



Country Profile: Pakistan

Pakistan is a parliamentary federal republic in South Asia, with a population of nearly 170 million people. Following successful elections in February 2008, Pakistan has a coalition government led by Prime Minister Yousef Gilani. Pakistan is a developing country, with some tourist facilities in major cities but limited in outlying areas. The infrastructure of areas of Kashmir and the Northwest Frontier Province was devastated as a result of the October 8, 2005 earthquake and is not yet recovered. Read the Department of State Background Notes on Pakistan for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Country Name:	Pakistan
Continent:	Asia
Capital City:	Islamabad
Boundary Countries:	Afghanistan, China, India, Iran, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Dr. Arshad Health Associates (Islamabad)Faisalabad: Shaffee Medical CenterHyderabad: Aga Khan Maternal & Child Care CenterIslamabad: Shifa International Hospitals, Ltd., Islamabad Private Hospital, KRL HospitalKarachi: Imam Clinic, New Clifton Clinic, Karachi Adventist Hospital, Naveed Clinic, Zainab Panjwani Memorial Hospital, Aga Khan University Hospital, Zehra Hospital, Shan Hospital, Medi Complex Hospital, Hafiz Hospital, Cromwell Hospital- Karachi, Baqai University HospitalKarimabad: Aga Khan Hospital for Women-KarimabadLahore: Shaukat Khanum Memorial Hospital, Aadil Hospital, Masood HospitalSialkot: Tariq Clinic, Memorial Christian Hospital.
Main Cities:	Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, Hyderabad, Zhob, Nok Kundi, Gwadar, Bin Qasim, Port Muhammed, Peshawar, Gilgit, Rawalpindi, Multan, Sukkur, Jhang Sadr
Country Size:	803,940 sq km
Population:	164,741,924

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Punjabi 48%, Sindhi 12%, Siraiki (a Punjabi variant) 10%, Pashtu 8%, Urdu (official) 8%, Balochi 3%, Hindko 2%, Brahui 1%, English (official; lingua franca of Pakistani elite and most government ministries), Burushaski and other 8%
Currency:	Pakistani rupee (PKR)
Predominant Religions:	Muslim 97% (Sunni 77%, Shi'a 20%), other (includes Christian and Hindu) 3%
National Holidays:	Republic Day, 23 March (1956)
Economic Status:	Pakistan, an impoverished and underdeveloped country, has suffered from decades of internal political disputes, low levels of foreign investment, and a costly, ongoing confrontation with neighboring India.

Security:	Army (includes National Guard), Navy (includes Marines and Maritime Security Agency), Pakistan Air Force (Pakistan Fiza'ya)
US Presence:	<p><u>U.S. Embassy in Islamabad</u> Diplomatic Enclave, Ramna 5 Islamabad, Pakistan Phone: (+92) 51-208-0000 / (+92) 051-201-4000</p> <p><u>U.S. Consulate General Karachi</u> Plot 3, 4, 5, New TPX Area Mai Kolachi Road, Karachi Phone: (+92-21) 3527-5000</p> <p><u>U.S. Consulate General Lahore</u> 50, Shahrah-e-Abdul Hameed Bin Badees, (Old Empress Road) near Shimla Hill, Lahore, Pakistan Phone: (92-42) 3603-4000</p> <p><u>U.S. Consulate General Peshawar</u> 11, Hospital Road, Peshawar, Pakistan Phone: Tel: (+92-91) 5268800</p>
Major Airports:	Airports: 146, Airports w/paved runways: 92 Islamabad - Benazir Bhutto International Airport (ISB/OPRN) Islamabad Airport, Pakistan, Civil Aviation Authority, Islamabad, PAKISTANE-mail: infoiia@caapakistan.com.pk Customs, hours: 24 hours

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