



3.1.7. Pakistani police

Police organisations in Pakistan are divided into those operating under federal control and those controlled by the administrations of their respective provinces and territories.²⁵⁸ According to an estimate found in academic papers from 2023 and 2025, Pakistan's police had an overall strength of around 624 390.²⁵⁹ A CTD is found in each of the country's four provincial police organisations²⁶⁰ and the Islamabad Capital Territory Police.²⁶¹ Efforts were ongoing to also establish CTDs in AJK²⁶² and GB.²⁶³ The Frontier Constabulary, a federal paramilitary force mainly recruited from KP²⁶⁴ and initially tasked to maintain law and order in border and frontier zones,²⁶⁵ is now present across multiple areas of the country, with its duties including operations against criminal gangs and smugglers. In mid-2025, the government decided to convert the Frontier Constabulary into a nationwide force named the Federal Constabulary, with recruitment efforts, offices²⁶⁶ and jurisdiction to be expanded across Pakistan.²⁶⁷

The highest police rank is that of Inspector General of Police (IGP),²⁶⁸ who acts as the head of a provincial or administrative police organisation.²⁶⁹ Police have been criticised for alleged bias and arbitrariness in handling criminal complaints,²⁷⁰ discouraging the registration of crimes, their conduct with the public, and inadequacies in preventing and responding to crimes.²⁷¹ Moreover, NGOs noted that police frequently employed torture,²⁷² mainly during arrests and interrogations,²⁷³ relying on torture to obtain confessions.²⁷⁴ According to findings of the National Corruption Perception Survey (NCPS) 2025, conducted by Transparency International (TI) Pakistan across all of the country's four provinces in September 2025, public perceptions of the police had improved by 6 % compared to 2023. Nonetheless, the police were viewed as the country's most corrupt institution (24 %), with perceptions of police corruption highest in Punjab (34 %).²⁷⁵ During the reference period, law enforcement agencies were attributed responsibility for arbitrary detentions and extrajudicial killings.²⁷⁶ These included multiple enforced disappearances²⁷⁷ and extrajudicial killings in Balochistan that were reported to have been carried out by the CTD.²⁷⁸

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