

RETURN OF UNDOCUMENTED AFGHANS

WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT 27 NOVEMBER-3 DECEMBER 2016



Highlights

■ 3,019 undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan between 27 November and 3 December, a 27.3% decrease from the previous week.

■ 4,673 undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran during the same period. This is a 26.2% decrease from the previous week.

239,743 undocumented Afghans have spontaneously returned or been deported from Pakistan and 410,695 from Iran since the beginning of the year.

Returns from Pakistan

From 27 November to 3 December 2016, a total of **3,019** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through Nangarhar province's Torkham border crossing and Kandahar province's Spin Boldak border crossing, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). 2,858 were spontaneous returnees in family groups and 161 were deported individuals. This brings the total number of Afghan undocumented returnees from Pakistan to **239,724** in 2016. The total this week represents a **27.3% decrease** from last week, whereas deportation decreased by 3%.

During the reporting period, IOM assisted **1,997 (66%)** of all undocumented Afghans returnees arriving through Torkham and Spin Boldak crossing points with post-arrival humanitarian assistance including meals and accommodation at IOM Transit Centers, house-hold and other Non-Food Items (NFIs) for families, special assistance to Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs), onward transportation, a one-month food ration from WFP, family and hygiene kits from UNICEF and dignity kits from UNFPA.

Situation Overview

IOM is responding to a substantial increase in the number of undocumented Afghans returning from Pakistan and Iran. Since the beginning of 2016, over 650,000 undocumented Afghans have returned to Afghanistan, due to a number of diverse push factors including deteriorating protection space in Pakistan.

Many of those returning have lived outside of Afghanistan for decades, and will need support from the government and humanitarian actors both on arrival and as they seek to reintegrate into a country already struggling with widespread conflict and displacement.

At its Transit Camps near the four major border crossing points in Torkham, Spin Boldak, Herat and Nimroz, IOM staff provide post-arrival humanitarian assistance to returnees.

IOM has appealed for USD 21 million to provide life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable undocumented Afghans returning home from Pakistan before the end of 2016. The appeal can be found online at <u>http://www.iom.int/appeal/iom-afghanistan-undocumented-afghan-returnees-appeal-september-december-2016</u>. As of 3 December 2016, the Appeal is 50% funded.

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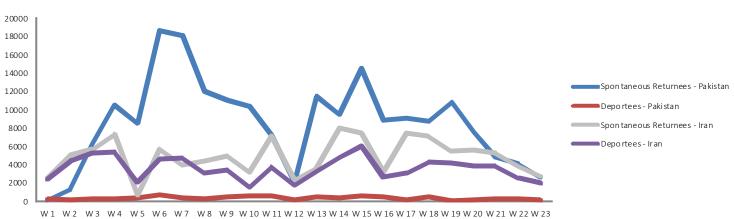
Returns from Iran

From 27 November to 3 December, a total of **4,673** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through Islam Qala (Herat) and Milak (Nimroz) border crossings, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). This represents an **26.2% decrease** in returns from Iran in comparison with last week. Out of the total spontaneous returnees, 81 (3%) were members of families and 2,656 (97%) were individuals. Out of the total deportees, 142 (7%) were in families whereas 1,084 (93%) were individuals. This brings the total of undocumented returnees in 2016 to **410,695** from Iran.

IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **182 (3.8%)** undocumented Afghans arriving through Islam Qala and Milak border at its Transit Centers in Herat and Zaranj. As per the continued observation of the DoRR Border Monitoring Team, roughly 10% of undocumented Afghans returning spontaneously or being deported from Iran are in need of humanitarian assistance.

Return Projection to 31 December 2016

Based on the trends from 27 November to 3 December, the projection for the remainder of 2016 is 24,251 individuals. This projection changes based on the weekly trends from Pakistan through Torkham and Spin Boldak border crossing points.



Arrival of Undocumented Afghans by Week, July - November 2016

Number of Undocumented Returnees in 2016 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak Border Crossing Points):

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total	Total	Grand
	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Islam Qala	Milak	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Islam Qala	Milak	Pakistan	Iran	Total
Jan-Oct 16	174,035	18,446	176,746	31,406	12,187	259	107,621	60,048	213,927	375,821	589,748
Nov 1 -5	5,485	445	2,610	367	13	12	1,749	683	5,955	5,409	11,364
Nov 6-12	6,857	682	4,918	635	42	47	2,454	1,331	7,628	9,338	16,966
Nov 13-19	3,601	1,215	4,650	617	23	217	2,216	1,632	5,056	9,115	14,171
Nov 20-26	3,235	757	3,372	477	19	147	1,599	891	4,158	6,339	10,497
27 Nov-3 Dec	1,826	1,032	2,013	724	18	143	902	1,034	3,019	4,673	7,692
Total	195,039	22,577	194,309	34,226	12,302	9,825	116,541	65,619	239,743	410,695	650,438

IOM-Assisted Undocumented Returnees in 2016

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total	Total	Grand
	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Islam Qala	Milak	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Islam Qala	Milak	Pakistan	Iran	Total
Jan-Oct 16	45,819	0	894	954	1665	0	9327	6048	47484	17,223	64,707
Nov 1 -5	2,259	0	3	14	0	0	96	71	2259	184	2,443
Nov 6-12	2,058	0	3	13	20	0	59	119	2,078	194	2,272
Nov 13-19	1,576	959	0	11	6	46	118	208	2,587	337	2,924
Nov 20-26	1,514	451	4	10	4	74	75	95	2,043	184	2,227
27 Nov-3 Dec	1,408	535	0	6	10	44	71	105	1,997	182	2,179
Total	54,634	1,945	904	1,008	1,705	164	9,746	6,646	58,448	18,304	76,752

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