

ZHOB

District Profile



Turn Potential into Profit

Small & Medium Enterprise Development Authority

Government of Pakistan

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1. INTRODUCTION

Zhob is a district in the north west of Balochistan province of Pakistan. The population of Zhob District is estimated to 310,544 in 2017. At the time of the 2017 census the district had a population of 310,354, of which 168,239 were males and 142,114 females. Rural population was 264,190 (85.12%) while the urban population was 46,164 (14.87%). The literacy rate was 33.44% - the male literacy rate was 43.12% while the female literacy rate was 22.01%. 1,107 people in the district were from religious minorities. At the time of the 2017 census, 96.03% of the population spoke Pashto and 1.71% Saraiki as their first language. The majority of the population of Zhob district is Pashtun.

The tribes of Zhob district include the Mandokhail, Khosti, Sherani, Kakar, Sulaimankhel, Harifal, Lawoon and Babar. Currently a large number of IDPs and have been settled within the confines of the District as part of the evacuation from Operation Zarb-e-Azb taking place to the north of Zhob.

ZHOB'S BASIC FACT	
Area	15,987 Sq.Km.
Population	310,354
Climate	Semi-arid
Local Languages	Pashto
Major Sectors	Agriculture/Horticulture and Livestock

Source: PBS – 2017¹

¹https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zhob_District

1.1 ZHOB MAP



1.2 ZHOB TEHSIL AND SUB-TEHSIL

- Ashwat Sub-Tehsil
- Kashatoo Sub-Tehsil
- Qamar Din Karez Tehsil
- Sambaza Sub-Tehsil
- Zhob Tehsil

1.3 POPULATION

According to the latest census of Pakistan 2017 population of Zhob district of is 310544. In Total population males are 168358, female are 142186 and Shemale / Transgender are 00. Average annual growth rate is 2.52 from 1998 to 2017.²

1.4 CLIMATE

Zhob has a semi-arid climate and its rainfall is just high enough to save it from being labeled within the arid climate category, found at lower elevations. Unlike most of

²<https://www.pbs.gov.pk/census-2017-district-wise/results/134>

Balochistan, Zhob does on occasion; receive rainfall from the monsoon, though this occurs very erratically.

The climate of the district is hot and dry in summer and cold in winter. June is the hottest month with mean maximum and minimum temperature of about 37°C and 23°C respectively. January is the coldest month with mean maximum and minimum temperature of about 13°C and -1°C degree respectively³.

1.5 EDUCATION:

The District Education system works under the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education Balochistan. Access to education is generally gauged with reference to the gross and net enrolment rates, based on the relevant age group. Traditionally in Pakistan, enrolment rates are calculated on the basis of the age group 5-9 years, and 10-14 years for primary and secondary levels of education respectively. The University College of Zhob, BUIITEMS classes were started from 10th of April, 2018. The Primary objective of behind the establishment of this campus is to provide quality education to the students of Zhob and adjoining areas.

Total number of Government Schools by Gender in District Zhob:

District	Government Schools		Total
	Male	Female	
Zhob	274	64	336

Source: BEMIS, Directorate of Education, Balochistan, Quetta

2. INFRASTRUCTURE

2.1 ROADS

District is contacted through black topped and shingle roads within and outside the districts. The total length of the blacktopped roads in the district is 457 km, whereas Shingle roads have a total length of 916 km. The majority of the roads in the district are shingle.

2.2 TRANSPORTATION:

Roads, transportation and telecommunication network have a significant impact on

³Yespakistan.com, General Description of District Zhob, Human Development

socialization and modernization. Following are the details of vehicles:

MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED	
Public Service Vehicles	491
Private Vehicles	1,056
Government Goods Vehicles	11
Private Goods Vehicles	511
Others	1,426

Source: Statistics of Balochistan,

2.3 COMMUNICATIONS

Pakistan Telecommunication Corporation (PTCL) has established a network of telephone connections in the district. According to development statistics of Balochistan, there are 8 auto exchanges and one manual exchange in Zhob district. Furthermore, there are 1,198 number of phone connections, 278 V-Phone connections and 2,519 Broadband connections in District Zhob.

Pakistan Post has established their networks in the district comprises of 22 post offices in the district. Beside Pakistan Post numbers of Private courier services are also operating in the district which includes TCS, OCS, SPEEDEX, etc.

2.4 ELECTRICITY

Electricity is provided by the QESCO with the only grid station in the district located at Zhob facilitating the supply from Quetta and Sibi power lines. Its capacity is 132 KV. The sub-division of Zhob is under an SDO of QESCO. The XEN's office is in Loralai. Because of the inadequacy of power supply against demand, there is frequent load-shedding.

Under the supervision of SDO, QUESCO there is a grid station of 132K.V. In District Zhob facilitating the supply from Quetta and Sibi power lines.

2.5 GAS

Natural Gas is not available in the district except liquid petroleum gas (LPG) in

cylinders by those who can afford buying them. Electricity and wood are used for the purpose of cooking and heating. The rural population has difficulty finding sources of energy for heating in winter. Therefore, they start storing wood in summer however the use of coal is also common for heating purposes.

2.6 FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

The major source of income in Zhob district is agriculture and livestock. In assisting the farmers of the district, Zarai Taraqati Bank Limited plays an exemplary role as it is the only bank that deals in agricultural loans in the district. National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) is also operating in the district and Some of the main commercial banks operating in the area are Muslim Commercial Bank (MCB), Habib Bank Limited (HBL), Allied Bank Ltd (ABL), United Bank Ltd (UBL), National Bank of Pakistan (NBP), and Bank Al-Falah Ltd.

3. ZHOB IMPORTANT SECTORS

3.1 SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

The small and medium enterprises mostly comprise of agriculture and Livestock sectors other enterprises include auto and electric repair, art and craft centres, bakeries, merchants, whole sellers, bricks kilns, hotels, shoe and cap makers, tailors and other shops.

Zhob town is the main hub of trading in the district and major market for daily used items whether locally produced or coming from other parts of the country. These items are supplied to the rest of the parts of the district from here.

3.2 AGRICULTURE/HORTICULTURE

District Zhob falls in cold zone, with total 58,355 hectares cultivated area, the potential major crops are wheat, rapeseed /mustard, barley, vegetables, fodder, sorghum, maize, mung & mash bean, melons, and chilies. The potential fruits in the districts are apples, grapes almond and apricots.

Agricultural labor is primarily conducted by men. Women and children are not involved in agricultural activities. Big land owners employ tenants for agricultural activities. Small farmers work on their fields themselves and rarely

hire tenants.

3.2.1 AREA, PRODUCTION AND YIELD OF ALL CROPS 2019-2020

(12)

ZHOB DISTRICT AREA , PRODUCTION AND YIELD OF ALL CROPS 2019-20

CROPS	Area in Hectares			Production in Tonnes			Yield in Kgs / Ha:		
	Irrig:	Un-Irrig:	Total	Irrig:	Un-Irrig:	Total	Irrig:	Un-Irrig:	Average
RABI CROPS									
Wheat	2,642	1,558	4,200	4,860	1,729	6,589	1,840	1,110	1,569
Barley	145	-	145	210	-	210	1,448	-	1,448
Rape Seed/ Mustard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cumin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mutter Pulse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Masoor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vegetables	172	-	172	2,890	-	2,890	16,802	-	16,802
Fodder	98	-	98	4,374	-	4,374	44,633	-	44,633
Canola	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sunflower	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Safflower	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Rabi Crops	3,057	1,558	4,615	12,334	1,729	14,063			
KHARIF CROPS									
Rice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sorghum (Jowar)	31	14	45	31	9	40	1,000	643	889
Millet (Bajra)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maize	44	67	111	44	54	98	1,000	806	883
Sesamum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Castor seed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Moong	20	23	43	19	13	32	950	565	744
Mash	11	97	108	13	52	65	1,182	536	602
Moth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fruits	12,309	-	12,309	106,290	-	106,290			
Onion	41	-	41	753	-	753	18,366	-	18,366
Potato	44	-	44	654	-	654	14,864	-	14,864
Vegetables	98	-	98	741	-	741	7,561	-	7,561
Melons	44	-	44	496	-	496	11,273	-	11,273
Chillies	45	-	45	60	-	60	1,333	-	1,333
Fodder	44	-	44	1,089	-	1,089	24,750	-	24,750
Coriander	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Garlic	20	-	20	151	-	151	7,550	-	7,550
Guar Seed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tobacco	23	-	23	42	-	42	1,826	-	1,826
Sugarcane	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cotton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Kharif Crops	12,774	201	12,975	110,383	128	110,511			
GRAND TOTAL	15,831	1,759	17,590	122,717	1,857	124,574			

3.3 LIVESTOCK

Livestock is an important source of income and employment in the district. Livestock play a vital role in the economy of the district and provide food with rich nutrition value such as milk, meat and their by-products like wool, butter, oil, cheese, curd, skin and intestines.

Household women and children usually look after the small ruminants. Small livestock farmers usually have herd sizes of up to 20-30 small ruminants, which are raised mostly in un-irrigated areas where the rangeland provides pasture. Sheep and goats are raised for multiple purposes like milk, mutton and reselling of male small ruminants in the market for economic gain, whereas females are kept for reproduction and growth of the herd population.⁵

Population of Livestock

	Numbers	Per thousand Rural Households
Cattle	248,140	6,530
Buffalo	8,846 233	233
Sheep	1,284,162	794
Goat	995,164	26,188
Camel	1,089	29
Horse	456	12
Mule	279	7
Donkey	20,683	544
Poultry (Non-Commercial)	260,923	6,866

Source: Development Statistics of Balochistan

⁵District Development Profile 2011, op. cit.
SMEDA Balochistan

3.4 MINING

District Zhob is a potential mineral bearing area but as such very little of activities are reported. The Mining needs detailed exploration and awareness of the mineral potential amongst the local inhabitants so as to encourage them to invest in this very potential area of Balochistan. The prospects of mining and its marketability must be focused so as to create awareness about Mineral mining & processing businesses and facilitate / promote such like business investments in this potential sector of Balochistan.

A number of mineral resources are reported, but no calculations have been made of the costs of exploration and exploitation.

3.5 HANDICRAFTS

District Zhob is famous for its specialized Embroidery work which is done by women of the area with excellent skill and craft. Mostly it is done on women's dresses for both domestic and commercial purpose. This embroidery work is not sold out in the town markets. Almost all of the women are skilled in embroidery craft but only few do it for income generation. This craft can be developed as a cottage industry.

4. POTENTIAL PROJECTS FOR INVESTMENT IN THE DISTRICT

Following projects can have the potential for investment in the district Zhob:

4.1 GREEN HOUSE FARMS AND TUNNELS FARMS

Production of high quality fruits and vegetables requires proper green houses where environment is controlled. This controlled environment gives the producer control over what kind of fruit and vegetables he wants to produce and under what conditions. Another important aspect of using a green house is that high quality products can be produced all year round, irrespective of the weather that exists outside.

4.2 FRUIT PROCESSING

Balochistan is far from tapping the potential of processing and exporting dried fruits and vegetables as shown by the limited number of fruit processors and exporters currently available. Dried fruits have a large number of end-users

including use in the dried fruit and nut industry, the breakfast cereal industry, the confectionery industry, the bakery industry, other food products, and are consumed directly. The government through its policy on modernization of agriculture aims at promoting the development of rural agro-processing and marketing. Squashes, jams, jellies, juices, marmalade, ketchup and sauces etc. are the most common processed products.

4.3 COLD STORAGE

Keeping in view the shelf life of the perishable food items it becomes essential to freeze and store these products the Cold storage can be used for perishable fruits and vegetables. Investors can expect handsome return on the investment in this field.

4.4 FRUIT & VEGETABLE DEHYDRATION

Fruits and vegetables are among the readily perishable commodities which form an important part of global food supplies. District Zhob produces seasonal vegetables in almost three quarters of the year. A considerable proportion of these vegetables get spoiled before reaching the consumer. These losses can be minimized by adopting scientific techniques to convert the surplus perishable products by way of preservation. Dehydration offer an economical and satisfactory means to extend the shelf life of vegetables;

4.5 CATTLE/SHEEP/GOATS FATTENING CENTER

Since nutrition is a serious limiting factor in the livestock industry of Balochistan with the result that many animals arrive at the market in less than optimal body condition with bodyweight on the lower end, there is a dire need to ensure feed availability round the year with proper protein contents for increasing livestock productivity rather than its numbers. Such a situation directs to adopt non-conventional feed preparation and feeding techniques like treatment of wheat/ rice straws and other crop residues with urea or ammonia, molasses bocks, silage making, concentrate mixtures with low cost formulae, feed lots, semi-intensive farming and ewe flushing etc. With the switching over to semi-intensive farming which would warrants tall/supplementary feeding, non-conventional and economical feeding techniques and improved genetic material, the livestock farming can become a cost effective enterprise with its downstream positive effects in the farming community.

4.6 DAIRY FARMS

Dairy sector is a major component of the livestock sector in Zhob, but due to the absence of specialization, dairy sector has to be viewed in the overall perspective of the livestock sector. Milk production and distribution system suffers from many anomalies, which have diverse negative impacts on the economy in general, continue the rural poverty, national health hazards and other environmental issues. All the problems of the sector are translated into low dairy productivity levels.

4.7 POULTRY FARM

Zhob is the land of unlimited hidden potentials. Among other things, poultry farming has got great scope for improvement. Poultry farming is not developed commercially, apart from some private poultry farms in urban areas. There are about 18 private poultry farms in the district. There is only one government owned poultry farm having 500 layer birds and 600 broilers.

4.8 STONE CRUSHING

Over the last few years, the Construction sector has been registering strong growth rates in the district. In addition, for the building of roads and by passes, there is a massive and consistent need of crushed stone across the country. Several projects are in progress and are being commenced shortly which will have high demand of crushed stone all over the country. The projected requirements for the next 20 years reinforce the potential in Stone Crushing segment of the industry.

4.9 HOSPITALS AND CLINICS

Lack of infrastructure and growing number of population has increased demand of medical facilities, which has direct impact on public & private sector health care centers. No access to clean water and proper sanitation facilities has posed a major threat to the health of masses. Moreover, the overlapping and harsh climate of the region causes major viral diseases throughout the year. This creates a great demand for hospitals and clinics.