

Situations like the coronavirus pandemic can quickly become a catalyst for social conflict due to misinformation, rumors and fake news, as we've seen in the past. Every day we continue to see more false information shared throughout communities, confusing citizens and leaving them unsure as to who can answer their questions.

The **Pakistan Coronavirus CivicActs Campaign (CCC)** captures rumors and perceptions among communities to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, humanitarian agencies and citizens. By providing the public with facts, these coronavirus bulletins aim to create a better understanding of needs regarding coronavirus and to debunk rumors before they can do more harm.

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Pakistan

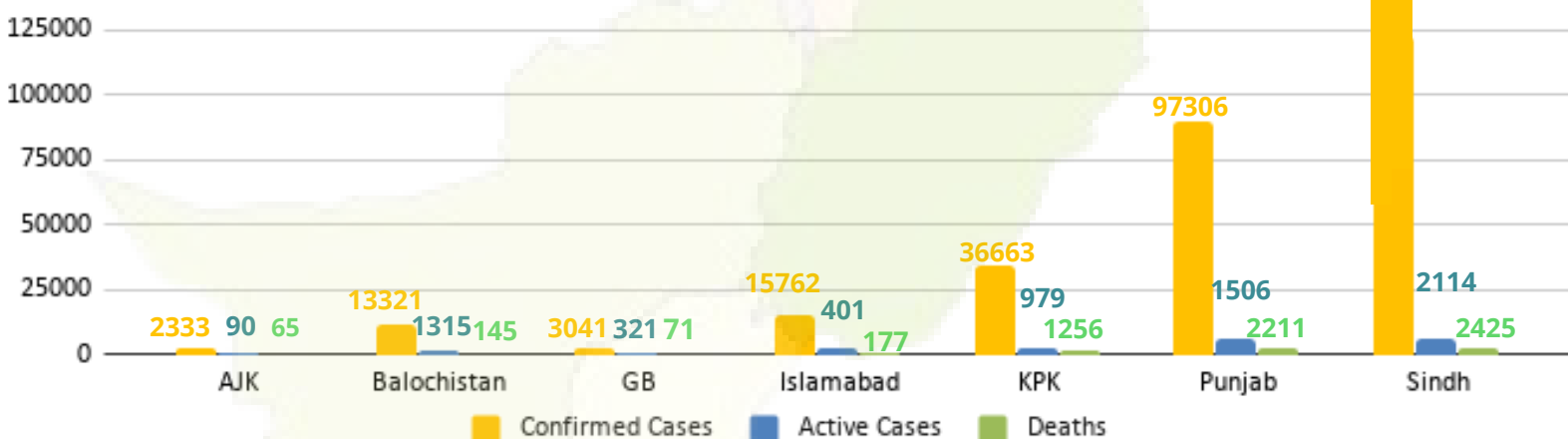
Total Confirmed Cases
299,233

Total Active Cases
6,726

Total Deaths
6,350

Total Recoveries
286,157

COVID-19 Cases status in provinces of Pakistan



To receive our
regular updates
through WhatsApp

1. Add our number **+27 60 080 6146** as a contact.
2. Send the word **"Pakistan"** as a message on WhatsApp.



The Impact of COVID-19 on Girls

While the infection level among children has been low as compared to adults, the pandemic has had a more profound impact on children. COVID-19 and other health crises are affecting the environment in which children live, grow, and develop, especially girls.

Even before the pandemic, girls have been facing gender-specific issues such as discrimination in having their rights upheld and gaining access to certain opportunities, including education.

Now, the pandemic has further accelerated these issues resulting in increased harassment cases, along with instances of girl children being denied access to education and healthcare and not being given a say in their marriages. Furthermore, girl children have become more dependent on male members of their families, are disproportionately experiencing poverty as well as malnutrition due to eating compromised food, bearing increased domestic responsibilities, and being denied reliable information on COVID-19. There is an urgent need for more work to be done on how the pandemic is affecting girls.

Sent Back home

“We were five sisters and came from a lower-class family in a remote area; my parents wanted to get us married before their retirement. Being the eldest, I was married off when I was hardly 16 years old. I was never able to spend time with my parents after that since they didn't have enough money to come visit me nor did my in-laws permit me to visit them saying that it was too far away.

After about two and a half months, the virus outbreak took place and within two weeks my husband lost his job. A few days later he forced me into selling my jewelry and bringing the cash to him. During this period, I contracted COVID-19. When my husband and in-laws came to know that I was COVID-19 positive, they immediately sent me to my parents' house to avoid the expenses and spread of the virus.

I was left in a state of misery of having to console my parents and asking for their help during my quarantine period. My husband never came to visit me saying that he would take me back home if my parents provided him with money. My friend helped me in contacting a counselor who supported me emotionally and empowered me with information about my legal rights.” (Punjab)

Being there for my Sister

“My twin sister has a psychiatric disorder and is quite attached to me because I am the only one that understands her. Before the lockdown, I would take her to visit a doctor from time to time but since the lockdown, there are no doctors providing services for mental disorders. My parents think that her behavior is deliberate and have been looking for a proposal to marry her off saying that she will be better when she gets married...

The Impact of COVID-19 on Girls

I have been trying to sit and talk to my parents about this but instead, they told me to forget her mental disorder as it may affect her chances of getting married. I reached out to a helpline that referred me to a counselor and advocate who guided me on what I can do and also provided tips for handling a psychiatric patient at home. (Nawabshah)

Anger Management

“Ever since my father died, I would spend less time with my family. Being the youngest I would be pushed a lot by my older siblings and my mother would always blame us for being a burden on her. For me, school was an escape from this aggressive home environment. But when the virus came and our schools closed down I was forced to stay home.

Since everyone was home, the fights started to erupt every day; just a small act of moving a glass from one place to another would trigger an argument. Within a few days, I started to develop anger issues which worsened to thoughts of suicide.”

Thirteen-year-old Yumna came to know about Rozan where she contacted a counselor to discuss her anger issues and her conflicts with her mother and siblings during the lockdown. The counselor helped identify her issues, shared tips for anger management, and also shared ways to utilize her time on productive activities.

What recommendations can be given

The government has put in place certain measures to address the impact of COVID -19 but there are some gaps in the government response yet to be addressed such as the pandemic’s impact on children, especially girls. There is an urgent need to develop a better understanding, through research, about the impact of COVID-19 on girl children as they are disproportionately affected.

Digital media can be used to raise awareness about the available support mechanisms such as child support helplines which include Rozan, MoHR, Child Protection, and Welfare Bureau.

Increased online engagement among girl children poses a risk of cyber harassment. There is a need to increase awareness among parents and teachers to strengthen the reporting of and response to these concerns. The government needs to ensure that child protection and child marriage laws are being enforced.

Coronavirus symptoms Include:

- Fever
- Dry Cough
- Shortness of Breath
- Tiredness

Contact your doctor or the coronavirus helpline at



1166



Where can I get tested?

Karachi

Aga Khan University Hospital

Stadium Road, Karachi

Civil Hospital

DOW University Campus
Mission Road, Karachi

Dow Medical Hospital

Ojha Campus
Suparco Road, Karachi

Indus Hospital

Opposite Darussalam Society, Korangi
Crossing, Karachi

Lahore

Punjab AIDS Lab

PACP Complex
6 - Birdwood Road, Lahore

Shaukat Khanum Memorial Hospital

7A Block R-3 M.A. Johar Town, Lahore

Islamabad

National Institute of Health

Park Road
Chak Shahzad, Islamabad

Rawalpindi

Armed Forces Institute of Pathology

Range Road
CMH Complex, Rawalpindi

Multan

Nishtar Hospital

Nishtar Road,
Justice Hamid Colony, Multan

For more cities visit the

[COVID-19 Health Advisory Platform](#)

Coronavirus CivActs Campaign is brought to you by
Accountability Lab Pakistan

