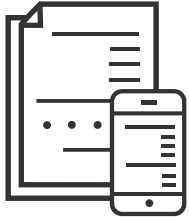# The Examination of Gendered Inequalities in Pakistan through Survey Research

Anna Dickerson, Assistant Research Analyst, D3: Designs, Data, Decisions
Kriscel Berrum, Survey Statistician, D3: Designs, Data, Decisions
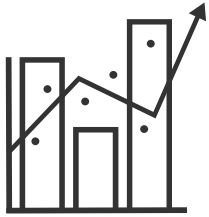
DESIGNS   DATA   DECISIONS

What We Do

DESIGNS

We develop research designs & methodologies to meet your research needs. We also build the capacity of local research firms through in-person training & support to ensure procedures are followed.

DATA

We collect accurate & reliable data in even the most challenging research environments, and our in-house team of statisticians calculate complex weights & perform advanced analyses, if needed.
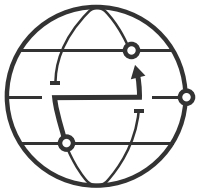
DECISIONS

We analyze, interpret, & visualize results, providing you with the insights into your research questions to directly inform your programs & policies. Let our proven experience in over 125 countries work for you!

Introduction

Project Overview

‣ D3 designed the Pakistan Futures survey to **study attitudes and opinions of adult Pakistanis**. Survey fieldwork was conducted by the Pakistan Institute of Public Opinion (PIPO) for D3 Systems.

‣ It is a nationally representative that focuses on a wide variety of social, economic, and political issues

  ○ Emphasis on collecting perspectives regarding **gender-related issues, current events, national politics, and foreign policy**

Motivation
General Trends in Pakistan

▸ Rebuilding and stabilization following flooding and political upheaval

▸ **Opportunity presents itself to bolster gender equality within political, educational, and societal infrastructures**

▸ **Current insight into the complex dynamics of gendered disparities**, in both private and public spheres is necessary

  ○ D3 Systems, Inc. surveying in Pakistan has provided an opportunity to gather this insight using timely insider perspectives

▸ Our survey questions relate to access to education, quality of local healthcare services, prioritization of girls' learning, general improvements over the years, and perspectives of the future

Motivation
Contextualizing Other Relevant Research

‣ The *2019-2020 Women, Peace, and Security Index* published by the Georgetown Institute ranks Pakistan as 9th worst performer for women's autonomy and empowerment

‣ Economic mobility:
   o "Pakistani women are far behind men in account ownership despite a 2015 national drive to promote financial inclusion. While overall account ownership in Pakistan has almost doubled since 2014, only 7 percent of women have an account, compared with 35 percent of men." WPS Index

‣ Justice and Legal Security:
   o In Pakistan, "domestic violence legislation does not protect unmarried partners or mandate equal pay for equal work." WPS Index

‣ Education:
   o "Girls in poor families are 22 percentage points less likely to attend school than boys." World Bank, 2023

Methodology
Survey

Two surveys have been completed, composed of in-person interviews conducted in Urdu, Sindhi, and Pashto among a **randomly selected national sample of Pakistani adults**.

First survey (Wave 1)

Sample size: 1,533 Pakistani adults

Dates: November 9 - December 17, 2022

Second survey (Wave 2)

Sample size: 1,524 Pakistani adults

Dates: March 3 - April 2, 2023

Methodology
Survey

‣ In the regions of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Sindh, and Islamabad Capital Territory, interviews were conducted in-person using D3's proprietary data collection platform RCS.

  o In the region of Balochistan, interviews were conducted in-person using paper surveys.

Gilgit Baltistan, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, and the former Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) – which together account for 5% of Pakistan's population – were excluded from the sample frame due to inaccessibility and safety. Therefore, the survey represents 95% of the Pakistani population.

Methodology
Survey

The sample was stratified by **province and urban/rural status**, with census blocks serving as the primary sampling unit via probability proportional to size systematic sampling.

Data were weighted to reflect the **demographic composition of Pakistan's adult population** (age 18+) based on the 6th Population and Housing Census of Pakistan from 2017 for the following demographics, which were used as raking targets:

- Gender
- Age group
- Strata (province and urbanicity)

Methodology
Survey

Wave 1
November 9 – December 17, 2022
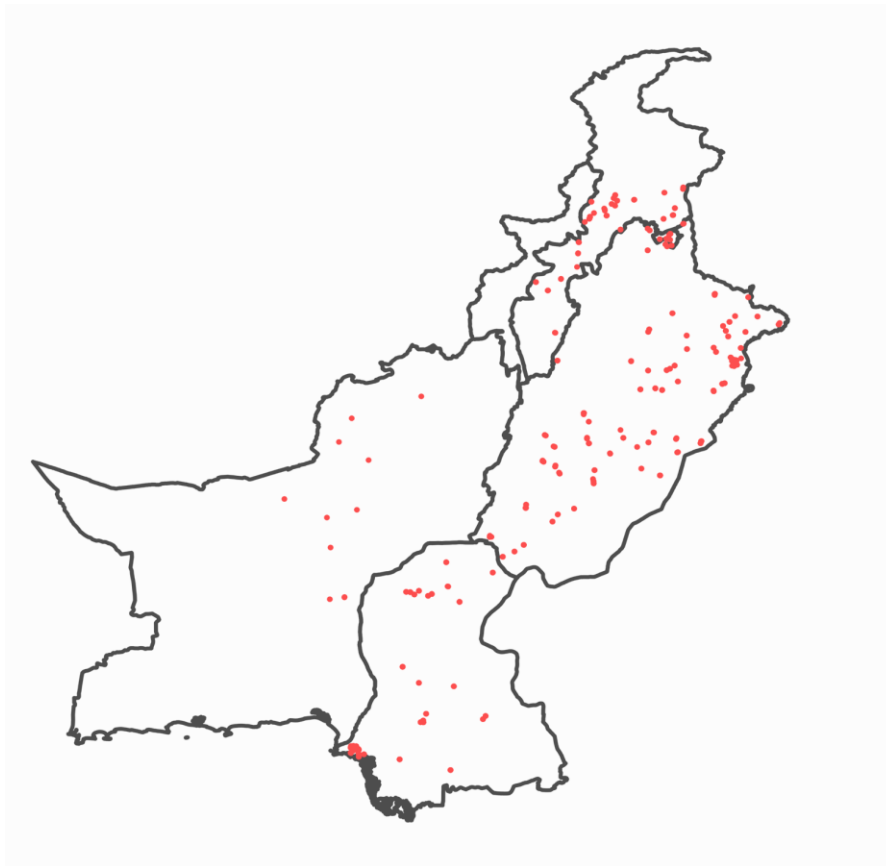
Wave 2
March 3 – April 2, 2023
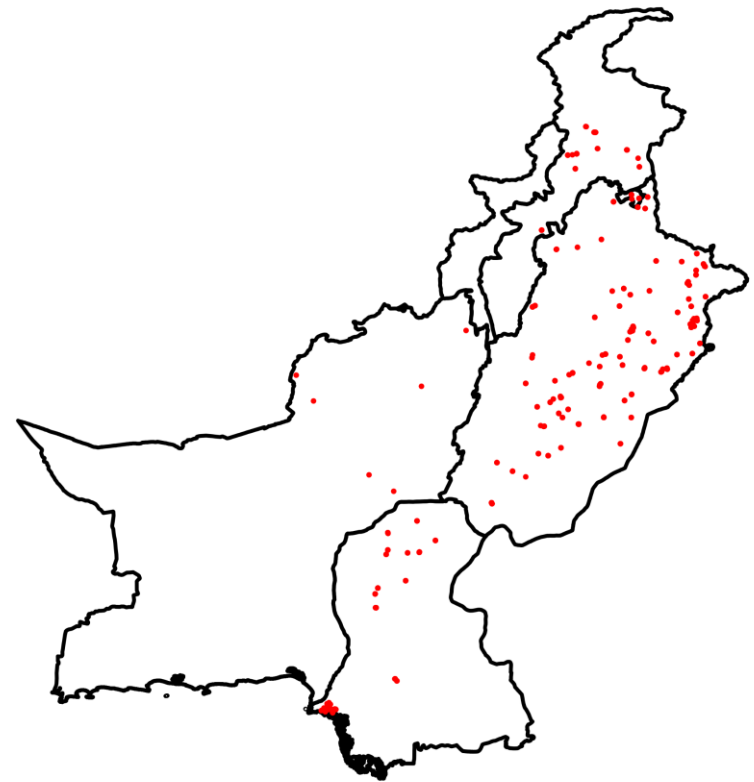
Methodology
Overview of Key Variables

Outcome Variable

1. Disparities amongst genders in **opportunity**, **perception**, and **access**

Key predictor variables

1. Age
2. Education
3. Gender
4. Urbanicity
5. Income

PIPO staff member interviews Pakistani man in Wave 2 (April 2023) of the Pakistan Futures Survey

Methodology
Modeling Approach

Chi Squared Test for Categorical Data:

▸ For this data, **chi-squared tests were run on weighted data between five (5) demographic/geographic variables and 12 outcome variables**, also known as our women's rights related questions asked in W1, W2, or both

▸ The goal is to see if the conditional and marginal distributions, or if they are small enough to be expected simply by random chance

▸ Basically, what relationships are present and significant between categories of Pakistanis such as male vs. female, educated vs. uneducated, etc. and responses to questions regarding women and girls' access, opportunities, and freedoms

Methodology
Operationalizing Variables

Demographic / Geographic Variables	
Variable	**Scale**
Gender	Male, Female
Age	18-29 years, 30-39, 40-49, 50-64, 65+, Not Stated
Urbanicity	Urban, Rural
Education	Primary or Less, Secondary, Tertiary or Higher, Refused/Don't Know
Income	Less than or eq to 20,000, Rs 20,001 - 50,000, Rs 50,001 to 100,000, Rs. 100,000 or more, Other/Refused/Don't Know

Methodology
Operationalizing Outcome Variable

General quality of life for women	
Asked in W1 or W2?	**Question**
W1 & W2	Regarding the freedoms and equality of girls and women, would you say our country has made many improvements, some improvements, a few improvements, or no improvements in the last 10 years?
W2	Do you think that life will be better, stay the same, or get worse for women in Pakistan in the next six months?
W1	How acceptable or unacceptable do you consider it to be for girls under the age of 16 to marry? Do you consider it very acceptable, somewhat acceptable, somewhat unacceptable, or very unacceptable?
W1 & W2	Do you feel that the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan in 2021 has improved Pakistan's security, worsened Pakistan's security, or made no difference?

Methodology
Operationalizing Outcome Variable

Education	
Asked in W1 or W2?	**Question**
W1 & W2	Would you rate you and your family's access to [Education for girls] as very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad or very bad?
W1 & W2	Would you rate you and your family's access to [Education for boys] as very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad or very bad?
W1 & W2	How important is it to people in your community that girls … [learn to read]?
W1 & W2	How important is it to people in your community that girls [finish primary school]?
W1 & W2	How important is it to people in your community that girls [finish high school]?

Methodology
Operationalizing Outcome Variable

Healthcare	
Asked in W1 or W2?	Question
W1 & W2	How would you rate following healthcare services in your area, based on your experience? Pediatrics (care of infants, children, and adolescents)
W1 & W2	How would you rate the following healthcare services in your area, based on your experience? Pre-Natal Care
W1 & W2	Would you rate you and your family's access to [Clinics and hospitals] as very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad or very bad?

Exploratory Analysis
General Frequencies

Although the overall pattern in the data is similar, access to education for boys is rated as **very** or **somewhat good** by more respondents compared to access to education for girls.

Legend: ■ Very good ■ Somewhat good ■ Somewhat bad ■ Very bad

	Very good	Somewhat good	Somewhat bad	Very bad
Education for boys	44%	33%	11%	12%
Education for girls	39%	32%	12%	16%

0%   100%
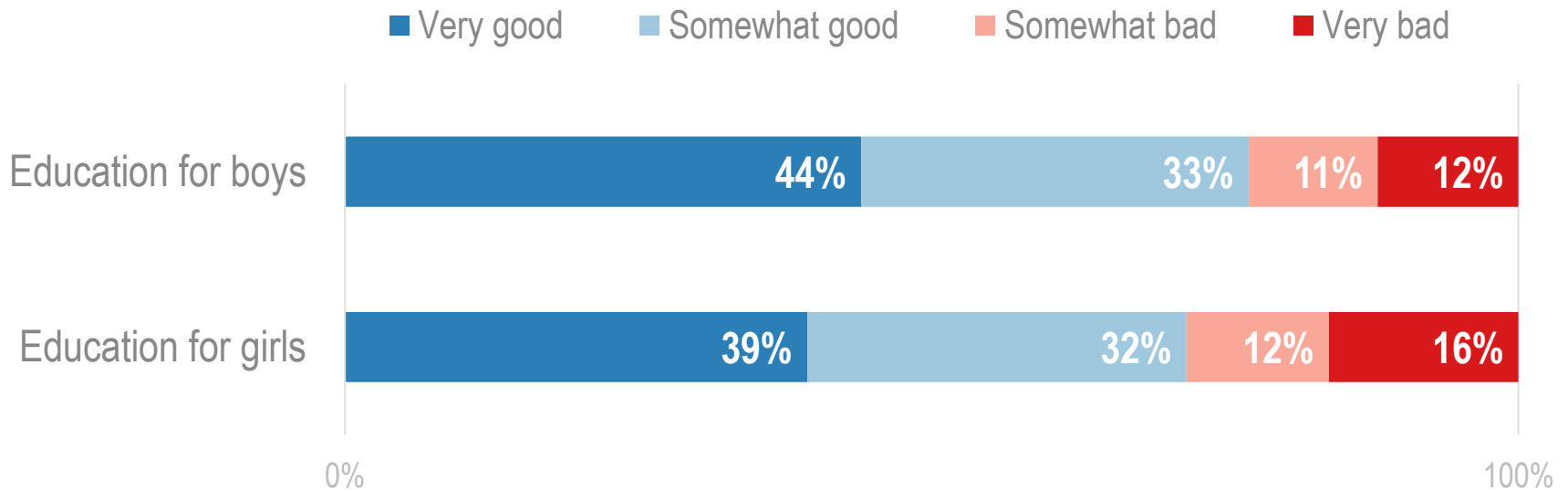
Exploratory Analysis
General Frequencies

Even with nearly six-in-ten reporting that access to clinics and hospitals is **good**, majorities rate access to specific healthcare services (e.g., pediatrics and pre-natal care) as **very** or **somewhat inadequate**.

56%
say access to clinics and hospitals is **good**.

Legend:
- Very inadequate
- Somewhat inadequate
- Somewhat adequate
- Very adequate

	Very inadequate	Somewhat inadequate	Somewhat adequate	Very adequate
Pediatrics	33%	19%	30%	16%
Pre-Natal Care	32%	19%	31%	17%

0%   100%
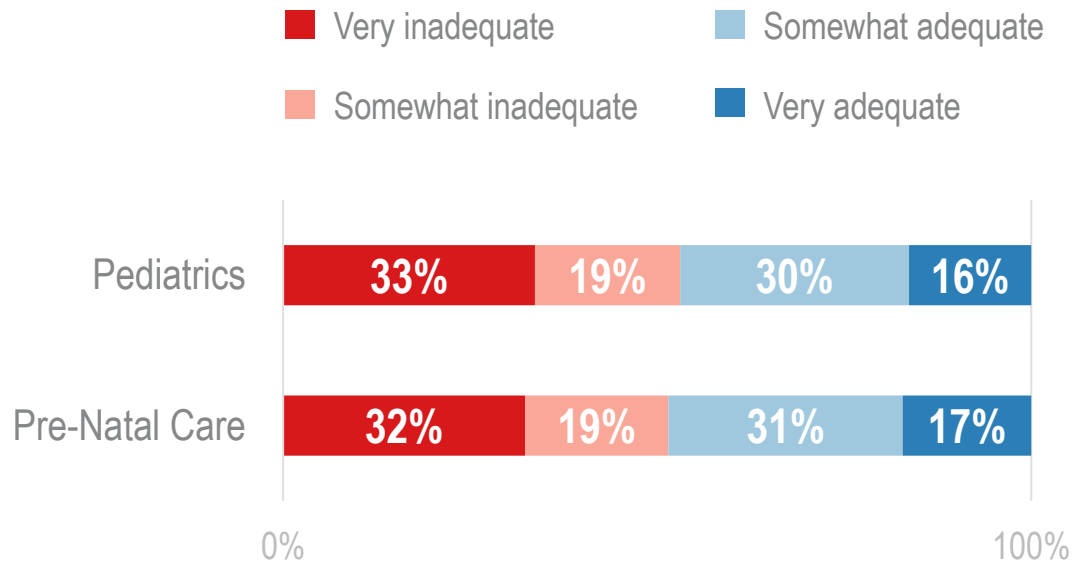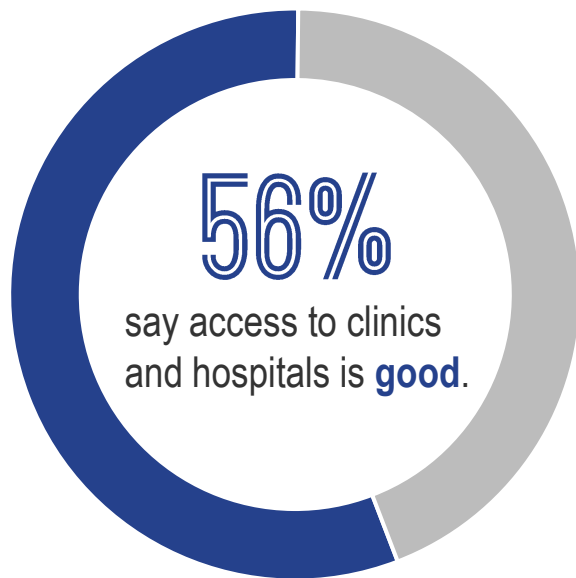
Exploratory Analysis
General Frequencies

Despite seven-in-ten perceiving **at least a few improvements** with regards to equality for girls and women over the last 10 years, only about one-third think that life for women in Pakistan will get **better** in the next six months.

70%
perceive **many**, **some**, or **a few improvements** in female equality.

Legend: ■ Better ■ Same ■ Worse ■ NR

Better	Same	Worse	NR
36%	26%	34%	4%

0%   100%
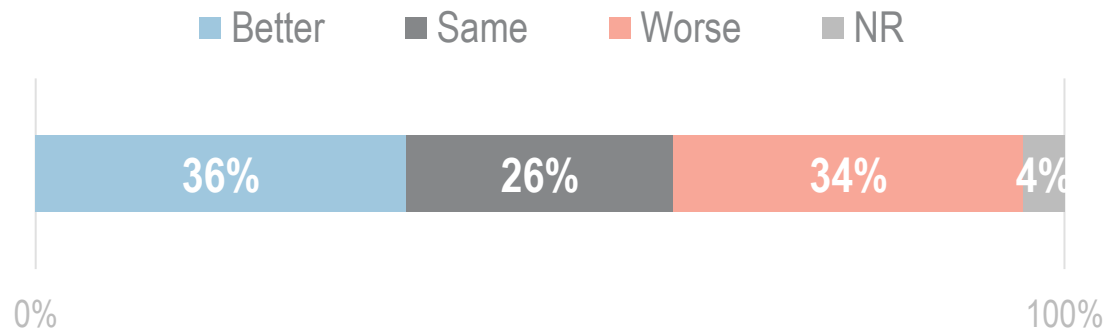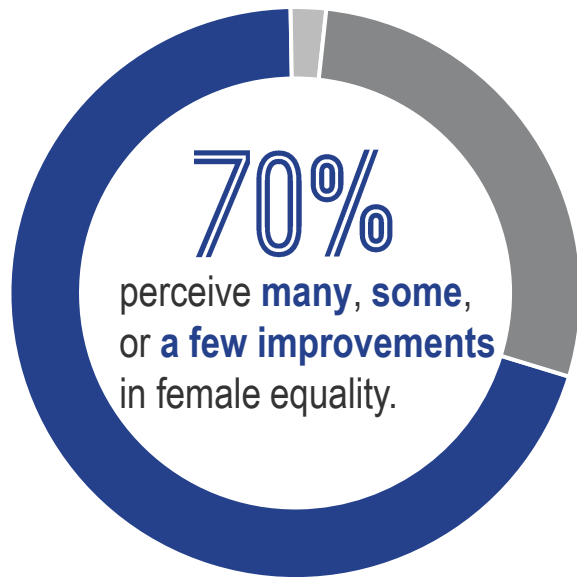
Exploratory Analysis
General Frequencies

Majorities express that it is **very** or **somewhat important** to people in their community that girls complete the listed tasks.
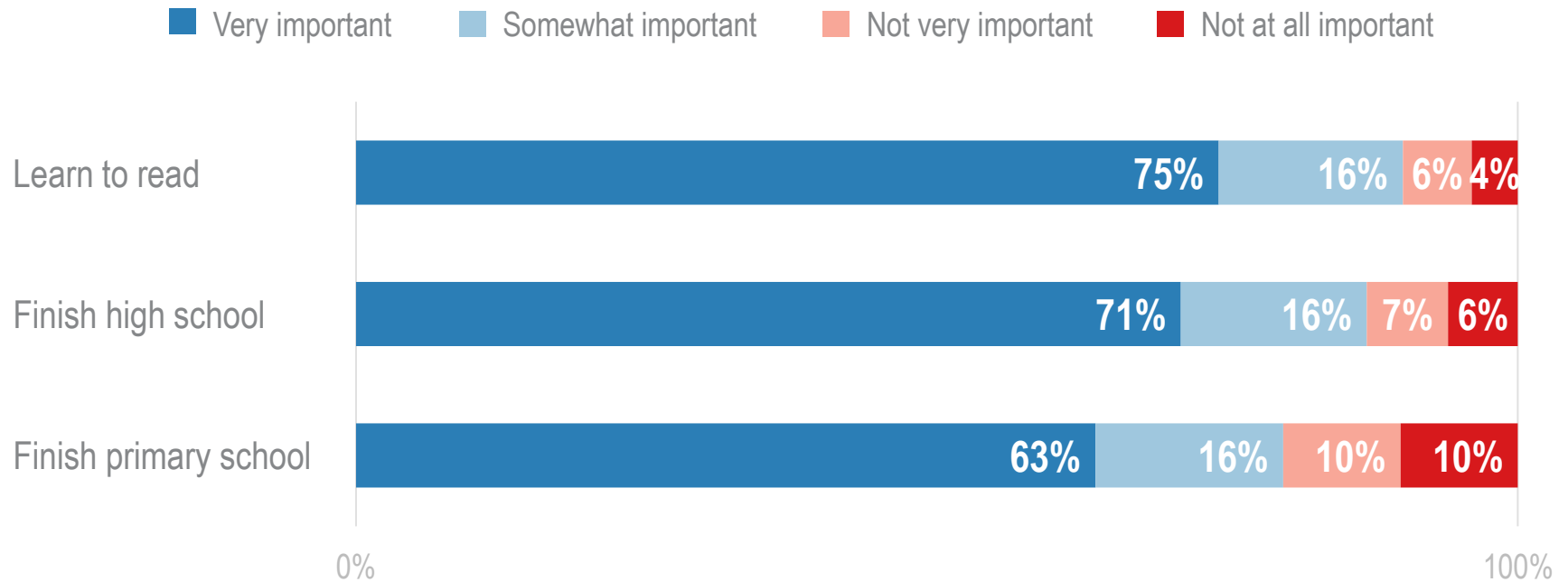
Exploratory Analysis
General Frequencies

Furthermore, nearly eight-in-ten think that it is **very** or **somewhat unacceptable** for girls under the age of 16 to marry, with the clear majority expressing that it is **very unacceptable**.

■ Very unacceptable　■ Somewhat unacceptable　■ Somewhat acceptable　■ Very acceptable

| 70% | 9% | 10% | 10% |

0% 　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　 100%
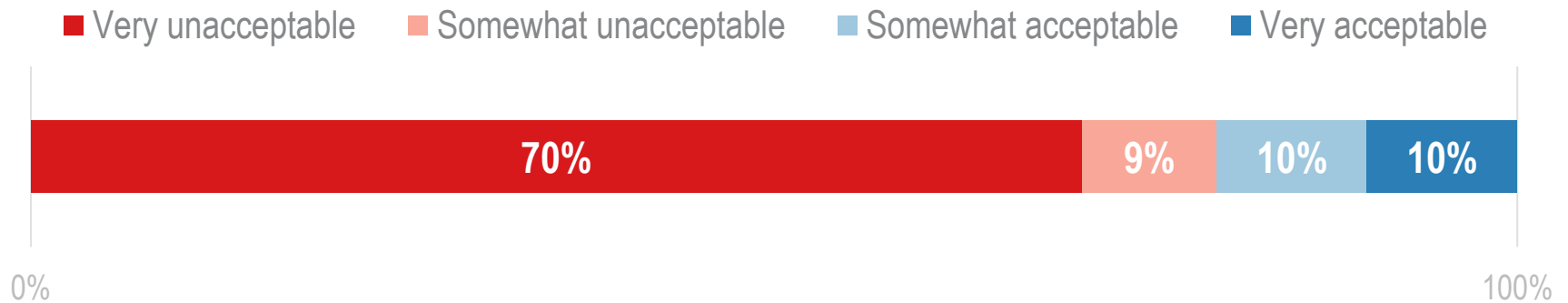
Exploratory Analysis
General Frequencies

However, opinions are more divided regarding how the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan in 2021 affected Pakistan's security.

Similar proportions feel that the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan has improved, worsened, or made no difference on Pakistan's security. Notably, 11% do not know or refuse to provide a response.

■ Improved ■ Worsened ■ No difference ■ Do not know / Refused

31%	27%	30%	11%

0%   100%

Exploratory Analysis
Outcome by Predictor

Chi Squared Testing Results *

	Age		Gender		Income		Education		Urbanicity	
	test stat	p-value	test stat	p-value	test stat	p-value	test stat	p-value	test stat	p-value
Education Access for Girls	34.591	<.001	0.534	0.469	16.304	<.001	18.664	<.001	5.981	0.016
Education Access for Boys	8.423	0.077	23.296	<.001	6.208	0.102	53.595	<.001	0.035	0.860
Access to Clinics/Hospitals	5.558	0.235	0.088	0.770	11.661	0.009	67.194	<.001	39.005	<.001
Adequacy of Pediatric Services	9.396	0.052	0.156	0.715	10.267	0.016	34.102	<.001	5.756	0.017
Adequacy of Prenatal Services	11.490	0.022	5.355	0.022	10.964	0.012	36.829	<.001	11.872	<.001
Acceptability of child marriage	23.825	<.001	27.323	<.001	2.684	0.443	6.472	0.039	0.013	0.948
Importance of Girls Reading	8.496	0.075	54.340	<.001	30.165	<.001	18.610	<.001	16.264	<.001
Importance of Girls Finishing Prim School	14.456	0.006	0.167	0.683	47.777	<.001	6.861	0.032	26.624	<.001
Importance of Girls Finishing High School	32.884	<.001	11.101	<.001	31.617	<.001	16.542	<.001	0.012	0.910
Taliban Takeover Changed Security	26.408	<.001	170.935	<.001	13.625	0.034	12.308	0.015	56.829	<.001
Women's Lives in 6 months	29.715	0.003	7.685	0.053	38.498	<.001	22.967	<.001	16.791	<.001
Past 10 years women's lives improvement	34.993	<.001	12.441	0.006	95.998	<.001	78.510	<.001	11.701	0.008

* **Highlighted in light blue** indicates a statistically significant finding at the 95% confidence level (p < 0.05)

Exploratory Analysis
Outcome by Predictor

Chi Squared Testing Results *

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* **Highlighted in light blue** indicates a statistically significant finding at the 95% confidence level (p < 0.05)

Results

In general, 34% of respondents state they've seen **some improvements** in women's lives over the **past 10 years**, followed by 28% who say **no improvements** have been made.*
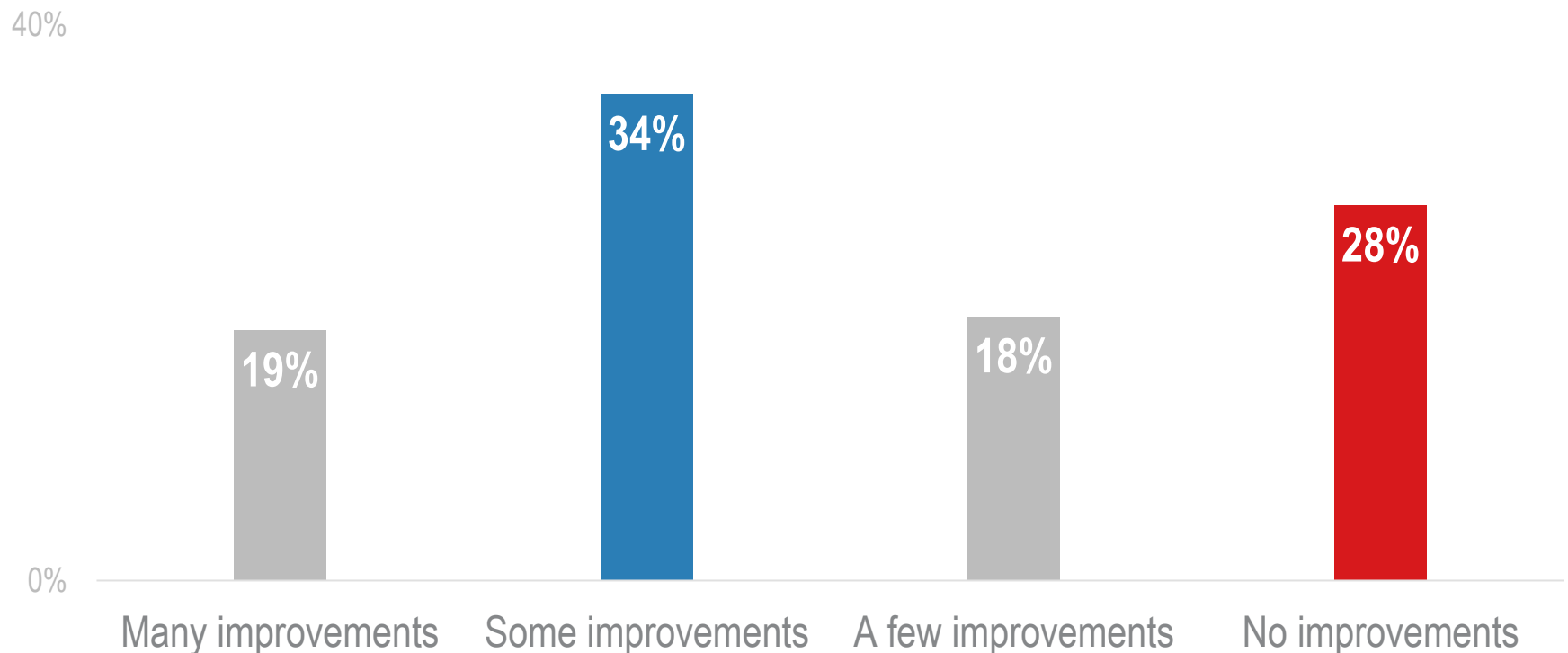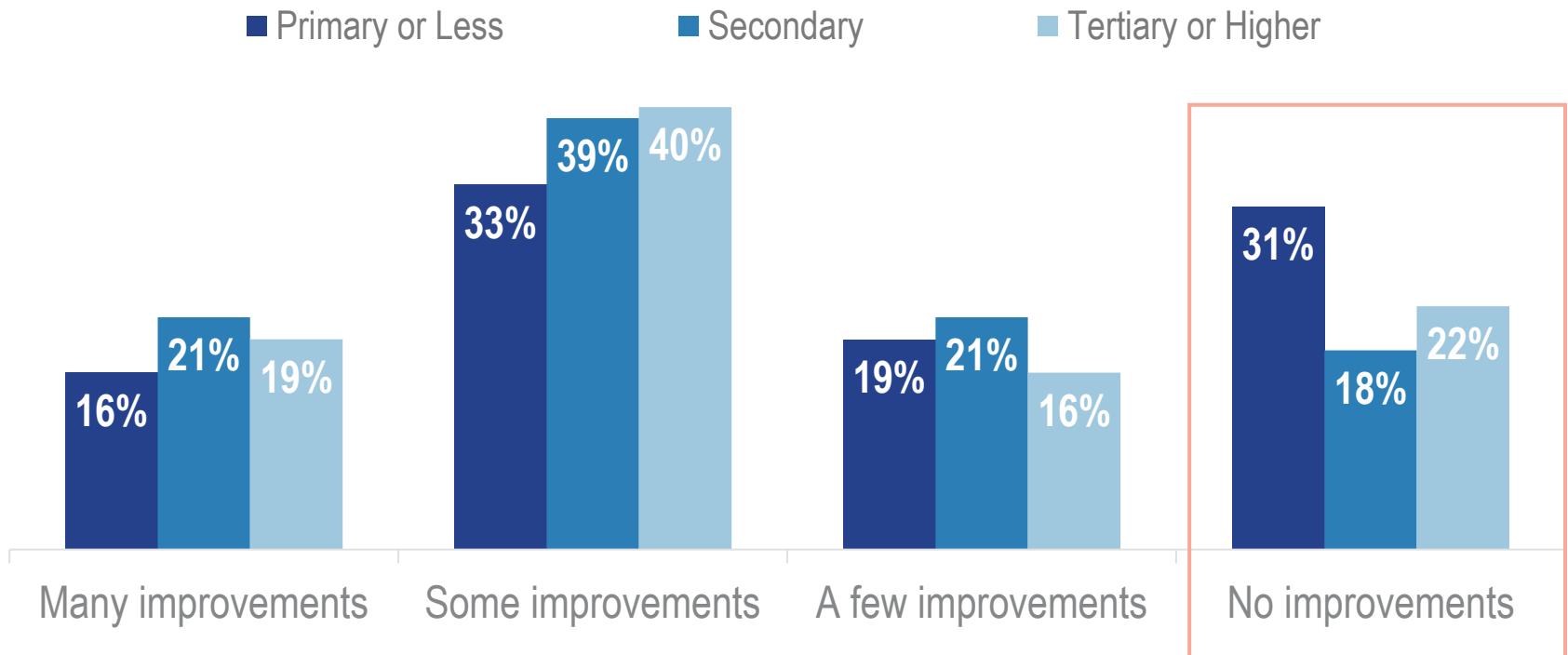
40%

19% — Many improvements
34% — Some improvements
18% — A few improvements
28% — No improvements

0%

* Wave 1 (December 2022) and Wave 2 (April 2023) data

Results

Analyzing the Education Variable's Relationship to Outcome Variables

However, there is a relationship between education level and perception of these improvements. The largest discrepancy is found in the worst category, in which nearly 1-in-3 who have a **primary or less** education level believe there have been **no improvements** in the last 10 years (p = <.001).*

Legend: ■ Primary or Less ■ Secondary ■ Tertiary or Higher

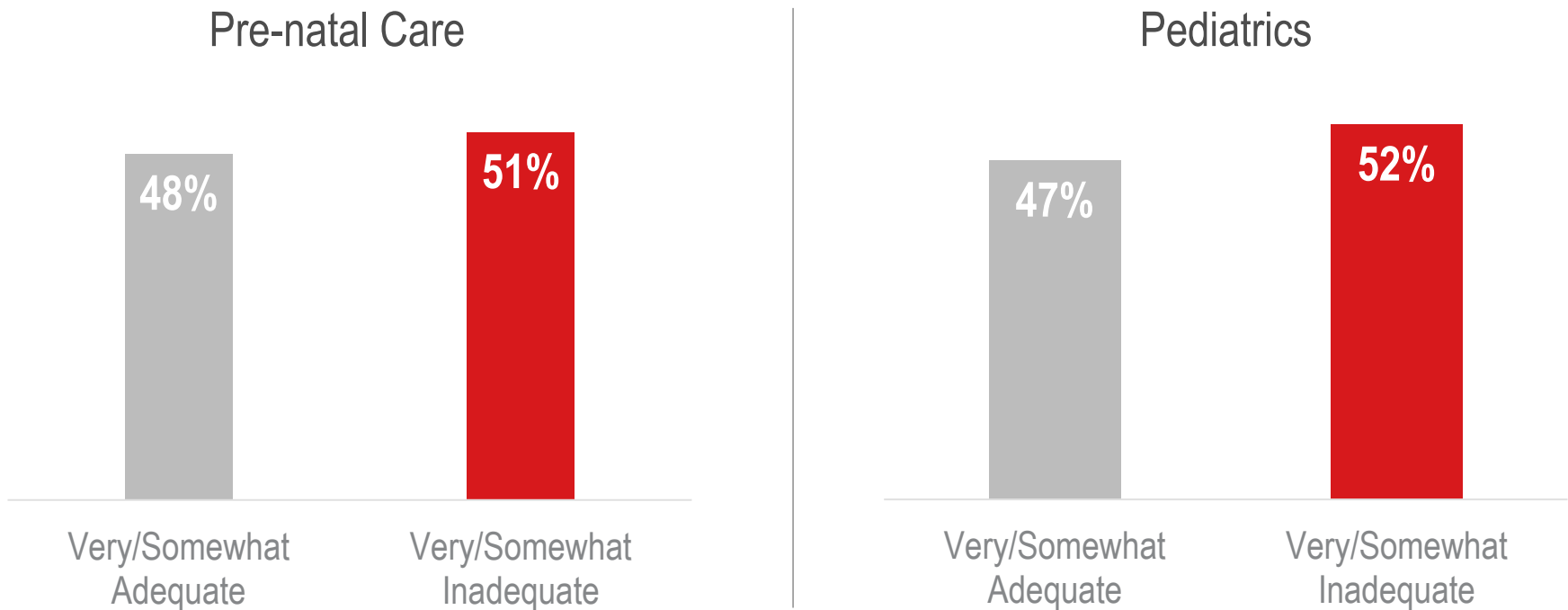| Category	Primary or Less	Secondary	Tertiary or Higher
Many improvements	16%	21%	19%
Some improvements	33%	39%	40%
A few improvements	19%	21%	16%
No improvements	31%	18%	22%

* Wave 1 (December 2022) and Wave 2 (April 2023) data

Results

Analyzing the Education Variable's Relationship to Outcome Variables

In general, Pakistanis have **split opinions** on the adequacy of healthcare services in their area, based on their experience.*

Pre-natal Care

48%	51%
Very/Somewhat Adequate	Very/Somewhat Inadequate

Pediatrics

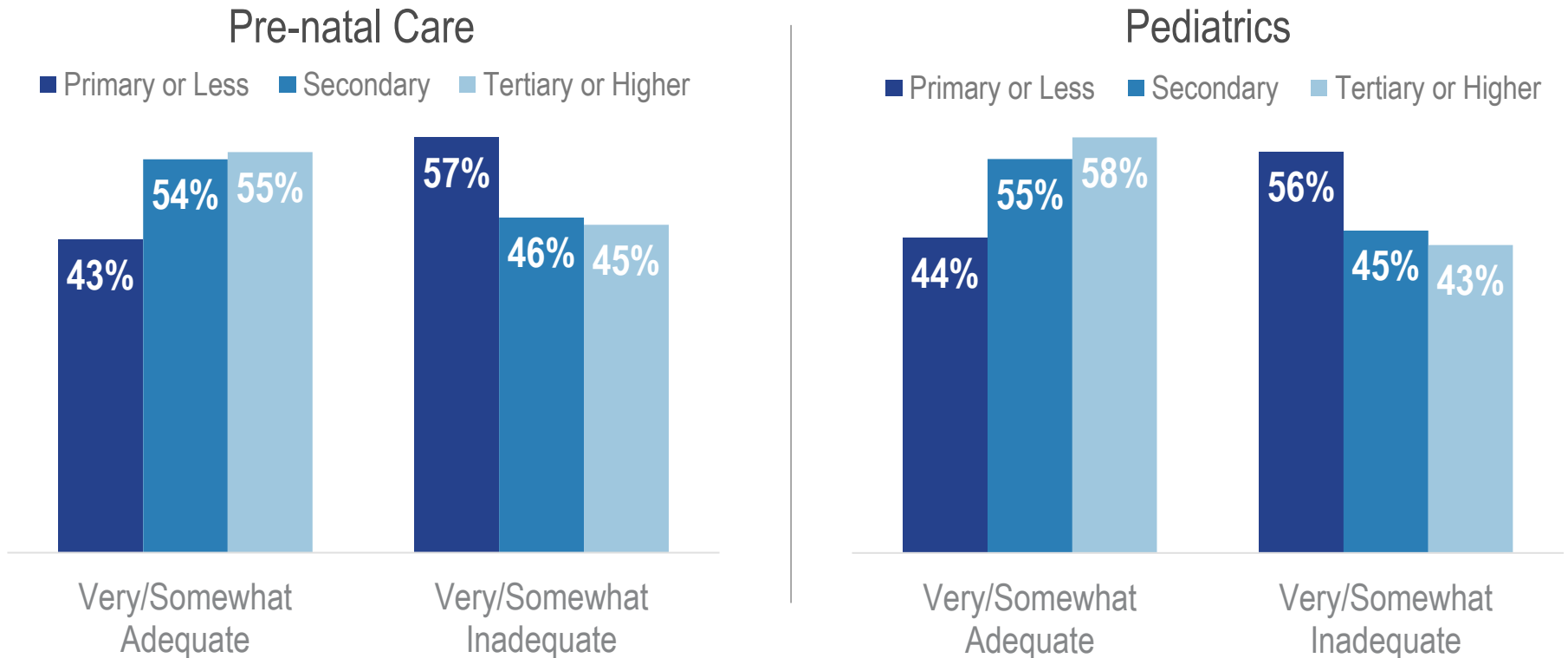|	
47%	52%
Very/Somewhat Adequate	Very/Somewhat Inadequate

* Wave 1 (December 2022) and Wave 2 (April 2023) data

Results

Analyzing the Education Variable's Relationship to Outcome Variables

However, those with a **primary or less** education level appear more likely to think healthcare services such as pre-natal care ($p = <.001$) and pediatrics ($p =<.001$) are **inadequate** compared to those with a **tertiary or higher** education.*

Pre-natal Care

- ■ Primary or Less
- ■ Secondary
- ■ Tertiary or Higher

Very/Somewhat Adequate: 43%, 54%, 55%
Very/Somewhat Inadequate: 57%, 46%, 45%

Pediatrics

- ■ Primary or Less
- ■ Secondary
- ■ Tertiary or Higher

Very/Somewhat Adequate: 44%, 55%, 58%
Very/Somewhat Inadequate: 56%, 45%, 43%

* Wave 1 (December 2022) and Wave 2 (April 2023) data

Results

Urbanicity and **Access to Clinics and Hospitals** have a significant relationship at the 95% confidence interval (p = <.001).

A slight majority of Pakistanis report that their access to hospitals is **very or somewhat good**.

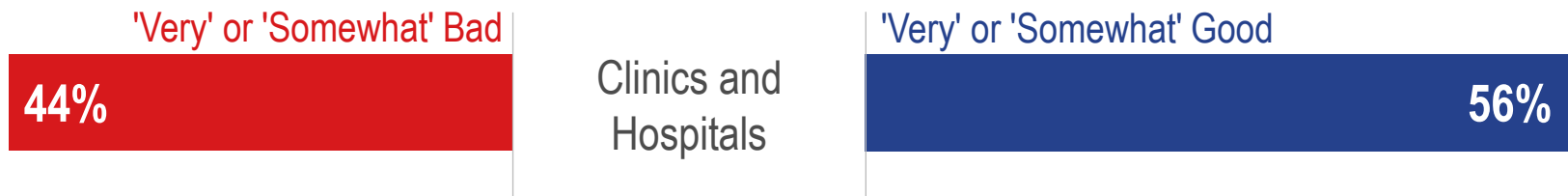| 'Very' or 'Somewhat' Bad	Clinics and Hospitals	'Very' or 'Somewhat' Good
44%		56%

* Wave 1 (December 2022) and Wave 2 (April 2023) data

Results

Analyzing the Urbanicity Variable's Relationship to Outcome Variables

Urbanicity and **Access to Clinics and Hospitals** have a significant relationship at the 95% confidence interval (p = <.001).

A slight majority of Pakistanis report that their access to hospitals is **very or somewhat good**.

Very or Somewhat Bad		Clinics and Hospitals		Very or Somewhat Good
48%	Rural		Rural	52%
36%	Urban		Urban	**64%**

Further analysis shows the statistically significant relationship between Urbanicity and access to clinics and hospitals. A larger amount of those in urban Pakistan think their access is **good**, compared to those in rural places (p = <.001).

* Wave 1 (December 2022) and Wave 2 (April 2023) data

Results
Analyzing the Gender Variable's Relationship to Outcome Variables

Gender and **Acceptability of Child Marriage** have a significant relationship at the 95% confidence interval (p = <.001).

While it is generally deemed **very unacceptable**,

■ Very unacceptable	■ Somewhat unacceptable	■ Somewhat acceptable	■ Very acceptable
70%	9%	10%	10%

Results

Analyzing the Gender Variable's Relationship to Outcome Variables

Gender and **Acceptability of Child Marriage** have a significant relationship at the 95% confidence interval (p = <.001).
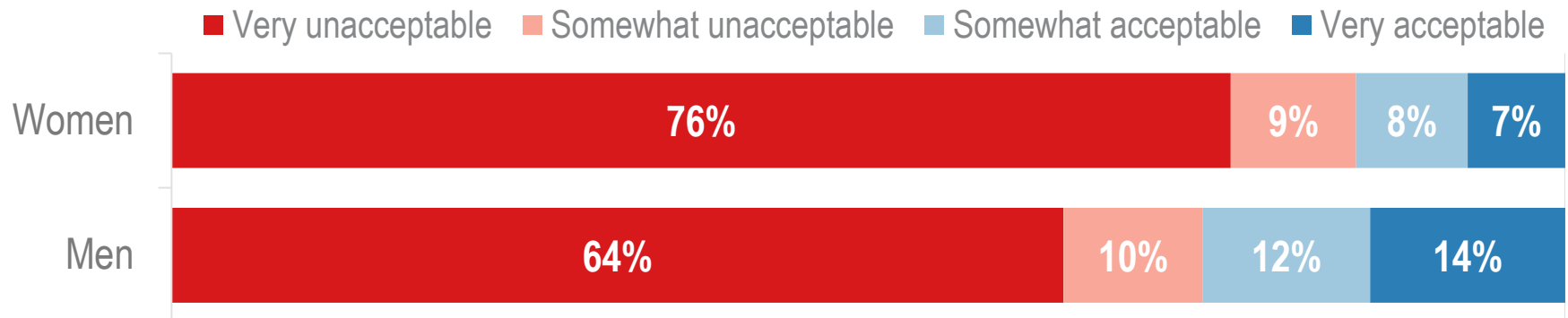
While it is generally deemed **very unacceptable**, there are discrepancies in opinions between men and women.

Legend: ■ Very unacceptable ■ Somewhat unacceptable ■ Somewhat acceptable ■ Very acceptable

Women: 76% | 9% | 8% | 7%
Men: 64% | 10% | 12% | 14%

* Wave 1 (December 2022) and Wave 2 (April 2023) data

Discussion
Outcomes

Of the 60 chi-squared correlation tests run between five (5) demographic variables and 12 outcome variables, **46 of these were significant at the 95% confidence interval** ($p < 0.05$).

This indicates that there are significant relationships between the differing groups of Pakistanis and their opinions on women's freedoms, access, and rights.

Discussion
Outcomes

‣ It is clear that **education** is a key factor in understanding Pakistani's attitudes towards women and their situation within the country

  o Higher education rates make Pakistanis more optimistic about current realities related to resources/access and about the future

‣ Further analysis would be required to determine causation.

For more information, please contact:

Anna Dickerson
Assistant Research Analyst
D3: Designs, Data, Decisions

References

https://giwps.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/WPS-Index-2019-20-Report.pdf

https://blogs.worldbank.org/education/facing-challenges-girls-education-pakistan#:~:text=In%202018%2C%2026%20percent%20of,as%20before%20relative%20to%20boys.

Appendix
Methodology: Accessibility Tracker

‣ This study uses accessibility data that was collected every month to assess the feasibility of in-person interviewing in each of the districts in Pakistan.

‣ It is based on a district-level assessment made by PIPO.

‣ Districts are broken down into their tehsils and PIPO records whether these tehsils are accessible, not accessible, or partially accessible.
    ‣ For Wave 2 of the Futures Survey, 370 tehsils were accessible, 141 were inaccessible, and 33 were partially accessible.
    ‣ For Wave 1 of the Futures Survey, 319 Tehsils were accessible, 55 were inaccessible, and 70 were partially accessible.

Appendix
Methodology: Sampling

‣ The sample was stratified by region and urban/rural status and distributed based on their proportion of the population.

  ‣ **Punjab**: 81 sampling points
  ‣ **Sindh**: 36 sampling points
  ‣ **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**: 24 sampling points
  ‣ **Balochistan**: 10 sampling points
  ‣ **Islamabad Capital Territory**: 4 sampling points

‣ Giglit-Baltistan, Azad Jammu & Kashmir, and the former Federally Administrated Tribal Areas (FATA) were excluded from the sample. The areas excluded from the survey represent approximately 5% of the population, and therefore the survey represents 95% of the Pakistani population.

‣ Within each region, sample stratified by urban and rural population figures from the 2017 6th Census of Pakistan – Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

Appendix
Methodology: Sampling

‣ **Wave 2 (April 2023):** seven (7) sampling points were found to be inaccessible during fieldwork
  ‣ *Reasons included:*
    ‣ Fieldwork not possible due to law-and-order situation (Sindh)

‣ **Wave 1 (December 2022):** eight (8) sampling points were found to be inaccessible during fieldwork
  ‣ *Reasons included:*
    ‣ Resistance from local tribe (Punjab)
    ‣ Inaccessible due to floods (Sindh)
    ‣ Security situation (Sindh)