

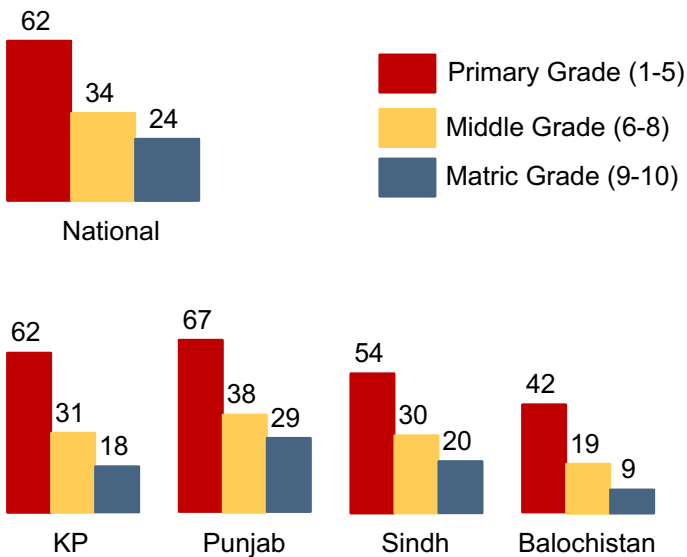
EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN

The demographic transition in Pakistan has resulted in a youth population (ages 15-29) of 29%, considered a demographic dividend for the next 25 years, assuming that a skilled, educated young labour force is in place to drive economic growth and progress.¹ However this requires forward looking policies for education, public health, promotion of labour market flexibility and incentivizing investment and savings if the specter of unemployment and dysfunctional education, health and old age security systems is to be avoided.²

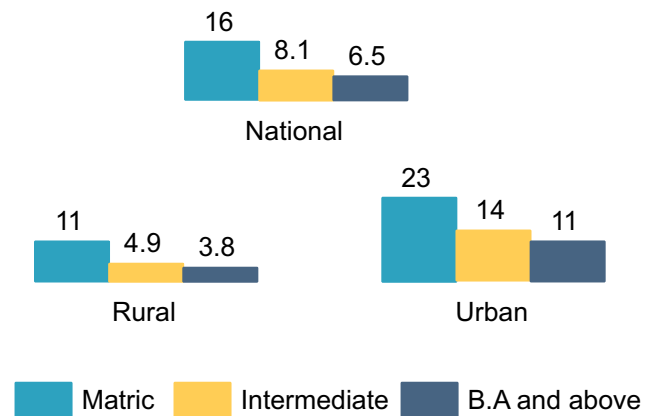
Levers of change for youth empowerment³ (1) quality education. (2) gainful employment (3) meaningful engagement and eliminating violence against women. For young women, the opportunity to live in an environment free of the fear of gender based violence is a key lever of change-supported by families, especially men, and by the state, young women can go about their pursuit of education and employment, participate in the public sphere and political arena as responsible full citizens. Women have the capacities to change not only their own socio-economic status but also of their local communities.

EDUCATION⁴

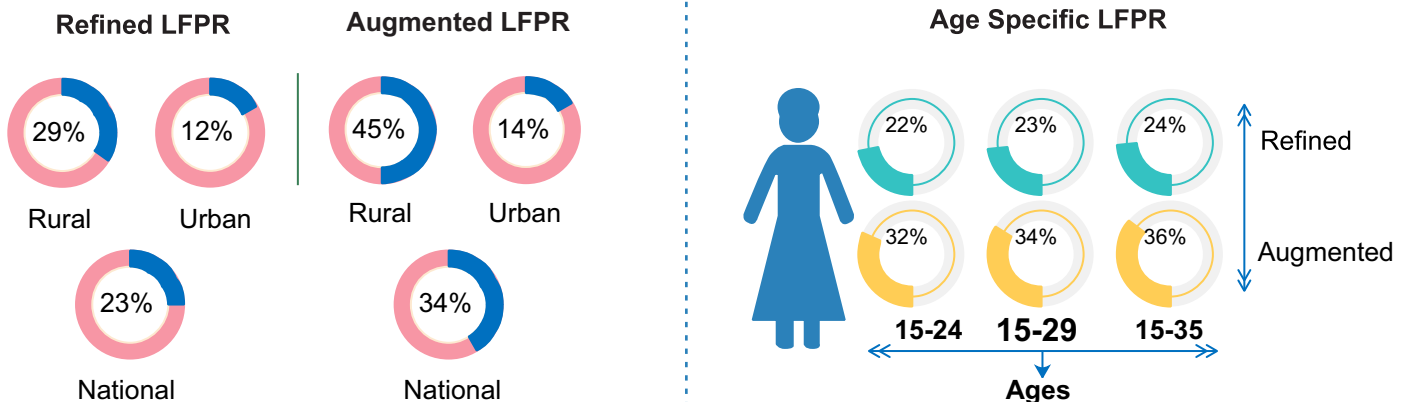
NET ENROLMENT RATE % OF GIRLS



% of Young Women (ages 15-29) by Education Level



LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE (LFPR) OF YOUNG WOMEN (AGES 15-29)⁵



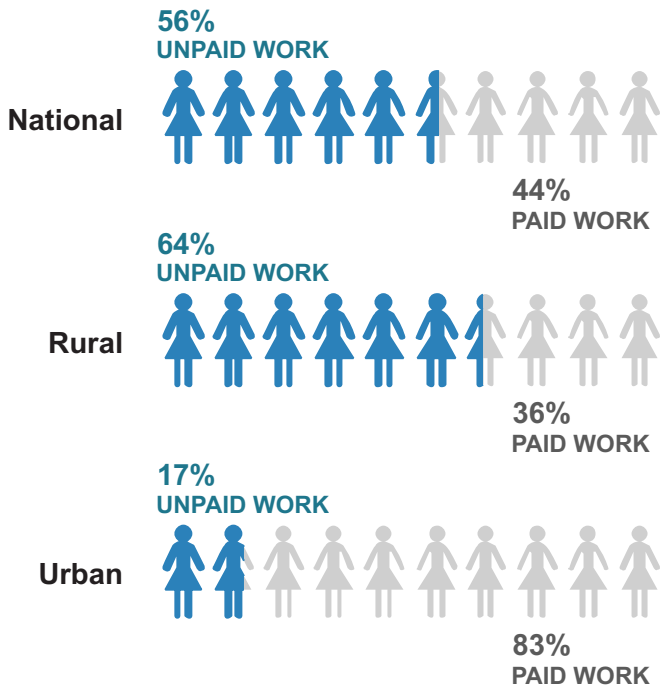
The augmented labour includes the additional probing question apart from standard economic approach such as has performed any of the following tasks in last week:

Agricultural operations, Processing food, Livestock operations, Poultry raising, Construction work, Collection of firewood or cotton sticks, and Bringing water from outside to the house, taking food from house to farm.

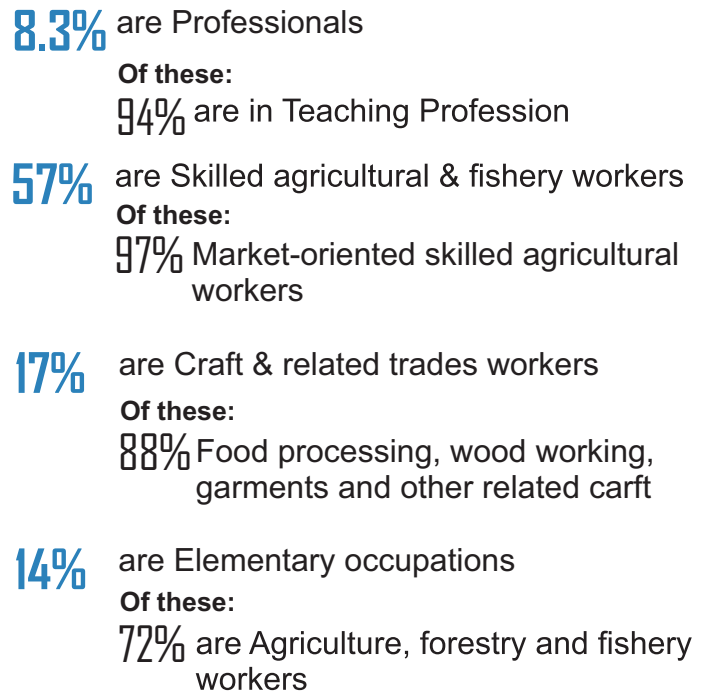
1 United Nation Development Program, 2017. Pakistan National Human Development Report Unleashing the Potential of a Young Pakistan
 2 Nayab, D., 2008. Demographic Dividend or Demographic Threat in Pakistan. Pakistan Development Review, 47(1), pp. 1-26.
 3 United Nation Development Program, 2017. Pakistan National Human Development Report Unleashing the Potential of a Young Pakistan
 4 LFS 2014-15
 5Ibid

EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN

UNPAID YOUNG WOMEN⁶



EMPLOYED YOUNG WOMEN BY OCCUPATIONS



Recommendations:

- Quality education and forward looking curriculum that builds knowledge and values. Concepts of democracy, political processes, voting rights and obligations should be included in high school and college curriculum.
- Skills development programs specifically tailored to women's needs and requirements can be designed and implemented by the provincial technical education and vocational training authorities.
- Pakistan does not have a comprehensive national policy on youth. Policies and programs should be designed for youth, with a focus on female youth, based on their needs and demands.
- Improved public transportation and city infrastructure development ensuring greater mobility can enhance female participation
- Immediate corrective and legal action to deter acts of violence against women and girls
- Safety in public spaces, educational institutions and work places be ensured.
- Media and awareness campaigns that target men, especially young men to alleviate the burden of discriminatory gender norms that curtail women's ability to be active and effective members of the policy. Public service messaging by the government to discourage violence and to create awareness of laws and penalties for violating the law are needed.
- Obtaining a CNIC should be streamlined so that NADRA automatically notifies youth attaining 18 years, and sets up camps in educational institutions to facilitate women in receiving their CNIC.

This infographic was developed by the Center of Gender and Policy Studies (CGaPS) for Awaz-e-Niswan (AAN - National network of women voters). CGaPS gratefully acknowledges the support of UN Democracy Fund (UNDEF). Please send any comments on the infographic to CGaPS at program.cgaps@gmail.com



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