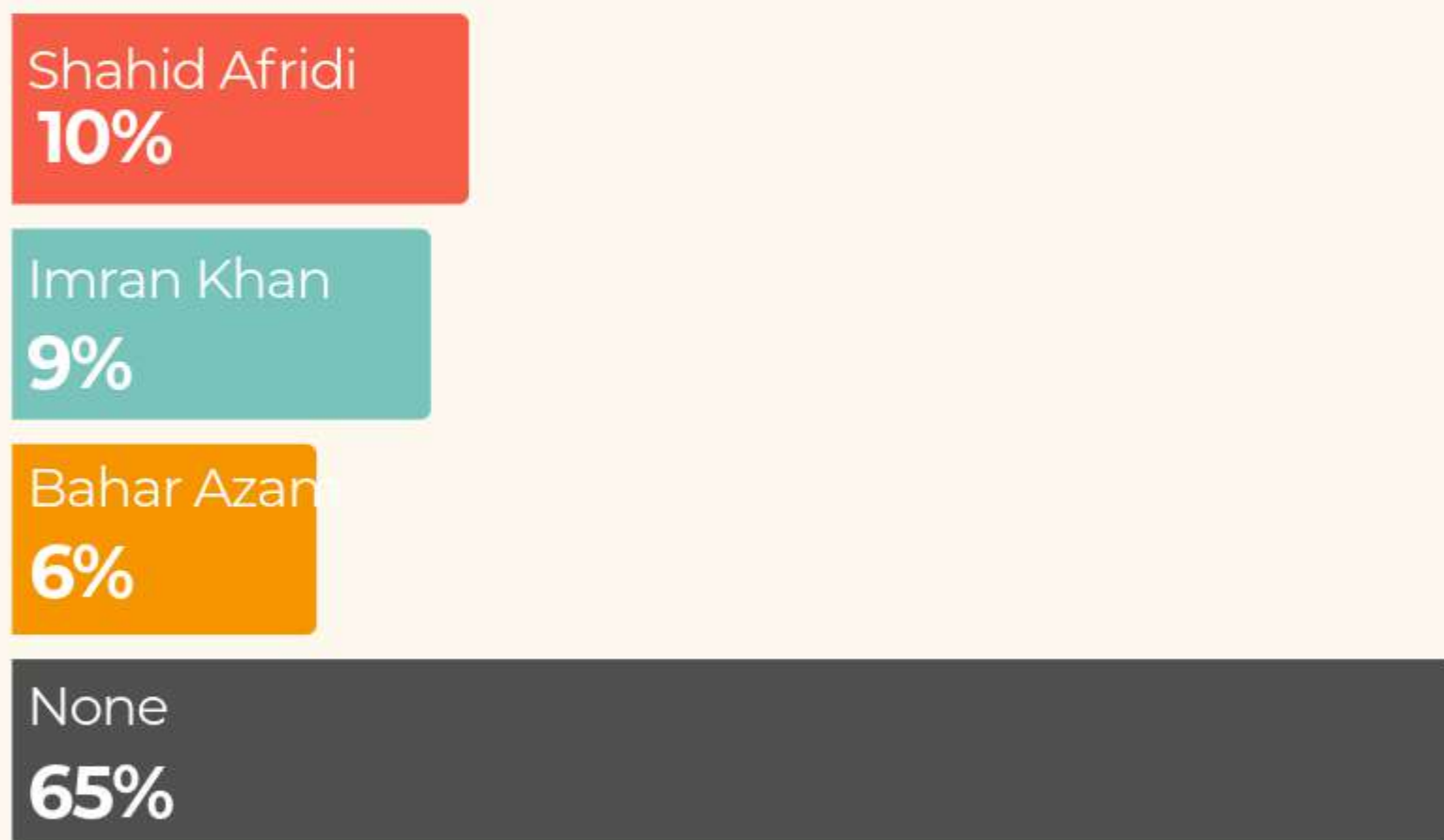


Public Preferences | Passion for Sports

Nearly Two-Thirds of Pakistanis (**65%**) Say They Have No Favorite Pakistani Cricketer; Among Named Players, Shahid Afridi (**10%**) and Imran Khan (**9%**) Lead, While Women Are More Likely to Report No Favorite (**73%**) Than Men (**57%**)

Please tell us, who is your favorite Pakistani cricketer?



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



(Also emailed*/faxed separately)



PRESS RELEASE

Opinion Poll **Sports** Cricket Public Preferences

Nearly Two-Thirds of Pakistanis (65%) Say They Have No Favorite Pakistani Cricketer; Among Named Players, Shahid Afridi (10%) and Imran Khan (9%) Lead, While Women Are More Likely to Report No Favorite (73%) Than Men (57%) - (Gallup & Gilani Survey)

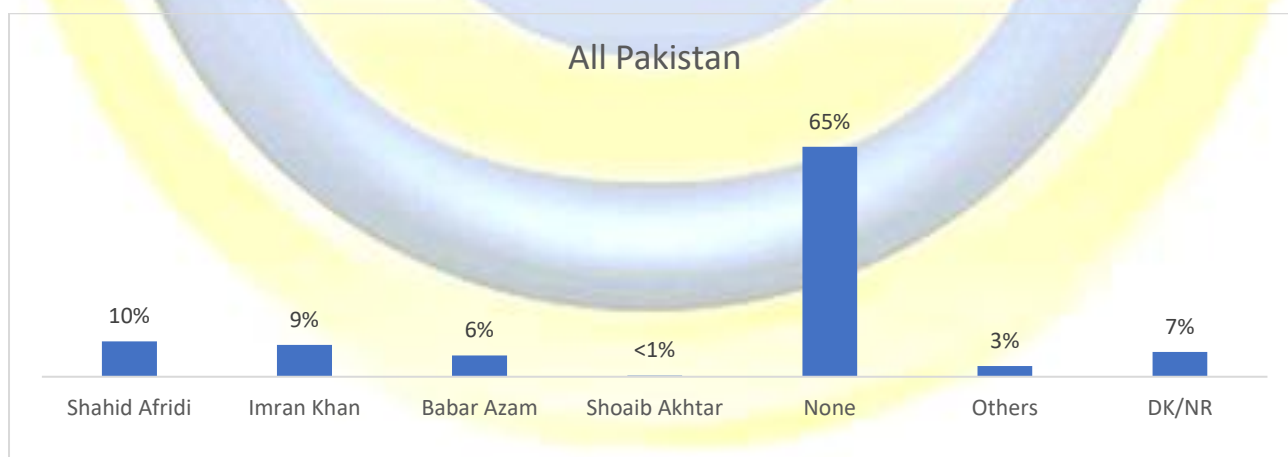
(Islamabad), 3rd April 2026

According to a survey conducted by Gallup & Gilani Pakistan, nearly two-thirds of Pakistanis (65%) say they do not have any favorite Pakistani cricketer. Among those who do name a player, Shahid Afridi (10%) and Imran Khan (9%) emerge as the most frequently cited favorites, followed by Babar Azam (6%).

A nationally representative sample of adult Pakistanis from across the country was asked the following question: **“Please tell us, who is your favorite Pakistani cricketer?”**. In response, 65% of respondents said “none”, indicating that a clear majority do not identify any Pakistani cricketer as their favorite. Among individual cricketers named, ‘Shahid Afridi’ was cited by 10%, followed by ‘Imran Khan’ at 9%, while ‘Babar Azam’ was named by 6%. Less than 1% named ‘Shoaib Akhtar’. A further 3% mentioned other cricketers, and 7% fell into the Don’t Know/No Response (DK/NR) category.

These findings suggest that while cricket remains one of Pakistan’s most followed sports, attachment to a single favorite cricketer is not widespread. Instead, the dominant response is the absence of a clear preference, while those who do express a choice are divided across both past and present cricketing figures.

“ Please tell us, who is your favorite Pakistani cricketer? ”

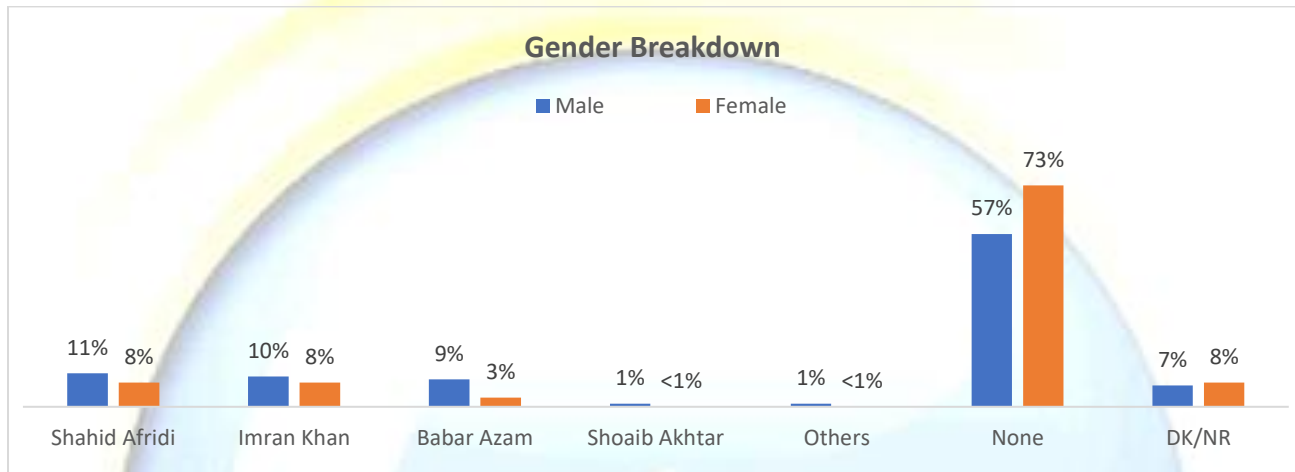


Source: Gallup & Gilani Pakistan
(www.gallup-international.com; www.gallup.com.pk; www.gilanifoundation.com)

The study in Pakistan was conducted and released by Gallup & Gilani Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. The recent survey was carried out among a sample of 787 respondents across urban and rural areas of all four provinces of the country, conducted from 15 January 2026 to 03 February 2026. The error margin is estimated to be approximately $\pm 2-3$ percent at the 95% confidence level. The methodology used for data collection was telephonic surveys (CATI).

Gender Breakdown: Gender-based analysis shows a clear difference in engagement. Among women, 73% say they have no favorite Pakistani cricketer, compared to 57% of men. Men are more likely to name specific players: Shahid Afridi is cited by 11% of men versus 8% of women, while Imran Khan is mentioned by 10% of men and 8% of women. Babar Azam is also more commonly named by men (9%) compared to women (3%).

This pattern indicates that male respondents are relatively more likely to express a defined preference for cricket personalities, while female respondents are more likely to report no particular favorite.



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



Opinion Poll from Gallup Pakistan
The Pakistani Affiliate of Gallup
International



GILANI RESEARCH
FOUNDATION

Friday, 03 April 2026

(3 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*

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Daily Gilani Poll
2026



of Gallup Pakistan
(1980-2026)