



WHO has recently predicted that the Covid19 pandemic is about to be over. US President, Joe Biden said that the world was already out of the pandemic. The local evidence from Pakistan supports these claims.

While we cherish and celebrate the good news, we would also like to share with our partners that it has brought in a shift of

approach to our Open Society Foundation (OSF) supported Coronavirus CivActs Campaign (CCC). For over two years, CCC debunked fake news, misinformation, and myths around covid19. Going forward, the campaign will focus on building healthy information ecosystems where we will lead and support efforts to stop the spread of fake news and misinformation in Pakistan in a broader manner. The focus of our work might not necessarily be around Covid 19, unless, of course, we face a new wave. We plan to tackle fake news around health emergencies (remember, polio is still a challenge in Pakistan and fake news is responsible for creating perennial vaccine hesitation), politics, sociocultural taboos, and other similar phenomena.

WHAT'S INSIDE

COVID-19 &
Vaccination Statistics
in Pakistan

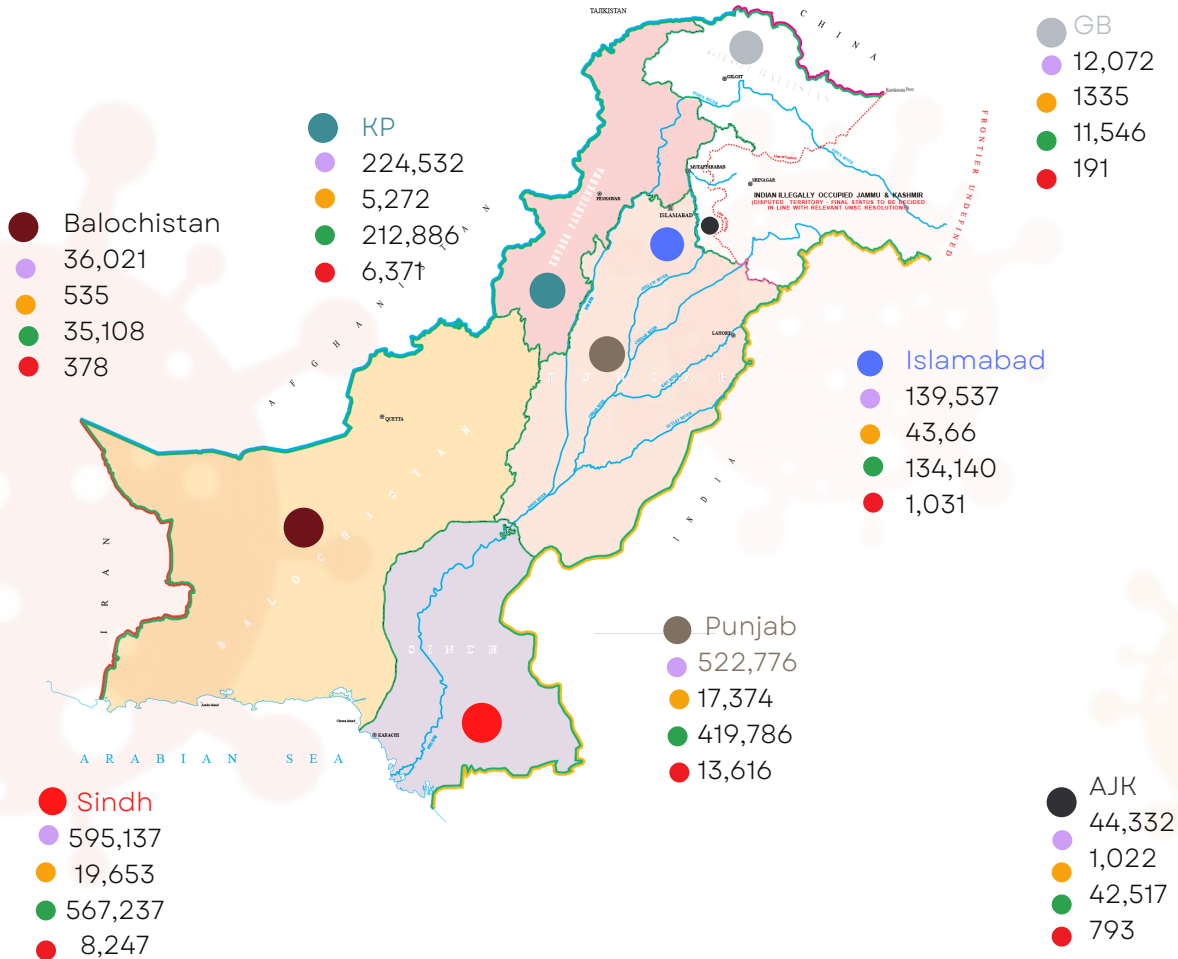
COVID-19 Insights

Misinformation,
Disinformation &
Fake News

Steps involved to
verify
Misinformation

COVID-19 DASHBOARD

(PAKISTAN)



Confirmed Cases Active cases Recoveries Deaths

Confirmed Cases

1,574,407



LAST 24 HOURS: 48

Active Cases

1,217



LAST 24 HOURS: 0

Deaths

30,627



LAST 24 HOURS: 19

Recoveries

1,542,563



LAST 24 HOURS: 253

SOURCE : [Government of Pakistan](https://www.governmentofpakistan.gov.pk/)

SORE THROAT MORE PROMINENT COVID SYMPTOM THAN A LOSS OF SMELL AND TASTE

Since 2019, coronavirus has muted considerably and with that changed the signs related to it. For example, in the initial days, the most common COVID signs and symptoms included loss of flavor or smell and fatigue and as of nowadays, the signs that are associated with the infection.

"At the moment, COVID starts in two-thirds of people with a sore throat. Fever and lack of smell are certainly uncommon now so many old human beings won't think they've got COVID.

They'd say it's a cold and not be tested," Professor Tim Spector, a co-founding father of the COVID ZOE app, notified. However, whilst one begins experiencing such signs and symptoms, it becomes hard to understand whether it's COVID, flu, or a common cold.



Covid sore throat is more or less much like every other throat infection but, when you get COVID, you can additionally revel in aches, scratchiness, and thickness in the throat, especially even when swallowing something.

Patients can also experience dryness and irritation which will be an outcome of inflammation inside the back of their throat, which may be very discomforting.

WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF COVID SORE THROAT?

- COVID sore throat generally appears inside the first week of illness and might improve pretty quickly.
- It feels worse on the first day of infection however gets higher on each following day
- A sore throat lasts no more than five days, and it's also slight
- Everyone who suffered from a sore throat for over 5 days needs to get themselves tested for some other illness, specialists say.



SOURCE: [LIVEMINT](#)

MISINFORMATION, DISINFORMATION, AND FAKE NEWS

We live in the 'information age, wherein news, opinion, entertainment, and person-generated content are anywhere online and easily accessible. whilst this has many benefits, it also bears problems.

We've all read, seen, heard, and most probably believed something online that later grew to become untrue.

In reality, according to a 2022 document via Ofcom, simply over six in ten social media users who stated they were "assured" in judging whether or not online content is authentic or fake "lacked the capabilities to achieve that".

The term 'fake information' is much used but things are a bit more complicated than that.

To be assured inside the content we consume online, it's critical to apprehend what 'incorrect information' and 'disinformation' is and to recognize the essential differences among them.



MISINFORMATION

SOURCE: [WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION](#)

'Misinformation' is simply incorrect information. At its core, it's any content that happens to accidentally misinform us.

DISINFORMATION

While misinformation happens accidentally, 'disinformation' occurs when there is a deliberate intention to deceive. Disinformation can also come from a variety of sources and in many forms. For example, deceptive clickbait headlines, biased reviews, cropped or altered images, and conspiracy theories.



WHAT'S IMPORTANT FOR PARENTS OF YOUTH TO KNOW?

Despite the fact that incorrect information and disinformation are regrettably unavoidable, everyone can – and have to be – proactive in limiting the influence of each by developing our [media literacy](#).

Being capable of recognizing and understanding the diverse varieties of misinformation and disinformation isn't an essential ability, however, it's additionally one that takes exercise and time to broaden.

To help youngsters with this method they need to be advocated to think critically and to question the things they see online, to [search accurately](#) for truthful resources, and appreciate how stress can assist the unfolding of both misinformation and disinformation.

It's equally crucial to keep in mind the repercussions of sharing matters online. As an example, whether or not it's intentional, sharing false content can at times amount to behaviors like [cyberbullying](#).



Ultimately, mis- and disinformation will be an ongoing part of our on-line lives, so the best thing a parent can do is help their child expand their talents to understand and realize how to respond.

SOURCE: [PARENTZONE](#)

HOW TO STOP FAKE NEWS

CONSIDER THE SOURCE

click away from the story to investigate the site, its mission and its contact info.



READ BEYOND

Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks, What's the whole story?



CHECK THE AUTHOR

DO a quick search on the author. Are they credible? Are they real?



SUPPORTING SOURCES?

Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story?



CHECK THE DATE

Reposting old news stories doesn't mean they're relevant to the current event.



IS IT A JOKE?

if it is too oldish, it might be satire. Research the site and author to be sure.



CHECK YOUR BIASES

Consider if you have your own beliefs could affect your judgement.



ASK THE EXPERTS

Ask a librarian, or consult a fact-checking site.

