A rapidly growing population means ever-increasing demands for food, schools, health facilities, jobs and infrastructure, and rising pressure on the government to keep pace in providing these services at an equally fast pace.

**Current State of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa’s Population**

A rapidly growing population means ever-increasing demands for food, schools, health facilities, jobs and infrastructure, and rising pressure on the government to keep pace in providing these services at an equally fast pace.

**Population**

- **Average Annual Growth Rate**: 2.89% (2020)
- **Total Fertility Rate (TFR)**: 4.0
- **Estimated Population**: 32.5 million (2020)
- **By 2050 it is estimated that population of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will be 58 million at the current rate of fertility decline!**

**Maternal Death**

- **Maternal Deaths occur annually**: 1,700
- **If contraceptive use rises from the current 28% to 54%**: 2,700
- **Mothers will be saved!**

**Unmet Need for Family Planning**

- **20.5% unmet need**
- **On average couples have 1 unintended child**
- **Couples of child bearing age who are not using contraception but want to**

**Infant Mortality Rate**

- **53 Infants die before reaching one year of age (per 1000 live births)**
- **If contraceptive use rises from the current 28% to 54%**: 16,700
- **Infants will be saved!**

**Malnutrition**

- **23% Children under the age of 5 are underweight**
- **High fertility contributes to malnutrition!**

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*The average number of children a woman has during her reproductive age*
What can Pakistan do to achieve sustainable population growth?

- **Promote public discourse** on population dynamics as a core element in economic and social development.
- **Increase spending** on population services: Pakistan’s current spending of $1.0 per capita should be doubled to eliminate unmet need.
- All private sector providers and outlets of the health departments must provide family planning services to improve access and information.
- Sustain **political commitment** and increased accountability to ensure that the system is delivering and meeting the family planning needs of the constituents.

Source: Population & Housing Census 2017-GoP
National Nutrition Survey 2018
Pakistan DHS 2012-13, 2017-18
Labour Force Survey (LFS) 2017-18