

RETURN OF UNDOCUMENTED AFGHANS

WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT

29 MARCH - 04 APRIL 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

228,149 total returns from **Iran & Pakistan** since 01 January 2020

226,316 total returns from Iran

1,833 total returns from Pakistan

Over the past week **11,140** undocumented Afghans returned from Iran with 21% of returnees from Iran (2,381 individuals) assisted

Over the past week **0** undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan due to the closure of the Afghan-Pakistan frontier.

Migration Health

IOM's Migration Health Unit provides basic health services through the deployment of 7 mobile health teams (35 staff) in 4 provinces- Nangarhar, Kandahar, Herat and Nimroz in under served areas for migrant populations and host communities. In close coordination with Provincial Public Health Directorates, WHO and UNICEF, IOM's teams are deployed in urban and rural communities. During the past week, IOM's Mobile Health Teams served 6,231 patients in need of health services with over 49,290, patients served since the beginning of MHT programming in late January under DFID and CERF funding. 15 health staff are presently deployed to major border crossing points with Iran to provide support to ongoing COVID-19 response efforts inclusive of surveillance and awareness raising. 50 community health workers have also been trained on personal protective measures in Nimroz and Herat and new trainings are planned in the coming weeks. Under Migration Health's Global

Fund's multi-country TB grant, a total of 9,250 undocumented Afghans were screened for tuberculosis in IOM Transit Centers over the past week. Of the total screened, 1,934 persons were screened from OPD consultations and 41 persons were identified and 20 were tested to be presumptive TB cases who have since been referred for treatment.

Protection

The Protection Unit completed case management assessments for 64 Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs) cases in Ghor, Kunduz, Balkh, Takhar, Sar-e Pul, and Faryab including, 40 special cases, 16 unaccompanied migrant children, 6 deported families, and 2 poor families.



Temperature screening for incoming Afghans at the Chaman-Spin Boldak border in Kandahar with Pakistan on 08 April 2020. Over 70,000 stranded Afghan nationals returned to Afghanistan after a temporary border opening at Torkham and Spin Boldak from 06-09 April. @IOM March 2020

Return from Iran

****Due to coronavirus transmission fears in Iran, new movement restrictions and lockdowns in Iran went into effect on 27 March. Over the past week spontaneous returns from Iran have continued to diminish.** According to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR), a total of 11,140 (Nimroz) and Herat (Islam Qala) borders between 29 March – 04 April 2020, a 33% decrease from the previous week (16,649). 10,717 persons returned voluntarily and 423 were deported. Since 01 January 2020, the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran is 228,149 individuals. IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to 2,381 (21%) undocumented Afghans at its Transit Centers.

Return from Pakistan

According to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR), 1,833 number of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan from 01 Jan 2020. The Afghan frontier with Pakistan in Kandahar and Nangarhar province was scheduled to be closed through 09 April due to coronavirus fears. However, through discussions between the Afghan and Pakistani governments, a temporary 4-day opening was granted to allow stranded Afghan nationals to return home. More than 70,000 stranded Afghans returned from Pakistan in the past four days (6-9 April 2020), according to the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) teams monitoring cross-border movements at the two major points of entry (PoE). The Afghanistan-Pakistan frontier has been closed since 2 March in Kandahar (Spin Boldak PoE) and 16 March in Nangarhar (Torkham PoE), to prevent cross-border transmission of the coronavirus. A brief reprieve of cross-border movement restrictions is in effect from 6 to 9 April to allow what was anticipated to be only 5,000 Afghan nationals. However, in the past four days, numbers of arrivals have greatly exceeded this estimation.

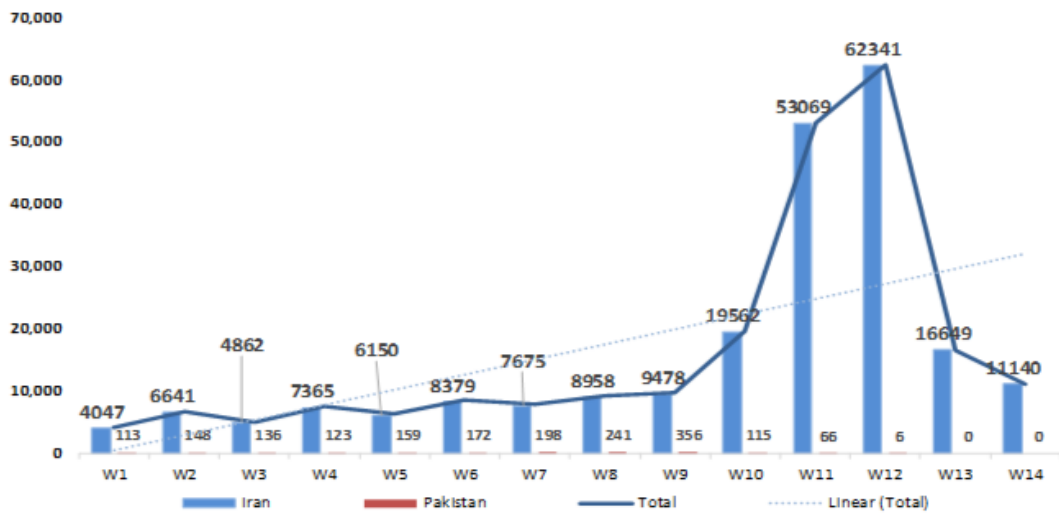
Number of Undocumented Returnees in 2020

Date	Iran				Total Iran	Pakistan				Total Pakistan	Overall Return
	Herat		Nimroz			Turkham		Kandahar			
	Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		
01 - 04 Jan	759	881	768	1,639	4,047	46	0	67	0	113	4,160
05 - 11 Jan	1,867	1,309	1,182	2,283	6,641	29	0	119	0	148	6,789
12 - 18 Jan	900	669	1,013	2,280	4,862	66	9	61	0	136	4,998
19 - 25 Jan	1,981	849	1,697	2,838	7,365	37	0	86	0	123	7,488
26 Jan- 01 Feb	1,594	1,176	1,308	2,072	6,150	42	5	112	0	159	6,309
02-08 Feb	2,263	1,915	1,482	2,713	8,373	41	0	131	0	172	8,545
09-15 Feb	1,335	1,545	1,583	3,212	7,675	55	13	130	0	172	7,873
16-22 Feb	2,075	1,741	1,633	3,509	8,958	63	0	178	0	241	9,199
23-29 Feb	4,372	588	1,415	3,103	9,478	130	14	225	0	369	9,847
01-07 March	10,226	324	7,247	1,765	19,562	25	6	84	0	115	19,677
08-14 March	37,609	191	12,053	3,216	53,069	66	0	0	0	66	53,135
15-21 March	45,721	0	14,404	2,216	62,341	6	0	0	0	6	62,347
22-28 March	11,721	0	4,119	809	16,649	0	0	0	0	0	16,649
29 March-04 April	8,111	0	2,606	423	11,140	0	0	0	0	0	11,140
Total	130,540	11,188	52,510	32,078	226,316	606	34	1,193	0	1,833	228,149

Number of Assisted Returnees in 2020

Date	Iran		Total Iran	Pakistan		Total Pakistan	Overall Assisted
	Herat	Nimroz		Turkham	Kandahar		

	Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		
01 - 04 Jan	14	85	0	90	189	46	0	67	0	113	302
05 - 11 Jan	40	236	6	205	487	29	0	95	0	124	611
12 - 18 Jan	4	189	0	245	438	66	8	54	0	128	566
19 - 25 Jan	61	491	17	387	956	37	0	86	0	123	1,079
26 Jan- 01 Feb	62	301	11	210	584	42	5	103	0	150	734
02-08 Feb	31	761	25	348	1,165	41	0	80	0	121	1,286
09-15 Feb	63	882	13	357	1,315	55	13	103	0	171	1,486
16-22 Feb	76	787	37	485	1,385	63	0	156	0	219	1,604
23-29 Feb	56	320	7	144	527	130	0	210	0	340	867
01-07 March	416	187	54	35	692	25	3	73	0	101	793
08-14 March	954	19	73	164	1,210	66	0	0	0	66	1,276
15-21 March	1,640	0	657	1,003	3,300	6	0	0	0	6	3,306
22-28 March	886	0	779	313	1,978	0	0	0	0	0	1,978
29 March- 04 April	1,335	0	922	104	2,381	0	0	0	0	0	2,381
Total	5,664	4,271	2,601	4,087	16,623	606	29	1,027	0	1,662	18,285



**Coronavirus

Update**

Global Cases, deaths (as of 09 April- source Johns Hopkins- WHO-CDC-ECDC, NHC, DXY)

- Globally: 1,569,849 Confirmed cases/
- 92,191 Deaths | 184 Countries
- 344,367 recovered
- USA cases: 454,615; 16,074 deaths; 24,562 recovered

Afghanistan (as of 09 April)

- **People confirmed to have COVID-19: 484** (Source: Afghanistan Ministry of Public Health - MoPH)
- **Deaths from COVID-19: 15**
- **Recovered: 32**
- **Tests completed: 3,247**
- **Key concerns: Border crossing areas, measured lockdowns, testing capacity, protective equipment for frontline workers, commodity prices, floods, plans for camp and camp-like quarantine sites, messaging and rumour management, international air services.**

IOM is actively supporting the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) and WHO in addressing preparedness and emergency coordination actions through its Migration Health Unit. Support includes coordination through the WHO-UNHCR-IOM led Point of Entry Working Group, deployment of additional staffing to areas of need, secondment of staff to cross border surveillance and health facilities, material support, publication of MOPH-WHO IEC materials and billboards and risk communication and community engagement and sensitization efforts through health education sessions and Displacement Tracking Matrix focus group discussions in 9,436 villages.

For more information please refer to:

[General information: https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus](https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus)

[Global surveillance for human infection with coronavirus disease:](https://www.who.int/publications-detail/global-surveillance-for-human-infection-with-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov))

[https://www.who.int/publications-detail/global-surveillance-for-human-infection-with-novel-coronavirus-\(2019-ncov\)](https://www.who.int/publications-detail/global-surveillance-for-human-infection-with-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov))

[Global research on coronavirus disease: https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/global-research-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/global-research-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov)

[Advice for public: https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/global-research-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov)

[2019/advice-for-public](#)

[Infection prevention and control during health care: \[https://www.who.int/publications-detail/infection-prevention-and-control-during-health-care-when-novel-coronavirus-\\(ncov\\)-infection-is-suspected-20200125\]\(https://www.who.int/publications-detail/infection-prevention-and-control-during-health-care-when-novel-coronavirus-\(ncov\)-infection-is-suspected-20200125\)](https://www.who.int/publications-detail/infection-prevention-and-control-during-health-care-when-novel-coronavirus-(ncov)-infection-is-suspected-20200125)

[Advice for international travel and trade: <https://www.who.int/ith/2020-24-01-outbreak-of-Pneumonia-caused-by-new-coronavirus/en/>](https://www.who.int/ith/2020-24-01-outbreak-of-Pneumonia-caused-by-new-coronavirus/en/)

[Introduction to COVID-19 online course: <https://openwho.org/courses/introduction-to-ncov>](https://openwho.org/courses/introduction-to-ncov)

IOM Afghanistan wishes to express its thanks and appreciation to the below donors whose support has allowed IOM to assist a total of 18,285 undocumented Afghan returnees in 2020.



The United Kingdom's Department for International Development, the Netherlands, Japan, Switzerland, Norway, ECHO, United States of America, the Central Emergency Response Fund, and the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria



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