

CDPR NEWSLETTER

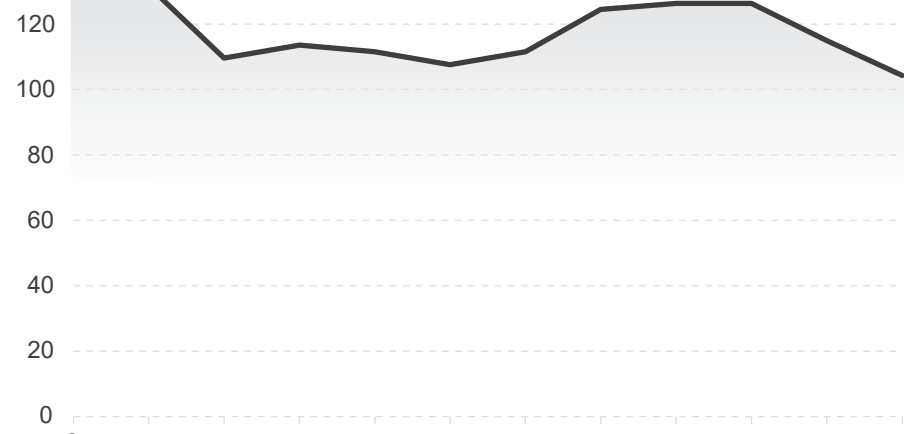
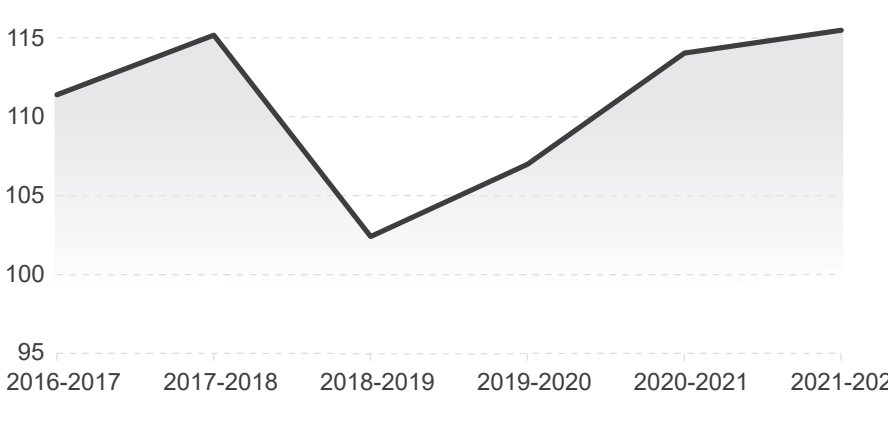
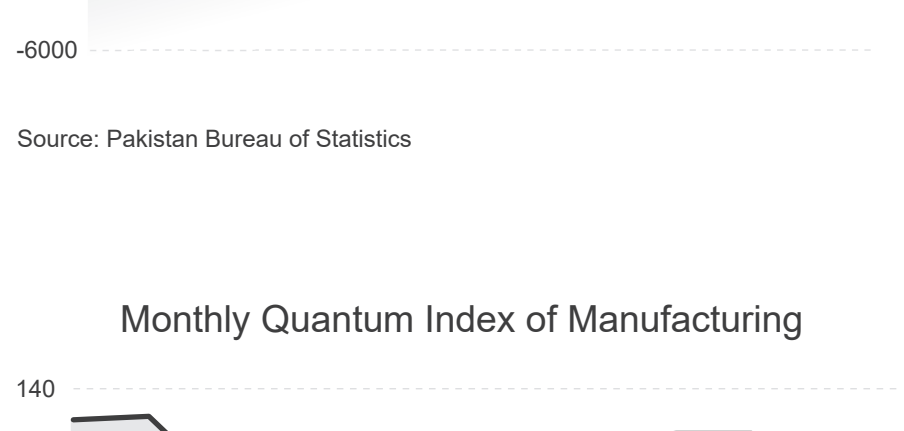
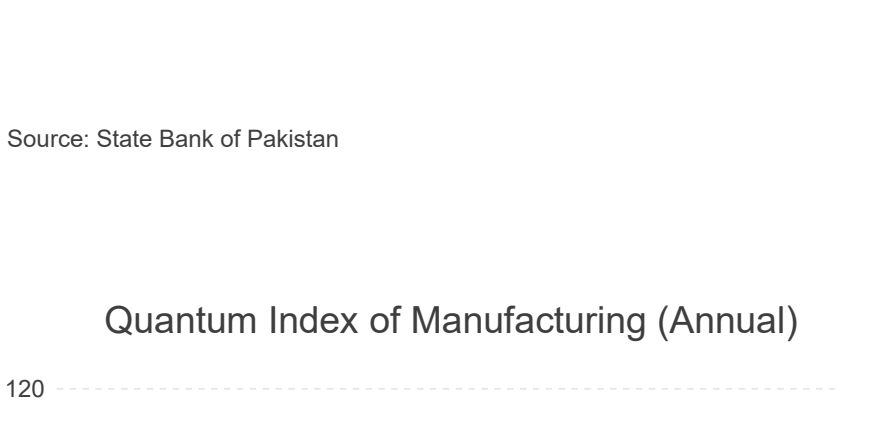
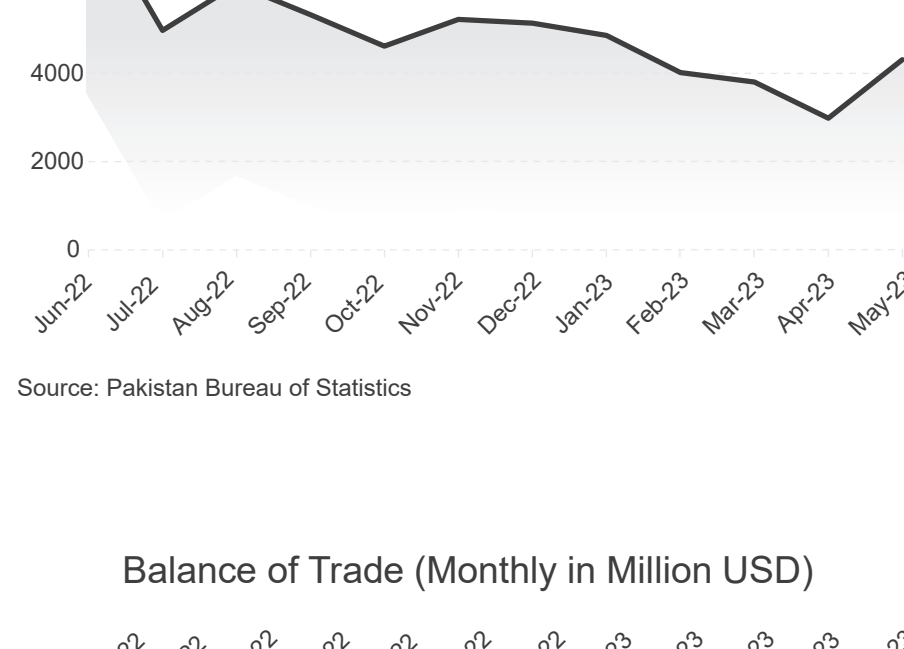
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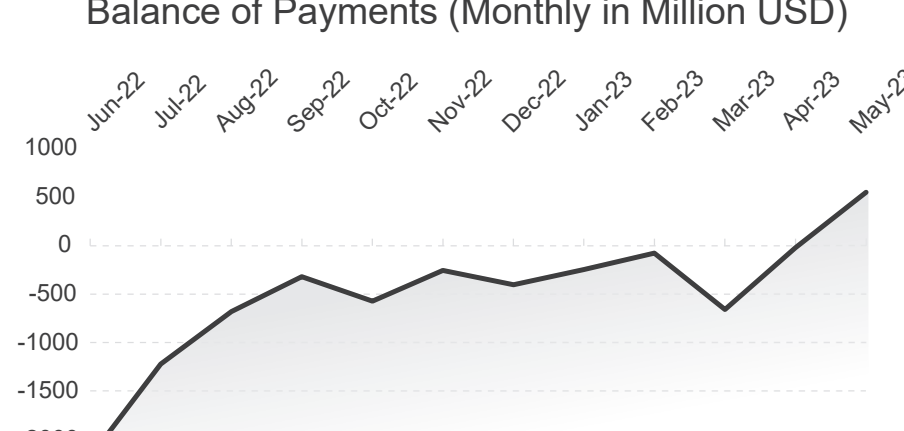
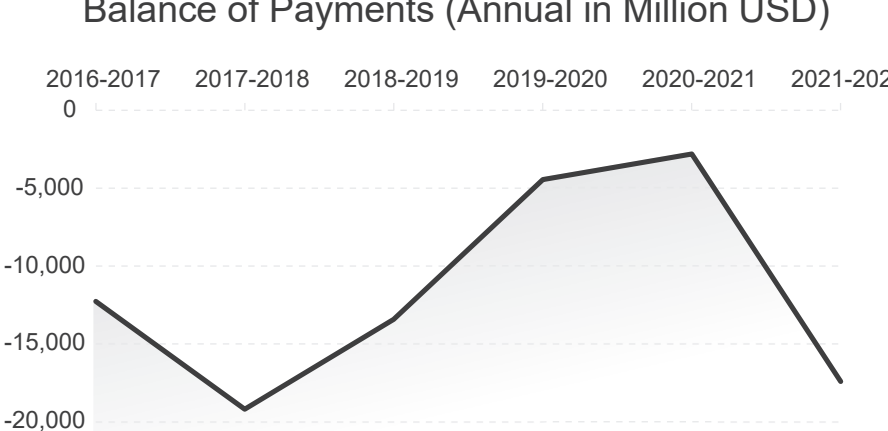
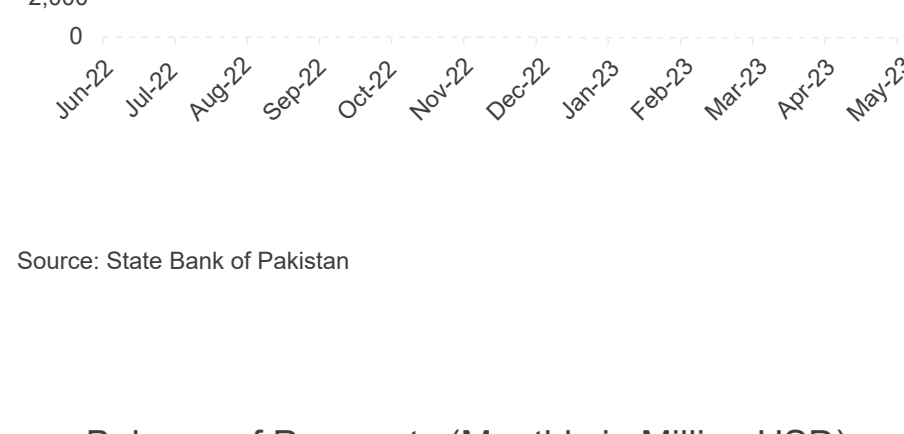
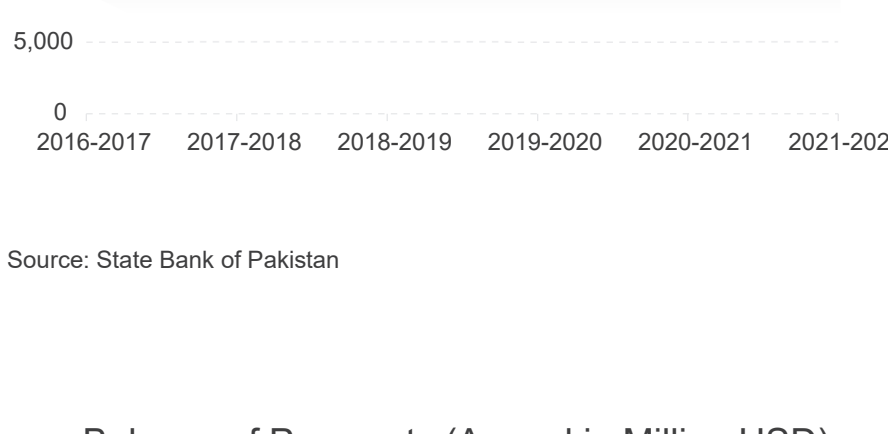
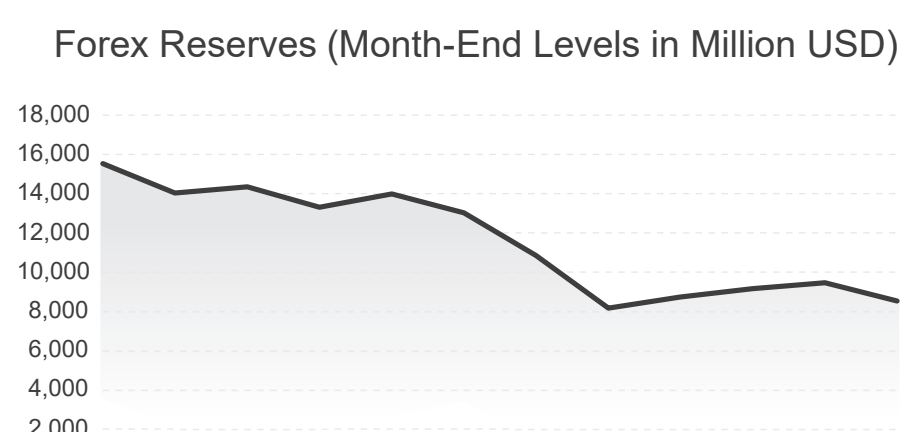
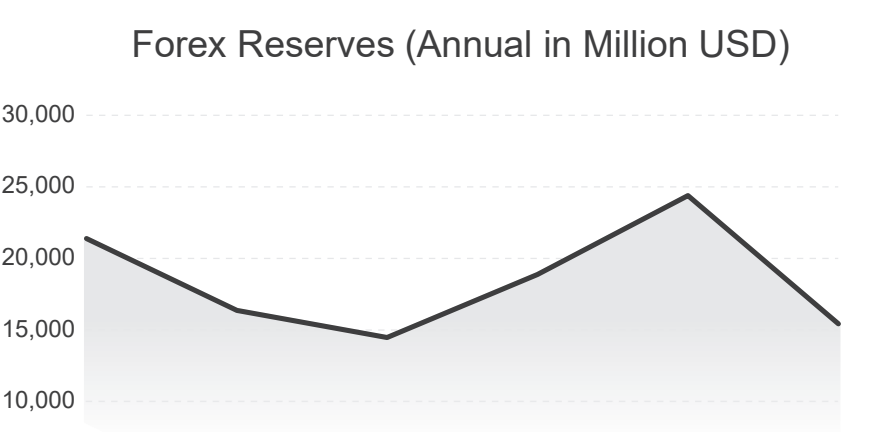
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MACRODATA

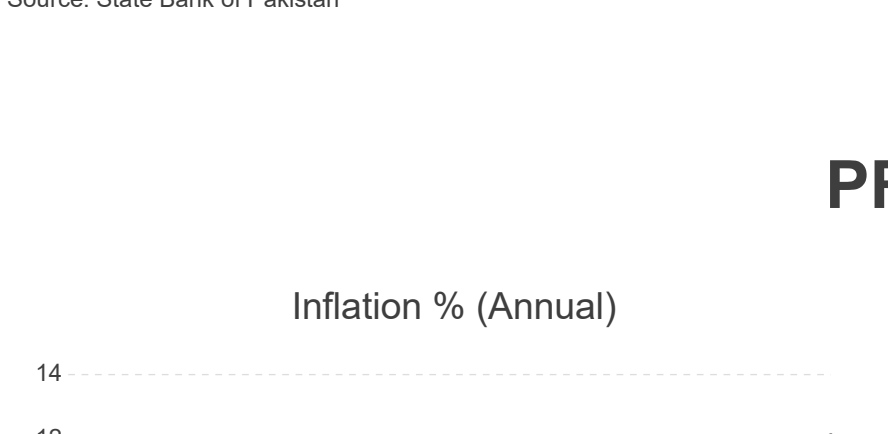
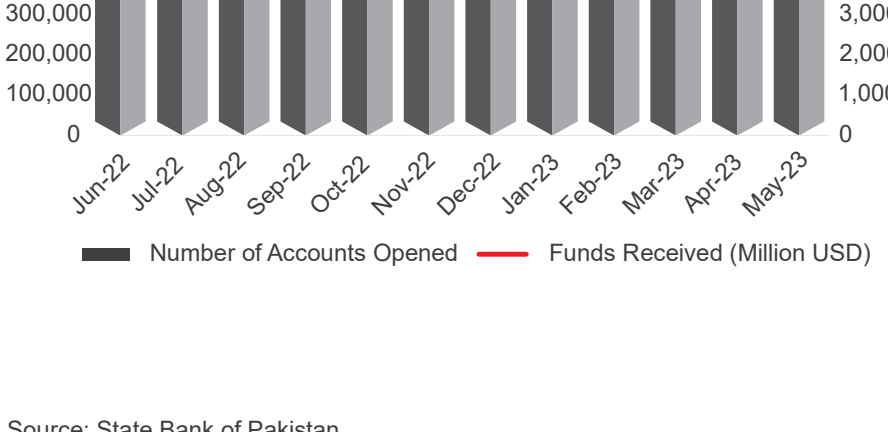
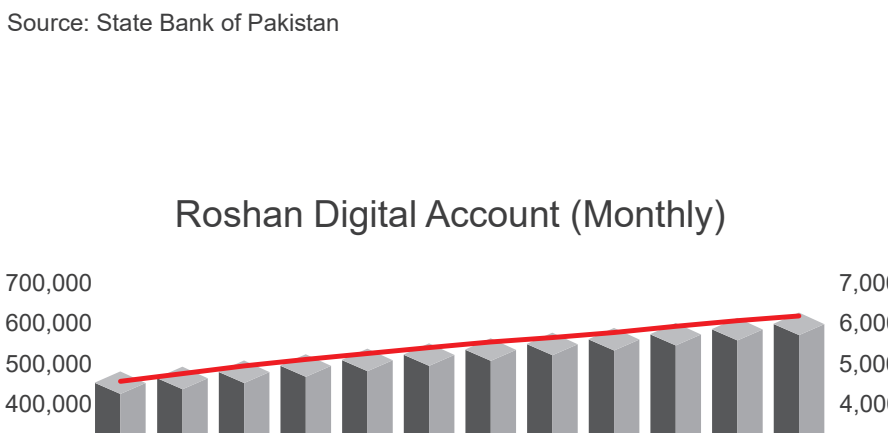
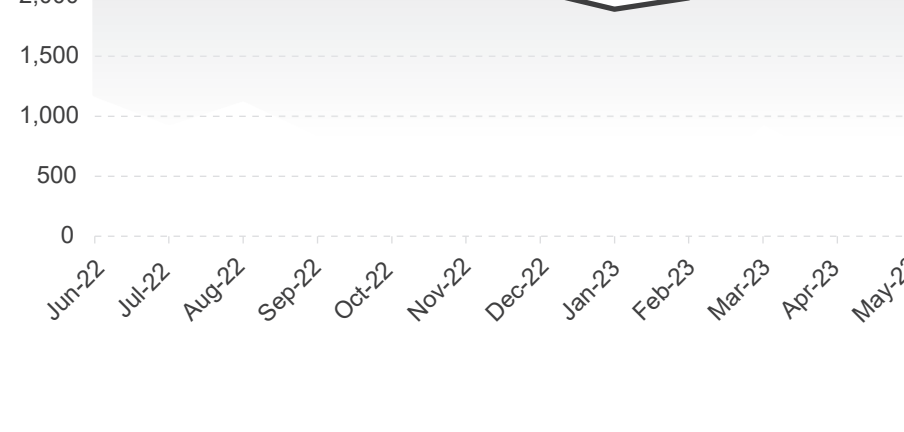
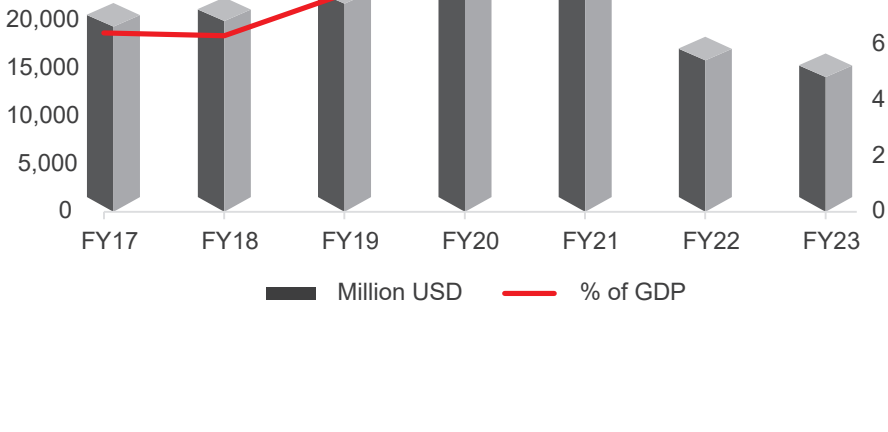
TRADE



BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

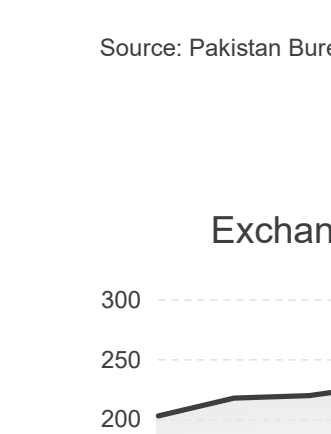


PRICES



INSIGHTS FOR CHANGE

CDPR's and IGC's 'Insights for Change' series attempts to take an analytical approach to devising action-oriented policy solutions. They are authored by economists and practitioners who are experts in their field.



ISHRAT HUSAIN
Dean of the Institute of Business Administration (IBA)

REVIVING AGRICULTURE GROWTH (PART 2)

AGRICULTURE forms the backbone of Pakistan's economy as it provides livelihoods to almost two-thirds of the population and is responsible for almost three-fourths of export earnings. This month's Insights for Change article 'Reviving Agriculture Growth (Part 2)' is second of a two-part series which explores why Pakistan has not been able to fully exploit the rich potential of its agricultural resources.

The author, Dr. Ishrat Husain, is a Pakistani economist who has previously served as the dean of the Institute of Business Administration (IBA). He is also a former governor of the State Bank of Pakistan and former advisor to the Government of Pakistan.

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POLICY ANALYSIS

UNDERSTANDING FRESH PRODUCE SUPPLY CHAIN DYNAMICS AND PRICE WEDGES: EVIDENCE FROM PAKISTAN

This study is funded by the International Growth Center (IGC). The Principal Investigators are Sher Afghan Asad (Assistant Professor, Lahore University of Management Sciences), Omar Hayat Gondal (PhD Candidate, Washington University in St. Louis), Farah Said (Assistant Professor, Lahore University of Management Sciences), Zoha Awais (Researcher), and Massab Qayum (Researcher).

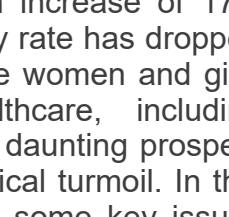
A typical urban agriculture supply chain is dependent on multiple middlemen from the auction yard to the final consumer. The presence of numerous intermediaries adds to the farmgate price and inflates the consumer's overall price. This report aims to document and collect granular level data about transactions from the wholesale auctioneer to the last stage middlemen (retailers) before the product reaches consumers for three staple vegetables: onions, potatoes, and tomatoes.

Empirical results indicate that, after controlling for product quality, bulk-breakers retain margins in the range of 20 to 42%, the highest margin for tomatoes. Conversely, retailers retain 14 to 28%, the highest in the case of potatoes. Potential causes for differences in the margins over products could be attributed to types of costs incurred by the stakeholders involved in the process, vegetable type, wastage, and the size of wastage for each vegetable. These findings highlight the need for price-stabilization policies to consider the role of the bulk-breakers in conjunction with that of retailers.

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In Pakistan, policy decisions and public discourse are often uninformed by available research. The Consortium for Development Policy Research (CDPR) bridges this gap by communicating cutting-edge, evidence-based research on development issues in Pakistan to an audience of policymakers, students, the media and the wider public. With support from the International Growth Centre (IGC), CDPR disseminates policy briefs, hosts events, engages with the media and produces digital content to make topics in development research such as economic growth, energy, education, health and governance intelligible to both decision makers & the public.

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