PAKISTAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Government of Pakistan

7th Population and Housing Census-2023

(FIRST-EVER DIGITAL CENSUS)

PROVINCIAL CENSUS REPORT

BALOCHISTAN

7th Population and Housing Census-2023

(First-Ever Digital Census of Pakistan)

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BALOCHISTAN

Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Planning Development and Special Initiatives
Pakistan Bureau of Statistics
Mauve Area, G-9/1, Islamabad, Pakistan

www.pbs.gov.pk

Foreword

Professor Ahsan Iqbal
Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives

The 7th Population and Housing Census-2023, in pursuance of the decisions made in 49th meeting of Council of Common Interests (CCI), was conducted digitally in the country during March to May, 2023. The exercise was accomplished by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics with the assistance of national agencies, NADRA, NTC and SUPARCO, and cooperation of provincial and district administration in providing all kind of administrative and human support and Armed Forced for providing security during the whole census process including the Pilot Census and Post Enumeration Survey of the Digital Census. I extend my sincere gratitude to the officers and staff of Provincial Government Departments, as well as the personnel of the Armed Forces, who played a pivotal role in the success of this operation. Their dedication and involvement were truly commendable.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to the entire staff of PBS for their untiring efforts. Their motivation and efforts are truly praiseworthy as they worked passionately to accomplish this challenging task.

PBS has done a commendable job by conducting the huge exercise in a transparent way, which has led to approval of this Census in CCI by Consensus. Thus, this Census has helped in strengthening the Federation. This Census gets us the population count and status of access the basics. Now it is up to relevant stakeholders to use this information for inclusive development of population by using this granular data. I urge upon PBS to continue working with Federal and Provincial stakeholders for informing public policy and programs for inclusive development.

Lastly, I am grateful to the officers and staff of the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives for their exceptional cooperation with the PBS staff. Together, they worked tirelessly to efficiently finalize the results of Census-2023 in a remarkably short period of time, thus enabling us to reach this significant milestone.

Preface

Dr. Naeem uz Zafar
Chief Statistician
ستارۂ امتیاز

Population and Housing Census is a crucial national undertaking which serves as a comprehensive data collection exercise to gather information on various aspects of the population and housing conditions. It provides essential demographic information such as population size, age distribution, gender ratio, and other demographic indicators, as well as data on various socioeconomic factors such as education, employment, disability/ functional limitation, and household amenities. This information is crucial for policymakers to formulate development plans and policies that address the specific needs of different segments of the population. The census data is also used for electoral representation. It is a major source for resource allocation, both at the national and local levels, and helps in determining distribution of funds for development projects, social welfare programs, and infrastructure development based on the population's needs.

PBS was asked to do very complex huge task of digital census in early 2022 in very challenging timelines. At the outset the journey was unvarying, and milestone looked unachievable but thanks to already embarked upon journey of digital transformation for data collection and dissemination. PBS conceived, designed, planned, processed, tested and implemented the system to do census in a transparent and inclusive way, thus paving the way for acceptance of results. Successful achievement of these milestones has significantly boosted management and technical capabilities of PBS officials both at headquarter and in field offices.

I would like to thank and congratulate Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal, Member (Support Services/RM) (Project Lead Digital Census), Mr. Ayazuddin, Member (Census & Surveys), Ms. Rabia Awan, Deputy Director General (Census Planning and Coordination/ CPMU) and their whole team for their tireless dedication and efforts for successful completion of the census operation under challenging circumstances. I would also like to render my thanks to the provincial and district administrations for their active participation in providing administrative and human support; the agencies, NADRA, NTC and SUPARCO for timely arrangements of all the necessary hardware and software, and other stakeholders for their active and valuable support. I also thanks to Armed Forces for their untiring efforts without which success of this task was not possible. And finally, I would also like to thank the enumerators without dedicated field work this would not have been possible, for which I express my deep appreciation and admiration.

Digital Census - A Success Story

Muhammad Sarwar Gondal
Member (Support Services/ RM)
Project Lead Digital Census
ستارۂ امتیاز

In 49th meeting of the Council of Common Interests (CCI), held on January 13, 2022, where conduct of the 7th Population & Housing Census in a digital format was approved. The CCI also approved the Census Work Plan, Census Questionnaire, and Census Monitoring Committee (CMC) in the meeting along with the recommendation of Census Advisory Committee (CAC).

PBS accordingly started work for 7th Population and Housing Census by digitizing the whole census process starting from HR and Task Assignment Web Portal Inventory Management, Communication Application, Complaint Management System, CATI Support Module and provision of Dashboards at provincial and census district level for monitoring and complete coverage. For census data collection, tablet devices equipped with various software applications, including house/structure listing and household enumeration software, were utilized. Many of the Modules envisioned for the Digital Census were thoroughly checked and their performance and output were verified during the pilot census conducted in 33 administrative districts across Pakistan during 20th July, 2022 to 3rd August, 2022.

The main aim of the pilot census was testing of validity and suitability of the entire census plan and its organization.

Despite many impediments and challenging timelines, PBS completed main census related activities on time including training of 300 Master Trainers at Islamabad, training of 3460 Trainers at Divisional level and training of 120,000 Enumerators at Census District level on both subject matter and IT related aspects of the Digital Census. Similarly, PBS and its stakeholders achieved major milestones, including, digitally updating of census blocks; acquisition of 126,000 tablets and their hardening; development of ERP system and acquisition of latest imagery of Pakistan prior to start of the main census field operation. The Digital Census also implemented a distinctive feature of self-enumeration through a web portal, thus enabling 2.6 million households to conveniently submit their census related information online.

The Digital Census project has proven to be are sounding success, and I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation and congratulations to Mr. Ayazuddin, Member (Census & Surveys), Dr. Amjad Javaid Sandhu, Director General Administration, Ms. Rabia Awan, Deputy Director General (Census Project Management Unit/Census Planning and Coordination) and the whole team of Support Services, GIS, Field Services/Operations and the Subject matter for their untiring efforts and dedication throughout the entire census operations. Their devotion and commitment were truly commendable, especially considering the challenging circumstances.

Core Team of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

Dr. Naeem uz Zafar, Chief Statistician/Chief Census Commissioner

Names	Designation	Area of Work
Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal	Member (Support Services / Resource Management)	Team lead/Focal person for Digital Census
Mr. Ayazuddin	Member (Census & Surveys)	Coordination/ PES and finalization of preliminary results
Dr. Amjad Javed Sandhu	Director General Administration	Coordination/Admin & Logistics Support
Ms. Rabia Awan	DDG(CPMU/CP&C)	Procurement, Coordination, Reporting, documentation, Analysis & Report writing

CPMU/CP&C

Project Lead: Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal Member (SS/RM)
Section Incharge: Ms. Rabia Awan DDG (CPMU/CP&C)

Names	Designation
Dr. Naveed Iqbal	Joint Agriculture Census Commissioner
Ms. Rumana Sadaf	Chief Statistical Officer
Ms. Ayesha Sajid	Instructor
Mr. Saeed Ahmed	Assistant Census Commissioner
Mr. Saqib Sultan Khawar	Statistical Officer
Ms. Sana Habib Chaudhry	Statistical Officer
Ms. Hina Kanwal	Statistical Officer
Mr. Javed Ahmed	Assistant Census Commissioner
Mr. Zubair Ahmed	Data Processing Officer
Mr. Asif Khawaja	Data Processing Officer
Syed Farhan Ali	Data Processing Officer
Mr. Sabahat Nadeem	Data Processing Officer
Mr. Zameer Ahmed	System Analyst
Ms. Momina Babar	System Analyst
Ms. Tayyaba Rehman	System Analyst
Mr. Ali Raza	System Analyst
Mr. Umair Saeed	System Analyst
Mr. Fakher Hashmi	Librarian/TW

Provincial Incharges Team

Names	Designation
Mr. Shaukat Ali Khan	Deputy Director General (Incharge KPK)
Mr. Munawar Ali Ghanghro	Director (Incharge Punjab)
Mr. Muhammad Suhaib	Director (Incharge Balochistan)
Dr. Syed Waseem Abbas	Director (Incharge Punjab)
Syed Rahat Ali	CSO (Incharge GB)
Mr. Muhammad Waseem	CSO (Incharge AJK)

DP/Support Services Section Core Team

Names	Designation
Mr. Muhammad Ehtesham	Director
Ms. Sobia Munawar	Director
Mr. Muhammad Yasir Ishfaq	Director
Mr. Mudassir Akhtar	Chief System Analyst
Mr. Tahir Mahmood	Chief System Analyst
Mr. Asif Usman Khattak	Chief System Analyst
Mr. Arsalan Bashir	Data Processing Officer
Mr. Muhammad Zubair	Data Processing Officer
Mr. Ghulam Kibria	Data Processing Officer
Ms. Sumaira Yasmeen	System Analyst
Ms. Asma Hamza	System Analyst
Ms. Samra Iqbal	System Analyst
Mr. Waqar Ahmad Khan	Data Processing Assistant
Mr. Saddam Hussain	Data Processing Assistant
Mr. Usman Ali	Data Processing Assistant
Ms. Mehreen Syed	Data Processing Assistant
Ms. Aleena Qadeer	Data Processing Assistant

CP&C Section Core Team

Names	Designation
Dr. Arshad Mehmood	Chief Statistical Officer
Mr. Hazrat Khan	Deputy Census Commissioner
Mr. Muhammad Awais	Statistical Assistant
Mr. Arsalan Anwar Bajwa	Statistical Assistant
Mr. Muhammad Babar Usman	Statistical Assistant

FS Section Core Team

Names	Designation
Mr. Rafiq Hussain Talpur	Director
Mr. Farukh Jalees	Director
Mr. Sayyad Anwar	Chief Statistical Officer
Ms. Kanwal Murtaza	Chief Statistical Officer

GIS Section Core Team

Names	Designation
Qazi Ismatullah	Joint Census Commissioner(G)
Mr. Muhammad Nadeem Baig	Geographical Assistant
Syed Akbar Ali	Geographical Assistant
Mr. Rafaqat Mehmood	Geographical Assistant
Mr. Kanwar Ikram	Geographical Assistant

Administration Section Core Team

Names	Designation
Dr. Amjad Javed Sandhu	Director General Admn
Qazi Saeed ul Hassan	Deputy Director (Admn)
Mr. Dildar Hussain	Deputy Agricultural Census Commissioner
Mr. Muhammad Zareef	Librarian
Mr. Tajammul Hussain	Supervisor Printing

Budget Matters / Field Operation Core Team

Names	Designation
Dr. Amjad Javed Sandhu	DG Admn
Ms. Rabia Awan	DDG(CPMU/CP&C)
Mr. Tahir Khattak	Director (Budget)
Mr. Muhammad Saleem	Assistant Census Commissioner
Mr. Tariq Mustafa Awan	Statistical Officer
Mr. Shahbaz Ashraf	Statistical Officer

Sample Design Section Core Team

Names	Designation
Ms. Rumana Sadaf	Chief Statistical Officer
Ms. Madiha Amjad	Statistical Officer

Coordination Core Team

Names	Designation
Mr. Imran Saleem	Director
Mr. Muhammad Sarfaraz	Chief Statistical Officer

Training Management Core Team

Names	Designation
Ms. Rabia Awan	DDG(CPMU/CP&C)
Dr. Naveed Iqbal	JACC
Ms. Ayesha Sajid	Instructor
Mr. Mudassir Akhtar	Chief System Analyst
Mr. Asif Usman Khattak	Chief System Analyst
Ms. Kanwal Murtaza	Chief Statistical Officer
Mr. Muhammad Saleem	Assistant Census Commissioner
Mr. Saeed Ahmed	Assistant Census Commissioner
Ms. Hina Kanwal	Statistical Officer
Ms. Sana Habib	Statistical Officer
Mr. Saqib Sultan Khawar	Statistical Officer
Ms. Ehsana Anum Syed	Statistical Officer
Ms. Sumaira Yasmin	System Analyst
Mr. Ziaullah	System Analyst
Mr. Zubair Ahmad	Data Processing Officer
Mr. Irfan Bajwa	Data Processing Assistant

Trend Analysis and Report Writing Core Team

Names	Designation
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Mr. Muhammad Yasir Ishfaq	Director
Dr. Arshad Mehmood	Chief Statistical Officer
Mr. Mudassir Akhtar	Chief System Analyst
Mr. Tahir Mehmood	Chief System Analyst
Mr. Saeed Ahmed	Assistant Census Commissioner
Ms. Sana Habib	Statistical Officer
Mr. Saqib Sultan Khawar	Statistical Officer
Ms. Hina Kanwal	Statistical Officer
Mr. Najeeb ullah	Statistical Officer
Ms. Madiha Amjad	Statistical Officer
Mr. Zubair Ahmed	Data Processing Officer
Ms. Tayyaba Rehman	System Analyst
Ms. Ehsana Anum Syed	Statistical Officer
Mr. Haseeb ur Rehman	Statistical Officer
Mr. Waqar Ahmad Khan	Data Processing Assistant
Mr. Saddam Hussain	Data Processing Assistant
Mr. Usman Ali	Data Processing Assistant
Mr. Abdul Manan Butt	Statistical Assistant
Mr. Muhammad Awais	Statistical Assistant

Data Quality Assurance Team

Names	Designation
Ms. Rabia Awan	DDG(CPMU/CP&C)
Mr. Muhammad Yasir Ishfaq	Director
Mr. Mudassir Akhtar	Chief System Analyst
Mr. Saeed Ahmed	Assistant Census Commissioner
Ms. Sana Habib (Housing)	Statistical Officer
Ms. Hina Kanwal (Education)	Statistical Officer
Mr. Najeeb ullah (Employment)	Statistical Officer
Mr. Saqib Sultan Khawar	Statistical Officer
Ms. Madiha Amjad	Statistical Officer
Mr. Waqar Ahmad Khan	Data Processing Assistant
Mr. Saddam Hussain	Data Processing Assistant
Mr. Usman Ali	Data Processing Assistant

Media Group Core Team

Names	Designation
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Ms. Ayesha Sajid	Instructor
Ms. Hina Kanwal	Statistical Officer
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Mr. Umair Saeed	System Analyst
Ms. Sumaira Yasmin	System Analyst
Ms. Bushra Warsi	Statistical Assistant
Ms. Nobeed Sohail	Statistical Assistant
Ms. Sana Naz	Statistical Assistant
Ms. Bilqees Nazir	Statistical Assistant
Ms. Sadia Maryam	Statistical Assistant
Ms. Irum Sultana	Statistical Assistant

Core Team for Conduct of PES and Finalization of Preliminarily Results

Names	Designation
Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal	Member (SS/RM)
Mr. Ayazuddin	Member (C&S)
Dr. Amjad Javed Sandhu	DG Admn
Ms. Rabia Awan	DDG (CPMU/CP&C)
Mr. Muhammad Ehtesham Abbassi	Director
Ms. Sobia Munawar	Director
Mr. Yasir Ishfaq	Director
Dr. Syed Waseem Abbas	Director (R/O Lahore)
Mr. Rafique Hussain Talpur	Director
Mr. Farrukh Jalees	Director
Ms. Rumana Sadaf	Chief Statistical Officer
Mr. Mudassir Akhtar	Chief System Analyst
Mr. Tahir Mahmood	Chief System Analyst
Ms. Hina Kanwal	Statistical Officer
Mr. Saqib Sultan Khawar	Statistical Officer
Ms. Sana Habib	Statistical Officer
Ms. Madiha Amjad	Statistical Officer
Mr. Arsalan Bashir	Data Processing Officer

Report Writing Team for Provincial Census Report, Balochistan

Names	Designation
Mr. Saeed Ahmad	Assistant Census Commisioner
Mr. Abdul Manan Butt	Statistical Officer
Mr. Ahtsham Ul Haq	Statistical Officer
Ms. Sadaf Imtiaz	Statistical Officer

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STATISTICAL TABLES OF POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS-2023

BASIC

HOUSING CENSUS

ACRONYMS

ASC	Annual School Census
AJK	Azad Jammu and Kashmir
BHU	Basic Health
CPR	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR)
CCI	Council of Common Interests
DHQ	District Head Quarters
FP&PHC	Family Planning and Primary Health Care
FATA	Federally Administered Tribal Areas
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
ICR	Intelligent Character Recognizer
ICT	Islamabad Capital Territory
LHW	Lady Health Worker
LFO	Legal Framework Order
MCH	Mother and Child Health (Center)
NADRA	National Database and Registration Authority
NLC	National Logistics Cell
PBS	Pakistan Bureau of Statistics
PCO	Population Census Organization
RHC	Rural Health Center
THQ	Taluka/Tehsil Head Quarter
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
AP	Airport
T.B	Tuberculosis
MCHC	Mother Care Health Centre

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In its 45th meeting on 12th April, 2021, the Council of Common Interests (CCI) approved the final results of the 6th Population and Housing Census-2017 and decided to initiate the next census as early as possible using the latest technology. In pursuance of the decision, the Government of Pakistan formed a Census Advisory Committee comprising of renowned demographers and experts to recommend a framework for the 7th Population and Housing Census. The committee recommended conducting the census digitally with real-time monitoring for transparency, which, along with the census work plan, census questionnaire, and Census Monitoring Committee, was approved by the CCI in its 49th meeting held on 13th January, 2022.

In the light of the recommendations of Census Advisory Committee, PBS initiated a consultative process with provinces and regions and organized sensitization workshops for stakeholders and government functionaries, including Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners, to plan and prepare for the digital execution of the 7th Population and Housing Census.

To ensure smooth execution, Census Support Centers were set up at the district level, equipped with necessary IT infrastructure. A technical committee finalized the census questionnaire, incorporating new elements on economic activity, demographics, and disability. Training was conducted in three tiers, ensuring enumerators were well trained and thoroughly prepared. Given the technological advancements and associated risks, PBS conducted a pilot census from 20th July to 3rd August, 2022, across 33 districts to test methodologies, logistics, and security arrangements. The pilot revealed issues such as weather disruptions, delays in tablet distribution, and mapping errors, leading to adjustments before the main census rollout.

Following deliberations on enumeration methodologies, the Census Advisory Committee recommended the dejure method of enumeration for the 7th Population and Housing Census, counting individuals based on their usual residence, with some adjustments for temporary absences and the homeless population. This decision considered the practical realities on the ground, the effectiveness of the dejure method, and the significant financial and human resource requirements of the defacto method.

The data collection process for the 7th Population and Housing Census began with the launch of a web portal for self-enumeration on 20th February 2023. By its closure on 10th March 2023, approximately 2.6 million individuals had submitted their data through the portal. For the main census field operation, house and structure listing was carried out from 1st to 10th March 2023, followed by field enumeration starting on 12th March 2023, with an initial completion date of 4th April 2023. However, at the request of provincial governments to ensure complete enumeration, the Census Monitoring Committee extended the census field operation multiple times, ultimately concluding on 30th April 2023. In some districts, the filed operation continued until 21st May 2023 due to under-enumeration.

In order to ensure security of the census field staff, enumerators were accompanied by provincial police, while the Civil Armed Forces and Pakistan Army provided additional support as second- and third-tier responders. To assess accuracy and coverage of the census, Post Enumeration Survey was conducted from 8th

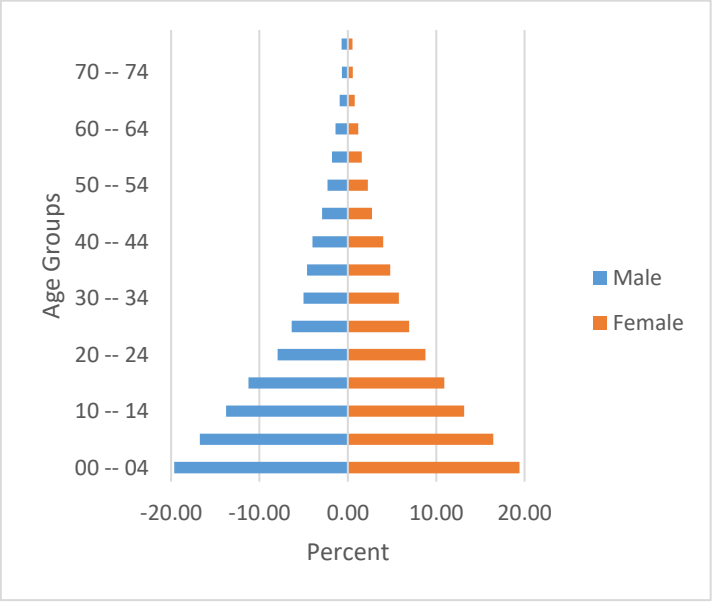
– 19th July, 2023, following the decisions made in the 49th meeting of the CCI and the 15th-16th meetings of the Census Monitoring Committee.

Census Results

According to results of Census-2023, Balochistan's population is recorded as 14.89 million as against 12.33 million in the previous Census of 2017, indicating an average annual growth rate of 3.20% during the intercensal period 2017-2023. The total population living in urban areas is 4.60 million with a share of 30.96% and 10.28 million with a share of 69.04% in rural areas. The male population constitutes 52.25% of the total population, whereas female population constitutes 47.75%, and transgender population barely makes up 0.01%. Data regarding the Transgender population was collected for the first time in this census, and due to various challenges before and during data collection, the size of transgender population is suspected to be understand.

The total number of housing units according to Census-2023 results are 2.31 million, compared to 1.75 million recorded in the Census - 2017. The average household size has decreased from 6.9 persons recorded in census 2017 to 6.43 persons observed in Census- 2023.

The Division-wise distribution of population shows that Quetta has the highest proportion of 28.60%, followed by Kalat 18.27, Nasirabad 13.72%, Mekran 12.59%, Sibi 7.77%, Rakhshan 6.98%, Zhob 6.23% and Loralai 5.84% of the total population.



Population data by age and sex reveals that about 49.66% of the population is under 15 years indicating a young population with high dependency ratio. Other socio-demographic indicators such as population density, sex ratio, literacy and educational attainment, marital status and disability indicate some changes from the previous census which are presented in detail in Part II of this report.

STRUCTURE OF PROVINCIAL CENSUS REPORT (PCR)

The Census Report on Balochistan Province consists of six parts.

Part I is History and methodology of Census 2023

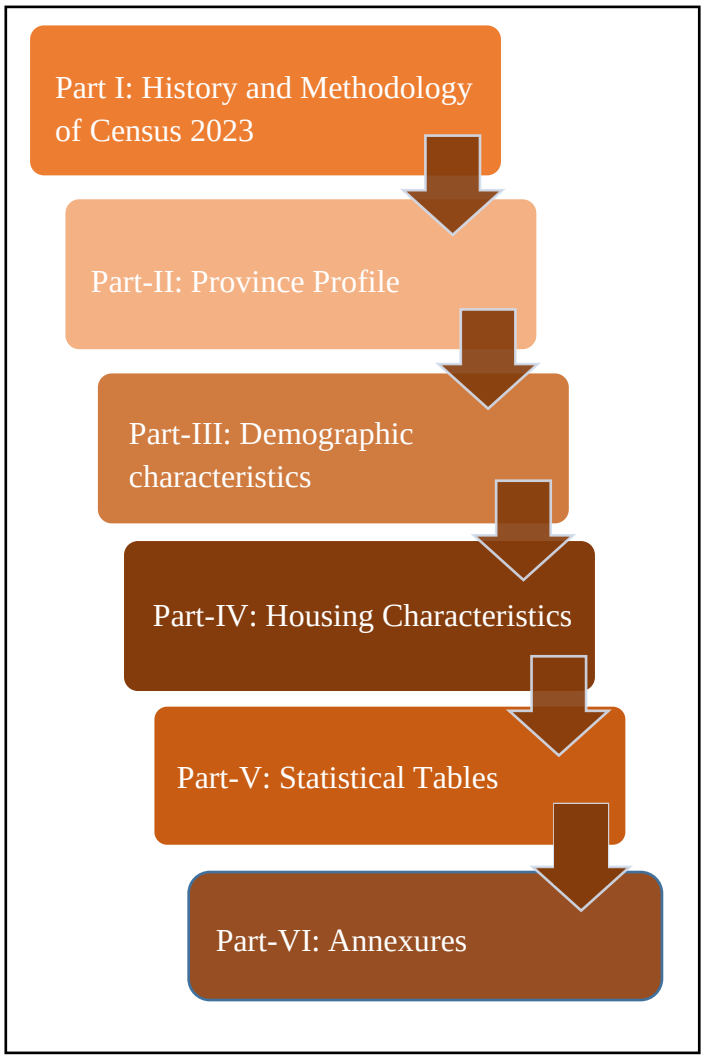
Part II is the profile of Balochistan Province covering facts about its physical features and topography, water resources, climate, flora and fauna, history, administration, culture, economy, agriculture, transport and communication, along with health and education.

Part III of the report presents the broad analysis of demographic characteristics of population including information on indicators such as population growth, population density, sex ratio, age structure, marital status, nationality literacy ratio, out of school children (5-16 years) educational attainment, disability, employment and migration

Part IV provides an analysis of Housing Characteristics pertaining to information about housing units, persons per room, nature of tenure, period of construction and construction material used for construction in walls and roofs, source of drinking water, source of lighting and source of fuel used for cooking in the house.

Part V contains 30 statistical tables, out of which 19 tables relate to population data while 6 tables pertain to housing data and 5 pertains to listing information.

Part VI has annexures including Census Forms and maps of Balochistan Province. Concepts and definitions are also given to facilitate the reader's understanding.



Structure of PCR

POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS-2023 AT A GLANCE

S. No.	Key Indicators	Population and Housing Census 2017	Population and Housing Census 2023
1	**Population**		
	Balochistan	12,335,129	14,894,402
	Male	6,483,736	7,768,166
	Female	5,850,613	7,125,471
	Transgender	780	765
2	**Rural**		
	Total	8,526,993	10,282,574
	Male	4,476,089	5,379,780
	Female	4,050,473	4,902,339
	Transgender	431	455
3	**Urban**		
	Total	3,808,136	4,611,828
	Male	2,007,647	2,388,386
	Female	1,800,140	2,223,132
	Transgender	349	310
4	**Population of Divisions**		
	Kalat division	2,174,722	2,721,018
	Loralai division	735,691	870,000
	Mekran division	1,484,788	1,875,872
	Nasirabad division	1,661,077	2,044,021
	Quetta division	3764730	4,259,163
	Rakhshan division	743,942	1,040,001
	Sibi division	963,941	1,156,748
	Zhob division	806,238	927,579
	Kalat division	2,174,722	2,721,018
5	Average Annual Growth Rate	3.37	3.20
6	Population Density	35.53	42.90
7	Sex Ratio	110.82	109.02
8	**Population by Religion (%)**		
	Muslim	98.75	99.28
	Christian	0.40	0.27
	Hindu	0.49	0.37
	Qadiani/Ahmadi	0.15	0.02
	Scheduled Castes	0.10	0.03
	Others	0.10	0.03
9	**Marital Status (%) (15 years and above)**		
	Never Married	30.22	29.76
	Married	66.55	68.04
	Widowed	3.12	2.01
	Divorced	0.11	0.11

S. No.	Key Indicators	Population and Housing Census 2017	Population and Housing Census 2023
	Separation	-	0.08
10	**Mother Tongue**		
	Urdu	0.81	0.53
	Punjabi	1.13	0.59
	Sindhi	4.56	3.81
	Pushto	35.34	34.03
	Balochi	35.49	39.91
	Kashmiri	0.14	0.05
	Saraiki	2.65	2.19
	Hindko	0.28	0.17
	Brahvi	17.12	17.22
	Others	2.47	1.48
11	**Nationality**		
	Total	12,335,129	14,562,011
	Pakistani	11,872,340	14,049,619
	Non Pakistani	462,789	512,392
12	**literacy 10 years & above (%)**		
	Total	43.58	42.01
	Male	54.15	50.50
	Female	31.89	32.80
	Transgender	34.23	24.97
13	**Out of School (5-16) Years (%)**		
	Total	-	57.97
	Male	-	52.59
	Female	-	64.05
	Transgender	-	88.29
14	**Disability (%)**		
	Total	0.17	2.10
	Male	0.21	2.16
	Female	0.12	2.02
15	**Employment**		
	Total	-	3,624,047
	Rural	-	2,628,360
	Urban	-	995,687
16	**Migration**		
	Total	-	431,148
	Rural	-	182,348
	Urban	-	248,800
17	**Households**		
	Total	1,745,994	2,317,256
	Rural	1,280,876	1,663,142
	Urban	465,118	654,114

S. No.	Key Indicators	Population and Housing Census 2017	Population and Housing Census 2023
18	**Households Size**		
	Total	6.9	6.4
	Rural	6.8	6.1
	Urban	7.1	7.0
19	**Source of Drinking Water (%)**		
	Inside	74.81	41.01
	Outside	25.19	58.99
20	**Source of Lighting (%)**		
	Electricity	70.85	57.11
	Solar Panel	-	26.40
	Kerosene Oil	10.77	4.95
	Gas Lamp	0.49	0.05
	Generator	-	0.14
	BioGas	-	0.13
	Others	17.89	11.22
21	**Fuel Used for Cooking (%)**		
	Wood	71.76	70.06
	Sui Gas	24.01	17.86
	LPG/LNG (Cylinder)	-	3.27
	Kerosene Oil	0.62	0.73
	Electricity	-	0.47
	Bio Gas	-	0.20
	Dung Cake	-	4.77
	Others	3.61	2.64
23	**Availability of Kitchen, Bathroom and Latrine Facility (%)**		
	Kitchen		
	Separate	56.89	53.06
	Shared	27.61	31.88
	None	15.49	15.06
24	**Bathroom**		
	Separate	62.20	61.57
	Shared	22.91	24.87
	None	14.88	13.55
25	**Latrine/Toilet**		
	Separate	79.37	52.05
	Shared	-	24.83
	None	29.63	23.12

Note: **These religions were included in the Census Form as separate options for the first time in Census-2023*
***Negligible percentages have not been included.*

HISTORY AND METHODOLOGY OF CENSUS

1.1 Background

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), in accordance with the General Statistics (Reorganization) Act 2011, is responsible for conducting population and housing censuses in the country. Alongside its other data collection activities, PBS conducted censuses in the years 1951, 1961,1972, 1981, and 1998. Following the 1998 census, the 6th Population and Housing Census, which was originally scheduled for the year 2008, was delayed and eventually conducted from March to May in 2017. The provisional summary results of Census-2017 were released after the requisite approval from the Council of Common Interests (CCI) in its meeting held on August 25, 2017. These results were made available to government officials, academia, researchers, and the general public through press releases and the PBS website.

There were reservation on Census-2017 results for Sindh. As a result, census which was completed in 2017 got approved by the CCI in its 45th meeting held on 12th April, 2021. The CCI also directed PBS to start the process of the next census as early as possible according to the international best practices by using latest technology.

In compliance to the CCI decision, PBS initiated preparatory work to conduct the 7th Population and Housing Census in Pakistan. To achieve this end, the Government of Pakistan established Census Advisory Committee consisting of distinguished demographers and experts with the aim of formulating recommendations to implement the latest technology and adopt international best practices, as well as to devise strategy to build confidence among all the stakeholders, guarantee smooth completion of census operation and improve credibility and reliability of the census results. The Committee conducted several meetings and after detailed deliberations finalized the recommendations to carry out the census "digitally" with real-time monitoring for transparency and broader acceptability.

Figure 1.1: Glimpses from the Meetings of Census Advisory Committee

The main recommendations of Census Advisory Committee are given as under.

- Census must be conducted Digitally with real-time online monitoring & geo-tagging of all structures
- Ensure Universality: Counting of whole population residing in country at the time of the census irrespective of its Status/ Holder of CNIC or not.
- De-jure Method of enumeration is recommended (person is enumerated at usual place of residence). This method is the widely used method internationally and used in all previous Censuses in Pakistan.
- Single Census questionnaire may be administered which should be strictly in relevance to the Objectives of Census.
- Law enforcement agencies may be used for security but not for enumeration / verification.
- Field Data collection / Monitoring may be carried out by Provincial Government staff. Comprehensive trainings and involvement of graduate students in the enumeration process is recommended.
- Involvement of Stakeholders (especially provinces / political parties) from start to end (Planning to Finalization of results)
- Establishment of National Census Coordination Center (N3C) with representation of Provincial Governments for effective monitoring, coordination and policy decisions.
- Effective publicity campaign with effective use of social media for clarity regarding the primary objective of Census which may begin early and extend right up to the release of the first initial results
- Conduct of Pilot Census for checking the whole process and conduct of Post Enumeration Survey for assessing reliability of data and coverage

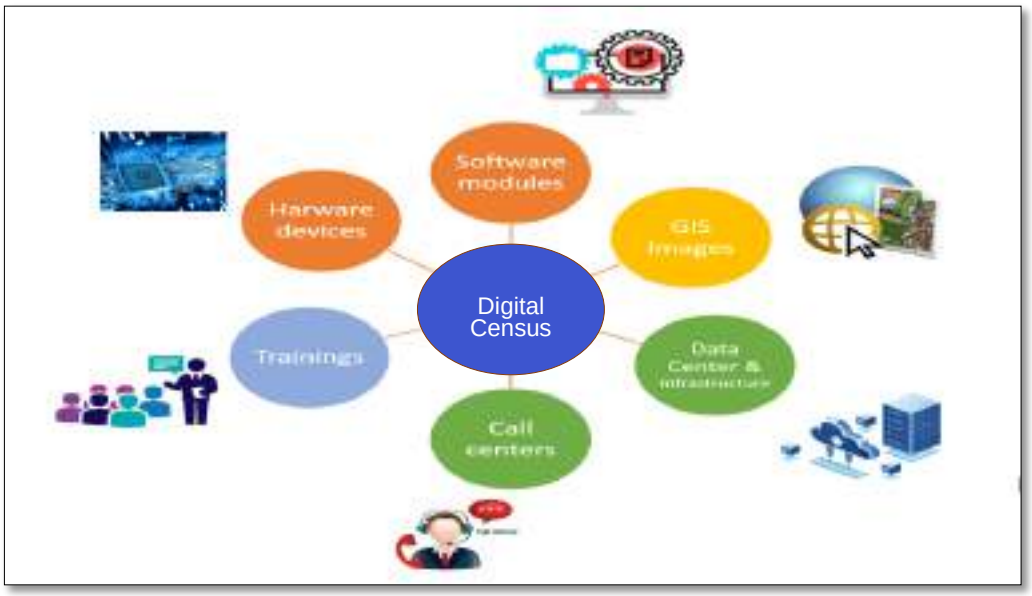
The Federal Cabinet in its meeting held on 5th October, 2021 approved the recommendations of the Census Advisory Committee for forwarding to the CCI. The CCI in its 49th meeting held on 13th January, 2022 approved the recommendations of Census Advisory Committee for the conduct of 7th Population and Housing Census, along with census work plan with timelines, census questionnaire, Census Monitoring Committee (CMC) and its TORs. The CMC was constituted with representation of all Chief Secretaries, relevant Provincial Secretaries (Education, Health, Local Government etc.), Senior Members of Board of Revenue, Secretary IPC, DG Military Operation and others for prompt decision making and coordinated efforts for the successful conduct of the census.

1.2 Requirements of Digital Census

Technological developments and subsequent access to modern technology has largely eased the way in which the business of a population census is undertaken. Modern technology permits end-to-end embedding of processes in the census value chain. This possibility ranges from planning, monitoring and implementation to evaluating outcomes. Many facets of census activities can benefit from the use of technology.1

However, it is of utmost importance to comprehend the significance of technology and carefully choose the most appropriate option. Introducing technology can be an expensive and risky endeavor if not aligned with the unique circumstances of the country. Hence, in order to guarantee successful implementation of electronic data collection technology in the census process, it was imperative to precisely identify all the essential requirements and formulate comprehensive plans for integrating this technology at an early stage of the census life cycle. Figure 1.2 gives a schematic representation of the hardware and IT-related requirements envisaged for DigitalCensus-2023.

Figure 1.2: Hardware and IT Related Requirements of Digital Census



The 7th Population and Housing Census marked a significant milestone in Pakistan as it became the first-ever digital census in the country. The implementation of this census posed unique challenges that required careful planning and preparation from the very beginning. These challenges included development of step-by-step procedures for the entire process, creation of high-resolution digital maps, acquisition of tablet devices, development of specialized census software to perform various tasks such as structure listing, enumeration, real-time monitoring, and field coordination, as well as establishment

[1] "Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses" (Revision 3), Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division, United Nations, New York, 2017. (Emphasis added)

of data infrastructure and storage facilities. Additionally, extensive efforts were made to ensure transparency and reliability of the census by addressing key processes, some of which will be discussed in the subsequent sections. It is important to highlight that the recommendations of the Census Advisory Committee for the Digital Census were thoroughly taken into account during both the planning and execution stages of these processes.

1.2.1 Consultative and Sensitization Process

One of the main recommendations of Census Advisory Committee approved by the CCI in its 49th meeting was involvement of stakeholders through the entire census process. To accomplish this objective, PBS conducted various rounds of engagement sessions with provincial administrations, civil society organizations, and academia. In this regard, five meetings were conducted with provinces from 6th September, 2021 to 16th September, 2021, whereas six sensitization workshops were held at provincial capitals from 24th December, 2021 to 10th January, 2022. Additionally, another round of sensitization process was commenced on 23rd May, 2022, with workshops conducted by the PBS team at all the provincial and regional headquarters.

The purpose of these sessions was to inform about the transparent data collection of census digitally and role and responsibilities of all federal and provincial stakeholders. Additionally, stakeholders were made aware of their access to GIS-enabled monitoring, which facilitated tracking progress of the census. It is worth noting here that the representatives of the provincial governments remained actively engaged from the planning phase of the census until its completion in the field.

Figure 1.3: Glimpses from Workshops held at Provincial Capitals

1.2.2 Role of Consulting Agencies

After approval of the recommendations of Census Advisory Committee and work plan of 18 months to conduct 7th Population and Housing Census-2023 by the CCI in its 49th meeting, PBS, keeping in view the challenging timelines, engaged for the Government to Government (G2G) solution National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) and National Telecom Corporation (NTC) for provision of software, hardware, latest high resolution imagery and allied services required for successful completion of the digital census field operation.

The following Table 1.1 summarizes the role of consulting agencies, NADRA, SUPARCO and NTC regarding provision of hardware and software during the conduct of 7th Population and Housing Census-2023.

Table 1.1: Role of Consulting Agencies during the Digital Census-2023

Task	Description	Responsibility
Tablet device and allied accessories	Provision of 126000 tablet devices and allied accessories Provision of 126000 secure data SIMs Hardening and preparation of tablet devices Dispatching and retrieval of tablet device	NADRA
Datacenter and Infrastructure	Compute storage and network resources Two sites, one primary site at NTC Islamabad and one disaster recovery site at NTC Lahore Intranet and internet connectivity of sites Software licenses required for the datacenter	NTC
Census Support Centers	IT support to field staff Provision of internet devices	NADRA NTC
Call center	Establishment of call center at PBS HQ Operationalization of call center for 6 months Technology transfer to PBS	NTC
Census Software	Provision of complete turnkey solution Hosting of census software solutions at infrastructure provided by NTC Syncing of data and data security	NADRA
GIS imagery	Provision of GIS imagery	SUPARCO

1.2.3 Census Software

For the Digital Census-2023, initially eighteen software modules were considered to facilitate various tasks in a digital format. However, upon careful internal discussions and considerations, it was determined that some of these modules shared similar features. As a result, the Supervisor Dashboard and Data Synchronization modules were combined with the Indicator and Trend Analysis and Android House Listing and Enumeration Data Collection modules, respectively. The final list of modules, comprising sixteen in total, can be seen Table 1.2.

Table 1.2: Software Modules Finalized for Digital Census-2023

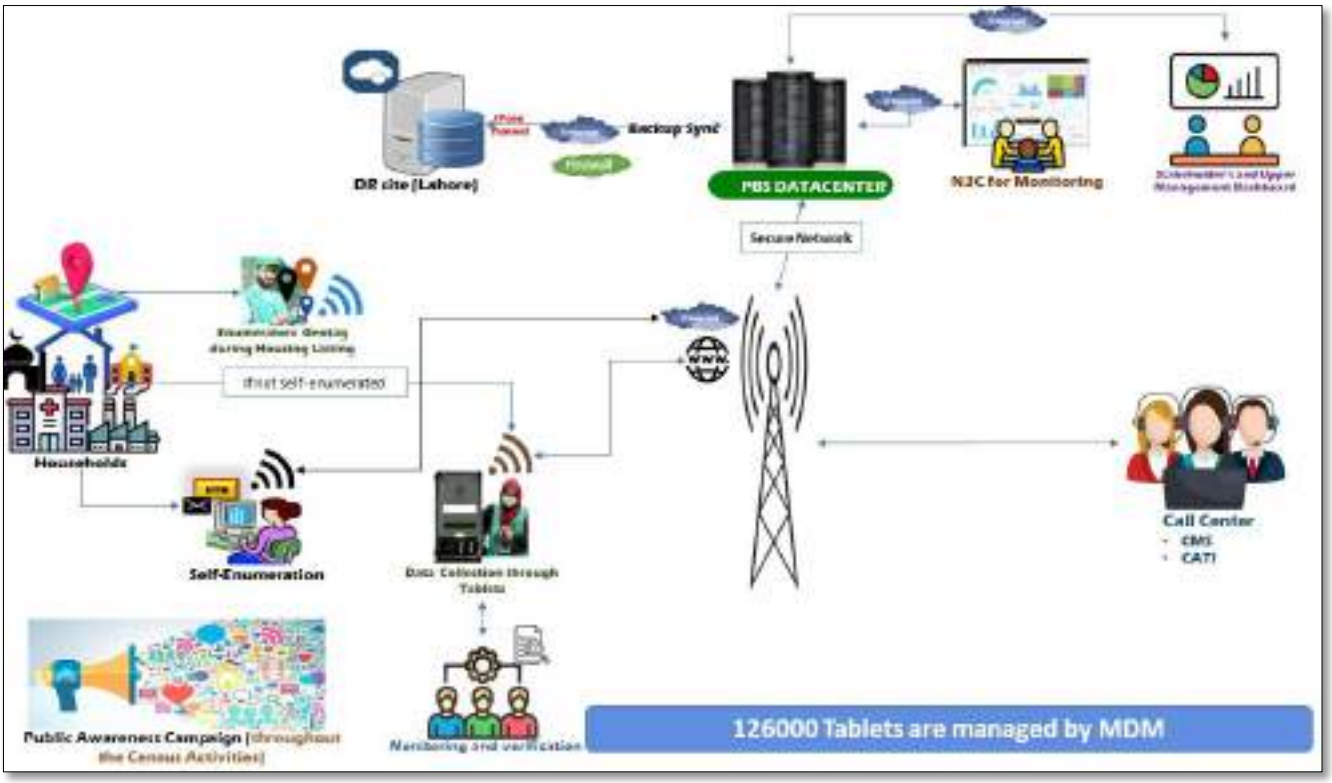
S. No.	Software Modules	S. No.	Software Modules
1	Self-enumeration web portal	9	GIS based Dashboard Monitoring System
2	HR & Task Assignment Web Portal	10	Dashboard for Trend Analysis
3	Training Web portal	11	Data Cleaning Module
4	Inventory Management	12	Complaint Management System
5	Android House listing App	13	Reporting Module
6	Android Enumerator Data Collection app	14	Public Data Dissemination Portal
7	Communication application	15	CATI support module
8	Area Frame Updation Application	16	MDM

1.2.4 Census Hardware and IT Infrastructure

The digital infrastructure, PBS already have, was not reliable enough to support the extensive census operation. As a result, it was necessary to upgrade the entire datacenter to meet the necessary standards for power backups, precision cooling, network and server security, environmental monitoring and control, fire suppression systems, and access control systems. Additionally, a secondary site with disaster recovery capabilities had to be introduced. However, given the tight schedule for the census, procuring and completing the necessary upgrades for the datacenter was not feasible. Therefore, the well-established tier-III Datacenter Infrastructure of National Telecom Corporation (NTC) suitable for this exercise was utilized to provide round-the-clock support, with multiple active sites including a dedicated disaster recovery site.

The hardware and IT related requirements chalked out for the Digital Census-2023 included 126000 tablet devices with allied accessories, hardening and preparation of tablet devices, internet SIMs from Telco's, compute storage and network resources, two sites one primary site and one disaster recovery site, intranet and internet connectivity of sites, data security, IT support to field staff from Census Support Centers, and establishment of call centers. PBS accordingly engaged National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) for provision of 126000 tablets with allied accessories (secured, hardened devices), Census Software Solution (Enterprise Resource Planning - ERP), Data SIMs and secure data connectivity, and census field support services.

Figure 1.4 :The Digital Architecture used in Census-2023



1.2.5 Acquisition of High Resolution Imagery

Digital maps of area frame are at the crux of digital enumeration. PBS had already digitized its area frame, which consisted of approximately 182,000 blocks and conducting surveys through tablets using the digitized block boundaries. However, due to the sensitivity and magnitude of the census project, PBS decided to acquire the latest satellite imagery accurate to a level that does not affect the accuracy of geo-tagging of structures. For this purpose, PBS held several meetings with SUPARCO, the National Space Agency of Pakistan specializing in GIS and Space Science research, to discuss and determine the imagery and GIS requirements. After extensive discussions between the technical experts from both sides, the following services were decided to be acquired from the SUPARCO.

- High resolution digital satellite imagery of 0.3-meter resolution for 18 districts and 0.98-meter resolution for remaining areas for reconciliation and ground reference (not more than 6 months old).
- Support in terms of infrastructure and human development for hosting of Digital Enumeration Area Maps on PBS server.

1.2.6 Provision of Call Center Services

A call center by the NTC was established at the PBS headquarters to facilitate smooth communication between the public and the Census administration during and after the census exercise. This call center served as a central hub of information, handling not only general complaints but also inquiries from the public regarding the census process, on-field activities, and frequently asked questions about the census. Additionally, it was utilized for Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) approach after the census field operation.

A call center was set up by the NTC within the premises of PBS headquarter to serve as an information hub for a seamless interface between Public and Census administration, during and after the census exercise. It was used not only for general complaint resolution, but also for enquiries generated by the public for PBS about the census process, on-field activities and other census frequently asked questions. It was also used for Computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) approach after the census field operation.

1.2.7 Deployment of Census Field Staff

As per the previous practices, the field operation of 7th Population and Housing Census was conducted and supervised through the respective provincial government's machinery. The Provincial Chief Secretaries being the administrative heads of the provinces implemented the census plan prepared by the Federal Government, and all the orders and instructions in this respect were issued from their offices down to the level of Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners.

Similarly, from administrative and organizational point of view, Census Districts were established all over the country, including Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir, for effective coordination and implementation of Digital Census activities. In Punjab, Sindh and Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa, tehsils were declared as Census Districts, whereas in the rest of the country including Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Admn. districts were declared as Census Districts. The respective administrative heads of the admn. districts and tehsils were notified as Census District Officers (CDOs). These Census Districts were divided into Census Charges, Census Circles, and Census Blocks.

PBS ensured effective coordination with provincial and regional administration by deploying its own staff members, including Statistical and Geographical assistants, to work alongside Census District Officers at 495 Census Districts. These staff members acted as a crucial link between PBS administrations, provincial and regional administration, and local field staff. They facilitated timely and efficient communication regarding census instructions, complaints and suggestions, as well as logistic support.

1.2.8 Establishment of Census Support Centers

Since the Digital Census was being carried out first time in the country, therefore, to keep the process smooth and ensure availability of system alive 24/7, dedicated Census Support Centers on the recommendation of Census Advisory Committee were established at the Tehsil/Census District level. These centers played a vital role in facilitating the census field operation. They were responsible for a range of tasks, including the distribution and collection of tablet devices, as well as installation and configuration of census applications. Moreover, they performed as Control Room and Complaint Inquiry Office in each Census District. These centers were equipped with all the necessary IT equipment, furniture, fixtures, and technical staff. The technical staff, mostly from PBS, were assigned to provide support to the technical field staff, enumerators, and supervisors.

1.2.9 Training of Census Staff

In order to provide comprehensive training both on the subject matter and IT related aspects of the Digital Census to the census field staff, supervisors and enumerators, a three-tiered plan was devised. The first tier involved training Master Trainers in Islamabad; the second tier consisted of training Trainers at the Divisional level; and finally, the third tier involved training supervisors and enumerators at the Tehsil level. The training for 328 Master Trainers took place at NIBAF in 5 batches during 5th - 15th December, 2022. These Master Trainers then imparted training to 3460 Trainers in 94 batches during 18th - 23rd December, 2022. Subsequently, the Trainers trained a total of 121,000 census field staff in 2000 batches during 7th - 20th January, 2023. To provide a glimpse of the master training sessions, a selection of photos is shown in Figure 1.5.

Figure 1.5 : Training of Master Trainers for the Digital Census Field Activities

1.3 Pilot Census of Digital Census-2023

Pilot census serves as a thorough assessment of all the census procedures. Its primary objective is to evaluate effectiveness and suitability of the complete census plan and its organizational framework by conducting a trial run. This entails ensuring comprehensive coverage of both geographic areas and population segments. More specifically, pilot census aims to test the accuracy of cartography, methodology, data collection methods, questionnaires, logistical planning, as well as the interaction and coordination among all the resources involved in the census.

The pilot census of Digital Census-2023 encompassed twelve specific objectives aimed at rigorously testing the following aspects.

i. Effectiveness and comprehensibility of training materials and procedures to impart trainings to the master trainers and enumerators.
ii. Capabilities of enumerators to comprehend the census concepts within a short span of time and implement in the field with maximum efficiency and accuracy.
iii. Applicability and suitability of census questionnaire, clarity of its wording, sequence of questions, and response biases.
iv. The enumeration workload and time required to carry out the enumeration.
v. Suitability of coordination mechanism for logistic support in the field and necessary communication to and from PBS representatives in the field and other field staff such as enumerators/ supervisors etc. to devise effective strategy to deal with day to day issues.
vi. Census tablets and other hardware for their suitability in the field, especially durability of tablet battery and charge banks to keep tablets alive during the whole enumeration time of a day.
vii. Census software and GIS for their reliability, accuracy, efficiency and security.
viii. Digital block maps with high-resolution imagery and capability to properly identify to the enumerators their assigned blocks and to help recognize block overlapping/ non-coverage etc.
ix. Compatibility between the hardware and different census software and to sort out issues prior to start of full scale census enumeration.
x. Network availability and proper and easy log-in capability of the devices.
xi. Proper, effective and secure data synchronization and transmission to the central database.
xii. Real-time monitoring in the field and at PBS headquarter to deal with block identification/ overlapping, non-coverage and other issues requiring regular and immediate action from the concerned in the field and at PBS headquarter.

In light of the objectives of the pilot census, which was to thoroughly test all the new technologies adopted for the Digital Census, the PBS Technical Committee decided that instead of utilizing a representative sample, the main focus should be on evaluating the entire process of the Digital Census under diverse conditions. In order to accomplish this, a study was conducted on the block-wise information and after detailed deliberation it was decided to select a sample of around 500 blocks from clusters of districts keeping in view factors such as density, accessibility, and topography of the area. Consequently, a total of 417 blocks were selected from 33 administrative districts for the pilot census. The selected administrative districts for Pilot Census can be seen in Figure 1.6, whereas breakdown of the selected blocks, both by province/district and rural-urban areas, is given in Table 1.3 and Figure 1.7, respectively.

Field operation of the pilot census was carried out from July 20, 2022 to August 3, 2022 in 33 selected Administrative Districts across Pakistan, including Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan. For the pilot census field operation, a three-day training session for the Master Trainers was held at the PBS headquarters from July 5 to July 7, 2022. The Master Trainers then imparted training to the enumerators in the field at the selected 27 stations from July 13 to July 17, 2022. The district

administration of each province/district provided the enumeration and supervisory staff. The enumerators were selected from various provincial departments, and the enumeration was conducted under the supervision of the tehsil and district administration in their respective jurisdictions. As the pilot census was digital, tablet devices were used, and two software modules were developed and utilized for this purpose.

Several key issues were identified during the pilot census. Firstly, the tablets used during the process experienced fast battery drainage, resulting in frequent interruptions. The SIM cards provided did not always match the local network, causing connectivity problems. Another challenge was the technical deficiency of the staff deputed at the Census Support Centers in each census district. This hindered smooth execution of the data collection process. Moreover, the enumeration blocks in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa were situated far away from the Census Support Centers, leading to delays and logistic difficulties. Furthermore, there were delays in resolving technical problems that arose during the enumeration. Adverse weather conditions also posed a challenge in conducting the field operation effectively. Lastly, there were compatibility issues between the SUPARCO satellite imagery and PBS maps, which impacted accuracy of the data collection process.

The issues identified during the pilot census were assessed thoroughly and appropriate corrective measures were taken prior to commencement of the main census activities and field operation for the census data collection.

Figure 1.6: Map Showing Admn. Districts Selected for the Pilot Census

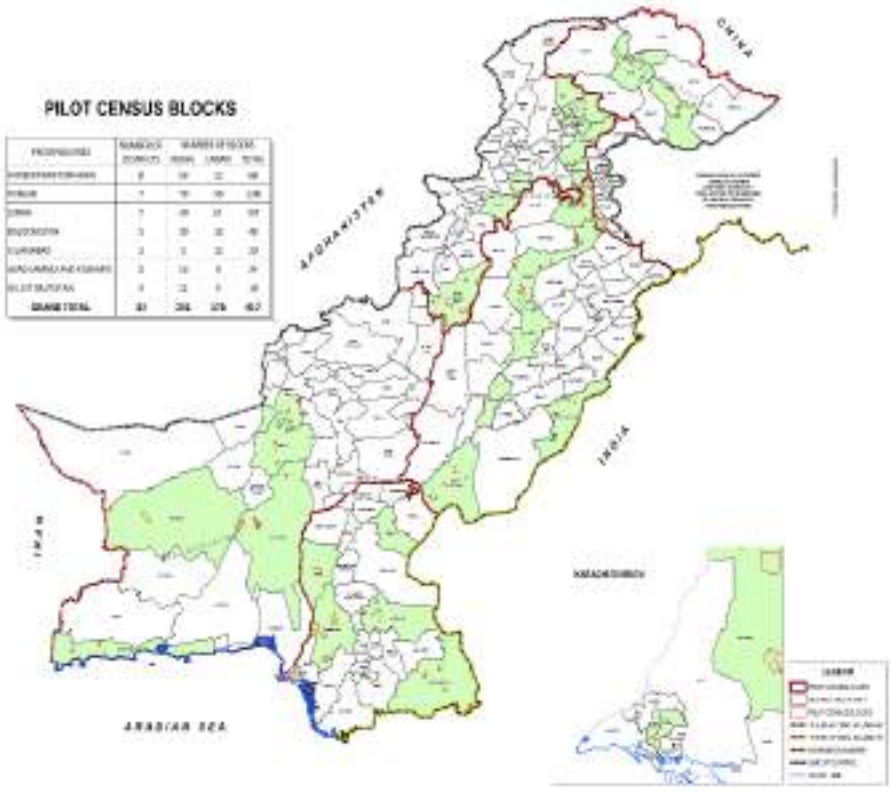
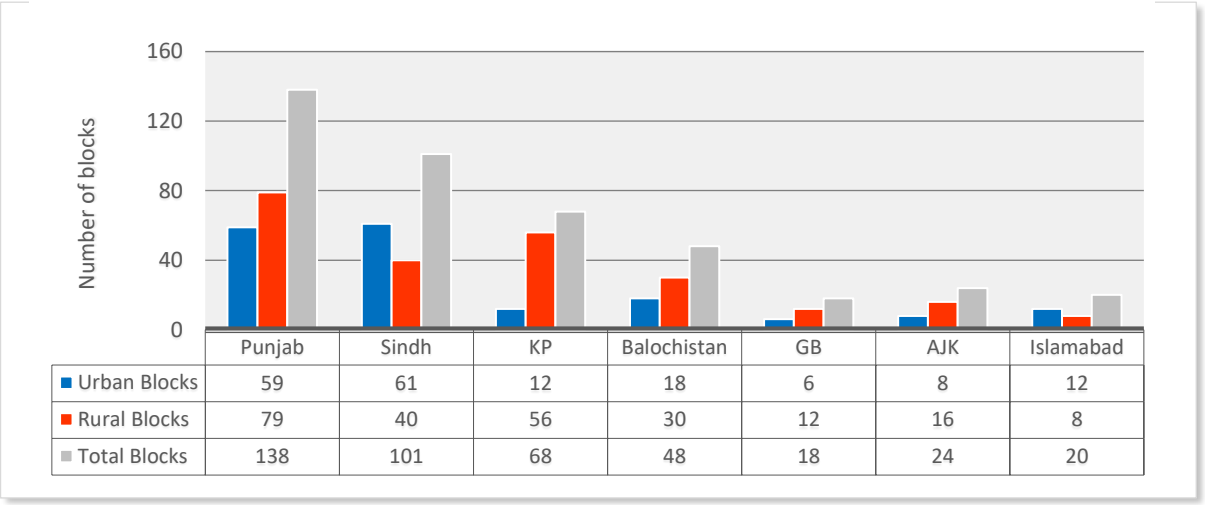


Table 1.3: PES Sample Allocation with Provincial and Rural/Urban Breakdown

Province/ Region	Selected Districts	No. of Blocks	Visual Presentation of No. of Blocks Selected from each District
Islamabad	Islamabad	20	
Punjab	Bahawalnagar	16	
	Rahim Yar Khan	36	
	Jhang	16	
	Multan	20	
	Jhelum	12	
	Rawalpindi	26	
	Khushab	12	
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Dera Ismail Khan	24	
	Abbottabad	4	
	Mansehra	4	
	Lower Kohistan	8	
	Upper Kohistan	12	
	Kohistan	8	
	Kohat	4	
	Nowshera	4	
Sindh	Dadu	12	
	Jamshoro	18	
	Karachi Central	16	
	Karachi East	21	
	Tharparkar	14	
	Sanghar	16	
	Sukkur	4	
Balochistan	Kalat	10	
	Mastung	8	
	Khuzdar	14	
	Washuk	4	
	Gwadar	12	
Azad Jammu and Kashmir	Jhelum Valley	8	
	Mirpur	16	
Gilgit-Baltistan	Baltistan	4	
	Gilgit	8	
	Nagar	6	
Total		417	0 10 20 30 40

Figure 1.7: Rural/ Urban Breakdown of the Blocks Selected for the Pilot Census



	Punjab	Sindh	KP	Balochistan	GB	AJK	Islamabad
Urban Blocks	59	61	12	18	6	8	12
Rural Blocks	79	40	56	30	12	16	8
Total Blocks	138	101	68	48	18	24	20

1.4 Enumeration Method and Field Operation

The 6th Population and Housing Census-2017 of Pakistan, similar to earlier censuses, was conducted using a mixed approach, defecto cum dejure. The census mainly followed the dejure concept, which considers the usual place of residence for counting the population. However, only the "homeless" population was counted using a defacto basis. This mixed approach is also commonly used in other countries of the sub-continent.

The Census Advisory Committee after detailed deliberations on the advantages and disadvantages of both defacto and de-jure methodologies, taking into account the practical realities on the ground, evaluating effectiveness of the de-jure method, as well as considering the significant financial and human resource requirements of the defacto method, recommended the de-jure method of enumeration for the 7th Population and Housing Census-2023. The de-jure method of enumeration involves counting individuals based on their usual residence, which was defined as the place where they have continuously lived for at least six months (excluding temporary absences for holidays or work). Additionally, the intention to live in a particular place for at least six months was also considered when determining usual place of residence. Individuals who were temporarily residing in a place were not counted, as they were enumerated at their usual places of residence. Likewise, individuals who were temporarily out of the country or city to attend religious events, weddings, or trainings for less than six months were counted at their usual places of residence.

The data collection process of the Digital Census-2023 began with the deployment of a web portal for self-enumeration on 20th February, 2023. This marked a significant milestone, as only a few countries worldwide have attempted and achieved such an endeavor for their population. Around 2,600,000 individuals submitted their data through the self-enumeration portal till its closing date on 10th March, 2023. The process of listing houses and structures took place between 1st – 10th March, 2023, while the census field enumeration began on 12th March, 2023, with an initial completion date of 4th April, 2023. However, based on the requests from provincial governments for complete

enumeration, the field operation was extended four times by the Census Monitoring Committee until 30th April, 2023. In certain districts, the census field operation was further extended until 21st May, 2023, mainly due to under-enumeration.

1.5 Post Enumeration Survey

One of the main recommendations made by the Census Advisory Committee was to conduct Post Enumeration Survey (PES) of the 7th Population and Housing Census-2023. The recommendation was approved by the CCI during its 49th meeting held on 13th January, 2022. Moreover, during the census field operation, PBS constituted two Committees: *Technical/ Expert Committee on Census-2023* for periodic review with provincial and district stakeholders to ensure credible census field operation and committee on *Trend Analysis of Census Data for 7th Population and Housing Census (Digital Census)* to analyze trends and determine suitability of the census data prior to placing it before the competent forum for approval. The Committee held several meetings and after detailed review of the census data recommended to conduct Post Enumeration Survey to address the issues of over- or under-enumeration identified through demographic techniques in certain areas of the county.

Therefore, during the 15th meeting of the Census Monitoring Committee chaired by the Minister for PD&SI on 7th June, 2023, it was decided that Post Enumeration Survey may be conducted in order to assess accuracy and the coverage extent of the Digital Census-2023. The methodology for conducting the PES and incorporating its findings into the final Digital Census-2023 results was approved in the subsequent 16th meeting of the Census Monitoring Committee held on 27th June, 2023. Accordingly, the Post Enumeration Survey (PES) of Digital Census-2023 was conducted from 8th to 19th July, 2023, in accordance with the decision made in the 49th meeting of CCI and 15th-16th meetings of Census Monitoring Committee.

For the PES, a sample of 2500 Enumeration Blocks was selected from 48 administrative districts (overall level) with relative margin of error (RMOE) of 1.1%. The sample was selected using stratified random sampling where strata within provinces were made on the basis of similar characteristics like growth rates, population etc. Each stratum represented distinct districts. The 48 selected districts represented their respective stratum from which the sample was selected. The sample size was further proportionally allocated to urban and rural part of each district. Provincial and rural/urban breakdown of the PES sample is given in Table 1.4.

Table 1.4: PES Sample Allocation with Provincial and Rural/Urban Breakdown

Province	Rural	Urban	Total
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	287	93	380
Punjab	471	586	1057
Sindh	313	538	851
Balochistan	124	43	167
Islamabad	23	22	45
Total	1218	1282	2500

The PES enumerators and supervisors who were selected from the Digital Census-2023 staff, were assigned new blocks during the PES field activities in order to ensure independence of the survey. To further ensure that the PES field staff was well-prepared, they underwent a refresher course and were equipped with the training materials, including a comprehensive manual. The manual was designed with the PES objectives in mind and provided clear guidelines on understanding the objectives, methodology, and techniques of the survey

The PES field operation lasted for a total of 12 days. On the 8th of July 2023, the PES field operation was commenced with clear instructions to the enumerators to conduct listing and enumeration as separate activities. The initial three days of the PES field operation were dedicated to listing, while the remaining nine days were allocated for enumeration. To ensure comprehensive and accurate coverage, SUPARCO maps of the blocks were provided to the enumerators in both electronic form on their Tablets and in hard copy. Enumerators were instructed to assign a unique PES number to each structure within the selected block, regardless of the numbering used in the census. For example, structures were labeled as PES 001, PES 002, and so forth. Each enumerator was required to enumerate only one PES block.

During the PES field activities, it was crucial to ensure safety and trust of the enumerators, as they faced resistance from respondents who were skeptical due to isolated incidents reported in the media. To address this, man-to-man security was provided to the enumerators, not only for their protection but also to encourage better response rates. The main census field operation had previously suffered from non-response and less coverage, largely attributed to the lack of security measures. Recognizing this, it was imperative to prioritize the provision of man-to-man security for the field staff during the PES, in order to achieve more accurate and reliable results.

Figure 1.8 : Training of Enumerators for the PES Field Activities

1.6 Finalization and Approval of Final Results

Census is the 9th subject of the Federal Legislative List Part-II and according to the Article 154 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Council of Common Interests (CCI) is entrusted with the responsibility of formulating and regulating policies pertaining to matters in Part-II of the Federal Legislative List. Additionally, the CCI is also responsible for exercising supervision and control over the relevant institutions.

Accordingly, the final summary results of the 7th Population and Housing Census-2023 were compiled by factoring in the findings of the Post Enumeration Survey and submitted for the approval of CCI on 2nd August, 2023. In its 50th meeting held on 5th August, 2023, the CCI considered the final summary results and unanimously approved the results of 7th Population and Housing Census-2023, as follows:

> *"The CCI considered the Summary titled "Results of 7th Population and Housing Census-2023 (The Digital Census)" dated 2nd August, 2023, submitted by Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives and unanimously approved the results of 7th Population and Housing Census-2023 (The Digital Census), as mentioned in Annex-V of the Summary and reproduced at para-7 above, for publication and for use / information of general public."*

Figure 1.9 Glimpses from 50th Meeting of CCI Held on 5th August, 2023

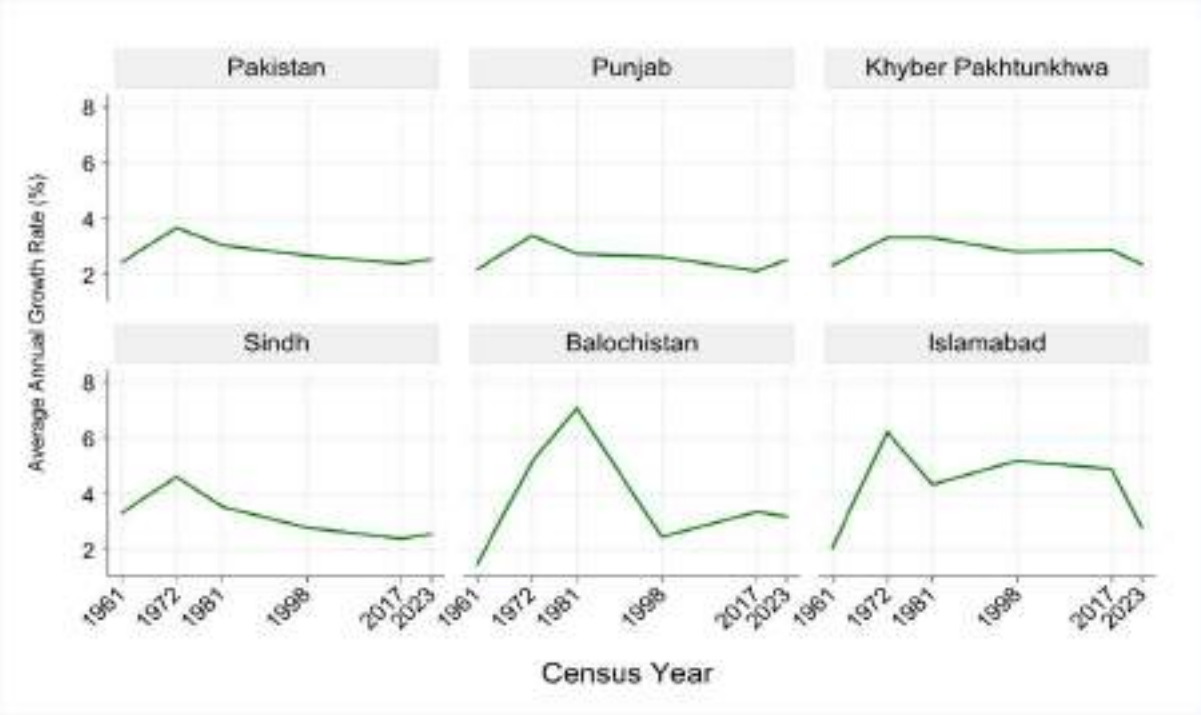
The official announcement for the final results of the Digital Census-2023 was made on 7th August, 2023 through the gazette notification. Table 1.5 below provides a breakdown of the population and average annual growth rates for each province, as well as a comparison of Digital Census-2023 with the previous censuses conducted during 1998 and 2017. Similarly, for a further comparison purpose, Figure 1.10 depicts the average annual growth rates observed for Pakistan, the four provinces and Islamabad Capital Territory *(excluding FATA)* during the last six censuses held in the country.[2]

[2] In Pakistan, since the country gained independence in 1947, six population and housing censuses have prior been conducted at various intervals. These censuses took place in 1951, 1961, 1972, 1981, 1998, and 2017.

Table 1.5: Population and Annual Growth Rates for Census-1998, 2017 And 2023

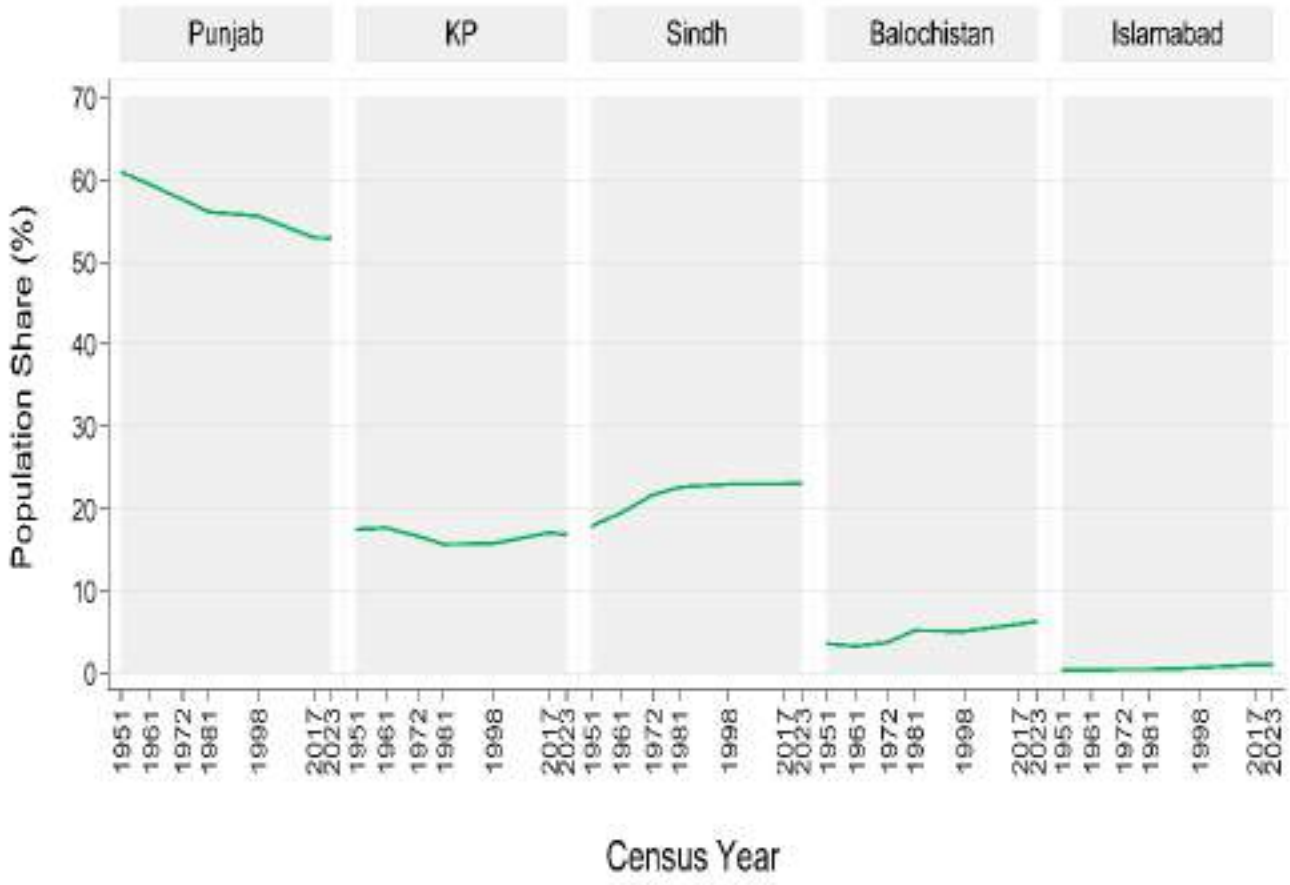
Region/ Province	Population (Million Nos.)			Annual Growth Rate (%)		
	1998	2017	2023	1998	2017	2023
Pakistan	132.35	207.68	241.49	2.69	2.40	2.55
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	20.92	35.50	40.85	2.72	2.82	2.38
Punjab	73.62	109.98	127.68	2.64	2.13	2.53
Sindh	30.44	47.85	55.69	2.80	2.41	2.57
Balochistan	6.57	12.34	14.89	2.47	3.37	3.20
Islamabad	0.81	2.01	2.36	5.19	4.91	2.81

Figure 1.10: Average Annual Growth Rates Observed During the Last Six Censuses



It is pertinent to mention here that in this census there due to access issues in the sensitive restricted areas and some collective residences only head counts were provided, therefore the detailed tables except gender, urban/ rural will for 240,458,089 as detailed characteristics were not provided for 1,041,342. Figure 1.11 portrays the population share trends at the provincial level and for Islamabad Capital Territory during all the Population and Housing censuses conducted in the country. It is evident that the share of Punjab has consistently declined over the years. For instance, in the 1951 census, Punjab accounted for 60.9% of the population, but this figure decreased to 52.9% during the Digital Census-2023. The decline in Punjab's share can be attributed towards the historic relatively higher population growth observed in Sindh and Balochistan provinces. During this period, the population share of Sindh increased from 17.9% to 23.1%, while Balochistan's share grew from 3.5% to 6.2%. On the other hand, Islamabad Capital Territory experienced a moderate increase in its share, approximately 0.7% during the same period.

Figure 1.11: Trends observed in Provincial Shares



1.7 Engagement of Media

In regards to communication strategy for 7th Population and Housing Census-2023, the Census Advisory Committee reviewed previous practices in Pakistan, as well as other developed and developing countries. Based on their findings, they recommended initiation of an early and impactful awareness campaign during the census implementation process. This campaign was to be designed to ensure clear communication regarding the importance of the census, comprehensive description of the entire census process, duration of the census field enumeration, and to address any lingering ambiguity, particularly among groups who had not agreed with the previous census results. The ultimate goal was to foster cooperation and seek their participation in the census.

Furthermore, over the past decade or so, the rise of popular social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube has paved the way for a new era of global digital interaction. These platforms have revolutionized the way people connect and communicate, breaking down geographical barriers. They have become instrumental in the rapid dissemination of information, enabling widespread sharing of news, trends, and ideas on an unprecedented scale. Additionally, the social media is also providing platform for individuals to express their opinions, share experiences, and engage in discussions, thereby fostering a sense of community and inclusivity.

Figure 1.12: PBS's Social Media Platform

PBS, in conjunction with a comprehensive print and electronic media campaign, engaged based on their impressive presentation and creative work expertise of a social media advertising firm. Since the beginning of the Digital Census activities, the firm has successfully handled PBS's online presence across six prominent social media platforms, including Facebook and X (previously known as Twitter), and consistently excelled in effective spreading of census-related news and information to a wider audience.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF BALOCHISTAN

2.1 Introduction

Balochistan is the largest province of Pakistan by area, covering nearly 44% of the country's total landmass, but it is the least populated province. Situated in the southwestern region of Pakistan, Balochistan shares borders with the Pakistani provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to the northeast, Punjab to the east, and Balochistan to the southeast. It also borders Iran to the west and Afghanistan to the north, while its southern boundary is formed by the Arabian Sea. The province is home to the world's largest deep-sea port, the Port of Gwadar, which is strategically significant for both regional and global trade routes.

Ziarat Residency

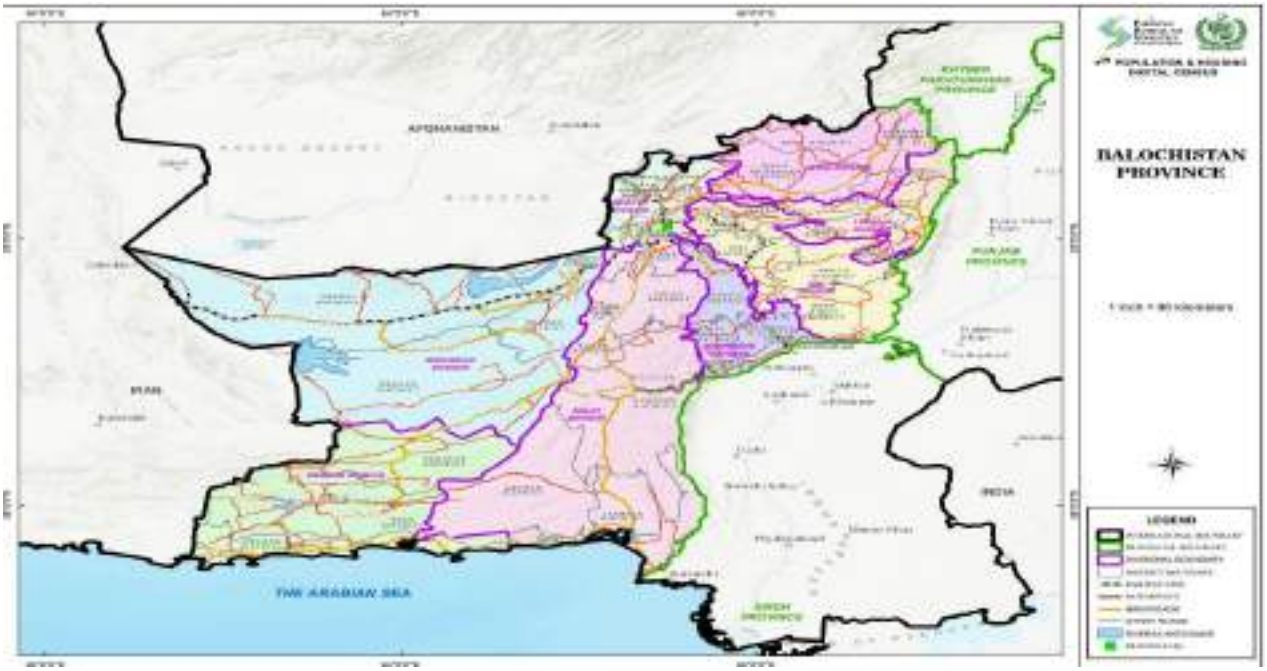
Ormara Beach

Balochistan's terrain is characterized by an expansive plateau of rugged mountains and deep basins, contributing to its distinct geography. The region's arid and desert climate, along with limited rainfall, means that only 5% of the land is arable.s Despite this, agriculture and livestock play a central role in the province's economy, contributing around 47%. The province is also rich in natural resources, particularly in terms of natural gas, coal, copper, and gold, which dominate the industrial sector.

Quetta, the capital city, serves as the political, cultural, and commercial center of Balochistan. Other major cities include Turbat, located in the south, and Gwadar, a port city rapidly emerging as a future business hub due to its economic and strategic importance. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has amplified Gwadar's role in the region, attracting international attention and investment, positioning it to become a focal point for trade and development.

Historically, Balochistan has been relatively underdeveloped compared to other provinces of Pakistan, but ongoing infrastructure projects, such as road networks, energy pipelines, and the expansion of Gwadar port, aim to transform the province into an economic powerhouse. While the region has faced challenges, including political unrest and economic disparities, it remains a crucial part of Pakistan's growth and development plans, particularly through its rich mineral resources and its strategic location

along key trade routes. Balochistan's name translates to "the land of the Baloch," referring to the province's indigenous Baloch people, whose culture, language, and history are deeply rooted in the region. In addition to the Baloch, other ethnic groups, including Pashtuns, Brahuis, and Hazaras, contribute to the province's diverse cultural tapestry[3].



North Latitudes 24° 52' 46.92" N 32° 5' 9.2" N
East Longitude 60° 52' 22.7" E 70° 16' 2s3.93" E

2.2 Water Resources

The Balochistan Plateau is located in the southwest region of Pakistan, and mainly consists of altitudes ranging from 600 to 3000 meters. To the north, the Balochistan Plateau has basins like Zhob and Loralai. The water slides down the mountain slopes, and gathers in these depressions. The resulting soil is quite alluvial. This area is almost completely devoid of vegetation with a very low population density. The way in which the water gathers in the basins is called inland drainage since there are no rivers or seas nearby to soak up the water. Thus, the water collects in temporary lakes and when these lakes dry up, they leave behind a thin crust of salt behind. This is called a salt pan, and these lakes are referred to as 'salt lakes'. Balochistan has immense potential of the rich minerals and gold deposits besides having huge oil and natural gas deposits.

All rivers and streams are part of three major drainage systems. Coastal drainage system is characterized by small, ephemeral streams and hill torrents. Rivers and streams that do not possess any significant perennial flow constitute Inland system that dominates the central and northwestern area of the province. Nari, Kaha and Gaj rivers are part of Indus drainage system located in the northeastern margins of the province. The flow in rivers is typified by spring runoff and occasional flash floods. The

[3] www.balochistan.gov.pk

rivers beds are dry and look like small streams. Stream gradients are high and the rate of run off is very rapid. The Zhob River Basin drains towards the northeast into the Gomal River which ultimately joins the Indus River. Streams along the border of Punjab and Balochistan provinces flow toward the east and southeast into the Indus River. Central and western Balochistan drains towards the south and the southwest into the Arabian Sea. Some areas located in districts Chaghi, Kharan, and Panjgur drain into playa lakes, locally called "Hamun" such as Humun-e-Lora and Hamun-e-Mashkel etc. The important rivers in Balochistan are Zhob, Nari, Bolan, Pishin, Lora, Mula, Hub, Porali, Hingol, Rakshan and Dasht[4].

2.2.1 River

i. **Dasht River**

Dasht River is situated in Makran region. In the southwestern section of Balochistan, Mirani Dam was constructed on this River to provide water to Gwadar city. The length of this River is 241 kms.

ii. **Hub Dam**

It is situated in Lasbela District in Balochistan, built on Hub River in 1981. Hub dam is a large water storage reservoir. The reservoir supplies water for irrigation in Lasbella and drinking water for the city of Karachi. The length of Hub River is 215 kms.

iii. **Zhob River**

The Zhob River originates in the Kan Metarzai range (Tsari Mehtarazai Pass). It passes about 4 km west of the city of Zhob. As a tributary of the Gomal River, which it joins near Khajuri Kach,[1] it forms a part of the Indus River Basin. The total length of the Zhob River is 410 km, and it flows on a generally northeasterly course

iv. **Hingol River**

It is the longest river of Balochistan located in the Makran region. The length of the Hingol River is 563 kms. Hingol valley located in the Hingol National Park offers fantastic scenery of towering cliffs pinnacles and buttresses.

v. **Mulla River**

This river is located in Jhall Magsi District of Balochistan. The length of Mulla River is 269 kms. The dam is 30 kms away from Gandawah city in Jhall Magsi District with a storage capacity of 0.242 MAF. Naulong dam is an embankment dam currently under construction on Mulla River.

vi. **Bolan River**

It is 290 kms long river located in the Bolan District of Balochistan. The tributaries of the

[4] www.balochistan.gov.pk

Bolan River include Abagum, Much and Kolpur etc. The Kachhi dam that supplies water for irrigation and drinking water to Dhahdar city is built on Bolan River.

vii. **Nari River**

Nari River is 386 kms long located in the districts of Bolan and Sibi. The tributaries of Nari River include Nari Ghat Valley, Babarkuch Valley, Spentangi Valley, Harni River and Zhob River. The Nari dam was constructed in 1980 on Nari River. Some small dams were also constructed on Nari River like Haji Shar Dam, Mithri Dam and Ghazi Dam. These dams supply water for irrigation and drinking to the districts of Bolan and Sibi.

2.2.2 Stream/ Lake

i. Wali Tangi Dam Lake

Wali Tangi Dam is a small dam on the enchanting lake of the Urak Valley. Wali Tangi Dam is in the East of Quetta, some 20 kilometers away and the elevation of the lake is 8,350 feet (2,545 meters) above sea level. The Dam was constructed by the Pakistan Army in the early 60s. The main purpose of the Dam is to supply water for irrigation and domestic use to the Urak Valley, Quetta and adjoining areas. The water source of the lake is the snowy water of small streams which are flowing from the surrounding Zarghoon Hills and Sulaiman Mountain Range.

Wali Tangi Dam Lake

ii. **Zangi Nawar Lake**

The Zangi Nawar Lake is situated in the South-West of Quetta city. Zangi Nawar is basically a wetland in a desert area, with the fabulous ecosystem, which supports the biodiversity of the surrounding areas. It serves as a breeding sanctuary for the endangered species of Marbled Teal (Marmaronetta angustirostris) and several other types of water-fowls, ducks and coots. The surface area of the lake is about 1,060 acres and 2900 feet (884 meters) above sea level. It was declared "Game Reserve" back in 1982 and upgraded to a Wildlife Sanctuary afterwards.

Zangi Nawar Lake

iii. **Bund Khushdil Khan Lake**

Pishin valley is a lush green valley with numerous fruit orchards and it is 50 kms (31 miles) away from Quetta. The prominent orchards of the valley are mainly irrigated by the 'Karez' which are tributaries of the man-made lake of Bund Khushdil Khan which is a spot for "tourists" attraction with amazing flora and fauna inside it.

Bund Khushdil Khan Lake

iv. **Mirani Dam Lake**

Kech (Turbat) is a historic town and famous for the Mirani Dam which is medium but a multi-purpose concrete dam. It is on the bank of River Dasht which is in the South of the Makran Coastaline. The water source of it is Kech and Nihing rivers. Mirani Dam was completed in July 2006. The dam provides water for the domestic use as well as irrigation to Turbat and the adjacent areas.

Mirani Dam

v. **Hanna Lake, Quetta**

The Hanna Lake is 10 kms (6 miles) away from Quetta and it is on the South-Western side of Pakistan. The lake lies on the brink of majestic Urak valley. Hanna Lake is the main tourist attraction of the Quetta city. It is famous for its golden fish mainly and a nearby Fort.

Hanna Lake

vi. **Hub Dam Lake**

Hub Dam Lake is an artificial lake between Karachi in Balochistan and Lasbela in Balochistan. It is 56 kms (34.8 miles) away from Karachi, situated on the border of Balochistan and Balochistan provinces. The water source is Hub River which is flowing from the Pabi Range in the South-Eastern Balochistan and it falls into the Arabian Sea.

Hub Dam Lake

The lake and its whole surrounding area was declared as wildlife sanctuary in 1974 by the Government of Balochistan. Afterwards, it turned into a Ramsar site on 1st May, 2001. The total area under the sanctuary is about 27,219 acres.

2.3 Climate

The climate of the upper highlands is characterized by very cold winters and warm summers. Winters of the lower highlands vary from extremely cold in the northern districts to mild conditions closer to the Makran coast. Summers are hot and dry. The arid zones of Chaghi and Kharan districts are extremely hot in summer. The plain areas are also very hot in summer with temperatures rising as high as 120 degrees F (50 degrees C). Winters are mild on the plains with the temperature, never falling below the freezing point. The desert climate is characterized by hot and very arid conditions. Occasionally strong windstorms make these areas very inhospitable.

Average annual precipitation in Balochistan varies from 2 to 20 inches (50 to 500 mm). Maximum precipitation falls in the northeastern areas with annual average rain fall ranging from 8 to 20 inches (200 to 500 mm). It decreases in the south and the eastern parts and is minimum in Naukundi. Kharan and Dalbandin area, rainfall ranges between 1 to 2 inches (25 to 50mm). Evaporation rates are higher than the precipitation and generally vary from 72 to 76 inches (1830 1930 mm) per annum.

Table 2.1 :Mean Monthly Maximum Temperature For 2022-23

District	June, 22	Aug, 22	Sept, 22	Oct, 22	Nov, 22	Dec, 22	Jan, 22	Feb, 22	Mar, 22	Apr, 22	May, 22	Jun, 22	Annual (Avg.)
Barkhan	32.7	30.4	33.4	30.8	25.3	21.1	16.1	24.3	24.0	27.7	32.8	34.7	27.8
Gawadar	33.0	33.5	33.6	34.6	32.3	29.1	24.0	29.4	30.9	32.2	35.7	36.1	32.0
Kalat	29.6	26.8	28.5	23.7	18.7	13.9	8.4	19.0	17.5	22.3	28.6	32.9	22.5
Khuzdar	32.6	32.0	34.2	29.6	26.2	20.4	16.0	24.3	26.0	29.4	34.0	36.3	28.4
Lasbella	35.1	34.3	36.9	37.7	33.5	33.0	25.7	32.4	33.9	37.3	39.1	39.3	34.6

Source: Development Statistics of Balochistan 2023

2.4 Flora and Fauna

Flora refers to the plant life found in a particular region. It is the naturally occurring or the indigenous native plant life whereas Fauna is all of the animal life present in a particular region or time.

i. Flora

Trees and natural forests are very scanty in the province barring Ziarat, Zarghun, and Harboi. Beyond the irrigated valleys, the inhospitable stony soil is covered by a scraggy overlay of stunted scrub. Flora native to the region includes capris aphylla, periploca aphylla, boucerosia, Tacoma undulata,

acanthodium, spicatum, prosopis spicigera, withania coagulans, zizyphus jujuba, slavadora oleoides, three kinds of acacia, leptadenia, etc. Pistaschio trees, and wild olive are also common. At higher elevations junipers macropoda and prunus eburnea are abundant.

Balochistan is native home of some herbal plants which are collected and sold in the local market by local community having a limited scientific knowledge on available herbs. The major ecological zones are, Alpine Pasture, Dry Temperate Forest, Sub Tropical Forest, Tropical Dry Mixed Deciduous Forest, Desert and Mangrove Forest. There is a growing demand today for plant-based medicines, health products, pharmaceuticals, food supplements, cosmetics etc. in the international market. The highlands of Northern Balochistan are the hot spots of medicinal and endemic plant in Pakistan. These plants are still commonly used for medicinal purposes by local people in their daily lives.

Juniper Tree

Zizyphus Jujuba

Pistachio Tree

Wild Olive

ii. Fauna

Balochistan, covering over 44 per cent total land area of Pakistan, is a habitat of a number of illustrious wild animals such as Suleman Markhor [Capra falconeri jerdoni], Chinkara or Indian Gazelle, Persian Gazelle, Leopard, Caracal, Pallas's Cat, Wolf, Balochistan Black Bear, Chiltan Wild Goat, and Sand Cat. Among the other fast disappearing wild animals, the native Sand Cat, in Balochi known as Ghayavan Pishi, is threatened to extinct if prevention measures are not ensured.

The province is very important with respect to mammalian species-found especially in the mountains and desert areas of the province. As many as 2 national parks, 14 wildlife sanctuaries and 8 game reserves have been established in the province. The Chagai desert ecosystem including the Reko Diq Copper Extraction Project area is very important due to presence of threatened species of mammals as well as

for the houbara bustard. The Asiatic cheetah is reported to visit the Taftan and Kirtika area. Similarly, Sand Cat was recorded around Humai Kili Village and Red fox, Ruppell's or sand fox, Blandford's fox, caracal, cape hare, porcupine, pangolin, Balochistan gerbil and longhaired hedgehog have been recorded in Reko Diq Project Area. Chinkara has expired from this area but it is still present in other parts of Balochistan e.g., Hingol National Park. Pygmy jerboa and Hoston's jerboa are endemic to the Chagai desert. The important areas for wild mammals are: Chiltan/Hazarganji National Park, Hingol National Park, Qila Saifullah, Zhob, Noshki, Chagai, Kharan and Khuzdar

Sand Cat of Balochistan

Houbara Bustard

2.5 History

Balochistan occupies the southeastern edge of the Iranian plateau, an area known for being the setting of some of the earliest farming settlements in pre-Indus Valley civilization history. One of the oldest known sites, Mehrgarh, dating back to around 7000 BCE, is located within this region. This places Balochistan at the far western boundary of early civilization. Centuries before the advent of Islam in the 7th century, parts of Balochistan were governed by the Paratarajas, an Indo-Scythian dynasty. Additionally, the Kushan Empire exercised control over parts of Balochistan during different periods.

The Sewa Dynasty, a Hindu dynasty, ruled over portions of Balochistan, particularly in the region of Kalat. The name of the Sibi Division, created from Quetta and Kalat Divisions in 1974, is derived from Rani Sewi, a queen of the Sewa dynasty.

The Brahui people, believed to be among the earliest inhabitants of Balochistan, speak a Dravidian language that has been preserved for millennia. Although Balochistan had an indigenous population during the Stone and Bronze Ages and through the time of Alexander the Great, the Baloch people, who are now the largest ethnic group in the province, did not migrate to the area until the 14th century CE. One theory suggests that the Baloch people are of Median origin.

2.5.1 Islamic Conquests

Islam arrived in Balochistan in 654 CE when Abdulrehman ibn Samrah, the governor of Sistan under the Rashidun Caliphate, led a campaign to quell a revolt in Zaranj (modern-day southern Afghanistan). After suppressing the revolt, the Muslim army advanced into what is now Balochistan, pushing north to

conquer Kabul and Ghazni, while another division moved through the Quetta District and seized control of ancient cities like Dawar and Qandabil (now known as Bolan). By 654 CE, most of present-day Balochistan was under the control of the Rashidun Caliphate, with the exception of the fortified mountain town of QaiQan, now Kalat.

During the caliphate of Ali, a rebellion erupted in the Makran region of southern Balochistan. In 663 CE, under the Umayyad Caliph Muawiyah I, the Muslim forces lost control of parts of northeastern Balochistan, including Kalat, following a significant defeat when Haris ibn Marah and a large portion of his army were killed in battle.

2.5.2 Pre-Modern Era

In the 15th century, Mir Chakar Khan Rind became the first Sardar of Balochistan, spanning areas across modern Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan. He was a close ally of the Timurid ruler Humayun and was succeeded by the Khanate of Kalat, which initially pledged loyalty to the Mughal Empire. Over time, rulers of Balochistan also aligned themselves with Nader Shah, who granted Kalhora, a Balochistan territory that included the Sibi-Kachi region, to the Khanate of Kalat. Ahmad Shah Durrani, the founder of the Afghan Empire, also garnered support from local rulers, with many Baloch fighters joining his army in the Third Battle of Panipat. After the decline of Afghan rule, most of the region reverted to local Baloch control.

2.5.3 Colonial Era

In 1876, northern Balochistan became part of British India. From the fall of the Durrani Empire in 1823, four princely states in Balochistan were recognized and maintained their independence under British protection: Makran, Kharan, Las Bela, and Kalat. The Treaty of Kalat in 1876 formalized this arrangement, bringing these territories under British oversight while allowing them internal autonomy. Following the Second Anglo-Afghan War and the Treaty of Gandamak in 1879, the districts of Quetta, Pishin, Harnai, Sibi, and Thal Chotiali came under British control. In 1883, the British acquired the Bolan Pass, and by 1887, additional areas of Balochistan were integrated into British territory.

In 1893, the Durand Line was established as the boundary between Afghanistan and British-controlled areas, following negotiations between Sir Mortimer Durand and the Afghan Emir, Abdur Rahman Khan. This border still forms the boundary between modern-day Afghanistan and Pakistan. Two significant earthquakes occurred in Balochistan during British rule: the Quetta earthquake in 1935,

which devastated the city, and the 1945 earthquake in the Makran region.

During the Indian independence movement, political dynamics in Balochistan were varied, with parties like the Anjuman-i-Watan Baluchistan advocating for a united India, opposing the partition that ultimately led to the creation of Pakistan.

2.5.4 After Independence

During British rule, Balochistan was divided into a Chief Commissioner's province and several princely states, including Kalat, Makran, Las Bela, and Kharan. These states eventually became part of Pakistan following the partition of India in 1947. According to the official Pakistani narrative, on 29 June 1947, Balochistan's Shahi Jirga (a grand council of tribal leaders) and the non-official members of the Quetta Municipality voted unanimously to join Pakistan. However, members from the State of Kalat were excluded from this vote, raising concerns about the legitimacy of the decision.

Qazi Muhammad Isa, then-president of the Balochistan Muslim League, informed Muhammad Ali Jinnah that the Shahi Jirga did not reflect the true will of the people, as the vote only included representatives from British-controlled areas like Quetta, Nasirabad, Nushki, and the Bolan Agency, but not Kalat. On 22 June 1947, the Khan of Kalat received a letter from the Shahi Jirga and tribal leaders from the leased regions of Balochistan, asserting that they should be considered part of the Kalat state rather than British-administered Balochistan. This raised doubts about whether a genuine consensus for accession to Pakistan existed. Political scientist Salman Rafi Sheikh later argued that Balochistan's integration into Pakistan was not based on widespread support, and that political manipulation played a role, leading to early feelings of disenfranchisement within the province.

Initially seeking independence, the Khan of Kalat eventually agreed to join Pakistan on 27 March 1948, after lengthy negotiations. The signing of the Instrument of Accession by Khan Ahmad Yar Khan sparked dissent within his own family. His brother, Prince Abdul Karim, opposed the decision and led a rebellion against the accession in July 1948. Abdul Karim and his supporters carried out guerilla-style attacks on the Pakistani military in the Dosht-e Jhalawan region until 1950, without significant external support. Despite this revolt, the Khan was allowed to retain his title until Balochistan's administrative structure was reorganized in 1955.

Baloch nationalist insurgencies have occurred periodically, with uprisings in 1948, 1958–59, 1962–63, and 1973–77. A new wave of insurgency, driven by autonomy-seeking Baloch groups, began in 2003 and is ongoing. While some Baloch demand greater autonomy, most do not support full secession

from Pakistan.

In 2015, during a press conference in Quetta, Balochistan's Home Minister, Sarfraz Bugti, accused Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi of supporting terrorism in the region. Bugti claimed that India's intelligence agency, RAW, was behind recent attacks on military installations in Smangli and Khalid and was working to undermine the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Gwadar, a coastal region in Balochistan, was an Omani colony for over a century before Pakistan gained control of it in the 1960s. As a result, many people in the area have Omani heritage.

2.6 Ethnicity and Tribes of Balochistan

A number of tribes constitute to make people of Balochistan. Three major tribes are Baloch (Baloch & Brahvi) and Pashtoon. The Balochi speaking tribes include Rind, Lashari, Marri, Jamot, Ahmedzai, Bugti Domki, Magsi, Kenazai, Khosa, Rakhashani, Dashti, Umrani, Nosherwani, Gichki, Buledi, Notazai, Sanjarani, Meerwani, Zahrozai, langove, kenazai and Khidai.

The social organization of the Baloch is based on blood kinship. Different groups of people mostly descend from a common ancestor. Members of each group share common interests and liabilities. This has made clan organization the basis of Baloch society. Every sub-clan (paro) represents a family, and a few sub-clans or paros together constitute a clan. Several clans grouped together make a tribe (tuman).

The social tie among the members of one tribe implies unconditional sincerity to the members of clan fellow. The chief of a paro (sub-clan or family) is usually its eldest member and is known as Wadera. The chief of a clan known as Muqaddam or Tukkri is either nominated by the Sardar (tribal chief) or is elected by the Waderas. However, this mostly use to be a hereditary institution and election or nomination is made from amongst the descendants of the former Mugaddam or Tukkri.

The tribal chief or Sardar is always hereditary and is mostly the eldest son of a deceased Sardar. However, if the eldest son is undeserving or disliked, election amongst other sons or brothers of the deceased can be made. This election is made by Tukkries or Mugaddams. Once the election or nomination has been made it is unanimously accepted by all and forever. It had been very rare that people have revolted against sovereignty of their chiefs.

The Baloch, believed to have originally come from Arabia or Asia Minor, can be divided in to two branches: the Sulemani and Mekrani as distinct from the Brahvis who mostly concentrate in central Balochistan. Among the eighteen major Baloch tribes, Bugtis and Marris are the principal ones who are settled in the buttresses of the Sulemania. The Talpur of Sind aIso claim their Baloch origin.

Brahvi speaking tribe include Raisani, Shahwani, Sumulani, Sarparrah, Bangulzai, Mohammad Shahi, Lehri, Bezenjo, Mohammad Hasni, Zehri, Sarparrah, Mengal, Kurd,Sasoli, Satakzai, Lango,

Rodeni, Kalmati, Jattak, Yagazehi and Qambarani , most of these tribes are bi-lingual and are quite fluent both in the Balochi and Brahvi Languages. The Pashtoon tribes include Kakar, Ghilzai Tareen, Mandokhel, Sherani, Luni, Kasi and Achakzai. [5]

2.7 Food

Balochistan is a culturally rich region greatly influenced by pre-partition India. The Balochi cuisine contains mix flavors from across the continent and cross-content contributions as well. Common Ingredients: Balochi people are majorly fond of meat, particularly mutton and lamb. Balochi biryani deserves an accolade for outstanding and unique taste however; some dry dishes and curries are also very popular. The commonly used food ingredients are inspired by the drought prone region. Mostly they use potatoes, dry fruits, milk, yogurt, vegetables, and mutton. Being in a drought prone region, fresh vegetables are usually missing from the ingredients list.

i. **Khrud**

khrud is used in a number of dishes in Balochistan, usually with tereeth. It is actually dry salty yogurt, used to salt up dishes.

Khrud

ii. **Abgoosht**

Abgoosht is a lamb stew, usually made by Iranian or Kurdish descendants in Balochistan. The stew contains other mashed items like beans, kidney and liver.

Abgoosht

iii. **Dumpukht**

Dumpukht is actually another variety to the Sajji where a whole lamb is cooked around slow flames to have cooked meat from the insides.

Dumpukhat

iv. **Sajji**

Sajji is the only dish from Balochistan that is famous around the country and the world. Pieces of lamb are cooked around fire for hours, till the meat gets crispy. The meat is only seasoned with pepper and salt.

Sajji

[5] www.voiceofbalochistan.pk

v. **Khaddi kabab**

khaddi kabab serves as another version of the very famous Balochi sajji. The whole lamb is laid inside the ground and covered while it cooks itself out.

Khaddi Kabab

2.8 Religion

Most of the people of Balochistan are Sunni Muslims. However, there is another tribe who call themselves the Zikris. According to some other writers, Zikri Baloch are followers of the Indian Sufi Syed Muhammad Jaunpuri.

Zikris, who are predominantly Baloch, have been living in the southern part of Balochistan called Makran. Besides Makran, they also have settlements in Awaran, Khuzdar, Lasbela, Karachi, in the interior parts of Balochistan and even in Iran's Sistan-Balochistan region. Unofficially, it is stated that the global population of Zikri Baloch is around 750, 000 with majority residing in Balochistan.

2.9 Language

Balochistan, despite its scarce population, has an uncommon racial and tribal diversity. Most of the people in the cities and towns understand and speak more than two languages. Furhter, the predominant mother tongue of the population of Balochistan is Balochi followed by Pushto and Brahvi and other major languages are less spoken in the province like Balochistani, Punjabi, Saraiki etc.

2.10 Tradition and Custom

Though people in Balochistan speak different languages, there is a similarity in their literature, beliefs, moral order and customs. The cementing factor is religion which provides a base for unity and common social order.

Baloch Culture

Brahvi, Balochi and Pushtoon tribes are known for their hospitality. The guests are accorded high esteem and considered a blessing from God. Better off people even slaughter sheep or goats for their guest who is assumed to be the guest of the whole village. This open heartedness is the loving feature of the tribal people in villages and is not as deep in the city or town dwellers.

Another adorable feature of Balochistan culture is faithfulness and sincerity in all relationships.

There is no place or respect for unfaithful people, and if fidelity is reciprocated with disloyalty or betrayal, it is never forgotten.

2.10.1 Rasaal, Lubb (Marriage Customs)

When it comes to a wedding, Balochs have many symbolic pre-wedding events to mark the festivity. 'Rasaal' is an important custom. It is a traditional way for a boy's family to send a proposal to a girl's family. In this tradition, the family of the boy, including his closest maternal and paternal aunts and uncles, visits the girl's family, sometimes even the tribal elders are requested to join. The sole purpose of Rasaal is to give maximum respect to the girl's family by the boy's family in a bid to receive a positive response for the proposal acceptance. If the proposal is accepted, the groom's family prepares for "gudh-o-chalav" (dupatta and ring) where the family presents the girl with a ring and a dupatta to formally announce the engagement.

A custom called 'lubb' comprises of an amount that is paid by the groom to the family of the bride to meet the expenses of marriage. This includes all the expenses for the bride – furniture, jewelry, clothes and in some places even cattle which are solely paid by the groom to be spent on the wedding and on the bride.

2.10.2 Haal (Information)

An important Baloch custom is known as Haal, which means the exchange of information and current news. According to the usage, a traveler is duty-bound to provide news to those whom he may have chance to meet on his way. The recipient or the host in his turn reports the news to the first person or traveler he meets. This way all sorts of news are circulated in the Baloch society. The Haal covers a wide range of subjects – business, tribal or inter-clan clashes, weather conditions, rain, availability of grass and other foodstuffs for cattle, current politics, etc. Thus, all the important news and information is spread across the country within a few days.

2.10.3 Pride- in –Heroes

The common heroes of a particular identity symbolize the cause of unity and solidarity and the Balochs pay homage to Nimrod in Babylon, Abu Saeed Baloch of Jiruft, Mir Jalal Khan, Mir Chakar Khan Rind, Mir Sohrab Khan Dodai, Mir Abdullah Kahar, Mir Nasir Khan the Great, Mir Mehrab Khan II, Mir Dost Muhammad Khan Baranzai, Mir Hammal Jiand, and Mir Yusuf Ali Khan Aziz Magassi.

2.10.4 Maihrh/ Maidh (Message of Peace)

In Maihrh, a party sends a mediator to the other party with a message of peace. The mediator calls for a truce to bring back the peace amongst the tribes. Maidh is a requirement in which the terms and conditions for the truce or salah are decided. If it is accepted, then the tribe pays money or gives a piece of land or cattle.

2.10.5 Baahot (Hospitality)

A Baloch is taught from a young age that a person who arrives at home should receive the utmost hospitality even if it is an enemy. 'Baahot' is a term that refers to providing shelter, protection, hospitality to anyone who enters your house.

2.10.6 Bijjar (Cooperation)

Bijjar is a custom of cooperation, which is mostly practiced at the time of marriage when relatives, friends and fellow tribesmen contribute to the expenses of marriage in terms of money, or any kind like providing goats, sheep, wheat, rice etc.

2.10.7 Fafan-O-Kharch/Kharch-O-Kaffan (helping someone after their loved one passes away)

This is a custom of helping a family who's loved one has passed away. There are numerous methods adopted, including providing meals, tea and sugar, rice, gifting cattle or putting some money under the carpet as a gesture of silent help, when you visit the deceased house for Fatiha.

2.10.8 Music and Dance

There are countless musical instruments exclusive to Balochi culture such as Tanburak (the small guitar), Setar (three stringed guitar), Qalam (a flute divided into five or six sections), the pitcher, the oboe, ordinary and small kettledrum, the tambourine and roebuck or Hijdah (eighteen) Tar. The traditional throat singing is rare and an important component of Balochi folk music.

Place of Interest is a physical or cultural feature of a particular place that individual travelers or tourists perceive as capable of meeting one or more of their specific leisure related needs. Such features may be ambient in nature i.e. climate, culture, vegetation or scenery, or they may be specific to a location, such as museum, waterfall or theatre performance

Balochistan in particular has many tourist and historical sites that are culturally very vibrant and can be classified under Places of Interest

Pir Ghaib Falls, Bolan – This is an awe-inspiring view of Pir Ghaib, Balochistan. Locals here believe in the myth of the Invisible Saint (Pir Ghaib), who was saved by the Almighty, after a wicked King's men attacked him. The Saint struck a stick in the mountain from which the water still pours out till date.

Moola Chotok, Khuzdar – This tourism deprived sight is known as Moola Chotok in Khuzdar, Balochistan. Amidst stronghold of nationalists in the Jhalawan belt, Chotok seemed like a lost cause at first. Ever since the military operations in Khuzdar division, Chotok has been swiped clean of all dangers and is now open to locals and tourists.

Quaid-e-Azam Residency, Ziarat – The Father of the nation, Quaid-e-Azam Mohommad Ali Jinnah, spent his days of affliction in this wooden cottage in Ziarat, Balochistan. Definitely one of the top tourist attractions of Pakistan that holds historic importance.

The Hannah Lake, Quetta – This is how the Hannah Lake looks in winters, frozen, frosted and astounding. This is where people from all over Pakistan go first when they visit Quetta. Only about 18km away from the city, the Hannah Lake serves as the perfect escape for the locals.

Waadi-e-Bolan, Bolan, Balochistan – Waadi-e-Bolan is a long stretch of a mountain gorge with blue waters running in-between. The place has historical and picturesque importance. It was where the first railway system of Pakistan was established by the British, also the valley that cradles Pir Ghaib and Bibi Naani's shrine.

Gwadar: On April 2015, Pakistan and China announced their intention to develop the $46 billion China–Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which in turn forms part of China's ambitious One Belt, One Road. Gwadar features heavily in CPEC, and is also envisaged to be the link between the One Belt, One Road and Maritime Silk Road project.

2.11 Administration

The province is divided into six (8) divisions, each headed by a commissioner. The division is further divided into 34 districts, headed by Deputy Commissioners. The district is divided into sub-divisions each headed by Assistant Commissioners.

Generally, one sub-division comprises one tehsil. In some cases, one sub-division comprises of two or more tehsils. Each tehsil is divided into Qanungo Halqas, which is further divided into patwar circles (PCs) and patwar circles into Mauzas (revenue estates) in settled areas whereas in un-settled areas, tehsil is divided into UCs which is further divided into villages. All these tiers are controlled by respective revenue officials. In un-settled areas, each tehsil/sub-tehsil is divided into Union Councils (UCs) and Union Councils into villages.

The headquarters of Balochistan is at Quetta, headed by Chief Secretary. He is assisted by Additional Chief Secretaries, and the Secretaries of different departments.

The Deputy Commissioners in the district serve as a focal point for administrative purposes who are supposed to steer, coordinate, and regulate the performance of different government department at district level. The breakdown of Balochistan's various administrative units is presented in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2: Administrative Units of Balochistan Province

Divisions	District	Tehsil/ Taluka	QH/ STC	PC/ TC/UC	Mauza/ Deh/Village	Metro Corp.	DM. Corp	Municipal Committee	TC	Cantt	Total Urban Areas
8	34	158	196	5	6357	1	-	751	-	4	63

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics Census-2023

2.12 Legislative Branch

Balochistan Assembly has total 65 seats in which 51 directly elected Members of the Provincial Assembly, representing constituencies from each district, as well as 11 seats reserved for women and 3 for non-Muslims.

The Balochistan assembly is the unicameral (single chamber) legislature of the province of Balochistan. It was set up under the Article 106 of the Constitution-1973 of Pakistan.

2.13 Executive Branch

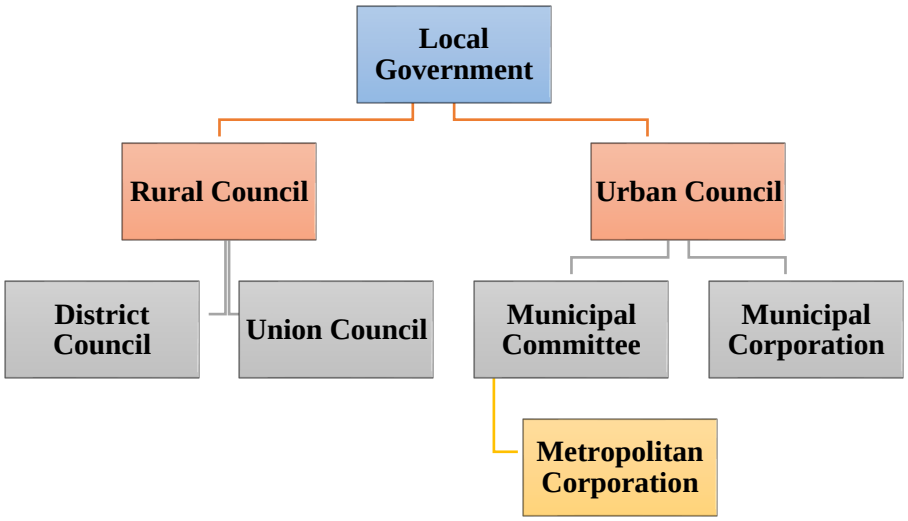
2.13.1 Provincial Government

The Government of Balochistan consists of 27 Departments and some allied offices which are headed by Provincial Secretaries who in turn are headed by Chief Secretary Balochistan. Presently there are 47 Ministers who oversee 27 Departments in the province.

2.14 Local Government

The governance structure under Local Government Act, 2010 of Balochistan province consists of:

- A Union Council for each Union;
- A District Council for each District;
- A Municipal Committee for each Municipality;
- A Municipal Corporation for each City;
- A Metropolitan Corporation for the Capital City (Quetta).



i. Union Council

A Union council is an area comprising a village or a number of villages having, as far as possible, an aggregate population between 7000 and 15000 (excluding its urban areas and the cantonment areas). The Non- Muslim seats will be fixed by Government keeping in view the population of non-Muslims in that local area; women seats will be equal to 33% of the seats of general members, number of reserved seats for peasants will be equal to 5% of the general seats and number of reserved seats for workers will be equal to 5% of the general seats.

ii. District Council

The District Council comprises of the area of a revenue district, excluding its urban and cantonment areas. It comprises of the Chairmen of the Union Councils in the area jurisdiction of a District Council.

iii. Municipal Committee

The Municipal Committee comprises of an urban area having a population of 15000 or above but not exceeding one hundred thousand.

iv. Municipal Corporation

The Municipal Corporation comprises of an urban area having a population of one lac or above but not exceeding five lacs.

v. Metropolitan Corporation

The Metropolitan Corporation comprises of an urban area having population exceeding five lacs.

2.15 Judiciary

Prior to the establishment of the High Court of West Pakistan on 14th October 1955, Balochistan High Court was administered by a Judicial Commissioner. It was dissolved on 1st July 1970, and a joint High Court for the provinces of Balochistan and Balochistan was established, which remained functional and continued to serve in two provinces until 30th November 1976. Thereafter, separate High Courts were established for each of the two provinces. The High Court of Balochistan province was established on 1st of December 1976, and honourable Justice Khuda Bakhsh Marri was appointed as Chief Justice, with Justice M. A. Rasheed and Justice Zakaullah Lodhi as High Court judges. The strength of the Balochistan High Court in the first decade was of five judges, today it stands at eleven judges. Similarly, in the rest of the province, the provisions of Civil Courts Ordinance, 1962 are effective.

The following Courts are functioning in Balochistan province to adjudicate civil litigation under the Balochistan Civil Courts Ordinance 1962:

a) The Courts of District Judge
b) The Court of Additional District Judge
c) The Courts of Civil Judge

2.16 Police

Balochistan Police is responsible for policing in urban Balochistan and its strength is 150,000 as of 2023. The Police is responsible for maintaining the law-and-order situation in urban areas only, which are called A areas. Balochistan's rural areas, called B areas, are policed by the Balochistan Levies while the Frontier Corps operates in both the areas i.e Urban and Rural areas. More than 80% area in Balochistan is “B” area i.e without police rules, although regular police under a full-fledged Inspector General Office exists for law-and-order situation in the province.

Table 2.3: Changes in the Administrative Units after 2017 Census- Balochistan

S. No.	Name of Area	Localities added to (+) / taken out (-) Description as in 2017 Census Report				2017 Census Figures		2017 Adjusted Figures as in 2023	
		* Admn. Unit created or ** reconstituted after 1998 Census				Area	Popul-ation	Area	Popul-ation
1	2	3				4	5	6	7
	Awaran district					29510	121821	29510	121821
1	Jhal jao sub-tehsil	**	(-)	(i)	Korak pc of korak jhao qh	9439	40010	6381	21491
	Korak jhao tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.1(i)			3058	18519
	Khuzdar district					35380	798896	35380	798896
2	Nal sub-tehsil	**	(-)	(i)	Gresha balina pc & gresha zerina pc of saddar nal qh	4413	130897	1791	85249
	Gresha sub-tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.2(i)			2622	45648
3	Kalat district	**	(-)	(i)	Surab tehsil, bencha pc & dasht e goran pc except chong mehgal, ziarati mengal, mali mengal, faiz mohd wal, latif abad,shoki & injirah mauzas of dasht e goran qh	8416	412058	8416	412058
	Surab district	*	(+)	(i)	Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.3(i)			762	208982
4	Kalat tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	bencha pc & dasht e goran pc except chong mehgal, ziarati mengal, mali mengal, faiz mohd wal, latif abad, shoki & injirah mauzas of dasht e goran qh		129094		120969
5	Surab tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Gidder pc except afghanzai, aander, tenk garbi, tenk sarki, nookjo qalandarani, nookjo gulshan, dasht khaliqabad, khaliqabad & manda wali mauzas of saddar qh		200857		81921
		*	(-)	(ii)	Moli pc, jewa pc & lakhorian pc of saddar qh				
	Dasht e goran sub-division	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.4(i)				8125
	Gidder sub-division	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.5(i)				69157
	Shaheed meharabad zehri sub-division	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.5(ii)				49779
6	Zhob division	*	(-)	(i)	Loralai district	44388	1541929	27128	806238
		*	(-)	(ii)	Duki district				
		*	(-)	(iii)	Barkhan district				
		*	(-)	(iv)	Musakhel district				
7	Loralai district	*	(-)	(i)	Duki tehsil	8018	397423	3785	244446
	Duki district	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.7(i)			4233	152977

S. No.	Name of Area	Localities added to (+) / taken out (-) Description as in 2017 Census report * Admn. Unit created or ** reconstituted after 1998 Census				2017 Census Figures		2017 Adjusted Figures as in 2023	
						Area	Popul-ation	Area	Popul-ation
8	Duki tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Gharbi thal pc & sherqi thal pc of saddar qh, sherqi looni pc & jahangir shahr, talli alif katta khel, palri, chotilai sharif & kolakan mauzas of gharbi looni pc of gumband qh	938	152977	4233	100604
		*	(-)	(ii)	gharbi looni pc except ahangir shahr, talli alif katta khel, palri, chotilai sharif & kolakan mauzas of gumband qh				
		*	(-)	(iii)	Lakhi pc of gumband qh				
	Thal chutyali sub-division	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.8(i)			1045	23983
	Luni sub-division	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.8(ii)			553	10235
	Talao sub-tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.8(iii)			1697	18155
	Musakhel district					5728	167243	5728	167243
9	Musakhel tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Toisar pc of musakhel saddar qh	1197	98305	658	45509
		*	(-)	(ii)	Zawar isot mauza of sadar pc of musakhel saddar qh				
10	Drug tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Kewan, barkohi, khagi, chakhan, nashpa, tangisar & sara darghah mazuas of kewan pc of drug tehsil qh	848	37599	301	21232
		*	(-)	(ii)	Kewan pc except kewan, barkohi, khagi, chakhan, nashpa,tangisar & sara darghah mazuas of drug tehsil qh				
	Tiyar essot sub-tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.9(i)			299	9124
	Toisar tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.9(ii) and 10(i)			539	50843
	Zimri plaseen sub-tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.10(ii)			248	9196
	Panjgur district					16891	315353	16891	315353
11	Panjgur tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Kallag qh of panjgur tehsil	3655	259163	2945	246676
	Kallag sub-tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.11(i)			710	12487
	Kachhi district					5682	309932	5500	308169
12	Bhag tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Maror pur, garhi karam, sanjrani, gahi,mat qabool, khanwah nisaf anbari, kamal, mir pur manjhu, nawara, landhi khair pur, admani kohna & kot sultan mauzas of landhi khair pur pc of mehram qh	1308	73459	1122	71696
	Nasirabad district					3387	487847	3573	489610

S. No.	Name of Area	Localities added to (+) / taken out (-) Description as in 2017 Census report * Admn. Unit created or ** reconstituted after 1998 Census				2017 Census Figures		2017 Adjusted Figures as in 2023	
						Area	Popul-ation	Area	Popul-ation
13	Tamboo tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Rehmani, ditta pitafi & antum mauzas of kharoos wah pc of tamboo qh	683	131056	608	130959
14	Baba kot tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Lashari pc, shahdad beroon, khan wah beroon, sawai beroon, mewa beroon mauzas of sona pc of baba kot qh	967	49480	836	45446
15	Chhattar	*	(-)	(i)	Shah pur pc, sonwah, sherani gharbi, murad wah & durman mauzas of chhattar pc of chhattar qh	961	76536	482	25925
	Landhi tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.12(i),13(i),14(i)			392	5894
	Mir hassan khosa tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.15(i)			479	50611
	Sohbatpur district					802	200426	802	200426
16	Sanhri tehsil(hair din tehsil)	*	(-)	(i)	Kanrani & lashari mauzas of gandar pc of khair din qh and hambi sharki & hamid pur mauzas of hamid pur pc of sanhri qh	331	88788	73	13948
		*	(-)	(ii)	Manjhipur qh				
		*	(-)	(iii)	Fazalabad pc, sanhri,bitti & goranari mauzas of hamid pur pc of sanhri qh				
	Saeed muhammad kanrani tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.16(i)			77	15154
	Manjhipur tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.16(ii)			82	20292
	Panhwar tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.16(iii)			99	39394
17	Killa abdullah district	*	(-)	(i)	Chaman tehsil	4894	758354	3553	323793
		*	(-)	(ii)	Chaman m.corp.				
	Chaman district	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.17(i) & (ii)	1341	434561	1341	434561
	Chaman saddar sub-division	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.17(i)			1319	311355
	Chaman city sub-division	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.17(ii)			22	123206
	Pishin district					6218	736903	6218	736903
18	Karezat sub-tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Murgha, samezah, zanki, baghdad, dilsora, narin, yousaf kachh, mulazai & herchand mauzas of murgha pc of bostan qh	2044	137466	1240	65092
		*	(-)	(ii)	Bostan pc of bostan qh				
19	Barshore sub-tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Zanki,narin & aghbergi mauzas of kazha viala pc & wilng sikandar mauza of behram khan pc of barshore qh	2474	103423	2288	101356
	Nana sahib tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.18(i) &19(i)			804	27469
	Bostan tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.18(ii)			186	46792
	Quetta district					3447	2269473	3447	2269473

S. No.	Name of Area	Localities added to (+) / taken out (-) Description as in 2017 Census report * Admn. Unit created or ** reconstituted after 1998 Census				2017 Census Figures		2017 Adjusted Figures as in 2023	
						Area	Popul-ation	Area	Popul-ation
20	Quetta saddar tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Kuchlak i pc , kuchalk ii pc of kuchalq qh , baleli pc except cashma achosai mauza	1463	52716	1283	267713
21	Quetta city tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Charge no 16, circle no 04 of charage no 17 of quetta metropolitan corporation	779	1722746	558	1204306
		*	(-)	(ii)	Shadan zai i pc, shadan zai ii pc & shadan zai iii pc except kirani mauza of quetta city qh				
		*	(-)	(iii)	charage no 19 of quetta metropolitan corporation				
	Sub-division kuchlak	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.20(i) & 21(i)			180	261209
	Sub-division sariab	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.21(ii) & (iii)			221	5172234
	Chagai district					44748	226517	44748	226517
22	Dalbandin tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Yak machh qh	15363	127468	7791	106643
	Yak machh sub-tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.22(i)			7572	20825
	Kharan district					14958	162766	14958	162766
23	Kharan tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Kalan char kohan, char kohan & razi mauzas of tohmulk uc and (thal ulmarg)thal, nauroz kalat, (rozi thal)rozijmal, girdina, masiski, barshoonki, tooji, apanisar, (shinkani bante)shikari bhain, kalan arringok, patkin, padeen, abadari, gawarghan, lijji khas, lejje toke, shohap, hokemi, momari, shoori, tooskan, koh prosh, khookap, tazina, kaligar bante mauzas of sarawan uc	5072	80703	2941	66438
	Patkain sub-tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.23(i)			2131	16493
	Nushki district					5797	178947	5797	178947
24	Nushki tehsil	*	(-)	(i)	Dak pc of nushki qh	5797	178947	3731	162820
	Dak sub-tehsil	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.24(i)			2066	16127
25	Quetta division	*	(-)	(i)	Chagai district	65104	4170194	14559	3764730
		*	(-)	(ii)	Nushki district				
26	Kalat division	*	(-)	(i)	Kharan district	1e+05	2513200	91767	2174722
		*	(-)	(ii)	Washuk district				
	Rashkan division	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.25(i) & (ii) and 26(i) & (ii)			98596	743942
	Loralai division	*	(+)		Formed of areas mentioned at sl.no.6(i) ,(ii),(iii),(iv)			17260	735691

2.17 Economy

The economy of the province is largely based upon livestock, agriculture, fisheries and production of natural gas, coal, and minerals. Outside Quetta, the infrastructure of the province is gradually developing but still lags far behind other parts of Pakistan. Limited farming in the east as well as fishing along the Arabian Sea coastline are other forms of income and sustenance for the local populations. The construction of a new deep-sea port at the strategically important town of Gwadar is adding to economic growth in the province. Further west is the Mirani dam multipurpose project, on the River Dasht, 50 kilometres west of Turbat in the Makran Division. There is also mining activity of copper, gold, and other minerals. The rest of the rural economy and livelihoods is agro-pastoral derived from the ranges which provide a diversity of uses, including forage for livestock, wildlife habitat, medicinal plants, watershed, fuel wood, and recreational activity[6].

Balochistan is also a transit and transport route of gas pipelines, Pakistan-Iran Gas Pipeline construction estimated to incur a cost of approximately $158 million with an approximate length of 1880 kms, as well as the 1814 kms Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project to export around 33 billion cubic meters (BCM) of natural gas annually[7] . The Balochistan Public Private Partnership Authority (BPPPA), Establishment in 2022 to develop a centralized hub and strategic arm of the government of Balochistan for promoting public-private partnerships. The BPPP has launced several projects which includes LPG Testing Lab at Taftan, development of Solar Salt Extraction Facility at Khor Kalmat, development of the IT Park in the Quetta city etc[8].

2.17.1 Agriculture

Historically, agriculture has been the backbone of Balochistan's economy, with diverse climatic zones allowing for the cultivation of a variety of crops, ranging from cereals and pulses to high-value cash crops like fruits and vegetables. The unique geographical landscape of Balochistan, encompassing arid mountains and fertile plains, offers a distinct challenge as well as opportunity. However, the reliance on traditional farming methods and the vulnerabilities posed by erratic weather patterns have emphasized the need for more robust data-driven approaches to agricultural management.

The Government of Balochistan has launched Crop Reporting Systems (CRS) To gather, analyze, and share agricultural statistics in Balochistan with accuracy and reliability. We are dedicated to ensuring transparency and efficiency in agricultural decision-making by providing timely, comprehensive data to policymakers, stakeholders, and the public, thereby supporting informed decisions, fostering growth, and improving the well-being of farming communities. A new digital platform is a step forward in connection by harnessing advanced technologies such as GIS (Geographic Information Systems), remote sensing, and satellite imagery, CRS now offers real time data collection and precise analysis of crop

[6] PDMA, Balochistan
[7] Ministry of Mines & Petroleum, Afghanistan
[8] Balochistan Public Private Authority

performance, land use and production trends. Balochistan's agriculture continues to thrive, securing the livelihoods of our farmers and contributing to the prosperity of the region[9].

Table 2.4: Land Utilization Indicators of Balochistan: 2022-23

Indicator	Area in Million Hecters
Geographical Area	34.72
Total Reported Area	18.36
Forest Area	1.79
Not Available for Cultivation	9.83
Cultivable Waste	3.78
Cultivated Area	2.96
Current Fallow	1.59
Net Area Sown	1.37
Area sown more than once	0.01
Total Cropped Area	1.37
Agriculture Land	8.53
Arable land	6.74
Uncultivable Area	15.4

Source: Provincial Crop Reporting Services

RABI AND KHARIF CROPS

Pakistan has two cropping seasons. “Rabi”, being the second season, sowing benefits from October to December and is harvested from April to May. The major Rabi crops are Wheat, wheat, barley, rapeseed & mustard, cumin, gram, and sunflower.

“Kharif”, the first sowing season, which starts from April. Important Kharif crops are rice, jowar, maize, onion, potato, melons, chilies, tobacco and sugarcane. The following table shows the Kahrif and Rabi crops.

[9] CRS, Government of Balochistan

Table 2.5: Production of Rabi and Kharif Crops 2022-23

Crops	(Production in "00" tons)		
	Total	Irrigated	Unirrigated
Rabi Crops			
Wheat	15162.28	14822.52	339.76
Barley	229.64	227.52	2.12
R&M Seed	702	529.54	172.06
Cumin Seed	26.05		
Gram	383	339.25	44.04
Matter Pulse	59	58.89	0.02
Masoor	11.01	10.84	0.17
Vegetables	5387.46		
Fodder	7684.27		
Canola	22	22	
Sunflower	117.42	117.42	0
Kharif Crops			
Rice	1032		
Jowar	129.78	60.23	69.55
Bajra	14.09	8.78	5.31
Maize	31.84	25.82	6.02
Sesamum	12.47	9.77	2.7
Casterseed	19.36	0.22	19.14
Mong	18.39	12.35	6.04
Mash	29	21.83	6.99
Moth	12.71	10.82	1.89
Fruits	11996.5		
Onion	5095	5095	
Potato	170.16	170.16	
Vegetables	1747.07		
Melons	1066.23		
Chillies	49	49	
Fodder	4404.35		
Corriander	11.42	11.42	
Garlic	110.69	110.69	
Guarseed	87.92	43.99	43.93
Tobacco	12.5	12.5	
Sugarcane	332	332	0
Cotton*	1127		

Note: "Cotton production in "00" bales
Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

RABI AND KHARIF VEGETABLES 2022-2023

The Rabi vegetables are cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, peas, radish, turnip, spinach, beet root whereas Kharif vegetables comprises of lady fingers, tinda, brinjals, bitter gourd, bottle gourd, pumpkin, tomatoes and cucumber etc

HORTICULTURE

The major fruits of Balochistan for the year 2022-2023 are Almonds, Apples, Apricots, Grapes, Peaches, Plums, Pomegranates, Cherries, Dates, Bananas, Mangos, Chikoos, Papayas and Coconuts.

Table 2.6: Production of Vegetables in Balochistan 2022-23

Name of Vegetable	Vegetable Production in "Tons"
Potato	17016
Tomato	307189
Ladyfinger	22717
Tinda	10697
Brinjal	19292
Bitter Gourd	7596
Bottle Gourd	8729
Pumpkin	15358
Lufa	1592
Broad Bean	10250
Cabbage	17358
Carrot	69709
Cauliflower	33124
Peas	18739
Redish	37078
Spinach	29185
Tunip	22795
Beetroot	47437
Other Vegetables	23228

Source: Provincial Crop Reporting Services

2.18 Livestock

Balochistan has huge potential for livestock grazing and also a major earning field. Due to that cause the Balochistan rural dwelling has been engaged in the livestock sector for centuries. More than 70% of the rural populations of the Balochistan directly or indirect links from this sector. Livestock sector is a major source of income. Livestock sector in this regard promotion is preliminary for policy makers and government. Contribution of females in the livestock sector is part and parcel women, that further improved the female livelihood options and income provisions[10].

Table 2.7: Livestock Products Data Balochistan 2022-23

S.No	Items	2022-23
1	Milk	(000 Tons)
	Cow	1982.968
	Buffaloes	503.622
	Sheep	442.325
	Goats	1090.124
	Camels	49.179
	Total	4068.218
2	Meat	(000 Tons)
	Cattles	88.338
	Buffaloes	18.15
	Sheep	43.094
	Goats	43.841
	Camels	9.242
	Total	202.667
3	Edible Offals	(000 Tons)
	Cattles	6.629
	Buffaloes	1.352
	Sheep	3.239
	Goats	3.289
	Camel	0.686
	Total	15.195

Source: Development Statistics of Balochistan, 2023

2.19 Fisheries

Balochistan is a land of deferring geographical features with the Coast of about 770 km extending from Hub towards the north to Iranian border near Jiwani in the west. Moreover, the coast has eight major landing sites with 40 fishermen settlements and has engaged nearly 10,982 boats licensed & 82543 Reg.

[10] Livestock & Dairy Development Department, Balochistan

fishermen who earn their livelihoods by working along this coast. The Continental shelf of Balochistan and Balochistan is approximately 35700 km and 14500 km respectively.

There are 38 important commercial fish groups which are landed on the harbor stations along the entire coastline of Balochistan. Balochistan coastline hosts nine major fishing stations i.e Jiwani, Pishukan, Surbandar, Pasni, Ormara, Dam, Gaddani, Kund Malir and Gwadar. Fisheries Sector of Balochistan can be divided into four main sub-sectors i.e 1. Marine capture 2. Brackish Coastal water (coastal aquaculture), 3. Inland open water capture and 4 Inland closed water (freshwater aquaculture)[11].

Table 2.8: Total Fish Landing on Balochistan coast for the Year 2023

S.NO	Commercial Fish	Total Quantity In M.Tons	S.No	Commercial Fish	Total Quantity In M.Tons
1	Flat Fish	2678.643	23	Lage Croaker	1717.869
2	Sardine	20335.983	24	Small Croaker	3372.469
3	Other Clupeiformes	31256.234	25	Emperor	2012.846
4	Wolf Hering	1347.116	26	King Soldier Beam	1560.277
5	Spanish Mackerel	3564.955	27	Prompt	2048.734
6	Small Mackere	2740.727	28	Hair Tail	4086.108
7	Tuna	4531.517	29	Shark	1236.211
8	Sea Cat Fish	3768.781	30	Ray	2276.177
9	Eels	1827.934	31	Guiter Fish	702.616
10	Barracuda Fish	4291.394	32	Shrimp	2396.804
11	Marline	2845.546	33	Kiddi	2166.639
12	Mullet	3804.664	34	Crab	1324.786
13	Threadfine	817.860	35	Ivory Shell	1563.310
14	Large Grouper	1958.655	36	Lobster	1291.274
15	Small Grouper	1991.347	37	Cuttle Fish	162.423
16	Cobia	1259.382	38	Jelly Fish	120.660
17	Scad	1262.675	39	Lady Finger Fish	132.580
18	Indian Mackerel	8618.182	40	Shade	580.450
19	Queen Fish	4529.574	**Total**		**137950.411**
20	Trevaily	2515.374			
21	Dolphin Fish	1559.842			
22	Grunter Fish	1691.793			

Source: Fisheries and Coastal Development Department, Balochistan

[11] Fisheries and Coastal Development Department, Balochistan

2.20 Industry and Trade

Balochistan provides highly developed industrial estate facilities in the province. These estates cater to all types of industry needs and are well supplied with a wide range of infrastructure and related services which include Quetta Industrial & Trading Estate, Hub Industrial & Trading Estate (HITE), Uthal Industrial Estate, Marble City, etc. The Major sectors for investment in Balochistan are Minerals, Agriculture, Horticulture, Fisheries, Livestock, Tourism, and Oil & Gas, etc.

Through the Balochistan Investment Guide information is being provided about the potential sectors of Balochistan coupled with tariff structure and regulatory framework for the facilitation of investors. It presents an overview of potential opportunities in high-return sectors and projects. Important contact points for doing business in Balochistan are also listed at the end of the Guide.

SMEDA Regional Office in Quetta and RBCs in Gwadar, Hub & Loralai are working in close coordination with all relevant provincial and federal government organizations, chambers, associations, donors, multinationals, etc. to facilitate and provide the required support to the investors in general and SMEs in particular[12].

2.21 Mineral Resources

In addition to being the country's geostrategic and geo-economic center, Balochistan is also a place of colossal mountain ranges and mesmerizingly gorgeous beaches, which holds evergreen minerals underneath it. Balochistan, Pakistan's biggest province, is rich in natural resources. The province's mineral riches, estimated to be worth $1 trillion, can revolutionize Pakistan's economy if utilized intelligently.[1] Despite having such vast potential, the mining sector in Balochistan still needs to be developed due to the lack of investment, and insufficient infrastructure, among other factors.

Balochistan also boasts an abundance of natural resources. Coal, sulfur, chromite, iron ore, barite, marble, quartzite, and limestone are all abundant in the province. Balochistan has significant oil reserves and the world's most considerable quantities of copper and gold. With an estimated 200 million tons of reserves, Balochistan also has significant iron ore resources. The province offers excellent potential for the growth of a sizable iron and steel sector, which might contribute to job creation and strengthen the local economy.

Balochistan's mineral deposits also contain priceless gems like emerald, garnet, and tourmaline. Some of the finest emeralds in the world, which are in high demand in the international market, are found

[12] www.nbdp.org.pk

in the province. Additionally, the region has substantial marble reserves that may be utilized for building and adornment. Despite its enormous potential, Balochistan's mining industry is faced with several difficulties. One of the fundamental causes for most mineral deposits to stay undeveloped is a lack of infrastructure and investment. Additionally, the province's political unrest and security problems have impeded the growth of the mining industry.

Reko Diq has reserves of 5.87 billion tons of copper and 42 million ounces of gold. Saindak's copper deposits are estimated to be 412 million tons, whereas Dasht-e-Kain's reserves are 400 million tons. Copper processing factories are urged to be built in the aforementioned places. The Saindak and Reko Diq mines are only two of the province's primary copper and gold reserves. One of the world's most significant undeveloped copper and gold resources, the Reko Diq mine in Balochistan is thought to have about 5.9 billion tons of copper and gold reserves. Balochistan also contains enormous quantities of other minerals. Natural gas was discovered in 1953 in the Sui area of Dera Bugti, Balochistan, and has since been used to deliver gas throughout Pakistan. Whereas coal, which is mainly utilized for power generation, is another significant resource that may be found in Balochistan. The province's estimated 185 billion tons of coal reserves can improve the nation's energy requirements. Due to the lack of infrastructure and investment, the majority of these deposits still need to be tapped. Degari, Sinjidi, Mach, Pir Ismael, Ziarat, Duki, and Chamalang have a total coal resource of 217 million tons. Investment in coal-fired power stations and coal-washing plants is attractive for Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs)[13].

Table 2.9: Minerals Production In Balochistan: 2022-23 (Metric Ton)

Mineral	July, 22	Aug, 22	Sept, 22	Oct, 22	Nov, 22	Dec, 22	Jan, 23	Feb, 23	Mar, 23	Apr, 23	May, 23	June, 23	Total
Baryte	2687	1584	277	19672	19022	22981	7767	14812	14714	4393	18405	13341	139655
Basalt	-	-	2375	2958	4004	7821	6496	1686	-	-	9743	5308	35083
Chromite	6973	4623	11604	14925	9342	8546	8368	8121	9703	7708	11873	11814	113040
Coal	135372	114150	178232	267160	275834	326281	272172	269019	250510	176688	213285	179264	2564015
Fluorite	121	109	152	295	541	420	116	1591	1900	1366	2811	4096	16054
Granite		46	122	331	204	249	154	472	85	113	186	258	2320
Iron Ore	4673	6638	7728	11883	18024	23465	20453	15822	38972	15832	21380	20925	205812
Limestone	356479	107340	182754	165239	347296	418861	421583	504726	572554	494443	295444	512054	4378580
Manganese	-	149	45	-	-	-	40	-	-	-	--	-	234
Marble (ONYX)		237	167	189	453	631	1042	285	93	467	1467	809	5840
Marble (ORD)	26352	14377	134005	159636	131204	134783	138868	122415	165402	70800	144033	144055	1394856
Pumice	236	247	136	809	2143	1402	731	626	741	444	974	1479	9975
Serpentine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		34	-	-	175
Shale Clay	63182	70316	101306	129443	119435	130792	147575	138271	166954	111642	98417	160826	1413861
Copper (Blister)		101	69	85	86	30	85	115	-	30	302	1003	1003

Source: Directorate of Mine & Minerals, Balochistan

[13] www.hilal.gov.pk / www.ispr.gov.pk

2.22 Trade and Transit Routes

Balochistan, Pakistan's largest province in terms of area, plays a crucial role in the country's border trade. Sharing extensive borders with Afghanistan (1468 km) and Iran (909 km), Balochistan's unique position makes it a hub for bilateral and transit trade. Out of its 36 districts, 13 are located along these international borders, with nine districts bordering Afghanistan and five bordering Iran[14].

Major Trade Routes Some of the key trade and transit routes in Balochistan include:

Makran Coastal Highway: A 653 km long road that runs along the southwestern coast of Pakistan, connecting Karachi to the port city of Gwadar. This scenic highway is an important trade route

Bolan Pass: A natural gateway through the Central Brāhui Range, connecting Sibi with Quetta. This pass has been a major trade route between India and Central Asia for centuries

Gwadar Port: Gwadar deep sea port is the second great monument of Pakistan -China friendship after the Karakorma Highway linking Pakistan and China. The foundation stone of the port was laid by the Chinese vice-premier Wu Bangguo in March, 2002 . With the completion of the first phase of the port, Gwadar, a small fishing village has become one of the most important towns of region and is poised to become one of the most important and modern cities of the Middle East, West Asia and the South Asia. Gwadar port will become gateway port for Pakistan and the region and a world –class maritime hub. Gwadar Port is to Complement Karachi Port and Port Qasim in order to stimulate economic growth of Pakistan and in particular Balochistan utilizing the available resources of the country and also providing an outlet for land locked Central Asian Countries western China and Afghanistan through transit trade and offering transshipment facilities.

2.23 Gwadar and CPEC

During a landmark visit to Islamabad in April 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping and then-Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif launched the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project under the umbrella of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Initially valued at $46 billion, the investment pledges soon swelled to $62 billion, equivalent to one-fifth of Pakistan's GDP,

[14] Pakistan Institute of Development economics

encompassing numerous high-profile energy and infrastructure projects connected to CPEC[15].

CPEC will not only benefit China and Pakistan but will have positive impact on Iran, Afghanistan, Central Asian Republic, and the region. The enhancement of geographical linkages having improved road, rail and air transportation system with frequent and free exchanges of growth and people to people contact, enhancing understanding through academic, cultural and regional knowledge and culture, activity of higher volume of flow of trade and businesses, producing and moving energy to have more optimal businesses and enhancement of co-operation by win-win model will result in well connected, integrated region of shared destiny, harmony and development. China Pakistan Economic Corridor is journey towards economic regionalization in the globalized world. It founded peace, development, and win-win model for all of them. China Pakistan Economic Corridor is hope of better region of the future with peace, development and growth of economy[16].

Objectives

To improve the lives of people of Pakistan and China by building an economic corridor promoting bilateral connectivity, construction, explore potential bilateral investment, economic and trade, logistics and people to people contact for regional connectivity. It includes:

To improve the lives of people of Pakistan and China by building an economic corridor promoting bilateral connectivity, construction, explore potential bilateral investment, economic and trade, logistics and people to people contact for regional connectivity. It includes:

- Integrated Transport & IT systems including Road, Rail, Port, Air and Data Communication Channels
- Energy Cooperation
- Spatial Layout, Functional Zones, Industries and Industrial Parks
- Agricultural Development
- Socio-Economic Development (Poverty Alleviation, Medical Treatment, Education, Water Supply, Vocational Training)
- Tourism Cooperation & People to People Communication
- Cooperation in Livelihood Areas
- Financial Cooperation
- Human Resource Development
- Science and Technology and Information Technology

Significance

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has Significance for the development of the region Potential areas of cooperation/development include (source: CPEC Secretariat, M/o PD&SI):

[15] Middle East Institute
[16] CPEC Secretariat, M/O PD&SI, Islamabad

- Regional Connectivity
  - Transport Infrastructure
  - Energy Hub/flows
  - Logistic Hub/flows
  - Trade & Commerce
  - Peace & development of region
  - Connectivity/Harmonization/Integration of civilizations
- Diverse Investment opportunities
- Industrial Cooperation
- Financial Cooperation
- Agricultural Cooperation
- Socio-Economic Development
  - Poverty Alleviation
  - Education
  - Medical Treatment
  - Water Supply
  - Vocational Training
- Tourism including coastal Tourism
- Educational linkage
- Human resource development
- People to people contacts
- Increase in livelihood opportunities
- Enhance Security and stability of the region

2.24 Gwadar Port and CPEC: Transforming Baluchistan's Economy for Future Generations

Gwadar Port and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) are playing increasingly important roles in the region's growth and change. The Gwadar Port in southern Pakistan has attracted international interest because of its convenient location and promising future as a major transportation and commercial center. The goal of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is to build a network of infrastructure that will link the port of Gwadar to the province of Xinjiang in China's far northwest. Balochistan's economy is being profoundly influenced by Gwadar Port and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The port is strategically located and is expected to receive massive investment and infrastructure development as part of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), giving it the potential to become a vibrant economic center and a major driver of prosperity in Balochistan .

a. The Strategic Importance of Gwadar Port and CPEC

Due to its strategic position, Gwadar Port is of utmost significance. Its location near the Arabian Sea's opening gives ships quick and easy access to the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean. This port provides a quicker path for ships to reach the markets of Central Asia, the Middle East, and beyond because of its deep water and ability to handle huge vessels. The location of the port near the critical Strait of Hormuz makes it all the more important strategically.

Connecting Gwadar Port with the northwestern part of China is the goal of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a large-scale infrastructure project framework. Transportation, energy, communications, and even cross-industry collaboration are all included. With an expected investment of billions of dollars, CPEC aims to modernize energy infrastructure, construct industrial zones, and connect various modes of transportation. The initiative will benefit both China and Pakistan by easing commerce, bolstering regional stability, and fostering economic growth.

Gwadar Port and the CPEC have enormous potential to improve communication and commerce in the area. Improving accessibility and lowering transportation costs, transport infrastructure development including roads, trains, and pipelines would facilitate the movement of products between China, Pakistan, and other nations in the area. It is anticipated that increased trade volumes, increased FDI, and new business prospects would result from this link. Gwadar Port's ability to handle more cargo and evolve into a significant role in regional trade dynamics would help the Baluchistan economy expand.

b. Economic Growth and Development

Balochistan's economy would gain directly from Gwadar Port and CPEC due to the creation of new infrastructure and the resulting investment possibilities. The expansion and improvement of transportation infrastructure including ports, highways, railroads, and power plants helps spur economic development. Improved connectivity is only one side effect of these infrastructure projects' ability to entice both local and international investors. Furthering economic growth along the CPEC route via the creation of industrial zones and special economic zones increases trade and job possibilities.

Gwadar Port and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) may provide many new jobs in Balochistan. In order to build and maintain the port, experts in logistics, transportation, storage, and marine services are needed. The building of CPEC-funded infrastructure including roads, trains, and power plants also generates construction industry jobs. Increased economic activity also boosts the hotel, retail, and financial services industries. Balochistan's general social and economic circumstances have improved thanks to the availability of employment in a variety of fields, which has had a positive effect on poverty reduction.

Tourism and manufacturing are only two examples of businesses that have benefited from Gwadar Port and the CPEC. Gwadar's growth as a major trading gateway has generated demand for lodging facilities, tour guides, and regional goods, both at home and abroad. Industrial development and export-oriented businesses both gain from better transportation links and easier access to raw materials used in production. Balochistan may diversify its economic base, lessen its reliance on traditional industries, and increase its involvement in global value chains by taking use of its strategic position and infrastructural advances.

2.25 Trade and Investment Opportunities

Gwadar Port is an important transportation hub that connects Asia with the rest of the world. Because of its advantageous position, it serves as a faster and cheaper alternative for transporting commodities

between the Middle East and Central Asia and beyond. The port's deep-sea capabilities make it a desirable alternative for global shipping companies due to its capacity to accommodate both big vessels and transshipment. The growth of ancillary infrastructure, such as customs warehouses and logistics providers, facilitates the improvement of trade operations. Opening up new trade channels, boosting economic activity, and establishing Balochistan as an important participant in regional trade dynamics are all possible thanks to Gwadar Port's potential as a transshipment center.

Balochistan is in need of foreign direct investment (FDI) to help fund the expansion of Gwadar Port and related businesses. One facet of the prospective FDI inflows is the Chinese investments under the CPEC. Balochistan is a desirable location for international investors due to its business-friendly climate, pro-investment legislation, and ready supply of competent workers. Industrial zones and special economic zones allow businesses to locate production facilities near Gwadar Port and take advantage of the CPEC's strategic benefits. Balochistan's economy may expand steadily with the help of foreign direct investment (FDI) thanks to the transfer of technology, the creation of new jobs, and the sharing of existing ones.

2.26 Reko Diq

Gwadar Port to oversee the export of Gold and Copper from Reko Diq Barrick Gold Company, $7 billion will be invested in the mine which has the world's largest under developed copper-gold deposits, over the next years. The company will invest $4 billion in the first four years and $3 billion in the following six years

2.27 Gwadar Free Zone

The Gwadar Free Zones were established with the aim of exporting to foreign countries and transforming into a high-performing, export-oriented nation in the international trading landscape. The Free Zones of Gwadar also provide services for the supply of trade articles and manufacturing items to the local markets.

Balochistan's involvement in global value chains may be strengthened and exports diversified thanks to Gwadar Port and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Businesses are able to increase their exports due to advancements in connectivity and infrastructure. The export-oriented sectors of Balochistan may benefit greatly from the country's abundance of minerals, fisheries, and agricultural goods. Partnerships and joint ventures let local firms enter global value chains, which opens doors to new customers, new products, and new foreign markets. Balochistan can boost its export competitiveness and achieve sustained economic development by taking advantage of the trade and investment possibilities brought forth by Gwadar Port and the CPEC.

For Gwadar Port and CPEC to have the greatest possible beneficial effect on Balochistan, it is essential that local people be included and given agency in the economic and political processes. The local populace may see an improvement in their level of life via the implementation of programs that encourage entrepreneurship, skill building, and the provision of quality education and healthcare.

Balochistan's natural resources must be preserved, and environmental issues must be mitigated, hence sustainable development practices and environmental concerns are essential. Gwadar Port and CPEC may help Balochistan's economy and society flourish in the long run if they choose a strategy that values inclusivity, sustainability, and environmental responsibility.

The development of Gwadar Port and the construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) have had a revolutionary effect on the economy of Balochistan. Balochistan is becoming a regional commerce and communication center due to the strategic location of Gwadar Port and the significant infrastructural investments under the CPEC. The port's deep-sea capabilities, enhanced transportation networks, and investment prospects have created new possibilities for the region's economy.

2.28 Health

Health makes a vital and foremost contribution to economic growth, as healthy Populations live longer and are more vibrant and productive. Efficient public health systems are crucial for providing care for the sick, and for instituting procedures that endorse wellness, and prevents diseases. Poor health contributes to poverty due to the catastrophic costs of illness, as it diminishes learning capacity during childhood and earning ability during adulthood. Therefore, health holds a key position towards prosperity, through reduction of poverty which ultimately contributes to national economic growth.

2.28.1 Healthcare Delivery System of Balochistan

I. Primary Healthcare

This is the first level of health care considered to be essential to maintain adequate health and protection from disease. Typically, each union council as a Basic Health Unit (BHU) which has 2 beds but in some cases there are 2 facilities per union council and serves a catchment population of about 10,000 to 25,000.

BHUs are almost all over the place in rural areas, they have limited usefulness for patients seeking slightly advanced but not specialized care. To serve such patients, the health system has established a tier of facilities known as RHCs. The RHCs are better equipped than BHUs to manage minor emergencies and surgeries. Typically, the RHC has 15-20 beds inpatient facility and each serve a catchment population of about 100,000. This is envisaged as a health facility that is open 24/7.There are a total of 132 RHCs, 770 BHUs, 504 Dispensaries, 92 Mother and Child Health Centers (MCHs) in Balochistan province[17].

II. Secondary Healthcare

This is an intermediate referral level of healthcare that is concerned with the provision of technical, therapeutic and diagnostic services. It is the first level serving at the district and

[17] Development Statistics of Baluchistan, 2023

taluka levels. Specialist consultation and hospital admissions fall into this category.The Tehsil Headquarters (THQs) and District Headquarters (DHQs) hospitals serve a population of 500,000 to 3,000,000 people. Both these health facilities provide basic and comprehensive emergency, obstetrics, preventive, curative, diagnostics, and in-patient services along with referral services to patients referred by BHUs, RHCs and Lady Health Workers Programme. There are a total of 8 T.B centers in Balochistan Province[18].

III. Tertiary Healthcare

The Tertiary Healthcare hospitals are more specialized for in-patient care. These hospitals provide specialized healthcare services usually to indoor patients and on referrals from primary or secondary health professionals. There are 10 tertiary healthcare facilities in Balochistan Province. [19]

Table 2.10: Detail of Health Institution in Balochistan Province 2023

Sr. No.	Health Facility	Number
1.	Government Hospitals	**56**
2.	Private Hospitals	**75**
3.	Government Dispensaries	**504**
4.	Private Dispensaries	**19**
5.	Rural Health Center	**132**
6.	Basic Health Units	**770**
7.	M.C.H.C	**92**
8.	T. B Clinics	**8**

Source: Development Statistics of Balochistan, 2023

2.29 Education

Education is not only a key driver of economic growth because of its varied linkages with employability, productivity, environment, health, and human resource development. It is also a globally recognized human right. Poverty nowadays is measured more comprehensively using the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). Equitable and fast development of education has striking impacts at poverty reduction.

Education lays the foundation of a developed and progressive society. It empowers individuals and societies to improve their skills, capabilities, and has a strong correlation with socio-economic

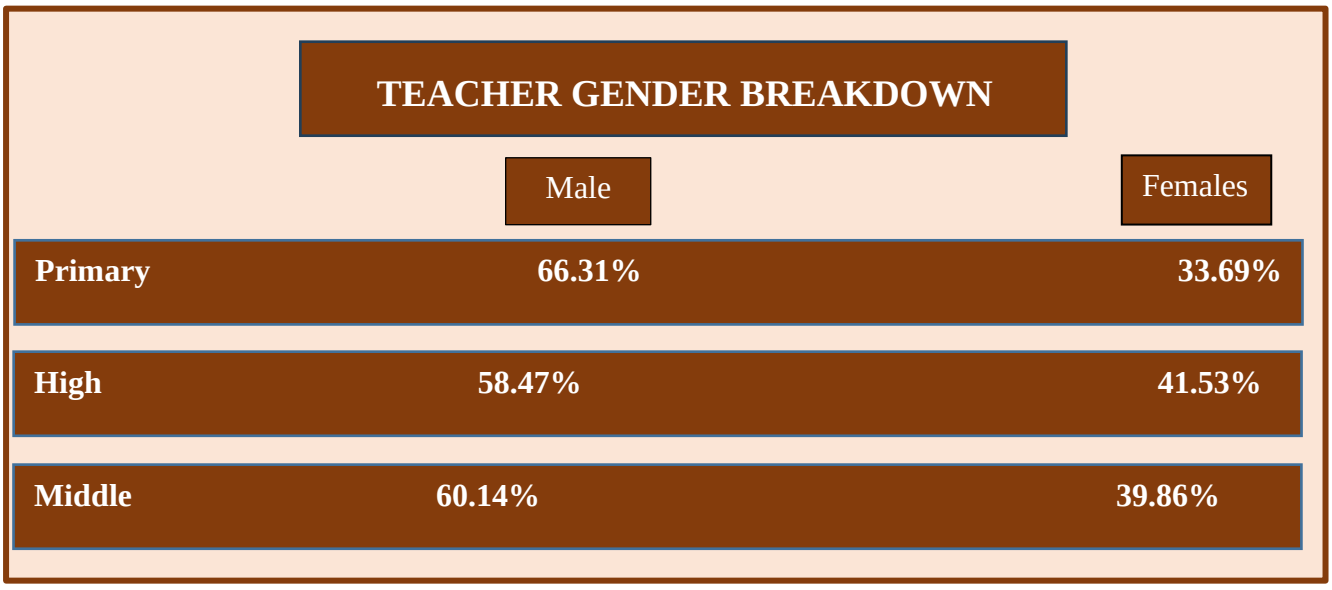
[18] www.dghs.gob.pk & Development Statistics of Balochistan
[19] www.nih.org.pk

development. In this regard, the development of a widely accessible quality and equitable education system is a critical requirement for human development. Article 25-A of the Constitution clearly reinforces the government's responsibility towards ensuring provision of education as a basic right.

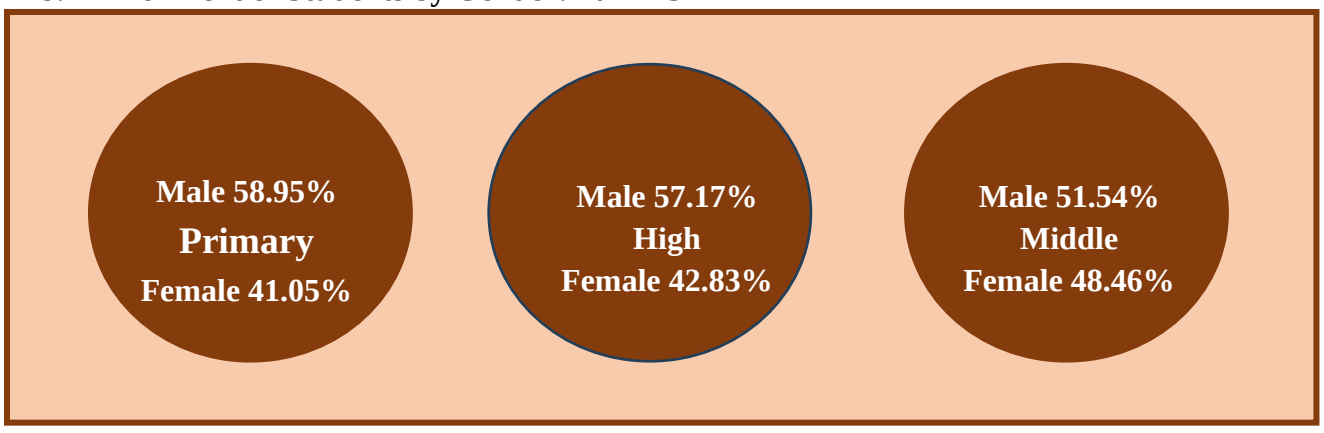
2.30 Education Profile of Balochistan

A National Framework has been devised for localization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at district level to improve public social service delivery for implementation of the global agenda. Goal 4 of SDGs covers the education related framework to improve the education system; Federal Government has decided to enhance working relationship with the provinces by providing all possible support to ensure successful implementation of all SDGs including those related to education. Under Education, Balochistan's PSDP includes Rs. 19,786.65 million for 740 schemes related to primary, secondary, college, university, technical and general education. 55% of the total amount, i.e., Rs. 10,879.35 million is allocated for primary and secondary education. For recurrent costs, the Education sector is allocated Rs. 102,779.18 million.

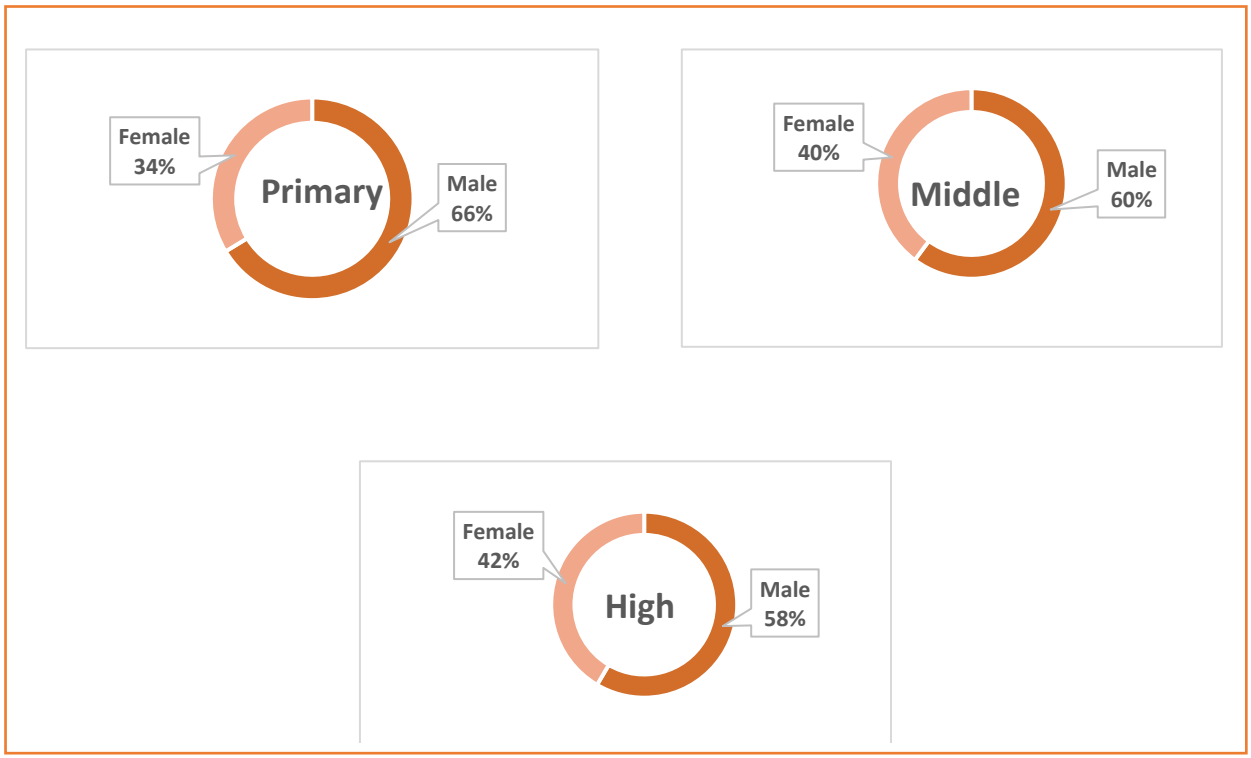
a. Number of Teachers by Gender on Education Levels: 2022-23



b. Enrollment of Students by Gender: 2022-23



Teacher Gender Breakdown



a. Student Teacher Ratio

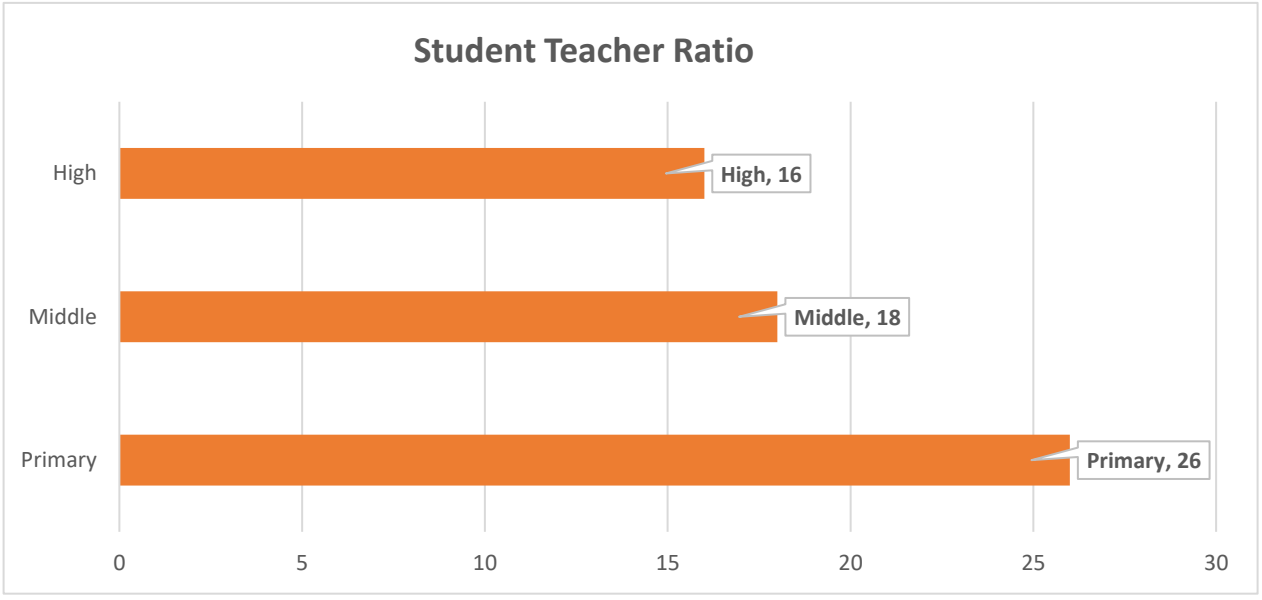


Table 2.11: Level Wise Educational Institutions Intitutions in Balochistan Province

Level of Education	No. of Institutions
Primary	12,224
Middle	1,578
High	1194
Higher Secondary	172
Inter, Degree or Post Graduate Colleges	139

Source: Development Statistics of Balochistan, 2023

b. College Education Statistics

Table 2.12 below gives the detail of educational institutes by categories in Balochistan

Table 2.12: Number of Category Wise Educational Institutes by Type and Sex in Balochistan

Institutes	2022-23			
	Male	Female	Co.Education	Total
Universities	-	1	9	10
Colleges	89	50	-	139
Professional colleges	12	5	11	28
Cadet colleges	9	2	-	11
Residential colleges	5	-	-	5
Technical institutions	34	94	11	139

Source: Development Statistics of Balochistan, 2023

2.31 Communication Strategy 2023-27, School Education Department

Introduction

This 5-Year Communication Strategy is designed as an umbrella framework for School Education Department's communications to ensure that it communicates in a strategic and targeted way to the target audience across Balochistan. It is closely aligned with the mandates of School Education Department and Balochistan Education Sector Plan (2020-25).

Earlier, there was no specific Communication Strategy for School Education Department as to how the department can communicate to the target audience. The target audience were usually not aware of the initiatives taken by the Government of Balochistan, School Education Department for the

improvement of education sector in the province. Only donor-driven programs/interventions usually have specific Communication Strategies as part of the Projects to communicate with the target audience. Consequently, the general public got this perception/impression that the department is doing nothing for the promotion of education in the province. Despite the fact, that every year the Government of Balochistan allocates a big chunk of budget to School Education Department to improve educational services across the province without any discrimination.

This 5 Years Communication Strategy is designed in such a manner that it will bring the School Education Department closer to the target audience and will also equally highlight the contribution of development/implementing partners to the education sector in Balochistan.

This Communication Strategy for School Education Department is designed over five years beginning with strengthening the base for communication in the first year to preparing for take-off to attaining maximum altitude to consolidating and sustaining to transitioning in the fifth year of the strategy to another Communication Strategy.

The key highlights of the Strategy are as under:

Year 1 (2023): Strengthening the Base

This Strategy proposes the establishment of a fully dedicated Communication Desk at Policy Planning & Implementation Unit (PPIU) of School Education Department with posting of relevant staff having expertise in communications, as well as educational background.

The new and existing staff of PPIU will work on ensuring a more active presence of School Education Department on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. They will also create Fact Sheets containing all information about Schools, Human Resource and Students along with Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) and donor interventions.

A website for communication purpose will be setup in the first year and staff working in the Communication Desk will also work on producing articles for media and development of quarterly e-Bulletin for targeted audiences.

Year 2 (2024): Preparing for Take-Off

In the second year of the communication strategy, quality will be the key in producing communication materials for targeted audiences. Materials will be segmented according to the level of targeted audiences.

Year 3 (2015): Attaining Maximum Altitude

By 2025, the School Education Department through its Communication Desk will be making every

effort to expand its social media presence through new and innovative ways to reach the targeted audience.

Year 4 (2026): Consolidating & Sustaining

By 2026, all the main communication tools and channels need to be in place. The School Education Department through its Communication Desk will be looking at other means to continue expanding social media presence and will also be improving the quality of messages for communication to targeted audiences.

Year 5 (2027): Transitioning

By 2027, the School Education Department through its Communication Desk will continue expanding department's social media presence and will also be preparing for transitioning towards the development of a new Communication Strategy for School Education Department for 2028-32.

2.31.1 Rational, Scope and Objectives

At present, there is no specific Communication Strategy for School Education Department to communicate information about the initiatives Government of Balochistan takes to improve educational services across the province without any discrimination.
However, the Project, namely, Balochistan Human Capital Investment Project (BHCIP), executed by the Project Management Unit (PMU) of School Education Department, has its own. Communication Strategy, which highlights the targets/goals/interventions of the Project for its targeted audience.

In order to fill the void, it is critical that the School Education Department has its own Communication Strategy to communicate with the target audiences as to what the department has been doing to improve the education landscape in Balochistan

Therefore, Rais Communication Strategy (2023-27) will serve as a guide for all activities related to internal and external communications for the School Education Department, Government of Balochistan.

PART - III

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

7th Population & Housing Census 2023

"FIRST EVER DIGITAL CENSUS"

BALOCHISTAN

TOTAL POPULATION

14.89 MILLION

URBAN 31%

RURAL 69%

MALE 52.15%

FEMALE 47.84%

MARRIED 68.04%

NEVER MARRIED 29.76%

AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATE (%) 3.20%

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE 6.43

MOTHER TONGUE

URDU 0.53%	PUNJABI 0.59%
PUSHTO 34.03%	SINDHI 3.81%
BALOCHI 39.91%	SARAIKI 2.19%

POPULATION WITH AGE GROUPS

UNDER 5 19.56%	05 - 16 34.85%	15 - 29 26.06%
BELOW 18 56.64%	BELOW 40 85.80%	65 & ABOVE 2.11%

LITERACY 42%

51%

33%

OUT OF SCHOOL 5-16 YEAR

2.94 MILLION (57.97%)

53%

64%

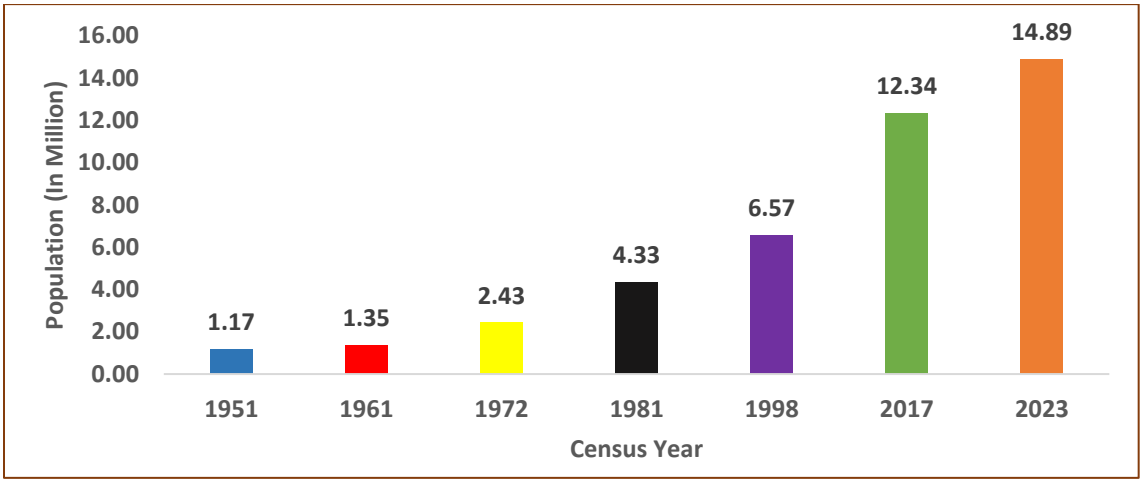
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 Population size, growth and its distribution

3.1.1 Population Size and its Growth

The population of Balochistan province according to the Census-2023 has been recorded as 14.894 million showing an increase of 20.75% since the Census-2017. Figure 3.1 illustrates that the population has increased from 1.17 in 1951 to 14.89 million in Census-2023, showing an addition of about 13 million people in the past six decades or so. It is evident from Figure 3.1 that province population has grown three times in numbers since the year 1981 due to high growth rate experienced in the past with high population momentum.

Figure 3.1 Population Size Since Census-1951



Looking at the trends in population growth since the first census of 1951, Table 3.1 shows that the intercensal increase has been the highest at 87.87% during 198-2017 followed by 79.52% during 1961-1972, and 78.38% during the 1972-1981 period and 15.94% during the 1951-1961 lowest in all years as time period between 1951 and 1961. This means that province has been experiencing a rapid increase in population during the last 3-4 decades showing an overall cumulative increase in population of 1176.27% since 1951.

Table 3.1: Population and Intercensal Increase Since Census- 1951

Description	1951	1961	1972	1981	1998	2017	2023
Population (000's)	1,167	1,353	2,429	4,332	6,566	12,335	14,894
Intercensal Increase (%)	--	15.94	79.52	78.38	51.55	87.87	20.75
Cumulative Increase (%)	--	15.9	108.14	271.21	462.64	956.98	1176.27
Intercensal Average Annual Growth Rate (%)	--	1.51	5.14	7.09	2.47	3.37	3.20

The average annual growth rate has been observed as 3.20% between the intercensal period of 2017 to 2023, compared to 3.37% recorded during previous intercensal period of 1998 and 2017, indicating that the province population has decrease during recent period. Figures 3.2 and 3.3 portray the average annual intercensal growth rates and average per year increase since 1951, respectively.

Figure 3.2: Average Annual Intercensal Growth Rate : Since- 1951

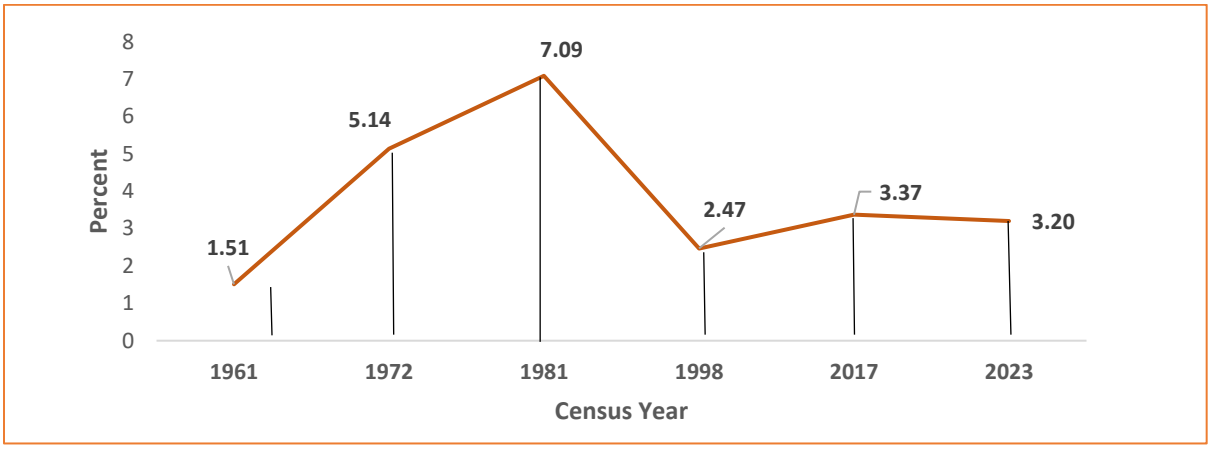
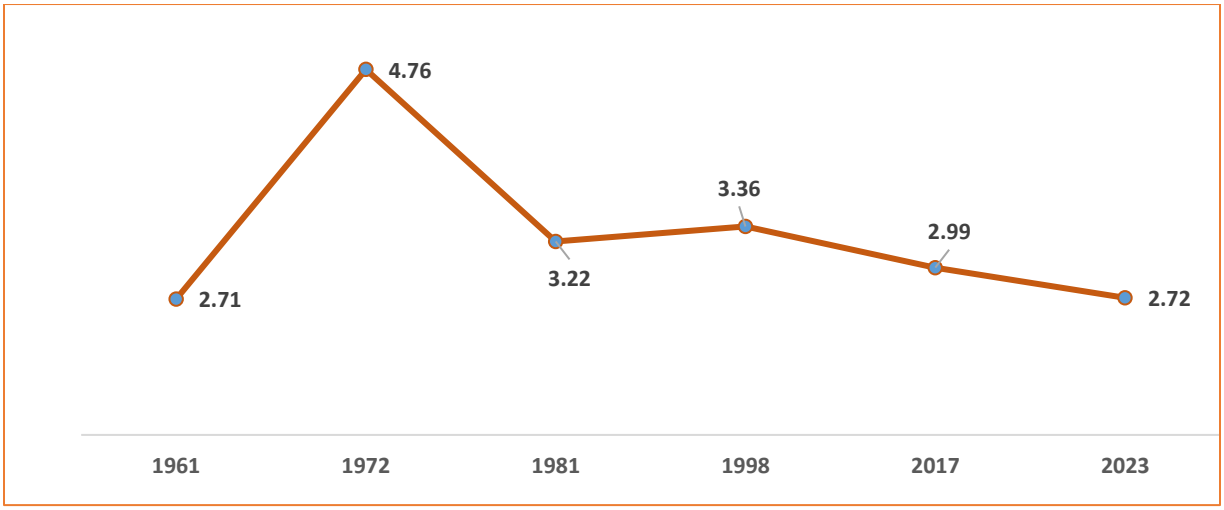


Figure 3.3: Average Per Year Increase: Since- 1951



3.1.2 Population Distribution by Administrative Units

Balochistan has eight divisions namely Kalat, Loralai, Mekran, Nasirabad, Quetta, Sibi, Rakhshan, and Zhob. According to the Census-2023. Quetta Division has the largest share in province population constituting 28.60% of the total. The percentage shares of other divisions of Balochistan in descending order are recorded as Kalat 18.27%, Nasirabad 13.72%, Mekran 12.59%, Sibi 7.77%, Rakhshan 6.98%, Zhob 6.23% and Loralai 5.84% as shown in Table 3.2.

Compared with the Census-2017, the percentage shares of population in divisions were as follows: Quetta 33.81%, Kalat 20.37%, Nasirabad 13.82%, Zhob 12.50%, Mekran 12.04%, and Sibi 7.46%. Compared to the Census-2023, population of Quetta,Zhob , Kalat & Nasirabad division has

decreased by 5.75%, 6.27%, 2.10% & 0.10 whereas an increase in Mekran & Sibi division has been observed by 0.09 & 0.31 respectively. The increase/decrease of population in these divisions is mainly because of creation of two new divisions in Census-2023 i.e. Loralai & Rakhshan.

Table 3.2: Area, Population, Density, Urban Proportion, Average Household Size and Average Annual Growth Rate of Province / Divisions / District, Census-2023

Admin Unit	Area (Sq. Km)	Population		Population Density per sq. km	Urban Percent	Household Size	Avg.Annual Growth Rate (%)
		Number	Percent				
Balochistan	**347,190**	**14,894,402**	**100**	**42.9**	**30.96**	**6.43**	**3.2**
Kalat Division	91,767	2,721,018	18.27	29.65	31.72	6.29	3.82
Loralai Division	17,260	870,000	5.84	50.41	11.45	6.42	2.84
Mekran Division	52,067	1,875,872	12.59	36.03	37.5	4.46	3.98
Nasirabad Division	15,129	2,044,021	13.72	135.11	19.06	7.2	3.53
Quetta Division	14,559	4,259,163	28.6	292.55	46.37	7.54	2.08
Rakhshan Division	98,596	1,040,001	6.98	10.55	18.32	6.74	5.76
Sibi Division	30,684	1,156,748	7.77	37.7	24.17	6.77	3.09
Zhob Division	27,128	927,579	6.23	34.19	11.98	6.02	2.37

3.1.3 Average Household Size

According to Census-2023, the average household size has been observed as 6.43 persons compared to 6.9 persons in the Census-2017. The average household sizes in rural and urban areas are 6.18 and 7.05 persons, respectively. Among the Administrative Divisions, Quetta has the highest household size as 7.54 persons, followed by Nasirabad as 7.20 persons. For other Divisions of the Province, the average household sizes in descending order are as follows: Sibi 6.77 persons, Rakhshan 6.74 persons, Loralai 6.42 persons, Kalat 6.29 persons, Zhob 6.02 persons and Mekran Division 4.46 persons. An overall decline in the average household size is witnessed in all the administrative units when compared with the 2017-Census, except for Nasirabad, Quetta and Sibi Divisions where it has increased from 6.79 persons in 2017 to 7.20 persons for Nasirabad, 7.33 persons in 2017 to 7.54 persons for Quetta and 6.53 persons in 2017 to 6.77 persons for Sibi in Census-2023.

3.1.4 Population Density

According to Census-2023, the population density in Balochistan province (average number of persons per square kilometer) is 42.90 persons per sq. Km, as against 35.53 persons reported in the Census-2017. Amongst the divisions, Quetta is the most densely populated with 292.55 persons per square kilometer, while Rakhshan is the least densely populated division with 10.55 persons per square kilometer. Figure 3.4 graphically illustrates the recorded population densities of the divisions of the province in 2023 compared to the Census-2017.

Figure 3.4: Population Density of Province / Divisions, Census-2017 and 2023

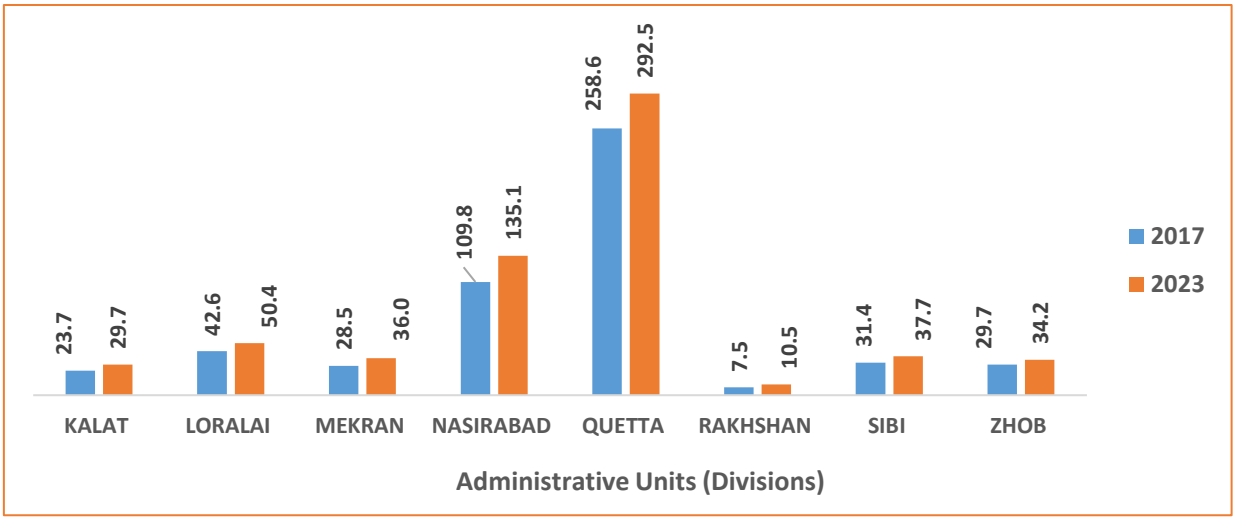
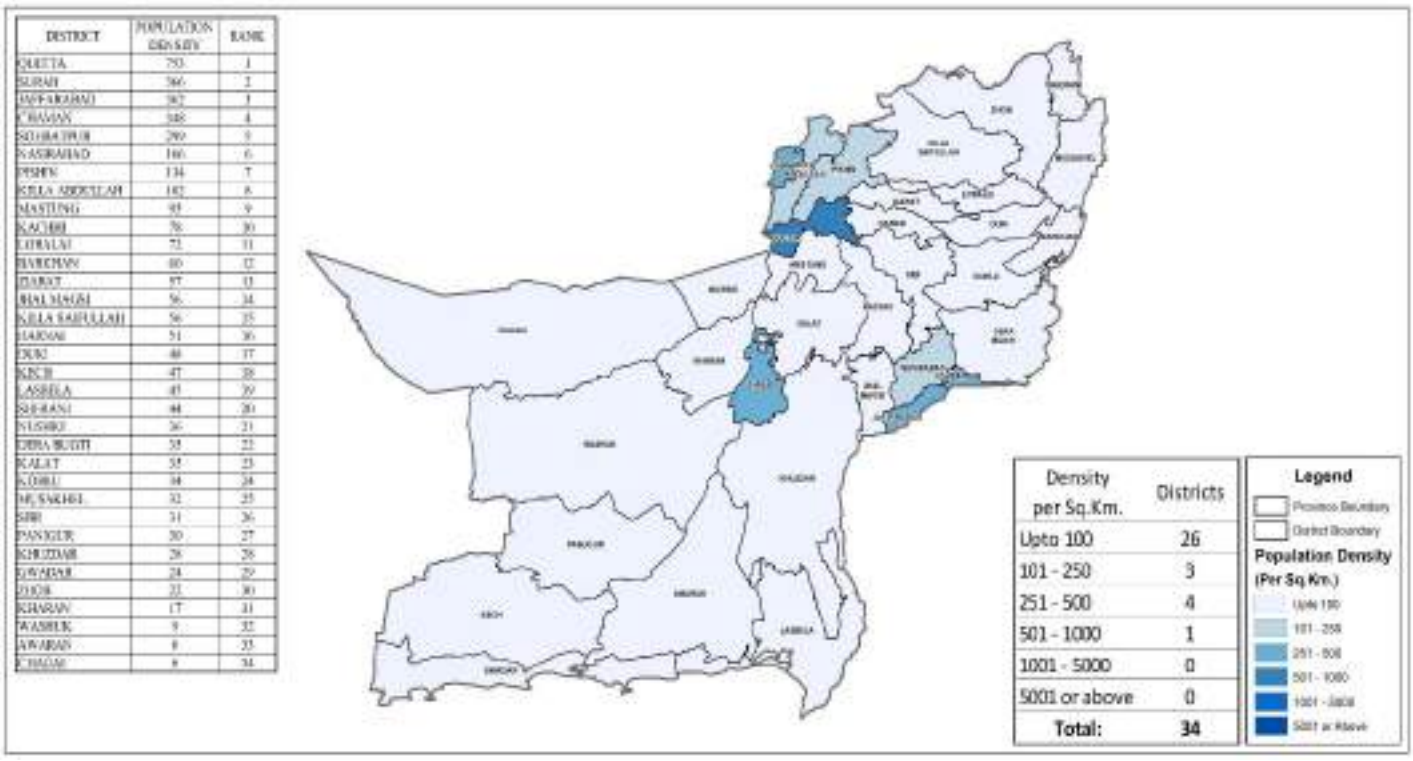


Figure 3.5 unveils the district wise population density distribution in the Balochistan province. In Balochistan, Quetta being provincial capital, attracting people from various regions in search of better opportunities and services, most densely populated with 753 individuals per square kilometer. Following Quetta, Surab ranks second with a population density of 366 people per square kilometer with Jaffarabad 362 individuals per square kilometer. However, In contrast, Awaran, Chagai and Washuk with 6 individuals per square kilometer each and 9 individuals per square kilometer reflecting a more dispersed demographic pattern in these districts.

Figure 3.5: District Wise Population Density Balochistan, Census – 2023



3.1.5 Rural-Urban Distribution of Population

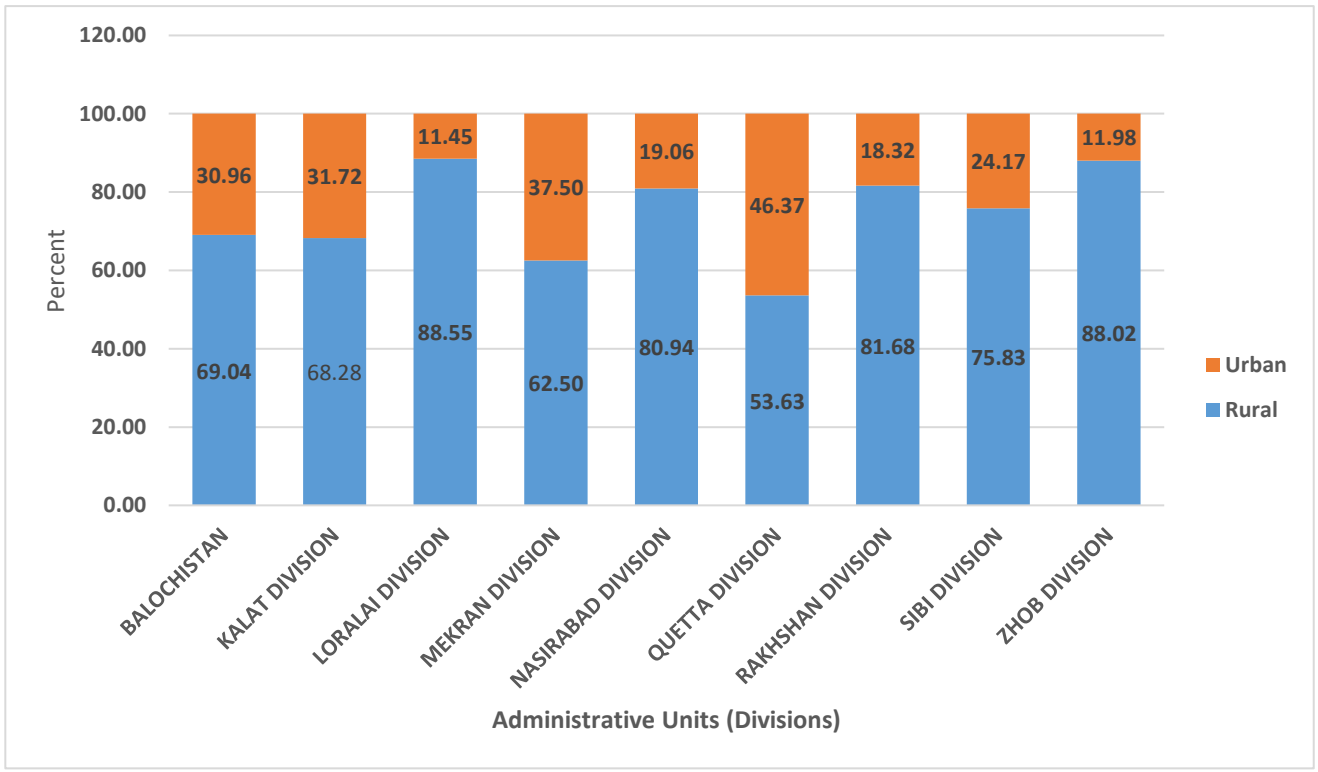
According to Census-2023, the rural population is recorded as 10,282,574 persons having a share of 69.04% of the province's total population. The rural population as a percentage of the total population (69.04%) has declined since the Census-2017 when it was recorded as 69.13% (8,526,993 persons).

Rural 69.04%

Urban 30.96%

The urban population is recorded as 4,611828 persons in Census-2023, which is 30.96% of the province's total population, which has slightly increased as compared to the Census-2017 where it was reported as 30.87%. Quetta Division is the most urbanized 46.37% among the other divisions. Kalat 31.72, Nasirabad 19.06%, Mekran 37.50%, Sibi 24.17%, Rakhshan 18.32%, Zhob 11.96% and Loralai 11.45% as shown in Figure 3.6.

Figure 3.6 :Rural/Urban Percentage Population Distribution of Province / Divisions



The total number of rural localities (Deh / Village) in the province has been recorded as 6,357 in Census-2023 as verified by revenue department. Rural localities with a population between 2000-4999 persons amount to 764. Looking at the size of rural localities, it is observed that areas with a population 500-999 individuals have the largest number (1,416) followed by localities with a population between 200-499 persons (1,376). The number of rural localities classified by administrative units and population size are shown in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3: Number of Rural Localities by Population size of Administrative Units: Census-2023

Administrative Units	Total Rural Localities	5,000 and Above	2,000 – 4,999	1,000 – 1,999	500 - 999	200 - 499	Less Than 200	Uninhabited
Balochistan Province	6357	375	764	1111	1416	1376	1265	50
Kalat Division	2354	29	179	350	495	607	673	21
Loralai Division	458	27	62	106	116	100	45	2
Mekran Division	472	55	113	91	86	60	50	17
Nasirabad Division	906	71	146	178	203	176	131	2
Quetta Division	545	92	55	63	84	109	141	1
Rakhshan Division	469	34	78	87	113	90	63	4
Sibi Division	727	32	66	144	224	148	112	1
Zhob Division	426	35	66	92	95	86	50	2

The number of urban localities*(Table 3.4) is 66, indicating an increase from 61 in Census-2017. The highest number of urban localities i.e 26 are concentrated in population size 25,000-49,999 individuals followed by urban localities of less than 25,000 in the province with a frequency of 19.

Table 3.4 :Number of Urban Localities by Size of Population and Average Annual Growth Rate Since, Census-1961

Year	Total	Number of Urban Localities by Size				Urban Population		Avg. Annual Growth Rate of Urban Population
		Less than 25,000	25,000-49,999	50,000-99,999	100,000 and over	Number	Percent	
1961	35	33	1	1	-	228,468	16.49	4.7
1972	39	37	1	-	1	399,584	16.43	4.9
1981	32	26	4	1	1	676,772	15.62	6.4
1998	46	31	9	5	1	1,568,780	23.89	5.07
2017	61	25	23	8	5	3,406,701	27.62	4.16
2023	66	19	26	12	9	4,611,828	30.96	5.19

** In Census-2023, urban localities have been counted according to the Table -2 (Part-V) in the light of Notification issued by Provincial Local Government.*

3.2 Distribution of population by sex, age and marital status

3.2.1 Sex Ratio

The overall sex ratio (number of males per hundred females, all ages) is an important demographic indicator to examine gender balance in population. It is primarily affected by under or over enumeration of male or female population and later by sex differentials in mortality and migration. The sex ratio in turn affects fertility, mortality, migration, labour force composition and other factors.

According to the Census-2023, sex ratio of Balochistan province is 109.02 which has slightly decreased from 110.82 as recorded in the Census-2017. The sex ratio is slightly higher in rural areas i.e., 109.74 as compared to urban areas as 107.43. This may be due to the migratory pattern of males to urban centers for work and education (Table 3.5).

The overall sex ratio for individuals below the age of 15 years is recorded as 113.94 in Census-2017 as compared to 111.83 in Census-2023, whereas it is recorded as 106.12 for the working-age population between the ages 15-64 years. The sex ratio has witnessed an increase in 65 years and above population from 115.93 in Census-2017 to 133 in Census-2023. The changing sex ratios by age are reflective of the effects of mortality, migration and coverage of population in the census which require further data analysis.

Table 3.5 :Sex Ratio by Selected Age Groups and Rural/Urban: Census Year 2017 and 2023

Ages	Sex Ratio 2017			Sex Ratio 2023		
	All Areas	Rural	Urban	All Areas	Rural	Urban
All ages	110.82	110.52	111.55	109.02	109.74	107.43
At birth	109.19	108.70	110.48	106.65	106.98	105.81
Less than 15 years	113.94	114.46	112.64	111.83	112.90	109.19
15 – 64 years	107.56	106.06	110.63	106.12	105.67	107.08
65 + years	115.93	117.96	111.29	133	134	130

3.2.2 Age Structure

The interaction of births, deaths, and migration has a considerable impact on the demographic behavior and emerging socio-economic characteristics of any society. However, like other developing countries, age reporting is not very accurate in Pakistan. This could be ascribed to illiteracy and ignorance about ages, and age heaping is often reported (tendency or digital preferences to report ages ending in 0 and 5 followed by even numbers).

According to the Census-2023, the population less than 15 years of age is 49.66% of the total population. The below figure shows that the population share below the age of five years is 19.56%, and below one year old is 2.33% of the total population. Moreover, about half of Balochistan's population i.e. 49.01% lies in the working-age group of 15-64 years. The age group of 65 years and above represents only 3.06% of the total province population.

The age group representing youth (15 to 24 years) constitutes 19.43% of the total population. The adult population above the age of 18 years has a share of the total population as 43.36%.

Less Than 1 Year
Total: 2.33%
Male: 2.30%
Female: 2.36%

Less Than 5 Years
Total: 19.56%
Male: 19.66%
Female: 19.45%

Less Than 10 Years
Total: 36.18%
Male: 36.41%
Female: 35.92%

Less Than 15 Years
Total: 49.66%
Male: 50.18%
Female: 49.09%

15 - 24
Total:19.43%
Male: 19.16%
Female: 19.71%

18 & Above
Total: 43.36%
Male: 42.67%
Female: 44.11%

15 - 64
Total: 48.23%
Male: 47.51%
Female: 49.01%

65 & Above
Total: 2.11%
Male: 2.31%
Female: 1.90%

Table 3.6 presents the distribution of population by 5-year age intervals and sex. The male population comprises 52.25% of the total population, whereas the female population constitutes 47.75% of the total population reported in Census 2023. The age groups with the highest number of people are 00-04 and 05-09 years, with percentage shares of 19.56% and 16.25%, respectively. The percentage shares show a progressively decreasing trend for higher age groups indicating concentration of population in younger age groups.

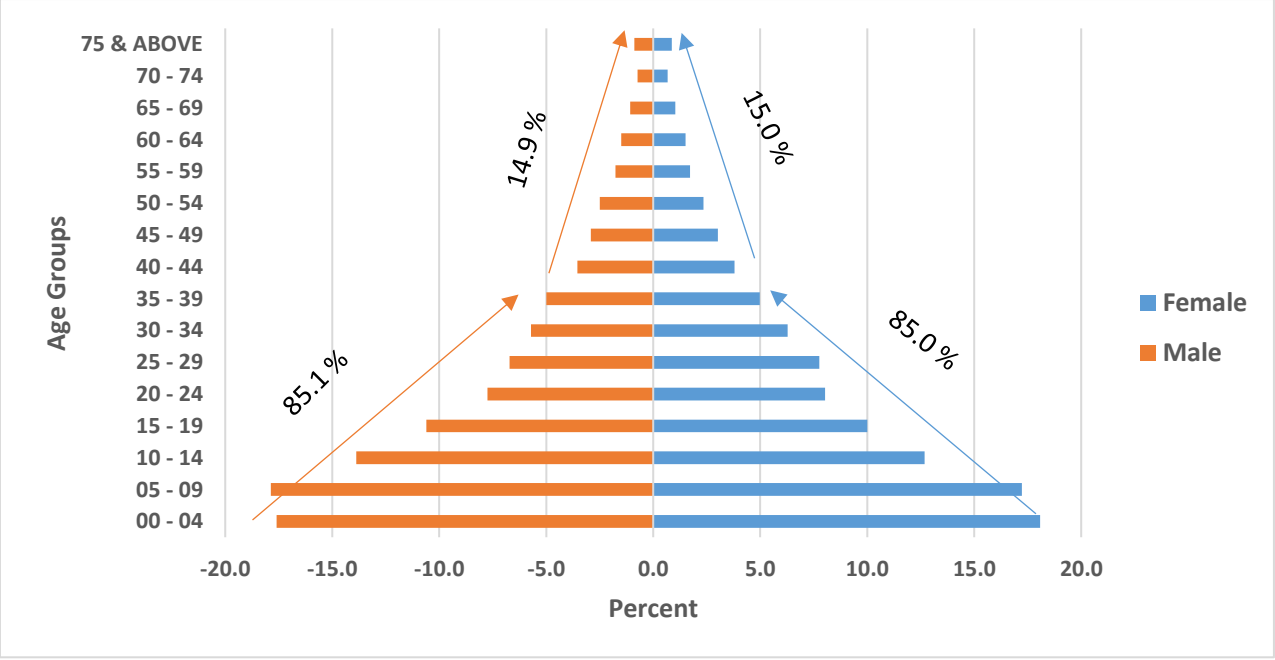
Table 3.6:Population of Province by Sex and Age Groups: Census- 2023

Age group	Male	Female	Total Population*
All Ages	52.25	47.75	100
00 - 04	10.28	9.29	19.56
05 - 09	8.75	7.87	16.62
10 --14	7.19	6.29	13.48
15 - 19	5.87	5.21	11.08
20 - 24	4.15	4.20	8.35
25 - 29	3.32	3.31	6.63
30 - 34	2.62	2.76	5.38
35 - 39	2.41	2.30	4.71
40 - 44	2.09	1.91	3.99
45 - 49	1.52	1.31	2.82
50 - 54	1.20	1.09	2.29
55 - 59	0.93	0.75	1.69
60 - 64	0.73	0.56	1.29
65 - 69	0.49	0.38	0.87
70 - 74	0.36	0.27	0.63
75 & Above	0.36	0.25	0.62

** The transgender population is not included in the total population column.*

Figures 3.7 portrays the percentage distribution of population for males and females categories separately for five year age intervals. This has been done to account for differences in age reporting of males and females. The graphical representation reflects the age and sex structure which can be represented as an expansive population pyramid with a large base, whose shape becomes narrower in the middle age groups until it becomes a thin peak at the top.

Figure 3.7: Population Distribution of Male and Female of the Province, Census-2023



3.2.3 Dependency Ratio

Table 3.7 shows that the overall age dependency ratio for all sexes is 107.35% as compared to 105.41% in Census 2017. The age dependency ratio for male is 110.47%, female is 104.05% and for transgender it is 17.51%. the age dependency ratio is much higher in rural areas i.e. 113.90% compared to urban areas as 93.37%.

Table 3.7 : Dependency Ratio of Province by Sex and Rural/Urban, Census-2023

Dependency ratio	2017			2023		
	All Area	Rural	Urban	All Area	Rural	Urban
All Sexes	105.41	112.27	89.37	107.35	113.90	93.37
Male	108.40	116.41	90.07	110.47	117.94	94.62
Female	102.22	107.90	88.62	104.05	109.64	92.05
Transgender	10.01	11.90	6.99	17.51	22.97	10.32

3.2.4 Marital Status

All individuals aged 15 years and above enumerated in the Census-2023 are classified according to their marital status, i.e. married, never married, widowed, divorced and separation as shown in Figure 3.8. The Census-2023 results show that out of the total population above 15 years of age, 29.76% are never married, 68.04% are married, 2.01% are widowed, divorced 0.11% and 0.28% are separated.

Figure 3.8: Percentage Distribution of Population (15 Years And Above) by Marital Status and Age Groups, Census 2023

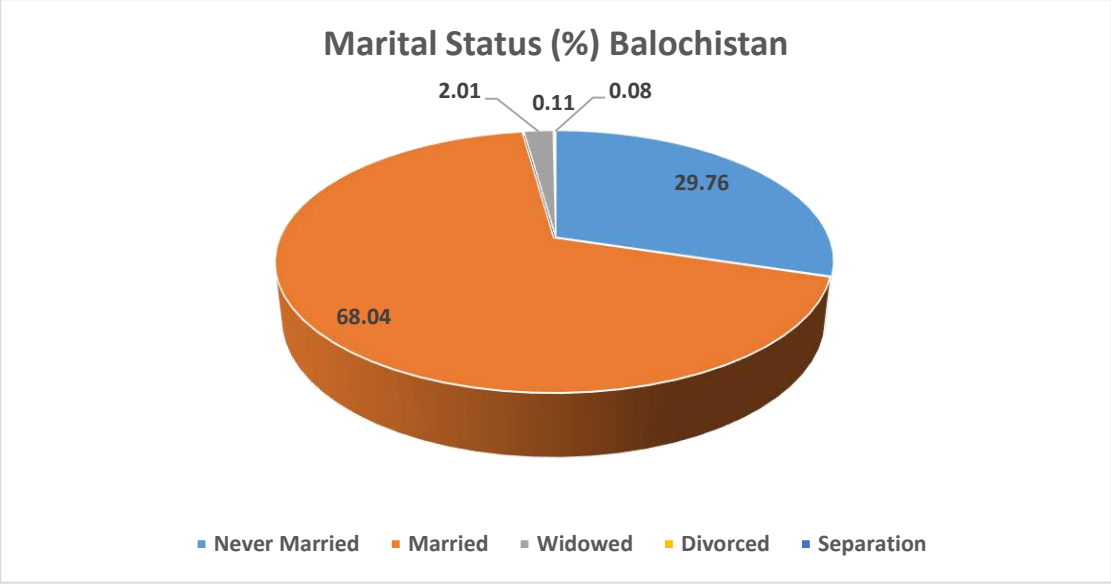
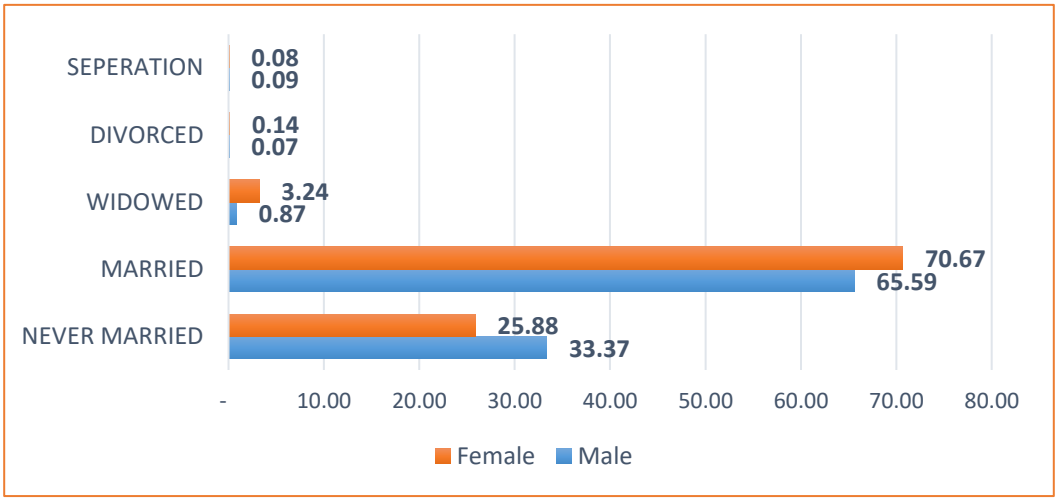


Figure 3.9 provides the percentage distribution of population by marital status. The percentage of never married males i.e. 33.37% is higher than never married females as 25.88%. However, the percentage of married female 70.67% is higher than never married males as 65.59%.

Figure 3.9 : Percentage Population of Male and Female by Marital Status (15 Years And Above), Census 2023

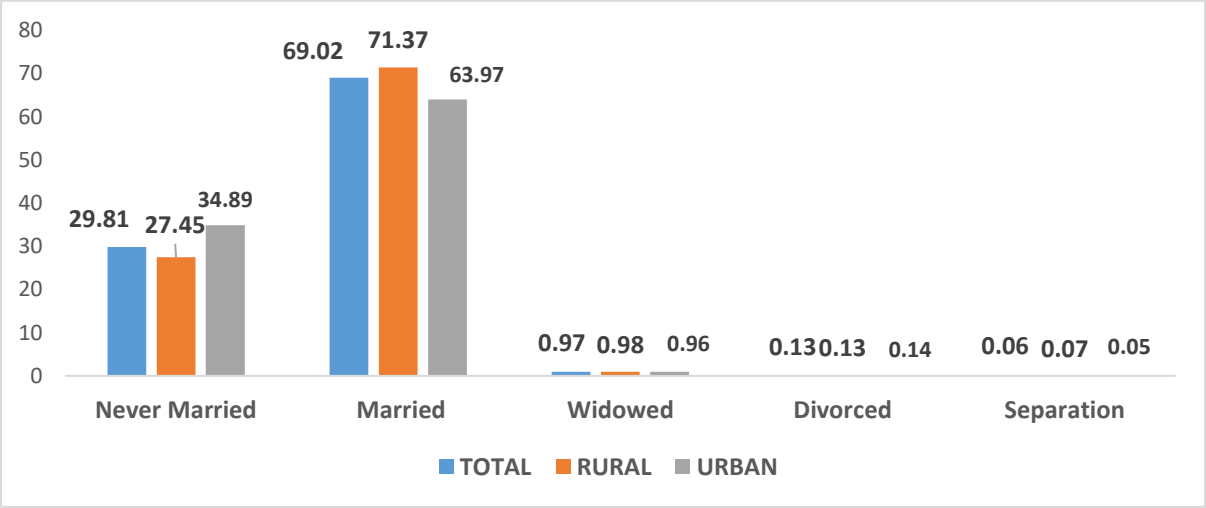


3.2.5 Females of Reproductive Age

Figure 3.10 shows that total female population in the reproductive age group (15-49 years of age) is 3057459 which is 86% of the total female population. The percentage of women falling in the reproductive age category is higher in rural areas i.e. 31.25% compared to rural areas as 68.25 %.

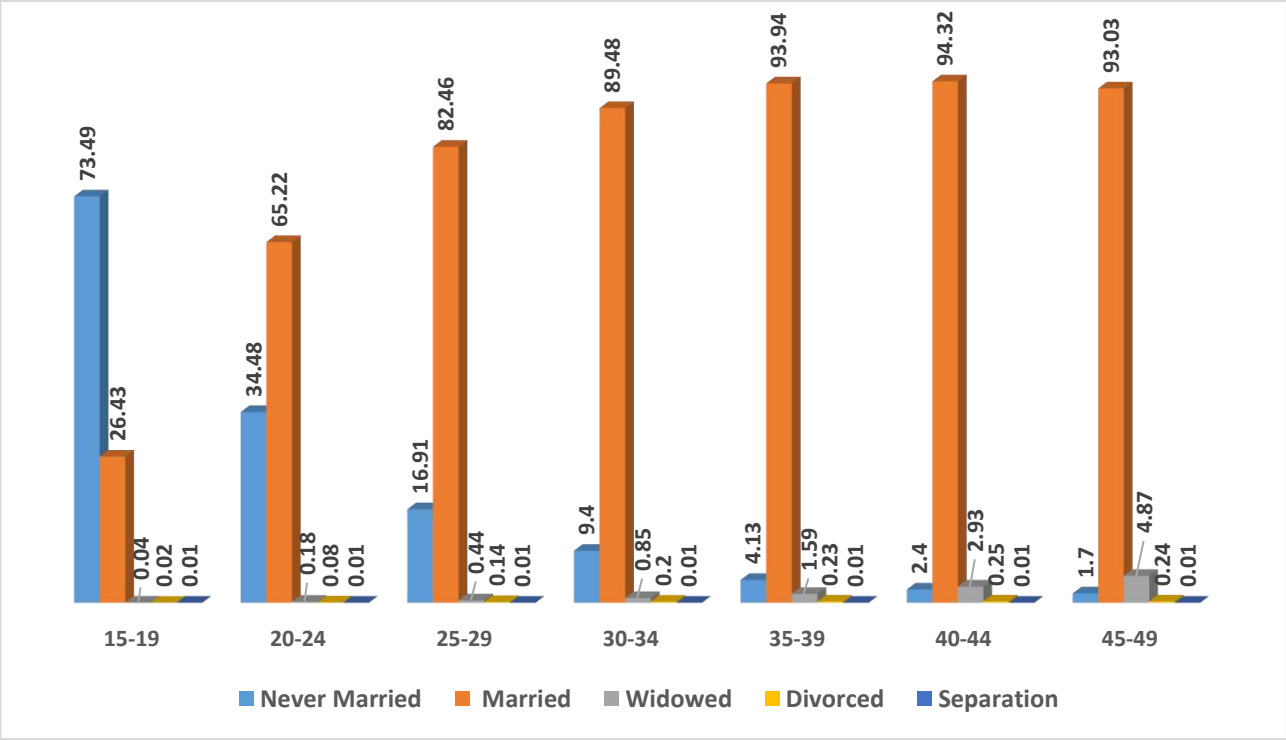
Among the reproductive age groups, 29.81% of women are never married, 69.02% are married, 0.97% are widowed, and 0.13% are divorced, and 0.06% are separated. The married percentage are higher in rural and urban among all categories. The percentage of married is higher in urban areas with 71.37% as compared to 63.96% in urban area. The percentage of windowed & separated female is higher in urban areas with 0.98 % and 0.07% as compared to rural areas 0.96% and 0.05% respectively

Figure 3.10: Percentage Distribution of Females of Reproductive Age (15-49 Years) by Marital Status and Rural/ Urban, Census-2023



The figure 3.11 shows the age wise distribution of females of different reproductive age groups from 15 to 49. It shows that the percentage of married female is highest in age bracket 40-44 years with 94.32% while the lowest percentage of married female is lowest in age bracket 15-19 years with 26.43% i.e. 73.49% are never married. the percentage of never married female is 73.49% in 15-19 age bracket whereas lowest in 1.7% in 45-49 age bracket. Figure 3.11 also shows the pattern from highest to lowest of age 15-49. The percentage of widowed female is highest in 45-49 age bracket with 4.87%.

Figure 3.11: Percentage Distribution of Females of Reproductive Age Gropus (15 Years And Above) by Age Group and Marital Status, Census-2023



3.3 Distribution of population by religion and mother tongue

3.3.1 Population Distribution by Religion

The population of Balochistan province is predominantly Muslim, with the prevalence of 99.09%, out of the total population declaring Islam as their faith. The rural areas have 99.50% of Muslims, whereas in urban areas the concentration of Muslims stands at 98.13%. The percentage of total non-Muslim population recorded in Balochistan province in Census-2023 is 0.91%. The largest community amongst the minorities is Christian, which constitutes 0.43% of the total population followed by Hindus having a share of 0.39%. Table 3.8 provides a comparison of population between census years 2017 and 2023 according to religious belief in rural and urban areas.

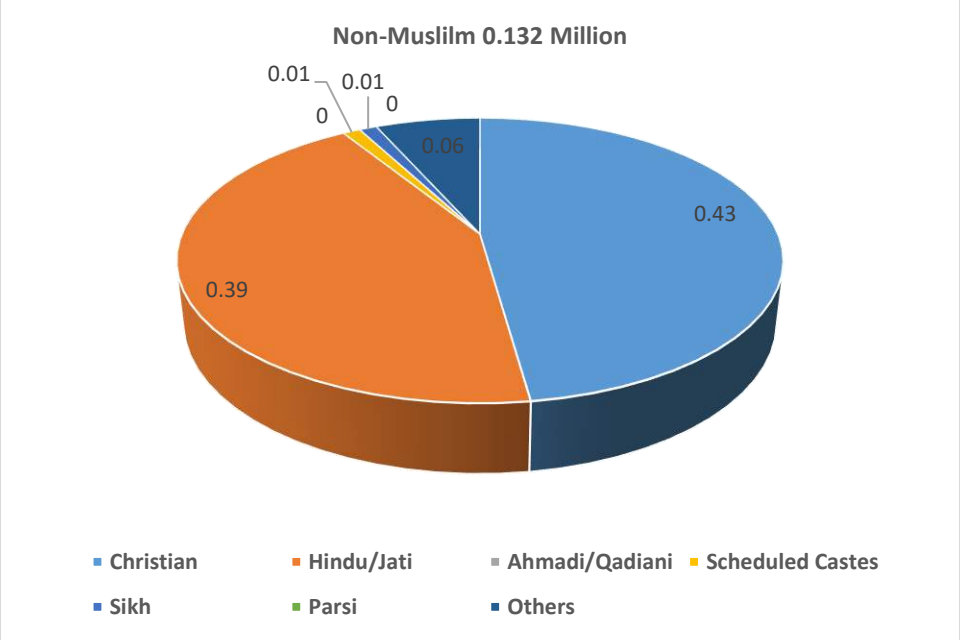
Table 3.8 : Percentage of Population by Religion and Rural/Urban, Census-2017 And 2023

Religion	Census-2017				Census-2023			
	All Areas	Rural	Urban	Total Number	All Areas	Rural	Urban	Total Number
Muslim	99.28	99.80	98.12	12,246,275	99.09	99.50	98.13	14,429,568
Christian	0.27	0.04	0.79	33,819	0.43	0.27	0.82	62,731
Hindu/Jati*	0.37	0.10	0.97	45,627	0.39	0.15	0.96	57,010
Ahmadi/Qadiani*	0.02	0.02	0.02	2,113	0.00	0.00	0.01	557
Scheduled Castes	0.03	0.03	0.03	3,506	0.01	0.01	0.01	2,097
Sikh	-	-	-	-	0.01	0.01	0.01	1,057
Parsi*	-	-	-	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	181
Others	0.03	0.01	0.07	3,789	0.06	0.06	0.06	8,810
Total	100	100	100	12,335,129	100	100	100	14,562,011

* *Asked for the first time in Census-2023, due to rounding effect the figures may not exactly add up to a 100*

Figure 3.12 illustrate the percentage of Non-Muslims out of total Non-Muslims population. The total Non-Muslims population according to Census-2023 is 0.132 Million. Christian has the highest share among the Non-Muslims population with a percentage of 0.43% followed by Hindu Jati with 0.39%. Whereas Ahmadi/Qadiani, scheduled castes, Sikh, Parsi and Others have low percentage share among the Non-Muslims population.

Figure 3.12: Percentage of Non Muslims out of Total Non Muslim Population, Census-2023



3.3.2 Population Distribution by Mother Tongue

According to the Census-2023, Balochi is the most widely spoken language in the province identified by 39.91% of the population as their mother tongue which has increased from Census-2017 with 35.40%. The second most spoken language is Pushto 34.03% which has slightly decreased from Census-2017 with 35.34% followed by Brahvi 17.22 which has slightly increased from Census-2017

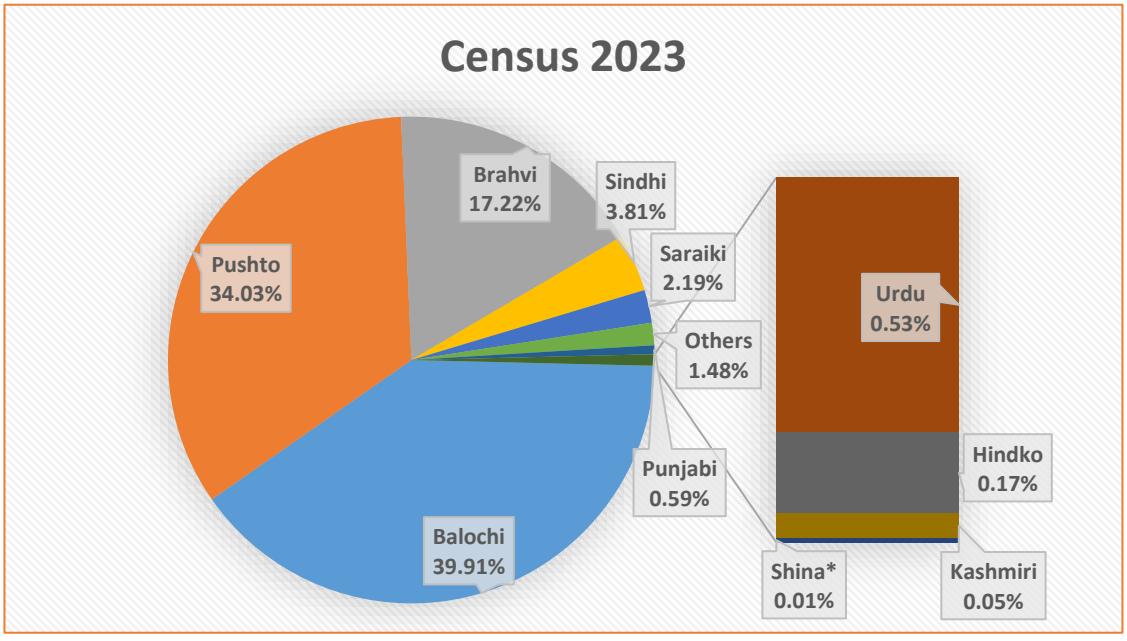
with 17.12% as shown in (Table 3.9). The share of other languages spoken in the province is as follows: Balochistani 3.81%, Saraiki 2.19%, others 1.48%, Punjabi 0.59%, Urdu 0.53%, Hindko 0.17%, Kashmiri 0.05%, Shina 0.01%, Balti 0.01% and Kohistani 0.01%.

Table 3.9 Percentage of Population by Mother Tongue and Rural / Urban: Census Year 2017 and 2023

Language	Census-2017				Census-2023			
	All Areas	Rural	Urban	Total Number	All Areas	Rural	Urban	Total Number
Urdu	0.81	0.42	1.70	100,528	0.53	0.14	1.44	77,249
Punjabi	1.13	0.18	3.25	139,207	0.59	0.08	1.81	86,457
Sindhi	4.56	4.21	5.35	562,309	3.81	3.43	4.71	555,198
Pushto	35.34	35.52	34.94	4,359,533	34.03	33.63	34.98	4,955,245
Balochi	35.49	37.24	31.57	4,377,825	39.91	41.27	36.69	5,811,185
Kashmiri	0.14	0.10	0.24	17,803	0.05	0.03	0.09	7,352
Saraiki	2.65	2.24	3.57	326,656	2.19	2.02	2.60	319,054
Hindko	0.28	0.07	0.75	34,301	0.17	0.03	0.48	24,204
Brahvi	17.12	18.05	15.04	2,112,295	17.22	18.15	15.02	2,507,157
Shina*	-	-	-		0.01	0.01	0.01	1,278
Balti*	-	-	-		0.01	0.00	0.01	846
Mewati*	-	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.00	285
Kalasha*	-	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.00	82
Kohiostani*	-	-	-		0.01	0.00	0.01	1,014
Others	2.47	1.97	3.59	304,672	1.48	1.19	2.16	215,405
Total	100	100	100	12,335,129	100	100	100	14,562,011

** These languages were included in the Census Form as separate options for the first time in Census-2023*

Figure 3.13: Percentage of Population by Mother Tongue



3.3.3 Population by nationality

A person's nationality is where they are a legal citizen, usually in the country where they were born. Nationality in international law can be called and understood as citizenship, or more generally as subject or belonging to a sovereign state, and not as ethnicity. It is worth mentioning that after inclusive consultation, in census 2023 unlike 2017, non-nationals are further disaggregated into four categories, i.e. Afghani, Bengali, Chinese & others and separate numbers are collected for them.

Table 3.10 displays the Nationality of the Population for 2023 and 2017 census. In 2023, the total population of Balochistan province is around 1.40 million, with over 55.427 million being Pakistani citizens i.e. 96.25% and about 0.51 million non-national residents i.e. 3.75%.

Table 3.10: Percentage Distribution of Nationality by Region, Census-2017 and 2023

Area	Nationality Census-2017		Nationality Census-2023	
	Pakistani	Non-National	Pakistani	Non-National
All Areas	96.25	3.75	96.48	3.52
Rural	96.78	3.22	96.86	3.14
Urban	95.05	4.95	95.60	4.40
Nationality	11,872,340	462,789	14,049,619	512,392

Table 3.11 shows that the majority of non-nationals in Census 2023 are Afghanis i.e. 474812 while remaining are almost nominal with Bengali (926), Chinese (314) and Others (36340). Majority of Non-Nationals are in urban areas. The Afghani population living in Urban area (180,415) is less than Rural area (294,397). Similarly, Chinese and Others non-national's living in urban areas are less in number than those living in rural areas whereas Bangali non-naitonal's living in urban areas are greater in number than rural areas.

Table 3.11: Percentage Distribution of Nationality by Categories, Census-2017 and 2023

Area	Nationality Census - 2023					
	Total pop.	Pakistani	Afghani	Bangali	Chinese	Others
All area	14,562,011	14,049,619	474,812	926	314	36,340
%	100.00	96.48	3.26	0.01	0.00	0.25
Rural	10,229,422	9,907,758	294,397	411	210	26,646
%	100.00	96.86	2.88	0.00	0.00	0.26
Urban	4,332,589	4,141,861	180,415	515	104	9,694
%	100.00	95.60	4.16	0.01	0.00	0.22

District Wise Analysis of Non-National

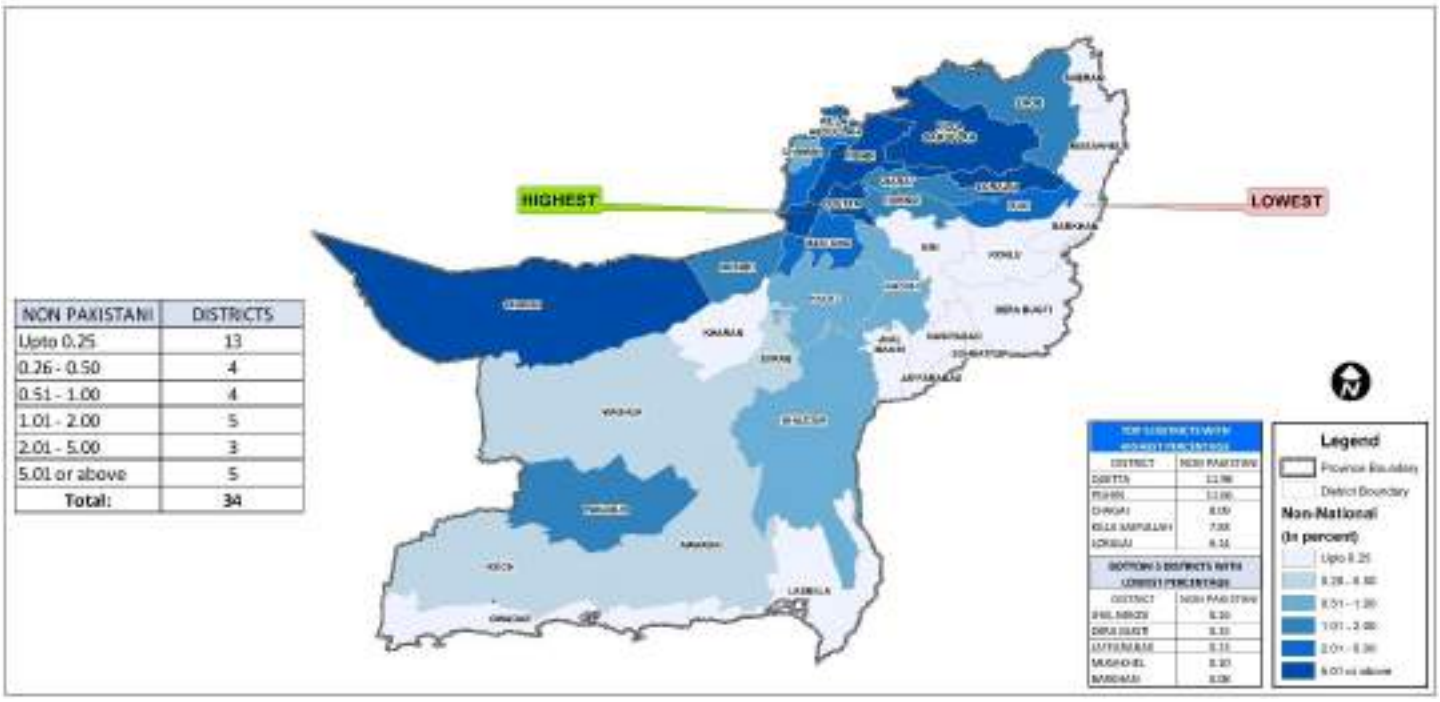
District wise population of Non-National has been depicted in the figure 3.14. The data, categorized into different non-national population brackets ranging from 0.25% to 5.01% and above as shown below.

The data, categorized into different non Pakistani population brackets, is as follows:

- **Up to 0.25 Non National**: 0.25% non-national reside in 13 districts of Balochistan.
- **0.26 – 2.00 Non National**: There are 13 districts fall in this bracket.

- **2.01 - 5.00 Non National**: Population of non-national under this bracket reside in 3 districts
- **5.01 and above Non National**: There are 5 districts with non-national population under this bracket.

Figure 3.14: District Wise Non-National Balochistan, Census-2023



NON PAKISTANI	DISTRICTS
Upto 0.25	13
0.26 - 0.50	4
0.51 - 1.00	4
1.01 - 2.00	5
2.01 - 5.00	3
5.01 or above	5
Total:	34

The top five districts of higher non-nationals in Balochistan province are Quetta, Pishin, Chagai, Killa Saifullah and Lorali with population i.e. 11.98%, 11.66%, 8.06%, 7.83% and 6.54%. The population of non-nationals is lowest in Barkhan district with 0.08% population living in the province.

3.4 Population with disability

In the previous census i.e. 1981, 1998, the question for gauging the exact nature of disability was asked in the long form which was enumerated on the sample based. However, this information cannot be collected in census 2017 due to dropping of sampled enumeration based on Long form. During preparations of Census 2023, a technical committee was constituted for designing of questionnaire by Census Advisory committee, comprising of renowned demographers and experts. They had thoughtfully considered about the inclusion of questions regarding disability. After detailed deliberations with all the stakeholders, the including Community Based Inclusive Development Network (CB1DN), the technical committee recommended to include set of questions designed by Washington Group on Disability Statistics (WG).

Disability statistics are measured through proxy as per guidelines provided by Washington Group of Disability Statistics (WG), by combining two options i.e**. a lot of difficulty to perform the activity and cannot perform the activity at all.** The total number of disabled population in Balochistan Province according to the Census-2023 is recorded as 305,359 out of which 53.93% are male, 46.07% female.

Table 3.12 shows that disabled persons constitute only 2.10% of the province's population. The disability rate for male (disabled male as a percentage of total male population) is 2.16% and for the female (disabled female as a percentage of total female population) is 2.02%. Out of the total disabled population, 70.25% are recorded in rural areas where as 29.75% are residing in urban areas.

Table 3.12: Disabled Population and Percentage Distribution by Sex and Rural/Urban: Census-2023

Disabled Population by Sex and Rural/Urban			
Description	**Total Disabled Population**	**Male**	**Female**
Total	305,359 (**100**)	164,672 (**53.93**)	140,687 (**46.07**)
Rural	222,687 (**100**)	120,090 (**53.93**)	102,597 (**46.07**)
Urban	82,672 (**100**)	44,582 (**53.93**)	38,090 (**46.07**)
Disability Percentage			
Total	2.10	2.16	2.02
Rural	2.18	2.24	2.10
Urban	1.91	1.98	1.83

3.4.1 Population with functional limitation

These questions are designed to ascertain functional limitations in any of the activities like seeing, hearing, walking/climbing, in communication or remembering/concentration or washing/dressing/holding/writing etc. It is also pertinent to mention that the same set of questions has been used in recent censuses conducted in the majority of countries including UK, Maldives etc. It is pertinent to mention here that these questions only ascertain the severity of the issue to perform the said activity and cannot exactly gauge whether the people are disabled or otherwise.
Functional limitation is a measure of an individual's ability to perform daily activities. It is assessed based on the following criteria:

a) **Less difficulty to perform the activity**: Some individuals may experience minor difficulties in carrying out certain tasks.
b) **A lot of difficulty to perform the activity**: Others may face significant challenges and require assistance or adaptations to complete their daily functions.
c) **Cannot perform the activity at all**: Some individuals may be unable to perform specific activities independently.

It is important to note that an individual may encounter multiple difficulties in performing their daily functions. According to the Census-2023, the total population with functional limitations in Balochistan Province is recorded as 931,278. Out of this population, 52.59% are male and 47.41% are female.

The population of male with functional limitation (functional limitations in male as a percentage of total male population) is 6.44% and for the female (functional limitations in female as a percentage of total female population) is 6.35%. Furthermore, out of the total population with functional limitations, 68.04% reside in rural areas, while 31.96% reside in urban areas. This distribution emphasizes the importance of considering both rural and urban contexts when addressing the needs of individuals with functional

limitations. It is essential to recognize that functional limitations can vary in severity and impact an individual's ability to perform daily activities. Some individuals may face fewer difficulties in performing activities, while others may encounter significant challenges or be unable to perform certain activities altogether.

Table 3.13: Population and Percentage Distribution of Functional Limitation by Sex and Rural/Urban, Census-2023

Functional Limitation by Sex and Rural/Urban			
Description	**Total Population by Functional Limitation**	**Male**	**Female**
Total	931,278	489,742	441,536
Rural	633,672	333,846	299,826
Urban	297,606	155,896	141,710
Functional Limitation Percent			
Total	6.40	6.44	6.35
Rural	6.19	6.23	6.15
Urban	6.87	6.91	6.82

**Note: It is possible that an individual can face more than one difficulty in performing his daily functions.*

3.4.2 Population with functional limitation by categories

It is evident in Table 3.14 that in Balochistan province, there is a total population of 302,173 individuals who face difficulty in walking or climbing with 2.09%. This functional limitation is one of the most commonly reported challenges in performing daily functions. Other notable limitations include hearing impairments affecting 189,474 individuals (1.30%), visual impairments affecting 177,830 individuals (1.22%), communication difficulties affecting 93,982 individuals (0.65%) and issues with memorization or focus affecting 134,548 individuals (0.92%). Additionally, self-care limitations affect 106,461 individuals (0.73%).

It is important to note that across all these categories, the male population tends to have a higher number of individuals with limitations compared to the female population. Specifically, in the category of difficulty in walking or climbing, the percentage of males facing this challenge total male population is 2.10%. For females, the percentage of those facing difficulty in walking or climbing in relation to the total female population is 2.05%.

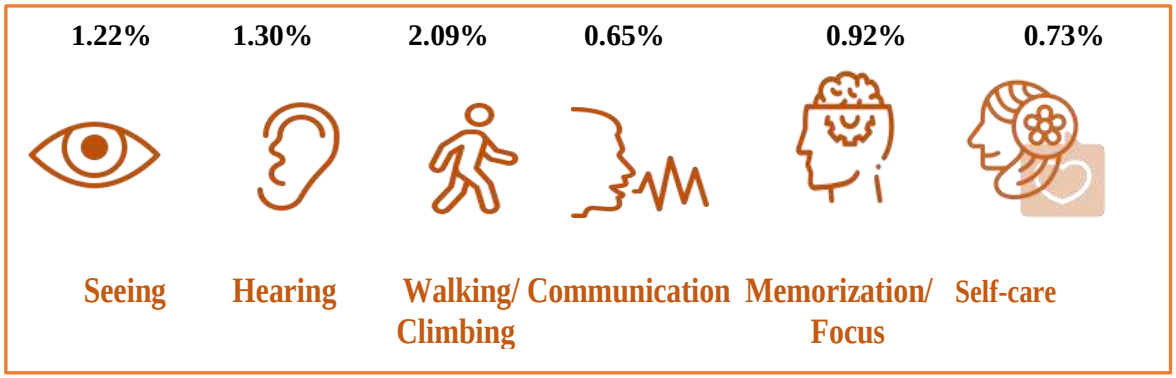


Table 3.14: Population and Percentage Distribution of Functional Limitation with Categories by Sex and Rural/Urban, Census-2023

Functional Limitation by Category			
Category	**Total Population by Functional Limitation**	**Male**	**Female**
Seeing	177,830	94,314	83,516
Hearing	189,474	99,971	89,503
Walking/ Climbing	302,173	159,945	142,228
Communication	93,982	51,313	42,669
Memorization/ Focus	134,548	71,770	62,778
Self care etc	106,461	55,410	51,051
Functional Limitation Percent			
Seeing	1.22	1.24	1.20
Hearing	1.30	1.31	1.29
Walking/ Climbing	2.08	2.10	2.05
Communication	0.65	0.67	0.61
Memorization/ Focus	0.92	0.94	0.90
Self-care etc.	0.73	0.73	0.73

** Note: Sum of percentage of all categories is not equal to 100% as it is possible that an individual can face more than one difficulty in performing his daily functions.*

3.5 Education

3.5.1 Literacy

Literacy is an important indicator of education and it has significant impact on development and socio-economic growth of the country. It is fundamental to development as it drives economic growth, improves health, enhances educational opportunities, and fosters a more engaged and equitable society.

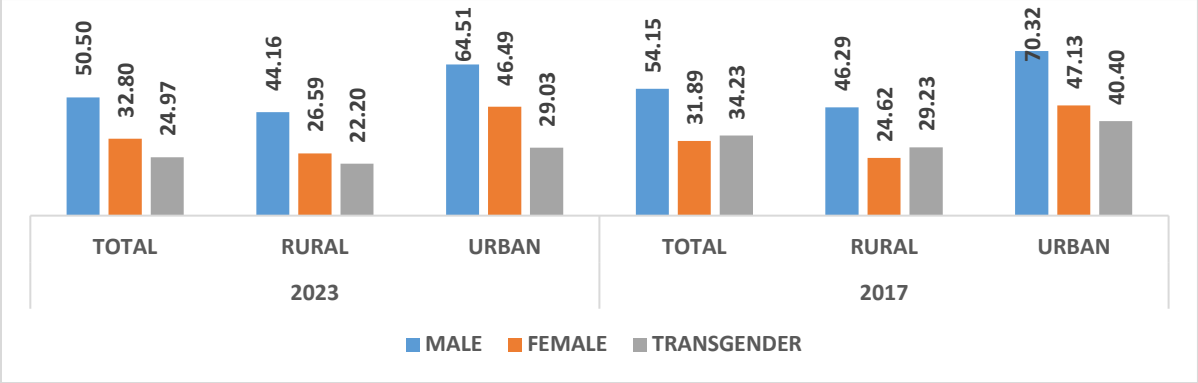
A person who can read and write with understanding in any language and make simple calculation is treated as literate. According to Census-2023, the literacy rate among the population of age 10 years and above is recorded in Balochistan province as 42.01% (Table 3.15). The literacy is higher for males 50.50% than for females as 32.80% and for transgender 24.97%. In urban areas literacy rate is 55.86% is much higher than that of rural areas i.e. 35.74% as reflected in Table 3.15. Moreover, the literacy rate has shown decrease from Census-2017 to Census 2023, wherein it was recorded as 43.58% in Census 2017 and 42.01% in Census 2023.

Table 3.15: Literacy Rate by Sex and Rural/Urban, Census 2017 and 2023

	2017				2023			
	All Sexes	**Male**	**Female**	**Transgender**	**All Sexes**	**Male**	**Female**	**Transgender**
All Areas	43.58	54.15	31.89	34.23	42.01	50.50	32.80	24.97
Rural	35.97	46.29	24.62	29.23	35.74	44.16	26.59	22.20
Urban	59.37	70.32	47.13	40.40	55.86	64.51	46.49	29.03
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Total Literate	3,473,176	2,265,717	1,207,192	267	3,904,799	2,443,214	1,461,394	191

Figures 3.15 illustrate the comparison between male and female literacy rates with rural and urban according to Census results of census 2017 and 2023. The results reveal that females' literacy rates has increased from 31.89% in Census-2017 to 32.80% in Census-2023, showing a better progress than males whose literacy rates increased from 54.15% in Census-2017 to 50.50% in Census-2023.

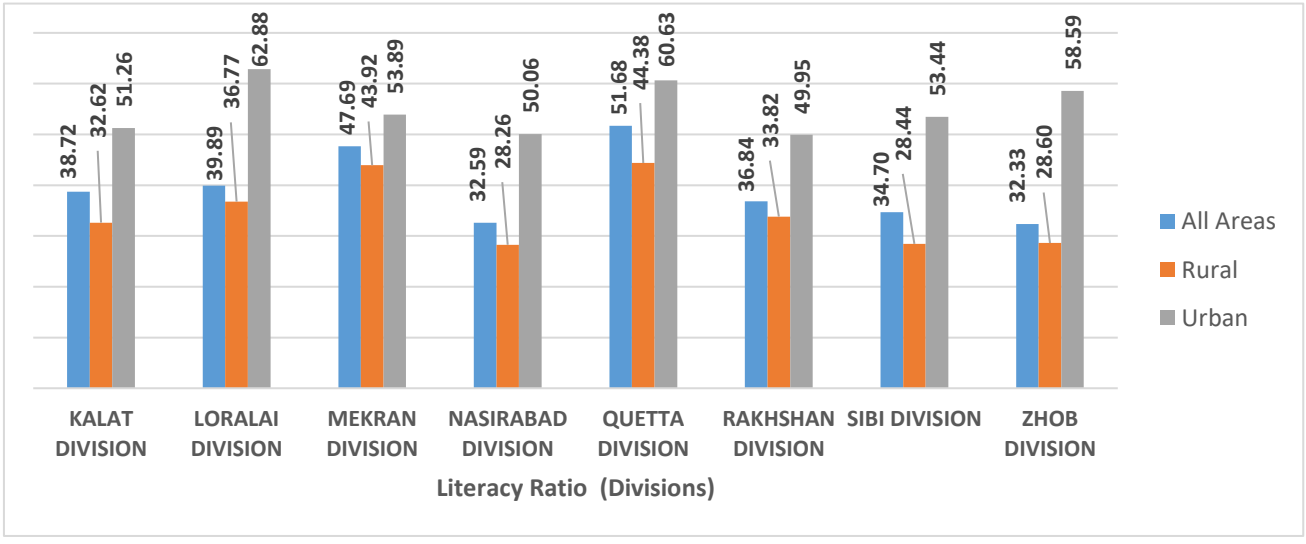
Figure 3.15 :Literacy Rate by Sex and Rura/Urban, Census-2017 & 2023



Analyzing by gender and region, it is revealed that there is stark difference in urban rural in terms of male & female literacy. The gender gap in urban areas is around 18 percentage points while the same in rural areas is 17 percentage points. This implies there is strong need to work in both rural & urban areas of province for education infrastructure along with emphases in quality for increasing literacy in rural areas.

Furthermore, the literacy rates by administrative divisions in Balochistan province are shown in Figure 3.16 indicating that literacy rates in Quetta Division with 51.68% is the highest among all the divisions of the province. Among the rest of the divisions, the highest literacy rates in Mekran division with 47.69% followed by Loralai division with 39.89%, Kalat division with 38.72%, Rakhsan division with 36.84%, and the lowest in Zhob division with 32.33%. This figure also shows differences in rural and urban areas in all divisions, the largest gender gap in literacy is in Zhob division with 29.99 percentage points followed by Loralai division with 26.11 percentage points and the smallest difference in rural and urban literacy is in Mekran division with 9.97% percentage points.

Figure 3.16: Literacy Rates by Administrative Divisions and Rural/Urban Areas, Census-



District Wise Analysis of Literacy

A comprehensive analysis of district-level literacy ratio in Balochistan aim to identify disparities, understand regional educational challenges, and inform policy decisions to improve literacy outcomes across districts. The literacy ratio data across the 34 districts shows an average literacy ratio of 42.01%. 11 districts have literacy ratio higher than the average of 42.01%. Whereas 23 districts fall below the average literacy ratio of 42.01%. This average serves as a benchmark to assess the distribution of literacy ratio in the districts.

The literacy rates across the districts reveals a diverse distribution. The data, categorized into different literacy rate brackets, is as follows:

- **Up to 30.0% Literacy**: 5 districts i.e. Nasirabad, Kohlu, Dera Bughti, Sherani & Washuk fall into this category, indicating that in these areas, the literacy rate is relatively low. This indicates significant challenges in educational access and quality in these areas. Efforts to improve literacy in these districts are crucial, as low literacy rates can hinder socio-economic development and limit opportunities for residents.

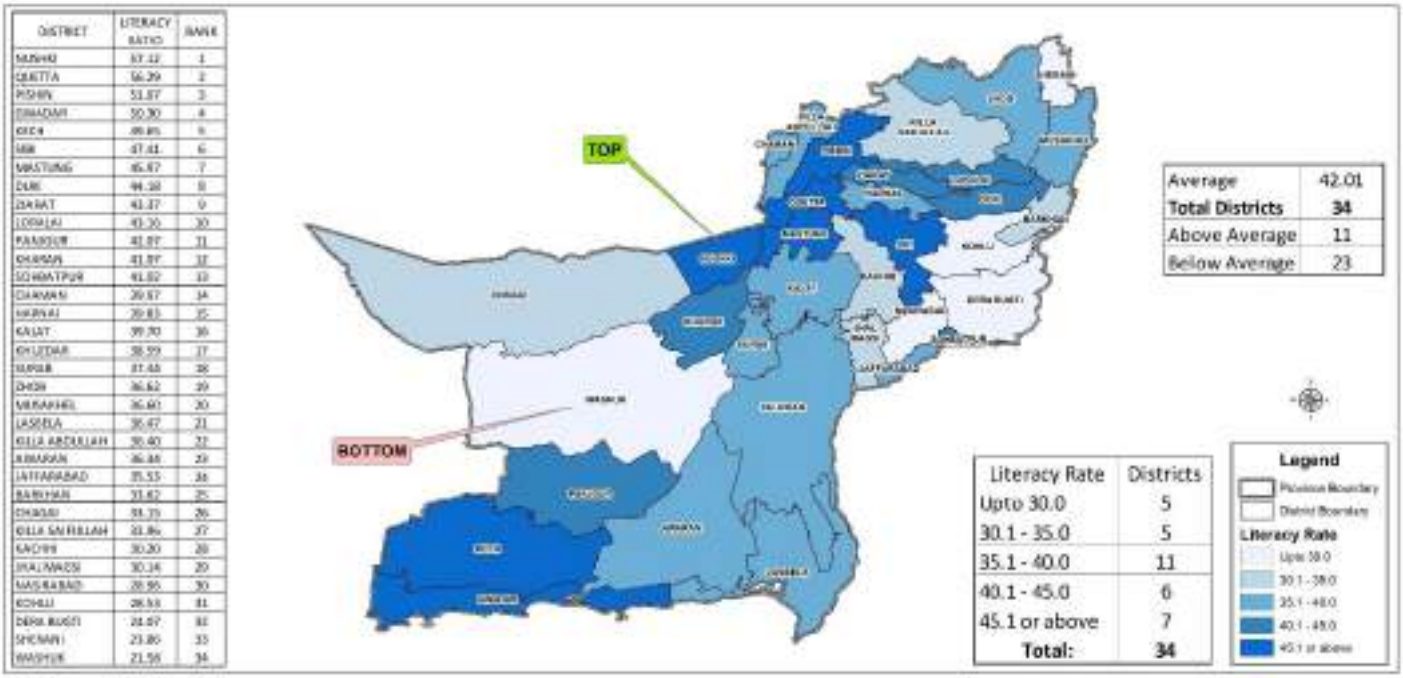
- **30.1% to 35.0% Literacy**: This category includes 5 districts: Jhal Magsi, Kachi, Killa Saifullah, Chagai, and Barkhan. The literacy rates in these districts suggest that there is room for improvement. Educational initiatives targeting these areas could focus on increasing enrollment in schools and enhancing the quality of education to uplift literacy levels.

- **35.1% to 40.0% Literacy**: With 11 districts i.e. Jaffarabad, Awaran, Killa Abdullah, Lasbela, Zhob, Musakhel, Surab, Khuzdar, Kalat, Harnai & Chaman falling into this bracket, there is a better literacy scenario compared to the previous categories. This indicates a gradual improvement in educational attainment. However, continued efforts are necessary to bridge the gap between these districts and those with higher literacy rates, ensuring that educational resources are effectively utilized., Kharan & Sohbatpur falls in to this category with much better level of literacy.

- **40.1% to 45.0% Literacy:** In this category, 6 districts—Duki, Ziarat, Loralai, Panjgur, Kharan, and Sohbatpur—demonstrate a much better level of literacy. These districts are on the right track, but there is still potential for further enhancement. Programs aimed at adult education and vocational training could help maintain and improve literacy rates in these areas.

- **45.1 or above Literacy**: Finally, 7 districts—Mastung, Sibi, Kech, Gwadar, Pishin, Quetta, and Nuskhi—show a high literacy rate, reflecting better education facilities and access to resources. These districts serve as models for educational success in Balochistan. Continued investment in education and community engagement can help sustain and further improve these literacy rates.

Figure 3.17: District Wise Literacy Rate Balochistan, Census-2023

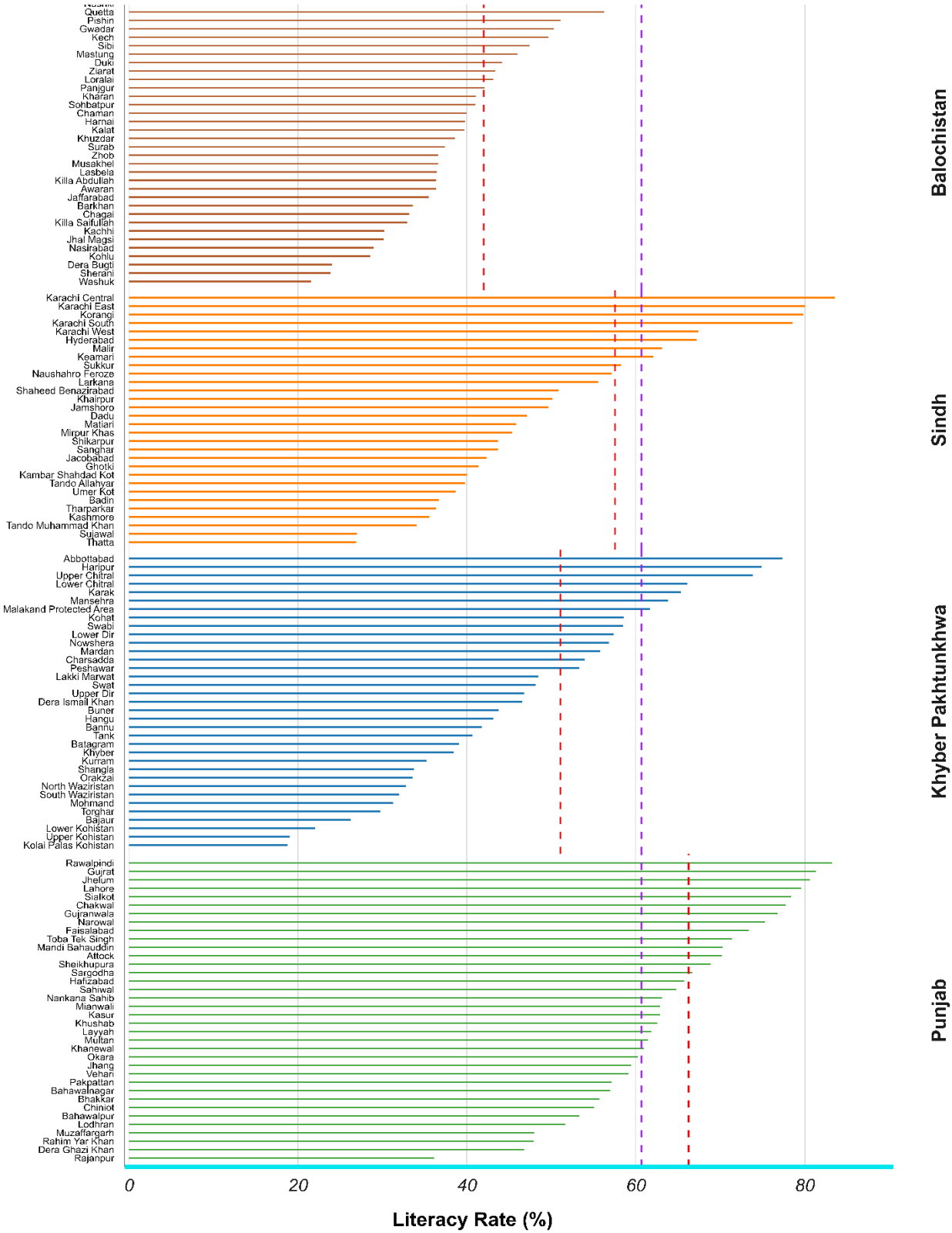


By analyzing the low ranked districts in terms of literacy rates, it is found that Washuk with a literacy rate of 21.58%, ranks as a district with the lowest literacy rates in Balochistan. Whereas Sherani with a literacy rate 23.86% and Dera Bughti with literacy rates 24.07% also stand in the low ranked districts owing to many factors like remote and rugged terrain, limited resources, infrastructural deficiencies, traditional norms & security concerns etc.

The top five districts of Balochistan having higher literacy rates in Census-2023 are Nushki, Quetta, Pishin, Gwadar and Kech literacy rates i.e. 57.12%, 56.29%, 51.07%, 50.30% and 49.65% almost lower than literacy rates in Census-2017 i.e. 51.67%, 58.76%, 52.97%, 51.97% and 62.66% respectively depicting that the literacy rate is higher in only Nushki district where Quetta, Pishin, Gwadar and Kech literacy rates are decreased.

The district wise literacy rate comparison along with provincial and national averages is also illustrated in the Figure 3.18. The Purple and red vertical dashed lines represent national and provincial average literacy rates, respectively. It is revealed that literacy rates of districts Nushki, Quetta, Pishin, Gwadar & Kech are far above the provincial average of 42.01% but no district of Balochistan is above the national average of 61%.

Figure 3.18: District Wise Comparison of Literacy Rate (10 Years And Above)



(The purple and red vertical dashed lines represent national and provincial average literacy rates, respectively.)

3.5.2 Out of School Children (OOSC)

Out of school children (OOSC) 5-16 years are calculated from children who have never been to school and dropped from school. It is an important development indicator reflecting the exclusion of potential future literate work force.

As per Table 3.16 Census-2023 there are 5.08 million children aged 5-16 years in Balochistan, out of which 2.13 million (42.03%) are currently attended school and 2.94 million (57.97%) are currently out of school. Disaggregated out of school children (57.97%) reveals that, there are 52.70% who have never been to school and 5.27% are those who ever attended and then dropped from school.

Table 3.16: Population (5-16 Years) In School, Out Of School, Never To School and Dropout by Sex and Rural/Urban, Census-2023

Region / Sex		Number					Percentage			
		Total Population (5-16)	In-School	Out of School Children	Never to School	Drop Out	In-School	Out of School Children	Never to School	Drop Out
Total	All Sexes	5,074,550	2,132,860	2,941,690	2,674,108	267,582	42.03	57.97	52.7	5.27
	Male	2,691,326	1,276,065	1,415,261	1,269,979	145,282	47.4	52.6	47.2	5.4
	Female	2,383,019	856,771	1,526,248	1,403,960	122,288	35.95	64.05	58.91	5.13
	Transgender	205	24	181	169	12	11.71	88.29	82.44	5.85
Rural	All Sexes	3,647,713	1,329,002	2,318,711	2,138,471	180,240	36.43	63.57	58.62	4.94
	Male	1,946,896	824,683	1,122,213	1,022,536	99,677	42.35	57.65	52.52	5.12
	Female	1,700,666	504,305	1,196,361	1,115,754	80,607	29.64	70.35	65.61	4.74
	Transgender	151	14	137	127	10	9.27	90.73	84.11	6.62
Urban	All Sexes	1,426,837	803,858	622,979	535,691	87,288	56.34	43.66	37.54	6.12
	Male	744,430	451,382	293,048	237,443	55,605	60.63	39.37	31.9	7.47
	Female	682,353	352,466	329,887	288,026	41,861	51.66	48.34	42.2	6.13
	Transgender	54	10	44	42	2	18.52	81.48	77.78	3.7

The out of school analysis reveals that the gender disparity is wider for both rural and urban as percentage of out of school females are higher with 70.35% and 48.35% as compared to 57.64% and 39.37% respectively for males. This may be due to social context, less education facilities for females in their areas.

District wise analysis Out of School Children (OOSC) 5-16 years

A comprehensive analysis of District-level Out of School Children (OOSC) in Balochistan aims to identify disparities, understand regional educational challenges, and inform policy decisions to improve literacy outcomes across districts. The Out of School Children across the districts reveal a diverse distribution. The OOSC across the 34 districts shows an average OOSC of 57.97%. 22 districts have OOSC higher than the average of 57.97%. Whereas 12 districts fall below the average OOSC of 57.97%. The data, categorized into different out of school brackets, is as follows:

- **Up to 40% Out of School**: In this category, 2 districts—Gwadar and Quetta—exhibit a relatively low out-of-school rate. This suggests that these areas have made strides in educational access, allowing a greater proportion of children to attend school. The presence of educational initiatives and infrastructure in these districts likely contributes to this positive outcome, indicating a foundation for further improvements in literacy and education quality.

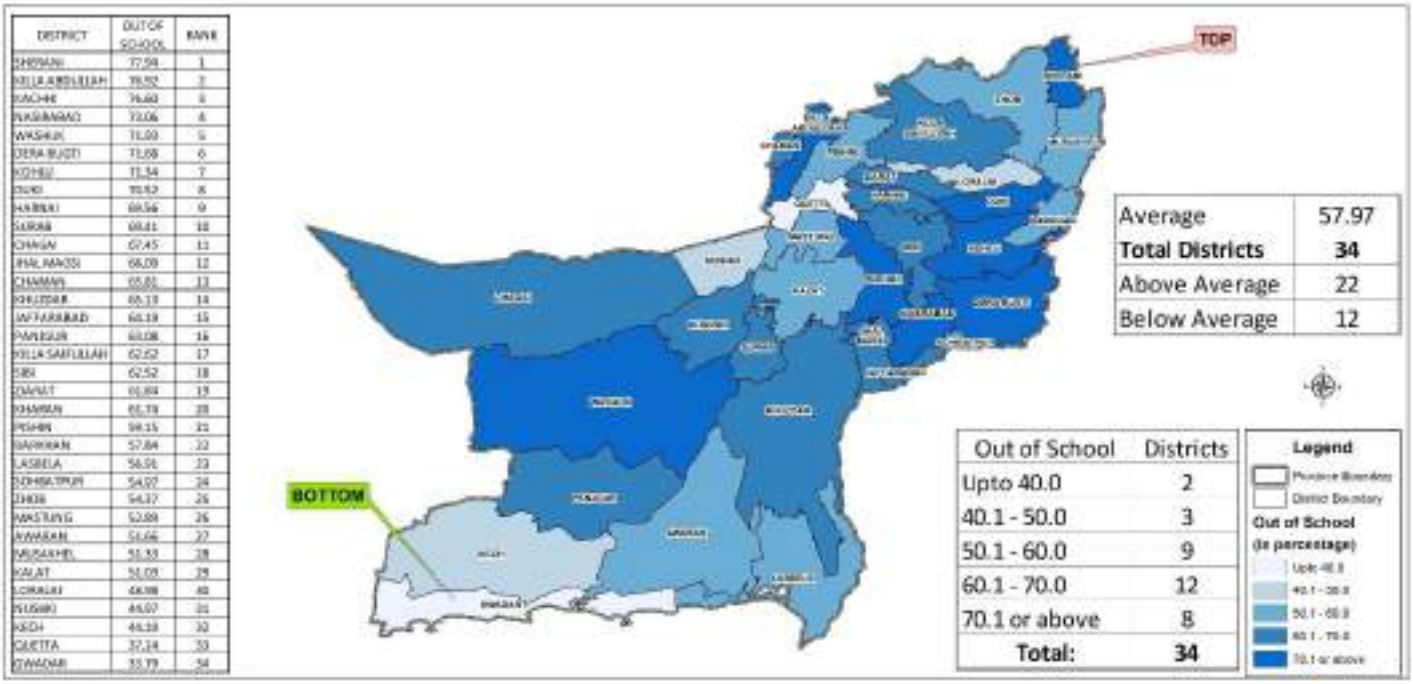
- **40.1 % to 50% Out of School:** This category includes 2 districts i.e. Kech and Nushki. The data indicates that a significant portion of children in these districts are still out of school, reflecting moderate levels of educational access. Addressing the barriers to education in these areas, such as socio-economic factors and infrastructure challenges, is essential to improve school attendance and literacy rates.

- **50.1% to 60.0% Out of School**: In this bracket, 10 districts i.e. Loralai, Musakhel, Awaran, Kalat, Mastung, Zhob, Sohbatpur, Lasbela, Barkhan & Pishin fall into the category of having high out-of-school rates. This situation highlights a critical need for targeted educational interventions. Factors contributing to high out-of-school rates may include poverty, lack of schools, and cultural attitudes towards education. Comprehensive strategies involving community engagement and government support are necessary to tackle these challenges effectively.

- **60.1% to 70 and above Out of School**: There are 12 districts i.e. Ziarat, Kharan, Sibi, Killa Saifullah, Panjgur, Jaffarabad, Khuzdar, Chaman, Jhal Magsi, Chagai, Harnai & Surab in this range, indicating a serious educational crisis. The high out-of-school rates in these districts suggest that many children are missing out on basic education, which can have long-term implications for their future opportunities. Urgent action is required to develop programs that promote school enrollment and retention, including incentives for families to send their children to school.

- **70.1 or above Out of School**: Finally, 8 districts i.e. Duki, Kohlu, Dera Bugti, Washuk, Nasirabad, Kachhi, Killa Abdullah & Sherani fall into this category, reflecting extremely high out-of-school rates. This alarming statistic underscores the urgent need for intervention. These districts face significant barriers to education, and without immediate and effective measures, the cycle of poverty and lack of education is likely to continue. Strategies may include establishing more schools, providing transportation, and implementing community awareness programs to emphasize the importance of education.

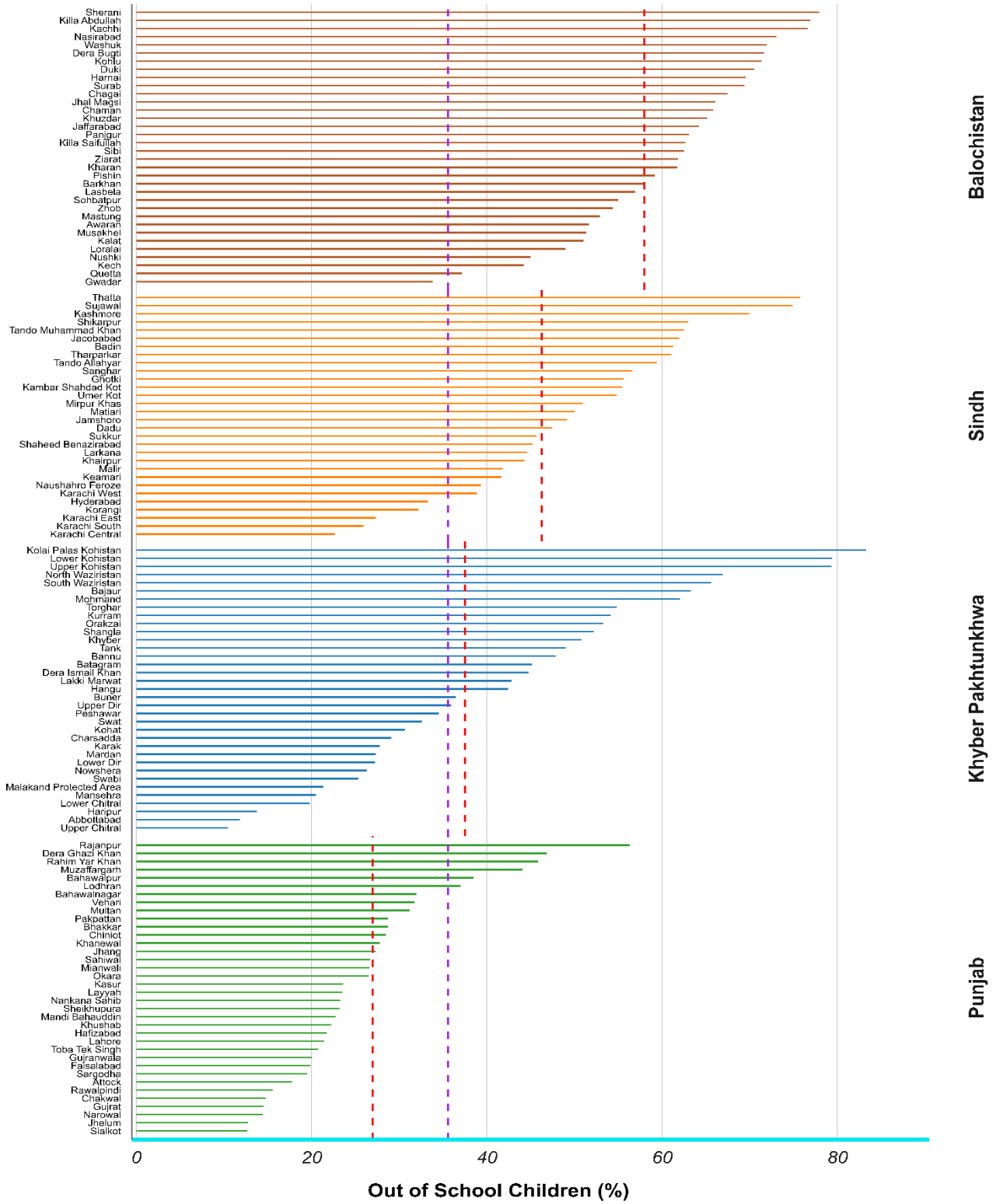
Figure 3.19: District Wise Out of School (5-16) Balochistan, Census-2023



The top five districts of Balochistan having higher OOSC in Census-2023 are Sherani, Killa Abullah, Kachhi, Nasirabad and Washuk with percentages 77.94%, 76.92%, 76.60%, 73.06% and 71.89 respectively. By analyzing the low ranked districts in terms of out of school which depicts better situation, it is found that Quetta and Gwadar with 37.18% & 33.78% respectively stand in the low ranked districts.

The district wise out of school comparison is also illustrated in the Figure 3.20, where Balochistan province bars are shows in orange colour. The Purple and red vertical dashed lines represent national and provincial average of out of school children (5-16), respectively. Districts bars shown in descending order with respect to out of school percentages. The situation has more severity when it compared to national average of 35.60% which shows that 33 districts out of 34 districts of Balochistan are below national average.

Figure 3.20: District Wise Comparison of Out Of School Children (5-16 Years Of Age)



(The purple and red vertical dashed lines represent national and provincial average out of school rates, respectively.)

3.5.3 Gender Parity Index

Gender parity refers to relative equality between men and women, or girls and boys, in terms of numbers and proportions in a given area. The gender parity index measures the progress towards gender parity in participation and/or educational opportunities for females compared to males. It refers to the ratio of any quantifiable indicator for men compared to the same indicator for women. For example, the gender parity index in primary education is the ratio of female students to male students. The gender parity index of 1 indicates the parity/equality between females and males. A value of less than 1 generally indicates a disparity in favor of boys/men, while a value greater than 1 indicates disparity in favor of girls/women.

District Wise Analysis of Gender Parity index

Figure 3.21 represents the gender parity in terms of literacy.

The average GPI across all districts in Balochistan is 64.96%, serving as a benchmark for educational equity. Currently, 8 districts perform above this average, while a significant 26 districts fall below it. This disparity highlights the urgent need for targeted educational reforms and resources to bridge the gender gap in education. The data, categorized into different gender parity index brackets, is as follows:

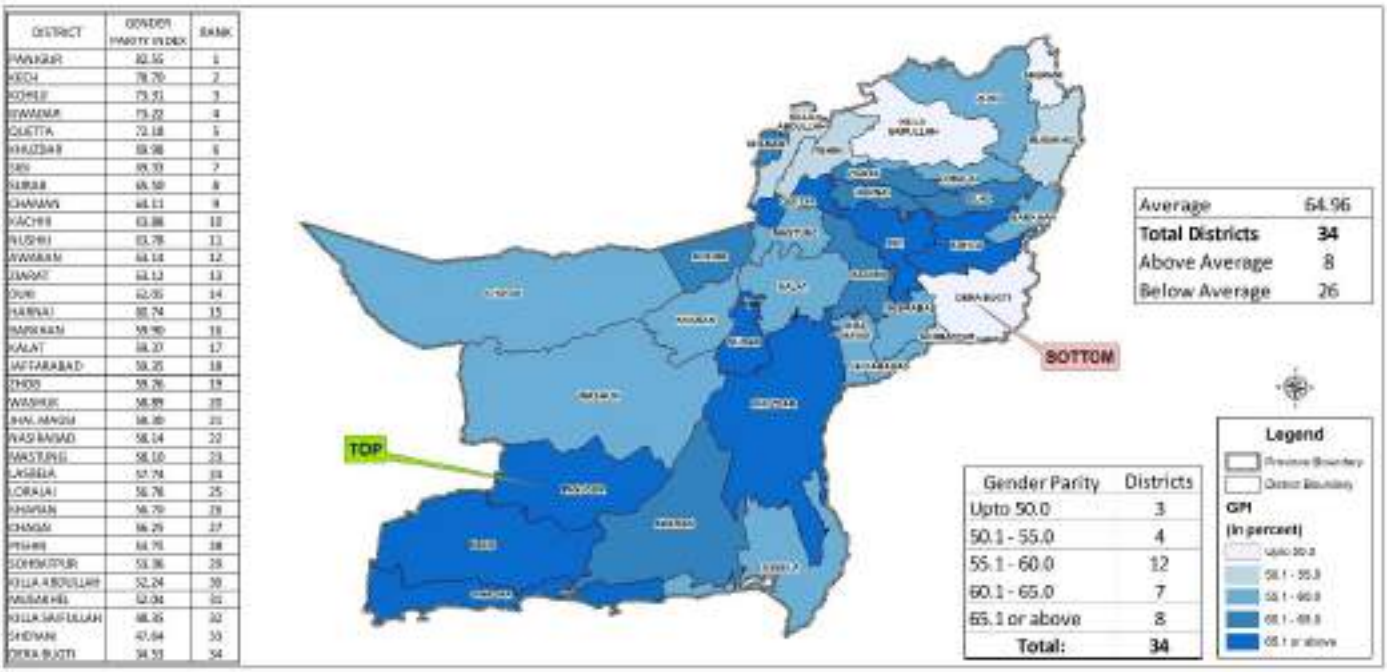
- **Up to 50.0% Gender Parity Index**: Three districts—Dera Bughti, Sherani, and Killa Saifullah—fall into this category, indicating a relatively low level of gender parity. This suggests that educational opportunities for females in these areas are severely limited compared to their male counterparts.

- **50.1% to 55.0% Gender Parity Index**: This group includes four districts—Musakhel, Killa Abdullah, Sohbatpur, and Pishin—which exhibit a moderate level of gender parity. While there is some progress in educational access for females, significant gaps still remain, reflecting ongoing challenges in achieving equality.

- **55.1% to 60.0% Gender Parity Index**: The largest group comprises 12 districts i.e. Chagai, Kharan, Loralai, Lasbela, Mastung, Nasirabad, Jhal Magsi, Washuk, Zhob, Jaffarabad, Kalat & Barkhan that fall within this bracket. This range indicates a more balanced access to education between genders, although it still highlights the need for continued efforts to improve female enrollment and retention in schools.

- **60.1% to 65.0% Gender Parity Index**: Seven districts i.e. Harnai, Duki, Ziarat, Awaran, Nushki, Kachhi & Chaman are categorized here, demonstrating a positive trend towards gender parity. These districts show better educational access for females, suggesting that initiatives aimed at promoting gender equality in education are beginning to take effect.
- **65.1% and Above Gender Parity Index**: Eight districts i.e. Surab, Sibi, Khuzdar, Quetta, Gwadar, Kohlu, Kech & Panjgur fall into this range, indicating a stronger commitment to gender parity in education. In these areas, females have relatively equal access to educational opportunities, reflecting successful interventions and community support for girls' education.

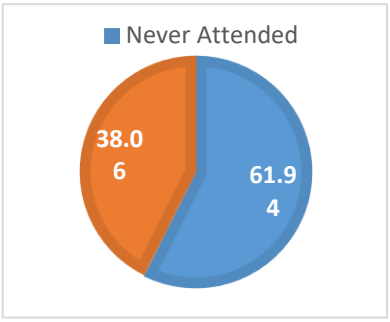
Figure 3.21: District wise Gender Parity Index Balochistan, Census-2023



By analyzing the low ranked districts in terms of gender parity index, it is found that Dera Bugti has the lowest gender parity index 34.53%, in Balochistan proceeded by Sherani with 47.64% and Killa Saifullah with 48.35%

3.5.4 Educational Attainment

Figure 3.22: Percentage of Population Who Have Attended School



Education meets the shortage of trained and qualified manpower which is an important factor for increasing productivity, accelerating economic growth, individual development, individual freedom and emancipation of women. Census data on educational attainment is, therefore, essential for development plans.

According to Census-2023, out of population above the age of 5 years, 38.06% have attended school while a significant proportion of population 61.94% have never received any formal education.

Table 3.17 presents the distribution of persons by sex, educational attainment and rural/urban domains. The results show that total number of educated people in the province, with some kind of educational qualification, amounts to 4,458,117. Out of the total educated population, 13.91% are below primary, 7.46% have passed primary level, 5.14% have passed only middle and 5.14% have passed matric. However, the percentage falls to 2.43% for intermediate, 1.28% for graduate (2 Years) ,0.52% for graduate (4 Years), 0.75% for master's and 0.08% for M. Phil/Ph.D. In addition, 0.05% of the educated people hold a diploma or certificate and 1.29% hold other qualifications not covered by the above categories. The educational attainment for man exceeds than that of women in almost all levels.

Moreover, urban areas have a greater percentage of educated people with higher educational attainment as compared to rural areas.

Figure 3.23: Percentage of Population with Educational Attainment

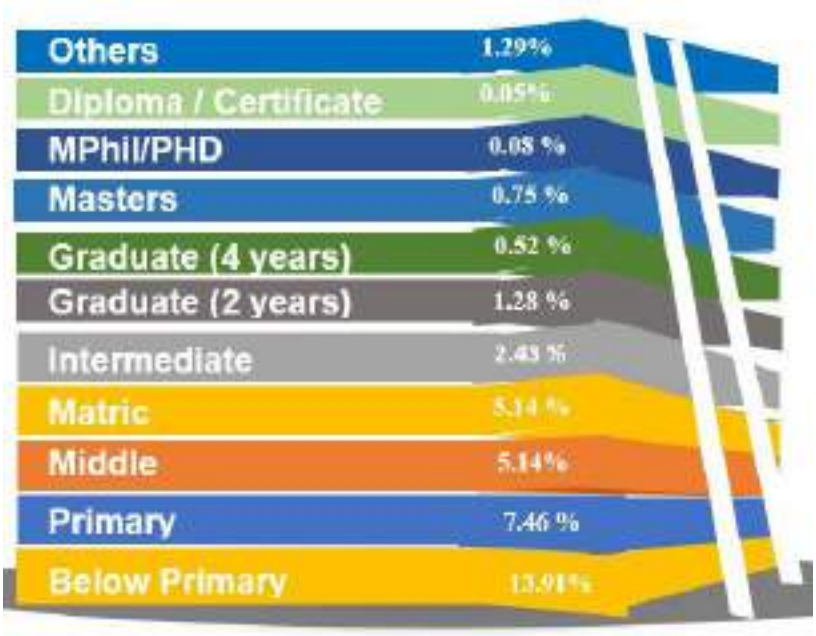


Table 3.17: Percentage of Educational Attainment Levels by Sex and Rural/Urban: Census 2023

Educational Attainment	All Areas				Rural				Urban			
	All Sexes	Males	Females	Trans-genders	All Sexes	Males	Females	Trans-genders	All Sexes	Males	Females	Trans-genders
Below Primary	13.91	15.73	11.93	1.96	13.18	15.35	10.81	2.42	15.69	16.6	14.5	1.29
Primary	7.46	8.75	6.06	4.71	6.65	8.11	5.06	4.62	9.33	10.22	8.36	4.84
Middle	5.14	6.89	3.24	4.05	3.84	5.41	2.11	3.52	8.07	9.3	6.8	4.84
Matric	2.43	3.21	1.58	1.31	1.62	2.28	0.9	0.88	4.59	5.35	3.54	3.23
Intermediate	1.25	1.71	0.72	0.71	0.83	1.23	0.42	0.88	2.03	2.65	1.35	0
Graduate (2 Years)	0.52	0.69	0.33	0.39	0.3	0.44	0.15	0.22	0.91	1.2	0.59	0.32
Graduate (4 Years)	0.75	1.02	0.45	0.46	0.41	0.63	0.17	-	1.31	1.64	0.93	1.61

3.6 Employment

Employment refers to an activity in which an individual works for pay and profit. Those who are employed by others are known as employees. The person who engages others to work regularly for them is known as an employer. In Census 2023, two questions were asked regarding employment with reference of past one year of working. The employment statistics captured in Census 2023, cannot be exactly comparable with Labour Force Survey due to its extensive nature and the reference period. The objective of its capturing in Census 2023 is to take snapshot of employment along with other demographic indicators.

Table 3.18 : Percentage of Population by Employment , Census-2023

Employment Category	Total Total	Male	Female	Rural Total	Male	Female	Urban Total	Male	Female
Employed	38.99	53.08	23.69	41.09	54.3	26.74	34.36	50.4	16.97
Paid Employee	14.72	15.95	11.73	8.65	11.06	3.32	30.76	27.6	40.92
Self Employed (Agri)	20.39	23.92	11.81	24.83	30.08	13.23	8.68	9.23	6.89
Self Employed (Non-A)	19.93	25.28	6.91	15.15	19.3	6	32.53	39.52	10.96
Employer	3.95	4.8	1.9	3.62	4.45	1.78	4.84	5.64	2.29
Unpaid F. Helper (Agri)	31.46	22.71	52.76	42.5	31.64	66.5	1.44	0.56	5.06
Unpaid F. Helper (Non-A)	9.55	7.35	14.89	5.25	3.48	9.15	20.89	16.57	34.79
Unemployed	20.93	21.49	20.32	21.91	22.33	21.45	18.78	19.65	17.83

Overall 66.22 million (38.56%) people are employed in Pakistan during the reference period of past one year. Table 3.18 reveals employment statistics in Balochistan, breaking down the data by total employment and different employment categories. In Balochistan 38.99%, were employed including 53.08% and 23.69% males and females respectively. Whereas percentage of male employees is slightly higher in rural area i.e. 54.30% as compared to urban areas i.e. 50.40%. Similarly, percentage of females' employees higher in rural with 26.74% as compared to urban areas with 16.97% as high percentage of female is self-employed (agriculture) & unpaid family helper (agriculture). The male percentage rural is mainly due to higher number of self employed in agriculture & non-agriculture activity with 30.08% and 19.30% respectively as compared to urban with 9.23% and 39.52% respectively.

According to Census 2023 the unemployed population is 20.93% in the province which is higher in rural areas with 21.91% as compare to urban areas with 18.78%.

The percentage of unpaid family helper (agriculture) with 31.46% is higher among all other categories, particularly 42.50% in rural area as compared to 2.30 in urban area. This is due to high percentage of female with 66.50% participating in agriculture section in rural area.

Subsequently, the population having its own land and own livestock is included in the category Self Employed (agriculture) is the second highest category with 20.39% following 19.93% of Self Employed (Non-agriculture). It is pertinent to mention that 1.88 million populations of Balochistan which is about 51% of total employed population is associated with agriculture sector.

As Pakistan population is predominantly young and 18.56% population capture are of population age15-24. Therefore, an indicator for youth (15-24) "Not in employment and education" has been calculated which shows that in Balochistan 46.61% of youth are not in employment and education. The percentage is higher in females with 60.08% than males with 33.37%. This needs immediate policy interventions to bring this potential to efficient utilization for country prosperity.

3.7 Migration

Migration is to move from one place, or locality to another due to any reason. In Census 2023 the migration has been captured as Intra provincial migration and Inter provincial migration.

Intra provincial migration is the movement of people from one geographic area to another within the same province or territory. The district or city of birth within the province is different from her/his district/city of enumeration within the province.

Inter provincial migration is the movement of people from one province or territory to another within a country

The migration in Table 3.19 is calculated for the person whose district of birth is different from current district of residence.

Table 3.19: Percentage of Migration by Gender and Rural / Urban

	Total				Rural				Urban			
Indicators	Total	Male	Female	Trans-gender	Total	Male	Female	Trans-gender	Total	Male	Female	Transg-ender
Migration	2.96	2.96	2.96	5.75	1.78	1.77	1.79	2.86	5.74	5.77	5.71	10
Intra Provincial Migration	1.6	1.6	1.59	3.01	0.88	0.88	0.89	1.32	3.28	3.33	3.23	5.48
Inter Provincial Migration	0.8	0.79	0.8	1.96	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.88	1.84	1.82	1.86	3.55
Migration from Abroad	0.57	0.56	0.57	0.78	0.54	0.54	0.55	0.66	0.62	0.63	0.62	0.97
Migration Reasons												
Job/ Business	16.2	27.69	3.64	11.36	13.9	23.72	3.26	0	17.88	30.6	3.93	16.13
Education	3	3.95	1.96	9.09	1.48	1.95	0.96	7.69	4.12	5.41	2.7	9.68
Marriage	6.22	0.58	12.37	0	5.5	0.64	10.79	0	6.74	0.55	13.54	0
With family	47.69	37.61	58.72	18.18	43.97	35.32	53.37	7.69	50.42	39.27	62.66	22.58
Back To Home	0.25	0.31	0.19	2.27	0.34	0.44	0.23	7.69	0.19	0.21	0.16	0
Others	26.64	29.86	23.12	59.09	34.8	37.94	31.39	76.92	20.66	23.96	17.02	51.61

The above Table revels that total migration in Balochistan is 2.96% which is higher in urban areas with 5.74% as compare to rural areas with 1.78%. In Balochistan, intra migration is high with 3.28% especially in urban areas, this means people from rural areas of Balochistan are moved to urban area / districts for sake of employment and education due to non-availability of resources/ amenities in their areas. Inter migration i.e. migration from other province is 0.80%, high in urban areas with 1.84%, as there are better job opportunities in urban area of Balochistan.

Figure 3.24: Comparison of Intra Provincial Migration and Inter Provincial Migration by Rural/Urban

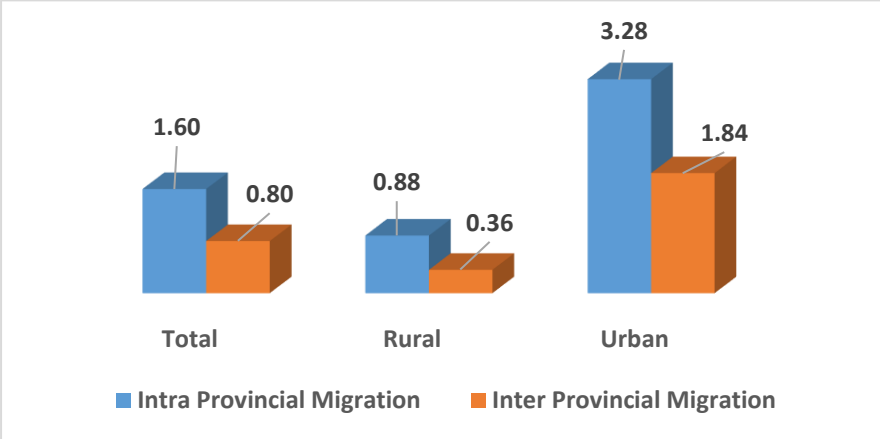


Table 3.20 shows the migrant population living in Balochistan province but their place of birth is other provinces of Pakistan. It shows that the birth place of 0.079 million population is of Sindh province are living in Balochistan province, followed by Punjab with 0.025 million population.

Table 3.20: Migrants Population of Balochistan Province from other Provinces

Interprovincial Migration	116,298
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	17,501
Punjab	25,065
Sindh	70,922
Islamabad Capital Territory	387
Gilgit-Baltistan	539
Azad Jammu & Kashmir	1,884

The figure 3.25 illustrates inter provincial migration, depicting individuals relocating from various provinces to Balochistan. The highest percentage of migrant population coming to Balochistan province are from Sindh with 60.98% followed by Punjab 21.55%, Khyberd Pakhtunkhwa 15.05%, Azad Jammu & Kashmir 1.62%, Gilgit-Baltsitan 0.46% and Islamabad 0.33%.

Figure 3.25: Percentage of Inter Provincial Migration of Balochistan from Other Provinces

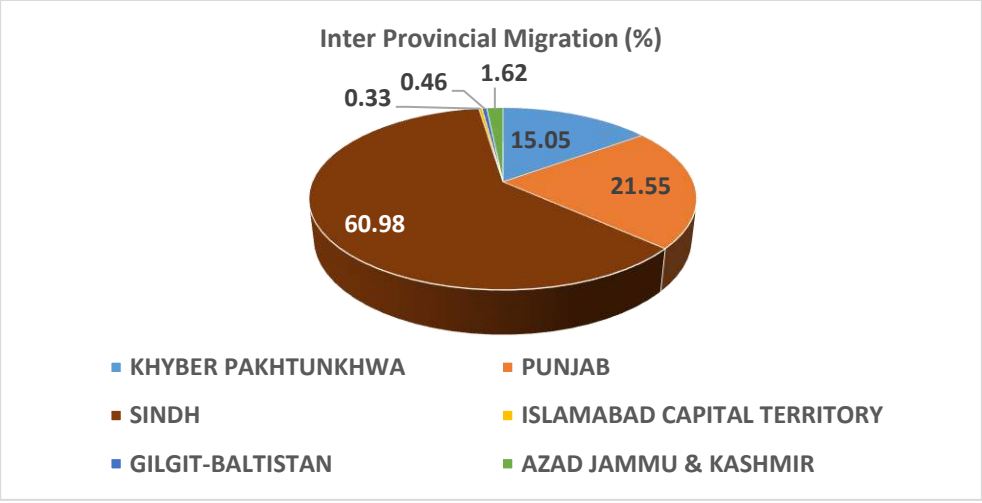
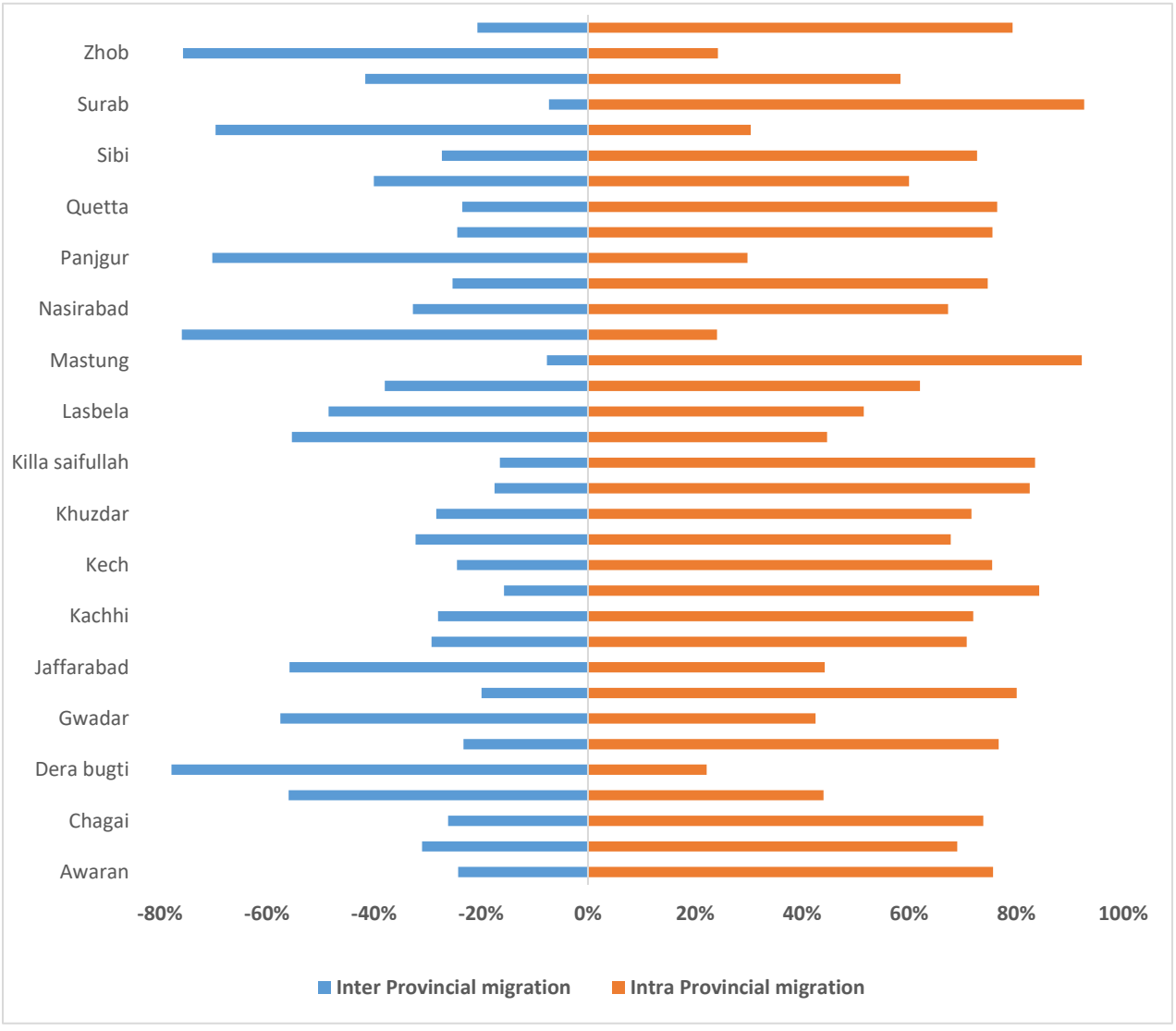


Figure 3.26 illustrate the district wise inter provincial migration as well as intra provincial migration. The percentages of inter and intra provincial migration is calculated from the percentages of Province Balochistan inter and intra provincial migration. In inter provincial migration the highest percentage is of Dera Bughti district with 77.21%. This is because of Sui Sub-division of Dera Bughti district, located in Balochistan, Pakistan, near meeting point of Balochistan, Sindh and Punjab provinces which is one of Pakistan's largest natural gas fields. Different companies are operating this gas field and as a result migrant from other provinces are living in Sui sub-division for Job reason. The second highest inter migration is at district Mushakhel 74.39% followed by district Sohbatpur with 69.41% and district Panjgur with 69.17%. The lowest district in inter migration is Killa Abdullah with 2.14% followed by district Mastung with 5.67%. and Surab with 7.17%.

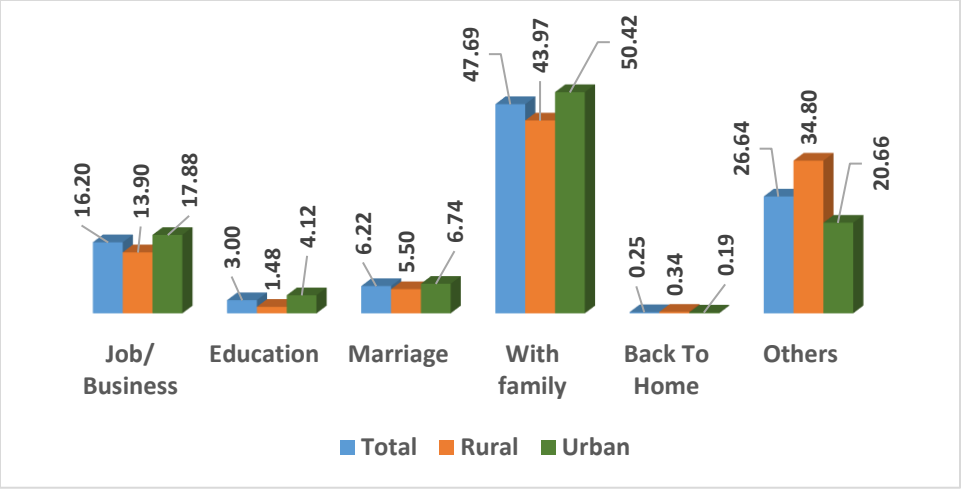
The highest percentage of intra provincial migration is of Surab district with 91.24% , Awaran district with 74.49% at second place followed by Harnai district with 73.91. The lowest district in intra migration is Tharparkar with 0.01% and district Sujawal with 0.02%.

Figure 3.26: District Wise Comparison Intra Provincial Migration and Inter Provincial Migration



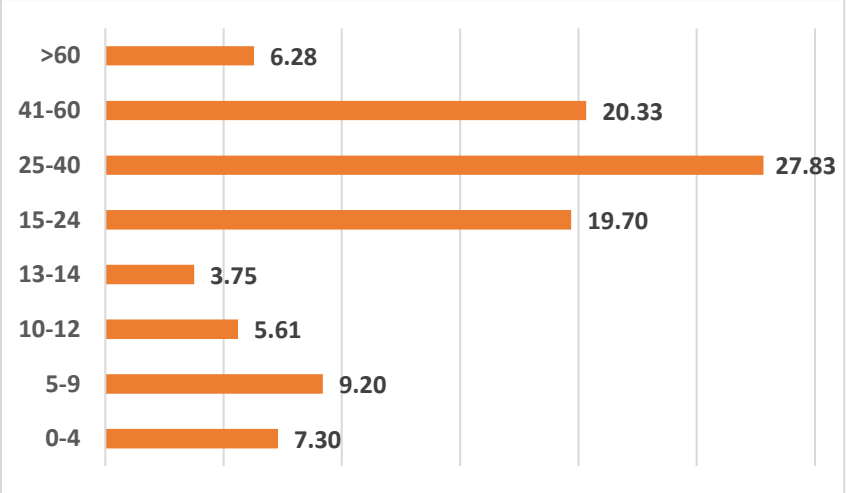
The perception of moving to urban areas is substantiated by the evidence from data for reasons of migration as illustrated in Figure 3.27. It is found highest reason cited for migration is moving with family with 47.69% followed by others with 26.64%, job/business with 16.20%, marriage with 6.22% and education with 3.00%. Here, the percentage is higher in urban areas than rural areas except Others and back to home.

Figure 3.27: Reasons of Migration by Rural/Urban



Analyses of migration by age groups shows that the migration in the age group 25-40 is highest with 27.83%, followed by 41-60 age group with 20.33% and 15-24 age group with 19.70%. Remaining groups have less concentration of migrated population Figure 3.28. The age group 25-40 years is the group of young population where the reason for migration of population is due to job/ business and marriage.

Figure 3.28: Migration by Age Groups



PART - IV

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

7th Population & Housing Census 2023

"FIRST EVER DIGITAL CENSUS"

BALOCHISTAN

ELECTRICITY 57%

SOLAR 26%

OTHERS 17%

FUEL USED FOR COOKING

GAS/LPG /LNG 21%

FIRE WOOD 70%

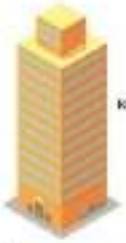
OTHERS 9%

TYPE OF HOUSING UNIT

PAKKA 20%

SEMI PAKKA HH 17%

KACHA HH 63%



HIGH RISE STRUCTURE

(RESIDENTIAL, ECONOMICAL, RESIDENTIAL & ECONOMICAL)

2,333

MAIN SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER

(INSIDE AND OUTSIDE)

TAP WATER 32.6%

MOTOR PUMP 17%

FILTRATION PLANT 0.1%

BOTTLE WATER 0.3%

DUG WELL 18%

OTHER 32%

TOILET FACILITIES

SEPARATE TOILET 52%

FLUSH 54%

NO FLUSH 23%

NO TOILET 23%

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

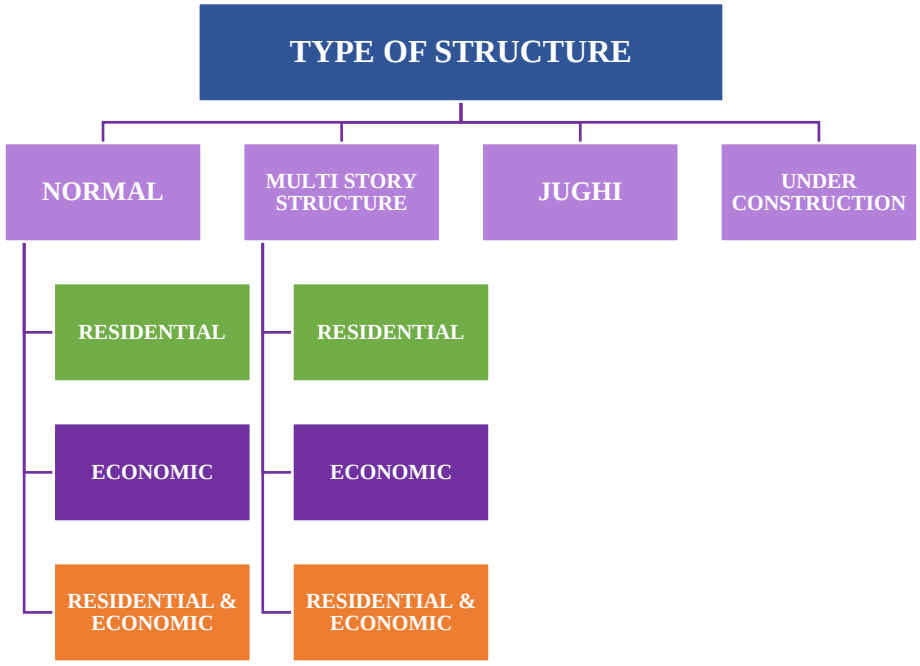
A total of fourteen (14) main questions were asked in the Census-2023 to collect and assess the housing characteristics of the province. The questions ranged from tenure of the housing unit constructed to the number of family members living abroad (who stayed abroad for six months or more). The main focus was on assessing the type of housing units, type of material used in construction and the type of housing facilities available in the housing unit. This part of the Provincial Census Report has been divided into two sections namely: Type of Housing Units which constitutes information such as level of congestion, nature of tenure, period of construction of owned housing units, construction material used for construction of walls & roofs while the second part comprises of Availability of Housing Facilities, including information on sources of drinking water, lighting, fuel used for cooking, availability of kitchen, bathroom and toilet facility .

4.1 Type of Structures

The sustainable housing and infrastructure development is the concern, before taking a step towards contributing to this sector. It is important for everyone to be aware of different types of buildings and what they are meant for. Every constructor, be it an individual building a new home or a builder developing a vertical city, needs to have the proper information to be able to build in compliance with government regulations.

As Census is a complete count of all structures and population of country, therefore, to capture the different variations in structure as per changing ground results. PBS with the recommendation of Census Advisory Committee, include the question regarding the type of structure with different variations and its identification. The type of structures has been included first time in Census-2023. Following are the categories that were included to determine the structure and what they meant for.

	Normal Residential:	1-3 Story Residential Buildings
	Normal Economic:	1-3 Story Economic Activity Buildings
	Normal Economic + Residential:	1-3 Story Multi-Purpose Buildings
	Multistory Residential:	All structures with 4 and above floors
	Multistory Economic:	All structures with 4 and above floors with Economic Activity Buildings
	Multistory Economic + Residential:	More than 3 Floors Multi-Purpose Buildings



There are main four categories to determine the type of structure i.e. normal structures, multistory structure, Jughi/ jhompri and under construction where normal and multistory are sub categories as "residential", "economic" and "residential and economic". The below figure shows the percentages of all categories from the total 2,304,869 housing structures. The sub categories of normal structures i.e. residential with 80.91%, economic with 11.60% and residential and economic with 1.04% are higher than rest of the type of structures. In multistory structures the multistory residential are 0.06% out of total housing structures. The category Jughi/Jhompri/Tent/Cave contribute 4.28% and under construction is 2.07%.

Table 4.1 shows the percentages of normal structures reported with 93.55% and High Rise/ Multistory structure are reported as 0.10% out of total type of structures. Table 4.1 also shows the percentages of sub-categories of normal and multistory from its main category. The normal structures with predominantly residential within it with 86.49%, similarly High Rise/ Multistory structure with predominantly residential within it with 61.59%.

Table 4.1: Types of Structure, Balochistan: Census-2023

Types of Structures	Total	Rural	Urban
All Structures	2,304,869	1,636,399	668,470
Normal Structure	2,156,191 (**93.55%**)	1,516,270 (**92.66%**)	639,921 (**96%**)
Residential	1,864,928 (**86.49%**)	1,366,383 (**90.11%**)	498,545 (**77.91%**)
Economic	267,313 (**12.40%**)	136,363 (**8.99%**)	130,950 (**20.46%**)
Residential & Economic	23,950 (**1.11%**)	13,524 (**0.89%**)	10,426 (**1.63%**)
High Rise / Multi-Story Structure	2,333 (**0.10%**)	313 (**0.02%**)	2,020 (**0.30%**)
Residential	1,437 (**61.59%**)	190 (**60.70%**)	1,247 (**62%**)
Economic	259 (**11.10%**)	41 (**13.10%**)	218 (**10.79%**)
Residential & Economic	637 (**27.30%**)	82 (**26.20%**)	555 (**27.48%**)
Others			
Jughi/Jhompri/Tent/Cave	98,723 (**4.28%**)	92,798 (**5.67%**)	5,925 (**0.89%**)
Under Construction	47,622 (**2.07%**)	27,018 (**1.65%**)	20,604 (**3.08%**)

4.2 Type of Housing Units

4.2.1 Level of Congestion - Persons and Rooms

According to the Census-2023, there are 2.32 million housing units households in Balochistan as compared to 1.75 million enumerated in Census-2017, which shows an increase of 32.72% during the intercensal period of 2017-2023. The distribution of housing units according to urban/rural domains in the province is 71.77% in rural areas and 28.23% as reflected in Table 4.2.

Level of congestion in terms of persons and rooms per housing unit (urban and rural areas) reflect the living standard of a society. It also helps in determining the overall requirement of housing units and ultimately provides a base for policy formulation and future planning at macro and micro level.

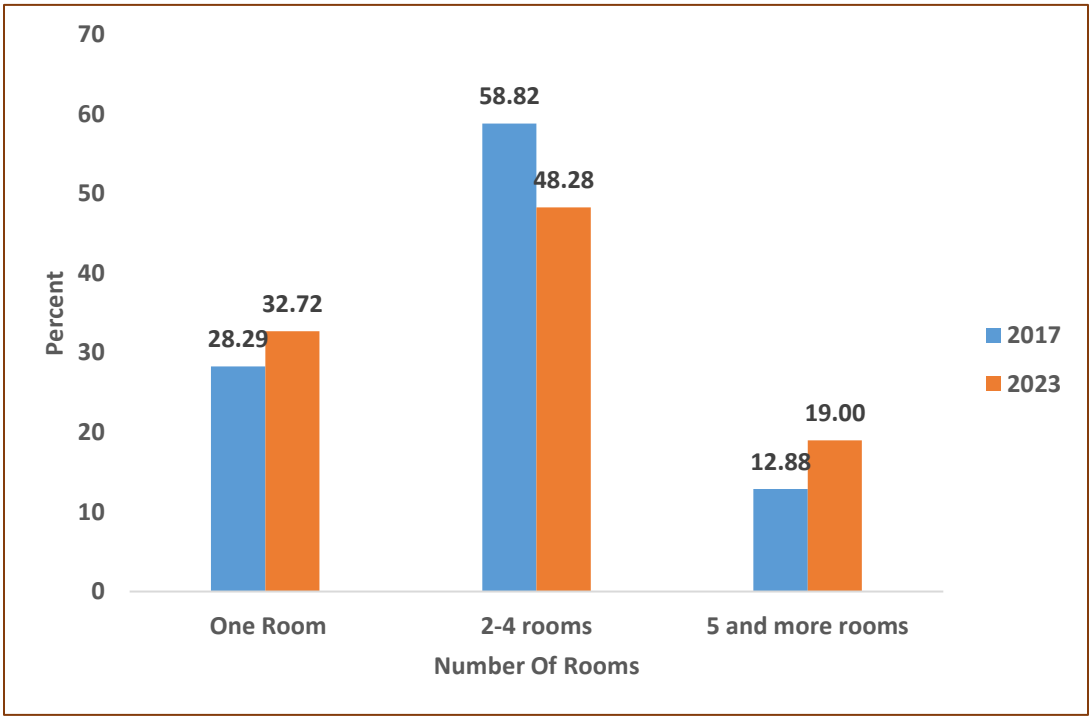
The average household size has decreased from 6.9 persons reported in Census-2017 to 6.43 persons in Census-2023.

Table 4.2: Indices of Level of Congestion in Housing Units by Rural/Urban: Census Year 2017 and 2023

Level of Congestion	2017			2023		
	All Areas	Rural	Urban	All Areas	Rural	Urban
Average Household size	6.87	6.76	7.17	6.43	6.18	7.05
Housing Units with Single Room (%)	28.29	31.67	20.13	32.72	36.10	24.13
Housing Units with 2-4 Rooms (%)	58.82	57.06	63.07	57.67	55.87	62.26
Housing Units with 5 and More Rooms (%)	12.88	11.26	16.80	9.60	8.03	13.62
Housing Units Breakdown by Rural/Urban (%)	100	70.72	29.28	100.00	71.77	28.23
Number of Households	**1,745,994**	**1,234,709**	**511,285**	**2,317,256**	**1,663,142**	**654,114**

The percentage of single room houses has inclined from 28.29% in Census-2017 to 32.72% in Census-2023. The percentage of houses with two to four rooms has however decreased from 58.82% in 2017 Census to 57.67% in Census-2023. The percentage of houses with five and more rooms has decreased in the province as a whole and as well as in rural and urban areas in Census-2023 as compared to that in 2017 Census. In Census-2023 the total percentage of houses with five and more rooms is 9.60% as compared to 12.88% in Census 2017.

Figure 4.1: Housing Units by Number of Rooms, Census-2017 and 2023



4.2.2 Nature of Tenure

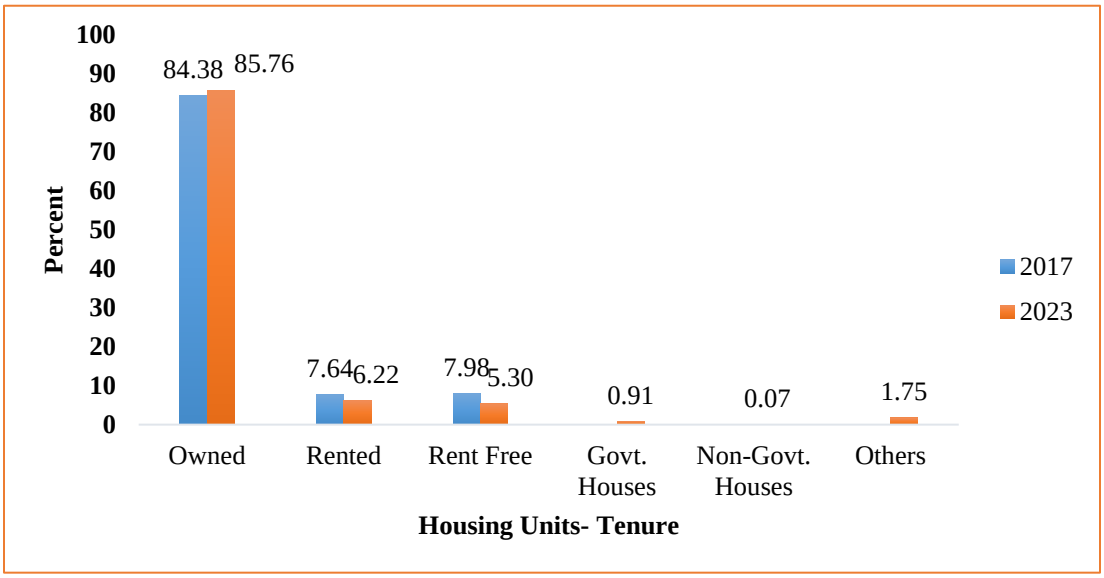
The categories of government, Non-government & Others are recently included in Census-2023. The houses allotted by government to government employees are termed as "Govt house" while in private sector they allot houses to their employees are known as "Non-Govt. house". The houses other than all categories of housing units is mentioned in "Others".

Of the total housing units enumerated in the Census-2023, there is a marginal increase in the proportion of owned houses i.e 85.76 % as compared to 84.38% in the Census-2017 as shown in Table 4.3. Moreover, 6.22% housing units were reported as rented which has decreased as compared to 7.64% in Census-2017. The rent-free housing units have shown a decrease with 5.30% in Census-2023 as compared to 7.98% in Census-2017. The percentages for Govt house, Non-Govt house and others are nominal.

Table 4.3: Percentage of Housing Units by Nature of Tenure and Rural/Urban: Census Year 2017 and 2023

Tenure	2017			2023		
	All Areas	Rural	Urban	All Areas	Rural	Urban
Owned	84.38	87.75	76.25	85.76	88.02	80.00
Rented	7.65	2.94	18.99	6.22	3.25	13.76
Rent Free	7.98	9.31	4.76	5.30	6.34	2.68
Govt. House	-	-	-	0.91	0.20	2.69
Non-Govt. House	-	-	-	0.07	0.06	0.09
Others	-	-	-	1.75	2.13	0.78
Number of Housing units	**1,745,994**	**1,234,709**	**511,285**	**2,317,256**	**1,663,142**	**654,114**

Figure 4.2 : Housing Units by Nature of Tenure, Census-2017 and 2023



4.2.3 Construction Material of House

The Pacca, Semi Pacca and Kacha Housing Units aims to assess the affordability and accessibility of housing, tracking changes in construction costs and property values. It is fundamental to a country's development as it provides a foundation for stability and security, enabling individuals and families to invest in their future. The analysis informs policy decisions, helping governments and stakeholders address housing shortages and promote affordable housing initiatives.

Census-2023 collects information regarding pacca housing units, semi pacca housing units and kacha housing units. Pacca housing units is defined as a well-constructed, permanent or concrete house made of durable materials such as bricks, cement and steel etc. The roof and walls of a pacca housing unit are made from durable materials like cement, concrete, burnt bricks, jack board, timber or stone. Semi pacca housing unit is defined as house made of pre-fabricated material. It also includes house either roof or wall made of pre-fabricated material. The housing unit having roof made up of cement and wall

made up of ply wood are also declared as semi pacca housing unit. Kacha housing unit includes houses where walls are made of bamboo, mud or ply wood/ card board and roof is made by cement/ iron sheet or garder / T-iron or pre-fabricated material.

Pacca House			Semi Pacca House			Kacha House		
								
Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
19.64	10.65	42.50	16.78	15.62	19.73	63.58	73.73	37.77

In rural areas of Balochistan province majority of households have kacha structures with 73.73% and Pacca house are 37.77%. The percentage of Pacca & Semi Pacca structures is higher in urban areas with 42.50% & 19.73% as compared to rural areas with percentage 10.65% & 15.62% respectively. Overall, there is higher percentage of Kacha house is due to limited resources and lack of infrastructure facilities.

District Wise Analysis of Pacca Houses

District wise analysis for Pacca has revels that across 30 districts average percentage pacca houses is 19.64%. The districts with pacca houses rates higher than the average 19.64% are 5, whereas 29 districts fall below the average pacca houses rate of 19.64%. This average serves as a benchmark to assess the socioeconomic development, urbanization, and housing quality disparities across districts, enabling targeted interventions and policy decisions to bridge the gaps and promote equitable growth and development.

The pacca houses concentration across the districts reveal a diverse distribution. The data, categorized as follows:

- **Up to 5.0% Pacca Houses**: The 06 districts i.e. Surab, Washuk, Jhal Magsi, Killa Abdullah, Kharan & Killa Saifullah with up to 20% Pacca house ownership require urgent government attention and targeted interventions.

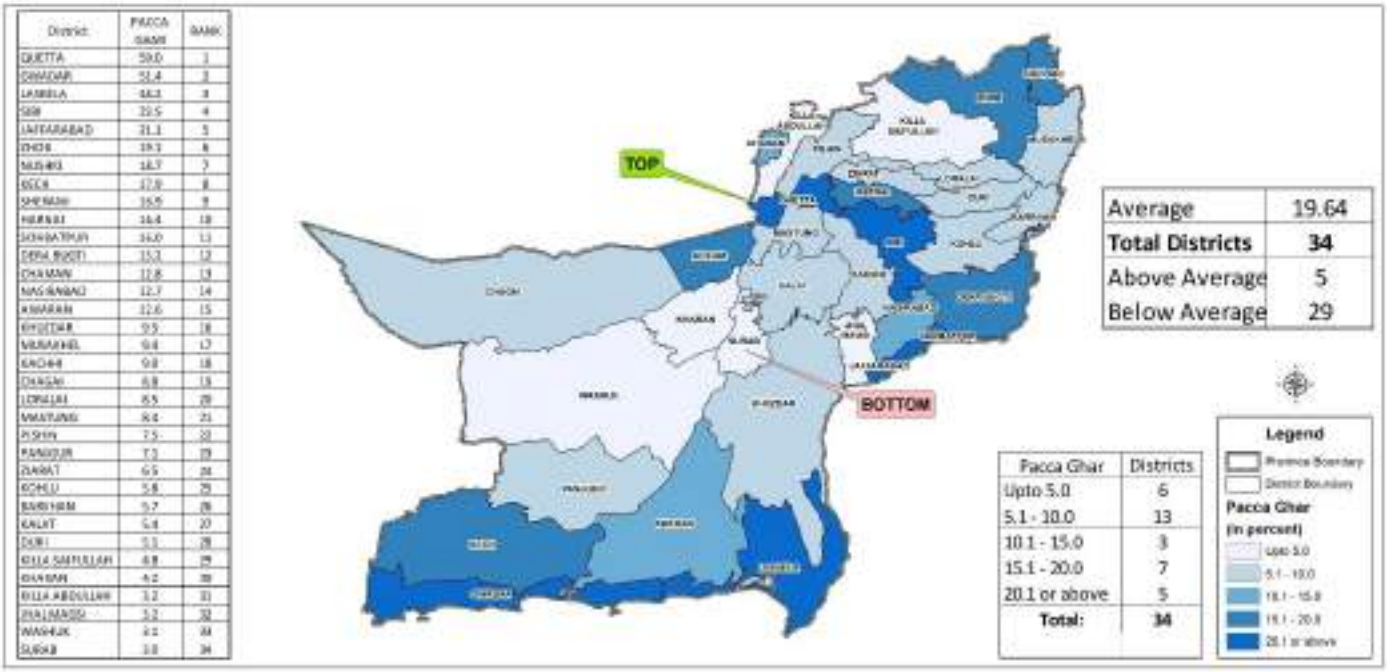
- **5.1% to 10.0% Pacca Houses**: The 13 districts i.e. Duki, Kalat, Barkhan, Kohlu, Ziarat, Panjgur, Pishin, Mastung, Loralai, Chagai, Kachhi, Musakhel & Khuzdar with Pacca house rates between 5.1-10.0% indicate moderate levels of socioeconomic development and urbanization. This range suggests a balance between rural and urban populations, with opportunities for targeted investments to further improve housing quality and infrastructure.

- **10.1% to 15.0% Pacca Houses**: The 03 districts i.e. Awaran, Nasirabad & Chaman with Pacca house rates between 10.1-15.0% indicate better economic stability and infrastructure development. This range suggests a strong foundation for middle-class growth and moderate urbanization.

- **15.1% to 20.0% Pacca Houses**: There are 07 district i.e. Dera Bugti, Sohbatpur, Harnai, Sherani, Kech, in this range, suggesting a well-educated population with improved living standards and economic stability.

- **20.1% and Above Pacca Houses**: 05 districts i.e. Jaffardabad, Sibi, Lasbela, Gwadar & Quetta achieve this high pacca ghar level, indicating exceptional educational attainment and socioeconomic prosperity.

Figure 4.3: District Wise Pacca House Balochistan, Census-2023



By analyzing the low ranked districts in terms of Pacca houses, the Lowest percentage is observed in Districts Surab with 3.0%. The other districts with lower percentage of Pacca houses are Washuk 3.1% and Jhal Magsi with 3.2%. The reason for lower percentage of pacca houses is due to many factors like Cultural and social barriers, limited resources, infrastructural deficiencies, Rural-urban migration & traditional norms etc.

4.2.4 Period of Construction

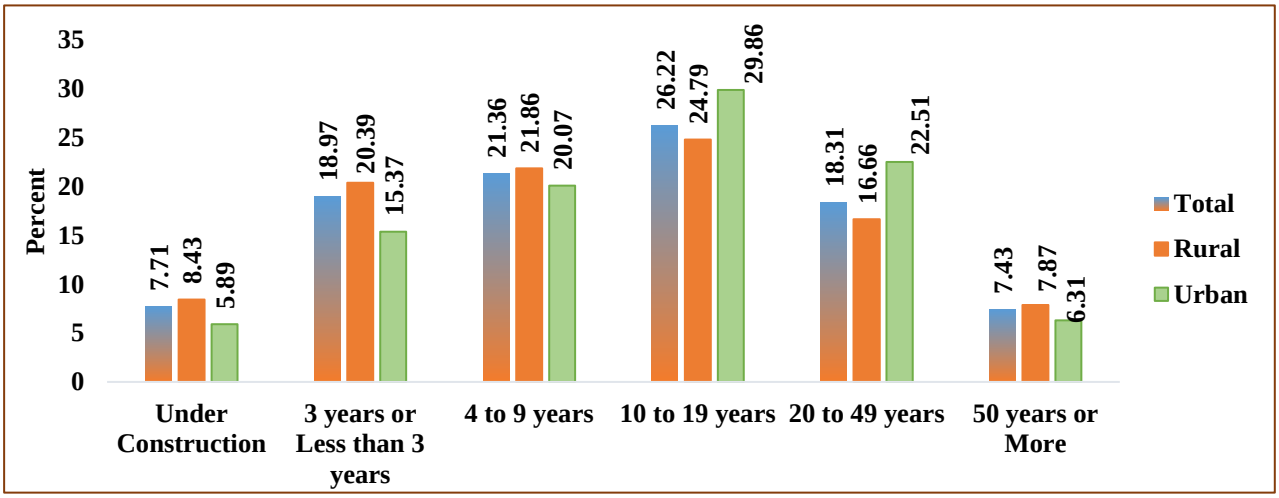
As reflected in Table 4.4, 7.71% of the owned houses were found under construction in the Census-2023. The recent trend of under construction houses is higher in rural areas as compared to urban areas. It is found that in rural & urban area vast majority of houses i.e. 24.79% & 29.86% respectively are constructed within a period of 10-19 years.

Table 4.4: Percentage of Owned Housing Units by Period of Construction and Rural/Urban: Census Year 2023

Period of Construction	All Areas (%)	Rural (%)	Urban (%)
Under Construction	7.71	8.43	5.89
3 years or Less	18.97	20.39	15.37
4 to 9 years	21.36	21.86	20.07
10 to 19 years	26.22	24.79	29.86
20 to 49 years	18.31	16.66	22.51
50 years or More	7.43	7.87	6.31
Number of Housing Units	**2,317,256**	**1,663,142**	**654,114**

Figure 4.4 portrays the picture of the house by period of construction for the census year 2023. The Figure makes it evident that the proportion of houses built for 10 to 19 years remains the highest with 26.22%, whereas the houses constructed during 50 years and above remains the lowest with 7.43%.

Figure 4.4 Housing Units by Period of Construction: Census-2023



4.2.5 Construction Material Used for Walls

Quality of housing units and living standards can be assessed through the construction material used for the walls and roofs of the housing units. In Census 2023, different categories like Baked Bricks/Blocks/Stones, Unbaked Bricks/ Mud, Wood/Bamboo, Plywood/ Cardboard, Pre-Fabric & others were asked to assess the housing construction material as depicted in following table.

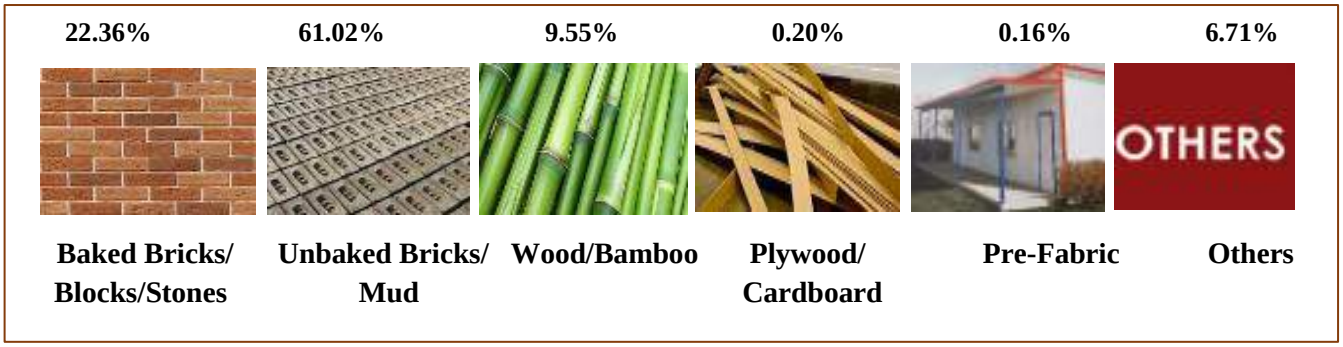


Table 4.5: Percentage of Owned Housing Units by Period of Construction and Rural/Urban: Census Year 2023

Construction Material		2017			2023		
		All Areas	Rural	Urban	All Areas	Rural	Urban
Baked Bricks / Blocks / Stones	Number	424,104	184,183	239,921	518,097	222,855	295,242
	Percent	24.29	14.92	46.93	22.36	13.4	45.14
Unbaked Bricks / Mud	Number	998,765	782,740	216,025	1,413,973	1,119,808	294,165
	Percent	57.2	63.39	42.25	61.02	67.33	44.97
Wood / Bamboo	Number	224,129	184,897	39,232	221,250	186,696	34,554
	Percent	12.84	14.97	7.67	9.55	11.23	5.28
Plywood / Cardboard*	Number	-	-	-	4,635	2,631	2,004
	Percent	-	-	-	0.2	0.16	0.31
Pre-Fabric*	Number	-	-	-	3,808	1,937	1,871
	Percent	-	-	-	0.16	0.12	0.29
Others	Number	98,996	82,889	16,107	155,493	129,215	26,278
	Percent	5.67	6.71	3.15	6.71	7.77	4.02
Number of Housing Units		1,745,994	1,234,709	511,285	2,317,256	1,663,142	654,114

* *Plywood/Cardboard and Pre-Fabric has been added in Census-2023*

In the Census-2023, majority of houses 61.02% have reported that their walls are made of Unbaked Bricks/Mud with mud bonding as compared to 57.20% in Census-2017. The percentage is higher in urban areas with 67.33% as compared to 44.97% in rural areas in Census-2023. Moreover, the walls were reported as being made of baked bricks/blocks/stones is 13.40% in rural areas as compared to 45.14% in urban areas.

The use of wood bamboo for construction of walls has decreased from 12.84% in Census-2017 to 9.55% in Census-2023. The concentration is higher in rural areas with 11.23% as compared to 5.28% only in urban areas.

The categories of Plywood/Cardboard and Pre-Fabric have been included in Census-2023. Nominal housing units reported these categories with 0.16% and 0.12% is lower in rural areas then urban areas with 0.31% and 0.29% respectively.

4.2.6 Construction Material Used for Roofs

The use of material for construction of roofs is also used to assess the living standards and to collect data for appropriate policy making for disasters. Table 4.6 reveals that in Balochistan province the highest percentage of material used for roofs is wood/Bamboo with 58.78%. The rural areas have predominately higher percentage of housing units i.e. 68.24% which have roofs constructed using Wood/Bamboo as compared to only 34.72% in urban areas. The second most prominent method used in Balochistan for roof is Garder/T.Iron with 23.53 %. This clearly depicts that in urban areas majority i.e. 36.12% used Garder/T.Iron while in rural areas the most prevalent is Wood/Bamboo followed by Garder/T.Iron. Almost 1/3 of houses 26.9% in urban areas are also using Garder/T.Iron as material of construction for roofs.

The category of Pre-Fabric has been included in Census-2023 with the share of 0.58%. The data for this category was not available in Census-2017. The use of unspecified material in construction of roofs has increased from 5.24% in Census-2017 to 7.02% in Census-2023.

Table 4.6: Percentage of Owned Housing Units by Period of Construction and Rural/Urban: Census Year 2023

Construction Material		2017			2023		
		All Areas	Rural	Urban	All Areas	Rural	Urban
RCC/RBC	Number	124,482	27,122	97,360	153,824	41,683	112,141
	Percent	7.13	2.2	19.04	6.64	2.51	17.14
Cement/Iron Sheet	Number	73,581	38,652	34,929	80,118	39,760	40,358
	Percent	4.21	3.13	6.83	3.46	2.39	6.17
Garder/T. Iron	Number	437,232	240,867	196,365	545,157	308,860	236,297
	Percent	25.04	19.51	38.41	23.53	18.57	36.12
Wood/Bamboo	Number	1,019,166	850,088	169,078	1,362,005	1,134,928	227,077
	Percent	58.34	68.85	33.07	58.78	68.24	34.72
Pre-Fabric*	Number	-	-	-	13,491	4,198	9,293
	Percent	-	-	-	0.58	0.25	1.42
Others	Number	91,533	77,980	13,553	162,661	133,713	28,948
	Percent	5.24	6.32	2.65	7.02	8.04	4.43
Number of Households		1,745,994	1,234,709	511,285	2,317,256	1,663,142	654,114

**Pre-Fabric has been added in Census-2023*

4.3 Availability of Facilities in Housing Units

4.3.1 Source of Drinking Water

Easy access to drinking water serves as an index of quality living. In Census 2023, information has been collected from households about the main source of drinking water inside and outside of the house. The main categories including Tap Water, Motorized Pump, Hand Pump, Dug Well, Spring, Bottle Water, Filtration Plant and Tanker/Truck/Water bearer. The availability of drinking water through all sources in the province reported in the Census-2017 and Census-2023 are shown in Table 4.7.

Table 4.7: Percentage of Housing Units by Source of Drinking Water and Rural/Urban: Census Year 2017 and 2023

Source of Drinking Water	2017 All Areas	Rural	Urban	2023 All Areas	Rural	Urban
Number of House	1,306,117	849,702	456,415	950,393	572,104	378,289
Inside the House	74.81	68.82	89.27	41.01	34.4	57.83
Tap Water	37.55	26.8	63.49	57.95	49.62	70.54
Motor Pump/Hand Pump (Bore Hole)	6.04	5.47	7.44	17.61	20.95	12.56
Protected Well	9.29	10.53	6.31	16.04	19.28	11.14
Unprotected Well	5.46	6.96	1.84	2.53	3.28	1.39
Others	16.46	19.06	10.19	5.87	6.87	4.37
Outside the House	25.19	31.18	10.73	58.99	65.6	42.17
Tap	1.9	1.91	1.86	13.84	10.88	25.56
Motor Pump/Hand Pump (Bore Hole)	1.72	2.18	0.61	16.19	17.2	12.21
Protected Well	2.05	2.69	0.5	8.78	10.03	3.83
Unprotected Well	-	-	-	9.55	11.13	3.32
Bottle Water*	-	-	-	0.55	0.44	1
Spring	3.24	4.51	0.18	13.89	16.78	2.45
Canal/River/Pond	7.5	9.75	2.05	15.4	18.1	4.72
Filtration Plant*	-	-	-	0.25	0.11	0.81
Tanker/Water Bearer*	-	-	-	17.71	11.42	42.58
Others	6.43	6.93	5.24	3.84	3.92	3.53
Number of Housing Units	1,745,994	1,234,709	511,285	2,317,256	1,663,142	654,114

**The category "Bottled Water", "Filtration Plant" and "Tanker/Water Bearer" was added in Census-2023.*

The table 4.7 revels that 41.01% of households in census 2023 reported that their main source of drinking water is inside of the house as compared to 74.81% in 2017. The detailed analysis of data revels that the percentage of houses with the main source of drinking water outside house in Census 2023 is higher with 58.99 % as compared to 25.19% only in 2017, category wise analysis reveals that this is mainly due to the inclusions of Canal/River/Pond 15.40, Tanker/Water Bearer 17.71% and Spring 13.89%.

The percentages of Canal/River and Spring is high in rural area which shows that rural population heavily rely upon these resources whereas urban area observes high percentage of Tanker/Water Bearer mainly due to shortage of water in urban area. This shows the diverse trends in the water access and in quality in Urban/Rural areas. The table also reveals that main source used inside the house for drinking water is Tap water with 57.95% followed by Motor Pump/Hand Pump with 17.61% which has increased trend as compared to Census 2017 with 6.04%

Figure 4.5 : Housing Units by Drinking Water Inside , Census-2023

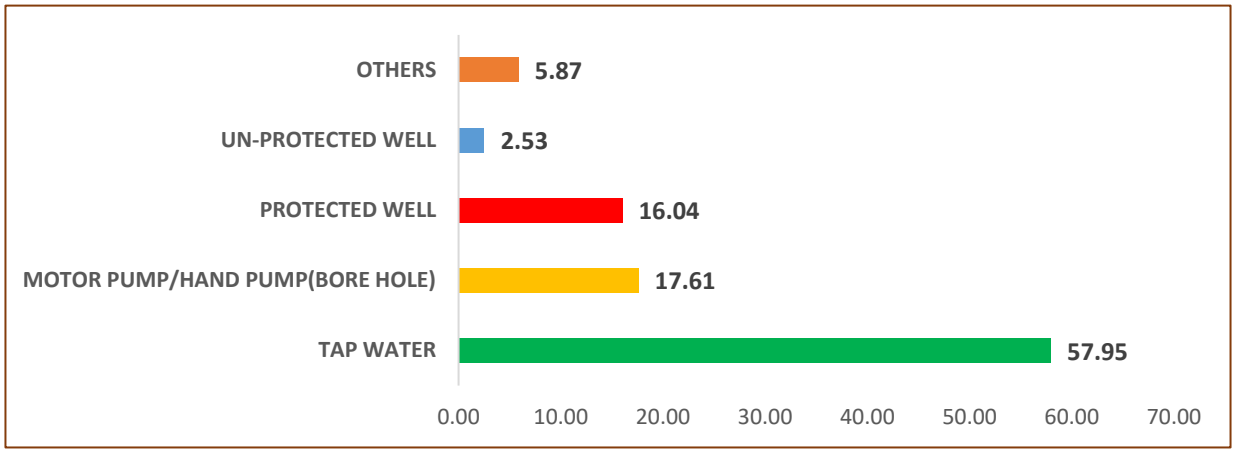
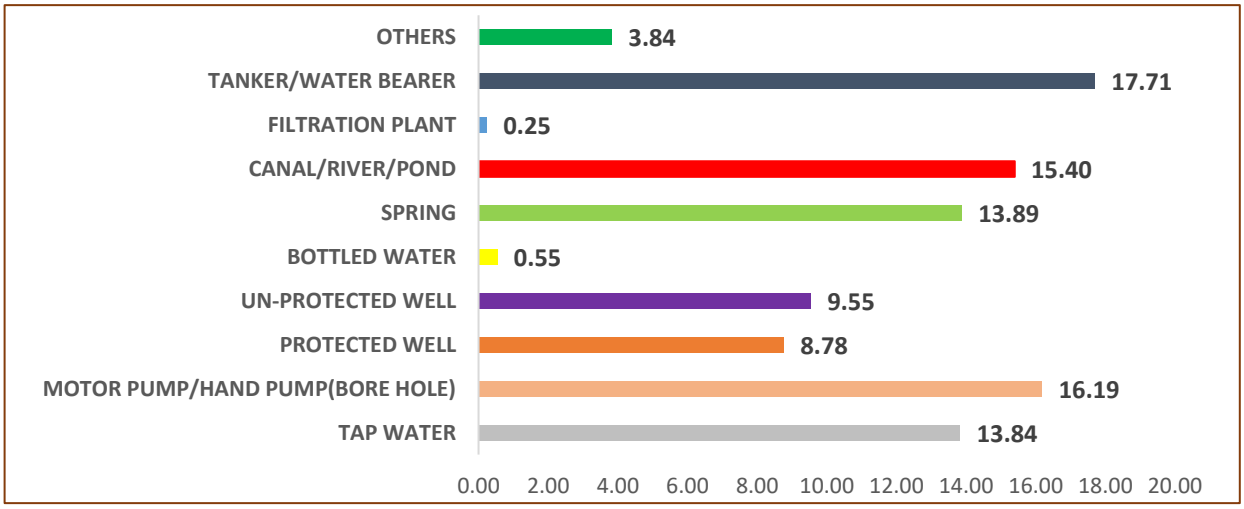


Figure 4.6 : Housing Units by Drinking Water Outside, Census-2023



District Wise Analysis of Drinking Water Facility (inside Home)

The figure 4.7 illustrates the inside drinking water concentration in districts of Balochistan. In Balochistan only 41.01% households have the facility of drinking water within the premises, the remaining 58.81% are using drinking water outside source. Across 34 districts the drinking water facility inside the premises shown an average of 41.01% population use the facility. There are 15 districts higher than the average and19 districts falls below the average.

The drinking water inside house rates across the districts reveals a diverse distribution.

- **Up to 20.0% Drinking Water Rate (Inside Home)**: 03 districts i.e. Barkhan, Kohlu and Jhal Magsi lies in this category shows that less than 20% households have drinking water facility inside house. This depicts severe issues of water facility inside home creates several health and other issues.

- **20.1% to 30.0% Drinking Water Rate (Inside Home)**: There are 8 districts i.e. Kachhi, Lsbella, Jaffarabad, Kalat, Ziarat, Musakhel, Dera Bugti and Washuk showing that a significant

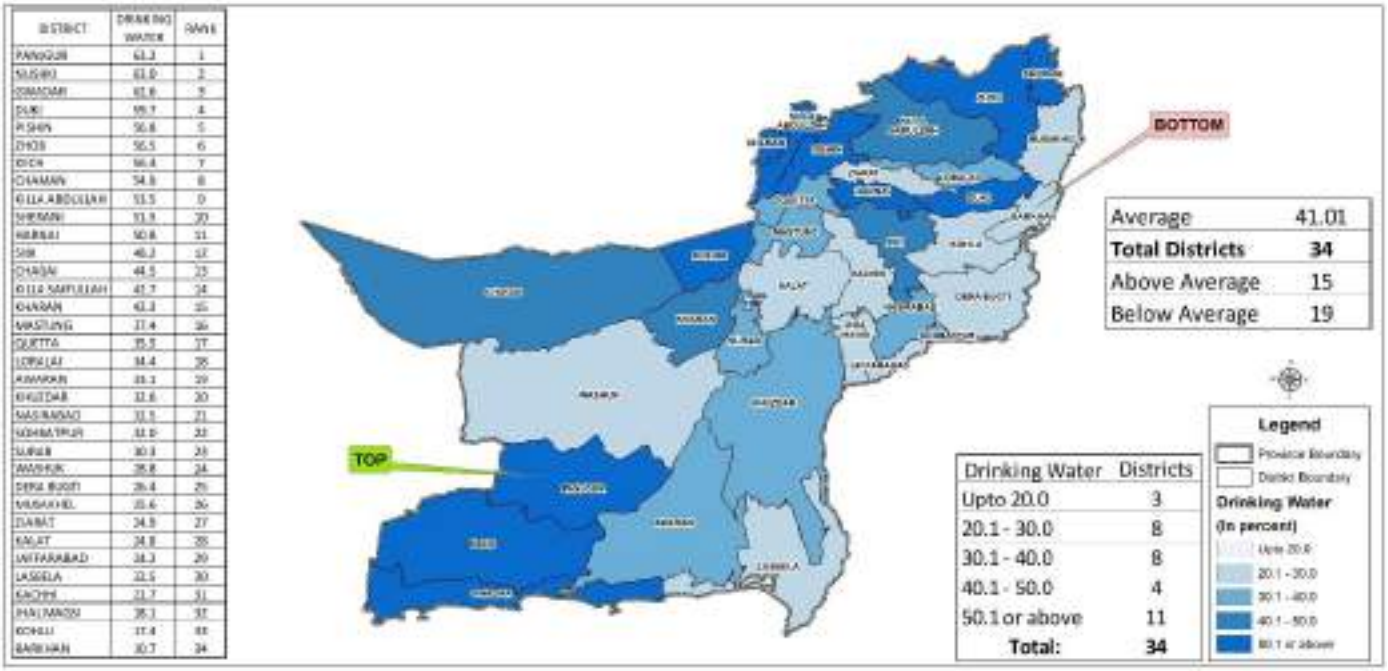
portion of these districts have drinking water rates within this range, reflecting moderate levels of water scarcity inside home and underscoring the need for targeted interventions to enhance water infrastructure and accessibility.

- **30.1% to 40.0% Drinking Water Rate (Inside Home)**: There are 08 districts i.e. Surab, Sohbatpur, Nasirabad, Khuzdar, Awaran, Loralai, Quetta and Mastung with drinking water rates between 30.1% and 40.0%, indicating relatively better access of drinking water inside homes.

- **40.1% to 50.0% Drinking Water Rate (Inside Home)**: There are 04 districts i.e. Kharan, Killa Saifullah, Chagai and Sibi in this range, indicating significant advancements in water accessibility, with nearly two-thirds to three-quarters of households enjoying clean drinking water, setting a strong foundation for public health and well-being

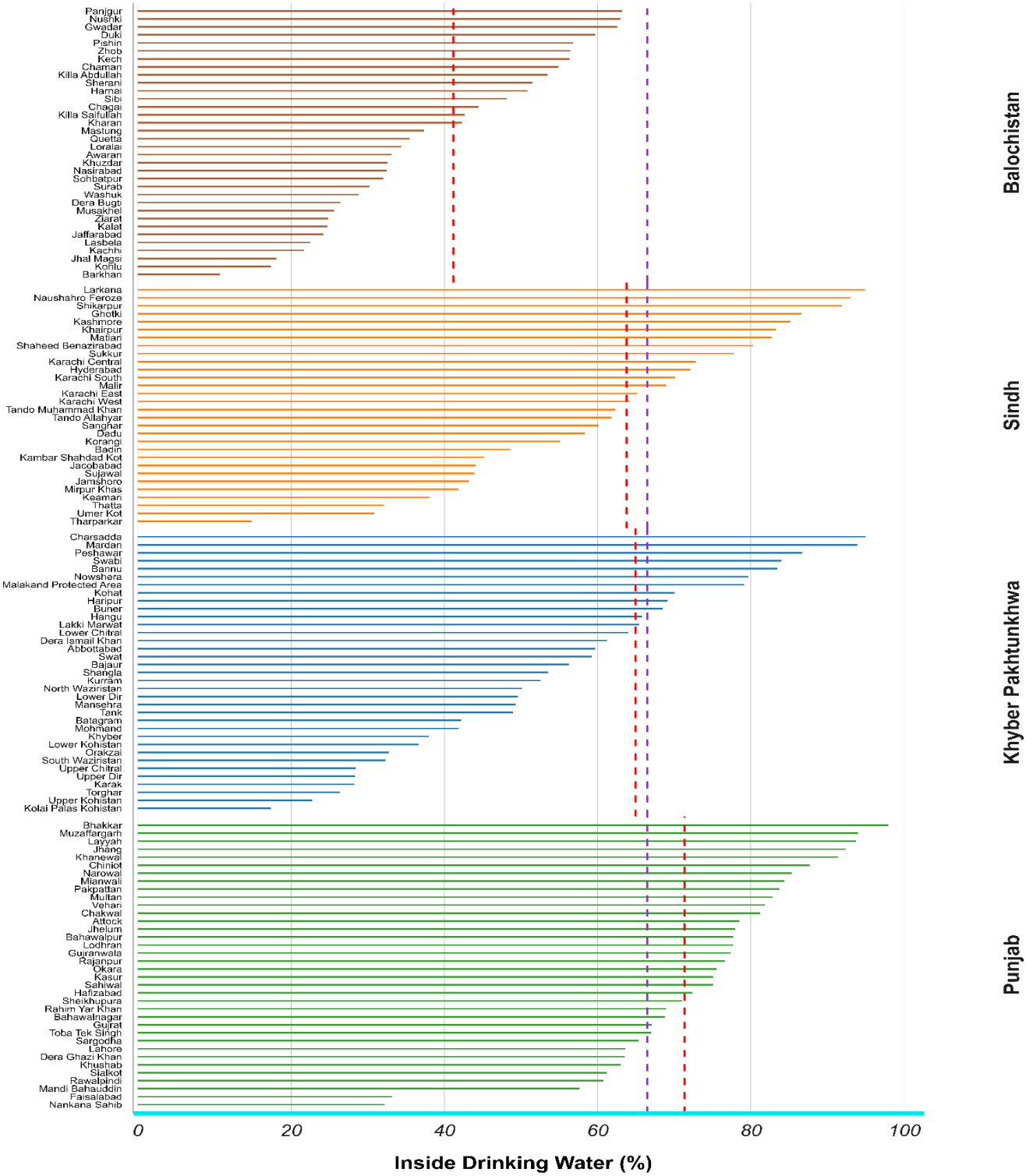
- **50.1% or Above Drinking Water Rate (Inside Home)**: There are 11 districts i.e. Hernai, Sherani, Killa Abdullah, Chaman, Kech, Pishin, Duki, Gwadar, Nushki and Panjgur with drinking water rates above 50.1%, achieving this high level of access to drinking water facility inside home, demonstrating exceptional success in water infrastructure development and management.

Figure 4.7 : District Wise Drinking Water Facility (Inside Home) Balochistan, Census-2023



By analyzing high and low rank districts, the district with highest percentage of drinking water inside premises includes Panjgur (63.20%) followed by Nushki and Gwadar. The district wise drinking water inside the premises comparison is also illustrated in the Figure 4.8, where Balochistan province bars are shows in brown colour. The Purple and red vertical dashed lines represent national and provincial average of drinking water facility (inside home). Districts bars shown in descending order with respect to drinking water (inside) percentages. This also presents its comparison with national average and other province. 15 districts, have percentage are above whereas 19 districts are below the provincial average.

Figure 4.8 : District Wise Drinking Water Facility (Inside Home) Balochistan, Census-2023



(The purple and red vertical dashed lines represent national and provincial average drinking water inside the house rates, respectively.)

4.3.2 Source of Lighting

In Census 2023 along with other sources, solar panels source is also included to assess the main sources of electricity. Solar energy is environmentally friendly technology, a great energy supply and one of the most significant renewable and green energy sources. Solar lighting plays a vital role in nation development by providing energy access to remote communities, powering essential services like healthcare and education, and reducing reliance on fossil fuels as well as boosts economic growth by creating jobs in the solar industry and reducing energy costs for businesses and households. Additionally, solar lighting enhances energy security, mitigates climate change, and supports sustainable development goals. Electricity is the major source of lighting in the province.

It is observed that 57.11% of houses all over the province has reported electricity as main source of lighting in Census-2023 shows decreasing trend as compared to 70.85% in Census 2017. It seems that in Census 2017 due to the non-availability of Solar panel codes the response regarding solar panels was recorded in electricity, as the difference between electricity and solar panel in 2017 and 2023 is now clearly evident in solar panel along with other usage. The availability of electricity in urban areas is higher with 86.98% as compared to 45.36% in rural areas. The solar panels have shown more usage in rural areas then urban areas with 33.98% and 7.33% respectively may be due to non-availability of electricity in that area.

A significant decline has been observed in the use of Kerosene Oil as a source of lighting which was reported as 10.77% in Census-2017 to 4.95% in Census-2023. This decrease has also been seen in rural and urban areas of the province. Moreover, the percentage of use of other sources of lighting covered under the category of others has increased from 17.90% in Census-2017 to 11.22% in Census-2023.

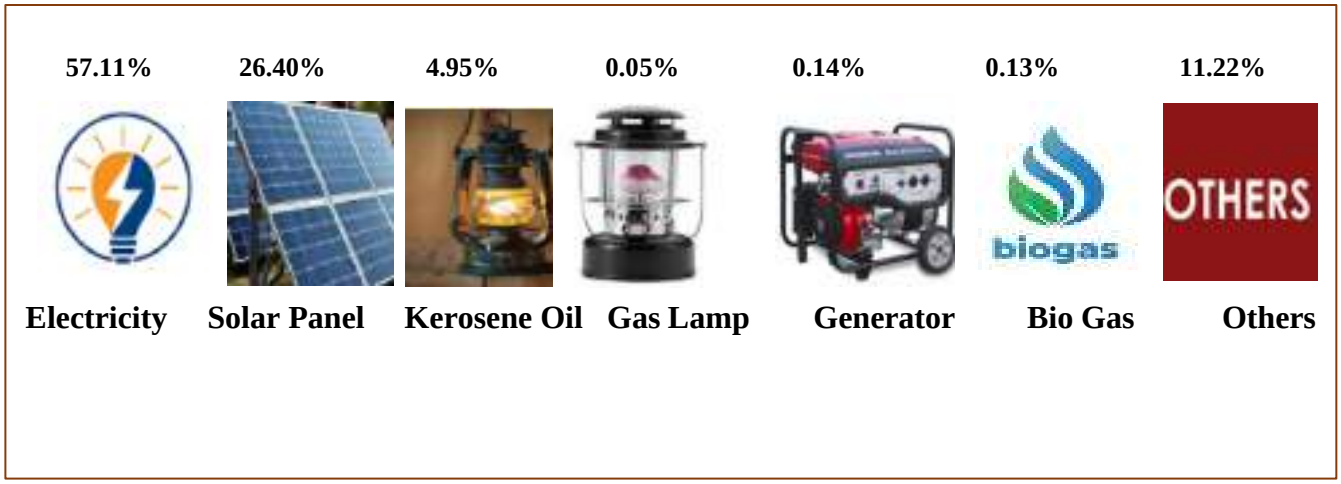


Table 4.8: Percentage of Housing Units by Source of Drinking Water and Rural/Urban: Census Year 2017 And 2023

Source of Lighting		2017			2023		
		All Areas	Rural	Urban	All Areas	Rural	Urban
Electricity	Number	1,237,000	755,186	481,814	1,323,303	754,366	568,937
	Percent	70.84	61.16	94.24	57.11	45.36	86.98
Solar Panel*	Number				611,685	563,712	47,973
	Percent				26.40	33.89	7.33
Kerosene Oil	Number	188,015	178,585	94,30	114,653	104,549	10,104
	Percent	10.77	14.46	1.84	4.95	6.29	1.54
Gas Lamp	Number	8,562	7,738	824	1,161	827	334
	Percent	0.50	0.63	0.16	0.05	0.05	0.05
Generator*	Number				3,315	2,036	1,279
	Percent				0.14	0.12	0.20
BioGas*	Number				3,095	2,000	1,095
	Percent				0.13	0.12	0.17
Others	Number	312,417	293,200	19,217	260,044	235,652	24,392
	Percent	17.90	23.75	3.76	11.22	14.17	3.73
Number of Households		1,745,994	1,234,709	511,285	2,317,256	1,663,142	654,114

**Solar Panel, Generator and Biogas were not included in Census-2023*

District Wise Analysis of Electricity

District wise use of electricity has been depicted in the figure 4.9. Electricity as source of lightning in Balochistan aims to identify disparities, understand technological challenges, and inform policy decisions to improve electric supply across districts. In Balochistan, 57.11 percent of household are using Electricity as source for lightning in 2023. The average electricity availability across 30 districts stands at 57.11%. The districts with electricity rates higher than the average, are 14 whereas 20 districts have electricity rates between below average. This average provides a baseline for evaluating the equitable distribution of electricity across Balochistan districts.

District-wise electricity rates show a wide disparity. The data, categorized into different electricity to household rate brackets, is as follows

- **Up to 20.0% Electricity**: 3 districts i.e. Sherani, Awaran, Kohlu fall into this category, indicating that availability of electricity is very low and need policy intervention.

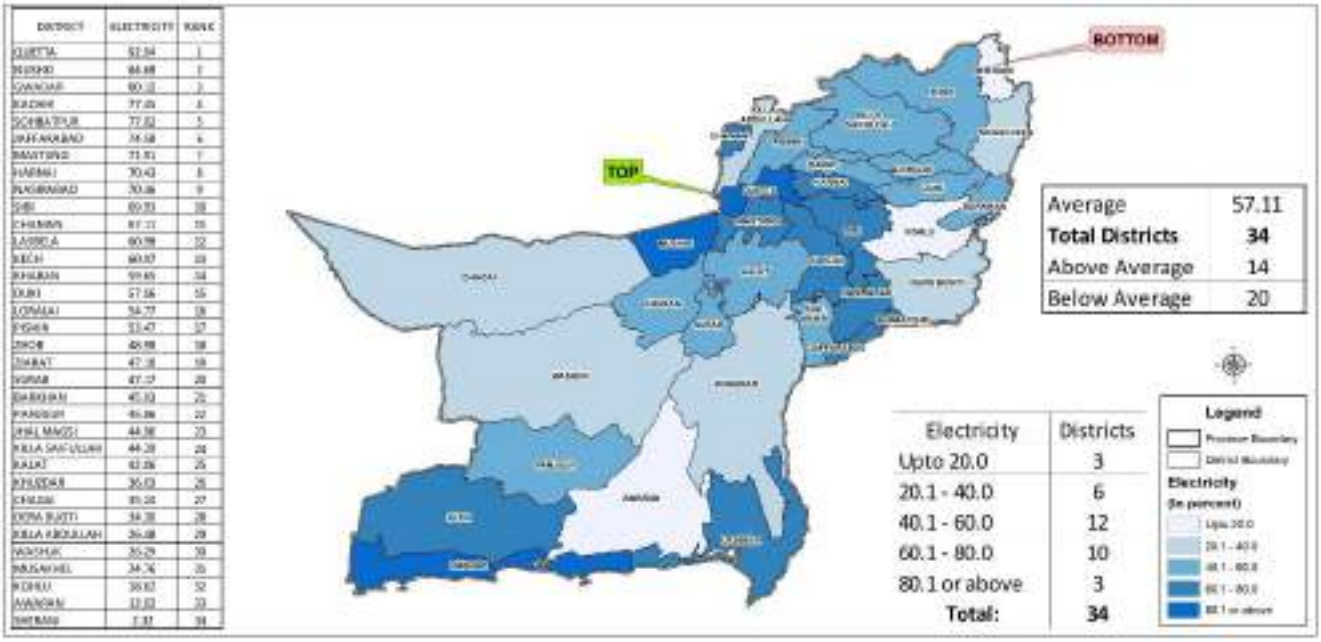
- **20.1% to 40.0% Electricity**: There are 6 districts i.e. Musakhel, Kila Abdukkah, Washuk, Dera Bugti, Chagai and Khuzdar that have electricity rates within this range, reflecting low levels of electricity.

- **40.1% to 60.0% Electricity**: There are 12 districts i.e. Kalat, Killa Siafullah, Jhal Magsi, Panjgur, Barkhan, Surab, Ziarat, Zhob, Pishin, Loralai, Duki, Kharan where electricity rates fall into this bracket, suggesting efficient energy supply systems.

- **60.1% to 80.0% Electricity**: There are 10 districts i.e. Kech, Lasbela, Chaman, Sibi, Nasirabad, Harnai, Mastung, Jafarabad, Sohbatpur and Kech, in this range, showing moderate rate of electricity and suggesting a better electricity scenario compared to the previous categories.

- **80.1% or Above Electricity**: There are 3 districts i.e. Gwadar, Nushki and Quetta in this category which shows that significant households in these districts have electricity as a source of lightening, indicating widespread electrification.

Figure 4.9: District Wise Electricity as a Source of Lighting Balochistan, Census-2023



While comparing district Quetta (92.94%) is the top ranked district followed by Nushki and Gwadar. Whereas districts like Musakhel, Washuk, Dera Bugti, Chagai, Khuzdar, Kalat, Sherani, Awaran and Kohlu are the lowest in ranking with alomost less than 20% to 40% households with availability of electricity as main source of light. The districts stand in the low rank owing to many factors like remote and scattered population, scarce resources, inadequate infrastructure, inefficient transmission and distribution of electric supply, traditional norms & security concerns etc.

4.3.3 Fuel Used for Cooking

In the Census-2023 wood with 70.06% has been reported as the major source of fuel used for cooking as shown in Table 4.9. The percentage remains almost same during both Census, however, the use of wood is much higher in rural area with 81.37% as compared to 48.55% in urban area. In Balochistan, the use/availability of Gas is at second place followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In Pakistan as whole Firewood is used widely, with 52.72% especially Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) observes (71.38%) & Balochistan (70.06%) in Census-2023 respectively with 81.37% in rural areas of Balochistan due to unavailability of environment friendly sources like Gas.

The categories of Dung cake, LPG/LNG (Cylinder), Biogas and Electricity have been included in Census-2023, their respective use is very nominal with 4.77%, 3.27%, 0.20%, and 0.47% respectively. The use of other sources of cooking fuel has decreased from 3.61% reported in Census 2017 to 2.64% in Census-2023.

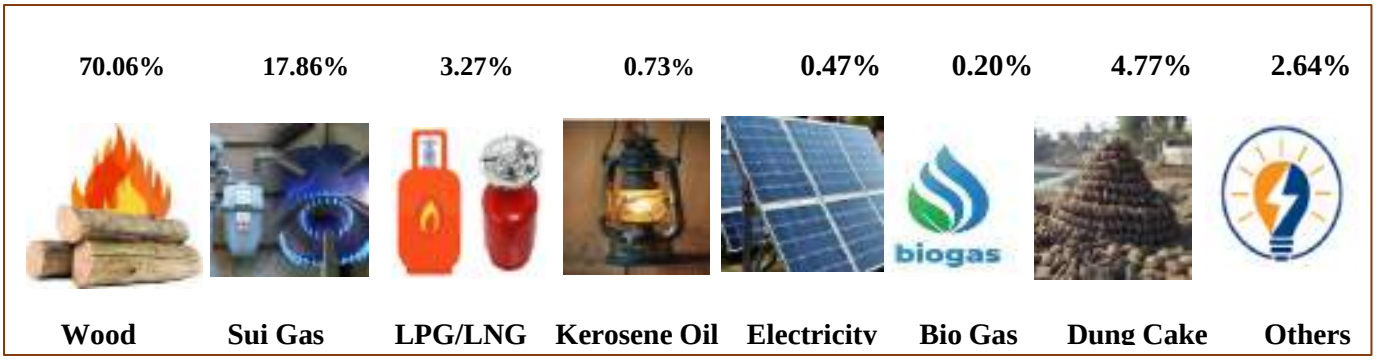


Table 4.9: Number and Percentage of Housing Units by Source of Cooking Fuel Used and Rural/Urban: Census Year 2017 and 2023

Source of Cooking Fuel		2017			2023		
		All Areas	Rural	Urban	All Areas	Rural	Urban
Wood	Number	1,252,959	1,004,735	248,224	1,623,565	1,294,488	329,077
	Percent	71.76	81.37	48.55	70.06	77.83	50.31
Sui Gas	Number	419,172	167,716	251,456	413,813	166,852	246,961
	Percent	24.01	13.58	49.18	17.86	10.03	37.76
LPG/LNG (Cylinder)*	Number				75,822	35,004	40,818
	Percent				3.27	2.10	6.24
Kerosene Oil	Number	10,772	9,290	1,482	16,814	13,785	3,029
	Percent	0.62	0.75	0.29	0.73	0.83	0.46
Electricity*	Number				10,873	6,673	4,200
	Percent				0.47	0.40	0.64
Bio Gas*	Number				4,600	2,849	1,751
	Percent				0.20	0.17	0.27
Dung Cake*	Number				110,525	97,589	12,936
	Percent				4.77	5.87	1.98
Others	Number	63,091	53,968	10,123	61,244	45,902	15,342
	Percent	3.61	4.29	1.98	2.64	2.76	2.35
Number of Households		**1,745,994**	**1,234,709**	**511,285**	**2,317,256**	**1,663,142**	**654,114**

** LPG/LNG (Cylinder), Electricity, Biogas and Dung Cake were not included in Census-2017*

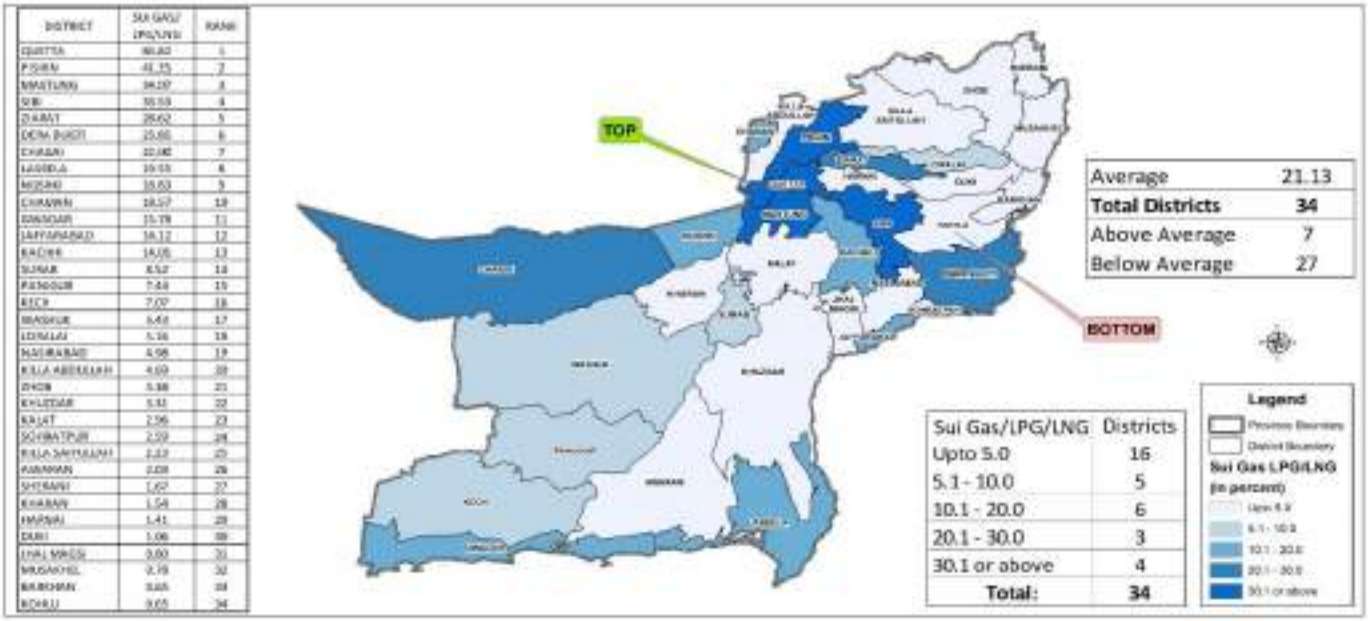
District Wise Analysis of Gas, LPG/LNG

District wise comparison regarding use of Gas, LPG/LNG for cooking purpose depicts in Figure 4.10. Use of Sui Gas, LPG/LNG for cooking purpose provide an environment friendly solution for sustainable growth. The average usage of GAS/LPG/LNG is 21.13%, 07 districts excel above this threshold and 27 districts fall short, underscoring disparities in energy access.

The GAS/LPG/LNG rates across the districts reveal a diverse distribution. The data, categorized into different literacy rate brackets, is as follows:

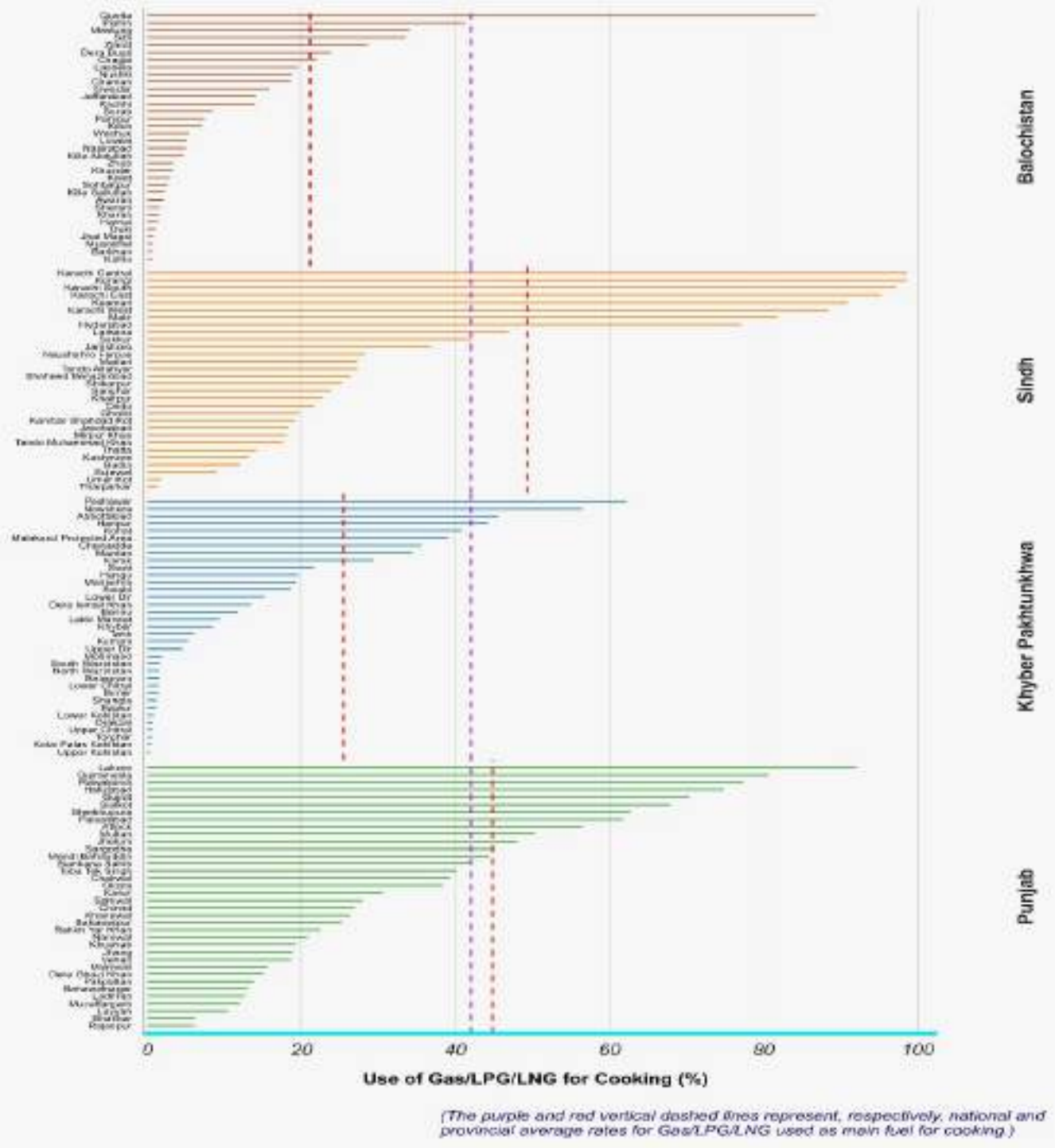
- **Up to 5% GAS/LPG/LNG:** There are 16 districts in this bracket i.e. Kohlu, Barkhan, Musakhel, Jhal Magsi, Duki, Harnai, Kharan, Sherani, Awaran, Killa Saifullah, Sohbatpur, Kalat, Khuzdar, Zhob, Killa Abdullah and Nasirabad suggesting a significant gap in energy access and require multifaceted approach that includes infrastructure development, community engagement, and targeted policy initiatives.
- **5.1% to 10.0% GAS/LPG/LNG**: There are 5 districts i.e. Loralai, Washuk, Kech, Panjgur and Surab where GAS/LPG/LNG rates fall into this bracket, indicating a critical need for targeted interventions to improve energy access and infrastructure in these districts.
- **10.1% to 20.0% GAS/LPG/LNG**: There are 6 districts i.e. Kachhi, Jaffarabad, Gwadar, Chaman, Nushki and Panjgur where GAS/LPG/LNG rates fall within this range, indicating incremental progress in energy access, but still requiring focused efforts to bridge the gap and achieve universal coverage.
- **20.1% to 30.0% GAS/LPG/LNG**: There are 3 districts i.e. Chaman, Dera Bugti and Ziarat where GAS/LPG/LNG rates fall into this bracket, suggesting significant progress in GAS/LPG/LNG adoption.
- **30.1% or Above GAS/LPG/LNG**: 4 districts i.e. Quetta, Pishin , Mastung , Sibi and have achieved an impressive GAS/LPG/LNG rate of 30.1% or higher, indicating better access and economic development.

Figure 4.10: District Wise Sui Gas and LPG/LNG Balochistan, Census-2023



By analyzing the low ranked districts in terms of GAS/LPG/LNG rates, the Lowest Gas/LPG/LNG rate has been observed in District Kohlu (0.65%), District Barkhan (0.66%) and District Musakhel (9.0 lies at lowest ranked districts in terms of availability/usage of GAS/LPG/LNG. The districts stand in the high rank districts are Quetta (86.82%) and Pishin (41.25%). The district wise Sui gas/ LPG/LNG comparison is also illustrated in the Figure 4.11, where Balochistan province bars are shows in brown colour. Districts bars shown in descending order with respect to out of Sui gas/ LPG/LNG percentages. The graph depicts 7 districts of Balochistan have percentage higher than even national average 21.13% of Gas/LPG/LNG.

Figure 4.11: District Wise Comparison Fuel (Gas/Lpg/Lng) Used for



4.3.4 Availability of Kitchen, Bathroom and Toilet Facilities

The information on availability of kitchen, bathroom, and toilet facilities within the premises of the housing units was also collected in the Census-2023 as shown in Table 4.10.

Kitchen: It was found that 1.23 million (53.06%) of the housing units in the province have a separate kitchen as reported in Census-2023. Separate kitchen is more prevalent in the urban areas with a proportion of 0.38 million (59.01%) as compared to rural areas where it stands at 0.84 million (50.73%). The facility of shared kitchen is available to 0.74 million (31.88%) of the housing units in Census-2023, showing an increase from 0.48 million (27.61%) of Census-2017. Moreover, 0.34 million (15.06%) of the housing units have no kitchen facility in the province, with bifurcation of 0.31 million (18.74%) in rural areas, and 0.04 million (5.71%) in urban areas.

Bathroom: The availability of separate bathroom facility in the housing unit has been reported as 1.43 million (61.57%) of the total housing units in Census-2023 decreasing from 1.08 million (62.20%) reported in Census-2017. The incidence of separate bathroom is less in urban areas at 0.45 million (68.61%) as compared to rural areas at 0.98 million (58.80%). The shared bathroom facility has decreased from 0.40 million (22.91%) in Census-2017 to 0.58 million (24.87%) in Census-2023. Shared bathrooms are more common in the housing units of urban area at 0.18 million (27.54%), as compared to rural areas where it is found in 0.39 million (23.83%) of housing facilities. Moreover, 0.31 million (13.55%) of the housing units have no bathroom at the province level, while 0.29 million (17.37%) in rural areas, and 0.03 million (3.85%) of housing units in urban areas do not have a bathroom.

Toilet: In Census-2017, the availability of toilet facility in housing units was accounted as either the housing unit has separate, shared or no toilet facility and further the options available were that the toilet was either connected with sewerage system, connected with septic tank, connected with open drain, pit with slab, other, or none of these options. However, in Census 2023, the breakdown for flush and non-flush toilet were introduced and separate options for flush and non-flush categories were introduced as in flush toilet the options were same as in Census 2017 but the options for ***non-flush toilet*** was either connected with ***dry raised toilet***, ***dry pit toilet*** and other. It was found that 17.89% of the total housing units reported the availability of toilet connected with sewerage, from which 33.01% of housing units are in urban areas and 9.86% of housing units are in rural areas. Moreover, 5.43% of housing units have reported toilet connected with septic tanks, with the incidence higher in urban areas as compared to rural areas, and 12.90% of housing units have their toilet connected with open drain. Furthermore, 33.39 % housing units reported the toilet facility as pit with slab type with higher incidence in rural areas at 36.19% as compared to urban areas at 28.13%, and 23.03% of housing units reported their toilet facility to fall under the category 'other'. Moreover, 23.12% of housing units have no toilet facility which is higher than 20.63% reported in Census 2017. The dry raised toilet and dry pit toilet was included in Census 2023 and the values reported are 2.41% and 4.95% respectively.

The reason of no toilet at higher side in Census 2023 is due to flood in 2022 in majority of Balochistan. The prevalence of such housing units with no toilet is higher in rural areas i.e. 30.01%, as compare to urban areas where it is 5.60%. In urban areas, the proportion of housing units with no toilet

facility has increase from 3.59% in Census-2017 to 5.60% in Census-2023. In rural areas during the same period this proportion is also increased from 27.69%. to 30.01% (Table 4.9).

The term "sanitation" directly linked with toilet facilities. It encompasses more than just cleanliness; it includes hygiene, the effective collection of liquid and solid waste, and their environmentally responsible disposal. A well-functioning sanitation system acts as a barrier against fecal diseases by ensuring proper collection and disposal of human waste, while also minimizing the risk of groundwater and distribution system contamination that could pose health risks through drinking water. Sanitation is also a key indicator of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly “Goal 6”.

It may be noted that of housing units reported having toilet facility is 76.88% in Census-2023 as compared to 79.37% in Census-2017. The reason for decrease in toilet facility in Census 2023 is the flood affected areas in Balochistan province.

Table 4.10: Percentage of Housing Units Having Kitchen, Bathroom, and Latrine Facilities and Rural/Urban: Census Year 2017 and 2023

Housing Facilities	2017			2023		
	All Areas	Rural	Urban	All Areas	Rural	Urban
Kitchen						
All	100	100	100	100	100	100
Separate	56.89	53.44	65.22	53.06	50.73	59.01
Shared	27.61	27.07	28.93	31.88	30.54	35.29
None	15.49	19.49	5.85	15.06	18.74	5.71
Bathroom						
All	100	100	100	100	100	100
Separate	62.20	58.81	70.39	61.57	58.80	68.61
Shared	22.91	21.93	25.28	24.87	23.83	27.54
None	14.88	19.25	4.32	13.55	17.37	3.85
Toilet						
Toilet (Non-Flush)*	100	100	100	100	100	100
Connected with Sewerage*	14.38	6.25	34.01	17.89	9.86	33.01
Connected with Septic tank*	7.93	6.92	10.37	5.43	4.62	6.97
Connected with Open Drain*	10.95	10.80	11.31	12.90	12.53	13.59
Pit with Slab*	31.88	31.19	33.52	33.39	36.19	28.13
Latrine/Toilet (Non-flush)						
Dry Raised Latrine				2.41	2.60	2.06
Dry Pit Latrine				**4.95**	**6.07**	**2.84**
Other*	14.23	17.14	7.20	23.03	28.14	13.40
Availability of Toilet (Separate+Shared)	**79.37**	**72.31**	**96.41**	**76.88**	**69.99**	**94.40**
None(No Toilet)	20.63	27.69	3.59	23.12	30.01	5.60
Number of Housing Units	***1,745,994***	***1,234,709***	***511,285***	***2,317,256***	***1,663,142***	***654,114***

***** *Asked for the first time in Census-2017.*

District Wise Analysis of Toilet Facility (Flush)

The toilet facilities varies widely within districts The district wise analysis has been conducted to identify disparities, understand challenges, and inform policy decisions to improve toilet facilities across districts. For purpose of analysis Toilets are categorized into three main types: Flush, Non-Flush, and No Toilet. Flush Toilets are further divided into categories such as: Flush connected to a sewer, Flush connected to a septic tank, Flush connected to a pit, Flush connected to an open drain.

It may be noted that houses reported having flush toilet facility is 76.88% in Census-2023 as compared to 79.37% in Census-2017. The plausible reason for decrease in toilet facility in Census 2023 is the flood affected areas in Balochistan province, especially the rural areas.

District-wise toilet rates show a wide disparity. The toilet availability for home includes any of the flush and non-flush facility. The average toilet availability across 34 districts stands at 53.52%. The districts with toilet facility rates higher than the average are 9. Whereas, 25 districts fall below the average. This average provides a baseline for evaluating the equitable distribution of toilet across Balochistan's districts. The data, categorized into different toilet rate brackets, is as follows:

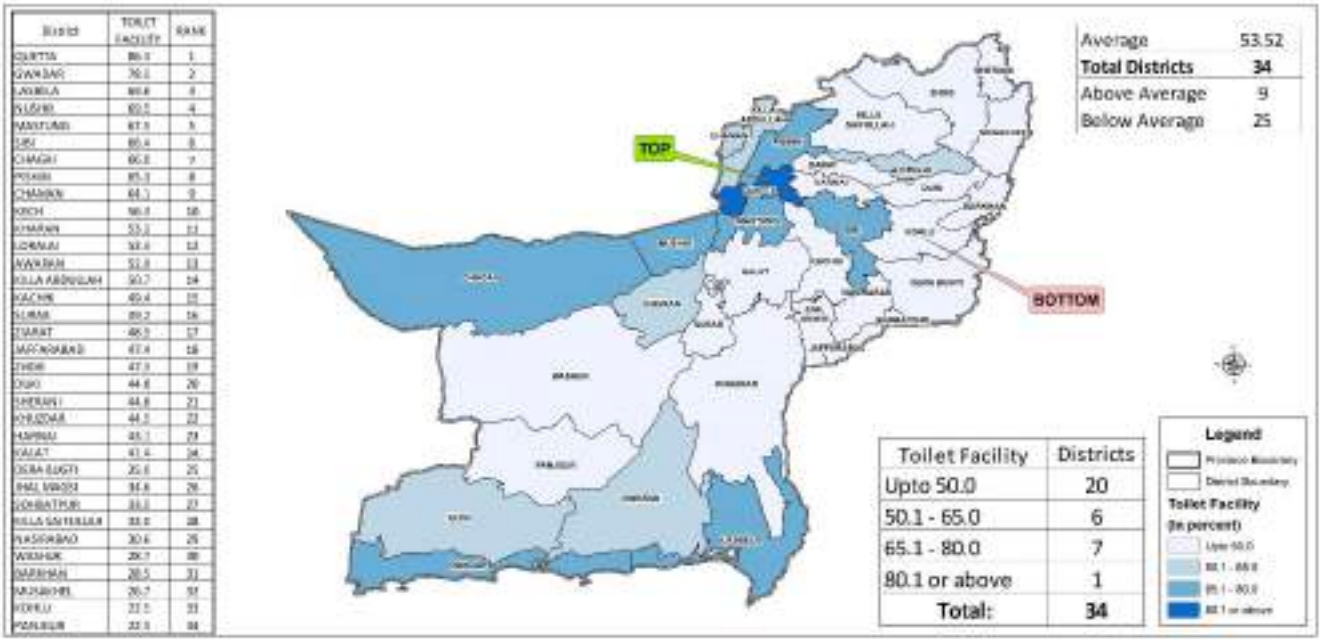
- **Up to 50.0% Toilet**: There are 20 districts i.e. Panjgur (22.5%), Kohlu (22.5), Musakhel (26.7%), Barkhan (28.5%), Washuk (28.7) etc. falls into this category, indicating that in these areas, the toilet rate is comparatively low.

- **50.1% to 65.0% Toilet**: There are 06 districts i.e. Killa Abdullah (50.7%), Awaran (51.9%), Loralai (52.4%), Kharan (53.2%), Kech (56.3%), and Chaman (64.1%) that have toilet rates within this range, reflecting low levels of toilet facility at home.

- **65.1% to 80.0% Toilet**: There are 07 i.e. Pishin (65.3%), Chagai (66.0%), Sibi (66.4%), Mastung (67.5%), Nushki (69.5%), Lasbella (69.8%) and Gwadar (78.5%) districts where toilet rates fall into this bracket, suggesting efficient toilet systems.

- **80.1% or Above Toilet**: 1 districts i.e. Quetta (86.3%) fall in this category.

Figure 4.12: District Wise Toilet Facility (Flush) Balochistan, Census-2023

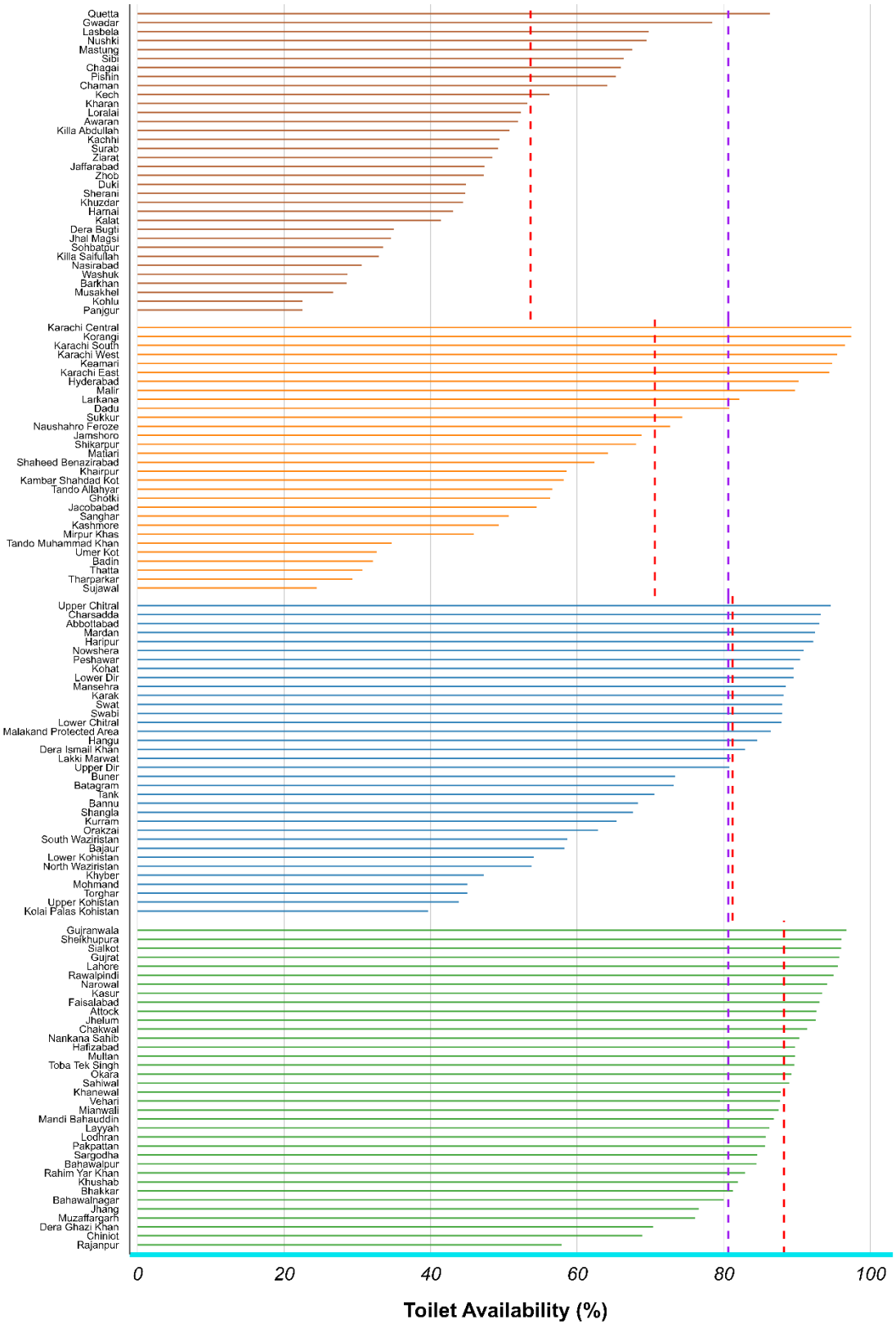


By analyzing the low ranked districts in terms of toilet rates, the Lowest toilet rate has been observed in District Panjgur & District Kohlu (22.5%) while District Musakhel (26.7%) have slight better rates than Kohlu but still lies at lowest ranked districts in terms of availability of Flush Toilet. The district with highest toilet rate is Quetta (86.3%) followed by Gwadar (78.5%).

The district wise toilet availability (flush toilet) comparison is also illustrated in the Figure 4.13, where Balochistan province bars are shows in brown colour. Districts bars shown in descending order with respect to percentages of toilet availability.

Balochistan reports the lowest access overall, highlighting severe sanitation challenges. Only district Quetta surpass the national average, and 9 are above the provincial average of 53.52%. Districts such as Panjgur, Kohlu , Musakhel, Barkhan, and Washuk are among the most affected, with alarmingly low availability of flush toilet facilities.

Figure 4.13: District Wise Comparison of Toilet Availability (Flush Toilet)



(The purple and red vertical dashed lines represent national and provincial average inside toilet availability rates, respectively.)

ANNEXURES

بصیغہ راز

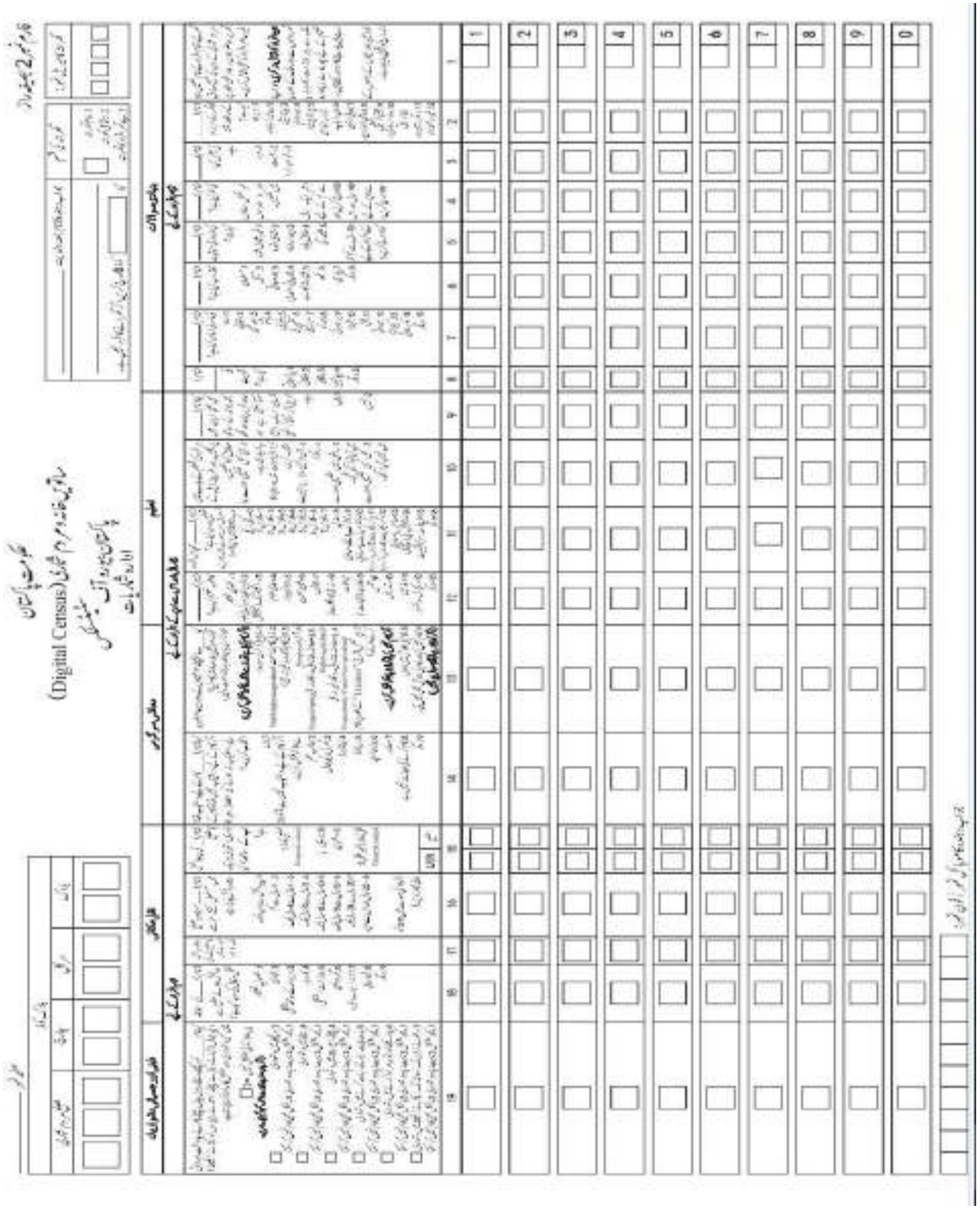
ساتویں خانہ و مردم شماری

فہرست خانہ جات (فارم-1)

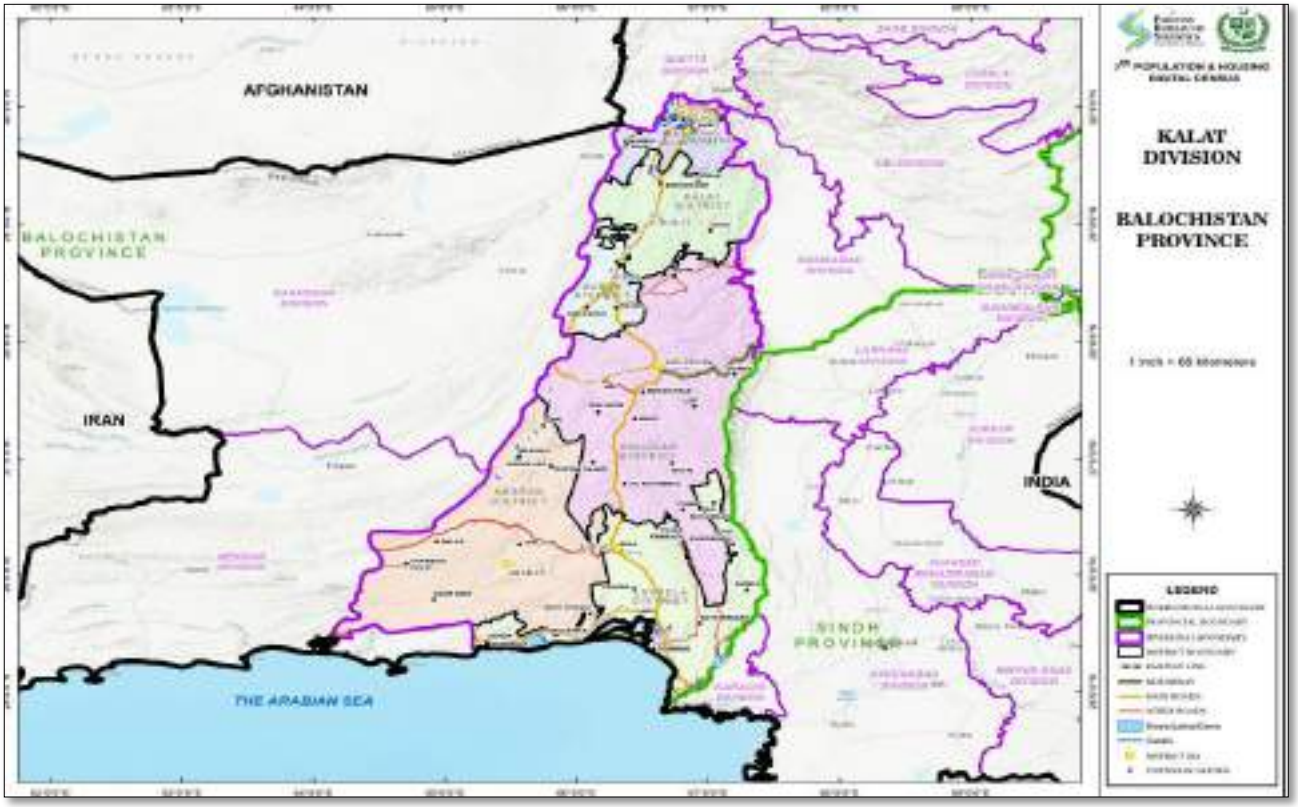
موضع / دیہہ / شہری علاقے کا نام ..... محلہ / گاؤں / گلی / علاقے کا نام ..... بلاک کوڈ:

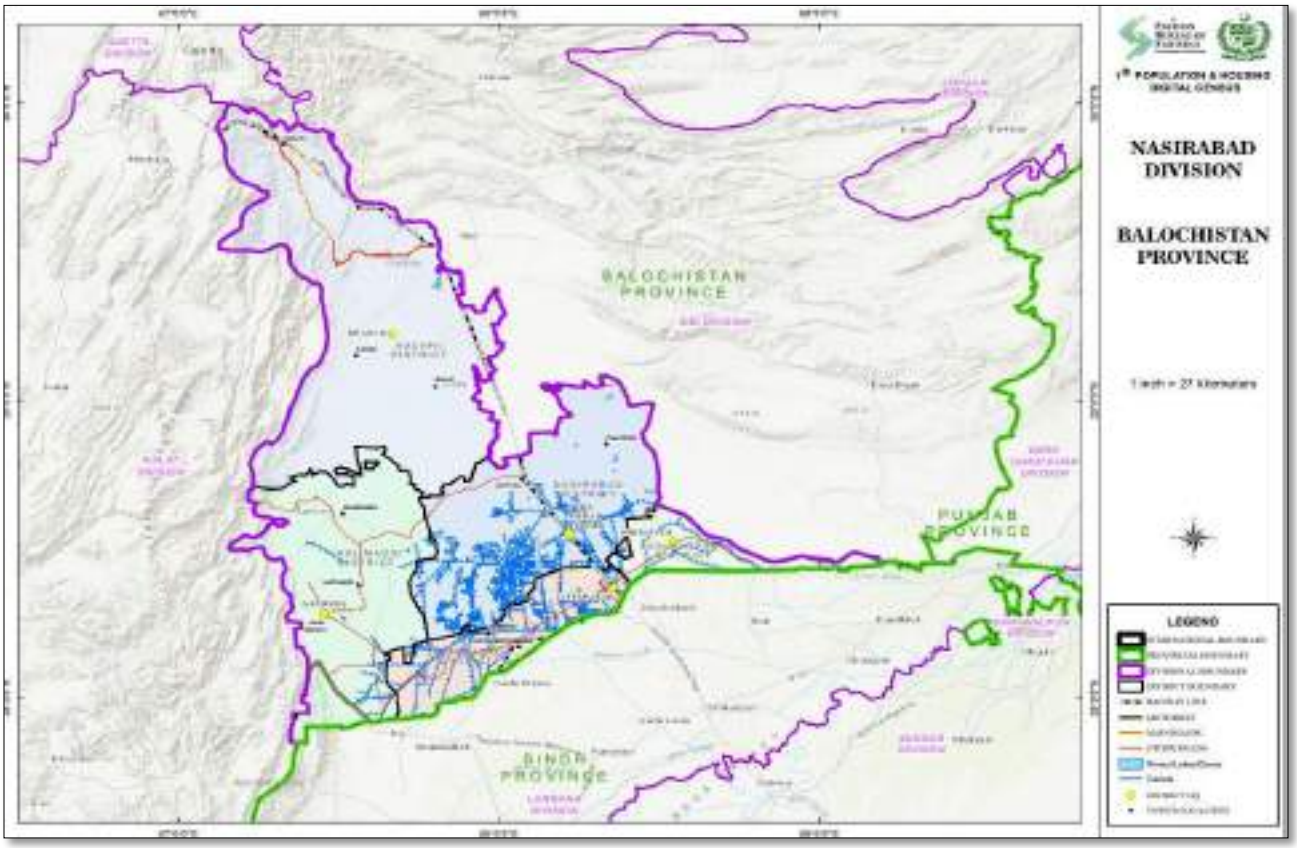
۱۔ خانہ کی نوعیت	۲۔ خانہ کا سلسلہ وار نمبر	۳۔ خانہ کے رہنے والوں کی نوعیت	۴۔ کمرہ کا سلسلہ وار نمبر	۵۔ سہولت دینے کا سلسلہ وار نمبر	۶۔ کمرہ کا سلسلہ وار نمبر	۷۔ قریب ترین سہولت کی قسم	۸۔ سہولت کی مرکزی
۱۔ رہائشی ۲۔ کاروباری (دکان، آفس) ۳۔ صنعتی (کارخانہ، ورکشاپ) ۴۔ سماجی ۵۔ کاروباری (سماجی) ۶۔ بند، خالی، کھنڈر، زیر تعمیر ۷۔ دیگر	خانہ کا سلسلہ وار نمبر نئی عمارت میں شروع کریں۔ اگر کوئی گلی، محلہ یا علاقہ نہ ہو تو گاؤں، قصبہ، شہر یا دیہہ کے لیے الگ سے سلسلہ وار نمبر دیں۔	خانہ کے رہنے والوں کی نوعیت (پیشہ) کا اندراج کریں۔ مثلاً: کاشتکار، مزدور، دکاندار، ڈاکٹر، استاد، طالب علم، بے روزگار، ریٹائرڈ وغیرہ۔ (صرف رہائشی خانہ کے لیے لاگو ہوگا)	پہلے کمرہ کا سلسلہ وار نمبر لکھیں جو عمارت میں موجود ہے۔	سہولت کا سلسلہ وار نمبر لکھیں جو عمارت میں موجود ہے۔	کمرہ کا سلسلہ وار نمبر لکھیں جو عمارت میں موجود ہے۔	قریب ترین سہولت کی قسم لکھیں جو عمارت سے باہر ہو۔	سہولت کی مرکزی

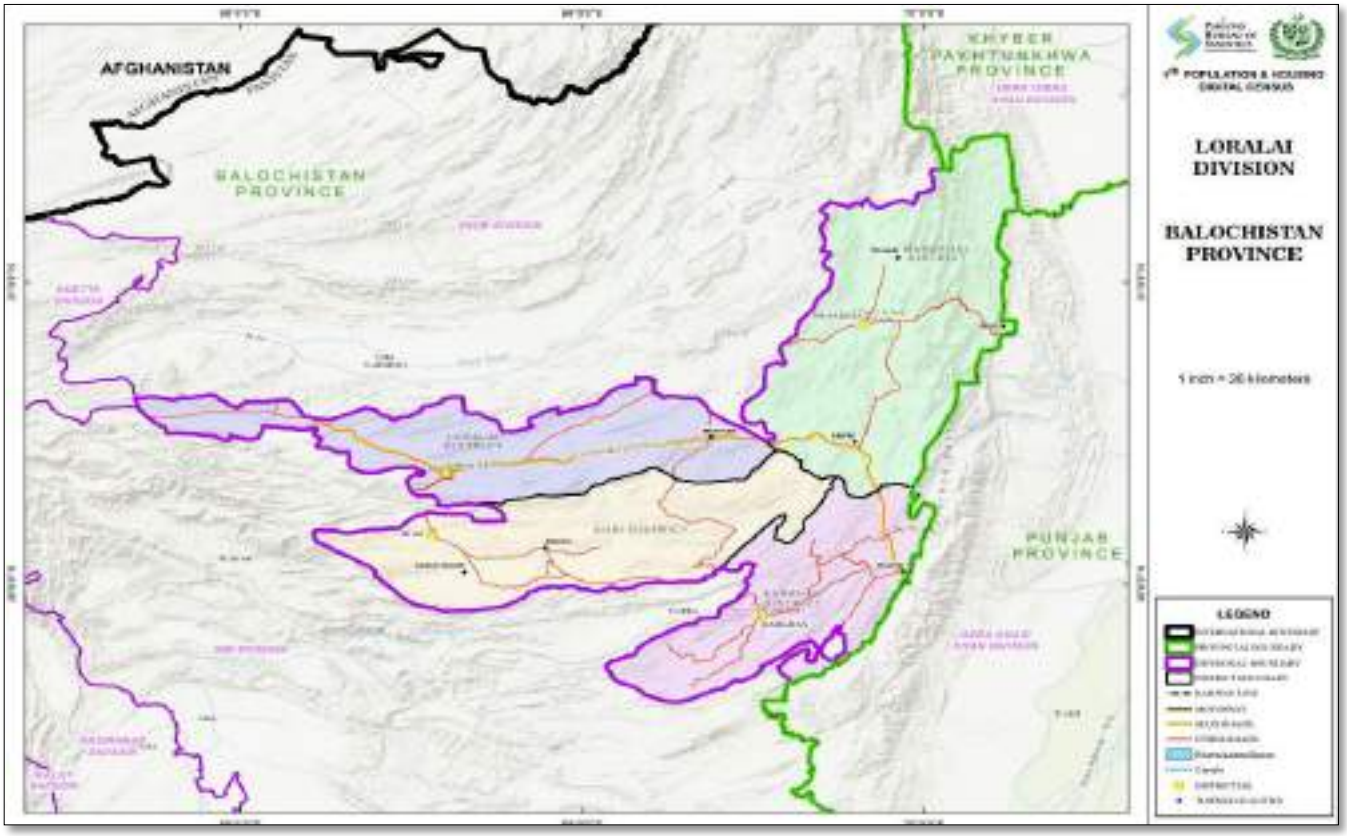
Annexure-B Census Form (Population)

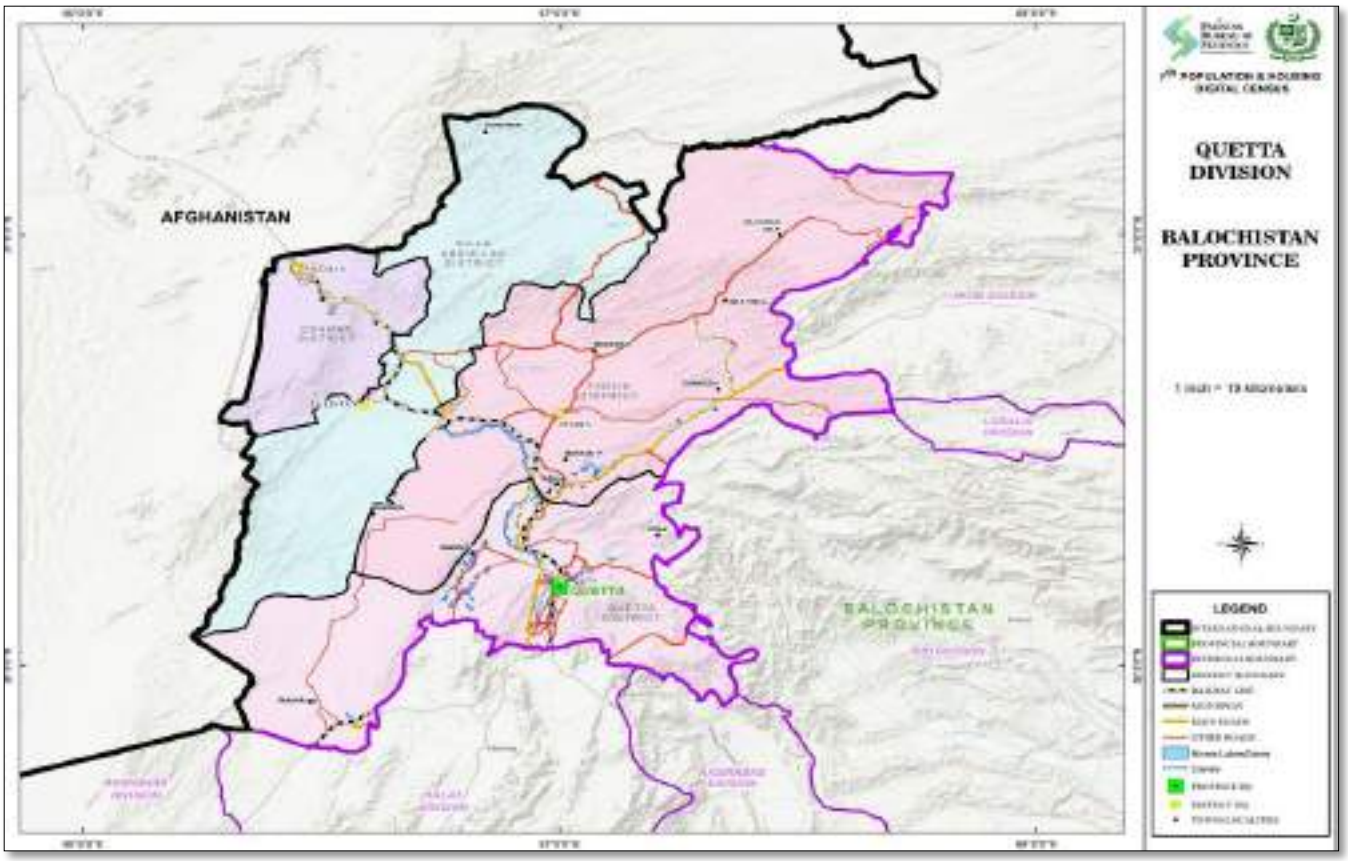


Annexure-D District and Sub-Division Maps

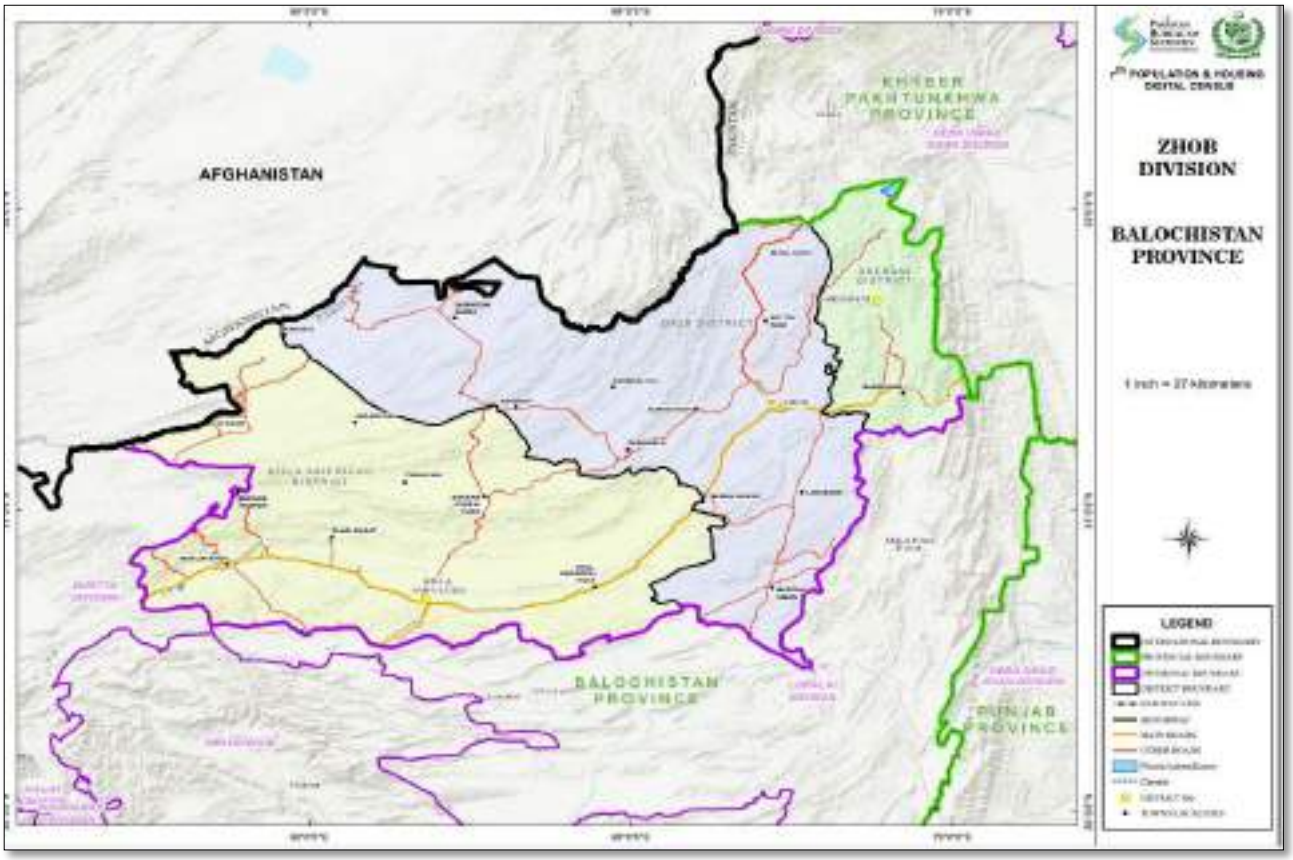


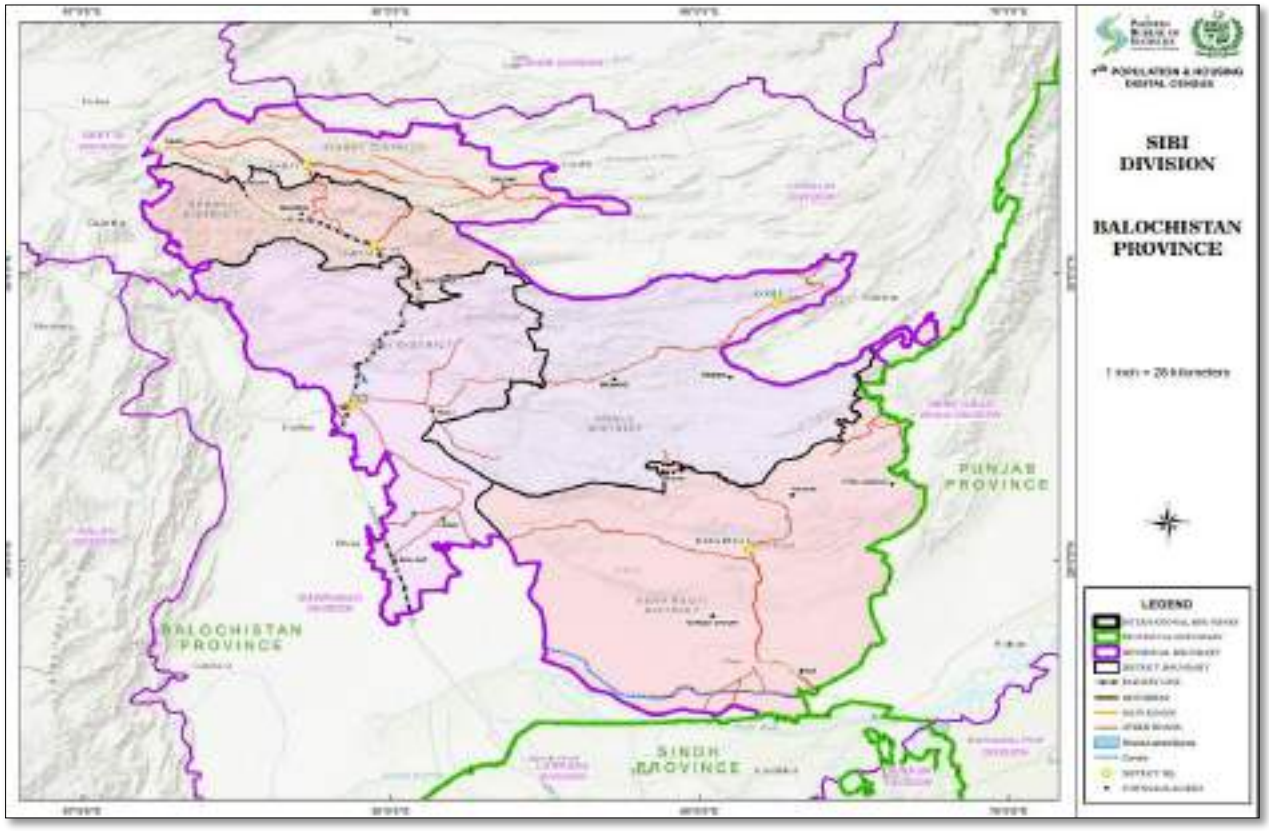



AFGHANISTAN
KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA PROVINCE
BALOCHISTAN PROVINCE
PUNJAB PROVINCE
LORALAI DIVISION
BALOCHISTAN PROVINCE
LEGEND


AFGHANISTAN
QUETTA
BALOCHISTAN PROVINCE
QUETTA DIVISION
BALOCHISTAN PROVINCE
LEGEND


BALOCHISTAN PROVINCE
IRAN
THE ARABIAN SEA
POPULATION & HOUSING DIGITAL CENSUS
MEKRAN DIVISION
BALOCHISTAN PROVINCE
1 inch = 50 kilometers
LEGEND


KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA PROVINCE
AFGHANISTAN
BALOCHISTAN PROVINCE
PUNJAB PROVINCE
POPULATION & HOUSING DIGITAL CENSUS
ZHOB DIVISION
BALOCHISTAN PROVINCE
1 inch = 27 kilometers
LEGEND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BALOCHISTAN
PROVINCE
BALOCHISTAN
PROVINCE
LEGEND

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