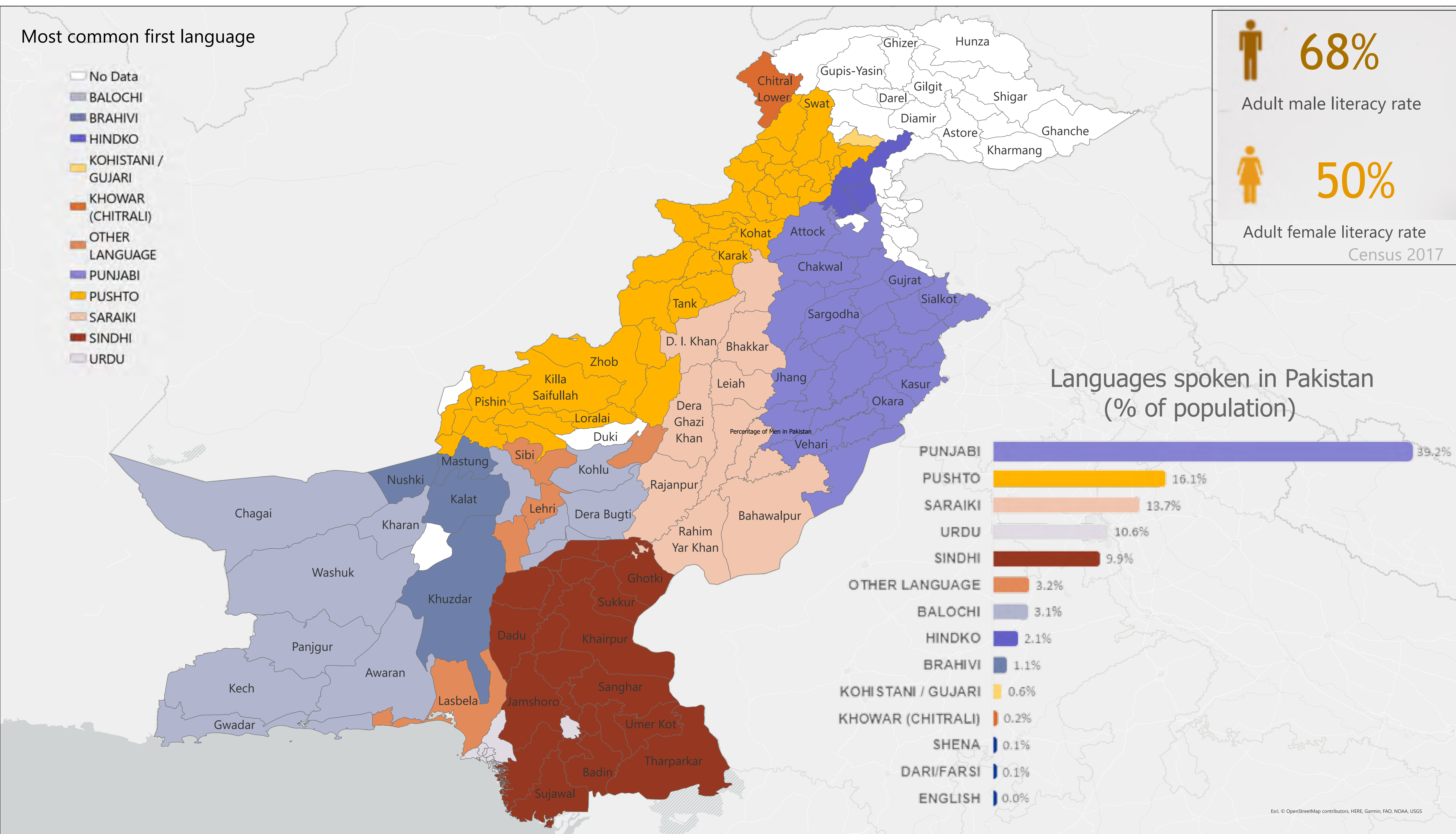


Language map of Pakistan



The 2017-2020 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS6) records 14 languages spoken in Pakistan. Urdu has the status of official language, but is the fourth most commonly spoken. The survey findings indicate that Punjabi is the most widely spoken as a first language (39% of the population), followed by Pushto (16%) and Saraiki (14%). Literacy rates vary significantly across the different districts of Pakistan and between genders. For men from 88% in Rawalpindi to 26% in Kohlu, and for women from 81% in Central Karachi to 9% in Kolai Palas Kohistan. The MICS is representative at the district (admin 2) and province (admin 1) level. As the survey exercise was conducted separately in different provinces, results are not necessarily representative at the national level and should be considered indicative only. Data collection was not conducted for the MICS6 in the territory of Islamabad or the administrative territories of Kashmir (Azad Jammu and Kashmir) and Gilgit-Baltistan.

CLEAR Global
January 2023
Sources:
UNICEF 2017-2020
Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS6)
Pakistan Census 2017

