

PAKISTANIS: WHO ARE WE?

BASICS Notes Number 1

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About the PIDE-BASICS Survey

Beliefs, Attitudes, Social capital, Institutions, Community and Self

Why can some populations do better with a given set of resources than others? Why some populations are more receptive to change and able to adapt and innovate while others do not? What are the kinds of influences that trigger and motivate a population to set and then achieve a particular goal? These are some of the questions that have intrigued social scientists, theorists, and policymakers alike. In the quest to find answers to such questions, notions like physical and human capital were found to be lacking. There was something more to it than hard and rather easily measurable factors. Enter social¹ and cultural capital!

Understanding social and cultural capitals improve our comprehension of processes by expanding the range of indicators used to analyze outcomes not adequately explained by socio-economic and demographic indicators. Social capital allows citizens to resolve their conflicts efficiently, people trust each other, and economies and individuals prosper. Likewise cultural factors, norms, attitudes, beliefs and how they mould individuals play an important and subtle role in how societies and communities function and grow.

While several large, nationwide surveys² are available to measure the socio-economic and demographic indicators of Pakistan, not much is known about the bonds and trust shared by the citizens of the country at the individual, family, societal, religious and institutional levels. Some of the issues linked to social capital, attitudes and values can be found in the World Value Survey (WVS), but it relies on a smallish sample and does not go deep into the topics. We also do not find regional and provincial differences in the WVS. Pakistan is not a homogenous society, and an issue cannot be understood unless we look at the differences that exist among people of different backgrounds.

¹See forthcoming BASICS Notes Number 2 for understanding the much-misunderstood concept of social capital.

²For instance Pakistan Social and Living Measurement Survey (PSLM), Household Integrated Economics Survey (HIES), Labour Force Survey (LFS), Pakistan Demographic Survey (PDS), and Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (MICS) to name just a few.

How do Pakistanis feel towards each other, towards people who are like them, and towards people who are unlike them? Do Pakistanis trust their various institutions? What are their values, beliefs and attitudes? Are they able to achieve their ambitions? Do they feel safe on the streets? What are their views about the governance and political system in the country? What are community life and informal sociability like in Pakistan? What is the state of volunteerism and civic involvement? And most importantly, what do Pakistanis consider as their identity?

To answer these questions and more, the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) conducted a nationwide survey- the **PIDE BASICS Survey**. The survey is the quantitative part of a larger study titled, “**Pakistanis: Who Are We?**”. While the quantitative part would capture and measure the trends in the factors comprising the BASICS, namely *beliefs, attitudes, social capital, institutions, community and self*, its qualitative part would try to understand the why and how underlying these patterns.

What Does the Survey Cover?

The PIDE-BASICS survey covers twelve areas to understand the basics of Pakistanis, namely:

- I. **Personal**, including factors linked to education, employment, language, emotional, mental and physical health, self-image, and identity
- II. **Family**, covering trust within the immediate and extended family, level of communication, and reliance on family in case of financial, health or social need,
- III. **Marriage**, probing about beliefs and attitudes towards the importance of getting married and giving dowry, attitude towards dowry, divorce, polygamy and remarriage
- IV. **Community and Society**, looking into issues like satisfaction regarding the area living in, facilities and provisions accessible for a healthy social life including playgrounds, parks, libraries and community centres, prevalence of crime, involvement in voluntary work, feeling of security and trust in the neighbourhood, membership of social clubs/organisations, involvement in decisions linked to the community, and trust in various social institutions and in people who are different in some way.
- V. **Ambitions and Aspirations**, asking for the biggest influence and ambition in life, reasons for lack of fulfilment of ambitions, and inter-generational mobility.
- VI. **Education and Technology**, questioning the importance of and reason for getting an education, the type of activities and interactions taking place in educational institutions, the role and use of technology, and time spent on social media.
- VII. **Sports and Recreation**, including the type of indoor and outdoor sports played, exercise done, sporting events arranged in the community, source of recreation, and who is part of such activities.
- VIII. **Economics and Employment**, looking into the importance of being employed, preferred types of jobs, reasons for progression, trust in conducting business, and security in financial transactions.
- IX. **Corruption**, probing the prevailing concept of corruption and idea about how corrupt or otherwise people are in different public and social institutions.
- X. **Government and Politics**, covering people’s beliefs and attitudes towards the political setup, processes, elections, government tenures and political parties, trust in politicians and the political system, and preferred political system and party.
- XI. **Religion and Faith**, including factors like religiosity, belief and practice of various religious rituals, acceptance of other religions, source of religious knowledge, and meaning of life.
- XII. **Ethics and Morality**, covering attitudes and beliefs regarding different aspects of morality, and endorsing/not endorsing several acts linked to ethics.

A final section of the survey asks for some background information about the individual like household income, ownership status of the house living in and the number of household members.

The purpose of asking all these questions is to understand how the people of Pakistan interact with each other, their trust in each other and their institutions, and what bonds and binds them. Conflicts arise when social capital is low. Economies suffer when there is a lack of trust. There is resistance to change if society's beliefs and attitudes are contrary to what is being suggested. Community life lacks vigour if there are lack of facilities and opportunities for people to interact in a positive environment. It is premised that it is factors like these that determine how effectively and cohesively a nation, a population, and a community can function.

Sample Characteristics

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PIDE-BASICS is an individual-based Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) survey, conducted on a nationally representative sample drawn by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS). Using the sampling framework of the PBS, the survey covered:

RESPONDENTS:

20,548 individuals aged 15 years and above, with consideration of the age-sex structure.

DISTRICTS:

140 in the four provinces, Gilgit Baltistan (GB), Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), and Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT). The districts

PRIMARY SAMPLING UNITS:

(PSUs) = 685.

REPRESENTATION

Weighted to give national, provincial and regional representation.

Table 1: Districts Covered in the Survey by Province

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	37	Chiniot	73	Jamshoro	109	Killa Abdullah	
1	Abbottabad	38	Dera Ghazi Khan	74	Kambar Shahdad Kot	110	Killa Saifullah
2	Bajaur	39	Faisalabad	75	Karachi Central	111	Kohlu
3	Bannu	40	Gujranwala	76	Karachi East	112	Lasbela
4	Batagram	41	Gujrat	77	Karachi South	113	Loralai
5	Buner	42	Hafizabad	78	Kashmor	114	Mastung
6	Charsadda	43	Jhang	79	Khairpur	115	Musakhel
7	Chitral	44	Jhelum	80	Korangi	116	Nasirabad
8	Dera Ismail Khan	45	Kasur	81	Larkana	117	Nushki
9	Hangu	46	Khanewal	82	Malir	118	Panjgur
10	Haripur	47	Khushab	83	Matiari	119	Pishin
11	Karak	48	Lahore	84	Mirpur Khas	120	Quetta
12	Khyber	49	Layyah	85	Naushahro Feroze	121	Sherani
13	Kohat	50	Lodhran	86	Sanghar	122	Sibi
14	Kohistan	51	Mandi Bahauddin	87	Shaheed Benazirabad	123	Sohbatpur
15	Kurram	52	Mianwali	88	Shikarpur	124	Washuk
16	Lakki Marwat	53	Multan	89	Sujawal	125	Zhob
17	Lower Dir	54	Muzaffargarh	90	Sukkur	126	Ziarat
18	Malakand Protected Area	55	Nankana Sahib	91	Tando Allahyar	GB	
19	Mansehra	56	Narowal	92	Tando Muhammad Khan	127	Hunza
20	Mardan	57	Okara	93	Tharparkar	128	Astore
21	North Waziristan	58	Pakpattan	94	Thatta	129	Ghanche
22	Nowshera	59	Rahim Yar Khan	95	Umer Kot	130	Ghizer
23	Orakzai	60	Rajanpur	Balochistan		131	Gilgit
24	Peshawar	61	Rawalpindi	96	Awaran	132	Skardu
25	Shangla	62	Sahiwal	97	Barkhan	AJK	
26	Swabi	63	Sargodha	98	Chagai	133	Bagh
27	Swat	64	Sheikhupura	99	Dera Bugti	134	Kotli
28	Tank	65	Sialkot	100	Gwadar	135	Mirpur
29	Torghar	66	Toba Tek Singh	101	Harnai	136	Muzafarabad
30	Upper Dir	67	Vehari	102	Jaffarabad	137	Neelum
Punjab		Sindh		103	Jhal Magsi	139	Poonch
31	Attock	68	Badin	104	Kachhi	ICT	
32	Bahawalnagar	69	Dadu	105	Kalat	140	Islamabad
33	Bahawalpur	70	Ghotki	106	Kech		
34	Bhakkar	71	Hyderabad	107	Kharan		
35	Chakwal	72	Jacobabad	108	Khuzdar		

PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIES' DISTRIBUTION

Table 2 presents the weighted sample distribution of the sample by province and territories. With the addition of GB and AJK, the proportions do get a little adjusted for the provinces from what we usually see. The inclusion of erstwhile Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa increases the size of the province in the total population.

Table 2: Distribution of Sample Population by Province/Territory (%)

Province/Territory	Proportion
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	16.7
Punjab	51.6
Sindh	22.4
Balochistan	5.8
GB	0.7
AJK	1.9
ICT	0.9
<i>Pakistan</i>	100.0

Source: Weighted PIDE-BASICS Survey dataset.

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION

While PIDE advocates for a redefinition of urban-rural in Pakistan, since this survey is based on the PBS sampling framework, we go by their definition, and the weights they assign to the respective PSUs in the sample. Table 3 presents the regional distribution of the sample. The inclusion of erstwhile FATA in KP visibly increases the proportion of the rural population in the province. Likewise, having the predominantly rural regions of GB and AJK in the sample, brings down the proportion of the urban population in the country.

Table 3: Regional Distribution of the Sample (%)

Province/Territory	Urban	Rural	Total
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	16.5	83.5	100.0
Punjab	36.9	63.1	100.0
Sindh	51.9	48.1	100.0
Balochistan	27.6	72.4	100.0
GB	16.5	83.5	100.0
AJK	17.4	82.6	100.0
ICT	50.4	49.6	100.0
Pakistan	35.9	64.1	100.0

Source: Weighted PIDE-BASICS Survey dataset.

AGE-SEX DISTRIBUTION

It is not just the number of people in a population but the age-sex structure that determines what a population needs and can provide. Looking at Table 4, we see a young population in the sample. The median age of the sample was 35 years. It may be mentioned here that it is higher than the national median age because the sample had a population of only those aged 15 years and above.

Table 4: Age-Sex Distribution (%)

	Age Groups					Total
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-59	60 & above	
Males	31.3	22.3	19.7	16.6	10.1	100.0
Females	27.9	23.5	19.7	18.6	10.2	100.0
PAKISTAN	29.6	22.9	19.7	17.6	10.2	100.0

Source: Weighted PIDE-BASICS Survey dataset.

EDUCATIONAL STATUS

Large provincial differences are found in the educational status of the sample population, which become even more pronounced when we look at the trends for the two sexes (see Table 5). Balochistan lags behind all other provinces and territories, for both males and females, having the largest proportion who had never gone to school. The merger of erstwhile FATA depresses the figures for KP, which had better trends in the past.

Table 5: Status of Education by Province and Sex (%)

	Educational Level					Total
	Never been to school	Primary	Secondary	High	> High	
MALE						
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	17.6	8.3	33.8	18.6	21.6	100.0
Punjab	15.9	14.8	41.9	13.7	13.7	100.0
Sindh	30.7	14.7	22.8	14.8	17.0	100.0
Balochistan	40.4	7.6	23.5	12.4	16.1	100.0
GB	11.4	7.9	34.3	18.5	27.9	100.0
AJK	7.0	11.0	47.3	18.6	16.1	100.0
ICT	12.1	12.1	46.8	15.0	13.9	100.0
All males	20.7	13.2	35.3	14.8	16.0	100.0
FEMALE						
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	58.5	9.6	19.3	6.3	6.2	100.0
Punjab	37.4	13.3	24.4	11.1	13.8	100.0
Sindh	56.3	12.4	16.0	8.4	6.9	100.0
Balochistan	67.9	9.4	14.0	3.8	4.8	100.0
GB	28.9	8.7	31.1	11.2	20.2	100.0
AJK	22.2	8.5	35.3	16.3	17.6	100.0
ICT	29.6	8.3	27.4	15.2	19.5	100.0
All females	46.5	12.1	21.4	9.4	10.6	100.0
ALL						
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	38.9	9.0	26.3	12.2	13.6	100.0
Punjab	26.7	14.0	33.1	12.4	13.7	100.0
Sindh	43.5	13.5	19.4	11.6	12.0	100.0
Balochistan	54.2	8.5	18.8	8.1	10.4	100.0
GB	19.9	8.3	32.7	15.0	24.2	100.0
AJK	14.4	9.8	41.4	17.4	16.9	100.0
ICT	21.3	10.1	36.6	15.1	16.9	100.0
Pakistan	33.8	12.6	28.2	12.1	13.3	100.0

Source: Weighted PIDE-BASICS Survey dataset.

LABOUR MARKET STATUS

Table 6 presents the status of the sample population in the labour market by province and sex. Like education, we see provincial and sex differences in the labour market status of the sample population. It is worth mentioning here that those not wanting to work, thus, not part of the labour force, are also presented in Table 6 to have a complete picture of the labour market. The unemployment rates would certainly be much higher if we leave these from the estimation.

Those not wanting to work are the highest in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and lowest in Sindh. Contrary to other trends, males and females in Balochistan appear more willing to be part of the labour force than in most provinces and territories (see Table 6).

Table 6: Status of Employment by Province and Sex (%)

	Employment status					Total
	Employed by someone	Self-employed	Employers	Looking for work	Do not want to work	
	MALE					
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	15.0	39.5	10.7	8.5	26.3	100.0
Punjab	20.9	51.8	4.9	3.6	18.9	100.0
Sindh	24.9	47.3	7.5	4.4	15.9	100.0
Balochistan	13.3	48.6	11.5	7.1	19.5	100.0
GB	29.0	35.6	0.2	5.3	29.9	100.0
AJK	25.1	38.5	0.0	5.6	30.8	100.0
ICT	22.0	44.2	6.4	4.4	23.1	100.0
All males	20.6	48.1	6.7	4.8	19.8	100.0
	FEMALE					
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	1.4	1.2	2.1	0.9	94.4	100.0
Punjab	4.4	5.3	3.6	1.8	84.9	100.0
Sindh	7.4	16.2	1.9	2.4	72.1	100.0
Balochistan	6.9	12.5	1.4	1.4	77.9	100.0
GB	9.7	8.7	0.9	1.9	78.8	100.0
AJK	3.3	9.6	2.7	1.0	83.4	100.0
ICT	8.4	4.4	4.3	1.0	81.9	100.0
All females	4.8	7.5	2.8	1.7	83.1	100.0
	ALL					
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	7.9	19.6	6.2	4.5	61.7	100.0
Punjab	12.6	28.4	4.2	2.7	52.1	100.0
Sindh	16.2	31.7	4.7	3.4	44.0	100.0
Balochistan	10.0	30.5	6.4	4.3	48.8	100.0
GB	19.6	22.5	0.5	3.7	53.6	100.0
AJK	14.4	24.3	1.3	3.4	56.6	100.0
ICT	14.8	23.3	5.3	2.6	54.0	100.0
Pakistan	12.6	27.6	4.7	3.3	51.8	100.0

Source: Weighted PIDE-BASICS Survey dataset.

LANGUAGE

A lot of confusion exists about the language of the people of Pakistan as most surveys ask this question in a very imprecise way, and then use it as a proxy for ethnicity in the country. This is totally misleading. To have a better understanding of the issue, PIDE-BASICS Survey asks three questions in this regard: the mother tongue of the father, the mother tongue of the mother and the language commonly used for informal day-to-day communication. Table 7 presents these results by province.

We see that Urdu is used much more often by people in ICT, AJK and Punjab than what the mother tongues would suggest. Among the four major provincial languages, Punjabi is most frequently switched to Urdu (see Table 7).

Table 7: "Mother Tongue" and Colloquial Language by Province

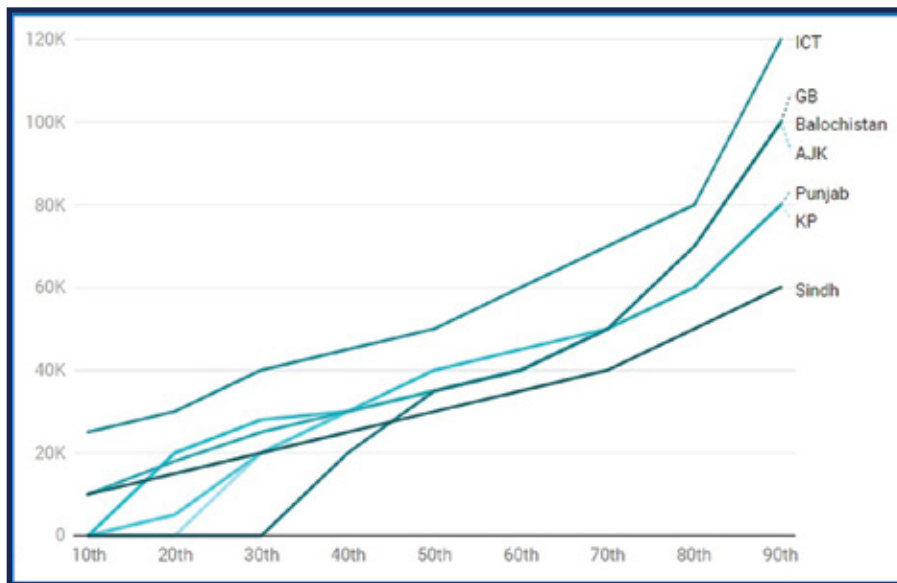
	Languages										Total
	Urdu	Punjabi	Sindhi	Balochi	Pashtu	Potohari	Shina	Kashmiri	Seraiki	Others	
MOTHER TONGUE OF FATHER											
KP	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	80.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	2.9	16.7	100.0
Punjab	2.6	68.1	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.1	26.2	0.9	100.0
Sindh	11.0	3.0	60.4	2.5	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.1	8.4	12.5	100.0
Balochistan	0.5	0.3	6.5	49.2	28.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	13.0	100.0
GB	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.4	0.0	0.1	64.3	100.0
AJK	5.8	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.4	9.7	0.0	9.4	0.0	66.9	100.0
ICT	4.3	70.4	0.1	0.0	5.1	14.8	0.2	1.5	0.4	3.3	100.0
Pakistan	4.0	36.6	14.2	3.7	15.9	0.4	0.3	0.3	16.0	8.6	100.0
MOTHER TONGUE OF MOTHER											
KP	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	79.9	0.0	0.1	0.0	2.9	16.6	100.0
Punjab	2.8	67.8	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.1	26.1	0.9	100.0
Sindh	11.1	3.1	60.4	2.5	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.6	12.4	100.0
Balochistan	0.4	0.4	6.8	48.9	28.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	12.9	100.0
GB	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	35.0	0.0	0.0	64.8	100.0
AJK	5.2	7.6	0.0	0.0	0.3	10.3	0.0	9.3	0.2	67.0	100.0
ICT	4.3	70.0	0.1	0.0	5.2	15.0	0.2	1.3	0.4	3.5	100.0
PAKISTAN	4.1	36.6	14.2	3.7	15.9	0.4	0.3	0.3	16.0	8.5	100.0
COLLOQUIAL											
KP	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	79.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	2.9	16.8	100.0
Punjab	12.2	59.4	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.3	0.7	100.0
Sindh	13.5	2.2	63.2	2.1	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4	10.2	100.0
Balochistan	1.7	0.3	6.7	48.1	28.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	13.1	100.0
GB	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.8	0.1	0.0	63.2	100.0
AJK	31.9	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.1	7.9	0.1	4.9	0.1	49.3	100.0
ICT	32.2	48.3	0.1	0.0	4.2	10.9	0.1	1.1	0.3	2.7	100.0
PAKISTAN	10.4	31.7	14.7	3.5	15.5	0.3	0.3	0.1	15.8	7.6	100.0

Source: Weighted PIDE-BASICS Survey dataset.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

The income of a household decides a lot regarding the kind of life, exposure, access and facilities an individual can have. Figure 1 shows household incomes across the four provinces and the three territories, in deciles. ICT has the highest incomes across deciles, while GB, AJK and Balochistan shows widest disparities.

Figure 1: Household Income in Deciles Across Provinces



Source: Weighted PIDE-BASICS Survey dataset.

Before we go to the findings of the PIDE BASICS Survey, the BASICS Notes: Number 2 would talk about the much confused and misunderstood concept of social capital.

Next
**BASICS Notes
Number 2**

Understanding Social Concept