

# Pakistan Immigration Detention Data Profile



| Quick Facts                    |               |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Immigration detainees (2019)   | Not Available |
| Detained minors (2017)         | Not Available |
| New asylum applications (2019) | 3,606         |

## NOTES ON USING THIS PROFILE

- Sources for the data provided in this report are available online at: <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/asia-pacific/pakistan>
- "Observation Dates" indicate the timeframe statistical data correspond to or other data were last validated. More than one statistical entry for a year indicates contrasting reports.

## STATISTICS

### Detention, expulsion, and incarceration statistics

|   |               | Observation Date |                                 |               | Observation Date |
|---|---------------|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Total number of immigration detainees by year               | Not Available | 2019             | Total number of detained minors | Not Available | 2017             |
|   |               |                  |                                 |               |                  |
| Criminal prison population                                  | 80,169        | 2015             | Percentage of foreign prisoners | 1.2           | 2007             |
|   | 74,944        | 2012             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 75,586        | 2010             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 95,016        | 2007             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 89,370        | 2005             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 90,000        | 2002             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 74,485        | 1999             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 72,700        | 1996             |                                 |               |                  |
| 68,453  | 1993          |                  |                                 |               |                  |
| Prison population rate (per 100,000 of national population) | 43            | 2015             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 41            | 2012             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 43            | 2010             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 58            | 2007             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 57            | 2005             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 60            | 2002             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 54            | 1999             |                                 |               |                  |
|   | 56            | 1996             |                                 |               |                  |
| 58  | 1993          |                  |                                 |               |                  |

### Demographics and immigration-related statistics

|  |             | Observation Date |   |           | Observation Date |
|--|-------------|------------------|---|-----------|------------------|
| Population   | 220,900,000 | 2020             | International migrants                  | 3,629,000 | 2015             |
|  | 188,925,000 | 2015             |   |           |                  |
| International migrants as a percentage of the population | 1.9         | 2015             | Refugees                                | 1,419,596 | 2019             |
|  |             |                  |   | 1,404,019 | 2018             |
|  |             |                  |   | 1,393,143 | 2017             |
|  |             |                  |   | 1,352,551 | 2016             |
|  |             |                  |   | 1,561,162 | 2015             |
|  |             |                  |   | 1,505,525 | 2014             |
| Ratio of refugees per 1000 inhabitants                   | 7.01        | 2016             | Total number of new asylum applications | 3,606     | 2019             |
|  | 8.14        | 2014             |   | 6,302     | 2016             |
|  |             |                  |   | 5,818     | 2014             |
| Refugee recognition rate                                 | 37          | 2014             |   |           |                  |

## DOMESTIC LAW

### LEGAL TRADITION

| Legal tradition | Name       | Observation Date |
|-----------------|------------|------------------|
|                 | Muslim law | 2017             |
|                 | Common law | 2017             |

### COVID-19 UPDATES

| Latest Update | Update Status   | Observation Date |
|---------------|---|------------------|
|               | <p>There are reports indicating that Pakistani authorities have taken some steps to mitigate the impact of the virus on the country's prison population, which includes non-citizen detainees imprisoned under the 1946 Foreigners Act. The government has suspended visits to penitentiaries and court hearings. On 16 March, the Sindh provincial government began screening inmates and prison staff for Covid-19, while the Punjab government announced that it was creating isolation centres for prisoners. However, critical concerns remain and there is increasing pressure to implement additional measures as the crisis becomes more acute. On 19 March, Human Rights Watch amplified calls to protect prisoners, urging the country's authorities to take urgent steps to ensure that prisoners and detainees have access to adequate medical care and protective measures against Covid-19. Amnesty International and Justice Project Pakistan also urged authorities to take measures to protect prisoners. The Justice Project Pakistan urged the government to "devise a coherent approach to protecting its prison population, currently at over 77,000 individuals. Should the government fail to act now, Pakistani prisons and detention centres will become epicentres for the transmission of Covid-19." On 24 March 2020, the first case of Covid-19 within a prison was confirmed. On the same day, the Islamabad High Court ordered the release of hundreds of prisoners involved in petty crimes on bail, in a bid to reduce the hazards of the Covid-19 outbreak in jails. Since then, several provincial governments have ordered the release of prisoners: on 28 March, the Punjab government's Home Department announced that it would be releasing 20,000 prisoners out of 46,000 from the 41 jails across the province (and bail applications have been made for prisoners who committed petty crimes and for those over the age of 60); and on 30 March, the Sindh government approved the temporary release for three months of around 4,000 prisoners. (Government officials hinted that drug smugglers and those convicted of terrorism may not be released. Prisoners convicted of "minor" crimes would be eligible for temporary release. It was reported that there were around 16,024 prisoners for 13,538 places in all prisons across the Sindh). The Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa also announced that they would release prisoners 60 days early.</p> | 2020             |

## INTERNATIONAL LAW

### Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

| International treaties                                   | Name  | Ratification Year |
|--|---|-------------------|
|  | CRPD, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities                                   | 2011              |
|  | ICCPR, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights                                   | 2010              |
|  | CAT, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment | 2010              |
|  | ICESCR, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights                        | 2008              |
|  | CEDAW, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women             | 1996              |
|  | CRC, Convention on the Rights of the Child  | 1990              |
|  | VCCR, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations   | 1969              |
|  | ICERD, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination      | 1966              |
| <b>Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified</b> | 8/19  |                   |

| Relevant international treaties and date of ratification     |                      |               |                  |
|--|----------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Ratio of complaints procedures accepted                      | Number               |               | Observation Date |
|  | 0/7                  |               | 2017             |
| Bilateral/Multilateral agreements linked to readmissions     |                      |               |                  |
| Bilateral/multilateral agreements linked to readmission      | Name                 | Year in Force | Observation Date |
|  | EU                   | 2010          | 2017             |
| Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms       |                      |               |                  |
| Relevant recommendations of the UN Universal Periodic Review | Recomendation Issued | Year Issued   | Observation Date |
|  | No                   | 2008          | 2017             |
|  | No                   | 2012          | 2017             |

## INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS

| Institutions responsible for immigration detention |        |          |                   |                  |
|--|--------|----------|-------------------|------------------|
| Custodial authority                                | Agency | Ministry | Ministry Typology | Observation Date |
|  |        |          |                   |                  |

More information about immigration detention in Pakistan is available at the website of the Global Detention Project ([www.globaldetentionproject.org](http://www.globaldetentionproject.org))