



**THE HUMAN SECURITY
INSTITUTE (THSI)**

PAKISTAN'S HUMAN SECURITY REPORT 2024

Pakistan's Human Security Report 2024

By

Iffat Pervaz¹ & Dr. Muhammad Sheharyar Khan²

The Human Security Institute (THSI)

Contents

List of Abbreviations.....	01
Foreword.....	02
Acknowledgement	03
The Human Security Institute (THSI)	04
Executive Summary.....	05
Introduction.....	07
Human Security Index Framework.....	08
PART I (FREEDOM FROM 'FEAR')	09
Territorial Security.....	10
• Total Defence Expenditure as % of GDP.....	10
External Financial Vulnerability.....	11
• External Debt as % of GDP.....	11
• Current Account Surplus/Deficit as % of GDP	12
• Foreign Exchange Reserves Covers of Imports (months)	12
Personal Safety	13
• Number of Terrorist Attacks and Fatalities	13
• Crimes and Safety	15
Environmental Protection and Natural Disaster	15
• Incidence and Cost of Natural Disaster	15
• Level of Water Stress	16
• Forest Area.....	17
• CO ² Emissions	18
• Renewable Energy & Climate Policy	20
Health Hazards and Disease	20
• Life Expectancy (Years).....	20
• Infant mortality (per 1000 births).....	20
Cyber Security	21
PART II (FREEDOM FROM 'WANT')	22
Income	23
• Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Per Capita	23
Food security.....	23

• Wheat Consumption Per Capita	24
• Deficit/Surplus in Wheat Consumption and Production	24
Employment In Wages	24
• Unemployment Rate	24
• Labor Force Participation Rate	24
Shelter	25
Energy security.....	25
• Per Capita Electricity Consumption	26
• Petrol Consumption Per Capita	26
Education	27
• Literacy Rate and Education Expenditure.....	27
Health	27
• Government Expenditure on Health as % of GDP	27
• Physicians per 1000 people	29
Women	29
Children	30
• % of Children Out of School	30
PART III (FREEDOM FROM 'INEQUALITY')	31
Gender Inequality	32
• Global Gender Gap Index & Gender Inequality Index (GII)	32
• Female Labor Force Participation Ratio	32
• Gender Pay Gap	33
Poverty	33
• Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)	33
PART IV (QUALITY OF GOVERNANCE)	35
Index of Governance	36
• Corruption Perception Index	36
• Democracy Index	36
• Index of the Economic Freedom	37
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI)	38
Findings.....	38
Conclusion	39

List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
AREs	Alternative and Renewable Energy Sources
BLA	Balochistan Liberation Army
EIU	Economist Intelligence Unit
EPI	Environmental Performance Index
FRED	Federal Reserve Economic Data
GII	Gender Inequality Index
GTI	Global Terrorism Index
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HDI	Human Development Index
HRH	Human Resource for Health
HSI	Human Security Index
IIPS	IMARAT Institute of Policy Studies
IEP	Institute for Economics and Peace
ILO	International Labour Organisation
MPI	Multi-dimensional Poverty Index
NEPRA	National Electric Power Regulatory Authority
NSP	National Security Policy
NPHP	Naya Pakistan Housing Program
NCDs	Non-Communicable Diseases
OSC	Out-of-School Children
PIPS	Pak Institute for Peace Studies
TTP	Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WB	World Bank
WEF	World Economic Forum

Foreword

In the complex landscape of today's global challenges, human security stands as a beacon of hope, offering a holistic approach to safeguarding the well-being and dignity of individuals and communities. As we navigate the intricate web of socio-economic, political, and environmental factors shaping our world, it becomes increasingly imperative to prioritize human security as a fundamental principle guiding our actions.

The establishment of The Human Security Institute (THSI) in 2020 is driven by a central mission: to meticulously examine the dimensions of human security within the context of Pakistan. The distinguishing feature of the institution is to produce a comprehensive report on human security in Pakistan in the context of local dynamics, taking into account various indigenous factors which are peculiar to Pakistan. Since its inception, the research institute has dedicated its energies to exploring Pakistan's human security landscape through organizing various seminars, online conferences, and focus group discussions.

THSI presents this report shedding light on the multifaceted dynamics impacting the lives of millions in this diverse nation. Through rigorous analysis and insightful perspectives, this report aims to deepen our understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities facing Pakistan and to catalyze meaningful dialogue and action towards enhancing human security for all. This is a first-of-its-kind effort that sets out to assess the different contours of the National Security Policy (NSP) 2022-2026. The report engages and measures 36 indicators, which are supposed to quantify human security in Pakistan. This study, as a first edition, is the first step towards an upcoming series of reports.

May it serve as a catalyst for positive change and a testament to our collective commitment to building a secure, safer, more just, and sustainable Pakistan.

Rafique Ahmed Qureshi

Director General

The Human Security Institute (THSI)

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The Human Security Institute (THSI)

The Human Security Institute (THSI) is a pioneering research, advocacy, and capacity building organization dedicated to addressing the complex and interrelated threats to human well-being in the 21st century. Founded on the principles of promoting freedom from fear, freedom from want, and freedom to live with dignity, THSI focuses on a holistic approach to security that encompasses economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political dimensions.

Through innovative research, evidence-based policy recommendations, and robust community engagement, THSI in Pakistan works to tackle pressing issues such as poverty, health disparities, environmental degradation, and social injustice. By partnering with likeminded-partners we strive to implement sustainable solutions that enhance the well-being and resilience of human beings.

THSI in Pakistan is dedicated to empowering individuals, fostering inclusive development, and advocating for policies that protect and uplift the most vulnerable. Together, we aim to build a future where security is understood not merely as the absence of conflict, but as the presence of opportunity, equity, and dignity for all.

Pakistan's Human Security Report 2024

Executive Summary

Working since 2020, The Human Security Institute (THSI) is registered under Societies Act XXI 1860 and from SECP under Section 42. The institute aims at advancing the cause of human security at all levels. In Pakistan, the goal for Human Security enshrined in the first ever National Security Policy (NSP) 2022-2026 which says "A Country is as secure as its vulnerable citizen. The safety, security, dignity, and prosperity of citizens will remain ultimate purpose of Pakistan's national security".

The purpose of this report is to use research and analysis to improve policy and decision-making regarding human security in Pakistan. Collected data from multiple authentic sources, the focus of this report is to project the ratings, scores, and percentages of different indicators of human security between 2020-21 and 2023-24. The purpose is to measure the government's performance on different indicators to ensure the implementation of the set goals for the Human Security of the first-ever designed National Security Policy (NSP) 2022- 2026.

The report is divided into four broader components: freedom from 'fear'; freedom from 'want'; freedom from 'inequality' and 'oppression'; and quality of governance; at the second level, 18 sub- components; and at the third level, 36 indicators stand to quantify the 18 sub-components. For each indicator, available information from national and international sources has been extracted. According to data, in various indications, regression has occurred, and performance has gone from bad to worse. The indicators show persistent poverty, a decline in GDP per

capita, deterioration of the health of democracy, etc., since 2022. Higher inflation, political instability, dwindling forex, and the flood in 2022 are important variables hampering progress on Human Security.

The data on different indicators for the component of freedom from 'fear' indicate that people's fear in Pakistan has increased over the last three years, from 2021 to 2024. The concerned indicators, such as Pakistan's external debt, current account deficit as % of GDP, foreign exchange reserves cover of imports (months), number of terrorist attacks and fatalities, incidence and cost of natural disasters, and level of water stress, performed poorly. Only the indicators of life expectancy (years) and infant mortality (per 1,000 births) showed marginally positive signs compared to 2021.

The indicators for freedom from 'want' do not perform up to the mark, too. Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita falls, a deficit in wheat consumption and production persists, the unemployment rate for both men and women hikes, and the percentage of children out of school soars. A marginal increase in education expenditure, government expenditure on health as a percentage of GDP, and physicians per 1000 people has been noted.

The selected set of indicators for freedom from 'inequality' and 'oppression' reveal the gloomy picture in terms of ensuring the liberation of its citizens from inequality and oppression. The standing on the Global Gender Gap Index and the rate of female labor force participation are only better than those of Afghanistan in the region. While the

gender pay gap in Pakistan is 34%, it is higher than the global gender pay gap of 23%.

The indicator for the component of quality of governance are not up to the mark except for corruption. On the Corruption Perception Index, Pakistan's performance was encouraging in 2023 compared to 2021. Data shows that on the Democracy Index, Pakistan slid from the category of 'hybrid regime' to 'authoritarian regime' and ranked 118/167 in 2023. On the Index of Economic Freedom 2024, Pakistan is ranked as a 'repressed economy'. Pakistan's standing also plummeted on the Human Development Index (HDI), from 164/193 in 2021–22 to 161/191 in 2023–24.

NSP 2022–26 is a big and bold vision, where the state transitioned its focus from the primacy of geo-strategic considerations to geo-economics. The aim is to supplant the decades-long state-centric policy of Pakistan with a citizen-centric vision. It is a step toward creating a conducive environment for a positive image of the state, both within and

without. However, since its unveiling in December 2022, the adequate performance lacks on geo-economics fronts. The prime reason for this performance lies in the heart of Pakistan's economic crisis and political instability. All the components – education, health, food, running industries, and so forth – of human security require great finances, whereas the government of Pakistan barely kept its economy afloat. The report suggests that economic stability and independence require urgent attention in order to ensure a sufficient score on the human security index; otherwise, in the absence of the required finances, only written policies on paper won't be able to realize the vision of human security.

Implementing the NSP has the potential to significantly enhance the state of human security in the country. By addressing a wide range of security challenges comprehensively, the policy can create a more stable and secure environment, thereby improving the well-being and safety of individuals and communities.

Introduction

Since its inception, Pakistan has faced threats from its much bigger neighbor, India. In the first year of its creation, Pakistan fought a war against India, and since then, Kashmir has been a bone of contention between two nuclear rivals. Pakistan has repeatedly declared the unresolved issue of Kashmir an “unfinished agenda” of partition on the eve of the British departure. Since then, Pakistan has fought four major wars (1948, 1965, 1971, and 1998), accompanied by numerous skirmishes on the borders. The disintegration of Pakistan in 1971 and Operation Smiling Buddha, an Indian nuclear test in May 1974, reinforced Pakistan's sense of insecurity, and as a result, it decided to go nuclear in 1998. The security ambience on the Western border was not optimistic either, and the lingering issue of the Durand Line hampered the anticipated brotherly relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan. So, in this unfriendly strategic calculation, Pakistan has no other option but to pursue a security-centric policy. It has been almost 77 years, and Pakistan is still living between and fighting against extremist and hostile regimes in its east and west.

However, after achieving the milestone of credible minimum deterrence, it is time to concentrate resources and effort to achieve the important milestone of a skilled population with an ideal healthcare system and ample food resources. The Pakistani economic crisis and poor performance on the Human Security Index pushed policymakers to replace Pakistan's security-centric policy with a citizen-centric approach. To materialize the vision of this

new approach, the government of Pakistan announced Pakistan's first-ever National Security Policy (NSP) 2022-2026 in December 2021. The following message from the then prime minister on the front page of the NSP explicitly indicates the major shift in Pakistan's policy paradigm from geostrategic to geo-economics:

“The National Security Policy 2022-2026 centers on my government's vision, which believes that the security of Pakistan rests in the security of its citizens. This citizen-centric approach to national security priorities national cohesion and the prosperity of people, while guaranteeing fundamental rights and social justice without discrimination. Realising the symbiotic relationship between economic, human, and traditional security is now imperative for Pakistan's long-term development”.

NSP was the result of three years of consultations with six hundred academicians, civil society members, scholars, and analysts across the country. Separate chapters are allocated under the headings “Securing Our Economic Future” and “Human Security,” in which economic security, population growth and migration, health security, climate and water stress, food security, and gender security are discussed with emphasis. However, it was an unclassified part of the larger classified document that did not detail a comprehensive framework to achieve these set objectives.

Human Security Index Framework

It has been two and a half years since the announcement of the NSP, therefore the aim of this report is to document the government's progress and work on the various indicators that are supposed to ensure human security. As the major part of the NSP is classified, it is hard to elaborate on the government-selected indicators for the various components of the human security index. This report utilizes United Nations

Human Development Report 1994 to formulate the framework for Human Security Indicators. Based on those, the Report is divided into four main parts, 18 subcomponents and 36 indicators for Human Security. All 36 indicators have been carefully selected in light of the priorities mentioned in the NSP. Authors of this report also consulted Dr. Hafeez Ahmed Pasha's³, book entitled "Human Security in Pakistan" to understand human security and its trend from 2001 to 2021.

PART I

FREEDOM FROM 'FEAR'

"Freedom from fear" refers to the absence of fear as a result of having secure living conditions, both domestically and internationally. It encompasses the idea that individuals should not live in constant fear of violence, aggression, persecution, or any other threat to their safety and security.

Territorial Security

• Total Defence Expenditure as % of GDP

The global defense budget rose by 9% to a record \$2.2 trillion during 2023.⁴ Pakistan is part of a volatile region, placed between two neighbors ruled by ideologically extremist rulers. Pakistan's annual defense budget in 2022 observed a decline in terms of general government expenditure from 18.7% in 2021 to 17.9% in 2022. In the federal budget for the 2023–24 FY, it further slid to 12.5% of the total expenditure planned by the government. A visible decline has also been observed in the defense budget, from 2.6% of the total GDP in 2022 to 1.7% of the GDP in 2023–24 FY. Therefore, the ratio in Pakistan saw its lowest number this year, at 1.7%. According to the Global Firepower Index, Pakistan spends \$17,000 per soldier, a modest amount compared with Saudi Arabia, Israel, India, and Iran, with respective expenditures of \$247,000, \$118,000, \$53,000, and \$41,000 per soldier.⁵

However, in terms of value, it went up around 13%.⁶ Although the defense budget increased by 13% in rupee terms—a strong rise—the depreciating value of the Pakistani currency and high inflation offset its dollar value. The pensions of retired military personnel, the armed forces development program, and expenditures for UN peacekeeping missions are not part of this portion of the budget.

Military expenditure (% of general government expenditure) - Pakistan

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Yearbook: Armaments, Disarmament and International Security.

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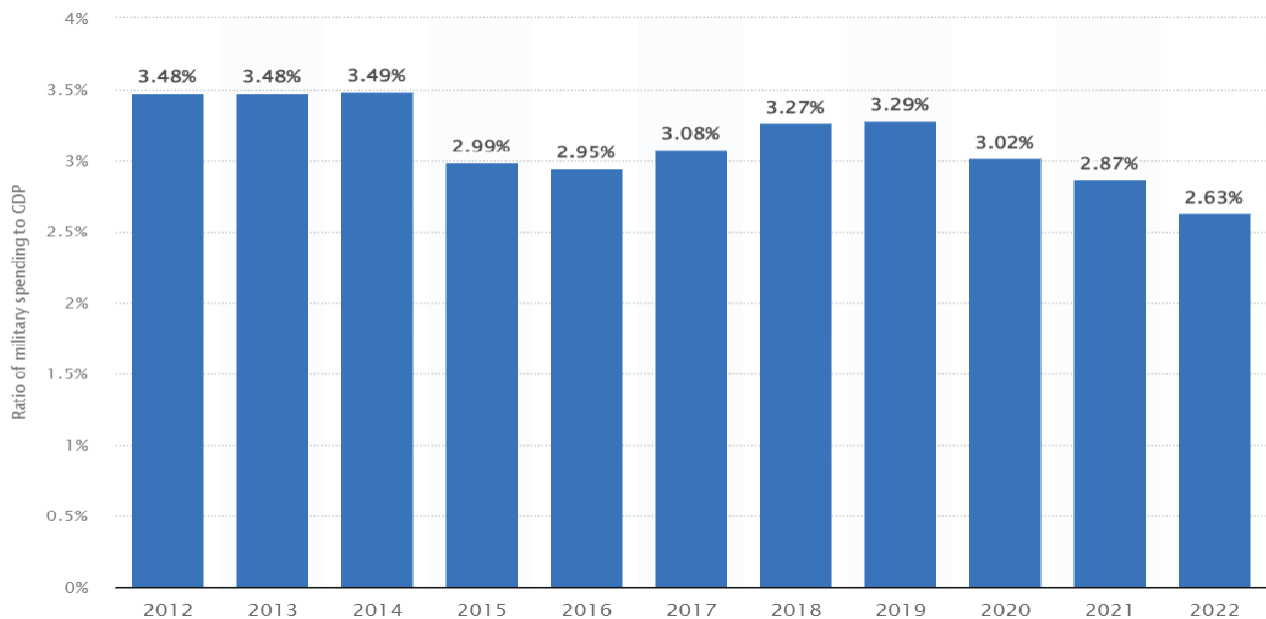


Adopted from the World Bank Website

⁴ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/feb/13/global-defence-spending-rises-9-per-cent-to-record-22tn-dollars>

⁵ <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1082788-unveiling-the-lowest-defence-budget-2023-24-in-decades>

⁶ <https://www.dawn.com/news/1758922>

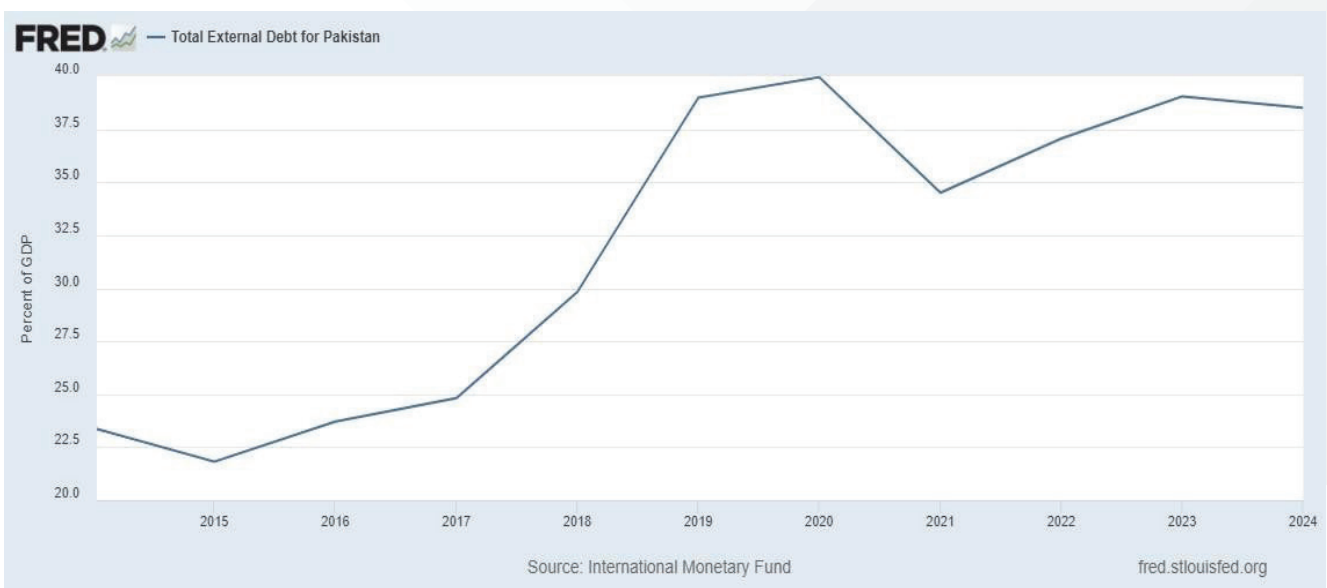


Adopted from Statista website

External Financial Vulnerability

• External Debt as % of GDP

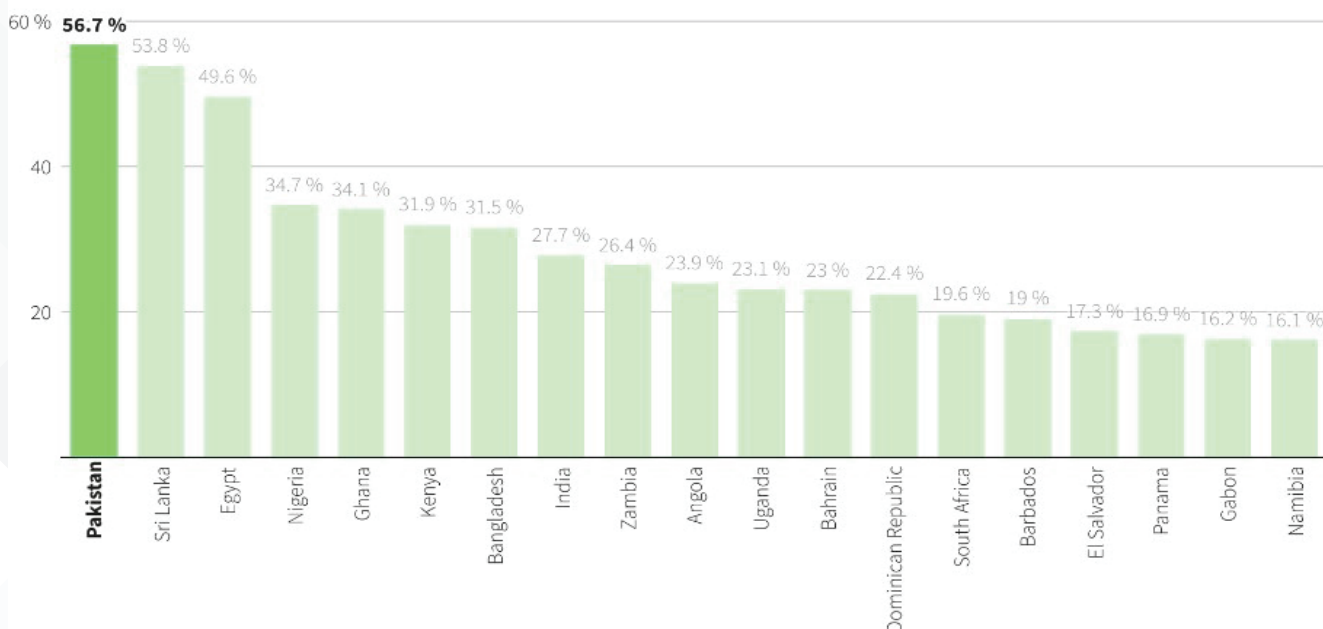
According to the Annual Debt Review & Public Debt Bulletin, Pakistan's external debt accounted for 36.0% of the country's nominal GDP in 2020, 34.1% in 2021, and 36.9% in 2022. The Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED), an online database, cited external debt as 39.5% of the country's nominal GDP in 2023 and projected 38.5% for 2024, quoting the IMF. Lower exports, higher interest payments, political instability, and deteriorating law and order situations are triggering higher inflation, dwindling FX reserves, depreciation of currency, and lower consumer confidence. all of them taking a heavy toll on Pakistan's economy.



Adopted from Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED)

Payments pain

Interest payments alone will soak up nearly 57% of Pakistan's revenues this year



Reuters | Marc Jones @marcjonesrtrs

Source: Fitch Ratings

Adopted from Reuters Website

- **Current Account Surplus/Deficit as % of GDP**

The current account deficit is "a shortfall between the money received by a country by selling products to other countries and the money spent to buy goods and services from other nations." According to IMF Country Report No. 24/17, Pakistan's current account deficit decreased to just 0.7% of GDP in FY2022/23; however, the IMF projections predict an increase in the deficit to 1.6% in FY2023/24. The cause of the widening deficit is the strengthening of domestic demand. The main cause of the current account deficit is Pakistan's low exports, low exports of value-added products, and failure to keep up with the competitive market at the global level.

- **Foreign Exchange Reserves Covers of Imports (months)**

Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves are around \$8.22 billion, hardly enough to cover two months' worth of imports, though this is an improvement over \$4.3 billion a year ago.⁷ Pakistan Foreign Exchange Reserves dwindled and touched all-time lows in FY 2022/23, and the country was in danger of defaulting.

Pakistan: Selected Economic Indicators, FYs 20/21–27/28 1/

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
				Proj.				
Real GDP growth (%)	5.8	6.2	-0.2	2.0	3.5	4.5	5.0	5.0
Consumer prices (period average, % change)	8.9	12.1	29.2	24.0	11.7	7.7	6.6	6.6
Gen. gov. overall balance (incl. grants, % of GDP)	-6.0	-7.8	-7.7	-7.6	-7.3	-5.7	-5.1	-4.6
Gen. gov. primary balance (underlying, excl. grants, % of GDP) 2/	-0.5	-2.3	-0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Gen. gov. debt (incl. IMF obligations, % of GDP)	73.5	76.2	77.1	72.8	70.9	69.7	67.7	65.7
Current account balance (% of GDP)	-0.8	-4.7	-0.7	-1.6	-1.5	-1.5	-1.5	-1.6
Gross official reserves (billions of US\$)	17.3	9.8	4.5	9.1	13.0	16.8	19.5	20.7
Gross official reserves (months of next year's G&S imports)	2.5	2.0	0.8	1.5	2.0	2.4	2.6	2.7
Gross official reserves (% of IMF ARA metric) 3/	72.6	41.3	19.6	41.4	54.3	66.1	72.5	71.8

Sources: Pakistani authorities; IMF staff estimates and projections.

1/ The fiscal year (FY) runs from July 1 through June 30.

2/ Excludes one-off transactions, incl. asset sales (Tables 4a and b).

3/ With flexible exchange rate and no capital controls.

Adapted from IMF country report January 2024

Personal Safety

The main threat to the personal safety of the citizens of Pakistan comes from terrorism. The military operations-Operation Zarb-e-Azb and Operation Radd-ul-Fasaad- against terrorists successfully diluted their capabilities to a greater extent and ensured peace and prosperity. However, the decision of the then government to pardon the incarcerated TTP's top 100 leaders and fighters and the plan for their rehabilitation have backfired and ended in a dramatic surge in the terror attacks.⁸As a result of the failed talks with the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), a conglomerate of violent insurgent groups, and the withdrawal of the US from Afghanistan, a worrisome wave of terrorism has set off in Pakistan.

• Number of Terrorist Attacks and Fatalities

According to a report titled 'Pakistan's Afghan Perspective and Policy Options', launched by the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS), "when counted for the 21 months since the Taliban takeover (August 2021 to April 2023), the number of terrorist attacks in Pakistan has posted a phenomenal increase of 73 percent, as compared to the corresponding 21 months before the Taliban takeover. The number of people killed in these attacks has increased by 138 percent." According to the eleventh edition of the Global Terrorism Index (GTI), issued in March 2024 and produced by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), "In 2023, in Pakistan, deaths from terrorism increased by 22 percent to 8,352 deaths and are now at their highest level since 2017, and it recorded the most incidents of any country, with 490 attacks recorded." It was ranked 7th in 2020 and 4th in 2024. Pakistan's performance was recorded worse than that of Afghanistan. Afghanistan scored better than Pakistan and witnessed a downward trend in terrorist incidents.

⁸ <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2330584/govt-releases-over-100-ttp-prisoners-as-goodwill-gesture>

THE IMPACT OF TERRORISM



RANK	COUNTRY	SCORE	RANK CHANGE	RANK	COUNTRY	SCORE	RANK CHANGE	RANK	COUNTRY	SCORE	RANK CHANGE
1	Burkina Faso	8.571	↑ 1	28	Thailand	4.219	↓ 5	55	Spain	1.669	↑ 5
2	Israel	8.143	↑ 24	29	Türkiye	4.168	↓ 8	56	Lebanon	1.562	↓ 5
3	Mali	7.998	↑ 1	30	United States of America	4.141	↓ 1	57	Australia	1.475	↓ 2
4	Pakistan	7.916	↑ 3	31	Indonesia	3.993	↓ 7	58	Italy	1.447	↓ 4
5	Syria	7.890	↔	32	Bangladesh	3.317	↑ 14	59	Central African Republic	1.445	↓ 2
6	Afghanistan	7.825	↓ 5	33	Sri Lanka	3.072	↓ 2	60	Saudi Arabia	1.366	↑ 5
7	Somalia	7.814	↓ 4	34	Greece	3.028	↓ 1	61	Argentina	1.274	↓ 3
8	Nigeria	7.575	↔	35	Russia	3.016	↑ 8	62	Ethiopia	1.272	↓ 3
9	Myanmar	7.536	↔	36	Tunisia	2.914	↑ 4	63	Kosovo	1.218	↑ 28
10	Niger	7.274	↔	37	Germany	2.782	↓ 2	64	Japan	1.189	↔
11	Iraq	7.078	↓ 5	38	France	2.647	↓ 4	65	Venezuela	1.174	↓ 13
12	Cameroon	6.98	↓ 1	39	Libya	2.469	↓ 7	66	Slovakia	1.092	↓ 5
13	Democratic Republic of the Congo	6.514	↑ 1	40	Burundi	2.434	↓ 4	67	Mexico	1.04	↑ 1
14	India	6.324	↓ 1	41	United Kingdom	2.373	↑ 3	68	Austria	0.953	↓ 5
15	Mozambique	6.267	↓ 3	42	Tanzania	2.267	↓ 3	69	Tajikistan	0.871	↓ 16
16	Colombia	6.188	↓ 1	43	Angola	2.254	↑ 48	70	Sweden	0.735	↓ 4
17	Chile	5.679	↓ 1	44	Algeria	2.197	↓ 6	71	Switzerland	0.627	↓ 4
18	Kenya	5.616	↑ 1	45	Nepal	2.163	↓ 8	72	Cyprus	0.616	↑ 3
19	Philippines	5.383	↓ 1	46	Côte d'Ivoire	2.06	↓ 5	73	China	0.582	↑ 21
20	Egypt	5.221	↓ 3	47	Peru	2.045	↓ 6	74	Netherlands	0.577	↓ 4
21	Chad	4.987	↓ 1	48	Djibouti	2.035	↓ 3	75	Jordan	0.455	↓ 4
22	Palestine	4.966	↑ 6	49	Brazil	1.988	↓ 2	=76	Armenia	0.423	↑ 18
23	Yemen	4.951	↓ 1	50	New Zealand	1.947	↓ 2	=76	Uzbekistan	0.423	↓ 4
24	Benin	4.898	↑ 3	51	Belgium	1.904	↑ 11	78	Paraguay	0.241	↓ 5
25	Togo	4.67	↑ 5	52	Canada	1.753	↑ 4	=79	United Arab Emirates	0.233	↓ 2
26	Iran	4.464	↓ 1	53	Norway	1.747	↓ 3	=79	Iceland	0.233	↓ 2
27	Uganda	4.377	↑ 22	54	Ukraine	1.686	↑ 20	81	Malaysia	0.192	↓ 5

Adopted from GTI 2024

TABLE 1.1

Ten countries most impacted by terrorism, GTI ranks 2011–2023

Burkina Faso recorded the highest impact of terrorism for the first year.

Country	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Burkina Faso	114	113	111	110	52	30	21	15	7	6	4	2	1
Israel	22	18	22	23	29	31	33	31	34	34	35	26	2
Mali	40	22	19	21	16	13	10	9	8	7	7	4	3
Pakistan	2	2	2	2	4	4	5	5	5	8	9	7	4
Syria	19	4	4	5	6	7	7	8	6	5	6	5	5
Afghanistan	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	6
Somalia	5	7	7	7	8	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	7
Nigeria	8	5	5	3	2	2	4	4	4	4	5	8	8
Myanmar	17	20	23	29	41	43	40	42	23	24	10	9	9
Niger	50	60	45	34	19	19	18	19	14	12	8	10	10

Source: IEP

According to the GTI report, “in 2023, South Asia was the region with the highest average GTI score, a position it has held throughout the last decade.” Pakistan has become the worst-affected country in the worst-affected region by terrorism.

South Asia

TABLE 2.9

South Asia GTI score, rank and change in score, 2013–2023

Country	Overall Score	Overall Rank	Change 2013-2023	Change 2022-2023
Pakistan	7.916	4	-0.961	0.306
Afghanistan	7.825	6	-0.765	-0.634
India	6.324	14	-0.818	-0.252
Bangladesh	3.317	32	-0.146	0.670
Sri Lanka	3.072	33	0.036	-0.684
Nepal	2.163	45	-1.363	-0.831
Bhutan	0.000	89	-0.059	0.000
Regional Average			-0.582	-0.204

• Crimes and Safety

Another indicator to measure the level of personal safety is the incidents of crime ranging from, homicide, physical assaults, mugging, robbery, kidnapping, and stealing. According to numbeo.com's Safety Index, the safety of Islamabad, Rawalpindi, and Karachi has plummeted from 70.7, 50.9, and 46.6 in 2022 to 68.8, 49.5, and 43.8 in 2024, respectively. However, the Karachi safety factor is better than that of Delhi (43.8) and Dhaka (37.3) in 2024. Although its performance was relatively better in the South Asian region, it still slid when compared with its own performance in the previous years. Multiple reasons can be factored in; however, the massive political unrest and political arrests would have been one of the central reasons that diverted the attention of law enforcement agencies, especially police, to other tasks at the cost of ensuring the safety of the people.

Environmental Protection and Natural Disaster

• Incidence and Cost of Natural Disaster

On the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2022, Pakistan ranks 176 out of 180, sliding from 142 in 2020, performing negatively on almost all 40 indicators. However, it was ranked better than India (180/180) and Bangladesh (177/180). Pakistan has faced multiple natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes of intense magnitude in the past two decades. The 2022 flood submerged almost a third of Pakistan. According to the October 2022 World Bank

(WB) press release, "The assessment estimates total damages to exceed USD 14.9 billion and total economic losses to reach about USD 15.2 billion. The estimated cost of rehabilitation and reconstruction is at least USD 16.3 billion, excluding the cost of supporting Pakistan's adaptation to climate change. Housing, agriculture and livestock, and transport and communications sectors suffered the most significant damage, at USD 5.6 billion, USD 3.7 billion, and USD 3.3 billion, respectively."

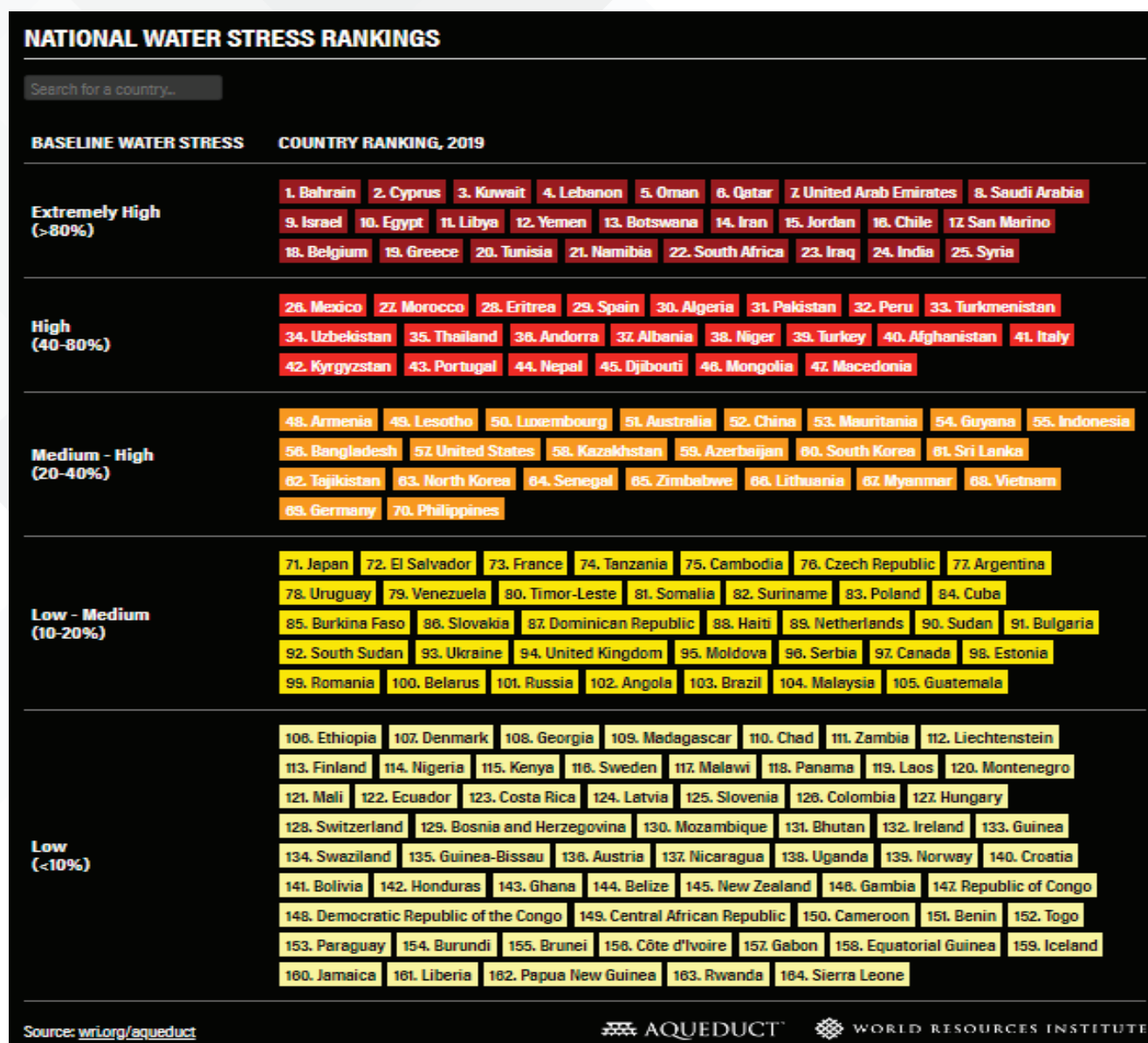
According to the same report, "Sindh is the worst-affected province, with close to 70 percent of total damages and losses, followed by Baluchistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Punjab." The flood affected 33 million people; more than 1700 people lost their lives, while 8 million were forced to leave their homes, accompanied by a severe health crisis.

170	Ghana	27.7	45
171	Sudan	27.6	16
172	Turkey	26.3	19
173	Haiti	26.1	32
174	Liberia	24.9	46
175	Papua New Guinea	24.8	23
176	Pakistan	24.6	6
177	Bangladesh	23.1	7
178	Viet Nam	20.1	24
179	Myanmar	19.4	25
180	India	18.9	8

Adopted from Environmental Performance Index 2022

• **Level of Water Stress**

According to the WRI's Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas of the World Resource Institute, released in August 2023, Pakistan stands at 31 out of 164 countries, placing it in high-water risk countries. According to the report, the maximum water stress exists in Baluchistan and is placed in the category of extremely high, followed by Punjab, Sindh, and Azad Kashmir in the category of high, and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Northern areas in the category of low medium.



Adopted from WRI's Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas 2023

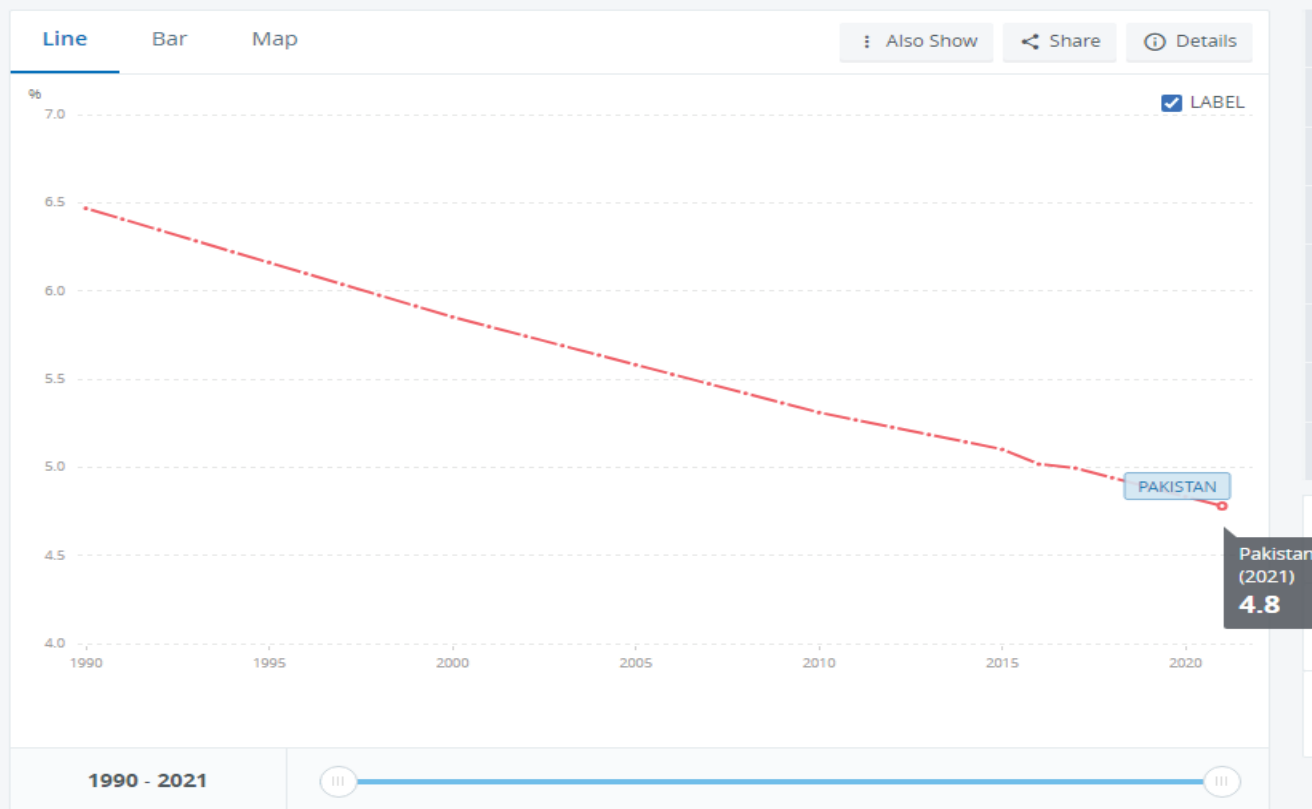
• Forest Area

Pakistan is poor in forest areas. According to a recent report in 2021 by the World Bank (WB), Pakistan has a steep decline in forest area in terms of percentage of total land area. It was recorded at 4.8% of the total area in 2021, compared to 6.5% in 1990. Population explosions, rising and unplanned urbanization, timber mafias, and energy shortages are a few reasons for rapid deforestation.

Forest area (% of land area) - Pakistan

Food and Agriculture Organization, electronic files and web site.

License : CC BY-4.0 [🔗](#)



Adopted from the World Bank Website

• CO2 Emissions

According to the Our World in Data CO2 and Greenhouse Gas Emissions database,⁹ the global share of CO2 emissions in Pakistan was 0.6% of the total CO2 emissions from combustible fuels in 2021. A decline was observed in Pakistan's per capita CO2 emissions in 2022 compared to 2021. Usually, the per capita CO2 of developed countries is high. In the following figure, a comparison can be seen between per capita CO2 emissions in developed states and developing states. On Our World Data's table for per capita CO2 emissions in 2022, Pakistan's performance was better than that of India but rougher than that of Bangladesh.

Per capita CO₂ emissions

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from fossil fuels and industry¹. Land-use change is not included.

Our World
in Data



Data source: Global Carbon Budget (2023); Population based on various sources (2023)
OurWorldInData.org/co2-and-greenhouse-gas-emissions | CC BY

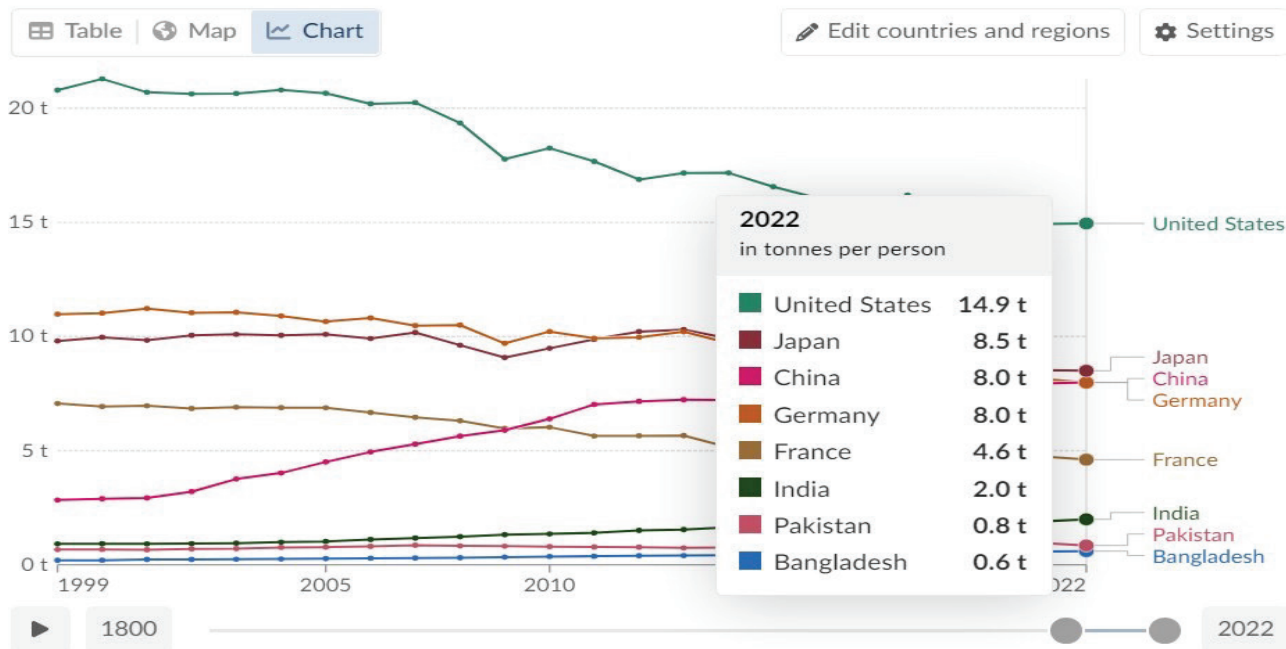
1. Fossil emissions: Fossil emissions measure the quantity of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emitted from the burning of fossil fuels, and directly from industrial processes such as cement and steel production. Fossil CO₂ includes emissions from coal, oil, gas, flaring, cement, steel, and other industrial processes. Fossil emissions do not include land use change, deforestation, soils, or vegetation.

Adopted from Our World in Data Website

Per capita CO₂ emissions

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from fossil fuels and industry. Land-use change is not included.

Our World
in Data



Adopted from Our World in Data Website

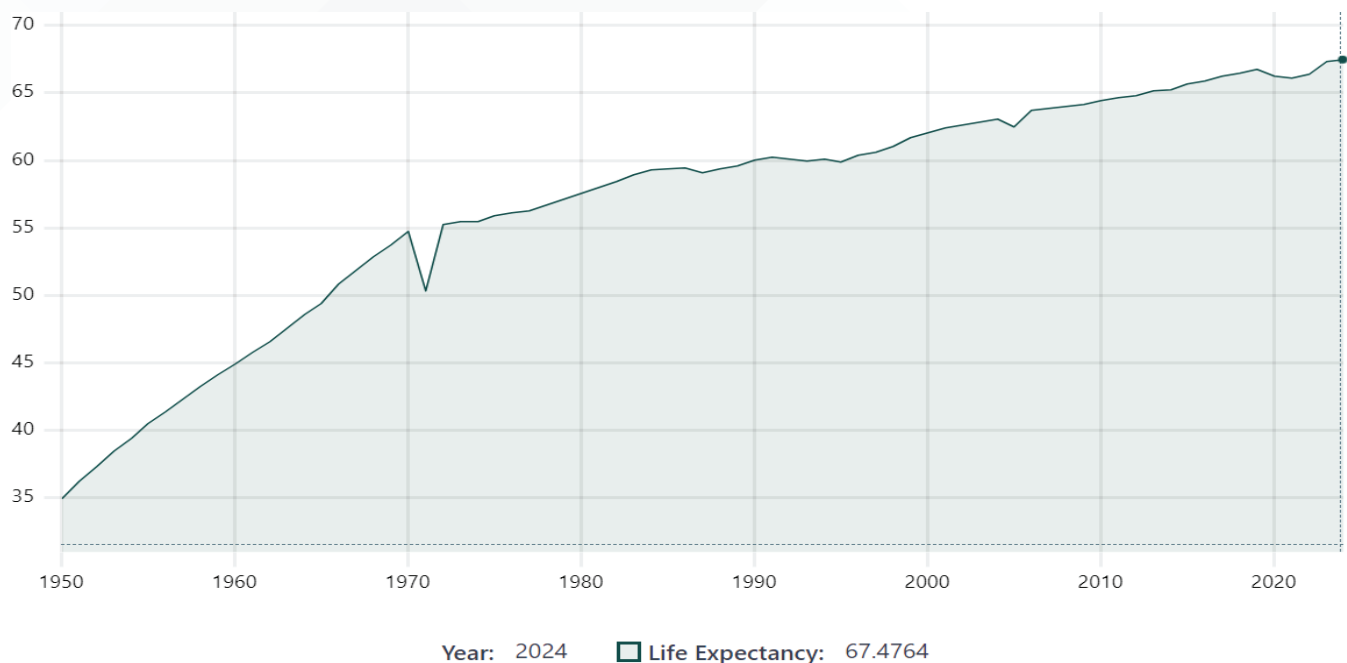
• **Renewable Energy & Climate Policy**

The Climate Change Performance Index 2024 has grouped Pakistan in the "high" category for greenhouse gas emissions, rated "very low" for the production of renewable energy, and "low" for climate policy, while overall, Pakistan ranked 30th, placing it among the medium performers. It was the first time in 2024 that Pakistan was part of this, while in the previous reports, Pakistan was not part of the report at all. The incumbent government committed to increasing the production of renewable energy and implemented the policy of exemption of sales taxes on solar panels and a drastic drop has been observed in prices.

Health Hazards and Disease

• **Life Expectancy (Years)**

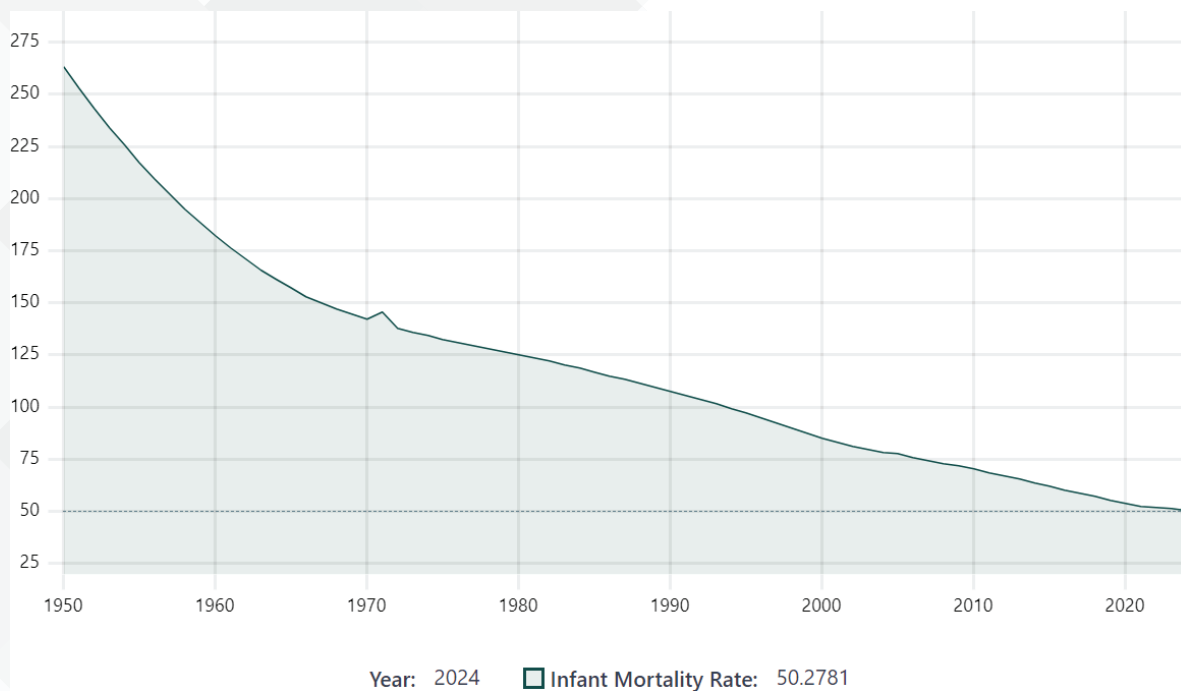
According to the database.earth's² country report, in 2024, the overall average life expectancy in Pakistan is 67.4764 years of age, a 0.21% increase from 2023, when the average life expectancy was 67.3352 years. The average life expectancy for males is 65.20 years and for females is 69.89 years. The future projection is positive. It shows that Pakistan's healthcare is getting better. In 2000, it was around 62.1018 years of age. Despite an increase, Pakistan is still lagging behind, with India at 72.29 years and Bangladesh at 74.27 years.



Adopted from database.earth Website

• **Infant mortality (per 1000 births)**

According to the database.earth's country report, a -1.99% decline has been observed in 2024 in the infant mortality rate from 2023. It decreased from 51.3007 infant deaths in 2023 to 50.2781 infant deaths in 2024 for every 1,000 live births. Further decreases have been projected in the future, keeping today's standards in mind. The decrease can be attributed to the improvement of hygiene, water quality availability for midwives, and awareness.

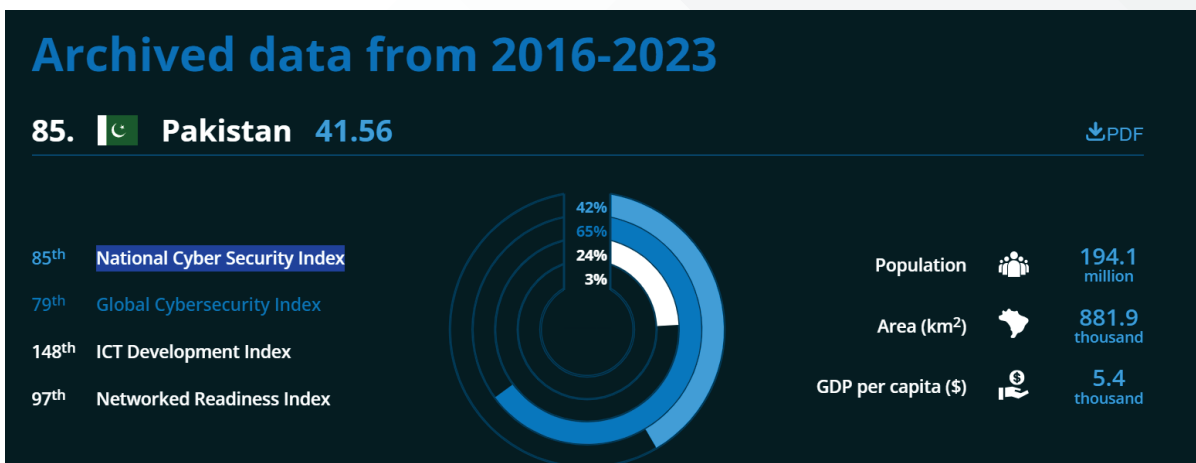


Adopted from [database.earth](https://data.earth) Website

Cyber Security

In July 2021, the Federal Cabinet approved Pakistan's first National Cyber Security Policy. Cybersecurity awareness is low in the country. Pakistan's performance on various cyber security's indices has not been up to par. Pakistan's cybersecurity infrastructure requires enhancement. It was ranked 85th at the National Cyber Security Index (2024), 79th at the Global Cybersecurity Index (2020), 148th at the ICT Development Index (2023), and 97th at the Networked Readiness Index (2021). It was ranked 14 out of 18 in the Asia-Pacific region on the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2020.

On the National Cyber Security Index (2024), Pakistan scored nil on vital indicators such as the Convention on Cybercrime, representation in international cooperation formats, international cyber security organizations hosted by the country, cyber security capacity building for other countries, and cyber safety competencies in primary or secondary education.



Adapted from the National Cyber Security Index's (NCSI) website

PART II

FREEDOM FROM 'WANT'

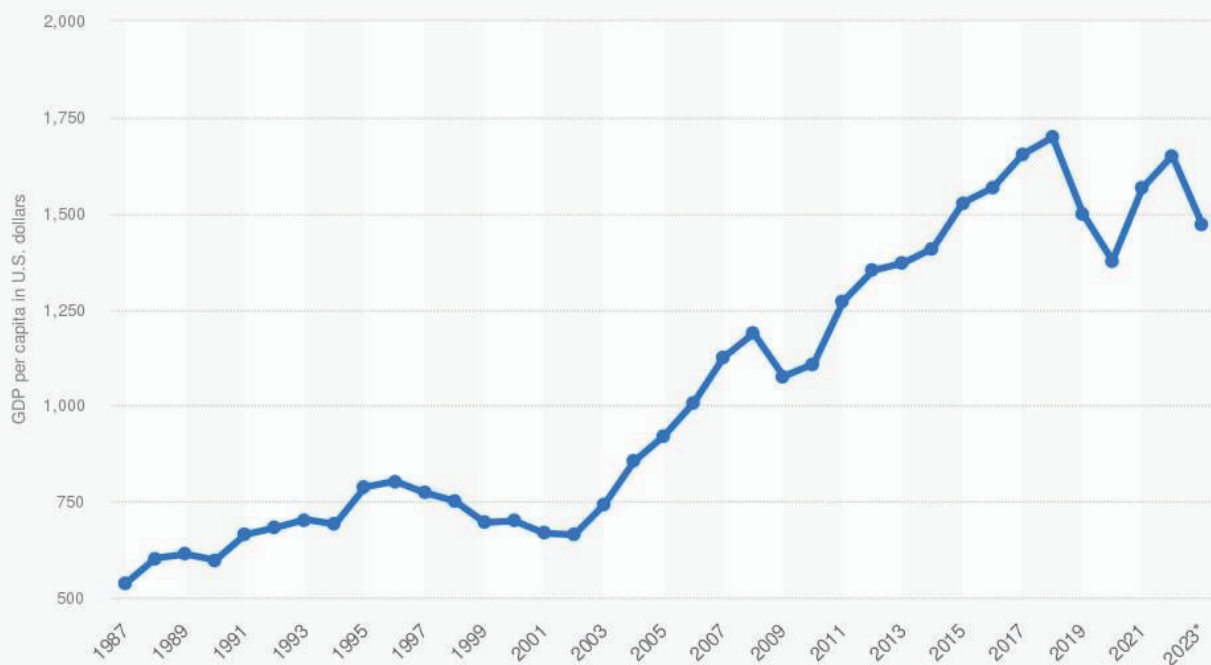
"Freedom from want" means ensuring that individuals and communities have the resources and opportunities necessary to live a dignified and fulfilling life, free from poverty, hunger, and inequality.

Income

• Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Per Capita

Quoting the World Economic Outlook Database October 2023, according to Statista, the gross domestic product (GDP) per capita in Pakistan declined to 1,471.1 U.S. dollars in 2023. In 2022, Pakistan's GDP per capita was \$1,597; in 2020, it was \$1,322, while in 2019 it was \$1,437. The fall in GDP per capita is the one of manifestations of the prevailing economic crisis in the country.

Pakistan: Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita in current prices from 1987 to 2023 (in U.S. dollars)



Source
IMF
© Statista 2024

Additional Information:
IMF; 1987 to 2023

Adopted from Statista

Food Security

The prices of various food items such as wheat, onion, pulses, vegetables, milk, and ghee have skyrocketed since 2021. The increasing inflation, around 17.30 percent in April 2024, has contributed to the rising cost of nutrition, which ultimately contributed to the rising percentage of poverty.

- **Wheat Consumption Per Capita**

According to the Wheat Policy Analysis For 2023-24, with around 115 kg, Pakistan's wheat consumption per capita is one of the highest in the world. Despite being the 8th largest producer in the world, the 2022 flood greatly impacted Pakistan's potential to meet its needs indigenously. In November 2022, Pakistan approved a deal worth nearly \$112 million to import 300,000 metric tons of wheat from Russia to meet its domestic shortfall.

- **Deficit/Surplus in Wheat Consumption and Production**

According to Wheat Policy Analysis for the 2023–24 Crop, "Wheat production from the 2022–23 crop is reported at 28.18 million tonnes, showing 7.5 percent higher than the production of 26.21 million tonnes in 2021–22." While the total domestic requirement will range between 32.00 and 32.54 million tonnes. So the deficit is estimated at 2.21 to 2.75 million tonnes. According to the Monthly Update and Outlook for March 2024, released by finance division of the government of Pakistan, "the wheat sowing for the current Rabi (crops that are sown in winter and harvested in the spring) season 2023–24 has surpassed the target, covering an area of 9.160 million hectares against the target of 8.998 million hectares. However, weather plays important role at crop maturity time."

Employment In Wages

- **Unemployment Rate**

The economic crisis has contributed a fair share to the rising unemployment rate in Pakistan. The International Labour Organisation's (ILO) Employee Outlook report for September 2023 projected the number of persons unemployed to reach 5.6 million this year, an increase of 1.5 million since 2021. According to the IMF Country Report No. 24/17 Pakistan, released in January 2024, the estimated unemployment rate in 2023 is 8.5%, up from 6.2 percent in 2021, while it is projected at 8% for FY2024. Financial crisis and flood devastation played a vital role in inflating these figures. In addition to the decreasing opportunity for employment, the indicators of job security and the average real wage are not encouraging. The higher inflation rate caused a downward trend in real average wages in Pakistan. The growing labor market troubles are a result of Pakistan's financial woes, which were made worse by the recent macroeconomic instability, the COVID-19 crisis shock, and the 2022 floods.

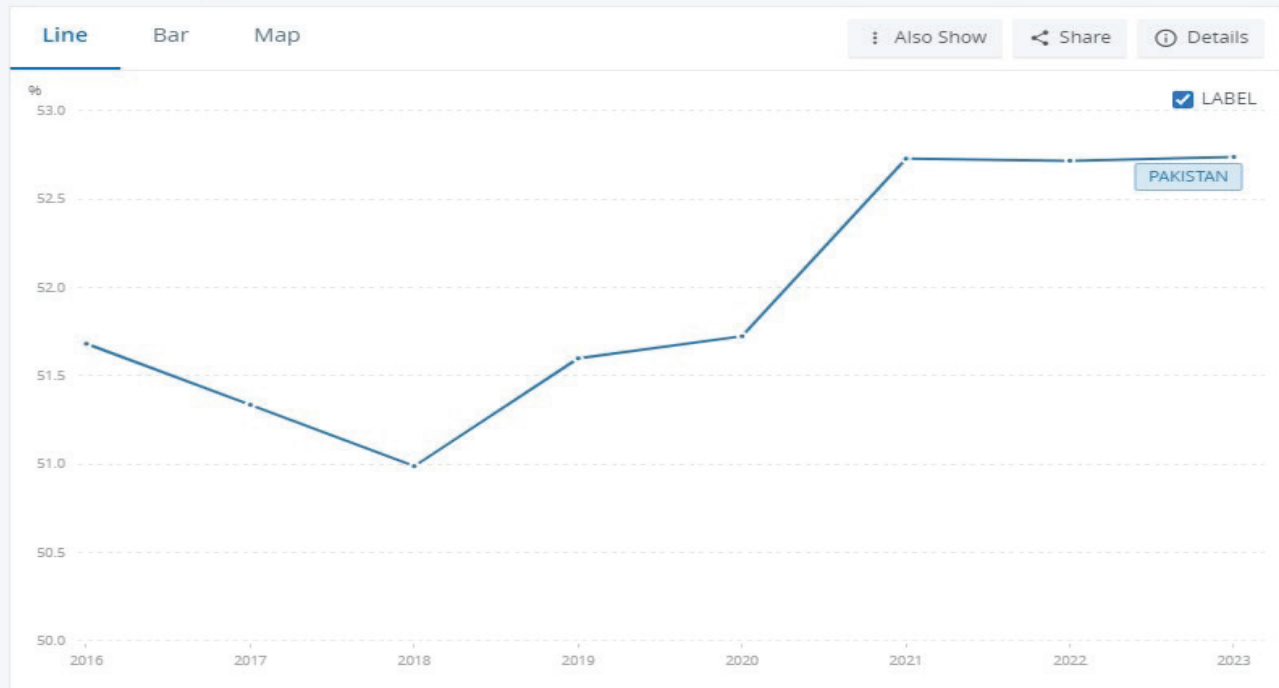
- **Labor Force Participation Rate**

Pakistan's labor force participation rate remained stagnant and saw no improvement. According to the World Bank (WB) data for 2023, it has been at 53% since 2021. However, the global average labor force participation rate is calculated at 60.8%.

Labor force participation rate, total (% of total population ages 15+) (modeled ILO estimate) - Pakistan

International Labour Organization. "ILO Modelled Estimates and Projections database (ILOEST)" ILOSTAT. Accessed February 06, 2024. ilostat.ilo.org/data.

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Adopted from World Bank DATA

Shelter

To address the housing shortages, the Government of Pakistan launched the Naya Pakistan Housing Program (NPHP) in April 2019 with the objective of providing 5 million housing units across the country over five years. However, the initiative never materialized. According to a blog on the IMARAT Institute of Policy Studies (IIPP) titled "Inadequate Housing in Pakistan: A Need for Low-Cost Housing Schemes," "out of 229 million people in Pakistan, more than one-third live in 20.01 million houses in urban areas of Pakistan, and the remaining live in nearly 13 million houses in rural areas." Housing in Pakistan has gone up from 4 million to 10 million units; more than half of them live in urban areas, which are expected to reach 17.2 million units by 2025. According to the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 41.65% of the rural population and 30.38% of the urban population in Pakistan live in the housing unit of one room.

Energy Security

According to Pakistan Economic Survey 2022-23, in Pakistan, alternative and renewable energy sources (AREs) account for 6.8% of total installed electricity's capacity. The survey also delineates that "The country's total installed electricity capacity stands at 41,000 MW; the percentage share of hydel, thermal, nuclear, and renewable is 25.8 percent, 58.8 percent, 8.6 percent, and 6.8 percent, respectively."

Table 14.1: Installed Capacity and Generation of Electricity (July-March FY2023)

Source	Installed Capacity		Generation	
	MW	Share (%)	GWh	Share (%)
Hydel	10,592	25.8	26,937	28.6
Thermal	24,095	58.8	43,526	46.2
Nuclear	3,530	8.6	19,739	21.0
Renewable	2,783	6.8	3,919	4.2
Total	41,000		94,121	

Source: Hydrocarbon Development Institute of Pakistan

Adopted from Pakistan Economic Survey 2022-23

The increased electricity tariff and economic slowdown can be seen easily in the decreasing electricity production in 2023 compared to 2022.

• **Per Capita Electricity Consumption**

An important indicator of the living standards of people in a country is per capita electricity consumption. According to the State of Industry Report 2022 (SIR-2022) of the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA), Pakistan has 644 kilowatt-hours (kWh), one of the lowest per capita electricity consumptions in the world. Additionally, the percentage of electricity production from renewable sources is low, and there is no hope of a significant increase any time soon.

• **Petrol Consumption Per Capita**

According to the Pakistan Economic Survey 2022-23, the demand for petroleum products in 2023 declined compared with 2022; hence, Pakistan's petrol consumption per capita has fallen over the past year due to the inflating prices of petrol. A slowdown in domestic demand coupled with higher prices has caused a sharp decline in petroleum product consumption during July-March FY2023 by 21.5% compared to July-March FY2022.

Table 14.6: Sectoral Consumption of Petroleum Products (000 MT)

Sector	FY2022	July-March FY2022	July-March FY2023	Change (%)
Domestic	29.522	24.792	13.547	-45.36
Industry	1,332.899	1,025.826	889.741	-13.27
Agriculture	11.822	9.738	7.400	-24.01
Transport	17,409.035	12,789.549	10,254.475	-19.82
Power	3,683.322	2,423.462	1,413.780	-41.66
Government	373.489	276.316	261.668	-5.30
Overseas	250.121	175.660	229.930	30.89
Total	23,090.210	16,725.343	13,070.541	-21.85

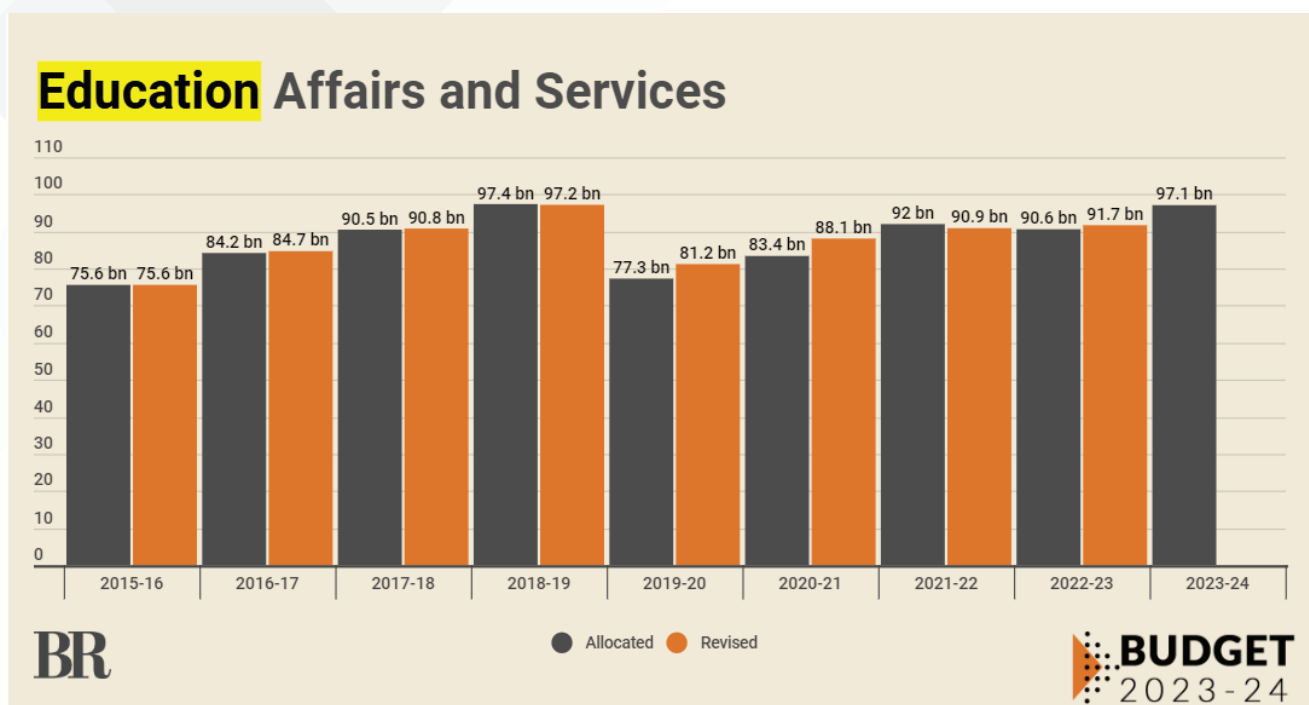
Source: Petroleum Division, Ministry of Energy

The gas consumption per capita also shows a downward trend and severe shortages in various areas.

Education

• Literacy Rate and Education Expenditure

According to the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, Pakistan's current literacy rate is 62.3%, while the Pakistan Economic Survey 2022–23 gave it 62.8%. As per the Pakistan Economic Survey 2022–23, the youth literacy (15–24 years) rate stands at 72%, and adult literacy (15 years and older) is 57%. In 2022–23, 1.7% of the total federal budget was allocated for education. Education expenditure has seen a marginal increase from Rs 91,777 million in 2022–23 FY to Rs 97,098 million in 2023–24 FY. The majority of the federal education budget goes to higher education.

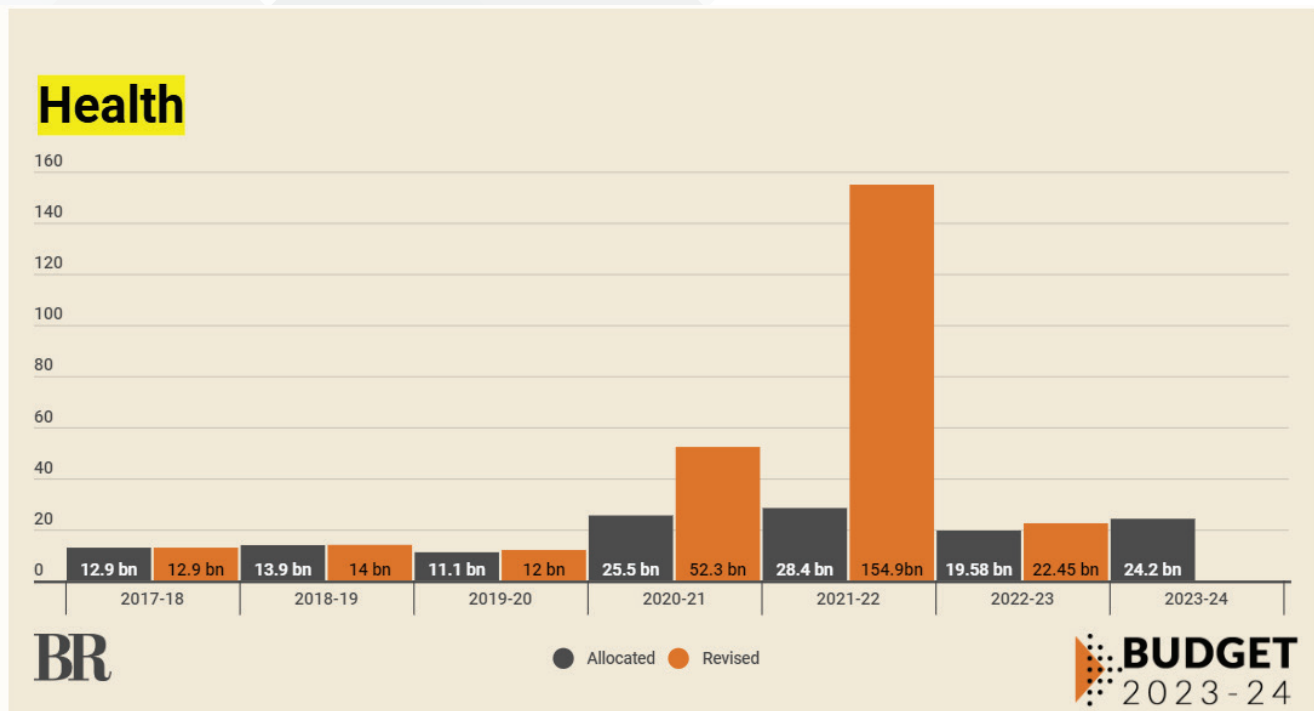


Adopted from Business Recorder Website

Health

• Government Expenditure on Health as % of GDP

The National Health Vision 2016–2025 envisioned health sector reforms, with an emphasis on strengthening the public health delivery system through meticulously planned and need-based interventions. In this regards, the health expenditure as a percentage of GDP is an important indicator to gauge the level of the government's consideration of the healthcare system. Pakistan's health expenditure has decreased since 2021–2022. The COVID-19 crisis was a central reason for the higher health expenditures in these years. As the threat faded, so did the amount of allocation in the federal budget. However, removing the COVID-19 factor, Pakistan's health expenditure shows a great increase compared with health expenditure in 2019–2020. The following paragraph depicts the health expenditure of the last five years:



Adopted from Business Recorder Website

At the provincial level, all provinces follow different health plans. The KPK Health Ministry introduced time-needed reforms in its health policy (2018–2025) to upgrade governance, management, and accountability in the health sector. In the wake of KPK reforms, different regulatory and management bodies, such as Boards of Governors in MTIs, the Health Care Commission, and the Health Foundation, were established.

The Punjab Health Sector Strategy 2019–28 was launched in 2018 to achieve 53 delineated objectives in ten broadly defined areas:

1. Maternal and Child Health (MNCH), Nutrition, and Family Planning (FP)
2. Preventive health services, including communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCDs),
3. Patient Safety and Quality of Care
4. Medicines and Biomedical Equipment
5. Health Management Information System
6. Health Governance and Accountability
7. Human Resource for Health (HRH)
8. Healthcare Financing & Public Private Partnership
9. Health Disaster Management and Emergency Medicine
10. One Health including Environmental Health

The Sindh government recently launched Mental Health Policy 2023–2030. "Well and Healthy Balochistan" Health Policy 2018–30 and the Balochistan Health Card Program are the central guidelines of the Balochistan government for ensuring high standards and universal access to healthcare.

- **Physicians per 1000 people**

According to the World Population Review 2024 statistics, Pakistan has 10.8 physicians and 1.2 dentists per 1000 people. Currently, the highest number of physicians per 1000 people, 84.30, is in Cuba, and the lowest number of doctors per capita is in Somalia, with 0.20. while according to the World Bank report, this number was too low, 1.1 physicians per 1000 people in 2019.

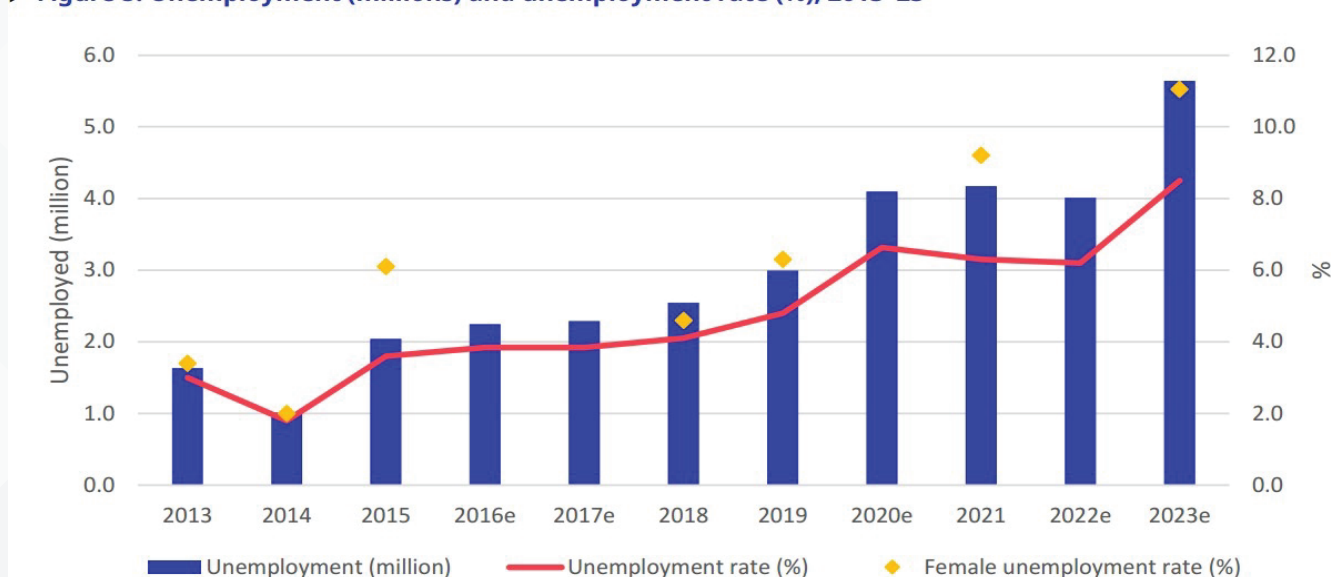
Women

A marginal increase has been found in the female literacy rate from 49.6% in 2022 to 51.8% in 2024. According to Labour Force Survey 2020-21, the female unemployment rate stood at 8.9%.



Adopted from Labour Force Survey 2020-21

According to the International Labour Organization's (ILO) report for September 2023, "the female unemployment rate, which is historically at least 1.5 times that of male rates, could reach a high of 11.1 percent." The female life expectancy in Pakistan stands at 66.2 years, lower than that in India (70.15 years) and Bangladesh (71.9 years).

► **Figure 5: Unemployment (millions) and unemployment rate (%), 2013–23**

Note: e = estimates.

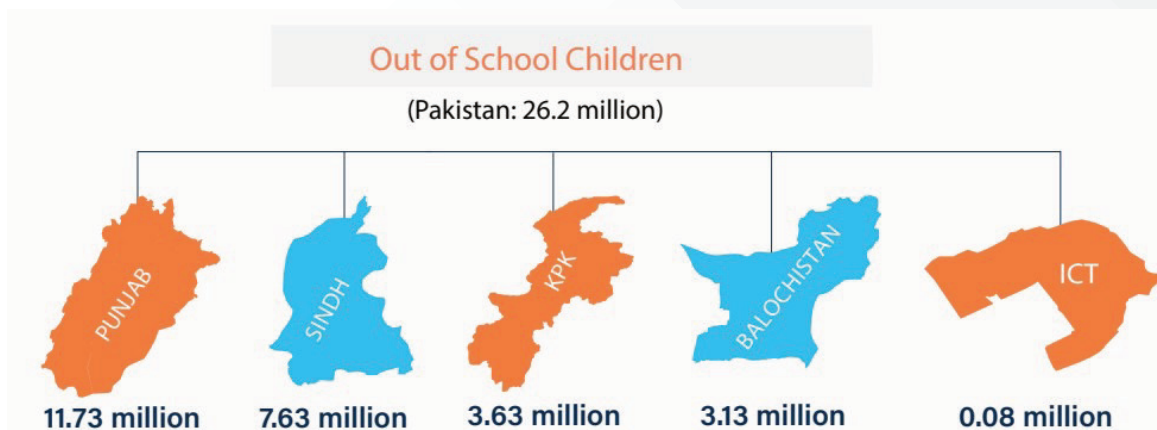
Source: Pakistan labour force survey results, available in [ILOSTAT](#), except for 2016–17, 2020 and 2022–23, which are ILO estimates.

Adopted from ILO Brief, September, 2023

Children

• % of Children Out of School

The number of out-of-school children (OSC) has risen since 2021. In 2021, in his briefing to the cabinet, according to Shafqat Mahmood, the then Federal Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, there were 18.7 million OSCs.¹⁰ According to the Pakistan Education Statistics Report for 2021–2022, released in January 2024, the number of OSCs exceeded 26.2 million. The report was prepared by the Pakistan Institute of Education in collaboration with UNESCO based on 2021 and 2022 data. According to the report, "of these out-of-school children, 11.73 million were in Punjab, 7.63 million in Sindh, 3.63 million in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), 3.13 million in Balochistan and .08 million in Islamabad." According to the Economic Survey 2022–23, "Baluchistan had 47 percent of children out of school, followed by Sindh, which had 44 percent, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 32 percent, and Punjab, which had 24 percent of out-of-school children."



Adopted from Pakistan Education Statistics (PES) Highlights 2021-22

PART III

FREEDOM FROM 'INEQUALITY'

"Freedom from inequality" represents the aspiration for a world where every individual enjoys equal rights, opportunities, and dignity, and where disparities in power, resources, and outcomes are minimized or eliminated.

Gender Inequality

- Global Gender Gap Index & Gender Inequality Index (GII)**

Pakistan has been ranked 142 out of 146 in 2023, 145 out of 146 in 2022, and 153 out of 156 in 2021 on The Global Gender Gap Index, according to the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Gender Gap Reports. In the South Asian region (plus Iran), in the 2023 report of WEF, it was ranked 7th, only ahead of Iran and Afghanistan.

Southern Asia

Country	Rank		Score
	Regional	Global	
Bangladesh	1	59	0.722
Bhutan	2	103	0.682
Sri Lanka	3	115	0.663
Nepal	4	116	0.659
Maldives	5	124	0.649
India	6	127	0.643
Pakistan	7	142	0.575
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	8	143	0.575
Afghanistan	9	146	0.405

Adopted from the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Gender Gap Report 2023

In the Gender Inequality Index (GII), the country's rank remains the same at 135 out of 166 countries.

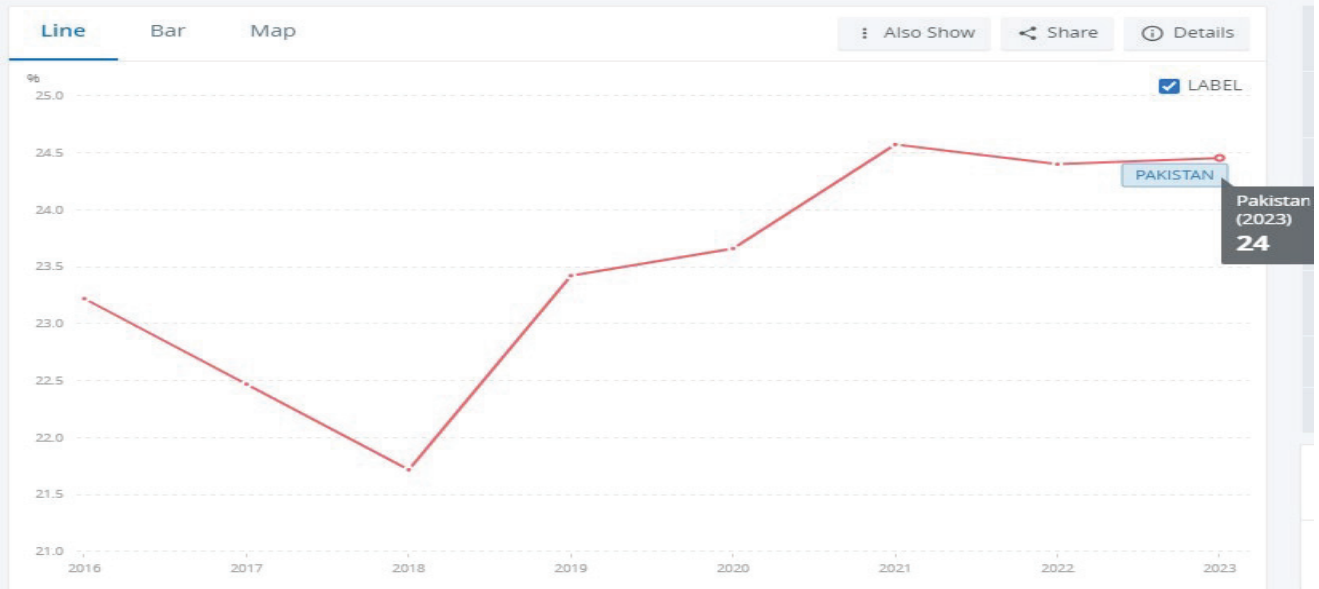
- Female Labor Force Participation Ratio**

According to Labor International Organization (ILOSTAT) 2021, "the female labor force participation rate of Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, and Sri Lanka stands at 25%, 36%, 28.3%, and 32%, respectively, making Pakistan one of the lowest female labor force participation rates in South Asia. The World Bank, quoting the ILOSTAT 2024 report, cited a female labor force participation ratio of 24% in Pakistan. It has declined 1% since 2021. Pakistan's female labor force participation ratio is one of the lowest in South Asia and the world. It has various reasons, including transportation problems, an unskilled female labor population, cultural factors, and poor coverage of the social security net.

Labor force participation rate, female (% of female population ages 15+) (modeled ILO estimate) - Pakistan

International Labour Organization. "ILO Modelled Estimates and Projections database (ILOEST)" ILOSTAT. Accessed February 06, 2024. ilostat.ilo.org/data.

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Adopted from the World Bank Website

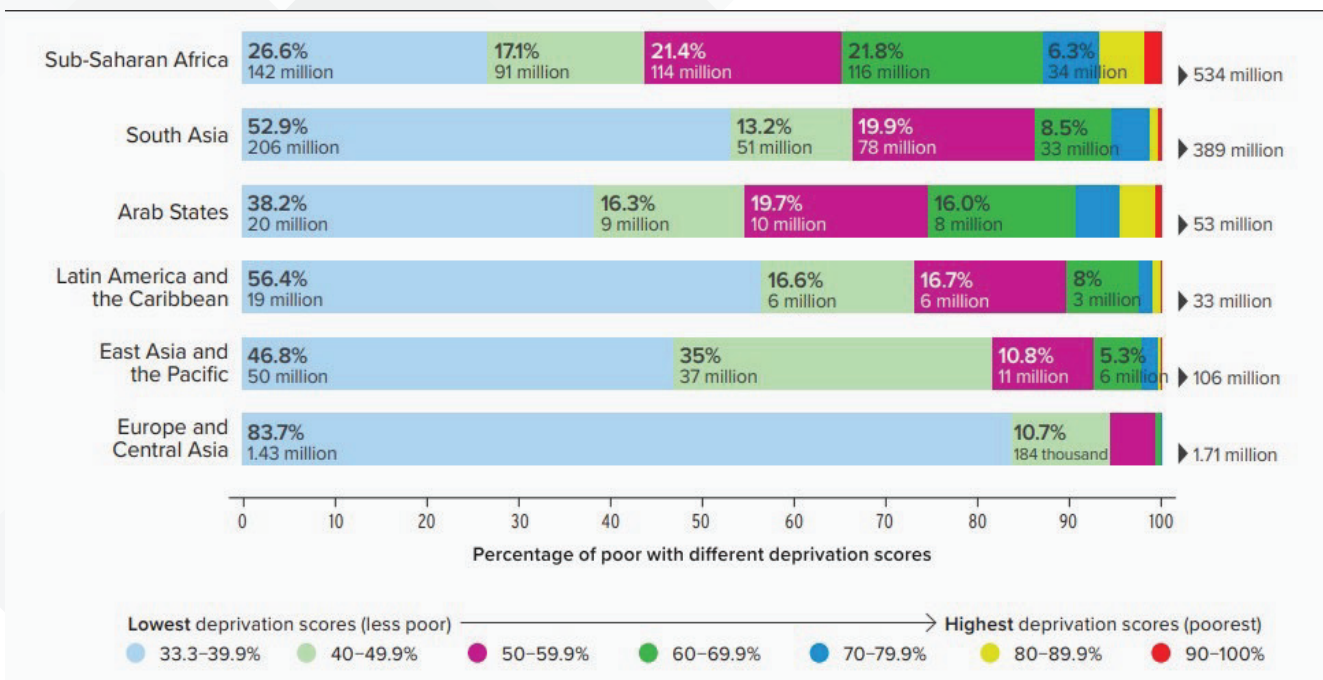
• Gender Pay Gap

The gender pay gap in Pakistan is (34%), higher than the global gender pay gap of 23%.

Poverty

• Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)

According to the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in July 2023, "1.1 billion out of 6.1 billion people (just over 18%) live in acute multidimensional poverty across 110 countries. Sub-Saharan Africa (534 million) and South Asia (389 million) are home to approximately five out of every six poor people." According to the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2023, Pakistan's score stays unaffected at 0.198, indicating persistent challenges, while Indian performance at 0.069 has been outstanding, where it moved 415 million people out of poverty during 2005/2006–2019/2021. Bangladesh, at 0.101 score, was able to move 19 million people out of poverty during 2015–2019.



Adopted from Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023

PART IV

QUALITY OF GOVERNANCE

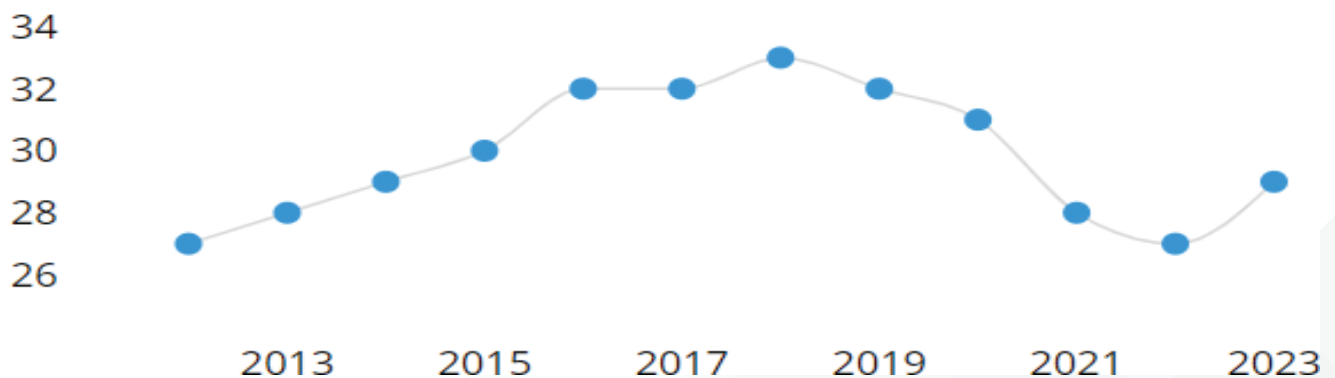
The quality of governance refers to the effectiveness and efficiency with which public institutions conduct public affairs and manage public resources.

Index of Governance

- **Corruption Perception Index**

Pakistan's performance since the announcement of the NSP has been encouraging on the Corruption Perception Index (CPI). The 2021 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) depicted an increase in corruption, placing it at 140/180, which showed a deteriorated picture compared to the 2020 CPI, where Pakistan had ranked 124/180, while its score slid from 31/100 (2020) to 28/100 (2021). In the 2022 CPI, a marginal decline was observed, and Pakistan scored 27/100, compared to 28/100 in the 2021 CPI; however, it retained its ranking of 140/100. On the 2023 CPI, Pakistan significantly improved, moving to 133/180, and scored a positive 28/100.

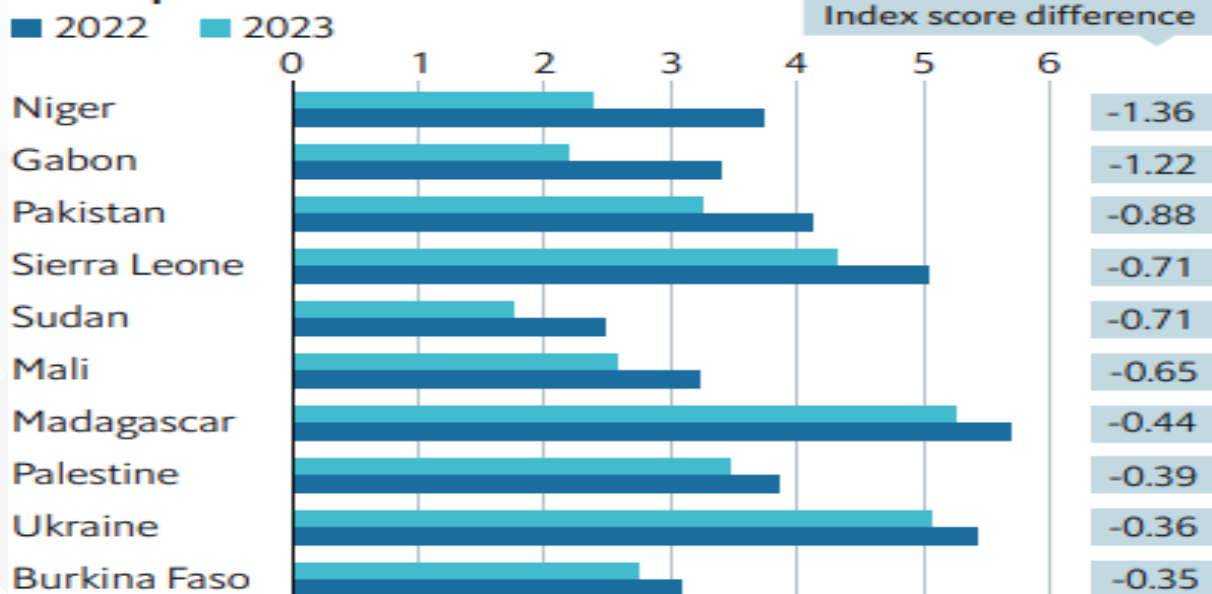
Score changes 2012 - 2023



Corruption Perception Index (CPI)

- **Democracy index**

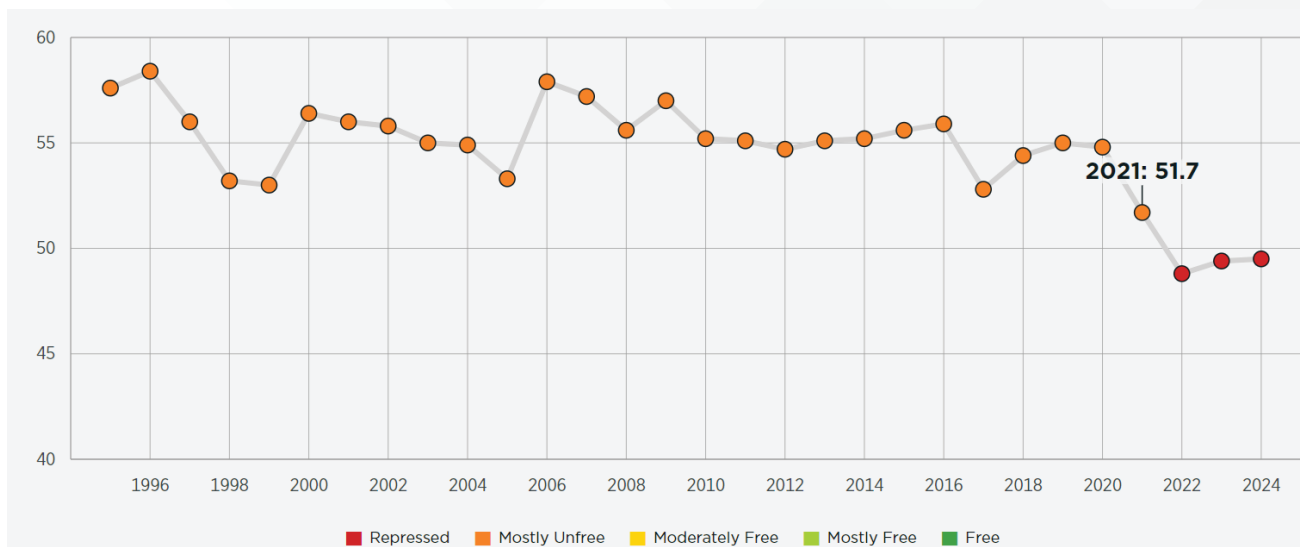
Pakistan's performance on the democracy index has been sliding since 2020. In the Economist Intelligence Unit's (EIU) 2022 report, Pakistan was classified as a hybrid regime, ranked 104 out of 167. In February 2024, in the EIU 2023 report, Pakistan registered the greatest deterioration: "the country's score fell by 0.88 to 3.25, triggering its downgrade from a "hybrid regime" to an 'authoritarian regime' and a decline of 11 places in the global ranking." It was ranked 118 out of 167.

Worst performers

Adopted from Democracy Index 2023 (EIU)

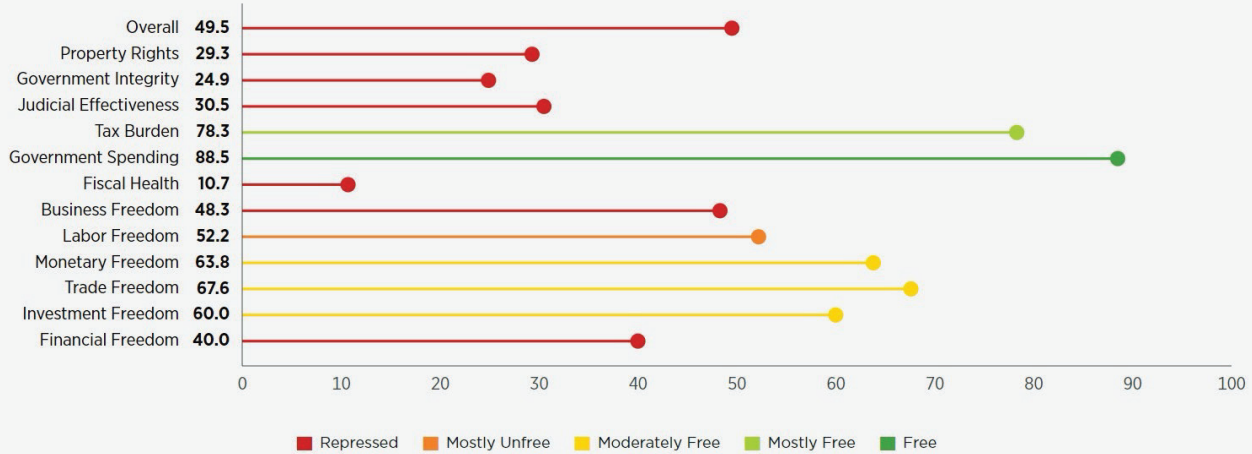
- Index Of the Economic Freedom**

According to the 2024 Index of Economic Freedom, prepared by the Heritage Foundation, Pakistan was ranked 147 out of 176, scored low (49.9), and categorized as a “repressed economy”, having restricted economic freedom for its citizens. Pakistan’s score showed a decline of 1.8 points from the year 2021 when it scored 51.7. As of 2023, Singapore held the highest score (83.9) and North Korean the lowest (2.90) on the index.



Out of the 12 chosen indicators, the alarming point was the status of ‘repressed’ on government integrity, judicial effectiveness, business freedom, fiscal health, and financial freedom. All of them are directly connected to economic development and the government's legitimacy in the country.

12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS



Adopted From Economic Freedom Country Profile

• Human Development Index (HDI)

The 2023–2024 Report, released in March 2024, places Pakistan in the ‘low’ human development category with a Human Development Index (HDI) value of 0.540 and a global ranking of 164 out of 193 countries. In the 2021–2022 Report, Pakistan had a Human Development Index (HDI) value of 0.544 and a global ranking of 161 out of 191 countries. Pakistan slid three rungs on the ladder of HDI.

Findings

- In 2023, the incidents of terrorism in Pakistan hiked and as a result deaths from terrorism increased by 22 percent.
- Pakistan falls in high-water risk countries.
- On important indicators such as greenhouse gas emissions, the production of renewable energy, and climate policy, Pakistan performance is disappointing.
- A -1.99% decline has been observed in 2024 in the infant mortality rate from 2023.
- The gross domestic product (GDP) per capita in Pakistan declined to 1,471.1 U.S. dollars in 2023
- The estimated unemployment rate in 2023 is 8.5%, up from 6.2 percent in 2021, while it is projected at 8% for FY2024. the female unemployment rate, which is historically at least 1.5 times that of male rates, could reach a high of 11.1 percent.
- The demand for petroleum products declined during July–March FY2023 by 21.5% compared to July–March FY2022.
- A Marginal increased has been noted in health and education expenditure in FY2023-24.
- In the South Asian region (plus Iran), in the 2023 report of WEF, it was ranked 7th, only ahead of Iran and Afghanistan.

- The gender pay gap in Pakistan is (34%), higher than the global gender pay gap of 23%.
- On the 2023 CPI, Pakistan significantly improved, moving to 133/180, and scored a positive 28/100.
- On Democracy Index, Pakistan slid from a “hybrid regime” to an 'authoritarian regime' .
- Index of Economic Freedom 2024 categorized Pakistan as a repressed economy.
- In 2023–2024 Report, Pakistan slid three rungs to 164/193 on the ladder of HDI.

The finding shows that Pakistan's performance on almost all the indicators tumbled to achieve the targeted goals of the NSP in its first two years. Since 2020, Pakistan has gone through series of crises like covid-19, low exports to high imports, vote of no confidence, economic crisis along with political crisis, massive blow to integrity of PDM-led government and Judicial process, constraints on business freedom, and, consequently, high inflation, contribute to the government's poor performance on set targets.

Conclusion

National Security Policy (NSP) has been hindered by prolonged political crises, higher inflation rates, decreased foreign exchange reserves, and Pakistan's highest interest payments in the world. In addition to struggling with the corruption index, infant mortality rate per 1000, and life expectancy, Pakistan was also unable to sustain the scores, rankings, and percentages it achieved in 2020–21 for the majority of indicators. Despite being prioritized in the NSP, areas of human security such as climate resilience, water security, food security, gender security, health security, and internal and economic security have not performed adequately and have fallen short. Human security is broader in its scope compared to human development; however, Pakistan's performance has also been discouraging on the Human Development Index (HDI). The report concludes that the government should revitalize its efforts to meet its objectives set in the NSP 2022-2026.

In Pakistan, ensuring the security of every person means safeguarding their well-being and dignity above all else. Let us strive to build a nation where every individual feels valued and protected, where compassion and empathy shape our actions, fostering a society where security is not a privilege but a fundamental right.



THE HUMAN SECURITY INSTITUTE (THSI)

📍 Office# 506(D) 5th Floor, Evacuee Trust Complex,
Agha Khan Road, F-5/4 , Islamabad.

☎ +92-51-2222678

✉ contact@thehumansecurity.org

🌐 www.thehumansecurity.org



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