

# Public Perceptions on Pakistan's Recent Diplomatic & Security Developments



**Data Collection Period**  
**29<sup>th</sup> September — 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025**



# About IPOR

Institute for Public Opinion Research (IPOR) is an independent research institution with ability to gauge public opinion at its best on social issues, democracy and service delivery throughout Pakistan. IPOR is registered under section 32 of companies act, 1984 (XLVII of 1984) with the Security and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP). IPOR's Executive Director is also a member of European Society for Opinion and Market Research (ESOMAR). It is globally recognized mark of excellence within and beyond the industry.



The results in this Report do not represent views held by IPOR. The results only represent public opinion, computed on the basis of views expressed by respondents selected through the procedure outlined in the methodology section of this Report. IPOR cannot be held liable to the users of this data. Any part of this publication can be used or cited with a clear reference to IPOR.



# Survey Methodology

*Period :* 29th September - 20th October, 2025  
*Eligibility :* Age 18+  
*Response Rate :* Approximately 56%  
*Margin of Error :* Not More than  $\pm 3-5\%$  at 95% confidence level at national-level results.  
Sample size = 1632

- The survey was conducted through Computer Assisted Telephonic Interviews (CATI). These interviews were conducted by a team of trained professionals with an attempt to closely match the demographic spread of Pakistan.
- A phone panel comprised of randomly selected 425,820 active mobile phone users was used as sampling frame to draw sample of adult residents of Pakistan. This Phone Panel was made through Face-to-Face data collection across all Provinces of Pakistan
- In the first stage of sampling, Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) were allocated proportionally based on each province's share of the national population. In the second stage, mobile phone numbers were stratified by province. Within each province, respondents were selected using Systematic Sampling with a Random Start (SSRS) to ensure balanced geographic and demographic representation.
- The information in this report has been compiled in accordance with international standards for market and social research methodologies.
- Figures in charts and tables may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding error.

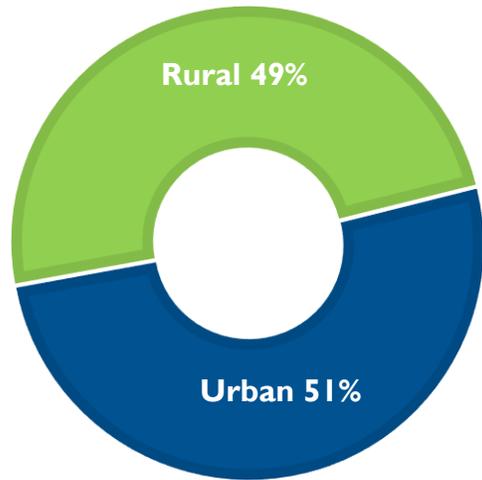
Survey Method:  
Computer Assisted  
Telephonic Interviews  
(CATI)

Sample size= 1632

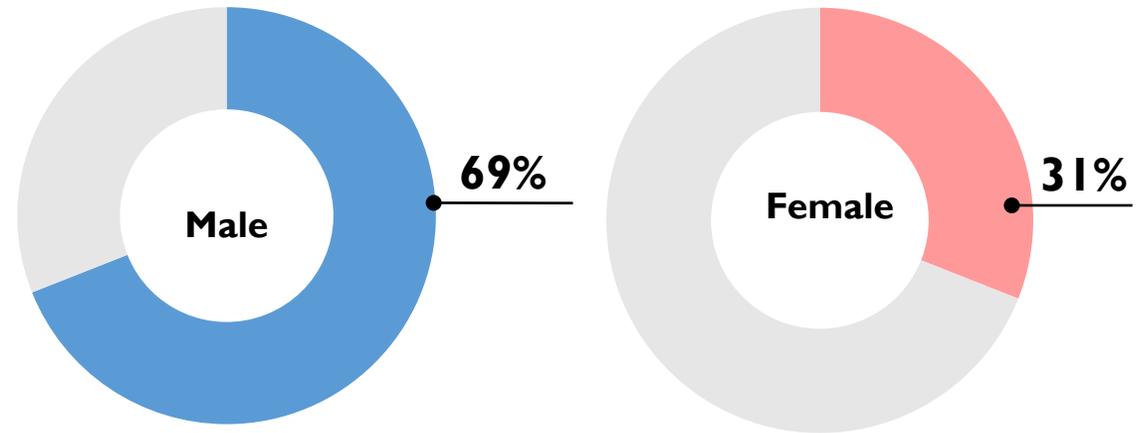


# Survey Demographics

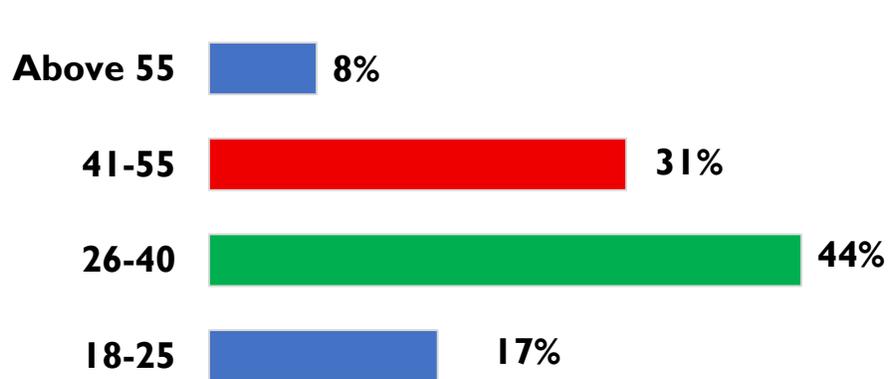
## Urban /Rural



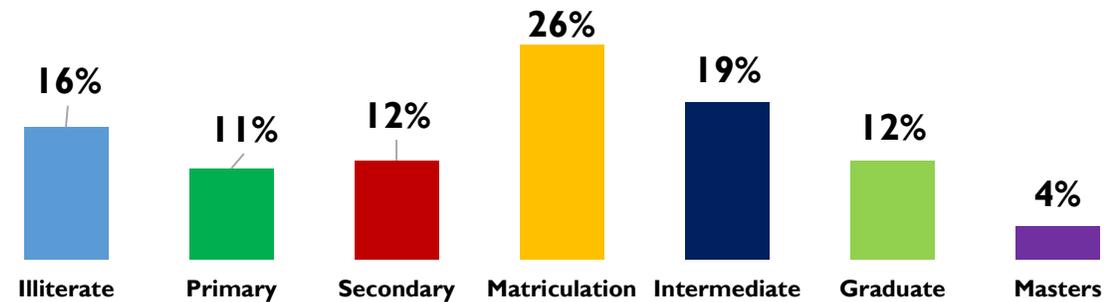
## Gender



## Age Group

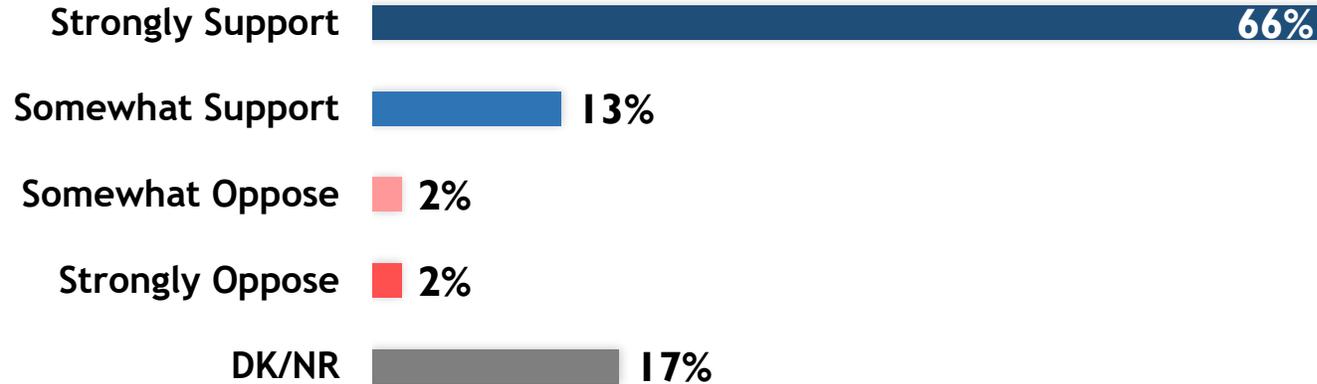


## Education





## Do you support or Oppose the recent defense agreements between Pakistan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ?



### **NATION RALLIES BEHIND PAK–SAUDI DEFENSE PACT: OVERWHELMING PUBLIC SUPPORT REFLECTS CONFIDENCE IN LEADERSHIP AND ARMY**

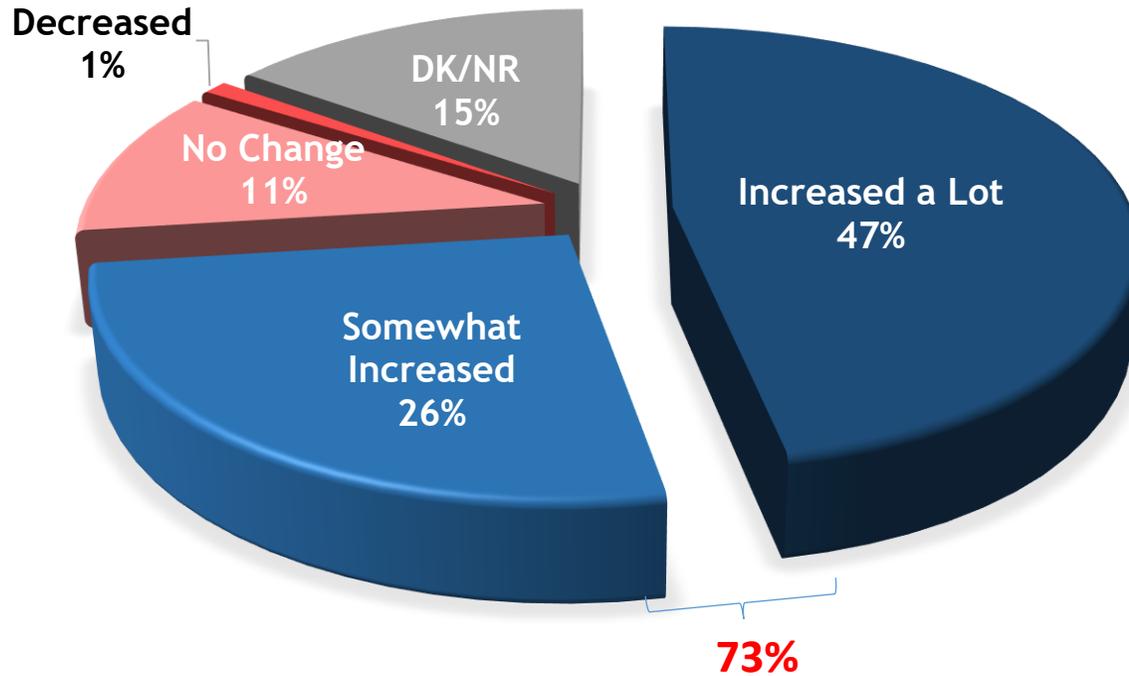
An overwhelming **79% of Pakistanis express support** for the recent **Pakistan–Saudi Arabia defense agreements**, with **two-thirds (66%) strongly backing** the initiative — signaling one of the highest levels of public endorsement for any bilateral accord in recent years.

This groundswell of approval reflects widespread national pride and renewed confidence in Pakistan’s **strategic diplomacy and defense leadership**, which citizens view as strengthening ties with a key Muslim ally and reinforcing Pakistan’s role in regional stability.

The exceptionally low opposition (only 4%) underscores a rare moment of **cross-partisan consensus** and **public unity**, suggesting that the pact has struck a deep emotional and patriotic chord among the populace.

Q. After the recent Pak-Saudi agreement, to what extent has your trust increased in the current government and the Pakistan Army?

**(73% said trust increased or somewhat increased)  
(12% said no change or decreased)**



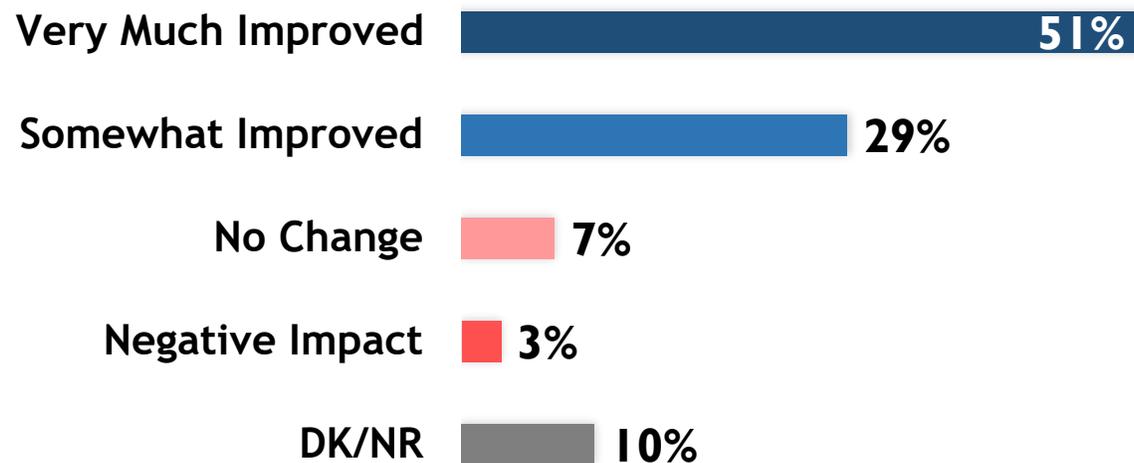
**PUBLIC TRUST IN GOVERNMENT AND ARMY SOARS AFTER HISTORIC PAK–SAUDI DEFENSE PACT:**

The Pak–Saudi Defense Pact has emerged as a turning point in Pakistan’s image and public morale — nearly three-fourths (73%) of citizens (47% + 26%) say their trust in the Pakistan Army and current government has increased, reflecting renewed faith in the country’s leadership and its standing in the Muslim world





**Q. In your opinion, to what extent has Pakistan's global image improved because of Pak-Saudi agreement?**



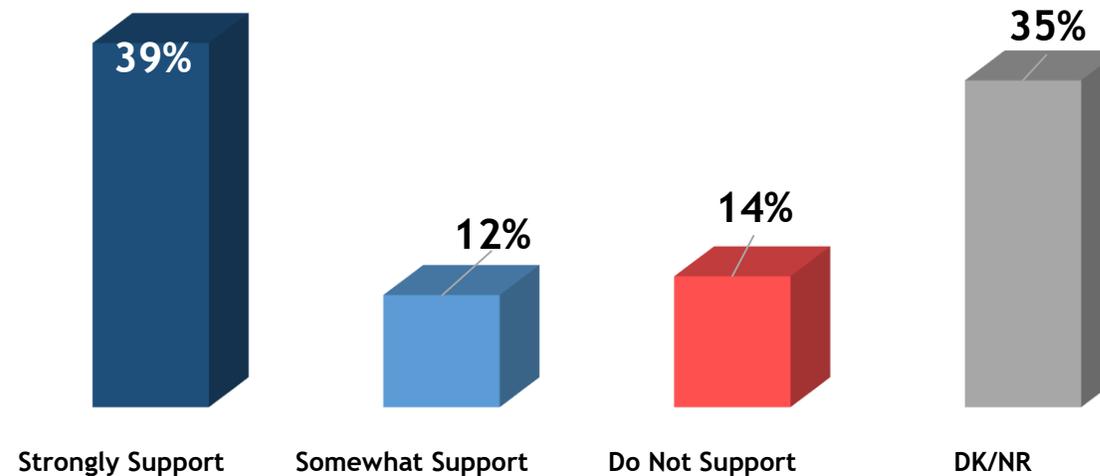
**GLOBAL IMAGE IMPROVED**

A majority of Pakistanis view the Pak–Saudi Defense Pact as a major breakthrough for the country's international reputation. According to the survey, **80% believe Pakistan's global image has improved** — with **51% saying it has improved very much** and **29% somewhat improved**. Only **3%** think it had a negative impact, while **7%** see no change.

These findings clearly indicate that the agreement is widely perceived as a **source of national pride and diplomatic success**, strengthening Pakistan's stature and credibility on the global stage



**Q. Do you support awarding the Prime Minister of Pakistan an honorary title such as “(محافظة الحرمين الشريفين)” in light of the Pakistan-Saudi defense agreement to further highlight Pakistan’s role?**

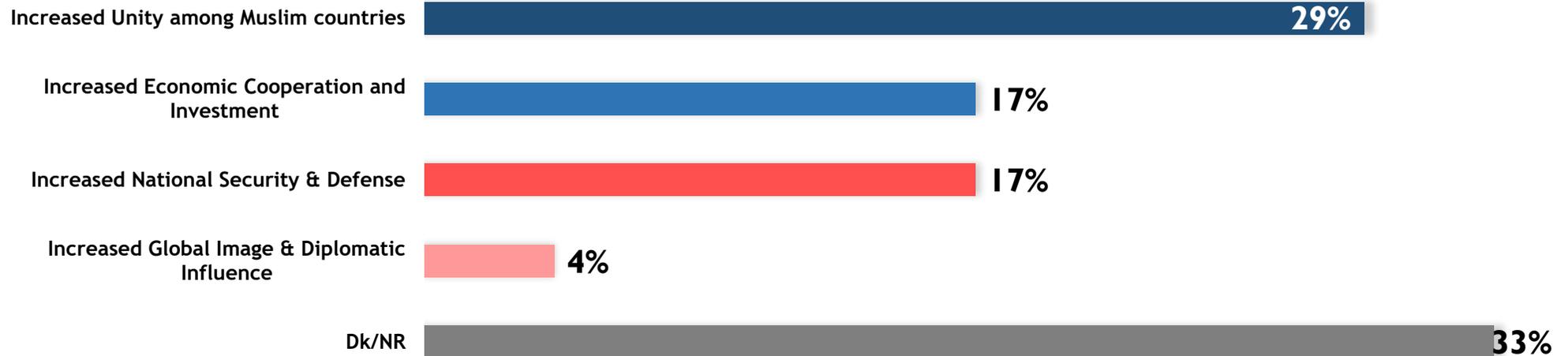


**SYMBOLIC APPROVAL:**

The response to this question reveals a **remarkable level of symbolic approval** for the Prime Minister’s leadership in the Pak–Saudi Defense Pact. A combined **51% of Pakistanis (39% strongly, 12% somewhat)** support the idea of conferring an honorary title such as “*محافظة الحرمين الشريفين*” on the Prime Minister — a sentiment rooted in deep **religious reverence, national pride, and acknowledgment of diplomatic success.**



## Q. In your opinion, what will be the most significant impact of the Pakistan-Saudi Defense Pact on Pakistan's future?

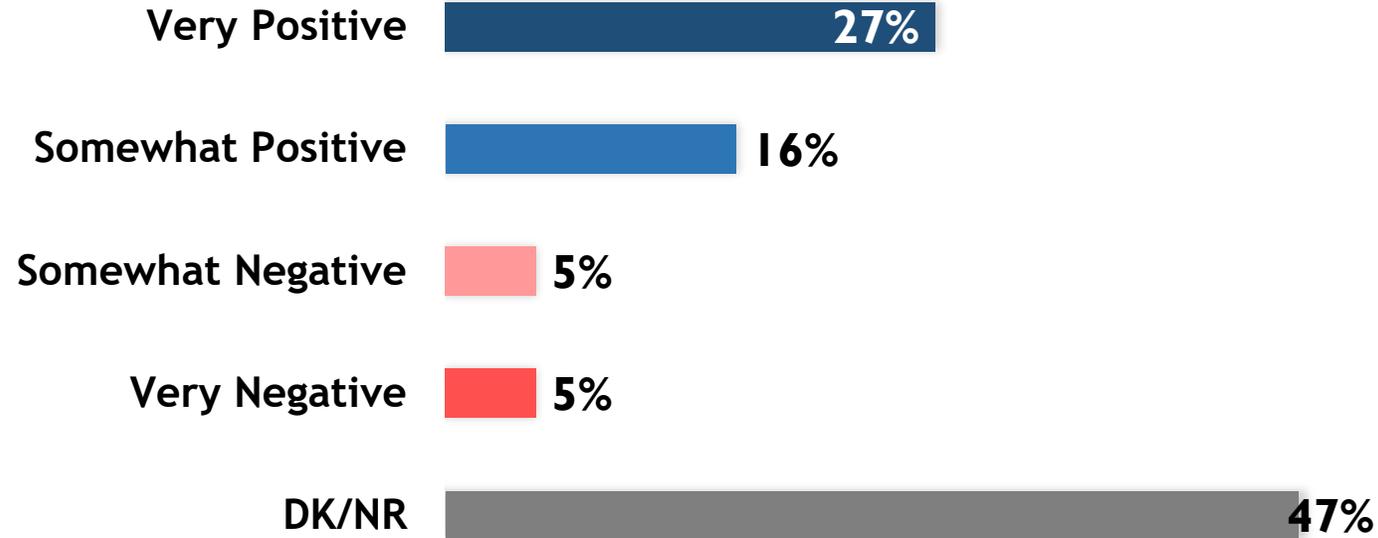


### DEFENSE PACT AS A LANDMARK FOR MUSLIM UNITY AND REGIONAL COOPERATION

The findings show that the **public perceives the Pak–Saudi Defense Pact primarily as a step toward greater unity within the Muslim world (29%)**, reflecting strong emotional and religious resonance with the agreement. Meanwhile, **economic and defense benefits (17% each)** are seen as secondary but still meaningful outcomes, suggesting balanced expectations of both security and prosperity.

The relatively low **4% citing global image** implies that citizens view the pact more as a **Muslim world solidarity and partnership achievement** than a diplomatic showcase. The **high 33% DK/NR** indicates a need for clearer public communication on the pact's long-term strategic and economic benefits.

**Q. How do you view the recent visit of the Prime Minister and the Field Marshal to the United States, their meeting with President Trump, and the speech at the United Nations General Assembly?**

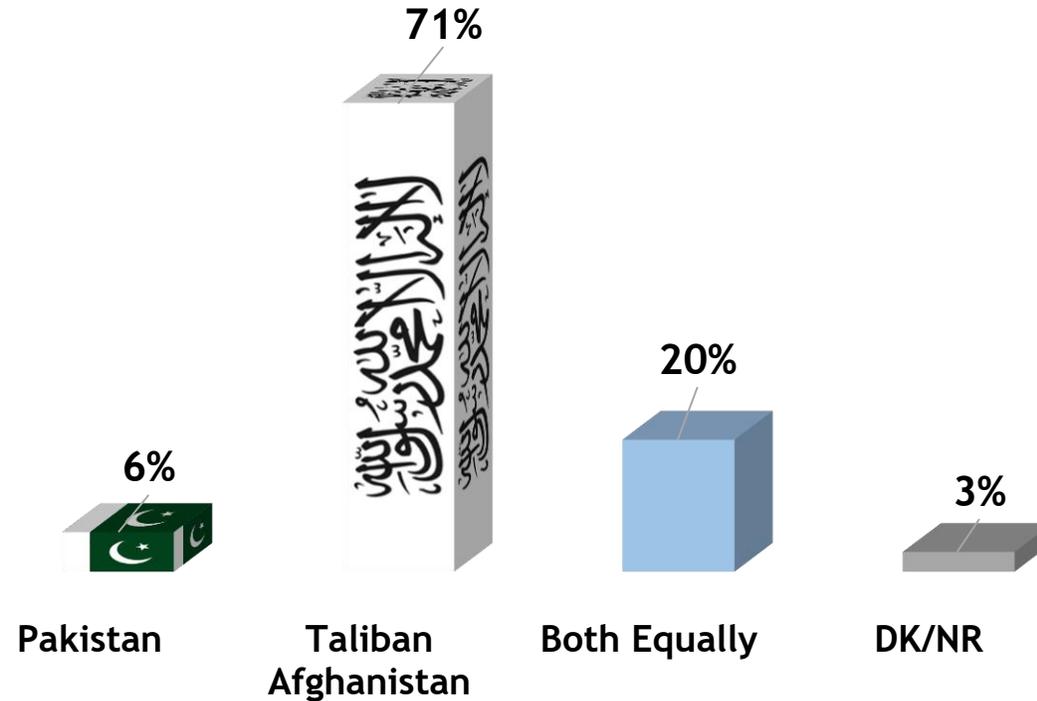


**PUBLIC VIEWS PRIME MINISTER AND FIELD MARSHAL'S U.S. VISIT**

The results indicate a **clearly positive public response** to the Prime Minister and Field Marshal's recent visit to the United States, with **43% viewing it positively (27% very, 16% somewhat)** and only **10% expressing negative opinions**. The high **47% DK/NR** suggests limited awareness or media engagement, yet among those informed, the visit is seen as a **successful diplomatic effort** that enhanced Pakistan's global visibility and leadership image.



## In your view, who is mainly responsible for the recent clashes between Pakistan and Afghanistan?

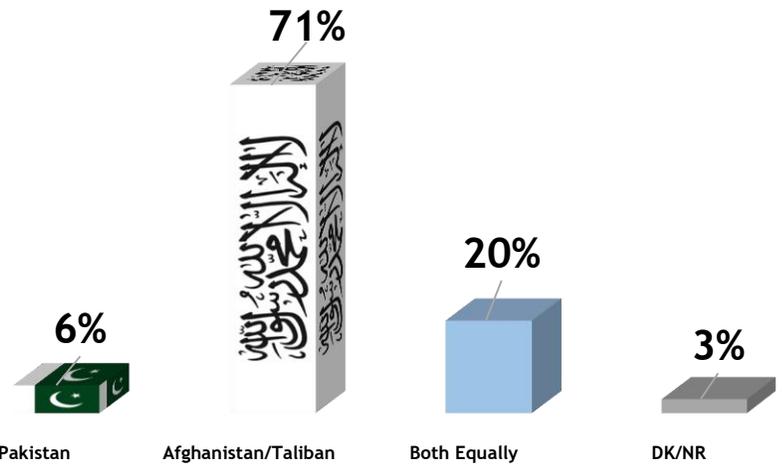


### PAKISTANIS HOLD KABUL RESPONSIBLE: 7 IN 10 BLAME AFGHAN TALIBAN FOR BORDER CLASHES:

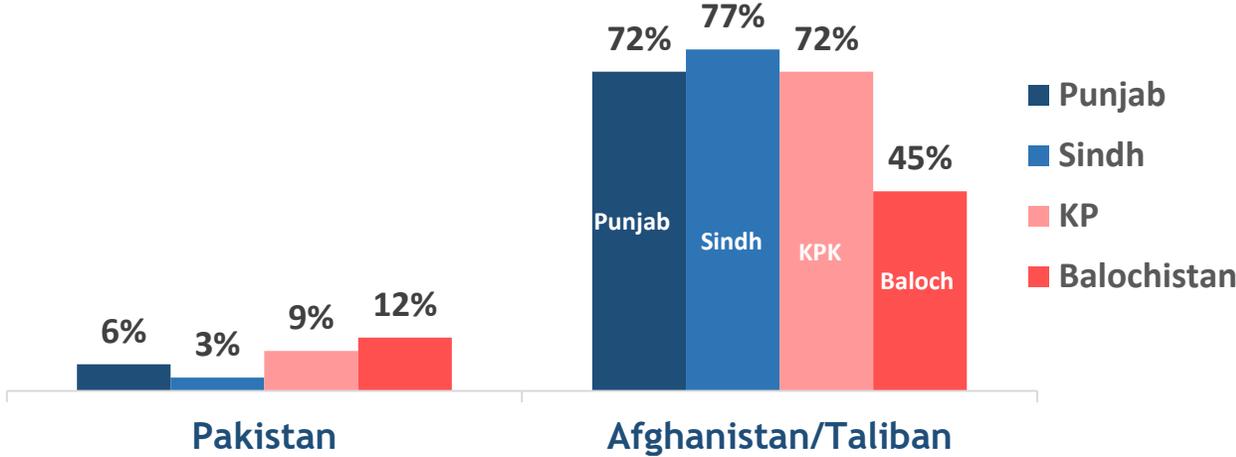
A large majority of Pakistanis squarely blame the **Afghan Taliban** for the recent clashes between Pakistan and Afghanistan, reflecting deep public frustration with Kabul's handling of cross-border tensions. According to the survey, **71%** of respondents consider the Taliban government primarily responsible, while only **6%** hold Pakistan accountable. Another **20%** believe both sides share equal blame, and **3%** did not offer an opinion.

These findings indicate a **strong erosion of public sympathy toward the Taliban regime**, which once enjoyed considerable goodwill among segments of the Pakistani population. The results suggest that most citizens now perceive Afghanistan's leadership as the **instigator of border instability**, aligning with Islamabad's stance that militant sanctuaries inside Afghanistan pose a direct threat to Pakistan's security.

# In your view, who is mainly responsible for the recent clashes between Pakistan and Afghanistan?



## Percentage of Respondents (Province Wise)

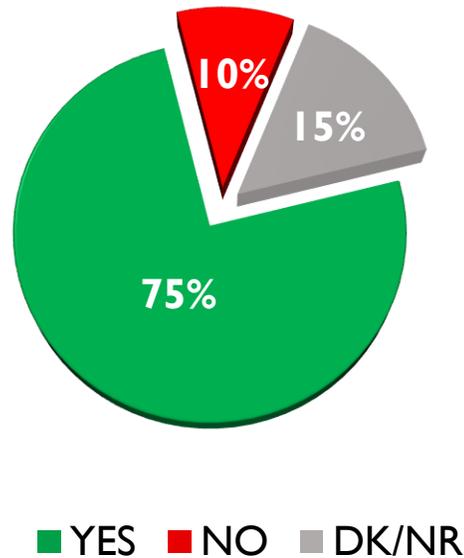


**SINDH AND PUNJAB LEAD IN BLAMING AFGHAN TALIBAN FOR CLASHES; BALOCHISTAN MORE DIVIDED:**  
 Across provinces, the **Afghan Taliban is widely seen as responsible** for the recent Pakistan-Afghanistan clashes, but opinions vary in intensity. The strongest sentiment comes from **Sindh (77%)** and **Punjab (72%)**, where clear majorities blame the Taliban. In **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**, which shares a long border with Afghanistan, **72%** also hold the Taliban responsible — reflecting direct exposure to cross-border tensions.

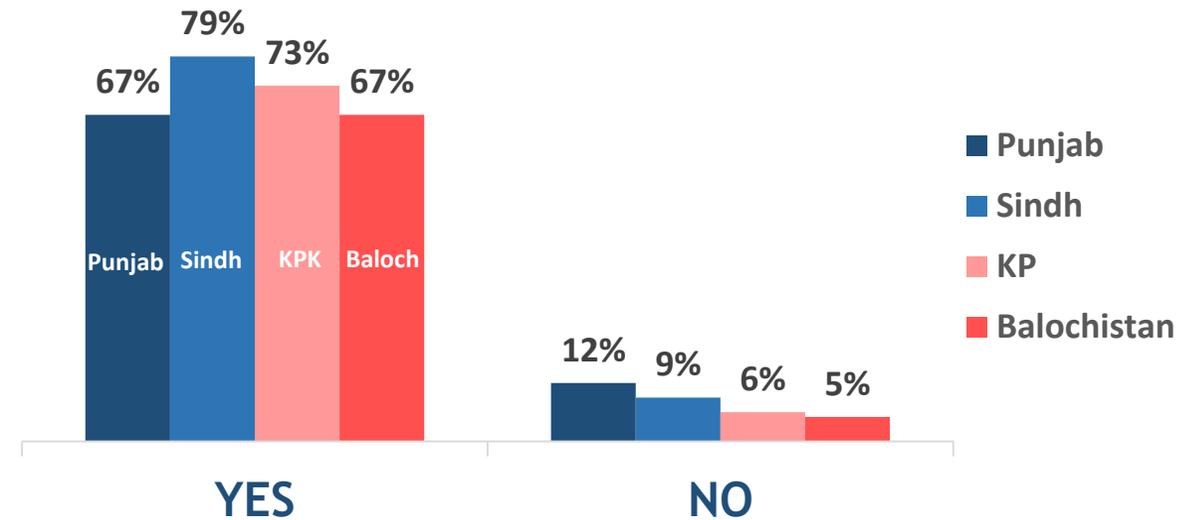
However, **Balochistan shows a more divided view**, with only **45%** blaming the Taliban and a higher share (**12%**) pointing fingers at Pakistan, indicating a relatively more balanced — or skeptical — perspective in the province



## Do you think Pakistan's response has been appropriate (in response to recent clashes with Taliban/Afghanistan)?



### Percentage of Respondents (Province-Wise)



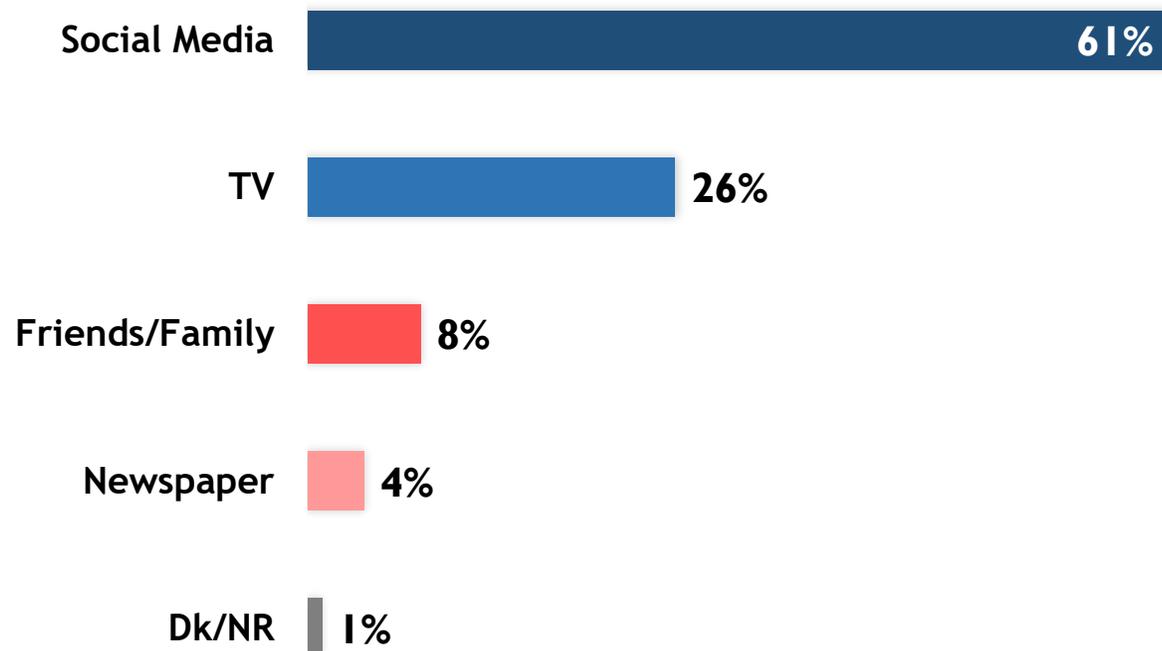
### THREE IN FOUR PAKISTANIS APPROVE GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO AFGHAN CLASHES:

An overwhelming **75% of Pakistanis approve of their country's response** to the recent clashes with the Afghan Taliban, signaling broad public backing for the government's handling of border tensions. Only **10%** believe Pakistan's response was inappropriate, while **15%** offered no opinion.

The strong endorsement suggests that most citizens view Pakistan's actions as **measured yet firm**, reflecting growing national consensus that the country must **defend its borders and respond decisively** to provocations. The findings also indicate that public opinion is **closely aligned with Islamabad's tougher stance** toward the Taliban regime amid deteriorating bilateral relations.



## Generally, from which sources do you get the news?



# Thank You!

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